

INFS 3204/7204 Service-Oriented Architecture



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M6: WS Composition

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M6 Topics

- Motivations
- Concepts
- Design Principles
- Composition Models
 - Orchestration
 - Choreography
- A travel example

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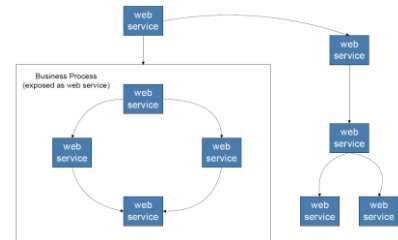
Motivations

- Integration of intra-enterprise services
- Alliances with other enterprises
 - Offering value-added integrated services by combining existing web services
- Re-use and extension of existing services
- Increasing number of on-line services
- Just-in-time integration of existing services via internet
- Support for planning, definition and implementation of composite e-services

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WS Composition

- The ability of one business to provide value-added services through composition of basic Web Services, possibly offered by different companies
- A way to master **complexity**, via sequential, parallel, iterative and recursive manners



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WS Composition Middleware

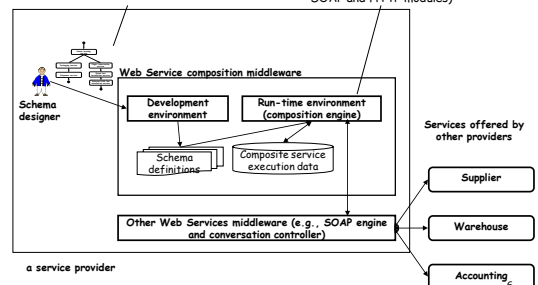
- Consists of abstraction and tools that facilitate the definition and execution of a composite service
- Allows developers to focus on the business logic rather than on low-level details.
- Includes:
 - A **composition model and language**
 - What services and how they are invoked via composition schema which defines the business logic
 - A development environment
 - Generally a graphical interface
 - A run-time environment
 - Composition engine that executes the business logic by invoking services defined in schema

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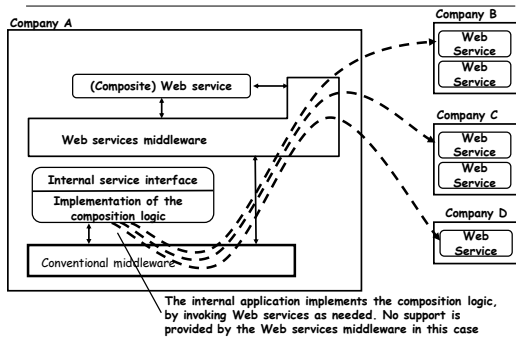
WS Composition Middleware

Service composition model and language (usually characterized by a graphical and a textual representation)

The run-time environment executes the Web Service business logic by invoking other services (through SOAP and HTTP modules)

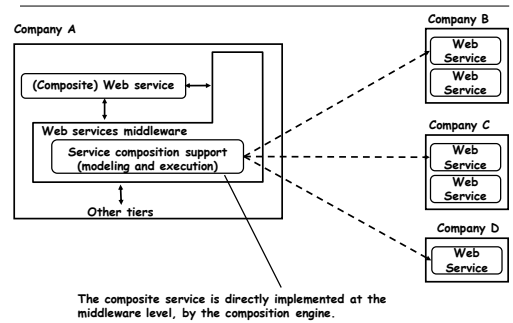


WS Composition without Middleware



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WS Composition with Middleware



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Limitations of Conventional Composition

- Flexible and generic, but
 - Application-specific adapters
 - Ad hoc development
 - Price in complexity and cost
 - Lack of a standard composition model
 - Many of them, but never consolidate
 - A components in one system cannot be reused in others
 - E.g., WfMC, only a handful of vendors implemented, and standards are too generic

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Opportunities of WS composition

- Adequate components
 - Well-defined interface, well-described behaviours
- Standardized
 - Described by WSDL, invoked by SOAP,
- Lightweight, easy to use, rapid design and development
 - "Dream" of workflow management

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Design Principles of WS Composition

- Asynchronous service invocation
 - You do not want to hold everything up if you think the call to the method may take time
- Transactional integrity
 - Traditional ACID (atomicity, consistency, isolation and durability) are not sufficient for long-lived transactions
- Dynamic, flexible and adaptable to meet changing business needs
 - A clear separation between the process logic and Web services promotes flexibility
- Persistence and correlation
 - Maintain states for cross Web Services requests
- Exception handling

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WS Composition Models

Orchestration

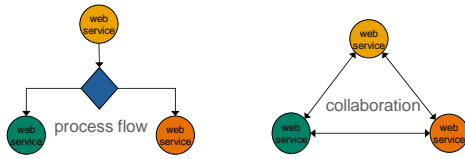
- Refers to an **executable business process** that can interact with both internal and external Web Services
- Represents control from one party's perspective
- The interactions
 - Occur at the message level
 - Include business logic and task execution order
 - Can span applications and organizations to define a long-lived, transactional, multi-step process model

Choreography

- Refers to an **abstract Process**
- Tracks the sequence of messages that may involve multiple parties including customers, suppliers and partners
- Shows the public message exchanges that occur between Web Services – rather than a specific business process that a single party executes

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Orchestration vs. Choreography



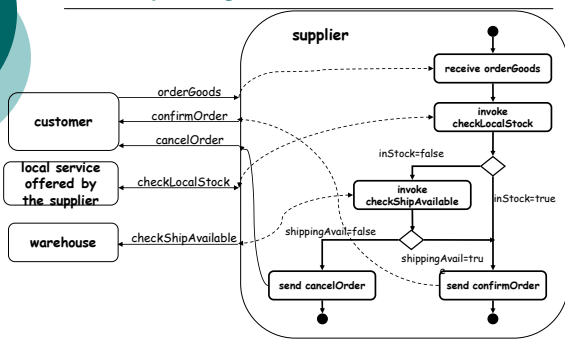
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Orchestration Models

- Categorized by business logic
 - Activity Diagram
 - State Chart
 - Petri Net
 - Activity Hierarchy
 - ...

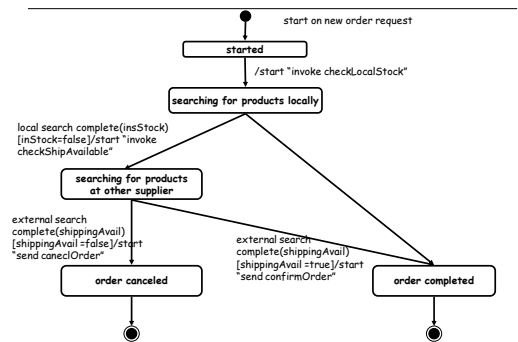
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Activity Diagram



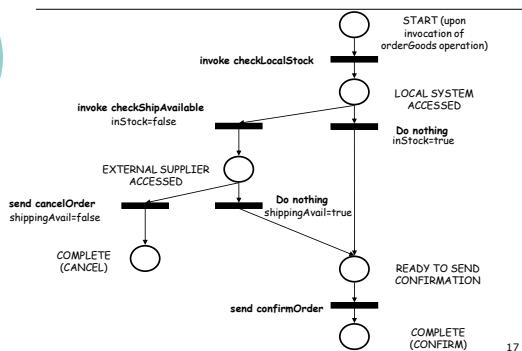
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State Chart



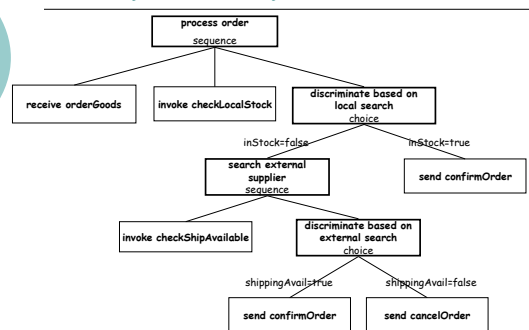
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Petri Net



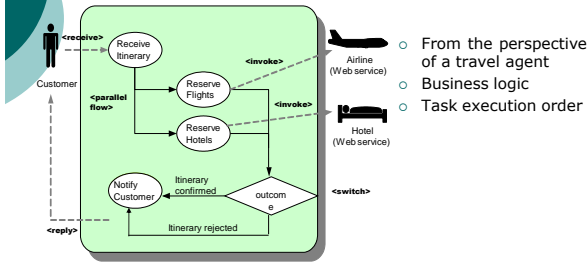
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Activity Hierarchy



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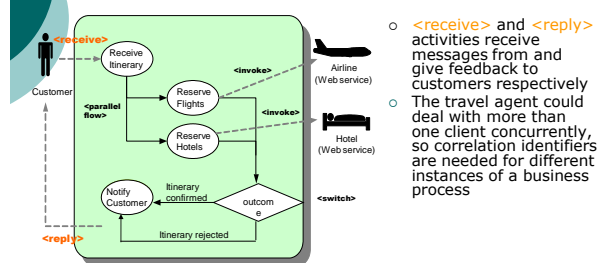
Orchestration (Activity diagram): A travel agent example



- From the perspective of a travel agent
- Business logic
- Task execution order

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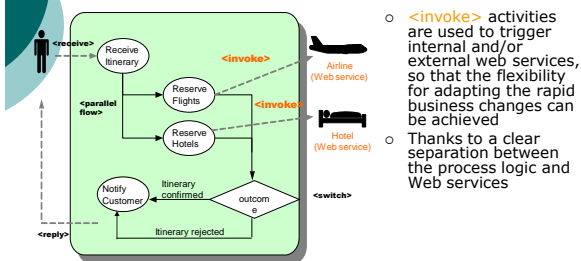
<receive> and <reply>



- <receive> and <reply> activities receive messages from and give feedback to customers respectively
- The travel agent could deal with more than one client concurrently, so correlation identifiers are needed for different instances of a business process

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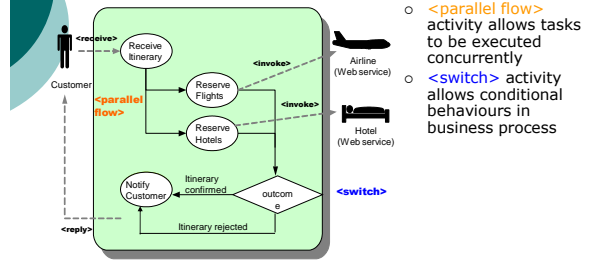
<invoke>



- <invoke> activities are used to trigger internal and/or external web services, so that the flexibility for adapting the rapid business changes can be achieved
- Thanks to a clear separation between the process logic and Web services

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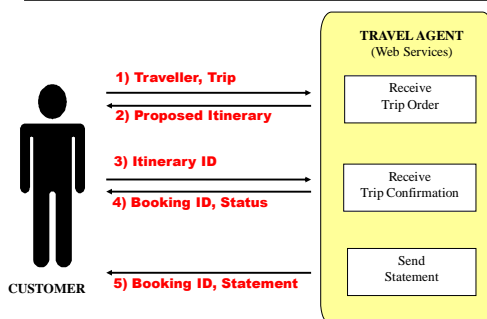
<parallel flow> & <switch>



- <parallel flow> activity allows tasks to be executed concurrently
- <switch> activity allows conditional behaviours in business process

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Choreography: The travel agent example



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The Choreography example

The example should concern the following:

- Choreography
 - The sequence of the **public message exchanges** is regulated in Web Choreography while there are no restrictions on the order of triggering the operations of Web Services
- Transaction
 - A traveller will be informed that a trip request would be logically rolled back in case of any error happening during the process
- Possible Choices
 - The travel agent may be able to send either a Bill or a Notification that the trip cannot be confirmed based on the availability of the trip as communicated from the Airline Reservation system

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Workflow vs. WS Composition

Workflow

- Tasks
- Resources (closed world)
- Resource rules
- Pull (worklists)
- Basic security (for pull)
- C++, Java, Corba, RMI
- Static process
- "Standard" Black box
- No task transaction model

Service composition

- Service types
- Service providers (open, dynamic)
- Service selection rules
- Push (messages)
- Certificates
- HTTP, XML
- Adaptive process
- Interface, Conversations
- Transactional models for e-services

Fabio Casati, Mehmet Sayal, Ming-Chien Shan. "Developing E-Services for Composing E-Services", CAISE 2001

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Composite Service Description Language (CSDL)

- Concepts developed by the workflow community have been extended by new features:
 - 2 levels: service flow and methods flow
 - Data mapping from input / output parameters into XML
 - Certificates – which certificate should be used
 - Service templates for compositions
 - Dynamic conversation – the ability of dynamically selecting the best available service from the repository of conversations (concept similar to service communities)

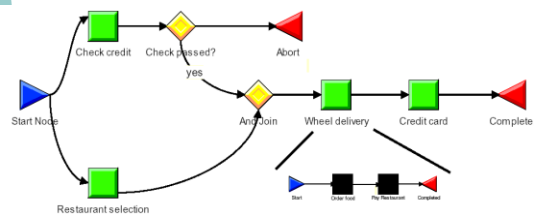
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CSDL

- Composite service as a process schema modelled by a graph
- Service nodes – invocations of basic or composite services
- Decision nodes – alternatives and execution flow control
- Event nodes – send and receive notifications
- Composite service may include the definition of input and output data (Java basic type or vectors, generic objects, **XML documents**)

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CSDL: An example



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Summary

- This week:
 - Web Service Composition
 - Motivations
 - Concepts
 - Design Principles
 - Composition Models
 - Orchestration
 - Choreography
 - A travel example
- Next week:
 - **SOA Development**

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References

- Fabio Casati, Mehmet Sayal, Ming-Chien Shan. "Developing E-Services for Composing E-Services", CAISE 2001.
- Chris Paletz "Web Services Orchestration. A review of emerging technologies, tools and standards", Hewlett Packard White Paper, January 2003.

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