

Q

How do I configure web.xml ?

more on web.xml

Some of the info expected in the web.xml can be provided via annotation. E.g.

```
package it.unitn.disi.ronchet.myservlets;  
  
@WebServlet(name="myServlet",  
            urlPatterns = {"/welcome"})  
  
public class Welcome extends HttpServlet
```

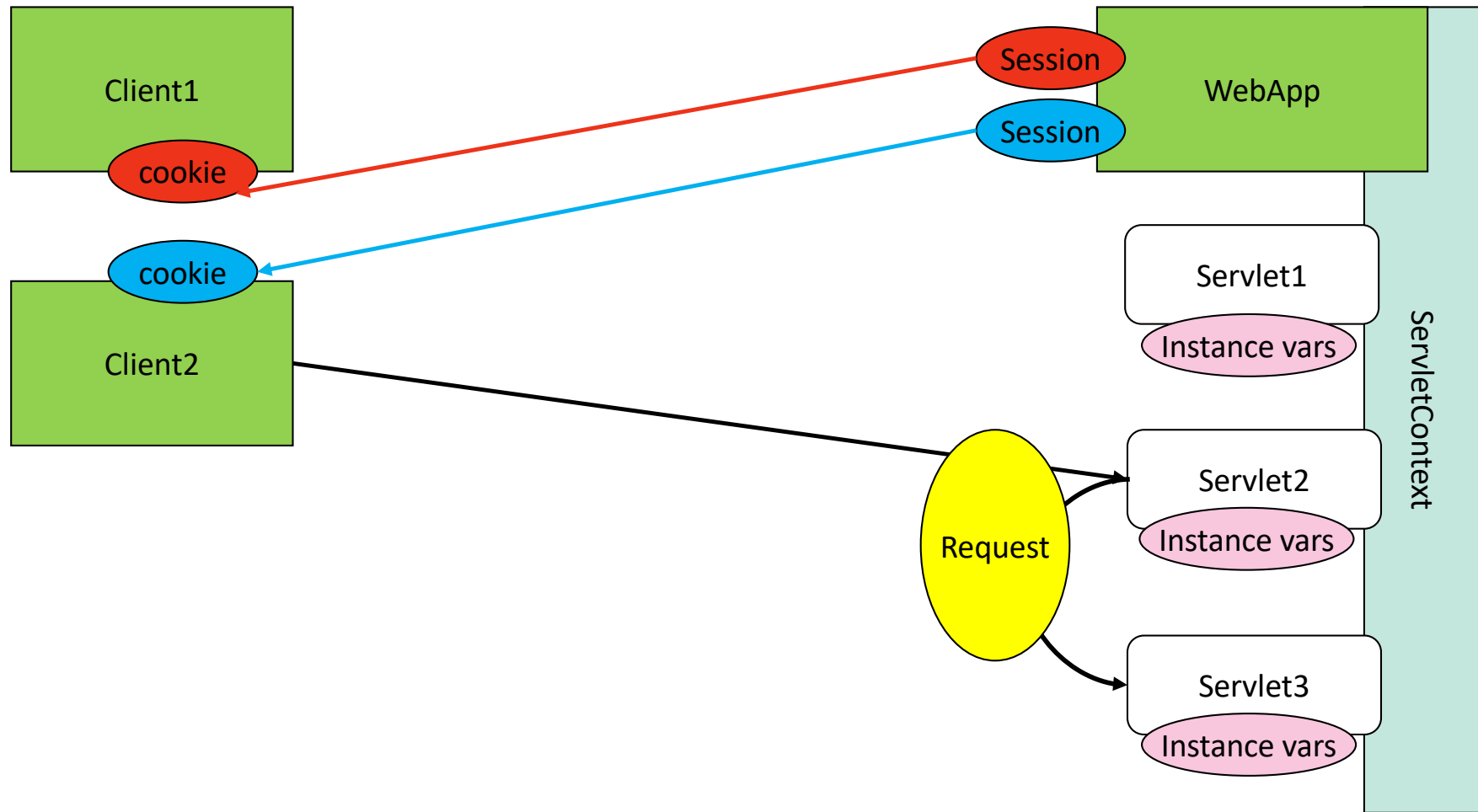
Is equivalent to

```
</web-app>  
  
  <servlet>  
    <servlet-name>myServlet</servlet-name>  
    <servlet-class>it.unitn.disi.ronchet.myservlets.Welcome  
  </servlet-class>  
  </servlet>  
  <servlet-mapping>  
    <servlet-name>myServlet</servlet-name>  
    <url-pattern>/welcome</url-pattern>  
  </servlet-mapping>  
</web-app>
```



Q

How can we keep global information in a webApp?



Sharing information

- Within a request:

multiple servlets cooperating through *forward* and *include* mechanisms:

- pass request and response, add information to the **request** (request in jsp)

- Among different requests by the same user:

- use the **Session** object

getSession() in servlets

session in jsp



Sharing information

- Among different invocations of the same servlet:
 - use instance variables or static variables

- Among different servlets/jsps of the same WebApp:
 - use ServletContext
 - servlets: `getServletConfig().getServletContext`
 - jsps: `application` (a special, predefined object)

Let us build a hit counter - 1

```
public class Counter {
    int count = 0;
    Calendar timeStamp = Calendar.getInstance();
    public void increase(){
        count++;
        timeStamp = Calendar.getInstance();
    }
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        StringBuffer s = null;
        if (count == 0)
            s = new StringBuffer("<p>no hits yet</p>");
        else {
            s = new StringBuffer("<p>hits = ");
            s.append(count)
              .append("<br>last hit on ")
              .append(timeStamp.getTime().toString());
        }
        return s.toString();
    }
}
```



Let us build a hit counter - 2

```
@WebServlet(name = "Demo1", urlPatterns = {"/Demo1"})
public class Demo1 extends HttpServlet {
    Counter counter=new Counter();
    @Override
    protected void doGet(HttpServletRequest request,
        HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, IOException {
        response.setContentType("text/html;charset=UTF-8");
        try (PrintWriter out = response.getWriter()) {
            request.getRequestDispatcher("/fragment1.html")
                .include(request, response);
            counter.increase();
            out.println(counter);
            request.getRequestDispatcher("/fragment2.html")
                .include(request, response);
        }
    }
}
```



Output

The image displays three sequential browser screenshots, each showing a different client accessing a web application. Each screenshot includes a browser window with the address bar set to `localhost:8084/WebApplication01/Demo1`. The content of the page shows a counter and a timestamp:

- First screenshot:** Shows **fragment 1** with `hits = 1` and `last hit on Sun Mar 15 14:41:01 CET 2020`. Below it is **fragment 2**.
- Second screenshot:** Shows **fragment 1** with `hits = 2` and `last hit on Sun Mar 15 14:41:24 CET 2020`. Below it is **fragment 2**.
- Third screenshot:** Shows **fragment 1** with `hits = 3` and `last hit on Sun Mar 15 14:41:43 CET 2020`. Below it is **fragment 2**.

Even if anyone accesses from a different client!
But if we restart the server, counter restarts from 1!



Q

How can we persist (global) information in a webApp?

How can we persist the counter?

In a file (named `counterData`)!

- 1) In `init`, let us check if file exists. If yes, let us resume the counter, else, let us create a new one.
- 2) In `destroy`, let us save counter in `counterData`.

Java serialization

```
class A implements Serializable {...}
```

```
A a1=new A();
```

```
A a2;
```

```
...
```

```
File myFile = new File(filePath);
```

```
...
```

```
ObjectOutputStream oi = new ObjectOutputStream(new  
    FileOutputStream(myFile));
```

```
oi.writeObject(a1);
```

(throws various exceptions...

```
...
```

```
ObjectInputStream oi = new ObjectInputStream(new  
    FileInputStream(myFile));
```

```
a2 = (A) oi.readObject();
```

(throws various exceptions...

Let us build a hit counter - 1

```
public class Counter implements Serializable {  
    ... // same as before  
}
```

In Servlet:

```
Counter counter;
```

```
@Override
```

```
public void init() {  
    File f=new File("/Users/ronchet/Download/counterData"); //update with your path!  
    try {  
        if (! f.exists()) {  
            f.createNewFile();  
            counter=new Counter();  
        } else {  
            ObjectInputStream oi = new ObjectInputStream(new FileInputStream(f));  
            counter=(Counter) oi.readObject();  
        }  
    } catch (IOException | ClassNotFoundException e) { // bad exception catching  
        e.printStackTrace();  
    }  
}
```

```
@Override
```

```
public void destroy() {  
    File f=new File("/Users/ronchet/...");  
    try (ObjectOutputStream oi =  
        new ObjectOutputStream(  
            new FileOutputStream(f))) {  
        oi.writeObject(counter);  
    } catch (IOException e) {  
        e.printStackTrace();  
    }  
}
```





Wait – our counter solution is not thread-safe!

when sharing info, always think about thread-safety!



Servlets are not thread safe!

unless YOU make them so...

- A *thread* is a lightweight process which has its own call stack and accesses shared data of other threads in the same process (shares heap memory).
- A servlet can be invoked simultaneously by multiple threads (i.e., by multiple requests).
- We can fix this problem dealing with concurrency.

- *You should know about concurrency, threads, semaphores and monitors from your bachelor courses. If you do not, see here:*

<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/essential/concurrency/>

(The basics that you need are in the "Concurrency" section)



5 rules to remember

1. Service() , doGet(), doPost() or to be more generic doXXX() methods should **not update or modify instance variables** as instance variables are shared by all threads of same instance.
2. If you have a requirement which requires modification of instance variable then do it in a **synchronized block**. (or synchronized method)
3. Above two rules are applicable for **static variables** also because they are also shared.
4. **Local variables** are always thread safe (unless they refer to global objects)
5. The **request and response objects are thread safe** to use because new instance of these are created for every request into your servlet, and thus for every thread executing in your servlet.

Q

Are session objects thread safe?

Sessions and thread safety

- A *session* belongs to a user.
- Hence, when different users activates the same servlet, and this requests a session object, it gets a different object for every user – so no problems with multithreading.

BUT

- if a user opens two windows on the same browser, and accesses the same servlet, then we DO have a thread safety issue!
- that's very unlikely, but yet...



Q

How can we fix our counter making it thread-safe?

Fixing the hit counter - option 1

```
public class Counter {
    int count = 0;
    Calendar timeStamp = Calendar.getInstance();
    public synchronized void increase() {
        count++;
        timeStamp = Calendar.getInstance();
    }
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        StringBuffer s = null;
        if (count == 0)
            s = new StringBuffer("<p>no hits yet</p>");
        else {
            s = new StringBuffer("<p>hits = ");
            s.append(count)
                .append("<br>last hit on ")
                .append(timeStamp.getTime().toString());
        }
        return s.toString();
    }
}
```

Fixing the hit counter - option 2

```
@WebServlet(name = "Demo1", urlPatterns = {"/Demo1"})
public class Demo1 extends HttpServlet {
    Counter counter=new Counter();
    @Override
    protected void doGet(HttpServletRequest request,
        HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, IOException {
        response.setContentType("text/html;charset=UTF-8");
        try (PrintWriter out = response.getWriter()) {
            request.getRequestDispatcher("/fragment1.html")
                .include(request, response);
            synchronized (this) {
                counter.increase();
            }
            out.println(counter);
            request.getRequestDispatcher("/fragment2.html")
                .include(request, response);
        }
    }
}
```



Q

What are JSPs?

How are they related to servlets?

JSP Technology

A technology somehow similar to PHP or ASP, ASP.net, but Java-based.

Dual to Servlets

Has been the basis for JSP-CustomTags

Has been the basis for JSF

Tutorial

<https://www.tutorialspoint.com/jsp/index.htm>



Simple.jsp

```
<%@ page import=java.util.* %>  
<html>  
<body>  
    <% int x=Calendar.get(Calendar.HOUR_OF_DAY); %>  
    <%= x %>  
</body>  
</html>
```



A taste of servlet programming-2

```
import java.util.Calendar;
public class SimpleServlet extends HttpServlet {
    public void doGet (HttpServletRequest request,
        HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, IOException {
        PrintWriter out=response.getWriter();
        response.setContentType("text/html");
        out.println("<HTML><BODY>");
        x=Calendar.get(Calendar.HOUR_OF_DAY);
        out.println(x);
        out.println("</BODY></HTML>");
        out.close();
    }
}
```

← **<%@ directives %>**

← **<% scriptlets %>**

← **<%= expressions %>**

Equivalent to:
out.println(expression);

A **scriptlet** is a block of Java code **executed during the request-processing time**.
In Tomcat all the scriptlets gets put into the **service()** method of the servlet. **They are therefore processed for every request that the servlet receives.**



A taste of servlet programming-2

A **directive** is used as a message mechanism to **pass information** from the JSP code to the container

Main directives:

page

include (for including other **STATIC** resources at compilation time)

```
import java.util.Calendar; ← <%@ directives %>
```

```
public class SimpleServlet extends HttpServlet {
```

```
    String nome="pippo"; //instance variable
```

```
    final float PI=3.1415926535 // constant
```

```
    public void getName() { /* this is my function */ }
```

```
    public void doGet (HttpServletRequest request,
```

```
        ...
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

```
} ← <%! declarations %>
```

A **declaration** is a block of Java code used to **define class-wide variables and methods** in the generated servlet.

They are **initialized** when the JSP page is **initialized**.

Examples:

```
<%! String nome="pippo"; %>
```

```
<%! public String getName() {return nome;} %>
```

Directives

```
<%@ DIRECTIVE{attributo=valore} %>
```

main attributes:

```
<%@ page language=java session=true %>
```

```
<%@ page import=java.awt.*,java.util.* %>
```

```
<%@ page errorPage=URL %>
```

```
<%@ page isErrorPage=true %>
```



JSP nuts and bolts

Syntactic elements:

`<%@ directives %>` → Interaction with the CONTAINER

`<%! declarations %>` → In the initialization of the JSP

`<% scriptlets %>` → In the service method

`<%= expression %>` → (Syntactic sugar)
same as scriptlet: `<% out.println(expression %)>`

`<jsp:actions/>`



JSP Standard actions

```
<jsp:include page="URL" />
```

For including **STATIC** or **DYNAMIC** resources at request time

```
<jsp:forward page="URL" />
```

```
<jsp:useBean id= "instanceName"
```

```
scope= "page | request | session | application"
```

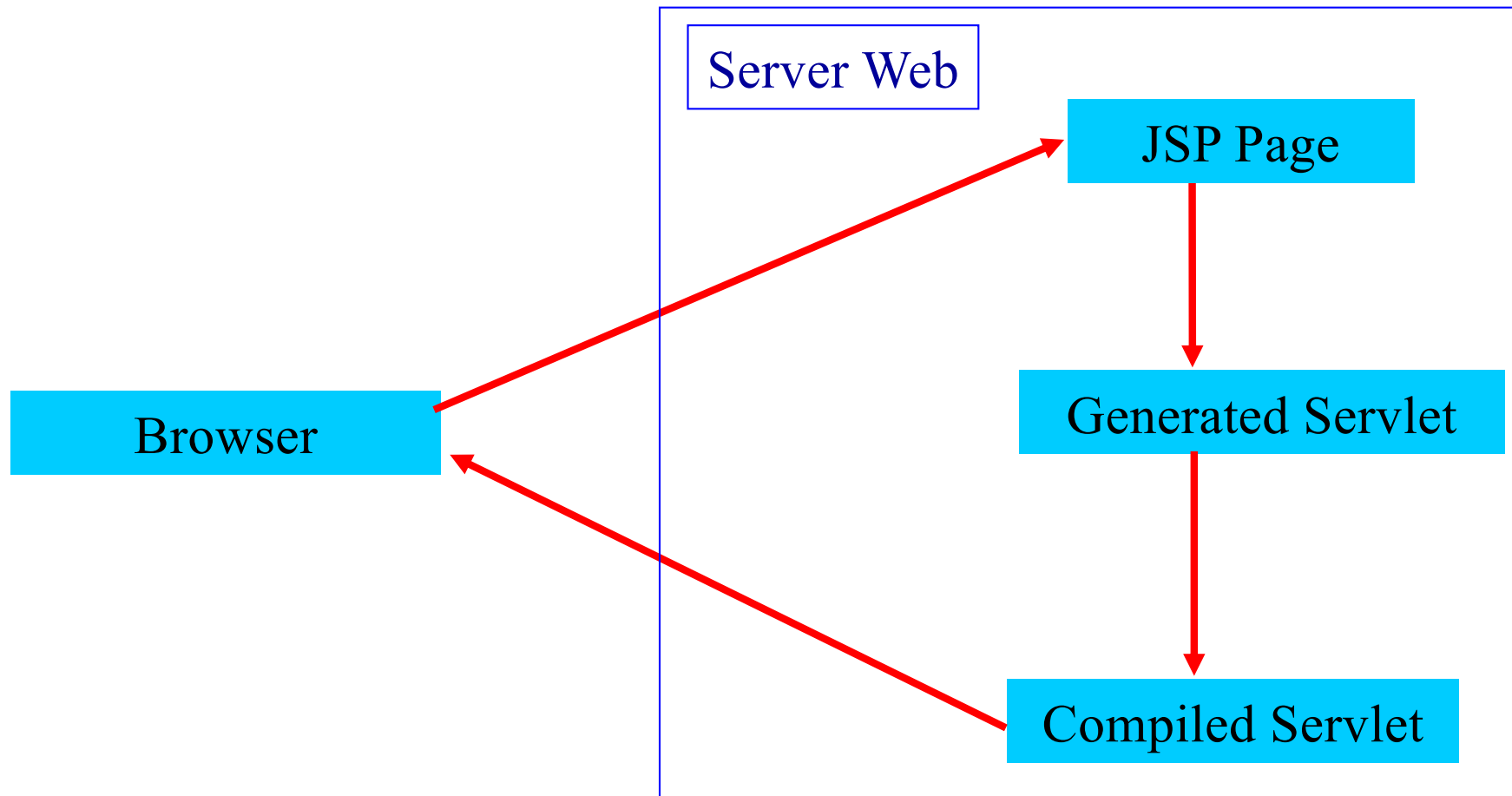
```
class= "packageName.className" type= "packageName.className"
```

```
beanName="packageName.className | <%= expression >" >
```

```
</jsp:useBean>
```



JSP Lifecycle



Q

How should I configure Tomcat to use JSPs?

JSP pages

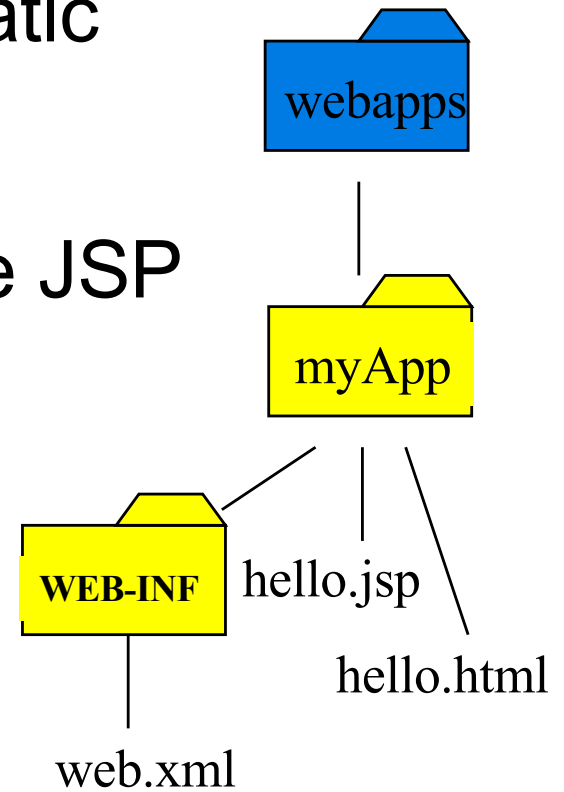
To let Tomcat serve JSP pages, we follow the same procedure that we use for static pages.

In the myApp folder we can deposit the JSP files.

On our Tomcat server, the URL for the hello.jsp file becomes:

`http://machine/port/myApp/hello.jsp`

The WEB-INF directory can be empty.



Q

How can I access request and response in JSPs?

How can I use sessions with JSPs?

Predefined Objects

out

Writer

request

HttpServletRequest

response

HttpServletResponse

session

HttpSession

page

this in the Servlet

application

servlet.getServletContext

area shared among all servlets

within the same webapp

config

ServletConfig

exception

only in a errorPage

pageContext



request

```
<%@ page errorPage="errorpage.jsp" %>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>UseRequest</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <%
      // Get the User's Name from the request
      out.println("<b>Hello: " + request.getParameter("user") + "</b>");
    %>
  </body>
</html>
```



JSP in action – Example part 1

```
<%@page contentType="text/html" pageEncoding="UTF-8"%>
<%@page import="java.util.Date"%>
<%@page language="java" session="true" %>

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <meta http-equiv="Content-Type"
          content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
    <title>Session Test JSP</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <%! Integer accessCount; %>
    <%
      accessCount=(Integer)session.getAttribute("accessCount");
      if (accessCount == null) {
        accessCount = 0;    // autobox int to Integer
      } else {
        accessCount = new Integer(accessCount + 1);
      }
      session.setAttribute("accessCount", accessCount);
    %>
  </body>
</html>
```



JSP in action – Example part 2

```
Session is new? <% out.println(session.isNew()); %>
  <h2>You accessed this site " <%= accessCount %>
    times in this session.</h2>
  <ul><li>Your session ID is " <%= session.getId() %></li>
    <li>Session creation time is
      <%= new Date(session.getCreationTime()) %> </li>
    <li>Session last access time is <%=
      new Date(session.getLastAccessedTime()) %> </li>
    <li>Session max inactive interval is <%=
      session.getMaxInactiveInterval() %> seconds</li>
  </ul>

  <p><a href='<%= request.getRequestURI() %>'>Refresh</a>
  <p><a href='
    <%= response.encodeURL(request.getRequestURI()) %>'>
    Refresh with URL rewriting</a>
  <form method="GET" action="endSession.jsp">
    <input type="submit" value="End Session">
  </form>
</body>
</html>
```



Q

How can we make good use of JSPs?

Best practices

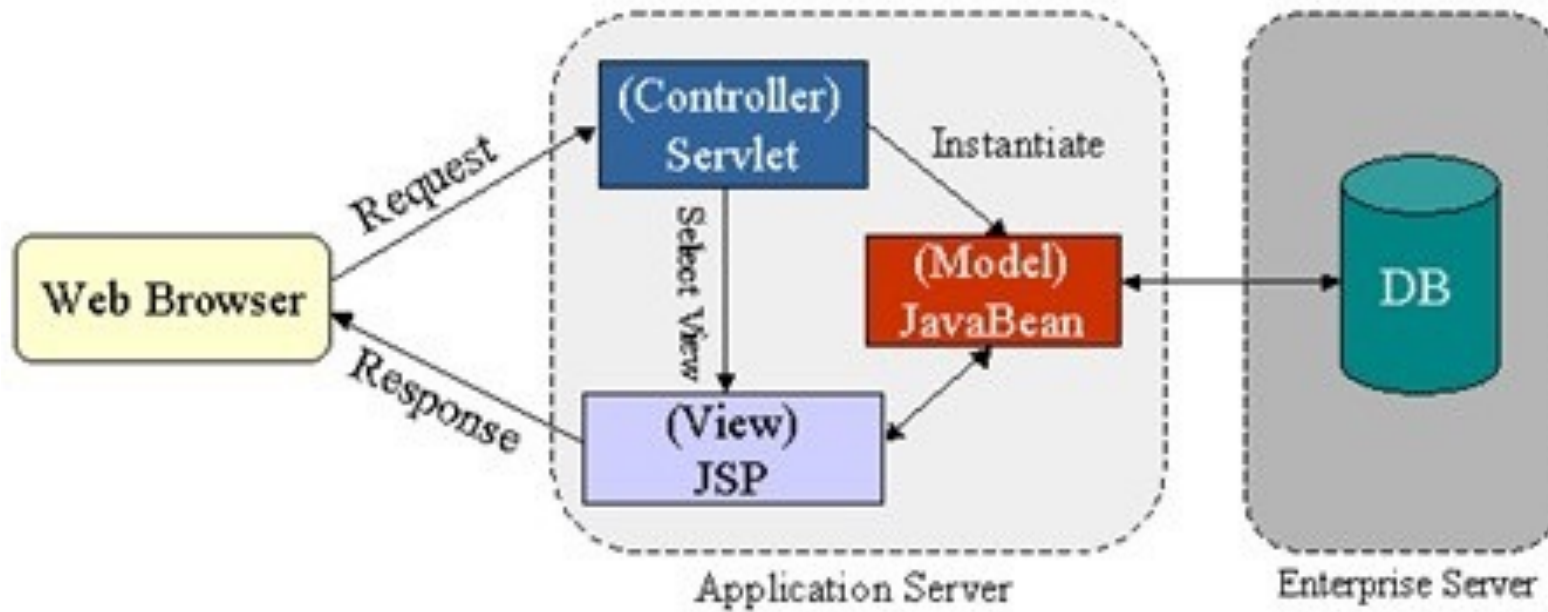
- Don't overuse Java code in HTML pages
- Choose the right include mechanism:
 - *Static data* such as headers, footers, and navigation bar content is best kept in separate files and not regenerated dynamically.
 - Once such content is in separate files, they can be included in all pages using one of the following include mechanisms:
 - Include directive: `<%@ include file="filename" %>`
 - Include action: `<jsp:include page="page.jsp" />`
- Don't mix business logic with presentation
 - JSP code should be limited to front-end presentation.
- Use filters if necessary (See next lecture)
- Use a database for persistent information (See next lectures)
 - Use connection pooling



JSP usage: MVC pattern



MVC



What is a Javabean?

A **bean** is a Java class that:

- Provides a public no-argument constructor
- Implements `java.io.Serializable`
- Follows JavaBeans design patterns
 - Has Set/get methods for properties
 - (Has Add/remove methods for events)
- Is thread safe/security conscious
 - Can run in an applet, application, servlet, ...

Example:

```
public class SimpleBean implements Serializable {  
    private int counter;  
    SimpleBean() {counter=0;}  
    int getCounter() {return counter;}  
    void setCounter(int c) {counter=c;}  
}
```



Standard actions involving beans

```
<jsp:useBean id="name" class="fully_qualified_pathname"  
scope="{request|session|application}" />
```

```
<jsp:setProperty name="nome" property="value" />
```

```
<jsp:getProperty name="nome" property="value" />
```

See: https://www.tutorialspoint.com/jsp/jsp_java_beans.htm



Example - BeanOne.java



define the bean

```
package beans;
import java.io.Serializable;
public class BeanOne implements Serializable {
    String name;
    String surname;
    public BeanOne() {}
    public String getName() { return name; }
    public String getSurname() {return surname;}
    public void setName(String name) { this.name = name;}
    public void setSurname(String surname) {this.surname = surname;}
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "BeanOne{" + "name=" + name + ", surname=" + surname + " }";
    }
}
```



Example - index.html



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>JSP - Hello World</title>
</head>
<body>
<br/>
<a href="jspOne.jsp">jspOne</a><br>
<a href="jspTwo.jsp">jspTwo</a><br>
<a href="addZ">Add Z</a><br>
<a href="InvalidateServlet">invalidate session</a>
</body>
</html>
```



Example - jspOne.jsp

```
<%@page contentType="text/html" pageEncoding="UTF-8"%>
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
    <title>JSP Page</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>Setting the property...</h1>
    <jsp:useBean id="myBean1" class="beans.BeanOne" scope="session"/>
    <jsp:setProperty name="myBean1" property="surname" value="de pippis"/>
    <jsp:setProperty name="myBean1" property="name" value="pippo"/>
    <p><%=myBean1.toString()%></p>
    <hr>
    <jsp:include page="index.html"></jsp:include>
  </body>
</html>
```

set value
in the bean

What happens if
we change the scope?



Example - jspTwo.jsp

```
<%@page contentType="text/html" pageEncoding="UTF-8"%>
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
    <title>JSP Page</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>Getting the property...</h1>
    <jsp:useBean id="myBean1" class="beans.BeanOne" scope="session"/>
    <jsp:getProperty name="myBean1" property="surname" />
    <jsp:getProperty name="myBean1" property="name" />
    <p><%=myBean1.toString()%></p>
    <hr>
    <jsp:include page="index.html"></jsp:include>
  </body>
</html>
```

show value
in the bean



Example - BeanAccessServlet.java

modify value
in the bean

```
@WebServlet(name = "addZServlet", value = "/addZ")
public class HelloServlet extends HttpServlet {
    protected void doGet(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, IOException {
        HttpSession session=request.getSession();
        if (session.getAttribute("myBean1")==null) {
            session.setAttribute("myBean1", new BeanOne());
        }
        BeanOne aBean=(BeanOne)(session.getAttribute("myBean1"));
        aBean.setName(aBean.getName()+"z");
        request.getRequestDispatcher("jspTwo.jsp").forward(request, response);
    }
}
```



InvalidateSessionServlet.java

```
@WebServlet(name = "InvalidateServlet", value = "/InvalidateServlet")
public class InvalidateServlet extends HttpServlet {
    @Override
    protected void doGet(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse
        response) throws ServletException, IOException {
        HttpSession session=request.getSession();
        session.invalidate();
        try {
            request.getRequestDispatcher("jspTwo.jsp").forward(request, response);
        } catch (ServletException | IOException e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
    }
}
```

invalidate session



Pay attention to the scope!

JSP

```
<jsp:useBean id="myBean1"  
class="beans.BeanOne"  
scope="session"/>
```

```
<jsp:useBean id="myBean1"  
class="beans.BeanOne"  
scope="application"/>
```

```
<jsp:useBean id="myBean1"  
class="beans.BeanOne"  
scope="request"/>
```

Servlet

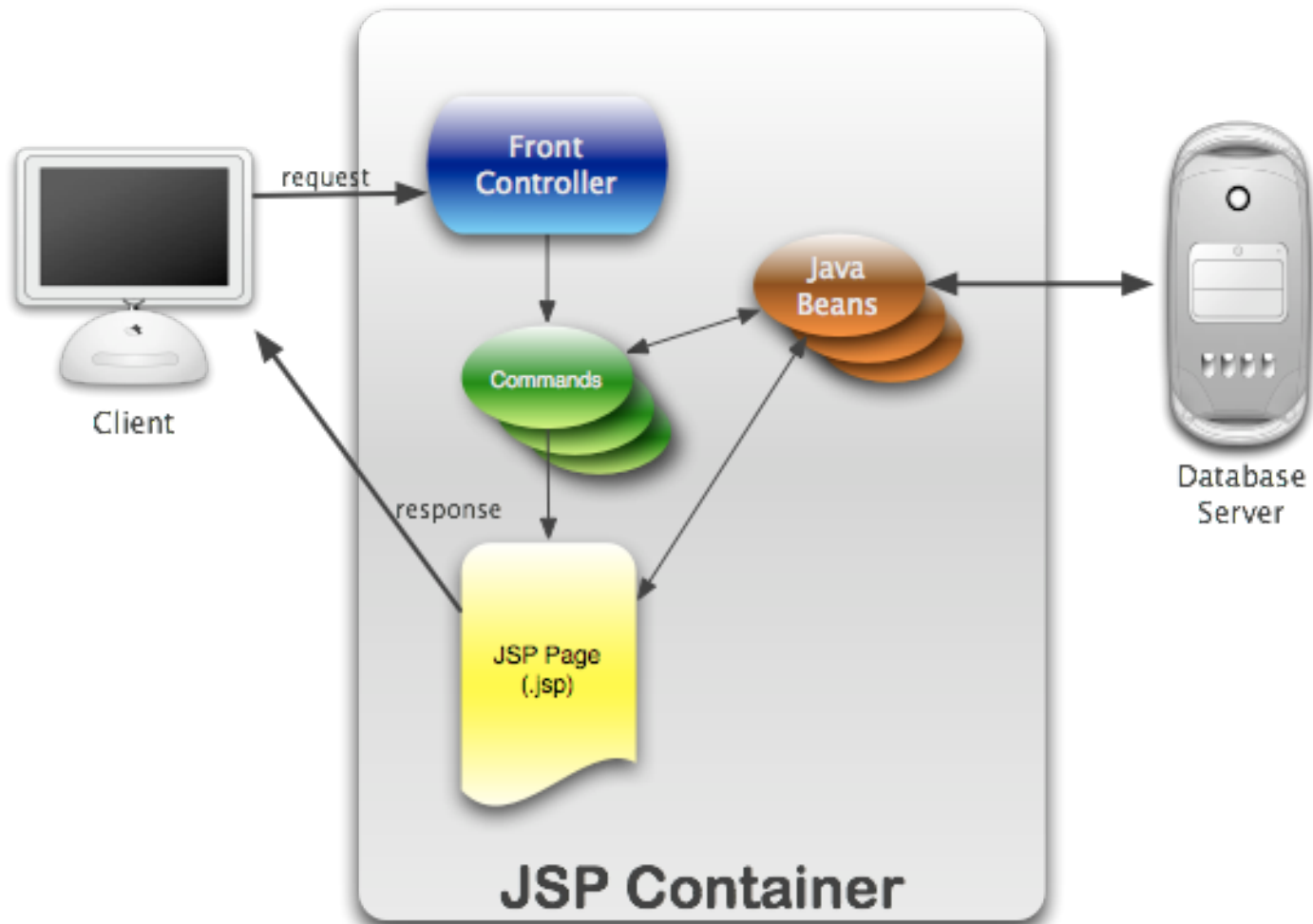
```
Session session=request.getSession();  
BeanOne x= (BeanOne )session.getAttribute("myBean1");
```

```
ServletContext context=request.getServletContext();  
BeanOne x= (BeanOne )context.getAttribute("myBean1");
```

```
BeanOne x= (BeanOne )request.getAttribute("myBean1");
```



Front controller pattern



by Bear Bibeault, March 2006



Examples

from:

<https://javaranch.com/journal/200603/frontman.html>

The Front Controller employed by the **Struts** package typically uses a servlet mapping of `*.do` where whatever appears as the prefix of the `".do"` is used to lookup the actual class path of the Command (called "actions" in Struts) in an internal configuration map.

Another example, the pattern that I usually use, is to employ a servlet mapping such as `/command/*` where the prefix "command" triggers the front controller, and the rest of the path info is used to lookup the Command class in an internal map.

It would be typical to see URLs along the lines of:

<http://some.server.com/webapp/command/deleteItem>

<http://some.server.com/webapp/command/insertItem>

<http://some.server.com/webapp/command/doSomethingWonderful>

