

Towards Dynamic Web Services

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 - Associate professor, DEI - Politecnico di Milano (Italy)
 - Software Engineering group
 - Research interests
 - Web services, dynamic software architectures, software specification

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Overview

- Introduction
- Main research problems
- Common vocabulary
- Publication
- Composition
- Monitoring
- Reaction strategies
- Conclusions
- Open discussion

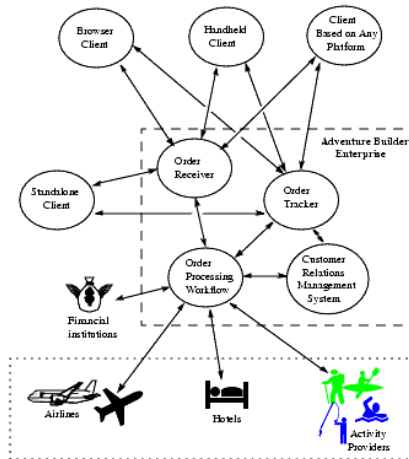
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Early days vs. nowadays

- Early days
 - Monolithic organizations
 - The world was closed, fixed, static, and centralized
 - No attention to evolution
 - Changes should be avoided
 - they disrupt "normal" flow causing schedule and cost problems
- Nowadays
 - Changes originate in the business world
 - Agile networked organizations
 - Fast organizational responses to rapidly changing requirements
 - Intra and extra organizational changes require continuous changes in the information system
 - Modernization of legacy systems

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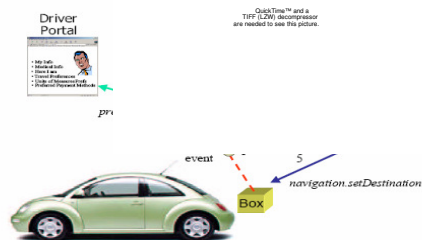
Integration of heterogeneous systems



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Autonomic systems

- The system needs to "change" according to the context
 - Some parts can "disappear"
 - New functionality can be discovered
 - The system must reorganize itself at runtime



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Web services

Service-oriented architectures support dynamic, goal-oriented, opportunistic federations of organizations

"Web services are a new breed of Web application. They are self-contained, self-describing, modular applications that can be published, located, and invoked across the Web. Web services perform functions, which can be anything from simple requests to complicated business processes. ... Once a Web service is deployed, other applications (and other Web services) can discover and invoke the deployed service."

IBM web service

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tutorial

More on services

- Components encapsulating business functions of possible value for others
 - Different level granularity - coarse grained business services vs. fine grained objects
- Services must support explicit contracts to allow independent party access
 - Allow for SLAs that deal not just with functionality
- Services can be the basis for service compositions
 - New value is created through integration and composition
 - New components are recursively created

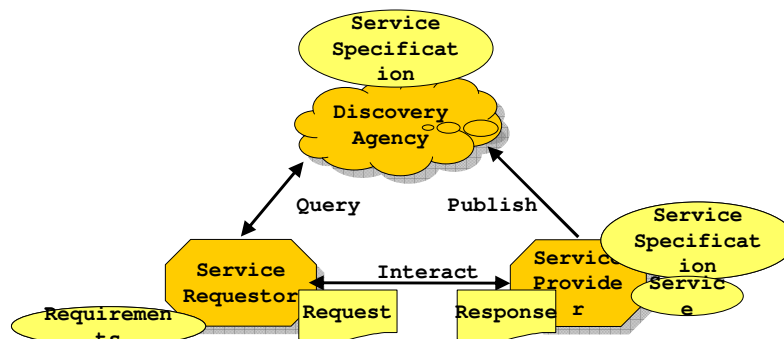
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Services vs. components

- Both are developed by others
- Components are run in the application's domain
- Services are run in other domains
- Services imply less control and require more trust
- Components chosen and bound together at design/construction time
- Services may be chosen and bound at run-time

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Main players



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Service composition

- Service composition is the development task in SoAs
 - Applications are created by combining the basic building blocks provided by other services
 - Service compositions may themselves become services, following a model of recursive service composition
- Composition
 - Requires given functional requirements
 - Is often based on QoS parameters
 - Uses a P2P conversational interaction
 - Implies multi-party interactions
- Many composition models are possible/available

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Composition and dynamism

- Composition can be defined at
 - Design time (static composition)
 - Services are identified and selected while conceiving the composition
 - Deployment time
 - Services are identified and selected while installing the application
 - Different installations can select different services
 - Run-time (dynamic composition)
 - Services are selected while executing the composition
 - Designers only define abstract processes

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Possible problems

- Services
 - Do not answer
 - At least, they do not react within given time frames
 - Propagate faulty conditions
 - They send error messages to notify anomalous conditions
 - Violate established contracts
 - Both functional and QoS requirements
 - New versions of supplied services
 - Services cheat on their clients
- New services become available

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Main research problems

- Publication
 - UDDI is not enough. What about push, pull mechanisms? What about different architectures? What about selective publication (only some persons can see the service)
- Dynamic composition (and dynamic binding)
 - Get a service or a set of services capable of providing a desired functionality with a certain QoS
- Run-time monitoring
 - How can we define what cannot go wrong? How long are we willing to wait to find out if something has gone wrong at run-time?
- Recovery strategies
 - When something does go wrong, what can we do to keep things rolling?

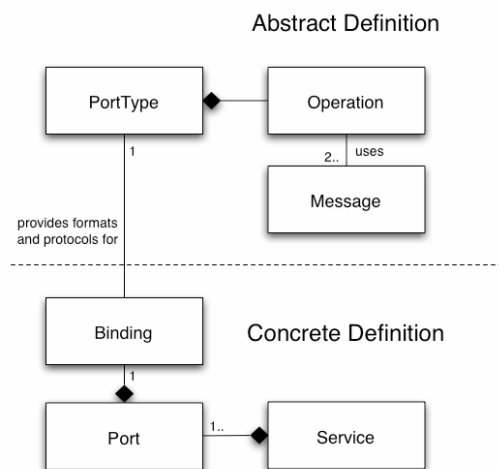
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Background

WSDL

WSDL

(A purely syntactic interface)



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Common vocabulary

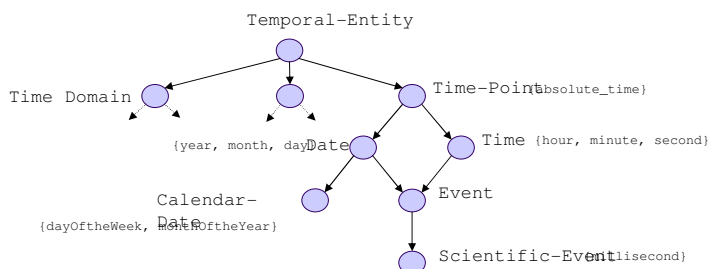
Semantic Web
Ontologies
WordNet

Need for a common vocabulary

- Messages
 - Definition of data in input and output messages of web services
 - Suitable annotations (ontologies)
- Functional Semantics
 - Representation of the capabilities of web services
 - Pre and post conditions
- Behavior
 - Representation of the execution flow of operations (in a service)
 - State Machines, Petri nets, activity diagrams etc.
- QoS
 - Description of the operational metrics of web services (SLA)
 - QoS models and QoS ontology for web services

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Semantic Web Services



- When Web services are semantically described, we may call them Semantic Web Services
- An ontology includes a vocabulary of terms, and some specification of their meaning
- The goal is to create an agreed-upon vocabulary and a semantic structure for exchanging information about a domain

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WordNet

(a lexical database for the English language)

- English nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs are organized into synonym sets, each representing one underlying lexical concept
- Different relations link the synonym sets
- Create a lexical thesaurus (not a dictionary) which models the lexical organization used by humans
- Approximately 95,000 different word forms

<http://wordnet.princeton.edu/>

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Publication

UDDI
Meteor-S
WSMO

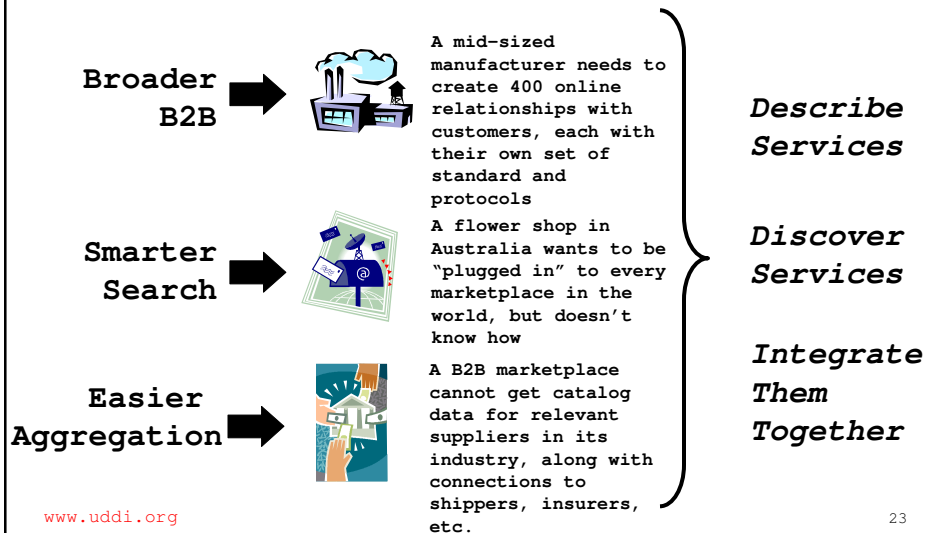
UDDI

(Universal Description, Discovery & Integration)

- Access service descriptions, service typologies, and service providers using a well structured data structure
- Abstract from the used technology
- Search for a service using different search keys (taxonomies)
- Search can be done manually or by a program
- Globally available repository

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UDDI is useful for



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Registry data

White Pages

- Business Name
- Text Description
 - list of multi-language text strings
- Contact info
 - names, phone numbers, fax numbers, web sites...
- Known Identifiers
 - list of identifiers that a business may be known by - DUNS, Thomas, other

Yellow Pages

- Business categories
 - For example ...
 - Industry: NAICS (Industry codes - US Govt.)
 - Product/Services: UN/SPSC (ECMA)
 - Location: Geographical taxonomy
 - Implemented as name-value pairs to allow any valid taxonomy identifier to be attached to the business white page

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Registry data

Green Pages

- New set of information businesses use to describe how to “do e-commerce” with them
 - Nested model
 - Business processes
 - Service descriptions
 - Binding information
 - Programming/platform/implementation agnostic
 - Services can also be categorized

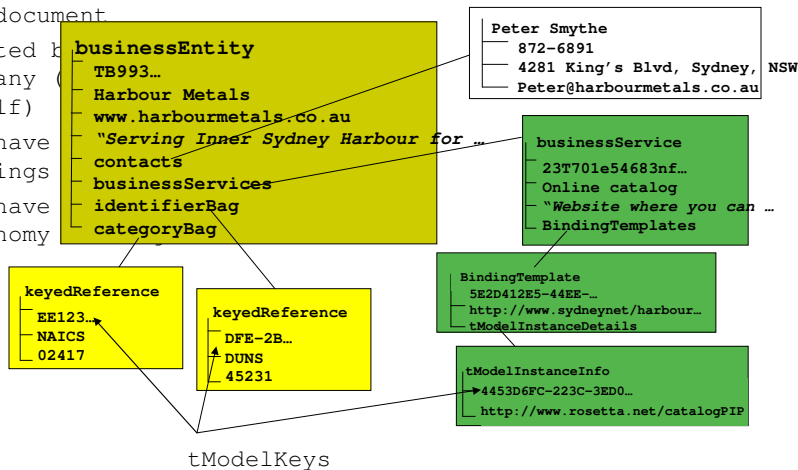
Service Type Registrations

- Pointer to the namespace where service type is described
 - What programmers read to understand how to use the service
- Identifier for who published the service
- Identifier for the service type registration
 - called a tModelKey
 - Used as a signature by web sites that implement those services

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Business Registration

- XML document
- Created by company (on behalf)
- Can have listings
- Can have taxonomy



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UDDI v3

- Subscription
 - Synchronous
 - Asynchronous
- Digital signature support for authenticating provenance
- Custody transfer
- Explicit node replication API
- Migration of data between registries
 - UBR as registry of key generators
- UDDI Policy modeling
- UDDI Extensibility
- Additional query modifiers, category groups, internationalization, etc.

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Next steps

(Conclusions)

- Compatibility changes for
 - SAML, WS-A, WS-I, WS-Policy, BPEL, etc.
- Better external taxonomy support (OWL-S) etc.
- Better searching (e.g. range searching, semantic searching)
- More granular access control (by role, entity, action)
- Life of data (stale data)
- Trustworthiness (integration of trust and identity services)
- Federation (representing registries within registries)
- Different comparisons for category groups

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METEOR-S

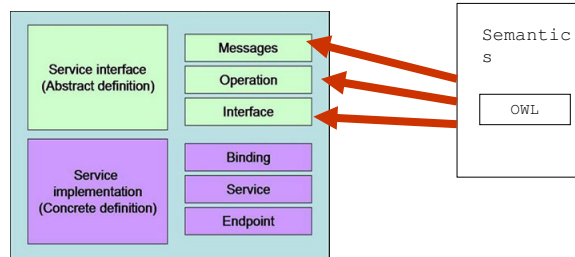
- Interesting example of “semantic” approach
- MWSCF: Semantic Web Process Composition Framework
- MWSDI: Scalable Infrastructure of Registries for Semantic publication and discovery of Web Services
- MWSAF: Semantic Annotation of WSDL (WSDL-S)

lsdis.cs.uga.edu/Projects/METEOR-S/

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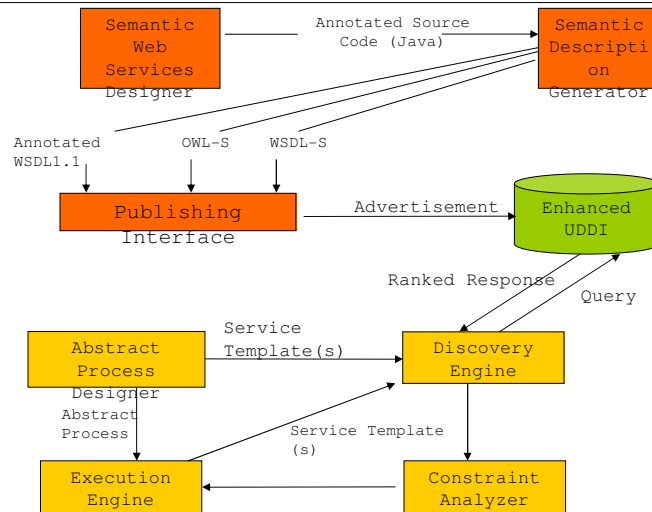
WSDL-S

- Adding semantics inline to WSDL abstract definition
 - Inputs and output messages
 - Annotated with domain concepts
 - Operations
 - Annotated with preconditions and effects
 - Service
 - Interface annotated with category information



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Architecture



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WSMO

(Web Service Modeling Ontology)

- Ontologies
 - Provide the formally specified terminology of the information used by all other components
- Goals
 - Objectives that a client may have when consulting a Web Service
- Web services
 - Semantic description of Web Services
 - Capability (functional)
 - Interfaces (usage)
- Connectors
 - Connectors between components with mediation facilities for handling heterogeneities

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Composition

BPEL
WSCDL
WS-Notification
OWL-S
Research prototypes

BPEL

- Business Process Execution Language for Web Services
- Objective:
 - Behavior model specification of web services throughout a business process
- Syntax based on XML
 - Describes how the process works
 - An orchestration engine guides the process centrally

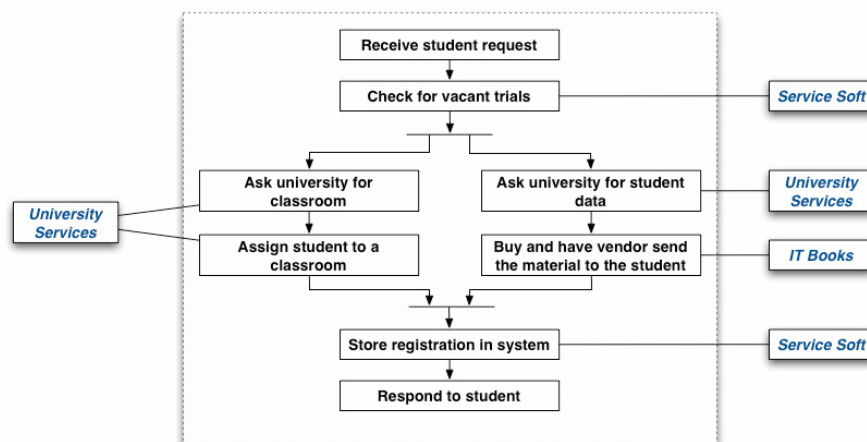
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BPEL Activities

- Base Activities
 - Receive, Reply, Invoke, Assign
- Workflow activities
 - Sequence, Switch, While, Flow, Pick
- Scopes define a behavior context for nested BPEL activities
- WSDL is used heavily
 - BPEL processes are services themselves and so they provide their own WSDL interface
 - WSDL message types are used within the BPEL process to define the internal variables
 - WSDL message types define the structures of the messages exchanged with the outside world

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Example



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BPEL's Limits

- Closed solution
 - In treating abstract BPEL processes only dynamic binding is supported
 - dynamic modification of partnerLinks
- The execution is a possible bottleneck
 - Many research projects tend towards distributed processes
- Limited expressiveness
 - Pushes engine producers to introduce non-standard activities to invoke components that are not web services (for example, using WSIF)

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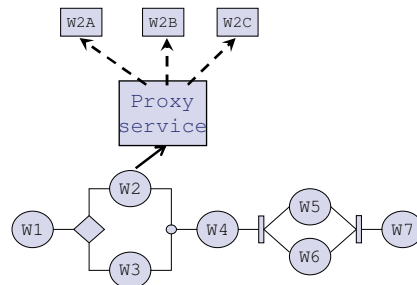
Annotated BPEL

- Nothing but an attempt to improve current technologies
- Abstract BPEL processes are usually annotated with
 - Pre and post conditions on required operations
 - Other semantic information for service discovery
 - Characteristics of foreseen bindings (e.g., duration)
 - QoS parameters to negotiate with service providers
 - Monitoring rules
 - Test data

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Abstract services in BPEL

- If we redeploy the BPEL process every time
 - No possibility of rebinding
- Replace invocations to concrete services with invocations to proxy services



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WSCDL

- From a common viewpoint we describe (in XML) the observable and complementary behavior of web services - through message exchanges
- We give a global definition of ordering conditions and constraints under which messages are exchanged:
 - Control flow dependencies
 - Data flow dependencies
 - Message correlations
 - Time constraints
 - Transactional dependencies
- Each participant uses the definition to produce compliant services
 - A Choreography Language is not an "executable business process description language" but should lead to code skeletons and/or abstract processes

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Dynamic Systems

(Channels)

- A channel is a point of collaboration between parties
- The interesting part is that channels can be passed among parties
 - This provides for static and dynamic message destinations
- Channels can be prepared by a broker service and then one can be chosen at run-time and sent to the choreography under request

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Dynamic systems

(Guard, Repetition, and Block conditions)

- Guard expression - a boolean XPATH expression that must evaluate to true before the actual work is done (pre-condition candidate)
- Repeat expression - a boolean XPATH expression that is evaluated after correct completion of the work activity and that can cause the work unit to be repeated
 - The guard expression is re-evaluated (post-condition & recovery strategy candidate)
- Block value - true or false. It indicates whether we must wait for certain variables to become available before evaluating the guard expression

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Conclusions on WSCDL

- No clear distinction between model and exchange syntax
- No mapping to a precise formalism
- It is more about design than implementation
- We have shown some of the good ideas that have arisen in the WS-CDL camp (guards, repetitions, channels, etc.)
- They are insufficient in terms of:
 - expressiveness of the language chosen for defining the guard and repetition expressions (XPATH)
 - degree of clear separation between the collaboration logic and other aspects such as monitoring and recovery

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Orchestration vs choreography

- Choreography takes global point of view
- Orchestration takes point of view of one participant
- Difficult to map WSCDL to BPEL abstract processes
 - Control flow is orthogonal - should use same control flow activities
- We would like to map design notation (WSCDL) to executable notation (BPEL) for model driven service oriented development environments

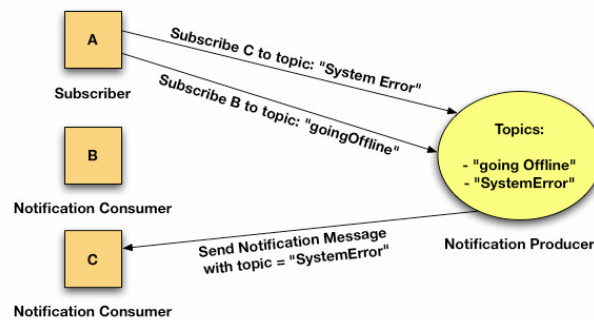
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WS-Notification

- A standard for publish-subscribe systems
- Its goal is to standardize the terminology, concepts, and message exchanges for the notification pattern
- It also provides a common language for describing topics
- **Notifications** (can be sent in two ways)
 - Raw notification message to the consumer
 - The producer keeps trace of each message-type, one for each consumer.
 - Notification message data using a Notify message
 - Contains WS-Notification info such as topic + application data (real message)
 - Consumer can accept many Notify messages with one operation in the WSDL - cannot be done with raw notification
 - Producer does not need to make a specific message for each consumer

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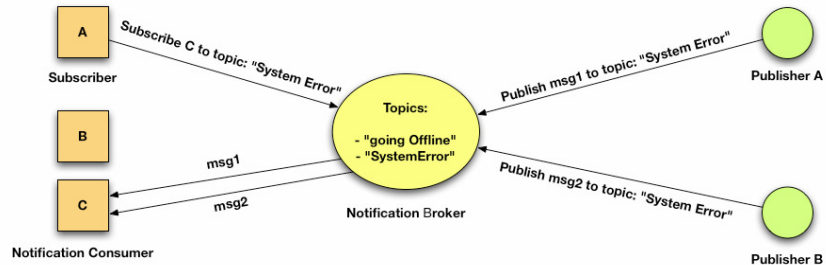
Notification roles



- Defines normative WS interfaces for the following key roles (among others):
 - Notification producer
 - Notification consumer

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Broker-based solution



- Real publish-subscribe advantages with the use of broker
 - WS-Notification defines the interface for Notification Brokers

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Conclusions on WS-Notification

- Advantages and disadvantages of publish-subscribe architecture
 - Can be easily used for discovery purposes
 - Does not have the strengths of real publish-subscribe middleware
- No middleware implementations are available at the moment
 - Incomplete implementation under the Apache Web Service (Publish)
- Does not provide any specific help for monitoring

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OWL-S - the semantic web approach

- OWL-S sets out to enable the following tasks:
 - Automatic Web Service Discovery
 - Automatic Web Service Invocation
 - Automatic Web Service Composition and interoperation
 - Automatic Web Service Monitoring (work hasn't started on this part)
- In order to achieve its goals OWL-S introduces one upper-ontology and several sub-ontologies
- Semantic description of all aspects of web services

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Self-Serv

- Adopts a model-driven approach and specifies composite services through UML `statecharts`
- Self-Serv distinguishes among three types of services
 - elementary services (i.e. simple services)
 - composite services
 - service communities
 - containers of substitutable services that provide the description of the desired service without referring to any actual provider
- Web Services are specified by an identifier (SOAP access point), a set of operations (WSDL interface) and a set of attributes
 - Attributes can be advertised, provider-supplied, and community-supplied
- At run-time, communities are responsible for selecting the correct service implementation to best fit a particular user profile in a specific situation

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Composition as planning

(Traverso et al.)

- Available services are described in OWL-S
 - Rendered as non-deterministic transition systems (OWL-S process model)
- Clients specify main executions to follow
 - Along with side paths that are typically used to resolve exceptional circumstances
 - These goals are expressed using the EAGLE language
 - It permits the definition of conditions on the whole behavior of the composed service and preferences among different sub-goals
- The composition is seen as an (extended) planning problem
 - The plan generation phase exploits the MBP (Model Based Planner)
 - It generates plans that are automata and that can be easily translated into BPEL executable processes ⁵¹

analysis

- Hull et al.
 - The description of available services (peers) is given in terms of Mealy machines that exchange messages through predefined communication topologies (channels), and that store messages in bounded queues
 - At each step of a conversation, a peer can send, receive, or consume a message, or perform an empty move to change state
 - The requirements are a desired global behavior in LTL formula
 - The result is a Mealy machine for peers such that their conversations comply with the LTL specification
- Berardi et al.
 - The composition requires
 - Finite state transition systems of the available services
 - A Finite state transition system of target service
 - The composition automatically produces a composed service that realizes the client request
 - Each action of the target service is delegated to one of the available services, according to its behavior

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AOP-BPEL

(Finkelstein et al.)

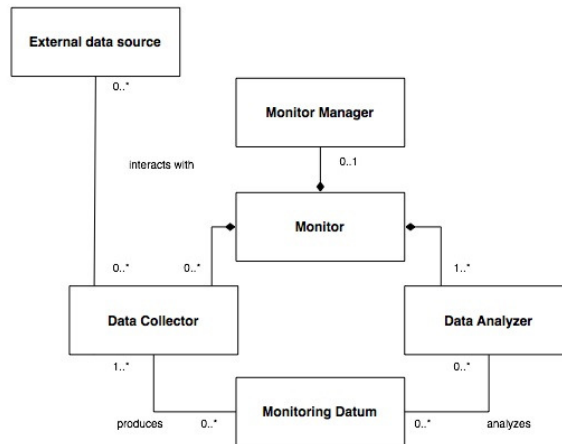
- Based on AOP and the visitor design pattern
- More flexible BPEL engine: an open, extensible, and configurable BPEL interpreter
- Aspects help
 - Easily extend or modify its behavior
 - Select or replace Web Services after deployment time (i.e., dynamic discovery and binding)
 - Plug or unplug features (aspects) in/from the engine on demand
 - Hot fix the workflow (e.g., compose new Web services on demand)
- AOP should also be applied on BPEL processes
 - This is to tackle the problems of hot deployment and bug fixing of Web services

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Monitoring

Service monitoring
System monitoring
System probing

Conceptual model



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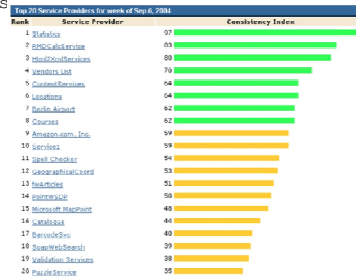
Monitoring levels

- Service execution and monitoring proceed in parallel: monitoring “oversees” the execution of the selected process, and can be seen as
 - **Service monitoring** is the lowest level probing activity and works at the level of the messages that services send and receive
 - **System monitoring** applies to composed services and studies the events generated during the execution of composed services
 - **System probing** inserts special-purpose probes in the process under analysis

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Service Monitoring (Message-based probing)

- They work at the level of SOAP messages and compute metrics like
 - The **Consistency Index** expresses the regularity of the service response time
 - The **Availability Index** expresses the percentage of time the service is available
 - The **Absolute Performance Index** expresses the average response time for services in milliseconds



Web Services Performance Index (Computer Associates)

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System monitoring (Spanoudakis et al.)

- Types of deviation beyond classical inconsistencies
 - Inconsistencies w.r.t observed behavior
 - Inconsistencies w.r.t expected behavior
 - Unjustified behavior
- Identification of primitive monitorable events & extraction of behavioral properties from the specification of the composition process of a service-based system
- Specification of additional monitorable requirements in terms of the identified primitive monitorable events (bottom-up approach)
- Deployment of event calculus as the specification framework of the monitorable properties (via an XML-based language defined for this purpose)

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Example

- Assumptions
 - A car booking service should not report a car as available if it is not:

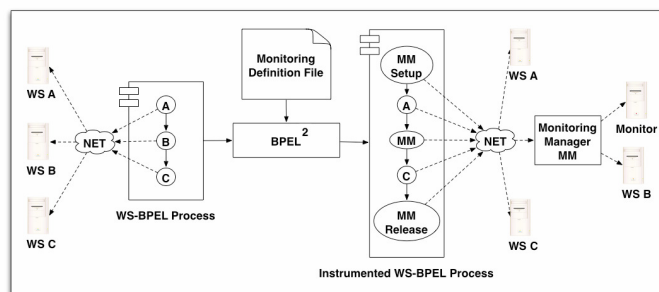
$$\text{Happens}(ir:\text{FindAvail}(l,veh),t1,\mathcal{R}(t1,t1)) \wedge \text{Happens}(as:A1(veh),t1,\mathcal{R}(t1,t1)) \wedge \neg \text{HoldsAt}(\text{Available}(v),t1-t_u) \Rightarrow \neg \text{Initiates}(as:A1(veh), \text{equalTo}(veh,v),t1)$$

- Between the release and the return of a car key, a car should not be available:

$$\text{Happens}(rc:\text{RelKey}(v,c,l),t1,\mathcal{R}(t1,t1)) \wedge \text{Happens}(rc:\text{RetKey}(v,l),t2,\mathcal{R}(t2,t2)) \wedge (t1 \leq t3) \wedge (t3 \leq t2) \Rightarrow \neg \text{HoldsAt}(\text{Available}(v),t3)$$

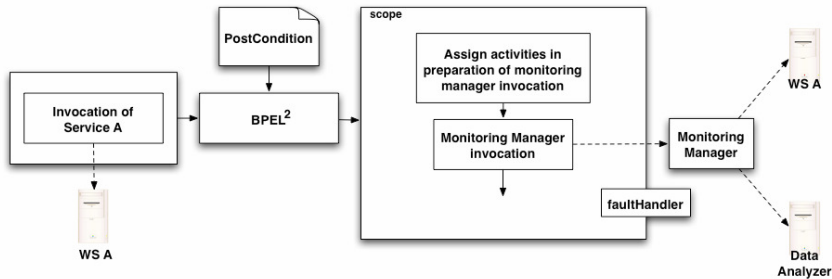
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Service probing (Monitoring Contracts)



- Separation of concerns between business and monitoring logic
- Monitoring defines pre- and post-conditions on invocations (and some other activities)
 - Written in WSCoL (Web Service Constraint Language)
- Static weaving at deployment time
- Analysis is done by external monitors (that also act as proxies)

Service probing (Monitoring Contracts - BPEL²)



- Assign activities prepare the data to be sent to the monitor
- The Monitoring Manager acts both as a proxy and as a gateway to the data analyzers
- If everything is OK the process proceeds
- If everything is not OK
 - An exception is thrown to the process
 - The exception is caught by an appropriate faultHandler that starts a reaction

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Assertion examples

Internal variables:

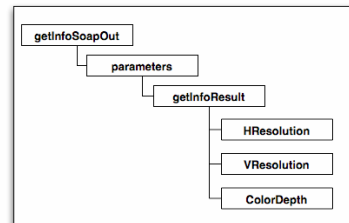
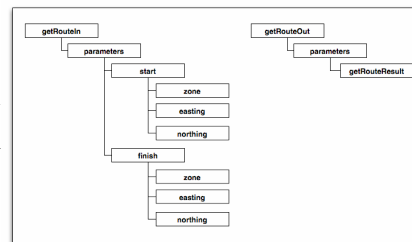
```

($getRouteIn/parameters/start/easting).length() == 7
($getRouteIn/parameters/start/easting).endsWith('E')
    
```

External variables:

```

($returnInt('WSDL', 'getInfo',
  ($getRouteOut/parameters/getRouteResult)
),
  '//parameters/getInfoResult/Hresolution') <= 80
    
```



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Adding dynamicity to the approach

- The actual monitoring activities performed are *not set in stone!*
- Monitoring parameters act as a *knob* that, when turned, can *dynamically switch on and off* certain monitoring activities
- Parameters that can be associated to WSCoL properties:
 - Priority
 - Validity
 - Certified providers

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SLA-based monitoring

- Done by:
 - IBM WSLA framework
 - WS-Agreement (Cremona)
 - Fabio Casati at HP Labs (does not use WSLA)
- Data is typically collected server-side (not enough? What is true server-side could not be true client-side due to nature of internet)
- Some component is responsible for getting the data which is checked against conditions by a checker

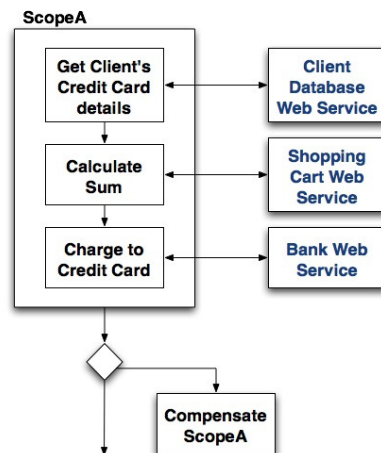
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Recovery

BPEL (compensation, fault, and event handlers)
Reaction strategies
Integer programming and genetic algorithms
Rebinding

Compensation handlers

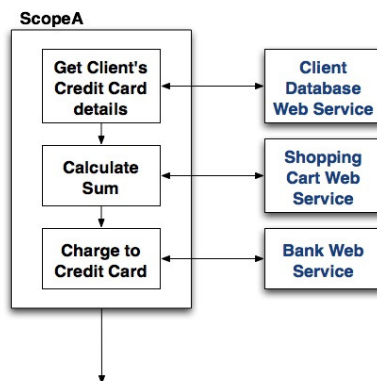
- A compensation handler is attached to a scope
 - It can only start after the scope has been completed correctly
 - It sees a snapshot of all the variables of the scope
 - It cannot update live data
 - It can be used from within fault-handlers or compensation handlers
- default compensation handlers call all compensation handlers for the immediately enclosed scopes in reverse order



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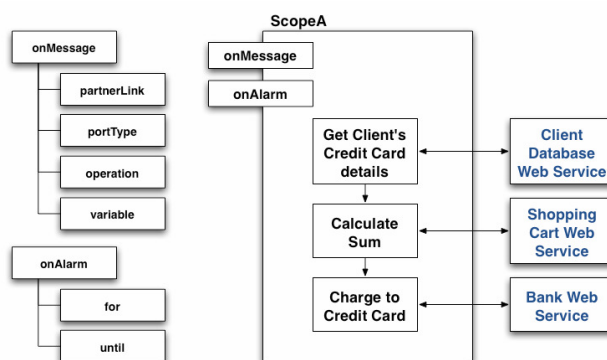
Fault handlers

- It is considered "reverse work" to undo the partial and unsuccessful work of a scope
- If a fault handler is invoked a compensation handler can never be invoked for that same scope
 - the first thing it does is to terminate all the activities contained within the scope



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Event handlers



- Events are *invoked concurrently* and can be:
 - Incoming messages (*onMessage*)
 - Alarms (*onAlarm*)

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Recovery actions might ...

- Recall the same service
 - If the system (designer) decides it is only a transient failure
- Select a new service with the same characteristics
 - New discovery and negotiation are implied
- Enable new monitors to probe the execution of some services
 - Monitors must be switched on and off at runtime
- Renegotiate some quality parameters
 - If already negotiated contracts do not apply anymore
- Activate a process-specific handler
- Reorganize the (sub)process
 - A web process might be created on-the-fly to provide the same functionality (with similar QoS) as the faulty service

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Some examples

- MAIS allows the process executor to
 - Select new services according to a given ontology
 - MAIS supplies an extended version of UDDI repository
 - Bindings can expire
- Self-Serv uses linear *integer programming* to select the best set of services that meet a given requirement
 - Runtime reorganizations are possible if the delta becomes too high
- Canfora et al. (Uni. Sannio) propose the use of *genetic algorithms* to tackle the QoS-aware composition of services
 - They do not propose ad-hoc monitors, but need monitors to be able to apply the approach dynamically
 - They propose an algorithm to select the sub(process) that must be reorganized

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Comparison between techniques

(Integer programming and genetic algorithms)

- IP is a widely adopted technique to solve this kind of problem
- GAs better scale up when the number of available concrete services for an abstract service is very high
 - Possible scenarios: widely used services (e.g. hotel booking, search URL, etc.)
- GAs do not pose any limitation on the linearity of the fitness function and of the QoS aggregation formulae
 - Linearization necessary for IP → not to consider for user-defined, domain specific QoS attributes
 - e.g. temperature service may have QoS attributes such as refresh rate, accuracy, etc.
 - Alternative: nonlinear IP → serious scalability problems

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Example reaction strategy

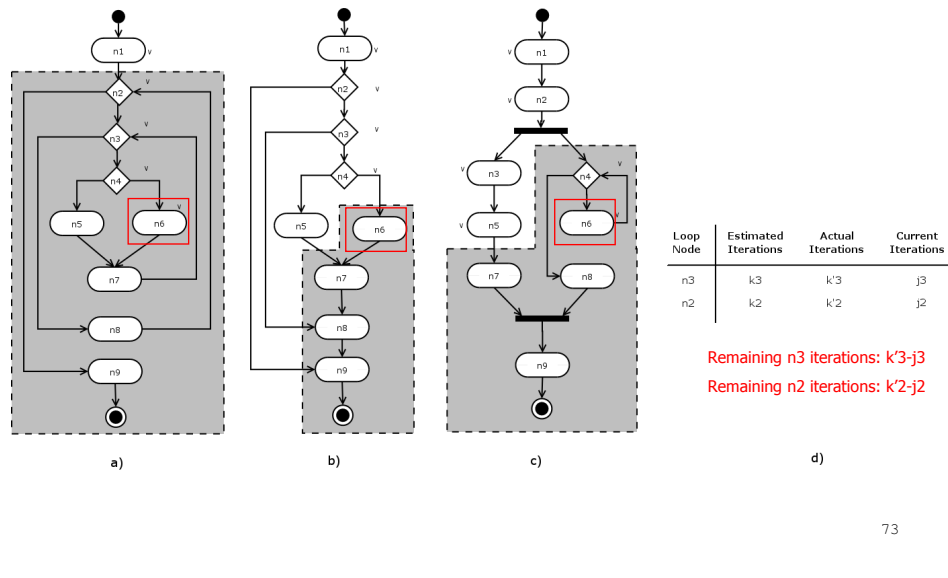
(Rebinding)

- A service may not be available
- or, better services can be available
- QoS values deviate from the estimate
- Unlikely paths are followed
 - Branches unlikely to be executed
 - # of iterations largely different from the estimated value
- This may lead to:
 - Impossibility to continue the execution
 - Constraint violation
 - Poor optimization of the objective function
- Always consider re-binding overhead!

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Determining the rebinding slice

(Canfora et al.)



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Rebinding may fail...

- No service available for replacement
- No way to recover from constraint violation
 - e.g., timing constraints already violated
- No way to optimize the objective function
- What to do
 - Suspend the execution
 - replace the unavailable service
 - Terminate the execution
 - Nothing can be done
 - Continue anyway
 - Constraints not so hard
 - Try to limit the violation

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How can we restructure the process?

- Validity of changes
 - Single iteration
 - Single instance
 - Whole process definition
- Problems
 - Data consistency
 - Too heavy solutions (# of services)
- Example
 - Planning techniques (Traverso et al.)
 - Graph transformation systems

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Our approach

... just to wrap up

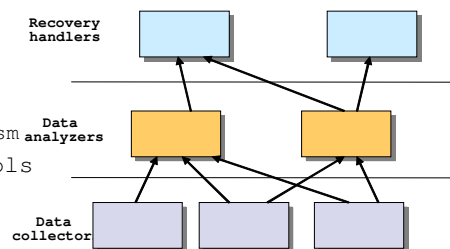
Compositions we can trust

- We need to provide tools and methodologies that can assure high levels of robustness and client perceived trustworthiness in service compositions. We need compositions we can trust
- Design-time testing and validation are not enough
 - Services chosen at design-time can still change during execution!
 - We might decide to choose the services at deployment-time or at run-time...

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Hierarchy of elements

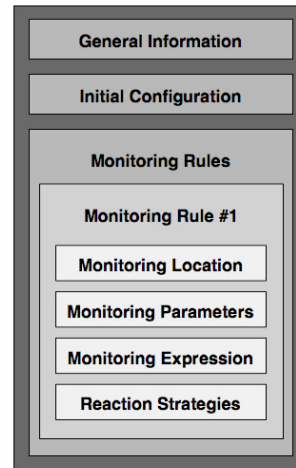
- Two main hypothesis
 - Standard technology
 - Separation of concerns
- Clever annotations
 - WSCoL
 - Flexibility and dynamism
- Two main conceptual tools
 - Proxy-based solution
 - Aspect orientation
- Annotated BPEL



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Monitoring rules

- Monitoring Location
- Monitoring Expression (WCoL)
- Monitoring Parameters
 - Priority
 - Validity
 - Certified Providers
- Reaction strategies



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This means that

- Dynamic monitoring is of key importance
 - The trade-off between performance and timeliness in discovering erroneous situations cannot be fixed, but must depend on when, where and who is running the process
 - Even though our weaving is done at deployment-time, the amount of monitoring is still modifiable at run-time
- Our approach keeps the business logic and the monitoring logic separate
 - This is what permits such an “easy management of the monitoring activities”

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Recovery actions

- Integration with the other elements/aspects of the framework
 - Retry
 - Rebind
 - Reorganize
 - Change monitoring rule
 - Change monitoring parameters
 - Renegotiate
 - Call handlers provided by services
 - Warn and stop

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References

Books and Web pages

- Plenty of papers and articles
 - ICSOC, ICWS, ICSE, VLDB, ESEC, ASE, ...
- Books
 - ... (> 5000 references on Amazon)
 - Sanjiva Weerawarana, Francisco Curbera, Frank Leymann, Tony Storey, Donald F. Ferguson . "Web Services Platform Architecture : SOAP, WSDL, WS-Policy, WS-Addressing, WS-BPEL, WS-Reliable Messaging, and More", Prentice Hall (2005)
- Web pages
 - <http://www.w3.org/2002/ws/>
 - <http://www.oasis-open.org/home/index.php>
 - <http://www.uddi.org/>
 - <http://www-130.ibm.com/developerworks/webservices>
 - <http://java.sun.com/webservices/index.jsp>
 - <http://msdn.microsoft.com/webservices/>
 - <http://www.webservices.org/>
 - <http://ws-i.org/>
 - <http://www.daml.org/services/>

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Conclusions

Open problems range from business strategies to software processes and service technology

First comments

- We are moving from experiments to real applications
 - Available technology has proven its capabilities on example applications
 - We still need to better assess how it behaves with real systems
- Web services are a good solution in many cases:
 - They provide functional richness and interoperability
 - They require a sacrifice in terms of complexity and performance
- Too many standards or standardization efforts
 - In many cases they are driven by competitive industrial coalitions
 - Many of them are nothing but preliminary ideas
 - Just a few good supporting tools
- Emphasis on more dynamic/decentralized compositions
 - Event-based systems

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Questions?



Thank you !!!

“Things should be made as simple as
possible, but no simpler”

Albert Einstein