Web Services Modelling Ontology

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Web Service Modelling Ontology (WSMO)
WSMO Design Principles

- Web Compliance
- Ontology-Based
- Strict Decoupling
- Centrality of Mediation
- Ontological Role Separation
- Description versus Implementation
  Execution Semantics
- Service versus Web service
Objectives that a client wants to achieve by using Web Services

Provide the formally specified terminology of the information used by all other components

Semantic description of Web Services:
- Capability (functional)
- Interfaces (usage)

Connectors between components with mediation facilities for handling heterogeneities
Non-Functional Properties

• Every WSMO element can be described by properties that contain relevant, non-functional aspects.

• Sample information sets are:
  – Dublin Core Metadata Set:
    • For resource management
  – Versioning Information
    • For evolution support
  – Quality of Service Information
    • For availability, stability
  – Other
    • WSMO non functional properties are extensible
## Non-Functional Properties List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dublin Core Metadata</th>
<th>Quality of Service</th>
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<tr>
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WSMO Top Level Notions

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Ontology Description and Usage

• Ontologies are used as the ‘data model’ throughout WSMO
  – WSMO is defined in terms of itself
  – All data-types used in Web Service interfaces are ontology concepts
  – Discovery, mediation and composition are based on ontology reasoning

• WSMO Ontology Language WSML
  – Conceptual syntax for describing WSMO elements
  – Logical language for axiomatic expressions (WSML Layering)
WSMO Ontology Design

- Modularization
  - import / re-using ontologies
- De-Coupling
  - heterogeneity handled by OO Mediators
Ontology Specification

• Non functional properties (see before)
• Imported Ontologies
  – importing existing ontologies where no heterogeneities arise
• Used mediators
  – OO Mediators (ontology import with terminology mismatch handling)
• Ontology Elements:
  Concepts set of concepts that belong to the ontology, incl.
  Attributes set of attributes that belong to a concept
  Relations define interrelations between several concepts
  Functions special type of relation (unary range = return value)
  Instances set of instances that belong to the represented ontology
  Axioms axiomatic expressions in ontology (logical statement)
Objectives that a client wants to achieve by using Web Services

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Connectors between components with mediation facilities for handling heterogeneities
Goals

- Ontological De-coupling of Requester and Provider
- Derived from task / problem solving methods/domain model
- Structure and reuse of requests
  - Search
  - Diagnose
  - Classify
  - Personalise
  - Book a holiday
- Requests may in principle not be satisfiable
- Ontological relationships & mediators used to link goals to Web services
Goal Specification (1/2)

• Non functional properties
• Imported Ontologies
• Used mediators
  – *OO Mediators*: importing ontologies with heterogeneity resolution
  – *GG Mediator*:
    • Goal definition by reusing an already existing goal
    • allows definition of *Goal Ontologies*
Goal Specification (2/2)

• **Requested Capability**
  – describes service functionality expected to resolve the objective
  – defined as capability description from the requester perspective

• **Requested Interface**
  – describes communication behaviour supported by the requester for consuming a Web Service (Choreography)
  – Restrictions / preferences on orchestrations of acceptable Web Services
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WSMO Web Service Description

Non-functional Properties
- complete item description
- quality aspects
- Web Service Management

DC + QoS + Version + financial

Capability
- Advertising of Web Service
- Support for WS Discovery

functional description

Choreography --- Service Interfaces --- Orchestration

Web Service Implementation
(not of interest in Web Service Description)

client-service interaction interface for consuming WS
- External Visible Behavior
- Communication Structure
- ‘Grounding’

realization of functionality by aggregating other Web Services
- functional decomposition
- WS composition
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Capability Specification (1/2)

- Non functional properties
- Imported Ontologies
- Used mediators
  - OO Mediator: importing ontologies with mismatch resolution
  - WG Mediator: link to a Goal wherefore service is not usable a priori
• **Pre-conditions**
  – What a web service expects in order to be able to provide its service
  – Define conditions over the input.
• **Assumptions**
  – Conditions on the state of the world that has to hold before the Web service can be executed
• **Post-conditions**
  – Describes the result of the WS in relation to the input, and conditions on it
• **Effects**
  – Conditions on the state of the world that hold after execution of the Web service (i.e. changes in the state of the world)
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**Service Interfaces**
- realization of functionality by aggregating other Web Services
  - functional decomposition
  - WS composition
Choreography & Orchestration

VTA example:

When the service is requested

Date
Time
Flight, Hotel
Error
Confirmation

VTA Service

When the service requests

Date, Time
Hotel
Error
Confirmation
Date, Time
Flight
Error
Confirmation

Hotel Service

Flight Service
Choreography Aspects (1/2)

• **Interface for consuming Web Service**
  – External Visible Behavior
    • those aspects of the workflow of a Web Service where Interaction is required
    • described by workflow constructs: sequence, split, loop, parallel
  – Communication Structure
    • messages sent and received
    • their order (communicative behavior for service consumption)
    • choreography related errors (e.g. input wrong, message timeout, etc.)
Choreography Aspects (2/2)

• **Interface for consuming Web Service**
  – Grounding
    • concrete communication technology for interaction
  – Formal Model
    • reasoning on Web Service interfaces (service interoperability)
    • allow mediation support on Web Service interfaces
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**Orchestration**
- realization of functionality by aggregating other Web Services
- functional decomposition
- WS composition
Control Structure for aggregation of other Web Services

- decomposition of service functionality
- all service interaction via choreographies
Orchestration Aspects

- Service interfaces are concerned with service consumption and interaction
- Choreography and Orchestration as sub-concepts of Service Interface
Common requirements for service interface description

- Represent the dynamics of information interchange during service consumption and interaction
- Support ontologies as the underlying data model
- Appropriate communication technology for information interchange
- Sound formal model / semantics of service interface specifications in order to allow operations on them.
Orchestration Definition

process (control + data flow) of goals
Runtime Orchestration

process (control + data flow) between “states”
+ communication behavior of orchestrating Web Service
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Connectors between components with mediation facilities for handling heterogeneities
Mediation (Wiederhold, 94)

- Mediators as components that resolve mismatches
- Declarative Approach
- Semantic description of resources
- ‘Intelligent’ mechanisms that resolve mismatches independent of content
- Mediation cannot be fully automated (integration decision)
Mediation

- For 1$ on programming, $5 - $9 on integration
- Mismatches on structural / semantic / conceptual / level
- Assume (nearly) always necessary
- Description of role
Levels of Mediation within Semantic Web Services

- **Data Level**
  - mediate heterogeneous Data Sources

- **Functional Level**
  - mediate mismatches between Web Service/Goal and Web Service/Goals functionalities

- **Process/Protocol Level**
  - mediate heterogeneous Business Processes/Communication Patterns

- **Layers of Mediators**
  - Specification Layer – WSMO Mediators
  - Implementation Layer – Levels of Mediation
WSMO Mediators Overview
WSMO Mediator uses a Mediation Service via Source Component 1..n Target Component

- as a Goal
- directly
- optionally incl. Mediation

Specification layer
Implementation layer

Mediation Services
Merging 2 ontologies

Goal:
“merge s1, s2 and s1.ticket subclassof s2.product”

Train Connection Ontology (s1)

Purchase Ontology (s2)

Train Ticket Purchase Ontology

Discovery

Mediation Services
GG Mediators

- Support specification of Goals by re-using existing Goals
- Allow definition of **Goal Ontologies** (collection of pre-defined Goals)
- Terminology mismatches handled by OO Mediators
GG Mediator Example

Source Goal
“Buy a ticket”

GG Mediator
Mediation Service

Target Goal
“Buy a Train Ticket”

postcondition:
“aTicket memberof trainticket”
• Link a Web Service to a Goal and resolve occurring mismatches
• Match Web Service and Goals that do not match a priori
• Handle terminology mismatches between Web Services and Goals
  – broader range of Goals solvable by a Web Service
• Enable interoperability of heterogeneous Web Services
  – support automated collaboration between Web Services
• **OO Mediators** for terminology import with data level mediation
• Protocol Mediation for establishing valid multi-party collaborations
• Process Mediation for making Business Processes interoperable
WW Mediator Example

**internal business logic of Web Service**
(not of interest in Service Interface Description)

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(not of interest in Service Interface Description)
Data Level Mediation (1/2)

• Scope
  – Solving terminological mismatches

• Related Aspects / Techniques:
  – Ontology Integration (Mapping, Merging, Alignment)
  – Data Lifting & Lowering
  – Transformation between Languages / Formalisms
Data Level Mediation (2/2)

• Terminology Mismatches Classification
  – Conceptualization Mismatches
    • same domain concepts, but different conceptualization
    • different levels of abstraction
    • different ontological structure
    • => resolution only includes human intervention
  – Explication Mismatches
    • mismatches between:
      – T (Term used), D (definition of concepts), C (real world concept)
    • => automated resolution partially possible
Functional Level Mediation (1/2)

• Scope
  – Solving functional mismatches between goals and/or ws

• Related Aspects/Techniques
  – Discovery
  – Semantic Matchmaking

• Matchmaking Mismatches
Functional Level Mediation (2/2)

= G/WS

Exact Match  PlugIn Match  Subsumption Match  Intersection Match  No Match
Process Level Mediation (1/2)

- **Scope**
  - Resolves communication mismatches and establish behavior compatibility
- **Related Aspects/Techniques**
  - Data and control flow composition
- **Process Mismatches**
  - Signature terminology mismatches (need for data level mediation)
  - Communication/behavior mismatches
Process Level Mediation (2/2)
WSMO Work in SOA4All

• WSMO-Lite
  – a lightweight ontology which uses RDFS as the description language and defines mechanisms to annotate WSDL descriptions using SAWSDL.

• MicroWSMO
  – an annotation mechanism for RESTful services.
SAWSDL in a picture
Summary

• Semantic Web Services
  – Potential to cope with Web scale
  – Applies SW to automate application development through reuse of Web services

• WSMO
  – Ontology describing Web services
  – Goals, Mediators, Web Services
  – Choreography and Orchestration
Relevant URLs

- WSMO
  - http://www.wsmo.org/
- Conceptual Models of Services
  - http://cms-wg.sti2.org/
Thanks