Web services

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Brief web services history

- 1989 WWW invented
- 1991 HTTP 0.9 specified
- 1992 Internet at Masaryk University :-)
- 1993 Mosaic web browser
- 1993 CGI interface for executing programs
- 1995 JavaScript introduced by Netscape
- 1996 SSL 3.0
- 1998 XML 1.0
- 1998 SOAP 1.1 by Microsoft
- 2003 SOAP 1.2 by W3C (never used)
- 2004 WS-Interoperability Basic Profile

Brief web services history (2)

- 2000 REST defined by Roy Fielding
- 2001 JSON format invented
- 2004 GMail and Google Maps
- 2004 Web 2.0 hype, Mash-ups
- 2005 AJAX (Asynchronous JavaScript)
- 2005 Yahoo! offers JSON web services
- 2006 OpenID 2.0
- 2008 HTML5 (First Public Working Draft)
- 2010 OAuth 1.0
- 2010 mobile devices with Android
- 2012 OAuth 2.0

Brief web services history (3)

- 2013 responsive web design as answer to mobile devices with differing screen sizes
- 2006-2013 cloud computing (Amazon 2006, Microsoft 2008, Google 2013)
- 2014 HTML5 finalised

SOAP versus REST

- enterprises prefer complicated stack
 - XML
 - SOAP, WSDL, WS-Interoperability
 - WS-* (WS-Security, WS-Addressing, ...)
 - persistent connections queues
 - RPC based
 - complex tools and frameworks
- Internet crowd prefers simplicity
 - JSON
 - web APIs described as HTTP requests to URLs
 - AJAX in browsers
 - transient connections TCP/IP, HTTP
 - scalable using REST

Web APIs

- well-known APIs
 - Google APIs (Calendar, GMail, Maps, Picasa, ...)
 - Facebook API
 - Twitter API
 - based on HTTP+JSON+SSL+OAuth
- third party clients
 - web, mobile (Android, iOS, ...), desktop, embedded
- OAuth
 - developer registers an application at API provider
 - user authorises the application to use certain operations in the API, giving the application a token
 - application uses the token to use the API on behalf of the user

JSON - JavaScript Object Notation

```
kind: "calendar#events".
 etaq: "\"GZxpEFttRDAOmLHnWRxLHHWPGwk/vpPWPyIKi2CubgzCWOVY8MIHGPo\"",
 summary: "EGI.eu Events",
 updated: "2013-04-22T06:00:02.000Z",
 timeZone: "Europe/Amsterdam",
 accessRole: "reader",
- items: [
   - {
        kind: "calendar#event",
        etag: "\"GZxpEFttRDAOmLHnWRxLHHWPGwk/Z2NhbDAwMDAxMjY50DQ0NDcwMDkzMDAw\"",
        id: "vs17ehlthhfrlake0a0o98hors".
        status: "confirmed".
        htmlLink: https://www.google.com/calendar/event?eid=dnMxN2VobHRoaGZybGdrZTBhMG850GhvcnMgZXZlbnRzQGVnaS5ldQ.
        created: "2010-02-12T08:47:42.000Z",
        updated: "2010-03-29T06:34:30.093Z",
        summary: "EGEE to EGI Transition Meeting for User Community and Operations",
        description: "A focus on the transition of the EGEE NA2, NA3 and NA4 activities to the EGI era with significa
        followed by more general transition of EGEE operations to NGI operations from Tuesday afternoon. A detailed &
        /conferenceDisplay.py?confId=1",
        location: "Nikhef",
      - creator: {
           email: "steven.newhouse@eqi.eu",
           displayName: "Steven Newhouse"
        }.
      - organizer: {
           email: "events@egi.eu",
           displayName: "EGI.eu Events",
           self: true
       },
      - start: {
           dateTime: "2010-03-01T13:00:00+01:00"
      - end: {
           dateTime: "2010-03-03T12:00:00+01:00"
        visibility: "public".
        iCalUID: "vs17ehlthhfrlgke0a0o98hors@google.com".
        sequence: 0
    },
```

The same Google Cal event in XML

```
- <entry>
  < <id>>
     http://www.google.com/calendar/feeds/events%40egi.eu/private/full/vs17ehlthhfrlgke0a0o98hors
   </id>
   <published>2010-02-12T08:47:42.000Z</published>
   <updated>2010-03-29T06:34:30.000Z</updated>
   <category scheme="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#kind" term="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#event"/>
 - <title type="text">
     EGEE to EGI Transition Meeting for User Community and Operations
   </title>
 - <content type="text">
     A focus on the transition of the EGEE NA2, NA3 and NA4 activities to the EGI era with significantly reduced EC funding during the fire
     to NGI operations from Tuesday afternoon. A detailed agenda is available - https://www.eqi.eu/indico/conferenceDisplay.py?confld=1
   </content>
   link rel="alternate" type="text/html" href="https://www.google.com/calendar/event?eid=dnMxN2VobHRoaGZybGdrZTBhMG85OGhvc
   k rel="self" type="application/atom+xml" href="https://www.google.com/calendar/feeds/events%40egi.eu/private/full/vs17ehlthhfrlq
 - <author>
     <name>Steven Newhouse</name>
     <email>steven.newhouse@egi.eu</email>
   </author>
 -<ad:comments>
     <gd:feedLink href="https://www.google.com/calendar/feeds/events%40egi.eu/private/full/vs17ehlthhfrlqke0a0o98hors/comments"/>
   </gd:comments>
   <gd:eventStatus value="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#event.confirmed"/>
   <ad:where valueString="Nikhef"/>
   <gd:who email="events@eqi.eu" rel="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#event.organizer" valueString="events@eqi.eu"/>
   <gd:when endTime="2010-03-03T12:00:00.000+01:00" startTime="2010-03-01T13:00:00.000+01:00"/>
   <gd:transparency value="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#event.opaque"/>
   <gd:visibility value="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#event.public"/>
   <gCal:anyoneCanAddSelf value="false"/>
   <gCal:guestsCanInviteOthers value="true"/>
   <gCal:guestsCanModify value="false"/>
   <gCal:guestsCanSeeGuests value="true"/>
   <gCal:sequence value="0"/>
   <gCal:uid value="vs17ehlthhfrlgke0a0o98hors@google.com"/>
 </entry>
```

</feed>

AJAX

- Asynchronous JavaScript And XML
- does not need XML, uses JSON often ;-)
- based on introduction of XMLHttpRequest JavaScript object to web browsers
- asynchronous request to web server
- response processed in JavaScript
- same-origin policy (protocol,host,port)
- Cross-origin resource sharing (CORS)

REST

- Representational State Transfer
- software architecture style for creating scalable web services
- invented by Roy Fielding, author of HTTP 1.1
- resources identified by URIs
- representations of resources as JSON, XML or other formats
- uses HTTP methods GET, PUT, DELETE and POST for manipulating resources

REST (2)

- no IDL (Interface Description Language) so far
- API described in human natural language
 - e.g. "image can be changed by HTTP PUT request to /image/{imageID}"
- Richardson Maturity Model
 - level 1 resources identified by URIs
 - level 2 use of HTTP methods as verbs
 - level 3 HATEOAS (Hypertext As The Engine Of Application State)
 - level 3 introduces discoverability, making a protocol more self-documenting

HAL - Hypertext Application Language

- one of proposed standards for HATEOAS (level 3 in Richardson Maturity Model)
- format for JSON messages in REST APIs
 - every object has _links property with links to operations on the object or to other objects
 - collections are wrapped in _embedded
- supported by Spring HATEOAS Java library

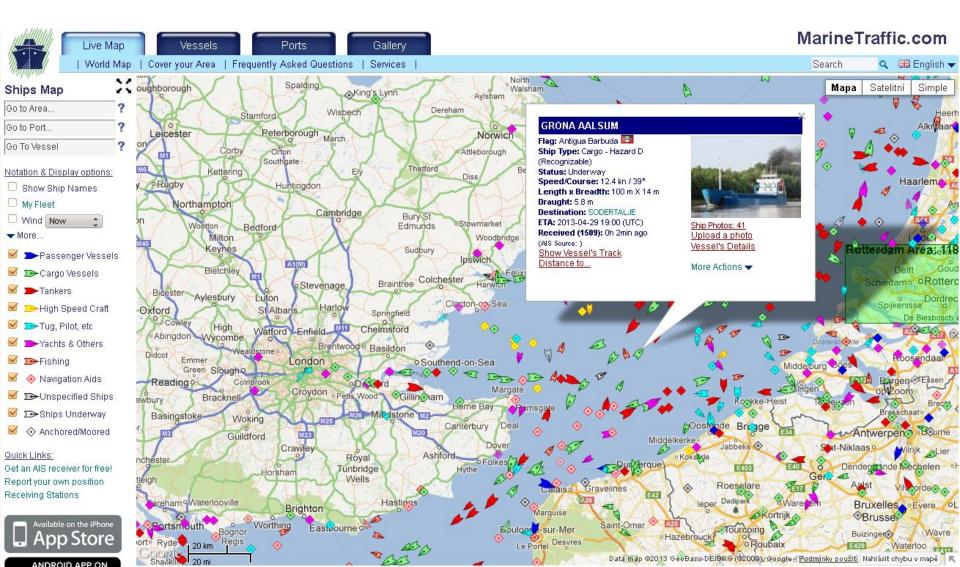
HAL example

```
embedded: {
  categories: [
          id: 1,
          name: "Food",
        - links: {
            - self: {
                  href: "http://localhost:8080/eshop/api/vl/categories/l"
              },
            - products: {
                  href: "http://localhost:8080/eshop/api/vl/categories/l/products"
          }
      },
          id: 2,
          name: "Office",
        - links: {
            - self: {
                  href: "http://localhost:8080/eshop/api/vl/categories/2"
              },
            - products: {
                  href: "http://localhost:8080/eshop/api/vl/categories/2/products"
          }
      },
```

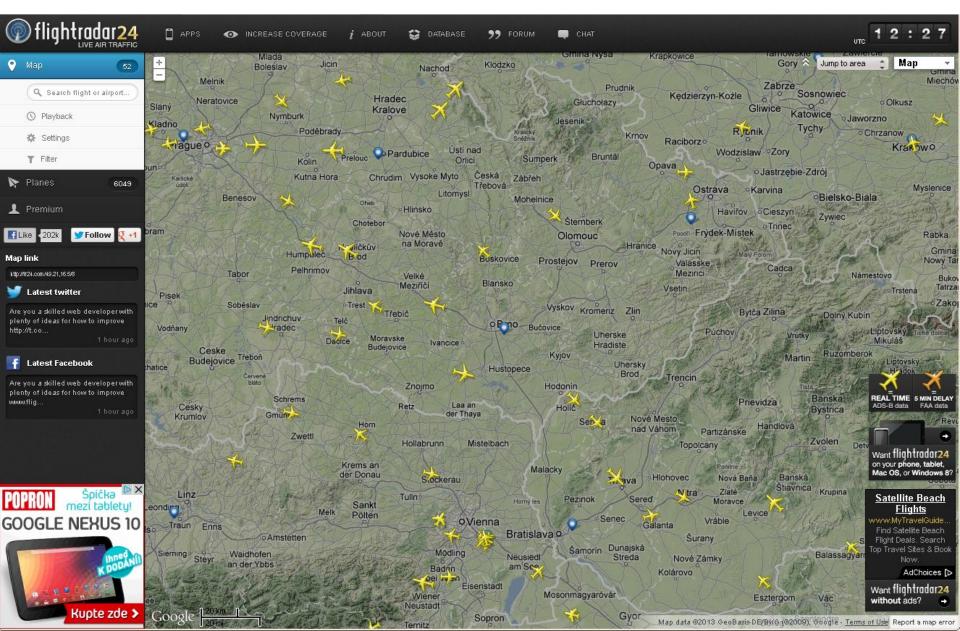
Mash ups

- combine data from various sources
- typically a Google map with some geospatial data
 - ships http://www.marinetraffic.com/
 - aircrafts http://www.flightradar24.com/

www.marinetraffic.com



www.flightradar24.com



Federated identity

- many authentication mechanisms were developed for the web
 - username+password (hard to remember)
 - X509 digital certificate (complicated to get)
 - digest, Kerberos etc. (not much support in browsers)
- users forget passwords to rarely used accounts
- in federated identity, account from one organisation can be reused at others
- identity providers
 - OAuth Google, Facebook, Twitter, ...
 - OpenID Google, MojeID.cz, Seznam.cz, anybody
 - SAML in academia universities, Academy etc.

SOAP/WSDL web services

- preferred in the enterprise world
- used as API for the Czech eGovernment "Data Boxes"
- SOAP is Simple Object Access Protocol
- WSDL is Web Service Description Language
- WS-Interoperability Basic Profile needed to ensure interoperability
 - requires SOAP1.1
- many WS-* extensions