



Service-Oriented Computing: **Emerging Approaches for Web-Based Software Engineering**

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(effective 7/2009)

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My Background...

■ Preparation

- Bachelor of Electrical Engineering '94, Master of Electrical Engineering '97 (Georgia Institute of Technology, Mercer University) PhD '00 Information and Software Engineering (George Mason University)
- Prior to academic appointment, 7 years as a full-time software engineer with General Electric, Lockheed Martin, General Dynamics, and The MITRE Corporation

■ Professional Activities

- 9th Year at Georgetown University on the faculty of the Department of Computer Science
- Currently, Associate Professor and Department Chair (2nd year of 3 year term)
- Ongoing consulting for Department of Justice, Department of Defense (and other unmentionables), Federal Aviation Administration, and several law firms

■ My research projects are in the areas of:

- Service-oriented computing and Service-oriented architecture, Intelligent software agents, Agent-mediated workflow,, Data integration and data management, software engineering education and training
- ***How can you automate the integration of IT systems across organizations that never intended to be integrated? Why is this important currently?***



- **Modularity of Web-Based Software**
- Introduction to Service-Oriented Computing
- Background: *Web Services*
- Research Studies
 - Data Engineering for Web Services
 - Service Mashup
- Recently Funded Projects
- Q/A

Presentation Outline



Web Service Composition - Example



Simple Travel Reservation Workflow

Composed of Web Services:

ReserveFlight
ReserveHotel
ReserveCar

Over-used and Unrealistic



A Realistic Travel Scenario

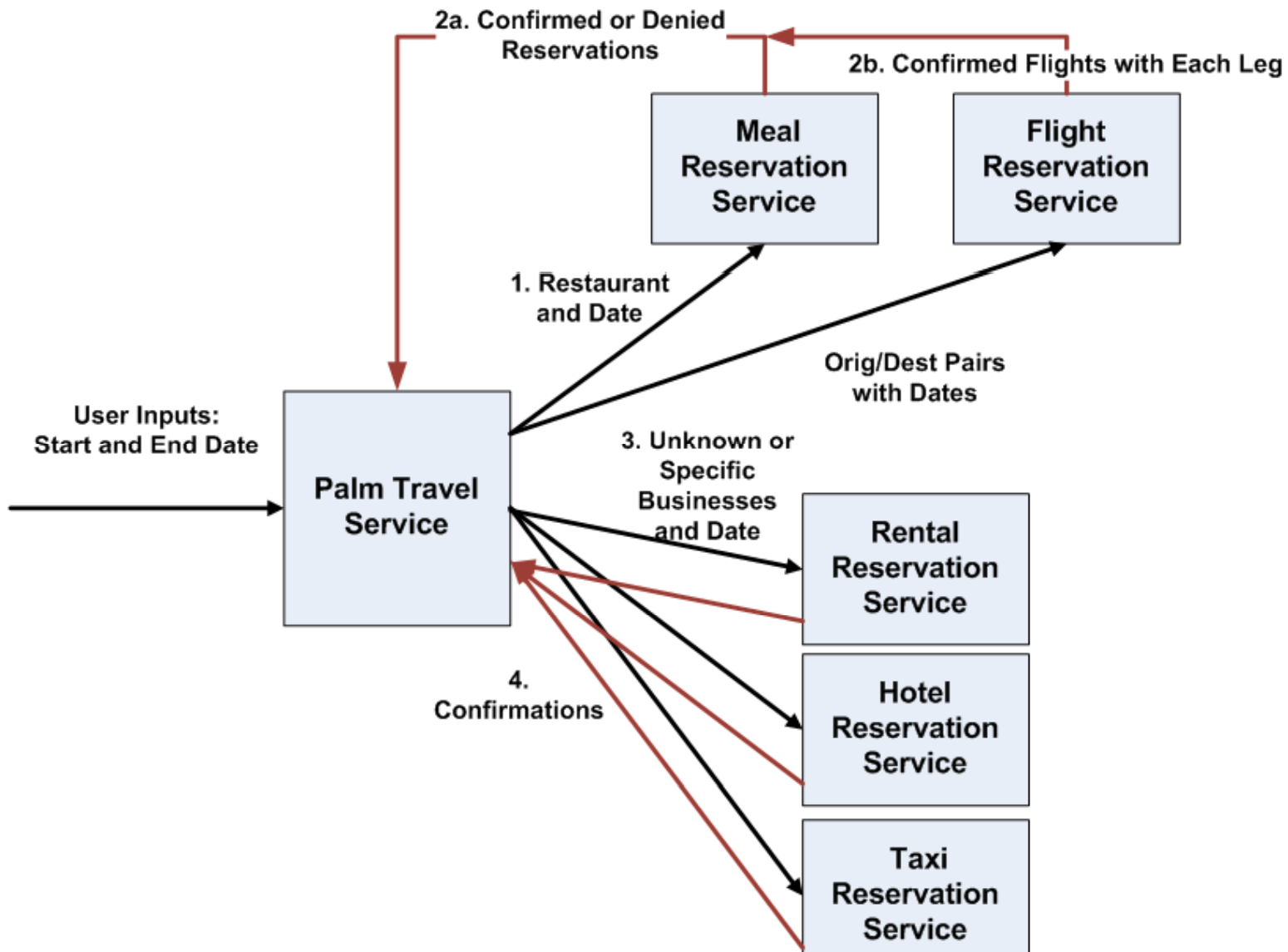
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
		HILTON RESORT HONOLULU	PAPER PRESENTATION HONOLULU				SNOWBIRD SKI RESORT SNOWBIRD, UT		
LATE AFTERNOON TALK TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WASH, DC	HOUSE OF NANKING SAN FRAN	SESSION CHAIR HONOLULU	PAPER PRESENTATION HONOLULU				CRA SNOWBIRD DEPT CHAIR SESSION SNOWBIRD, UT		
JETBLUE FLIGHT or MORNING (Dep > 8pm & \$)					HOTEL (??) HAWAII or IN SAN FRAN (\$)	CRUSTACEANS SAN FRAN			HOTEL SNOWBIRD, UT or WASH, DC (Arr < 8pm & \$)

Additional complexities

- *Budget constraints on any part of the trip*
- *Certain reservations can be unsuccessful*
- *Sometimes the user will designate a specific business to use and other times not*
- *Any service can be down or inoperative*
- *Wife wants to come but does not want to come to Utah*
- *Wife has an equally complicated schedule*



Although Still too Simple, This is More Realistic



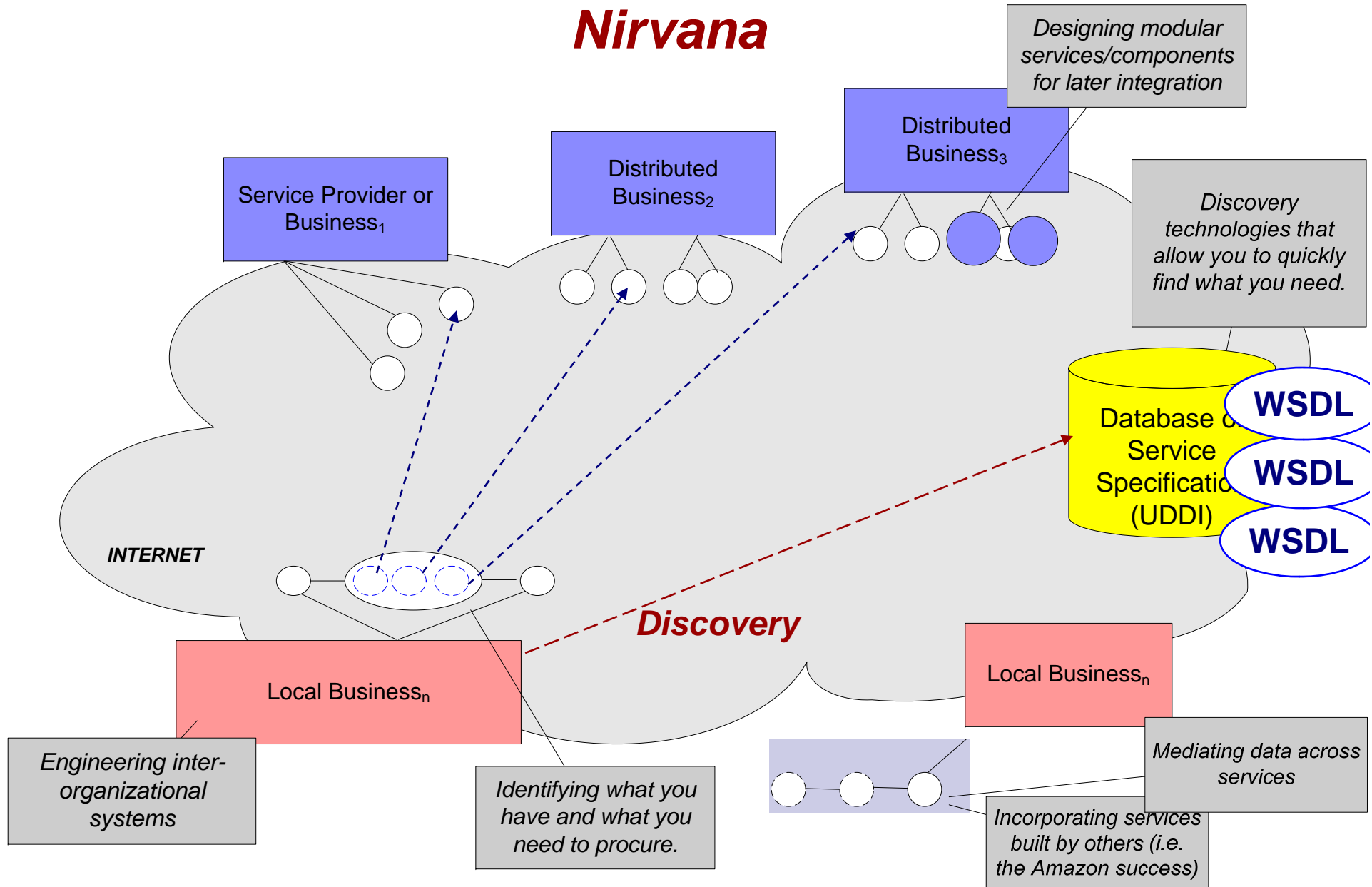


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Introduction to Service-Oriented Computing



A Service-Oriented Computing *Nirvana*



Web Services are the core of it all...



- Web services are at the core of the service-oriented paradigms
 - Universal messaging format for data exchange (XML)
 - Distributed network-based access (SOAP)
 - Web services execute/evolve on the provider's server
- A better definition later...

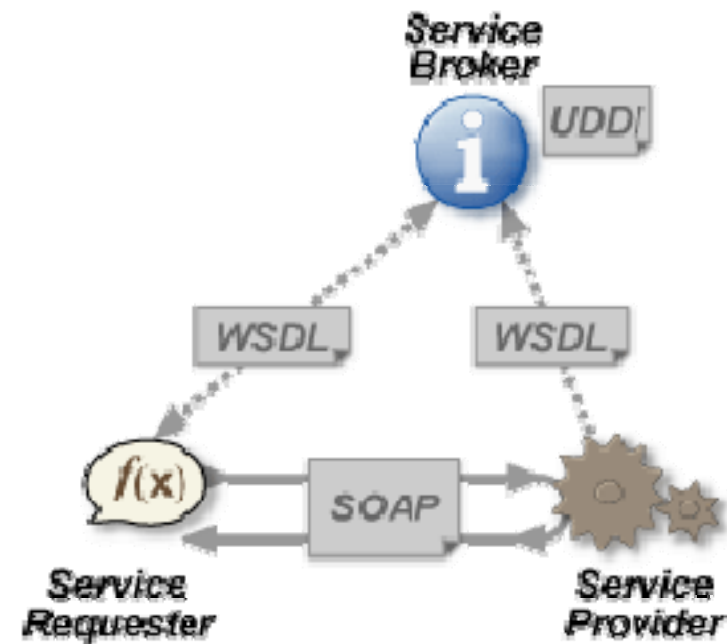


Image from Wikipedia 2007

OK ... not the panacea, but many new opportunities!

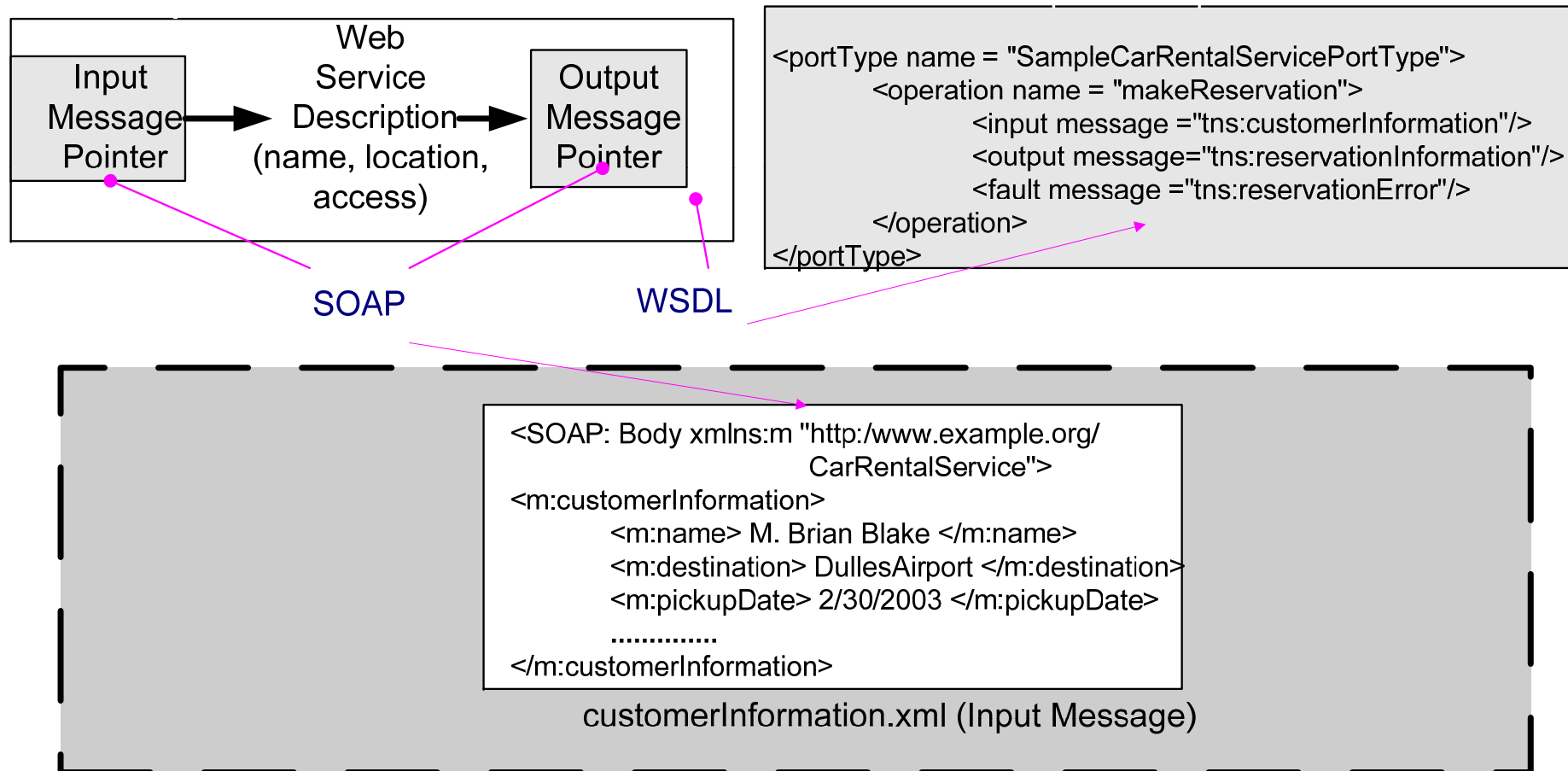


Several **Web Services** available on the NET

- Get historical end of day data for U.S. stock options
- Calls any phone number and speaks text or sound file to the person.
- Get FedEx shipping rate
- Current and historical foreign exchange rates
- Get five days weather report for a given zipcode (USA)
- Get name and address data associated to any telephone number
- Instantly determines the distance between two U.S. ZIP codes.
- Get the Barnes & Noble price by ISBN



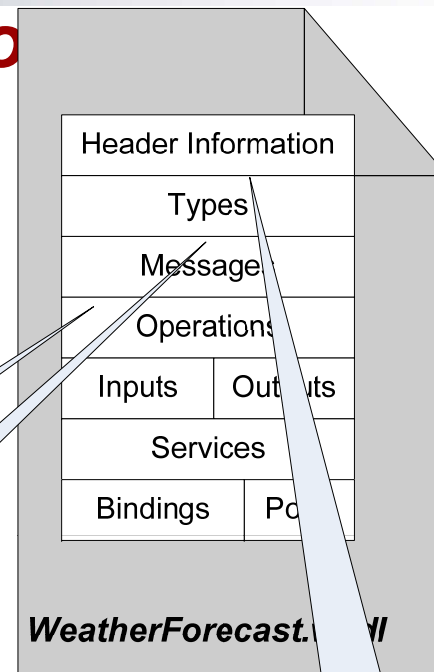
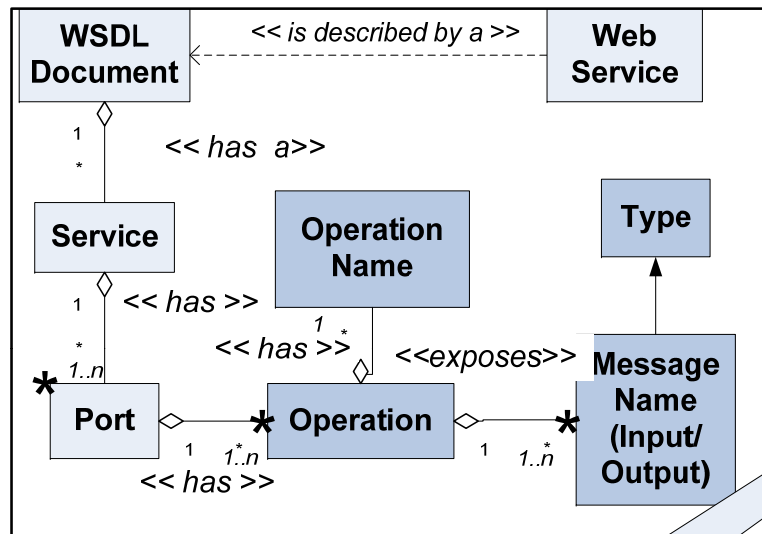
The Typical Web Service...*It's all about managing information.*





Not so easy in real life tho

WSDL Specification Metamodel



```

<wsdl:operation name = "GetWeatherByPlaceName">
  <wsdl:input message="getWeatherByPlaceNameHttpPostIn" type="tns:WeatherForecast" />
  <wsdl:output message="GetWeatherByPlaceNameHttpPostOut" type="tns:WeatherForecast" />
</wsdl:operation>

<wsdl:message name="getWeatherByPlaceNameHttpPostIn">
  <wsdl:part name="PlaceName" type="s:string" />
</wsdl:message>

<wsdl:message name="GetWeatherByPlaceNameHttpPostOut">
  <wsdl:part name="parameters" element="tns:GetWeatherByPlaceNameResponse" />
</wsdl:message>
  
```

**Get
Input**

```

<wsdl:types>
  <s:element name="GetWeatherByPlaceNameResponse">
    <s:complexType>
      <s:sequence>
        <s:element minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" name="GetWeatherByPlaceNameResponse" type="tns:WeatherForecast" />
      </s:sequence>
    </s:complexType>
  </s:element>

  <s:complexType name="WeatherForecasts">
    <s:sequence>
      <s:element minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" name="Latitude" type="s:string" />
      <s:element minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" name="Longitude" type="s:string" />
      <s:element minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" name="Temperature" type="s:string" />
      <s:element minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" name="Details" type="s:string" />
    </s:sequence>
  </s:complexType>
</wsdl:types>
  
```

Step 2:
Get Detailed Message Information by Part Names.
(Sometimes these are inline, other times data must be extracted from types.)

Step 3:
If necessary, traverse through connected message information from WSDL types (sometimes, types have a nested hierarchy)



```

pRequest">
<xs:string minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1"
e" minOccurs="0">
</xs:string>
n"/>
Gro:
" type="xs:string" minOccurs="0"

```

Amazon AWSECommerceService



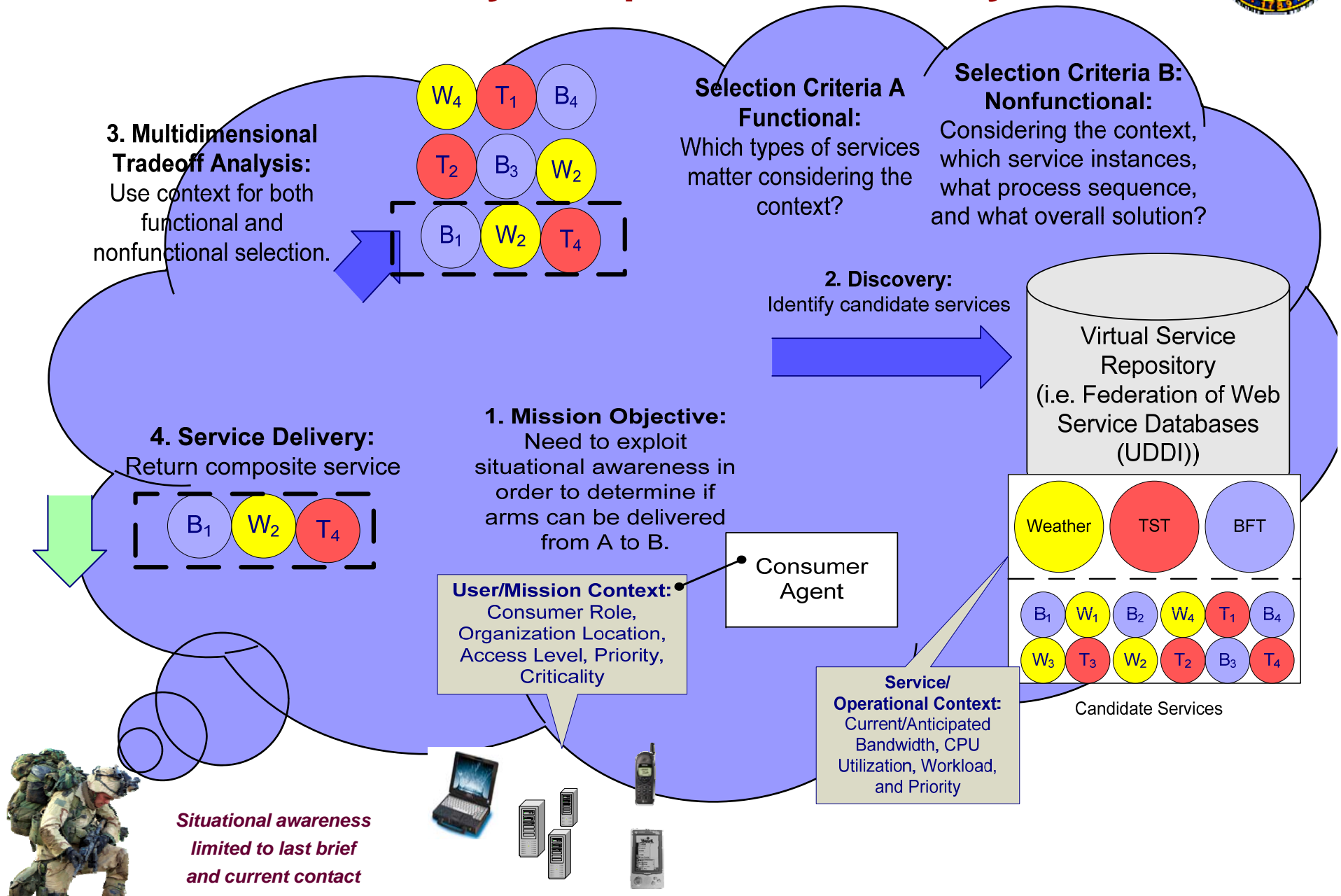
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Why Web Services?

Using a DOD Scenario for Motivation



Automated Discovery/Composition: An Army Scenario

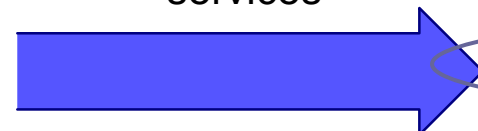




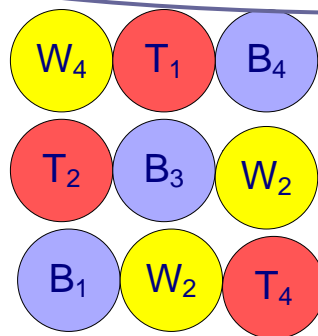
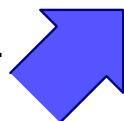
Research Studies....

2. Discovery:
Identify candidate
services

**1. Using Service Inputs and Outputs
to discover pertinent services and
Service Mashup**



**3. Multidimensional
Tradeoff Analysis:**
Use context for both
functional and
nonfunctional selection.



Selection Criteria A

Functional:

Which types of services
matter considering the
context?

**2. Using Context to Aid
Discovery**

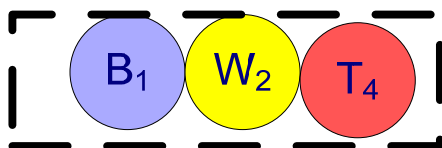
Selection Criteria B:

Nonfunctional:

Considering the context,
which service instances,
what process sequence,
and what overall solution?

**3. Using Service Level
Agreements to Aid
Discovery**

4. Service Delivery:
Return composite service



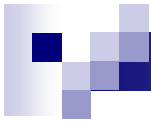
**4. Using State-of-the-Practice Software Engineering
to Deliver Composite Capabilities**



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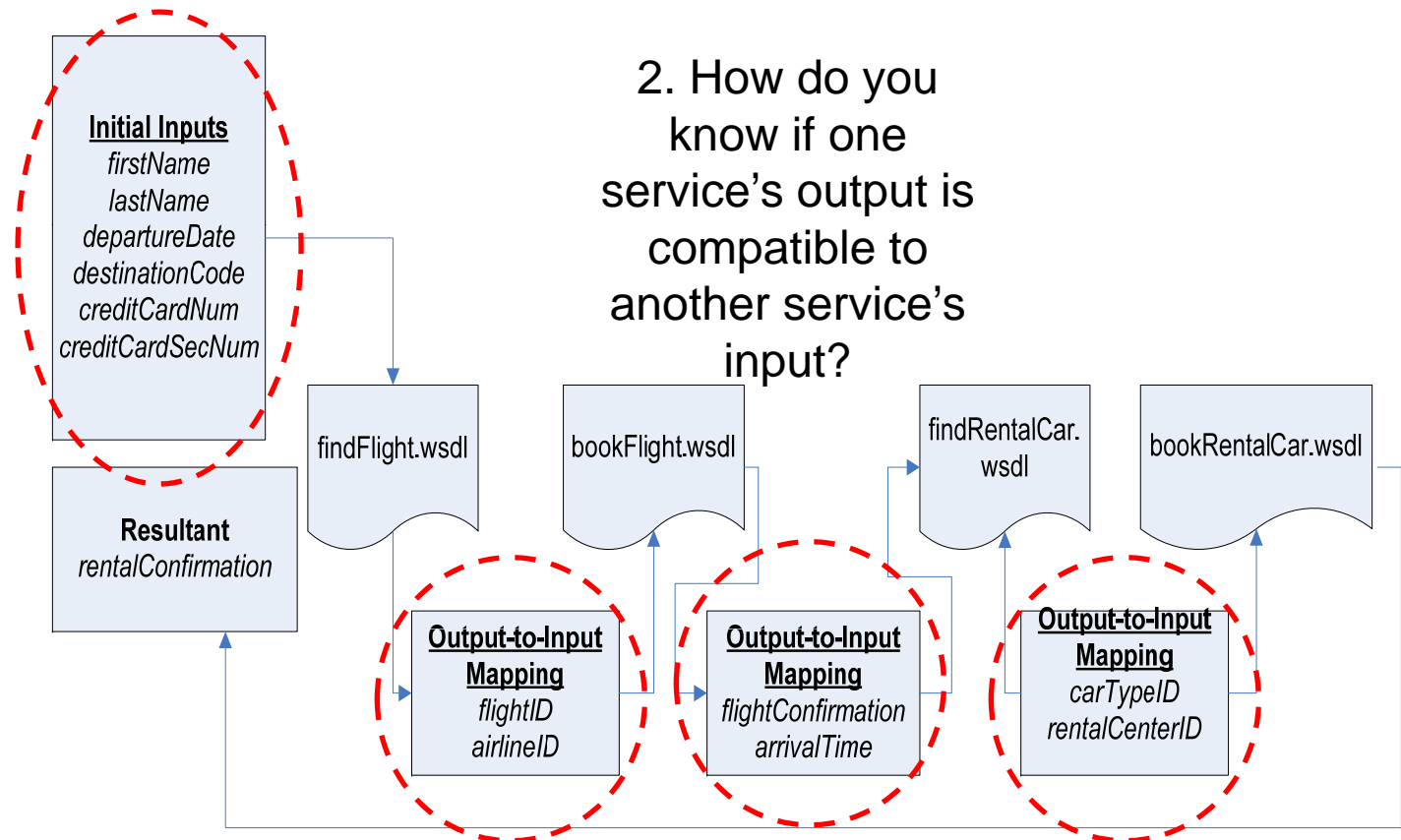
Research Studies: Data Engineering for Web Services

*How to identify
candidate
services?*



Data Engineering for SOC

1. How do you know if a user's initially-supplied information is the same as the information required by the service?



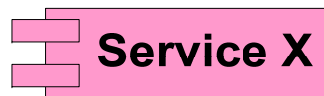
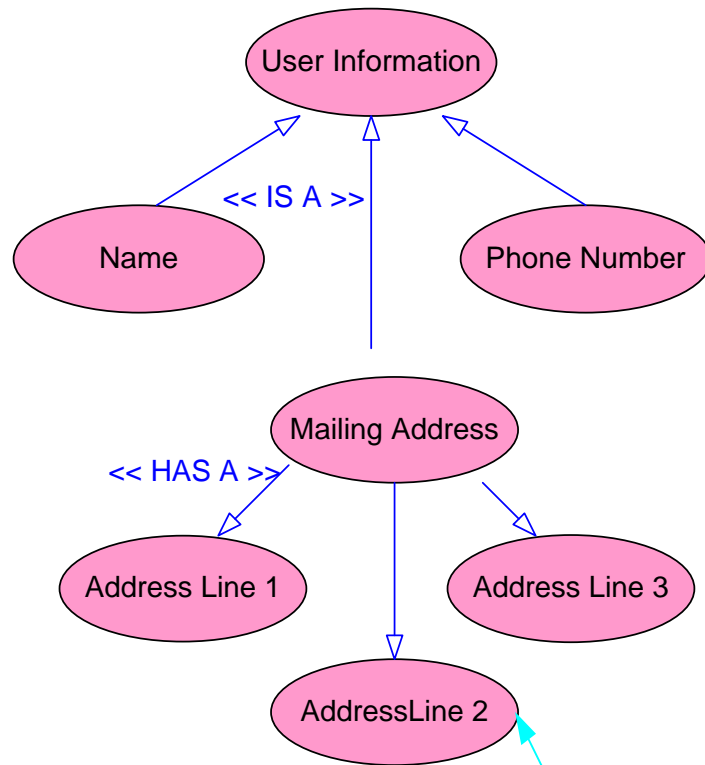
2. How do you know if one service's output is compatible to another service's input?

3. How do you know if the resulting workflow is ultimately the correct context of the overall user's request?



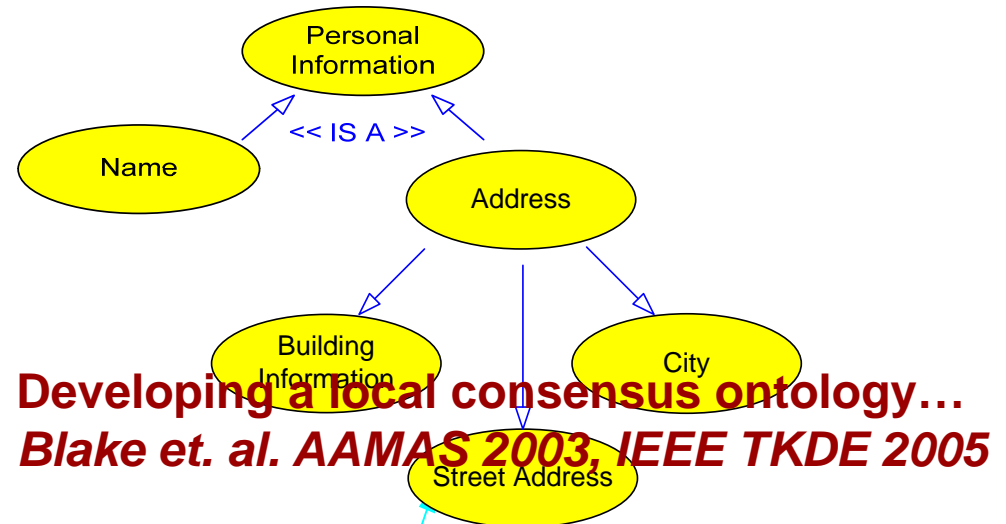
Do you mean what I mean?

(Using ontological approaches)



Service X

Address Line 2



Developing a local consensus ontology...
Blake et. al. AAMAS 2003, IEEE TKDE 2005

Street Address



Service Y



Ontology not widely used in practice

- Web services can embed semantic (ontology-based) notations using several techniques
 - (e.g. RDF, OWL-S, WSDL-S, etc.)
- Industry has not embraced these approaches, to date.

We took a sabbatical on semantic solutions and revisited syntactical approaches using natural language processing techniques



Tendency-Based Syntactical Matching (TSM)

- We introduce a syntactical approach to service discover/composition that uses tendencies of developers to name service inputs/outputs in a characteristic manner
- Obviously this approach **does not** replace semantic approaches.
- However, this approach can:
 1. Help to understand detrimental software engineering practices currently seen in real services
 2. Suggest an initial subset of potentially-relevant syntactical techniques that may improve the performance of semantic approaches on open repositories in the future



Gathering Tendencies

- To derive tendencies, we downloaded real, working services from over 5 internet repositories, as well as exhaustive online searches. We built a repository of ~600 WSDL files, over ~7000 operations, over ~30,000 message names.
- We developed a matching approach (TSM-LP) based on the tendencies

Our group has perhaps the most complete repository of *real* Web services for experimentation.

Most Common Service Input/Output Naming Tendencies



■ **Tendency 1:**

- Similar Input/Output names tend to have subsumption relationships
 - (i.e. *name* = *lname*, *name* = *firstname*, and *name* = *user_name*)

■ **Tendency 2:**

- Similar input/output names tend to have equivalent subsets
 - (i.e. *first_name* and *user_name*)

■ **Tendency 3:**

- Developers tend to use abbreviations
 - (i.e. *building* = *bldg*)

■ **Tendency 4:**

- Words less than 3 characters or greater than 15 are impractical for matching in this context.



Our Approach: TSM-LP

- We call this similarity approach Tendency-based Syntactic Matching – (Levenhstein Distance) (Letter Pairings).
- TSM-LP combines four different matching methods:
 1. Exact string equivalency
 2. Subsumption of Str1 in Str2 or Str2 in Str1
 3. Levenhstein Distance: Number of Transformations.
 4. Percentage of Letter Pairings present in both words. Str1 and Str2 have two equivalent pairings

$TSM-LP(S_i, S_j)$:	TSM-L Function
$L_D(S_i, S_j)$:	Levenshtein Distance function
$F_{T1}(S_i)$:	Tendency-Based Threshold
$F_{T2}(S_i)$:	Tendency-Based Threshold for Letter Pairing
S_i, S_j :	Two strings for comparison
$Length()$:	String length functions
C_S :	Web Service Category (e.g. Business)

$F_{T1}(S_i)$

```
temp = [(Length( $S_i$ ) * 2) / 3] - 2
return temp
```

$F_{T2}(S_i)$

```
temp = Sensitivity ( $C_S$ )
return temp
```

$TSM-LP(S_i, S_j)$

```
if ( $L_D(S_i, S_j) \leq F_{T1}(S_i)$ ) or
   ( $L_P(S_i, S_j) \geq F_{T2}(S_i)$ ) or
   ( $S_i \subseteq S_j$  or  $S_j \subseteq S_i$ ) and
   ( $S_i > 3$  and  $S_j > 3$ ) and
   ( $S_i < 3$  and  $S_j < 15$ )
  return TRUE
else
  return FALSE
```

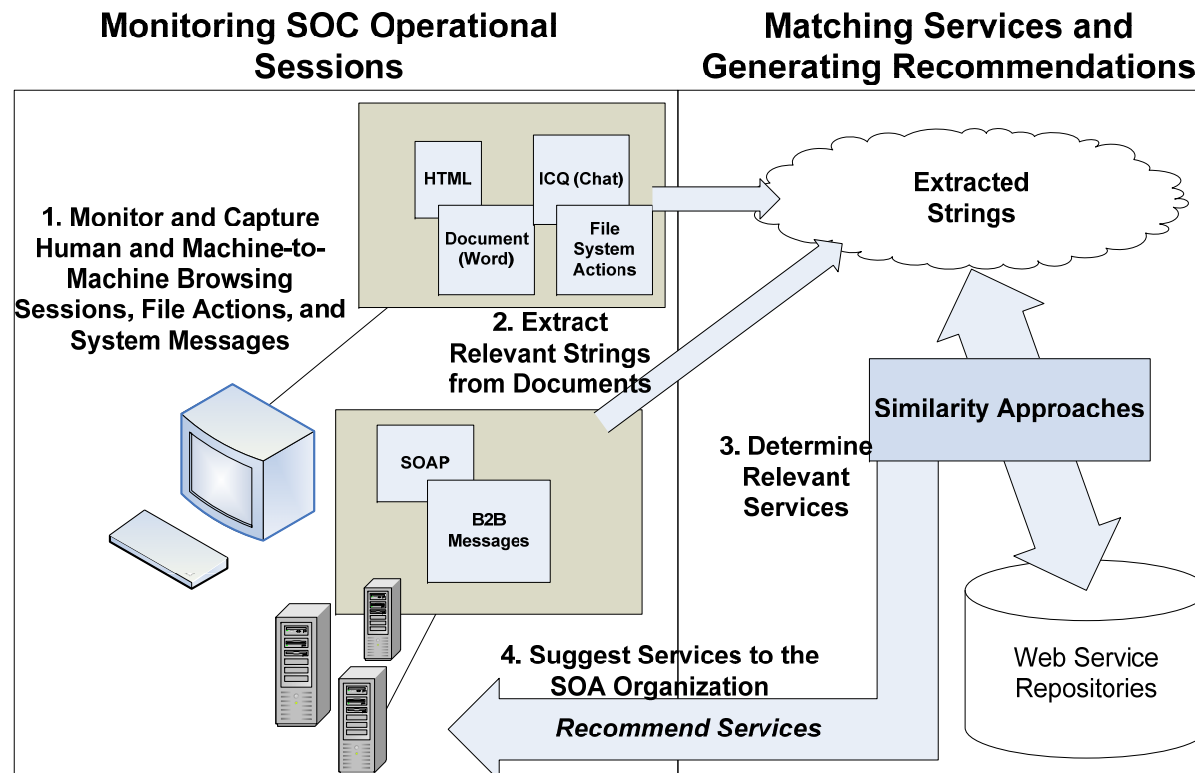

TSM-LP Application

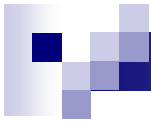


■ Reasonable approach for service recommendation

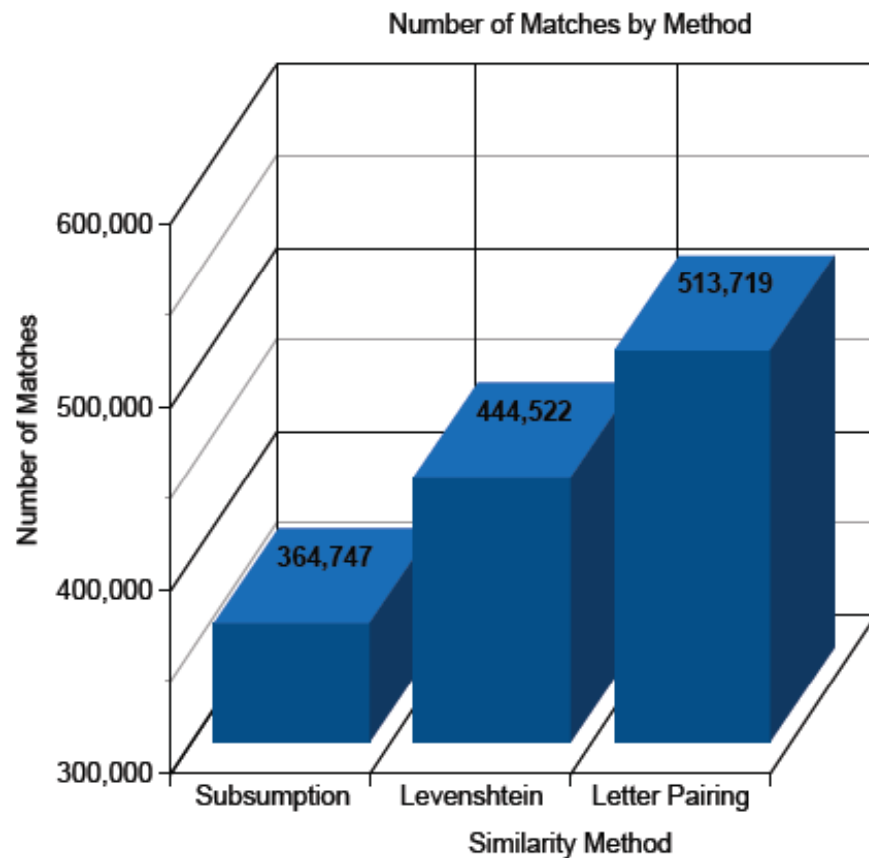
■ But not, real-time service integration

- Blake & Nowlan (2007), "Recommending Web Services via an Agent Federation" *Multiagent and Grid Systems Journal*

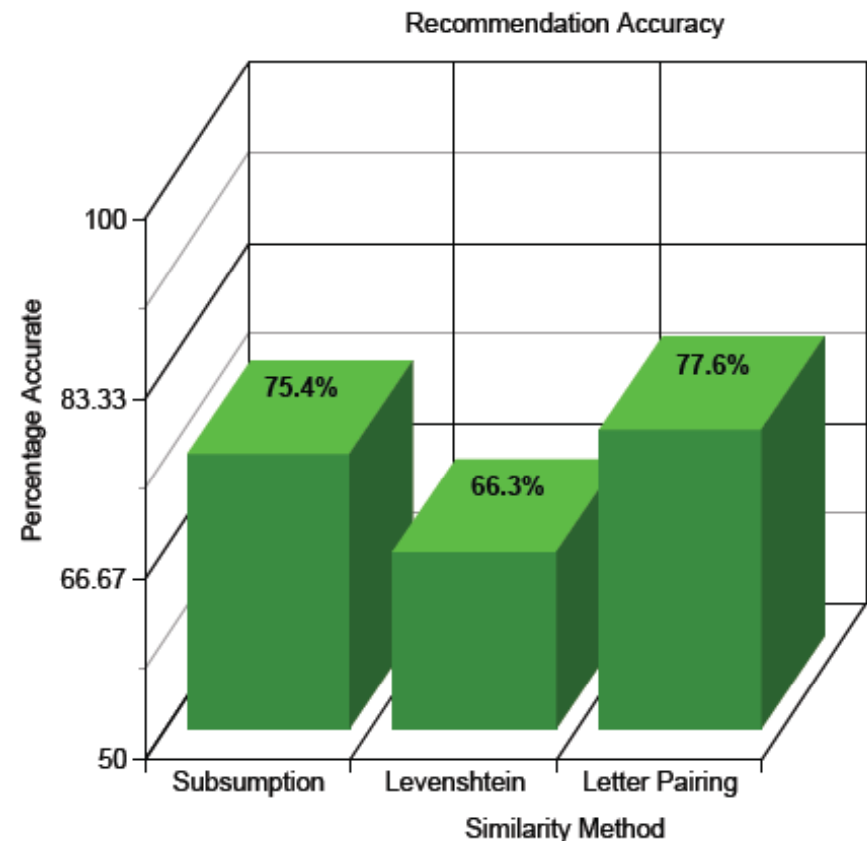




Matching Results

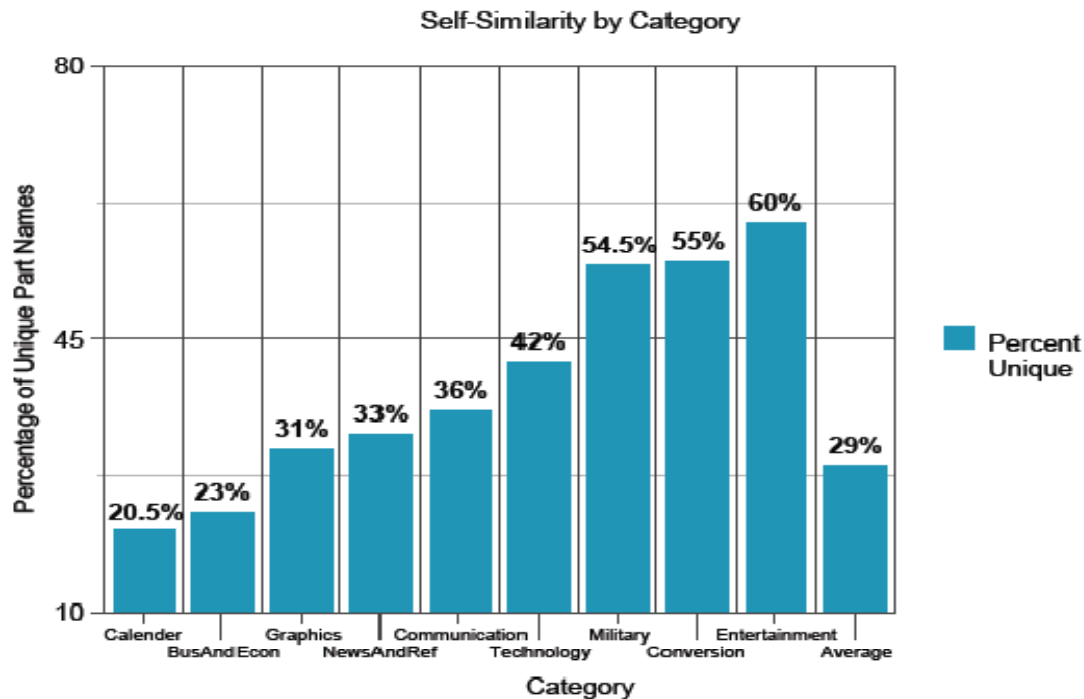


Contribution of tendencies in matching
(1,054,137 matches of 1,322,988)
Relatively small overlap.



Accuracy of Top 50 most common message names for matching

Sample Recommendations



Use uniqueness of message names by category to set recommendation thresholds

Self-Similarity Percentage	TSM-LP Sensitivity	LD Threshold	LP Threshold
12.5 - 25%	High	$\lceil \frac{(\text{Length}(S_i) * 2)}{3} \rceil - 3$	55.0%
25 - 50%	Medium	$\lceil \frac{(\text{Length}(S_i) * 2)}{3} \rceil - 2$	47.5%
50 - 75%	Low	$\lceil \frac{(\text{Length}(S_i) * 2)}{3} \rceil - 1$	40.0%

Type of File	Operation Name	Relevancy Score
Itinerary generated from Travel website	GetStations	2350
	IsValidExchange	2350
	IsExchangeOpen	2200
Currency conversions webpage	GetSearchTerms	1050
	NumberToDollars	1050
	Search	1000
Random book search from online bookseller	ListBooks	1600
	BooksInfo	1400
	WishlistSearchRequest	1250
Finance homepage on Yahoo.com	IsValidExchange	1200
	GetCurrentMortgageIndex	1150
	IsExchangeOpen	1100
Sports homepage on msn.com	GetSportNews	1850
	WorldCupFootball	1650
	GetBriefings	1200

Services recommended after using random files



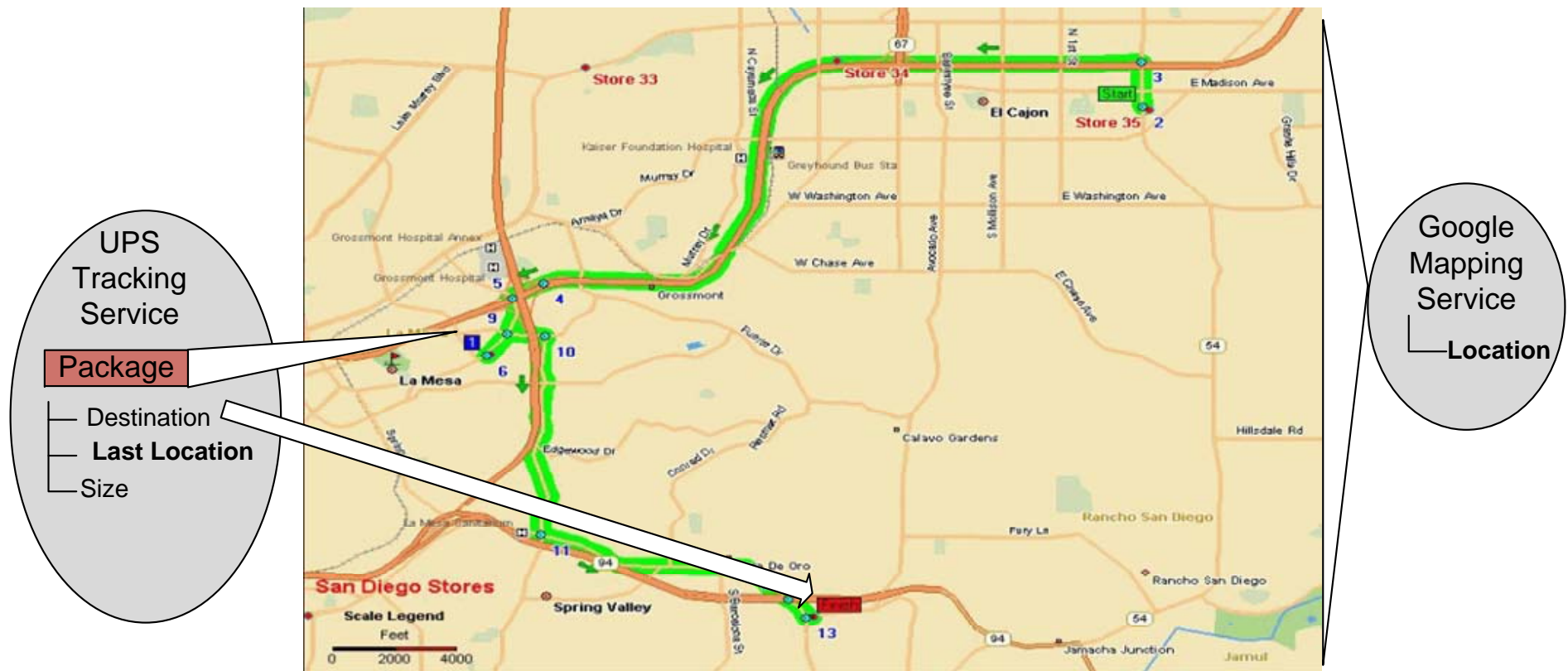
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Research Studies: Service Mashups



What is a Service Mashup?

- Taking the outputs from, potentially unrelated, web services to create new capabilities or information
 - *In Practice: ProgrammableWeb.com & YahooPipes*
 - *Example: Overlaying a map with shipment routing information*





Other Interesting Mashups...

WiiFinder: Find the nearest Wii for sale.

- Combining
 - Amazon eCommerce
 - eBay, and
 - Google Maps

The screenshot displays a Google Maps interface with a 'WiiFinder' mashup overlay. The map shows the San Jose area with various locations marked by blue pins. A pop-up window for a Target store at 555 Showers Dr Mountain View CA 94040 is visible, showing a phone number and a 'Wii Inventory count: 81'. On the right side, a list of Target stores is shown with their addresses, phone numbers, and Wii inventory counts. The map includes standard Google Maps controls like zoom in/out, pan, and map type selection (Map, Satellite, Hybrid). A legend at the bottom indicates that blue pins represent 'Retail Location' and red pins represent 'Auction Listing'. The map data is attributed to TeleAtlas and Google.

Target
Address: 555 Showers Dr Mountain View CA 94040
phone: (650)965-7764
Wii Inventory count: 81

Target at 879 Blossom Hill Rd San Jose CA 95123
phone: (408)513-3002
Wii Inventory: 81*

Target at 1600 Saratoga Ave San Jose CA 95129
phone: (408)871-7984
Wii Inventory: 120*

Target at 1811 Hillsdale Ave San Jose CA 95124
phone: (408)267-7900
Wii Inventory: 81*

Target at 20745 Stevens Creek Blvd Cupertino CA 95014
phone: (408)725-2651
Wii Inventory: 81*

Target at 211 W Iowa Ave Sunnyvale CA 94086
phone: (408)749-8344
Wii Inventory: 51*

Guide
Browse a huge selection now. Find exactly what you want today.
Ads by Google

Target at 533 Coleman Ave San Jose CA 95110
phone: (408)346-2022
Wii Inventory: 39*

Target at 1415 Main St Watsonville CA 95076
phone: (831)761-9194
Wii Inventory: 51*

Target at 555 Showers Dr Mountain View CA 94040

Legend: ☒ Retail Location | ☒ Auction Listing



Other Interesting Mashups...

Cell Phone Reception: Cell towers by location

- Combining
 - *Various telecom sites*
 - *GoogleMaps*

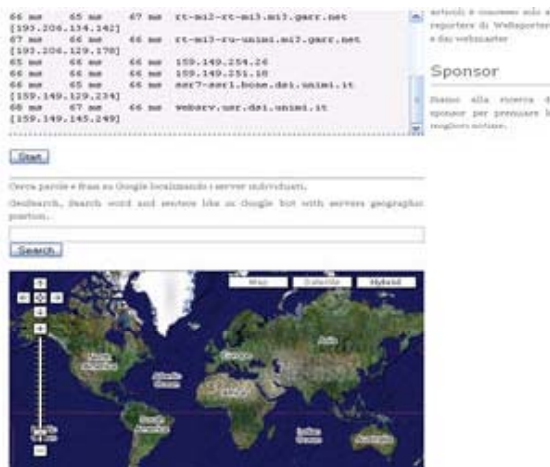




Other Interesting Mashups...

Visual Traceroute: Show the tracert command

- Combining:
 - *TraceRt*
 - *DNS*
 - *GoogleMaps*



Visual Trace Route Tool

approximate geophysical trace



trace information

Host trace to
uneasysilence.com
17 hops / 2.7 seconds

1. dreamhost.com
2. pnap.net
3. pnap.net
4. ntt.net
5. ntt.net
6. ntt.net
7. sprintlink.net
8. sprintlink.net
9. sprintlink.net
10. sprintlink.net
11. sprintlink.net
12. sprintlink.net
13. sprintlink.net
14. sprintlink.net
15. rackspace.com
16. rackspace.com
17. stabletransit.com

~6,894 miles traveled

Redraw Trace

trace the path to a network

Remote Address

☒ Use Current IP



Research Questions..

- Considering open web services over the Internet, services in a federated registry, or even services in a intranet-based repository....
 - *What are the common characteristics of two services that make them qualified for mashup?*
 - *What are the relations between the messages of such services?*
 - *What techniques can be exploited to evaluate service messages in order to predict viable service mashups?*



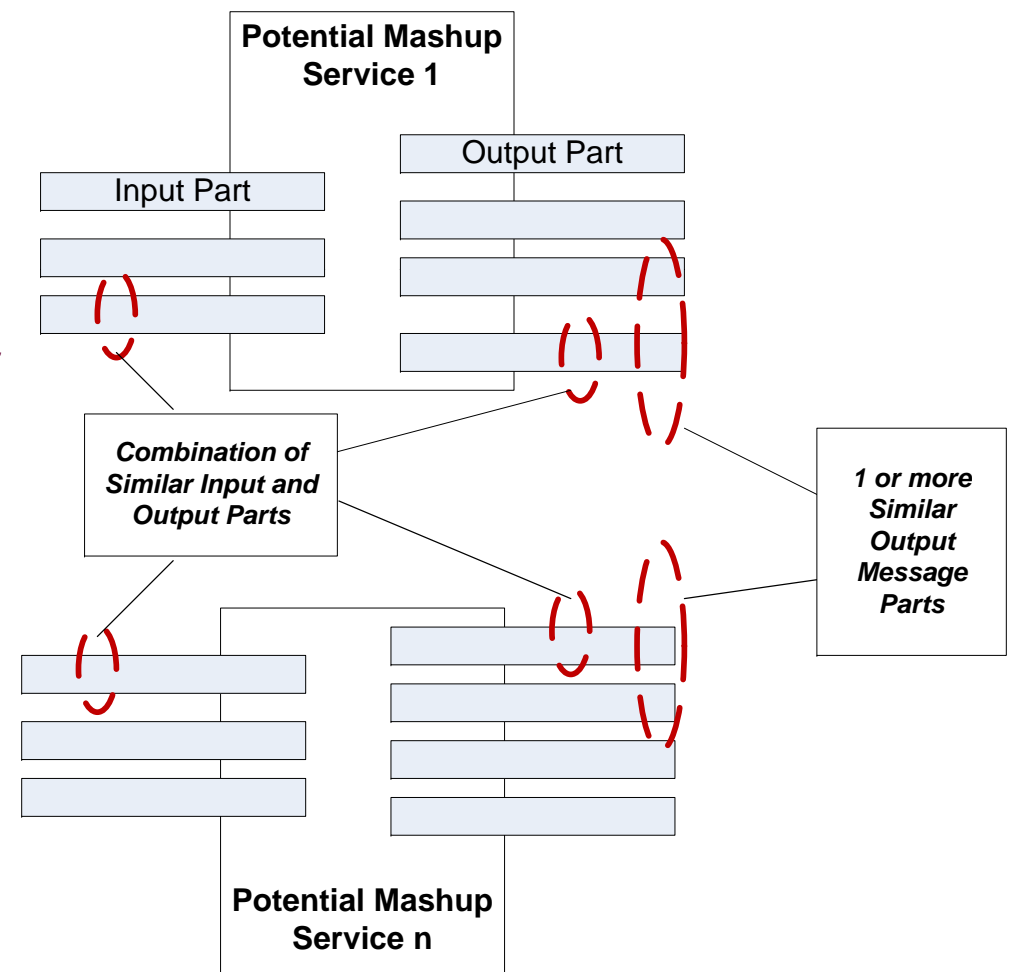
Related Work

- Service mashup is an emerging approach to software and data integration
 - *Traditional software engineering approaches attempted to match software interfaces in standard programming environments (Zaremski and Wing, 1997)*
 - *Most recent projects for service mashup concentrate on toolkits that enable the data integration (Liu et. al, 2007; Sabbouh et. al., 2007)*
 - *Other approaches attempt to protect mashup data (Zou et al., 2007)*
- *Our work attempts to derive a mining approach for service mashup by evaluating real services*



Straightforward Technical Approach...

- Considering an open repository of “real” web services, we performed experimentation to determine:
 - *The likelihood that similar message part names can predict candidate services for mashup*
 - *Whether input or output part names are more meaningful for predicting candidates*
 - *What thresholds dictate when message names or syntactically similar enough for candidate prediction*
 - *Of course, in the absence of semantic metadata (i.e. OWL, WSDL-S, etc.)*



Leveraging Similarity Studies for Mashup



<i>Mash</i> (OP_1, OP_2):	Mashup Prediction Function
<i>TSM-LP</i> (Pn_1, Pn_2):	Similarity Function (Section 3)
OP_X	Web Service Operation
Pn_X	Message Part
<i>match</i>	Number of Similar Matches
<i>size</i>	Number of parts in an operation

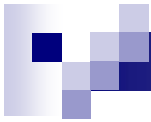
```
Mash( $OP_1, OP_2$ )
  forAll( $Pn_1$ )
    forAll( $Pn_2$ )
      if(TSM-LP( $Pn_1, Pn_2$ ))
        match++
        break
      endFor
    endFor
  if(match /  $OP_1.size$  < .75)
    return true
  else
    return false
```

- Evaluate multiple web services for similar message parts
 - Disregard services that have too many parts in common
 - New Work:
 - Gather insight from Web2.0 sites
 - Use congenial services more frequently in prediction

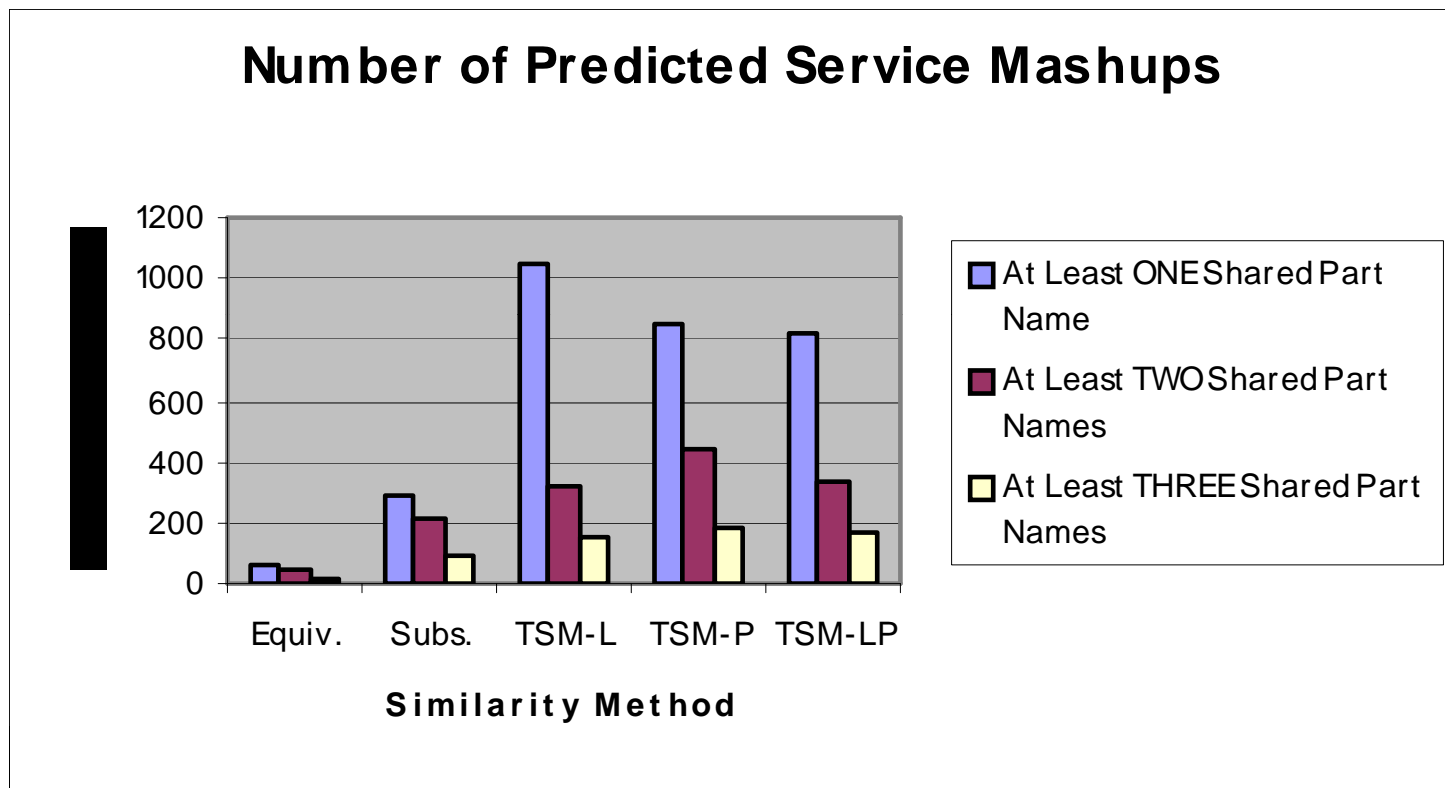


Experimentation

- From our repository of 6,000 services, we experimented with 100 services randomly selected for experimentation
- Assessments:
 - *Total number of Predicted Mashups considering variable similarity strictness and 1 similar output messages*
 - *Total number of Predicted Mashups considering variable similarity strictness and variable similar output messages*
 - *Precision of Predicted Mashups*
- *Visual inspections were used to determine precision and recall which required smaller experimental sets.*



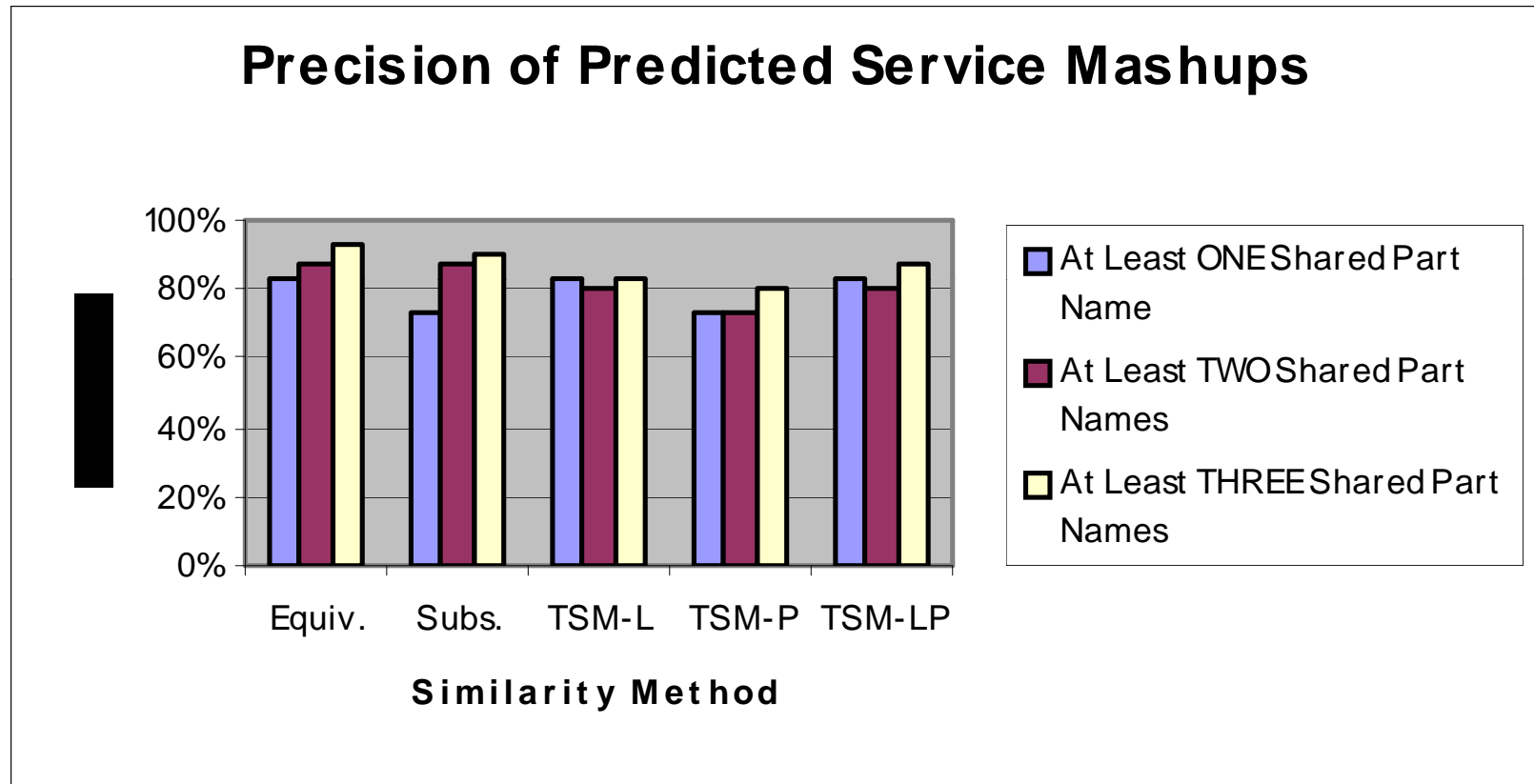
Predicted Mashups considering Variable Strictness



- Levenstein Distance and subsumption were most effective
 - In earlier service discovery work (i.e. discovering 1 service), TSM-LP was most effective
- As would be expected, more stringent requirements for similar messages reduces the total number of predicted mashups



Precision of Predicted Mashups

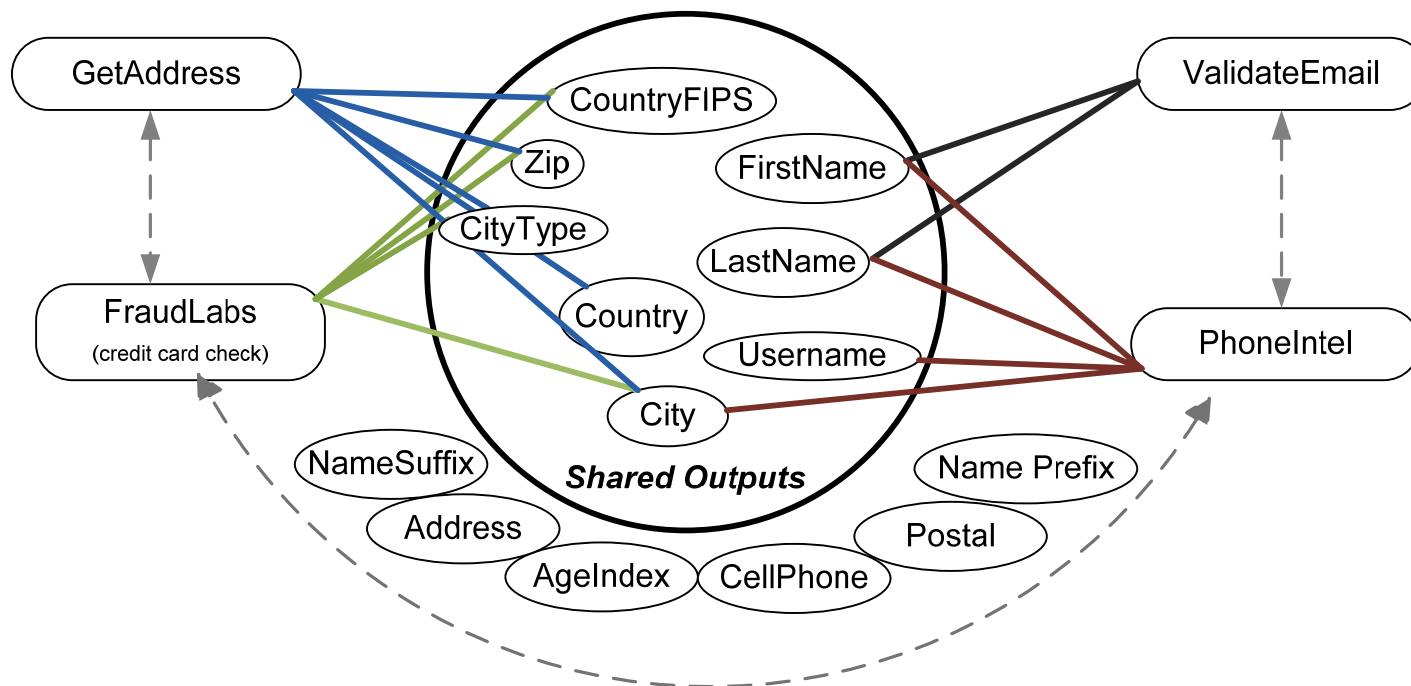


Although there is a gain in precision with more stringent requires, that gain only varies 5-15% which is not proportional to reduction in total predictions.

Other Results: Sample Mashup and Most Commonly Correlated Messages



<i>Top 6 Most Common Message Parts for Predicting Mashups</i>	<i>Percentage of Top 6 Used for Predictions</i>
State, City, Name, Date, Time, Zip	29%





Summary and Future Work

- Syntactic matching applied to similar outputs can be a effective/efficient approach to process large repositories for service mashups
 - ~80% precision, 100 service comparisons in 900 ms
- Future Work.....
 - *Perform assessments that combine input messages and output messages*
 - *Using positive service mashups to derive semantic meaning from existing services*
 - *Clustering approaches for chaining groups of mashups*



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Recent Projects & Conclusions

SOA at Georgetown University



- Focuses on service-oriented computing incorporating intelligent agents and workflow management techniques
 - SOC Projects (Over \$5.5 Million from 2003-present)
 - **Current (~\$5 Million)**
 - Service Composition Techniques and Evaluation – NSF (<http://www.ws-challenge.org>)
 - Service-Oriented Training Modules for Human Learning – NSF, BMW
 - Integrating SOC with the High Performance Computing – DARPA, US Council of Competitiveness
 - Service Level Agreements – The MITRE Corp, DOD, other agencies
 - Service-Oriented Architecture Curriculum – IBM, Allstate, US Mint, DOD
 - **Pending, Past, or Awaiting Phase II**
 - Integrating SOC with HPC – AFOSR (pending)
 - Sharing Services and Intelligence Information – AFRL, SAIC (past)
 - Context-Based Service-Oriented Computing – The MITRE Corp (past)
 - Integrating Components for Surgical Interventions – Georgetown University Medical Center, NIH (on-going)



Meet the Team....

PostDocs (Jan '08)

Ajay Bansal,
PhD, UT-Dallas

Srividya Kona
PhD, UT-Dallas

Graduate Students

ImanMoustafa
CS, PhD Student
Virginia Tech

Ahmed Hamza
CS, Master's Student

Mustafa Dustani
CS, Master Student

Michael Lefebvre
CS, Master Student

Khaled El-Goarany
CS, MS Student
Virginia Tech

Undergraduates

Michael Nowlan,
Senior, CS

Brian Miller,
Sophomore, CS

Ryan Butler,
Senior, CS

Alex Yale-Loehr
Freshman, CS

Undergraduates (non-CS)

Erik Muller
Senior, Business

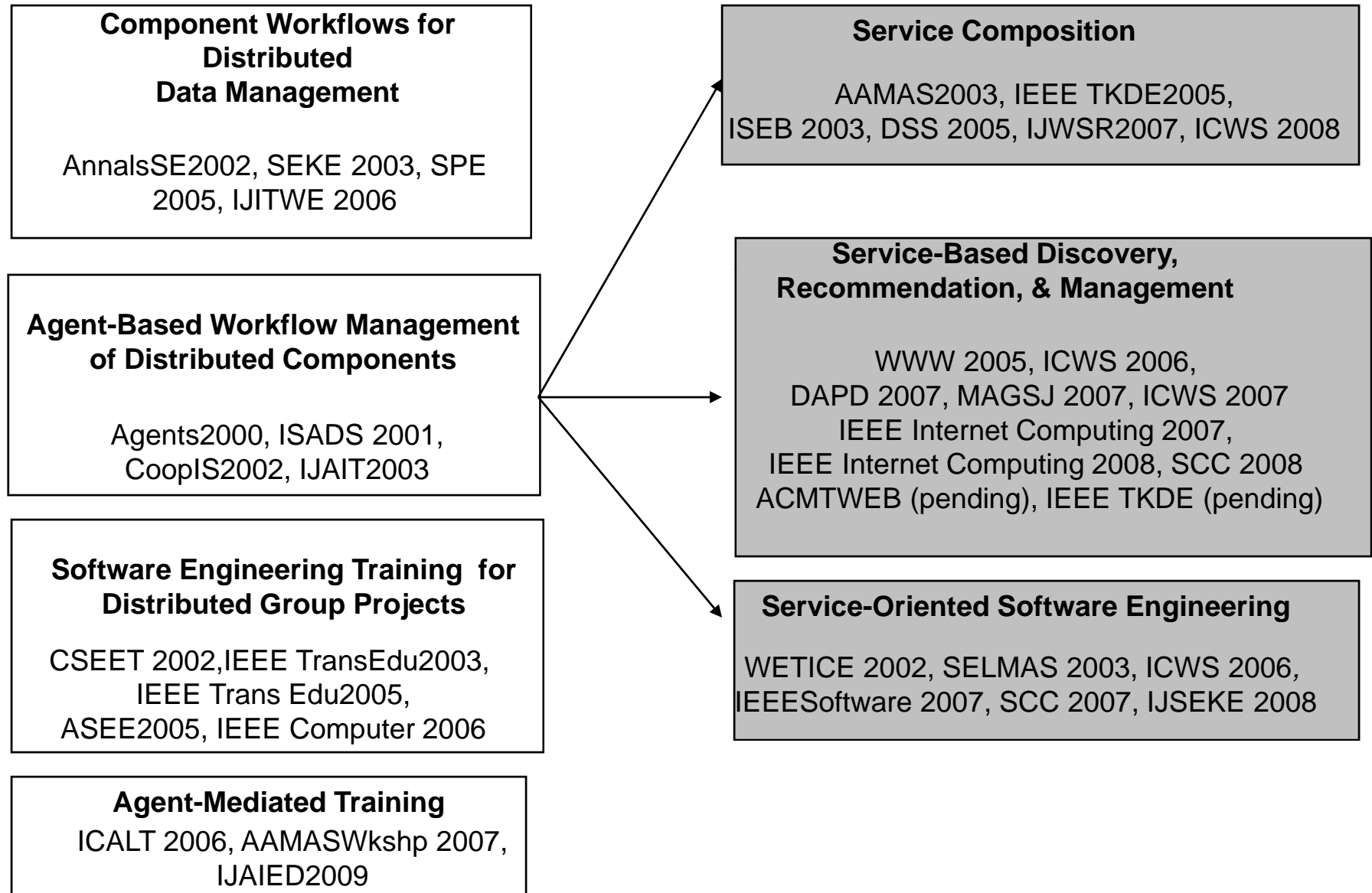
■ Graduates:

- Amy L. Sliva, PhD Candidate, University of Maryland-College Park
 - ACM CRA Research Award Runner-Up
 - ACM National Research Competition Finalist
- Wendell Norman, Software Engineer, The MITRE Corporation
- Georgina Saez, Software Engineering Consultant, Accenture
- Todd Cornett, Master Student, Stanford University
- Tepring Piquado, PhD Candidate, Brandeis University



Contribution Summary

Service-Oriented Computing





- Integrating Software Systems
- Introduction to Service-Oriented Computing
- Background: Web Services
- Research Studies
 - Data Engineering for Web Services
 - Service Mashup
- Recently Funded Projects
- **Q/A**

Thank you.
Questions....

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