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Java™ Servlet 3.0 API: What's new and exciting

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Learn about the new features in the Java™ Servlet 3.0 API

A large, light blue graphic consisting of a stylized arrow pointing to the right, followed by the word "GOAL" in a bold, sans-serif font.

Agenda

- **Overview**
- Pluggability
- Ease of Development
- Async servlet support
- Security
- Others
- Status
- Summary

Overview

- Java™ Servlet 3.0 API – JSR 315
- Has about 20 members in the expert group with a good mix of representation from the major Java™ EE vendors, web container vendors and individual web framework authors
- Main areas of improvements and additions are -
 - Pluggability
 - Ease of development
 - Async servlet support
 - Security enhancements
- **Note: Specification in early draft and things can change**
 - The good news is that the community still has time to provide feedback

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Pluggability

- Make it possible to use framework and libraries with no additional configuration
- Modularizing web.xml to allow frameworks / libraries to have their own entities defined and self-contained within the framework
- Adding APIs to **ServletContext** to allow addition of **Servlets**, **Filters** and **Listeners** to a web application at application startup time.
- Use of annotations to declare all the components within a web application

Pluggability - Modularization of web.xml

- Current users of framework need to edit their application's web.xml to
 - Define a Java™ Servlet provided by the framework (typically a controller Java™ Servlet)
 - Define Filters that the framework needs in order to be used within a web application (logging for example or Filters to implement security constraints)
 - Define listeners so that appropriate action can be taken at different points in the application / component's life cycle.
- Monolithic web.xml can become complex to maintain as the dependencies of the application increases
- Each framework needs to document for the developer what all must be declared in the web.xml

Pluggability – Modularization of web.xml

- Java™ Servlet 3.0 specification introduces the concept of modular web.xml
- Each framework can define it's own web.xml and include it in the jar file's META-INF directory
- The developer needs to include the framework jar in the application
- At deployment the container is responsible for discovering the web.xml fragments and processing them.
- Introduce new element – web-fragment that can define servlets, filters and listeners as child elements.

Pluggability - example new elements in web.xml

<web-fragment>

```
<servlet>
```

```
  <servlet-name>welcome</servlet-name>
```

```
  <servlet-class>
```

```
    WelcomeServlet
```

```
  </servlet-class>
```

```
</servlet>
```

```
<servlet-mapping>
```

```
  <servlet-name>welcome</servlet-name>
```

```
  <url-pattern>/Welcome</url-pattern>
```

```
</servlet-mapping>
```

...

</web-fragment>

Pluggability – Configuration methods in ServletContext

- In addition to web.xml modularization methods added to the ServletContext to declare and configure servlets and filters.
- Can only be called at context initialization time.
- Allows to
 - Declare a new Servlet
 - Define a url mapping for the Servlet declared
 - Declare a Filter
 - Define a url mapping for the Filter
- Enables applications to load Servlets and filters at runtime that are needed

Pluggability – APIs in ServletContext example

@ServletContextListener

```
public class MyListener {  
    public void contextInitialized  
        (ServletContextEvent sce) {  
        ServletContext sc = sce.getServletContext();  
        sc.addServlet("myServlet",  
            "Sample servlet",  
            "foo.bar.MyServlet",  
            null, -1);  
        sc.addServletMapping("myServlet",  
            new String[]  
            {"/urlpattern/*"});  
    }  
}
```

Pluggability – APIs in ServletContext example

@ServletContextListener

```
public class MyListener {  
    public void contextInitialized  
        (ServletContextEvent sce) {  
        ServletContext sc = sce.getServletContext();  
        sc.addFilter("myFilter",  
                    "Sample Filter",  
                    "foo.bar.MyFilter",  
                    null);  
        sc.addFilterMapping("myFilter",  
                            new String[]  
                            {"/urlpattern/*"},  
                            "myServlet",  
                            DispatcherType.REQUEST,  
                            false);  
    }  
}
```

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Ease of Development

- Focus on ease of development in Java™ Servlet 3.0 API
- Enhance Java™ Servlet APIs to use newer language features
- Annotations for declarative style of programming
- Generics for better compile time error checking and type safety
- web.xml optional (was already optional for Java™ EE 5)
 - Restricted to JSPs and static resources only
- Better defaults / convention over configuration

Ease of Development – defining a servlet

- Define a servlet using a **@Servlet** annotation
- Must contain a **url-mapping**
- All other fields optional with reasonable defaults –
 - example the “name” of the servlet is the fully qualified class name if none is specified.
 - Can define the appropriate http methods using the annotations **@GET**, **@PUT**, **@POST**, **@DELETE**, **@HEAD**
 - **@HttpMethod** meta-annotation allows extensions
- Can use the web.xml to override annotation values

Servlet example – 2.5 style

```
public class SimpleSample
extends HttpServlet {
    public void doGet
    (HttpServletRequest req,
     HttpServletResponse res)
    {

    }
}
```

web.xml

```
<web-app>
  <servlet>
    <servlet-name>
      MyServlet
    </servlet-name>
    <servlet-class>
      samples.SimpleSample
    </servlet-class>
  </servlet>
  <servlet-mapping>
    <servlet-name>
      MyServlet
    </servlet-name>
    <url-pattern>
      /MyApp
    </url-pattern>
  </servlet-mapping>
  ...
</web-app>
```


Ease of development – Defining a servlet

```
@Servlet(urlMapping={"/foo"})  
public class SimpleSample {  
  
}
```

Code Sample

```
@Servlet(urlMapping={"/foo", "/bar"},  
        name="MyServlet")  
public class SampleUsingAnnotationAttributes {  
    @GET  
    public void handleGet(HttpServletRequest req,  
                          HttpServletResponse res)  
    {  
  
    }  
  
}
```

Ease of development – Defining a Filter

- Define a Filter using a `@ServletFilter` annotation
- Must contain a `@FilterMapping` annotation
- All other fields optional with reasonable defaults

Code Sample

```
package samples;
import javax.servlet.http.annotation.*;

@ServletFilter
@FilterMapping(urlPattern="/foo")
public class SampleFilter {

    public void doFilter(HttpServletRequest req,
                        HttpServletResponse res)
    {

    }

}
```

Ease of development – Defining a ServletContextListener

- Define a context listener using a **@ServletContextListener** annotation

Ease of Developmnt – ServletContext example

@ServletContextListener

```
public class MyListener {  
    public void contextInitialized  
        (ServletContextEvent sce) {  
        ServletContext sc = sce.getServletContext();  
        sc.addServlet("myServlet",  
            "Sample servlet",  
            "foo.bar.MyServlet",  
            null, -1);  
        sc.addServletMapping("myServlet",  
            new String[]  
            {"/urlpattern/*"});  
    }  
}
```

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Async servlet – Use cases

- Comet style of application
- Async Web proxy
- Async Web services

Async servlet support – popular use case Comet

➤ Primer

- Rely on a persistent HTTP connection between server and client
- Two strategies
 - Streaming - browser opens a single persistent connection to the server for all Comet events each time the server sends a new event, the browser interprets it.
 - Long polling - a new request for each event (or set of events)
- Standardization efforts as part of the Bayeux protocol

➤ Implementation specific APIs available today in the various Java™ Servlet containers.

- APIs added to Java™ Servlet 3.0 specification to enable Comet style programming
- Request can be suspended and resumed

Async servlet support - Suspending a request

- Request can be suspended by the application
- Allows the container to not block on a request that needs access to a resource – for example access to a DataSource or wait for a response from a call to a WebService.
- When resumed the Request is re-dispatched through the filters for processing.
 - Results in an additional thread for handling the new request
- The resume method on the request resumes processing
 - Can be used to push timely events in multi-user applications
- The complete method to indicate the completion of request processing
- Can query if a request is suspended, resumed or has timed out.

Async servlet support – methods added to ServletRequest

➤ Methods added to ServletRequest for suspending, resuming and querying for status -

- `void suspend(long timeOutMs) ;`
- `void resume() ;`
- `void complete() ;`
- `boolean isSuspended() ;`
- `boolean isResumed() ;`
- `boolean isTimeout() ;`

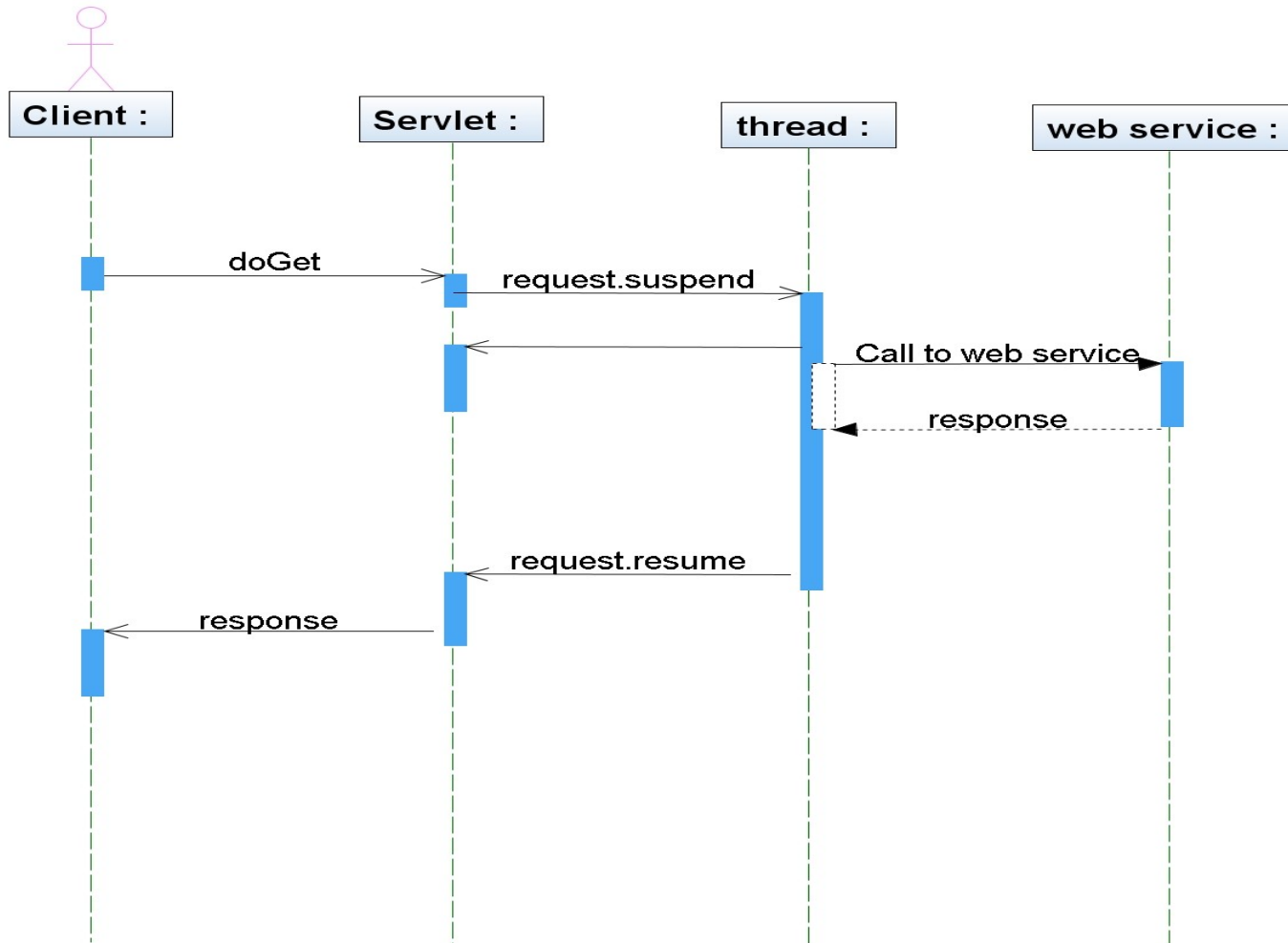
Async servlet support – Events on RequestListener

- Corresponding events fired for changes to request processing.
- Notification for suspend, resume and complete available for developers via the ServletRequestListener
- Methods added to **ServletRequestListener**
 - `void requestSuspended(ServletRequestEvent rre) ;`
 - `void requestResumed(ServletRequestEvent rre) ;`
 - `void requestCompleted(ServletRequestEvent rre) ;`

Async servlet support – methods added to Response

- Methods added to `ServletResponse` for disabling, enabling and querying for status -
 - `void disable() ;`
 - `void isDisabled() ;`
 - `void enable() ;`

Async servlet to web services call



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Security

- Ability to login and logout programmatically
- Methods added to **ServletRequest** to force a login and ability to logout
- Still being discussed in the EG.
- Proposal to add login and logout method to
 - **HttpServletRequest**
 - **HttpServletRequestWrapper**
 - **HttpSession** (logout only)

Security – login and logout

- Login method intended to allow an application or framework to force a container mediated authentication from within an unconstrained request context
- Login requires access to the `HttpResponse` object to set the `www-authenticate` header.
 - Available through new methods added to the request to give access to the corresponding response object
- logout methods are provided to allow an application to reset the authentication state of a request without requiring that authentication be bound to an `HttpSession`
- Still in discussion in the Expert Group and not closed upon.

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Others – HttpOnly Cookie support

- Added support for HttpOnlyCookies
- Prevents access to the cookie from client side scripting code
- Prevents cross-site scripting attacks.
- Method added to `Cookie` to set and query if it is an HttpOnly cookie

Others – Session tracking cookie configuration

- Ability to set the session tracking cookie configuration for the corresponding **ServletContext**
- Supports multiple Session tracking mode – COOKIE, URL, SSL

Pending discussion in the expert group

- Miscellaneous items to be done for Java™ Servlet 3.0 API
 - File upload
 - Container wide init-params
 - Clarifications from previous releases
 - Enablement of JAX-RS / JSF 2.0 (if any changes needed)

Java EE profiles

- Java EE 6 specification introducing notion of profiles
- Targeting a web profile for Java EE 6
- Web profile to be based on Servlets and JSPs
- Still being discussed in the Java EE 6 expert group
- Roberto solicited feedback from the community
- Varying opinions of what should be in the profile
- Still need to close on in the Java EE 6 expert group

Web/EJB Technology Application in Java™ EE Platform 5

foo.ear

foo_web.war

WEB-INF/web.xml
WEB-INF/classes/
com/acme/FooServlet.class
WEB-INF/classes
com/acme/Foo.class

foo_ejb.jar

com/acme/FooBean.class
com/acme/Foo.class

OR

foo.ear

lib/foo_common.jar

com/acme/Foo.class

foo_web.war

WEB-INF/web.xml
WEB-INF/classes/
com/acme/FooServlet.class

foo_ejb.jar

com/acme/FooBean.class

Web/EJB Technology Application in Java™ EE Platform 6

foo.war

WEB-INF/classes/
com/acme/FooServlet.class

WEB-INF/classes/
com/acme/FooBean.class

EJB in a WAR file

- Goal is to remove an artificial packaging restriction
 - NOT to create a new flavor of EJB component
- EJB component behavior is independent of packaging
- Full EJB container functionality available

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Status

- Currently in Early Draft Review
- Public Review in summer of this year
- Proposed final draft and final release aligned with Java™ EE 6
- Early access to bits of implementation to be available via Project GlassFish

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Summary

Lot of exciting things happening in the Java™ Servlet 3.0 API

- Pluggability for frameworks
 - Ease of Development for developers
 - Comet support to enable modern web 2.0 style applications
 - Security enhancements to enable programmatic login / logout
 - Miscellaneous improvements for better developer experience
- Make the life of framework developers and users much easier
- Implementation being done in open source as part of GlassFish project

GlassFish Community

Open Source, Enterprise Ready & Extendable



•GlassFish V3 Tech Preview 2 Available now!

- Modular OSGi architecture – easy to deploy, Develop and Extend

•GlassFish V2 – Production Ready

- Fastest open source app server with Clustering, High Availability, Load Balancing
- Support for jMaki, Comet, Ajax, Ruby and Groovy

•GlassFish ESB

- Core SOA functions now embedded in GlassFish

•GlassFish Communications App Server

- SIP servlet technology for converged services

Always free to download, deploy and distribute

• GlassFish Partner Initiative

- Expanding the ecosystem for partners.

• Enterprise and Mission Critical Support

sun.com/software/products/appsrvr

• GlassFish Unlimited Pricing

- Fixed price, unlimited deployments
- Combine w/ MySQL Unlimited

• Tools Integration

- NetBeans and Eclipse

glassfish.org

For More Information

- Official JSR Page
 - <http://jcp.org/en/jsr/detail?id=315>
- JAX-RS – TS 5425
- JSF 2.0 – TS 5979
- Mailing list for webtier related issues - webtier@glassfish.dev.java.net
- Rajiv's blog
 - <http://weblogs.java.net/blog/mode>

THANK YOU

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