12) Enterprise Java Beans

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- 1. Basics
- 2. Parts of the Bean infrastructure
- 3. Different Kinds of EJB
- 4. Implicit Middleware in EJB-3.X
- 5. Evaluation

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Other Literature

- JBoss EJB 3.0 Documentation
- Ed Roman: Mastering EJB. Wiley & Sons. http://www.theserverside.com/books/wiley/masteringEJB/index.jsp
- B. Tate, M. Clark, B. Lee, P. Linskey: Bitter EJB. Manning Publications Co.

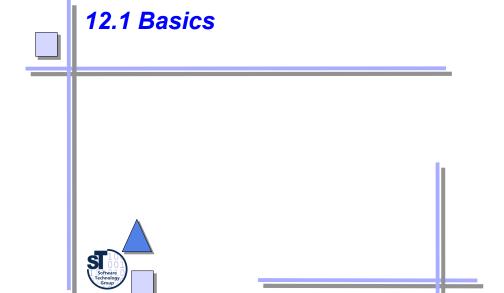


Obligatory Reading

- Oracle's enterprise bean tutorial
 - http://docs.oracle.com/javaee/5/tutorial/doc/bnbls.html http://docs.oracle.com/javaee/ http://docs.oracle.com/javaee/5/tutorial/doc/javaeetutorial5.pdf
- Szyperski, Chap 14
- http://xdoclet.sourceforge.net
- ► EJB 3.0 Features
 http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/index.html
- ▶ JBoss has a EJB 3.0 tutorial http://docs.jboss.org/ejb3/docs/tutorial/1.0.7/html/index.html







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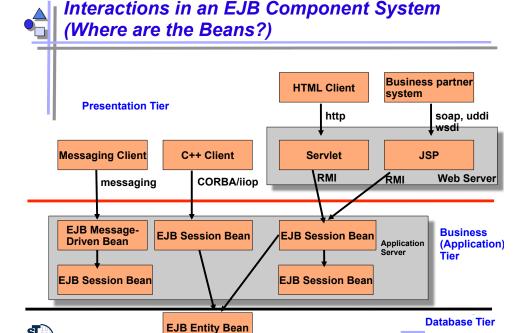


Basics of Enterprise Java Beans (EJB)

- Developed by SUN, now Oracle
 - Server-side component architecture for building distributed OO business applications in Java
 - Separation of business logic and lower-level concerns (e.g., networking, transactions, persistence, ...) into implicit middleware
- EJB 1.0 1998, EJB 2.0 2001, current version is 3.1
- EJB integrates several principles:
 - Deployment-time middleware code generation (implicit middleware)
 - Containers as application servers for transparency of transaction and persistency
 - Annotation-based (metadata-based) middleware code generation
 - A simple XML-based composition language
- Some common EJB application servers
 - OSS: JBoss free software www.jboss.org
 - Apache Geronimo
 - Commercial: BEA's WebLogic, IBM's WebSphere, Oracle's Oracle 11g









Ingredients of EJB

- Java-based Component Model (language specific)
- Static components contain classes
 - Dynamic components contain objects
 - Session Beans: for business logic and application algorithms
 - Message-Driven Beans: Same function as session beans
 - Called by sending messages instead of calling methods
 - Have a message queue, react to an asynchronous message connector
 - Entity Beans: for business objects (data)
 - Persistent object that caches database information (an account, an employee, an order,
 - Component factory (Home bean)
 - Customization possible by deployment descriptors
- Composition Technique
 - Adaptation/Glue:
 - Transparent distribution (Almost, see local/remote interfaces)
 - Transparent network protocols
 - Transparent transaction via Containers
 - Transparent persistency via Containers





12.2 The Parts of a Bean Infrastructure

- Container
- Bean class
- Home a factory
- Remote interface [3.0: annotation]
- Local interface [3.0: annotation]
- Deployment descriptor (2.0)





The Bean Container/Application Server

- The bean container is run-time infrastructure (application server)
 - A Wrapper (Façade, Decorator, Interceptor) of an individual bean
 - In a container, some business logic may run on the server, hiding the direct data access
 - The container manages the beans with a factory: create; Repository: find, remove
 - ▶ The container provides run-time middleware services for the beans
- ▶ The bean container is a **deployment infrastructure**
 - The container generates middleware code for the bean when it is deployed on a machine (implicit middleware)
 - Bean developer only writes business logic and declares the middleware services (transactions, persistence, security, resource management, ...etc) by specifying metadata (annotations)
 - . The middleware services are provided automatically by code generation
 - In explicit middleware (e.g., CORBA), middleware services have to be addressed by the programmer







The Parts of an EJB - The Enterprise Bean Class

- The implementation of the bean looks different depending on which kind of bean
- ▶ Three different beans, with different families of interfaces, exist:
- Session beans ("Tools" in the TAM pattern language)
 - Business-process-related logic, e.g., compute prices, transfer money between accounts
 - "Business methods"
 - Stateless: runs to completion without interruption
 - Stateful: may be interrupted and keeps state by functions ejbPassivate(), ejbActivate()
- Entity beans ("Material" from the TAM pattern language)
 - Data-related logic, e.g., change name of a customer, withdraw money from an account
- Message-driven beans (Another kind of "Tool")
 - Message-oriented logic, e.g., receive a message and call a session bean

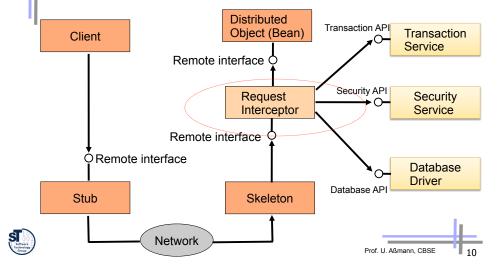






Implicit Middleware by Interceptors (Bean Decorators)

- Interceptors are special server skeletons (server decorators)
- · Implementations of interceptors can be generated by the container

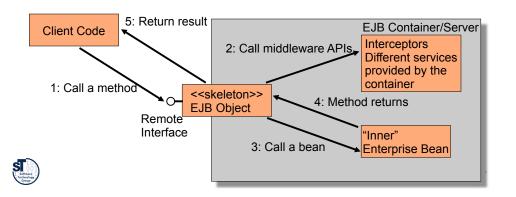




The Parts of an EJB

- The EJB Object as a Skeleton

- The EJB is not called directly, but via an EJB object (skeleton, facade object, proxy)
 - whose implementation is generated by the container
 - It filters the input and intercepts calls and delegates them to the inner bean
 - Interceptors can be generated by the container
 - The EJB object is responsible for providing middleware services





The Parts of an EJB The Remote Object Interface

- The interface to the bean that the client sees
 - Must contain all methods the bean should expose
- As the EJB object lies between the client and the bean, it has to implement this interface
 - Must extend javax.ejb.EJBObject

```
public interface Bank extends javax.ejb.EJBObject {
       // Bean business methods
       public Account getAccount(String name)
               throws java.rmi.RemoteException;
       public void openAccount(String name)
               throws java.rmi.RemoteException;
```

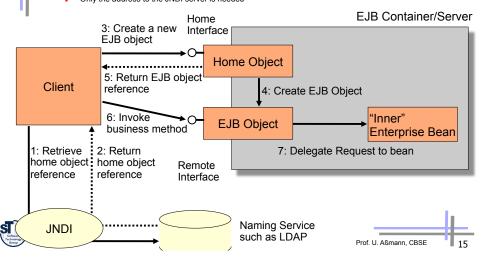






Name Service for Name Transparency

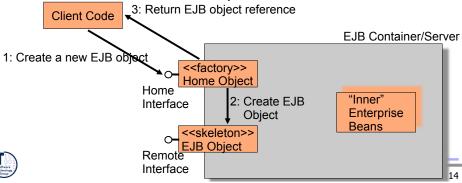
- The Java Naming and Directory Interface (JNDI) is used to lookup home objects
 - JNDI is a standard interface for locating resources (name service), providing a mapping between the logical name of a resource and its physical location
 - Only the address to the JNDI server is needed





The Parts of an EJB - The Home Object and Interfaces

- An EJB object factory and repository is needed: The home object with the *home interface*
 - Defines methods for creating, finding and removing EJB objects
- The communication uses Java RMI over IIOP
 - If an argument is serializable, it is sent as pass-by-value
 - RMI can also simulate pass-by-reference
 - A serialized stub for the remote object is sent instead





The Parts of an EJB Local Interfaces

- Beans do not support location transparency
 - For a local call, you must provide local interfaces
 - local interface corresponding to remote interface
 - local home interface corresponding to home interface
 - To switch between local and remote calls it is necessary to change the code
- Horrible: this should be encapsulated in a connector!

Remote:

- Client calls a local stub
- Marshalling
- Stub calls skeleton over a network connection
- Unmarshalling
- EJB object is called, performs middleware services
- Bean is called
- Repeat to return result

Local:

- Client calls a local object
- Local object performs middleware services
- Bean is called
- Control is returned to the client





The Parts of an EJB – Putting Together an EJB Component File

- Finally all the above mentioned files are put into an EJB-jar file (Java archive, zipped)
 - bean class
 - home (and local home) interface
 - remote (and local) interface
 - (possibly vendor-specific files)
- Additionally in EJB 2.0:
 - Deployment descriptor, i.e., the specification for the implicit middleware and the composition of beans







Roles in the EJB Software Process

- Bean provider (bean producer) is an application expert
 - Builds a EJB-jar with application specific methods, deployment-descriptor, remote, home interface
- ▶ **Application assembler** composes EJB to larger EJB, i.e., applications units.
 - . She extends the deployment-descriptors
- Bean deployer (employer) puts the EJB-jar into a deployment environment, consisting of a EJB Server and Container
 - Preparing the EJB for use, generating middleware code
 - Is the EJB connected to a EJB-Container, it is configured and usable
- Server provider is a specialist in transaction management and distributed systems.
 - Provides basic functionality for distribution
- Container provider delivers the container tools for configuration and for run time inspection of EJB
 - The Container manages persistency of Entity Beans, generation of communication code (glue code) to underlying data bases





Deployment of an EJB Component File

- The deployment of an EJB is a new step in component systems we have not yet seen
- ▶ The application server is notified of the new EJB component file by
 - using a command-line tool,
 - dropping the EJB file in a specific directory,
 - or in some other way
- ► The EJB-jar file is verified by the container
- The container generates an EJB object and home object
- The container generates any necessary further RMI stubs, skeletons, and interceptors







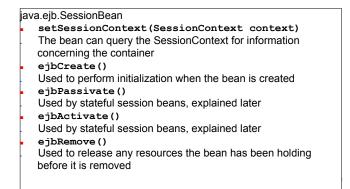






Session Beans Overview

- Reusable components that contain logic for business processes
 - The lifetime of a session bean is roughly equivalent to the lifetime of the client code calling it
 - A session bean is nonpersistent



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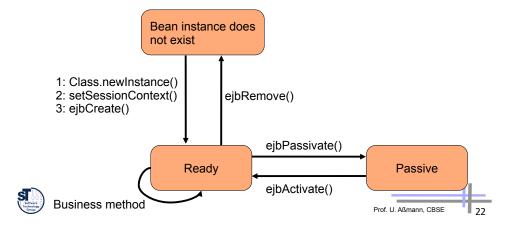


Activation of a Stateful Session Bean FJB Container/Server 1: Invoke business 3: Reconstruct bean method Client 4: Call ejbActivate() Enterprise **EJB** Object 5: Invoke business Bean Remote method Interface 2: Retrieve passivated bean state Storage



Life Cycle of a Stateful Session Bean

- Handles state-based conversations with users
- E-commerce web store with a shopping cart
 - Online bank
 - Tax declaration





Characteristics of Message-Driven Beans (MDB)

- MDBs are stateless.
- MDBs don't have a home, local home, remote or local interface
- MDBs have a single, weakly typed business method
 - onMessage() is used to process messages
 - MDBs don't have any return values
 - However, it is possible to send a response to the client
 - MDBs cannot send exceptions back to clients
- MDBs can be durable or nondurable subscribers
 - durable means that the subscriber receives all messages, even if it is inactive
- Why use MDB instead of Session Beans?
 - Performance
 - . Asynchronous process means that clients don't have to wait for the bean to finish
 - Reliability
 - . With RMI-IIOP the server has to be up when the client is calling it.
 - With a message-oriented middleware (MOM) that supports guaranteed delivery, the message is delivered when the server gets back online
 - Support for subscription of multiple senders and receivers
 - . RMI-IIOP is limited to one client talking to one server







Entity Beans Overview

- An entity bean consists of the same files as a session bean
- Object-relational mapping necessary (from Java classes to relational databases)
 - Map the object to a relational database when it is stored
 - Queries possible by using an special EJB query language (EJB-QL) that is translated to specific query languages of relational databases
 - The mapping is either hand-coded or achieved by finished products
- Several entity bean instances may represent the same underlying data
 - An entity bean has a primary key to uniquely identify the database data
 - Entity bean instances can be put to database by ejbStore() and ejbLoad()
- Two kinds of entity beans
 - Bean-managed persistent or container-managed persistent





12.4. Generation of Implicit Middleware in EJB 3.X

EJB heavily use metadata markup to generate all dependent middleware interfaces and code

- Persistency
- Transactions





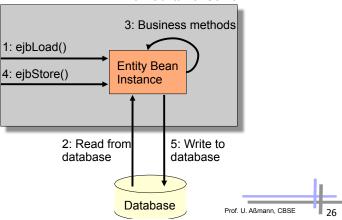
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Loading and Storing an Entity Bean

- Entity beans are persistent objects that can be stored in permanent storage
 - Live on the entity or database layer of the 3-tier architecture
 - The entity bean data is the physical set of data stored in the database



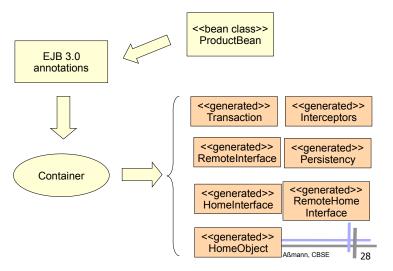






EJB 3.0

- Only the bean class is specified
 - Rest of the classes is generated from metadata annotations

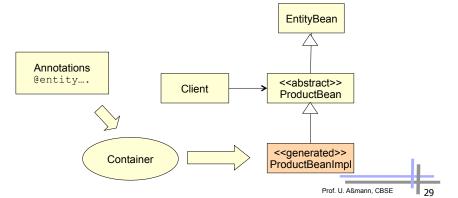






Persistency is Container-Managed in 3.0

- TemplateMethod design pattern with generated hook class implementation
- The container performs the storage operations
 - The container generates the persistence (ProductBeanImpl) and does the run-time service
- The CMP entity bean is always abstract (ProductBean)
 - The container generates a concrete subclass (ProductBeanImpl)
 - An abstract persistence schema is declared in the deployment descriptor so the container will know what to generate







Method Callback Annotations

- The default methods can be adorned with user-written filters (before, after, and around fragments (advices))
- Filter methods are part of Interceptor objects

```
@PrePassivate
void signalPassivation() {
  System.out.writeln("passivating bean now...");
                       [from EJB 3.0 Features]
@PreDestroy
                       /* Callback method defined inside a Listener class*/
@PrePersist
@PostPersist
                       public class AccountListener{
@PreActivate
                         @PostPersist
                         insertAccountDetails (AccountDetails accountDetails) {}
@PostActivate
@PrePassivate
@PostPassivate
@CallbackListener
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```





Metadata Annotations in EJB 3.0 – Annotation Types

Bean class annotations refer to classes and create interfaces with adapters:

```
@Entity
public class AccountBean implements Account {
    public void deposit (double money) {...}
}

@Stateless
@Stateful
@MessageDriven

// adding interfaces for beans
@Local
@Remote
@RemoteHome
@LocalHome
@LocalHome
```







Custom Interceptors

```
[from EJB 3.0 Features]
// Provides profiling logic in a business method (with interceptors)
/* The interceptor class */
public class ProfilingInterceptor {
  @AroundInvoke // indicates that this is the interceptor method
  public Object profile(InvocationContext invocation) throws Exception {
   long start = System.currentTimeMillis();
      return invocation.proceed(): // this statement would call the withdraw method
   } finally {
      long time = start - System.currentTimeMillis();
      Method method = invocation.getMethod();
      System.out.println(method.toString() + "took" + time + " (ms)");
/* The bean class */
@Stateless
public class BankAccountBean implements BankAccount {
  @PersistenceContext EntityManager entityManager;
  @Interceptors (ProfilingInterceptor.class)
  public void withdraw(int acct, double amount) {
  public void deposit(int acct, double amount) {
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```





Transaction Control with Attributes

- Classes and methods may receive transaction attributes
 - Required: bean joins the client's transaction
 - RequiresNew: bean starts new transaction
 - NotSupported: interrupt transaction, execute without it
 - Supported: bean joins the client's transaction, otherwise executes without transaction
 - Mandatory: bean joins the client's transaction, otherwise signals error

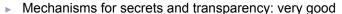
```
[The Java 2 EE tutorial]
@TransactionAttribute(NOT_SUPPORTED)
@Stateful
public class TransactionBean implements Transaction {
...

@TransactionAttribute(REQUIRES_NEW)
public void firstMethod() {...}

@TransactionAttribute(REQUIRED)
public void secondMethod() {...}
public void thirdMethod() {...}
```



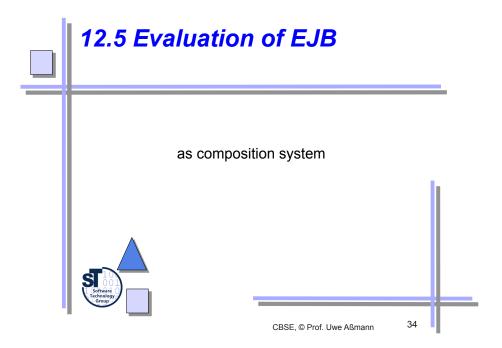




- Interface and implementation repository
- Location, transaction, persistence transparency
- Life-time of service hidden, states hidden
- Deployment-time generation of implicit middleware code
- Communication protocol can be replaced (RMI-IIOP, CORBA-IIOP)
- Parameterization by metadata annotations
 - The services to use are specified: transaction protocol, filters
- Deployment of EJB supported
 - Code generation of stubs
- Standardization: Good
 - Good tutorials
 - Technical vs. application specific vs. business components
- ▶ EJB 2.0 is quite heavy; 3.0 is slimmer









Composition Technique

- Mechanisms for connection
 - Mechanisms for locating
 - . JNDI
 - Mechanisms for adaptation
 - . RMI stubs, skeletons
 - Mechanisms for glueing
 - . Container producing glue code
- Mechanisms for aspect separation
 - Middleware services declared in the deployment descriptor
- Mechanisms for meta-modeling
 - with Java reflection and metadata annotations
- Scalability
 - Pooling ensures scaling





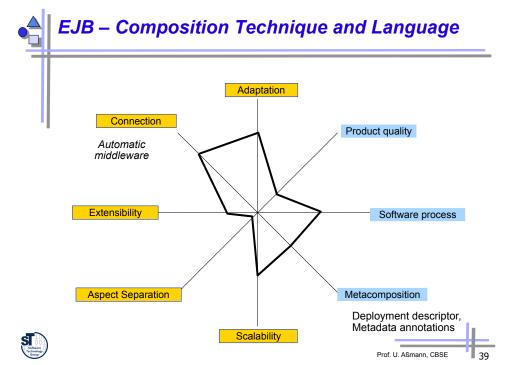


Composition Language

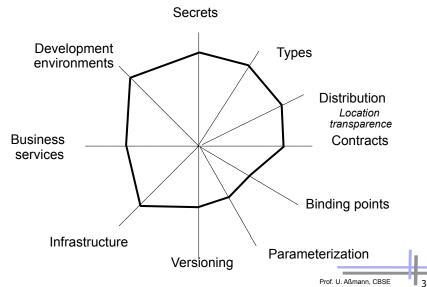
- The deployment descriptor language of EJB 2.0 is a simple composition language
- Limited:
 - Glue code is provided by the container
 - Services can be added/removed/modified by changing the deployment descriptor
 - CMP entity beans can be customized by changing the deployment descriptor



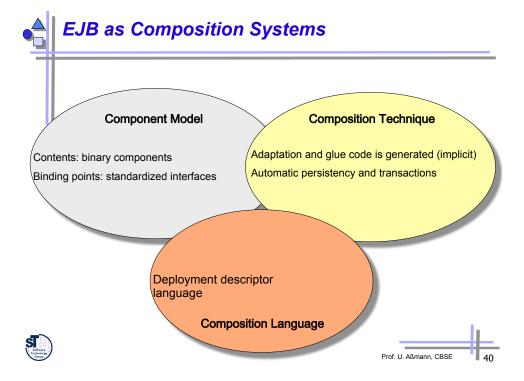




EJB - Component Model Secrets









The End - What Have We Learned

- EJB is big, not for everything
 - Allows the developer to focus on business logic
 - Provides very useful services, like transparency, persistence, security, networking independence, etc
 - Can interoperate with CORBA
- It is a well-defined standard by SUN/Oracle
- It works in symbiosis with several other APIs
 - JNDI, RMI, JDBC, JMS, etc







Example of a Deployment Descriptor

```
<!DOCTYPE ejb-jar PUBLIC "-//Sun Microsystems, Inc.//DTD Enterprise JavaBeans 2.0//EN" "http://java.sun.com/dtd/ejb-jar 2 0.dtd">
```







Appendix: The Parts of an EJB - The Deployment Descriptor (EJB 2.0)

- An XML file in which the middleware service requirements are declared (There is a DD-DTD)
 - Bean management and lifecycle requirements
 - Transaction, persistence, and security requirements
- Composition of beans (references to other beans)
 - Names: Name, class, home interface name, remote-interface name, class of the primary key
 - States: type (session, entity, message), state, transaction state, persistency management - how?
- ► The application assembler may allocate or modify additional different information
 - Name, environments values, description forms
 - Binding of open references to other EJB
 - Transaction attributes







Stateless Session Beans

- Handle single requests
 - Conversations that span a single method call
 - Does not hold a conversational state
- The bean may be destroyed by the container after a call or it has to be cleared of old information
- Examples of stateless session beans
 - A user verification service
 - An encoding engine
 - Any service that given some input always produces the same result

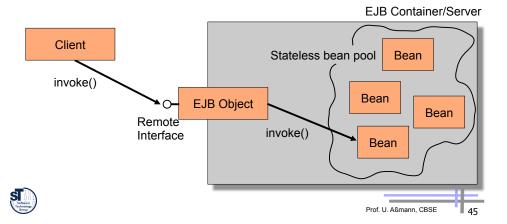






Pooling Stateless Session Beans

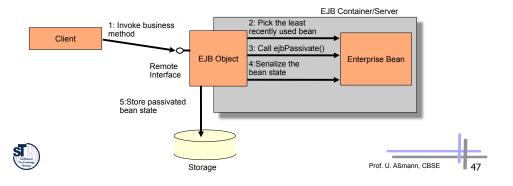
- Stateless session beans can easily be pooled (reused) to allow better scaling
 - . They contain no state

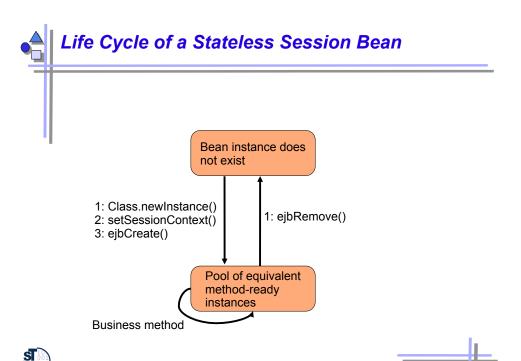




Pooling Stateful Session Beans

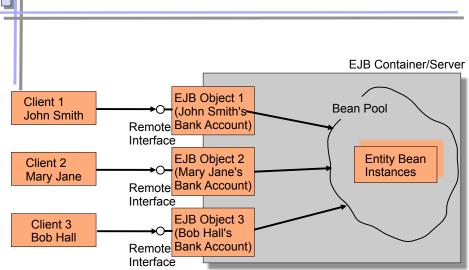
- Pooling becomes more complicated
 - Beans must be swapped from physical memory to disk
- A stateful session bean has to implement:
 - ejbPassivate(): Called to let the bean release any resources it holds before it gets swapped out
 - ejbActivate(): Called right after the bean has been swapped in to let it acquire the resources it needs







Pooling Entity Beans



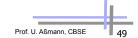






Bean-Managed Persistent Entity Beans (BMP Beans)

- The developer is required to provide the implementation to map the instances to and from storage
 - Java Database Connectivity (JDBC)
- ▶ BMP beans have to implement javax.ejb.EntityBean:
 - setEntityContext(javax.ejb.EntityContext)
 - . The context can be gueried of information regarding the container
 - unsetEntityContext()
 - ejbRemove()
 - . Removes the data from the persistent storage
 - ejbActivate()
 - Lets the bean allocate resources after being swapped in
 - ejbPassivate()
 - . Called before the bean is swapped out so it can release resources
 - ejbLoad()
 - . Loads database data into the bean
 - ejbStore()
 - . Stores the data in the bean to the database





Example

- Bean-Managed State Fields

AccountBean.java

```
public void deposit(double amount) {
                                                  balance += amount;
                                                 public void withdraw(double amount {
                                                   if (amount < balance) {</pre>
                                                    balance -= amount;
import java.sql.*;
import javax.naming.*;
import javax.ejb.*;
import java.util.*;
                                                public void getBalance() {
public class AccountBean implements EntityBean { return balance;
  protected EntityContext context;
  private String accountID;
  private String ownerName;
  private double balance;
  public AccountBean() { }
```







Bean-Managed Persistent Entity Beans

- BMP beans also have to other kinds of methods relating to storage
 - ejbCreate()
 - . Used to create new entries in the database (optional)
 - Finder methods
 - . ejbFindXXX()
 - . Must have at least one: ejbFindByPrimaryKey()
 - . Normally contains database queries
 - e.g., SELECT id FROM accounts WHERE balance > 3000
 - ejbHomexxx() methods
 - Performs simple services over a set of beans
- A BMP entity bean consists of
 - Bean-managed state fields, persistable fields that are loaded from the database
 - Business logic methods: Performs services for clients
 - EJB-required methods: Required methods that the container calls to manage the bean







Example

- Business Logic Methods







Example

- Required Methods

```
...cont...
public void ejbRemove {
  PreparedStatement pStatement = null;
  Connection connection = null;
  AccountPK pk = (AccountPK) context.getPrimaryKey();
  String id = pk.accountID;
    connection = getConnection();
    pStatement = connection.prepareStatement(
      "delete from accounts where id = ?1");
    pStatement.setString(1, id);
   pStatement.executeQuery();
  catch (Exception e) { ... }
  finally {
    try { if (pStatement != null) pStatement.close(); }
    catch (Exception e) { ... }
    try { if (connection != null) connection.close(); }
    catch (Exception e) { ... }
```







Container-Managed Persistent Entity Beans (CMB)

- The container performs the storage operations
 - This gives a clean separation between the entity bean and its persistent representation
 - The container generates the persistence logic
- The CMP entity bean is always abstract
 - The container generates a concrete subclass
- The CMP entity beans have no declared fields
 - Also the get/set method implementations are generated by the container from the deployment descriptor
- CMP beans get an abstract persistence schema
 - An abstract persistence schema is declared in the deployment descriptor so the container will know what to generate
- ▶ There is a query language, EJB Query Language (EJB-QL)
 - SELECT OBJECT(a) FROM Account AS a WHERE a.balance > ?1

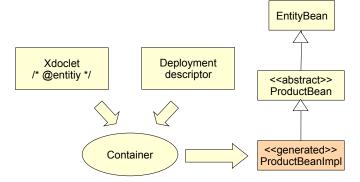






Container-Managed Persistency in 2.0

- TemplateMethod design pattern with generated hook class implementation
- Xdoclet tag comments or deployment descriptor









Example: Using the TemplateMethod Pattern in EJB 2.0

```
import javax.ejb.*;
public abstract class ProductBean implements EntityBean {
 protected EntityContext context;
 public abstract String getName();
  public abstract void setName(String name);
 public abstract String getDescription();
  public abstract void setDescription (String description)
  public abstract double getBasePrice();
                                                             Hook methods
  public abstract void setBasePrice(double prise);
  public abstract String getProductID();
  public abstract void setProductID(String productID);
  public void ejbActivate() { }
  public void ejbRemove() { }
  public void ejbPassivate() { }
  public void ejbLoad() { }
  public void ejbStore() { }
  public void setEntityContext(EntityContext ctx) { context = ctx; }
  public void unsetEntityContext() { context = null; }
  public void ejbPostCreate(String productID, String name,
   String description, double basePrice) { }
  public String ejbCreate(String productID, String name,
    String description, double basePrice) {
    setProductID (productID);
                                  setName(name);
    setDescription(description); setBasePrice(basePrice);
    return productID;
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```





CMP Entity Beans - Deployment Descriptor

You have to declare how the container should generate methods and fields

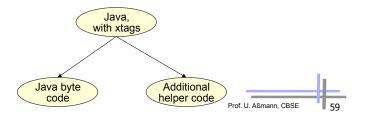
```
....declarations of interfaces, etc ....
 <cmp-field>
   <field-name>productID</field-name>
 </cmp-field>
 <cmp-field>
   <field-name>name</field-name>
 </cmp-field>
 <cmp-field>
   <field-name>description</field-name>
 </cmp-field>
 <cmp-field>
   <field-name>basePrice</field-name>
 </cmp-field>
. queries ...
 <query>
    <query-method>
      <method-name>findByName</method-name>
      <method-params>
        <method-param>java.lang.String</method-param>
      </method-params>
   </query-method>
     <![CDATA(SELECT OBJECT(a) FROM ProductBean AS a WHERE name=?1)]>
   </eib-ql>
  </query>
                                                       Prof. U. Aßmann, CBSE
```





XDoclets

- An XDoclet is a plugin into the XDoclet framework
- The XDoclet framework is a doclet, i.e., a Javadoc extension
- XDoclets define new tags (xtags), used for metadata
 - Tags can have attribute lists
 - /* @ejb.bean type = "CMP" name="client" view-type="local" */
- Tags steer code generation
 - XDoclet compiler reads the Java source files, evaluates commented tags and generates additional code







EJB and Others

- Interceptors and Decorators
 - The Interceptor of a bean is like a decorator
 - . It can be overwritten and extended from outside the EJB
 - User can write filters for EJB
 - JBoss uses this for aspect-oriented EJB (see later)
- EJB was formed after Microsoft's MTS (now COM+)
 - COM+ is in .NET
 - Models are somewhat similar
- Corba Component Model (CCM) is also similar







Use of Xdoclets in EJB 2.0

- Generation of
 - Deployment descriptors
 - Default interfaces
 - Implementation stubs
- Example [from XDoclet documentation]



