

CS 5523 Lecture 27: Directory and Discovery Services

- Questions on Laboratory 4
- Directory services
- X.500
- LDAP development
- Discovery services
- Jini case study

Directory services:

- Stores binding of name to attribute
- Allows lookup based on attributes
- Sometimes directory services are called “yellow pages services”, while name services are called “white pages services”
- Often organized in a hierarchy
- Examples of directory services:
 1. Microsoft's Active Directory Services
 2. X.500

Give some examples of applications of directory services

X.500 directory service:

- Standardized by ITU and ISO
- Specified as an application-level in OSI
- Data is organized in tree (DIT =directory information tree) with named nodes (DIB=directory information base)
- A client (DUA = directory user agent) can query any server (DSA = directory service agent)
- Server will respond, query other services or send back server response
- A DIB entry has a name and a set of attributes.
- The full name is the fully-qualified path

X.500 directory service (continued):

- Directory Administrative Model – how global DIT is managed and split into domains
- Directory Server Protocol (DSP) – used to chain user requests between directory servers
- Directory Information Shading Protocol (DISP) – protocol for directory replication
- DOP protocol to automate connection agreements between servers between and across management domains

Figure 9.10
X.500 service architecture

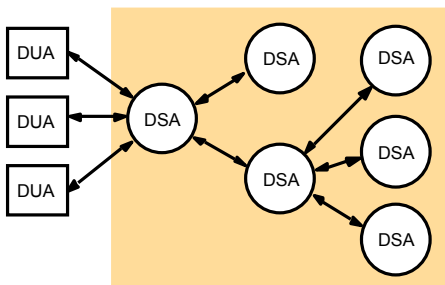


Figure 9.11
Part of the X.500 Directory Information Tree

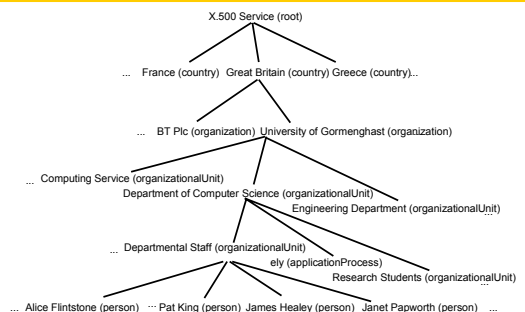


Figure 9.12
An X.500 DIB Entry

<i>info</i>	
Alice Flintstone, Departmental Staff, Department of Computer Science, University of Gormenghast, GB	
<i>commonName</i>	<i>uid</i>
Alice.L.Flintstone	alf
Alice Flintstone	
Alice Flintstone	<i>mail</i>
A. Flintstone	alf@dcs.gormenghast.ac.uk
<i>surname</i>	Alice.Flintstone@dcs.gormenghast.ac.uk
Flintstone	<i>roomNumber</i>
	Z42
<i>telephoneNumber</i>	<i>userClass</i>
+44 986 33 4604	Research Fellow

Instructor's Guide for Cindoria, DeRose and Kirsberg Distributed Systems: Concepts and Design Eds 3
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X.500 data structures:

- Attributes are typed (e.g. *countryName*, *commonName*)
- DIB entries are organized like OO classes.
- DIB entries have a class-name.
- The definition of a class determines which attributes are mandatory and which are optional.
- Mandatory and optional attributes are inherited.

X.500 operations:

- Read – locates attributes associated with given name
- Search – finds records based on attributes and filters
- DSA also has operations for adding, deleting and modifying entries

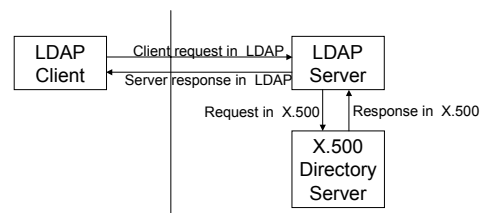
X.500 history and deployment:

- Specification was first released in 1988 with a significant update in 1993
- Heavyweight system:
 - Required a full OSI protocol stack that wasn't supported by MACs or PCs in the early 90's when X.500 was being deployed
 - The DUAs (directory user agents) also could not be run on PCs or MACs in the early 90's
- University of Michigan responded with the development of a DUA that understood a lightweight access protocol called LDAP

Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP):

- LDAP runs over TCP/IP
- Simple DUA interface to X.500
- Uses textual encoding
- Provides secure access through authentication
- Other directory services have implemented it
- See RFC 2251 [Wahl et al. 1997]

LDAP strategy:



LDAP evolution:

- University of Michigan added to LDAP servers the capability of accessing own database.
- Use of LDAP databases became widespread
- Schemes were developed for registering changes and exchanging deltas between LDAP servers
- In 1996 three engineers from U of Michigan joined Netscape. 40 companies (sans Microsoft) announced support of LDAP as the standard for directory services
- Core specifications for LDAPv3 was published as IETF RFCs 2251-2256.

LDAP protocol overview:

- Strict subset of X.500
- One or more servers jointly provide access to a DIT of entries
- Entries have:
 - A relative distinguished name (RDN) unique among its siblings
 - A distinguished name (DN) concatenation of RDNs up to root.
- Naming context – largest collection of entries starting at an entry that is mastered by a particular server.
- Entries consist of a set of attributes (type + values). Entries also have to have an objectClass attribute
- Type consists of a short name and an OID and what kind, e.g. attribute mail must have case insensitive ascii strings as values.

Discovery services:

- Directory service that registers services in a spontaneous network
- Services notify the discovery service of existence via a registration interface
- Discovery has a scope (the context)
- Example - Jini (a Java-based system for spontaneous networking)

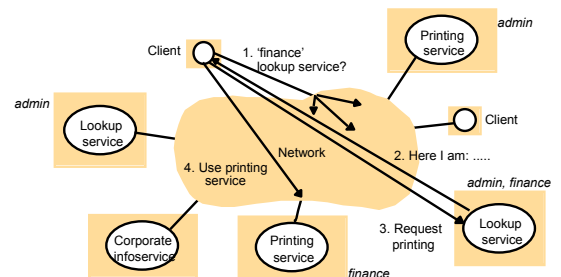
Jini – an example of a discovery service:

- Java-based – all devices have a Java virtual machine and communicate by RMI to download code
- Provides facilities for discovery, transactions and shared data
- Targeted for ad-hoc networking at the workgroup level
- Based on the notion of services
- Examples of services:
 - Computation
 - Communication channel
 - Storage
 - Software filter
 - hardware

Jini protocols:

- Discovery – service looks for a lookup service to register with
- Join – service has located a lookup service and registers with it
- Lookup – client wants to locate a service

Figure 9.6
Service discovery in Jini



Jini programming model:

- *Leasing interface – defines method of allocating and freeing resources using a renewable, duration-based model*
- *Event and notification interface – enables event-based communication between services*
- *Transaction interface – enables entities to cooperate so that changes are made atomically to everyone or none at all*

Jini client-service interaction:

- *Service provides a set of interfaces for interaction*
- *Service may provide a “user interface” that allows a human to interact directly*
- *Interfaces may use:*
 - *RMI (remote invocation interfaces)*
 - *Local computation*
 - *Smart proxy (combination of local and remote execution)*

For next time:

- *Be prepared to discuss CDK questions 8.1, 8.4, 8.6, 8.7, 8.14, 8.15 and 8.16*
- *Be prepared to discuss CDK questions 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.8, 9.9, 9.12 and 9.16*
- *Farsite Paper*