An Agent-based Matchmaker
(A case study in biomedical services discovery)

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Outline of the Talk

• Introduction

• An agent-based Matchmaker
  • The agent paradigm
  • The reference model
  • The proposed system
  • The protocol

• The quality model
  • The requirements
  • The matching level
  • The matching algorithm

• The QoS matchmaker in the case study

• The future work
The service discovery

“Service discovery is the process of localizing services and resources in the Web that best fit the requests of potential users”

• Web features:
  • Interconnect
  • Openness
  • Dynamic
  • Geographically distributed
  • Heterogeneity
The quality

“Quality can be defined as all the features of an entity like resource, service, tool, that influence its capability to satisfy declared or implicit needs”


Why?

• Many tools have been presented in the literature to support service discovery.
  • UDDI  • Retsina  • DiscoveryLink  • MyGrid

• None of these suggests the integration of a quality model only some support semantic discovery.
The agent paradigm

“An agent is a computer system capable of flexible autonomous action, situated in dynamic, open, unpredictable environment.”


- They reduce the network load
- They overcome network latency
- They encapsulate protocols
- They execute asynchronously and autonomously
- They adapt dynamically
- They are naturally heterogeneous
The reference model

The proposed system

1. Publish
2. Notify
3. Verify
4. Certify
5. Request
6. Response
7. Request
8. Response

**QoS certification authority:**
- through certification ensures that resources, services and tools be consistent with information regarding the service provider or possibly the result of the application of the requested service.
- give a quality level to each registered services taken into consideration.

**Service requestes**

**Matchmaker**

**Service providers**

**The matchmaker** processes the request within his knowledge base (collection of information on services and service providers) and it yields either some information regarding the service provider or possibly the result of the application of the requested service.
The proposed quality model

*A quality model is a metrics that formalizes the definition of the term “quality” as used during a match.*

Components of model:

- describes the quality aspects of the distributed system
- describes the specific quality aspects of the application domain
The features of the quality model

- **Resource aim** is the purpose for which the resource has been developed
- **User target** is the list of hypothetical users
- **Reliability** is the probability of successfully using a resource
- **Feasibility** is the measurement of the easiness to access the resource
- **Usability** is the measurement of the easiness to use the resource
- **Originality** is the degree of correctness of the resource and its information
- **Privacy** captures the legal conditions of using the resource
- **Updating** is the attendance of the resource updating
- **Timing** is the daily time of resource activity
- **Speedy** is the measurement of the execution time
- **Browsing** is the measurement of the human easiness to find a resource
- **Popularity** is the number of active consumers
The matching level

Our system draws a distinction among three matching levels:

- **Exact** match the highest degree of matching. The requests are satisfied with a percentage higher than 90%

- **Plug-in** match takes place when a service more general than the requested one is supplied but that can be used instead of the ideal requested service. The requests are satisfied with a percentage between 10 and 90%

- **Relaxed** match is the lowest degree of matching. The requests are satisfied with a percentage lower than 10%
The matching algorithm

The matching algorithm measures the distance between the quality aspects and the user requirements for a request service.

```plaintext
match (request) {
    recordMatch = empty list
    forall service in mirror do {
        recordMatch.addElement(service, coff)
    }
    return best(recordMatch);  
}
```
The matchmaker architecture in O2I

O2I: Oncology over Internet
www.o2i.org
The Quality Model for Biomedical Domain
Aspects of Web Services

- **Reliability:**
  - credentials - assigns a value to the author based on his professional competence
  - certification - allows to find whether the author adheres to certified standards
  - profit - allows to find out whether the supplier of service is profit oriented

- **Originality:**
  - publicity policy - allow to find whether there are sponsors financing the resource
  - fidelity procedure - allows to monitoring of consumer surveys

- **Privacy** - makes sure that privacy policies, data security, personal data processing are in accordance with existing laws

- **Updating** - addresses the time period the resource is updated

- **Usability** - measures the easiness in using a resource

- **Timing** - is a measurement of the time period that a service is active

- **Speed** - is a measurement of the service execution time
Aspects of Biomedical Domain

- **Name** represents the most important parameter because the knowledge of it by the user will cause the search necessarily returning the specified service.

- **Description** made of keywords which will be sought inside every individual service stored in the knowledge base.

- **Type** has little importance in the model because can only be one of seven kinds.

- **Author** simply represents his name and does not carry his credentials with it.

- **Input - Output** are fundamental parameters because the user already knows what he has got and what he wants to get.
Experimental Results
The future work

- Customizing requests to target

- Adding use of ontology in order to describe the user requests

- Introduction and quantification of additional certification parameters

- Developing the system in Hermes in order to use mobility to optimize the cost of data transfer and evaluate the possibility to improve the performance of the matchmaker
Ricerca Servizio intra Hermes
Domain Description Diagram

UTENTE

WS

WS

RicercaRichiesta
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

CercaExtraHermes
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

TestataRicerca
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

Se servizio trovato

LeggiMappa
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

<<extend>>

LeggiDatiCertificatore
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

<<extend>>

VerificaBontaEsattezza
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

Tempo

TerminataRicerca
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

Se =0

RiceveServizioCertificato
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

RispondeUtente
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

CercaServizioUDDI
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

MandaServizioTrovato
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

MigraARitroso
AggiornaUH
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

MandaResponseNegativa
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

MandaServizioNonTrovato
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

MandaResponse
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

Certificatore

Se >0

R informati

<<include>>

RispondeUtente
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

UDDI

<<include>>

InviaDatiCertificatore
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

InviaInformazioni
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

InsertService
(from DiscoveryServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

MandaRisposta
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

<<include>>

LeggiUHMigra
(from DiscoveryCertificatedServiceAgent...)

<<extend>>

UH

TerminataRicerca
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UDDI
Hermes Mobile Agents Platform

Web Interface Service Agent (W.I.S.A) for HermesV2

Università di Camerino Dipartimento di Matematica e Informatica
Acknowledgements

We wish to thank

Ing. Lucio Forastieri for the interesting discussions that have led us to the development of this work

and

Ing. Paolo Romano for having given us useful case studies for validating the proposed model
Thank You Very Much for Your Attention!