E6998-04: Web Application Servers – Architecture and Design

Dr. Donald F. Ferguson,
IBM Fellow
Chief Architect, IBM Software Group
dff@us.ibm.com, or donff2@aol.com
BLOG:
http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/blogs/page/donferguson

Agenda

- Session I: 11:00 – 11:5
  - Some Logistics
  - Continuation from last w
  - Major subsystems Over
  - Application Component
    - Will use Java 2 Enterp
    - Concepts apply to other Web servers
  - An example -- Servlets
- Break/Discussion
- Session II: 12:00 – 12:50
  - An overview of some concepts
    - Begin to get our minds about what an app. Server does
    - Selected and almost random
  - First Assignment

This is going to be overwhelming and apparently random.

Helping you understand why an app server is more than an OS process and JVM.

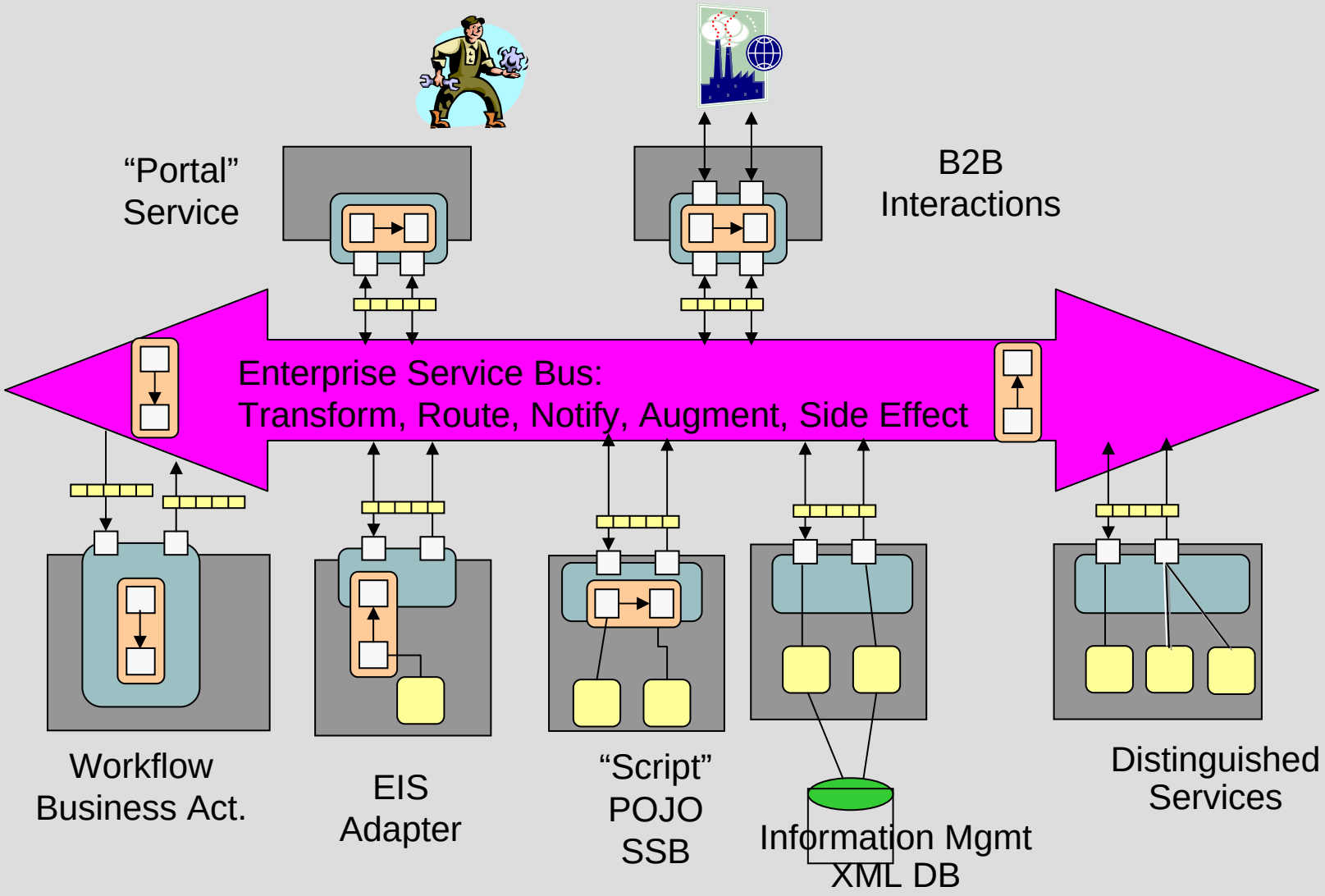
Will cover a bit more gently and progressively in later classes.

Some Logistics

- I have a homepage at www.cs.columbia.edu/~dff
  - Course outline, which will evolve
    - Enumeration of content
    - Mapping to class session will evolve, based on progress
  - Will contain links to slides and reference material
  - Currently a static Web site
    - Will add a document database
    - Comments and discussion
- Preparing for course assignments
  - Papers and presentations
    - Start thinking about component you want to design.
    - Form teams of 2-3 people.
    - Concept Design Document
    - System Architecture and Design Document
  - Precision will matter
    - PowerPoint is imprecise visual notation.
    - Recommend using open source UML Tool

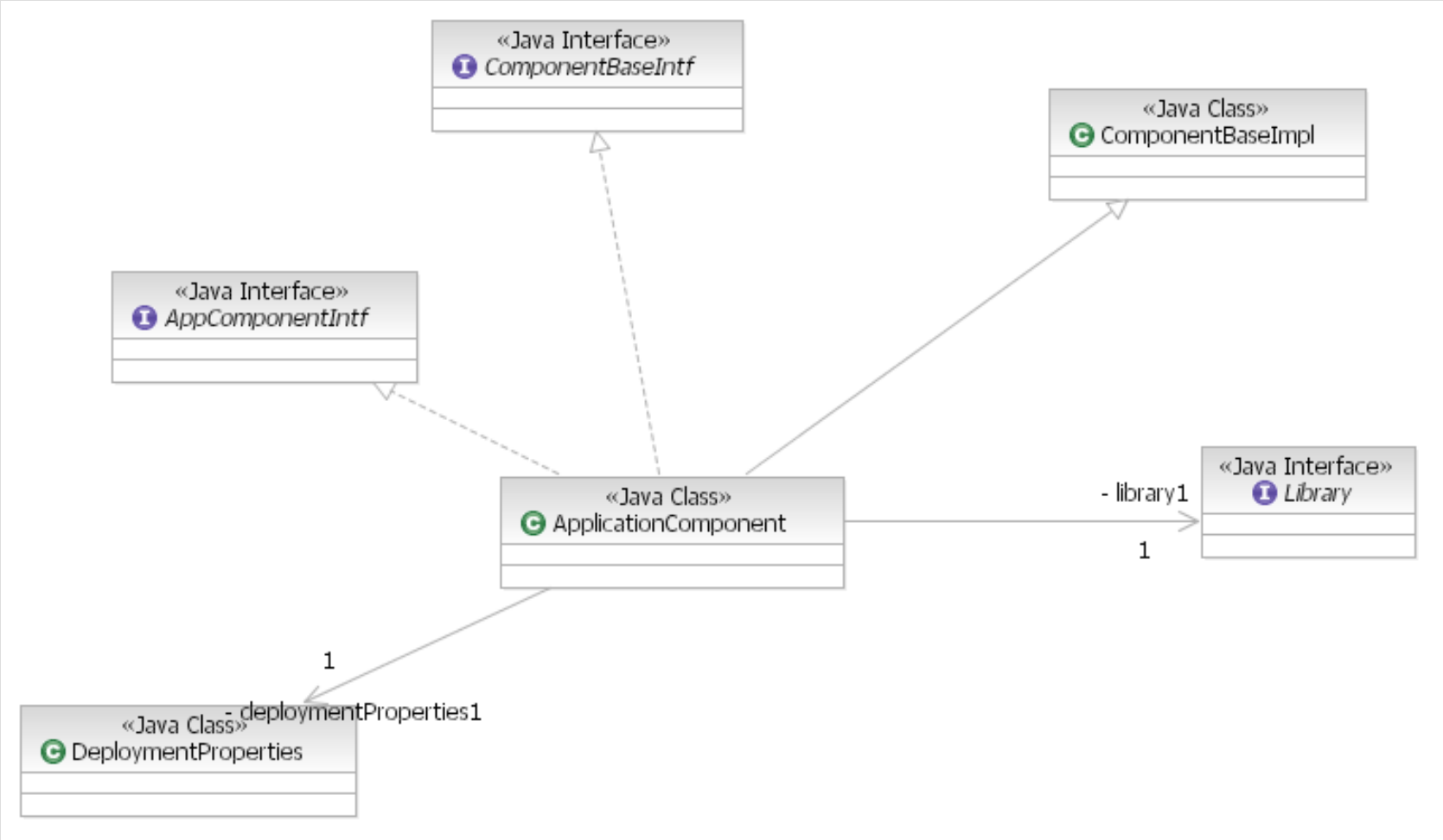
Continuation
(Switch Presentation)

End-to-End Architecture



Application Components

Logical Model



Application Components (I)

- Plain Old Java Object (Class)
- Servlet
  - Handles HTTP POST, GET, …
  - Implements a controller pattern
  - Calls business logic
  - Selects response template
- JavaServer Page
  - Mostly HTML
  - Embedded scripts
  - JSP Tags
  - Passed result objects to format page
- Enterprise JavaBean™
  - Presentation independent business logic
  - SessionBean – Set of verbs
  - EntityBean – Noun, with a set of operations
  - Deployment descriptor

Application Components (II)

- Business Process Components
  - Long running business processes – hours, days, weeks
  - Servlets, EJBs, … are basically method lifetime
  - Process component
    - Incoming message
    - Reactivate
      - Process state variables
      - Current state
    - Run some activities
      - Update state variables
      - Change state
    - Return
    - Save
- Message Components
  - Destination
    - Queue (FIFO) data model
    - Ordering, priority, iterate, etc.
    - Multiple “put” components
    - Multiple “get” components
  - Topic
    - URL
    - Event format
    - Publish
    - Subscribe with predicate/filter

Application Components

- Portlet
  - Extends concepts of JavaServer Page
  - Event model between portlets
  - Minimize, properties, …
- Adaptor/Connector
  - Plug-in for protocol to remote system
  - Maps
    - Abstract verbs
    - To protocol specific verbs
  - Format conversion, e.g.
    - COBOL to
    - XML
- Gateway
  - Make internal services available outside the enterprise and vice versa.
  - Authorization, audit
  - Protocol mapping
- Distinguished services
  - Authentication, Authorization
  - Transaction manager
  - Log
  - …

Servlets

- Servlet
  - doGet, if the servlet supports HTTP GET requests
  - doPost, for HTTP POST requests
  - doPut, for HTTP PUT requests
  - doDelete, for HTTP DELETE requests
  - init and destroy, to manage resources that are held for the life of the servlet
  - getServletInfo, which the servlet uses to provide information about itself
- Servlet Config
  - getInitParameter(java.lang.String name)
  - getInitParameterNames()
  - getServletContext()
  - getServletName()

Servlet – Other Classes

- ServletContext
  - getRealPath
  - log()
  - … …
- HttpRequest and HttpResponse
  - Get parameters
  - MIME type
  - Browser type
  - IP address
  - Get/save cookies
  - … …
- HttpSession
  - Scratch pad between requests
  - Save information for next request processing

What Does the Application Server Do?

- Implement classes that business logic can call
  - HttpSession
  - ServletContex, e.g. log()
- Manage Servlet
  - Read configuration information
    - Singleton versus stateful
    - URLs → Servlet classes
  - Change management
  - Monitor
  - Operate
- Provide services, e.g. authorization
- Parse and manage incoming HTTP request and response
- … …

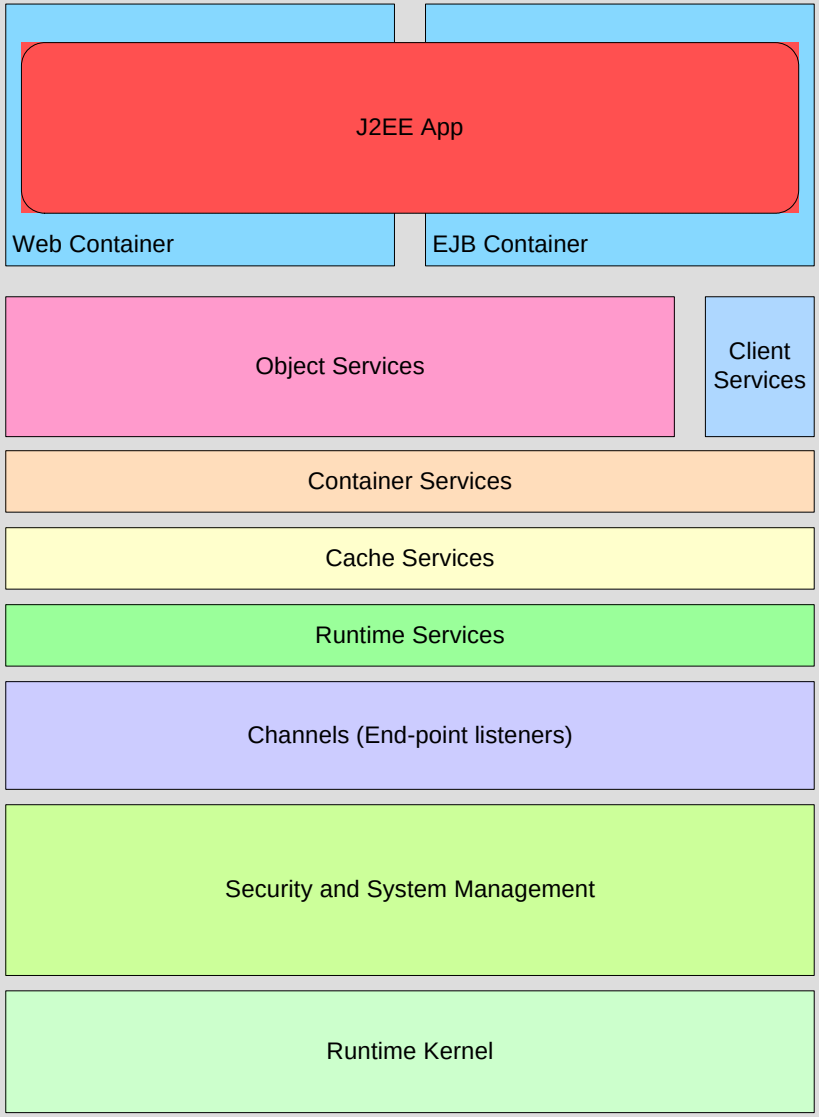
Agenda

- Session I: 11:00 – 11:50
  - Some Logistics
  - Continuation from last week
  - Major subsystems Overview
  - Application Components
    - Will use Java 2 Enterprise Edition
    - Concepts apply to other Web application servers
  - An example -- Servlets
- Break/Discussion
- Session II: 12:00 – 12:50
  - An overview of some concepts
    - Begin to get our minds about what an app. Server does
    - Selected and almost random
  - First Assignment First Assignment

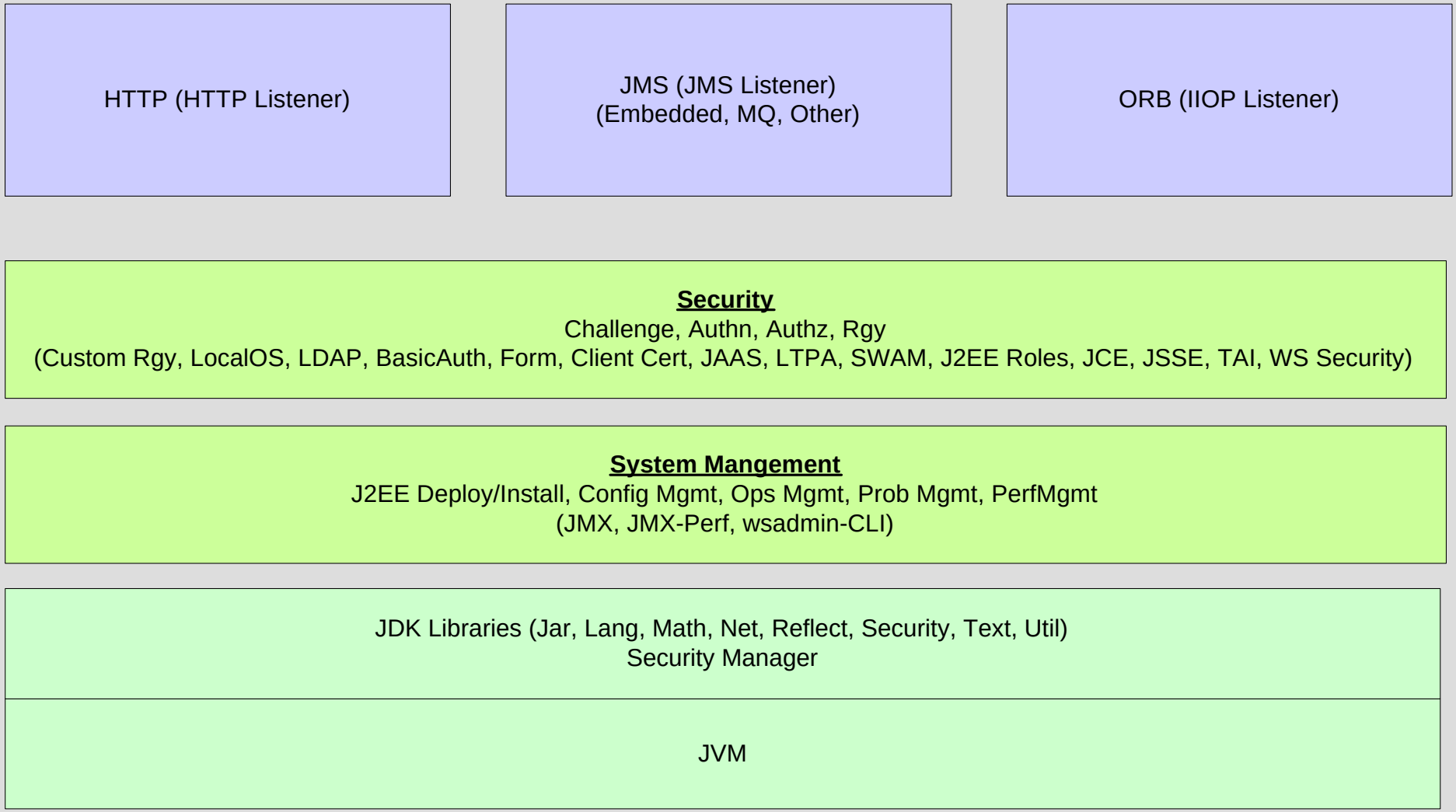
Agenda

- Session I: 11:00 – 11:50
  - Some Logistics
  - Continuation from last week
  - Major subsystems Overview
  - Application Components
    - Will use Java 2 Enterprise Edition
    - Concepts apply to other Web application servers
  - An example -- Servlets
- Break/Discussion
- Session II: 12:00 – 12:50
  - An overview of some concepts
    - Begin to get our minds about what an app. Server does
    - Selected and almost random
  - First Assignment

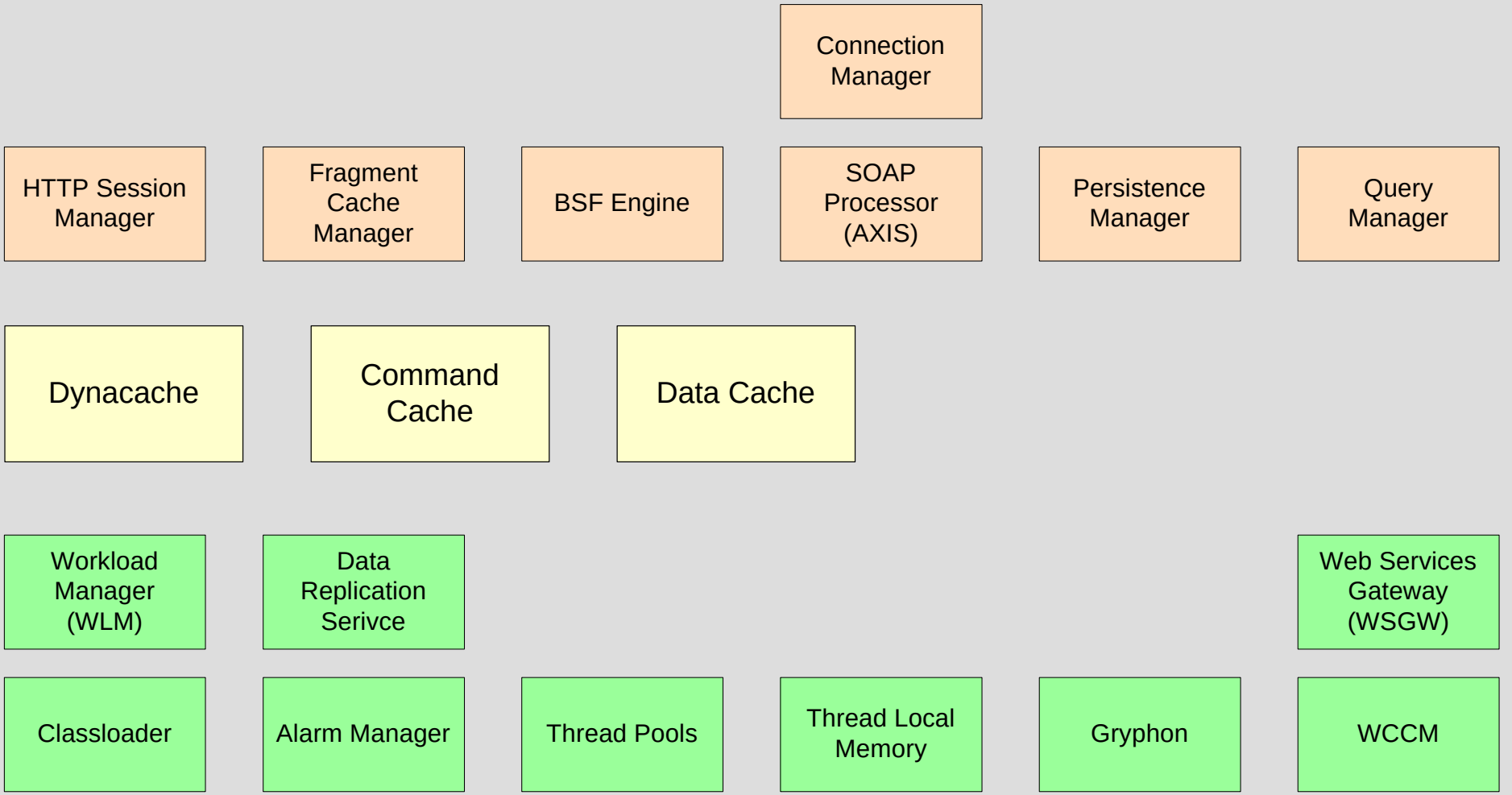
Application Server Base



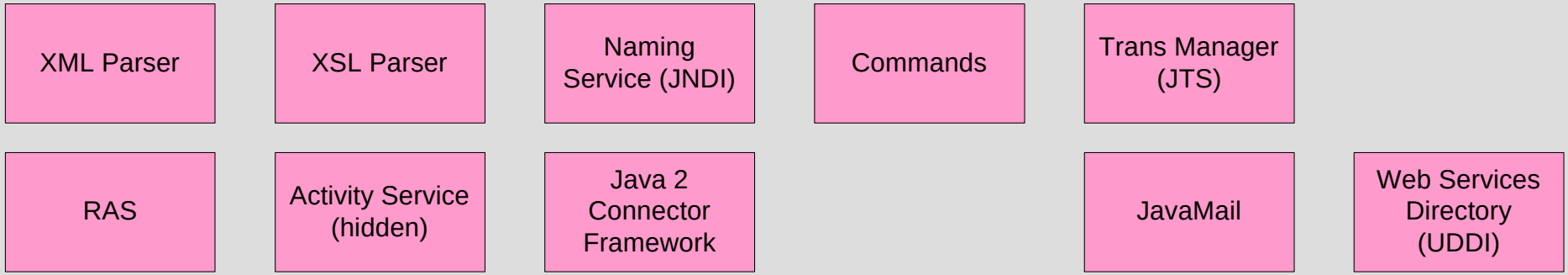
Application Server Components (I)



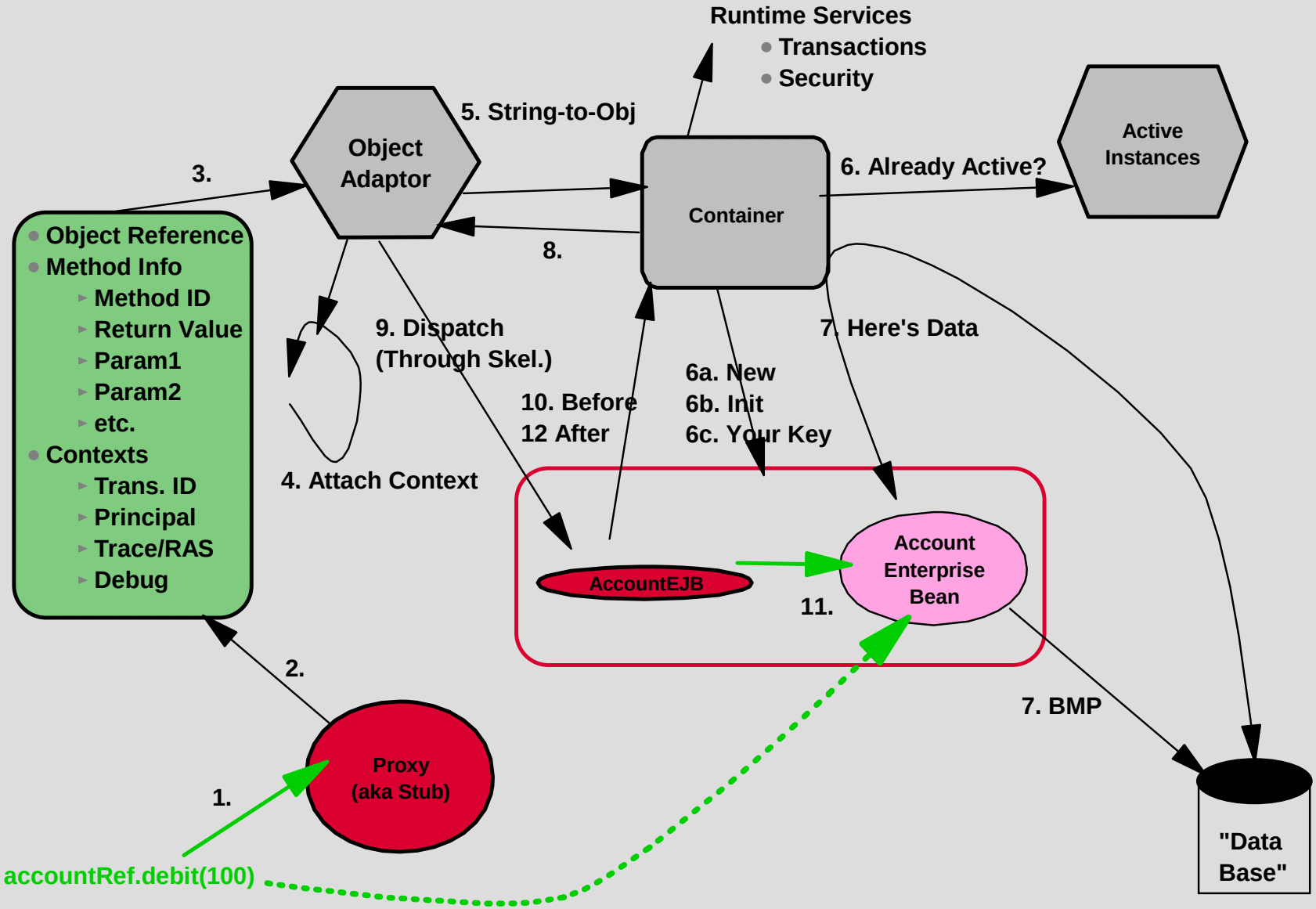
Application Server Components (II)



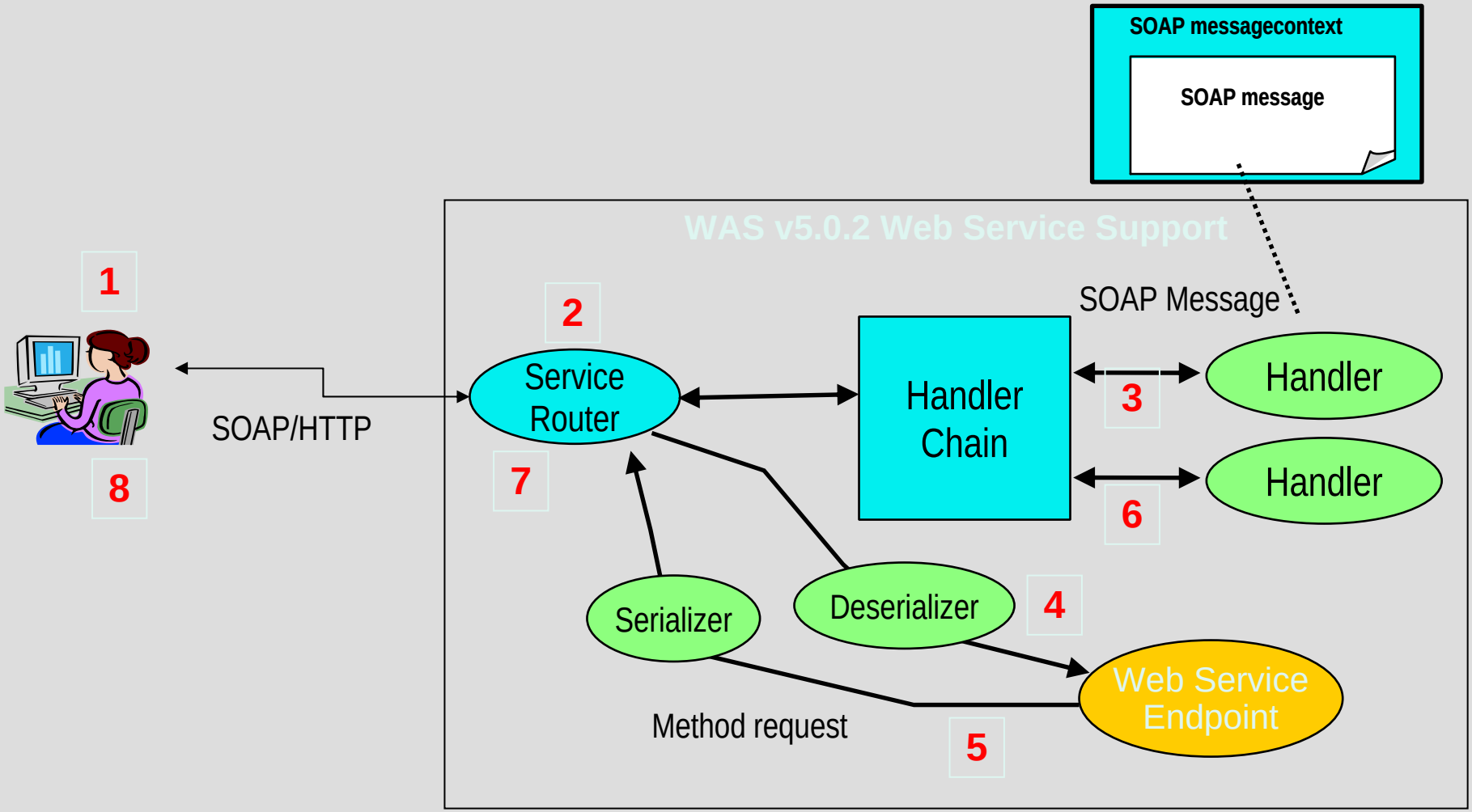
Application Server Components (II)



EJB Container

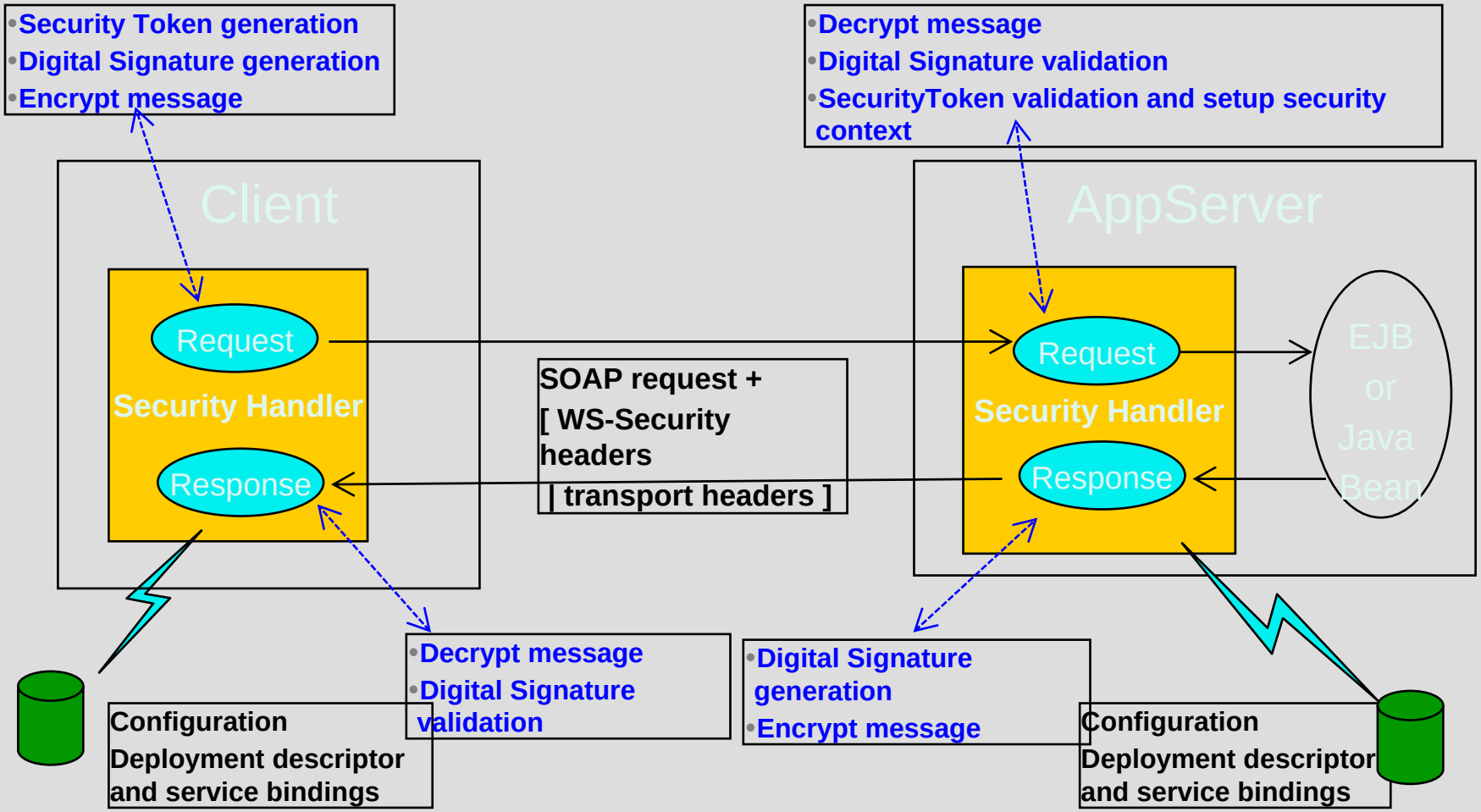


End to End Flow for SOAP/HTTP



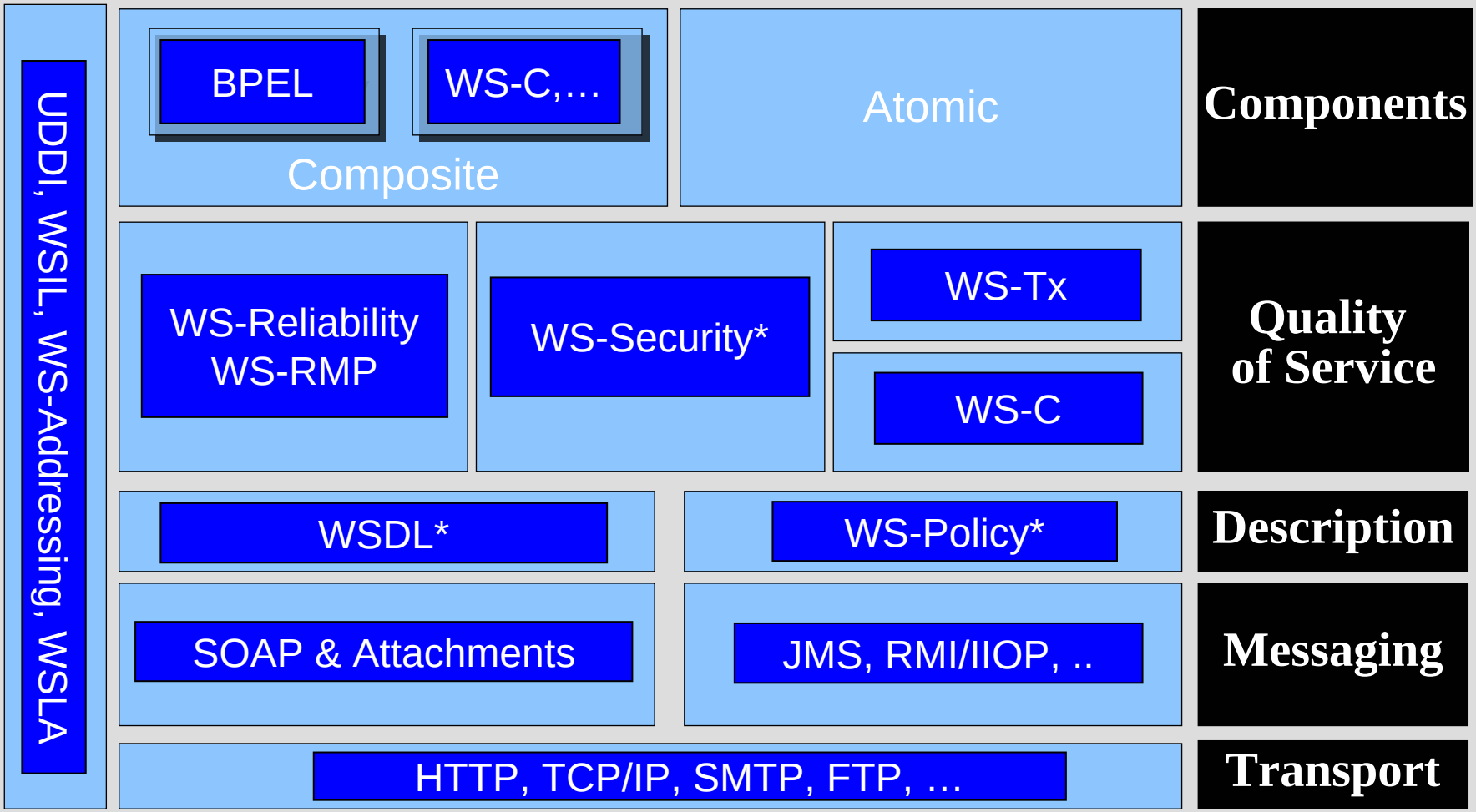
Steps 1-4 handle Request
Steps 5-8 handle Response

WS-Security High Level Architecture

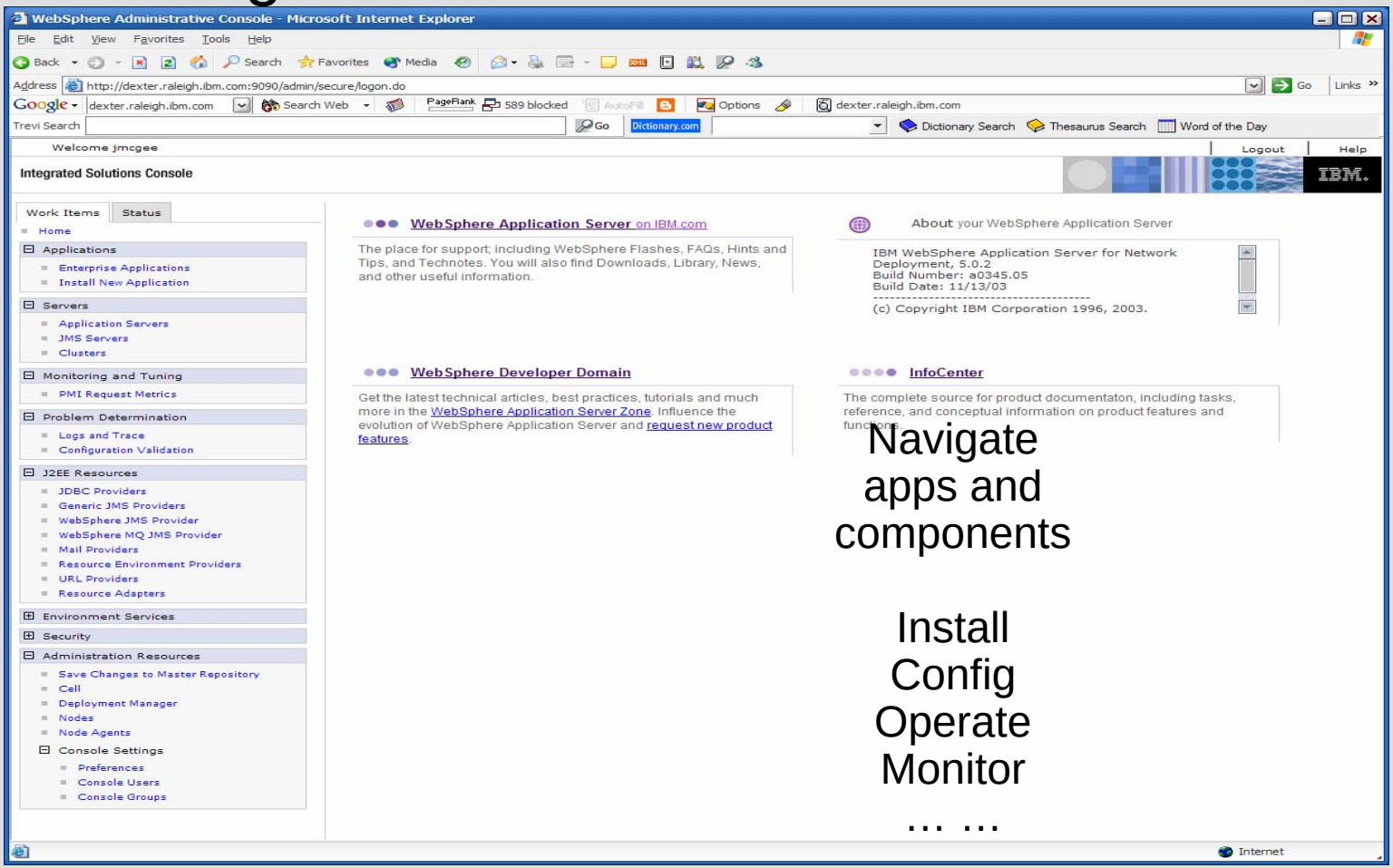


WS-* Specifications

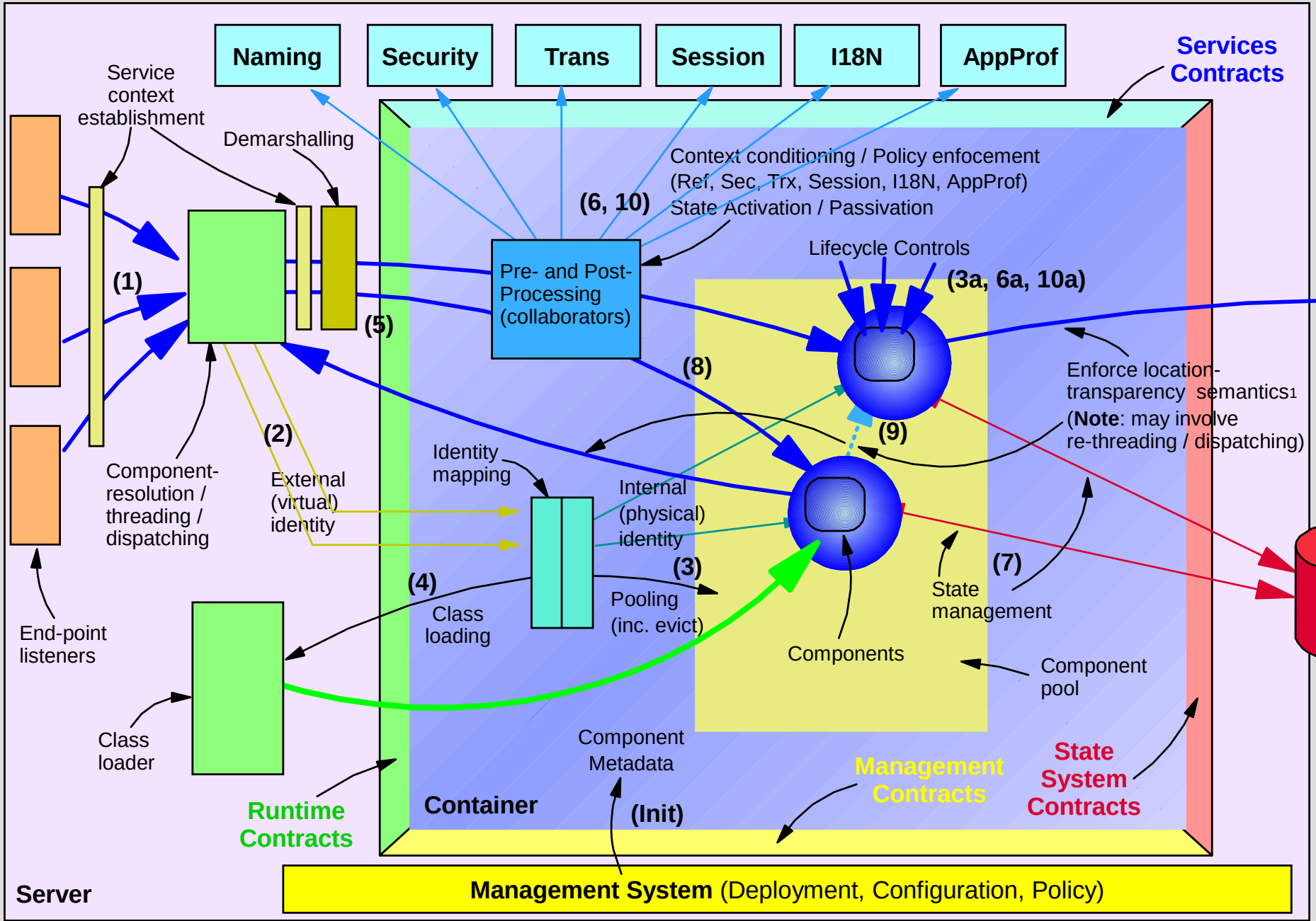
Web application server provides implementations, and simplifes application logic.



Systems Management



- Single point of management
- Single system image


Naming
Security
Trans
Session
I18N
AppProf
Services Contracts
Service context establishment
Demarshalling
Context conditioning / Policy enfocement
(Ref, Sec, Trx, Session, I18N, AppProf)
State Activation / Passivation
(6, 10)
Lifecycle Controls
(3a, 6a, 10a)
Pre- and Post-Processing (collaborators)
(1)
(5)
(8)
(9)
(2)
Enforce location-transparency semantics1
(Note: may involve re-threading / dispatching)
Identity mapping
Internal (physical) identity
External (virtual) identity
Component-resolution / threading / dispatching
(3)
(4)
(7)
Pooling (inc. evict)
Class loading
State management
End-point listeners
Components
Component pool
Class loader
Component Metadata
Runtime Contracts
Container
(Init)
Management Contracts
State System Contracts
Server
Management System (Deployment, Configuration, Policy)

Agenda

- Session I: 11:00 – 11:50
  - Some Logistics
  - Continuation from last week
  - Major subsystems Overview
  - Application Components
    - Will use Java 2 Enterprise Edition
    - Concepts apply to other Web application servers
  - An example -- Servlets
- Break/Discussion
- Session II: 12:00 – 12:50
  - An overview of some concepts
    - Begin to get our minds about what an app. Server does
    - Selected and almost random
  - First Assignment

First Assignment (due in one week).

- A simple paper
  - Five questions
  - For each question
    - One slide (picture, bullets)
    - One page of text answering question
  - Combine into one document
- Be prepared to present one of your slides.
- Five questions
  1. Why would a site configure more than one application server on a node/system?
  2. Review the interfaces and protocols for the Java Transaction Service. What functions would the application server provide to business logic components?
  3. Systems and application management is an important function of an application server.
     1. Why do we separate management out of applications?
     2. Why use a separate management daemon on a machine instead of implementing the management functions in the application server.
  4. Performance requires workload management, and load balancing is an important example. What other functions comprise workload management.
  5. Java applications typically have a single classpath. Why would an application server support multiple, configurable, overlapping classpaths?