Texas Library Directory Web Services Application: The Potential for Web Services to Enhance Information Access to Legacy Data

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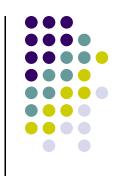
Introduction



 An exploratory research project to identify, describe, and investigate the applicability of the Web services (WS) approach to access legacy data.

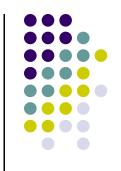
 Developed and implemented a prototype WS application to show how a legacy system can be accessed and its data can be searched and retrieved.

Legacy Data



 Data that need to be converted to a different format when another medium will be utilized to process the data or the non-XML data.





 A statewide service-based virtual library that uses current and emerging computer and Internet technologies to expand the reach and range of all Texans to the state's libraries and their resources.





- University of North Texas team
- Support implementation of the Resource Discovery Service (RDS)
- The RDS is a metasearch application
- 2 year project
 - 7 months of Texas Library Directory Database development

Texas Library Directory Database (TLDD)

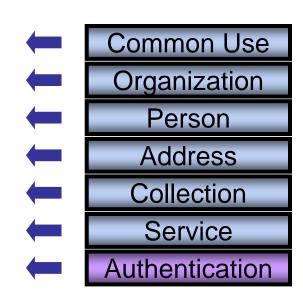


- Enables local library presence
- Enables various groupings of the information resources for search and retrieval
- Provides information about participating libraries
- Provides a mechanism for maintaining the library directory database

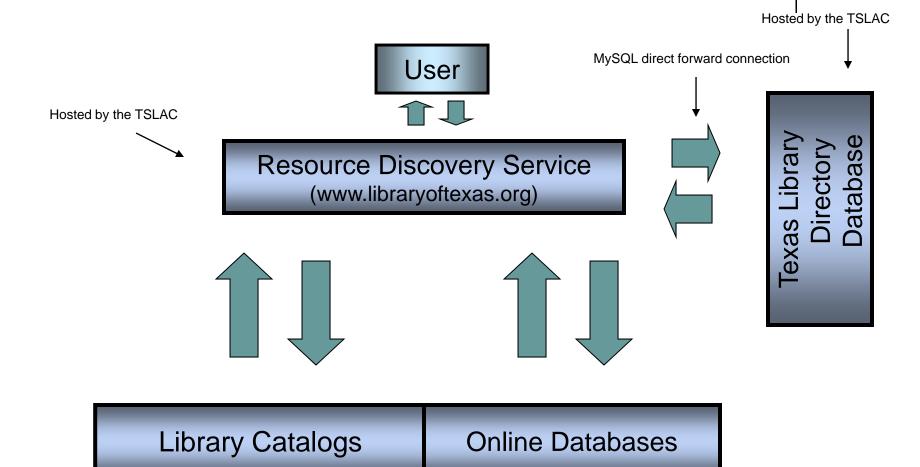




Texas Library Directory Database



Resource Discovery Service (RDS)

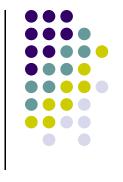


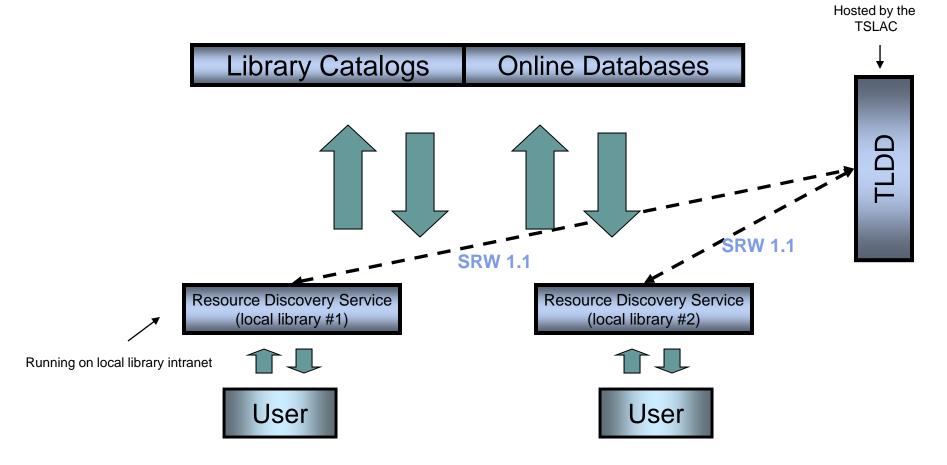


Home Clear Help **Subject Types** Search - General Information Subject Areas Business Information Welcome to the Library of Texas! You can: General Information * Enter words in the box to search the resources that are checked below 🔼 History & Genealogy * Choose a subject on the left to see a different group of resources Homework & Education * Build and save your own favorite groups of resour 🔼 <u>Librarian T</u>ools **Library Catalogs** See the help page for more instructions. 🔼 <u>Literature & Criticism</u> 🔼 Medicine & Health Search 🔼 <u>Newspapers & Magazines</u> Un-check all resources Science & Technology 🔼 Advanced search Hide resources Spanish Materials Academic Libraries Public Libraries Personal settings Carrollton Public Library Southern Methodist University Build a group of favorites See your search history Denton Public Library Texas Wesleyan University Farmers Branch - Manske Library Texas Woman's University Grapevine Public Library The University of Texas at Arlington Southlake Public Library University of North Texas University of North Texas Health Science Center Online Resources: Other: Academic Search (EBSCO) Library of Congress ArticleFirst (OCLC) Funk & Wagnalls Encyclopedia (EBSCO) **Online Databases** MasterFile Premier (EBSCO) MASUltra (EBSCO) Middle Search Plus (EBSCO) Student Resource Center GOLD (Gale) Texas Almanac (Gale) Topic Search (EBSCO) TRAIL

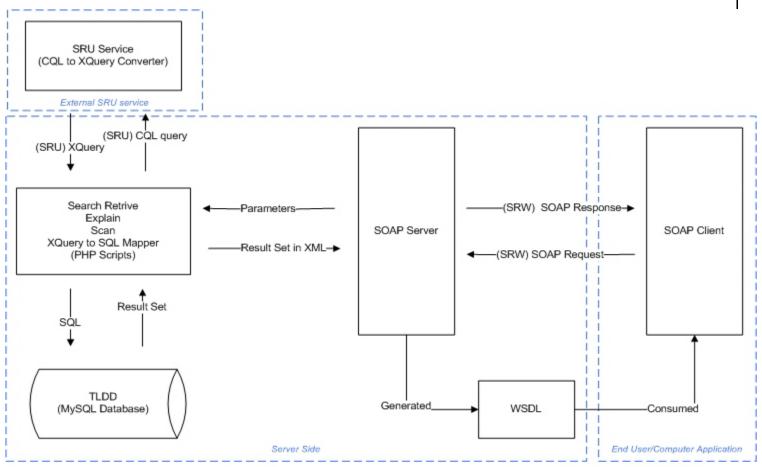
WorldCat (OCLC)

RDS as a local application

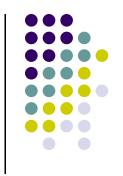




TLDD Web services



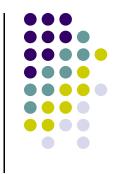




SRW 1.1 Web services standard is composed of there main operations as listed below:

- SearchRetrieve
- Scan
- Explain





- Pilot application incorporated with an external WS, VB CQL Parser, to parse Common Query Language (CQL) queries and convert into XQuery.
- VB CQL Parser service is a Search and Retrieve URL (SRU) service, a companion to SRW, which passes parameters via URL instead of SOAP and the response is returned as in XML (XQuery).
- XQuery has been translated to SQL statements for querying the MySQL database.
- The pilot WS application supports simple term and simple Boolean searches.





```
<SOAP-ENV:Envelope xmlns:SOAP-
   ENV="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/" xmlns:SOAP-
   ENC="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
   xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema">
   <SOAP-ENV:Body>
         <m:searchRetrieve xmlns:m="http://web2.unt.edu/tsa/WS/SRW/:SRW"</p>
   SOAP-ENV:encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/">
                  <version xsi:type="xsd:string">1.1
                  <query xsi:type="xsd:string">ds.city=denton not
   ds.organization=public</query>
                  <maximumRecords
   xsi:type="xsd:integer">10</maximumRecords>
         </m:searchRetrieve>
   </SOAP-ENV:Body>
</SOAP-ENV:Envelope>
```

CQL to XQuery

- CQL: ds.city=denton not ds.organization=public
- XQuery:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
  <!-- ds.city=denton not ds.organization=public
 <?prox_1_0 True ?>
  <?search_term_1_2 True ?>
- <xQuery xmlns="http://www.loc.gov/zing/srw/">
 - <triple xmlns="http://www.loc.gov/zing/cgl/xcgl/">
   - <leftOperand>
     - <searchClause>
         <index>ds.city</index>
       - <relation>
           <value>=</value>
         </relation>
         <term>denton</term>
       </searchClause>
     </leftOperand>
   - <boolean>
       <value>not</value>
     </boolean>
   - <rightOperand>
     - <searchClause>
         <index>ds.organization</index>
       - <relation>
           <value>=</value>
         </relation>
         <term>public</term>
       </searchClause>
     </rightOperand>
    </triple>
  </xQuery>
```



SOAP SearchRetrieve Response

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<SOAP-ENV:Envelope SOAP-ENV:encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/" xmlns; SOAP-</p>
ENV="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/" xmlns;xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns;xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" xmlns;SQAP-ENC="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/"
xmlns.si="http://soapinterop.org/xsd" xmlns.ds="http://web2.unt.edu/tsa/WS/SRW/" xmlns.tns="http://web2.unt.edu/tsa/WS/SRW/">
    <SOAP-ENV:Body>
         <ns1;searchRetrieveResponse xmlns:ns1="http://web2.unt.edu/tsa/WS/SRW/:SRW">
             <version xsi:type="xsd:string">1.1</version>
             <numberOfRecords xsitype="xsd:integer">2</numberOfRecords>
             <records xsitype="SOAP-ENC:Array" SOAP-ENC:arrayType="tns:records[2]">
                  <item xsitype="tns:records">
                      <recordPacking xsitype="xsd:string">XML</recordPacking>
                      <recordSchema xsi:type="xsd:string">http://web2.unt.edu/tsa/WS/SRW/DS.xsd</recordSchema>
                      <recordData xsi:type="tns:dsData">
                           <orgID xsittype="xsd:integer">359</orgID>
                           <orgName xsttype="xsd;string">Texas Woman&apos;s University - Blagg-Huev Library/orgName>
                           <orgType xsitype="xsd:string">Academic Library</orgType>
                           <orgAddress xsitype="xsd:string">P. O. Box 425528</orgAddress>
                           <orgCity xsitype="xsd:string">Denton</orgCity>
                           <orgZip xsi:type="xsd:string">76204</orgZip>
                           <orgPopulationServed xsitype="xsd:string">7887</orgPopulationServed>
                      </recordData>
                      <recordPosition xsi:type="xsd:integer">1</recordPosition>
                  </item>
                  <item xsittype="tnstrecords">
                      <recordPacking xsitype="xsd:string">XML</recordPacking>
                      <recordSchema xsi:type="xsd:string">http://web2.unt.edu/tsa/WS/SRW/DS.xsd</recordSchema>
                      <recordData xsi:type="tns:dsData">
                           <orgID xsitype="xsd:integer">390</orgID>
                           <grgName xsitype="xsd:string">UNT Libraries
                           <orgType xsi.type="xsd:string">Academic Library</orgType>
                           <orgAddress xsitype="xsd:string">P.O. Box 305190</orgAddress>
                           <orgCity xsitype="xsd:string">Denton</orgCity>
                           <orgZip xsi:type="xsd:string">76203</orgZip>
                           <orgPopulationServed xsi.type="xsd:string">27858</orgPopulationServed>
                      </recordData>
                      <recordPosition xsitype="xsd:integer">2</recordPosition>
                  </item>
             </records>
             <diagnostics xsinil="true"/>
         </ns1:searchRetrieveResponse>
    </SOAP-ENV:Body>
</SOAP-ENV:Envelope>
```



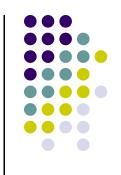
- Operating System: Linux
- Language: PHP
- SOAP Toolkit: NuSOAP 0.6.9

Shortcomings



- Security
 - NuSOAP 0.6.9 implementation does not conform to the WS-Security profile
- Messaging
 - NuSOAP 0.6.9 only supports SOAP 1.1 specification as opposed to SOAP 1.2.
- Reliability
- Interoperability
 - Issues with .NET SOAP clients
- Performance





- The application itself is not robust and provides limited functionality (e.g., CQL), however, this was not due to WS architecture but rather programming limitations.
- developing such services does not require allocation of vast resources and proprietary toolkits.
- NuSOAP is simple and flexible but other mature SOAP toolkits (e.g., Apache Axis) should considered.
- Local libraries do not have to allocate additional resources while adopting the RDS application for their searchable library catalogs.