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Title: Distributed_Applications (13.05.2013)

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Failure tolerant services





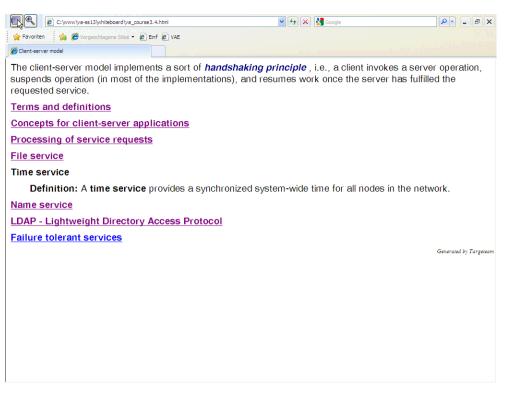
There may exist multiple redundant services; server copies and client copies are grouped together into server and client groups.

Modular redundancy

Primary-standby-approach

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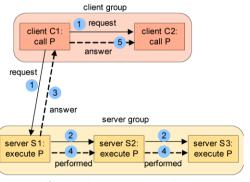




Primary-standby-approach







At any specific time, there is only one replica acting as master (primary replica); RPC requests are always propagated to the primary replica; at checkpoints the current state is propagated to the secondary replicas.

in case of an error the master is replaced by a backup replica.

distinction between hot and cold standby.

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Modular redundancy

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Lehrstuhl für Angewandte Informatik / Kooperative Systeme, Fakultät für Informatik, TU München

Boltzmannstr. 3, 85748 Garching

Email: schlichter@in.tum.de

Tel.: 089-289 18654

URL: http://www11.in.tum.de/

Overview

Introduction

Architecture of distributed systems

Remote Invocation (RPC/RMI)

Basic mechanisms for distributed applications

Web Services

Design of distributed applications

Distributed file service

Distributed Shared Memory

Object-based Distributed Systems

Summary

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Definition



Definition: Birrell and Nelson (1982) define an **RPC** as a synchronous flow of control and data passing scheme achieved through procedure calls between processes running in separate address spaces where the needed communication is via small channels (with respect to bandwidth and duration time).

synchronous: The calling process (client) is blocked until it receives the answer of the called procedure (server); the answer contains the results of the processed request.

procedure calls: the format of an RPC call is defined by the signature of the called procedure.

different address spaces: it is necessary to handle pointers during parameter passing different from local procedure calls.

small channel: reduced bandwidth for communication between involved computers.

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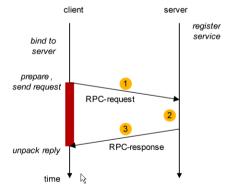


RPC properties



Neither the client nor the server assume that the procedure call is performed over a network.

Control flow for RPC calls



Differences between RPC and local procedure call

Basic RPC characteristics

RPC and OSI

RPC vs message exchange



Differences between RPC and local procedure call





RPC properties



For an RPC, the caller and the callee run in different processes.

both processes (caller and callee) have

no shared address space.

no common runtime environment.

different life span of client and server.

Handle errors occurring during a RPC call, e.g. caused by machine crashes or communication failures RPC-based applications must take communication failures into consideration.

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RPC and OSI







Integration of the RPC into ISO/OSI protocol stack

layer 7 application layer	client-server model	
layer 6 presentation layer	RPC	hides communication details
layer 5 session layer	message exchange , e.g. request-response protocol	Operating system interface to underlying communication protocols
layer 4 transport layer	transport protocols e.g. TCP/UDP or OSI TP4	transfer of data packets

transport protocols: UDP (User Datagram Protocol) transports data packets without guarantees; TCP (Transmission Control Protocol) verifies correct delivery of data streams.

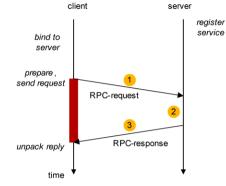
message exchange: socket interface to the underlying communication protocols.

RPC: hides communication details behind a procedure call and helps bridge heterogeneous platforms.

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