

Merging EJB3 and Spring frameworks

Aleš Justin
Genera Lynx d.o.o.

Overall agenda

- EJB3 dependency injection
- Spring POJOs
- JBoss AS deployers
- Injecting Spring into EJBs
- Portability with EJB3 interceptors
- Use case – JBoss Portal app
- JBoss Spring and Microcontainer

Goals of EJB 3.0 (by Bill Burke from JBW Barcelona)

- EJB 2.1 is too noisy
 - ✓ Too many interfaces to implement
 - ✓ "XML Hell" too many complex deployment descriptors
 - ✓ API is too verbose and complicated
- Simplify the EJB programming model
- Focus on ease of use
- Facilitate Test Driven Development
- Make it simpler for average developer
- Increase developer base

EJB3 dependency injection

Injection – how grained?

- EJB3 coarse-grained injection
 - ✓ @EJB, @Resource, @PersistenceContext
 - ✓ @Inject
 - ✓ XML alternative to injection annotations

```

@Managed
public class ShoppingCartBean implements ShoppingCart {
    @Resource(name="defaultDS") private DataSource ds;
    @EJB private CreditCardProcessor cc;

    @Inject @PersistenceContext("java:comp/env/persistence")
    private EntityManager entityManager;

    private EntityManager em;

    @PersistenceContext(name="defaultDS")
    public void setEntityManager(EntityManager em) {
        this.em = em;
    }
}
    
```

Injection – hitting the wall

- can only inject Java EE component types
- <env-entry> only lets you inject primitive types
- beans from third-party libraries
- pre-existing code
- instantiation and construction

Spring POJOs

POJOs – how grained?

- Spring fine-grained beans
 - ✓ beans from third-party libraries
 - ✓ pre-existing code
 - ✓ instantiation and construction

```

<!-- Hibernate -->
<bean id="sessionFactory" class="org.springframework.jndi.JndiObjectFactoryBean">
  <property name="lookupJndiName" value="false"/>
  <property name="jndiName" value="java:comp/env/jdbc/hibernate_engine_session_factory"/>
  <property name="jndiName" value="java:hibernate/sessionfactory"/>
</bean>

<!-- Spring J2E interceptor = automatically fills data objects with Spring managed beans -->
<bean id="interceptor" class="com.gemstone.eosptika.spring.hibernate.dependencyInjectionInterceptor">
  <property name="entityManagerClass">
    <list>
      <value>com.gemstone.eosptika.poc.data.category.Category</value>
    </list>
  </property>
</bean>

```

Why Spring?

- good experience from previous application development
- useful utility classes
 - ✓ property configurability
 - ✓ lazy initialization
 - ✓ JNDI lookup
 - ✓ JMX exporting
 - ✓ 3rd party library integration
- new XML configuration (from 2.0)

More Spring POJO power

- lifecycle support
 - ✓ interfaces
 - ✓ method descriptions
- plain Bean Factory
- full Application Context
 - ✓ post processors
 - BeanFactory
 - Bean
 - ✓ message source
 - ✓ event multicaster

JBoss AS deployers

Deployable units

- already familiar / using deployers
 - ✓ .ear, .war, -ds.xml, .har, ...
- architecture
 - ✓ Scanner
 - ✓ JAR Archive, XMLs, exploded
 - ✓ classloader creation
 - ✓ deployment order (Deployers are also deployable units)
 - ✓ JMX MBeans

Integration / extension

- simple – abstract API
 - ✓ org.jboss.deployment.SubDeployerSupport
 - ✓ defining your components

```
protected void initializeMainDeployer() {
    setSuffixes(new String[]{"*.spring", "-spring.xml"});
    setRelativeOrder(350); //after -ds, before ejb3
}

/**
 * Returns true if this deployer can deploy the given DeploymentInfo.
 *
 * @return True if this deployer can deploy the given DeploymentInfo.
 * @jmx:managed-operation
 */
public boolean accepts(DeploymentInfo di) {
    String urlStr = di.url.toString();
    return urlStr.endsWith(".spring") || urlStr.endsWith("-spring/") ||
        urlStr.endsWith("-spring.xml");
}
```

SpringDeployer

- supports
 - ✓ raw Spring XML description file
 - ✓ .spring JAR archive
 - ✓ exploded .spring archive

SpringDeployer

- lifecycle
 - ✓ create bean factory / application context
 - ✓ global scope classloader
 - ✓ register under JNDI
 - default short name – file name
 - BeanFactory=(<name>)
 - ✓ destroy
 - ✓ unregister

SpringDeployer

- parent Bean Factory / App. Context
 - ✓ ParentBeanFactory=(<name>)
 - ✓ hierarchy / order
 - conf/jboss-service.xml
 - URLDeploymentScanner
 - org.jboss.deployment.DeploymentSorter

Injecting Spring into EJBs

Gluing it together

- non-serializable JNDI binding
- annotations

```
@Target({ElementType.METHOD, ElementType.FIELD}) @Retention(RetentionPolicy.RUNTIME)
public @interface Spring {
    String jndiName();
    String bean();
}

/**
 * @author ales.justin@jboss.com
 */
public abstract class AbstractSearchManager extends TransactionManager implements SearchManager {
    @Spring(jndiName = "m-pqje", bean = "analizer")
    protected transient Analyzer analyzer;
    @Spring(jndiName = "m-pqje", bean = "searcherCreator")
    protected transient SearcherCreator searcherCreator;
}
```

Gluing it together 2

- JBoss AOP
 - ✓ ejb3-interceptors-aop.xml
 - ✓ any plain Java Class

```
<interceptor class="org.jboss.spring.interceptor.SpringInjectionInterceptor" scope="PER_WB"/>

<bind pointcut="execution(* <name>())">
  <interceptor-ref name="org.jboss.spring.interceptor.SpringInjectionInterceptor"/>
</bind>

public Object invoke(Invoation invocation) throws Throwable {
    if (!((Annotation instanceof ConstructorAnnotation)) {
        throw new IllegalStateException("This interceptor is meant to be applied to
        ", only on new instantiation of Spring annotated objects");
    }
    Object target = invocation.getTarget();
    Object result = invoke(target);
    return result;
}
```

Portability with EJB3 interceptors

EJB3 callbacks

- no full blown AOP implementation
- EJB3 specification interceptors
 - ✓ plain Java Class
 - ✓ annotated callback events
 - @PostConstruct

```
@PostConstruct
public void postConstruct(InvoationContext ctx) throws Exception {
    Object obj = ctx.getBean();
    ctx.postConstruct();
}

@Stateful
@Interceptors({SpringLifecycleInterceptor.class})
public class MyBean implements MyScope, Serializable {
    private MyContext myContext = new MyContext();

    @SpringLifecycle("spring-post", bean = "myContextCreator")
    private void createMyContext() {
        // ...
    }
}
```

EJB3 callbacks

- XML deployment descriptor
- default interceptors

```
<interceptor-binding>
  <ejb-name>MyBean</ejb-name>
  <interceptor-class>
    org.jboss.spring.SpringLifecycleInterceptor
  </interceptor-class>
</interceptor-binding>
```

Use case / Example

Energetika.NET application

- <http://www.energetika.net>
- 1 parent application context
 - ✓ reloadable properties
 - ✓ default beans
- 3 child application contexts
 - ✓ dynamic search infrastructure
 - ✓ data access objects
 - ✓ utilities
- 78 usages of @Spring annotation
- passivation usage

JBoss Spring and Microcontainer

JBoss Microcontainer

- replacing JMX based kernel
- plain POJO kernel
- extreme lifecycle support
- 'powers' embeddable EJB3

Spring → Microcontainer

- non-invasive
 - ✓ used as post processor
 - ✓ SpringMicrocontainerDeployer

```
private class MicrocontainerBeanDefinitionProcessor extends BeanDefinitionProcessor {
    protected String resolveStringValue(String strVal) {
        return strVal;
    }
    protected Object resolveValue(Object value) {
        value = super.resolveValue(value);
        if (value instanceof PointBeanReference) {
            PointBeanReference ref = (PointBeanReference) value;
            String beanName = ref.getBeanName();
            if (isMicrocontainerRef(beanName)) {
                return lookupBean(beanName, null);
            }
        } else if (value instanceof TypedStringValue) {
            TypedStringValue typedStringValue = (TypedStringValue) value;
            String beanName = typedStringValue.getBeanName();
            if (isMicrocontainerRef(beanName)) {
                return lookupBean(beanName, typedStringValue.getType());
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Locator class

- locating Kernel instance
- locating KernelController instance
- yet to implement

```
/**
 * @return target object from installed context if exists else null
 */
public Object locateBean(String beanName, Class targetType) {
    ControllerContext context = getController().getInstalledContext(beanName);
    if (context == null) {
        return null;
    }
    return context.getTarget();
}
```

Usage

- currently only one way
 - ✓ from Spring locating already instantiated Microcontainer POJOs

```
<deployment url="http://www.jboss.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    uri="schemas" xmlns="jboss-bean-deployer:bean-deployer_1.0.xsd"
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
    <bean name="simplebean" class="org.jboss.example.microcontainer.LocatorSimpleBean">
        <property name="test">SimpleTestProperty</property>
    </bean>
</deployment>
<beans>
    <bean id="propertyConfigurer" class="org.jboss.example.LocatorSimpleBean">
        <property name="test">SimpleTestProperty</property>
        <property name="simplebean">valueOf(simplebean) />
    </bean>
</beans>
```

JBoss Spring module

- download at http://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group_id=22866&package_id=161914
- supports Spring framework 2.0m3
 - ✓ previous releases based on 1.2.4
- forum support
 - ✓ <http://www.jboss.org/index.html?module=bb&op=viewforum&f=223>