Towards Transforming OpenAPI Specified Web Services into Planning Domain Definition Language Actions for Automatic Web Service Composition

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About the presenter

- Christian Schindler received a master’s degree in business informatics from the university of Mannheim, Germany in 2016. He is currently a doctoral researcher at the Institute for Software and Systems Engineering at Technische Universität Clausthal, Germany.

- Research interest lies in software engineering, software architecture and inductive rule learning

- Our group (Data-based Software Engineering Methods and Tools) is interested in utilizing all kinds of data along the lifecycle of complex systems (development artifacts, models, runtime traces …) to support the engineering process.

- We develop methods and tools from supporting decision-making up to automating parts of the engineering process.
Goal

- Enabling ad-hoc composition of available web service descriptions without the need to explicitly configure all possible combinations upfront
  - flexibly compose web services on-the-fly based on user specific requirements
  - seamless integration of different web service descriptions by automatically handling the composition process
- Preparing the self-adaptive composition mechanism
  - dynamically adjust and optimize the composition of web services based on changing conditions
    - Previously unseen requirements
    - (un)available service descriptions
Contribution

- Developed a set of rules for transforming web service specifications (OpenAPI) into Planning Domain Definition Language (PDDL) actions and domains to enable composition and meet higher-level requirements within the overall platform.
- Creation of actions (with parameters, preconditions, and effects) and the corresponding domain from OpenAPI specifications and the underlying data schema.
Context: Platform architecture
Motivating example for the PDDL based description to enable composition of web service (1)
Motivating example for the PDDL based description to enable composition of web service (2)
Motivating example for the PDDL based description to enable composition of web service (3)
Motivating example for the PDDL based description to enable composition of web service (4)
Rules (1/5): Action creation

- Each method of each path in the OpenAPI Spec corresponds to one Action (PDDL)
- Naming schema method_path
- Unique identifiers (optional) to prevent duplicated actions across multiple OpenAPI Specs
Rules (2/5): Precondition collection

- Preconditions are gathered by processing the parameters, such as the requestBody.
- The idea is that parameters must be present before calling the web service.
- Iteration over the schema of the requestBody is performed:
  - Schema elements of type "object" are added as new Precondition Predicates.
  - Schema elements of primitive types become Parameters of the parent Precondition.
Rules (3/5): Effect collection

- Like the Precondition collection, but with information from the responseBody
Rules (4/5): Parameter collection

- Parameters from the Preconditions and Effects are collected and added as Action Parameter
Rules (5/5): Creation of the PDDL Domain

Iteration over all relevant request Bodies and response Bodies in the OpenAPI Spec

Primitive elements are added as types in the PDDL Domain without duplicates

Elements of type "object" are added as predicates in the domain.

Primitive child elements become their parameter types to conform to the Preconditions and Effects of the Actions
Mapping Example - Overview

```yaml
openapi: 3.0.2
info:
title: Service Description - Booking a parking spot
version: "1.0"
servers:
  - url: https://pathoserviceinstance:port
paths:
  /book/parking:
    post:
      requestBody:
        content:
          application/json:
            schema:
              $ref: '#/components/schemas/parkingspot'
        responses:
          '200':
            description: 'OK'
            content:
              application/json:
                schema:
                  $ref: '#/components/schemas/bookedparking'
```

```yaml
(define
  (domain: transformed_domain)
  (requirements: strips)
  (types
    parkingid - object
    reservationnr - object
  )
  (predicates
    (bookedparking ?p - parkingid ?r - reservationnr)
    (parkingspot ?p - parkingid)
  )
  (action post_book-parking
    [(parameters
      ?p - parkingid
      ?r - reservationnr
    )
    (precondition
      parkingspot ?p
    )
    (effect
      bookedparking ?p ?r
    )
  )
```

Action creation
Effect collection
Precondition collection
Parameter collection
Creation of the PDDL Domain:
- Predicates
- Parameter
- Types

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Conclusion

- The usefulness of transforming OpenAPI into PDDL has been motivated, showcasing its practical value.
- The transformation has been aligned with our goal of developing a self-adaptive platform.
- Rules for the transformation have been defined and applied successfully.
- An example was provided to demonstrate the transformation process and its outcomes.

Future Work

- Future work includes exploring methods to ensure the quality of the transformation, leveraging expert knowledge to enhance coherence between inputs and outputs.
- Further extension of the transformation is planned to incorporate more technical details, such as
  - different response codes,
  - parameter requirements, and
  - content types in web service descriptions.
BACKUP
Rules

- **Action creation:**
  - Each method of each path in the OpenAPI Spec corresponds to one Action (PDDL)
  - Naming schema method\_path
  - Unique identifiers (optional) to prevent duplicated actions across multiple OpenAPI Specs

- **Precondition collection:**
  - Preconditions are gathered by processing the parameters, such as the requestBody
  - The idea is that parameters must be present before calling the web service
  - Iteration over the schema of the requestBody is performed
    - Schema elements of type "object" are added as new Precondition Predicates
    - Schema elements of primitive types become Parameters of the parent Precondition

- **Effect collection:**
  - Like the Precondition collection, but with information from the responseBody

- **Parameter collection:**
  - Parameters from the Preconditions and Effects are collected and added as Action Parameter

- **Creation of the PDDL Domain:**
  - Iteration over all relevant requestBody and responseBody in the OpenAPI Spec
  - Primitive elements are added as types in the PDDL Domain without duplicates
  - Elements of type "object" are added as predicates in the domain.
    - Primitive child elements become their parameter types to conform to the Preconditions and Effects of the Actions