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2005 Developer Forum & World Congress

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Automatically Managing Service Dependencies in an OSGi Environment



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About me...

- Marcel Offermans
- Senior Software Engineer at luminis®
- Our mission is to provide knowledge and products to organisations who create software intensive products, to help them adopt software technology innovations.
- We use OSGi at the core of the architecture for managable, embedded systems.



Agenda

- Dependencies in OSGi
- Goals for a dependency manager
- Architecture, illustrated by examples
- Conclusions

Dependencies in OSGi

- Package dependencies, which in R4 have been extended with requiring, fragment and extension bundles. These are all resolved in the module layer.
- Service dependencies, which are resolved in the service layer.

Service Dependencies

- Need to be managed at runtime
- The OSGi framework offers basic tools:
 - Service listener
 - Service tracker
- Third party tools:
 - Service binder
 - ...probably there are more :)

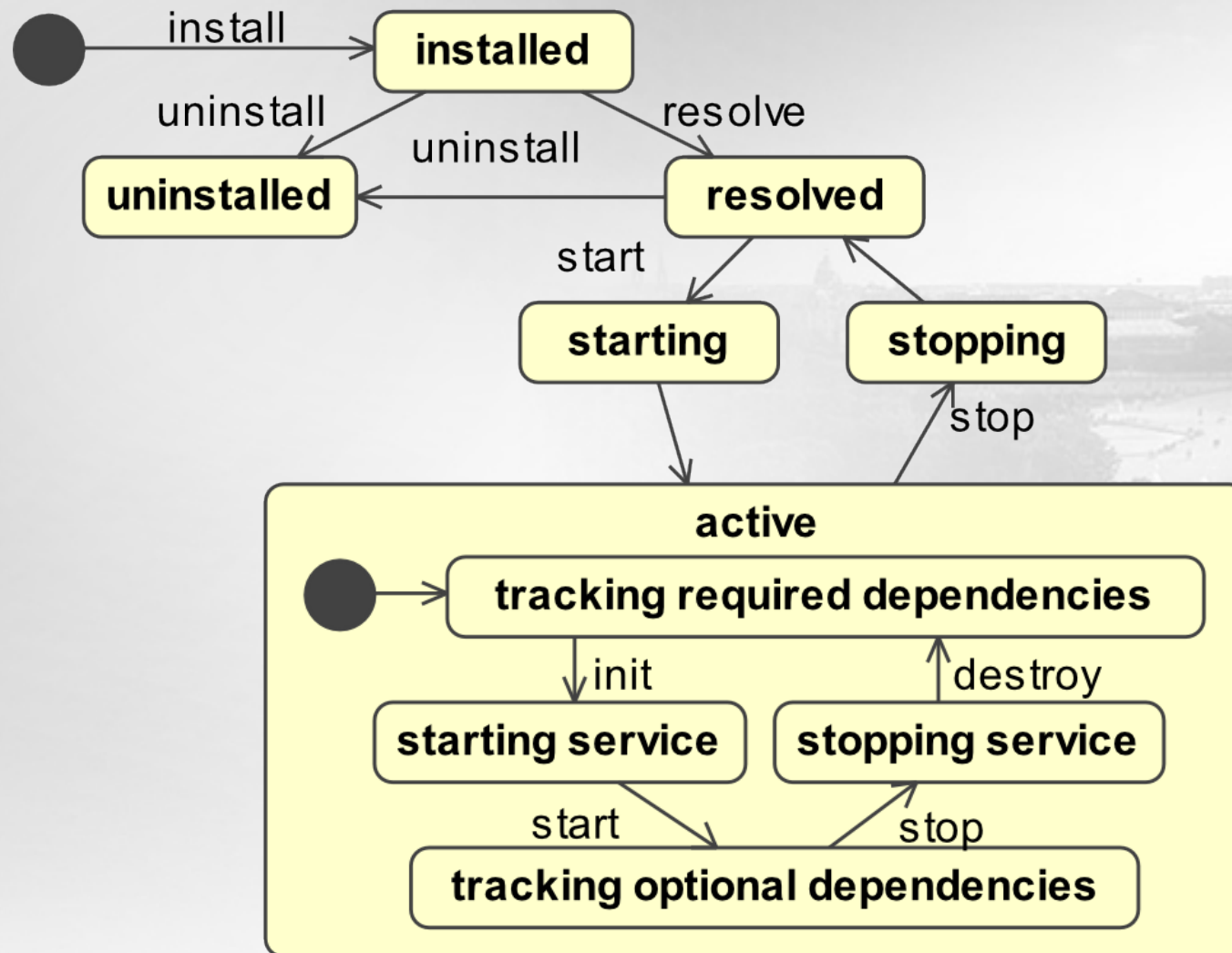
Goals for the Dependency Manager

- Minimize the amount of code that needs to be written.
- Provide a clean separation between the service implementation and “glue” code.
- Be dynamic. Allow the programmer to add services and dependencies at any time.

Types of dependencies

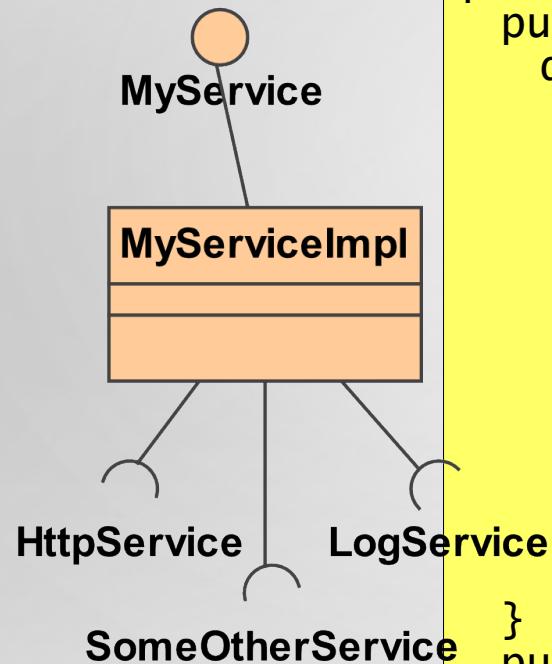
- Required dependencies, which need to be resolved before the service can work at all.
- Optional dependencies, which are used when available but are not essential for the service to work.

Architecture: state diagram



Standard use case

- A service with two required dependencies and one optional one.



```
public class Activator extends DependencyActivatorBase {
    public void init(BundleContext bc, DependencyManager dm) {
        dm.add(createService()
            .setInterface(MyService.class.getName(), null)
            .setImplementation(MyServiceImpl.class)
            .add(createServiceDependency()
                .setService(HttpService.class)
                .setRequired(true))
            .add(createServiceDependency()
                .setService(SomeOtherService.class)
                .setRequired(true))
            .add(createServiceDependency()
                .setService(LogService.class)
                .setRequired(false))
        );
    }
    public void destroy(BundleContext bc, DependencyManager dm) {
    }
}
```

Standard use case

- Implementation instantiated lazily, invokes callbacks as part of life-cycle: init, start, stop, destroy
- Dependencies are injected using reflection
- Null object pattern used for optional dependencies

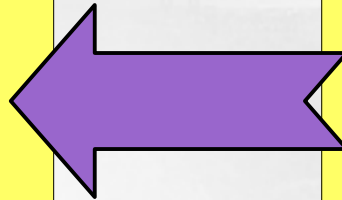
```
public class MyServiceImpl implements MyService {
    private HttpService httpService;
    private SomeOtherService someOtherService;
    private LogService logService;

    public void start() {
        logService.log(LogService.LOG_INFO, "Starting");
    }
    public void stop() {
        logService.log(LogService.LOG_INFO, "Stopping");
    }
}
```

Code size reduction:

```
public class Activator extends DependencyActivatorBase {
    public void init(BundleContext ctx, DependencyManager manager)
        throws Exception {
        manager.add(createService()
            .setInterface(AudioBroadcaster.class.getName(), null)
            .setImplementation(AudioBroadcasterImpl.class));
        add(createServiceDependency()
            .setService(AudioSource.class, null)
            .setRequired(true));
        add(createServiceDependency()
            .setService(AudioEncoder.class, null)
            .setRequired(true));
        add(createServiceDependency()
            .setService(LogService.class, null)
            .setRequired(false));
    }

    public void destroy(BundleContext ctx, DependencyManager manager)
        throws Exception {
    }
}
```



```
public class Activator implements BundleActivator {
    private BundleContext context;
    private ServiceRegistration registration;
    private AudioBroadcaster audioBroadcaster;
    private AudioSource audioSource;
    private AudioEncoder audioEncoder;
    private ServiceTracker audioSourceTracker;
    private ServiceTracker audioEncoderTracker;
    private ServiceTracker logTracker;

    public void start(BundleContext context) throws Exception {
        this.context = context;
        audioSourceTracker = new ServiceTracker(context,
            AudioSource.class.getName(), customizer);
        audioEncoderTracker = new ServiceTracker(context,
            AudioEncoder.class.getName(), customizer);
        logTracker = new ServiceTracker(context, LogService.class.getName(),
            null);
        logTracker.open();
        audioSourceTracker.open();
        audioEncoderTracker.open();
    }

    public void stop(BundleContext context) throws Exception {
        audioSourceTracker.close();
        audioEncoderTracker.close();
        logTracker.close();
    }

    private ServiceTrackerCustomizer customizer =
        new ServiceTrackerCustomizer() {
        public Object addingService(ServiceReference reference) {
            Object service = context.getService(reference);
            setService(reference, service);
            return service;
        }

        private void setService(ServiceReference reference, Object service) {
            // update service references
            Object objectClass = reference.getProperty(Constants.OBJECTCLASS);
            if (objectClass instanceof String) {
                String name = (String) objectClass;
                setNamedService(service, name);
            }
            if (objectClass instanceof String[]) {
                String[] names = (String[]) objectClass;
                for (int i = 0; i < names.length; i++) {
                    setNamedService(service, names[i]);
                }
            }

            // register service if necessary
            if ((registration == null) && (audioSource != null)
                && (audioEncoder != null)) {
                // instantiate the implementation and pass the services
                audioBroadcaster = new AudioBroadcasterImpl(audioSource,
                    audioEncoder, logTracker);
                registration = context.registerService(
                    AudioBroadcaster.class.getName(), audioBroadcaster, null);
            }

            // unregister service if necessary
            if (((audioSource == null) || (audioEncoder == null))
                && (registration != null)) {
                registration.unregister();
                registration = null;
                audioBroadcaster = null;
            }
        }

        private void setNamedService(Object service, String name) {
            if (AudioEncoder.class.getName().equals(name)) {
                audioEncoder = (AudioEncoder) service;
            }
            else if (AudioSource.class.getName().equals(name)) {
                audioSource = (AudioSource) service;
            }
        }

        public void modifiedService(ServiceReference reference,
            Object service) {
        }

        public void removedService(ServiceReference reference,
            Object service) {
            setService(reference, null);
            context.ungetService(reference);
        }
    };
}
```

Tracking dependencies

- Setting up a service with an optional dependency that can track multiple dependent services:

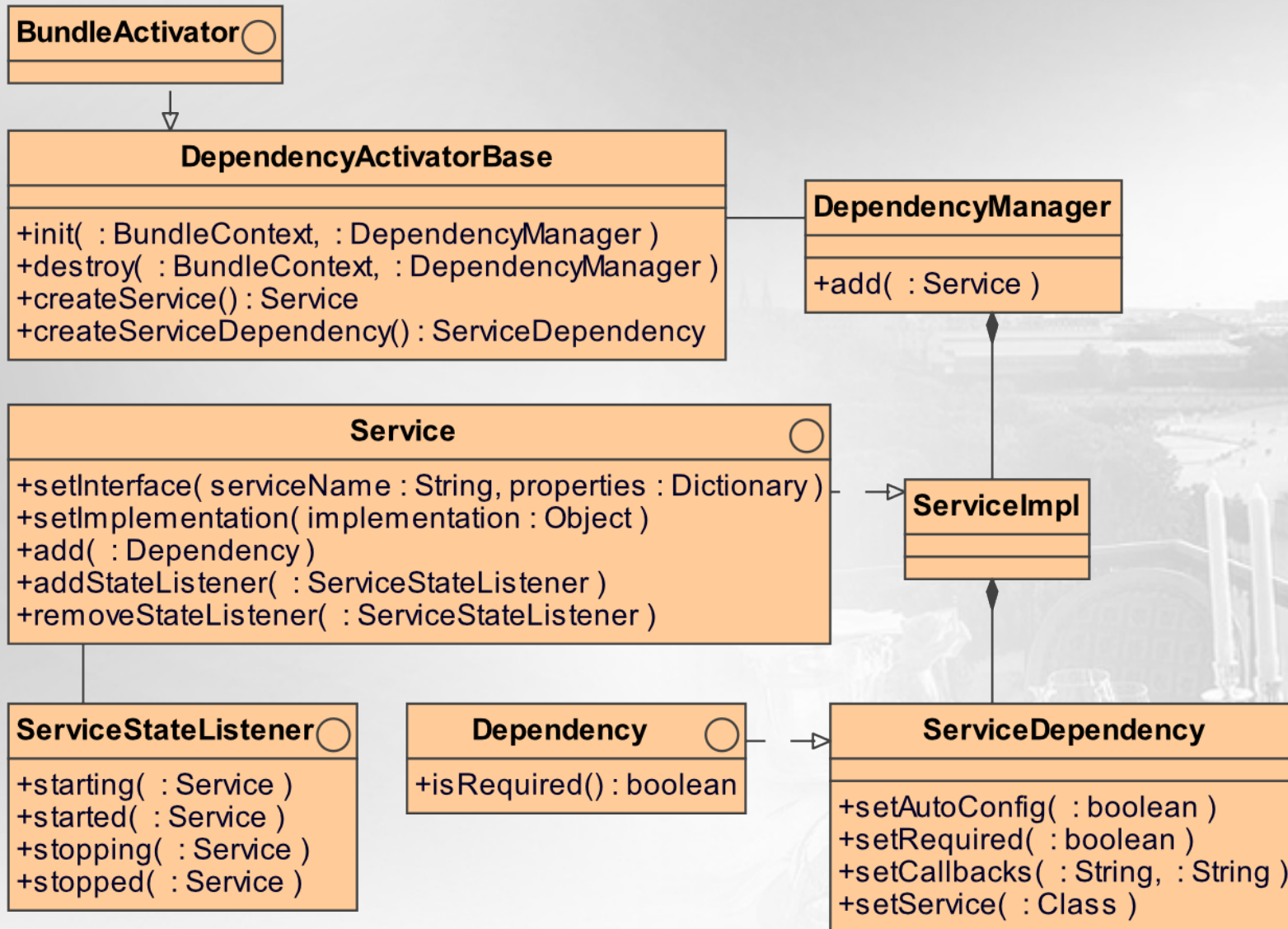
```
public class Activator extends DependencyActivatorBase {
    public void init(BundleContext bc, DependencyManager dm) {
        dm.add(createService()
            .setImplementation(DeviceTracker.class)
            .add(createServiceDependency()
                .setService(Device.class)
                .setAutoConfig(false)
                .setCallbacks("addDevice", "removeDevice")
                .setRequired(false))
        );
    }
    public void destroy(BundleContext bc, DependencyManager dm) {
    }
}
```

Tracking dependencies

- Implementation:

```
public class DeviceTracker {  
    private List devs = new ArrayList();  
    public void addDevice(ServiceReference ref, Object srv) {  
        devs.add(srv);  
    }  
    public void removeDevice(ServiceReference ref, Object srv) {  
        devs.remove(srv);  
    }  
}
```

Architecture: class diagram



Other features:

- Injection of BundleContext and ServiceRegistration
- New services and dependencies can be added or removed dynamically
- Callbacks are configurable and will look for methods with “suitable” signatures
- Service listeners allow you to track the state of a service
- Manager allows for addition of customized dependencies (so you're not limited to service dependencies)

Conclusions

- Clean separation between service implementation and dependency management, you can use a POJO if you want
- Dynamic nature of dependencies has proven to be useful in several scenarios
- Substantial code reduction is realized when compared to using service trackers

Further info

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- **Article:**

http://www.osgi.org/news_events/articles.asp?section=4

- **Development site:**

<https://opensource.luminis.net/confluence/x/PwE>

