

DATA EXCHANGE BETWEEN INFORMATION SYSTEM AT LOW BANDWIDTH QUALITY USING MESSAGING

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ABSTRACT

Data exchange is a routine activity in a distributed system. This activity can be done between organizations with equal positions or between branches and the head office. Technology commonly used as middleware is web service. In a growing organization, the effort is quite high because it requires an inter or intranet service with a good quality bandwidth and dedicated server as a service provider. Therefore, the development of messaging-based middleware can be used as a cheap alternative. The first year study is focused to produce a middleware prototype that can work on a DBMS engine, that is homogenous DBMS MySQL. In the second year, prototypes that can work in heterogeneous DBMS engine will be developed. The first year prototype result can be used to exchange data between applications by utilizing meta data for each homogeneous DBMS.

Keywords: *Data Integration, Messaging, Low Bandwidth, Distributed System, Data Exchange*

1. BACKGROUND

When an organization began to grow, new branches are spreaded in different geographical areas. The organization began to exchange data and information between branches in the context of real-time, near real-time or offline mode (batch processing). Data exchange for various operation and management needs, such as circulation control of goods between branches, inter-branch withdrawal, and sending sales report from branches to head office. The information obtained through various channels such as telephone, email, courier delivery, and middleware applications.

Recent middleware technology that has been widely used for exchange data is web services. Web service is a service that is built on a server that provide data exchange between applications. When applications are geographically dispersed, it takes a public IP and a reliable internet connection so that communication between various nodes and web service applications work well. Web service development, integration with applications, IP purchase and provision of bandwidth services are expensive.

In the growing company, as a group of micro or small financial institutions, the funds allocated for IT spending are usually not enough to meet the cost. Most are still focused on the application development to support branch

operations and some new improvement about application integration between branches. It is revealed from a preliminary study conducted at a financial institution.

This institution has several business units such as workshops, online electrical checkouts, savings and loan business, and development plans, which are located at few mini markets scattered in several areas. Management also intends to provide savings and loan services in some areas by leveraging existing business office in a few places, but is hampered in terms of data integration between headquarters and branch offices. Management's current operational difficulties is to control activities in real time. This same thing will also happened to the other growing institutions. Therefore, it is necessary to develop alternative low-cost middleware in both phases of development and operation.

The most likely alternative is to build a messaging-based middleware. Currently there are several messaging applications that are free and have been used widely in the community such as Yahoo Messenger (YM). This application can be used to perform two-way communication between accounts with relatively longer content compared to the Short Message Service (SMS) and it does not require large bandwidths. By conducting a series of research, YM likely to be used as a transport



vehicle message/data to be exchanged between applications from various places.

2. THEORITICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 System Integration

Information integration is the process of bringing together information using the data displayed through a single interface to see all the data of an organization. The purpose of information integration is to display data to the user using single interface from various data sources. Integration is one of the solutions for an organization in order to compete in the information age because the information available is over whelming not only within the organization but also from outside organization. Integration of information can reduce data management costs because the complete information that is fast and easy to obtain, actually, is already available. Separated application in the absence of centralized integration cause complicated distribution of data and information for the organization. Integration will be able to overcome the data duplication a one to another location so that the resulting data will be consistent[6].

2.2 Message Oriented Middleware (MOM)

Message Oriented Middleware(MOM) is a flexible system mechanism to exchange data between applications in different platforms[2]. In case of integrating data, it can be done by making changes to their associated systems. This will spend more time and be expensive. MOM implementation into without making changes to the systems that will be integrated becomes a solution. [3]. Although MOM has a number of benefits, MOM also has some disadvantages. In terms of the speed of message delivery, the MOM could spend many minutes. Another disadvantage, the messages sent can not be as curtailed to be read and there is no certainty in delivery time of the message. It depends on the receiver of the message

2.3 Database Management System (DBMS)

Database Management System (DBMS) is an application used to manage large amounts of data, consisting of the storage, editing, and data retrieval. Utilization of DBMS engine can improve efficiency, scalability, and robustness. DBMS also allows simultaneously access by several users at once[8].

2.4 Metadata

Metadata is structured information that describes and explains the information in order to make the information easy to find again, used, or maintained. Metadata is often called data about data or information about information. Metadata contains information about the contents of a file [7]. If the data is in the form of text, metadata is usually a description of the field name, field length, and field type. For the image data, metadata contains information about who took it, when was it shot, and camera settings at the current time. If the type is a collection of files, metadata is the file names, file types, and the name of the administrator of the files

2.5 Related Research

Distributed system is a computer network system that the components of the system such as a database engine, the application, and the data are physically separated by location of branch offices[12]. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a model for exchanging data between applications. Models are commonly implemented by building a middleware for interaction and communication between different applications through APIs (Application Programming Interfaces) [1].

Recent efforts for exchanging data is done by building a web service. Utilization of web service for the benefit of data integration has been carried out [5] to propose a model of integration of web-based business data service. In Indonesia, this effort was also made by the Higher Education in the database development project[11]. Implementation of web service requires a public IP and the availability of high bandwidth that can not be financed by small organization.

As an alternative, had developed a model-based architecture for data exchange messaging or better known as MOM (Message Oriented Middleware) as a middleware that enables communication via messages. MOM provides variety capabilities in sending a message, including point-to-point messaging model and publish-subscribe, message filtering, transactional messaging, and message delivery once-and-once-only. In general, the MOM service is similar to the postal service, the message was delivered to the post office and the postal service will then have the responsibility to make the process of sending secure messages to the destination (Edward C, 2004).

Messaging technology commonly used is SMS. Several studies have been done including the use of SMS to build a data input for the media classified ads on mobile applications[10]. Through

this application, users can input, edit, and delete data on the server by using SMS. Another technology used is Yahoo Messenger for purchasing prepaid phone credit[13]. Recent research conducted by Sukarsa[10], which makes MOM design that can be implemented in social media is Yahoo Messenger. This study is a continuation and an evaluation of existing design to be developed into a prototype with additional capabilities to exchange data between applications and business process integration.

3. SYSTEM OVERVIEW

3.1 RESEARCH METODOLOGY

There are a few steps that will be implemented in this research. These steps will be described in detail, as follows:

1. Literature study

This study was conducted to understand the messaging programming techniques, the study of hardware and programming language to be used

2. Preparation of design

The design of the model will include several subactivities, which are:

- The design of the system architecture
- Design database using data normalization techniques and ERD(Entity Relationship Diagram)
- Designing metadata to handle data integration between applications with homogeneous DBMS platform
- Design of the Graphical User Interface (GUI) for messaging applications to exchange data
- Preparation of SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) for the implementation of the system

3. Implementation of the model

Implementation of the model performed on a desktop based application design model that has been created

4. Testing and preparation of the final report

Testing is done to ensure whether the model has been implemented to provide correct results and the results compiled in the final report of the work

Overall phase of the study may be presented in the flowchart in Figure 1 .

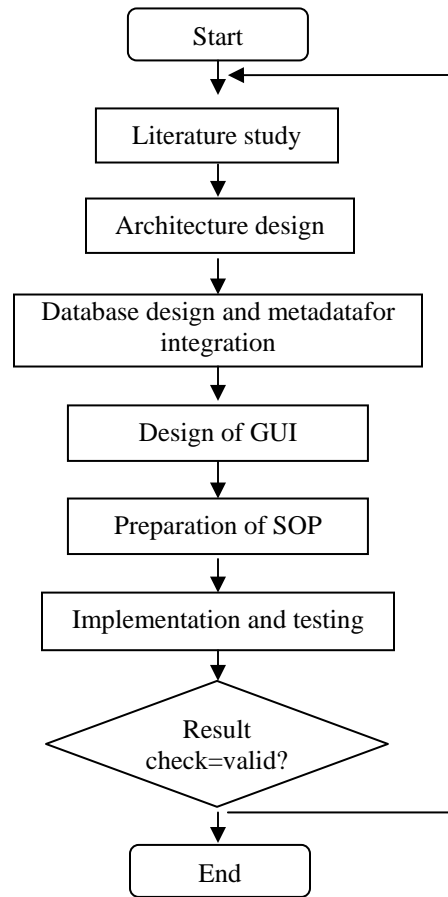
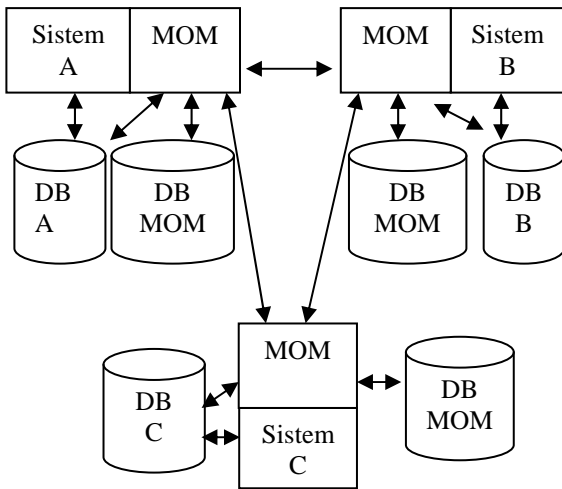


Figure 1 Research Flowchart

3.2 System Overview

System architecture that developed in this research is by building a messaging-based middleware (MOM) as an interpreter between the existing systems that already exist as shown in Figure 2. MOM is designed to have a connection to the MOM database and external databases. MOM database contains metadata for a business process to exchange data between applications. External database is a database that is used by the existing system. MOM will treat external database as a source for exchanging data to another applications through the MOM embedded in other systems.



Figur 2 System Overview

1. `tb_eksekusi_respon` : used to store queued data of YM execution operation in this application
2. `tb_grup_kontak` : used to store data for a group of contacts in this application
3. `tb_grup_kontak_member`: to store data for contact group members in this application.
4. `tb_host` : to store the data host/server that will be the source of the data from the application to be exchanged
5. `tb_inbox_ym` : to store data into the message that is sent by an application prototype client
6. `tb_jenis_operasi` : to store the types of operations that are served by the server prototype
7. `tb_sql` : to store the types of operations that are served by the server prototype
8. `tb_operasi` to store a variety of database operations that can be performed on this prototype
9. `tb_operasi_join` to store a variety of database operations that can be performed on this prototype that requires a join operation between tables
10. `tb_operasi_out` database for storing the various operations that can be performed remotely
11. `tb_operasi_out_data` to store the results of operations performed remotely in the form of groups of data
12. Tabel `tb_operasi_output` to store the non-remote operating results in the form of groups of data
13. Tabel `tb_operasi_parameter` to store various parameters that are used in the data exchange
14. Tabel `tb_operasi_prosedural` to save various database operations performed by executing procedure
15. `tb_operasi_tabel` contains the metadata of the tables as source of database operations
16. `tb_option` to store application configuration
17. `tb_privilege` to store the privilege (access rights) of each user listed as contacts in this prototype
18. `tb_sent_ym` to store messages/data that have been sent to there requesting client service
19. `tb_user` to store user data

4. DATABASE DESIGN AND USER INTERFACE

4.1 Database Design

This section describes the results of a database design using normalization techniques. The resulting design can store metadata associated with existing systems so that dynamically open the opportunity to be applied in various cases without changes to the programming level. Changes can be done at configuration level

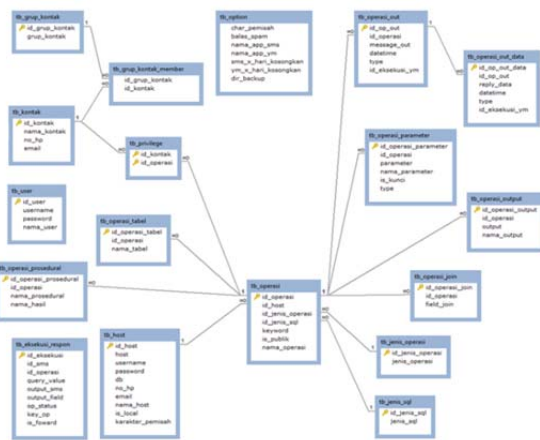


Figure 3 Database Relationship

Here is an explanation of each table in figure 3 :

4.2 User Interface Design

This section will explain some important menu contained on this prototype.

4.2.1 Main Menu

Main menu in figure 4 is the start menu that provides navigation to access the various functions within the application. General menu

contains menus for managing user, profile, database configuration, and command separator character

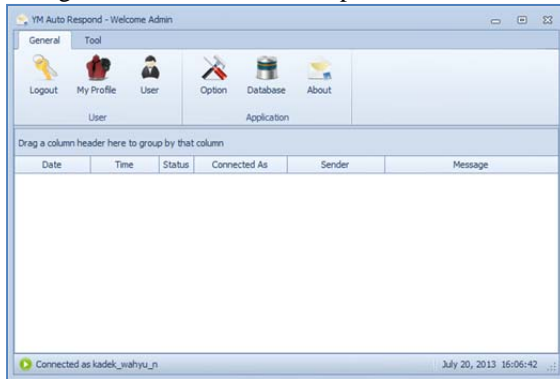


Figure 4 Main Menu

data will be exchanged. This prototype can serve more than one connection to the database

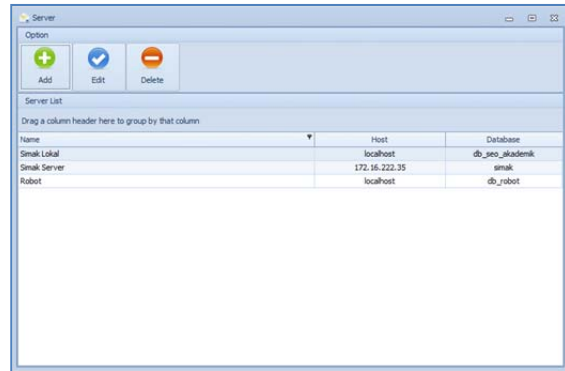


Figure 7 Database Configuration for Application

4.2.2 Database Configuration for MOM

Database Configuration for MOM in figure 5 is used for setting up the connection to the MOM database server consists of an IP address, database name, user name, and password. MOM database is a database that contains all the metadata of the application to be exchanged

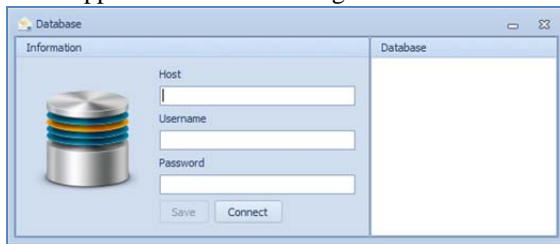


Figure 5 Database Configuration for MOM

4.2.5 Service at Client

Menu in Figure 8 is the display of data processing required by a client to the prototype. Based on incoming requests, the prototype will be responding by executing the service that have logged in into prototype server.

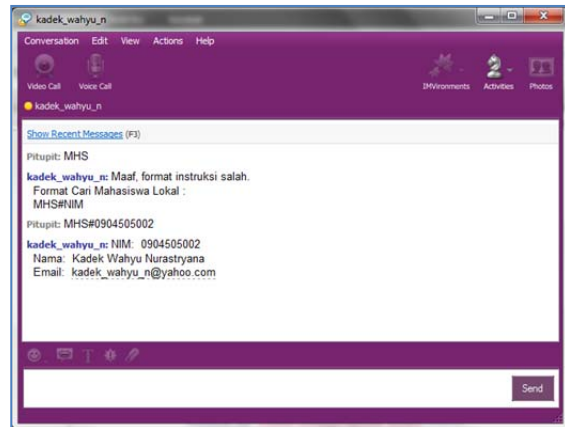


Figure 8 Service at Client

4.2.3 Message Monitoring

Menu in Figure 6 is used to monitor the message traffic in and out to know the success level of the prototype

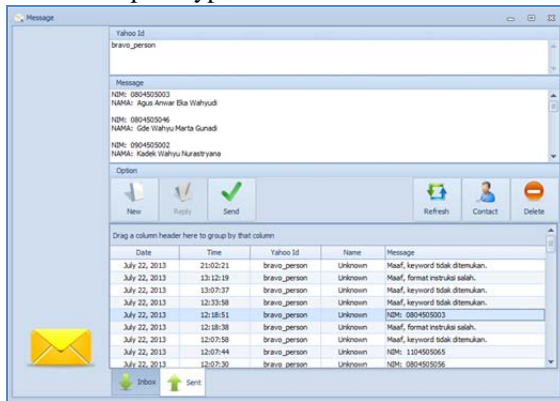


Figure 6 Message Monitoring

4.2.4 Database Configuration for Application

Menu in Figure 7 is used for setting up a connection for various database applications whose

5. CONCLUSION

With MOM-based prototype architectural design, data exchange between applications can be done at low-quality bandwidth without requiring public IP that occurs in the web service based platform.

Database design has been successfully modeled for exchanging data by using metadata on each of the existing system. Thus, this prototype will have a dynamic nature and can adopt various applications by simply holding the adjustment in metadata configuration level.



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