Assessing Web Services Quality for Call-by-Call Outsourcing

Wolf-Tilo Balke

Computer Science Department University of California Berkeley, CA, USA balke@eecs.berkeley.edu

Atta Badii

Department of Computing University College Northampton United Kingdom atta.badii@northampton.ac.uk

Abstract

The process of decision making regarding the outsourcing of various tasks in an enterprise's value chain involves consideration of a number of important economic trade offs. Outsourcing decisions in the past have typically been of a strategic nature involving long-term commitment. However, given the emerging technologies of Web services and the growing variety of service providers it seems feasible to utilize the Internet's ubiquity and pervasiveness for outsourcing at least more simple tasks dynamically in a call-by-call manner. However, to make the required decisions in each instance without having to manually assess the quality of each offer an automatic quality assessment based on a mutual service level agreement is essential. In this paper we will investigate the necessary mechanisms and demonstrate their feasibility in a real world use case scenario.