

SAGA API Extension: Remote Procedure Calls, Version 2

Status of This Document

This document provides information to the grid community, proposing a standard for an extension to the Simple API for Grid Applications (SAGA). As such it depends upon the SAGA Core API Specification [1]. This document is intended to be used as input to the definition of language specific bindings for this API extension, and as reference for implementors of these language bindings. Distribution of this document is unlimited.

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Abstract

This document specifies an updated version of the SAGA Remote Procedure Calls, which in particular includes the data handle capabilities as defined by the OGF GridRPC group.

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1 Introduction

2 SAGA Service Discovery API

2.1 Introduction

2.2 Specification

```
package saga.rpc {

    enum io_mode
    {
        In      = 1, // input parameter
        Out     = 2, // output parameter
        InOut   = 3  // input and output parameter
    }

    enum data_mode
    {
        Volatile      = 1, // don't keep
        Sticky        = 2, // keep
        StickyReturn   = 3, // keep and copy to client
        Persistent    = 4  // keep and migrate
        PersistentReturn = 5 // keep and migrate and copy to client
    }

    class remote_parameter : extends saga::parameter
        // from parameter saga::buffer
        // from buffer    saga::object
        // from object    saga::error_handler
    {
        CONSTRUCTOR (in    url          src    = "",
                     in    url          tgt    = "",
                     in    io_mode      iomode = In,
                     in    data_mode    dmode  = Volatile,
                     in    array<byte>  data   = "",
                     in    int          size   = 0,
                     out   buffer        obj);

        set_data_mode (in    data_mode    dmode);
        get_data_mode (out   data_mode    dmode);

        set_src_url   (in    url          src);
        get_src_url   (out   url          src);
    }
}
```

```

    set_tgt_url    (in    url            tgt);
    get_tgt_url    (out    url            tgt);

    // manage data
    init           (void);
    free           (void);
}

// replaces saga::rpc from the SAGA Core API specification
class rpc : implements saga::object
           implements saga::async
           implements saga::permissions
           // from object saga::error_handler
{
    CONSTRUCTOR (in    session            s,
                 in    saga::url          url = "",
                 out    rpc              obj
    );
    DESTRUCTOR  (in    rpc              obj
    );

    // rpc method invocation
    call        (inout array<remote_parameter> parameters);

    // handle management
    close       (in    float            timeout = 0.0);
}
}

```

2.2.1 Specification Details

Enum data_mode

The `data_mode` enum specifies the storage properties of the `rpc::remote_parameter` instances:

Volatile

the parameter data are not stored on server side after computation

Sticky

the parameter data are stored on the rpc server after the rpc call finishes, and can be re-used for subsequent calls. That implies that `InOut` and `Out` parameter get their `src` url set and pointed to the intermediate results, but do not have a copy of the data stored.

StickyReturn

As **Sticky**, but a copy of the data are returned after the call, i.e., **InOut** and **Out** parameter have a copy of the data, and their **src** url is set and points to the intermediate results. The data remain at that single service location.

Persistent

As **Sticky**, but the data can be migrated to other service instances as needed.

PersistentReturn

As **Persistent**, but a copy of the data are returned after the call, i.e., **InOut** and **Out** parameter have a copy of the data, and their **src** url is set and points to the intermediate results.

Class remote_parameter

The **parameter** class inherits the **saga::parameter** class, adds an additional readonly state attribute: **data_mode**, and two additional URLs, **srs** and **tgt**. The **remote_parameter** uses these additional information to allow for data persistency between subsequent RPC calls, which can significantly improve performance.

Class rpc

This class replaces the **saga::rpc** class from the SAGA Core API specification [1], but now accepts both arrays of **saga::parameter** and **saga::remote_parameter** for rpc calls. The implementation is responsible to manage the data persistency for the remote parameters, according to their **data_mode** and **src** and **tgt** URLs.

As this class does not add any syntax to the original rpc class, no detailed specification is given here.

2.2.2 Examples

3 Intellectual Property Issues

3.1 Contributors

This document is the result of the joint efforts of several contributors. The authors listed here and on the title page are those committed to taking permanent stewardship for this document. They can be contacted in the future for inquiries about this document.

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In particular, the document build heavily on the specifications of the OGF GridRPC Working Group – we want to thank Eddy Caron, Craig Lee, Hidemoto Nakata and Yusuke Tanimura for their input and cooperation.

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References

- [1] T. Goodale, S. Jha, H. Kaiser, T. Kielmann, P. Kleijer, A. Merzky, J. Shalf, and C. Smith. A Simple API for Grid Applications (SAGA). Grid Forum Document GFD.90, 2007. Open Grid Forum.