Oracle Applications Framework

OAF Basics

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What is OA Framework

- Oracle Application Framework(OA Framework) is a proprietary framework developed by Oracle
 Corporation for application development within the
 Oracle E-Business Suite.
- Available to customers for personalization, customizations and custom-application development.
- The OA Framework is a Model-view-controller (MVC) framework built using J2EE (Java 2 Platform, Enterprise Edition)technologies.

Why OA Framework

Advantages :

- Enterprise-Grade Performance and Scalability
- Improved End User Productivity
- Highly extensible architecture
- Browser Look and Feel (BLAF terminology) for all applications
- Open industry Standards such as XML, HTML, Java, JSP,
- SQL and Web Services.

OAF-FORMS

Using Oracle Forms	OA Framework
With Oracle Forms I can create custom Apps modules and modify seeded Apps Forms.	JDeveloper is the development tool for creating custom Apps web pages <i>and</i> modifying seeded Apps web pages.
I use SQL and PL/SQL in Oracle Forms	We will still use SQL statements, specifically in View Objects. We can execute PL/SQL, but within Java code. If your Java skills are nil or weak, now might be a good time to plan a training program. See What To Do Next for more information.

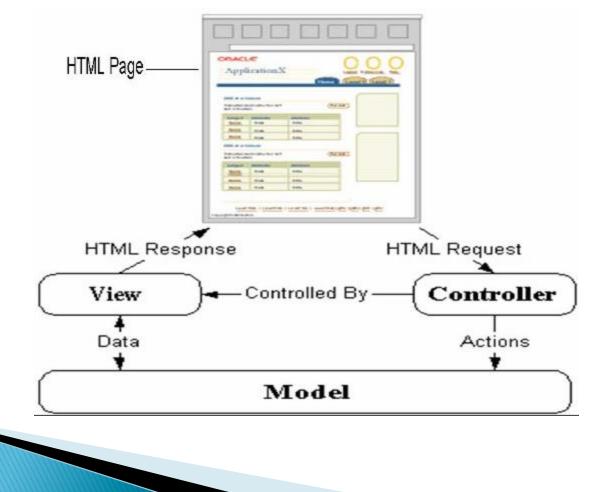
An Oracle Forms file (.fmb) contains screen design and custom procedures and functions.	Reusable code, that is the mantra for JDeveloper and OA Framework. In Oracle Forms a data block references a table or view, and that definition is contained within the .fmb. With JDeveloper, we create view objects or entity objects that can be reused by other web pages.
In Forms, I can reuse forms, libraries, and menus by referencing.	OA Framework is an assembly of reusable objects.
I use TEMPLATE.fmb as the starting point for any custom Apps forms. TEMPLATE.fmb contains references to libraries, property settings, and menus that will help make custom forms look-and-feel like Oracle- provided forms.	OA Framework is a development and deployment platform presented through JDeveloper. The seeded objects and settings give custom web pages the same look-and-feel as Oracle-provided web pages

 In Forms I create and use canvases: Forms requires a root canvas I use stacked canvases for controlling access to groups of items Fields and buttons appear on a canvas Properties control the appearance of canvases and items 	In OA Framework we use the concept of a region: *A web page requires a root region *Regions can be nested *Widgets (fields, buttons, images, etc) appear in a region * Properties control the appearance of widgets
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OA Framework Architecture

OA Framework architecture is based on

Model-View-Controller(MVC)design pattern.



Components of MVC Architecture

Model:

- Data
- Implemented using Oracle Business Components for Java (BC4J).
 - 1. EO (Entity Object)
 - 2. VO (View Object)
 - 3. AM (Application Module)

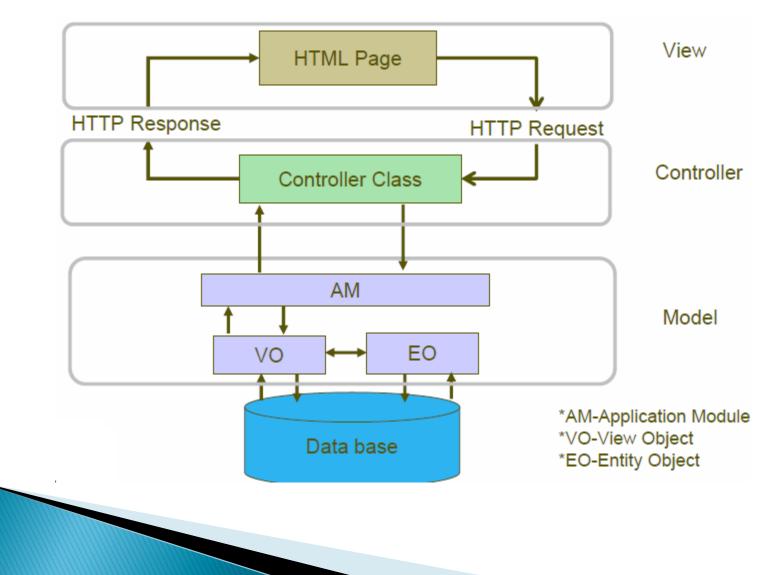
View:

- User Interface.
- Implemented using an Oracle technology called UIX. (UIX = User Interface XML).

Controller:

- Code
- User actions are handled by the OA Controller.
 - (Ex: Clicking SUBMIT button)

Interaction between model, view and controller



Entity Object (EO)

- Entity Object is based on database table or other data source.
- Entity Object contains attributes which represent database columns.
- All insert/update/delete (DML Operations) transactions go through EO to database.

View Object (VO)

- Two types
 - 1. SQL based
 - 2. EO based
- Represents a query result.
- Is used for joining, filtering, projecting, and sorting your business

data.

 Can be based on any number of entity objects (EOs) and provides access to EOs.

Application Module (AM)

- Every page must have a root application module.
- Handles transactions.
- Application Modules serve as containers for related BC4J Objects.
- The objects are related by participating in the same task (for example, a multi-page UI for creating purchase orders)
- Application Modules provide transaction context
- Application Modules establish database connections
- Application Modules may be nested to provide more complex application modules

Controller (CO) in MVC Architecture

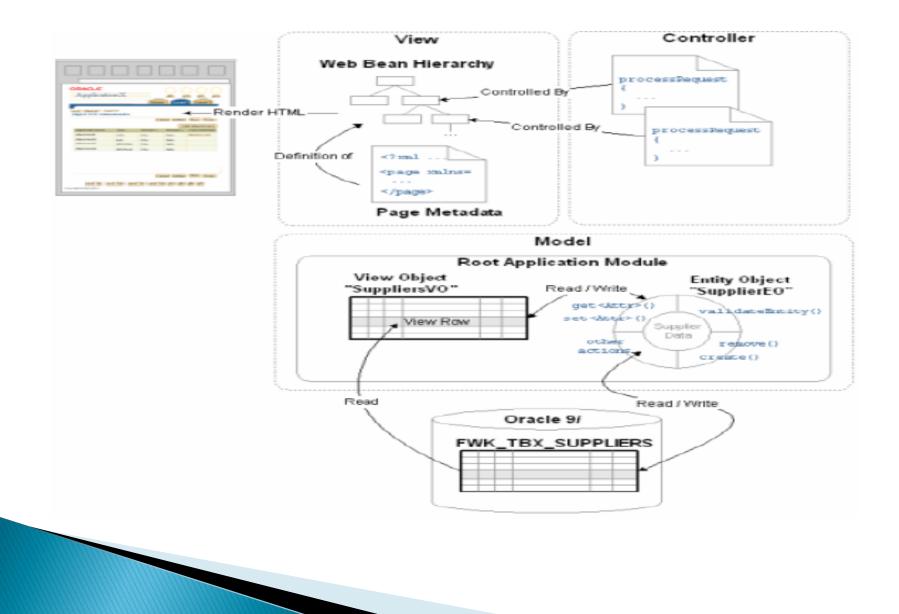
- Responds to user actions and directs application flow.
- Model objects like EO and VO can't be accessed directly from the Controller Class, except AM.
- Contains methods such as

1. ProcessRequest: Fires when OAF page loads for the first time.

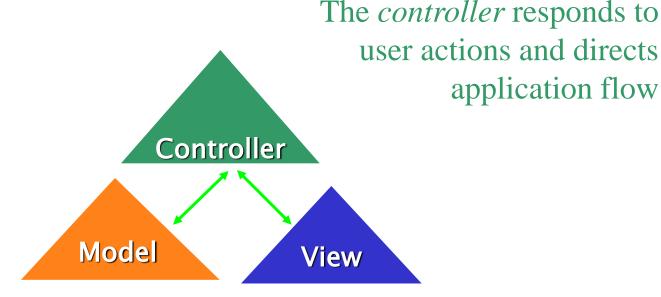
2. ProcessFormRequest: Fires when user submits the page.

(Ex: clicking GO button)

MVC Architecture



Model-View-Controller (MVC) Design Pattern



The *model* encapsulates underlying data and business logic of the application The *view* formats and presents data from a model to the user

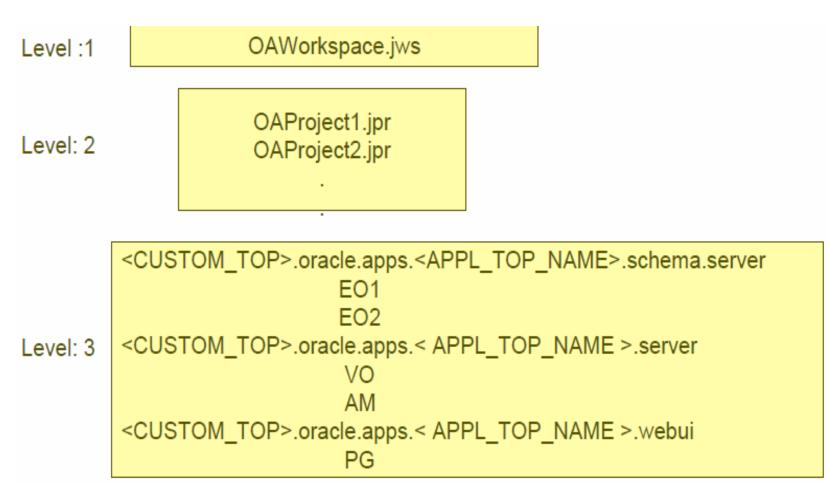
Profile Options

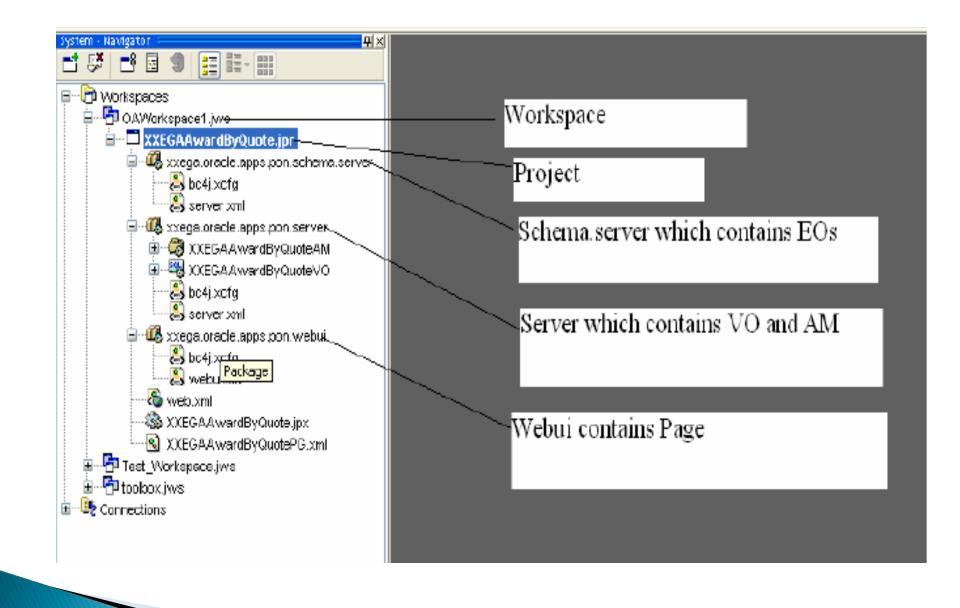
To Enable the "about this page" link on the page set the below profile option as "yes" FND: Diagnostics : Yes

To Enable the "personalize page" link on the page set the below profile options as "yes"

Personalize Self-Service Defn : Yes FND: Personalization Region Link Enabled : Yes

Jdeveloper Structure





Naming Standards

- Page Name Ends with PG/PAGE
- Region name ends with RN
- Entity Object Name ends with EO
- View Object ends with VO
- Application Module Name Ends with AM
- Controller Name ends with CO