Firebird Butler in Python part I. Introduction to Saturnin SDK

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Part I. Saturnin SDK 101

What is Saturnin SDK

Reference implementation of *Firebird Butler Development Platform* in Python 3

- demonstration of functional implementation of specifications for other implementers
- package for <u>creating</u> and <u>using</u> Firebird Butler services in Python
- engineering toolset to build efficient, robust and scalable solutions
- the base over which the Saturnin project is being built

What is a Butler Service

- A Butler Service is basically a piece of software that uses ZeroMQ socket and Firebird Butler Service Protocol (FBSP) for communication over this ZeroMQ channel
- A service could use multiple ZeroMQ sockets for various purposes, but only one primary socket is required to support the Butler Service protocol
- They could do anything, but a well designed service does only one task, or a small set of closely related tasks within single category
- We also introduced a category of microservices that do not communicate via FBSP but use some other standard protocol to communicate with other components (eg Firebird Butler Data Pipe Protocol - FBDP)

What is ZeroMQ

- ZeroMQ (also known as ØMQ, 0MQ, or zmq) looks like an embeddable networking library but acts like a concurrency framework
- It gives you sockets that carry atomic messages across various transports like in-process, inter-process, TCP, and multicast
- You can connect sockets N-to-N with patterns like fan-out, pub-sub, task distribution, and request-reply
- It's fast enough to be the fabric for clustered products
- Its asynchronous I/O model gives you scalable multicore applications, built as asynchronous message-processing tasks
- It has a score of language APIs and runs on most operating systems
- ZeroMQ is from iMatix and is LGPLv3 open source

SDK Factsheet

Requirements

- Python 3.6+, will move to Python 3.7 next year
- ✓ PyZMQ >=18.0.0
- ✔ Protobuf >=3.9.0

Uses

- type annotations
- docstrings
- ✓ indent 4 spaces
- package saturnin.sdk distributed as saturnin-sdk on PyPI

Part II.SDK Structure

SDK content & structure, part I.

- namespace packages firebird and saturnin
 - package firebird.butler contains protobuf classses used by various Firebird Butler protocols (eg. firebird.butler.fbsp_pb2)
 - package saturnin.sdk is the SDK
 - services in saturnin.services package and microservices in saturnin.micro package
- distribution package saturnin-sdk should contain only essentials
 - examples in separate distribution package saturnin-sdk-examples
 - service execution and test environment is <u>for now</u> part of SDK, but will be separated into its own distribution package

SDK content & structure, part II.

- → saturnin.sdk only platform OID, UID and VERSION, and vendor OID and UID
- saturnin.sdk.types Type definitions (exceptions, enums, flags, dataclasses etc.)
- → saturnin.sdk.collections Object Registry and ObjectList
- → **saturnin.sdk.config** Classes for configuration definitions
- saturnin.sdk.base ZeroMQ messaging
- saturnin.sdk.service Firebird Butler Services
- saturnin.sdk.client Firebird Butler Service Clients
- saturnin.sdk.classic Classic Service (sync I/O in separate thread or process)
- saturnin.sdk.protocol.fbsp implementation of Firebird Butler Service Protocol
- saturnin.sdk.protocol.fbdp implementation of Firebird Butler Data Pipe Protocol
- saturnin.sdk.tools.* SDK tools (svc_run & svc_test)
- → saturnin.sdk.test.* SDK service test environment (currently only for fbsp)
- saturnin.services.* Saturnin services
- saturnin.micro.* Saturnin microservices

Part III. ZeroMQ and Saturnin messaging

ZeroMQ

The following slides show only a preview of key elements of the ZeroMQ

For complete information visit https://zeromq.org/ and read excellent http://zguide.zeromq.org PyZMQ at https://pyzmq.rtfd.io

ZeroMQ Essentials, part I.The Context

- ZeroMQ applications always start by creating a <u>context</u>, and then using that for creating <u>sockets</u>
- → it's the container for all sockets in a single process
- if at runtime a process has two contexts, these are like <u>separate</u> ZeroMQ instances
- context acts as the transport for inproc sockets which are the fastest way to connect threads in one process
- PyZMQ provides Context class
 - Context() returns new instance
 - Context.instance() returns global (for process) instance

ZeroMQ Essentials, part II.Sockets

- the interface is based on the Berkeley sockets API
- but socket is NOT <u>single</u> connection to <u>single</u> peer
- it's a doorway to fast little background comm. engine that manages a whole set of connections, that are <u>private</u> and <u>invisible</u>
- all I/O is done in background threads (in Context)
- ZMQ is <u>not</u> a <u>neutral carrier</u>: it imposes a <u>framing</u> on the transport protocols it uses
- underneath socket API is a <u>messaging pattern</u>, and the pattern used determines the <u>type</u> of socket
- → patterns are (mostly) implemented as <u>pairs</u> of <u>matching</u> types
- they have 1-to-N routing behavior built-in, according to the type

ZeroMQ Essentials, part III. Messages

- → sockets carry messages like UDP, rather than a stream of bytes as TCP
- they are transmitted in a background thread they arrive in local input queues and are sent from local output queues
- theys consists from parts called *Frames*, which are length-specified block of binary data (>=0b)
 - normal message has <u>one frame</u>
 - multipart messages let you send or receive a <u>list of frames</u> as a single on-the-wire message
- you may send zero-length messages
 e.g., for sending a signal from one thread to another
- it is guaranteed that you will receive all parts, or none of them
- whole message (all frames) must fit in memory

ZeroMQ Essentials, part IV. Socket types

Socket types (in brief):

- → REQ(est) + REP(ly)
- → PUSH + PULL
- PUB + SUB and XPUB + XSUB
- → **DEALER**
- **→** ROUTER
- PAIR
- → STREAM

ZeroMQ Essentials, part V. DEALER socket

- Bidirectional
- Unrestricted send/receive pattern
- Outgoing routing strategy: Round-robin
- Incoming routing strategy: Fair-queued
- → Action in mute state: Block
- Compatible peer sockets:
 - DEALER
 - ROUTER
 - REP

ZeroMQ Essentials, part VI. ROUTER socket

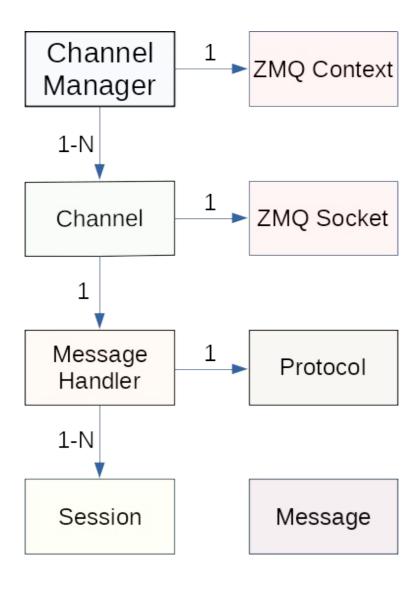
- Bidirectional
- Unrestricted send/receive pattern
- Outgoing routing strategy: 1 frame is routing ID
- Incoming routing strategy: Fair-queued
- → Action in mute state: **Drop**
- Compatible peer sockets:
 - DEALER
 - ROUTER
 - REQ

Messaging in SDK, part I. Factsheet

- module saturnin.sdk.base
- a base layer above PyZMQ to simplify the creation of ZeroMQ applications in general
- base abstraction for messages, ZMQ sockets as communication channels, communication protocols, message handlers and sessions
- uses module saturnin.sdk.types

Messaging in SDK, part II.

Architecture



Messaging in SDK, part III. Specific properties

- Multipart messages
- Non-blocking send() and receive() with 100ms default timeout
- Control of output message queue through deferred send() and session suspension

Messaging in SDK, part IV. Important types

Enums:

- Origin Origin of received message in protocol context
- SocketMode ZMQ socket mode (bind, connect)
- AddressDomain ZMQ address domain (local, node, network)
- TransportProtocol ZMQ transport protocol (inproc, ipc, tcp etc.)
- SocketType ZMQ socket type (pub, sub, push, pull, dealer, router etc.)
- SocketUse Socket use (producer, consumer, exchange)

→ Flags:

- Direction ZMQ socket direction of transmission (in, out, both)
- Other:
 - ZMQAddress ZMQ endpoint address. Descendant from builtin str type with additional R/O properties protocol, address and domain

Message in SDK, part V. Message

- base class that simply holds ZMQ <u>multipart</u> message in its data attribute
- child classes can override from_zmsg() and as_zmsg() methods to pack/unpack some or all parts of ZMQ message into their own attributes
- methods clear() and copy(), functions has_data() and has_zmq_frames()
- Abstract methods:
 - class method validate_zmsg() verifies that sequence of ZMQ data frames is a valid message
- Attributes:
 - data sequence of data frames

Messaging in SDK, part VI. Protocol

- main purpose of protocol classes is to <u>validate ZMQ</u> messages and <u>create protocol messages</u>
- base class defines common interface for parsing and validation: validate(), parse(), is_valid() and has_greeting()
- descendant classes typically add methods for creation of specific protocol messages
- class attributes: OID, UID (must be set in child class) and REVISION (default 1)
- Uses a factory pattern to create Messages

Messaging in SDK, part VII. Channel

- base class for ZeroMQ communication channel (socket)
- Attributes:
 - socket_type ZMQ socket type
 - direction Direction of transmission
 - socket ZMQ socket for transmission of messages
 - flags ZMQ flags used for send() and receive()
 - sock_opts Dictionary with socket options that should be set after socket creation
 - routed True if channel uses internal routing
 - endpoints List of binded/connected endpoints (addresses)
 - snd_timeout Timeout for send operations
 - **rcv_timeout** Timeout for receive operations
 - handler Message handler used to process messages received from peer(s)
 - uid Unique channel ID used by channel manager
 - mngr_poll True if channel should register its socket into manager Poller
- → R/O attributes:
 - mode BIND/CONNECT mode for socket
 - *identity* Identity value for ZMQ socket
 - manager The channel manager to which this channel belongs
- Methods: bind(), unbind(), connect(), disconnect(), close(), send(), receive(), set_handler(), is_active() and configure()

Messaging in SDK, part VIII. Channel Manager

- → A superstructure over the ZMQ context ensuring control over communication channels, and a pillar of the I/O loop
- Attributes:
 - ctx ZMQ Context instance
 - channels Channels associated with manager
 - deferred List with deferred work, contains tuples with (Callable,List)
- Methods:
 - add() & remove() channel
 - register(), unregister() and is_registered()
 - defer(), is_deferred() and process_deferred()
 - wait() Wait for I/O events on registered channels
 - shutdown() Terminate all managed channels

Messaging in SDK, part IX. Message Handler

- the semantic communication layer everything essential (in application) is done through the descendants of this class
- Attributes:
 - chn Handled I/O channel
 - role Peer role
 - protocol Protocol used
 - sessions Dictionary of active sessions, key=routing_id
 - resume_timeout Time limit in seconds for how long session could be suspended before it's cancelled
 - on_cancel_session Callback executed before session is cancelled
- Abstract methods:
 - dispatch Process message received from peer
- Methods:
 - send() & receive()
 - create|get|discard|suspend|resume|cancel_session
 - handle_*() for handling of invalid messages and dispatch errors

Messaging in SDK, part X. Session

- contextual information for communication with a particular peer
- base session holds only essentials, child classes may add their own information and functionality
- Attributes:
 - routing_id Channel routing ID
 - endpoint Connected endpoint address, if any
 - discarded True if sessions was discarded
 - messages List of deferred messages
 - pending_since Value is either None or monotonic() time of first unsuccessful send operation (i.e. notes time of suspension and start of resume_timeout period)
- Methods:
 - send_later(), get_next_message() and message_sent()
 - is_suspended()

Part IV.Firebird Butler Service Protocol (FBSP)

FBSP specification

The following slides show only a preview of key elements of the *FBSP* specification

The complete specification is at https://firebird-butler.rtfd.io/en/latest/rfc/4/FBSP.html

FBSP specification, part I. Overall Behavior

Exchange of messages over the *Transport Channel* is implemented as a *Connection* between the *Service* and the *Client* where the connection has the following stages:

- 1. The Client MUST initiate the connection by sending the HELLO message.
- 2. The Service MUST reply to the HELLO message by sending a WELCOME message to confirm the connection. If the Service cannot accept the connection, it MUST send the ERROR message instead.
- 3. After confirming a successful *Connection*, the *Client* can start sending messages to which the *Service* responds by sending one or more messages of its own.
- 4. The *Client* or *Service* can terminate the *Connection* at any time by sending a *CLOSE* message, or by closing the *Transport Channel*. However, the peer initiating the connection termination **SHOULD** send the *CLOSE* message before it closes the *Transport Channel* to the other peer.

FBSP specification, part II. Client and Service Identity

Both the Client and the Service must be uniquely identified

- The content of the *Identity* MAY be arbitrary
- There MUST be a canonical string Identity representation
- Both the Client Identity and the Service Identity MUST be unique in the same namespace
- Both the Client and the Service MUST use the Identity for all identification purposes
- If Service acts as a Client to another Service, then MUST use its own Service Identity as the Client Identity to the another Service
- It is RECOMMENDED that both the Client and the Service use the Identity for routing purposes
- It is RECOMMENDED to use UUID as Identity

FBSP specification, part III. Message structure

→ Mesage consists from a *control frame*, and zero or more *data frames*

Control frame:

- Signature "FBSP"
- CB (control byte) encodes a message type, and protocol version. Both are decimal numbers. msg-type on upper (leftmost) 5 bits, version on lower (rightmost) 3 bits
- Flags various control flags as individual bits
- TD (type data) Message-type specific data

Control Frame

Signature <mark>CB</mark> F	TD	Token
-----------------------------	----	-------

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

FBSP specification, part IV. Message types

Message type	Who can send	Description
HELLO	Client	Initial message from Client
WELCOME	Service	Initial response from Service
NOOP	Client, Service	No operation, used for keep-alive & ping
REQUEST	Client	Client request
REPLY	Service	Service response to client request
DATA	Client, Service	Separate data sent by either client or service
CANCEL	Client	Cancel request
STATE	Service	Operation state information
CLOSE	Client, Service	Sent by peer that is going to close the conn.
ERROR	Service	Error reported by service

FBSP specification, part V. Message Token

Message Token is a tool to <u>pair</u> Client requests with multiple messages sent by Service in response

Processing of the token is governed by the following rules:

- 1. The content of the *Token* **MAY** be arbitrary
- 2. The content of the *Token* **SHALL** be specified by *Client* only
- 3. The *Token* **MUST** be returned without change in any message sent by the *Service*, which is a logical response to the original message sent by the *Client* containing that token
- 4. Messages sent by a Service that can not be uniquely identified as a logical response to a previous message sent by a Client (such as unexpected general ERROR, CLOSE, or NOOP sent to check the client's availability) MUST contain the Token passed by the Client in the HELLO message

FBSP specification, part VI. Message Flags

Flags are encoded as individual bits in flags field of the control-frame

ACK-REQUEST (bit: 0, mask: 1)

- intended for verification and synchronization purposes
- any received control-frame of message-type NOOP, REQUEST, REPLY, DATA, STATE or CANCEL that have ACK-REQUEST flag set SHALL be sent back to the sender as confirmation of accepted message, unless the receiver is a Service and an error condition occurs. In such a case the ERROR message SHALL be sent by Service instead confirmation message

ACK-REPLY (bit: 1, mask: 2)

indicates that message is a confirmation of the message previously sent by receiver

MORE (bit: 2, mask: 4)

The MORE flag SHALL be set for all messages that are a part of logical message stream, and are not the terminal message of this stream

FBSP specification, part VII. Service API

The **Service API** consists from **Interfaces** (API contracts) that consists from individual operations (functions)

- 1. An *Interface* SHALL have a globally unique identification (GUID). It's **RECOMMENDED** to use uuid version 5 SHA1, namespace OID
- 2. An *Interface* MUST provide at least one *Operation* (function), and MAY provide up to 255 individual *Operations*
- 3. An *Operation* MUST have numeric identification unique within the *Interface*, and with value in range 1..255. This identification is called *Interface operation code*
- 4. The Service MUST assign an unique Interface identification number in range 1..255 to each Interface it provides, and announce the Interface identification along with assigned number in the data-frame of the WELCOME message
- 5. The Service MUST provide at least one *Interface*, and MAY provide up to 255 individual *Interfaces*
- 6. The set of *Interfaces* that *Service* provides **MUST** be stable, which means that all *Service* instances with the same *Agent Identification* **MUST** provide the same set of *Interfaces* to all *Clients*

FBSP specification, part VIII. Request Codes

The **Request Code** uniquely identifies the Service functionality (an API call)

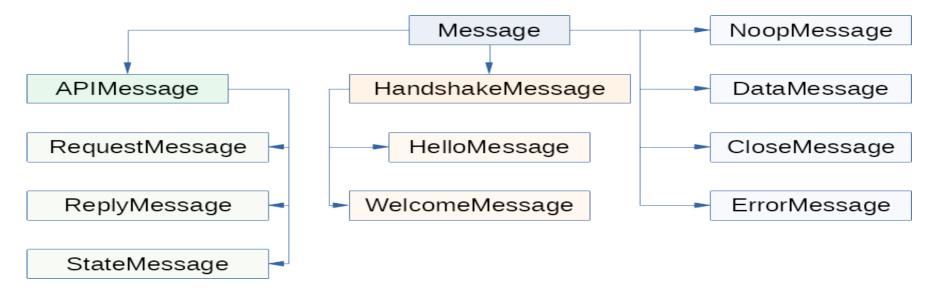
- The first (more significant) byte of type-data field SHALL contain the Interface identification number assigned by Service to particular Interface it supports (see Data frames - WELCOME)
- The second (less significant) byte of type-data field SHALL contain the Interface operation code

FBSP implementation, part I. Factsheet

- module saturnin.sdk.protocol.fbsp
- protobuf classes in firebird.butler.fbsp_pb2 also available as saturnin.sdk.protocol.fbsp.fbsp_proto
- redefines Message, Protocol and Session classes
- provides FBSP Message Handlers for Services and Clients
- provides helper functions for conversion between ERROR message and exception
- provides global *Protocol* instance

FBSP implementation, part II. Types

- Enums: MsgType and ErrorCode
- Flags: MsgFlag
- Classes Protocol and Session
- Handler classes: BaseFBSPHandler, ServiceMessagelHandler and ClientMessageHandler
- Message classes:



FBSP implementation, part III. Protocol class

- Class attributes:
 - OID, UID, REVISION
 - VALID_ACK
 - ORIGIN_MESSAGES
 - MESSAGE_MAP
- Class methods: instance()
- Methods:
 - create_message_for() new msg instance for particular FBSP message type
 - create_ack_reply() new msg that is an ACK-REPLY response message
 - create_welcome_reply() new WelcomeMessage that is a reply to HELLO
 - create_error_for() new ErrorMessage that relates to specific message
 - create_reply_for() new ReplyMessage for specific RequestMessage
 - create_state_for() new StateMessage that relates to RequestMessage
 - create_data_for() new DataMessage for reply to specific RequestMessage
 - create_request_for() new RequestMessage for specific API call

FBSP implementation, part IV. FBSP Message Handlers

- Implements dispatch() that uses handlers dictionary to route received messages to appropriate handlers
 - Child classes may update this table with their own handlers in __init__()
 - Dictionary key could be either a <message_type> or tuple(<message_type>,<type_data>)
- Exceptions in handlers are captured by dispatch(), and processed via handle_exception() method
- ServiceMessagelHandler and ClientMessageHandler classes implement required and typical message processing patterns for Services a Clients using various handle_*() methods
- → There is only several abstract methods left:
 - ServiceHandler: handle_cancel()
 - ClientHandler: handle_reply(), handle_data(), handle_state(), handle_error()

Part V. Butler services in Saturnin

Services, part I. Architecture, part I.

- service implementation is separated into <u>two</u> class hierarchies defined in saturnin.sdk.service module
 - (Base)Service defines <u>structure</u> of the service composed from abstract structural parts
 - (Base)ServiceImpl provides implementation of structural parts
- Service implementation involves creating a child of a class in the BaseServiceImpl hierarchy, and a child of the FBSPServiceHandler class

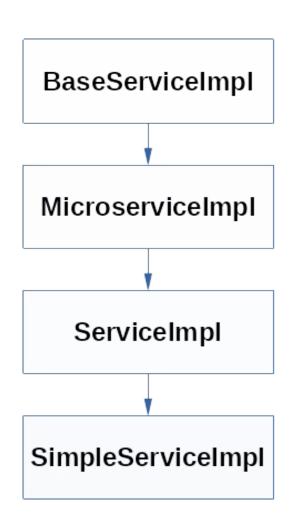
Service (Container) Service Implementation

Service source code layout

Directory saturnin.service.<service-name>

- → api.py descriptors and configuration
- → service.py service impl + msg handler
- client.py svc client (msg handler)
- test.py svc tester class

Services, part II. Architecture, part II.



BaseServiceImpl

- → Attributes: *mngr*, *stop_event*
- → Cfg. options: **shutdown_linger**
- Methods: get(), initialize(), configure(), validate(), finalize(), idle()

MicroserviceImpl

Attributes: agent, peer, instance_id

<u>ServiceImpl</u>

Attributes: endpoints, welcome_df, api

<u>SimpleServiceImpl</u>

- Attributes: svc_chn
- Ofg. options: sock_opts

Services, part III. Architecture, part III.

- module saturnin.sdk.classic provides Service (container) that runs its own message loop and do not use any async programming techniques or Python libraries
- Running a service <u>effectively blocks the main thread</u>, so if an application needs to perform other tasks or if you need to run multiple services in parallel in one application, each service must run in a <u>separate</u> thread or subprocess
- Module provides ServiceExecutor class to run such classic (micro)services in their own separate thread or subprocess
 - could be used in application that is built from (micro)services
 - ✓ or in services to distribute work across pool of worker microservices

Services, part IV.Services, Agents, Peers and Interfaces, part I.

- → Agent = particular service, client or application for example backup-service, my-server-console etc.
- → **Peer** = a running <u>instance</u> of particular **Agent**
- → Both the Client and the Service exchange their Agent and Peer information during the HELLO/WELCOME handshake
- Service also sends information about its API (interfaces)
- The format, content and structure is defined by 3/FBSD and 4/FBSP specifications
 - Peer info:
 uid (bytes), pid (uint32), host (string) and supplement (repeated Any)
 - Agent info:
 uid (bytes), name (string), version (string), vendor (Vendorld), platform (Platforld), classification (string) and supplement (repeated Any)

Services, part V. Services, Agents, Peers and Interfaces, part II.

The Saturnin SDK builds on this information its own **Service Description** structure – dataclasses defined in **saturnin.sdk.types**

AgentDescriptor		
uid	Agent ID (UUID)	
name	Agent name	
version	Agent version string	
vendor_uid	Vendor ID (UUID)	
classification	Agent classification string	
platform_uid	Butler platform ID (UUID)	
platform_version	Butler platform version string	
supplement	Optional list of supplemental information	

InterfaceDescriptor	
uid	Interface ID (UUID)
name	Interface name
revision	Interface revision number
number	Interface Identification Number assigned by Service
requests	Enum for interface operation codes

PeerDescriptor		
uid	Peer ID (UUID)	
pid	Peer process ID	
host	Host name	
supplement	Optional list of supplemental information	

Services, part VI. Services, Agents, Peers and Interfaces, part III.

ServiceDescriptor		
agent	Service agent descriptor	
api	Service FBSP API description or None (for microservice)	
dependencies	List of (DependencyType, UUID) tuples	
execution_mode	Preferred execution mode	
service_type	Type of service	
facilities	Service facilities	
description	Text describing the service	
implementation	Locator string for service implementation class	
container	Locator string for service container class	
config	Locator string for service configuration callable	
client	Locator string for service client class	
tests	Locator string for service test class	

Part VI. Service configuration

Service configuration

- Set of classes in saturnin.sdk.config
- Hierarchy of of configuration Option classes that supports:
 - typed values
 - validation
 - serialization to/from protobuf Struct message
 - loading from standard Python configurater
 - printing
 - creation of default/sample configuration files
 - enough metadata for interactive value specification
- Supported option data types: str, int, float, bool, strList, ZMQAddress, ZMQAddressList, Enum, UUID, MIME type, Config (collection of options) and ConfigList
- Config class is a collection of Options
- Config descendants with predefined options for Microservices and Services

Questions?

Thanks for your attention

Contacts:

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Saturnin SDK:

- git: https://github.com/FirebirdSQL/saturnin-sdk
- Documentation: https://saturnin-sdk.rtfd.io/
- Mailing list: https://groups.google.com/d/forum/saturnin-sdk