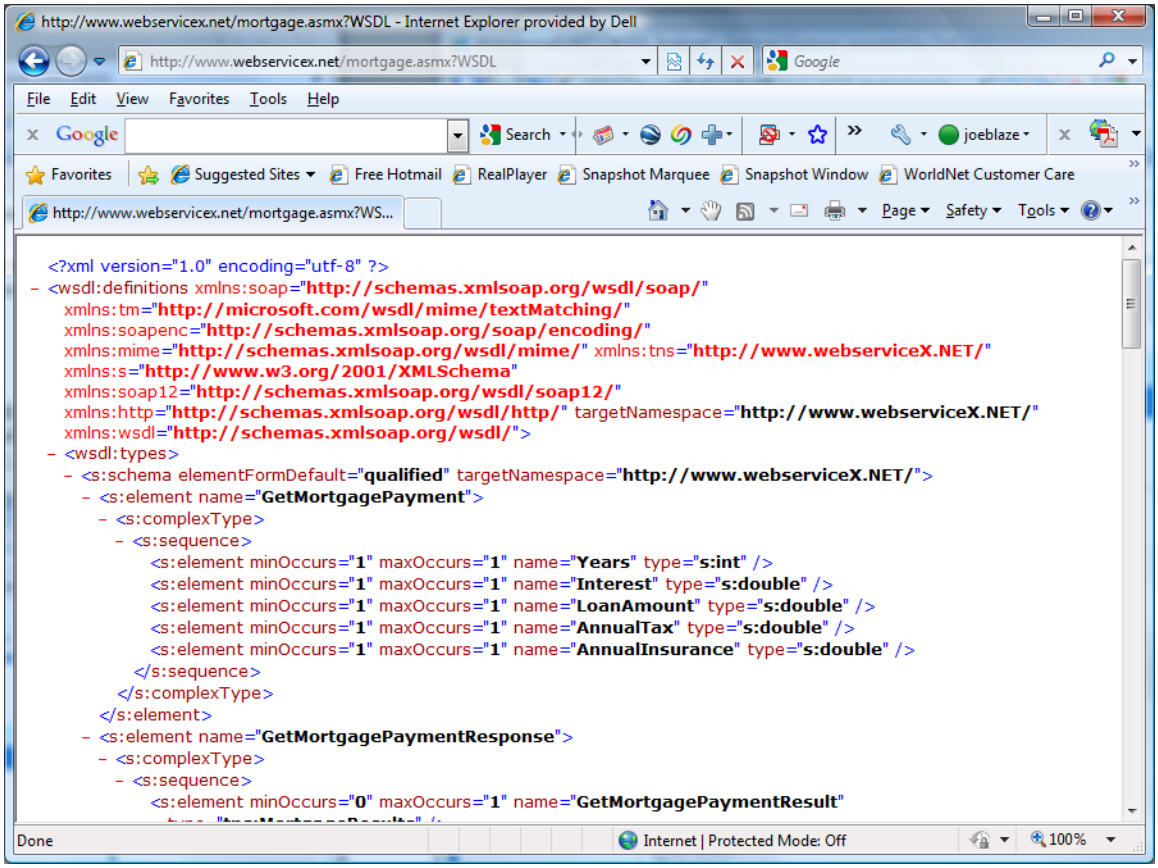
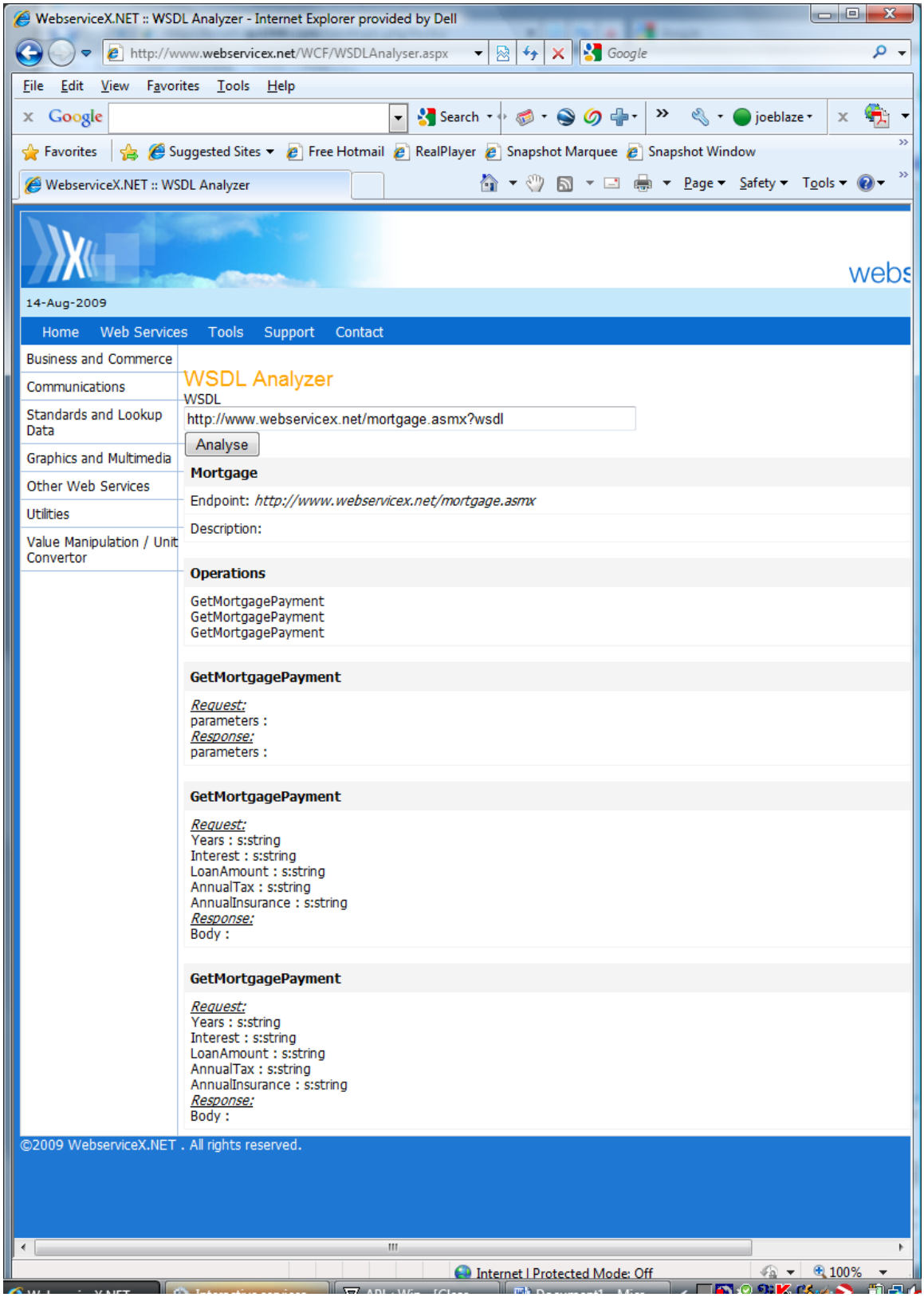
WebService (with wsdl) Accessed by APLNext WebTransfer

When a web service is specified by a wsdl xml-format document it is necessary to analyze the wsdl document to ascertain the method available. See here for more information on wsdl: http://www.w3.org/TR/wsdl.

A sample web service using a wsdl is found at:
http://www.webservicex.net/mortgage.asmx?WSDL



In this case the web site of this sample web service provided it own wsdl analyzer available at: http://www.webservicex.net/WCF/WSDLAnalyser.aspx The wsdl analyzer provided the following information about the GetMortgagePayment method:;


WebserviceX.NET :: WSDL Analyzer - Internet Explorer provided by Dell
http://www.webservicex.net/WCF/WSDLAnalyser.aspx
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Favorites Suggested Sites Free Hotmail RealPlayer Snapshot Marquee Snapshot Window
WebserviceX.NET :: WSDL Analyzer
14-Aug-2009
Home Web Services Tools Support Contact
Business and Commerce
Communications
Standards and Lookup Data
Graphics and Multimedia
Other Web Services
Utilities
Value Manipulation / Unit Convertor
WSDL Analyzer
WSDL
http://www.webservicex.net/mortgage.asmx?wsdl
Analyse
Mortgage
Endpoint: http://www.webservicex.net/mortgage.asmx
Description:
Operations
GetMortgagePayment
GetMortgagePayment
GetMortgagePayment
GetMortgagePayment
Request:
parameters :
Response:
parameters :
GetMortgagePayment
Request:
Years : s:string
Interest : s:string
LoanAmount : s:string
AnnualTax : s:string
AnnualInsurance : s:string
Response:
Body :
GetMortgagePayment
Request:
Years : s:string
Interest : s:string
LoanAmount : s:string
AnnualTax : s:string
AnnualInsurance : s:string
Response:
Body :
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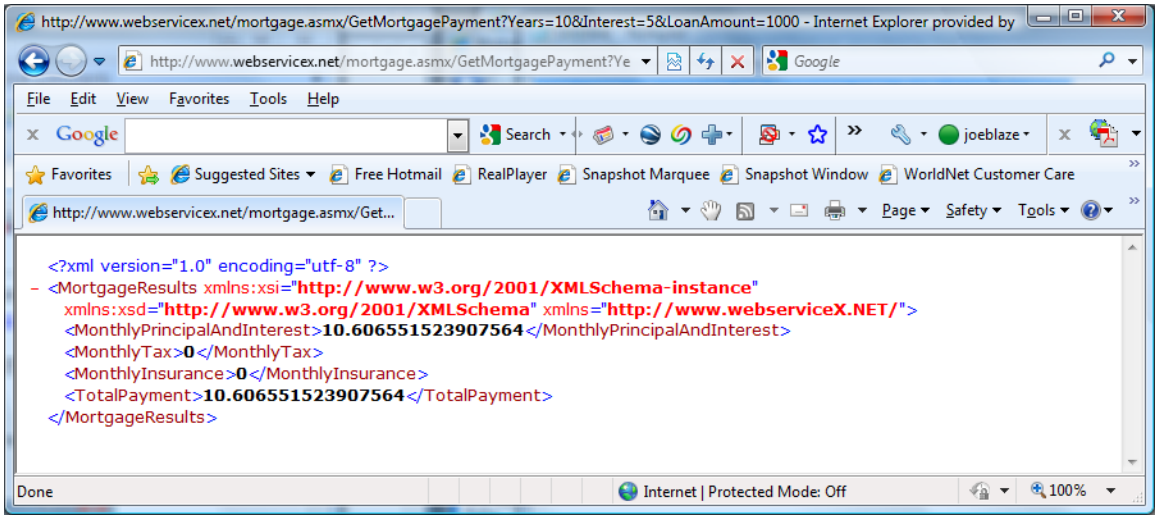
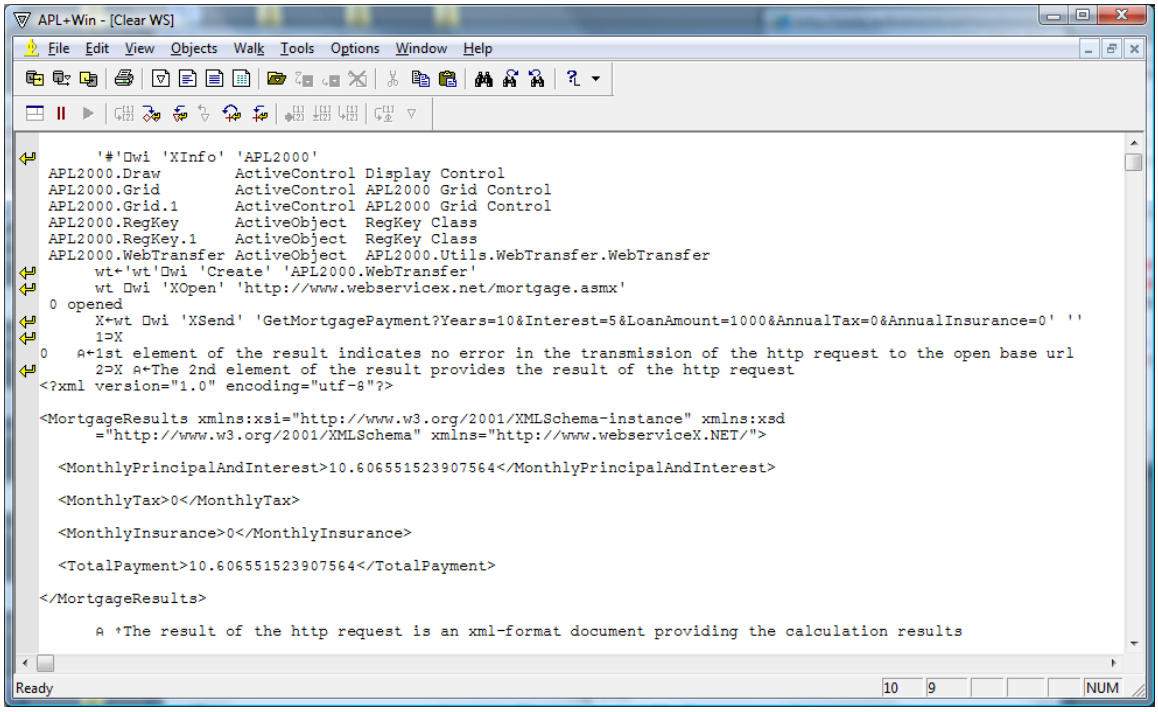
Using the information contained in the wsdl, an http request may be formulated. Such a request is composed of a base url: http://www.webservicex.net/mortgage.asmx and a virtual path associated with the web service method: /GetMortgagePayment?Years=10&Interest=5&LoanAmount=1000&AnnualTax=0&AnnualInsurance=0

Since not much data is required by the GetMortgagePayment method of the web service, the http request may be executed using a browser:



There are many ways to execute this type of http request in APL. One easy way is to use the APLNext WebTransfer class. This class was created to facilitate an interface between clients and APLNext WebServices applications. It can be used with APLNext WebServices based on APL+Win and any other web service which supports http requests. To install the APLNext WebTransfer class go to: http://forum.apl2000.com/viewtopic.php?t=431.

After APLNext WebTransfer has been installed on the computer, it exposes the .Net HttpRequest functionality as an ActiveX object. The APL+Win session below illustrates how APLNext WebTransfer can be used to execute the http request to call the GetMortgagePayment method:



The information in this xml-format response can be parsed into APL+Win variables using the Microsoft XML DOM ActiveX object. See here for more information: http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa468547.aspx.

Even easier is to parse the response directly to APL arrays using the APL+Win functions in the XMLTools.zip package available at: http://forum.apl2000.com/viewtopic.php?t=43.