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Angular —Building a Service for Sending API Calls and Fetching Data

6|7: HttpClient Building a Service for API Calls and Data

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Throughout this tutorial, you'll
requests or make API calls to R

You can use the example code t
CORS enabled or to your back-
server tiers.



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Paginati

l Headers in Angular 7 HttpClient: Link Header

Angular

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Ang

ample: REST APIs, HttpClient GET, Componen...



Prerec

To be able to c i first need to have a few requirements:

- Node.js and npm installed. If that's not the case simply go to the [official website](#) and download the latest version for your operating system,
- A back-end server with a REST API with CORS enabled.

You also need to have the Angular

```
$ npm install -g @angul
```

You may need to add sudo c

If you don't have an Angular 7

```
$ ng start angular7-exa
```



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Wait for the CD package to be published, then download the package files and install the required dependencies then you are good to go!

The Angular HttpClient Module

Angular is a complete framework for building client side mobile and desktop apps. As such, you don't have to use other external libraries to perform common operations like HTTP requests.

Angular provides an `HttpClient` module which allows developers to send HTTP requests and make API calls to remote servers.

The `HttpClient` module is part of the `@angular/common/http` package and it replaces the old `XMLHttpRequest` package.

In web browsers, the `XMLHttpRequest` interface provides a set of APIs for sending HTTP requests which are the `fetch()` API (available only on modern browsers).

The `HttpClient` module is a wrapper around the `XMLHttpRequest` interface. It wraps all the complexities of the `XMLHttpRequest` interface. It wraps all the extra features like:

- RxJS Observables
- Interceptors
- Typescript
- Better error handling
- Support for caching
- And so on.

In the next step, you are going to setup the `HttpClient` module in your Angular 7 project.

Configuring the HttpClient Module

After introducing `HttpClient` module in your project,

In fact, you don't have to do much. You just need to import the `@angular/common/http` package in your `app.module.ts` file.

Open the `src/app/app.module.ts` file and add the following code:

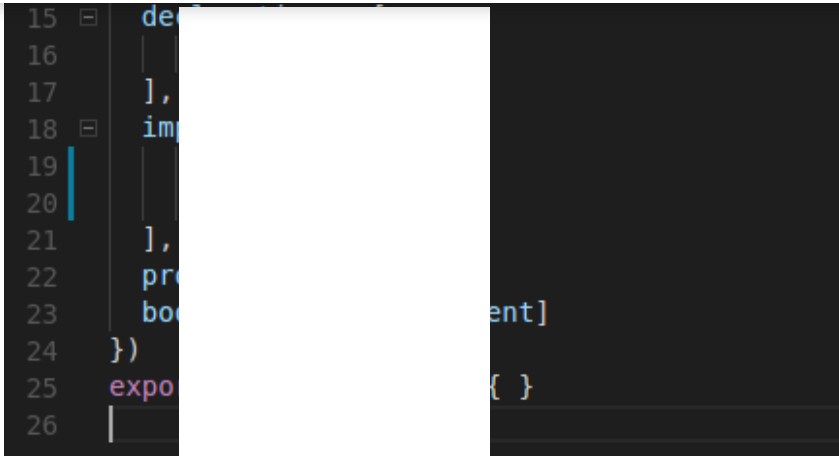
```
import { HttpClientModule }
```



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That's it! You
to your back-e

HttpClient library to send HTTP requests to a third-party API server or

In the next ste
your server.

: a service that will encapsulate the code that communicates with

Creating

Angular 7 Service

After setting u
HttpClient

project, you need to create a service which will import
HTTP requests needed in your application.

This service w

will be a **Service** component that needs to do any HTTP operations.

Go to your ter



Creating a service using the Angular CLI v7:
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ng g service api

This will generate the **api.service.ts**
that contains the service's code.

*You will not add any tests in
api.service.ts file.*

In the example, we suppose tha
www.server.com/api/
customer has the following attr

- id,
- firstName,
- lastName,



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In the next step

or your data (customer).

Creating

At this point, we need to create a `Customer` class which will be used as a type for each customer.

The `Customer` class

You need to start by

model.

`Customer` model using the following command:

ng generate

You can also use

`generate`.

This will generate

the `src/app` folder

For simple projects, we used is OK but for big projects you may need to create a your class model(s). And also use feature modules to project. For example, in this project you could use a the API service, the Customer model and any components then module.

For simple projects, we used is OK but for big projects you may need to create a your class model(s). And also use feature modules to project. For example, in this project you could use a the API service, the Customer model and any components then module.

Next, open the `src/app/customer.ts` file and add:

```
export class Customer {
  id: number;
  firstName: string;
  lastName: string;
  email: string;
  phone: string;
  city: string;
}
```

The `Customer` class is a user interface class. It has a `number` and `string` to create a user interface. You also need to export the class so it can be imported from other classes.



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```
import {
import {

@Injectab
  provide
})
export cla
  apiURL:
    '

  construc
  }

  HttpClient) {}
```

These are the `HttpClient` module and `HttpClientModule` for opening the service file:

You first inject `HttpClient` into the service's constructor.

You next add `apiURL` property to the service class which stores the address of the remote API server.

In the next step, you define `getCustomers` method for doing create, read, update and delete operations against the `customers` endpoint.

Creating the Service Methods

After creating the `CustomerService` class and injecting `HttpClient` into the service, you can now create the CRUD methods.

Since these methods will make use of the `Customer` model class as a type, either for the parameters or the return results, you first need to import the class inside the service's file:

```
import { Customer } from
```

Next, you can define the following methods to manage customers:

```
public createCustomer(c
public updateCustomer(c
public deleteCustomer(i
```



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In the next section, we'll look at the `getCustomers` method which

implements these methods one by one starting with the `.getCustomers` method for getting pages of data from the server.

Next, you'll implement

- The `.createCustomer` method which takes a parameter of the `Customer` type and send it to the server.
- The `.updateCustomer` method to update a customer,
- The `.deleteCustomer` method to delete a customer by id,
- The `.getCustomerById` method for getting a customer by id.

Fetching Data from The API

The `.getCustomers` method

is used for fetching customers.

In a real-world example, you'll need to implement the logic for fetching paginated sets of data so in this section, we'll look at how to extract pagination information from the headers of the responses coming from the server.

For storing the pagination information, we'll need to add the following variables in your service:

- `firstPage` for storing the URL of the first page,
- `prevPage` for storing the URL of the previous page,
- `nextPage` for storing the URL of the next page,
- `lastPage` for storing the URL of the last page.

The `prevPage` and `nextPage` variables

In your `ApiService` add the following properties:

```
public firstPage: string;
public prevPage: string;
public nextPage: string;
public lastPage: string;
```

Now, you are ready to implement the `getCustomers` method simply be:



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}

This will return
order to fetch

`server[]` that you need to subscribe to, in your components, in
the server.

We use the
URL.

interpolation operator and back-ticks to format the endpoint

If you want to
headers, you r

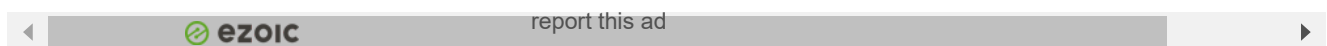
provided that your server is implementing pagination using `Link`
header instead:

```
public
  if(url)
    return
    this
  }

  return
  { observe
    this
  });
}
```

```
ring){
  get<Customer[]>(url,{ observe: 'response' }).pipe(tap(r
    .on_links(res);

  :<Customer[]>(`${this.apiUrl}/customers?page=1`,
  pipe(tap(res => {
    _links(res);
  }));
}
```



Let's explain this code. You pass an optional `url` parameter to the method then inside the method body, you check if the `url` was passed:

- If an URL is passed to the
 - If no parameter is passed
- `www.server.com/`

This way, you can use the `.get`
next pages by providing the URL
received response.

Now, you need to pay attention

- First, you pass the `{observe: 'response'}` to the `HttpClient` method. This tells `HttpClient` to retrieve the `Link` header that contains the paging information from the server.



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Next, you need

methods in your service that will be used to retrieve pagination links:

- The `parse_links` method to parse the `Link` header,
- The `retrieve_pagination_links` method to set pagination links once the `Link` header is parsed.

This is the implementation

of the `parse_link_header` method:

```

parse_link_header(link_header) {
  if (!link_header) {
    return null;
  }

  let parts = link_header.split(';');
  var link = parts[0].replace(/<(.*)>/, '$1').trim();
  var rel = parts[0].replace(/rel="(.*)"/, '$1').trim();
  link = link.replace(/"/g, '');

  return {
    link: link,
    rel: rel
  };
}

```


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This is the implementation of the `retrieve_pagination_links` method:

```

public retrieve_pagination_links(): void {
  const linkHeader = this.getResponseHeader('Link');
  this.firstPage = null;
  this.lastPage = null;
  this.prevPage = null;
  this.nextPage = null;
}

```

That's it. You have completed the service.

In the next section, you'll implement the

Fetching a Single Object by its Identifier



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single customer by its id.

```
public getCustomerById(id: number): Customer {
    return this.httpClient.get(`${this.apiUrl}/customers/${id}`);
}
```

In this method, we pass the `id` parameter to the `getCustomerById` method to get the URL to a single customer by its id.

In the next section, we will create a `createCustomer` method for creating a customer on the server.

Sending a POST Request to the Server

In this section, we will create a `createCustomer` method which sends a POST request to the server. It takes a parameter `customer` of type `Customer`.

```
public createCustomer(customer: Customer): Observable<Customer> {
    return this.httpClient.post(`${this.apiUrl}/customers/`, customer);
}
```

This method calls the `post` method that takes the URL and the customer object to send to the server with the `customer` object.

In the next section, we will create a `updateCustomer` method to update data on the server using `HttpClient`.

Sending a PUT Request to the Server

After creating the method to create customers on the server, you will create the `updateCustomer` method that will be used to update a customer on the server.

```
public updateCustomer(customer: Customer): Observable<Customer> {
    return this.httpClient.put(`${this.apiUrl}/customers/${customer.id}`, customer);
}
```

This method calls the `put` method that takes the URL and the customer object to send to the server with the `customer` object.

In the next section, you'll add the `deleteCustomer` method to delete a customer from the API server.



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The last method that we need to create is the `.deleteCustomer` method which deletes a single customer by its identifier.

```
public deleteCustomer(identifier: string): Observable<boolean> {
    return this.httpClient.delete(`${this.apiUrl}/customers/${id}`);
}
```

This method sends a DELETE request to the server using the `HttpClient.delete` method which takes an URL parameter.

to the server using the `HttpClient.delete` method which takes a URL parameter and the resource you want to delete.

Testing

After creating the service, we can test it. Now, let's create a test for the service with an HTTP client.

If you have the `AppComponent` in `app.component.ts` inject it in `AppComponent`.

API Methods

The `ApiService` class encapsulates all the methods to send HTTP requests to the API. Let's create a simple example. Keep in mind that you need to have an HTTP client.

In the `app.component.ts` file and start by importing `ApiService` then

```
import { HttpClient } from '@angular/core';
import { ApiService } from './api.service';
```

```
@Component({
  selector: 'app-root',
  templateUrl: './app.component.html',
  styleUrls: ['./app.component.css']
})
export class AppComponent {
  title = 'angular-http-client';
}
```

Next, add the following code in `app.component.ts`:

```
ngOnInit(){
  this.apiService.getCustomers()
    .subscribe(
      this.apiService.getCustomers()
        .subscribe(
          console.log(response));
        });
}
```



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Once the first
`apiService.`
 method to retr

can get the URL of the next page of data from
 use it as a parameter to the second call of the `.getCustomers`
 so on.

This can be id
`.getCustomers`
`this.apiService`
 and `this.ap`

ding first, previous, next and last buttons that call the
 responding URLs that can be accessed from the
`s.apiService.previousPage` , `this.apiService.nextPage`
 riables.

Next, create a

```
var c
  "id"
  "first" : "",
  "last" : "",
  "email" : "",
  "phone" : "",
  "city" : "",
  "country" : "",
  "title" : ""
}
```

And use it to c

server:



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```
this.apiService.createCustomer(customer).subscribe((res)=>{
  console.log("Created a customer");
});
```

You can also update the custom

```
this.apiService.updateCustomer(customer).subscribe((res)=>{
  console.log("Updated a customer");
});
```

Finally, you can delete the custo

```
this.apiService.deleteCustomer(customer).subscribe((res)=>{
  console.log("Deleted a customer");
});
```



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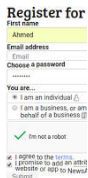
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returned fi

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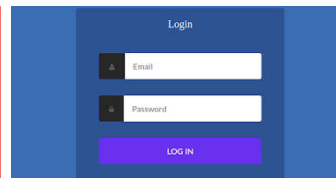
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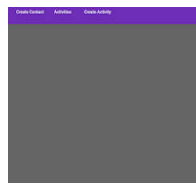
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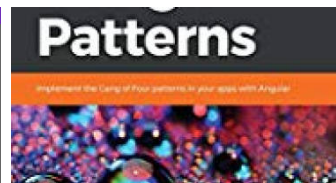
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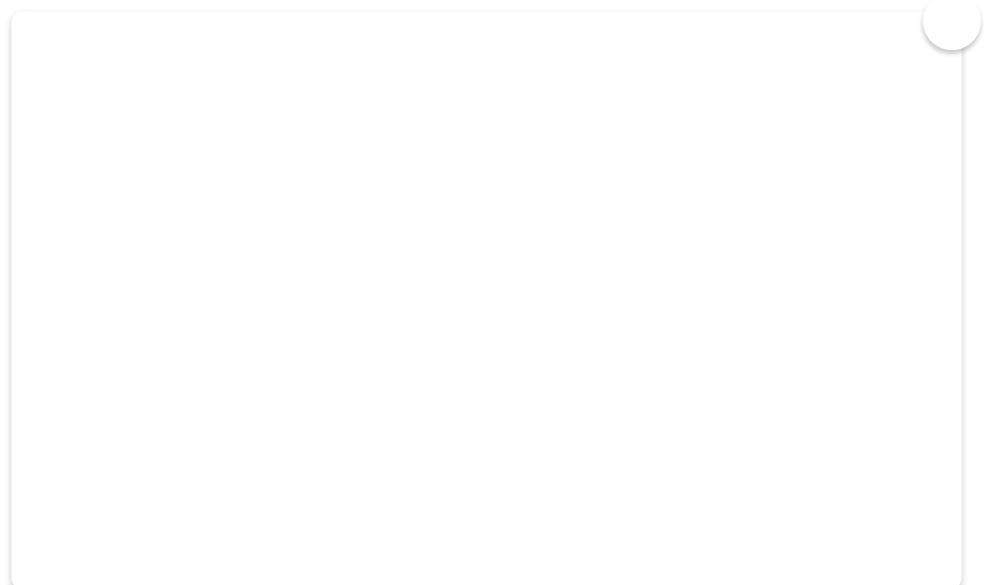
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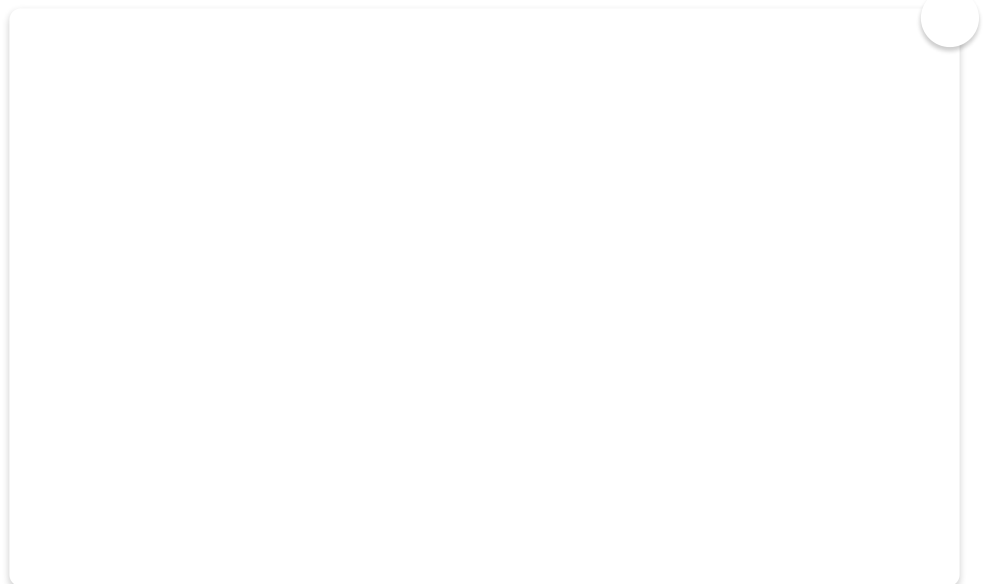
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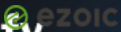
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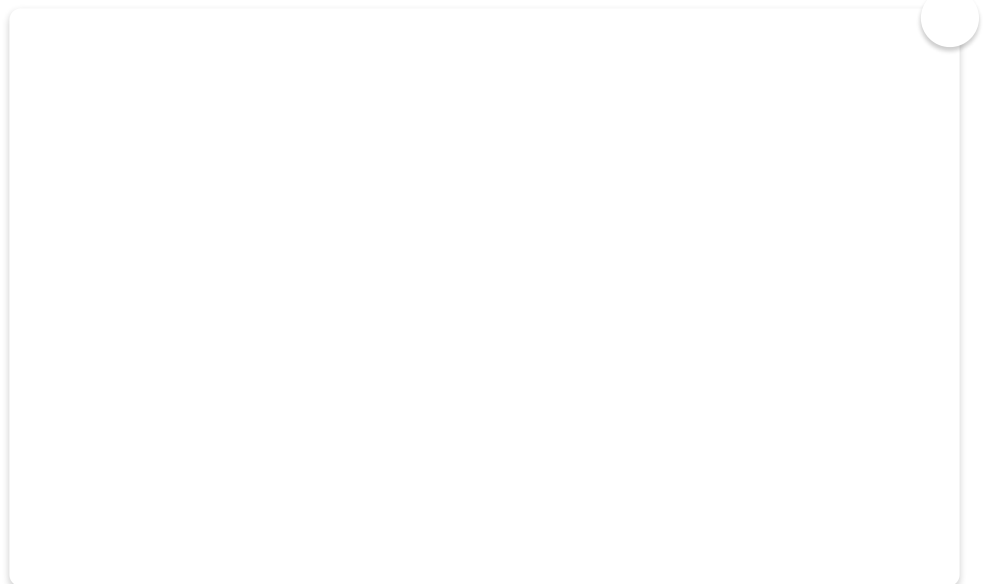


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This creates a tight cou

There is an Angular libr
with strongly-typed call
With this, you only deal

<https://github.com/Ver>

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Sir, I tested with json file and it successfully worked. But I need to create a test api call querying

with oracle database, how to store queried data in json object? Please help

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This depends on the server side framework you are using. Angular is just for the front-end. Are you using PHP, Python Nods.js for the server?

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No sir, I am using node js and javascript.

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