

REST

Representational State Transfer

Transferring State (information) in different representations (XML/**JSON**/CSV/HTML/TEXT/...)

There is standards like WSDL (for SOAP) in REST

Client and server **exchange data** in the form of (mostly) JSON

Clients are typically JavaScript application (or mobile apps), which run directly on the end-user's browser (or mobile)

State (or data) is represented on the server --> resource

A Resource is identified using a URI (~URL) --> **http://example.com/api/products**

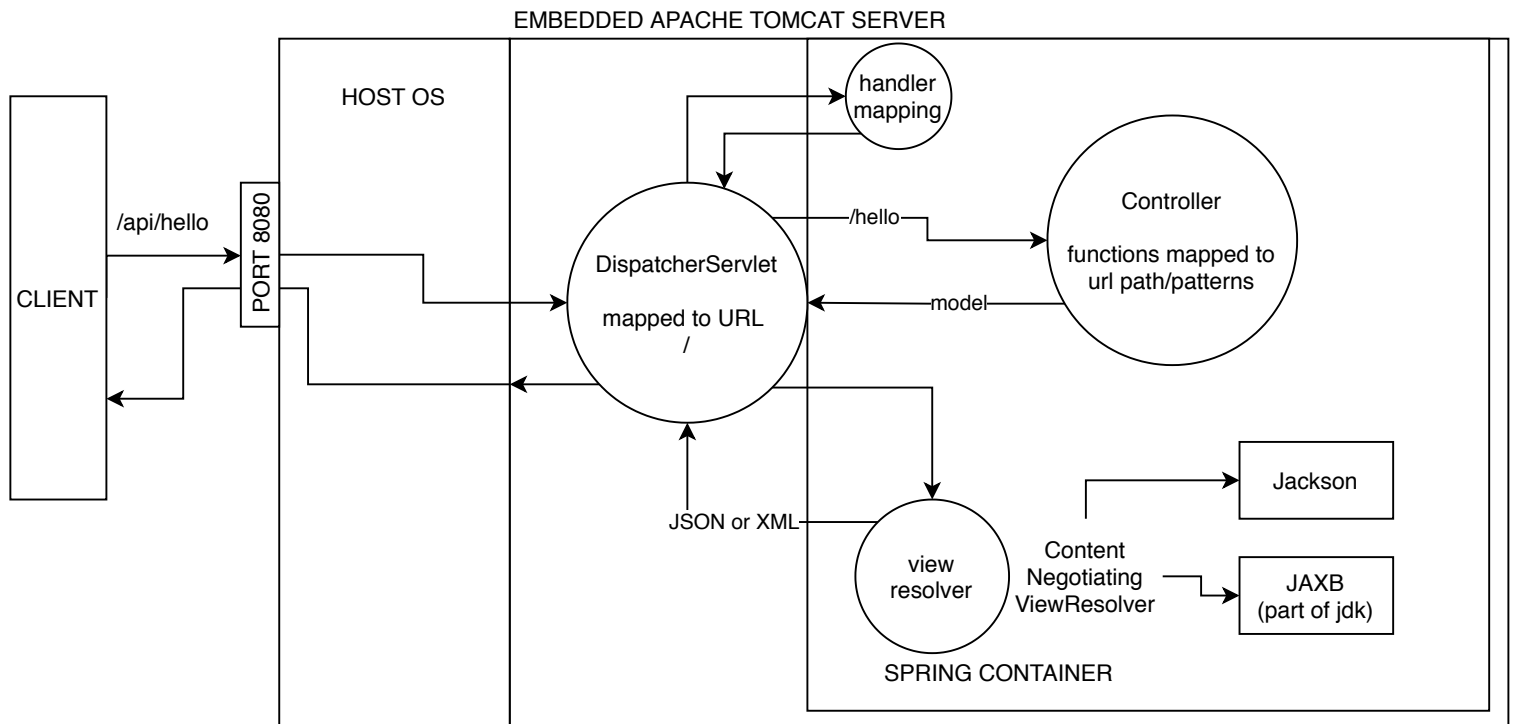
A Resource can be manipulated using HTTP request methods (**GET/POST/PUT/PATCH/DELETE**) <-- VERBS

Client and Server can negotiate for the kind (representation) of data (CONNEG)

CONNEG is done using HTTP request/response headers called '**Accept**' and '**Content-Type**'

The concept of RESTful services is based on 6 constraints laid out by Roy Fielding, creator of HTTP protocol:

1. Client/server application
2. Stateless
3. Uniform interface
4. Layered system
5. Cacheable
6. Code on demand (OPTIONAL)



ContentNegotiatingViewResolver

is the default view resolver used by handler function's return value for all `@RestController`s. This resolver checks the header "Accept" and based on the value, it will make use of either Jackson API (to generate JSON output) or JAXB API (to generate XML output)