

# **API Tools Solution**

**URL-XI Basic Training** 

2021-10-20



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# 1 Introduction

This document contains practical training on URL-XI, the new scripting tool offered by Apica System. It is a self-paced training that you can do at your own pace.

The purpose of training is that you should be able to understand the concept of URL-XI and create scripts that solve real use cases for API monitoring.

# 1.1 References

• The Axios Home page. URL-XI http requests are based on the axios library. See <a href="https://axios-http.com/docs/req\_config">https://axios-http.com/docs/req\_config</a>

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# 2 URL-XI Introduction

# 2.1 Concept

- A solution from Apica for creating advanced API checks. You create an url-xi test case (script) in a json file.
- URL-XI is a simplified version POSTMAN and using a similar concept but has better support for a flow of request and correlation of request. It can additionally return other metrics than response times of the http requests as the main return value of the test case.
- The tool has a model-based testing framework inspired by Mocha and Jest.
- A test case is built up in several steps. A step contains one or several API requests.
- Reporting is done on each step and all underlying requests.
- The tool is built for API monitoring from the bottom up.
- Detailed timings are reported per request.
- You can customize what should be reported as the result of a test case.

You can run a test case from the command line and as a check in Apica Synthetics (ASM).

# 2.2 Detailed information about url-xi

Can be found at: <a href="https://www.npmjs.com/package/@apica-io/url-xi">https://www.npmjs.com/package/@apica-io/url-xi</a>



# 3 Lab 1 - Install URL-XI and setup environment

# 3.1 Purpose

Get a little bit familiar with the tool by running url-xi from command line with a couple of switches.

# 3.2 The training setup with directories

You should setup the training by cloning the GitHub repository you have got from the instructor. The directory you have cloned will be the working directory for the training.

# jostgren:url-xi janostgren\$ ls -l total 24 -rw-r--r-- 1 janostgren staff 42 18 Okt 15:58 README.md drwxr-xr-x 2 janostgren staff 64 19 Okt 07:49 api-project -rw-r--r-- 1 janostgren staff 318 18 Okt 15:59 package.json -rw-r--r-- 1 janostgren staff 577 13 Okt 16:04 redirect\_sample.json drwxr-xr-x 11 janostgren staff 352 20 Okt 13:17 results

- The *solutions* directory contains solutions to all labs. You should newer change anything in that directory. The repository content can be updated.
- You should try to solve all labs without looking at the solutions.
- The *results* directory is a directory for storing results from executions of the url-xi command.

drwxr-xr-x 12 janostgren staff 384 20 Okt 12:45 solutions

- The api-project directory is project directory for ASM API labs.
- The redirect\_sample.json file is a simple url-xi test case that you use in the first labs.

# 3.3 Install URL-XI from NPM

- 1) Install Node JS on your workstation. Information about how to install Node are found here <a href="https://nodejs.org/en/download/">https://nodejs.org/en/download/</a>.
- 2) Install latest version of url-xi with the following command npm install -g @apica-io/url-xi.
- 3) Verify your installation by enter url-xi from the command shell.

# 3.4 Install and setup Visual Studio Code (Optional)

We recommend you install Microsoft Visual Studio code. It will make it easier to create url-xi scripts, due to the strong support for JSON.



# 3.5 Create first project for url-xi

You only need to do this if you have not download the content from GitHub respository.

Create a directory to work in in. We will call it the project directory.

- 1) Create a sub-directory called results in project directory.
- 2) Copy a simple script form the samples directory in your global url-xi installation. This directory is /usr/local/lib/node\_modules/@apica-io/url-xi/samples on Mac and Linux. Try the following command to show loction and globally installed packages.

### npm list -g --depth 0

3) Copy the redirect\_sample.json file from the sample directory.

The sample script will look like this. You will use it as a template when creating new scripts.

It is important that you always use the schema reference on the first line in the json file, it will help you editing the file in Visual Studio Code.

# 3.6 Run the sample with different parameters settings

1) Check syntax of the url-xi command

```
url-xi -h
Usage: url-xi [options]
Options:
 -V. --version
                           output the version number
 -f, --file <test file>
                            The test configuration file
 -r, --results <result dir>
                              The result directory
 -xh, --xheaders <headers>
                                  extra headers (default: "{}")
 -i, --inputs [inputs...]
                            input variables. Format name=value format
 -u, --url <url>
                           base url
 -l, --log level <log level>
                               log level (default: "info")
 -nd, --nodata
                            no response/request data in report
 -m, --mask
                           Mask sensitive data from report
 -po, --parse only
                             parse json only. No not run (default: false)
                              Production mode. Minimal logging and content in
 -prod, --production
results (default: false)
 --no-keep_alive
                             No keep alive of http connections
 -rn, --result name <result name > name of the result
 -s, --server
                          start as server
                             server port (default: "8070")
 -p, --port <port>
 -tc, --time calc <time calc> Custom request-time calculation (default:
"totalTime")
 -of, --out_format < out_format >
                                    Output format in json result. CRS or Default
(default: "default")
 -proj --project <project>
                                Project should be a directory or a zip file
 -ts, --table server  Apica Table Server (Experimental testing)
 -dk, --decryptKey <decryptKey> Cryptify Decrypt key
                              Http(s) proxy (default: "")
 --proxy <proxy>
 -h, --help
                          display help for command
```

2) Run url-xi with no optional parameters.

```
url-xi -f redirect sample.json
```

3) Run with -r switch and examine the result report located in results directory and change log level to debug

```
url-xi -f redirect sample.json -r results -l debug
```

4) Examine the result file in the results directory and the log files. We encourage you to install the fx utility for look at json files.

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5) Use other base urls for with -u option.

# url-xi -f redirect\_sample.json -r results -l debug -u http://google.com

6) Try the -of crs switch and -prod switch and look at the results. It is the switches used in ASM.

# 4 LAB 2 - Simple chain API example

# 4.1 Purpose

Learn the basics of chaining requests with extractors. We will use the rest API for TicketMonster demo application for this lab. <a href="http://ticketmonsterdev.apicasystem.com/ticket-monster/">http://ticketmonsterdev.apicasystem.com/ticket-monster/</a>

# 4.2 Exercise 1 - Chain events to events detail request

### 4.2.1 Final result

```
Process results [TM Chaining requests lab 1] -----
     [est Summary] -----
Test Name: TM Chaining requests lab 1
     Flow Control: Chained Flow
     Total Response Time: 301
     Total Content length: 928
     Timing Totals
       Socket Wait: 2.4
       DNS Time: 8.6
       SSL Handshake Time: 0.0
       TCP Time: 114
       Time To First Byte: 173.0
       Download Time:
     Start Time: 2021-10-15T10:02:09.475Z
     End Time: 2021-10-15T10:02:09.794Z
Number of steps: 1
     Return value: 301 (ms)
     Result success: true
-- [Variables values] -
     name=eventName [inResponse], value=Champions League
     name=mediaLink [inResponse], value=http://img.uefa.com/imgml/2016/ucl/social/og-default.jpg
-- [Steps result] -----
     Events-Correlation
              [success=true, duration=301, content-length=928, start time=2021-10-15T10:02:09.477Z, ignore duration=false]
       All events - [GET] http://ticketmonsterdev.apicasystem.com/ticket-monster/rest/events?_=1634292129478
              [Success=true, Duration=208.7, Content-length=589, Start time=2021-10-15T10:02:09.478Z, Status=(200 : 0K)]
               Timings [ Wait=2.18, DNS=8.59, SSL/TLS handshake =0.00 TCP=114.11, FirstByte=81.68, Download=2.14]
       Event Details - [GET] http://ticketmonsterdev.apicasystem.com/ticket-monster/rest/events/1?_=1634292129700 [Success=true, Duration=91.88, Content-length=339,Start time=2021-10-15T10:02:09.700Z, Status=(200 : 0K)]
               Timings [ Wait=0.24, DNS=0.00, SSL/TLS handshake =0.00 TCP=0.00, FirstByte=91.29, Download=0.35]
```

## 4.2.2 Specification

Artifact	Name/Content	Comments
test name	tm_lab2_1.json	
baseURL	http://ticketmonsterdev.apicasystem.com/ticket-monster	
variables	eventName - In response	From extractions of
	mediaLink - In response, url	request 2
Step 1	Name: Events-Correlation	
Request 1	url: '/rest/events'	
	name: All Events	

	Extractors eventId – Random id , jsonpath	The value of <i>eventld</i> will be used in next request.
Request 2	url: /rest/events/{{eventId}} name: Event Details	
	Extractors eventName - Variable to display mediaLink - Variable to display	Use jsonpath for extraction

### Hints:

- Start with just include the first request.
- Use -r switch
- Examine the result with the fx or in Visual Studio.
- Include the extractor in request 1.
- Run with debug option.

- This is a good start for your solution.
- Insert the extractor as next step.

# 4.3 Exercise 2 - Use a custom return value

In this exercise we will create a customized return value for the script.

### 4.3.1 Final result

```
Process results [TM Chaining requests lab 2] -----
[Test Summary] ----
Test Name: TM Chaining requests lab 2
   Flow Control: Chained Flow
   Total Response Time: 1217
Total Content length: 589
   Timing Totals
     Socket Wait: 5.5
     DNS Time: 1094.7
     SSL Handshake Time: 0.0
      TCP Time:
   Time To First Byte: 60.5
Download Time: 2.3
Start Time: 2021-10-15T10:41:50.346Z
   End Time: 2021-10-15T10:41:51.635Z
   Number of steps: 1
   Return value: 2 (events)
    Result success: true
- [Variables values] ----
   name=eventCount [returnValue], value=2 events
- [Steps result] -----
   Event Counting
             [success=true, duration=1217, content-length=589, start time=2021-10-15T10:41:50.349Z, ignore duration=false]
      Count Events - [GET] http://ticketmonsterdev.apicasystem.com/ticket-monster/rest/events?_=1634294510349
             [Success=true, Duration=1217.13, Content-length=589, Start time=2021-10-15T10:41:50.349Z, Status=(200 : OK)] Timings [ Wait=5.47, DNS=1094.73, SSL/TLS handshake =0.00 TCP=54.16, FirstByte=60.49, Download=2.29]
```

### 4.3.2 Lab specification

Artifact	Name/Content	Comments
test name	tm_lab2_2.json	
baseURL	http://ticketmonsterdev.apicasystem	n.com/ticket-monster
variables	eventCount - returnValue	The customized return
		value
Step 1	Name: Event Counting	
Request 1	url: '/rest/events'	
	name: Count Event	
	Extractors	The value of <i>eventCount</i>
	eventCount - All Ids , jsonpath,	will be used as return
	counter	value

# 5 LAB 3 - Example with ASM API

# 5.1 Purpose

In this lab section we will do exercis with ASM rest API.

See <a href="https://api-wpm2.apicasystem.com/v3/Help">https://api-wpm2.apicasystem.com/v3/Help</a> for information about the API.

This section covers more advanced topics of url-xi scripting and we will use a project for storing shared variables and JavaScript<sup>1</sup> files.

# 5.2 Create the project api-project

The directory *api-project* is our project directory.

### 5.2.1 Shared variables

The shared variables in the vars directory. Save as apiproject/vars/common\_vars.json

```
{
    "key": "authTicket",
    "type": "string",
    "usage": "input",
    "hideValue": true,
    "value": "XXX-XXX"
},
{
    "key": "asmUrl",
    "type": "url",
    "usage": "input",
    "value": "https://wpm.apicasystem.com"
}
```

 The authTicket does not contain a valid ticket. You edit it or use the -i authTicket="my ticket" when running the labs.

### 5.2.2 Include section in all scripts

You should include an include section in all your scripts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is possible to write JavaScript directly in the json file, but easier debug and view in an external file. Small JavaScript snippets should be done directly in the json file like an in-line script.

 The include section should be placed be fore the steps section in the script

# 5.3 Exercise 1 - Count checks of specific type

### 5.3.1 Final result

### 5.3.2 Lab specification

Count checks of specific type. The input parameter checkTypeName should match the json property *check\_type\_name* in the response array.

Artifact	Name/Content	Comments
test name	api_lab3_1.json	
baseURL	https://api-wpm2.apicasystem.com/v3/	
variables	checkTypeName checkCount - returnValue	The check type name The customized return value
Includes	See above for the include	
Step 1	Name: Get Checks	
Request 1	url: 'checks'	

name: Count Checks of type	
Parameters	auth_ticket : {{authTicket}} enabled: "true" severity: "I"
Extractors checkCount - jsonpath, counter	The value of <i>checkCount</i> will be used as return value.
	You will need to do an advanced jsonpath which filter on the <i>checkTypeName</i> value. You can use the mustache expression
	{{checkTypeName}}

# 5.4 Exercise 2 - Count checks of specific type

### 5.4.1 Final result

### 5.4.2 Lab specification

Same as lab 1 but using JavaScript to filter the checks.

See: <a href="https://www.npmjs.com/package/@apica-io/url-xi#javascript-support">https://www.npmjs.com/package/@apica-io/url-xi#javascript-support</a> for the syntax of the JavaScript support.

See: <a href="https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global\_Objects/Array/filter">https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global\_Objects/Array/filter</a> for how to do a filter on an array.

Artifact	Name/Content	Comments
test name	api_lab3_2.json	
baseURL	https://api-wpm2.apicasysten	n.com/v3/
variables	checkTypeName	The check type name
	checkCount - returnValue	The customized return value
Includes	See above for the include	
Step 1	Name: Get Checks	
Request 1	url: 'checks'	
	name: Count Checks of type	
	params	auth_ticket : {{authTicket}}
		enabled: "true" severity: "l"
	script	Do a java script filter function
	scope: after	on the response array.
	name:"Count Checks"	
	script:"countChecks.js"	

# 5.5 Exercise 3 - Get details of check with max value

### 5.5.1 Final result

```
[Test Summary] -----
Test Name: ASM Rest API lab 3
    Flow Control: Chained Flow
    Total Response Time: 2009
Total Content length: 104266
    Timing Totals
Socket Wait: 4.8
       DNS Time: 1.4
SSL Handshake Time: 91.6
TCP Time: 35.5
       Time To First Byte: 1743.0
    Download Time: 133.2
Start Time: 2021-10-20T14:00:48.124Z
    End Time: 2021-10-20T14:00:50.195Z
   Number of steps: 1
Return value: 2643 (ms)
- [Variables values] --
   Variables Values] -----
name=checkTypeName [input], description=The check type name, value=ZebraTester
name=checkName [inResponse], description=The check name, value=TM_RecordedSession_Mobile_Application - Apple iPhone XR (Safari)
name=asmCheckLink [inResponse], description=Link to check details, value=https://wpm.apicasystem.com/Check/Details/57413
name=checkValue [returnValue], description=The check value, value=2643
name=resultMessage [inResponse], description=Result message, value=3 loops/user, 5 pages, 222/6 passed/failed url calls, 3,9 urls
     name=asmUrl [input], value=https://wpm.apicasystem.com
- [Steps result] -
    Get Checks
               [success=true, duration=2009, content-length=104266, start time=2021-10-20T14:00:48.126Z, ignore duration=false]
```

### 5.5.2 Lab specification

Return the detailed information of a check with max value for the specified type.

See: <a href="https://www.npmjs.com/package/@apica-io/url-xi#javascript-support">https://www.npmjs.com/package/@apica-io/url-xi#javascript-support</a> for the syntax of the JavaScript support.

See: <a href="https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global Objects/Array/sort">https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global Objects/Array/sort</a> for how to do a sort of an array.

Artifact	Name/Content	Comments
test name	api_lab3_3.json	
baseURL	https://api-wpm2.apicasystem.com/v3/	
variables	checkTypeName - input checkValue - returnValue asmCheckLink - in response,url checkName - in response resultMessage - in response	The check type name The customized return value The link to the specific check
Includes	See above for the include	
Step 1	Name: Get Checks	
Request 1	url: 'checks' name: Count Checks of type	
	Params:	<pre>auth_ticket : {{authTicket}} enabled: "true" severity: "I"</pre>
	Extractors checks – jsonpath, array	Use same jsonpath as in lab 1.
	script scope: after name:"Get max Check" script:"getMaxCheck.js"	Do a java script max function on the response array. Return check.id of item 1 in sorted array as variable 'checkld'
Request 2	url: 'checks/{{checkId}}' name: Check details	
	params	auth_ticket : {{authTicket}}
	Extractors checkName - name checkValue - value resultMessage - Last result message	check value will be used as return value
	Tranformers type: "replace "target": "asmCheckLink" "source": <the do="" to="" work=""></the>	Do a transformation to store the link to the check in the asmCheckLink variable

# 5.6 Exercise 4 - Update SLA on all checks matching a tag

### 5.6.1 Final result

### 5.6.2 Lab specification

In this lab exercise we will update the SLA target for all checks matching a specified tag name and tag value.

See: <a href="https://www.npmjs.com/package/@apica-io/url-xi#javascript-support">https://www.npmjs.com/package/@apica-io/url-xi#javascript-support</a> for the syntax of the JavaScript support.

Artifact	Name/Content	Comments
test name	api_lab3_4.json	
baseURL	https://api-wpm2.apicasyste	m.com/v3/
variables	tagName - input tagValue - input maxLaps - number -value =-1	You can use maxLaps to limit the number of rows in the iterator
Includes	See above for the include	
Step 1	Name: Get Checks	
Request 1	url: 'checks' name: 'Get checks by tag'	
	Params	"auth_ticket":"{{authTicket}}"  "enabled": "true"  "severity": "I"  "include_tag":  "{{tagName}}~{{tagValue}}"
	Extractors checks, array	All checks
Step 2	Update checks	
	iterator: value: "{{checks}}" varName : "check" maxLaps: "{{maxLaps}}"	
Request 1	url: 'fixed in before script' name: 'Update check - {{\$lapidx1}}' method: 'put' data {}	The configuration url data should be fixed in the before JavaScript to the request. The check.check_type_api are often part of the url. For some check types it needs to be changed.
	params	auth_ticket : {{authTicket}}
	scripts scope:"before" name:"PrepareUpdate" script:"prepareUpdate.js"	The script should create the url and populate data. Data is the request body. You can set sla_target and sla_target_2 to 99.5

# 6 Lab 4 - Use certificates and encryption

Not done yet. New release will contain the labs.