

Back End Programming

REST





- REST (Representational State Transfer)
- REST is an architectural style for designing distributed systems. It is not a standard but a set of constraints
- Main principles
 - Resources expose easily understood directory structure URIs
 - Representations transfer JSON or XML to represent data objects and attributes
 - Messages use HTTP methods (POST, GET, PUT, DELETE)
 - PUT to modify and POST to add new
 - Stateless interactions store no client context on the server between requests



REST Endpoints

Http Method	Resource Endpoint	Actions
GET	/students	Get All Students
POST	/students	Add New Student
GET	/students/{id}	Get One Student
PUT	/students/{id}	Update One Student
DELETE	/students/{id}	Delete One Student
Etc.		



- In Spring framework's approach to building RESTful web services, HTTP requests are handled by a controller
- Controllers are identified by @RestController annotation
- Difference between REST and MVC controller are that REST controller returns HTTP response body and MVC controller returns a view.
- REST controller will write object data to the HTTP response as JSON format
- Spring uses Jackson JSON processor to convert object data to JSON



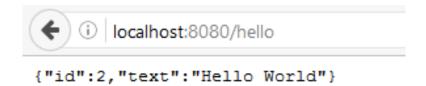
- Example
 - In the following example you have Message class with two attributes (id, text)



- Example
 - First GET request with request parameter



Second GET request without request parameter





You can also create RESTful service by using @Controller and @ResponseBody annotations

@Controller



- Example: Add REST service to student list application (Example project from ORM One-to-many chapter)
 - The first method returns students to Thymeleaf template. The second method returns as JSON format.

```
// Show all students in Thymeleaf template
@RequestMapping(value="/studentlist", method = RequestMethod.GET)
public String studentList(Model model) {
  model_addAttribute("students", repository_findAll());
  return "studentlist"; // studentlist.html
}
// RESTful service to get all students
@RequestMapping(value="/students", method = RequestMethod.GET)
public @ResponseBody List<Student> studentListRest() {
  return (List<Student>) repository.findAll();
Server Programming
```



- You have to configure one-to-many relationship from JSON by using @JsonIgnore or @JsonIgnoreProperties annotation. Otherwise entity relationship will cause endless loop (First student is serialized and it contains department which is then serialized which contains students which are then serialized....)
- Next slide has the usage for this relationship

```
@ManyToOne
@JoinColumn(name = "departmentid")
private Department department;
```

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Department class has

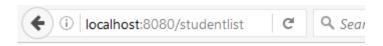
```
@JsonIgnoreProperties("department")
// ignoring 'department' attribute for all students
@OneToMany(cascade = CascadeType.ALL, mappedBy =
   "department")
private List<Student> students;
```



Now /students endpoint will return students in JSON



And /studentlist endpoint will return HTML page



Students





// RESTful service to get on student by id

RESTful service to find student by id using path variable

```
@RequestMapping(value="/student/{id}", method = RequestMethod.GET)
   public @ResponseBody Student findStudentRest(@PathVariable("id") Long studentId)
      return repository.findById(studentId);
   }
         (i) localhost:8080/student/5
{"id":5, "firstName": "Katy", "lastName": "Kateson", "email": "kate@kate.com", "department": {"departmentid":2, "name": "Business"}}
```



- Spring Data REST builds on top of Spring Data repositories and automatically exports those as REST resources
- Add dependency to get started with Spring Data REST

```
...
<dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-data-rest</artifactId>
</dependency>
...
```



- Spring Data REST detects public repositories to determine if a repository will be exported as REST resource
- You don't need to define any Controller
- By default Spring Data REST serves REST resources in application root path '/'.
- Path can be changed in application.properties file

.



If you have the following repository

Spring Data REST will create REST service / students

Example: http://localhost:8080/api/students

- The service path name is derived from the entity name (pluralized and uncapitalized)
- Spring Data REST services contains also links to resources (using HAL format)



- All available REST resources can be found with HTTP GET request to application root URL
- Example: Student application

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/jusiu
                                                                             Х
usju@HHMX956 MINGW64 ~
curl http://localhost:8080/api
            % Received % Xferd Average Speed
                                                 Time
                                                                        Current
                                Dload Upload
                                                 Total
                                                         Spent
                                 8468
 "_links" : {
   "departments" : {
     "href": "http://localhost:8080/api/departments"
   "students" : {
     "href": "http://localhost:8080/api/students"
   "profile" : {
     "href": "http://localhost:8080/api/profile"
usju@HHMX956 MINGW64 ~
                                                                                   7.2.2025
```



Departments REST service

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/jusju
                                                                               ×
 curl http://localhost:8080/api
jusju@HHMX956 MINGW64 ~
 curl http://localhost:8080/api/departments
  % Total % Received % Xferd Average Speed Time Time
                                                                    Time Current
                                  Dload Upload Total Spent Left Speed 30276 0 --:--:- --:-- 30276{
100
    1423
             0 1423
                               0 30276
  "_embedded" : {
    "departments" : [ {
      "name" : "IT",
      "_links" : {
        "self" : {
          "href": "http://localhost:8080/api/departments/1"
       },
"department" : {
   "http
          "href": "http://localhost:8080/api/departments/1"
        "students" : {
          "href": "http://localhost:8080/api/departments/1/students"
      "name" : "Business",
      "_links" : {
```

Haaga-Helia Spring Data REST

- Services can be also used to add and delete items
- Example:
 - Following POST request will add new student to database

```
curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -X POST -d
'{"firstName":"Jukka","lastName":"Juslin"}'
http://localhost:8080/api/students
```

 REST services can be also secured by using Spring Security (next lessons)



- You can also use your queries from the CrudRepository by using Rest API
- Example

```
@RepositoryRestResource
public interface StudentRepository extends CrudRepository<Student, Long> {
   List<Student> findByEmail(@Param("email") String email);
}
```

- Add @RepositoryRestResource annotation to your repository class and @Param annotation for your parameters
- Now you can call your query by using following endpoint

http://localhost:8080/api/students/search/findByEmail?email= johnson@mail.com

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DATA-REST HAL request

```
To add new student
{
    "firstName": "Jukka",
    "lastName": "Kateson",
    "email": "kate@kate.com",
    "department": "api/departments/1"
}
```



Example DATA REST commands with curl

```
$ curl -X PUT http://localhost:8080/api/students/6 -H
'Content-type:application/json' -d '{"firstName":
"Samwise Gamgee", "lastName": "ring bearer"}'
$ curl -X DELETE http://localhost:8080/api/students/7
```