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# Flask-RESTX (cont.)

### **Prerequisites:**

It is assumed that you will install and take a look at the following packages in python before heading to activities:

- flask-restx (https://flask-restx.readthedocs.io/en/latest/)
- (http://flask.pocoo.org/) pandas (https://pandas.pydata.org/)

You do not need to learn how to create a flask web application (e.g. Jinja2 is not necessary). For testing your RESTful APIs, you will need to be familiar with

Swagger doc (https://swagger.io/)

All of the following activities will be based on the *Book dataset* (Download the CSV file (https://github.com/mysilver/COMP9321-Data-Services/blob/master/Week4\_Visualization/Books.csv))

### Activity-1: Get a List of Books

**Description**: Create a new Resource class to return all books.

### Steps:

- 1. Make a copy of your code from the previous week
- 2. Create a new resource class
- 3. Add a new method called get to your resource class

The method must return all books in the dataset which can be ordered (ascending or descending order) by any of columns

- You can use query parameters to pass the column name and order type (https://flask-restx.readthedocs.io/en/latest/parsing.html) .
- 4. You need to use a decorator called expect() (https://flaskrestx.readthedocs.io/en/stable/parsing.html#file-upload) which accepts a request parser as input; this will automatically help flask-restx to generate appropriate swagger doc which includes inputs for query parameters
- 5. Run the application and browse http://127.0.0.1:5000/ (http://127.0.0.1:5000/) to test the endpoint. Test your API to see if it works properly.



(https://github.com/mysilver/COMP9321-Data-Services/blob/master/Week6\_Flask2/activity\_1.py)

# Activity-2: Add a new Book

**Description**: Add another endpoint to the resource class which allow users to add new books.

#### Steps:

- 1. Make a copy of your code from the previous activity
- 2. Create a new method named "post"
  - Details of a new book should be posted via request payload.
  - The endpoint must return appropriate error message if the given id (book identifier) already exists in the dataset
- 3. Iterate over the key-values of the payload and update the dataframe Return error messages if the input includes unexpected keys
- 4. Run the application and browse http://127.0.0.1:5000/ (http://127.0.0.1:5000/) to test the endpoint. Test your API to see if it works properly.



(https://github.com/mysilver/COMP9321-Data-Services/blob/master/Week6\_Flask2/activity\_2.py)

## **Activity-3: Improving Swagger Documentation**

**Description**: So far we did not manually created the swagger documentation; however, still the documentation can be improved by manually adding some information (e.g. API description, parameter description)

#### Steps:

- 1. Make a copy of your code from the previous activity
- 2. When creating an instance of API class, specify the title, description, default namespace, and version of the API. (https://flask-restx.readthedocs.io/en/stable/swagger.html#swagger-ui)
- 3. Use @api.response (http://flask-restx.readthedocs.io/en/stable/swagger.html#documenting-with-the-api-response-decorator) to indicate which HTTP response code does each method returns and what they mean
- 4. Use @api.param (http://flask-restx.readthedocs.io/en/stable/swagger.html#method-parameters) to add descriptions for the parameters
- 5. Use @api.doc (http://flask-restx.readthedocs.io/en/stable/swagger.html#documenting-with-the-api-doc-decorator) to add descriptions for API methods



(https://github.com/mysilver/COMP9321-Data-Services/blob/master/Week6\_Flask2/activity\_3.py)

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