

Managing Data Over the World Wide Web

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Dry Question

Now, SimpleFilter is required to filter a request before it is being processed, on top of existing functionality allowing filtering the response. For example, one may want to check if a user is authorized to access a certain file. If so, returned a compressed file. How would design the filter mechanism in the server, in order to support this functionality?

Answer

We are implementing the filter chain in the following way, we are going to use a wrapper class to simpleFilter which will hold the class which we dynamically bind and the url patterns that activates him. The filter chaing will hold a list of the simpleFilterWrapper and a counter which specifies the filter we are activating right now. When we call from the class that handles the request to 'doFilter' of 'FilterChain' we are going to activate each suitable filter class to filter the request and the response. We decided that each simpleFilter will first process the request and update the response and only then call the next filter in the chain by calling doFilter which will call the next filter by updating the counter. So if we want to implement the example that suggested in the question we will create 'AccessSimpleFilter' which will check the requested URI and handle the response accordingly and then call the next filter in the chain by 'doFilter' with the processed request and response.