### Question 01 - What is Spring Boot?

Spring Boot is a Java Framework that allows you to easily create stand-alone, production-grade Spring based Java Applications. It is often used in Microservice Architecture because of simplicity that it allows.

Applications created with Spring Boot can be executed with simple java -jar command and also allows traditional war deployment. Spring Boot supports following embedded containers:

- Tomcat
- Jetty
- Undertow

Simplicity of deployment and execution has many advantages, for example, it allows for Dev/Prod parity (<a href="https://12factor.net/">https://12factor.net/</a>) which increases product quality.

Spring Boot provides number of features that can be used to fulfill non-functional requirements for the project (externalized configuration, security, metrics, health checks).

### Question 01 - What is Spring Boot?

Spring Boot provides many modules under common umbrella:

- Spring Boot DevTools live-reload to speed-up development
- Spring Boot Actuator monitoring and management of application
- Spring Boot Starters dependency set for technologies to minimize setup time
- Spring Boot Autoconfiguration configuration templates for technologies to minimize setup time

On top of it, you can use all Spring Framework technologies, like:

- Spring Web Spring MVC Framework
- ► Template Engines server side rendering engines for web pages
- Spring Security authentication and authorization framework
- Spring Data MongoDB NoSQL database client
- ... and many more

### Question 02 - What are the advantages of using Spring Boot?

- Maximizes productivity
- Simplifies deployment, by allowing to create executable jar, and also supports traditional deployment on top of application server
- Provides automatic configuration which reduces boilerplate configuration, and allows easy customization when defaults are not sufficient
- Allows for Dev/Prod Parity (<a href="https://12factor.net/">https://12factor.net/</a>)
- Provides set of managed dependencies
- Provides Maven Plugins
- Provides non-functional features common for projects externalized configuration, security, metrics, health checks
- Integrates with Micro Service Architecture Tools for building Highly Available and Fault Tolerant Applications Eureka, Ribbon, OpenFeign
- Integrates with systemd and init.d, which allows to easily run applications as Linux Services
- Uses IoC/DI from Spring Framework

### Question 03 - Why is it "opinionated"?

Spring Boot is "opinionated" framework because it comes with general idea on how application should be organized, provides default configurations and modules setups for technology related aspect of application. (embedded databases, mvc view resolvers, template rendering engines, ...)

In comparison with Spring Framework, Spring Boot provides starters and autoconfigurations which intelligently fits default configuration based on defined dependencies.

Main advantage on how Spring Boot approaches "opinionated" style, is that you can always override default configuration if it does not fit your use case.

"Opinionated" has following advantages:

- Simplifies application setup
- Maximizes productivity, by allowing you to focus on business code instead of setup of technology related code
- Allows you to write configuration only in case when defaults are not a good fit for your case
- ▶ Allows easy integration with technology modules (Embedded Databases, Containers ...)
- Minimizes amount of setup code

The main disadvantage of "opinionated" framework is that, if your application does not fall into most use cases supported by framework, you will have to override most of default setup, configurations and project organization, which might harm your productivity.

### Question 04 - What things affect what Spring Boot sets up?

Spring Boot uses autoconfiguration to detect dependencies on the class path, based on detected dependencies, spring beans are configured to allow integration with technologies, like JPA, Data Sources, Embedded Databases, Template Rendering engines etc.

Spring Boot searches for META-INF/spring.factories on classpath that should contain entry org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.EnableAutoConfiguration that lists all autoconfiguration classes provided by the autoconfiguration module.

Autoconfiguration class is using @ConditionalOn... annotations to specify under which conditions, certain Autoconfiguration should be applied.

Spring Boot provides starter modules, which are empty jars with set of dependencies specified with correct dependencies versions to allow easy start with the library.

Starter module may provide only set of dependencies, or set of dependencies with autoconfiguration code.

### Question 04 - What things affect what Spring Boot sets up?

Spring Boot supports following Conditional Annotations for AutoConfiguration classes:

- ► ConditionalOnBean presence of Spring Bean
- ConditionalOnMissingBean absence of Spring Bean
- ConditionalOnClass presence of class on classpath
- ConditionalOnMissingClass absence of class on classpath
- ConditionalOnCloudPlatform if specified cloud platform is active for example Cloud Foundry
- ConditionalOnExpression if SpEL expression is true
- ConditionalOnJava presence of Java in specified version
- ConditionalOnJndi if JNDI location exists
- ConditionalOnWebApplication if a web application that uses WebApplicationContext or StandardServletEnvironment
- ► ConditionalOnNotWebApplication application that is not a web application
- ConditionalOnProperty presence of spring property
- ConditionalOnResource presence of resource
- ConditionalOnSingleCandidate only one candidate for the bean found

### Question 05 - What is a Spring Boot starter POM? Why is it useful?

Spring Starter POM is a maven module that represents empty jar with set of dependencies required to work with specified technology. Spring Starter may also provide autoconfiguration to create beans required to integrate project with technologies that you intend to use.

Spring Starters are useful, because they simplify project setup by assuring that all dependencies in correct versions are set. If Starter provides autoconfiguration as well, it integrates technology with Spring Framework.

This allows you to focus on business code instead of having to spend time on identifying which dependency set is required and which versions are correct. Autoconfiguration allows you to use technology within Spring Framework without having to integrate technology with it manually.

### Question 06 - Spring Boot supports both properties and YML files. Would you recognize and understand them if you saw them?

Spring Boot allows you to externalize configuration for the application by using properties stored in properties files that can be in format:

- YAML
- Java Properties File

YAML is a superset of JSON and it is convenience for specifying hierarchical data. Spring Boot supports YAML properties with usage of SnakeYAML library, which is included by default by spring-boot-starter.

### Question 06 - Spring Boot supports both properties and YML files. Would you recognize and understand them if you saw them?

You can transform application properties between YAML and Java Properties format:

### YAML Version

### Java Property File

```
app:
 name: spring-boot-app
 description: Example Spring Boot Application
                                                    app.name=spring-boot-app
 servers:
                                                    app.description=Example Spring Boot Application
    - server1
    - server2
                                                    app.servers[0] = server1
   - server3
                                                    app.servers[1] = server2
                                                    app.servers[2]=server3
 environments:
   dev:
                                                    app.environments['dev'].name=Development Environment
     name: Development Environment
     url: https://dev.example.com
                                                    app.environments['dev'].url=https://dev.example.com
                                                    app.environments['prod'].name=Prod Environment
   prod:
                                                    app.environments['prod'].url=https://prod.example.com
     name: Prod Environment
     url: https://prod.example.com
```

Spring Boot allows you to configure following aspects of logging:

- Logging Levels
- Logging Pattern
- Logging Colors
- Logging Output console, file
- Logging Rotation
- Logging Groups
- Logging System used
  - ► Logback default
  - ► log4j2
  - ► JDK (Java Util Logging)
- Logging System specific configuration:
  - ► Logback logback-spring.xml
  - ▶ log4j2 log4j2-spring.xml
  - ▶ JDK (Java Util Logging) logging.properties

Logging Levels can be set via application.properties:

```
logging.level.root=WARN
app.service.a.level=ALL
app.service.b.level=FINEST
app.service.c.level=FINER
```

or by using logging system specific configuration, logback-spring.xml example:

```
<logger name="app.service.a" level="INFO"/>
<logger name="app.service.b" level="DEBUG"/>
<logger name="app.service.c" level="WARN"/>
```

You can also use --debug or --trace argument when launching spring boot application:

```
$ java -jar myapp.jar --debug
```

It is also possible to specify debug=true or trace=true in application.properties.

Logging patterns can be set via application.properties:

### or by using logging system specific configuration, logback-spring.xml example:

When ANSI support for logging output is enabled, you can use colors to format your logs. Colors are used with %clr word.

### Example:

### Following colors are supported:

- blue
- cyan
- faint
- green
- magenta
- red
- yellow

Spring Boot by default logs only to console. You can change this behavior via application.properties or by using logging system specific configuration.

If you want to change this behavior via application.properties, you need to set one of following property:

- ▶ logging.file
- logging.path

You can also do this via logging system specific configuration, for example logback-spring.xml:

Spring Boot allows you to control logs rotation by specifying maximum file size and maximum number of logs file to keep in history.

To achieve this behavior through application.properties, you need to set following properties:

- logging.file.max-size
- logging.file.max-history

You can also configure logging system specific settings, for example in logback-spring.xml you can configure rolling appender:

Spring Boot can group loggers into group, which simplifies log management.

You can do this on application.properties level in following way: logging.group.service-d-and-e=app.service.d, app.service.e logging.level.service-d-and-e=DEBUG

Spring Boot allows you to chose between logging subsystem.

To use default Logback, you just need to use spring-boot-starter dependency, autoconfiguration will setup all required beans:

Spring Boot allows you to chose between logging subsystem.

To use log4j2, you just need to exclude spring-boot-starter-logging and add dependency to log4j2:

```
<dependencies>
   <dependency>
       <groupId>org.springframework.boot
       <artifactId>spring-boot-starter</artifactId>
       <exclusions>
           <exclusion>
               <groupId>org.springframework.boot
               <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-logging</artifactId>
           </exclusion>
       </exclusions>
   </dependency>
   <dependency>
       <groupId>org.springframework.boot
       <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-log4j2</artifactId>
   </dependency>
</dependencies>
```

Spring Boot allows you to chose between logging subsystem.

To use JDK (Java Util Logging), you need to exclude spring-bootstarter-logging:

### Then initialize JDK logging in the code:

### Question 08 - Where does Spring Boot look for property file by default?

Spring Boot looks for properties in following locations:

- Profile Specific:
  - Outside of Jar:
    - application-{profile}.properties and application-{profile}.yml outside of jar in /config subdirectory
    - ▶ application-{profile}.properties and application-{profile}.yml outside of jar in current directory
  - Inside Jar:
    - application-{profile}.properties and application-{profile}.yml inside of jar in /config
      package on classpath
    - ▶ application-{profile}.properties and application-{profile}.yml inside of jar in classpath root package
- Application Specific:
  - Outside of Jar:
    - ▶ application.properties and application.yml outside of jar in /config subdirectory
    - ▶ application.properties and application.yml outside of jar in current directory
  - Inside Jar:
    - application.properties and application.yml inside of jar in /config package on classpath
    - ▶ application.properties and application.yml inside of jar in classpath root package

### Question 08 - Where does Spring Boot look for property file by default?

You can change name of default configuration file with usage of spring.config.name property:

\$ java -jar myproject.jar --spring.config.name=myproject

You can also explicitly point location of configuration file with usage of spring.config.location property:

\$ java -jar myproject.jar --spring.config.location=classpath:/default.properties

#### Question 09 - How do you define profile specific property files?

Spring Boot allows you to define profile specific property files in two ways:

- Dedicated property file per profile:
  - ▶ application-{profile}.properties
  - ▶ application-{profile}.yml
    - ▶ You can also use application-default.properties or application-default.yml filename to specify property file that should be used when no profile is set
- Multi-profile YAML Document

```
server:
    url: https://local.service.com/
---
spring:
    profiles: dev
server:
    url: https://dev.service.com/
---
spring:
    profiles: prod
server:
    url: https://prod.service.com/
```

### Question 10 - How do you access the properties defined in the property files?

Spring Boot allows you to access properties defined in property files in following ways:

@Value("\${PROPERTY\_NAME}")

You can inject properties into fields with usage of @Value annotation:

```
@Value("${app.propertyB}")
private String propertyB;
```

@ConfigurationProperties

You can define Data Object which will hold properties for defined prefix, you also need to register Configuration Properties Data Object with usage of EnableConfigurationProperties:

```
@ConfigurationProperties(prefix = "app")
@Getter
@Setter
public class AppConfiguration {
    private String propertyA;
}
```

```
@SpringBootApplication
@EnableConfigurationProperties(AppConfiguration.class)
public class SpringBootConsoleApplication implements CommandLineRunner
{
    ...
}
```

► Environment Property Resolver Inject and use Environment object.

```
@Autowired private Environment;
```

environment.getProperty("app.propertyC")

### Question 11 - What properties do you have to define in order to configure external MySQL?

To configure external MySQL in Spring Boot you need to specify URL, Username and Password for Data Source by defining following properties:

```
spring.datasource.url=jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/spring-tutorial
spring.datasource.username=spring-tutorial
spring.datasource.password=spring-tutorial
```

Optionally, you can also explicitly specify JDBC Driver:

```
spring.datasource.driver-class-name=com.mysgl.cj.jdbc.Driver
```

To initialize Database during application startup via data.sql and schema.sql you also need to specify property:

```
spring.datasource.initialization-mode=always
```

You also need to specify connector dependency:

```
<dependency>
     <groupId>mysql</groupId>
          <artifactId>mysql-connector-java</artifactId>
          </dependency>
```

You will also need a way to access database, simplest approach is to use JDBC:

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

#### Question 12 - How do you configure default schema and initial data?

Spring Boot uses following scripts to configure default schema and initial data:

- schema.sql contains DDL for db objects creation
- data.sql contains data that should be inserted upon db initialization

#### Spring Boot will also load:

- schema-\${platform}.sql
- data-\${platform}.sql

platform is the value of spring.datasource.platform property, this allows you to switch between database vendor specific scripts, for example platform may be mysql, postgressql, oracle etc.

Spring Boot will automatically initialize **only embedded** databases, if you want to initialize regular database as well, you need to set property

spring.datasource.initialization-mode to always.

If you would like to change default schema.sql and data.sql script names, you can use spring.datasource.schema and spring.datasource.data properties to achieve this.

### Question 13 - What is a fat jar? How is it different from the original jar?

Fat jar, also called "executable jar", is a jar that contains compiled code for your application and also all dependencies. Spring Boot uses nested jars approach, that means that fat jar contains all dependencies as nested jars. This differs from other approach, which is uber jar that packs all dependencies into single jar archive. Uber jar approach is problematic because it is hard to see application dependencies and also causes issues when same filename in the same context is used in different jars.

Fat jar is often called "executable jar" because Spring Boot will generate MANIFEST.MF file which contains Main-Class and Start-Class entries together with JarLauncher code. This manifest together with launcher code will be used to execute standalone jar.

To create fat jar in your project, you need to use spring-boot-maven-plugin. Executing application is as simple as executing one command:

java -jar spring-boot-application-1.0-SNAPSHOT.jar

The differences in comparison to original jar are following:

- Original jar does not contain all dependencies
- Original jar is not executable by default

#### Question 14 - What is the difference between an embedded container and a WAR?

WAR (Web Application Archive) is a file that represents web module. WAR cannot be executed in standalone mode, it needs to be deployed to Application Server like Tomcat or WildFly.

Embedded container is used to execute executables jars. Embedded container is packed as dependency in executable jar and will be responsible for executing only single application. WAR approach on the other hand uses Application Server which might be used to execute multiple applications at the same time.

#### WAR file has following structure:

- Assembly root:
  - ▶ JSP Pages, static HTML pages
  - META-INF/
    - MANIFEST.MF
  - ▶ WEB-INF/
    - web.xml (not required for Servlet 3+)
    - ▶ lib/
    - classes/
    - tags/

Spring Boot Executable JAR has following structure:

- Assembly root:
  - ▶ BOOT-INF/
    - classes/
    - ▶ lib/
- tomcat-embed-core-9.0.17.jar
- AETA INIE/
- MANIFEST.MF
- org.springframework.boot.loader
  - . .
  - JarLauncher.class
  - • •

#### Question 14 - What is the difference between an embedded container and a WAR?

To create WAR file with Spring Boot, you need to:

Specify WAR packaging method:

```
<packaging>war</packaging>
```

Specify required dependencies:

Use WAR plugin (explicit specification of this plugin is optional):

#### Question 14 - What is the difference between an embedded container and a WAR?

To create Executable JAR file with embedded container in Spring Boot, you need to:

Specify required dependencies:

Use Spring Boot Maven plugin:

### Question 15 - What embedded containers does Spring Boot support?

Spring Boot supports following embedded containers:

- Tomcat
- Jetty
- Undertow

Tomcat is used as default embedded container, it will be automatically included when application is using spring-boot-starter-web:

### Question 15 - What embedded containers does Spring Boot support?

To use Jetty Embedded Container, you need to exclude spring-boot-starter-tomcat and include spring-boot-starter-jetty:

```
<artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
       <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-tomcat</artifactId>
<artifactId>spring-boot-starter-jetty</artifactId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-maven-plugin</artifactId>
```

### Question 15 - What embedded containers does Spring Boot support?

To use Undertow Embedded Container, you need to exclude spring-boot-starter-tomcat and include spring-boot-starter-undertow:

```
<artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
        <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-tomcat</artifactId>
<artifactId>spring-boot-starter-undertow</artifactId>
```

#### Question 16 - How does Spring Boot know what to configure?

Spring Boot knows what to configure by usage of Auto Configuration Classes defined in starter modules. Spring Boot searches for META-INF/spring.factories on classpath, whenever entry org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.EnableAutoConfiguration is encountered in this file, Auto Configuration Class pointed by this property is loaded.

Auto Configuration class is a regular @Configuration class annotated with @ConditionalOn... annotation which specifies under which conditions @Configuration class should be loaded.

When conditions from @ConditionalOn... annotation are matched, @Configuration class is loaded which provides beans that integrates your application with specified technology.

Auto Configuration is often used with starter modules. Starter module provides set of dependencies, and optionally may provide Auto Configuration classes.

#### Question 16 - How does Spring Boot know what to configure?

Spring Boot supports following Conditional Annotations for AutoConfiguration classes:

- ConditionalOnBean presence of Spring Bean
- ► ConditionalOnMissingBean absence of Spring Bean
- ConditionalOnClass presence of class on classpath
- ConditionalOnMissingClass absence of class on classpath
- ConditionalOnCloudPlatform if specified cloud platform is active for example Cloud Foundry
- ConditionalOnExpression if SpEL expression is true
- ConditionalOnJava presence of Java in specified version
- ConditionalOnJndi if JNDI location exists
- ConditionalOnWebApplication if a web application that uses WebApplicationContext or StandardServletEnvironment
- ► ConditionalOnNotWebApplication application that is not a web application
- ConditionalOnProperty presence of spring property
- ► ConditionalOnResource presence of resource
- ConditionalOnSingleCandidate only one candidate for the bean found

#### Question 17 - What does @EnableAutoConfiguration do?

@EnableAutoConfiguration annotation turns on auto-configuration of Spring Context. Auto-configuration tries to guess Spring Beans that should be created for your application based on configured dependencies and configurations with @ConditionalOn... annotations.

When auto-configuration is turned on, Spring will search for META-INF/spring.factories on classpath, whenever entry

org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.EnableAutoConfiguration is encountered in this file, Auto Configuration Class pointed by this property is loaded. When condition present in @ConditionalOn... annotation is matched, beans pointed out by this configuration are created.

@EnableAutoConfiguration annotation should be applied to your application @Configuration class, when using Spring Boot with @SpringBootApplication annotation, @EnableAutoConfiguration annotation is not required because auto-configuration is turned on by default.

#### Question 18 - What does @SpringBootApplication do?

@SpringBootApplication annotation is supposed to be used on top of the class and it was introduced for convenience. Usage of @SpringBootApplication annotation is equivalent to usage of following three annotations:

- ▶ @Configuration allows additional bean registration
- ▶ @EnableAutoConfiguration enables context auto-configuration
- @ComponentScan turns on scanning for @Component annotated classes

### Question 19 - Does Spring Boot do component scanning? Where does it look by default?

Yes, Spring Boot is performing component scan, because @SpringBootApplication annotation is enabling component scanning with usage of @ComponentScan annotation.

By default, Spring Boot will search for @Component annotated classes within the same root package as @SpringBootApplication annotated class.

You can change this behavior by adding additional packages to scan with scanBasePackages or type-safe version of it scanBasePackageClasses within @SpringBootApplication annotation.

#### Question 20 - How are DataSource and JdbcTemplate autoconfigured?

DataSource and JdbcTemplate are configured by Auto Configuration Classes defined in spring-boot-autoconfigure module.

DataSource is configured by DataSourceAutoConfiguration, JdbcTemplate is configured by JdbcTemplateAutoConfiguration.

DataSourceAutoConfiguration requires some properties to be defined, example below shows MySQL configuration:

```
spring.datasource.url=jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/spring-tutorial
spring.datasource.username=spring-tutorial
spring.datasource.password=spring-tutorial
```

Above properties will be injected into DataSourceProperties by the prefix spring.datasource and used by DataSourceAutoConfiguration.

After having Auto Configuration enabled by default in Spring Boot, configured properties and Database Connector on your classpath, you can just use @Autowire to inject DataSource or JdbcTemplate.

#### Question 21 - What is spring.factories file for?

spring.factories file, located in META-INF/spring.factories location on the classpath, is used by Auto Configuration mechanism to locate Auto Configuration Classes. Each module that provides Auto Configuration Class needs to have META-INF/spring.factories file with org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.EnableAutoConfiguration entry that will point Auto Configuration Classes.

META-INF/spring.factories file is consumed by SpringFactoriesLoader class, which is used by AutoConfigurationImportSelector enabled by @EnableAutoConfiguration annotation used by default in @SpringBootApplication annotation.

Each Auto Configuration Class lists conditions, in which it should be applied, usually based on existence of specific class on the classpath or bean in the context. When conditions are met, @Configuration class produced beans within application context to integrate your application with desired technology.

#### Question 21 - What is spring.factories file for?

Auto Configuration use case for spring.factories file is probably most popular one, it also allows you to define other entries and achieve context customization with following classes:

- ApplicationContextInitializer
- ApplicationListener
- AutoConfigurationImportFilter
- AutoConfigurationImportListener
- BeanInfoFactory
- ContextCustomizer
- DefaultTestExecutionListenersPostProcessor
- EnableAutoConfiguration
- EnvironmentPostProcessor
- FailureAnalysisReporter
- FailureAnalyzer
- ManagementContextConfiguration
- PropertySourceLoader
- ProxyDetector
- RepositoryFactorySupport
- SpringApplicationRunListener
- SpringBootExceptionReporter
- TemplateAvailabilityProvider
- TestExecutionListener

### Question 22 - How do you customize Spring auto configuration?

You can customize Spring Auto Configuration by creating your own autoconfiguration module with Auto Configuration Class.

To do that, you need to create java jar module which will contain META-INF/spring.factories file that contains org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.EnableAutoConfiguration entry, which points to your Auto Configuration Class.

Auto Configuration Class is a class annotated with @Configuration annotation, usually used together with @ConditionalOnClass annotation. Additionally you can use @PropertySource annotation with @EnableConfigurationProperties and @ConfigurationProperties annotations to introduce custom properties for your auto-configuration module.

Inside Auto Configuration Class you should have @Bean annotated methods, which will provide configured beans when @ConditionalOnClass is met.

### Question 23 - What are the examples of @Conditional annotations? How are they used?

Spring Boot supports following Conditional Annotations for Auto Configuration Classes:

- ConditionalOnBean presence of Spring Bean
- ► ConditionalOnMissingBean absence of Spring Bean
- ConditionalOnClass presence of class on classpath
- ConditionalOnMissingClass absence of class on classpath
- ConditionalOnCloudPlatform if specified cloud platform is active for example Cloud Foundry
- ConditionalOnExpression if SpEL expression is true
- ► ConditionalOnJava presence of Java in specified version
- ConditionalOnJndi if JNDI location exists
- ConditionalOnWebApplication if a web application that uses WebApplicationContext or StandardServletEnvironment
- ConditionalOnNotWebApplication application that is not a web application
- ConditionalOnProperty presence of spring property
- ► ConditionalOnResource presence of resource
- ► ConditionalOnSingleCandidate only one candidate for the bean found

### Question 23 - What are the examples of @Conditional annotations? How are they used?

@Conditional annotations are used together with Auto Configuration Classes, to indicate under which conditions, specific @Configuration class should apply.

```
@Configuration
@ConditionalOnProperty(name = "file.store", havingValue = "network")
public class NetworkFileStoreAutoConfiguration {
    @Bean
    public FileStore networkFileStore() {
        return new NetworkFileStore();
    }
}
```

#### Question 24 - What value does Spring Boot Actuator provide?

Spring Boot Actuator provides features, that are required for your application to be viewed as production ready product, such as:

- Monitoring
- Health-checks
- Metrics
- Audit Events

Advantage of using Spring Boot Actuator is that you can use those features in your product, without having to code them on your own, and enabling it, is as simple as putting dependency in your project:

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

After that you can access endpoints available by default:

- /actuator/health
- /actuator/info

### Question 25 - What are the two protocols you can use to access actuator endpoints?

Spring Boot Actuator supports two protocols:

- HTTP
- JMX

HTTP endpoints can be accessed by any HTTP Client, like CURL or Web Browser, by default following are enabled:

- /actuator/info
- /actuator/health

JMX allows you to access Actuator MBeans under org.springframework.boot group. You can access it with any tool that supports JMX protocol. One of the tool that you can use is JConsole which comes with JDK. You can access JMX:

- Locally by PID (enabled by default since Java SE 6)
- Remotely via Socket after enabling it with following Java VM flags (below example setup is simple but unsecure, do not use in production):

```
-Dcom.sun.management.jmxremote.local.only=false
```

<sup>-</sup>Dcom.sun.management.jmxremote.port=9010

<sup>-</sup>Dcom.sun.management.jmxremote.authenticate=false

<sup>-</sup>Dcom.sun.management.jmxremote.ssl=false

| ID          | Description   | Enabled by default                             | Default Exposure<br>via JMX | Default Exposure<br>via Web |
|-------------|---|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| auditevents | Exposes audit events information for the current application.   | Yes, but requires an AuditEventRepository bean | Yes                         | No                          |
| beans       | Displays a complete list of all the Spring beans in your application.   | Yes  | Yes                         | No                          |
| caches      | Exposes available caches.   | Yes  | Yes                         | No                          |
| conditions  | Shows the conditions that were evaluated on configuration and auto-configuration classes and the reasons why they did or did not match. | Yes  | Yes                         | No                          |
| configprops | Displays a collated list of all @ConfigurationProperties.   | Yes  | Yes                         | No                          |
| env         | Exposes properties from Spring's ConfigurableEnvironment.   | Yes  | Yes                         | No                          |
| flyway      | Shows any Flyway database migrations that have been applied.  | Yes  | Yes                         | No                          |
| health      | Shows application health information.   | Yes  | Yes                         | Yes                         |
| httptrace   | Displays HTTP trace information (by default, the last 100 HTTP request-response exchanges).   | Yes, but requires an HttpTraceRepository bean  | Yes                         | No                          |

| ID               | Description   | Enabled by default | Default Exposure via JMX | Default Exposure via Web |
|------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| info             | Displays arbitrary application info.  | Yes                | Yes                      | Yes                      |
| integrationgraph | Shows the Spring Integration graph.   | Yes                | Yes                      | No                       |
| loggers          | Shows and modifies the configuration of loggers in the application.   | Yes                | Yes                      | No                       |
| liquibase        | Shows any Liquibase database migrations that have been applied.   | Yes                | Yes                      | No                       |
| metrics          | Shows 'metrics' information for the current application.  | Yes                | Yes                      | No                       |
| mappings         | Displays a collated list of all @RequestMapping paths.  | Yes                | Yes                      | No                       |
| scheduledtasks   | Displays the scheduled tasks in your application.   | Yes                | Yes                      | No                       |
| sessions         | Allows retrieval and deletion of user sessions from a Spring Session-backed session store. Not available when using Spring Session's support for reactive web applications. | Yes                | Yes                      | No                       |
| shutdown         | Lets the application be gracefully shutdown.  | No                 | Yes                      | No                       |
| threaddump       | Performs a thread dump.   | Yes                | Yes                      | No                       |

| ID         | Description   | Enabled by default       | Default Exposure<br>via JMX | Default Exposure via Web |
|------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| prometheus | Exposes metrics in a format that can be scraped by a Prometheus server.   | Only for Web Application | N/A                         | No                       |
| heapdump   | Returns an hprof heap dump file.  | Only for Web Application | N/A                         | No                       |
| jolokia    | Exposes JMX beans over HTTP (when Jolokia is on the classpath, not available for WebFlux).  | Only for Web Application | N/A                         | No                       |
|            | Returns the contents of the logfile (if logging.file.name or logging.file.path properties have been set). Supports the use of the HTTP Range header to retrieve part of the log file's content. |                          | N/A                         | No                       |

You can enable or disable Actuator Endpoints with usage of property:

management.endpoint.\${ENDPOINT\_NAME}.enabled=true

#### For example:

- management.endpoint.shutdown.enabled=true
- management.endpoint.beans.enabled=false
- management.endpoint.info.enabled=false

You can also disable 'Enabled by default' behavior with usage of property:

management.endpoints.enabled-by-default=false

#### You can change endpoints exposure with usage of properties:

- management.endpoints.jmx.exposure.exclude
- management.endpoints.jmx.exposure.include
- management.endpoints.web.exposure.exclude
- management.endpoints.web.exposure.include

#### For example:

management.endpoints.web.exposure.include=info, health, env, beans

#### You can also expose all endpoints with usage of wildcard, for example:

management.endpoints.web.exposure.include=\*

You can enable navigation through Actuator Endpoints, by usage of HATEOAS.

To enable this navigation, all you have to do is to add dependency to your project:

After having this dependency, visiting main Actuator page:

http://localhost:8080/actuator

Will give you links element in response, that can be used for navigation.

#### Question 27 - What is info endpoint for? How do you supply data?

Spring Boot Actuator info endpoint is used to provide arbitrary, non-sensitive, custom defined data, available at runtime that can provide additional information about started application.

info endpoint is exposed by default via protocols:

- ► HTTP at /actuator/info
- JMX at org.springframework.boot/Endpoint/Info

info endpoint is usually used to expose information like:

- Application Name, Description, Version
- Java Runtime Used
- ► Git Information see git-commit-id-plugin
  - Branch
  - Tag
  - Commit ID
- ...

#### Question 27 - What is info endpoint for? How do you supply data?

You can supply data to Spring Boot by using following methods:

With usage of property files, by defining info.\* properties

```
info.app.name=Spring Boot Application
info.app.description=This application exposes Spring Boot Actuator Endpoints
info.app.version=1.0.0
info.java-vendor = ${java.specification.vendor}
```

▶ By implementing InfoContributor bean

```
@Component
public class SystemNameInfoContributor implements InfoContributor {
    @Override
    public void contribute(Info.Builder builder) {
        builder.withDetail("system-name", System.getProperty("os.name"));
    }
}
```

## Question 28 - How do you change logging level of a package using loggers endpoint?

Spring Actuator allows you to list currently configured loggers with their levels in following ways:

- via HTTP by visiting /actuator/loggers endpoint
- via JMX by executing
  org.springframework.boot/Endpoint/Loggers/Operations/loggers

loggers endpoint is exposed by default via JMX, to use it via HTTP you need to expose it by setting following property in application.properties:

management.endpoints.web.exposure.include=loggers

## Question 28 - How do you change logging level of a package using loggers endpoint?

You can also view logging level for individual logger:

via HTTP by visiting /actuator/loggers/\${LOGGER\_NAME}, for example:
/actuator/loggers/com.app.question28

```
"configuredLevel": null,
"effectiveLevel": "INFO"
}
```

via JMX by executing org.springframework.boot/Endpoint/Loggers/Operations/loggerLevels with provided name parameter



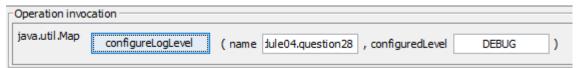
## Question 28 - How do you change logging level of a package using loggers endpoint?

#### You can change logging level for package by:

HTTP via POST to /actuator/loggers/\${LOGGER NAME}

```
curl -i -X POST -H 'Content-Type: application/json' -d '{"configuredLevel": "TRACE"}' \
    http://localhost:8080/actuator/loggers/com.app.question28
```

JMX via org.springframework.boot/Endpoint/Loggers/Operations/configureLogLevel with name and configuredLevel parameters set



### Question 29 - How do you access an endpoint using a tag?

You access an endpoint using a tag by defining it as part of the request in following way: tag=KEY:VALUE.

#### For example:

```
/actuator/metrics/http.server.requests?tag=status:200
/actuator/metrics/jvm.memory.max?tag=area:heap
```

You can also use multiple tags in one query with usage of & in following way:

```
tag=KEY1:VALUE1&tag=KEY2:VALUE2
```

#### For example:

```
/actuator/metrics/http.server.requests?tag=status:200&tag=method:GET/actuator/metrics/jvm.memory.max?tag=area:heap&tag=id:G1%20Old%20Gen/
```

Tag is used to filter results of query by one or multiple dimensions. It is often used with metrics endpoint for data filtering.

### Question 30 - What is metrics for?

Spring Actuator provides metrics endpoint which can be used to examine metrics collected by the application during runtime.

metrics endpoint allows you to view information about specific metric by visiting metric dedicated URI, for example /actuator/metrics/process.cpu.usage

metrics endpoint allows you to drill down information further by usage of available tags,
for example /actuator/metrics/jvm.memory.used?tag=area:heap

metrics endpoint allows you to view many out-of-the box defined metrics:

- CPU Usage, CPU Core Count
- Memory Usage, Max Memory Available
- Threads Info
- Garbage Collector Statistics
- HTTP Requests Info
- Embedded Tomcat Related Metrics
- ... (many more, also you can define custom metrics)

metrics endpoint is not exposed via Web by default, to have it available, you need to add following entry to application.properties:

management.endpoints.web.exposure.include=metrics

## Question 31 - How do you create a custom metric with or without tags?

Spring Boot Actuator allows you to create custom metrics with usage of MeterRegistry from Micrometer Application Metrics Facade.

Micrometer used by Spring Boot Actuator allows you to register following Meter Primitives that will be exposed via /actuator/metrics endpoint:

- Counter
- Gauge
- Timer
- TimeGauge
- DistributionSummary
- LongTaskTimer
- FunctionCounter
- FunctionTimer

You can get more information on Meter Primitives from Micrometer Documentation: https://micrometer.io/docs

## Question 31 - How do you create a custom metric with or without tags?

Registration of metric can be done via method inside MeterRegistry:

```
Counter objectsCount = meterRegistry.counter("storage.object.count", "type", "db");
```

#### or via usage of builder:

```
Counter objectsCount = Counter.builder("storage.object.count")
    .tag("type", "db")
    .register(meterRegistry);
```

## Question 31 - How do you create a custom metric with or without tags?

Micrometer allows you to expose data with dimensions via tags:

```
Counter objectsCount = meterRegistry.counter("storage.object.count", "type", "db");
```

or register simple meter without any dimensions:

```
Counter objectsCount = meterRegistry.counter("storage.object.count");
```

### Question 32 - What is Health Indicator?

Health Indicator is a component used by /actuator/health endpoint to check if system is in a state which can be used to successfully handle requests.

/actuator/health endpoint is returning aggregated information on system status by evaluating all Health Indicators registered in HealthIndicatorRegistry.

/actuator/health endpoint is exposed by default via both JMX and Web, however default configuration is exposing only minimal set of information.

This endpoint is used, usually by monitoring software, to periodically check system status, upon receiving failed status, automated alert is sent to product support team.

Monitoring endpoint like this, is also very useful when building Highly Available and Fault Tolerant Architecture, in this case such endpoint can be used by Load Balancer to check which instances are healthy and can accept traffic.

### Question 32 - What is Health Indicator?

To change level of details exposed by /actuator/health endpoint, following properties can be used:

- management.endpoint.health.show-details
- management.endpoint.health.show-components

#### Both of them can support following values:

- never detailed information are never shown (default value)
- when-authorized show information to users with roles from property management.endpoint.health.roles
- always detailed information are shown to all users

### Question 32 - What is Health Indicator?

To create custom Health Indicator, Spring Bean has to be created that implements HealthIndicator interface:

## Question 33 - What are the Health Indicators that are provided out of the box?

Spring Actuator provides following Health Indicators that are configured when proper dependencies are found:

- ▶ ApplicationHealthIndicator Default Implementation, always up.
- DiskSpaceHealthIndicator Checks for low disk space.
- DataSourceHealthIndicator Checks the status of a DataSource and optionally runs a test query.
- CassandraHealthIndicator Checks that a Cassandra database is up.
- CouchbaseHealthIndicator Checks that a Couchbase cluster is up.
- ▶ ElasticsearchHealthIndicator Checks that an Elasticsearch cluster is up.
- ► HazelcastHealthIndicator Checks that a Hazelcast server is up.
- InfluxDbHealthIndicator Checks that an InfluxDB server is up.
- JmsHealthIndicator Checks that a JMS broker is up.
- MailHealthIndicator Checks that a mail server is up.
- MongoHealthIndicator Checks that a Mongo database is up.
- RabbitHealthIndicator Checks that a Rabbit server is up.
- RedisHealthIndicator Checks that a Redis server is up.
- ▶ SolrHealthIndicator Checks that a Solr server is up.
- Neo4jHealthIndicator Checks the status of a Neo4j by executing a Cypher.

## Question 33 - What are the Health Indicators that are provided out of the box?

Spring Actuator also provides Reactive Health Indicators for reactive applications, like those using Spring WebFlux:

- CassandraReactiveHealthIndicator Checks that a Cassandra database is up.
- ► CouchbaseReactiveHealthIndicator Checks that a Couchbase cluster is up.
- MongoReactiveHealthIndicator Checks that a Mongo database is up.
- ▶ RedisReactiveHealthIndicator Checks that a Redis server is up.

### Question 34 - What is the Health Indicator status?

Health Indicator status is used by Health Indicators to inform Spring Actuator if system component checked by them is working correctly or not.

Each Health Indicator is expected to return status that represents guarded component state, status can be one of following:

- UP
- DOWN
- OUT OF SERVICE
- UNKNOWN
- Custom Defined

Spring Actuator is also using HealthAggregator, especially OrderedHealthAggregator to aggregate statuses from all Health Indicators and decide on final status. OrderedHealthAggregator is taking statuses from all Health Indicators, sorts them by predefined order (DOWN, OUT\_OF\_SERVICE, UP, UNKNOWN), and takes first element after sorting, which represents highest priority status and becomes final status of the system.

## Question 35 - What are the Health Indicator statuses that are provided out of the box?

Spring Actuator provides following Health Indicator Statuses out of the box:

- ▶ UP component or subsystem is functioning as expected
- ▶ DOWN component or subsystem has suffered an unexpected failure
- ▶ OUT OF SERVICE component or subsystem has been taken out of service and should not be used
- UNKNOWN component or subsystem is in an unknown state

Based on Health Indicator Statuses from above, Spring will also perform default mapping of status to HTTP Response Code with usage of HealthStatusHttpMapper that follows this default configuration:

- ▶ UP -> HTTP 200
- ▶ UNKNOWN -> HTTP 200
- DOWN -> HTTP 503
- ► OUT\_OF\_SERVICE -> HTTP 503

You can change default mapping with usage of management.health.status.http-mapping property, for example:

management.health.status.http-mapping.DOWN=501

## Question 36 - How do you change the Health Indicator status severity order?

Spring Actuator allows you to change Health Indicator Status severity order with usage of property management.health.status.order for example:

management.health.status.order=system-halted, DOWN, OUT\_OF\_SERVICE, UNKNOWN, UP

This property will be injected into HealthIndicatorProperties and used by OrderedHealthAggregator to resolve final status for application by aggregating statuses from all Health Indicators available in the system.

## Question 37 - Why do you want to leverage 3rd-party external monitoring system?

It is a good idea to use external monitoring system, because this way you can use monitoring functionalities without having to spend time coding them.

External monitoring system usually provides:

- Durable persistent storage
- Tested way of ingesting massive amount of data
- A way to query for data
- A way to perform data visualization
- Configurable Dashboards
- Configurable alerting

Spring Actuator uses Micrometer Application Metrics Facade which integrates with number of external monitoring systems. Provided dependency management and auto-configuration makes it easy to integrate Micrometer into your project.

### Question 37 - Why do you want to leverage 3rd-party external monitoring system?

Spring Boot supports following monitoring systems:

- AppOptics
- Atlas
- Datadog
- Dynatrace
- Elastic
- Ganglia

- Graphite
- Humio
- Influx
- JMX
- KairosDB
- New Relic

- Prometheus
- SignalFx
- Simple (in-memory)
- StatsD
- Wavefront

Configuring external monitoring system is as easy as adding dependency:

```
<dependency>
     <groupId>io.micrometer</groupId>
     <artifactId>micrometer-registry-${monitoring-system-name}</artifactId>
</dependency>
```

You might also need to configure some properties, for example:

management.metrics.export.elastic.host=http://localhost:9200

#### Question 38 - When do you want to use @SpringBootTest annotation?

You should use @SpringBootTest annotation whenever writing JUnit Integration Test for product that is using Spring Boot.

Spring Boot approach to Integration Testing simplifies it by eliminating requirement of application deployment or establishing connection to other infrastructure.

@SpringBootTest annotation enables Spring Boot specific features on top of Spring Test that are useful for testing, like:

- Automated Context creation through SpringApplication class
- ▶ Web Environment for Testing Mocked or Embedded
- ▶ Mocked Bean Injection via @MockBean annotation
- Spy Injection via @SpyBean annotation
- ▶ Ability to customize created context with @TestConfiguration annotated classes
- Auto configurations for:
  - MVC Testing
  - JSON Testing
  - JPA Tests
  - JDBC Tests
  - Mongo Db Tests
  - and much more...

#### Question 38 - When do you want to use @SpringBootTest annotation?

To use @SpringBootTest annotation, you will need to add @RunWith(SpringRunner.class) annotation on top of your test class first, this is required only for JUnit 4, for JUnit 5 @ExtendWith(SpringExtension.class) annotation is already contained in @SpringBootTest annotation.

Next you need to use @SpringBootTest annotation:

#### Question 39 - What does @SpringBootTest auto-configure?

@SpringBootTest annotation will auto-configure:

- ► ApplicationContext for testing
- Test itself with tools used for testing

ApplicationContext is configured by searching for @SpringBootApplication or @SpringBootConfiguration annotated classes, based on those bean definitions will be created.

It is also possible to test only slice of the application with usage one of following:

- @SpringBootTest#classes
- ▶ @ContextConfiguration#classes
- @AutoConfigure... annotations

@AutoConfigure... annotations allows you to configure specific environment and tools for testing, for example @AutoConfigureMockMvc will configure Mock Mvc that can be used for Controllers testing.

#### Question 39 - What does @SpringBootTest auto-configure?

Spring Boot Test includes annotations that are wrapping @AutoConfigure... annotations and make test development simpler:

- @JsonTest
- ▶ @WebMvcTest
- ▶ @WebFluxTest
- ▶ @DataJpaTest
- @JdbcTest
- ▶ @JooqTest
- ▶ @DataMongoTest
- @DataLdapTest
- @RestClientTest
- . . .

Each of this annotation uses @AutoConfigure... annotations and also @ExtendWith(SpringExtension.class) for JUnit 5, which makes test development easier.

### Question 40 - What dependencies does spring-boot-starter-test brings to the classpath?

spring-boot-starter-test brings following dependencies:

- JUnit Unit Testing for Java Applications
- Spring Test Spring Framework Support for Testing
- Spring Boot Test Utilities and Integration Test Support for Spring Boot
- AssertJ Fluent Assertion Library
- Hamcrest Matchers Library
- Mockito Mocking Framework
- JSONassert JSON Assertion Library
- JsonPath XPath for JSON
- XMLUnit Tools for XML verification

You can see list of all dependencies with versions for maven module by running following command:

mvn dependency: tree

### Question 41 - How do you perform integration testing with @SpringBootTest for a web application?

Integration Test by definition, should check interactions between few components of the system (at least two real, not-mocked components) to check if those components are delivering expected functionalities when working together. In each case when writing Integration Test you should decide how many components should interact in the test for it to be meaningful. Usually you should decide on smallest possible amount of components that are enough to test specific functionality. Components that are not meaningful can be omitted, or mocked with usage of <code>@MockBean annotation</code>.

Web components tests (Controller Tests, Rest Controller Tests), if tested in Integration way, should be written in a way for test to make a HTTP Request and check HTTP Response. This kind of approach results in meaningful test, which delivers feedback that actually checks if component works correctly.

### Question 41 - How do you perform integration testing with @SpringBootTest for a web application?

Spring Boot allows you to write Integration Tests for Web Components in two ways:

MockMvc

```
@RunWith(SpringRunner.class)
@SpringBootTest
@AutoConfigureMockMvc
public class CityControllerWebMockMvcTest {

    @Autowired
    private MockMvc mvc;

    @Test
    public void should...() throws Exception {
        ...
    }
}
```

Embedded Container

```
@RunWith(SpringRunner.class)
@SpringBootTest(webEnvironment = SpringBootTest.WebEnvironment.RANDOM_PORT)
public class CityControllerWebIntegrationTest {

    @LocalServerPort
    private int port;

    @Autowired
    private TestRestTemplate restTemplate;

    @Test
    public void should...() {
        ...
    }
}
```

### Question 42 - When do you want to use @WebMvcTest? What does it auto-configure?

You should use <code>@WebMvcTest</code> annotation when you want to write Integration Test that is focused on web layer of your application. <code>@WebMvcTest</code> approach will create <code>ApplicationContext</code> that contains only web components and omits any other components that are not part of web layer. Other components, if required for the test, can be mocked with usage of <code>@MockBean</code> annotation or delivered by <code>@Configuration</code> annotated class imported with usage of <code>@Import</code> annotation.

#### @WebMvcTest supports two cases:

- Single Controller Auto-Configuration annotate test by providing Controller class @WebMvcTest (CityController.class)
- ► Multiple (All found) Controllers Auto-Configuration just annotate test with @WebMvcTest

### Question 42 - When do you want to use @WebMvcTest? What does it auto-configure?

@WebMvcTest annotation will auto-configure:

- Mock Mvc
- @Controller annotated class
- @ControllerAdvice annotated class
- @JsonComponent annotated class
- @Converter annotated class
- @GenericConverter annotated class
- @Filter annotated class
- @WebMvcConfigurer annotated class
- @HandlerMethodArgumentResolver annotated class

#### Question 43 - What are the differences between @MockBean and @Mock?

<code>@Mock</code> annotation comes from Mockito Framework which allows for easy Mock creation. This annotation is used by <code>MockitoJUnitRunner</code>, each field annotated with it will have Mock for specified class created. This annotation does not inject mocks into tested class on itself, to use injection you need to have target class annotated with <code>@InjectMocks</code> annotation.

@MockBean annotation comes from spring-boot-test, it creates Mockito Mock and also injects it into Application Context created by @SpringBootTest. All beans which refers to mocked class via @Autowired will get this mock injected instead of real class.

Main difference between @MockBean and @Mock annotation is that @MockBean creates mock and injects it into Application Context, while @Mock annotation only creates it, if you want to inject it, you can do it manually or with @InjectMocks annotation, however injection is being done to the class not whole Application Context.

### Question 44 - When do you want use @DataJpaTest for? What does it auto-configure?

You want to use @DataJpaTest annotation whenever writing an Integration Test for JPA related components of your application like Entities or Repositories.

#### @DataJpaTest annotation configures:

- In-memory embedded database behavior can be disabled with @AutoConfigureTestDatabase(replace = Replace.NONE)
- ▶ Scans and configures @Entity beans
- Scans and configures Spring Data Repositories
- ► Configures TestEntityManager
- ▶ Does not load other components like @Component, @Service, @Controller etc.

Every @DataJpaTest is transactional by default, after each test transaction is rolled back. You can use @Transactional annotation to customize this behavior.

When using @DataJpaTest you can access TestEntityManager, which contains subset of EntityManager methods that are useful for testing.