

4. Actuators

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What are Actuators?

- When developing web applications or services, it is often a good idea to monitor traffic to see how often people are visiting a particular page, how much memory your application is taking up for performance adjustments, is the service actually “up” and available
- If you provide the Spring Boot Actuator dependency in your pom.xml, it will auto-configure a series of endpoints in json format that can be exposed over HTTP with distinctive urls
- The default convention is to use the id of an endpoint with a prefix of /actuator which will expose three endpoints
 - <http://localhost:8089/city/actuator>
 - The actuator itself
 - health
 - info

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- By default, all endpoints are enabled except for shutdown. This can be changed;
 - `management.endpoint.info.enabled=false`, means that the info endpoint is no longer enabled and not exposed
 - `management.endpoint.shutdown.enabled=true`, means we enabled shutdown
- However, also by default, only health and info are exposed. To change this, in application properties you can selectively expose enabled endpoints over HTTP
 - `management.endpoints.web.exposure.include=beans,health`, means that apart from the actuator endpoint, the only other endpoints exposed over HTTP are beans and health
- Or expose ALL the enabled endpoints and “hide” others
 - `management.endpoints.web.exposure.include=*`
 - `management.endpoints.web.exposure.exclude=beans`

Health

- The health endpoint will display that your application is up or not.
However, by adding to application.properties
 - management.endpoint.health.show-details=ALWAYS
- Further details are exposed
 - Databases
 - Disk space

```
{
  status: "UP",
  - details: {
    - db: {
      status: "UP",
      - details: {
        database: "H2",
        hello: 1
      }
    },
    - diskSpace: {
      status: "UP",
      - details: {
        total: 464496192384,
        free: 48798720000,
        threshold: 10485760
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Info

- Through this endpoint, you can expose supporting information that a user can access
- For example, if we have some static information, like the name of the application, by adding that information in your applications application.properties file, with the prefix of “info”, you can expose it to the outside world through HTTP

```
info.app.name=health  
info.app.description=HealthPlan App  
info.app.version=1.0.0  
info.contact=test@gmail.com
```

```
{  
  "app": {  
    "name": "health",  
    "description": "HealthPlan App",  
    "version": "1.0.0"  
  },  
  "contact": "test@gmail.com"  
}
```

Custom Actuator

- You can create a custom actuator using the **`org.springframework.boot.actuate.endpoint.annotation.Endpoint`** annotation.
- The `@Endpoint` annotation can be used in combination with the **`org.springframework.boot.actuate.endpoint.annotation`** annotations of `@ReadOperation`, `@WriteOperation` and `@DeleteOperation` to provide a CRUD REST API
- The Endpoint must be picked up in a Component Scan and since it is Spring managed, it can be subjected to dependency Injection, such as attributes from the Environment Object (`application.properties`)

Custom Actuator @ReadOperation

```
@Component
@Endpoint(id = "dburl")
public class CustomActuator {
    private JSONObject jo;

    {
        jo = new JSONObject();
        jo.put("mysql", "jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/city");
        jo.put("H2", "jdbc:h2:mem:testdb");
        jo.put("Derby", "jdbc:derby://localhost:127/towns");
    }

    @ReadOperation
    public JSONObject info() {
        return jo;
    }
}
```

<http://localhost:8088/city/actuator/dburl>

```
{
  "Derby": "jdbc:derby://localhost:127/towns",
  "MySQL": "jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/city",
  "H2": "jdbc:h2:mem:testdb"
}
```

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@Selector and @WriteOperation

- A @Selector annotation can be used to match a parameter in the url to obtain sub contexts of the endpoint

```
@ReadOperation
public String infoSelector(@Selector String arg0) {
    return jo.getAsString(arg0);
}
```

<http://localhost:8088/city/actuator/dburl/Derby>

<jdbc:derby://localhost:127/towns>

- Endpoints are mutable with a POST on a @WriteOperation

```
@WriteOperation
public void infoSelectorAdd(@RequestParam("id") String db,
    @RequestParam("url") String url) {
    jo.put(db, url);
}
```

<http://localhost:8088/city/actuator/dburl?db=postges&url=jdbc:postgresql://localhost:8080>

Spring Boot Admin

- A web application, used for managing and monitoring Spring Boot applications. Each application is considered as a client and registers to the admin server.
- Behind the scenes, the Spring Boot Actuator endpoints of the client services are processed by the server. With a single dependency (notes) and the `@EnableAdminServer` annotation you have a monitoring service

```
@SpringBootApplication
@EnableAdminServer
public class AdminServer {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        new
        SpringApplication(AdminServer.class).run(args);
    }
}
```

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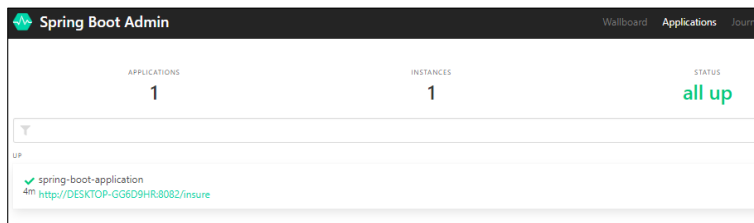
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```
<dependency>
<groupId>de.codecentric</groupId>
<artifactId>spring-boot-admin-starter-server</artifactId>
</dependency>
```


The Client Service

- The client application must register with the running monitoring service. If Spring Boot Admin was running on port 9082, then a single entry in the client service application properties file and one maven dependency will suffice
 - **spring.boot.admin.client.url=http://localhost:9082**



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```
<dependency>
<groupId>de.codecentric</groupId>
<artifactId>spring-boot-admin-starter-client</artifactId>
<version>2.2.0</version>
</dependency>
```

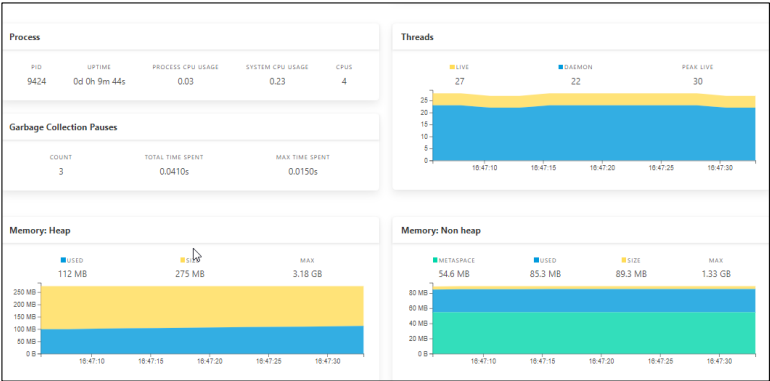
Display Service Actuators

- Upon selecting the “tick” icon next to your application, actuator display information from the client application actuators



Memory and Threading

- Upon scrolling down we see a dashboard of thread and memory information



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Configuration Properties

spring-boot-application
6423ef98c304

Insights

Details

Metrics

Environment

Beans

Configuration Properties

Scheduled Tasks

Logging

JVM

Mappings

Caches

planProperties

health.exposeProxy

health.maxDeductableIndividual

health.planTypes[0].symbol

health.planTypes[0].name

health.planTypes[1].symbol

health.planTypes[1].name

/healthplan/{id}

MethodGET

Producesapplication/json, application/xml

Handlercom.health.controller.HealthPlanController#get(long)

/healthplan/entity/{id}

MethodGET

Producesapplication/json, application/xml

Handlercom.health.controller.HealthPlanController#getEntity(long)

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Select Client Endpoints to Monitor

The screenshot shows the Spring Boot Admin interface. The left sidebar has a menu with 'Metrics' selected. The main area shows the configuration for the 'http.server.requests' metric. The 'uri' dropdown is open, showing a list of endpoints. The endpoint '/healthPlan/{id}' is selected. The table below shows the monitoring results for this endpoint.

http.server.requests	COUNT	TOTAL_TIME	MAX
method:GET uri:/healthPlan/{id} status:200	4	0.1362398	0.0033681
method:GET uri:/healthPlan	6	0.0734672	0.0215585

- Their maybe some latency between running you client app and the endpoint being registered. Run your services a few times and your url will appear in the drop down menu of uri's

Lab 4.1 Spring Boot Admin



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Lab 4.1 Expose Actuators

- Objective: expose Actuator Endpoints for Service monitoring by Spring Boot Admin
- From the lab setup directory for this lab, copy the contents of maven.txt into your pom.xml inside the dependencies tag. This is a Spring Boot Admin Client dependency.
- In the file application.properties add the key value pairs;
 - spring.boot.admin.client.url=http://localhost:9082 to register this application with Spring boot Admin
 - management.endpoints.web.exposure.include=*
 - management.endpoint.health.show-details=always
 - Add some info. Prefixed properties i.e. info.app.name=health

Lab 4.1 Spring Boot Admin

- In the lab setup directory for this lab is a Spring Boot Admin Project
- Note the @EnableAdminServer to wire up Spring Boot Admin and the yml file of server: port: 9082 (that links back to an entry in our client project)
- Start your Spring Boot Admin Server project AND then your Service project
- <http://localhost:8082/insure/actuator> should list your exposed Actuator endpoints. Take a look at health and info.
- <http://localhost:9082> this should redirect you to <http://localhost:9082/applications>

Lab 4.1 Monitor Requests

- Click on the tick mark of your application (only one listed). You will see your info and health actuator endpoint listed n

spring-boot-application

Id: 6423ef98c304

[http://DESKTOP-GG6D9HR.8082/insure](#)

[http://DESKTOP-GG6D9HR.8082/insure/actuator](#)

[http://DESKTOP-GG6D9HR.8082/insure/actuator/health](#)

Info

app	name: health description: HealthPlan App version: 1.0.0
contact	test@gmail.com

Health

Instance

UP

db

UP

database	H2
result	1

Lab 4.1 Metrics

- Click metrics in the side menu
- In another browser access the service at the url <http://localhost:8082/insure/healthPlan/3>
- Back in your Spring boot Admin Application, from the screen select http.server.requests from the drop down menu. Select the /healthPlan/{id} (we ran that url, so the Admin server collected that request→Click Add Metric
- It should be added to the list of metrics

http.server.requests	COUNT	TOTAL_TIME	MAX
	Integer	Float	Float
exception:None method:GET uri:/healthPlan/{id} outcome:SUCCESS status:200	1	0.1242	0.0000

http.server.requests

exceptionNone

methodGET

uri/healthPlan/{id}

outcomeSUCCESS

status200



- As you repeatedly access <http://localhost:8082/insure/healthPlan/3>, the metrics change for that request
- Add another metric for <http://localhost:8082/insure/healthPlan>. Make sure you RUN the service at least once before setting up the metric