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File Upload and Database Persistence with Spring Framework

Posted by: Yatin Batra | in spring | October 16th, 2017

Spring Mvc framework provides an out of box support for the file upload functionality in any application. In this tutorial, we will show how to implement the file upload functionality with the Spring MVC framework and saving the file attachment in the database. To handle the file uploads capabilities in a web application, spring provides a

```
MultipartResolver
```

bean which is responsible for resolving the multipart request.

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7. Download the Eclipse Project

1. Introduction

1.1 Spring Framework

- Spring is an open-source framework created to address the complexity of an enterprise application development
- One of the chief advantages of the Spring framework is its layered architecture, which allows developers to be selective about which of its components they can use while providing a cohesive framework for

J2EE

application development

- Spring framework provides support and integration to various technologies for e.g.:
 - Support for Transaction Management
 - Support for interaction with the different databases
 - Integration with the Object Relationship frameworks for e.g. Hibernate, iBatis etc
 - Support for Dependency Injection which means all the required dependencies will be resolved with the help of containers
 - Support for

REST

style web-services

1.2 Spring MVC Framework

Model-View-Controller (MVC) is a well-known design pattern for designing the GUI based applications. It mainly decouples the business logic from UI by separating the roles of **Model**, **View**, and **Controller** in an application. This pattern divides the application into three components to separate the internal representation of the information from the way it is being presented to the user. The three components are:

- Model (M): Model's responsibility is to manage the application's data, business logic, and the business rules. It is a

POJO

class which encapsulates the application data given by the controller

- View (V): A view is an output representation of the information, such as displaying information or reports to the user either as a text-form or as charts. Views are usually the

JSP

templates written with Java Standard Tag Library (

JSTL

)

- Controller (C): Controller's responsibility is to invoke the Models to perform the business logic and then update the view based on the model's output. In spring framework, the controller part is played by the Dispatcher Servlet

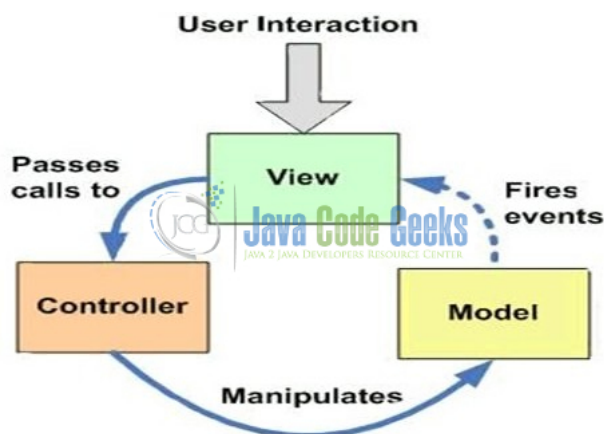


Fig. 1: Model View Controller (MVC) Overview

1.3 Spring Framework's Support for File Upload

Spring Mvc framework provides a built-in multipart support to handle the file uploads in a web application. To handle the file uploads, spring provides a

MultipartResolver

bean which is responsible for resolving the multipart request. This resolver is working with two file upload libraries:

- The

org.springframework.web.multipart.commons.CommonsMultipartResolver

is Servlet base

```
org.springframework.web.multipart.MultipartResolver
```

implementation for the Apache Common File Upload. In order to use the [Apache Common File Upload](#) in a spring application, developers need to add the

```
commons-fileupload.jar
```

in the project's classpath or add a dependency in the

```
pom.xml
```

file and declare the

```
MultipartResolver
```

bean in the spring's context file

```
1 <bean id="multipartResolver" class="org.springframework.web.multipart.commons.CommonsMultipartResolver">
2     <!-- Maximum Upload Size (In Bytes) -->
3     <property name="maxUploadSize" value="20971520" />
4     <!-- Maximum Size Of The File In Memory (In Bytes) -->
5     <property name="maxInMemorySize" value="1048576" />
6 </bean>
```

Do note, Apache Commons is not specific to the Servlet 3.0 environment but it works equally well with the Servlet 3.x containers

- The

```
org.springframework.web.multipart.cos.CosMultipartResolver
```

is the bean class for the COS (i.e.

```
com.oreilly.servlet
```

). In order to use the [COS](#) in a spring application, developers need to add the

```
cos.jar
```

in the project's classpath or add a dependency in the

```
pom.xml
```

file and declare the

```
CosMultipartResolver
```

bean in the spring's context file

```
1 <bean id="multipartResolver"
2     class="org.springframework.web.multipart.cos.CosMultipartResolver">
3     <!-- Maximum Upload Size (In Bytes) -->
4     <property name="maxUploadSize" value="2000000" />
5     <!-- Other Properties -->
6 </bean>
```

As [Apache Commons File Upload](#) is popular and preferred over the COS, we will use the

```
CommonsMultipartResolver
```

in this tutorial for handling the multipart requests. Now, open up the Eclipse IDE and let's see how to implement the file upload functionality in the Spring framework!

2. Spring MVC File Upload & Database Persistence Tutorial

Here is a step-by-step guide for implementing the file upload functionality using the spring's framework

```
org.springframework.web.multipart.commons.CommonsMultipartResolver
```

class.

2.1 Tools Used

We are using Eclipse Kepler SR2, JDK 8 and Maven. Having said that, we have tested the code against JDK 1.7 and it works well.

2.2 Project Structure

Firstly, let's review the final project structure, in case you are confused about where you should create the corresponding files or folder later!

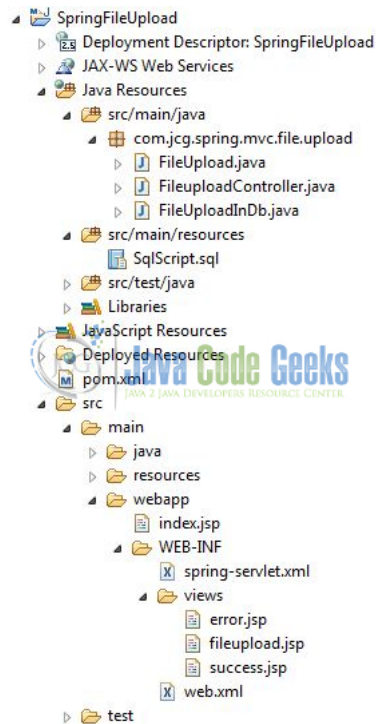


Fig. 2: Application Project Structure

2.3 Project Creation

This section will demonstrate on how to create a Java-based Maven project with Eclipse. In Eclipse IDE, go to

File -> New -> Maven Project

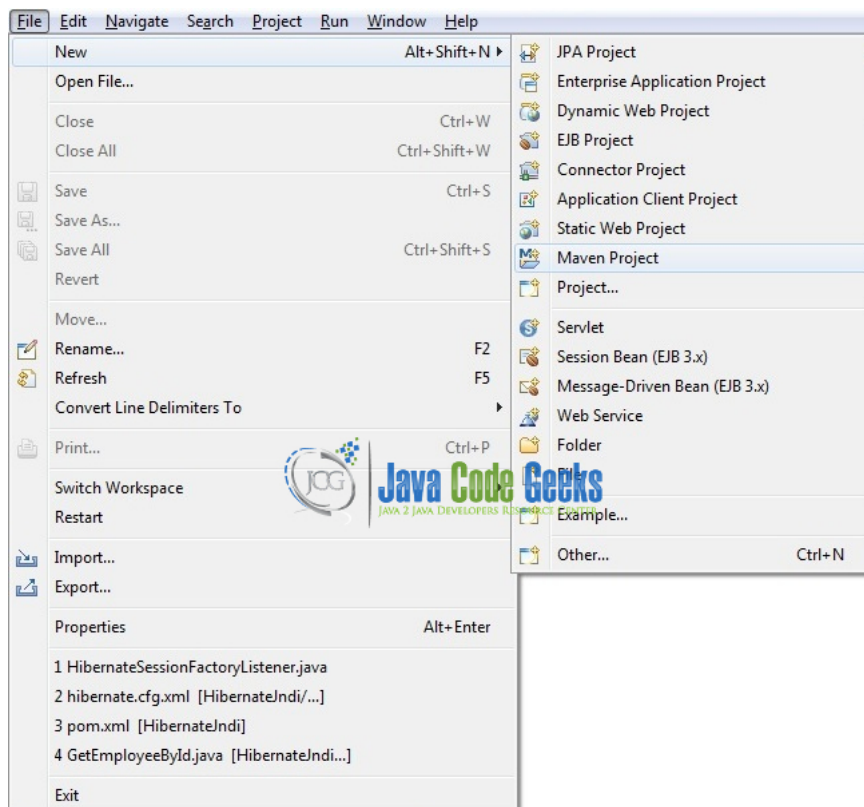


Fig. 3: Create Maven Project

In the New Maven Project window, it will ask you to select project location. By default, 'Use default workspace location' will be selected. Just click on next button to proceed.

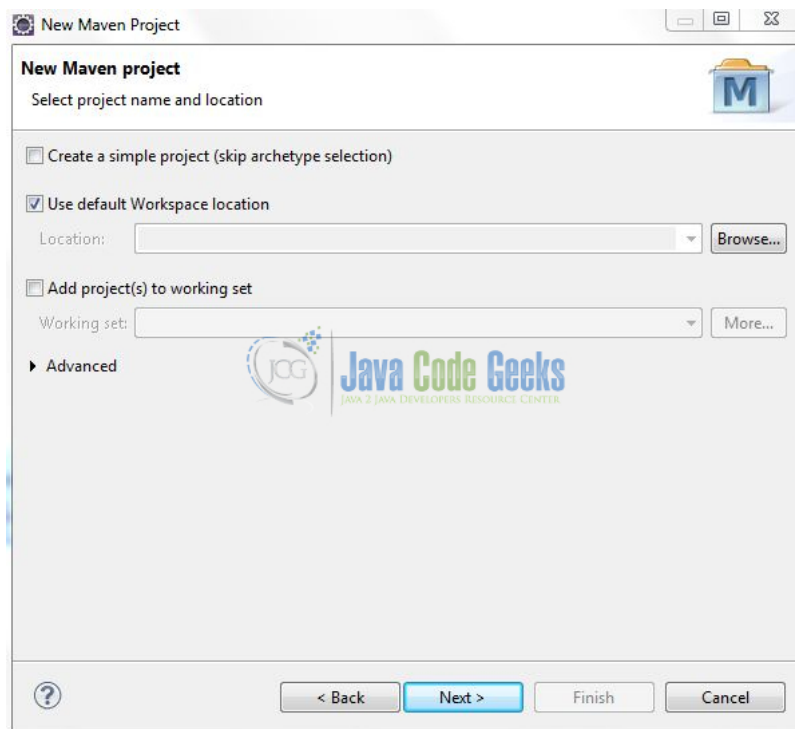


Fig. 4: Project Details

Select the *Maven Web App* Archetype from the list of options and click next.

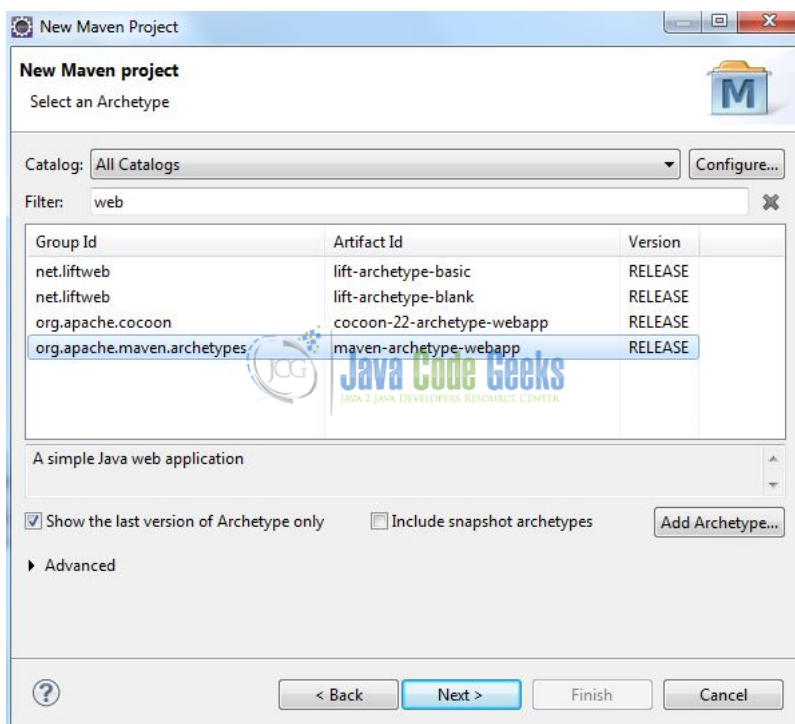


Fig. 5: Archetype Selection

It will ask you to 'Enter the group and the artifact id for the project'. We will input the details as shown in the below image. The version number will be by default:

0.0.1-SNAPSHOT

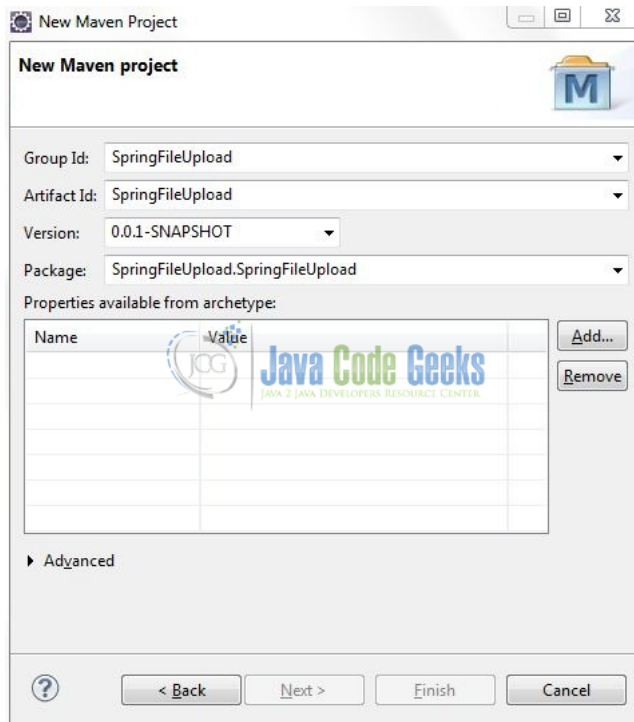


Fig. 6: Archetype Parameters

Click on Finish and the creation of a maven project is completed. If you observe, it has downloaded the maven dependencies and a `pom.xml`

file will be created. It will have the following code:

[pom.xml](#)

```

1 <project xmlns="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" xsi
2   <modelVersion>4.0.0</modelVersion>
3   <groupId>SpringFileUpload</groupId>
4   <artifactId>SpringFileUpload </artifactId>
5   <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
6   <packaging>war</packaging>
7 </project>

```

We can start adding the dependencies that developers want like Spring Core, Spring Mvc, Spring Jdbc, and Apache Commons etc. Let's start building the application!

3. Application Building

Below are the steps involved in developing this application.

3.1 Database & Table Creation

The following MySQL script is used to create a database called

`filedb`

with table:

`files_upload`

. Open the MySQL or the workbench terminal and execute the

SQL

script:

```

01 CREATE DATABASE IF NOT EXISTS filedb;
02
03 USE filedb;
04
05 CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS files_upload (
06   file_id INT(100) NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,
07   file_name VARCHAR(200) DEFAULT NULL,
08   file_description VARCHAR(300) DEFAULT NULL,
09   file_data longblob,
10   PRIMARY KEY (file_id)
11 );

```

If everything goes well, the database and the table will be shown in the MySQL Workbench.

```
mysql> CREATE DATABASE IF NOT EXISTS fileDb;
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.02 sec)

mysql> USE fileDb;
Database changed
mysql> CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS files_upload (
  -> file_id INT(100) NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,
  -> file_name VARCHAR(200) DEFAULT NULL,
  -> file_description VARCHAR(300) DEFAULT NULL,
  -> file_data longblob,
  -> PRIMARY KEY (file_id)
  -> );
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.48 sec)

mysql> DESC files_upload;
+-----+
| Field | Type | Null | Key | Default | Extra |
+-----+
| file_id | int(100) | NO | PRI | NULL | auto_increment |
| file_name | varchar(200) | YES | | NULL | |
| file_description | varchar(300) | YES | | NULL | |
| file_data | longblob | YES | | NULL | |
+-----+
4 rows in set (0.07 sec)

mysql> SELECT * FROM files_upload;
Empty set (0.00 sec)
```

Fig. 7: Database & Table Creation

3.2 Maven Dependencies

Here, we specify the dependencies for the spring framework and the file upload functionality. The rest dependencies such as Spring Beans, Spring Web etc will be automatically resolved by Maven. The **updated** file will have the following code:

[pom.xml](#)

```
01 <project xmlns="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
02   xsi:schemaLocation="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0 http://maven.apache.org/maven-v4_0_0.xsd">
03   <modelVersion>4.0.0</modelVersion>
04   <groupId>SpringFileUpload</groupId>
05   <artifactId>SpringFileUpload</artifactId>
06   <packaging>war</packaging>
07   <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
08   <name>SpringFileUpload Maven Webapp</name>
09   <url>http://maven.apache.org</url>
10   <dependencies>
11     <!-- Servlet API Dependency -->
12     <dependency>
13       <groupId>javax.servlet</groupId>
14       <artifactId>servlet-api</artifactId>
15       <version>3.0-alpha-1</version>
16     </dependency>
17     <dependency>
18       <groupId>javax.servlet.jsp</groupId>
19       <artifactId>jsp-api</artifactId>
20       <version>2.1</version>
21     </dependency>
22     <!-- Spring Framework Dependencies -->
23     <dependency>
24       <groupId>org.springframework</groupId>
25       <artifactId>spring-core</artifactId>
26       <version>4.3.11.RELEASE</version>
27     </dependency>
28     <dependency>
29       <groupId>org.springframework</groupId>
30       <artifactId>spring-context</artifactId>
31       <version>4.3.11.RELEASE</version>
32     </dependency>
33     <dependency>
34       <groupId>org.springframework</groupId>
35       <artifactId>spring-webmvc</artifactId>
36       <version>4.3.11.RELEASE</version>
37     </dependency>
38     <!-- Spring Framework Jdbc Dependency -->
39     <dependency>
40       <groupId>org.springframework</groupId>
41       <artifactId>spring-jdbc</artifactId>
42       <version>4.3.11.RELEASE</version>
43     </dependency>
44     <!-- MySQL Connector Java Dependency -->
45     <dependency>
46       <groupId>mysql</groupId>
47       <artifactId>mysql-connector-java</artifactId>
48       <version>5.1.40</version>
49     </dependency>
50     <!-- File Upload Dependencies -->
51     <dependency>
52       <groupId>commons-fileupload</groupId>
53       <artifactId>commons-fileupload</artifactId>
54       <version>1.3</version>
55     </dependency>
56     <dependency>
57       <groupId>commons-io</groupId>
58       <artifactId>commons-io</artifactId>
59       <version>2.5</version>
60     </dependency>
61   </dependencies>
62   <build>
63     <finalName>${project.artifactId}</finalName>
64   </build>
65 </project>
```

3.3 Java Class Creation

Let's create the required Java files. Right-click on

src/main/java

folder,

New -> Package

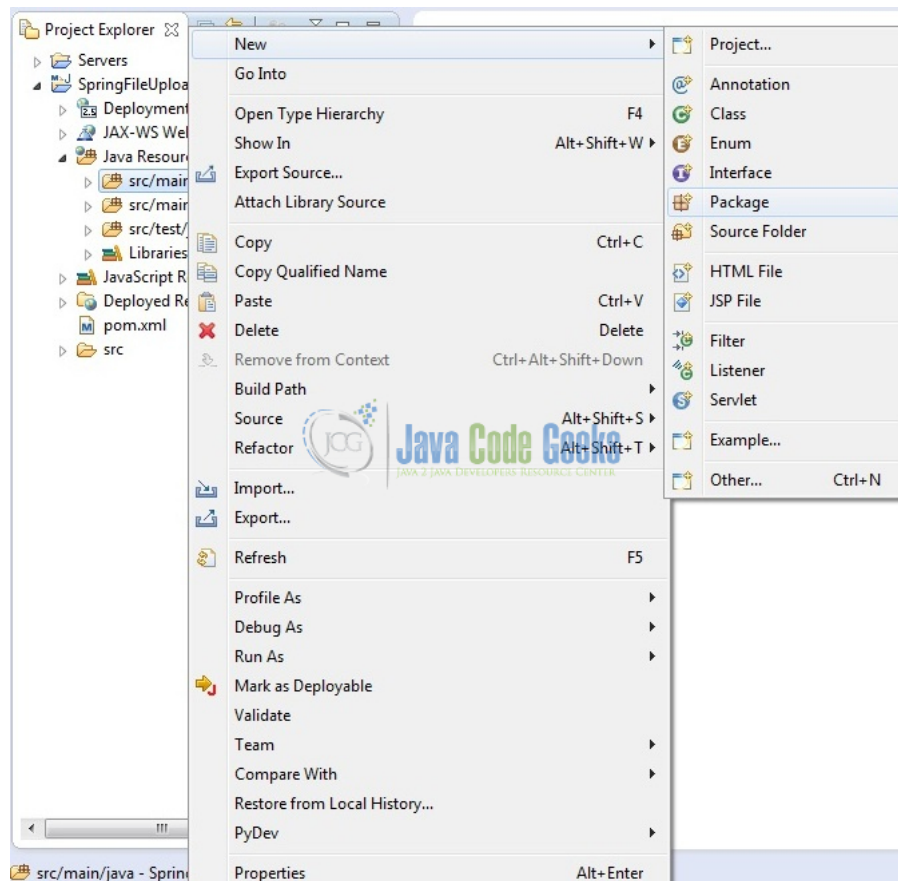


Fig. 8: Java Package Creation

A new pop window will open where we will enter the package name as:

```
com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload
```

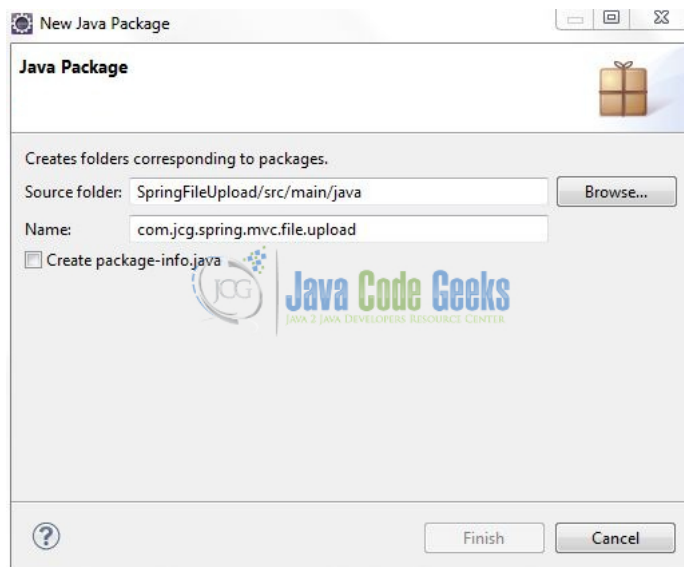


Fig. 9: Java Package Name (com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload)

Once the package is created in the application, we will need to create the Controller, Model, and the Database Interaction classes. Right-click on the newly created package:

```
New -> Class
```

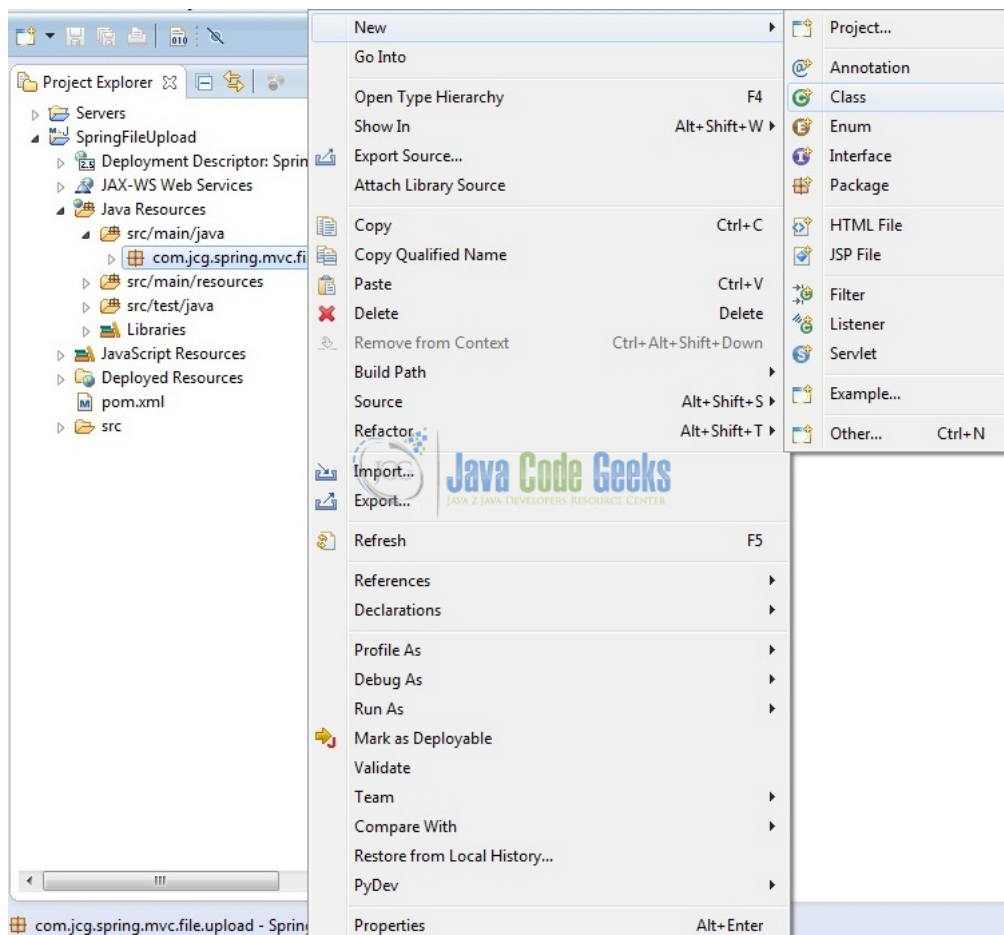



Fig. 10: Java Class Creation

A new pop window will open and enter the file name as:

FileuploadController

. The controller class will be created inside the package:

com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload

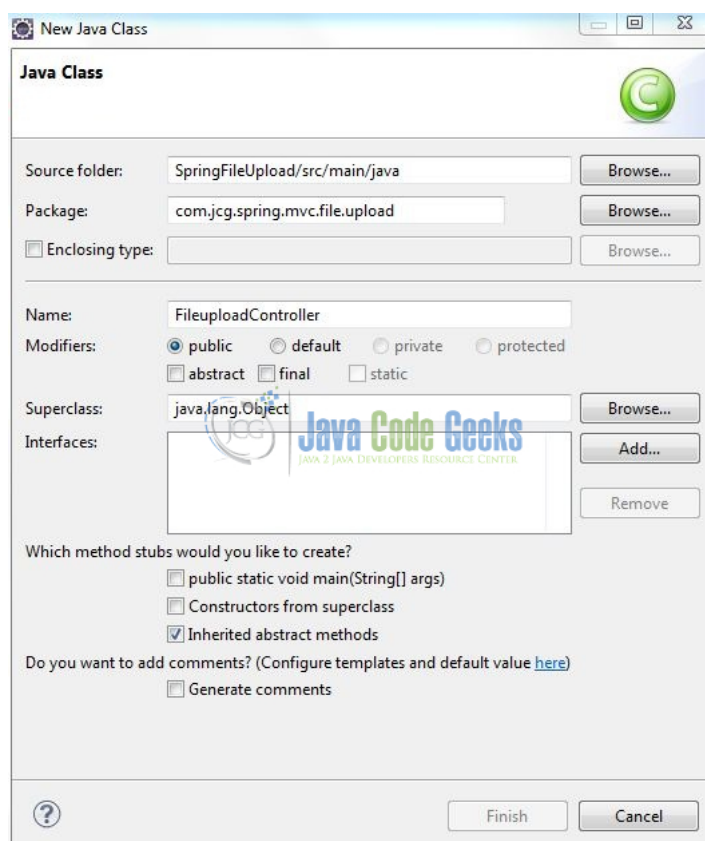


Fig. 11: Java Class (FileuploadController.java)

Repeat the step (i.e. Fig. 10) and enter the filename as:

FileUploadInDb

. The database interaction class will be used to perform the database operations and is created inside the package:

com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload

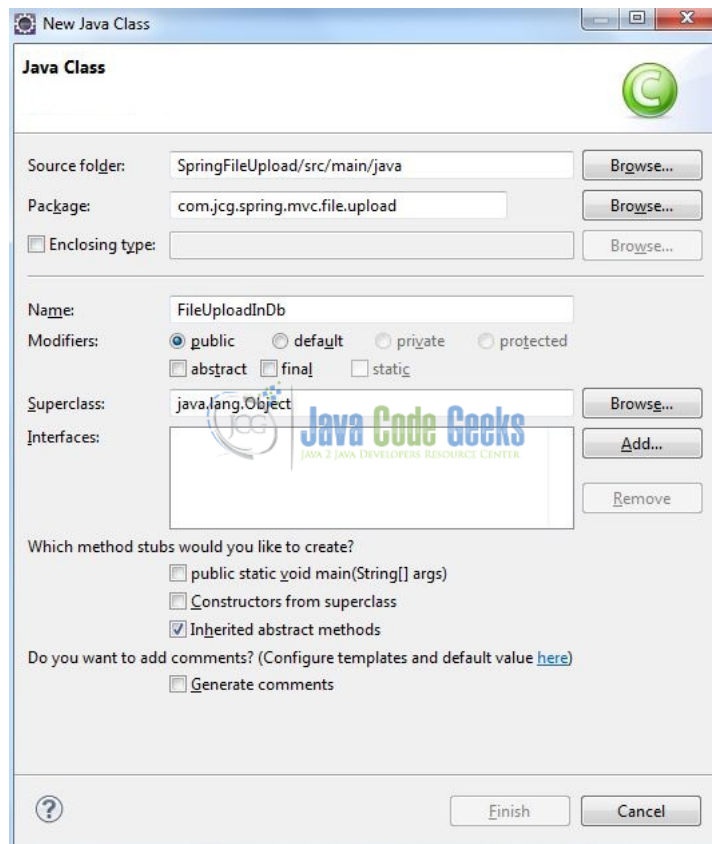


Fig. 12: Java Class (FileUploadInDb.java)

Again, repeat the step listed in Fig. 10 and enter the file name as:

FileUpload

. The model class will be created inside the package:

com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload

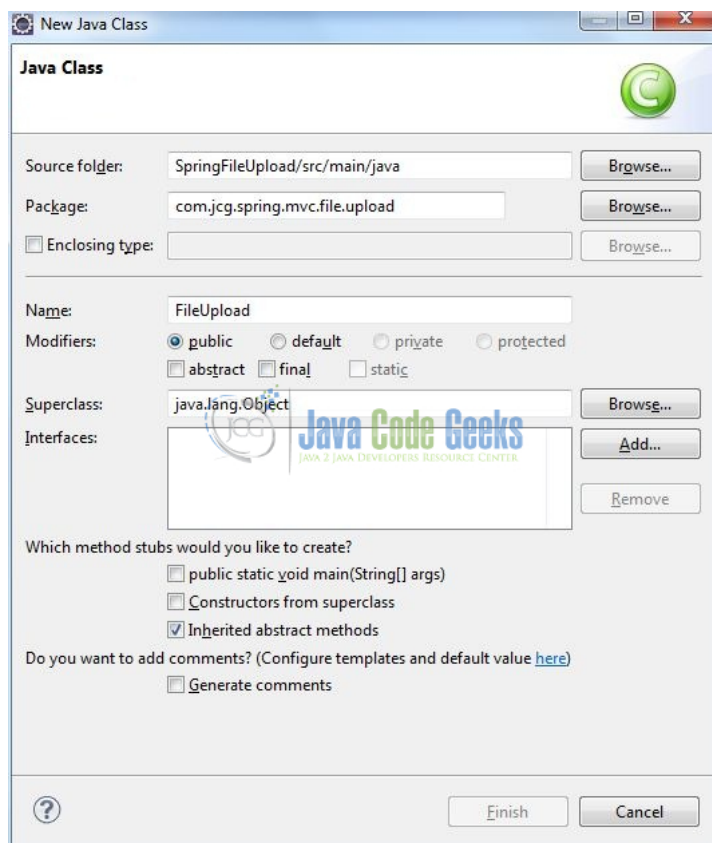


Fig. 13: Java Class (FileUpload.java)

3.3.1 Implementation of Controller Class

It is a simple class where the

```
@Controller
```

annotation is used to specify this class as a spring controller and is responsible for handling the file upload form's submission which is configured by the

```
@RequestMapping
```

annotation.

The second parameter of the

```
saveUploadedFileInDatabase()
```

method is annotated by

```
@RequestParam
```

annotation which maps the file-upload form field:

```
attachFileObj
```

to a

```
CommonsMultipartFile
```

object that represents an uploaded file. Do note, we have used an array of the

```
CommonsMultipartFile
```

objects in order to handle the multiple files.

In the

```
saveUploadedFileInDatabase()
```

method, we print the value of the *Description* field and then iterate over an array of

```
CommonsMultipartFile
```

objects and call the

```
fileSaveInDb(fileUploadObj)
```

method to permanently save the uploaded file into the database. Finally, the controller redirects the user to a result page whose logical name is:

```
success
```

. Add the following code to it:

FileuploadController.java

```

01 package com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload;
02
03 import java.io.IOException;
04
05 import javax.servlet.http.HttpServletRequest;
06
07 import org.springframework.stereotype.Controller;
08 import org.springframework.ui.ModelMap;
09 import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RequestMapping;
10 import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RequestMethod;
11 import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RequestParam;
12 import org.springframework.web.multipart.commons.CommonsMultipartFile;
13 import org.springframework.web.servlet.ModelAndView;
14
15 @Controller
16 public class FileuploadController {
17
18     static String fileDescription;
19     static FileUpload fileUploadObj;
20     static String saveDirectory = "uploadedFiles";
21     static ModelAndView modelAndViewObj;
22
23     @RequestMapping(value = {"/", "fileupload"}, method = RequestMethod.GET)
24     public ModelAndView showUploadFileForm(ModelMap model) {
25         modelAndViewObj = new ModelAndView("fileupload");
26         return modelAndViewObj;
27     }
28
29     // This Method Is Used To Get Or Retrieve The Uploaded File And Save It In The Db
30     @RequestMapping(value = "uploadFile", method = RequestMethod.POST)
31     public ModelAndView saveUploadedFileInDatabase(HttpServletRequest request, final @RequestParam CommonsM
32
33         // Reading File Upload Form Input Parameters
34         fileDescription = request.getParameter("description");
35
36         // Logging The Input Parameter (i.e. File Description) For The Debugging Purpose
37         System.out.println("\nFile Description Is?= " + fileDescription + "\n");
38
39         // Determine If There Is An File Upload. If Yes, Attach It To The Client Email
40         if ((attachFileObj != null) && (attachFileObj.length > 0) && (!attachFileObj.equals(""))) {
41             for (CommonsMultipartFile aFile : attachFileObj) {
42                 if(aFile.isEmpty()) {
43                     continue;
44                 } else {
45                     System.out.println("Attachment Name?= " + aFile.getOriginalFilename() + "\n");
46                     if (!aFile.getOriginalFilename().equals("")) {
47                         fileUploadObj = new FileUpload();
48                         fileUploadObj.setFileName(aFile.getOriginalFilename());
49                         fileUploadObj.setFileDescription(fileDescription);
50                         fileUploadObj.setData(aFile.getBytes());
51
52                         // Calling The Db Method To Save The Uploaded File In The Db
53                         FileUploadInDb.fileSaveInDb(fileUploadObj);
54                     }
55                 }
56                 System.out.println("File Is Successfully Uploaded & Saved In The Database.... Hurrey!\n");
57             }
58         } else {
59             // Do Nothing
60         }
61         modelAndViewObj = new ModelAndView("success", "messageObj", "Thank You! The File(s) Is Successfully Uplo
62         return modelAndViewObj;
63     }
64 }

```

Note: If the user doesn't pick up a file to be uploaded and saved in a database, the

```
attachFileObj
```

will be empty and an error message will be displayed to the user upon the form submission

3.3.2 Implementation of Database Layer

This is the database implementation class that performs the

```
SQL
```

Insert operation using the Jdbc with Spring Jdbc Template. Add the following code to it:

FileUploadInDb.java

```

01 package com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload;
02
03 import java.sql.SQLException;
04
05 import org.springframework.jdbc.core.JdbcTemplate;
06 import org.springframework.jdbc.datasource.SimpleDriverDataSource;
07
08 public class FileUploadInDb {
09
10     static JdbcTemplate jdbcTemplateObj;
11     static SimpleDriverDataSource dataSourceObj;
12
13     // Database Configuration Parameters
14     static String DB_USERNAME = "root", DB_PASSWORD = "", DB_URL = "jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/fileDb";
15
16     private static SimpleDriverDataSource getDatabaseConnection() {
17         dataSourceObj = new SimpleDriverDataSource();
18         try {
19             dataSourceObj.setDriver(new com.mysql.jdbc.Driver());
20             dataSourceObj.setUrl(DB_URL);
21             dataSourceObj.setUsername(DB_USERNAME);

```

```

22         dataSourceObj.setPassword(DB_PASSWORD);
23     } catch(SQLException sqlException) {
24         sqlException.printStackTrace();
25     }
26     return dataSourceObj;
27 }
28
29 // This Method Is Used To Save The Uploaded File In The Database
30 public static void fileSaveInDb(FileUpload fileUploadObj) {
31
32     // This Code Is Used To Set Driver Class Name, Database URL, Username & Password
33     jdbcTemplateObj = new JdbcTemplate(getDatabaseConnection());
34
35     if(null != jdbcTemplateObj) {
36
37         // Performing The Sql 'Insert' Operation
38         String sqlInsertQuery = "INSERT INTO files_upload (file_name, file_description, file_data) VALU
39         int insertCount = jdbcTemplateObj.update(sqlInsertQuery, fileUploadObj.getFileName(), fileUploa
40         if(insertCount == 1) {
41             System.out.println("The Uploaded File Is Successfully Saved In The Database...!" + "\n");
42         } else {
43             System.out.println("Error Occured While Saving The Uploaded File In The Database... Please
44         }
45     } else {
46         System.out.print("Application Is Not Able To Bind With The Database! Please Check!");
47     }
48 }
49 }

```

Note: Developers should change the Database URL, Username and Password according to the settings on their environment

3.3.3 Implementation of Model Class

This class simply maps a row in the

files_upload

table to a Java object. Add the following code to it:

FileUpload.java

```

01 package com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload;
02
03 public class FileUpload {
04
05     private byte[] data;
06     private String fileName, fileDescription;
07
08     public String getFileName() {
09         return fileName;
10     }
11
12     public void setFileName(String fileName) {
13         this.fileName = fileName;
14     }
15
16     public String getFileDescription() {
17         return fileDescription;
18     }
19
20     public void setFileDescription(String fileDescription) {
21         this.fileDescription = fileDescription;
22     }
23
24     public byte[] getData() {
25         return data;
26     }
27
28     public void setData(byte[] data) {
29         this.data = data;
30     }
31 }

```

3.4 Configuration Files

Let's write all the configuration files involved in this application.

3.4.1 Spring Configuration File

To configure the spring framework, we need to implement a bean configuration file i.e.

spring-servlet.xml

which provides an interface between the basic Java class and the outside world. Right-click on

SpringFileUpload/src/main/webapp/WEB-INF

folder,

New -> Other

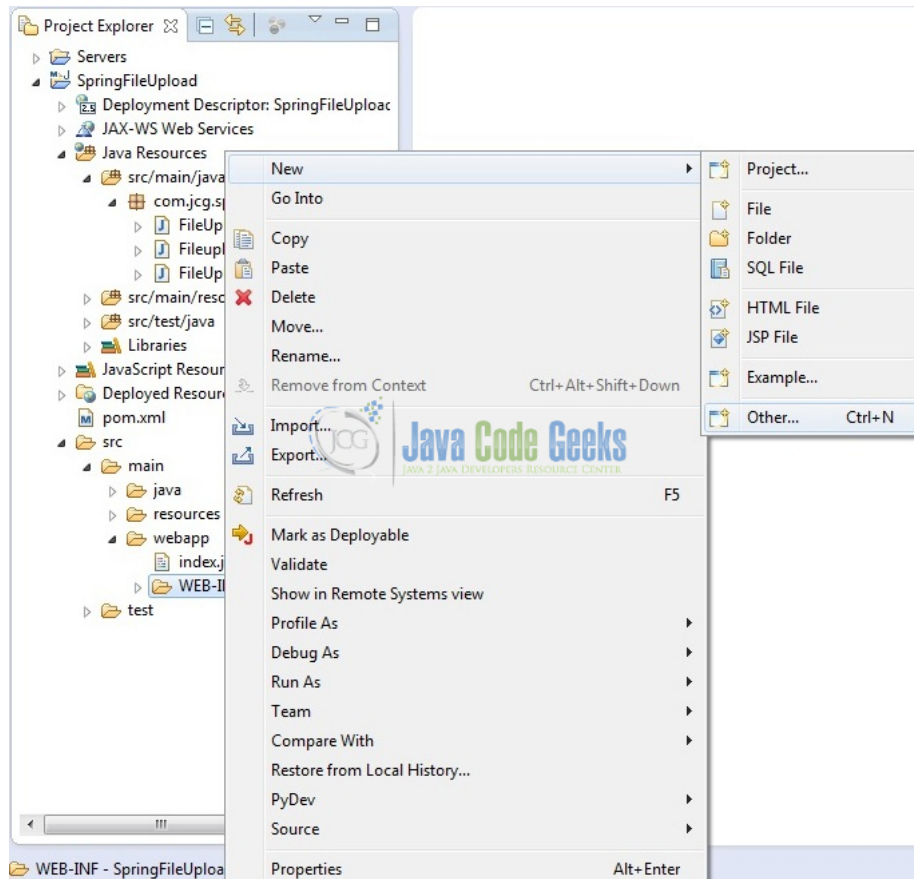


Fig. 14: XML File Creation

A new pop window will open and select the wizard as an

XML

file.

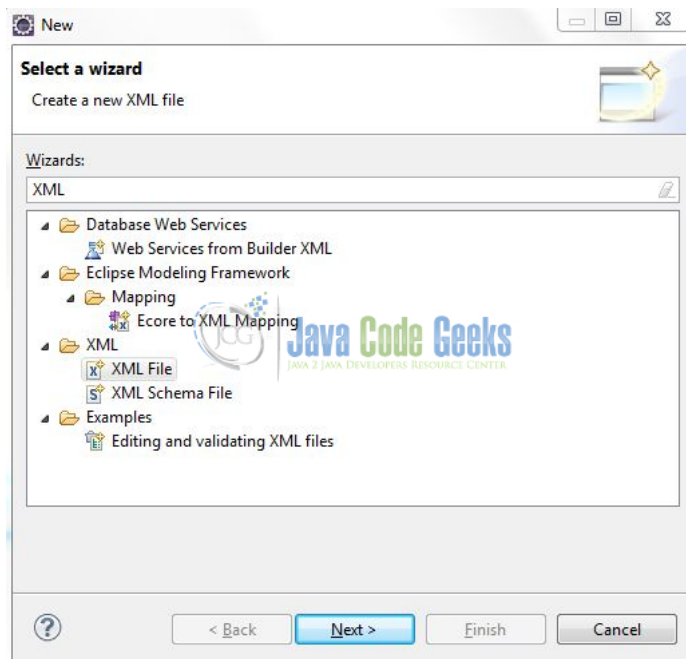


Fig. 15: Wizard Selection

Again, a pop-up window will open. Verify the parent folder location as:

SpringFileUpload/src/main/webapp/WEB-INF

and enter the file name as:

spring-servlet.xml

. Click Finish.

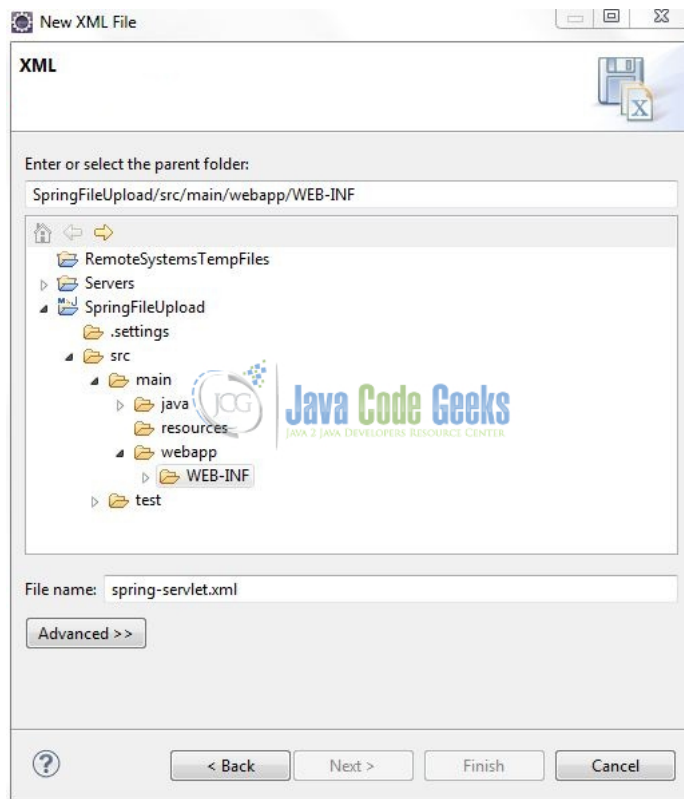


Fig. 16: spring-servlet.xml

Once the

XML

file is created, we will add the following code to it:

spring-servlet.xml

```

01 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
02 <beans xmlns="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
03
04     <context:component-scan base-package="com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload" />
05
06     <!-- Resolves Views Selected For Rendering by @Controllers to *.jsp Resources in the /WEB-INF/ Folder -
07     <bean class="org.springframework.web.servlet.view.InternalResourceViewResolver">
08         <property name="prefix" value="/WEB-INF/views/" />
09         <property name="suffix" value=".jsp" />
10     </bean>
11
12     <!-- Spring File Upload Configuration -->
13     <bean id="multipartResolver" class="org.springframework.web.multipart.commons.CommonsMultipartResolver">
14         <!-- Maximum Upload Size (In Bytes) - 20 MB -->
15         <property name="maxUploadSize" value="20971520" />
16         <!-- Maximum Size Of The File In Memory (In Bytes) - 10 MB-->
17         <property name="maxInMemorySize" value="1048576" />
18     </bean>
19
20     <!-- File Upload Exception Resolver i.e. In Case Of Exception The Controller Will Navigate To 'error.js
21     <bean class="org.springframework.web.servlet.handler.SimpleMappingExceptionResolver">
22         <property name="exceptionMappings">
23             <props>
24                 <prop key="java.lang.Exception">error</prop>
25             </props>
26         </property>
27     </bean>
28 </beans>

```

Notes: This file is loaded by the spring's Dispatcher Servlet which receives all the requests coming into the application and dispatches them to the controller for processing. There are three beans declared in this configuration which draws our attention:

•

InternalResourceViewResolver

: This bean declaration tells the framework how to find the physical

JSP

files according to the logical view names returned by the controllers, by attaching the prefix and the suffix to a view name. For e.g. If a controller's method returns

home

as the logical view name, then the framework will find a physical file

home.jsp

under the


```
/WEB-INF/views
```

directory

```
<context:component-scan />
```

: This tells the framework which packages to be scanned when using the annotation-based strategy. Here the framework will scan all classes under the package:

```
com.jcg.spring.mvc.file.upload
```

```
multipartResolver
```

: This bean id is for parsing the multi-part request with the

```
CommonsMultipartResolver
```

implementation which is based on the Apache Commons File Upload. We will also configure the file upload settings as follows:

```
maxUploadSize
```

: It is the maximum size (in bytes) of the multipart request, including the upload file. For this example, it is set to 20 MB

```
maxInMemorySize
```

: It is a threshold (in bytes) beyond which upload file will be saved to the disk instead of the memory. For this example, it is set to 10 MB

```
SimpleMappingExceptionResolver
```

: This specifies the

```
error.jsp
```

which handles the exceptions

3.4.2 Web Deployment Descriptor

The

```
web.xml
```

file declares one servlet (i.e. Dispatcher Servlet) to receive all kind of the requests and specifies the default page (i.e.

```
fileupload.jsp
```

) when accessing the application. Dispatcher servlet here acts as a front controller. Add the following code to it:

web.xml

```
01 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
02 <web-app xmlns="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" ve
03
04     <display-name>Spring Mvc File Upload Example</display-name>
05
06     <!-- Spring Configuration - Processes Application Requests -->
07     <servlet>
08         <servlet-name>SpringController</servlet-name>
09         <servlet-class>org.springframework.web.servlet.DispatcherServlet</servlet-class>
10         <init-param>
11             <param-name>contextConfigLocation</param-name>
12             <param-value>/WEB-INF/spring-servlet.xml</param-value>
13         </init-param>
14         <load-on-startup>1</load-on-startup>
15     </servlet>
16     <servlet-mapping>
17         <servlet-name>SpringController</servlet-name>
18         <url-pattern>/</url-pattern>
19     </servlet-mapping>
20
21     <!-- Welcome File List -->
22     <welcome-file-list>
23         <welcome-file>fileupload.jsp</welcome-file>
24     </welcome-file-list>
25 </web-app>
```

3.5 Creating JSP Views

Spring Mvc supports many types of views for different presentation technologies. These include –

```
JSP
```

```
HTML
```

XML

etc. So let us write a simple view in

SpringFileUpload/src/main/webapp/WEB-INF/views

. Right-click on

SpringFileUpload/src/main/webapp/WEB-INF/views

folder,

New -> JSP File

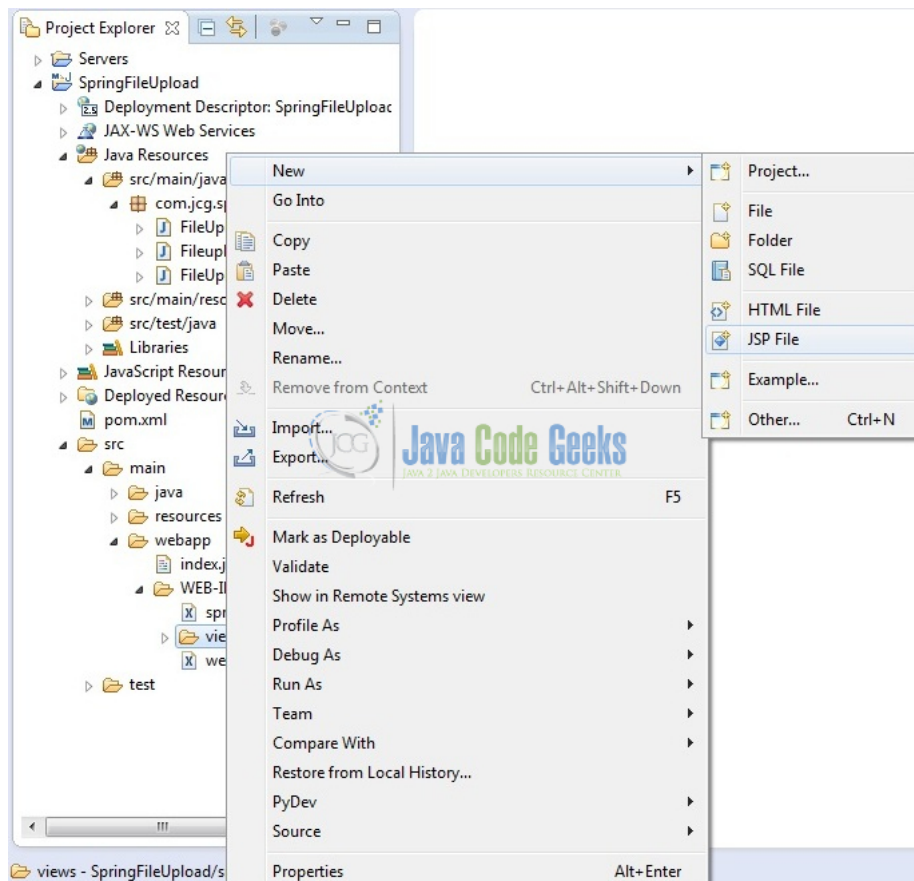


Fig. 17: JSP Creation

Verify the parent folder location as:

SpringFileUpload/src/main/webapp/WEB-INF/views

and enter the filename as:

fileupload.jsp

. Click Finish.



Fig. 18: emailForm.jsp

This is a simple form with two fields: Description and Attachment which are the necessary attributes for a file upload functionality. There are few notices for this

HTML

form i.e.

- ```
action="uploadFile"
```

: This specifies the action name which will handle submission of this form
- ```
enctype="multipart/form-data"
```

: This tells the browser that this form contains the multipart data (i.e. file-upload) so it will construct a multipart request to be sent to the server
- ```
<input type="file" ... />
```

: This tag shows a file browse button from which the user can pick up a file

Add the following code to it:

fileupload.jsp

```
01 <%@ page language="java" contentType="text/html; charset=UTF-8" pageEncoding="UTF-8"%>
02 <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/loose.dtd">
03 <html>
04 <head>
05 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
06 <script type="text/javascript" src="https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/2.1.1/jquery.min.js">
07 </script>
08 <script type="text/javascript">
09 $(document).ready(function() {
10 $("#fileUploadErr").hide();
11
12 // Hide The Error Message When The Attachment Btn Is Clicked.
13 $('#pickUpFileAttachment').click(function(eObj) {
14 $("#fileUploadErr").hide();
15 });
16
17 // Validating Whether The Attachment Is Uploaded Or Not.
18 $('#fileUploadBtn').click(function(eObj) {
19 var file = $('#pickUpFileAttachment').map(function() {
20 return $(this).val().trim() ? true : false;
21 }).get();
22 if (file.includes(true)) {
23 // Do Nothing...!
24 } else {
25 $("#fileUploadErr").css({'color': 'red', 'font-weight': 'bold'}).show();
26 eObj.preventDefault();
27 }
28 });
29 });
```

```

30 </script>
31 <style type="text/css">
32 #fileUploadBtn {
33 float: left;
34 margin-top: 22px;
35 }
36 </style>
37 </head>
38 <body>
39 <center>
40 <h2>Spring MVC File Upload Example</h2>
41 <form id="fileUploadForm" method="post" action="uploadFile" enctype="multipart/form-data">
42 <table id="fileUploadFormBeanTable" border="0" width="80%">
43 <tr>
44 <td>Description:</td>
45 <td><input id="fileDescription" type="text" name="description" size="65" /></td>
46 </tr>
47 <tr>
48 <td>Attachment:</td>
49 <td>
50 <input id="pickUpFileAttachment" type="file" name="attachFileObj" size="60" />
51 Please Upload A File!
52 </td>
53 </tr>
54 <tr>
55 <td colspan="2" align="center"><input id="fileUploadBtn" type="submit" value="Upload" /></td>
56 </tr>
57 </table>
58 </form>
59 </center>
60 </body>
61 </html>

```

Repeat the step (i.e. Fig. 17) and enter the filename as:

success.jsp

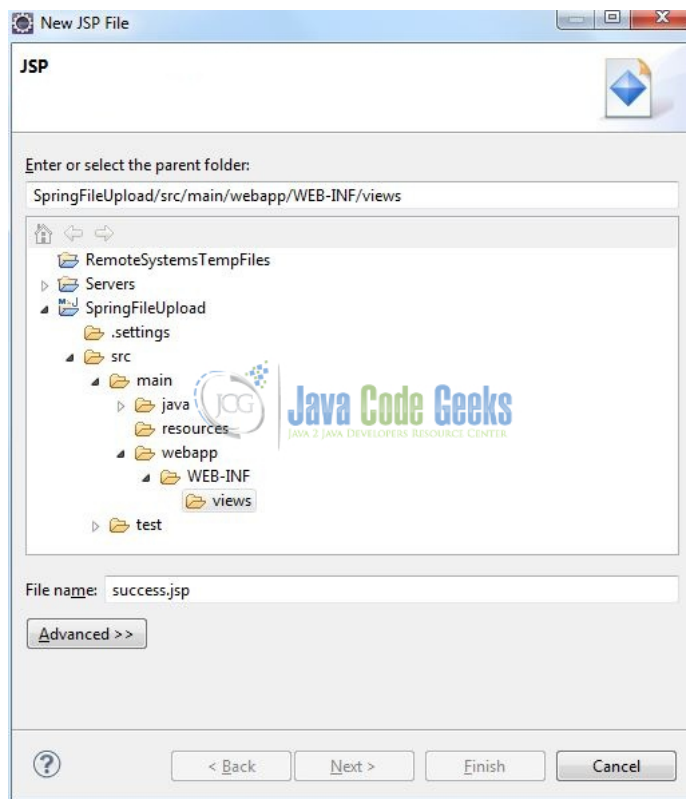


Fig. 19: success.jsp

This page will simply show a *success* message after the file is successfully saved in the database. Add the following code it:

success.jsp

```

01 <%@ page language="java" contentType="text/html; charset=ISO-8859-1" pageEncoding="ISO-8859-1"%>
02 <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/loose.dtd">
03 <html>
04 <head>
05 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
06 <title>Spring MVC File Upload Example</title>
07 <style type="text/css">
08 #fileUploadDiv {
09 text-align: center;
10 padding-top: 16px;
11 }
12 #fileUploadFormPage {
13 text-decoration: none;
14 text-align: center;
15 cursor: pointer;
16 }
17 #successMessage {
18 text-align: center;
19 color: green;

```

```

20 font-size: 25px;
21 padding-top: 17px;
22 }
23 </style>
24 </head>
25 <body>
26 <center>
27 <h2>Spring MVC File Upload Example</h2>
28 </center>
29 <div id="successMessage">
30 ${messageObj}
31 </div>
32 <div id="fileUploadDiv">
33 Go To File Upload Form Page
34 </div>
35 </body>
36 </html>

```

Again repeat the step (i.e. Fig. 17) and enter the filename as:

error.jsp

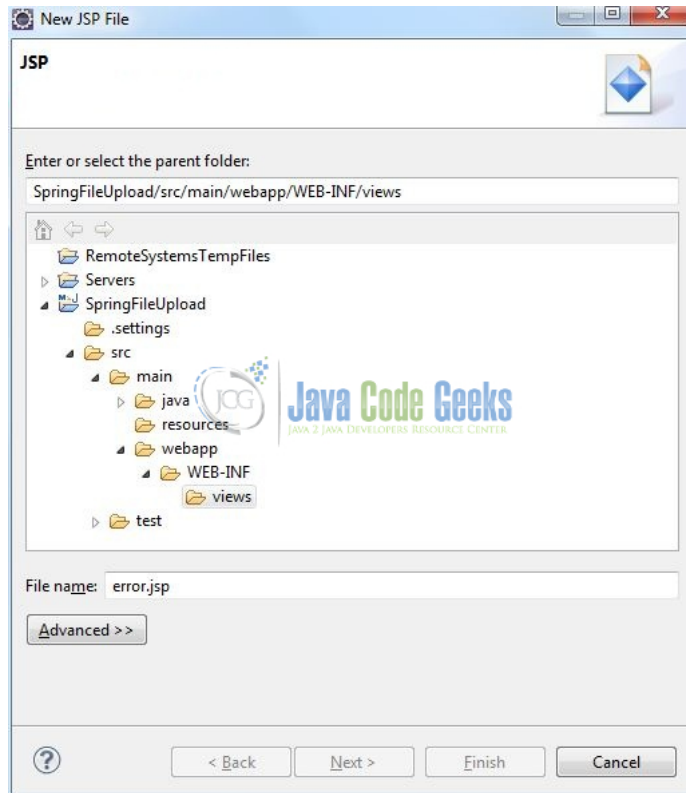


Fig. 20: error.jsp

This page displays an *error message* in case of exceptions thrown, such as the upload file's size exceeds the limit or the database connection settings are incorrect. Add the following code it:

error.jsp

```

01 <%@ page language="java" contentType="text/html; charset=UTF-8" pageEncoding="UTF-8"%>
02 <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/loose.dtd">
03 <html>
04 <head>
05 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
06 <title>Spring MVC File Upload Example</title>
07 <style type="text/css">
08 #errorMessage {
09 text-align: center;
10 font-size: 25px;
11 padding-top: 17px;
12 }
13 #errorMessage span {
14 color: red;
15 }
16 </style>
17 </head>
18 <body>
19 <center>
20 <h2>Spring MVC File Upload Example</h2>
21 </center>
22

23 <div id="errorMessage">
24 Sorry, The File Was Not Successfully Upload Because Of The Following Error!
25 ${exception.message}
26 </div>
27 </body>
28 </html>

```

## 4. Run the Application

As we are ready with all the changes, let us compile the project and deploy the application on the Tomcat7 server. To deploy the application on Tomcat7, right-click on the project and navigate to

Run as -> Run on Server

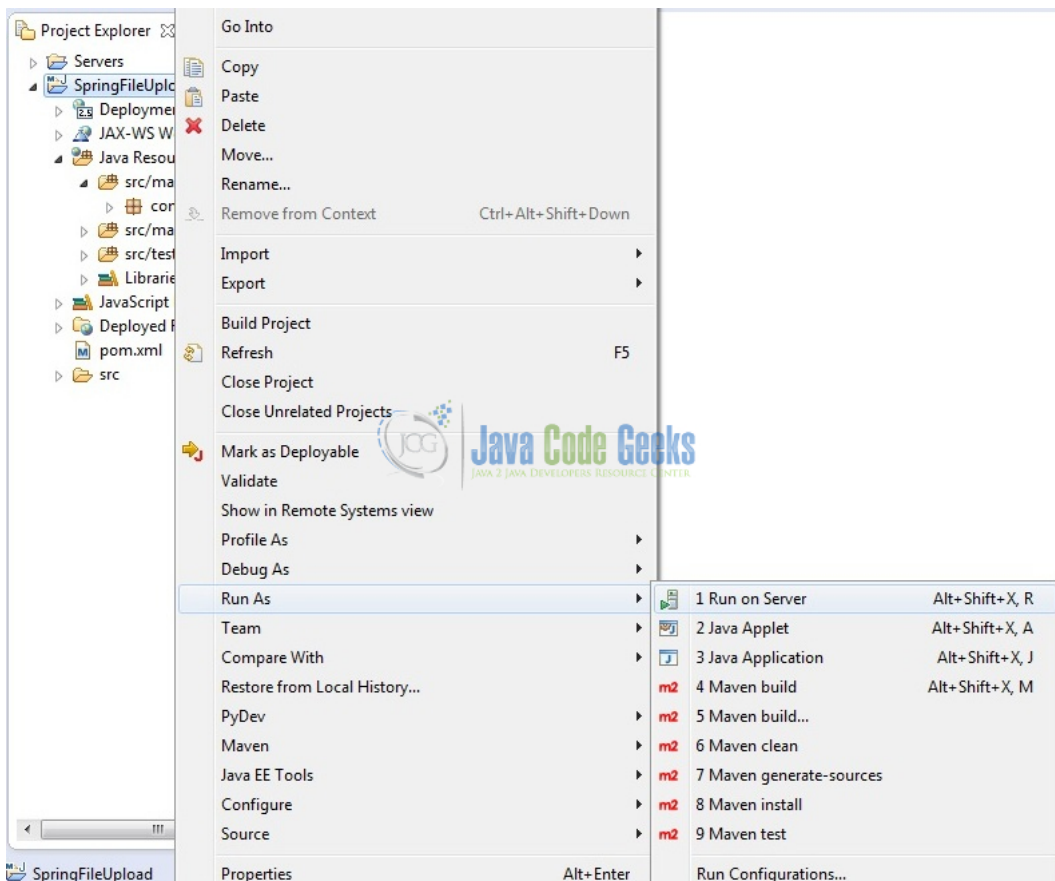


Fig. 21: How to Deploy Application on Tomcat

Tomcat will deploy the application in its web-apps folder and shall start its execution to deploy the project so that we can go ahead and test it on the browser.

## 5. Project Demo

Open your favorite browser and hit the following URL. The output page will be displayed.

<http://localhost:8085/SpringFileUpload/>

Server name (localhost) and port (8085) may vary as per your tomcat configuration. Developers can debug the example and see what happens after every step. Enjoy!

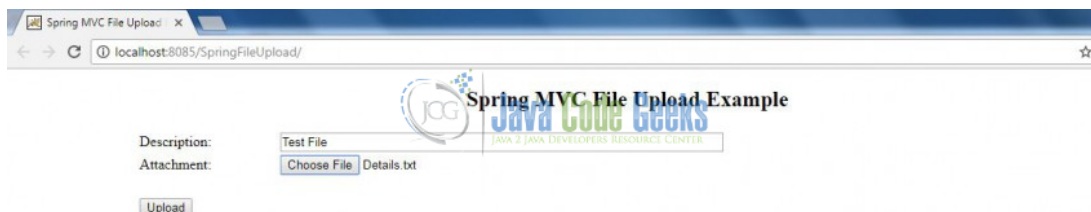


Fig. 22: File Upload Form Page

The file upload form is displayed. Type something into the *Description* field and pick up an arbitrary file. Then hit the **Upload** button. It may take a while for the database transaction to be completed and a successful message appears on the result page in case everything goes well.

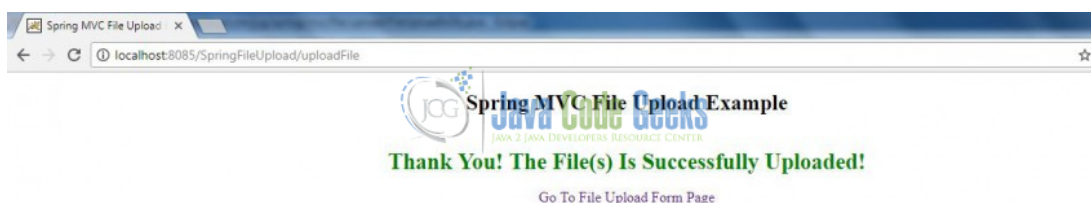


Fig. 23: File Uploaded Successfully

In case of an error (such as database connection settings are incorrect or the pick-up file size is larger than the configured maximum upload size etc.), the error page will be displayed.



Fig. 24: Error Page

That's all for this post. Happy Learning!!

## 6. Conclusion

In this section, developers learned how to create a sample Spring Mvc application that allows the file upload functionality. Developers can download the sample application as an Eclipse project in the Downloads section, and remember to update the database connection settings.

## 7. Download the Eclipse Project

This was an example of File Upload with Spring MVC.

### Download

You can download the full source code of this example here: **SpringFileUpload**

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