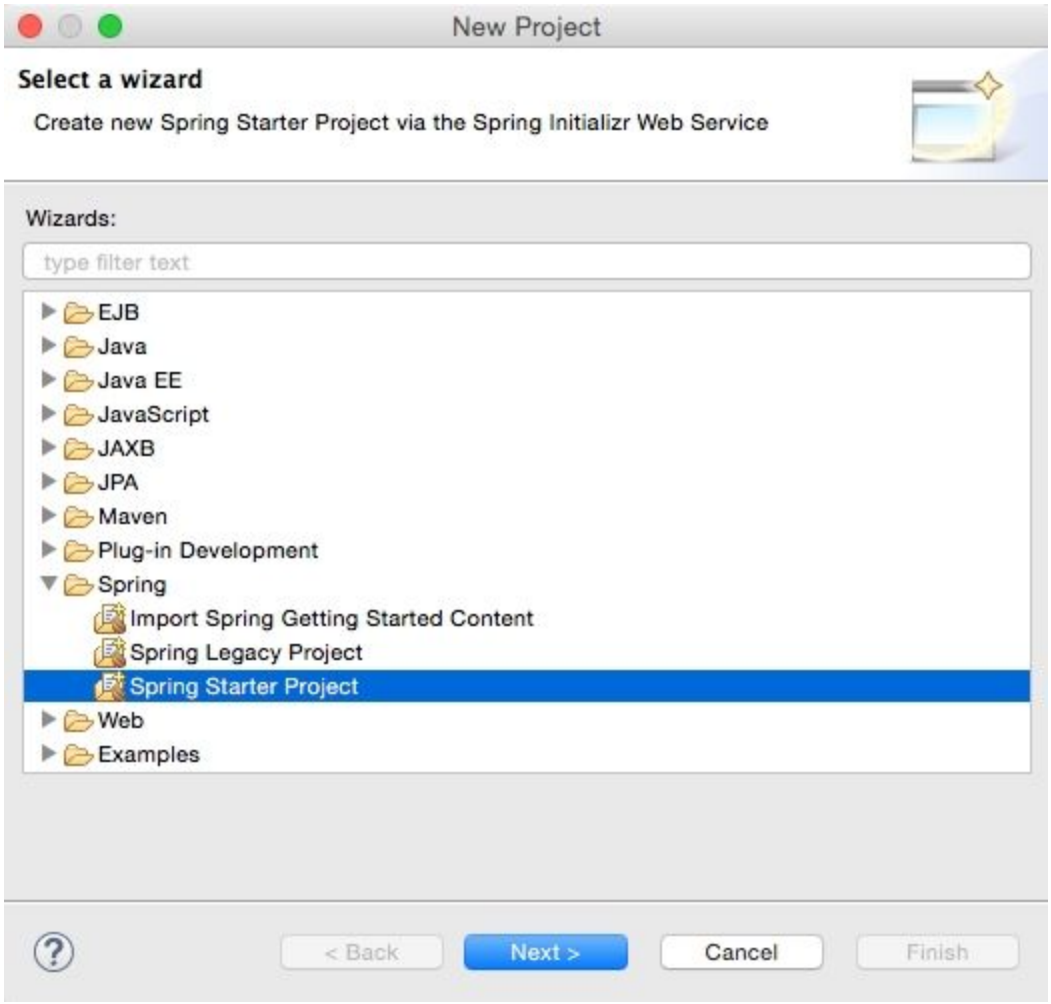
Lab 3 - Create a Spring Boot Java Microservice with STS

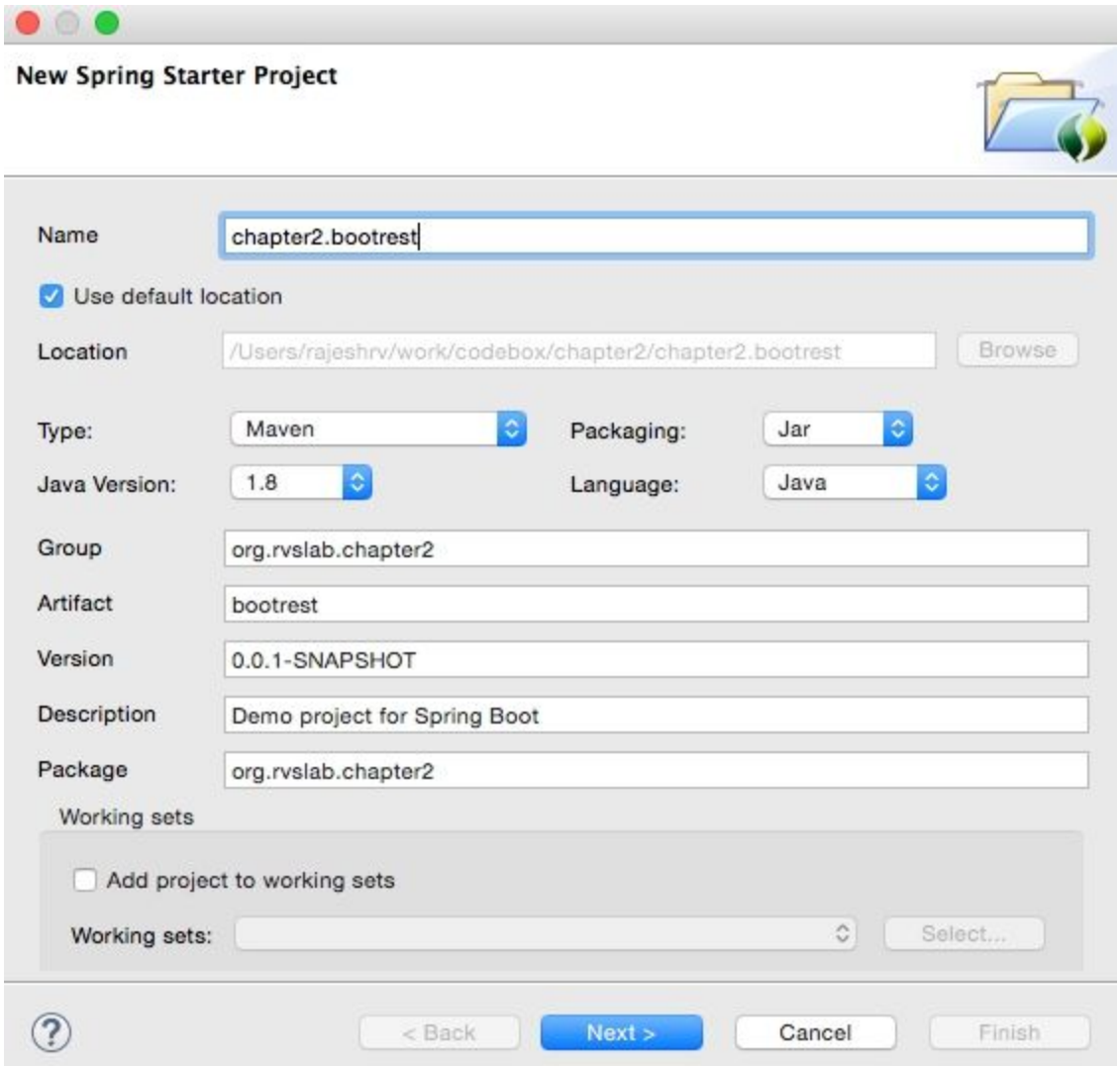
Open STS, right-click within the **Project Explorer** window, navigate to **New** | **Project**, and select **Spring Starter Project**, as shown in the following screenshot, and click on **Next**:



Spring Starter Project is a basic template wizard that provides a number of other starter libraries to select from.

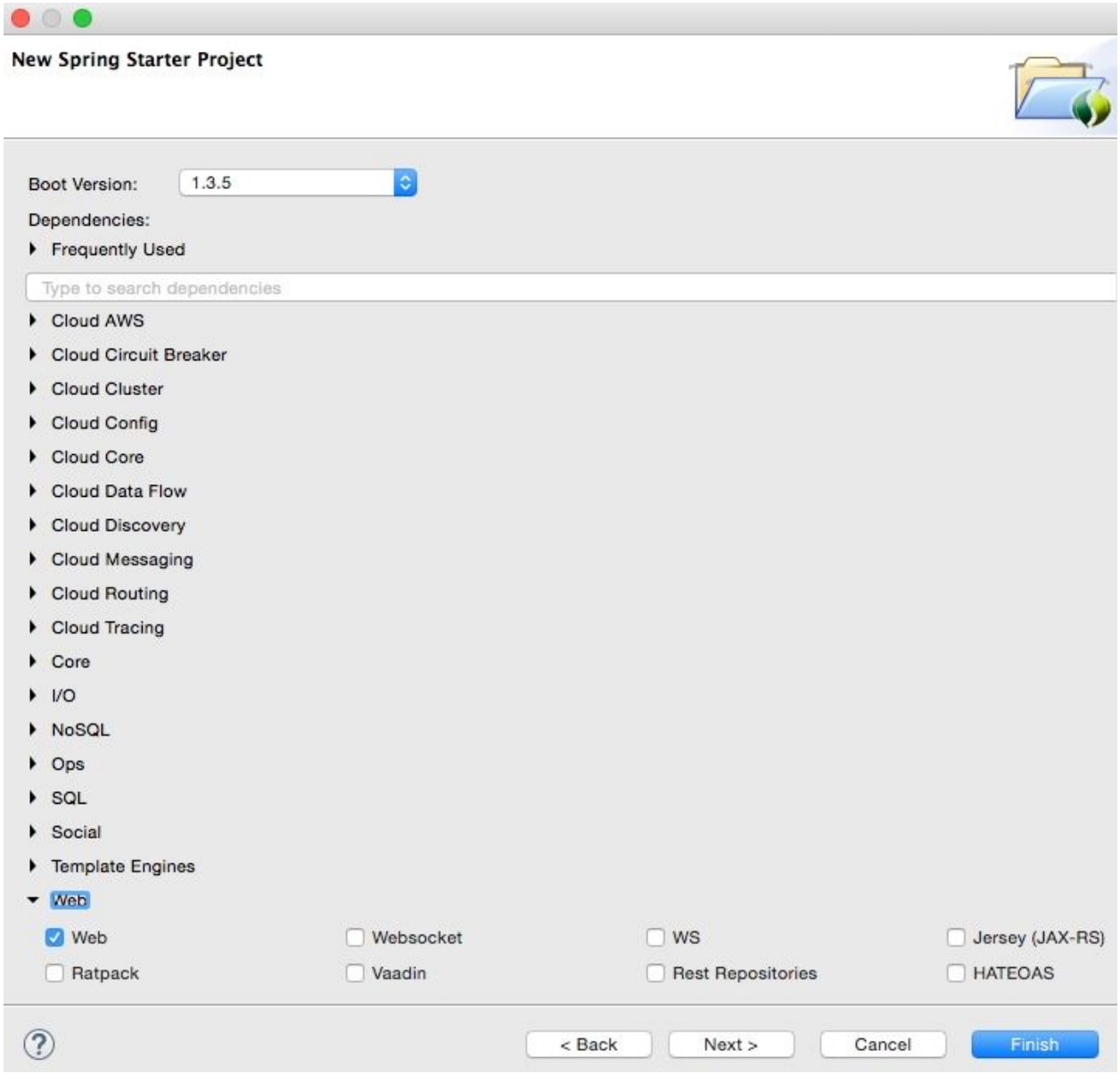
Type the project name as `chapter2.bootrest` or any other name of your choice. It is important to choose the packaging as JAR. In traditional web applications, a war file is created and then deployed to a servlet container, whereas Spring Boot packages all the dependencies to a self-contained, autonomous JAR file with an embedded HTTP listener.

Select 1.8 under **Java Version**. Java 1.8 is recommended for Spring 4 applications. Change the other Maven properties such as **Group**, **Artifact**, and **Package**, as shown in the following screenshot:



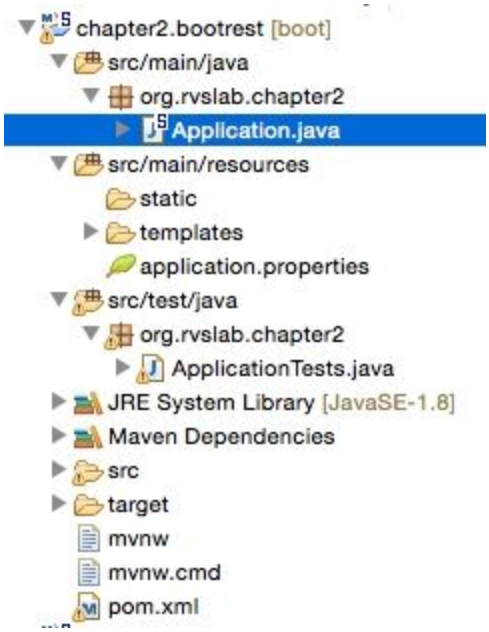
Once completed, click on **Next**.

The wizard will show the library options. In this case, as the REST service is developed, select **Web** under **Web**. This is an interesting step that tells Spring Boot that a Spring MVC web application is being developed so that Spring Boot can include the necessary libraries, including Tomcat as the HTTP listener and other configurations, as required:



Click on **Finish**.

This will generate a project named `chapter2.bootrest` in **Project Explorer** in STS:



Take a moment to examine the generated application. Files that are of interest are:

- `pom.xml`
- `Application.java`
- `Application.properties`
- `ApplicationTests.java`