



GraphQL

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What is the GraphQL?

GraphQL is a **query language** for APIs and is similar to REST. GraphQL is developed by Facebook and is **open source**. GraphQL uses a **single endpoint** for receiving requests. You have to write your **controller name** to your query. And also you can select specific fields for your response. Your response will be in **JSON format**.

There are three basic operations of GraphQL (like GET, POST, PUT...)

- Query
- Mutation
- Subscriptions

Query

If you want to get something, you can use “query”.

```
query{  
  getAllUsers {  
    id  
    username  
    email  
    createdAt  
    name  
  }  
}
```

Controller name

Fields for response

```
query{  
  getByID(id: 1){  
    id  
    username  
    createdAt  
    role  
  }  
}
```

Controller name

Parameter

Fields for response

Mutation

If you want to mutate/change/update your data or create a new one, you can use “mutation”.

```
mutation {  
  createUser(  
    user: {username: "grkn", email: "mail@mail.com", role: ADMIN,  
name: "Gurkan", surname: "UCAR"}  
  ) {  
    id  
    username  
  }  
}
```

Controller name

Parameters

Fields for response

Subscription

“Subscription” can be used for real-time operations. This operation usually implementing with WebSockets.

```
subscription {  
  messages {  
    content  
    sender {  
      name  
    }  
  }  
}
```

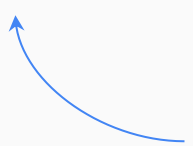
GraphQL Scheme

Schemas include your **models**, **queries**, **mutations** and etc. You have to define all related things in your **.graphqls** file. For instance, you can define a model using **type** keyword.

Some other keywords:

- input : input parameter models
- enum
- scalar : for custom types

Example
'type'



```
type UserDTO {  
  id: ID  
  username: String  
  createdAt: DateTime  
  email: String  
  name: String  
  role: Role  
}
```

*For more information check the resources

Example GraphQL Scheme (.graphqls file)

scalar DateTime

type Query {
 getAllUsers : [UserDTO]
 getByID(id: ID!) : UserDTO
}

type Mutation {
 createUser(user: UserCreateRequest): UserDTO
 updateUser(user: UserUpdateRequest): UserDTO
 deleteUser(id: ID!): Boolean
}

type UserDTO {
 id: ID
 username: String
 createdAt: DateTime
 updatedAt: DateTime
 email: String
 name: String
 surname: String
 role: Role
}

enum Role {
 ADMIN
 USER
}

input UserUpdateRequest{
 id:ID!
 username: String!
 email: String!
 name: String
 surname: String
 role: Role
}

input UserCreateRequest{
 username: String!
 email: String!
 name: String
 surname: String
 role: Role
}

Pros and Cons of GraphQL

Pros

- Single endpoint
- Fetch specific fields from data (Reduce response size)

Cons

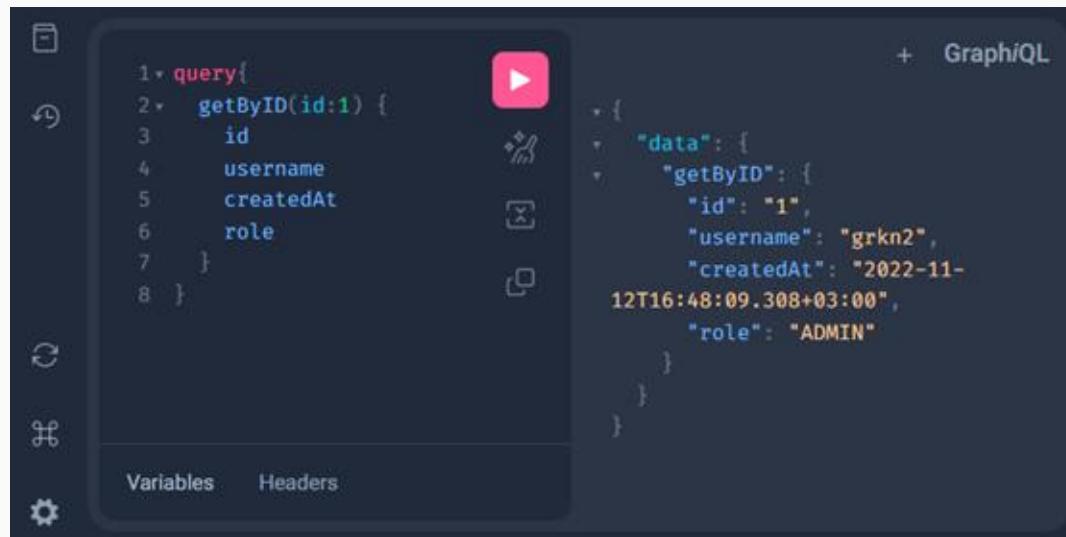
- Complex queries
- Caching implementation

Testing - Graphiql

You can use **Graphiql** console for execute queries.

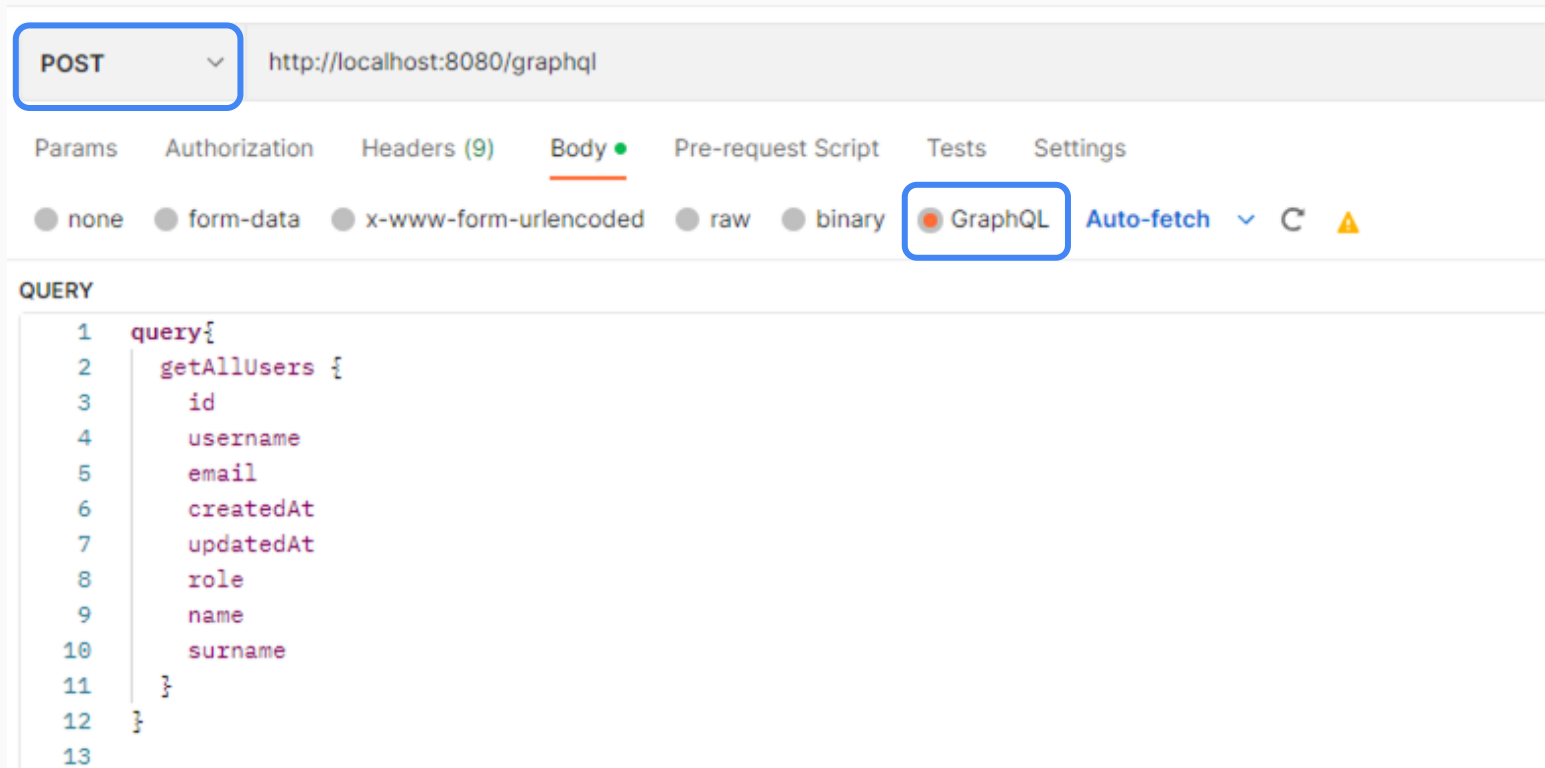
*In spring boot, you have to enable it before:

- `spring.graphql.graphiql.enabled=true`



Testing - Postman

Select **POST** request and send your query in **graphql** section.



Spring Boot Kotlin implementation

Add these dependencies to your pom.xml file:

```
<dependency>  
  <groupId>org.springframework.graphql</groupId>  
  <artifactId>spring-graphql-test</artifactId>  
  <scope>test</scope>  
</dependency>
```

```
<dependency>  
  <groupId>com.graphql-java</groupId>  
  <artifactId>graphql-java-extended-scalars</artifactId>  
  <version>19.0</version>  
</dependency>
```

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

Spring Boot Kotlin implementation - Controller

@Controller

```
class UserController(private val userService: UserService) {
```

@QueryMapping

```
fun getAllUsers() = userService.getAllUsers().map { it.toDTO() }
```

@QueryMapping

```
fun getById(@Argument id: Long) = userService.getUserById(id).toDTO()
```

@MutationMapping

```
fun updateUser(@Argument user: UserUpdateRequest) = userService.updateUser(user).toDTO()
```

@MutationMapping

```
fun createUser(@Argument user: UserCreateRequest) = userService.createUser(user).toDTO()
```

@MutationMapping

```
fun deleteUser(@Argument id: Long) = userService.deleteUser(id)
```

```
}
```

type Query {

```
getAllUsers : [UserDTO]
```

```
getById(id: ID!) : UserDTO
```

```
}
```

type Mutation {

```
createUser(user: UserCreateRequest): UserDTO
```

```
updateUser(user: UserUpdateRequest): UserDTO
```

```
deleteUser(id: ID!): Boolean
```

```
}
```

Must be the **same name** with **query** and **mutation definitions** in **.graphqls** file

Spring Boot Kotlin implementation - Error Handling

@Component

```
class GlobalExceptionHandler : DataFetcherExceptionHandlerAdapter() {
```

```
    override fun resolveToSingleError(e: Throwable, env: DataFetchingEnvironment): GraphQLError? {
```

```
        return when (e) {
```

```
            is UserNotFoundException -> toGraphQLError(e)
```

```
            is Exception -> toGraphQLError(e)
```

```
            else -> super.resolveToSingleError(e, env)
```

```
        }
```

```
    }
```

```
    private fun toGraphQLError(e: Throwable): GraphQLError? {
```

```
        return
```

```
        GraphQLErrorBuilder.newError().message(e.message).errorType(ErrorType.DataFetchingException).build()
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

Spring Boot Kotlin implementation - Integration Tests

```
//other annotations
@AutoConfigureGraphQLTester
internal class UserControllerTest(
    @Autowired private val graphqlTester: GraphQLTester
) {

    @Test
    fun `should return all users`() {
        val query: String = """
            Query{ getAllUsers { id username email role name surname createdAt updatedAt} }
            """

        graphqlTester.document(query)
            .execute()
            .path("getAllUsers")
            .entityList(UserDTO::class.java)
            .hasSize(2)
    }
}
```

Thanks

Full Project: <https://github.com/gurkanucar/spring-boot-kotlin-graphql>

Resources

<https://graphql.org>

<https://www.baeldung.com/spring-graphql>

<https://www.javatpoint.com/graphql-advantages-and-disadvantages>

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-graphql/docs/current/reference/html>

<https://dzone.com/articles/error-handling-in-spring-for-graphql>

<https://medium.com/supercharges-mobile-product-guide/graphql-server-using-spring-boot-part-i-722bdd715779>

<https://refactorfirst.com/spring-boot-with-graphql>