Difference between REST Connector and HTTP Connector

Last updated by | Anil K B | Mar 10, 2023 at 2:28 AM PST

Contents

HTTP Connector vs REST Connector

	REST Connector	HTTP Connector
Purpose	The REST Connector is specifically designed for working with RESTful web services and provides built-in support for pagination, error handling, and retries.	The HTTP Connector is a more general-purpose connector that allows us to send basic HTTP requests and retrieve the response, but it does not have built-in support for these advanced features.
Configuration	The REST connector has built-in support for common RESTful operations such as GET, POST, PUT, DELETE, etc. and allows us to specify the URI and headers of the request.	HTTP connector requires us to specify the full URL's and the request method, as well as any headers and body that we want to include in the request.
Input/Output	The REST connector returns the response from the web service as a JSON object	HTTP connector returns the raw response as a string
Pagination	REST Connector does support pagination, it allows us to retrieve a specific page of data from a web service that supports pagination using REST API calls.	HTTP connector does not support pagination, but you we use various methods to achieve the pagination functionality in ADF such as using custom script, For Each activity or Web Activity.
Scalability	The REST Connector is designed to handle large volumes of data.	The HTTP Connector is not designed to handle large volumes of data. If we need to retrieve or process large amounts of data, we may need to implement our own solution using custom scripts or other activities (For Each activity or Web Activity).

Some important status codes are given below to verify the response.

200	For successful request.
201	For successful request and data was created
204	For Empty Response
400	For Bad Request
401	For Unauthorized access. Authentication failed or the user does not have permission for the requested operation
403	For Forbidden, Access Denied
404	For data not found
405	For method not allowed or requested method is not supported
500	Internal server error
503	For Service unavailable

What is Rest API calls??

RESTful API calls are web-based requests made to a server using the REST (Representational State Transfer) architectural style. RESTful APIs use the standard HTTP methods (**GET, POST, PUT, DELETE, etc**.) to perform operations on resources. Here's a brief explanation of the most common RESTful API calls:

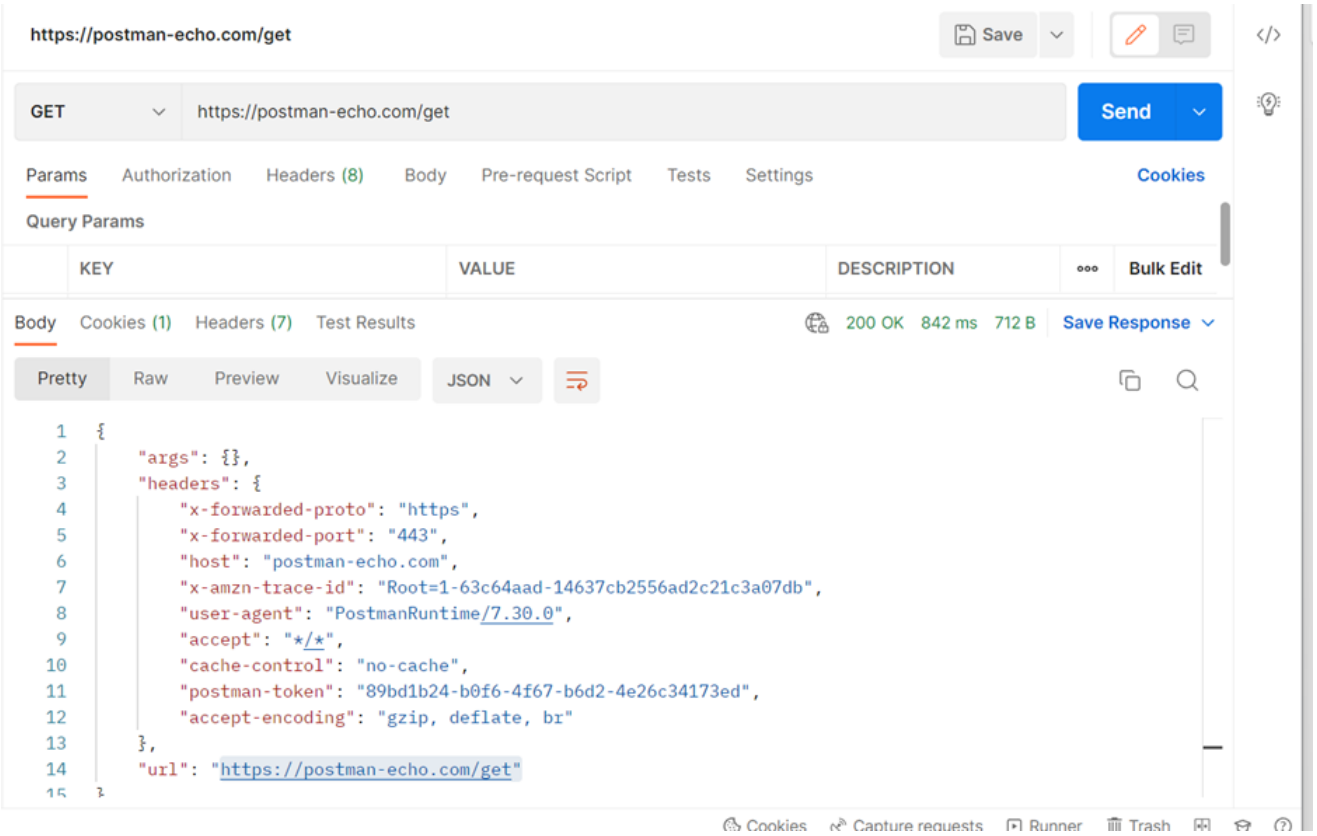
- **GET**: Used to retrieve a resource from the server. It is the most common method used to retrieve data.
- **POST**: Used to create a new resource on the server. It is used to submit data to be processed by the server, such as uploading a file or creating a new database record.
- **PUT**: Used to update an existing resource on the server. It is used to submit updates to a resource, such as modifying a database record or updating a file.
- **DELETE**: Used to delete a resource on the server. It is used to remove a resource, such as deleting a database record or removing a file.

RESTful APIs use URIs (Uniform Resource Identifiers) to identify resources, and they return data in a format such as JSON or XML. They are lightweight, easy to use, and they don't require any special software to be installed on the client side. They are platform-independent, meaning that they can be consumed by any client that can understand HTTP protocol.

Additionally, RESTful APIs are typically stateless, which means that the server does not store any information about the client session. This allows for scalability, as the server does not need to maintain state for multiple clients.

Preview GET Request in both Http Connector and Rest Connector

Postman echo GET response



HttpConnector GET response

Preview data

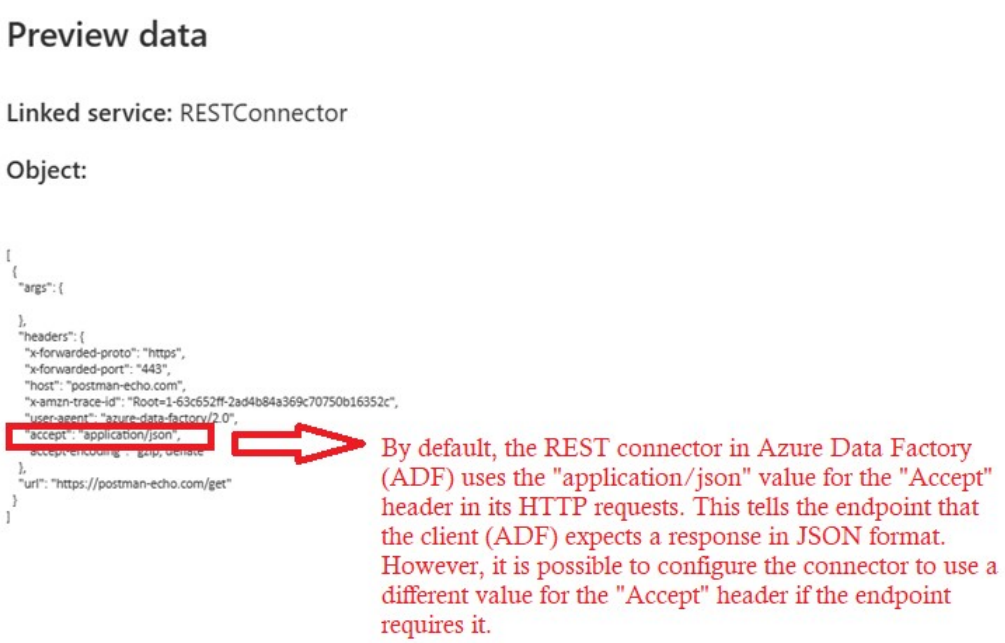
Linked service: HttpConnector

Object:

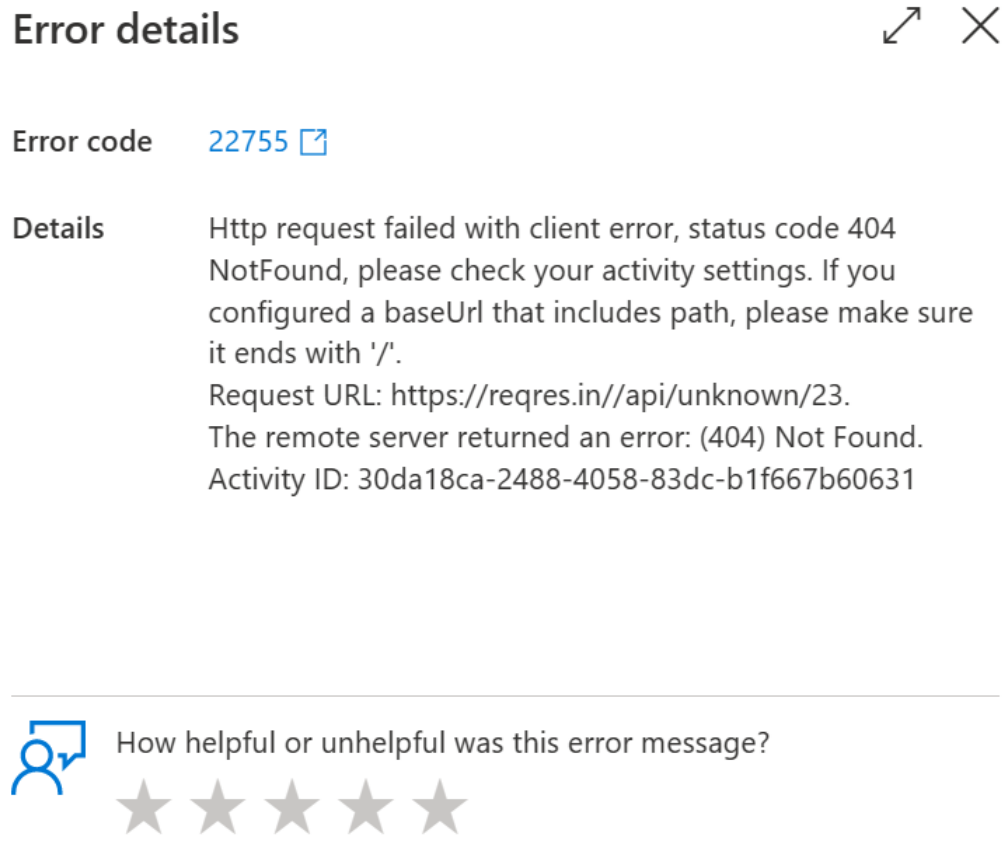

```
[
 {
  "args": {

  },
  "headers": {
   "x-forwarded-proto": "https",
   "x-forwarded-port": "443",
   "host": "postman-echo.com",
   "x-amzn-trace-id": "Root=1-63c65363-521955a63eb2b11b185b6ea2",
   "user-agent": "azure-data-factory/2.0"
  },
  "url": "https://postman-echo.com/get"
 }
]
```

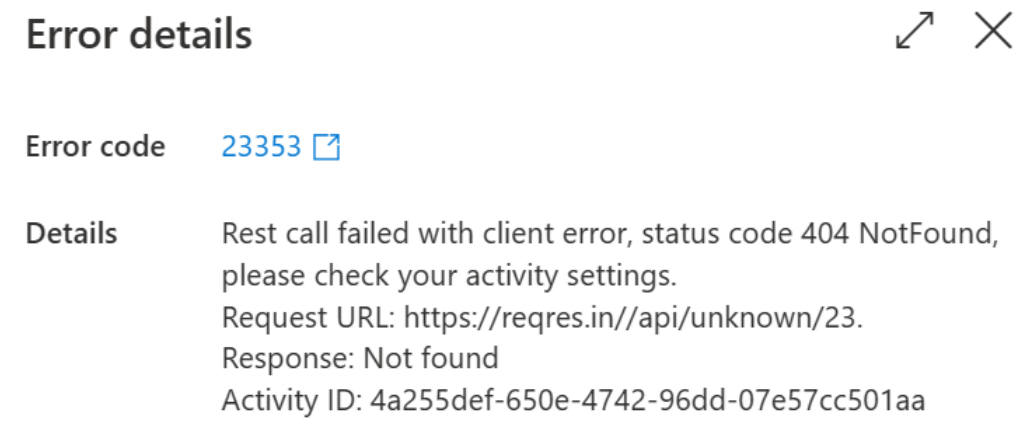

RESTConnector GET Response



HTTP Connector error message for data not found(404)



RESTConnector error message for data not found(404)



Additional Information

• Icm References:

• cases: 2211250050000248

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