Lab 4: A Design-First Approach to Building APIs

Introduction

This lab will show you how follow a design-first approach to building APIs. We'll first use the open-sourced Swagger Editor to design APIs. We'll then use WebSphere Developer Tools to create a skeleton application that will contain the Swagger document we created, and finally deploy the application using Liberty server.

4.1 Design APIs using Swagger Editor

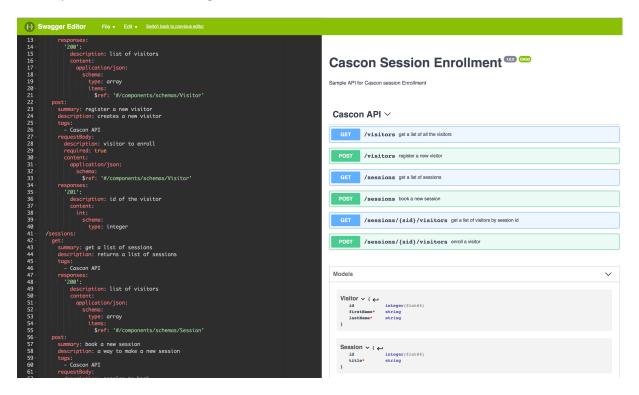
- 1. We will use Swagger Editor, an open-sourced browser based editor for authoring Swagger and OpenAPI definitions and to preview documentations in real time.
 - a. Open a web browser and navigate to https://editor.swagger.io/
- 2. To get you started, we have designed a sample OpenAPI definition to manage sessions and visitors at CASCON 2017. Import it into the editor.
 - a. Click on File -> Import File



b. Select the cascon.json file from the lab artifacts and click Open File

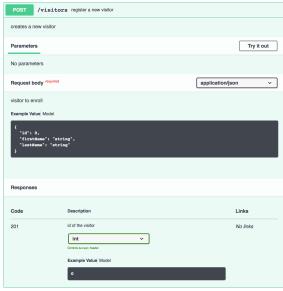


3. The Swagger Editor will convert the document to YAML; it is similar to JSON, but instead of quotations and brace brackets, it uses indentation, so it's easier to edit. The Swagger Editor also provides a live rendering of the OpenAPI document on the right-hand side.



Spend some time exploring the endpoints and their definitions.
As you expand/collapse different sections of the rendered OpenAPI document on the right-hand side, the corresponding YAML definitions can be viewed on the left-hand side. This functionality helps to navigate the document, especially when editing large documents.





- 5. Let's pretend you designed this document and request feedback from your team. Using the Swagger Editor, address the review comments to improve the API.
 - a. A teammate mentions that the title should also specify the year of the CASCON. So let's make the change using the Swagger Editor.
 - Modify the title (specified near the top of the document) to include the year. Notice that as you make changes to the document, the Swagger Editor renders it in real time.



- b. Another teammate comments that the **Visitor** model should have an email address in addition to first and last names. You also agree since having an email address would be essential to communicating with them, if necessary. Let's make the changes using the Swagger Editor.
 - i. Within the YAML document, the Visitor model is specified under the 'components' section. It has three properties: id, firstName, and lastName. Add another property called email of type string. Since this is an essential property for communication, add it to the required section, as well.

```
components:
components:
                                                           schemas:
  schemas:
                                                             Visitor:
                                                               type: object
      type: object
                                                               properties:
      properties:
                                                                   type: integer
         id:
                                                                 format: int64
firstName:
           type: integer
           format: int64
                                                                   type: string
         firstName:
                                                                 lastName:
           type: string
                                                                 type: string email:
         lastName:
           type: string
                                                                   type: string
                                                                required:
      required:
                                                                 - firstName
         - firstName
                                                                 - lastName
         - lastName
                                                                 - email
```

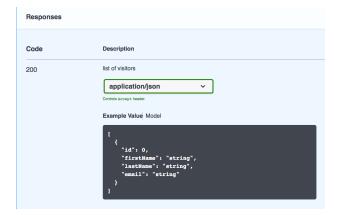
ii. Notice that wherever the Visitor model is referenced, the changes you made in the YAML document is reflected on the Swagger UI.

Models

```
Visitor to enroll

Example Value Model

{
    "id": 0,
    "firstName": "string",
    "lastName": "string",
    "email": "string"
}
```



- c. This step is optional. If time is a constraint, then skip this and go to step 6. You would still be able to complete rest of the lab even if you skip this step.
 - i. One other teammate says that there should be a way to see all the **Session**(s) a **Visitor** enrolled in.

Let's add a new path: **/visitors/{vid}/sessions.** It contains a GET operation, which has one path parameter called "**vid**" representing the visitor ID and it returns a list of sessions that the visitor has enrolled in.

Add the new path as shown below.

```
paths:
 /visitors:
   get:
   post:
 /sessions:
   get:
   post:
 '/sessions/{sid}/visitors':
   get:
 '/visitors/{vid}/sessions':
     description: returns a list of sessions a visitor is enrolled in
     - Cascon API
       in: path
         type: integer
         description: list of sessions
               type: array
items:
                 $ref: '#/components/schemas/Session'
```

ii. Swagger Editor also validates the document in real-time and flag any errors.

In above example, if you were to incorrectly type the reference to the Session model by typing '#/components/schemas/Sessions' (notice the extra 's' at the end), then the Swagger Editor will flag an error and provide some information to resolve the issue.

```
responses:
200:
description: list of sessions
content:
application/json:
schema:
type: array
items:
$ref: "#/components/schemas/Sessions"
```

Errors

Resolver error at paths./visitors/{vid}/sessions.get.responses.200.content.application/json.schema.items.\$ref

Could not resolve reference: #/components/schemas/Sessions

Jump to line 137

- 6. At this point in the lab, we are done designing our APIs. Let's export the Swagger document in JSON Format
 - a. Click on File -> Download JSON and save the file.

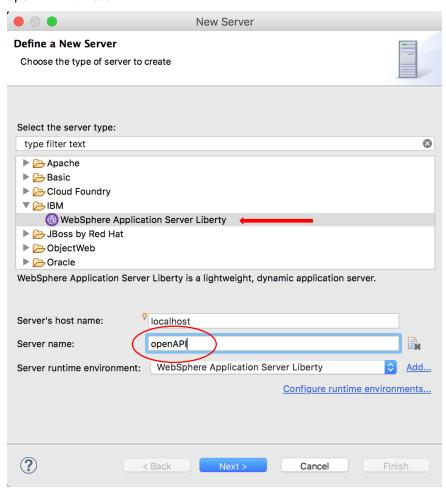


4.2 Generate JAX-RS application for the Swagger definition using Eclipse

- 1. If you have successfully completed Lab 1 or Lab 3, skip ahead to step **b.**
 - a. In the **OpenAPI** server, delete any .war files and server.xml files from the previous labs. You can use the same server from the previous labs for this one, as well. Skip ahead to step 2.
 - b. Create a new Liberty server called openAPI to host your Swagger document
 - c. Open the Servers view, and create a new server



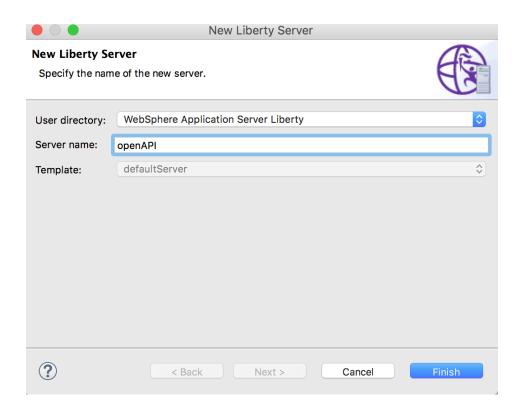
d. Create a new "WebSphere Application Server Liberty" server representation with the name openAPI. Hit Next.



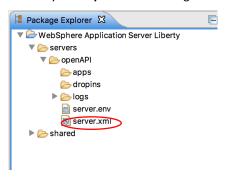
e. Click **New...** to create a new Liberty server instance.



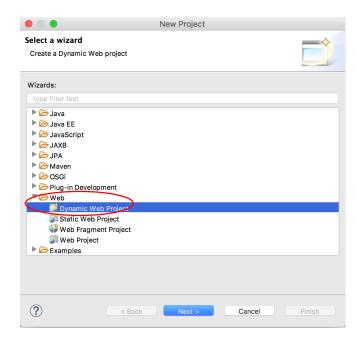
f. Specify the server name openAPI and click Finish. And click Finish again.



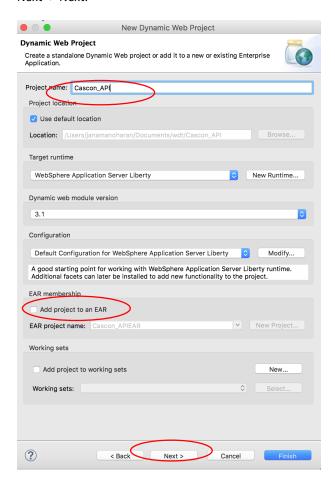
- 2. Copy lab artifacts to the openAPI server configuration. This lab relies on a pre-existing configuration
 - a. Copy the server.xml from location directory to home/student/cascon/wlp/usr/servers/openAPI directory and replace the existing server.xml



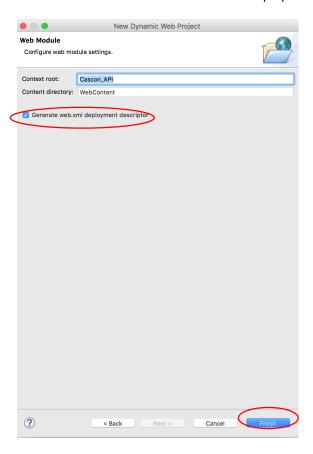
- 3. Create a new web project to contain the Swagger document with the Cascon APIs.
 - a. In Eclipse, click File -> New -> Dynamic Web Project



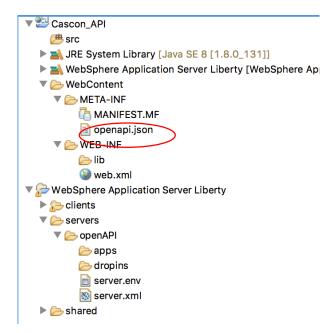
b. Enter name of the project, **Cascon_API**. And make sure to uncheck "Add project to EAR". Click Next -> Next.



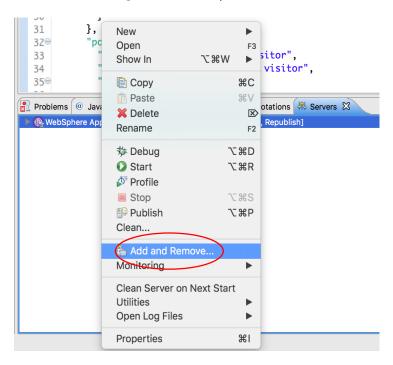
c. Make sure to check the Generate web.xml deployment descriptor and click Finish



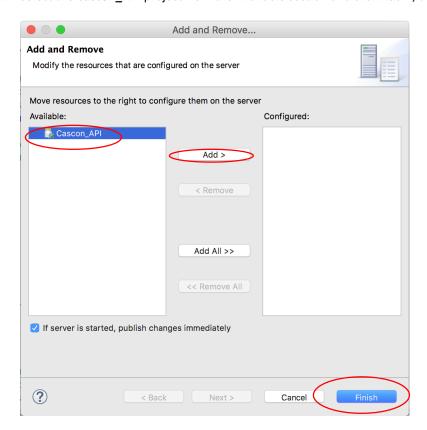
d. Copy the Swagger document that you edited in the Swagger Editor, and paste it into the **META-INF** folder of the project. The file must be renamed to openapi.json



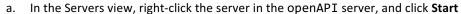
- 4. Deploy the Cascon_API application in the openAPI server
 - a. In the Server view, right-click on the openAPI server and click Add and Remove...

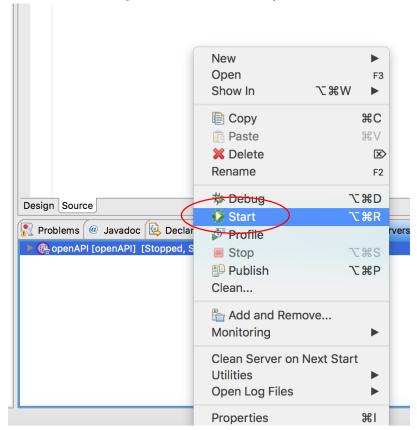


b. Select the Cascon_API project from the Available section and click Add >, then click Finish



5. Start the openAPI server and use the API Explorer to access the REST API for the Cascon_API app

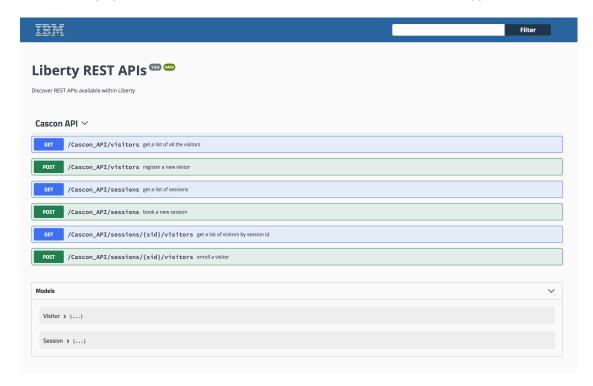




b. To access the API Explorer, click the link in the Console view.

```
[AUDIT | CWWKE0001I: The server openAPI has been launched.
[AUDIT | CWWK200S8I: Monitoring dropins for applications.
[AUDIT | CWWK70016I: Web application available (default_host): http://localhost;9080/api/explorer/
[AUDIT | CWWK70016I: Web application available (default_host): http://localhost;9080/api/docs/
[AUDIT | CWWK70016I: Web application available (default_host): http://localhost;9080/api/docs/
[AUDIT | CWWK70016I: Web application cascon_API started in 0.418 seconds.
[AUDIT | CWWK70012I: The server installed the following features: [servlet-3.1, ssl-1.0, jndi-1.0, jso
[AUDIT | CWWKF001II: The server openAPI is ready to run a smarter planet.
```

- 6. You will see that the Swagger API you edited using the Swagger editor is now being hosted by the openAPI Liberty Server.
 - a. Take some to play with the available REST APIs for the Cascon Session Enrollment App.



You have just experienced how simple it is to design and deploy your APIs with a simple JSON file in Liberty using the OpenAPI feature.

Congratulations! You have successfully completed this lab.