Using the REST Adapter



Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Identify the format of REST queries
- List the differences between REST and SOAP
- Create and test a REST binding in a composite application



Agenda

- REST: Overview
- Using REST bindings in Oracle SOA Suite

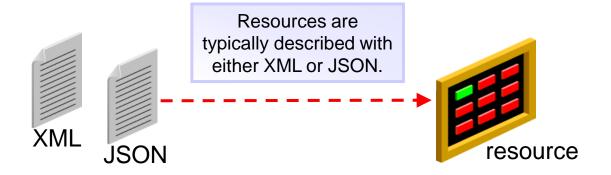




REST: Overview



- Stands for Representational State Transfer
- Provides an alternative to using SOAP-based web services
- Incorporates the concept of resources. A resource is similar to an object instance in an object-oriented programming language. Resources have data associated with them.



Each resource has its own address or Uniform Resource Identifier (URI).

http://<host>:<port>/soa-infra/resources/<partition-name>/relative/resource/path



REST Queries

Example REST query: http://soa12c.example.com/items/123

| Action | Method | URI |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|
| Get all the items. | GET | /items |
| Get a single item. | GET | /items/id |
| Create a new item. | POST | /items |
| Edit an item. | PUT | /items/id |
| Delete an item. | DELETE | /items/id |

Comparing REST and SOAP: Two Ways to Access Web Services

| REST | SOAP | |
|--|--|--|
| Is an architectural style that leverages web standards | Is a formal standard for message exchange | |
| Uses HTTP | Is protocol independent | |
| Permits many data formats | Uses XML | |
| Uses URI and HTTP verbs to access resources (data) | Uses a WSDL document to access operations (business logic) | |
| Is stateless | WS* standards provide support for stateful transactions. | |

Example Use Cases for REST and SOAP

REST

- Operations with limited bandwidth and resources
 - Mobile
 - Series of short, chatty conversations
- Stateless operations

SOAP

- Operations that require contextual information and conversational state management
- Asynchronous operations
- Operations that require high levels of security and reliability

Agenda

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- Using REST bindings in Oracle SOA Suite





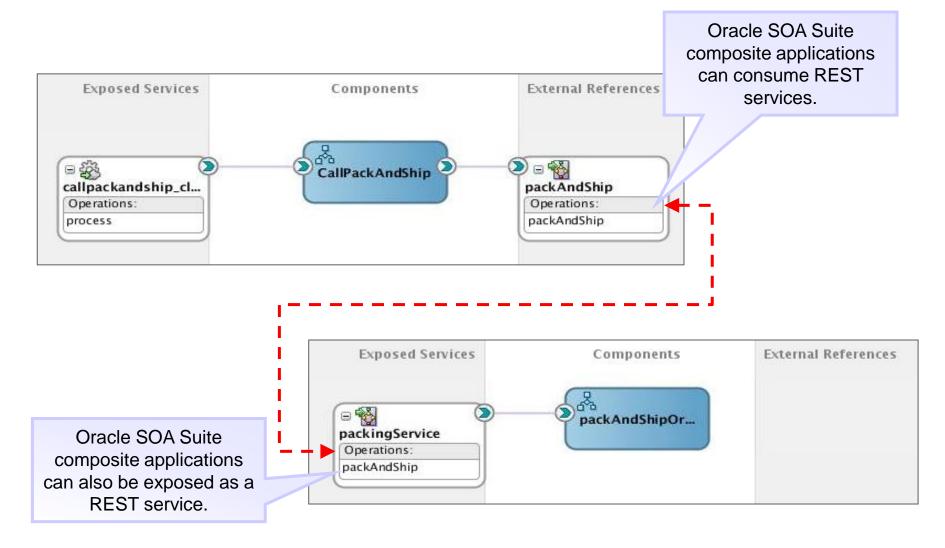
Supported Features in Oracle SOA Suite

Oracle SOA Suite provides the following REST support:

- Enabling REST support in new or existing services
- Integration with external REST APIs
- Orchestration of a set of RESTful state transitions
- Support for XML and JSON
- Generation of sample URI for REST service operations
- Support for WADL services
- Support for REST security with the Oracle Web Service Manager (OWSM) policy



REST Adapter



Configure the REST Adapter

- Configuring the REST Adapter means choosing:
 - Will it use XML or JSON within the composite
 - Note: The Native Format Builder can easily generate the needed XSDs to support JSON to XML transformations internally.
 - What will be the URI, Resources, operations and parameters it exposes
- In some cases, the adapter is initially configured for you
- You can choose to manually define the Adapter or use a configuration shortcut based on a WADL or existing WSDL





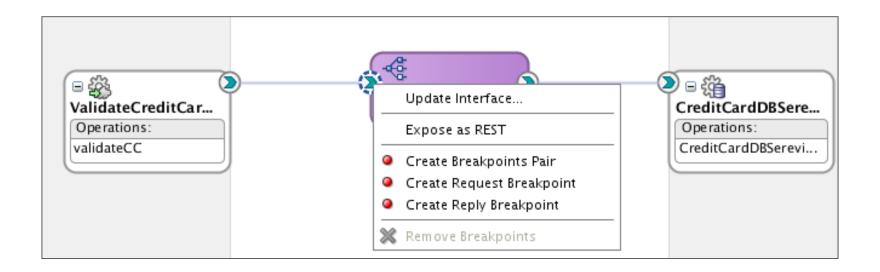
REST Adapter Scenarios

- Add a REST interface to an existing composite SOAP interface implemented by a mediator or BPEL process.
- Create a custom REST Exposed Service Interface for a composite.
- Create a new REST External Reference for an external service or component.



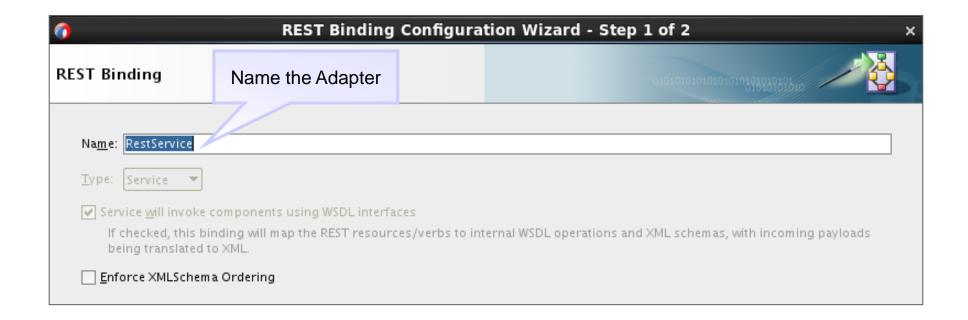
Scenario 1: Expose an Existing SOAP Composite with a REST Interface

- The easiest scenario is exposing an existing SOAP composite with a REST interface.
- Choose the component that implements the interface: mediator or BPEL and click to Expose as REST.
- You are simply exposing the same operations supported by the WSDL, but as a REST interface.



Configure the Adapter

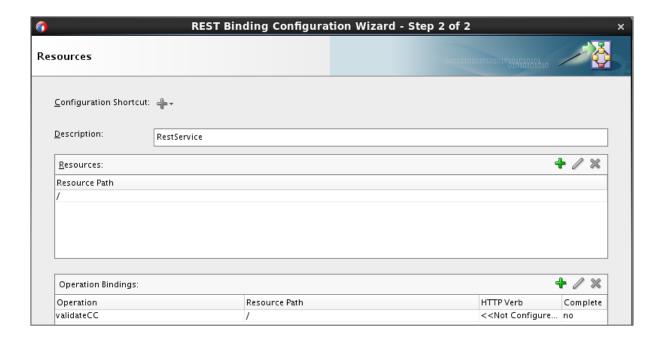
- If you expose an existing SOAP-based composite, its WSDL and XSD schemas are used to translate incoming payloads into XML.
- You work with this XML in the same way in the mediator and BPEL using XPath.





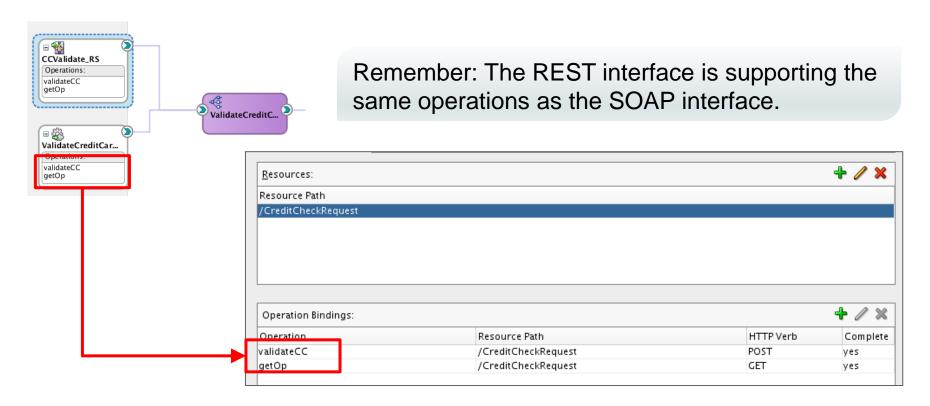
Defining Resources

- When exposing an existing SOAP-based composite, the operation(s) exposed in the WSDL are already defined.
- You define the Resource Path for each operation.
- You choose what HTTP Verb is called when the service's operation is invoked.



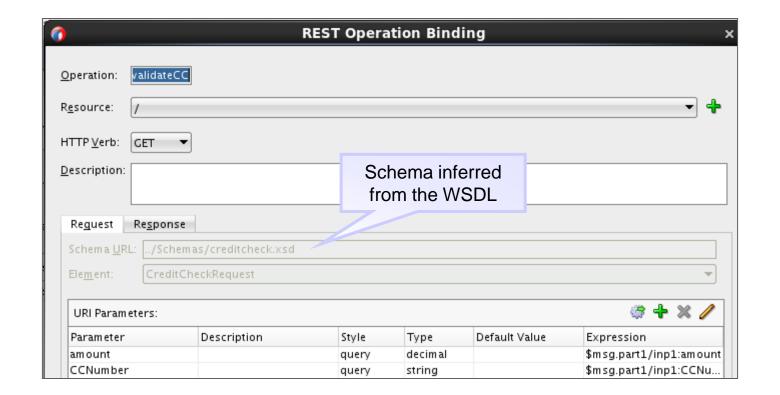
Supporting Additional Operations in the REST Interface

 In this example, the WSDL was extended to add an additional operation and the Resource Path was renamed.



Define Operation Binding

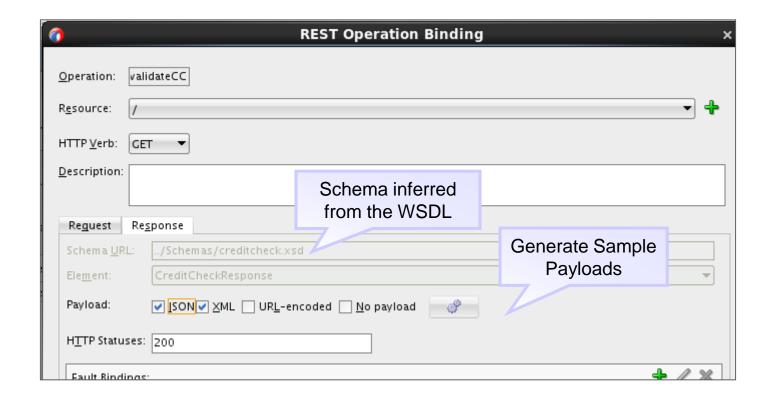
- For SOAP-based composites, the schema, request parameters, style, type and expression are inferred from the WSDL.
- Choose the HTTP Verb for the operation.





Define the Response

- Choose what media(s) the payload should be.
- You can preview a sample of what the payload will look like.



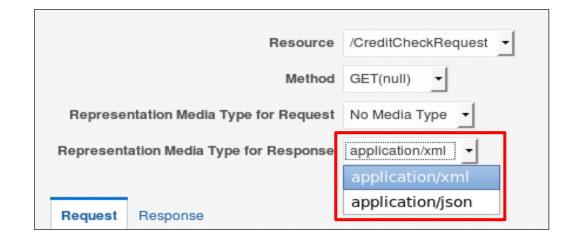


Testing the New REST Interface

 When you test the composite in the Fusion Middleware Control, you will see additional choices, one for each new REST endpoint.

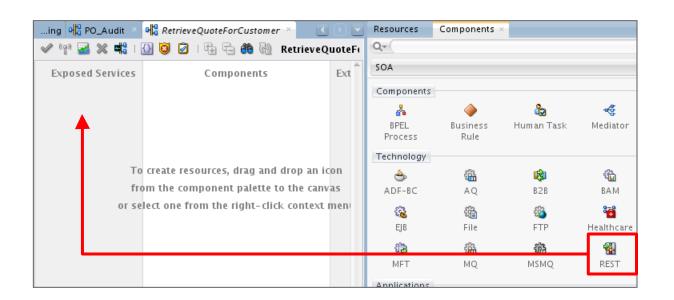


The test page will show the resource path name and choices for the different media types it can receive and return.



Scenario 2: Create a Custom REST Exposed Service Interface for a Composite

 In this scenario, you are create a custom REST interface to support the Resources and operations your service needs.



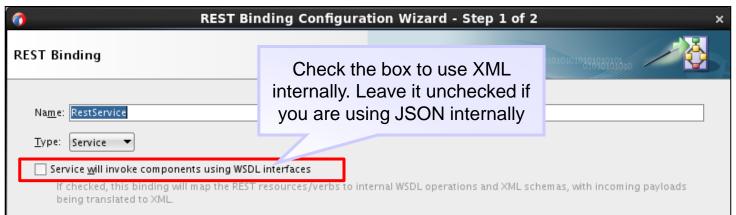
Follow the same steps as you would for creating any new Exposed Service interface.

Drag the REST Adapter to the Exposed Services swimlane.

Choose the Composite's Internal Data Format

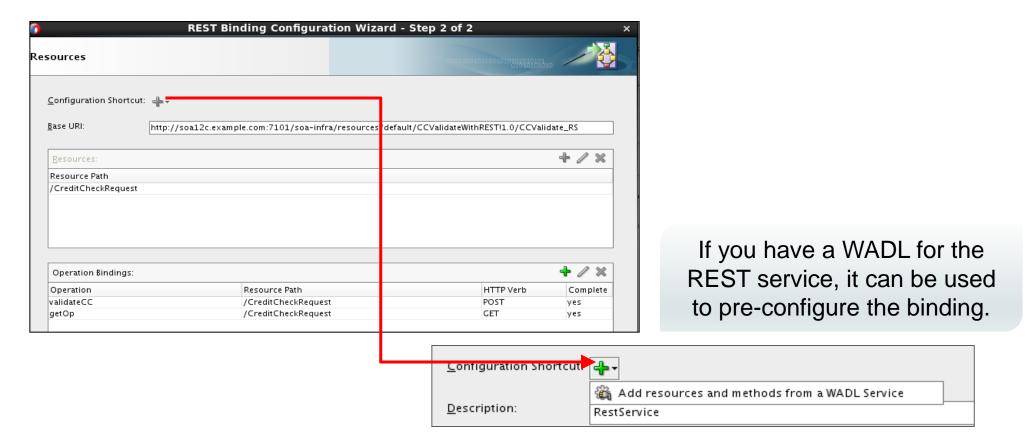
- Choose if your service will use XML or JSON internally.
- While using JSON internally within the composite is possible, it is rarely required and the developer must be familiar with JSON and JavaScript to manipulate the variables in the BPEL component.
- It is easier and simpler to use XML internally.
- You can still consume and produce JSON if needed.

 If you will use XML internally, you will have to provide or generate an XSD to define the XML.



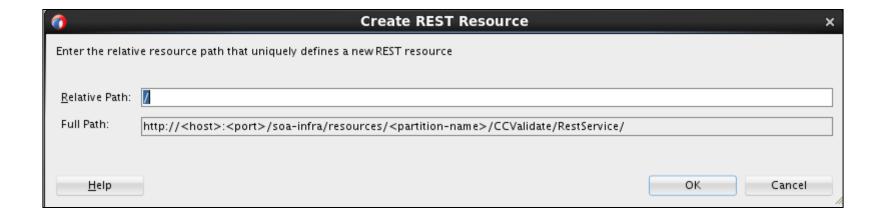
Configure the Binding

 You can configure the Resource Path(s), Operations and Parameters manually or use the Configuration Shortcut.



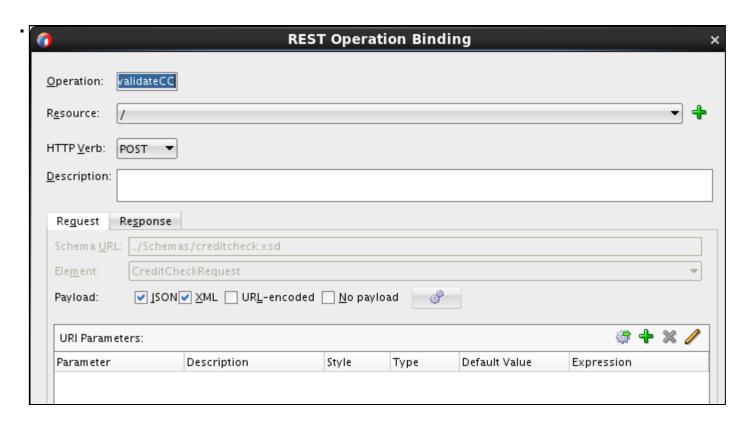


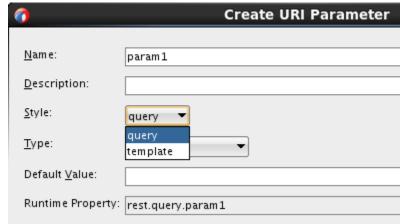
Define the Resource Path(s)



Define the Operation

 For each Resource Path operation, you must define the HTTP Verb, Request and Response Media types and any required parameters.



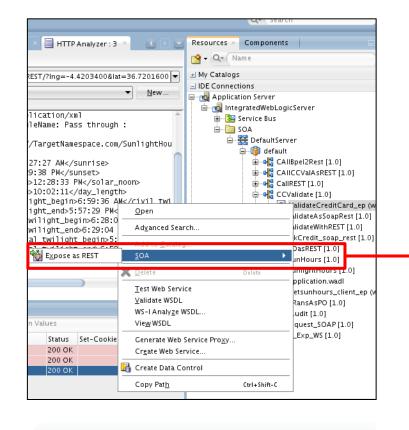




Scenario 3: Create a REST External Reference for an External Service

- You can create REST External References that call REST services by adding a REST adapter to the External References swimlane.
- These services could be other SOA composites or REST services external to SOA Suite.
- These services could be within your enterprise or outside on the internet.
- Configuring a REST External Reference requires the same choices and process as configuring a REST Exposed Interface:
 - Do you want the data in JSON or XML format inside the composite?
 - Do you have a WADL that describes the service or will you configure the REST binding manually?

Configuring the REST Adapter Through Shortcuts



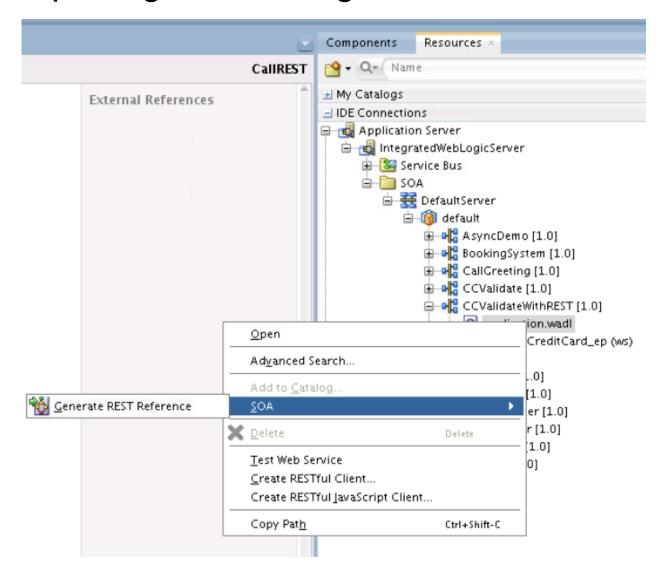
When exposing a SOAP service, a new REST interface service is created and passes the data to the SOAP service.

You can still customize the Resource Path, and choose the media type(s) the service provides.

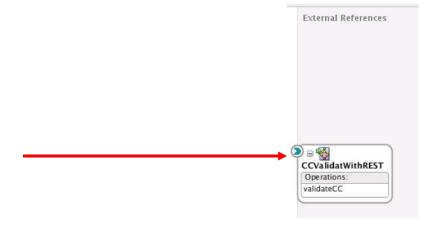




Exposing an Existing REST Service as an External Reference



When exposing a REST service, the WADL is introspected, the REST service is automatically configured and the new REST External Reference is now available to be invoked in the composite.



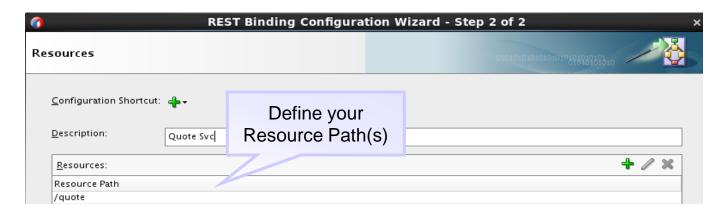
Configuring the REST Binding for WSDL and XML

- The easiest way to work with data consumed and produced by a REST interface is in XML.
- But, to do so, you need to have XSDs that describe the request and response data.
- If you do not have the XSDs, you can create them manually, which is time consuming and error prone.
- SOA Suite includes the Native Format Builder which will read non-XML data and produce XSDs.
- These XSDs can be used by the REST interfaces, as well as the other components, like the mediator and BPEL component.
- The XSDs could also be used to generate WSDL for a SOAP interface if you need to add that to your composite.

Using the Native Format Builder to Generate XSDs

If you choose to use XML for your REST Interface internally, select the check box:







Invoke the Native Format Builder

- You must supply an XSD for all request parameters and Response payloads.
- You can search for one on a file system or generate one using the Native Format Builder.

If you already have an XSD, click the Browse button to locate it.

Reguest Response

Schema URL: <<Not Configured>>

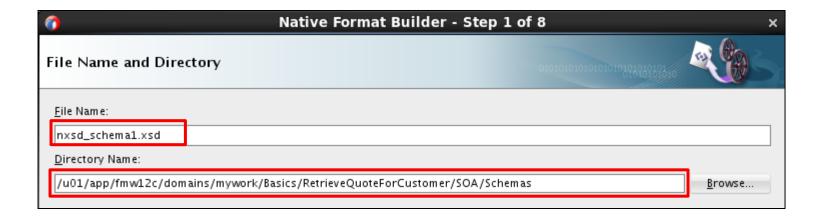
Element:

Or Click the Define Schema for Native Format button to invoke the Native Format Builder.

The Native Format Builder



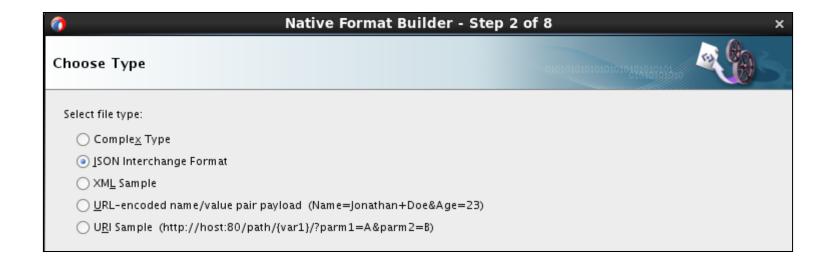
Define the name for your new schema and where it will be stored.





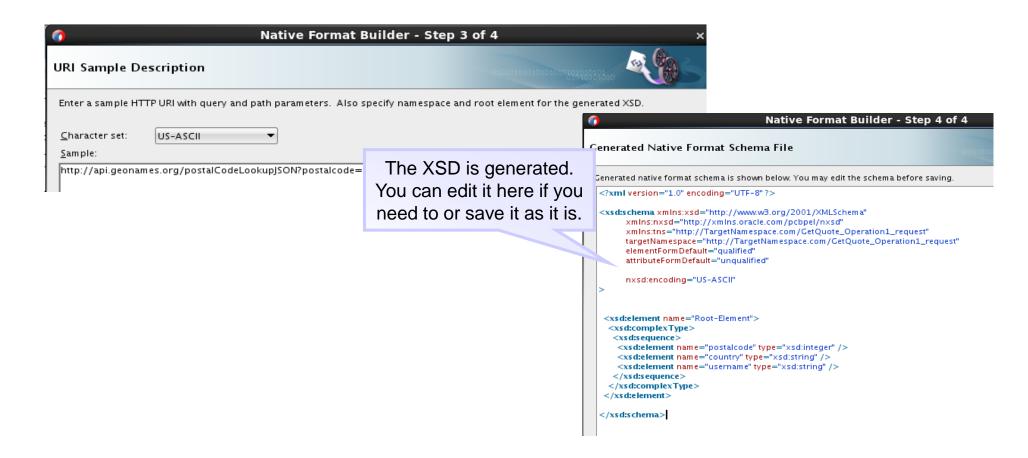
Choose the Native Data Type

Choose the native date type from which to generate the XSD:



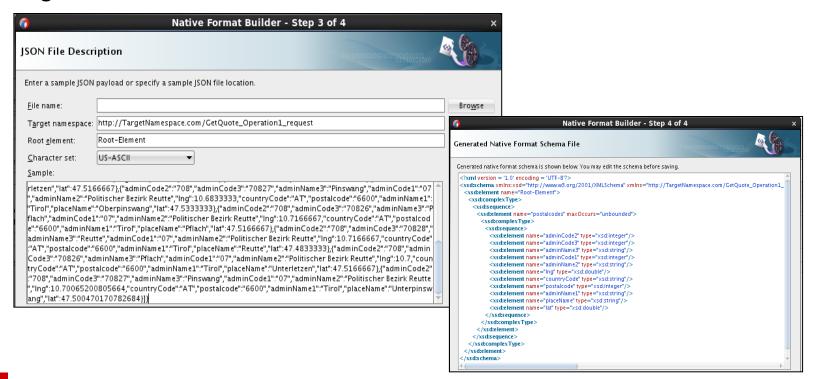
URI Sample

If you have a URI for a REST service, enter it, choose a root-element Name and click next.

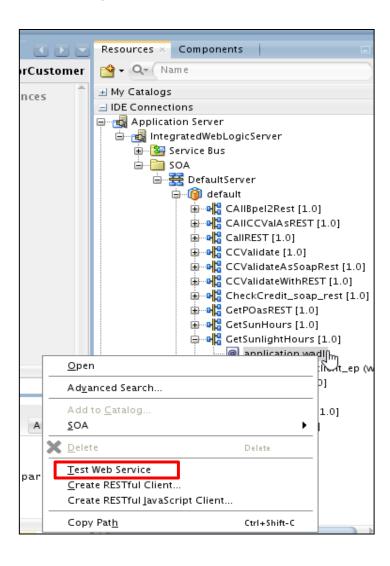


JSON Sample

- You can copy and paste the JSON into the Sample box, or if the JSON is in a file, you
 can browse and load that file.
- Choose a root-element name and click Next.
- The XSD is generated.



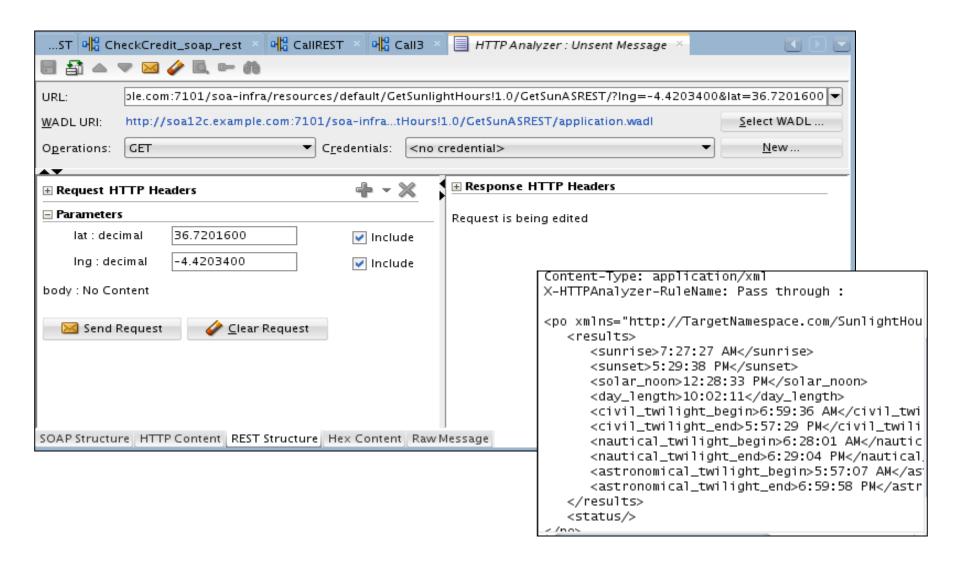
Testing the Component From JDeveloper



From the Resources Window,. Right-click the WADL for the REST service and select Test Web Service. This invokes the HTTP Analyzer in JDeveloper.



Examining the Results



Quiz



REST queries use ______ to describe resources.

- a. XML
- b. URIs
- c. SOAP
- d. JSON



Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Identify the format of REST queries
- List the differences between REST and SOAP
- Create and test a REST binding in a composite application





Practice 11 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Exposing a REST interface
- Testing a REST interface
- Consuming a REST service



Practice 11-1 to 11-4: Overview

