CS544 EA
Applications

Spring MVC: Flash Attributes

Flash Attributes

- Flash attributes are a way for a request to store attributes intended for use in the next (single) request
  - Stored in the **session** for a very **short time**
  - Removed right away after first use

- Commonly used in combination with redirect
  - POST/REDIRECT/GET when the 'get' needs data
  - Also when there are validation errors on the POST

Specifying Flash Attributes

```java
@Controller
public class CarController {

  @PostMapping(value="/cars")
  public String add(Car car, RedirectAttributes redirectAttrs) {
    carDao.add(car);
    String msg = "Added " + car.getMake() + " " + car.getModel();
    redirectAttrs.addFlashAttribute("message", msg);
    return "redirect:/cars";
  }

}
```

RedirectAttributes additional parameter

This URL will receive them

Make sure you use the .addFlashAttribute() method not the .addAttribute() method!

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Receiving Flash Attributes

```java
@Controller
public class CarController {

    @GetMapping(value="/cars")
    public String getAll(ModelMap model) {

        if (model.containsAttribute("message")) {
            System.out.println("Message: " + model.get("message"));
        } else {
            System.out.println("No Message");
        }

        model.addAttribute("cars", carDao.getAll());
        return "carList";
    }

}
```

The URL that receives

May be called from Flash
or just normally called

If there are Flash attributes
they are stored in the Model

Using a Flash Attribute

```jsp
<%@ taglib uri="http://java.sun.com/jsp/jstl/core" prefix="c" %>
<%@ page language="java" contentType="text/html; charset=UTF-8"
pageEncoding="UTF-8"%>
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
  <title>Cars currently in the shop</title>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Cars currently in the shop</h1>
  <table>
  <c:forEach var="car" items="${cars}">
    <tr>
      <td>${car.make}</td>
      <td>${car.model}</td>
      <td>${car.year}</td>
      <td>${car.color}</td>
      <td><a href="cars/${car.id}">edit</a></td>
    </tr>
  </c:forEach>
  </table>

  <c:if test="${not empty message}">
    <p>Message: <strong>${message}</strong></p>
  </c:if>

  <a href="addCar.html"> Add a Car</a>
</body>
</html>
```

If Flash attribute passed in it will be available during View rendering

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