

Overview

My application contains the elements of the typical Spring Boot architecture. That is, I have a Controller-Service-Repository pattern with those distinctive layers. In addition, I also have a model layer that specifies the entities.

To Use

Start the Spring Boot application. The build tool is Maven. Once online, the endpoint can be reached at <http://localhost:8080/{city}/{apikey}>. Where api key is either eddykey, tommykey, anotherkey, howmanymore, lastkey.

The Controller Layer

The controller layer is very simple. It contains only one controller, the WeatherController, which handles a single HTTP request at the endpoint `'/{city}/{apikey}'`. This controller is annotated with `@RestController` to add web requests handling functionality. The controller also uses the `@Autowired` annotation to inject the service dependency that is used in the `'/{city}/{apikey}'` endpoint to `getWeatherByCity()`.

The Service Layer

The service layer contains two services, the WeatherService and the ApiKeyService.

The WeatherService is responsible for retrieving the data required by the WeatherController. In this case, I currently only have one method, `getWeatherByCity`, that performs a couple of actions. These are:

1. Validates the API Key used. If not valid, returns a failure result.
2. Checks to see if the request is cached by the H2 Database. If so, returns a success result
3. If the request is not cached by H2, WebClient will make a GET request to retrieve the needed data.
4. Cache new data in H2 Database
5. Returns a success result.

This method makes use of the `apiKeyService` service and Weather repository to function.

The Repository and Model Layers

The WeatherRepo repository is an interface that extends `JpaRepository` and receives the type of entity of Weather (located in Models). `JpaRepository` has been configured with Hibernate and H2 libraries, making it easy to add new data using the Weather schema/entity an easy process. I have extended this interface to simplify data retrieval from the database by adding a `findByCity` method that `JpaRepository` automatically uses to create a query that retrieves the row based on the city field.

Dependency Injection

The following dependencies have been used for this project:

- Spring Boot
- Spring Data JPA
- H2 Database (includes the runtime)
- Webflux

Caveats

Due to time constraints, there are a few caveats that need to be addressed.

- While API control is implemented, I was not able to add in the ability for `ApiKeyService` to observe time. Therefore, the keys currently will not reset after an hour and will be permanently disabled (or until the JVM is restarted).
- I have hardcoded the API key for OpenWeather for convenience of running the application. This should normally be stored in an environment variable for security.
- The city name must be correct otherwise the API will fail. Some basic error handling should be implemented.
- The application returns the ID for the weather location rather than the description. This is due to a matching issue I had with Jackson and `JpaRepository` mapping.