

Spring MVC Controllers Part II

“Code with Passion!”



Topics

- URI template
- Mapping requests with other means (in addition to URL)
- Handler method arguments - *@PathVariable*, *@RequestParam*
- Type conversion
- Handler method that directly creates a HTTP response

URI Template

What is a URI Template?

- URI Template is a URI that contains one or more variables
 - > Variables are in the form of *{nameOfVariable}*
@GetMapping("/owners/{ownerId}") // Example
 - > The *nameOfVariable* needs to be passed to a handler method as an argument with *@PathVariable* annotation if it needs to be accessed within the handler method (we will see examples in the next three slides)
 - > Automatic type conversion occurs to the argument type
- When you substitute values for these variables, the URI template becomes a concrete URI.

/owners/3

/owners/5

URI Template Example #1

// Suppose the request URL is http://localhost:8080/myapp/owners/3,
// the value 3 will be captured as “ownerId” argument in String type.

```
@GetMapping("/owners/{ownerId}")
```

// The ownerId needs to be passed to a handler method as an
// argument with @PathVariable annotation

```
public String findOwner(@PathVariable String ownerId, Model model) {
```

```
    // You can now use ownerId in your business logic
```

```
    Owner owner = ownerService.findOwner(ownerId);
```

```
    model.addAttribute("owner", owner);
```

```
    return "displayOwner";
```

```
}
```

URI Template Example #2

// You can use multiple @PathVariable annotations to bind to multiple URI
// Template variables.

// Suppose the request URL is http://localhost:8080/myapp/owners/3/pets/5,
// the value 3 will be captured as “ownerId” argument in String type while
// the value 5 will be captured as “petId” argument in String type.

```
@GetMapping("/owners/{ownerId}/pets/{petId}")  
public String findPet(@PathVariable String ownerId,  
                     @PathVariable String petId,  
                     Model model) {  
    Owner owner = ownerService.findOwner(ownerId);  
    Pet pet = owner.getPet(petId);  
    model.addAttribute("pet", pet);  
    return "displayPet";  
}
```

URI Template Example #3

```
// You can use multiple @PathVariable annotations to bind to multiple URI
// Template variables
@Controller
@RequestMapping("/owners/{ownerId}")
public class RelativePathUriTemplateController {

    @GetMapping("/pets/{petId}")
    public void findPet(@PathVariable String ownerId,
                       @PathVariable String petId, Model model) {
        // implementation omitted
    }
}
```

Lab:

Exercise 1: URI Template

4945_spring4_mvc_controllers_part2.zip



Mapping Requests with Other Means (in addition to the URL)

URL Mappings through parameter conditions

// You can narrow URL mappings through parameter conditions: a sequence of
// "myParam=myValue" style expressions, mapping occurs only when each
// such parameter is found to have the given value.

@Controller

@RequestMapping("/owners/{ownerId}")

public class RelativePathUriTemplateController {

// Handles http://localhost:8080/owners/3/pets/5?myParam=myValue

@GetMapping(value = "/pets/{petId}", params="myParam=myValue")

public void findPet(@PathVariable String ownerId, @PathVariable String petId,
Model model) {

// implementation omitted

}

}

Handler Method Arguments

Objects that are auto-created by Spring

- You can simply use these as arguments in any of your handler method because they are auto-created by Spring MVC framework
- *ServletRequest* or *HttpServletRequest*
 - > Request or response objects (Servlet API)
- *HttpSession*
 - > Session object (Servlet API)
- *java.util.Locale*
 - > For the current request locale, determined by the most specific locale resolver available
- *java.security.Principal*
 - > Currently authenticated user

@PathVariable & @RequestParam

- *@PathVariable*
 - > Extracts data from the request URI
 - > <http://host/catalog/items/123>
 - > Parameter values are converted to the declared method argument type
- *@RequestParam("namex")*
 - > Extracts data from the request URI query parameters
 - > <http://host/catalog/items/?namex=abc>
 - > Parameter values are converted to the declared method argument type

@PathVariable - For URI Path Values

// Use the @PathVariable annotation to bind URI path value to a method
// parameter in your controller.

@Controller

@RequestMapping("/pets")

public class MyPetClass {

// ...

// Will handle ../pets/4 or ../pets/10.

// "4" and "10" are converted to int type by Spring.

@RequestMapping(value="/{petId}", method = RequestMethod.GET)

public String getData(@PathVariable int petId, ModelMap model) {

Pet pet = this.clinic.loadPet(petId);

model.addAttribute("pet", pet);

return "petForm";

}

// ...

@RequestParam - For Query Parameters

// Use the @RequestParam annotation to bind query request parameters to a
// method parameter in your controller.

@Controller

@RequestMapping("/pets")

public class MyPetClass {

// ...

// Will handle ../pets?petId=4 or ../pets?petId=10.

// "4" and "10" are converted to int type by Spring.

@RequestMapping(method = RequestMethod.GET)

public String getData(@RequestParam("petId") int petId, Model model) {

Pet pet = this.clinic.loadPet(petId);

model.addAttribute("pet", pet);

return "petForm";

}

// ...

Request Header and Body

- *@RequestHeader("name")*
 - > Annotated parameters for access to specific Servlet request HTTP headers

```
@GetMapping("requestHeader1")
public @ResponseBody String withHeader1(@RequestHeader("Accept") String Accept) {
    return "Obtained 'Accept' header '" + Accept + "'";
}
```

- *@RequestBody*
 - > Annotated parameters for access to the HTTP request body.

```
@PutMapping("/something")
public void handle(@RequestBody String body, Writer writer)
    throws IOException {
    writer.write(body);
}
```


Lab:

Exercise 2: Handler method arguments
4945_spring4_mvc_controllers_part2.zip



Type Conversion

Type Conversion

- Type conversion happens automatically
- Built-in converters (implementations of Converter interface) used in the places where type conversion is required
 - > *@RequestParam, @PathVariable, @RequestHeader, etc*
- *HttpMessageConverter* used for
 - > *@RequestBody, @ResponseBody, HttpEntity, ResponseEntity*
- Can declare annotation-based conversion rules
 - > *@NumberFormat, @DateTimeFormat*
- You can plug-in a custom converters (we will cover custom type conversion in “spring4_mvc_form”)

**Handler Method
Directly Creates a
HTTP Response
(No view selection)**

Handler creates HTTP response

- Because the handler directly creates HTTP response, there occurs no view selection
 - > Option #1: `@ResponseBody`
 - > Option #2: `HttpEntity<?>` or `ResponseEntity<?>`

#1: `@ResponseBody` annotated Method

- If the method is annotated with `@ResponseBody`, the return type, `String` in the example below, is written to the response HTTP body – there is no view selection required

```
@RequestMapping(value="/response/annotation", method=RequestMethod.GET)
public @ResponseBody String responseBody() {
    return "The String ResponseBody";
}
```

#2: `HttpEntity<?>` or `ResponseEntity<?>`

- Provide access to the Servlet response HTTP headers and contents.
- The entity body will be converted to the response stream using `HttpMessageConverter`

```
@GetMapping("/response/entity/headers")
public ResponseEntity<String> responseEntityCustomHeaders() {
    HttpHeaders headers = new HttpHeaders();
    headers.setContentType(MediaType.TEXT_PLAIN);
    return new ResponseEntity<String>("The String ResponseBody with custom header
    Content-Type=text/plain",
        headers, HttpStatus.OK);
}
```


Code with Passion!

