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# Web Applications with Spring Boot

Getting Started with Spring MVC



## **Objectives**

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Explain how to create a Spring MVC application using Spring Boot
- Describe the basic request processing lifecycle for REST request
- Create a simple RESTful controller to handle GET requests
- Configure for WAR or JAR deployment

# **Agenda**

- Spring Boot and Spring MVC
- Details
  - Request Processing Lifecycle
  - Controllers
  - Message Converters
- JAR or WAR configurations
- Quick Start
- Lab



## **Web Layer Integration**

- Spring Boot can help you create web applications easily
  - Based on Spring MVC
- What is Spring MVC?
  - Web framework based on:
    - Model/View/Controller pattern
    - POJO programming
    - Testable components
    - Uses Spring for configuration
  - Supports Server-side web rendering & REST

This section will focus on REST.

## Types of Spring MVC Applications

- Web Servlet
  - Traditional approach
  - Based on JEE Servlet Specification
    - Servlets
    - Filters
    - Listeners
    - Etc.

- Web Reactive
  - Newer, more efficient
  - Non-blocking approach
  - Netty, Undertow, Servlet 3.1+
  - Requires knowledge of Reactive programming (see appendix)

This section will focus on traditional servlet-based approach.

#### **Traditional or Embedded Container**

- Spring Boot supports embedded servlet containers
  - Packaging embedded containers within deployment artifact
  - Run web applications from command line!
  - Can be done using 'Fat' JAR

- Spring Boot can also implement traditional structure needed by Web containers
  - WAR packaging

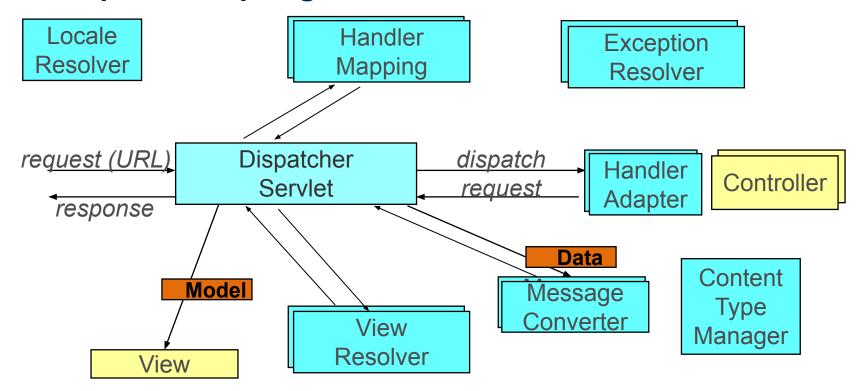
This section will focus on embedded approach

## **Spring Web "Starter" Dependencies**

Everything you need to develop a Spring MVC application

```
<dependencies>
 <dependency>
  <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
  <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
 </dependency>
</dependencies>
                                          Resolves
                                           spring-web.jar
                                           spring-webmvc.jar
                                           spring-boot-starter.jar
                                           jackson*.jar
                                           tomcat-embed*.jar
                                           hibernate-validator.jar
```

## **At Startup Time, Spring Boot Creates**



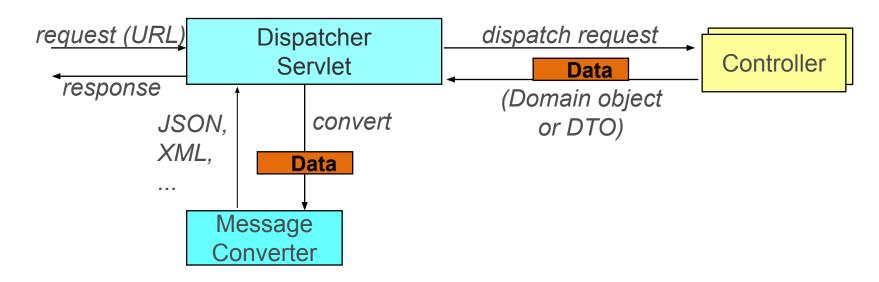
Most of these you will not need to work with for basic usage.

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## **Request Processing Lifecycle - REST**



- Common message-converters setup automatically if found on the classpath
  - Jackson for JSON/XML, JAXB for XML, GSON for JSON ...

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## **Controller Implementation**

- Controllers are annotated POJOs.
  - @GetMapping tells Spring what method to execute when processing a particular HTTP GET request
  - @ResponseBody defines a REST response
    - Turns off the View handling subsystem

```
@Controller is an @Component
@Controller
                                       so will be found by component-scanner
public class AccountController {
  @GetMapping("/accounts")
  public @ResponseBody List<Account> list() {...}
          Example of calling URL: http://localhost:8080 / accounts
```

#### @RestController Convenience

- Convenient "composed" annotation
  - Incorporates @Controller and @ResponseBody
  - All GET methods assumed to return REST response-data

```
@RestController public class AccountController {

@GetMapping("/accounts")
public List<Account> list() {...}
}

No need for @ResponseBody

@Controller @ResponseBody

...
public @interface RestController
```

All examples assume @RestController from now on

## **URL-Based Mapping Rules**

- Mapping rules typically URL-based, optionally using wildcards:
  - /accounts
  - /accounts/1234567
  - /accounts/1234567/deposit
  - /accounts/\*
    Wildcard \*

#### **Controller Method Parameters**

- Extremely flexible!
- You pick the parameters you need, Spring injects them
  - HttpServletRequest, HttpSession, Principal ...
  - See <u>Spring Reference</u>, <u>Handler Methods</u>

```
@RestController
public class AccountController {
    @GetMapping("/accounts")
    public List<Account> list(Principal owner) {
    ...
    }
}
Injected by Spring
```

## **Extracting Request Parameters**

- Use @RequestParam annotation
  - Extracts parameter from the request
  - Performs type conversion

```
@RestController
public class AccountController {
    @GetMapping("/account")
    public List<Account> list(@RequestParam("userid") int userId) {
        ... // Fetch and return accounts for specified user
    }
}

Example of calling URL:
```

http://localhost:8080/account?userid=1234

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## **URI Templates**

- Values can be extracted from request URLs
  - Based on URI Templates
    - not Spring-specific concept, used in many frameworks
  - Use {...} placeholders and @PathVariable

```
@RestController
public class AccountController {
  @GetMapping("/accounts/{accountId}")
  public Account find(@PathVariable("accountId") long id) {
    ... // Do something
     Example of calling URL: http://localhost:8080/accounts/98765
```

## **Naming Conventions**

- Drop annotation value if it matches method parameter name
  - Provided class contains method parameter names



https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/reflect/member/methodparameterreflection.html

## **Method Signature Examples**

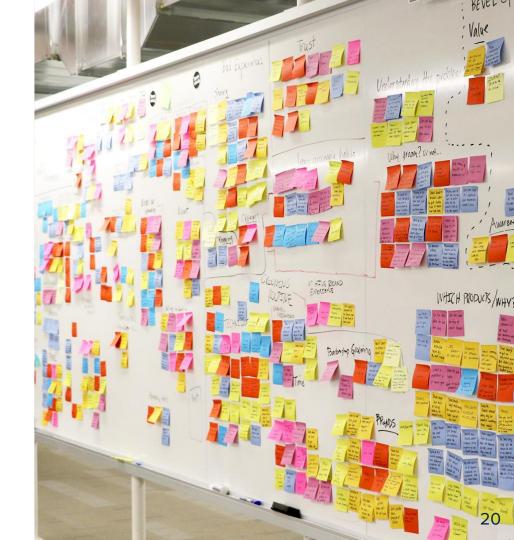
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**Example URLs** 

```
http://localhost:8080/accounts
@GetMapping("/accounts")
public List<Account> getAccounts()
                                             http://.../orders/1234/items/2
@GetMapping("/orders/{id}/items/{itemId}")
public OrderItem item( @PathVariable("id") long orderId,
                       @PathVariable int itemId,
                       Locale locale.
                       @RequestHeader("user-agent") String agent )
                                          http://.../suppliers?location=12345
@GetMapping("/suppliers")
public List<Supplier> getSuppliers(
        @RequestParam(required=false) Integer location,
        Principal user,
                                                    Null if not specified
        HttpSession session )
                                                                            19
```

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#### HTTP GET: Fetch a Resource

- Requirement
  - Respond only to GET requests
  - Return requested data in the HTTP Response
  - Determine requested response format

```
GET /store/orders/123
Host: shop.spring.io
Accept: application/json, ...

"id": 123,
"total": 200.00,
"items": [ ... ]

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```

## **Generating Response Data**







#### The Problem

- HTTP GET needs to return data in response body
  - Typically JSON or XML
- Developers prefer to work with Java objects
- Developers want to avoid manual conversion

#### The Solution

- Object to text conversion
  - Message-Converters
- Annotate response data
   with @ResponseBody

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date:
Content-Length: 756
Content-Type: application/json
   "id": 123,
   "total": 200.00,
   "items": [ ... ]
```

## HttpMessageConverter







- Converts HTTP request/response body data
  - XML: JAXP Source, JAXB2 mapped object\*, Jackson-Dataformat-XML\*
  - GSON\*, Jackson JSON\*
  - Feed data\* such as Atom/RSS
  - Google protocol buffers\*
  - Form-based data
  - Byte[], String, BufferedImage
- Automatically setup by Spring Boot (except protocol buffers)
  - Manual configuration also possible

\* Requires 3rd party libraries on classpath

## What Return Format? Accept Header

```
@GetMapping("/store/orders/{id}")
public Order getOrder(@PathVariable("id") long id) {
    return orderService.findOrderById(id);
                                        HTTP/1.1 200 OK
                                        Date: ...
 GET /store/orders/123
                                        Content-Length: 1456
                                        Content-Type: application/xml
 Host: shop.spring.io
                                        <order id="123">
 Accept: application/xml
                                        </orde HTTP/1.1 200 OK</pre>
                                               Date: ...
                                               Content-Length: 756
                                               Content-Type: application/json
       GET /store/orders/123
       Host: shop.spring.io
                                                  "id": 123,
       Accept: application/json
                                                  "total": 200.00,
                                                  "items": [ ... ]
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```

## Customizing GET Responses: ResponseEntity

- Build GET responses explicitly
  - More control
  - Set headers, control content returned



Subclasses **HttpEntity** with fluent API

## **Setting Response Data**

Can use HttpEntity to generate a Response

```
@GetMapping("/store/orders/{id}")
public HttpEntity<Order> getOrder(@PathVariable long id) {
  Order order = orderService.find(id);
  return ResponseEntity
                                 HTTP Status 200 OK
               .ok()
               .header("Last-Modified", order.lastUpdated())
               .body(order);
                                                    Set extra or
                            Response
                               body
                                                   custom header
```

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## **Spring Boot for Web Applications**

- Use spring-boot-starter-web
  - Ensures Spring Web and Spring MVC are on classpath
- Spring Boot AutoConfiguration
  - Sets up a DispatcherServlet
  - Sets up internal configuration to support controllers
  - Sets up default resource locations (images, CSS, JavaScript)
  - Sets up default Message Converters
  - And much, much more



## **Spring Boot as a Runtime**

- By default Spring Boot starts up an <u>embedded</u> servlet container
  - You can run a web application from the command line!
  - Tomcat included by Web Starter



Spring Boot's default behavior. Traditional WAR deployment available also.

## **Alternative Containers: Jetty, Undertow**

Example: Jetty instead of Tomcat

```
<dependency>
 <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
  <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
  <exclusions>
                                                 Excludes Tomcat
    <exclusion>
      <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
      <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-tomcat</artifactId>
    </exclusion>
 </exclusions>
                                                   Adds Jetty
</dependency>
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
  <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-jetty</artifactId>
</dependency>
                            Jetty automatically detected and used!
```

## **Running Within a Web Container (traditional)**

```
Sub-classes Spring's WebApplicationInitializer

    called by the web container (Servlet 3+ required)

@SpringBootApplication
public class Application extends SpringBootServletInitializer {
    // Specify the configuration class(es) to use
    protected SpringApplicationBuilder configure(
             SpringApplicationBuilder application) {
         return application.sources(Application.class);
                                    Don't forget to change artifact type to war
```



The above requires **no** web.xml file

## Configure for a WAR or a JAR

```
@SpringBootApplication
public class Application extends SpringBootServletInitializer {
                                                             Web container
    protected SpringApplicationBuilder configure(
                                                                support
             SpringApplicationBuilder application) {
        return application.sources(Application.class);
                                                            main() method
                                                              run from CLI
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        SpringApplication.run(Application.class, args);
```

#### **JAR or WAR**

- By default, both JAR and WAR forms can run from the command line
  - Based on embedded Tomcat (or Jetty) JARs
- However, embedded Tomcat JARs can cause conflicts when running WAR inside traditional web container
  - Example: running within different version of Tomcat
- Best Practice: Mark Tomcat dependencies as provided when building WARs for traditional containers.

## **Spring Boot JAR Files**

 Using Boot's plugin, mvn package or gradle assemble produces two JAR files

```
22M yourapp-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar

10K yourapp-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar.original

Traditional JAR
```

- "Fat" JAR executable with embedded Tomcat
  - using "java -jar yourapp.jar"



For details: <a href="https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/htmlsingle/">https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/htmlsingle/</a> #build-tool-plugins-maven-packaging

# **Agenda**

- Request Processing Lifecycle
- Key Artifacts
- Spring Boot for Web Applications
- Quick Start
- Lab



#### Revision: What We Have Covered

- Spring Web applications have many features
  - The DispatcherServlet
  - Setup Using Spring Boot
  - Writing a Controller
  - Using Message Converters
  - JARs vs WARs

- But you don't need to worry about most of this to write a simple Spring Boot Web application ...
  - Typically you just write Controllers
  - Set some properties

#### **Quick Start**

Only a few files to get a running Spring Web application

Gradle or Ant/Ivy also supported

pom.xml Setup Spring Boot (and any other) dependencies RewardController class Basic Spring MVC controller application.properties Setup Application class

Application launcher

#### 1a. Maven Descriptor

```
Parent POM
<parent>
   <groupId>org.springframework.boot
   <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-parent</artifactId>
   <version>2.1.3.RELEASE
</parent>
<dependencies>
   <dependency>
       <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
       <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
   </dependency>
                                     Spring MVC, Embedded
</dependencies>
                                       Tomcat. Jackson ...
<!-- Continued on next slide -->
                                               pom.xml
```

### 1b. Maven Descriptor (continued)

Will also use the Spring Boot plugin

```
pom.xml
                                                  (continued)
<!-- Continued from previous slide -->
<build>
   <plugins>
       <plugin>
            <groupId>org.springframework.boot
            <artifactId>spring-boot-maven-plugin</artifactId>
       </plugin>
                                    Makes "fat" executable jars/wars
   </plugins>
</build>
```



Remember: Maven, Gradle, Ant/Ivy are all supported

# 1c. Spring Boot sets up Spring MVC

- As Spring web JARs are on classpath ...
  - Spring Boot sets up Spring MVC
  - Deploys a DispatcherServlet
- Typical URLs:

```
http://localhost:8080/accounts
http://localhost:8080/rewards
http://localhost:8080/rewards/1
```

We will implement the last example

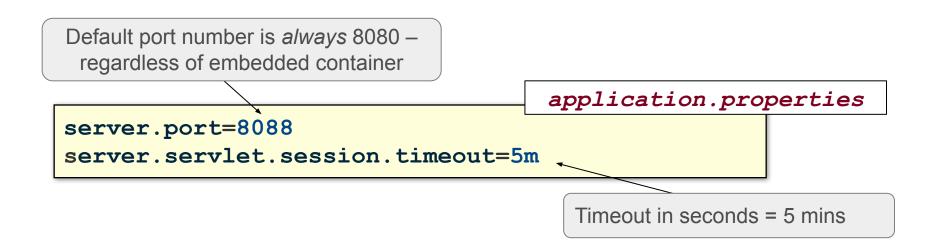
#### 2. Implement the Controller

```
RewardController.java
@RestController
public class RewardController {
                                                    Depends on an
  private RewardLookupService lookupService;
                                                  application service
  public RewardController(RewardLookupService svc) {
    this.lookupService = svc;
                                                       Automatically
  @GetMapping("/rewards/{id}")
                                                     injected by Spring
  public Reward show(@PathVariable("id") long id) {
    return lookupService.lookupReward(id);
                                                   Returns Reward
```

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### 3. Setting Properties

- Can configure web server using Boot properties
  - Not needed for this simple application
  - Let's set some common properties as examples



### 4. Application Class

- @SpringBootApplication annotation
  - Enables Spring Boot running Tomcat embedded

```
@SpringBootApplication
public class Application {

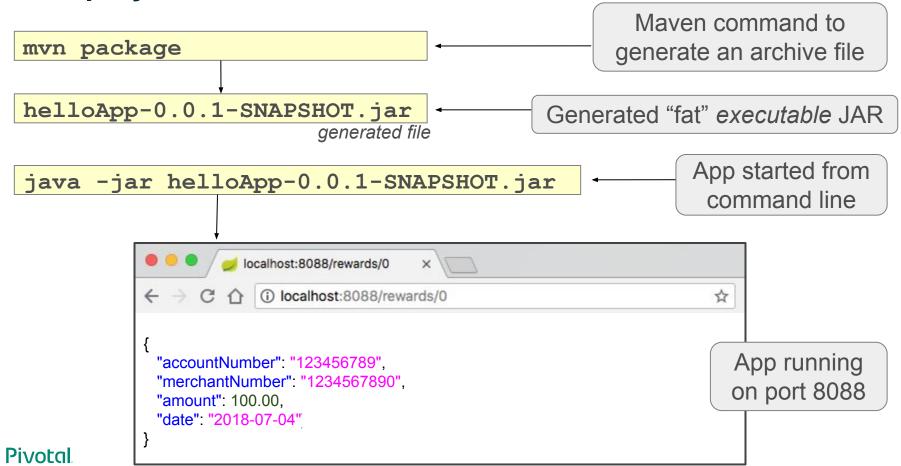
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      SpringApplication.run(Application.class, args);
   }
}
Application.java
```



Component scanner runs automatically, will find

RewardsController if it is located in same or sub-package

### 5. Deploy and Test



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#### **Summary**

- Spring MVC is Spring's web framework
  - Controller and @RestController classes handle HTTP requests
  - URL information available
    - @RequestParam, @PathVariable
- Multiple response formats supported
  - MessageConverters support JSON ,XML ...



**Extensive** documentation on Spring MVC available at:

https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/current/spring-framework-reference/web.html#spring-web



Lab project: 36-mvc

**Anticipated Lab time: 20 Minutes** 

# **Agenda**

- Request Processing Lifecycle
- Key Artifacts
- Spring Boot for Web Applications
- Quick Start
- Lab
- Spring MVC Without Boot



# **Servlet Configuration Without Spring Boot**



- Servlets can be defined statically
  - Using web.xml (Servlet 2 spec)
  - Using a class that implements
     ServletContainerInitializer (Servlet 3+)
- Servlets can be defined dynamically
  - By registering them with the ServletContext as Servlet Container starts up (Servlet 3+)
  - Without Spring Boot you MUST do this

### Configuring Spring MVC and DispatcherServlet

Sub-class Spring's *WebApplicationInitializer*– called by the web container (Servlet 3+ required)

```
public class MyWebInitializer implements WebApplicationInitializer {
    // Register the WebApplicationContext and DispatcherServlet
    public void onStartup(ServletContext servletCxt) {
        AnnotationConfigWebApplciationContext ac =
           new AnnotationConfigWebApplicationContext(AppConfig.class);
           DispatcherServlet servlet = new DispatcherServlet(ac);
           ServletRegistration.Dynamic registration =
               servletCxt.addServlet("app", servlet);
           registration.addMapping("/app/*");
```



Can also extend

AbstractAnnotationConfigDispatcherServletInitializer

#### A Note on @EnableWebMvc



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- Without Spring Boot you MUST use @EnableWebMvc to get many of the same defaults Boot provides
  - Controllers and Views work "out-of-the-box"
  - REST support, message convertors, JSR-303 Validation
  - Stateless converters for form-handling, ...

```
@Configuration
@EnableWebMvc
public class AppConfig {
}
```

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