

Spring Boot

Features

Opinionated

It by default include what we will need without giving us option not to

Conventions over Configuration

Most of the required configuration is already done internally. Spring application conventions

Standalone

Provides us builtin web container and applications can be started from the command line

Production Ready

Applications are production ready, not just for dev testing and trying different features.

Bill-of-materials

Spring boot groups/configures all required and compatible libraries together by using gradle, or maven's <parent> or <dependencyManagement>

Embedded Tomcat Server

Spring boot web application comes with embedded tomcat server. The benefits it provides:

- Convenience
- Tomcat servlet container configurations are now application configs
- Standalone application
- Useful for microservices

Create Spring Boot Project

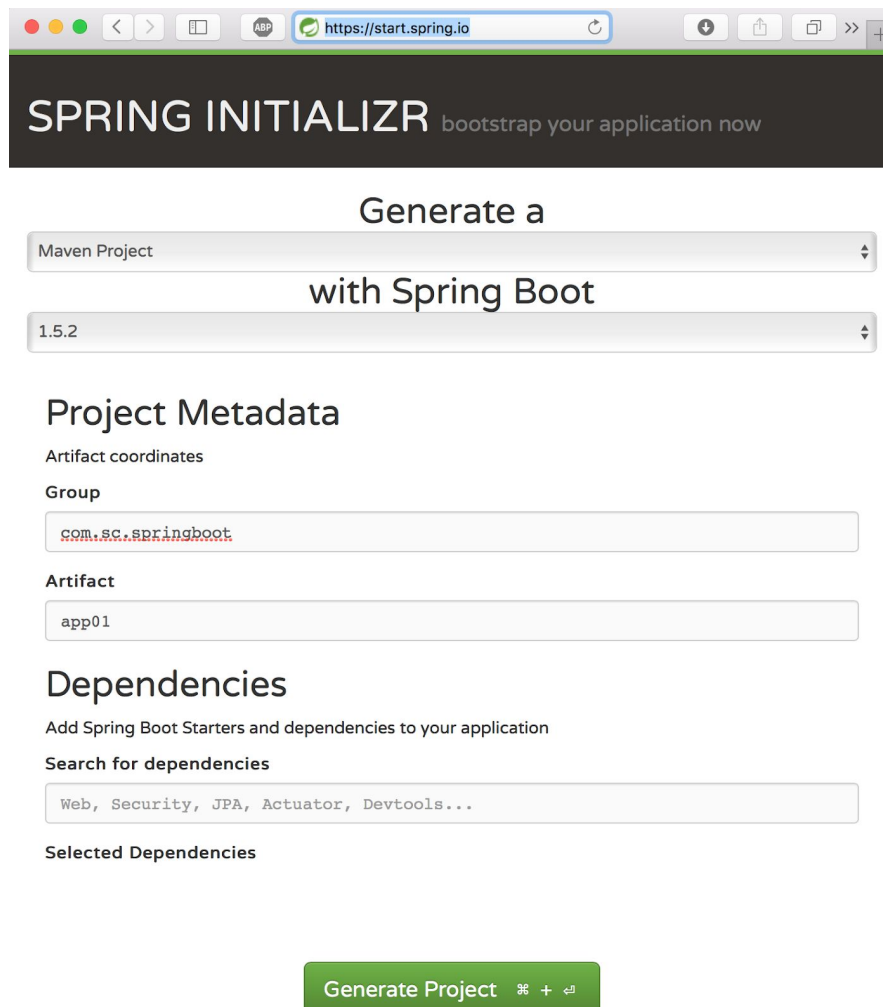
We could manually create spring boot project by creating simple maven project and adding spring boot parent pom, starter dependency, and calling `SpringApplication.run();`.

There are some convenience methods to create Spring boot application:

- Spring CLI
<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/getting-started-installing-spring-boot.html>
<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/cli-using-the-cli.html>
- STS
<https://spring.io/tools/sts>
<https://spring.io/blog/2015/03/18/spring-boot-support-in-spring-tool-suite-3-6-4>
- Spring Initializr
<https://start.spring.io>

Go to the website below make your selections and click generate button

<https://start.spring.io>

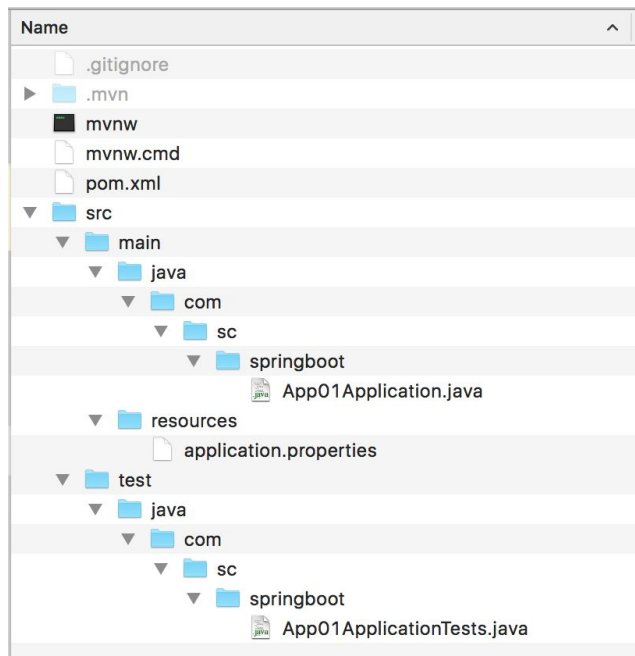


The screenshot shows the Spring Initializr web application in a browser. The browser's address bar displays 'https://start.spring.io'. The page has a dark header with the text 'SPRING INITIALIZR bootstrap your application now'. Below the header, there are two dropdown menus: the first is labeled 'Generate a' and contains 'Maven Project'; the second is labeled 'with Spring Boot' and contains '1.5.2'. Underneath these is the 'Project Metadata' section, which includes 'Artifact coordinates' with a 'Group' field containing 'com.sc.springboot' and an 'Artifact' field containing 'app01'. The 'Dependencies' section follows, with the instruction 'Add Spring Boot Starters and dependencies to your application' and a 'Search for dependencies' input field containing 'Web, Security, JPA, Actuator, Devtools...'. At the bottom, there is a 'Selected Dependencies' section and a green 'Generate Project' button with a download icon.

The above will download a maven project with the following files. It includes

- Maven wrapper
- pom.xml

- application.properties
- Application.java with the main method
- ApplicationTests.java with default unittest for Application.java



pom.xml

Parent

We need to add spring-boot-starter-parent as parent of our maven project. This does common Spring configurations

```
<parent>
  <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
  <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-parent</artifactId>
  <version>1.5.2.RELEASE</version>
  <relativePath/> <!-- lookup parent from repository -->
</parent>
```

If you don't want to create spring-boot-starter-parent as parent of your project then use this:
<http://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/using-boot-build-systems.html#using-boot-maven-without-a-parent>

Java Version

Java version can be specified in maven properties

```
<properties>
  <project.build.sourceEncoding>UTF-8</project.build.sourceEncoding>
```

```
<project.reporting.outputEncoding>UTF-8</project.reporting.outputEncoding>
<java.version>1.8</java.version>
</properties>
```

Starter Dependency

We need to add spring boot starter dependency. This will include all the jars for the type of project we want to create.

List of all starter dependencies:

<https://mvnrepository.com/artifact/org.springframework.boot>

Ideally a spring boot project will have one starter and one starter test dependency.

E.g. If we want to create web project and add spring test support we will add:

```
<dependencies>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
  </dependency>

  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-test</artifactId>
    <scope>test</scope>
  </dependency>
</dependencies>
```

Spring boot plugin

Optionally we can add spring boot plugin to run application from maven instead of running main method class

```
<build>
  <plugins>
    <plugin>
      <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
      <artifactId>spring-boot-maven-plugin</artifactId>
    </plugin>
  </plugins>
</build>
```

Running Application

Running from Maven

If spring-boot-maven-plugin is added then we run application from maven

```
$ mvn spring-boot:run
```

To pass command line arguments to maven command

```
$ mvn spring-boot:run -Drun.arguments="arg1,arg2"
```

Running from command line

We can run built jar from command line

```
$ mvn clean install
```

```
$ cd target
```

```
$ java -jar app01-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar
```

Access running application <http://localhost:8080>

Bootstrapping Spring Boot Application

To bootstrap spring boot application:

- Add `@SpringBootApplication` annotation on any class.
- Run static method `SpringApplication.run(App01Application.class, args);`. Give the class

```
package com.sc.springboot;
```

```
import org.springframework.boot.SpringApplication;
```

```
import org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.SpringBootApplication;
```

```
@SpringBootApplication
```

```
public class App01Application {
```

```
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        SpringApplication.run(App01Application.class, args);  
    }  
}
```

The above 2 steps will do the following:

- Setup default configuration
- Start Spring application context

- Perform classpath scan
- Start Tomcat server

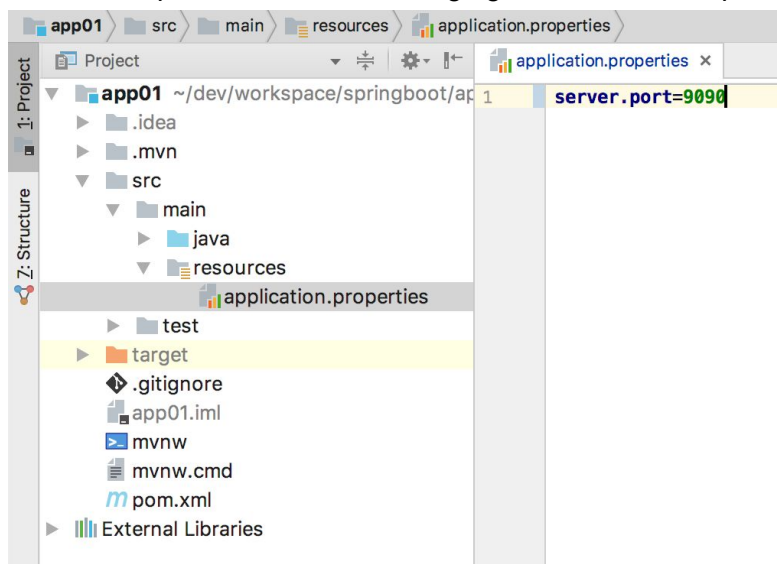
application.properties

Spring boot application configurations can be configured or overridden by adding properties in application.properties.

Here are all the common configuration of spring boot application:

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/common-application-properties.html>

In the example below we are changing default tomcat's port from 8080 to 9090



Dev Tools

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/using-boot-devtools.html>

Dev tools are used to reload/restart application while development. Application will reload/restart automatically when anything in classpath is modified.

Dev tools dependency

It is recommended, on spring guide, to add dev tools dependency as runtime scope and optional

```
<dependency>
<groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
<artifactId>spring-boot-devtools</artifactId>
<scope>runtime</scope>
<optional>true</optional>
```

</dependency>

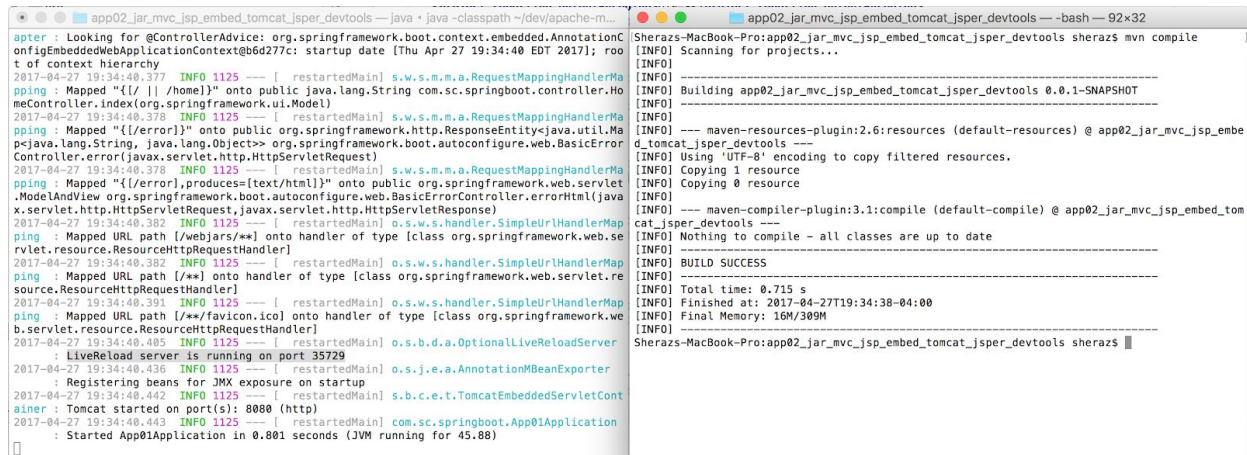
Dev tools from command line

Start project with the command

\$ mvn clean install spring-boot:run

Make changes to java code or anything in resources. Then update classpath by giving compiling in another terminal command

\$ mvn compile



The screenshot shows two terminal windows. The left window displays the output of the `mvn compile` command, showing the compilation of the application. The right window shows the output of the `mvn spring-boot:run` command, showing the application starting and running on port 8080.

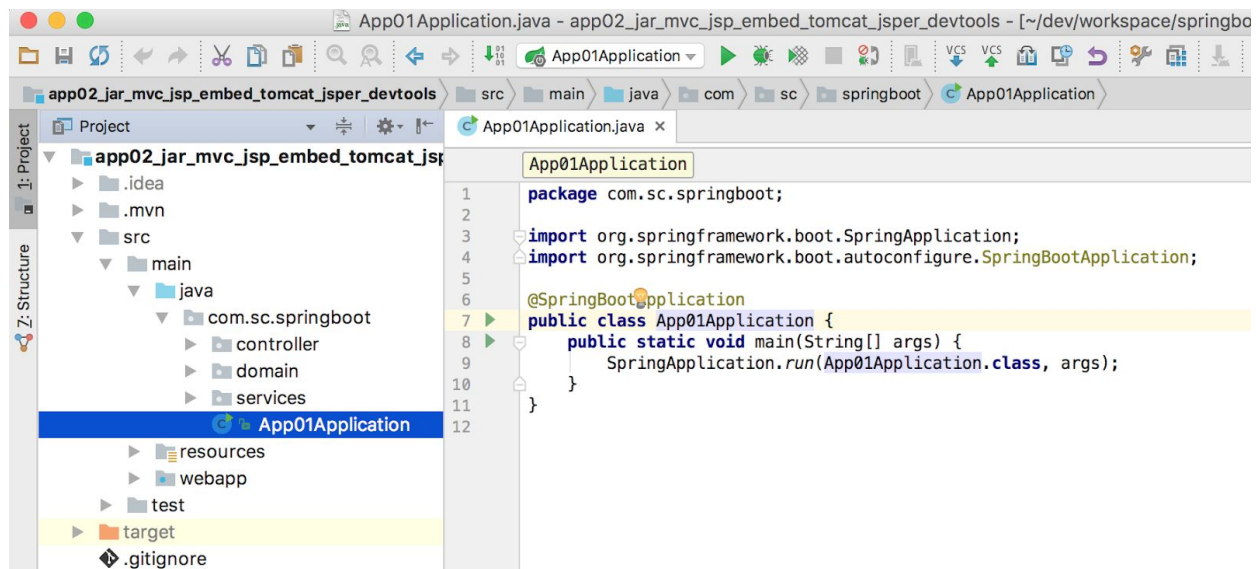
```
app02_jar_mvc_jsp_embed_tomcat_jsper_devtools -- java -classpath ~/dev/apache-m...
2017-04-27 19:34:40.377 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] s.w.s.m.a.RequestMappingHandlerMapping : Mapped "{[/| | /home]}" onto public java.lang.String com.sc.springboot.controller.HomeController.index(org.springframework.ui.Model)
2017-04-27 19:34:40.378 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] s.w.s.m.a.RequestMappingHandlerMapping : Mapped "{[/error]}" onto public org.springframework.http.ResponseEntity<java.util.Map<java.lang.String, java.lang.Object>> org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.web.BasicErrorController.error(javax.servlet.http.HttpServletRequest)
2017-04-27 19:34:40.378 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] s.w.s.m.a.RequestMappingHandlerMapping : Mapped "{[/error], produces=[text/html]}" onto public org.springframework.web.servlet.ModelAndView org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.web.BasicErrorController.errorHtml(javax.servlet.http.HttpServletRequest, javax.servlet.http.HttpServletResponse)
2017-04-27 19:34:40.382 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] o.s.w.s.handler.SimpleUrlHandlerMapping : Mapped URL path [/webjars/*] onto handler of type [class org.springframework.web.servlet.resource.ResourceHttpRequestHandler]
2017-04-27 19:34:40.382 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] o.s.w.s.handler.SimpleUrlHandlerMapping : Mapped URL path [/**] onto handler of type [class org.springframework.web.servlet.resource.ResourceHttpRequestHandler]
2017-04-27 19:34:40.391 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] o.s.w.s.handler.SimpleUrlHandlerMapping : Mapped URL path [/**/favicon.ico] onto handler of type [class org.springframework.web.servlet.resource.ResourceHttpRequestHandler]
2017-04-27 19:34:40.405 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] o.s.b.d.a.OptionalLiveReloadServer : LiveReload server is running on port 35729
2017-04-27 19:34:40.436 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] o.s.j.e.a.AnnotationMBeanExporter : Registering beans for JMX exposure on startup
2017-04-27 19:34:40.442 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] s.b.c.e.t.TomcatEmbeddedServletContainer : Tomcat started on port(s): 8080 (http)
2017-04-27 19:34:40.443 INFO 1125 --- [ restartedMain] com.sc.springboot.App01Application : Started App01Application in 0.801 seconds (JVM running for 45.88)

Sherazs-MacBook-Pro:app02_jar_mvc_jsp_embed_tomcat_jsper_devtools sheraz$ mvn compile
[INFO] Scanning for projects...
[INFO]
[INFO] Building app02_jar_mvc_jsp_embed_tomcat_jsper_devtools 0.0.1-SNAPSHOT
[INFO]
[INFO] --- maven-resources-plugin:2.6:resources (default-resources) @ app02_jar_mvc_jsp_embed_tomcat_jsper_devtools ---
[INFO] Using 'UTF-8' encoding to copy filtered resources.
[INFO] Copying 1 resource
[INFO] Copying 0 resource
[INFO]
[INFO] --- maven-compiler-plugin:3.1:compile (default-compile) @ app02_jar_mvc_jsp_embed_tomcat_jsper_devtools ---
[INFO] Nothing to compile - all classes are up to date
[INFO] BUILD SUCCESS
[INFO]
[INFO] Total time: 0.715 s
[INFO] Finished at: 2017-04-27T19:34:38-04:00
[INFO] Final Memory: 16M/309M
[INFO]
Sherazs-MacBook-Pro:app02_jar_mvc_jsp_embed_tomcat_jsper_devtools sheraz$
```

Dev tools from IntelliJ

Run the application's main(). After any Java or resources changes click:

Command + F9 or click "Build" -> "Build Project" or we can also configure IntelliJ to do auto build.



Chrome Liveload

<http://livereload.com/>

<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/livereload/jnihajbhpnppcggbcgedagnkighmdlei>

RESTful Application

Spring RESTful web service

By default spring boot web application comes configured to create RESTful web services application. All we have to do is add Spring Rest

```
package com.sc.springboot.controller;
```

```
import com.sc.springboot.domain.Person;
```

```
import com.sc.springboot.services.PersonService;
```

```
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
```

```
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RequestMapping;
```

```
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RequestMethod;
```

```
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RestController;
```

```
import java.util.List;
```

```
@RestController
```

```
public class PersonRestController {
```

```
    @Autowired
```

```
    private PersonService personService;
```



```

@RequestMapping(
    value = "/",
    method = RequestMethod.GET,
    consumes = {"text/plain", "application/*"},
    produces = "application/json; charset=UTF-8"
)
public List<Person> index() {
    return this.personService.getAll();
}
}

```

Spring MVC JSP JAR Embedded Tomcat Server

NOTE: It is not recommended to run JSP in an embedded tomcat server because of this limitation:

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/boot-features-developing-web-applications.html#boot-features-jsp-limitations>

By just adding spring-boot-starter-web dependency we can run spring boot from command line, that would start embedded tomcat. But it will not be capable for transpiling JSP to Servlet. To enable JSP transpilation we need to add tomcat-embed-jasper dependency.

```

<dependency>
  <groupId>org.apache.tomcat.embed</groupId>
  <artifactId>tomcat-embed-jasper</artifactId>
</dependency>

```

View prefix and suffix

We can keep JSP anywhere in the application. And set its prefix and suffix in application.properties

```

spring.mvc.view.prefix=/WEB-INF/views/
spring.mvc.view.suffix=.jsp

```

Controller

Add a controller. Controller below returns "**home**" so it be resolved to **/WEB-INF/views/home.jsp**.

```
package com.sc.springboot.controller;
```

```

import org.springframework.stereotype.Controller;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RequestMapping;

```

```

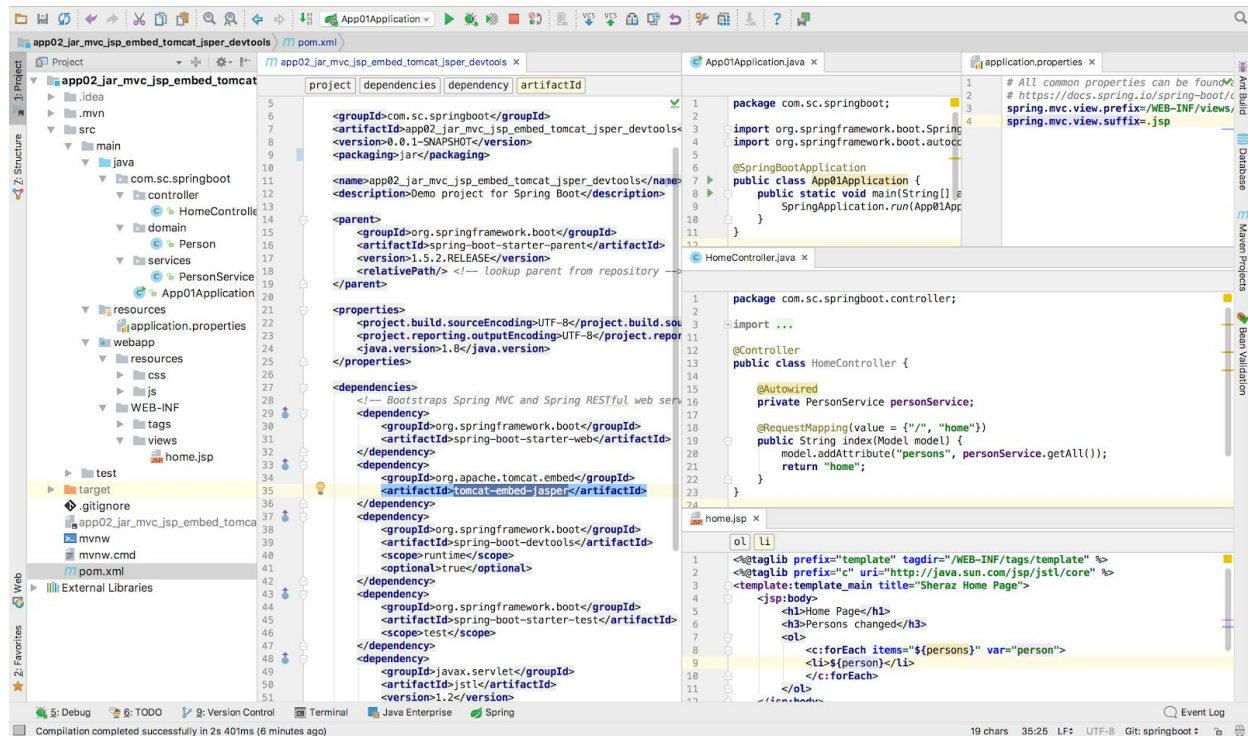
@Controller
public class PersonMvcController {
    @RequestMapping(value = {"/", "home"})
    public String index() {

```

```

    return "home";
}
}

```



Spring MVC JSP WAR External Tomcat Server

To run spring boot application in external Tomcat we need to create an executable WAR.

pom.xml

`<packaging>war</packaging>` need to be of war type and we don't need to add tomcat-embed-jasper dependency:

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<project xmlns="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0
    http://maven.apache.org/xsd/maven-4.0.0.xsd">
  <modelVersion>4.0.0</modelVersion>
  <groupId>com.sc.springboot</groupId>
  <artifactId>app02_war_mvc_jsp_external_tomcat</artifactId>
  <version>0.0.1-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <packaging>war</packaging>
  <name>app01</name>
  <description>Demo project for Spring Boot</description>
  <parent>
    <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-parent</artifactId>
    <version>1.5.2.RELEASE</version>
    <relativePath/> <!-- lookup parent from repository -->
  </parent>
  <properties>
    <project.build.sourceEncoding>UTF-8</project.build.sourceEncoding>
    <project.reporting.outputEncoding>UTF-8</project.reporting.outputEncoding>
    <java.version>1.8</java.version>
  </properties>
  <dependencies>
    <!-- Bootstraps Spring MVC and Spring RESTful web services -->
    <dependency>
      <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
      <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
    </dependency>
    <dependency>
      <groupId>org.apache.tomcat.embed</groupId>
      <artifactId>tomcat-embed-jasper</artifactId>
    </dependency>
    <dependency>
      <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
      <artifactId>spring-boot-devtools</artifactId>
      <scope>runtime</scope>
      <optional>true</optional>
    </dependency>
    <dependency>
      <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
      <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-test</artifactId>
      <scope>test</scope>
    </dependency>
    <dependency>
      <groupId>avax.servlet</groupId>
      <artifactId>jstl</artifactId>
      <version>1.2</version>
    </dependency>
  </dependencies>
</project>

```

```

<groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
<artifactId>spring-boot-starter-parent</artifactId>
<version>1.5.2.RELEASE</version>
<relativePath/>
</parent>
<properties>
  <project.build.sourceEncoding>UTF-8</project.build.sourceEncoding>
  <project.reporting.outputEncoding>UTF-8</project.reporting.outputEncoding>
  <java.version>1.8</java.version>
</properties>
<dependencies>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-test</artifactId>
    <scope>test</scope>
  </dependency>
</dependencies>
<build>
  <plugins>
    <plugin>
      <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
      <artifactId>spring-boot-maven-plugin</artifactId>
    </plugin>
  </plugins>
</build>
</project>

```

Initializing Servlets in Spring MVC

Since external Tomcat server will not run application's main(), so startup class annotated `@SpringBootApplication` could be extended by `SpringBootServletInitializer` class and implement `configure()` method to start.

NOTE: main() is not needed to run in external web container. Left it here because spring-boot-maven-plugin complains on:
\$ mvn clean install

```
package com.sc.springboot;
```

```

import org.springframework.boot.SpringApplication;
import org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.SpringBootApplication;
import org.springframework.boot.builder.SpringApplicationBuilder;
import org.springframework.boot.web.support.SpringBootServletInitializer;

```

@SpringBootApplication

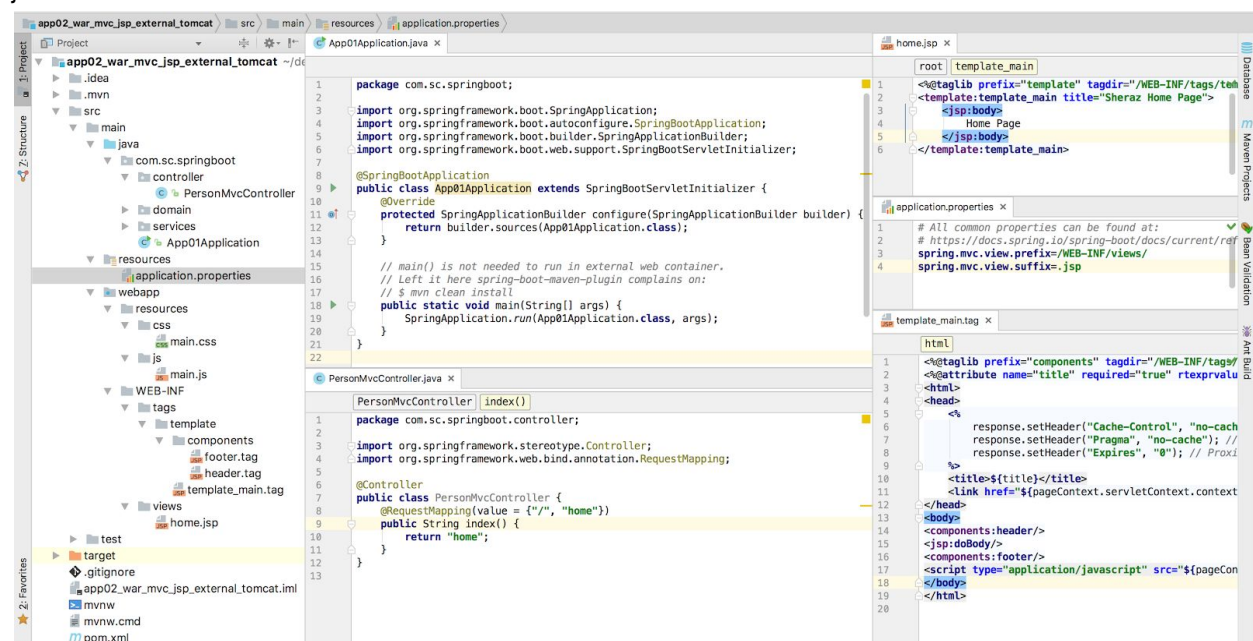
```
public class App01Application extends SpringBootServletInitializer {  
    @Override  
    protected SpringApplicationBuilder configure(SpringApplicationBuilder builder) {  
        return builder.sources(App01Application.class);  
    }  
}
```

// main() is not needed to run in external web container.

// Left it here spring-boot-maven-plugin complains on:

// \$ mvn clean install

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    SpringApplication.run(App01Application.class, args);  
}
```



Listing all Beans for debugging

Spring boot configures and creates a lot of beans. To debug/see what beans are created we can investigate application context that gets returned by run() method. We could do that in standalone application in main() or by overriding run() of SpringBootServletInitializer application.

@SpringBootApplication

```
public class App extends SpringBootServletInitializer {  
    @Override  
    protected SpringApplicationBuilder configure(SpringApplicationBuilder builder) {  
        return builder.sources(App.class);  
    }  
}
```

```

public static void main(String[] args) {
    ConfigurableApplicationContext context = SpringApplication.run(
        App.class, args);
    for (String beanName : context.getBeanDefinitionNames()) {
        System.out.println(beanName + " = " + context.getBean(beanName).getClass().getName());
    }
}

@Override
protected WebApplicationContext run(SpringApplication application) {
    WebApplicationContext context = super.run(application);
    for (String beanName : context.getBeanDefinitionNames()) {
        System.out.println(beanName + " = " + context.getBean(beanName).getClass().getName());
    }
    return applicationContext;
}
}

```

In-memory DB support

By just adding drivers of in memory databases like H2, HSQL and Derby databases, spring boot will setup datasource.

"runtime" scope will create runtime/test application datasource and "test" will create unit test datasource

```

<dependency>
    <groupId>com.h2database</groupId>
    <artifactId>h2</artifactId>
    <scope>runtime</scope>
</dependency>

```

NOTE: In my experience H2 is most full featured database. Like it supports "drop table if exists"

Initializing Database

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/howto-database-initialization.html#howto-initialize-a-database-using-spring-jdbc>

Spring boot reads **schema.sql**, and **data.sql** in classpath(resources) to initialize database on startup.

schema.sql: is executed before loading entities

data.sql: is executed after loading entities

We can also add platform name by adding property **spring.datasource.platform={platform name}** and then add **schema-{platform name}.sql** and **data-{platform name}.sql**.

e.g.

```
spring.datasource.platform=h2
main/resources/schema-h2.sql
main/resources/data-h2.sql
```

MySQL support

To configure MySQL datasource we can set these properties in application.properties

```
# I have to "serverTimezone=UTC" because my system is in EDT and MySQL server is in UTC.
# MySQL drivers were giving error because of that.
spring.datasource.url=jdbc:mysql://localhost:8889/testdb?serverTimezone=UTC
spring.datasource.username=root
spring.datasource.password=root
# Setting driver class name because I get this warning below:
# Loading class `com.mysql.jdbc.Driver'. This is deprecated. The new driver class is `com.mysql.cj.jdbc.Driver'. The
driver is automatically registered via the SPI and manual loading of the driver class is generally unnecessary.
spring.datasource.driver-class-name=com.mysql.cj.jdbc.Driver
# Spring boot automatically detects DB platform but still
# optionally we can define DB platform.
spring.datasource.platform=mysql
```

JPA & Hibernate

To add support for JPA and Hibernate we add "spring-boot-starter-data-jpa" dependency. Spring boot will

- find any database driver in application's dependency list
- Initialize datasource
- Setup spring transaction
- Setup JPA
- Setup Hibernate as JPA vendor

```
<dependency>
<groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
<artifactId>spring-boot-starter-data-jpa</artifactId>
</dependency>
```

Configure JPA & Hibernate

All default JPA and Hibernate configurations can be overwritten in application.properties. E.g.

```
#####
# By doing
# spring.jpa.generate-ddl=true
# spring.jpa.hibernate.ddl-auto=create
#
```

```
# Hibernate will generate/run DDL and and print it in logs.
# We can use it these DDL, DML in flyaway migrate script
# initialize DB on startup.
# After that change ddl-auto=create to ddl-auto=update
#
#####
spring.jpa.generate-ddl=false
spring.jpa.hibernate.ddl-auto=none

spring.jpa.show-sql=true
spring.jpa.properties.hibernate.format_sql=false
```

Running DB Scripts using Flyway on initialization

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/howto-database-initialization.html>

We can utilities like Flyway and Liquibase to run DB initializing scripts.

Flyway Dependency

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.flywaydb</groupId>
  <artifactId>flyway-core</artifactId>
  <version>4.1.2</version>
</dependency>
```

Flyway Scripts location

By default Flyway looks for DB scripts in:

src/main/resources/db/migration/

Or

src/main/resources/db/migration/{vendor name}

To override default Flyway scripts location we can use this property in application.properties

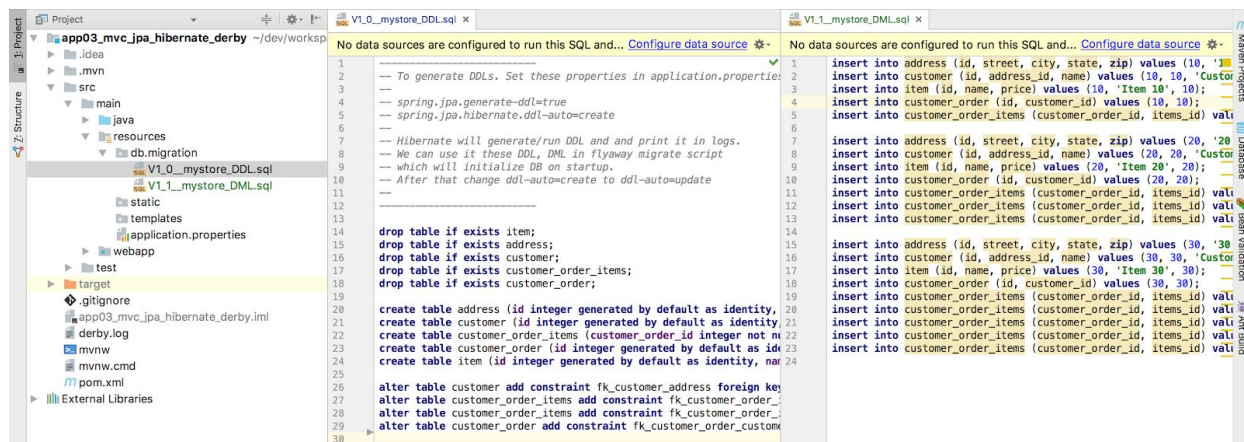
flyway.locations=db/migration/mysql

Flyway Scripts File name

By default Flyway runs files named like below

V{major version}__{minor version}__{patch version}__{description}.sql

Flyway will order files by major and minor and run them all before spring boot application starts up.



Flyway migration tracking in SCHEMA_VERSION

For non in-memory databases we can get into migration scripts versioning issues. Flyway keeps track of all the scripts ran in table "schema_version"

```
18 • select * from schema_version;
```

installed_rank	version	description	type	script	checksum	installed_by	installed_on	execution_time	success
1	1.0.1	person ddl	SQL	V1_0_1_person_ddl.sql	-1723864729	root	2017-05-01 00:29:03	15	1
2	1.0.2	person dml	SQL	V1_0_2_person_dml.sql	-1363750108	root	2017-05-01 00:29:03	2	1
NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL

Handling SCHEMA_VERSION issues

To repair flyway schema_version issues we can use flyway command line utility or it maven plugin

<https://flywaydb.org/documentation/maven/>

\$ mvn flyway:clean

\$ mvn flyway:repair

Or in worst case start fresh by dropping and recreating database.

In-memory DB for test

<https://www.leveluplunch.com/java/tutorials/022-preload-database-execute-sql-spring-testing/>

In-memory DB for test & MySQL for application

Profile for application.properties

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/boot-features-profiles.html>

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/howto-properties-and-configuration.html>

We can create multiple application.properties files for different profiles.

To do this we will have to attach profile name to application.properties file like:

`application-{profile name}.properties`

And then set the profile name in:

`spring.profiles.active=dev`

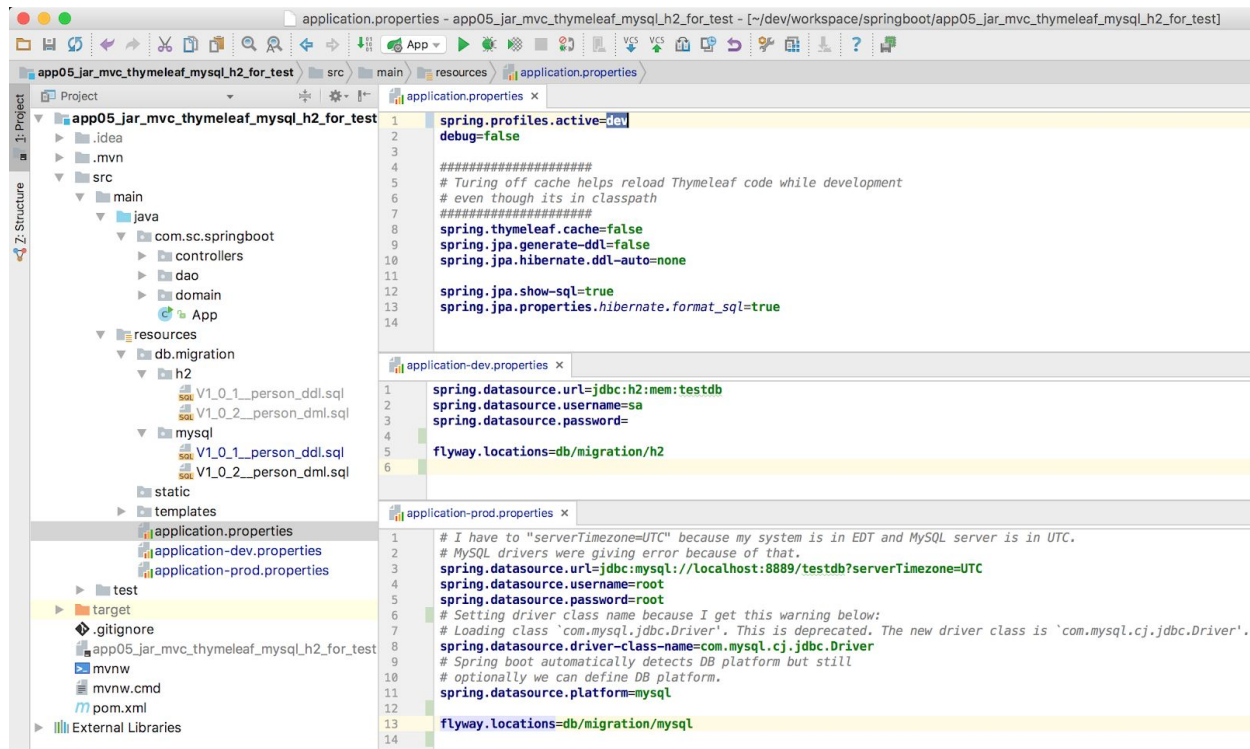
Spring boot will first read `application.properties` file then `application-{profile name}.properties` file

application.properties profile example

Let's say we need 2 data sources for our application but we are only going to use one of them at a time. An in-memory H2 datasource for development and MySQL datasource for production.

Both have different set of Flyway DB initializing scripts.

In the example below application.properties contain all common configurations and `spring.profiles.active=dev`. application-dev.properties contains all configuration unique to "dev" profile and application-prod.properties contains all configuration unique to "prod" profile



In the above example we hard coded active profile in application.properties but we can still run an alternative profile using the command below:

```
$ java -jar app05_jar_mvc_thymeleaf_mysql_h2_for_test-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar
--spring.profiles.active=prod
```