



API Toolbox with Spring

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Tweet by James Smith from NounProject.com

Agenda

- HTTP
- GraphQL
- RPC & Messaging
- Testing
- Consuming APIs
- Q+A



Photo by Thomas Baker from Noun Project


Old wooden toolbox filled with work tools by Thomas Baker from Noun Project (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0)



HTTP

http by M. Oki Orlando from Noun Project (CC BY 3.0)

Spring Web MVC

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/web/webmvc.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/web.html#web.servlet>

- Original Servlet-based Model-View-Controller framework
- Use **@Controller** or **@RestController** to create beans to handle incoming HTTP requests
- The **@RequestMapping** and friends (**@GetMapping**, etc.) are used to map HTTP Methods
- All Servlet interfaces can be registered as beans.
- Tomcat, Jetty, and Undertow
- Can use JAX-RS implementations as Spring MVC alternative.

Spring Web MVC


```
@RestController
@RequestMapping("/users")
public class MyRestController {
    // fields and constructor omitted

    @GetMapping("/{userId}")
    public User getUser(@PathVariable Long userId) {
        return userRepo.findById(userId);
    }

    @GetMapping("/{userId}/customers")
    public List<Customer> getUserCustomers(@PathVariable Long userId) {
        return userRepo.findById(userId).map(customerRepo::findByUser);
    }

    @DeleteMapping("/{userId}")
    public void deleteUser(@PathVariable Long userId) {
        return userRepo.deleteById(userId);
    }
}
```

Spring WebFlux

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/web-reactive.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/web.html#web.reactive>

- New asynchronous, non-blocking web framework based on the Project Reactor implementation of Reactive Streams
- Able to handle concurrency with a small number of threads and fewer hardware resources
- **Mono** is zero to one, and **Flux** is zero to many.
- Similar annotation style to Spring MVC
- Netty, Undertow, and the Tomcat and Jetty Servlet Containers

Spring WebFlux


```
@RestController
@RequestMapping("/users")
public class MyRestController {
    // fields and constructor omitted

    @GetMapping("/{userId}")
    public Mono<User> getUser(@PathVariable Long userId) {
        return userRepo.findById(userId);
    }

    @GetMapping("/{userId}/customers")
    public Flux<Customer> getUserCustomers(@PathVariable Long userId) {
        return userRepo.findById(userId).flatMapMany(customerRepo::findByUser);
    }

    @DeleteMapping("/{userId}")
    public Mono<Void> deleteUser(@PathVariable Long userId) {
        return userRepo.deleteById(userId);
    }
}
```

Spring WebMVC.fn

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/web/webmvc-functional.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/web.html#web.servlet>

- Lightweight functional programming model
- Functions are used to route and handle requests
- Alternative to annotation-based model of Spring MVC
- **RouterFunction** beans are created using the **RouterFunctions.route()** builder
- Same Servlet containers

Spring WebMVC.fn


```
@Configuration(proxyBeanMethods = false)
public class MyRoutingConfiguration {

    private static final RequestPredicate ACCEPT_JSON =
        RequestPredicates.accept(MediaType.APPLICATION_JSON);

    @Bean
    public RouterFunction<ServerResponse> routerFunction(MyUserHandler users) {
        return RouterFunctions.route()
            .GET("/{user}", ACCEPT_JSON, users::getUser)
            .GET("/{user}/customers", ACCEPT_JSON, users::getUserCustomers)
            .DELETE("/{user}", ACCEPT_JSON, users::deleteUser)
            .build();
    }
}
```

Spring WebFlux.fn

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/web/webflux-functional.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/web.html#web.reactive.webflux>

- Lightweight functional programming model
- Functions are used to route and handle requests
- Alternative to annotation-based model of Spring WebFlux
- **RouterFunction** beans are created using the **RouterFunctions.route()** builder
- Same reactive programming model

Spring WebFlux.fn

```
@Configuration(proxyBeanMethods = false)
public class MyRoutingConfiguration {
    private static final RequestPredicate ACCEPT_JSON =
        RequestPredicates.accept(MediaType.APPLICATION_JSON);

    @Bean
    public RouterFunction<ServerResponse> monoRouterFunction(MyUserHandler users) {
        return RouterFunctions.route()
            .GET("/{user}", ACCEPT_JSON, users::getUser)
            .GET("/{user}/customers", ACCEPT_JSON, users::getUserCustomers)
            .DELETE("/{user}", ACCEPT_JSON, users::deleteUser)
            .build();
    }
}
```

HTTP Content

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/current/javadoc-api/org/springframework/http/MediaType.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/web/webmvc/mvc-ann-async.html>

- JSON, XML, plain text, CBOR and many more defined in **MediaType**.
- Supports streaming with asynchronous requests using **DeferredResult** and **Callable**.
- Pluggable view technologies from Thymeleaf to PDFs.

Spring Data Rest

 <https://spring.io/projects/spring-data>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-data/rest/reference/>

- Spring Data provides a consistent programming model for data access using a **Repository** abstraction.
- Relational support for JDBC & JPA
- Non-relational support for Redis, MongoDB, and Cassandra and community support for various IaaS databases
- Spring Data Rest exports Spring Data repositories as hypermedia-driven RESTful resources.
- Spring HATEOAS: Hypermedia as the engine of application state.

Spring Data Rest

```
{ "_embedded": {  
  "employees": [  
    {  
      "id": 1,  
      "name": "Bilbo Baggins",  
      "role": "burglar",  
      "_links": {  
        "self": {  
          "href": "https://example.com:9001/employees/1"  
        },  
        "employees": {  
          "href": "https://example.com:9001/employees"  
        }  
      }  
    }  
  ]  
}
```

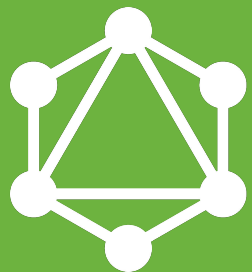
Spring Cloud Gateway

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-cloud-gateway/reference/index.html>

 <https://youtu.be/BEjfwYiu4RU> - Spring Cloud Gateway Recipes

 <https://youtu.be/UyxUkAagLFs> - Spring Cloud Gateway MVC

- API Gateway to aggregate microservices into one API
- Cross cutting concerns: security, resiliency, fault tolerance
- Compatible with Spring WebFlux and Spring MVC
- Focus on developer experience
- Integration with other Spring Cloud projects:
 - Service Discovery, Load Balancer, Config, Circuit Breaker
- Commercial managed version on Cloud Foundry and Kubernetes



GraphQL

GraphQL

GraphQL is a **query language** for your API and a server-side runtime for executing queries and mutations using a type system you **model** for your data. GraphQL isn't tied to any specific database or storage engine and is instead backed by your existing code and data.

GraphQL Object Types

```
Object Type → type Product {  
  Field → id: ID! ← Non-nullable  
  Field → title: String ← Built-in scalar types  
  Field → desc: String  
}
```

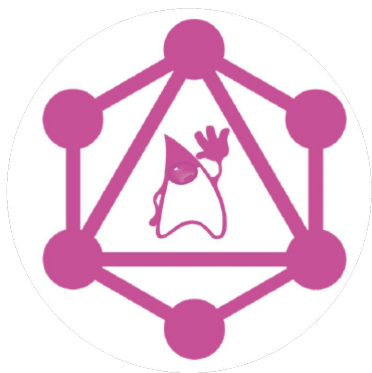
```
type Order {  
  id: ID!  
  product: Product ← Object Type  
  qty: Int  
  customer: Customer  
  orderedOn: Date ← Custom scalar type  
  status: OrderStatus ← Enum  
}
```

GraphQL Object Types

```
Query → type Query {  
  allProducts: [Product] ← Return Type  
  getProduct(id: ID!): Product ← Argument  
  allOrders: [Order]  
  getOrder(id: ID!) : Order ← Required Argument  
  allCustomers: [Customer]  
  findCustomerByLastName(last: String!) : Customer  
}  
  
type Mutation {  
  createProduct(product: ProductInput) : Product  
}
```

The diagram illustrates the structure of GraphQL object types. It shows two types: `Query` and `Mutation`. The `Query` type contains several fields: `allProducts`, `getProduct`, `allOrders`, `getOrder`, `allCustomers`, and `findCustomerByLastName`. The `Mutation` type contains one field: `createProduct`. Annotations with arrows point to specific parts of the code: `Query` is labeled as the type name; `[Product]` in `allProducts` is labeled as the Return Type; `id: ID!` in `getProduct` is labeled as the Argument; `id: ID!` in `getOrder` is labeled as the Required Argument.

GraphQL Libraries and Frameworks



GraphQL Java

<https://www.graphql-java.com>



Spring for GraphQL

<https://docs.spring.io/spring-graphql/reference/>



DGS

<https://netflix.github.io/dgs/>

Spring for GraphQL

```
@Controller
public class BookController {
    @QueryMapping
    public Book bookById(@Argument Long id) {
        // ...
    }
    @MutationMapping
    public Book addBook(@Argument BookInput bookInput) {
        // ...
    }
    @SubscriptionMapping
    public Flux<Book> newPublications() {
        // ...
    }
}
```



RPC & Messaging

GRPC



 <https://github.com/spring-projects-experimental/spring-grpc>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-grpc/reference/>

- gRPC is a polyglot OSS RPC framework, see <https://grpc.io>
- Uses Protocol Buffers for binary serialization.
- Code generation for client and server for many languages.
- Official autoconfiguration, external configuration and Actuator integration for Spring Boot applications.
- Starters for Netty or Servlet containers (Tomcat, Jetty, etc...)
- Spring Security integration.

GRPC



```
syntax = "proto3";  
service Simple {  
    rpc SayHello (HelloRequest) returns (HelloReply) {}  
    rpc StreamHello(HelloRequest) returns (stream HelloReply) {}  
}  
message HelloRequest {  
    string name = 1;  
}  
message HelloReply {  
    string message = 1;  
}
```


GRPC



```
@Service
public class GrpcServerService extends SimpleGrpc.SimpleImplBase {
    @Override
    public void sayHello(HelloRequest req, StreamObserver<HelloReply>
responseObserver) {
        HelloReply reply = HelloReply.newBuilder()
            .setMessage("Hello ==> " + req.getName()).build();
        responseObserver.onNext(reply);
        responseObserver.onCompleted();
    }
}
```

```
$ grpcurl -d '{"name":"Hi"}' -plaintext localhost:9090 Simple.SayHello
{
  "message": "Hello ==\u003e Hi"
}
```



GRPC



```
@SpringBootTest(webEnvironment = WebEnvironment.RANDOM_PORT)
public class GrpcServerApplicationTests {

    @Autowired
    private SimpleGrpc.SimpleBlockingStub stub;

    @Test
    void serverResponds() {
        HelloReply response = stub.sayHello(HelloRequest.newBuilder()
            .setName("Alien").build());
        assertEquals("Hello ==> Alien", response.getMessage());
    }
}
```

Spring Cloud Function and Stream

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-cloud-function/reference/index.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-cloud-stream/reference/index.html>

- Embraces core functional interfaces in Java defines as **@Bean**:
 - **Supplier<O>, Function<I, O>, Consumer<I>**
- Integration with IaaS serverless platforms and Spring Cloud Stream.
- Spring Cloud Stream is for building message-driven applications.
- Binders provide abstraction to popular middleware:
 - Kafka, RabbitMQ, Pulsar, AWS Kinesis, and others provided by the community
- New integration with Spring Cloud Gateway

Java Message Service (JMS)

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/integration/jms.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/messaging.html#messaging.jms>

- Provides a similar simplification for using JMS API, similar to Spring's JDBC integration
- Classic Spring Template type class: **JmsTemplate**.
- Spring Boot provides auto-configuration for ActiveMQ “Classic” and ActiveMQ Artemis

WebSockets

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/web/websocket.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/messaging.html#messaging.websockets>

- RFC 6455, Provides a standardized way to establish a full-duplex, two-way communication channel between client and server over a single TCP connection
- Designed to work over HTTP on ports 80 and 443 for firewalls
- For Spring MVC, use **spring-boot-starter-websocket**
- It is included in **spring-boot-starter-webflux**

RSocket

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/rsocket.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/messaging.html#messaging.rsocket>


- RSocket is an application protocol for multiplexed, duplex communication over TCP, WebSocket, & other byte stream transports.
- 4 interaction models: RR, RS, Channel, and F&F
- After initial connection, both sides can initiate interaction.
- Reactive Streams semantics across network boundary including back pressure.
- Much more, see <https://rsocket.io/about/protocol>



Testing

MockMVC

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/testing/spring-mvc-test-framework.html>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/features.html#features.testing.spring-boot-applications.with-mock-environment>

- Testing support for Spring MVC applications
- Full Spring MVC request/response handling with mock implementations rather than a running server
- Integration with **WebTestClient**, which provides higher level abstractions instead of raw data as well as the option to switch to integration testing and running a server.

MockMVC

```
@SpringBootTest
@AutoConfigureMockMvc
class MyMockMvcTests {
    @Test
    void testWithMockMvc(@Autowired MockMvc mvc) throws Exception {
        mvc.perform(get("/")).andExpect(status().isOk())
            .andExpect(content().string("Hello World"));
    }
    @Test
    void testWithWebTestClient(@Autowired WebTestClient webClient) {
        webClient.get().uri("/").exchange().expectStatus().isOk()
            .expectBody(String.class).isEqualTo("Hello World");
    }
}
```

Wiremock

 <https://wiremock.org/>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-cloud-contract/docs/current/reference/html/project-features.html#features-wiremock>

- Wiremock allows mocking external APIs.
- Java or JSON configuration.
- Flexible request matching.
- Record/playback
- HTTP, gRPC, and GraphQL
- Add **spring-cloud-starter-contract-stub-runner** and **@AutoConfigureWireMock**.

Wiremock

```
@SpringBootTest(webEnvironment = WebEnvironment.RANDOM_PORT)
@AutoConfigureWireMock(port = 0)
public class WiremockForDocsTests {
    @Autowired private Service service; // A service that calls out over HTTP
    @BeforeEach
    public void setup() {
        this.service.setBase("http://localhost:"
            + this.environment.getProperty("wiremock.server.port"));
    }
    @Test
    public void contextLoads() throws Exception {
        stubFor(get(urlEqualTo("/resource")).willReturn(aResponse()
            .withHeader("Content-Type", "text/plain").withBody("Hello World!")));
        // We're asserting if WireMock responded properly
        assertThat(this.service.go()).isEqualTo("Hello World!");
    }
}
```

Spring Cloud Contract

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-cloud-contract/docs/current/reference/html/getting-started.html>

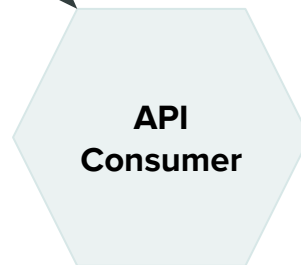
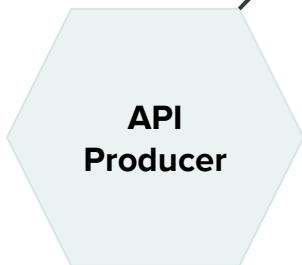
- Moves TDD to the level of Software Architecture.
- Provides consumer-driven and producer-driven contract testing.
- Various overloaded methods for combinations of HTTP method, return type, and parameters
- Ensures that HTTP and messaging stubs (used when developing the client) do exactly what the actual server-side implementation does.
- Provides the ability to publish contract changes for two way visibility (producer and consumer)

Spring Cloud Contract


During testing, Producer creates stubs and publishes them to Artifact Repository



During testing, Consumer pulls stubs from Artifact Repository and verifies no breaking changes have occurred



Testcontainers

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/features.html#features.testing.testcontainers>


 <https://testcontainers.com/>

- The Testcontainers library provides a way to manage services running inside Docker containers during testing.
- Supports native **@Testcontainers** & **@Container** annotations.
- The Spring Boot **@ServiceConnection** annotation bridges metadata (host, ports, etc.) from Testcontainers to Spring Boot configuration.
- Support for many technologies by default, including: databases, message brokers, cloud services, WireMock, and more.



Consuming APIs

RestTemplate

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/integration/rest-clients.html#rest-resttemplate>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/io.html#io.rest-client.resttemplate>

- The classic HTTP Client offered by Spring Framework.
- Classic Spring Template type class.
- Various overloaded methods for combinations of HTTP method, return type, and parameters


RestTemplate

```
@Service
public class MyService {
    private final RestTemplate restTemplate;

    public MyService(RestTemplateBuilder restTemplateBuilder) {
        restTemplate = restTemplateBuilder.build();
    }

    public Details someRestCall(String name) {
        return restTemplate.getForObject("/{name}/details",
            Details.class, name);
    }
}
```

WebClient

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/integration/rest-clients.html#rest-webclient>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/io.html#io.rest-client.webclient>

- Non-blocking, reactive HTTP Client introduced in Framework 5.0.
- Reactive Streams back pressure.
- Functional-style fluent API.
- Requires WebFlux (even in a Spring MVC app).


WebClient

```
@Service
public class MyService {
    private final WebClient webClient;

    public MyService(WebClient.Builder webClientBuilder) {
        this.webClient = webClientBuilder.baseUrl("https://example.org").build();
    }

    public Mono<Details> someRestCall(String name) {
        return this.webClient.get().uri("/{name}/details", name)
            .retrieve().bodyToMono(Details.class);
    }
}
```

RestClient

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/integration/rest-clients.html#rest-restclient>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/html/io.html#io.rest-client.restclient>

- Synchronous HTTP Client introduced in Framework 6.1.
- Functional-style fluent API (similar to WebClient)
- WebFlux not required
- Same underlying configuration as RestTemplate


RestClient

```
@Service
public class MyService {
    private final RestClient restClient;

    public MyService(RestClient.Builder restClientBuilder) {
        this.restClient = restClientBuilder.baseUrl("https://example.org").build();
    }

    public Details someRestCall(String name) {
        return this.restClient.get().uri("/{name}/details", name)
            .retrieve().body(Details.class);
    }
}
```

Interface Clients

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/reference/integration/rest-clients.html#rest-http-interface>

 <https://github.com/spring-projects/spring-boot/issues/31337>

- Declarative web client
- Annotate a Java interface and the library provides the implementation
- Originally supported OpenFeign in Spring Cloud
- Added to Spring Framework in 6.0
- Auto-configuration still to come in Spring Boot
- **@HttpExchange** and **@RSocketExchange**.
- **@HttpExchange** can use **WebClient**, **RestClient**, or **RestTemplate** .

Interface Clients: @HttpExchange

```
public interface VerificationService {
    @PostExchange(url = "/verify") // meta-annotated @HttpExchange(method = "POST")
    VerifyResult verify(@RequestBody CustomerApplication customerApplication);
}

@Bean
public VerificationService vs(RestClient.Builder builder, ConversionService cs) {
    RestClient rc = builder.baseUrl(this.verificationServiceUrl).build();
    // in the future, this will be auto-configured by Spring Boot
    HttpServiceProxyFactory hspf = HttpServiceProxyFactory.builderFor(
        RestClientAdapter.create(rc)).conversionService(cs).build();
    return hspf.createClient(VerificationService.class);
}

// somewhere else in the application
VerifyResult result = verificationService.verify(customerApplication);
```

Interface Clients: @RSocketExchange

```
public interface RadarsService {  
    @RSocketExchange("locate.radars.within")  
    Flux<AirportLocation> radars(MapRequest request);  
}
```

@Controller

```
public class RadarsController implements RadarsService {  
    public Flux<AirportLocation> radars(MapRequest request) {  
        // ...  
    }  
}
```




Documenting APIs

Spring REST Docs

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-restdocs/docs/current/reference/htmlsingle/>

 <https://docs.spring.io/spring-boot/docs/current/reference/htmlsingle/#features.testing.spring-boot-applications.autoconfigured-spring-restdocs>

- Uses AsciiDoctor by default
- Produces snippets by testing with MockMvc, WebTestClient, or Rest Assured
- The snippets are accurate if the tests pass.
- Spring Cloud Contract integration

```
[[resources_index_access]]  
=== Accessing the index
```

A `GET` request is used to access the index

```
operation::index-example[snippets='response-fields,http-response,links']
```

Questions



Thank you

<https://gibb.tech/preso/2025-api-toolbox-with-spring/>

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