

Internet Technologies

RESTful API Server



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Science



How to build RESTful APIs?

- Develop **JAVA** RESTful API server:
 - **Spring Boot** (<https://spring.io/guides/gs/rest-service/>)
 - **Jersey** (<https://eclipse-ee4j.github.io/jersey/>)
- Develop JavaScript RESTful API server:
 - **Node.js** (<https://nodejs.org/>) and **Express** (<https://expressjs.com/>)
- Develop **Python** RESTful API server:
 - **Django** Framework (<https://www.djangoproject.com/>)
 - **FastAPI** (<https://fastapi.tiangolo.com/>)
 - **Flask** (<https://flask.palletsprojects.com/>)
 - **Flask RESTful** (<https://flask-restful.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>)
 - Flask extension for quickly building REST APIs
 - **Flask RESTPlus** (<https://flask-restplus.readthedocs.io/en/stable/index.html>)
 - Flask extension for quickly building REST APIs



Java or Python for RESTful APIs?

- Java is recommended for enterprise-level, high-load APIs
 - Slower development time
 - Heavier resource (RAM) usage
 - Easier application packaging (.jar)
 - Significant version dependence => expensive system support
- JavaScript is recommended for fast-prototyping, medium-load APIs
 - Use the same familiar syntax for both client and server-side tasks (faster development time)
 - Lightweight resource usage, ideal for real-time data processing
 - Slower than Java
- Python is recommended for fast-prototyping, low-load, personal-use APIs
 - Faster development time
 - No compilation, faster testing
 - Minimal version dependence (given that Python 2.x is deprecated and rarely used)

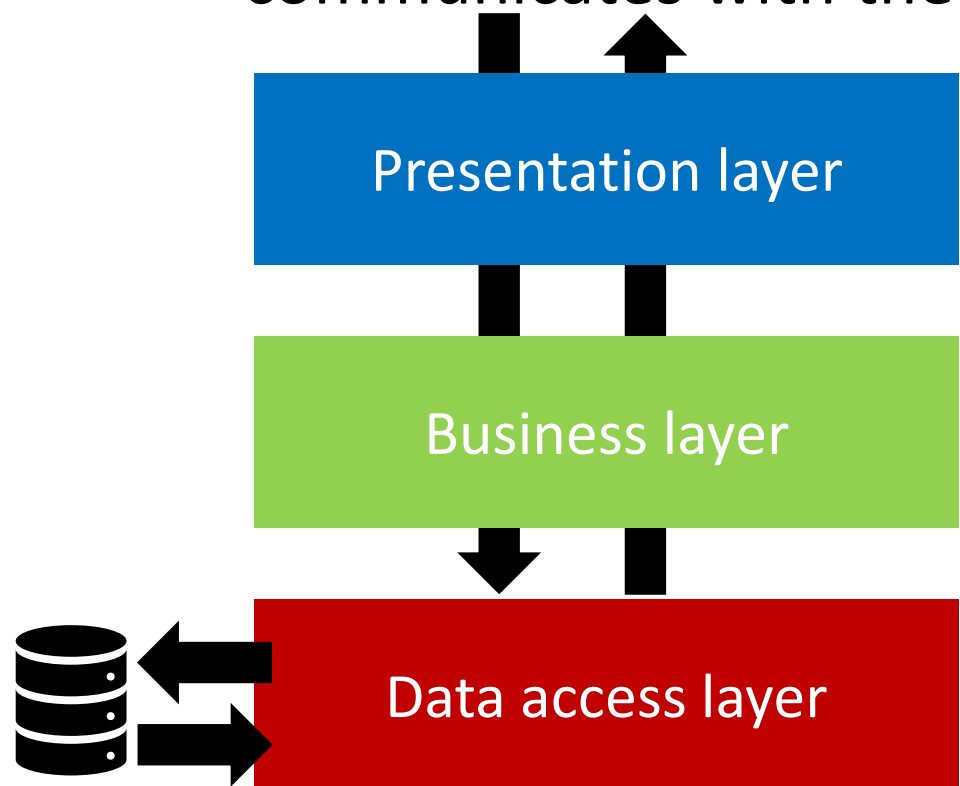
Case study - RESTful API using Spring Boot

- Create a system to store/deliver information about the books of a library along with their reviews
- **Entities** served by the RESTful API: **books, reviews**
 - API will be used to **Create, Retrieve, Update and Delete (CRUD)** book and review data
- **Steps:**
 1. Create a **DB table for each entity**
 2. Create a **RESTful API in Spring Boot** to enable CRUD operations on each entity
 3. Test RESTful API using Postman



Spring Boot Application Architecture

- Spring Boot framework follows a layered architecture in which each layer communicates with the layer directly below or above



Handles incoming HTTP requests and transfers them to the business layer. It is responsible for converting (mapping) JSON messages to Java objects and vice-versa. This layer can perform authentication (verify user before allowing access to API resources). Java classes in this layer are called **controllers**.

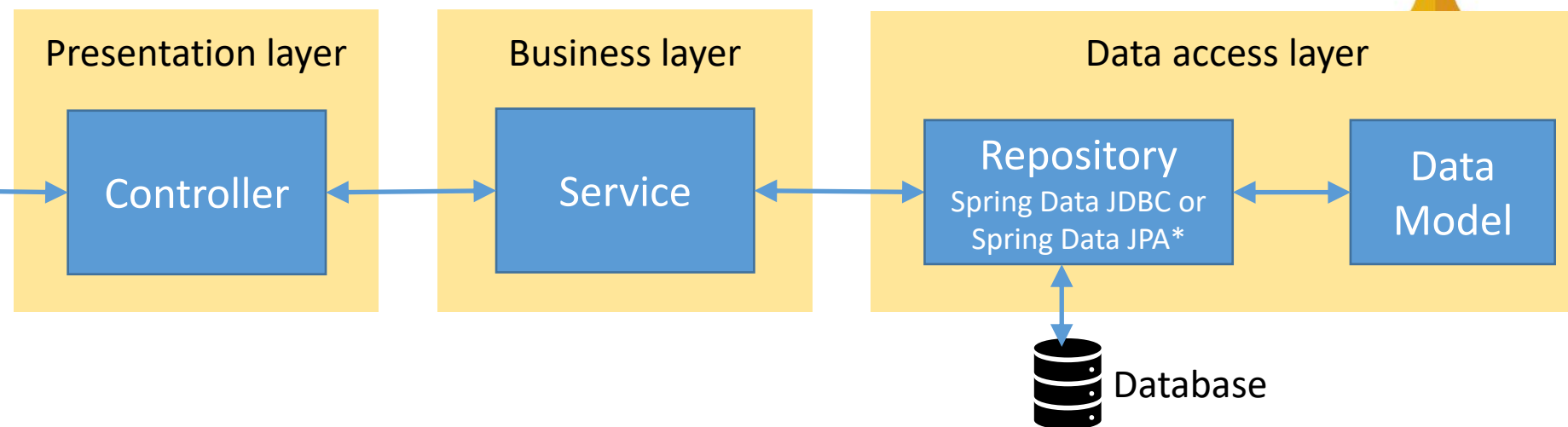
Handles all the business logic which encodes real-world business rules (e.g. a user can borrow up to 3 books) that determine how entities can be created, retrieved, updated and deleted. Business layer uses functions provided by the data access layer to exchange entity-related information from/to DB. Java classes in this layer are called **services**.

Handles all the storage logic. It is responsible for performing CRUD (create, retrieve, update, delete) operations on the entities. **Database entities are mapped as Java classes**. Java classes in this layer are called **models**. Data access layer involves **repository** Java classes which provide functions to interact with the database.

Spring Boot Application Flow Architecture



POSTMAN



1. RESTful API client (e.g POSTMAN) issues HTTP requests (e.g. GET, POST, PUT, DELETE)
 - Example: GET the book with id=3
2. The request handled by the controller object which transfers it to the service object
3. Service class calls one or more repository functions to retrieve the requested data
 - Repository is a mechanism for enabling CRUD operations on entities (tables of DB)
 - Example: call the specific repository function which returns the book based on its id
4. The retrieved entity (book) is mapped to a Java object (model)
5. Controller converts book object to JSON message and returns it to API client



Create project using Spring initializr

- **Start from scratch:** [Spring Initializr](#)
 - Add dependencies:
 - **Spring Web:** Build web, including RESTful, applications using Spring MVC. Uses Apache Tomcat as the default embedded container.
 - **Spring Data JDBC:** Persists data in SQL stores (e.g. MariaDB) with plain JDBC using Spring Data.
 - **Spring Boot DevTools:** Provides fast application restarts, LiveReload, and configurations for enhanced development experience.
 - After we set the parameters (see next slide) we press Generate at the bottom of the page to download the zip folder of the project



Project

- Gradle - Groovy Gradle - Kotlin Java Kotlin Groovy
- Maven

Spring Boot

- 3.3.0 (SNAPSHOT) 3.3.0 (M3) 3.2.5 (SNAPSHOT) 3.2.4
- 3.1.11 (SNAPSHOT) 3.1.10

Project Metadata

Group

Artifact

Name

Description

Package name

Packaging Jar War

Java 22 21 17

Language

Dependencies

ADD DEPENDENCIES... CTRL + B

Spring Web **WEB**

Build web, including RESTful, applications using Spring MVC. Uses Apache Tomcat as the default embedded container.

Spring Data JDBC **SQL**

Persist data in SQL stores with plain JDBC using Spring Data.

Spring Boot DevTools **DEVELOPER TOOLS**

Provides fast application restarts, LiveReload, and configurations for enhanced development experience.

GENERATE CTRL + G

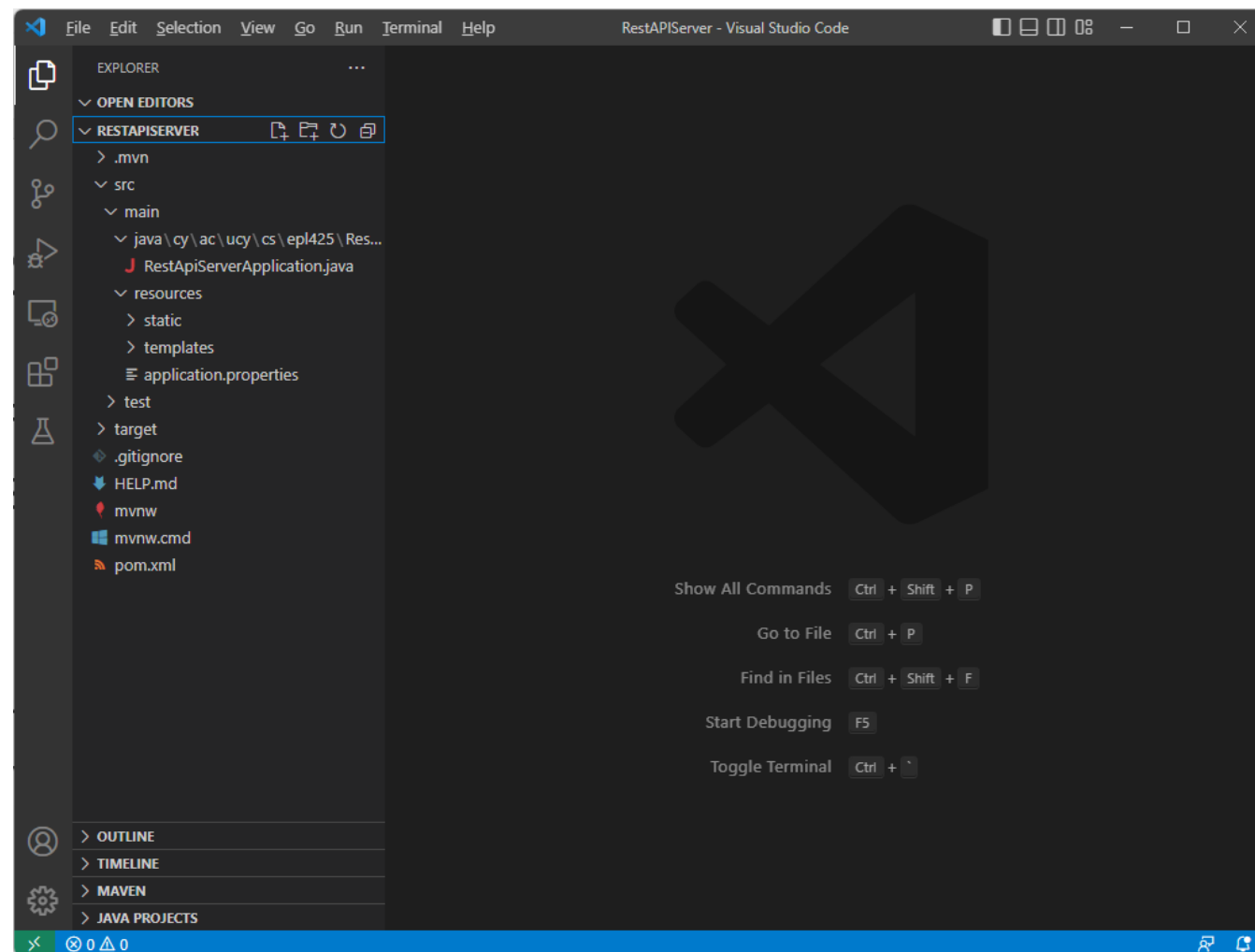
EXPLORE CTRL + SPACE

SHARE...

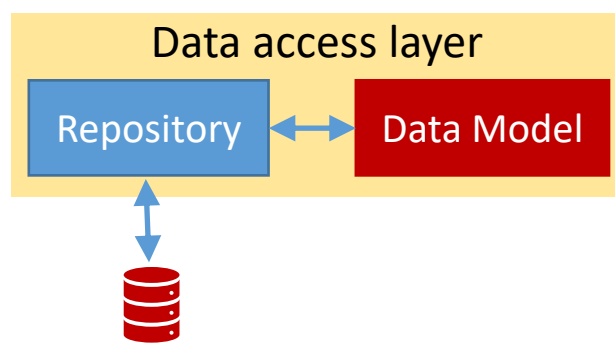


Open Spring Boot Project in VS Code

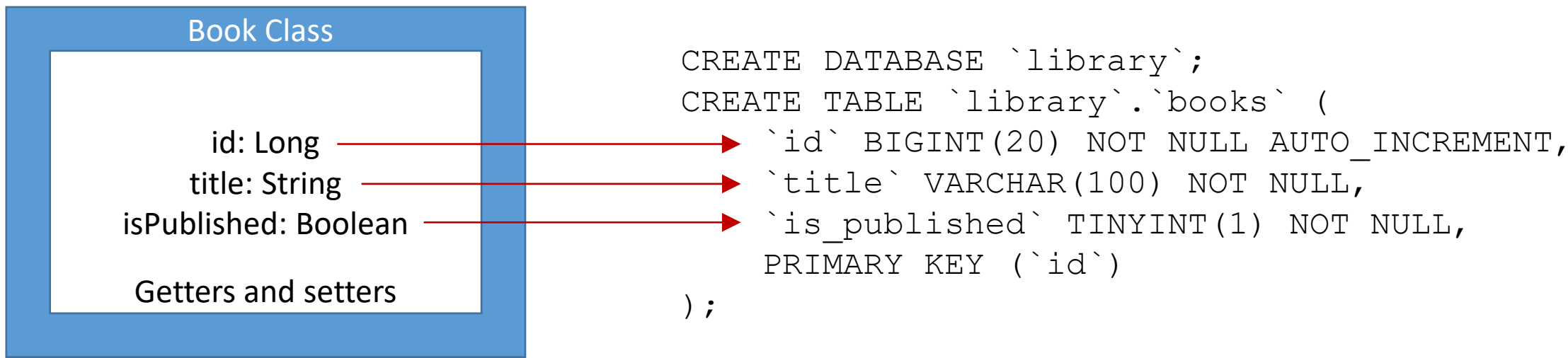
- Extract RestAPIServer.zip
 - Ensure that the RestAPIServer folder exists containing the src and target folders as well as pom.xml
- Open VS code
- Click on Explorer tab
- Click on Open RestAPIServer Folder
- Select the RestAPIServer directory



Book entity: Java class (data model) to DB table mapping



- In Spring Boot, book entity is modelled as a Java class with attributes: id, title, publishedDate. Also the class has getters and setters.
- In Database, book entity is modelled as a table

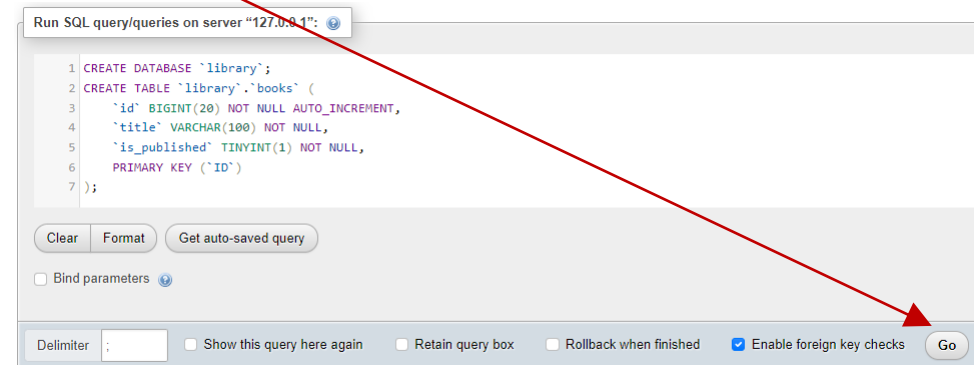
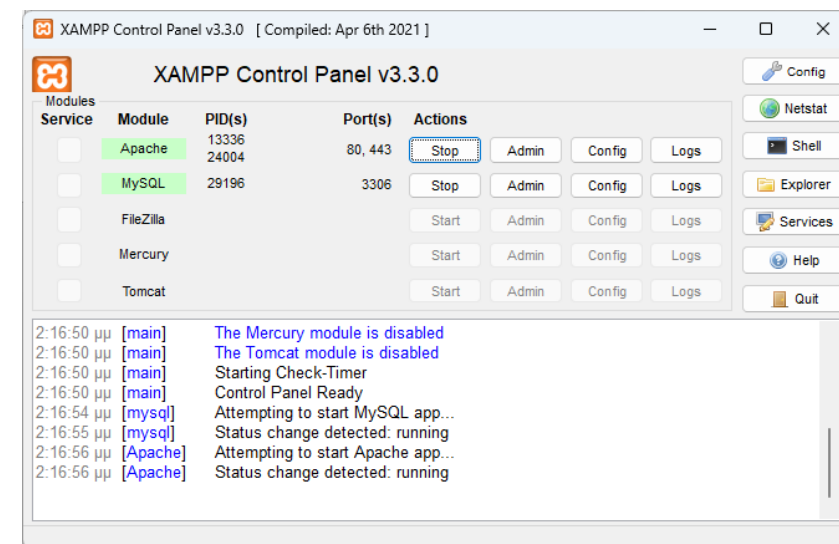
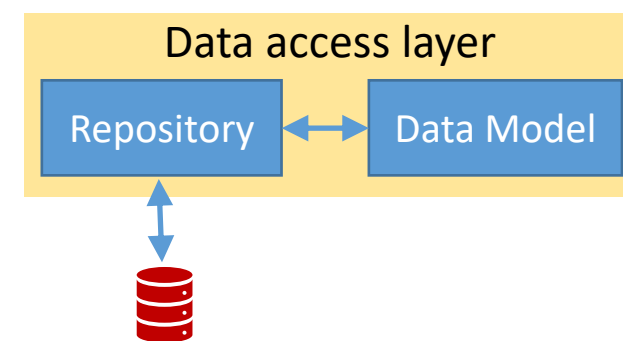


Spring Data JDBC uses, by default, a naming strategy that maps Java classes to relational database tables, and attributes to column names. By default, the **Camel Case names of classes and attributes are mapped to snake case names of DB tables and columns**, respectively. For example, **attribute named *isPublished* is mapped to a table's column named *is_published***

Book entity: Create DB table

- Create database and table using phpMyAdmin:
 - Launch XAMPP and start Apache and MySQL
 - Navigate to <https://localhost/phpmyadmin>
 - Open SQL tab
 - Copy the following script and click on Go:

```
CREATE DATABASE `library`;
CREATE TABLE `library`.`books` (
  `id` BIGINT(20) NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,
  `title` VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
  `is_published` TINYINT(1) NOT NULL,
  PRIMARY KEY (`id`)
);
```





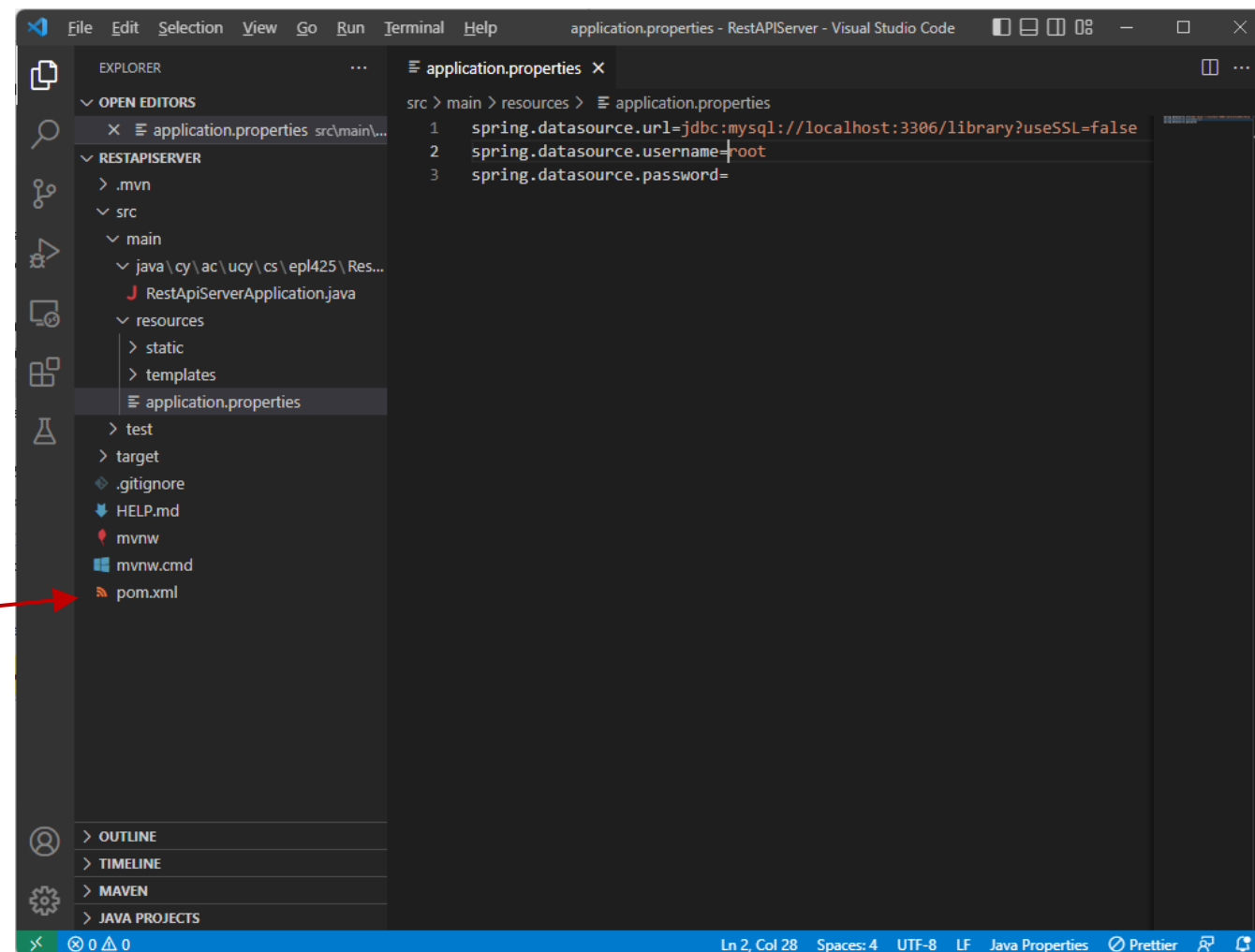
Set configuration properties

- Open resources folder
- Open application.properties file and insert the following

```
spring.datasource.url=jdbc:mariadb://localhost:3306/library?useSSL=false
spring.datasource.username=root
spring.datasource.password=
spring.datasource.driver-class-name=org.mariadb.jdbc.Driver
```

- Add one dependency to pom.xml for MariaDB (enable maven project to download related Java classes):

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.mariadb.jdbc</groupId>
  <artifactId>mariadb-java-client</artifactId>
</dependency>
```



Book entity: Create Java class (data model)

```
// map Java class with books table with @Table annotation
@Table("books")
public class Book {

    // In Spring Data JDBC, the Java class is required to
    // have an @Id annotation to identify entities.
    @Id
    private Long id;

    // map attribute with column with @Column annotation
    @Column("title")
    private String title;

    @Column("is_published")
    private Boolean isPublished;

    public Book() {

    }

    public Book(String title, Boolean isPublished) {
        this.title = title;
        this.isPublished = isPublished;
    }
}
```

```
// getters
public Long getId() {
    return id;
}

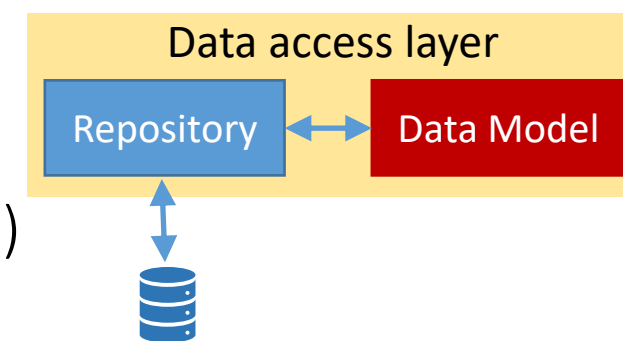
public String getTitle() {
    return title;
}

public Boolean getIsPublished() {
    return isPublished;
}

// setters
public void setTitle(String title) {
    this.title = title;
}

public void setIsPublished(Boolean isPublished) {
    this.isPublished = isPublished;
}

@Override
public String toString() {
    return "Book [id=" + id + ", title=" + title + ",
published date=" + isPublished + "]";
}
}
```



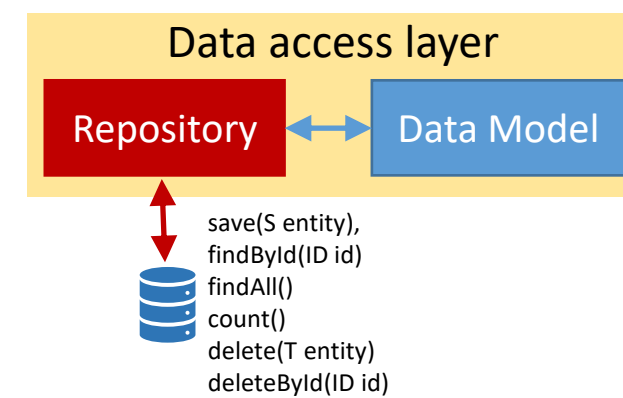
Book Repository

- Repository is used to interact with books table from the database
- BookRepository extends the [CrudRepository](#) class

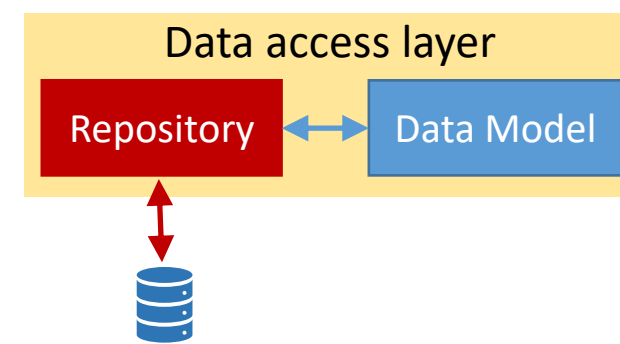
```
@Repository
```

```
public interface BookRepository extends CrudRepository<Book, Long> {  
  
}
```

- We can use CrudRepository's methods without implementing them:
 - save(S entity) : saves given entity in database
 - findById(ID id) : retrieves an entity identified by the given id
 - findAll() : returns all entities
 - count() : returns the number of entities available
 - delete(T entity) : deletes the given entity
 - deleteById(ID id) : deletes the entity with the given id



Book Repository



- Repository is used to interact with books table from the database
- BookRepository extends the [CrudRepository](#) class

```
@Repository
```

```
public interface BookRepository extends CrudRepository<Book, Long> {  
    List<Book> findByTitleContaining(String val);  
    List<Book> findByIsPublished(Boolean val);  
}
```

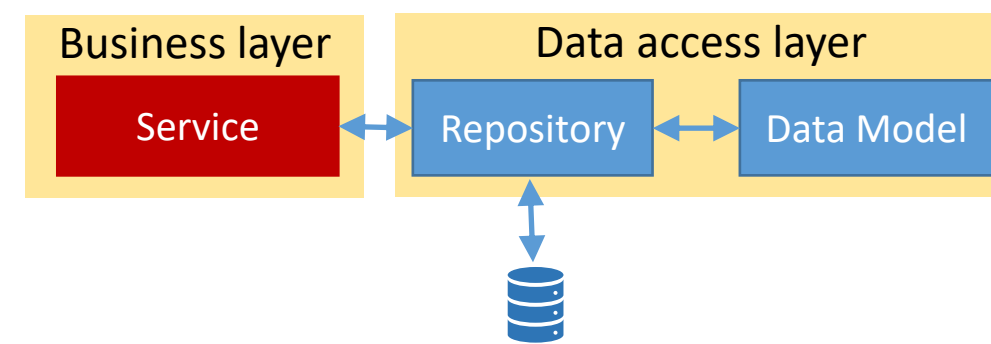
- We can also define **additional custom** finder method **header**:
 - `findByTitleContaining(String val)`: selects the `title` column
 - returns all Book entities from database where the title column **contains** the val value
 - Function calls this query: `SELECT * FROM books WHERE title LIKE '%val%'`
 - `findByIsPublished(Boolean val)`: searches on the `is_published` column
 - returns all Book entities from database where the `is_published` column has the val value



Custom querying functions

- The query builder mechanism built into Spring Data repository infrastructure is useful for building constraining queries over entities of the repository – see more [here](#)
 - `Optional<User> findByUsername(String val);`
 - `SELECT * FROM users WHERE username=val`
 - `List<User> findAllByOrderByUsernameAsc();`
 - `SELECT * FROM users ORDER BY username ASC`
 - `List<User> findByRegistrationDateBetween(LocalDate start, LocalDate end);`
 - `SELECT * FROM users WHERE registration_date BETWEEN start AND end`
 - `List<User> findByUsernameContaining(String text);`
 - `List<User> findByUsernameAndEmail(String username, String email);`
 - `List<User> findByUsernameContainingAndEmailContaining(String username, String email);`
 - `List<User> findByUsernameOrEmail(String username, String email);`
 - `List<User> findByUsernameIgnoreCase(String username);`
 - `List<User> findByLevelOrderByUsernameDesc(int level);`
 - `List<User> findByLevelGreaterThanEqual(int level);`
 - `List<User> findByUsernameLike(String text);`
 - `List<User> findByUsernameStartingWith(String start);`
 - `List<User> findByUsernameEndingWith(String end);`
 - `List<User> findByActive(boolean active);`
 - `List<User> findByRegistrationDateIn(Collection<LocalDate> dates);`
 - `List<User> findByRegistrationDateNotIn(Collection<LocalDate> dates);`

Book Service



- BookService.java class implements the business logic of the system
- Calls repository's functions to perform business logic operations

@Service

```

public class BookService {
    // Spring injects bookRepository object when BookService
    // object is created
    @Autowired BookRepository bookRepository;
    public List<Book> getAllBooks() {
        List<Book> books = new ArrayList<Book>();
        this.bookRepository.findAll().forEach(books::add);
        return books;
    }
    public Book getBookById(Long id) {
        return this.bookRepository.findById(id).get();
    }
    public List<Book> getBooksByTitle(String title) {
        return this.bookRepository.findByTitleContaining(title);
    }
  
```

Repository's function findAll() returns a list of book entities from database as an Iterate object. Using forEach, we add all books to a List of books which is returned.

Repository's function findById() returns the book entity with the given id from database. findById returns Optional, so you can get the book by get() method.

Repository's custom function findByTitleContaining() returns a list of book entities containing the given string in their title column from database.

```

public List<Book> getPublishedBooks() {
    return this.bookRepository.findByIsPublished(true);
}
public Book saveBook(Book book) {
    return this.bookRepository.save(book);
}
public void deleteAllBooks() {
    this.bookRepository.deleteAll();
}
public void deleteBookById(Long id) {
    this.bookRepository.deleteById(id);
}
  
```

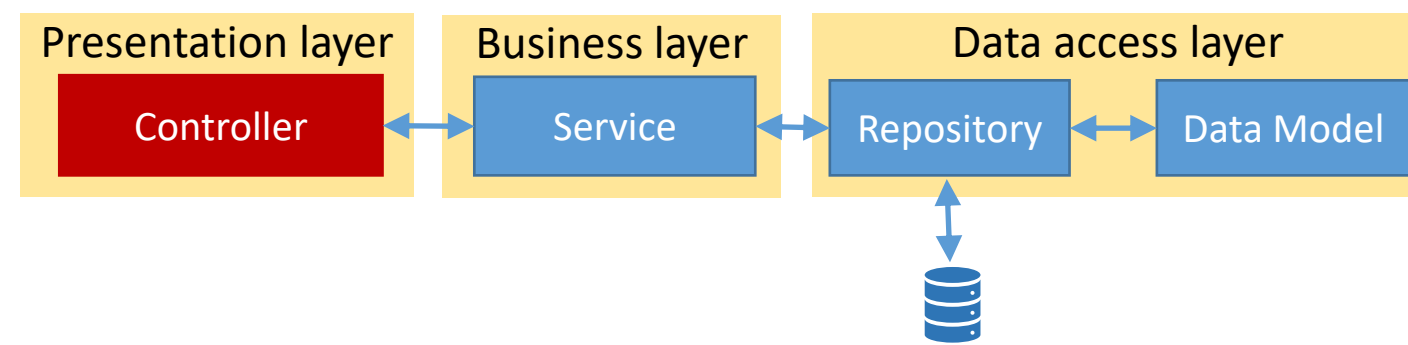
Repository's custom function findByIsPublished() returns a list of book entities having true in their is_published column from database.

Repository's function save() stores the given book in database.

Repository's function deleteAll() deletes all books from database.

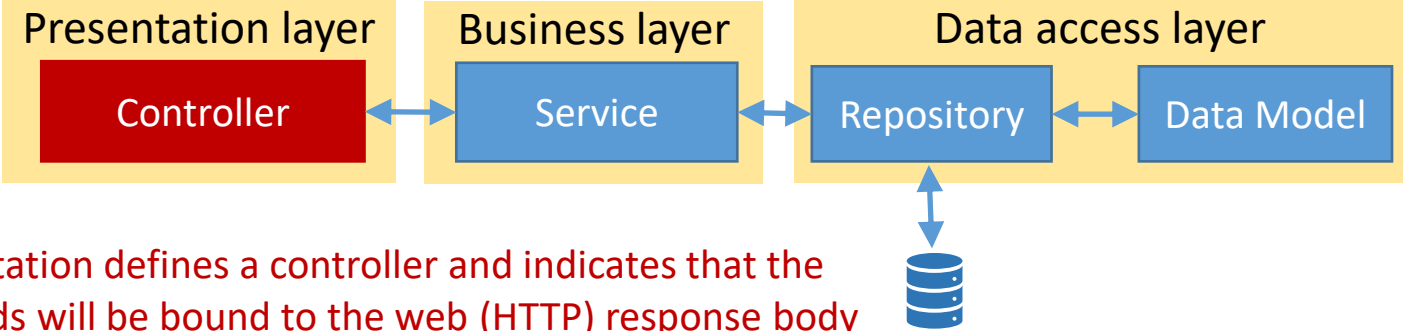
Repository's function deleteById() deletes the book with the given id from database.

Book Controller



Method	API Endpoint (URL)	Description
GET	/api/books	retrieve all Books
GET	/api/books?title=[keyword]	retrieve all Books whose title contains keyword
GET	/api/books/published	retrieve all published Books
GET	/api/books/:id	retrieve a Book by :id
POST	/api/books	create new Book
PUT	/api/books/:id	update a Book by :id
DELETE	/api/books	delete all books
DELETE	/api/books/:id	delete a Book by :id

For each API endpoint, a separate method needs to be implemented in the Controller class



Book Controller

@RestController ← **@RestController** annotation defines a controller and indicates that the return value of methods will be bound to the web (HTTP) response body

@RequestMapping("/api") ← **@RequestMapping** annotation declares that all API endpoints' urls in BookController will start with /api

@GetMapping("/books") ← **@GetMapping** annotation declares that getAllBooks() handles a GET request matched with the /books

ResponseEntity ← **ResponseEntity** represents the whole HTTP response: status code, headers, and body. This function returns a list of book objects within the body of the HTTP response message.

```

public class BookController {

    @Autowired
    BookService bookService;

    @GetMapping("/books")
    public ResponseEntity<List<Book>> getAllBooks(@RequestParam(required = false) String title) {
        try {
            List<Book> books;

            if (title == null)
                books = bookService.getAllBooks();
            else
                books = bookService.getBooksByTitle(title);

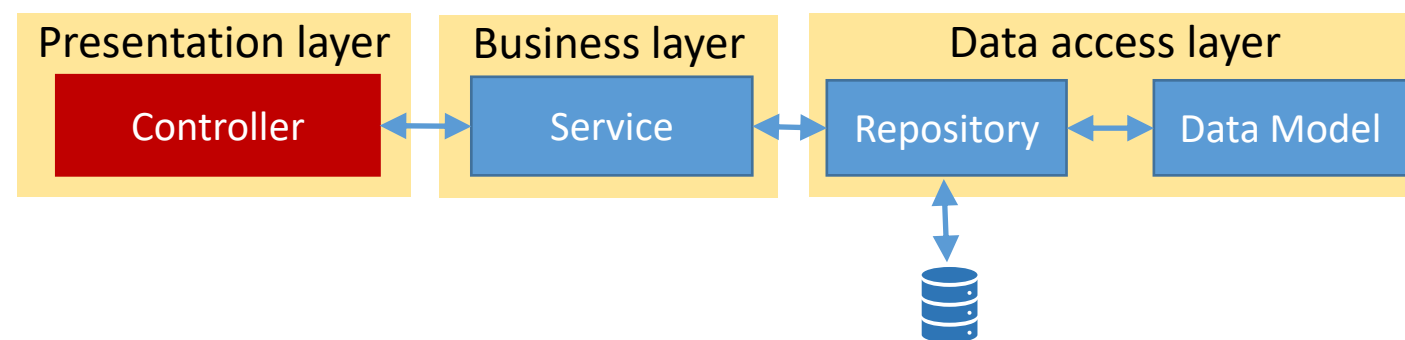
            if (books.isEmpty()) {
                return new ResponseEntity<>(HttpStatus.NO_CONTENT);
            }

            return new ResponseEntity<>(books, HttpStatus.OK);
        } catch (Exception e) {
            return new ResponseEntity<>(null, HttpStatus.INTERNAL_SERVER_ERROR);
        }
    }
}
  
```

@RequestParam is used to extract query parameters (declared after ?) from the GET request. If, for example the request is /api/books?title=test the query parameter is title and its value is test. In order to extract the value of the title query param we need to define a **function input parameter** with the same name. The title query parameter is not required so the GET request /api/books can be also handled by the same function

- If no book entity is found, the HTTP response message "204 No Content" will be returned to API client
- Otherwise, the list of books is returned in the body of an HTTP response message "200 OK"
- In the unexpected event of an internal problem (e.g. in the communication with the database), an HTTP response message "500 Internal Server Error" is to be returned

Book Controller



```

@GetMapping("/books/{id}")
public ResponseEntity<Book> getBookById(@PathVariable("id") long id) {
    Book book = bookService.getBookById(id);

    if (book != null) {
        return new ResponseEntity<>(book, HttpStatus.OK);
    } else {
        return new ResponseEntity<>(HttpStatus.NOT_FOUND);
    }
}
  
```

Handles a **GET** request matched with the `api/books/id` endpoint where `id` is within the path (`@PathVariable`) of the API endpoint url and needs to be an integer number.

```

@PostMapping("/books")
public ResponseEntity<Book> createBook(@RequestBody Book book) {
    try {
        Book _book = bookService
            .saveBook(new Book(book.getTitle(), book.getIsPublished()));
        return new ResponseEntity<>(_book, HttpStatus.CREATED);
    } catch (Exception e) {
        return new ResponseEntity<>(null, HttpStatus.INTERNAL_SERVER_ERROR);
    }
}
  
```

Handles a **POST** request matched with the `api/books` endpoint which contains a book entity as a JSON string in the body of the message (`@RequestBody`) as shown below:

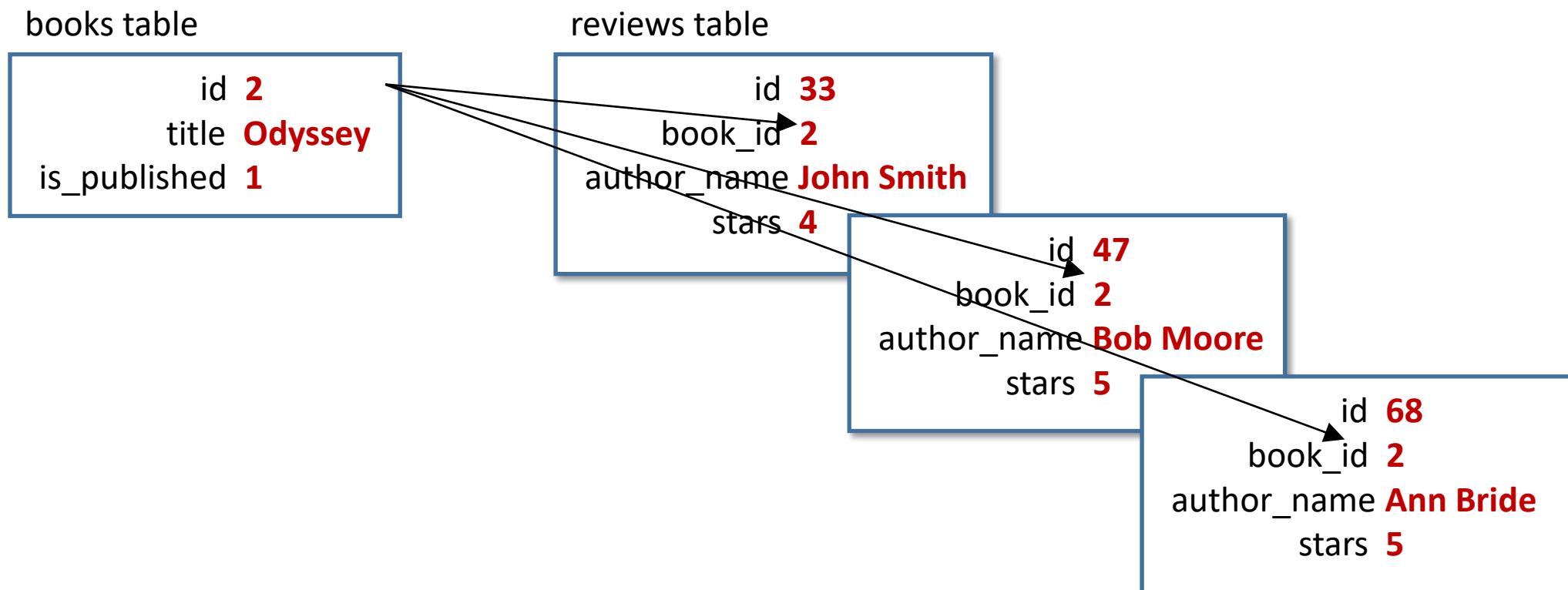
```

{
  "title": "Orient Express",
  "isPublished": true
}
  
```



Add Book Reviews

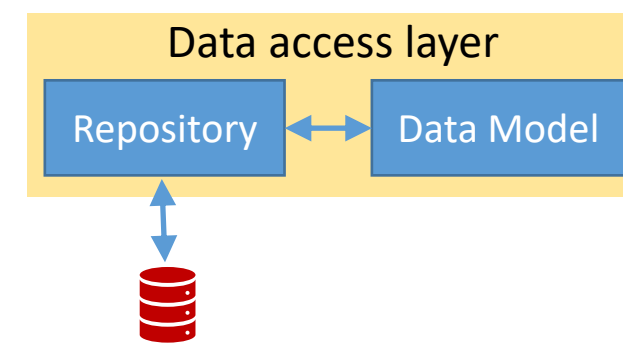
- New entity needed: Review
- Each book can have one or more reviews: one-to-many relationship

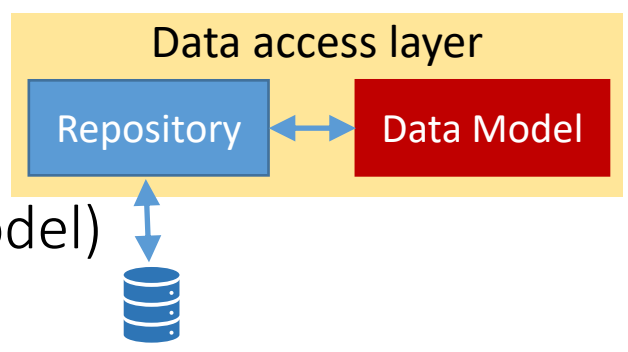


Review entity: Create DB table

- Create table using phpMyAdmin:
 - Copy the following script and click on Go:

```
CREATE TABLE `library`.`reviews` (  
  `id` BIGINT(20) NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,  
  `book_id` BIGINT(20) NOT NULL,  
  `author_name` VARCHAR(30) NOT NULL,  
  `title` VARCHAR(30) NOT NULL,  
  `stars` INT NOT NULL,  
  PRIMARY KEY (`id`),  
  CONSTRAINT `review_id_fk`  
  FOREIGN KEY (`book_id`)  
  REFERENCES `books` (`id`)  
  ON DELETE CASCADE  
);
```





Review entity: Create Java class (data model)

```

@Table ("reviews")
public class Review {

    @Id
    private Long id;

    // Ignore the bookId when serializing object to JSON
    @JsonIgnore
    @Column ("book_id")
    private Long bookId;

    @Column ("author_name")
    private String authorName;

    @Column ("title")
    private String title;

    @Column ("stars")
    private Integer stars;

    public Review(Long bookId, ...) {
        ...
    }
    // getters
    ...

    // setters
    ...
}
    
```

Modify book data model

```

@Table ("books")
public class Book {
    ...
    // reference to book_id
    @MappedCollection(idColumn = "book_id")
    private Set<Review> reviews;
    ...
    // getters
    public Set<Review> getReviews() {
        return reviews;
    }
    ...
    // setters
    public void setReviews(Set<Review> reviews) {
        this.reviews = reviews;
    }
    public void setReview(Review review) {
        this.reviews.add(review);
    }
}
    
```

idColumn indicates the foreign key of the entity (review) referencing the id column of book entity

Set supports One-to-Many relationship. Creates a collection of the referenced entities.

// Ignore the bookId when serializing object to JSON

@JsonIgnore

@Column ("book_id")

private Long bookId;

@Column ("author_name")

private String authorName;

@Column ("title")

private String title;

@Column ("stars")

private Integer stars;

public Review(Long bookId, ...) {

...

}

// getters

...

// setters

...

@Table ("books")

public class Book {

...

// reference to book_id

@MappedCollection(idColumn = "book_id")

private Set<Review> reviews;

...

// getters

public Set<Review> getReviews() {

return reviews;

}

...

// setters

public void setReviews(Set<Review> reviews) {

this.reviews = reviews;

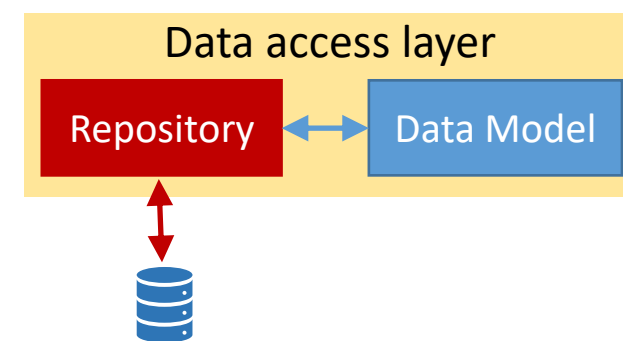
}

public void setReview(Review review) {

this.reviews.add(review);

}

Review Repository

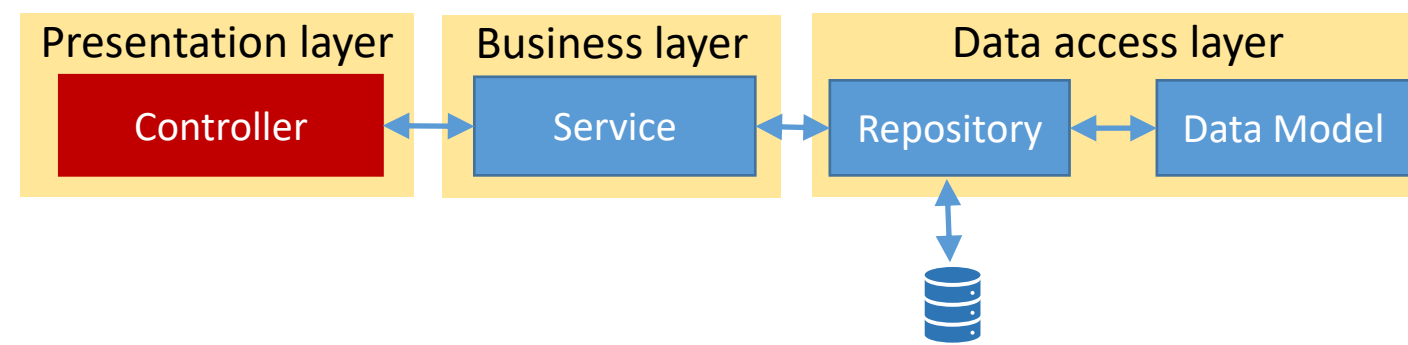


- ReviewRepository extends the [CrudRepository](#)

@Repository

```
public interface BookRepository extends CrudRepository<Book, Long> {  
    List<Review> findByBookId(Long bookId);  
    List<Review> findByBookIdAndAuthorNameContaining(Long bookId, String authorName);  
    List<Review> findByBookIdAndTitleContaining(Long bookId, String val);  
    List<Review> findByBookIdAndAuthorNameContainingAndTitleContaining(Long bookId,  
String authorName, String title);  
    List<Review> findByStarsEquals(Integer num);  
    Long deleteByBookId(Long bookid);  
}
```


Review Controller



Method	API Endpoint (URL)	Description
GET	<code>/api/books/:bid/reviews</code>	retrieve all Reviews of Book by <code>:bid</code>
	<code>/api/books/:bid/reviews?authorName=[keyword1]</code>	retrieve all Reviews by <code>:bid</code> whose <code>authorName</code> contains <code>keyword1</code>
	<code>/api/books/:bid/reviews?title=[keyword2]</code>	retrieve all Reviews by <code>:bid</code> whose <code>title</code> contains <code>keyword2</code>
GET	<code>/api/books/:bid/reviews/:id</code>	retrieve the Review by <code>:id</code> of the Book by <code>:bid</code>
POST	<code>/api/books/:bid/reviews</code>	create new Review of the Book by <code>:bid</code>
PUT	<code>/api/books/:bid/reviews/:id</code>	update the Review by <code>:id</code> of the Book by <code>:bid</code>
DELETE	<code>/api/books/:bid/reviews</code>	delete all Reviews of the Book by <code>:bid</code>
DELETE	<code>/api/books/:bid/reviews/:id</code>	delete the Review by <code>:id</code> of the Book by <code>:bid</code>



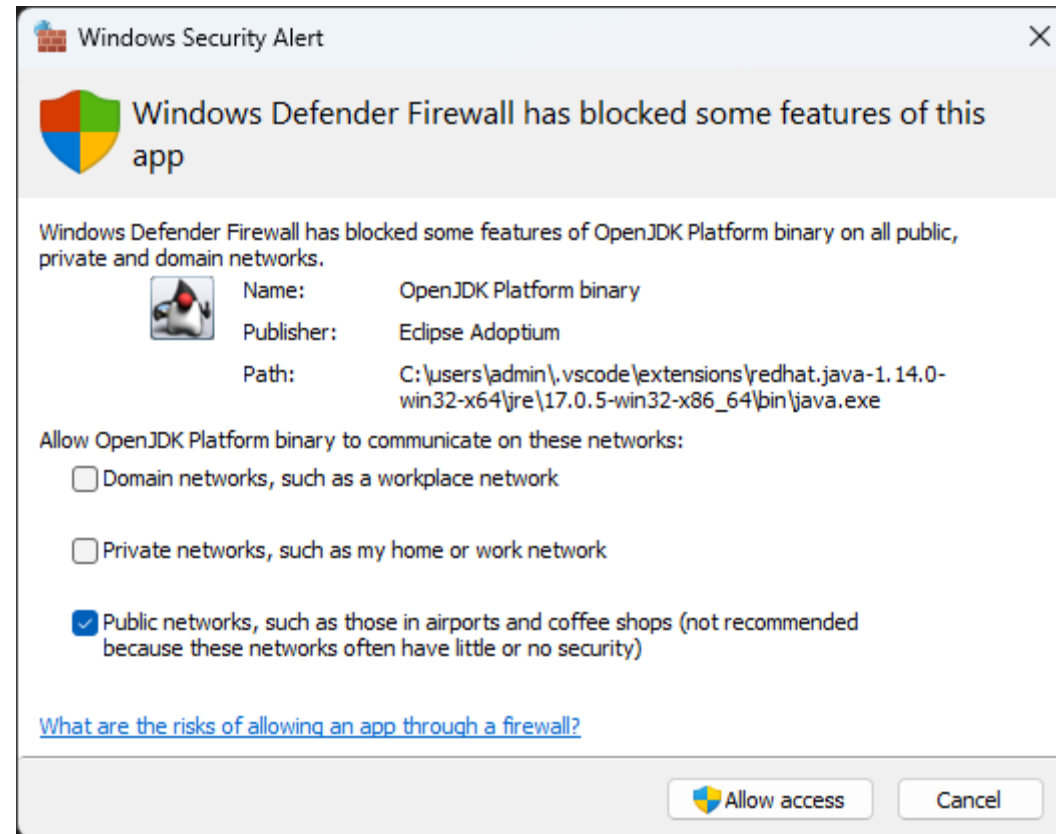
Download, extract, compile, run application

- Download RestAPIServer.zip which contains the implementation of all API endpoints
- Extract it
- Open RestAPIServer folder via VS Code
- In Maven tab, click on compile to build the project
- Open the file RestApiServerApplication.java
- Run the project (click on Run Java, not Run Code if it exists)

The screenshot shows the VS Code IDE with the following elements:

- EXPLORER:** Shows the project structure for RESTAPISECRESERVER, including folders like .mvn, src, main, controller, model, repository, security, and service. The file RestApiServerApplication.java is selected.
- MAVEN:** The Lifecycle tab is active, showing options like clean, validate, compile, test, test-compile, package, and verify. A red arrow points from the 'Run the project' step in the list to the 'compile' option.
- EDITOR:** Displays the code for RestApiServerApplication.java, which is a Spring Boot application. A red arrow labeled '1' points to the 'Run Java' button in the Run and Debug menu.
- TERMINAL:** Shows the output of the Maven compile command, indicating a successful build. A red arrow labeled '2' points to the 'Run Java' button in the Run and Debug menu.

Allow RESTful API Server to be accessible





Embedded Application Server

- When running the application, Spring Boot starts up an embedded application server (servlet container), an Apache Tomcat instance by default, to host the RESTful API
 - We can use another servlet container such as Jetty [by modifying pom.xml](#)
- Test RESTful API endpoints by opening up a browser or a RESTful API client such as Postman and access the endpoint urls such as:
<http://localhost:8080/api/books>

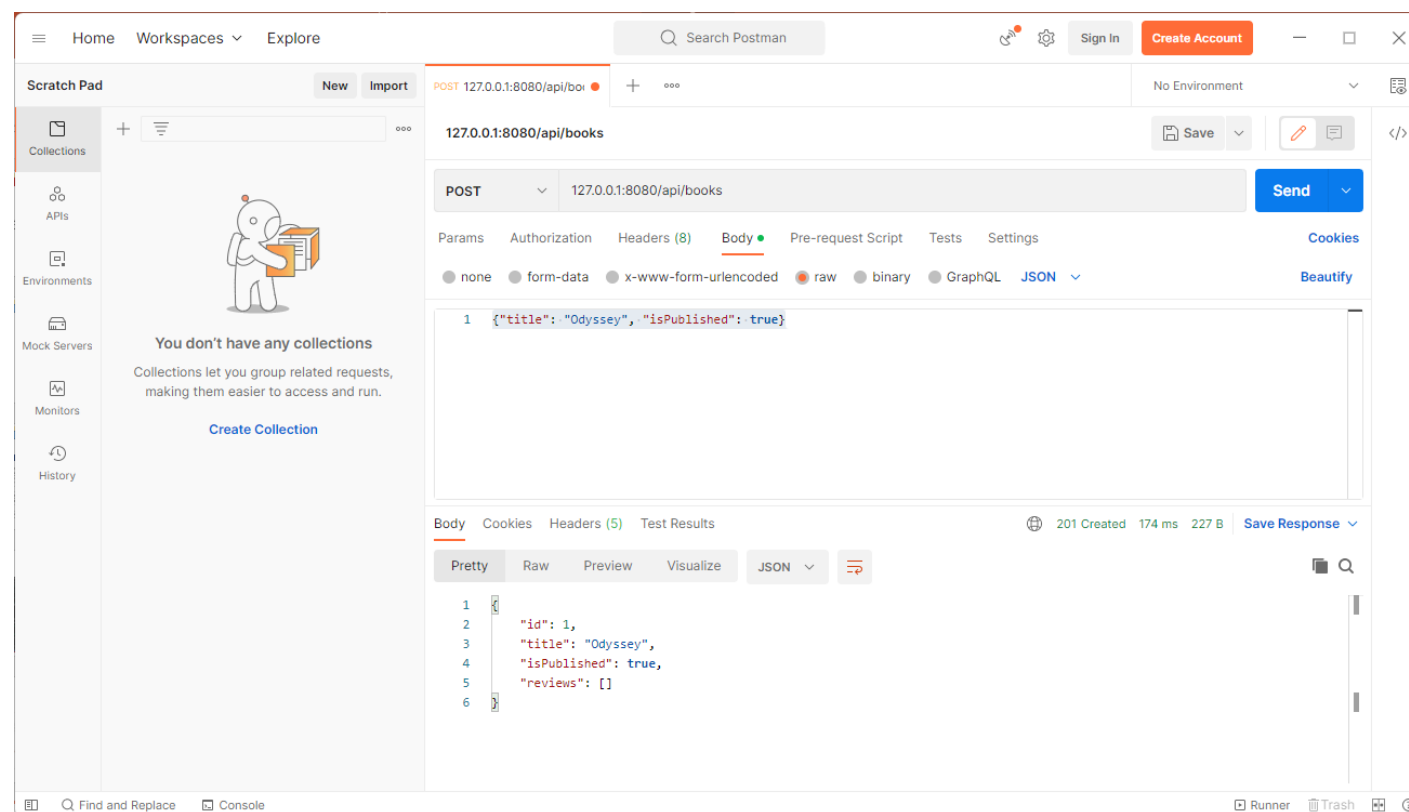


Use Postman to test RESTful API

- Create a book:

- Send a POST message to `localhost:8080/api/books`
- In message body provide a raw string in JSON format describing the entity to be created:

```
{"title": "Odyssey", "isPublished": true}
```

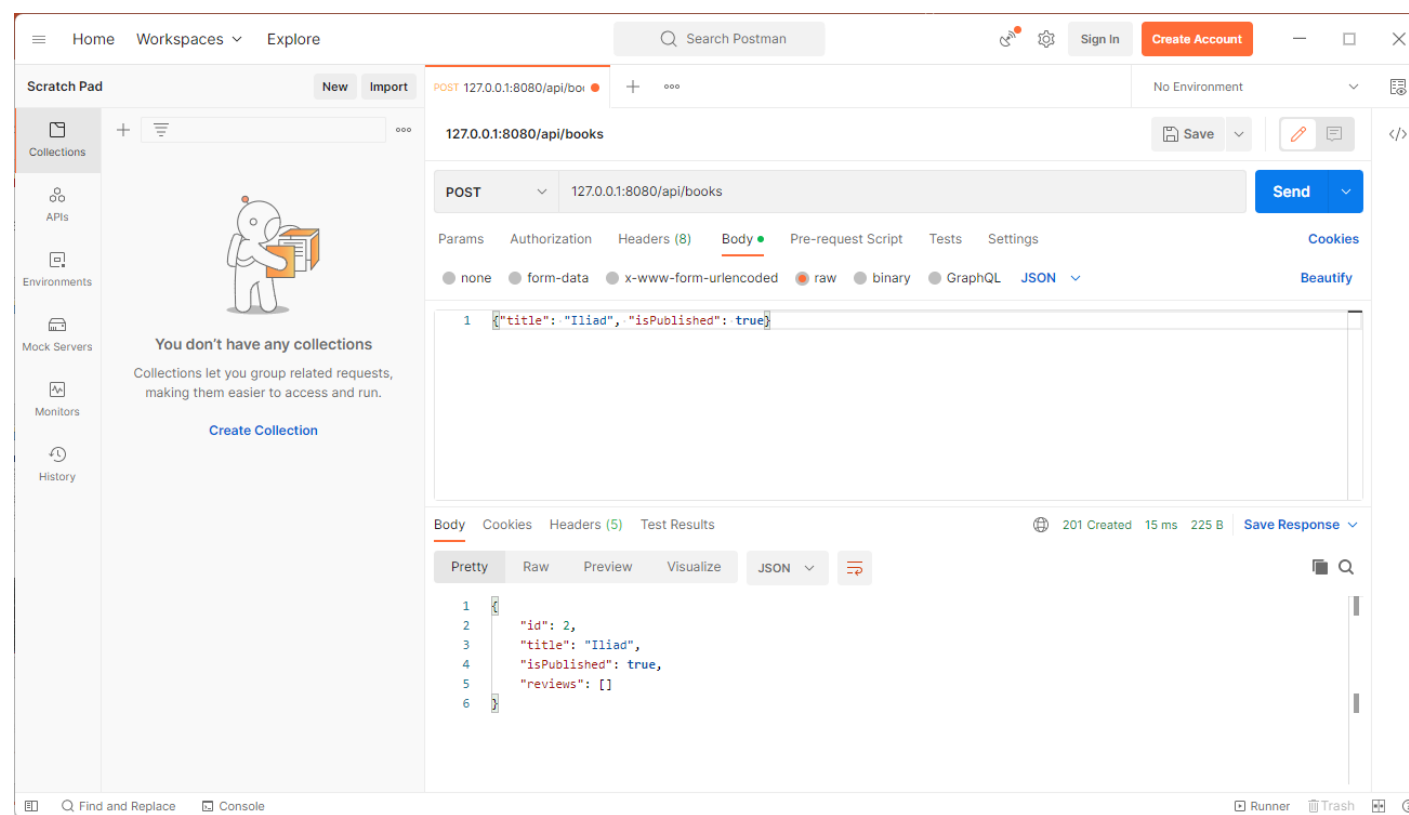




Use Postman to test RESTful API

- Create another book:
 - Send a POST message to `localhost:8080/api/books`
 - In message body provide a raw string in JSON format describing the entity to be created:

```
{"title": "Iliad", "isPublished": true}
```



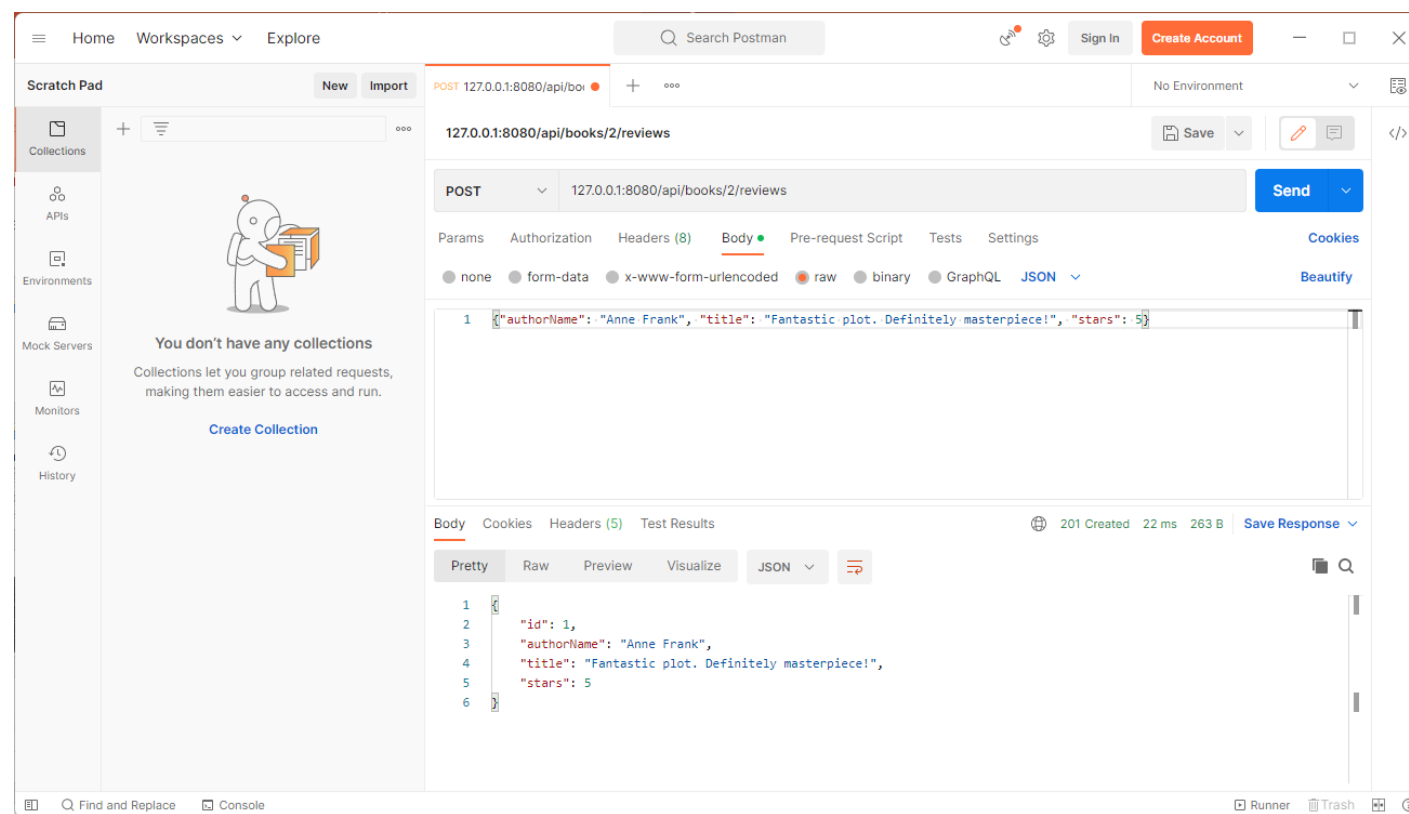


Use Postman to test RESTful API

- Create a review for the book with id = 2:

- Send a POST message to `localhost:8080/api/books/2/reviews`
- In message body provide a raw string in JSON format describing the entity to be created:

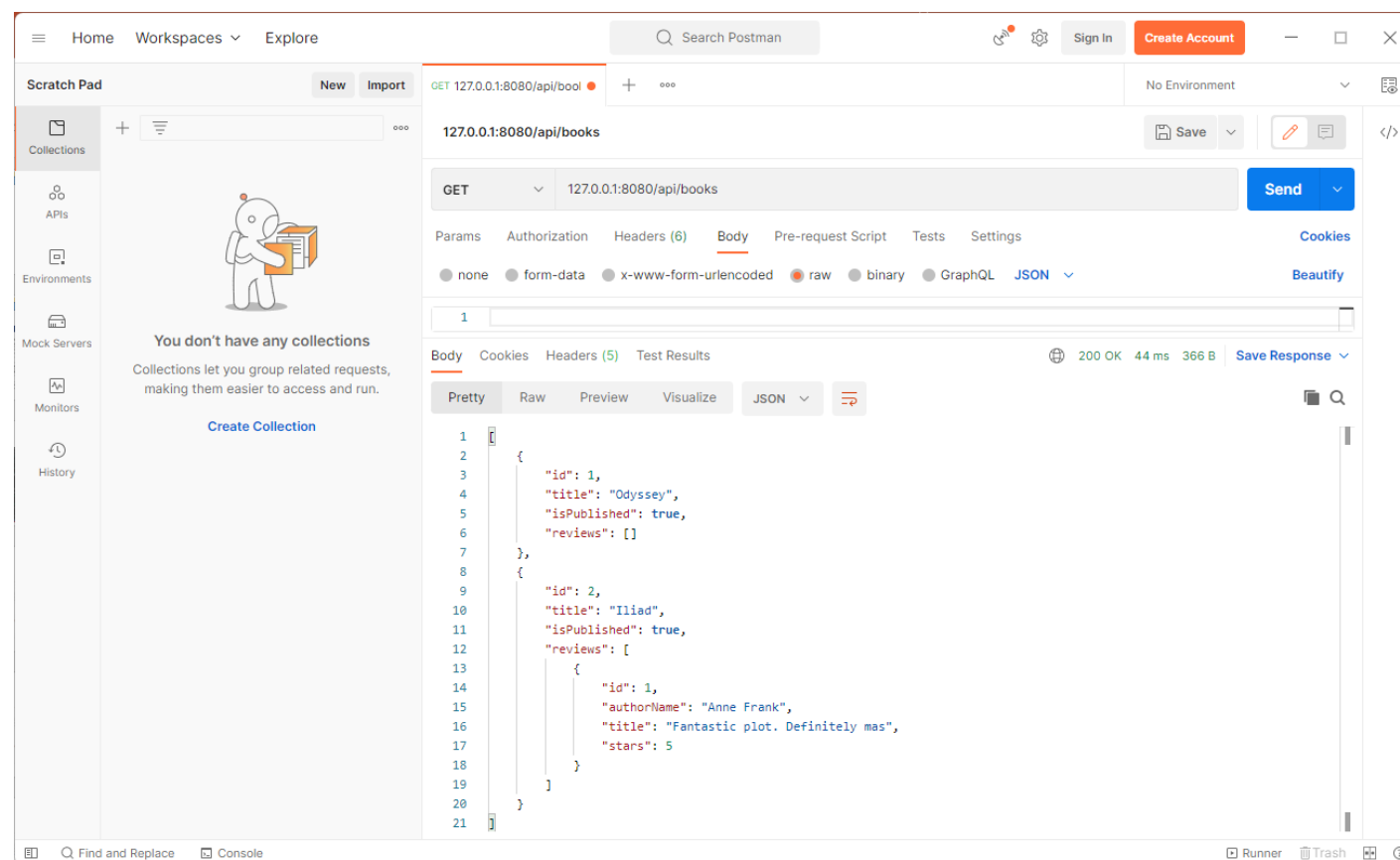
```
{"authorName": "Anne Frank", "title": "Fantastic plot. Definitely masterpiece!", "stars": 5}
```





Use Postman to test RESTful API

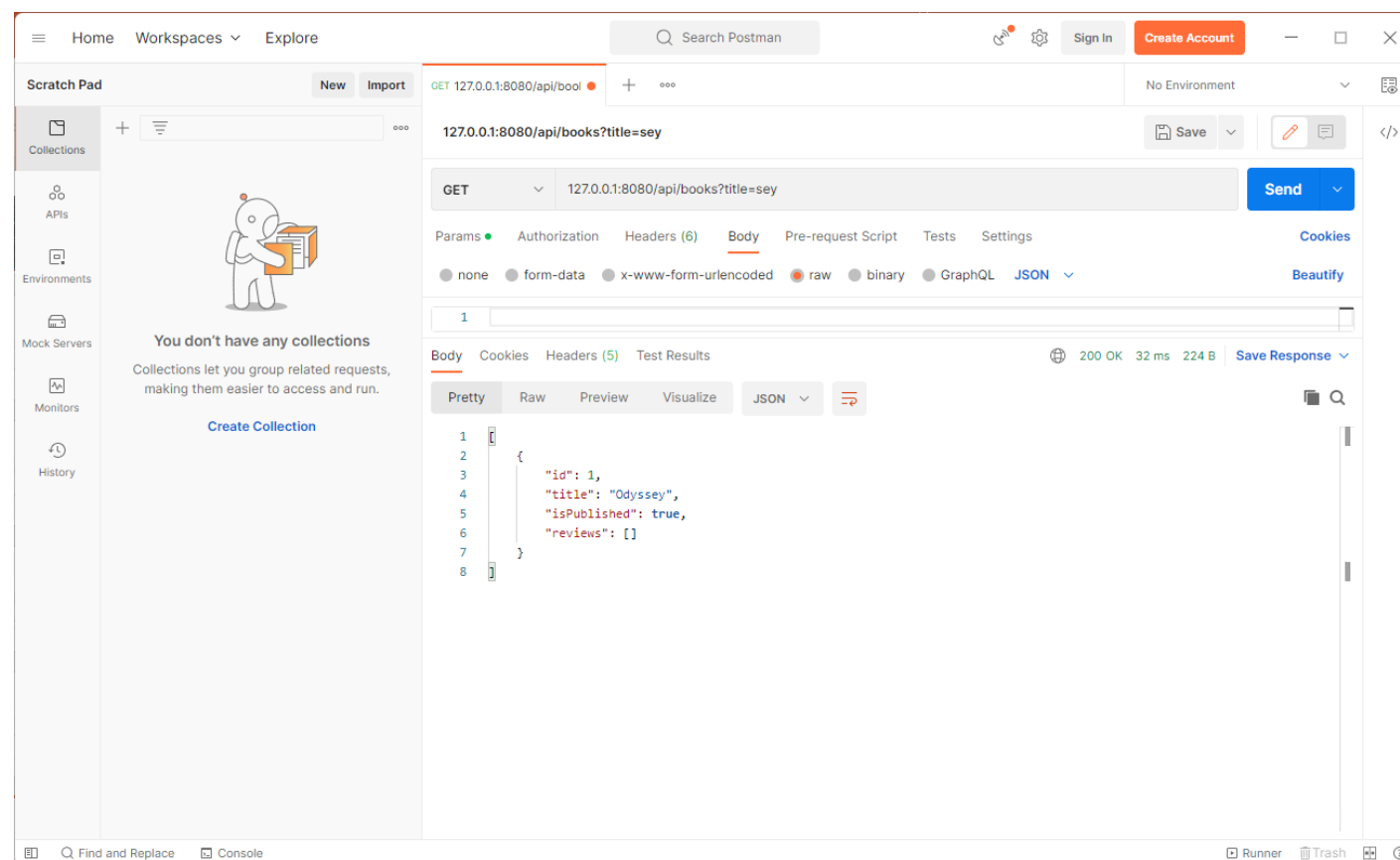
- **Retrieve all books**
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books`
- Retrieve all books whose titles contain the phrase sey
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books?title=sey`
- Retrieve all reviews for the book with id = 2:
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books/2/reviews`





Use Postman to test RESTful API

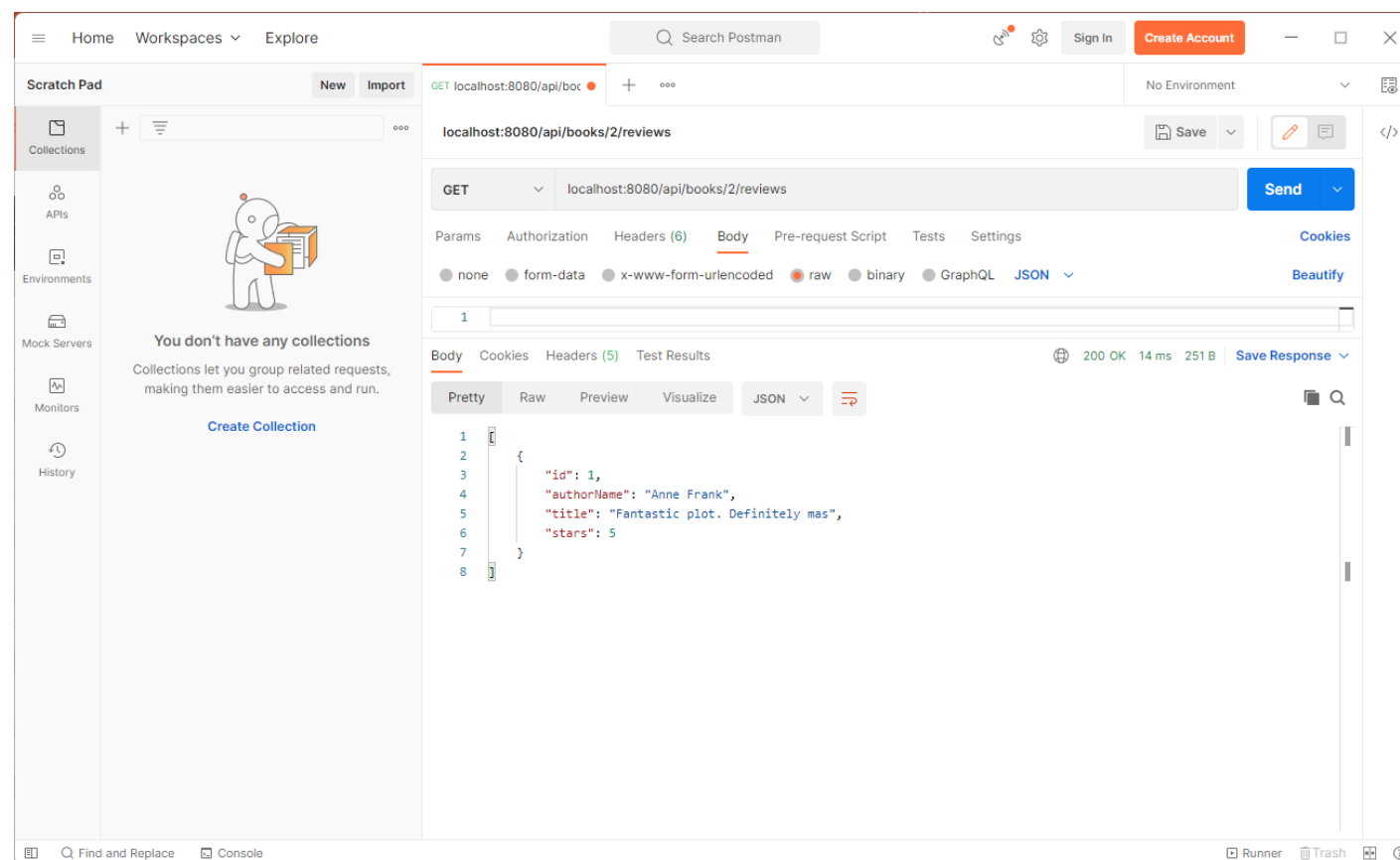
- Retrieve all books
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books`
- Retrieve all books whose titles contain the phrase **sey**
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books?title=sey`
- Retrieve all reviews for the book with `id = 2`:
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books/2/reviews`





Use Postman to test RESTful API

- Retrieve all books
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books`
- Retrieve all books whose titles contain the phrase sey
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books?title=sey`
- Retrieve all reviews for the book with id = 2:
 - Send a GET message to `localhost:8080/api/books/2/reviews`





Package and deploy

- In Maven tab, execute package command to create a .jar file
 - .jar includes all dependencies and application server
- Open RestAPIServer/target folder to locate the .jar file
- You can launch the RESTful API from command line (cmd) using the following command:
`java -jar myfile.jar`

The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface. On the left, the Maven lifecycle is expanded to show the 'package' goal. A red arrow points from the 'package' goal in the Maven tab to the terminal. The terminal shows the following output:

```
src > main > java > cy > ac > ucy > cs > epl425 > RestAPIServer > RestApiServerApplication.java
1 package cy.ac.ucy.cs.epl425.RestAPIServer;
2
3 import org.springframework.boot.SpringApplication;
4 import org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.SpringBootApplication;
5
6 @SpringBootApplication
7 public class RestApiServerApplication {
8
9     public static void main(String[] args) {
10         SpringApplication.run(RestApiServerApplication.class, args);
11     }
12 }
13
```

The terminal output shows the Maven build process:

```
s/plexus/plexus-utils/3.4.2/plexus-utils-3.4.2.jar (267 kB at 713 kB/s)
[INFO] Building jar: c:\Users\admin\Downloads\RestAPIServer\target\RestAPIServer-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar
[INFO]
[INFO] --- spring-boot-maven-plugin:3.0.0:repackage (repackage) @ RestAPIServer ---
[INFO] Replacing main artifact with repackaged archive
[INFO] -----
[INFO] BUILD SUCCESS
[INFO] -----
[INFO] Total time: 14.910 s
[INFO] Finished at: 2022-12-22T11:46:57+02:00
[INFO] -----
PS C:\Users\admin\Downloads\RestAPIServer>
```

Securing your RESTful API



- Sooner or later everyone needs to add security to a RESTful API
- In Spring ecosystem this is performed with the help of the Spring Security library
- Spring Security is a set of **servlet filters** that help you add **authentication** and **authorization** to your web application

Authentication & Authorization



- **Authentication**

- **Verifies the identity of a user.** Typically done with a username & password check
 - Other available authentication mechanisms provided by Spring Security are shown [here](#).
- If user not authenticated, **HTTP 401 Unauthorized** response message is issued

- **Authorization**

- **Determines user rights:** verifies what each user has access to
 - In simpler applications, authentication might be enough: As soon as a user authenticates, can access every part of an application
 - Most applications have the concept of permissions (or roles) e.g.: simple users who have access to read resources and administrators who have access to create/update/remove resources
- If user doesn't have access permission, **HTTP 403 Forbidden** response message is issued



Servlet filters

- Filters are placed *in front* of `@RestController` servlets and are configured to authenticate and authorize every incoming HTTP request before it hits the servlet
- A chain of filters can be used to handle every incoming request to:
 1. Extract a username/password from the request. It could be via a **Basic Auth HTTP Header** (**default security mechanism**, see next slide), or **login form fields**, or a **cookie**, etc.
 2. Validate that username/password combination against *something*, like a database, an in-memory (RAM) storage, etc. [Authentication filter]
 3. Allow access to resources based on user role [Authorization filter]

Default filter: Basic Authentication



- Simplest method of securing HTTP requests through a special req. header:
`Authorization: Basic <credentials>`
- API client can generate the `credentials` token, using username and password (given by API server), joined by the semicolon character and encode the resulting string with [Base64](#)
 - Example: If username is `pavlos` and password is `ep1425$` the credentials string is `pavlos:ep1425$`. When we encode it with Base64 we get `cGF2bG9zOmVwbDQyNSQ=` The header's value is:
`Authorization: Basic cGF2bG9zOmVwbDQyNSQ=`
- API clients need to provide this header field in every request

Basic Authentication when sending a request using Postman



- Add the header manually
 - Go to headers tab, set “*Authorization*” as the key and the credentials token as value

KEY	VALUE	DESCRIPTION	...	Bulk Edit	Presets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Authorization	Basic cGF2bG9zOmVwbDQyNSQ=				
Key	Value	Description			

- Or use the Authorization tab (recommended)
 - select “*Basic Auth*” as the authorization type and insert username password

Params • **Authorization** • Headers (11) • Body • Pre-request Script • Tests • Settings • Cookies

Type: Basic Au... ▾

The authorization header will be automatically generated when you send the request.
[Learn more about authorization](#) ↗

Username: pavlos

Password: epl425\$

Show Password

Add Spring Security to secure your Restful API

- Spring Security can be added to Spring Boot project via pom.xml

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

- ... then all API endpoints will not be accessible anymore
- When you re-run the web application, on VSCode terminal you can see (among other) the following message:

```
Using generated security password: e0901288-da22-4bde-b73f-13d93cc01d8d
```

```
This generated password is for development use only. Your security configuration must be updated before running your application in production.
```

- This is the auto-generated password for the Basic Authentication scheme
- Is there any username? Yes, the default username is **user**



Securing your RESTful API

- When you try to access: `localhost:8080/api/books`
- HTTP 401 Unauthorized response code returned
 - Indicates that the client request has not been completed because it lacks valid authentication credentials (username and password) for the requested resource.

The screenshot shows a web browser's developer tools interface. The 'Headers' tab is selected, displaying the response headers for a 401 Unauthorized status. The status bar at the top right of the developer tools indicates '401 Unauthorized 8 ms 381 B'. The headers table is as follows:

Header	Value
Pragma	no-cache
Expires	0
X-Frame-Options	DENY
Content-Length	0
Date	Thu, 29 Dec 2022 10:50:59 GMT
Keep-Alive	timeout=60
Connection	keep-alive



Securing your RESTful API

- Access API endpoint `localhost:8080/api/books` by taking into account the username (user) and the generated password

The screenshot shows a REST client interface with the following details:

- Method:** GET
- URL:** localhost:8080/api/books
- Authorization:** Basic Authentication is selected. The username is "user" and the password is "5b28f07b-45a3-4970-8a0a-cd6b8048635d". The "Show Password" checkbox is checked.
- Response:** The response is a JSON object:

```
{  "id": 1,  "title": "Odyssey",  "isPublished": true,  "reviews": []}
```
- Status:** 200 OK, 326 ms, 536 B





Overriding default credentials

- We can override the default username and auto-generated password provided by the Spring Security mechanism
- Custom user credentials can be set in any of the following ways:
 1. manually via the `application.properties` file
 - `spring.security.user.name=pavlos`
 - `spring.security.user.password=ep1425$`
 2. using a dedicated Java class that retrieves credentials from:
 - a) memory (Java variables) or
 - b) database

Credentials in Memory

- **userDetailsManager()** method creates in-memory users
 - To start with we have added two users: **employee** and **manager**
- **passwordEncoder()** returns an instance of **BCryptPasswordEncoder** which is used to encode the password

In Spring, the objects that form the backbone of your application and that are managed by Spring are called beans. A bean is an object that is instantiated, assembled, and otherwise managed by Spring and it is globally available to the entire application.



```
@Bean
public InMemoryUserDetailsManager userDetailsManager() {
    List<UserDetails> userDetailsList = new ArrayList<>();
    userDetailsList.add(User
        .withUsername("employee")
        .password(passwordEncoder().encode("ep1425$"))
        .roles("EMPLOYEE")
        .build());

    userDetailsList.add(User
        .withUsername("manager")
        .password(passwordEncoder().encode("password"))
        .roles("EMPLOYEE", "MANAGER")
        .build());

    return new InMemoryUserDetailsManager(userDetailsList);
}

@Bean
public PasswordEncoder passwordEncoder() {
    return new BCryptPasswordEncoder();
}
```



Adding roles

- **userDetailsManager()** method creates in-memory users **with specific roles** in order to enable authorization
 - employee is assigned the **EMPLOYEE** role and manager both **EMPLOYEE** and **MANAGER** roles

```
@Bean
public InMemoryUserDetailsManager userDetailsManager() {
    List<UserDetails> userDetailsList = new ArrayList<>();
    userDetailsList.add(User
        .withUsername("employee")
        .password(passwordEncoder().encode("ep1425$"))
        .roles("EMPLOYEE")
        .build());

    userDetailsList.add(User
        .withUsername("manager")
        .password(passwordEncoder().encode("password"))
        .roles("EMPLOYEE", "MANAGER")
        .build());

    return new InMemoryUserDetailsManager(userDetailsList);
}

@Bean
public PasswordEncoder passwordEncoder() {
    return new BCryptPasswordEncoder();
}
```



Security Filter Chain

- How does Spring Security know that we want to **require all users to be authenticated**?
- How does Spring Security know we want to **support Basic authentication**?
- How does Spring Security know where to **find user credentials for user authentication**?
- How does Spring Security know how to **authorize access to content based on the different roles**?
- Actually, there is a configuration class (called SecurityFilterChain) that is being invoked behind the scenes.

Security Filter Chain default configuration



- Ensures that any request to our application requires the user to be authenticated
- Lets users authenticate with form based login
- Lets users authenticate with HTTP Basic authentication

```
@Bean
public SecurityFilterChain
filterChain(HttpSecurity http) throws Exception {
    http
        .authorizeRequests(authorize -> authorize
            .anyRequest().authenticated()
        )
        .formLogin(Customizer.withDefaults())
        .httpBasic(Customizer.withDefaults())
    };
    return http.build();
}
```




Security Filter Chain

- We can create an instance of the `SecurityFilterChain` to define a custom filter chain in and define what to apply on each request
 - In this example, any request is required to be authenticated and access to content is authorized on the basis of HTTP method and roles
 - In this example, authentication manager relies on In-Memory credentials
 - In this example, users authenticate with Basic Authentication

```
@Bean
public SecurityFilterChain securityFilterChain(HttpSecurity http)
throws Exception {

    AuthenticationManagerBuilder authenticationManagerBuilder =
http.getSharedObject(AuthenticationManagerBuilder.class);
    authenticationManagerBuilder.userDetailsService(userDetailsManag
er());
    authenticationManager = authenticationManagerBuilder.build();

    http
        .csrf(csrf->csrf.disable())
        .httpBasic(Customizer.withDefaults())
        .authorizeHttpRequests(authorize -> authorize
            .requestMatchers(HttpMethod.POST,
"/api/books/**") .hasAnyRole("MANAGER")
            .requestMatchers(HttpMethod.PUT,
"/api/books/**") .hasAnyRole("MANAGER")
            .requestMatchers(HttpMethod.DELETE,
"/api/books/**") .hasAnyRole("MANAGER")
            .requestMatchers(HttpMethod.GET, "/api/books/**") .permitAll()
            .anyRequest().authenticated()
        )
        .authenticationManager(authenticationManager);

    return http.build();
}
```

If you want to disable CORS when testing API from localhost see [here](#)

Download, extract, compile, run application



- Download RestAPISecureServer.zip which contains the implementation of all secure API endpoints for Books and Reviews
- Extract it
- Open RestAPISecureServer folder via VS Code
- In Maven tab, click on compile to build the project
- Open the file RestApiServerApplication.java
- Run the project

The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface with the following components:

- EXPLORER:** Shows the project structure for RestAPISecureServer, including folders like .mvn, src, main, controller, model, repository, security, service, resources, test, and target. The Maven tab is active, showing the project lifecycle, plugins, dependencies, and favorites.
- EDITOR:** Displays the RestApiServerApplication.java file with the following code:

```
1 package cy.ac.ucey.cs.ep1425.RestAPISecureServer;  
2  
3 import org.springframework.boot.SpringApplication;  
4 import org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.SpringBootApplication;  
5  
6 @SpringBootApplication  
7 public class RestApiSecureServerApplication {  
8  
9     Run | Debug  
10    public static void main(String[] args) {  
11        SpringApplication.run(primarySource: RestApiSecureServerApplication.class, args);  
12    }  
13 }
```
- TERMINAL:** Shows the output of the application run, including logs for the LiveReload server, security filter chain, and the Tomcat web server starting on port 8080. The application started successfully in 5.122 seconds.
- Run Button:** A red circle highlights the play button (Run) in the top right corner of the editor window.

Appendix

Replace Tomcat with Jetty



- Modify pom.xml as shown below:

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

exclude the default added
spring-boot-starter-tomcat
dependency

add the dependency for
spring-boot-starter-jetty

Disable CORS on API for localhost



```
@Bean
public SecurityFilterChain securityFilterChain(HttpSecurity http) throws Exception {

    AuthenticationManagerBuilder authenticationManagerBuilder = http.getSharedObject(AuthenticationManagerBuilder.class);
    authenticationManagerBuilder.userDetailsService(userDetailsService());
    authenticationManager = authenticationManagerBuilder.build();

    http
        .csrf(csrf->csrf.disable())
        .httpBasic(Customizer.withDefaults())
        .cors(cors -> cors.configurationSource(corsConfigurationSource()))
    ...
}

CorsConfigurationSource corsConfigurationSource() {
    CorsConfiguration configuration = new CorsConfiguration();
    configuration.setAllowCredentials(true);
    configuration.setAllowedOrigins(Arrays.asList("http://localhost"));
    configuration.setAllowedMethods(Arrays.asList(CorsConfiguration.ALL)); // e.g. GET, POST, PATCH, PUT, DELETE, OPTIONS, HEAD
    configuration.setAllowedHeaders(Arrays.asList(CorsConfiguration.ALL));
    //configuration.setMaxAge(3600L);
    UrlBasedCorsConfigurationSource source = new UrlBasedCorsConfigurationSource();
    source.registerCorsConfiguration("/**", configuration);
    return source;
}
```