

Spring Boot Validation Cheat Sheet

What is Spring Boot Validation?

Spring Boot Validation is a sophisticated validation framework for Spring Boot applications based on JSR-303 and JSR-380.

Dependencies

Mandatory Spring Boot Validation Starter

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
  <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-validation</artifactId>
  <version>2.5.1</version>
</dependency>
```

Optional URI Validator

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>de.schegge</groupId>
  <artifactId>uri-validator</artifactId>
  <version>0.2.2</version>
</dependency>
```

Usage

Spring MVC Controller

The parameter validation of controller endpoint methods is integrated. All accordingly annotated parameters are validated.

```
@RestController
public class ExampleController {

    @PutMapping("/validate/{id}")
    Input validate(
        @PathVariable @Positive Long id,
        @RequestParam("query") @NotEmpty String query,
        @Valid @RequestBody Input input) {
        return input;
    }
}
```

Injected Validator

A Validator instance can be injected in each service.

```
@Service
public class UserAccountService {
    @Autowired
    private final Validator validator;

    public boolean checkAccount(UserAccount useraccount) {
        Set<ConstraintViolation<UserAccount>> violations =
            validator.validate(useraccount);
        if (!violations.isEmpty()) {
            throw new ConstraintViolationException(violations);
        }
        return true;
    }
}
```

Annotated POJO

Attributes in POJOs can be marked with validation annotations. Validation groups can be used to add validations for different scenarios

```
class Input {
    @Min(1) @Max(10)
    private int numberBetweenOneAndTen;

    @Email(regexp = "^.+@.+$", groups = Create.class)
    private String email;
}
```

Annotations

The validation of parameters and class attributes can be defined using annotations. The entries in the type column mean:

any any type
text CharSequence, String, StringBuilder, ...
date all standard Java time and date classes
uri URI, URL or text
collection Collection, Map or Array

JSR-303, JSR-380

| annotation | validates | type |
|------------------|--|------------------|
| @NotNull | the property is not null. | any |
| @NotEmpty | the property is not null or empty | collection, text |
| @NotBlank | the property is not null or whitespace. | text |
| @AssertTrue | the property is true. | boolean |
| @AssertFalse | the property is false. | boolean |
| @Size | the property has a size between the attributes min and max | collection, text |
| @Min | the property is no smaller than the value attribute. | number |
| @Max | the property is no larger than the value attribute. | number |
| @Positive | the property value is strictly positive, respectively positive including zero. | number |
| @PositiveOrZero | the property is strictly negative, respectively negative including zero. | number |
| @Negative | the property is in the past, respectively including the present. | date |
| @NegativeOrZero | the property is in the future, respectively including the present. | date |
| @Past | the property matches the attribute regex. | text |
| @PastOrPresent | the property is a valid email address. | text |
| @Future | Marks a property, method parameter or method return type for validation cascading. | any |
| @FutureOrPresent | Marks a property, method parameter or method return type for validation cascading. | any |
| @Pattern | Marks a property, method parameter or method return type for validation cascading. | any |
| @Email | Marks a property, method parameter or method return type for validation cascading. | any |
| @Valid | Marks a property, method parameter or method return type for validation cascading. | any |

Spring

| annotation | validates | type |
|------------|---|------|
| @Validated | Variant of JSR-303's @Valid annotation, supporting validation groups. | any |

Hibernate

| annotation | validates | type |
|------------|---|---------|
| @EAN | the property is an EAN13 code. | text |
| @ISBN | the property is an ISBN code | text |
| @Length | the property has a length between the attributes min and max | text |
| @Range | the property has a numeric value between the attributes min and max | number, |
| @URL | the property is a URL. | text |

URI Validator

| annotation | validates | type |
|---------------|---|------|
| @localhost | the host is localhost or not. | uri |
| @notlocalhost | the host matches the attribute regex. | uri |
| @Host | the schema is HTTP or HTTPS. | uri |
| @Http @Https | the schema matches the attribute regex. | uri |
| @Schema | the schema matches the attribute regex. | uri |

Constraint composition

Validators can be easily implemented. You can also compose your own constraints from existing constraints. @HttpNotlocalhost is composed of @Http and @Notlocalhost.

```
@Retention(RUNTIME)
@Target({ METHOD, FIELD, ANNOTATION_TYPE, CONSTRUCTOR, PARAMETER,
          TYPE_USE })
@Constraint(validatedBy = {})
@Http @Notlocalhost
public @interface HttpNotlocalhost {
    String message() default "{cheatsheet.message}";
    Class<?>[] groups() default {};
    Class<? extends Payload>[] payload() default {};
}
```

