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JasperReports is an open source reporting library that enables users to create pixel-perfect reports that can be printed or exported in many formats including PDF, HTML, and XLS. In this article, we'll explore its key features and classes, and implement examples to showcase its capabilities. 2. Maven Dependency First, we need to add the JasperReports dependency to our pom.xml: net.sf.jasperreports.jasperreports 6.20.0 The latest version of this artifact can be found here. 3. Report Templates Report design is defined in JRXML files. These are ordinary XML files with a particular structure that JasperReports engine can interpret. Let's now have a look at only the relevant structure of the JRXML files - to understand better the Java part of the report generation process, which is our primary focus. Let's create a simple report to show employee information: 3.1. Compiling Reports JRXML files need to be compiled so the report engine can fill them with data. Let's perform this operation with the help of the JasperCompilerManager class: InputStream employeeReportStream = getClass().getResourceAsStream("employeeReport.jrxml"); JasperReport JasperReport = JasperCompileManager.compileReport(emailReportStream); To avoid compiling it every time, we can save it to a file: JRSaver.saveObject(jasperReport, "employeeReport.jasper"); 4. Populating Reports The most common way to fill compiled reports is with records from a database. This requires the report to contain a SQL query the engine will execute to obtain the data. First, let's modify our report to add a SQL query: ... Now, let's create a simple data source: @Bean public DataSource dataSource() { return new EmbeddedDatabaseBuilder().setType(EmbeddedDatabaseType.HSQL).addScript("classpath:employee-schema.sql").build(); } Now, we can fill the report: JasperPrint jasperPrint = JasperFillManager.fillReport(jasperReport, null, dataSource.getConnection()); Note that we are passing null to the second argument since our report doesn't receive any parameters yet. 4.1. Parameters Parameters are useful for passing data to the report engine that it can not find in its data source or when data changes depending on different runtime conditions. We can also change portions or even the entire SQL query with parameters received in the report filling operation. First, let's modify the report to receive three parameters: // ... Now, let's add a title section showing the title parameter: // ... Next, let's alter the query to use the minSalary and condition parameters: SELECT * FROM EMPLOYEE WHERE SALARY >= \$P{minSalary} AND \$P{condition} Note the different syntax when using the condition parameters. This tells the engine that the parameters should not be used as a standard PreparedStatement parameter, but as if the value of that parameter would have been written originally in the SQL query. Finally, let's prepare the parameters and fill the report: Map parameters = new HashMap(); parameters.put("title", "Employee Report"); parameters.put("minSalary", 15000.0); parameters.put("condition", "LAST_NAME = 'Smith' ORDER BY FIRST_NAME"); JasperPrint jasperPrint = JasperFillManager.fillReport(..., parameters, ...); Note that the keys of parameters correspond to parameter names in the report. If the engine detects a parameter is missing, it will obtain the value from defaultValueExpression of the parameter if any. 5. Exporting To export a report, first, we instantiate an object of an exporter class that matches the file format we need. Then, we set our previous filled report as input and define where to output the resulting file. Optionally, we can set corresponding report and export configuration objects to customize the exporting process. 5.1. PDF JRFPdfExporter exporter = new JRFPdfExporter(); exporter.setExporterInput(new SimpleExporterInput(jasperPrint)); exporter.setOutput(new SimpleOutputStreamExporterOutput("employeeReport.pdf")); SimplePdfReportConfiguration reportConfig = new SimplePdfReportConfiguration(); reportConfig.setPageSizeToContent(true); reportConfig.setForceLineBreakPolicy(false); SimplePdfExporterConfiguration exportConfig = new SimplePdfExporterConfiguration(); exportConfig.setMetadataAuthor("baeldung"); exportConfig.setEncrypted(true); exportConfig.setAllowedPermissionsHint("PRINTING"); exporter.setConfiguration(reportConfig); exporter.setConfiguration(exportConfig); JRXlsxExporter exporter = new JRXlsxExporter(); // Set input and output - SimpleXlsxReportConfiguration reportConfig = new SimpleXlsxReportConfiguration(); reportConfig.setSheetNames(new String[] { "Employee Data" }); exporter.setConfiguration(reportConfig); JRCSVExporter exporter = new JRCSVExporter(); // Set input... exporter.setOutput(new SimpleWriterExporterOutput(new SimpleWriterExporterOutput("employeeReport.csv")); exporter.setExporterInput(new SimpleHtmlExporterOutput(new SimpleHtmlExporterOutput("employeeReport.html")); exporter.setReport(jasperReport); Subreports are nothing more than a standard report embedded in another report. First, let's create a report to show the details of an employee. Now, let's modify our employee report to include the previous one: Note that they are referencing the subreport by the name of the compiled file and passing it the idEmployee and current report connection as parameters. Next, let's compile both reports: InputStream employeeReportStream = getClass().getResourceAsStream("employeeReport.jrxml"); JasperReport JasperReport = JasperCompileManager.compileReport(employeeReportStream); JRSaver.saveObject(jasperReport, "employeeReport.jasper"); InputStream emailReportStream = getClass().getResourceAsStream("employeeEmailReport.jrxml"); JRSaver.saveObject(jasperReport, "employeeEmailReport.jasper"); Our code for filling and exporting the report doesn't require modifications. 7. Conditional Display With printWhenExpression In addition, we can use printWhenExpression to conditionally display report elements based on certain criteria. This means that elements like text fields, images, and bands can be shown or hidden dynamically according to the data or parameters in our report. Below is an example of how to modify the JRXML file to include a null check using printWhenExpression. We'll check for non-null values in the FIRST_NAME, LAST_NAME, and SALARY fields before rendering the content in the detail band. This expression ensures that the entire content of the band will only be displayed if all these fields have valid (non-null) values. After updating the JRXML file, we need to compile and fill the report as before. 8. Conclusion In this article, we had a brief look at the core features of the JasperReports library. We were able to compile and populate reports with records from a database, we passed parameters to change the data shown in the report according to different runtime conditions, embedded subreports and exported them to the most common formats. The code backing this article is available on GitHub. Once you're logged in as a Baeldung Pro Member, start learning and coding on the project. Computer software installed on multiple computing platforms "Cross-platform" redirects here. For the railway station interchange, see cross-platform interchange. For the game term, see cross-platform play. "Multi-platform" redirects here. For the mode of storytelling in television, see multi-platform television. Within computing, cross-platform software (also called multi-platform software, platform-agnostic software, or platform-independent software) is computer software that is designed to work in several computing platforms.[1] Some cross-platform software requires a separate build for each platform, but some can be directly run on any platform without special preparation, being written in an interpreted language or compiled to portable bytecode for which the interpreters or run-time packages are common and standard components of all supported platforms.[2] For example, a cross-platform application may run on Linux, macOS and Microsoft Windows. Cross-platform software may run on many platforms, or as few as two. Some frameworks for cross-platform development are CodeName One, ArkUI-X, Kivy, Qt, GTK, Flutter, nativeScript, Xamarin, Apache Cordova, Ionic, and React Native.[3] Main article: Computing platform Platform can refer to the type of processor (CPU) or other hardware on which an operating system (OS) or application runs, the type of OS, or a combination of the two.[4] An example of a common platform is Android which runs on the ARM architecture family. Other well-known platforms are Linux/Unix, macOS and Windows, these are all cross-platform.[4] Applications can be written to depend on the features of a particular platform—either the hardware, OS, or virtual machine (VM) it runs on. For example, the Java platform is a common VM platform which runs on many OSs and hardware types. A hardware platform can refer to an instruction set architecture. For example: ARM or the x86 architecture. These machines can run different operating systems. Smartphones and tablets generally run ARM architecture, these often run Android or iOS and other mobile operating systems. A software platform can be either an operating system (OS) or programming environment, though more commonly it is a combination of both. An exception is Java, which uses an OS-independent virtual machine (VM) to execute Java bytecode. Some software platforms are, Android (ARM64) ChromeOS (ARM32, ARM64, IA-32, x86-64) Common Language Infrastructure (CLI) by Microsoft, implemented in: The legacy .NET Framework that works only on Microsoft Windows. The newer .NET framework (simply called ".NET" that works across Microsoft Windows, macOS, and Linux. Other implementations such as Mono (formerly by Novell and Xamarin[5]) HarmonyOS (ARM64, RISC-V, x86, x84, and LoongArch) iOS (ARMv8-A) iPadOS (ARMv8-A) Java Linux (Alpha, ARM, C-Sky, Hexagon, LoongArch, m68k, Microblaze, MIPS, Nios II, OpenRISC, PA-RISC, PowerPC, RISC-V, s390, SuperH, SPARC, x86, Xtensa) macOS x86, ARM (Apple silicon) Microsoft Windows (IA-32, x86-64, ARM, ARM64) PlayStation 4 (x86), PlayStation 3 (PowerPC) and PlayStation Vita (ARM) Solaris (SPARC, x86) SPARC Unix (many platforms since 1969) Web browsers - mostly compatible with each other, running JavaScript web-apps Xbox Minor, historical AmigaOS (m68k), AmigaOS 4 (PowerPC), AROS (x86, PowerPC, m68k), MorphOS (PowerPC) Atari TOS, MINT BSD (many platforms; see NetBSDnet.[clarification needed] for example) DOS-type systems on the x86: MS-DOS, PC DOS, DR-DOS, FreeDOS OS/2, eComStation BeOS (PowerPC, x86) Main article: Java (software platform) The Java language is typically compiled to run on a VM that is part of the Java platform. The Java virtual machine (Java VM, JVM) is a CPU implemented in software, which runs all Java code. This enables the same code to run on all systems that implement a JVM. Java software can be executed by a hardware-based Java processor. This is used mostly in embedded systems. Java code running in the JVM has access to OS-related services, like disk input/output (I/O) and network access, if the appropriate privileges are granted. The JVM makes the system calls on behalf of the Java application. This lets users to decide the appropriate protection level, depending on an access-control list (ACL). For example, disk and network access is usually enabled for desktop applications, but not for browser-based applets. The Java Native Interface (JNI) can also be used to access OS-specific functions, with a loss of portability. Currently, Java Standard Edition software can run on Microsoft Windows, macOS, several Unix-like OSs, and several real-time operating systems. For mobile applications, browser plugins are used for Windows and Mac based devices, and Android has built-in support for Java. There are also subsets of Java, such as Java Card or Java Platform, Micro Edition. Micro Edition is not always clear. Features, installation methods and architectures for web and traditional applications function on more than one computer architecture or OS. Developing such software can be a time-consuming task because different OSs have different application programming interfaces (API). Software written for one OS may not automatically work on all architectures that OS supports, just because software is written in a popular programming language such as C or C++, it does not mean it will run on all OSs that support that language—or even on different versions of the same OS. Web applications are typically described as cross-platform because, ideally, they are accessible from any web browser: the browser is the platform. Web applications generally employ a client-server model, but vary widely in complexity and functionality. It can be hard to reconcile the desire for features with the need for compatibility. Basic web applications perform all or most processing from a stateless server, and pass the result to the client web browser. All user interaction with the application consists of simple exchanges of data requests and server responses. This type of application was the norm in the early phases of World Wide Web application development. Such applications follow a simple transaction model, identical to that of serving static web pages. Today, they are still relatively common, especially where cross-platform compatibility and simplicity are deemed more critical than advanced functionality. Prominent examples of advanced web applications include the Web interface to Gmail and Google Maps. Such applications routinely depend on additional features found only in the more recent versions of popular web browsers. These features include Ajax, JavaScript, Dynamic HTML, SVG, and other components of rich web applications. Because of the competing interests of compatibility and functionality, numerous design strategies have emerged. Many software systems use a layered architecture where platform-dependent code is restricted to the upper- and lowermost layers. Graceful degradation attempts to provide the same or similar functionality to all users and platforms, while diminishing that functionality to a least common denominator for more limited client browsers. For example, a user attempting to use a limited-feature browser to access Gmail may notice that Gmail switches to basic mode, with reduced functionality but still of use. Some software is maintained in distinct codebases for different (hardware and OS) platforms, with equivalent functionality. This requires more effort to maintain the code, but can be worthwhile where the amount of platform-specific code is high. This strategy relies on having one codebase that may be compiled to multiple platform-specific formats. One technique is conditional compilation. With this technique, code that is common to all platforms is not repeated. Blocks of code that are only relevant to certain platforms are made conditional, so that they are only interpreted or compiled when needed. Another technique is separation of functionality, which disables functionality not supported by browsers or OSs, while still delivering a complete application to the user. (See also: Separation of concerns.) This technique is used in web development where interpreted code (as in scripting languages) can query the platform it is running on to execute different blocks conditionally.[6] Third-party libraries attempt to simplify cross-platform capability by hiding the complexities of client differentiation behind a single, unified API, at the expense of vendor lock-in. Responsive web design (RWD) is a Web design approach aimed at crafting the visual layout of sites to provide an optimal viewing experience—easy reading and navigation with a minimum of resizing, panning, and scrolling—across a wide range of devices, from mobile phones to desktop computer monitors. Little or no platform-specific code is used with this technique. Cross-platform applications need much more integration testing. Some web browsers prohibit installation of different versions on the same machine. There are several approaches used to target multiple platforms, but all of them result in software that requires substantial manual effort for testing and maintenance.[7] Techniques such as full virtualization are sometimes used as a workaround for this problem. Tools such as the Page Object Model allow cross-platform tests to be scripted so that one test case covers multiple versions of an app. If different versions have similar user interfaces, all can be tested with one test case. Web applications are becoming increasingly popular but many computer users still use traditional application software which does not rely on a client/web-server architecture. The distinction between traditional and web applications is not always clear. Features, installation methods and architectures for web and traditional applications overlap and blur the distinction. Nevertheless, this simplifying distinction is a common and useful generalization. Traditional application software has been distributed as binary files, especially executable files. Executables only support the platform they were built for—which means that a single cross-platform executable could be very bloated with code that never executes on a particular platform. Instead, generally there is a selection of executables, each built for one platform. For software that is distributed as a binary executable, such as that written in C or C++, there must be a software build for each platform, using a toolset that translates—transcompiles—a single codebase into multiple binary executables. For example, Firefox, an open-source web browser, is available on Windows, macOS (both PowerPC and x86 through what Apple Inc. calls a Universal binary), Linux, and BSD on multiple computer architectures. The four platforms (in this case, Windows, macOS, Linux, and BSD) are separate executable distributions, although they come largely from the same source code. In rare cases, executable code built for several platforms is combined into a single executable file called a fat binary. The use of different toolsets may not be enough to build a working executables for different platforms. In this case, programmers must port the source code to the new platform. For example, an application such as Firefox, which already runs on Windows on the x86 family, can be modified and re-built to run on Linux on the x86 (and potentially other architectures) as well. The multiple versions of the code may be stored as separate codebases, or merged into one codebase. An alternative to porting is cross-platform virtualization, where applications compiled for one platform can run on another without modification of the source code or binaries. As an example, Apple's Rosetta, which is built into Intel-based Macintosh computers, runs applications compiled for the previous generation of Macs that used PowerPC CPUs. Another example is IBM PowerVM Lx86, which allows Linux/x86 applications to run unmodified on the Linux/Power OS. Example of cross-platform binary software: The LibreOffice office suite is built for Microsoft Windows, macOS, Linux, FreeBSD, NetBSD, OpenBSD, Android, iOS, iPadOS, ChromeOS, web-based Collabora Online and many others.[8][9] Many of these are supported on several hardware platforms with processor architectures including IA-32, x86-64, ARM (ARMEL, ARMF, ARM64), MIPS, MIPS64, PowerPC, ppc64le, and S390X[9][10] A script can be considered to be cross-platform if its interpreter is available on multiple platforms and the script only uses the facilities built into the language. For example, a script written in Python for a Unix-like system will likely run with little or no modification on Windows, because Python also runs on Windows; indeed there are many implementations (e.g. IronPython for .NET Framework). The same goes for many of the open-source scripting languages. Unlike binary executable files, the same script can be used on all computers that have software to interpret the script. This is because the script is generally stored in plain text in a text file. There may be some trivial issues, such as the representation of a new line character. Some popular cross-platform scripting languages are: bash - A Unix shell commonly run on Linux and other modern Unix-like systems, as well as on Windows via the Cygwin POSIX compatibility layer, Git for Windows, or the Windows Subsystem for Linux. Perl - First released in 1987. Used for CGI programming, small system administration tasks, and more. PHP - Mostly used for web applications. Python - A language which focuses on rapid application development and ease of writing, instead of run-time efficiency. Ruby - An object-oriented language which aims to be easy to read. Can also be used on the web through Ruby on Rails. Tcl - A dynamic programming language, suitable for a wide range of uses, including web and desktop applications, networking, administration, testing and many more. Cross-platform or multi-platform is a term that can also apply to video games released on a range of video game consoles. Examples of cross-platform games include: Miner 2049er, Legend, FIFA series, NHL series and Minecraft. Each has been released across a variety of gaming platforms, such as the Wii, PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, personal computers, and mobile devices. Some platforms are harder to write for than others, requiring more time to develop the video game to the same standard. To offset this, a video game may be released on a few platforms first, then later on others. Typically, this happens when a new gaming system is released, because video game developers need to acquaint themselves with its hardware and software. Some games may not be cross-platform because of licensing agreements between developers and video game console manufacturers that limit development to one particular console. As an example, Disney could create a game with the intention of release on the latest Nintendo and Sony game consoles. Should Disney license the game with Sony first, it may be required to release the game solely on Sony's console for a short time or indefinitely. Main articles: Cross-platform play and List of video games that support cross-platform play Several developers have implemented ways to play games online while using different platforms. Psyonix, Epic Games, Microsoft, and Valve all possess technology that allows Xbox 360 and PlayStation 3 gamers to play with PC gamers, leaving the decision of which platform to use to consumers. 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