

LOG4J - HTMMLAYOUT

Advertisements

If you want to generate your logging information in an HTML-formatted file, then you can use `org.apache.log4j.HTMLLayout` to format your logging information.

The `HTMLLayout` class extends the abstract `org.apache.log4j.Layout` class and overrides the `format()` method from its base class to provide HTML-style formatting.

It provides the following information to be displayed:

- The time elapsed from the start of the application before a particular logging event was generated.
- The name of the thread that invoked the logging request.
- The level associated with this logging request.
- The name of the logger and logging message.
- The optional location information for the program file and the line number from which this logging was invoked.

`HTMLLayout` is a very simple `Layout` object that provides the following methods:

Sr.No.	Method & Description
1	setContentType(String) Sets the content type of the text/html HTML content. Default is text/html.
2	setLocationInfo(String) Sets the location information for the logging event. Default is false.
3	setTitle(String) Sets the title for the HTML file. Default is log4j Log Messages.

HTMLLayout Example

Following is a simple configuration file for `HTMLLayout`:

```
# Define the root logger with appender file
log = /usr/home/log4j
log4j.rootLogger = DEBUG, FILE

# Define the file appender
log4j.appender.FILE=org.apache.log4j.FileAppender
log4j.appender.FILE.File=${log}/htmlLayout.html

# Define the layout for file appender
log4j.appender.FILE.layout=org.apache.log4j.HTMLLayout
log4j.appender.FILE.layout.Title=HTML Layout Example
log4j.appender.FILE.layout.LocationInfo=true
```

Now consider the following Java Example which would generate logging information:

```
import org.apache.log4j.Logger;

import java.io.*;
import java.sql.SQLException;
import java.util.*;

public class log4jExample{
    /* Get actual class name to be printed on */
    static Logger log = Logger.getLogger(log4jExample.class.getName());

    public static void main(String[] args) throws IOException, SQLException{
        log.debug("Hello this is an debug message");
        log.info("Hello this is an info message");
    }
}
```

Compile and run the above program. It would create an htmlLayout.html file in /usr/home/log4j directory which would have the following log information:

Log session start time Mon Mar 22 13:30:24 AST 2010

Time	Thread	Level	Category	File:Line	Message
0	main	DEBUG	log4jExample	log4jExample.java:15	Hello this is an debug message
6	main	INFO	log4jExample	log4jExample.java:16	Hello this is an info message

You would use a web browser to open htmlLayout.html file. It is also important to note that the footer for the </html> and </body> tags is completely missing.

One of the big advantages of having the log file in HTML format is that it can be published as a web page for remote viewing.