

Open-Source Report

[Flask-Sock]

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Magic ★☆☆☆☆

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In this project, we decided to use Flask-Sock instead of Flask-SocketIO, which provides modern WebSocket support for our application. And this extension different than others is that it works with the Flask development web server, without the need to install a greenlet based server such as gevent or eventlet. More flexible.

```
29 app = Flask(name)
30 print("App running I think")
31 sock = Sock(app)
```

app = Flask(name), from the flask packages. It creates an instance of Flask. (**name**) is the name of the current Python module. The application needs to know where it is in order to set some paths, and name is a convenient way to tell it.

<https://github.com/pallets/flask/blob/main/src/flask/app.py#L553>

sock = Sock(app), from the flask_sock packages. https://github.com/miguelgrinberg/flask-sock/blob/10e0b3bb05580b63433106ef1b5ab42a735846d6/src/flask_sock/_init_.py#L6

The extension is added to our Flask application by creating a **Sock()** class instance. Because we have a global app object (**app = Flask(name)**), we can use the direct initialization method.

```
@sock.route("/singleplayer")
def ws_singleplayer(ws):

    #create a singleplayer game, will keep receiving data and pass it to the game object, handle the code in game class
    game = SingleGame(ws)
    while True:
        data = ws.receive()
        game.handle(data)
```

The sock instance has a route decorator, that works pretty much like Flask's own, but it adds the WebSocket protocol handshake so that the route can speak WebSocket instead of HTTP.

```
4 class SingleGame():
    Just-Google
5     def __init__(self, socket):
6         self.socket = socket
7
8     Just-Google
9     def handle(self, data):
10        self.socket.send(data)
```

In our **game.py**, the **handle()** we make will replace the common **ws.send()** function from all WebSocket parts.

`__init__`

https://github.com/miguelgrinberg/flask-sock/blob/10e0b3bb05580b63433106ef1b5ab42a735846d6/src/flask_sock/sock/sock.py#L12

```
12     def __init__(self, app=None):
13         self.app = None
14         self.bp = None
15         if app is None:
16             self.bp = Blueprint('__flask_sock__', __name__)
17         else:
18             self.app = app
19             self.init_app(app)
20
```

Inside the Sock class, the `__init__` method. This method's parameters are the class instance (self) and the Flask instance. It sets both the **self.app** and **bp(Blueprint)** instances as None. A blueprint defines a collection of views, templates, static files and other elements that can be applied to an application. If the Flask instance is empty, the bp class will be defined as **Blueprint('__flask_sock__', __name__)**. If Flask instance is not empty, it return to the instance that it has as **self.app = app**.

For the WebSocket server,

```
208 @sock.route("/singleplayer")
209 def ws_singleplayer(ws):
210     |
211     #create a singleplayer game, will keep receiving data and pass it to the game object, handle the code in game class
212     game = SingleGame(ws)
213     while True:
214         data = ws.receive()
215         game.handle(data)
216
```

The **ws** object passed to the route is the actual WebSocket connection, and the function can exchange information with the client via the **ws.receive()** and **handle(send)()** methods. It goes without saying that when multiple clients connect at the same time, each client gets its own **ws** object, and the communication between the server and each client is private.

The **sock.route** decorator is fully integrated with Flask.

https://github.com/miguelgrinberg/flask-sock/blob/10e0b3bb05580b63433106ef1b5ab42a735846d6/src/flask_sock/sock/sock.py#L32

```

53     def decorator(f):
54         @wraps(f)
55         def websocket_route(*args, **kwargs): # pragma: no cover
56             ws = Server(request.environ, **current_app.config.get(
57                 'SOCK_SERVER_OPTIONS', {}))
58             try:
59                 f(ws, *args, **kwargs)
60             except ConnectionClosed:
61                 pass
62             try:
63                 ws.close()
64             except: # noqa: E722
65                 pass
66
67             class WebSocketResponse(Response):
68                 def __call__(self, *args, **kwargs):

```

It does define the server that WebSocket use. Which be defined in **class Server(Base):**

https://github.com/miguelgrinberg/simple-websocket/blob/main/src/simple_websocket/ws.py#L253

This class implements a WebSocket server. More details can be seen in **__init__**,

https://github.com/miguelgrinberg/simple-websocket/blob/main/src/simple_websocket/ws.py#L288

```

288     def __init__(self, environ, subprotocols=None, receive_bytes=4096,
289                 ping_interval=None, max_message_size=None, thread_class=None,
290                 event_class=None, selector_class=None):
291         self.environ = environ
292         self.subprotocols = subprotocols or []
293         if isinstance(self.subprotocols, str):
294             self.subprotocols = [self.subprotocols]
295         self.mode = 'unknown'
296         sock = None

```

For those different parameters, (**environ**, **subprotocols**, **receive_bytes**, **ping_interval**, **max_message_size**, **thread_class**, **event_class**, **selector_class**).

environ, A WSGI ``environ`` dictionary with the request details. Among other things, this class expects to find the low-level network socket for the connection somewhere in this dictionary. **Werkzeug, Gunicorn, Eventlet and Gevent are the only web servers that are currently supported.** Can also see that inside the **__init__**. Set **sock** to empty, search four **WSGI to environ** in **class Server(Base)**, the time environ get which **WSGI** is using, will change the model to fit.

After above, WebSocket class is established.

decorator method

https://github.com/miguelgrinberg/flask-socket/blob/10e0b3bb05580b63433106ef1b5ab42a735846d6/src/flask_socket/_init_.py#L53

```
53 def decorator(f):
54     @wraps(f)
55     def websocket_route(*args, **kwargs): # pragma: no cover
56         ws = Server(request.environ, **current_app.config.get(
57             'SOCK_SERVER_OPTIONS', {}))
58         try:
59             f(ws, *args, **kwargs)
60         except ConnectionClosed:
61             pass
62         try:
63             ws.close()
64         except: # noqa: E722
65             pass
66
67         class WebSocketResponse(Response):
68             def __call__(self, *args, **kwargs):
69                 if ws.mode == 'eventlet':
70                     try:
71                         from eventlet.wsgi import WSGI_LOCAL
72                         ALREADY_HANDLED = []
73                     except ImportError:
74                         from eventlet.wsgi import ALREADY_HANDLED
75                         WSGI_LOCAL = None
76
77                     if hasattr(WSGI_LOCAL, 'already_handled'):
78                         WSGI_LOCAL.already_handled = True
79                     return ALREADY_HANDLED
80                 elif ws.mode == 'unicorn':
81                     raise StopIteration()
```

Inside the decorator method, the **websocket_route** method leads to the base server for the websocket with: **ws = Server(request.environ, **current_app.config.get('SOCK_SERVER_OPTIONS', {}))**.

The **WebSocketResponse** class is the important class which let websocket server receive the response. https://github.com/miguelgrinberg/flask-socket/blob/10e0b3bb05580b63433106ef1b5ab42a735846d6/src/flask_socket/_init_.py#L67

For the call function,

```
def __call__(self, *args, **kwargs):
    if ws.mode == 'eventlet':
        try:
            from eventlet.wsgi import WSGI_LOCAL
            ALREADY_HANDLED = []
```

if the WebSocket mode is “eventlet”, it goes to a empty list, it no **ImportError** shows, the ws.mode return to eventlet.

In our snake game, server will be able to get connection by using ws.send() and ws.receive() with users(client). From all moving and getting score by single or multi players, the websocket server will receive the data to update the leaderboard.