Web Programming
Server-side programming III.

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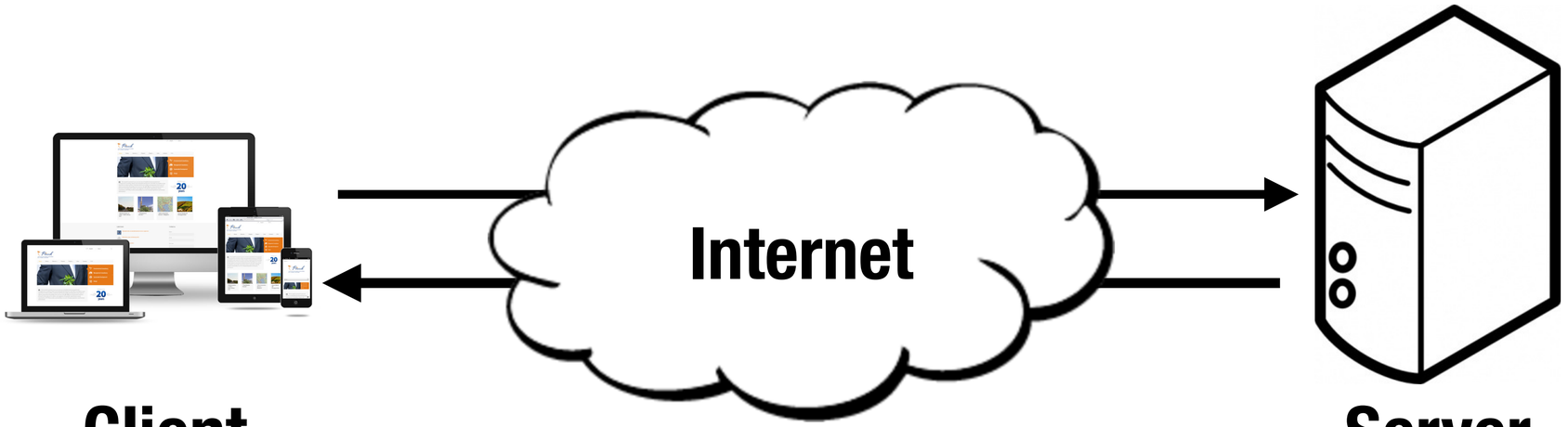
Server-side programming

- Part I. handling requests
- Part II. templating
- Part III. MySQL
- Part IV. cookies and sessions

Storing data

Files

Database



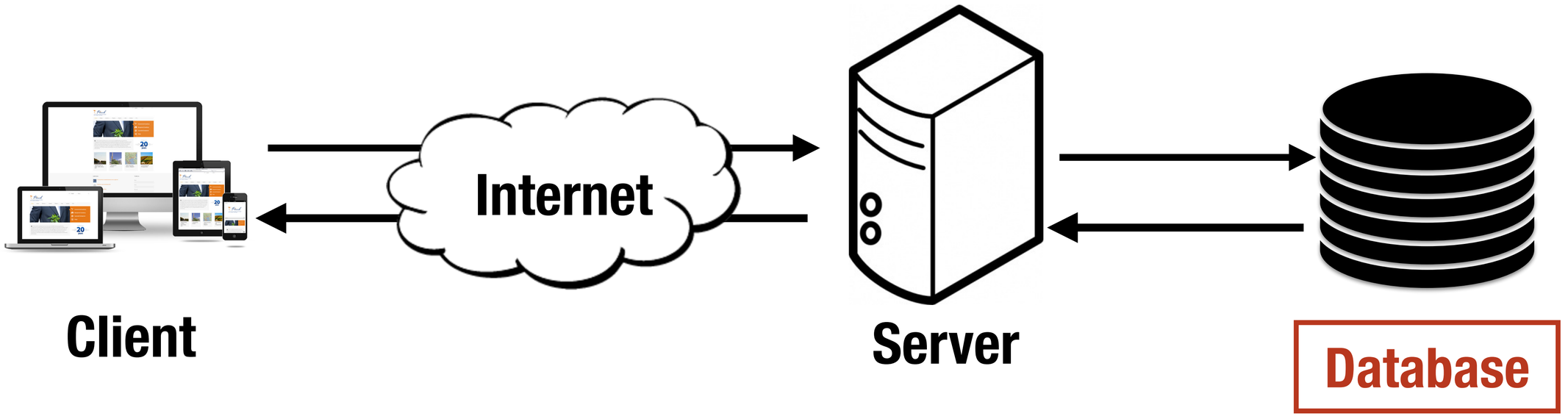
Client

Server

Cookie

Session

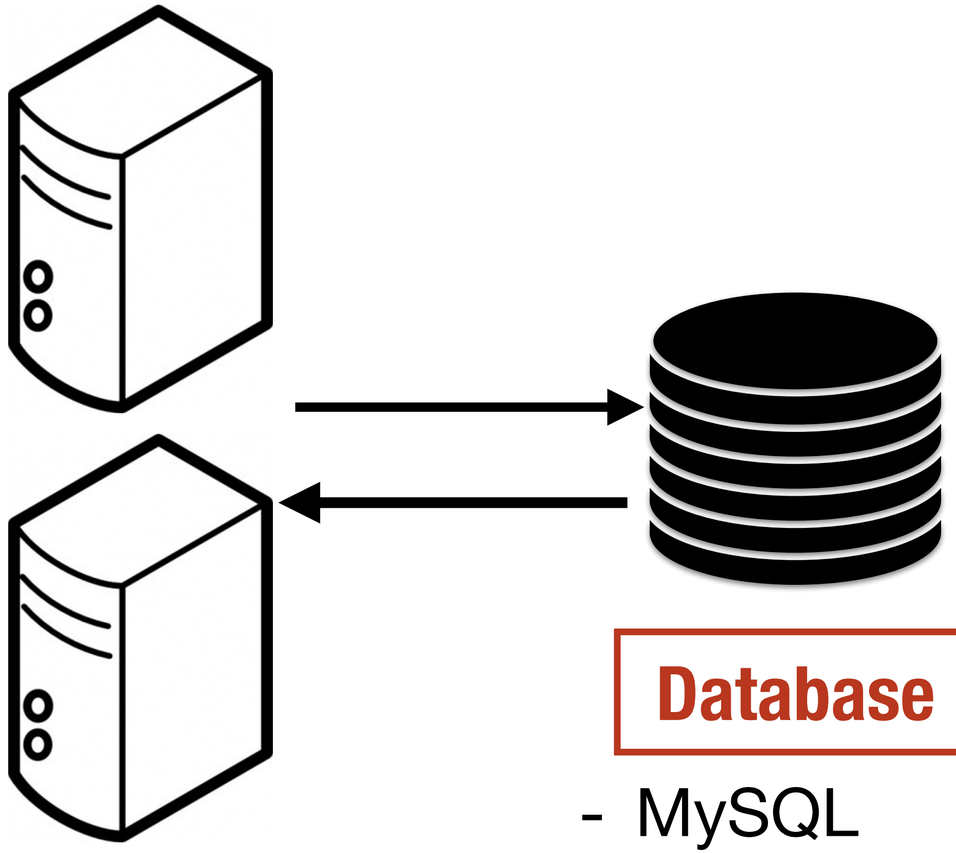
Architecture



Architecture

- Database server:
  - maintains state
  - stays consistent

- Web servers:
  - process client request
  - access state from database servers
  - may cache state but otherwise stateless



Web Server

Database

- MySQL
- PostgreSQL
- SQL Server

SQLite

- Lightweight database:
  - Store database in a file
  - Good for prototyping and examples
  - Only for single webserver

Using SQLite from Python

Connectors

- Low level connectors vs. Object-relational mapping (ORM)
- Many packages for low level connection
  - Most of them are compliant with the Python Database API Specification (PEP 249) https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0249/
- We will be using **PySQLite Connector/Python**
  - Included in the standard library
  - Similar inteface to database servers
  - Tutorial: https://www.sqlitetutorial.net/sqlite-python/

Python Database API Specification

- Two main objects
  - Connection
  - Cursor
- Connection methods
  - **`cursor()`** returns a new Cursor
  - **`close()`** closes connection to DB
  - **`commit()`** commits any pending transactions
  - **`rollback()`** rolls back to the start of any pending transaction (optional)

Connecting to a DB

```
import sqlite3


conn = sqlite3.connect(“database_file.db”)

# do some stuff

conn.close()
```

- The **`connect()`** constructor creates a connection to the SQLite database and returns a **`Connection`** object
- **`connect()`** takes the path to a database file (absolute or relative). If the file does not exist a new database is created.

Error Handling

examples/python/sqlite/sqlite1.py

```
from sqlite3 import Error


try:
    conn = sqlite3.connect(“database_file.db”)
except Error as err:
    print(err)
else:
    # do some stuff
   conn.close()
```

All database statements should be done inside `try: except:`

Python Database API Specification

- Cursor methods/attributes
  - **`execute()`** executes a database operation or query
  - **`rowcount`** read-only attribute, number of rows that the last execute command produced (SELECT) or affected (UPDATE, INSERT, DELETE)
  - **`close()`** closes the cursor
  - **`fetchone()`** fetches the next row of a query result set
  - **`fetchmany()`** fetches the next set of rows of a query result
  - **`fetchall()`** fetches all (remaining) rows of a query result
  - **`arraysize`** read/write attribute, specifying the number of rows to fetch at a time with **`fetchmany()`** (default is 1)

Creating a Table

examples/python/sqlite/sqlite1.py

```
cur = conn.cursor()
try:
    sql = ("CREATE TABLE postcodes ("
           "postcode VARCHAR(4), "
           "location VARCHAR(20), "
           "PRIMARY KEY(postcode))")
    cur.execute(sql)
except Error as err:
    print("Error: {}".format(err))
else:
    print("Table created.")
finally:
    cur.close()
```

Dropping a Table

examples/python/sqlite/sqlite1.py

```
cur = conn.cursor()
try:
    sql = "DROP TABLE postcodes"
    cur.execute(sql)
except Error as err:
    print("Error: {}".format(err))
else:
    print("Table dropped.")
finally:
    cur.close()
```

Inserting Data

examples/python/sqlite/sqlite1.py

```
sql = "INSERT INTO postcodes (postcode, location) VALUES (?, ?)”
try:
    cur.execute(sql, (k, v))  # data is provided as a tuple
    conn.commit()  # commit after each row
except Error as err:
    print("Error: {}".format(err))
```

- Add placeholder **?** to sql statement
- Data is provided as a tuple (list of values)
- DELETE and UPDATE work the same way
- You must **commit** the data after these statements

Querying Data

examples/python/sqlite/sqlite1.py

```
cur = conn.cursor()
try:
    sql = ("SELECT postcode, location FROM postcodes "
           "WHERE postcode BETWEEN ? AND ?")
    cur.execute(sql, ("4000", "5000"))
    for (postcode, location) in cur:
        print("{}: {}".format(postcode, location))
except Error as err:
    print("Error: {}".format(err))
finally:
    cur.close()
```

- Use **cur.fetchall( )** to get list of row values

Object-Relational Mapping

- For Object-Relational Mapping (ORM), see SQLAlchemy
  - https://www.sqlalchemy.org/
  - Flask extension: http://flask.pocoo.org/docs/0.12/patterns/sqlalchemy/

```
users = Table('users', metadata,
    Column('user_id', Integer, primary_key=True),
    Column('name', String(40)),
    Column('age', Integer),
    Column('password', String),
)
users.create()

i = users.insert()
i.execute(name='Mary', age=30, password='secret')

s = users.select(users.c.age < 40)
rs = s.execute()
```

Using MySQL from Flask

Flask Contexts

- Flask provides two contexts
- **`request`** variable is associated with the current request

```
from flask import request
```

- **`g`** is associated with the "global" application context

```
from flask import g
```

  - typically used to cache resources that need to be created on a per-request case, e.g., DB connections
  - resource allocation: **`get_X()`** creates resource X if it does not exist yet, otherwise returns the same resource
  - resource deallocation: **`teardown_X()`** is a tear down handler

Example

examples/python/flask/5_sqlite/app.py

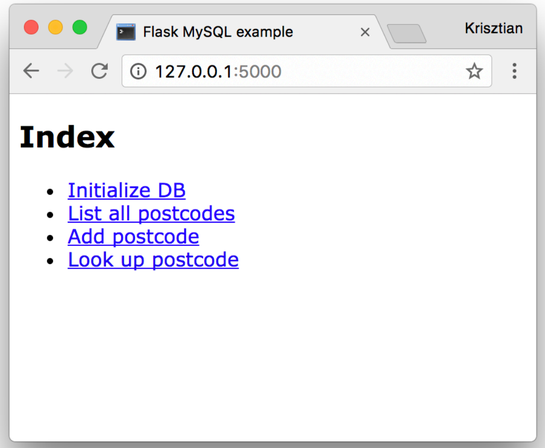
```
def get_db():
    if not hasattr(g, "_database"):
        g._database = sqlite3.connect(“database.db")
   return g._database


@app.teardown_appcontext
def teardown_db(error):
    db = getattr(g, '_database', None)
    if db is not None:
        db.close()


@app.route("/listall")
def list_all():
    """List all postcodes."""
    db = get_db()
    cur = db.cursor()
```

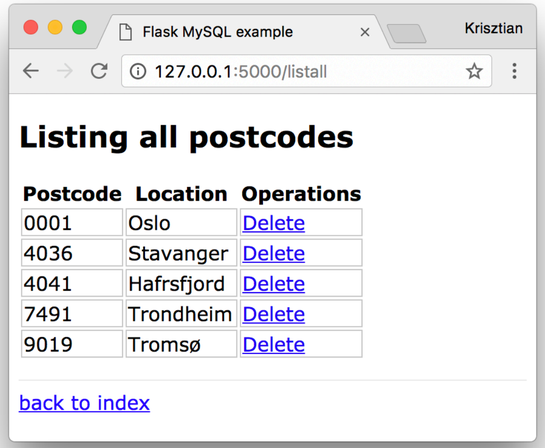
The first time **`get_db()`** is called the connection will be established

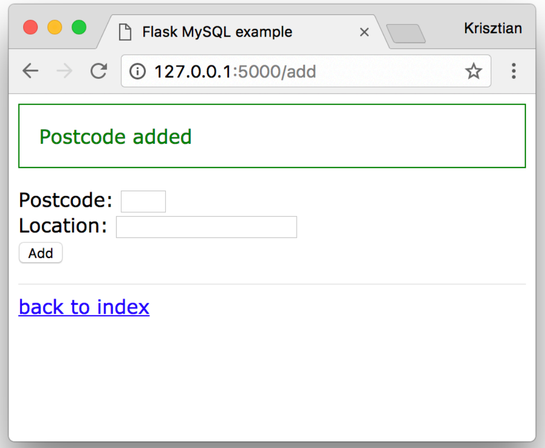
Example

examples/python/flask/5_sqlite/app.py

- Contains examples of CREATE TABLE, INSERT, SELECT (single/multiple records), DELETE
- Uses flashing for success messages







Exercises #1, #2

github.com/dat310-spring21/course-info/tree/master/
exercises/python/flask3

Resources

- Python Database API Specification
  https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0249/
- SQLite3 Connector/Python
  https://docs.python.org/3/library/sqlite3.html
- Flask SQLite
  https://flask.palletsprojects.com/en/1.1.x/patterns/sqlite3/
- SQLite CLI
  https://sqlite.org/cli.html