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Debian / Ubuntu Linux Apache mod_python Configuration

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <vivek@nixcraft.com>

I've installed a Web server (Apache2) and like to use Python interpreter correctly. How do I configure mod_python under Debian or Ubuntu Linux running Apache server version 2.x?

You need to install the following software:

a) **libapache2-mod-python** : Mod_python is a module that embeds the Python language interpreter within the server, allowing Apache handlers to be written in Python. Mod_python brings together the versatility of Python and the power of the Apache Web server for a considerable boost in flexibility and performance over the traditional CGI approach.

b) Apache2 webserver.

Install mod_python

Open terminal and type the following command:

```
$ sudo apt-get update
$ sudo apt-get install libapache2-mod-python libapache2-mod-python-doc
```

Configure mod_python

You need to create directory to host your python scripts. Type the following command:

```
$ sudo mkdir /var/www/py
```

Give your account permission to access the scripts:

```
$ sudo chown yourname:www-data /var/www/py
```

Now, open /etc/apache2/sites-available/default, enter:

```
$ sudo -s
# vi /etc/apache2/sites-available/default
```

Add the following config code:

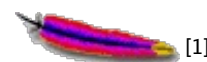
```
<Directory /var/www/py>
    AddHandler mod_python .py
    PythonHandler hello
    PythonDebug On
</Directory>
```

Save and close the file. Restart Apache2 server:

```
# /etc/init.d/apache2 restart
# tail -f /var/log/apache2/error.log
```

You should see mod_python/3.3.1 Python/2.5.2 loaded:

```
[Tue Mar 17 02:42:18 2009] [notice] FastCGI: process manager initialized (pid 15572)
[Tue Mar 17 02:42:18 2009] [notice] mod_python: Creating 8 session mutexes based on 150 max
[Tue Mar 17 02:42:18 2009] [notice] mod_python: using mutex_directory /tmp
```



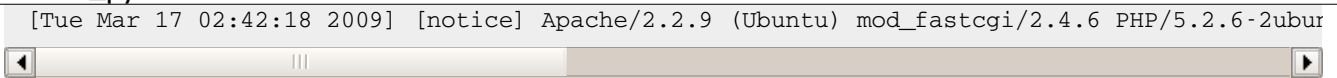
[1]



[2]



[3]



How do I test mod_python?

Simply create the script as follows:

```
$ vi /var/www/py/hello.py
```

The following simple mod_python program serves as a good test:

```
from mod_python import apache

def handler(req):
    req.log_error('handler')
    req.content_type = 'text/html'
    req.send_http_header()
    req.write('<html><head><title>Testing mod_python</title></head><body>')
    req.write('Hello World!')
    req.write('</body></html>')
    return apache.OK
```

Save and close the file. Now fire a webbrowser and type the url:

```
http://localhost/py/hello.py
```

You should see "Hello World!" on screen.

Further readings:

This is just getting started tutorial and setting up the Python interpreter correctly. I recommend getting mod_python book or refer to [Python Language](#) ^[4] Website.

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[4] Python Language: <http://python.org/>