

Flask REST API using JWT

or

Securing an API

Why?

- worldwide IP addresses are scanned for open ports
- https only secures the transport, but API can be still abused
- some form of authentication necessary
- JWT = JSON Web Token
 - proposed standard for creating data with optional signature and/or optional encryption whose payload holds JSON that asserts some number of claims
 - tokens are designed to be compact, URL-safe, and usable especially in a web-browser single-sign-on (SSO) context
 - source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JSON_Web_Token

What?

- Developed a great ML model
- Instead of handing out model, provide API



How?

- model
 - scikit-learn: <https://scikit-learn.org/>
- API
 - flask: <https://flask.palletsprojects.com/>
 - flask-jwt: <https://pythonhosted.org/Flask-JWT/>
- Deployment in AWS:
 - <https://medium.com/analytics-vidhya/deploy-restful-api-with-flask-on-aws-12575c808b4>
 - <https://linuxroutes.com/default-username-aws-for-logging-on-to-different-linux-distros-ec2-instance/>
- secure transport: uWSGI + nginx
 - outside of scope, instead see tutorial:
<https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/how-to-serve-flask-applications-with-uwsgi-and-nginx-on-ubuntu-18-04>

Let's see some code

What else?

- flask-jwt-extended
 - being able to refresh tokens

<https://github.com/vimalloc/flask-jwt-extended>
- flask-sqlalchemy
 - for recording usage of model
 - charge by usage??

<https://flask-sqlalchemy.palletsprojects.com/>