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- 2. HTTP
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Reasonable Questions

- What is the World Wide Web?
- Is it the same thing as the Internet?
- Who invented it?
- How old is it?
- How does it work?
- What kinds of things can it do?
- What does it have to do with programming?

Web ≠ Internet

- Internet: a physical network connecting millions of computers using the same protocols for sharing/transmitting information (TCP/IP)
 - Internet is a network of smaller networks
- World Wide Web: a collection of interlinked multimedia documents that are stored on the Internet and accessed using a common protocol (HTTP)
- Key distinction: Internet is hardware; Web is software along with data, documents, and other media
- Many other Internet-based applications exist e.g., email, telnet, ftp, usenet, instant messaging services, file-sharing services, ...

(A Very Brief) History of the Internet

- The idea of a long-distance computer network traces back to early 60's
 - Joseph Licklider at M.I.T. (a "time-sharing network of computers")
 - Paul Baran at Rand (tasked with designing a "survivable" communications system that could maintain communication between end points even after damage from a nuclear attack)
 - Donald Davies at National Physics Laboratory in U.K.
- In particular, the US Department of Defense was interested in the development of distributed, decentralized networks
 - survivability (i.e., network still functions despite a local attack)
 - fault-tolerance (i.e., network still functions despite local failure)
 - contrast with phone system, electrical system which are highly centralized services

The Internet

- In 1969, Advanced Research Project Agency funded the ARPANET
 - Connected computers at UC Los Angeles, UC Santa Barbara, Stanford Research Institute, and University of Utah
 - Allowed researchers to share data, communicate
- Technical origin
 - One of earliest attempts to network heterogeneous, geographically dispersed computers
 - Email first available on ARPANET in 1971 (and quickly very popular!)

The Internet

- Open-access networks
 - Regional university networks (e.g., SURAnet)
 - CSNET for CS departments not on ARPANET
- NSFNET (1985-1995)
 - Primary purpose: connect supercomputer centers
 - Secondary purpose: provide backbone to connect regional networks

The 6 supercomputer centers connected by the early NSFNET backbone

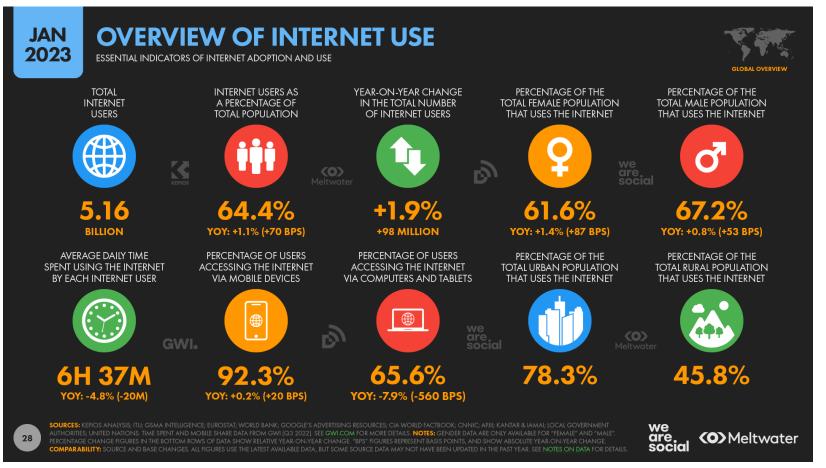


Internet Growth

- Throughout the 70's, the size of the ARPANET doubled every year
 - First ARPANET e-mail sent in 1971
 - Decentralization mades adding new computers easy
 - TCP/IP developed in the mid 1970s for more efficient packet routing
 - Migration of ARPANET to TCP/IP completed 1 january, 1983
 - ~1000 military & academic host computers connected by 1984
- In 80's, U.S. government took a larger role in Internet development
 - Created NSFNET for academic research in 1986
 - ARPANET was retained for military & government computers
- By 90's, Internet connected virtually all colleges & universities
 - Businesses and individuals also connecting as computing costs fell
 - ~1,000,000 computers by 1992
- In 1992, control of the Internet was transferred to a non-profit organizations
 - Internet society: Internet engineering task force, Internet architecture board, Internet assigned number authority, World-wide-web consortium (W3C)

Internet Growth (cont.)

 Internet has exhibited exponential growth, doubling in size every 1-2 years (stats from Internet Software Consortium)



(A Very Brief) History of the Web

- The idea of hypertext (cross-linked and inter-linked documents) traces back to Vannevar Bush in the 1940's
 - Online hypertext systems began to be developed in 1960's
 - In 1987, Apple introduced hypercard (a hypermedia system that predated the WWW)
- In 1989, Tim Berners-lee at the European particle physics laboratory (CERN) designed a hypertext system for linking documents over the internet
 - Designed a (non-wysiwyg) language for specifying document content => Evolved into hypertext markup language (HTML)
 - Designed a protocol for downloading documents and interpreting the content => Evolved into hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP)
 - Implemented the first browser -- text-based, no embedded media

The web was born!

History of the Web (cont.)

- The Web was an obscure, European research tool until 1993
- In 1993, Marc Andreessen and Eric Bina (at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, a unit of the University of Illinois) developed Mosaic, one of the early graphical Web browsers that popularized the WWW for the general public
- Andreessen left NCSA to found Netscape in 1994
 - Cheap/free browser further popularized the Web (75% market share in 1996)
- In 1995, Microsoft came out with Internet Explorer
- Opera web browser released in 1996
 - Firefox web browser, version 1.0, released in 2004
 - Google Chrome released in 2008
- Today, the Web is the most visible aspect of the Internet

World Wide Web

- **The Web** is the collection of machines (Web servers) on the Internet that provide information, particularly HTML documents, via HTTP.
- Machines that access information on the Web are known as Web clients. A
 Web browser is software used by an end user to access the Web.

Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP)

- HTTP is based on the request-response communication model:
 - Client sends a request
 - Server sends a response

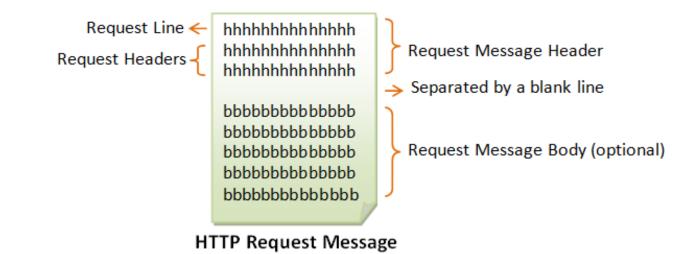
- HTTP is a stateless protocol:
 - The protocol does not require the server to remember anything about the client between requests.

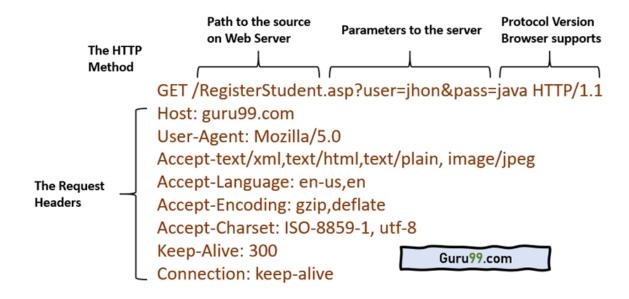
HTTP

- Normally implemented over a TCP connection (80 is standard port number for HTTP)
- Typical browser-server interaction:
 - User enters Web address in browser
 - Browser uses DNS to locate IP address
 - Browser opens TCP connection to server
 - Browser sends HTTP request over connection
 - Server sends HTTP response to browser over connection
 - Browser displays body of response in the client area of the browser window

- Structure of the request:
 - request line
 - header field(s)
 - blank line
 - optional body

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 - request line
 - request headers
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- Request line
 - GET /test.html HTTP/1.1
 - POST /index.html HTTP/1.1

- Three space-separated parts:
 - HTTP request method
 - Request-URI (Uniform Resource Identifier)
 - HTTP version

- Request line
 - GET /test.html HTTP/1.1
 - POST /index.html HTTP/1.1

- Three space-separated parts:
 - HTTP request method
 - Request-URI
 - HTTP version
 - 1.1: 1997
 - 2: 2015
 - 3: 2022

URI

- Uniform Resource Identifier
- URI = scheme:[//authority]path[?query][#fragment]

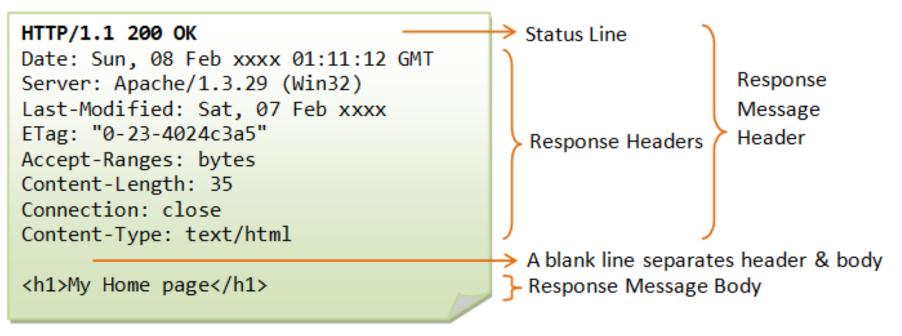


URI

- URI's are of two types:
- Uniform Resource Name (URN)
 - Can be used to identify resources with unique names, such as books (which have unique ISBN's)
 - Scheme is urn

- Uniform Resource Locator (URL)
 - Specifies location at which a resource can be found
 - In addition to http, some other URL schemes are https, ftp, mailto, and file

- Structure of the response:
 - status line
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- Structure of the response:
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- Status line
 - Example: HTTP/1.1 200 OK
- Three space-separated parts:
 - HTTP version
 - status code
 - reason phrase (intended for human use)

- Status code
 - Three-digit number
 - First digit is class of the status code:
 - 1=Informational
 - 2=Success
 - 3=Redirection (alternate URL is supplied)
 - 4=Client Error
 - 5=Server Error
 - Other two digits provide additional information
 - See http://www.w3.org/Protocols/rfc2616/rfc2616-sec10.html

- Structure of the response:
 - status line
 - header field(s)
 - blank line
 - optional body

Common header fields:

- Connection, Content-Type, Content-Length
- Date: date and time at which response was generated (required)
- Location: alternate URI if status is redirection
- Last-Modified: date and time the requested resource was last modified on the server
- Expires: date and time after which the client's copy of the resource will be out-ofdate
- ETag: a unique identifier for this version of the requested resource (changes if resource changes)

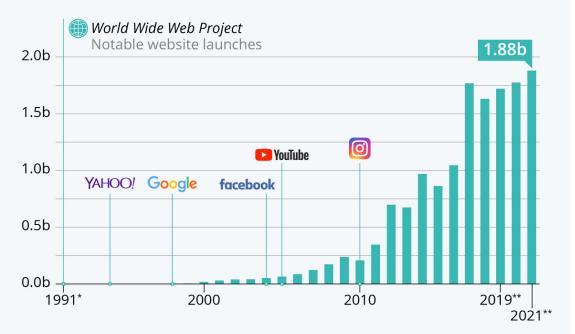
HTTP Request/Response Examples

```
$ telnet www.example.org 80
Connect
                 Trying 192.0.34.166...
                 Connected to www.example.com
                 (192.0.34.166).
                 Escape character is '^]'.
                 GET / HTTP/1.1
Send
                 Host: www.example.org
Request
                 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 2022 20:30:49 GMT
Receive
Response
```

Web Growth

How Many Websites Are There?

Number of websites online from 1991 to 2021



^{*} As of August 1, 1991.

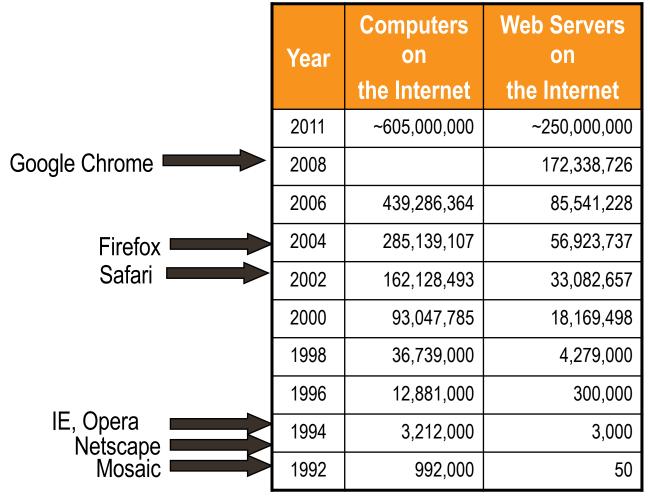
^{**} Latest available data for 2019: October 28, for 2020: June 2, for 2021: August 6. Source: Internet Live Stats











Web growth (cont.)

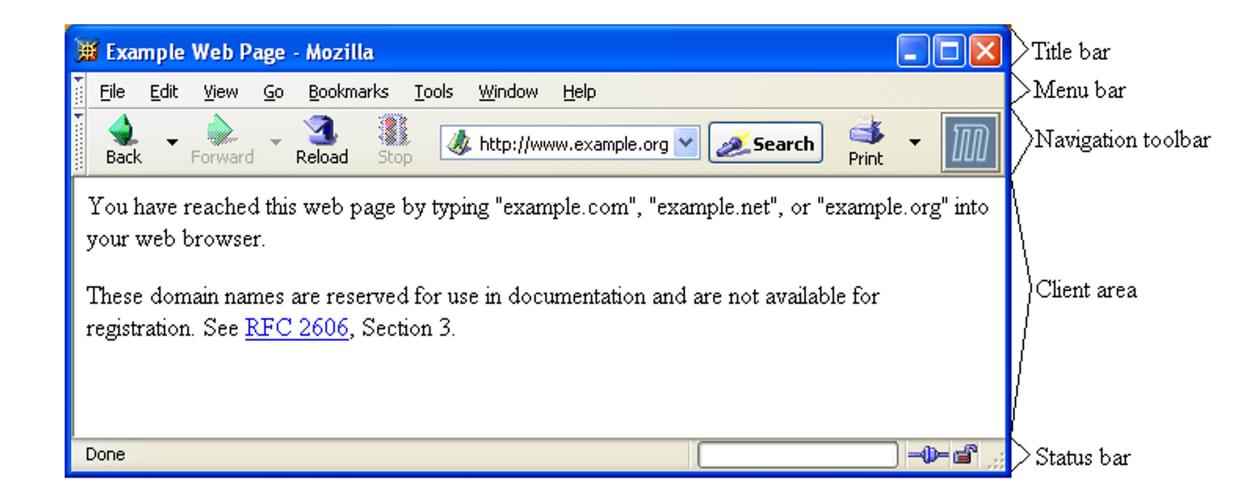
- Internet addresses are used to identify computers on the internet.
- Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4) was first defined in 1981 and is still in use today, but this uses a 32-bit number to specify addresses.
- IPv4 provides around 4.29 billion addresses that are in use (or reserved).
- IPv6 had been deployed since the mid-2000s and uses 128 bit addresses, but also redesigned to allow more efficient routing, network aggregation, and ease of network reconfiguration.

Web Browsers

• First graphical browser running on general-purpose platforms:



Web Browsers



Web Browsers

- Primary tasks:
 - Convert web addresses (URL's) to HTTP requests
 - Communicate with web servers via HTTP
 - Render (appropriately display) documents returned by a server

Web Browsers - History

- 1990. WordWideWeb, Tim Berners-Lee
- 1993. Mosaic 1.0
- 1994. Netscape Navigator 1.0
- 1995. Microsoft Internet Explorer 1.0
- 1996. Opera 2.0
- 2002. Mozilla Phoenix 0.1
- 2003. Apple Safari Public Beta
- 2004. Mozilla Firefox 1.0
- 2008. Google Chrome Beta

Web Browsers - History



IE crew in front of Netscape building IE 4.0, 1997



The next day

Static vs. Dynamic pages

- Most Web pages are static
 - contents (text/links/images) are the same each time it is accessed e.g., online documents, most homepages
 - HyperText Markup Language (HTML) is used to specify text/image format
- Online services and e-commerce continues to grow, Web pages must also provide dynamic content
 - pages can be fluid, changeable (e.g., rotating banners)
 - must be able to react to the user's actions, request and process info, tailor services, e.g., amazon.com

Web Clients

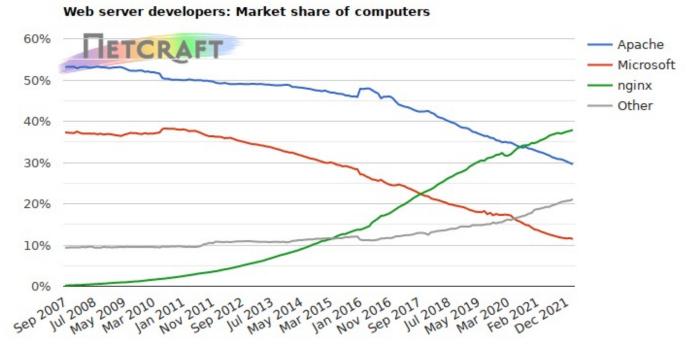
- Many possible web clients:
 - Text-only "browser" (lynx)
 - Mobile phones
 - Robots (software-only clients, e.g., search engine "crawlers")
 - etc.

Web Servers

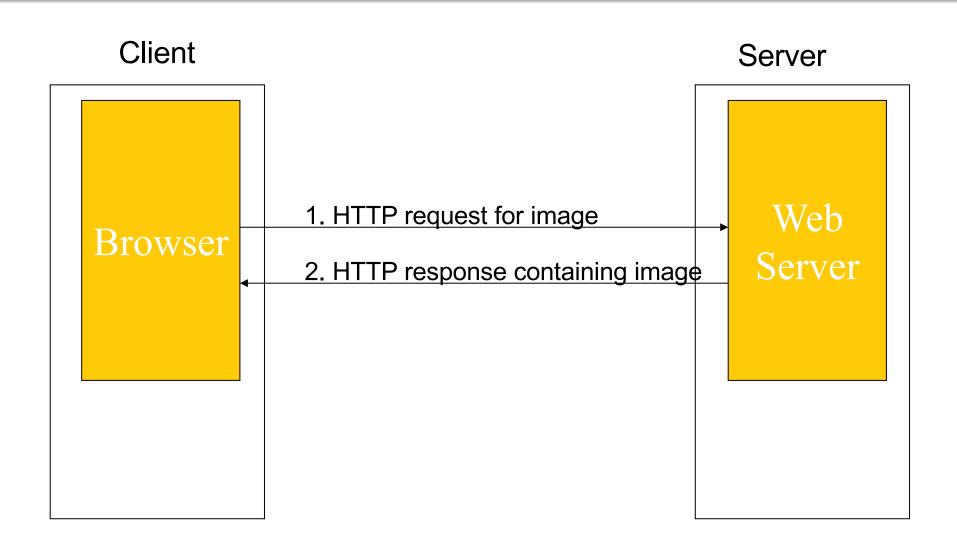
- Receive HTTP request via TCP
- Map host header (domain name) to specific virtual host (one of many host names sharing an IP address)
- Map Request-URI to specific resource associated with the virtual host
 - File: Return file in HTTP response
 - Program: Run program and return output in HTTP response
- Map type of resource to appropriate MIME type and use to set Content-Type header in HTTP response
- Log information about the request and response

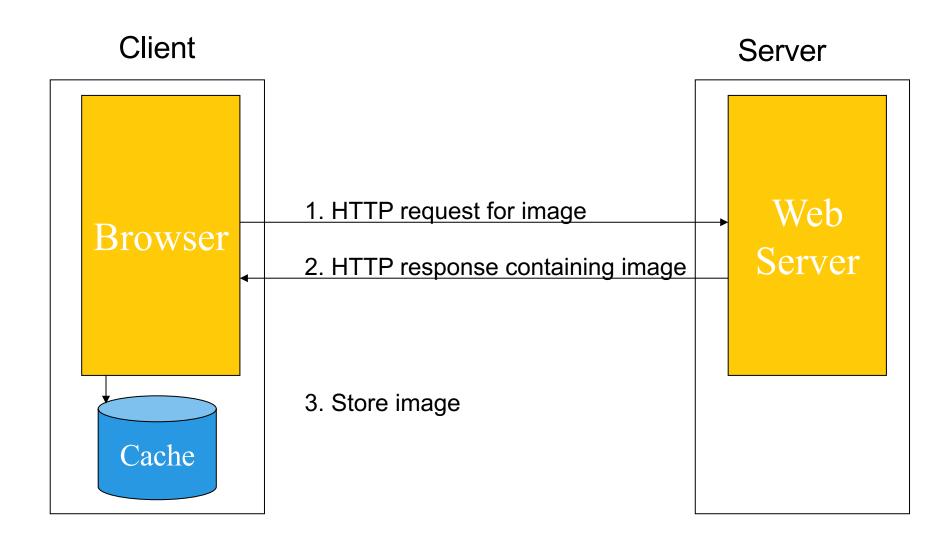
Web Servers

- httpd: Apache HTTP Serrver was launched in 1995
- IIS: Microsoft Internet Information Server was released in 1995
- Nginx: open-source software, was released in 2004



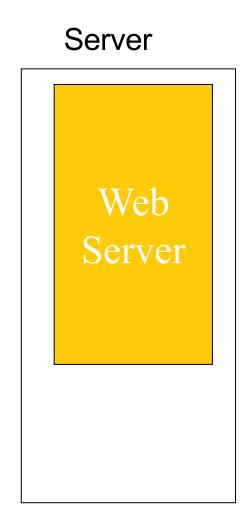
Web server survey, Feb.2022

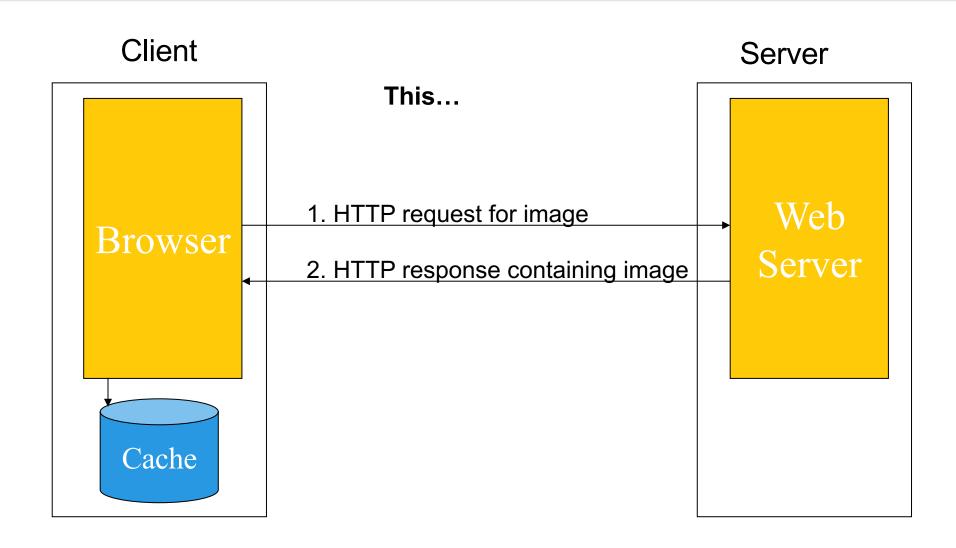


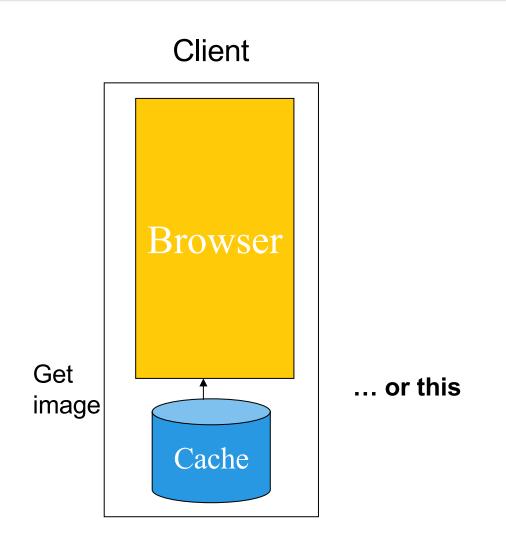


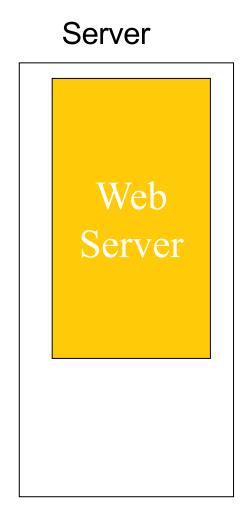
Client Browser Cache

I need that image again



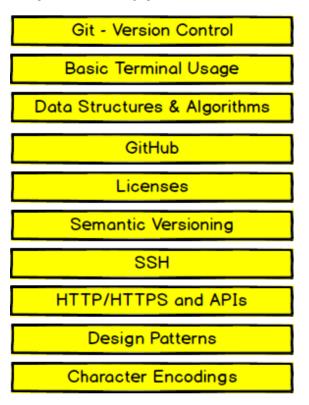


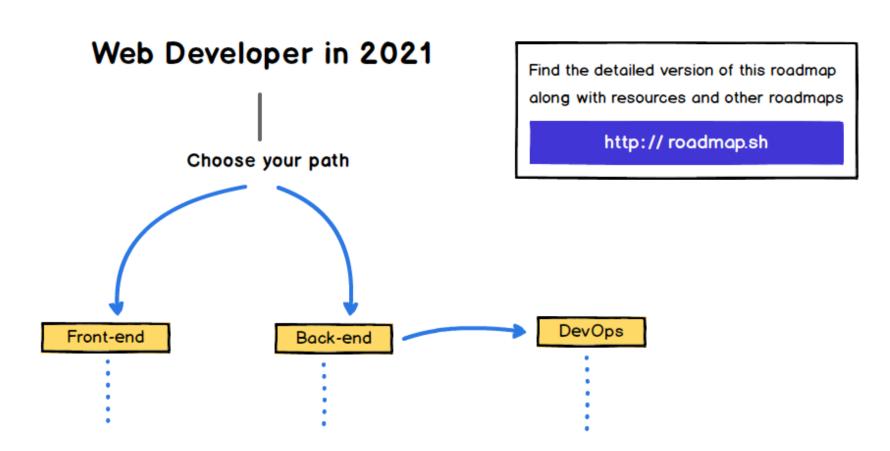




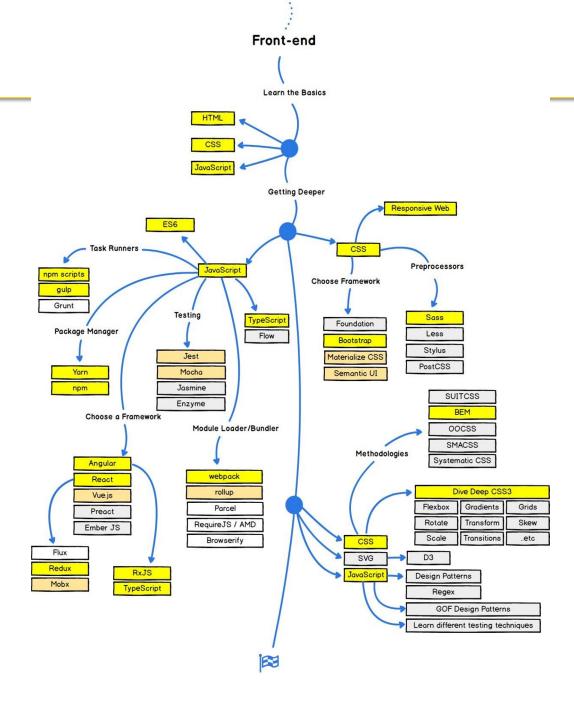
Web Developer Roadmap 2021

Required for any path

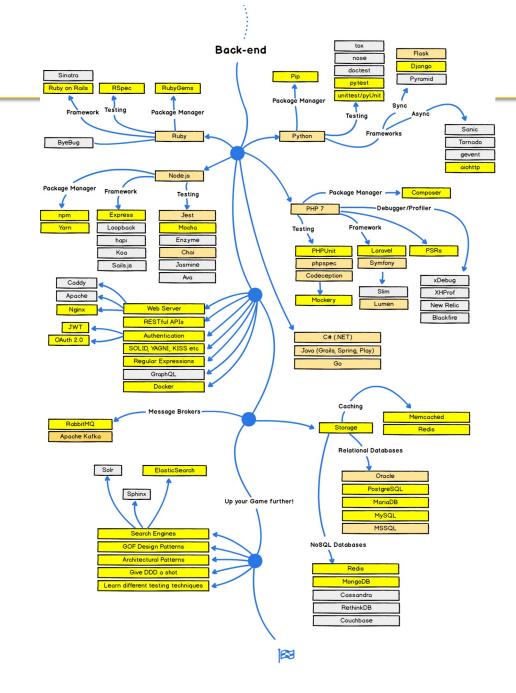




Front-end



Back-end



DevOps

