Notebook 6: ExpressJS Post Requests

# Requirements

1. You need to have the work from the previous notebooks. You need two files: app.js and comments.json.

# How to create a POST endpoint in ExpressJS

1. Creating the POST endpoint you will need to write down a set of code that is needed

app.post('/feedback', function(req, res) => {}

* 1. The feedback can be replaced with a files location I’m just using it as an example

# How to read the POST requests body

1. You are gonna want to open the {} and the add the following code. app.post('/feedback', (req, res) => {

//If the user gives a name and comment for feedback, mark it down in comment.

if (req.body.name && req.body.comment) {

let comment = {

// This takes your name and comment and will use the information here to post it into a comment

name: req.body.name,

comment: req.body.comment

};

In this example, you can add a name and a comment to a JSON file.

# How to tell ExpressJS to use its 'body-parser' module to parse "URL-encoded request bodies"

1. This is as easy as just going to the top of the page for your app.js and adding this line of code

app.use(express.urlencoded({ extended: true}));

# How to convert the POST data into JSON

1. You are going to want to go back to your code and go a line down and put all of this inside the curly braces:

if (req.body.name && req.body.comment) {

//If both name and comment exist, write to file.

let comment = {

name: req.body.name,

comment: req.body.comment

};

//this logs that the comment successfully writes to the file

let data = JSON.parse(fs.readFileSync('comments.json'));

data.comments.push(comment);

data = JSON.stringify(data);

fs.writeFile('comments.json', data, 'utf8', () => console.log("Wrote to file"));

//this logs to the console that you are missing one or more parameters

} else if (!req.body.name && !req.body.comment) {

console.log("You're missing both parameters. You need \"name\" and \"comment.\"");

} else if (!req.body.name) {

console.log("You're missing the \"name\" parameter.");

} else {

console.log("You're missing the \"comment\" parameter.");

}

This should be all you need for a basic POST request.