NGINX: Lab - Location Context

➤ **Location Context:** Location blocks live within server blocks (or other location blocks) and are used to decide how to process the request URI.

➤ Syntax:
location optional_modifier location_match {
}

➤ **location_match:** Defines what Nginx should check the request URI against.

➤ The existence or nonexistence of the modifier, affects the way that the Nginx attempts to match the location block.

➤ The modifiers below will cause the associated location block to be interpreted as follows:

  ➤ **(none)**: If no modifiers are present, the location is interpreted as a *prefix* match. This means that the location given will be matched against the beginning of the request URI to determine a match.

  ➤ **=**: If an equal sign is used, this block will be considered a match if the request URI exactly matches the location given.

  ➤ **~**: If a tilde modifier is present, this location will be interpreted as a case-sensitive regular expression match.

  ➤ **~***: If a tilde and asterisk modifier is used, the location block will be interpreted as a case-insensitive regular expression match.

  ➤ **^~**: If a carat and tilde modifier is present, and if this block is selected as the best non-regular expression match, regular expression matching will not take place.

➤ **Priority of Modifiers:** Nginx chooses the location that will be used to serve a request in a similar fashion to how it selects a server block. It runs through a process that determines the best location block for any given request.

➤ Understanding this process is a crucial requirement in being able to configure Nginx reliably and accurately.

1. Exact Match   =   URI
2. Preferential Prefix Match   ^~ URI
3. REGEX Match.   ~*   URI

See you in next lecture …