

COS30049 – Computing Technology Innovation Project

Week 10 - Introduction to Back-End Development

(Lecture – 02)

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Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Swinburne's Australian campuses are located in Melbourne's east and outer-east, and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We are honoured to recognise our connection to Wurundjeri Country, history, culture, and spirituality through these locations, and strive to ensure that we operate in a manner that respects and honours the Elders and Ancestors of these lands.

We also respectfully acknowledge Swinburne's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, students, alumni, partners and visitors.

We also acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of lands across Australia, their Elders, Ancestors, cultures, and heritage, and recognise the continuing sovereignties of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nations.



- Introduction to Back-End development
- Introduction to HTTP
- **Introduction to FastAPI**
- Introduction to Swagger & Postman
- Simple Demo



FastAPI framework, high performance, easy to learn, fast to code, ready for production

 Test passing
 coverage 100%
 pypi package v0.114.0
 python 3.8 | 3.9 | 3.10 | 3.11 | 3.12

[FastAPI](#)

FastAPI Overview

What is FastAPI

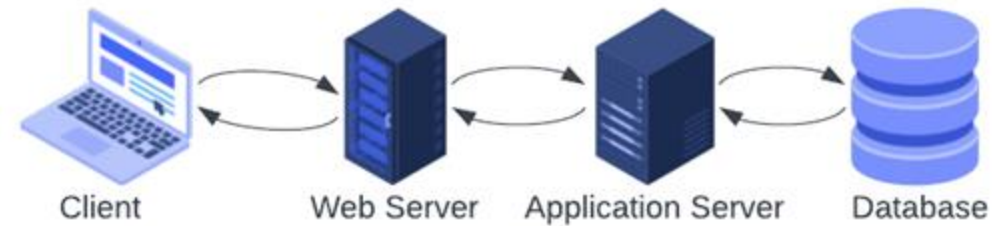
FastAPI is A modern, fast (high-performance), web framework for building APIs with Python 3.6+.

Main Components:

- **Starlette:** The lightweight ASGI framework that FastAPI is built on, providing routing, middleware, sessions, WebSockets, background tasks, and more.
- **ASGI Server:** Like Uvicorn or Hypercorn, serves the FastAPI application.
- **Path Operations:** Define API endpoints using Python functions and decorators.
- **Data Validation:** Uses **Pydantic** for parsing and validating request data with Python type hints.
- **Dependency Injection:** Built-in system to manage and inject dependencies into your functions.
- **Middleware and Background Tasks:** Allows for custom request handling layers and background processing tasks.

FastAPI Overview(Cont.)

FastAPI uses Starlette as the underlying ASGI framework. In our course, we will use **Uvicorn** as the ASGI server, corresponding to the web server in this diagram.



In the assignment for this course, we will use FastAPI to implement the application server part as shown in the diagram. Since our AI model prediction is provided as a separate service, this course will not cover the database part in the web model shown in the diagram.



Remember:

Your success in mastering FastAPI depends on how well you leverage the **official documentation**.

Make it your go-to resource at every step of your learning journey!



Path Operations

- Functions defined in FastAPI to handle specific routes (URLs) and HTTP methods.
- Decorated with `@app.get()`, `@app.post()`, `@app.put()`, `@app.delete()`, etc., to map functions to HTTP requests.

```
@app.get("/items/{item_id}")  
def get_item(item_id: int):  
    return {"item_id": item_id}
```

Defines a GET endpoint that retrieves an item based on the `item_id` path parameter.



Data Validation and Serialization with Pydantic

Pydantic Models:

- FastAPI uses Pydantic models to define data schemas for request and response bodies.
- Automatically validates incoming request data according to the model schema.

```
from pydantic import BaseModel

class Item(BaseModel):
    name: str
    price: float
    is_offer: bool = None
```

Data Serialization:

- Converts complex data types (e.g., objects) into JSON format to be sent in HTTP responses.
- Pydantic models also handle serialization seamlessly.

Dependency Injection and Middleware

Dependency Injection:

- A technique to manage and inject external dependencies (like database connections, configuration settings) into functions.
- Improves modularity and testability by separating business logic from external resources.

Example of Dependency Injection:

```
from fastapi import Depends

def get_db():
    db = "Database connection"
    return db

@app.get("/items/")
def read_items(db=Depends(get_db)):
    return {"db": db}
```

get_db is a dependency that provides a database connection to the read_items endpoint.



Dependency Injection and Middleware (Cont.)

Middleware:

Definition: Middleware is a function that sits between the client's request and the server's response. It processes requests before they reach the application logic and can modify responses before they are sent back to the client.

Middleware can perform tasks such as logging, handling CORS (Cross-Origin Resource Sharing), adding security headers, or processing sessions.

This middleware logs the URL of each request and the time it took to process. It demonstrates how you can use middleware to track performance and debug issues.

```
@app.middleware("http")
async def log_requests(request: Request, call_next):
    start_time = time.time()
    response = await call_next(request)
    process_time = time.time() - start_time
    print(f"Request: {request.url} - Duration: {process_time} seconds")
    return response
```

Example of Middleware Usage



Error Handling and Exception Management

Error Handling with HTTPException:

Definition: Error handling in FastAPI involves managing exceptions that occur during request processing.

HTTPException: FastAPI uses the HTTPException class to raise HTTP errors. This class allows you to specify an HTTP status code and a detailed error message, which can be returned to the client in a standardized format. For example, you can raise a 404 Not Found error if a requested resource is not available, or a 400 Bad Request error for invalid input.

```
from fastapi import HTTPException
from fastapi import FastAPI

app = FastAPI()

@app.get("/items/{item_id}")
async def read_item(item_id: int):
    if item_id < 0:
        raise HTTPException(status_code=400, detail="Item ID must be positive")
    # Your logic here
    return {"item_id": item_id}
```



Error Handling and Exception Management (Cont.)

Managing Exceptions in FastAPI:

Custom Exception Handling: FastAPI allows you to define custom exception handlers for specific types of exceptions. You can create handlers to format error responses consistently across your application or to provide additional context.

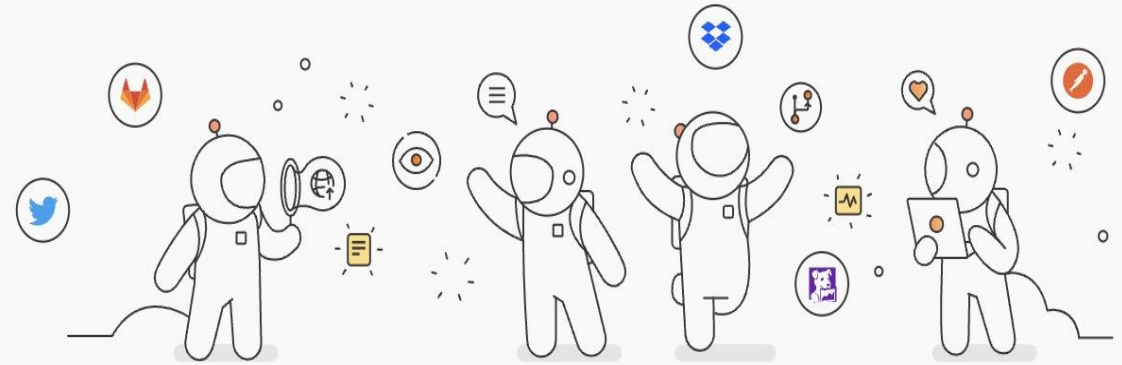
```
from fastapi import FastAPI, HTTPException
from fastapi.responses import JSONResponse

app = FastAPI()

@app.exception_handler(HTTPException)
async def http_exception_handler(request, exc):
    return JSONResponse(
        status_code=exc.status_code,
        content={"detail": exc.detail, "error": "Something went wrong"}
    )
```



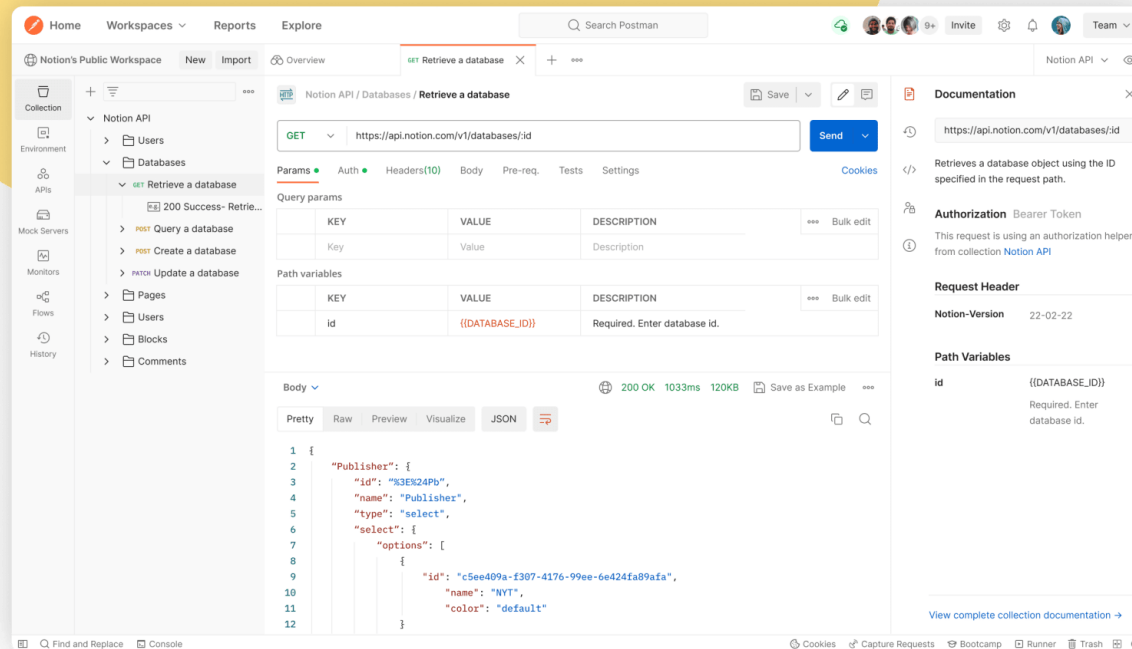
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[Postman](#)

Introduction to Postman

Definition: Postman is a popular API testing tool that allows developers to create, test, and document APIs. It provides a user-friendly interface to interact with your APIs, send various types of HTTP requests, and view responses.



[Postman](#)

Introduction to Postman (Cont.)

Basic Workflow:

Creating a Request:

- **Step 1:** Open Postman and click on the "New" button or use the "+" tab to create a new request.
- **Step 2:** Select the HTTP method (GET, POST, etc.) from the dropdown menu.
- **Step 3:** Enter the URL of the API endpoint you want to test.
- **Step 4:** Add any necessary headers, parameters, or request body data.
- **Step 5:** Click "Send" to execute the request and view the response.

Viewing Responses:

- **Response Tab:** Examine the status code, response time, headers, and body content in various formats (JSON, HTML, XML).
- **Pre-request and Test Scripts:** Write JavaScript code to run before sending the request or after receiving the response to perform automated testing or data manipulation.

Example: Creating a POST Request in Postman

Objective: Add a new item to the API.

Steps:

1. Open Postman and click on the "New" button.
2. Select "POST" from the HTTP method dropdown.
3. Enter the URL of the API endpoint. For example, <https://api.example.com/items>.
4. Go to the "Body" tab and select "raw" and then "JSON".
5. Add the request body data with the new item's details.
6. Click "Send" to execute the request.

What you might see in Postman:

- **URL:** <https://api.example.com/items>
- **Method:** POST
- **Headers:** Content-Type: application/json
- **Body:**
- **Response:** A confirmation message and the newly created item's details in JSON format.

```
{  
  "name": "New Item",  
  "price": 10.99  
}
```

Body

Introduction to Swagger

Swagger, now known as OpenAPI, is primarily a tool for API documentation and design rather than testing. However, it provides some features that can be used to interact with and test APIs.

The screenshot displays the SwaggerHub interface for the Swagger Petstore API. The top navigation bar includes the SwaggerHub logo, a search bar, and a user profile for 'Joe Joyce'. The main content area is divided into three sections:

- Left Sidebar:** Contains a tree view of the API structure, including sections for 'pet', 'store', and 'user', each with a list of endpoints and their HTTP methods (e.g., POST, GET, PUT, DELETE).
- Center Panel:** Displays the raw Swagger JSON definition. The JSON includes metadata such as the API title 'Swagger Petstore', version '1.0.0-Design', contact information, license (Apache 2.0), and detailed definitions for the 'pet', 'store', and 'user' resources, including their endpoints and parameters.
- Right Panel:** Provides a user-friendly overview of the API. It includes the title 'Swagger Petstore', version '1.0.0-Design', a base URL, and a list of endpoints categorized by resource (pet, store, user). Each endpoint is shown with its HTTP method, path, and a brief description, along with an 'Authorize' button for testing.

API Request Execution in Swagger

Execute Endpoints: In Swagger UI, each endpoint in the API documentation includes an option to "Try it out." This feature lets you input parameters, headers, and request bodies, and then execute the request to see the response.

How to Try it Out: simply click on the 'Try it out' button next to an endpoint, fill in any required data, and then click 'Execute.'

View Responses: You can inspect the response status, headers, and body directly in the Swagger UI, which helps in understanding how the API behaves.



Integration with Testing

Test Automation: The OpenAPI specification (formerly Swagger) can be used to generate API client code and test cases. Tools like Postman, RestAssured, and various testing frameworks support OpenAPI specifications for automated API testing.

How it Works: When you have an OpenAPI specification file, these tools can read the file to understand the structure of your API. They can then use this information to generate client code that makes requests to your API or to create test cases that validate the API's responses.

Contract Testing: Using the OpenAPI specification as a contract, you can perform contract testing to ensure that the API implementation adheres to the documented specification.



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[Simple Demo](#)

Demo Overview

In this demo, we'll create a simple FastAPI application server that includes:

- Path Operations
- Dependency Injection
- Middleware
- Exception Handling
- API Testing with Postman



1. Setup: Installing FastAPI and Uvicorn

```
pip install fastapi uvicorn
```

2. FastAPI Application Code

```
from fastapi import FastAPI, HTTPException, Depends, Request
from pydantic import BaseModel
from fastapi.responses import JSONResponse
import time

# Create FastAPI instance
app = FastAPI()

# Define a Pydantic model for data validation
class Item(BaseModel):
    name: str
    price: float
    is_offer: bool = None
```



```
# Dependency function to simulate a database connection
def get_db():
    return {"db": "Simulated database connection"}

# Middleware to log request processing time
@app.middleware("http")
async def log_requests(request: Request, call_next):
    start_time = time.time()
    response = await call_next(request)
    process_time = time.time() - start_time
    print(f"Request: {request.url} - Duration: {process_time} seconds")
    return response

# Exception handler for HTTPExceptions
@app.exception_handler(HTTPException)
async def http_exception_handler(request: Request, exc: HTTPException):
    return JSONResponse(
        status_code=exc.status_code,
        content={"detail": exc.detail, "error": "An error occurred"}
    )
```



```

# Path operation to get an item by ID
@app.get("/items/{item_id}")
def get_item(item_id: int, db=Depends(get_db)):
    if item_id not in [1, 2, 3]: # Simulate item check
        raise HTTPException(status_code=404, detail="Item not found")
    return {"item_id": item_id, "db_connection": db["db"]}

# Path operation to create a new item
@app.post("/items/")
def create_item(item: Item, db=Depends(get_db)):
    return {"item": item, "db_connection": db["db"]}

# Path operation to update an existing item
@app.put("/items/{item_id}")
def update_item(item_id: int, item: Item, db=Depends(get_db)):
    if item_id not in [1, 2, 3]: # Simulate item check
        raise HTTPException(status_code=404, detail="Item not found")
    return {"item_id": item_id, "updated_item": item, "db_connection": db["db"]}

# Path operation to delete an item
@app.delete("/items/{item_id}")
def delete_item(item_id: int, db=Depends(get_db)):
    if item_id not in [1, 2, 3]: # Simulate item check
        raise HTTPException(status_code=404, detail="Item not found")
    return {"detail": "Item deleted", "item_id": item_id, "db_connection": db["db"]}

```


3. Running the Application

```
uvicorn main:app --reload
```

main refers to the filename main.py.
app is the FastAPI instance.

After running the command, you should see something like this:

```
INFO:      Uvicorn running on http://127.0.0.1:8000 (Press CTRL+C to
quit)
INFO:      Started reloader process [28720]
INFO:      Started server process [28722]
INFO:      Waiting for application startup.
INFO:      Application startup complete.
```

```

| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
```

4. Testing with Postman

1. Open Postman:

Create a new request for each of the following endpoints.

2. GET Request to Retrieve an Item:

URL: `http://127.0.0.1:8000/items/1`

Method: GET

Expected Response: `{ "item_id": 1, "db_connection": "Simulated database connection" }`

3. POST Request to Create an Item:

URL: `http://127.0.0.1:8000/items/`

Method: POST

Body (JSON):

```
{  
  "name": "UpdatedItem",  
  "price": 15.0,  
  "is_offer": false  
}
```

Expected Response: {

"item_id": 1,

"updated_item": { "name": "UpdatedItem", "price": 15.0, "is_offer": false },

"db_connection":

"Simulated database

connection" }

5. DELETE Request to Delete an Item:

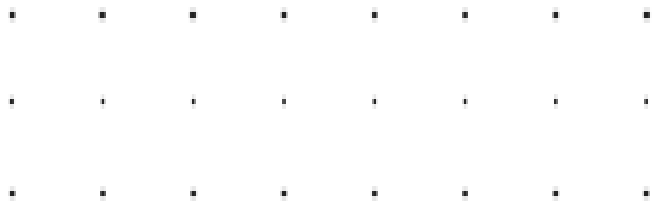
URL: <http://127.0.0.1:8000/items/1>

Method: DELETE

Expected Response:

```
{  
  "detail": "Item deleted",  
  "item_id": 1,  
  "db_connection": "Simulated database connection"  
}
```





Thank you

