Django Introduction

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Table of Contents

Django Framework

Full-Stack Framework for Perfectionists with Deadlines

What is Framework?

- A foundational **structure** or set of tools
- Provides a **pre-defined structure** and **reusable** components
- Streamlines the development of software **applications**
- Allows developers to **focus** on specific **functionalities**
- Includes **libraries**, **templates**, and **predefined patterns** helping developers to work **efficiently** and **consistently**

What is Django?

- **High-level** Python Web Framework, known for its
  - **Speed**
  - **Security**
  - **Scalability**
  - **Open-source** nature

What is MVT?

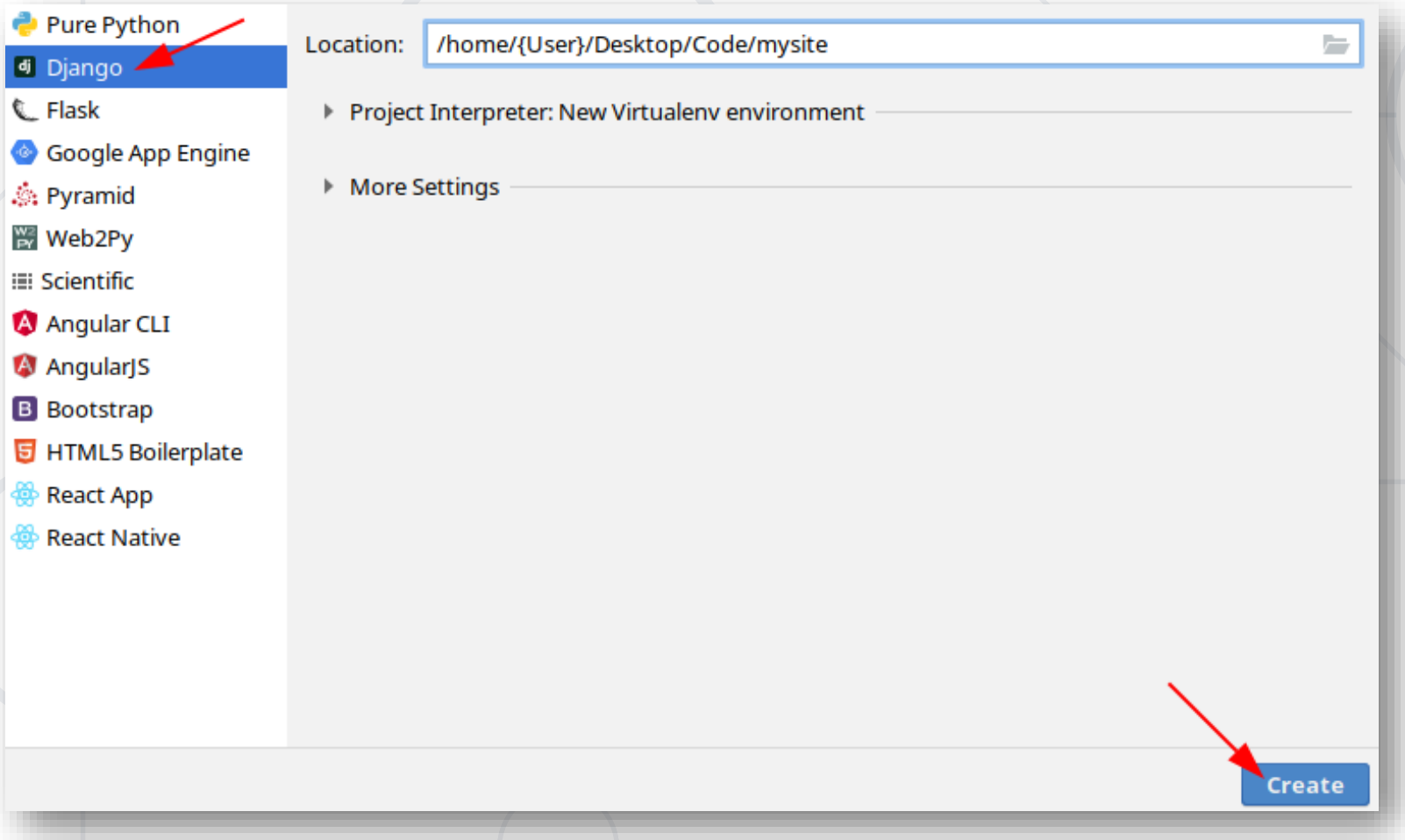
- Django follows the **MVT design pattern** to develop web applications
- MVT stands for **Model-View-Template**
  - `Model` - defines the structure and behavior of data
  - `View` – receives an **HTTP request** and returns an **HTTP response**
    - Contains the application's business logic
  - `Template` - the presentation (front-end) layer
    - Provides a convenient way to generate **dynamic** HTML pages by using a **special** template syntax (**DTL**)

Creating a Django Project

Where the magic happens

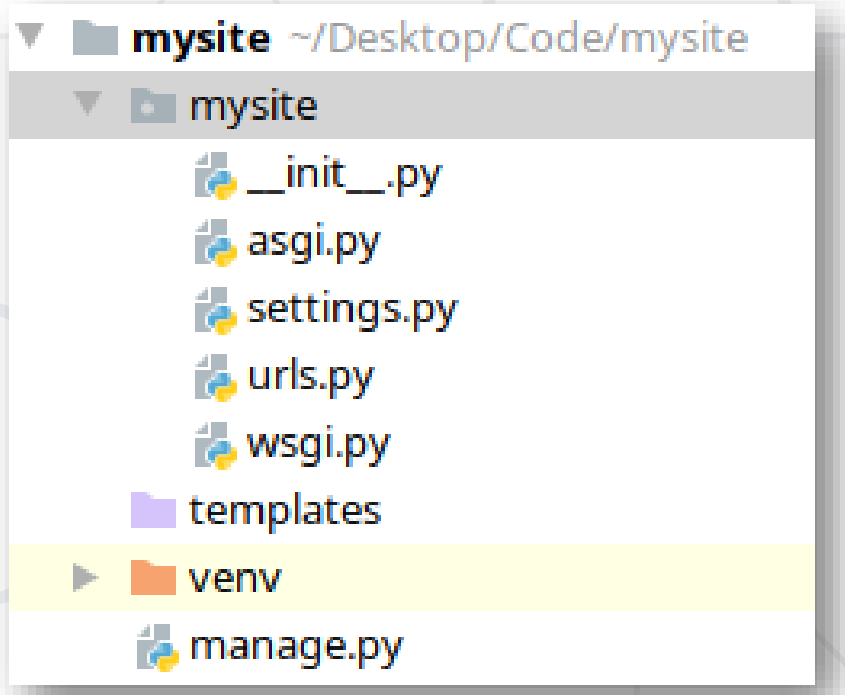
Creating a Django Project

- Open PyCharm Professional -> File -> New Project



Project Structure

- __init__.py
  - The directory is a Python package
- settings.py
  - The configuration file for the Django Project
- urls.py
  - Table of Content
- manage.py
  - Tool for executing commands



Running a Django Project

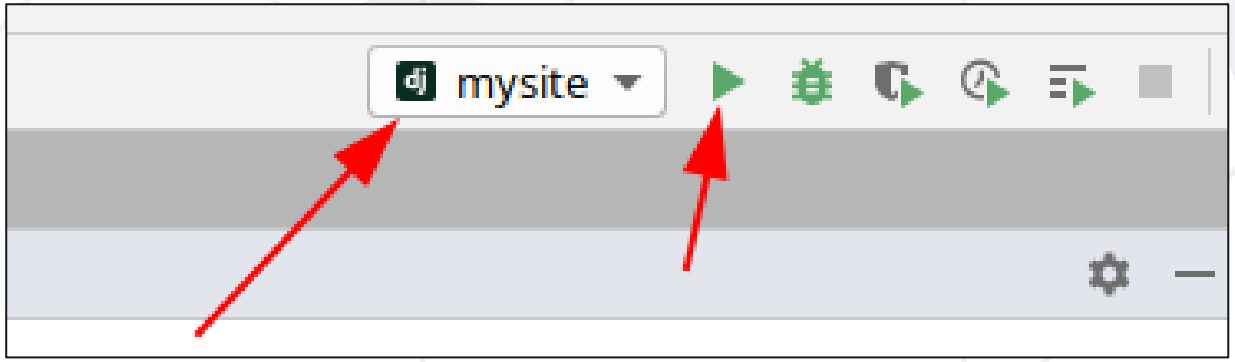
- Using **Terminal command**

```
python manage.py runserver
```

- Using **Keyboard Shortcut** in PyCharm

```
Shift + F10
```

- Using PyCharm **Run button**



Running a Django Project

- You'll see the following output on the command line:

```
Performing system checks...

Watching for file changes with StatReloader
System check identified no issues (0 silenced).
August 06, 2024 - 11:47:39
Django version 5.0.4, using settings 'orm_skeleton.settings'
Starting development server at http://localhost:8000/
Quit the server with CTRL-BREAK.
```

- The **`runserver`** command starts the **development server** on the internal IP at **port 8000** by **default**
- Note: This server is used for **development** purposes **only**

Running a Django Project

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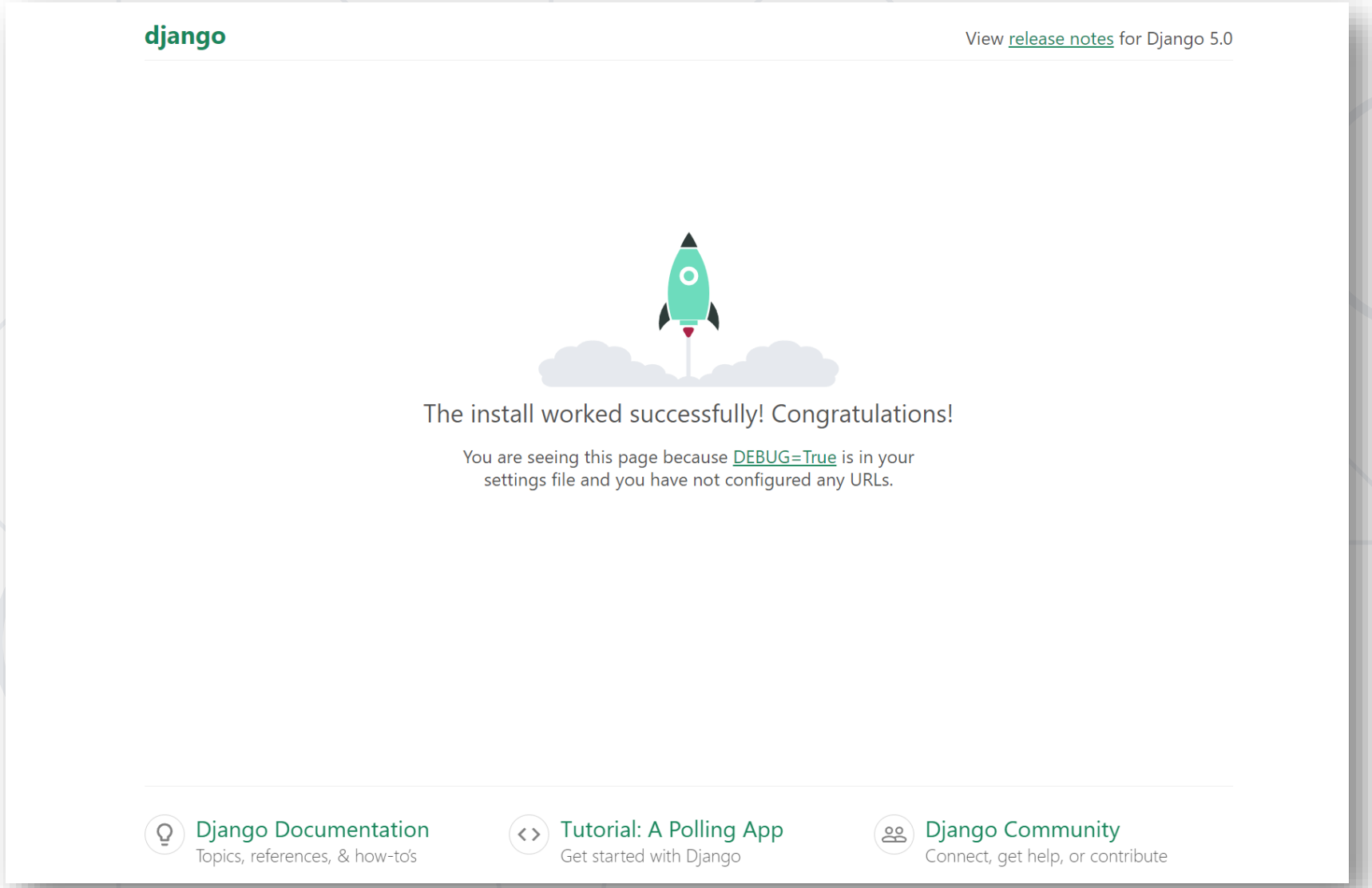


Django Application

The Bread and Butter of a Django Project

App vs Project

- Django App:
  - A **Web application that does something** - e.g., a small task app
  - An app can be **in multiple projects**
- Django Project:
  - A **collection of configurations and apps** for a particular website
  - A project can **contain multiple apps**

Creating a Django App

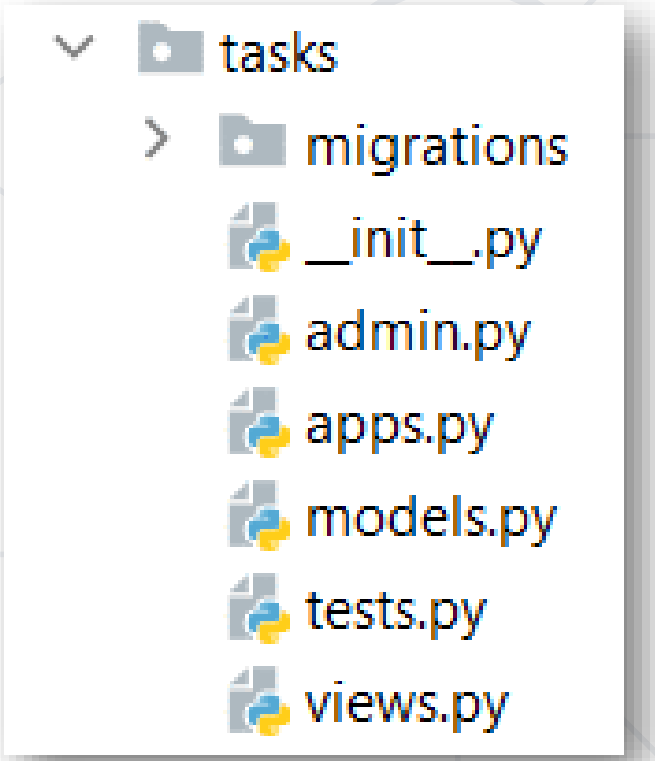
- The app is created in the **same directory** as the **`manage.py`** file
- Use the **terminal command**

```
python manage.py startapp tasks
```

- Move it **inside the project** for a **better-structured** project management
- Django **automatically** generates the **basic directory structure** of an app

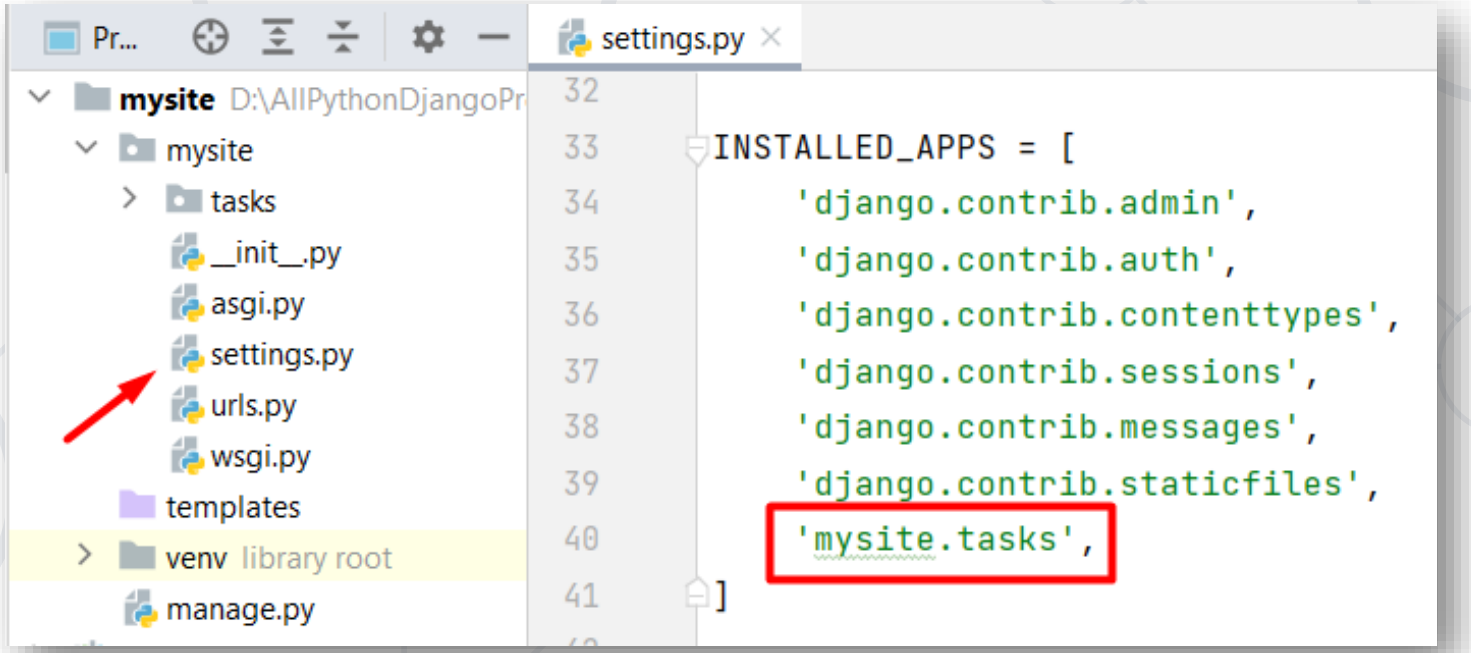
Directory Structure

- **admin.py**
  - The admin page
- **models.py**
  - The models of the app
- **views.py**
  - The views of the app
- **migrations**
  - Command-line utility for propagating changes in models



Including an App

- To include an app in a project, **add a reference** to the app in the **`INSTALLED_APPS`** setting

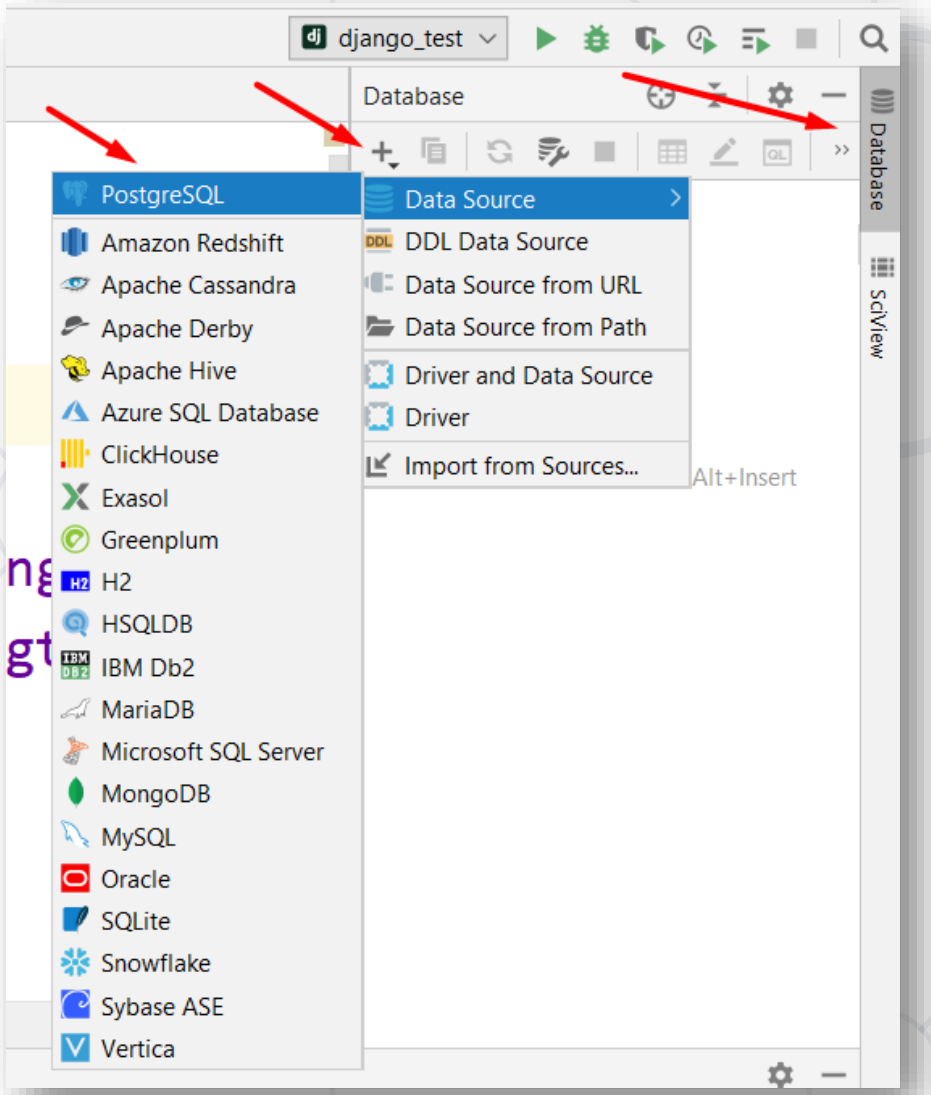


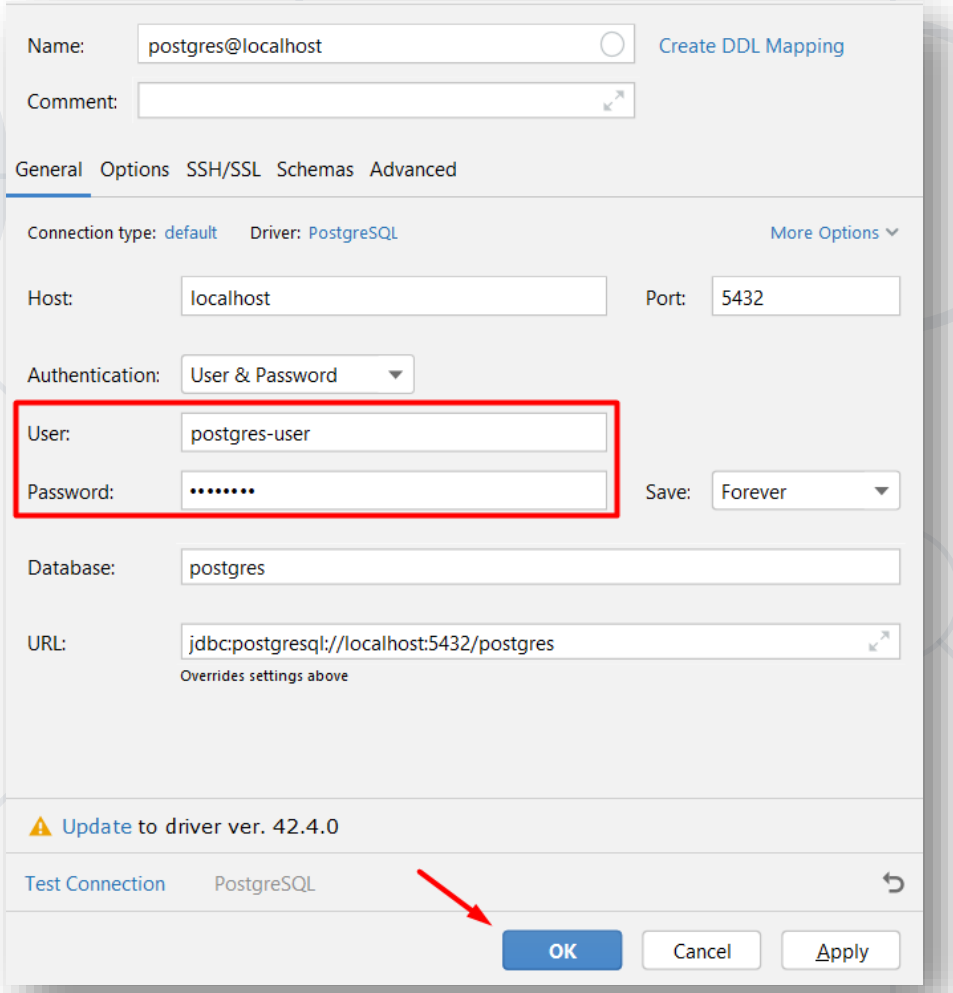
Setting up a Database

Psycopg2

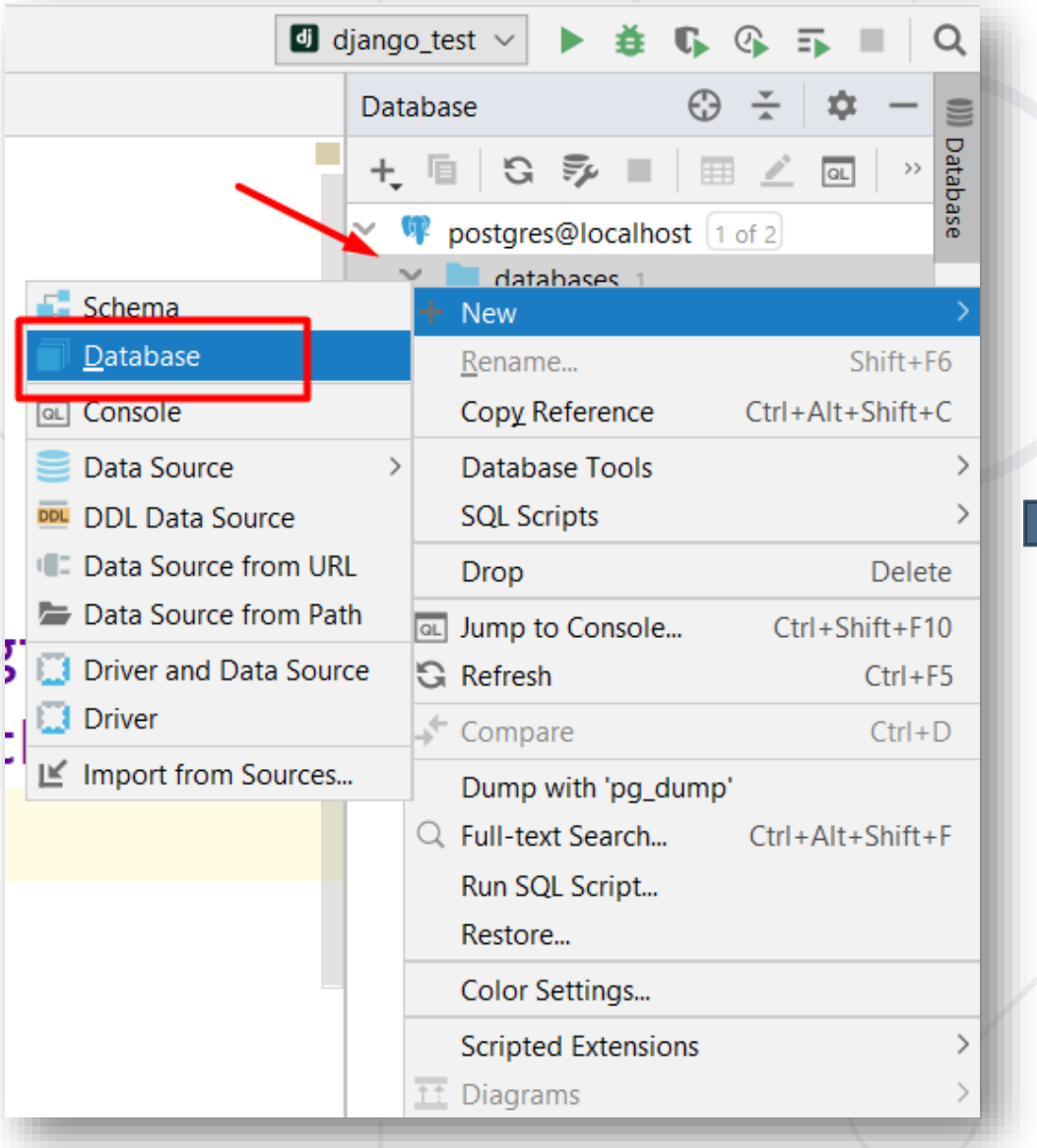
- PostgreSQL database **adapter** for the Python programming language
- Use the Psycopg2 module to:
  - **Connect** to PostgreSQL
  - Perform SQL **queries** and database **operations**
- It is an **external** module

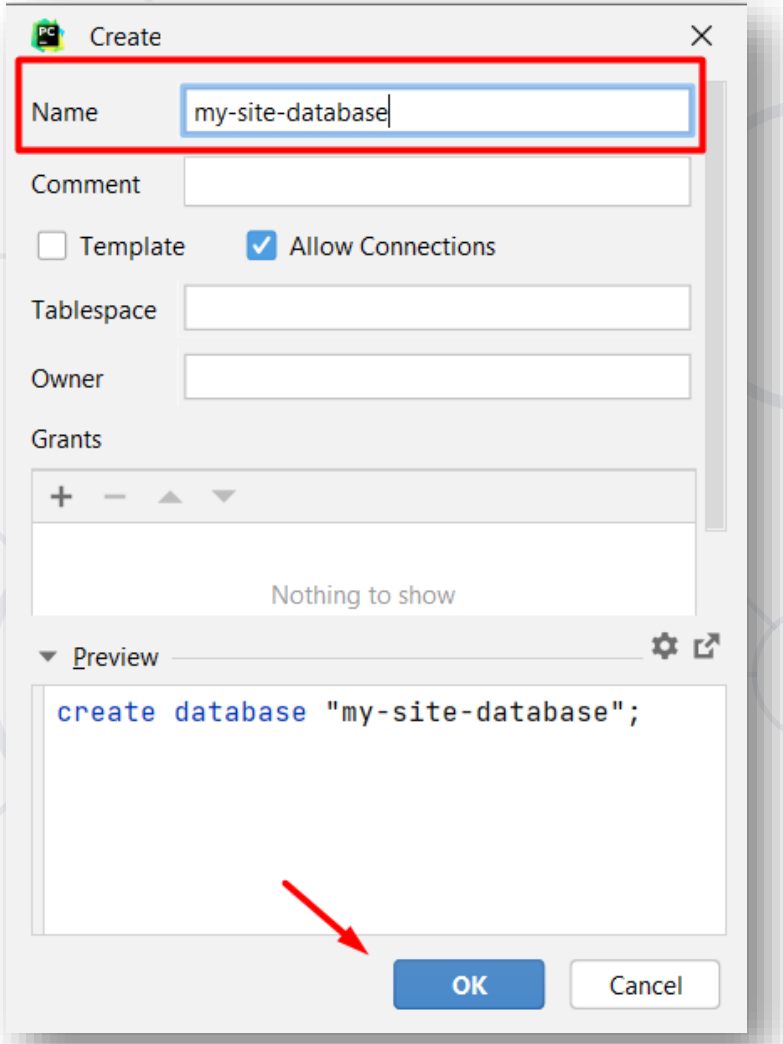
Connect to PostgreSQL





Create a Database





Set up PostgreSQL

- To configure our project to work with **PostgreSQL**, we need to set it in the **settings.py** file

```
DATABASES = {
    'default': {
        'ENGINE': 'django.db.backends.postgresql',
        'NAME': 'my-site-database',
        'USER': 'postgres',
        'PASSWORD': 'postgres',
        'HOST': '127.0.0.1',
        'PORT': '5432'
    }
}
```

Use PostgreSQL

Name of the database

Database user credentials

Writing a Simple Task App

Django Model

- Models represent your **application's data**
  - The essential **fields** and **behaviors** of the stored data
- Each model maps to a single **database table**
- Model is a Python class that subclasses **`django.db.models.Model`**
- Each attribute of the model represents a **database field**

Adding a Model

- Each application has a **models.py** file
- Create **models** that will be used in the **application**

tasks/models.py

```
from django.db import models

class Task(models.Model):
    title = models.CharField(max_length=50)
    text = models.TextField()
```

Model Name

Field Types

Fields

Activating Models

- Use models to create a **database schema** for the app
- Use **migrations** to apply **changes** and **update** the database schema
  - First, **create migrations** for the added model

```
python manage.py makemigrations
```

  - Next, **apply those changes** to the database

```
python manage.py migrate
```

Django View

- The `views.py` file contains view functions or classes
- Each view takes an **HTTP request** and returns an **HTTP response**
- Implements the **business logic** that needs to be executed when a given **URL** is reached
- The **names** of the functions are usually related to the **URL** that is being reached

Simple View Example

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tasks/views.py

```
from django.http import HttpResponse
from tasks.models import Task

def index(request):
    tasks_list = Task.objects.all()
    output = "; ".join(f"{t.title}: {t.text}"
                       for t in tasks_list)
    if not output:
        output = "There are no created tasks!"

    return HttpResponse(output)
```

Get all Task objects

Return the desired output

Django app/urls.py

- In the `urls.py` file you configure which function or logic should be executed when reaching a given **URL**
- **Each app** should have its own `urls.py` file

tasks/urls.py

```
from django.urls import path
from {app_name} import views

urlpatterns = [
    path('', views.index)
]
```

URL

Action

Django project/urls.py

- The created urls.py file should be **included** in the **project's** urls.py
- Import the `include()` function and use it in the `urlpatterns` list

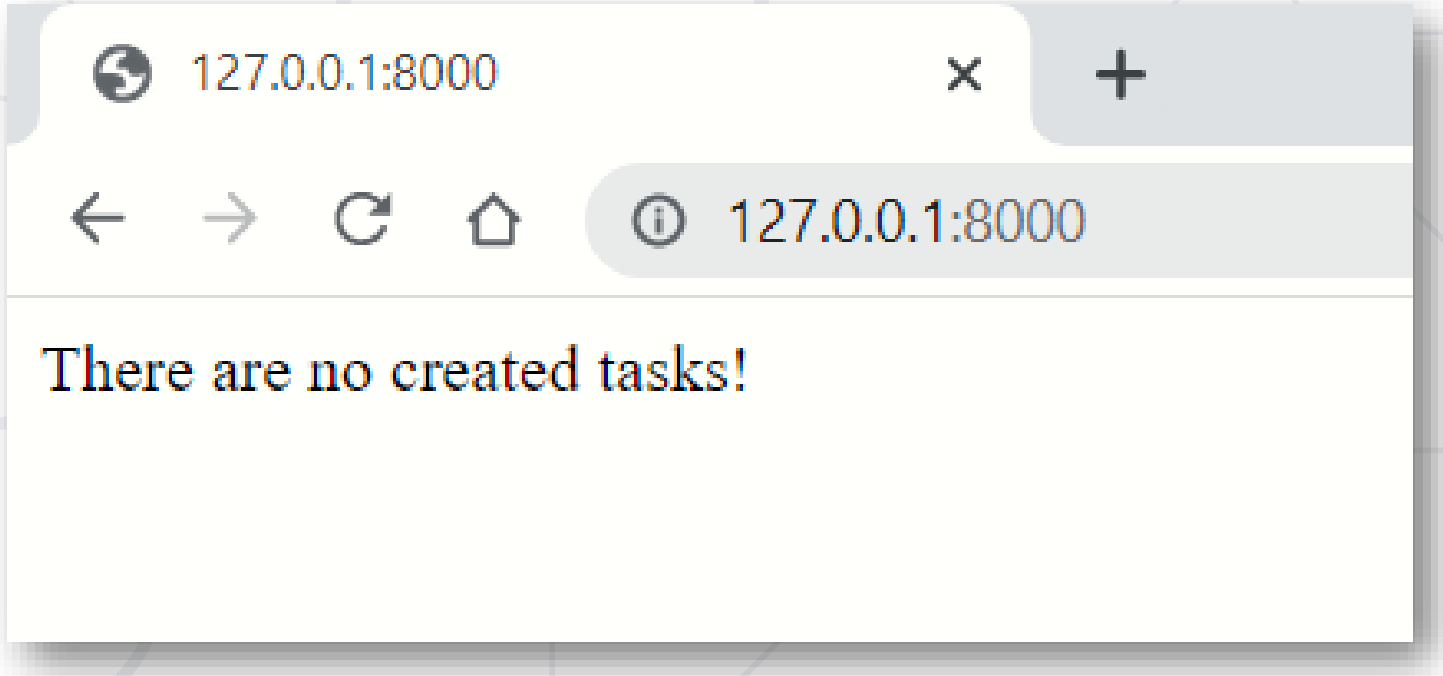
mysite/urls.py

```
from django.contrib import admin
from django.urls import path, include

urlpatterns = [
    path('admin/', admin.site.urls),
    path('', include('mysite.tasks.urls'))
]
```

Simple URL Example

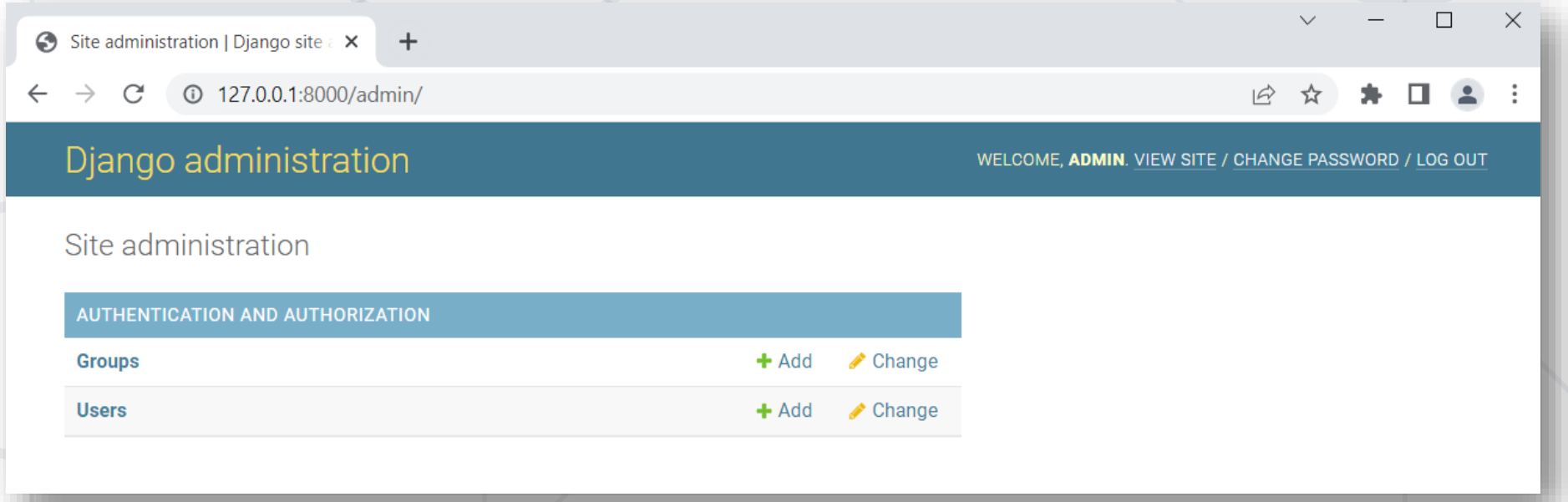
- Start a **development server** and verify the **result**



Django Admin Site

Django Admin Site

- It is a **built-in admin** interface
  - **Trusted** users can **manage** content on the site
- One of the **benefits** of Django



Access Django Admin Site

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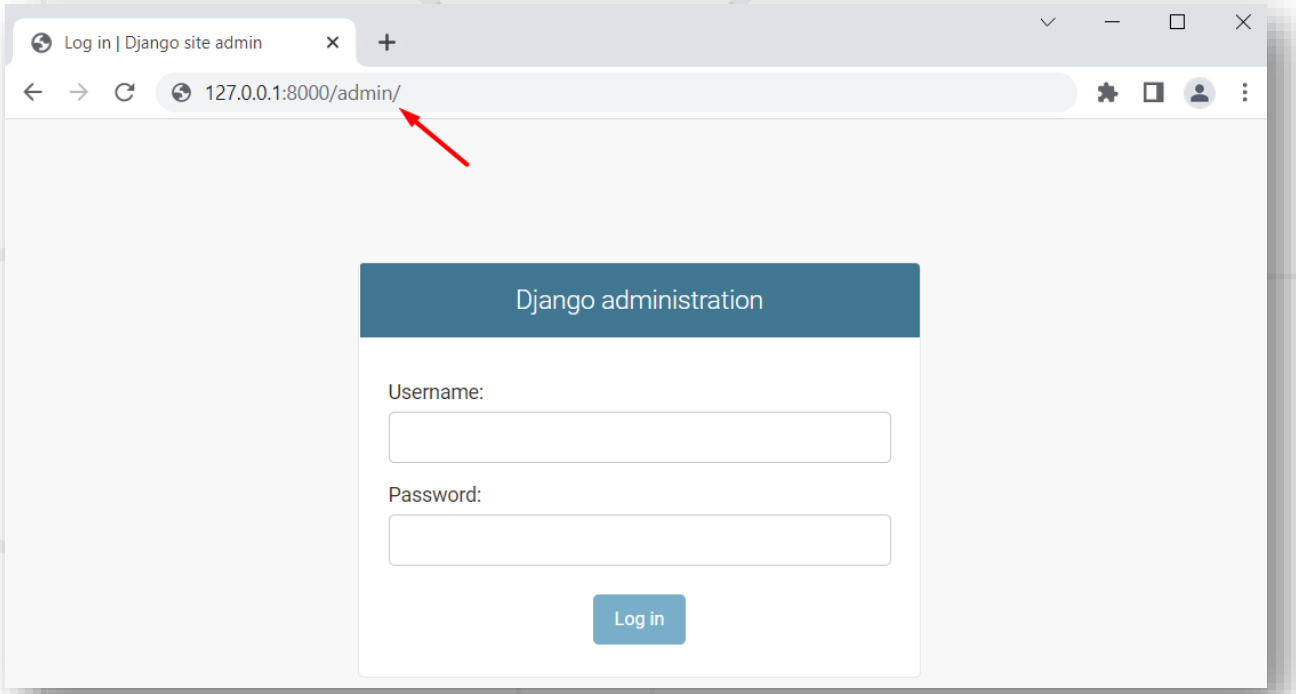
- First, create a **superuser** to **log in** with

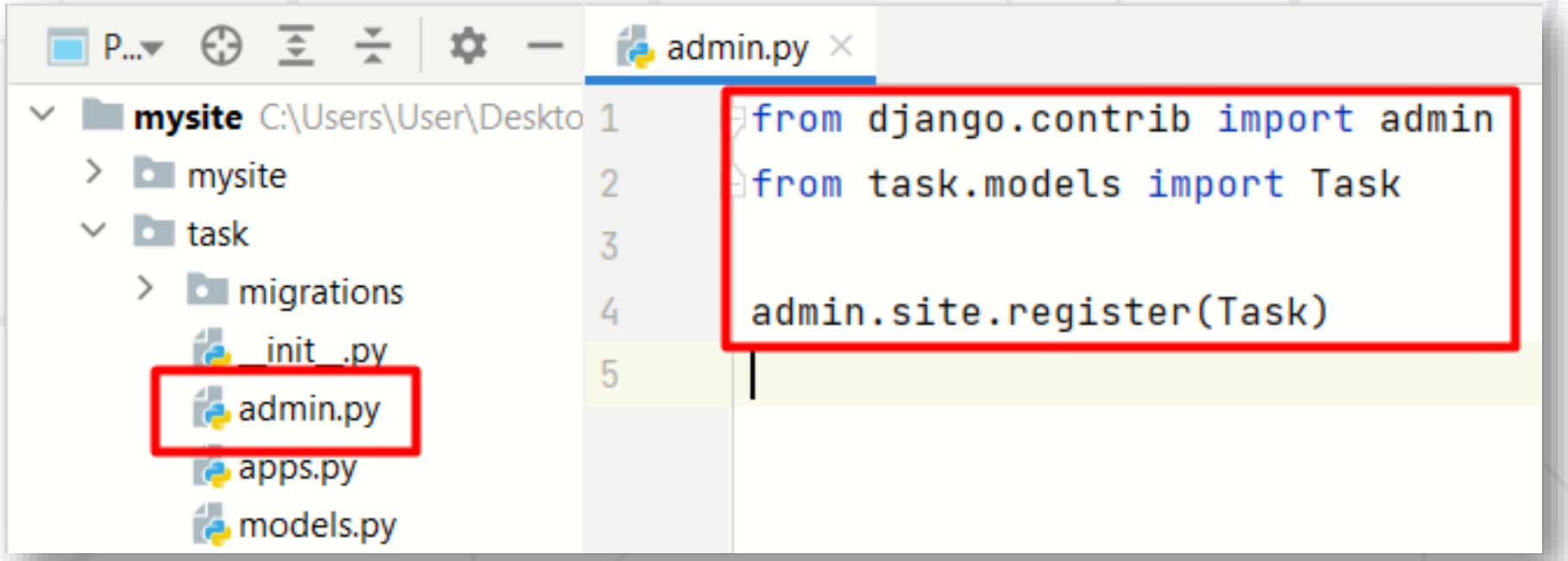
```
python manage.py createsuperuser
```

- Then, **start** the **server** and **navigate** to the **admin site**



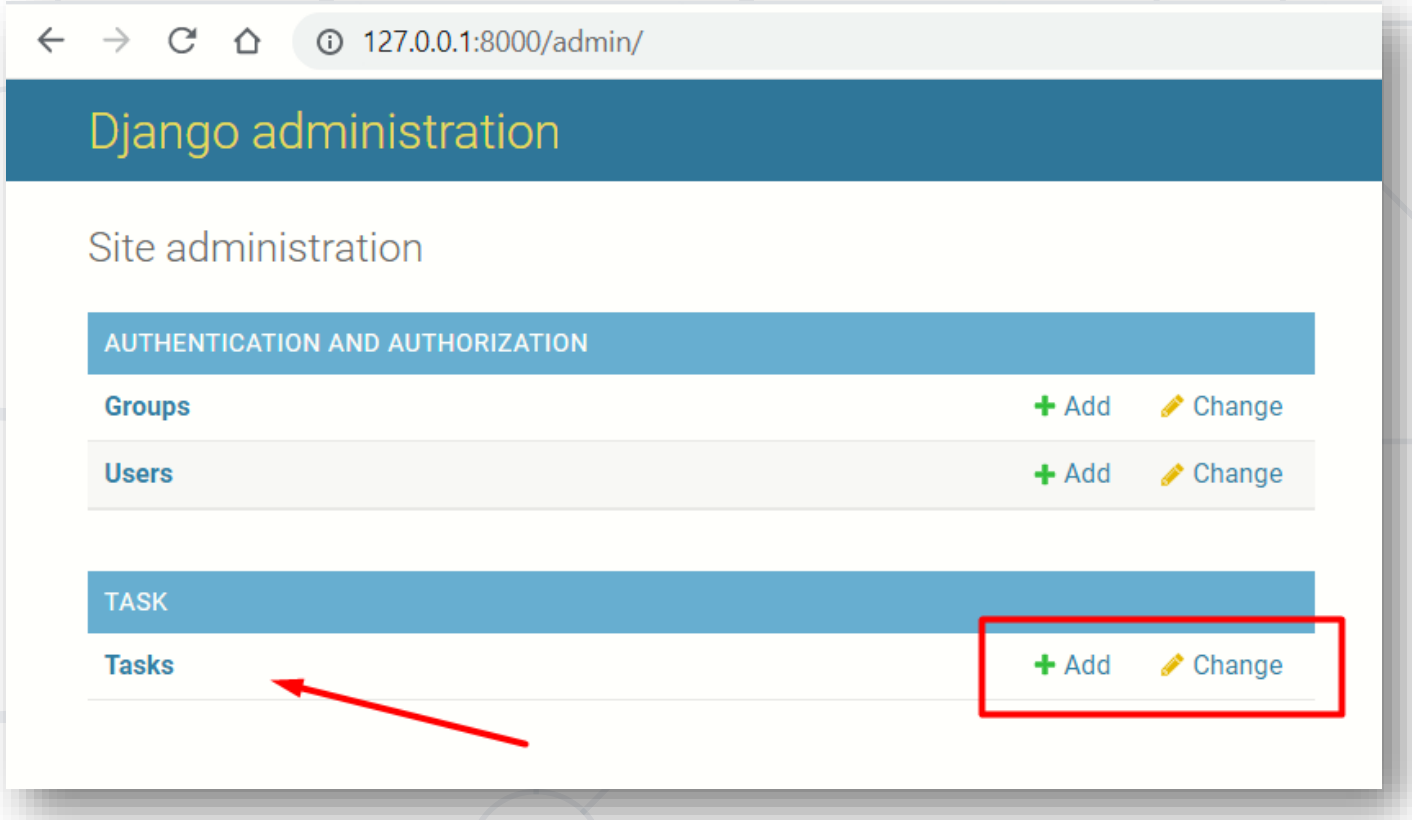
Make Models Visible

- **Register** all models in a special file in the **app** called **`admin.py`**



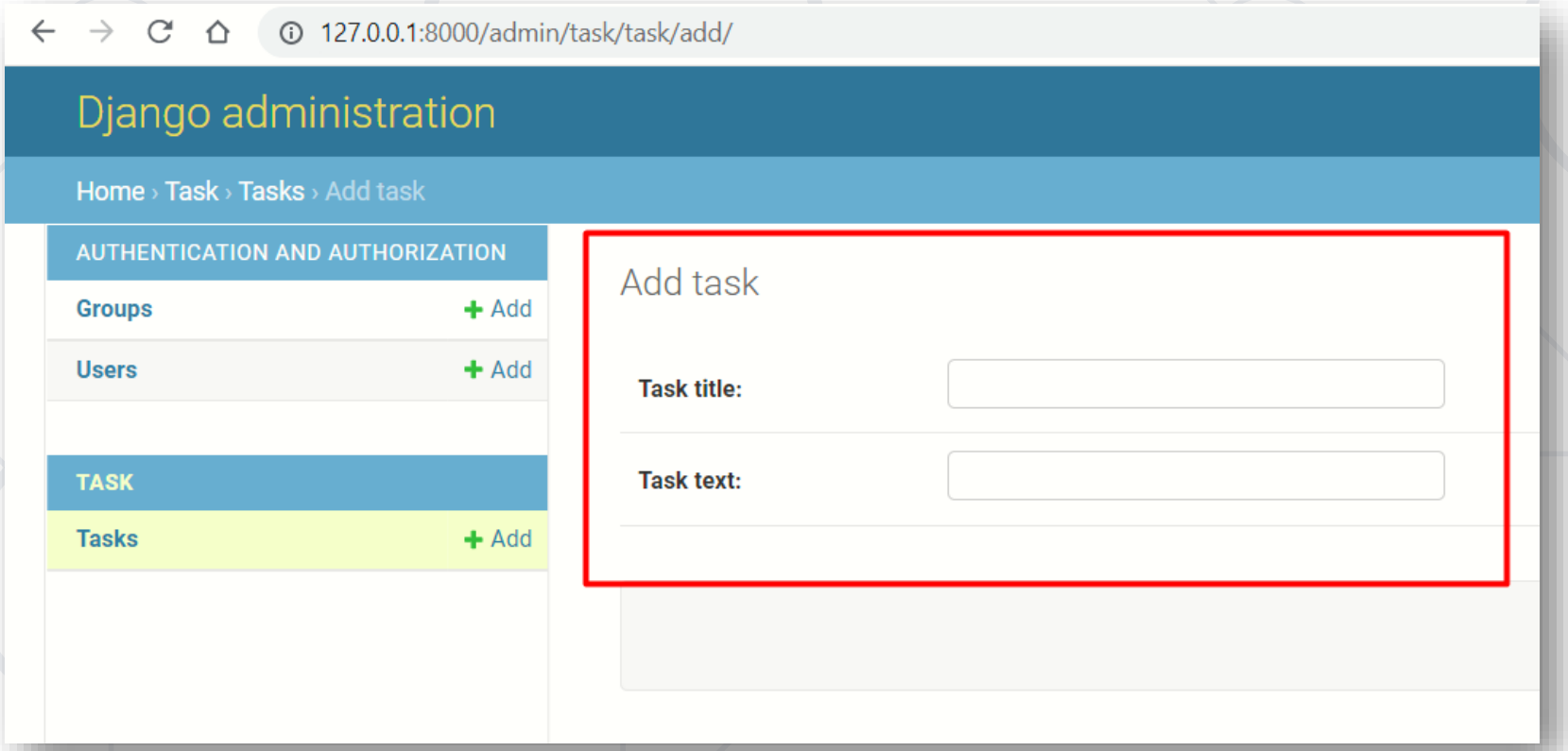
Django Admin Benefits

- Easily **manage** (create, update, delete) the data stored in the database



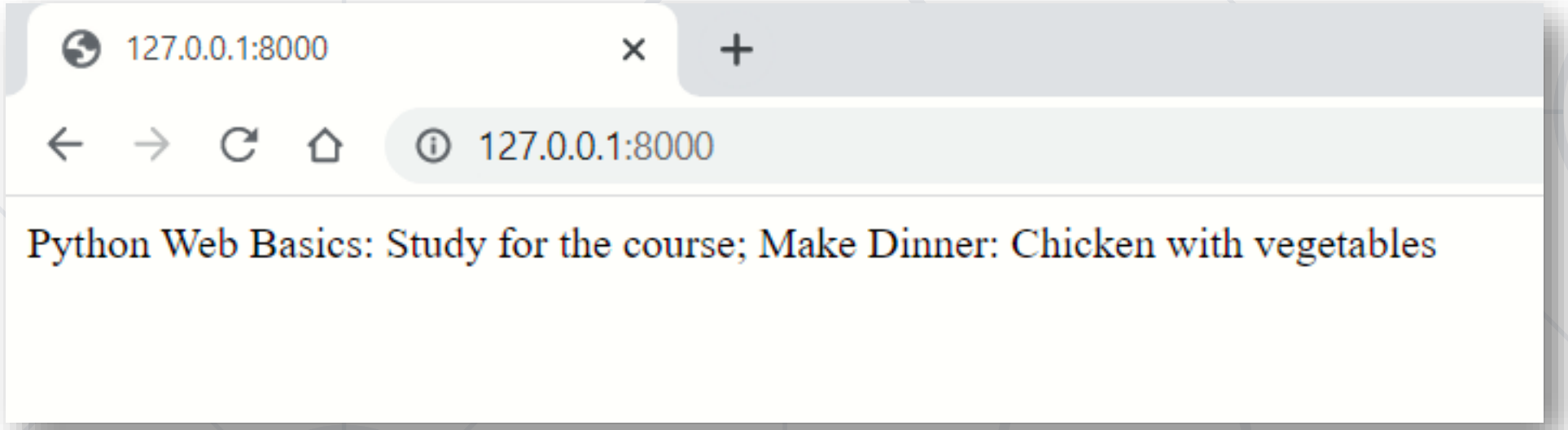
Django Admin Benefits

- The form is **automatically** generated



Data Visualization

- Tasks are **returned** by the view



- Note: The page's design is **hard-coded in the view**

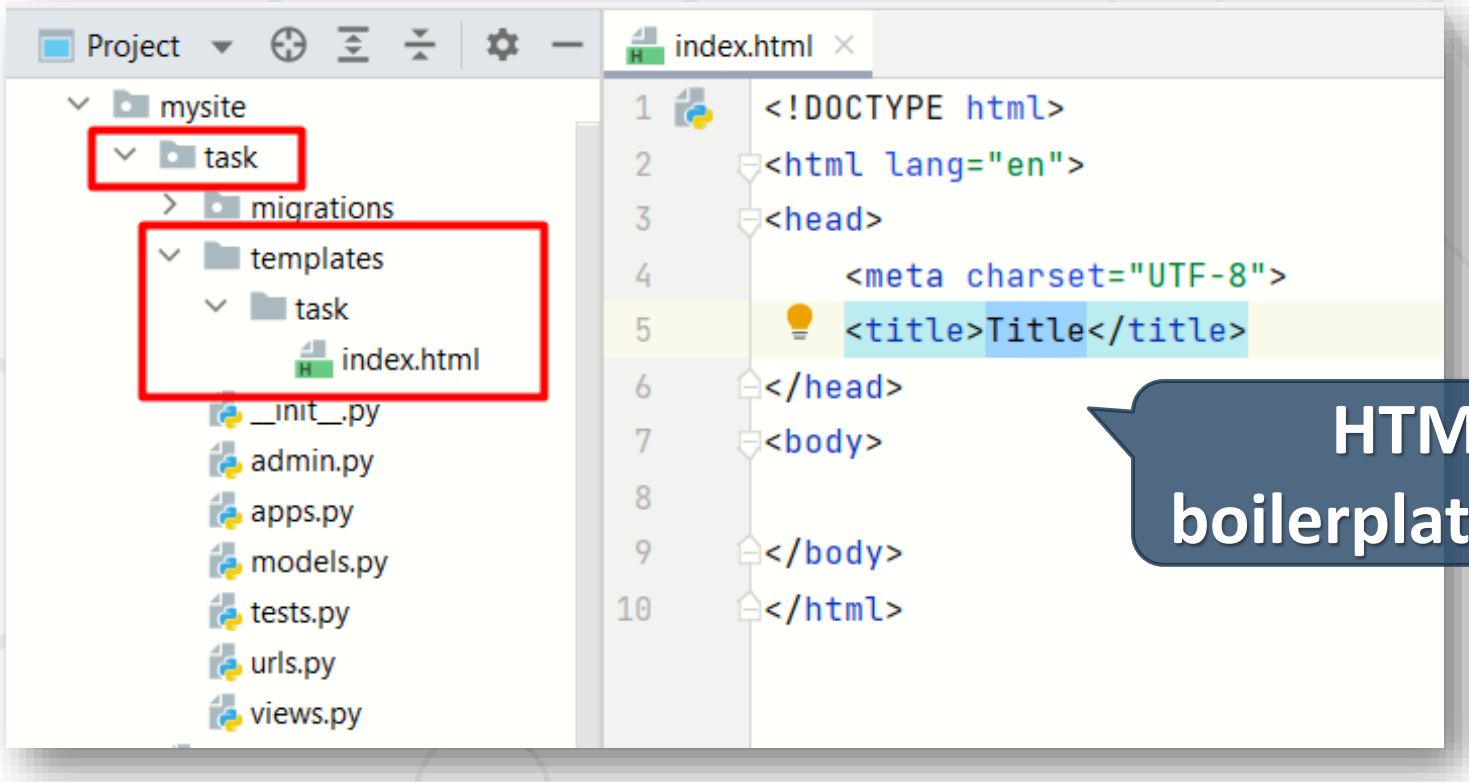
Creating a Simple Design

What is a Django Template

- A text file, written in a **special syntax** that allows a **dynamic generation** of HTML
- Serves as a **presentation layer** in the Model-View-Template (MVT) architecture
- Uses a **markup language** known as **Django Template Language** (**DTL**), which extends the standard HTML
- Plays a crucial role in **separating** the **logic** (handled by views) from the **presentation**

Creating a Templates Folder

- Create a **templates** folder inside the app's folder, and then create an HTML file named **index**.html



Rendering a Template

- Now that the template is created, we should refactor the **`views.py`** file in the app

task/views.py

```
from django.shortcuts import render
from task.models import Task

def index(request):
    return render(request, 'task/index.html')
```

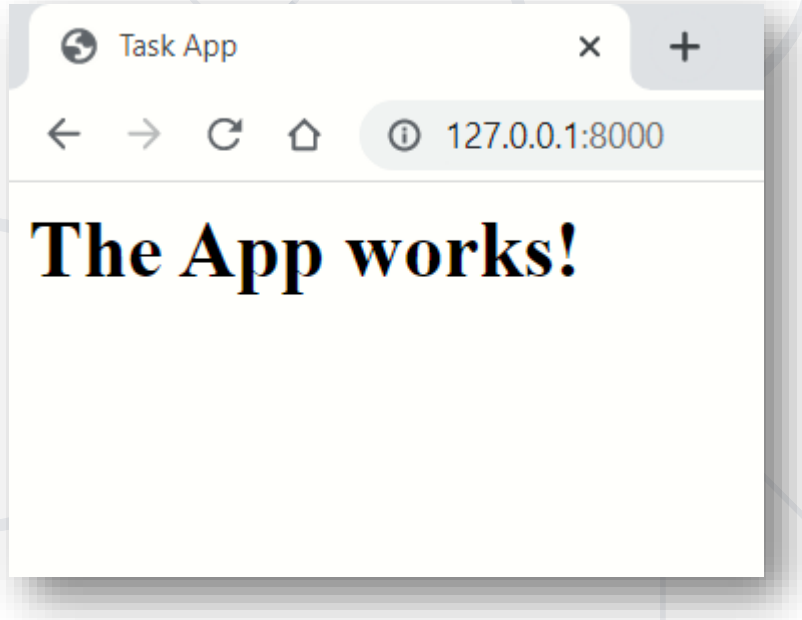
- Instead of using **HttpResponse**, we can now use the **render** function that will display the created template

Creating a Template

- Creating an `.html` file that will be a template

index.html

```
<html lang="en">
<head>
    <meta charset="UTF-8">
    <title>Task App</title>
</head>
<body>
    <h1>The App works!</h1>
</body>
</html>
```



Adding a Context

- The **render** function accepts a **context** as an argument
  - It is a **dictionary** passed to the template and used to display data **dynamically**

task/views.py

```
from django.shortcuts import render
from task.models import Task

def index(request):
    tasks_list = Task.objects.all()
    context = {'tasks_list': tasks_list}
    return render(request, 'task/index.html', context)
```

Basic Template Logic

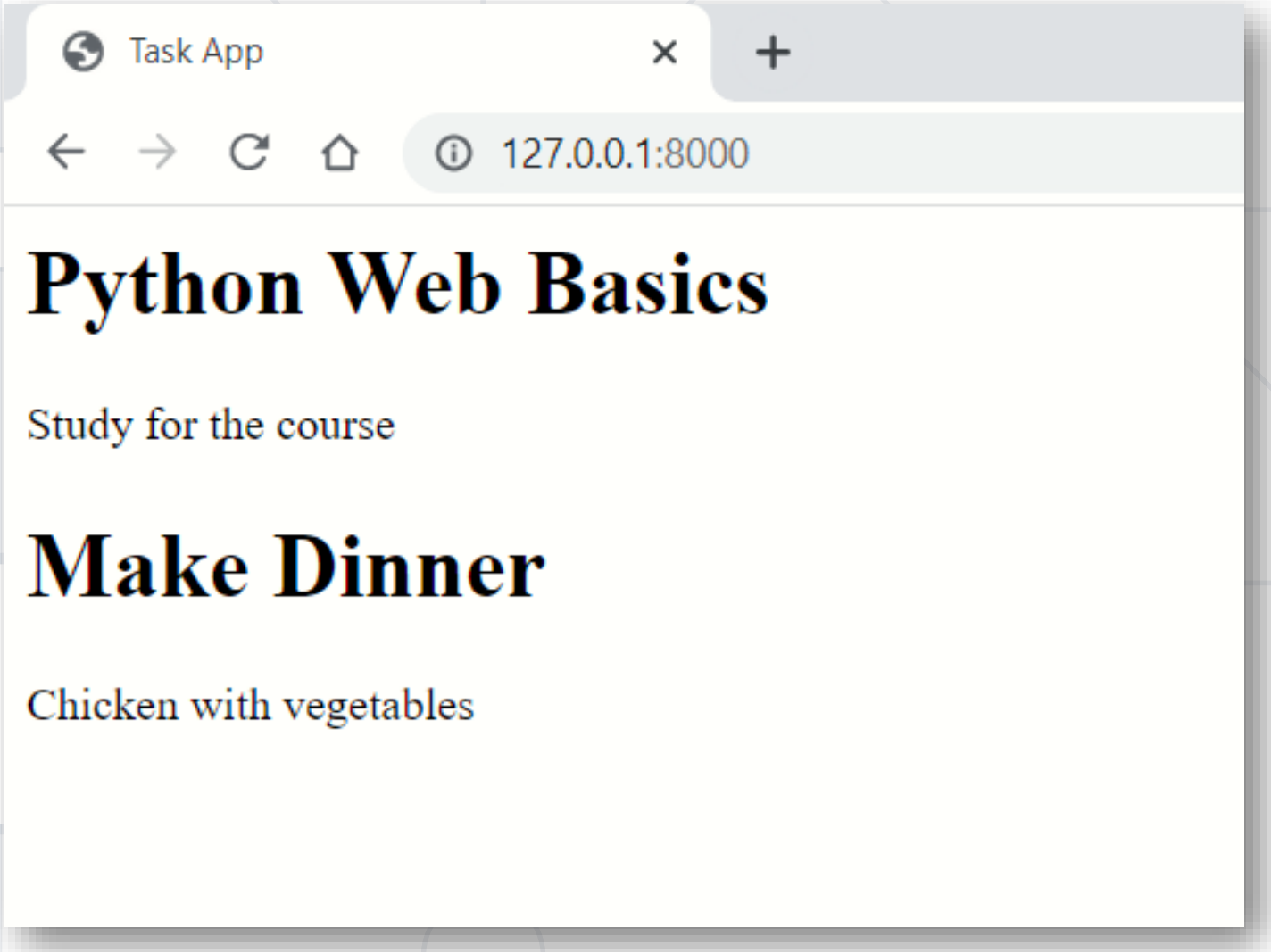
- We can have a simple **logic** using built-in **template tags**

index.html

```
{% if tasks_list %}
{% for task in tasks_list %}
<h1>{{ task.task_title }}</h1>
<p>{{ task.task_text }}</p>
{% endfor %}
{% else %}
<p>There are no created tasks!</p>
{% endif %}
```

If a "tasks_list" is not empty, then return a title and a text for each task

Simple Task App



Summary

- Django is a high-level Web Framework
- Django Project can contain multiple apps
- Django views
  - Context
- Django templates
  - Django Template Language (DTL)
  - Template tags

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