Flask Workshop

What is Flask?

Flask is a microframework for python used to develop web applications.

Why use Flask?

We all must have experienced making web pages using HTML, CSS and JavaScript. It’s such a headache to make a webpage in it. You have to check 10 times if the template is in the correct position or not. And when it is, you run it in a different device, and boom! You have to adjust again. Secondly, the language is so shitty. So wouldn’t it be great if our webpage was designed simpler? What if we can develop in python? I mean python is just another dialect of the English language. Flask lets you develop webpages in python.

Now you might ask why don’t we use Django or any other framework of python? Flask is a little bit flexible and since we are at a learning stage, it is quite helpful. Django on the other hand can be used when our main aim is a final product. Both have their pros and cons.

Pre-requisites

So do we directly start coding in flask? No, we have to deal with some concepts before or during the development process.

1. HTTP – HTTP is the most common protocol. We see it every time when we access anything on the internet. But we need to understand what actually happens. Basically, if two devices want to communicate then one must request and the other must return the data. Let’s say we want to access a website. So in this case our device will be the client. The client sends a request to the server that it wants to access the website. The server sends whether the client can access the data or not. The client receives the response and carries out next process.

There are many instructions sent by the client, but we are interested in the http request methods, mainly the GET and POST method. The GET method is used to get information or data from the form. POST is used when we need to get data and we want to change the value in a database.

2. API – API stands for Application Program Interface. So what is an API? API allow two software to communicate with each other. Bouncer right? Let’s say you are at a restaurant and you want to order something. Do you go into the kitchen and tell the chef to make you this particular dish? Of course no. You don’t go to the kitchen every time to tell what you want. There comes a waiter who helps you deliver the message to the chef. The waiter acts as an API.