Introduction to Django

AWPUG, July 2017

Quick survey

http://bit.ly/2v2s905

Announcements

- Upcoming expo: <u>DeveloperWeek.com/Austin/</u>
- School's Out Hackathon looking for mentors: www.sohacks.com

The Plan

- HTTP:
 - Fundamentals
 - Requests
 - Responses
- Django overview
- (Brief) installation overview
- Starting a Django app
- Writing our first view
- Working with requests

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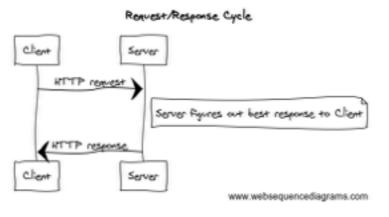
HTTP

- HTTP: **H**yper**T**ext **T**ransfer **P**rotocol
- TCP-based, simple text protocol
- v0.9 released in 1991, v1.1 released in 1997
 - Wanna read the spec? See RFC 2616



HTTP's main parts

- Typical function separated into two big parts
- Request
- Response



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Example HTTP request

```
$ brew install httpie
...
$ http --verbose example.com
```

Example HTTP request

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Accept: */*
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Connection: keep-alive
Host: example.com
User-Agent: HTTPie/0.9.9
```

HTTP version

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Accept: *
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Connection: keep-alive
Host: example.com
User-Agent: HTTPie/0.9.9
```

Path

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Accept=Encoding: gzip, deflate
Connection: keep=alive
Host: example.com
User=Agent: HTTPie/0.9.9
```

We'll talk a bit more about paths in a bit.

More about the path

- Paths look a lot like file paths on a Unix-y system (probably for historical reasons). Examples:
 - /
 - /images
 - /2017/07/26/my-blog-post/
- Paths can contain query parameters. Examples:
 - /images/me.jpg?size_x=128&size_y=128
 - /search?q=Austin,+TX
 - /top-chef-contenders/?filter=executive+chef&filter=Portland&season=12

There are lots of "religious" battles here: trailing slashes, hyphens vs. camelCase vs. underscores, etc. Use whatever you like.

Method

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Accept: */*
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cornection: keep-alive
Host: example.com
User-Agent: HTTPie/0.9.9
```

Common methods

- · GET: give me the resource at path
 - GET /posts
- POST: make the entity I'm giving you a sub-resource of path
 - POST /posts ... <my post body>
- · PUT: store the entity I'm giving you at path
 - PUT /posts/1234 ... <my post body>
- · DELETE: get rid of the resource at path
 - DELETE /posts/1234
- · HEAD: does the resource at path exist?
 - · HEAD /posts
- · OPTIONS: what can I do with path?
 - · OPTIONS /posts
- Others: TRACE, CONNECT, PATCH

HEAD = GET without a body

OPTIONS = the viable methods on **path**. So this would maybe give us a list: GET, POST, HEAD.

PATCH is an extension method some folks have implemented.

Host header

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Accept: */*
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Connection: keep-alive
Host: example.com
User-Agent: HTTPie/0.9.9
```

This is required when you're using HTTP 1.1

Other headers

```
GET / HTTP/1.1

Accept Encoding gzip, deflate

Connection: Leep alive

Host: example com

User-Agent: HTTPie/0.9.9
```

Common headers

- · User-Agent: specifies the user's client application
 - HTTPie/0.9.9
 - Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_10_5) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/59.0.3071.115 Safari/ 537.36
- Accept: specifies the kind of content the client expects back
 - text/html
 - · application/json
- Accept-Encoding: restricts the kind of encoding the server can send back
 - gzip
- · Authorization: specifies the credentials the server should use to authenticate the requester
 - · Bearer abcd1234
 - Basic QWxhZGRpbjpPcGVuU2VzYW1I
- · Content-Type: the kind of content the client is sending
 - · application/json
 - · application/x-www-form-urlencoded

Authorization is poorly named — this is authN, not authZ

Exploring requests

httpbin.org

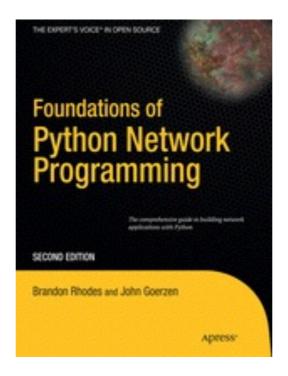
Request bodies

http --verbose -f httpbin.org/post name=Jeremy

```
POST /post HTTP/1.1
Accept: */*
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Length: 11
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded; charset=utf-8
Host: httpbin.org
User-Agent: HTTPie/0.9.9

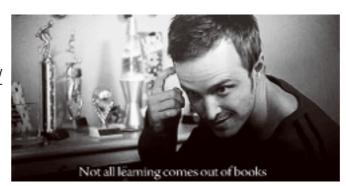
name=Jeremy
```

External Resources



External Resources

- https://www.w3.org/Protocols/rfc2616.html
- https://developer.mozilla.org/ en-US/docs/Web/HTTP



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Example HTTP response

```
$ brew install httpie
...
$ http --verbose example.com
```

Example HTTP response

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: max-age=604800
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 606
Content-Type: text/html
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Etag: "359670651+gzip"
Expires: Wed, 02 Aug 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Last-Modified: Fri, 09 Aug 2013 23:54:35 GMT
Server: ECS (den/1D77)
Vary: Accept-Encoding
X-Cache: HIT

<!doctype html>
<html>
...
```

HTTP version

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Car e-Control: max-age=604800
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 606
Content-Type: text/html
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Etag: "359670651+gzip"
Expires: Wed, 02 Aug 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Last-Modified: Fri, 09 Aug 2013 23:54:35 GMT
Server: ECS (den/1D77)
Vary: Accept-Encoding
X-Cache: HIT

<!doctype html>
<html>
...
```

Status code

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: max-age=604800
Content-Longth: 606
```

Reason

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control max-age=604800
Content-Encod G: gzip
Content-Lengt: 606
Content-Type: text/html
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Etag: "359670651+gzip"
Expires: Wed, 02 Aug 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Last-Modified: Fri, 09 Aug 2013 23:54:35 GMT
Server: ECS (den/1D77)
Vary: Accept-Encoding
X-Cache: HIT

<!doctype html>
```

Common success codes

· 2xx: success codes

- 200 (OK): everything's fine
- 201 (Created): I created the resource you asked me to create
- 202 (Accepted): I got your request and am working on it
- 204 (No Content): I got your request, but I don't have much to tell you in response

· 3xx: maybe success codes

- 301 (Moved Permanently): you can find this resource at the URL in the **Location** header from now on
- 302 (Found): you can find this resource at **Location** temporarily
- 304 (Not Modified): you issued a conditional GET, but nothing's changed

204: there's no extra data to tell you, but I might want to update what you think about it **conditional GET**: when the client requests a resource but says "only give me a response if it's changed"

Common error codes

· 4xx: client error codes

- 400 (Bad Request): I don't understand your request
- 401 (Unauthorized): I need you to respond with an **Authorization** header
- 403 (Forbidden): I know who you are, but you're not allowed to see the resource at path
- 404 (Not Found): the resource at **path** doesn't exist
- 405 (Method Not Allowed): you can't use that HTTP method on this **path**

· 5xx: server error codes

- 500 (Internal Server Error): generic error, not sure what happened
- 503 (Service Unavailable): I can't handle this request right now
- 504 (Gateway Timeout): I was waiting on another server's response, but it took too long

conditional GET: when the client requests a resource but says "only give me a response if it's changed"

Date

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: max-age=604800
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 606
Content-Type: text/html
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Etag: 1259670651+gzip"
Expires Wed, 02 Aug 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Last-Modified: Fri, 09 Aug 2013 23:54:35 GMT
Server: ECS (den/1D77)
Vary: Accept-Encoding
X-Cache: HIT

<!doctype html>
<html>
...
```

Content-Length

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: max-age=604800
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 606
Content-Type: loxt/html
Date: Wed, 26 Lt 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Etag: "359670651 gzip"
Expires: Wed, 02 lug 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Last-Modified: Fri) 09 Aug 2013 23:54:35 GMT
Server: ECS (den/1D.7)
Vary: Accept-Encoding
X-Cache: HIT

<!doctype html>
<html> ...
```

Content-Type

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: max-age=604800
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 606
Content-Type: text/html
Date: Wed, 2 Jul 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Etag: "359676 11+gzip"
Expires: Wed, 12 Aug 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Last-Modified: 1ri, 09 Aug 2013 23:54:35 GMT
Server: ECS (den,1D77)
Vary: Accept-Encoding
X-Cache: HIT

<!doctype html>
<html>
...
```

This should match the client's **Accepted** header.

Server

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: max-age=604800
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 606
Content-Type: text/html
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Etag: "359670651+gzip"
Expires: Wed, 02 Aug 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Last-Modified: Fri, 09 Aug 2013 23:54:35 GMT
Server: FCS (den/1D77)
Vary: All Fincoding
X-Cache: HIT

<!doctype html>
```

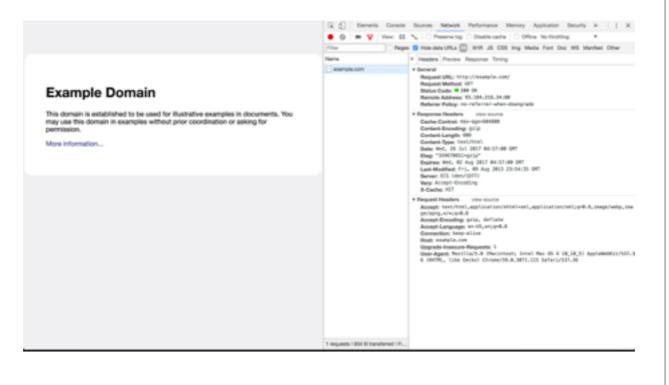
Other headers

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: max-age=604800
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 606
Content-Type: text/html
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 2007 07 120 GMT
Etag: "3590700 1492ip"
Expires: max, 01 19 2017 04:24:26 GMT
Last-Modified: 109 Aug 2013 23:54:35 GMT
Server: 100 July 2017 04:24:26 GMT

Vary: Maximum Encoding
X-Cache: min

<!doctype html>
```

Exploring responses



Just use your Chrome inspector tools, in particular the network tab!

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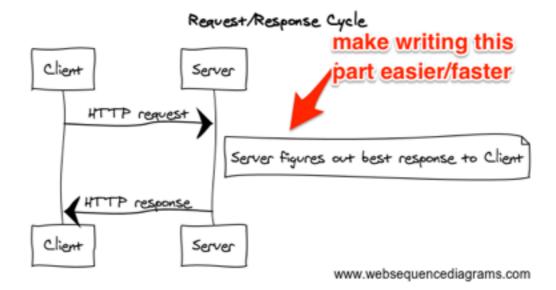
Django overview

- Born at Lawrence Journal-World in 2005
 - "The web framework for perfectionists with deadlines."
- Pure Python
 - Latest version supports 2.7, 3.4-3.6

Notable features

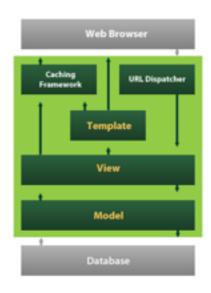
- Easy-to-use Object Relational Mapper (ORM)
- Out-of-the-box web-based admin application
- Pluggable design allows reuse of your (or others') code
- Built-in REPL for debugging, admin tasks, etc.

Django's role



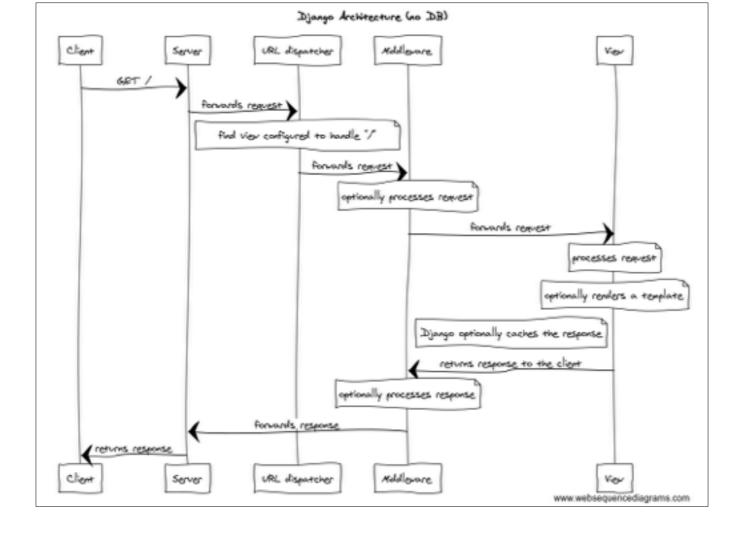
django

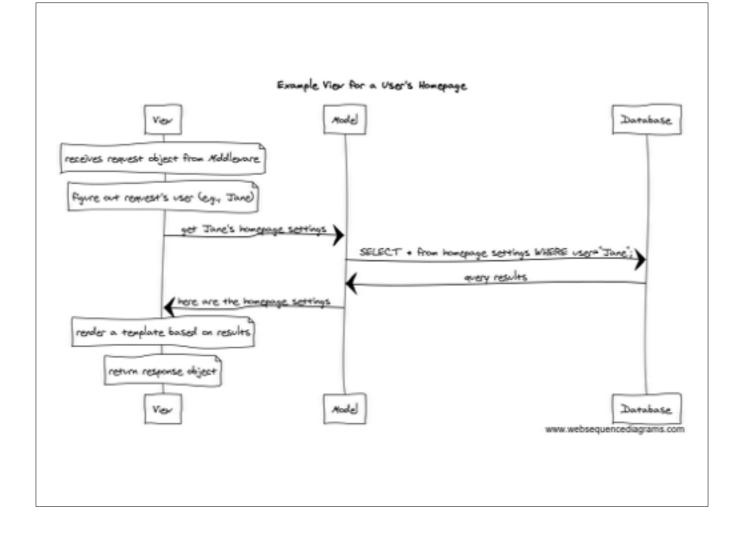
- Templates typically return HTML pages. The Djungo template language offers HTML authors a simple-to-learn syntax while providing all the power needed for presentation logic.
- 4. After performing any requested tasks, the view returns an HTTP response object (usually after passing the data through a template) to the web browser. Optionally, the view can save a version of the HTTP response object in the caching system for a specified length of time.



- The URL dispatcher (urls.py) maps the requested URL to a view function and calls it. If caching is enabled, the view function can check to see if a cached version of the page exists and bypass all further steps, returning the cached version, instead. Note that this page-level caching is only one available caching option in Django. You can cache more granularly, as well.
- The view function (usually in views.py) performs the requested action, which typically involves reading or writing to the database. It may include other tasks, as well.
- The model (usually in models.py) defines the data in Python and interacts with it. Although typically contained in a relational database IMySQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite, etc.), other data storage mechanisims are possible as well (XML, text files, LDAP, etc.).

credit: Jeff Croft





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Installation

bit.ly/2v0VIje

VERY brief installation instructions

brew install python3 git
sudo pip3 install virtualenvwrapper

go create a GitHub repo

mkdir -p ~/Repos && cd ~/Repos
git clone <your GH repo URL>

mine is called awpug_django_2017
cd awpug_django_2017
touch requirements.txt
echo Django==1.11.3 > requirements.txt
mkvirtualenv -p python3 django-tutorial-env
pip install -Ur requirements.txt
django-admin.py startproject config .

More details at bit.ly/2v0VIje

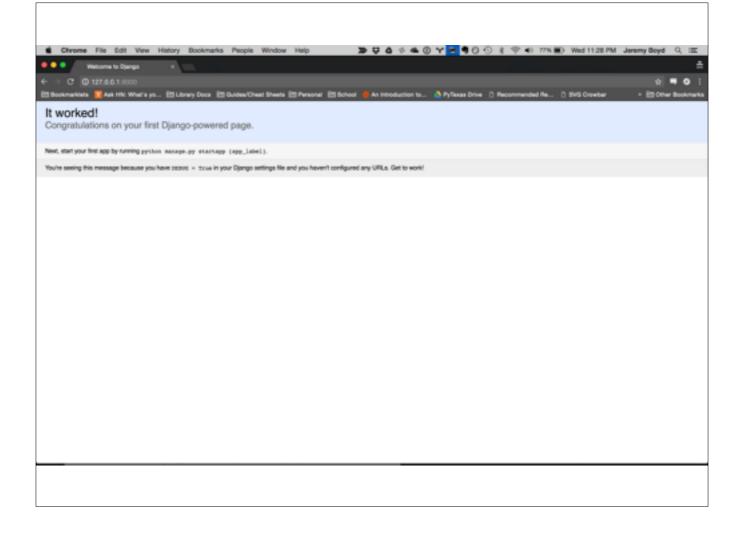
Results

```
(django-tutorial-env) [jboyd@erasmas:awpug-django-2017 (master +)]$ ls -al
total 32
drwxr-xr-x 9 jboyd staff 306 Jul 26 22:40 .
                           952 Jul 26 22:38 ...
drwxr-xr-x 28 jboyd staff
drwxr-xr-x 12 jboyd staff 408 Jul 26 22:40 .git
-rw-r--r 1 jboyd staff 1157 Jul 26 22:38 .gitignore
drwxr-xr-x 9 jboyd
                   staff
                          306 Jul 26 22:40 .idea
-rw-r--r 1 jboyd staff
                           19 Jul 26 22:38 README.md
drwxr-xr-x 6 jboyd staff 204 Jul 26 22:40 config
-rwxr-xr-x 1 jboyd staff
                           804 Jul 26 22:40 manage.py
-rw-r--r 1 jboyd staff
                           15 Jul 26 22:39 requirements.txt
```

Run server for the first time

python manage.py runserver

http://127.0.0.1:8000/



Make your first commit

git add config/ manage.py requirements.txt
git commit -m "Initial project structure"
git push origin HEAD

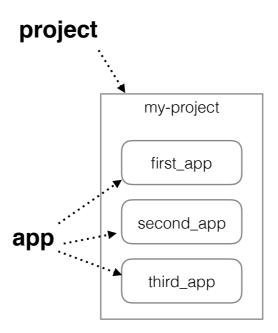
https://github.com/boydjj/awpug-django-2017/releases/tag/v0.1.0

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Anatomy of a Django project

- project: your whole website,
 e.g. <u>instagram.com</u>
- app: a piece of functionality for your site, e.g. users
 - each app is a Python package
 - · must be named accordingly



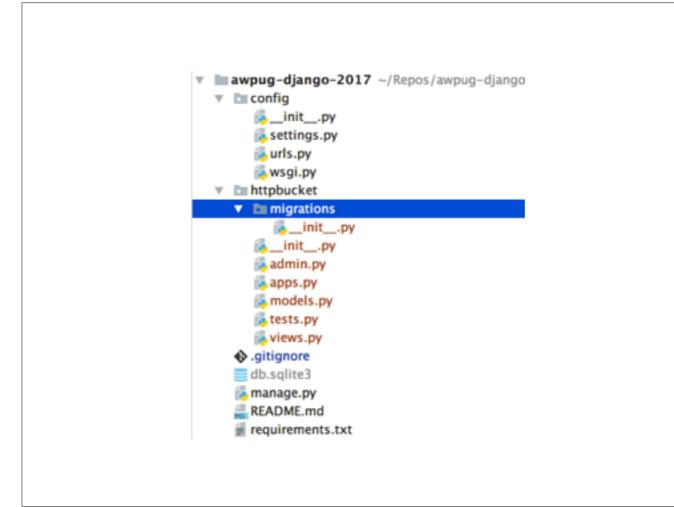
Let's make an app!

- Let's build a clone of httpbin.org
 - specifically, the functionality from /get
- MVP:
 - we don't need JSON output
 - can be stateless we don't need user info, history, etc.

```
- args: {
    name: "Jeremy",
   - phrase: [
        "hello world",
        "to boldly go..."
- headers: {
    Accept: "text/html,appl:
    Accept-Encoding: "gzip,
    Accept-Language: "en-US
    Cache-Control: "max-age
    Connection: "close",
    Cookie: "_gauges_unique
    Host: "httpbin.org",
    Upgrade-Insecure-Request
    User-Agent: "Mozilla/5.
 origin: "66.90.167.153",
 url: "http://httpbin.org/ge
```

Start a new app

python manage.py startapp httpbucket



We don't need all of this

```
rm admin.py models.py tests.py
rm -rf migrations/
```

Commit your changes

https://github.com/boydjj/awpug-django-2017/releases/tag/v0.2.0

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Create a simple view

- A view is a function that takes in a request and returns a response
- Let's write a really simple view in httpbucket/views.py

```
from django.http import HttpResponse

def hello_world(request):
    return HttpResponse("Obligatory greeting!")
```

Tell the URL dispatcher about our new view

- Remember: the URL dispatcher needs to know how to route requests
- Let's hook our new view up to the / path in config/urls.py

```
from httpbucket import views as httpbucket_views

urlpatterns = [
    url(r'^$', httpbucket_views.hello_world),
    url(r'^admin/', admin.site.urls),
]
```

An aside on URL configs

- Q: In the previous slide we used the regular expression **^\$**. This seems weird because we see the view's output when we go to **localhost:8000/**. Isn't that **/** required? Shouldn't the regex be **^/\$**?
- A: No. By the time the **path** gets to the URL dispatcher, the *leading I* is actually stripped from the path. So if we consider the path *I*, and then we strip away the leading *I*, all we're left with is the empty string, which is what **^\$** represents.
- Also worth noting: the the URL dispatcher is matching the config against the request's path with all the query parameters stripped off.

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ligatory growing!					

Commit your changes

https://github.com/boydjj/awpug-django-2017/releases/tag/v0.3.0

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Getting information out of a request

httpbucket/views.py

```
import json

...

def echo_get(request):
    response = {}

    args = {}
    for k, v in request.GET.items():
        args[k] = v
    response['args'] = args

    return HttpResponse(json.dumps(response))
```

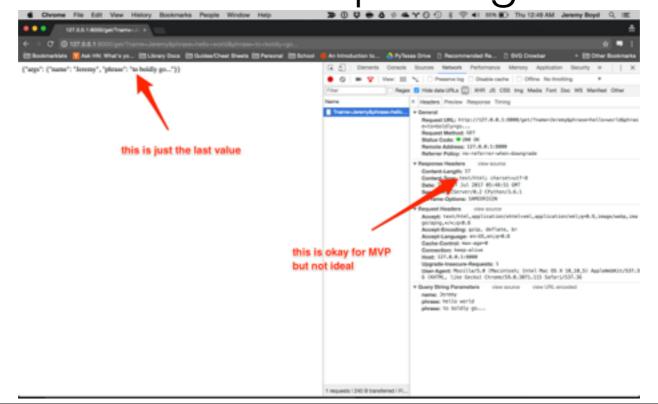
We're using json.dumps to convert the response dict into a string.

Configure the new view

```
urlpatterns = [
    url(r'^$', httpbucket_views.hello_world),
    url(r'^get/', httpbucket_views.echo_get),
    url(r'^admin/', admin.site.urls),
]
```

The middle line is new.

But this isn't quite right...



Using multi-valued query params

• request.GET has special methods for dealing with multi-valued parameters

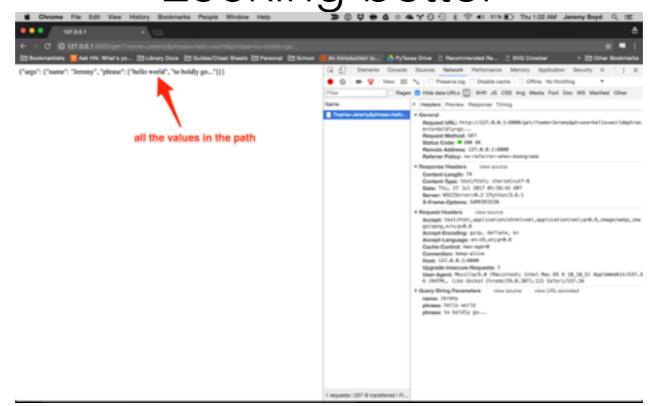
```
def echo_get(request):
    response = {}

    args = {}
    for k, v in request.GET.lists():
        if len(v) == 1:
            args[k] = v[0]
        else:
            args[k] = v

    response['args'] = args

    return HttpResponse(json.dumps(response))
```

Looking better

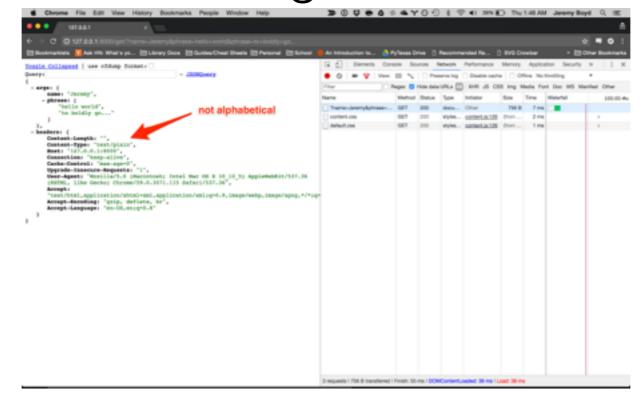


Adding header info

- request.META has the request's headers
- · Content-* headers can be used (almost) as-is
- all other request headers start with HTTP_

```
headers = {}
for k, v in request.META.items():
    new_key = None
    if k.startswith("CONTENT"):
        new_key = k
    elif k.startswith('HTTP_'):
        new_key = k[5:]
    if new_key is not None:
        headers[new_key.replace('_', '-').title()] = v
response['headers'] = headers
```

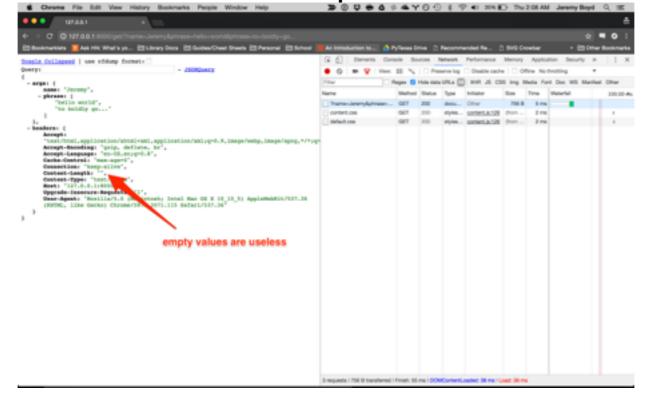
Getting there...



Easy fix

return HttpResponse(json.dumps(response, sort_keys=True))

Except...



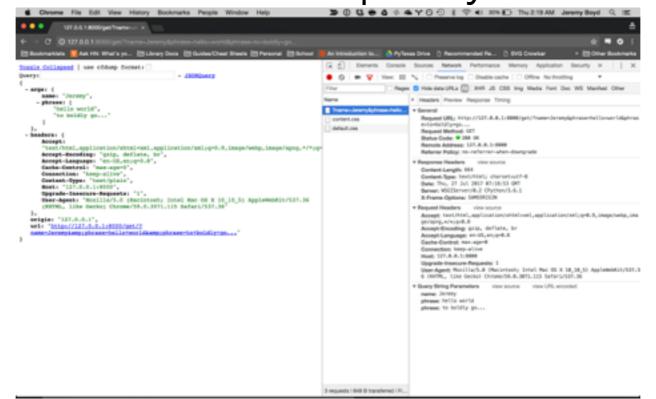
Another easy fix

```
headers = {}
for k, v in request.META.items():
    if not v:
        continue
    new_key = None
    if k.startswith("CONTENT"):
        new_key = k
    elif k.startswith('HTTP_'):
        new_key = k[5:]
    if new_key is not None:
        headers[new_key.replace('_', '-').title()] = v
response['headers'] = headers
```

Add the last couple items

```
response['origin'] = request.META.get('REMOTE_ADDR')
response['url'] = request.get_raw_uri()
```

Feature parity



Commit your changes

https://github.com/boydjj/awpug-django-2017/releases/tag/v0.4.0

Next steps

- There's a glaring bug here. Can you find it?
 - Hint: try http --verbose -f localhost:8000/get/ name=Jeremy
- Try to implement one of the other httpbin.org URLs



twitter.com/jeremyjboyd github.com/boydjj