

# Django Notes

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# Python lists

Python list syntax looks like array.

```
> fruit = [ "apple", 'banana', "orange" ]
> len(fruit)                # not OO syntax
3
> fruit[1]
'banana'
> fruit[1] = "mango"        # change an element
> fruit.pop()
"orange"
> fruit
['apple', 'mango']
> fruit.append('fig')
```

# Python dictionary

A **key-value** collection, like Map in Java.

```
> langs = {"python": "easy", "java": "cool",
           "ruby": "weird"}

> langs.keys()      # order is not preserved
dict.keys(['ruby', 'java', 'python'])

> langs['java']
'cool'

> langs['ruby'] = "too much like Perl"

> for lang in langs: # iterate over all keys
    print("{0} is {1}".format(lang, langs[lang]))
ruby is too much like Perl
java is cool
python is easy
```

# More fluent Python

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Instead of:

```
for lang in langs: # iterate over all keys
    print(lang, "is", langs[lang]))
```

Python programmers would write:

```
for (key,value) in langs.items(): # get pairs
    print(key, "is", value)
```

Syntax is similar to *multiple assignment*:

```
(name,id,email) = "Nok,1234,nok@gmail".split(',')
```

# Django Page Templates

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In a **template**, you put values inside `{{ ... }}`

templates/polls/details.html:

```
<p>
```

```
Q{{question.id}} is {{question.question_text}}
```

```
</p>
```

```
Q1 is What is your favorite food?
```

# Django template processing

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A **template** processes an input file and "renders" it:

Create a Django "template" object containing your template text:

```
from django.template import loader
template =
    loader.get_template('polls/details.html')
```

Insert values into template:

```
# insert variables using a dictionary
template.render( {'question': question}, request )
```

# Page Templates & Context

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The data used in a **template** is called a **context**.

**Context** is *dictionary* (map) of key-value pairs.

```
template =  
    loader.get_template('polls/details.html')  
  
# context: key-values to use in template  
context = {'question': question, 'user':user, ...}  
  
# render the template using context data  
return HttpResponse(  
    template.render( context, request ) )
```

# Python \*\*kwargs

A Python method may have a parameter like: **\*\*name**

**\*\*name** is a *dictionary* of named arguments (key word args) and values. You can use any name for the param.

This enables a method to accept arbitrary parameters.

```
def myfun(x, **kwargs):  
    print("x=", x)      # required parameter  
    print("Optional arguments are:")  
    for key in kwargs:  
        print(key, "=", kwargs[key] )  
  
>>> myfun(4)  
>>> myfun("hi", id=219245, name="ISP", size=37)
```



# In a "view" what is **request**?

What is **request**? What is **HttpResponse**?

A Django "view" function looks like this:

```
from django.http import HttpResponse
from django.template import loader

def detail(request, question_id):
    questions = Question.objects.all()[0:10]
    context = {'question_list': questions}
    template = loader.get_template('some_file')

    return HttpResponse(
        template.render(context, request) )
```

# Shortcut for render and return

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Rendering a template is common operation.

Django has a "render" shortcut for previous code:

```
from django.shortcuts import render
from django.template import loader

def detail(request, question_id):
    questions = Question.objects.all()[0:10]
    context = {'question_list': questions,
               'username': user.name }

    return render(request, 'some_file', context)
```

# URL Dispatching

Each "app" can have a `urls.py` to match request URLs and [dispatch](#) them to a "view".

```
from django.urls import path

# app_name is used to define a namespace
# (used for "reverse mapping")
app_name = 'polls'

url_patterns = [
    path('', views.index, name='index'),
    path('<int:question_id>/',
         views.detail, name='detail'),
    path('<int:question_id>/vote',
         views.vote, name='vote'),
    path('<int:question_id>/results',
         views.results, name='results'),
]
```

# Dispatch these URLs

Which view would handle each of these requests:

- 1) `http://localhost:8000/polls/`
- 2) `http://localhost:8000/polls/4/`
- 3) `http://localhost:8000/polls/8/vote?username=nok`
- 4) `http://localhost:8000/polls/8/vote/summary`

```
# URL mapping for /polls/ app
url_patterns = [
    path('', views.index, name='index'),
    path('<int:question_id>/',
        views.detail, name='detail'),
    path('<int:question_id>/vote/',
        views.vote, name='vote'),
]
```

# Mapping from View to URL

Inside html template, we want to insert a URL of a view.


Example: add a link to the polls index page.

How to "build" this URL inside a template?

```
<!-- question details template -->
<p>Question Id: {{ question.id }} </p>
<p>Text: {{ question.question_text }} </p>

<a href="{% url 'polls:index' %}">
    Back to Polls index
</a>

>> Notice that {%...%} is processed even inside "..."
```



The diagram shows two red arrows pointing from the text 'polls:index' in the code to the labels 'app\_name' and 'view name' below it. The arrow from 'polls' points to 'app\_name', and the arrow from 'index' points to 'view name'.

*Why is this (creating URL for a view) important?*

# Reverse Dispatch

Sometimes a view controller wants to redirect the user to a different URL.

```
from django.http import HttpResponseRedirect

def vote(request, question_id):
    question = Question.objects.get(id=question_id)
    // TODO save the vote for this question
    ...
    // Show all votes for this question
    _____Redirect to polls/{id}/results_____
```



How to redirect the browser to this page?

# Reverse Dispatch: reverse()

Redirect uses info from the urls.py files to construct the URL the user should go to.

```
from django.http import HttpResponseRedirect

def vote(request, question_id):
    q = Question.objects.get(id=question_id)
    ## TODO get user's choice and add +1 to votes
    ...
    # Redirect browser to page of vote results
    HttpResponseRedirect(
        reverse('polls:results', args=(q.id)) )
```



Get the URL that matches the named route

# Thorough Testing is Needed!

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Python code is *interpreted*.

There is no pre-compilation to catch errors (as in Java).  
So, you need to **test every path of execution**.

```
NameError at /polls/1/vote/  
name 'reverse' is not defined
```

Programmer forgot (in views.py):

```
from django.urls import reverse
```

but error is not detected until `reverse()` is encountered  
at **run-time**.



# All Frameworks must do this

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Most web apps need a way to:

1. Include links to other app urls in HTML page
  - Amazon products page has links to each product
2. Redirect user to another page in our app
  - After add item to cart, redirect to view\_cart page.

Issue:

How to *inject* the correct URLs, without hardcoding them?

# Django's Solution

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Most web apps need a way to:

1. Include links to other app urls in HTML page

```
{% url 'app_name:view_name' args %}
```

2. Redirect user to another page in our app

```
HttpResponseRedirect(  
    reverse('app_name:view_name',  
args=(...)))
```

Rationale:

Make "apps" reusable by providing a naming of URL mappings at the app level, e.g. "polls:results".

# Exploring Models

Use Django to start an interactive Python shell.  
This is described in Tutorial part 2.

```
python manage.py shell  [ -i python ]

>>> from polls.models import Question, Choice
>>> q = Question.objects.get(id=1)
>>> q.question_text
"What is your favorite programming language?"
>>> choices = q.choice_set.all( )
>>> for c in choices:
...     print("%-10s %d" % (c.choice_text, c.votes))
Basic          0
C              1
Java           4
Python         2
```

# Try out Persistence

Try persistence operations: save(), get(), delete()

```
>>> c = Choice()
>>> c.choice_text = "Lisp"    # or "Racket" ("Scheme")
>>> c.votes = 2
## Foreign Key.  You have to find this separately.
>>> c.question_id = 1
>>> c.save()
>>> for choice in q.choice_set.all():
...     print(choice)
## Now the output includes "Lisp"
>>>
```

# Persistence Operations: CRUD

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All Persistence Frameworks provide a way to...

- **save** (create) an entity to database
- **retrieve** an object, by id or by field value (query)
- **retrieve** all objects
- **update** object data in database
- **delete** a persisted object from database

How does Django do these?

# Testing

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Django Unit Tests extend TestCase class.

```
public class QuestionModelTest(TestCase):  
    def test_create_question(self):  
        question = Question(question_text="this is a test")  
        self.assert
```

**Wrong Name!**

In Tutorial, name is "QuestionModel**Tests**".

It should be "xxxTest" (no "s")!

**Don't use plural** for your test classes.

# What is a `django.test.TestCase` ?

```
>>> from django.test import TestCase
```

```
>>> help(TestCase)
```

```
class TestCase(TransactionTestCase)
```

```
...
```

```
Method resolution order:
```

```
    TestCase
```

```
    TransactionTestCase
```

```
    SimpleTestCase
```

```
    unittest.case.TestCase
```

```
    builtins.object
```

# Running Tests

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```
cmd> python manage.py test polls
```

## Criticisms:

- Django test code is in same directory as production code.
- Should have separate "test" files for each test target, don't bundle them into `tests.py`
- `tests.py` is poor name. Test what? Don't use plural!



# Design: Low Coupling

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Good software design strives for **low coupling**.

Especially, **low** or **no coupling** between unrelated parts.

**What features of Django reduce coupling?**

1. project divided into independent "apps"
2. views and their templates are not coupled to other views
3. model classes aren't coupled to views or anything else

# Design: Portability and Reuse

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Good software design enables portability and code reuse.

A framework itself is both portable and reusable (we use it to create our own web app)!

How does Django enable us to move or reuse our own web application code?

# Django and Git

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When you commit your Django project to Git, what files should you not import?

`__pycache__/`

`*.pyc`

`sitename/settings.py`

`db.sqlite3`

> Add them to `.gitignore`.

> If you don't know, create a repo on Github and ask Github to create a Python `.gitignore` file for your repo.

> What is `*.pyc` ? What is `*.py[cod]` ? (Github uses this)