

OS TECH

TECH FOR NON-DEVELOPERS

GOALS

- Improve communication between technical and non-technical staff
- Give a broad but shallow understanding of a wide variety of topics
- Hands on experience as much as possible

LIMITATIONS

- This class will not teach you to code
- We will do code related activities, but they are used to understand concepts

SERVERS



SERVERS

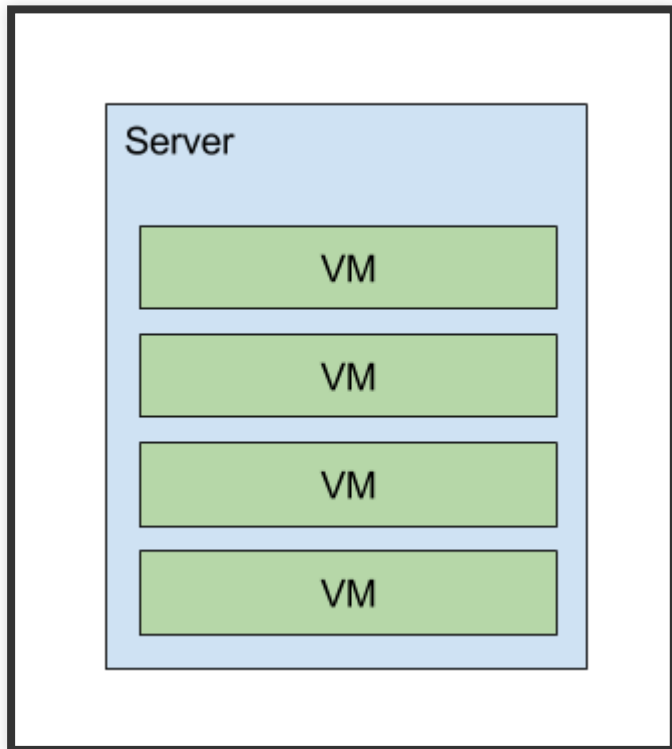
- Openstax has servers in the Rice Data Center and on Amazon AWS
- All of our servers run Ubuntu Linux as the operating system
- Most of our servers use Virtual Machines

SERVERS

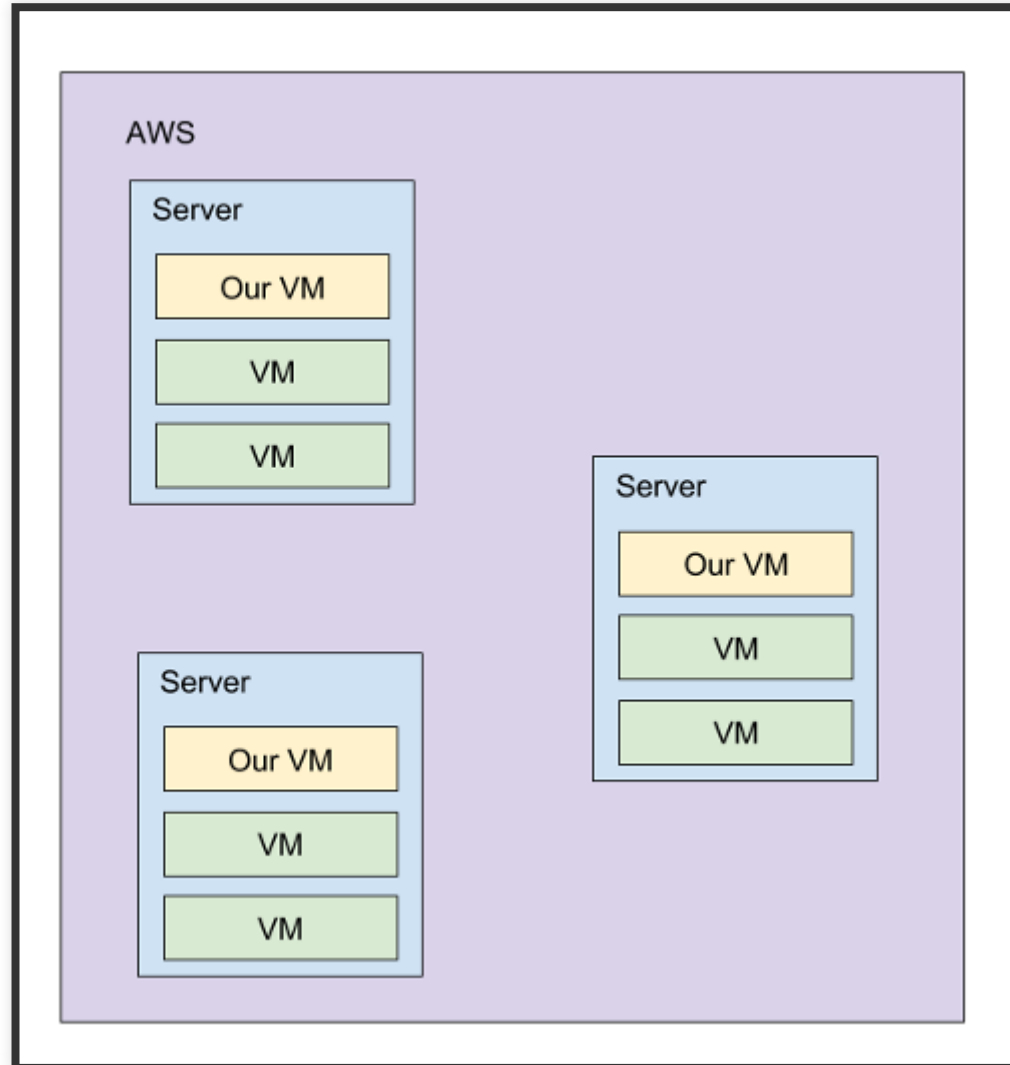
- Virtual Machines...
 - Allow big hardware to be utilized for many purposes
 - Can be easily rebuilt
 - VMs are rebuilt and updated using automated deployments
 - Deployments are automated using a tool called Ansible

SERVERS

- Virtual Machines...
 - Can have disk space and memory (RAM) adjusted as needed



VIRTUAL MACHINES IN AWS..



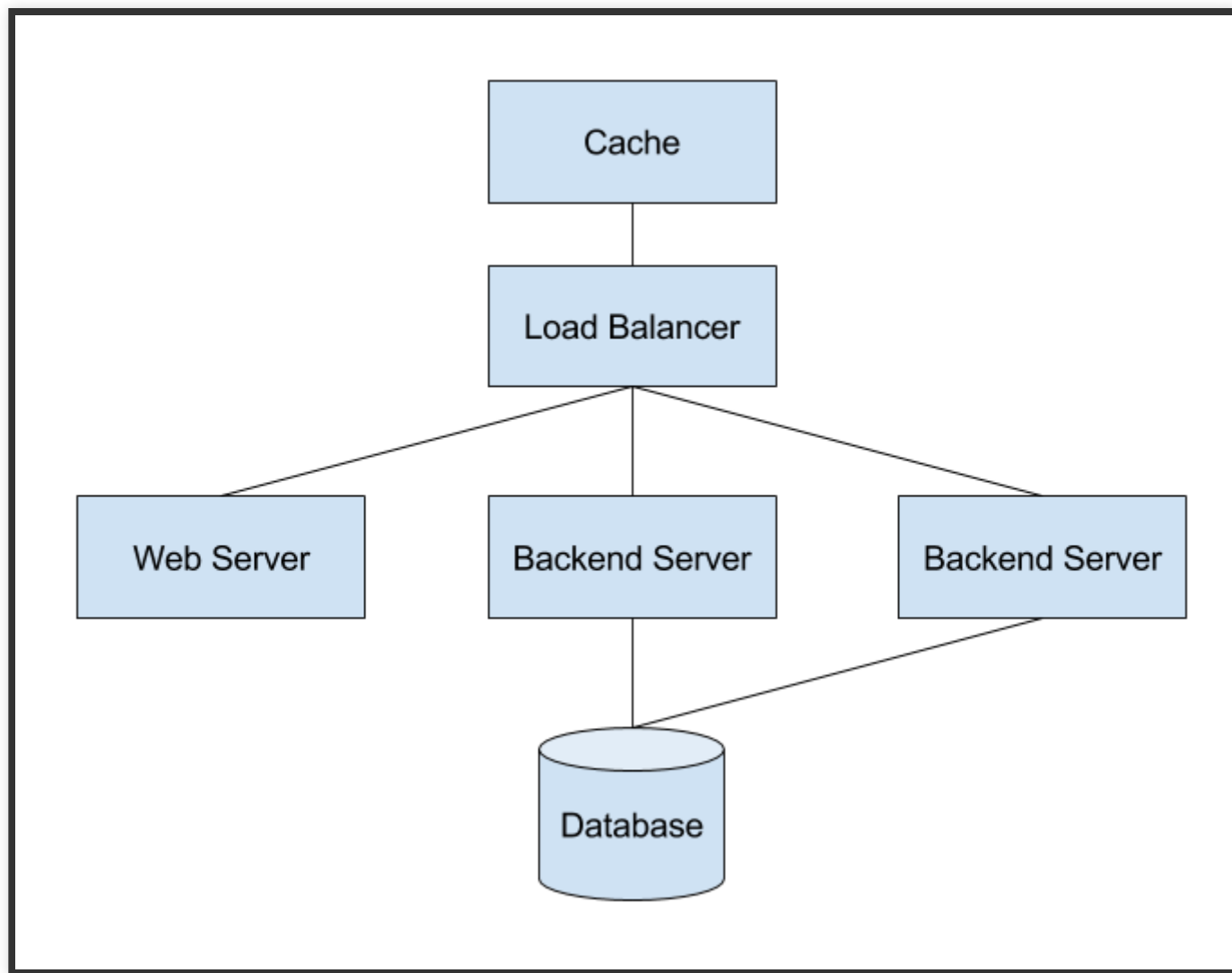
APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - HARDWARE



APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - HARDWARE

- Applications have similar Architectures
 - Cache (optional)
 - Load Balancer (optional)
 - Web Server
 - Backend server
 - Database server

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - HARDWARE



APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - HARDWARE

- Cache
 - Used to quickly return read-only content
 - Prevents expensive trip to the server and database
 - Content is retrieved once from the server and then stored in the Cache
 - A Cache is temporary storage. The Cache is emptied if the server is restarted

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - HARDWARE

- Load Balancer
 - A Load Balancer spreads requests across all of the Web Servers or Backend Servers
 - It is used to prevent any of the VMs from having too many requests
 - Too many requests can result in slow response times or errors

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - HARDWARE

- Web Server
 - A Web Server delivers the client Javascript that runs in the browser
 - It generally does not get a lot of load

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - HARDWARE

- Backend server
 - A Backend Server runs code that manipulates data and runs APIs
 - This code is usually in Python or Ruby
 - Might be running in what is called a WSGI server - Web Server Gateway Interface
 - Calls to this server are expensive in time

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - HARDWARE

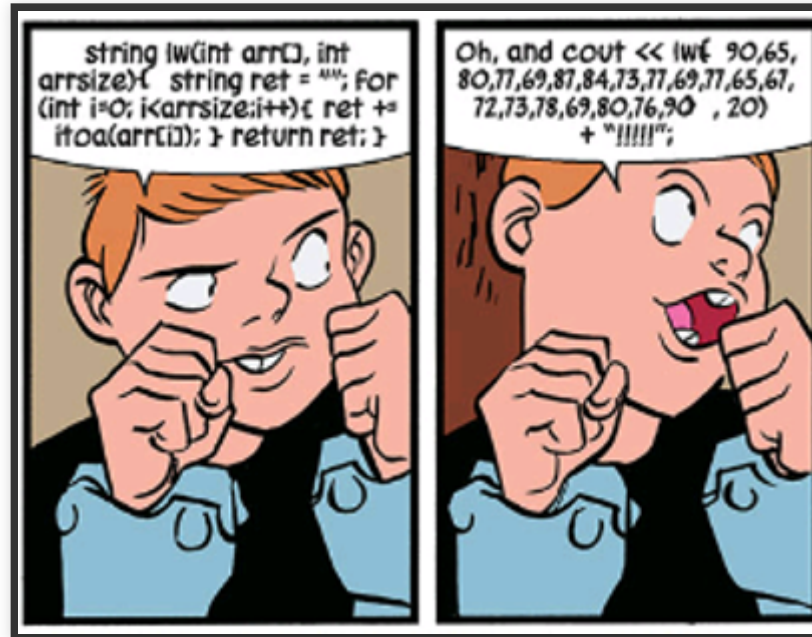
- Database server
 - Runs database software such as PostgreSQL
 - Backend Server connects to the database to manipulate data
 - Actions on data are sometimes called CRUD operations
 - CRUD = Create, Read, Update and Delete

SERVER ARCHITECTURE

EXERCISE

- What servers would you need if...
 - 80% of your content is read only
 - All data is stored in a database
 - Frontend is a SinglePage App
 - Each backend server can handle 200 requests at a time
 - Peak load is estimated to be 500 requests at a time

CODE



APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - CODE

- Model View Controller - MVC
 - Model - holds data. Can have logic related to data (sorting, filtering, etc.)
 - View - display of model. Little if any logic
 - Controller - handles requests and calls business logic

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - CODE

- Model View Controller - MVC
 - Why MVC?
 - Separation of Concerns
 - Testability
 - Less bugs
 - Easier to maintain

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - CODE

- Single Page App
 - Frontend is a structure and what is inside the structure changes
 - Structure is rebuilt on the frontend rather than the backend

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - CODE

- Single Page App
 - Model - represents the data for the page.
 - View - the display of the data. Should only have code used for display.
 - Controller - orchestrates calls between FE and BE

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - CODE

- Database
 - The data is stored in tables and accessed using a language called SQL
 - SQL is also called "See-Qwill"

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - CODE

- Database
 - Example SQL
 - `select * from users`
 - `select * from users where city = 'Houston'`
 - `select first_name, last_name from users where state = 'TX'`
 - `select users.last_name, products.name from users, products where users.id = products.user_id`

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - CODE

- SQL Writing Exercise
 - Query to select all users from Texas and Louisiana. Should display their first and last name along with the state
 - Ed Woodward LA
 - Stan Lee TX
 - Jack Kirby TX
 - Steve Ditko LA

USER TABLE

first_name	last_name	state
Ed	Woodward	LA
Stan	Lee	TX
Jack	Kirby	TX
Peter	Parker	NY

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - API

- API - Application Programming Interface
- There are different types of APIs
- We use REST APIs
- REST APIs are APIs available over http

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - API

- REST APIs are accessed via URLs
- EXAMPLE:
<https://archive.cnx.org/contents/031da8d3-b525-429c-80cf-6c8ed997733a.json>
- REST APIs return json
- Json is a format of name-value pairs

APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE - JSON

```
contents: [  
  {  
    shortId: "4SMp5I1s@2",  
    id: "e12329e4-8d6c-49cf-aa45-6a05b26ebcba@2",  
    title: "Introduction to One-Dimensional Kinematic  
  },  
  {  
    shortId: "_H3EiPTs@4",  
    id: "fc7dc488-f4ec-498c-b261-3b75eaa70aaa@4",  
    title: "Displacement"  
  },  
  {  
    shortId: "gj9KHj0Q@2",  
    id: "823f4a1e-3d10-44b6-a22e-8608f72c6eca@2",  
    title: "Vectors, Scalars, and Coordinate Systems"  
  }  
]
```

JSON EXAMPLES

- <https://openstax.org/api/pages/technology/>
- <https://openstax.org/api/pages/accessibility/>

APPLICATION STACK



APPLICATION STACK - CNX

- Backbone - Javascript framework
- Python backend - no framework
- Postgresql Database

APPLICATION STACK - LEGACY CNX

- Plone/Zope - no Javascript framework
- Python
- Postgresql Database

APPLICATION STACK - OPENSTAX.ORG

- Superb - Javascript framework
- Django with Wagtail CMS - Python
- Postgresql Database

APPLICATION STACK - TUTOR

- React - Javascript framework
- Ruby on Rails - CMS/Framework
- Ruby
- Postgresql Database

APPLICATION STACK - PAYMENTS

- React - Javascript framework
- Django CMS
- Python
- Postgresql Database

APPLICATION STACK - ACCOUNTS

- Ruby on Rails - CMS/Framework
- Ruby
- Postgresql Database

CODE BASICS



CODE BASICS

- Classes
- Methods/Functions
- Why use a Framework?

CODE BASICS - CLASS

- Classes represent an object in code
- Classic example is a person

CODE BASICS - PYTHON

CLASS

```
class Person():  
    def __init__(firstname, lastname, city, state)  
        self.first_name = firstname  
        self.last_name = lastname  
        self.city = city  
        self.state = state  
  
    def get_name():  
        return self.first_name + ' ' + self.last_name  
  
    def get_address():  
        return self.city + ' ' + self.state
```

CODE BASICS - WHY CLASSES?

- Makes code more understandable
- Makes code reusable
- Makes code easier to maintain

CODE BASICS - METHODS/FUNCTIONS

- Methods and Functions are the same thing
- Called different things in different programming languages

CODE BASICS - METHODS/FUNCTIONS

- Methods are a self contained block of code that does one thing
- They need to do one thing so there are no unexpected side effects

CODE BASICS - PYTHON

FUNCTION

```
def get_name():  
    return self.first_name + ' ' + self.last_name  
  
def get_address():  
    return self.city + ' ' + self.state
```

CODE BASICS - FRAMEWORKS



CODE BASICS - FRAMEWORKS

- Why use a framework?
- Allows for faster development

CODE BASICS - FRAMEWORKS

- Django demo

CODE BASICS - FRAMEWORKS

- Frameworks we use
 - React
 - Backbone
 - Rails or Ruby on Rails
 - Django
 - Wagtail

CODE BASICS - PYTHON

- Loosely Typed
- Not compiled, but interpreted
- CNX used 2.7
- Legacy uses 2.4
- OS Web and Payments use 3.5

CODE BASICS - PYTHON

EXERCISE

- Open terminal
- Type 'python --version'

CODE BASICS - PYTHON

EXERCISE

- Type 'python' in terminal
- add 2 numbers together: $2 + 2$ and hit Enter
- Do other math
 - Multiplication - $*$
 - Division - $/$
 - Mod - $\%$

CODE BASICS - PYTHON

EXERCISE

```
>>> the_world_is_flat = 1
>>> if the_world_is_flat:
...     print 'Be careful not to fall off!'
```

CODE BASICS - PYTHON

EXERCISE RESULTS

```
>>> the_world_is_flat = 1
>>> if the_world_is_flat:
...     print 'Be careful not to fall off!'
...
Be careful not to fall off!
```

CODE BASICS - JAVASCRIPT

- Originally designed to run in the browser
- Now sometimes used on the server
- Javascript is not Java

CODE BASICS - JAVASCRIPT

```
function assignColors(team) {  
    let i = 0;  
  
    for (const member of team) {  
        member.bgColor = colorCombos[i][0];  
        member.textColor = colorCombos[i][1];  
        i++;  
  
        if (Math.random() > 0.9) {  
            i++;  
        }  
  
        i %= colorCombos.length;  
    }  
}
```

CODE BASICS - GIT



CODE BASICS - GIT

- Git is a distributed version control system
- Version control protects the code
- Prevents accidental loss of code

CODE BASICS - GIT

- Each check in of code is versioned
- Allows development of new features while still allowing access to current code in production

CODE BASICS - GITHUB

- Github provides services on top of Git including
 - Issue tracking
 - Viewing code via the web
 - Pull Requests

CODE BASICS - GIT/GITHUB

- Common Git/Github Terminology
 - Repository - a logical grouping of code or a project
 - Clone - check out a Repository
 - Pull - get recent code from Github
 - Branch - a pointer with a name to a snapshot of the code

CODE BASICS - GIT/GITHUB

- Common Git/Github Terminology
 - Branch - same branch can be local and in Github
 - Commit - add changes to your branch
 - Rebase - copy recent changes into your branch
 - Pull Requests - requests to add code back to the project

CODE BASICS - GIT/GITHUB

- Clone a Repository
 - Type
 - `git clone https://github.com/edwoodward/os-tech-class.git`

GIT BASICS - BRANCHING

- list branches: `git branch`
- create a branch: `git branch [branch name]`
- checkout branch: `git checkout [branch name]`

GIT BASICS - CHANGES

- Edit one of the files
- See changes: `git status`
- Add changes to git: `git add [file name]`
- Commit Changes: `git commit -m 'your comment here'`

GITHUB BASICS - PULL REQUEST

- push to github: `git push origin [branch name]`
- Go to <https://github.com/edwoodward/os-tech-class>
- Select Pull Request tab
- Create PR to merge your branch into master

GITHUB BASICS - PULL REQUEST

- Look at your branch in Github
- SHA is on right side
- SHA is a hash that represents the version of the code

RELEASE PROCESS - SERVERS

- Dev - used for initial testing of code
- QA - formal testing by QA team
- Staging - replica of production for final testing
- Production - user facing application

RELEASE PROCESS

- Automated tests are run on every PR
- Some dev teams verify code on dev server
- QA team tests new features on QA
- QA team does regression testing on Staging
- Code is released to Production

QUESTIONS?