

EXPERIMENT NO. 3

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AIM: To develop a basic Flask application with multiple routes and demonstrate the handling of GET and POST requests.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Design a Flask web application with the following features:

1. A homepage (/) that provides a welcome message and a link to a contact form.
 - a. Create routes for the homepage (/), contact form (/contact), and thank-you page (/thank_you).
2. A contact page (/contact) where users can fill out a form with their name and email.
3. Handle the form submission using the POST method and display the submitted data on a thank-you page (/thank_you).
 - a. On the contact page, create a form to accept user details (name and email).
 - b. Use the POST method to handle form submission and pass data to the thank-you page
4. Demonstrate the use of GET requests by showing a dynamic welcome message on the homepage when the user accesses it with a query parameter, e.g., /welcome?name=<user_name>.
 - a. On the homepage (/), use a query parameter (name) to display a personalized welcome message.

Theory:

A) List some of the core features of Flask.

Flask is a lightweight and flexible web framework for Python. Some of its core features include:

1. **Lightweight & Minimalistic** – Flask is a microframework, meaning it provides only the essential tools needed for web development, making it easy to extend.
2. **Built-in Development Server & Debugger** – Comes with a built-in server for testing and an interactive debugger to identify errors efficiently.
3. **Routing** – Provides a simple way to map URLs to functions using decorators (`@app.route()`).
4. **Template Engine (Jinja2)** – Uses Jinja2 for dynamic HTML rendering with features like template inheritance and macros.
5. **WSGI Compatibility** – Works with WSGI (Web Server Gateway Interface) via Werkzeug, ensuring smooth request handling.
6. **RESTful Request Handling** – Supports handling different HTTP methods (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE) for building RESTful APIs.
7. **Session Management** – Supports secure client-side sessions using cookies.
8. **Extensibility** – Can be extended with third-party libraries for authentication, database integration (SQLAlchemy, MongoDB, etc.), and more.
9. **Blueprints** – Allows structuring large applications into smaller, reusable modules.
10. **Integrated Support for Unit Testing** – Provides tools to write and test applications effectively.

B) Why do we use Flask(__name__) in Flask?

In Flask, `Flask(__name__)` is used to create an instance of the Flask application. The `__name__` variable, which represents the name of the current module, plays a crucial role in the framework's functionality.

Key Reasons:

1. Identifies the Application's Module – Helps Flask determine the application's root location.
2. Locates Static & Template Files – Ensures Flask can find static files (CSS, JS) and templates (HTML) in their respective directories.
3. Enables Debugging & Error Handling – Helps Flask differentiate between running as a script (`__main__`) or an imported module, allowing it to enable debugging features accordingly.
4. Supports Flask Extensions – Ensures proper integration of Flask extensions like Flask-SQLAlchemy and Flask-Login.

C)What is Template (Template Inheritance) in Flask?

A template in Flask refers to an HTML file that dynamically generates content using Jinja2, Flask's built-in templating engine. Template Inheritance allows multiple templates to share a common structure, reducing redundancy and improving code organization.

How Template Inheritance Works:

- A base template (base.html) contains the common layout (header, footer, navigation).
- Other templates extend (`{% extends "base.html" %}`) the base and override specific blocks (`{% block content %}`) to customize content.

Example: Parent template

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```
<html>
```

```
<head>
```

```
    <title>{% block title %}My Website{% endblock %}</title>
```

```
</head>
```

```
<body>
```

```
<header>Welcome to My Website</header>

<div>{% block content %} {% endblock %}</div>

<footer>Footer Section</footer>

</body>

</html>
```

Child Template

```
{% extends "base.html" %}

{% block title %}Home{% endblock %}

{% block content %}

    <h1>This is the Home Page</h1>

{% endblock %}
```

Template inheritance simplifies maintaining a consistent design across multiple pages

D)What methods of HTTP are implemented in Flask.

Flask supports multiple HTTP methods for handling different types of requests in a web application. The main methods implemented are:

1. Get – Retrieves data from the server (default method).

```
@app.route('/data', methods=['GET'])

def get_data():
    return "This is a GET request"
```

2. Post – Sends data to the server for processing.

```
@app.route('/submit', methods=['POST'])

def submit_form():
    return "This is a POST request"
```

3. Put-Updates existing data on the server

```
@app.route('/update', methods=['PUT'])
```

```
def update_data():
```

```
    return "This is a PUT request"
```

4. Delete -Removes data from the server

```
@app.route('/delete', methods=['DELETE'])
```

```
def delete_data():
```



```
    return "This is a DELETE request"
```

5. Patch – Partially updates existing data.

6. Head – Similar to GET but without a response body.

7. Options – Returns allowed HTTP methods for a route.

E) What is difference between Flask and Django framework.

Feature	Flask  (Micro-framework)	Django  (Full-stack framework)
Architecture	Lightweight and modular, gives developers more flexibility	Monolithic, follows MVC (Model-View-Controller) pattern
Flexibility	Highly customizable, requires external libraries for many features	Comes with built-in features like authentication, admin panel, ORM
Database Support	No default database, uses SQLAlchemy or other ORMs	Built-in ORM, supports multiple databases (PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite)
Performance	Faster for small applications due to minimal overhead	Can be slower due to built-in features but optimized for large apps
Learning Curve	Easier to learn, minimal setup, less boilerplate code	Steeper learning curve due to conventions and built-in features
Best Suited For	Small to medium apps, RESTful APIs, microservices	Large-scale, data-driven web applications and enterprise-level projects

Routing

Routing in Flask is the process of mapping URLs to specific functions. This is done using the `@app.route()` decorator.

```
from flask import Flask

app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route('/') # Maps the root URL to this function
def home():

    return "Welcome to Flask!"

if __name__ == '__main__':

    app.run(debug=True)
```

URL building

Flask allows dynamic URL building using the `url_for()` function. This helps in avoiding hardcoded URLs and improves maintainability.

```
from flask import Flask, url_for

app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route('/user/<name>') # Dynamic route
def user_profile(name):

    return f"Hello, {name}!"

@app.route('/get-url')

def get_url():

    return f"Profile URL: {url_for('user_profile', name='Spandan')}}"

if __name__ == '__main__':

    app.run(debug=True)
```

GET REQUEST

A GET request is used to retrieve data from the server. It is the default request method in Flask.

```
from flask import Flask, request

app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route('/greet', methods=['GET'])
def greet():

    name = request.args.get('name', 'Guest') # Gets 'name' from the URL

    return f"Hello, {name}!"

if __name__ == '__main__':

    app.run(debug=True)
```

POST REQUEST

A POST request is used to send data to the server, typically in form submissions or API requests.

```
from flask import Flask, request

app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route('/greet', methods=['GET'])
def greet():

    name = request.args.get('name', 'Guest') # Gets 'name' from the URL

    return f"Hello, {name}!"

if __name__ == '__main__':

    app.run(debug=True)
```

OUTPUT

```
from flask import Flask, request, url_for, redirect, render_template

app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route('/')
def home():
    return render_template('index.html')

@app.route('/greet', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
def greet():
    if request.method == 'POST':
        name = request.form.get('name')
        return redirect(url_for('hello', username=name))
    return render_template('greet.html')

@app.route('/hello/<username>')
def hello(username):
    return render_template('hello.html', username=username)

@app.route('/about')
def about():
    return render_template('about.html')

@app.route('/contact', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
def contact():
    if request.method == 'POST':
        message = request.form.get('message')
        return render_template('contact.html', message=message)
    return render_template('contact.html', message=None)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    app.run(debug=True)
```