

# what is web2py

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# web2py start in 2007

- one of the most popular web frameworks
- 2011 Bossie Award
- 2012 Technology of the Year Award
- 2 books
- about 8000 registered users



# How did we get here?



# Priorities

- Ease of use (+ expressive, - maintenance)
- Security (no choices to developers)
- Batteries included
- Convention over configuration

# Batteries included

**web server**  
ssl enabled

**DAL + database**  
auto-migrations  
SQLite

**web IDE**  
design, deploy, manage



html, xml, json, rss, ics, pdf, rtf,  
xmlrpc, jsonrpc, soap,  
ldap, pam, janrain, dropbox, google,  
CAS, OpenID, oauth 1&2, x509  
marmin, markdown,  
google wallet, authorize.net, stripe.com  
memcache, redis  
twitter bootstrap



.zip

**ticketing  
system**

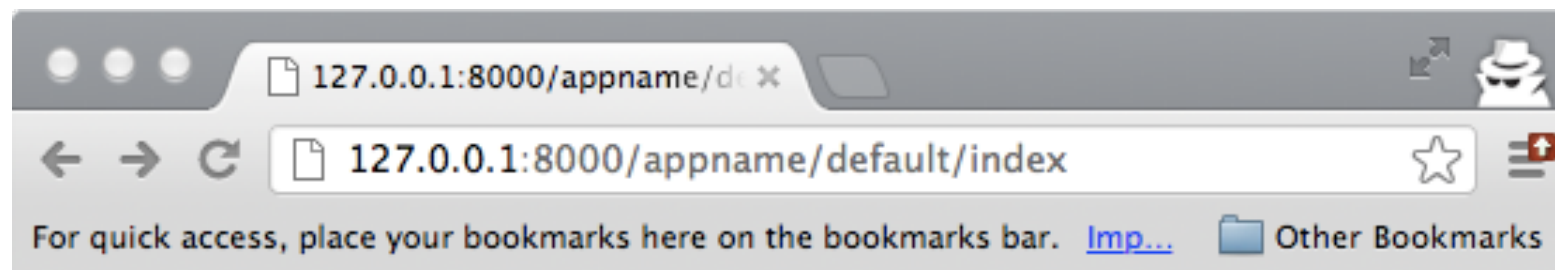


No installation. No configuration. Just Unzip and Click!

# Convention over configuration (*a la* RoR)

applications/**appname**/controllers/**default**.py

```
def index():  
    return "Hello world"
```



Hello world

# Models

book

- title
- authors
- description
- cover\_image

# Models

```
db.define_table(  
    'book',  
    Field('title'),  
    Field('authors'),  
    Field('description'),  
    Field('cover_image'))
```



# Models

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title', requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors', 'list:string'),
    Field('description', 'text'),
    Field('cover_image', 'upload'))
```

# Insert example

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title',requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors','list:string'),
    Field('description','text'),
    Field('cover_image','upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

# Insert example

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title',requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors','list:string'),
    Field('description','text'),
    Field('cover_image','upload'),
    auth.signature)

db.book.insert(title='web2py')
```

# Select example

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title',requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors','list:string'),
    Field('description','text'),
    Field('cover_image','upload'),
    auth.signature)

books = db(db.book.title=='web2py').select()
```

# Form example

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title',requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors','list:string'),
    Field('description','text'),
    Field('cover_image','upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

```
create_form = SQLFORM(db.book).process()
```

# Crud example

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title',requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors','list:string'),
    Field('description','text'),
    Field('cover_image','upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

```
edit_form = SQLFORM(db.book,1).process()
```

# Grid Example

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title',requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors','list:string'),
    Field('description','text'),
    Field('cover_image','upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

```
grid = SQLFORM.grid(db.book)
```

# Auditing

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title',requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors','list:string'),
    Field('description','text'),
    Field('cover_image','upload'),
    auth.signature)

auth.enable_record_versioning(db) # auditing
```



# Portability

```
db = DAL('sqlite://storage.db')
```

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title', requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors', 'list:string'),
    Field('description', 'text'),
    Field('cover_image', 'upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

...



# Portability

```
db = DAL('postgres://user:password@localhost/test')
```

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title', requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors', 'list:string'),
    Field('description', 'text'),
    Field('cover_image', 'upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

...



# Google App Engine

```
db = DAL('google:datastore')

db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title', requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors', 'list:string'),
    Field('description', 'text'),
    Field('cover_image', 'upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

...

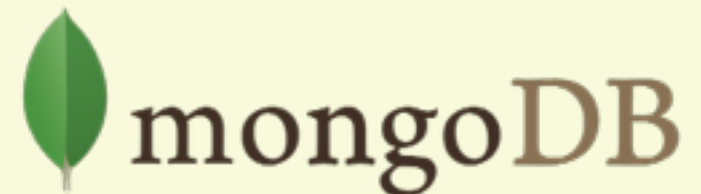


# Mongo DB

```
db = DAL('mongodb://user:password@server:port/db')
```

```
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title', requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors', 'list:string'),
    Field('description', 'text'),
    Field('cover_image', 'upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

...



# MVC

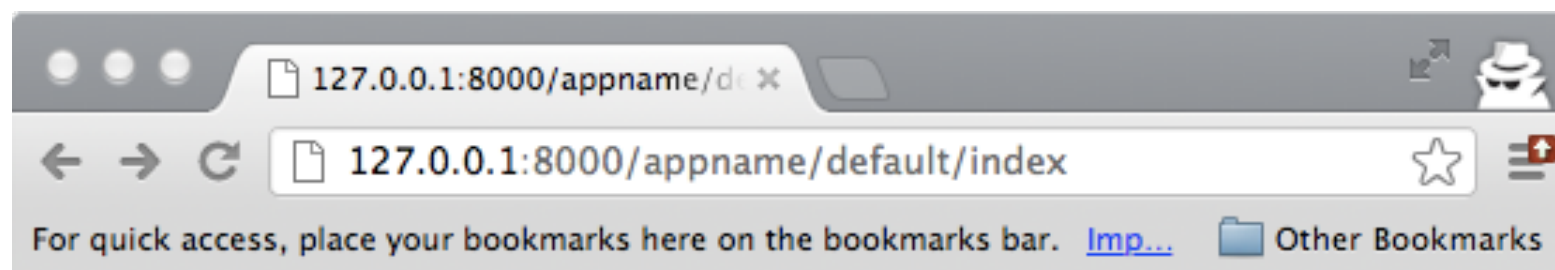
## models/db.py

```
from gluon.tools import Auth
db = DAL('sqlite://storage.db')
auth = Auth(db)
auth.define_tables()
db.define_table(
    'book',
    Field('title', requires=IS_NOT_EMPTY()),
    Field('authors', 'list:string'),
    Field('description', 'text'),
    Field('cover_image', 'upload'),
    auth.signature)
```

# MVC

controllers/default.py

```
def index():  
    return "Hello world"
```



Hello world

# MVC

controllers/default.py

```
def index():  
    return {'g': SQLFORM.grid(db.book)}
```

# MVC

controllers/default.py

```
@auth.requires_login()
def index():
    return {'g': SQLFORM.grid(db.book)}

def books():
    return {'rows': db(db.book).select().as_list()}
```



# MVC

views/default/index.html

```
{{extend 'layout.html'}}  
<h1>Interface to manage my books</h1>  
<div>  
    {{=g}}  
</div>
```

# Complete program

models/db.py

```
from gluon.tools import DAL, Auth
db = DAL('sqlite://storage.sqlite')
auth = Auth(db)
auth.define_tables()
db.define_table('book',
    Field('title'),
    Field('author'),
    Field('description'),
    Field('cover'),
    auth.signature)
```

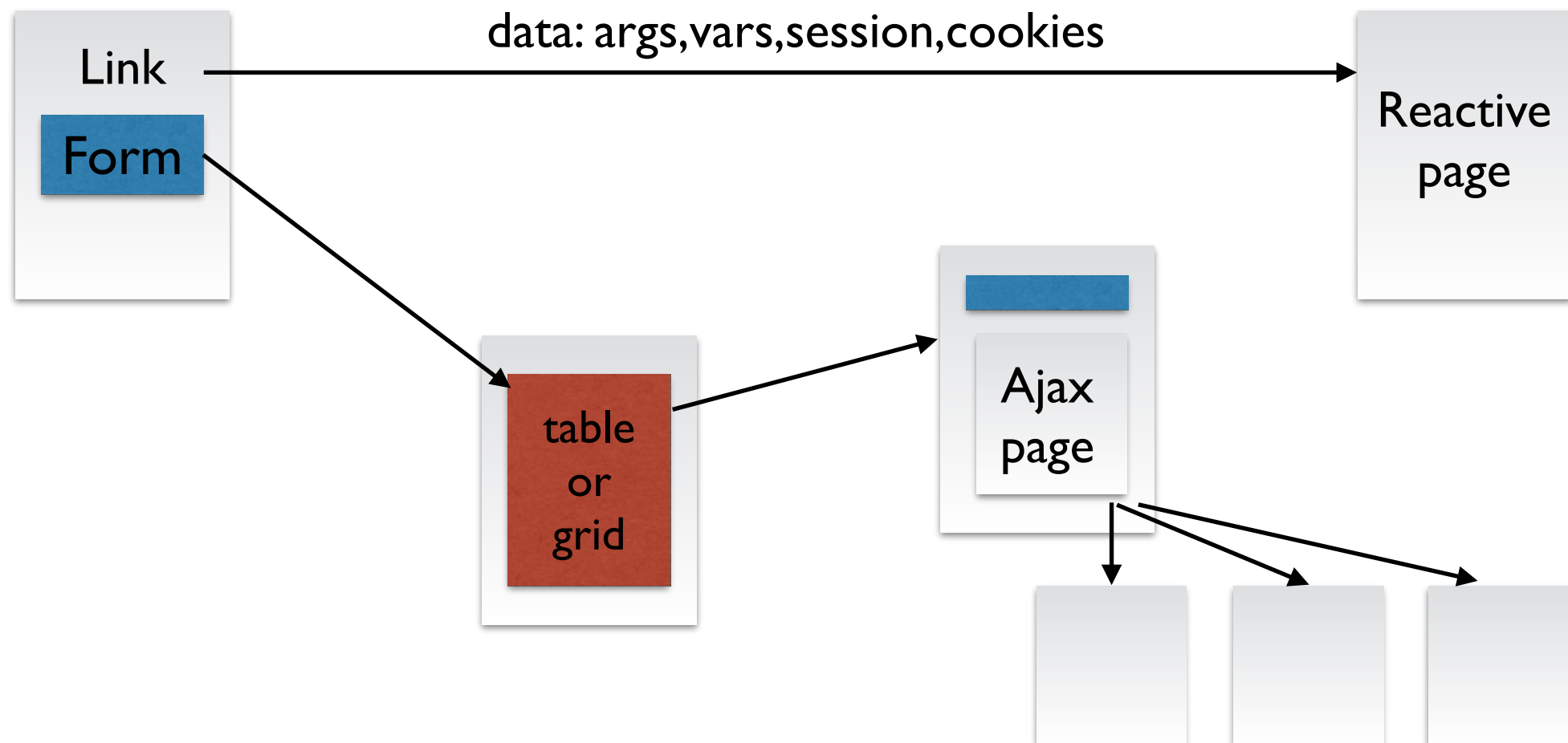
controllers/default.py

```
@auth.requires_login()
def index():
    return {'g': SQLFORM.grid(db.book)}
```

views/default/index.py

```
{{extend 'layout.html'}}
<h1>Interface to manage my books</h1>
<div>
    {{=g}}
</div>
```

# Design



# Access Control

```
@auth.requires_login()  
def index():  
    return {}
```

# Access Control

```
@auth.requires(auth.has_membership('mygroup') or ...)  
def index():  
    return {}
```



# use lambda

```
@auth.requires(lambda:auth.has_membership('mygroup') or ...)
def index():
    return {}
```

Better because evaluated only if function is called

# global permissions

```
if not(auth.has_membership('mygroup') or ...):  
    redirect(URL('error_controller', 'my_error_page'))  
  
def index1():  
    return {}  
  
def index2():  
    return {}  
  
def index3():  
    return {}
```

Avoid code duplication

# auth.user\_groups

```
if auth.has_membership('mygroup'): # DB ACCESSS
```

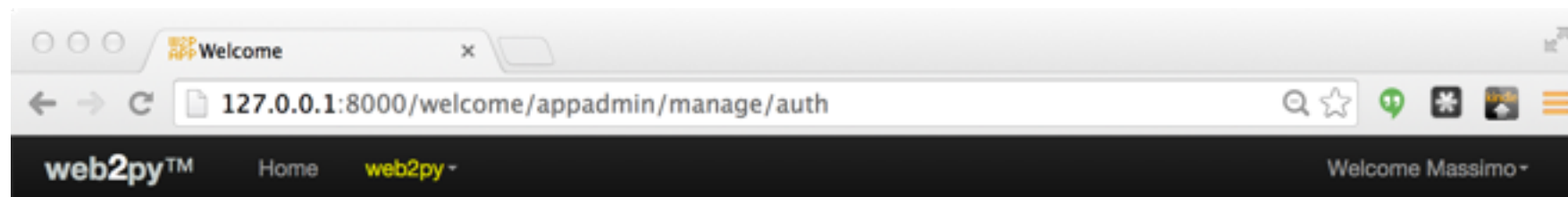
```
if 'mygroup' in auth.user_groups.values(): # NO DB ACCESS
```

`auth.user_groups = {<id>:<role>, ...}`



# appadmin/manage/auth

```
auth.settings.auth_manager_role = 'manager'  
if auth.user and not db.auth_group(role='manager'):  
    auth.add_membership(auth.add_group('manager'))
```



## Welcome

### Manage Access Control

Users Roles Permissions

Users

+Add Record  Search Clear 1 records found

Id	First name	Last name	E-mail	
1	Massimo	Di Pierro	massimo.dipierro@gmail.com	<a href="#">Memberships</a> <a href="#">View</a> <a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>

Export: [CSV](#) [CSV \(hidden cols\)](#) [HTML](#) [JSON](#) [TSV \(Spreadsheets\)](#) [TSV \(Spreadsheets, hidden cols\)](#) [XML](#)

Share

# delegating auth

```
@auth.requires(...)
def index():
    link = A('click me',
             _href=URL('other_page', user_signature=True))
    return {'link':link}
```

```
@auth.requires_signature()
def other_page():
    ...
```

# Federated Auth

```
# app1/models/db.py  
auth = Auth(db)
```

```
# app2/models/db.py  
auth = Auth(db, cas_provider='http://.../app1/default/user/cas')
```

# Ajax Widgets

```
def index():  
    return {}
```

Ajax components

```
def grid():  
    return SQLFORM.grid(db)
```

```
....
```

```
<div>
```

```
{{=LOAD('default','grid',ajax=True)}}
```

```
</div>
```

```
...
```

**views/default/index.py**

# The built-in wiki

```
def index(): return auth.wiki()
```

is it a wiki?

is it a blog?

is it a CMS?

is it a way to set permissions on content?

is it a way to store pages in db?

is it a way to store code in db?

# The built-in wiki

```
auth.add_membership(auth.add_group(role='wiki_author'))  
auth.add_membership(auth.add_group(role='wiki_editor'))  
  
return auth.wiki(render='markmin')  
return auth.wiki(render='html')  
  
return auth.wiki(manage_permissions = True)  
return auth.wiki(force_prefix='%s-' % auth.user.username)
```

# The built-in wiki (extra)

```
return auth.wiki(extra=dict(x = lambda text: 'x'+text+'x'))
```

```
MARKMIN("...", extra=dict(par = lambda text: '('+text+')'))
```

```
``hello``:par -> (hello)
```

# The built-in wiki (env)

```
return auth.wiki(env = dict(double=lambda a: a+a))
```

```
MARKMIN("...", env = dict(double=lambda a: a+a))
```

```
@{double:hello} -> hellohello
```



# Task scheduler

```
from gluon.scheduler import Scheduler  
scheduler = Scheduler(db)
```

```
def f(n): return sum(i for i in range(n))
```

```
scheduler.queue_task(f, pvars=dict(n=8),  
    start_time=request.now, repeats=5, period=10,  
    timeout=60, retry_failed=3)
```

Task scheduler

web2py.py -K app

web2py.py -K app

web2py.py -K app

# Restful API

## REST API

```
def api():  
    if request.env.request_method == 'GET':  
        return db(db.book).select().as_json()  
    if request.env.request_method == 'POST':  
        return {'id': db.book.insert(title=request.vars.title)}  
    raise HTTP(400)
```

# Restful API

```
@response.restful()
def api():
    def GET():
        return db(db.book).select().as_json()
    def POST(title):
        return {'id': db.book.insert(title=title)}
    return locals()
```

**REST API**

# Collection + JSON

## Self-Documenting Hypermedia API

```
def api():  
    from gluon.contrib.hypermedia import Collections  
  
    policy = {'book':{'GET':{}, 'POST':{}, 'PUT':{}, 'DELETE':{}}}  
  
    return Collection(db).process(request,response,policy)
```

# Stripe.com

```
def pay():
    from gluon.contrib.stripe import StripeForm
    form = StripeForm(
        pk='pk_test_6pRNASCoB0KtIshFeQd4XMUh',
        sk='sk_test_BQokikJOvBiI2HlWgH4oIfQ2',
        amount=int(150), # $1.5 (amount is in cents)
        description="you bought a candy!")
    if form.process().accepted:
        # db.purchase.insert(receipt_id = form.response['id'])
        redirect(URL('thankyou'))
    return dict(form=form)
```

# My favorite JS libs

jQuery.js	# you know
quo.js	# touch events
sugar.js	# dates, arrays, objects, debounce, throttle
ractive.js	# client-side dynamic templates
handsontable.js	# tabular data with excel export
highcharts.js	# plotting (non free)
fullcalendar.js	# for displaying events (day/week/month)
together.js	# for collaboration (share page view)

# ractive.js

```
def index():  
    return dict(a="hello", b="world")
```

```
<html>  
  <body>  
    <div id="target"></div>  
    <script id="template" type="text/ractive">  
      <input value="[[a]]"/> + <input value="[[b]]"/>  
      = [[a + b]]  
    </script>  
  </body>  
  <script src="js/jquery.js"></script>  
  <script src="js/sugar.min.js"></script>  
  <script src="js/ractive.min.js"></script>  
  <script>{{=ASSIGNJS(a=a, b=b)}}</script>  
  <script src="js/page.js"></script>  
</html>
```

# ractive.js

```
/* in js/page.js */
```

```
page = new Ractive({  
  el: "target",  
  template: '#template',  
  delimiters: ['[[', ']]'],  
  tripleDelimiters: ['[[[', ']]]'],  
  data: { a:a, b:b }  
});
```



# OWASP TOP 10

## A1: Injections

- web2py's DAL prevents SQL Injections
- URLs are validated by default
- All variables embedded in HTML are escaped

# OWASP TOP 10

## A2: Authentication and Session Management

- web2py manages sessions for you
  - session on filesystem (session token uuid)
  - or in database or cookies (encrypted and signed)
- token uuid cleared on logout
- short expiration
- integration with third party Auth mechanisms

# OWASP TOP 10

A3: XSS

- All code in HTML `{{=value}}` is always escaped
- Auth redirects only allowed from localhost
- Urls can optionally be signed
- (grid urls always signed by default)

# OWASP TOP 10

## A4: Insecure direct object references

- About Admin
- Admin only accessible from localhost or over HTTPS
- Admin can be disabled
- Admin can be removed

# OWASP TOP 10

## A5: Security Misconfiguration

- There is very little security configuration in web2py
- Strongest choices are default:
  - password strength check
  - password salting + hashing (pbkdf2)

# OWASP TOP 10

## A6: Sensitive data exposure

- `session.secure()`
- automatic `session.clear()` on logout
- `Field(..., 'password', ...)` to “\*\*\*\*\*”
- `Field(..., 'upload', authorization=...)`
- `Field(..., readable = ..., writable = ...)`
- `Collection(... rules=...)` for REST Hypermedia API
- Stripe payment system (CISP compliant)

# OWASP TOP 10

## A7: Missing Function Level Access Control

- `@auth.requires_login(...)`
- `@auth.requires_membership(...)`
- `@auth.requires_permission(...)`
- `@auth.requires(lambda:...)`
- `@auth.requires_signature()`

# OWASP TOP 10

## A8: CSRF

- All web2py forms use CSRF protection by default
- CSRF tokens are one time UUIDs
- Pages with forms can optionally be signed



# OWASP TOP 10

A9: Using components with known vulnerabilities

- This is why we ship authentication libraries
- ... credit card payment libraries and ...
- ... database adapters ...
- with web2py.
- we monkeypatch pymysql (shipped with web2py)

# OWASP TOP 10

## A10: Unvalidated redirects and forwards

- Auth redirects only allowed from localhost
- URLs can optionally be signed
- All forms perform postbacks with CSRF protection
- Explicit prevention of open redirects in Auth
- including password reset attacks.

# Conclusions and Challenges

- web2py is 8 years old and very mature
- The world has changed
- From Python 2 to Python 3
- Client side programming more important
- Docker best way to deploy
- JS and CSS frameworks are a zoo