Lesson 18 – Server Files & Templates

Goals of the lesson:

- Understand how server responds with HTML files.
- Understand how server process requests to send files.
- Understand how can a server modify an HTML template.

Task 1:

- Serve HTML files via the Flask web server.

Instructions:

0. If Flask is not installed, run `pip install flask` from the command line.
   - If the system fails to run the installation, follow the instructions provided here.
1. **Download** an archive **server.zip** from the **NAS**.
2. Extract the archive to get the script **files_example.py** and additional auxiliary files.
3. Open the script in any text editor (such as Notepad++) and **examine the code**.
4. Examine the **.html webpages** located in the **pages** folder.
5. **Start the webserver** using the command `python files_example.py`
   - If the system fails to run the script, follow the instructions provided here.
6. Open an **index** webpage in your **browser** at http://localhost:80
7. Open **page1.html** and **page2.html** via the server.
   - Compare the file **path** on the **server** and the **URL** as seen from the **client**.

Task 2:

- Serve files via the Flask server.

Instructions:

1. Examine **audio** and **video** files located in the **files** folder.
2. **Start the webserver** using the command `python files_example.py`
3. Open your **browser** at http://localhost:80/page2
4. Open both **audio** and **image** files.
5. Try to **add** some video file to the folder containing the files.
6. Restart the server, open and **view the video** in your browser.

Task 3:

- Modify webpage template during server runtime.

Instructions:

1. Examine the template **pages/pacman.html**.
2. Examine the function **game()** inside the script **files_example.py** at lines 21 to 24.
   - What is the purpose of this code? What is being replaced?
3. **Start the webserver** using the command `python files_example.py`
4. Open your **browser** at http://localhost:80/pacman
5. Fill in the **login** form, submit it and display the resulting page. Have fun! :)