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Unit 2 / Lesson 1 / Assignment 6

Extending the functionality

Estimated Time: 2-3 hours

At this point, you have a usable application but there's no end of features you might want to add. In this assignment you can add some functionality of your own to the app. The exact details of code changes are up to you – there'll be hints, but not actual lines of code.

Snippet catalog



You can currently retrieve snippets only if you know their keywords. How do you know what keywords you can look up? You'll need to create a new `argparse` subparser, taking no parameters. Then in the `catalog()` function, you'll need to query the keywords from the snippets table

Hints and tips:

- To return more than one row from a query in `psycopg2` you can use the `cursor.fetchall()` method. This returns a list of tuples.
- To find the keywords in order you can use the `order by` clause. For example the following query would find the rows in order of the value stored in the `age` column: `select * from table order by age .`

Providing a search facility

Somewhere between `catalog()` and `get()` is a means of listing snippets which contain a given string anywhere in their messages. Try adding functionality which will allow you to search for a string within the snippet messages.

Hints and tips:

- To perform a search query you can use the SQL `like` operator. For example the following select query would find any row which has a prescription column containing the word cowbell: `select * from table where prescription like '%cowbell%' .`

Extra challenge

Hidden snippets

Maybe you don't want all your snippets to be visible in the catalog. Create a column `hidden` boolean not null default false and have the `catalog` and `search` functions filter their results with `where not hidden`. You can then add optional arguments to the `put` subcommand such as `--hide`, which will set the hidden flag, and one of `--show`, `--unhide`, `--no-hide`, or `--hide=0`, which will reset it. (If neither flag is set, leave the hidden flag as it was.)

Hints and Tips

To add optional arguments you will need to learn some new parts of the `argparse` module. Take a look at the [argparse tutorial](#) if you are in need of guidance.

To add a column to the table you will need to change the table schema. The `alter table` command will be your friend here - look it up if you are unfamiliar with how it works.

Anything else!

There are infinite possibilities here. Maybe this will grow into a utility you spend a lot of time maintaining! A program is never finished, but there comes a time when you need to move on and start another project.



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