Django

Environment

- For the sake of this demo, I'm going to use **Eclipse** and **PyDev**.

- If you have time, it's also worth installing **Aptana Studio 3** (the Eclipse plugin version). It's a full-fledged web programming environment for Django, as well as PHP/Rails/...

Server-side requirements

- **python** (2.4 - 2.7)

- **django** (>= 1.2.4)

- **python-twitter**, which depends on httplib2, oauth2 and simplejson (most recent versions)

  - Install these with pip. To install pip (if you don't already have it), use *easy_install pip* after setting up python.

django

Client-side requirements (javascript)

- These are all provided already (linked) in *app/templates/app/main.html* in the demo project.

- We're going to use **jQuery** and jQueryUI (and a jQuery plugin), as well as a visualization library from Google.

Importing the Project

- Go to github.com/rtirrell/scrapr, click on **Downloads** to download a zip or clone the repository with git.

- **Install** the dependencies with *pip* explained on github.com/rtirrell/scrapr.

- If you're going to be running from Eclipse, you can create a new Project.

  - Make sure to create one from existing source, and use the Project type in general.

  - After creating it, add the PyDev and django natures by right-clicking in the explorer/browser at left.

Big Ideas

- Django is an **MTV** framework (MVC by another name). Most of the big buzzy web frameworks at least adhere to the general principle of separating persistence (database) from processing (python) from presentation (HTML/CSS).

- But the lines can be pretty blurry: "smart models" straddle MV and Javascript the VC.

Benefits

- django comes with a builtin **admin interface**. This is a critical component of a large web application, and getting it for free is pretty nice.

- It also ships with an **auth/auth** (authentication/authorization) system. That's something easy to mess up, so it's nice to know it's pro.

Django Resources

- Help

  - **Mailing lists/IRC** are great resources. Same goes for jQuery.

- Apps and extensions

  - Search: haystack, Facebook: *pyfacebook*, CMS: *feincms/django-cms*.

  - **800+ packages** in *pip* (use *pip search*) with 'django' in the name.