

Creating a Hello World REST API using Python and Flask



Estimated Time Needed: 30 mins

In this lab you will create your first REST API Hello World application using the Flask.

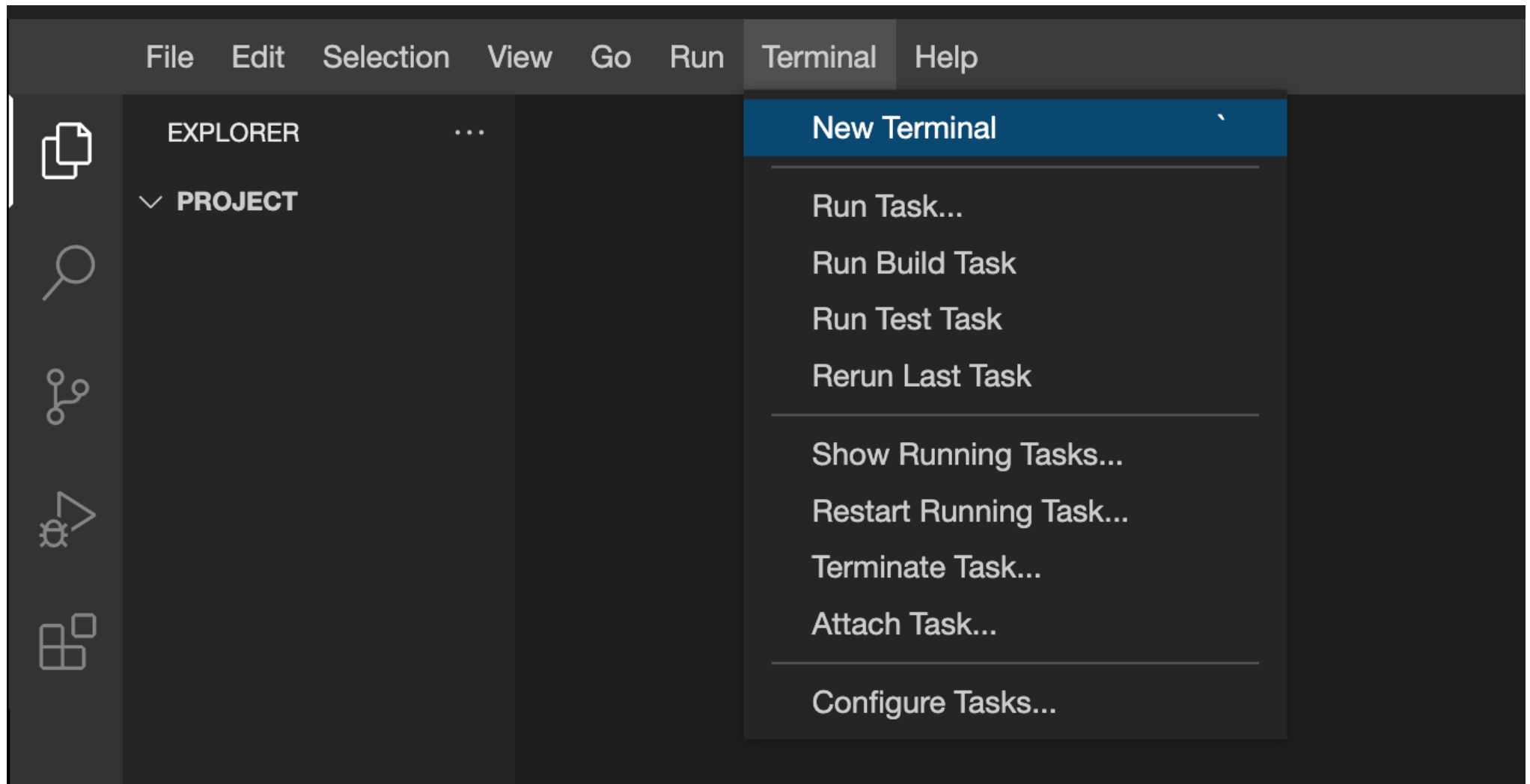
Learning Objectives

After completing this lab:

- You will be able to create a simple web application using Flask.
- You will be able to access the REST API endpoints of your application through the browser.

Set Up a Flask Server

1. Open a new Terminal in the lab environment.



2. Now you will write a Python code that will act as a web application serving REST API endpoint that returns the string `Hello World`. Run the following command to create a file named `server.py` and then click the button below to edit the content of the file..

```
touch /home/project/server.py
```

[Open **server.py** in IDE](#)

3. Paste the following code in `server.py` and save the file.

```
# Import the Flask class from the flask module
from flask import Flask
# Create an instance of the Flask class and name it "My Hello World Application"
app = Flask("My Hello World Application")
# Define a route for the root URL ('/')
@app.route("/")
def hello():
    # Return the string "Hello World!" as the response
    return "Hello World!"
# Check if this script is being run directly (not imported as a module)
if __name__ == "__main__":
    # Start the Flask development server with debugging enabled
    app.run(debug=True)
    # When no port is specified, the server starts at the default port 5000
```

4. Before you run this web application, you need to install the packages that are required for the application to run. On the terminal, run the following command to install the packages.

```
python3 -m pip install flask
```

This will take a few seconds to install.

5. Once the flask package is installed, run `server.py` to start a server which is listening at port `5000` and serving a REST API endpoint at the root `/` that returns the string `Hello World!`.

```
python3 server.py
```

6. To access the REST API endpoint through the browser, click the following button, which will open a new browser page with the string that is transferred back by the server application.

Hello World Application

Congratulations! You just created your first REST API with Python and Flask.

Author(s)

Lavanya T S

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