Learn REST: A Tutorial

A fast-training course for **REST** - *Re*presentational State *T*ransfer, a new approach to systems architecture and a lightweight alternative to web services

12.6. Using REST in Python

Issuing GET Requests

The Python module urllib2 makes reading URLs trivial:

```
import urllib2
url = 'http://www.acme.com/products/3322'
response = urllib2.urlopen(url).read()
```

Errors are reported as exceptions (urllib2.HTTPError Or urllib2.URLError).

Issuing POST Requests

A POST request is just as easy, simply passing (encoded) request data as an extra parameter to urlopen, thus:

```
import urllib
import urllib2

url = 'http://www.acme.com/users/details'
params = urllib.urlencode({
   'firstName': 'John',
   'lastName': 'Doe'
})
response = urllib2.urlopen(url, params).read()
```

Note that encoding is done using a function from the urllib module.

Dr. M. Elkstein



3 comments:



Andrew October 20, 2008 at 5:06 AM

Can you post an example that shows a REST request with Authentication.

Reply



Dr. M. Elkstein October 21, 2008 at 5:35 AM

Hi Andrew,

REST with authentication in Python is just like any HTTP request with authentication. You can read about it more in this tutorial.

Reply

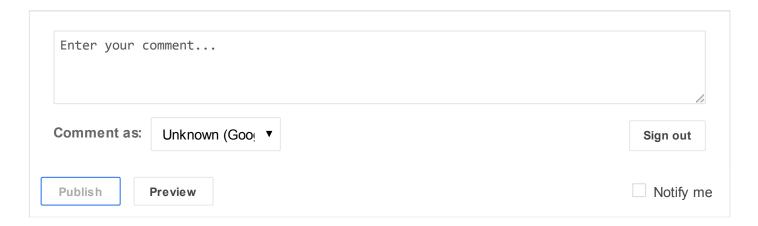


FrEnzY May 20, 2015 at 3:39 AM

Hi,

I am able to successfully post a request to a RESTful Web service, but my requirement also requires a search filter in the request body.can you pls help

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Dr. M. Elkstein

A software engineering expert with years of hands-on experience. I have developed dozens of web sites, and have taught numerous programming and computer science courses in academia and in the industry. I provide consultancy services, and my clients range from small startups to the largest banks in my country.

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