

ZACK TOLLMAN @TOLLMANZ

WORDPRESS THEMING WITH BACKBONE.JS

THETHEMEOFNDRY.COM

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WORDPRESS THEMING FOR SINGLE PAGE APPLICATIONS

THETHEMEOFNDRY.COM



Articles

Your bones don't break, mine do. That's clear. Your cells react to bacteria differently. You don't get sick, I do. But for some reason you... [read more](#)

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Post Status



Links

Collections.

A theme for people who love to share



Photos

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Collections

demo.thethemefoundry.com/collections-theme/

i18n F BrowserStack Loadtime Breakdown Other Bookmarks

HOME ABOUT CONTACT

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Articles

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“SPAs are web applications which persistently run in the same page without requiring a reload for further navigation.”

- ADDY OSMANI

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“SPAs are web applications which persistently run in the same page **without** requiring a **reload** for further navigation.”

- ADDY OSMANI

Initial HTML, JS, and CSS is downloaded

JS application is initialized

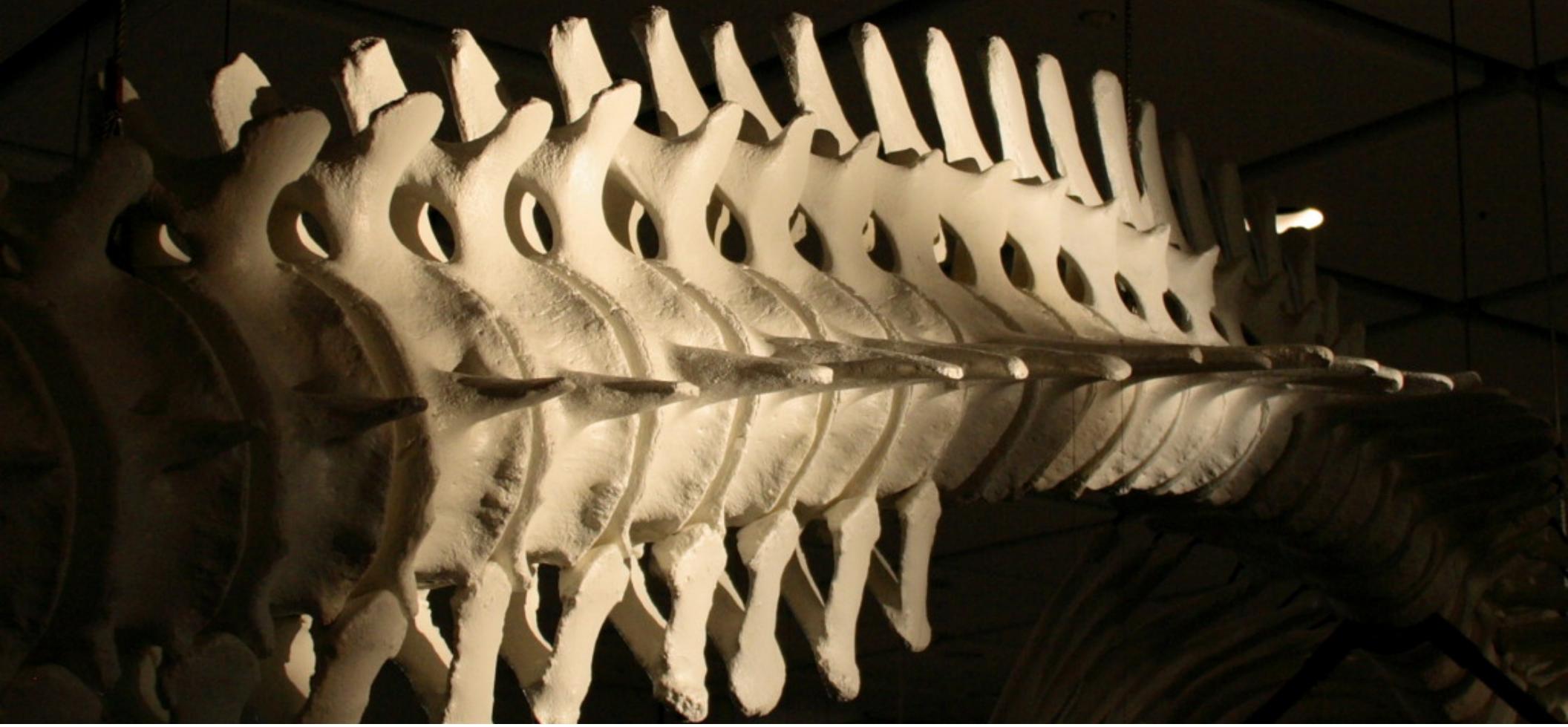
Subsequent events are handled via the JS

It's really rad

Improved UX

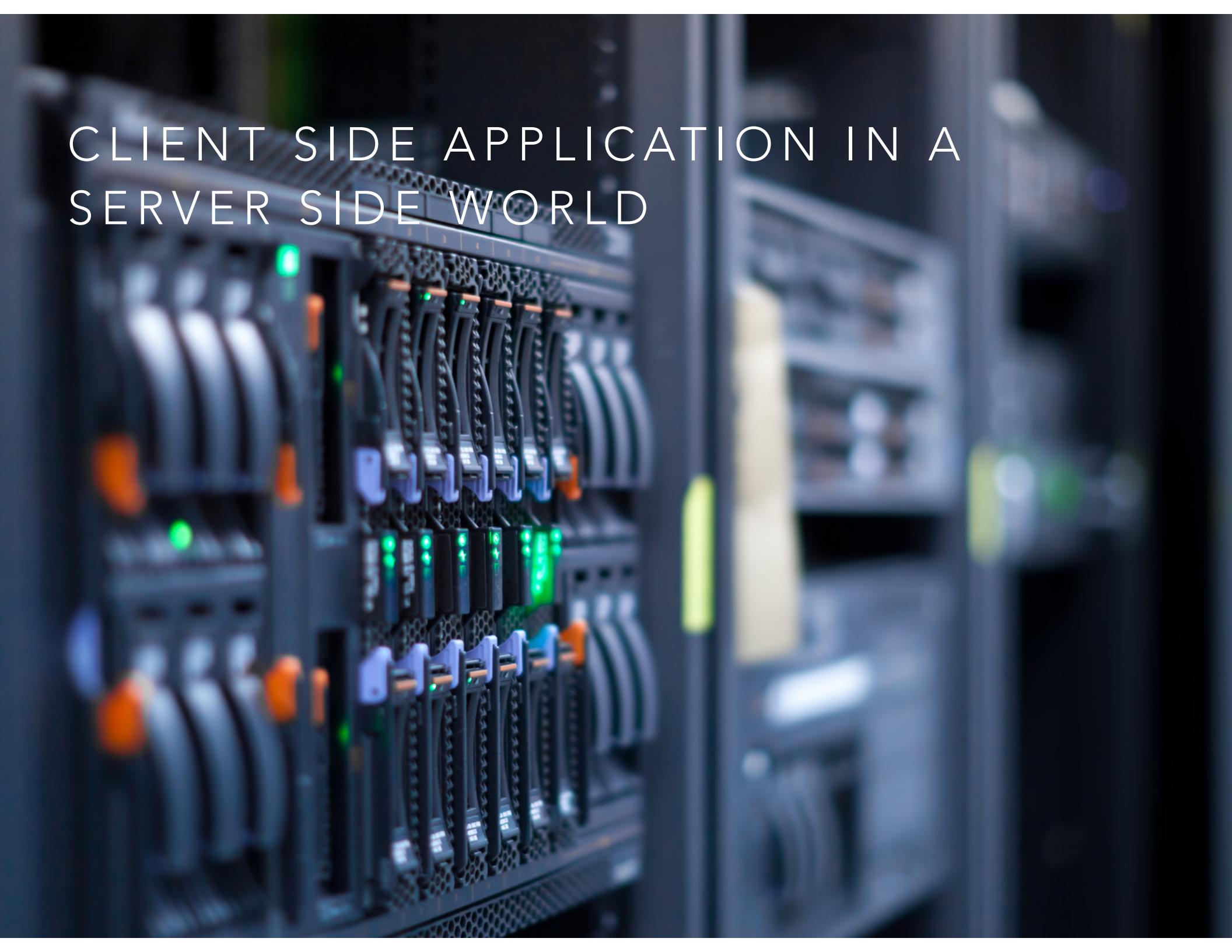
Faster navigation

WHAT IS THIS THING YOU CALL
BACKBONE.JS



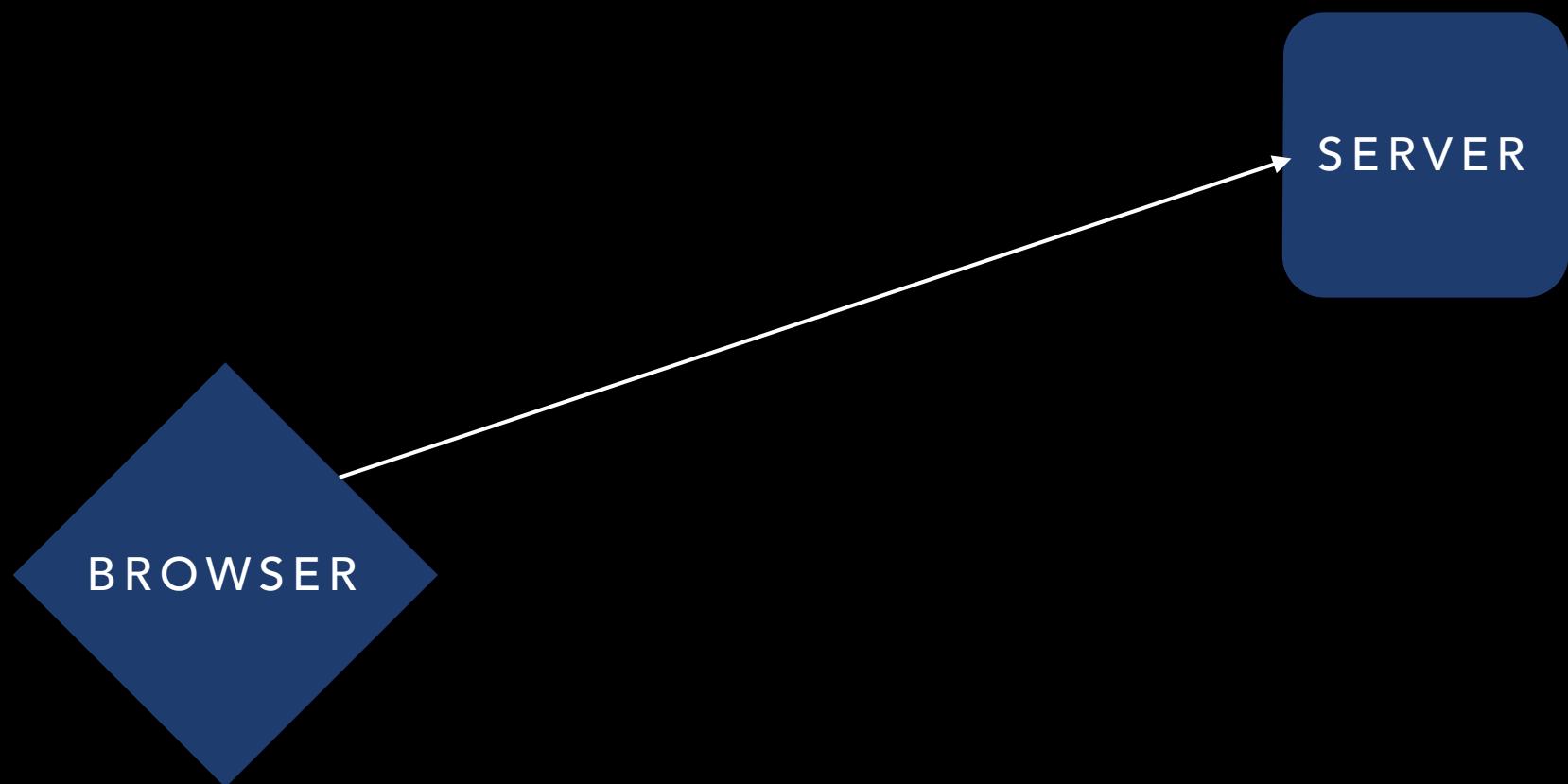
MVC, MV*, MVW, MVWTF

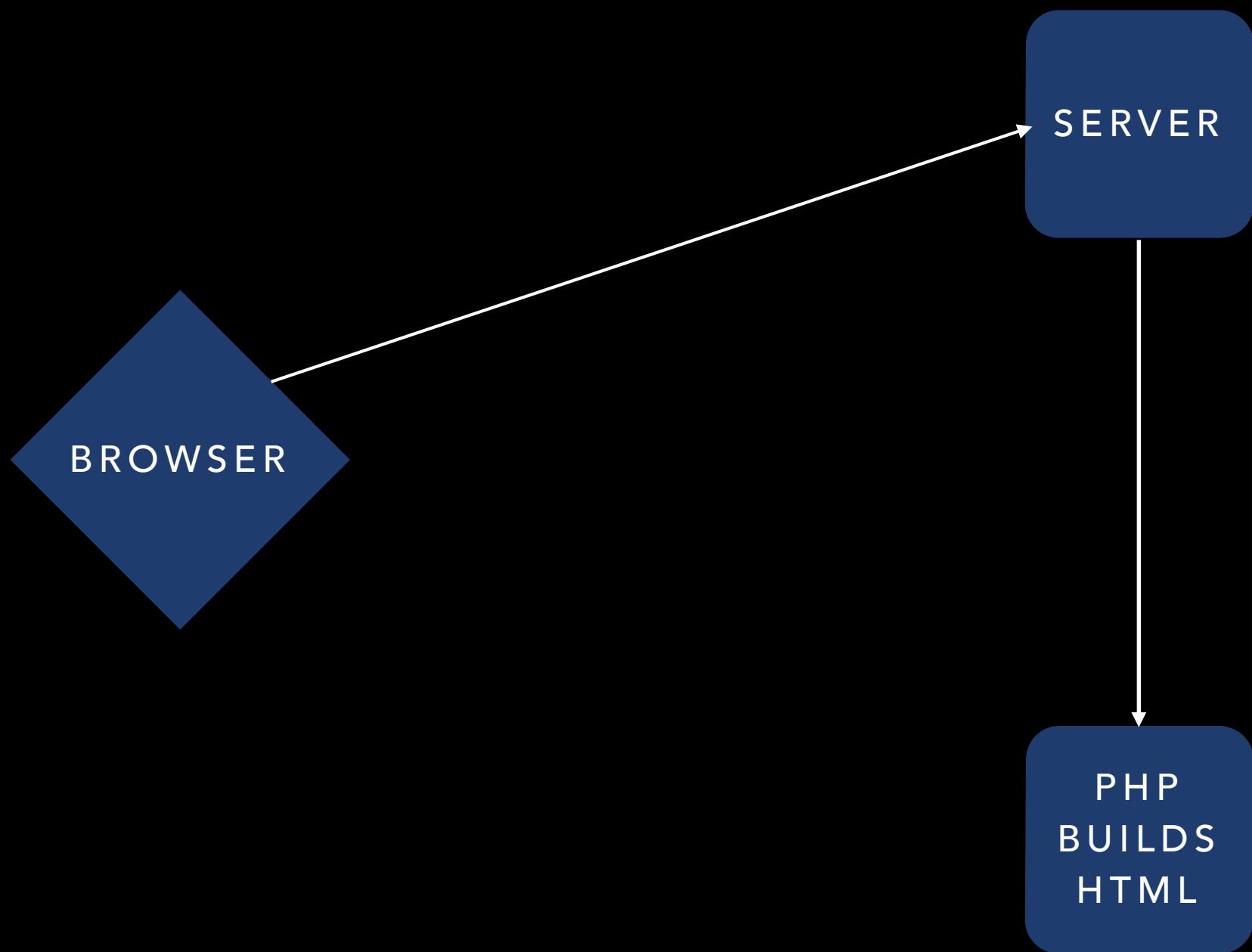
1. codeschool.com/courses/anatomy-of-backbonejs
2. todomvc.com
3. backbonejs.org/docs/backbone.html
4. wpsessions.com/sessions/wordpress-backbone-js/
5. github.com/tollmanz/backbone-wordpress-theme

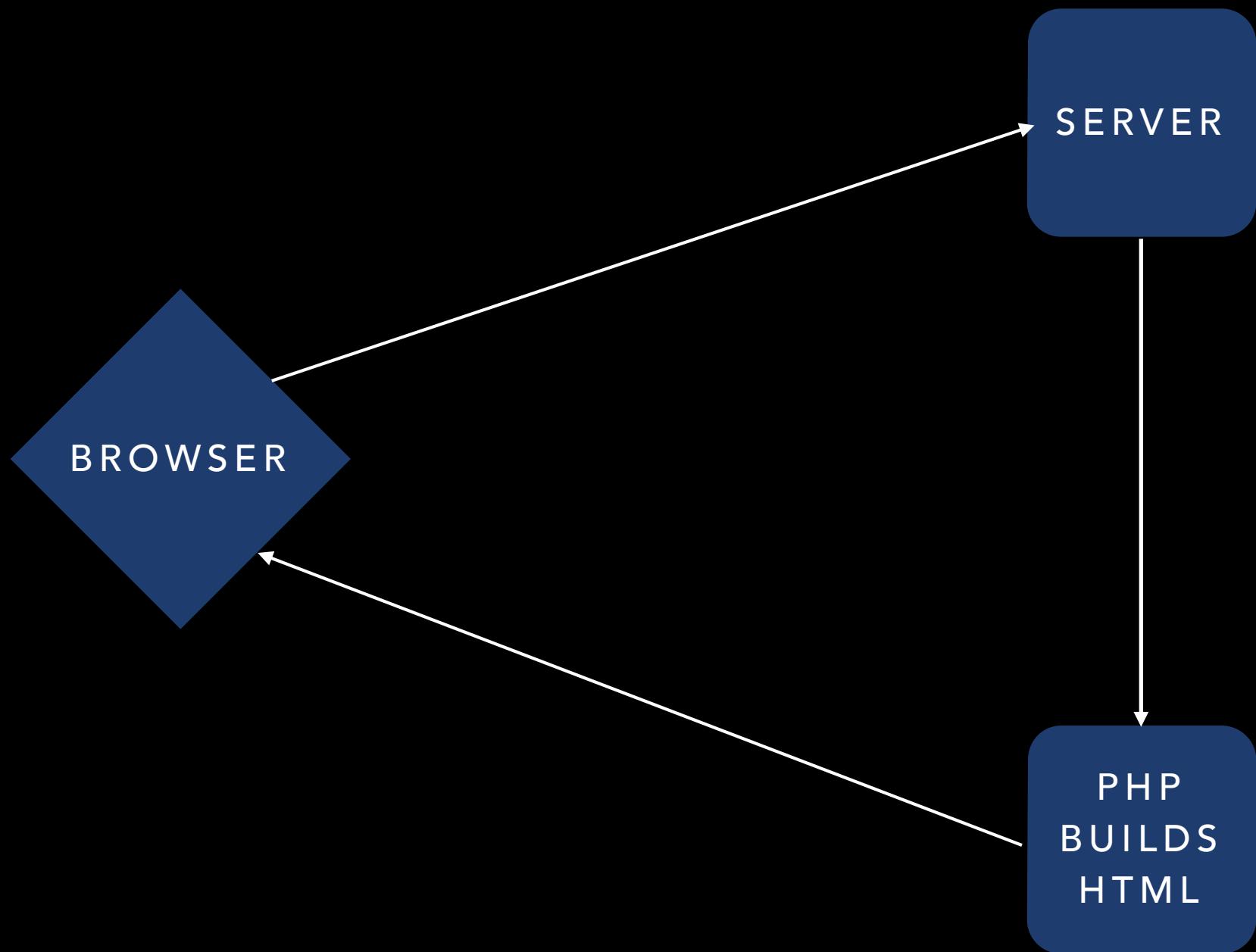


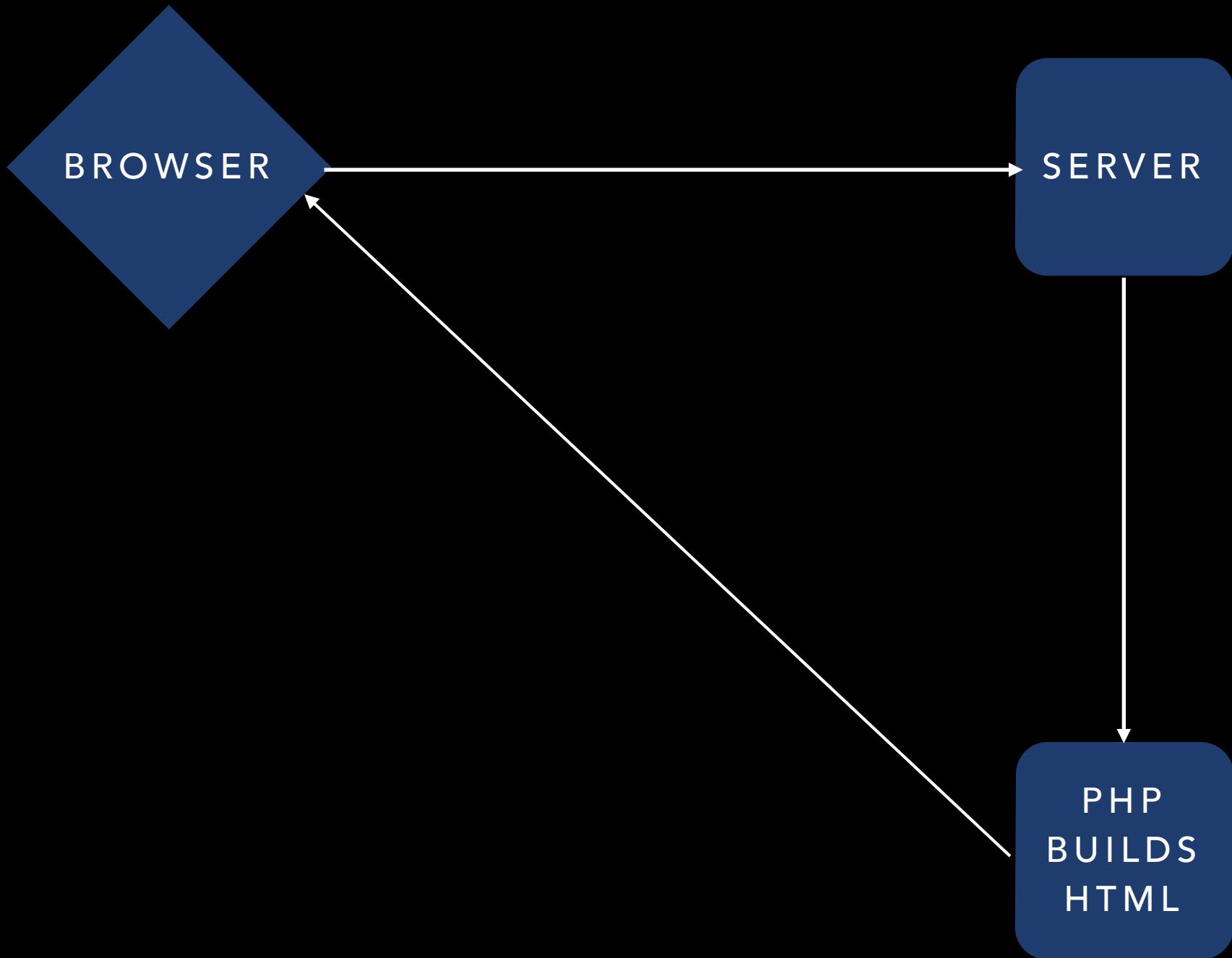
CLIENT SIDE APPLICATION IN A
SERVER SIDE WORLD

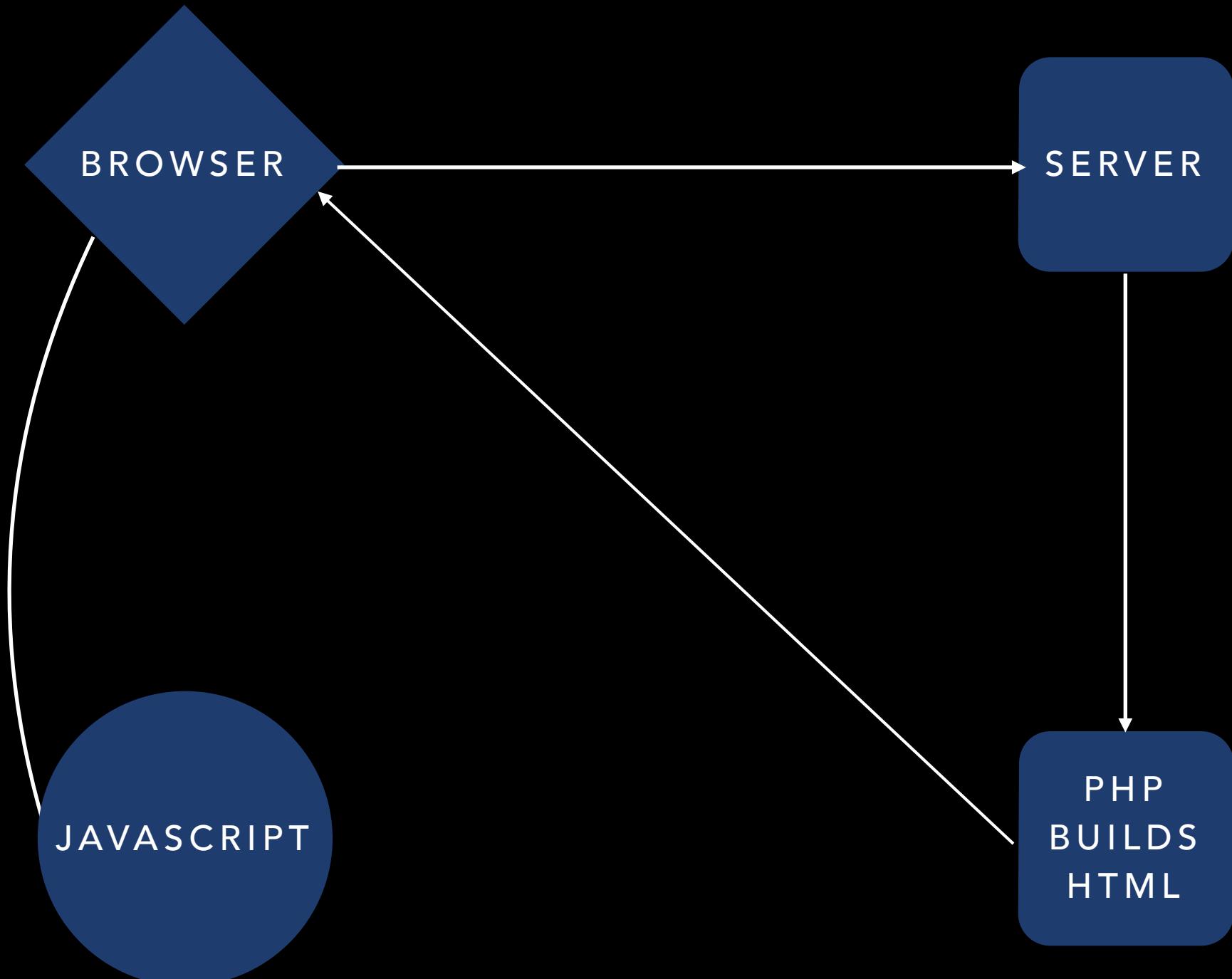
BROWSER

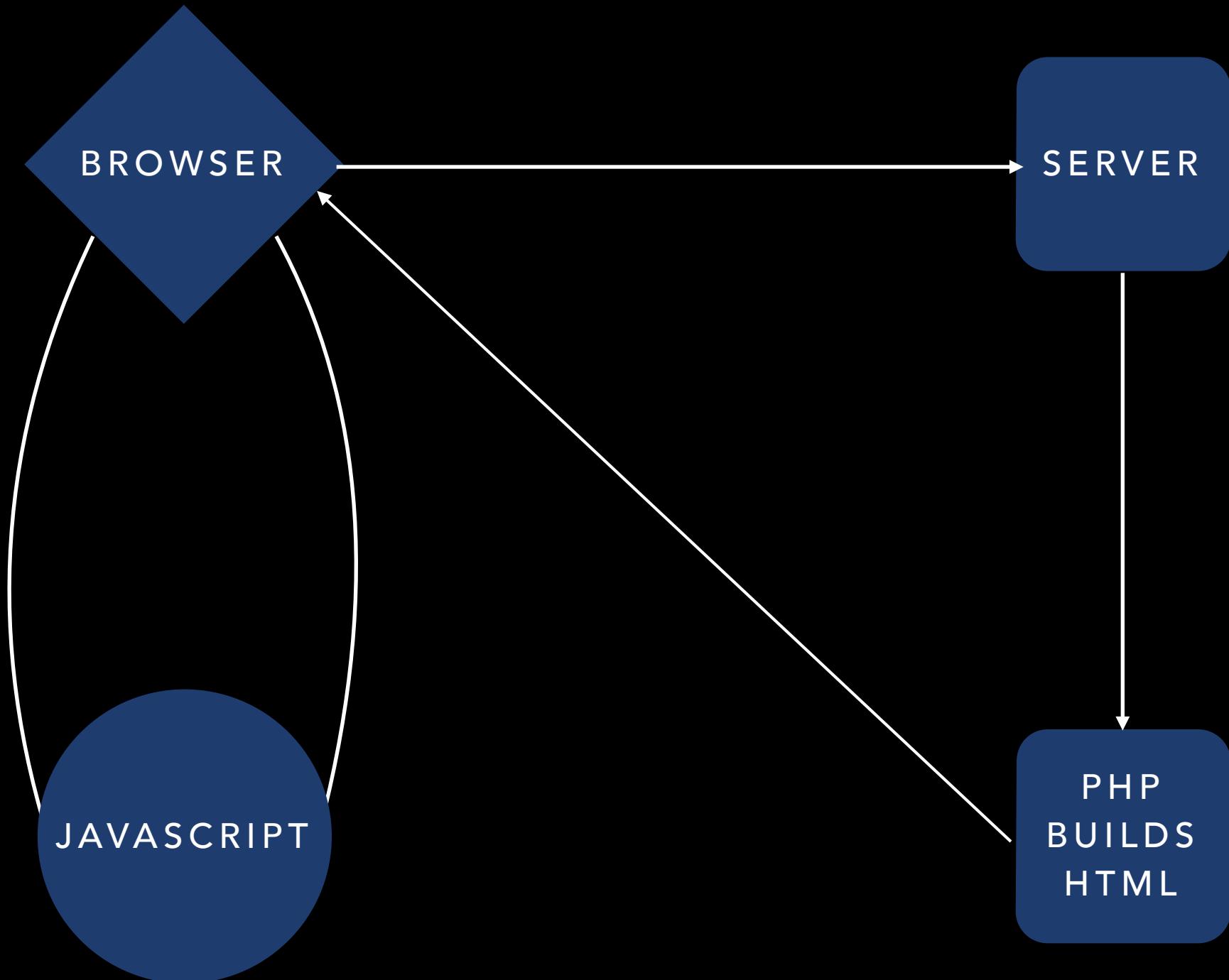


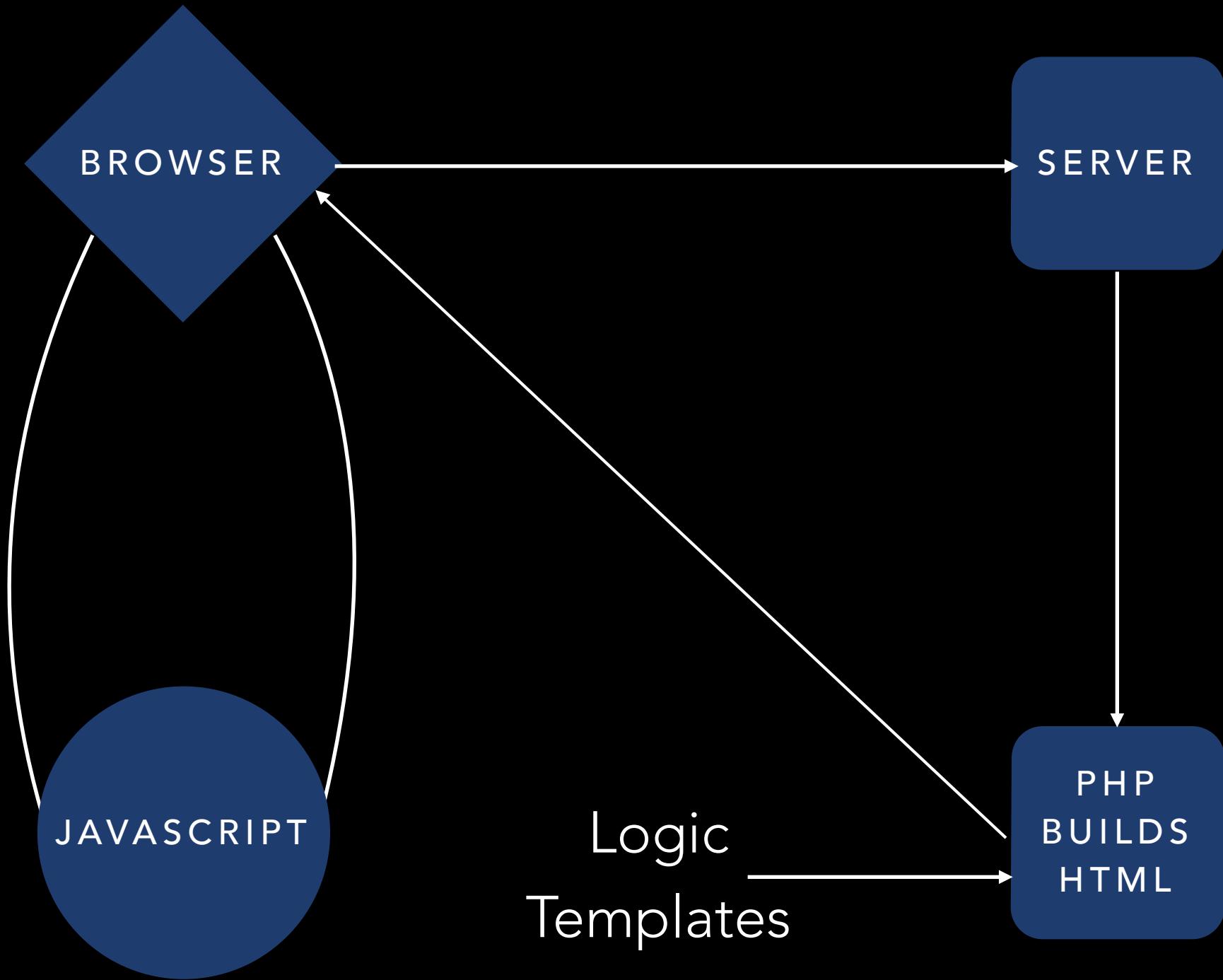


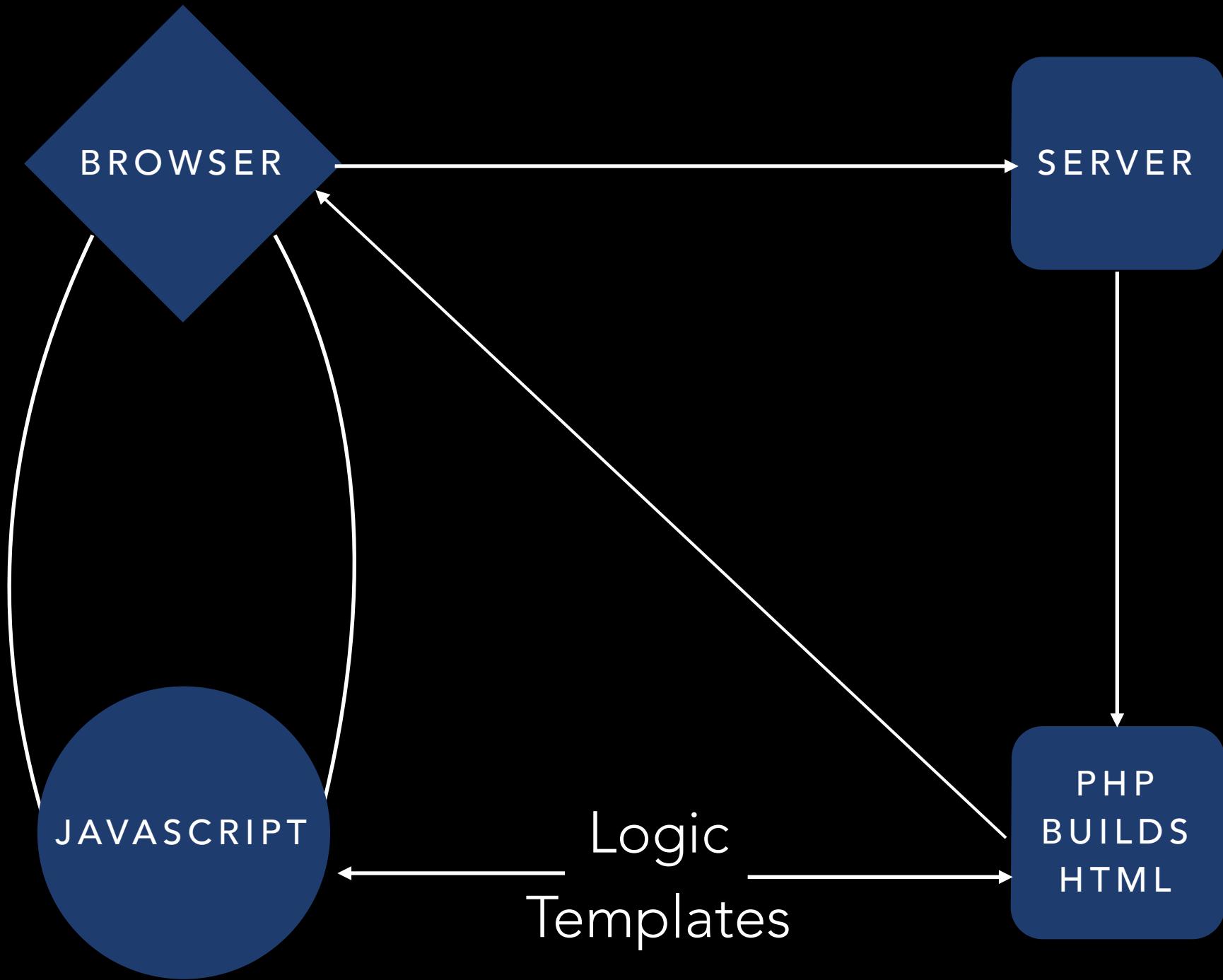




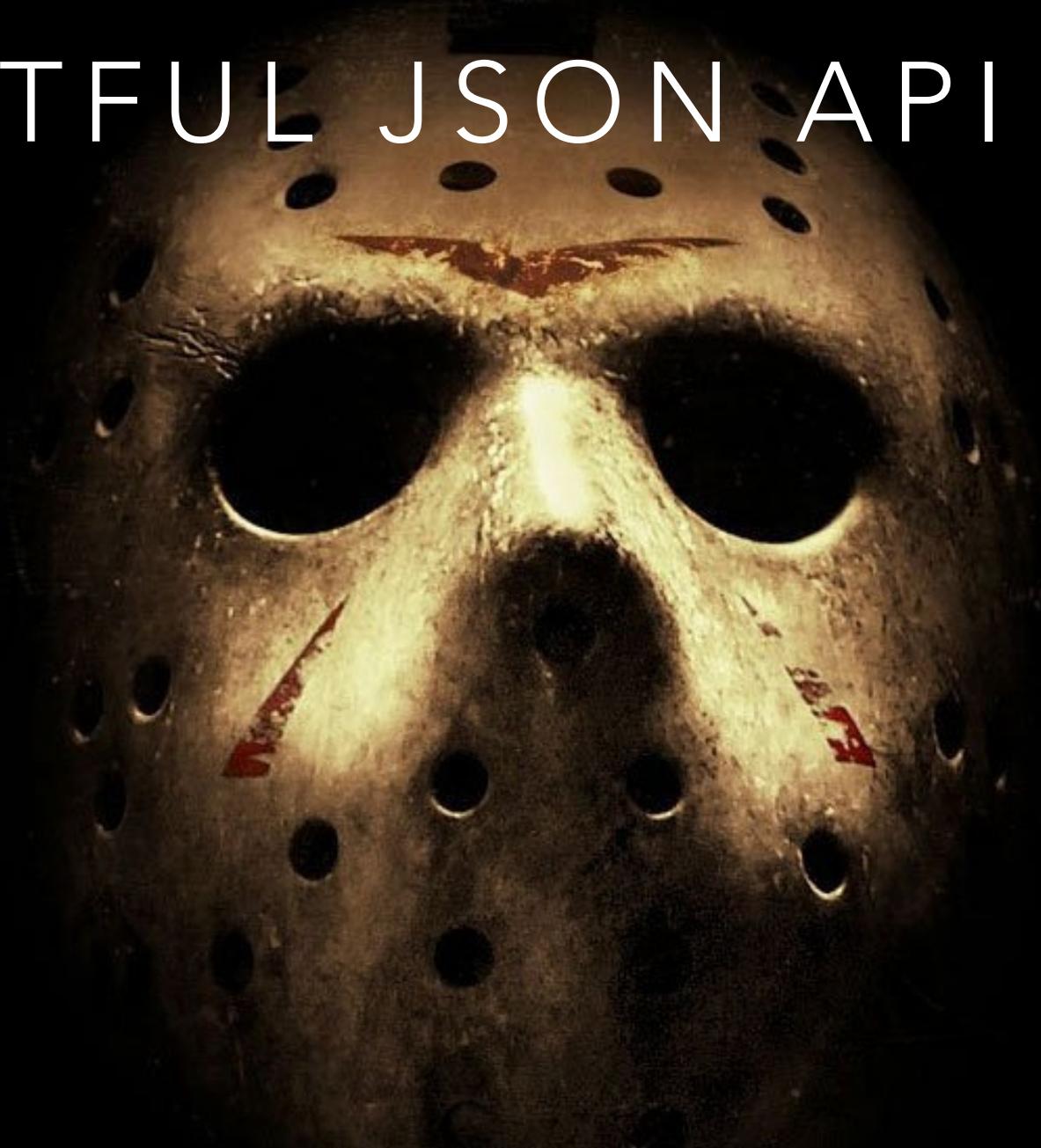








RESTFUL JSON API



206 results for “JSON API” in the plugin repo

WP API is on its way

We created our own, very limited JSON API

[github.com/tollmanz/backbone-wordpress-theme/blob/
master/app/json.php](https://github.com/tollmanz/backbone-wordpress-theme/blob/master/app/json.php)

ROUTERS



Associates a URL with an action

domain.com/2014/04/backbone-rulz => show post
domain.com/category/backbone => show category

domain.com/2014/04/top-10-greatest-things-ever

domain.com/top-10-greatest-things-ever

domain.com/?p=23

Catchall router

<https://thethemefoundry.com/blog/backbone-js-routers-collections/>

It's a hack

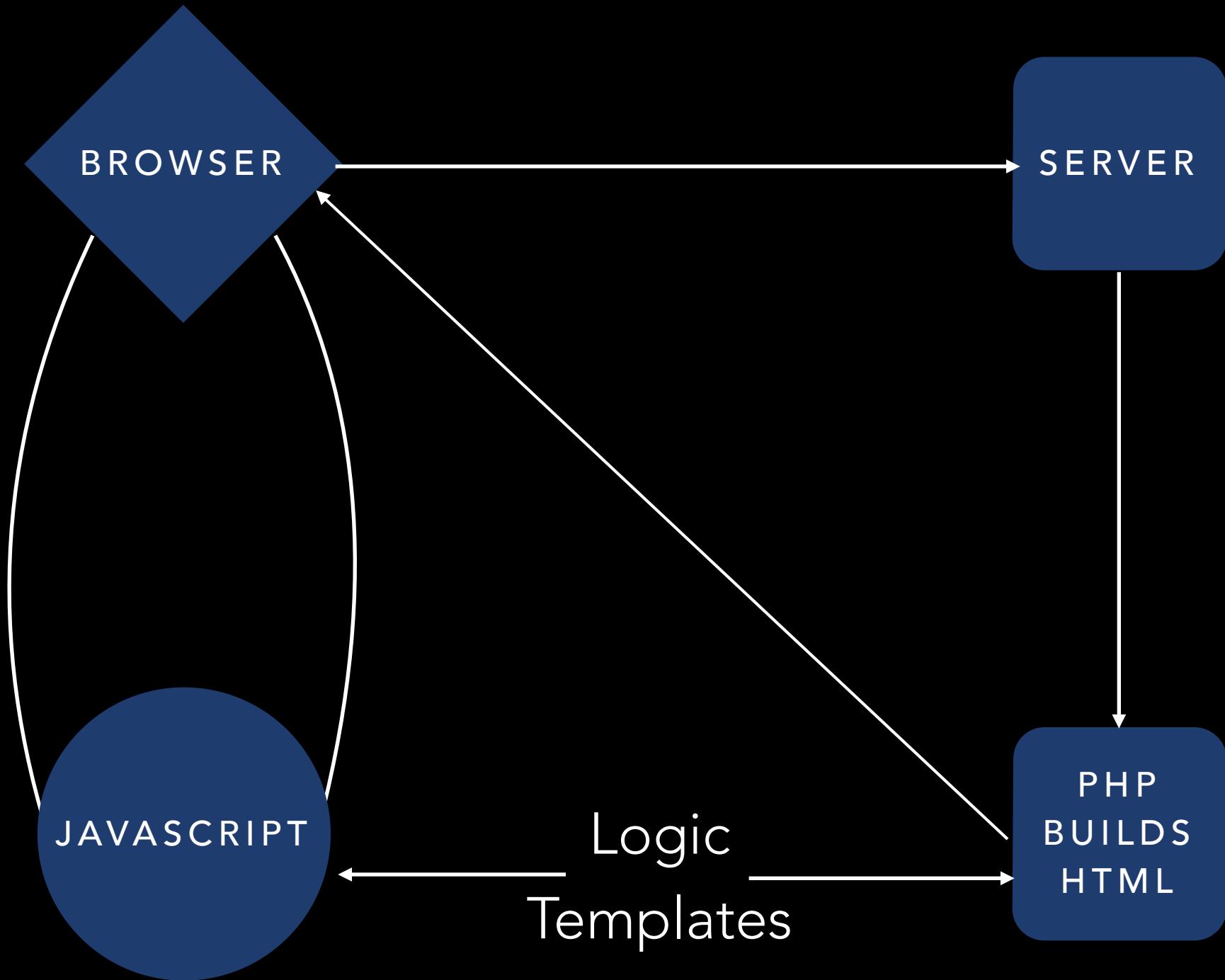
Acceptable because it optimizes compatibility

A man with a well-groomed mustache and a white baseball cap stands in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. He is wearing a light-colored zip-up jacket over a dark shirt. The background is a soft-focus view of the same grassy field.

TEMPLATING

Backbone.js uses Underscore.js templates by default

```
<article class="entry post">
  <header>
    <h1 class="entry-title">
      {{{ post_title }}}
    </h1>
  </header>
  <section class="post-content">
    {{{ post_content }}}
  </section>
</article>
```



PHP and JS templates?

One combined template?

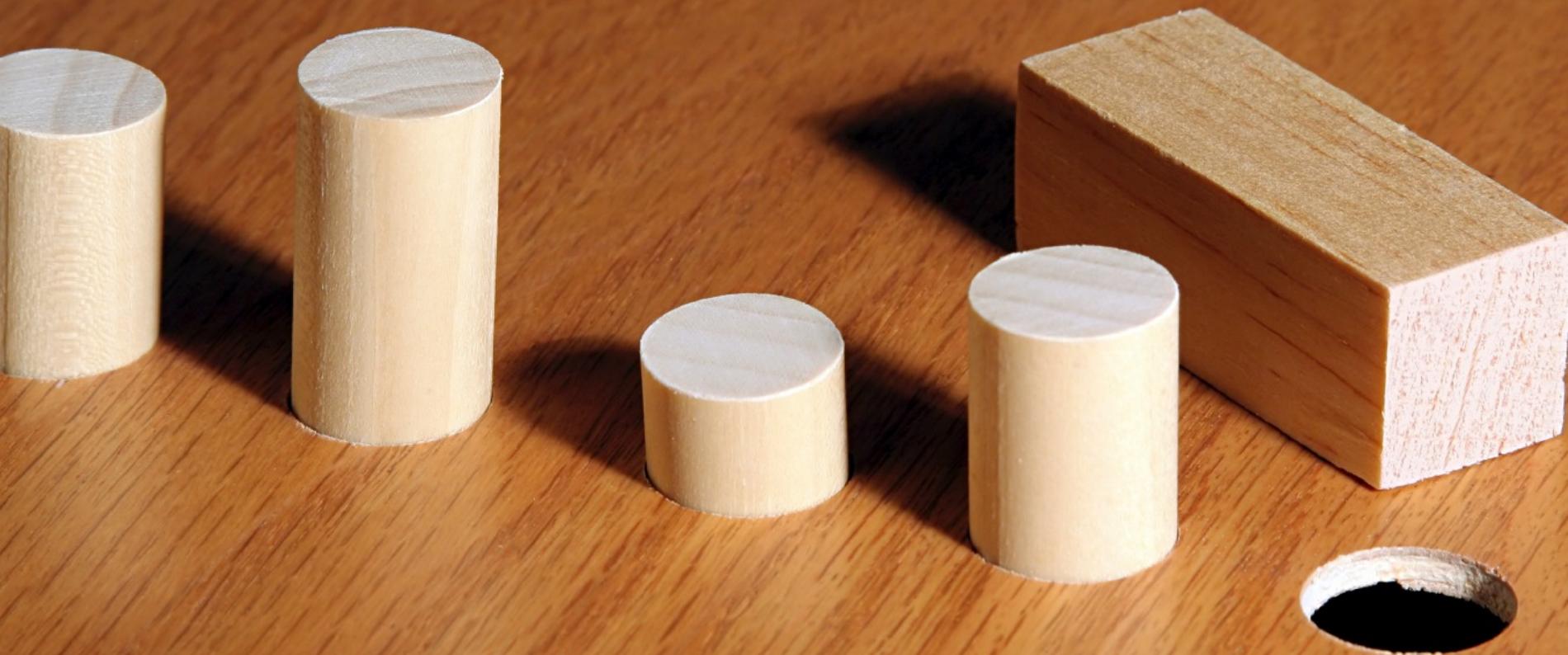
What about the template hierarchy?

Collections uses a hybrid template

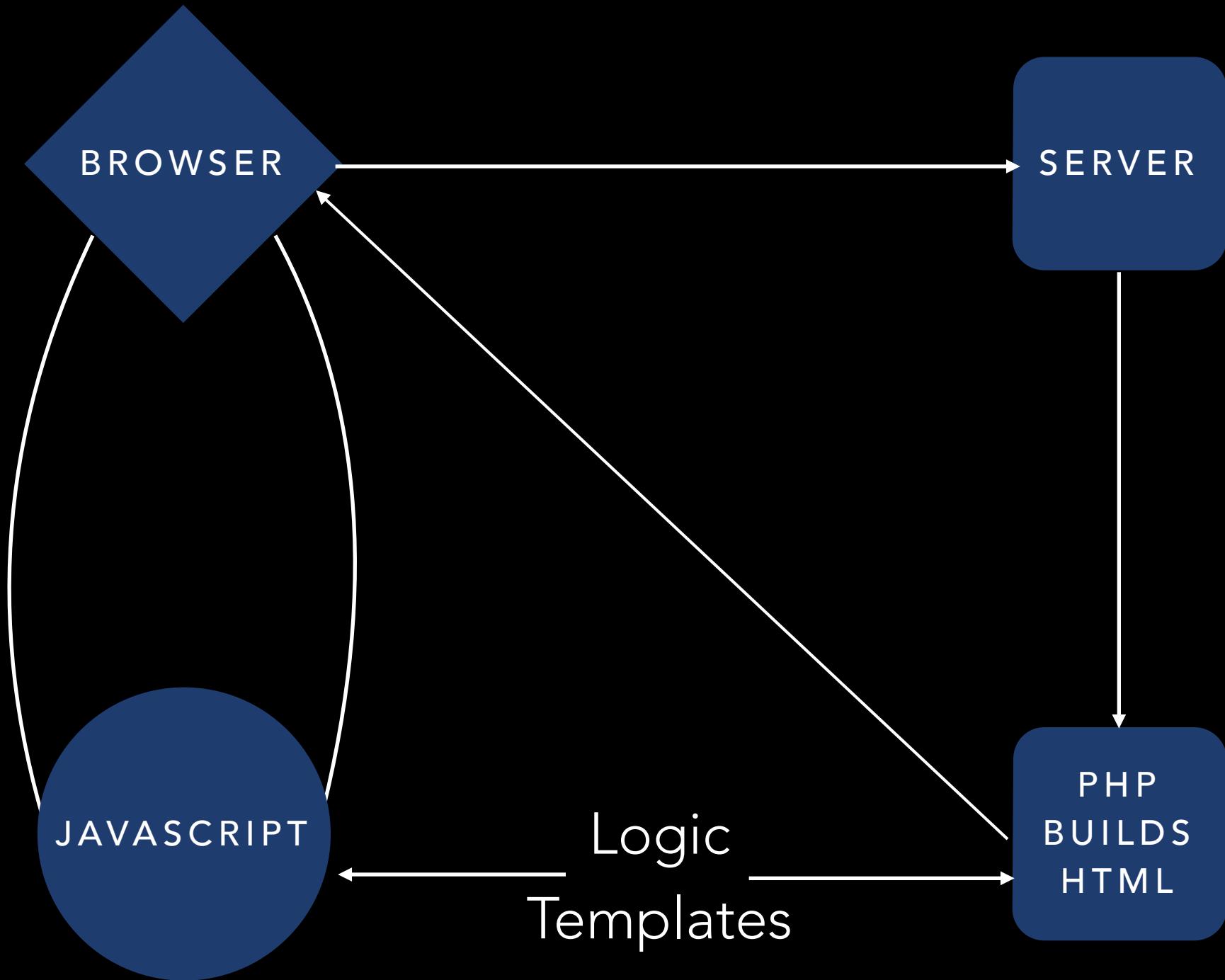
<https://thethemefoundry.com/blog/backbonejs-and-collections-structure/>

```
<article class="entry post" id="post-23">
  <header>
    <h1 class="entry-title">
      <?php if ( is_js_template() ) : ?>
        {{{ post_title }}}
      <?php else : ?>
        <?php the_title(); ?>
      <?php endif; ?>
    </h1>
  </header>
  ...
</article>
```

PLUGIN COMPATIBILITY



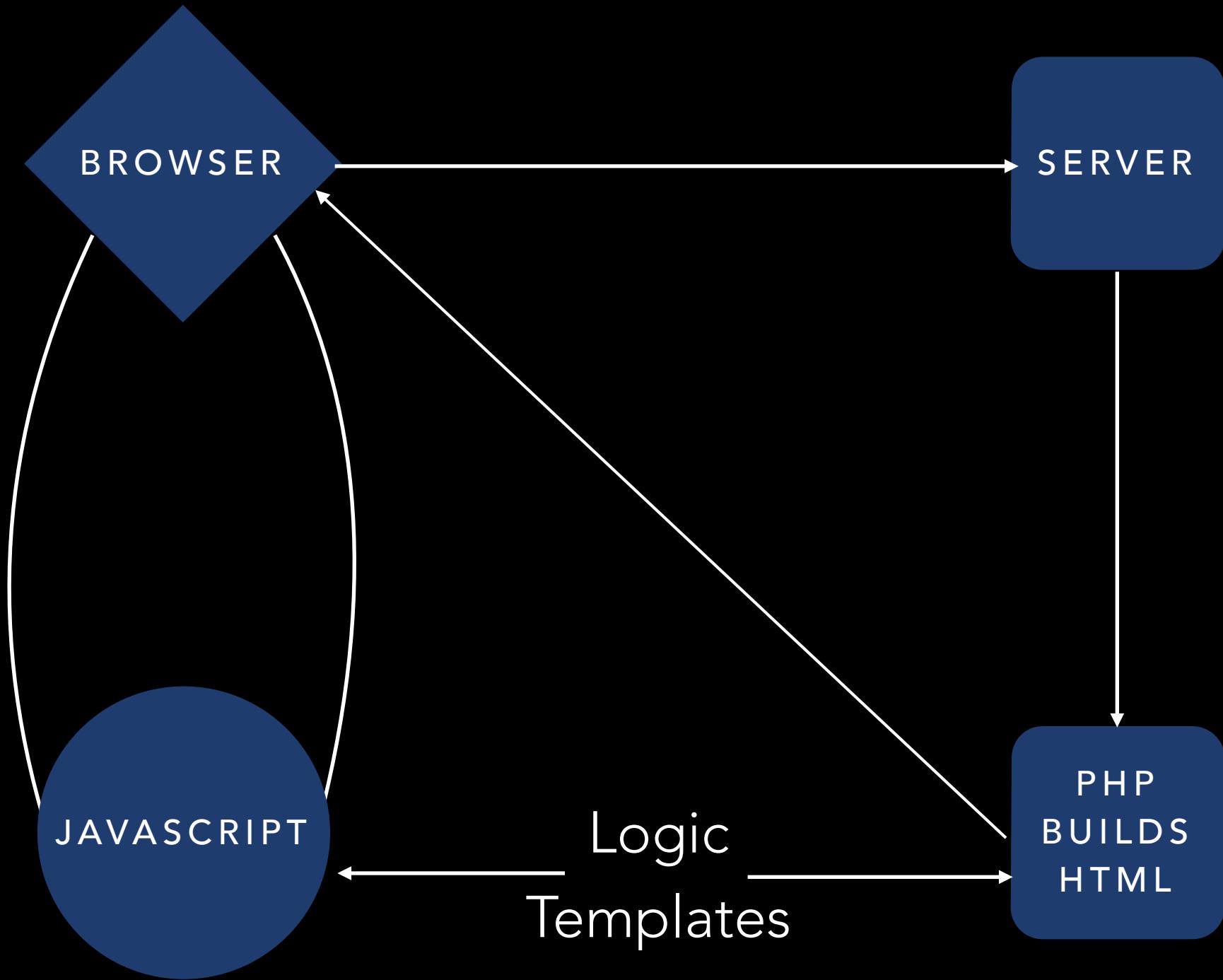
WordPress plugins assume server load



SPA requires backfilling some of the server side logic

Script and style enqueues

<https://thethemefoundry.com/blog/backbone-js-collections-plugin-compatibility/>



1. Determine which scripts/styles are loaded

<https://thethemefoundry.com/blog/backbone-js-collections-plugin-compatibility/>

2. Determine which scripts/styles are needed

<https://thethemefoundry.com/blog/backbone-js-collections-plugin-compatibility/>

3. Asynchronously loaded needed scripts/styles

<https://thethemefoundry.com/blog/backbone-js-collections-plugin-compatibility/>

THE FUTURE



WP API
github.com/WP-API/WP-API

“The WP API will signal a paradigm shift in WP.”

- ZACK TOLLMAN

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github.com/tollmanz/wcatx-2014