Website Construction

(PHP Includes)
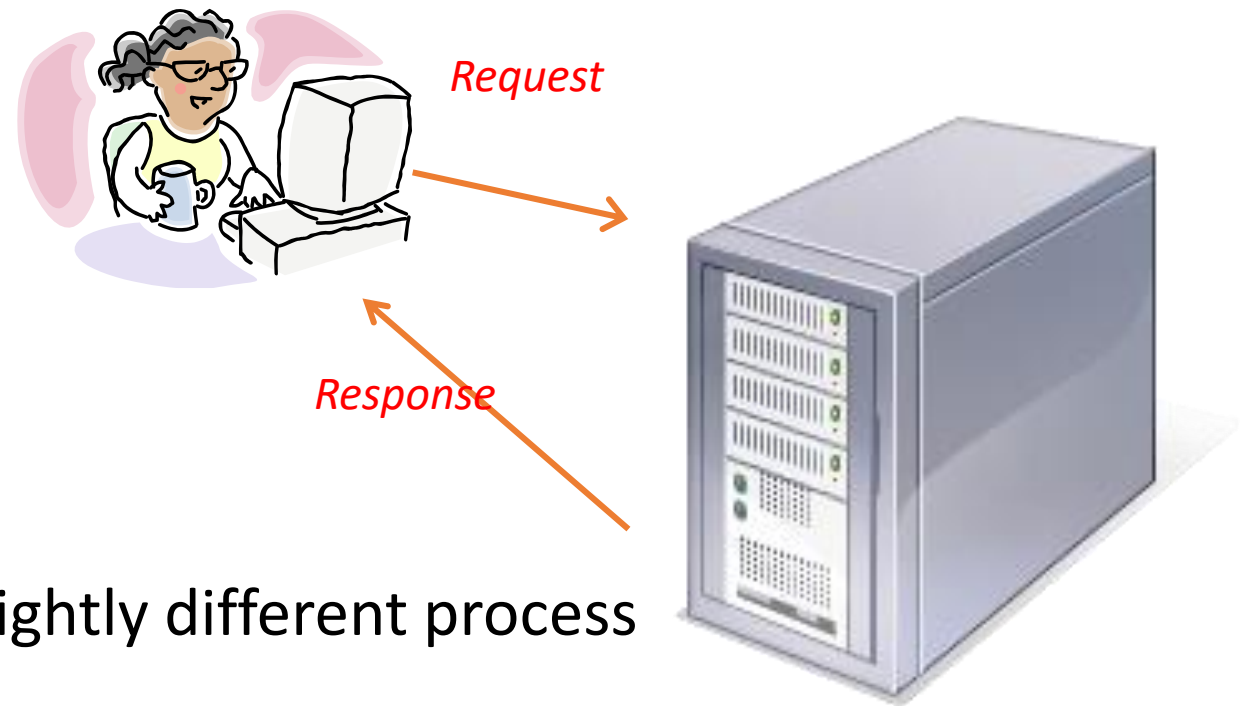
Server-side Includes (SSI)

- Reduce the amount of code you duplicate in webpages
- "Include" contents
- Common headers, sidebars, footers, whatever

How it works

The normal process is:

1. Request
2. Locate
3. Respond

Request

Response

With server-side scripts, there is a slightly different process

1. Request
2. Locate

the "include" process

3. Read
4. Execute
5. Rebuild

6. Respond

Remember: the Web uses a client/server network architecture

When Will the Server Look For scripts?

Trigger

* Apache with PHP so…

* ".php" not ".html"

* The *include* command

Example:

```
<?php include "more-content.php"; ?>
```

"Including" - an Example

On the web server…

index.php

```
<div>Just some regular HTML here</div>

<?php include "inc/more-content.php"; ?>

<div>And then some more regular HTML,
whatever</div>
```

inc/more-content.php

```
<div> Blah blah blah, more
content here!</div>
```

index.php

What shows up in the web browser…

```
<div>Just some regular HTML here</div>

<div> Blah blah blah, more content here!</div>

<div>And then some more regular HTML,
whatever</div>
```

Summary of PHP includes

- Using PHP? Then the file extension MUST be: .php
  - Example: index.php

- If using a PHP *include* statement: the file extension of the included file can be whatever you want
  - The industry standard is: .php (for security reasons)
  - Example: footer.php

- The location of your include files: can be anywhere in the file system
  - The industry standard is to put them into a subfolder named inc/