



RICE<sup>®</sup>

# Web Development

COMP 431 / COMP 531

Back End

Scott E Pollack, PhD

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# Part II – Back End Development

- Homework Assignment 5 (Front-End App)
  - **Due TONIGHT 3/10**

*Homework Assignment 6*  
*(Draft Back-End)*  
Due Thursday 3/24

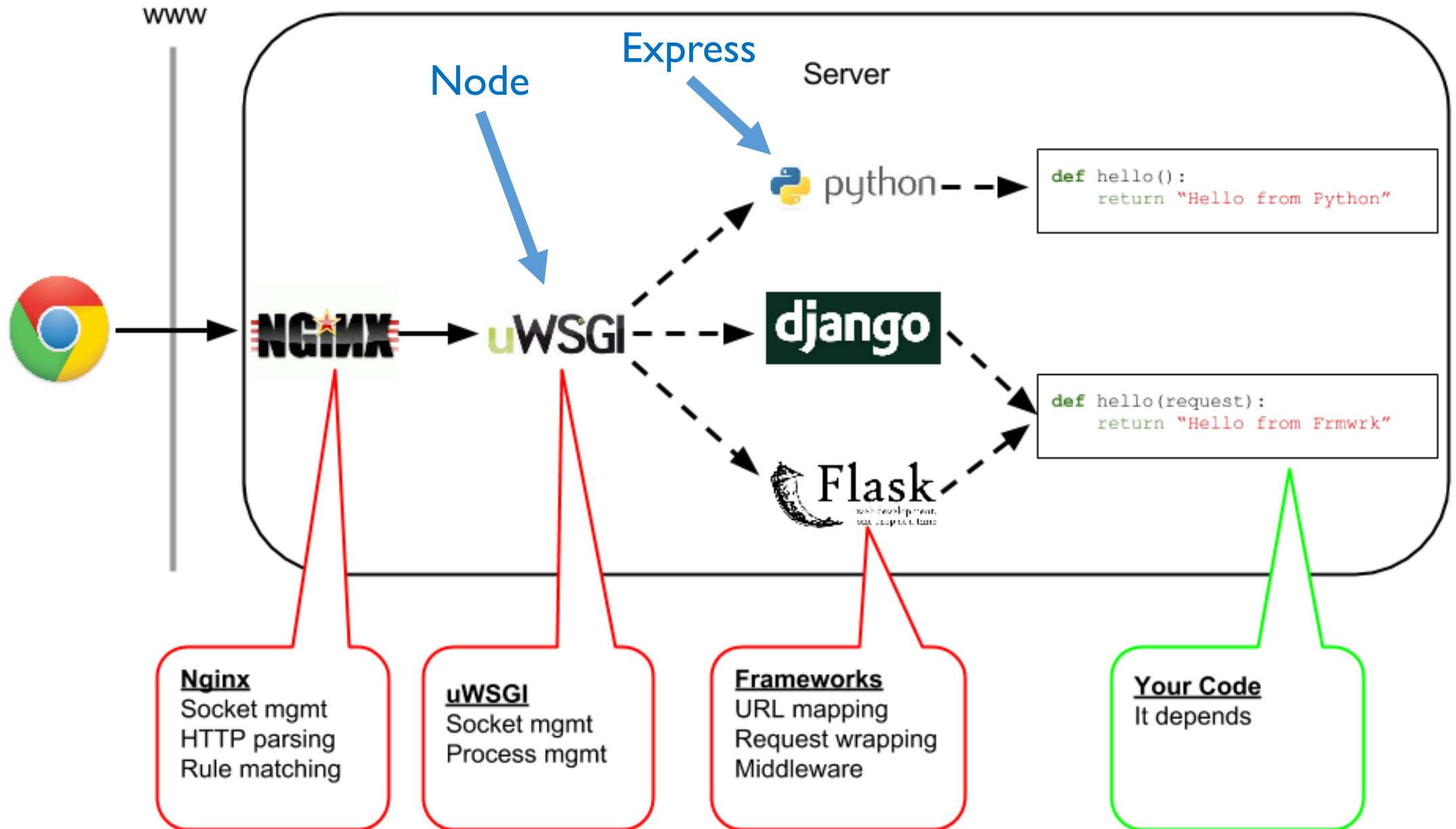
PART II  
~~Web Servers~~  
Backend  
Architecture  
Unit Testing  
Web Hosting  
Databases

# Languages, Platforms, Frameworks

- Lots of choices
- Each have advantages and disadvantages
- Consider the long term solution
- Consider a short term solution
- Write something that you might throw away, but be careful...

# Python: Web Server Gateway Interface

- For Python, options are CGI, FastCGI, and mod\_python (for Apache)
- WSGI is a low-level interface to promote portability
- Instead of running within a web server, we'll start our own.
- WSGI is only an interface.  
Need utility libraries to provide us implementation for our app
- uWSGI is a universal web server gateway interface
  - Works with python, perl, ruby
- There's also mod\_wsgi for those using Apache



# Werkzeug

The Python WSGI Utility Library

[overview](#) | [documentation](#) | [community](#)

*Werkzeug is a WSGI utility library for Python. It's widely used and BSD licensed.*



```
function server(req, res) {  
  console.log('Request method'  
  console.log('Request URL'
```

NodeJS

Python

```
from werkzeug.wrappers import Request, Response  
  
@Request.application  
def application(request):  
    return Response('Hello World!')  
  
if __name__ == '__main__':  
    from werkzeug.serving import run_simple  
    run_simple('localhost', 4000, application)
```

# Middleware

- Middleware is *anything* you put in between the server/gateway and the final application/framework
- Middleware is compliant,
  - they accept a request and pass it along
  - they accept a response and pass it along
- As middleware, they can modify the request or response, e.g.,
  - check for authentication
  - add or strip headers
  - format or transform content

# Python Frameworks

- Bottle
- CherryPy
- Django
- Falcon
- Flask
- PoorWSGI
- Pyramid (Pylons)
- Web.py
- Web2py





# Falcon is FAST!!!



Framework	req/sec	$\mu\text{s}/\text{req}$	Performance
Falcon (0.3.0)	21,858	46	8x
Bottle (0.12.8)	12,583	79	4x
Werkzeug (0.10.4)	4,708	212	2x
Pecan (0.8.3)	3,442	291	1x
Flask (0.10.1)	2,837	352	1x

# Django



- Full stack
- Opinionated
- Highly developed
- “Fat” framework
- a “sea” of functionality
- ... not quick to go...

```
from django.conf.urls import url
from django.views.generic import TemplateView

urlpatterns = [
    url(r'^about/',
        TemplateView.as_view(template_name="about.html")),
]
```

mysite/news/models.py

```
from django.db import models

class Article(models.Model):
    pub_date = models.DateField()
    headline = models.CharField(max_length=200)
    content = models.TextField()
    reporter = models.ForeignKey(Reporter)
```

mysite/news/admin.py

```
from django.contrib import admin

from . import models

admin.site.register(models.Article)
```

... is ... not

## Django administration

Welcome, admin. Change password / Log out



Pages



Files



Users



Contact forms

12

## Shop



Products

910



Categories



Orders

1

↑ Advanced

## Site administration

## Accounts

Addresses

+ Add

✎ Change

Countries

+ Add

✎ Change

## Shop

Categories

+ Add

✎ Change

Orders

+ Add

✎ Change

Products

+ Add

✎ Change

## Auth

Groups

+ Add

✎ Change

Users

+ Add

✎ Change

## Cms

Pages

+ Add

✎ Change

Pages global permissions

+ Add

✎ Change

User groups (page)

+ Add

✎ Change

Users (page)

+ Add

✎ Change

## Recent Actions

## My Actions

+ Switzerland

Country

✎ localhost:8000

Site

# Flask

*“A Python Microframework”*



## Flask is Fun

```
from flask import Flask
app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route("/")
def hello():
    return "Hello World!"

if __name__ == "__main__":
    app.run()
```

```
pip install virtualenv
virtualenv venv
source venv/bin/activate
```

## And Easy to Setup

```
$ pip install Flask
$ python hello.py
* Running on http://localhost:5000/
```

# Flask in Action

Flask depends on

- Werkzeug WSGI toolkit
- Jinja2 template engine

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
from flask import Flask, render_template, jsonify

app = Flask(__name__)
app.config['DEBUG'] = True

@app.route('/')
def index():
    return render_template('index.html', message="Hello World!")

@app.route('/boo')
def getPosts():
    return jsonify({'message': 'aaaah!!'})

if __name__ == "__main__":
    app.run(port=8000)
```



```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <body>
4 <h3>{{ message }}</h3>
5 </body>
6 </html>
```



**Django**

Web Framework

**Flask**

Web Framework

**Ruby on R..**

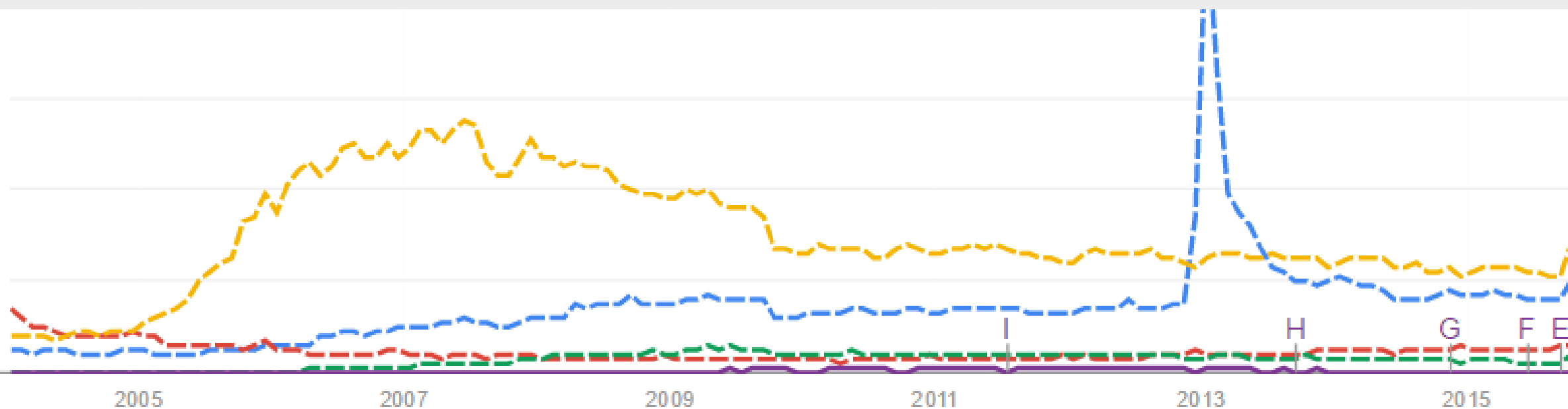
Web Framework

**Grails**

Web Framework

**WSGI**

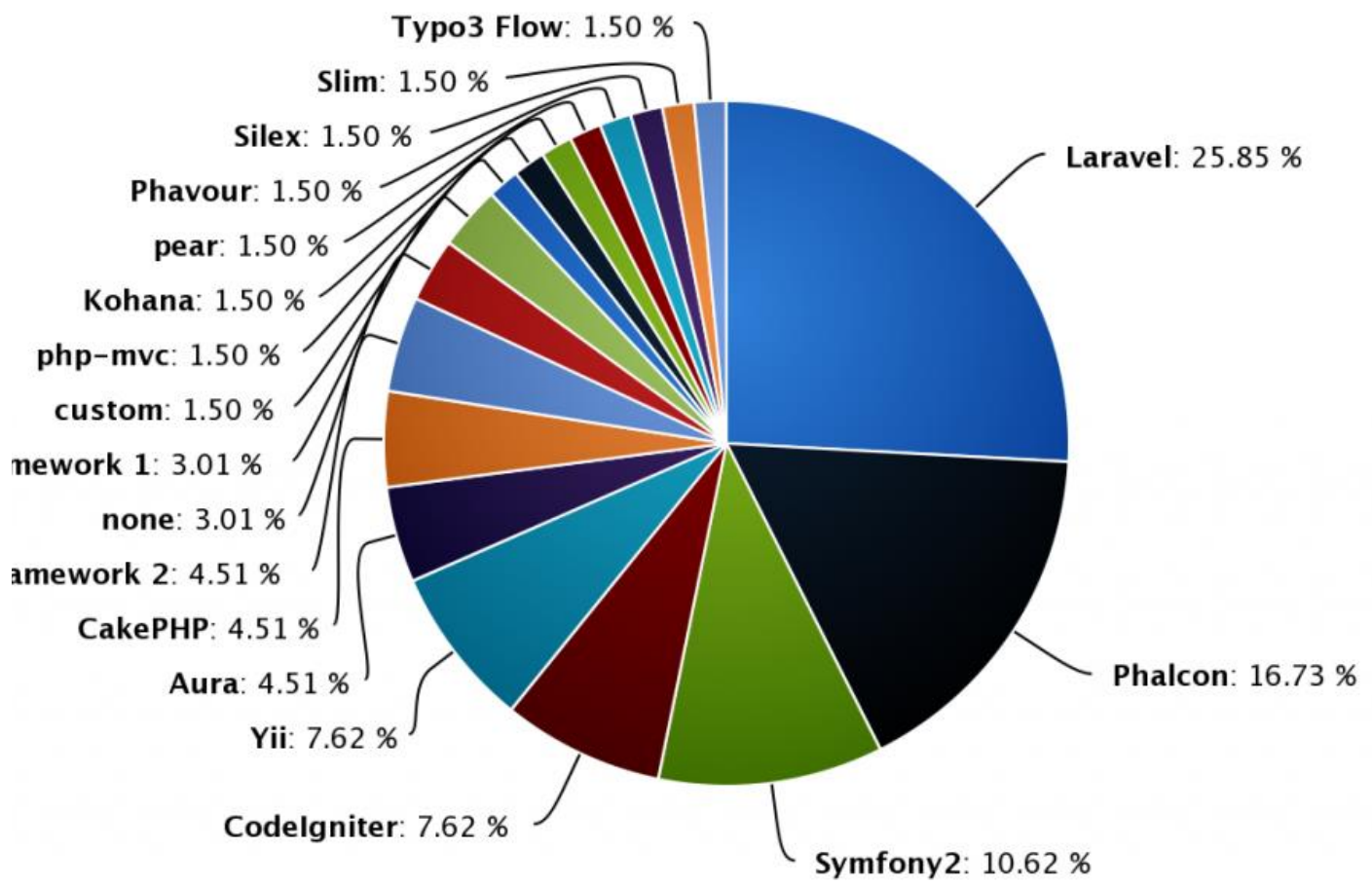
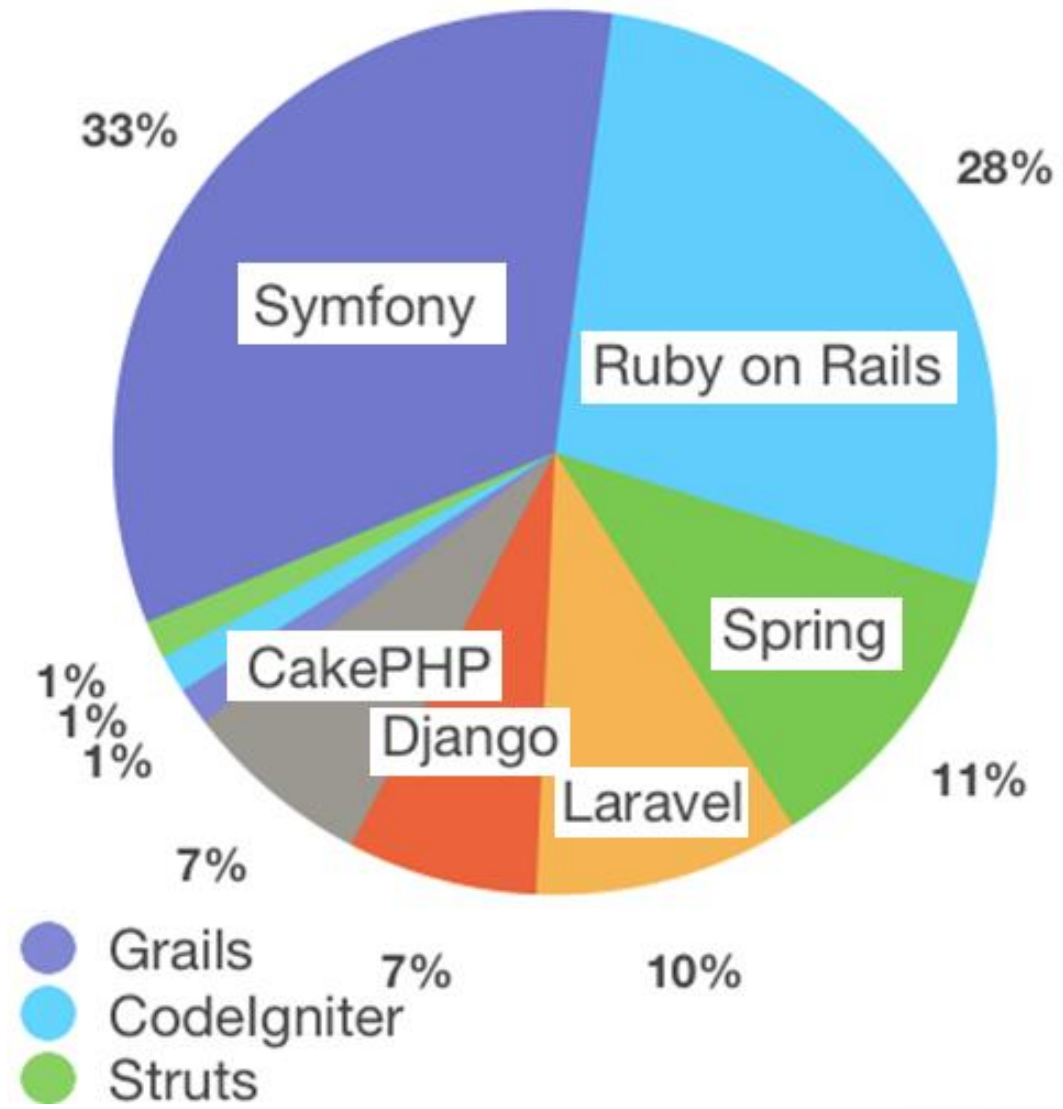
Search term



Trends

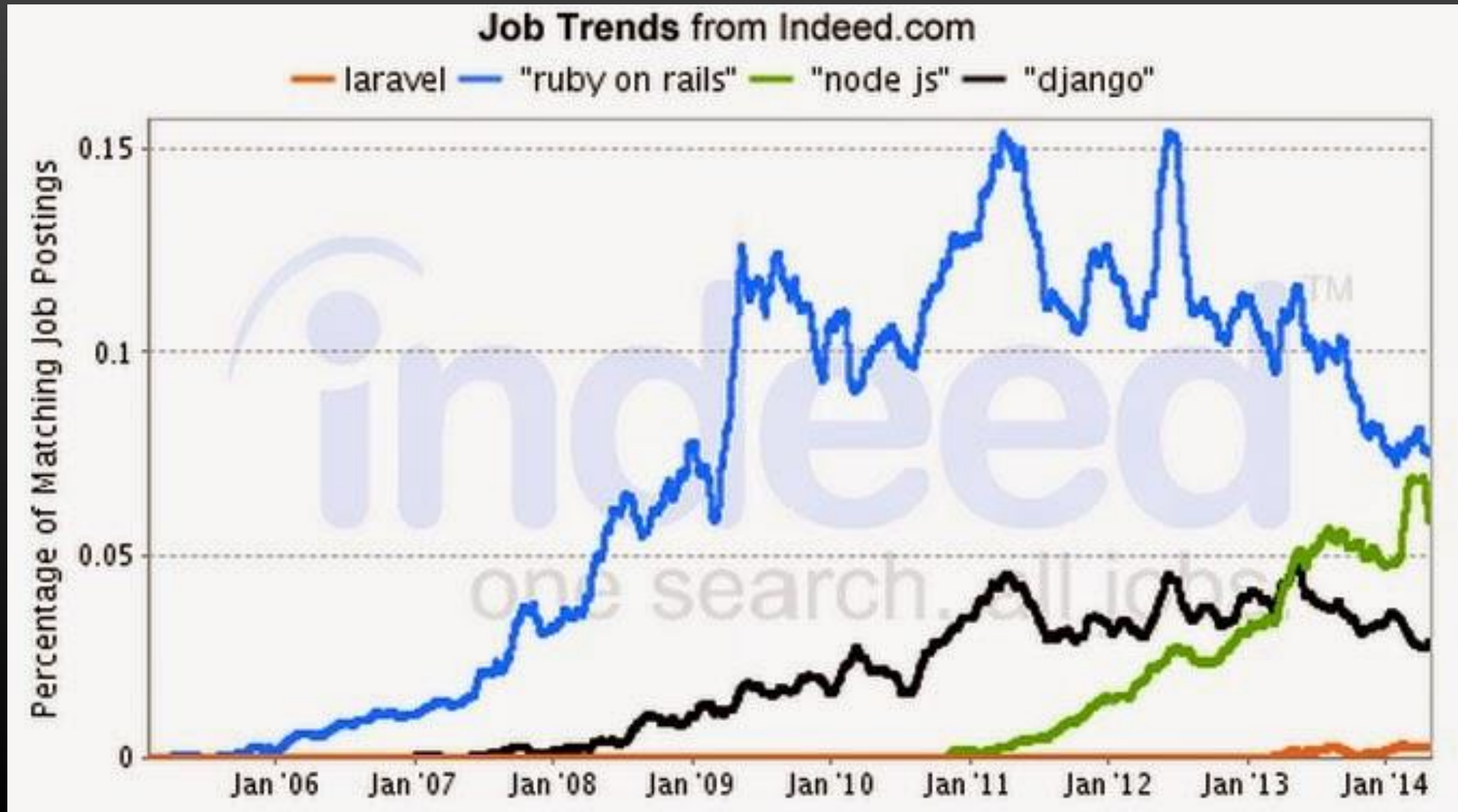
# Trends

Framework popularity, end of 2013; SitePoint



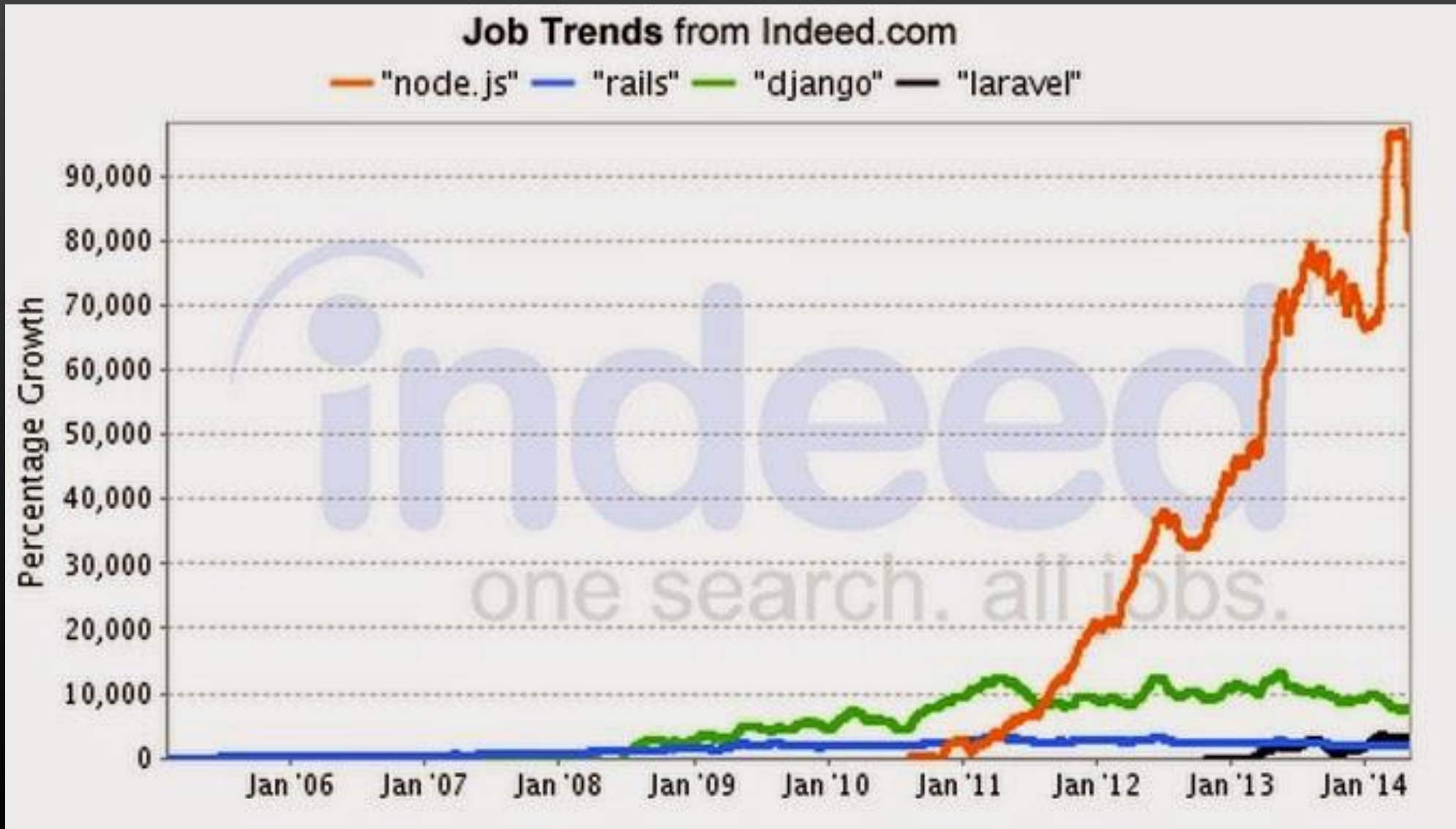


# What's Hot





# What's Hot



# Beginning to get MEAN

## *Mongo-Express-Angular-Node*



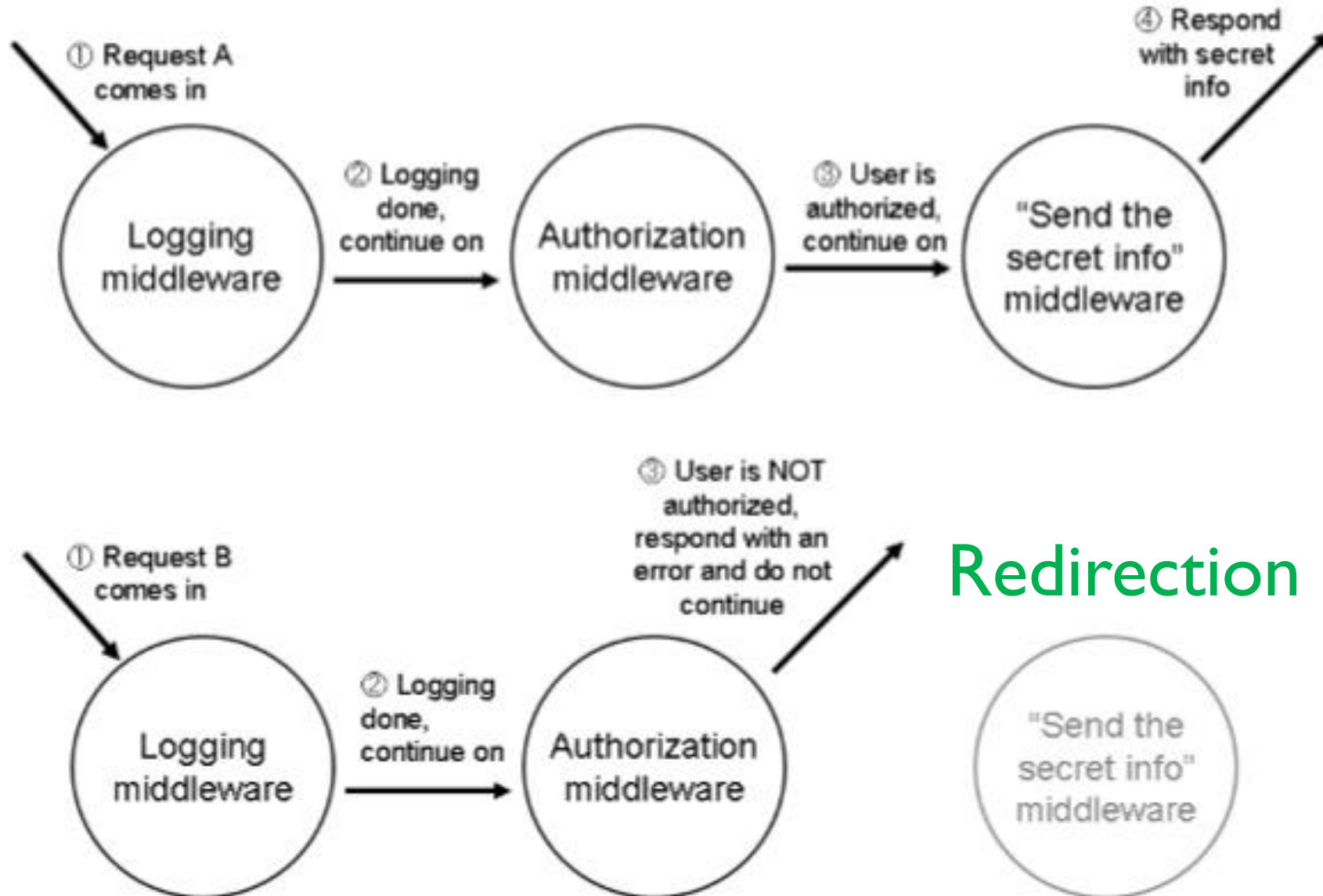
- Express adds to Node a number of helpful libraries
  - Minimalist philosophy
  - Middleware is key
- ```
> mkdir backend; cd backend  
> npm init -y  
> npm install express --save
```

Express

Fast, unopinionated,  
minimalist web framework for  
Node.js

# Middleware

```
app.put('/logout', isLoggedIn, logout)  
function isLoggedIn(req, res, next)
```



Redirection

# Routing with Express

```
var express = require('express')

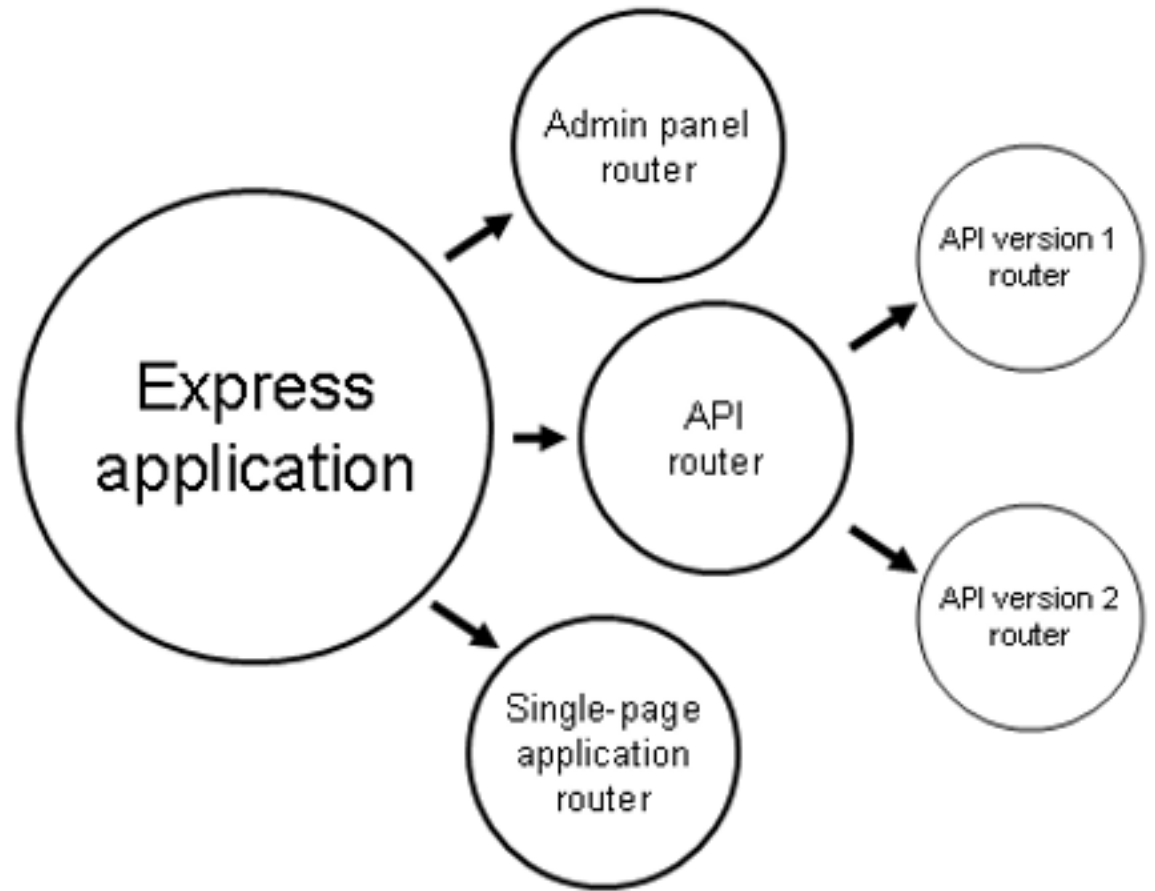
var app = express()

app.get('/', getIndex)
app.post('/', postIndex)

function getIndex(req, res) {
  res.send('hello world!')
}

function postIndex(req, res) {
  res.send('You POSTed to the homepage')
}

var server = app.listen(8080, function() {
  console.log('Server listening at http://%s:%s',
    server.address().address,
    server.address().port)
})
```



# Install some Middleware

```
> npm install body-parser --save
```

```
var bodyParser = require('body-parser')
```

```
var app = express()
```

```
Server listening at http://:::3000  
Payload received undefined
```

```
app.post('/post', addPost)  
app.get('/', hello)
```

```
function addPost(req, res) {  
  console.log('Payload received', req.body)  
  res.send(req.body)  
}
```

```
> curl -H 'Content-Type: application/json' \  
  -d '{"Hello": "World"}' \  
  http://localhost:8080/post
```

# Accepting JSON Payloads

```
> npm install body-parser --save
```

```
var bodyParser = require('body-parser')

var app = express()
app.use(bodyParser.json())
app.post('/post', addPost)
app.get('/', hello)

function addPost(req, res) {
  console.log('Payload received', req.body)
  res.send(req.body)
}
```

```
> curl -H 'Content-Type: application/json' \
  -d '{"Hello": "World"}' \
  http://localhost:8080/post
{"Hello":"World"}
```

# Templating with Engines

```
var app = express()

app.set('view engine', 'ejs')

app.get('/', getIndex)

function getIndex(req, res) {
  res.render('tpl', {
    user: 'Scott',
    now: Date.now(),
    message: 'hello world!'
  })
}
```

It is now 1457159681949  
and Scott says hello world!

Embedded JavaScript (ejs)

Jade


Swig

Nunjucks

Handlebars

Hogan

...



```
tpl.ejs
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>
It is now <%- now %><br/>
and <%- user %> says <%- message %>
</body>
</html>
```

## In-Class Exercise: Express Server

1. Below we respond with json payloads via bodyParser
2. Make the default “GET /” return { hello: ‘world’ }
3. Add “GET /post” that supplies JSON posts, start with 3 hard coded posts
4. Add “POST /post” that receives a JSON post, return the post with an id, and add the post to the list returned by GET
5. You should only have 3 endpoints  
app.get|post ( ... )

```
localhost:3000

{
  hello: "world"
}
```

```
localhost:3000/post

{
  - posts: [
    - {
      author: "Scott",
      body: "This is my first post",
      id: 1
    },
    - {
      author: "Max",
      body: "This is Max's post",
      id: 2
    },
    - {
      author: "Leo",
      body: "This is Leo's post",
      id: 3
    }
  ]
}
```

**Turnin index.js to  
COMP431-S16:inclass-16**