

Programming Assignment 2

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Goal

- Get familiar with HTTP protocol. Understand how web API works.
- More practice on socket API.

Description

In this assignment, you will design and implement a dynamic web server that provides the following services.

/api/evalexpression

This API is to help clients evaluate arithmetic expressions and return them the results. The client is going to send an arithmetic expression in an HTTP `POST` request. See the example below where client wants to evaluate expression `7+9-11+6`.

```
POST /api/evalexpression HTTP/1.0\r\n
Content-Length: 8\r\n
\r\n
7+9-11+6
```

And your server should return the following HTTP response.

```
HTTP/1.0 200 OK\r\n
Content-Type: text/html\r\n
Content-Length: 2\r\n
\r\n
11
```

Note: this API is should only support simple arithmetic expressions: (a) only involve integers, (b) only support '+' and '-' operators. For all unsupported arithmetic expressions, your server should return an HTTP 400 response (bad request).

/api/gettime

This API is to help clients get the local time on the server. The client is going to send an HTTP GET request. See the example below.

```
GET /api/gettime HTTP/1.0\r\n\r\n
```

And your server should return its local time in a human readable string format. For example, you can return a response like below.

```
HTTP/1.0 200 OK\r\nContent-Type: text/html\r\nContent-Length: 24\r\n\r\nSun Sep 29 07:41:37 2019
```

You have the freedom to choose the time format you like.

/status

This page should the status information of your web server. It should contain

- The number of API calls for (evalexpression and gettime) during the last minute, last hour, last 24 hours, and lifetime.
- The most recent 10 expressions clients submitted to evaluate.

Your server need to return a valid HTML page that is able to render successfully inside a browser. For instance, the page you return can look like

```
.....
<h1>API count information</h1>
<h3>/api/evalexpression</h3>
<ul>
  <li>last minute: 2</li>
  <li>last hour: 10</li>
  <li>last 24 hours: 128</li>
  <li>lifetime: 314</li>
</ul>
<h3>/api/gettime</h3>
<ul>
  <li>last minute: 1</li>
  <li>last hour: 2</li>
  <li>last 24 hours: 2</li>
```

```

    <li>lifetime: 7</li>
</ul>
<h1>Last 10 expressions</h1>
<ul>
    <li>7+8-11</li>
    <li>1+1+1+1+1+1+1</li>
    .....
</ul>
.....

```

You don't need to worry about persisting historical count, just need to collect this stats since the start of the server is sufficient.

Others

For all other URLs, your server need to return HTTP 404 response. (e.g. /api/whatisthis, /index.html, etc.)

Requirements

- You can only use the socket API (in module `socket`). You are not allowed to use any other higher level modules like `requests`, `urllib`, etc.
- Your server should be able to handle both HTTP/1.0 and HTTP/1.1 requests.

Grading policy

100 points in total.

- [20 pts] Correctly parsing HTTP request and sending HTTP response
 - E.g. read/write socket according to the HTTP protocol, extract Content-Length, etc.
- [30 pts] Implement /api/evalexpression
 - Correctly parse the expression from HTTP POST request.
 - Able to evaluate expressions only involving integers, '+', and '-' correctly.
 - Correctly send HTTP response.
 - For unsupported expression, correctly send HTTP 400 response.
- [10 pts] Implement /api/gettime
- [30 pts] Implement /status
 - Can correctly show accumulated stats for /api/evalexpression and /api/gettime
 - Can correctly show the latest 10 expressions clients sent.
- [10 pts] For other URLs, return HTTP 404 response

Submission instruction

Please your code and report to all TAs and cc z.sun@northeastern.edu by the deadline.