



Erlang Web Frameworks

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Agenda

- Intro to Erlang
- Mochiweb
- Webmachine
- Yaws
- Nitrogen
- Chicago Boss



Agenda

- Try to hit highlights of each framework, but can't cover everything
- Won't address client-side UI
- Won't address security
- Won't address performance or benchmarking — too app-specific
- Won't be specifically addressing concurrency



Tutorial Code

- Everyone downloaded

`http://cufp.org/sites/all/files/
uploads/erlang-web.tar.gz`

as directed on the tutorial website,
right?

- If not please get it now (I also have it
on a memory stick)



Tutorial Code

- I have some pre-written code for you to use, divided by framework

- So, another file to fetch:

<https://dl.dropbox.com/u/10363968/erlang-web-examples.tar.gz>

- Also on memory stick



Tutorial Code

- At various times during the tutorial you'll be copying code from the code-examples directory into areas of the framework we're working on



Machines

- If you don't have the code on your own machine, you can log into some provided by the conference
- `ssh cufpXX@tutorial2.icfp`

where "XX" is 01–15, password is cufp2012



Erlang Intro



Erlang is our solution to three problems regarding the development of highly concurrent, distributed “soft real-time systems”:

- To be able to develop the software quickly and efficiently*
- To have systems that are tolerant of software errors and hardware failures*
- To be able to update the software on the fly, that is, without stopping execution*

— Mike Williams, co-inventor of Erlang

(quote from “Erlang Programming” by F. Cesarini and S. Thompson)



Erlang Origins

- Mid-80's, Ericsson Computer Science Laboratories (CSL)
- Joe Armstrong began investigating languages for programming next-generation telco equipment
- Erlang initially implemented in Prolog with influence and ideas from ML, Ada, Smalltalk, other languages



Erlang History

- Robert Virding and Mike Williams joined Joe to continue Erlang development
- 1991: Claes “Klacke” Wikström added distribution to Erlang
- 1993: first commercial version of Erlang
- 1996: Open Telecom Platform (OTP)
- 1998: Erlang goes open source, available from www.erlang.org



Erlang for Web Development

- What makes Erlang good for telecom also makes it good for Web systems
 - excellent fault tolerance, failover, scalability
 - exceptional concurrency support
 - application model supports easily running independently-developed apps in the same VM
 - excellent integration facilities
 - data types work well with Web languages HTML, JSON, XML, etc.
 - HTTP packet parsing is built in
 - Comes with Web server and Web client libraries



Erlang Basics



Code Comments

- Comments start with % and go to end of line
- No special delimiters for block comments
- Best practice (emacs erlang-mode enforced)
 - Use %%% to start comments in left column
 - Use %% to start comments at current indentation level
 - Use % comments for end-of-line comments



Hello World

```
-module(hello).
```



Hello World

```
-module(hello).  
-export([world/0]).
```



Hello World

```
-module(hello).  
-export([world/0]).
```

```
world() ->
```



Hello World

```
-module(hello).  
-export([world/0]).
```

```
world() ->  
    io:format("Hello, World!~n").
```



Function Calls

- Calls to functions in other modules:

hello:world(),
module_name:function_name(Arg1, Arg2),

- Calls to local functions:

function_name(Arg1, Arg2),



Variables

- Immutable (bind once, no rebind)
- Start with a capital letter, e.g:

Variable = 3.



Operators

- **arithmetic:** `*`, `/`, `+`, `-`, `div`, `rem`, unary `+` and `-`
- **comparison:** `==`, `/=`, `=<`, `<`, `>=`, `>`, `:=`, `!=`
- **logical:** `not`, `and`, `or`, `xor`, `andalso`, `orelse`
- **bitwise:** `bnot`, `band`, `bor`, `bxor`, `bsr`, `bsl`
- **list addition and subtraction:** `++`, `--`



Operator Precedence

- `:` (as in `Module:Fun(...)`)
- `#` (for record access)
- (unary) `+`, (unary) `-`, `bnot`, `not`
- `/`, `*`, `div`, `rem`, `band`, `and`
- `+`, `-`, `bor`, `bxor`, `bsl`, `bsr`, `or`, `xor`
- `++`, `--` (right associative)
- `==`, `/=`, `=<`, `<`, `>=`, `>`, `:=`, `:=/`
- `andalso`
- `orelse`

Precedence



Types

- atom: a named non-numeric constant
 - generally starts with lowercase letter
 - can also surround with single quotes, e.g., 'EXIT' is an atom
- number: floating point or integer, integers are arbitrary precision
- list: variable-length group of terms

[numbers, [1, 2, 3, 4]]



Types

- **string**: just a list of characters

“string” = [\$s, \$t, \$r, \$i, \$n, \$g]

“string” = [115, 116, 114, 105, 110, 103]

- **tuple**: fixed-size group of terms

{this, “is”, A, [\$t, \$u, \$p, \$l, \$e]}



Records

- record: basically a tuple with named elements
- but unlike tuples records allow direct field access

```
-record(record_name, {  
    field1,  
    field2,  
    field3}).
```



Records

- Accessing a field:

`Var = RecordVar#rec_name.field2,`

- Setting a field:

`NewRec = OldRec#rec_name{field3 = foo},`

- OldRec is immutable, so NewRec is a (shallow) copy



Pattern Matching

- Assignment is actually matching (but not regular expression matching)
- If left-hand side of assignment (LHS) is:
 - unbound: bind it to the value of the right-hand side (RHS)
 - bound and same as RHS: match
 - bound but not same as RHS: no match, badmatch exception



Functions (“fun”s)

- Exported or local
- 0–255 arguments
- Can be “overloaded” by varying function arity (i.e., number of arguments)
- Return value is whatever the last statement executed returns



Hello World, Again

`world() ->`

`io:format("Hello, World!~n").` % returns ok

- **The `io:format/1` fun returns the atom ok, so `world/0` returns ok**



Multiple Fun Clauses

- Funs of same name with different arities
- Funs of same name, same arity, but different argument matching
- Semicolon separates same arity clauses
- Period separates different arity clauses



Multiple Fun Clauses

add(List) ->



Multiple Fun Clauses

add(List) ->
add(List, 0).

% call arity 2 version



Multiple Fun Clauses

add(List) ->

add(List, 0).

% call arity 2 version

add([H | T], Total) -> % H is head, T is tail



Multiple Fun Clauses

```
add(List) ->  
    add(List, 0).           % call arity 2 version  
add([H | T], Total) ->    % H is head, T is tail  
    add(T, Total + H);    % tail recursion
```



Multiple Fun Clauses

```
add(List) ->  
    add(List, 0).                % call arity 2 version  
add([H | T], Total) ->          % H is head, T is tail  
    add(T, Total + H);           % tail recursion  
add([], Total) ->               % match empty list
```



Multiple Fun Clauses

```
add(List) ->  
    add(List, 0).                % call arity 2 version  
add([H | T], Total) ->          % H is head, T is tail  
    add(T, Total + H);           % tail recursion  
add([], Total) ->               % match empty list  
    Total.                       % end recursion
```



Multiple Fun Clauses

```
add(List) ->  
    add(List, 0).                % call arity 2 version  
add([H | T], Total) ->          % H is head, T is tail  
    add(T, Total + H);           % tail recursion  
add([], Total) ->               % match empty list  
    Total.                       % end recursion
```



First-Class Funs

- Funs can be assigned to variables
- Funs can be passed as arguments
- Funs can be anonymous

```
Fun = fun(X,Y) -> [{X-1,Y-1}, {Y+1,X+1}] end,  
lists:unzip(Fun(3,7)).
```

- Returns {[2,8],[6,4]}



Binaries

- binary: basically, a memory buffer
<<“string”, 16#BEEF:16/little>>
- Stored more efficiently than lists and tuples
- Large binaries (> 64 bytes) are reference counted, not copied



Matching/Binding

- Binding variables via matching can apply to multiple variables at once

$\{\{\text{Year, Month, Day}\}, \{\text{Hour, Min, Sec}\}\} = \text{calendar:local_time()}.$

- Result: $\{\{2011, 7, 27\}, \{10, 32, 47\}\}$

- Year=2011, Month=7, Day=27
Hour=10, Min=32, Sec=47



Binary Matching

- Matching a TCP header (from Cesarini & Thompson “Erlang Programming”)

```
<<SourcePort:16, DestinationPort:16,  
  SequenceNumber:32, AckNumber:32,  
  DataOffset:4, _Reserved:4, Flags:8,  
  WindowSize:16, Checksum:16,  
  UrgentPointer:16, Payload/binary>> = TcpBuf.
```



Control Constructs

- Guards
- Conditionals: case and if
- try – catch – after



Guards

- Augment pattern matching with simple comparisons and tests
- Must be free of side effects
- Can be grouped with “;” (for “or”) or “,” (for “and”)

`add(L) when is_list(L) ->`



Case

```
case Expression of  
  Pattern1 [when Guard1] -> Expression(s);  
  Pattern2 [when Guard2] -> Expression(s);  
  ...  
end
```

- Very common in Erlang code
- Use `_` (underscore) as a match-all pattern
- Returns value of last expression evaluated



If

if

Guard1 -> Expression(s);

Guard2 -> Expression(s);

Guard3 -> Expression(s);

...

end

- Not very common in Erlang code
- Use `true` as a catch-all clause
- Returns value of last expression evaluated



try-catch-after

```
try Expression(s) of
  Pattern1 [when Guard1] -> Expression(s);
  Pattern2 [when Guard2] -> Expression(s);
  ...
catch
  ExceptionTypeA [when GuardA] -> Expr(s);
  ExceptionTypeB [when GuardB] -> Expr(s);
  ...
after
  Expression(s)
end
```



try-catch-after

- Exception type is `[Class]:ExceptionPattern`
- `_:_` is match-all exception type
- “of” can be left out
 - result is value of tried expression(s)
- “catch” part can be left out
 - any exception gets thrown to caller
- “after” part can be left out



Exception Example

```
try
  1 = 2
catch
  Class:Exc ->
    io:format("class: ~p, exception: ~p~n",
              [Class, Exc])
after
  io:format("example done~n")
end.
```

- Executing this results in:

```
class: error, exception: {badmatch,2}
example done
```



Error Handling

- Erlang philosophy: “let it crash”
- Code should deal with errors it knows how to deal with, and let other code handle the rest
- Idiomatic Erlang code doesn't contain much error handling code (unlike, say, Java or C++)



Erlang Shell

- Erlang includes a very useful read-eval-print loop (REPL)
- Just run `erl` at the command line

```
$ erl
```

```
Erlang R14B04 (erts-5.8.5) [source] [smp:8:8] [rq:8]  
[async-threads:0] [kernel-poll:false]
```

```
Eshell V5.8.5 (abort with ^G)  
|>
```



Exiting the Shell

- One way is `q()`.
 - terminates everything
- Another way is `ctrl-g` followed by `q`
 - this is preferable, since it can exit a shell on a remote VM without stopping the VM
- `Ctrl-d` doesn't work here



Simple Operations

1> 2+3.

5

2> X = 1.

|

3> X = 2.

** exception error: no match of right hand side value 2

4> [H|T] = [1,2,3,4].

[1,2,3,4].

5> {H,T}.

{1,[2,3,4]}



Managing Variables

```
1> X = 1.
```

```
1
```

```
2> f(X).
```

```
ok
```

```
3> X.
```

```
* 1: variable 'X' is unbound
```

```
4> f().
```

```
%% now all variables are unbound
```



Calling a Function

**1> {{Year,Mon,Day},{Hr,Min,Sec}} =
calendar:local_time().**

{{2011,10,20},{22,20,6}}

2> {Day,Hr}.

{20,22}



Anonymous Fun

```
1> F = fun(Item) -> Item == foo end.  
#Fun<erl_eval.6.80247286>  
2> lists:map(F, [foo, bar, baz, foo]).  
[true, false, false, true]
```



Displaying a Full Term

- The shell abbreviates large terms to avoid the pain of lengthy scrolling

1> List = lists:seq(1, 35).

```
[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,  
26,27,28,29|...]
```

- Print the entire term with `rp()`

2> rp(List).

```
[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,2  
0,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35]  
ok
```



Job Control

- Ctrl-g gets you to the job control menu
- Start, stop, and switch shells

User switch command

--> h

c [nn]

- connect to job

i [nn]

- interrupt job

k [nn]

- kill job

j

- list all jobs

s [shell]

- start local shell

r [node [shell]]

- start remote shell

q

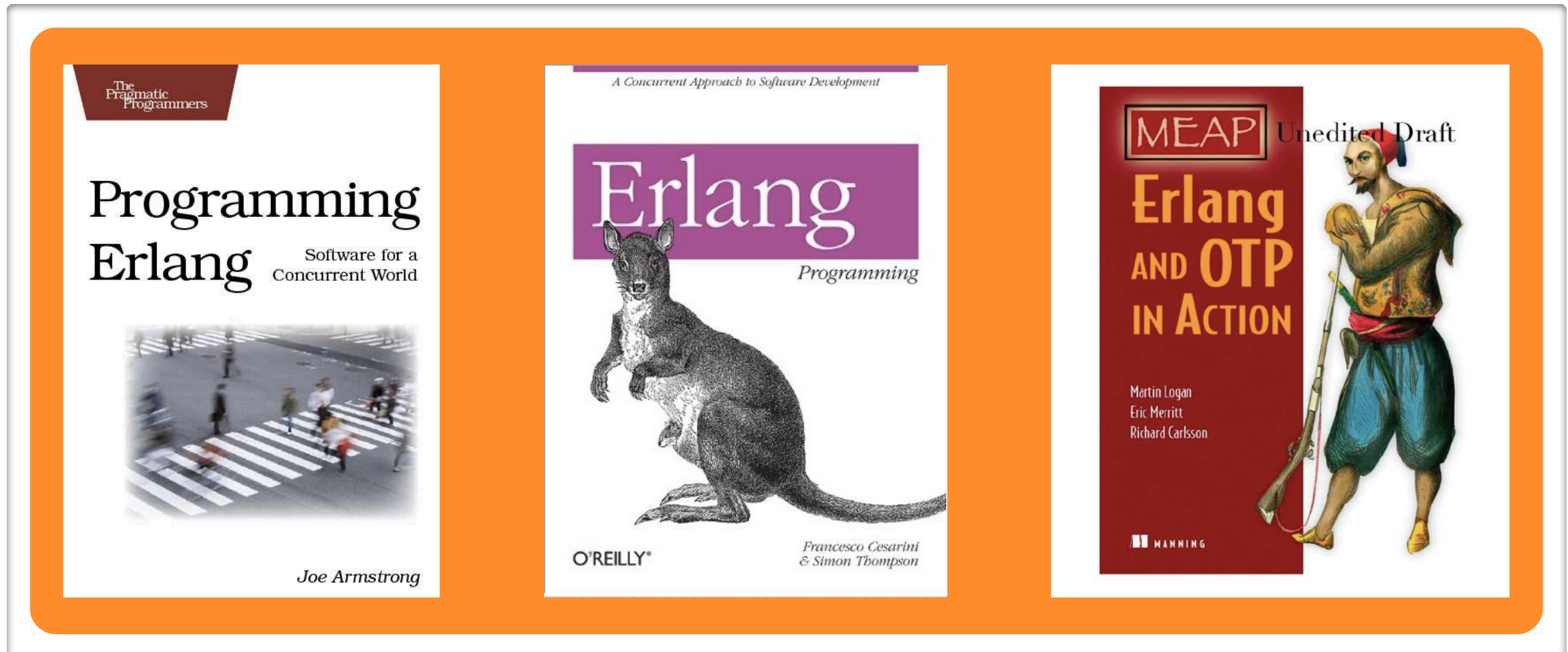
- quit erlang

? | h

- this message



For More Info



Also: <http://learnyouosomeerlang.com/>

An Erlang Web Server

- Seems like lots of newcomers to Erlang learn the language by writing a web server
- Seems to result in a lot of unneeded web servers being open sourced
- Let's write SWS ("simple web server") to see how easy it is



An Erlang Web Server

- See file `sws.erl` in the `erlang_examples` directory



Start SWS

```
-module(sws).  
-export([start/1, start/2]).
```



Start SWS

```
-module(sws).  
-export([start/1, start/2]).
```

```
start(Handler) ->  
    start(Handler, 12345).
```



Start SWS

```
-module(sws).  
-export([start/1, start/2]).
```

```
start(Handler) ->  
    start(Handler, 12345).
```

```
start(Handler, Port) ->  
    {ok, LS} = gen_tcp:listen(Port, [{reuseaddr,true},binary,  
                                    {backlog,1024}]),
```



Start SWS

```
-module(sws).  
-export([start/1, start/2]).
```

```
start(Handler) ->  
    start(Handler, 12345).
```

```
start(Handler, Port) ->  
    {ok, LS} = gen_tcp:listen(Port, [{reuseaddr,true},binary,  
                                     {backlog,1024}]),  
    spawn(fun() -> accept(LS, Handler) end),
```



Start SWS

```
-module(sws).  
-export([start/1, start/2]).
```

```
start(Handler) ->  
    start(Handler, 12345).
```

```
start(Handler, Port) ->  
    {ok, LS} = gen_tcp:listen(Port, [{reuseaddr,true},binary,  
                                     {backlog,1024}]),  
    spawn(fun() -> accept(LS, Handler) end),  
    receive stop -> gen_tcp:close(LS) end.
```



Start SWS

```
-module(sws).  
-export([start/1, start/2]).
```

```
start(Handler) ->  
    start(Handler, 12345).
```

```
start(Handler, Port) ->  
    {ok, LS} = gen_tcp:listen(Port, [{reuseaddr,true},binary,  
                                     {backlog,1024}]),  
    spawn(fun() -> accept(LS, Handler) end),  
    receive stop -> gen_tcp:close(LS) end.
```



Accept Connections

```
accept(LS, Handler) ->  
    {ok, S} = gen_tcp:accept(LS),
```



Accept Connections

```
accept(LS, Handler) ->  
    {ok, S} = gen_tcp:accept(LS),  
    ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, http}],
```



Accept Connections

```
accept(LS, Handler) ->  
  {ok, S} = gen_tcp:accept(LS),  
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, http}]),  
  spawn(fun() -> accept(LS, Handler) end),
```



Accept Connections

```
accept(LS, Handler) ->  
  {ok, S} = gen_tcp:accept(LS),  
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, http}],  
    spawn(fun() -> accept(LS, Handler) end),  
  serve(S, Handler, [{headers, []}])).
```



Accept Connections

```
accept(LS, Handler) ->  
  {ok, S} = gen_tcp:accept(LS),  
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, http_bin}]),  
  spawn(fun() -> accept(LS, Handler) end),  
  serve(S, Handler, [{headers, []}]).
```



Serving Connections

```
serve(S, Handler, Req) ->  
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{active, once}]),  
  HttpMsg = receive  
    {http, S, Msg} -> Msg;  
    _ -> gen_tcp:close(S)  
  end,  
  case HttpMsg of  
    ...  
  end.
```



HTTP Request Line

`{http_request, M, {abs_path, Uri}, Vsn} ->`



HTTP Request Line

`{http_request, M, {abs_path, Uri}, Vsn} ->`
`NReq = [{method, M},{uri, Uri},{version, Vsn}|Req],`



HTTP Request Line

```
{http_request, M, {abs_path, Uri}, Vsn} ->  
  NReq = [{method, M},{uri, Uri},{version, Vsn}|Req],  
  serve(S, Handler, NReq);
```



HTTP Request Line

```
{http_request, M, {abs_path, Uri}, Vsn} ->  
  NReq = [{method, M}, {uri, Uri}, {version, Vsn}|Req],  
  serve(S, Handler, NReq);
```



HTTP Headers

```
{http_header, _, Hdr, _, Val} ->  
  {headers, Hdrs} = lists:keyfind(headers, 1, Req),  
  serve(S, Handler, lists:keystore(headers, 1, Req,  
                                     {headers, [{Hdr,Val}|Hdrs]}));
```



Dispatch Request

```
http_eoh ->  
    ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, raw}]),
```



Dispatch Request

```
http_eoh ->  
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, raw}]),  
  {Status, Hdrs, Resp} = try Handler(S, Req)  
    catch _:_ -> {500, [], <<>>} end,
```



Dispatch Request

```
http_eoh ->  
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, raw}]),  
  {Status, Hdrs, Resp} = try Handler(S, Req)  
    catch _:_ -> {500, [], <<>>} end,  
  ok = gen_tcp:send(S, [
```



Dispatch Request

http_eoh ->

```
ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, raw}]),  
{Status, Hdrs, Resp} = try Handler(S, Req)  
    catch _:_ -> {500, [], <<>>} end,  
ok = gen_tcp:send(S, [  
    "HTTP/1.0 ", integer_to_list(Status), "\r\n",
```



Dispatch Request

```
http_eoh ->
```

```
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, raw}]),  
  {Status, Hdrs, Resp} = try Handler(S, Req)  
    catch _:_ -> {500, [], <<>>} end,  
  ok = gen_tcp:send(S, [  
    "HTTP/1.0 ", integer_to_list(Status), "\r\n",  
    [[H, ": ", V, "\r\n"] || {H,V} <- Hdrs],
```



Dispatch Request

```
http_eoh ->  
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, raw}]),  
  {Status, Hdrs, Resp} = try Handler(S, Req)  
    catch _:_ -> {500, [], <<>>} end,  
  ok = gen_tcp:send(S, [  
    "HTTP/1.0 ", integer_to_list(Status), "\r\n",  
    [[H, ": ", V, "\r\n"] || {H,V} <- Hdrs],  
    "\r\n", Resp)],
```



Dispatch Request

```
http_eoh ->  
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, raw}]),  
  {Status, Hdrs, Resp} = try Handler(S, Req)  
    catch _:_ -> {500, [], <<>>} end,  
  ok = gen_tcp:send(S, [  
    "HTTP/1.0 ", integer_to_list(Status), "\r\n",  
    [[H, ": ", V, "\r\n"] || {H,V} <- Hdrs],  
    "\r\n", Resp]),  
  gen_tcp:close(S);
```



Dispatch Request

```
http_eoh ->
  ok = inet:setopts(S, [{packet, raw}]),
  {Status, Hdrs, Resp} = try Handler(S, Req)
    catch _:_ -> {500, [], <<>>} end,
  ok = gen_tcp:send(S, [
    "HTTP/1.0 ", integer_to_list(Status), "\r\n",
    [[H, ": ", V, "\r\n"] || {H,V} <- Hdrs],
    "\r\n", Resp]),
  gen_tcp:close(S);
```



37 Readable LOC



Try It

```
$ erlc sws.erl
```

```
$ erl
```

```
Erlang R15B02 (erts-5.9.2) ...
```

```
Eshell V5.9.2 (abort with ^G)
```

```
1> Fun = fun(S, Req) -> ... end.
```

```
2> P = spawn(sws, start, [Fun]).
```

...use curl or browser to send requests...

```
3> P ! stop.
```





Mochiweb



Quick Glance

- Mochiweb is a popular bare-bones web server created by Bob Ippolito
- Originally created for serving ads for Mochi Media, Bob's startup
- Typically used to implement web services
 - supports full access to HTTP
 - great JSON support
 - no templates, etc.



Installation

make

- This builds Mochiweb itself
- To generate an application:

make app PROJECT=<project name>



Run the Server

- Let's say the project name is `cufp_mw`:

```
make app PROJECT=cufp_mw  
cd ../cufp_mw  
make  
./start-dev.sh
```

- This starts a development server with an Erlang console
- Mochiweb will automatically reload compiled files



Project Contents

```
$ ls -1F
```

Makefile	
deps/	# rebar dependencies
ebin/	# compiled Erlang
priv/	# static web files
rebar*	# rebar executable
rebar.config	
src/	# source files
start-dev.sh*	# server start script

Document Root

- Access

`http://localhost:8080`

- By default this serves the file `priv/www/index.html`



Startup Code

- See `src/cufp_mw_web.erl`



Startup Code

- See `src/cufp_mw_web.erl`

```
start(Options) ->  
    {DocRoot, Options1} =  
        get_option(docroot, Options),
```



Startup Code

- See `src/cufp_mw_web.erl`

```
start(Options) ->  
    {DocRoot, Options1} =  
        get_option(docroot, Options),  
    Loop = fun(Req) ->  
        ?MODULE:loop(Req, DocRoot)  
    end,
```



Startup Code

- See `src/cufp_mw_web.erl`

```
start(Options) ->
    {DocRoot, Options1} =
        get_option(docroot, Options),
    Loop = fun(Req) ->
        ?MODULE:loop(Req, DocRoot)
    end,
    mochiweb_http:start([name, ?MODULE},
        {loop, Loop} | Options1]).
```



Startup Code

- See `src/cufp_mw_web.erl`

```
start(Options) ->
    {DocRoot, Options1} =
        get_option(docroot, Options),
    Loop = fun(Req) ->
        ?MODULE:loop(Req, DocRoot)
    end,
    mochiweb_http:start([name, ?MODULE},
        {loop, Loop} | Options1]).
```



Default Request Loop

`loop(Req, DocRoot) ->`



Default Request Loop

```
loop(Req, DocRoot) ->  
  "/" ++ Path = Req:get(path),
```



Default Request Loop

```
loop(Req, DocRoot) ->  
  "/" ++ Path = Req:get(path),  
  try  
    case Req:get(method) of
```



Default Request Loop

```
loop(Req, DocRoot) ->  
  "/" ++ Path = Req:get(path),  
  try  
    case Req:get(method) of  
      Method when Method == 'GET'; Method == 'HEAD' ->  
        case Path of  
          _ ->  
            Req:serve_file(Path, DocRoot)  
        end;  
  end;
```



Default Request Loop

```
loop(Req, DocRoot) ->
  "/" ++ Path = Req:get(path),
  try
    case Req:get(method) of
      Method when Method == 'GET'; Method == 'HEAD' ->
        case Path of
          _ ->
            Req:serve_file(Path, DocRoot)
        end;
      'POST' ->
        case Path of
          _ ->
            Req:not_found()
        end;
    end;
```



Default Request Loop

```
loop(Req, DocRoot) ->
  "/" ++ Path = Req:get(path),
  try
    case Req:get(method) of
      Method when Method == 'GET'; Method == 'HEAD' ->
        case Path of
          _ ->
            Req:serve_file(Path, DocRoot)
        end;
      'POST' ->
        case Path of
          _ ->
            Req:not_found()
        end;
      _ ->
        Req:respond({501, [], []})
    end
  end
  ...
```



Default Request Loop

```
loop(Req, DocRoot) ->
  "/" ++ Path = Req:get(path),
  try
    case Req:get(method) of
      Method when Method == 'GET'; Method == 'HEAD' ->
        case Path of
          _ ->
            Req:serve_file(Path, DocRoot)
        end;
      'POST' ->
        case Path of
          _ ->
            Req:not_found()
        end;
      _ ->
        Req:respond({501, [], []})
    end
  end
  ...
```



Handling a New Path

- You can modify the `cuftp_mw_web:loop/2` function to add handling for specific paths
- Let's add a `hello_world` path



hello_world Path

```
case Req:get(method) of
  Method when Method == 'GET'; Method == 'HEAD' ->
    case Path of
      _ ->
        Req:serve_file(Path, DocRoot)
    end;
```



hello_world Path

```
case Req:get(method) of
  Method when Method == 'GET'; Method == 'HEAD' ->
    case Path of
      "hello_world" ->
        Req:respond({200,
                      [{"Content-Type", "text/plain"}],
                      "Hello, World!"});
      _ ->
        Req:serve_file(Path, DocRoot)
    end;
```



hello_world Access

- Copy `cufp_mw_web1.erl` to `cufp_mw/src/cufp_mw_web.erl` and recompile

- Access

`http://localhost:8080/hello_world`

- You'll see the "Hello, World!" message



Request API

- This API gives you access to everything arriving in the client HTTP request
- It also allows you to form the HTTP response



Examples

```
loop(Req, DocRoot) ->
  "/" ++ Path = Req:get(path),
  try
    case Req:get(method) of
      Method when Method == 'GET'; Method == 'HEAD' ->
        case Path of
          _ ->
            Req:serve_file(Path, DocRoot)
          end;
        'POST' ->
          case Path of
            _ ->
              Req:not_found()
            end;
          _ ->
            Req:respond({501, [], []})
          end
        end
    ...
```



Req:get/1

- Req:get/1 lets you retrieve fields of the request
- Fields are:
 - socket
 - protocol scheme
 - method
 - raw path
 - protocol version
 - headers
 - peer
 - path
 - body length
 - range



Headers and Cookies

- `Req:get_header_value/1` gets the value of the specified header
- `Req:get_cookie_value/1` gets the value of the specified cookie
- Both return the atom `'undefined'` if requested item not present



Query Strings

- `Req:parse_qs/0` parses any query string portion of the URL and returns a property list
- Use the Erlang lists module `"key*"` functions or the `proplists` module to handle the result



Query Strings

- Previously we added this code:

```
case Req:get(method) of
  Method when Method == 'GET'; Method == 'HEAD' ->
    case Path of
      "hello_world" ->
        Req:respond({200,
                     [{"Content-Type", "text/plain"}],
                     "Hello, World!});
      _ ->
        Req:serve_file(Path, DocRoot)
    end;
```



Query Strings

- Let's add query strings:

"hello_world" ->

```
Q = Req:parse_qs(),  
Msg = proplists:get_value(  
    "message", Q, "Hello, World!"),  
Req:respond({200,  
    [{"Content-Type", "text/plain"}],  
    Msg});
```



Query Strings

- Copy `cufp_mw_web2.erl` to `cufp_mw/src/cufp_mw_web.erl` and recompile
- With this new code deployed, access

`http://localhost:8080/hello_world?
message=Hello%20CUFP`

to see the message change



POSTs

- POST requests have bodies that you must retrieve
- Bodies can have different content types
- `Req:parse_post()` will handle bodies of MIME type

`application/x-www-form-urlencoded`



POSTs

- For GET on `hello_world`, let's return some HTML
- Copy `cuftp_mw_web3.erl` to `cuftp_mw/src/cuftp_mw_web.erl` to change the "hello" handler to:

`Req:serve_file("message.html", DocRoot);`
- This presents a field you can fill in with a message
- If you fill in a message and hit the Submit button, what do you get? Why?



POSTs

- We need to handle a POST to /hello_world. In the POST section of the code, add:

```
case Path of
  "hello_world" ->
    Post = Req:parse_post(),
    Msg = proplists:get_value(
      "message", Post, "Hello, World!"),
    Req:respond({200,
      [{"Content-Type", "text/plain"}],
      Msg});
```

- You can just copy cufp_mw_web4.erl to cufp_mw/src/cufp_mw_web.erl and recompile

File Upload

- File upload is essentially a POST
- Data has the MIME type "multipart/form-data"
- The module `mochiweb_multipart` helps handle this
- Copy `cufp_mw_web5.erl` to `cufp_mw/src/cufp_mw_web.erl` and recompile



GET Handler

```
"upload" ->  
  Req:serve_file("upload.html", DocRoot);
```



POST Handler

```
"upload" ->  
  mochiweb_multipart:parse_form(  
    Req,
```



POST Handler

```
"upload" ->  
  mochiweb_multipart:parse_form(  
    Req,  
    fun(Nm0, Type) ->  
  
    end),
```



POST Handler

```
"upload" ->  
  mochiweb_multipart:parse_form(  
    Req,  
    fun(Nm0, Type) ->  
      Nm = filename:join("/tmp", Nm0),  
  
    end),
```



POST Handler

```
"upload" ->  
  mochiweb_multipart:parse_form(  
    Req,  
    fun(Nm0, Type) ->  
      Nm = filename:join("/tmp", Nm0),  
      {ok, F} = file:open(Nm, [raw, write]),  
  
    end),
```



POST Handler

```
"upload" ->  
  mochiweb_multipart:parse_form(  
    Req,  
    fun(Nm0, Type) ->  
      Nm = filename:join("/tmp", Nm0),  
      {ok, F} = file:open(Nm, [raw, write]),  
      chunk_handler(Nm, Type, F)  
    end),
```



POST Handler

```
"upload" ->  
  mochiweb_multipart:parse_form(  
    Req,  
    fun(Nm0, Type) ->  
      Nm = filename:join("/tmp", Nm0),  
      {ok, F} = file:open(Nm, [raw, write]),  
      chunk_handler(Nm, Type, F)  
    end),  
    Req:ok({"text/plain", "Upload OK"});
```



POST Handler

```
"upload" ->  
  mochiweb_multipart:parse_form(  
    Req,  
    fun(Nm0, Type) ->  
      Nm = filename:join("/tmp", Nm0),  
      {ok, F} = file:open(Nm, [raw, write]),  
      chunk_handler(Nm, Type, F)  
    end),  
    Req:ok({"text/plain", "Upload OK"});
```



chunk_handler/3

`chunk_handler(Filename, ContentType, File) ->`



chunk_handler/3

chunk_handler(Filename, ContentType, File) ->
fun(Chunk) ->

end.



chunk_handler/3

```
chunk_handler(Filename, ContentType, File) ->  
  fun(Chunk) ->  
    case Chunk of  
      eof ->  
        ok = file:close(File),  
        {Filename, ContentType};  
    end  
  end.  
end.
```



chunk_handler/3

```
chunk_handler(Filename, ContentType, File) ->  
  fun(Chunk) ->  
    case Chunk of  
      eof ->  
        ok = file:close(File),  
        {Filename, ContentType};  
      _ ->  
        ok = file:write(File, Chunk),  
        chunk_handler(Filename, ContentType, File)  
    end  
  end.  
end.
```



chunk_handler/3

```
chunk_handler(Filename, ContentType, File) ->  
  fun(Chunk) ->  
    case Chunk of  
      eof ->  
        ok = file:close(File),  
        {Filename, ContentType};  
      _ ->  
        ok = file:write(File, Chunk),  
        chunk_handler(Filename, ContentType, File)  
    end  
  end.  
end.
```



POST Handler Caveats

- We're not really handling errors
- This doesn't allow multiple users to upload the same file at the same time
- write to temporary files to allow that



And More

- Receiving and sending directly from/to socket
- JSON encoding and decoding
- UTF-8 handling
- Unfortunately not well documented
- See <https://github.com/mochi/mochiweb>





Webmachine

Quick Glance

- WebMachine essentially models HTTP — it's "shaped like the Web"
- Originally inspired by Alan Dean's "HTTP header status diagram" (we'll see this later)
- Helps build web applications that conform to and take advantage of HTTP
- Runs on top of Mochiweb



Installation

make

- This builds WebMachine itself
- To generate an application:

```
scripts/new_webmachine.sh \  
    <app-name> [destination-dir]
```



Run the Server

- Let's say the project name is `cufp_wm`:

```
scripts/new_webmachine.sh cufp_wm ..  
cd ../cufp_wm  
make  
./start.sh
```

- This starts a development server with an Erlang console, with Mochiweb's auto-reloading of recompiled modules in effect



Project Contents

\$ ls -1F

Makefile	
README	# helpful instructions
deps/	# rebar dependencies
ebin/	# compiled Erlang
priv/	# static web files
rebar*	# rebar executable
rebar.config	
src/	# source files
start.sh*	# server start script

Access the Server

- Start the server and access

`http://localhost:8000`

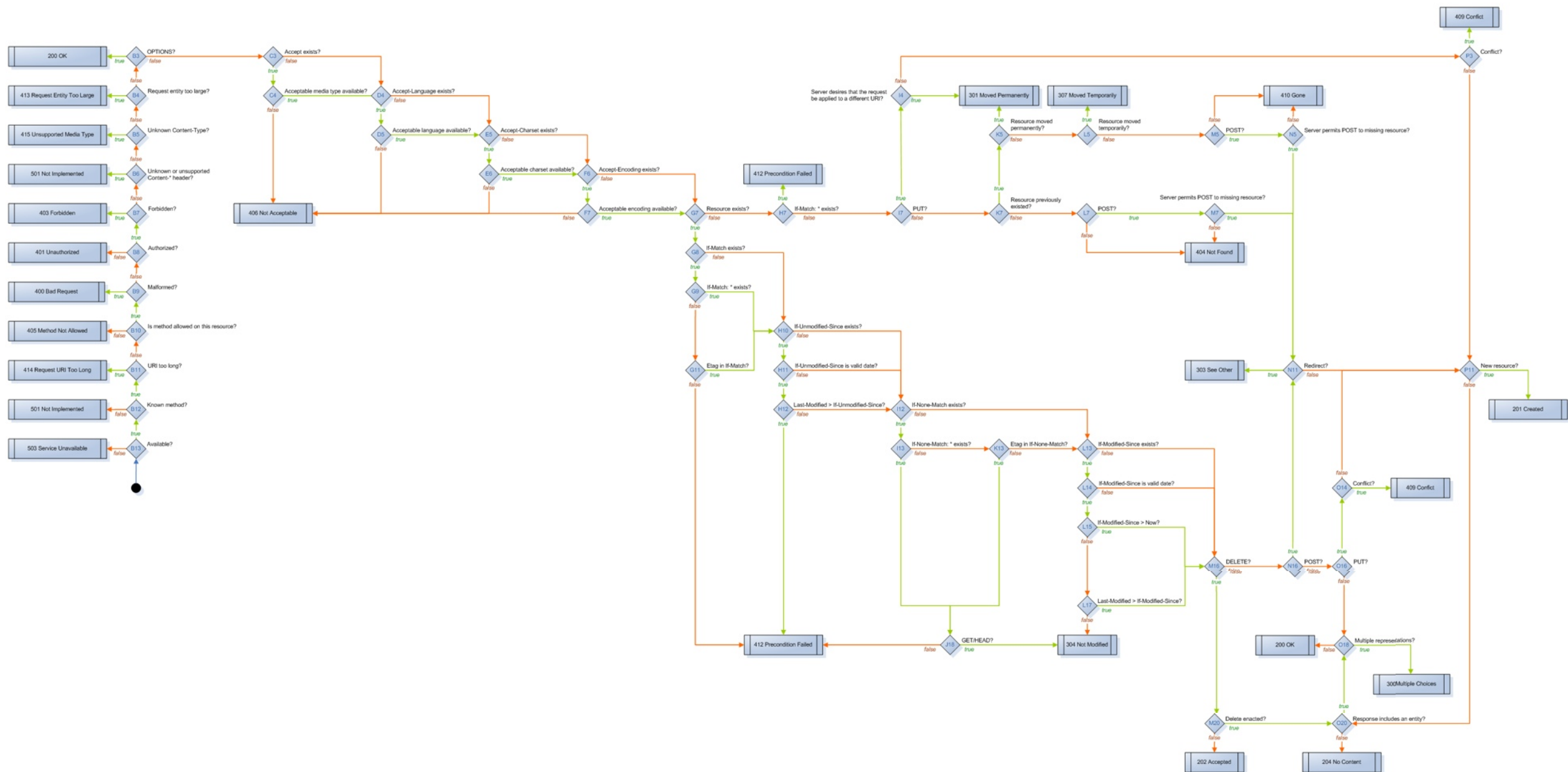
- You'll see a "Hello, new world" message



Fundamentals

- Dispatcher: this is how WebMachine decides how to dispatch requests
 - you supply dispatch rules for your applications
- Resources: you write these to represent your web resources
- Decision Core: basically, the HTTP flowchart





HTTP is complicated.

(see <http://webmachine.basho.com/Webmachine-Diagram.html> or
file [www/images/http-headers-status-v3.png](#))



basho

Dispatch Map

- Take a look at file

`priv/dispatch.conf`

- Generating a project creates this file with a single dispatching rule:

`{[], cuftp_wm_resource, []}.`



Dispatch Map Entry

{<pathspec>, <resource_module>, <args>}

- <pathspec> matches a URL path
- <resource_module> handles the request
- <args> are passed to
<resource_module:init>/1 function before
request dispatch



Pathspecs

- URL paths are separated at "/" characters and then matched against the pathspec of each map entry
- A pathspec is a list of pathterms
- A pathterm is one of
 - string
 - atom
 - '*' (an asterisk as an Erlang atom)



Pathterms

- A string pathterm specifies a literal URL path segment
- An atom pathterm matches a single path segment
- The '*' matches zero or more path segments
- The '*' can appear only at the end of a pathspec



wrq Module

- The wrq module provides access to request and response data, including dispatch information
- wrq:path/1 returns the URL path
- wrq:disp_path/1 returns any path matching '*'
- wrq:path_info/1 returns a dictionary of atoms and their matches
- wrq:path_tokens/1 returns disp_path separated by "/"



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

`{"a", some_resource, []}`

`http://myhost/a` → match!

`any other URL` → no match

If no patterns match, then 404 Not Found.



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

`{ ["a"], some_resource, [] }`

/a

`[]`

`" /a "`

`[]`

`[]`

`wrq:disp_path`

`wrq:path`

`wrq:path_info`

`wrq:path_tokens`



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

`{ ["a"], some_resource, [] }`

/a

`[]`

`" /a "`

`[]`

`[]`

`wrq:disp_path`

`wrq:path`

`wrq:path_info`

`wrq:path_tokens`



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

`{ ["a" , some_resource, [] ] }`

/a

[]
"/a"

[]

[]

wrq:disp_path

wrq:path

wrq:path_info

wrq:path_tokens



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

```
{["a", '*'], some_resource, []}
```

/a

(binds the remaining path)

[]

" /a "

[]

[]

wrq:disp_path

wrq:path

wrq:path_info

wrq:path_tokens



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

`{["a", '*'], some_resource, []}`

/a/b/c

"b/c"
"/a/b/c"
[]
["b", "c"]

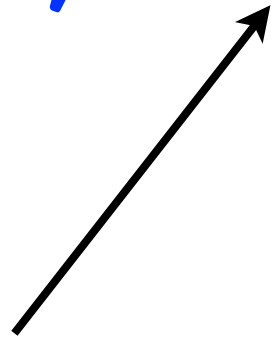
wrq:disp_path
wrq:path
wrq:path_info
wrq:path_tokens



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

`{"a", foo}, some_resource, []`

/a/b/c → 404



(name-binds a path segment)

"b/c"

"/a/b/c"

[]

["b", "c"]

wrq:disp_path

wrq:path

wrq:path_info

wrq:path_tokens



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

`{["a", foo], some_resource, []}`

/a/b

```
      []  
    " /a/b"  
[ {foo, "b"} ]  
      []
```

```
wrq:disp_path  
wrq:path  
wrq:path_info  
wrq:path_tokens
```



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

```
{["a", foo some_resource, []]}
```

/a/b

```
    []  
    " /a/b"  
[ {foo, "b"} ]  
    []
```

```
wrq:disp_path  
wrq:path  
wrq:path_info  
wrq:path_tokens
```



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

```
{["a", foo, '*'], some_resource, []}
```

/a/b

```
      []  
    " /a/b"  
[ {foo, "b"} ]  
      []
```

```
wrq:disp_path  
wrq:path  
wrq:path_info  
wrq:path_tokens
```



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

```
{["a", foo, '*'], some_resource, []}
```

/a/b/c/d

"c/d"

"/a/b/c/d"

[{foo, "b"}]

["c", "d"]

wrq:disp_path

wrq:path

wrq:path_info

wrq:path_tokens



URL Dispatching = Pattern Matching

```
{["a", foo, '*'], some_resource, []}
```

/a/b/c/d

"c/d"

"/a/b/c/d"

[{foo, "b"}]

["c", "d"]

wrq:disp_path

wrq:path

wrq:path_info

wrq:path_tokens



Query Strings

`/a/b/c/d?user=steve&id=123`

- Access query string values using

`wrq:get_qs_value(QS, ReqData)`

- `wrq:get_qs_value("user", ReqData)`
would return "steve"



Resources

- Take a look at the file `src/cufp_wm_resource.erl`
- It contains an `init/1` function and a single resource function



cufp_wm_resource.erl

```
-module(cufp_wm_resource).  
-export([init/1, to_html/2]).  
-include_lib("webmachine/include/webmachine.hrl").
```



cufp_wm_resource.erl

```
-module(cufp_wm_resource).  
-export([init/1, to_html/2]).  
-include_lib("webmachine/include/webmachine.hrl").
```

```
init([]) -> {ok, undefined}.
```



cufp_wm_resource.erl

```
-module(cufp_wm_resource).  
-export([init/1, to_html/2]).  
-include_lib("webmachine/include/webmachine.hrl").
```

```
init([]) -> {ok, undefined}.
```

```
to_html(ReqData, State) ->  
    {"<html><body>Hello, new world</body></html>",  
     ReqData, State}.
```



cufp_wm_resource.erl

```
-module(cufp_wm_resource).  
-export([init/1, to_html/2]).  
-include_lib("webmachine/include/webmachine.hrl").
```

```
init([]) -> {ok, undefined}.
```

```
to_html(ReqData, State) ->  
    {"<html><body>Hello, new world</body></html>",  
     ReqData, State}.
```



init/1 and Context

- `init/1` returns `Context`, which is app-specific request state
- WM doesn't touch the `Context` object, just passes it along through resource functions
- It's the atom `'undefined'` for `cufp_wm_resource.erl`



to_html/2

- WM Decision Core examines the request Accept header when you request the `cuftp_wm "/"` resource
- Determines the client can take an HTML representation as a response
- Calls `to_html/2` on the target resource module to get the HTML response



to_html/2



to_html/2

- But if the client requests something other than HTML?

```
$ curl -D /dev/tty -H 'Accept: text/plain' \  
http://localhost:8000
```

HTTP/1.1 406 Not Acceptable

Server: MochiWeb/1.1 WebMachine/1.9.0

Date: Mon, 10 Sep 2012 00:24:38 GMT

Content-Length: 0

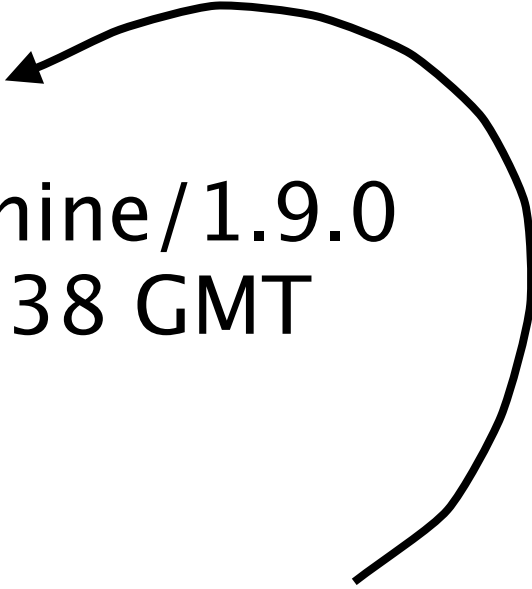


to_html/2

- But if the client requests something other than HTML?

```
$ curl -D /dev/tty -H 'Accept: text/plain' \  
http://localhost:8000
```

HTTP/1.1 406 Not Acceptable
Server: MochiWeb/1.1 WebMachine/1.9.0
Date: Mon, 10 Sep 2012 00:24:38 GMT
Content-Length: 0



- No acceptable representation available!



Content Types Provided

- Resources define what content types they can provide with the `content_types_provided/2` resource function
- This defaults to "text/html" mapping to function `to_html/2`



Allowing text/plain

- Add content_types_provided/2 to cufp_wm_resource:

```
content_types_provided(ReqData, State) ->  
  {[{"text/html", to_html},  
    {"text/plain", to_text}],  
   ReqData, State}.
```

- Copy cufp_wm_resource1.erl to cufp_wm/src/cufp_wm_resource.erl and recompile



Allowing text/plain

- Now add the to_text/2 resource function:

```
to_text(ReqData, State) ->  
    {"Hello, new world", ReqData, State}.
```



Now It Works

```
$ curl -D /dev/tty -H 'Accept: text/plain' \  
http://localhost:8000
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
Vary: Accept
```

```
Server: MochiWeb/1.1 WebMachine/1.9.0
```

```
Date: Mon, 10 Sep 2012 00:44:48 GMT
```

```
Content-Type: text/plain
```

```
Content-Length: 16
```

```
Hello, new world
```



Resource Functions

- WM provides over 30 resource functions
- All have the same form:

$f(\text{ReqData}, \text{State}) \rightarrow \{\text{RetV}, \text{ReqData}, \text{State}\}.$

function
behavior

+

request/
response
data

+

request
state



basho

Resource Functions

```
    to_html(ReqData, State) -> {Body, ReqData, State}.
generate_etag(ReqData, State) -> {ETag, ReqData, State}.
last_modified(ReqData, State) -> {Time, ReqData, State}.
resource_exists(ReqData, State) -> {bool, ReqData, State}.
is_authorized(ReqData, State) -> {bool, ReqData, State}.
...

```

- WM's resource functions all have reasonable defaults
- App resources supply resource functions wherever they need to supply non-default behavior



Request and Response Bodies

- The wrq module also provides functions for dealing with request and response bodies
- Apps can deal with bodies as
 - binaries, or
 - streamed chunks of data



wrq:req_body/1

- wrq:req_body/1 returns incoming request body as binary



wrq:stream_req_body/2

- wrq:stream_req_body/2 returns incoming request body as chunks of data in {binary, Next} pairs
- if Next == done, end
- otherwise, Next is a fun/0, so call it to get the next chunk



wrq:set_resp_body/2

- wrq:set_resp_body/2 sets the response body.
- It can take an iolist as a whole body
- Or a {stream, Next} pair where Next is either
 - {iolist, fun/0}, where fun/0 returns another Next
 - {iolist, done} to signal last chunk



Body Example

- Copy `cufp_wm_resource2.erl` to `cufp_wm/src/cufp_wm_resource.erl` and recompile
 - First, the top of the file is unsurprising:
 - `-module(cufp_wm_resource).`
 - `-export([init/1, allowed_methods/2, process_post/2]).`
 - `-include_lib("webmachine/include/webmachine.hrl").`
- `init([]) -> {ok, undefined}.`

Allowing POST

- Next, we have to allow the POST HTTP method with this resource function:

```
allowed_methods(ReqData, State) ->  
    {'POST', ReqData, State}.
```



Processing POST

- POSTs are handled by the `process_post/2` resource function



Processing POST

`process_post(ReqData, State) ->`



Processing POST

```
process_post(ReqData, State) ->  
    Body0 = wrq:stream_req_body(ReqData, 3),
```



Processing POST

```
process_post(ReqData, State) ->  
    Body0 = wrq:stream_req_body(ReqData, 3),  
    Body = get_streamed_body(Body0, []),
```



Processing POST

```
process_post(ReqData, State) ->  
    Body0 = wrq:stream_req_body(ReqData, 3),  
    Body = get_streamed_body(Body0, []),  
    RespBody = send_streamed_body(Body,4),
```



Processing POST

```
process_post(ReqData, State) ->  
    Body0 = wrq:stream_req_body(ReqData, 3),  
    Body = get_streamed_body(Body0, []),  
    RespBody = send_streamed_body(Body, 4),  
    NewReqData = wrq:set_resp_body(  
        {stream, RespBody}, ReqData),
```



Processing POST

```
process_post(ReqData, State) ->  
  Body0 = wrq:stream_req_body(ReqData, 3),  
  Body = get_streamed_body(Body0, []),  
  RespBody = send_streamed_body(Body, 4),  
  NewReqData = wrq:set_resp_body(  
    {stream, RespBody}, ReqData),  
  {true, NewReqData, State}.
```



Processing POST

```
process_post(ReqData, State) ->  
    Body0 = wrq:stream_req_body(ReqData, 3),  
    Body = get_streamed_body(Body0, []),  
    RespBody = send_streamed_body(Body,4),  
    NewReqData = wrq:set_resp_body(  
        {stream, RespBody}, ReqData),  
    {true, NewReqData, State}.
```



get_streamed_body/2

```
get_streamed_body({Hunk,done},Acc) ->  
  io:format("RECEIVED ~p~n",[Hunk]),  
  iolist_to_binary(lists:reverse([Hunk|Acc]));
```



get_streamed_body/2

```
get_streamed_body({Hunk,done},Acc) ->  
  io:format("RECEIVED ~p~n",[Hunk]),  
  iolist_to_binary(lists:reverse([Hunk|Acc]));
```

```
get_streamed_body({Hunk,Next},Acc) ->  
  io:format("RECEIVED ~p~n",[Hunk]),  
  get_streamed_body(Next(),[Hunk|Acc]).
```



send_streamed_body/2

send_streamed_body(Body, Max) ->
case Body of

end.



send_streamed_body/2

```
send_streamed_body(Body, Max) ->  
  case Body of  
    <<Hunk:Max/binary, Rest/binary>> ->  
      io:format("SENT ~p~n",[Hunk]),
```

```
end.
```



send_streamed_body/2

```
send_streamed_body(Body, Max) ->  
  case Body of  
    <<Hunk:Max/binary, Rest/binary>> ->  
      io:format("SENT ~p~n",[Hunk]),  
      F = fun() ->  
        send_streamed_body(Rest,Max)  
      end,  
  
  end.  
  
end.
```



send_streamed_body/2

```
send_streamed_body(Body, Max) ->  
  case Body of  
    <<Hunk:Max/binary, Rest/binary>> ->  
      io:format("SENT ~p~n",[Hunk]),  
      F = fun() ->  
          send_streamed_body(Rest,Max)  
        end,  
      {Hunk, F};  
  
  end.
```



send_streamed_body/2

```
send_streamed_body(Body, Max) ->
  case Body of
    <<Hunk:Max/binary, Rest/binary>> ->
      io:format("SENT ~p~n",[Hunk]),
      F = fun() ->
        send_streamed_body(Rest,Max)
      end,
      {Hunk, F};
    _ ->
      io:format("SENT ~p~n",[Body]),
      {Body, done}
  end.
```



send_streamed_body/2

```
send_streamed_body(Body, Max) ->
  case Body of
    <<Hunk:Max/binary, Rest/binary>> ->
      io:format("SENT ~p~n",[Hunk]),
      F = fun() ->
        send_streamed_body(Rest,Max)
      end,
      {Hunk, F};
    _ ->
      io:format("SENT ~p~n",[Body]),
      {Body, done}
  end.
```



Try It

```
$ curl -D /dev/tty -d 1234567890 \  
http://localhost:8000/
```

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Transfer-Encoding: chunked

Server: MochiWeb/1.1 WebMachine/1.9.0

Date: Mon, 10 Sep 2012 02:25:24 GMT

Content-Type: text/html

1234567890



Printed in the Console

```
RECEIVED <<"123">>  
RECEIVED <<"456">>  
RECEIVED <<"789">>  
RECEIVED <<"0">>  
SENT <<"1234">>  
SENT <<"5678">>  
SENT <<"90">>
```



WebMachine Trace

- Go back to `src/cufp_wm_resource.erl` and change `init/1` to:

`init([]) -> {{trace, "/tmp"}, undefined}.`

- Or copy `cufp_wm_resource3.erl` to `cufp_wm/src/cufp_wm_resource.erl` and recompile



WebMachine trace

- Go to the WM console and type:

```
wmtrace_resource:add_dispatch_rule("wmtrace", "/tmp").
```

- Now again access

```
http://localhost:8000
```



WebMachine Trace

- Now visit

`http://localhost:8000/wmtrace`

- It shows the path through the HTTP flowchart your request took
- Mousing over certain coordinates in the path show which resource functions were called at that point



More Examples

- See the Wriaki example for a bigger WebMachine example
- <https://github.com/basho/wriaki>
- <http://steve.vinoski.net/blog/internet-computing-columns/#2012-1>
- Also take a look at Riak, which uses WebMachine for its HTTP interface
- <https://github.com/basho/riak>



Summary

- WebMachine is a framework shaped like HTTP
- Excellent for building Web services conforming to HTTP
- Helpful for RESTful Web services
- Very different from typical web frameworks: no templates, not focused on client UI





Yaws



Quick Glance

- Yaws is a full-feature web server, offering quite a few features
- Can be used embedded or stand-alone
- It's an 11 year old open source project created by Claes "Klacke" Wikström
- Still under active development/maintenance
- Klacke still works on it, I became a committer in 2008, and Christopher Faulet became a committer in 2012



Installation

rebar compile

- This builds a self-contained server
- Yaws also supports autoconf/
configure/make/make install, but
we'll use rebar for this tutorial



Run the Server

```
bin/yaws -i
```

- Now access <http://localhost:8000>.
You'll be prompted for user/passwd,
which is user "foo" and passwd "bar"
- This also gives you an Erlang console



Project Layout

```
$ ls
ChangeLog      debian        rebar.config.script
LICENSE        deps          rel
Makefile       doc           scripts
README         ebin          src
README.pkg-config etc           ssl
README.win32-cygwin examples      test
_build.cfg     include       two-mode-mode.el
applications   include.mk.in var
bin            install-sh    vsn.mk
c_src          known_dialyzer_warnings win32
config.guess   man           www
config.sub     munin         yaws.pc.in
configure.in   priv          yaws.rel.src
contrib        rebar.config  yaws_logs
```



Features

- Yaws has lots of features...



- HTTP 1.1
- URL/#arg rewriting
- appmods
- SSL support
- cookie/session support
- munin stats
- CGI and FCGI
- forward and reverse proxies
- file upload
- WebDAV
- small file caching
- SOAP support
- haXe support
- ehtml and exhtml
- virtual directories
- configurable deflate
- ACLs
- precompressed static files
- configurable MIME types
- .yaws pages
- virtual servers
- yapps
- JSON and JSON-RPC 2.0
- Server-Sent Events
- WebSocket
- GET/POST chunked transfer
- streaming
- multipart/mime support
- file descriptor server (fdsrv)
- server-side includes
- heart integration
- both make and rebar builds
- man pages
- LaTeX/PDF documentation



Features

- Covering them all would be a full-day tutorial
- We'll try to hit a few of the highlights



Configuration

- For a stand-alone Yaws, server config comes from the `yaws.conf` file
- see `etc/yaws/yaws.conf` in the tutorial code
- For an embedded Yaws, your app provides configuration via `proplists`



Global Config

- Settings that affect the whole Yaws server
- Erlang runtime paths
- Include file paths for code compiled on the fly
- Internal file cache settings
- Etc.



Virtual Servers

- A single Yaws server can host multiple virtual servers
- For example, running Yaws as directed earlier runs 3 virtual servers



Server Config

- Settings on a per-virtual-server basis
- IP address and port for listening
- Document root
- Dispatch rules
- Authorization settings
- SSL settings
- Etc.



Edit the Config

- Let's change the yaws.conf to get rid of the user/passwd on the localhost server
- Edit etc/yaws/yaws.conf, find the server localhost block, and remove the <auth> ... </auth> block
- Also change the docroot to be the same as the docroot of the server block above the localhost, should end in yaws/www
- Then Ctrl-g q <enter> in the console to quit Yaws, then restart it



Regular File Serving

- Yaws serves files from each virtual server's document root
- Extensive support for matching file suffixes to MIME types
- Yaws was the first Erlang web server to use OS sendfile for fast efficient file serving
- the file:sendfile capability introduced in Erlang/OTP R15 is based on the Yaws sendfile driver (and Yaws uses it by default when run on R15)



out/1 Function

- A number of Yaws features are based on modules providing an out/1 function
- Yaws calls this when appropriate, passing an #arg record
- The #arg holds everything known about the current request



.yaws Pages

- You can mix Erlang into your HTML in a .yaws page

```
<html>  
  <erl>  
    out(_) ->  
      %% return HTML here.  
  </erl>  
</html>
```

- Yaws replaces the <erl>...</erl> with the result of the out/1 function



html.yaws

```
<erl>  
out(_) ->  
    {html,  
      "<p>Hello from html</p>"}.  
</erl>
```

- You can have multiple `<erl>` blocks in the same `.yaws` file
- Each block has its own `out/1` function
- Each block can contain other Erlang functions as well (helper functions)



HTML Support

- `{html, iolist}` lets you return a deep list of HTML made of characters, strings, binaries or nested lists thereof
- `{ehtml, ErlangTerms}` lets you define HTML using Erlang terms
 - easier to read
 - compiler checked
 - no forgetting closing tags



ehhtml.yaws

```
<erl>  
out(_) ->  
    {ehhtml, [{p, [], "Hello from ehhtml"}]}.  
</erl>
```



Application Modules (appmods)

- An "appmod" is an app-specific module that
 - exports an out/1 function
 - is registered in config to serve a particular URL path



Example: ex1.erl

```
-module(ex1).  
-export([out/1]).  
-include_lib("yaws_api.hrl").
```



Example: ex1.erl

```
-module(ex1).  
-export([out/1]).  
-include_lib("yaws_api.hrl").
```

```
out(#arg{client_ip_port={IP, _}}) ->
```



Example: ex1.erl

```
-module(ex1).  
-export([out/1]).  
-include_lib("yaws_api.hrl").
```

```
out(#arg{client_ip_port={IP, _}}) ->  
    IPStr = inet_parse:ntoa(IP),
```



Example: ex1.erl

```
-module(ex1).  
-export([out/1]).  
-include_lib("yaws_api.hrl").
```

```
out(#arg{client_ip_port={IP, _}}) ->  
    IPStr = inet_parse:ntoa(IP),  
    Json = {struct, [{"clientIP", IPStr}]},
```



Example: ex1.erl

```
-module(ex1).  
-export([out/1]).  
-include_lib("yaws_api.hrl").
```

```
out(#arg{client_ip_port={IP, _}}) ->  
    IPStr = inet_parse:ntoa(IP),  
    Json = {struct, [{"clientIP", IPStr}]},  
    [{status, 200},  
     {content, "application/json", json2:encode(Json)}].
```



Example: ex1.erl

```
-module(ex1).  
-export([out/1]).  
-include_lib("yaws_api.hrl").
```

```
out(#arg{client_ip_port={IP, _}}) ->  
    IPStr = inet_parse:ntoa(IP),  
    Json = {struct, [{"clientIP", IPStr}]},  
    [{status, 200},  
     {content, "application/json", json2:encode(Json)}].
```



Run ex1

- Compile ex1:

```
erlc -I../yaws/include -o ../yaws/ebin ex1.erl
```

- In etc/yaws/yaws.conf add ex1 as an appmod.
Add

```
appmods = <ex1, ex1>
```

to the localhost server config

- Then run "bin/yaws --hup" in a separate shell to force Yaws to reload its config



Access ex1

- Access

`http://localhost:8000/ex1`

and you'll see the JSON response



Serving "/"

- You can register an appmod to handle the URL path "/"
- This means it handles all requests sent to that server
- You can also exclude subpaths, e.g. for static file handling

```
appmods = </, myappmod exclude_paths icons js static>
```



Streaming

- Sometimes you have to deliver content in chunks
- avoid reading a huge file into memory all at once to form a response body
- or maybe you don't have the whole content yet, e.g. live video
- or maybe you're using long-polling (Comet)



Streaming

- Yaws supports easy streaming of content
- either using chunked transfer encoding
- or regular non-chunked transfer



Chunked Transfer

- out/1 returns
`{streamcontent, MediaType, FirstChunk}`
- Yaws then expects an app process to send chunks to it
- It encodes these for chunked transfer and sends them to the client



stream l.yaws

- A regular .yaws file
- The out/1 fun will return streamcontent
- Loop over a binary, delivering it in chunks



stream l.yaws

<erl>

</erl>



stream l.yaws

```
<erl>  
out(A) ->  
    YawsPid = A#arg.pid,
```

```
</erl>
```



stream l.yaws

```
<erl>  
out(A) ->  
    YawsPid = A#arg.pid,  
    spawn(fun() ->
```

```
        end),
```

```
</erl>
```



stream l.yaws

```
<erl>  
out(A) ->  
    YawsPid = A#arg.pid,  
    spawn(fun() ->  
        B = <<"0123456789">>,  
        Bin = list_to_binary([B,B,B,B]),  
        loop(YawsPid, Bin, 10)  
    end),  
  
</erl>
```



stream l.yaws

```
<erl>  
out(A) ->  
    YawsPid = A#arg.pid,  
    spawn(fun() ->  
        B = <<"0123456789">>,  
        Bin = list_to_binary([B,B,B,B]),  
        loop(YawsPid, Bin, 10)  
    end),  
    {streamcontent,  
     "application/octet-stream", <<"ABCDEF">>}.  
</erl>
```



streaml.yaws

```
<erl>
out(A) ->
  YawsPid = A#arg.pid,
  spawn(fun() ->
    B = <<"0123456789">>,
    Bin = list_to_binary([B,B,B,B]),
    loop(YawsPid, Bin, 10)
  end),
  {streamcontent,
   "application/octet-stream", <<"ABCDEF">>}.
</erl>
```



stream | .yaws

```
loop(YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->  
  yaws_api:stream_chunk_end(YawsPid);
```



stream l.yaws

```
loop(YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->  
    yaws_api:stream_chunk_end(YawsPid);  
loop(YawsPid, Bin, ChunkSize) ->  
    case Bin of
```

end.



stream l.yaws

```
loop(YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->
  yaws_api:stream_chunk_end(YawsPid);
loop(YawsPid, Bin, ChunkSize) ->
  case Bin of
    <<Chunk:ChunkSize/binary, Rest/binary>> ->
      yaws_api:stream_chunk_deliver(YawsPid, Chunk),
      loop(YawsPid, Rest, ChunkSize);

  end.
```



stream l.yaws

```
loop(YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->
  yaws_api:stream_chunk_end(YawsPid);
loop(YawsPid, Bin, ChunkSize) ->
  case Bin of
    <<Chunk:ChunkSize/binary, Rest/binary>> ->
      yaws_api:stream_chunk_deliver(YawsPid, Chunk),
      loop(YawsPid, Rest, ChunkSize);
    _ ->
      yaws_api:stream_chunk_deliver(YawsPid, Bin),
      loop(YawsPid, <<>>, ChunkSize)
  end.
```



stream | .yaws

```
loop(YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->
  yaws_api:stream_chunk_end(YawsPid);
loop(YawsPid, Bin, ChunkSize) ->
  case Bin of
    <<Chunk:ChunkSize/binary, Rest/binary>> ->
      yaws_api:stream_chunk_deliver(YawsPid, Chunk),
      loop(YawsPid, Rest, ChunkSize);
    _ ->
      yaws_api:stream_chunk_deliver(YawsPid, Bin),
      loop(YawsPid, <<>>, ChunkSize)
  end.
```



Try It With Netcat

- We'll use the netcat client (/usr/bin/nc) so we can see the chunked transfer
- First, copy stream1.yaws to your docroot directory



Try It With Netcat

```
$ nc localhost 8000 < stream1.get
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: Yaws 1.94
Date: Tue, 11 Sep 2012 15:47:32 GMT
Content-Type: application/octet-stream
Transfer-Encoding: chunked
```

```
6
ABCDEF
12
012345678900123456
12
789001234567890012
8
34567890
0
```


Non-Chunked Streaming

- Similar to chunked streaming, except different Yaws API calls
- Streaming process waits for a message from Yaws to proceed
- To avoid chunked transfer, always need to remember to either include a Content-Length header, or erase the Transfer-Encoding header



stream2.yaws

<erl>

</erl>



stream2.yaws

```
<erl>  
out(A) ->  
    Sock = A#arg.clisock,
```

```
</erl>
```



stream2.yaws

```
<erl>  
out(A) ->  
    Sock = A#arg.clisock,  
    Pid = spawn(fun() ->  
        receive
```

```
        end  
    end),
```

```
</erl>
```



stream2.yaws

```
<erl>
out(A) ->
    Sock = A#arg.clisock,
    Pid = spawn(fun() ->
        receive
            {ok,YawsPid} ->
                First = <<"ABCDEF">>,
                B = <<"01234567890">>,
                Bin = list_to_binary([First,B,B,B,B]),
                loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, 18);

        _ ->
            end
    end),
end),
</erl>
```



stream2.yaws

```
<erl>
out(A) ->
    Sock = A#arg.clisock,
    Pid = spawn(fun() ->
        receive
            {ok,YawsPid} ->
                First = <<"ABCDEF">>,
                B = <<"01234567890">>,
                Bin = list_to_binary([First,B,B,B,B]),
                loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, 18);
            {discard,YawsPid} ->
                yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock,YawsPid)
        end
    end),
end),

</erl>
```



stream2.yaws

```
<erl>
out(A) ->
    Sock = A#arg.clisock,
    Pid = spawn(fun() ->
        receive
            {ok,YawsPid} ->
                First = <<"ABCDEF">>,
                B = <<"01234567890">>,
                Bin = list_to_binary([First,B,B,B,B]),
                loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, 18);
            {discard,YawsPid} ->
                yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock,YawsPid)
        end
    end),
    [{header, {transfer_encoding, erase}},

</erl>
```



stream2.yaws

```
<erl>
out(A) ->
    Sock = A#arg.clisock,
    Pid = spawn(fun() ->
        receive
            {ok,YawsPid} ->
                First = <<"ABCDEF">>,
                B = <<"01234567890">>,
                Bin = list_to_binary([First,B,B,B,B]),
                loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, 18);
            {discard,YawsPid} ->
                yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock,YawsPid)
        end
    end),
    [{header, {transfer_encoding, erase}},
     {streamcontent_from_pid, "application/octet-stream", Pid}].
</erl>
```



stream2.yaws

```
<erl>
out(A) ->
    Sock = A#arg.clisock,
    Pid = spawn(fun() ->
        receive
            {ok,YawsPid} ->
                First = <<"ABCDEF">>,
                B = <<"01234567890">>,
                Bin = list_to_binary([First,B,B,B,B]),
                loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, 18);
            {discard,YawsPid} ->
                yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock,YawsPid)
        end
    end),
    [{header, {transfer_encoding, erase}},
     {streamcontent_from_pid, "application/octet-stream", Pid}].
</erl>
```



stream2.yaws

```
loop(Sock, YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->  
  yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock, YawsPid);
```



stream2.yaws

```
loop(Sock, YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->  
    yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock, YawsPid);  
loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, ChunkSize) ->  
    case Bin of
```

end.



stream2.yaws

```
loop(Sock, YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->
  yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock, YawsPid);
loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, ChunkSize) ->
  case Bin of
    <<Chunk:ChunkSize/binary, Rest/binary>> ->
      yaws_api:stream_process_deliver(Sock, Chunk),
      loop(Sock, YawsPid, Rest, ChunkSize);

  end.
```



stream2.yaws

```
loop(Sock, YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->
  yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock, YawsPid);
loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, ChunkSize) ->
  case Bin of
    <<Chunk:ChunkSize/binary, Rest/binary>> ->
      yaws_api:stream_process_deliver(Sock, Chunk),
      loop(Sock, YawsPid, Rest, ChunkSize);
    _ ->
      yaws_api:stream_process_deliver(Sock, Bin),
      loop(Sock, YawsPid, <<>>, ChunkSize)
  end.
```



stream2.yaws

```
loop(Sock, YawsPid, <<>>, _) ->
  yaws_api:stream_process_end(Sock, YawsPid);
loop(Sock, YawsPid, Bin, ChunkSize) ->
  case Bin of
    <<Chunk:ChunkSize/binary, Rest/binary>> ->
      yaws_api:stream_process_deliver(Sock, Chunk),
      loop(Sock, YawsPid, Rest, ChunkSize);
    _ ->
      yaws_api:stream_process_deliver(Sock, Bin),
      loop(Sock, YawsPid, <<>>, ChunkSize)
  end.
```



Try It With Netcat

- First, copy stream2.yaws to your docroot directory

```
$ nc localhost 8000 < stream2.get
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
Connection: close
```

```
Server: Yaws 1.94
```

```
Date: Tue, 11 Sep 2012 16:04:08 GMT
```

```
Content-Type: application/octet-stream
```

```
ABCDEF01234567890012345678900123456789001234567890
```



Socket Access

- Streaming processes can also write directly to the Yaws socket if they wish
- Yaws yields control of socket to `streamcontent_from_pid` processes
- Yaws regains socket controls when you call `yaws_api:stream_process_end/2`



Long Polling

- HTTP is a client-server request-response protocol
- "Long polling" or "Comet" is a way of simulating events sent from server to client



Long Polling

- Client sends request
- Server just holds the connection open until it has something — an event — to send
- It eventually replies with the event
- If client wants more events, it sends another request



Long Polling

- `streamcontent_from_pid` makes long polling easy
- Just have your streaming process wait until it has an event before sending anything back to Yaws



Server-Sent Events

- Server-Sent Events (SSE) is a W3C working draft for standardizing how servers send events to clients
- See <http://www.w3.org/TR/eventsource/>
- Supported by Chrome, Safari, Firefox, Opera



SSE Example

- Take a look at the file

`yaws/examples/src/server_sent_events.erl`

- This uses SSE to keep a clock ticking on the client
- Visit http://yaws.hyber.org/server_sent_events.html to see it in action



SSE Example Details

- Built on top of `streamcontent_from_pid`
- Client must send a GET with Accept header set to "text/event-stream"
- Module uses a `gen_server` to keep track of the client socket, the Yaws pid, and a timer



SSE Example Details

- The `yaws_sse:headers/1` call (line 37) returns the following to Yaws:

```
[{status, 200},  
 {header, {"Cache-Control", "no-cache"}},  
 {header, {connection, "close"}},  
 {header, {transfer_encoding, erase}},  
 {streamcontent_from_pid, "text/event-stream", SSEPid}].
```



SSE Example Details

- Every time the timer ticks (every second), the `gen_server`:
- gets a local server date string and formats it SSE data via `yaws_sse:data/1` (line 63)
- sends that string as an event on the client socket using `yaws_sse:send_events/2` (line 64)



SSE Example Details

- On the client, a little chunk of JavaScript handles the updates
- See file `yaws/www/server_sent_events.html`

```
<script type="text/javascript">
  var es = new EventSource('/sse');
  es.onmessage = function(event) {
    var h2 = document.querySelector('#date-time');
    h2.innerHTML = event.data;
  }
</script>
```



WebSocket

- The WebSocket Protocol is RFC 6455
- The HTTP connection is "upgraded" to WebSocket using Upgrade HTTP headers
- WebSocket has a bit of framing but is essentially a bidirectional TCP connection



Yaws WebSocket Support

- An out/1 function indicates it wants WebSocket by returning

`{websocket, CallbackModule, Options}`
- Once the connection is upgraded, Yaws calls `handle_message/1` or `handle_message/2` on the callback module



WebSocket Example

- Point your browser at

http://localhost:8000/websockets_example.yaws

- Then, see file

`yaws/examples/src/basic_echo_callback.erl`



Basic Echo

- This file supplies a number of `handle_message/1` clauses
- Uses pattern matching to deal with different "commands" sent from the browser UI



Basic Echo

```
handle_message({text, <<"bye">>}) ->  
  io:format("User said bye.~n", []),  
  {close, normal};
```



Basic Echo

```
handle_message({text, <<"something">>}) ->  
  io:format("Some action without a reply~n", []),  
  noreply;
```



Basic Echo

```
handle_message({text, <<"say hi later">>}) ->  
  io:format("saying hi in 3s.~n", []),  
  timer:apply_after(3000, ?MODULE, say_hi, [self()]),  
  {reply, {text, <<"I'll say hi in a bit...">>}};
```



Basic Echo

```
say_hi(Pid) ->  
  io:format("asynchronous greeting~n", []),  
  yaws_api:websocket_send(Pid, {text, <<"hi there!">>}).
```



Basic Echo

```
handle_message({text, Message}) ->  
    io:format("basic echo handler got ~p~n", [Message]),  
    {reply, {text, <<Message/binary>>}};
```



Basic Echo

```
handle_message({binary, Message}) ->  
    {reply, {binary, Message}};
```



Yaws Summary

- Yaws supplies a lot of features
- Known for great reliability, stability, and performance
- All features were driven by actual production usage
- Even though it's 11 years old, we continue to actively develop and maintain Yaws



For More Info

- <http://yaws.hyber.org>
- <http://github.com/klacke/yaws>
- Yaws mailing list:
<https://lists.sourceforge.net/lists/listinfo/erlyaws-list>
- <http://steve.vinoski.net/blog/internet-computing-columns/#2011-4>





Nitrogen



Quick Glance

- Nitrogen runs on multiple web servers: Mochiweb, Yaws, inets, Webmachine, Cowboy
- Event-driven ala AJAX
- Builds on top of jQuery
- Originally created by Rusty Klopheus



Installation

make <web server target>

- Web server targets are rel_yaws, rel_mochiweb, rel_webmachine, rel_inets, rel_cowboy
- Generates a self-contained Nitrogen system under rel/nitrogen



Run the Server

```
cd rel/nitrogen  
bin/nitrogen console
```

- Starts Nitrogen listening with an interactive Erlang console
- Try `http://localhost:8000`



Release Contents

```
$ ls -1 rel/nitrogen
```

BuildInfo.txt	# version information
Makefile	
bin	# runtime tools
erts-5.9.1	# erlang runtime
etc	# config files
lib	# erlang applications
log	# logfiles
rebar	
rebar.config	
releases	# erlang release files
site	# website pages



Site Contents

```
$ ls -la rel/nitrogen/site
```

. prototypes	# page, action, and
	# element prototypes
ebin	# compiled modules
include	# include files
src	# module sources
static	# static web pages
templates	# config files



Nitrogen Pages

- A page corresponds to an Erlang module
- Supplies a main/0 function to provide a page template
- Typically also supplies other functions to populate the template and handle events



Request Routing

- Any URL ending with an extension is assumed to be a static file
- Any request to "/" is handled by `page index.erl`
- Otherwise, request is routed by matching URL path to module name



Request Routing

- Change "/" in URL path to underscores
- Look for matching module name
- For example:

/products/12345 => products_12345



Longest Match

- If no exact match is found, Nitrogen looks for the longest match

- For example:

`/products/12345 => products`

- Allows one module to handle a "family" of web resources



Generating a Page

```
bin/dev page foo  
make  
bin/dev compile
```

- Creates page in `site/src/foo.erl`
- Template for page creation is under `site/.prototypes/page.erl`
- "make" and "bin/dev compile" compile and load the new foo page into the running Nitrogen server



Page Sync

- In the Nitrogen server console, type `sync:go()`.
- This tells Nitrogen to watch for changed sources. It will recompile and reload any changes.



main/0

- Open site/src/foo.erl

main() ->

```
#template {  
    file="./site/templates/bare.html"  
}
```



Templates

- Page template with callouts to page modules
- Page module callout functions fill in the spots in the template they're called from
- Templates live under site/templates, you can add your own
- main/0 supplies the page template
- Let's open site/templates/bare.html



Callouts

[[page:body()]]

- "page" in this context always refers to the current module
- This calls out to body/0 function in the current module
- Return value of body/0 replaces [[...]] in the template
- Can also call out to other modules M:F(Args)



body/0

- Returns one or more Nitrogen elements
- Nitrogen renders these into HTML and JavaScript



Nitrogen Elements

- Elements are instances of Erlang records
- Look at site/src/foo.erl again

body() ->

```
[  
    #panel { style="margin: 50px 100px;", body=[  
        #span { text="Hello from foo.erl!" },  
        #p{} ,  
        #button { text="Click me!", postback=click },  
        #p{} ,  
        #panel { id=placeholder }  
    ]}  
].
```



Nitrogen Elements

- Elements correspond to HTML elements
- Element fields correspond to HTML attributes
- Elements allow you to define pages in Erlang — more readable, and with compiler checking



Element Attributes

- id
 - the id of the element
 - Erlang atom
 - used to refer to the element elsewhere



Element Attributes

- actions
 - an action or list of actions
 - we'll cover actions next



Element Attributes

- `show_if`
 - if true, the element is rendered



Element Attributes

- class
 - CSS class of the element
 - can be atom or string
- style
 - inline CSS style string



Element Attributes

- Individual element types can also have their own element-specific attributes



Element Types

- Layout (e.g. panel, span, table)
- HTML (e.g. heading, paragraph, link)
- Forms (e.g. button, textarea)
- Other (e.g. draggable, droppable)



Element Details

- See <http://nitrogenproject.com/doc/elements.html> for element details



Nitrogen Actions

- Actions ultimately render to JavaScript
- Nitrogen uses the jQuery library underneath to implement some actions (see <http://jquery.com>)



Action Example

- Copy Nitrogen example foo1.erl to site/src/foo.erl, then recompile
- We've changed body/0 to:

```
body() ->
[
  #button {
    text="Submit",
    actions=#effect {
      effect=shake,
      options=[{times,3}]
    }
  }
].
```



Try It

- Visit `http://localhost:8000/foo`
- You should see a shaking button



Action Types

- Page manipulation (e.g. event)
- Effects (e.g. show, fade, toggle)
- Feedback (e.g., alert)



Action Attributes

- module
 - set automatically
 - module that contains logic of the action



Action Attributes

- trigger
 - id of the element that triggers this action
- target
 - id of the element affected by this action



Action Attributes

- actions
 - a list of actions nested within this action
- show_if
 - if true, this action is rendered



Action Attributes

- Actions can also have action-specific attributes



Action Details

- See <http://nitrogenproject.com/doc/actions.html> for action details



Action Wiring

- The wf:wire functions allow easy setting of actions
- Easier to read than setting in "actions" attribute



wf:wire/N

- wf:wire/1 sets an action for the page
- wf:wire/2 sets an action for a specific target, with page as trigger
- wf:wire/3 sets an action for a specific target with a specific trigger



Wiring Example

body() ->

```
Effect = #effect {  
  effect=shake,  
  options=[{times,3}] },
```



Wiring Example

body() ->

```
Effect = #effect {  
  effect=shake,  
  options=[{times,3}] },  
wf:wire(button1, Effect),
```



Wiring Example

body() ->

```
Effect = #effect {  
  effect=shake,  
  options=[{times,3}] },  
wf:wire(button1, Effect),  
[  
  #button { id=button1,  
            text="Submit" }  
].
```



Wiring Example

body() ->

```
Effect = #effect {  
  effect=shake,  
  options=[{times,3}] },  
wf:wire(button1, Effect),  
[  
  #button { id=button1,  
            text="Submit" }  
].
```



Wiring Example

- Copy foo2.erl to site/src/foo.erl, recompile and try it

<http://localhost:8000/foo>



Click to Shake

- Previous example shakes the button on page load
- What if we want to shake the button by clicking it?



Click to Shake

- We'll start with foo2.erl below, and edit
- Or, just copy foo3.erl to site/src/foo.erl and recompile

body() ->

```
Effect = #effect {  
    effect=shake,  
    options=[{times,3}] },  
wf:wire(button1, Effect),  
[  
    #button { id=button1,  
              text="Submit" }  
].
```



Click to Shake

```
body() ->
  Shake = #effect {
    effect=shake,
    options=[{times,3}] },
  Effect = #event { type=click,
                    actions=Shake },
  wf:wire(button1, Effect),
  [
    #button { id=button1,
              text="Shake It" }
  ].
```



Trigger and Target

```
body() ->
  Shake = #effect {
    effect=shake,
    options=[{times,3}] },
  Effect = #event { type=click,
                    actions=Shake },
  wf:wire(button1, lbl1, Effect),
  [
    #label { id=lbl1, text="Shake Me!" },
    #button { id=button1,
              text="Shake It" }
  ].
```



Trigger and Target

```
body() ->
  Shake = #effect {
    effect=shake,
    options=[{times,3}] },
  Effect = #event { type=click,
                    actions=Shake },
  wf:wire(button1, lbl1, Effect),
  [
    #label { id=lbl1, text="Shake Me!" },
    #button { id=button1,
              text="Shake It" }
  ].
```



The Original foo.erl

```
body() ->
[
    #panel { style="margin: 50px 100px;", body=[
        #span { text="Hello from foo.erl!" },
        #p{},
        #button { text="Click me!",
                    postback=click },
        #p{},
        #panel { id=placeholder }
    ]}
].
```



The Original foo.erl

```
body() ->
[
    #panel { style="margin: 50px 100px;", body=[
        #span { text="Hello from foo.erl!" },
        #p{},
        #button { text="Click me!",
            postback=click },
        #p{},
        #panel { id=placeholder }
    ]}
].
```



Postbacks

- Actions are handled on the client
- Postbacks are handled on the server, by Erlang event/1 functions in the page module
- Arguments to event/1 can be any Erlang term
- You can have multiple event/1 clauses to handle different terms to distinguish different events

Postback Handler

body() ->

```
#button { text="Submit",  
          postback=click }.
```

event(click) ->

```
?PRINT({click, calendar:local_time()}).
```



Try It

- Copy `foo4.erl` to `site/src/foo.erl` and recompile
- Access `http://localhost:8000/foo`
- Click the button and look at your Nitrogen console



Postback ?PRINT Output

=INFO REPORT===== 1-Aug-2012::20:46:34 =====

DEBUG: foo:24

"{ click , calendar : local_time () }"

{click,{{2012,8,1},{20,46,34}}}



Multiple Handlers

body() ->

```
[#button { text="Button 1",  
          postback=click1 },  
 #button { text="Button 2",  
          postback=click2 }].
```

event(click1) ->

```
?PRINT({click1, calendar:local_time()});
```

event(click2) ->

```
?PRINT({click2, calendar:local_time()}).
```



Try It

- Copy `foo5.erl` to `site/src/foo.erl` and recompile
- Access `http://localhost:8000/foo`
- Click the buttons, check the console



Read From Elements

body() ->

```
[ #p { text="Type something here:" },  
  #textbox { id=tb },  
  #button { text="Submit",  
            postback=click }].
```

event(click) ->

```
TextYouTyped = wf:q(tb),  
?PRINT({click, TextYouTyped}).
```



Read From Elements

body() ->

```
[ #p { text="Type something here:" },  
  #textbox { id=tb },  
  #button { text="Submit",  
            postback=click }].
```

event(click) ->

```
TextYouTyped = wf:q(tb),  
?PRINT({click, TextYouTyped}).
```



Try It

- Copy `foo6.erl` to `site/src/foo.erl` and recompile
- Access `http://localhost:8000/foo`
- Type some text then submit, and then check the console



Updating Elements

body() ->

```
[ #textbox { id=tb, text="1" },  
  #button { text="Increment",  
            postback=click }].
```



Updating Elements

body() ->

```
[ #textbox { id=tb, text="1" },  
  #button { text="Increment",  
            postback=click }].
```

event(click) ->

```
Count = list_to_integer(wf:q(tb)),
```



Updating Elements

body() ->

```
[ #textbox { id=tb, text="1" },  
  #button { text="Increment",  
            postback=click }].
```

event(click) ->

```
Count = list_to_integer(wf:q(tb)),  
NewCount = integer_to_list(Count+1),
```



Updating Elements

body() ->

```
[ #textbox { id=tb, text="1" },  
  #button { text="Increment",  
            postback=click }].
```

event(click) ->

```
Count = list_to_integer(wf:q(tb)),  
NewCount = integer_to_list(Count+1),  
wf:set(tb, NewCount).
```



Updating Elements

body() ->

```
[ #textbox { id=tb, text="1" },  
  #button { text="Increment",  
            postback=click }].
```

event(click) ->

```
Count = list_to_integer(wf:q(tb)),  
NewCount = integer_to_list(Count+1),  
wf:set(tb, NewCount).
```



Try It

- Copy `foo7.erl` to `site/src/foo.erl` and recompile
- Access `http://localhost:8000/foo`
- Click the button and watch the updates



Update Functions

- wf:update/2
- wf:replace/2
- wf:remove/1
- wf:insert_top/2
- wf:insert_bottom/2
- wf:set/2
- wf:flash/1 (flash a message into #flash element)



Update Efficiency

- Nitrogen uses AJAX techniques to update individual page elements



Validation

- In previous update example, what if textbox is changed to contain something other than a number?
- Page module event handler crashes
 - Try changing the number to a word, click the button, then check the console
- We should validate the textbox contents



Validator

body() ->

```
wf:wire(btn, tb, #validate {  
    validators=[ #is_integer { text="not an integer!" } ]}),  
[ #textbox { id=tb, text="1" },  
  #button { id=btn, text="Increment",  
            postback=click }].
```

event(click) ->

```
Count = list_to_integer(wf:q(tb)),  
NewCount = integer_to_list(Count+1),  
wf:set(tb, NewCount).
```



Try It

- Copy `foo8.erl` to `site/src/foo.erl` and recompile
- Access `http://localhost:8000/foo`
- Change the number to a word, then click the button



Validators

- Required, Min Length, Max Length
- Is Email, Is Integer, Confirm Passwords Match
- Custom client-side validators (written in JavaScript)
- Custom server-side validators (written in Erlang)
- See <http://nitrogenproject.com/doc/validators.html> for details



Long-polling, a.k.a. Comet

- Long-polling allows a server to simulate pushing messages to the client
- Client sends a request, server receives it
 - if there's something to reply with, the server replies
 - if nothing yet, the server just sits on the request and delays the reply



Nitrogen Comet

- `wf:comet/1` spawns a function
- Spawned function can update elements on the page whenever it wants to, as long as the client stays on the page



Updating with Comet

```
body() ->  
  Val = 1,  
  wf:comet(fun() -> update_tb(Val) end),
```



Updating with Comet

```
body() ->  
  Val = 1,  
  wf:comet(fun() -> update_tb(Val) end),  
  [ #textbox { id=tb, text=integer_to_list(Val) } ].
```



Updating with Comet

```
body() ->  
  Val = 1,  
  wf:comet(fun() -> update_tb(Val) end),  
  [ #textbox { id=tb, text=integer_to_list(Val) } ].
```

```
update_tb(Val) ->  
  timer:sleep(2000),
```



Updating with Comet

```
body() ->  
  Val = 1,  
  wf:comet(fun() -> update_tb(Val) end),  
  [ #textbox { id=tb, text=integer_to_list(Val) } ].
```

```
update_tb(Val) ->  
  timer:sleep(2000),  
  NewVal = Val+1,  
  wf:set(tb, integer_to_list(NewVal)),
```



Updating with Comet

```
body() ->  
  Val = 1,  
  wf:comet(fun() -> update_tb(Val) end),  
  [ #textbox { id=tb, text=integer_to_list(Val) } ].
```

```
update_tb(Val) ->  
  timer:sleep(2000),  
  NewVal = Val+1,  
  wf:set(tb, integer_to_list(NewVal)),  
  wf:flush(),
```



Updating with Comet

```
body() ->  
    Val = 1,  
    wf:comet(fun() -> update_tb(Val) end),  
    [ #textbox { id=tb, text=integer_to_list(Val) } ].
```

```
update_tb(Val) ->  
    timer:sleep(2000),  
    NewVal = Val+1,  
    wf:set(tb, integer_to_list(NewVal)),  
    wf:flush(),  
    update_tb(NewVal).
```



Updating with Comet

```
body() ->  
  Val = 1,  
  wf:comet(fun() -> update_tb(Val) end),  
  [ #textbox { id=tb, text=integer_to_list(Val) } ].
```

```
update_tb(Val) ->  
  timer:sleep(2000),  
  NewVal = Val+1,  
  wf:set(tb, integer_to_list(NewVal)),  
  wf:flush(),  
  update_tb(NewVal).
```



Try It

- Copy `foo9.erl` to `site/src/foo.erl` and recompile
- Access `http://localhost:8000/foo`
- Watch the page auto-update



And Much More

- Page and session state
- Comet pools
- Authentication and authorization
- Custom validation
- Custom elements and actions
- Handlers
- Demos, see <http://nitrogenproject.com/demos>
- And more!
- See <http://nitrogenproject.com>





Chicago Boss



Quick Glance

- Inspired by Ruby on Rails
- Model-View-Controller (MVC)
- Tie MVC apps to different URL spaces, host them all in the same server
- Full-stack framework
- Lots of code generation
- Created by Evan Miller



Installation

make

- This builds Chicago Boss itself
- To generate an application:

make app PROJECT=<project name>



Run the Server

- Let's say the project name is cufp:

```
make app PROJECT=cufp  
cd ../cufp  
./init-dev.sh
```

- This starts a development server listening on port 8001, with console and code auto-recompile



Project Contents

\$ ls -1F

boss.config	# CB config file
ebin/	
include/	
init-dev.sh	# start dev server
init.sh	# start production server
log/	
priv/	# various server files
rebar	
rebar.cmd	
rebar.config	
src/	# source files
start-server.bat	

Project Contents

```
$ cd src
```

```
$ ls -1F
```

controller/	# controller sources
cufp.app.src	# source for app file
lib/	
mail/	
model/	# model sources
test/	
view/	# view sources
websocket/	



Controllers and Actions

- CB dispatches incoming requests to a controller
- A controller groups actions



Request Routing

- URL `http://host/<C>/<A>` is handled by
 - controller C
 - (which provides)
 - action A



Request Routing

- For example, controller module for `http://host/ex1/hello_world` is `src/controller/cufp_ex1_controller.erl`
- And `hello_world` is an action in that module
- Additional routes can be added to `priv/cufp.routes` file



Controller Module

```
-module(cufp_ex1_controller, [Req]).  
-export([hello_world/2]).
```

```
hello_world('GET', []) ->  
    {output, "Hello, World!"}.
```



Try It

- Copy `cufp_ex1_controller.erl` to `src/controller`
- CB should notice the new module and automatically compile & load it
- Access `http://localhost:8001/ex1/hello_world`



Controller Module

```
-module(cufp_ex1_controller, [Req]).  
-export([hello_world/2]).
```

```
hello_world('GET', []) ->  
    {output, "Hello, World!"}.
```

- It's a parameterized module, so Req is available to each function
- Req is a request object, provides access to query params, post data, HTTP headers, cookies, etc.



Action Arguments

- First argument: HTTP method
- Second arg: list of any URL path segments following the action name, split on "/"



Action Arguments

```
-module(cufp_ex2_controller, [Req]).  
-export([hello_world/2]).
```

```
hello_world('GET', Path) ->  
    Result = "Hello, world: " ++  
        string:join(Path, ", "),  
    {output, Result}.
```



Action Arguments

- Copy `cufp_ex2_controller.erl` to `src/controller`
- Accessing

`http://localhost:8001/ex2/hello_world/
other/path/segments`

- Yields

Hello, world: other, path, segments



Action Results

- {output, String} — returns HTML
- {json, Proplist} — returns JSON
- {ok, Proplist} — passes Proplist to a template
- {redirect, URL} — redirects to new location
- {stream, GeneratorFunction, Acc} — streams response to client using chunked transfer
- not_found — returns HTTP status 404 Not Found
- and more, see <http://www.chicagoboss.org/api-controller.html>
- (a proplist or "property list" is a list of {key, value} tuples)



Models

- A model abstracts application data
- CB provides BossRecords and BossDB to manage and model persistent data



BossRecords

- Like Ruby on Rails ActiveRecord
- Specially-compiled parameterized modules



BossRecord Example

- Copy song1.erl to src/model/song.erl
- It has the following code:
 - module(song, [Id, Title, Artist,
Album, Year, Genre]).
 - compile(export_all).
- That's all. No functions! But note all the module parameters



Song Module Params

- Id: all BossRecords must have an Id parameter. It must be a string
- Title: song title (string)
- Artist: song artist (string)
- Album: name of album song is from (string)
- Year: the year the song was released (string, could alternatively be an integer)
- Genre: type of music the song represents (string)



BossRecord Example

- Now, either `./rebar compile` or refresh the `ex2/hello_world` browser page
- Either action will compile the `song.erl` model, and the CB server will load it



BossRecord Example

- Next, switch to the CB console
- At the console prompt, enter the command: `m(song)`.
- You'll see the song module exports 20 functions — where'd they come from?
- All but two of these are generated by CB, many based on the module parameters



Creating Song Instances

- We'll create a bunch of song instances from a JSON music library file
- Let's look at musiclib.erl



musiclib.erl

```
-module(musiclib).  
-export([load/0]).
```

load() ->

```
{ok, Bin} = file:read_file("music-library.js"),  
{array, Songs} = mochijson:decode(Bin),  
load_songs(Songs).
```

- Read JSON file into binary
- Decode JSON binary
- Load the song data



load_songs/1

```
load_songs([struct, Attrs]|Songs) ->  
  FoldFun =  
    fun(Key, Acc) ->  
      {value, {Key, Value}} =  
        lists:keysearch(Key, 1, Attrs),  
      [Value | Acc]  
    end,
```

- The fold fun just pulls attributes from each song item into a list



load_songs/1

```
ParamKeys = ["genre", "year",  
             "album", "artist", "title", "id"],  
Params = lists:foldl(FoldFun, [],  
                    ParamKeys),
```

- ParamKeys is list of song module parameters, in reverse order
- The fold pulls values for those params out of each song item



load_songs/1

```
Song = apply(song, new, Params),  
Song:save(),  
load_songs(Songs);
```

- The apply/3 call calls song:new/6 with those params to create a new song
- Song:save() saves the new Song in BossDB
- call load_songs/1 recursively with tail of song list



load_songs/ I

load_songs([]) ->
ok.

- When song list is empty, end recursion



Loading the Songs

- At the CB console prompt:

 > pwd().
 /some/path/to/cufp
 ok
- Copy musiclib.erl and music-library.js to that location



Loading the Songs

- Next, at the CB console prompt:

```
> c(musiclib).  
{ok, musiclib}  
> musiclib:load().  
ok  
> boss_db:count(song).  
105
```



boss_db

- You can use the boss_db module to work with your data. For example:

```
> Song = boss_db:find("7479").  
{song,"7479","D Minor Blues",  
  "Derek Trucks Band",  
  "The Derek Trucks Band",[],"Blues"}  
> Song:artist().  
"Derek Trucks Band"
```



boss_db Queries

```
> Steve = boss_db:find(song, [{artist,  
    matches, "^Steve"}]).
```

```
[{song,"8948",  
    "Woman of 1,000 Years","Steve Stevens",  
    "Atomic Playboys","1989","Rock"}]
```

- A variety of queries are possible, see <http://www.chicagoboss.org/api-db.html>



CB Templates

- Define how pages look on the client
- Based on the Django framework's template language, see

<https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/dev/topics/templates/>

- Templates live under

src/view/ <controller-name>



Songs Controller

- Lives in

`src/controller/cufp_songs_controller.erl`
- Copy `cufp_songs_controller1.erl` to `src/controller/cufp_songs_controller.erl`



Songs Controller

- module(cufp_songs_controller, [Req]).
- export([list/2]).



Songs Controller

```
-module(cufp_songs_controller, [Req]).  
-export([list/2]).
```

```
list('GET', []) ->  
    Songs = boss_db:find(song, []),
```



Songs Controller

```
-module(cufp_songs_controller, [Req]).  
-export([list/2]).
```

```
list('GET', []) ->  
    Songs = boss_db:find(song, []),  
    {ok, [{songs, Songs}]}.
```



Songs Controller

```
-module(cufp_songs_controller, [Req]).  
-export([list/2]).
```

```
list('GET', []) ->  
    Songs = boss_db:find(song, []),  
    {ok, [{songs, Songs}]}
```



Song List Template

- Lives in

`src/view/songs/list.html`



Song List Template

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>
      {% block title %}
      Song List
      {% endblock %}
    </title>
  </head>
```



Song List Template

```
<body>  
  {% block body %}  
    {% if songs %}
```



Song List Template

```
<body>
  {% block body %}
    {% if songs %}
      <ul>
        {% for song in songs %}
          <li>{{ song.title }}</li>
        {% endfor %}
      </ul>
```



Song List Template

```
<body>
  {% block body %}
    {% if songs %}
      <ul>
        {% for song in songs %}
          <li>{{ song.title }}</li>
        {% endfor %}
      </ul>
```



Song List Template

```
{% else %}  
<p>No songs!</p>  
{% endif %}  
{% endblock %}  
</body>
```



Song List

- `mkdir src/view/songs`
- Copy `list1.html` to `src/view/songs/list.html`
- Access

`http://localhost:8001/songs/list`

- With more template work, you could show all attributes of each song
- And add pagination, etc.



Adding Songs

- Adding a song requires
 - presenting a form to the user
 - handling POSTed form data in the controller
 - validating the data
 - storing the new song



Presenting a Form

- Could write a whole new template
- Or just extend the list template
- First, we need a "create" link



Add a Create Link

- Change src/view/songs/list.html or copy list2.html to src/view/songs/list.html:

```
<body>
  {% block body %}
    <p>
      <a href="{% url action='create' %}">
        Add a New Song
      </a> </p>
    {% if songs %}
```



create.html

```
{% extends "songs/list.html" %}  
{% block title %}Add a Song{% endblock %}
```



create.html

```
{% extends "songs/list.html" %}  
{% block title %}Add a Song{% endblock %}
```

```
{% block body %}
```

```
{% endblock %}
```



create.html

```
{% extends "songs/list.html" %}  
{% block title %}Add a Song{% endblock %}
```

```
{% block body %}  
<p>Add a song:</p>  
<form method="post">
```

```
</form>
```

```
{% endblock %}
```



create.html

```
{% extends "songs/list.html" %}
{% block title %}Add a Song{% endblock %}

{% block body %}
<p>Add a song:</p>
<form method="post">
<label for="title">Title:</label>
<input type="text" id="title" name="title"> <br/>

</form>

{% endblock %}
```



create.html

```
{% extends "songs/list.html" %}
{% block title %}Add a Song{% endblock %}

{% block body %}
<p>Add a song:</p>
<form method="post">
<label for="title">Title:</label>
<input type="text" id="title" name="title"><br/>
<!-- ...same for other fields... -->

</form>

{% endblock %}
```



create.html

```
{% extends "songs/list.html" %}
{% block title %}Add a Song{% endblock %}

{% block body %}
<p>Add a song:</p>
<form method="post">
<label for="title">Title:</label>
<input type="text" id="title" name="title"> <br/>
<!-- ...same for other fields... -->
<input type="submit">
</form>

{% endblock %}
```



create.html

```
{% extends "songs/list.html" %}
{% block title %}Add a Song{% endblock %}

{% block body %}
<p>Add a song:</p>
<form method="post">
<label for="title">Title:</label>
<input type="text" id="title" name="title"><br/>
<!-- ...same for other fields... -->
<input type="submit">
</form>
<p><a href="{% url action='list' %}">View Song List</a></p>
{% endblock %}
```



create.html

```
{% extends "songs/list.html" %}
{% block title %}Add a Song{% endblock %}

{% block body %}
<p>Add a song:</p>
<form method="post">
<label for="title">Title:</label>
<input type="text" id="title" name="title"><br/>
<!-- ...same for other fields... -->
<input type="submit">
</form>
<p><a href="{% url action='list' %}">View Song List</a></p>
{% endblock %}
```



create.html

- Copy create1.html to src/view/songs/create.html



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->
```



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->  
  Params = ["genre", "year", "album", "artist", "title"],
```



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->  
  Params = ["genre", "year", "album", "artist", "title"],  
  Fun = fun(Param, Acc) ->  
    [Req:post_param(Param)|Acc]  
  end,
```



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->  
  Params = ["genre", "year", "album", "artist", "title"],  
  Fun = fun(Param, Acc) ->  
    [Req:post_param(Param)|Acc]  
  end,  
  Args = lists:foldl(Fun, [], Params),
```



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->  
  Params = ["genre", "year", "album", "artist", "title"],  
  Fun = fun(Param, Acc) ->  
    [Req:post_param(Param)|Acc]  
  end,  
  Args = lists:foldl(Fun, [], Params),  
  Song = apply(song, new, [id|Args]),
```



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->  
  Params = ["genre", "year", "album", "artist", "title"],  
  Fun = fun(Param, Acc) ->  
    [Req:post_param(Param)|Acc]  
  end,  
  Args = lists:foldl(Fun, [], Params),  
  Song = apply(song, new, [id|Args]),  
  {ok, _} = Song:save(),
```



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->  
  Params = ["genre", "year", "album", "artist", "title"],  
  Fun = fun(Param, Acc) ->  
    [Req:post_param(Param)|Acc]  
  end,  
  Args = lists:foldl(Fun, [], Params),  
  Song = apply(song, new, [id|Args]),  
  {ok, _} = Song:save(),  
  {redirect, [{action, "list"}]};
```



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->  
  Params = ["genre", "year", "album", "artist", "title"],  
  Fun = fun(Param, Acc) ->  
    [Req:post_param(Param)|Acc]  
  end,  
  Args = lists:foldl(Fun, [], Params),  
  Song = apply(song, new, [id|Args]),  
  {ok, _} = Song:save(),  
  {redirect, [{action, "list"}]};
```



Add create Action

```
create('POST', []) ->
  Params = ["genre", "year", "album", "artist", "title"],
  Fun = fun(Param, Acc) ->
    [Req:post_param(Param)|Acc]
  end,
  Args = lists:foldl(Fun, [], Params),
  Song = apply(song, new, [id|Args]),
  {ok, _} = Song:save(),
  {redirect, [{action, "list"}]};
create('GET', []) ->
  ok.
```



Add a Song

- Copy `cufp_songs_controller2.erl` to `src/controller/cufp_songs_controller.erl`

- Access

`http://localhost:8001/songs/create`

- Or visit

`http://localhost:8001/songs/list`

and click the "Add" link at the top



Check the New Song

- In the CB console:

```
boss_db:find(song, [{title, equals, X}]).
```

where X is the title you entered

- Note the song ID, which was generated by CB because we passed the atom 'id' for the song module Id parameter



Validation

- What if we want to make sure the user doesn't leave any fields empty?
- Or make other checks on the fields?
- Answer: add validation tests to the `src/model/song.erl` model



validation_tests/0

- Optional function, returns a list of
`{TestFunction, Message}`
tuples to validate the BossRecord
- Any test function failures prevents saving the item



validation_tests/0

```
validation_tests() ->
  [{fun() -> length(Title) > 0 end,
    "Title must not be empty"},
   {fun() -> length(Artist) > 0 end,
    "Artist must not be empty"},
   {fun() -> length(Album) > 0 end,
    "Album must not be empty"},
   {fun() -> length(Year) > 0 end,
    "Year must not be empty"},
   {fun() -> length(Genre) > 0 end,
    "Genre must not be empty"}].
```



Controller Validation

- We have to change this code, which doesn't handle errors:

```
{ok, _} = Song:save(),
```



Controller Validation

case Song:save() of

end;



Controller Validation

```
case Song:save() of
  {ok, _} ->
    {redirect, [{action, "list"}]};

end;
```



Controller Validation

```
case Song:save() of
  {ok, _} ->
    {redirect, [{action, "list"}]};
  {error, Errors} ->
    {ok, [{errors, Errors}, {song, Song}]}
end;
```



Controller Validation

```
case Song:save() of
  {ok, _} ->
    {redirect, [{action, "list"}]};
  {error, Errors} ->
    {ok, [{errors, Errors}, {song, Song}]}
end;
```



Enhance the Create Template

- Display errors
- Reuse existing fields so the user doesn't have to retype everything



Display the Errors

```
{% block body %}  
  {%if errors %}  
    <p>You must fill in all fields!</p>  
    <ul>  
      {% for err in errors %}  
        <li>{{ err }}</li>  
      {% endfor %}  
    </ul>  
  {% endif %}
```



Avoid Field Retyping

```
<input type="text" id="title" name="title"  
{% if song %} value="{{ song.title }}"  
{% endif %}  
><br/>
```



Try It

- Copy create2.html to src/view/songs/create.html
- Copy song2.erl to src/model/song.erl
- Copy cufp_songs_controller3.erl to src/controller/cufp_songs_controller.erl



Try It

- Now, refresh your browser and navigate to the Add Song page
- Try hitting "Submit" without filling in any fields
- You should see errors listed



Try It

- Try filling in some fields but not all and hitting "Submit" again
- It should show you some errors but preserve the fields you've already entered



Could Also Add

- Show details of a specific song (hint: make title a link)
- Edit song details
- A search menu
- Delete a song



And Much More

- BossNews — events and notifications, letting you watch data changes and act
- BossMQ — channel-based messaging, supports Comet
- WebSockets
- Sessions
- Sending and receiving email
- Test framework for testing your web apps
- See <http://www.chicagoboss.org>



The End.

