

WEBD 236

Web Information Systems Programming

Week 3

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Todd Whittaker and Scott Sharkey

Agenda

- This week's expected outcomes
- This week's topics
- This week's homework
- Upcoming deadlines
- Questions and answers

Week 3 Outcomes

- Distinguish between Model 1 and Model 2 architecture web applications
- Employ the Model-View-Controller design pattern in web development
- Utilize RESTful URLs for clean design
- List the advantages to unit testing

Web Architecture

- Model 1 architecture
 - Code for application, database, and display logic is intermixed in a single monolithic page
 - A very tangled set of interactions.
 - Ex: To do application

To do list

Description:

1. Write slides for WEBD236
2. Prepare a model 1 architecture example

Using PHP with SQL

```
<?php
global $db;
try {
    $db = new PDO("sqlite:ToDoList.db3");
} catch (PDOException $e) {
    die("Could not open database. " . $e -> getMessage());
}

if (isset($_POST['description'])) {
    $desc = htmlentities($_POST['description']);
    $statement = $db->prepare("INSERT INTO todo VALUES
    (?, 0)");
    $statement -> bindParam(1, $desc);
    $statement -> execute();
}
```

Some logic to handle the database

Some simple validation and security logic

Web Architecture

```
$statement = $db -> prepare("SELECT * FROM todo WHERE done = 0  
ORDER BY id");  
$statement -> execute();  
$rows = $statement -> fetchAll();  
?>  
<!DOCTYPE html>  
<html>  
  <head>  
    <title>To do list</title>  
  </head>
```

Some logic to
generate our list

Some static
output

Web Architecture

```
<body>
  <h1>To do list</h1>
  <form action="index.php" method="post">
    <label for="description">Description:</label>
    <input type="text" id="description" name="description" />
    <input type="submit" value="Add" />
  </form>
  <ol>
<?php foreach ($rows as $row) : ?>
  <li><?php echo $row['description']; ?></li>
<?php endforeach; ?>
  </ol>
</body>
</html>
```

Some logic to display output.

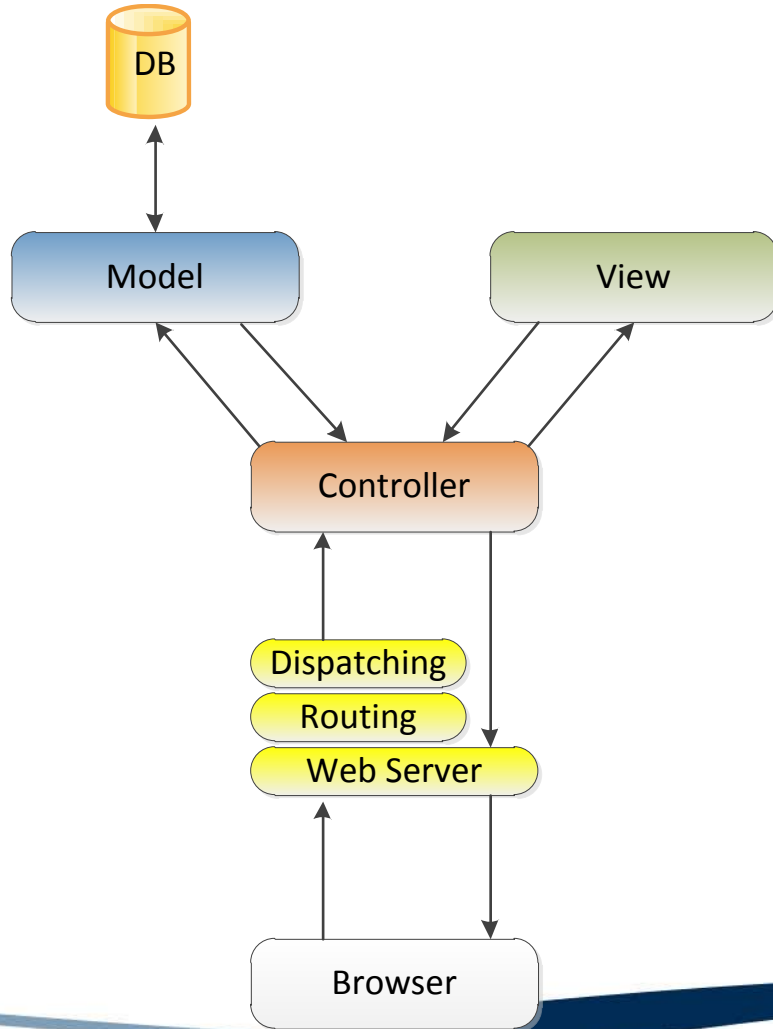
Web Architecture

- Model 1 architecture
 - Works fine for simple applications
 - Becomes horribly messy when
 - Application logic is complicated
 - Error/security reporting is robust
 - You need to debug or make changes
 - Problem: solving three issues in one place.
 - Solution: separate three issues into three places.

MVC-based Architecture

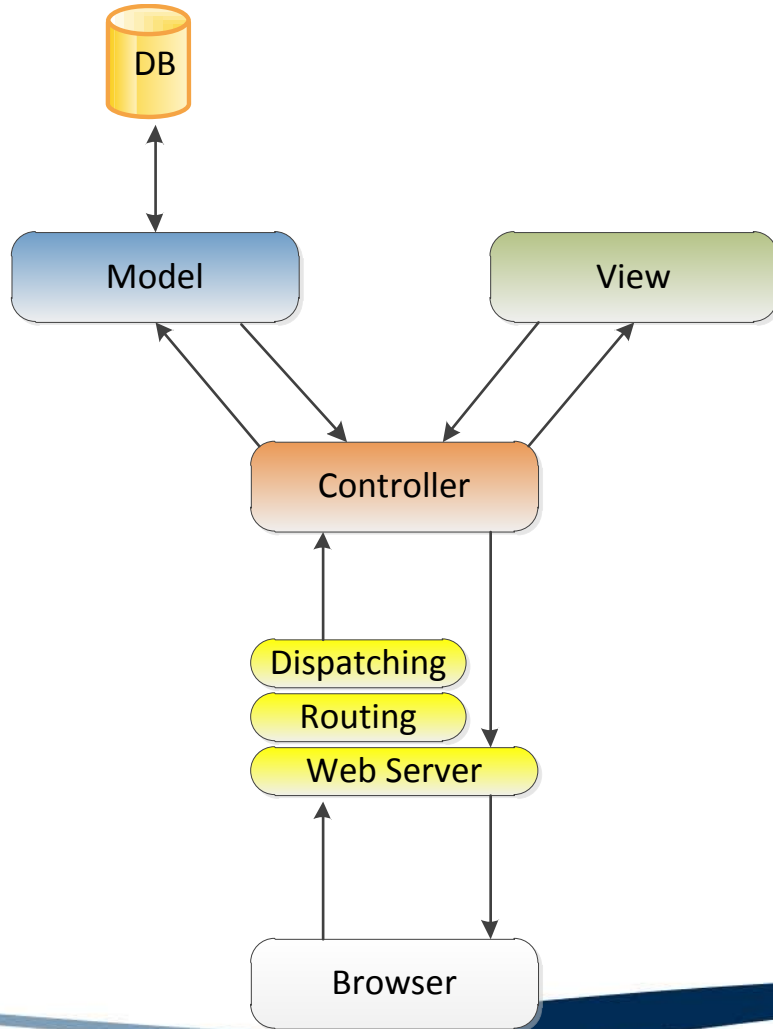
- Model 2:
 - Model-View-Controller (MVC)
 - Model: interacts with the database
 - View: presents data to the user
 - Controller: encapsulates “business logic”
 - Flow of a web request
 - URL maps into a controller
 - Controller updates or retrieves data via model
 - Controller forwards request to a view

MVC-based Architecture



- Browser sends a request to a web server
- Web server fires a routing script to determine what other script (based on URL) should handle the request.
- Routing script dispatches the request to the appropriate controller.
- Controller invokes data-oriented actions on the model

MVC-based Architecture

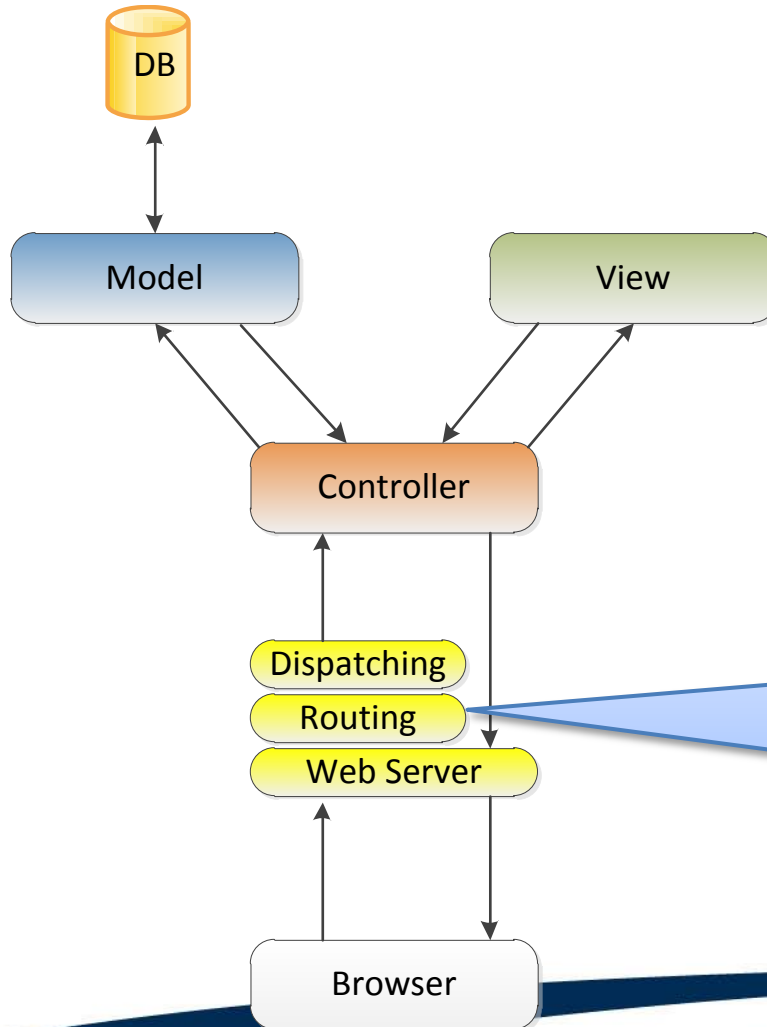


- Model updates/queries the database
- Model returns results to the controller.
- Controller takes results, applies business logic, and forwards results to the view.
- View renders the HTML and returns it to the controller.
- Controller returns HTML to web server and then to browser.

MVC-based Architecture

- We've already done some of this last week:
 - Separation of DB instantiation into db.inc
 - Separation of model into model_student.inc
 - Separation of view into view_student.php
- But, we need to structure this better!

MVC-based Architecture



Start here, with better URLs, routing, and dispatching.

Running example – To Do List

To Do List

Description:

Current To Do:

1. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Teach class on Wednesday, 7:30 PM EST.

Past To Do:

1. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Write slides for WEBD236
2. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Prepare a model 1 architecture example
3. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Prepare a model 2 architecture example

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Running example – To Do List

To Do List

Description:

Current To Do:

1. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Teach

Past To Do:

1. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Write
2. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Prepa
3. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Prepa

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Editing To Do

Description:

Done?:

[<< Back](#)

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Running example – To Do List

To Do List

Description:

Current

1. [\[View\]](#)

Past To Do

1. [\[View\]](#)

2. [\[View\]](#)

3. [\[View\]](#) [\[Edit\]](#) [\[Del\]](#) Prepa

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Viewing To Do

Description: Teach class on Wednesday, 7:30 PM EST.

Done?: no

[<< Back](#)

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Done:

0

[<< Back](#)

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Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- GET-based URLs can be ugly

`http://localhost/webd236/app/view_todo.php?id=23`

- “RESTful” URLs are much prettier

`http://localhost/webd236/app/todo/view/23`

Entity

Action

Parameter

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- GET-based URLs can be

`http://localhost/webd236/app/view_todo.php?id=23`

But, this URL doesn't specify a script file to execute! How do we map this into a script?

- “RESTful” URLs are much prettier

`http://localhost/webd236/app/todo/view/23`

Entity

Action

Parameter

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- .htaccess file
 - Place this in the root of your application folder (i.e. c:\xampp\htdocs\webd236\app)

```
Options +FollowSymLinks
IndexIgnore */*
# Turn on the RewriteEngine
RewriteEngine On
# Rules
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d
RewriteRule . urlrouter.php
```

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- .htaccess file

- Place this in the `public` directory of your application (i.e. `c:\xampp\htdocs\public\app`)

Must “allow overrides” in the Apache configuration in `c:\xampp\apache\conf\httpd.conf`

```
Options +FollowSymLinks
IndexIgnore */*
# Turn on the RewriteEngine
RewriteEngine On
# Rules
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d
RewriteRule . urlrouter.php
```

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- .htaccess file

Must “allow overrides” in the Apache configuration in

```
<Directory "C:/xampp/htdocs">  
Options Indexes FollowSymLinks Includes ExecCGI  
AllowOverride All  
Order allow,deny  
Allow from all  
</Directory>
```

Permits the rewrite engine to be active on a per-directory basis.

```
RewriteEngine On
```

```
# Rules
```

```
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f
```

```
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d
```

```
RewriteRule . urlrouter.php
```

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- URL routing and dispatching
 - Three critical pieces of information for a URL like `http://localhost/webd236/app/todo/view/5`

```
print_r($_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD']);  
print_r($_SERVER['REQUEST_URI']);  
print_r($_SERVER['SCRIPT_NAME']);
```

```
GET  
/app/todo/view/5  
/app/urlrouter.php
```

Can use this to figure out the directory (app), the entity (todo), the action (view) the ID (5) and the method (GET).

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- urlrouter.php

```
<?php
function routeUrl() {
    $method = $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'];
    $requestURI = explode('/', $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI']);
    $scriptName = explode('/', $_SERVER['SCRIPT_NAME']);

    for ($i = 0; $i < sizeof($scriptName); $i++) {
        if ($requestURI[$i] == $scriptName[$i]) {
            unset($requestURI[$i]);
        }
    }
}
# continued...
```

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- urlrouter.php

```
<?php
function routeUrl() {
    $method = $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'];
    $requestURI = explode('/', $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI']);
    $scriptName = explode('/', $_SERVER['SCRIPT_NAME']);

    for ($i = 0; $i < sizeof($scriptName); $i++) {
        if ($requestURI[$i] == $scriptName[$i]) {
            unset($requestURI[$i]);
        }
    }
    # continued...
```

explode(): convert string to array:

```
Array
(
    [0] =>
    [1] => app
    [2] => todo
    [3] => view
    [4] => 5
)
```


Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- urlrouter.php

```
<?php
function routeUrl() {
    $method = $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'];
    $requestURI = explode('/', $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI']);
    $scriptName = explode('/', $_SERVER['SCRIPT_NAME']);

    for ($i = 0; $i < sizeof($scriptName); $i++) {
        if ($requestURI[$i] == $scriptName[$i]) {
            unset($requestURI[$i]);
        }
    }
}
# continued...
```

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- urlrouter.php

```
$command = array_values($requestURI);  
$controller = 'controllers/' . $command[0] . '.inc';  
$func = strtolower($method) . '_' .  
    (isset($command[1]) ? $command[1] : 'index');  
$params = array_slice($command, 2);  
  
# continued...
```

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

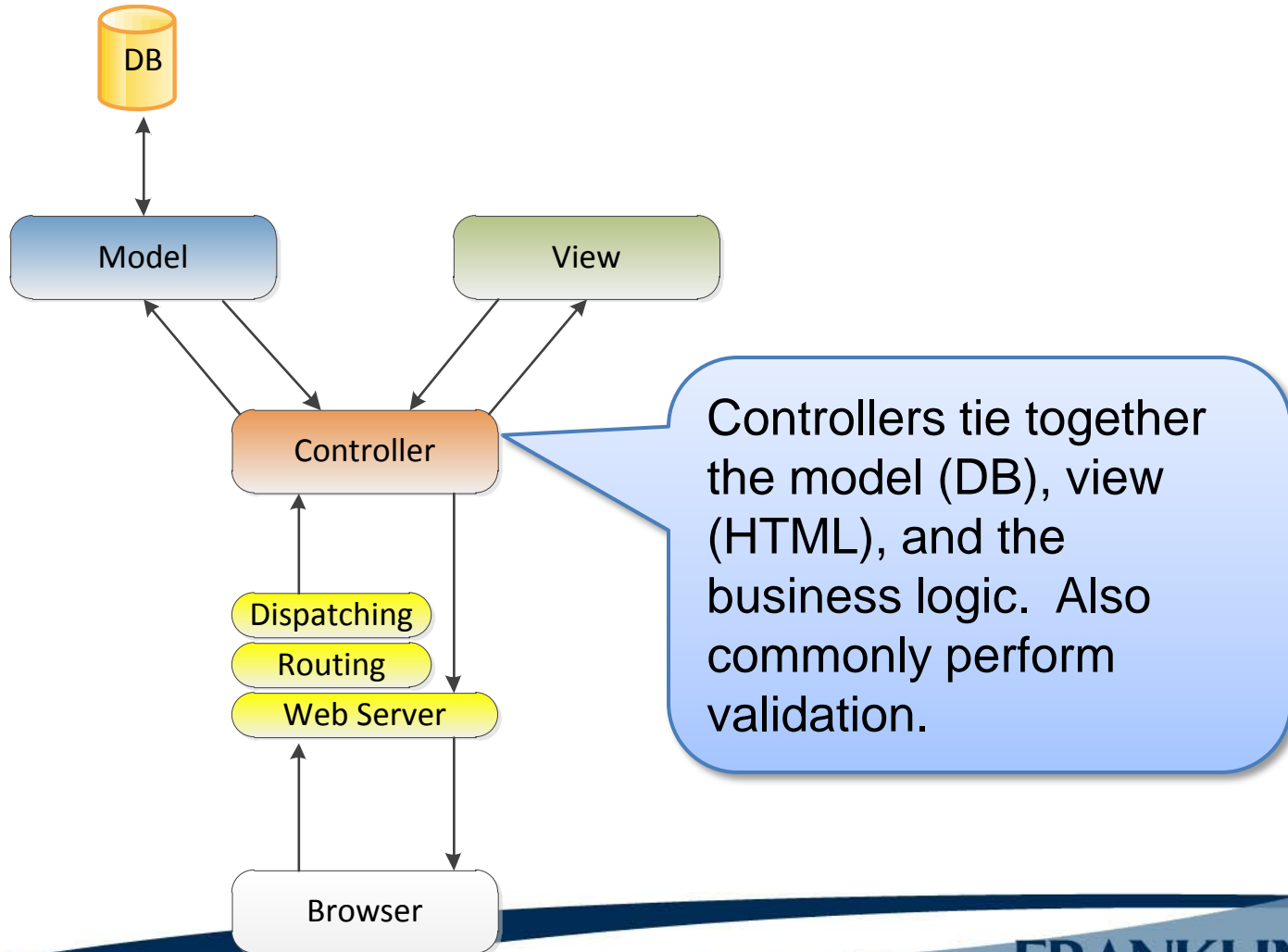
- urlrouter.php

```
if (file_exists($controller)) {  
    require $controller;  
    if (function_exists($func)) {  
        $func($params);  
        exit();  
    }  
    else {  
        die("Command '$func' doesn't exist.");  
    }  
} else {  
    die("Controller '$controller' doesn't exist.");  
}  
}  
routeURL();
```

Pretty URLs, Routing, Dispatching

- What we've done:
 - Given a URL:
`http://localhost/webd236/app/todo/view/5`
 - Included the file 'controllers/todo.inc'
 - Called the function 'get_view' with a parameter array containing the value '5' at index 0.
 - What should get_view do?
 - It's a controller.
 - Validate parameters
 - Query the model
 - Render the view

Controllers



Controllers

- controllers/todo.inc

```
<?php
include_once "Lib/Util.inc";
include_once "models/todo.inc";

function safeParam($arr, $index, $default) {
    if ($arr && isset($arr[$index])) {
        return $arr[$index];
    }
    return $default;
}

# continued ...
```

Controllers

- controllers/todo.inc

```
<?php
include_once "Lib/Util.inc";
include_once "models/todo.inc";

function safeParam($arr, $index, $default) {
    if ($arr && isset($arr[$index])) {
        return $arr[$index];
    }
    return $default;
}

# continued ...
```

Models contain functions that interact with the database.

Controllers

- controllers/todo.inc

```
function get_view($params) {
    $id = safeParam($params, 0, false);
    if ($id === false) {
        die("No todo id specified");
    }
    $todo = findToDoById($id);
    if (!$todo) {
        die("No todo with id $id found.");
    }
    renderTemplate(
        "views/todo_view.inc",
        array(
            'title' => 'Viewing To Do',
            'todo' => $todo));
}
```

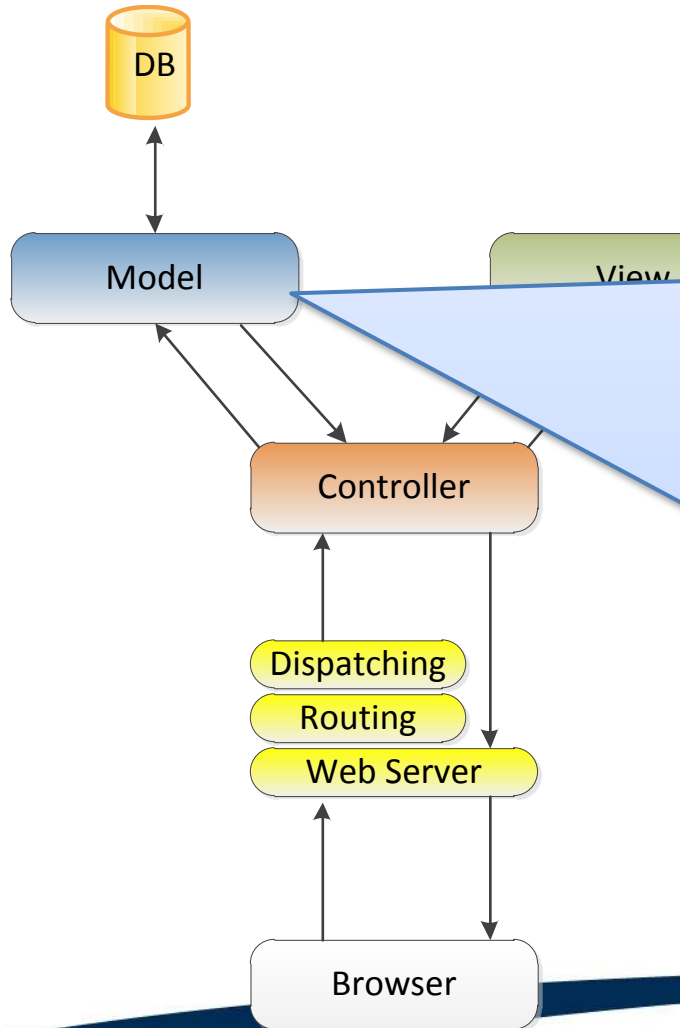

Controllers

- controllers/todo.inc

```
function get_view($params) {  
    $id = safeParam($params, 0, false);  
    if ($id === false) {  
        die("No todo id specified");  
    }  
    $todo = findToDoById($id);  
    if (!$todo) {  
        die("No todo with id $id found.");  
    }  
    renderTemplate(  
        "views/todo_view.inc",  
        array(  
            'title' => 'Viewing To Do',  
            'todo' => $todo));  
}
```

There are more controllers in this file, i.e. get_list, get_edit, post_add, post_edit, etc.

Models



Models abstract the access to the database. Handle create, read, update, delete (CRUD) of rows. Frequently contain many findByXXX() functions one update, one insert, one delete function.

Models

- models/todo.inc

```
<?php
include_once 'models/db.inc';

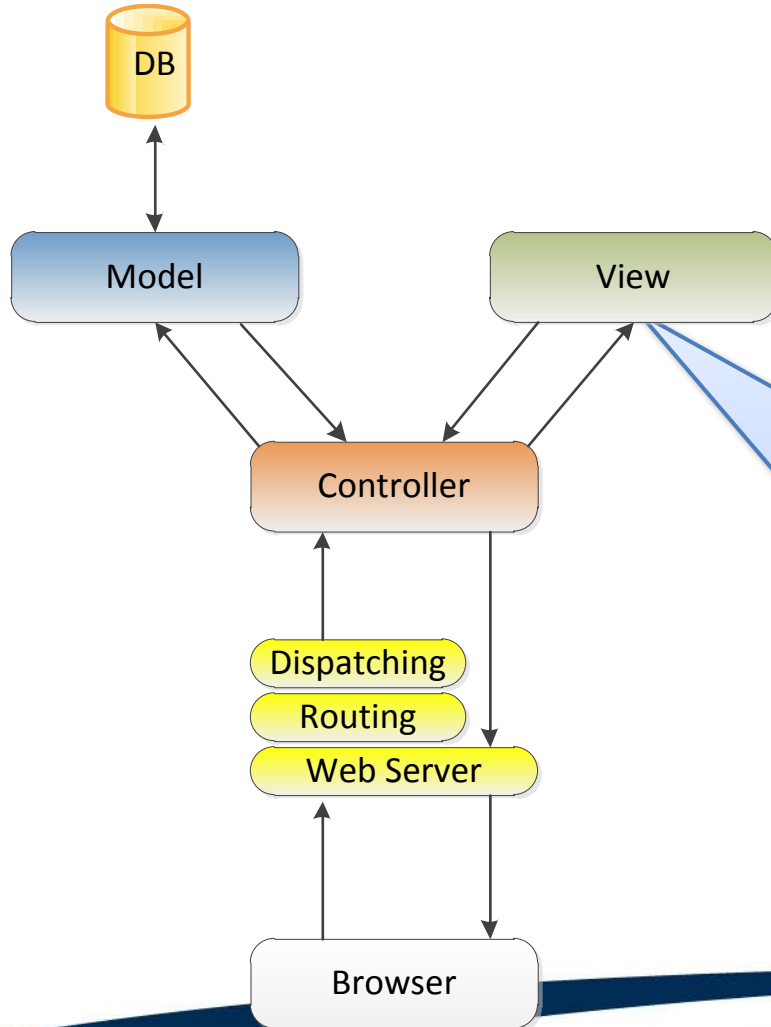
function findToDoById($id) {
    global $db;
    $st = $db -> prepare('SELECT * FROM todo WHERE id = ?');
    $st -> bindParam(1, $id);
    $st -> execute();
    return $st -> fetch(PDO::FETCH_ASSOC);
}
?>
```

Models

- models/db.inc

```
<?php
global $db;
try {
    $db = new PDO('sqlite:ToDoList.db3');
} catch (PDOException $e) {
    die("Could not open database. " . $e->getMessage());
}
?>
```

Views



Views allow us to return pages back to the user. But, we want to keep programming logic in views *very simple*.

Views

- Programming logic in views
 - We don't want any validation, business rules, etc. in our views
 - Only want *display-based* logic, i.e. a loop over the rows in a result set
- Templating
 - Can use includes in PHP to pull in sections but...
 - PHP is an ugly templating language

Views

- Programming logic in views

- We don't want ugly code just to render the value of a variable:
`<?php echo $someVar ?>`
- Only want *display* the rows in a table
This would be nicer:
`{{ $someVar }}`

- Templating

- Can use includes in PHP to pull in sections but...
- PHP is an ugly templating language

Views

- Solution: build a simple templating engine

```
%% views/header.html %%  
<h1>{{$title}}</h1>  
<div class='display'>  
  <label>Description:</label>  
  <div class='value'>{{$todo['description']}}</div>  
  <label>Done?:</label>  
  <div class='value'>{{$todo['done'] ? 'yes' : 'no'}}</div>  
</div>  
<p><a href="@ @index@@"><< Back</a></p>  
%% views/footer.html %%
```


Views

- Solution: build a simple templating engine

Things enclosed in
%% %% are imported.

```
%% views/header.html %%  
<h1>{{$title}}</h1>  
<div class='display'>  
  <label>Description:</label>  
  <div class='value'>{{$todo['description']}}</div>  
  <label>Done?:</label>  
  <div class='value'>{{$todo['done'] ? 'yes' : 'no'}}</div>  
</div>  
<p><a href="@ @index@ @"><< Back</a></p>  
%% views/footer.html %%
```

Things enclosed in
{{ }} are variables to
echo to output.

Things enclosed in
@@ @@ are
“relative” URLs.

Standard PHP can
be enclosed in [[]].
(not shown)

Views

- Solution: build a simple templating engine

```
%% views/header.html %%  
<h1>{{$title}}</h1>  
<div class='display'>  
  <label>Description:</label>  
  <div class='value'>{{$todo['description']}}</div>  
  <label>Done?:</label>  
  <div class='value'>{{$todo['done'] ? 'yes' : 'no'}}</div>  
</div>  
<p><a href="@ @index@@"><< Back</a></p>  
%% views/footer.html %%
```

This becomes...

Views

- Solution:

```
%% views/head
<h1>{{ $title }}</h1>
<div class='display'>
  <label>Description:
  <div class='value'>
  <label>Done?:
  <div class='value'>
</div>
<p><a href="@url">Back</a></p>
%% views/footer
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title><?php echo($title); ?></title>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="/app/static/style.css" />
  </head>
  <body>
    <div class="content">
      <h1><?php echo($title); ?></h1>
      <div class='display'>
        <label>Description:
        <div class='value'><?php echo($todo['description']); ?></div>
        <label>Done?:
        <div class='value'><?php echo($todo['done'] ? 'yes' : 'no'); ?></div>
      </div>
      <p><a href="/app/index"><< Back</a></p>
      <div class="footer">
        Copyright &copy; 2012-2017 Todd Whittaker
      </div>
    </div><!-- content div -->
  </body>
</html>
```

Views

- Solution:

```
%% views/head
<h1>{{$title}}</h1>
<div class='display'>
  <label>Description:
  <div class='value'>
  <label>Done?:
  <div class='value'>
</div>
<p><a href="@
%% views/footer
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title><?php echo($title); ?></title>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="/app/static/style.css" />
  </head>
  <body>
    <div class="content">
      <h1><?php echo($title); ?></h1>
      <div class='display'>
        <label>Description:
        <div class='value'><?php echo($todo['description']);
        <label>Done?:
        <div class='value'><?php echo($todo['done'] ? 'yes' : 'no');
      </div>
      <p><a href="/app/index"><< Back</a></p>
      <div class="footer">
        Copyright &copy; 2012-2017 Todd Whittaker
      </div>
    </div><!-- content div -->
  </body>
</html>
```

But, where do variables like \$title come from?

Views

- From the array of variables passed into `renderTemplate` from the controller.

```
o($title); ?></title>  
<link href="/app/static/style.css" />  
<h1>  
</h1>  
</label>  
<div class='va' value'<?php echo($todo['description'],  
<label value'<?</label>
```

```
renderTemplate(  
    "views/todo_view.inc",  
    array(  
        'title' => 'Viewing To Do',  
        'todo' => $todo  
    )  
);
```

But, where do variables like `$title` come from?

Views

```
if the template doesn't exist:  
    die  
if there is a cached version of the view:  
    load cached version  
else:  
    load the template into contents string  
    resolve any %% template %% imports recursively  
    replace any @@ URL @@ with an absolute URL  
    replace any "{{" with "<?php echo("  
    replace any "}}" with "); ?>"  
    replace any "[" with "<?php "  
    replace any "]" with "?>"  
    write out the new contents to a cache file  
extract the array of template parameters  
make PHP interpret the contents  
echo the interpreted contents
```

renderTemplate
pseudo-code.
Working code in
Lib/Util.inc

Views

if the template doesn't exist:

die

if there is a cached version of the view:

load cached version

else:

load the template into contents string

resolve any %% template %% imports recursively

replace any @@ URL @@ with an absolute URL

replace any "{" with "<?php echo("

replace any "}" with "); ?>"

replace any "[" with "

replace any "]" with "

write out the new con

extract the array of tem

make PHP interpret the


echo the interpreted co

Plain relative URLs don't work because accessing "todo/delete/5" in the browser from the page "/app/todo/view/1" would resolve to "app/todo/view/todo/delete/5"

Last (?) Words on MVC

- Remember the flow:
 - Router/dispatcher loads the controller and calls the right function
 - Controller function invokes the model for data access or update and then returns a View by:
 - Rendering a template (for GET requests)
 - Redirecting to a URL (for a POST request)

Testing and Debugging

- Three kinds of errors
 - Syntax errors: show up as  in NetBeans. Relatively easy to fix (missing semi-colons, quotation marks, parentheses, curly braces, etc). Also show up as parse errors if you try to run the bad script:

Parse error: syntax error, unexpected T_FUNCTION
in **C:\xampp\htdocs\webd236\Lib\Util.inc** on line 8

Testing and Debugging

- Three kinds of errors
 - Runtime errors: only show up when you're running the code (i.e. clicking 'refresh'). Some are fatal, others are warnings. Also relatively easy to fix.

Warning: include() [[function.include](#)]: Failed opening 'foo.inc' for inclusion (include_path='.;C:\xampp\webd236\;C:\xampp\php\PEAR') in **C:\xampp\htdocs\webd236\Lib\Util.inc** on line **7**

Testing and Debugging

- Three kinds of errors
 - Logic errors: The silent killers; very difficult to find and fix. Your algorithm doesn't do what you think it should do. Now you need to debug.
 - Use echo, print, and print_r plus Logging in conjunction with your browser's "view source" option to see the values of variables.

Testing and Debugging

- There is an easier way.
 - Write testing code to make sure that your production code works like it should.
 - Can be very simple, or you can use a testing framework.

Testing and Debugging

```
<?php
function assertEquals($expected, $actual) {
    if ($expected != $actual) {
        die("Expected: $expected but got $actual");
    }
}
function calcGasMileage($milesDriven, $gallonsUsed) {
    return $milesDriven / $gallonsUsed;
}
function testCalcGasMileage() {
    $miles = 300;
    $gallons = 15;
    assertEquals(20, calcGasMileage($miles, $gallons));
}
testCalcGasMileage();
print("Everything is fine!");
?>
```

Testing and Debugging

```
<?php
function assertEquals($expected, $actual) {
    if ($expected != $actual) {
        die("Expected: $expected but got $actual");
    }
}

function calcGasMileage($milesDriven, $gallonsUsed) {
    return $milesDriven / $gallonsUsed;
}

function testCalcGasMileage() {
    $miles = 300;
    $gallons = 15;
    assertEquals(20, calcGasMileage($miles, $gallons));
}

testCalcGasMileage();
print("Everything is fine!");
?>
```

This should actually be in an included file. Why?

Testing and Debugging

```
<?php
function assertEquals($expected, $actual) {
    if ($expected != $actual) {
        die("Expected: $expected but got $actual");
    }
}
function calcGasMileage($milesDriven, $gallonsUsed) {
    return $milesDriven / $gallonsUsed;
}
function testCalcGasMileage() {
    $miles = 300;
    $gallons = 15;
    assertEquals(20, calcGasMileage($miles, $gallons));
}
testCalcGasMileage();
print("Everything is fine!");
?>
```

Called a “unit test” since we’re testing a single small unit of code (one function in this case). What other numbers should we try?

Testing and Debugging

- Advantages of unit testing
 - Tests run on the server for your business logic
 - Tests build confidence that you are building the system right
 - Tests can be rerun after every change you make to ensure that they still pass.
 - Writing testable code is similar to writing code others can easily read.

Testing and Debugging

- Some PHP unit testing frameworks
 - PHPUnit: <https://github.com/sebastianbergmann/phpunit>
 - SimpleTest: <http://www.simpletest.org/>
- Note, testing your JavaScript or GUI is vastly different
 - Jasmine for JavaScript
 - Selenium for GUIs/request-response

Upcoming Deadlines

- Readings for next week
 - Chapters 7 and 8 in *PHP and MySQL*
- Assignments
 - Homework 2 due end of week 3
 - Lab 1 due end of week 4
- Next week:
 - Forms and data, control statements

General Q & A

- Questions?
- Comments?
- Concerns?