Web Server Design

Lecture 1 – Introduction to HTTP

Old Dominion University
Department of Computer Science
CS 431/531 Fall 2022
Sawood Alam <salam@cs.odu.edu>

2022-08-31

Original slides by Michael L. Nelson
Want to do this?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJl__WfU5rE
It will be better/safer if you know this...
Want to do this?

Twitter Developer Documentation

Docs / REST APIs / Reference Documentation / GET search/tweets

**GET search/tweets**

Returns a collection of relevant Tweets matching a specified query.

Please note that Twitter’s search service and, by extension, the Search API is not meant to be an exhaustive source of Tweets. Not all Tweets will be indexed or made available via the search interface.

In API v1.1, the response format of the Search API has been improved to return Tweet objects more similar to the objects you’ll find across the REST API and platform. However, perspectival attributes (fields that pertain to the perspective of the authenticating user) are not currently supported on this endpoint.

To learn how to use Twitter Search effectively, consult our guide to Using the Twitter Search API. See Working with Timelines to learn best practices for navigating results by `since_id` and `max_id`.

**Resource URL**

https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json
It will be better/safer if you know this...

$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80 | tee 6-1.out
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
HEAD /~mln/teaching/cs595-s06/a1-test/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Sun, 12 Feb 2006 20:58:49 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) ApacheJServ/1.1.2 PHP/4.3.4
Content-Type: text/html

HEAD /~mln/teaching/cs595-s06/a1-test/1/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Sun, 12 Feb 2006 20:58:55 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) ApacheJServ/1.1.2 PHP/4.3.4
Content-Type: text/html

HEAD /~mln/teaching/cs595-s06/a1-test/2/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Sun, 12 Feb 2006 20:59:01 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) ApacheJServ/1.1.2 PHP/4.3.4
Last-Modified: Sun, 29 Jan 2006 18:43:15 GMT
ETag: "1f4de2-790-43dd0cc3"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 1936
Content-Type: text/html
X-Pad: avoid browser bug

Connection closed by foreign host.
Goals

• We will write a web (HTTP) server from scratch
  – we will not use Apache, IIS, Nginx, or other existing web servers
  – the point is to learn basic HTTP and have a working server at the end of the class
    • your server won’t be as “good” as Apache -- and that’s ok…

• We will use industry standard tools/environments/systems/etc.
  – GitHub/Git
  – Docker
I’m not teaching Web Application Development

• If you want to learn LAMP, you need to take Dr. Jian Wu’s 418/518 (Web Programming) class

Instead of LAMP, you’ll be learning the basis of:
REST: Representational State Transfer &
HATEOAS: Hypermedia as the Engine of Application State
To Reiterate:

CS 418/518 – Make it Pretty
https://www.hotrod.com/articles/fairlane-finale-finish-2016-road-tour-ford/

CS 431/531 – Under the Hood
https://www.hotrod.com/articles/ccrp-0808-ford-390-fe/
REST vs. RPC

RPC:   foo.com/bigApp.jsp?verb=showThing&id=123
REST: foo.com/things/123   (w/ GET method)

RPC:   foo.com/bigApp.jsp?verb=editThing&id=123
REST: foo.com/things/123   (w/ PUT method)

RPC:   foo.com/bigApp.jsp?verb=newThing
REST: foo.com/things/   (w/ POST method)

Quick-n-dirty summary:
in REST, URIs are *nouns* and HTTP provides the *verbs*

this will make more sense as we go through the semester, and there’s actually a lot more to REST:
https://research.google.com/pubs/archive/46310.pdf
Defining the Web / HTTP

• HTTP was originally defined by Request for Comments (RFCs) 1945, 2068, 2616
  – and several others for defining URLs, URIs, etc.

• Venerable RFC 2616 was replaced in 2014 with:
  – RFC7230 - HTTP/1.1: Message Syntax and Routing - low-level message parsing and connection management
  – RFC7231 - HTTP/1.1: Semantics and Content - methods, status codes and headers
  – RFC7232 - HTTP/1.1: Conditional Requests - e.g., If-Modified-Since
  – RFC7233 - HTTP/1.1: Range Requests - getting partial content
  – RFC7234 - HTTP/1.1: Caching - browser and intermediary caches
  – RFC7235 - HTTP/1.1: Authentication - a framework for HTTP authentication
  – see: https://www.mnot.net/blog/2014/06/07/rfc2616_is_dead

• Further refactored and replaced in 2022
  – RFC9110 - HTTP Semantics - those core, versionless semantics
  – RFC9111 - HTTP Caching - split into a separate document for convenience, but also versionless
  – RFC9112 - HTTP/1.1 - everything that’s specific to that textual wire protocol
  – see: https://www.mnot.net/blog/2022/06/06/http-core

• We also have a slightly revisionist but ultimately useful unifying document, ca. 2004:
Uniform Resource Identifiers

URI & URL: http://www.cs.odu.edu/

URL: ftp://ftp.isi.edu/pub/

URI: info:pmid/12376099

URN: urn:uuid:6e8bc430-9c3a-11d9-9669-0800200c9a66
“A URI can be further classified as a locator, a name, or both. The term "Uniform Resource Locator" (URL) refers to the subset of URIs that, in addition to identifying a resource, provide a means of locating the resource by describing its primary access mechanism (e.g., its network "location"). The term "Uniform Resource Name" (URN) has been used historically to refer to both URIs under the "urn" scheme [RFC2141], which are required to remain globally unique and persistent even when the resource ceases to exist or becomes unavailable, and to any other URI with the properties of a name.”
URIs & URNs

• Registered URI schemes
  – http://www.iana.org/assignments/uri-schemes

• Registered URN namespaces
  – http://www.iana.org/assignments/urn-namespaces
URI Schemes

foo://username:password@example.com:8042/over/there/index.dtb;type=animal?name=ferret#nose

note: “scheme”, not “protocol”
The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119.

1. MUST   This word, or the terms "REQUIRED" or "SHALL", mean that the definition is an absolute requirement of the specification.

2. MUST NOT This phrase, or the phrase "SHALL NOT", mean that the definition is an absolute prohibition of the specification.

3. SHOULD   This word, or the adjective "RECOMMENDED", mean that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.

4. SHOULD NOT This phrase, or the phrase "NOT RECOMMENDED" mean that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular behavior is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behavior described with this label.

5. MAY   This word, or the adjective "OPTIONAL", mean that an item is truly optional. One vendor may choose to include the item because a particular marketplace requires it or because the vendor feels that it enhances the product while another vendor may omit the same item. An implementation which does not include a particular option MUST be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does include the option, though perhaps with reduced functionality. In the same vein an implementation which does include a particular option MUST be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does not include the option (except, of course, for the feature the option provides.)
Important Web Architecture Concepts

URIs

http://www.cs.odu.edu/~mln/

Resources

Representations*

As defined by the Web Architecture
http://www.w3.org/TR/webarch/

*= “message” or “message body” in RFC 7231,
“entity”/“entity-body” in RFC-2616
Resources can have multiple, simultaneous representations
HTTP Operation

Client -> Request-line, Header Fields, Whitespace, Message Body -> Origin

Origin -> Status-line, Header Fields, Whitespace, Message Body -> Server
Client:  
Method URI HTTP/1.1  
Some-Request-Header-1: value1  
Some-Request-Header-2: value2  
...  

(1st magic blank line)  

Server:  
HTTP/1.1 Code String  
Some-Response-Header-1: value1  
Some-Response-Header-2: value2  
...  

(2nd magic blank line)  
message-body  

Client’s “request-line” and Server’s “status-line” are the format exceptions; otherwise headers are in a flat, key-value syntax, followed by a blank line, followed by an optional message-body.
Modern Browsers (aka “user-agents”) are nice…

But they hide important details from us. As programmers, we care about those details.

Talking to HTTP servers with “curl”

$ curl --head http://www.cs.odu.edu/~mln/
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 12 Jan 2009 15:44:19 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.0
Last-Modified: Fri, 09 Jan 2009 17:18:37 GMT
ETag: "88849-1c71-f28dd540"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 7281
Content-Type: text/html

$ curl -I http://www.google.com/
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: private, max-age=0
Date: Mon, 12 Jan 2009 15:45:57 GMT
Expires: -1
Content-Type: text/html; charset=ISO-8859-1
Set-Cookie: PREF=ID=9a80d3f602b685f3:TM=1231775157:LM=1231775157:S=imGxRyNsTD0Zczm5;
expires=Wed, 12-Jan-2011 15:45:57 GMT; path=/; domain=.google.com
Server: gws
Content-Length: 0
default curl returns message body, no headers...

$ curl https://www.cs.odu.edu/~mln/
<html>
<head>
<title>
Home:: Michael L. Nelson, Old Dominion University
</title>
<!-- CSS stuff largely stolen from Carl Lagoze's Page -->
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="mln.css"/>
<meta property="fb:admins" content="michael.lloyd.nelson"/>
<meta property="og:title" content="Michael L. Nelson"/>
[lots of html removed]
curl –i shows
response headers + message body:

   $ curl -i https://www.cs.odu.edu/~mln/
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: nginx
Date: Wed, 29 Aug 2018 02:34:15 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Transfer-Encoding: chunked
Connection: keep-alive
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Front-End-Httsp: on

<html>
<head>
<title>
Home:: Michael L. Nelson, Old Dominion University
</title>
[deletia]
* Adding handle: conn: 0x7fa59b004000
* Adding handle: send: 0
* Adding handle: recv: 0
* Curl_addHandleToPipeline: length: 1
* - Conn 0 (0x7fa59b004000) send_pipe: 1, recv_pipe: 0
* About to connect() to ws-dl.blogspot.com port 80 (#0)
* Trying 172.217.5.65...
* Connected to ws-dl.blogspot.com (172.217.5.65) port 80 (#0)
> GET /2018/08/2018-08-25-four-ws-dl-classes-offered.html HTTP/1.1
> User-Agent: curl/7.30.0
> Host: ws-dl.blogspot.com
> Accept: */*
>
< HTTP/1.1 200 OK
< Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
< Expires: Wed, 29 Aug 2018 01:28:50 GMT
< Date: Wed, 29 Aug 2018 01:28:50 GMT
< Cache-Control: private, max-age=0
< Last-Modified: Tue, 28 Aug 2018 23:33:07 GMT
< X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
< X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
* Server GSE is not blacklisted
< Server: GSE
< Accept-Ranges: none
< Vary: Accept-Encoding
< Transfer-Encoding: chunked
<
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html dir='ltr' xmlns='http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml' xmlns:b='http://www.google.com/2005/gml/b'
<head>
[much deletia]
curl has many, many flags...
wget crawls and saves sites
ACC football injury reports no more; national standard likely

Justin Fuente on injury reports

Hokies coach Justin Fuente advocates a uniform injury reporting policy for all of college football. (AP photo via Roanoke Times.)

Hokies coach Justin Fuente advocates a uniform injury reporting policy for all of college football. (AP photo via Roanoke Times.)

Josh Jackson, Ricky Walker and Yoshua Nijman are presumably healthy for Virginia Tech’s football season opener at Florida State on Monday night. They’ve practiced throughout training camp and answered questions from reporters Sunday.

But what if they, or any player from either team, sustained an injury this week and was doubtful or out for Monday? We might not know until near kickoff.

And that’s too bad. It’s not outrageous or shameful, mind you, but it is another strike against transparency.

Not that coaches should reveal game plans or players should forfeit the legal privacy protections. But from 2010 through last season, ACC football programs released injury reports two days before conference games.

Civilization survived. Rights weren’t compromised. Championships weren’t altered. Indeed, ACC football is stronger than ever.

The reports informed fans and media, not to mention - wink, wink - oddsmakers and legions of gamblers. But ACC coaches voted this offseason to discontinue their gentlemen’s agreement – the injury reports were not mandated by conference policy – and I don’t blame them.

First, the ACC was the only league issuing injury reports. Second, there was no uniform format, giving schools discretion on whether to reveal an injury’s nature (knee, hip, ankle, etc.). Third, some coaches fudged.

Moreover, of the 12 ACC coaches who adopted the injury reports in 2010, only Georgia Tech’s Paul Johnson, Duke’s David Cutcliffe and Clemson’s Dabo Swinney are still working in the conference.

Somewhat in jest, I asked Virginia Tech coach Justin Fuente if he and his colleagues just don’t trust one another.

curl/wget/lynx are awesome

but they are still user-agents,
and the nature of user-agents
is to hide details.

we’ll frequently use
“telnet” or “openssl”
to expose details
$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
GET /~mln/index.html HTTP/1.1
Connection: close
Host: www.cs.odu.edu

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 09 Jan 2006 17:07:04 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) ApacheJServ/1.1.2 PHP/4.3.4
Last-Modified: Sun, 29 May 2005 02:46:53 GMT
ETag: "1c52-14ed-42992d1d"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 5357
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

<html>
<head>
<title>Home Page for Michael L. Nelson</title>
<style type="text/css">
<!--
[ lots of html deleted]
</style>
</head>

Connection closed by foreign host.
$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
HEAD /~mln/index.html HTTP/1.1
Connection: close
Host: www.cs.odu.edu

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 09 Jan 2006 17:14:39 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) ApacheJServ/1.1.2
PHP/4.3.4
Last-Modified: Sun, 29 May 2005 02:46:53 GMT
ETag: "1c52-14ed-42992d1d"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 5357
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

Connection closed by foreign host.
OPTIONS
(many methods)

$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
OPTIONS /~mln/index.html HTTP/1.1
Connection: close
Host: www.cs.odu.edu

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 09 Jan 2006 17:16:46 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) ApacheJServ/1.1.2 PHP/4.3.4
Content-Length: 0
Allow: GET, HEAD, POST, PUT, DELETE, CONNECT, OPTIONS, PATCH, PROPFIND,
PROPPATCH, MKCOL, COPY, MOVE, LOCK, UNLOCK, TRACE
Connection: close

Connection closed by foreign host.
OPTIONS
(fewer methods)

$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
OPTIONS /~mln/index.html HTTP/1.1
Connection: close
Host: www.cs.odu.edu

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 17:26:44 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.17 (Unix) PHP/5.3.5 mod_ssl/2.2.17 OpenSSL/0.9.8q
Allow: GET,HEAD,POST,OPTIONS
Content-Length: 0
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

Connection closed by foreign host.
HTTPS is supplanting HTTP

this is mostly a good thing*

but it does mean we can’t use telnet for “https” sites

$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^[].
HEAD /~mln/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
Server: nginx
Date: Wed, 29 Aug 2018 03:45:36 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Connection: close
Location:
https://www.cs.odu.edu/~mln/

Connection closed by foreign host.

$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 443
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^[].
HEAD /~mln/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request
Server: nginx
Date: Wed, 29 Aug 2018 03:45:57 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Connection: close

Connection closed by foreign host.
hello “openssl to port 443”

$ openssl s_client -connect www.cs.odu.edu:443
CONNECTED(00000003)
[much, much SSL deletia]
SSL handshake has read 6270 bytes and written 328 bytes
---
New, TLSv1/SSLv3, Cipher is DHE-RSA-AES128-SHA
Server public key is 2048 bit
Secure Renegotiation IS supported
Compression: NONE
Expansion: NONE
SSL-Session:
 Protocol : TLSv1
 Cipher    : DHE-RSA-AES128-SHA
 Session-ID: E19FD48AA69A2969B958877C48C28391ED217761F1E2023C7471ACB89B2694
 Session-ID-ctx:
 Master-Key: 0A9A3DC0C66F99FF85A480ADEC42A7EB74ECC1D391D9AF4A026CF27C16A19480C42A75B6CD283BFE68ADAB32D07D7242
 Key-Arg   : None
 Start Time: 1535514923
 Timeout   : 300 (sec)
 Verify return code: 0 (ok)
---
HEAD /~mln/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: nginx
Date: Wed, 29 Aug 2018 03:55:35 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Connection: close
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Front-End-Https: on
closed
HTTP semantics don’t change

$ openssl s_client -connect www.cs.odu.edu:443
[all SSL portions deleted]
OPTIONS /~mln/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: nginx
Date: Wed, 29 Aug 2018 04:02:05 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 0
Connection: close
Allow: POST,OPTIONS,GET,HEAD
Front-End-Https: on

closed
Response Codes

- **1xx: Informational** - The request was received, continuing process

- **2xx: Success** - The action was successfully received, understood, and accepted

- **3xx: Redirection** - Further action must be taken in order to complete the request

- **4xx: Client Error** - The request contains bad syntax or cannot be fulfilled

- **5xx: Server Error** - The server failed to fulfill an apparently valid request

*not “error” codes!!!*
$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.

GET /index.html HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 501 Method Not Implemented
Date: Mon, 09 Jan 2006 17:22:40 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) ApacheJServ/1.1.2 PHP/4.3.4
Allow: GET, HEAD, POST, PUT, DELETE, CONNECT, OPTIONS, PATCH, PROPFIND, PROPPATCH, MKCOL, COPY, MOVE, LOCK, UNLOCK, TRACE
Connection: close
Transfer-Encoding: chunked
Content-Type: text/html; charset=iso-8859-1

<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//IETF//DTD HTML 2.0//EN">
<html><head>
<title>501 Method Not Implemented</title>
</head><body>
<h1>Method Not Implemented</h1>
NOTAREALMETHOD to /index.html not supported.<p>
Invalid method in request NOTAREALMETHOD /index.html HTTP/1.1</p>
</body></html>

Connection closed by foreign host.
$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
GET /~mln HTTP/1.1
Connection: close
Host: www.cs.odu.edu

Connection closed by foreign host.
HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
Date: Mon, 09 Jan 2006 19:32:24 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) ApacheJServ/1.1.2 PHP/4.3.4
Location: http://www.cs.odu.edu/~mln/
Connection: close
Transfer-Encoding: chunked
Content-Type: text/html; charset=iso-8859-1

12e
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//IETF//DTD HTML 2.0//EN">
<html><head>
title="301 Moved Permanently"
</head>
<body>
<h1>Moved Permanently</h1>
The document has moved <a href="http://www.cs.odu.edu/~mln/">here</a>.<p>
</p><hr/>
<address>Apache/1.3.26 Server at www.cs.odu.edu Port 80</address>
</body></html>
301- Moved Permanently

$ telnet bit.ly 80
Trying 69.58.188.39...
Connected to bit.ly.
Escape character is '^]'.
HEAD http://bit.ly/s2FPFa HTTP/1.1
Host: bit.ly
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved
Server: nginx
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 17:34:29 GMT
Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8
Connection: close
Set-Cookie: _bit=4f0c76a5-002b9-048b1-331cf10a;domain=.bit.ly;
            expires=Sun Jul 8 17:34:29 2012;path=/; HttpOnly
Cache-control: private; max-age=90
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Length: 125

the response code is REQUIRED; phrase is RECOMMENDED
$ telnet doi.acm.org 80
Trying 64.238.147.57...
Connected to doi.acm.org.
Escape character is '^[].
HEAD http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/1998076.1998100 HTTP/1.1
Host: doi.acm.org
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 302 Found
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 17:53:36 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.3 (Red Hat)
Location: http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?doid=1998076.1998100
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html; charset=iso-8859-1
$ telnet dx.doi.org 80
Trying 38.100.138.149...
Connected to dx.doi.org.
Escape character is '^]'.
HEAD http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-24469-8_16 HTTP/1.1
Host: dx.doi.org
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 303 See Other
Server: Apache-Coyote/1.1
Location:
http://www.springerlink.com/index/10.1007/978-3-642-24469-8_16
Expires: Wed, 11 Jan 2012 12:04:29 GMT
Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8
Content-Length: 210
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 17:56:41 GMT
Connection: close
404 - Not Found

$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
HEAD /lasdkfjalsdkfjldaskfj HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 17:39:15 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.17 (Unix) PHP/5.3.5 mod_ssl/2.2.17 OpenSSL/0.9.8q
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html; charset=iso-8859-1

Connection closed by foreign host.
$ telnet www4.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.5.93...
Connected to www4.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
HEAD http://www4.cs.odu.edu/Conference/index.aspx HTTP/1.1
Host: www4.cs.odu.edu
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 401 Unauthorized
Content-Length: 1656
Content-Type: text/html
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
WWW-Authenticate: Basic realm="www4.cs.odu.edu"
MicrosoftOfficeWebServer: 5.0_Pub
X-Powered-By: ASP.NET
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 17:43:57 GMT
Connection: close
400 - Bad Request

$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^[].'
HEAD http://www.cs.odu.edu/~mln/ HTTP/1.1
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 18:24:17 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.17 (Unix) PHP/5.3.5 mod_ssl/2.2.17 OpenSSL/0.9.8q
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html; charset=iso-8859-1
$ telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80
Trying 128.82.4.2...
Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
HEAD / HTTP/9.9
Host: www.cs.odu.edu
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 17:40:05 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.17 (Unix) PHP/5.3.5 mod_ssl/2.2.17
OpenSSL/0.9.8q
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

Connection closed by foreign host.

our servers will be more picky!
505 - HTTP Version Not Supported

% telnet www.w3c.org 80
Trying 128.30.52.45...
Connected to dolph.w3.org.
Escape character is '^[].'
HEAD / HTTP/9.9
Host: www.w3c.org
Connection: close

HTTP/1.0 403 Forbidden
Cache-Control: no-cache
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

<html><body><h1>403 Forbidden</h1>Request forbidden by administrative rules.</body></html>

a curious response…
505 not defined in HTTP 1.0!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Reason-Phrase</th>
<th>Defined in...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Continue</td>
<td>Section 6.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Switching Protocols</td>
<td>Section 6.2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>OK</td>
<td>Section 6.3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Created</td>
<td>Section 6.3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Section 6.3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>203</td>
<td>Non-Authoritative Information</td>
<td>Section 6.3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>204</td>
<td>No Content</td>
<td>Section 6.3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>Reset Content</td>
<td>Section 6.3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>206</td>
<td>Partial Content</td>
<td>Section 4.1 of [RFC7233]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>Multiple Choices</td>
<td>Section 6.4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301</td>
<td>Moved Permanently</td>
<td>Section 6.4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>302</td>
<td>Found</td>
<td>Section 6.4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>303</td>
<td>See Other</td>
<td>Section 6.4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>304</td>
<td>Not Modified</td>
<td>Section 4.1 of [RFC7232]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>305</td>
<td>Use Proxy</td>
<td>Section 6.4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>307</td>
<td>Temporary Redirect</td>
<td>Section 6.4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>Bad Request</td>
<td>Section 6.5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401</td>
<td>Unauthorized</td>
<td>Section 3.1 of [RFC7235]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>402</td>
<td>Payment Required</td>
<td>Section 6.5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403</td>
<td>Forbidden</td>
<td>Section 6.5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404</td>
<td>Not Found</td>
<td>Section 6.5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>405</td>
<td>Method Not Allowed</td>
<td>Section 6.5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>406</td>
<td>Not Acceptable</td>
<td>Section 6.5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>407</td>
<td>Proxy Authentication Required</td>
<td>Section 3.2 of [RFC7235]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>408</td>
<td>Request Timeout</td>
<td>Section 6.5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>409</td>
<td>Conflict</td>
<td>Section 6.5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>410</td>
<td>Gone</td>
<td>Section 6.5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>411</td>
<td>Length Required</td>
<td>Section 6.5.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>412</td>
<td>Precondition Failed</td>
<td>Section 4.2 of [RFC7232]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>413</td>
<td>Payload Too Large</td>
<td>Section 6.5.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>414</td>
<td>URI Too Long</td>
<td>Section 6.5.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>415</td>
<td>Unsupported Media Type</td>
<td>Section 6.5.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>416</td>
<td>Range Not Satisfiable</td>
<td>Section 4.4 of [RFC7233]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>417</td>
<td>Expectation Failed</td>
<td>Section 6.5.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>426</td>
<td>Upgrade Required</td>
<td>Section 6.5.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Internal Server Error</td>
<td>Section 6.6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>501</td>
<td>Not Implemented</td>
<td>Section 6.6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>502</td>
<td>Bad Gateway</td>
<td>Section 6.6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503</td>
<td>Service Unavailable</td>
<td>Section 6.6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>504</td>
<td>Gateway Timeout</td>
<td>Section 6.6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>505</td>
<td>HTTP Version Not Supported</td>
<td>Section 6.6.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.1.1.1. Date/Time Formats

An example of the preferred format is

Sun, 06 Nov 1994 08:49:37 GMT ; IMF-fixdate

Examples of the two obsolete formats are

Sunday, 06-Nov-94 08:49:37 GMT ; obsolete RFC 850 format
Sun Nov 6 08:49:37 1994 ; ANSI C's asctime() format

A recipient that parses a timestamp value in an HTTP header field MUST accept all three HTTP-date formats. When a sender generates a header field that contains one or more timestamps defined as HTTP-date, the sender MUST generate those timestamps in the IMF-fixdate format.

An HTTP-date value represents time as an instance of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). The first two formats indicate UTC by the three-letter abbreviation for Greenwich Mean Time, "GMT", a predecessor of the UTC name; values in the asctime format are assumed to be in UTC. A sender that generates HTTP-date values from a local clock ought to use NTP ([RFC5905]) or some similar protocol to synchronize its clock to UTC.
Things to Think About for Your Server

• Claim HTTP/1.1
  – even though we’ll not fully satisfy all requirements

• Configuration files
  – should not have to recompile or edit source code for trivial changes

• MIME types
  – most servers use a separate file (specified in your config file!) to map
    file extensions to MIME types

• Logging
  – real http servers log their events
    • we’ll use “common log format”
  – you’ll need logging for debugging
    • consider concurrent logs with varying verbosity
More Things To Think About…

• A resource is more than just a file in the file system
  – content negotiation is in your future
  – sometimes we’ll give respond with only a “slice” of a file
  – What does it mean to GET a directory?
  – eventually we’ll execute scripts
In the future, some methods will allow a client to send an entity body to the server...

Client:
- Method URI HTTP/1.1
- Some-Request-Header-1: value1
- Some-Request-Header-2: value2
- ...
  
  (1st magic blank line)

  message-body

Server:
- HTTP 1.1 Code String
- Some-Response-Header-1: value1
- Some-Response-Header-2: value2
- ...
  
  (2nd magic blank line)

message-body
Revisiting What You Will Learn

• Fundamental knowledge about how http works
  – your future career is likely to involve web programming
• Working with others, explaining your results to colleagues
  – in real life, tasks are rarely performed in isolation
• How to read & interpret technical specifications and translate them into code
  – in real life, interesting problems are ambiguous & messy
• Using GitHub/Git, Docker, AWS, and other modern tools
• The importance of good, extensible design early in a software project
  – in real life, writing code from scratch is an uncommon luxury