

Micro-web-framework, unit-tests and maintainable web-application

Presented by Pierre-Yves Chibon (pingou) Fedora packager and infrastructure

About me

- Packager
- Web-app developer
 - Fedocal (Flask)
 - Fas (TG1)
 - Pkgdb (TG1)
 - MirrorManager (TG1 TG2)
 - Fedora-Elections (TG1 TG2)

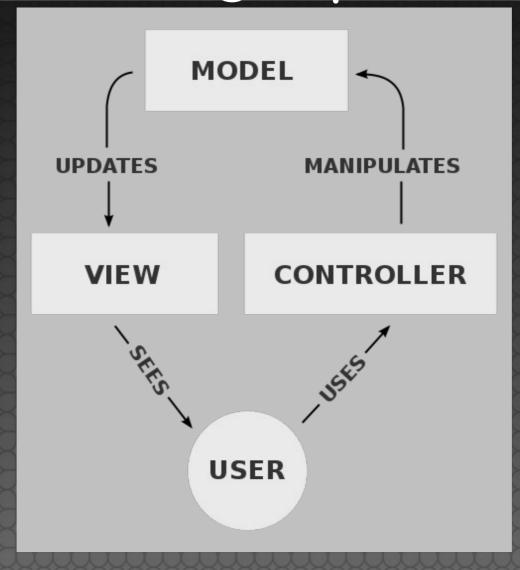


About the talk

- Will
 - Flask (micro-framework)
 - Turbogears (1 & 2)
 - (Django)
- Won't
 - Pyramid

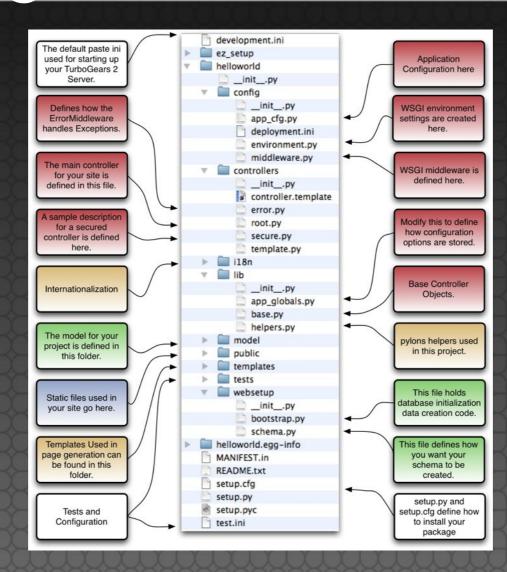


MVC - Design pattern



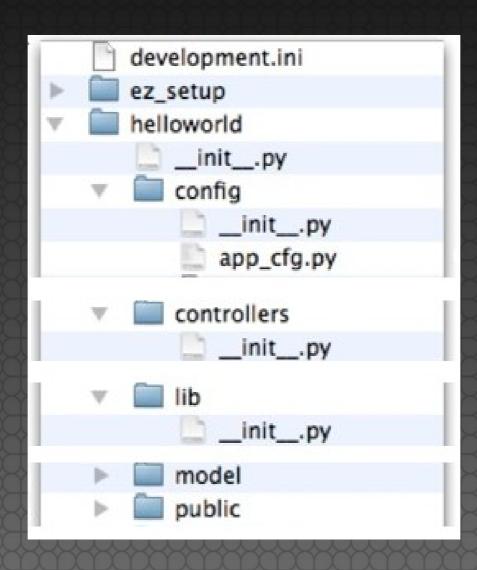


Turbogears





Turbogears





Advantages

- All in one
- Lots of surrounding tools
- Easy integration of the different component
- Easy generation of the model

- Automated page generation
 - Admin page to edit raw object in TG



Problems

- High-coupling b/w the elements
- Technologies change
 - Libraries change
 - SO vs SA
 - Libraries die
 - Samadhi (openid for TG1)
 - Way of working changes
 - Mapping vs declarative in SA



Micro-(web)-framework

- Light-weight
- Focus on content
- Plugins based

Advantages

- Not much dependencies
- Flexible
- Extendable

Disadvantages

- More work
 - No/Little automation
- Different framework



Decoupling front and back

- Back
 - Controller
 - Model
- Front
 - User interface
 - Auth...



- Python library
 - CLI?
 - Python API?
 - Uni-tests easy
- Web-front end
 - Web (REST) API
 - Auth?
 - Unit-tests (harder)



- Advantages
 - Front and back evolve differently
 - Technology can change
 - No more coupling to one framework
 - Most work: if template engine changes
 - Tests front and back separately



- Disadvantages
 - Flexibility?
 - Plugins?
 - Different way of thinking
 - Some level of API compatibility across releases



Unit-tests

- (-) More code to write
- (-) Time consuming (at first)

- (+) Stability
- (+) Early problem detection system
 - /!\ == Test if it works *and* if it does not work
- (+) CI is cool ;-)



Conclusions

- Large frameworks
 - (+) all in one
 - (+) good tools
 - (+) simplify your life
 - (-) Flexibility
 - (-) Updates == updates everything in one go



Conclusions

- Micro frameworks
 - (+) Flexible
 - (+) Simple
 - (-) More work
 - (-) No automation



Conclusions

- Design
 - (+) Flexible
 - (+) Updates = update one or the other (or both (-))
 - (+) testing might be easier
 - (-) Two different projects
 - (-) Plugins?
- Unit-tests :-)



Questions?



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