

Flask – Sijax

Sijax stands for ‘**Simple Ajax**’ and it is a **Python/jQuery** library designed to help you easily bring **Ajax** to your application. It uses **jQuery.ajax** to make AJAX requests.

Installation

Installation of Flask-Sijax is easy.

```
pip install flask-sijax
```

Configuration

SIJAX_STATIC_PATH – the static path where you want the Sijax javascript files to be mirrored. The default location is **static/js/sijax**. In this folder, **sijax.js** and **json2.js** files are kept.

SIJAX_JSON_URI – the URI to load the json2.js static file from

Sijax uses **JSON** to pass the data between the browser and the server. This means that the browsers need either to support **JSON** natively or get **JSON** support from the **json2.js** file.

Functions registered that way cannot provide **Sijax** functionality, because they cannot be accessed using a **POST** method by default (and Sijax uses POST requests).

To make a **View** function capable of handling **Sijax** requests, make it accessible via POST using **@app.route('/url', methods = ['GET', 'POST'])** or use the **@flask_sijax.route** helper decorator like this –

```
@flask_sijax.route( app, ' /hello' )
```

Every Sijax handler function (like this one) receives at least one parameter automatically, much like Python passes ‘self’ to the object methods. The ‘**obj_response**’ parameter is the function's way of talking back to the browser.

```
def say_hi(obj_response):
    obj_response.alert('Hi there!')
```

When Sijax request is detected, Sijax handles it like this –

```
g.sijax.register_callback('say_hi', say_hi)
return g.sijax.process_request()
```

Sijax Application

A minimal Sijax application code looks as follows –

```
import os
from flask import Flask, g
from flask_sijax import sijax

path = os.path.join('.', os.path.dirname(__file__), 'static/js/sijax/')
app = Flask(__name__)

app.config['SIJAX_STATIC_PATH'] = path
app.config['SIJAX_JSON_URI'] = '/static/js/sijax/json2.js'
flask_sijax.Sijax(app)

@app.route('/')
def index():
    return 'Index'

@flask_sijax.route(app, '/hello')
def hello():
    def say_hi(obj_response):
        obj_response.alert('Hi there!')
    if g.sijax.is_sijax_request:
        # Sijax request detected - let Sijax handle it
        g.sijax.register_callback('say_hi', say_hi)
        return g.sijax.process_request()
    return _render_template('sijaxexample.html')

if __name__ == '__main__':
    app.run(debug = True)
```

When a Sijax requests (a special **jQuery.ajax()** request) to the server, this request is detected on the server by **g.sijax.is_sijax_request()**, in which case you let **Sijax** handle the request.

All the functions registered using **g.sijax.register_callback()** are exposed for calling from the browser.

Calling **g.sijax.process_request()** tells Sijax to execute the appropriate (previously registered) function and return the response to the browser.

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