

Web Development Using Application Frameworks

Instructions for the Framework Evaluation Paper

Overview

The subject of your Framework Evaluation Paper should be the suitability of a candidate Web application framework (other than Django) for an identified set of functional and non-functional requirements. The set of requirements that you choose to address can reflect the demands of any realistic work environment. This includes actual work environments that you have personally experienced, or work environments that you anticipate experiencing in the future.

Expected Content

Your paper must evaluate a server-side application framework for Web development. There is no need to also evaluate a client-side application framework that is any more sophisticated than the client-side framework used in the EZ University tutorial example: HTML5, CSS, Skeleton. You may choose to include a more sophisticated client-side framework in your evaluation. Nevertheless, this is optional and does not take the place of the required evaluation of a server-side framework.

Your paper should begin by identifying the expected requirements that you will be expecting your chosen framework to satisfy. These include both functional and non-functional requirements.

Most functional requirements can be addressed well by most Web application frameworks. User stories or use cases that can be enabled by a dynamic Web application can be supported by most frameworks. The type of functional requirements that are particularly important when choosing application frameworks are those that require well-established functional features like user-controlled content management, blogging, chat, or digital asset management. Many frameworks have direct support for this type of functionality. Or, if the functionality is not available in the framework itself, then it is available in a well-established project or product that is based upon the framework. A good example of this is the user-controlled content management features that are part of [Django-CMS](#), a popular open-source content management system based on [Django](#). An ability to add custom functionality on top of these base functions could represent a significant advantage from one framework over other potential framework choices.

In addition to the significant functional requirements, your paper should also address the significant non-functional requirements (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-functional_requirement). These may include:

- Usability
- Reliability
- Performance
- Supportability

Accordingly, your paper should address the following:

- What are the important non-functional requirements that you believe are most important when choosing a Web application framework for your circumstances?
- Discuss the suitability of the candidate Web application framework in light of the evidence and opinions that you found during your research.
- Present an overall conclusion regarding the suitability of this Web application framework to the work environment that you described.

Length and Style

The length of your paper should be 1,500 to 2,000 words. It should be a typewritten document that is either single or double-spaced. Please follow normal writing conventions for graduate student papers. Your document should be well-organized. Your language should be well-chosen. Please pay attention to the rules of proper grammar, spelling and punctuation. You must use one of the accepted citation and reference styles (APA, MLA, etc.).

Sources

Your paper should cite at least 10 different sources. While these sources should be authoritative, they need not be published articles from scholarly or scientific journals. Often, when evaluating Web application frameworks, you will need to sort through conflicting opinions in promotional material, blogs, forums, etc. Even articles published in trade publications may present obvious opinion without much justification. Your job is to sort through these potentially conflicting claims as best you can, presenting your conclusion, while giving a fair account of the diversity of opinion that you encountered. As indicated above, citation and reference should follow one of the accepted styles (APA, MLA, etc.).

Format

Submit 1 PDF document.

File Naming Conventions

The name of the file which you submit should be consistent with the following model:

lastName_firstName_framework_evaluation_paper.pdf

Submission Deadline

The submission deadline and Moodle submission activity to which the assignment should be submitted will be indicated in the Weekly Schedule.

Grading

A separate grading rubric document will be posted to the Weekly Schedule.