

Hardcore URL Routing for WordPress

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To Cover

- URLs We Love
- How Do URLs Get Routed?
- How to see your Rewrite Rules
- Review the Rewrite API Functions & Hooks
- Ways to Add Rewrite Rules
- `flush_rewrite_rules()` & `generate_rewrite_rules()`
- Full-control Manual URL Routing
- Link Generation: Beyond Routing
- Other Stuff we Won't Cover

URLs We Love

- **/products/{product_name}/details/**
 - Post type => 'product'
- **/products/{prod_cat}/{product_name}/**
 - Post type => 'product', Taxonomy ('prod_cat') term
- **/permalink_path/json/**
 - A JSON version of your post
- **/comments/{year}/{monthnum}/{day}/**
 - Archive of all comments not related to a specific post
- **/api/{api_request}/**
 - “Virtual” URL for Custom code

More URLs We Love

- **`/ {automaker} /`**
 - Post type => 'automaker'
- **`/ {automaker} / {model} /`**
 - Post type => 'automaker', Post type => 'model'
- **`/ {user_nicename} /`**
 - Specified user
- **Other?**
 - Taking requests....

How Do URLs Get Routed?

- WP Matches URL Path to a *Rewrite Pattern*
 - Rewrite Patterns are *Regular Expressions*
- Example URL Path:
 - /2014/03/15/hello-world/
- Matching Regular Expression
 - `([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/([^\s/]+)(/[0-9]+)?/?$`
- Rewrite Pattern:
 - `index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&name=$matches[4]&page=$matches[5]`
- Resultant Query String:
 - `index.php?year=2014&monthnum=03&day=15&name=hello-world&page=`

index.php in Rewrite Pattern?

See: `.htaccess` *

```
# BEGIN WordPress
<IfModule mod_rewrite.c>
RewriteEngine On
RewriteBase /
RewriteRule ^index\.php$ - [L]
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d
RewriteRule . /index.php [L]
</IfModule>
# END WordPress
```

** If on IIS then **web.config** which has a different format.*

The Resultant Query String

- Stored in `$wp->query_vars`
- Processed by `WP_Query()` for The Loop

```
// Not exactly this, but similar
$query_vars = 'year=2014&monthnum=03&day=15&name=hello-world&page=';
$query = new WP_Query( $query_vars );
```

- Essentially the same as this:

```
$query = new WP_Query( array(
    'year'      => 2014,
    'monthnum'  => 3,
    'day'       => 15,
    'name'      => 'hello-world',
    'page'      => '',
));
```

See your Rewrite Rules

```
<?php
/*
 * Filename: /rewrite-rules.php
 * REMEMBER TO SET YOUR PERMALINKS! Settings > Permalinks
 */

include __DIR__ . '/wp-load.php';
$rewrite_rules = get_option( 'rewrite_rules' );
header( 'Content-type: text/plain;' );
print_r( $rewrite_rules );
```


Rewrite Rules, in a Table!

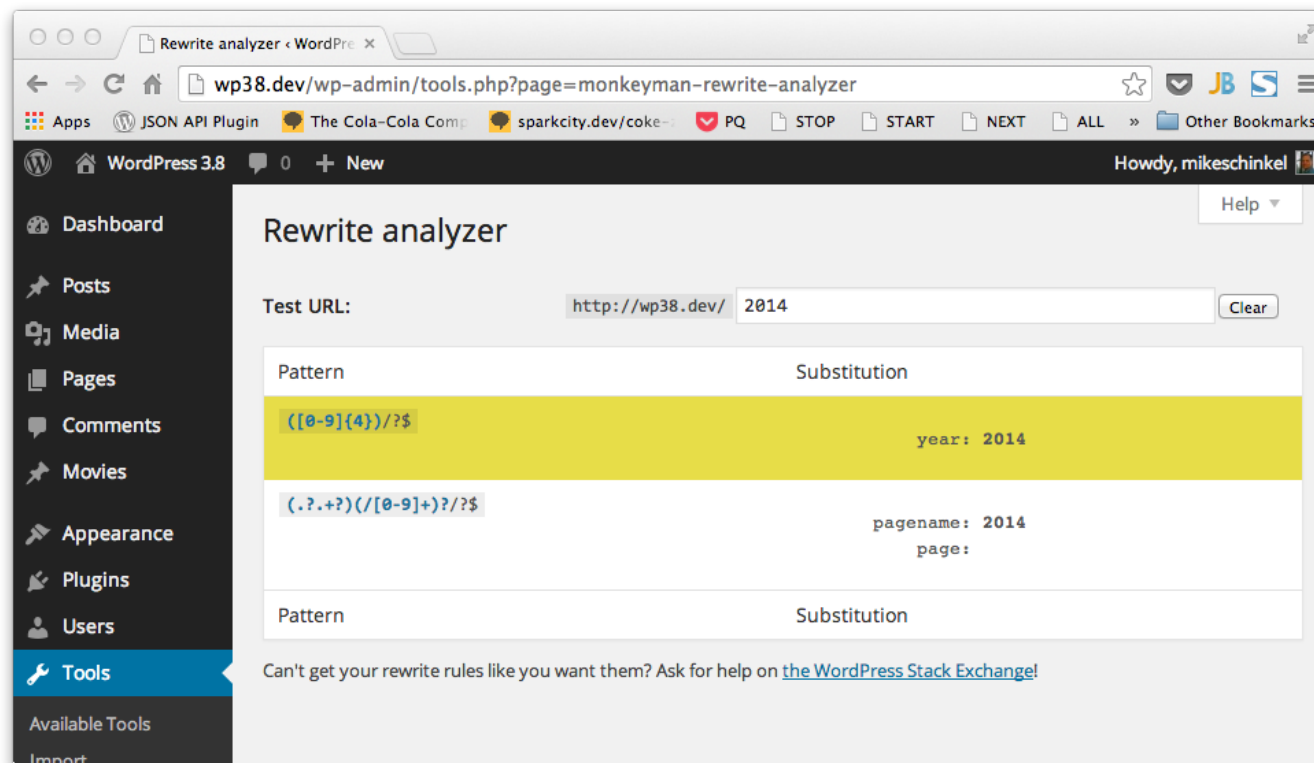
```
<?php
/*
 * Filename: /rewrite-rules2.php
 * REMEMBER TO SET YOUR PERMALINKS! Settings > Permalinks
 */

include __DIR__ . '/wp-load.php';
$rewrite_rules = get_option( 'rewrite_rules' );
?>

<html>
<head>
    <title>Rewrite Rules</title>
    <style type="text/css"> th { text-align: left; } </style>
</head>
<body>
    <table>
        <?php
        foreach( $rewrite_rules as $regex => $pattern ) {
            echo "<tr><th>{$regex}</th><td>{$pattern}</td></tr>";
        } ?>
    </table>
</body>
</html>
```

Best Way to See Your Rulez

- Monkeyman Rewrite Analyzer
- <http://wordpress.org/plugins/monkeyman-rewrite-analyzer/>



The WordPress Rewrite API

- Rewrite API Functions
 - Related Functions
- Rewrite API Hooks
 - Related Hooks

The Rewrite API Functions

- `register_post_type()*` and `register_taxonomy()*`
- `flush_rewrite_rules()`
- `add_rewrite_rule()` and `add_rewrite_tag()`
- `get_query_var()*`
- `register_activation_hook()` and `register_deactivation_hook()`

**Related functions*

The Rewrite API Hooks

- 'parse_request'
- 'request'
- 'after_switch_theme'*
- 'template_redirect'*
- 'template_include'*
- 'redirect_canonical'*
- 'do_parse_request'
- 'query_var'

**Related Hooks*

Different Ways to Add Rules

- Adding Rewrite Rules Indirectly
- Adding Rewrite Tags & Rules
- Validating Rewritten URLs
- Adding EndPoints
- Adding Permastructs
- Adding External Rules

Adding Rules Indirectly

`/products/{product_name}/`

```
<?php // functions.php

add_action( 'init', 'x_init' );
function x_init() {
    register_post_type( 'x_product', array(
        'public' => true,
        'label' => __( 'Products', 'X' ),
        'rewrite' => array(
            'with_front' => false,
            'slug' => 'products',
        ),
    ));
}
```

Always Remember to Flush!

`flush_rewrite_rules($hard_or_soft)`

```
add_action( 'init', 'x_init' );
function x_init() {

    // Call register_post_type() here

    if ( WP_DEBUG ) {
        if ( ! function_exists( 'save_mod_rewrite_rules' ) ) {
            require_once( ABSPATH . 'wp-admin/includes/file.php' );
            require_once( ABSPATH . 'wp-admin/includes/misc.php' );
        }
        flush_rewrite_rules( true );
    }
}
```

- **true** (hard) - Writes changes to `.htaccess/web.config`
- **false** (soft) - Does not writes changes.

Flushing in a Plugin

```
<?php
/**
 * Plugin Name: Hardcore URLs
 */
class Hardcore_Urls {
    static function on_load() {
        add_action( 'init', array( __CLASS__, '_init' ) );
        register_activation_hook( __FILE__, array( __CLASS__, '_activate' ) );
        register_deactivation_hook( __FILE__, array( __CLASS__, '_deactivate' ) );
    }
    static function _init() {
        // Register post types, taxonomies here
        // Also add rewrite rules, tags, permastructs, etc. here.
    }
    static function _activate() {
        flush_rewrite_rules( true );
    }
    static function _deactivate() {
        flush_rewrite_rules( true );
    }
}
Hardcore_Urls::on_load();
```

Flushing in a Theme

```
<?php // functions.php

class Hardcore_Urls_Theme {
    static function on_load() {
        add_action( 'init', array( __CLASS__, '_init' ) );
        add_action( 'after_switch_theme', '_after_switch_theme' );
    }
    static function _init() {
        // Register post types, taxonomies here
        // Also add rewrite rules, tags, permastructs, etc. here.
    }
    static function _after_switch_theme() {
        flush_rewrite_rules( true );
    }
}
Hardcore_Urls_Theme::on_load();
```

Adding Tags and Rewrite Rules

/products/{product_name}/details/

```
register_post_type( 'x_product', array(
    'public' => true,
    'label' => __( 'Products', 'X' ),
    'query_var' => 'x_product',
    'rewrite' => array(
        'with_front' => false,
        'slug' => 'products',
    ),
));
add_rewrite_tag( '%x_product_details%', 'details' );
add_rewrite_rule(
    'products/([^\s]+)/details/?$',
    'index.php?x_product=$matches[1]&' .
        'x_product_details=true',
    'top'
);
```

Using in a Theme

Example: single-acw14_product.php

```
<?php get_header(); ?>
<div id="primary" class="content-area">
  <div id="content" class="site-content" role="main">
    <?php
      if ( get_query_var( 'x_product_details' ) ) {
        echo '<h2>THIS IS A PRODUCT DETAILS PAGE</h2>';
      }
    ?>
    <?php
      while ( have_posts() ) : the_post();
        get_template_part( 'content', get_post_format() );
        if ( comments_open() || get_comments_number() ) {
          comments_template();
        }
      endwhile;
    ?>
  </div>
</div>
<?php get_footer();
```

Add Taxonomy Term to Post Type Slug

`/products/{prod_cat}/{product_name}/`

```
register_post_type( 'x_product', array(  
    'public' => true,  
    'label' => __( 'Products', 'X' ),  
    'rewrite' => array(  
        'with_front' => false,  
        'slug' => 'products/[^/]+',  
    ),  
));
```

Except! No {prod_cat} Validation:

`/products/valid-cat/{product_name}/`
`/products/foo-bar/{product_name}/`

Validating {prod_cat}

/products/{prod_cat}/{product_name}/

```
add_action( 'init', 'x_init' );
function x_init() {
    // First register post type and taxonomy here
    add_rewrite_tag( '%x_prod_cat%', '([^\/]*)' );
    add_rewrite_rule(
        'products/([^\/]*)/([^\/]*)/?$',
        'index.php?x_prod_cat=$matches[1]&x_product=$matches[2]',
        'top'
    );
}
add_filter( 'parse_request', 'x_parse_request' );
function x_parse_request( $wp ) {
    if ( ! empty( $wp->query_vars['x_prod_cat'] ) ) {
        $term_slug = $wp->query_vars['x_prod_cat'];
        $query = new WP_Query( $wp->query_vars );
        if ( ! has_term( $term_slug, 'x_prod_cat', $query->post ) ) {
            $wp->query_vars = array(
                'error' => 404,
                'post_type' => true
            );
            status_header( 404 );
            nocache_headers();
        }
    }
}
```

More Rewrite Functions

- `add_rewrite_endpoint()`
- `add_permastruct()`
- `WP_Rewrite` Class
 - `$wp_rewrite->add_external_rule()`
- `generate_rewrite_rules() *`
- `save_mod_rewrite_rules()` and `iis7_save_url_rewrite_rules()`
- `get_sample_permalink() *`
- `redirect_guess_404_permalink()!!!`

**Called internally by WordPress
!!! Bad Actor!*

Adding an EndPoint

/products/{product_name}/json/

```
add_filter( 'request', 'x_request' );
function x_request( $query_vars ) {
    if( isset( $query_vars['json'] ) ) {
        $query_vars['json'] = true;
    }
    return $query_vars;
}
add_filter( 'template_redirect', 'x_template_redirect' );
function x_template_redirect() {
    if( get_query_var( 'json' ) ) {
        global $post;
        header( 'Content-type: application/json' );
        echo json_encode( $post );
        exit;
    }
}
```


Adding a Permastruct

`/comments/{year}/{monthnum}/{day}/`

```
add_action( 'init', 'x_init' );
function x_init() {
    // Register other things here
    add_permastruct(
        'x_comments',
        'comments/%year%/%monthnum%/%day%',
        array(
            'with_front' => true,
            'ep_mask'     => EP_NONE,
            'paged'       => true,
            'feed'        => true,
            'forcomments' => false,
            'walk_dirs'   => true,
            'endpoints'   => true,
        )
    );
    // Flush rules if WP_DEBUG
}
```

Recognizing a Permastruct

`/comments/{year}/{monthnum}/{day}/`

```
add_filter( 'parse_request', 'x_parse_request' );
function x_parse_request( $wp ) {
    $regex = '#^comments/?([0-9]{4}/?([0-9]{1,2}/?([0-9]{1,2}/?(.*)?)?)?)?$#';
    if ( preg_match( $regex, $wp->request, $match ) ) {
        $wp->query_vars += array(
            'post_type' => true,
            'x_comments_permastruct' => true
        );
    }
}
```

** Why Yes! That is a rather ugly regular expression!*

Preparing a Special Template

/comments/{year}/{monthnum}/{day}/

```
add_filter( 'template_include', 'x_template_include' );
function x_template_include( $template_file ) {
    global $wp, $wp_the_query;
    if( get_query_var( 'x_comments_permastruct' ) ) {
        $wp_the_query->queried_object_id = null;
        $wp_the_query->queried_object = $query = new WP_Comment_Query;
        $date_query = array();
        foreach( $wp->query_vars as $var_name => $var_value ) {
            if ( preg_match( '#^(year|monthnum|day)$#', $var_name ) ) {
                $date_query[] = array( $var_name => $var_value );
            }
        }
        $query->comments = $query->query( array(
            'date_query' => $date_query,
        ));
        x_load_comments( get_stylesheet_directory() . '/comment.php' );
    }
    return $template_file;
}
```

Serving a Special Template

`/comments/{year}/{monthnum}/{day}/`

```
function x_load_comments( $_template_file ) {  
    global $post, $wp_rewrite, $wpdb, $wp_version, $wp, $user_ID;  
    global $comments, $comment, $wp_comment_query;  
    $wp_comment_query = get_queried_object();  
    $comments = $wp_comment_query->comments;  
    $comment = reset( $comments );  
    $post = get_post( $comment->comment_post_ID );  
    require( $_template_file );  
    exit;  
}
```

A Special Comment Template

/comments/{year}/{monthnum}/{day}/

```
<?php // comment.php
get_header(); ?>
<div id="main-content" class="main-content">
  <div id="primary" class="content-area">
    <div id="content" class="site-content" role="main">
      <?php if ( count( $comments ) ) :
        echo '<ul>';
        foreach( $comments as $comment ) :
          $post = get_post( $comment->comment_post_ID );
          $url = get_comment_link( $comment );
          $excerpt = get_comment_excerpt( $comment );
          $date_time = get_comment_date() . ' '. get_comment_time();
          echo "<li>About: "; the_title();
          echo "<br>{$comment->comment_author} &lt;{$date_time}&gt;";
          echo "<br><a href=\"{$url}\">{$excerpt}</a><hr>";
        endforeach;
        echo '</ul>';
      else:
        get_template_part( 'content', 'none' );
      endif; ?>
    </div><!-- #content -->
  </div><!-- #primary -->
  <?php get_sidebar( 'content' ); ?>
</div><!-- #main-content --><?php
get_sidebar();
get_footer();
```

Rules Generated by Permastruct

/comments/{year}/{monthnum}/{day}/

```
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&feed=$matches[4]&withcomments=1
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&feed=$matches[4]&withcomments=1
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&paged=$matches[4]
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/comment-page-([0-9]{1,})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&cpage=$matches[4]
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/json/(.*)/?/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&json=$matches[5]
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&feed=$matches[3]&withcomments=1
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&feed=$matches[3]&withcomments=1
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&paged=$matches[3]
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/comment-page-([0-9]{1,})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&cpage=$matches[3]
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/json/(.*)/?/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&json=$matches[4]
comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]
comments/([0-9]{4})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]&withcomments=1
comments/([0-9]{4})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]&withcomments=1
comments/([0-9]{4})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]
comments/([0-9]{4})/comment-page-([0-9]{1,})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&cpage=$matches[2]
comments/([0-9]{4})/json/(.*)/?/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&json=$matches[3]
comments/([0-9]{4})/?$
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]
```

This was for all true &
'ep_mask' => EP_ALL

Adding an External Rule

`/api/{whatevah}/`

```
add_action( 'init', 'x_init' );
function x_init() {
    global $wp_rewrite;
    $local_path = substr( __DIR__ . '/api.php', strlen( ABSPATH ) );
    $wp_rewrite->add_external_rule( 'api/?.*$', $local_path );
}
```

Adds the following to `.htaccess`:

```
RewriteRule ^api/?.*$ /wp-content/themes/wp38/api.php [QSA,L]
```

Recognizing the External Rule

`/api/{whatevah}/`

```
<?php
/* Filename: api.php
 * This is only if you need WordPress loaded.
 * The "../.." assumes in a plugin directory.
 */
require( __DIR__ . '../wp-load.php' );

$url_path = $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI'];
$request = preg_replace( '#^/api/(.*)$#', '$1',
$url_path );
echo "Your API request was: {$request}";
```


The generate_rewrite_rules() Function

- This is where it gets **really** ugly.
- This can turn your brain to mush.
- You might even *switch to Drupal!*
- Not really. Who'd want Drupal ***if they can haz*** WordPress?!?
- But I digress...

START

Regenerating Rewrite Rules

`flush_rewrite_rules()`

`$wp_rewrite->flush_rules()`

`$wp_rewrite->wp_rewrite_rules()`

`$wp_rewrite->rewrite_rules()`

<code>\$wp_rewrite->permalink_structure</code>	<code>EP_PERMALINK</code>
<code>\$wp_rewrite->get_date_permastruct()</code>	<code>EP_DATE</code>
<code>\$wp_rewrite->root.'/'</code>	<code>EP_ROOT</code>
<code>\$wp_rewrite->root.\$wp_rewrite->comments_base</code>	<code>EP_COMMENTS</code>
<code>\$wp_rewrite->get_search_permastruct()</code>	<code>EP_SEARCH</code>
<code>\$wp_rewrite->get_author_permastruct()</code>	<code>EP_AUTHORS</code>
<code>\$wp_rewrite->page_rewrite_rules()</code>	<code>n/a</code>
<code>\$wp_rewrite->extra_permastructs[N]</code>	<code>\$sep_masks[N]</code>

`$wp_rewrite->generate_rewrite_rules($struct, $sep_mask)`

Done!

Hooks Used During Rule Generation

- `'delete_option_rewrite_rules'`
- `'pre_get_option_rewrite_rules'`
- `'default_option_rewrite_rules'`
- `'post_rewrite_rules'`
- `'date_rewrite_rules'`
- `'root_rewrite_rules'`
- `'comments_rewrite_rules'`
- `'search_rewrite_rules'`
- `'author_rewrite_rules'`
- `'page_rewrite_rules'`
- `"{$permastructname}_rewrite_rules"`
- `'tag_rewrite_rules'`
- `'generate_rewrite_rules'`
- `'rewrite_rules_array'`

For 'post_rewrite_rules'

[illegible]

For 'date_rewrite_rules'

```
[[([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&feed=$matches[4]
[[([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&feed=$matches[4]
[[([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&paged=$matches[4]
[[([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]
[[([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&feed=$matches[3]
[[([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&feed=$matches[3]
[[([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&paged=$matches[3]
[[([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]
[[([0-9]{4})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]
[[([0-9]{4})/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]
[[([0-9]{4})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]
[[([0-9]{4})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]
```

For 'root_rewrite_rules'

```
[feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?&feed=$matches[1]  
[(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?&feed=$matches[1]  
[page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?&paged=$matches[1]
```

For 'comments_rewrite_rules'

```
[comments/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?&feed=$matches[1]&withcomments=1  
[comments/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?&feed=$matches[1]&withcomments=1
```

For 'search_rewrite_rules'

```
[search/(.+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?s=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[search/(.+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?s=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[search/(.+)/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?s=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]  
[search/(.+)/?$] => index.php?s=$matches[1]
```


For 'author_rewrite_rules'

```
[author/([^\s]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?author_name=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[author/([^\s]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?author_name=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[author/([^\s]+)/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?author_name=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]  
[author/([^\s]+)/?$] => index.php?author_name=$matches[1]
```

For 'page_rewrite_rules'

```
[.?.+?/attachment/([^\/]+)/?$] => index.php?attachment=$matches[1]
[.?.+?/attachment/([^\/]+)/trackback/?$] => index.php?attachment=$matches[1]&tb=1
[.?.+?/attachment/([^\/]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?attachment=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]
[.?.+?/attachment/([^\/]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?attachment=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]
[.?.+?/attachment/([^\/]+)/comment-page-([0-9]{1,})/?$]
=> index.php?attachment=$matches[1]&cpage=$matches[2]
[(.?.+?)/trackback/?$] => index.php?pagename=$matches[1]&tb=1
[(.?.+?)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?pagename=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]
[(.?.+?)/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?pagename=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]
[(.?.+?)/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?pagename=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]
[(.?.+?)/comment-page-([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?pagename=$matches[1]&cpage=$matches[2]
[(.?.+?)(/[0-9]+)?/?$] => index.php?pagename=$matches[1]&page=$matches[2]
```

For 'category_rewrite_rules'

```
[category/(.+?)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?category_name=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[category/(.+?)/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?category_name=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[category/(.+?)/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?category_name=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]  
[category/(.+?)/?$] => index.php?category_name=$matches[1]
```

For 'post_tag_rewrite_rules'

```
[tag/([^\s]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?tag=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[tag/([^\s]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?tag=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[tag/([^\s]+)/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?tag=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]  
[tag/([^\s]+)/?$] => index.php?tag=$matches[1]
```

For 'tag_rewrite_rules'

```
[tag/([^\s]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?tag=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[tag/([^\s]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?tag=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[tag/([^\s]+)/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?tag=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]  
[tag/([^\s]+)/?$] => index.php?tag=$matches[1]
```

For 'post_format_rewrite_rules'

```
[type/([^\s]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?post_format=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[type/([^\s]+)/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?post_format=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]  
[type/([^\s]+)/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?post_format=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]  
[type/([^\s]+)/?$] => index.php?post_format=$matches[1]
```

For 'x_comments_rewrite_rules'

```
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&feed=$matches[4]&withcomments=1
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&feed=$matches[4]&withcomments=1
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&paged=$matches[4]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/comment-page-([0-9]{1,})/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&cpage=$matches[4]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/json/(.*)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]&json=$matches[5]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/([0-9]{1,2})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&day=$matches[3]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&feed=$matches[3]&withcomments=1
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/feed/rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$]
=> index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&feed=$matches[3]&withcomments=1
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&paged=$matches[3]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/comment-page-([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&cpage=$matches[3]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/json/(.*)/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]&json=$matches[4]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{1,2})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&monthnum=$matches[2]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/feed/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]&withcomments=1
[comments/([0-9]{4})/(feed|rdf|rss|rss2|atom)/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&feed=$matches[2]&withcomments=1
[comments/([0-9]{4})/page/?([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&paged=$matches[2]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/comment-page-([0-9]{1,})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&cpage=$matches[2]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/json/(.*)/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]&json=$matches[3]
[comments/([0-9]{4})/?$] => index.php?year=$matches[1]
```

Whew!

- I hope you never have to use any of that!
- But if you do, you are now equipped.
- *(Assumed your brain didn't turn to mush.)*

The 'do_parse_request' Hook

- This is the **strong** magic.
- Using 'do_parse_request' is like....
- ...getting the **Glengarry Leads!!!**
- Seriously! It's **omni**-powerful!
- But Theme/Plugin Devs *beware...*
- The magic might *overpower* you.

Context Specific URLs

- WordPress only supports *Context Free* URLs
- But we often want *Context Sensitive* URLs
- 'do_parse_request' makes it possible
- But, it's not without risk
- Plugins and Themes won't expect it
- And you can have one URL hide another
- *With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility*

Post Type Name in Root

`/product_name/`

```
add_filter( 'do_parse_request', 'x_do_parse_request', 10, 3 );
function x_do_parse_request( $continue, $wp, $extra_query_vars ) {
    if ( $continue ) {
        $url_path = trim( $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI'], '/' );
        $url_path = sanitize_title_with_dashes( $url_path );
        $query = new WP_Query( array(
            'name'          => $url_path,
            'post_type'     => 'x_product',
            'post_status'   => 'publish',
        ));
        if ( 1 == $query->found_posts ) {
            $wp->query_vars = array(
                'post_type' => 'x_product',
                'x_product' => $url_path,
                'name'      => $url_path,
                'page'      => '',
            );
            $continue = false; // IMPORTANT
        }
    }
    return $continue;
}
```

Parent and Child Post Types

Part 1 of 3

/ {product_name} / {model_name} /

```
add_filter( 'do_parse_request', 'x_do_parse_request', 10, 3 );
function x_do_parse_request( $continue, $wp, $extra_query_vars ) {
    if ( $continue && ! is_admin() ) {
        $url_path = trim( $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI'], '/' );
        if ( ! empty( $url_path ) && '?' != $url_path[0] ) {
            $url_path_parts = array_map( 'sanitize_title_with_dashes', explode( '/',
$url_path ) );
            switch( count( $url_path_parts ) ) {
                case 2:
                    if ( $model = x_match_post_name( 'x_model', $model_name = $url_path_parts[1] ) ) {
                        if ( $product = x_match_post_name( 'x_product', $url_path_parts[0] ) ) {
                            if ( $model->post_parent == $product->ID ) {
                                x_route_post_name( $wp, 'x_model', $model_name );
                                $continue = false;
                            }
                        }
                    }
                    break;
                case 1:
                    $continue = ! x_match_post_name( 'x_product', $url_path_parts[0], $wp );
                    break;
            }
        }
    }
    return $continue;
}
```

Parent and Child Post Types

Part 2 of 3

/ {product_name} / {model_name} /

```
function x_route_post_name( $post_type, $post_name, $wp ) {
    $wp->query_vars = array(
        'post_type' => $post_type,
        $post_type  => $post_name,
        'name'      => $post_name,
        'page'      => '',
    );
}
function x_match_post_name( $post_type, $post_name, $wp = false ) {
    $query = new WP_Query( array(
        'name'          => $post_name,
        'post_type'     => $post_type,
        'post_status'   => 'publish',
    ));
    if ( ( $matched = 1 == $query->found_posts ) && $wp ) {
        x_route_post_name( $wp, $post_type, $post_name );
    }
    return $matched ? $query->post : false;
}
```

Parent and Child Post Types

Part 3 of 3

/ {product_name} / {model_name} /

```
add_action( 'add_meta_boxes', 'x_add_meta_boxes' );
function x_add_meta_boxes( $post_type ) {
    if ( 'x_model' == $post_type ) {
        add_meta_box( 'product_parent_box', // $id
            __( 'Parent Product', 'X' ),    // $title
            'x_model_parent_metabox',       // $callback
            'x_model',                      // $post_type
            'side',                          // $context
            'low'                            // $priority
        );
    }
}

function x_model_parent_metabox( $post ) {
    $post_type_object = get_post_type_object( 'x_product' );
    $post_type_object->hierarchical = true;
    wp_dropdown_pages( array(
        'name' => 'parent_id',
        'post_type' => 'x_product',
        'selected' => $post->post_parent,
        'show_option_none' => __( 'Select a Parent', 'X' ),
        'option_none_value' => 0,
    ));
    $post_type_object->hierarchical = false;
}
```

Stopping the *"Helpful"* Guesses

/ {product_name} / {model_name} /

=>

?post_type=x_model&p={post_id}

```
add_action( 'redirect_canonical', 'x_redirect_canonical', 10, 2 );
function x_redirect_canonical( $redirect_url, $requested_url ) {
    list( $url, $query ) = explode( '?', "{$redirect_url}?" );
    if ( $url == home_url('/') ) {
        parse_str( $query, $params );
        if ( isset( $params['post_type'] ) && 'x_model' == $params['post_type'] ) {
            // Dammit; redirect_guess_404_permalink() interfered! Set it back!!!
            $redirect_url = $requested_url;
        }
    }
    return $redirect_url;
}
```

Reveal the Query Vars

```
add_action( 'shutdown', 'x_shutdown' );
function x_shutdown() {
    if ( ! is_admin() ) {
        global $wp;
        echo '<pre><code><font size="7">';
        echo '$wp->query_vars: ';
        print_r( $wp->query_vars );
        echo '</font></code></pre>';
    }
}
```


Performance Optimization

- Cache Top N URLs in `wp_options`
In array; key=URL, value=`$wp->query_vars`
- Periodically Recalculate Top N
- Even Better if using Memcache
- This is your Homework!

Warning:

May Be Incompatible

- Highly Custom Sites:
 - A-OK
- Normal Websites or Blog:
 - Plugins and themes might be incompatible
- Plugins or Themes for Distribution:
 - Be very careful; this is non-standard routing
- Also...
 - Very easy to create ambiguity in routing

The Dispatch Library

- Using URI Templates as Patterns
- Inspecting URLs by Segment
- Plan to do lots of caching
- Still PRE-ALPHA
- github.com/newclarity/dispatch

But Routing Ain't Enough

- Link Generation
- Allow Editing the Slug
- Changing the Permalink Sample

Generate the Link

`/ {product_name} / {model_name} /`

```
add_filter( 'post_type_link', 'x_post_type_link', 10, 2 );
function x_post_type_link( $post_link, $post ) {
    switch ( $post->post_type ) {
        case 'x_product':
            $post_link = home_url( "/" . $post->post_name . "/" );
            break;
        case 'x_model':
            $product_link = x_post_type_link( false, get_post( $post->post_parent ) );
            $post_link = "{$product_link}{$post->post_name} / ";
            break;
    }
    return $post_link;
}
```

Make the Slug Editable

`/ {product_name} /` `{model_name}` `/`

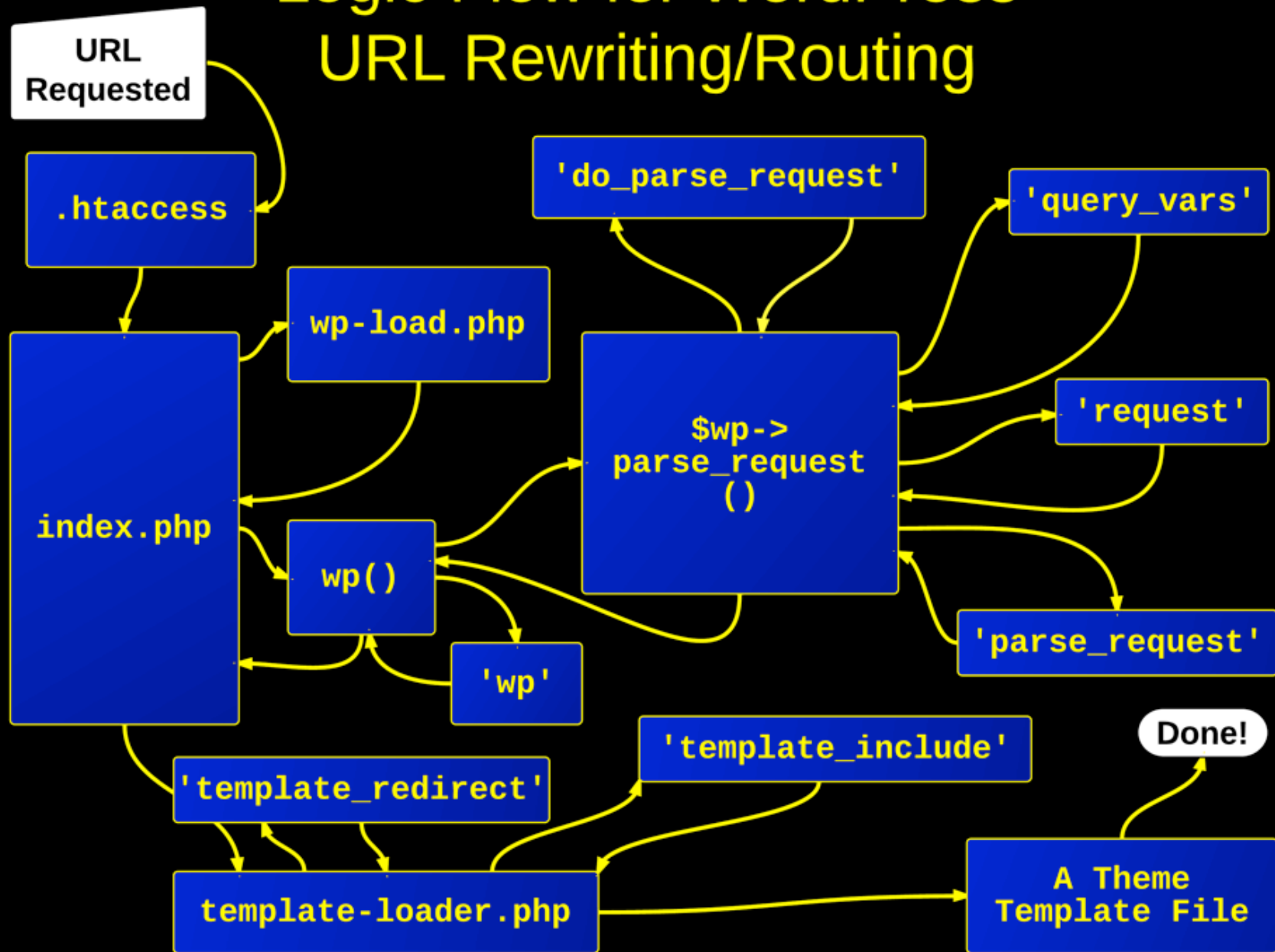
```
add_filter( 'post_type_link', 'x_post_type_link', 10, 3 );
function x_post_type_link( $post_link, $post, $leavename = false ) {
    $slug = $leavename ? "%{$post->post_type}%" : $post->post_name;
    switch ( $post->post_type ) {
        case 'x_product':
            $post_link = home_url( "/" . $slug . "/" );
            break;
        case 'x_model':
            $product_link = x_post_type_link( false, get_post( $post->post_parent ) );
            $post_link = "{$product_link}{$slug}/";
            break;
    }
    return $post_link;
}
```

Changing the Sample Permalink

----->[{model_name}]<-----

```
add_filter( 'post_type_link', 'x_post_type_link', 10, 3 );
function x_post_type_link( $post_link, $post, $leavename = false ) {
    $slug = $leavename ? "%{$post->post_type}%" : $post->post_name;
    switch ( $post->post_type ) {
        case 'x_product':
            $post_link = home_url( "/" . $slug . "/" );
            break;
        case 'x_model':
            $product_link = x_post_type_link( false, get_post( $post->post_parent ) );
            $post_link = "{$product_link}{$slug}/";
            break;
    }
    if ( $sample ) {
        // NO CLUE WHY YOU'D WANT TO DO THIS... BUT YOU CAN!
        $post_link = "----->[ %{$post->post_type}% ]<-----";
    }
    return $post_link;
}
```

Logic Flow for WordPress URL Rewriting/Routing



In Review

What We Learned Today

- How WordPress Routes URLs
- `index.php` and `.htaccess`
- That URLs ultimately create `$args` for `WP_Query()`
- Rewrite Rules and how to see/test them.
- How and why to Flush Rules
- The Rewrite API Functions
 - Especially `add_rewrite_rule()` and `add_rewrite_tag()`
- The Rewrite API Hooks
 - Especially `'parse_request'` and `'do_parse_request'`

In Review *(cont'd)*

What Else We Learned Today

- About Endpoints, Permastructs and External Rules
- How abysmal `generate_rewrite_rules()` is
- All them crazii hooks when generating.
- The **Strong Magic**: `do_parse_request`
 - Provides *Context Sensitive URLs*
 - How to discover the query vars needed to route URLs
- Generating links, editing elugs and changing samples.
- And finally the logic flow for URL rewriting/routing.

About the 'x_' Prefix



See: <http://nacin.com/2010/05/11/in-wordpress-prefix-everything/>



*I just used 'x_' (**FOR THIS TALK, ONLY**) because it was short!*

And Stuff I Wrote for the Intro

- But I decided it didn't flow.
- Like how scenes gets left...
- on *the cutting room floor*.
- So I added to the DVD. ;-)

WordPress' URL Patterns

- **Post & Page URL Patterns**
- **Archive URL Patterns**
- **Feed URL Patterns**
- **Other URL Patterns**

Post & Page URL Patterns

Posts	<code>/ {year} / {month} / {day} / {postname} /</code>
Pages	<code>/ {pagename} /</code>
Hierarchical Pages	<code>/ {rootname} / . . / {leafname} /</code>
Custom Post Types	<code>/ {post_type_slug} / {postname} /</code>
Attachments	<code>/ {y} / {m} / {d} / attachment / {attachment} /</code>
	<code>/ {whatever} / attachment / {attachment} /</code>
	<code>/ {whatever} / {attachment} /</code>

Archive URL Patterns

Tag Archive	<code>/tag/{tag}/</code>
Category Archive	<code>/category/{category}/</code>
Author Archive	<code>/author/{author_name}/</code>
Search Results	<code>/search/{s}/</code> and <code>/s?={s}</code>
Post Format Archive	<code>/type/{post_format}/</code>
Custom Post Type Archive	<code>/post_type_slug/</code>

Also Day, Month and Year Archives.

Feed URL Patterns

Feed*	/feed/{feed rdf rss rss2 atom}/
Category Feed*	/category/{category}/feed/{feed_type}/
Tag Feed*	/tag/{tag}/feed/{feed_type}/
Comment Feed*	/comment/feed/{feed_type}/
Search Results Feed*	/search/{s}/feed/{feed_type}/
Author Feed*	/author/{author_name}/feed/{feed_type}/
* {feed_type} =	feed, rss, rdf, rss2, atom

Also Attachment, Post, Page, Day, Month and Year Feeds. (Why?)

Other URL Patterns

Robots	<code>/robots.txt</code>
Register	<code>{whatever}/wp-register.php</code>
Comments	<code>{post_url}/comment-page-{cpage}/</code>
Trackback	<code>{post_url}/trackback/{whatever}</code>
And some...	I'm sure I forgot about.

What is URL Routing?

- *The mapping of a URL Path of an HTTP Request identifying the Resource on your WordPress site for which you want an HTTP Response to return a Representation.*
- Whew! What a mouthful!

Why Do We Care?

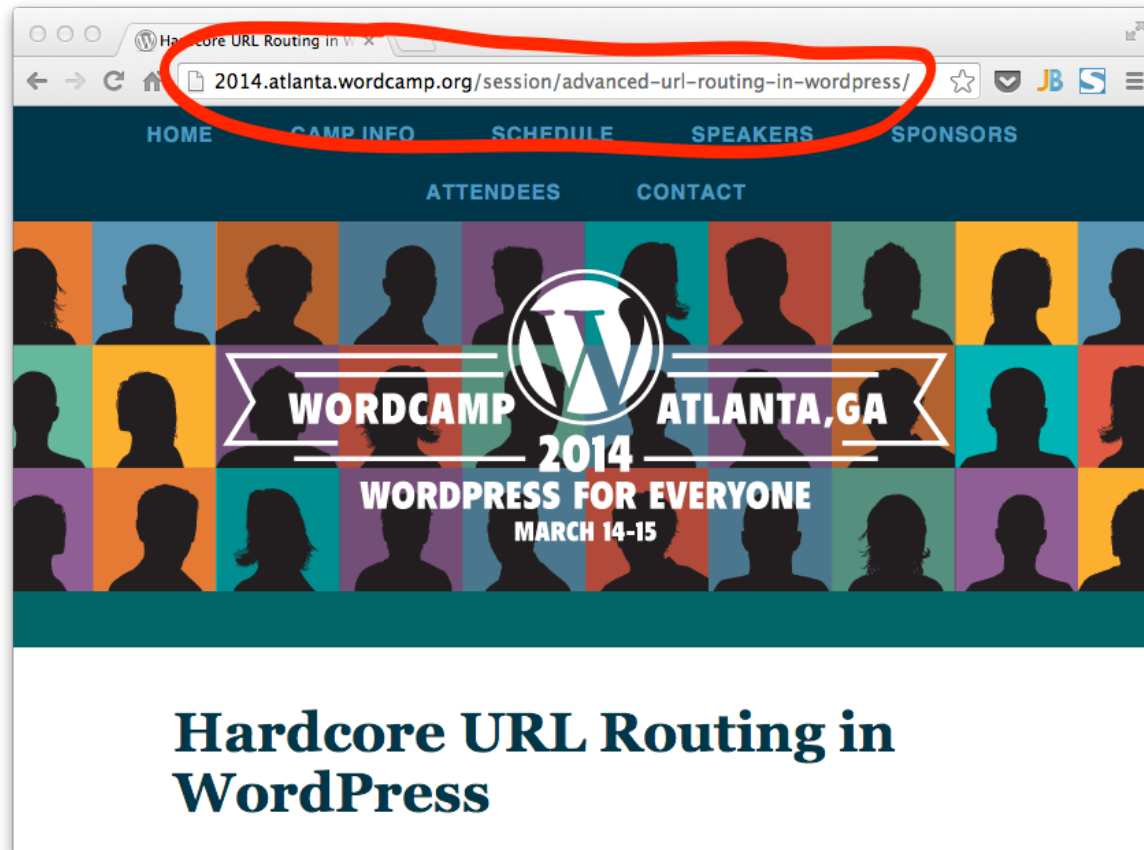
- Because we want to control what *Representation* is returned for a given *URL Path*.
- So let's define those terms...

What is a *URL Path*?

- Example URL:
 - <http://example.com/2014/03/15/hello-world/>
- The URL Path is:
 - </2014/03/15/hello-world/>

What is an *HTTP Request*?

It's when you type a URL into your browser and press Enter!



What is a *Resource*?


- It's the *idea* of the thing you want, the thing located at the URL you type into your browser.
- Don't worry, nerd types have argued over this definition for years!
- A Representation is simply the HTML file, image or other file you want when you enter a URL.

What is an *HTTP* Response?

- It is what your WordPress website packages up and sends back to your browser and is based on the URL path you request.

What is a *Representation*?

It's what gets downloaded when you request a URL with your browser.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "view-source:2014.atlanta.wordcamp.org/session/advanced-url-routing-in-we". The page content is the source code of an HTML document. A red circle highlights the following code block:

```
<script src="http://2014.atlanta.wordcamp.org/wp-content/themes/twentythirteen/js/html5.js"></script>
```

See, That Wasn't Hard!

- So in review:

URL Routing is the mapping of a URL Path of an HTTP Request identifying the Resource on your WordPress site for which you want an HTTP Response to return a Representation.

Future Reading

- The Rewrite API: The Basics
 - <http://code.tutsplus.com/tutorials/the-rewrite-api-the-basics--wp-25474>
- The Rewrite API: Post Types & Taxonomies
 - <http://code.tutsplus.com/articles/the-rewrite-api-post-types-taxonomies--wp-25488>
- A (Mostly) Complete Guide to the WordPress Rewrite API
 - <http://o.pmg.co/a-mostly-complete-guide-to-the-wordpress-rewrite-api>
- Some background on rewrite rules
 - <http://wordpress.stackexchange.com/a/5478/89>

Me, in More Detail

- **President**, NewClarity LLC
 - **Boutique** WordPress consulting firm with a small but **expert team**.
- Specialize in **complex** sites & vertical market **products**
 - **Offering:** Back-end architecture, implementation, **training**, code reviews.
- **375+ Answers** at WordPress Answers
 - Was a founding moderator
- Have blogged at **HardcoreWP.com**
 - Hope to find time again (**doh!**)
- Several **"Libraries"** for WordPress at *github.com/newclarity*
 - **Exo** - *"MVC that doesn't change WordPress, it just makes it stronger."*
 - **Sunrise** - *Code-based Forms and Fields*
 - **Dispatch** - *Hardcore URL Routing for WordPress*
- **Contact us** for more of the **"Strong Magic"**
 - mike@newclarity.net

Thanks for Attending

**May all your URLs be *pretty*
and may they all *match*
*their intended patterns***

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