Lecture 7c: Chunking
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Enables streaming output

- Content-length is unknown
- Transfer as a series of ‘chunks’
- A chunk
  
  \[
  \text{chunk} = \text{chunk-size} \ [ \text{chunk-extension} ] \ \text{CRLF} \]
  
  \[
  \text{chunk-data} \ \text{CRLF}
  \]
The body of a chunked message

\[
\text{Chunked-Body} = \star \text{chunk} \\
\text{\quad last-chunk} \\
\text{\quad trailer} \\
\text{\quad CRLF}
\]

- Last chunk has length 0
- The trailer allows the sender to include additional HTTP header fields at the end of the message.

\[
\text{trailer} = \star (\text{entity-header CRLF})
\]
Processing a “chunked” transfer-coding

length := 0
read chunk-size, chunk-extension (if any) and CRLF
while (chunk-size > 0) {
    read chunk-data and CRLF
    append chunk-data to entity-body
    length := length + chunk-size
    read chunk-size and CRLF
}
read entity-header
while (entity-header not empty) {
    append entity-header to existing header fields
    read entity-header
}
Content-Length := length
Remove "chunked" from Transfer-Encoding