Templates, Databinding and HTML

SWE 432, Fall 2018

Web Application Development



Review: What forms of data might you have

- Key / value pairs
- JSON objects
- Tabular arrays of data
- Files

Review: Options for backend persistence

- Where it is stored
 - On your server or another server you own
 - SQL databases, NoSQL databases
 - File system
 - Storage provider (not on a server you own)
 - NoSQL databases
 - BLOB store

Today

- Storing files
- HTML
- Intro to templating
- Reminder: HW2 due in one week!

Blobs: Storing uploaded files

- Example: User uploads picture
 - ... and then?
 - ... somehow process the file?

How do we store our files?

- Dealing with text is easy we already figured out firebase
 - Could use other databases too... but that's another class!
- But
 - What about pictures?
 - What about movies?
 - What about big huge text files?
- Aka...Binary Large OBject (BLOB)
 - Collection of binary data stored as a single entity
 - Generic terms for an entity that is array of bytes

Working with Blobs

• Module: multer

• Simplest case: take a file, save it on the server

```
app.post('/upload',upload.single("upload"), function(req, res) {
    var sampleFile = req.file.filename;
    //sampleFile is the name of the file that now is living on our server
    res.send('File uploaded!');
  });
});
```

Long story... can't easily have file uploads and JSON requests at the same time

HTML: HyperText Markup Language

- Language for describing *structure* of a document
- Denotes hierarchy of elements
- What might be elements in this document?



Read more on MediaGuardian.co.uk

HTML History

- 1995: HTML 2.0. Published as standard with RFC 1866
- 1997: HTML 4.0 Standardized most modern HTML element w/ W3C recommendation
 - Encouraged use of CSS for styling elements over HTML attributes
- 2000: XHTML 1.0
 - Imposed stricter rules on HTML format
 - e.g., elements needed closing tag, attribute names in lowercase
- 2014: HTML5 published as W3C recommendation
 - New features for capturing more *semantic* information and *declarative* description of behavior
 - e.g., Input constraints
 - e.g., New tags that explain *purpose* of content
 - Important changes to DOM (will see these later....)

HTML Elements

This is a paragraph in English.

"Start a paragraph element"

name

value

Opening tag begins an HTML element. Opening tags must have a corresponding closing tag.

"Set the language to English"

HTML attributes are name / value pairs that provide additional information about the contents of an element.

"End a paragraph element"

Closing tag ends an HTML element. All content between the tags and the tags themselves compromise an HTML element.

HTML Elements

<input type="text" /> "Begin and end input element"

Some HTML tags can be self closing, including a built-in closing tag.

<!-- This is a comment. Comments can be multiline. -->

A starter HTML document



HTML Example



https://seecode.run/#-KQgR7vG9Ds7IUJS1kdq

HTML Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
   <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="main.css">
   <title>Prof Bell's Webpage</title>
</head>
<body>
<h1>
   Prof Jonathan Bell
</h1>
<div>
   <img alt="My really cool laptop" src="http://www.wonder-
tonic.com/geocitiesizer/images/laptop-01.gif" /> <br />
       <div class="marguee">
           This is Prof Bell's ACTUAL homepage from 1999!
       </div>
   <h2>Welcome, students!</h2>
       <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQw4w9WqXcQ">See how to make
this page</a>
       <h2>
       Some funny links
   </h2>
   <a href="http://www.homestarrunner.com">Homestar Runner</a>
           <a
href="http://www.wb3w.net/The%200riginal%20Hamsterdance.htm">Hamster Dance</a>
       <h3>
       About Prof Bell
   </h3>
   Prof Bell's office is at 4422 Engineering Building. His email address is <a
href="mailto:bellj@gmu.edu">bellj@gmu.edu</a>.
```

Paragraphs () consist of related content. By default, each paragraph starts on a new line.

Prof Jonathan Bell



This is Prof Bell's ACTUAL homepage from 1999

Some funny links

- Homestar Runner
- Hamster Dance

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n/#-KQgR7vG9Ds7IUJS1kdq

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href="http://www.wb3w.net/The%200riginal%20Hamsterdance.htm">Hamster Dance</a>
```

Unordered lists () consist of list items () that each start on a new line. Lists can be nested arbitrarily deep.

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</div>
</body>
</html>

hr

https://seecode.run/#-KQgR7vG9Ds7IUJS1kdq

9	<h1>Level 1 Heading</h1>
10	<h2>Level 2 Heading</h2>
11	<h3>Level 3 Heading</h3>
12	<h4>Level 4 Heading</h4>
13	<h5>Level 5 Heading</h5>
14	<h6>Level 5 Heading</h6>
15	Text can be made bold and
16	<i>italic</i> , or ^{super}
17	and _{sub} scripts. White
18	space collapsing removes all
19	sequences of two more more spaces
20	and line breaks, allowing
21	the markup to use tabs
22	and whitespace for
23	organization.
24	Spaces can be added with
25	<pre> &nbsp;.</pre>
26	 New lines can be added with <
	;BR/>.
27	
28	A paragraph conssists of one or
	more sentences that form a self
	-contained unit of discourse. By

default, a browser will show each

paragraph on a new line.

Text can also be offest with

horizontal rules.

Text Level 1 Heading

Level 2 Heading

Level 3 Heading

Level 4 Heading

Level 5 Heading

Level 5 Heading

Text can be made **bold** and *italic*, or ^{super} and _{sub}scripts. White space collapsing removes all sequences of two more more spaces and line breaks, allowing the markup to use tabs and whitespace for organization. Spaces can be added with .

New lines can be added with
>.

A paragraph conssists of one or more sentences that form a self-contained unit of discourse. By default, a browser will show each paragraph on a new line.

Text can also be offest with horizontal rules.

29

30

31

32

33

34

<hr/>

Semantic markup

- Tags that can be used to denote the *meaning* of specific content
- Examples
 - An element that has importance.
 - <blockquote> An element that is a longer quote.
 - <q> A shorter quote inline in paragraph.
 - <abbr>> Abbreviation
 - <cite> Reference to a work.
 - <dfn> The definition of a term.
 - <address> Contact information.
 - <ins> Content that was inserted or deleted.
 - <s> Something that is no longer accurate.

Links

- Absolute link
>
- Relative URL

- Opens in new
 window
>

- Navigate to HTML element idName

Absolute link <u>Relative URL</u> <u>Email Prof. LaToza</u> <u>Opens in new window</u> <u>Navigate to HTML element idName</u>

Controls

Text Input: <input maxlength="5" type="text"/>	
Password Input: <input type="password"/>	Text Input:
Search Input: <input type="search"/>	I
Text Area: <textarea>Initial text</textarea>	Password Input:
Checkbox:	Password Input.
<pre><input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Checked input type="checkbox" /> Unchecked</pre>	ear Search Input:
>Drop Down List Box:	Initial text
<select></select>	Text Area:
<pre><option>Option1</option></pre>	
<pre><option selected="selected">Option2</option> </pre>	Checkbox: Checked Unchecked
	Drop Down List Box: Option2 1
Multiple Select Box:	Drop Down Else Dox. Option2 V
<pre><select multiple="multiple"> <option>Option1</option></select></pre>	Option1 Option2
<pre><option selected="selected">Option2</option></pre>	Multiple Select Down
	Multiple Select Box:
File Input Box: <input type="file"/>	File Input Box: Choose File No file choser
Image Button: <input 30"="" src="http://cs.gmu.edu/~tlatoza</p></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>/images/reachabilityQuestion.jpg wiath= 50 ></td><td>Image Button</td></tr><tr><td>Sutton: <button>Button</button></td><td>Image Button:</td></tr><tr><td>kange input: <input type= range min= 0 max= 100 step= 10
value=" type="image"/>	Button: Button
	Range Input:

Block vs. Inline Elements

Block elements

Block elements appear on a new line. Examples: <h1><form>



```
<h1>Hiroshi Sugimoto</h1>
The dates for the ORIGIN OF ART exhbibition are as
follows:
Science: 21 Nov- 20 Feb 2010/2011
Architecture: 6 Mar - 15 May 2011
```

Hiroshi Sugimoto

The dates for the ORIGIN OF ART exhbibition are as follows:

- Science: 21 Nov- 20 Feb 2010/2011
- Architecture: 6 Mar 15 May 2011

Inline elements

Inline elements appear to continue on the same line.

Examples: <a><input>



Timed to a single revolution of the planet around the sun at a 23.4 degrees tilt that plays out the rhythm of the seasons, this Origins of Art cycle is organized around four themes: science, architecture, history, and relgion.

Timed to a single revolution of the planet around the sun at a 23.4 degrees tilt that plays out the rhythm of the seasons, this *Origins of Art* cycle is organized around four themes: **science**, **architecture**, **history**, and **relgion**.

Anatomy of a Non-Trivial Web App



Typical properties of web app UIs

- Each widget has both visual presentation & logic
 - e.g., clicking on follow button executes some logic related to the containing widget
 - Logic and presentation of individual widget strongly related, loosely related to other widgets
- Some widgets occur more than once
 - e.g., Follow widget occurs multiple times in Who to Follow Widget
 - Need to generate a copy of widget based on data
- Changes to data should cause changes to widget
 - e.g., following person should update UI to show that the person is followed. Should work even if person becomes followed through other UI
- Widgets are hierarchical, with parent and child
 - Seen this already with container elements in HTML...

Idea 1: Templates

document.getElementById('todoItems').innerHTML +=
 '<div class="todoItem" data-index="' + key
 + "'><input type="text" onchange="itemChanged(this)" value="'
+ value + "'><button onclick="deleteItem(this.parentElement)">✖</button></div>';

- Templates describe repeated HTML through a single common representation
 - May have variables that describe variations in the template
 - May have logic that describes what values are used or when to instantiate template
 - Template may be instantiated by binding variables to values, creating HTML that can be used to update DOM

Templates with template literals

document.getElementById('todoItems').innerHTML +=
 `<div class="todoItem" data-index="\${key}">
 <input type="text" onchange="itemChanged(this)" value="\${value}">
 <button onclick="deleteItem(this.parentElement)">✖</button>
 </div>`;

Template literals reduce confusion of nested strings

Server side vs. client side

- Where should template be instantiated?
- Server-side frameworks: Template instantiated on server
 - Examples: JSP, ColdFusion, PHP, ASP.NET
 - Logic executes on server, generating HTML that is served to browser
- *Front-end* framework: Template runs in web browser
 - Examples: React, Angular, Meteor, Ember, Aurelia, ...
 - Server passes template to browser, browser generates HTML on demand





Server side vs. client side

- Server side
 - Oldest solution.
 - True when "real" code ran on server, Javascript
- Client side
 - Enables presentation logic to exist entirely in browser
 - e.g., can make call to remote web service, no need for server to be involved
 - (What we are looking at in this course).

Logic

- Templates require combining logic with HTML
 - Conditionals only display presentation if some expression is true
 - Loops repeat this template once for every item in collection
- How should this be expressed?
 - Embed code in HTML (ColdFusion, JSP, Angular)
 - Embed HTML in code (React)

Embed code in HTML

<html>

%>

<head><title>First JSP</title></head>

```
<body>
<cfcomponent name = "PersonalChef">
                                                                             <%
   <cffunction name = "makeToast" returnType = "component">
                                                                               double num = Math.random();
       <cfargument name = "color" required="yes">
                                                                               if (num > 0.95) {
                                                                             %>
       <cfset this.makeToast = "Making your toast #arguments.color#!" />
                                                                                 <h2>You'll have a luck day!</h2>(<%= num %>)
       <cfreturn this />
                                                                             <%
   </cffunction>
                                                                               } else {
</cfcomponent>
                                                                             %>
                                                                                 <h2>Well, life goes on ... </h2>(<%= num %>)
                                                                             <%
```

- Template takes the form of an HTML file, with extensions
 - Custom tags (e.g., <% %>) enable logic to be embedded in HTML
 - Uses another language (e.g., Java, C) or custom language to express logic
 - Found in frameworks such as PHP, Angular, ColdFusion, ASP, ...

Embed HTML in code

- Template takes the form of an HTML fragment, embedded in a code file
 - HTML instantiated as part of an expression, becomes a value that can be stored to variables
 - Uses another language (e.g., Javascript) to express logic
 - This course: React

Templates enable HTML to be rendered multiple times

- Rendering takes a template, instantiates the template, outputs HTML
- Logic determines which part(s) of templates are rendered
- Expressions are evaluated to instantiate values
 - e.g., { this.props.name }
 - Different variable values ==> different HTML output

Idea 2: Components

- Web pages are complex, with lots of logic and presentation
- How can we organize web page to maximize modularity?
- Solution: Components
 - Templates that correspond to a specific widget
 - Encapsulates related logic & presentation using language construct (e.g., class)



Components

- Organize related logic and presentation into a single unit
 - Includes necessary *state* and the logic for updating this state
 - Includes presentation for *rendering* this state into HTML
 - Outside world *must* interact with state through accessors, enabling access to be controlled
- Synchronizes state and visual presentation
 - Whenever state changes, HTML should be rendered again
- Components instantiated through custom HTML tag

React: Front End Framework for Components



A JavaScript library for building user interfaces

- Originally build by Facebook
- Opensource frontend framework
- Powerful abstractions for describing frontend UI components
- Official documentation & tutorials
 - <u>https://reactjs.org/</u>

Example

class HelloMessage extends React.Component	{
render() {	
return (
<div></div>	
Hello world!	
);	
}	
}	
ReactDOM.render(
<hellomessage></hellomessage> , mountNode	
);	

"Declare a HelloMessage component"

Declares a new component with the provided functions.

"Return the following HTML whenever the component is rendered"

Render generates the HTML for the component. The HTML is dynamically generated by the library.

"Render HelloMessage and insert in mountNode"

Instantiates component, replaces mountNode innerHTML with rendered HTML. Second parameter should always be a DOM element.

Example - Properties



"Read this.props.name and output the value"

Evaluates the expression to a value.

"Set the name property of HelloMessage to John"

Components have a this.props collection that contains a set of properties instantiated for each component.

Embedding HTML in Javascript

- HTML embedded in JavaScript return <div>Hello {this.props.name}</div>;
 - HTML can be used as an expression
 - HTML is checked for correct syntax
- Can use { expr } to evaluate an expression and return a value
 - e.g., { 5 + 2 }, { foo() }
- Output of expression is HTML

JSX

- How do you embed HTML in JavaScript and get syntax checking??
- Idea: extend the language: JSX
 - Javascript language, with additional feature that expressions may be HTML
 - Can be used with ES6 or traditional JS (ES5)
- It's a new language
 - Browsers *do not* natively run JSX
 - If you include a JSX file as source, you will get an error



Declarative

React makes it painless to create interactive UIs. Design simple views for each state in your application, and React will efficiently update and render just the right components when your data changes.

Declarative views make your code more predictable and easier to debug.

Component-Based

Build encapsulated components that manage their own state, then compose them to make complex UIs.

Since component logic is written in JavaScript instead of templates, you can easily pass rich data through your app and keep state out of the DOM.

Learn Once, Write Anywhere

We don't make assumptions about the rest of your technology stack, so you can develop new features in React without rewriting existing code.

React can also render on the server using Node and power mobile apps using React Native.

Secure https://codepen.io/gaearon/pen/gWWZgR?editors=1010 \leftarrow \rightarrow C





- Pastebin sites such as JSFiddle and <u>codepen.io</u> work with React
- Just need to include React first

Create React App

npx create-react-app my-app
cd my-app
npm start

(npx comes with npm 5.2+ and higher, see instructions for older npm versions)

Then open http://localhost:3000/ to see your app.

When you're ready to deploy to production, create a minified bundle with npm run build.



https://github.com/facebook/create-react-app