**Application Controller**

What is an application controller? What does it do? How is it different from the Controller on the MVC development process?

I found a good explanation of this topic in an article posted by Derick Bailey, on *LosTechies.com*. Derick describes when will it be a good time to use the application controller, quote:

“Some applications contain a significant amount of logic about the screens to use at different points, which may involve invoking certain screens at certain times in an application. This is the wizard style of interaction, where the user is led through a series of screens in a certain order. In other cases, we may see screens that are only brought in under certain conditions, or choices between different screens that depend on earlier input.

To some degree the various Model View Controller input controllers can make some of these decisions, but as an application gets more complex this can lead to duplicated code as several controllers for different screens need to know what to do in a certain situation.

You can remove this duplication by placing all the flow logic in an Application Controller. Input controllers then ask the Application Controller for the appropriate commands for execution against a model and the correct view to use depending on the application context.”

I also learned the application controller is best used in certain strategies. Since application controller is responsible for the logic behind making decisions at the moment the user inputs data, or a command, the logic that it uses can help the MVC controller to skip certain methods and move the application faster. Here are some of the strategies that I found:

* Command Handler Strategy
* View Handler Strategy
* Transform Handler Strategy
* Navigation and Flow Control Strategy
* Message Handling Strategies
* Custom SOAP Message Handling Strategy
* JAX RPC Message Handling Strategy

Works Cited

Bailey, Derick. “Understanding the Application Controller through Object Messaging Patterns.” *LosTechies.com.* <https://lostechies.com/derickbailey/2009/12/23/understanding-the-application-controller-through-object-messaging-patterns/>. Accessed 5 April 2017.