

Discussion

Assignment:

Discuss similarities and differences between Flapjax, AngularJS and React. Reflect on the AngularJS and React versions of your rating tags, and the two implementations of the ResearchGroups example from the lectures (or your implementations from exercise 4).

Similarities and Differences

As mentioned in the 4.1 flapjax is more a language than it is a library and it not supported anymore. AngularJS and React, however, are mainstream. Angular is a bit different from React in handling HTML. All HTML are in the .html file (also the dynamic content). React has a lot of HTML loaded in using the Render function. They are similar in trying to structure the functionality. Where React have classes encapsulating everything for given class, AngularJS use directives. Flapjax wants to shield the developer from some of the DOM manipulation that the two others use by defining “behaviors” (see [4.1] Flapjax.pdf). Flapjax is the hardest one to learn (higher abstraction). Where React is server-side it requires some configuration and console handling.

Rating Tags

For the rating tags the AngularJS seems a bit easier to read in .js file. Linking a function to a directive that monitors the rating value makes the functionality seem a bit more compact than React. It was a bit faster to learn though in our opinion. It was easier to get the custom <rating> tag to work in React, where we had to change the syntax of our tag in Angular to make it work. It was almost the same amount of code that was needed.

ResearchGroup Examples

Again we are not totally sold on rendering HTML in JavaScript file. It makes it harder to find the HTML and get a good overview over where stuff is happening. It is especially the case, when you are not the designer and you have to read other people’s code. In Angular you have to live with some weird tags in your HTML and it is not as clean as it is in React. It is quite easy to find the controller in the HTML (AngularJS) and find the matching controller in the JavaScript file.