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Developing Back-End Apps with Node.js and Express

Module 2 Cheat Sheet: Asynchronous I/O with Callback Program

| Package/Method | Description | Code Example |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Async-await | We can await promises as long as they are being called inside asynchronous functions. | <pre>const axios = require('axios').default; let url = "some remote url" async function asyncCall() { console.log('calling'); const result = await axios.get(url); console.log(result.data); } asyncCall();</pre> |
| Callback | Callbacks are methods that are passed as parameters. They are invoked within the method to which they are passed as a parameter, conditionally or unconditionally. We use callbacks with a promise to process the response or errors. | <pre>//function(res) and function(err) are the anonymous callback functions axios.get(url).then(function(res) { console.log(res); }).catch(function(err) { console.log(err) })</pre> |
| Promise | An object that is returned by some methods, representing eventual completion or failure. The code continues to run without getting blocked until the promise is fulfilled or an exception is thrown. | <pre>axios.get(url).then(//do something).catch(//do something)</pre> |
| Promise use case | Promises are used when the processing time of the function we invoke takes time like remote URL access, I/O operations file reading, etc. | <pre>let prompt = require('prompt-sync')(); let fs = require('fs'); const methCall = new Promise((resolve,reject)=>{ let filename = prompt('What is the name of the file ?'); try { const data = fs.readFileSync(filename, {encoding:'utf8', flag:'r'}); resolve(data); } catch(err) { reject(err) } }); console.log(methCall); methCall.then((data) => console.log(data), (err) => console.log("Error reading file"));</pre> |
| object.on() | It defines an event handler that the framework calls when an event occurs | <pre>http.request(options, function(response) { let buffer = ''; response.on('data', function(chunk) { buffer += chunk; }); response.on('end', function() { console.log(buffer); }); }).end();</pre> |
| Callback Hell/The Pyramid of Doom | Nested callbacks stacked below one another and waiting for the previous callback. This creates a pyramid structure that affects the readability and maintainability of the code. | <pre>const makeCake = nextStep => { buyIngredients(function(shoppingList) { combineIngredients(bowl, mixer, function(ingredients){ bakeCake(oven, pan, function(batter) { decorate(icing, function(cake) {</pre> |
| Axios Request | The axios package handles HTTP requests and returns a promise object. | <pre>const axios = require('axios').default; const connectToURL=(url)=>{ const req=axios.get(url); console.log(req); req.then(resp=>{ console.log("Fulfilled"); console.log(resp.data); }) .catch(err=>{ console.log("Rejected"); }); } connectToURL('valid-url') connectToURL('invalid-url')</pre> |

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