The Flexibility of Drupal 9 Ways to Alter a Menu item

http://nerdsummit.org/node/2069

NERDSummit 2015

#NERDsummit

Michael Miles

From: Boston, MA USA

Work: Genuine @WeAreGenuine(.com)

Exp: Working with Drupal since 2008.

Acquia Grand Master. 2014 Acquia MVP.

Twitter: @mikemiles86 Drupal.org: mikemiles86
All the Places: mikemiles86

Goals of this Session

- To show there is no "right" way, just "right for me" way.
- To demonstrate data manipulation methods.
- To teach considerations to take into account.

Examples we'll use Manipulating Menu Items

- On just about every Drupal site.
- Can be manipulated in many places.
- What we'll focus on changing
 - Title
 - Destination
 - Display

Why should you care?

- Menu items are just data.
- Everything in Drupal is just data.
- If it is data, it can be manipulated!

Everything in Drupal can be manipulated!

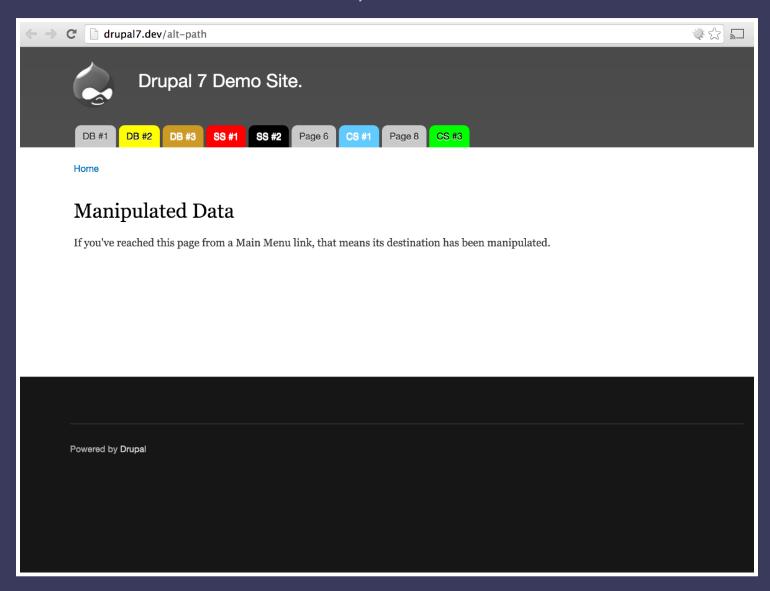
Environments

- Drupal 7.37: Standard. bartik subtheme. slate color.
- Drupal 8.0.0-beta11: Standard. bartik subtheme. slate color. !!WARNING!! Drupal 8 still in development.
- Not live. (blame Murphy)

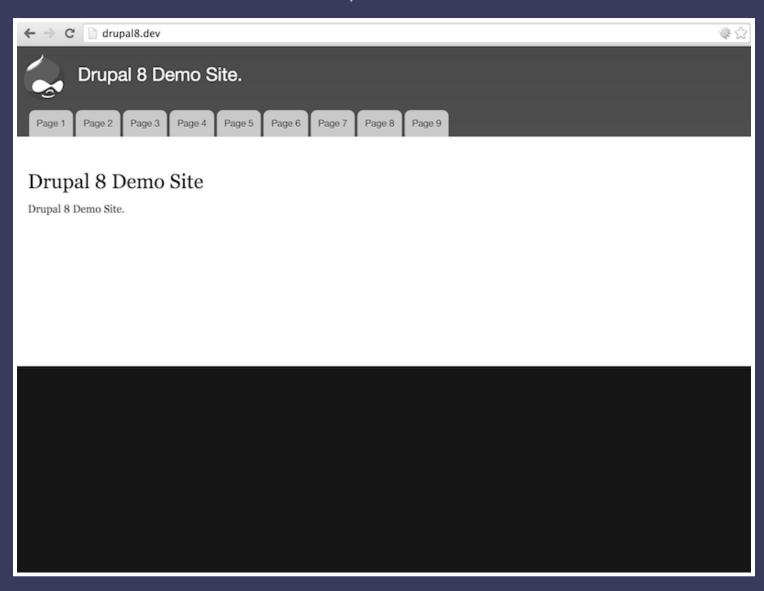
Drupal 7: before



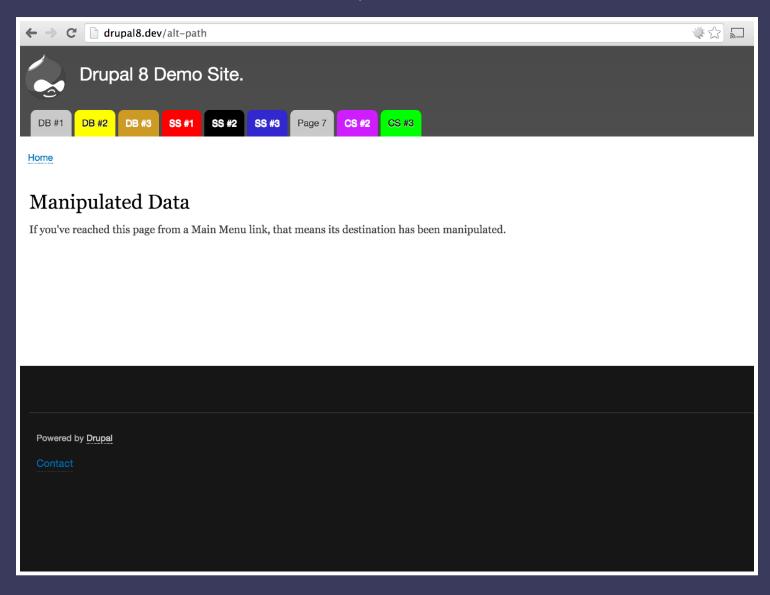
Drupal 7: after



Drupal 8: before



Drupal 8: after



Data Manipulation

Three general layers

- Database (MySQL, etc...)
- Server side (PHP)
- Client side (HTML/JS/CSS)

Database Layer

Data stored in, sent to or retrieved from the database.

#1. Drupal Core UI

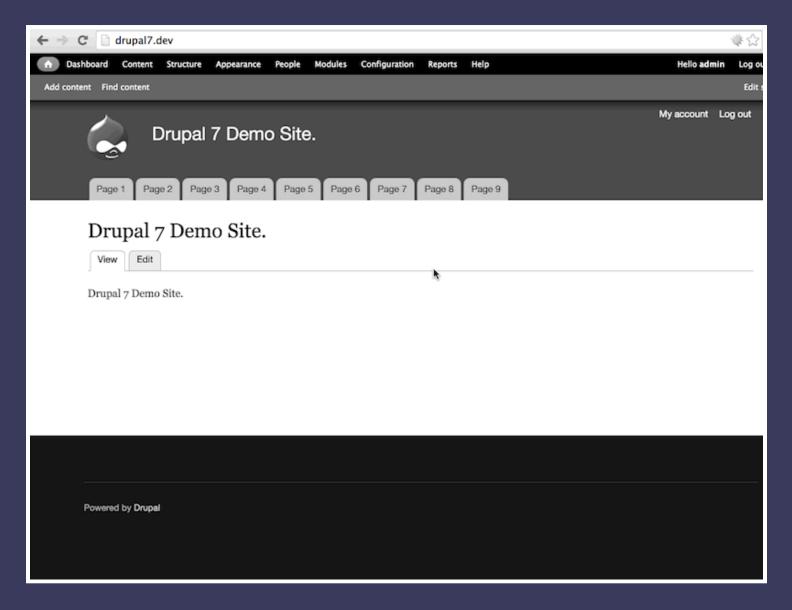
<u>Pros</u>

- Nothing extra is needed.
- "Easy" to use interface.
- Changes made are stable.

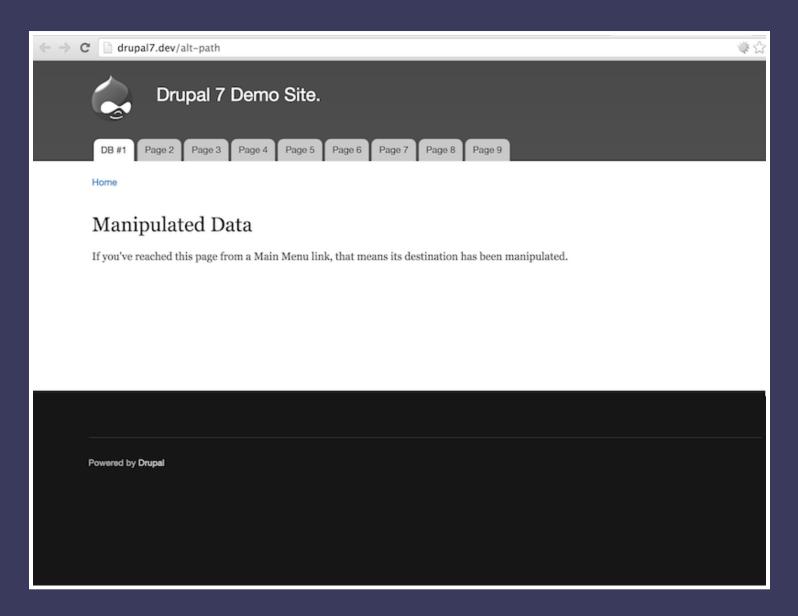
Cons

- Capabilities are limited.
- Solution may be too broad.
- Solution may be too narrow.

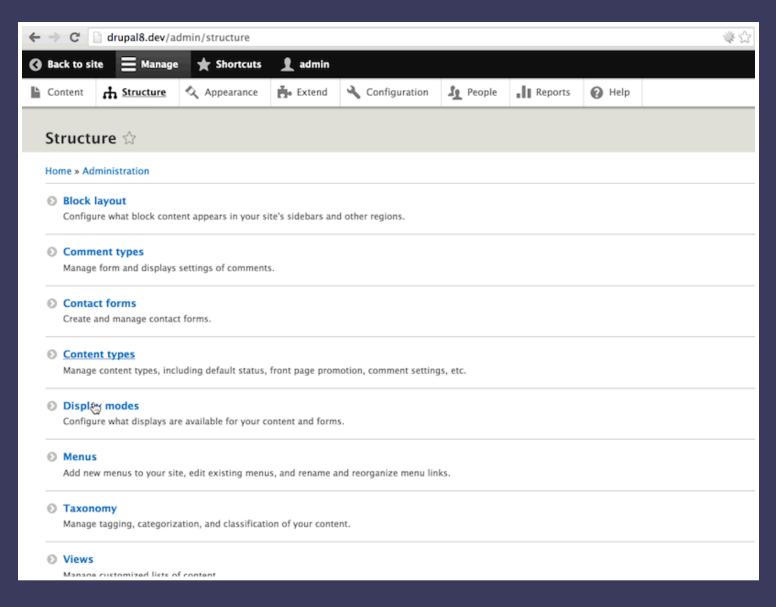
tl;dr Easy to use, but limited functionality.



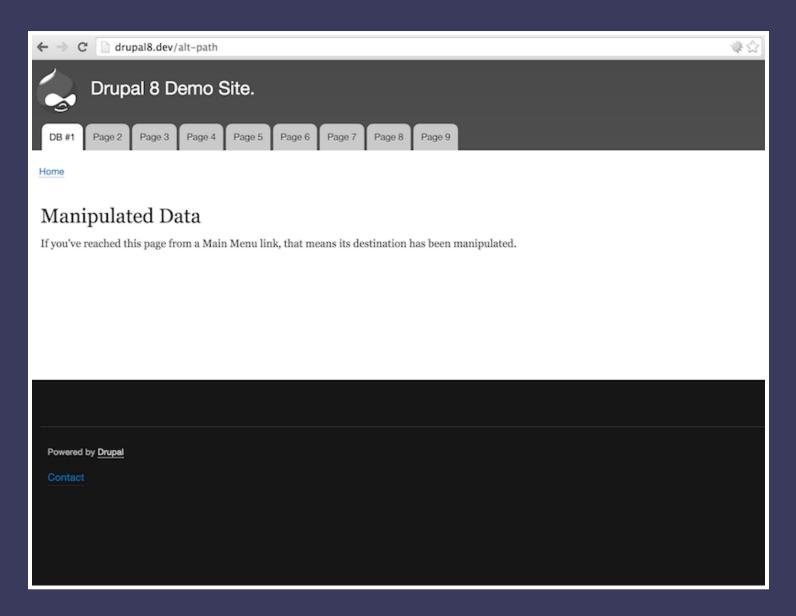
Use Drupal 7 core to change menu item title and destination.



First item in Drupal 7 menu now has changed title and destination.



Use Drupal 8 core to change menu item title and destination.



First item in Drupal 8 menu now has changed title and destination.

#2. Modules

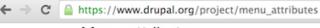
<u>Pros</u>

- Extend Drupal core.
- Variety of solutions available.
- Nothing exists? Build your own. Potential security issues.

Cons

- Can add complexity.
- May do more then needed.

tl;dr Extensive but with added complexity.





Menu attributes

View

Version control Automated Testing

Posted by Schoonzie on December 29, 2008 at 5:59am

This simple module allows you to specify some additional attributes for menu items such as id, name, class, style, and rel.

You should use this module when

- . You want to "nofollow" certain menu items to sculpt the flow of PageRank through your site
- . You want to give a menu item an ID so you can easily select it using jQuery
- · You want to add additional classes or styles to a menu item

The module currently allows you to set the following attributes for each menu item:

- Id
- Name
- Target
- Rel
- Class
- Style
- Accesskey

Project Information

Maintenance status: Actively maintained Development status: Under active development

Module categories: Administration, Site Navigation

Reported installs: 53,972 sites currently report using this module. View usage statistics.

Downloads: 363,489 Automated tests: Enabled Last modified: December 2, 2014

Downloads

Recommended releases

Version	Download	Date	Links
7.x-1.0-rc3	tar.gz (14.31 KB) zip (16.76 KB)	2014-Oct-19	Notes
6.x-2.0-beta1	tar.gz (8.43 KB) zip (9.34 KB)	2010-Sep-05	Notes

Other releases

Version	Download	Date	Links
6.x-1.4	tar.gz (8.14 KB) zip (9.45 KB)	2009-Apr-21	Notes

Maintainers for Menu attributes

amateescu - 13 commits last: 4 months ago, first: 3 years ago

iast: 4 months ago, first: 5 years ago

joelpittet - 3 commits

last: 5 months ago, first: 11 months ago

Dave Reid - 17 commits

last: 3 years ago, first: 4 years ago

Schoonzie – 8 commits last: 6 years ago, first: 6 years ago

View all committers

View commits

Issues for Menu attributes

To avoid duplicates, please search before submitting a new issue.

Advanced search

All issues

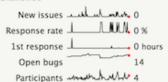
36 open, 146 total

Bug report

14 open, 61 total

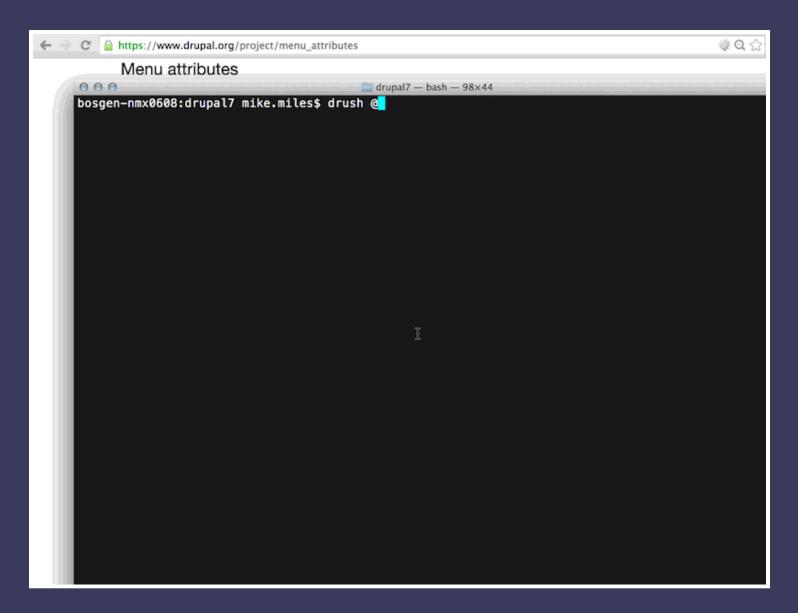
Subscribe via e-mail

Statistics

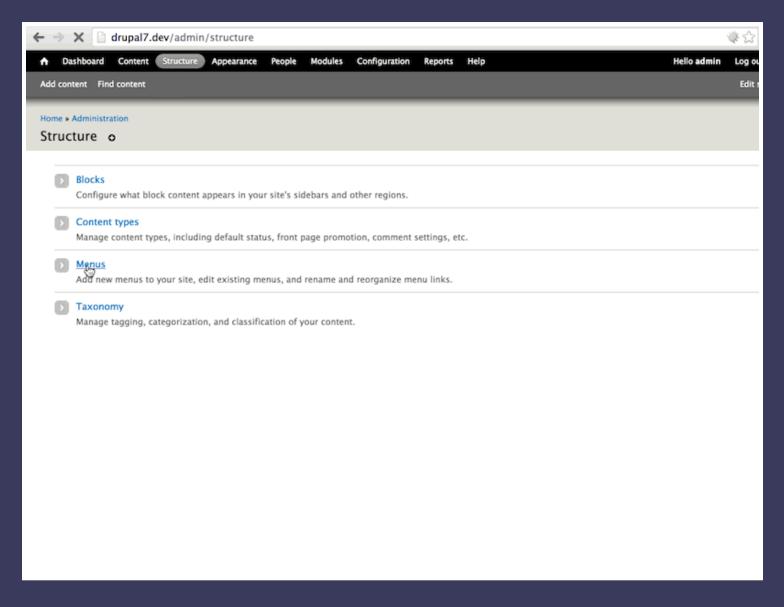


2 year graph, updates weekly

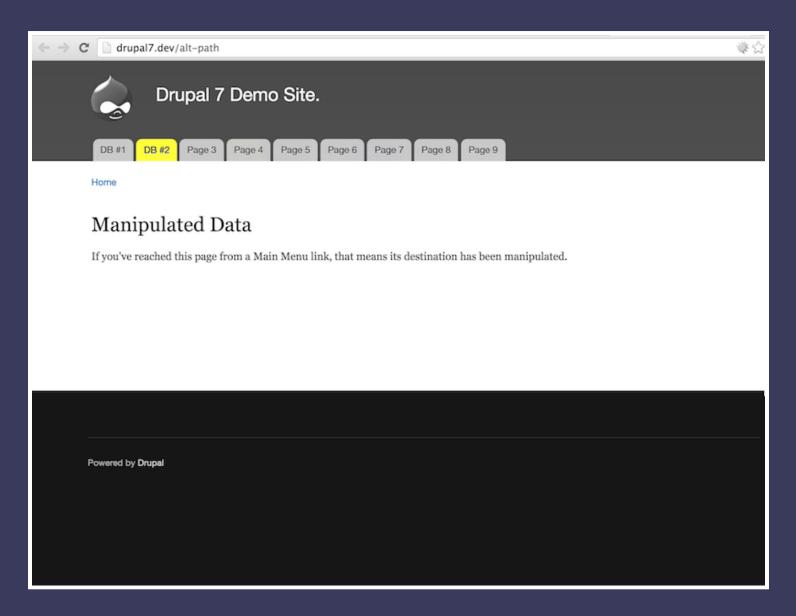
Resources



Use drush to download and enable Menu Attributes into D7 site.



Altering Drupal 7 menu item from admin, can now set style and target.



Second item in Drupal 7 menu now has changed title, destination and style.



Menu attributes

Version control Automated Testing

Posted by Schoonzie on December 29, 2008 at 5:59am

This simple module allows you to specify some additional attributes for menu items such as id, name, class, style, and rel.

You should use this module when

- . You want to "nofollow" certain menu items to sculpt the flow of PageRank through your site
- . You want to give a menu item an ID so you can easily select it using jQuery
- · You want to add additional classes or styles to a menu item

The module currently allows you to set the following attributes for each menu item:

- Id
- Name
- Target
- Rel
- Class
- Style
- Accesskey

No Drupal 8 release. u attributes

Project Information

Maintenance status: Actively maintained Development status: Under active development

Module categories: Administration , Site J gation

Reported installs: 53,972 sites currently ort using this module. View usage statistics.

Downloads: 363,489 Automated tests: Enabled Last modified: December 2, 2014

Downloads

Recommended releases

Version	Download	Date	Links
7.x-1.0-rc3	tar.gz (14.31 KB) zip (16.76 KB)	2014-Oct-19	Notes
6.x-2.0-beta1	tar.gz (8.43 K8) zip (9.34 K8)	2010-Sep-05	Notes

Other releases

Version	Download	Date	Links
6.x-1.4	tar.gz (8.14 KB) zip (9.45 KB)	2009-Apr-21	Notes

Maintainers for Menu attributes

amateescu - 13 commits

last: 4 months ago, first: 3 years ago

joelpittet - 3 commits

last: 5 months ago, first: 11 months ago

To avoid duplicates, please search before

Dave Reid - 17 commits

last: 3 years ago, first: 4 years ago

Schoonzie - 8 commits

last: 6 years ago, first: 6 years ago

View all committers

View commits

submitting a new issue.

Advanced search

All issues

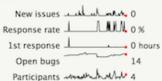
36 open, 146 total

Bug report

14 open, 61 total

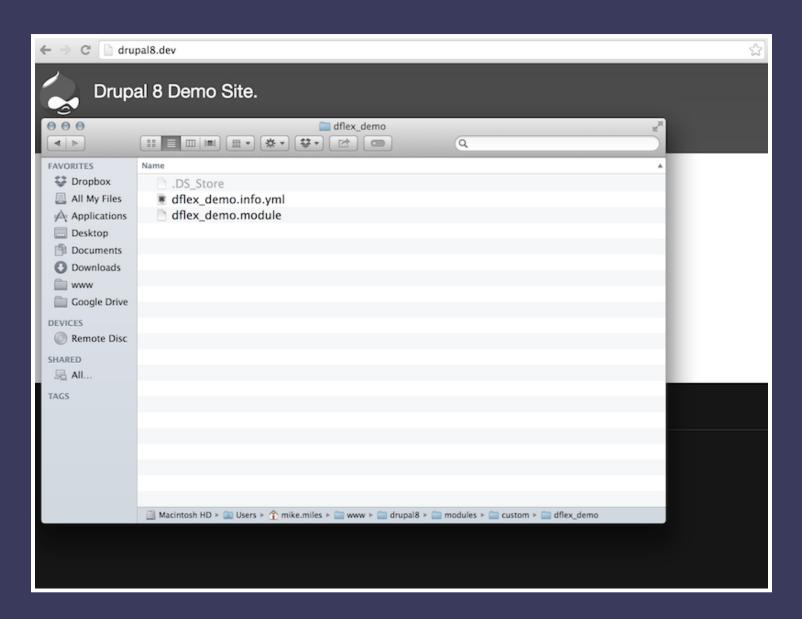
Subscribe via e-mail

Statistics



2 year graph, updates weekly

Resources



Create a custom "dflex_demo" module for Drupal 8.

dflex_demo.info.yml

name: Drupal Flex Demo

type: module

description: This is a demo module to show off Drupal Flexibility

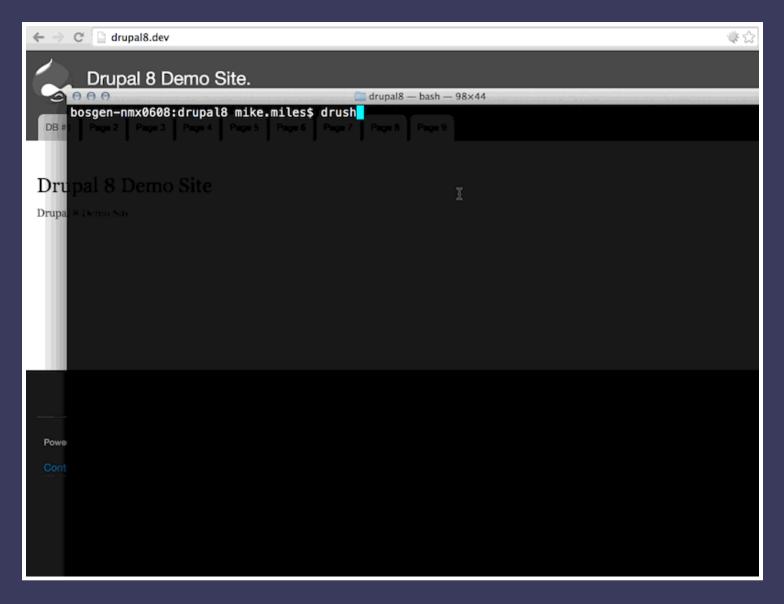
core: 8.x

package: Other

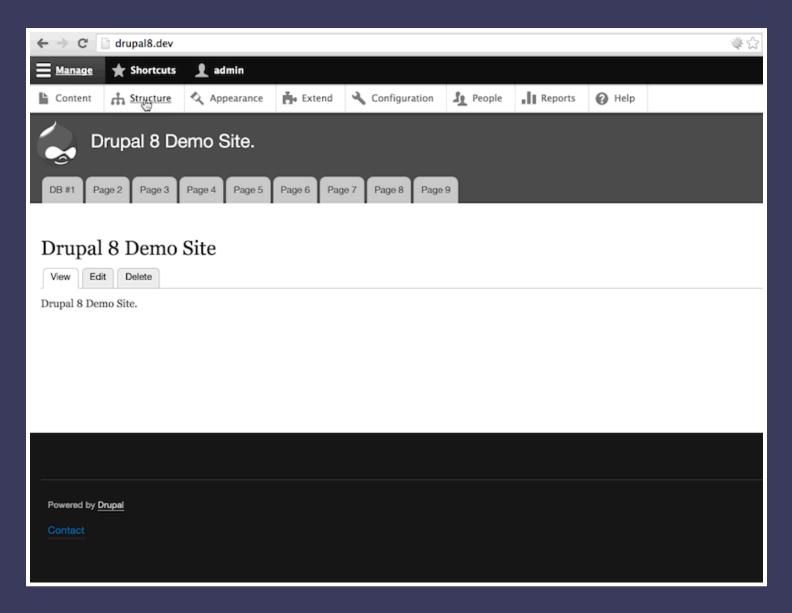
dflex_demo.module

```
use Drupal\Core\Entity\EntityInterface;
use Drupal\menu link content\Entity\MenuLinkContent;
 * Implements hook entity update().
function dflex demo entity update(EntityInterface $entity) {
  if ($entity instanceof MenuLinkContent) {
    if ($entity->getTitle() == 'DB #2' && $entity->getMenuName() == 'main') {
      db update('menu tree')
        ->fields(array(
          'options' => serialize(array(
              'attributes' => array(
                'style' => 'background:#FF0;color:#000',
                'target' => ' blank',
              ),
            )),
        ))
        ->condition('id', 'menu link content:' . $entity->uuid())
        ->execute();
```

Drupal 8 custom module dflex_demo implement instance of entity update hook, to alter menu link data saved to the database.

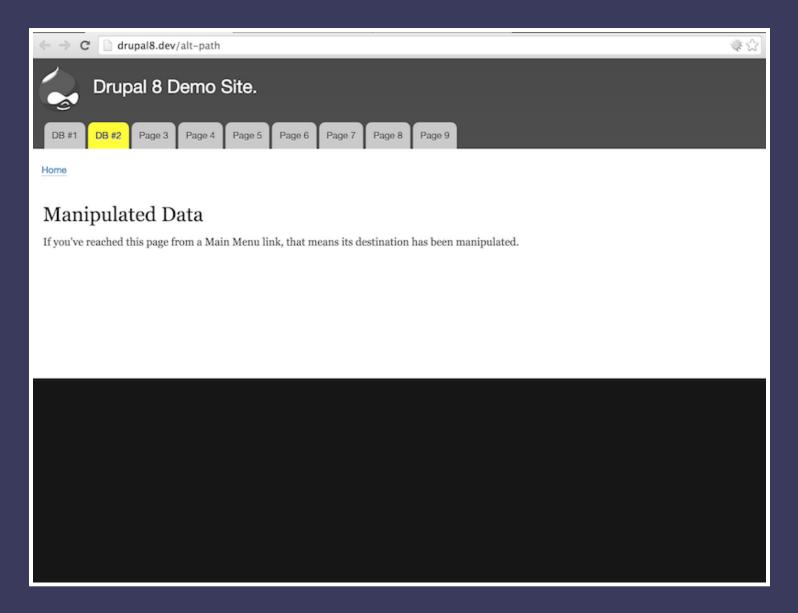


Use Drush to enable custom Drupal 8 module on Drupal 8 site.



Use Drupal 8 core to change second menu item title and destination.

Custom module alters before saving to database.



Second item in Drupal 8 menu now has changed title, destination and style.

#3. Direct Queries

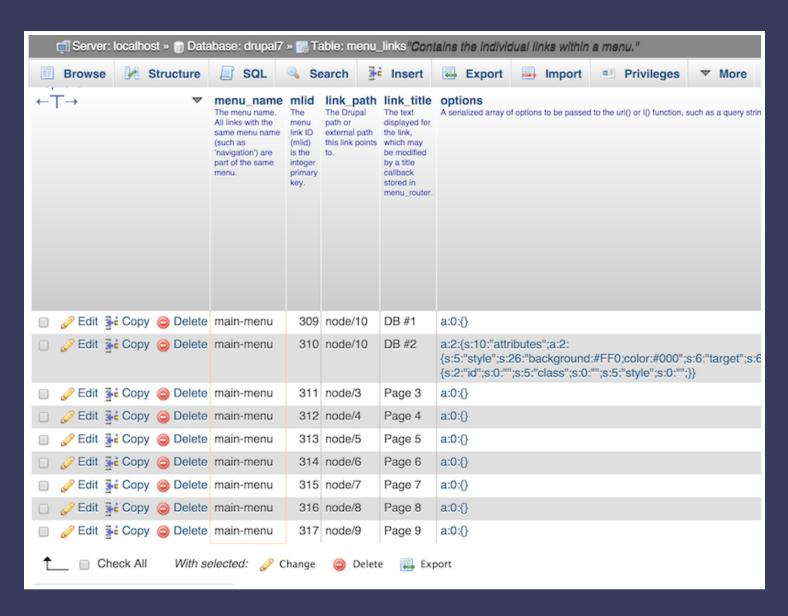
Pros

- Extremely powerful method.
- Direct data manipulation.
- Can be implemented quickly. Can be very dangerous.

Cons

- Queries can be complex.
- Changes may not be stable.

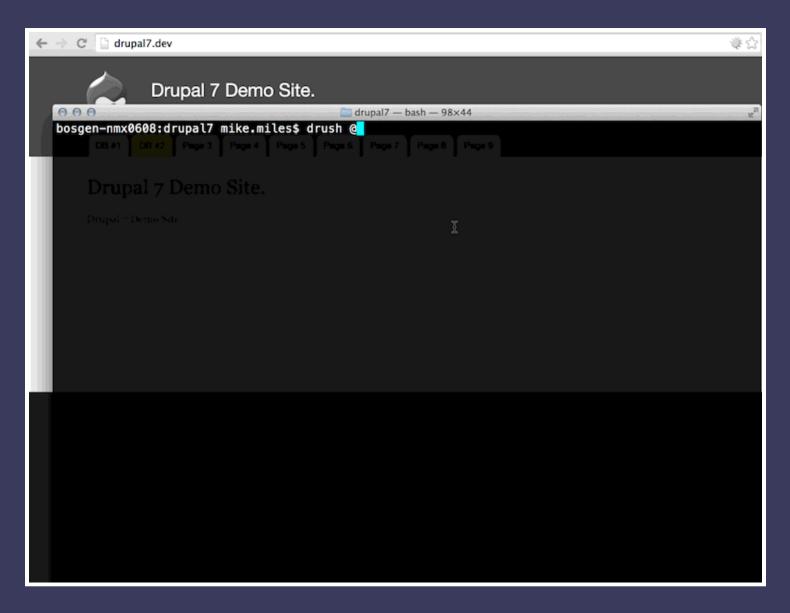
tl;dr Powerful, but can be dangerous.



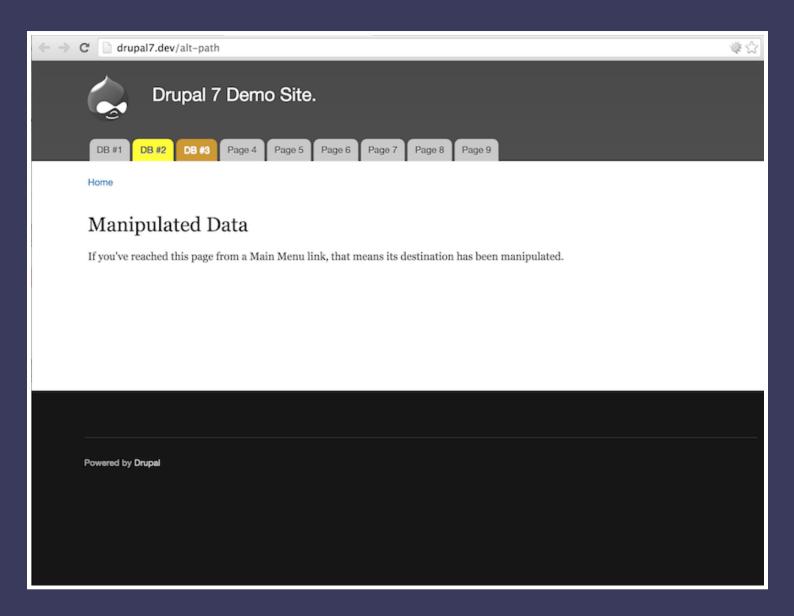
menu_links database table contains Drupal 7 menu link data.

```
UPDATE
  menu_links
SET
  options = "a:1:{s:10:attributes;a:1:{s:5:'style';s:26:'background:#C93;color:#
FFF';}}",
  link_title = 'DB #3',
  link_path = 'node/10'
WHERE
  menu_name = 'main-menu'
AND
  link_path = 'node/3';
```

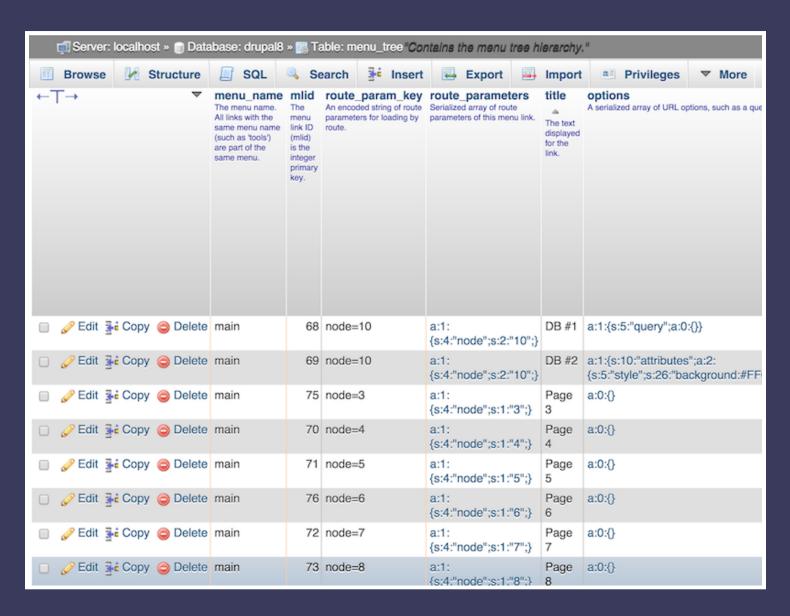
Write custom query to update a Menu link in Drupal 7.



Use Drush sqlq command to run custom query to change menu link data in Drupal 7.



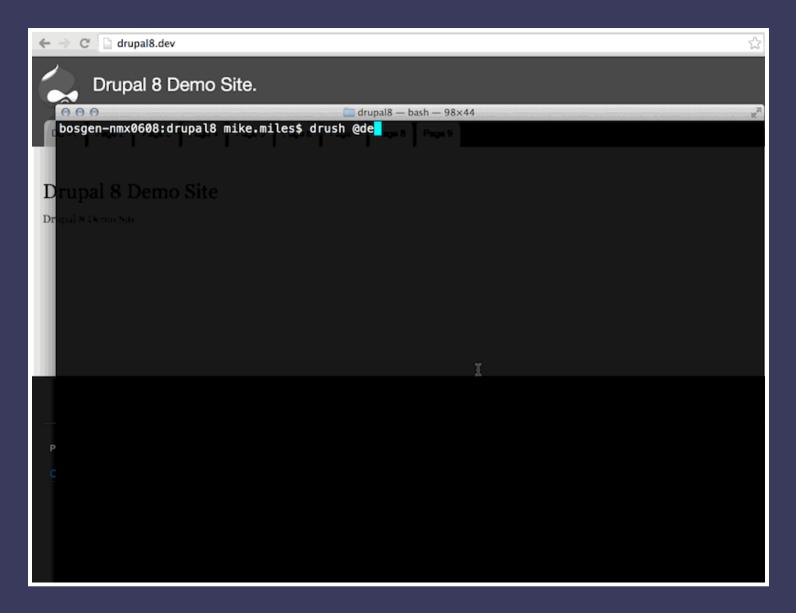
Third item in Drupal 7 menu now has changed title, destination and style.



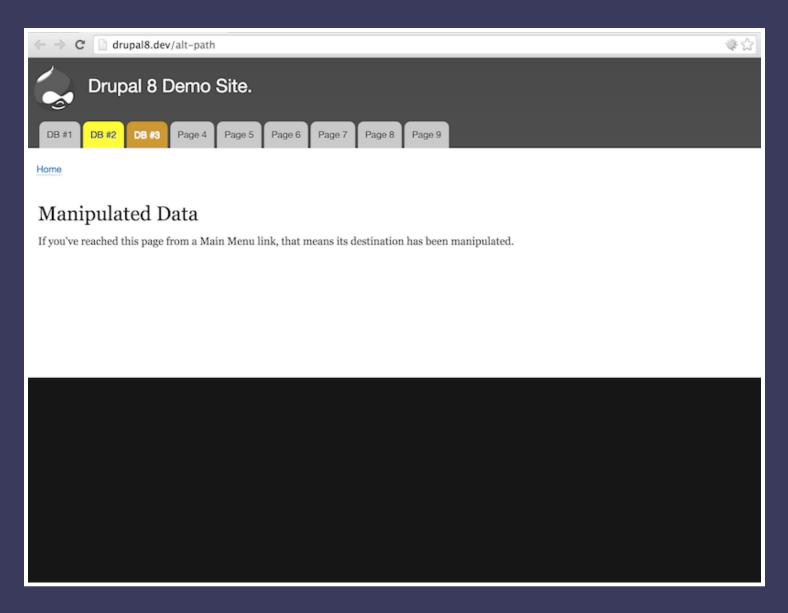
menu_tree database table contains Drupal 8 menu link data.

```
UPDATE
  menu_tree
SET
  options = "a:1:{s:10:attributes;a:1:{s:5:'style';s:26:'background:#C93;color:#
FFF';}}",
  title = 'DB #3',
  route_param_key = 'node=10',
  route_parameters = "a:1:{s:4:'node';s:2:'10';}"
WHERE
  menu_name = 'main'
AND
  route_param_key = 'node=3';
```

Write custom query to update a Menu link in Drupal 8.



Use Drush sqlq command to run custom query to change menu link data in Drupal 8.



Third item in Drupal 8 menu now has changed title, destination and style.

Server Side Layer

Data retrieved from the database, before being rendered.

#4. Hooks

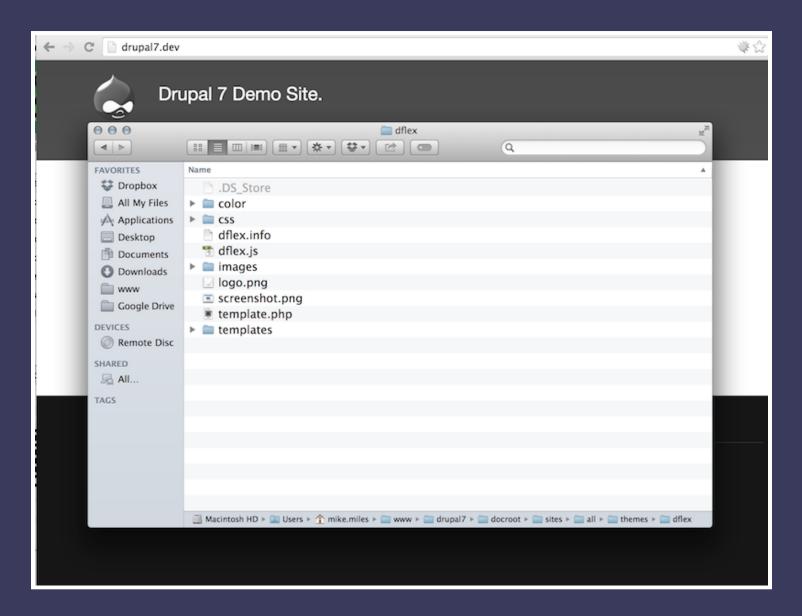
<u>Pros</u>

- Provided by core and modules.
- Easiest way to extend core.
- Many are available.

Cons

- Not used everywhere.
- Hooks maybe to broad/narrow.
- May be early/late in a process.

tl;dr The core method for extending...core.

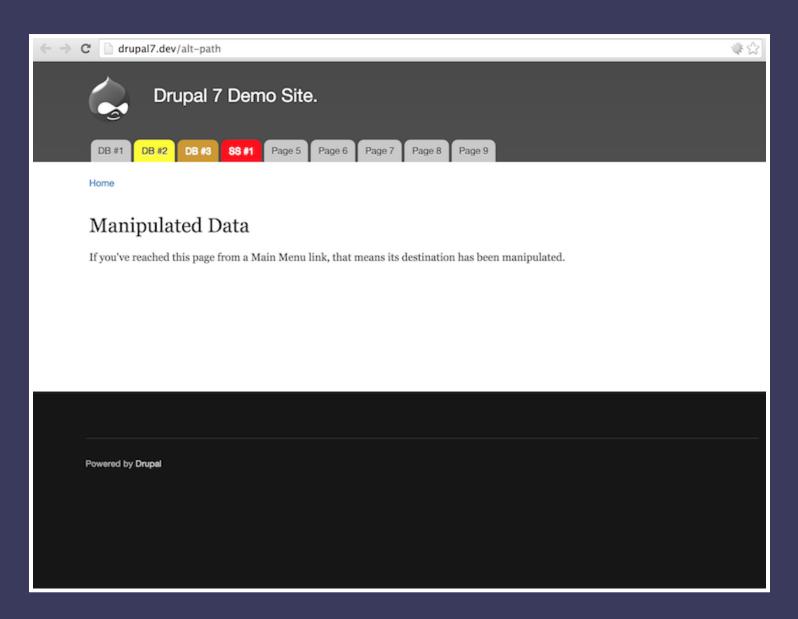


Custom Drupal 7 theme 'dflex'. Includes template.php for hooks.

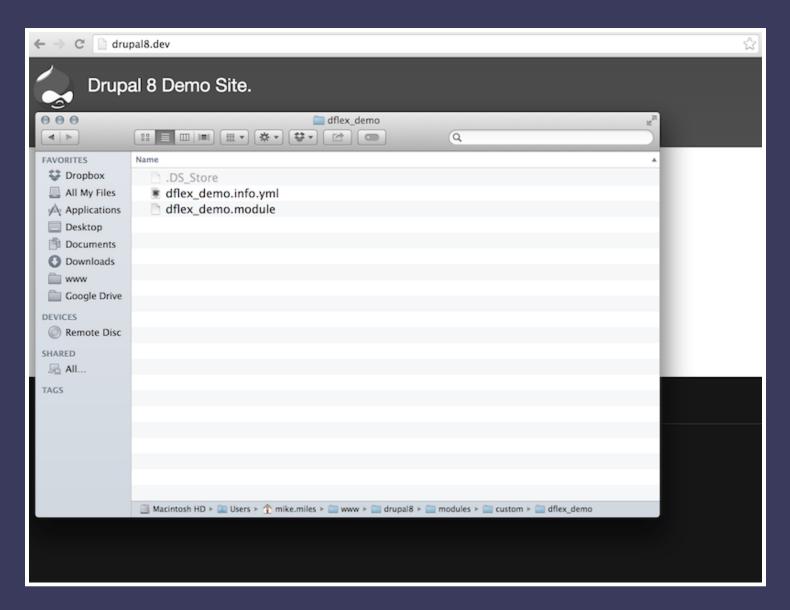
dflex/template.php

```
/**
 * Implements THEME_links__MENUNAME().
 */
function dflex_links__system_main_menu($variables) {
  foreach ($variables['links'] as &$menu_link) {
    if ($menu_link['href'] == 'node/4') {
        $menu_link['href'] = 'node/10';
        $menu_link['title'] = 'SS #1';
        $menu_link['title'] = 'SS #1';
        $menu_link['attributes']['style'] = 'background:#F00;color:#FFF;';
        $menu_link['attributes']['target'] = '_blank';
    }
}
return theme_links($variables);
}
```

Implements an instance of a menu theme hook, to alter a menu link.



Before render, menu hits template hook. Fourth menu link in Drupal 7 has changed title, destination and style.

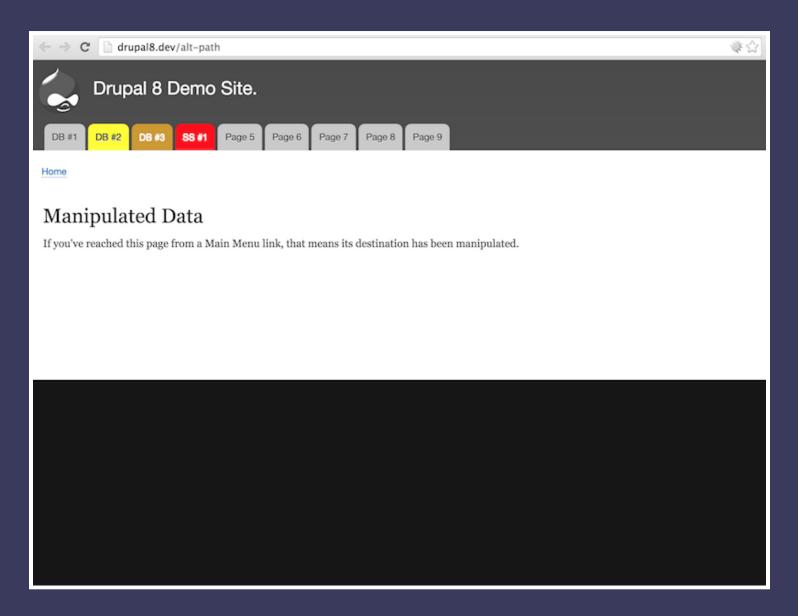


Custom Drupal 8 module 'dflex_demo'. Will add another hook to .module file.

dflex_demo.module

```
* Implements hook preprocess HOOK().
function dflex demo preprocess menu(&$variables) {
  if ($variables['theme hook original'] == 'menu main') {
    foreach ($variables['items'] as &$menu link) {
      if ($menu link['url']->toString() == '/node/4') {
        $menu link['title'] = 'SS #1';
        $menu link['url'] = \Drupal\Core\Url::fromUri('entity:node/10', array()
          'attributes' => array(
            'style' => 'background:#F00;color:#FFF',
            'target' => ' blank',
          ),
        ));
```

Implements an instance of a preprocess menu, to alter a menu link.



Before render, menu hits preprocess hook. Fourth menu link in Drupal 8 has changed title, destination and style.

#5. Hack Core

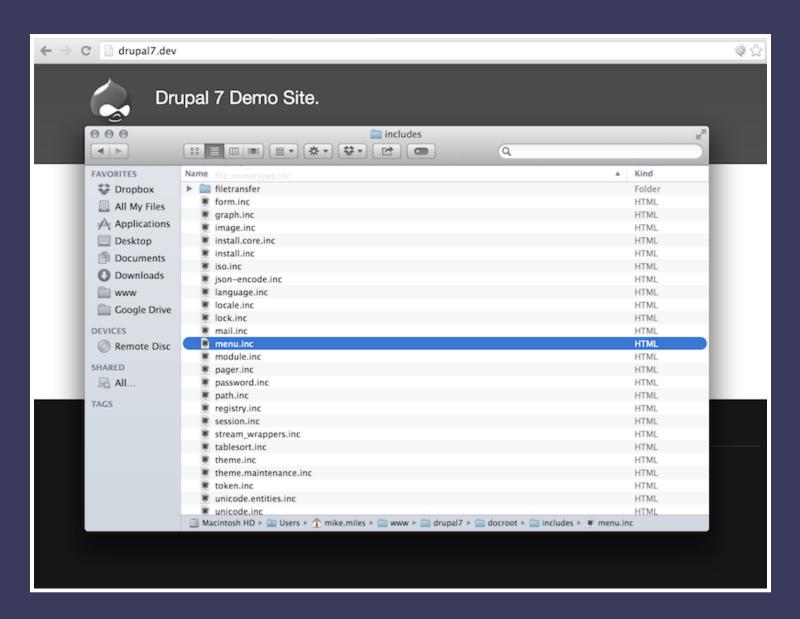
Pros

- Absolute control of Drupal.
- Change any core functionality.
- Extremly powerful.

Cons

- May cause unknown issues.
- Will break upgrade ability.
- Introduces security risks.

tl;dr "With great power, comes great responsibility" ~ Uncle Ben.

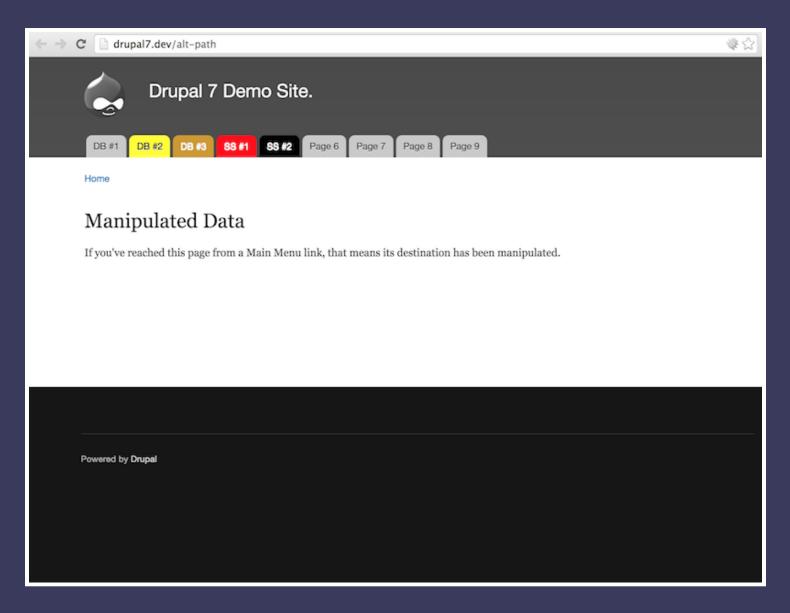


Drupal 7 core file menu.inc, controls menu functionality.

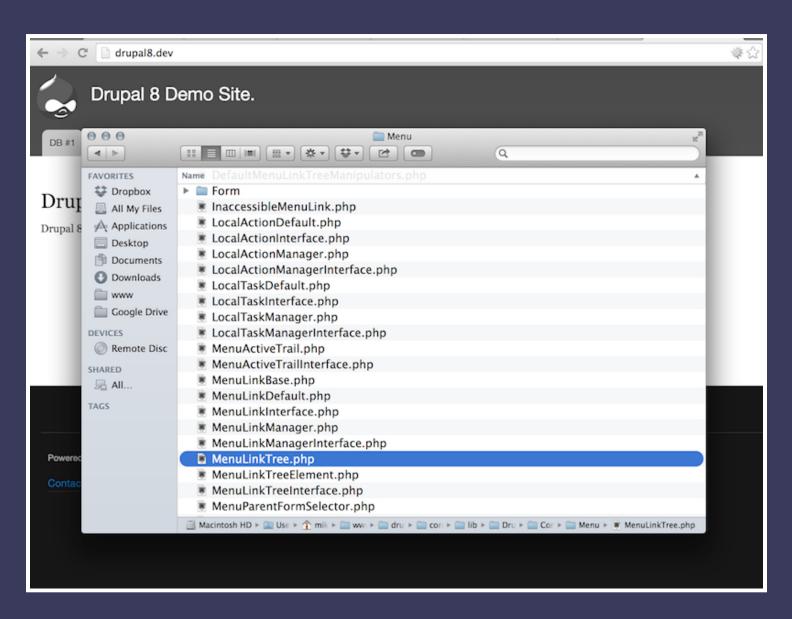
includes/menu.inc

```
* Returns an array of links for a navigation menu.
function menu navigation links($menu name, $level = 0) {
 $router item = menu get item();
 $links = array();
 foreach ($tree as $item) {
   if (!$item['link']['hidden']) {
     if (($menu name == 'main-menu') && ($item['link']['href'] == 'node/5')) {
       $item['link']['href'] = 'node/10';
       $item['link']['title'] = t('SS #2');
       $style = 'background:#000;color:#FFF';
       $item['link']['localized options']['attributes']['style'] = $style;
       $item['link']['localized options']['attributes']['target'] = ' blank';
     $class = '';
```

Alter menu_navigation_links function to change a menu link in main menu.



Drupal 7 menu loads, uses hacked function. Fifth menu item now has altered title, destination and style.

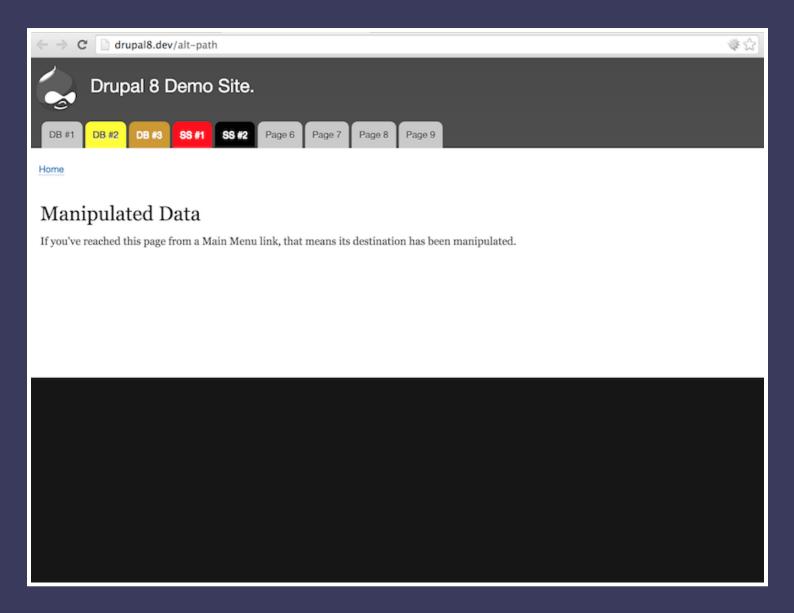


Drupal 8 core class MenuLinkTree.php controls menu functionality.

core/lib/Drupal/Core/Menu/MenuLinkTree.php

```
* Implements the loading, transforming and rendering of menu link trees.
class MenuLinkTree implements MenuLinkTreeInterface {
 protected function buildItems(array $tree, ...) {
      $url = $element['url']->toString();
      if(($link->getMenuName() == 'main') && ($url == '/node/5')) {
        $element['title'] = 'SS #2';
        $element['url'] = \Drupal\Core\Url::fromUri('entity:node/10', array(
          'attributes' => array(
            'style' => 'background:#000;color:#FFF',
            'target' => ' blank',
         ),
        ));
      // Index using the link's unique ID.
      $items[$link->getPluginId()] = $element;
   return $items;
```

Alter buildItems() function to change menu link in main menu.



Drupal 8 menu loads, uses hacked function. Fifth menu item now has altered title, destination and style.

Credit: Greg Dunlap (@heyrocker) (around 2008?)



Hacking core is the "Wrong way". Don't do it or God will kill a kitten.

#6. Services

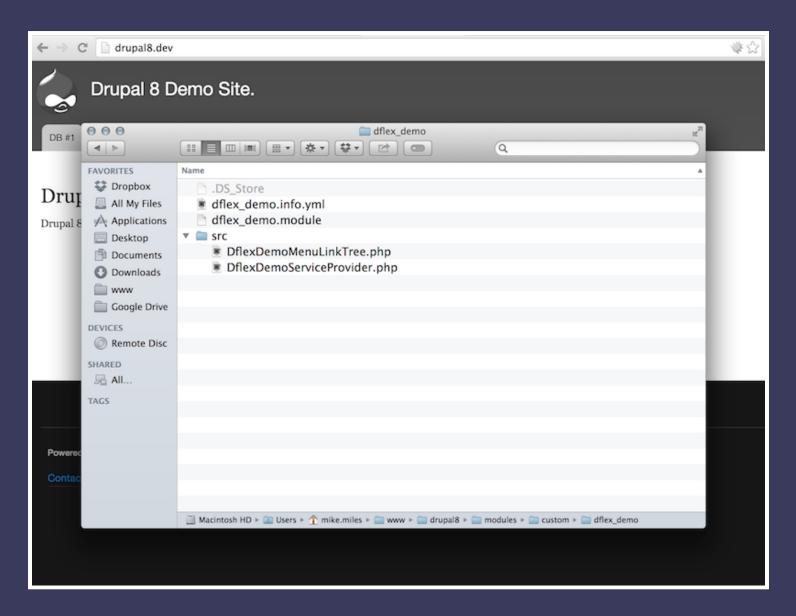
Pros

- Change any core functionality.
- No hacking required!
- Can be very powerful.

Cons

- Only available for Drupal 8.
- Can be complex.
- Not for everything.

tl;dr It's hacking core without hacking core.



Drupal 8 custom module 'dflex_demo' with an 'src' directory, containting two new files.

DflexDemoServiceProvider.php

```
namespace Drupal\dflex_demo;
use Drupal\Core\DependencyInjection\ContainerBuilder;
use Drupal\Core\DependencyInjection\ServiceProviderBase;

class DflexDemoServiceProvider extends ServiceProviderBase {
    /**
    * {@inheritdoc}
    */
    public function alter(ContainerBuilder $container) {
        // Override the menu_link_tree class with a new class.
        $definition = $container->getDefinition('menu.link_tree');
        $definition->setClass('Drupal\dflex_demo\DflexDemoMenuLinkTree');
    }
}
```

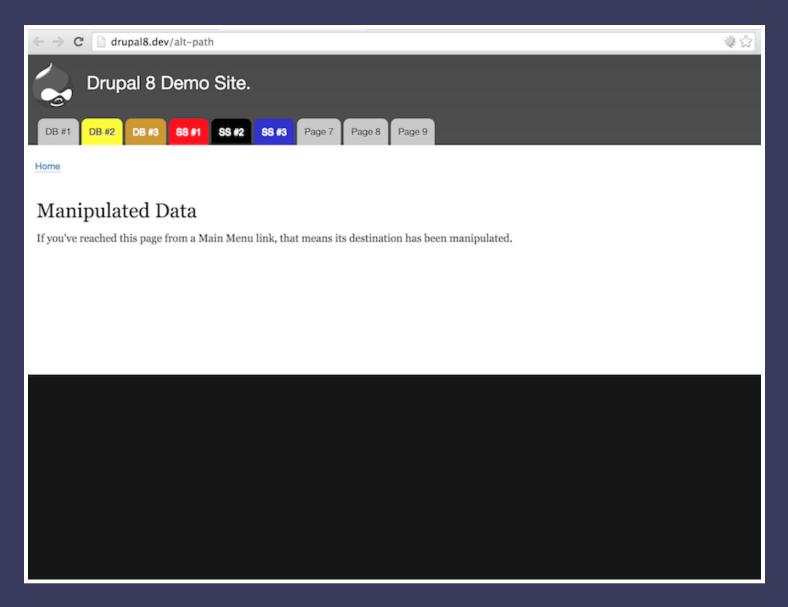
Extend ServiceProviderBase and override alter function.
Retrieve correct dependency injection container and tell Drupal what class to use as the service.

DflexDemoMenuLinkTree.php

```
namespace Drupal\dflex demo;
use Drupal\Core\Menu\MenuLinkTree;
class DflexDemoMenuLinkTree extends MenuLinkTree {
   * Overrides \Drupal\Core\Menu\MenuLinkTree::build();
  public function build(array $tree) {
    $build = parent::build($tree);
    if (isset($build['#items']) && ($build['#theme'] == 'menu main')) {
      foreach ($build['#items'] as &$item) {
        if ($item['url']->toString() == '/node/6') {
          $item['title'] = 'SS #3';
          $item['url'] = \Drupal\Core\Url::fromUri('entity:node/10', array())
            'attributes' => array(
              'style' => 'background:#33C;color:#FFF',
              'target' => ' blank',
            )));
   return $build;
```

Custom MenuLinkTree Service.

<u>Extend the core service and override the build function, to alter menu link.</u>



Drupal 8 menu is loaded using custom service to build menu. Sixth menu item has altered title, destination and style.

Client Side Layer

Data when being rendered.

#7. Template Overrides

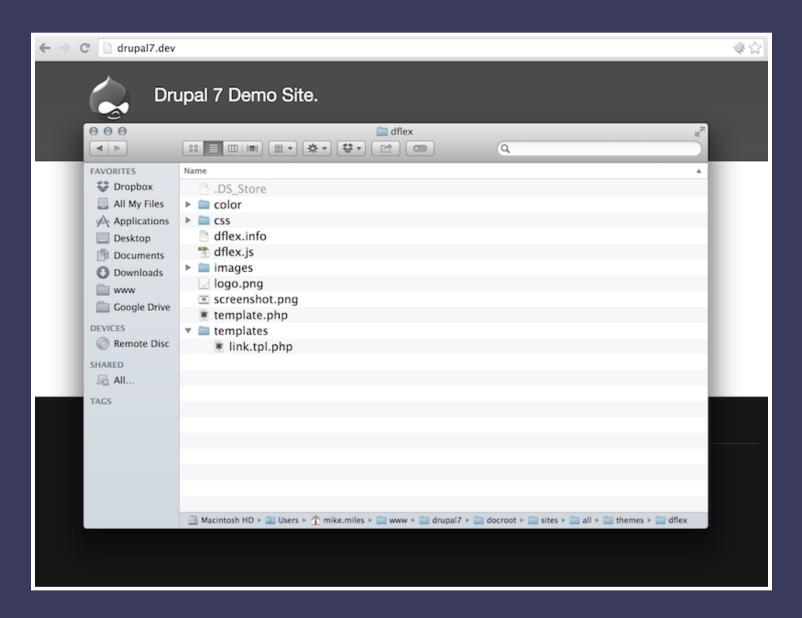
<u>Pros</u>

- Override Drupal markup.
- Make specific with suggestions.
- Changes are cached.

Cons

- Not everything is templated.
- Template may be wrong level.
- May still require server side.

tl;dr Control of the rendered HTML.



Drupal 7 custom theme 'dflex', now contains a templates folder.

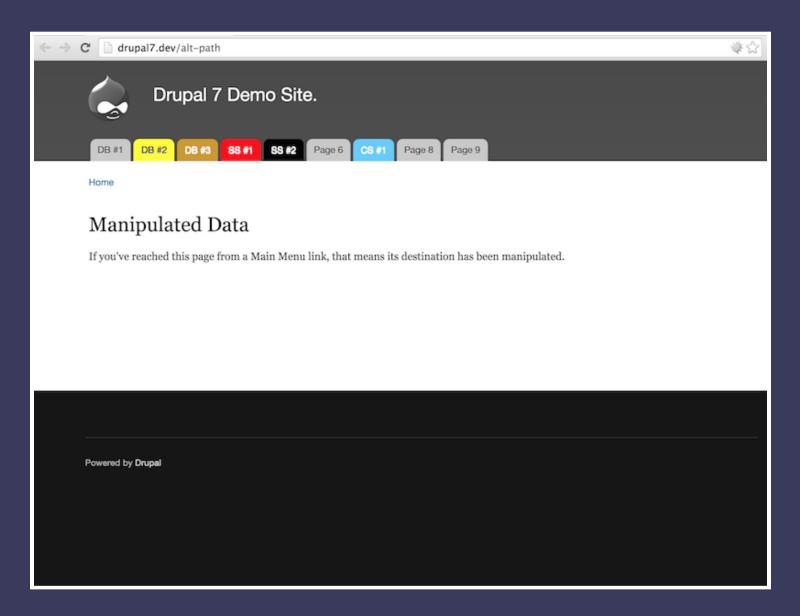
Contains a template file for rendering links.

dflex/templates/link.tpl.php

```
<?php
    $url = check_plain(url($variables['path'], $variables['options']));
    $attributes = drupal_attributes($variables['options']['attributes']);
    $text = ($variables['options']['html'] ? $variables['text'] : check_plain($variables['text']));
?>

<?php if(isset($variables['path']) == 'node/7'): ?>
    <a href="/alt-path" style="background:#6CF;color:#FFF;">CS #1</a>
<?php else: ?>
    <a href="<?php print $url; ?>" <?php print $attributes; ?>><?php print $text; ?></a>
<?php endif; ?>
```

Add additional logic to link template to display static link for particular path.



When Drupal 7 renders links will use overrriden template. Seventh menu item now has altered title, destination and style.

#8. Twig

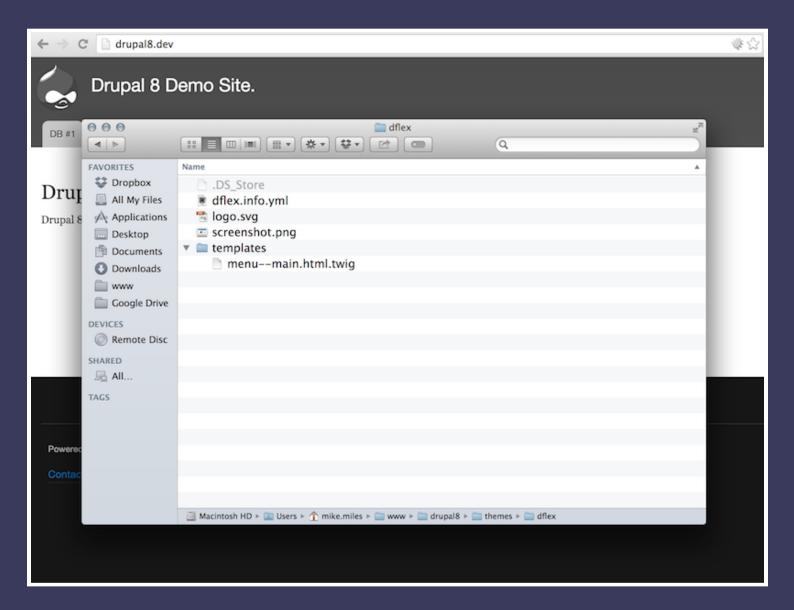
<u>Pros</u>

- Override Drupal markup.
- More secure then old engine.
- Serverside logic with no PHP.

Cons

- Only in Drupal 8.
- Logic abilities are limited.
- Requires more processing.

tl;dr More secure template overrides.



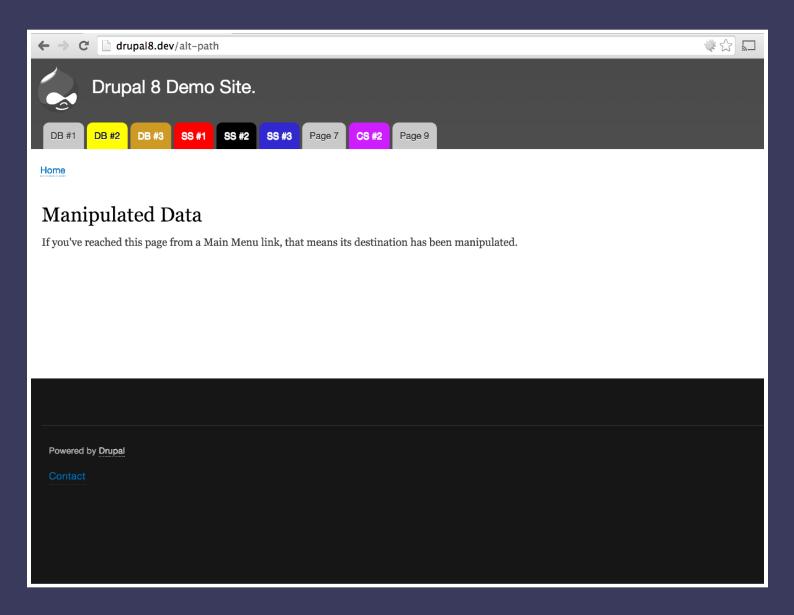
Custom Drupal 8 theme 'dflex_demo' contains a templates directory.

Along with a twig template suggestion for main menu

dflex/templates/menu--main.html.twig

```
{{ menus.menu links(items, attributes, 0) }}
{% macro menu links(items, attributes, menu level) %}
  {% import self as menus %}
  {% if items %}
    {% if menu level == 0 %}
<ul{{ attributes.addClass('menu') }}>
  {% else %}
 {% endif %}
    {% for item in items %}
     <li{{ item.attributes }}>
       {% if item.title == 'Page 8' and item.url.toString() == '/node/8' %}
         <a href="/alt-path" style="background:#C3F;color:#FFF;">CS #2</a>
       {% else %}
         {{ link(item.title, item.url) }}
       {% endif %}
       {% if item.below %}
         {{ menus.menu links(item.below, attributes, menu level + 1) }}
       {% endif %}
     {% endfor %}
 {% endif %}
{% endmacro %}
```

Template override contains twig logic to display static link for specific menu item.



When rendering main menu, Drupal 8 users overriden twig menu template. Eighth menu item has altered title, destination and style.

#9. Custom JS

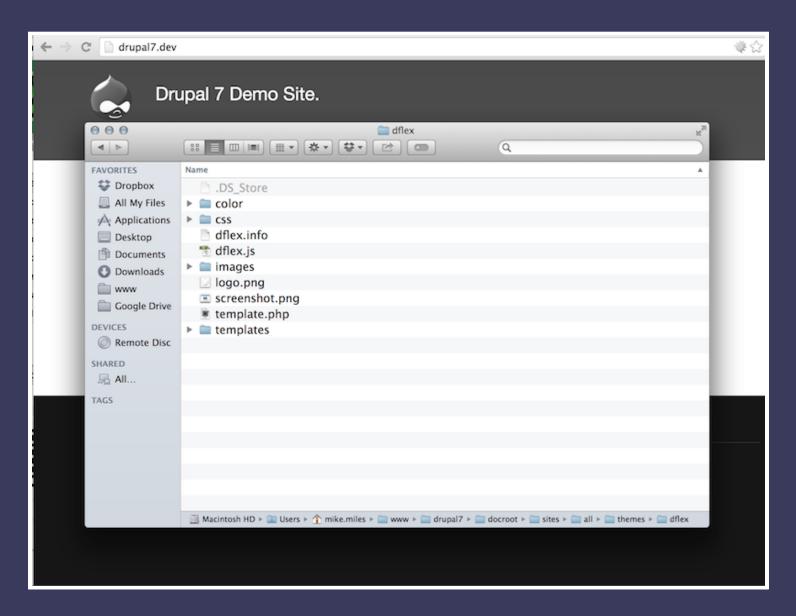
<u>Pros</u>

- Manipulate any DOM item.
- Can be based on user actions.
- Less server processing.

Cons

- Dependent on browser support.
- Delay before it is executed.
- Alterable by client.

tl;dr Fancy client side functionality.



Drupal 7 custom theme 'dflex' contains a javascript file 'dflex.js'.

dflex/dflex.info

```
name = Drupal Flex Demo
description = Demo subtheme for displaying Drupal Flexibility
package = Core
version = VERSION
core = 7.x
base theme = bartik

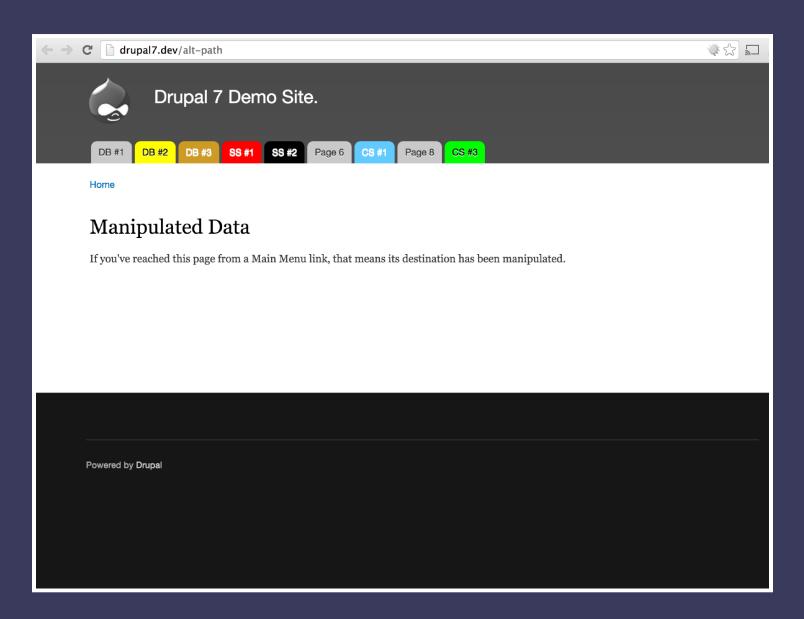
stylesheets[all][] = css/colors.css

scripts[] = dflex.js
...
```

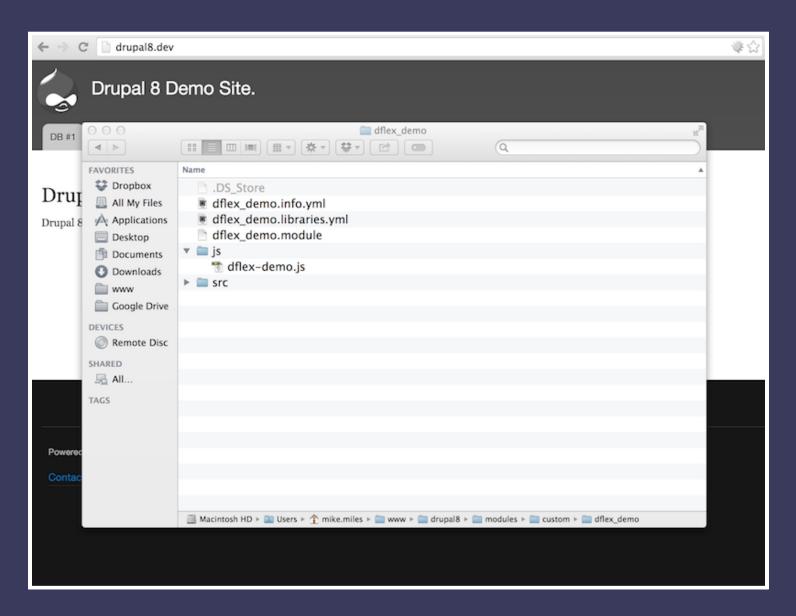
Tell Drupal 7 about js file by adding it to the themes scripts array in the .info file.

dflex/dflex.js

Add custom Drupal behavour to alter main menu link after DOM loads.



After Drupal 7 page loads, custom javascript runs. Ninth menu item now has altered title, destination and style.



Drupal 8 custom module 'dflex_demo' has new libraries.yml file and a js directory with a javascript file.

dflex_demo/dflex_demo.libraries.yml

```
dflex_demo:
   version: VERSION
   js:
    js/dflex-demo.js: {}
   dependencies:
        - core/jquery
        - core/jquery.once
        - core/drupal
```

libraries.yml tells Drupal 8 what javacript libraries are provided and any dependencies they may have.

dflex_demo/js/dflex-demo.js

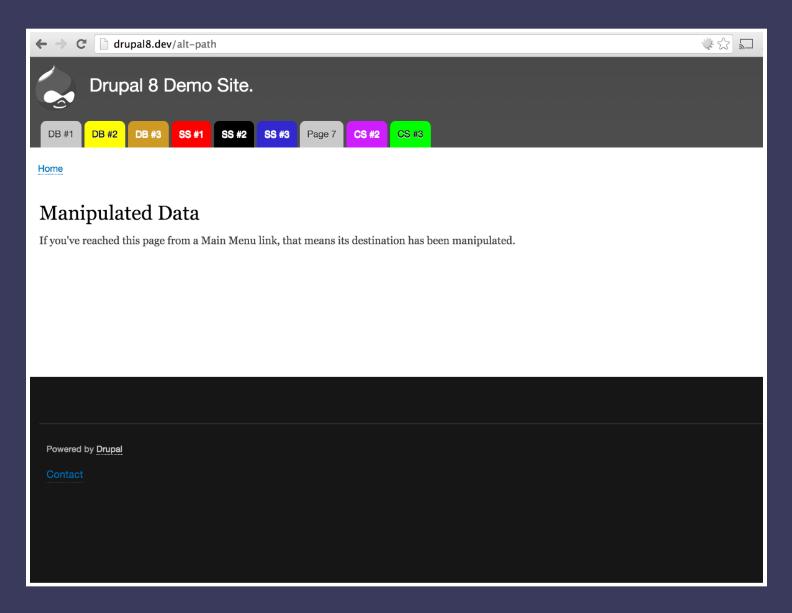
```
(function ($, Drupal) {
    "use strict";
   Drupal.behaviors.dflexDemo = {
        attach: function (context) {
            $('nav.menu--main > ul.menu li > a').each(function(){
                if ($(this).attr('href') == '/node/9') {
                    $(this).attr('style', 'background:#0F0;color:#000;');
                    $(this).attr('target', ' blank');
                    $(this).attr('href', '/alt-path');
                    $(this).text('CS #3');
            });
})(jQuery, Drupal);
```

Add custom Drupal behavour to alter main menu link after DOM loads.

dflex_demo/dflex_demo.module

```
/**
  * Implements hook_page_attachments().
  */
function dflex_demo_page_attachments(&$page) {
    // Add the dflex_demo js library to all pages.
    $page['#attached']['library'][] = 'dflex_demo/dflex_demo';
}
```

drupal_add_js() no longer exists in Drupal 8. Must add library to a render array. Custom module does so by implementing the hook_page_attachments.



When Drupal 8 page loads, drupal adds custom javascript library. After DOM loads custom behaviour is run. Ninth menu item now has altered title, destination and style.

Review

- Drupal provides many, many ways to manipulate data.
- No "right" way or "wrong" way. Just "right for me" way.

Slides & Notes

- bit.ly/NERD15Flex
- bit.ly/NERD15FlexSlides

Feedback

@mikemiles86

#NERDsummit

Thank You!

Questions?



