

COMP 3512

Assignment #2: Single-Page App

Version: 1.0 Oct 30, 2023

Due Sunday December 3, 2023 at midnightish

Overview

This assignment provides an opportunity for you to demonstrate your ability to work with JavaScript. The application you will be creating is a viewer of song data from 2016-2019 (sorry about living in the past but this is the data I was able to find easily). You can work in pairs or in a group of 3 or by yourself. Please don't ask me to be in a group of 4.

Beginning

It is your responsibility to read all the assignment instructions thoroughly and carefully. If you are unclear about something, ask me. But before you do, read the material in question again!

Starting files can be found (eventually) at:

<https://github.com/mru-comp3512-archive/f2023-assign2.git>

Grading

The grade for this assignment will be broken down as follows:

Visual Design	15%
Programming Design	15%
Functionality (follows requirements)	70%
Milestones (if not completed, will subtract marks)	

Requirements

This assignment consists of a single HTML page (hence single-page application or SPA) with the following functionality:

1. Your assignment should have just a single HTML page which must be named `index.html`.
2. The assignment should have three main views: **Search/Browse Songs**, **Song Details**, and **Playlist**. When the program first starts, display the **Search Songs** view.
3. There are two sources of data. The first are JSON files containing a list of genres and a list of artists/groups. Exercise 8.14 in Lab 8 provides instructions for converting a JSON file into a string and then using `JSON.parse()` to convert it into a JavaScript object.

The other source of data is the song API that provides a list of about 400 songs. Each song includes Spotify analysis information. You will also be provided a JSON file containing a small subset of songs so you can test without the API (though your submitted assignment must consume the data from the API). The API can be found at:

<http://www.randyconnolly.com/funwebdev/3rd/api/music/songs-nested.php>

4. **Make sure you are only requesting/fetching the song data once!** To improve the performance of your assignment (and reduce the number of requests on my server), you must store the song data in `localStorage` after you fetch it from the API (see Exercise 10.11 in Lab 10). Notice that you have to use `JSON.stringify` to create a JSON string version of the array and then saving that in `localStorage`; similarly, after you retrieve it from `localStorage`, you will need to use `JSON.parse()` to turn it into an array. Your page should thus check if this play data is already saved in local storage: if it is then use local data, otherwise fetch it and store it in local storage. This approach improves initial performance by eliminating this first fetch in future uses of the application. Be sure to test that your application works when local storage is empty before submitting (you can empty local storage in Chrome via the Application tab in DevTools). Please do this task early on so that you reduce the load on my server! **Failure to implement this functionality will result in a large loss of marks so don't neglect it.**
5. **Search/Browse Songs view.** You will implement a page with similar functionality as that described below. The provided sketch below illustrates the functionality. You are welcome to modify the design as you see fit. This view doesn't have to say "Browse/Search Results"; it, and the other bold labels on these pages, are there to explain what functionality must be on the page, not necessarily the actual labels that must appear on your page.

The sketch illustrates a web application layout. At the top is a **Header** with `Playlist` and `Credits` buttons. The `Credits` button has a tooltip showing `Group names` and `GitHub url`. The main area is divided into two sections: **Basic Song Search** on the left and **Browse / Search Results** on the right. The search sidebar includes radio buttons for `Title`, `Artist`, and `Genre` (which is selected), each followed by an input field. Below these are `Clear` and `Filter` buttons. The results section features a table with columns: `Title`, `Artist`, `Year`, `Genre`, and `Popularity`, each with a dropdown arrow. An `Add` button is located to the right of the table. The entire interface is enclosed in a **Footer** bar.

For each song in the list, display the song title, artist name, year, genre name, and popularity number. Style the song title so it looks like a hyperlink or style the table row and the cursor so each song in the table is clickable. When the user clicks on a song or song title, the view should change to **Single Song View**.

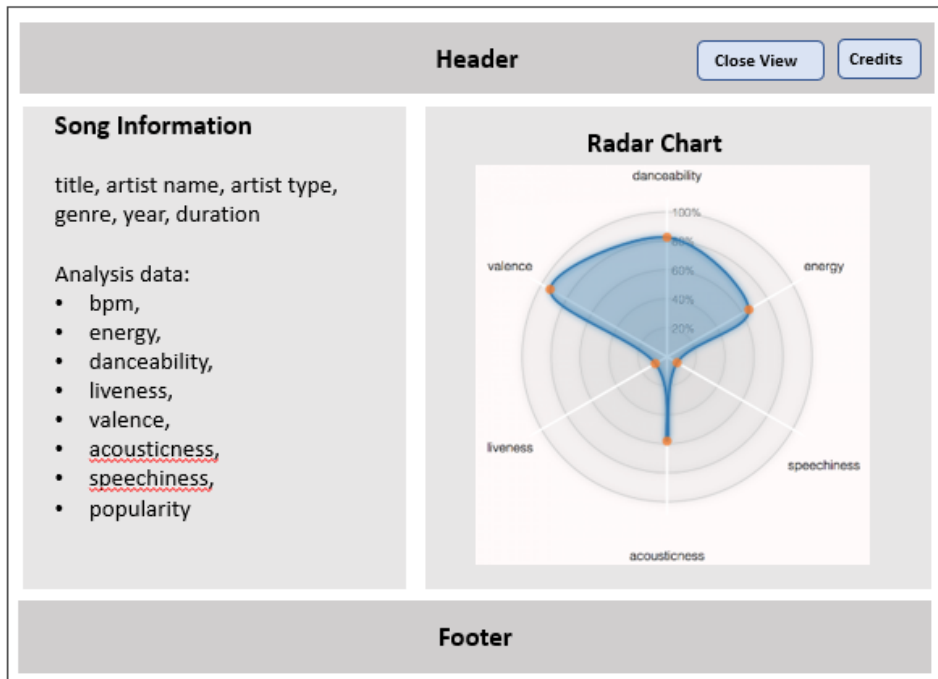
Initially display the songs sorted by their title. If the user clicks on the column headings, sort the list on the clicked field. The list should refresh whenever the user changes the sort option. Provide some visual cue that a sort change has occurred, such as an icon or styling changing in the header. The list must be an unordered list; ideally, make the list scrollable by setting the `overflow-y` property of the container to `scroll`.

Provide an icon/link/button that allows the user to add that song to the playlist (there is now only a single playlist). When the user adds a song to the playlist, display a pop-up panel that

tells the user the song was added to the playlist, but hide it after a few seconds. In web design parlance, these transitory popup messages are often called snackbars or toasts. Using a CSS transitions for the snackbar or toast will make it look quite professional. The best way to implement a panel is to define it as a `<div>` in the markup and then programmatically hide/show it using the `display` property.

The page also needs to provide a way to filter the songs. The user should be able to filter the songs by title (does the word appear anywhere in the title?), artist, or genre. These options should be mutually exclusive and be enabled/disabled based on the current state of the radio buttons. The radio button should initially default to title. The clear button should remove any filters. You will find the array `filter()` function will be your friend here. Be sure to disable filters based on the current state of the radio buttons.

6. **Single Song view.** I would expect you to group and present this data in an intelligent way. For instance, no user would like to see the duration listed as it is in the database (number of seconds); instead they would expect to see number of minutes and seconds. Don't be afraid of boxes, font contrast, color contrast, icons, progress bars, etc. Look at how information is presented in commercial web dashboard sites for styling inspiration.



For each song, there is a variety of Spotify music analysis metrics, which are:

- bpm: The overall estimated tempo of a track in beats per minute (BPM).
- energy: Represents a perceptual measure of intensity and activity. Typically, energetic tracks feel fast, loud, and noisy. For example, death metal has high energy, while a Bach prelude scores low on the scale. Value between 1 and 100.
- danceability: Describes how suitable a track is for dancing based on a combination of musical elements including tempo, rhythm stability, beat strength, and overall regularity. Value between 1 and 100.
- valence: Describes the musical positiveness conveyed by a track. Tracks with high valence sound more positive (e.g. happy, cheerful, euphoric), while tracks with low valence sound more negative (e.g. sad, depressed, angry). Value between 1 and 100.

- **liveness:** Detects the presence of an audience in the recording. Higher liveness values represent an increased probability that the track was performed live. Value between 1 and 100.
- **acousticness:** A confidence measure of whether the track is acoustic. Value between 1 and 100.
- **speechiness:** This detects the presence of spoken words in a track. The more exclusively speech-like the recording (e.g. talk show, audio book, poetry), the closer to 100 the attribute value. Value between 1 and 100.
- **loudness:** The overall loudness of a track in decibels (dB). Loudness values are averaged across the entire track and are useful for comparing relative loudness of tracks. Not used in this assignment.
- **duration:** The duration of the track in seconds.
- **popularity:** The higher the number (closer to 100), the more popular the track.

Display danceability, energy, valence, speechiness, loudness, and liveness in a radar chart. You can decide the order of the different axis values, the colors, the style, etc. I would recommend using the chart.js library (<https://www.chartjs.org/>), though you are welcome to use something else.

The Close View button will return the user to the **Search/Browse Songs View**.

7. **Playlist View.** This view consists the contents of the playlist. If you want to replicate the sort functionality of your Search/Browse page, go ahead: I don't however require sorting here. The user should be able to remove any song from the playlist. As well, there should be a way to clear the playlist. Also display some summary info about the playlist (i.e., the number of songs in the list and the average popularity).

For each song in the list, display the song title, artist name, year, genre name, and popularity number. Style the song title so it looks like a hyperlink or style the table row and the cursor so each song in the table is clickable. When the user clicks on a song or title, the view should change to **Single Song View**.

The wireframe illustrates the layout of the Playlist View. It includes a header with navigation buttons, a section for playlist statistics and a clear button, a table of songs with individual remove actions, and a footer.

Header					Close View	Credits
Playlist Details					# songs, popularity ranking	Clear Playlist
Title	Artist	Year	Genre	Popularity	Remove	
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----		
Footer						

8. Header. Add an icon/button/label to the header named Credits. If the user moves the **mouses over** the credits button/link, then display a pop-up panel that displays the group member names as well as a link to the assignment's github page. It should disappear after 5 seconds (use `setTimeout`). The Playlist button should switch the view to playlist view.
9. You must write your own JavaScript. That is, no jQuery, no Bootstrap, no other third-party JavaScript libraries other than the one used for your charts. You have all the knowledge you need from the lectures and the three JavaScript labs to complete this assignment. If you do find yourself, however, making use of some small snippet of code you found online (and I do mean small), then you must provide references (i.e., specify the URL where you found it) via comments within your .js file. Failure to properly credit other people's work in your JavaScript will result in a zero grade. Using ancient JavaScript found online will result in lower marks. There is no need to credit code you found in the labs or lectures.
10. You can use a third-party CSS library. Be careful though that this CSS library is not using/requiring its own JavaScript library as well. Many popular CSS libraries include their own JavaScript libraries to do fancy things with select lists, modals, etc. You are not allowed to include these so be sure you don't have any extra `<script>` tags

Testing

Every year students lose many easy marks because they didn't read the requirements carefully enough. When your assignment is getting close to done, I would recommend going through each requirement step and carefully evaluate whether your assignment satisfies each specified requirement.

Submitting and Hosting

Your assignment source code must reside on GitHub and reside on a working public server (in this case GitHub Pages).

GitHub Pages works in conjunction with git and github. You push your html/css/images to github repo; and then push to the host. The instructions for doing so can be found at:

<https://docs.github.com/en/pages/getting-started-with-github-pages/creating-a-github-pages-site>

It is up to you whether you want your pages to be public (available to the world) or private (available to only those with access to your github repo). If you are using a private repo, you must add me as a collaborator!

Milestones

Milestone 1 (due Friday Nov 3). Determine your group and set up your initial github page hosting. Your site will need an `index.html` file that simply displays the names of the group members. Send me an email with the following information:

- The URL of the home page of the site on github pages.
- The URL of the github repo. If your repo is private, then add me as a collaborator.

If this milestone is not completed by the due date, you will lose 3% from assignment's final mark.

Milestone 2 (due Nov 17). Implement part of the Search/Browse Songs view. You must have the artist and genre select lists displaying the data in the provided json files. As well, display the song list (title, artist name, year, genre name, popularity) using the provided `sample-songs.json` data. Implement the column sort as well. To submit your milestone, simply email me with the URL of the home page of the site on github pages.

If this milestone is not completed by the due date, you will lose 5% from assignment's final mark.

Hints

1. Begin by testing the API out first in the browser. Simply copy and paste the URL into the browser address bar. The JSON can be hard to understand because it doesn't have white space, so use an online JSON formatter (such as <https://jsonformatter.curiousconcept.com>) via copy and paste to see the JSON structure in an easier to understand format. Alternately, install a json viewer extension in Chrome.
2. Remember that JSON and JavaScript are case sensitive. For instance, it is easy to type in `Energy` and it won't work because the JSON field is actually `energy`.
3. Your `index.html` file will include the markup for all three views. Your JavaScript code will programmatically hide/unhide (i.e., change the `display` value) the relevant markup container for the three views.
4. Most of your visual design mark will be determined by how much effort you took to make the views look well designed. Simply throwing up the data with basic formatting will earn you minimal design marks. I would recommend looking at other sites on the internet and examine how they present data. Notice the use of contrast (weight, color, etc) and spacing.
5. Most of your programming design mark will be based on my assessment of your code using typical code review criteria. For instance, did you modularize your code using functions (e.g., do you replicate the code for displaying and sorting the songs in the two views or is it generalized into a single function)? Are your functions too long? Is the code documented? Do you have code duplication (you shouldn't... if you are copy+pasting code, that should tell you that you are doing things wrong from a design standpoint)? Did you make use of object-oriented techniques? Are variables and functions sensibly named? Is your code inefficient (e.g., fetching the same data repeatedly)? Are you using outdated JavaScript techniques (e.g., inline coding, `XMLHttpRequest`, etc)? Is the code excessively reliant on found code from Stack Overflow, etc?
6. Implement the playlist functionality last.