Comp 324/424 - Client-side Web Design

Fall Semester 2018 - Week 13

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ES2017 Async & Await

- in ES2017, JavaScript gained native syntax to describe asynchronous operations
- now use async/await to work with asynchronous operations
- Async functions allow developers to take a promise-based implementation
- then use synchronous-like patterns of a generator
- e.g. async implementation with sync usage patterns...
- await may only be used inside async functions
 - denoted with the async keyword
- async function works in a similar manner to standard generators
- e.g. suspending execution in local context until a promise settles
- if awaited expression is not originally a promise object
 - it will be cast to a promise in this context...

example usage with try/catch

```
async function read() {
   // use try/catch to handle errors in awaited promises within async function
   try {
     const model = await getRandomBook();
   } catch (err) {
     console.log(err);
   }
}
// call function as usual
read();
```

use return Promise object

```
async function read() {
  const model = await getRandomBook();
}
// call function as usual - work with return promise object...
read()
  .then()
```

```
* basic-async1.js
* async called with sync-like try/catch block
* 'awaits' return from fetch to local JSON file
// FN: 'fetch' from JSON
function getNotes() {
 return fetch('./assets/files/notes.json', {
   headers: new Headers({
     Accept: 'application/json'
   })
 })
  .then(res => res.json());
// FN: async/await
async function read() {
 try {
   const notes = await getNotes();
    console.log(`notes FETCH successful`);
 } catch (err) {
    console.log(err);
}
read();
```

Demo - Async & Await - Fetch example

initial fetch

```
// FN: 'fetch' from JSON
function getNotes() {
   return fetch('./assets/files/notes.json', {
     headers: new Headers({
        Accept: 'application/json'
     })
   })
   .then(res => res.json());
}
```

iterable functions

```
* FNs: iterable computed data
* functions support all major ES6 data structures
* - arrays, typed arrays, maps, sets...
// FN: iterable entries() - default iterator for data structure entries
function dataEntryIterator(data) {
 for (const pair of data.entries()) {
    console.log(pair);
}
// FN: iterable keys() - default iterator for data structure keys
function dataKeysIterator(data) {
 for (const key of data.keys()) {
    console.log(key);
}
// FN: iterable values() - default iterator for data structure values
function dataValuesIterator(data) {
 for (const value of data.values()) {
    console.log(value);
 }
}
```

async and await usage - a bit of fun...

```
// FN: async/await
async function read() {
 try {
   // await return from FETCH for notes.json file
    const data = await getNotes();
    const notes = data['notes'];
    // wrap return notes array in iterator
    const iter = notes[Symbol.iterator]();
    // test iterator with next for each result...
    console.log(iter.next());
    console.log(iter.next());
    console.log(iter.next());
    console.log(iter.next());
    console.log(`notes FETCH successful`);
    dataEntryIterator(notes);
    dataKeysIterator(notes);
    dataValuesIterator(notes);
  } catch (err) {
    console.log(err);
}
read();
```

Demo - Async & Await - example with iterables

add grid layout

- update the layout of our Travel Notes application to include a grid layout
- apply this grid layout to the overall application
 - organisation and presentation of the notes
- remove the centred, fixed width for the body in our style.css stylesheet
- removes centre styling, results in content spanning full width of browser window
- add the grid layout to help us control this layout

```
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="assets/styles/grid.css">
```

then modify content categories, child elements to use new grid css

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - grid layout

travel notes record notes from various places visited	
add note	
app's copyright information, additional links Grid Layout - Updated Header	

add grid layout

 update our main content to position the note-input and note-controls

```
<!-- note input -->
<section class="note-input">
 <div class="row">
   <div class="col-12">
     <h5>add note</h5>
     <input><button>add</button>
   </div>
 <div>
</section>
<!-- note controls for delete... -->
<section class="note-controls">
 <div class="row">
   <div class="col-12">
     <button id="notes-delete">Delete all
   </div>
 </div>
</section>
```

still need to amend style.css to remove additional fixed styling

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - grid layout 2

travel notes	S om various places visited					
add note						
	Delete all					
note						
app's copyright information, additional links						
Grid Layout - mixed grid and fixed						

add grid layout

 fix mixed rendering by removing width, margin, and padding for .note-controls

```
/* note controls */
.note-controls {
 border-bottom: lpx solid #dedede;
 display: none;
}
```

- continue to update Travel Notes app
 - modify output for notes
 - add further options for users

DEMO - Travel Notes - grid layout with media queries

add flex to grid layout

- an additional option to consider flex layouts
 - a recent W3 working draft
 - aims to provide efficient way to align and proportion content
- known as Flexbox Layout
 - idea is to apportion width and height for content
 - proportions relative to container even when their size is unknown or dynamic
- flex layout could, in theory, replace a full grid layout
 - considered more a complement to overall grid structure
- defined flex container expands items to fill the container's available space
 - can also shrink them to prevent any possible overflow
- think of a flex layout as supporting multiple directions
 - direction agnostic
- many properties available for flex
 - focus upon styling flex container and any flex items

add flex to grid layout

we might specify CSS properties for a flex container

```
.flex-container {
display: flex; /* defines container as flex */
flex-direction: row; /* defines positioning of items added to container */
flex-wrap: wrap; /* defines whether to wrap items to another line */
justify-content: flex-start; /* defines start point and distribution of items */
}
```

- allows us to position our container starting at the left
 - items contained in a row
 - contained items wrapping to additional lines if necessary
- many additional options available for each property
- also add rulesets for specific styling of items within a flex container
- we could add properties to a flex item such as
 - specify the order of the flex items
 - whether a particular item can grow or shrink relative to content
 - default size of an item before any remaining space is distributed
 - individual alignment for a given item...

add flex to notes

- flex container and items useful for organising and positioning our notes
- due to uncertainty about content, size, and general note requirements
 - flex positioning and styling removes the need for assumptions or fixed sizes
- we can start to modify the styling and rendering of our notes using flex

```
/* flex item */
.flex-item {
  flex-basis: 300px; /* default size before extra */
  flex-grow: 1; /* all items will be equal */
}
```

- gives us a default smallest size for each note
- then the ability for each note to grow to fill the row as required
- also work with responsive layouts
 - due to the minimum size and the option to grow for each item
 - and wrap flex items per flex container
- modify and update styles as we develop travel notes app

DEMO - Travel Notes - grid layout with flex notes

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Flex Notes

record notes from various places visited					
add note		and .			
Delote all					
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Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Flex Notes 2

travel notes record notes from various places vi		
menu		
search		
add note		
Delete all		
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agg's copyright information, additional links Grid Layout - flex I	notes - medium	

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Flex Notes 3

travel notes record notes from various places visited	
menu	
search	
add note	
Delete all	
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antibes	
app's copyright information, additional links	
Grid Layout - flex notes - small	

add flex to notes

Notes with Flex and Media Queries

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- update our **travel notes** app to allow us to load some test persistent notes from a local JSON file
- initial JSON is as follows

```
"travelNotes": [{
    "created": "2015-10-12T00:00:00Z",
    "note": "a note from Cannes..."
}, {
    "created": "2015-10-13T00:00:00Z",
    "note": "a holiday note from Nice..."
}, {
    "created": "2015-10-14T00:00:00Z",
    "note": "an autumn note from Antibes..."
}]
}
```

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- add option to load notes from JSON as app initially loads
 - use deferred promise pattern
 - checks source JSON as it loads via the promise
 - then outputs the end result
- start with the following update

```
//get the notes JSON
function getNotes() {
    //.get returns an object derived from a Deferred object - do not need explicit deferred
    var $deferredNotesRequest = $.getJSON (
        "docs/json/notes.json",
        {format: "json"}
    );
    return $deferredNotesRequest;
}
```

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- help us better manage logic of our notes from app's loading and execution
 - create two separate JS files
- our updated structure might be as follows

we can extend this further, as needed by app features and data

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- add our .when() function to the app's loader
 - .when() function accepts a deferred object
 - in our case a limited promise
- then allows us to chain additional deferred functions
 - including required .done() function
- for returned data, use standard response object to get travelNotes
 - then iterate over the array for each property
 - for each iteration, we can simply call our createNote function
 - builds and renders required notes to the app's DOM

```
//use deferred object from getJson
$.when(getNotes()).done(function(response) {
    //get travelNotes object
    var $travelNotes = response.travelNotes
    //process travelNotes array
$travelNotes.forEach(function(item) {
        //check each property
        if (item !== null) {
             //get note
            var note = item.note;
            //create each note for rendering
            createNote(note);
        }
     });//end foreach
});
```

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- simple problem existing createNote() function does not accept a parameter
- need to update the logic of that function to accept and handle a parameter
- also requires a quick update to any functions and calls to the createNote()
 - event handlers for creating a new note using the add button and keypress within the input field

```
//manage input field and new note output
function createNote(data) {
    ...
    //conditional check for data
    if (data !== "") {
        //set content for note
        $note.html(data);
        ...
    }
}
```

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

 update our event handlers for the note input button and input field keypress as follows,

```
//handle user event for `add` button click
$(".note-input button").on("click", function(e) {
  var $note_data = getNoteInput();
  //call note builder function
  createNote($note_data);
});
```

```
//handle user event for keyboard press
$(".note-input input").on("keypress", function(e) {
    //check code for keyboard press
    if (e.keyCode === 13) {
      var $note_data = getNoteInput();
      //call note builder function
      createNote($note_data);
    }
});
```

- our notes now load by default as the app starts
- note input button and keypress work as expected
- DEMO travel notes & JSON

Working with APIs - part I

remote api options - Flickr

- Travel Notes app loads data from a local JSON file
- add option to load different types of data using remote APIs
 - Flickr API for images, tags...
- basics and principles are similar to the patterns we've already seen and tested
- test a sample JSON return from the Flickr API
- JSON return useful properties for app
 - title
 - link
 - media (direct url for image where available)
 - description
 - ...
- public feed for searching public photos, videos, groups, recent activity...
- Flickr API Public Feed Cannes and France

Working with APIs - part 2

working with Flickr API

- query Flickr's public feed for photos
 - we can use our now familiar pattern for requesting JSON

```
//get the Flickr public feed JSON for images
function getImages() {
    //.get returns an object derived from a Deferred object - do not need explicit deferred
    var $deferredNotesRequest = $.getJSON (
    "http://api.flickr.com/services/feeds/photos_public.gne?jsoncallback=?",
        { tags: "cannes,france,boules",
            tagmode: "all",
            format: "json"
        });
    return $deferredNotesRequest;
}
```

- need to make a few specific modifications to the request
- JSONP to avoid browser security restrictions

Working with APIs - part 3

working with Flickr API

- Flickr's public feed includes options
 - eg: a specific user ID for photos, various tags, how tags are interpreted by the search...
- use our .when() function to load and render some test images from Flickr

```
$.when(getImages()).done(function(response) {
  console.log("done..."+response);
  //use jQuery's generic iterative function for the response...
  $.each( response.items, function( i, item ) {
    buildImage(item.media.m);
    //limit test images to 8
    if ( i === 7 ) {
        return false;
    }
  });
});
```

DEMO - AJAX and JSON - Flickr api

- add option to Travel Notes app to allow a user to view images from Flickr
- need to update app's HTML, CSS, and JS
- modify how our notes, and associated options, are rendered to our users
- add a search option for photos on Flickr
- render our images to match the notes
- app's structure still reflects three primary content categories
 - header, main, and footer with slight modifications to the main category
- main content category updated to create two distinct rows for initial content
 - contain defined semantic containers
- row containing .note-input and Flickr search option
 .contextual-choice
 - then split this row into two columns of 6

working with Flickr API - update travel notes HTML

updated HTML for .note-input and Flickr search
 .contextual-choice

- update the HTML for rendering the images
 - add alongside our notes
- create another row for these containers
 - add two section containers for .note-output and .contextual-output
- make .note-output slightly larger to show primary app focus

```
<div class="row">
  <!-- note output -->
  <section class="note-output col-7 flex-container">
    </section>
  <!-- contextual output -->
    <section class="contextual-output col-5 flex-container">
    </section>
  </div>
```

- add further functionality to Travel Notes app
- split our JS logic into three files to help with oranisation
 - a main loader file, travel.js,
 - and a file each for notes and contextual options
- updated app structure for JS

```
- assets
|- assets
|- scripts
|- contextual.js
|- notes.js
|- travel.js
...
```

- underlying logic for the notes will remain the same
 - move loading of default notes to the travel.js main loader file
- updates for searching, returning, and rendering images from Flickr
 - added to the contextual.js file

- test Flickr API in our app using some set data for image tags
 - respond to the user clicking on the search button
 - submit our query to Flickr
 - process the returned JSON for the images
 - render them for viewing
- request and process our images using the familiar pattern

```
//get the Flickr public feed JSON for images
function getImages(data) {
  var img_tags = data;
  //.get returns an object derived from a Deferred object - do not need explicit deferred
  var $deferredNotesRequest = $.getJSON (
    "http://api.flickr.com/services/feeds/photos_public.gne?jsoncallback=?",
    { tags: img_tags,
      tagmode: "all",
      format: "json"
    });
  return $deferredNotesRequest;
}
```

- returned data using standard deferred promise object
- add a new function to handle the processing of the images

```
function processImages(data) {
    $.when(getImages($img_data)).done(function(response) {
        //use jQuery's generic iterative function for the response...
    $.each( response.items, function( i, item ) {
        createImage(item.media.m);
        //limit test images to 4
        if ( i === 3 ) {
            return false;
        }
     });
});
```

- using deferred promise object with .when() function chained to .done() function
- add jQuery's generic iterative function to help us process the response
 - instead of standard JavaScript .forEach() option
- loop through each value, and pass the image to our new function, createImage()
 - ready for rendering to our app's DOM
 - limit number of images for testing

```
//manage new image output
function createImage(data) {
   //create each image element
   var img = $('<img class="flex-img">');
   //add image
   img.attr("src", data);
   //append to DOM
   $(".contextual-output").append(img);
}
```

- createImage() function accepts a parameter for image data
- then process ready for rendering to the app's DOM
- image is added to a new img element with a new class of .flex-img
 - creates a flex item for rendering
- added to the new .contextual-output section
- rendered images displayed as thumbnails for the user
 - complementary to the existing notes

- to add images to the app
 - a user can enter their requested tags in the search field
 - then click on the search button to return any available images
- event handler for this search button click uses the requested tags
 - passes them as a parameter to the processImages() function

```
//handle user event for image `search` button click
$(".contextual-choice button").on("click", function(e) {
    //test tags for testing image search
    $img_data = "cannes,france,boules"
    //process images
    processImages($img_data);
});
```

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Travel Notes & Flickr

ecord notes from various places visited			
dd note	search	flickr	
telete all			
Cannes, a resort town on the French Riviera, is synonymous wit world-famous film festival. Its Boulevard de la Croisette, curvin with sandy beaches, upmarket boutiques and palatial hotels. It's Festivals, a modern building complete with red carpet and Allée of fame. Nice, capital of the French Riviera, skirts the pebbly shores of the Founded by the Greeks and later a retreat for 19th-century Europhalances old-world decadence with modern urban energy. Its surhave long attracted artists, whose work hangs in its museums. We diverse restaurants, it's also renowned for its food.	ng along the coast, is lined also home to the Palais des des Stars – Cannes' walk the Baie des Anges. pe's elite, the city today anhine and liberal attitude		
Antibes is a resort town between Cannes and Nice on the French It's known for its Mediterranean beaches, annual Jazz à Juan mu enclosed by 16th-century ramparts. Luxury yachts moor at the h overlooked by star-shaped, 16th-century Fort Carré. The Promer walkway along Vauban's walls has views of the Alps.	usic festival and old town		
p's copyright information, additional links			

working with Flickr API - update travel notes CSS

- need to update and modify existing CSS
 - helps with correct rendering of the thumbnail images
- CSS additions are initially modest
 - reflects integration with existing app, grid, and flex layouts
- add new ruleset for image rendering in the .contextual-output section

```
/* contextual output images */
.contextual-output img {
  margin: 5px;
  padding: 5px;
  border: 1px solid #b1c4b1;
}
```

- update .flex-container class to change justify-content property to value of space-around
- add new ruleset for a .flex-img class.

```
/* flex image */
.flex-img {
  flex-basis: 150px;
  flex-grow:0;
}
```

- specify size of a thumbnail image
- initially restrict their ability to grow relative to flex

working with Flickr API - update travel notes JS

- we can now request, process, and render images from Flickr to Travel
 Notes app
 - still need to accept and process search queries from search input field.
- add option to check search input field
 - then submit query to Flickr for images

```
//get input value for image search
function getImageInput() {
    //define img value
    var img_val = "";
    //define input field
    var $img_tags = $(".contextual-choice input");
    if ($img_tags.val() !== "") {
        img_val = $img_tags.val();
        return img_val;
    } else {
        return img_val;
    }
}
```

working with Flickr API - update travel notes JS

use getImageInput() function with a modified processImages()function

```
//process image production, loading, and pass to rendering
function processImages() {
 //check img visibility for contextual-output - clear existing images
 if (checkVisible($(".contextual-output img")) === false) {
   //empty existing images
   $(".contextual-output").empty();
  //get data from image search input field
 var $img_data = getImageInput();
  //use image data to get images, and pass for rendering
  $.when(getImages($img_data)).done(function(response) {
    console.log("done..."+response);
    //use jQuery's generic iterative function for the response...
    $.each( response.items, function( i, item ) {
     createImage(item.media.m);
     //limit test images to 4
     if ( i === 3 ) {
        return false;
    });
  });
```

working with Flickr API - update travel notes JS

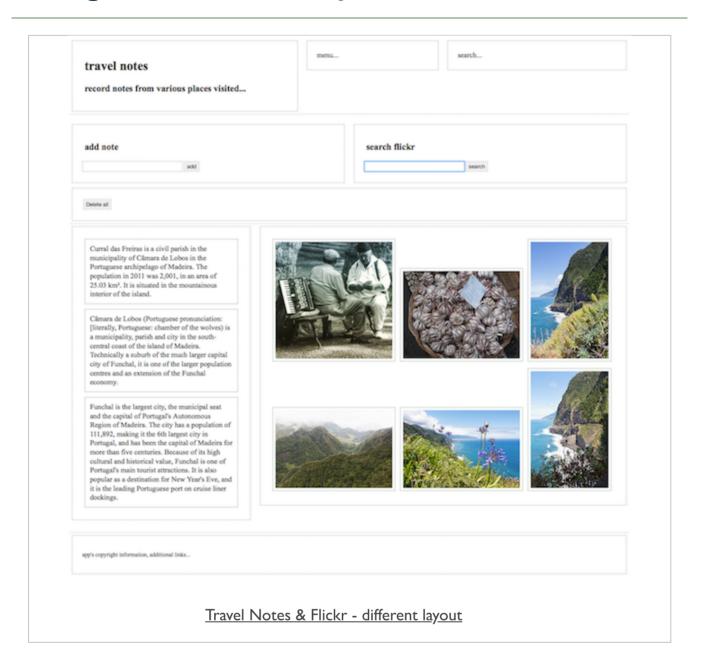
- updated processImages() function then called within event handlers
 - for the search button and a keypress in the search input field

```
//handle user event for image search button click
$(".contextual-choice button").on("click", function(e) {
    //process images
    processImages();
});

//handle user event for keyboard press
$(".contextual-choice input").on("keypress", function(e) {
    //check code for keyboard press
    if (e.keyCode === 13) {
        //process images
        processImages();
    }
});
```

DEMO - travel notes & Flickr

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Travel Notes & Flickr



working with Flickr API - update travel notes JS

- room for improvement, updates, abstraction, and general refactoring of the existing code
- return to this issue when we consider refactoring the code in general
 - there are still a few simple features we need to add
- for example,
 - add images to the .contextual-output section, resize .note-output section
 - moves focus to the current images
 - check loading progress of the notes and images
 - show feedback to the user
 - need to output a title for the images
 - set using the search query

working with Flickr API - modify travel notes JS

- first modification is to resize the .notes-output
 - create more space for the images
 - gently shift focus to the new images
- update existing .createImage() function in the contextual.js file

```
//manage new image output
function createImage(data) {
...
    if (checkVisible($(".contextual-output img")) === true) {
        $(".note-output").removeClass("col-12");
        $(".note-output").addClass("col-4");
        $(".contextual-output").fadeIn("slow");
    }
...
}
```

- add check to ensure images are not visible in the DOM
- remove current class from .note-output section
 - 12 column class for the grid
- add new grid class to resize .note-output to 4 columns
 - then fade in the .contextual-output class
 - set in the app's HTML to a class of .col-8

working with Flickr API - modify travel notes JS

- next modification is some initial error handling
 - checking for an empty array of images from the returned Flickr JSON
- check processImages() function for an empty array of image items

```
if (response.items.length === 0) {
  var img = "";
  createImage(img);
} else {
  //return images from items array...
}
...
```

- checks images in the items array for the promise object
- if not, send an empty variable as a parameter to our createImage()

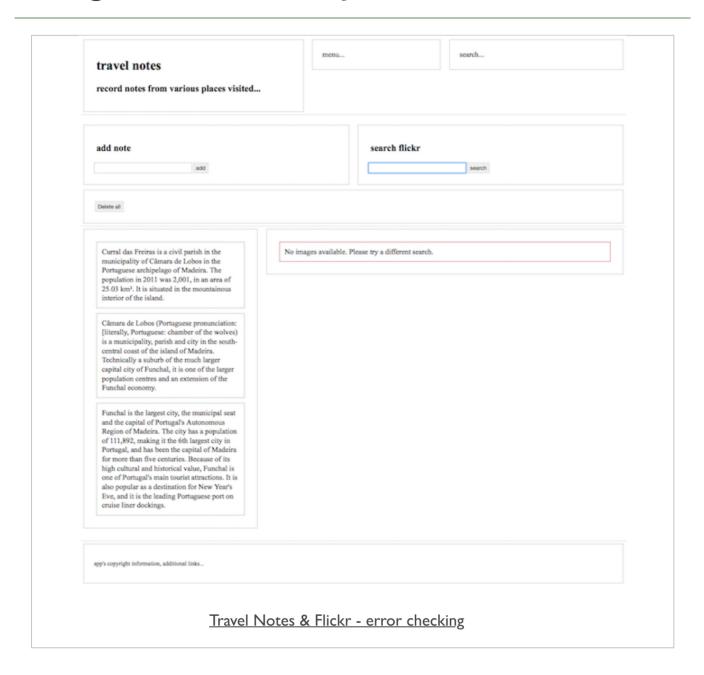
working with Flickr API - modify travel notes JS

- check for empty value in createImage() function
 - handle the simple errors as follows

```
if (data !== "") {
    //create each image element
    var $img = $('<img class="flex-img">').attr("src", data);
    //add image
    img_output = $img;
} else {
    var $img_error = $('').html("No images available...");
    //add error
    img_output = $img_error;
}
```

- we've abstracted the return variable for the image output
 - can hold either the image or the error output...
- add a check to see whether the .contextual-output section is visible or not
- modify the column class for the .note-output section
- then append our image output
- then show the .contextual-output section within the app
- DEMO travel notes & Flickr

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working with Flickr API - modify travel notes JS

- continue to modify and build our Travel Notes app
- add some metadata for the returned images
 - using the title and link from the search query response
- add initial metadata output in the contextual.js file
 - modify the processImages() function
 - metadata from Flickr JSON response in the deferred promise object

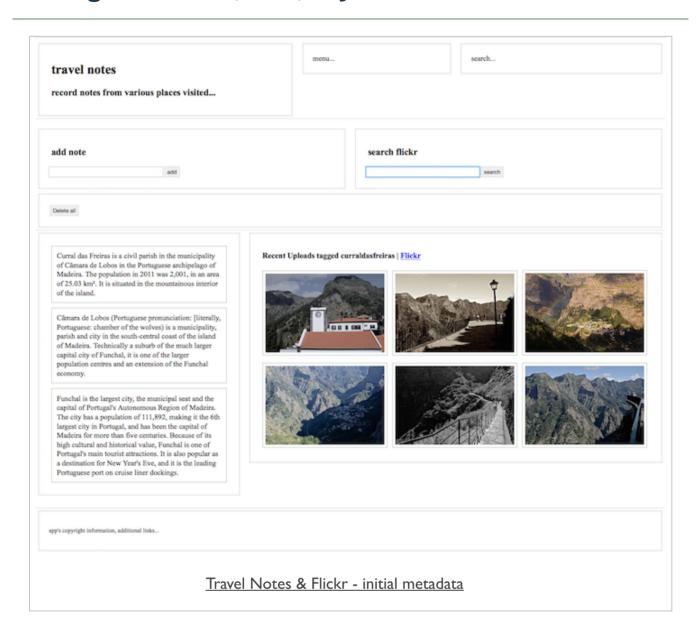
```
...
//create object for search metadata
var search_meta = {title:response.title, link:response.link};
...
```

then pass this to a new function, called metaOutput()

```
//prepare and render metadata for returned search...
function metaOutput(data) {
   if (data !== "") {
      //search metadata from response
      var search_title = data.title;
      var search_link = data.link;
      //build heading output for metadata heading
      var metaHeading = '<h6>'+search_title+' | <a href="'+search_link+'">Flickr</a></h6>';
      //render metadata to contextual-output
   $(".contextual-output").prepend(metaHeading);
   }
}
```

DEMO - travel notes & Flickr - initial metadata

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Travel Notes & Flickr



travel notes - basic refactoring of JS

- as we continue to add features and modify existing code
 - may start to see unnecessary repetition and function calls in the code
- eg: initial error handling for our contextual images
 - createImage() function is being called in the processImages() function
 - called regardless of returned image data
- createImage() is being used unnecessarily to manage the error handling
- move check to processImages() function
 - then call function to render necessary error message

```
function outputError(message) {
  var $img_error = $('').html(message);
  //check for visible contextual-output - if not visible
  if (checkVisible($(".contextual-output")) === true) {
    $(".note-output").removeClass("col-12");
    $(".note-output").addClass("col-4");
  }
  //append output to DOM
  $(".contextual-output").append($img_error);
  //fade in contextual-output with appended results
  $(".contextual-output").fadeIn("slow");
}
```

travel notes - basic refactoring of JS

updated processImages() function can call .outputError()
 function as needed

```
if (response.items.length !== 0) {
//logic to add metadata and each image...
}
else {
  var img_error = "No images available - please try a different search.";
  outputError(img_error);
}
...
```

- use this function to output error messages for any type of contextual data
- also remove some unnecessary replication of code
 - by adding a simple function to change an element's class

```
//modify element class - from, to
function changeClass(element, size1, size2) {
    $(element).removeClass(size1);
    $(element).addClass(size2);
}
```

- resize a class, for example to modify our grid output
 - call this function pass the selector to update, original class to remove, and new class to add

working with Flickr API - modify travel notes JS

- add a modification to check for the image loading and the notes
 - offer status feedback to the user

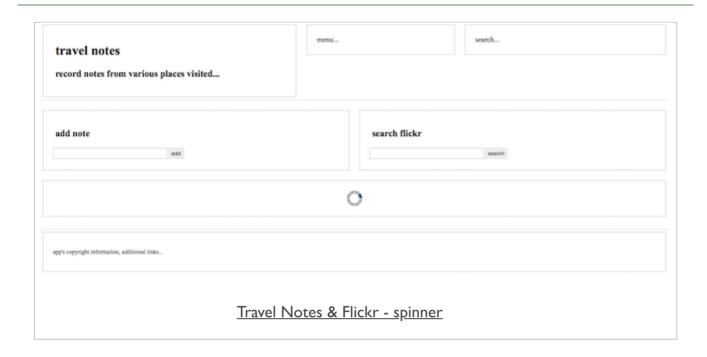
```
//add initial loader spinner for ajax...
$(".contextual-output").html('<img class="spinner" src="assets/images/ajax-loader.gif">');
```

remove it when the deferred promise object has returned

```
//remove ajax spinner
$(".spinner").remove();
```

DEMO - travel notes & Flickr - spinner

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Travel Notes & Flickr



JS Server-side considerations - save data

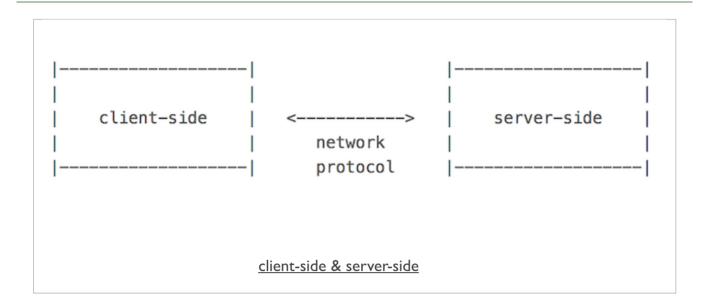
save JSON in travel notes app

- need to be able to save our simple notes
- now load from a JSON file as the app starts
 - also we can add new notes, delete existing notes...
- not as simple as writing to our existing |SON file direct from |S
 - security implications if that was permitted directly from the browser
- need to consider a few server-side options
- could use a combination of PHP on the server-side
 - with AJAX jQuery on the client-side
 - traditional option with a simple ajax post to a PHP file on the server-side
- consider JavaScript options on the client and server-side
- brief overview of working with Node.js

Server-side considerations - intro

- normally define computer programs as either client-side or server-side programs
- server-side programs normally abstract a resource over a network
 - enabling many client-side programs to access at the same time
 - a common example is file requests and transfers
- we can think of the client as the web browser
- a web server as the remote machine abstracting resources
- abstracts them via hypertext transfer protocol
 - HTTP for short
- designed to help with the transfer of HTML documents
 - HTTP now used as an abstracted wrapper for many different types of resources
 - may include documents, media, databases...

Image - Client-side and server-side computing



intro - what is Node.js?

- Node.js is, in essence, a JavaScript runtime environment
 - designed to be run outside of the browser
- designed as a general purpose utility
- can be used for many different tasks including
 - asset compilation
 - monitoring
 - scripting
 - web servers
- with Node.js, role of JS is changing
 - moving from client-side to a support role in back-end development

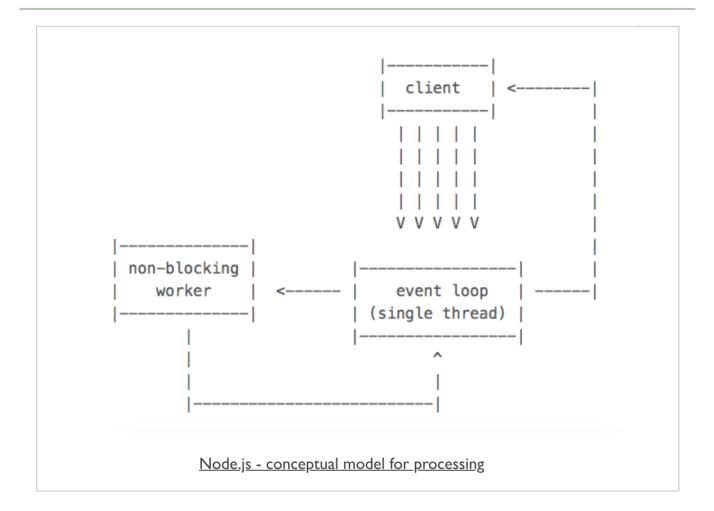
intro - speed of Node.js

- a key advantage touted for Node.js is its speed
- many companies have noted the performance benefits of implementing Node.js
 - including PayPal, Walmart, LinkedIn...
- a primary reason for this speed boost is the underlying architecture of Node.js
- Node.js uses an event-based architecture
- instead of a threading model popular in compiled languages
- Node.js uses a single event thread by default
- all I/O is asynchronous

intro - conceptual model for processing in Node.js

- how does Node.js, and its underlying processing model, actually work?
- client sends a hypertext transfer protocol, HTTP, request
 - request or requests sent to Node.js server
- event loop is then informed by the host OS
 - passes applicable request and response objects as JavaScript closures
 - passed to associated worker functions with callbacks
- long running jobs continue to run on various assigned worker threads
- responses are sent from the non-blocking workers back to the main event loop
 - returned via a callback
- event loop returns any results back to the client
- effectively when they're ready

Image - Client-side and server-side computing



intro - threaded architecture

- concurrency allows multiple things to happen at the same time
- common practice on servers due to the nature of multiple user queries
- Java, for example, will create a new thread on each connection
 - threading is inherently resource expensive
- size of a thread is normally around 4MB of memory
- naturally limits the number of threads that can run at the same time
- also inherently more complicated to develop platforms that are thread-safe
 - thereby allowing for such functionality
- due to this complexity
- many languages, eg: Ruby, Python, and PHP, do not have threads that allow for real concurrency
- without custom binaries
- JavaScript is similarly single-threaded
 - able to run multiple code paths in parallel due to events

intro - event-driven architecture

- JavaScript originally designed to work within the confines of the web browser
- had to handle restrictive nature of a single thread and single process for the whole page
- synchronous blocking in code would lock up a web page from all actions
 - JavaScript was built with this in mind
- due to this style of I/O handling
 - Node.js is able to handle millions of concurrent requests on a single process
- added, using libraries, to many other existing languages
 - · Akka for Java
 - EventMachine for Ruby
 - Twisted for Python
 - ...
- JavaScript syntax already assumes events through its use of callbacks
- **NB:** if a query etc is CPU intensive instead of I/O intensive
 - thread will be tied up
 - everything will be blocked as it waits for it to finish

intro - callbacks

- in most languages
 - send an I/O query & wait until result is returned
 - wait before you can continue your code procedure
- for example, submit a query to a database for a user ID
 - server will pause that thread/process until database returns result for ID query
- in JS, this concept is rarely implemented as standard
- in JS, more common to pass the I/O call a callback
- in |S, this callback will need to run when task is completed
 - eg: find a user ID and then do something, such as output to a HTML element
- biggest difference in these approaches
 - whilst the database is fetching the user ID query
 - thread is free to do whatever else might be useful
 - eg: accept another web request, listen to a different event...
- this is one of the reasons that Node.js returns good benchmarks and is easily scaled
- **NB:** makes Node.js well suited for I/O heavy and intensive scenarios

install Node.js

- a number of different ways to install **Node.js**, **npm**, and the lightweight,
 customisable web framework **Express**
- run and test Node.js on a local Mac OS X or Windows machine
- download and install a package from the following URL
 - Node.js download
- install the Node module, Express
- Express is a framework for web applications built upon Node.js
 - minimal, flexible, & easily customised server
- use npm to install the Express module

npm install -g express

- g option sets a global flag for Express instead of limited local install
- installs Express command line tool
 - allows us to start building our basic web application
- now also necessary to install Express application generator

npm install -g express-generator

NPM - intro

- npm is a package manager for Node.js
- Developers can use **npm** to share and reuse modules in Node.js applications
- **npm** can also be used to share complete Node.js applications
- example modules might include
 - Markup, YAML etc parsers
 - database connectors
 - Express server
 - ...
- **npm** is included with the default installers available at the Node.js website
- test whether **npm** is installed, simply issue the following command

npm

- should output some helpful information if **npm** is currently installed
- **NB:** on a Unix system, such as OS X or Linux
- best to avoid installing **npm** modules with sudo privileges

NPM - installing modules

install existing **npm** modules, use the following type of command

npm install express

- this command installs module named express in the current directory
- it will act as a local installation within the current directory
- installing in a folder called node_modules
 - this is the default behaviour for current installs
- we can also specify a global install for modules
 - eg: we may wish to install the **express** module with global scope

npm install -g express

■ again, the -g flag specifies the required global install

NPM - importing modules

- import, or effectively add, modules in our Node.js code
 - use the following declaration

```
var module = require('express');
```

- when we run this application
 - Node.js looks for the required module library and its source code

NPM - finding modules

- official online search tool for **npm** can be found at
 - npmjs
- top packages include options such as
 - browserify
 - express
 - grunt
 - bower
 - karma
 - ...
- also search for Node modules directly
 - search from the command line using the following command

npm search express

returns results for module names and descriptions

NPM - specifying dependencies

- ease Node.js app installation
 - specify any required dependencies in an associated package. json file
- allows us as developers to specify modules to install for our application
 - which can then be run using the following command

```
npm install
```

- helps reduce the need to install each module individually
- helps other users install an application as quickly as possible
- our application's dependencies are stored in one place
- example package.json

```
{
"name": "app",
"version": "0.0.1",
"dependencies": {
   "express": "4.2.x",
   "underscore": "-1.2.1"
}
}
```

initial Express usage

- now use Express to start building our initial basic web application
- Express creates a basic shell for our web application
 - cd to working directory and use the following command

express /node/test-project

- command makes a new directory
 - populates with required basic web application directories and files
- cd to this directory and install any required dependencies,

npm install

then run our new app,

npm start

or run and monitor our app,

nodemon start

initial Express server - setup

- we've now tested **npm**, and installed our first module with **Express**
- test **Express**, and build our first, simple server
- initial directory structure

```
|- .
|- 424-node
|- node_modules
```

 need to do is create a JS file to store our server code, so we'll add server.js

```
|- .
|- 424-node
|- node_modules
|- server.js
```

start adding our Node.js code to create a simple server

initial Express server - server.js - part I

add some initial code to get our server up and running

```
/* a simple Express server for Node.js*/
var express = require("express"),
    http = require("http"),
    appTest;

// create our server - listen on port 3030
appTest = express();
http.createServer(appTest).listen(3030);

// set up routes
appTest.get("/test", function(req, res) {
    res.send("welcome to the 424 test app.");
});
```

then start and test this server as follows at the command line

```
node server.js
```

initial Express server - server.js - part 2

open our web browser, and use the following URL

```
http://localhost:3030
```

- this is the route of our new server
 - to get our newly created route use the following URL

```
http://localhost:3030/test
```

- this will now return our specified route, and output message
- update our server.js file to support root directory level routes

```
appTest.get("/", function(req, res) {
  res.send("Welcome to the 424 server.")
});
```

now load our server at the root URL

```
http://localhost:3030
```

stop server from command line using CTRL and c

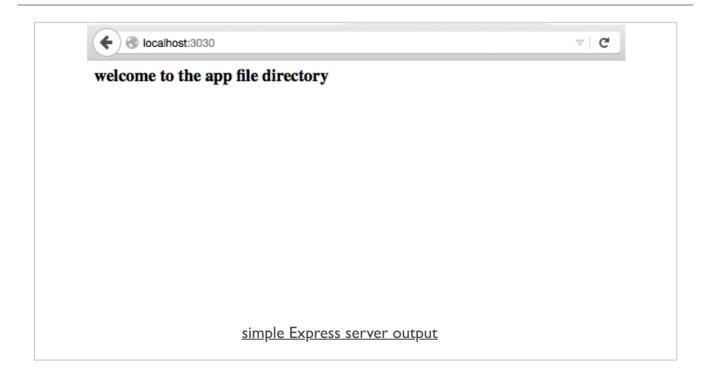
initial Express server - server.js - part 3

- currently, initial Express server is managing some static routes for loading content
 - we simply tell the server how to react when a given route is requested
- what if we now want to serve some HTML pages?
 - Express allows us to set up routes for static files

```
//set up static file directory - default route for server
appTest.use(express.static(__dirname + "/app"));
```

- now defining Express as a static file server
 - enabling us to publish our HTML, CSS, and IS files
 - published from our default directory, /app
- if requested file not available
 - server will check other available routes
 - or report error to browser if nothing found
- DEMO 424-node

Image - Client-side and server-side computing



working with data - JSON

- let us now work our way through a basic Node.js app
- serve our JSON, then read and load from a standard web app
- create our initial server.js file

```
var express = require('express'),
    http = require("http"),
    jsonApp = express(),
    notes = {
        "travelNotes": [{
            "created": "2015-10-12T00:00:00Z",
            "note": "Curral das Freiras..."
        }]
    };

jsonApp.use(express.static(__dirname + "/app"));

http.createServer(jsonApp).listen(3030);

//json route
jsonApp.get("notes.json", function(req, res) {
    res.json(notes);
});
```

Image - Client-side and server-side computing



working with data - JSON

- now have our get routes setup for JSON
- now add some client-side logic to read that route
- render to the browser
- same basic patterns we've seen before
 - using jQuery's .getJSON() function

```
$.getJSON("notes.json", function (response) {
   console.log("response = "+response.toSource());
   buildNote(response);
})
```

- response object from our JSON
- this time from the server and not a file or API
- use our familiar functions to create and render each note
 - call our normal buildNote() function
- DEMO 424-node-json l

Image - Client-side and server-side computing



Demos

- Node.js
 - 424-node
 - 424-node-json l
 - 424-node-json2
- Travel notes app series 3
- DEMO I Travel notes grid layout with media queries
- DEMO 2 Travel notes demo2
- Travel notes app series 4
 - DEMO I Travel Notes & JSON
 - DEMO 2 Travel Notes & Flickr
 - DEMO 3 Travel Notes & Flickr error checking
 - DEMO 4 Travel Notes & Flickr initial metadata
 - DEMO 5 Travel Notes & Flickr spinner

Resources

- Chocolatey for Windows
- Chocolatey package manager for Windows
- Flickr
 - Flickr API Public feeds
 - Flickr API Public feed public photos & video
- Homebrew for OS X
- Homebrew the missing package manager for OS X
- MDN
- MDN JS Objects
- Node.js
- Node.js home
- Node.js download
- ExpressJS
- W3
 - W3 CSS Flexible Box Layout Module 1
 - W3 JS Object
 - W3 JS Performance