Comp 388/424 - Client-side Web Design

Fall Semester 2015 - Week 10

Dr Nick Hayward

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- Feedback & grades
- Ajax, JSON & jQuery continued
 - recap get the data
 - jQuery deferred, promise
 - handling errors

jQuery Deferred

- jQuery provides a useful solution to the escalation of code for asynchronous development
- known as the \$.Deferred object
 - effectively acts as a central despatch and scheduler for our events
- with the **deferred** object created
 - parts of the code indicate they need to know when an event completes
 - whilst other parts of the code signal an event's status
- deferred coordinates different activities
 - enables us to separate how we trigger and manage events
 - from having to deal with their consequences

using deferred objects

- now update our AJAX request with **deferred** objects
- separate the asynchronous request
 - into the initiation of the event, the AJAX request
 - from having to deal with its consequences, essentially processing the response
- separation in logic
 - no longer need a success function acting as a callback parameter to the request itself
- now rely on .getJSON() call returning a deferred object
- function returns a restricted form of this **deferred** object
 - known as a promise

```
deferredRequest = $.getJSON (
   "file.json",
   {format: "json"}
);
```

using deferred objects

 indicate our interest in knowing when the AJAX request is complete and ready for use

```
deferredRequest.done(function(response) {
   //do something useful...
});
```

- key part of this logic is the done () function
- specifying a new function to execute
 - each and every time the event is successful and returns complete
 - our AJAX request in this example
- deferred object is able to handle the abstraction within the logic
- if the event is already complete by the time we register the callback via the done() function
 - our **deferred** object will execute that callback immediately
- if the event is not complete
 - it will simply wait until the request is complete

handling errors with deferred objects

- also signify interest in knowing if the AJAX request fails
- instead of simply calling done(), we can use the fail() function
- still works with JSONP
 - the request itself could fail and be the reason for the error or failure

```
deferredRequest.fail(function() {
   //report and handle the error...
});
```

example

- add the option to read and write from a JSON file
- we'll use AJAX for these requests
- initially we can consider our application as follows
 - read data from JSON file
 - load initial data to application
 - save new data to the JSON file
- no edit features for now
 - with the exception of deleting notes from JSON file
- add edit features with DB

example - JSON

- test reading and loading JSON file and data
- ignore standard AJAX pattern
 - passing two callbacks, success and error
- use deferred and promise
- inital JSON for Travel Notes app

```
{
  "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..."
}]
}
```

example - deferred

- start by submitting a query for the required JSON file
- then retain the deferred object we're using for tracking
- then indicate interest in knowing when AJAX request is complete

```
//load main app logic
function loadApp() {
    "use strict";

    var $deferredNotesRequest = $.getJSON (
        "docs/json/notes.json",
        {format: "json"}
    );

    $deferredNotesRequest.done(function(response) {
        console.log("tracking json...");
    });

};

$(document).ready(loadApp);
```

example - deferred

- done() method is the key part
- helps us specify the required logic to execute
 - when the request is complete
- if the given event has already completed as callback is registered via done()
 - deferred object will execute required callback immediately
- if not, it will simply wait until request is complete
- respond to an error
 - add fail() method for errors handling and reporting

example - work with data

- returned data
 - our response returns an object containing an array with notes
- we could simply extract the required notes
 - then append them to the DOM

```
$deferredNotesRequest.done(function(response) {
    //get travelNotes
    var $travelNotes = response.travelNotes
    //process travelNotes array
    $travelNotes.forEach(function(item) {
      if (item !== null) {
       var note = item.note;
       //create each note's 
        var p = $("");
       //add note text
        p.html(note);
        //append to DOM
        $(".note-output").append(p);
      }
    });
});
```

DEMO - ajax & json basic loader

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - AJAX & JSON

AJAX and JSON

a note from Cannes...

a holiday note from Nice...

an autumn note from Antibes...

app's copyright information, additional links...

AJAX & ISON - basic loader

example - work with data

- we can use simple deferred requests with our local JSON data
- with staggered API calls to data, need to use slightly modified approach
 - digging through data layer by layer
 - submitting a requestas one layer returns
- we could now create a second deferred object
 - use to track additional processing requests
 - stagger our requests to the API
 - ensuring we only request certain data as needed or available
- also create multiple deferred objects to handle our requests and returned data
 - allows us to respond accordingly within the application

example - work with data

resolve()

- use this method with the deferred object to change its state, effectively to complete
- as we resolve a deferred object
 - any doneCallbacks added with then() or done() methods will be called
 - these callbacks will then be executed in the order added to the object
 - arguments supplied to resolve() method will be passed to these callbacks

promise()

useful for limiting or restricting what can be done to the deferred object

```
function returnPromise() {
  return $.Deferred().promise();
}
```

- method returns an object with a similar interface to a standard deferred object
 - · only has methods to allow us to attach callbacks
 - · does not have the methods required to resolve or reject deferred object
- restricting the usage and manipulation of the deferred object
 - eg: offer an API or other request the option to subscribe to the deferred object
 - **NB:** they won't be able to resolve or reject it as standard

example - work with data

- still use the done() and fail() methods as normal
- use additional methods with these callbacks including the then()
 method
- use this method to return a new promise
 - use to update the status and values of the deferred object
 - use this method to modify or update a deferred object as it is resolved, rejected, or still in use
- can also combine promises with the when () method
 - method allows us to accept many promises, then return a sort of master deferred
- updated deferred object will now be resolved when all of the promises are resolved
 - it will likewise be rejected if any of these promises fail
- use standard done () method to work with results from all of the promises
 - eg: could use this pattern to combine results from multiple JSON files
 - multiple layers within an API
 - staggered calls to paged results in a API...

example - work with data

- now start to update our test AJAX and JSON application
 - begin by simply abstracting our code a little

```
function buildNote(data) {
    //create each note's 
    var p = $("");
    //add note text
    p.html(data);
    //append to DOM
    $(".note-output").append(p);
}

//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;
}
```

DEMO - ajax & json abstract loader

example - work with data

- requesting our JSON file using .getJSON()
 - we get a returned **promise** for the data
- with a **promise** we can only use the following
 - deferred object's method required to attach any additional handlers
 - or determine its state
- our **promise** can work with
 - then, done, fail, always...
- our **promise** can't work with
 - resolve, reject, notify...

example - work with data

- one of the benefits of using **promises** is the ability to load one JSON file
 - then wait for the results
 - then issue a follow-on request to another file
 - ...
- a simple example of chained then() methods

```
getNotes().then(function(response1) {
  console.log("response1="+response1.travelNotes[2].note);
  $(".note-output").append(response1.travelNotes[2].note);
  return getPlaces();
}).then(function(response2) {
  console.log("response2="+response2.travelPlaces[2].place);
  $(".note-output").append(response2.travelPlaces[2].place);
});
```

- outputting a limited test result to the DOM and the console
- as we chain our then() methods
 - pass returned results to next chained then () method...
- DEMO ajax & json deferred .then()

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 |S 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 & ISON

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
|- 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 ISON 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

record notes from various places visited			
add note	searc	h flickr	
Delete all			
Cannes, a resort town on the French Riviera, is synonymous w world-famous film festival. Its Boulevard de la Croisette, curv with sandy beaches, upmarket boutiques and palatial hotels. It Festivals, a modern building complete with red carpet and Allo of fame. Nice, capital of the French Riviera, skirts the pebbly shores of Founded by the Greeks and later a retreat for 19th-century Eur balances old-world decadence with modern urban energy. Its s have long attracted artists, whose work hangs in its museums. diverse restaurants, it's also renowned for its food.	ing along the coast, is lined 's also home to the Palais des ée des Stars – Cannes' walk 'the Baie des Anges. rope's elite, the city today unshine and liberal attitude		
Antibes is a resort town between Cannes and Nice on the Fren It's known for its Mediterranean beaches, annual Jazz à Juan n enclosed by 16th-century ramparts. Luxury yachts moor at the overlooked by star-shaped, 16th-century Fort Carré. The Prom walkway along Vauban's walls has views of the Alps.	nusic festival and old town huge Port Vauban marina,		
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;
      }
    });
 });
```

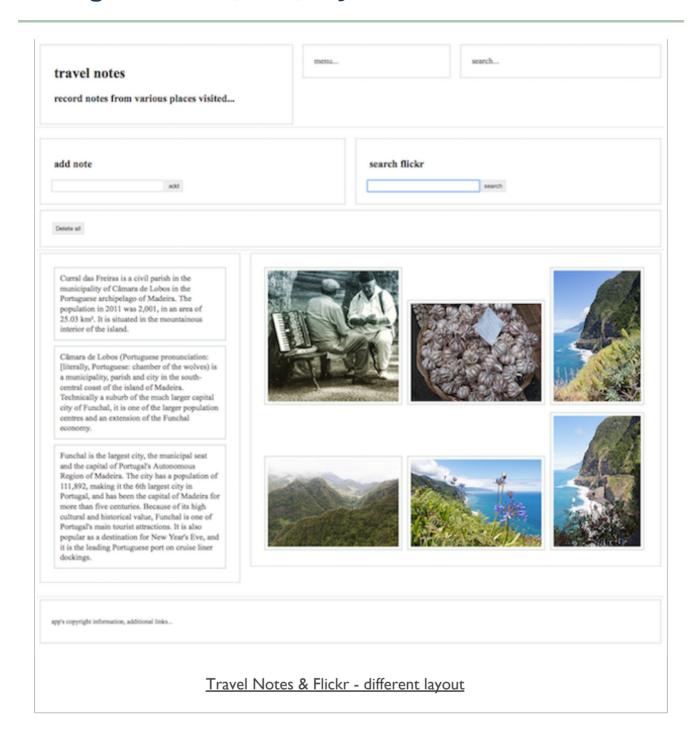
working with Flickr API - update travel notes JS

- 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



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...
}
...
```

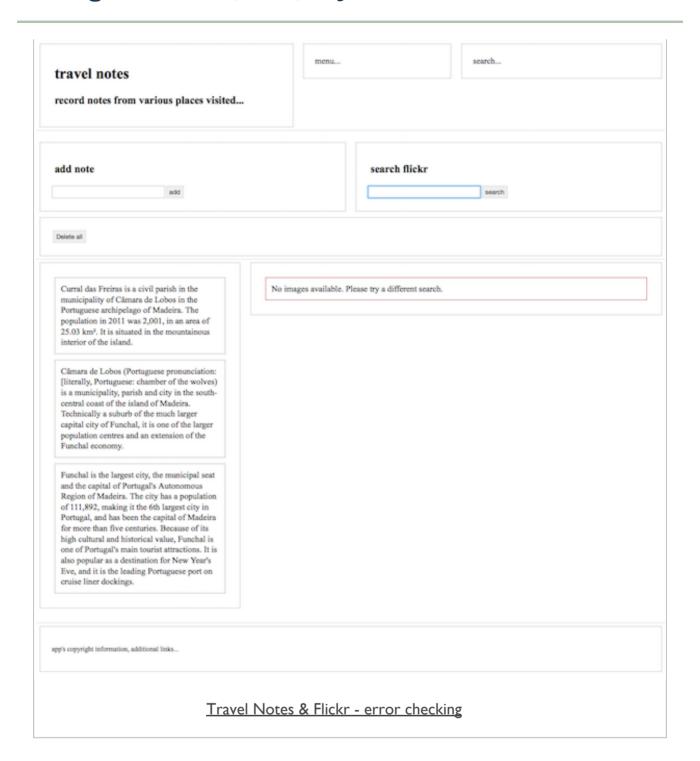
- checks images in the items array for the promise object
- if not, send an empty variable as a parameter to our createImage()
 function

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



working with Flickr API - modify travel notes JS

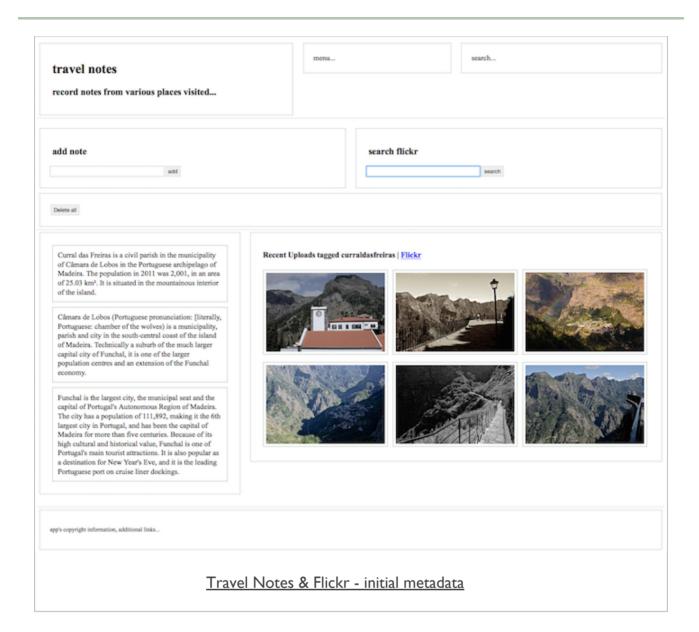
- continue to modify and build our Travel Notes app
- add some metadata for the returned images
 - using the title and link from the search query response
- add initial metadata output in the contextual.js file
 - modify the processImages() function
 - · metadata from Flickr JSON response in the deferred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



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

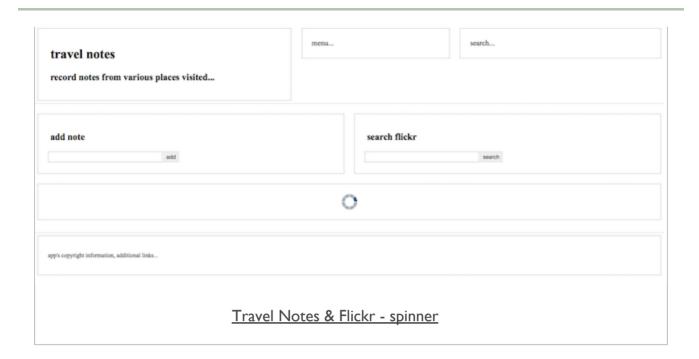
- add a modification to check for the image loading and the notes
 - offer status feedback to the user

```
//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



Demos

AJAX and JSON

- AJAX-JSON I load a JSON file
- AJAX-JSON 2 abstract code for load a JSON file
- AJAX-JSON 3 test deferred .then()
- AJAX-JSON 4 Flickr API

Travel Notes app

- 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

References

jQuery

- jQuery deferred
- jQuery promise

Flickr API

- Public feeds
- Public feed public photos & video

Various

• Create your own AJAX loader