Comp 322/422 - Software Development for Wireless and Mobile Devices

Fall Semester 2019 - Week 3

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Cordova app - test with local tools

- default testing options with Cordova CLI include
 - emulate and run
- many options available as well...
- e.g. Cordova testing tools
- Genymotion target at Android development, testing, and provision
 - professional development and testing options available
 - further details at https://www.genymotion.com

Cordova app - test with local tools - serve

- Cordova also provides the option to serve a current app
- serve as self-hosted site for testing

cordova serve

- start a local static file server at http://localhost:8000
- then navigate to a given platform's directory
- and the associated project UI and build
- useful for UI testing and quick development

Image - Cordova app - test with local server - serve

Package Metadata

name	Plugin Test 0.2
packageName	com.example.plugintest
version	0.0.2

Platforms

- ios
- osx
- · android
- ubuntu
- · amazon-fireos
- wp8
- blackberry10
- www
- firefoxos
- windows
- · webos
- browser

Plugins

- · cordova-plugin-compat
- · cordova-plugin-device
- · cordova-plugin-file
- · cordova-plugin-media
- · cordova-plugin-whitelist

Cordova app - test with local server - serve

Cordova app - test with local tools - Chrome browser and device

- test and develop Android applications with devices on Chrome browser
- after running our app on a connected device, e.g.

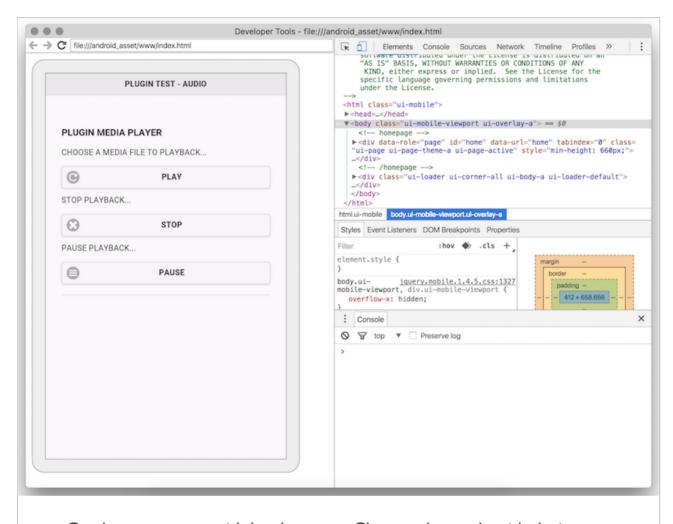
cordova run android

 inspect the app using Chrome's developer tools at the following URL,

chrome://inspect/#devices

- then select the option to inspect a connected device
- shows window with the standard Chrome developer tools and options
 - inspect the DOM, JS console, styles, and so on...
 - use inspect option to control, navigate, and interact with our running app

Image - Cordova app - test with local server - Chrome & Device



Cordova app - test with local server - Chrome dev tools with device

Cordova app - test with local tools - Chrome browser and emulator

- in Chrome, select 'developer tools more tools remote devices'
- select name of device
- select inspect option next to name of app
 - name corresponds to app on emulator
- inspect opens standard Dev Tools window
 - elements, console, memory, application, network &c.

Image - Cordova app - test with local server - Chrome remote devices

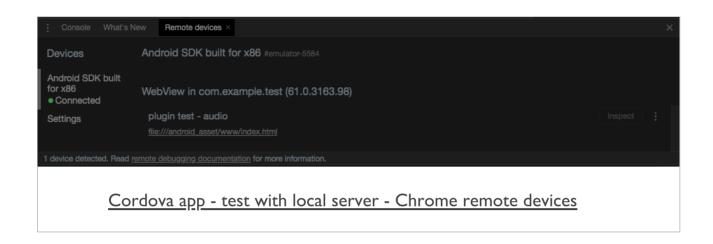
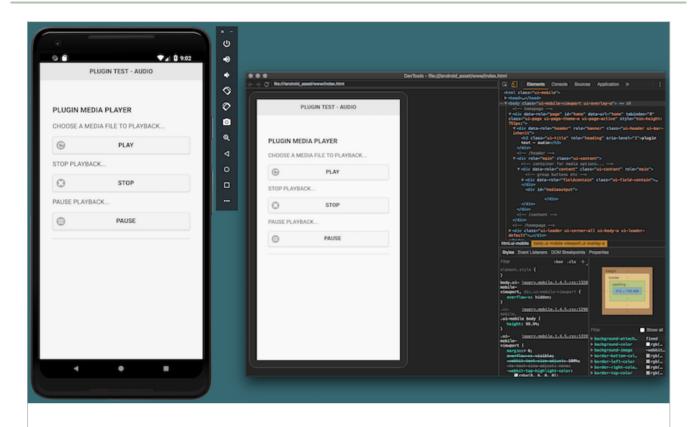


Image - Cordova app - test with local server - Chrome remote devices



Cordova app - test with local server - Chrome dev tools with emulator

Cordova app - test with Browser platform

- Cordova recently added a Browser platform option
- use to create a quasi-test environment for our apps
- install browser support as a standard platform

cordova platform add browser

load our app into the browser using the following command,

cordova run browser

- platform will be useful for testing UI design and development
- many of the plugins are supported as well
 - e.g. camera

n.b. other options better for testing development of custom or OS level Android or iOS features...

Image - Cordova app - test with browser platform

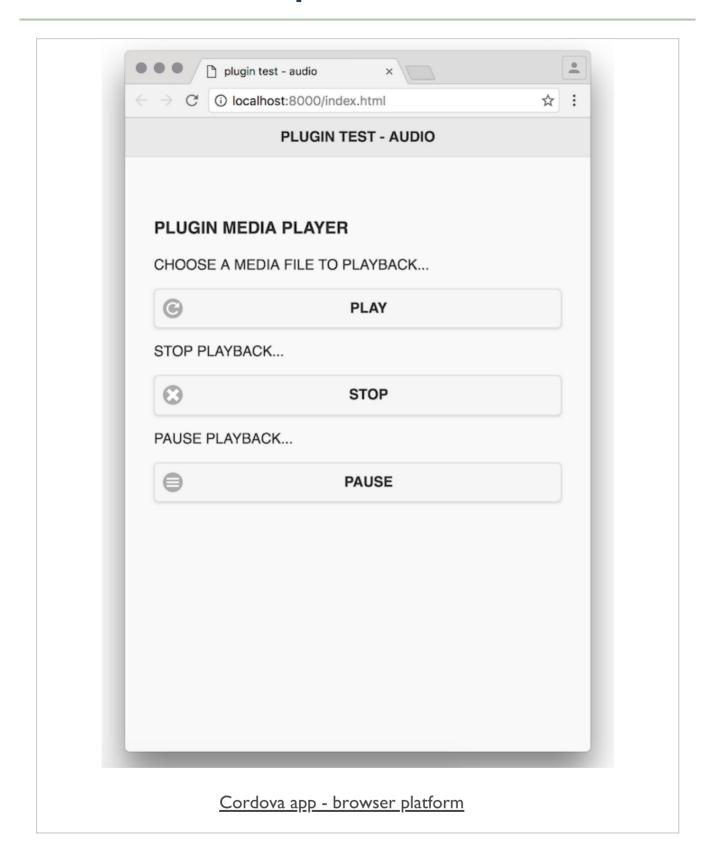
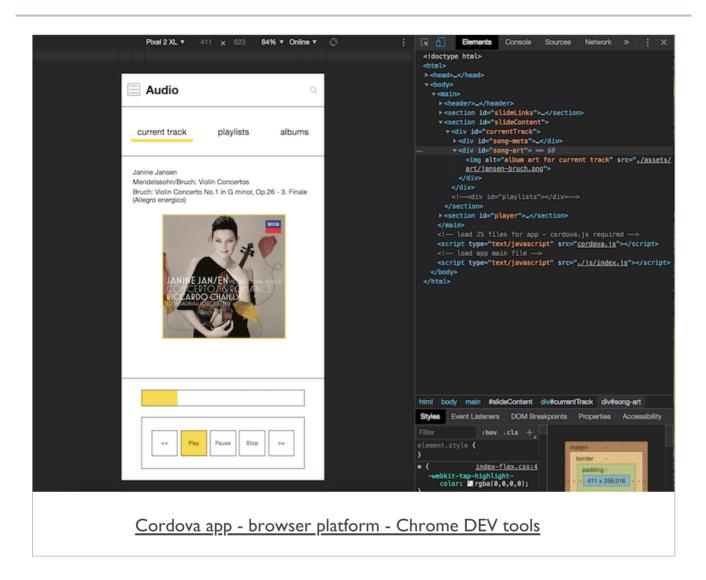


Image - Cordova app - test with browser platform - Chrome Dev Tools



Cordova app - testing and automation with Microsoft's App Center

- App Center
- AppCenter Testing

Cordova app - automation with FastLane

Fastlane - Overview

Mobile Design - Touch Events & Interaction

Fun exercise

Choose one of the following app types,

- mobile game genre &c. is your choice...
- media app audio or video (or both) playback options...
- fitness and geolocation app track exercise, find locations &c.

Then, consider the following

- required touch events within this app
- role of these events relative to executed action
 - i.e. what is the expected result of a touch event in the UI
 - consider logic and code execution...
- UX options associated to a given touch event
 - i.e. what is updated or added in the UI design
 - e.g. highlights, animations &c.

~ 10 minutes

Image - Mobile Design - Touch Events & Interaction

slide1	slide2	slide3
sample content for s	lide 1	
Labore natus quisque magnam impedit quo cupiditate rem porro Quam, officiis? Lorem ipsum dolor si Labore natus quisque magnam impedit quo cupiditate rem porro Quam, officiis? Lorem ipsum dolor si Labore natus quisque magnam impedit quo magnam impedit quo	it amet, consectetur a am, dignissimos assur od delectus, voluptatu blanditiis maxime dole it amet, consectetur a am, dignissimos assur od delectus, voluptatu blanditiis maxime dole it amet, consectetur a am, dignissimos assur od delectus, voluptatu od delectus, voluptatu od delectus, voluptatu	menda ratione m odio neque oribus quibusdam. dipisicing elit. menda ratione m odio neque oribus quibusdam. dipisicing elit. menda ratione m odio neque oribus quibusdam.
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Image - Mobile Design - Touch Events & Interaction - Basic Audio

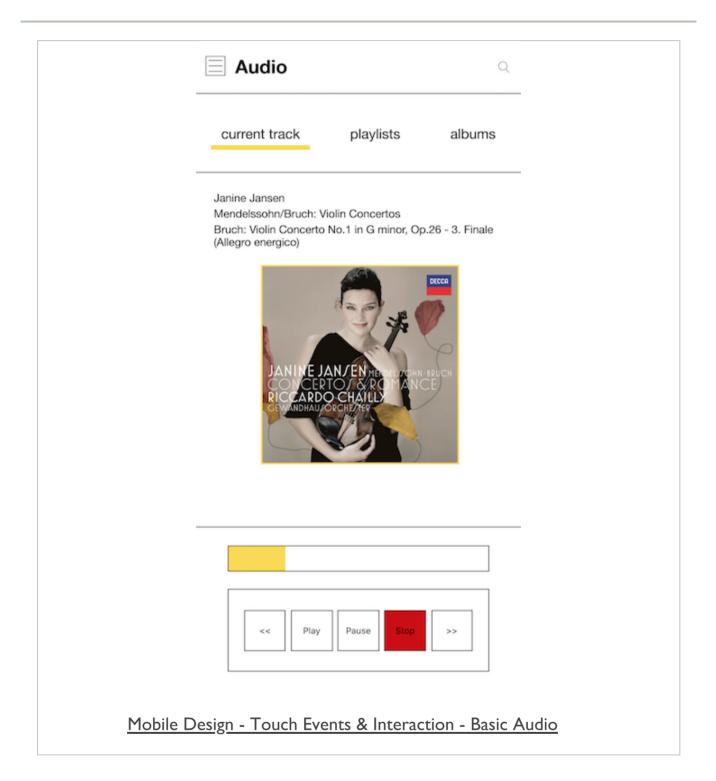
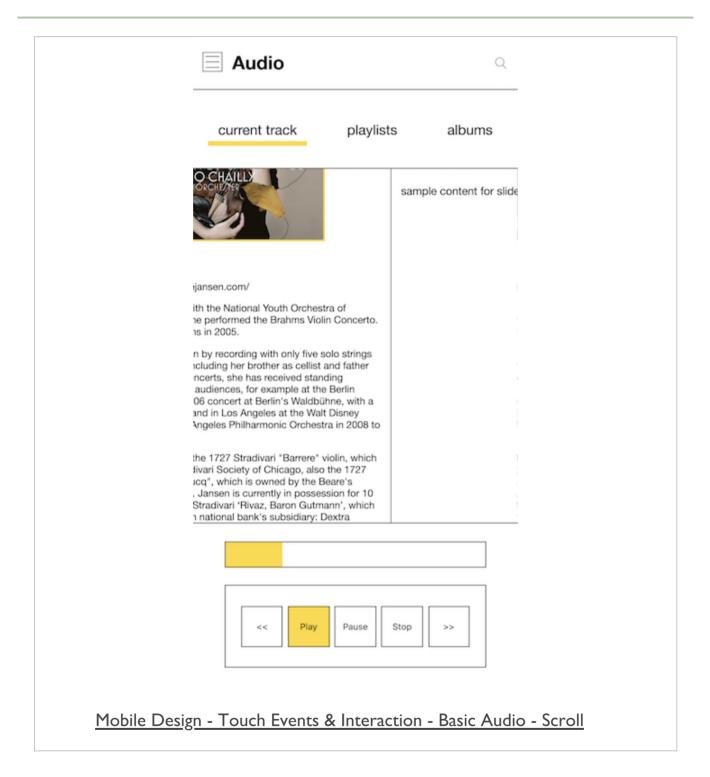


Image - Mobile Design - Touch Events & Interaction - Basic Audio - Scroll



Cordova app - templates - basic

- Cordova default template for project structure
 - create command used for basic structure...
- create custom, reusable template for a new project
 - e.g. create starting template for tabs, menu &c. based app...
- to create a custom template
 - start with new project structure for Cordova
 - then modify to create and configure app structure
 - set required icons, splashscreens, designs &c. for template
- then we can start to package a reusable template

Cordova app - templates - structure

each template uses the following directory structure

```
|-- template_package
|__ package.json
|__ index.js
|__ template_src
|__ ... (app template contents...)
```

- template specific code is added to template_src directory
- package.json includes reference to template's index.js file
- index.js used to export reference to template_src directory

Cordova app - templates - template_src

template src usually includes the following structure

```
|-- hooks (add custom hooks for template, app &c...)
|-- www
|__ css
|__ index.css
|__ img
|__ logo.png
|__ js
|__ index.js
|__ index.html
|-- config.xml
```

- add any custom scripts to the hooks directory
- design and build our template in the www directory
- template_src/config.xml will usually follow pattern of default Cordova config
- then add template customisations, e.g.
 - name, description, icons, splashscreens...if necessary

Cordova app - templates - package.json

- package.json includes template specific metadata
 - add keyword cordova:template & ecosystem:cordova
 - used for package distribution, e.g. NPM
- add reference to index.js

```
"main": "index.js"
```

- output will be similar to a standard NPM package.json file
 - created for NPM package management
 - then initialised using the command,

npm init

Cordova app - templates - template index.js

- then add necessary export reference for template_src to our template index.js file
 - follows a standard pattern

```
var path = require('path');

module.exports = {
    dirname : path.join(__dirname, 'template_src')
};
```

Cordova app - templates - finish & create

- template is now ready to be published and shared online
 - use NPM, GitHub, &c.
- use as the template for a new local project

cordova create basic com.example.basic BasicTemplate --template <path-to-template

- add the local directory path for the custom template
 - replace <path-to-template with local directory for template...
- creates new Cordova project with custom template
 - uses template_src for the project

Cordova app - API plugin examples

- a few API plugins to consider
 - accelerometer
 - camera
 - connection
 - device
 - file
 - geolocation
 - InAppBrowser
 - media and capture
 - notification
 - StatusBar
 - ...

Data considerations in mobile apps

- no one size fits all model for mobile
- can't just default to the server-side for reading and writing data
- our app may become useless if we rely heavily on remote data
 - lose our network connection
 - run out of monthly data allowance
 - or end up with throttled or restricted data on a poor network, e.g. 2G
- Facebook's introduction of 2G Tuesdays
 - remind employees, developers of 2G limitations and issues around the world
- also need to consider
 - data security, read and write privileges for certain data stores, authentication for remote sources...
- careful consideration of the options for reading and writing data
 - a crucial aspect of our app's planning and subsequent development

Cordova app - API plugin examples - plugin test 3

setup

create our initial plugin test shell application

cordova create plugintest3 com.example.plugintest plugintest3

- add any required plaforms, e.g. Android, iOS, Windows Phone...
 - we'll add iOS as well

cordova platform add android --save

- then update the default www directory
- modify the initial settings in our app's config.xml file
- then run an initial test to ensure the shell application loads correctly
 - run in the Android emulator or
 - run on a connected Android device

cordova emulate android

or

cordova run android

Cordova app - API plugin examples - plugin test 3

setup

also add support for iOS development

cordova platform add ios --save

- running a test application on iOS is not as simple as Android
- need to add support to Cordova for a local iOS simulator
 - add package for iOS simulator using **npm**
 - **NB**: may require admin or sudo permissions to install correctly

npm install -g ios-sim

then run our Cordova app from the working directory

cordova run ios

- Cordova will try to load the application using this local simulator
 - without defaulting to Xcode
- quickly test our iOS application with this simulator

Image - iOS Local Simulator



Cordova app - API plugin examples - plugin test 3

iOS simulator - options

- iOS simulator gives us many useful options
 - helpful ways to test our local Cordova based iOS applications
- emulate many different devices
 - from the iPhone SE to the iPhone X and various iPads...
- mimic many of these device's hardware features
 - such as rotate, shake, different keyboards...
 - also output to a simulated Apple Watch device
- various debugging options available within this simulator
 - including ability to mimic locations for GPS enabled applications
- quickly take a screenshot of the current application screen within the simulator

Cordova app - API plugin examples - plugin test 3

plugins - add filesystem

- add and use the **file** plugin
- plugin has been designed to permit read and write access to files
 - files are stored on the local device for Cordova applications
- **file** plugin is initially based on open specifications
 - includes the **HTML5 File API**, W3C's **FileWriter** specification...
- add the file plugin to our test application using the standard CLI command

cordova plugin add cordova-plugin-file

- command will install plugin for all currently installed platforms
 - includes Android and iOS for our test application

Image - API Plugin Tester - file



Cordova app - API plugin examples - plugin test 3

plugins - test filesystem

- using this plugin we can read local files from within the filesystem
- we could read a file from within our Cordova application
 - e.g. located in the following directory

```
...
|- www
|- docs
|- txt
|- madeira.txt
```

- we can use the available global cordova.file object
- to be able to use the URL for our text document in the file-system directory
 - convert it to a DirectoryEntry using

```
window.resolveLocalFileSystemURL()
```

- in our standard onDeviceReady() function
 - use this global object to resolve the URL of our file
 - then pass to specified callbacks for success and fail

```
window.resolveLocalFileSystemURL(cordova.file.applicationDirectory +
   "www/docs/txt/madeira.txt", onSuccess, onFail);
```

Image - API Plugin Tester - file



Cordova app - API plugin examples - plugin test 3

plugins - test filesystem onSuccess

- render this text after retrieving from the requested file
 - update our onSuccess() function to output the file's content

```
function onSuccess(data) {
  data.file(function(file) {
    var readFile = new FileReader();
    readFile.onloadend = function(e) {
        //output result as required by app...
        // e.g this.result
    }
    readFile.readAsText(file);
});
```

- call the file() method on our returned file data
 - effectively gives us a hook/handle into the file
 - we can now work with the returned file data
- then call the FileReader() method from the FileAPI
 - and process the returned text
- output to our specified HTML element
 - using a standard selector with the html() method

Cordova app - API plugin examples - plugin test 3

plugins - test filesystem onFail()

- complement to the onSuccess() function
- now add our function onFail() for the fail callback
- test it with the returned error code

```
function onFail(error) {
  console.log("FileSystem Error"+error.code);
  // output error and code as required in app...
  // e.g error.code
}
```

- uses the passed error object
 - returns a code for rendering in the specified selector
- obviously does not make a lot of sense to our user

plugins - test filesystem onFail()

- we can use a conditional statement to check for certain returned error codes
 - then output a meaningful error message to the user in the application

```
function onFail(error) {
   switch(error.code) {
      case 1:
      alert('File Not Found!');
      break;
      //add other options to cover additional error codes...
      default:
      alert('An error occurred reading this file.');
   };
}
```

now output more graceful error messages and feedback to the user

Image - API Plugin Tester - file



plugins - test filesystem with event

- easily link file loading to a given event, such as a user tap event
- instead of loading the file by default with the onDeviceReady()
 function
 - get the contents of our file when needed by the user
- link this to a button event, a separate page init event...
 - touch event on button, link &c.
- then call our local file as before within its own function, getTxtFile()

Image - API Plugin Tester - file



plugins - test filesystem with file write

- now read files from the local device's native storage thanks to Cordova's File plugin
- file plugin also offers an option to write to files in the same local filesystem
- quickly create a test app for writing to files
- create your project
- cd to app's working directory
- add required platforms
- add our required Cordova API plugin for working with the file system
- run usual initial tests for app loading, deviceready event...

plugins - test filesystem with file write

- now start to add writing to a file to our test app
- start, as we did with file reading, by getting a hook/handle to a file
- we can then write to a file within the assigned app's data directory
 - specific app directory has read and write access
 - allows us to create files as needed for our app
 - then read and write within the confines of the native app
- use window.resolveLocalFileSystemURL to allow us to work with this data directory

```
var fileDir = cordova.file.dataDirectory;
window.resolveLocalFileSystemURL(fileDir, function(dir) {
   // do something useful...
});
```

in application specific directory get our required file for writing

Image - API Plugin Tester - file



plugins - test filesystem with file write

- create a new file if it doesn't exist on app loading
- use directory object with getFile() method etc...
 - set flag to create a new file

```
window.resolveLocalFileSystemURL(fileDir, function(dir) {
    dir.getFile("madeira.txt", {create:true}, function(file) {
    //do something useful
});
});
```

- pass file object to other functions for processing...
- create our write function to check and write to specified file within app's data directory

plugins - test filesystem with file write

now write some simple text to our file

plugins - test filesystem with file write

- then call this writeTxt() as needed within our application
 - e.g. calling it from event handler for a button tap
- could easily get text to write from an input field, from metadata...
- then pass it to our writeTxtFile() function for writing

e.g.

writeTxtFile("some initial basic text for writing to our file...");

Image - API Plugin Tester - file



Image - Data Tester



арр logic - save.js

- need to handle events for our reloadNote button
- retrieve our notes data
 - loaded by calling the reloadNoteData() function
- uses the main app object, storageNotes
 - gets the defined key for our notes
- use this key to retrieve stored stringified JSON object
- then use JSON.parse() to convert the stringified object to a plain JSON object
 - contains our note information
- use this note information
 - populate form fields
 - output our notes for rendering to the DOM

арр logic - save.js - reload button handler

- event handler for reload button
 - call reloadNoteData()
 - output and update result...
- reload note data

```
function reloadNoteData() {
  var noteInfo = JSON.parse(storageNotes.get(NOTE_KEY));
  loadFormFields(noteInfo);
  noteOutput(noteInfo);
}
```

load form fields data

```
function loadFormFields(data) {
  if (data) {
    document.getElementById('noteName').value = data.noteName;
    document.getElementById('noteContent').value = data.noteContent;
  }
}
```

арр logic - save.js

- pageinit event
 - eg: check and validate the rendered form for our notes
- to validate our form we specify
 - a set of options as a parameter to validate()
 - many different options available
 - eg: add a rules object, messages object...
- in the rules object
 - set both input fields as required
- then reload our note data
 - update the application accordingly

app logic - save.js - pageshow event

```
$("#noteForm").validate({
    rules: {
        noteName: "required",
        noteContent: "required"
    },
    messages: {
        noteName: "Add title for note",
        noteContent: "Add your note"
    }
});
```

app logic - storagenotes.js

- add another new JS file, storagenotes.js
- store the logic for getting and setting of data with localStorage
- start by creating a singleton object for this instance
- creating this object to ensure that we only have one instance
- create this object by calling the getInstance() function
 - in effect, the guardian to the instance object for the application
- function also highlights a pattern known as Lazy Load
 - checks to see if an instance has already been created
- if not, create one and then store for future reference
- all subsequent calls will now received this stored reference
- this pattern is particularly useful for mobile development
- helps us save CPU and memory usage within an application
 - an object is only created when it is actually needed
- gives us a single object with getters and setters for the local storage

app logic - storagenotes.js

```
var NotesManager = (function () {
  var instance;
  function createNoteObject() {
     return {
        set: function (key, value) {
          window.localStorage.setItem(key, value);
       },
        get: function (key) {
          return window.localStorage.getItem(key);
      };
  };
  return {
   getInstance: function () {
     if (!instance) {
        instance = createNoteObject();
      return instance;
    }
  };
})();
```

Image - Data Tester



plugins - geolocation

- add and use Cordova's Geolocation plugin
- helps us provide information about current location of user's device
- plugin returns data on device's location
 - including latitude and longitude
- plugin can use the following to help determine location
 - GPS, network signals, phone network IDs...
- API has been developed around the W3C's Geolocation API Specification
- n.b. may not always be able to return a reliable location due to
 - location restrictions
 - lack of access to a network
 - a user may reject location tracking and awareness...
- need to be aware of potential privacy and security concerns
 - application's privacy policy important
 - how we collect and whether we store data or not
 - how and when we share such data with 3rd-party services
- consider offering user a simple opt-in/out option for location services
 - app needs fallback options to cover lack of location services

plugins - geolocation

now create our test application for the geolocation plugin

```
cordova create plugintestgeo com.example.plugintest PluginTestGeo
```

add our required platforms for support and development,

```
cordova platform add android --save
```

update the www directory, modify initial settings in config.xml,
 and run initial test

```
//test in the Android emulator
cordova emulate android
//test on a connected Android device
cordova run android
```

add **geolocation** plugin to our new project using the Cordova
 CII

```
//cordova version 5.0+
cordova plugin add cordova-plugin-geolocation
//install directly via repo url
cordova plugin add https://github.com/apache/cordova-plugin-geolocation.git
```

Image - API Plugin Tester - Geolocation



plugins - geolocation - test plugin

- add option to check and return current location of the user's device
- add a button to allow the user to request their current location
 - then get the location's latitude and longitude
 - then output the location results to the user

e.g.

```
<div id="content">
  Click the following button to find your current location...
  <button type="button" id="getLocation">Find Current Location</button>
  </div>
```

- then update the plugin.js file to handle the touch event for this button
 - get element from DOM
 - add event listener & test execution...
- output test alert &c. for handler

Image - API Plugin Tester - Geolocation



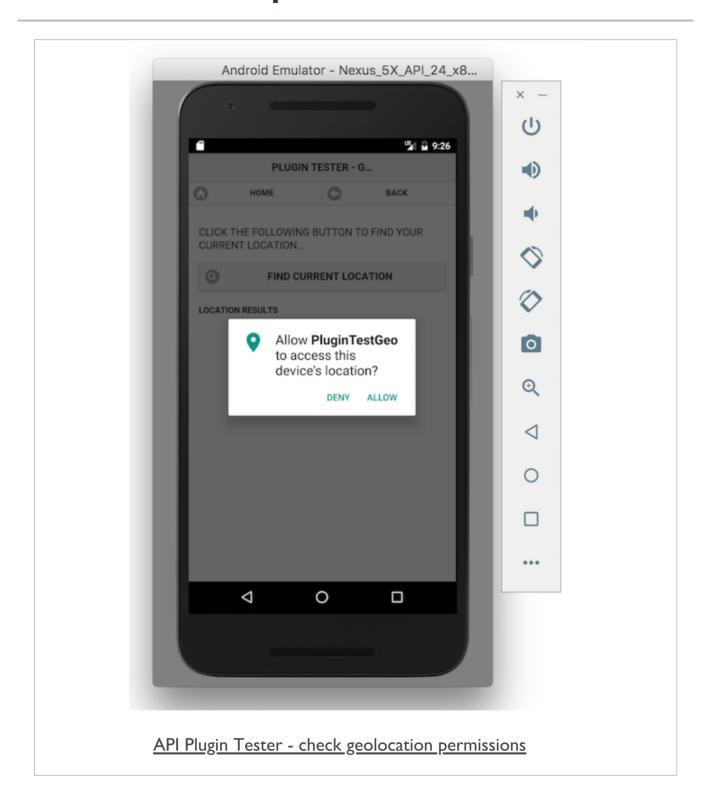
plugins - geolocation - test plugin

- add our logic for working with the navigator object and the geolocation plugin
- first function we need to add is getLocation()
 - use navigator object to get current position of user's device
- add our standard success and fail callbacks
 - initially add a timeout for poor signal or reception
 - enable high accuracy for this check
 - asking plugin to use most accurate source available, e.g. GPS
- getLocation() function is as follows,

```
function getLocation() {
  navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition(onSuccess,
    onFail, {
     timeout: 15000,
     enableHighAccuracy: true
  });
}
```

standard callbacks for onSuccess and onFail

Image - API Plugin Tester - Geolocation permissions



plugins - geolocation - test plugin

- successful return of location data
 - use the latitude and longitude coordinates within our application

```
function onSuccess(location) {
  var myLatitude = location.coords.latitude;
  var myLongitude = location.coords.longitude;
  //output result to #location div...
  // e.g. "my latitude = "+myLatitude+"my longitude = "+myLongitude+"
}
```

- now store coordinates of user's location as latitude and longitude values
- various options for usage per application
 - render to page, use with maps, add metadata to photos, track navigation...
- also need to allow for the possibility of errors
 - set our onFail callback as follows

```
function onFail(error) {
   // or output error to #location div...
   // e.g. "location error code = "+error.code+" message = "+error.message
}
```

Image - API Plugin Tester - Geolocation



plugins - geolocation - plugin options

- additional options and properties available to us in the callbacks
 - navigator object and properties for returned location object
- add options to navigator object for geolocation
 - maximumAge cached position as long as it is not older than the specified age
 - age is specified as a number in milliseconds, e.g. maximumAge: 3000
- returned location object properties
 - **altitude** location.coords.altitude
 - heading location.coords.heading
 - **speed** location.coords.speed
 - **timestamp** location.timestamp
- fine-tune results for our users

plugins - geolocation - monitor location

set plugin to monitor a device's location for changes

```
navigator.geolocation.watchPosition
```

- checking user's device for changes in their current location
 - then returns device's location if a change is detected

```
var watchID = navigator.geolocation.watchPosition(onSuccess, onFail,
{option...}
);
```

- error callback and options are both optional
- also use returned ID with a clearWatch() function to stop ongoing location check and monitoring

plugins - geolocation - manual toggle

- add a toggle option to allow a user to choose
 - auto or manual refresh of their location
- toggle set to **on** app will **watch** a user's position
- toggle set to off explicit location request required
- option to disable watchPosition() helps save battery life, reduces privacy issues...
- toggle switch initially set to default off position
 - location position requires explicit request
- toggle switch set to on
 - app calls watchPosition() method against global navigator.geolocation object

plugins - geolocation - manual toggle

add a toggle switch to our UI

```
<form>
    <label for="flip-select">watch location:</label>
    <select id="setWatch" name="flipWatch">
        <option>off</option>
        <option>on</option>
        </select>
</form>
```

- then update our JS logic to handle a UI event on this UI grouping
- add a check for the current value of the toggle switch
 - add to a property, e.g. watchState
 - simply checking set value of option for the switch

plugins - geolocation - manual toggle

- as a user changes the state of the toggle switch to on
 - need to call watchPosition() method against geoLocation
 - start constant polling of geolocation object
- add a new function getWatchID()
 - allows us to set a value for a watchID property
 - property set against onDeviceReady() function

```
function getWatchID() {
    watchID = navigator.geolocation.watchPosition(onSuccess,
    onFail, {
        enableHighAccuracy: true
    });
}
```

plugins - geolocation - manual toggle

- call getWatchID() using standard callback, onSuccess
 - get required location details
 - then set value for watchID property

```
//check state of toggle
if (watchState === "on") {
    //call function to start watching...
    getWatchID();
    //output check of watchID
    console.log("watchID = "+watchID);
} else {
    //clear the location watching - stops location tracking...
    navigator.geolocation.clearWatch(watchID);
    //output check of watchID - check match against on watchID...
    console.log("clear watch..."+watchID);
}
...
```

- update conditional statement
 - clear output of coordinates, then clear watching of user's current location

Image - API Plugin Tester - Geolocation toggle

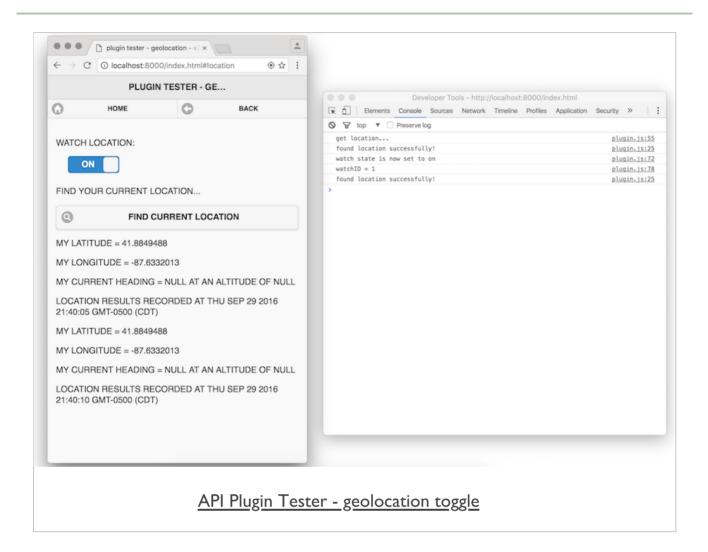
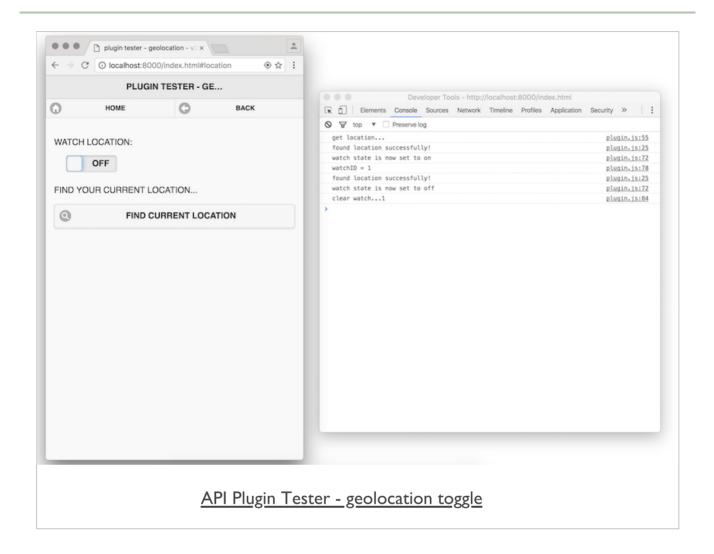


Image - API Plugin Tester - Geolocation toggle



References

- Cordova Docs Events
- Cordova API
 - config.xml
 - plugins
 - plugin device
 - plugin file
 - plugin media
 - plugin Splashscreen
- HTML5
 - HTML5 File API