

Université de Bordeaux
Licence Parcours International

Web design and data management

Event programming using Javascript : basics

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Aims

- Know the basics of the **Javascript** language for event handling (mouse or keyboard input) on a webpage
- Create **dynamic** webpages whose content can be modified in live.

Part 1: Web – Plan

- 1 Event programming
- 2 Javascript

Plan: Event programming

- 1 Event programming
 - Principles and definitions
 - Languages

- 2 Javascript
 - Dynamic webpages
 - Event capture

Event programming

Definition (Event)

An **event** corresponds to an **action from a user** (mouse click, keyboard input) onto an element (button, video, link...). It can also result from an internal task, e.g. file loading. An event **changes the state** of a webpage.

Definition (Event programming)

Event programming is a coding model that reacts when an event is triggered.

Examples

- Image carousel : images that automatically scroll
- Mask a section from a webpage on click
- Form interaction

Function

The code is structured into **functions**.

A function is set of **coding instructions**, such as variable definitions, selection of HTML elements...

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We say a function is **is registered** to an element for an event.

.. which is equivalent to :

An element is **listened to** by an event listener that triggers a function

Languages

Overview of languages for Web programming :

- For content : **HTML**.
- For styling : **CSS**.
- For event programming : **Javascript**, **PHP**.
- For communication with databases and secured processing : **PHP**.

Plan: Javascript

1 Event programming

2 Javascript

- Principles and definitions
- Syntax and elements of the language
- Event programming
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Overview

Javascript is an **interpreted language** : lines of codes are executed one at a time.

- Javascript code can be inserted directly in the HTML file or in a **separate file** (.js extension), then included in the HTML
- browsers all support Javascript

Including a Javascript file in a HTML file (at the bottom of the body) :

```
<script type="text/javascript" src="script.js"> </script>
```

Plan: Javascript

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Code debugging

- **Syntax errors** can prevent code execution.
⇒ need for error inspection and debugging.
 - ▶ Browser **console** (shortcut in Firefox → F12)
 - ▶ To display a message or a variable in the console (print equivalent in Python) :

```
console.log("Message" + variable);
```

- **Permissive** language ⇒ it is strongly advised to add "use strict"; at the beginning of the code to facilitate debugging.

Syntax

- Generalities
- Variables, data types
- Functions
- Arrays

Generalities

- Lines of codes end with a **semi-column** “;”
- Functions and conditional statements are surrounded with **curly brackets**.

Conditions

Condition checking : **if-else**.

```
1  if (condition) {  
2    // if condition true  
3  }  
4  else {  
5    // if condition false  
6  }  
7
```

Conditions

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6  }  
7
```

Combination of conditions :

- **&&** (and) : both conditions need to be true
- **||** (or) : one condition needs to be true
- **!** (not) : invert the conditions (a true condition becomes false)

Equality and inequality operators

Two **equality** operators :

- `==` : checks for equality by forcing type conversion.

Ex : `'1' == 1` yields true

- `===` : checks for strict equality (variables with same type and same value).

Ex : `'1' === 1` yields false, because it is a character versus a number.

Good practices

Prefer the `===` operator.

Inequality operators (less than or greater than) : `<`, `<=`, `>`, `>=`.

Variables

Variable **declarations** (**only once**) are done by prefixing the variable name with `var`.

Example : `var one = 1;`

```
1  var number = 18;
2  number = 2;
3  if (number < 20) {
4    console.log("This_number_is_lower_than_20");
5  }
6  else {
7    console.log("This_number_is_greater_than_20");
8  }
9
```

Loops

Loops : to repeat code instructions.

- **for** loop :

```
1   for (var i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
2       //Code  
3   }
```

- **while** loop :

```
1   var i = 0;  
2   while (i < 10) {  
3       //Code  
4       i++;  
5   }
```

Functions

Functions are small units of code that can be called several times. This is code that is not executed unless explicitly called.

Functions can **return** values which can be captured as variables and used in the code.

Function declaration

Function **declarations**, usually done in the top of the .js file :

```
1  function function_name(parameter1, parameter2) {  
2    var sum = parameter1 + parameter2;  
3    return sum;  
4  }
```

Call to this function, further down the .js file :

```
1  var added_values = function_name(2,3);  
2  console.log(added_values); //Displays 5 in console.
```

Arrays

Arrays are variable types that can store several values in cells. Cells are accessed by their **index** (from 0 to n-1).

❶ Declaration and initialization :

```
var tab = [];
```

❷ Setting a value in the first cell :

```
tab[0] = value;
```

❸ Iterating :

```
1   for (var i = 0; i < tab.length; i++) {  
2       //Code  
3   }  
4   /* OR */  
5   for (var value in tab) {}
```


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Javascript for event programming

Javascript can :

- act on HTML elements (tag, id, class) and their properties
- modify the HTML tree

⇒ **Dynamic** web pages whose structure changes upon receiving events.

window and document

Two variables are defined by default in Javascript :

- **window** : browser window in which the HTML document is loaded
- **document** : encloses the HTML tree

Function example :

- `window.alert()` : opens a dialog (popup) in the webpage
- `document.write()` : writes text inside the HTML document

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Element selection

Before interacting with elements, it is necessary to **get them as Javascript variables**.

HTML element selection can be done by :

- **tag**
- **id**
- **class**
- any combination of **CSS selectors**.

Selection by identifier

The `getElementById("myid")` function from the document variable selects the **unique** element whose id is given as a parameter (here : "myid").

Example : updating an image with Javascript :

html file

```
...  
  
...
```

Javascript file

```
1  var imageJS = document.  
    getElementById("myImage");  
2  imageJS.src="newimage.jpg"
```

Selection of several elements

Different methods :

- From a **tag** : `getElementsByTagName()`
- From a **class** : `getElementsByClassName()`
- From a **CSS selector** : `querySelectorAll()`.

⇒ return an element **array**

Example :

Fichier html

```
...  
<h1 class="left">  
<div class="left">  
...
```

Fichier javascript

```
1  var elements = document.  
    getElementsByClassName("left")  
    ;  
2  console.log(elements[0]);
```

Element manipulation

- Javascript variables that are obtained from HTML have **attributes** : they are the **same as the HTML attributes**.
- These attributes can be read and modified.

Example :

```
1  var imageJS = document.getElementById("myImage");
2  imageJS.alt = "Description_text";
3  console.log(imageJS.alt);
4  imageJS.src = "newImage.png";
5  imageJS.className = imageJS.className + "suffixClass";
```


Changing the content of a tag

- The **innerHTML** attribute corresponds to the HTML content of an element :
 - ▶ access : contains tags
 - ▶ modification : tags are considered as HTML
- The **textContent** attribute corresponds to the text inside a tag :
 - ▶ access : does not contain tags
 - ▶ modification : tags are considered as text

Differences between innerHTML and textContent

```
<div id="example">
  <p> This is <span> my content </span>
</p>
</div>
```

innerHTML :

```
1 var element = document.
  getElementById("example");
2 var htmlText = element.
  innerHTML ;
3 console.log(htmlText); //text
  contains <p> and <span>
  tags
4 element.innerHTML = "<p>My
  brand_new_content</p>"; //
  tags are interpreted
```

textContent :

```
1 var element = document.
  getElementById("example");
2 var htmlText = element.
  textContent ;
3 console.log(htmlText); //text
  does not contain <p> and <
  span> tags
4 element.textContent = "<p>My
  brand_new_content</p>"; //
  tags are considered as text
```

Changing the HTML tree structure

Possible to create new HTML elements with `document.createElement()`

To modify tree structure :

- add : `appendChild()`, `insertBefore()`
- remove : `removeChild()`
- replace : `replaceChild()`

Event capture

Aim : link a function when an event is triggered on an element.

The link between an event and an element is done by an **event listener**.

Examples :

Element (HTML) →	Event (JS) →	Event listener (JS) →
Button	Click	Send form data
Image	Click	Image update

Events

There are various types of events :

- mouse and keyboard actions : `click`, `keyup`, `mouseover` ...
- state update : `change`, `focus`...
- begin or end after a large element is loaded on the page : `load`.

Event listener (1/2)

The `addEventListener()` performs the registration of a function to an event for an element.

Function usage :

```
object.addEventListener(eventType, triggeredFunction);
```

- `object` : targetted element (ex : document or object obtained from `getElementById()`).
- `eventType` : description of the event (click, keyup...).
- `triggeredFunction` : triggered function (e.g. : update of an image or the content of a tag)

Event listener (2/2)

Alternative to `addEventListener()` to define function registration :

```
object.onevent = triggeredFunction;
```

Examples :

```
1  document.onkeyup = triggeredFunction;  
2  //Equivalent to  
3  document.addEventListener("keyup", triggeredFunction);
```

Event listening : example (1/2)

HTML :

```
...  
<p id="myParagraph"> If you click on this button , you  
    will never see me again :(  
</p>  
  
<button id="myButton" type="submit"> Send </button>  
...
```

Javascript :

```
1  function changeMyParagraph() {  
2      var textJS = document.getElementById("myParagraph");  
3      textJS.textContent = "My_brand_new_text";  
4  }  
5  
6  var buttonJS = document.getElementById("myButton");  
7  buttonJS.addEventListener("click", changeMyParagraph);  
8  //Equivalent to : buttonJS.onclick = changeMyParagraph;
```


Event listening : example (2/2)

At first :

If you click on this button, you will never see me again :(

After a click on the button :

My brand new text

event object

- An **event** object is created at each interaction
- This object has various attributes :
 - ▶ **type** : event type (click, ...)
 - ▶ **key** : information about the pressed key
 - ▶ **target** : target HTML element
- The **event** object is the **first parameter** of the registered function.

Object event : example

```
1  function changeColor(event) {
2    var text = document.getElementById("myParagraph");
3    if (event.key === "r") {
4      texte.style.color = "red";
5    }
6    else if (event.key === "g") {
7      texte.style.color = "green";
8    }
9    else if (event.key === "b") {
10     texte.style.color = "blue";
11   }
12 }
13
14 function setupListeners() {
15   document.addEventListener("keyup", changeColor);
16 }
17
18 window.addEventListener("load", setupListeners);
```

Object event : example (2/2)

Result :

Try "R", "G", and "B" keys!

Object event : example (2/2)

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Try "R", "G", and "B" keys!

Registration of several functions

For one element, it is possible to have :

- several listeners for the **various** events
- several listeners for the **same** event

Good practices :

- 1 Define a **setupListeners** function in charge of setting up all the listeners
⇒ facilitates debugging and code maintenance
- 2 Call the setupListeners function when the HTML page is **fully loaded**
⇒ `window.addEventListener("load", setupListeners)`

Sources et références

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Références :

- Cours de Jean-Christophe Routier (Université Lille 1) :
<http://www.fil.univ-lille1.fr/~routier/enseignement/licence/tw1/spoc/#chap8>