## Rendering on the client

Many ways "work"

• This methods SCALES over time

Similar process to server rendering!

- Have state
- Render output based on state
- Update state in response to user actions

#### Many variations

• Same base pattern

## **Example Client App**

For now, let's look solely at browser JS

Imagine a list of "todo" items

Each item in the list

- Is done or not done
- Has text for the task

#### **Consider State without Presentation**

```
const todos = [
    { task: 'Nap', done: false },
    { task: 'Knock stuff down', done: true },
    { task: 'Eat', done: false },
];
```

- This is a useful coding technique in general
- Describe your data model ("shape")
  - Before writing code
- This is an array. Later we'll see an object is better

#### What actions can a user take?

- Toggle a task done/not done
- Delete a task
- Add a task

Also "view all tasks", but we'll do that continuously

- Not really an "action"
- Doesn't change state

#### **Render State to View (HTML)**

First pass (additions to come)

## Need to indicate if complete!

```
// CSS
.complete {
  line-decoration: line-through;
}
```

We write class BASED on state

Not CHANGING class on existing HTML

#### Now put it together

- static index.html
   Loads styles.css
   Loads todos.js with one of

   <script> with defer attribute in <head>
   <script> as last child of <body>

   Has the empty
- todos.js
  - Defines initial state
  - Has a render() function
    - Nothing magic about render() name
  - Calls render() when script loads

### Changing state through events

- Action to toggle "done" on an item
  - Change the state
  - Call render()

What in presentation will trigger this action?

• How about clicking on the todo?

#### Small steps: First add click event

Worry about updating state, etc later

- Just capture the click
- console.log() to see it worked

#### One immediate problem

- <1i>don't exist when the script first runs
- <1i> are replaced each time render() is called
- Many <1i> would mean many event listeners

#### **Solution: Event Propagation**

All click events on <1i>

• Will **propagate** to ancestor

We can add just one listener on the

- Inspect e.target to see which <1i> was clicked
- We don't to react to clicks on the 
   itself
  - Just ones on the <1i>s

#### **Click Event listener**

```
const listEl = document.querySelector('.todos');
listEl.addEventListener('click', (e) => {
  if( e.target.classList.contains('todo') ) {
    console.log(`click on a `);
  }
});
```

Now we detect clicks

- But WHICH was clicked?
- Which todo item does it match to?

We can use data- attributes and .dataset

## Rendering the data attribute

#### Reading the .dataset property

- The data- name we choose is up to us
- We use data-index since our state is an array
  - For objects we'd have the key
- We could call it data-bob
  - Terrible name, but allowed

```
const listEl = document.querySelector('.todos');
listEl.addEventListener('click', (e) => {
  if( e.target.classList.contains('todo') ) {
    const index = e.target.dataset.index;
    console.log(`click on index ${index}`);
}
});
```

## **Updating state and re-render**

#### Update state

• then render()

```
const listEl = document.querySelector('.todos');
listEl.addEventListener('click', (e) => {
  if( e.target.classList.contains('todo') ) {
    const index = e.target.dataset.index;
    todos[index].done = !todos[index].done;
    render();
}
});
```

No need to say what we are changing in output

• Follows automatically from state

## Deleting an item

- Same principle
  - Detect which item to delete
  - Update state
  - Call render()
- But how are we indicating a delete?

Let's add an "X" in the list

- Many options
- Let's add a button in the HTML
  - Can change appearance with CSS

## Rendering the delete button

- Extra <span> not needed, but cleaner
- No overlapping functionality

### Handling the click to delete

```
const listEl = document.querySelector('.todos');
listEl.addEventListener('click', (e) => {
   if( e.target.classList.contains('todo') ) {
        // ...
        return; // ADDED
   }
   if( e.target.classList.contains('delete') ) {
        const index = e.target.dataset.index;
        todos.splice(index, 1);
        render();
        return;
   }
});
```

Why the return?

Here using same click event listener

• Could be separate

## Change didn't add much complexity

Because our render() uses the state

- Not connected to the action we are taking
- Actions just change state
- Our concerns (rendering vs handling action)
  - Separation of Concerns
- Our render doesn't KNOW what happened
- Our actions don't know how it renders
  - Principle of Least Knowledge
    - (in general, not the OOP version)

## Getting the Data to add

- We need a form (or at least an input)
- Todo Task
- We will assume "done" as false
- Form/input does not need to be rerendered
  - Always there regardless of state

## HTML for input

```
<label>
  New Task
  <input class="new-task">
  </label>
  <button type="button">Add</button>
```

- No <form> is allowed
  - No name attribute
  - No submit event
  - No auto "submit on enter"
    - Can use click and keyup/input
- We are REQUIRING Javascript for this
  - Always consider if that is right choice

#### HTML with form

```
<form action="" class="add-task">
    <label>
    New Task
        <input class="new-task">
        </label>
        <button type="submit">Add</button>
        </form>
```

- Need to preventDefault on submit event
  - Auto "submit on enter" behavior
  - Don't use click/input/keyup events
- Still requires Javascript
  - Unless we have an action on backend
- <form> never submits, but semantically better

# Adding event for adding tasks

```
const addFormEl = document.querySelector('.add-task');
addFormEl.addEventListener('submit', (e) => {
    e.preventDefault();

    const task = document.querySelector('.new-task').value;
    todos.push({ task, done: false });
    render();
});
```

# Almost feels too easy now

- User takes action
- Update state
- render()

Only complication is not re-rendering elements that have listeners

### What if it was more complex?

#### What if...

- Bulk of HTML could be "replaced"?
- Including the list and the add form?
- Let's add a toggle
  - Option 1: See todo list and add task form
  - Option 2: See a picture of a cat

#### Changing page contents

#### Two major approaches:

- All content on page, some set to display: none;
  - Best to do this with classes
  - Do not use style attribute
    - Lots of tutorials and examples will!
    - It works, but makes code hard to change
- Render only the current HTML content
  - But keep the state to recreate as needed

## **Option: Hiding Content**

#### Pros

- Don't need to juggle event listeners
- Showing/Hiding is fairly easy
  - As long as you define the classes

#### Cons

- Render gets messier since it has ALL the HTML
- Styling can have impacts from all the HTML
- Debugging can be annoying
  - Lots of hidden elements but still in HTML

## **Option: Conditional Render**

#### Pros

- HTML and CSS stay "clean"
- Once changes made
  - Can easily scale for more

#### Cons

- Have to move event listeners to ancestor
- Have to expand and break up render

## **Choosing which Option**

#### Personally

- "Hiding" only for the most trivial of content
- "Conditional Rendering" most of the time
  - Always will be another added feature

## **Implementing Conditional Rendering**

- Expand State
  - Track what to show
- Shift event listeners
  - Common ancestor element
  - Check target of events
- Refactor render()
  - Check state for what to show
  - Specific render()-like for parts

#### **Expanded State**

- Doesn't NEED to be one object
- ...but can help organize
- ...can pass all state or sub-portion as/if needed
- page as a string?
  - Allows for expansion
  - Can define enum-like

#### **State with Enum-like**

- Makes typos easier to find
- IDE can help fill in

## **Shifting the Listeners**

Wrap page in an element that will not be replaced

```
<div id="app"></div>
```

```
const appEl = document.querySelector('#app');
appEl.addEventListener('submit', (e) => {
    if ( e.target.classList.contains('add-task') ) {
        // code for adding task
    }
    render();
});
appEl.addEventListener('click', (e) => {
    if ( e.target.classList.contains('todo') ) {
        // code for task done toggle
    }
    if ( e.target.classList.contains('delete') ) {
        // code for deleting task
    }
    render();
});
```

# Breaking up render()

```
function render() {
  if(state.page === PAGES.TODOS) {
    renderTodos();
  }
  if(state.page === PAGES.CAT) {
    renderCat();
  }
}
```

### **Another approach**

```
const renderFor = {
  [PAGES.TODOS]: renderTodos,
  [PAGES.CAT]: renderCat,
};

function render() {
  renderFor[state.page]();
}
```

- Pro: Less <a href="mailto:less">if()</a> "noise"
- Con: Can't easily pass values

Use whatever style works best

#### renderTodos()

#### renderCat()

# Changing the page

• Specific button classes OR just one with data

```
Add to renderTodos()
```

```
<button type="button" class="page" data-target="cat">
   Go to Todos
</button>
```

#### Add to renderCat()

```
<button type="button" class="page" data-target="todos">
   Go to Todos
</button>
```

#### Add to listeners

```
if (e.target.classList.contains('page')) {
   state.page = e.target.dataset.target;
}
```

## Further cleanup?

- split out some functions
  - those functions not shown

#### These are just one way of organizing details

- Key lesson
  - separate state changes and rendering
  - Render html based on state
  - Allows you to generate HTML for any state
    - Without knowing what triggered render
  - Minimizes complexity; Allows easy change
  - Listeners unimpacted by HTML changes

You may notice js file is getting large and cumbersome

• We will address that soon!

#### Let's test the ability to change

We will add option to change text of task

- Click will not toggle "done"
  - Instead add checkbox for that
- Click will "select" that todo (new state!)
  - Display that todo text as input
  - Include "Update" button
- On update
  - Change task text
  - De-select the todo

# **Summary: Render Loop**

- Have state
- Render based on state
- User actions update state
  - Rerender using new state
- That's all of it

### Rendering based on state

- Generate HTML based on state
  - Including what classes are on elements
- Replace original HTML with new HTML
- NOT: Changing a class on an element
- NOT: Changing style attributes on an element

#### **Pros/Cons of State-Render Loop**

- PRO: State always update to date
- PRO: Can just re-render
  - Reduces cognitive requirements
- CON: Lots of redundant replacement
  - Fixed when we get to React
- CON: Re-render can lose typing in form fields
  - Fixed when we get to React
  - Could fix with more work
    - Putting in-progress typing into state