Intro to Javascript

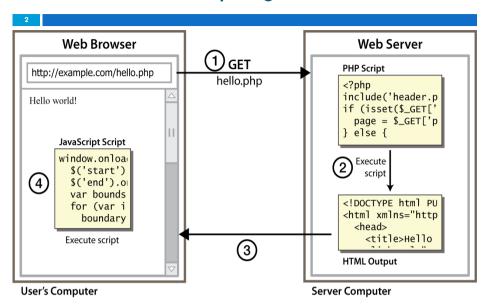
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Why use client-side programming?

PHP already allows us to create dynamic web pages. Why also use client-side scripting?

- □ client-side scripting (JavaScript) benefits:
 - **usability**: can modify a page without having to post back to the server (faster UI)
 - efficiency: can make small, quick changes to page without waiting for server
 - event-driven: can respond to user actions like clicks and key presses

Client Side Scripting



Why use client-side programming?

- □ server-side programming (PHP) benefits:
 - security: has access to server's private data; client can't see source code
 - compatibility: not subject to browser compatibility issues
 - power: can write files, open connections to servers, connect to databases, ...

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What is Javascript?

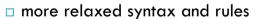
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- a lightweight programming language ("scripting language")
 - □ used to make web pages interactive
 - insert dynamic text into HTML (ex: user name)
 - react to events (ex: page load user click)
 - get information about a user's computer (ex: browser type)
 - perform calculations on user's computer (ex: form validation)

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Javascript vs Java

□ interpreted, not compiled



- fewer and "looser" data types
- variables don't need to be declared
- errors often silent (few exceptions)
- key construct is the function rather than the class
 - "first-class" functions are used in many situations
- contained within a web page and integrates with its HTML/CSS content

What is Javascript?

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- □ a web standard supported by all browsers
 - at times not identically especially in the case of old browsers)
- NOT related to Java other than by name and some syntactic similarities

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Javascript vs Java







JavaScript vs. PHP

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- □ similarities:
 - □ both are interpreted, not compiled
 - both are relaxed about syntax, rules, and types
 - both are case-sensitive
 - both have built-in regular expressions for powerful text processing

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Linking to a JavaScript file: script

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- script tag should be placed in HTML page's head
- □ script code is stored in a separate .js file
- JS code can be placed directly in the HTML file's body or head (like CSS)
 - but this is bad style (should separate content, presentation, and behavior

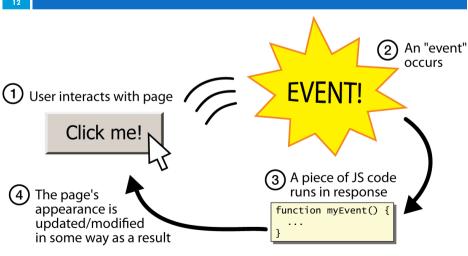
JavaScript vs. PHP

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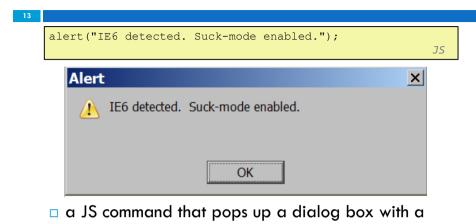
- □ differences:
 - JS is more object-oriented: noun.verb(), less procedural: verb(noun)
 - JS focuses on user interfaces and interacting with a document; PHP is geared toward HTML output and file/form processing
 - JS code runs on the client's browser; PHP code runs on the web server

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Event-driven programming



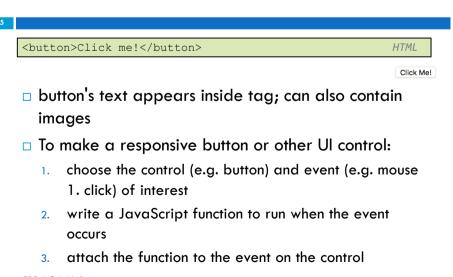
A JavaScript statement: alert



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message

Buttons



Event-driven programming

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- you are used to programs that start with a main method (or implicit main like in PHP)
- JavaScript programs instead wait for user actions called events and respond to them
- event-driven programming: writing programs driven by user events
- □ Let's write a page with a clickable button that pops up a "Hello, World" window...

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JavaScript functions

```
function name() {
  statement;
  statement;
  ...
  statement;
}

function myFunction() {
    alert("Hello!");
    alert("How are you?");
}
```

- the above could be the contents of example.js linked to our HTML page
- statements placed into functions can be evaluated in response to user events

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Event handlers

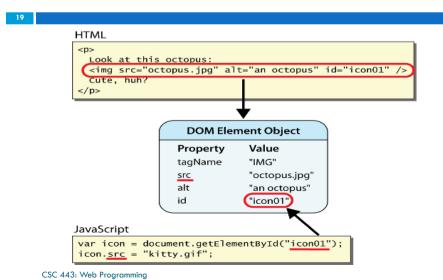
<element attributes onclick="function();">...
HTML

<button onclick="myFunction();">Click me!</button>
HTML

- JavaScript functions can be set as event handlers
 when you interact with the element, the function will execute
- onclick is just one of many event HTML attributes we'll use
- but popping up an alert window is disruptive and annoying
 - A better user experience would be to have the message appear on the page...

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DOM element objects



Document Object Model (DOM)

most JS code manipulates elements on an HTML page html □ we can examine elements' state • e.g. see whether a box is checked head body we can change state e.g. insert some new text into a div title div we can change styles e.g. make a paragraph red CSC 443: Web Programming

Accessing elements: document.getElementById

- document.getElementById returns the DOM object for an element with a given id
- can change the text inside most elements by setting the innerHTML property
- can change the text in form controls by setting the value property

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Preetify

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```
function changeText() {
    //grab or initialize text here

    // font styles added by JS:
    text.style.fontSize = "13pt";
    text.style.fontFamily = "Comic Sans MS";
    text.style.color = "red"; // or pink?
}
```

Changing element style: element.style

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Attribute	Property or style object
color	color
padding	padding
background-color	backgroundColor
border-top-width	borderTopWidth
Font size	fontSize
Font famiy	fontFamily

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More Javascript Syntax

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Variables

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```
var name = expression; JS
```

```
var clientName = "Connie Client";
var age = 32;
var weight = 127.4;
```

- variables are declared with the var keyword (case sensitive)
- types are not specified, but JS does have types ("loosely typed")
 - Number, Boolean, String, Array, Object, Function, Null, Symbol (ES6 only), Undefined
 - can find out a variable's type by calling typeof

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Comments (same as Java)

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```
// single-line comment
/* multi-line comment */

JS
```

- □ identical to Java's comment syntax
- □ recall: 4 comment syntaxes
 - HTML: <!-- comment -->
 - CSS/JS/PHP: /* comment */
 - □ Java/JS/PHP: // comment
 - □ PHP: # comment

Number type

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```
var enrollment = 99;
var medianGrade = 2.8;
var credits = 5 + 4 + (2 * 3);
```

- integers and real numbers are the same type (no int vs. double)
- □ same operators: + * / % ++ -- = += -= *= /= %=
- similar precedence to Java
- □ many operators auto-convert types: "2" * 3 is 6

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Math object

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```
var rand1to10 = Math.floor(Math.random() * 10 + 1);
var three = Math.floor(Math.PI);
```

- methods: abs, ceil, cos, floor, log,
 max, min, pow, random, round, sin,
 sqrt, tan
- □ properties: E, PI

Special values: null and undefined

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```
var ned = null;
var benson = 9;
var caroline;
// at this point in the code,
// ned is null
// benson's 9
// caroline is undefined
JS
```

- undefined: has been declared but not assigned a value
- null: exists, but was specifically assigned an empty or null value
- □ Why does JavaScript have both of these?

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if/else statement (same as Java)

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```
if (condition) {
        statements;
} else if (condition) {
        statements;
} else {
        statements;
}
```

- □ identical structure to Java's if/else statement
- JavaScript allows almost anything as a condition

Logical operators

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```
_ > < >= <= && | | ! == != === !==
```

most logical operators automatically convert types:

```
□ 5 < "7" is true
```

=== and !== are strict equality tests; checks both type and value

```
"5.0" === 5 is false
```

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Boolean type

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```
var iLike190M = true;
var ieIsGood = "IE6" > 0; // false
if ("web devevelopment is great") { /* true */ }
if (0) { /* false */ }
```

- any value can be used as a Boolean
 - "falsey" values: 0, 0.0, NaN, "", null, and undefined
 - "truthy" values: anything else
- converting a value into a Boolean explicitly:

```
■ var boolValue = Boolean(otherValue);
```

```
■ var boolValue = !!(otherValue);
```

for loop (same as Java)

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```
var sum = 0;
for (var i = 0; i < 100; i++) {
    sum = sum + i;
}</pre>
```

```
var s1 = "hello";
var s2 = "";
for (var i = 0; i < s.length; i++) {
      s2 += s1.charAt(i) + s1.charAt(i);
}
// s2 stores "hheelllloo"</pre>
JS
```

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Popup boxes

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```
alert("message"); // message
confirm("message"); // returns true or false
prompt("message"); // returns user input string

JS
```





while loops (same as Java)

```
while (condition) {
    statements;
}
```

```
do {
    statements;
} while (condition);
```

 break and continue keywords also behave as in Java

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Arrays

```
var name = []; // empty array
var name = [value, value, ..., value]; // pre-filled
name[index] = value; // store element

JS
```

```
var ducks = ["Huey", "Dewey", "Louie"];
var stooges = []; // stooges.length is 0
stooges[0] = "Larry"; // stooges.length is 1
stooges[1] = "Moe"; // stooges.length is 2
stooges[4] = "Curly"; // stooges.length is 5
stooges[4] = "Shemp"; // stooges.length is 5
```

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Array methods

var a = ["Stef", "Jason"]; // Stef, Jason
a.push("Brian"); // Stef, Jason, Brian
a.unshift("Kelly"); // Kelly, Stef, Jason, Brian
a.pop(); // Kelly, Stef, Jason
a.shift(); // Stef, Jason
a.sort(); // Jason, Stef
JS

- array serves as many data structures: list, queue, stack, ...
- methods: concat, join, pop, push, reverse, shift, slice, sort, splice, toString, unshift
 - push and pop add / remove from back
 - unshift and shift add / remove from front
 - shift and pop return the element that is removed
 - Slice selects elements from an array citrus = fruits.slice(1, 3);

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More about String

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- escape sequences behave as in Java: \' \" \& \n \t \\
- converting between numbers and Strings:

```
var count = 10;
var s1 = "" + count; // "10"
var s2 = count + " bananas, ah ah ah!"; // "10 bananas, ah
ah ah!"
var n1 = parseInt("42 is the answer"); // 42
var n2 = parseFloat("booyah"); // NaN
```

String type

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```
var s = "Connie Client";
var fName = s.substring(0, s.indexOf(" ")); // "Connie"
var len = s.length; // 13
var s2 = 'Melvin Merchant';
JS
```

- methods: charAt, charCodeAt, fromCharCode, indexOf, lastIndexOf, replace, split, substring, toLowerCase, toUpperCase
 - charAt returns a one-letter String (there is no char type)
- length property (not a method as in Java)
- Strings can be specified with "" or "
- \square concatenation with +:
 - □ 1 + 1 is 2, but "1" + 1 is "11"

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Splitting strings: split and join

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```
var s = "the quick brown fox";
var a = s.split(" "); // ["the", "quick", "brown", "fox"]
a.reverse(); // ["fox", "brown", "quick", "the"]
s = a.join("!"); // "fox!brown!quick!the"

JS
```

- split breaks apart a string into an array using a delimiter
 - can also be used with regular expressions (seen later)
- join merges an array into a single string, placing a delimiter between them