## **Chapter 11 Interactive Content and Event Listeners**

## 1 Topics

This chapter will explore various browser events that can be used to create interactive web pages, including:

- window events
- mouse events
- DOM event flow
- onchange and onblur events
- Key events
- Drag and drop events
- Form submission

#### 2 Introduction

Recall that an event is a signal that something has happened in the browser.

Majorly, there are two types of events:

- window and documents events: happens when users interact with the browser window or document
- **API** events: happens when developers interact with the browser API and the asynchronous operations are completed.

#### Also recall the ways to register event listeners:

- inline event handlers
  - set the onXXX attribute of a tag
- Setting the onXXX property of an element
- call element's addEventListener() method

## **3 Window Events**

Window object generates lots types of events to notify the developer about state changes,

 The purpose is to allow developers to interact with the browser window and document.

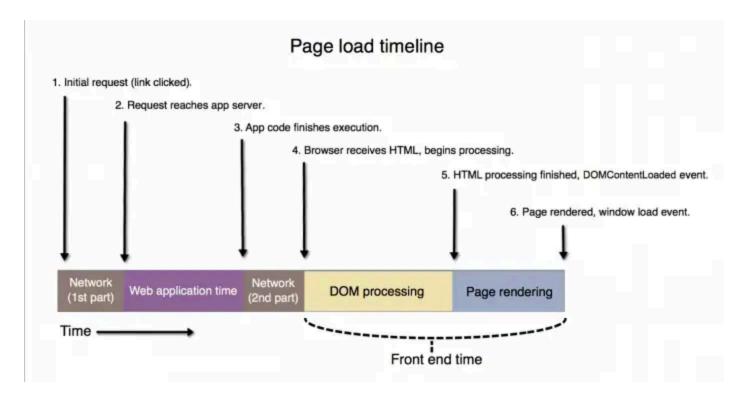
These event types are such as:

- window load and beforeunload events: when browser loads a page or when a user is going to close or leave the current page
- clipboard events: when users initiate copy, cut, and paste actions
- network events: when the browser is offline or online
- focus events: when an element get focus or lose focus )
- and many more, see Window Web APIs | MDN

## The load event of the window object

The window fires the load event when the browser finishes loading the entire page, including all images, scripts, and other resources.

 the browser guarantee that all the elements in the page are loaded and ready to be manipulated.





If you try to manipulate the elements before the load event is fired, you may get unexpected results,

• such as null or undefined values because the DOM is not fully loaded.

## Add a listener function to the load event of the window object

Since there is no HTML tag for the window object, you can only register the listener function by

- setting the onload property of the window object or
- call the addEventListener() method of the window object.

Code snippets to register the listener function to the load event of the window object:

```
addEventListener("load", (event) => {});
onload = (event) => {};
```

## Example 10-1: Register a listener function to window's load event

```
<body>
   <script>
       function initPage(event){
           let message = `Event type: ${event.type}
               <br/> target: ${event.target},
               <br/>
<br/>
Time to trigger the event
               since loading the page: ${event.timeStamp} milliseconds`;
           document.getElementById("display").innerHTML = message;
           console.log(event);
       window.onload = initPage;
   </script>
</body>
```

#### Outputs:

Event type: load

target: [object HTMLDocument],

Time to trigger the event since loading the page: 81.10000002384186

See the complete example in ex\_11\_1.html

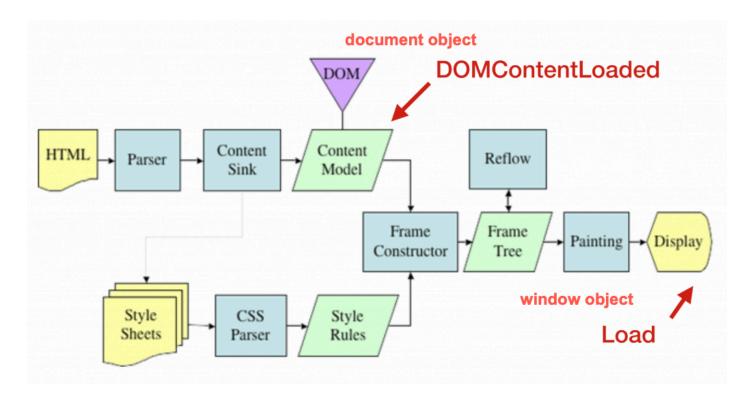
#### Notes:

- event.timeStamp: return the number of milliseconds elapsed from the beginning of the time origin to the event being created.
  - In the case of the load event, the time origin is the time when the browser starts to load the page.

## The DOMContentLoaded event of the document object

THe DOMContentLoaded event of the document object is fired before the load event of the window object.

 fired when the initial HTML document has been completely loaded and parsed, without waiting for stylesheets, images, and subframes to finish loading.





#### Event sequence in summary:

- document\_DOMContentLoaded > window load event (or its alias: document\_body load event )
- The document.body load event is an alias of the window load event.

ref: HTMLElement: load event - Web APIs | MDN



# Add a listener function to the **DOMContentLoaded** event of the **document** object

document.addEventListener("DOMContentLoaded", yourCallbackFunction);

## Example 10-2: Register a listener function to the **DOMContentLoaded** event of the **document** object

```
<script>
    const eventLog = document.getElementById('eventLog');
    // monitor the window's load event
    window.addEventListener('load', (e) => {
        eventLog.value += " window.onload \n";
        console.log(e);
    });
    // Monitor the DOM content state of the document
    document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', (e) => {
        eventLog.value += " DOM Content Loaded \n";
    })
</script>
```

#### Result:

```
>> document' state: interactive
DOM Content Loaded
>> document' state: complete
window.onload
body onload property

Event log:
```

See the complete example in ex\_11\_2.html

#### **Review Questions**

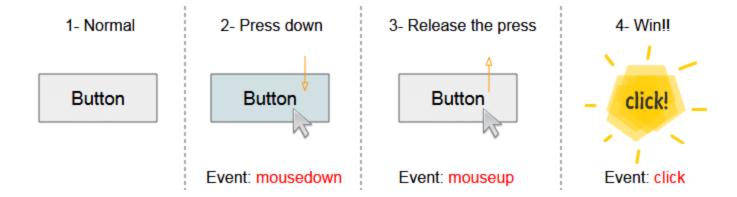
- 1. When the DOM content is loaded without waiting for stylesheets, images, and subframes to finish loading, which event is fired?
  - A. load event of the window object
  - B. DOMContentLoaded event of the document object
  - D. load event of the document.body object

## 4 Mouse Events model

#### Mouse click events

Events in order when clicking a mouse button:

- 1. mousedown: click on top of an element without releasing the mouse button
- 2. mouseup: release the mouse button
- 3. click: user clicks on an element



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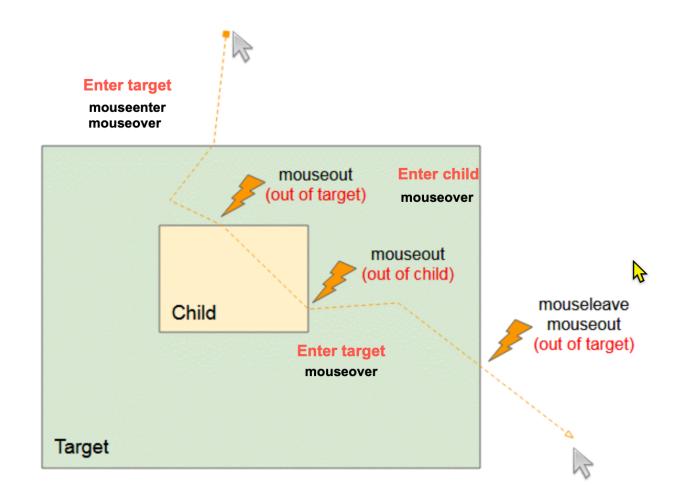
For the dblclick event, the browser needs two cycles of the mousedown, mouseup, and click events to trigger the dblclick event.

Source: Javascript MouseEvent Tutorial with Examples | o7planning.org

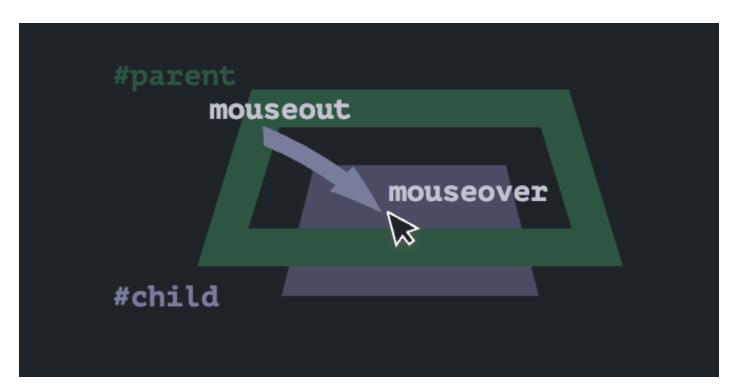
#### Mouse movement events

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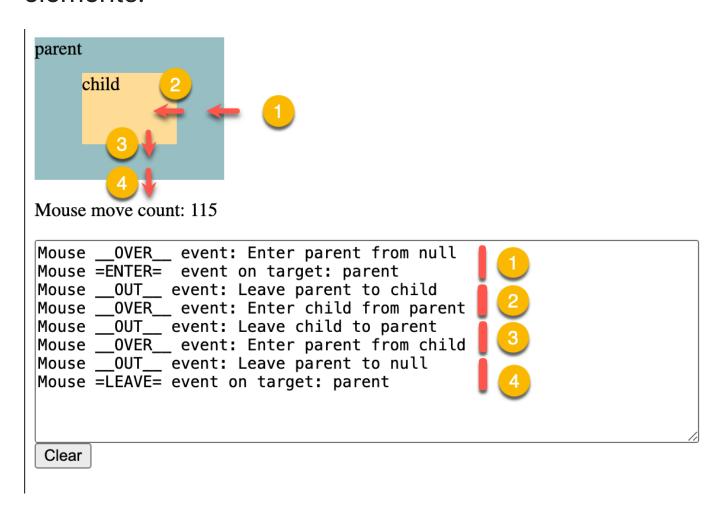
- mouseenter: Enter the target element (not considering its children)
- mouseleave: Leave the target element (not considering its children)
- mouseover event: Moving mouse over the target element or its children
  - o tell you that you have moved over the current element (a new element is entered).



- mouseout events: Moving mouse out of the target element or its children
  - Tell you that you have move out the current element.



The sequence of the mouse events when the mouse moves over the target and its child elements:



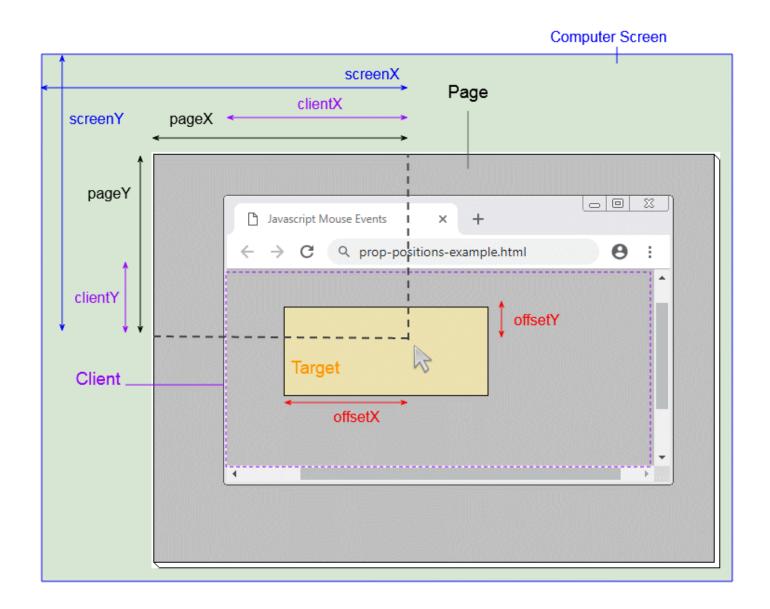
See the demo in Moving the mouse: mouseover/out, mouseenter/leave

#### Example 10-3: Register a listener function to the mousemove event

```
parent.onmousemove = function(event){
    console.log("Mouse move event");
    moveCount++;
    moveCountDisplay.innerHTML = moveCount;
}
```

See the complete example in ex\_11\_03.html

#### **Mouse Position: various coordinates**



The mouse event provides four type coordinates to indicate the mouse position:

- offsetX and offsetY: the mouse position relative to the top-left corner of the target
   element
- clientX and clientY: the mouse position relative to the top-left corner of the viewport
   of the window
- pageX and pageY: the mouse position relative to the top-left corner of the entire page that is scrollable
- screenX and screenY: the mouse position relative to the top-left corner of the screen



## **Lab 01**

See Lab 11-1 for a step-by-step guide to complete the lab.

#### **5 DOM Event Flow**

This section will cover the important concept of the DOM event flow:

- event propagation,
- event bubbling,
- event capturing, and
- event delegation.

## Why these concepts are important?

- help you understand how the browser handles the event when it is triggered
- help you decide where to register the event listener to handle the event
  - the target element, its ancestors, or its descendants
- Allow you to handle the event before it reaches the target element or after it leaves the target element
  - e.g. to prevent the default behavior of the event (the link is not followed when clicked) or
  - to stop the event propagation (the event is not propagated to the parent element)

## **Event Propagation in the DOM**

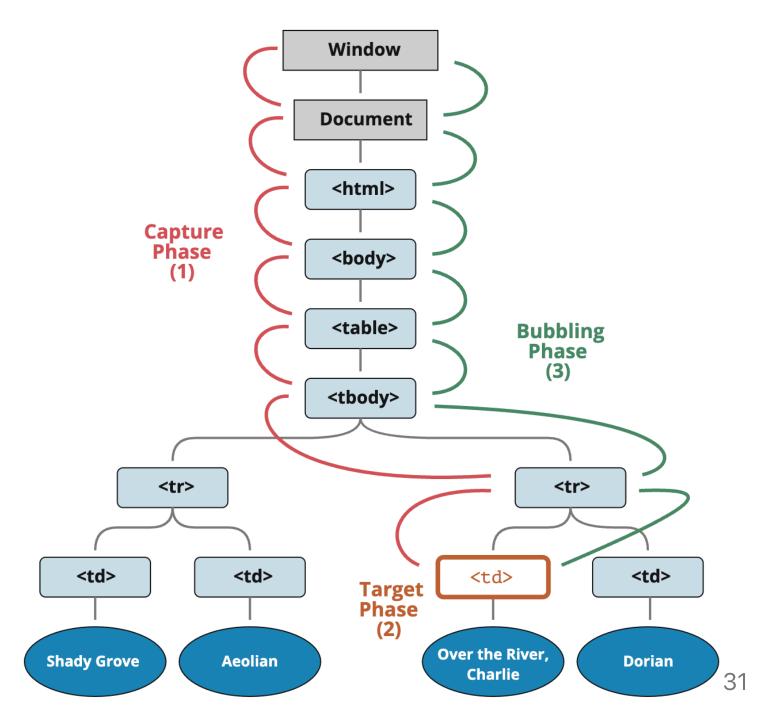
The event propagates from top to bottom (the target element) and then bubbles up from the bottom to the top.

Since the DOM is a tree structure,

No event propagation is involved for the window object or other API objects.

## **Event capturing, target, and bubbling phases**

The DOM event propagation comprises three phases in sequence: capturing, target, and bubbling.



#### Phase 1: Capturing

- The browser propagates the event from the root element (window object) to the target element.
- Along the path, the browser invokes the event handlers of the ancestors of the target element.

#### Phase 2: Target

The second phase is that the browser invokes the event handler of the target element.

#### Phase 3: Bubbling

• The browser propagates the event from the target element to the root element (window object).



## Example 10-4: Demonstrate the event propagation: Capturing, Target, and Bubbling

We have the following HTML structure:

When you click the element within the form, the event propagates as follows:

- 1. Capturing Phase: HTML > BODY> DIV > FORM > DIV > P (Top to Targe)
- 2. Target Phase: P (Target)
- 3. Bubbling Phase: P > DIV > FORM> DIV > BODY > HTML (Target to Top)

See the complete example in ex\_11\_4.html

```
FORM
 DIV
V_Capturing: Target: P, currentTarget: HTML
V_Capturing: Target: P, currentTarget: BODY
V Capturing: Target: P, currentTarget: DIV
V_Capturing: Target: P, currentTarget: FORM
V_Capturing: Target: P, currentTarget: DIV
V Capturing: Target: P, currentTarget: P
^Bubbling: Target: P, currentTarget: P
^Bubbling: Target: P, currentTarget: DIV
^Bubbling: Target: P, currentTarget: FORM
^Bubbling: Target: P, currentTarget: DIV
^Bubbling: Target: P, currentTarget: BODY
^Bubbling: Target: P, currentTarget: HTML
Clear
```

## The application of the event propagation: Event Delegation pattern

- Implement the Event Delegation pattern:
  - Register a single event listener to the parent element to handle the events for all its children
- Its benefit: Save the lines of code and improve the performance of the web page.
  - put a single handler on their common ancestor, instead of assigning a handler to each of them.

## The scenario of using the Event Delegation pattern

Consider the following example from Event delegation, javascript.inf.:

- You have a menu with three buttons: Save, Load, and Search.
- How many event listeners do you need to handle the click event for the three buttons?

```
<div id="menu">
    <button data-action="save">Save</button>
    <button data-action="load">Load</button>
    <button data-action="search">Search</button>
</div>
```

```
ex_11_5.html
```

- Use the Event Delegation pattern: Just one event listener
- Register a single event listener to the parent element menu to handle the click event for its three children.
- see the complete example in ex\_11\_5.html.
- Additionally, you can read the article Event delegation, javascript.inf. for more details.

### Lab 02

See Lab 11-2: Prevent the default behavior. for a step-by-step guide to complete the lab.

6 onblur/onfocus and onchange events for the input element

## The onblur and onfocus events

The onblur event is fired when the input element loses focus.

In contrast, the onfocus event is fired when the input element gets focus.

# Example 10-6: Change the background color of the input element when it gets focus or loses focus



For any input elements inside the form:

- When the input element gets focus, the background color changes to yellow.
- When the input element loses focus, the background color changes to white.

Register the focus and blur events to the form element to handle the events for all its children.

invoke the handler function in the capturing phase.

#### The JavaScript code for this example:

```
const form = document.getElementById('myForm');
  form.addEventListener('focus', function(event) {
        // set the tag's style attribute
        event.target.style.backgroundColor = 'yellow';
    }, true);
  form.addEventListener('blur', function(event) {
        event.target.style.backgroundColor = '';
    }, true);
```

• The third argument of the addEventListener() is set to true to register the event listener in the capturing phase.

See full example in ex\_11\_6.html

# The onchange event of the input element

The onchange event is fired when the value of an input element changes and the element loses focus.

# Example 10-7: Generate the full name when the fields change in the form

- Whenever the value of the first name or last name field changes, the full name is displayed in the output field.
- Listen to the change event of the form element.

First Name Michael
Last Name Wang

Michael Wang

The JavaScript code for this example:

```
const form = document.getElementById('myForm');
form.onchange = function (event) {
    const output = document.getElementById('output');
    const firstName = document.getElementById('firstName').value;
    const lastName = document.getElementById('lastName').value;
    output.innerHTML = `${firstName} ${lastName}`;
};
```

See full example in ex\_11\_7.html

# 7 Key Events

Let you capture the key pressed by the user and perform the necessary operations.

# The keydown, keyup, and keypress events

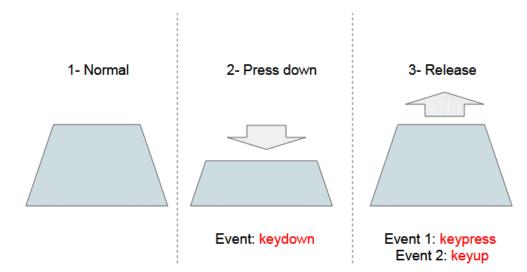
The keydown event is fired when a key is pressed down.

The keyup event is fired when a key is released.

Both of the two events emit the KeyboardEvent object.

The keypress event is fired when a key is pressed down and released.

https://o7planning.org/12319/javascript-keyboardevent



## Warning:

• The keypress event has been deprecated in the latest version of the JavaScript.

## Get the pressed key or code

The KeyboardEvent object provides:

- key property: returns the **character value** of the key pressed
  - e.g. Press b key, returns "b"; Press shift+b key, returns "B"
  - Press left control key, returns "Control"
- code property: returns the physical key pressed
  - e.g. Press b key, returns "KeyB"; Press shift+b key, returns "KeyB"
  - Press left control key, returns "ControlLeft"

## keyboardEvent event and keyboardEvent.key property

When user presses a key, the browser generates a KeyboardEvent object.

The key property of the KeyboardEvent object returns the **character value** of the key pressed.

If the pressed key has a **printed representation**, the returned value is a non-empty Unicode character string containing the printable representation of the key.

- Press b key, returns "b"
- Press shift+b key, returns "B"

If the pressed key is a **control or special character**, the returned value is one of the predefined key values.

- Press Enter key, returns "Enter"
- Press Backspace key, returns "Backspace"
- See the complete list of pre-defined key values in Key values for keyboard events Web APIs | MDN

If the key cannot be identified, the returned value is Unidentified.

# keyboardEvent.code property

The KeyboardEvent.code property returns the pressed physical key.

It is not affected by the keyboard layout or the state of the modifier keys.

#### For example:

- Press b key, returns "KeyB"
- Press left-shift and b key, returns "ShiftLeft" and "KeyB" (two events are generated)

# Example 10-8: Display the key and code values when a key is pressed

Enter any keys in the input field, the key and code values of the pressed key are displayed on the page.



Code value:

Digit2 Digit3 Digit4 Space KeyA ShiftLeft ControlLeft

key value:

2 3 4 a Shift Control

#### The JavaScript code for this example:

```
const input = document.querySelector("input");
    const keyLog = document.getElementById("keyCodeLog");
    const charLog = document.getElementById("charCodeLog");
    input.addEventListener("keydown", logKey);
    function logKey(e) {
        keyLog.textContent += ` ${e.code}`;
        charLog.textContent += ` ${e.key}`;
    function clearLogs() {
        keyLog.textContent = "";
        charLog.textContent = "";
```

See the complete example in ex\_11\_8.html

# Example 10-9: Allow only numbers to be entered in the input field, no spaces, alphabets, or special characters

- The example allows only numbers to be entered in the input field.
- Exceptional keys include Backspace, Delete, ArrowLeft, and ArrowRight for editing.



Code value:

KeyA KeyB KeyC Space Digit1 Digit2 Digit3 ControlLeft ShiftLeft

key value:

a b c 1 2 3 Control Shift

#### The JavaScript code to validate the input field:

```
// Add the keydown event listener to the input field
input.addEventListener("keydown", isNumberKey);

// function to check if the key pressed is a number
function isNumberKey(event) {
    const exceptionKeys = ['Backspace', 'Delete', 'ArrowLeft', 'ArrowRight'];

    if ((isNaN(event.key) && !exceptionKeys.includes(event.code)) || event.code =='Space') {
        // prevent the default behavior of the keydown event, and stop the event propagation
        event.preventDefault();
        // stop the event propagation
        event.stopPropagation();
    }
}
```

First, the keydown event is registered to the input field. When a key is pressed, the isNumberKey function is invoked.

The isNumberKey function checks if the pressed key is a number.

If the key is not a number, the preventDefault() method is called to prevent the default action of the key.

That is, the key is not entered in the input field.

See the complete example in ex\_11\_9.html

# Notes to the deprecated keycode and charcode properties

The keycode and charcode properties have been deprecated in the latest version of the JavaScript.

- Do not use them.
- Use the key property instead.



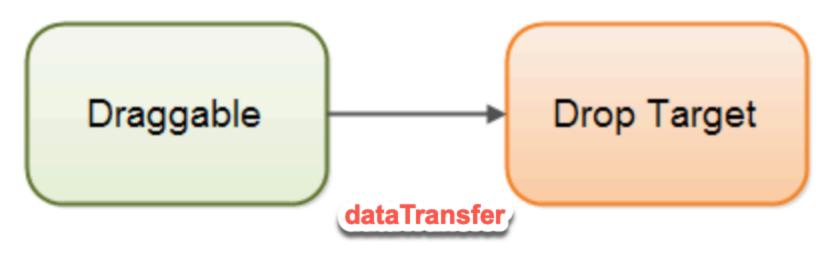
### **Review Questions**

- What the events should you listen to if you want to show a list of suggestions when the user types in an input field?
  - A. keydown, keyup, or keypress
  - B. blur and focus
  - C. change
- You want to know if the user presses the left control key. Which property of the keyboardEvent object should you use?
  - A. keyboardEvent.key
  - B. keyboardEvent.code



# 8 Drag and Drop Events (Drag and Drop API)

# The model of the drag and drop operation:



# <u>Events</u>

- dragstart
- 🚡 dragend

# Attributes:

draggable="true"

# **Events**

- 2 dragenter
- dragover \*
  - dragleave (Opt)
- 4 drop\*



# Steps to perform drag and drop operations

- 1. Set the element as draggable
  - o set the draggable attribute of the HTML element to true.
- 2. Listen to the drag events on the dragged element
  - when dragging starts, the browser fires the dragstart event on the dragged element.
    - Prepare the data to be transferred in the dataTransfer object of the dragstart event.
    - Use dataTransfer.setData() to set the data.
  - when dragging ends, the browser fires the dragend event on the dragged element.
    - Alter the dragged element if necessary after the drag operation.

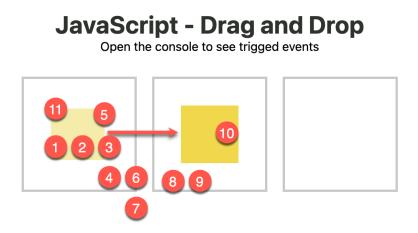
#### 3. Listen to the drag events on the drop target

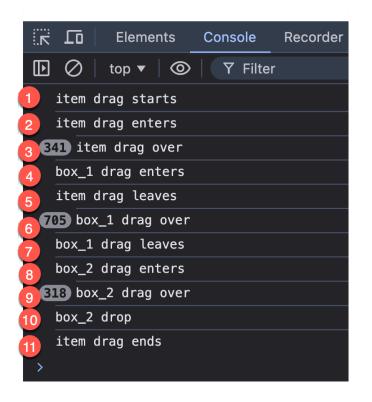
- When the dragged element is dragged over an valid droppable element, the
   browser fires dragenter, dragover, and dragleave events on the element.
- When the dragged element is dropped on the droppable element, the browser fires the drop event on the element.
  - Retrieve the data from the dataTransfer object of the drop event and perform the necessary operations.
  - Use dataTransfer.getData() to retrieve the data.

### 4. Qualified drop target

 An element must listen to the dragover and drop events to become a valid drop target.

## Demo: The series of drag and drop events





see demo\_drag\_and\_drop.html

# The dataTransfer object

The DataTransfer object is used to hold any data transferred between contexts, such as a drag and drop operation, or clipboard read/write.

It may hold one or more data items with different data types.

• e.g. drag and drop one or multiple files.

Use setData() method to set the data to be transferred. The syntax:

```
dataTransfer.setData(format, data);
```

- format: a **string** representing the format of the data, such as "text/plain", "text/html", or "text/uri-list".
- data: a string representing the data to be transferred.

Use getData() method to retrieve the data transferred. The syntax:

```
dataTransfer.getData(format);
```

• format: a string representing the format of the data, such as "text/plain", "text/html" or "text/uri-list".

# Example 10-10: Drag and drop an image

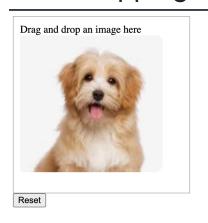
User can drag the doggy image to the drop area in the upper part of the page.

When the image is dropped on the drop area, the image is displayed in the drop area.

#### Before dropping:



## After dropping:



#### We have the following HTML structure:

```
<body>
<div class="drop-zone" id="drop-zone">
        Drag and drop an image here
</div>
<button onclick="reset()">Reset</button>

<div id="sourceImg">
        <img id="dogImg" src="img/dog.png" alt="" draggable="true">
    </div>
```

• We have set the draggable attribute of the image element to true to make it draggable.

## Steps overview

The steps to implement the drag and drop operation:

- S1. Make the image draggable by setting the draggable attribute to true.
- S2. Make the drop area <div id="drop-zone"> be a valid drop target by listening to the dragover and drop events.
  - When the drop event occurs, retrieve the id of the dragged image and append the image to the drop area as a child element.
  - When dragover event occurs, prevent the default behavior of the event to allow the drop event to fire.
    - The default behavior of the dragover event is to disallow dropping.

- S3. Set the tag id of the dragged image <img id="dogImg"> to the dataTransfer object in the dragstart event.
  - In the handler function for the dragstart event, set id of the dragged image to the dataTransfer object.

# Step 1: Make the image draggable

Set the draggable attribute of the image element to true to make it draggable:

## Step 2: Make the drop area <div id="drop-zone"> be a valid drop target

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Step 2: Register the handler functions to the dragover and drop events of the target element respectively:

```
const dropZone = document.getElementById("drop-zone");
    dropZone.ondragover = function (event) {
        // Browser emits the dragover event every few hundred milliseconds
        // We prevent the default behavior
        // of the dragover event to allow the drop event to fire
        console.log('dragover');
        event.preventDefault();
    };
    // Register the handler function to the drop event
    dropZone.ondrop = function (event) {
        console.log('drop');
        // get the data being dragged from the dataTransfer object
        const data = event.dataTransfer.getData("text/plain");
        // get the element being dragged
        const draggedElement = document.getElementById(data);
        // append the dragged element as a child to the drop zone
        dropZone.appendChild(draggedElement);
                                                   Hung-Yi Chen, Dept. of Info. Mgt., CYUT | 2024
    };
```

## Step 3: Set the tag id of the dragged image to the dataTransfer object

Step 3: Register the handler function to the dragstart event of the image element:

```
// Register the handlers to dragstart event to prepare the data to transfer
    const dogImg = document.getElementById("dogImg");
    dogImg.ondragstart = function (event) {
        // set the data to transfer
        console.log('dragstart: ', event.target.id);
        event.dataTransfer.setData("text/plain", event.target.id);
};
```

See the complete example in ex\_11\_10.html

## 9 Form Submission

Form submission is a fundamental aspect of web development, allowing users to send data to a server for processing.

### Setup a form

To create a form, use the <form> element and include various input elements, such as text fields, radio buttons, checkboxes, and submit buttons.

#### Set:

- the action attribute: the URL of the server-side script that will process the form data.
  - or the redirect URL after the form is submitted.
- the method attribute: the HTTP method used to send the form data, such as GET or POST.

```
<body>
     <form id="exampleForm"</pre>
        action="https://formtester.goodbytes.be/post.php"
        method="post">
        <label for="name">Name:</label>
        <input type="text" id="name" name="name" required>
        <br/>br>
        <label for="email">Email:</label>
        <input type="email" id="email" name="email" required>
        <br/>br>
        <input type="submit" value="Submit">
    </form>
</body>
```

#### Listen to the form submission event

- The form submission event is fired when the user submits the form by clicking the submit button:
  - the input element with the type="submit" attribute.

#### You can perform:

- validation,
- data processing, or
- other operations
   before the form is submitted in the form submission event handler.

#### Get the form data from the form element

Use the new FormData(formElementObject) constructor to create a new FormData object from the existing form element.

The FormData object provides methods to retrieve the form data, such as get(), getAll(), and entries().

- store a set of key-value pair of the form data.
- the name attribute of the input element is the key, and the value attribute is the value.

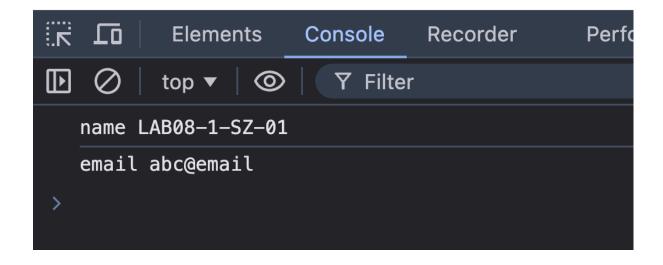
## Example 11-11: Construct a FormData object from the form data

When the user submits the form, the form data is displayed in the console.

```
const form = document.getElementById("exampleForm");
  form.addEventListener("submit", function (event) {
      event.preventDefault();
      const formData = new FormData(form);
      for (const [key, value] of formData.entries()) {
            console.log(key + ': ' + value);
      }
    });
```

Name: LAB08-1-SZ-01
Email: abc@email
Submit

Go to https://formtester.goodbytes.be/post.php to see the form submission.



## Example 11-12: Validate the form data before submission

When the user submits the form, the form data is validated. If the form data is invalid, the form is not submitted.

S1. Create a validation function to check if the name and email fields are empty.

```
function validate(formData) {
    const name = formData.get('name');
    const email = formData.get('email');
    if (name === "" || email === "") {
        alert("Name and email are required.");
        return false; // return false to prevent the form submission
    } else
    return true; // return true to allow the form submission
}
```

S2. Validate the form data in the form submission event handler.

```
form.addEventListener('submit', function(event) {
    const form = document.getElementById('exampleForm');
    const formData = new FormData(form);
    if (!validate(formData)) {
        event.preventDefault(); // prevent the form submission
    } else {
        form.submit(); // allow the form submission
        alert("Form submitted successfully.");
    }
});
```

### Notes to the form.submit() method:

- The JS will create a new FormData object from the form data and send the FormData object to the server when the form is submitted.
- If you want to modify the FormData object before submission, you can listen to the formdata event of the form element.
- See HTMLFormElement: formdata event Web APIs | MDN

See the complete example in ex\_11\_11.html

#### **Review Questions**

- What is the responsibility of the FormData object in JavaScript? (Select all that apply)
  - A. To store the form data in a key-value pair
  - B. To create a new form element
  - C. To submit the form data to the server
- What can you do in the form submission event handler? (Select all that apply)
  - A. Validate the form data
  - B. Process the form data
  - C. Prevent the form submission
  - D. Call fetch() to send the form data to the server



# 10 Summary

This chapter has covered the following topics:

- window events
- mouse events
- DOM event flow
- onchange and onblur events for the input element
- key events
- drag and drop events
- form submission
- Event Delegation pattern

The knowledge of these topics is essential for creating interactive web pages and web applications.