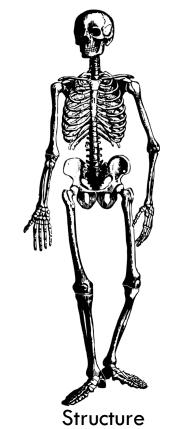


JAVASCRIPT

Jamal Nasir



WHAT IS A WEB PAGE REALLY?









Content

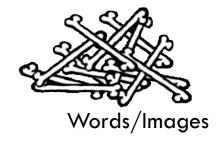


WHAT IS A WEB PAGE REALLY?



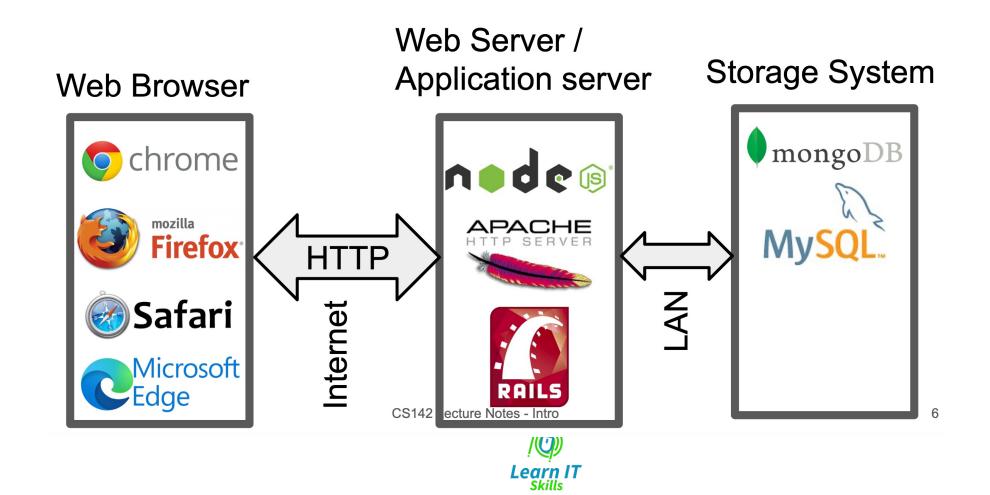








FULL STACK WEB APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE



JAVASCRIPT IS TO JAVA AS ...

 $Grapefruit \rightarrow Grape$

 $\mathsf{Carpet} \to \mathsf{Car}$

 $\mathsf{Catfish} \to \mathsf{Cat}$



WHAT IS JAVASCRIPT?

- A lightweight "scripting" programming language
- Created in 1995 by Brendan Eich (original prototype created in 10 days and called LiveScript)
- Some 'Good parts', some not so good





WHY JAVASCRIPT AND NOT ANOTHER LANGUAGE?

Popularity.

The early web browsers supported it as a lightweight and flexible way to add interactivity to pages.

Microsoft created their own version, called JScript, but the open source browsers (notably Firefox and Chrome) put all their effort into JavaScript.

Now: If you want to run anything other than JavaScript in the browser... it's Very Hard TM (often impossible)



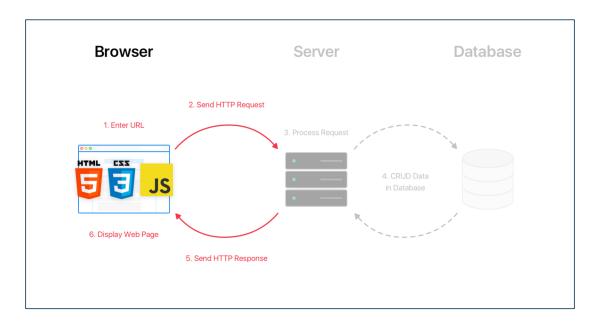
WEB PAGE BEHAVIOR WITH JAVASCRIPT

Now that we know how to add content and styles to a web page, let's explore how to add responsive behavior

We will use these building blocks to dynamically update what you see on a web page in response to clicks, text input, timers, etc.



TERMINOLOGY: CLIENT-SIDE SCRIPTING



Client-side script: Code that runs on the user's computer and does not need a server to run (just a browser!).

Client-side JavaScript is usually run after HTML and CSS have been loaded on the browser (e.g. from a server response).

Often, this JavaScript manipulates the page of esponds to user actions through "event handlers".

Learn IT

JS: ADDING BEHAVIOR TO HTML/CSS

We can use write JavaScript functions to...

- Insert dynamic text into HTML (ex: username)
- React to events (ex: page load, user's mouse click)
- Get information about a user's computer (ex: what browser they are using)



COMMENTS (SIMILAR TO JAVA)

```
// single-line comment

/**

* multi-line

* comment

*/
```

Identical to Java's comment syntax

Recall: 3 comment syntaxes

- HTML: <!-- comment -->CSS/Java/JS: /* comment */
- Java/JS: // comment

For functions and program files, we'll use JSDoc commenting with @param and @returns, which is covered in the Code Quality Guide here.

VARIABLES

```
// template
let name = expression;

// examples
let level = 23;
let accuracyRate = 0.99;
let name = "Pikachu";
```

Variables are declared with the let keyword (case-sensitive). You may also see var used instead of let - this is an <u>older convention</u>- **DO NOT USE** var anywhere



"TYPES" IN JAVASCRIPT

```
let level = 23; // Number
let accuracyRate = 0.99; // Number
let name = "Pikachu"; // String
let temps = [55, 60, 57.5]; // Array
```

Types are not specified, but JS does have types ("loosely-typed")

- Number, Boolean, String, Array, Object, Function, Null, Undefined
- Can find out a variable's type by calling typeof, but usually this is poor practice (why?)
- Note: Type conversion isn't always what you expect...



NUMBER TYPE

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

- Integers and real numbers are the same type (no int vs. double). All numbers in JS are floating
 point numbers.
- Same operators: + * / % ++ -- = += -= *= /= %= and similar <u>precedence</u> to Java.
- Many operators auto-convert types: "2" * 3 is 6
- NaN ("Not a Number") is a return value from operations that have an undefined numerical result (e.g. dividing a String by a Number).

Practice!



STRING TYPE

Methods: charCodeAt, fromCharCode, index0f, lastIndex0f, replace, split, substring, tolowerCase, toUpperCase



MORE ABOUT STRINGS

Escape sequences behave as in Java: \' \" \& \n \t \\ To convert between Numbers and Strings:

To access characters of a String s, use s[index] or s.charAt(index):

SPECIAL VALUES: NULL AND UNDEFINED.

```
let foo = null;
let bar = 9;
let baz;

/* At this point in the code,
 * foo is null
 * bar is 9
 * baz is undefined
 */
```

undefined: declared but has not yet been assigned a value null: exists, but was specifically assigned an empty value or null. Expresses intentional a lack of identification.

A good motivating overview of null vs. undefined

Note: This takes some time to get used to, and remember this slide if you get confused later.



ARRAYS

Two ways to initialize an array length property (grows as needed wen elements are added)

DEFINING FUNCTIONS

```
// template
function name(params) {
  statement;
  statement;
  statement;
// example
function myFunction() {
  console.log("Hello!");
  alert("Your browser says hi!");
```

The above could be the contents of basics.js linked to our HTML page Statements placed into functions can be evaluated in response to user events



JS FUNCTION VS. JAVA METHOD

```
function repeat(str, n) {
  let result = str;
  for (let i = 1; i < n; i++) {
    result += str;
  }
  return result;
  }
  let repeatedStr = repeat("echo...", 3); // "echo...echo...echo..."
}</pre>
```

```
public static String repeat(String str, int n) {
   String result = str;
   for (int i = 1; i < n; i++) {
      result += str;
   }
   return result;
   }
   String repeatedStr = repeat("echo...", 3); // "echo...echo...echo..."
}</pre>
```