JavaScript Fundamentals

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What's In Store

Day 1	Day 2
JavaScript Basics	Manipulating Web Pages
Debugging in the Browser	Event Handling
Exception Handling	Networking (AJAX)
Regular Expressions	Serialization w/ JSON

Developer Tools

Text Editor or IDE

Websites

Introduction to JavaScript

Approaching JavaScript

- JavaScript might be an object-oriented language with "Java" in the title, but it's not Java.
- I find that it's best to approach JavaScript as a functional (yet imperative) language with some object-oriented features.

A Little Bit About JavaScript

- Standardized as ECMAScript
  - 5th Edition, 2009 (widely supported)
  - 6th Edition, 2015 (not so much)
  - 7th Edition, 2016
  - 8th Edition, 2017
  - 9th Edition, 2018
- Special-purpose language
- Dynamically typed (with weak typing)
- Interpreted and single threaded
- Prototype-base inheritance (vs. class-based)
- Nothing really to do with Java
- Weird but fun

Not a General Purpose Language

- JavaScript is **not** a general-purpose language
- There are no functions for reading from or writing to files
- I/O is heavily restricted

But, It's Not Just for the Browser

- Outside of the browser there are libraries that help make JavaScript act like a general purpose language.
- Tools such as Node.js add missing features to JS
- Weigh the pros and cons of using JS outside the browser

Why JavaScript?

- It's the language of the web
- Runs in the browser, options to run on server
- Easy to learn partially
- Harder to learn completely

JavaScript Syntax Basics

- Part of the "C" family of languages
- Whitespace is insignificant (including indentation)
- Blocks of code are wrapped with curly braces: `{ ... }`
- Expressions are terminated by a semicolon: `;`

A Note About Semicolons

- Semicolons are used to terminate expressions.
- They are optional in JavaScript.
- Due to the minification process and other subtle features of the language, you should always use semicolons.
- When in doubt, use a semicolon.

The Browser's JavaScript Console

- Open your browser's debugging console:
  - Command-Option-J on a Mac
  - F12 on Windows and Linux
- Enter the following JavaScript:

```
console.log("Hello World");
```

Simple Console Debugging

- The browser's "console" is a line interpreter (REPL)
- All major browsers are converging to the same API for console debugging
- Can use it to set breakpoints
- Lets you see scoped variables and context
- Can set a conditional breakpoint
- `console.log` is equivalent to `printf`

Values and Operators

Primitive Values vs. Objects

- Primitive Values:

```
"Hello World"; // Strings
42;            // Numbers
true && false; // Boolean
null;          // No value
undefined;     // Unset
```

- Objects (arrays, functions, etc.)

Variables in JavaScript

```
let x;           // undefined
let y = "Foo";   // String
let z = 5;       // Number
```

Declaring and Initializing Variables

- Declare variables to make them local:

```
let x;
```

- You can initialize them at the same time:

```
let n = 1;

let x, y=1, z;
```

- If you don't declare a variable with `var`, the first time you assign to an undefined identifier it will become a global variable.
- If you don't assign a value to a new variable it will be `undefined`

Variable Naming Conventions

- Use camelCase: `userName`, `partsPerMillion`
- Allowed: letters, numbers, underscore, and `$`
- Don't use JavaScript keywords as variable names
- Always start with a lowercase letter

(All identifiers can be made up of valid Unicode characters. Don't go crazy, not all browsers support this. Stick to UTF-8 identifiers.)

`undefined` and `null`

- There are two special values: `null` and `undefined`
- Variables declared *without* a value will start with `undefined`
- Setting a variable to `null` usually indicates "no appropriate value"

Numbers

- All numbers are 64bit floating point
- Integer and decimal (`9` and `9.8` use the same type)
- Keep an eye on number precision:

```
0.1 + 0.2 == 0.3; // false
```

- Special numbers: `NaN` and `Infinity`

```
NaN == NaN; // false
1 / 0;      // Infinity
```

How Do You Deal with Numeric Accuracy?

- Use a special data type like Big Decimal.
- Round to a fixed decimal place with `num.toFixed(2);`
- Only use integers (e.g., for money, represent as cents)

Strings

- Use double or single quotes (no difference between them):

```
"Hello" // Same as...
'Hello'
```

- Typical backslash characters works (e.g., `\n` and `\t`) in both types of strings.
- Operators:

```
"Hello" + " World";   // "Hello World"
"Lucky " + 21;        // "Lucky 21"
"Lucky " - 21;        // NaN
"1" - 1               // 0
```

Value Coercion

- JavaScript is loosely typed (uni-typed)
- Implicit conversion between "types" as needed
- Usually in unexpected ways:

```
8 * null; // 0

null > 0;  // false
null == 0; // false
null >= 0; // true
```

JavaScript Comments

- Single-line comments:

```
// Starts with two slashes, runs to end of line.
```

- Multiple-line comments:

```
/* Begins with a slash and asterisk.

Also a comment.

Ends with a asterisk slash. */
```

Exercise: Using Primitive Types

1. Open the following file:
   src/www/js/primitives/primitives.js
2. Complete the exercise.
3. Run the tests by opening the `index.html` file in your browser.

JavaScript Operators

Arithmetic	`+`	`-`	`*`	`/`	`%`	`**`	
Shortcut	`+=`	`-=`	`*=`	`/=`	`%=`	`**=`	
Inc/Dec	`++n`	`n++`	`--n`	`n--`			
Bitwise	`~`	`&`	`|`	`^`	`>>`	`<<`	`>>>`
Comparison	`>`	`>=`	`<`	`<=`			
Equality	`==`	`!=`	`===`	`!==`			
Logic	`!`	`&&`	`||`				
Object	`.`	`[]`					
String	`+`						

(Most operators have assignment shortcut versions.)

Equality in JavaScript

Sloppy Equality

- The traditional equality operators in JS are sloppy
- That is, they do implicit type conversion

```
"1" == 1;   // true
[3] == "3"; // true

0 != "0";   // false
0 != "";    // false
```

Strict Equality

More traditional equality checking can be done with the === operator:

```
"1" === 1;   // false
0 === "";    // false

"1" !== 1;   // true
[0] !== ""; // true
```

(This operator first appeared in ECMAScript Edition 3, circa 1999.)

Same-Value Equality

Similar to "===" with a few small changes:

```
Object.is(NaN, NaN); // true

Object.is(+0, -0);   // false
```

(This function first appeared in ECMAScript Edition 6, 2015.)

Boolean Values and Logic Operators

What Is `true` and What Is `false`?

- Things that are `false`:

```
false;
null;
undefined;
""; // The empty string
0;
NaN;
```

- Everything else is `true`, including:

```
"0";       // String
"false";   // String
[];        // Empty array
{};        // Empty object
Infinity; // Yep, it's true
```

Boolean Operators: && (Conjunction)

`a && b` returns either `a` or `b` and short circuits:

```
if (a) {
  return b;
} else {
  return a;
}
```

Boolean Operators: || (Disjunction)

`a || b` returns either `a` or `b` and short circuits:

```
if (a) {
  return a;
} else {
  return b;
}
```

Boolean Operators: !

Boolean negation: `!`:

```
let x = false;
let y = !x; // y is true
```

Double negation: `!!`:

```
let n = 1;
let y = !!n; // y is true
```

Exercise: Boolean Operators

- Experiment with &&:

```
0 && console.log("Yep");
1 && console.log("Yep");
```

- Experiment with ||:

```
0 || console.log("Yep");
1 || console.log("Yep");
```

Conditional Statements

```
if (expression) { then_part; }

if (expression) {
  then_part;
} else {
  else_part;
}
```

Chaining Conditionals

Shorthand:

```
if (expression) {
  then_part;
} else if (expression2) {
  second_then_part;
} else {
  else_part;
}
```

Long form:

```
if (expression) {
  then_part;
} else {
  if (expression2) {
    second_then_part;
  } else {
    else_part;
  }
}
```

Switch Statements

Cleaner conditional (using strict equality checking):

```
switch (expression) {
  case val1:
    then_part;
    break;

  case val2:
    then_part;
    break;

  default:
    else_part;
    break;
}
```

Don't forget that `break;` statement!

The Major Looping Statements

- Traditional `for`:

```
for (let i=0; i<n; ++i) { /* body */ }
```

- Traditional `while`:

```
while (condition) { /* body */ }
```

- Traditional `do ... while`:

```
do { /* block */ } while (condition)
```

- Object Property Version of `for`:

```
for (let prop in object) { /* body */ }
```

Traditional for Loops

- Just like in C:

```
for (let i=0; i<10; ++i) {
  // executes 10 times.
}
```

- Loops can be labeled and exited with `break`.
- Use `continue` to skip to the next iteration of the loop.

Traditional while Loops

```
let i=0;

while (i<10) {
  ++i;
}
```

Flipped while Loops

```
let i=0;

do {
  ++i;
} while (i<10);
```

Controlling a Loop

- Loops can be labeled and exited with `break`.

```
for (let i=1; i<100; ++i) {
  if (i % 2 === 0) break;
  console.log(i);
}
// prints 1
```

- Use `continue` to skip to the next iteration of the loop.

```
for (let i=1; i<100; ++i) {
  if (i % 2 === 0) continue;
  console.log(i);
}
// prints 1, 3, 5, 7, etc.
```

The Ternary Conditional Operator

- JavaScript supports a ternary conditional operator:

```
condition ? then : else;
```

- Example:

```
let isWarm; // Is set to something unknown.
let shirt = isWarm ? "t-shirt" : "sweater";
```

Exercise: Experiment with Control Flow

1. Open the following file:
   src/www/js/control/control.js
2. Complete the exercise.
3. Run the tests by opening the `index.html` file in your browser.

Objects

A Collection of Key/Value Pairs

- Built up from the core types
- A dynamic collection of **properties**:

```
let box = {
  color: "tan",
  height: 12
};

box.color;              // Getter method
box.color = "red";      // Setter method

let x = "color";
box[x];             // "red"
box[x] = "blue"; // Alternative syntax
```

Object Basics

- Everything is an object (almost)
- Primitive types have object wrappers (except `null` and `undefined`)
- They remain primitive until used as objects, for performance reasons
- An object is a dynamic collection of properties
- Properties can be functions

Object Properties

There are four primary ways to work with object properties:

1. Dot notation:

~~~ {.javascript}
object.property = "foo";
let x = object.property;
~~~

1. Square bracket notation:

~~~ {.javascript}
object["property"] = "foo";
let x = object["property"];
~~~

1. Through the `Object.defineProperty` function
2. Using the `delete` function

Property Descriptors

- Object properties have descriptors that affect their behavior
- For example, you can control whether or not a property can be deleted or enumerated
- Typically, descriptors are hidden, use `defineProperty` to change them:

```
let obj = {};

Object.defineProperty(obj, "someName", {
  configurable: false, // someName can't be deleted
  enumerable:   false, // someName is hidden
  writable:     false, // No setter for someName
  // ...
});
```

Object Reflection

Objects can be inspected with...

- the `typeof` operator:

```
typeof obj;
```

- the `in` operator:

```
"foo" in obj;
```

- the `hasOwnProperty` function:

```
obj.hasOwnProperty("foo");
```

Keep in mind that objects "inherit" properties. Use the `hasOwnProperty` to see if an object actually has its own copy of a property.

The typeof Operator

Sometimes useful for determining the type of a variable:

```
typeof 42;          // "number"
typeof NaN;         // "number"
typeof Math.abs;    // "function"
typeof [1, 2, 3]; // "object"
typeof null;        // "object"
typeof undefined; // "undefined"
```

(But not all that useful in reality.)

Property Enumeration

- The `for..in` loop iterates over an object's properties in an **unspecified** order.
- Use `object.hasOwnProperty(propertyName)` to test if a property is inherited or local.

```
for (let propertyName in object) {
    /*
        propertyName is a string.

        Must use this syntax:
        object[propertyName]

        Does not work:
        object.propertyName
    */
}
```

Object Keys

- Get an array of all "own", enumerable properties:

```
Object.keys(obj);
```

- Get even non-enumerable properties:

```
Object.getOwnPropertyNames(obj);
```

Object References and Passing Style

- Objects can be passed to and from functions
- JavaScript is **call-by-sharing** (very similar to call-by-reference)
- Watch out for functions that modify your objects!
- Remember that === compares references
- Since === only compares references, it only returns `true` if the two operands are the same object in memory
- There's no built in way in JS to compare objects for similar contents

JavaScript and Mutability

- All primitives in JavaScript are immutable
- Using an assignment operator just creates a new instance of the primitive
- You can think of primitives as using **call-by-value**
- Unless you used an object constructor for a primitive!
- Objects are mutable (and use **call-by-sharing**)
- Their values (properties) can change

Exercise: Create a copy Function

1. Open the following file:
   src/www/js/copy/copy.js
2. Complete the exercise.
3. Run the tests by opening the `index.html` file in your browser.

Hints:

- `for (let prop in someobj) { /* ... */ }`
- `someobj.hasOwnProperty(prop)`

The Object.assign Function

Copies properties from one object to another:

```
var o1 = {a: 1, b: 2, c: 3};
var o2 = { };

Object.assign(o2, o1);
console.log(o2);
```

Produces this output:

```
{ a: 1, b: 2, c: 3 }
```

(This function first appeared in ECMAScript Edition 6, 2015.)

Builtin Objects

The String Object

- 16 bit unicode characters (UCS-2, not quite UTF-16)
- Single or double quotes (no difference)
- Similar strings are === equal (checks contents)
- >= ES5 supports multiple line literals using a backslash

String Properties and Instance (Prototype) Methods

- `str.length`
- `str.charAt(i);`
- `str.concat();`
- `str.indexOf(needle);`
- `str.slice(iStart, iEnd);`
- `str.substr(iStart, length);`
- `str.replace(regex|substr, newSubStr|function);`
- `str.toLowerCase();`
- `str.trim();`

The Number Object

- Constants:
  - `Number.MAX_VALUE`
  - `Number.NaN`
  - `Number.POSITIVE_INFINITY`
  - etc.
- Generic Methods:
  - `Number.isInteger(n);`
  - `Number.isFinite(n);`
  - `Number.parseFloat(s);`
  - `Number.parseInt(s);`
- Prototype Methods:
  - `num.toString();`
  - `num.toFixed();`
  - `num.toExponential();`

The Math Object

- Constants:
  - `Math.E`
  - `Math.LOG2E`
  - `Math.PI`
  - etc.
- Generic Functions:
  - `Math.abs(n);`
  - `Math.pow(n, e);`
  - `Math.sqrt(n);`
  - etc.

The Date Object

- An instance of the Date object is used to represent a point in time
- Must be constructed:

```
let d = new Date(); // current date
let d = new Date("Wed, 28 Jan 2015 13:30:00 MST");
```

- Months start at 0, days start at 1
- Timestamps are unix time:

```
d.getTime(); // 1422477000000
```

The Date Object (functions)

- Generic Methods:
  - `Date.now();`
  - `Date.UTC();`
  - `Date.parse("March 7, 2014");`
- Prototype Methods:

```
let d = new Date();

d.getMonth();
d.getHours();
d.getMinutes();
d.getFullYear(); // Don't use d.getYear();
d.setYear(1990);
```

The Array Object

- Arrays are objects that behave like traditional arrays
- Use arrays when order of the data should be sequential

The Array Object (Examples)

- Creating Arrays:

```
// Array literal:
let myArray = [1, 2, 3];

// Using the constructor function:
let myArray = new Array(1, 2, 3);
```

- Functions/Methods:

```
let a = [1, 2, 3];
a.length; // 3
Array.isArray(a); // true (>= ES5)
typeof a; // "object" :(
```

Array Cheat Sheet

- Insert: `a.unshift(x);` **or** `a.push(x);`
- Remove: `a.shift();` **or** `a.pop();`
- Combine: `let b = a.concat([4, 5]);`
- Extract: `a.slice(...);` **or** `a.splice(...);`
- Search: `a.indexOf(x);`
- Sort: `a.sort();`

Array Enumeration

WARNING: Use `for`, not `for...in`. The latter doesn't keep array keys in order!

```
for (let i=0; i < myArray.length; ++i) {
  // myArray[i]
}
```

Debugging in the Browser

Introduction to Debugging

- All modern browsers have built-in JavaScript debuggers
- We've been using the debugging console the entire time!

Browser Debugging with the Console

- The `console` object:
  - Typically on `window` (doesn't always exist)
  - Methods
    - `log`, `info`, `warn`, and `error`
    - `table(object)`
    - `group(name)` and `groupEnd()`
    - `assert(boolean, message)`

Accessing the Debugger

- In the browser's debugging window, choose **Sources**
- You should be able to see JavaScript files used for the current site

Setting Breakpoints

There are a few ways to create breakpoints:

- Open the source file in the browser and click a line number
- Right-click the line number to create conditional breakpoints
- Use the `debugger;` statement in your code

Stepping Through Code

- After setting breakpoints, you can reload the page (or trigger a function)
- Once the debugger stops on a breakpoint you can step through the code using the buttons in the debugger
  - Step In: Jump into the current function call and debug it
  - Step Over: Jump over the current function call
  - Step Out: Jump out of the current function

Console Tricks

- `$_` the value of the last evaluation
- `$0`—`$4` last inspected elements in historical order
- `$("selector")` returns first matching node (CSS selector)
- `$$("selector")` returns all matching nodes
- `debug(function)` sets a breakpoint in `function`
- `monitor(function)` trace calls to `function`

Defining and Invoking Functions

Defining a Function

There are several ways of defining functions:

- Function statements (named functions)
- Function expression (anonymous functions)
- Arrow functions (new in ES2015)

Function Definition (Statement)

```
function add(a, b) {
  return a + b;
}

let result = add(1, 2); // 3
```

- This syntax is know as a *function definition statement*. It is only allowed where statements are allowed.
- In modern JavaScript you will mostly use the expression form of function definitions or the arrow function syntax.

Function Definition (Expression)

```
let add = function(a, b) {
  return a + b;
};

let result = add(1, 2); // 3
```

- Function is callable through a variable
- Name after `function` is optional
- We'll see it used later

Function Definition (Arrow Functions)

Short form (single expression, implicit `return`):

```
let add = (a, b) => a + b;
add(1, 2);
```

Long form (multiple expressions, explicit `return`):

```
let add = (a, b) => {
  return a + b;
};

add(1, 2);
```

Function Invocation

- Parentheses are mandatory in JavaScript for function invocation
- Any number of arguments can be passed, regardless of the number defined
- Extra arguments won't be bound to a name
- Missing arguments will be `undefined`

Function Invocation (Example)

```
let add = function(a, b) {
  return a + b;
};

add(1)        // a is 1, b is undefined
add(1, 2)     // a is 1, b is 2
add(1, 2, 3) // No name for 3.
```

(Note: ES2015 has default parameters.)

Functional Programming with Arrays

Introducing Higher-order Functions

The `forEach` function is a good example of a *higer-order* function:

```
let a = [1, 2, 3];

a.forEach(function(val, index, array) {
  // Do something...
});
```

Or, less idiomatic:

```
let f = function(val) { /* ... */ };
a.forEach(f);
```

Array Testing

- Test if a function returns `true` on all elements:

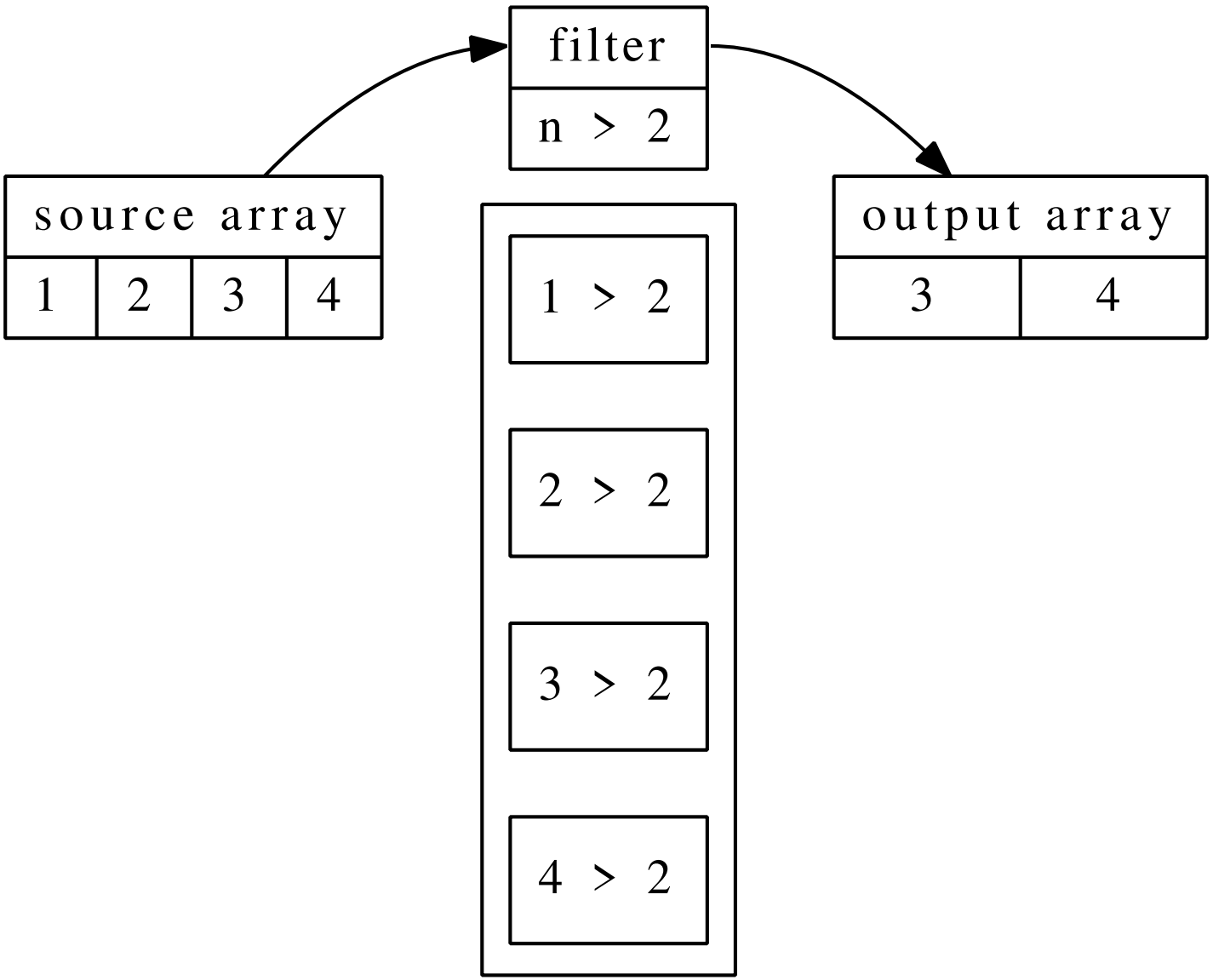
```
let a = [1, 2, 3];

a.every(function(val) {
  return val > 0;
});
```

- Test if a function returns `true` at least once:

```
a.some(function(val) {
  return val > 2;
});
```

Filtering an Array with a Predicate Function



Filter Example

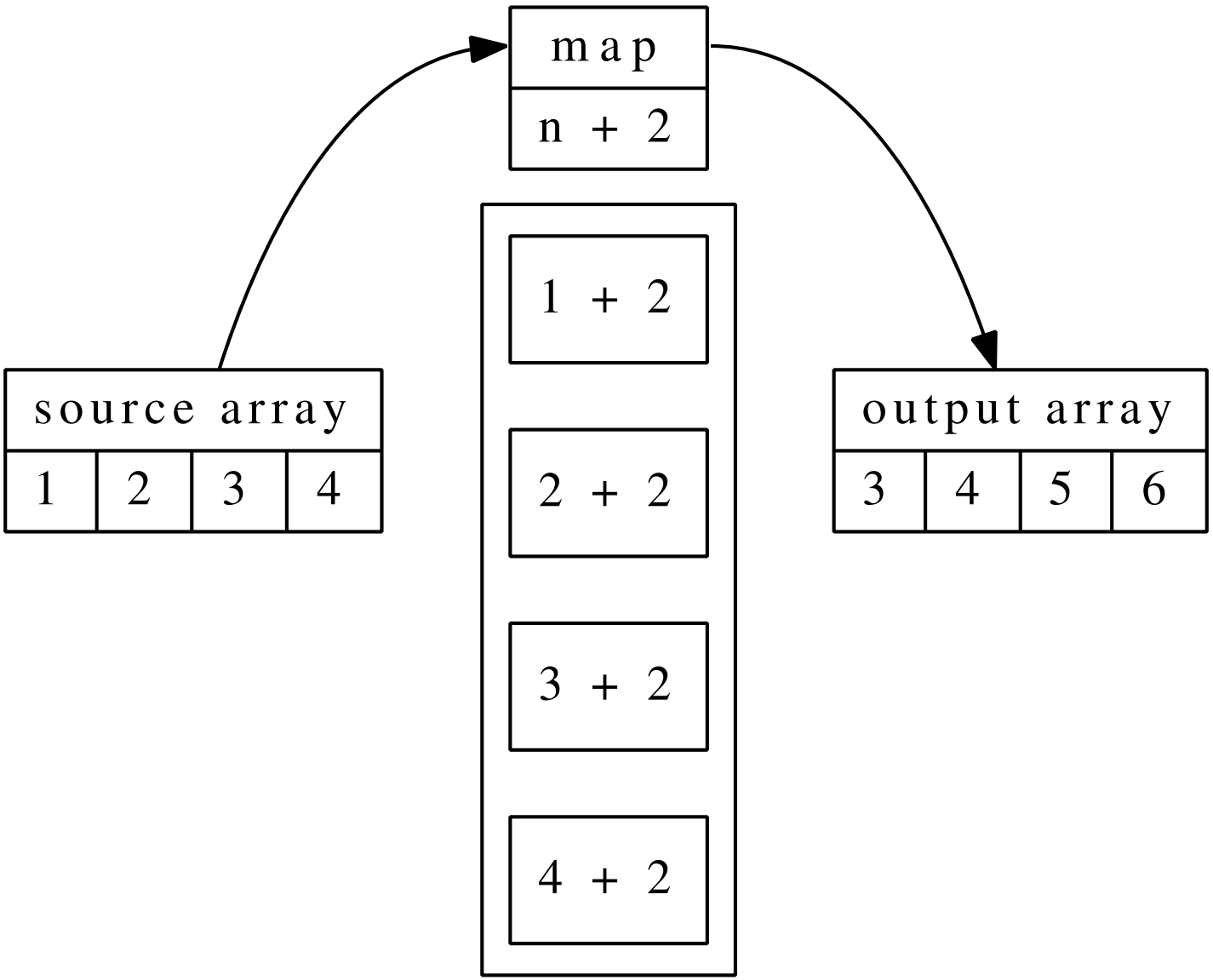
```
let numbers = [10, 7, 23, 42, 95];

let even = numbers.filter(function(n) {
  return n % 2 === 0;
});

even;              // [10, 42]
even.length;       // 2
numbers.length; // 5
```

(See: src/examples/js/filter.js)

Mapping a Function Over an Array



Map Example

```
let strings = [
  "Mon, 14 Aug 2006 02:34:56 GMT",
  "Thu, 05 Jul 2018 22:09:06 GMT"
];

let dates = strings.map(function(s) {
  return new Date(s);
});

dates; // [Date, Date]
```

(See: src/examples/js/map.js)

Example: Folding an Array with reduce

```
let a = [1, 2, 3];

// Sum numbers in `a'.
let sum = a.reduce(function(acc, elm) {
  // 1. `acc' is the accumulator
  // 2. `elm' is the current element
  // 3. You must return a new accumulator
  return acc + elm;
}, 0);

sum; // 6
```

(See: src/examples/js/reduce.js)

Exercise: Arrays and Functional Programming

1. Open the following file:
   src/www/js/array/array.js
2. Complete the exercise.
3. Run the tests by opening the `index.html` file in your browser.

Hint: Use `https://developer.mozilla.org/` for documentation.

Common Patterns Involving Functions

Anonymous Functions

- A function expression without a name:

```
let anon = function() {};
```

- Pros:
  - Powerful
  - Functions can be passed as arguments
  - Defined inline
- Cons:
  - Difficult to test in isolation
  - Discourages code re-use

Anonymous Functions (Tips)

- Name your anonymous functions for debugging

```
numbers.forEach(function foo(e) {
  console.log(e);
});
```

- Name is scoped to the inside of the anonymous function so it can refer to itself, easier to debug; errors reference the function name

Functions as Callbacks

- When a function is provided as an argument as something to be invoked inline, or under specific circumstances (like an event):

```
function runCallback(callback) {
  // does things
  return callback();
}
```

- Functions that take functions as arguments are called *higher-order* functions.

Functions as Timers

- Establish delay for function invocation:

```
// setTimeout(func, delayInMs[, arg1, argn]);
let timer = setTimeout(func, 500);
```

- Use `clearTimeout(timer)` to cancel
- Establish an interval for periodic invocation

```
setInterval(func, ms);
clearInterval(timer);
```

Closures

Closures: Basics

- One of the most important features of JavaScript
- And often one of the most misunderstood & feared features
- But, they are all around you in JavaScript
- Happens automatically when you nest functions

Closures: Definitions

- Bound variable: local variables created with `var` or `let` are said to be *bound*.
- Free variable: Any variable that isn't bound and isn't a global variable is called a *free* variable.
- A function that uses free variables *closes around* them, capturing them in a *closure*.
- A closure is a new scope for free variables.

Demonstrating Closures: An Example

```
let makeCounter = function(startingValue) {
  let n = startingValue;

  return function() {
    return n += 1;
  };
};

let counter = makeCounter(0);
counter(); // 1
counter(); // 2
```

(Open `src/examples/js/closure.html` and play in the debugger.)

A Practical Example of Using Closures: Private Variables

Using closures to create truly private variables in JavaScript:

```
let Foo = function() {
  let privateVar = 42;

  return {
    getPrivateVar: function() {
      return privateVar;
    },
    setPrivateVar: function(n) {
      if (n) privateVar = n;
    }
  };
};

let x = Foo();
x.getPrivateVar(); // 42
```

Exercise: Sharing Scope

1. Open the following file:
   src/www/js/closure/closure.js
2. Complete the exercise.
3. Run the tests by opening the `index.html` file in your browser.

Closure Gotcha: Loops, Functions, and Closures

```
// What will this output?
for (var i=0; i<3; i++) {
  setTimeout(function(){
    console.log(i);
  }, 1000*i);
}
console.log("Howdy!");
```

Scope and Context

Adding Context to a Scope

- We already discussed **scope**
  - Determines visibility of variables
  - Lexical scope (location in source code)
- There is also **context**
  - Refers to the location a function was invoked
  - Dynamic, defined at runtime
  - Context is accessible as the `this` variable

Calling Functions Through Objects

```
let apple  = {name: "Apple",  color: "red"   };
let orange = {name: "Orange", color: "orange"};

let logColor = function() {
  console.log(this.color);
};

apple.logColor  = logColor;
orange.logColor = logColor;

apple.logColor();
orange.logColor();
```

Context and the `this` Keyword

- The `this` keyword is a reference to "the object of invocation"
- Bound at invocation (depends on the call site)
- Allows a method to reference the "current" object
- A single function can then service multiple objects
- Central to prototypical inheritance in JavaScript

How JavaScript Sets the `this` Variable

- Resides in the global binding
- Inner functions do not capture parent's `this` (there are several workarounds such as `let self = this;`, `bind`, and ES2015 arrow functions)
- The `this` object can be set manually! (Take a look at the `call`, `apply`, and `bind` functions.)

Constructor Functions

Constructor Functions and the `new` Operator

What's going on when you use `new`?

```
let m = new Message("pjones@devalot.com", "Hello");
m.send(); // calls `Message.prototype.send'
          // with `this' set to `m'
```

Writing a Constructor Function

```
let Message = function(sender, content) {
  this.sender  = sender;
  this.content = content;
};

Message.prototype.send = function() {
  if (this.content.length !== 0) {
    console.log(this.sender, this.content);
  }
};
```

The new Keyword

```
let m = new Message("pjones@devalot.com", "Hello");
m.send(); // calls `Message.prototype.send'
          // with `this' set to `m'
```

The new operator does the following:

1. Creates a new, empty object
2. Sets up inheritance for the object and records which function constructed the object.
3. Calls the function given as its operand, setting this to the newly created object

Implementing a Fake new Operator

```
let fakeNew = function(func) {
  // Step 1. Create an object with proper inheritance:
  let newObject = Object.create(func.prototype);

  // Step 2. Invoke the constructor:
  func.call(newObject);

  // Step 3. Return the new object:
  return newObject;
};
```

Exercise: Constructor Functions

1. Open the following file:
   src/www/js/constructors/constructors.js
2. Complete the exercise.
3. Run the tests by opening the `index.html` file in your browser.

Factory Functions

Factory Functions (Hand-made Constructors)

```
let Message = function(sender, content) {
  let m = Object.create(Message.prototype);

  m.sender  = sender;
  m.content = content;
  m.length  = content.length;

  return m;
};

Message.prototype = { /* ... */ };

let message = Message("pjones@devalot.com", "Hello");
```

Exception Handling

Exception Basics

- Errors in JavaScript propagate as exceptions
- Dealing with errors therefore requires an exception handler
- Keywords for exception handling:
  - `try`: Run code that might throw exceptions
  - `catch`: Capture a propagating exception
  - `throw`: Start exception processing
  - `finally`: Resource clean-up handler

Throwing Exceptions

Example: Throwing an Exception

When a major error occurs, use the `throw` keyword:

```
if (someBadCondition) {
  throw "Well, this is unexpected!";
}
```

Exception Objects

Built-in Exception Objects

- `Error`: Generic run-time exception
- `EvalError`: Errors coming from the `eval` function
- `RangeError`: Number outside expected range
- `ReferenceError`: Variable used without being declared
- `SyntaxError`: Error while parsing code
- `TypeError`: Variable not the expected type
- `URIError`: Errors from `encodeURI` and `decodeURI`

Creating Your Own Exception Object

This looks more traditional, but it's missing valuable information.

```
function ShoppingCartError(message) {
  this.message = message;
  this.name    = "ShoppingCartError";
}

// Steal from the `Error' object.
ShoppingCartError.prototype = Error.prototype;

// To throw the exception:
throw new ShoppingCartError("WTF!");
```

Custom Exceptions: The Better Way

If you start with an `Error` object, you retain a stack trace and error source information (e.g., file name and line number).

```
let error = new Error("WTF!");
error.name = "ShoppingCartError";
error.extraInfo = 42;
throw error;
```

Catching Exceptions

Example: Catching Errors

```
let beSafe = function() {
  try {
    // Some code that might fail.
  }
  catch (e) {
    // Errors show up here.  All of them.
  }
};
```

Example: Catching Exceptions by Type

Most of the time you only want to deal with specific exceptions:

```
let beSafe2 = function() {
  try { /* Code that might fail. */ }
  catch (e) {
    if (e instanceof TypeError) {

      // If you're here then the error
      // is a TypeError.

    } else {
      throw e; // Re-throw the exception.
    }
  }
};
```

Exercise: Exceptions

1. Open the following file:
   src/www/js/exceptions/exceptions.js
2. Complete the exercise.
3. Run the tests by opening the `index.html` file in your browser.

Introduction to Regular Expressions

Regular Expressions

- Patterns used to match character combinations in strings
- Very tough to understand but extremely powerful
- Useful for data validation
- JavaScript supports literals for the `RegExp` object:

```
let re = /^\d+$/;
re.test("1234"); // true
```

Expression Language Primer

Token	Meaning
`.`	Match any single character
`\w`	Match a word character
`\d`	Match a digit
`\s`	Match a space character
`\b`	Word boundary

Repeater	Meaning
?	Match zero or one preceding token
*	Match zero or more preceding tokens
+	Match one or more preceding tokens

Using Regular Expressions

`String` Methods That Take Regular Expressions

`str.match(re);` If the expression matches, returns an array describing what matched.

`str.replace(re);` Replace parts of a string matched by an expression.

`str.search(re);` Tests to see if the expression matches. Faster than `match` because it stops after the first match and returns `1`.

`str.split(re);` Split a string at locations matched by the expression and return an array.

Exercise: String Manipulation

1. Open the following file:
   src/www/js/regexp/regexp.js
2. Complete the exercise.
3. Run the tests by opening the `index.html` file in your browser.

Hint: Use `https://developer.mozilla.org/` for documentation.

Additional Resources on Regular Expressions

Where JavaScript Fits In

JavaScript and the Browser

How JavaScript fits in:

- HTML for content and user interface
- CSS for presentation (styling)
- JavaScript for behavior (and business logic)

HTML Refresher

What is HTML?

- Hyper Text Markup Language
- HTML is very error tolerant (browsers are very forgiving)
- That said, you should strive to write good HTML
- Structure of the UI and the content of the **view data**
- Parsed as a tree of nodes (elements)
- HTML5
  - Rich feature set
  - Semantic (focus on content and not style)
  - Cross-device compatibility
  - Easier!

Anatomy of an HTML Element

- Also known as: nodes, elements, and tags:

```
<element key="value" key2="value2">
  Text content of element
</element>
```

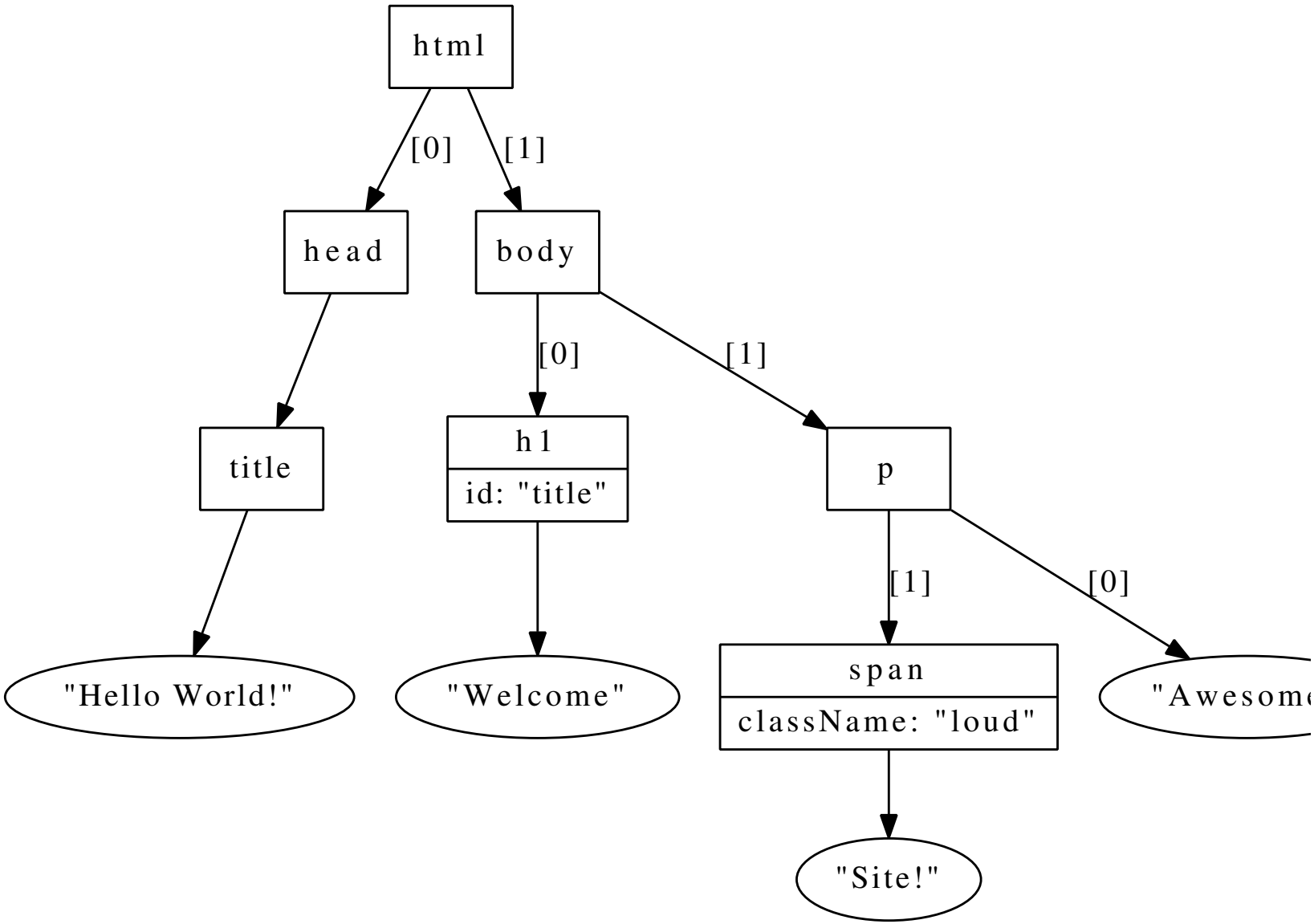
HTML Represented as Plain Text

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Hello World!</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <h1 id="title">Welcome</h1>

    <p>
      Awesome <span class="loud">Site!</span>
    </p>
  </body>
</html>
```

HTML Parsed into a Tree Structure



CSS Refresher

What is CSS?

- Cascading Style Sheets
- Rule-based language for describing the look and formatting
- Separates presentation from content
- Can be a separate file or inline in the HTML
- Prefer using a separate file

What Does CSS Look Like?

```
p {
  background-color: white;
  color: blue;
  padding: 5px;
}

.spoiler {
  display: none;
}

p.spoiler {
  display: block;
  font-weight: bold;
}
```

Anatomy of a CSS Declaration

- Selectors choose which elements you want to style. A selector is followed by a body where styling properties are set:

```
selector {
  property-x: value;
  property-y: val1 val2;
}
```

- For example:

```
h1 {
  color: #444;
  border: 1px solid #000;
}
```

The Various Kinds of Selectors

- Using the element's type (name):
  - HTML: `<h1>Hello</h1>`
  - CSS: `h1 {...}`
- Using the ID attribute:
  - HTML: `<div id="header"></div>`
  - CSS: `#header {...}`
- Using the class attribute:
  - HTML: `<div class="main"></div>`
  - CSS: `.main {...}`
- Using location or relationships:
  - HTML: `<ul><li><p>One</p></li><li>Two</li></ul>`
  - CSS: `ul li p {...}`

Getting JavaScript into the Browser

How the Browser Processes JavaScript

- Parser continues to process HTML while downloading JS
- Once downloaded, JS is executed and *blocks* the browser
- Include the JS at the bottom of the page to prevent blocking

Getting JavaScript into a Web Page

- Preferred option:

```
<script src="somefilename.js"></script>
```

- Inline in the HTML (yuck):

```
<script>
  let x = "Hey, I'm JavaScript!";
  console.log(x);
</script>
```

- Inline on an element (double yuck):

```
<button onclick="console.log('Hey there');"/>
```

How JavaScript Affects Page Load Performance (Take Two)

- The browser blocks when executing JS files
- JS file will be downloaded then executed before browser continues
- Put scripts in file and load them at the bottom of the page

What is the DOM?

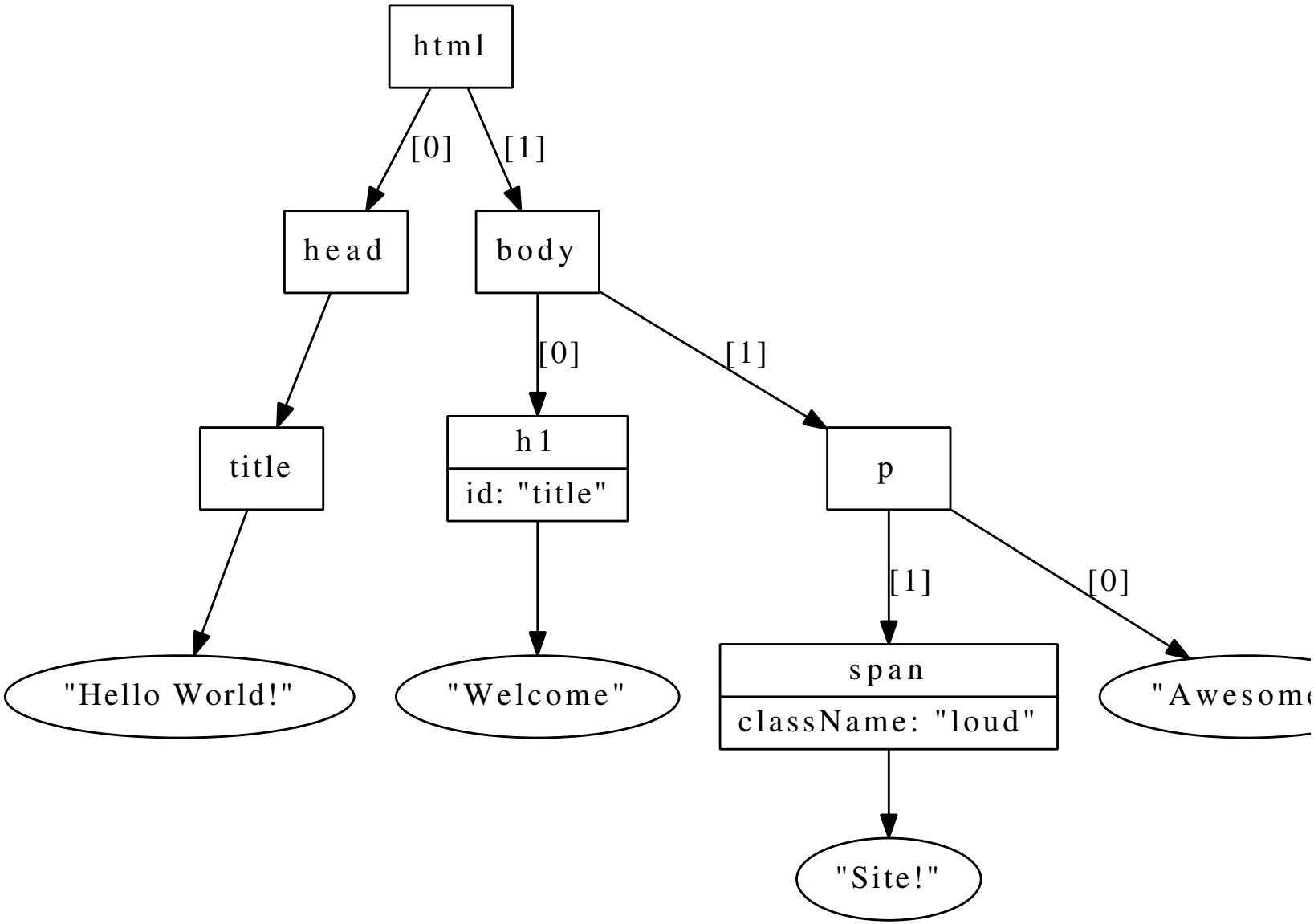
- What most people hate when they say they hate JavaScript
- The DOM is the browser's API for the document
- Through it you can manipulate the document
- Browser parses HTML and builds a tree structure
- It's a live data structure

The Document Structure

- The `document` object provides access to the document
- It's a tree-like structure
- Each node in the tree represents one of:
  - Element
  - Content of an element
- Relationships between nodes allow traversal

Looking at the Parsed HTML Tree (again)

And produce this tree structure:



Element Nodes

- The HTML:

```
<p id="name" class="hi">My <span>text</span></p>
```

- Maps to:

```
let node = {
  tagName:    "P",
  childNodes: NodeList,
  className:  "hi",
  innerHTML:  "My <span>text</span>",
  id:         "name",
  // ...
};
```

  - Attributes may **very loosely** to object properties

Working with the Document Object Model

- Accessing elements:
  - Select a single element
  - Select many elements
  - Traverse elements
- Working with elements
  - Text nodes
  - Raw HTML
  - Element attributes

Performance Considerations

- Dealing with the DOM brings up a lot of performance issues
- Accessing a node has a cost (especially in IE)
- Styling has a bigger cost (it cascades)
  - Inserting nodes
- Layout changes - Accessing CSS margins - Reflow - Repaint
- Accessing a `NodeList` has a cost

Getting References to Elements

Accessing Individual Elements

Starting on the `document` object or a previously selected element:

`document.getElementById("main");` Returns the element with the given ID (e.g., `<div id="main">`).

`document.querySelector("p span");` Returns the *first* element that matches the given CSS selector. The search is done using depth-first pre-order traversal.

Accessing a List of Elements

Starting on the `document` object or a previously selected element:

`document.getElementsByTagName("a");` Returns a `NodeList` containing *all* <a> elements.

`document.getElementsByClassName("highlight");` Returns a `NodeList` containing *all* elements that have a `class` attribute set to `foo` (e.g., `<div class="highlight">`).

`document.querySelectorAll("p span");` Returns a `NodeList` containing *all* elements that match the given CSS selector.

Traversing the DOM

Traversal Functions

`parentNode` The parent of the specified element.

`previousSibling` The element immediately preceding the specified element.

`nextSibling` The element immediately following the specified element.

`firstChild` The first child element of the specified element.

`lastChild`: The last child element of the specified element.

`childNodes` A `NodeList` containing the direct decedents (children) of the specified element.

But. . .

DOM Living Standard (WHATWG)

Supported in IE >= 9:

`children`: All *element* children of a node (i.e. no text nodes).

`firstElementChild`: First *element* child.

`lastElementChild`: Last *element* child.

`childElementCount`: The number of children that are *elements*.

`previousElementSibling`: The previous sibling that is an *element*.

`nextElementSibling`: The next sibling that is an *element*.

Node Types

The `nodeType` Property

Interesting values for the `element.nodeType` property:

Value	Description
1	Element node
3	Text node
8	Comment node
9	Document node

Manipulating the DOM Tree

Creating New Nodes

`document.createElement("a");` Creates and returns a new node without inserting it into the DOM. In this example, a new <a> element is created.

`document.createTextNode("hello");` Creates and returns a new text node with the given content.

Adding Nodes to the Tree

```
let parent = document.getElementById("customers"),
    existingChild = parent.firstElementChild,
    newChild = document.createElement("li");
```

`parent.appendChild(newChild);` Appends `newChild` to the end of `parent.childNodes`.

`parent.insertBefore(newChild, existingChild);` Inserts `newChild` in `parent.childNodes` just before the existing child node `existingChild`.

`parent.replaceChild(newChild, existingChild);` Removes `existingChild` from `parent.childNodes` and inserts `newChild` in its place.

`parent.removeChild(existingChild);` Removes `existingChild` from `parent.childNodes`.

Node Attributes

Getting and Setting Node Attributes

```
let element = document.getElementById("foo"),
    name    = "bar";
```

`element.getAttribute(name);` Returns the value of the given attribute.

`element.setAttribute(name, value);` Changes the value of the given attribute name to `value`.

`element.hasAttribute(name);` Returns `true` if `element` has an attribute with the given name.

`element.removeAttribute(name);` Removes the named attribute from `element`.

The Class Attribute

Class Attribute API

```
let element = document.getElementById("foo"),
    name    = "bar";
```

`element.classList.add(name);` Add `name` to the list of classes in the class attribute.

`element.classList.remove(name);` Remove `name` from the list of classes in the class attribute.

`element.classList.toggle(name);` If `name` is present in the class list, remove it. Otherwise add it to the class list.

`element.classList.contains(name);` Check to see if the class list contains `name`.

Node Content

HTML and Text Content

```
let element = document.getElementById("foo"),
    name    = "bar";
```

`element.innerHTML` Get or set the element's decedents as HTML.

`element.textContent`: Get or set *all* of the text nodes (including decedents) as a single string.

`element.nodeValue` If `element` is a text node, comment, or attribute node, returns the content of the node.

`element.value` If `element` is a form input, returns its value.

DOM Nodes: Exercises

Exercise: DOM Manipulation

1. Open the following files in your text editor:
   - `src/www/js/flags/flags.js`
   - `src/www/js/flags/index.html` (read only!)
2. Open the `index.html` file in your web browser.
3. Complete the exercise.

Event Handling and Callbacks

Events Overview

- Single-threaded, but asynchronous event model
- Events fire and trigger registered handler functions
- Events can be click, page ready, focus, submit (form), etc.

So Many Events!

- UI: load, unload, error, resize, scroll
- Keyboard: keydown, keyup, keypress
- Mouse: click, dblclick, mousedown, mouseup, mousemove
- Touch: touchstart, touchend, touchcancel, touchleave, touchmove
- Focus: focus, blur
- Form: input, change, submit, reset, select, cut, copy, paste

Using Events (the Basics)

1. Select the element you want to monitor
2. Register to receive the events you are interested in
3. Define a function that will be called when events are fired

Event Registration

Use the `addEventListener` function to register a function to be called when an event is triggered:

Example: Registering a click handler:

```
let main = document.getElementById("main");

main.addEventListener("click", function(event) {
  console.log("event triggered on: ", event.target);
});
```

Note: Don't use older event handler APIs such as `onClick`!

Event Handler Call Context

- Functions are called in the context of the DOM element
- I.e., `this === eventElement`
- Use `bind` or the `let self = this;` trick

Event Propagation

- By default, events propagate from the target node upwards until the root node is reached (bubbling).
- Event handlers can stop propagation using the `event.stopPropagation` function.
- Event handlers can also stop the browser from performing the default action for an event by calling the `event.preventDefault` function

Example: Event Handler

```
main.addEventListener("click", function(event) {
  event.stopPropagation();
  event.preventDefault();

  // ...
});
```

Event Delegation

- Parent receives event instead of child (via bubbling)
- Children can change without messing with event registration
- Fewer handlers registered, fewer callbacks
- Relies on some event object properties:
  - `event.target`: The element the event triggered for
  - `event.currentTarget`: Registered element (parent)

Event Handling: A Complete Example

```
node.addEventListener("click", function(event) {
  // `this' === Node the handler was registered on.
  console.log(this);

  // `event.target' === Node that triggered the event.
  console.log(event.target);

  // Add a CSS class:
  event.target.classList.add("was-clicked");

  // You can stop default browser behavior:
  event.preventDefault();
});
```

Exercise: Simple User Interaction

1. Open the following files in your text editor:
   - `src/www/js/events/events.js`
   - `src/www/js/events/index.html` (read only!)
2. Open the `index.html` file in your web browser.
3. Complete the exercise.

Event Loop Warnings

- Avoid blocking functions (e.g., `alert`, `confirm`)
- For long tasks use eteration or web workers
- Eteration: Break work up using `setTimeout(0)`

Event "Debouncing"

- Respond to events in intervals instead of in real-time
- Reuse a timeout object to process events in the future

```
let input   = document.getElementById("search"),
    output  = document.getElementById("output"),
    timeout = null;

let updateSearchResults = function() {
  output.textContent = input.value;
};

input.addEventListener("keydown", function(e) {
  if (timeout) clearTimeout(timeout);
  timeout = setTimeout(updateSearchResults, 100);
});
```

Introduction

Ajax Basics

- Asynchronous JavaScript and XML
- API for making HTTP requests
- Handled by the `XMLHttpRequest` object
- Introduced by Microsoft in the late 1990s
- Why use it? Non-blocking server interaction!
- Limited by the same-origin policy

Ajax: Step by Step

1. JavaScript asks for an HTTP connection
2. Browser makes a request in the background
3. Server responds in XML/JSON/HTML
4. Browser parses and processes response
5. Browser invokes JavaScript callback

The XHR API

Sending a Request, Basic Overview

```
let req = new XMLHttpRequest();

// Attach event listener...

req.open("GET", "/example/foo.json");
req.send(null);
```

Knowing When the Request Is Complete

```
let req = new XMLHttpRequest();

req.addEventListener("load", function(e) {
  if (req.status == 200) {
    console.log(req.responseText);
  }
});
```

Payload Formats

Popular Data Formats for Ajax

- HTML: Easiest to deal with
- XML: Pure data, but verbose
- JSON: Pure data, very popular

Ajax with HTML

- Easiest way to go
- Just directly insert the response into the DOM
- Scripts will **not** run

Ajax with XML

More work to extract data from XML:

```
request.addEventListener("load", function() {
  if (request.status >= 200 && request.status < 300) {
    let data = request.responseXML;
    let messages = data.getElementsByTagName("message");

    for (let i=0; i<messages.length; ++i) {
      console.log(messages[i].innerHTML);
    }
  }
});
```

What is JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)?

- Built-in methods:
  - `JSON.stringify(object);`
  - `JSON.parse(string);`
- Example:

```
{
  "messages": [
    {"text": "Hello", "priority": 1},
    {"text": "Bye",   "priority": 2}
  ],
  "sender": "Lazy automated system"
}
```

Ajax with JSON

- Sent and received as a string
- Needs to be serialized and de-serialized:

```
req.send(JSON.stringify(object));

// ...

let data = JSON.parse(req.responseText);
```

Tips and Tricks

Should You Use the XHR API?

- It is best to use an abstraction for `XMLHttpRequest`
- They usually come with better:
  - `status` and `statusCode` handling
  - Error handling
  - Callback registration
  - Variations in browser implementations
  - Additional event handling (progress, load, error, etc.)
- So, use a library like jQuery

Putting It All Together

Exercise: Making Ajax Requests

1. Open the following files:
   - `src/www/js/artists/artists.js`
   - `src/www/js/artists/index.html` (read only!)
2. Open `http://localhost:3000/js/artists/`
3. Complete the exercise.

Restrictions and Getting Around Them

Same-origin Policy and Cross-origin Requests

- By default, Ajax requests must be made on the same domain
- Getting around the same-origin policy
  - A proxy on the server
  - JSONP: JSON with Padding
  - Cross-origin Resource Sharing (CORS) (>= IE10)

Recommendation: Use CORS.

Introducing JSONP

- Browser doesn't enforce the same-origin policy for resources (images, CSS files, and JavaScript files)
- You can emulate an Ajax call to another domain that returns JSON by doing the following:
  1. Write a function that will receive the JSON as an argument
  2. Create a `<script>` element and set the `src` attribute to a remote domain, include the name of the function above in the query string.
  3. The remote server will return JavaScript (not JSON)
  4. The JavaScript will simply be a function call to the function you defined in step 1, with the requested JSON data as its only argument.

Example: JSONP

1. Define your function:

```
function myCallback (someObject) { /* ... */ }
```

2. Create the script tag:

```
<script src="http://server/api?jsonp=myCallback">
</script>
```

3. The browser fetches the URL, which contains:

```
myCallback({answer: "Windmill"});
```

4. Your function is called with the requested data

JavaScript Documentation

Books on JavaScript

Training Videos from Pluralsight

Libraries

Compatibility Tables