

slides at https://github.com/mvolkmann/talks

#### R. Mark Volkmann

Object Computing, Inc.

http://objectcomputing.com Email: mark@objectcompuing.com Twitter: @mark\_volkmann

GitHub: mvolkmann



### Why Consider Svelte?

#### Better performance

reactivity without using a virtual Dom

#### Smaller bundle sizes

- much smaller framework library needed at runtime
- example Todo app is 13% the same app in React
  - see https://github.com/mvolkmann/svelte-todo and https://github.com/mvolkmann/react-todo

#### Easier state management

- component variables, context, stores, and module context
- But ...
  - no TypeScript support yet, but it is coming
    - https://github.com/sveltejs/svelte/issues/1639
  - "Svelte Native" builds on NativeScript for creating mobile apps
    - perhaps not yet as mature as React Native

### Svelte Overview ...

- A web application complier, not a runtime library
  - compiles .svelte files to .js files
  - no Svelte runtime dependencies
- Alternative to web frameworks like React, Vue, and Angular
- Developed by Rich Harris
  - formerly at The Guardian; current at The New York Times
  - previously created the Ractive web framework https://ractive.js.org/
    - used at The Guardian
    - inspired parts of Vue
  - created Rollup module bundler https://rollupjs.org/
- Can build entire app or add components to existing apps implemented with other frameworks

### ... Svelte Overview

4

- Supports reactivity, not a virtual DOM
- Much faster
  - significantly faster than apps built with other frameworks; check the benchmarks!
  - mostly because it doesn't need to build a virtual DOM and perform DOM diffing
  - more suitable for running on low-powered devices
- Delivered code is much smaller
  - uses Rollup by default for module bundling, but can also use Parcel or Webpack
  - create production build with npm run build
- Provides live reload
- Provides runtime warnings for accessibility issues
  - ex. missing an alt attribute on an img element

#### Svelte Resources

5

- "Rethinking reactivity" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdNJ3fydeao
  - talk by Rich Harris at "You Gotta Love Frontend (YGLF) Code Camp 2019"
- Home page https://svelte.dev/
- Tutorial https://svelte.dev/tutorial/
- Online REPL https://svelte.dev/repl/
- Discord chat room https://discordapp.com/invite/yy75DKs

## **Getting Started**

- npx degit sveltejs/template app-name
  - degit is an npm package that copies a git repository
  - useful for project scaffolding
- cd app-name
- npm install
- npm run dev
  - provides live reload, unlike npm run start
  - syntax errors are reported in window where this is running,
     not in browser because it doesn't produce a new version of the app
- browse localhost:5000
- Just outputs "Hello world!" in purple

degit was created by Rich Harris. It downloads a git repo, by default the master branch. In this case sveltejs is the user name and template is the repo. The second argument is the name of the directory to create.

#### Generated index.html

#### In public/index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
<head>
   <meta charset='utf8'>
   <meta name='viewport' content='width=device-width'>
   <title>Svelte app</title>
   <link rel='icon' type='image/png' href='favicon.png'> the Svelte logo
   <link rel='stylesheet' href='global.css'> non-scoped CSS
   <link rel='stylesheet' href='bundle.css'> | scoped CSS from .svelte files
</head>
<body>
   <script src='bundle.js'></script> bundled JavaScript code
</body>
</html>
```

#### Generated Source Files

uses tabs for indentation by default

#### In src/main.js

```
import App from './App.svelte';

const app = new App({
    target: document.body,
    props: {
        name: 'world'
    }
});

export default app;
```

#### In src/App.svelte

```
<script>
    export let name;
</script>

<style>
    h1 {
       color: purple;
    }
</style>
<h1>Hello {name}!</h1>
```

Curly braces (interpolation) are used to output the value of a JavaScript expression. They are also used for dynamic attribute values.

### **Defining Components**

- Angular uses classes
- React uses functions or classes
- Vue uses object literals
- Svelte doesn't use an container
- JavaScript in source files is combined to form the definition which is automatically made the default export

## **Svelte Components**

- Implemented in .svelte files under src directory
- Three sections, all optional

```
<script>
    // JavaScript goes here.
</script>
    Note the different styles of comments that can be used in each section.

<style>
    /* Scoped CSS rules go here. */
</style>
<!-- HTML goes here. -->
```

## **Sharing Data**

- Four ways to share data between components
  - props pass data from parent components to child components
  - contexts pass data from ancestor components to descendant components
  - stores store data outside any component and make available to all
  - module scope store data in component modules and make available to all instances of the component

## Props ...

- Components can accept input through props
- Specified as attributes on a component element in parent components
- Declared in <script> section of component with export keyword
  - using valid JavaScript syntax in a Svelte-specific way
- Example
  - in parent component

```
<script>
  import Hello from './Hello.svelte';
</script>
  prop values that are expression or non-string literals
are surrounded by curly braces instead of quotes
```

in child component defined in Hello.svelte

```
<script>
  export let name;
</script>
  can assign a default value

<div>
  Hello, {name}!
</div>
```

## ... Props

- Can use object spread to pass multiple props
- Example

```
<script>
  import Hello from './Hello.svelte';
  let helloProps = {name: 'Mark', color: 'yellow'};
</script>
<Hello {...helloProps} />
```

 Currently these is no prop type checking like in React, Vue, and Angular

#### Context

Alternative to props and stores for passing data from a component to a descendant

```
import {getContext, setContext} from 'svelte';
```

Ancestor components set context

```
setContext(key, value);
```

Descendant components get context

```
const value = getContext(key);
```

- Keys can be any kind of value, not just strings
- Values can be any kind of value including objects with methods

## Context Example

#### Output

This is in A.
This is in B.
This is in C.
favorite color is yellow
favorite number is 19

```
<script>
   import C from './C.svelte';
</script>

<div>
   This is in B.
   <C />
</div>
```

Svelte Svelte

#### **Stores**

- Holds application state outside any component
- Alternative to using props to share state between components
- Recommended to define and export all stores needed by an app in src/stores.js
- Three provided kinds of stores
  - writable stores only kind that can be modified by components
  - readable stores
  - **derived** stores derive their value from current values of other stores | not described further here

- all have subscribe method
- Can implement custom stores
  - any object with a properly implemented subscribe method
  - see example at https://svelte.dev/tutorial/custom-stores

#### Writable Stores

- Call writable function to create
- Also have these methods
  - set(newValue)
  - update(currentValue => newValue) calculated from current value
- To create

```
stores.js
import {writable} from 'svelte/store';
export const dogStore = writable([]); pass initial value
```

- Can bind to a writable store
  - example <input bind:value={\$someStore}>
  - user changes to the input update the store

#### Readable Stores

- Call readable function to create
- Specify initial value
- Optionally provide function that takes set function
  - called when first subscriber subscribes
  - obtain value and pass to set
- Optionally return a function
  - called when last subscriber unsubscribes to perform cleanup
- Example

```
import {readable} from 'svelte/store';

export const catStore = readable(
  [], // initial value
  set => {
    const res = await fetch('/cats');
    const cats = await res.json();
    set(cats);
    // Can return cleanup function here.
  }
);

const res = await res.json();
```

18

### **Using Stores**

- Import from where defined
- Two options to access
  - subscribe method very verbose!
  - \$ auto-subscription shorthand much better!
    - requires store to be imported at top-level of component
    - all variables whose names begin with \$ must be stores

### **Module Context**

 To run JavaScript code in a component source file only once instead of once for each component instance created, include code in

```
<script context="module">
    ...
</script>
```

- When a script tag doesn't specify a context, it is "instance context"
- Can specify both kinds of script tags in a component source file
  - can export values from both contexts
  - cannot specify a default export because
     the component itself is automatically treated as the default export
- Can declare variables and define functions in module context
  - accessible in instance context of all component instances
  - allows sharing data between all instances
  - instance context variables and functions are **not** accessible in module context

### Attributes

- To supply an attribute value from a JavaScript expression
  - <tag attr={expression}>
- Shorthand syntax if value is in a variable with same name as attribute
  - <tag foo={foo}> is the same as <tag {foo}>

# Styling

- Styles in <style> tags of .svelte files
   are automatically scoped to the component
  - adds same CSS class named svelte-hash to all rendered tags
- Global styles go in public/global.css
- Can use /\* \*/ comments, but not //
- Provides animation effects typically used for transitions
  - and makes it easy to implement custom animations
- "svelte3" ESLint plugin warns about unused CSS selectors
- Can conditionally add a CSS class to an element
  - example <div class:error={status > 0}>{result}</div>

### **Importing Components**

- Components can import others inside their script tag
  - ex. import Other from './Other.svelte';
- Imported components can then be used in HTML section

### Inserting HTML

- To render a JavaScript expression whose value is an HTML string
  - {@html expression}
- Example
  - suppose markup is a variable that holds a string of HTML
  - {@html markup}
- Cross-site Scripting
  - you must escape HTML from untrusted sources to avoid this

### **Event Handling**

- Specify with on: event-name attribute set to a function
- Examples

```
<button on:click={handleClick}>Press Me</button>
```

reference to function define in script section

```
<button on:click={event => clicked = event.target}>Press Me</button>
```

inline event handling

- Event object is passed to event handling function
- Can specify an number of event modifiers
  - with vertical bars following by modifier names
  - ex. <button on:click|once|preventDefault={handleClick}>Press Me</button>
  - modifiers are
    - capture invokes handler only in capture phase instead of default bubbling phase
    - once removes handler after first occurrence
    - passive can improve scrolling performance
    - preventDefault prevents the default action
    - stopPropagation prevents subsequent handlers in the capture/bubbling flow from being invoked

## Dispatching Events

Components can dispatch events

- These events only go to the parent component
  - they do not automatically bubble further up
  - parent listens for events on child instance

```
<Child on:event-name={handleEvent} /> handleEvent is a parent component function
```

- Shorthand to forward events up
  - if component hierarchy is A > B > C and C emits event "foo", B can forward it up to A with C on: foo A
  - also works with DOM events to forward from child component to parent

## Binding Form Elements ...

- Form elements can be bound to a variable
  - provides current value and event handling for updating the variable when user changes value
- Automatically coerces input values from strings to numbers when type is number or range
- Example



## ... Binding Form Elements ...

```
<style>
  div {
   margin-bottom: 10px;
  input,
  select {
   border: solid gray 1px;
   border-radius: 4px;
   padding: 4px;
  input[type='checkbox'],
  input[type='radio'] {
   margin-left: 5px;
  label {
    display: inline-block;
    font-weight: bold;
   margin-right: 5px;
   vertical-align: top;
</style>
```

28

# ... Binding Form Elements ...

```
<div class="form">
  <div>
    <label>Name</label>
    <input type="text" bind:value={name} />
  </div>
  \langle div \rangle
                                                         for checkboxes, bind to
    <label>Happy?</label>
    <input type="checkbox" bind:checked={happy} />
                                                         checked property
  </div>
                                                         rather than value
  <div>
    <label>Favorite Flavors</label>
    {#each flavors as flavor}
      <label>
        <input type="checkbox" value={flavor} bind:group={favoriteFlavors} />
        {flavor}
                                                    using bind: group with a set
      </label>
                                                    of related checkboxes makes
    {/each}
                                                    the value an array of strings
  </div>
```

# ... Binding Form Elements ...

```
<div>
  <label>Favorite Season</label>
  {#each seasons as season}
    <label>
      <input type="radio" value={season} bind:group={favoriteSeason} />
      {season}
                                               using bind: group with a set
    </label>
                                               of related radio buttons makes
  {/each}
</div>
                                               the value a single strings
<div>
  <label>Favorite Color</label>
                                            add multiple attribute to a select
  <select bind:value={favoriteColor}>
                                            to change it to a scrollable list that
    <option />
                                            allows selecting multiple options
    {#each colors as color}
      <option>{color}</option>
    {/each}
              option elements can have a value attribute
  </select>
              and its value can be a string, number, or object
</div>
<div>
  <label>Life Story</label>
  <textarea bind:value={story} />
</div>
```

## ... Binding Form Elements

```
This part just reports the variable values set by the binds.

{name} likes {favoriteColor}, {favoriteSeason}, and is {happy ? 'happy' : 'unhappy'}.

</div>

<div>{name}'s favorite flavors are {favoriteFlavors}.</div>
<div>Story: {story}</div>
{/if}
</div>
```

- When #each is used to iterate over objects in an array, form elements inside can bind to properties of those objects
  - user input then causes those objects to be mutated

## **Binding Custom Props**

- Can bind a child component prop to a variable in parent component
- Allows child component to change value of a parent component variable
- Example

when child button is pressed,
 cValue is doubled and
 that becomes the new value of pValue
 because it is bound to cValue

### Reactivity

- Changes to variables referenced in interpolations automatically cause those interpolations to be reevaluated
- Example

```
<script>
  let count = 0;
  const increment = () => count++;
</head>
<label>Count =</label>
<button on:click={increment}>+</button>
```

#### Reactive Declarations

\$: is a "labelled statement" with label name "\$" that Syelte treats as a "reactive declaration"

interestingly it is not an error in JavaScript to use the same label more than once in the same scope

- Add as a prefix on statements that should be repeated whenever any referenced variables change
  - must assign a new value to trigger
  - pushing new elements onto an array doesn't do this

```
Alternative trick
myArr.push(newValue);
myArr = myArr;
```

Examples

```
$: average = total / count;
$: console.log('count =', count);
```

great for debugging

Can apply to a block

```
$: {
  // statements to be repeated here
```

Can apply to multiline statements like if statements

```
$: if (someCondition) {
  // body statements
```

executes if any variables referenced in condition or body change, but of course the body only executes when condition is true

for example, if condition is a call to a function, it will be called if any references in the body have changed

## Logic in Markup

Three approaches for conditional and iteration logic

#### React

uses JSX where logic is implemented by JavaScript code in curly braces

#### Angular and Vue

- support framework-specific attributes for logic
- ex. ngIf, ngFor, v-if, v-for, ...

#### Svelte

- supports mustache-like custom syntax that wraps elements
- ex. {#if} and {#each}

## Markup if Statement

- Begin with {#if condition}
  - starting with # indicates a block opening tag
- Can use {:else if condition} and {:else}
  - starting with : indicates a block continuation tag
- End with {/if}
  - starting with / indicates a block ending tag
- Include markup to be conditionally rendered
- Example

# Markup each Statement ...

- Begin with {#each iterable as element}
  - starting with # indicates a block opening tag
- End with {/each}
  - starting with / indicates a block ending tag
- Include markup to be rendered for each element
- Examples

```
{#each colors as color, index}
  <div>{index + 1}) {color}</div>
{/each}
```

```
1) red
2) green
3) blue
```

```
{#each people as {name, age}}
  <div>{name} is {age} years old.</div>
{/each}
```

can use destructuring when elements are objects

# ... Markup each Statement

- Need a unique identifier for each element if items will be removed
  - similar to a key in React and Vue
- Examples

```
{#each people as person (person.id)}
  <div>{name} is {age} years old.</div>
{/each}
```

# Promises in Markup

- Can wait for promises to resolve or reject in markup and render different elements for each
- Examples
  - getData function returns a Promise

```
{#await getData()}
     <div>Waiting for data ...</div>
{:then result}
     <div>result = {result}</div>
{:catch error}
     <div class="error">Error: {error.message}</div>
{/await}
```

```
{#await getData() then result} can omit block to render while waiting for resolve or reject {:catch error} cdiv class="error">Error: {error.message}</div> can omit catch block {/await}
```

### Slots

- Allow child elements to be passed to a component
- Component can decide whether and where to render them
- <slot>default content</slot> is the same, but specifies content to render if there is no child content
  - note that whitespace counts as child content
- <slot name="slotName">default content</slot> is a named slot
  - can have any number of these in component
  - children specify target slot with slot attribute on any child element

#### onMount ...

- Most commonly used lifecycle function
- Registers a function to be called when a component is mounted in DOM
- Some uses
  - move focus into a given form element
  - retrieve data from a REST service (recommended place to do this)

#### Example

```
<script>
  import {onMount} from 'svelte';
  let name = '';
  let nameInput;
  onMount(() => nameInput.focus());
</script>
<input bind:this={nameInput} bind:value={name} />
```

- To run a function when component is destroyed, return it from on Mount.
  - similar to React useEffect hook

### ... onMount

- Can be called from helper functions
  - similar to defining custom React hooks
  - can share these between components
  - recommended to name these starting with "on"
    - React hook names that start with "use"

# Other Lifecycle Functions

#### beforeUpdate

- registers a function to be called immediately before component DOM updates
- first run is before component is mounted, and no component DOM will be present yet

#### afterUpdate

registers a function to be called immediately after component DOM updates

# **Batched DOM Updates**

- "When you invalidate component state in Svelte, it doesn't update the DOM immediately.
   Instead, it waits until the next microtask to see if there are any other changes that need to be applied, including in other components.
   Doing so avoids unnecessary work and allows the browser to batch things more effectively."
- The tick function "returns a promise that resolves as soon as any pending state changes have been applied to the DOM (or immediately, if there are no pending state changes)."
- To make state changes after DOM updates have been applied

```
<script>
  import {tick} from 'svelte';
  ...
  // Make some state changes.
  await tick();
  // Make more state changes after DOM updates.
  ...
</script>

cscript>
  import {tick} from 'svelte';
  prevents batching of updates
  that occur after the call to tick
  that occur after the call to tick
  import {tick} from 'svelte';
  prevents batching of updates
  that occur after the call to tick
  import {tick} from 'svelte';
  import {tick} fr
```

## Animation ...

- svelte/animate provides
  - flip
- svelte/motion provides
  - spring
  - tweened
- svelte/transition provides
  - crossfade
  - draw
  - fade
  - fly
  - scale
  - slide
- Also see svelte/easing

## ... Animation

- Can implement custom transitions
  - see example at https://svelte.dev/tutorial/custom-css-transitions
- Can listen for events to know when a transition is complete

on:introstart

on:introend

on:outrostart

on:outbound

Also see local transitions and delayed transitions

# Special Elements ...

- < <svelte:component this={componentRef} optionalProps>
  - renders component specified by variable componentRef
  - renders nothing if componentRef is falsy
  - extra props are passed to the component that is rendered
- <svelte:self props>
  - allows a component to render an instance of itself
  - supports recursive components
  - needed because a component cannot import itself

# ... Special Elements ...

- < <svelte:window on:eventName={handler}>
  - listens for events on window object
- < <svelte:window bind:propertyName={variable}>
  - binds a variable to a window property (ex. innerWidth)
- <svelte:body on:eventName={handler}>
  - listens for events on body object (ex. mouseEnter and mouseLeave)

# ... Special Elements ...

- < <svelte:head>elements</svelte:head>
  - inserts elements in head of document (ex. link and script tags)
  - When is it useful for a component to do this?
  - Is it discouraged?

# ... Special Elements

- <svelte:options option={value} />
  - placed at top of file, not inside script tag
  - specifies compiler options including:
  - immutable means props will be treated as immutable (an optimization)
    - means parent components will create new objects for object props rather than modify properties of existing object
    - allows Svelte to determine whether a prop has changed by comparing object references to rather than object properties
    - if parent component modifies object properties, the child component will not detect the change and will not re-render
  - accessors adds getter and setter methods for the component props
    - Why would parent components want to call these?
  - namespace="value" specifies namespace of component
    - Why needed?
  - tag="value" specifies name to use when compiled as a custom element
    - Why do this?

# Debugging

 To break when given variables change and output their values in devtools console

```
{@debug var1, var2, var3}
```

Variables can refer to any kind of value including objects and arrays

## **ESLint Setup**

- Create .eslintrc.json file
- npm install -D name where name is
  - eslint
  - eslint-plugin-html
  - eslint-plugin-import
  - eslint-plugin-svelte3

Add npm script

```
"env": {
    "browser": true,
    "es6": true
},

"extends": [
    "eslint:recommended",
    "plugin:import/recommended"
],

"parserOptions": {
    "ecmaVersion": 2019,
    "sourceType": "module"
},

"plugins": ["svelte3"],

"rules": {
    "no-console": "off",
    "svelte3/lint-template": true
}
```

```
"lint": "eslint --fix --quiet src --ext .js,.svelte",
```

- Run with npm run lint
- For more info see https://github.com/sveltejs/eslint-plugin-svelte3

# Prettier Setup

• Create .prettierrc file

```
{
  "bracketSpacing": false,
  "singleQuote": true
}
```

- npm install -D name where name is
  - prettier
  - prettier-plugin-svelte
- Add npm script

```
"format": "prettier --write '{public,src}/**/*.{css,html,js,svelte}'",
```

- Run with npm run lint
- Will enforce section order of <script>, <style>, and HTML

### Related Tools

- Svelte VS Code extension
- Sapper https://sapper.svelte.dev/
  - "application framework powered by Svelte"
  - name may be a traction of "Svelte" and "Application"
  - similar to Next and Gatsby
  - provides routing, server-side rendering, and code splitting
- Svelte Native https://svelte-native.technology/
  - for implementing native mobile apps
  - based on nativescript-vue
  - a community-driven project
- Svelte GL https://github.com/Rich-Harris/svelte-gl
  - in-work Svelte version of Three.js
- Svelte Testing Library https://testing-library.com/docs/svelte-testing-library/intro
- Storybook with Svelte https://storybook.js.org/docs/guides/guide-svelte/