



International
JavaScript
Conference

Svelte

Web App Development Reimagined

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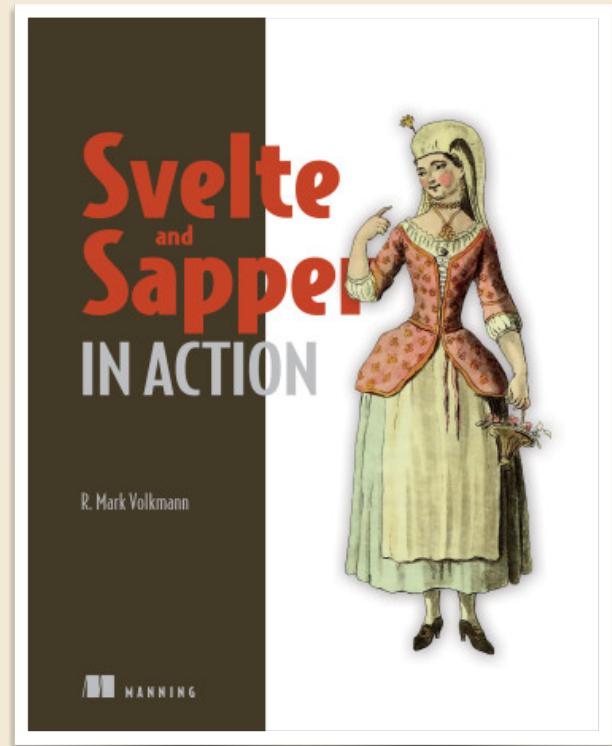
@mark_volkmann



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About Me

- Partner and Distinguished Software Engineer at Object Computing, Inc. in St. Louis, Missouri USA
- 42 years of professional software development experience
- Writer and teacher
- Blog at <https://mvolkmann.github.io/blog/>
- Author of Manning book “Svelte and Sapper in Action”
 - Sapper has been replaced by SvelteKit which has many of the same features
 - Much less expensive to buy directly through Manning when there is a sale rather than through Amazon



Svelte is ...



- An alternative to React, Vue, Angular, ...
- A compiler, not a runtime library
- Able to use JavaScript or TypeScript
- Developed by Rich Harris
 - also created of Ractive and Rollup
 - worked in graphics departments at “The Guardian” and “The New York Times”
 - now at Vercel developing Svelte full-time

<https://svelte.dev>

Being a Compiler

- Enables many things that cannot easily be done in other frameworks
 - eliminate use of virtual DOM
 - <https://svelte.dev/blog/virtual-dom-is-pure-overhead>
 - detect where component state and app state is used
 - so those parts of the DOM can be efficiently rebuilt when values change
 - detect unused CSS
 - generate optimized JavaScript with no runtime library from **.svelte** files
 - only includes parts of Svelte framework that are used
- Can't just copy good ideas from Svelte and put them in other frameworks

Benefits



- Less code to write
- File-based component definitions - JS, HTML, and CSS
- CSS scoped by default
- Reactive statements (`? :`) - like spreadsheet formulas
- Two-way data bindings - ex. between variable and `<input>`
- Easy component state management - **reactivity**
- Easy app state management - **stores**
- Built-in animations
- Small bundle sizes

2021 State of JS Survey

- <https://2021.stateofjs.com/en-US/libraries/front-end-frameworks>
- Results from 2019, 2020, and 2021

Angular satisfaction - 38% 42% 45%

React satisfaction - 89% 88% 84%

Svelte satisfaction - 88% 89% 90%

Vue satisfaction - 87% 85% 80%

Svelte interest - 67% 66% 68%

Svelte Usage - 8% 15% 20%

Svelte awareness - 75% 87% 94%



.svelte File Contents

All parts are optional.

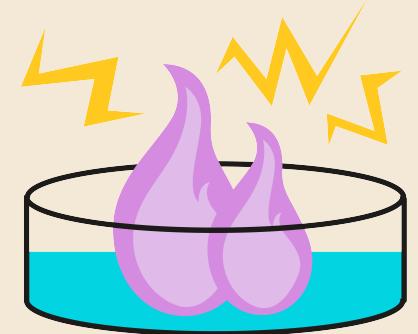
```
<script context="module">  
    think of as class-level; can export functions and constants; not often used  
</script>  
-----  
<script>    think of as instance-level; automatically exports the component; cannot export anything else  
        export let name;    declares a prop to be passed in  
</script>    variables and functions are defined here  
-----  
<h1>Hello, {name}!</h1>    HTML that can include Svelte logic and interpolations of expressions  
-----  
<style>  
    h1 {  
        color: red;    automatically scoped to this component  
    }  
</style>
```

Component State / Reactivity

- Just variables declared at top-level of `script` element
- Changes trigger updates to parts of DOM where used

```
<script>
  let count = 0;
</script>

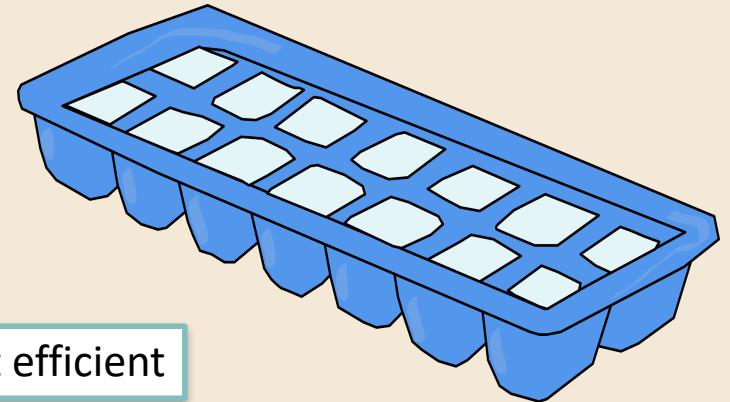
<div>
  <button disabled={count <= 0} on:click={() => count--}>-</button>
  <h1>{count}</h1>
  <button on:click={() => count++}>+</button>
</div>
```



- How much more code would be required to implement this in other frameworks?

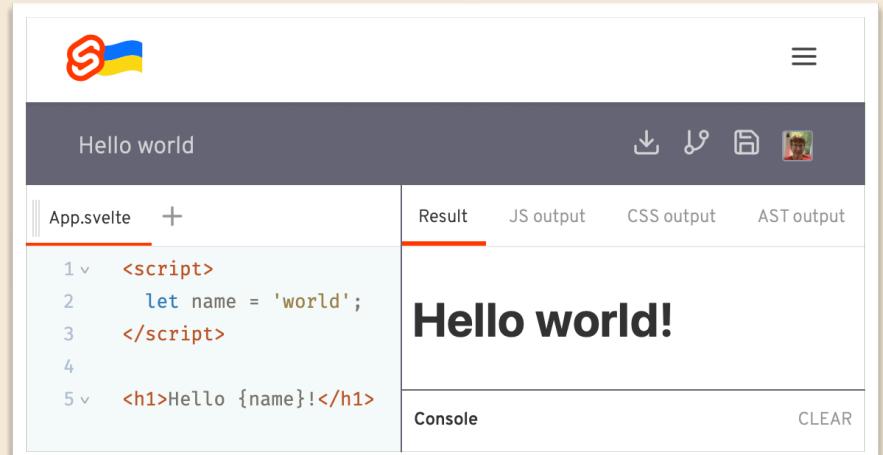
Reactivity of Arrays

- Changing variable “value” causes DOM updates
- But adding, removing, and changing array elements does not change their value
 - still refers to same array
- Three ways to handle
 - `myArr = myArr.concat(newValue);`
 - `myArr = [...myArr, newValue];`
 - `myArr.push(newValue); myArr = myArr;` most efficient



Svelte REPL

- Online Read Eval Print Loop at <https://svelte.dev/repl/>
- Write and run Svelte apps without installing anything
- View generated JS and CSS
- Save to recall later
- Export to continue development outside REPL
- See my examples at <https://mvolkmann.github.io/blog/topics/#/blog/svelte/repls/>
- Demo the Counter app in REPL



The screenshot shows the Svelte REPL interface. At the top, there's a logo with a stylized 'S' and a blue and yellow background. Below it, the title 'Hello world' is displayed. On the left, the code editor shows 'App.svelte' with the following content:

```
1 <script>
2   let name = 'world';
3 </script>
4
5 <h1>Hello {name}!</h1>
```

On the right, there are four tabs: 'Result' (which is selected), 'JS output', 'CSS output', and 'AST output'. The 'Result' tab displays the output: 'Hello world!'. Below the tabs, there are 'Console' and 'CLEAR' buttons.

Reactive Statements

- Svelte interprets the JS label \$ to be a reactive statement
- Similar to spreadsheet formulas - ex. =B3+C3
- Code is re-executed every time a referenced variable changes
- Examples
 - `$: total = scores.reduce((acc, s) => acc + s, 0);`
 - `$: console.log('total =', total);`
 - `$: evaluateCart(cart, taxRate);`
 - `$: { ... } block of code`

Loan Calculator

- Calculates monthly payment from loan amount, interest rate, and number of years
- Great demo of using reactive statements
- Review code in REPL
- How much more code would be required to implement this in other frameworks?

The screenshot shows a loan calculator interface with three input fields and a result output:

- Loan Amount:** \$200000
- Interest Rate:** 3
- Years:** 30
- Monthly Payment:** \$843.21

Conditional Logic in HTML

- Uses Mustache-like syntax
- `{#if some-condition}` opens with #
 HTML to render
- `{:else if other-condition}` continues with :
 other HTML to render
- `{:else}`
 more HTML to render
- ends with /

Iteration in HTML

- `{#each arrExpr as elemName, index (keyExpr)}`
 - HTML to render for each element
- `{:else}`
 - HTML to render if array is empty
- `{/each}`
- , `index` is optional
- `(keyExpr)` is optional
 - include when array elements will be added, deleted, or reordered
- `{:else}` block is optional

Animations

- Supported by four packages
 - **svelte/animate** - **flip** function animates changes to x/y position from old to new
 - **svelte/easing** - easing functions control rate of change through an animation
 - **svelte/motion** - **spring** and **tweeted** functions return a **writable** store used to animate changes to a value
 - **svelte/transition** - many directives and **crossfade** function directives include **blur**, **draw**, **fade**, **fly**, **scale**, and **slide**
- All are CSS-based rather than JS-based
 - good performance because main thread is not blocked
- Can define custom transitions

Animation Demos

- See <https://mvolkmann.github.io/blog/topics/#/blog/svelte/repls/>
- Transition Animations
- Toast
- Pie Chart (svelte/motion)
- Crossfade Demo
- Flip Animation
- Custom Transition (spin)
- Draw Animation

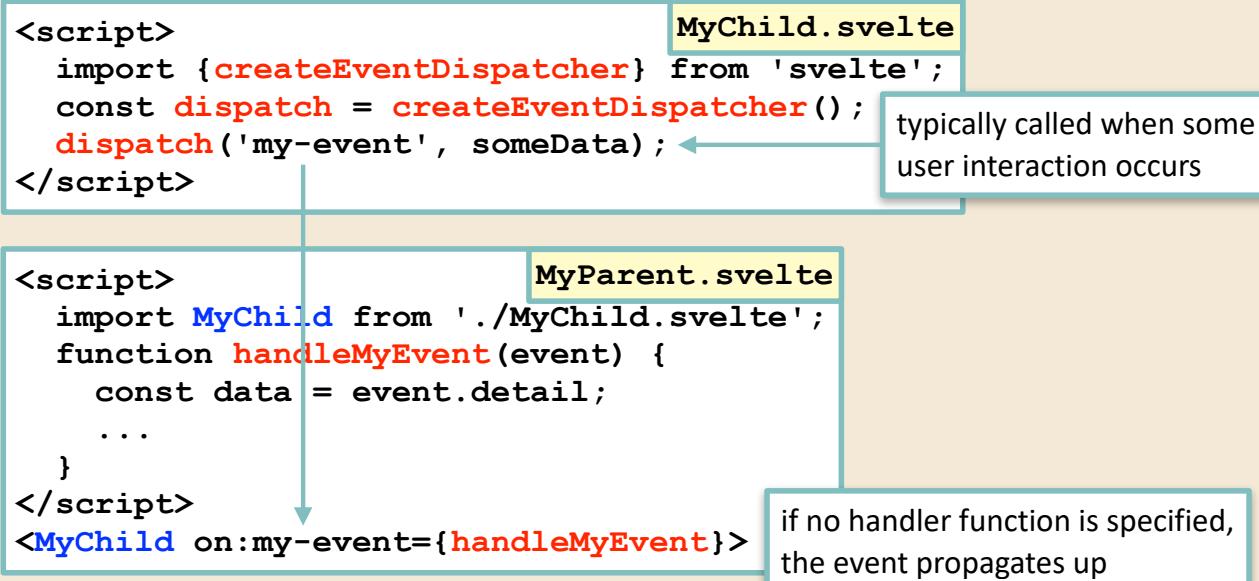
The collage illustrates several Svelte animation features:

- A pie chart with a yellow slice labeled "Percent 80".
- A house outline composed of red and blue lines.
- A yellow rectangular toast with the text "I am toast." and a "Show" checkbox.
- A horizontal slider with three buttons labeled 3, 2, and 1.
- A "Toggle" button.
- A "Click a button to move it to the opposite list." section with buttons for red, orange, yellow, blue, green, and purple.
- A "Springy duration = 1000" toggle switch.
- Text examples: "This is fade.", "This is blur.", "This is slide.", "This is scale.", "This is fly.", "This is fly retaining opacity.", and "Enter from left and exit right."
- A "Horizontal" toggle switch.

Take me
for a spin!

Events

- Events go from child component to parent
- Events have a name and optional data
- To dispatch from child
- To listen in parent



Scoped CSS

- To achieve CSS scoping, Svelte ...
 - computes hash of all CSS in component
 - adds CSS class with name **svelte-hash** to all elements rendered by the component that are targeted by CSS
 - ex. `<button>` becomes
`<button class="svelte-4vhgyu">`
 - adds same generated CSS class name to all CSS rules
 - ex. `button { ... }` becomes
`button.svelte-4vhgyu { ... }`

You don't need to know this, but it is what happens behind the scenes.

Global CSS

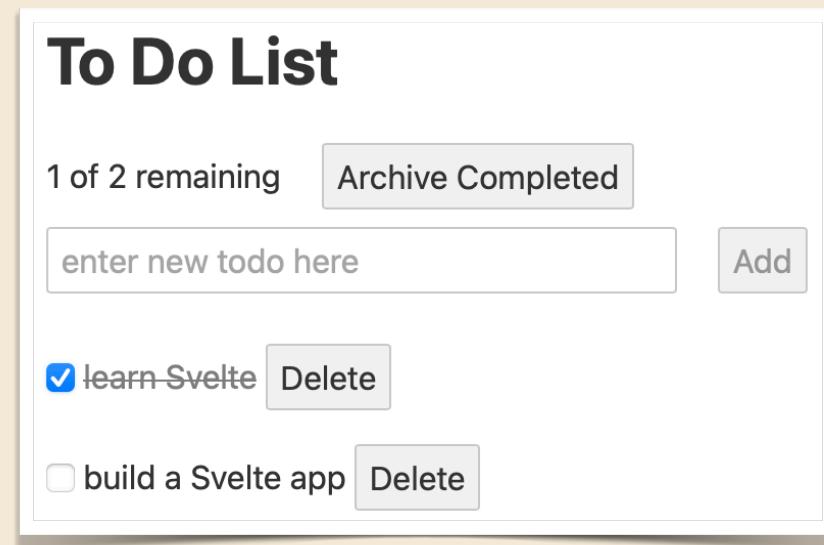
- Can define in a `.css` file and import into top component `.svelte` file
- Can avoid scoping in `<style>` of a component using`:global(selector) { properties }`
 - typically used to style nested components

```
<div class="my-component">
  <OtherComponent />
</div>
<style>
  .my-component :global(.other-component h1) {
    color: red;
  }
</style>
```

goal here is to
change `h1` styling only for those
rendered by `OtherComponent`

Todo App

- Classic app that demonstrates many Svelte features including
 - importing components
 - passing props
 - interpolation and `#each` in HTML
 - two-way data binding
 - reactivity
 - events
 - animation
 - scoped CSS
- Review code in REPL



App State / Stores

- Stores use publish/subscribe to share data between components
- Four kinds: writable, readable, derived, and custom
- Easiest approach is to define and export all in `stores.js`
- Can import in any components
- Subscribing and unsubscribing is automatic when store names are preceded by \$

Store Example

```
import {writable} from 'svelte/store';
export const user = writable({
  firstName: '',
  lastName: ''
});
```

stores.js

```
<script>
  import {user} from '../stores.js';
  import Report from '../Report.svelte';
</script>
<input type="text" placeholder="First Name" bind:value={$user.firstName} />
<input type="text" placeholder="Last Name" bind:value={$user.lastName} />
<Report />
```

routes/index.svelte

```
<script>
  import {user} from './stores.js';
  function clear() {
    $user = {firstName: '', lastName: ''};
  }
</script>
<h1>Hello, {$user.firstName} {$user.lastName}.</h1>
<button on:click={clear}>Clear</button>
```

Report.svelte



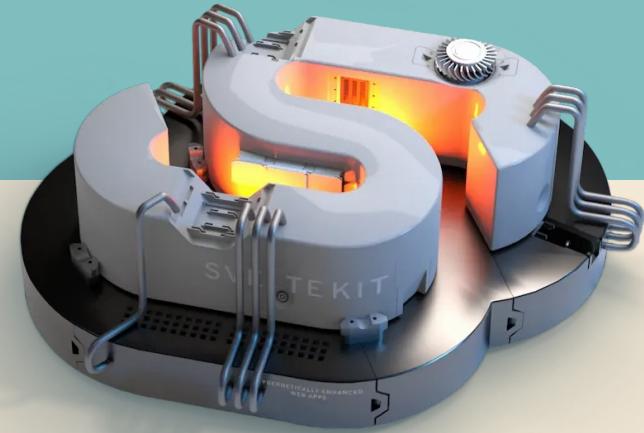
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Component Communication Options

Need	Solution
parent passes data to child	props
parent passes HTML and components to child	slots
child notifies parent, optionally including data	events
ancestor makes static data available to descendants	context
component shares data between all instances	module context
any component subscribes to and publishes data	stores

SvelteKit

- Framework on top of Svelte that replaces Sapper
- Like Next for React and Nuxt for Vue
- Features
 - file-based page routing
 - file-based endpoints (APIs)
 - layouts - common header/footer/nav
 - error page
 - code splitting for JS and CSS
 - prefetching based on hover and focus
 - hot module reloading using Vite
 - TypeScript, ESLint, and Prettier setup
 - static pages and sites
 - adapters for deployment targets
 - official: static, Node, Netlify, Vercel
 - community: Begin, Cloudflare Workers, Deno, Firebase, and more



<https://kit.svelte.dev>

Creating a New Project

- `npm init svelte@next project-name`
- Answer questions
 - Which Svelte app template?
 - SvelteKit demo app or Skeleton project (preferred)
 - Use TypeScript?
 - Add ESLint for code linting?
 - Add Prettier for code formatting?
 - Add Playwright for browser testing?

```
[I] volkmannm@OCI1689MBP15INCH ~/D/p/svelte> npm init svelte@next demo
create-svelte version 2.0.0-next.124
Welcome to SvelteKit!
This is beta software; expect bugs and missing features.
Problems? Open an issue on https://github.com/sveltejs/kit/issues if none exists already.

✓ Which Svelte app template? > Skeleton project
✓ Use TypeScript? ... No / Yes
✓ Add ESLint for code linting? ... No / Yes
✓ Add Prettier for code formatting? ... No / Yes
✓ Add Playwright for browser testing? ... No / Yes

Your project is ready!
✓ Typescript
  Inside Svelte components, use <script lang="ts">
✓ ESLint
  https://github.com/sveltejs/eslint-plugin-svelte3
✓ Prettier
  https://prettier.io/docs/en/options.html
  https://github.com/sveltejs/prettier-plugin-svelte#options

Install community-maintained integrations:
https://github.com/svelte-add/svelte-adders

Next steps:
1: cd demo
2: npm install (or pnpm install, etc)
3: git init && git add -A && git commit -m "Initial commit" (optional)
4: npm run dev -- --open

To close the dev server, hit Ctrl-C
Stuck? Visit us at https://svelte.dev/chat
```

Running a Project

- Follow instructions that are output to install dependencies and run locally
 - `cd project-name`
 - `npm install`
 - `npm run dev -- --open` listens on port 3000 by default

Welcome to SvelteKit

Visit kit.svelte.dev to read the documentation

SvelteKit Page Routing

- Pages and their URLs are described by directory and file names under `src/routes`
- File and directory names inside square brackets indicate that a path parameter will be captured

Page Routing Example

```
<script>  routes/index.svelte
  import '../global.css';
</script>
<nav>
  <a href="/page1">Page 1</a>
  <a href="/page2">Page 2</a>
</nav>
<main>
  <h1>Home Page</h1>
</main>
<style>
  a {
    color: white;
    font-size: 2rem;
    text-decoration: none;
  }
  main {
    padding: 1rem;
  }
  nav {
    display: flex;
    gap: 1rem;
    background-color: orange;
    padding: 1rem;
  }
</style>
```

```
body {
  font-family: sans-serif;
  margin: 0;
}

routes/page1.svelte
<h1>First Page</h1>

routes/page2.svelte
<h1>Second Page</h1>
```

Page 1 Page 2
Home Page

Wrap Up

- Developers like Svelte for many reasons, but the biggest reasons are that it reduces the amount of code that must be written and the code is easy to understand
- Delivering an excellent developer experience (DX) is not at the exclusion of good user experience (UX)
- Give Svelte a try and see if it simplifies web development for you!

