CS 188/219

Scalable Internet Services

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May 20, 2015

Calendar Updates

Final presentations are 16 days from now!

You should definitely be focusing on load testing and performance optimizations.

- It's ok to still add features, but that should not be your focus

I have sent out sample write ups from previous years.

Calendar Updates

- **Today**, Looking Forward: Thicker clients
- **Monday May 25**, no class: Memorial Day
- **Wednesday May 27**, Looking Forward: asm.js and emscripten
- **Monday June 1**, Guest Lecture: Jon Walker, CTO, Appfolio
- **Wednesday June 3**, Looking Forward: HTTP/2 and QUIC
- **Friday June 5**, final demos during lab time.
  - Final write-up is also due

Today's Agenda

- The Client-side Renaissance
- Overview of ES6

Motivation

- http://backbonejs.org/examples/todos/
- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/demos/detail/bananabread

The Browser Wars

- Mid-90s Netscape reigns supreme
- Microsoft releases initial version of Internet Explorer in 1995
- Competition between Netscape and Microsoft produces significant innovation in browsers
  - Javascript
  - Cookies
  - CSS

The Browser Wars

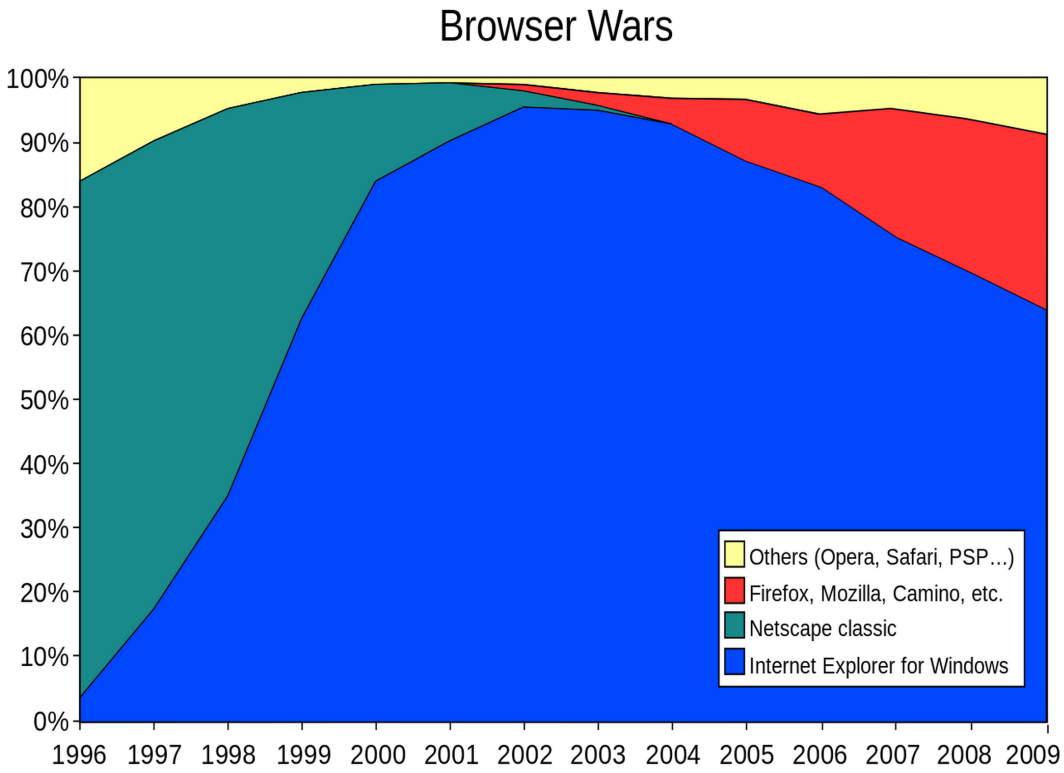
Microsoft bundles Internet Explorer to Windows 98

- Every file management window is a browser
- Eventually triggers an antitrust lawsuit against Microsoft

Meanwhile, Netscape focuses on open-sourcing its browser

- Eventually creates the Mozilla foundation
- Acquisition by AOL

The Browser Wars



Microsoft wins. Internet Explorer becomes the dominant browser for roughly a decade.

The Browser Wars

Version	Release Year
IE 1	1995
IE 2	1995
IE 3	1996
IE 4	1997
IE 5	1999
IE 6	2001
IE 7	2006
IE 8	2009

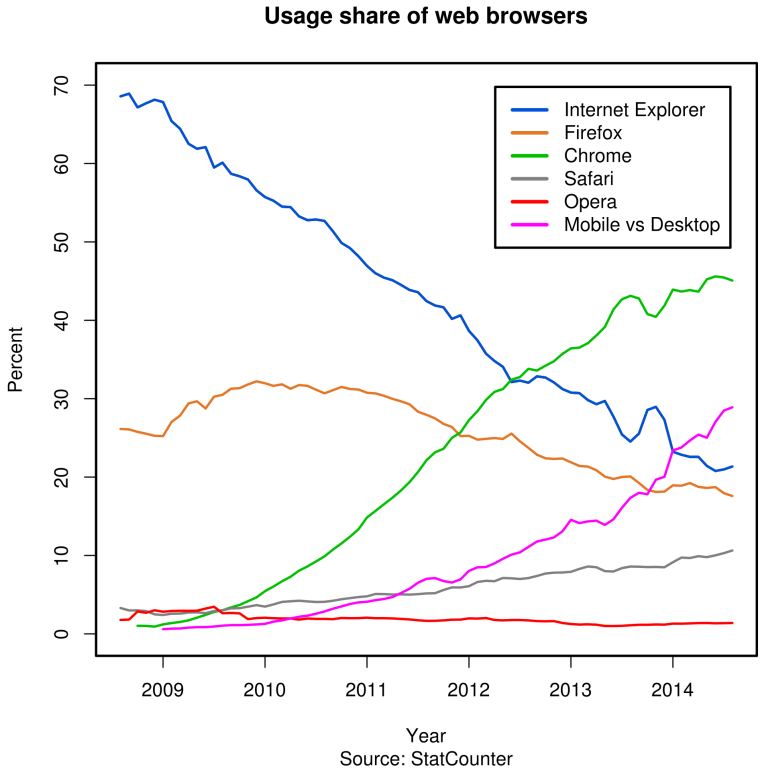
Lull in browser innovation commences

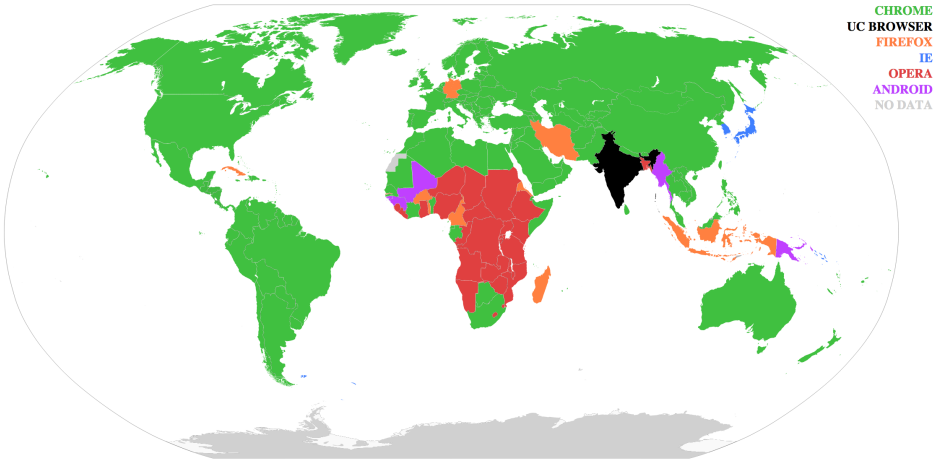
- Lack of competition means no reason to innovate
- Time between releases increases significantly

The Browser Wars

- Due to a variety of factors, Microsoft slowly loses market share to Firefox (Mozilla)
  - Security
  - Performance
- As Microsoft is slowly bleeding market share, Google announces Chrome
- Browser innovation reignites, today there are at least 4 viable browsers.

Browser Market Share Today





Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Usage_share_of_web_browsers

Client-side renaissance

During the browser dark ages, three things eventually spur the client side renaissance

- XMLHTTPRequest
- DOM Manipulation
- V8

XMLHttpRequest (Ajax)

Allows JavaScript on the page to asynchronously request resources from the server.

```
var req = new XMLHttpRequest();
req.onload = function() {
  console.log(“I’m a callback!”);
};
req.open("get", "/comments", true);
req.send();
```

Originally added to IE to enable the Outlook Web Access team to asynchronously communicate with the server (year ~2000).

- Other browsers implement it, becomes de facto standard by ~2004.

XMLHttpRequest (Ajax)

Prior to this, two-way communication with the server meant a full page refresh

- Either a clicked link or a submitted form.

This method allows javascript in your browser to send requests and receive responses completely programmatically.

- Example: As you type, google.com will show you intermediate results.

Most people don't use this method directly. jQuery is commonly used as an abstraction layer:

```
$.get('/comments', function(data) { alert("I'm a callback!");});
```

XMLHttpRequest (Ajax)

Security limitation:

- These requests can only go to the originating domain that the Javascript was served from.
- This prevents randomsite.com from (say) accessing your gmail inbox
  - All requests use existing cookies, of which your session is one.
- This works pretty well for things like Google Analytics, they can phone home to Google, but can't access the server-side resources of the website they are on.

This technique is now referred to as Ajax

- Asynchronous JavaScript and XML
- XML was originally envisioned as the transport format, but there is nothing XML-specific about it.
- Today, XML is not as regularly used as JSON for transport.

DOM Manipulation

- Document Object Model
  - A standardized way of representing the structure of a web page as a tree of in-memory objects
  - These objects are accessed via Javascript and can be queried and manipulated
- Example:

```
var newDiv = document.createElement("div");
var newContent = document.createTextNode("Hello World!");
newDiv.appendChild(newContent);
document.body.appendChild(newDiv);
```

DOM Manipulation

Progression of DOM Manipulation:

- DOM Level 0: Navigator 2, IE 3 (~1995).
  - Allowed reading the values of forms and links.
  - Not standardized (called legacy DOM)
- DOM Level 1: Navigator 4, IE 5 (~1998)
  - Allowed access and modification of anything by index
    - `document.forms[1].elements[2]`
- DOM Level 2: ~ 2000
  - added getElementById(), DOM event model
- DOM Level 3: ~2004, current
  - XPath support, keyboard event handling

V8: Javascript Gets Fast

September 2008, Google releases Chrome

- In addition to other novel features, it includes the V8 Javascript engine
- V8 applies modern, state of the art VM techniques to Javascript
  - Not interpreted: dynamically compiled to machine code
    - Re-compiled and re-optimized at runtime
  - Garbage collector is fast
    - Generational: separates allocated memory into young and old groups, treats them differently
    - Incremental: doesn't need to perform all GC at once
  - Applies other modern VM optimizations:
    - inlining, code elision, inline caching

V8: Javascript Gets Fast

V8 treats Javascript performance seriously, and triggers other browsers to do the same.

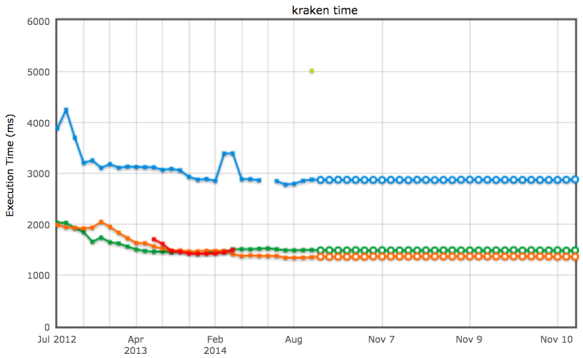
- Safari's JavaScriptCore
- IE's Chakra
- Firefox's SpiderMonkey

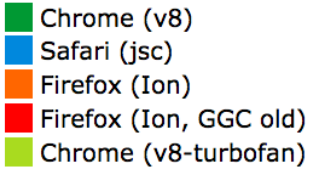
Today these VMs are all roughly evenly matched.

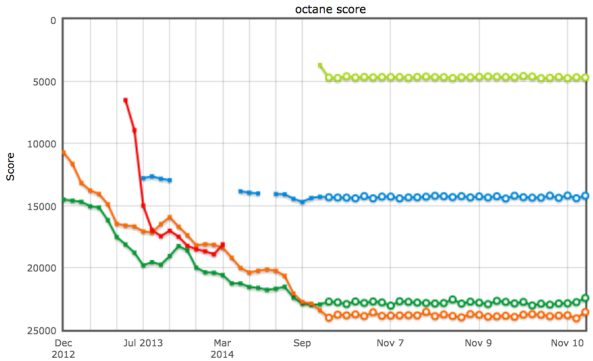
- Performance leader goes back and forth, but in the same ballpark

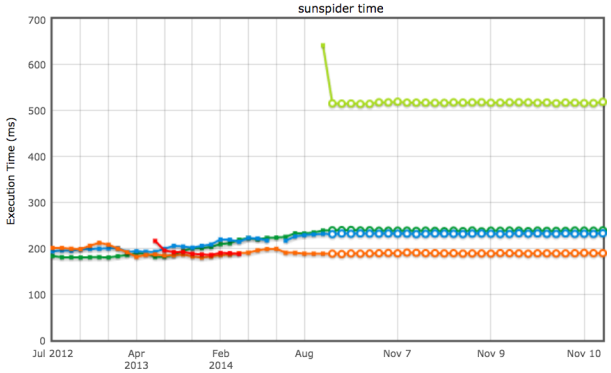
Sidenote: V8 was designed to also work well outside of the browser. It is the execution engine that Node.JS is built on.

V8: Javascript Gets Fast









Source: http://arewefastyet.com

Client-side Renaissance

So, by 2008, we have all the ingredients ready for a client-side renaissance:

- Globally installed virtual machines
- ...that can present content that can communicate via Ajax to the internet service they originated
- ...that have full programmatic control of the user interface (DOM).
- ...that use modern, high performance VM techniques
- … that exist in a competitive marketplace
  - Four viable browsers, available on multiple OSes
  - Competing to stay ahead of the pack
  - Standards-compliance is a competitive advantage

These are things we enjoy today that we did not always have.

Client-side Renaissance

What do these modern client-side applications look like?

- Instead of being a series of pages requested from a web server, we can serve up a running javascript application
  - This application is regularly sending user input back to the server
  - This application is regularly receiving structured data instead of rendered markup.
- These applications generally persist through user interactions
  - Clicks don't necessarily mean full-page refreshes
- Communication with the server is decoupled from user interaction
  - While the browser sits open, a javascript timer can go and check for new data and update the page as needed

Client-side Renaissance

Consequences of this shift

- Client side logic is much more complex and full page refreshes are more rare
- It's possible to build applications that work "offline"
- It's possible to build effective "push" mechanisms
- The "running application" is much more static and cacheable
- The apis you build to serve up structured data can be used by mobile applications and other internet services
- "Real" Javascript VMS enable very ambitious use of CPU resources

Client-side Renaissance

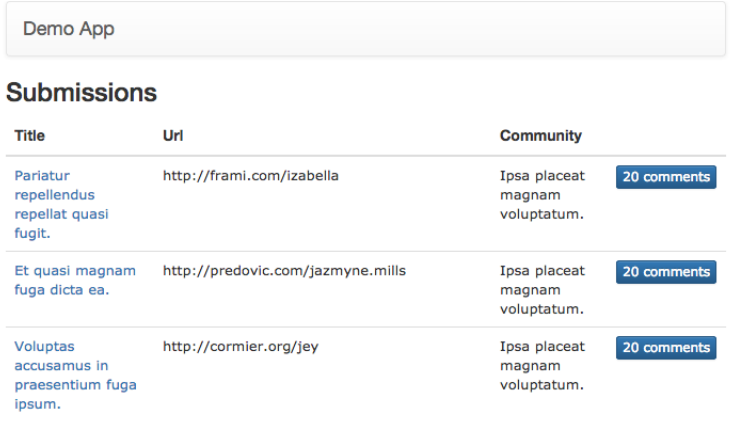
So you’re interested in building a web application that moves much of its logic and rendering to the client…

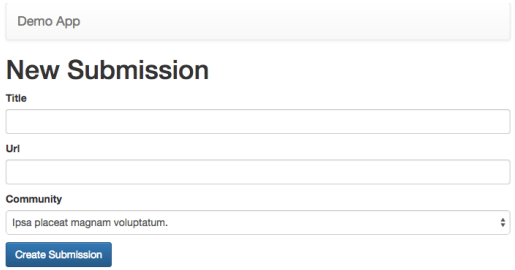
Let’s look at an example of this transition, in our Demo app.

Client-side Renaissance

In a traditional web application:

- When you click the “New Submission” button, the browser makes a new HTTP request and loads the response
- The response is an entire web page, and with it are numerous assets.
- The page returned has form elements
- When you fill out the form and submit it, the server may find it invalid and send back another form.
- List of submissions only changes when you refresh the page.

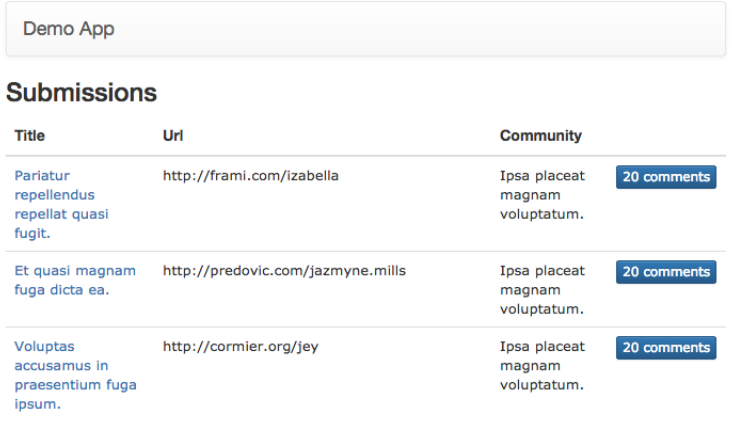


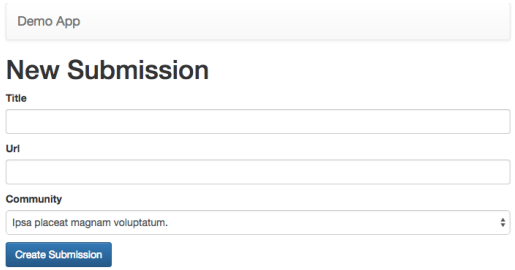


Client-side Renaissance

In a client-side web application:

- When you click the “New Submission” button, javascript executes and redraws the page to show a form. No HTTP requests occur.
- When you fill out the form and submit it, the input is validated in the browser using javascript.
- If valid, an Ajax request is sent to the server
- List of submissions only changes live.





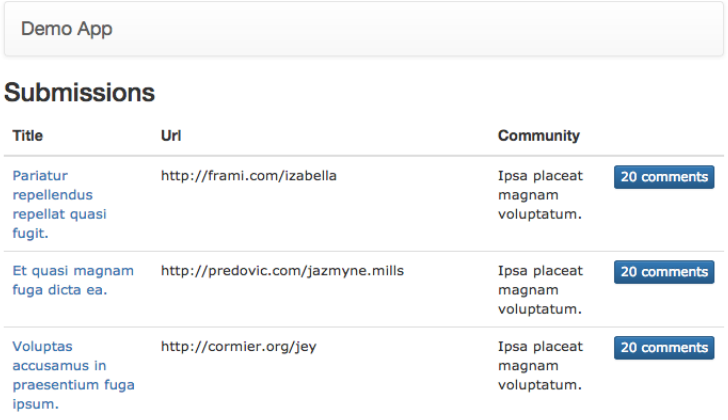
Client-side Renaissance

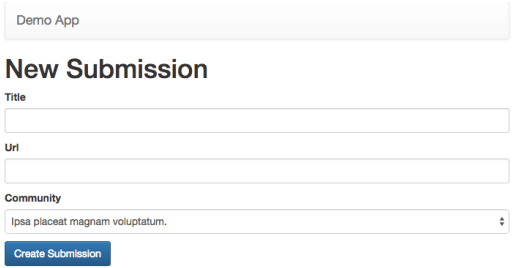
Benefits:

- UI is extremely responsive
- Less network traffic
- Live updates!

Costs:

- Client side code is much more complex.





Client-side Renaissance

Client side code is much more complex

- Before, the client was mostly displaying a static page.
- Now, the client must:
  - Understand the relationship between input events and corresponding DOM updates
  - Understand enough application logic to distinguish valid input from invalid input
  - Keep a persistent connection to the server and display updates as they come in.

Client-side Renaissance

How should our application design adjust to this drastic increase in complexity?

- One design approach: “A tangled pile of jQuery selectors and callbacks, all trying frantically to keep data in sync between the HTML UI, your JavaScript logic, and the database on your server.”

Client-side MVC

How should our application design adjust to this drastic increase in complexity?

- ~~One design approach: "A tangled pile of jQuery selectors and callbacks, all trying frantically to keep data in sync between the HTML UI, your JavaScript logic, and the database on your server."~~
- One popular approach to managing this complexity is the use of MVC frameworks on the client.

Client-side MVC

MVC: Model-View-Controller

- You all know it from Rails
- Separates the presentation (View) of your data from the data itself (Model).
- Controller exists to accept and coordinate updates to the Models.
- Models encapsulate business logic and state.

There are many client side frameworks that implement variations of these. Today we will talk about four:

- Backbone
- Angular
- Ember
- React

Client-side MVC

Backbone.js

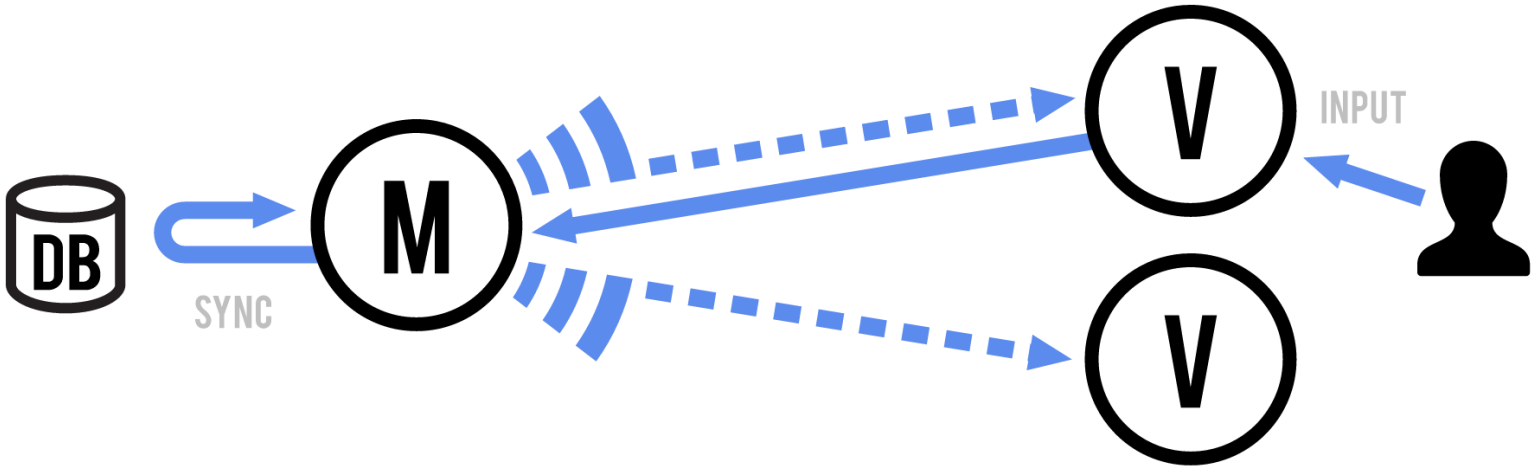
- Developed by Jeremy Ashkenas (creator of CoffeeScript and Underscore.js)
- Most lightweight of the libraries we will be discussing today
- Really Model-View-Router
    - Router maps URL fragments to functions

Popular websites using Backbone:

- Airbnb, Hulu, Groupon, Pinterest, LinkedIn

Client-side MVC

Client-side MVC



Client-side MVC

Backbone Model Sample

```
var Sidebar = Backbone.Model.extend({
  promptColor: function() {
      var cssColor = prompt("Please enter a CSS color:");
      this.set({color: cssColor});
  }
});
window.sidebar = new Sidebar;
sidebar.on('change:color', function(model, color) {
  $('#sidebar').css({background: color});
});
sidebar.set({color: 'white'});
sidebar.promptColor();
```

Client-side MVC

Backbone View Sample

```
var DocumentRow = Backbone.View.extend({
  tagName: "li",
  className: "document-row",
  events: {
      "click .button.edit":   "openEditDialog"
  },
  initialize: function() {
      this.listenTo(this.model, "change", this.render);
  },
  render: function() {
      this.$el.html(this.template(this.model.attributes));
      return this;
  }
});
```

Client-side MVC

Backbone Router Sample

```
var Workspace = Backbone.Router.extend({
  routes: {
      "help":                 "help",     // #help
      "search/:query":        "search",   // #search/kiwis
      "search/:query/p:page": "search"    // #search/kiwis/p7
  },
  help: function() {
      ...
  },
  search: function(query, page) {
      ...
  }
});
```

Client-side MVC

Backbone Highlights:

- Lightweight (1700 lines)
- Templating agnostic
- Doesn't handle unbinding events
  - Can lead to memory leaks
- For full-blown Single Page Apps, you might be better off with one of the larger frameworks

Client-side MVC

Angular.js

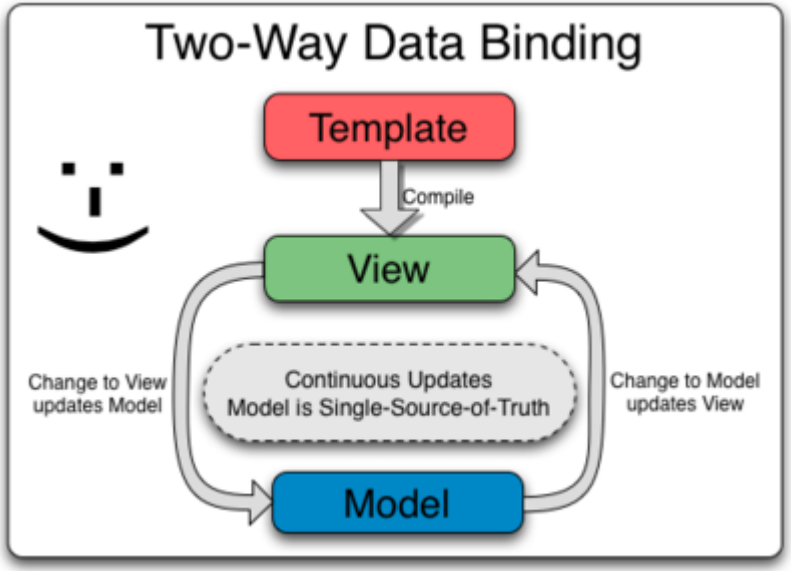
- MVC framework supported and promoted by Google.
- Much larger and more complex than Backbone
  - Responsible for much more
- Suitable for Single Page Applications
- Emphasis on declarative style for building UI
- Uses two-way data binding

Notable websites using Angular:

- AWS console, HBO, VirginAmerica

Client-side MVC

Two-way data binding:



Client-side MVC

Data Binding Example:

```
<div ng-app ng-init="qty=1;cost=2">
  <div>
  Quantity: <input type="number" min="0" ng-model="qty">
  </div>
  <div>
    Costs: <input type="number" min="0" ng-model="cost">
  </div>
  <div><b>Total:</b> {{qty * cost | currency}}</div>
</div>
```

http://plnkr.co/edit/EpVlAulGMdHymMakqGMx?p=preview

Client-side MVC

Model Example:

```
<div ng-controller="Controller">
  Hello <input ng-model='name'> <hr/>
  <span ng-bind="name"></span> <br/>
</div>

angular.module('docsBindExample', [])
.controller('Controller', ['$scope', function($scope) {
  $scope.name = 'Andrew';
}]);
```

Client-side MVC

Angular Highlights:

- Ambitious and large framework that really turns the page into an application
- Data binding provides a lot of magic
- A framework you adopt wholesale
- Declarative style retains HTML traditional nature

Client-side MVC

Ember.js

- Created by prominent members of the Rails community
  - Yehuda Katz

- Has much in common with Angular
  - All-in framework
  - Two way binding
  - Templating has similar flavor

Client-side MVC

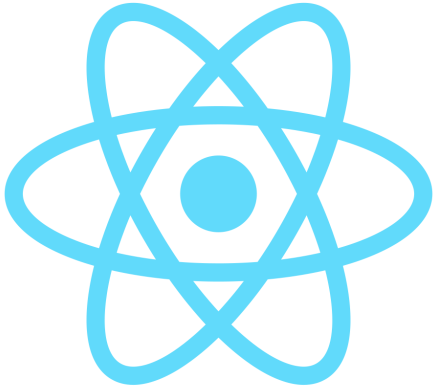
Ember Highlights

- Focus on convention over configuration
- Focus on standards compliance
- ES6 modules over custom modules
- ES6 polyfills in places

React

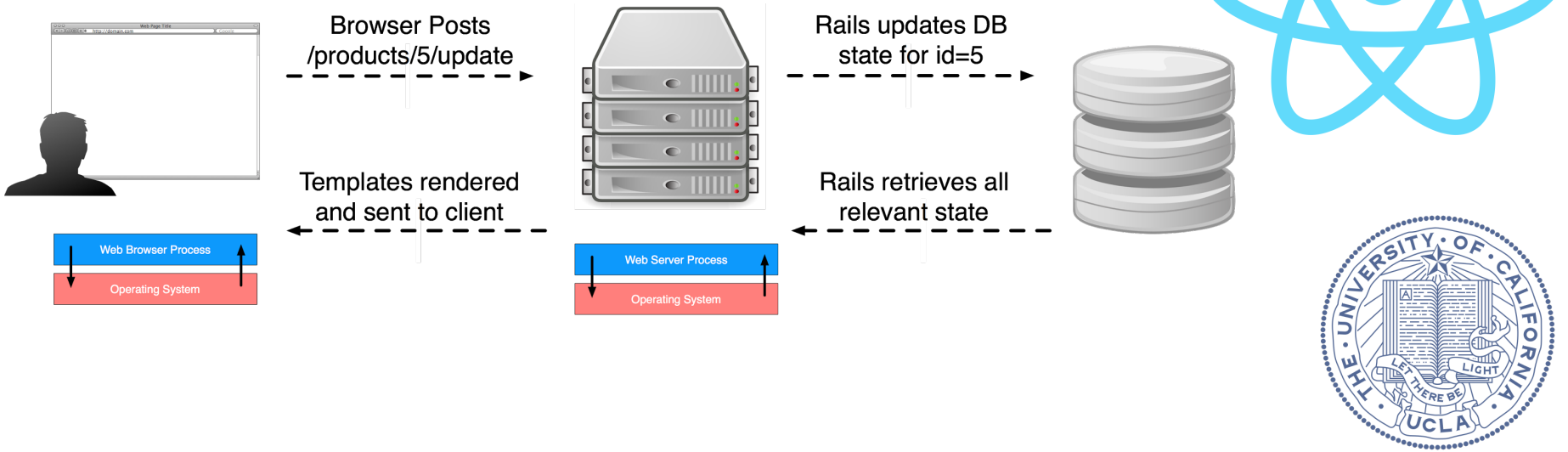
React

- Developed at Facebook
- Observation: Event handling systems can be hard to reason about
  - Two-way binding helps take care of some of this automatically, but it can still be complex



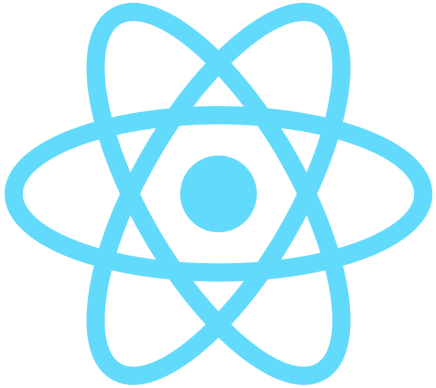
Why are server-side rendered systems simple to reason about?

React


Browser Posts
/products/5/update
Rails updates DB
state for id=5
Templates rendered
and sent to client
Rails retrieves all
relevant state
Web Browser Process
Operating System
Web Server Process
Operating System

React

If we could completely re-render the entire UI whenever anything changes, we could develop systems that were very simple to reason about.



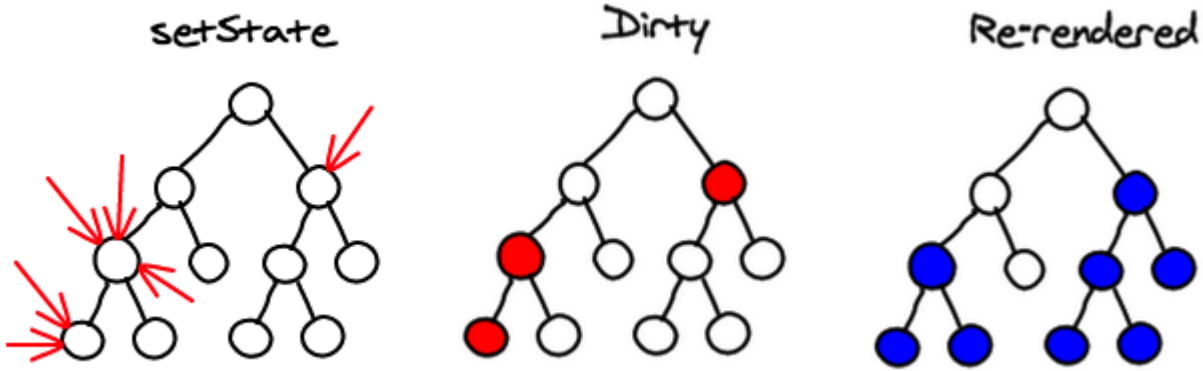
We can’t do this because it would be too slow.

React allows you to build simple-to-reason-about UI code by making these operations fast.

React

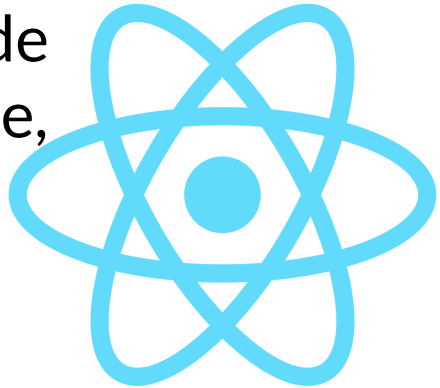
VirtualDOM

- Instead of updating the DOM directly, keep track of modifications in a “VirtualDOM”, and only re-render what is needed.



React

By giving the software engineer the ability to code as though he is re-rendering everything each time, we get simple UI code:

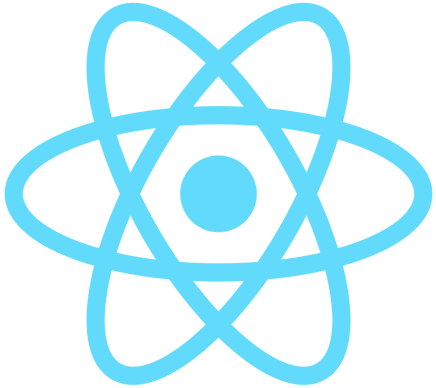


```
var HelloMessage = React.createClass({displayName: "HelloMessage",
  render: function() {
    return React.createElement("div", null, "Hello ", this.props.name);
  }
});

React.render(React.createElement(HelloMessage, {name: "John"}), mountNode);
```

React

Currently in production use at Facebook, Instagram and Khan Academy.



React-native

- Build native mobile apps using these same techniques
- Not significant code-reuse from web to mobile, but toolchain reuse.
- Available now for iOS, Android is in the works.

Overview of ES6

ECMAScript 6: New version of JavaScript

- Node.js and richer clients mean increasing use of JavaScript
- As usage of the language expands, ES6 represents a push to improve it.
- Current browser support is limited, but transpilers exist to use it today
  - Traceur, Babel

Overview of ES6

Block-scoped variables

```
// Function scope (var)
function order(x, y) {
  if (x > y) {
    var tmp = x;
    x = y;
    y = tmp;
  }
  console.log(tmp===x);
    // true

  return [x, y];
}
```

```
// Block scope (let,const)
function order(x, y) {
  if (x > y) {
    let tmp = x;
    x = y;
    y = tmp;
  }
  console.log(tmp===x);
    // ReferenceError:
    // tmp is not defined
  return [x, y];
}
```

From Axel Rauschmayer, Aaron Frost, Fluent 2015: http://cdn.oreillystatic.com/en/assets/1/event/125/ECMAScript%206%20in%20theory%20and%20practice%20Presentation.pdf

Overview of ES6

Destructuring

Extract multiple values via patterns:

```
let obj = { first: 'Jane', last: 'Doe' };
let { first: f, last: l } = obj;
    // f='Jane', l='Doe'
```

Can be used for:

- variable declarations (`var`, `let`, `const`)
- assignments
- parameter definitions

From Axel Rauschmayer, Aaron Frost, Fluent 2015: http://cdn.oreillystatic.com/en/assets/1/event/125/ECMAScript%206%20in%20theory%20and%20practice%20Presentation.pdf

Overview of ES6

Destructuring: arrays

```
let [x, y] = ['a', 'b'];
    // x='a', y='b'

let [x, y, ...rest] = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd'];
    // x='a', y='b', rest = [ 'c', 'd' ]

[x,y] = [y,x];  // swap values

let [all, year, month, day] =
    /^(\d\d\d\d)-(\d\d)-(\d\d)$/
    .exec('2999-12-31');
```

From Axel Rauschmayer, Aaron Frost, Fluent 2015: http://cdn.oreillystatic.com/en/assets/1/event/125/ECMAScript%206%20in%20theory%20and%20practice%20Presentation.pdf

Overview of ES6

Multiple return values

```
function findElement(arr, predicate) {
    for (let index=0; index < arr.length; index++) {
        let element = arr[index];
        if (predicate(element)) {
            return { element, index };
                    // same as { element: element, index: index }
        }
    }
    return { element: undefined, index: -1 };
}
let a = [7, 8, 6];

let {element, index} = findElement(a, x => x % 2 === 0);
    // element = 8, index = 1
let {index, element} = findElement(···); // order doesn't matter

let {element} = findElement(···);
let {index} = findElement(···);
```

From Axel Rauschmayer, Aaron Frost, Fluent 2015: http://cdn.oreillystatic.com/en/assets/1/event/125/ECMAScript%206%20in%20theory%20and%20practice%20Presentation.pdf

Overview of ES6

Modules: named exports

```
// lib/math.js
let notExported = 'abc';
export function square(x) {
    return x * x;
}
export const MY_CONSTANT = 123;
```

```
// main1.js
import {square} from 'lib/math';
console.log(square(3));
```

```
// main2.js
import * as math from 'lib/math';
console.log(math.square(3));
```

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Overview of ES6

Modules: default exports

```
//----- myFunc.js -----
export default function (...) { ... }

//----- main1.js -----
import myFunc from 'myFunc';
```

```
//----- MyClass.js -----
export default class { ... }

//----- main2.js -----
import MyClass from 'MyClass';
```

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Overview of ES6

Method definitions

```
let obj = {
    myMethod() {
        ...
    }
};

// Equivalent:
var obj = {
    myMethod: function () {
        ...
    }
};
```

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Overview of ES6

Property value shorthands

```
let x = 4;
let y = 1;
let obj = { x, y };

// Same as { x: x, y: y }
```

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Overview of ES6

Parameter default values

Use a default if a parameter is missing.

```
function func1(x, y='default') {
    return [x,y];
}
```

Interaction:

```
> func1(1, 2)
[1, 2]
> func1()
[undefined, 'default']
```

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Overview of ES6

Rest parameters

Put trailing parameters in an array.

```
function func2(arg0, ...others) {
    return others;
}
```

Interaction:

```
> func2('a', 'b', 'c')
['b', 'c']
> func2()
[]
```

No need for `arguments`, anymore.

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Overview of ES6

Named parameters

```
// Emulated via object literals and destructuring

// { opt1, opt2 } is same as
// { opt1: opt1, opt2: opt2 }

selectEntries({ step: 2 });
selectEntries({ end: 20, start: 3 });
selectEntries(); // enabled via `= {}` below

function selectEntries(
    {start=0, end=-1, step=1} = {}) {
        ...
};
```

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Overview of ES6

Spread operator (...): function arguments

```
Math.max(...[7, 4, 11]); // 11

let arr1 = ['a', 'b'];
let arr2 = ['c', 'd'];
arr1.push(...arr2);
    // arr1 is now ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']

// Also works in constructors!
new Date(...[1912, 11, 24]) // Christmas Eve 1912
```

Turn an array into function/method arguments:

- The inverse of rest parameters
- Mostly replaces `Function.prototype.apply()`

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Overview of ES6

Arrow functions: less to type

```
let arr = [1, 2, 3];
let squ;

squ = arr.map(function (a) {return a * a});
squ = arr.map(a => a * a);
```

From Axel Rauschmayer, Aaron Frost, Fluent 2015: http://cdn.oreillystatic.com/en/assets/1/event/125/ECMAScript%206%20in%20theory%20and%20practice%20Presentation.pdf

Overview of ES6

And much, much more…

- Classes, Generators, Proxies, WeakMaps, Promises, etc.

https://leanpub.com/understandinges6/read

For Next Time

Demos on Friday…

- We will do one on one demos.
- Prepare to show progress on load testing scripts

No class Monday (Memorial Day)