Handling modular CSS in JavaScript

Hello! I'm Aaron.

Front End Developer in Digital Trading
Sky Mobile
New Web Toolkit (#web-toolkit)

I know nothing about Interoperable CSS.

This talk

A bit about CSS

A bit of JavaScript

The relationship between CSS and Javascript

Writing good CSS

Good CSS should be scalable

Good CSS should be maintainable

Good CSS should be **sharable**

How do we write CSS that meets all these requirements?

We use preprocessors

We use naming conventions

We use CSS "methodologies"

We use build tools

Doing all this sucks.

But we're getting there.

What about JavaScript?

CSS in JavaScript

React-style

JSS

Radium

jsxstyle

Modules in JavaScript

```
import React, { Component } from 'react';
class Buttons extends Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <section>
          <a classname="btn" href="#">A plain button</a>
          <a classname="btn btn--primary" href="#">A primary button</a>
          <a classname="btn btn--inactive" href="#">An inactive button</a>
      </section>
export default Buttons;
```

Importing CSS in JavaScript

```
import React, { Component } from 'react';
import styles from './buttons.css';
class Buttons extends Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <section>
          <a className="btn" href="#">A plain button</a>
          <a className="btn btn--primary" href="#">A primary button</a>
          <a className="btn btn--inactive" href="#">An inactive button</a>
      </section>
export default Buttons;
```

Importing CSS in JavaScript

```
.btn {
   padding: .25em 1em;
   border: 1px solid red;
.btn--primary {
   border-radius 5px;
   background-color: blue;
.btn--disabled {
   background-color: grey;
```

Importing CSS in JavaScript

```
.normal {
   padding: .25em 1em;
   border: 1px solid red;
.primary {
   border-radius 5px;
   background-color: blue;
.disabled {
   background-color: grey;
```

What if CSS had scope?

What if CSS was immutable?

What if CSS could export variables to JavaScript?

```
.normal_afd97dfs867 {
   padding: .25em 1em;
   border: 1px solid red;
.primary_97fd867fsfg {
   border-radius 5px;
   background-color: blue;
.disabled_345abg452 {
   background-color: grey;
:export {
 normal: normal_afd97dfs867;
 primary: normal_afd97dfs867 primary_97fd867fsfg;
 disabled: normal_afd97dfs867 disabled_345abg452
```

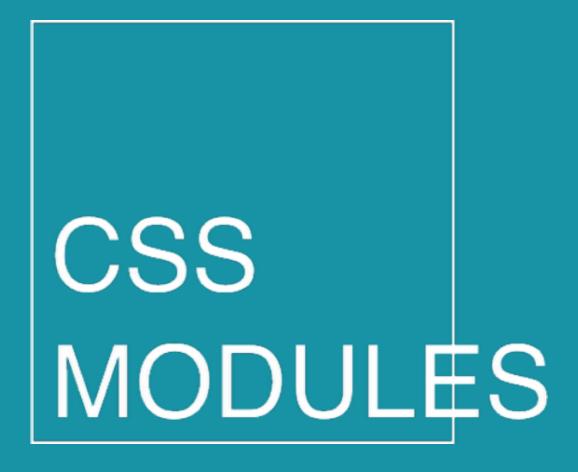
```
import React, { Component } from 'react';
import styles from './buttons.css';
class Buttons extends Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <section>
          <a classname={styles.normal} href="#">A plain button</a>
          <a classname={styles.primary} href="#">A primary button</a>
          <a classname={styles.inactive} href="#">An inactive button</a>
      </section>
export default Buttons;
```

A standard for modular CSS

A compile target, not human authored

ICSS files are compiled separately

Bundled and delivered via a loader





A CSS Module is a CSS file in which all class names and animation names are scoped locally by default and all URLs and @imports are in module request format.



github.com/css-modules/css-modules

```
.normal {
    padding: .25em 1em;
    border: 1px solid red;
}

.primary {
    border-radius 5px;
    background-color: blue;
}

.disabled {
    background-color: grey;
}
```

```
.normal {
   padding: .25em 1em;
   border: 1px solid red;
.primary {
   border-radius 5px;
   background-color: blue;
.disabled {
   background-color: grey;
```

```
normal: "normal_afd97dfs867",
primary: "primary_97fd867fsfg",
disabled: "disabled_345abg452"
```

```
.normal {
    padding: .25em 1em;
    border: 1px solid red;
}
.primary {
    composes: normal;
    border-radius: 5px;
    background-color: blue;
.disabled {
    composes: normal;
    background-color: grey;
}
```

```
{
  normal: "normal_afd97dfs867",
  primary: "normal_afd97dfs867 primary_97fd867fsfg",
  disabled: "normal_afd97dfs867 disabled_345abg452"
}
```

```
import React, { Component } from 'react';
import styles from './buttons.css';
class Buttons extends Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <section>
          <a classname={styles.normal} href="#">A plain button</a>
          <a classname={styles.primary} href="#">A primary button</a>
          <a classname={styles.inactive} href="#">An inactive button</a>
      </section>
export default Buttons;
```

```
.normal {
   padding: .25em 1em;
   border: 1px solid red;
.primary {
   composes: normal;
   composes: brand from "global/colors.css";
   border-radius: 5px;
   background-color: blue;
.disabled {
   composes: normal;
   composes: secondary from "global/colors.css";
   background-color: grey;
```

```
{
  normal: "normal_afd97dfs867",
  primary: "normal_afd97dfs867 colors_brand_355fgaa primary_97fd867fsfg",
  disabled: "normal_afd97dfs867 colors_secondary_355fgaa disabled_345abg452"
}
```

```
.panel {
  composes: large from "./typography.css";
  composes: dark-text from "./colors.css";
  composes: padding-all-medium from "./layout.css";
  composes: subtle-shadow from "./effect.css";
}
```



[CSS Modules] opens up the possibility of using extremely granular classes to give aliases for every visual trait your site uses



Glen Maddern

http://glenmaddern.com/articles/css-modules

```
.article {
  composes: flex vertical centered from "./layout.css";
}
.masthead {
  composes: serif bold 48pt centered from "./typography.css";
  composes: paragraph-margin-below from "./layout.css";
}
.body {
  composes: max720 paragraph-margin-below from "layout.css";
  composes: sans light paragraph-line-height from "./typography.css";
}
```

A high-level format for modular CSS

Compiles to ICSS

Enforces local scope by default

Files are loaded independently

CSS Modules today

Webpack's CSS-loader has a 'modules' mode which enforces the CSS Modules spec

JSPM & Browserify also have implementations

PostCSS can compile to ICSS independently of your loader

Theres a whole lot more to this

Further reading

Interoperable CSS

http://glenmaddern.com/articles/interoperable-css

CSS Modules

http://glenmaddern.com/articles/css-modules

GitHub project

https://github.com/css-modules/

Glen Maddern on ICSS

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alyhhHTmsXE

Thanks!

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