

Video 3.6
React and APIs
Chris Murphy

Review

 React allows us to create modular JavaScript components that we can use in our HTML pages to develop web applications

 How can we take advantage of the modular nature of the Web?



Web development in the old days

```
Add License

 query.c — code

20 ▼ main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
         entry entries[10000];
21
         register int x,m=0;
22
23
         char *cl;
24
         printf("Content-type: text/html%c%c",10,10);
25
26
         if(strcmp(getenv("REQUEST METHOD"),"GET")) {
27 ₹
28
             printf("This script should be referenced with a METHOD of GET.\n");
             printf("If you don't understand this, see this ");
29
             printf("<A
30
     HREF=\"http://www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/SDG/Software/Mosaic/Docs/fill-out-forms/overview.html\">forms
     overview</A>.%c",10);
             exit(1);
31
         }
32 ▲
33
34
         cl = getenv("QUERY_STRING");
         if(cl == NULL) {
35 ₹
             printf("No query information to decode.\n");
36
37
             exit(1);
         }
38 ≜
         for(x=0;cl[0] != '\0';x++) {
39 ₹
40
             getword(entries[x].val,cl,'&');
41
             plustospace(entries[x].val);
42
43
             unescape_url(entries[x].val);
44
             getword(entries[x].name,entries[x].val,'=');
         }
45 △
46
         printf("<H1>Query Results</H1>");
47
         printf("You submitted the following name/value pairs:%c".10);
48
         printf("%c",10);
49
50
         for(x=0; x <= m; x++)
51
             printf(" <code>%s = %s</code>%c",entries[x].name,
52
53
                    entries[x].val.10):
         printf("%c",10);
54
55 ≜
Lines
         1 C
                        ☼ Soft Tabs: 2 ∨ | ♣ ☆
                                                                                                   0 | 0
```

Designing software for the Web

- How can we make this better?
- Use design paradigms with the following goals:
 - Break up code into distinct components
 - The components interact with each other in a "standard" manner
 - Makes it easy to change any component
 - Less dependency and coupling



Service-Oriented Architecture

- Letter by Jeff Bezos to all employees at Amazon (circa 2002)
- "All teams will henceforth expose their data and functionality through service interfaces."
- "The only communication allowed is via service interface calls over the network."
- "All service interfaces, without exception, must be designed from the ground up to be externalizable. That is to say, the team must plan and design to be able to expose the interface to developers in the outside world. No exceptions."



Software as a Service (SaaS)

- Extends the idea of Service-oriented Architecture
- SaaS entire software runs as a service
- Examples
 - Google Docs (as opposed to Microsoft Word)
 - Gmail (as opposed to email clients like Outlook)
 - Cloud9 (as opposed to Eclipse)



Software as a Service: Advantages

- No user installation is needed
- Less likely to lose data
- Users can collaborate with each other
- Upgrading software and datasets is easy
- Software is centralized in a single environment (don't need to worry about versions of operating systems, etc.)
- User's computer (hardware and software specifications) don't matter – usually all that's needed is a web browser

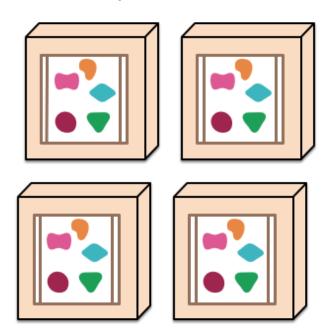


Microservices

A monolithic application puts all its functionality into a single process...



... and scales by replicating the monolith on multiple servers



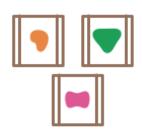


Microservices

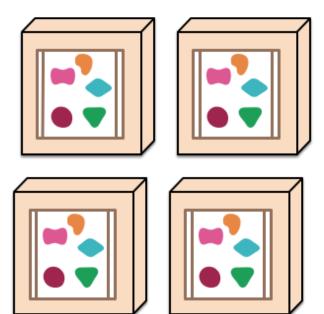
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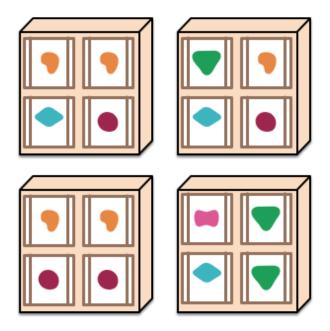
A microservices architecture puts each element of functionality into a separate service...



... and scales by replicating the monolith on multiple servers



... and scales by distributing these services across servers, replicating as needed.





REST

- How do well-designed web servers behave?
- Define a set of rules and conventions
- REST: REpresentational State Transfer

- Collection of resources on which specific operations can be performed
- URI names resources, not pages or actions
- Self-contained which resource, what to do with it, server doesn't need to maintain state between requests



What is an API?

An API is an Application Programming Interface

 In web programming, an API is a URL or a set of URLs that returns pure data to requests

 APIs can be used to incorporate data and functionality from other sources in your webapp



The New York Times

 The New York Times is an American daily newspaper company

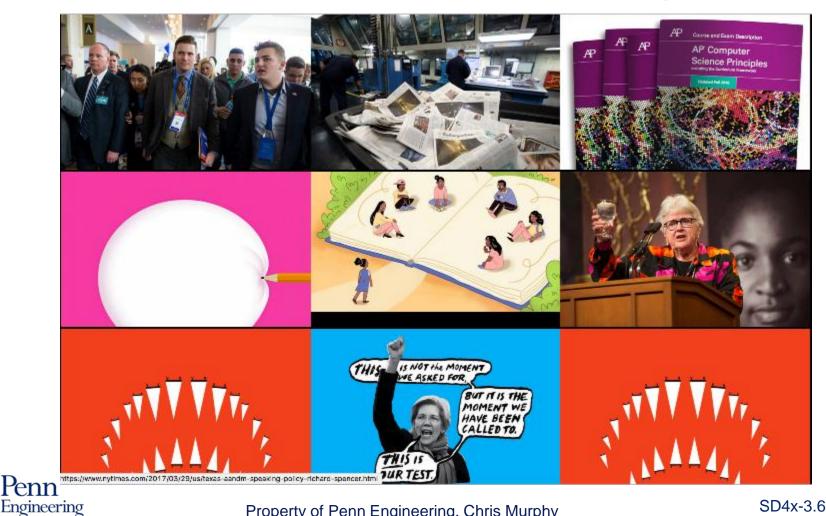
 The New York Times provides a variety of APIs that provide article data, books data, movies data, and more

 You can see more about available APIs and request access at https://developer.nytimes.com/



Our Goal

Created a webapp that creates a dashboard of clickable New York Times article images



Getting Started

 Request a developer key for the Article Search API at https://developer.nytimes.com/

- You can test out the API and what the returned data looks like at
 - https://developer.nytimes.com/article_search_v2.json



 First, let's create a new React component named ArticlesGrid to store the data in the page

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class ArticlesGrid extends React.Component {
  constructor (props) {
    super(props);
    this.state = {
       articles: []
    };
}
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- Let's start by getting some data from the API with a search term.
- We will do this with jQuery AJAX

```
class ArticlesGrid extends React.Component {
componentDidMount () {
  var url=
    'http://api.nytimes.com/svc/search/v2/articlesearch.json?'
     $.getJSON(url, function(data, status) {
      return this.setState({articles: this.parse(data)});
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Parsing Data

The NY Times API will return a lot of raw data!

Let's parse the data into something we can use

 For each article, we'll keep the image URL, title, and URL to original article if a large image exists



```
class ArticlesGrid extends React.Component {
parse(results) {
  if (!results | | !results.response ) return [];
  var articles = results.response.docs;
 var parsedArticles = [];
  for (var i = 0; i < articles.length; i++) {
   var article = articles[i];
    if (article.multimedia.find(this.isXL)) {
       parsedArticles.push({
          id: article. id,
          title: article.headline.main | 'Untitled',
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parse(results) {
  if (!results | | !results.response ) return [];
  var articles = results.response.docs;
 var parsedArticles = [];
  for (var i = 0; i < articles.length; i++) {
   var article = articles[i];
    if (article.multimedia.find(this.isXL)) {
       parsedArticles.push({
          id: article. id,
          title: article.headline.main | 'Untitled',
          imageURL: article.multimedia.find(this.isXL).url || '#',
          webURL: article.web url || '#'
      });
  return parsedArticles;
isXL (image) {
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- Now that we have the data, let's make a component to display each article!
- This is shorthand for a component that only has a "render" function

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var Article = function({article}) {
  var imgURL = 'https://static01.nyt.com/' + article.imageURL;
  return (
    <div className='article'>
      <a className='article-link' href={article.webURL}>
        <img className='article-image'</pre>
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Property of Penn Engineering, Chris Murphy

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render () {
  return this.state.articles && (
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Summary

 Service Oriented Architecture and Software as a Service (SaaS) simplify the creation of web applications by allowing for combinations of online components

 We can accesses services via RESTful APIs and develop React components to make use of them

