IN4MATX 133: User Interface Software

Lecture 8: AJAX, Fetch, & Promises Professor Daniel A. Epstein TA Goda Addanki TA Seolha Lee

Announcements

- In-person option begins with Discussion on Monday (SSTR 103) and Lecture on Tuesday (HH 178)
- Will also synchronously livestream and record
- This transition will be bumpy, so bear with us

Announcements

- You have everything you need in order to complete A2
- This lecture and beyond focuses on A3 content
- A3 will be posted early next week

Today's goals

By the end of today, you should be able to...

- Explain how programs access web resources and common ways they respond
- Implement a fetch request to get a resource from a web API
- Use promises to make an asynchronous request

WebAPIs

- Many web services and data sources allow you to use HTTP (web) requests to access their data
- This is done by providing a web API.
- https://developer.twitter.com/



WebAPIs

Application Programming Interface

- The interface we can use to interact with an application through programming
- An interface is just a defined set of functions

```
function doSomething(param1, param2) {
//...
An interface
```

WebAPIs

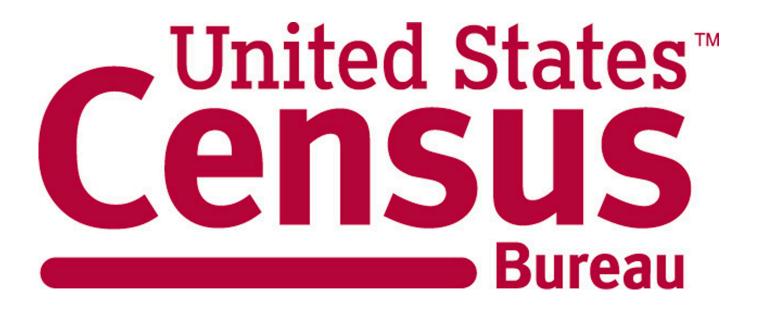






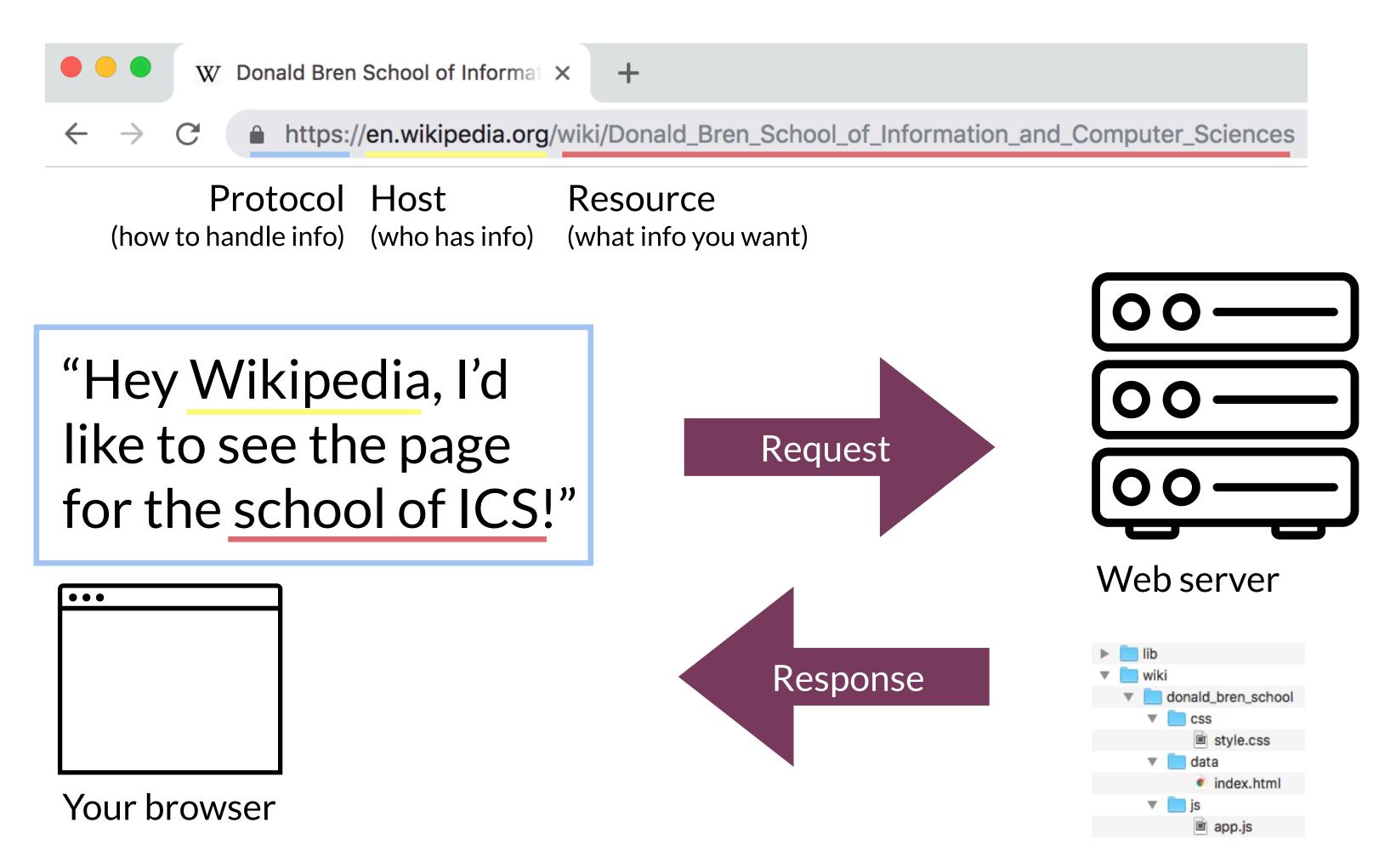






https://www.programmableweb.com/

Using the internet



URI

Uniform Resource Indicator

- All URLs are URIs, but URLs also specify "access mechanism"
 - http://,file://
- URIs will return a <u>resource</u>
 - Could be a webpage, image file etc.
 - Could also just be data

URI

Uniform Resource Indicator

- http://www.domain.com/users => returns a list of users
 - The list of users is the *resource*
- Can have sub-resources
- http://www.domain.com/users/shawna
 - Returns a specific user

URI format

- Base URI:
 - How every API request for that API starts
 - https://api.twitter.com/
- Endpoint
 - Specific resources which can be accessed via that api
 - 1.1/search/tweets.json
 - 1.1/status/filter.json



Endpoints often contain an API version number

https://developer.twitter.com/en/products/tweets.html

Disclaimer

- Twitter recently introduced a new, very different version of its API
- My examples will follow the old version, as I think it's a little simpler and more similar to other APIs out there

Twitter API v2

Twitter API v2 is ready for prime time! We recommend that the majority of developers start to think about migrating to v2 of the API, and for any new users to get started with v2. Why migrate?

https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs/twitter-api

URI queries

- Key/value pairs which follow the URI
 - Parameters for the resource, may specify exactly what to return or what format it should be in
 - ?key=value&key=value
- https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json? q=UCI&lang=en ←language=english
 - "query", in Twitter this means what text or hashtag to search for

HTTP verbs

- HTTP requests include a target resource and a verb (method) specifying what to do with it
 - GET: return a representation of the current state of the resource
 - POST: add a new resource (e.g., a record, an entry)
 - PUT: update an existing resource to a new state
 - PATCH: update a portion of the resource's state
 - DELETE: remove the resource
 - OPTIONS: return a set of methods that can be performed on the resource

HTTP responses

- Responses will include a status code (whether it worked as expected) and a body (the actual response)
 - 200:OK
 - 201: Created (for POST)
 - 400: Bad request (something is wrong with your URI)
 - 403: Forbidden (some access or authentication issue)
 - 404: Not found (resource does not exist)
 - 500: Internal server error (generic server-side error)

Putting it all together

- HTTP GET https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=UCI&lang=en
 - Use the "get" verb to access English-language tweets which mention UCI
 - We expect/hope for status code 200 (OK)
 - Then we access the body

Escaping characters

- Some characters, like the hash (#) are reserved in URLs
 - Linking to IDs within pages
- We need to encode the character to search for a hashtag on Twitter
- HTTP GET https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=%23UCI&lang=en

Character	From Windows-1252	From UTF-8
space	%20	%20
!	%21	%21
11	%22	%22
#	%23	%23
\$	%24	%24
%	%25	%25

https://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_urlencode.asp



Character	From Windows-1252	From UTF-8
space	%20	%20
!	%21	%21
"	%22	%22
#	%23	%23
\$	%24	%24
%	%25	%25



Which request would search the Twitter API for recent mentions of ice cream?

- (A) HTTP GET https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=ice cream
- BHTTP GET https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=icecream
- C)HTTP GET https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=ice%20cream
- (D) HTTP POST https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=ice%20cream
- (E) HTTP POST https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=ice cream



Character	From Windows-1252	From UTF-8	
space	%20	%20	
!	%21	%21	/
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#	%23	%23	
\$	%24	%24	
%	%25	%25	



Which request would search the Twitter API for recent mentions of ice cream?

- (A) HTTP GET https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=ice cream
- B HTTP GET https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=icecream
- C HTTP GET https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=ice%20cream
- (D) HTTP POST https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=ice%20cream
- (E) HTTP POST https://api.twitter.com/1.1/search/tweets.json?q=ice cream

So how do we make a web request?



Asynchronous JavaScript and XML

XML

Extensible Markup Language

- A generalized syntax for semantically defining structured content
- HTML is XML with defined tags

Plain text

```
Belgian Waffles
"Two of our famous Belgian Waffles with plenty of real maple syrup"
$5.95
650 calories
Strawberry Belgian Waffles
"Light Belgian waffles covered with strawberries and whipped cream"
$7.95
900 calories
Berry-Berry Belgian Waffles
"Light Belgian waffles covered with an assortment of fresh berries and whipped
cream"
$8.95
900 calories
French Toast
"Thick slices made from our homemade sourdough bread"
$4.50
600 calories
Homestyle Breakfast
"Two eggs, bacon or sausage, toast, and our ever-popular hash browns"
$6.95
950 calories
```

XML

```
<breakfast menu>
 <food>
    <name>Belgian Waffles
   <price>$5.95</price>
   <description>
     Two of our famous Belgian Waffles with plenty of real maple syrup
   </description>
   <calories>650</calories>
 </food>
 <food>
   <name>Strawberry Belgian Waffles
   <price>$7.95</price>
   <description>
     Light Belgian waffles covered with strawberries and whipped cream
   </description>
   <calories>900</calories>
 </food>
  <food>
   <name>Berry-Berry Belgian Waffles
   <price>$8.95</price>
   <description>
     Light Belgian waffles covered with an assortment of fresh berries and whipped
cream
    </description>
   <calories>900</calories>
 </food>
 <food>
   <name>French Toast</name>
   <price>$4.50</price>
    <description>
     Thick slices made from our homemade sourdough bread
   </description>
   <calories>600</calories>
 </food>
  <food>
   <name>Homestyle Breakfast
   <price>$6.95</price>
   <description>
     Two eggs, bacon or sausage, toast, and our ever-popular hash browns
   </description>
   <calories>950</calories>
```

XML

JSON

```
<bre>dreakfast menu>
 <food>
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   <price>$5.95</price>
   <description>
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   <price>$6.95</price>
   <description>
     Two eggs, bacon or sausage, toast, and our ever-popular hash browns
   </description>
   <calories>950</calories>
```

```
"breakfast menu": {
    "food": [
      "name": "Belgian Waffles",
      "price": "$5.95",
      "description": "Two of our famous Belgian Waffles with plenty of real maple
syrup",
      "calories": "650"
      "name": "Strawberry Belgian Waffles",
      "price": "$7.95",
      "description": "Light Belgian waffles covered with strawberries and whipped
cream"
      "calories": "900"
      "name": "Berry-Berry Belgian Waffles",
      "price": "$8.95",
      "description": "Light Belgian waffles covered with an assortment of fresh
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      "calories": "900"
      "name": "French Toast",
      "price": "$4.50",
      "description": "Thick slices made from our homemade sourdough bread",
      "calories": "600"
      "name": "Homestyle Breakfast",
      "price": "$6.95",
      "description": "Two eggs, bacon or sausage, toast, and our ever-popular hash
browns",
      "calories": "950"
```

XML vs. JSON

- XML and JSON represent the same data
- JSON is more concise
 - Less data to move around on the web
- JSON is easier to read
 - Close tags in XML are redundant
- JSON has taken over as the typical format of web requests



Asynchronous JavaScript and XML JSON

Sending an AJAX request

XMLHttpRequest

 AJAX requests are built into a browser-provided object called XMLHTTPRequest var xhttp = new XMLHttpRequest(); xhttp.onreadystatechange = function() { if (xhttp.readyState == 4 && xhttp.status == 200) { // Action to be performed when the document is read; var xml = xhttp.responseXML; var movie = xml.getElementsByTagName("track"); //... xhttp.open("GET", "filename", true); xhttp.send();

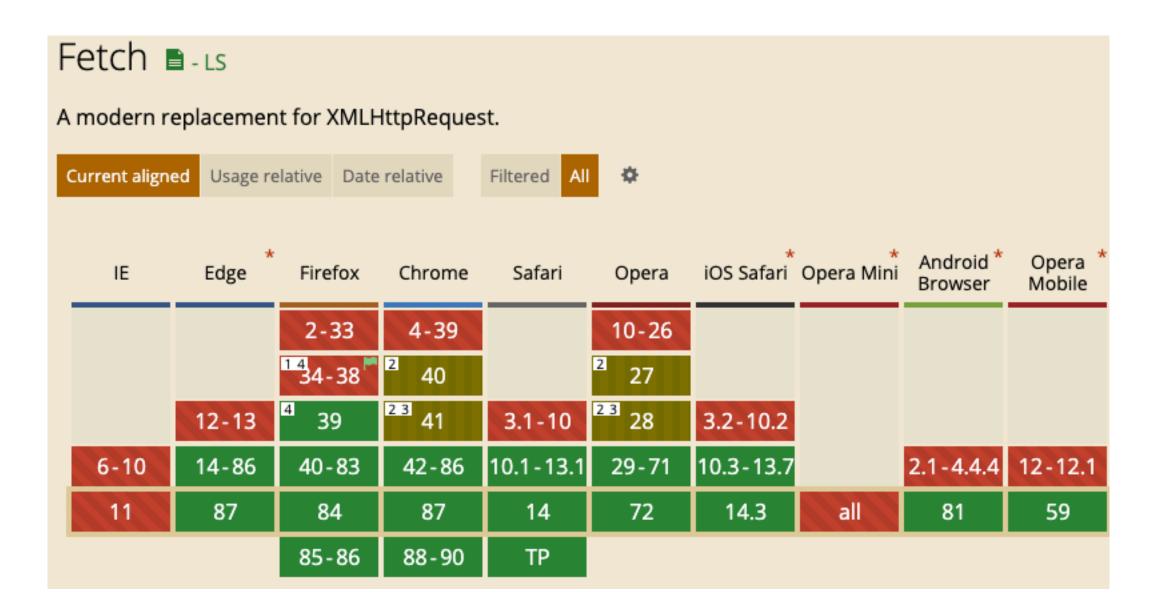
XMLHttpRequest

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```
xhttp = new XMLHttpRequest();
xhttp nreadystatechange = function() {
   if (xn 'p.readyState == 4 && xhttp.status == 00
      // Action to be performed when the doment is read;
      var xml = xht responseXML;
                               sByTagName("track");
      var movie = xml.get
      //...
       en("GET", "filename", true);
 cp.send();
```

Fetch

- A new, modern method for submitting XMLHttpRequests
- Included in most browsers (but not IE)
- fetch('url')



Fetch polyfill

- Polyfills ensure a user's browser has the latest libraries
 - Downloads "fill" versions of added functions, re-written using existing functions
- Fetch polyfill: https://github.com/github/fetch
- Or import it from a CDN:

```
<script src="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/
fetch/3.0.0/fetch.min.js"></script>
```

Using fetch

- fetch ('some-url') defaults to a GET request
- fetch can optionally take a second options argument (as a dictionary)
 - method: what method to use (e.g., POST, PUT, DELETE)
 - headers: specify content type format, etc. (more on headers in the next week)
 - body: what you want to send for a POST/PUT request

Using fetch

```
• For a GET request
fetch('some-url');

• For a POST request
fetch('some-url', {
  method: 'POST',
  headers: {'Content-Type': 'application/json'},
  body: JSON.stringify(data-to-send)
});
```

A local web server

- Install live-server package globally
 - npm install -g live-server
- Running it
 - cd path/to/project
 - live-server .
- Will open up your webpage at http://localhost:8080



Asynchronous JavaScript and XML JSON

Asynchronous requests

- Ajax requests are asynchronous, so they happen simultaneously with the rest of the code
- After the request is sent, the next line of code is executed without waiting for the request to finish

```
(1) console.log('About to send request');
   //send request for data to the url
(2) fetch(url); Does NOT return the data
(3) console.log('Sent request');
(4) Data is actually received sometime later!
```

Asynchronous requests

- It's uncertain how long it'll take the request to complete
- Handling requests asynchronously allows a person to continue interacting with your page
 - The request is not blocking their interface interactions
 - It's a bad experience when a person tries to navigate your webpage, but can't

Promises

- Because fetch() is asynchronous, the method returns a Promise
- Promises act as a "placeholder" for the data that will eventually be received from the AJAX request

```
//fetch() returns a Promise
var thePromise = fetch(url);
```

Promises

});

```
• We use the .then() method to specify a callback function to be executed when the promise is fulfilled
  (when the asynchronous request is finished)
//what to do when we get the response
function successCallback(response) {
   console.log(response);
                              Callback will be passed the request response
//when fulfilled, execute the callback function
//(which will be passed the fetched data)
var promise = fetch(url);
promise.then(successCallback, rejectCallback);
//more common to use anonymous variables/callbacks:
fetch(url).then(function(response) {
   console.log(response);
```

Promise polyfill

- Promises are the modern way of handling asynchronous, but again the standard is not yet available in all browsers (specifically: IE)
- https://caniuse.com/#feat=promises
- So we need another polyfill
- https://cdnjs.com/libraries/es6-promise

```
<script src="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/es6-
promise/4.1.1/es6-promise.min.js"></script>
```

fetch() responses

- The parameter passed to the .then() callback is the response, not the data we're looking for
- The fetch() API provides a method .json() that we can use to extract the data from the response

Chaining promises

• The . then () method itself returns a Promise containing the value (data) returned by the callback method

```
    This allows you to chain callback functions together,

 doing one after another (but after the Promise is fulfilled)
function makeString(data) {
   return data.join(", "); //a value to put in Promise
function makeUpper(string) {
   return string.toUpperCase(); //a value to put in Promise
var promiseA = getData(); When completed, promiseA => json data
var promiseB = promiseA.then(makeString);promiseB => comma-separated string
var promiseC = promiseB.then(makeUpper); promiseC => uppercase string
promiseC.then(function(data) {
   console.log(data); Data is an uppercase,
};
                      comma-separated string
```

Chaining promises

• The . then () method itself returns a Promise containing the value (data) returned by the callback method

```
    This allows you to chain callback functions together,

 doing one after another (but after the Promise is fulfilled)
function makeString(data) {
   return data.join(", "); //a value to put in Promise
function makeUpper(string) {
   return string.toUpperCase(); //a value to put in Promise
//more common to use anonymous variables and chain functions
getData()
   .then(makeString)
   .then(makeUpper)
   .then(function(d) { console.log(d); };
```

Multiple promises (sequential)

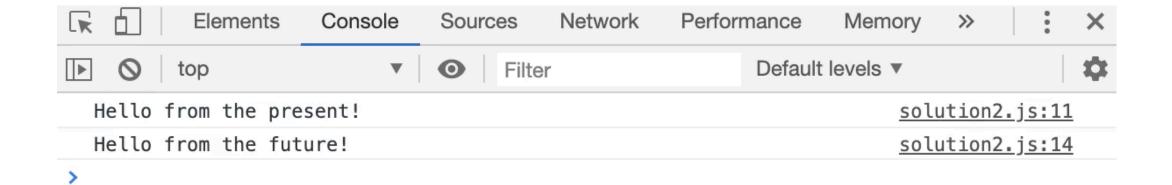
• The .then() function will also handle promises returned by previous callbacks, allowing for sequential async calls

```
getData(fooSrc)
  .then(function(fooData){
    var modifiedFoo = modify(fooData)
    return modifiedFoo;
  .then(function(modifiedFoo){
    //do something with modifiedFoo
    var barPromise = getData(barSrc);
    return barPromise;
  .then(function(barData){
    //do something with barData
```

Extracting fetch() data

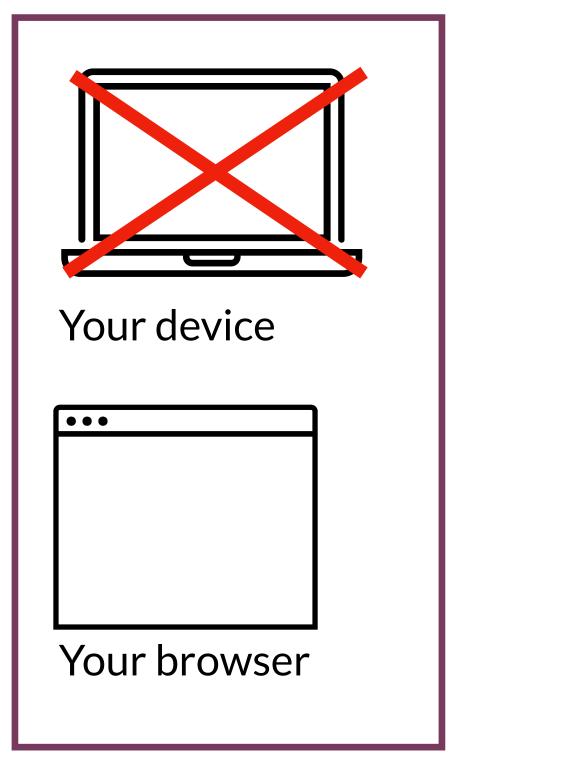
• To actually download JSON data...
fetch(url)
 .then(function(response) {
 var dataPromise = response.json();
 return dataPromise;
 })
 .then(function(data) {
 //do something with data
 });

Promises

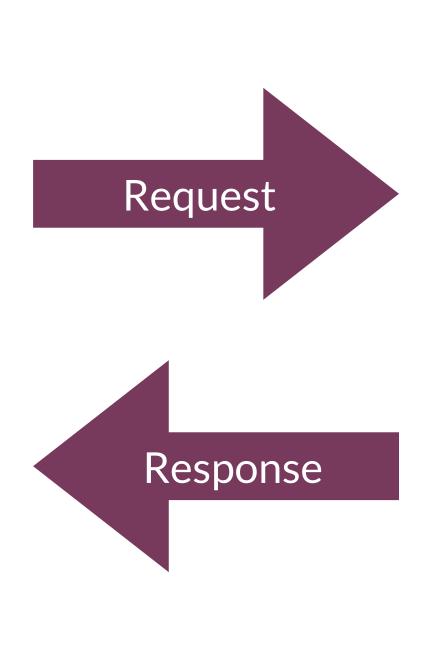


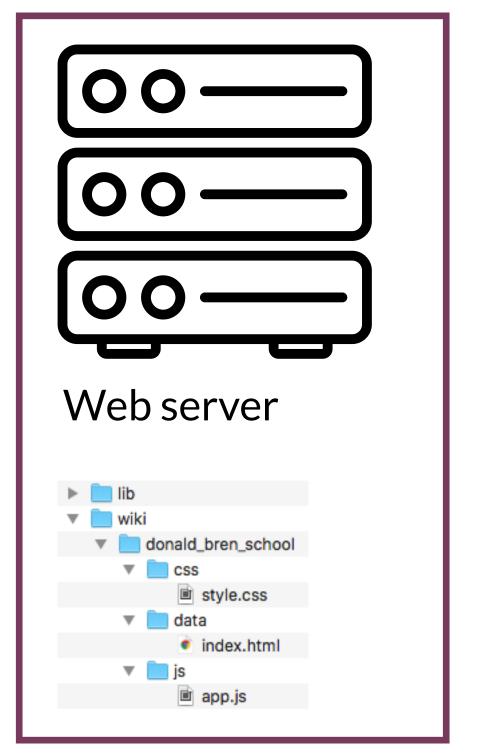


Client-side and server-side JavaScript



Edit what's being rendered Trigger or react to events

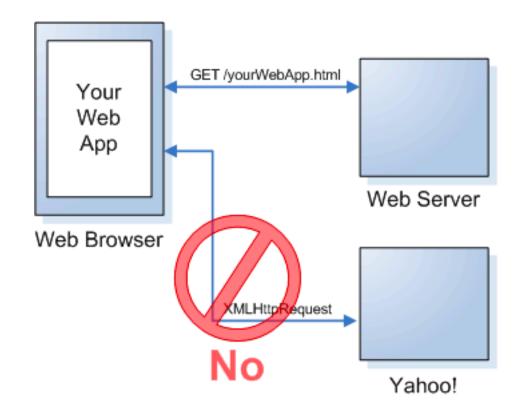


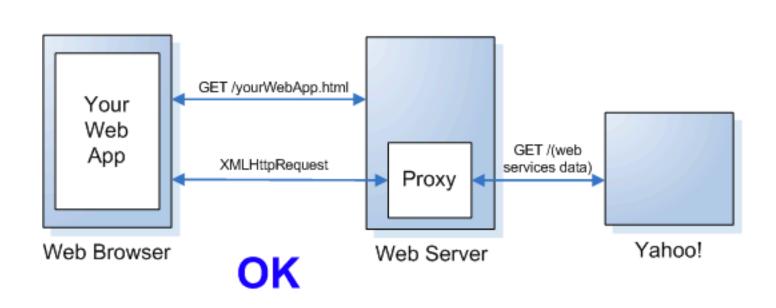


Navigate file system programmatically Dynamically generate pages or views Transport, store, or interact with data

Same-origin policy

- Many browsers will not permit AJAX requests to a different server.
 This helps prevent malicious scripts from accessing data in the DOM
 - A non-browser proxy server running locally can communicate with a different server
 - The browser can communicate with the proxy server





https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same-origin_policy

Same-origin policy

- Two browser tabs: a bank app is open in one, an evil app in the other
 - Both have JavaScript scripts
 - The bank uses it's script to read, edit, etc. your bank data
- The origin is what HTML page opened the JavaScript file
 - So each tab is a separate origin
- Without the same-origin policy, the evil app could read, edit, etc. your bank data
 - Different tabs, but both running with the same JavaScript engine







Same-origin policy

 So instead, the bank's JavaScript script can only perform actions in it's browser tab (origin), and the evil app's JavaScript script can only perform actions in it's browser tab



- Two exceptions:
 - An app can always communicate with other apps in the same domain (e.g., localhost apps can communicate with any other localhost apps*)
 - A server can designate that it will accept connections from sources with a particular origin (or any origin)
 - You can disable the policy in your browser, but probably shouldn't



https://security.stackexchange.com/questions/8264/why-is-the-same-origin-policy-so-important

Client-side

Runs in the browser

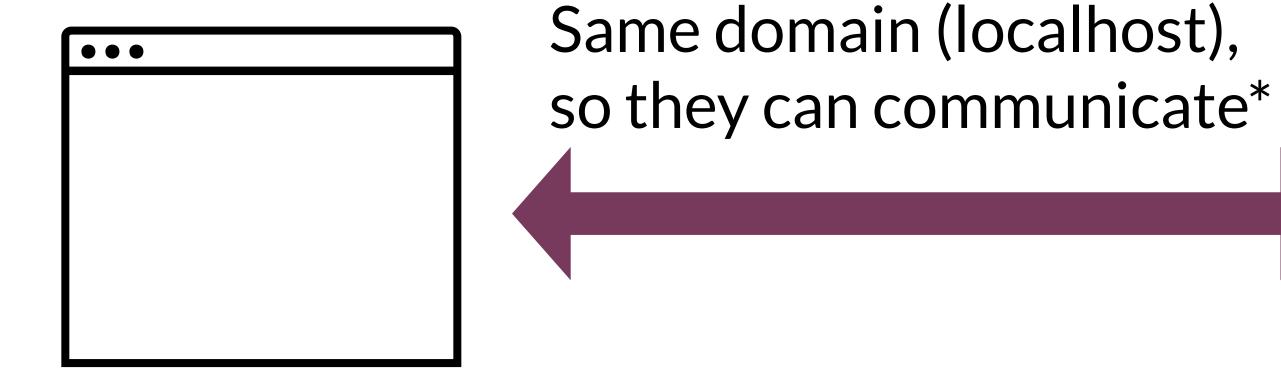
- Changes happen in real-time in the browser
- Cannot make HTTP requests to many APIs
- Examples: AJAX, Angular,
 React, Vue.js

Server-side

- Runs in the command line, etc.
 (but maybe can still be accessed from the browser)
- Changes happen in response to HTTP requests
- Can make HTTP requests to most APIs
- Examples: Node, ASP.NET

Servers on localhost

Localhost: "this computer"



Live server: localhost:8080

Browser implements same-origin policy to protect the other data you have open in the browser



Twitter proxy: localhost:7890

Running as a server, so no same-origin policy restrictions. Can communicate with Twitter

Proxy servers

- Twitter's new API recommends some server-side (Node) libraries to serve as proxies
- More on server-side development next class

JavaScript (Node.JS) / TypeScript

- node-twitter-api-v2 strongly typed, full-featured, light, versatile yet powerful Twitter API client for Node.js
- twitter.js an object-oriented Node.js and TypeScript library for interacting with Twitter API v2
- twitter-types type definitions for the Twitter API
- twitter-v2 An asynchronous client library for the Twitter APIs
- tweet-json-to-html converts Twitter API v2 Tweet JSON objects into HTML format

https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs/twitter-api





Which can make an HTTP request to the Spotify API?

(Assume the browser uses default settings)

- (A)4
- (B) 1, 4
- **c** 1, 2, 4
- D 1, 3, 4
- **E** 1, 2, 3, 4

- (1) A browser open to <u>spotify.com</u>
- (2) A browser with client-side JavaScript at localhost:8888
- (3) A browser with server-side JavaScript at localhost:8888
- (4) A server running in the Spotify domain





Which can make an HTTP request to the Spotify API?

(Assume the browser uses default settings)

- (A)4
- (B) 1, 4
- **c** 1, 2, 4
- D 1, 3, 4
- **E** 1, 2, 3, 4

- (1) A browser open to spotify.com
- (2) A browser with client-side JavaScript at localhost:8888
- (3) A browser with server-side JavaScript at localhost:8888
- (4) A server running in the Spotify domain

Getting live tweet data



10 Tweets about RunKeeper

- Just completed a 4.87 km run with @Runkeeper. Check it out! https://t.co/QeB0SmBONJ #Runkeeper
- Just completed a 1.89 mi run with @Runkeeper. Check it out! https://t.co/Yo1voS1OoJ #Runkeeper
- Just completed a 10.61 km run with @Runkeeper. Check it out! https://t.co/9GnepQIr70 #Runkeeper
- Just posted a 10.34 km run New PB on this route bttps://t.co/7cGHlhEIIW #Runkeeper
- Just completed a 3.02 km run with @Runkeeper. Check it out! https://t.co/VUzLbkFGyW #Runkeeper
- Just completed a 10.00 km run with @Runkeeper. Check it out! https://t.co/slgWps1MJ6 #Runkeeper
- Just completed a 21.01 km run with @Runkeeper. Check it out! https://t.co/1rfZO6pZpU #Runkeeper
- Just completed a 4.66 km run with @Runkeeper. Check it out! https://t.co/T4j6NWANNJ #Runkeeper
- Just completed a 11.40 km walk with @Runkeeper. Check it out! https://t.co/5BMMcaGDzJ #Runkeeper
- Just posted a MySports Freestyle in 1:01:28 TomTom MySports Watch https://t.co/tv6pKRfYRo #Runkeeper





What will (probably) be shown in the console?

```
like dogs
                                                                 like dogs
favorite pet = "dogs";
                                          T like cats
                                                               I like dogs
var url = 'https://fakeapi.com/send cats';
                                                               I like dogs
                                          I like dogs
fetch(url).then((response) => {
 //sends back the string "cats"
                                                           (D)I like dogs
                                         I like cats
 console.log("I like " + favorite pet);
 response.json().then((pet) => {
                                          I like dogs
                                                                 like dogs
   favorite pet = pet;
                                                              I like cats
                                          I like dogs
   console.log("I like " + favorite pet);
 });
                                            like dogs
                                         I like cats
console.log("I like " + favorite_pet);
                                          I like cats
```





What will (probably) be shown in the console?

```
like dogs
                                            like dogs
favorite pet = "dogs";
                                                               I like dogs
                                          I like cats
var url = 'https://fakeapi.com/send cats';
                                                               I like dogs
                                          I like dogs
fetch(url).then((response) => {
 //sends back the string "cats"
                                          I like cats
                                                              I like dogs
 console.log("I like " + favorite pet);
 response.json().then((pet) => {
                                          I like dogs
                                                               I like dogs
   favorite pet = pet;
                                                               I like cats
                                          I like dogs
   console.log("I like " + favorite pet);
 });
                                            like dogs
                                         I like cats
console.log("I like " + favorite_pet);
                                          I like cats
```

Catching errors

• We can use the .catch() function to specify a callback that will occur if the promise is rejected (an error occurs).

```
• This method will "catch" errors from all previous . then () s
getData(fooSrc)
  .then(firstCallback)
  .then(secondCallback)
  .catch(function(error) {
     //called if EITHER previous callback
     //has an error
     //param is object representing the error itself
     console.log(error.message);
  .then(thirdCallback) //will only do this if
                         //no previous errors
```

Multiple promises (concurrent)

 Because Promises are just commands to do something, we can wait for all of them to be done var foo = fetch(fooUrl); var bar = fetch(barUrl); //a promise for when all commands ready Promise.all(foo, bar) .then(function(fooRes, barRes) { //do something both both responses, e.g., return Promise.all(fooRes.json(), barRes.json()); .then(function(fooData, barData){ //now have both data sets!

Today's goals

By the end of today, you should be able to...

- Explain how programs access web resources and common ways they respond
- Implement a fetch request to get a resource from a web API
- Use promises to make an asynchronous request

IN4MATX 133: User Interface Software

Lecture 8: AJAX, Fetch, & Promises Professor Daniel A. Epstein TA Goda Addanki TA Seolha Lee