



Google Web Toolkit and the Model View Presenter architecture



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About me...

Lead developer at **BookedIN.net**Founder of **arcbees.com** (consulting)
Creator of **gwtplatform.com**(Starting at Google in two weeks)

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Our tools

(you'll need...)

- Eclipse Helios (for Java Developer, or more)
- Google Plugin for Eclipse
 - http://dl.google.com/eclipse/plugin/3.6
 - Take the SDKs too
- GWTP Plugin for Eclipse
 - http://plugin.gwt-platform.googlecode.com/hg/update

Our stack

- Java
- HTML / CSS
- GWT
- GWT-Platform (GWTP aka gooteepee)
- GIN (Guice for GWT)
- (AppEngine)



GWT

Google Web Toolkit

- Build complex browser-based apps in Java
 - Java → javascript cross compiler
 - All the goodies of Java
 - Rock-solid IDEs and tools
 - Refactoring
 - Unit testing
- Deferred binding
 - Serves a different app to different users
 - Chrome + Français? Check!
 - Tablet + Ancient greek? Coming right up!



- Greatly simplifies writing MVP code
- Includes a command pattern
 - Action-based client/server exchanges

- Best thing since sliced bread!
 - Trust the author!;)

GIN

Guice for GWT

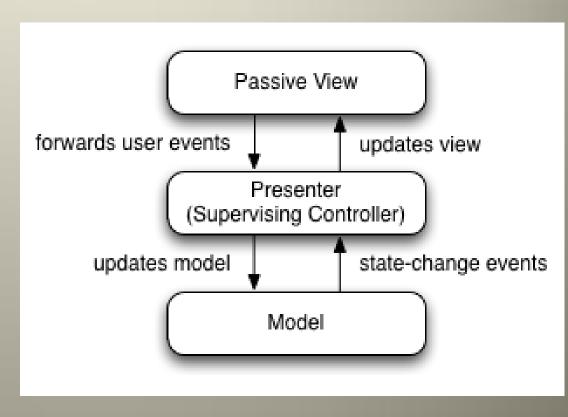
- As-simple-as-possible dependency injection
- Ginjector
 - The "master factory"
- Module
 - Java code to bind interfaces to implementations
- Then: use @Inject on your constructors!

Our architecture

MVP: Model View Presenter

- Model (entity graph)
- View
 - Dumb, no logic
- Presenter
 - Logic, no UI code

- Advantages
 - Testability
 - Low coupling



Root vs RootLayout

- Web Page vs Web app
- Browser scrollbar vs Your own scrollbars
- Infinite Page vs Full screen

Presenter lifecycle (1)

- onBind(): right after construction
 - Add handlers to the view, see registerHandler()
 - One time setup (NOT in the constructor)
- onUnbind(): when released
 - Has to be called manually (fot now)
 - Undo any setup operations done in onBind()
 - Except for registerHandler()

Presenter lifecycle (2)

- onReveal(): from invisible to visible
- onHide(): from visible to invisible
- onReset(): when navigation occurs and the presenter is still visible after
 - NOT the same as onReveal() as soon as you have a presenter hierarchy
 - The right place for most "update" operations

Command pattern

- Operations are wrapped in classes
- Send the class to the server with a dispatcher
- Results are also wrapped in classes

Idea: keep them in a stack for undo/redo!

URL parameters

- Saving part of the presenter state in the URL
 - Good for bookmarks
 - Or for navigation (back, forward)
- Ex: http://phone.com#!search;q=iphone
- Override prepareFromRequest()

Nested Presenters

Presenter 1 not a place

Presenter 3

a place

Presenter 2 not a place

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Event bus

- Keep these presenters decoupled
- Use the EventBus to communicate
- Example:
 - Presenter3 tells Presenter2 which tab to highlight
 - Better: Use GWTP tabbed presenters!
 - System broadcasts that a user has logged in

Other features of GWTP (1)

- PresenterWidgets
 - Great for reusable components
 - Light-weight way to decouple UI from Logic
- Hierarchical ajax URLs
 - #!product-list;type=phones/!product;id=323
 - Ideal for breadcrumbs
- Gatekeepers
 - Dynamically block out presenters

Other features of GWTP (2)

- Dispatcher goodies
 - Action caching/batching, client-side handling
 - ActionValidator (server-side security)
- Search engine crawler support
 - Make these "hash bang" URLs crawlable
- Google Analytics support
 - Track navigation at the presenter level
- Helpers for internationalization



Check out Jukito, the best (only?) automocking testing framework for Gin/Guice.

Also: the second best thing since sliced bread.

Also: I created it...;)

http://jukito.org

Need help?



GWT AppEngine

Questions?

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Slides, GWTP and doc at:

http://gwtplatform.com

Code at:

http://code.google.com/p/gwtp-demo/