

# JavaScript Introduction

Topics discussed this presentation

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- Asynchronous JavaScript & XML (Ajax).
- This presentation based on jQuery Ajax.
- Using a very small subset of available functionality.

# Ajax

## What is it?

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- A technology to manage transmission of data.
- Between client and server.
- Generally text-based data.
- Binary data transmission also possible.
- In this course we focus on text-based.
- Originally data format Extensible Markup Language (XML).
- JSON now increasingly the format of choice.

# Ajax

Why use it?

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- Once Upon a Time in the Web . . .
- data request caused whole-page refresh.
- Ajax requests server what it needs,
- when it needs it and,
- for exactly where on page it is needed. . .
- finding the target with perfect aim.
- This avoids nuisance page flicker and,
- facilitates greater efficiency.



# Ajax

## Asynchronous communication

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- Web page sends HTTP Ajax request.
- User free to continue other page activity.
- Request processed independently.
- Server transmits response to web page.
- Synchronous communication also possible.



# jQuery

## Donation ajax call

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The jQuery function: `$()` or `jQuery()`

A jQuery function

```
$.ajax({  
  type: 'POST',  
  url: '/donation/donate',  
  data: formData,  
  success: function (response) {  
    // Make use of response object  
  },  
});
```

HTTP method

See routes file for controller action name

The form data: example amountDonated

Asynchronous callback function

Process the response data in this block

# jQuery

## Donation ajax call

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```
<form class="ui form" action="/donation/donate" method="POST">
  ...
  ...
</form>
```

```
<form class="ui form">
  ...
  ...
</form>
```

Ajax requires **form** change

# jQuery

## Donation ajax call

```
<form class="ui form segment">
  <input name="candidateEmail" type="hidden">
  <input name="amountDonated" type="hidden">
  <div class="ui blue submit button">Donate <i class="add icon"></i></div>
```

HTML

```
$('.ui.submit.button').click(function() {
  var formData = $('ui.form.segment input').serialize();
  $.ajax({
    type: 'POST',
    url: '/donation/donate',
    data: formData,
    success: function(response) {
      console.log("make donation page submitForm response: " + response.progress);
    }
  });
});
```

JavaScript

Provides routing to controller action donate

The form data: example amountDonated

Asynchronous call back delivers response

## Controller

```
JSONObject obj = new JSONObject();
obj.put("progress", getProgress());
renderJSON(obj);
```

Composes and transmits JSON object response

# jQuery

## Asynchronous Java and XML (Ajax)

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### Not using Ajax

Press Donate button

Entire page refreshes

Noticeable flicker

### Using Ajax

Press Donate button

Only the progress bar affected

No noticeable flicker

[Home](#) [Sign Up](#) [Log In](#) [Make Donation](#) [Report](#) [Log Out](#)

**Welcome Homer**  
Please give generously

Amount ▾

☒ PayPal  
☐ Direct

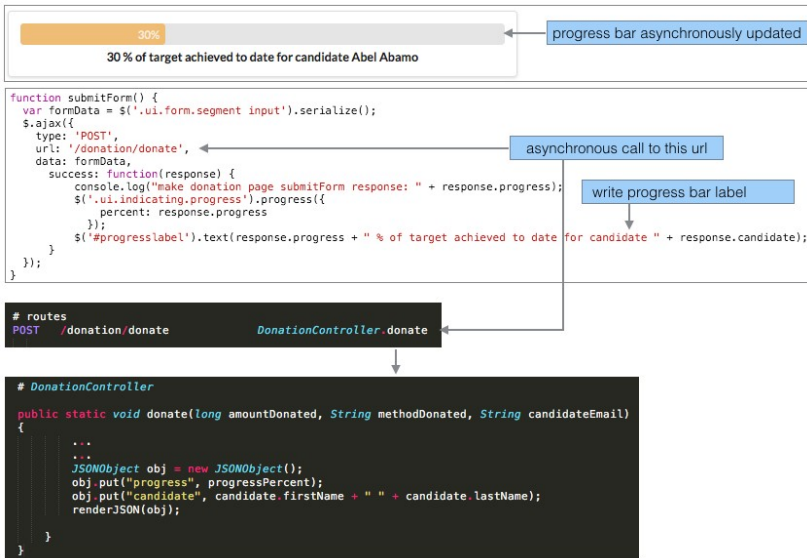
**DONATE +**

**Amount target achieved**



# jQuery

## Asynchronous Java and XML (Ajax)



# JavaScript

## Presentation summary

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- Ajax
  - Asynchronous JavaScript & XML (Ajax)
  - Now Asynchronous JavaScript & JSON (AJAN -:-)
  - In widespread use.
  - Allows specific page element refresh.
  - Avoids flicker associated with whole-page refresh.

# JavaScript

## Some suggestions for consideration

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- Write code complying with ECMAScript6 (ES6).
- Use quality IDE such as WebStorm.
- Apply styleguide, example Airbnb.
- Use strict mode.
- Avoid use of global variables:
  - Use global abatement or other techniques.
- Do not rely on semicolon insertion.
- Do not use:
  - `==` (use `===` )
  - `!=` (use `!==` )
- Avoid use of *continue* statement.
- Do not use block-less statements (e.g. following *for*, *while*, *if*).

# References

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MDN: Mozilla Developer Network

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