Topics for Review

- Bundles and separation of concerns
- Promises and .then(), .catch()
- fetch(), response.ok, response.json()
- Client-side state
- state and render cycle
 - Not using .style
 - Not hiding/showing blocks
 - Changing classes on render
 - Error messages and immediate forms
- Differences between client state and server state
- Polling

Separation of Concerns

What files to create?

- Model
 - Might be multiple parts
- View
 - Might be multiple parts
- Controller
 - Attach listeners?
 - Polling?
 - initial load?
 - Service wrappers?
- Some of those not MVC
 - But called by MVC parts

Deciding on your files

- Watch for coupling
 - Using values outside function
 - Pass most values instead
 - Passing many values
- Is coupling necessary?
 - Be passed values?
 - Can you return a value?
 - Accept a callback/return a promise?

How to start

- Start with rendering an initial view
 - Determines needed state
- I recommend separating files early
 - Not required, but may be easier
 - Enforces reduced coupling
- Make minimal changes
 - Keep code runnable
 - Confirm it works
 - Makes it easier to chase bugs

Promises

- Promise will resolve or reject
 - pending until then
- Resolve calls .then() callback
 - passes resolve value
 - passes resolve value if promise
- Reject calls .catch() callback
 - passes reject value
 - passes reject value if promise
- Any thrown error OR "crash" is rejected

Service Wrappers

- Call fetch
- Return Promise
 - Resolve with parsed data
 - Reject with formatted error
- Does NOT modify state
 - Separation of Concerns
 - Allows for reuse in different situations
- My examples are ONE WAY to do it
 - Not everyone follows this pattern
 - But is a good pattern

In Case of Network Errors

fetch() only rejects on failure to reach service

- Not on error returned by service
- We .catch() BEFORE checking service response
 - Guarantees cause is network error
- We reject with formatted error object
 - Allows all errors to be handled by similar parsing
 - This is a choice, not a technical requirement
 - But is a good pattern
 - returning rejected promise
 - Will skip later .then()
 - Goes to later .catch()
 - Which can be in calling function

Checking service response

- a response object might be
 - A successful response
 - An error
- We check response.ok to see
 - Requires accurate status code!
 - REST does, other conventions may not
- On error status
 - We parse body data as JSON!
 - Requires service returns JSON body!
 - We do, not all services will
 - We then reject with that error
 - Requires consistent service error body
 - We are, not all services will be

On Service success

- We return response.json()
 - provides promise of parsed results
- Service wrapper doesn't use!
 - Just resolve of returned promise
 - Calling function can use results

Reporting Errors

Remember - console.log()/console.warn() are NOT error handling

Need to tell user what they need to do

Rarely wish to show direct error message service gave to user

- usually want to "translate" server error (or network error) to friendly message
- See todo sample for example
 - Just one way to do it
 - Important thing is result

Client Side State

• Why do we have this?

Why State

- Need state to make decisions about what to show
- There is an IMPLICIT State in the DOM
 - What we are showing IS the state!
- Changing output alters the DOM
 - add/remove classes
 - add/remove HTML
- As our application gets more complex
 - DOM becomes more complex
- Any HTML change can change reading the DOM
 - 1 output change can cause N other changes
- Without client state, app cannot scale
 - As it grows, harder to make changes

jQuery

This was a critical lesson learned from jQuery

- jQuery doesn't require you store state in DOM
- But most people did, it was easy
 - Had no explicit separate state variables
- jQuery applications were easy and common
 - But often got harder to change and buggy as they got large
- This wasn't jQuery's fault!
- But later frameworks/libraries had explicit state
 - Avoided this issue

An app without separate state will fail to scale

- It will "work"
 - Fast and easy to write
 - First few changes easy
- But complex UI means state reads/changes become hard
 - Easy to make mistakes about
- A list where items:
 - Might be filtered from view
 - Might be selected/not selected
 - Can be on different visible "pages" of results
- How do you say how many items there are?
 - How many times did that code have to change as above features added?

How is Client State different from Server State?

- Often similar
- Client deals with 1 user
 - Server deals with many
- Client cares about what it shows
 - Server cares about changing data

Example: Project 2

Client and Server state identical/near identical

- Client shows messages and who they are from
- Server keeps a list of messages and who from

Client and Server state different

- Client was a list of active users
 - No duplicates
 - Should never know sid of other users
- Server tracks who is logged in by sid
 - Can have duplicate usernames
 - Won't have duplicate sids

Who translates data to state?

- Service will send data to client
 - Based on data from server state
 - May not be identical to server state
 - Ex: user list
- Client gets data from service call
 - May not save directly to client state
 - Depends on how the client uses data
 - Ex: A newly posted message by this user
 - May add message to message list
 - Esp. if a post id was generated
 - Ex: a partial list of messages
 - Will merge into existing message list

Client Side Render

• Why rewrite HTML vs show/hide blocks?

Show/Hide doesn't scale either

- It works, it just doesn't scale
 - Though not as bad as no state
- Multiple sections, have to decide what to show hide in reaction to user action
 - Add new action, set every section
 - Add new section, alter every action result
 - Add 1 X, change N things
 - Linear pain
 - Algebraic growth, not exponential

Compare to the proscribed render()

Rendering tree only cares about relevant state

- Generally 1:1 pain
- 1 new section = 1 change to render
- 1 new action = 0 changes to render

Adding/Changing a section

- Don't need to know all other sections
- Just know the output of this section
 - Less mental work
 - Less "cognitive overhead"
 - Easier to make changes
 - Fewer mistakes/bugs

But isn't all that rewriting of HTML inefficient?

Not to mention causing pain with things like scrolling and in-progress typing

- Yes, but computer efficiency is only one part of programming
 - Faster, more accurate app updates/changes/fixes are important too
- Yes, but tools like React will fix that

Polling

- How to create
- When to start/stop
- Dealing with errors

Creating Simple Polling

- Know what data you want to poll
 - This may need a new service!
- Know when you want to poll it
 - Be careful with intervals/timeouts
 - Can get out-of-order results
 - If a single service call is slow
 - Internet traffic can be weird
 - Best to start next call after first call finished

Using results of Polling

- Write immediately?
 - Can interrupt user!
 - Perhaps show a message
 - Without full-screen HTML rewrite
 - Let user decide when to update UI?
 - Gets easier with smarter HTML replacement
 - Like React

Starting/Stopping polling

- If service polled requires login
 - Best to start/stop on login/logout
 - Can still have 1 bad attempt
 - See Internet traffic is weird
- Save timeoutId/intervalId
 - Probably in state

Errors in Polling

Handling depends on error

- Network error?
- auth error?
- Other error?

User didn't make request

- Response might need to change
- But if response indicate user needs to take action
 - Why wait?