

#### specialist ICT learning



#### **AngularJS: Introduction**

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### Topics

- Emergence of Single Page Application (SPA) architecture
- What is and Why AngularJS?
- AngularJS HelloWorld Example
- AngularJS components
- Tools

### Emergence of Single Page Application (SPA) Architecture

# Web App Architecture Requirements

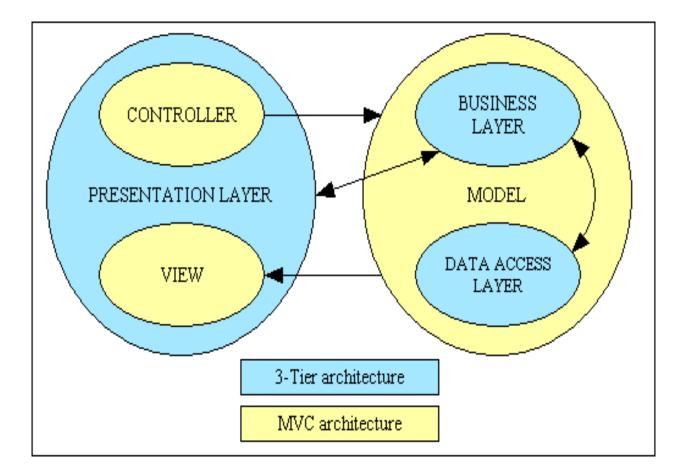
- High Performance
- High Scalability
- Easy to develop (from developer standpoint)
- Rich user experience (from user standpoint)
- Standards-based
- Vibrant ecosystem
- Multi-device support
- Mobile friendly

## Web App Architecture Evolution

- Model 1 MVC (Template based)
- Model 2 MVC (Controller based)
  - > View is generated by the server per request
  - Struts, SpringMVC, Rails
- Component oriented
  - > View is generated by the server per request
  - > JSF, Tapestry
- SPA-based Rich client and Thin Server
  - > View is generated at the client
  - > Client Model sync'ed with backend data via REST, WebSocket
  - > JavaScript MVC framework (AngularJS, BackboneJS, etc)
  - > HTML 5 enabled

### **SPA-based Rich Client Architecture**

• Presentation (view generation) is done at the client



### **SPA-based Rich Client Architecture**

- All presentation handling is done on the client
  - > Controller handles user interaction
  - > View is responsible for displaying data
- All conversational state (also known as view or presentation state) is kept on the client
  - > The server is stateless from the perspective of requests
  - > HTML5 offline technologies
- The client is responsible for fetching the data from the server and insert it into the presentation and extracting data from the presentation to send to the server
  - > REST
  - > HTML5 Websocket, XHR2

# What is Single-Page App (SPA)?

- Web application that fits in a "single" page
  - > Example: Gmail, Google Map
- HTML page contains mini-views (HTML fragments) that can be loaded in the background
  - > No reloading of the page
- Enables natural browser behavior
  - > Browser history
  - > Navigation & Bookmarks
- Unified across experiences
  - > Desktop, Tablets, Mobile phones
- Better deployment and maintenance

### **Challenges in SPA**

- DOM manipulation
  - > How can we add custom behavior to the DOM elements?
- History tracking and bookmarking
  - > How can provide natural browser behavior?
- Routing
  - > How can we support URL-based routing?
- Data binding
  - > How can we bind data from model to view and vice-versa?
- View loading
  - > How can we support efficient page loading?

# What is and Why AngularJS?

### What is AngularJS?

- A structural framework for building SPA apps
  - It lets you use HTML as your template language and lets you extend HTML's syntax to express your application's components clearly and succinctly
  - > Angular's data binding and dependency injection eliminate much of the code you would otherwise have to write
- Angular is what HTML would have been, had it been designed for applications
  - > HTML is originally designed for displaying static contents so "impedance mismatch between static documents (HTML) and dynamic application" needs to be addressed
- A complete client side solution
  - > Works with any server technology

# Key Design Points of AngularJS

- Decouple DOM manipulation from app logic
  - > Dramatically improves the testability of the code
- Regard "app testing" as equal in importance to "app writing"
  - > Testing difficulty is dramatically affected by the way the code is structured
- Decouple the client side of an app from the server side
  - > Allows development work to progress in parallel, and allows for reuse of both sides
- Guide developers through the entire journey of building an app
  - From designing the UI, through writing the business logic, to testing
- Make common tasks trivial and difficult tasks possible

### Why AngularJS?

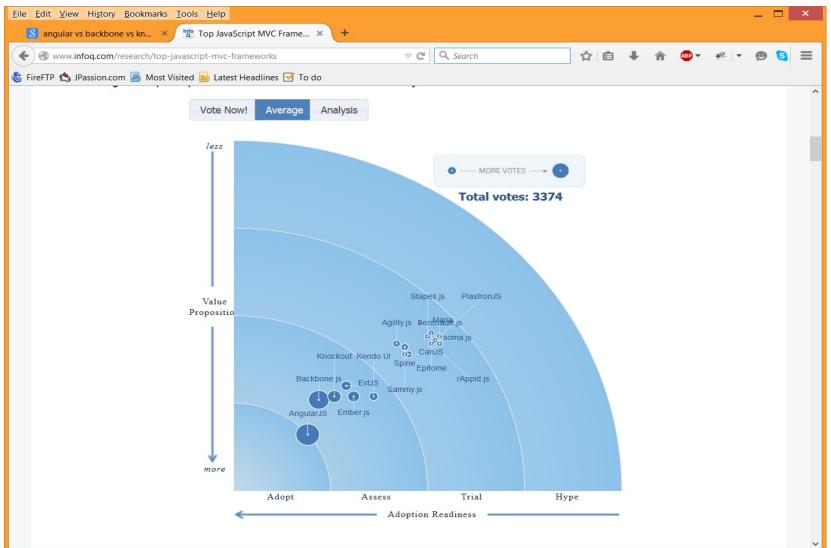
- No need to register callbacks (event handlers)
  - Makes code simpler and easier to understand
- No need to manipulate HTML DOM programmatically
  - > By declaratively describing how the UI should change as your application state changes, you are freed from writing low-level DOM manipulation code
- No need to marshal data to and from the UI
  - > AngularJS handles the flow of marshaling data from the server to an internal object to an HTML form
  - > Allowing users to modify the form, validating the form, displaying validation errors, returning to an internal model, and then back to the server, creates a lot of boilerplate code
- No need to write tons of initialization code just to get started

### **AngularJS Sweet Spot**

- Angular is built with the CRUD application in mind
   CRUD applications represent the majority of web applications
- Angular is not a good fit for applications with intensive and tricky DOM manipulation
  - > Games and GUI editors belong to this category of applications
  - > Better to use a library with a lower level of abstraction, such as jQuery for these applications (instead of AugularJS)

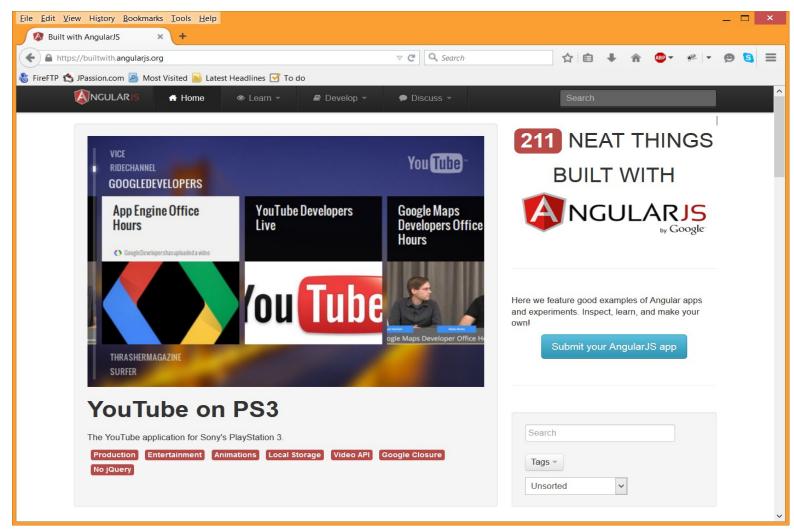
#### AngularJS vs. Other JavaScript MVC frameworks

http://www.infoq.com/research/top-javascript-mvc-frameworks (April 2015)



### **Apps Built with AngularJS**

#### https://builtwith.angularjs.org/



# AngularJS Example

# **AngularJS Helloworld Example**

Note there is no JavaScript code.

```
<div ng-app ng-init="qty=1;cost=2">
 <b>Invoice:</b>
 <div>
  Quantity: <input type="number" min="0" ng-model="qty">
 </div>
 <div>
  Costs: <input type="number" min="0" ng-model="cost">
 </div>
 <div>
  <b>Total:</b> {{qty * cost | currency}}
 </div>
</div>
                                   prompt a user to enter two numbers
                                (quantity and cost) and compute total cost.
```

# **AngularJS Components**

## **AngularJS: Main Components**

- Templates
- Expressions
- Directives
- Modules
- Controllers
- Scopes
- Models
- Dependency injection
- Data binding

- Routing
- Filters
- Forms
- Validations
- Services
- Bootstrapping

### **AngularJS 3rd-party Modules**

#### http://ngmodules.org/

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### **Front-end Web Development Tools**

- Editors
  - > WebStorm (commercial)
  - > Visual Studio Code (free)
  - > Brackets (free)
  - > Sublime text (commercial)
- Java IDEs (mostly geared for Backend Java development)
  - > Eclipse
  - > NetBeans
  - > Intellij IDEA
- Generators and Scaffolding
  - > Yeoman
  - > Maven: archetype-webapps-module-angularjs

### **Brackets**

- A modern, open source text editor what understand web design
  - > Created by Adobe
- Features
  - > Inline editors
  - > Live previews
  - > Preprocessor support
- Plugin-based
  - > Beautify plugin
- AngularJS support
  - > AngularJS for Brackets plugin
  - > AngularJS Code Hints plugin
  - > Angular Snippets plugin

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