Input and Validation

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Early web app input: HTTP form tag

```html
<form action="/product/update" method="post">
  Product: <input type="text" name="product"/><br/>
  Deluxe: <input type="checkbox" name="delux" /><br/>
  <input type="submit" value="Submit"/>
</form>

- method="get" - Encode form properties as query params
  HTTP GET product/update?product=foobar&delux=on

- method="post" - Encode form properties as query params in message body
  HTTP POST product/update
  Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
  product=foobar&delux=on
```
Rails input pattern using form POST

- GET Page containing form
  - Contains a method="post" form to a POST Page

- POST Page - Validate and perform operation (typically create or update)
  - If successful, redirect to a "done "page (possibly another GET Page) if successful
  - If failed validation, redirect page to the GET Page with incorrect fields highlighted
  - If error, redirect to some oops page
Validation requirements in web applications

- Protect integrity of storage (required fields, organization, security, etc.)
  - Can let HTTP request either from web app or generated out the web app damage us
  - Need to enforce at web server API

- Provide a good user experience
  - Don't let users make mistakes or warn them as soon as possible
  - Pushing validation closer to the user is helpful
Validation with AngularJS

- Rule #1: Still need server-side validation to protect storage system integrity
- Rule #2: Let user know about validity problems as early as possible
- Angular reuses the HTML form tag
  ```html
  <form name="myForm">
    <input type="text" name="myName" ng-model="name" required
           ng-minlength="3" ng-maxlength="20" />
  </form>
  ```
  Generates a scope object property under form name (myForm)
  $scope.myForm.myName has validation information
Angular validation information

$scope.myForm.myName

Status: $untouched, $touched, $pristine, $dirty, $valid, $invalid

Error: $error.required
  .minlength
  .maxlength

- Also updates classes on input tag (e.g. ng-invalid-maxlength)
- Can provide instant feedback on errors
Angular Material: md-input-container pattern

<form name="userForm" ...

<md-input-container>
  <label>Last Name</label>
  <input name="lastName" ng-model="lastName" required md-maxlength="10" minlength="4">
  <div ng-messages="userForm.lastName.$error" ng-show="userForm.lastName.$dirty">
    <div ng-message="required">This is required!</div>
    <div ng-message="md-maxlength">That's too long!</div>
    <div ng-message="minlength">That's too short!</div>
  </div>
</md-input-container>
</form>
Asynchronous validation

- Can in background communicate with web server to validate input
  - Example: user name already taken
- Example: states search with md-autocomplete

```html
<md-autocomplete md-selected-item="ctrl1.selectedItem"
  md-search-text="ctrl1.searchText"
  md-items="item in ctrl1.querySearch(ctrl1.searchText)"
  md-item-text="item.display" placeholder="What is your favorite US state?">
  <span md-highlight-text="ctrl1.searchText">{{item.display}}</span>
</md-autocomplete>
```

- Trend towards using recommendation systems for input guidance
Single Page App Input

- Rather than POST with redirect you can do a XMLHttpRequest POST/PUT
- Angular supports two interfaces to XMLHttpRequest ($http and $resource)

```javascript
function FetchModel(url, doneCallback) {
    $http.get(url).then(function(response) {
        var ok = (response.status === 200);
        doneCallback(ok ? response.data : undefined);
    }, function(response) {
        doneCallback(undefined);
    });
}
```
Minor Digression - Promises
Callbacks have haters

- Pyramid of Doom

```javascript
fs.readFile(fileName, function (error, fileData) {
    doSomethingOnData(fileData, function (tempData1) {
        doSomethingMoreOnData(tempData1, function (tempData2) {
            finalizeData(tempData2, function (result) {
                // Called **Pyramid of Doom**
                doneCallback(result);
            });
        });
    });
});
```

- An alternative to pyramid: Have each callback be an individual function
  - Sequential execution flow jumps from function to function - not ideal
Idea behind promises

- Rather than specifying a done callback
  ```javascript
  doSomething(args, doneCallback);
  ```
- Return a promise that will be filled in when done
  ```javascript
  var donePromise = doSomething(args);
  
  donePromise will be filled in when operation completes
  ```
- Doesn't need to wait until you need the promise to be filled in
then() - Waiting on a promise

- Get the value of a promise (waiting if need be) with `then`

```javascript
donePromise.then(function (value) {
    // value is the promised result when successful
}, function (error) {
    // Error case
});
```
Example of Promise usage

- $http.get() returns a promise

```javascript
$http.get(url).then(function(response) {
  var ok = (response.status === 200);
  doneCallback(ok ? response.data : undefined);
}, function(response) {
  doneCallback(undefined);
});
```
Promises

```javascript
var myFile = myReadFile(fileName);
var tempData1 = myFile.then(function (fileData) {
    return doSomethingOnData(fileData);
});
var finalData = tempData1.then(function (tempData2) {
    return finalizeData(tempData2);
});
return finalData;
```

- Note no **Pyramid of Doom**
- Every variable is a promise
  - A standard usage: Every variable - If *thenable* call then() on it otherwise just use the variable as is.
Chaining promises

return myReadFile(fileName)
  .then(function (fileData) { return doSomethingOnData(fileData); })
  .then(function (data) { return finalizeData(data); })
  .catch(errorHandlingFunc);

- Add in ES6 JavaScript arrow functions:

  return myReadFile(fileName)
    .then((fileData) => doSomethingOnData(fileData))
    .then((data) => finalizeData(data))
    .catch(errorHandlingFunc);
From loadDatabase.js

- Mongoose returns promises so instead of async

```javascript
var removePromises = [User.remove({}), Photo.remove({}),
                      SchemaInfo.remove({})];

Promise.all(removePromises).then(...

-- and --

var userPromises = userModels.map(function (user) {
    return User.create({ ...}

Promise.all(userPromises).then(...
```
Creating your own promise

- Create a promise with `new Promise()`

```javascript
var donePromise = new Promise((fulfill, reject) {
    // calls `fulfill(value)` to have promise return value
    // calls `reject(err)` to have promise signal error
});
```
Converting callbacks to Promises

```javascript
function myReadFile(filename) {
    return new Promise(function (fulfill, reject) {
        fs.readFile(filename, function (err, res) {
            if (err)
                reject(err);
            else
                fulfill(res);
        });
    });
}
```
JavaScript and Promise

- Lots of slightly different JavaScript promise libraries
  - Q, Bluebird, RSVP

- Used in many software packages
  - jQuery, Angular, Protractor, ...

- JavaScript ES6 specification defines a Promise API
End Digression - Back to $http API
Uploading models using $http.post

```javascript
$http.post(url, modelObj).then(function successCallback(response) {
    // response.status  --- HTTP status code
    // response.data    --- POST response if successful (decoded)
    // response.headers --- HTTP response headers
}, function errorCallback(response) {
    // Network Error case (webServer or network down?)
});
```

- App must wait for reply since errors may occur on server
  - Need some user interface way of communicating this to the user
$resource - RESTful server access

- In REST APIs you have **resources** named as URLs

  ```javascript
  var resource = $resource(resourceURLTemplate, paramDefaults);
  ```

- And operations on resources:

  ```javascript
  resource.get(params, doneCback) - {method:'GET'}
  resource.save(params, doneCback) - {method:'POST'},
  resource.query(params, doneCback)- {method:'GET', isArray: true}
  resource.remove(params, doneCback) - {method:'DELETE'},
  resource.delete(params, doneCback) - {method:'DELETE'}
  ```
$resource examples

var testRes = $resource("/test/info");
    var infoModel = testRes.get({}, function () {
        console.log('infoModel', infoModel);
    }, function errorHandling(err) {
        // Any error or non-OK status
    });

var userRes = $resource("/user");
    userRes.save({user: 'mendel', password: 'pwd'}, function () {
        // Success
    }, function errorHandling(err) {
        // Any error or non-OK status
    });
Server-side validation

- Regardless of validation in browser, server needs to check everything
  - Easy to directly access server API bypassing all browser validation checks

- Mongoose allows validator functions

```javascript
var userSchema = new Schema({
  phone: { type: String,
    validate: {
      validator: function(v) {
        return /d{3}-d{3}-d{4}/.test(v);
      },
      message: '{VALUE} is not a valid phone number!' 
    }
  }
});
```
Some integrity enforcement requires special code

- Maintaining relationship between objects
- Resource quotas
- Examples related to our Photo App
  - Only author and admin user can delete a photo comment.
  - A user can only upload 50 photos unless they have a premium account.