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JavaScript/HTML 5 Rich Clients Using Java EE 7

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Program Agenda

- JavaScript/HTML5 Rich Client Landscape
- Java EE 7
- Java EE + JavaScript

JavaScript/HTML5 Rich Clients Rising?

- The thin client vs. rich client debate is pretty old...
- Server-side web frameworks have ruled for a while (JSF, Struts, Spring MVC)
- AJAX was a mild shift to the client (PrimeFaces, GWT, Vaadin)
- Rich clients powered by JavaScript/HTML5 appear to be making a comeback...
 - Improving JavaScript engines (V8, *Monkey, Nashorn)
 - Better tools (jQuery, MV* frameworks, Chrome, FireFox, Avatar)
 - Standards advancement (CSS3, HTML5, WebSocket, HTML Components...)

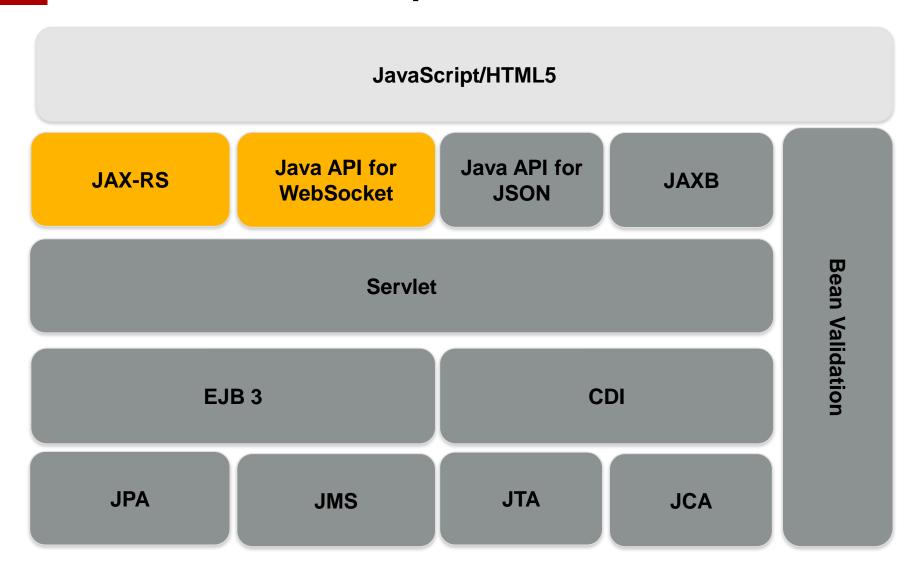
Perhaps not a Slam Dunk?

- Richer clients clearly better at some things
 - Highly dynamic, interactive interfaces
 - Complex, feature-rich UIs
 - "Single page applications" ("Applets" ☺)
- But perhaps not a panacea
 - Heavily form/workflow driven applications
 - Server-side rendering still a better bet for performance/reliability?
 - JavaScript/HTML development is not without it's pains...
 - Server-side frameworks are a strong incumbent
- Co-existence in the short and long term?
 - Islands of rich client functionality within server-centric UIs?
 - Different strokes for different folks?

My Big Fat Rich-Client Architecture

- Very similar to client/server architecture of lore
- Client responsible for UI rendering, basic input validation, logic and state
- Server responsible for business logic, domain model, persistence
- Web/HTTP is glue that connects client and server
- Typical communication protocols
 - REST for majority of cases
 - WebSocket when full-duplex communication is needed
 - JavaScript tools support REST well, but not WebSocket (yet)
- The typical (ideal?) data interchange format is JSON
- Java EE is a great server-side platform for this architecture...

Java EE + JavaScript



JAX-RS

- REST development API for Java
- Server and client
- Annotation based, declarative
 - @Path, @GET, @POST, @PUT, @DELETE, @PathParam, @QueryParam, @Produces, @Consumes
- Pluggable and extensible
 - Providers, filters, interceptors

JAX-RS Example

```
@Path("/atm/{cardId}")
public class AtmService {
    @GET
    @Path("/balance")
    @Produces("text/plain")
    public String balance(
            @PathParam("cardId") String card,
            @QueryParam("pin") String pin) {
        return Double.toString(getBalance(card, pin));
```

JAX-RS Example

Java API for WebSocket

- High level declarative API for WebSocket
- Both client and server-side
- Small, powerful API
 - @ServerEndpoint, @OnOpen, @OnClose, @OnMessage, @OnError, Session, Remote
- Pluggable and extensible
 - Encoders, decoders, sub-protocols

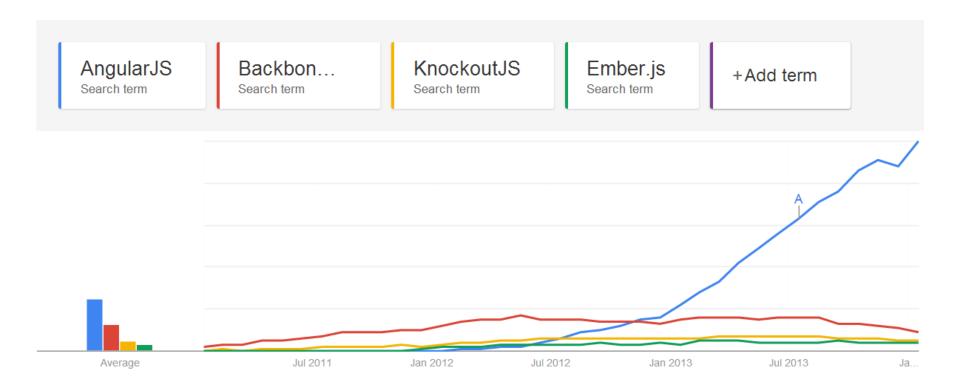
WebSocket Sample

```
@ServerEndpoint("/chat")
public class ChatBean {
    Set<Session> peers = Collections.synchronizedSet(...);
    @OnOpen
    public void onOpen(Session peer) {
        peers.add(peer);
    @OnClose
    public void onClose(Session peer) {
        peers.remove(peer);
```

WebSocket Sample (Continued)

@OnMessage public void message(String message, Session client) { for (Session peer : peers) { peer.getRemote().sendObject(message);

JavaScript Movers and Shakers



Project Avatar

- End-to-end open source JavaScript framework from Oracle
 - JavaScript on the client and server side (can be just one or the other)
 - Uses Nashorn/JDK8
 - Utilizes some underlying Java EE capabilities
 - Runs on GlassFish, perhaps on WebLogic at some point...
- Integrated support for REST, WebSocket, Server-Sent Events (SSE)...
- PhoneGap support
- Still nascent, good time to get involved

http://avatar.java.net

Java EE + JavaScript Demo



https://github.com/m-reza-rahman/javaee-javascript

Summary

- JavaScript/HTML5 clients gaining traction as opposed to serverside web frameworks
- Communication between the client and server happens via JSON over REST or WebSocket
- Java EE well positioned as a JavaScript rich client backend, especially with JAX-RS, the Java API for WebSocket and JSON-P
- JavaScript framework from Oracle Avatar
- You can use the demo code as a starting point to exploring the emerging space
- Most importantly, have fun!

Try it Out!



http://download.java.net/glassfish/4.0/release/glassfish-4.0.zip

Resources

- Java EE Tutorials
 - http://docs.oracle.com/javaee/7/tutorial/doc/home.htm
- Digging Deeper
 - http://docs.oracle.com/javaee/7/firstcup/doc/home.htm
 - https://glassfish.java.net/hol/
 - https://java.net/projects/cargotracker/
- Java EE 7 Transparent Expert Groups
 - http://javaee-spec.java.net
- Java EE 7 Reference Implementation
 - http://glassfish.org
- The Aquarium
 - http://blogs.oracle.com/theaquarium