Frontend II: Javascript and DOM Programming

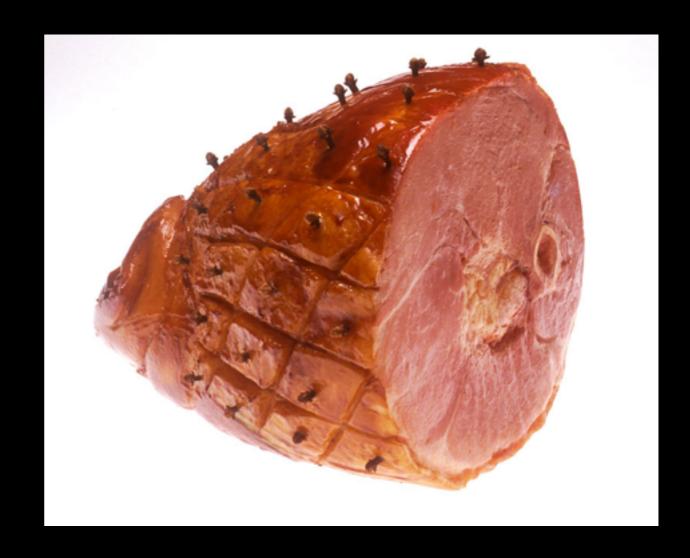
Let's talk about Javascript:)

Why Javascript?

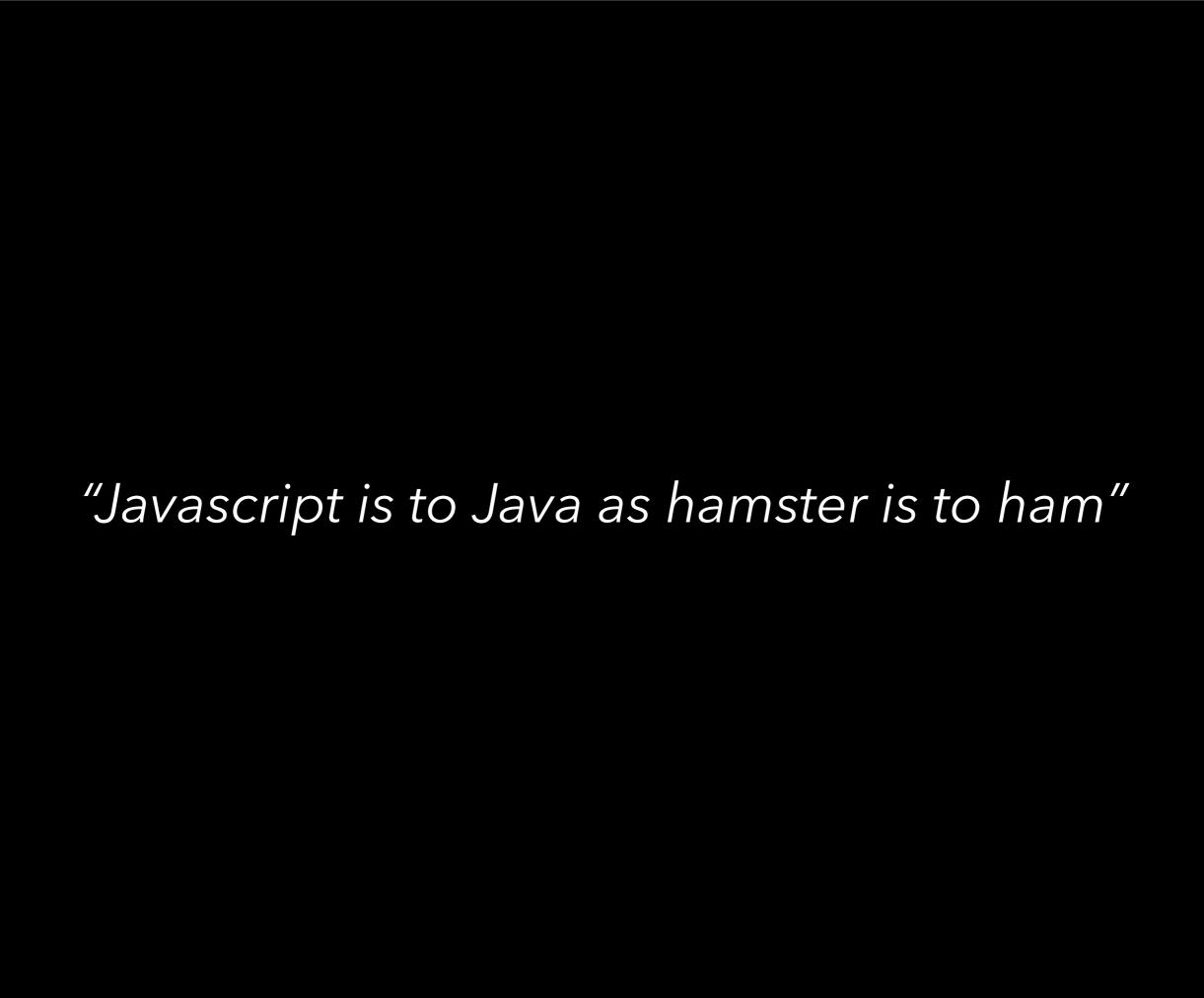


Designed in ten days in December 1995!





How are they similar?



Marketing!

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Marketing!

- Java began to become immensely popular in the '90s as a "powerful programming language"
- Javascript -- influenced more by Scheme than Java!
 - Scheme, with syntax borrowed from C

wat

"... we have to appreciate the reasons for picking not the most powerful solution but the least powerful"

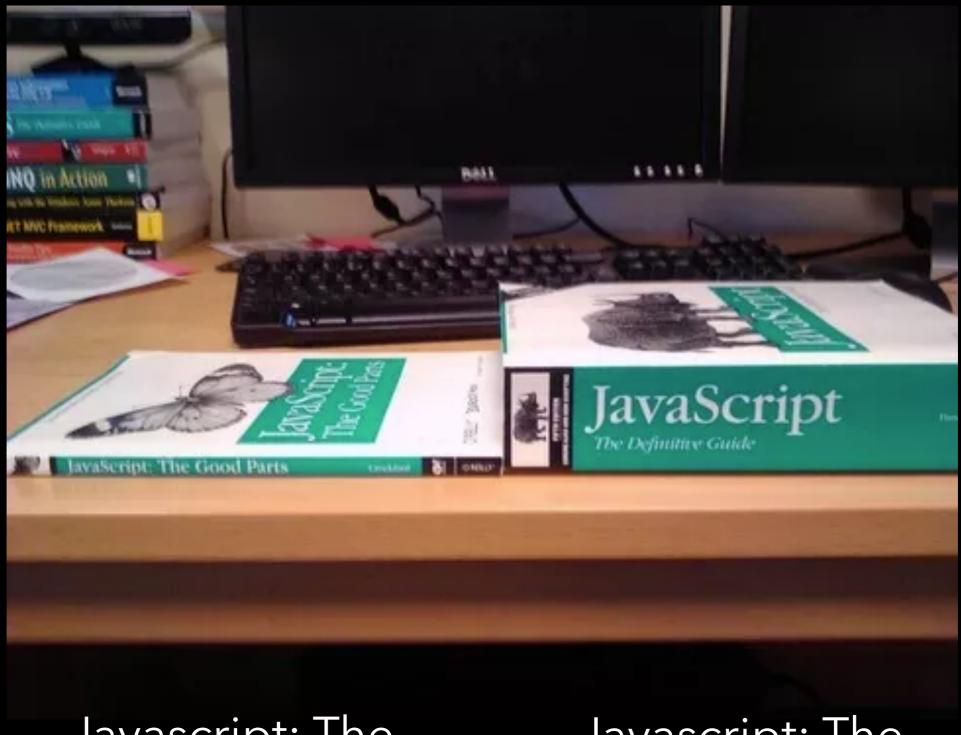
-- Tim Berners-Lee, 1998

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-- Tim Berners-Lee, 1998

"Any application that can be written in Javascript, will eventually be written in Javascript"

-- "Atwood's Corollary", 2007



Javascript: The Good Parts

Javascript: The Definitive Guide

So why are we learning a language that

... was built in 10 days

... can't decide if it's functional or object-oriented

... has become the butt of computer-science jokes everywhere???

Let's get real

- Objectively, Javascript isn't that bad
 - In fact, many of us who have gotten to know it enjoy it
- A language with a good, small core, and lots of unnecessary fluff
 - Learn to use the good parts



A new hope...for JS

- Better standards: ECMAScript
- Google V8
- Javascript on the client and server!
- Tons of libraries -- Javascript is (re)gaining popularity!

A lightning overview

```
var n = 3;
var str = "hello!"
if (n == 3) {
    console.log("three");
} else {
    console.log("not three");
for (var i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
    console.log(3 * i);
```

Arrays

```
var a = [1, 2, 3];
var b = [];

for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {
    b.push(2*a);
}
console.log(b) // [2, 4, 6]</pre>
```

Objects

```
var obj = {
   1: "hi",
   2: 3,
   "abc": "def",
   "array": [1,2,3,4,5]
};
console.log(obj[1]);
                      // "hi"
console.log(obj.abc); // "def"
console.log(obj.hello); // undefined
```

Functions!

```
function f(a, b) {
    return a + b;
}

var f = function(a, b) {
    return a + b;
}
```

Functions!

```
function f(a, b) {
    return a + b;
}

var f = function(a, b) {
    return a + b;
}
```

A function can be treated just like any other variable!

```
var func = function(f) {
    return f(3);
}
```

```
What is func(function(x) { return x; });
```

```
var func = function(f) {
    return f(3);
}
var a = function(x) {
    return 2 * x;
}
What is func(a);
```

```
var func = function(f) {
    return f;
}
```

```
What is func(function(x) { return x; });
```

```
var func = function(f) {
    return f;
}
```

```
What is func(function(x) { return x; })(3);
```

```
var func = function() {
    return
       [1,2,3]
};
```

What is func();



```
"20" == 20  // TRUE

false == 0  // TRUE

[] == []
```

Use === and !==

Javascript for the Browser

- HTML: gives us a "nested tree" structure of elements
- Manipulate these elements with Javascript!
- "The DOM"
- DEMO

jQuery

- Writing Javascript for the browser is cumbersome!
- jQuery allows us to write less by using CSS selectors and providing helper functions
 - \$('div')
 - \$('.classname')
 - \$('#element-id')
- DEMO

What can we do with jQuery?

- Find an element -- \$('#element-id')
- DOM "tree traversal"
- Element styles: show, hide, add/remove classes, change CSS
- Add and remove DOM elements and HTML!

Events!

Events: hover, mousedown, mouseup, keypress, etc...

Shortcuts: .click(...), .hover(...), etc.

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REMEMBER: functions are just like any other variable!

Callbacks?!?

- Javascript is asynchronous
- For now, just think of it as -- not everything executes in the order written

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- For now, just think of it as -- not everything executes in the order written

Callbacks?!?

- "Hey browser, call this function whenever someone clicks on #element-id"
- The callback function is executed only when the event triggers it

DEMO

Making a list