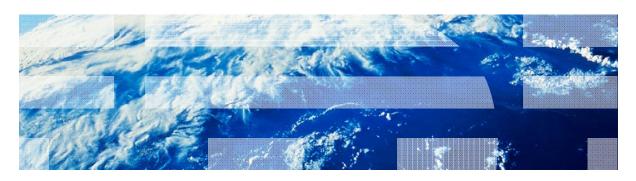


IBM Worklight V5.0.6 Getting Started

Building a multi page application





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Agenda

- Multi-page application basics
- Loading an external HTML file
- Implementing page navigation with history
- Exercise



Multi page application basics

- IBM Worklight® hybrid application uses a single DOM model
- Single DOM model means that you must never navigate between various HTML files by using hyperlinks or changing window.location property
- Instead, multi page interfaces must be implemented by loading external HTML file content by using Ajax requests and injecting it into existing DOM
- This is because the main application HTML file loads the Worklight client side JavaScript™ framework files, and when the browser navigates from one HTML file to another, the JavaScript context and loaded scripts are lost
- Most JavaScript UI frameworks (for example, jQuery Mobile, Sencha Touch, Dojo Mobile) available today provide extensive APIs to achieve required multi-page navigation
- In this module, you learn how to build a multi-page Worklight application by using built-in functionality only
- Important you must not use the built-in functionality that is described in this module if you are using JavaScript UI framework. You must use these framework APIs instead.



Multi page application basics

Applications with multiple pages can be built in two ways:

Single HTML file which contains all the application pages



A separate HTML file for each application page





Multi page application basics

- A single HTML file is the preferred model for simpler applications
- Developer is responsible for showing the "current" page <div> and hiding the rest
- However, large applications present a challenge:
 - The developer must take full responsibility for which DIVs are shown and, which are hidden at any moment.
 - If you want to add some new content to a page, for example a table, you cannot load a prepared template but must generate it manually.
 - Single large HTML files with lots of pages take longer to load.
 - It is easy to get lost in a single HTML file that contains multiple pages. Separate files are easier to manage.



Multi-page application basics

- Building a rich dynamic application with multiple pages can be easier with dynamic pages loading
- You can use built-in jQuery APIs to dynamically load, update, and insert DOM elements in your application
- HTML pages with CSS and JavaScript can be inserted as needed
- Possible to implement navigation history
- JavaScript code can be run when pages are loaded or unloaded
- In the following slides, you learn and implement a simple multi-page navigation interface



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Loading an external HTML file

- External HTML file is a segment of HTML code that can be injected into any location in the existing DOM
- A single HTML file can contain multiple HTML element hierarchy
- Might include JavaScript by using <script> tag
- Might include CSS files by using <link> tag
- Injected into parent element, usually <div>, but not mandatory
- Implemented by using jQuery \$().load() API



Loading an external HTML file

To load an HTML file, use the following syntax:

```
$(containerSelector).load(filePath, callbackFunction);
```

- containerSelector jQuery CSS selector of element to host the loaded content
- filePath Relative path to an HTML file. Always relative to main HTML file
- callbackFunction a JavaScript function to run when loading completes



Loading an external HTML file

Example

- This code loads the MainPage.html file and inserts its content into the pagePort <div> element
- JavaScript and CSS references from the MainPage.html are loaded to DOM
- alert("loaded!") is run when the MainPage.html load completes



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Implementing page navigation with history

 By using the technique that was described previously, you must implement a navigation interface with history in the following slides.

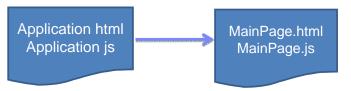


- You must keep the navigation history as a stack in an array object
- You must also keep a reference to a currently loaded page functionality by using a JavaScript object variable

```
var pagesHistory = [];
var currentPage = {};
```



Implementing page navigation with history – step 1



```
$("#pagePort").load("pages/MainPage.html", function(){
    currentPage.init();
```

On application start **MainPage.html** is loaded from the application code and injected into **#pagePort** div

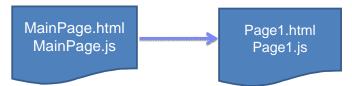
```
currentPage = {};
currentPage.init = function(){
    WL.Logger.debug("MainPage :: init");
```

- **2.** MainPage.js is loaded as a part of **MainPage.html**
- currentPage object is declared
- currentPage.init function is declared

5. When MainPage.html loading completes, currentPage.init method is called



Implementing page navigation with history – step 2



```
currentPage.loadPage = function(pageIndex){
   WL.Logger.debug("MainPage :: loadPage :: pageIndex: " + pageIndex);
   pagesHistory.push("pages/MainPage.html");
   $("#pagePort").load("pages/Page" + pageIndex + ".html", function(){
        currentPage.init();
   });
};
```

```
currentPage={};
currentPage.init = function() {
    WL.Logger.debug("Page1 :: init");
};
```

 MainPage.html is pushed into pagesHistory stack

15

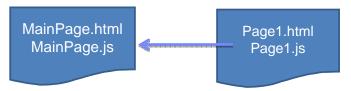
Page1.html is loaded and injected into #pagePort div

 When *Page1.html* loading completes, a new *currentPage.init* method is called

- Page1.js is loaded as a part of Page1.html
- currentPage object is declared (overriding the old one)
- currentPage.init function is declared



Implementing page navigation with history – step 3



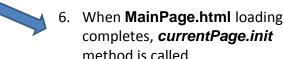
```
currentPage = {};

currentPage.init = function(){
    WL.Logger.debug("MainPage :: init");
};
```

currentPage.back = function(){
 WL.Logger.debug("Page1 :: back");
 \$("#pagePort").load(pagesHistory.pop(), function(){
 currentPage.init();
 });
};

- 3. MainPage.js is loaded as a part of MainPage.html
- currentPage object is declared (overriding the old one)
- currentPage.init function is declared

- Previous HTML file name is popped from the pagesHistory stack (MainPage.html)
- It is loaded and injected into #pagePort div





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Exercise

- Create a simple application with three pages as follows:
 - Application HTML file must contain only one <div> element that are used as a container for loaded pages
 - MainPage.html A file that is loaded and displayed automatically on application start
 - MainPage.html must have two buttons load page1 and load page2
 - Clicking each button loads the corresponding page
 - Both Page1.html and Page2.html must include a button that raises a WL.SimpleDialog
 - Both Page1.html and Page2.html must have a back button
 - Page1.html must have a button that dynamically loads and adds an HTML fragment to a predefined placeholder (<div>)
 - Page2.html must have a button that loads Page1.html

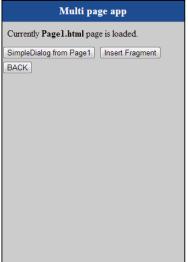


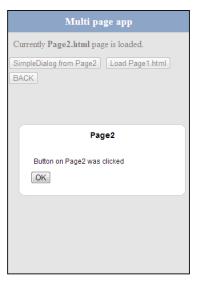
Exercise

 The sample for this training module can be found in the Getting Started page of the IBM® Worklight® documentation website at

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