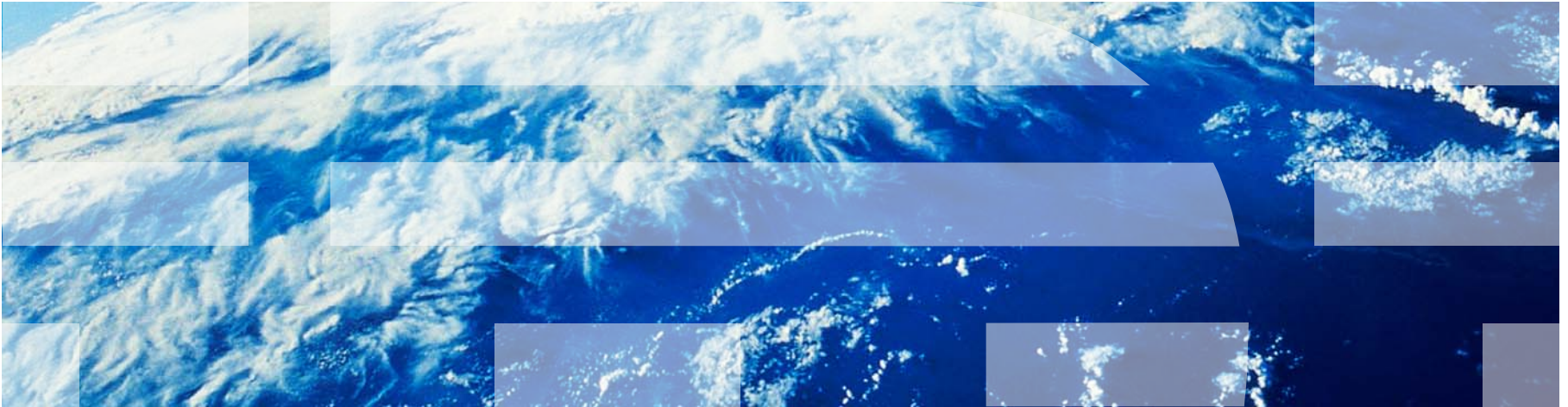


IBM Worklight V6.1.0 Getting Started

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

- An IBM Worklight® hybrid application uses a single DOM model.
- A single DOM model means that you must never navigate between various HTML files by using hyperlinks or changing the `window.location` property.
- Instead, you must implement multi-page interfaces by loading external HTML file content, and by using Ajax requests and injecting into the existing DOM.
- This is because the main application HTML file loads the IBM 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 IBM 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 the framework APIs instead.

Multi-page application basics

- Applications with multiple pages can be built in two ways:

Single HTML file that 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.
- The 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 DIVs 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.
 - A single large HTML file with many pages takes 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.
- You can insert HTML pages with CSS and JavaScript as needed.
- It is possible to implement navigation history.
- JavaScript code can be run when pages are loaded or unloaded.
- In the following slides, you learn how to implement a simple multi-page navigation interface.

Multi-page application basics

- **Note:** When you implement multi-page navigation in the **Windows Phone 8** environment, you **must** change the URL each time you use the **jQuery** `load()` function.
- Add “www/default/” at the beginning of the URL path string.

- For example:

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

- You must change the URL path string to:

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

- The example in this training module demonstrates in details how you can accomplish this task.

Multi-page application basics

- **Note:** When you implement multi-page navigation in the **Windows Phone 8** environment, and **jQuery Mobile is used** with the `changePage()` function, a jQuery Mobile defect prevents it from working.
- To overcome the defect, consult with the changes that need to be made in the .js file of jQuery Mobile, as described in the following Stackoverflow topic:
- <http://stackoverflow.com/questions/17965560/ibm-worklight-v-5-0-6-cant-navigate-multipages-on-windows-phone-7-5-environme>

Agenda

- Multi-page application basics
- Loading an external HTML file
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Loading an external HTML file

- An 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 elements hierarchy.
- You might include JavaScript by using the `<script>` tag.
- You might include CSS files by using the `<link>` tag.
- You might inject it into the parent element, usually `<div>`, but it is not mandatory.
- You implement it by using jQuery's **`$.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

```
$("#pagePort").load("pages/MainPage.html", function(){  
    alert("loaded!");  
});
```



```
<div id="AppBody">  
    <!-- This is static header, it will be shown always -->  
    <div id="header">  
        <h1>Pages and Fragments</h1>  
    </div>  
  
    <!-- This is a placeholder for dynamic page content -->  
    <div id="pagePort"></div>  
</div>
```

- 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.

Agenda

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

Implementing page navigation with history

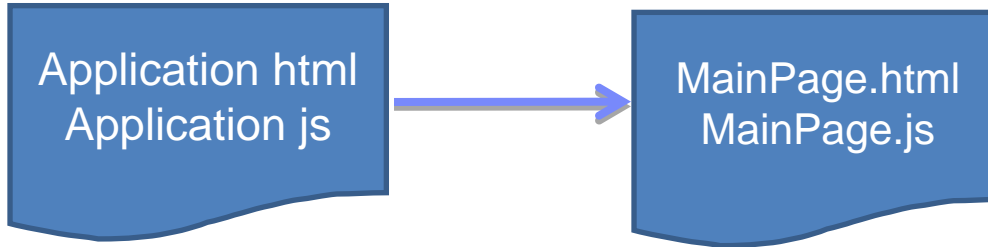
- By using the technique previously described to load an external HTML file, you can implement a navigation interface with history.



- 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();
});
```

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

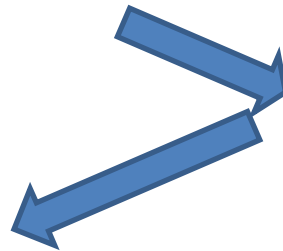
1. On application start, **MainPage.html** is loaded from the application code and injected into #pagePort div.

2. **MainPage.js** is loaded as a part of **MainPage.html**.

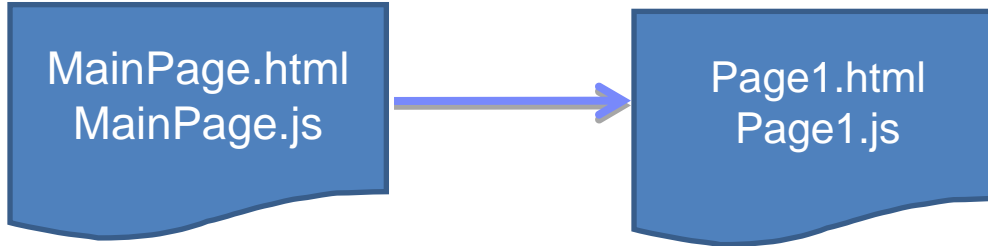
3. The `currentPage` object is declared.

4. The `currentPage.init` function is declared.

5. When **MainPage.html** loading completes, the `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();
    });
};

```

```

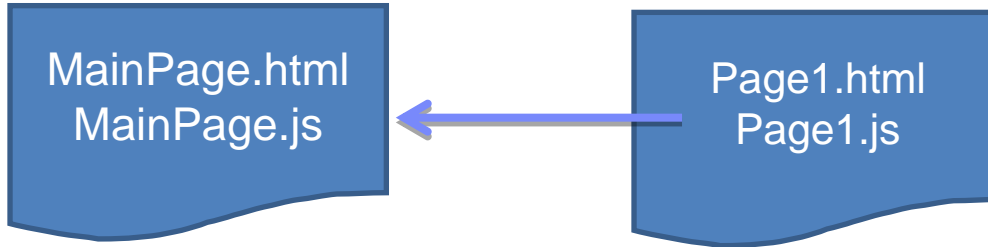
currentPage={};

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

```

1. **MainPage.html** is pushed into **pagesHistory** stack.
2. **Page1.html** is loaded and injected into **#pagePort** div.
3. **Page1.js** is loaded as a part of **Page1.html**.
4. The **currentPage** object is declared and overrides the old one.
5. When **Page1.html** loading completes, a new **currentPage.init** method is called.

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**.
4. The `currentPage` object is declared and overrides the old one.
5. The `currentPage.init` function is declared.

1. Previous HTML file name is popped from the **PagesHistory** stack (**MainPage.html**).
2. It is loaded and injected into `#pagePort` div.
6. When **MainPage.html** loading completes, the `currentPage.init` method is called.

Agenda

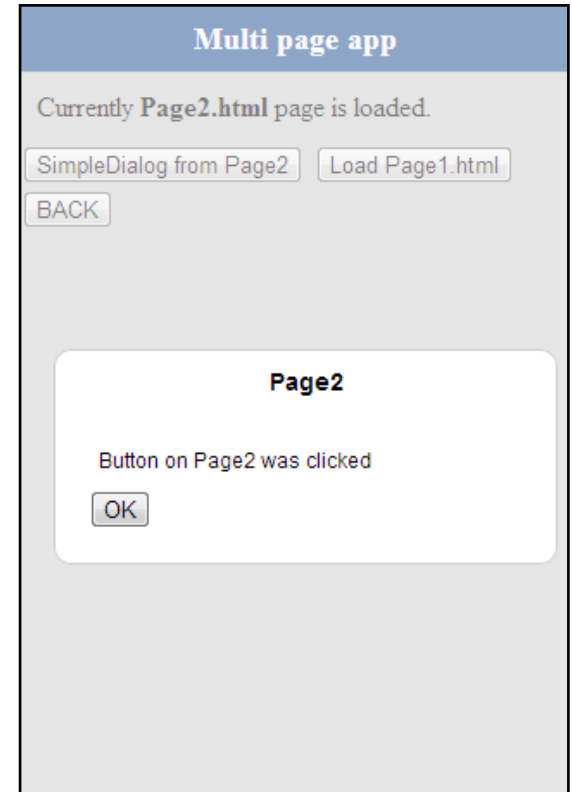
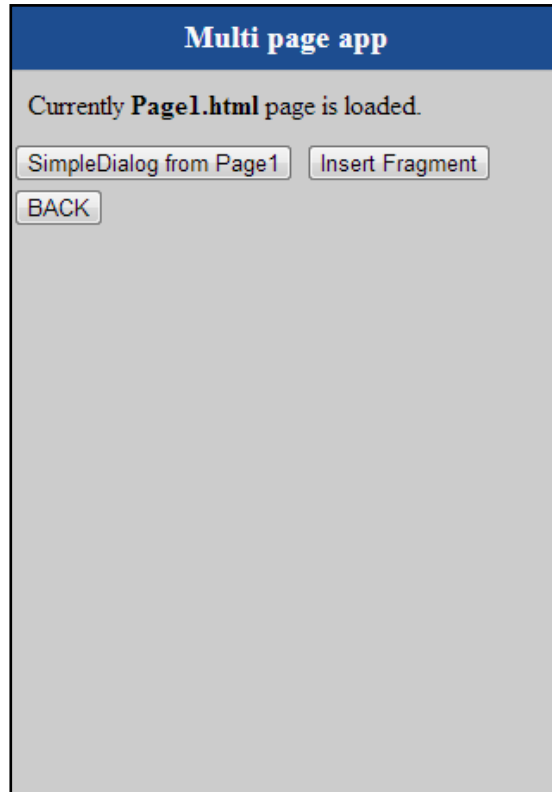
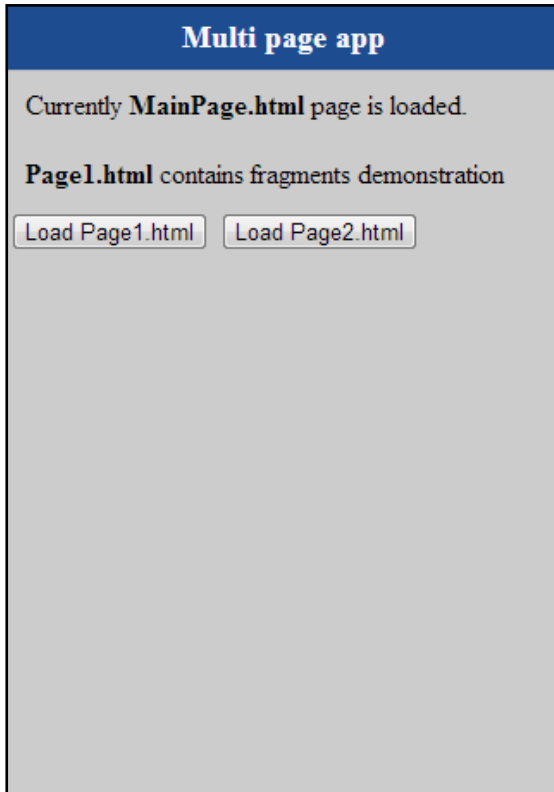
- Multi-page application basics
- Loading an external HTML file
- Implementing page navigation with history
- Exercise

Exercise

- Create a simple application with three pages:
 - The application HTML file must contain only one `<div>` element as a container for loaded pages.
 - **MainPage.html** is 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

You can find the sample for this training module in the Getting Started page of the IBM Worklight documentation website at <http://www.ibm.com/mobile-docs>.



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