# The Ajax Tipping Point

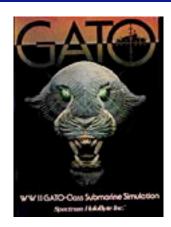
What happened and how it happened

Bill W. Scott, Y! Ajax Evangelist

# Background

- Games, research, science, military, biz
- Apps, frameworks, widget sets
- Developer, designer
- Object-oriented background
- Software architect, user experience manager
- Current: Yahoo! Ajax Evangelist









# Ajax at Yahoo!

- Acquisition of Oddpost led to mission to evangelize Ajax goodness throughout Yahoo
- Summer 2005 Ajax Evangelism Team Founded
  - Doug Crockford JSON, Y! DHMTL Architect
  - Iain Lamb Founder of Oddpost/Y!Mail Beta
  - Adam Platti Engineer Oddpost/Y!Mail Beta
  - Me, Ajax Evangelist, Pattern Shepherd

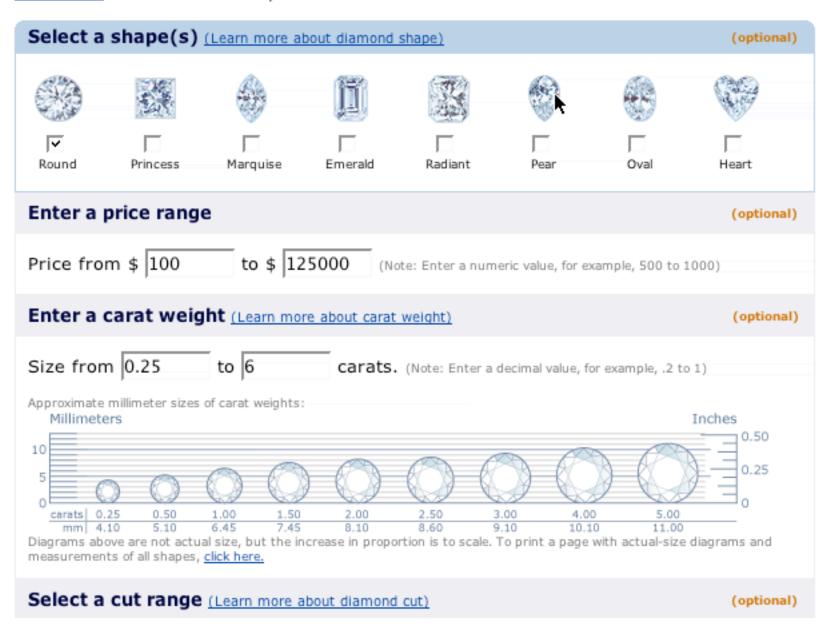
#### Resources

 Almost all of the reference material can be found at: http://billsportfolio.com/ajaxresources.html

 And a shameless plug for my blog http://looksgoodworkswell.com

#### Amazon.com Diamond Search

Click here to return to our dynamic diamond search.



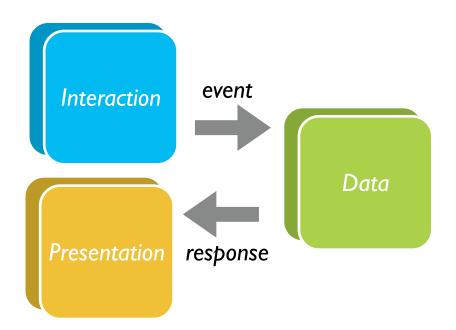
# What Happened?

## Defining Richness: Web in 3D

Interaction Dimension

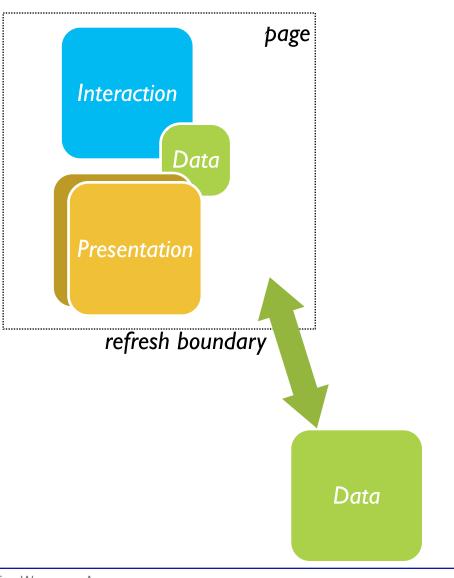
Data Dimension

Presentation Dimension



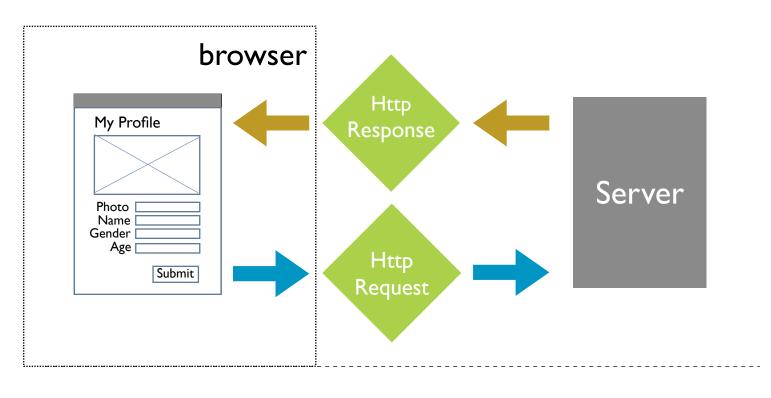
#### Classic Web

- Interaction course-grained
- Data loaded with the page or obtained via refresh
- Presentation: page-based updates



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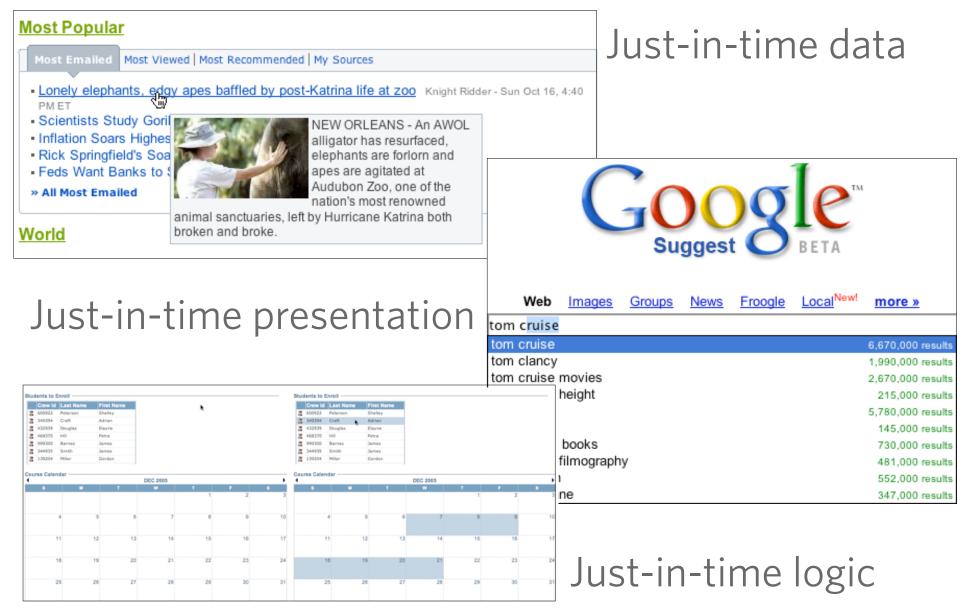
#### Classic Web Illustrated





THE WORLD OF AJAX 9

# Ajax = Just-in-Time. Immediacy.

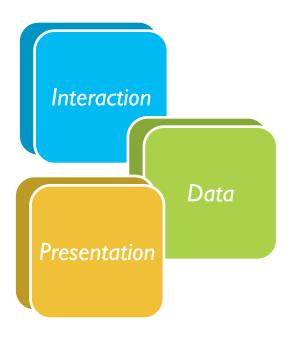


THE WORLD OF ALAX

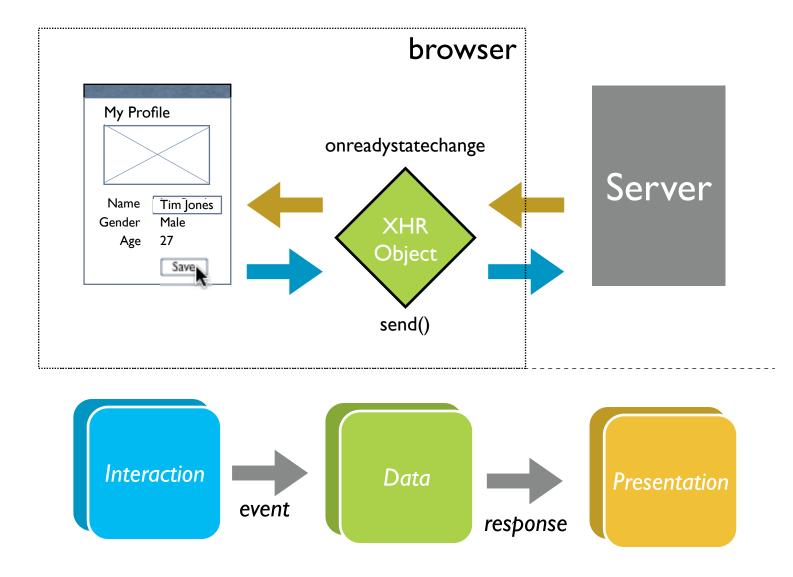
# Ajax Model - New & Improved!

- Now with Deeper Interaction!
- Now with Just-in-Time Data & Just-in-Time Logic!
  - ★ XMLHttpRequest (XHR) is the secret sauce!
- Now with Richer Interface!

All dimensions are closer



# Ajax Illustrated



THE WORLD OF AJAX 12

## AJAX vs Ajax

- AJAX = Asynchronous JavaScript and XML
  - Strict definition is using XMLHttpRequest (XHR) to retrieve XML within a web page
- Ajax = The set of technologies that allow web applications to provide rich interaction, just-in-time information and dynamic interfaces without required page refresh
- The Secret Sauce XHR
  - Ajax = XHR + DHTML (HTML, CSS, JavaScript) + Rich design

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#### XHR, Not the Only Game in Town

- Hidden IFrame
- <img> src
- <script> src hack
- CSS href hack
- JS to faceless Java applets
- JS to faceless Flash
- NO CONTENT Response
- Cookies

# How it Happened

# The Tipping Point

- Gladwell's book describes the phenomona of change
- The Law of the Few
  - Connectors
  - Mavens
  - Salesmen
- Sticky Message

#### A Sequence of Events

- Invented and held captive in Redmond
- Dot com bust
- Innovation under the radar
- Seeds were sown by the browser wars
- From the ashes Firefox rises
- Google's gambit gives the stamp of approval
- Ajax is christened
- Outliers come on board

#### Invented in Redmond

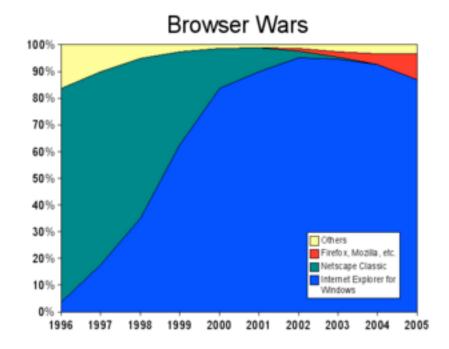
- Part of Internet Explorer 5.0, Sept. 1998
- Used to create the web version of Outlook
- Locked under the asp.net banner
- Not available in Netscape, etc.

#### **Dot Com Boom & Bust**

- Dot com boom brought lots of talent into web space
- Bust in late 2000, throughout 2001
- Innovation goes under the radar
  - Brent Ashley remote scripting
  - Doug Crockford json
  - lain Lamb oddpost

## Fog of Browser War Clears

- 1999 IE 60%
- 2000 IE 80%
- 2001 IE 90%



THE WORLD OF AJAX 20

## Internet Revival - \$\$

- Google on the move
- Yahoo! survives & thrives
- Amazon turns a profit
- Web 2.0 companies burst on scene
  - flickr
  - delicious
  - blogging

#### Web 2.0

Tim O'Reilly's Definition

```
Web 2.0
              Web 1.0
            DoubleClick -->
                              Google AdSense
                  Ofoto --> Flickr
                Akamai
                         --> BitTorrent
              mp3.com
                              Napster
       Britannica Online
                              Wikipedia
       personal websites
                              blogging
                              upcoming.org and EVDB
                  evite
domain name speculation
                              search engine optimization
                              cost per click
             page views
                         -->
                              web services
         screen scraping
                         -->
             publishing
                         -->
                              participation
   content management
                         -->
                              wikis
               systems
  directories (taxonomy)
                              tagging ("folksonomy")
              stickiness
                              syndication
                         -->
```

http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/a/oreilly/tim/news/2005/09/30/what-is-web-20.html

22

#### The "View Source" Culture

- Web as a showcase for talent
- The ability to share code freely and rapidly
- Coupled with blogging

#### Firefox Emerges

- Ironically out of the ashes of Netscape
- Mozilla 1.0, Firefox 1.0 introduces XHR as native object
- Same API as the Microsoft ActiveX component
- Now > 95% have XHR

## Google Gambles

- gmail, google suggests and google maps use XHR
- Legitimizes the use of XHR
- Based on IE + Firefox
- Forces Safari & Opera to come on board

#### Jesse James Garrett

- Actually, the "godfather" of Ajax :-)
- Created a sticky message
- "Ajax" is a very popular search term

# Designing For Ajax

A Fundamental Change in Designing for the Web

Bill W. Scott, Y! Ajax Evangelist

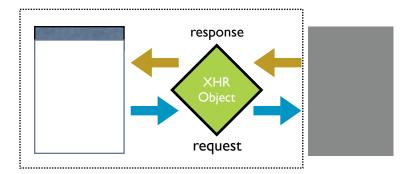
# Patterns

**Drag and Drop. Drag and Drop Modules. In Page Editing.** In Page Custom Editing. Direct State Editing. Grid Cell **Editing. Inline Custom Editing. Inline Tag Editing. Popup Custom Editing. Slide-out Custom Editing. Inline Text Editing. Inline Reordering. Indication. Busy Indication. Cursor Busy. In Context Busy. In Context Progress. Inline** Status. Auto Complete. Balloon Error Tip. Deferred **Content Loading. Dynamic Goal. Narrowing Choices.** Refining Search. Live Search. Invitation. Cursor Invitation. Drop Invitation. Tool Tip Invitation. Hover Invitation. **Detail Zoom. Opacity Focus. Configurable Module -**Faceplate. Configurable Module - Flip It. Configurable **Module - Inline Configure. Configurable Module - Slide Out** Drawer. Slide Out. Flip. Opacity Fade. Endless Scrolling. **Expandable Paging Boundary. Fresh Content. Hover Detail.** In Place Drill Down. Inline Assistant. Inline Validation. Validate Then Suggest. On Demand Refresh. Resizable **Modules. Scrolling Modules. Auto Save. In Context Tools.** Remembered Collection. Remembered Preferences. Auto Form Fill. Live Ratings. Transition. Brighten Transition. **Cross Fade Transition. Dim Transition. Expand Transition. Fade In Transition. Fade Out Transition. Flip Transition. Move Transition. Self-Healing Transition. Shrink** Transition. Slide Transition. Rich Internet Object. **Available. Selected. Identifiable Object.** 

#### But What Can XHR Do?

- Make a request
- Return a response

And do it asynchronously



## Anatomy of a Pattern

- Ajax design patterns contain three steps
  - Trigger (event or timer)
  - Operation (Ajax, remote scripting)
  - Update (presentation)

\_\_\_\_\_\_







# **Trigger**

- Every pattern starts with
  - a user event
  - a timer event

mouseout hover keypress keydown mousedown drop filter choices mouseup drag click mousedown select focus blur resize move timeout







## **Update**

Finally, patterns reflect a visual change

busyicon mousecursor fade dim brighten selfhealing additems finishedindicator remove show hide resize



#### **Operation**

Ajax patterns open the door to immediacy

- Lookup I can get information when I need it
- Persist I can save in real-time
- Validate I can prevent errors early
- Invoke I can make things happen now
- Message I can communicate instantly



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#### Operation. Lookup

#### I can get information when I need it

endless scrolling dynamic detail form auto-fill narrowing actions refining search deferred loading dependent choices dynamic updates live search suggestion blind content toggle on-demand update look before you leap periodic refresh dynamic filter

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#### **Lookup** live search





type, Google will offer suggestions. Use the arrow keys to navigate the results. L

Feedback - Discuss - Terms of Use - FAQ

©2006 Google



#### Instant Search BETA

Search the Web

#### Instant Search gives you answers as you type -- no more waiting!

Why feel lucky when you can be right? With Instant Search, results instantly appear for <a href="Yahoo! Shortcuts">Yahoo! Shortcuts</a> and common searches. Give it a spin! Type in these examples below, or try your own searches:

- · boston weather
- wikipedia
- nfl

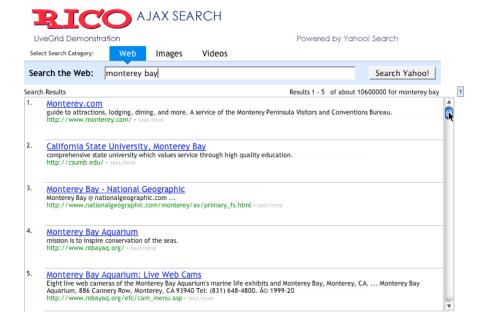
- · 22 5th ave new york ny
- · san francisco coffee shops
- dmv

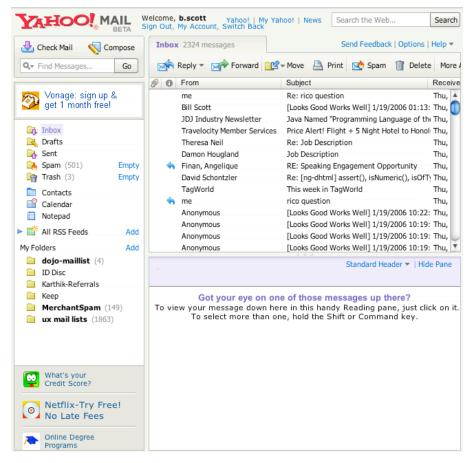






#### Rico LiveGrid





#### Yahoo! Mail Beta (Oddpost)



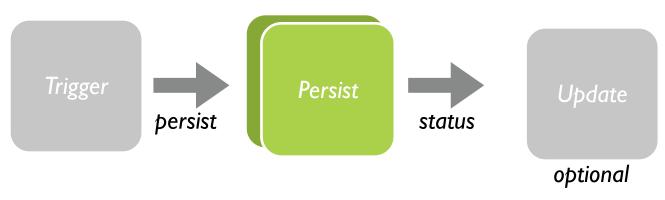


#### **Operation.** Persist

#### I can save in real-time

hover spy in page edit inline tagging rating persistent preferences inline grid editing inline rearrange silent submit remembered collection persistent portals

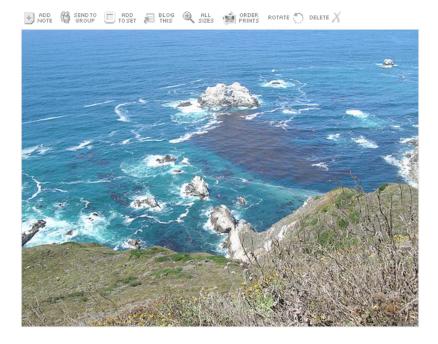
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#### Persist inline edit

#### **Rocky Waters**

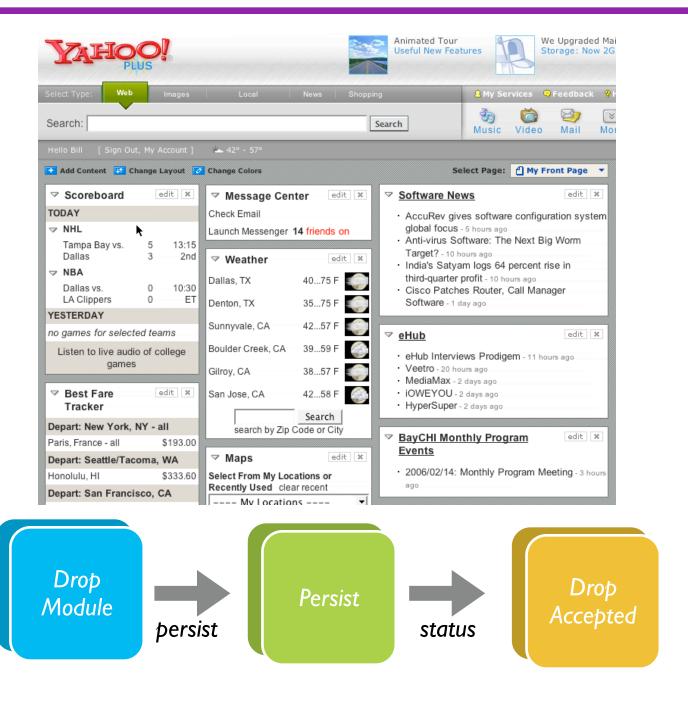








#### **Persist** persistent portals





#### **Operation.** Validate

### I can prevent errors early

per field validate keystroke validate inline form validate invalid but suggest

\_\_\_\_\_\_



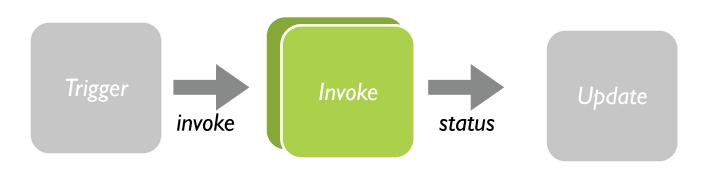


#### Operation. Invoke

#### I can make things happen now

#### fire and forget lightweight action

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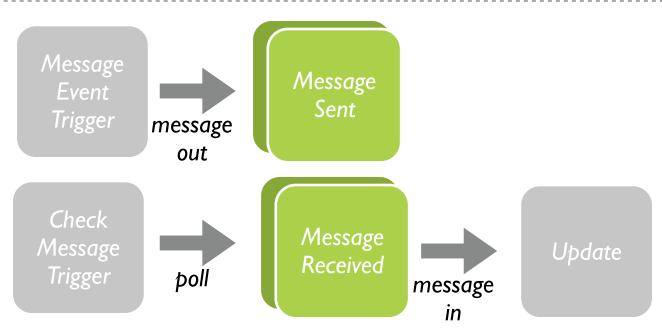




#### Operation. Message

#### I can communicate instantly

## two-way chat real-time auction collaborative white board





## Pattern Ingredients

- Trigger + Operation + Update defines Ajax patterns
- So, let's make some patterns

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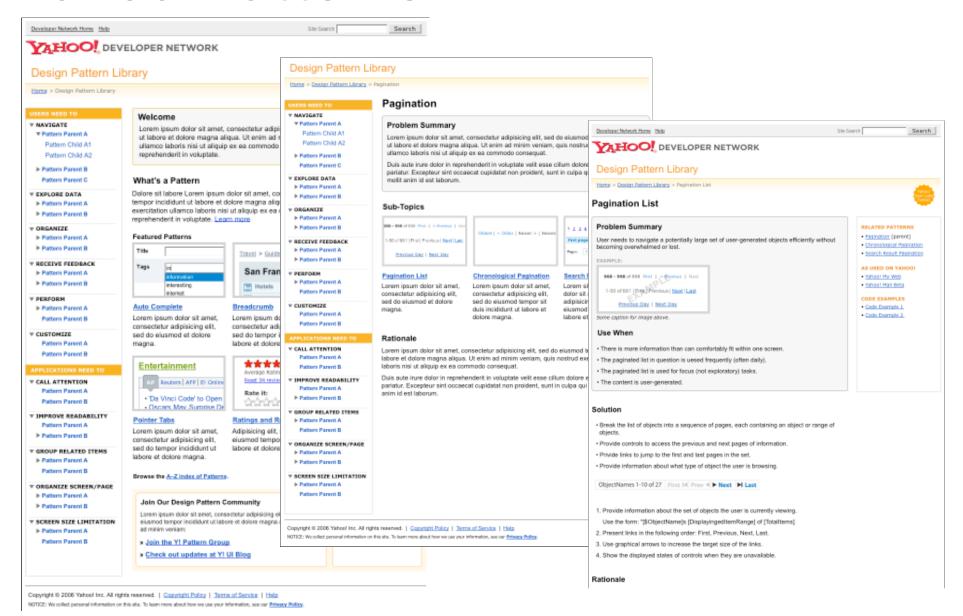
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## Pattern-O-Matic



**Drag and Drop. Drag and Drop Modules. In Page Editing.** In Page Custom Editing. Direct State Editing. Grid Cell **Editing. Inline Custom Editing. Inline Tag Editing. Popup Custom Editing. Slide-out Custom Editing. Inline Text Editing. Inline Reordering. Indication. Busy Indication. Cursor Busy. In Context Busy. In Context Progress. Inline** Status. Auto Complete. Balloon Error Tip. Deferred **Content Loading. Dynamic Goal. Narrowing Choices.** Refining Search. Live Search. Invitation. Cursor Invitation. Drop Invitation. Tool Tip Invitation. Hover Invitation. **Detail Zoom. Opacity Focus. Configurable Module -**Faceplate. Configurable Module - Flip It. Configurable **Module - Inline Configure. Configurable Module - Slide Out** Drawer. Slide Out. Flip. Opacity Fade. Endless Scrolling. **Expandable Paging Boundary. Fresh Content. Hover Detail.** In Place Drill Down. Inline Assistant. Inline Validation. Validate Then Suggest. On Demand Refresh. Resizable **Modules. Scrolling Modules. Auto Save. In Context Tools.** Remembered Collection. Remembered Preferences. Auto Form Fill. Live Ratings. Transition. Brighten Transition. **Cross Fade Transition. Dim Transition. Expand Transition. Fade In Transition. Fade Out Transition. Flip Transition. Move Transition. Self-Healing Transition. Shrink** Transition. Slide Transition. Rich Internet Object. **Available. Selected. Identifiable Object.** 

## Yahoo! Patterns



# **Principles**

## Common Ajax Principles

- 1. Keep it direct
- 2. Provide live feedback
- 3. Offer an invitation
- 4. Use dynamic space
- 5. Cross borders reluctantly
- 6. Leave a light footprint
- 7. Show transitions
- 8. Think in objects
- 9. Tell a story

1

## Keep it direct

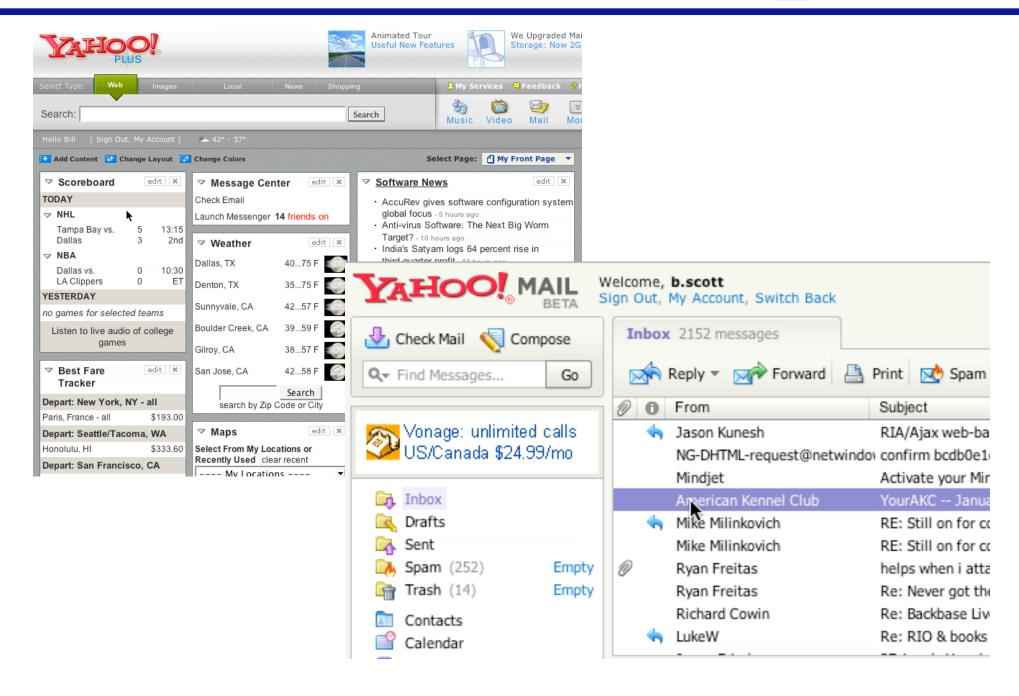
Prefer interaction inside the page
Use direct editing on content
Keep your tools nearby
Create smart tools that infer context
Use drag and drop where appropriate

#### submit hyperlink

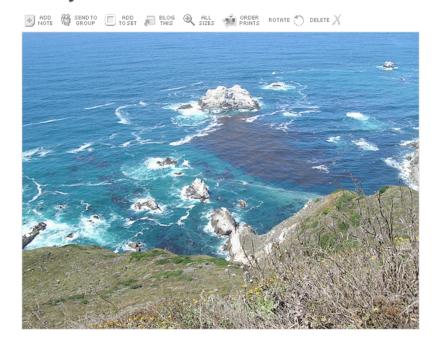


mouseout hover keypress keydown mousedown drop filter choices mouseup drag click select focus blur resize move timeout

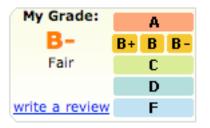
Drag and Drop. Drag and Drop Modules. In Page Editing. In Page **Custom Editing. Direct State Editing. Grid Cell Editing. Inline Custom Editing. Inline Tag Editing. Popup Custom Editing. Slide-out Custom Editing. Inline Text Editing. Inline** Reordering.



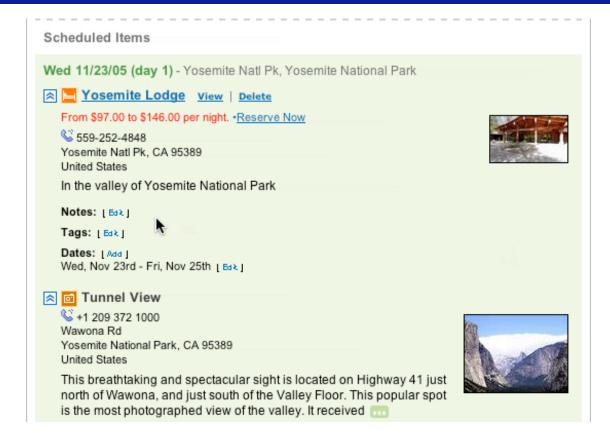
#### **Rocky Waters**













- Inline Text Editing
  - Do we need save/cancel? Is so, when?
  - Try to not disturb the page when switching modes
- Discoverability
  - Not expected model of most content
  - Any visual treatment clutters the screen
  - On page tips?
- Once someone learns it, is it so useful it outweighs initial discoverability issues?
- Combine with invitations, spotlights, inline idicators

# 2

## Provide live feedback

Design for immediacy

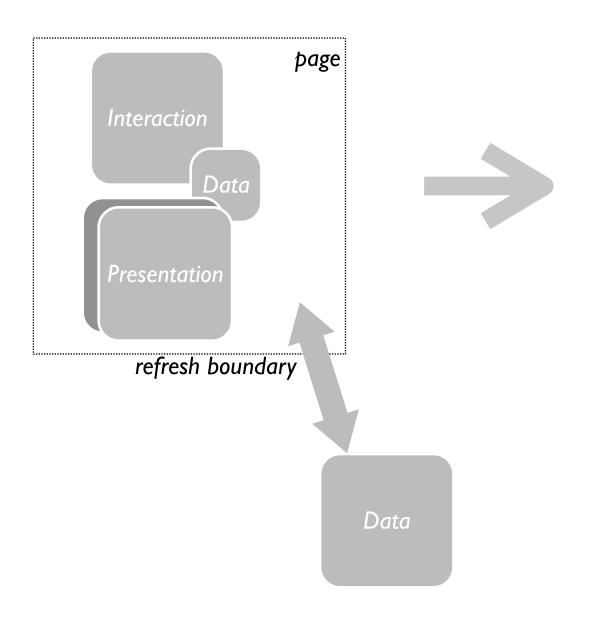
Design for relevancy

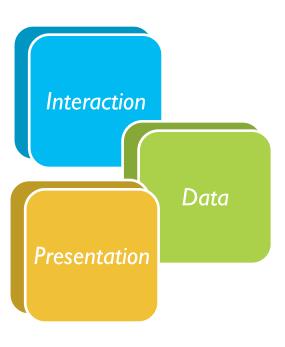
Use live previews (look before you leap)

Play the confidence game

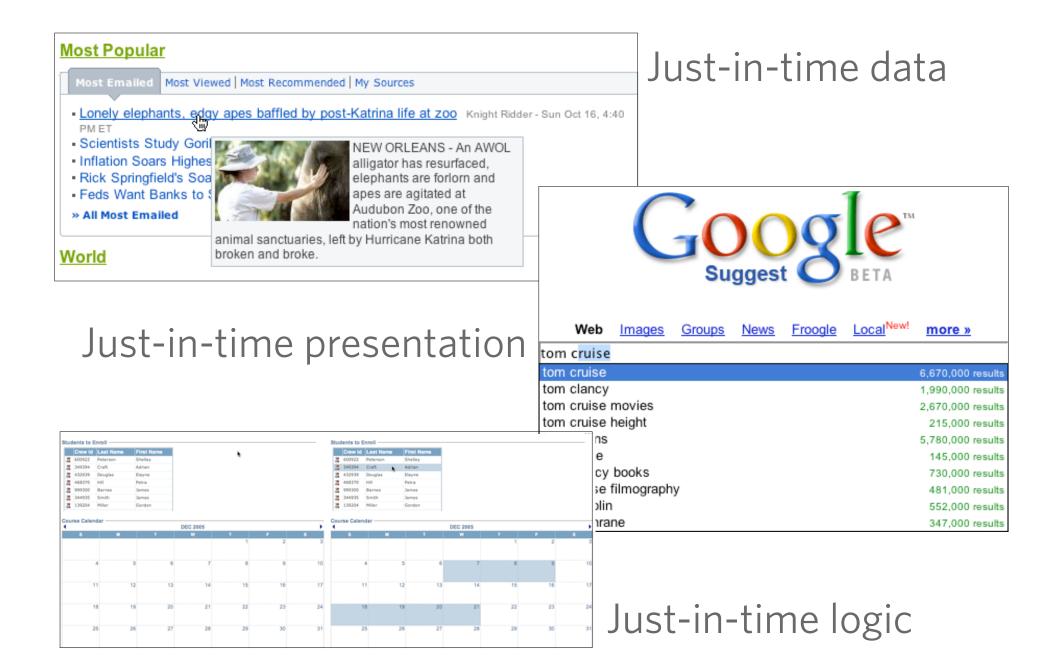
Create nimble clients

Watch out, feedback can be distracting





Indication. Busy Indication. **Cursor Busy. In Context Busy. In Context Progress.** Inline Status. Auto Complete. Balloon Error Tip. **Deferred Content Loading. Dynamic Goal. Narrowing Choices. Refining Search.** Live Search.





#### Instant Search BETA

Search the Web

#### Instant Search gives you answers as you type -- no more waiting!

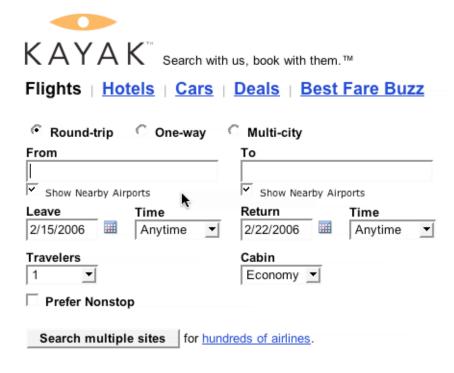
Why feel lucky when you can be right? With Instant Search, results instantly appear for <a href="Yahoo! Shortcuts">Yahoo! Shortcuts</a> and common searches. Give it a spin! Type in these examples below, or try your own searches:

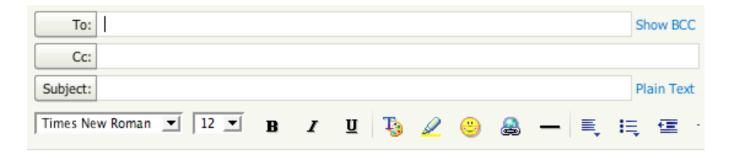
- · boston weather
- wikipedia
- nfl

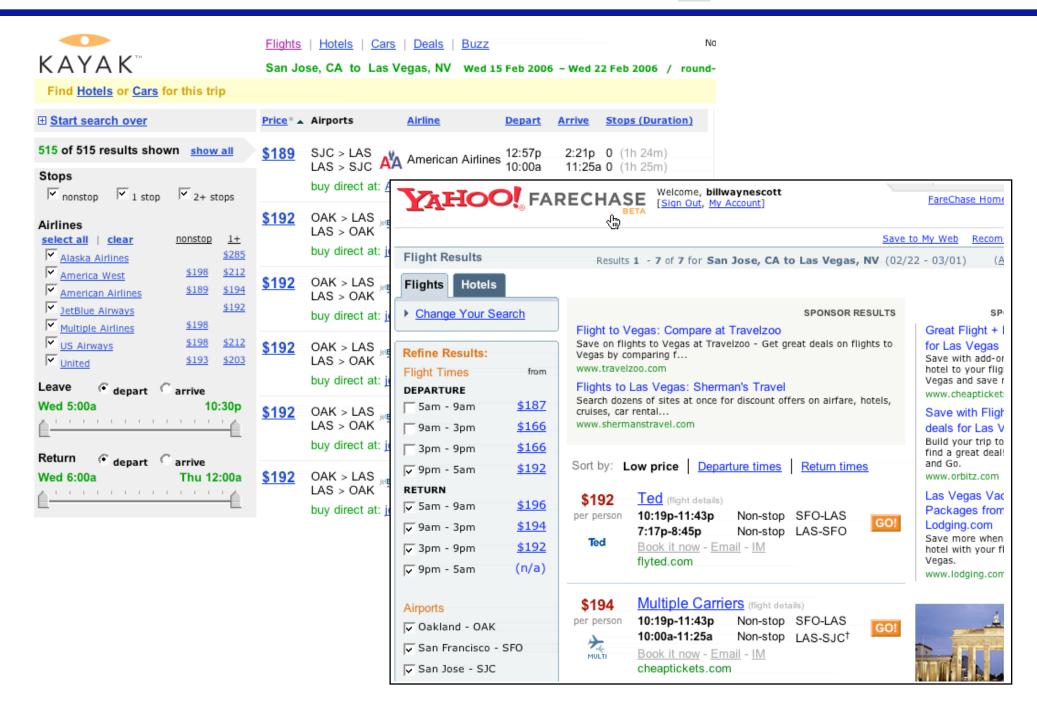
- · 22 5th ave new york ny
- · san francisco coffee shops
- dmv

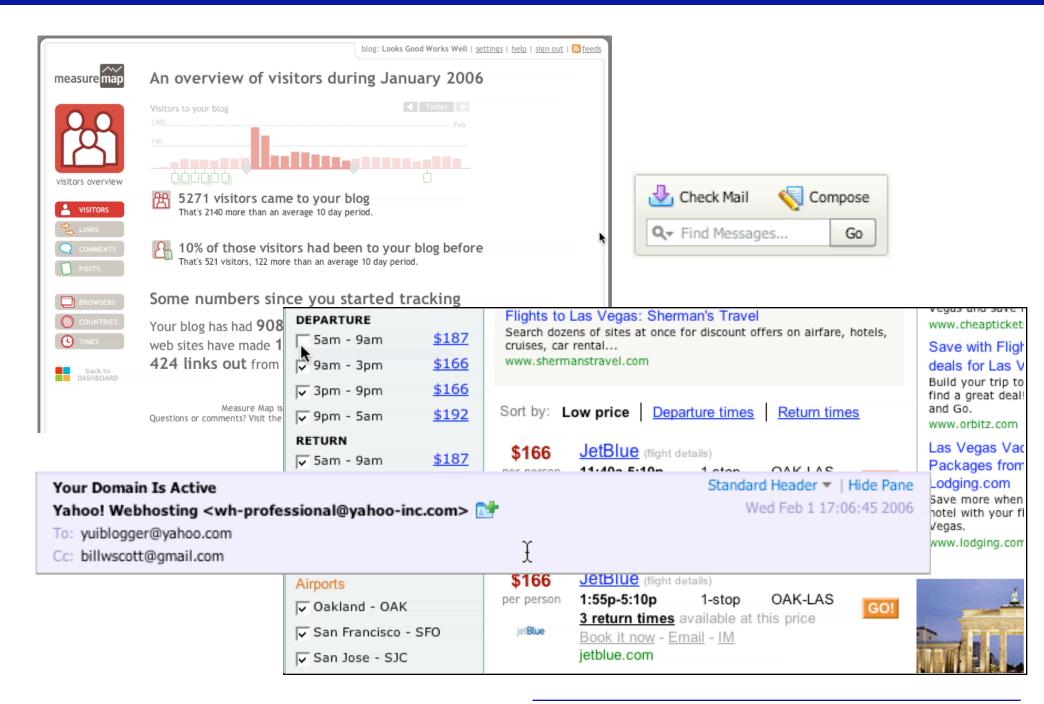


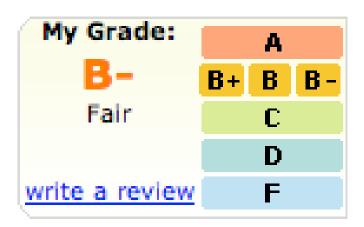
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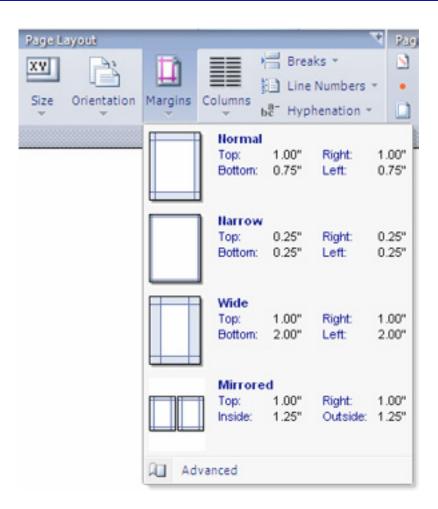


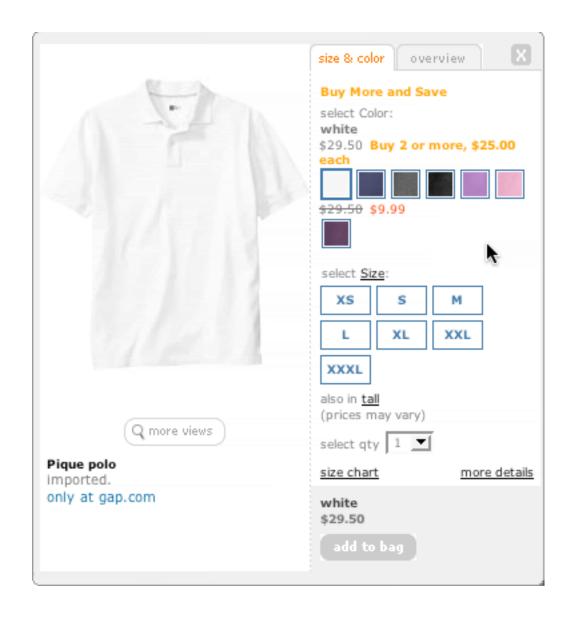






- Microsoft Vista/Office 12
  - Hover over gallery item
  - Shows live preview without committing
  - Only on click is the preview accepted
    - At which point the menu goes away and selection is retained
    - Otherwise mouse out returns to normal view





- Distracting or narrowing? When live search works
- Search is hard to narrow without distracting Its only distracting when I don't like the results
  - Google suggests information I don't want distracting
  - Yahoo! Instant search narrows too quickly
  - Auto complete is a bounded problem easy to narrow
  - Oddyssey of Y!Mail Beta Search
- Obvious conclusion
  - The results are direct results-- not indirect results
  - The results are actually narrowing and not diverging
  - The results are narrowing and yet not distracting

- In context feedback should
  - Not disturb the unrelated elements on the page
  - Be close in proximity
  - Either animated or clearly visible
  - Be transient
  - Not jerky (distracting)

# 3

## Offer an invitation

Rediscover hover
Use invitations to aid in discoverability
Use lightweight events as the welcome mat
Don't confuse invitation with action - keep it safe
Invite, don't proselytize



hover blur focus Click key
shiftclick doubleclick
drag dragdrop dragflipdrop
shiftdoubleclick tripleclick shifttripleclick

hover blur focus Click key shiftclick doubleclick drag dragdrop dragflipdrop shiftdoubleclick tripleclick shifttripleclick



hover blur focus Click

key shiftclick doubleclick dragdragdrop

hover blur focus Click key shiftclick doubleclick drag dragdrop

# Invitation. Cursor Invitation. Drop Invitation. Tool Tip Invitation. Hover Invitation.





List	5
	Remove this item
	Add item or I'm done adding items
	Make a new list
	i i



#### classic



\$9.99-\$29.50 Buy More and Save



double mini striped pique polo \$29.50 Buy 2 or more, \$25.00 each See All



allover striped pique polo \$29.50 Buy 2 or more, \$25.00 each See All



rugby stripe pique polo \$29.50 Buy 2 or more, \$25.00 each See All

6 9	From	Subject
	reter boersma	No. LID DI
~	Yahoo! Toolbar	Welcome t
. 75	Weekend Extra	5 Tips for

### Pattern. Invitation. Hover Invitation

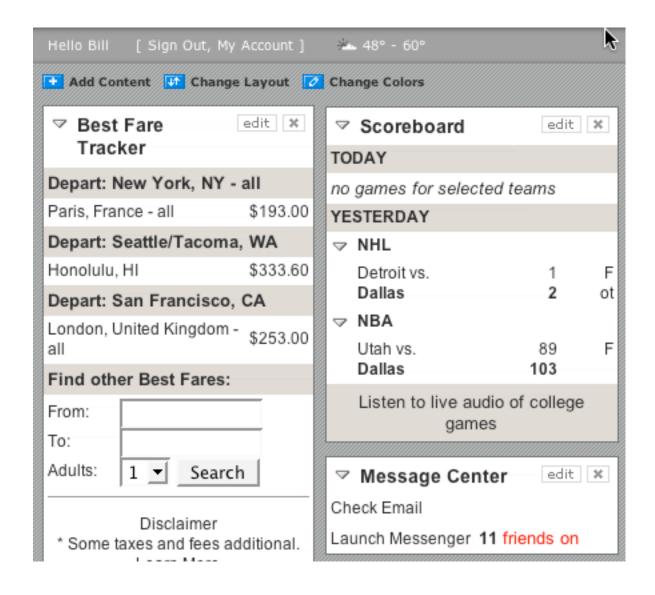
To see a product preview in action, hover over the link below.



Forty Associates recently added product previews to their Web site as part of a small beta program. During the beta, visitors to Associate sites who viewed a product preview clicked through to Amazon.com over 4% of the time; those clicks resulted in a purchase nearly 6% of the time.

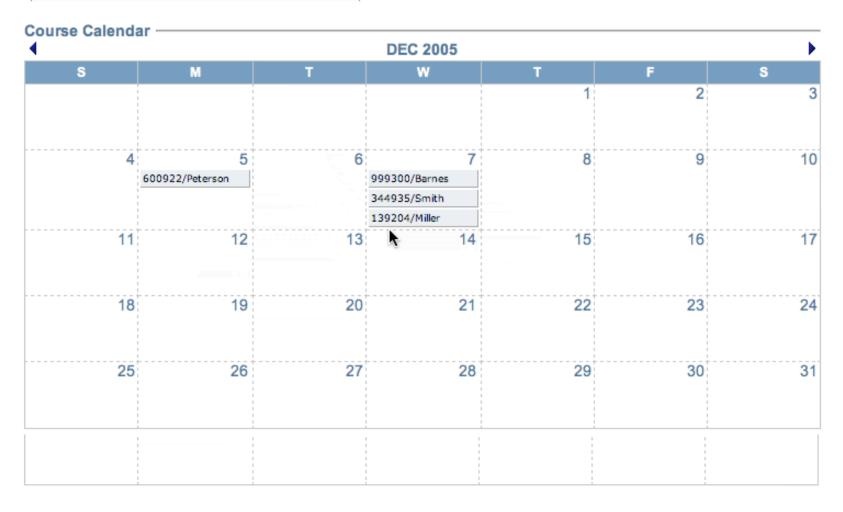
Now we're opening the beta up to all Associates to further improve product previews. The first 500 Associates who refer a sale through a product preview-enhanced link will receive a \$5 Amazon gift certificate. Click here to join your fellow Associates in beta testing product previews.

Don't worry if you don't already have Basic Display Product Links on your Web site. You can create them as part of the sign-up process. <u>Click here</u> for answers to questions you might have about the beta program.



#### Students to Enroll -

		Crew Id	Last Name	First Name
ľ	3	349394	Craft	Adrian
	3	432939	Douglas	Elayne
	3	468370	Hill	Petra



## Discovering Idioms

- Idioms must be discovered and learned
  - User is not even aware of inline editing on a web page
  - Challenge is how to get them to discover and learn the idiom
- Discovering Features
  - Features employing a learned idiom must be first discovered
  - Challenge is how to indicate an idiom is employed with the least amount of visual clues

- Help tip announcing the feature that employs the idiom
  - But users don't often read text
- One-Second Spotlight on tip to catch user's attention
  - Once they have successfully used feature, remove help text
- Help switch
  - Depress to see help bubbles, tips around the page
  - Combine with tip to spotlight the feature
- Tour
- Hover techniques



## Use dynamic space

Planning the backstage

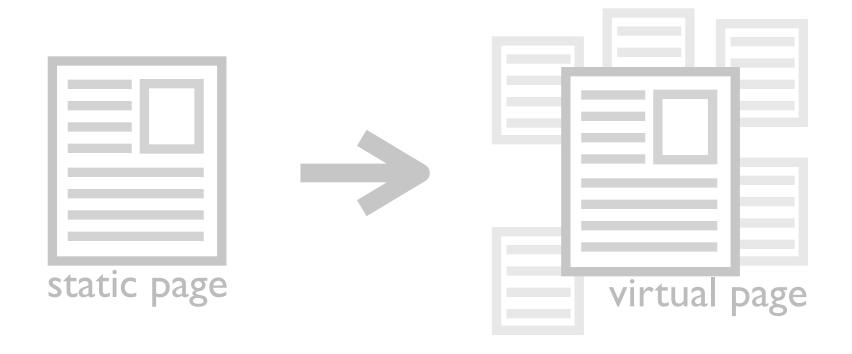
Use overlays and expands correctly

Use time to your advantage

Use slide, zoom, flip, lens, overlay to extend space

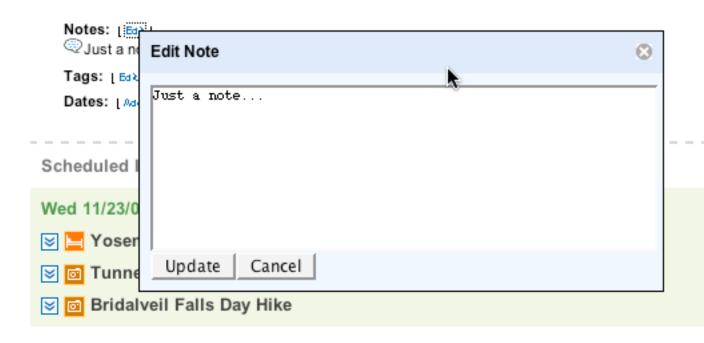
Use transitions to introduce new characters

Use zoom to focus on detail



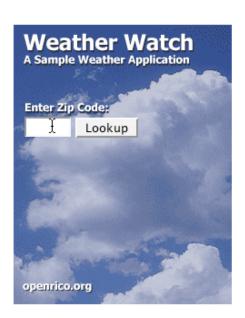
Configurable Module-Faceplate. Configurable Module-Flip It. Configurable Module-Inline Configure. Configurable Module-Slide Out Drawer. Slide Out. Flip. Opacity Fade.

- Overlays float above the document layer
- Does not disturb the page
- Use overlays for
  - Information that is not part of collection
  - Something temporarily has priority, focus
  - To replace page transition
  - For transient input
  - For contextual information

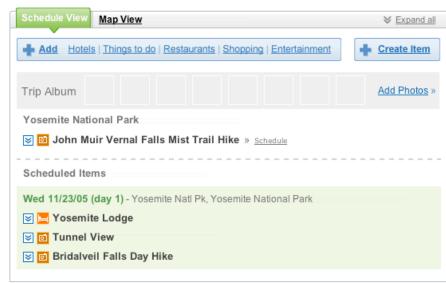


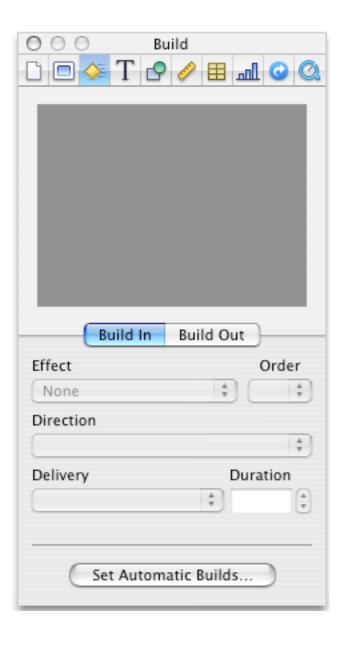


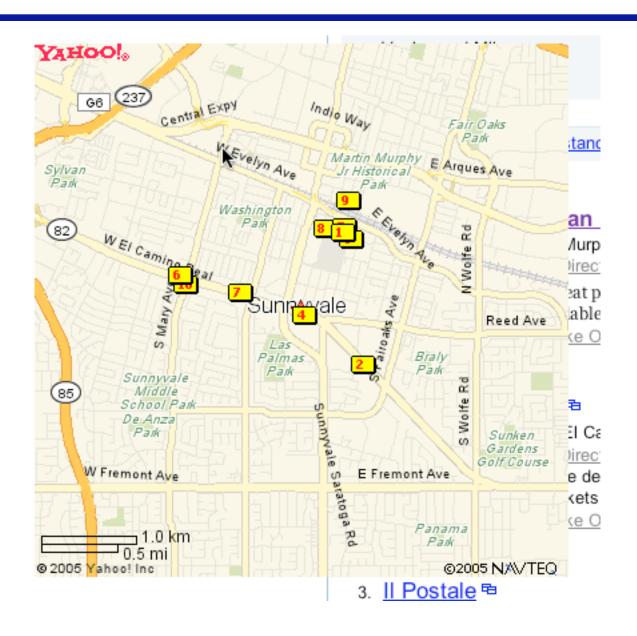
- In context panels expand/collapse in place
  - When one of many can be manipulated
  - To manage large collections
  - To manage navigation container
  - To manage content container









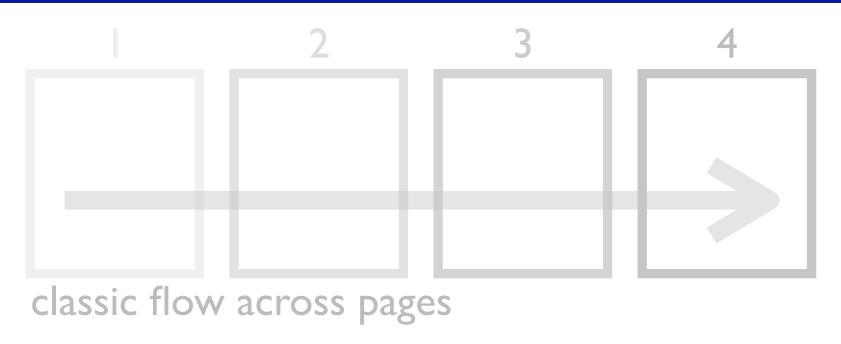


- Diminish disruption to the flow
- Use transitions to communicate origin, destination
- Use transitions to communicate symmetry of action
- Discoverability. Users may not discover your hidden areas. Use invitations to expose where hidden areas are

5

## Cross borders reluctantly

Page boundaries cause mental interruptions
When paging make it lightweight as possible
Use lightweight in-context popups to stay in page

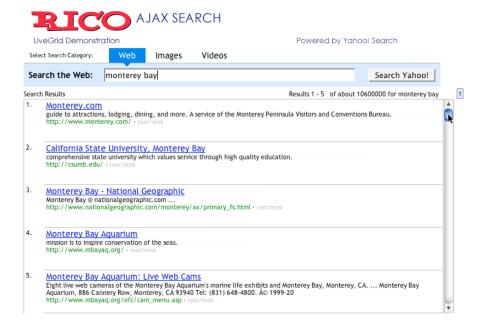


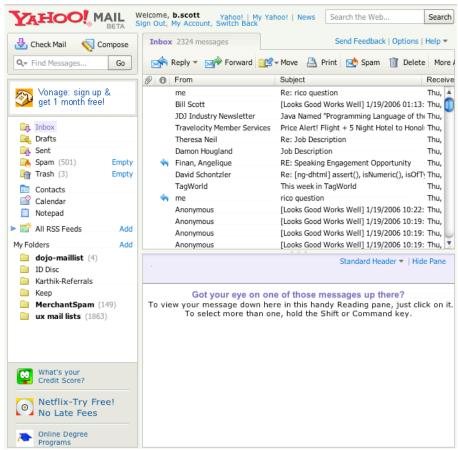


rich flow within page

**Endless Scrolling. Expandable Paging Boundary. Fresh Content. Hover Detail. In Place Drill Down. Inline Assistant.** Inline Validation. Validate Then Suggest. On Demand Refresh. Resizable **Modules. Scrolling** Modules.

## Rico LiveGrid

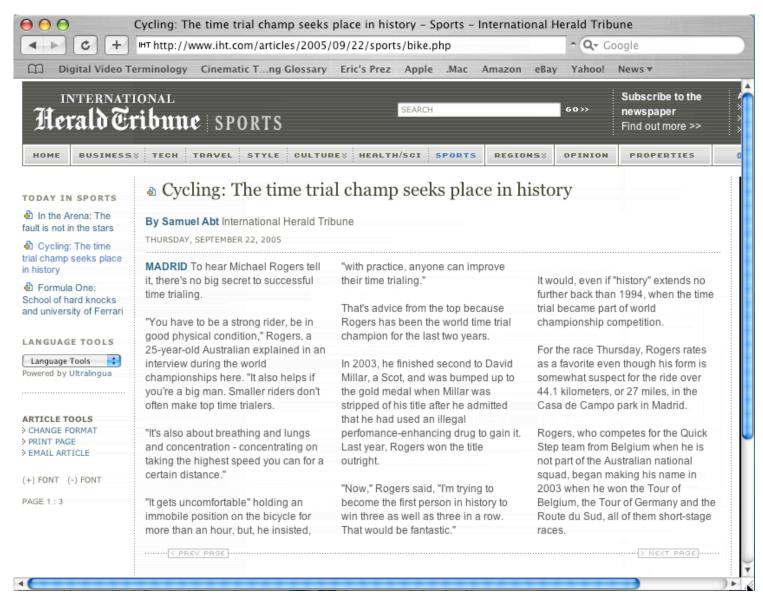




Yahoo! Mail Beta (Oddpost)

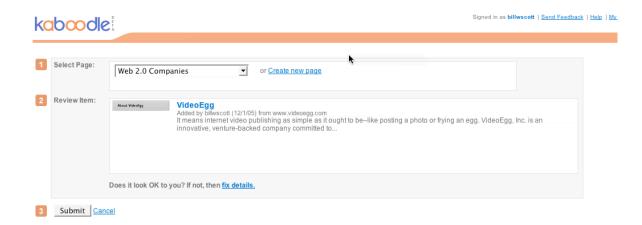
- Scrolling search
  - Normally only the first few results matters
- Scrolling collections
  - Very useful, sorting & scrolling used to explore the results
  - Not sure what is useful
  - Each item is unique in specific attributes
  - Example: games, merchandise, mail messages, photos
- Is the data naturally chunked?
- Can you solve the dual scroll bar problem?
- Will sorting, filtering, exploring be important?

## At the very least make your paging fast





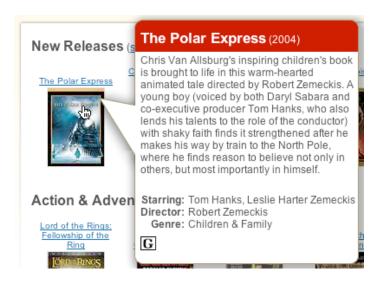






Required information for Google account						
Your current email address:	30IIIconc@30IIIcwiicic.com					
	e.g. myname@example.com. This will be your username and sign-in.					
Choose a password:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Password strength: Too short				
	Minimum of 6 characters in length.					

- For introduction of features
- For giving instruction
- For revealing information
- For interrogative feedback
- For obtaining input
- For important interruptions
- For indication of status or progress
- For offering an invitation



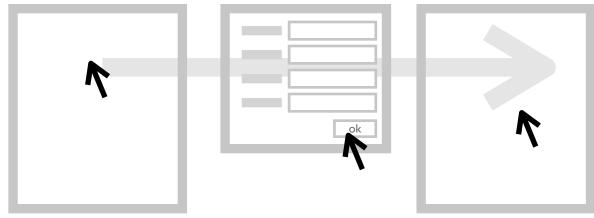
- Make activation & deactivation feel lightweight
- Avoid using secondary browser windows
- Use visual styles that suggest lightness
- Think of popups as auxiliary areas of the screen

- Invitation
- Activation
- Expand
- Collapse
- Move
- Resize
- Close

## 6

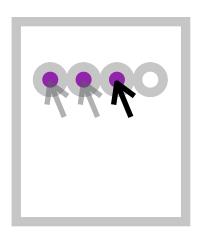
## Leave a light footprint

Use hover, blur, focus, click as footprints
Keep actions immediate and light
Watch your click weight
Design for engaging moments
Use invitations



heavy click-weight





light-weight actions

Auto Save. In Context
Tools. In Page Action.
Remembered Collection.
Remembered
Preferences. Auto Form
Fill. Live Ratings.

#### 1234>> See All

#### straight fit



loose staight fit (sandblasted vintage) \$49.50



straight fit corduroy pants \$44.50 Buy 1 or more, save \$14.55 each See All

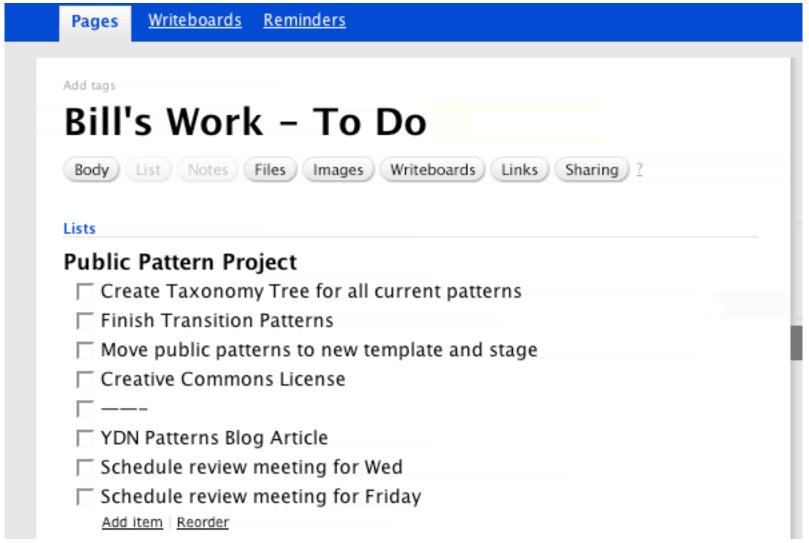


straight fit (blasted black) \$49.50

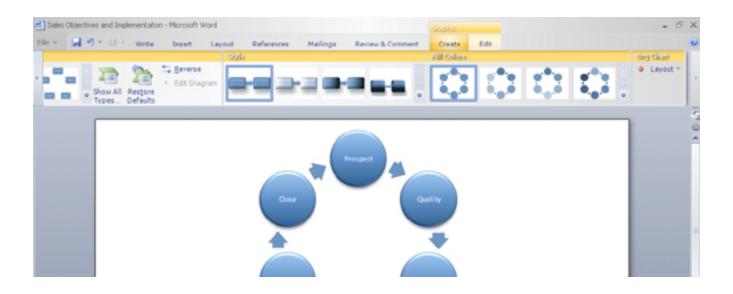


straight fit (dark authentic) \$44.50

- Tunnel Miew View | Map | Delete



## Microsoft Vista, Office 12 Contextual Command Tabs

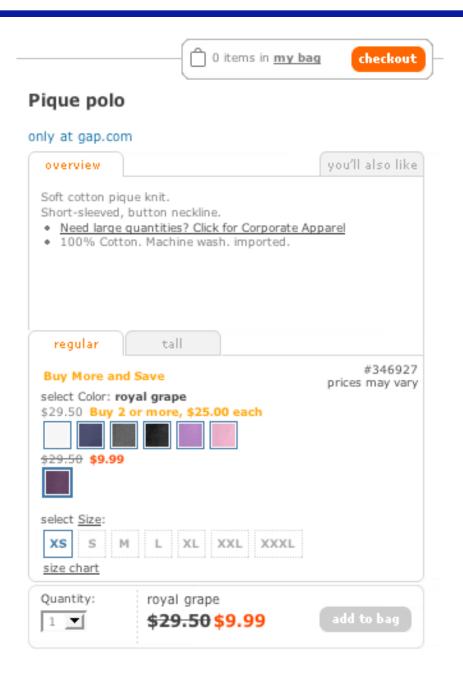


#### RECOMMEND THIS STORY





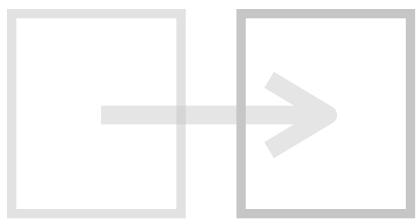




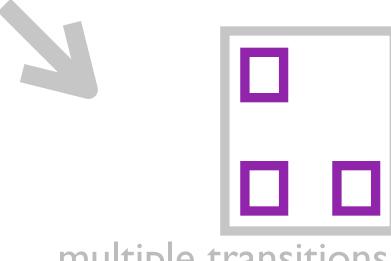
7

## **Show transitions**

Keep transitions to a minimum; communication is the key Engage the user during longer transitions
Communicate status & progress for waiting transitions
Communicate change for state transitions
Show relationships for relational transitions



page-based transitions



multiple transitions, single page

Transition. Brighten Transition.
Cross Fade Transition. Dim
Transition. Expand Transition.
Fade In Transition. Fade Out
Transition. Flip Transition.
Move Transition. Self-Healing
Transition. Shrink Transition.
Slide Transition.

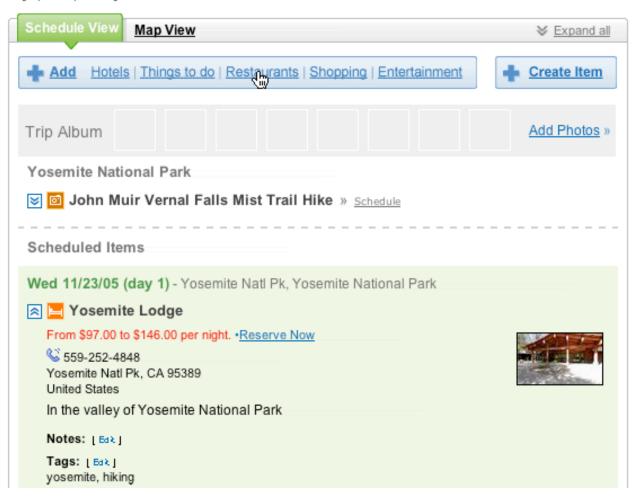


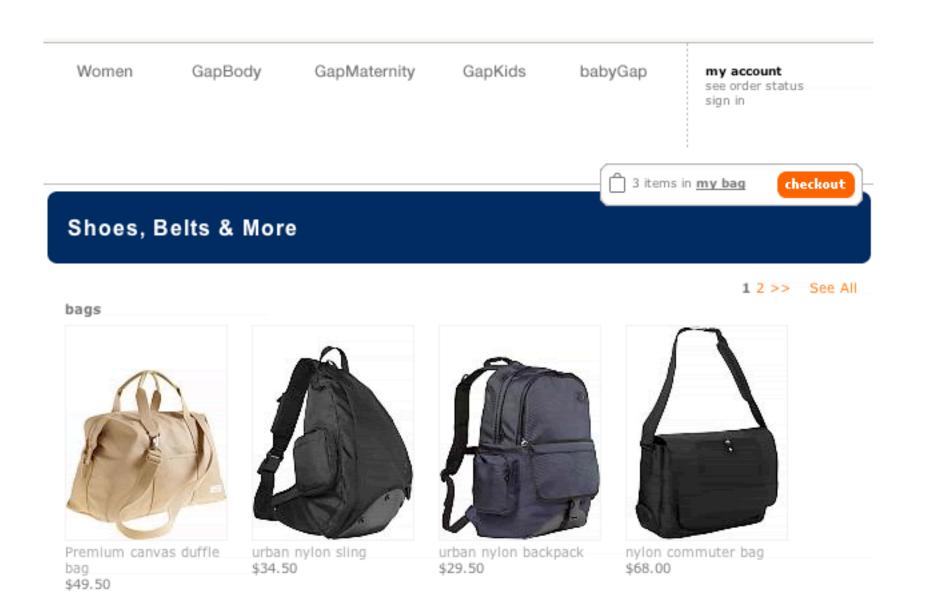
#### Yosemite Thanksgiving [Edit]

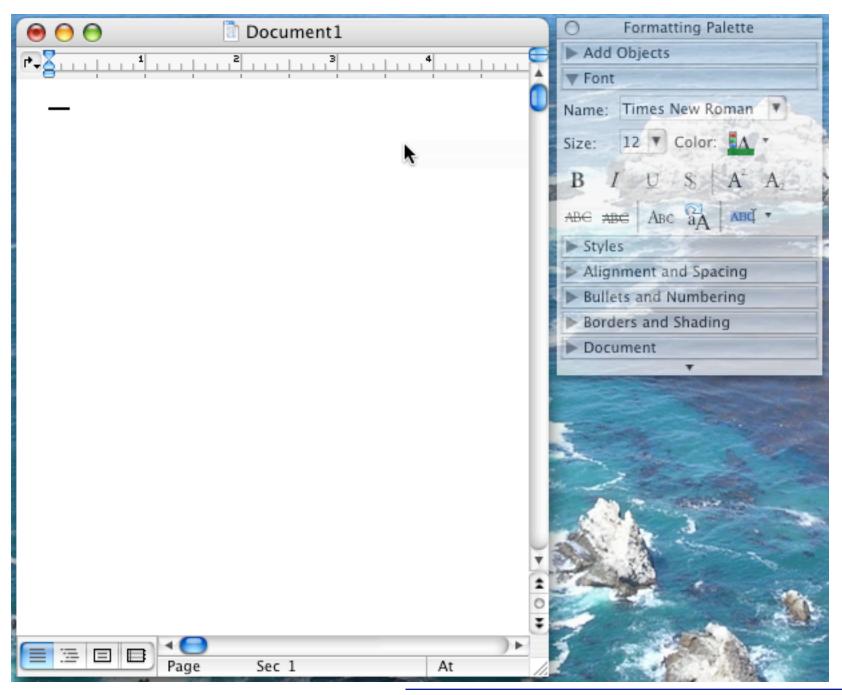
A trip to YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK Fun in Yosemite with Daniel & Kids

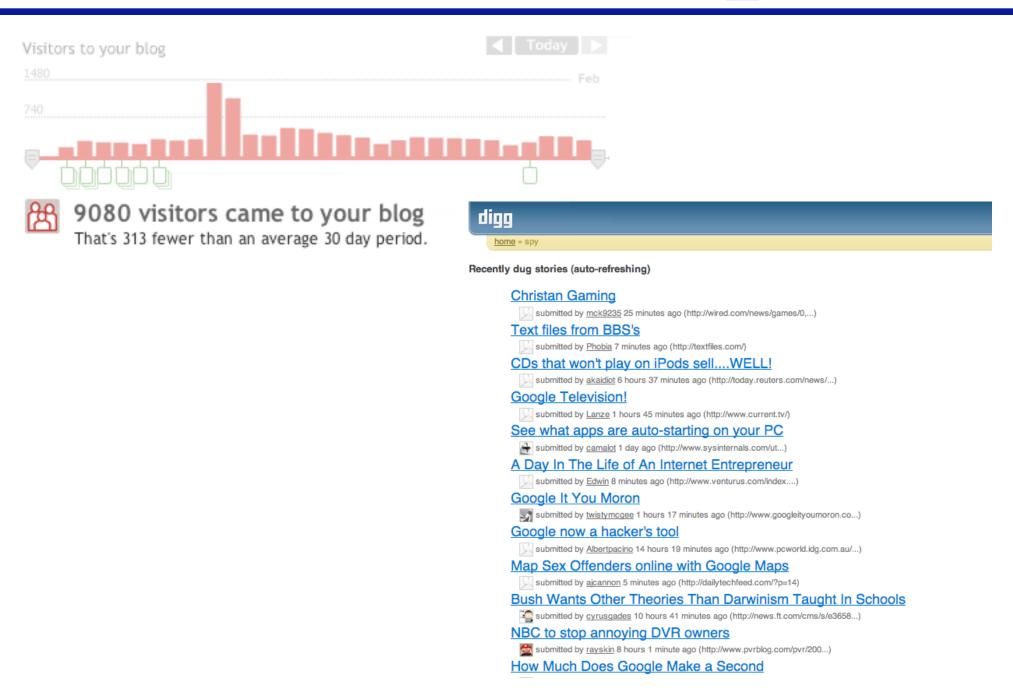
This trip is public \*Sharing settings \*Email this trip

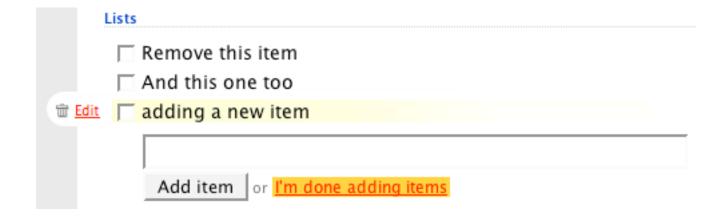
[ Update photos ]

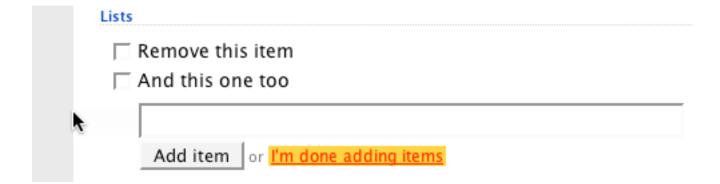












- Brighten. Raise importance
- Cross Fade. One leaves, another enters
- Dim. Lower importance
- Expand. Open in context of others
- Fade In. Good for adds
- Fade Out. Good for deletes
- Flip. Edit configuration
- Move. Change relationship, tweening
- Self-Healing. After delete or "yank"
- Shrink. Close in context of others
- Slide. Similar to expand but child window

- Cut transitions in half?
- Try to communicate without transitions, then turn up the contrast knob -- adding them in incrementally
- Use when
  - Multiple items change
  - In context deletes, adds, moves
  - Items hide/show
- Don't overuse

## 8

## Think in objects

Think rich internet objects instead of documents

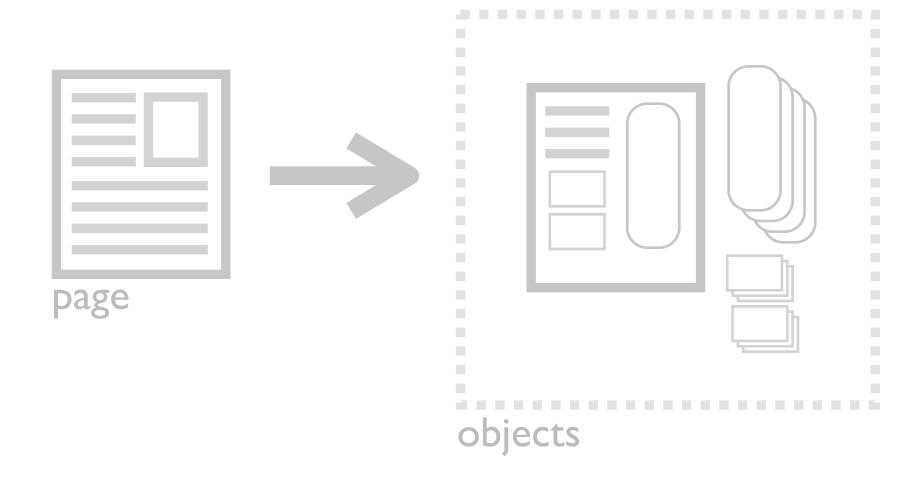
Objects have identity (recognizable)

Objects have a life (permanence)

Objects are owned (personal)

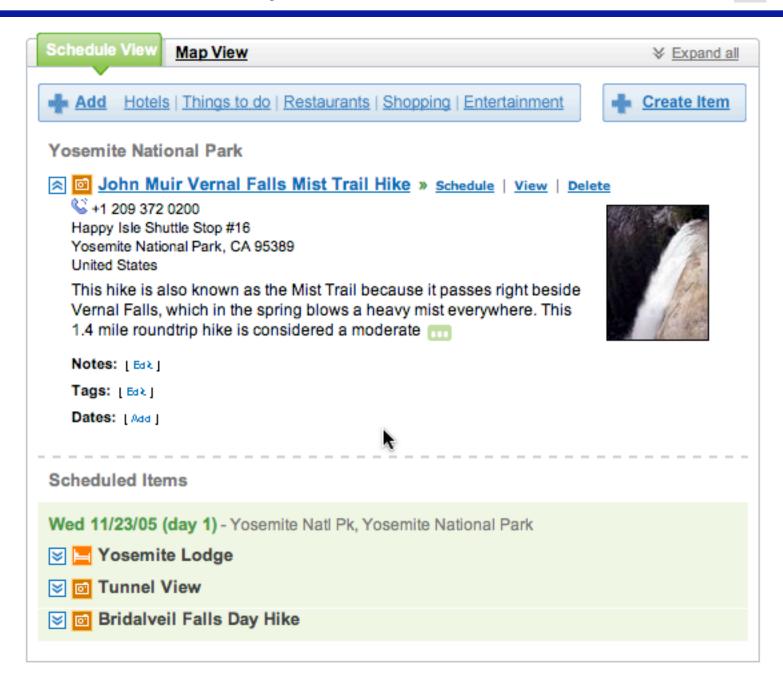
Objects are shareable (community)

Objects have personality (engagement)



### Rich Internet Object. Available. Selected. Identifiable Object.

	Page-Based Web	Rich Internet App
Richer Model	Document	Rich Internet Object
Longer Lifecycle	Transient Permanent	
Community/ Sharing	Bookmark	Content, properties, and behaviors



- How to distinguish from content?
- How to share, mail, print, etc. (in context tools?)
- How to create collections and share
  - Photos, albums
  - Trips, sets

## 9

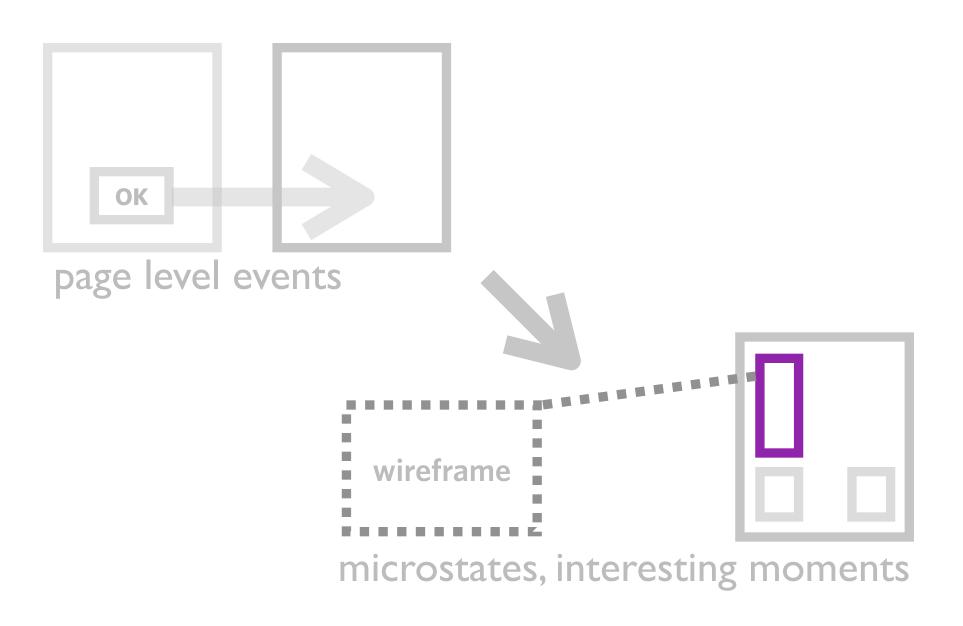
## Tell a story

Design is about telling a story
Design for interesting moments
Cast your events and actors carefully
Use storyboarding



Wireframing Ajax is a [expletive]... We have to determine all of the things a user might do, and wireframe the blessed moments of each possibility."

- Jeffrey Zeldman, Web 3.0

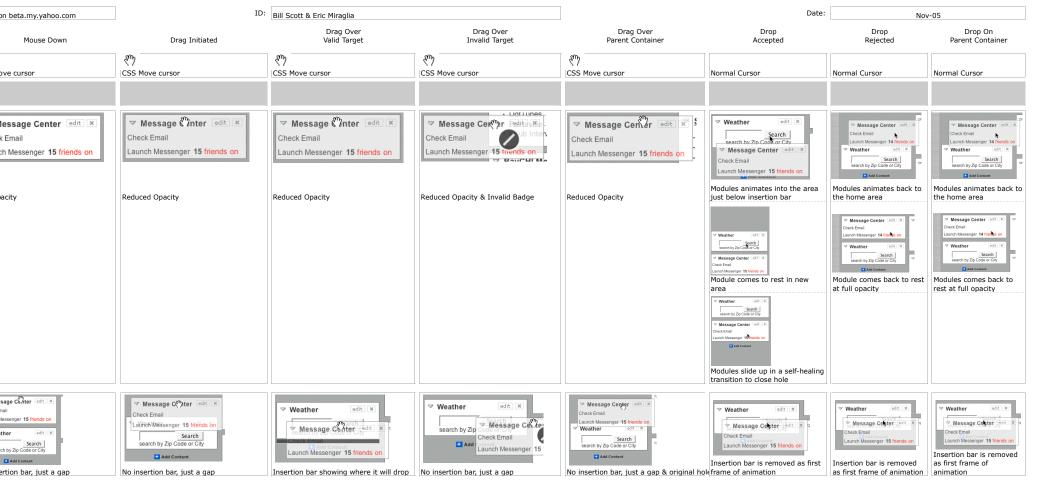


## Time

Detail

Context

#### Drag and Drop Modules - Interesting Moments Grid



### Drag & Drop Interesting moments

- Page load
- Mouse hover over drag-able object
- Mouse down on drag-able object
- Drag initiated (mouse down, mouse moves >= 3 pixels)
- Drag over valid target area
- Drag over invalid target area
- Drag over original location
- Drop accepted
- Drop rejected
- Drop on original location

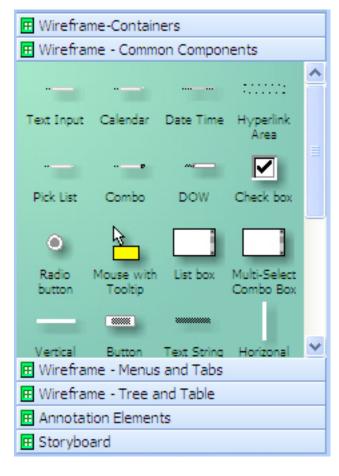
### Drag & Drop actors

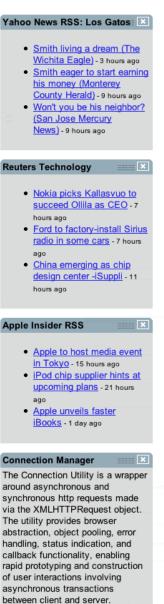
- Page
- Cursor
- Tool Tip
- Drag object
- Drag ghost
- Original location
- Drop target

#### Storyboarding

- Documentation has centered around layout, priority and behavior of content and functional items
  - Interactions typically defined as discrete states (pages)
  - Multiple page flow diagrams are now a single page with rich interactions
- Storyboarding provides a way to capture design flow

- Animations can provide timing in context
- Hard to capture branches
- Tools. Visio, Photoshop CS2, etc.





#### **Key Frames/MicroStates**



Participant Interface Notes			
Title:	Pagister page		
Date:	18 July 2005		
Version:	1.0		

The registration page allows users to signup for Participate simply by entering a user name and a valid email address.

- 1 Provide the user with some notification of what the email a friend action is worth in Participant points to encourage follow-through and introduce non-registered users in the Incentive program.
- On click, commit the user's entered email addresses and message, send to target addresses, and link user to a confirmation page
- For users who have invited triends over email, provide reporting on # invited and # accepted. Hide actual names by default, but allow users to view them by clicking the "view" link

When user completes name entry and clicks to email entry, compare the entered name to previously claimed names on the site. If the name is a match, generate alternates that can be clicked on to fill the entry field.

The name ryan\_c is unavailable. How about: ryan\_c\_01 iam\_ryanc

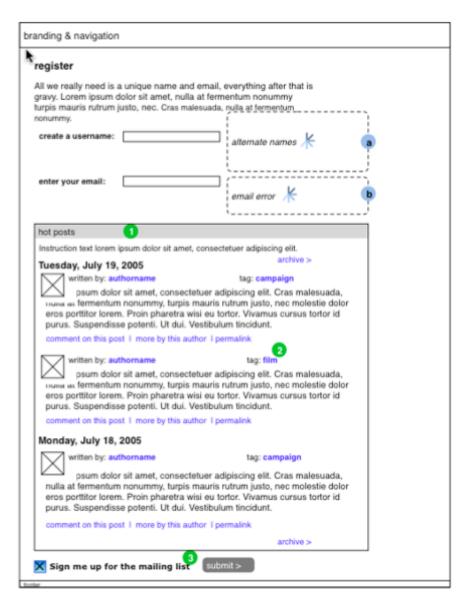


User makes selection or inputs new name that is valid & available:

That name works. Thanks!

b Is it possible to treat the "submit" button click as a call to validate the form of the user's entered email? If there are any formating errors, alert the user and prevent the page from loading the confirmation.

The address you entered isn't formatted properly.





Detail

Storyboard Grid

## Context

Storyboards, Wireframes + Key Frames

Photoshop CS2 animations

http://looksgoodworkswell.blogspot.com/2005/11/animating-interactions-withphotoshop.html

Boxes and arrows article

http://www.boxesandarrows.com/view/
storyboarding\_rich\_internet\_applications\_with\_visio

• Interesting Moments Grid http://looksgoodworkswell.blogspot.com/2005/11/interaction-matrix.html

Interesting Moments

http://looksgoodworkswell.blogspot.com/2005/12/storyboarding-interesting-moments.html

## Ajax 101

Where we get down and dirty with Ajax operations, JavaScript events and the DOM

Bill W. Scott, Y! Ajax Evangelist

## Anatomy of a Pattern

- Ajax design patterns contain three steps
  - **Trigger** (event or timer)
  - Operation (Ajax, remote scripting)
  - Update (presentation)

\_\_\_\_\_\_







# Operation. Using XHR



## **Operation.** Using XHR

- The five operations are not built into XHR
- The simple send/response mechanism can be used to implement lookup, persist, validate, invoke and message
- To create these operations, one must understand how to use XHR
- A simple HelloWorld example will illustrate using XHR

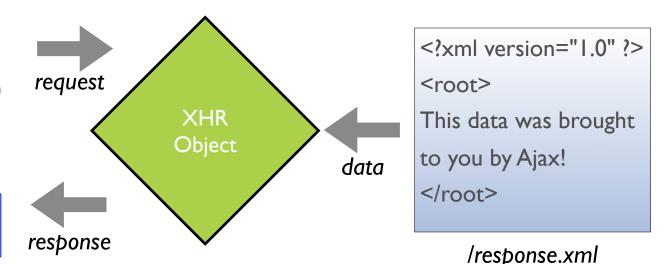
## Simple Ajax 'Hello World'

#### Ajax Hello World

Clicking the link below will use XHR to fetch the data and then show the result in the box below.

#### Make an ajax request for data

This data was brought to you by Ajax!



- Clicking the link makes an XHR request
- Response is inserted into the area outlined in blue

## Ajax How To

- 1. Create a request object
- 2. Write a callback
- 3. Make the request
- 4. Parse the response

```
if browser is mozilla or safari or opera then create a new XMLHttpRequest
```

```
otherwise it is IE then
create a new ActiveXObject
otherwise
error - browser does not support XMLHttpRequest
```

- IE5+ implements XHR as an ActiveX object
- Mozilla 1.0+, Safari 1.2+, Opera 8+, IE7 provide an XMLHttpRequest object in their API
- All XHR objects have the same methods & properties

## **XHR Methods**

Method	Description
open("method", "url", [, asynchFlag [, "username" [, "password"]]])	Sets up the request object for sending a request
send(content)	Sends the request to the server. Can be null.
abort()	Stops the request.
getAllResponseHeaders()	Returns all response headers for the HTTP request as key/value pairs.
getReponseHeader("header")	Returns the string value of the specified header.
setRequestHeader("header", "value")	Sets the specified header to the supplied value.

Source: Foundations of Ajax - APress

# **XHR Properties**

Property	Description
onreadystatechange	The event handler that fires at every state change.
readystate	The state of the request: 0=uninitialized, 1=loading, 2=loaded, 3=interactive, 4=complete
responseText	The response from the server as a text string
responseXML	The response from the server as an XML document
status	The HTTP status code from the server for the request object: 200: Ok; 201: Created; 400: bad request, 403: Forbidden; 500: internal sever error
statusText	The text version of the HTTP status code

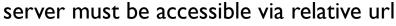
```
function handleAjaxResponse
begin
  do something with the data that is returned from XHR
end
```

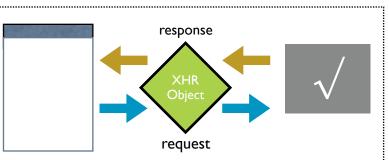
 JavaScript function is invoked when the readystate changes on the XHR object

set onreadystatechange to callback function - handleAjaxResponse open a request on the xhr object send the request through the xhr object

 The JavaScript function getResponse will be invoked when the readystate property changes on the XHR object

- Same site rule
- 'GET' or 'POST'
- Asynchronous flag









- Use GET for
  - For retrieve
  - REST services
  - When passing parameters
  - Idempotent URLs
  - Small amount of data
- Use POST for
  - Modification
  - Large amounts of data passed to server
  - Non-idempotent URLs

#### 3. Make the Request: Handling the Request on the Server Side

- Its just a normal HTTPRequest
  - Normal mechanism for getting request parameters
- Raw POST (xhr.send(someData))
  - Java/JSP: request.getInputStream() read as raw post
  - Rails: @request.raw\_post
  - PHP: \$data = file\_get\_contents('php://input')

```
function handleAjaxResponse
begin
  if response is valid then
    get responseXML
    get rootNode
    get helloArea on the page
    stuff the rootNode value into the helloArea DIV
    endif
end
```

#### readystate values

- 0 Uninitialized
- 1 Loading
- 2 Loaded
- 3 Interactive
- 4 Completed

#### 4. Parse the Response: Formatting an XML Response on the Server



XML version must be first line
 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>

Set up response header's Content-type
 "Content-Type", "text/xml"

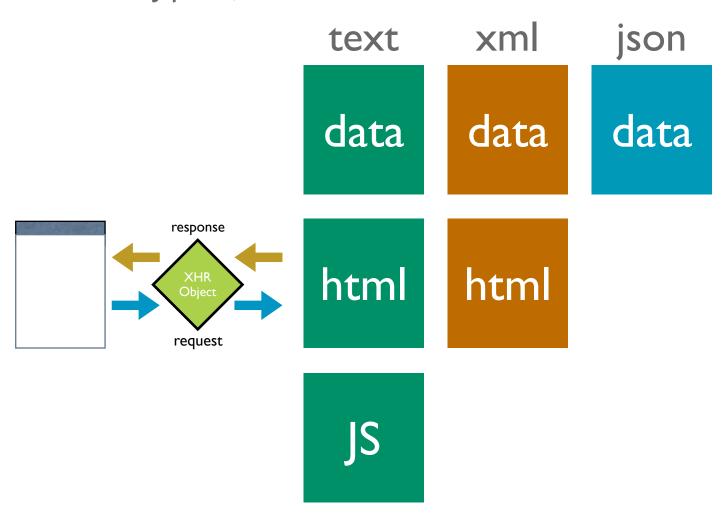
Use well-formed XML

- Ajax XHR
- Use XHR property responseXML to get the response as an XML DOM (XmlDocument)
- Use standard JavaScript DOM methods
  - Mozilla, Safari, Opera & IE support a common set of methods and properties
  - Watch out for IE only stuff (e.g., children property)
  - Watch out for whitespace issues
- Other options
  - Use XML library for JS (e.g., XML for <script>)

Property/Method	Description
documentElement	Returns the root element of the document
firstChild	Is the first element within another element (the first child of the current node)
lastChild	Is the last element within another element (the last child of the current node)
nextSibling	Is the next element in the same nested level as the current one
previousSibling	Is the previous element in the same nested level as the current one
nodeValue	Is the value of a document element
getElementsByTagName	Used to place all elements into an object

# Response Options

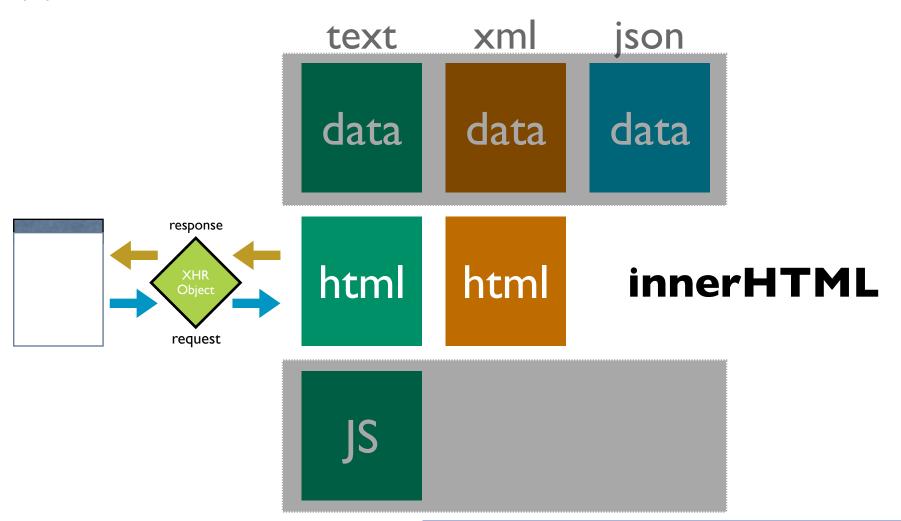
Different types, different formats





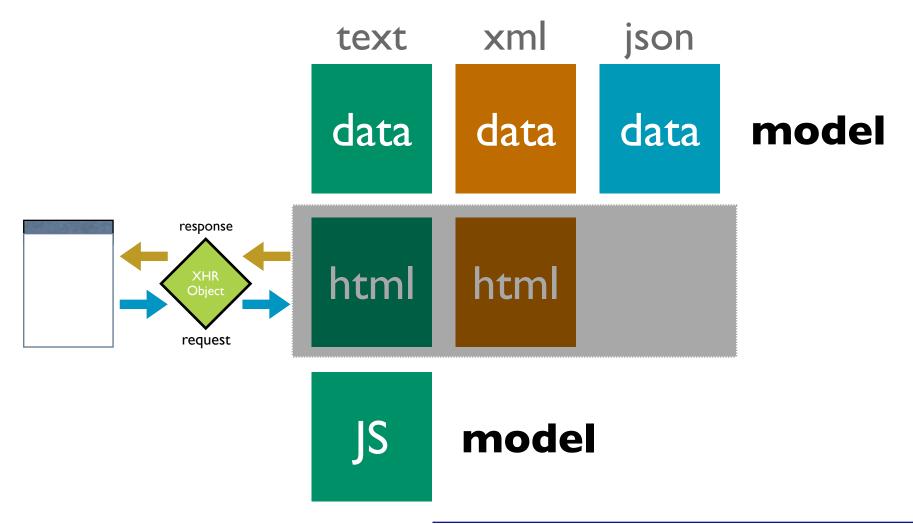
# Response Options

Snippets of HTML returned, stuffed into innerHTML



# **Response Options**

Data returned from the server, interface built from it



#### **JSON**

- JavaScript supports several string based notations
  - Allows the basic types to be represented as string literals
  - Strings are easy to pass over the wire
- JSON (JavaScript Object Notation json.org)

{"name": "Jack B. Nimble", "at large": true, "grade" A", "level": 3}

name	Jack B. Nimble
at large	true
grade	A
level	3

```
["Sunday", "Monday", "Tuesday", "Wednesday", "Thursday", "Friday", "Saturday"]
```

array of 7 named days

```
Γ
```

[0, -1, 0],

[1, 0, 0],

[0, 0, 1]

3x3 array

- JSON's simple values are the same as used in JavaScript
- No restructuring is requested: JSON's structures are JavaScript!
- JSON's object is the JavaScript object
- JSON's array is the JavaScript array

Parsing is simple, native

- Obtain responseText
- Parse the responseText

```
responseData = eval('(' + responseText + ')');
    OR
responseData = JSON.parse(responseText);
```

Ajax XHR

http://api.search.yahoo.com/WebSearchService/V1/webSearch
 appid=YahooDemo&query=finances&start=1&results=1&output=json

```
"ResultSet":
     "totalResultsAvailable": "69200000",
     "totalResultsReturned": "1",
     "firstResultPosition":"1",
     "Result":
         "Title": "Yahoo! Finance",
         "Summary": "manage the market and your money with Yahoo! Finance. Includes stock market quotes, business news, mutual funds, online bill pay, banking tools, loans, insurance, retirement planning, and tax tips and advice.",
         "Url": "http:\/\/finance.yahoo.com\/",
          "ClickUrl": "http:\/\/finance.yahoo.com\/",
         "ModificationDate": "1137225600",
          "MimeType":"text\/html"
```

# **Ajax Operations**

- Lookup I can get information when I need it
- Persist I can save in real-time
- Validate I can prevent errors early
- Invoke I can make things happen now
- Message I can communicate instantly



# Trigger JavaScript Events



# Trigger. JavaScript Events

- Ajax interactions are kicked off by event & timer triggers
- There are issues with event management within the browsers
- You do need to understand these implications to write good Ajax applications



# First, the Events

onAbort	onBlur
onChange	onClick
onDblClick	onDragDrop
onError	onFocus
onKeyDown	onKeyPress
onKeyUp	onLoad
onMouseDown	onMouseMove
onMouseOut	onMouseOver
onMouseUp	onMove
onReset	onResize
onSelect	onSubmit
onUnload	



#### Problem in a Nutshell

- Different event models
- Timing Issues
- Confusing madness around the this pointer
- Browser incompatibilities
- Memory leak issues

- Two Models (actually three!)
  - Classic style
    - <element onclick=func() >
    - element.onclick=func;
  - W3C event model
    - addEventListener, removeEventListener
  - IE event model
    - attachEvent, detachEvent

- Attempting to attach events before the page is loaded will cause problems
- Do it on the onload

#### Inline registration

```
<a href="#" onclick="clickHandler(this)">
function clickHandler(anchorDOMElem) {
    // this == window --> window owns the function
    this = anchorDOMElem; // fix the 'this' pointer
}
```

#### Event handler with function

```
anchorDOMElem.onclick=clickHandler;
function clickHandler() {
    //this == anchorDOMElem --> anchorDOMElem owns the
function
}
```

#### Event handler with Object prototype

```
function AnchorLink(anchorDOMElem) {
    // this == AnchorLink object
    this.anchorDOMElem = anchorDOMElem; // save DOM elem
    this.anchorDOMElem.onclick = this.clickHandler; // event handler
    this.anchorDOMElem.anchorLinkObj = this; // store this on dom elem
}
AnchorLink.prototype.clickHandler = function() {
    // this == anchorDOMElem, not AnchorLink object
    // confusing since this normally refers to AnchorLink
    // grab our normal this
    anchorLinkObj = this.anchorLinkObj;
}
```



- Arbitrary number of event handlers
- Way to remove events
- Defines capture & bubble flow
- No way to get list of handlers
- And the browsers play differently:

Internet Explorer	Mozilla (FF), Safari, Opera [W3C]
addEventListener(), removeEventListener()	attachEvent(), detachEvent
this == window object	this == DOM event object

172

- IE's garbage collection does reference counting
- Attaching events and not removing them when finished will cause memory leaks
- Can use an Observer pattern to cache event handlers and at the end clean them up
- Most Ajax frameworks provide this capability

# Update. The DOM

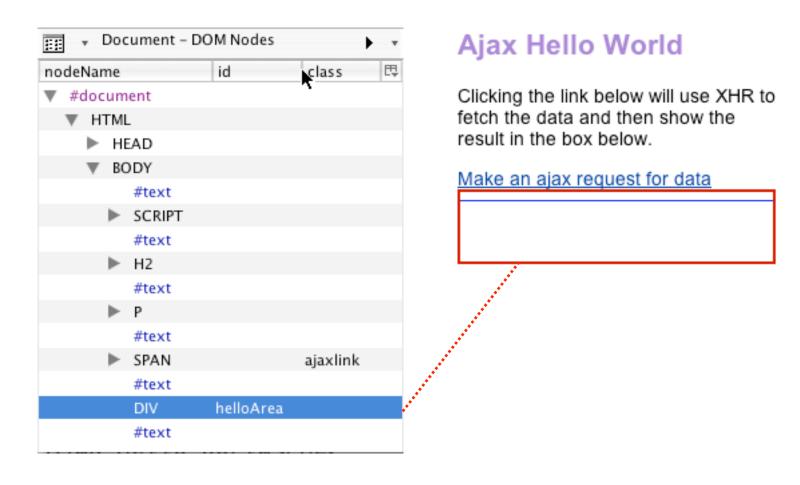


# **Update.** The DOM

- Browsers represent the user interface as a set of objects (or elements)
- Since a page has a hierarchy of containment, each of these elements are related as parent-child or siblings
- This takes the shape of a tree
- The tree of elements is called the document object model or DOM
- Any change to the DOM structure or a DOM element is reflected immediately on the web page

# DOM Example

Represented as a tree of nodes



176

# Using the DOM

- JavaScript is the DOM manipulator
- Use it to
  - Find DOM elements
  - Add new elements
  - Remove elements
  - Modify element attributes

# Finding DOM Elements

- document.getElementById
  - Prototype library shortcut: \$("idName") or \$(id)
- parentNode
- childNodes

# **DOM Manipulation**

- Creating new interface elements
  - innerHTML, createElement(), createTextNode(), appendChild()
- Changing element styles
  - Visual attributes
  - Geometry

```
<h2>Ajax Hello World</h2>
<Clicking the link below will use XHR to fetch the data and</p>
then show the result in the box below.
<span class="ajaxlink" onclick="makeRequest('response.jsp')">
Make an ajax request for data
                                                 Ajax Hello World
</span>
                                                 Clicking the link below will use XHR to
<div id="helloArea"></div>
                                                 fetch the data and then show the
                                                 result in the box below.
                                                 Make an ajax request for data
                                                  This data was brought to you by
                                                  Ajax!
```

var helloArea = document.getElementById("helloArea");

helloArea.innerHTML=rootNode.firstChild.data;



# Keeping it Clean

- Separate presentation style from content with CSS
  - Supports degradability
  - Supports accessibility
  - Simplifies maintenance
- This is called good semantic markup

```
<div id="weather">
<div id="current">
   <div id="currentHeader" class="accordionTabTitleBar">
     Current Conditions
   </div>
   <div class="weatherTabContentBox">
     <div class="weatherPanel" id="ccInfo">
     </div>
   </div>
 </div>
 <div id="moon">
   <div id="moonHeader" class="accordionTabTitleBar">
    Moon
   </div>
   <div class="weatherTabContentBox">
     <div class="weatherPanel" id="moonInfo">
     </div>
   </div>
</div>
<div id="sun">
   <div id="sunHeader" class="accordionTabTitleBar">
     Sunlight Summary
   </div>
     <div class="weatherTabContentBox">
     <div class="weatherPanel" id="sunInfo">
     </div>
   </div>
</div>
</div>
                                new Rico.Accordion( 'weather', {panelHeight:220, expandedBg:'#39497b'}
```

```
Current Conditions
 San Jose, CA (95132)
 Mostly Cloudy
 Humidity:
            33%
 Barometer: 30.42"
            From N at 5 mph
 Wind:
            gusting to N/A mph
 Dewpoint: 28°F
 Heat Index: 57°F
Sunlight Summary
```

# Summary

## **Understanding Ajax**

- Learn the patterns
- Know how to perform basic Ajax operations
- Know how to work with JavaScript triggers (events, timers)
- Know how to update the DOM
- Understand the issues that surround Ajax
  - We will discuss these issues this afternoon

## Ajax Architecture

- The Ajax DNA (events, data, presentation) is just a restatement of Model-View-Controller software pattern
- It is an architectural approach that separates these three concerns
  - Model: keep it pure, avoid presentation artifacts
  - View: keep HTML clear of style. Keep style in CSS.
  - Controller: don't mix events in HTML markup, use observer style of event management

185

## Pulling It All Together

- Two Projects that
  - Show XHR in action
  - Explores XML vs JSON
  - Explores Web Services

The World of Ajax

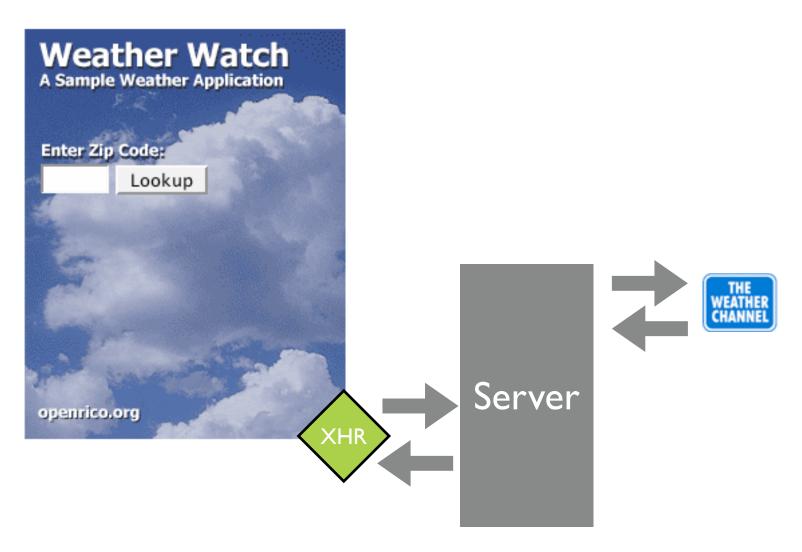
## Ajax & Web Services

XML and JSON Examples

Bill W. Scott, Y! Ajax Evangelist

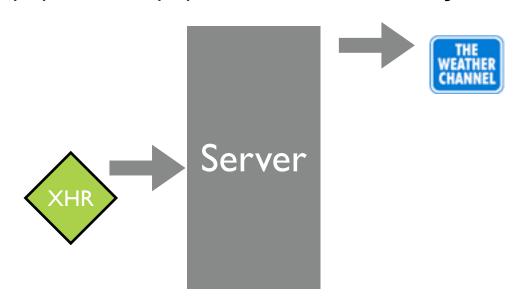
## Building an Ajax Weather Widget

Using an XML Service



weather.com exposes
its weather service via an
URL that includes a partner
key and license key

http://xoap.weather.com/weather/local/95132? cc=\*&link=xoap&prod=xoap&par=PARTNER\_KEY&key=LICENSE\_KEY



#### XML Response from weather.com

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="IS0</pre>
-8859-1"?>
<weather ver="2.0">
  <head>
    <locale>en_US</locale>
    <form>MEDIUM</form>
    <ut>F</ut>
    <ud>mi</ud>
    <us>mph</us>
    <up>in</up>
    <ur>in</ur>
 </head>
 <loc id="95132">
    <dnam>San Jose, CA (95132)
dnam>
    <tm>8:37 PM</tm>
    <lat>37.4</lat>
    <lon>-121.86</lon>
    <sunr>7:18 AM</sunr>
    <suns>5:20 PM</suns>
    <zone>-8</zone>
  </loc>
```

```
<CC>
    <lsup>1/21/06 7:53 PM PST</lsup>
    <obst>San Jose, CA</obst>
    <tmp>49</tmp>
    <flik>46</flik>
    <t>Mostly Cloudy</t>
    <icon>27</icon>
    <har>
                            weather.com responds
      < r > 30.27 < / r >
                          with an XML response that
      <d>rising</d>
    </bar>
                            describes the weather's
    <wind>
                               current conditions
      <s>7</s>
      <qust>N/A</qust>
      < d > 350 < / d >
      <t>N</t>
    </wind>
    <hmid>80</hmid>
    <vis>10.0</vis>
    <uv>
      <i>0</i>
      <t>Low</t>
    </uv>
    <dewp>43</dewp>
    <moon>
      <icon>21</icon>
      <t>Waning Gibbous</t>
    </moon>
  </cc>
</weather>
```

Server

#### Rico/Prototype Response

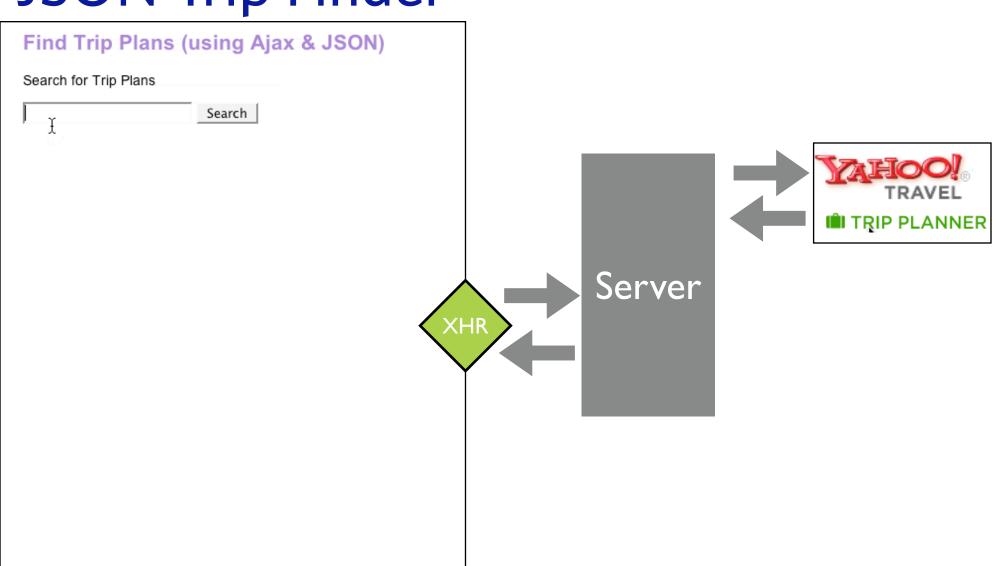
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<ajax-response>
 <response type="element" id="ccInfo">
 <div class="weatherTitle">San Jose, CA (95132)</div>
 <div>
 <span><image id="ccImg" src="/images/weather/27.png"></image></span>
                                       My server code translates
 <span class="weatherTemp">49&#176;F</span>
 </div>
                                      the weather.com XML into a
 <div class="weatherDescr">Mostly Cloudy</div>
                                      Rico/Prototype ajax-response.
 <div>
                                     Notice the response is an HTML
 code snippet. The response is of
  Humidity:
                                      type element, and mapped to
  80%
  id="ccInfo"
  Barometer:
  30.27"
  Wind:
  From N at 7 mph
  qusting to N/A mph
  Dewpoint:
                                         Server
  43° F
  Heat Index:
  46° F
 </div>
 </response>
</ajax-response>
```

#### Simple DIV Structure Defines the Accordion

```
Current Conditions
<div id="weather">
 <div id="current">
                                                                          San Jose, CA (95132)
   <div id="currentHeader" class="accordionTabTitleBar">
     Current Conditions
   </div>
   <div class="weatherTabContentBox">
     <div class="weatherPanel" id="ccInfo">=
     </div>
                                                                          Mostly Cloudy
   </div>
                                                                          Humidity:
 </div>
                                                                                     83%
                                                                           Barometer: 30.27*
                                                                           Wind:
                                                                                     From SW at 3 mph
 <div id="moon">
                                                                                     gusting to N/A mph
   <div id="moonHeader" class="accordionTabTitleBar">
                                                                           Dewpoint: 44°F
                                                                           Heat Index: 49°F
     Moon
   </div>
   <div class="weatherTabContentBox">
     <div class="weatherPanel" id="moonInfo">
     </div>
                                                                         Sunlight Summary
   </div>
 </div>
 <div id="sun">
   <div id="sunHeader" class="accordionTabTitleBar">
                                                                 <script>
     Sunlight Summary
                                                                 onloads.push( accord );
   </div>
                                                                 function accord() {
     <div class="weatherTabContentBox">
                                                                   new Rico.Accordion( 'weather',
     <div class="weatherPanel" id="sunInfo">
                                                                       {panelHeight:220, expandedBg:'#39497b'} );
     </div>
   </div>
                                                                 </script>
 </div>
</div>
```

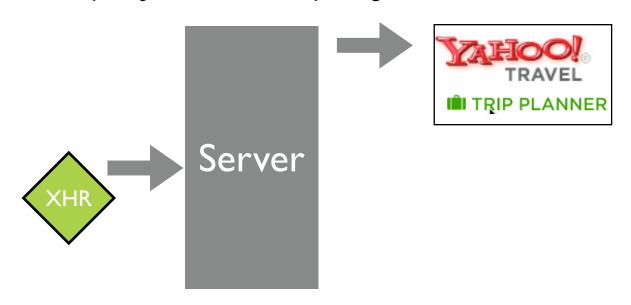
```
function registerAjaxStuff() {
   ajaxEngine.registerRequest( 'getWeatherInfo', 'ajax_weather_info');
   ajaxEngine.registerAjaxElement( 'ccInfo' );
   ajaxEngine.registerAjaxElement( 'moonInfo' );
   ajaxEngine.registerAjaxElement( 'sunInfo' );
   ajaxEngine.registerAjaxElement( 'sponsoredLinks' );
   $('zip').onkeydown = handleEnterKey.bindAsEventListener($('zip'));
function getWeatherInfo() {
   $('checkanother').style.visibility='visible';
   new Rico.Effect.Position( $('zipinput'), 200, null, 100, 10);
   new Rico.Effect.FadeTo( 'frontdoor', 0, 100, 10,
         {complete:function() {$('frontdoor').style.display = 'none';}}
   ajaxEngine.sendRequest( 'getWeatherInfo', "zip=" + $('zip').value);
function resetWeather() {
   $('zipinput').style.left = '12px';
   $('checkanother').style.visibility='hidden';
   $('frontdoor').style.display = ''
   $('zip').focus();
   new Rico.Effect.FadeTo( 'frontdoor', .99999, 100, 10, {complete:emptyContents});
}
```

## JSON Trip Finder

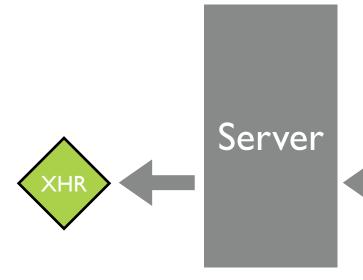


Yahoo! Trip Planner exposes its service via an URL that requires a free partner key. Notice output=json.

http://api.travel.yahoo.com/TripService/V1/tripSearch?appid=PARTNER\_KEY&query=alaska&output=json



```
{"ResultSet":{"firstResultPosition":
1, "totalResultsAvailable": "16", "totalResultsReturned":
10, "Result": [
{"id":"351102","YahooID":"jk_95661","Title":"Cruise to Alaska
from Vancouver", "Summary": "Things to do: Whistler Blackcomb -
Hiking,... Hotel: Hyatt Regency Vancouver, Howard
Jho...", "Destinations": "Vancouver, Anchor
                                               Y! service
Vancouver, Ketchikan,
Se...", "CreateDate": "1130437928", "D/
                                        responds with a JSON
{"Url": "http:\/\/us.i1.yimq.com\/u/
                                      text string, valid JavaScript
lp\cd\
                                        object notation. This is
100x100_cde24409e413d4d6da27953f6a
                                        passed directly back as
"Width": "66"}, "Geocode": {"Latitude
-123.120499", "precision": "not availa"
                                          the XHR result
travel.yahoo.com\/trip\/?pid=351102/
{"id":"400333","YahooID":"brdway_grl","Title":"Alaska","Summa
ry":"Things to do: Moose's Tooth Pub and Pizzer...
Restaurant: Orso, Simon's & Seafort's
Salo...", "Destinations": "Anchorage", "CreateDate": "1134676973"
,"Duration":"10","Image":{"Url":"http:\/\/us.i1.yimg.com\/
us.yimg.com\/i\/travel\/tg\/poi\/ca\/
100x1
                        731d3093b94afa37e.jpg","Height":"75","
Widt
                         {"Latitude":"61.190361","Longitude":"
 110
                         :"not available"},"Url":"http:\/\/
              TRAVEL
trave
                         ?pid=400333&action=view"},
       III TRIP PLANNER
]}}
```



#### The Ajax/JSON Code

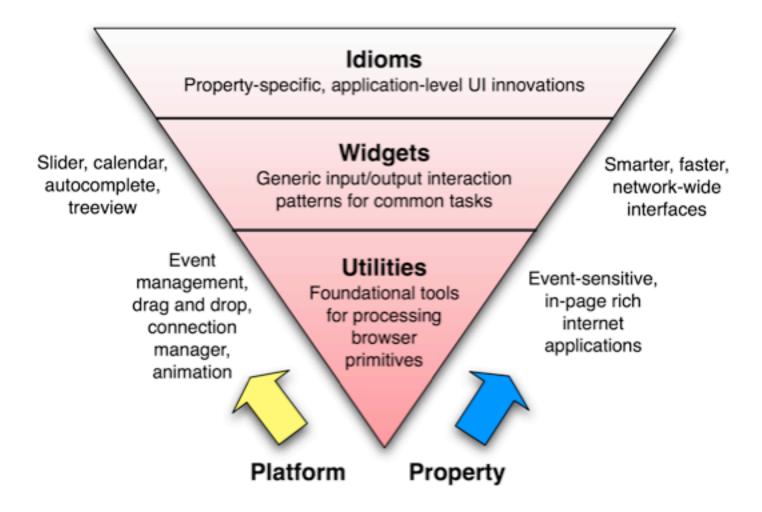
```
<script>
function showResponse() {
    if (xhr.readyState == 4) {
         if (xhr.status == 200) {
              var jsontext = xhr.responseText;
              var helloArea = document.getElementById("helloArea");
              var theTrip = eval( '(' + jsontext + ')' );
              var tripPlanHTML = "";
              for(var i=0; i<theTrip.ResultSet.totalResultsReturned; i++) {</pre>
                  var result = theTrip.ResultSet.Result[i];
                  tripPlanHTML = tripPlanHTML + '<div style="padding:4px;</pre>
border:1px solid gray; width: '+result.Image.Width+'; "><img
src="'+result.Image.Url+'" width="'+result.Image.Width+'"
height="'+result.Image.Height+'"></img></div>'+
'<div ><a href="'+result.Url+'"><span style="font-weight:bold; font-size:
18px;">'+result.Title+'</span></a></div><div>'+result.Summary+'</div><br/>';
              helloArea.innerHTML=tripPlanHTML;
         } else {
                alert('There was a problem with the request.');
</script>
<h2>Find Trip Plans (using Ajax & amp; JSON) </h2>
Search for Trip Plans
<input id="searchCriteria" type="text"> <input value="Search" type="button"</pre>
onclick="makeRequest('response trip planner mult json.jsp',
         document.getElementById('searchCriteria').value)">
<div style="height:300px; width:420px; margin-top:8px; padding:8px;"</pre>
id="helloArea"></div>
```

## Ajax Toolkits

Designing and Building Ajax Applications with Ajax Toolkits

Bill W. Scott, Y! Ajax Evangelist

## What a Toolkit Provides



## **Evaluating Toolkits**

- What language is it targeted for?
- Are you looking for XHR abstraction or high level?
- Will you use XML or JSON?
- Is it \$\$ or open source?
- Does it simplify general JS development?
- Community of support?
- Likelihood it will be around next year?

#### Ajax Toolkits: Open Source JavaScript Libraries

Prototype	Inspired by Ruby, simplifies DOM manipulation, events, Ajax connectivity. Several frameworks based on it. Notable for the \$() function among many other shortcuts. OO extends.	
Scriptaculous	Built on Prototype, nice effects, animations, drag and drop, widgets. Nicely documented	
Rico	Built on Prototype, nice effects, animations, behaviours (widgets), drag and drop, nice Ajax engine abstraction, style effects. Lots of demos.	
Behaviour	Built on Prototype, separates event management from HTML using CSS selectors	
Dojo	Widget library, drag and drop, effects, widget framework, event management, animation, bookmarkability, manipulating location history, extensive deployment support	
Zimbra	Extensive set of widgets (data list, wizard, button, rich text editor, tree, menus, etc.). MVC, debugging facilities	
Microsoft Atlas	In developer release. Support for drag and drop, animation, full XML specification for wiring widgets together, behavior abstraction, will be integrated in full suite of MS dev tools.	
MochiKit	Widgets, painless DOM manipulation, task management, JSON-like notation, logging. Active community	
Sarissa	Encapsulates XML functionality in browser-independent calls	

#### Ajax Toolkit: Commercial JavaScript Libraries

TIBCO GI	Very extensive framework with full IDE. Dozens of widgets, vector based charting package, support for SOAP. IDE has WYSIWYG GUI layout, step through debugging as well as code completion
Bindows	Been around since 2001, lots of great widgets and library routines. Not always browser independent
JackBe	Focused at corporate environments. Able to emulate a desktop application. Very fast performance even on a dial-up line. Uses a proprietary "screen" format that gets interpreted by a JavaScript runtime engine.
Active Widgets	Rich set of JavaScript widgets. Rich grid widget is a high spot.

#### Ajax Toolkit: PHP

AjaxAC	Separates events from HTML, subrequest support, event management, easily remotes to PHP methods, start of a widget framework
Cajax	Low level. Simplifies server side programming, limits client side JS required, suggest widget, plugin for form submission.
CakePHP	OO, modeled after Ruby on Rails, integrated CRUD, fast, flexible templating, nice docs
CPAINT	OO library for Ajax connectivity. Local & remote functions, single or multiple XHR, supports both POST & GET
JPSpan	PHP remoting via JavaScript
XAjax	Low level. PHP remoting via JavaScript. Simplified DOM updates on XHR response.
XOAD	Uses JSON and native PHP serialized objects, security emphasis, server side events, HTML manipulation. Tutorials and documentation.

#### Ajax Toolkit: Java Frameworks

Ajax JavaServer Faces Framework	Converts JSF applications to Ajax	
Ajax JSP Tag Library	Set of tags for Ajax. Autocomplete, callout, select, toggle, update fields	
DWR	For remoting Java methods from JavaScript code. Contains a number of widgets.	
Echo2	Auto generate HTML & JavaScript from server side. Write in pure Java.	
Guise (\$\$)	Application framework that uses the desktop UI approach to components and events (hides HTML generation and DOM manipulation.) Controls, dialogs, flyovers,	
JSP Controls Tag Library	For portlet style JSP components. Supports Ajax and non-Ajax modes	
SWATO	JS library based on Prototype. Uses JSON for marshalling. Direct remoting for POJOs. Widgets include auto suggest, template, logger.	
AjaxAnywhere	Turns existing JSP/JSF/Struts/Spring components into Ajax Aware components	
WebOrb for Java	Ties together Ajax, Flash and Java objects with XML services	

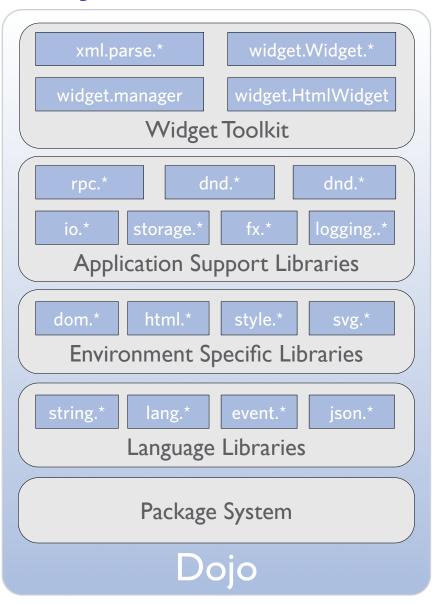
## Prototype

- Try.these()
- Ajax.request()
- Ajax.Updater()
- Element.show/hide/toggle/remove
- Object-oriented extensions

Makes Ajax request/response simple

Rico allows multiple targets in the response

## Dojo



- Events: multiple listeners, browser abstraction, memory leak protection
- Aspect-oriented
- I/O: common interface for multiple transports, single/ multi response
- Built-in packaging system
- Widget building w/HTML & CSS fragments, automatic reuse

### Microsoft Atlas Features

- Extensible core adds lifetime mgmt, inheritance, multicast event handler, and interfaces
- Base class library: strings, timers, tasks
- UI framework for attaching behaviors to HTML
- Simple connectivity
- Set of rich UI controls (auto complete, popup panels, animation, and drag and drop
- Browser compatibility layer

## Microsoft Atlas: Interesting Concepts

- Update panels: mark region for auto update
- Behaviors: encapsulate actions to associate with DHTML events [floating, hover, popup, autocomplete]
- Validators [required, type, range, regex, etc.]
- Data binding: connect controls & manage flow between them [data entered, reflected elsewhere]
- Bindings transformers: support transform event as part of a binding [ToString, invert, etc.]

### Microsoft Atlas

- Two models: XML scripting & JS API
- Will be fully supported by Microsoft tools
- Big Q? Tied to ASP.NET?
  - Language on the site is confusing
  - Similar to how XHR got lost!
  - But I have been assured they intend the Atlas Client Scripting Framework to be totally independent of Microsoft technologies (although they want you to use them!)

## Advanced Topics

Problems and Challenges with Building Ajax Applications

Bill W. Scott, Y! Ajax Evangelist

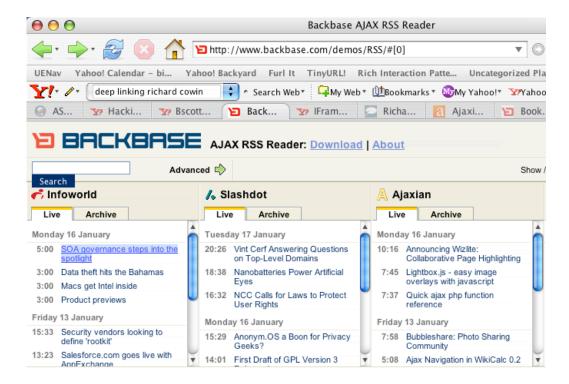
## How Ajax Changes Things

Classic Web	Ajax/Web 2.0	Problems/Challenges
Page to page navigation	Micro content	Back button, SEO, bookmarking, accessibility, security
URL/Link = User's location	Application state	Back button, SEO, bookmarking, accessibility
Browser history	Application history	Back button, bookmarking, accessibility
Back button = Undo	Is unpredictable	Back button, bookmarking, accessibility
Little JavaScript	More JavaScript	Accessibility, degradability, security, memory, performance, debug, obsfucation, error handling
Document model	Application model	Back button, SEO, bookmarking, accessibility
Static content	Dynamic content	SEO, bookmarking, accessibility
Course-grained events	Micro states	Back button
Synchronous	Asynchronous	Error handling
Browser chrome	Application controls	Back button, bookmarking, accessibility
Page Services	Web Services	Security, XML vs. JSON

### **Back Button**

- Problem: Ajax application state changes, URL does not. No browser history of state changes/navigation
- What does the user expect?
  - Often confused with Undo
  - True context view changes should be part of history
    - Navigation tabs; but not content tabs?
    - Steps in a process
    - Tree selection when views change
  - Impact of tabbed browsers?

- URL hash, fragment identifier (http://a.com#loc does not trigger a page reload
- Fragment identifier (string after '#') can be used to record state changes in the URL



- Yahoo! Maps Beta also uses this technique
- Bottom line: tricky to implement
  - Dojo, Backbase provide direct support
  - One approach: <a href="http://www.contentwithstyle.co.uk/Articles/38/fixing-the-back-button-and-enabling-bookmarking-for-ajax-apps">http://www.contentwithstyle.co.uk/Articles/38/fixing-the-back-button-and-enabling-bookmarking-for-ajax-apps</a>
    - All links have fragment
    - Clicking link changes URL, not page
    - Timer monitors window.location.href & updates

- Technique: use iframes to control browser history for recording state changes
- Tricky issues abound
  - Fragile across browsers
  - onload issues
  - audible transition (on IE if sound enabled)
- Bottom line: problematic

# Search Engine Optimization (Deep Linking)

- All the content may not be statically available for search engine crawlers
  - Won't find content to index your pages correctly
- Possible solutions
  - Lightweight Indexing: leverage existing tags such as meta, title and h1
  - Extra Links: extra links are placed on the site.
  - **Secondary Site**: a secondary site is fully accessible to the search engine. (See degraded experience)

source: backbase.com

# Bookmarking

- Since we have broken the history and URL paradigm, bookmarking become problematic
- What does the user expect?
  - Do they expect to bookmark application state? content viewed?
  - Desktop apps often support bookmarking. It is always content based.

#### **Bookmarking Technique**

- Allow the user to save a bookmark at an interesting moment in an Ajax application
- Perhaps dynamically generate a link for bookmarking
- The URL generated for the bookmark is sufficient to restore the state

- Google Maps
  - Link is generated on each new map address
  - Link contains URL parameters to return to the page



• OpenRico LiveGrid http://richardcowin.typepad.com/blog/2005/07/there\_has\_been\_.html

Listing movies								
#	Title					Year		
1	Mr and Mrs Smith	Name: Listing movies 61 – 70 of 894				0	4	
2	Shichinin no samurai	Create in:   Bookmarks			•	1954	U	
3	The Lord of the Rings: Tl			Cancel	Add	2003		
4	Buono, y il brutto, il catti	vo, Il	Action	9.0	30840	1966		
5	The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring		Action	9.0	157984	2001		
6	Star Wars		Action	9.0	135001	1977		
7	The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers		Action	9.0	115175	2002		
8	Star Wars: Episode V - The Empire Strikes Back		Action	9.0	104167	1980		
9	Raiders of the Lost Ark		Action	9.0	94133	1981		
10	Apocalypse Now		Action	9.0	64552	1979	¥	

http://openrico.org/rico/livegrid.page? data\_grid\_index=60&data\_grid\_sort\_col=rating&data\_grid\_sort\_dir=ASC

# Accessibility

DHTML Provides	Accessibility Expects	Problem
JavaScript enabled markup, new user interface controls	Simple markup	Markup has more meaning than expected. How does the assistive technology understand this is a tree control? How does it understand the state of a control?
Dynamic pages & content	Fairly static pages	How do I announce dynamic content?
Weak support for keyboard navigation		Sight-impaired users will not be using rich interactions; they will use the keyboard (or another device that simulates the keyboard) But how to tab key, arrow key, select items with the keyboard?

- IBM/Mozilla Accessible DHTML API/Spec
  - Direct support for keyboard traversal
    - Supports tab key to a container, arrow keys to navigate inside the container and enter key to select item
    - Setting tabindex=-1 allows focus to be set on a object without it being in the tab order
  - A way to add metadata to HTML markup for assistive technologies to understand:
    - Widget roles, properties, values and events
  - Working with assistive technology vendors to make them aware of this API (funded development)
- Microsoft's plans

tabindex value	Purpose	Tab key navigable?	
Not set	Accept default behavior	Default behavior Form elements	
tabindex = "-1"	For child elements (nodes in a tree)	No. You must set the focus with JavaScript	
tabindex = "0"	To tab in HTML code order	Tabbing moves you field to field in the order they are added to the page	
tabindex > "0"  To specify an exact order for each field		Value describes the tab order	

Roles

Provides clues to assistive technologies

# Degradability

- Degradability Managing the user experience as you move down in device/browser capability
- At Yahoo! we grade the browser by experience we will provide (A, B, C grade)
  - A-grade experience (majority of our users; greatest visual fidelity and richest interactions
  - B-grade experience (almost A-grade, but either they are on bleeding edge, low adoption or low economic value). Not considered in development or testing
  - C-grade experience (baseline of support; content but little style or interaction). Crawlers and old browsers get this experience.

- Pre-emptive nag bar
- Semantic Markup
  - What's good for accessibility is good for degradability
- Design Issues
  - What is the experience for C-grade browsers?
  - What is the experience for non-browsers?

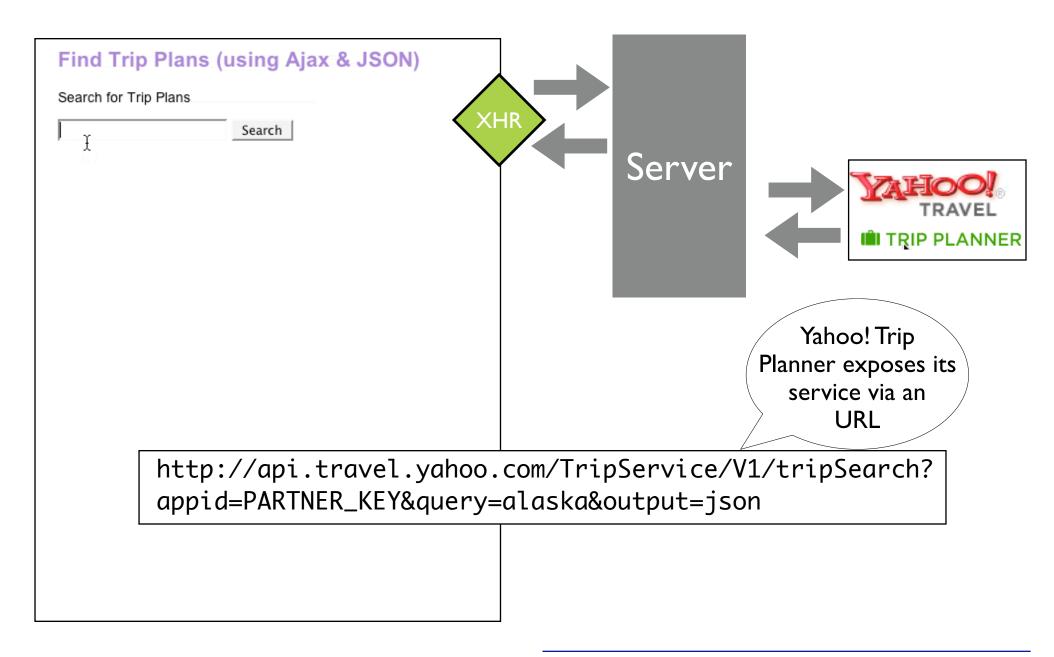
#### Web Services

Web 2.0 - Web as a Platform. Lots of web services!

#### • YAHOO! DEVELOPER NETWORK

- del.icio.us, Financ, Flick, HotJob, Maps, Merchant Solutions, Music, RSS Feeds, Search, Search Marketing, Shopping, Travel, Traffic, upcoming.org, weather, webjay, widgets
- Google Web APIs (beta)

   Google Web APIs (beta)
  - maps, search, desktop, sitemaps, adwords



- JSON means
  - Trivial parsing
  - Faster than XML
  - Friendlier for developer
  - Runs everywhere
  - It's JavaScript, simpler programming model
  - Very stable... never will change!
  - Strong community, wide acceptance
- Yahoo! behind it

#### Security: Same Site Rule

- The domain of the URL request destination must be same as one that serves up page containing script
- Why? XHR requests to a different site would carry cookies. Cookies would spoof authentication.
- Solutions
  - Proxies
  - <script> hack
  - Other remote scripting tricks
  - JSONRequest (coming)

- I want to access multiple services (from different domains) without setting up a separate server (scalable, simpler to implement)
- Solution: Protocol that POSTs JSON text, gets response, parses the response into JavaScript value
  - No cookies sent
  - No other file formats accepted. Must be valid JS
  - JSON is safe JavaScript (data not functions)
  - Little or no error information provided to a miscreant
  - Accumulates random delays before trying again to frustrate denial of service attacks
  - Can support duplex!

#### Memory Management

- Hey, Internet Explorer is leaky!
  - Its memory garbage collector is the culprit
    - Uses reference counting; JS uses Mark & Sweep
    - Often closures are blamed
- Common problem that causes memory leaks
  - DOM <--> Application object reference each other
  - Event handlers left hanging around
- Tool for IE: Drip

# JavaScript Performance

- JavaScript requires common sense
  - Cache repeatedly accessed objects
  - Always use var for local variables
  - Use numbers for number and strings for strings
  - Avoid using eval() for accessing properties eval("obj."+propName) --> obj[propName]
  - Look to your loops
- And a few surprises
  - Build DOM trees downward
  - Use array.join for lengthy string concatenations

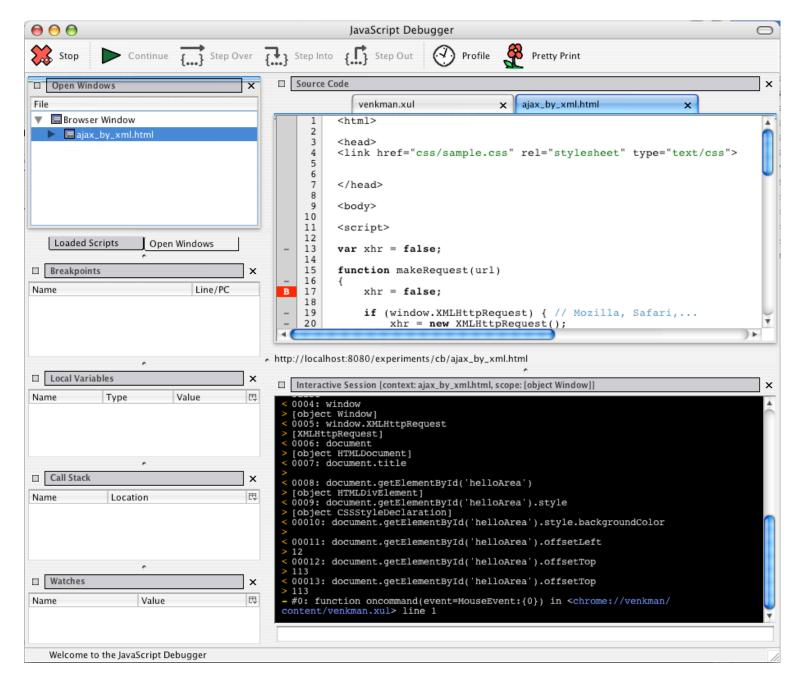
source: Adam Platti

233

# **Debugging Tools**

- Microsoft Script Editor
- Instant Source (IE Plugin)
- Venkman (Mozilla)
- DOM Inspector (Mozilla)
- Web Developer Tools (Mozilla)
- Safari JavaScript Console
- JSLint

#### Debugging: Venkman



- Breakpoints
- Local variables
- Watches
- Call Stack
- Profiling
- Source view
- Debug toolbar

- Lint are syntax checkers and validators
- JavaScript needs lint
- http://www.crockford.com/jslint/lint.html
- Scans source file & looks for common syntax problems
  - Nice way to catch silly mistakes
  - Try it at: <a href="http://jslint.com">http://jslint.com</a>

#### Obsfucation or Minification

- JavaScript is easy to see with a Save or a <ctrl>-U
- JavaScript can increase page size & page load
  - Obsfucators mangle the code into unreadable form
  - Minifiers strip white space & comments
- Obsfucators go too far
  - Makes development way too hard
- Minification & compression do just enough
  - JSMin (<a href="http://www.crockford.com/javascript/jsmin.html">http://www.crockford.com/javascript/jsmin.html</a>)

# **Error Handling**

- Asynchronous error handling
  - Keep design simple (do you need multiple requests going at once?)
  - Will increase implementation issues
- Normal error handling
  - Check for error codes (!=200)
  - Roll your own HTTP status error codes
- Minimize server-side errors with intentional validation (error prevention)

#### **Error Handling**

- Difficult to correct XML, JSON or even HTML over the wire. XML & JSON are slightly harder. Server issue, but how to handle
- Use error handlers provided by Ajax frameworks
  - Prototype try.these
  - JavaScript try/catch
  - DWR has global error handler
  - Dojo error handlers

# Questions?

# Yahoo! UI Library

Yahoo!'s Approach to an Ajax Framework

Bill W. Scott, Y! Ajax Evangelist

# Yahoo! UI Library

- Normalization (Event Utility)
- Messaging (Connection Manager for AJAX)
- Direct Representation (Animation and Position)
- Direct Manipulation (Drag and Drop)
- Rich Interactive Widgets (Slider, TreeView, Calendar, AutoComplete

# **Utilities** Event, Connection, Position, Animation, Drag & Drop

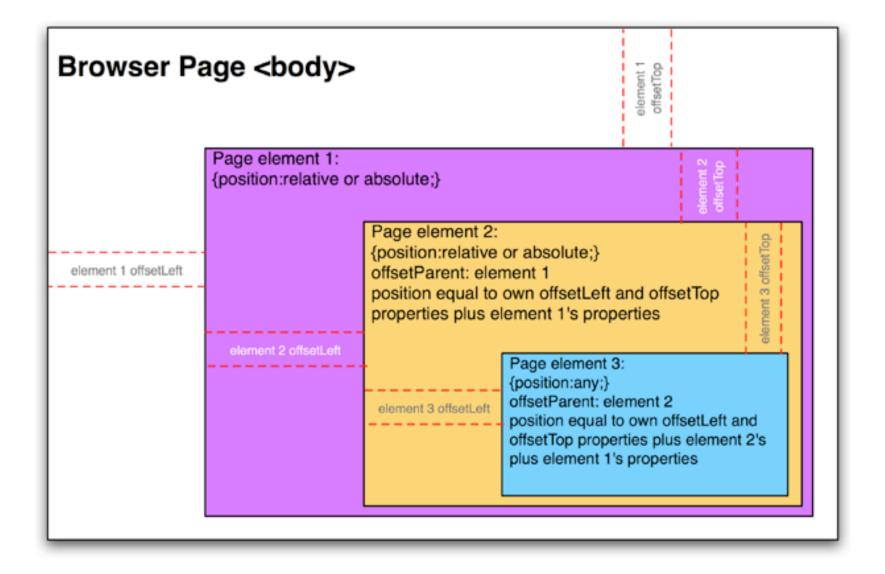
- Flexible method of attaching event handlers to one or more elements
- Automatically defers attaching handlers to elements that are not yet available (automatic, optimized deferral)
- Automatic scope correction (this is the element object, not the window object)
- Ability to include an arbitrary object to be sent to the handler with the event
- Automatic event object browser abstractionAutomatic listener cleanup

- Browser abstraction for XHR's various flavors
  - XHR transactions can be reduced to two lines of code
- Object creation/nullification:
  - Connection Manager intelligently reuses objects where reuse is supported by the browser
  - Up to two concurrent requests possible additional pending requests are queued automatically
- Two methods for interacting with XHR's response in Connection Manager version 1:
  - Define a callback function
  - Use a unique transaction ID to retrieve the XHR message

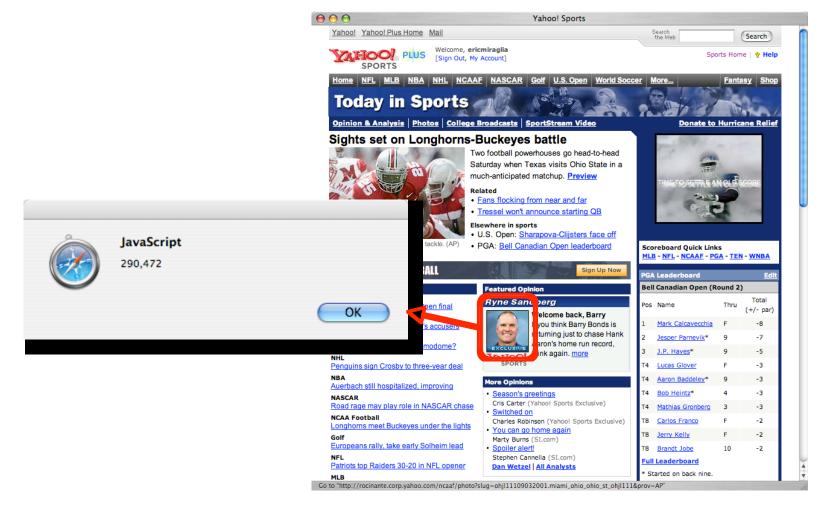
#### Yahoo! UI: Connection Manager Example

```
<script>
  refreshNews = function() {
  var obj = ygConn.getObject()
    ygConn.http.asyncRequest(obj,'GET','getRss.php',true,
    processRss,null);
  }
  </script>
```

- Connection Manager, Version 2: Even Easier
  - Initiate an XHR request in a single line
  - Inclusion of an onProgressChange API method to facilitate monitoring requests
  - Automatic handling of common issues such as authentication and session maintenance
  - Improved queue management
  - Protocol Stack: A companion utility to facilitate YRest, JSON requests



```
<script>
var elRef=document.getElementById("myImage");
var aPos = ygPos.getPos(elRef);
alert(aPos.toString());
</script>
```



#### Simple: Two Core Methods

- ygPos.getPos(elRef): returns the absolute (pageX, pageY) coordinates of the top left corner of the inspected element
- ygPos.setPos(elRef, endPos): moves the target element to specified coordinates

#### Smoothing out Browser Eccentricities

- IE tends to drop the parent's border when the parent has a width set
- In IE, offsetTop/Left is added twice when a parent is {position: relative;}
  and the original element is not positioned and has no width defined
- Gecko tends to drop a parent's borderWidth when parent is {position: relative;}
- IE uses a proprietary currentStyle property in opposition to the DOM standard computedStyle property, so when computing positions you need to account for these differences.

- Optimized performance
  - All animation instances run on a single thread via the Animation Manager, rather than separate threads per animation
- Real-time correction
  - Animation Manager drops frames when needed to make sure the animation ends at the specified duration
- Built-in Bezier paths
  - The Animation Utility includes Bezier math for computing complicated animation paths
- Ease of use
  - Set-up, call an animation in two lines of JavaScript

The World of Ajax

251

- Simple instantiation of draggable objects (1 line of code)
  - Included subclasses provide an out-of-the-box foundation for common drag-object implementations
  - Flexible, powerful API allowing for highly implementationspecific drag-and-drop interaction
    - Write code to address only the interesting moments of the drag interaction
    - Built-in handling for drag-object groups
    - Built-in support for drag-handle specification, element handle exclusion, and a host of other granular drag and drop characteristics

- How simple is it to add this to your site?
  - Include current Drag and Drop library
  - Style your drag handle with a "move cursor" in CSS:

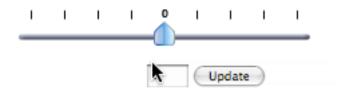
```
.module .hd {margin-top:0px; cursor:move;}
```

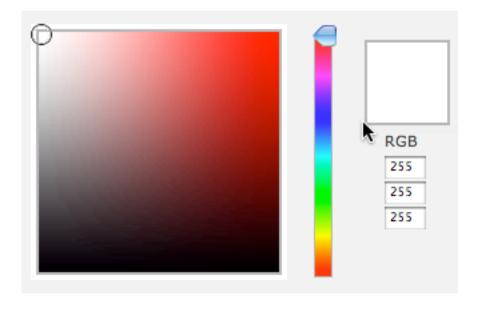
 Create a drag object on your draggable element; set its "handle" region:

```
var oDD = new ygDD("myModule");
oDD.setHandleElId("myModuleHandle");
```

# Widgets Slider, Calendar, Auto Complete, Tree View

- Slider Control
  - Simple support for vertical and horizontal sliders as a direct-manipulation alternative to input boxes
  - Simple API to script on Change behavior
  - Support for smooth or graduated slider action
  - Built-in support for click-to animation of slider
  - Builds on top of:
    - Drag and Drop Utility
    - Position Utility
    - Animation Utility (optional)





- Simple date selection widget that can be implemented with only a few lines of code
- Fully client-side calendar navigation
- Built-in multi-select or single-select capability, in single or two-up views
- Support for advanced implementations such as:
  - localization
  - blacked-out date sets
  - custom holiday formatting



```
<script>
  var myCal;
  function init() {
    myCal = new ygCalendar("myCal","myCalContainer");
    myCal.render();
  }
</script>
<div id="myCalContainer"></div>
```





こんにちは、ゲストさん

ログイン

# Yahoo!トラベル 海外航空券予約





三井住友銀行の 外貨両替

<u>トップ > 海外航空券予約 > アメリカ、カナダ > アメリカ合衆国 > ヒューストン</u>

[PR] 癒しのニュージーランド旅行で豪華賞品&ボーナスマイルをゲット!

出発日別最安料金検索 出発日(当月を含む6か月以内)を選択すると、選択された出発日の前後8日間の最安料金を検索できます。

2005年 🛟

10月 🛟

26日 🛟

検索

#### このリストから条件を指定して絞り込む

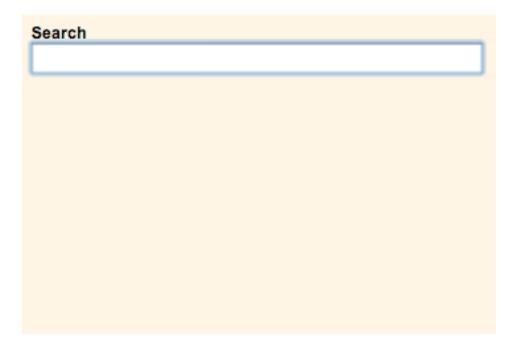
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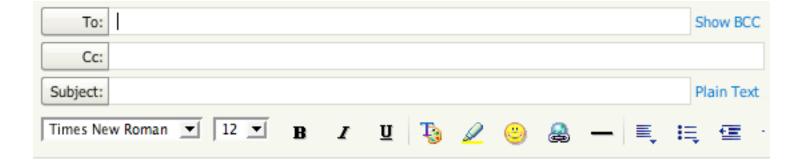
### Yahoo! UI: Auto Complete

- Provides "as-you-type" list of matching items
- List navigable via the mouse or keyboard
- Configurable dropdown styles and animation
- Data subset cache
- Configurable delay prior to lookup
- "Starts with" or "Contains" matching patterns
- Limit-to-list feature (combo box vs. select box)
- Common and custom data formats supported:
  - Delimited text
  - JavaScript Array literals

# Yahoo! UI: Auto Complete



# Yahoo! UI: Auto Complete



- Flexible support for hierarchical information views:
  - Table of contents
  - Threaded discussion
  - Hierarchical Menus
- API gives you easy scripting access to interesting moments:
  - When nodes are clicked
  - When nodes expand
  - When nodes contract
- Support for dynamic loading of node contents
- Styling driven entirely by CSS

# Yahoo! UI: Tree View

### Expand all Collapse all

- in label-0
- ∃ label-1
- ⊞ label-2
- ⊞ label-3



# Road Map. More Utilities, More Widgets, More CSS Help

Utilities	Widgets	CSS/HTML	R&D
Event Utility Event Manager Selection Utility/ Manager Connection Manager Prototol Stack Drag & Drop Animation Position	Tree Control Slider Calendar AutoComplete Data Table Tabs Progress Bar Splitter Combo Box	LSM Fonts Modules Page Templates	Chart Map Ratings & Review
I OSILIOII	Dialog Menu Scope Button		