

Another way to AJAX



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Author

Message

01/09/2011 01:04:38 AM

Subject: Another way to AJAX



Nicklaus Pink



Messages: 15
Location: Sunnyvale, CA

Elaine,

I went to <http://code.google.com/apis/maps/documentation/javascript/v2/reference.html#GDownloadUrl>

and it appears that the GdownloadUrl function has been deprecated and not included in the v3 api. I would like to use a similar jQuery function to make the same XMLHttpRequest. Benefit is you don't need an API key or Google to make it happen. The code looks like this:

```
$.get(URL, function(data){  
    // request SUCCESS handler goes here  
});
```

More about it here <http://api.jquery.com/jquery.get/>

-Nick Pink
www.nickpink.com



01/09/2011 02:36:41 PM

Subject: Re: Another way to AJAX



Elaine Haight



Messages: 52
Location: Palo Alto, CA

That's fine if you want to do it that way. I didn't realize that GDownloadUrl() was deprecated, it must have happened recently. But we can still use GDownloadUrl() even though it is deprecated.



01/09/2011 07:00:18 PM

Subject: Re: Another way to AJAX



Nicklaus Pink



Messages: 15
Location: Sunnyvale, CA

Maybe Google replaced it with a differently named but similar function in V3. I did try GDownloadUrl() and it still works fine. If someone is in the mood to wade through the V3 documentation I'd be interested to know what they replaced it with.

-Nick Pink
www.nickpink.com



01/09/2011 07:33:05 PM

Subject: Re: Another way to AJAX



Deepak Mansharamani

Messages: 8

Hi Nick and Elaine,

I have a question for both of you.

In the class file called dumpTextWGDownloadURL.js

you are using the allLoaded function without any arguments when the function call has an argument called content. How is this working when the function definition and its call do not match?

```
function allLoaded(content)
{ toConsole(content);
}
```

Nick, I have never used jQuery and I am getting interested based on your posts.

I have made the following change to Elaine's js file. Am I doing it right?

```
//window.onload=function()
//{ GDownloadUrl("data", allLoaded);
//}
$(document).ready(function(){
$.get("data", allLoaded{
// request SUCCESS handler goes here
})
```

I have added `<script src="http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.3/jquery.min.js" type="text/javascript"></script>` in the html file

Thanks,

-Deepak



01/09/2011 08:52:38 PM

Subject: Re: Another way to AJAX



Elaine Haight



Messages: 52

Location: Palo Alto, CA

Deepak,

Regarding your question about the function "allLoaded()":

When the server gets the content that we asked for in GDownloadUrl(), the server calls allLoaded(). You will not find a call to allLoaded() in my code, since it is the server that calls this function after it has gotten the content we asked for. allLoaded() is called a "callback" function, since the server calls us back this way after it has loaded the content. The content parameter is the way that the server sends the data it has loaded back to us.



01/09/2011 09:17:33 PM

Subject: Re: Another way to AJAX



Deepak Mansharamani

Messages: 8

Hi Elaine,

I went to the Google maps URL provided in your class notes and got a new API key. It was asking for a website name and I specified `http://localhost`. I am running this on my local computer. Not sure if that is correct!

I replaced the API key in your example with the new API key and other changes to point to the local js file but nothing seems to be working. It does nothing and just hangs.

Also, in your example you have the following code:

```
window.onload=function()  
{ GDownloadUrl("data", allLoaded);  
}
```

The allLoaded is without the paranthesis even though it is a function. Is that correct?

Can you please help with this setup?

Thanks!

-Deepak



01/10/2011 12:22:07 PM

Subject: Re:Another way to AJAX



Elaine Haight



Messages: 52
Location: Palo Alto, CA

1) I have never heard of getting the Google API key for localhost. I just googled "Google Maps API Key localhost" and found the following discussion forum:

http://groups.google.com/group/Google-Maps-API/browse_thread/thread/439c068cce33ce16?pli=1

2) When you call GDownloadUrl(), the second parameter must be the callback function's name, NOT a call to your callback function. In JavaScript, functions are objects, so you are sending the function object as the second parameter. In this way, you are not calling your function allLoaded, but instead you are passing the function to Google so that Google can call your function when the content is finished being loaded.



01/10/2011 01:34:15 PM

Subject: Re:Another way to AJAX



Nicklaus Pink



Last edited: 01/10/2011
08:51:56 PM
Messages: 15
Location: Sunnyvale, CA

Deepak,

If you want to use the GDownloadUrl function and are developing using a locally installed web server (as I am), I think you would need to get the assigned IP address for your computer and then get a key from google for that address. There are two problems with this that I can think of:

- 1) I don't think most ISP's give you a static IP address so you might have to request a new key when your IP is refreshed
- 2) When you publish your site on another server(i.e. turn in the assignment) you would also be changing the key.

=====

If you choose to use jQuery, it should look like this:

```
$(document).ready(function() {
```

The function is anonymous so the first line could be translated
"When the document is ready, do this function which I will now define.

Nested inside the document.ready is a call to the .get function.

This is passed an anonymous callback function i.e. **function(data){}**.

Again, *"Make a request at thisURL and if it succeeds call this function which I will now define and*

pass it the requested data."

Then inside THAT function is whatever you want to happen after a successful request.

=====

```
$(document).ready(function() {  
  
    getMyPageReadyAndStuff();  
  
    $.get(thisURL, function(data) {  
        processMyData(data); // here I am calling my own function that processes the  
returned data  
    }); // END of AJAX code  
  
}); // END of document.ready code
```


=====

If you are still scratching your head here is the documentation <http://api.jquery.com/jQuery.get/> .

I found the anonymous function concept to be bit confusing at first but very flexible to work with once you understand the syntax.

-Nick Pink
www.nickpink.com

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 01/10/2011 02:08:59 PM

Subject: Re:Another way to AJAX

 [quote](#)  [edit](#) 

Martha Raup




Thanks, Nick. This is way over my head, but I like the way you translated some of the code into "English". And, I like your website!

Messages: 27
Location: San Francisco

Martha

 [profile](#)  [pm](#)  [email](#)  [www](#)  [YIM](#)

 01/10/2011 08:20:34 PM

Subject: Re:Another way to AJAX

 [quote](#) 

Deepak Mansharamani

Messages: 8

Hi Nick,

This is very good. Thanks a bunch. I spent way too much time to get the GDownloadURL to work but could not get it to work due to a number of issues. I don't like the key requirement in that method which needs to be changed for different servers. The ctislab.fhda.edu key doesn't work because our class is not setup on that webserver.

After reading your last post I got the jQuery method to work like a charm. Now I can proceed with the real Assignment.

I am sure other students will benefit from this thread.

Just one thing - there was a small typo in the code which threw me off a little.

The second) in processMyData(data)); should be removed. It should be processMyData(data); This is for other students, so they can save some debug time.

Thanks again,

-Deepak



01/10/2011 08:35:18 PM

Subject: Re: Another way to AJAX



Michael McCullough

Why bother? What's wrong the functions in DumpTextManually.js?

Messages: 5

Best Regards,

Mike



01/12/2011 04:30:26 PM

Subject: Re: Another way to AJAX



Elaine Haight



Good question. The functions in DumpTextManually.js were written by me, and I am not in the business of maintaining and updating this small library of functions. As browsers change this code will break, and I will not update those functions (sorry!)

So much changes in this business that it is best to rely on professionals who are in the business of developing and maintaining a library of functions for a specific use (like downloading a file.) That way you can focus on your own application, the business model that it implements and the user experience for it.

Messages: 52
Location: Palo Alto, CA

We are using DumpTextManually.js just at the beginning of this course so that you can see how it is done "from scratch." In practice everyone uses one tool or another. JQuery and Google Maps API are two examples of such tools.



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