

If You're Reading .then() It's Too Late

Luke Westby

Handling effects in JavaScript

Effect:

Any interaction with the
outside world

```
const request = (url) => {  
  return fetch(url).then((r) => r.json());  
};
```

```
const getUser = (id) => {  
  return db("users").where({ id }).first()  
    .then((user) => user.id);  
};
```

```
const currentOffset = (el) => {  
  return window.scrollY - el.scrollTop;  
};
```



async



sign up or log in



8794 results for 'async'

async megawac

Higher-order functions and common patterns for asynchronous code

★ 846 v2.0.0-rc.5

📁 async, callback, module, utility

async-easy adorkable

async

★ 0 v0.0.2

📁 async

async-deferred edwonlim

Async Deferred

★ 0 v0.0.1

📁 async, deferred

[Brightcove, Inc.](#), [microapps](#), [ININ](#)
and lots of other companies are
hiring javascript developers. [View all 27...](#)



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Sort: Best match

kriasoft/react-starter-kit

JavaScript ★ 8,471

React Starter Kit — isomorphic web app boilerplate (Node.js, Express, GraphQL, **React**.js, Babel 6, PostCSS, Webpack, Browsersync)

Updated 2 days ago



webpack/react-starter

JavaScript ★ 2,113

[OUTDATED] **Starter** template for **React** with webpack. Doesn't focus on simplicity! NOT FOR BEGINNERS!

Updated on Jan 1

StephenGrider/ReactStarter

JavaScript ★ 148

Updated on Jan 28

Languages

JavaScript	2,161
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left pad



sign up or log in



83 results for 'left pad'

left-pad stevemao

String left pad

★ 4 v1.1.0

🔗 leftpad, left, pad, padding, string, repeat

cf-left-pad otomato

String left pad

★ 0 v0.0.16

🔗 leftpad, left, pad, padding, string, codefresh

left-pad-ception dimitriwalters

What's more modular than left-pad? A module to use left-pad of course!

★ 0 v0.0.3

🔗 left, pad, ception

[microapps](#), [Edyn](#), [Directlyrics](#) and lots of other companies are hiring javascript developers. View all 27...

Some things really should be the responsibility
of the language

Callbacks

```
doSomeWork((error, firstResult) => {
  if (error) return respond(error, 500);
  else {
    processFirstResult(firstResult, (secondError, secondResult) => {
      if (secondError) return respond(secondError, 500);
      else {
        doSomeWork((error, result) => {
          if (secondResult.prop) {
            doFirstBranchWork(secondResult, (firstBranchError, firstBranchResult) => {
              if (firstBranchError) respond(firstBranchError, 500);
              else respond(firstBranchResult, 200);
            });
          } else {
            doSecondBranchWork(secondResult, (secondBranchError, secondBranchResult) => {
              if (secondBranchError) respond(secondBranchError, 500);
              else respond(secondBranchError);
            });
          }
        });
      }
    });
  }
});
```

Promises

```
doSomeWork()  
  .then((result) => processFirstResult(result))  
  .then((result) => {  
    return result.prop ?  
      doFirstBranchWork(result) :  
      doSecondBranchWork(result);  
  })  
  .then((result) => respond(result, 200))  
  .catch((error) => respond(error, 500));
```





```
const myPromise = new Promise((resolve, reject) => {  
  doSomeWorkCallbackStyle((error, result) => {  
    if (error) reject(error);  
    else resolve(result);  
  });  
});
```



executor

```
new Promise( /* executor */ function(resolve, reject) { ... } );
```

Parameters

executor

A function that will be passed to other functions via the arguments `resolve` and `reject`. The executor function is executed immediately by the Promise implementation which provides the `resolve` and `reject` functions (the executor is called before the Promise constructor even returns the created object). The `resolve` and `reject` functions are bound to the promise and calling them fulfills or rejects the promise, respectively. The executor is expected to initiate some asynchronous work and then, once that completes, call either the `resolve` or `reject` function to resolve the promise's final value or else reject it if an error occurred.

If we're doing async work, effects are (almost)
always involved

Promises represent the *creation* of async work

If a Promise is present, it we can pretty safely
assume the presence of a side-effect

side-effects

This is super easy to test:

```
(user) => user.id
```

This is less easy to test:

```
db("users").first()  
  .then((user) => user.id)
```





“Effects as data”

Richard Feldman

NoRedInk

@ReactiveConf Nov 2-4,
Bratislava, Slovakia



Reactive2015

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EdXaWfoslc>

```
const getUser = (id) => {  
  return db("users").where({ id }).first();  
};
```

VS.

```
const getUser = (id) => ({  
  action: "db",  
  table: "users",  
  operations: [ ["where", { id }], ["first"] ]  
});
```

Somewhere else...

```
const dbRunner = ({ table, operations }) => {  
  const query = db(table);  
  return operations.reduce(/* ... */, query);  
};
```

Declare effects in application code

Pause execution of the application code to
execute the effect

Resume application code when the effect
has produced a result

React

```
type ReactDOMElement = {  
  type: string,  
  props: {  
    children: ReactNodeList,  
    className: string,  
    ...  
  },  
  key: string | boolean | number | null,  
  ref: string | null  
};
```

Cycle.js

<http://jsbin.com/numuladaqe/1/edit?js,output>

In particular, lines 10-13

```
const actionHandlers = {
  [Actions.begin](request) {
    return Actions.dbCall({
      table: "users",
      operations: [
        ["where", { id: request.params.id }],
        ["first"],
      ]
    });
  },
  [Actions.dbCallSuccess](request, user) {
    return Actions.respond(user.id, 200);
  },
  [Actions.dbCallFailure](request, error) {
    return Actions.respond(error, 500);
  }
};
```

```
server.route({
  method: "GET",
  path: "/users/{id}",
  handler(request, reply) {
    runActions(runners, actionHandlers, request)
      .then((result) => {
        reply(result.data).statusCode(result.status);
      })
      .catch((error) => {
        reply(error.message).statusCode(error.status);
      });
  }
});
```

```
const actionHandlers = {
  [0]({request, begin}) (request) {
    return AbCall({ dbCall({
      table: "users",
      operations: [
        ["where", { id: request.params.id }],
        ["first"],
      ]
    })
  });
},
  [1]({request, dbCall, success}) (request, user) {
    return Respond(user.id, 200);
  },
  [error]({request, dbCall, failure}) (request, error) {
    return Respond(error, 500);
  }
};
```

```
server.route({
  method: "GET",
  path: "/users/{id}",
  handler(request, reply) {
    runActions(runners, handler(request))
      .then((result) => {
        reply(result.data).statusCode(result.status);
      })
      .catch((error) => {
        reply(error.message).statusCode(error.status);
      });
  }
});
```

Generators

```
const handler = function* (request) {
  try {
    const user = yield {
      type: "db",
      table: "users",
      operations: [/* ... */]
    };

    return respond(user.id, 200);
  } catch (error) {
    respond(error.message, 500);
  }
};
```

```
const iterator = handler({ params: { id: 1 } });

let next = iterator.next();
assertDeepEqual(next.value, { type: "db", /* ... */ });

next = iterator.next({ id: 1, name: "Luke", /* ... */ });
assertDeepEqual(next.value, respond(1, 200));

// or

next = iterator.throw(Error("NOPE!"));
assertDeepEqual(next.value, respond("Luke", 500));
```





Two problems:

1. Nested calls are uncomfortable
2. Parallelization isn't a given

```
const handler = function* (request) {
  try {
    const user = yield {
      type: "db",
      table: "users",
      operations: [/* ... */]
    };

    return respond(user.id, 200);
  } catch (error) {
    respond(error.message, 500);
  }
};
```

```
const handler = function* (request) {
  try {
    const userId = ?? getUserId(request); ??
  } catch (error) {
    respond(error.message, 500);
  }
};
```

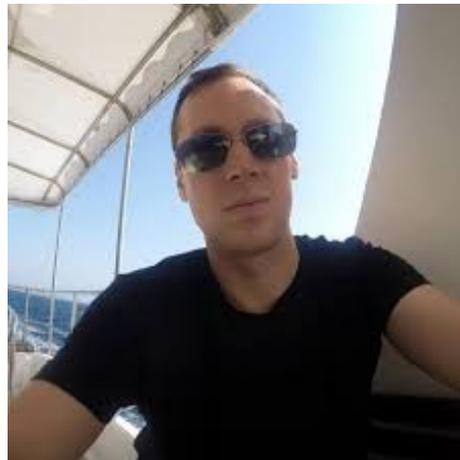
```
const handler = function* (request) {  
  try {  
    const userId = yield spawn(getUserId, request);  
  } catch (error) {  
    respond(error.message, 500);  
  }  
};
```

Only one level of continuation is possible with Generators

What if we could yield deeply?

One-shot delimited continuations with effect handlers

Sebastian Markbåge



<https://esdiscuss.org/topic/one-shot-delimited-continuations-with-effect-handlers>

```
const funcWithEffect = (request) => {  
  const user = perform { type: "db", /* ... */ };  
  return user.id;  
}  
  
try {  
  const result = funcWithEffect(request);  
} catch effect -> [{ type, ...details }, continuation] {  
  runners[type](details)  
    .then((result) => continuation(result))  
    .catch((error) => { throw error; });  
}
```

If this can be implemented efficiently,
it should be implemented

Again, some things really should be the
responsibility of the language



@luke_dot_js



@lukewestby



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Raise

Questions?

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