AN OVERVIEW OF FRONT END COMPONENT INTEGRATION METHODS: DECOUPLED EDITION

Brian Perry

Decoupled Days – July 23, 2020

http://bit.ly/component-int-dd



BRIAN PERRY

- Lead Front End Dev at Bounteous
- Rocking the Chicago 'burbs'
- Lover of all things components......and Nintendo



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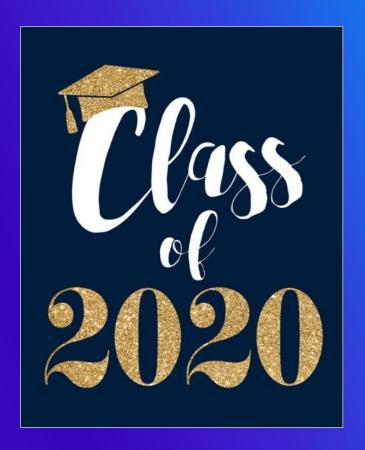






YIKES!

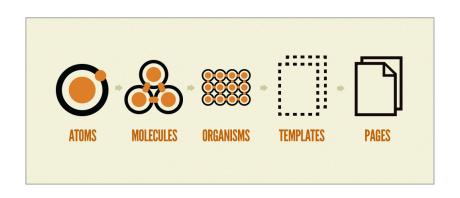
2020, huh?



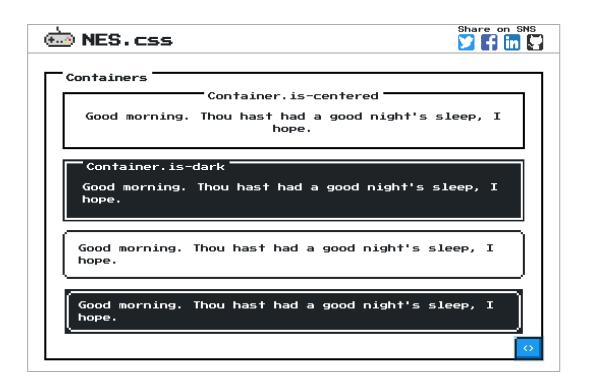
COMPONENTS!

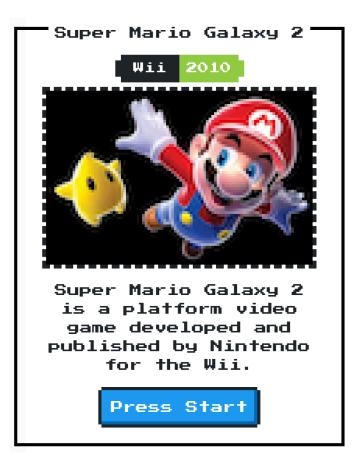
COMPONENT BASED DEVELOPMENT

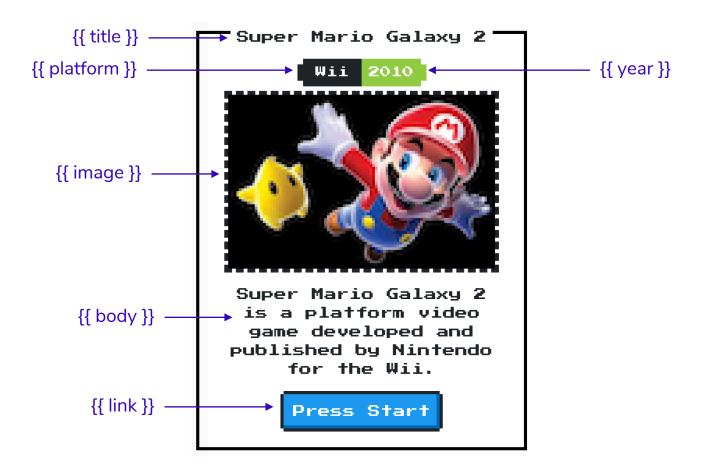
- Creating modular and re-usable elements
- Building a design system, not a series of pages
- Can use a pattern library for documentation and prototyping
 - Tools like Pattern Lab and Storybook
- Can help decouple front and back end development.



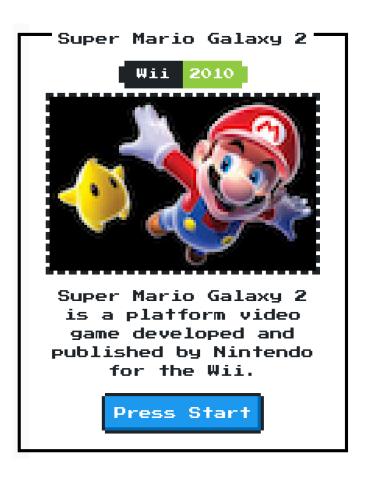
OUR EXAMPLE WEB COMPONENT





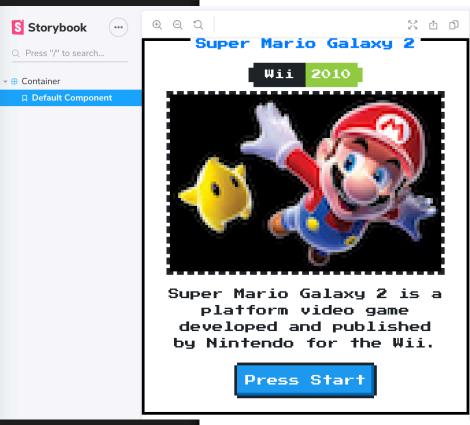


```
▼ Container.vue vue-nes/src/components/container/Container.vue/ { } "Container.vue"/ Script/  props
    <div class="nes-container with-title is-centered">
      <h2 v-if="title" class="title"><a :href="link">{{ title }}</a></h2>
      <div v-if="platform || year" class="nes-badge is-splited">
        <span class="is-dark">{{ platform }}</span>
        <span class="is-success">{{ year }}</span>
      <img v-if="image" :src="image" />
      {{ body }}
      <a v-if="link" class="nes-btn is-primary" :href="link">Press Start</a>
  </template>
  <script>
  export default {
    props: [
      'title',
      'link',
      'platform',
      'image',
      'body'
  </script>
  <style src='nes.css/css/nes.min.css'></style>
  <style>
   @import url('https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Press+Start+2P');
  </style>
```

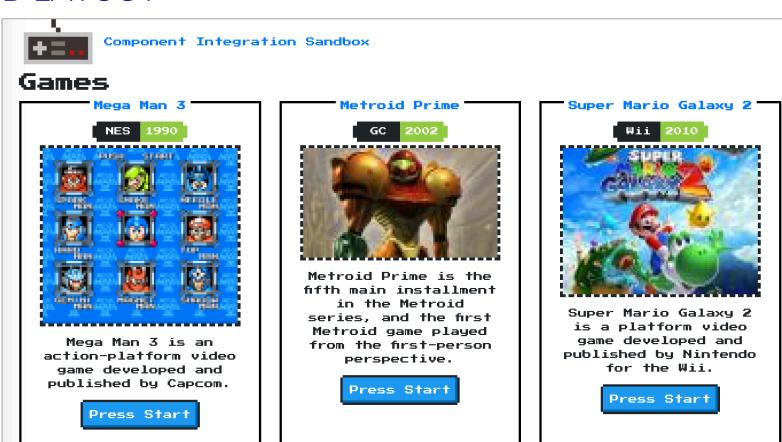


JS Container.stories.js vue-nes/src/components/container/Container.s 🐧 \newline ---

```
You, 13 minutes ago | 1 author (You)
import Container from './Container.vue';
import data from './Container.json';
import imageFile from '../../assets/mario.jpg';
export default { title: 'Container' };
export const defaultComponent = () => ({
 components: { Container },
 template:
    `<Container
      title="${data.title}"
      platform="${data.platform}"
     year="${data.year}"
      image="${imageFile}" You, 13 minutes
      body="${data.body}"
      link="${data.link}"
```

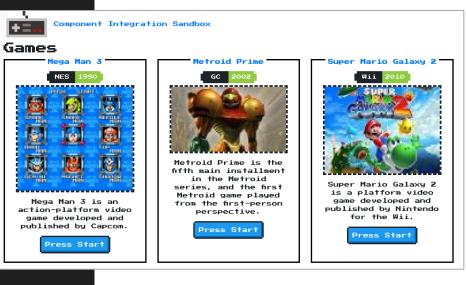


GRID LAYOUT



```
▼ Grid.vue vue-nes/src/components/grid/Grid.vue/
Style/
Style/
Signid

S
              You, a minute ago | 1 author (You)
              <template>
                         <div class="grid">
                                     <slot></slot>
                         </div>
              </template>
              <style scoped>
                          .grid {
                                    display: grid;
                                    grid-column-gap: 2rem;
                                    grid-row-gap: 2rem;
                         @media screen and (min-width: 768px) {
                                       .grid {
                                                 grid-template-columns: repeat(2, 1fr);
                         @media screen and (min-width: 1024px) {
                                      .grid {
                                                  grid-template-columns: repeat(3, 1fr);
              </style>
```



(TWIG) COMPONENTS IN DRUPAL

TRADITIONAL CMS COMPONENTS

3 main integration related questions:

- •
- Where do my components live?

0

How am I providing data to my components?



How is Drupal made aware of my components?

TRADITIONAL CMS COMPONENTS

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- 0
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0

How is Drupal made aware of my components?

WHERE DO MY COMPONENTS LIVE?

Traditional CMS

Standard Drupal Components

- Live in the default template directory
- May not require any additional effort to get data to display

Integrated Drupal Components

- Live somewhere other than the default templates directory
- Require some additional effort to get data to display

WHERE ARE MY COMPONENTS RENDERED?

The Decoupled Analog

Progressive Decoupling

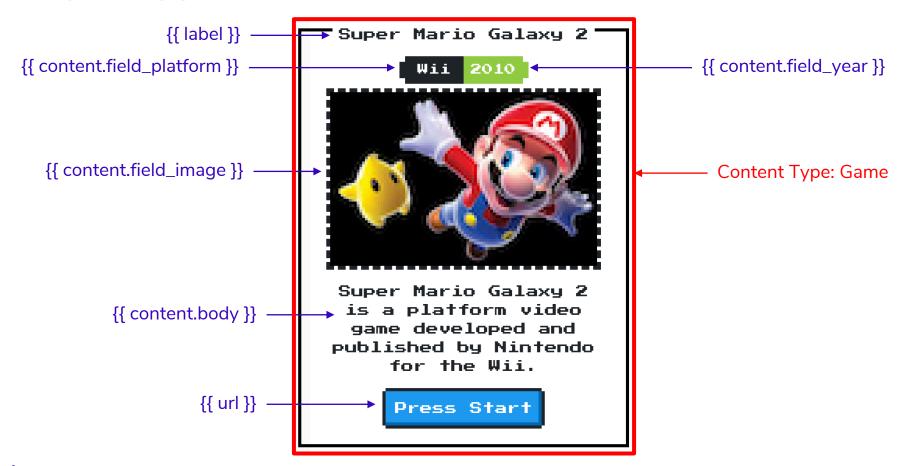
- Drupal handles the initial page request and yields some portion of the page.
- Drupal has some level of visibility into your components.

Full Decoupling

- Drupal only provides data.
- Drupal may know nothing about how the consumer will render.

PROGRESSIVE DECOUPLING

DRUPAL CONTENT



Container Block Wrapper Component

- An extremely contrived example.
- Could just use Drupal to render this...

```
▼ ContainerBlock.vue ×
vue-nes > src > components > container > ♥ ContainerBlock.vue > {} "ContainerBlock.vue" > ♀ script > ♡ mounted
       You, a few seconds ago | 1 author (You)
  3
           :title=title :platform=platform :year=year :body=body :image=image link="#"
       <script>
       import Container from './Container';
       export default {
         data () {
           return {
             title: null, platform: null, year: null, image: null, body: null
         props: {
           uuid: String
         mounted () {
           fetch('http://decoupled-component-sandbox.lndo.site/jsonapi/node/game/${this.uuid}?include=field_image`)
             .then(response => response.json())
             .then(data => {
               this.title = data.data.attributes.title
               this.platform = data.data.attributes.field_platform
               this.year = data.data.attributes.field_year.toString()
               this.body = data.data.attributes.body.processed
               this.image = `http://decoupled-component-sandbox.lndo.site${data.included[0].attributes.uri.url}`
         components: {
           Container
       </script>
```

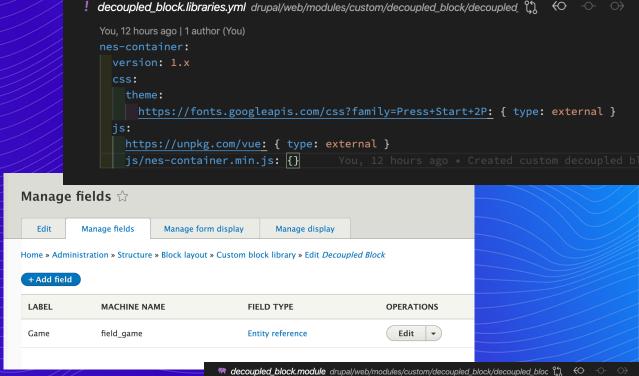
RENDERING IN A DRUPAL BLOCK

Roll your own approach

- More work than you'd expect!
- Unfriendly to a JS Developer

So... Much... Drupal...

- Create a custom block type
- And a library to load our assets
- Create a theme hook



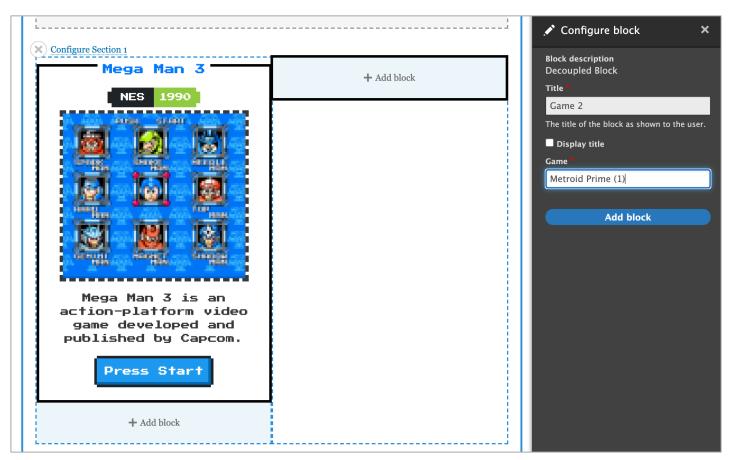


So... Much... Drupal...

- Preprocess the block
- Define the template
- Take a PHP nap?

```
## decoupled_block.module drupal/web/modules/custom/decoupled_block/decoupled_bloc \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) \(
```

BUT HEY, IT WORKS



Progressively Decoupled Blocks

- **Convention for** exposing JS powered blocks to Drupal
- Components defined in info.yml file
- Simplifies framework integration

Decoupled Blocks

View

Version control View history Automated testing

By mrimd on 7 February 2016, updated 27 October 2016



This project is not covered by Drupal's security advisory policy.

This module is a javascript-framework-agnostic, progressive decoupling tool to allow custom blocks to be written by front end developers in the javascript framework of their choice, without needing to know any Drupal API's.

It keeps individual components encapsulated in their own directories containing all the css. is. and template assets necessary for them to work, and using an info.yml file to declare these components and their framework dependencies to Drupal.

It works! As of right now the Angular 2 implementation is by far the most built out, because that's where a lot of my time is being spent at my actual job. There is also a really basic React implementation, and a "hello world" example component is provided.

This is Alpha software so it is still mainly intended for the adventurous developer at this point. but you can download this module, turn on the Angular 2 or React sub-modules and place a framework-driven block on a page.

I need help! Right now the biggest needs I have are for people who:

- Know Drupal 8 really well and want to improve my D8 architecture.
- Know a javascript framework really well and want to help get it set up for use with this module. As I said above, the Angular 2 build is my main focus but I'd love to find people who'd like to help in building out the React / Ember / whatever else versions as well.

If you are interested in getting involved, let me know!

Join our weekly meetings every Monday at 4pm Eastern time here: https://hangouts.google.com/hangouts//yourdrupaldev.com/pdb

Also a shout out to Jason Smith, who dreamt up and architected the original version.

See also:

https://github.com/mrjmd/pdb (Github repo) https://github.com/mark-casias/decoupled-blocks-drupal-vm (Drupal VM for project guickstart)



Maintainers for Decoupled Blocks

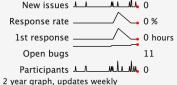
mrimd - 138 commits last: 3 years ago, first: 4 years ago

View all committers View commits

Issues for Decoupled Blocks

To avoid duplicates, please search before submitting a new issue.





Documentation

No documentation guides

Component

- **Inspired by PDB**
- **Components defined** by a component.yml file
- **Creates necessary** libraries
- Can define block configuration form

Component

Version control View history Automated testing

By rinorthcutt on 6 May 2007, updated 14 July 2020



Adding IS components to your Drupal site just got a whole lot easier. Just combine your JS components (any type) with a `*.component.yml` and put it in your module or theme. Now, your component will be available in Drupal as a block - automatically!

You can also add a configuration form to your component so site builders can modify the component. This component "looks" like any other block, so it can be used just like a core block.

JS devs don't need to know PHP or Drupal in order to integrate their components into the CMS.

They just need to setup the `component.yml` file properly. The `component.yml` file provides the JS developer with a ton of basic configuration options. By modifying this file, you can provide static or dynamic parameters, include additional libraries, and even adjust the cache configuration. See the code comments on example tabs.component.yml` for details.

name: Widaet machine_name: widaet type: block js: widget.js: {} css: widget.css: {}









last: 10 years ago, first: 13 years ago View all committers

View commits

Issues for Component

To avoid duplicates, please search before submitting a new issue.

Advanced search All issues 1 open, 19 total Bug report 1 open, 6 total

Statistics New issues

Open bugs Participants . 2 year graph, updates weekly

Documentation

No documentation guides

USING COMPONENT MODULE

```
nes_container.component.yml drupal/web/modules/custom/container_component/components/nes-container/nes_container.component.yml
 name: NES Container
 description: 'Example component showing the form config options available'
 enable field: true
   https://unpkg.com/vue: { type: external }
   nes-container.min.js: {}
 cache:
   max-age: 60
 form_configuration:
                                                                                               custom
   title:

∨ container_component

     type: textfield
                                                                                                  components / nes-container
     title: 'Title'
     default_value: 'Super Mario Galaxy 2'
                                                                                                   index.htm
   platform:
                                                                                                    nes_container.component.yml
     type: textfield
     title: 'Platform'
                                                                                                   Js nes-container.min.js
     default_value: 'Wii'
                                                                                                    container_component.info.yml
   year:
     type: textfield
     title: 'Year'
     default value: '2010'
   body:
     type: textfield
     title: 'Body '
     default_value: 'Super Mario Galaxy 2 is a platform video game developed and published by Nintendo fo
```

USING COMPONENT MODULE

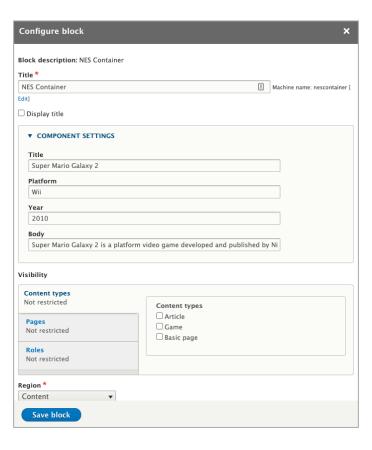
```
▼ ContainerBlock.vue vue-nes/src/components/container/ContainerBlock.vue/ { } "ContainerBlock.vue/ { } "ContainerBloc
```

```
<script>
                                                                                                           import Container from './Container';
                                                                                                                    JavaScript Profiler
Performance
              CSS Overview
                                                                                              Security
                                                                                                        Lighthouse
                             Elements
                                        Console
                                                  Sources
                                                             Network
                                                                       Memory
                                                                                 Application
        ▼<div class="content">
          ▼<div id="nes_container-8897b8ad-9064-4158-b385-afd9581bebf1" class="nes_container" data-title="Super Mario Galaxy 2"
          data-platform="Wii" data-year="2010" data-body="Super Mario Galaxy 2 is a platform video game developed and published by
          Nintendo for the Wii."> == $0
            ▼<nes-container>
                                                                                                                                   ıι,
             ▼#shadow-root (open)
               ▶ <style type="text/css">...</style>
                <style type="text/css">@import url(https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Press+Start+2P);</style>
                 <style type="text/css"></style>
               ▶ <style type="text/css">...</style>
               ▶ <div data-v-f204f3c2 class="nes-container with-title is-centered">...</div>
             </nes-container>
           </div>
          </div>
                                                                                                                uuid: String
                                                                                                             },
                                                                                                             mounted () {
```

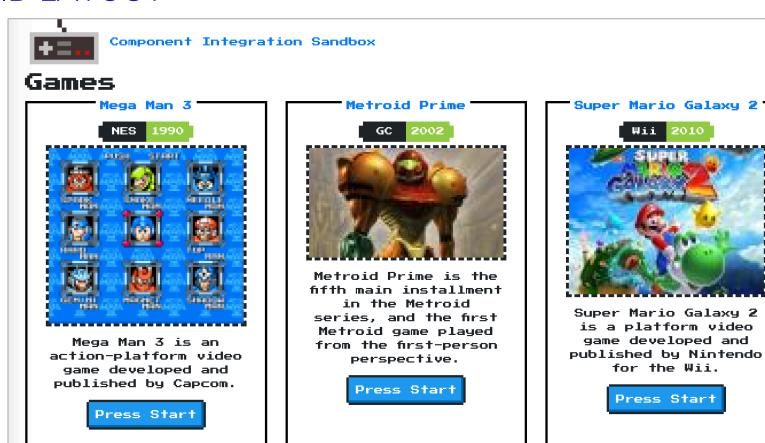
```
uuid: String
},
mounted () {

const drupalProvider = document.querySelector(".nes_contained
const config = drupalProvider.dataset;
this.title = config.title;
this.platform = config.platform; You, 11 minutes ago * 0
this.year = config.year;
this.body = config.body;
},
components: {
    Container
}
```

USING COMPONENT MODULE



GRID LAYOUT



Decoupled Pages

- **Easily define a route** that can be taken over by your JS app's routing
- I've written custom code for this repeatedly

Decoupled Pages



Version control View history

Automated testing

By gabesullice on 15 January 2020, updated 8 April 2020

The Decoupled Pages module provides a quick and simple way to define new Drupal routes which can be overtaken by a single page application, often written in Javascript using React, Vue.js, or Ember (to name a few common frameworks).



This module doesn't have a stable release yet. You can help change that by sharing your experience with the module in Slack or in the issue gueue.

How to create a decoupled page

1. Defining a route

To define a new decoupled page, you define a new route in your module's routing file. The basic structure of your route definition remains unchanged. You can add route requirements, route defaults and route options pretty much as normal. The only caveat is that **you must not define a** _controller or _form route requirement.

Instead, you'll define a _decoupled_page_main route requirement. The value of this key is the name of an asset library containing your single page application and its dependencies. It should take the form your_module/name. You can define this asset library in a your_module.libraries.yml file, but any module can provide an asset library.

Here is an example of a decoupled page route definition:

```
vour module name.foo:
 path: /some/path/of/your-choosing
 defaults:
   _decoupled_page_main: decoupled_pages/route_test
 requirements:
    _access: 'TRUE'
```

Once your route definition has been created, a new route will be available after you've rebuilt Drupal's cache (make sure to enable your module too 😉).



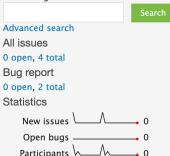
Maintainers for Decoupled **Pages**

gabesullice - 12 commits last: 2 months ago, first: 6 months ago

View all committers View commits

Issues for Decoupled Pages

To avoid duplicates, please search before submitting a new issue.



Documentation

2 year graph, updates weekly

No documentation guides

FULL DECOUPLING

TRADITIONAL CMS COMPONENTS

3 main integration related questions:

Where do my components live?

0

How am I providing data to my components?

0

How is Drupal made aware of my components?

INTEGRATION APPROACHES

Traditional CMS Components

Mapping Data In Code

- Includes:
 - Mapping in Twig templates
 - Preprocessing

Mapping Data In Admin UI

- Includes:
 - UI Patterns
 - Layouts

INTEGRATION APPROACHES

Traditional CMS Components

Mapping Data In Code

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 - Mapping in Twig templates
 - Preprocessing

Mapping Tata In Admin UI

- Includes:
 - **UI** Patterns
 - Layouts

INTEGRATION APPROACHES

The Decoupled Analog

JSON:API

- In core!
- Growing contrib ecosystem
- Multiple endpoints

{json:api}

GraphQL

- Popular in React ecosystem
- ... but also expanding outside of React.
- Combine data from multiple sources
- Schema customization



NO HORSE IN THIS RACE

- If your team is inclined to use GraphQL, you probably already know
- Our teams tend to use JSON:API
 - Shape of API something majority of devs are familiar with
 - Did I mention it was in Core?
 - GraphQL adoption limited / not consistent across practices.

JSON:API ECOSYSTEM

Continues to grow

- JSON:API Extras
 - Enable/disable resources, configure field enhancers, etc.
- JSON:API Include
 - Simplify access to relationship data
- JSON:API Search API
- JSON:API Explorer
- JSON:API Cross Bundles

Something I've struggled with:

What is the right way to customize and extend JSON:API responses?

(Hopin chat – feel free to school me on this one ⊕)

SMALLER SCALE CUSTOMIZATIONS

Supported patterns:

- Create a computed field
- Write a normalizer at the data type level
- Create a field enhancer plugin using JSON:API extras

(From: https://www.lullabot.com/articles/jsonapi-2)

WHAT ABOUT A COMPLETELY CUSTOM ENDPOINT?

My use case: proxying a non-Drupal service

In early days we rolled our own with json-api-php

- Solid implementation of spec
- Worry about long term maintenance challenges

Now we have some more Drupal-y options:

- JSON:API Resources
 - Seems like the most 'official' way
- API Proxy
 - Tailored to this proxy service use case

TRADITIONAL CMS COMPONENTS

3 main integration related questions:

- 0
- Where do my components live?

How am I providing data to my components?

0

How is Drupal made aware of my components?

43

COMPONENT DEFINITION APPROACHES

Traditional CMS Components

Manual Definition

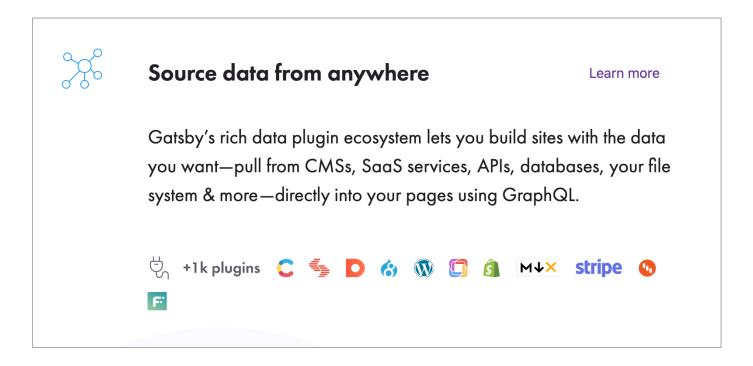
- Define component in code so that Drupal becomes aware of it.
- Likely requires some amount of duplication between Drupal and component library

Automatic Discovery

- Drupal module automatically discovers components from component library and makes them available to Drupal.
- Emerging/experimental concept.

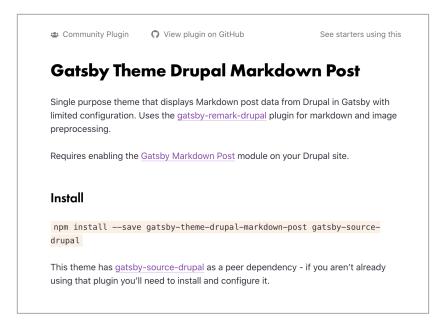
AUTOMATIC DISCOVERY

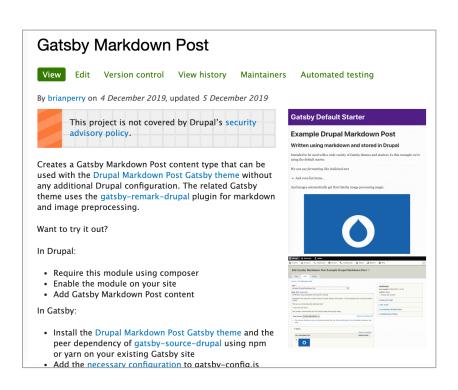
Decoupled Analog - Closest thing is probably the promise of Gatsby



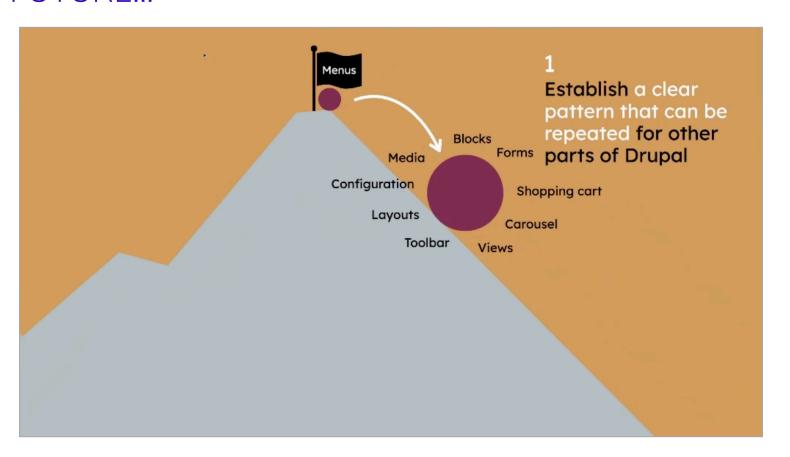
GATSBY THEME CONCEPTS

Experiment – single purpose Gatsby theme and companion Drupal module

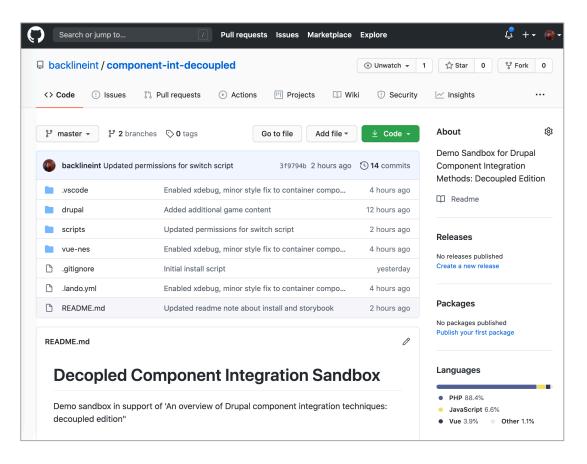




THE FUTURE...



I DIDN'T FINISH MY HOMEWORK



Q&A

Brian PerryLead Front End Developer

Email: brian.perry@bounteous.com