

APEX Interactive Grids: Standardize for Sanity

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TH TECHNOLOGY

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About Me ...

- TH TECHNOLOGY Oracle Consulting Services, APEX Focus
- Mechanical/SW Engineer Analyzed, designed, developed, converted, upgraded, enhanced legacy & Oracle database applications for 30+ Years
- Web/APEX applications for Govt, Medical, Engineering, Fisheries since HTMLDB
- ODTUG Vice President, Editor Emeritus, Technical Journal
- APress Author
- Oracle ACE Director













#StaySafe #FlattenTheCurve #StayVigilant **#Vaccinate**



25 Years

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About You ...

- APEX Experience?
 <1 to Many Yrs
- APEX Versions?
- Grid Experience?
 Fair to M
- JavaScript Experts? · Not Example

5.1 and ł



STANDARDIZE Your Interactive Grids

Why ~ How ~ Best Practices



APEX Grids: Standardize







What is Oracle APEX?

Oracle Application Express (APEX) is a low-code development platform that enables you to build scalable, secure enterprise apps, with world-class features, that can be deployed anywhere.





Interactive Grid Customization Leaves LOW CODE Behind ...

so ... Standardize



APEX Grids: Standardize 3/30/2021 13

Interactive Grid

(Interactive Report or Tabular Form)

+ <All the Features You Ever Wanted>
(Thank You APEX Team!)

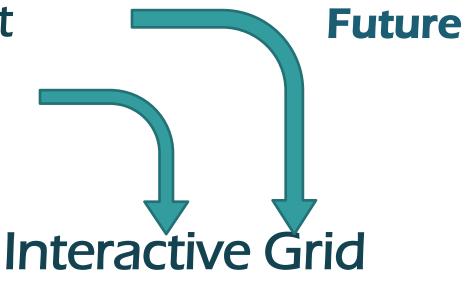
Interactive Grid



Direction

Interactive Report
Tabular Form

Now





APEX Grids: Standardize 3/30/2021

TH TECHI

Widget

Module

inst of module

IGrid Architecture

Interactive Grid - Under the Hood

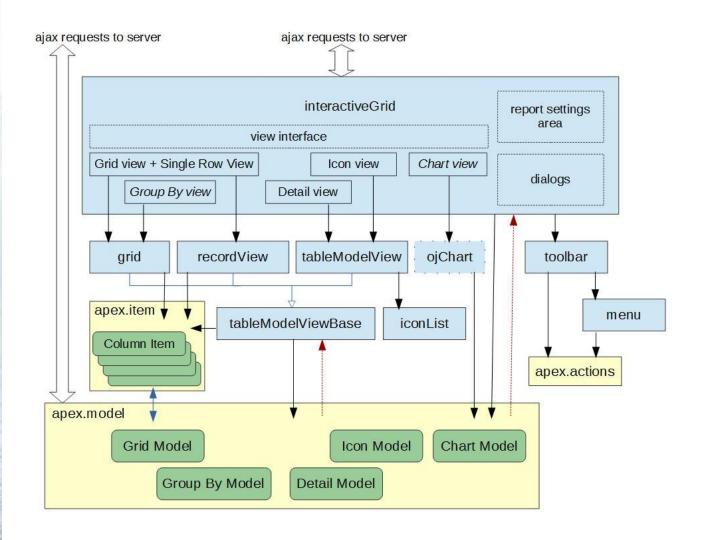
J Snyders

http://hardlikesoftware.com/weblog/2016/06/08/interactive-grid-under-the-hood/



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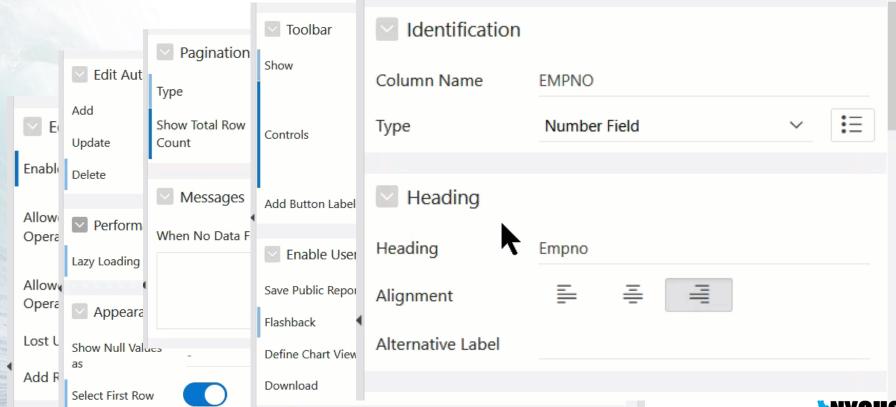
Settings and Configurations

Do It Declaratively First

LOW CODE



Lots of Declarative Settings



Not All is Declarative ...

- Turn Column Header Off
- Add/Remove Toolbar Buttons / Actions
- Add/Remove Action Menu Options



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Not All is Declarative ...

- Turn Column Header Off
 - Code in Column Advanced → JavaScript
- Add/Remove Toolbar Buttons / Actions
 - Code in Grid Advanced → JavaScript
- Add/Remove Action Menu Options
 - Code in Page Advanced → JavaScript



PEX Grids: Standardize

Most Grids are a Combination

- Declarative
- Customizations



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Grid Configuration Examples

JONES

BLAKE

Analyst

N 4 - - - - - - -

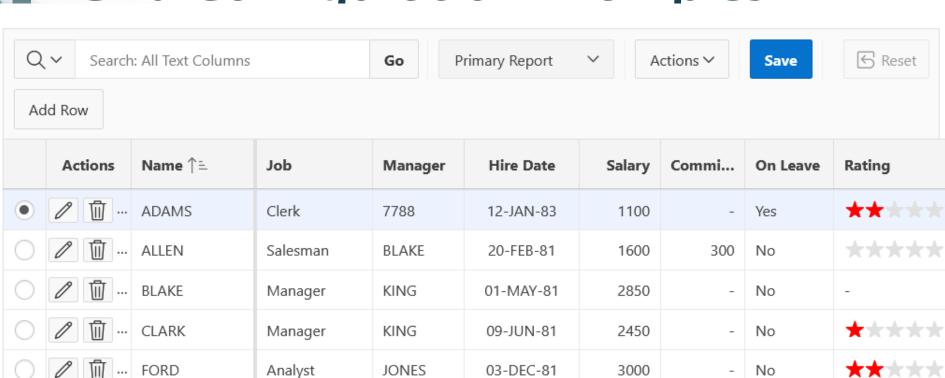
Clerk

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No

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Grid Customization Examples

 We can customize Grid columns to behave like these ...



PEX Grids: Standardize 3/30/2021 24

Consider ...

- 5 Developers → 5 Different Grids
- 5 Developers, Same App
 - → 5 Different Grids

COMMUNICATE SHARE



APEX Grids: Standardize

Consider ...

- 1 Developer, 5 Days
 → 5 Different Grids
- 1 Developer, 5 Apps
 → 5 Different Grids

STANDARDS ...

SLEEP or COFFEE or SANITY



Mixed Up Application Examples

- Different Grid Appearance
- Different Grid Functions Different Column Names, Orden Size
 Different Pagination

 - Different Edit Modes, Validations, Messages



APEX Grids: Standardize







Why Standardize Your Grids?

- User Experience
- User Sanity (Your Reputation)
- Developer Development and Maintenance
- Developer Sanity



Standardize: User Experience

- Column Names, Types, Order, Size
- Toolbar Configuration
- Button Names, Placement, Actions
 - "Add Row" vs "Add Employee"
 - Text vs Icons vs Both
- Pagination, # Rows Displayed, Shading



Standardize: Developer Experience

- No Guessing
- No Reinventing the Wheel
- Directions
- Common Code Base, Settings
- Use Your JavaScript Experts



Standardize

- 1. Have Standards
- 2. Use Your Standards
- 3. Share Configuration Settings, Code
- 4. Really Use Your Standards



APEX Grids: Standardize

Grid Standards

- Features
 - Buttons, Pagination, Actions, Shortcuts
 - Views: Chart, GB, Icon, Detail
- Template
- Column
 - Name, Format, Alignment, Order



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How to Standardize Grids

- Cheat Sheet of Grid Settings, Config
- Build One and Copy/Duplicate
- Build a Plugin
- Use a Plugin*
- Use a Common Configuration File



Let's Take A Look ...



Do It Declaratively First

... but Be Careful w Declarative in Combo w Customizations

(Don't Hang Yourself)



- Example of Declaratively Turning Off Edit, Save button
- Custom Code to Limit Buttons



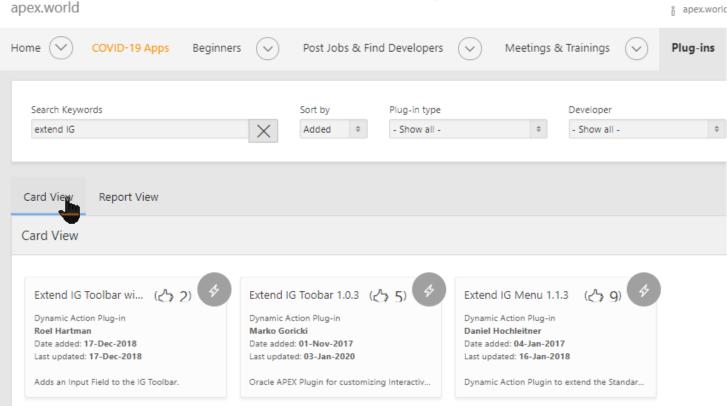
- Example of Column Heading Settings
- Custom Code for 3 types of settings, mix of declarative and code
- Freeze vs noHeaderActivate and Sort
- noReorder



There's A Plugin for That ...



There's A Few Plugins Now...



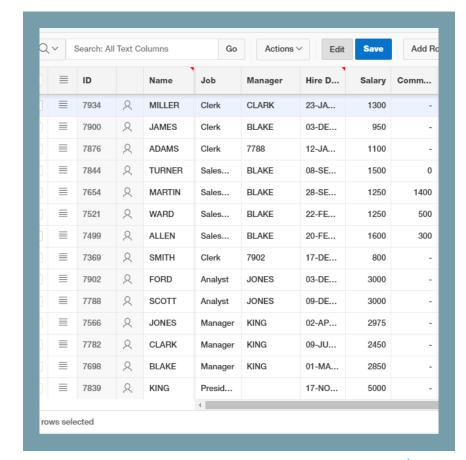


- Using A Plugin Does NOT
 Standardize!
- Just Makes It Easier (Less Code) to Customize ...



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APEX Interactive Grid: Standardize JavaScript APIS





Documented JS APIs

- APEX 18.1+
- Documented == Supported

https://apex.oracle.com/jsapi



interactiveGrid - Customizations



PEX Grids: Standardize 44

.iconBeforeLabel: true

interactiveGrid - Save

```
9
10 // invoke a save action with the value you just set
11 ig$.interactiveGrid("getActions").invoke("save");
12
13
```



APEX Grids: Standardize 4

model When Accessing Data

```
function updateRecordHighlights(model, record, id) {
    var fields.
        meta = model.getRecordMetadata(id),
        onleave = model.getValue(record, "ONLEAVE") === "Y"
    fields = meta.fields;
    if (!fields) {
        fields = meta.fields = {};
```



Access the Model ...

```
ion: function(menu, element) {
  var i, records = view.getSelectedRecords(),
      total = 0;
  for ( i = 0; i < records.length; i++) {
      total += parseInt(view.model.getValue(records[i], "SAL"), 10)
  }
  alert("Total Salary for selected employees is " + total);</pre>
```



apex.item in Dyn Action Validations

Code Editor - Code \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet 1 var sal = apex.item('salary'), num = sal.getValue(); 3 if (num !== "" && (parseFloat(num) != num || num < 100 || num > 2000)) { // this msg only used if there is no data-valid-message attribute on the column sal.node.setCustomValidity("Salary must be between 100 and 2000"); } else { sal.node.setCustomValidity(""); // clear the error

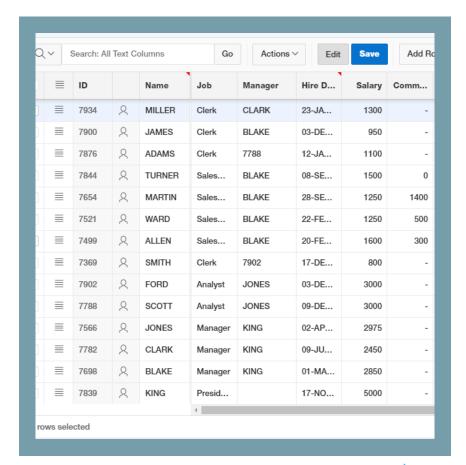


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APEX Interactive Grid: Standardize

Customizations

for Menus, Toolbars and More





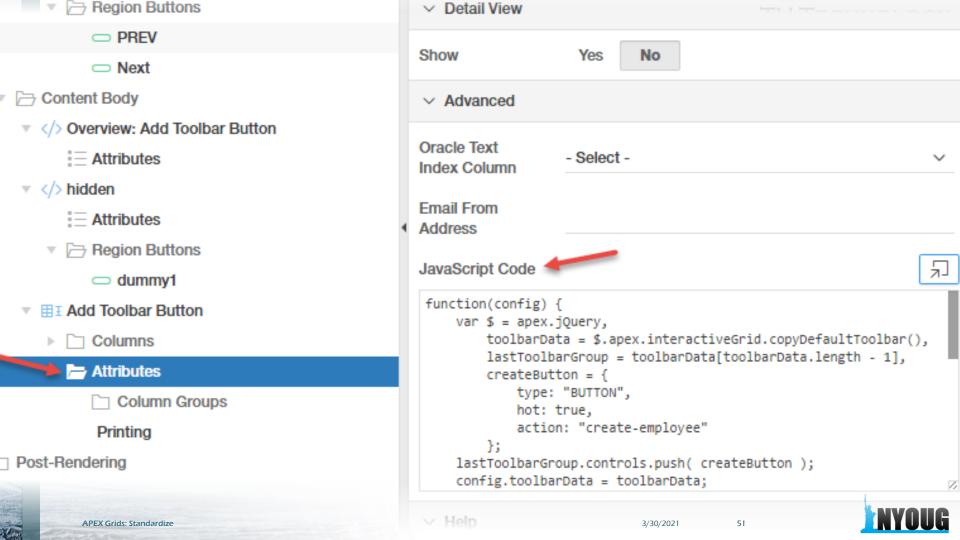
Customizations

- - Grid → Grid Menus
 - Column → Column Menu (Most of the Time...)
- Read <u>Documented APIs</u> to Learn What is Possible
- Read <u>Hardlikesoftware.com</u>
- Study <u>IG Cookbook App</u>

No Longer PL/SQL Collections ~ Now JavaScript



APEX Grids: Standardize



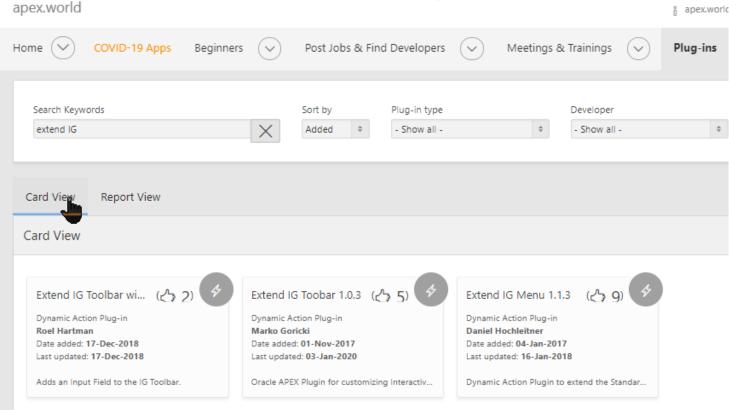
Customization Examples

- Change Toolbar
- Change Column Heading Menu
- Change RowAction Menu
- Change Toolbar Actions Menu
- Standardize w "Global" Settings



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There's A Few Plugins Now...





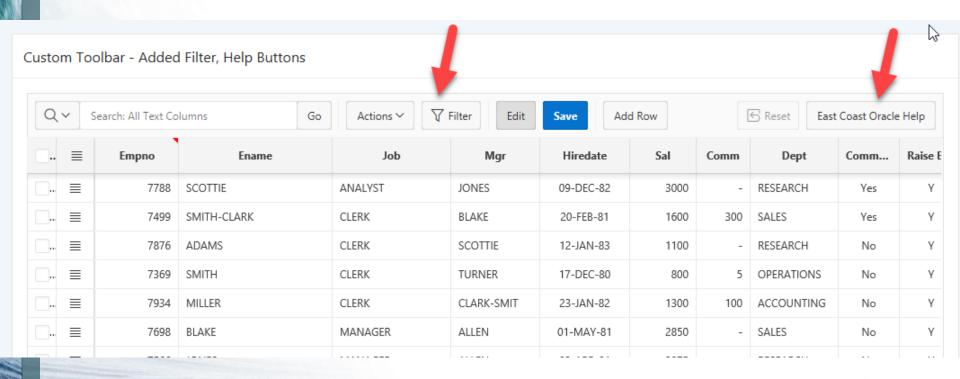
53

- Using A Plugin Does NOT
 Standardize!
- Just Makes It Easier (Less Code) to Customize ...



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Change Toolbar





Change Toolbar

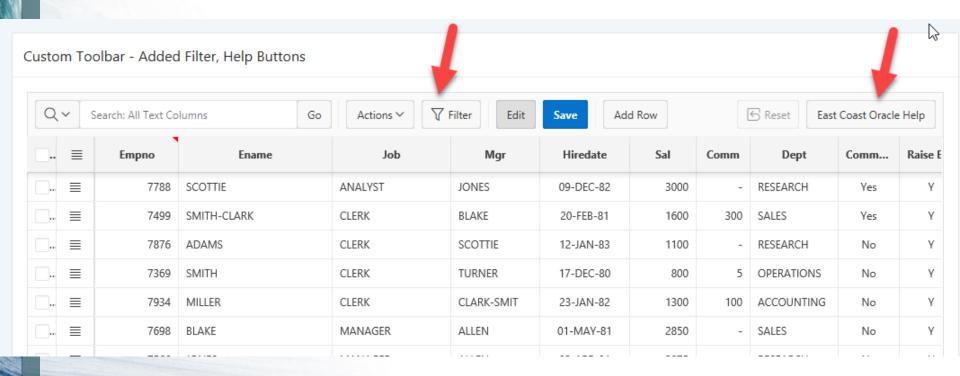
```
Goes in Grid
Advanced 

JavaScript
```

```
// toolbarFind is a new API as of 5.1.1
function(config) {
    var $ = apex.jQuery,
        toolbarData = $.apex.interactiveGrid.copyDefaultToolbar(),
         // this is the toolbar group w the Actions menu
        toolbarGroup = toolbarData.toolbarFind("actions1");
    // add a filter button after the actions menu
    toolbarGroup.controls.push( {
        type: "BUTTON",
        action: "show-filter-dialog",
        iconBeforeLabel: true
    });
    config.toolbarData = toolbarData;
    return config;
```

```
1 // Note toolbarFind - will use that a lot
                                                                                                                             DLOGY
  2 function(config) {
        var $ = apex.jQuery,
            toolbarData = $.apex.interactiveGrid.copyDefaultToolbar(),
            toolbarGroup = toolbarData.toolbarFind("actions1"); // this is the group with the actions menu
        // add a filter button after the actions menu
        toolbarGroup.controls.push( {
  9
            type: "BUTTON",
 10
            action: "show-filter-dialog",
            iconBeforeLabel: true
 11
 12
        });
 13
 14
        toolbarGroup2 = toolbarData[toolbarData.length - 1]; // this is the last group with reset btn
 15
        // add a button
 16
        toolbarGroup2.controls.push( {
 17
            type: "BUTTON",
            action: "thtech-action"
 18
 19
        });
 20
 21
        config.toolbarData = toolbarData;
 22
        config.initActions = function( actions ) {
 23
 24
            // this adds our custom Help button, a simple alert but could be anything
 25
            actions.add( {
                name: "thtech-action",
 26
 27
                label: "KSCOPE 2019 Help",
 28
                action: function(event, focusElement) {
                    alert("Hello KSCOPE 2019 Attendees! You could add any existing or custom Action here, not just an alert
 29
 30
 31
            });
 32
        return config;
                                                                                                       57
34 }
```

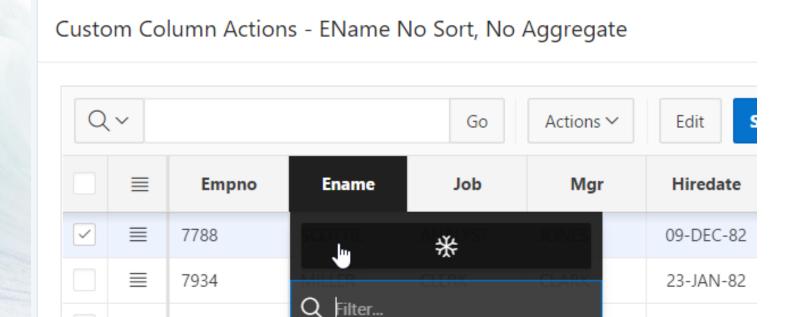
Change Toolbar





Replace Toolbar Code

```
function(config) {
        config.toolbarData = [
                  groupTogether: true,
                  controls: [
                            type: "TEXT",
                            id: "search_field",
enterAction: "search"
                            type: "BUTTON",
action: "search"
                  controls: [
                            type: "BUTTON",
                            action: "show-filter-dialog",
                            iconBeforeLabel: true
             align: "end",
             controls:
                       type: "BUTTON",
                       action: "reset-report",
iconBeforeLabel: true
36
        return config;
```



ADAMS

NYOUG

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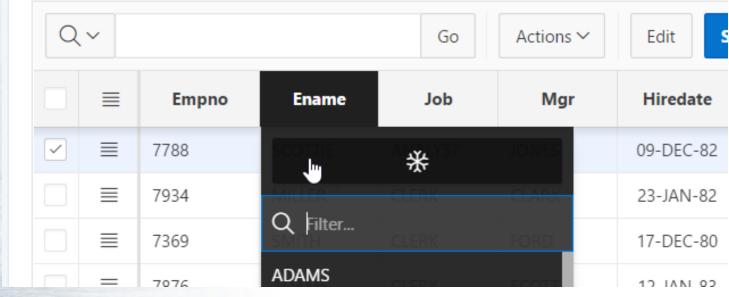
```
Goes in Column
function(config) {
                                      Advanced >
    config.features.sort = false;
                                        JavaScript
    config.features.aggregate = false;
    config.features.controlBreak = false;
    config.features.canHide = false;
    config.features.groupBy = false;
   // config.filter.isRequired=true;
    return config;
             OLD WAY ...
```

Wait! Now Declarative ... Mostly

Enable Users To		
Sort	Yes	No
Control Break/Aggregate	Yes	No
Hide	Yes	No



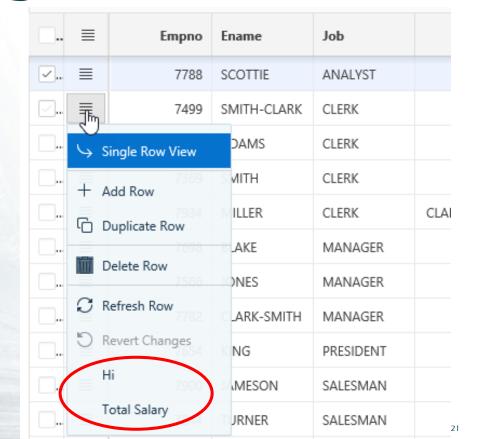
Custom Column Actions - EName No Sort, No Aggregate



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```
Goes in Column
                                      Advanced >
                                        JavaScript
1 function(config) {
     config.defaultGridColumnOptions = {
         noHeaderActivate: true
     return config;
```

Change RowAction Menu

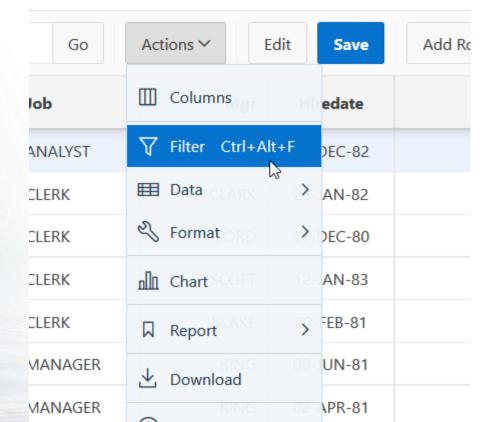




Change RowAction Menu

```
1 // This executes after page load, before the IGrid is initialized
                                                                                     Goes in Page
2 $(function() {
      // listen for grid views (not chart or groupby views)
                                                                                        JavaScript
      $("#emp igrid").on("interactivegridviewchange", function(event, data) {
          if ( data.view === "grid" && data.created ) {
              var view = apex.region("emp igrid").widget().interactiveGrid("getViews", "grid"),
                  menu$ = view.rowActionMenu$;
              menu$.menu("option").items.push({
                  type: "action",
10
                  label: "Hello",
11
12
                  action: function(menu, element) {
                      var record = view.getContextRecord( element )[0];
13
                      alert("Welcome to KSCOPE 2019, " + view.model.getValue(record, "ENAME") );
14
15
16
              });
17
              menu$.menu("option").items.push({
18
                  type: "action",
19
                  label: "Total Salary",
20
                  action: function(menu, element) {
21
22
                      var i, records = view.getSelectedRecords(),
                          total = 0:
                      for (i = 0; i < records.length; <math>i++) {
24
                          total += parseInt(view.model.getValue(records[i], "SAL"), 10);
                      alert("Total Salary for selected employees is " + total);
              });
```

Change Toolbar Actions Menu





Change Toolbar Actions Menu

```
function(config) {
    config.initActions = function( actions ) {
       actions.hide("show-aggregate-dialog");
       actions.lookup("show-filter-dialog").shortcut = "Ctrl+Alt+F";
       actions.update("show-filter-dialog");
       actions.lookup("save").shortcut = "Ctrl+Alt+S";
       actions.update("save");
                                                  Goes in Grid
    return config;
                                                  Advanced \rightarrow
                                                    JavaScript
```

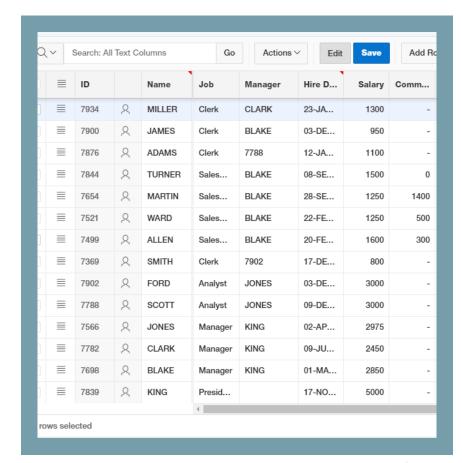


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APEX Interactive Grid:

Standardize

Customizations Across
Applications



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Standardize via "Global" Settings

- JS Function in JS File
- Include File
- Reference JS Function in Advanced
 - → JavaScript Code
- Add Classes on Grids



EX Grids: Standardize 70

```
((function($) {
window.thtechlGridApp = {
  commonIGConfig: function(config) {
    config.defaultGridViewOptions = {
       stickyFooter: talse
    if ($("#" + config.regionStaticId ).hasClass("seqNbr")) {
       config.defaultGridViewOptions.rowHeader = "sequence";
    if ( config.pagination.type === "set" ) {
       config.defaultGridViewOptions.pagination = {
         firstAndLastButtons: false,
         maxLinks: 12
    if ( config.pagination.type === "scroll" ) {
       config.defaultGridViewOptions.pagination = {
         showtotalRowCount: false
    if ($("#" + config.regionStaticId ).hasClass("filterOnlyGrid"))/$/2021
```



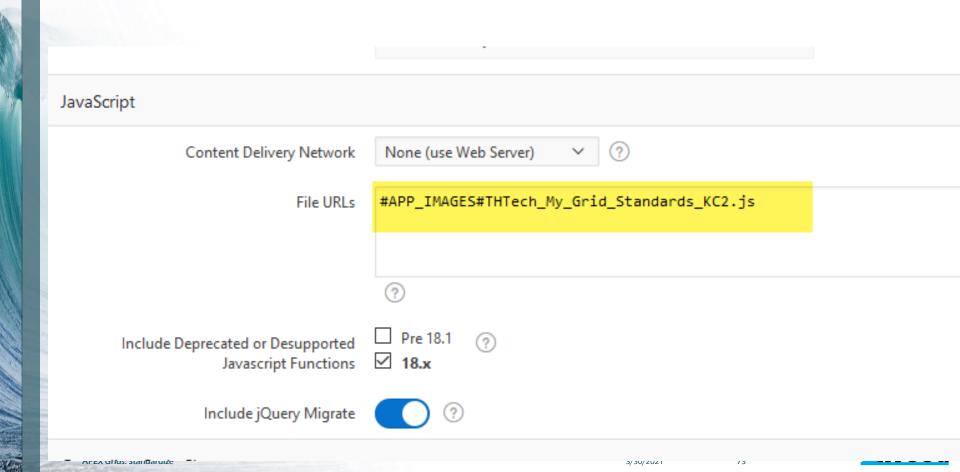
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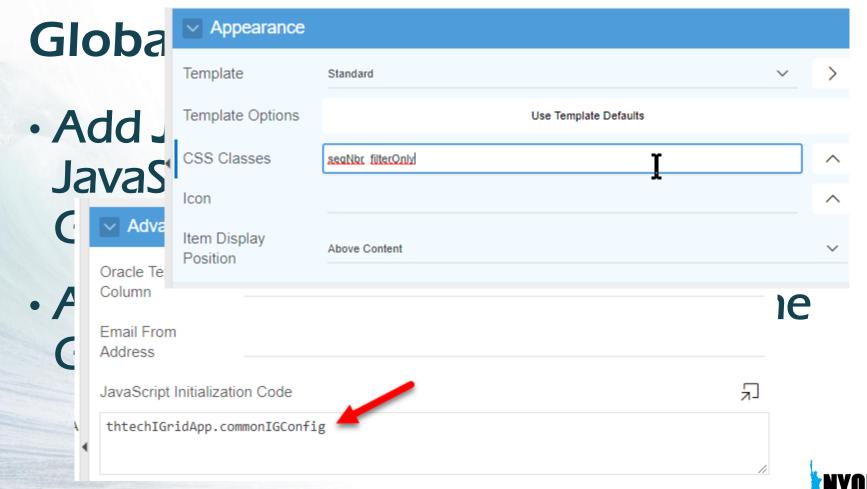
```
if ($("#" + config.regionStaticId ).hasClase("filterOnlyGrid")) (
     config.toolbarData = [
          groupTogether: true,
          controls: [
               type: "TEXT",
               id: "search_field",
               enterAction: "search"
               type: "BUTTON",
               action: "search"
          controls: [
               type: "BUTTON",
```

action: "show-filter-dialog",



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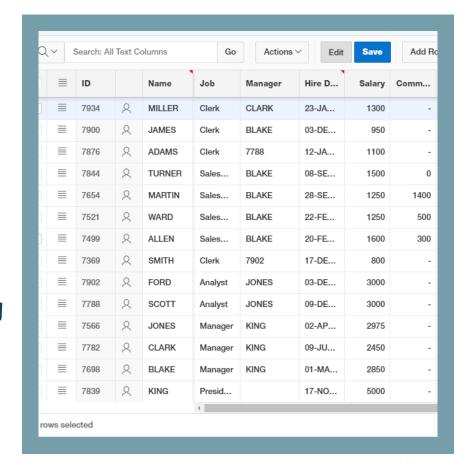
NYOUG



APEX Interactive Grids: Standardize

Best Practices

Recommendations for Adding
JavaScript to APEX
Applications





Adding JS to APEX

Follow the Usual Best Practices:

- Put Bulk of Code in JS Files
- Minify
- Read More in the Introduction to the JS API doc:

Adding JavaScript to an Application Express application

https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/applicationexpress/19.1/aexjs/index.html



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Widgets

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apex.actions
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apex.debug
apex.event
apex.item
apex.lang
apex.message
apex.model
apex.navigation
apex.navigation.dialog
apex.navigation.popup
apex.page
apex.region
apex.server

Adding JavaScript to an Application Express application

Oracle APEX handles the details of rendering a page so compared to authoring your own HTML file it may not be initially clear where you should add your JavaScript code. APEX provides a number of specific places for you to add JavaScript code. You should avoid entering your own <script> tags in places where markup is allowed. Also avoid entering lavaScript code using the javascript: pseudo-protocol in places where URLs are allowed.

Various components may have specific attributes for JavaScript code snippets. For example some regions and items have an Advanced: JavaScript Initialization Code attribute that is used for advanced configuration of the region or item. This code is applied in a specific context for a specific purpose. See the associated attribute help in Page Designer for details.

Dynamic Actions provide a way to respond to events. There are a number of declarative actions that can be run in response to an event. In addition you can use the Execute JavaScript Code action to execute your own JavaScript. This code is added to the page and run when the specified event occurs. Dynamic Actions added to the Global Page can apply to all pages subject to any Server-Side Condition.

Each page can have its own specific JavaScript code added to it using the following page attributes in the JavaScript section:

- File URLs Specify one JavaScript file URL per line. These files could be third party libraries or your own JavaScript code.
- Function and Global Variable Declaration This code runs after the core APEX libraries and above File URLs have been loaded and before the document is ready (DOMContentLoaded event or jQuery ready).
- Execute when Page Loads This code runs after the document is ready and after all APEX generated JavaScript code.

See the Page Designer help for details on each of the above attributes.



It is a best practice to put the bulk of your code into one or more files. These files can be served by a web server that you have access to or served by APEX by adding the file to Shared Components: Static Application Files or, to share the file among multiple apps, Static Workspace Files.

Using third party tools you can minify your JavaScript files to make them smaller, which makes them load faster. The minified files should be put in a sub folder named minified/relative to the original source file or the file name should include .min. This allows using substitution token #MIN# to include .min or #MIN_DIRECTORY# to include minified/ as part of the File URL. You can use #MIN# or #MIN_DIRECTORY# or both. This allows the minified file to be loaded normally but in debug mode the non-minified (original source) file will be used for easier debugging.

For example if you have a file called apputils. js added to Static Application Files you can create a minified version of that file called apputils.min.js that is also added to Static Application Files. You would then reference the file as:

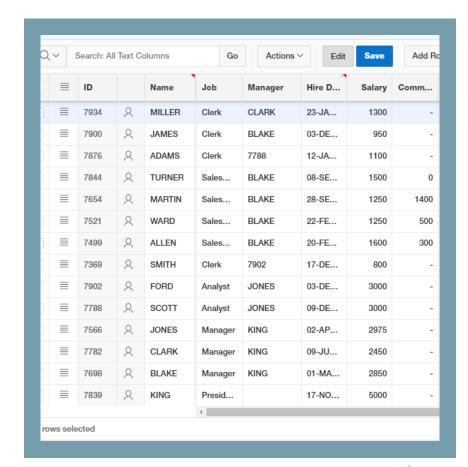
#APP IMAGES#appUtils#MIN#.js

If you have a file that you want loaded on all pages you can enter that file in one place rather than on each page. Shared Components > User Interface Attributes > User Interface Details has an attribute where you can enter any number of [avaScript File URLs (one per line).



APEX Interactive Grids: Standardize

Wrapup





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Standardize Your Grids

- Have Standards
- Apply Common Settings, Configurations
- Use Copy/Duplicate and/or Plugins
- Use a Standard Global Configuration File, Function and Classes



Stay Sane, Keep Your Users Happy ...



APEX Grids: Standardize 3/30/2021 8.

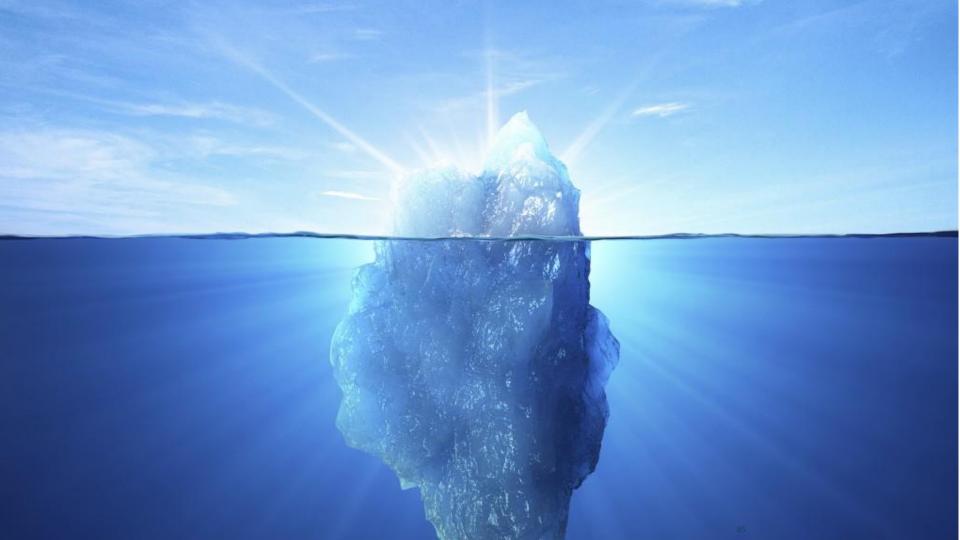
THESTRICION











ChaHemgework

- Sample Interactive Grid App
- IG Cookbook <u>http://www.hardlikesoftware.com</u>
- Read the APIs (coffee!!)
- Read the JS Widget Code
 <apex_install_dir>/images/libraries/apex

PLAY



APEX Grids: Standardize 86



Questions? Thank You

Email for Demo App, Slides

Karen Cannell kcannell@thtechnology.com @thtechnology

Resources

APEX JavaScript Reference

https://apexoracle.com/jsapi

Sample Interactive Grids

APEX 19.1+ Sample Application, Editing section

Interactive Grid Cookbook, 19.1 and all versions

http://hardlikesoftware.com/weblog/2019/03/30/apex-ig-cookbook-update-for-19-1/

Architecture: Interactive Grids Under the Hood

http://hardlikesoftware.com/weblog/2016/06/08/interactive-grid-under-the-hood/

More on Grids: How to Hack Interactive Grids, Parts I thru IV
 http://hardlikesoftware.com/weblog/2017/01/18/how-to-hack-apex-interactive-grid-part-1/



APEX Grids: Standardize 88

Resources, cont'd

APEX Client-Side Validation

http://hardlikesoftware.com/weblog/2017/05/10/apex-client-side-validation/#more-615

Interactive Grid Extend Toolbar Plugin
 https://github.com/mgoricki/apex-plugin-extend-ig-toolbar

Shortcut to APEX JavaScript APIs: apex.oracle.com/jsapi



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Where to Put JS Files

 https://www.talkapex.com/2017/01 /how-to-reference-javsscript-and-cssfiles-for-entire-application/jsstorage.gif

