



University of  
**Strathclyde**

# **Very quick guide to JavaScript for Java programmers**

Mark Dunlop



# Basics

- Often interacts with forms
  - Checks forms before submission
  - Automatically completes/calculates fields
- Dynamic typing => no type statements
- Like Java `.` is used for separating parts of a variable e.g. *object.field*

# Example field completion

```
function init(form) {  
    // puts the date (in non-US format into the date field of form  
    date = new Date();  
    form.date.value=date.getDate()+"/"+  
        (date.getMonth()+1)+"/"+date.getFullYear();  
}
```

- *to call add info to body tag of HTML page and to form tag*

```
<body onload="init(this.form);">
```

...

```
<form action="xx.php" method="POST" name="form">
```



# Functions

- Functions replace methods in typical JavaScript these are non-OO
- They do not specify a return type nor the type of parameters
- Return clauses are optional



# Function Example

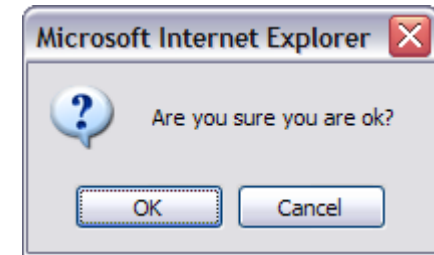
```
function addHello(myName){  
    if (myName=="")  
        return ("Hello friend");  
    else  
        return ("Hello"+myName);  
}
```

# Simple user interaction

- `window.alert(String)`



- *Boolean* `window.confirm(String)`



- *String* `window.prompt(String)`



# Submission example

```
function checkUserIsHappy(message){  
    return (window.confirm(message));  
}
```

- *add to submit input tag*

```
<input type="submit" name="DeleteAll" value="DeleteAll"  
onclick='return checkUserIsHappy("About to delete all");'>
```

*Note quotes!*

*Use careful wording – you get OK/Cancel with OK as default*

