HTML – Hypertext Markup Language

Lecture 9
HTML

- Hypertext Markup Language
- Key ideas:
  1. Connect documents via (hyper)links
     - Visual point-and-click
     - Distributed, decentralized set of documents
  2. Describe *content* of document, not style
     - Structure with semantics
     - Separation of concerns
- Rephrasing these key ideas:
  1. Hypertext
  2. Markup
Markup: Describing Content

- **WYSIWYG**
  - A paragraph or bulleted list in MS Word
  - Benefits:
    - No surprises in final appearance
    - Quick and easy
    - Control: Author can use visual elements to stand in for structural elements

- **WYSIWYM**
  - A paragraph or list in LaTeX
  - Benefits:
    - More information in document (visual & semantic)
    - Lack of Control: Author doesn't know how to apply visual elements *properly* for structure
Abstraction vs Representation

To Do List

1. Study for midterm
2. Sleep
Chapter 9

Now that we have the ability to display a catalog containing all our wonderful products, it would be nice to be able to sell them. We will need to cover sessions, models, and adding a button to a view. So let's get started.

Iteration D1: Finding a Cart

...
Evolution of HTML

- HTML (Berners-Lee, early 90's)
- HTML 2.0 (W3C, '95)
- HTML 3.2 (W3C, '97)
- HTML 4.0 (W3C, '97)  
  - To form a more perfect union...
- HTML 4.01 (W3C, '99)  
  - To smooth out the edges... big dog for years
- The great schism  
  - W3C: XHTML 1.0 ('00), 1.1 ('01), 2.0  
  - Everyone else: HTML Forms, WHAT...
- Capitulation ('09): W3C abandons XHTML 2.0
- HTML5 (October 2014)  
  - One ring to rule them all...  
  - (includes XHTML5, but no one seems to care)
Page Validation

- Design-by-contract:
  - Strong ensures, weak requires
  - Be strict in output, permissive in input

- Browsers (taking HTML as input) are permissive
  - "Tag soup" still renders

- Web authors (writing HTML as output) should be as strict as possible
  - But permissive browsers hide errors!

- Solution: use a validator
  - See validator.w3.org
  - Checks for syntax problems only
Example

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <title>Something Short and Sweet</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8" />
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Hello <a href="planet.html">World</a>!  
    <br />
    <img src="pic.png" alt="a globe" />
  </p>
</body>
</html>
Example

```html
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <title>Something Short and Sweet</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8" />
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Hello <a href="planet.html">World</a>!
      <br />
      <img src="globe.png" alt="a globe"/>
    </p>
  </body>
</html>
```
Example (Rewritten)

<!DOCTYPE html> <html lang="en"> <head> <title>Something Short and Sweet</title> <meta charset="utf-8" /> </head> <body> <p>Hello <a href="planet.html">World</a>! <br /> <img src="pic.png" alt="a globe" /> </p> </body> </html>
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
    <title>Something Short and Sweet</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8" />
</head>
<body>
    <p>Hello <a href="planet.html">World</a>!
    <br />
    <img src="pic.png" alt="a globe" />
</p>
</body>
</html>
Document Type Declarations

- HTML 5
  ```xml
  <!DOCTYPE html>
  ```

- HTML 4.01
  ```xml
  <!DOCTYPE HTML
  PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01//EN"
  "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/strict.dtd">
  ```

- XHTML 1.0 Strict
  ```xml
  <!DOCTYPE html
  PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
  "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
  ```
Type Declaration for HTML 5

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <title>Something Short and Sweet</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8" />
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Hello <a href="planet.html">World</a>!
    <br />
    <img src="pic.png" alt="a globe" />
    </p>
  </body>
</html>
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <title>Something Short and Sweet</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8" />
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Hello <a href="planet.html">World</a>!</p>
    <img src="pic.png" alt="a globe" />
  </body>
</html>
Structure: Nesting of Elements

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Hello</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8"/>
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Something Short and Sweet</p>
    <a>Hello</a> !<br>
    <img src="pic.png" alt="a globe">
    World
  </body>
</html>
```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <title>Something Short and Sweet</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8" />
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Hello <a href="planet.html">World</a>!</p>
    <img src="pic.png" alt="a globe" />
  </body>
</html>
Structure of Example

```
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <title>Something Short and Sweet</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8">
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Hello World!
      <a href="planet.html">Hello</a>
      <img src="pic.png" alt="a globe">
    </p>
  </body>
</html>
```
HTML Entities

- Familiar problem: Encoding
  - Is `<br />` a tag or (literal) content?
  - Meta-characters (e.g. '<') need to be escaped

- HTML entities represent a literal
  
  \&#dddd;

  - Where `dddd` is the "unicode code point" (as a decimal number)
  
  \&#xhhhh;

  - Where `hhhh` is the code point in hex
  
  \&name;

  - Where `name` is from a small set (lt, gt, amp...)

- Examples:
  
  \&#60; \&#x3C; \&lt;

  \&#9829; \&#x2665; \&hearts;
Kinds of Elements

1. Document structure elements
   - Root of tree is always `<html>`
   - Two children: `<head>`, `<body>`

2. Head elements
   - (Meta) information about document

3. Body elements
   1. Block
      - Content that stands alone
      - Starts new line of text
      - May contain other elements (block or inline)
   2. Inline
      - Intimately part of surrounding context
      - Does not interrupt "flow" of text
      - May contain other inline elements
Block vs Inline
Demo: 3D View in FF Dev Tools
Required Structure for HTML5

- **html** element
  - **head** element
    - **title** element
    - **meta** element
      - charset: utf-8
  - **body** element
Common Head Elements

- `<title>`: required, must be only text
  - May be displayed in window title bar
- `<script>`: client-side code to run
- `<link>`: other documents to use
  - Commonly used for style information
- `<meta>`: information about the information (document)
  - `<meta http-equiv="\"Content-Type\"" content="\"...\"" />
    becomes a header field in HTTP response!
  - `<meta http-equiv="\"Location\"" content="\"...\"" />
  - `<meta http-equiv="\"Last-modified\"" content="\"...\"" />
  - `<meta name="\"keywords\"" content="\"...\"" />`
Common Block Elements in Body

- Text
  - Paragraph `<p>`, horizontal rule `<hr>`
  - Headings `<h1>`, `<h2>`, ..., `<h6>`
  - Preformatted `<pre>`, quotations `<blockquote>`

- Lists
  - Ordered `<ol>`, unordered `<ul>`, definition `<dl>`
  - Item in list `<li>` (`<dt>` `<dd>` for definitions)

- Table `<table>`

- Form `<form>` (and some form elements)

- Sectioning (HTML 5)
  - Article `<article>`, section `<section>`
  - Header `<header>`, footer `<footer>`
  - Canvas `<canvas>`

- Generic container for flow content `<div>`
Common Inline Elements

- Anchor `<a>`
- Phrasing and text
  - Emphasis `<em>`, strong emphasis `<strong>`
  - Code snippet `<code>`
  - Inline quotation `<q>`
  - Inserted text `<ins>`, deleted text `<del>`
- Image `<img>`
- Form elements
- Generic container within flow content `<span>`
- Visual markup: deprecated
  - Bold `<b>`, italic `<i>`, underline `<u>`
  - Typewriter font `<tt>`
  - Font control `<font>`
And Don't Forget Comments

- Comments set off by `<!-- ... -->`
- Beware: they do not nest
Tables

- Row `<tr>`
- Cell of data `<td>`
- Header cell (for row or column) `<th>`
- Caption `<caption>`
- And some more exotic ones too
  - Header (repeat if splitting) `<thead>`
  - Body `<tbody>`
  - Footer (repeat if splitting) `<tfoot>`
### Table Example

```html
<table>
  <caption> Important Dates in CSE 3901 </caption>
  <tr>
    <th scope="col">Quiz</th>
    <th scope="col">Day, time</th>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <th scope="row">Midterm 1</th>
    <td> Friday, Sept 21, in class </td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <th scope="row">Midterm 2</th>
    <td> Monday, Oct 22, in class </td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <th scope="row">Final</th>
    <td> Wednesday Dec 12, 12:00–1:45 </td>
  </tr>
</table>
```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quiz</th>
<th>Day, time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td>Friday, Sept 21, in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td>Monday, Oct 22, in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>Wednesday Dec 12, 12:00–1:45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hyperlinks

- Anchor tag with href attribute
  
  `<a href=...>some text</a>`  
  
  `some text`

- Clickable element

- Click results in: an HTTP request
  - GET request
  - URL from value of href attribute

- What about arguments?
  - Must be “hard coded” into href
  
  `<a href="summary?lang=en">notes</a>`
Forms

- More general mechanism for client to make HTTP requests
  - GET or POST
  - HTTP arguments come from inputs
    - <input name="color">

- User Input: <input type="">
  - Text fields <input type="text">
  - Radio buttons <input type="radio">
  - Checkboxes <input type="checkbox">
  - Hidden <input type="hidden">

- Button <button>
  - Type "submit" means send the request

- Information (not input): <label>
Example

<form action="/my-handling-form-page" method="post">
  <div>
    <label for="name">Name:</label>
    <input type="text" id="name" name="user_name" />
  </div>
  <div>
    <label for="mail">E-mail:</label>
    <input type="email" id="mail" name="user_mail" />
  </div>
  <div>
    <label for="msg">Message:</label>
    <textarea id="msg" name="user_message"></textarea>
  </div>
  <div class="button">
    <button type="submit">Send your message</button>
  </div>
</form>
Form Rendered

[Image of a form tester window showing a form with fields for Name, E-mail, and Message, and a button to send the message]
Form Modified by User

Name: Brutus
E-mail: buckeye@osu.edu
Message: hello world

Send your message
Form Submitted

- HTTP request has
  - Verb from form's method
  - URL from form's action
- Inputs determine request arguments
  - Name attribute is argument name
  - Value (usually user controllable) is argument value
- When button with type "submit" is clicked:
  
  ```plaintext
  POST /my-handling-form-page HTTP/1.1
  Host: www.example.com
  Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
  Content-Length: 69

  user_name=Brutus&user_mail=buckeye%40osu.edu&user_message=hello+world
  ```
Summary

- Evolution of HTML: HTML 5
  - Tension between permissive and strict
  - Page validation
- An HTML document is a tree
  - Elements are nodes, text is leaves
  - Elements have attributes
- Head elements: meta information
- Body elements: content
  - Block elements
  - Inline elements
- Tables and Forms