
Web Programming and Design

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Outline

- Overview of syllabus and class policies
- Learning strategies
- Introduction to web technologies

Overview of Syllabus and Class Policies

- Please see handout
- Syllabus can also be downloaded from our class website:
 - www.csupomona.edu/~ftang/www/courses/CS299-S09/

Learning Strategies

- Class format: a mixture of lecture and in-class exercises/projects
- Lectures will be posted online, which provide a guideline of what is covered in class
- Series of in-class exercises/projects will give you a chance to start building your own web pages step by step with the technologies you learn along this quarter
- There will be a final presentation of your quarter-long project
- Learn from existing examples

Your Grade

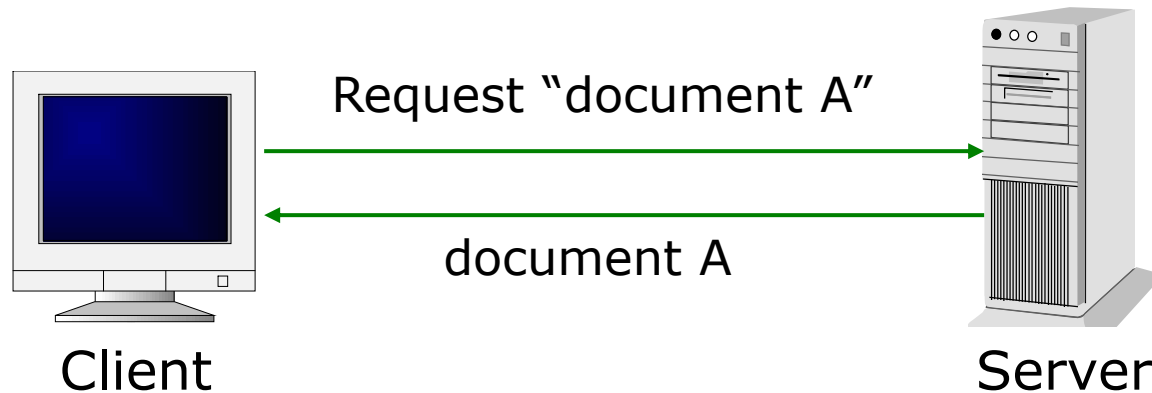
- Projects:
 - Programming assignments (60%)
 - For most of the time, turn in by providing a link to your web page
 - Form a group of two, keep a report (write a blog) of the work done by individual
 - Follow the deadline of each project, since the final project is built up by the previous small projects
 - Final project presentation (10%)
 - Oral presentation of your group work (5 mins)
 - Instructor evaluation + students evaluation of your final work
- Exams:
 - Final (focus on concept) (25%)
- Other:
 - Class participation (5%)

The Big Picture

Web Essentials:
Clients, Servers, and Communication

Web Essentials

- **Client:** web browsers, used to surf the Web
- **Server** systems: used to supply information to these browsers
- Computer **networks**: used to support the browser-server communication



Internet v.s. Web

- **The Internet:** a inter-connected computer networks, linked by wires, cables, wireless connections, etc.
- **Web:** a collection of interconnected documents and other resources.
- The world wide web (**WWW**) is accessible via the Internet, as are many other services including email, file sharing, etc.

How does the Internet Work?

- Through communication protocols
- A **communication protocol** is a specification of how communication between two computers will be carried out
 - **IP** (Internet Protocol): defines the packets that carry blocks of data from one node to another
 - **TCP** (Transmission Control Protocol) and **UDP** (User Datagram Protocol): the protocols by which one host sends data to another.
 - Other application protocols: **DNS** (Domain Name Service), **SMTP** (Simple Mail Transmission Protocol), and **FTP** (File Transmission Protocol)

The Internet Protocol (IP)

- A key element of IP is **IP address**, a 32-bit number
- The Internet authorities assign ranges of numbers to different organizations
- IP is responsible for moving **packet** of data from node to node
- A packet contains information such as the data to be transferred, the source and destination IP addresses, etc.
- Packets are sent through different local network through **gateways**
- A **checksum** is created to ensure the correctness of the data; corrupted packets are discarded
- IP-based communication is **unreliable**

The Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)

- TCP is a higher-level protocol that extends IP to provide additional functionality: **reliable** communication
- TCP adds support to detect errors or lost data and to trigger **retransmission** until the data is correctly and completely received
- Connection
- Acknowledgment

TCP/IP Protocol Suites

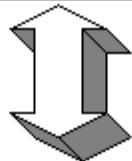
5 - APPLICATION LAYER
PROVIDES APPLICATION ACCESS TO COMMUNICATION ENVIRONMENT

HTTP, FTP, Telnet, DNS, SMTP, etc.



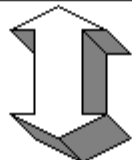
4 - TRANSPORT LAYER
PROVIDES A DELIVERY SERVICE FOR THE APPLICATION LAYER

TCP, UDP



3 - INTERNET LAYER
ESTABLISHES, MAINTAINS AND TERMINATES END TO END NETWORK COMMUNICATION

IP (IPv4, IPv6)



NETWORK ACCESS LAYER including 2 - DATALINK and 1 - PHYSICAL
ESTABLISHES DIRECT CONNECTION TO PHYSICAL MEDIA AND HANDLES DATA FLOW CONTROL

The World Wide Web (WWW)

- **WWW** is a system of interlinked, hypertext documents that runs over the Internet
- Two types of software:
 - **Client**: a system that wishes to access the information provided by servers must run client software (e.g., web browser)
 - **Server**: an internet-connected computer that wishes to provide information to others must run server software
 - Client and server applications communicate over the Internet by following a protocol built on top of TCP/IP – **HyperText Transport Protocol (HTTP)**

Basics of the WWW

- **Hypertext**: a format of information which allows one to move from one part of a document to another or from one document to another through **hyperlinks**
- Uniform Resource Locator (**URL**): unique identifiers used to locate a particular resource on the network
- **Markup language**: defines the structure and content of hypertext documents

Web Client: Browser

- Makes HTTP requests on behalf of the user
 - Reformat the URL entered as a valid HTTP request
 - Use DNS to convert server's host name to appropriate IP address
 - Establish a TCP connection using the IP address
 - Send HTTP request over the connection and wait for server's response
 - Display the document contained in the response
 - If the document is not a plain-text document but instead is written in HTML, this involves rendering the document (positioning text, graphics, creating table borders, using appropriate fonts, etc.)

Web Servers

- Main functionalities:
 - Server waits for connect requests
 - When a connection request is received, the server creates a new process to handle this connection
 - The new process establishes the TCP connection and waits for HTTP requests
 - The new process invokes software that maps the requested URL to a resource on the server
 - If the resource is a file, creates an HTTP response that contains the file in the body of the response message
 - If the resource is a program, runs the program, and returns the output

Static Web: HTML/XHTML, CSS

- **HTML** stands for **H**yper**T**ext **M**arkup **L**anguage
 - It is a text file containing small markup tags that tell the Web browser how to display the page
- **XHTML** stands for e**X**tensible **H**yper**T**ext **M**arkup **L**anguage
 - It is identical to HTML 4.01
 - It is a stricter and cleaner version of HTML
- **CSS** stands for **C**ascading **S**tyle **S**heets
 - It defines how to display HTML elements

Why Programmability?

- What's the drawback to simple document model?
 - Static
 - Assume that documents are created before they are requested
- What are examples of information that might be part of web documents that may not be known before they are requested?

Client-Side Programmability

- Scripting language: a lightweight programming language
- Browser scripting: **JavaScript**
 - Designed to add interactivity to HTML pages
 - Usually embedded into HTML pages
 - What can a JavaScript Do?
 - Put dynamic text into an HTML page
 - React to events
 - Read and write HTML elements
 - Validate data before it is submitted to a server
 - Create cookies
 - ...

Server-Side Programmability

- The requests cause the response to be generated
- Server scripting:
 - **CGI/Perl**: Common Gate Way Interface (*.pl, *.cgi)
 - PHP: Open source, strong database support (*.php)
 - ASP: Microsoft product, uses .Net framework (*.asp)
 - Java via JavaServer Pages (*.jsp)
 - ...

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- Common Gateway Interface:
 - CGI provides a way by which a web server can obtain data from (or send data to) database, and other programs, and present that data to viewers via the web.
 - A CGI program can be written in any programming language, but Perl is one of the most popular

What's Ahead?

- HTML, XHTML
- CSS
- Simple client-side interactivity (JavaScript)
- Simple server-side interactivity (CGI/Perl)

- We will not “teach” these languages
- We will provide an overview of the basics, and learn how to use the web resources to help build a web page