PB138 - Modern Markup Languages and Their Applications

Week 03 - HTML5

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Outline

- Introduction: HTML5 as the foundation of WWW
- Commonly used elements
- WAI ARIA
- Regular DOM, Virtual DOM, Shadow DOM & AOM
- Browser rendering
- Minification, Compression

Introduction to HTML5

- Part of basic web standards, currently on version HTML 5.2
- HTML5 is used on websites and mobile and desktop devices/apps
- Previous popular versions: XHTML and HTML 4 still in use
- XHTML was the only HTML being a strict XML markup
- On the other hand, HTML is based on old Structured Generalized Markup Language (SGML)
- HTML5 needs
 - CSS for styling
 - JavaScript (ECMAScript) for scripting interactivity

What is HTML5

- HyperText Markup Language (HTML) 5
- HTML5 is NOT XML in strict sense (some well-formedness rules ommited)
- HTML5 is similar to original (SGML-based) versions of HTML
- Extends previous versions by many new elements and API
 - o multimedia (<audio>, <video>, <picture>, <embed>...)
 - o document type, structure, metadata (<article>, <section>, <header>, <main>)
 - navigation and controls (<nav>, <menu>, <progress>, <menuitem>)
 - semantic markup (<time>, <samp>, <kbd>)
 - support for data in the document (<data>, <datalist>)

Example

- <!DOCTYPE html> is the document type declaration (always like this)
- <head> contains metadata of the document, such as <title>, or links to css styles
- <body> contains the content, i.e. text, headings, links to js files...

Basic syntax

- File extension .html (preferred) or .htm
- Element names (tags) are case insensitive (lower case is best practice)
- Attribute values are usually case sensitive(!)
- Types of elements:
 - Block elements = create block (rectangle), e.g. paragraph
 - Inline elements = change formatting of some objects (text) in line
 - Semantic elements = intended meaning or purpose (article, main ...)
 - Nonsemantic elements = other elements without meaning (div, span ...)

Elements

- HTML5 is a concrete markup, so only defined elements may be used
- Element has one of the meanings:
 - o structures the text
 - o places images, frames, video...
 - defines *styles*
 - o defines *scripts*

One paragraph of text with one line break inside

This paragraph contains
 a line break.

- Note:
 is an empty element
- In contrast to XML, we do not need to write "well-formed"

Nesting

Elements must be nested within each other properly.

```
<!— Correct way of nesting —>
<div><span>These tags are nested properly.

<!— Incorrect way of nesting —>
<span><div>These tags are not nested properly.

<span><div>These tags are not nested properly.

<span><div>These tags are not nested properly.

</pre
```

Exact nesting rules (which element can appear in which context) are defined in HTML5 Specification.

Comments

- Same as (general) XML comments
- ullet HTML comment begins with ullet, and ends with ullet

```
←!—
    Example of multiline comment
    →

←!— Single line comment →
```

Common block elements

- <div> division (general block element, usually styled)
- paragraph (similar to <div>)
- <h1> through <h6> headings
- <form> form for inputs to submit to server
- <textarea> text area (big text fields)
- - list item
- Block elements must not appear within inline elements!

Common inline elements

- <a> insert HTML link or link anchor
- general inline element, usually styled
- <code> preformatted (non-proportional) font used
- <input>, <button> text input fields, buttons
- insert image (behaves like inline-block)

The following elements are mainly used for inline semantics not styling:

- emphasized (typically bold) text
- bold text
- emphasized (typically italics) text
- <i>, <u> text in italics, underlined

Attributes

Specify details of an element (eg. image source, target URL, title, id)

```
<img src="images/smiley.png" width="30" height="30" alt="Smiley">
<a href="https://www.google.com/" title="Search Engine">Google</a>
<abbr title="Hyper Text Markup Language">HTML</abbr>
<input type="text" value="John Doe">
```

General attributes

Some attributes can be used by most elements:

- id unique ID of the element within the document
- class CSS class for the element
- style in-place style specification for the element (eg. color, size)
- title for many elements specifies title (eg. for accessibility)
- lang language code for the text content, mainly used on html tag

Commonly used elements

Headings

- Define *structure* of document i.e. start of chapter, section
- Not just bigger font
- Important to use for search engines, SEO
- Produce headings of decreasing font size

```
<h1>Heading level 1</h1> - biggest
<h2>Heading level 2</h2>
<h3>Heading level 3</h3>
<h4>Heading level 4</h4>
<h5>Heading level 5</h5>
<h6>Heading level 6</h6> - smallest
```

Text paragraphs

- paragraphs start with and may (preferred) or may not end with (when used as separator)
-
 means just a line break, such as Shift
 + Enter in Word (not used for positioning)

```
This is a paragraph <br > with line break. This is <br > br> another paragraph <br > br> with line breaks.
```

Paragraphs are usually (but not always) styled by assigning to a class

This is a styled paragraph.

Horizontal rulers

Horizontal line between block elements, eg. paragraphs

```
This is a paragraph.
<hr>
This is a paragraph.
This is another paragraph.
```

Preformatted text

```
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are!
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.
```

Address

```
<address>
Mozilla Foundation<br>
331 E. Evelyn Avenue<br>
Mountain View, CA 94041, USA</address>
```

Whitespaces

- you can use either space char (ASCII 32), tab char, newline... everything is a white space
- if you use a fixed whitespace entity <code> </code> (non-breaking space)

This paragraph has multiple spaces.

- then you get
 - exact number of fixed-width spaces
 - o connecting the text before and after as non-space characters

Links

• Allow to click and browse from page to another

link to Page

• Can point and go even inside of document to specific anchor/ID:

Go to TopicA

• To open a new window or tab:

Open in new tab

Text formatting

The following example contains elements with a purely semantic purpose

```
This is <b>bold text</b>.
This is <strong>strongly important text</strong>.
This is <ii>italic text</i>.
This is <em>emphasized text</em>.
This is <mark>highlighted text</mark>.
This is <code>computer code</code>.
This is <small>smaller text</small>.
This is <sub>subscript</sub> and <sup>superscript</sup> text.
This is <del>deleted text</del>.
This is <ins>inserted text</ins>.
This is <ins>inserted text
```

- and are usually the same but may differ, is more general
- and <i> are usually the same but may differ, is more general

Quotes

Block quote - block element usually indented and in a different font

```
<blockquote>
    Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.
    The important thing is not to stop questioning.
    <cite>- Albert Einstein</cite>
</blockquote>
```

Inline quote

According to the World Health Organization (WHO): <q>Health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being.

Citations

- <cite> usually appears inside <blockquote>
- Reference to a real source, eg. person, movie, book
- Usually appears as italics
- Does not produce any link etc.

```
My favorite movie is <cite>star wars</cite>.My another favorite movie is <cite>harry potter</cite>.
```

Abbreviations

• <abbr> explains an abbreaviation

The <abbr title="World Wide Web Consortium">W3C</abbr> is the main international standards organization for the <abbr title="World Wide Web">WWW or W3</abbr>. It was was founded by Tim Berners-Lee.

Images

Inline element so it can be used also for small images on line

```
<img src="kites.jpg" alt="Flying Kites">
<img src="sky.jpg" alt="Cloudy Sky">
<img src="balloons.jpg" alt="Balloons">
```

- src points to URL with the image source (file)
- alt provides text alternative (description) for accessibility or slow connection
- Note that is an empty element, no need to write
- Can be styled (via class or style)

Picture

Advanced new HTML5 element for multiple versions (eg. resolutions) of an image

There is also image map <map> element for creating clickable map

Tables

Used for showcasing the data, **not for formatting or layouting**! For layouting use <div>s and CSS styles

- encloses entire table, contains:
 - table rows which contain cells
 - table heading cell (formatted differently)
 - simple table cell
- Details inside of element
 - < <thead>
 - < <tbody>
 - < <tfoot>

Cells spanning multiple columns

Cells spanning multiple rows

Captions

- <caption> allows to specify table caption (eg. title)
- can be positioned elsewhere by styles' caption-side property
- must be the first child element of

```
    <caption>Users Info</caption>

        No.
        Age
        Age<
```

Unordered list

Used to create a list of related items, in no particular order

```
     Chocolate Cake
     Black Forest Cake
     Pineapple Cake
```

Ordered list

Used to create a list of related items, in a specific order

```
    Fasten your seatbelt
    Starts the car's engine
    Look around and go
```

Description list

Definition list — Used to create a list of terms and their descriptions.

Forms

Input elements

- Direct input from user entering text, selecting option
- <input> but also others (<textarea>, <select> and <option>)
- Uniquely identified in form by both name="username" and id="username"

Label

• Label> provides description to specific input field

```
<form>
    <label for="username">Username:</label>
    <input type="text" name="username" id="username">
    </form>
```

Checkbox and Radio button set

- Radio buttons are selected as *mutually exclusive*
- Radio buttons are usually round symbols and their labels

```
<form>
  <label for="terms">Do you agree with terms?</label>
  <input type="checkbox" name="terms" id="terms">
        <input type="radio" name="gender" id="female">
        <label for="female">Female</label>
  </form>
```

Checkboxes

- Checkboxes can be *independently* selected
- Checkboxes are usually square symbols with indication when selected

```
<form>
    <input type="checkbox" name="sports" id="soccer">
        <label for="soccer">Soccer</label>
        <input type="checkbox" name="sports" id="cricket">
        <label for="cricket">Cricket</label>
        </form>
```

File select

- used for file upload facility
- appears as button to select file

```
<form>
    <label for="file-select">Upload:</label>
    <input type="file" name="upload" id="file-select">
    </form>
```

Textarea

• Same as text field but multiline (rectangle area of rows * cols)

```
<form>
    <label for="address">Address:</label>
    <textarea rows="3" cols="30" name="address" id="address"></textarea>
    </form>
```

Select from list

- Select from dropdown list
- Returns the selected option value

```
<label for="city">City:</label>
<select name="city" id="city">
  <option value="sydney">Sydney</option>
  <option value="melbourne">Melbourne</option>
  <option value="cromwell">Cromwell</option>
  </select>
```

Buttons

Either generic button <button> or specific reset and submit (default) buttons

```
<form action="action.php" method="post">
  <label for="first-name">First Name: </label>
  <input type="text" name="first-name" id="first-name">
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
  <input type="reset" value="Reset">
  </form>
```

Grouping inputs

- logically (and visually) group related inputs
- may contain general description <legend>

```
<fieldset>
  <legend>Contact Details</legend>
  <label>Email Address: <input type="email" name="email"></label>
  <label>Phone Number: <input type="text" name="phone"></label>
  </fieldset>
```

Form element

- Encloses the entire form to be submitted
- Usually contains at least submit button
- The input data is sent via HTTP POST (typically) or GET (by default) methods
- GET sends the data in URL while POST sends data in request body
- Controlled by form attributes:
 - name of the form (mostlyfor scripting)
 - action target for processing the form
 - o method either get or post
 - target where to display the response (default: _self)
 - enctype character encoding for POST data

WAI ARIA

Web Accessibility Initiative's Accessible Rich Internet Applications

- Describe roles, states and properties
- Provides recognition and usability for users with assistive technology (Screen Reader, Keyboard navigation)
- Structured access to the website
- Types of Aria attributes:
 - Indication of widgets (role="alert", role="modal", aria-label="Choose action"
 - Indication of structure (role="main", role="article")
 - Indication of state (aria-expanded="false")
 - Indication of properties (aria-haspopup="true")
- Also known as ally (accessibility)



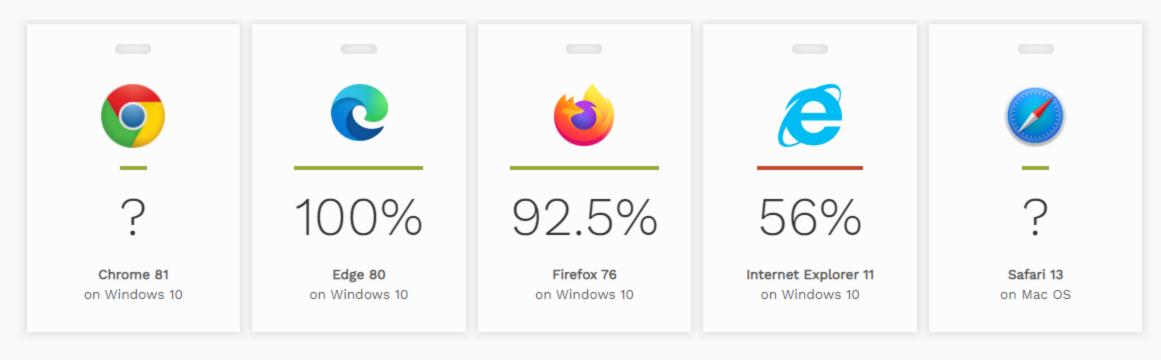
Example for image

Example with dropdown widget

HTML5 and Accessibility

<nav> VS <div role="navigation">

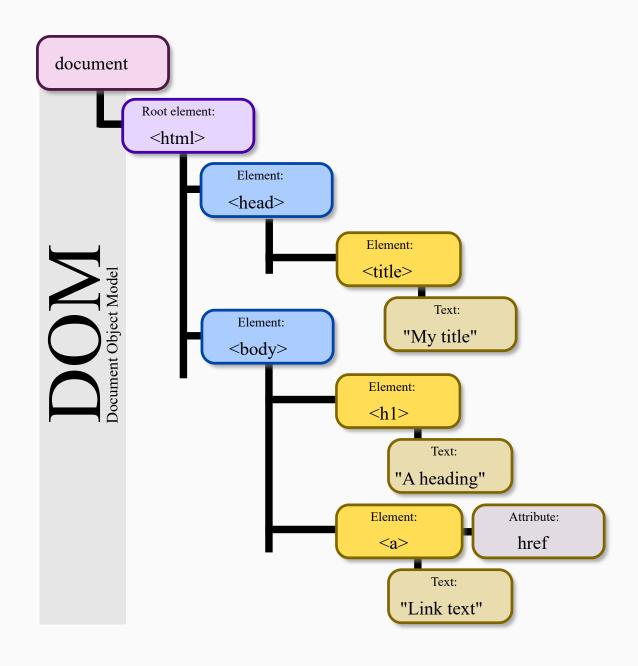
Not fully supported, thus recommended to use aria* attributes



Source

Regular DOM, Virtual DOM, Shadow DOM & AOM

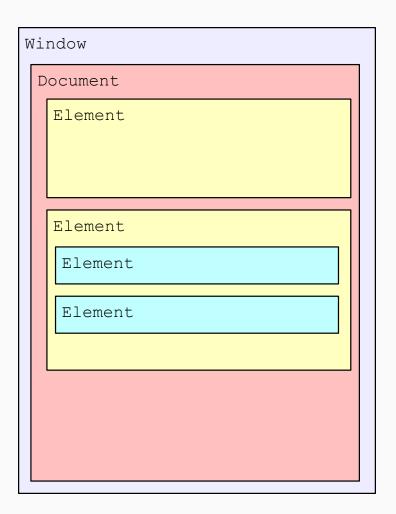
Document Object Models



Regular DOM

- Browsers use internal representation of DOM model
- Elements are nodes -> Programming languages interact with it
- HTML uses extended DOM called HTML DOM, that provides additional API
 - Access to and control of HTML elements via the DOM
 - Access to and manipulation of form data
 - Supporting and connective interfaces for other APIs
 - o ...many more
- Bound to displayed content on the website

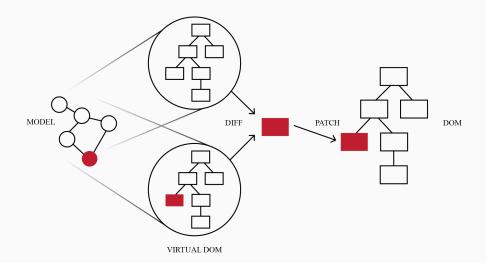
```
const paragraphs = document.querySelectorAll("p");
// paragraphs[0] is the first  element
// paragraphs[1] is the second  element, etc.
alert(paragraphs[0].nodeName);
```



Virtual DOM

- Abstraction over the HTML DOM
- Unlike Regular DOM, Virtual is not connected to the HTML DOM
- Updates only relevant nodes (Reconciliation) -> optimised and accelared process
 - Minimises update operations
 - Diffing algorithm (diffs HTML DOM tree and Virtual DOM tree)
 - Reduces O(n3) tree compare down to O(n)
- Used by frameworks Vue.js, React.js...

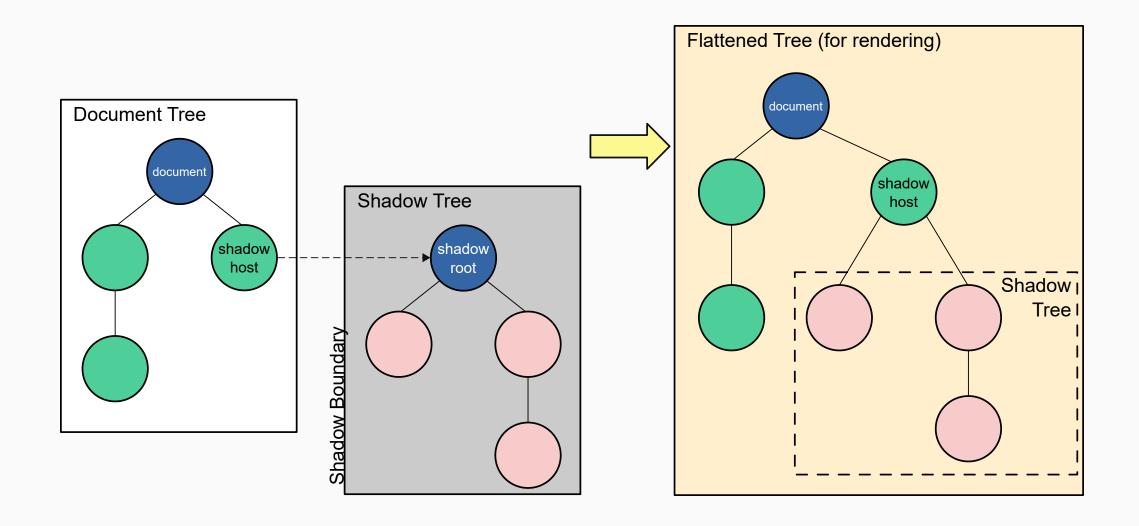




Shadow DOM

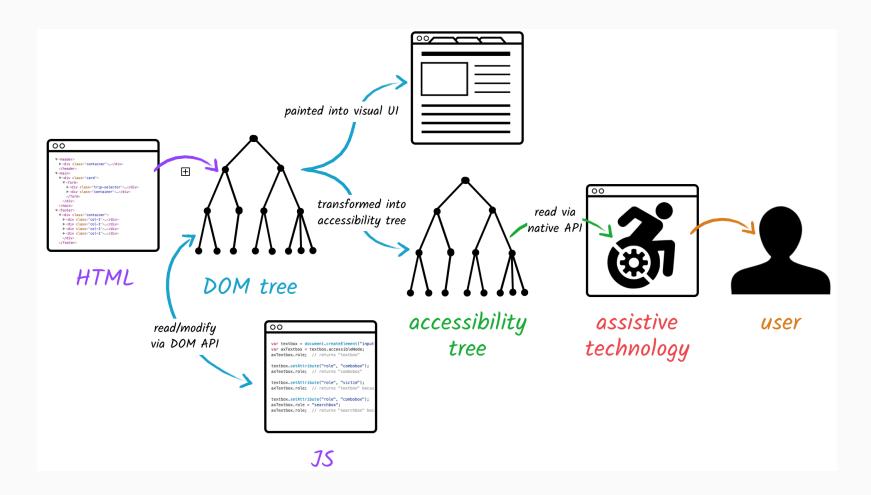
- Used for encapsulated web components
- Keeps behaviour, markup and style separate from other code
- Consists of:
 - Shadow host The regular DOM node that shadow DOM is attached to
 - Shadow tree The dom inside of shadow DOM
 - Shadow boundary Boundary between Shadow tree and Regular Tree
 - Shadow root Root node of shadow tree
- Example elements having shadow DOM: video, web components

```
/* Attach shadow dom to element */
let shadow = elementRef.attachShadow({mode: 'open'});
/* Interact with shadow dom */
let para = document.createElement('p');
shadow.appendChild(para);
```



AOM DOM

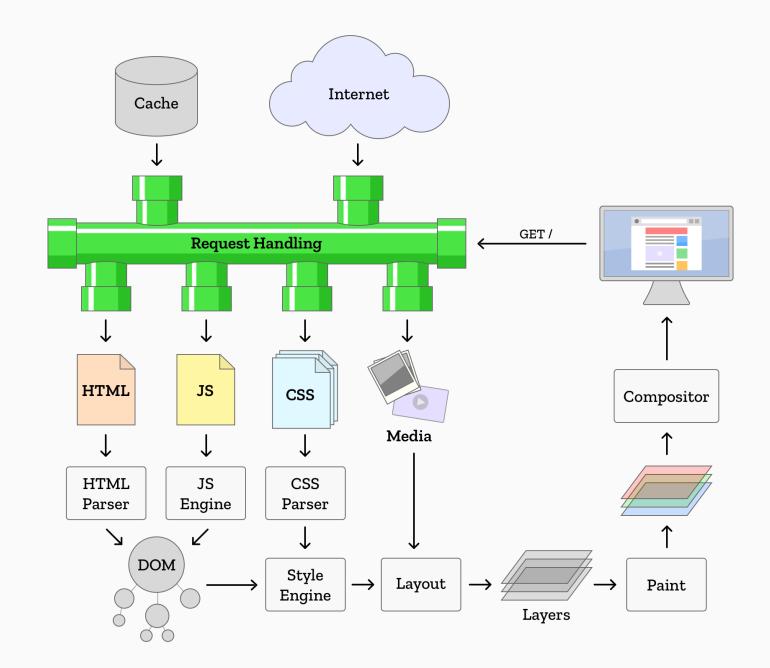
- Currently just a draft from 23th June of 2021 (backed by Google, Apple and Mozilla)
- Aims to improve accesibility for assistive technologies



Browser rendering

- Browser fetches the HTML file
- HTML is parsed to HTML DOM tree
- CSS is parsed into CSSOM tree
- CSSOM tree and HTML DOM tree are combined to render tree
- Layout computes exact positions and sizes of elements
- Browser creates the layers of elements
 - During rasterization missing parts such as background color, shadows are filled in
- Layers are painted by the browser on the screen

This is called **Critical rendering path**



Minification, Compression

• Techniques used to optimise fetching process from the web-server

Minification

- Process of removing all unnecessary characters (whitespaces)
 - o Replaces variables, function names with shorter naming
 - Reduces size of source files (css,js,html)
- Mainly for all the website text resources
- Implemented by web developers

function a(){return Math.floor(6*Math.random())+1}function b(){return new c.Promise(function(a,b){var c=Math.floor(6*Math.random())+1

Compression

- Increases the perfomance of the website
- Implemented on browsers/clients and servers
 - o Loss-less compression data is not altered, matches byte to byte with original
 - o Loosy original data is altered
- Offically used: gzip, brotli

Resources

- HTML5 Tutorial on TutorialRepublic.com
- https://dev.opera.com/articles/introduction-to-wai-aria/
- https://wicg.github.io/aom/spec/
- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/Performance/Critical_rendering_path
- https://medium.com/jspoint/how-the-browser-renders-a-web-page-dom-cssom-and-rendering-df10531c9969
- https://shortdiv.com/posts/aom-at-me-bro/
- https://reactjs.org/docs/reconciliation.html
- https://developers.google.com/web/fundamentals/performance/critical-rendering-path/render-tree-construction
- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/Performance/Critical_rendering_path