IHTML in Context:
Intensional HTML's relation to Dynamic HTML (DHTML) and XML

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Abstract

Javascript and Cascading Style Sheets (better known as Dynamic HTML) promise new possibilities for delivering more flexible content to the web. XML presents an extended meta-level for creating and tagging document contents in context-sensitive ways. While these are all very promising extensions for the delivery of online content, neither of these approaches (DHTML or XML) considers the documents they manipulate as versions. Versioning is at the heart of Intensional HTML (IHTML). As such it provides a very low overhead way to deliver some of the web tools more laboriously constructed through, for instance, Javascript, but more importantly, it allows authors to construct documents as user-interactive on a variety of dimensions. IHTML, in other words, complements DHTML and XML. This paper demonstrates where and why a web author may wish to consider an intensional model of delivery for digital document processing within a DHTML/XML expanding web culture.