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History of HTML

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Web Programming Languages 04

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Reference

- Why Apple is betting on HTML 5: a web history
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 version
- By Daniel Eran Dilger
- Saturday, September 19, 2009, 04:00 pm PT (07:00 pm ET)
- http://appleinsider.com/articles/09/09/19/why_apple_is_betting_on_html_5_a_web_history.html/page/1

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The origins of HTML

- Developed by Tim Berners-Lee in 1989
- For ENQUIRE
 - a private hyperlinked info. database at CERN
 - on NeXT Computer
 - later known as World-Wide Web (WWW)

Text-based

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HTML

- An application of SGML
 - Standard Generalized Markup Language
 - in 1960's
- Document annotated for
 - Presentation (font, color, ...)
 - Procedure (for drawing)
 - Description (footnote, citation, ...)

XML

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IETF Standard in 1993

- Reference browser: Mosaic
 - developed by the American NCSA (National Center for Supercomputing Applications)
 - Its openness killed proprietary services:
 - AOL, CompuServe, GENie, MSN, ...
- Commercial products
 - Netscape by Marc Andressen (NCSA Mosaic) Mosaic 作者
 - IE by Microsoft (Spyglass Mosaic)

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Various extensions

- Standardization
 - IETF WG on HTML 2.0 in 1995
 - W3C by Berners-Lee
- Netscape
 - added lots of extensions for presentation tags
 - HTML is not for structured documents!

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Netscape v.s. Microsoft

- HTML 3 by W3C in 1995
 - tables, based on a request by the US Navy
 - Microsoft IE 3 in 1996
 - ActiveX (run only on Windows)
 - killed Java plugin
 - later JScript (to beat JavaScript)
 - MARQUEE tag
 - Netscape
 - JavaScript (to beat ActiveX)
 - BLINK tag
- Handwritten notes:* Web page is not written in HTML

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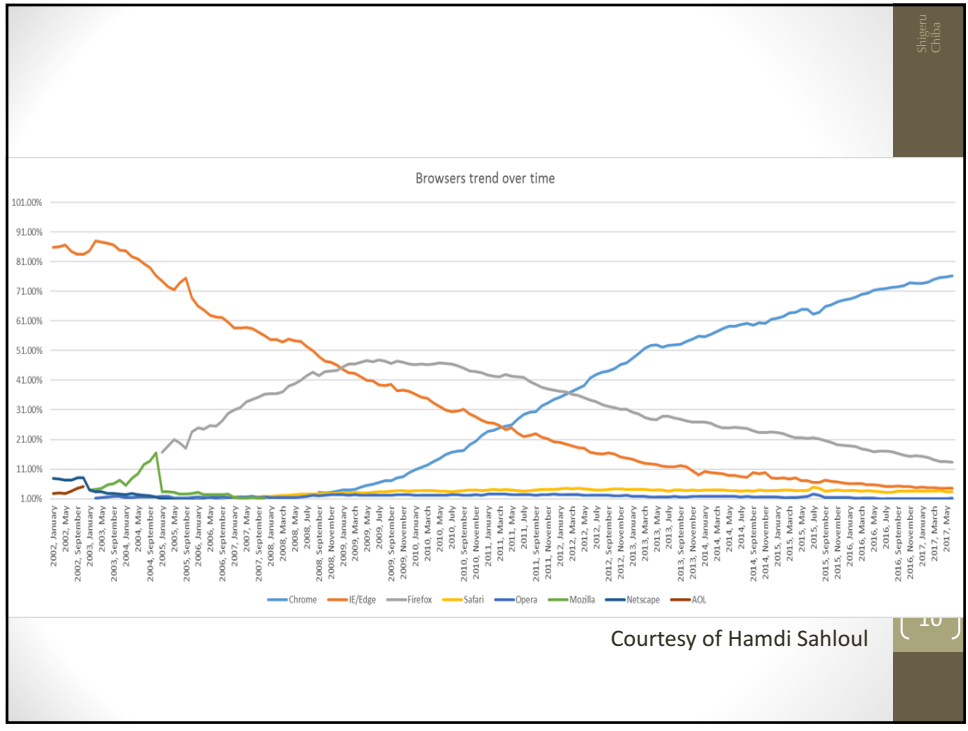
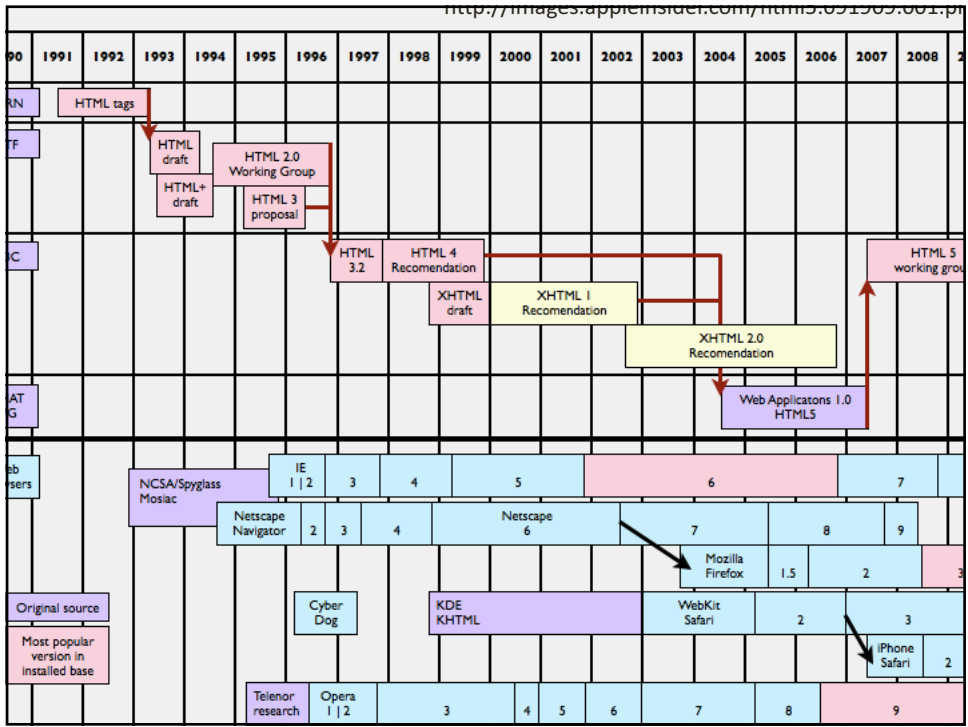
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HTML 4

- Excludes BLINK and MARQUEE tags
 - CSS (Cascading Style Sheets)
 - makes HTML doc. back to structured doc. without presentation annotations
 - Standardized JavaScript and the DOM
 - *Handwritten note:* X ActiveX
 - launched in 1997
 - with “strict” and “transitional”
 - Bundling IE with Windows killed Netscape
- Handwritten note:* Separation of concerns

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Courtesy of Hamdi Sahloul

XHTML 1.0 in 1998

- Makes HTML be a strict subset of XML (extensible markup language)
 - Machine readable, checkable by tools, ...
 - It can modularize a specialized markup
- IE did not immediately support XHTML
 - Microsoft was not interested in it because of its 90% market share

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XHTML 2.0 in 2002

- Standards for nobody
 - doesn't care about backward compatibility to HTML 4 or XHTML 1.0

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New players

- Mozilla Firefox
 - Netscape was reborn.
- Apple Safari in 2003
- Opera
- (Google Chrome in 2008)

- IE 6 in 2001, IE 7 in 2006

W3C voted “HTML 5” down

- The new players said:
 - “We consider Web Applications to be an important area that has not been adequately served by existing technologies.”
 - “There is a rising threat of single-vendor solutions addressing this problem before jointly-developed specifications.”
 - ... Adobe Flash, Microsoft Silverlight, and Sun JavaFX

WHATWG started in 2004

- Web Hypertext Application Technology Working Group
- worked on HTML 5.
 - to bypass proprietary solutions
 - merged into W3C in 2007
 - then HTML 5 was released in 2008