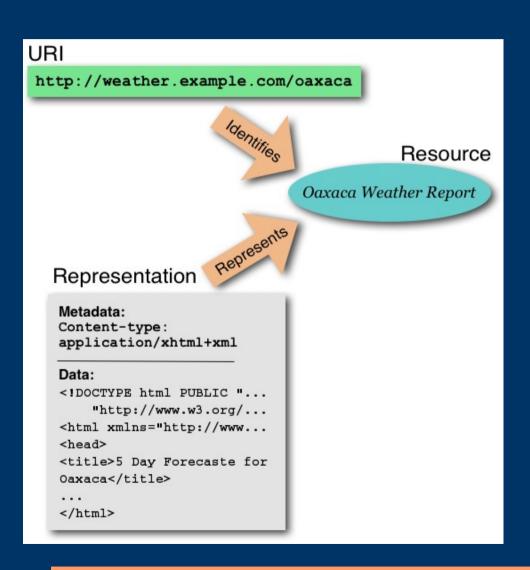
Data Formats and Resource Representations for the Web

Resources in the Web



- We "access" resources in the Web.
- Resources may be "written" or "represented" using web-based content/data formats:
 - Text
 - Images
 - Etc..

Definition: Web Page

- A "page" or document or content that we access in the web.
- Usually an HTML page.
 - It may be any of the following:
 - Text
 - XML-based content formats
 - Graphics
 - Multimedia
 - Even binary-encoded files.

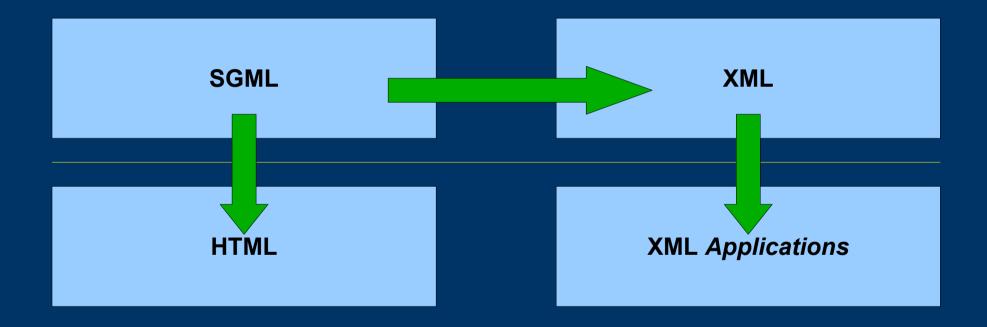
HTML: Hypertext Markup Language

- Basic web programmer's markup language.
- Last Known Version: 4.01*
- Uses "tags" to markup data or sections in a web page.
- An application of SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language)
 - SGML is a metalanguage.

HTML 4.01 to XHTML 1.0

- Development of HTML as a language was "halted" in favor of its XML-based incarnation.
- XHTML: Extensible Hypertext Markup Language
 - Reformulation of HTML in XML
 - XHTML is an XML application.

Metalanguages



XML: Extensible Markup Language

- The meta-language for creating XML-based documents.
 - As a meta language, it provides rules as to how these application languages are created.
- The term extensible means:
 - You can create your own document type.
 - You can create your own tags.
 - You may add new elements/tags to existing document types/applications for your own use.

XML: Data document-based

- XML focuses on data
 - Especially data that can be arranged into "document-form"
- XML is simplified SGML
 - Designed for the exchange of data in the Internet
- XML is for self-descriptive data.
 - The data is described by tags. Much like in HTML.*
- XML document elements can be arranged as a tree-structure.
- XML is text-based and human-readable.
- Separate Lecture on XML to follow...

XHTML

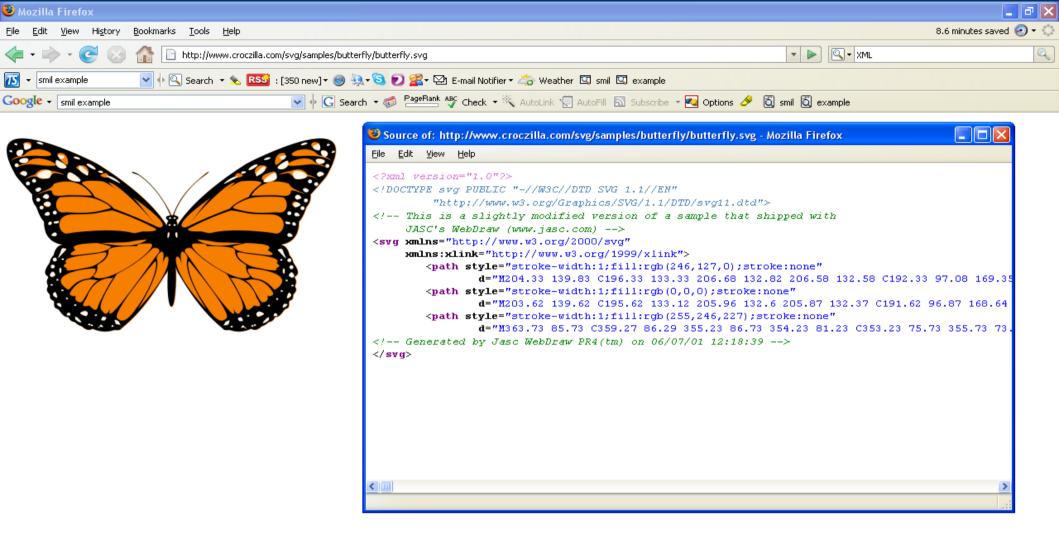
- A much stricter form of HTML.
- Follows the rigid rules of XML
 - ...which results to better and faster processing
 - E,g, rules:
 - One root element (which is <html>).
 - Required elements: DOCTYPE, html, head, title, body
 - Tags are always "closed" or a proper singleton tag (e.g. ...
 - No overlap of tags.
 - Lower case tag names and attribute names.
 - Attributes in the form attr="value" or attr='value'.

XHTML

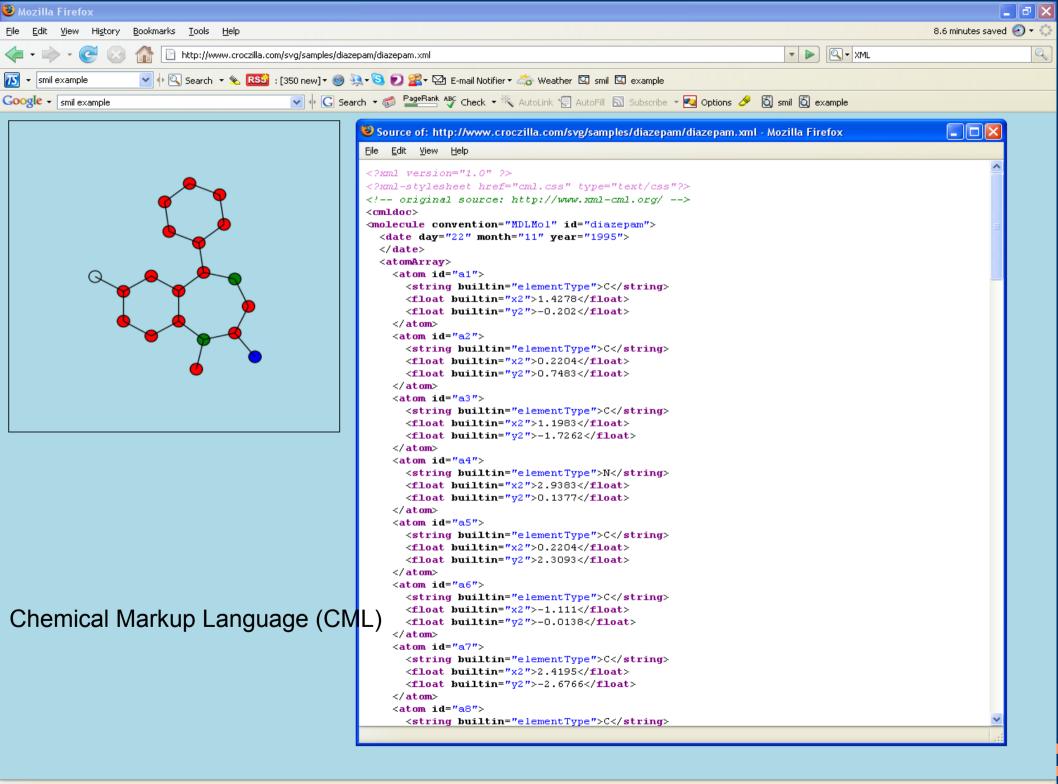
- In XHTML (as well as other XML-based documents), other document types may be combined or embedded. E.g. XHTML+SVG, XHTML+MathML, etc.
- In the new Modularized XHTML, you create your own XHTML subset for your special needs.

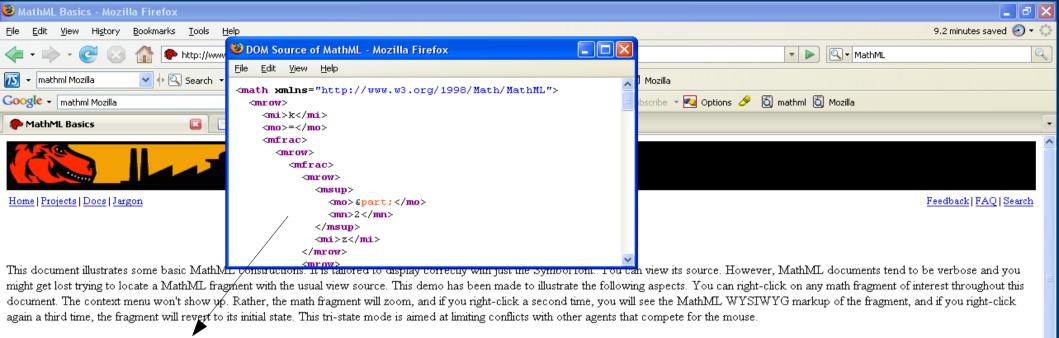
Invasion of XML-based formats

- TREND: New data formats are applications of XML.
 - Standard and simple API for XML parsing.
 - XML is backward compatible as well as future compatible.
 - Entities that exchange data/documents in the Internet now prefer XML-based formats over proprietary/binary formats.
 - Hype perhaps.



Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) Example



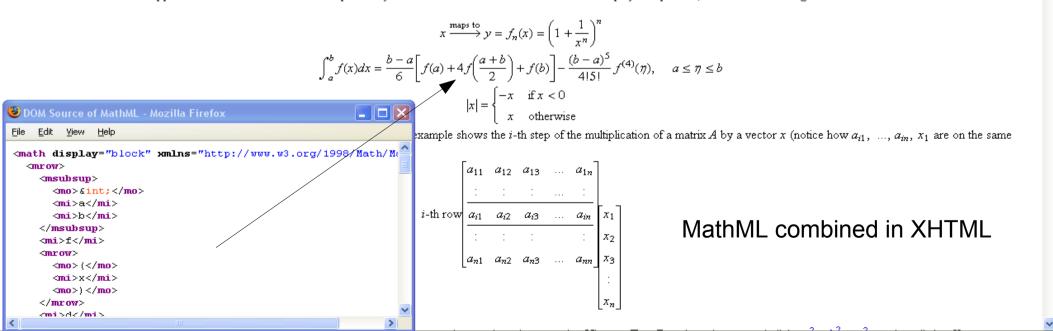


With MathML, one can build sets such as (go on, right-click any of these equations to experiment the zoom) $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ or $\{\left\lfloor \frac{a}{b}\right\rfloor | a^2 + b^2 \le 3\}$, write calculus $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{y^2}$, form rather complicated expressions

$$\lim_{n \to N} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n - e^N, \ k = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{y}^2} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x} \partial \mathbf{y}}\right)^2}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{y}}\right)^2\right)^2}, \ \text{write vector equations } \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{a} \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b}, \ \text{etc.}$$

Done

Notice how the mathematics appear in the main flow of text and respond as you resize the window. You can also make displayed equations, such as the following ones:



Other Popular XML-Based Data Formats

- SMIL
 - Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language
- GML
 - Geography(ic) Markup Language
- XSL, XML Schema
 - Used with XML documents for stylesheet and structure spec
- Data formats used by businesses (XBRL), news organizations, etc.

The Web Browser

- In charge of "rendering" content/data.
 - Thin client/browser
 - Content being rendered does not need additional software
 - I.e. If browser can "draw" the content without installing anything else.
 - Thick/Fat/Rich client/browser
 - Content requires additional software.
 - E.g. HTML containing Java applets, Flash requires installation of run time environments.
 - Hybrid
 - Processing performed at the client but requires data from the server.

Go Google

- http://www.w3schools.com for different tutorials.
- http://www.w3.org for technical papers/specifications of the different languages.