

## INTRODUCTION TO WEB TECHNOLOGIES

Web Tech SET08101

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### TL/DR

- Before we can go anywhere, we should really know how we got here. So we'll:
  - Consider a potted history
  - Overview the Chrome Developer Tools
  - Think about deployment
- Essentially: An overview of the basic things we need to know to understand how it all fits together



#### AIMS

- At the end of this (sub-section) of the topic you will be able to:
  - Understand the variety of technologies, tools, languages, and protocols that make up the web



### OVERVIEW: THE WEB, COMMUNICATION, PROTOCOLS, SERVERS, & CLIENTS





#### COMMUNICATION

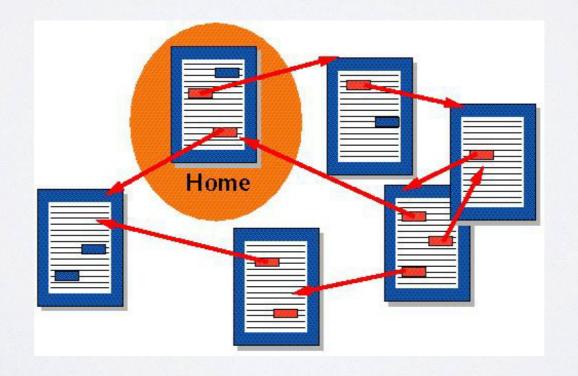
- Protocols are agreements for how to communicate
- Computer protocols are agreements specified with enough clarity that a computer can follow them
- The Internet & web are really just communication methods
- Specifically, a Hypermedia system





#### HYPERTEXT/HYPERMEDIA

- Coined by Ted Nelson in ~1965
- •Text displayed on an electronic device that incorporates references, called **Hyperlinks**, to other text.
- •Text becomes non-linear as a result
- One implementation of the hypertext idea is in HTML







#### INVENTION OF THE WEB

- Invented in 1989 by SirTim Berners-Lee
- First web browser written in 1990
- Originally seen as a way to share scientific research
- Text formatted using HTML & communicated using HTTP
- Builds on existing protocols that underpin the Internet







#### THE INTERNET

A global system of interconnected computer networks

 Built on shared & agreed protocols - the Internet Protocol suite (TCP/ IP)

 Dates back to research in the 1960's commissions by the US government

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#### INTERNET PROTOCOLS

- · Application Layer: DNS, HTTP, IMAP, POP
- Transport Layer: TCP
- Internet Layer: IP
- · Link Layer: Ethernet





#### HTTP

- An application layer protocol for distributed and collaborative hypermedia/hypertext systems.
- Request-response protocol that uses the client-server model.
- Client (browser) makes a request. HTTP server (software running on an Internet connected computer) listens and responds according to the protocol.
- HTTP Session a sequence of request-response transaction transmitted over TCP.
- Request Methods: HTTP verbs, e.g. GET, HEAD, POST, PUT, DELETE, OPTIONS,
   PATCH





#### HTML

- HyperText Markup Language
- A language for turning text into hypertext using markup
  - **Text** strings (sequences of characters) encoded using an agreed format (Generally UTF8)
  - Language Means for communication.
  - Hypertext Links between text
  - Markup HTML uses Tags, generally placed around the element being tagged, e.g.

#### <h1>Hello</h1>

• Explore the Mozilla Developer Docs to find out more





#### SERVERS

- · A piece of software that runs on a computer
- · Listens for messages & calculates the right response to make
- · A server is a piece of software that uses a particular protocol
  - A web server listens for messages that are sent using web protocols (HTTP)
- If a server is listening then what is doing the speaking?





#### WEB CLIENTS

- Another piece of software (nothing particularly special)
- Known as a user agent
- Sends messages from an Internet connected machine (host) to a server that listens, interprets the request & generates an appropriate response:
  - e.g. a web browser making a request to a web server using HTTP



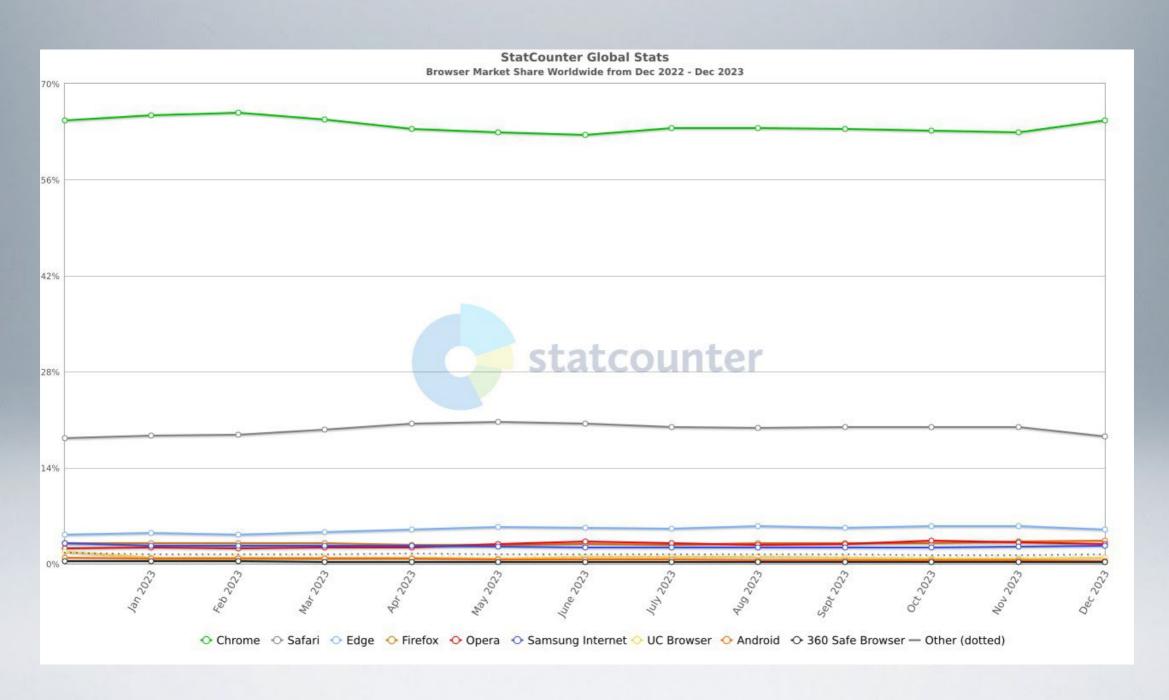


#### WEB BROWSERS

- Software containing a layout engine that renders web pages (HTML)
- Used to navigate the web but also private networks, IoT interfaces, local file systems.
- Have become a default cross-platform environment so also now used for desktop GUIs



#### BROVSER MARKET SHARE

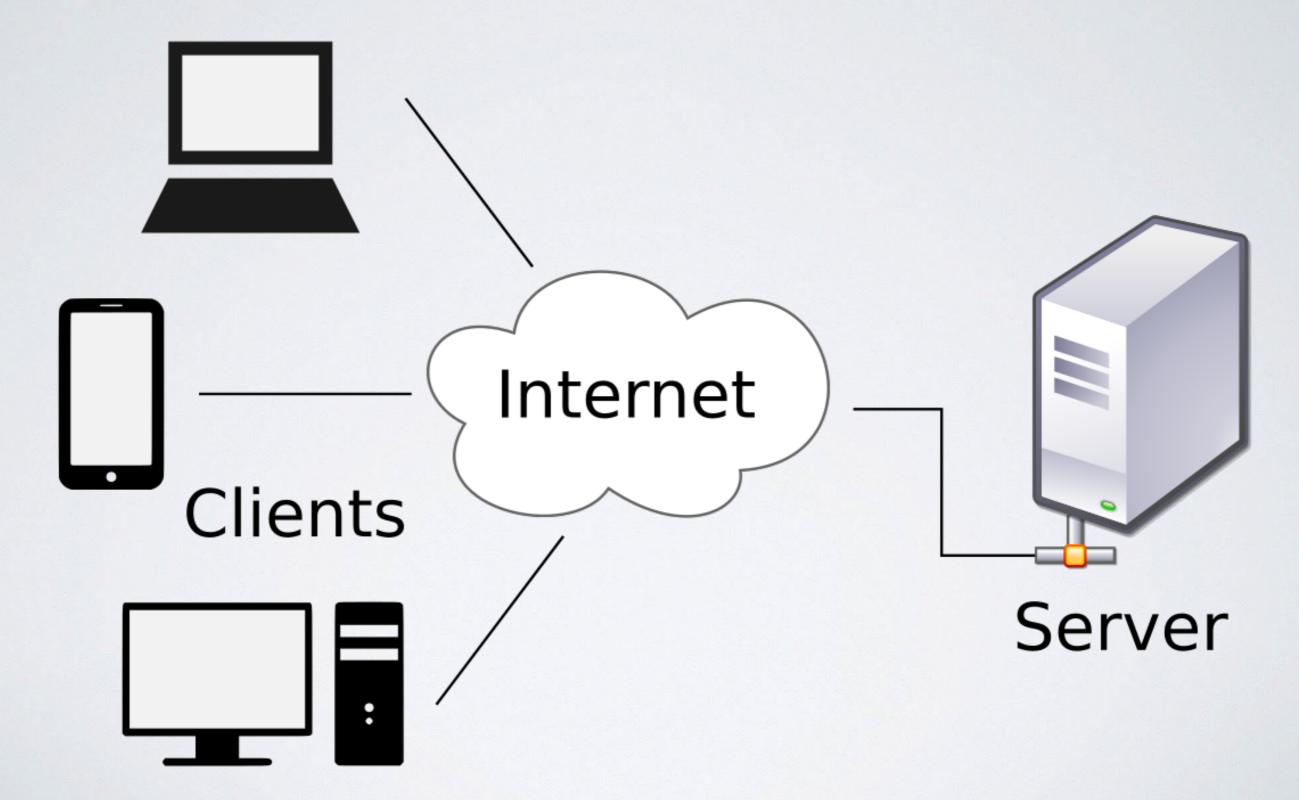


https://gs.statcounter.com/





#### CLIENT-SERVER MODEL







#### HTML INSIDETHE BROWSER

- •HTML represented within the browser using the DOM
- Document Object Model
- •HTML is parsed into a tree data structure to construct the DOM (for that document)
  - Each node is an object representing part of the document
  - Objects can be manipulated programmatically
- •HTML displayed in developer tools is a representation of the DOM



#### DEVELOPER TOOLS





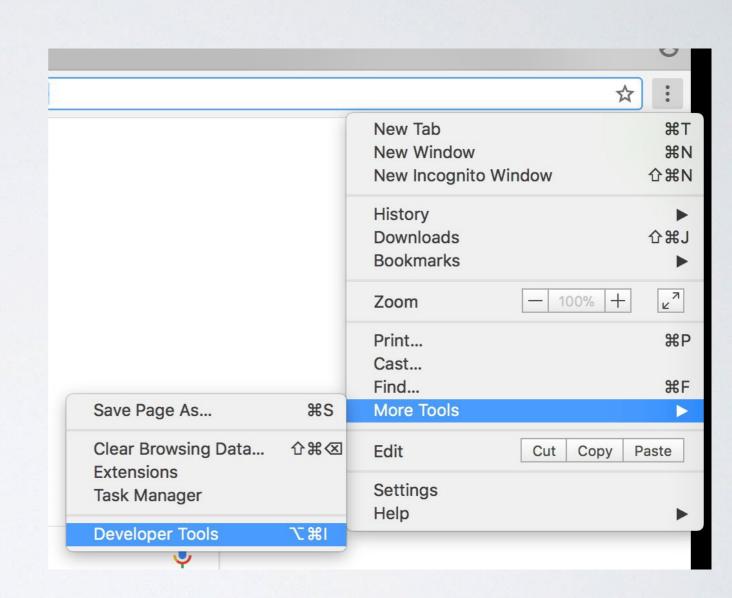
#### BROWSER DEVELOPER TOOLS

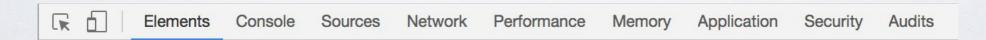
- Browser: Chrome, Chromium, Firefox, Safari, Opera, IE/Edge
- Common Features of Developer Tools:
  - HTML & DOM viewers & editors
  - · Web page assets, resources, network information
  - Profiling & Auditing
  - JavaScript Debugging & Console
- Text Editors: Sublime, Notepad++, Atom, Brackets, Vim

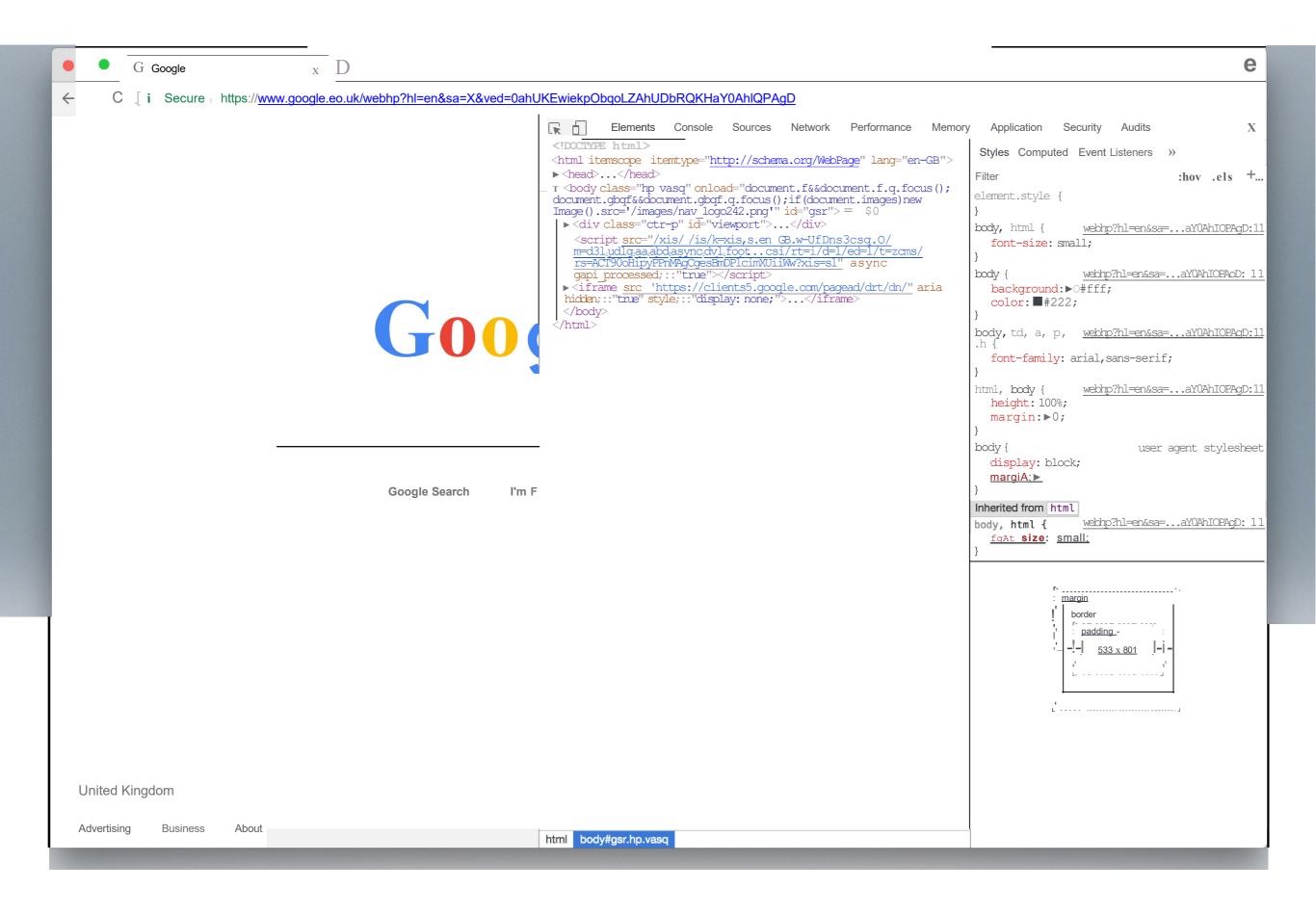


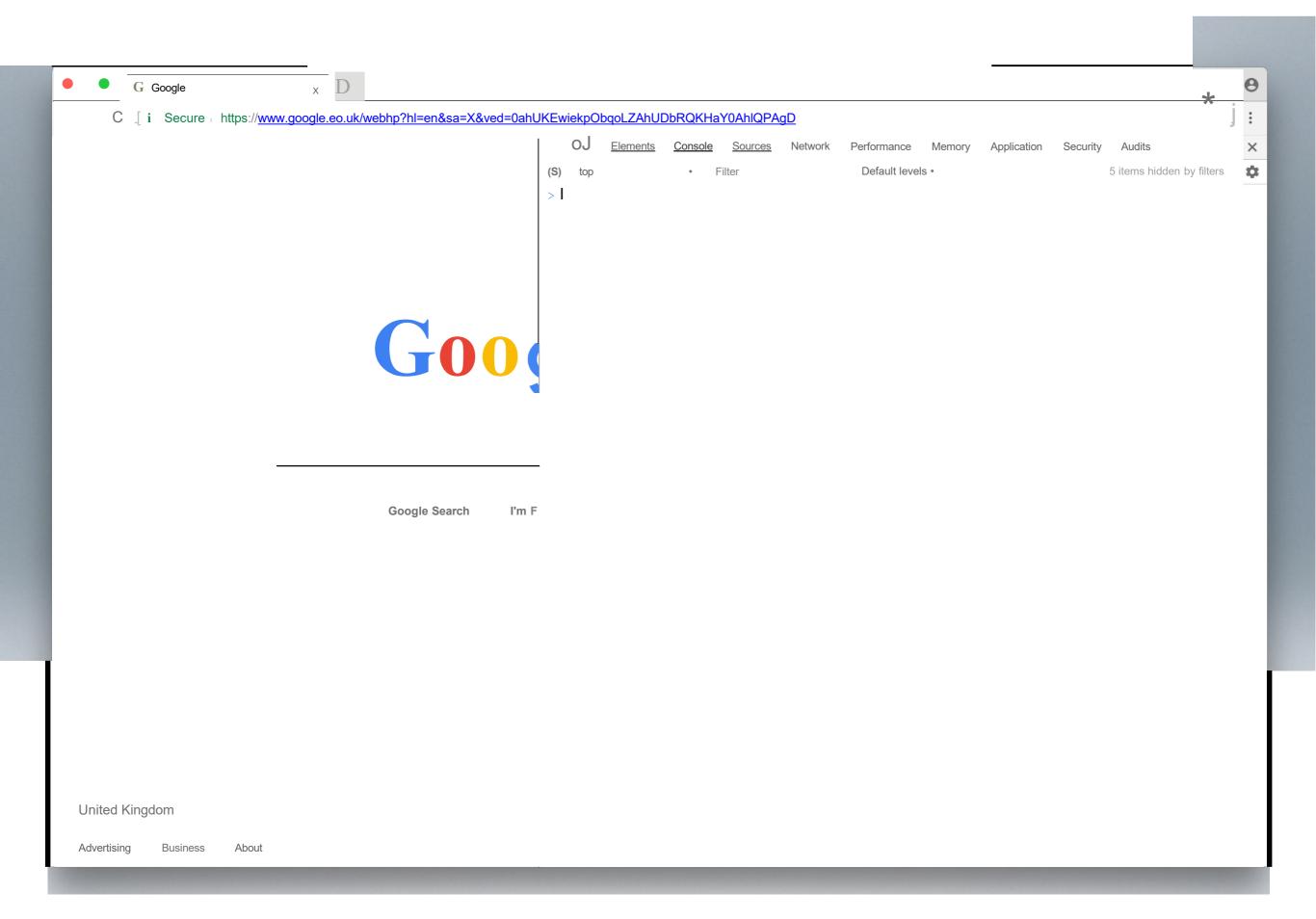
#### CHROME DEVELOPER TOOLS

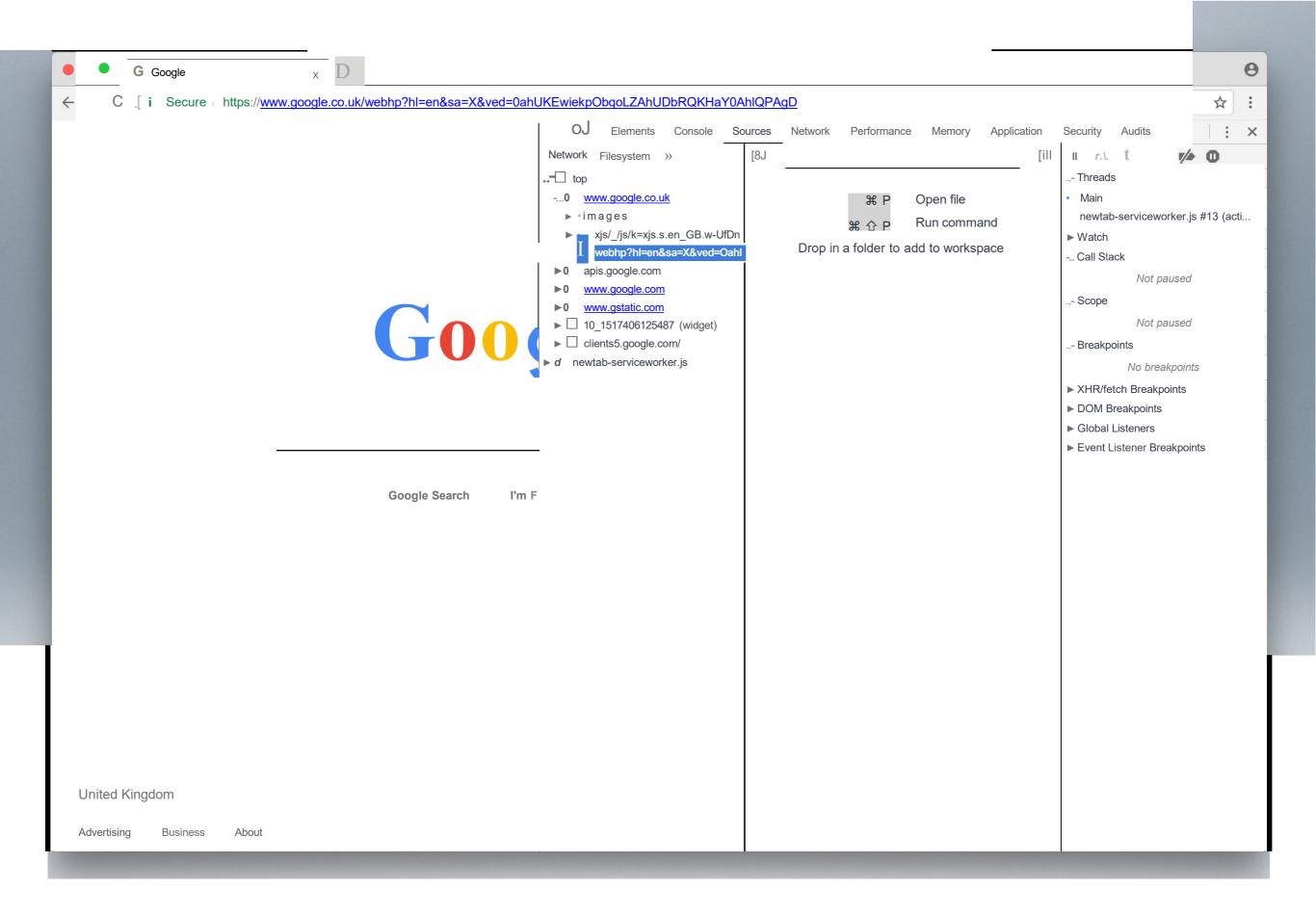
- (Currently) Very popular also pioneers new ideas & directions for the future of the web
- Fast. Stable, Feature Rich.
   Many tools to support developers

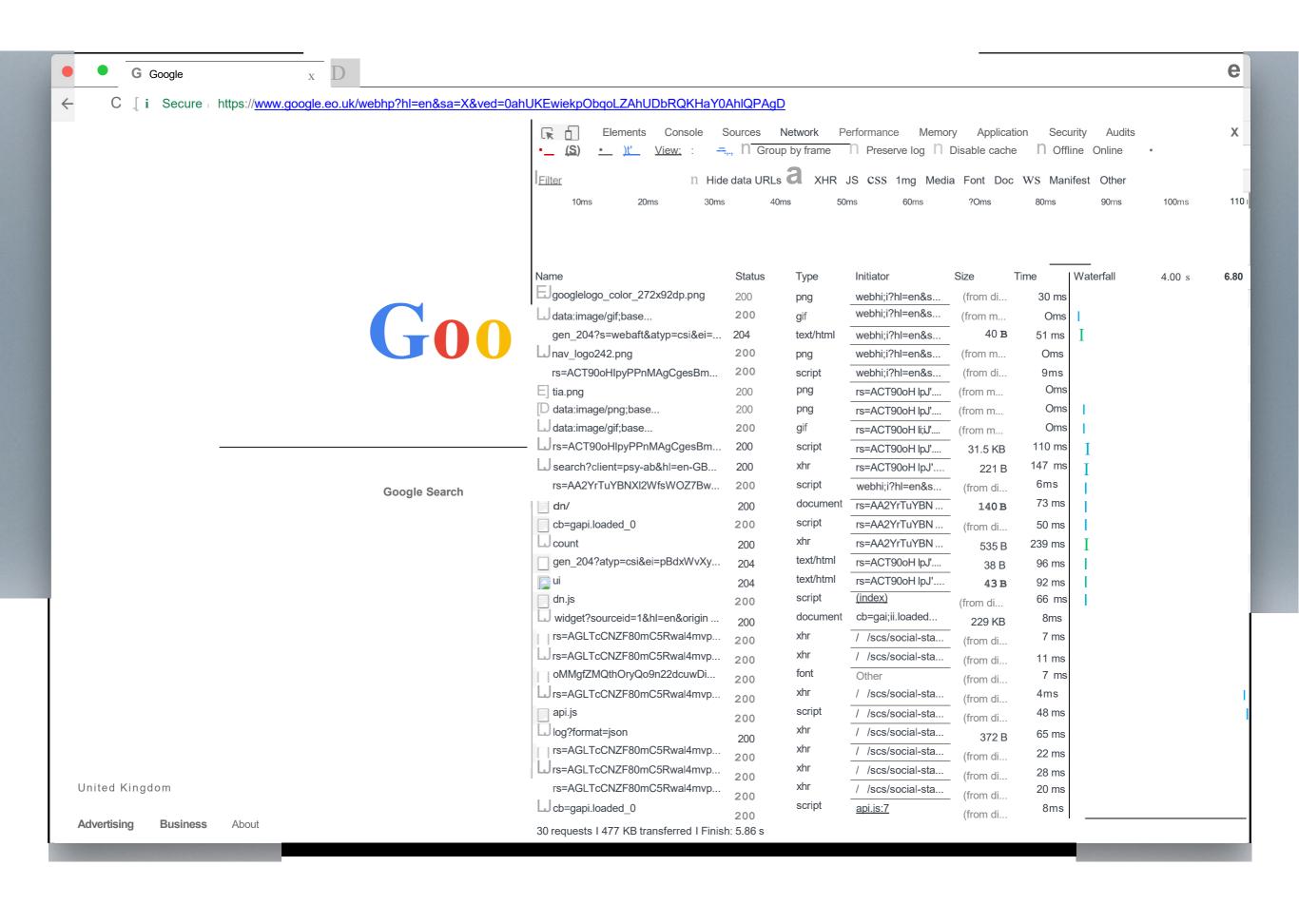


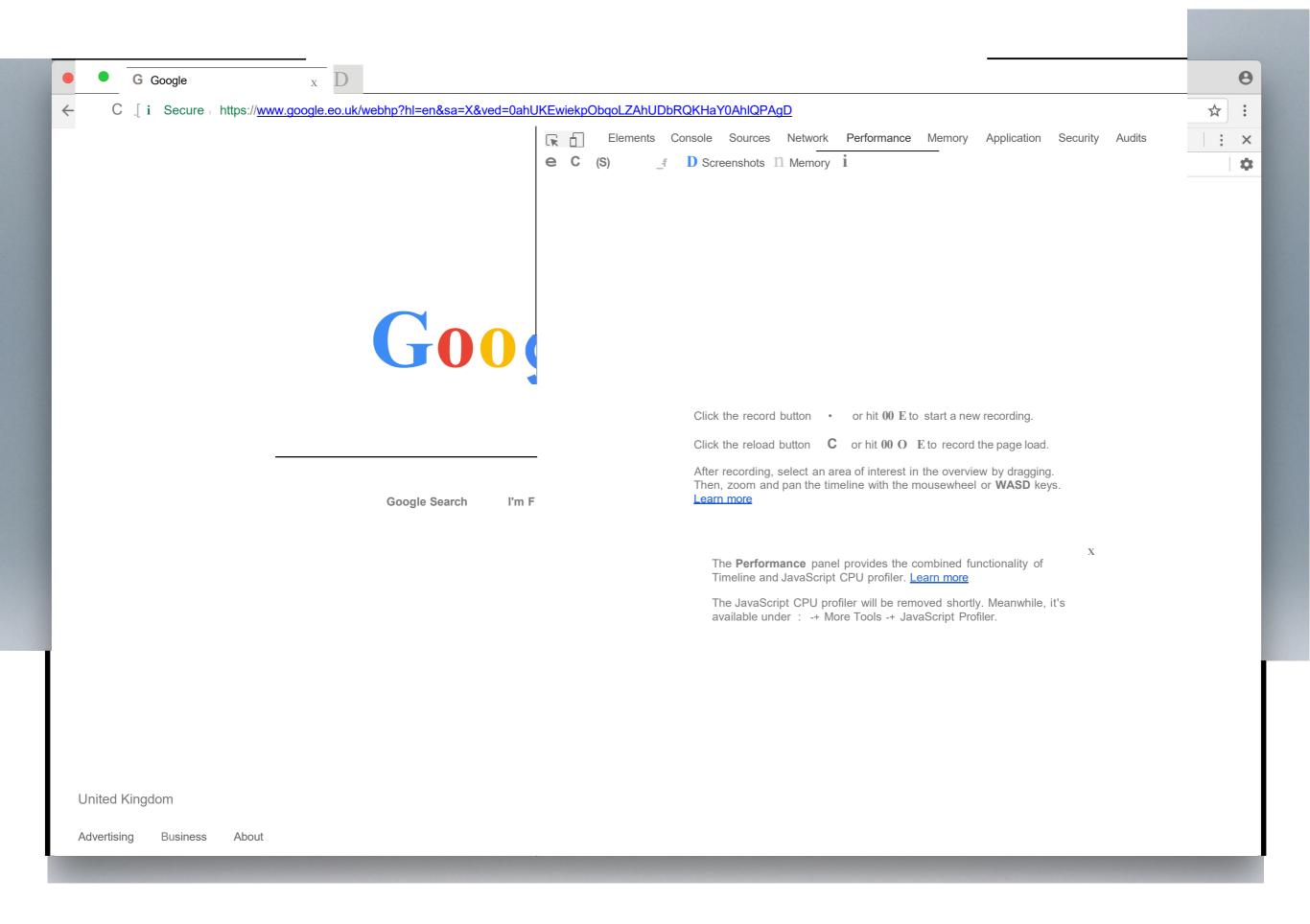


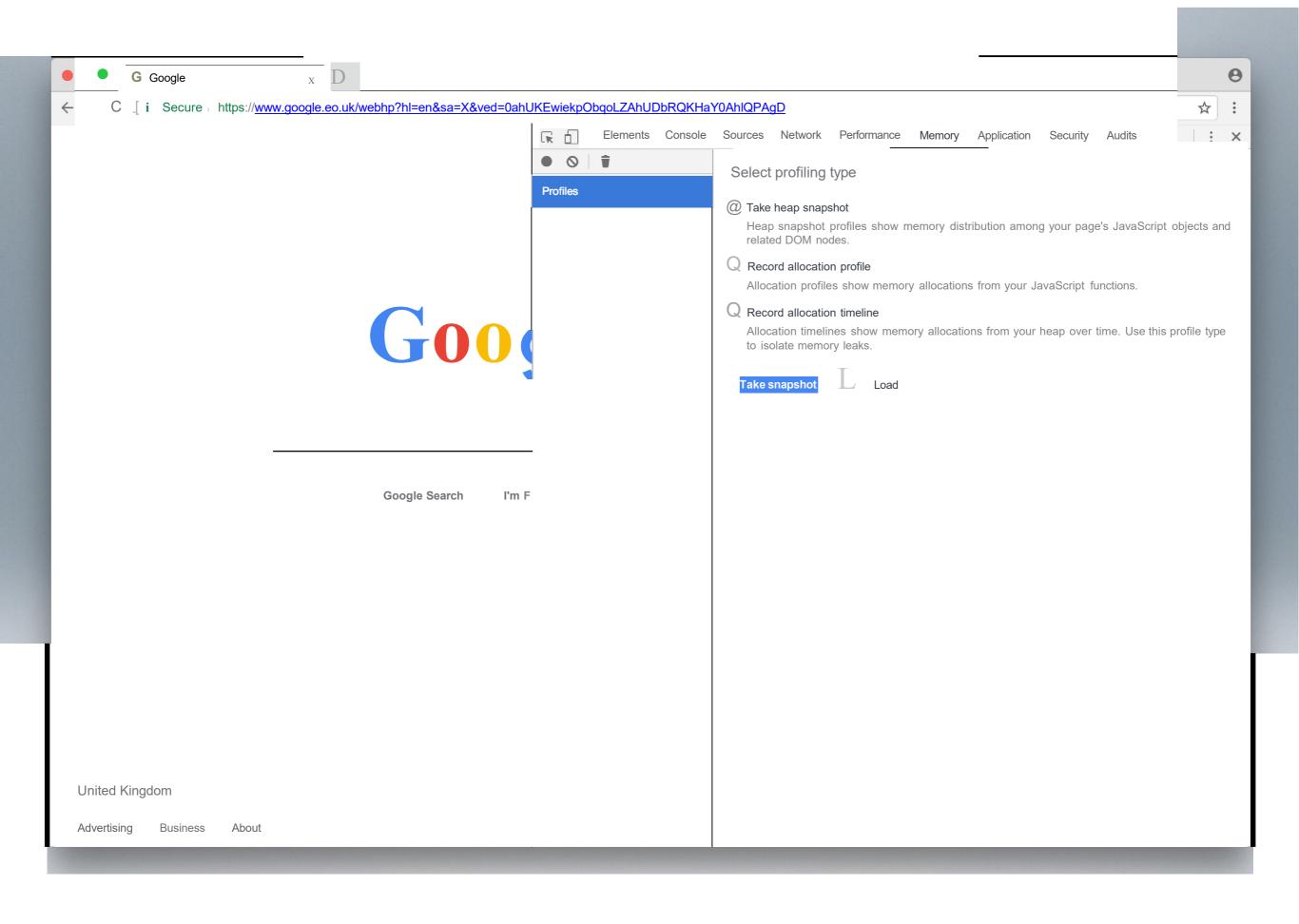


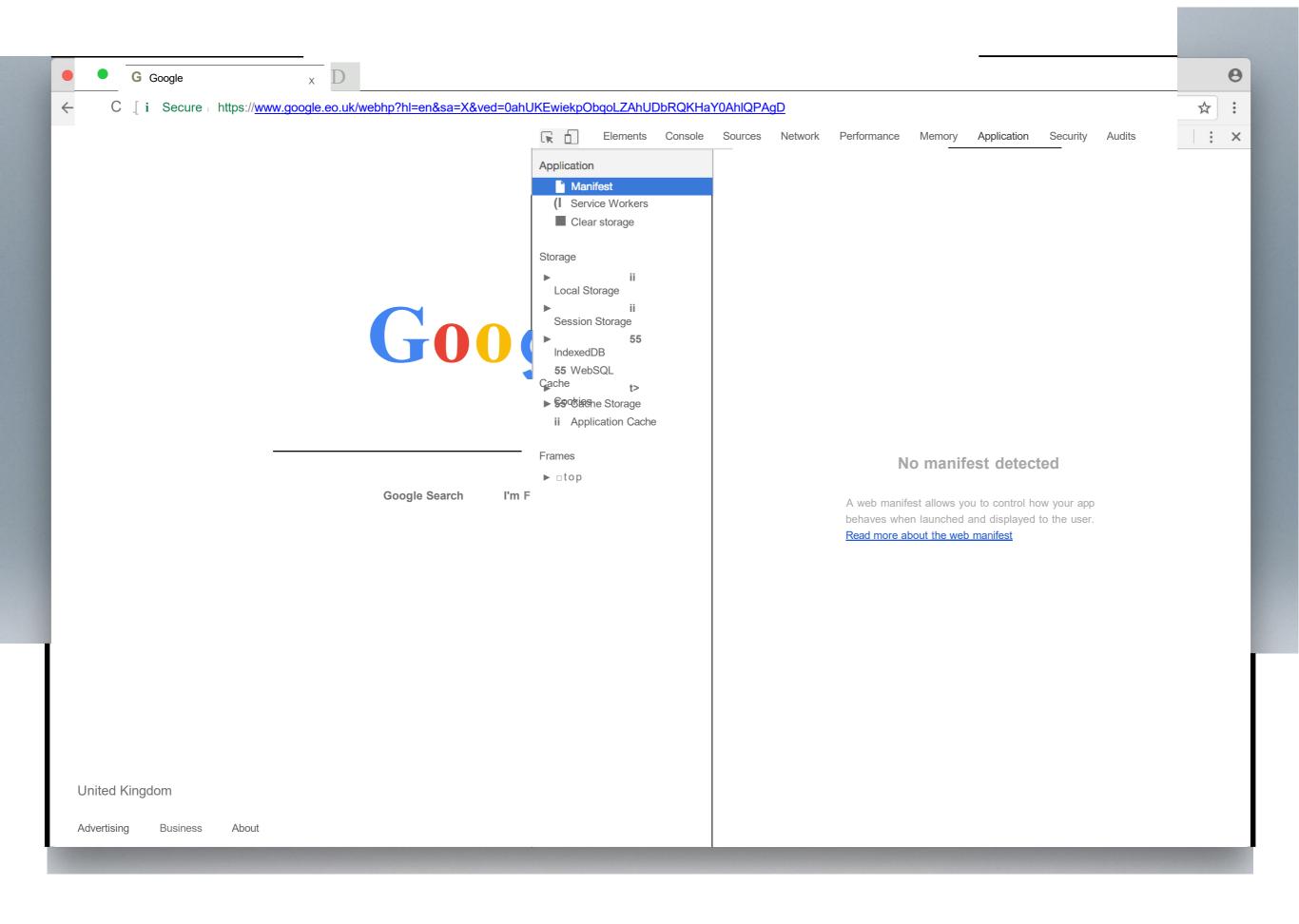


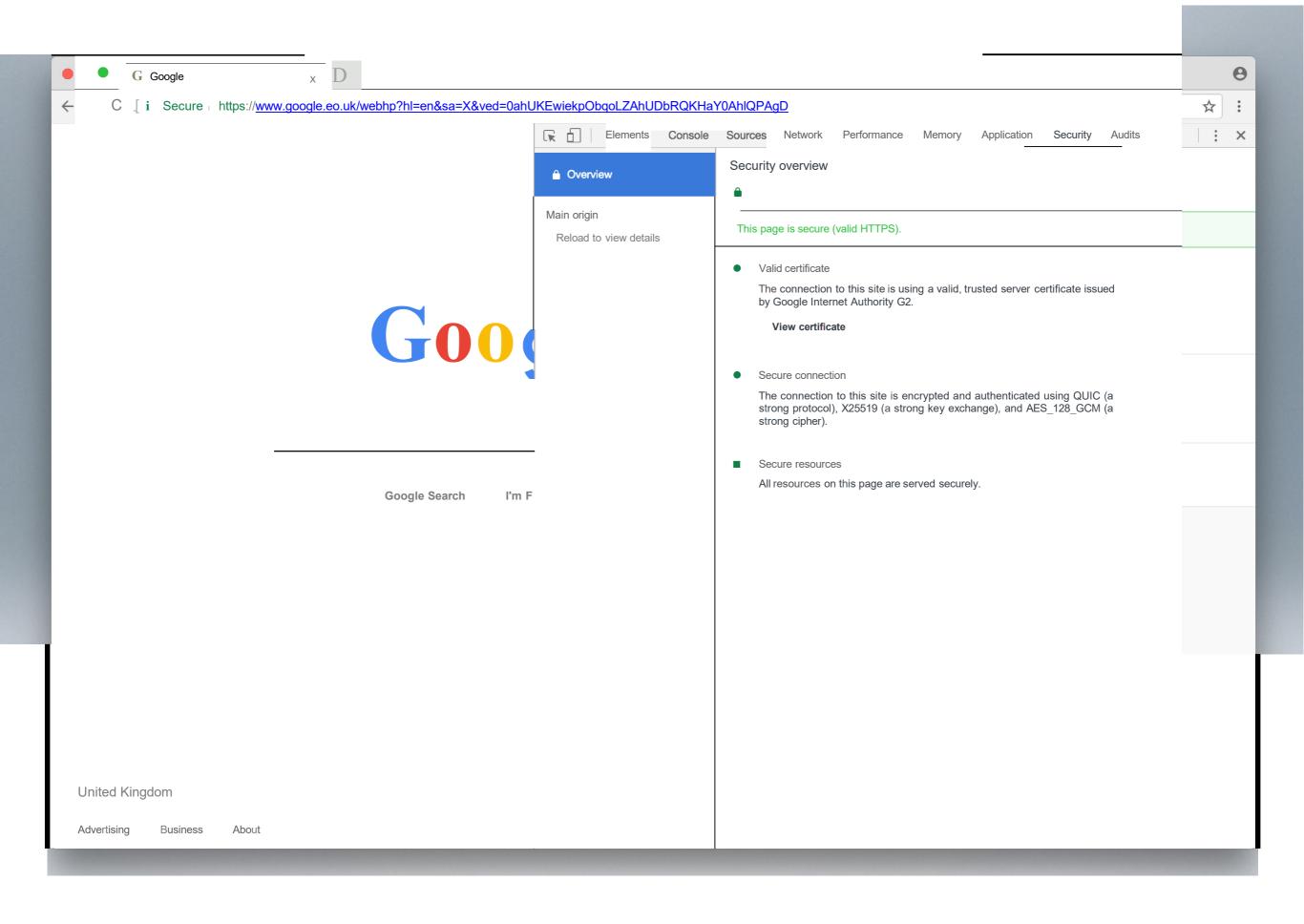


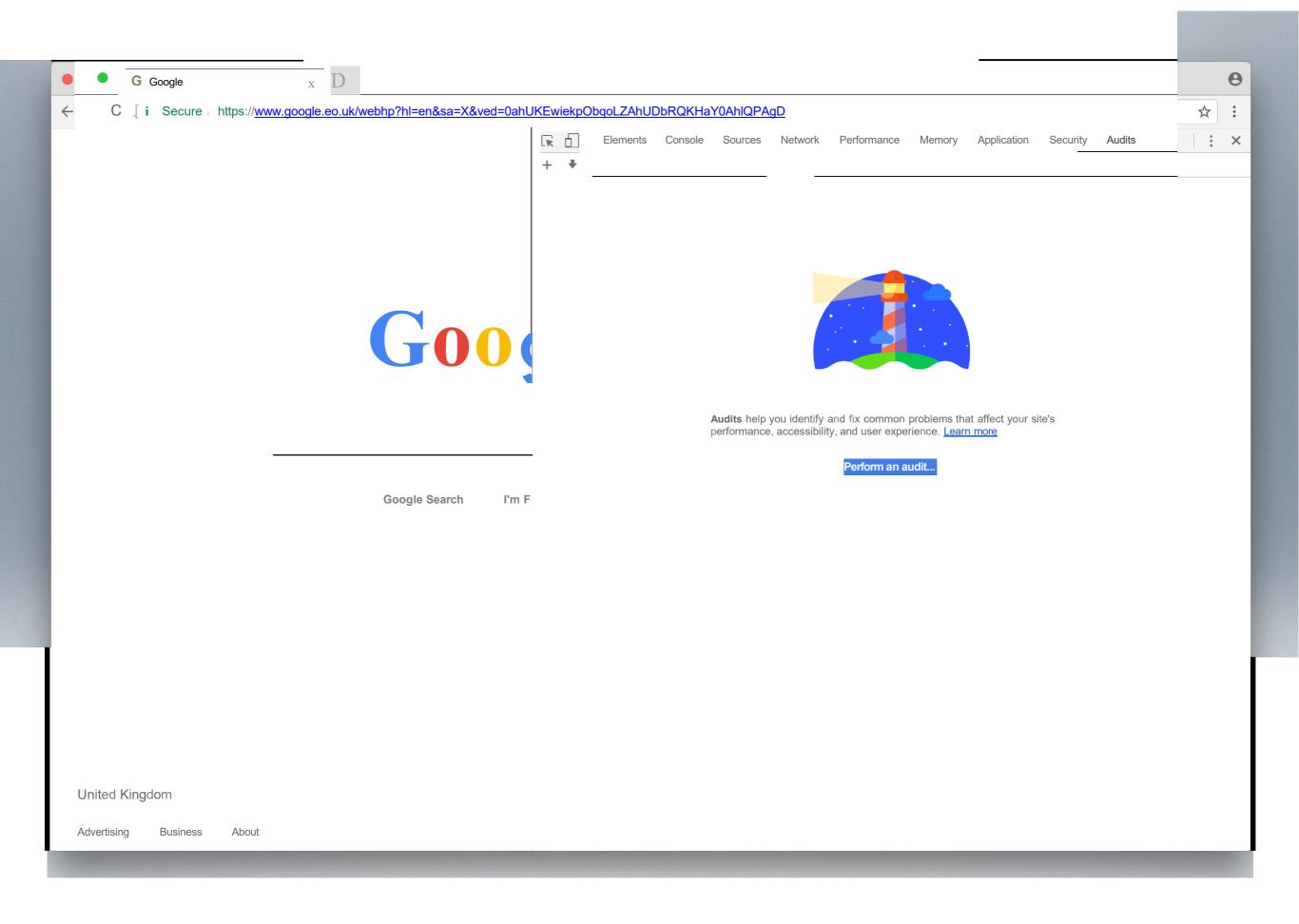














#### DEPLOYMENT

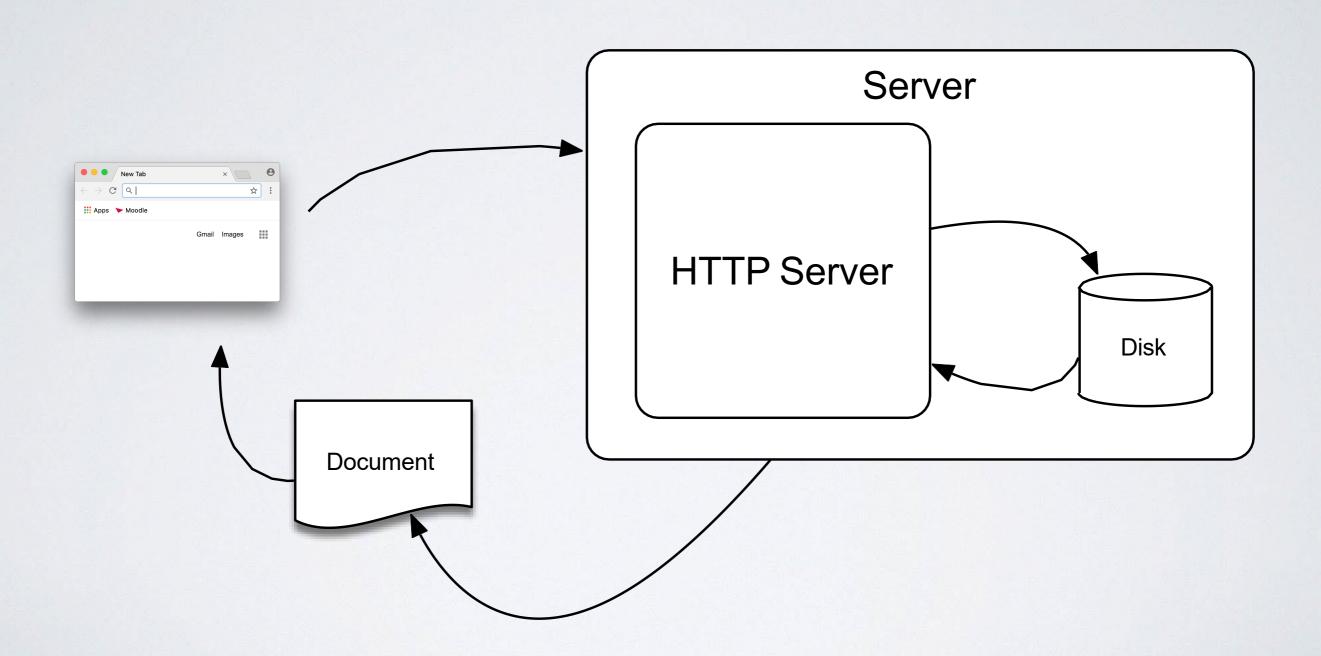




#### CLIENTS & SERVERS

- An established architecture for organising communication between devices & software
- Client makes a request
- Server listens for requests then makes a response
  - Unless you're using the XWindow server
- Server is a nexus

# CLIENT SERVER Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY ARCHITECTURES







#### WEB SERVING

- Server needs to be on the Internet: IP Address
- Server needs to be an HTTP server: Listens for connections using the HTTP protocol (RFC 2616)



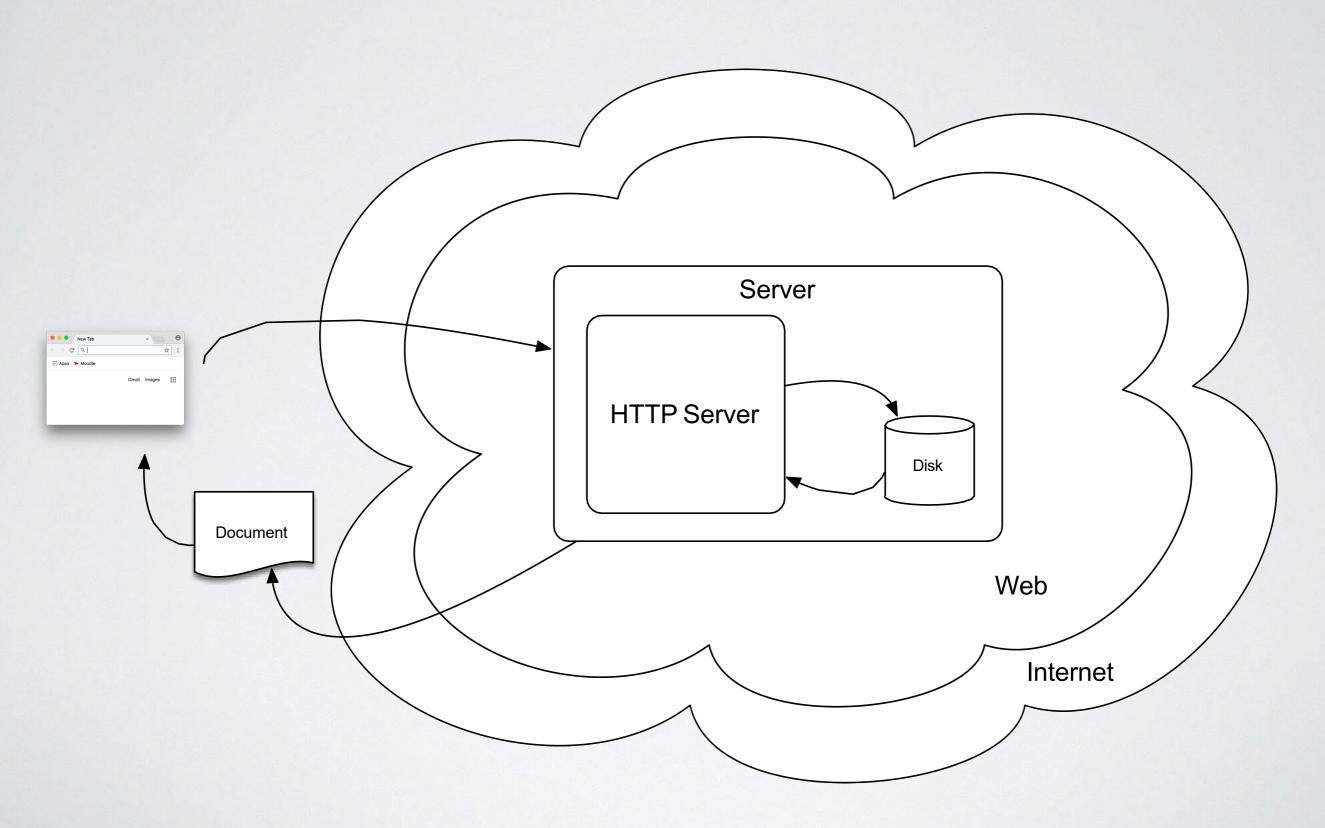


#### HTTP PROTOCOL

- Defines how (primarily text) messages for transferring HyperText should be:
  - formatted & transmitted
  - responded to by servers & clients
  - Technically: a stateless, application layer protocol for communicating between distributed systems

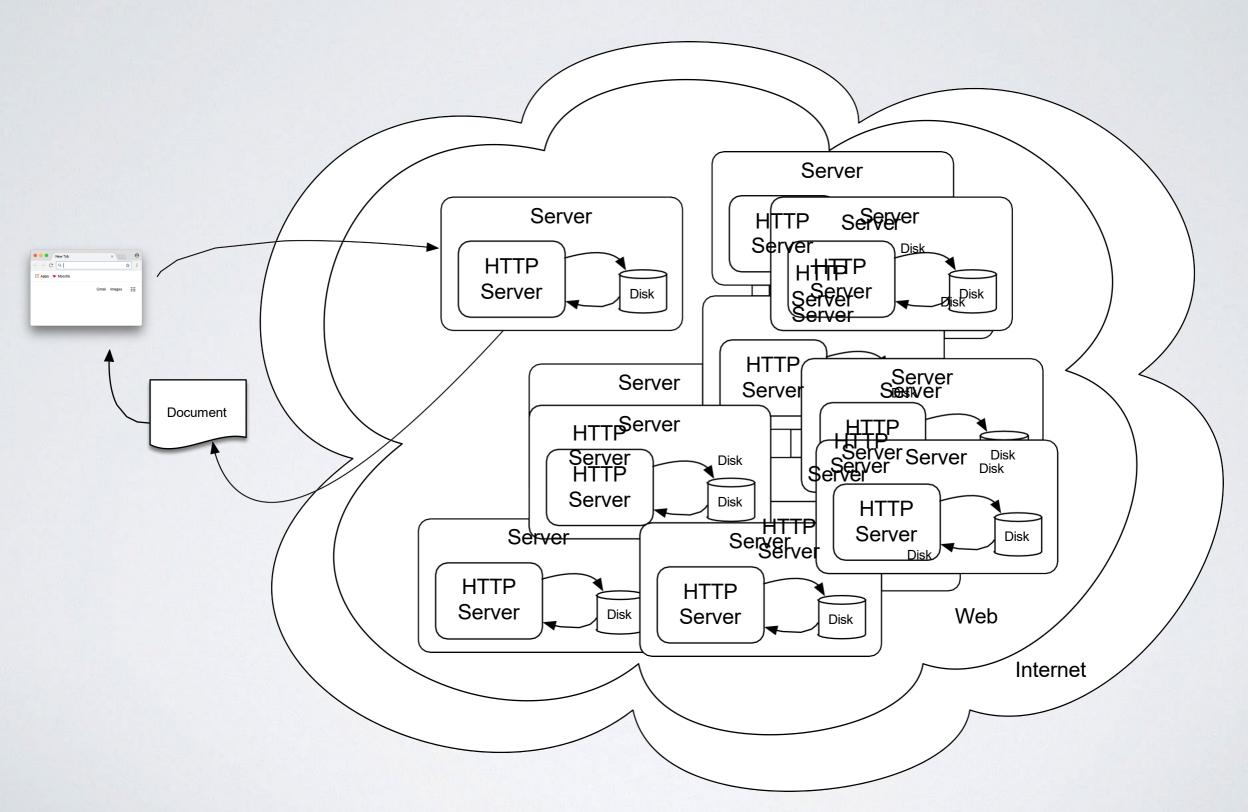


#### WEB ARCHITECTURE





#### WEB SCALE







#### DEPLOYING OUR OWN SITES

- Local web server (not really deployment)
- Free static hosting service
- Dedicated Web hosting service
- Virtual Server
- Hardware Server
- Cloud Host





#### LOCAL WEB SERVER

- Run NGinX locally
  - Good for testing your site
  - Can be made available to other Internet users (but this gets complicated fast)





#### FREE STATIC HOSTING

- Neocities
  - Old School, free, static site hosting (in style of Geocities)
  - https://neocities.org/
- GitHub Pages
  - Static hosting direct from your GitHub repository:
    - https://pages.github.com/
  - · Updates are pushed to your repo & automatically deployed
  - Available to all web users





#### DEDICATED WEB HOSTING

- Many sites provide web hosting
- · Sign up for an account,
- Pay the fees (start small/sometimes free) escalate rapidly depending upon bandwidth
- · Limited control over web server software





#### VIRTUAL SERVER

- Gives you a virtual machine on someone else's server
- Connected to the Internet you will pay for CPU, RAM, Storage, & bandwidth - according to your needs
- Can start very cheap (some free many from £2.99/month) but price escalates rapidly
- Almost complete control over your machine
- · Easy to backup and move your server to other places





#### HARDWARE SERVER

- Hardware that you build, buy or rent
- Must be connected to the Internet needs reliable network & dedicated IP address.
- All administration must be done by you or others in your team
- Server can be located locally or in a hardware hosting facility (advantages & disadvantages to each)
- Must consider back-up, have a plan for expansion





#### **CLOUD HOST**

- Cloud Hosting
- Often incorporates the idea of "computing as a service"
- Scalable to the degree that you can afford
- Ultimately: someone else's machine





#### GITHUB PAGES

- Normally, GitHub stores Git repositories
- We can set up a public Git repository, containing a website (HTML, CSS, & JS), and tell GitHub to serve that repository as a website
- This is essentially free Web hosting





#### SUMMARY

- Looked at a potted history of the Internet, Web, Hypertext, DOM, & Basic Web Architecture
- Looked at the developer tools available to us (Chrome)
- Considered deployment (Github Pages)
- Overview of the basic things we need to know to understand how it all fits together



#### NEXT

 The wonderful world of text markup, Hypertext, and HTML

• or

"how to organise, structure, and describe our data for presentation on the Web"