Ajax

“AJAX stands for Asynchronous JavaScript and XML. AJAX is a new technique for creating better, faster, and more interactive web applications with the help of XML, HTML, CSS, and Java Script” (tutorialspoint.com). AJAX uses XHTML for content, CSS for presentation and the DOM and JavaScript for dynamic content display. The majority of web applications transmit information synchronously, meaning that you fill out a form, hit submit and are sent to a new page. With AJAX rather than getting sent to a new page the current page will update automatically and you can continue using it. In its purest sense the user would never know anything was sent to the server. For example: Instead of going to a login page, and then navigating back to the page you originally wanted, with AJAX, a user can type in their user name and password directly into the original page. From there AJAX will send a request to the server to log them in. The server let’s the page know they’ve been logged in, and the page you are on can update as needed. Digg has a login-system that works like this. “(JotForm). A system using ajax like this offers quite a few key advantages:

* Reduce the traffic travels between the client and the server.
* Response time is faster so increases performance and speed.
* You can use [JSON](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JSON) (JavaScript Object Notation) which is alternative to [XML](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XML). JSON is key value pair and works like an array.
* You can use Firefox browser with an add-on called as Firebug to debug all Ajax calls.
* Ready Open source JavaScript libraries available for use – JQuery, Prototype, Scriptaculous, etc..
* AJAX communicates over [HTTP](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypertext_Transfer_Protocol) Protocol.

(Baldota)

Unfortunately, with these advantages come some disadvantages. AJAX can increase design and development time, it is more complex and can offer less security. On top of that Search engines like google cannot index AJAX pages and JavaScript disabled browsers cannot use these pages. Despite these drawbacks AJAX is gaining traction in the industry and is rapidly cropping up all over the web.

Works Cited

tutorialspoint.com. “What Is AJAX?” [*Www.tutorialspoint.com*](http://Www.tutorialspoint.com), [www.tutorialspoint.com/ajax/what\_is\_ajax.htm](http://www.tutorialspoint.com/ajax/what_is_ajax.htm).

Baldota, Pritam. “What Is AJAX.” *Pritam Baldota Technology Geek*, [www.pritambaldota.com/what-is-](http://www.pritambaldota.com/what-is-) ajax/.

JotForm. “How AJAX Works: 10 Practical Uses For AJAX | The JotForm Blog.” *Jotform Blog*, www.jotform.com/blog/how-ajax-works/.