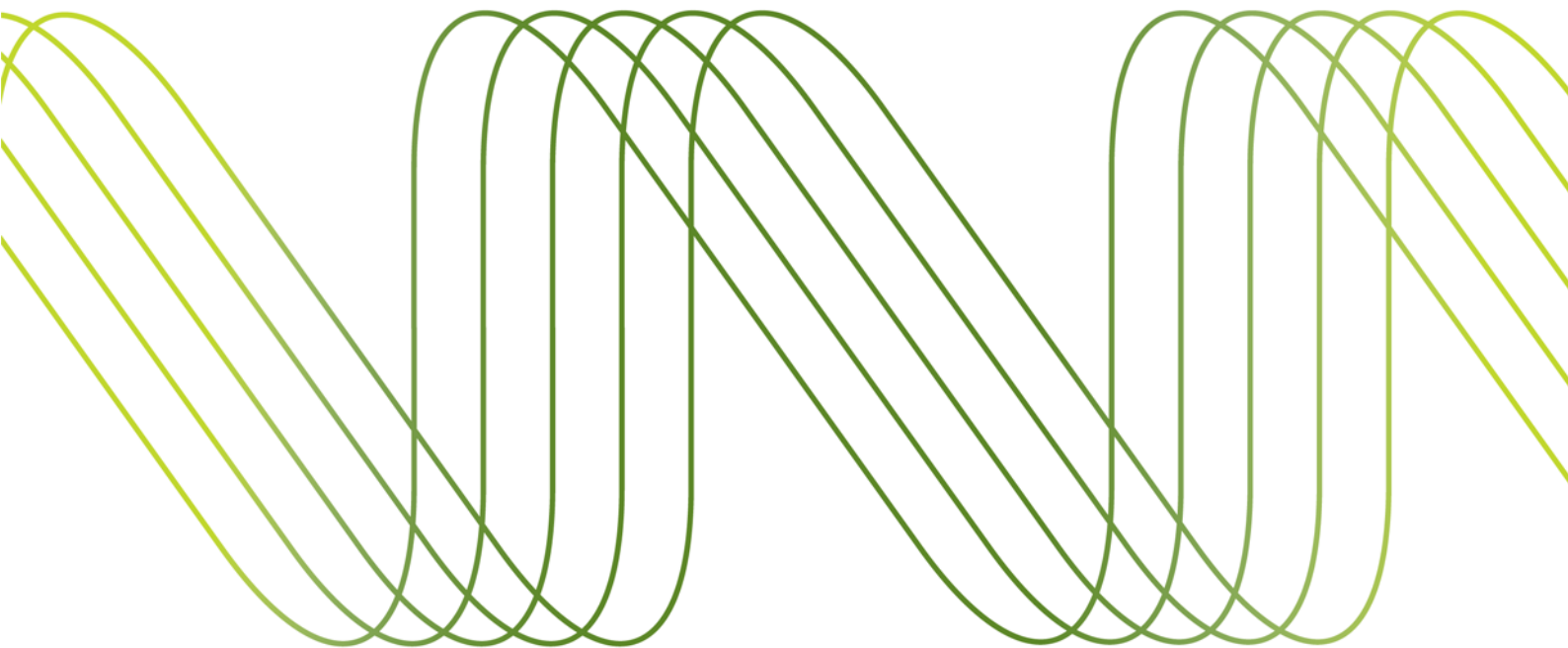

Server Side Includes

CSC3504 Assignment 3



Server Side Includes

Enable SSI by file extension

In your main server configuration, enable SSI in the **Options** for your web site.

Create a directory in your web root that will deliver content to

`http://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/includes`

Use an `.htaccess` file to include the options to enable SSI for any `.shtml` files inside *this* directory.

HINT You will need to allow an override for **FileInfo** to apply to your **includes** directory – you should know how to do this now. You will then need to "add a handler" to your `.htaccess` file for "server-parsed" `.shtml` files.

Using simple SSI

Use VI to create an `index.shtml` file for `/includes` as shown below:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
  "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
  <meta http-equiv="content-type"
    content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1" />
  <title>Using SSI</title>
</head>
<body>
<h1>http://<!--#echo var="SERVER_NAME" -->
<!--#echo var="SCRIPT_NAME" --> uses SSI</h1>
</body>
</html>
```

If you have set SSI up correctly then visiting:

`http://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/includes/index.shtml`

Should get you something like:

`http://v-eliot-01/includes/index.shtml` uses SSI

Figure 1. Content completed using SSI

Adding extra information

Use SSI to also include extra information in `index.shtml` to *only* be returned when requested by hosts located on the *external* facing part of the University network (i.e. with IP addresses starting `128.240.`)

You can structure this response any way you like but it must be (human!) readable and include the following line:

HOST MATCH DETAILS RETURNED

Along with:

- The current date
- The last modified date of `index.shtml`
- The file system path to `index.shtml`
- The IP address the request came from
- The browser information provided by the request

For any hosts that **don't** match, your page should *only* return:

NO HOST MATCH NO DETAILS RETURNED

Along with:

- The current date

Dates returned should be formatted to appear as shown in the following example:

`16/11/2010 (which is a Tuesday) at 14:30`

Tidying up

Add configuration to your `.htaccess` file to tell Apache to deliver `index.shtml` as the directory index file for `/includes` i.e. you should be able to go to just:

`http://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/includes`

... to see your SSI results.

Do **not** make this change across the *whole* site – *only* in `/includes`.

You will however have to make an addition to your overrides for your `includes` directory in `httpd.conf`

Enable SSI by file permission

In your main server configuration, turn **on** the **XBitHack** (the best place to add this is immediately below the current global **Options**) This will instruct Apache to parse executable **.html** across your whole site files for SSI – without having to mess around with file extensions .

Include common content

Create a new directory in your web root called **common** (e.g. **/usr/local/www/common**)

Inside your new directory create a new text file called **footer.html** containing the following:

```
<hr />
<p>This web server has been built and configured as part of the CSC3504
module</p>
<p>Current date/time:
<!--#echo var="DATE_LOCAL" --></p>
<p>This page was last modified on:
<!--#echo var="LAST_MODIFIED" --></p>
```

You now have a snippet of content that you can add to any page using SSI.

Add your include to your main index page

Edit your site homepage (i.e. **/usr/local/www/index.html**) to include **footer.html** at the bottom of the page, using SSI (i.e. just before the closing **</body>** tag).

If you view your home page (at **http://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/...**) nothing should have changed. In order to see the included content you will need to make **/usr/local/www/index.html** *executable*. Try:

```
sudo chmod a+x /usr/local/www/index.html
```

This adds (+) the executable permission (x) for all users (a)

View your home page again and you should see (some) of the included content:

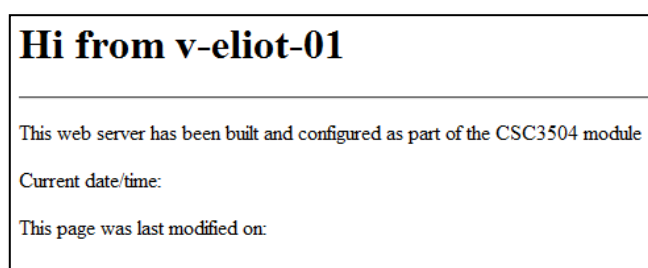


Figure 2. Figure 1 An included (partial) footer

Notice how you don't get any of the dynamic content returned from the SSI included inside **footer.html**. Fix this by getting the server to also parse **footer.html** for SSI, so the dates are inserted.

Submitting Your Work

Although you may have been submitting files as you go along, the *only* URLs and files that will be marked will be those included in the *last submission you make before the deadline*.

This means that you will need to submit the unique files and URLs for all the components together.

Below you will find a checklist for the whole assessment and the filenames and URLs you will need to include.

Please pay close attention as *some of your files may need to be renamed in order to submit successfully*.

Also not you only need to submit one copy of each file for the final submission. For example the final version of your `httpd.conf` should contain all the changes required for all of the sub-components.

URLs to be auto-marked

These URLs should be submitted to the **URL** submission area for this assignment:

`http://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/includes`

A script will access these URLs, check they are delivering the required content, functionality or error message as per the assignment details and store a copy of the output.

You should ensure that they all deliver the correct content when accessed... and that your server is on and running!

Files to submit

Submit the files required for marking in *a single zip archive* to the **FILES** submission area for this assignment.

Name your zip file:

`a123456789-vm-eliot-NNN.zip`

Where `a123456789` is your student number and `NNN` is your VM number

File Checklist

Your file...	Renamed as...	x/✓
<code>/includes/index.shtml</code>	<code>vm-eliot-NNN-index.shtml.txt</code>	
Your <code>.htaccess</code> file for <code>/includes</code>	<code>vm-eliot-NNN-ssi.htaccess.txt</code>	
<code>/usr/local/www/index.html</code>	<code>vm-eliot-NNN-index.html</code>	
<code>httpd.conf</code>	<code>vm-eliot-NNN-httpd.conf.txt</code>	