

JavaScript Style Sheets

JavaScript Style Sheets (JSSS) was a stylesheet language technology proposed by Netscape Communications in 1996 to provide facilities for defining the presentation of webpages.^[1] It was an alternative to the Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) technology.^[1]

Although Netscape submitted it to the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), the technology was never accepted as a formal standard and it never gained acceptance in the web browser market. Only Netscape Communicator 4 implemented JSSS, with rival Internet Explorer choosing not to implement the technology. Soon after Netscape Communicator's release in 1997, Netscape stopped promoting JSSS, instead focusing on the rival CSS standard, which was also supported by Internet Explorer and had a much wider industry acceptance.

The follow-up to Netscape Communicator, Netscape 6 (released in 2000), dropped support for JSSS. It now remains little more than a historical footnote, with web developers generally unaware of its previous existence. The proposal did not become a W3C standard.

JavaScript Style Sheets

Internet media type	<u>text/javascript</u>
Developed by	<u>Netscape Communications Corporation</u>
Type of format	<u>Style sheet language</u>
Standard	<u>Netscape's JavaScript-Based Style Sheets submission to the W3C (http://www.w3.org/Submission/1996/1/WD-jsss-960822)</u>

Contents

Syntax

Example

Browser support

References

External links

Syntax

Using JavaScript code as a stylesheet, JSSS styles individual element by modifying properties of a `document.tags` object. For example, the CSS:

```
h1 { font-size: 20pt; }
```

is equivalent to the JSSS:

```
document.tags.H1.fontSize = "20pt";
```

JSSS element names are case sensitive.

JSSS lacks the various CSS selector features, supporting only simple tag name, class and id selectors. On the other hand, since it is written using a complete programming language, stylesheets can include highly complex dynamic calculations and conditional processing. (In practice, however, this can be achieved as Dynamic CSS by using JavaScript to modify the stylesheets applicable to the document at runtime.) Because of this JSSS was often used in the creation of DHTML.

Example

The following example shows part of the source code of an HTML-document:

```
<style type="text/javascript">
tags.H1.color = "red";
tags.p.fontSize = "20pt";

with (tags.H3) {
    color = "green";
}
with (tags.H2) {
    color = "red";
    fontSize = "16pt";
    marginTop = "4cm";
}
</style>
```

Similar to Cascading Style Sheets, JSSS could be used in a `<style>` tag. This example shows two different methods to select tags.

Browser support

Javascript Style Sheets were only supported by Netscape 4.x (4.0–4.8) but no later versions. No other web browser has ever integrated JSSS.

References

1. Håkon Wium Lie; Bert Bos. "Chapter 20 - The CSS saga" (<http://www.w3.org/Style/LieBos2e/history/>). World Wide Web Consortium. Retrieved 23 June 2010.

External links

- Netscape's JavaScript-Based Style Sheets submission to the W3C (<http://www.w3.org/Submission/1996/1/WD-jsss-960822>)
- The dynamic, powerful abilities of JavaScript Style Sheets (<http://sunsite.uakom.sk/sunworldonline/swol-04-1997/swol-04-webmaster.html>)
- JavaScript Style Sheet Reference (<http://www.damsbo.com/webdev/jsss/jss25.htm>)

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=JavaScript_Style_Sheets&oldid=997042650"

This page was last edited on 29 December 2020, at 19:13 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.