CSS: Cascading Style Sheets

Computer Science and Engineering ■ College of Engineering ■ The Ohio State University

Lecture 15

- MIME type: text/css
- □ CSS 1 ('96): early recognition of value
- □ CSS 2 ('98): improvements in language
 - Adding media types (screen vs print)
 - Inconsistent support by browsers
- □ CSS 2.1 ('11)
 - In practice since '04
 - Took forever to standardize
- □ CSS 3
 - Breaks standard into many (50?) modules
 - Various modules already adopted & supported

Key Idea

- Separate content and style
 - Different languages (syntax):HTML vs CSS
 - Different documents
- □ Goal: Single-point-of-control-over-change
 - Change font of every word in paragraph?
 - Change font of every element in document?
 - Change font of every element in every document on a site?
 - Change font of every element which is part of instructions, but not finalized, on site?

CSS Syntax

- CSS is declarative (not procedural)
 - Describe a thing, not how to do compute it
 - Example: RE matching
- □ CSS = list of *rules* (order can matter)
- □ Rule = a location & the style to use there
- Basic syntax of a rule

```
selector {
  property1: style1;
  property2: style2;
    . . .
} /* comments always help */
```

Example CSS

```
h2 {
/* draconian OSU visual identity */
    color: darkred;
    background: gray;
/* additional gratuitous styling */
    font-style: italic;
}
```

Many Available Properties

```
Background
     background-color, background-image
□ Text, font
      line-height, text-align, color
      font-family, font-style, font-size
   Border, margin, padding
     border-left-width, border-bottom-color
  Positioning
     clear, display, float
Dimension
□ List, table
      list-style-type
     border-collapse, caption-side
Generated content and other fancy stuff
☐ See: <u>developer.mozilla.org/Web/CSS/Reference</u>
```

Computer Science and Engineering ■ The Ohio State University

□ Example: Margins have 4 sides

```
margin-top: 3px;
margin-right: 5px;
margin-bottom: 7px;
margin-left: 9px;
```

Shorthand property: margin

```
margin: 3px 5px 7px 9px; /* TRBL */
margin: 7px 9px; /* TB sides */
margin: 2px 6px 8px; /* T sides B */
```

- Mnemonic: always "TRouBLe"
 - Missing values filled in with provided value(s)
- Other shorthand properties:
 - Padding, border-width, font, border, background...

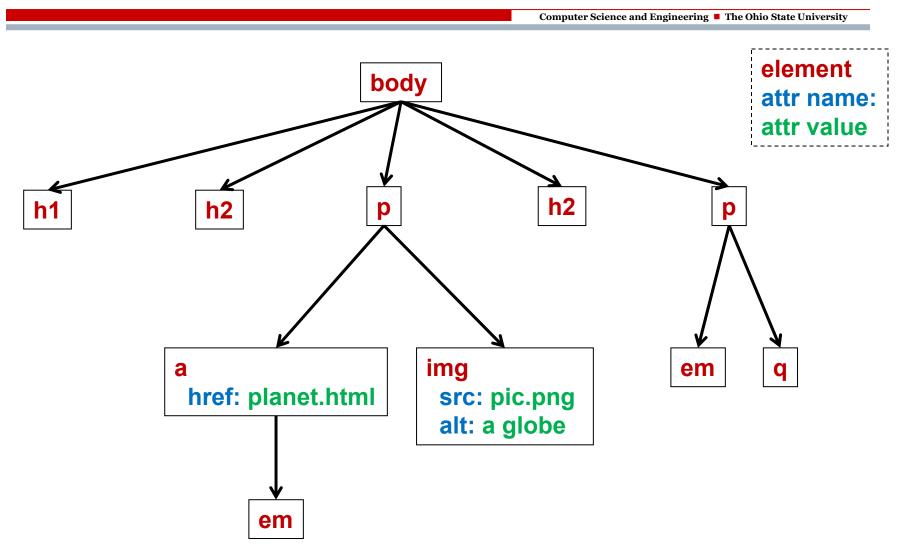
Including CSS: Mechanics

```
Embed directly in element
  Place in style element in head
  <head>
    <style media="screen">
      p {color: red; background: gray;}
    </style>
  </head>
Link to separate CSS file in head
  <head>
    <link rel="stylesheet"</pre>
    href="3901Style.css" media="screen" />
  <head>
```

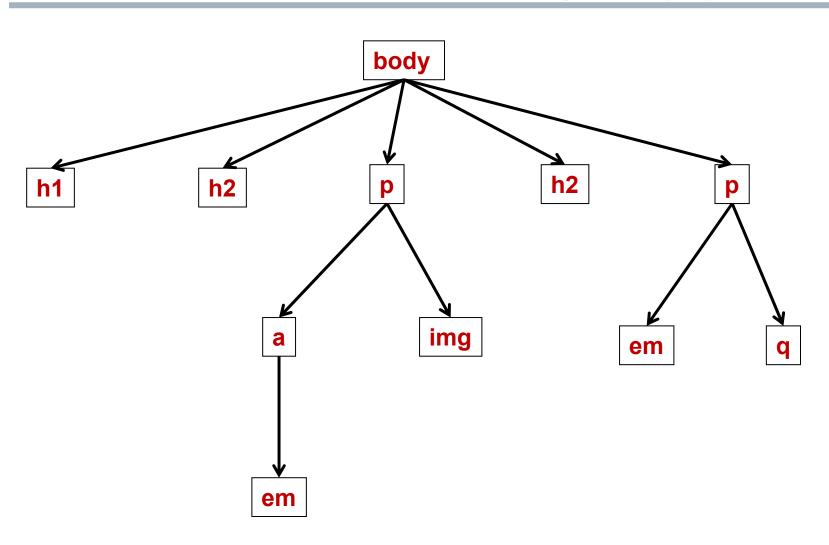
Example CSS

```
h2 {
    color: darkred;
    background: gray;
    font-style: italic;
em
    font-style: normal;
    font-weight: bold;
```

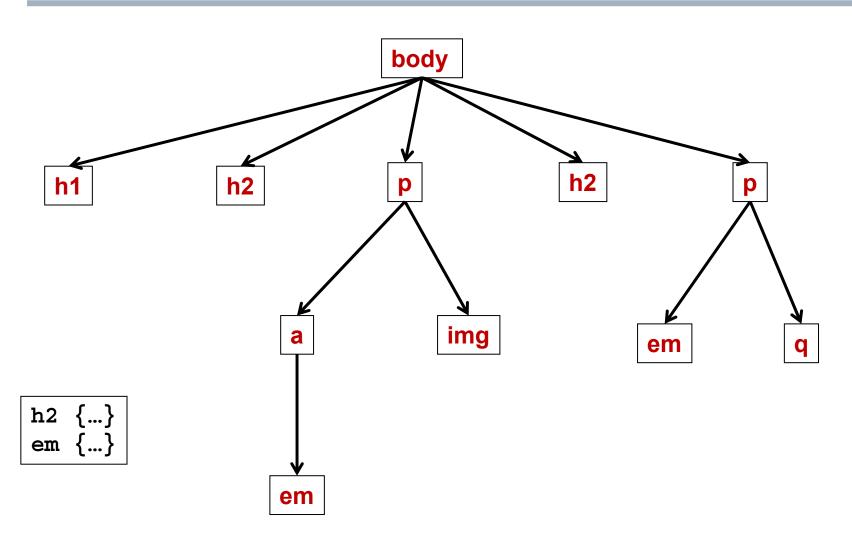
Tree (Rooted at Body)



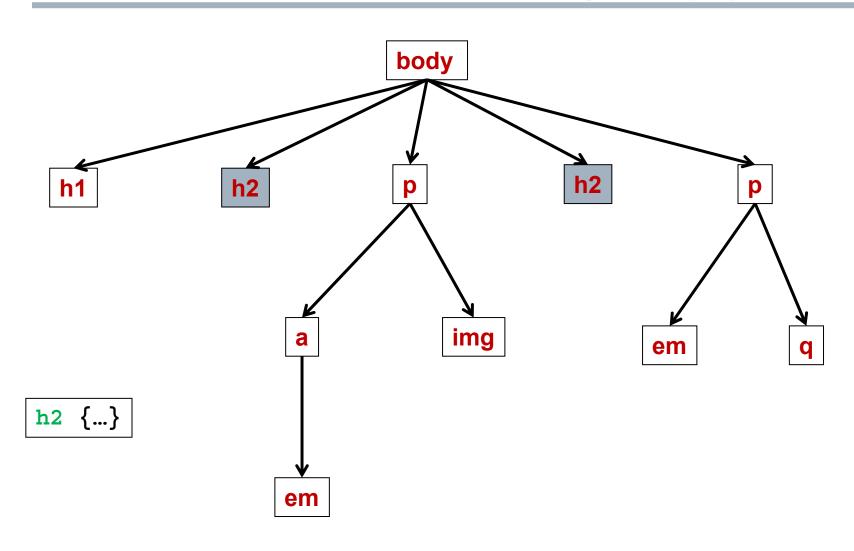
Tree (sans Attributes)



Tree (sans Attributes)



Selectors Applied to Tree



Selectors Applied to Tree

```
h1 {
    color: darkred;
    background: gray;
    font-style: italic;
    border-bottom-style: solid;
h2
    color: darkred;
    background: gray;
    font-style: italic;
```

Multiple Selectors: SPOCOC

```
h1, h2 {
    color: darkred;
    background: gray;
    font-style: italic;
h1
    border-bottom-style: solid;
```

- A child inherits many properties from parent by default
 - Font weight, color, family, etc.
 - Can be overridden in child
- □ Set global styles in root

```
body {
  font-family: sans-serif;
}
```

- Contrast this with having to set property in all possible elements!
- ☐ Generally, text properties (eg color) are inherited, box-related (eg border) are not

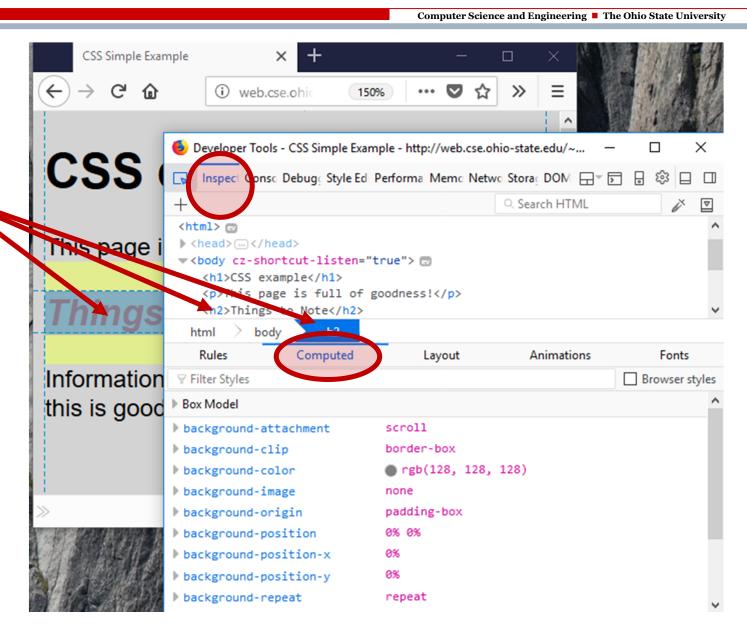
```
body {
  font-family: sans-serif;
  background: lightgray;
h2 {
  color: darkred;
  background: gray; /*new backgrnd*/
  font-style: italic;
           /* inherits font family */
```

Inherited Properties

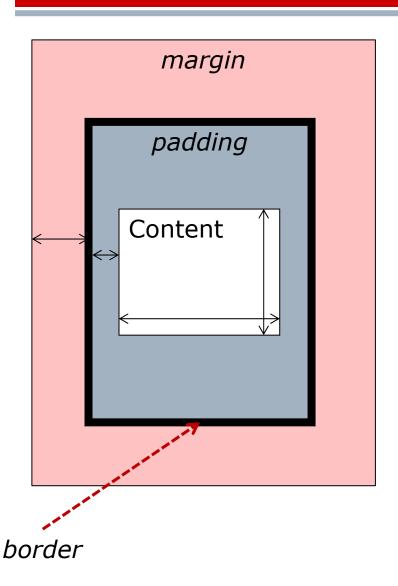
Computer Science and Engineering ■ The Ohio State University body **h2** img em All nodes are sans-serif em Most nodes have light gray background

codepen.io/cse3901/pen/eVdMXR

Demo: Chrome Dev. Inspector



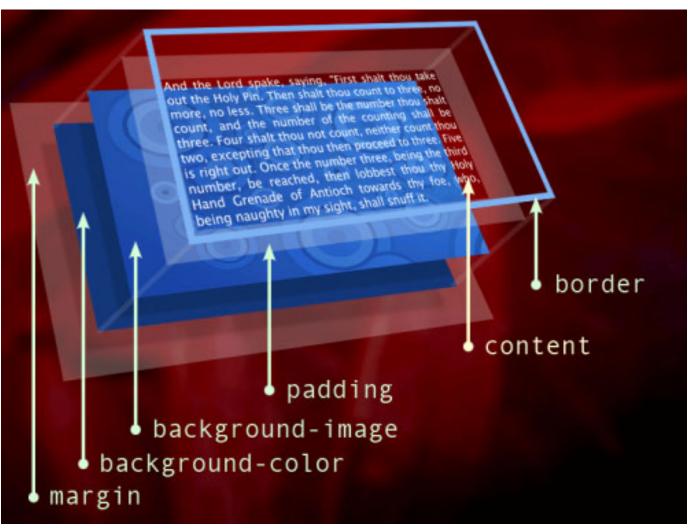
Layout: The Box Model



Both block & inline

- Minor differences
- Border appearance
 - Style, width, color, radius
- Margins & padding
 - Transparent
 - 4 independent sides
- Padding is part of it
 - Content background shows through
- Margins gives space
 - Some adjacent margins "collapse"

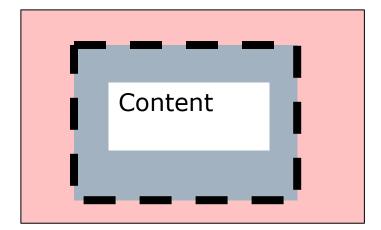
The Box Model As Layers



http://geek.focalcurve.com/crashcourse-part2/

Content





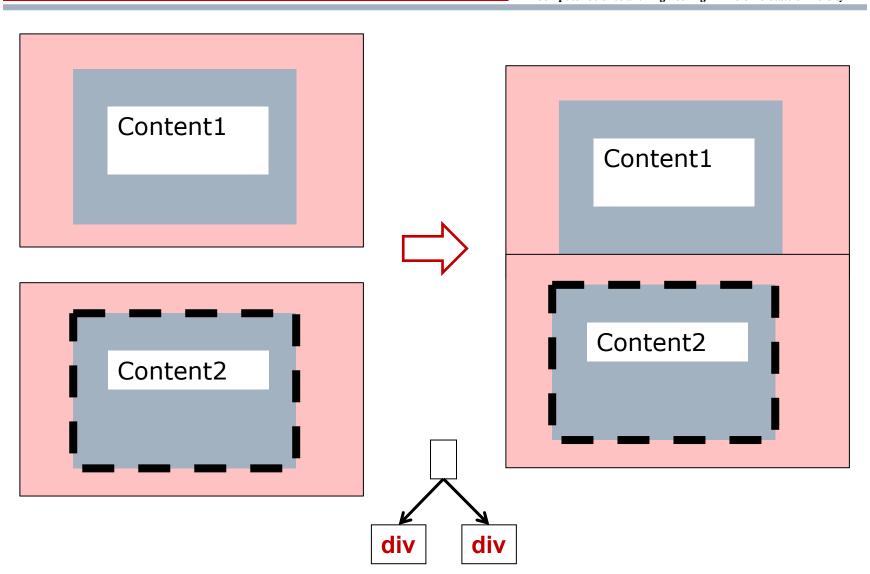
Content

Content

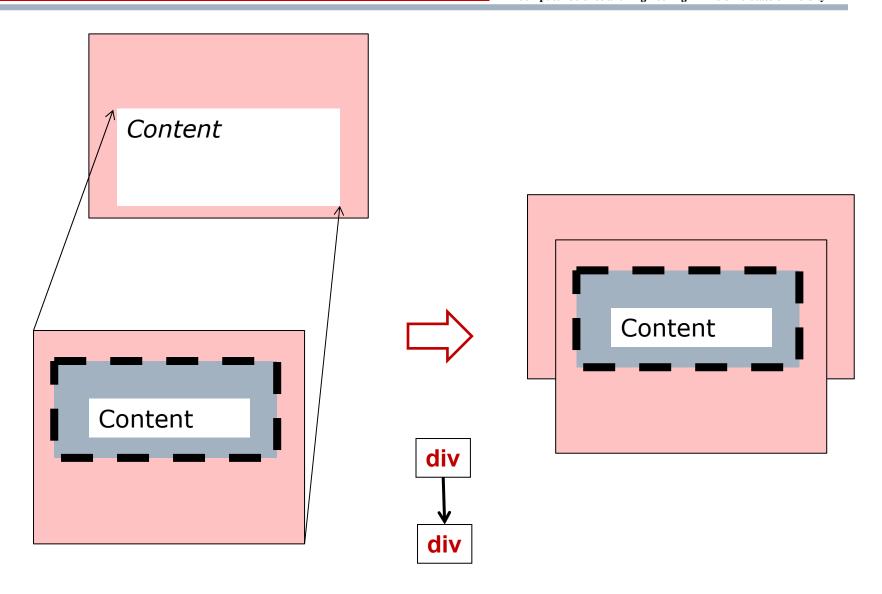
```
p
  margin: 10px 100px 10px 10px;
  border-width: 5px 1px 5px;
  width:
            200px;
  padding: 2px;
                             Content
\square Total width = ?
CSS3 adds box-sizing
```

- content-box (width sizes content only)
- border-box (width includes border & padding)

Collapsing Vertical Margins



Collapsing Nested Margins



Preventing Margin Collapse

Computer Science and Engineering ■ The Ohio State University padding: 1px Content Content Content div div

Demo: Chrome Dev. Tools, Box



- Generally, text properties (eg color) are inherited, while box-related (eg border) are not
- (Content) width set by parent, child "fits" inside
 - Relative, absolute
- (Content) height set by child, parent "fits" around
 - Relative, absolute
- Parent and child's (vertical) margins collapse (if they touch)

- CSS separates style from structure
 - Syntax: Rules with selectors, properties
 - Link to CSS file from HTML document
- Selectors for picking elements in tree
- Box Model
 - Content, padding, border, margin
 - Margins can collapse when overlapping
- Inheritance
 - Parent passes (font) properties to child
 - Box-related properties aren't inherited