

privacy values themselves are not exposed to the application, yet it allows an application to enforce privacy.

In this sense, FBML is a trusted declarative execution environment, in contrast to an imperative execution environment such as C or PHP. In a strict sense, FBML is not “Turing-complete” like these languages (for instance, no looping constructs are available). Much like HTML itself, no state can be saved during the execution except that implied by the tree traversal; for instance, `<fb:tab-item>` makes sense only within `<fb:tabs>`. However, FBML enables a great deal of the functionality that most developers want to provide to their users, through making data available to the user within the trusted system.

FBML effectively helps *define* the logic and display of the executing application, while still allowing the unique content of the application to begin on application servers.

Design-only tags

Facebook has been praised for its design ethic, so many developers choose to maintain the “look and feel” of Facebook through reusing Facebook design elements in some way. Often, they accomplish this by lifting JavaScript and CSS from <http://facebook.com>, but FBML brings with it something like a “design macro” library that meets the same need in a more controlled way.

For example, Facebook applies known CSS classes that render input such as `<fb:tabs>...</fb:tabs>` into a specific tab structure at the top of the developer’s page. These design elements can incorporate execution semantics as well; for example, `<fb:narrow>...</fb:narrow>` will render its children’s contents in FBML only if this execution shows up in the narrow column of a user’s profile box.

Example 6-22 shows some FBML that uses design-only tags.

EXAMPLE 6-22. Example display-oriented FBML

```
<fb:tabs>
<fb:tab-item href="http://apps.facebook.com/fettermansbooks/mybooks.php"
  title='My Books' selected='true' />
<fb:tab-item href="http://apps.facebook.com/fettermansbooks/recent.php"
  title='Recent Reviews' />
</fb:tabs>
```

This would be rendered as a set of visual tabs linking to the specified content, using Facebook’s own HTML, CSS, and JavaScript packages.

Replacement HTML tags

HTML engenders little trust risk and no data exposure, so replacement tags in FBML are just for modifying or restricting a certain set of parameters, such as Flash autoplay. This is not strictly required by any display platform; they simply enforce that applications conform to the default