EECS1012

Net-centric Introduction to Computing

Lecture

JavaScript DOM

Acknowledgements
Contents are adapted from web lectures for "Web Programming Step by Step", by M. Stepp, J. Miller, and V. Kirst.
Slides have been ported to PPT by Dr. Xenia Mountrouidou.
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Global DOM objects

Global DOM objects

- Web browser provides six global objects that you can access in your JavaScript code
- These objects can be used to control the browsers and get information about the current webpage (and history)

The six global DOM objects

name	description
document	current HTML page and its content
history	list of pages the user has visited
location	URL of the current HTML page
navigator	info about the web browser you are using
screen	info about the screen area occupied by the browser
window	the browser window

The `window` object

- *the entire browser window; the top-level object in DOM hierarchy*
- technically, all global code and variables become part of the window object properties:
  - document, history, location, name
- important method
  - `onload()`
    - This method is called when the entire HTML document has completed loading
- We will see examples of this later in this lecture

Unobtrusive JavaScript

Obtrusive event handlers


```
<button id="ok" onclick="okayClick();">OK</button>
```

HTML

We directly link "onlick" to our JS function "okayClick()". This is considered "obtrusive".

```
// called when OK button is clicked
function okayClick() {
        alert("booyah");
}
```

JS

- Previous examples were bad style (HTML is cluttered with JS code)
- This is similar to "inline" CSS style.
- **GOAL:** remove all JavaScript code from the HTML body

Why unobtrusive JavaScript?

- Why do we want unobtrusive JS Code?
- allows separation of web site into three major categories:
  - content (HTML) - what is it?
  - presentation (CSS) - how does it look?
  - behavior (JavaScript) - how does it respond to user interaction?

Attaching an event handler using JavaScript code


```
// where element is a DOM element object
element.event = function;
```
JS

```
/* Example */
var button = document.getElementById("ok");
button.onclick = okayClick; /* <- LOOK: no () after func name*/
```

- It is possible to attach event handlers to elements' objects in your JavaScript code
  - notice that you do not put parentheses after the function's name! (see above)
- this is better style than attaching them in the HTML
- **QUESTION**: where should we put the above code?

When does JS code run?


```
<head>
<script src="myfile.js" type="text/javascript"></script>
</head>
<body> ... </body>
```

HTML

```
var x = 3;
function f(n) { return n + 1; }
function g(n) { return n - 1; }
x = f(x);    /* f() is called. x now is assigned 4, before the
webpage body has started rendering. */
```

- Your file's JS code runs the moment the browser loads the script
  - any variables are declared immediately
  - any functions are declared but not called, unless your global code explicitly calls them

When does my code run?


```
<head>
<script src="myfile.js" type="text/javascript"></script>
</head>
<body> ... </body>
```
HTML

```
// global code - start running as soon as it is linked
var x = 3;
function f(n) { return n + 1; }
function g(n) { return n - 1; }
x = f(x);
```
JS

- **at this point in time, the browser has not yet read your page's body**
  - none of the elements in your webpage have been created when the JS file is loaded.

A failed attempt at being unobtrusive


```
<html>
<head>
<script src="myfile.js"></script>
</head>
<body>
<p><button id="ok">OK</button><p>
</body>
</html>
```

<script> element runs the myfile.js code.

myfile.js

```
// global code
var button = document.getDocumentbyId("ok");
button.onclick = okayClick;
```

The following code is not in a function. It is global code. It tries to use document.getDocumentbyId() to get the button "ok", however, the HTML code hasn't even started on the <body> tag yet. So, there isn't a <button id="ok"> declared. This code will not work.

Solution: `window.onload` event


```
// this will run once the page has finished loading
function functionName() {
        element.event = functionName1;
        element.event = functionName2;
         ...
}
window.onload = functionName; // global code
```

JS

- we attach our event handlers right after the page is done loading
  - there is a global event called `window.onload` event that occurs at that moment
- in `window.onload` handler we attach all the other handlers to run when events occur

An unobtrusive event handler


```
<!- look, no JavaScript! -->
<button id="ok">OK</button>
```

HTML

```
// called when page loads; sets up event handlers
function pageLoad() {
        var button = document.getElementById("ok");
        button.onclick = okayClick;
}

function okayClick() {
        alert("booyah");
}

window.onload = pageLoad; // global code
```

JS

In this example, we assign the event "okayClick" using JS code, instead of the HTML page. This is considered unobtrusive.

Common unobtrusive JS errors


```
window.onload = pageLoad(); /* remember - don't put the () */
window.onload = pageLoad;
okButton.onclick = okayClick();
okButton.onclick = okayClick;
```

JS

- Remember, when we assign in the names of function, don't use the (), only the function name.

```
window.onLoad = pageLoad;    /* <- the L is not capital */
window.onload = pageLoad;
```

JS

- also, event names are all lowercase, not capitalized like other variables

Anonymous functions


```
/* look, no name! – we call this an anonymous function */
function() {
        statements;
}
```
JS

- JavaScript allows you to declare anonymous functions
- quickly creates a function without giving it a name
- can be stored as a variable, attached as an event handler, etc.

Anonymous function example


```
/* the example below is an anonymous function, notice there is
no name given to this function.  However, the
function is only called once when the "window.onload" event
occurs, so it is OK we don't give it name */

window.onload = function() {
        var okButton = document.getElementById("ok");
        okButton.onclick = okayClick;
};
function okayClick() {
        alert("booyah");
}
```

JS

We set window.onload = to an anonymous function.

The DOM tree

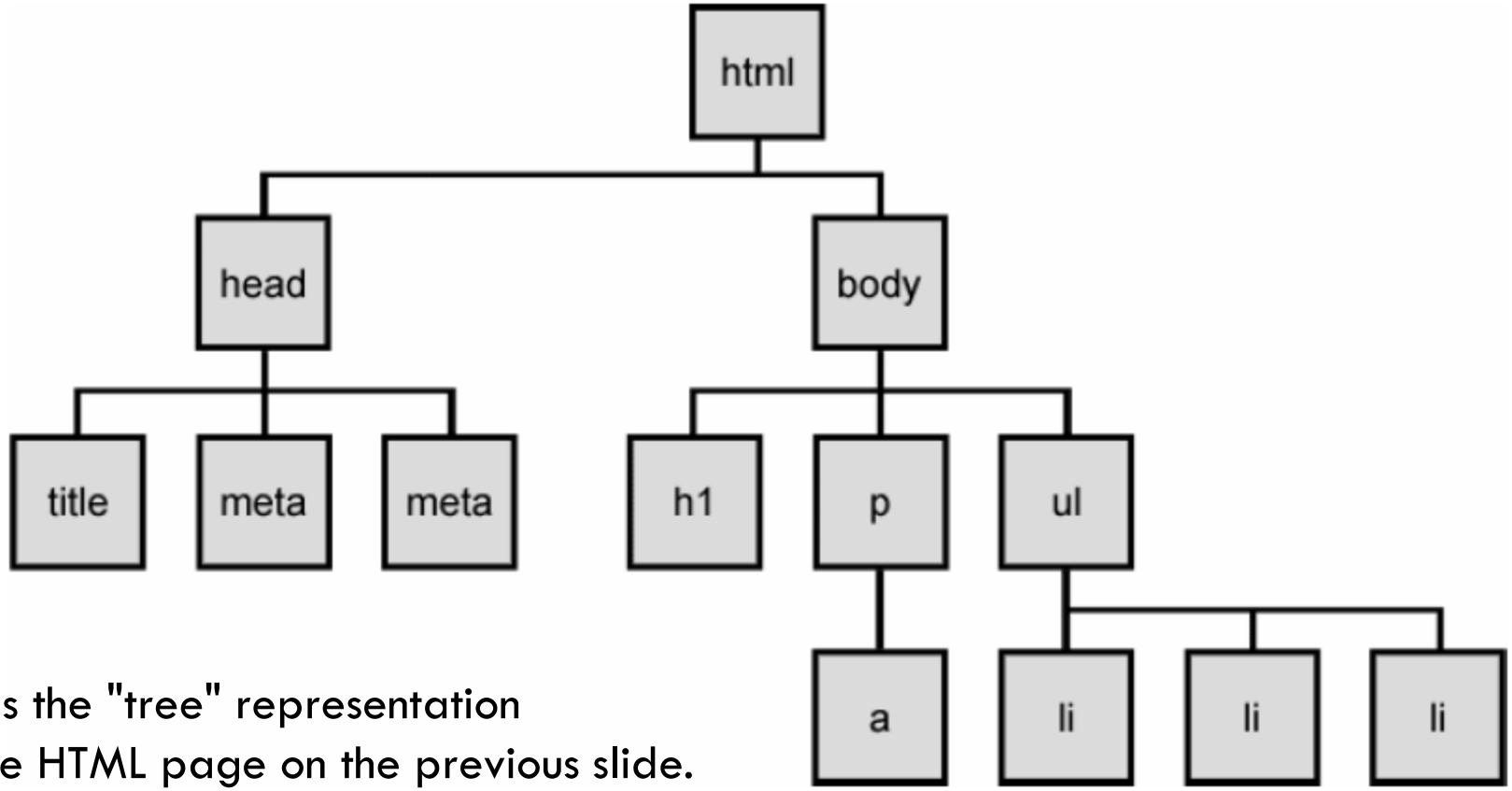
The document object model

- The DOM models an HTML page and its elements as a "tree" structure
- A tree is a type of "data structure" common in computer science to organize data
- Consider the next slide's HTML code

Consider the following HTML page

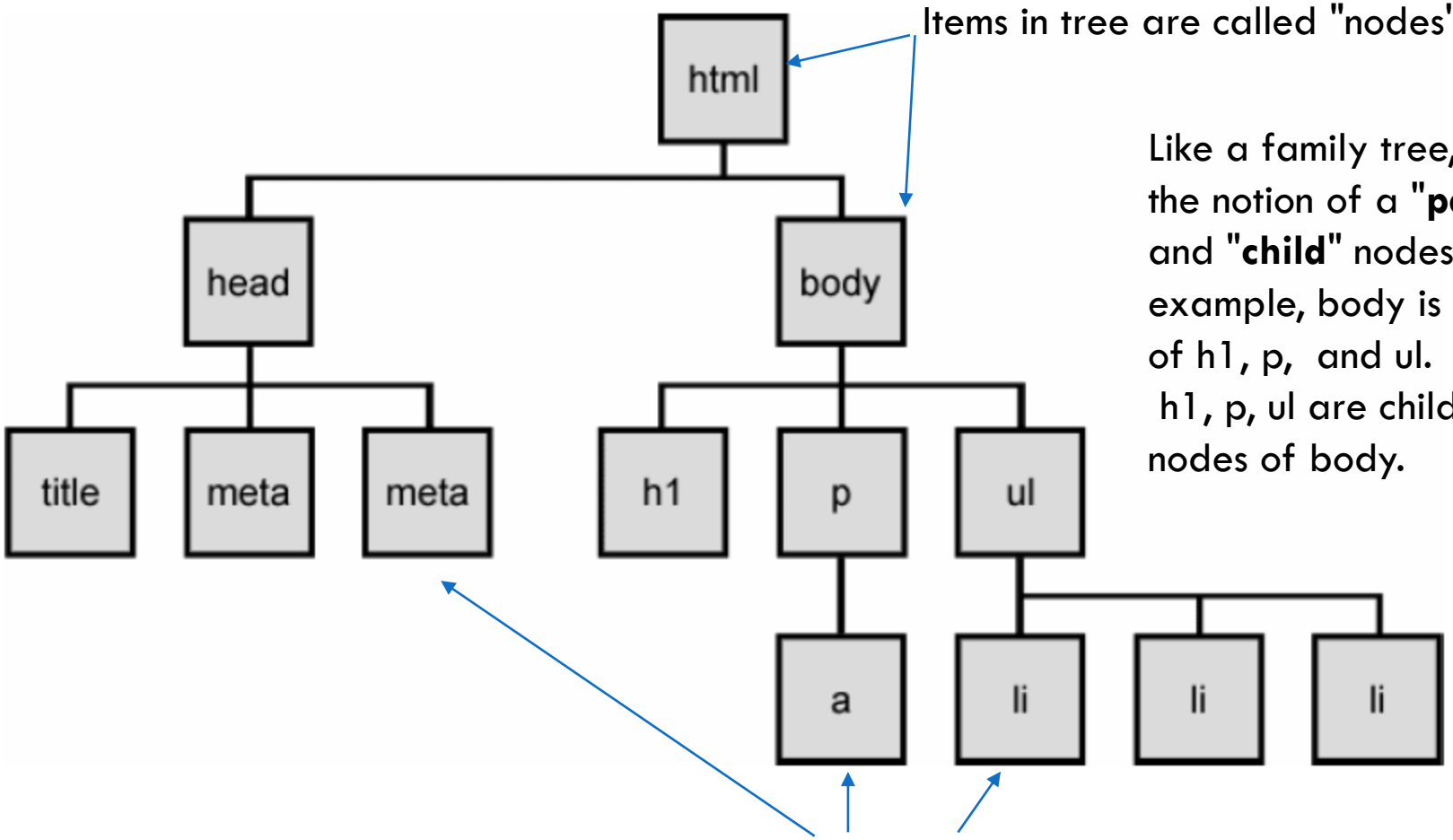

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title> Page Title </title>
   <meta name="description" content="A really great web site">
   <meta charset="UTF-8">
</head>
<body>
 <h1> This is a heading </h1>
 <p> A paragraph with a <a href=http://www.google.com/> link </a>.</p>
 <ul>
    <li>a list item</li>
    <li>another item</li>
    <li>a third item</li>
 </ul>
</body>
</html>
```

The DOM tree of the HTML code



This is the "tree" representation
of the HTML page on the previous slide.

Tree terminology

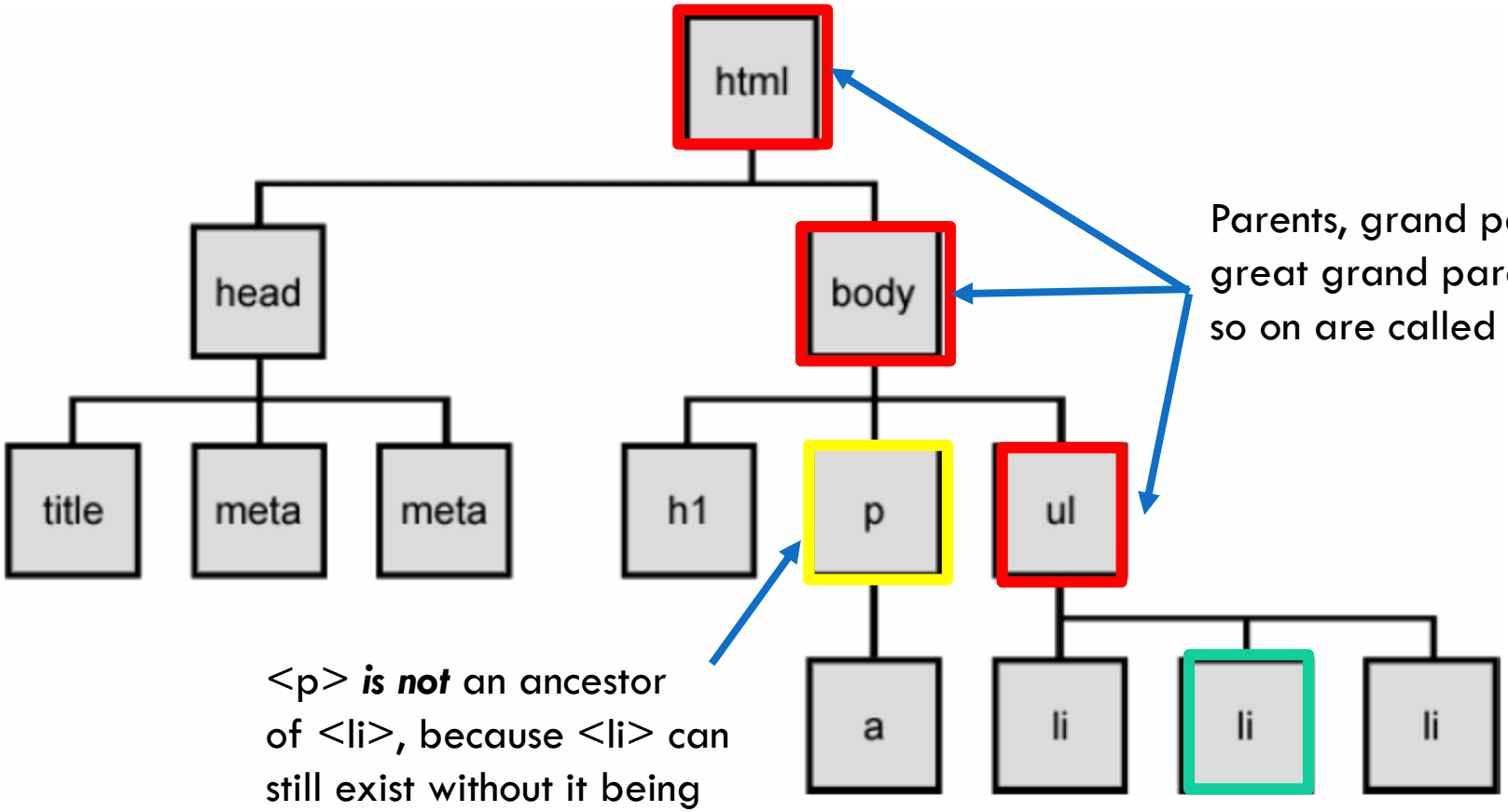


Items in tree are called "nodes".

Like a family tree, we have the notion of a "**parent**" and "**child**" nodes. For example, body is the parent of h1, p, and ul.
h1, p, ul are child nodes of body.

The nodes at the end of the tree are called "leafs"

More tree terminology



Parents, grand parents, great grand parents, and so on are called "Ancestors".

<p> ***is not*** an ancestor of <li>, because <li> can still exist without it being created.

All nodes in shown in "red" are ancestors of the <li> element in green.

Types of DOM nodes


```
<p>
This is a paragraph of text with a
<a href="/path/page.html">link in it</a>.
</p>
```

HTML

- element nodes (HTML tag)
  - can have children and/or attributes
- text nodes (text in a block element)
- attribute nodes (attribute/value pair)
  - text/attributes are children in an element node
  - cannot have children or attributes
  - not usually shown when drawing the DOM tree

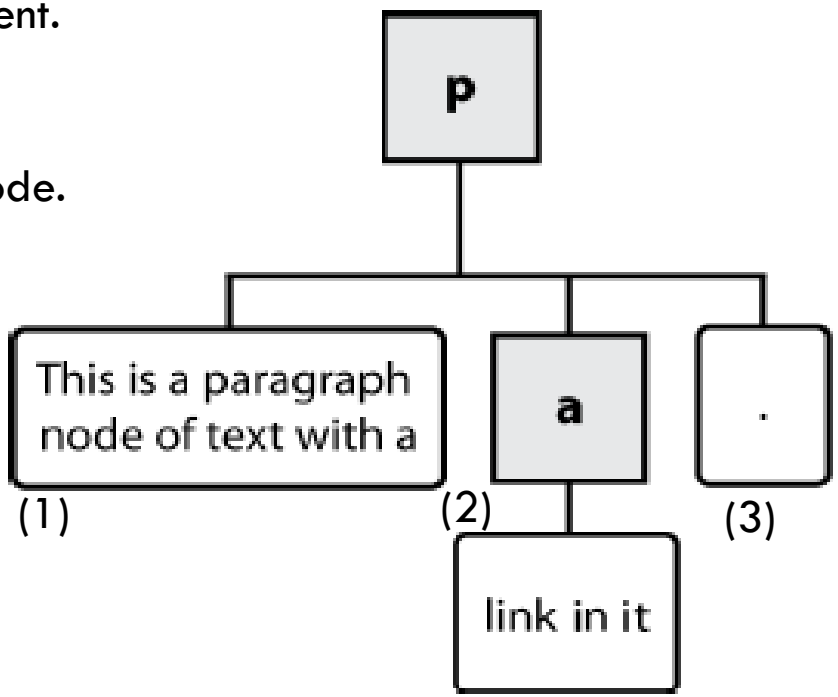
Types of DOM nodes


```
<p>
This is a paragraph of text with a
<a href="/path/page.html">link in it</a>.
</p>
```

HTML

Consider the DOM of a node.
This is a "mini-tree" considering on the <p> element.

It has three direct children: (1) a text node,
(2) another element (link), and (3) another text node.



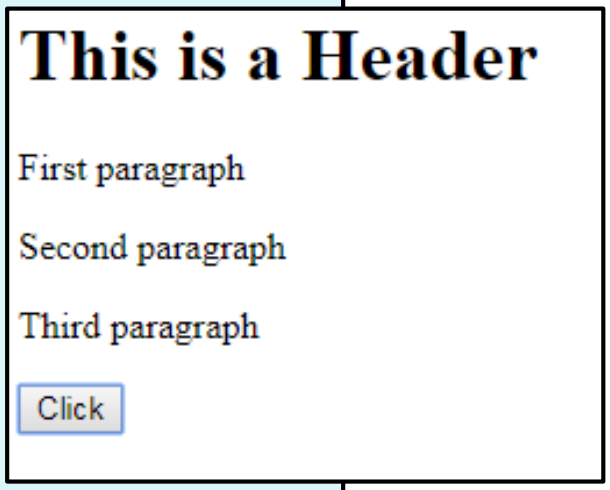
Traversing the DOM tree

name(s)	**description**
firstChild, lastChild	start/end of this node's list of children
***children**	array of all this node's children
nextSibling, previousSibling	neighboring nodes with the same parent
parentNode	the element that contains this node

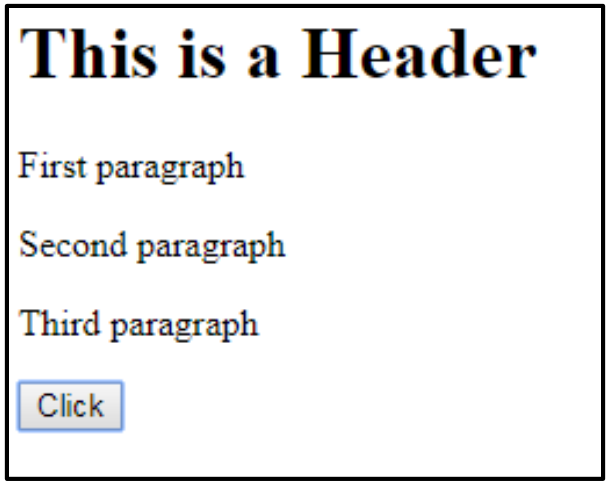
We will do an example with the *children property.

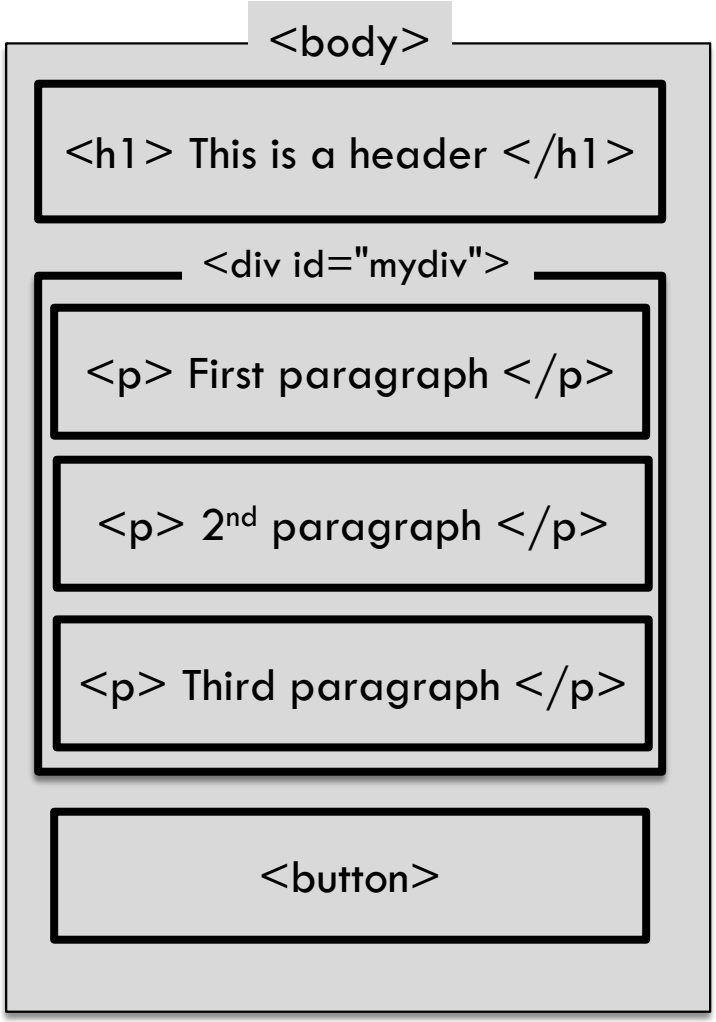
DOM tree traversal example


```
<html>
<head>
    <title> My page</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8">
    <script src="dom_example1.js"
type="text/javascript"></script>
</head>
<body>
<h1>This is a Header</h1>
<div id="mydiv">
<p> First paragraph </p>
<p> Second paragraph </p>
<p> Third paragraph </p>
</div>
<button id="button"> Click </button>
</body>
</html>
```

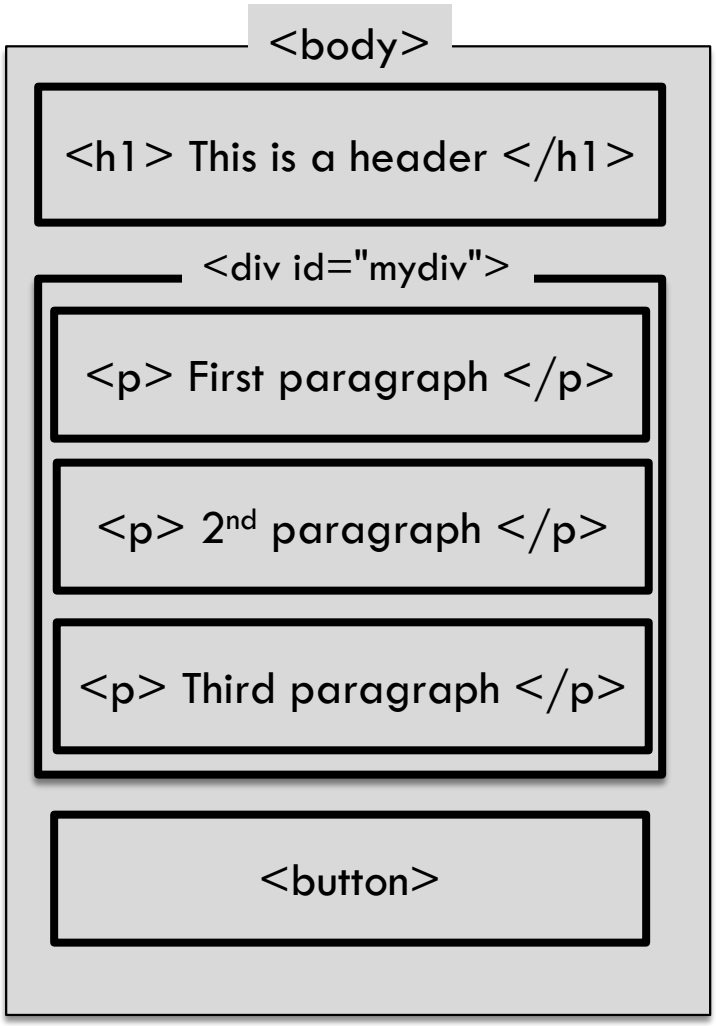


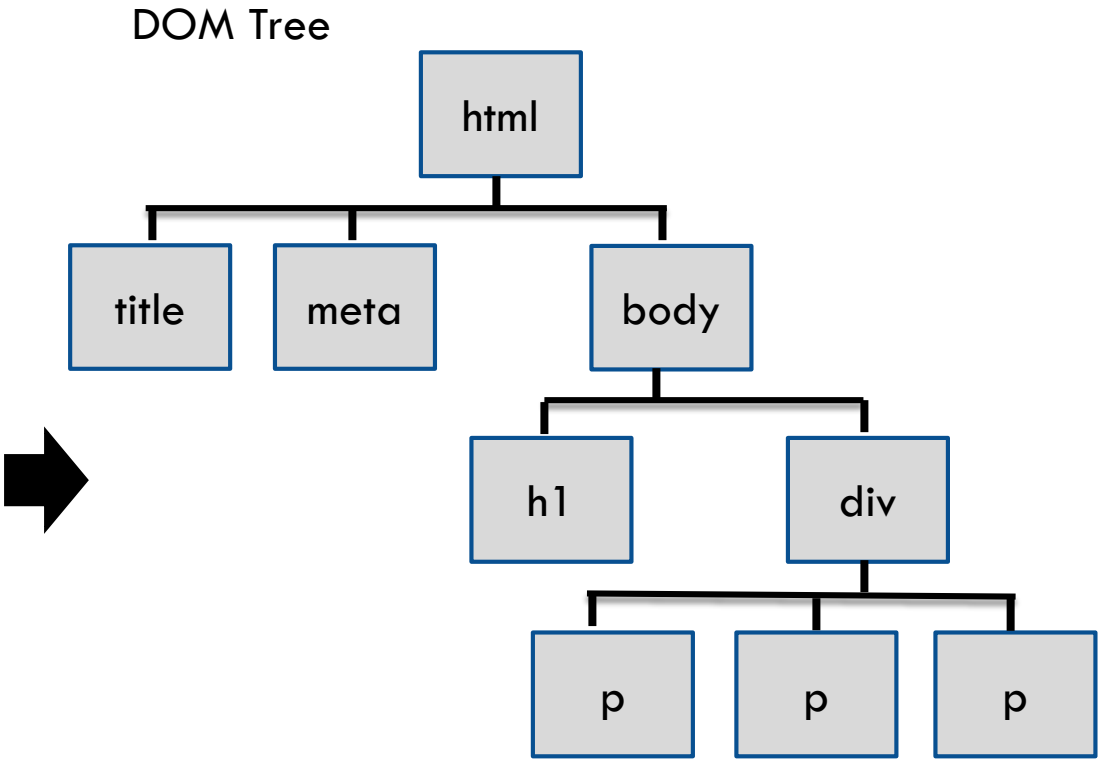
DOM tree traversal example





DOM tree traversal example





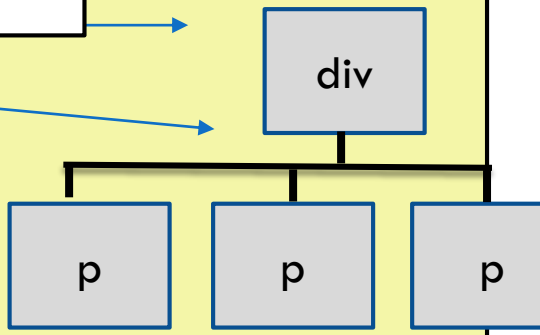
This is drawn without the "text" elements, but each "p" has a text element that we can access using "innerHTML".

DOM tree traversal example

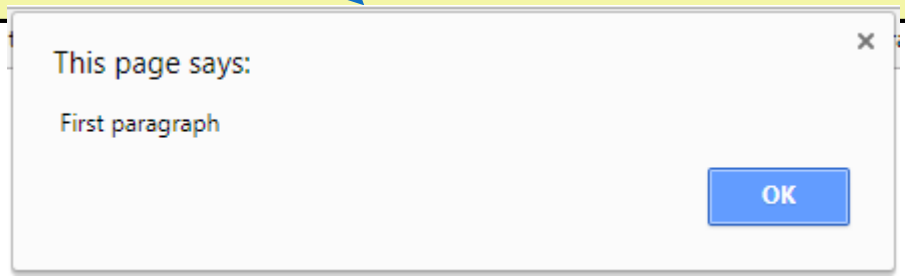

```
function walk()
{
  var divElement = document.getElementById("mydiv");
  var childElements = divElement.children;


  alert("mydiv element has " + childElements.length + " children");
  for(var i=0; i < childElements.length; i++)
  {
    alert(childElements[i].innerHTML);
  }
}
```

Gets the div element

returns an array with the children of div



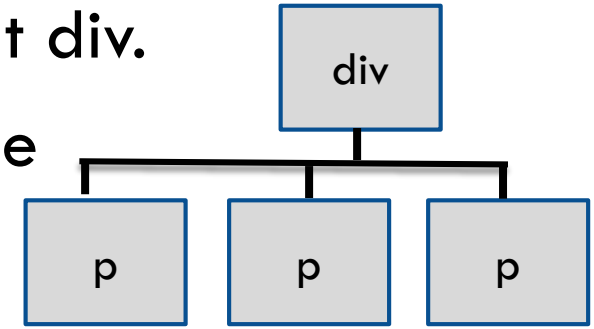
Loops through the array and prints (using alert) the innerHTML of the paragraph



Note: tree access

- In the previous example, since we started with
  `var divElement = document.getElementById("mydiv");`

- Our access to the DOM tree starts at div.
- As a result, we only had access to the "descendants" of div, not the full DOM tree



- You will see this word "descendants" in JS documentation

Selecting groups of DOM objects

- methods in document and other DOM objects for accessing descendants:

name	description
getElementsByTagName(name)	returns array of descendants with the given tag, such as "div"
getElementsByClassName(name)	returns array of descendants with the specified class name.

Getting all elements of a certain type


```
// all Paras is an array of element objects
var allParas = document.getElementsByTagName("p");
// we loop trough all elements and change their background
// to "yellow"
for (var i = 0; i < allParas.length; i++) {
        allParas[i].style.backgroundColor = "yellow";
}
```
JS

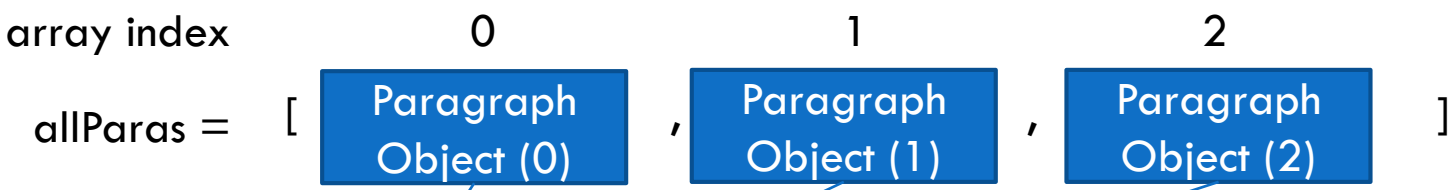
```
<body>
        <p>This is the first paragraph</p>
        <p>This is the second paragraph</p>
        <p>You get the idea...</p>
</body>
```
HTML

In tis example, we use the document object, so the descendants are all elements in the HTML page with tag name "p". This results

Previous code explained


```
var allParas = document.getElementsByTagName("p");
```

This will find all the DOM element objects that are <p> elements in the HTML page and return them as an array. This array is assigned to the variable "allParas".




```
<body>
        <p>This is the first paragraph</p>
        <p>This is the second paragraph</p>
        <p>You get the idea...</p>
</body>
```

HTML

Previous code explained

Paragraph Object [i]

```
allParas[i].style.backgroundColor = "yellow";
```

allParas is an array of element objects.

.style accesses the style component of the element object.

.backgroundColor accesses the backgroundColor property of the style component.

Changes the background to yellow.

allParas[i] access the ith element in the array.

So, this statement is accessing a single element object. The element accessed depends on the value of the variable i.

```
<body>
        <p>This is the first paragraph</p>
        <p>This is the second paragraph</p>
        <p>You get the idea...</p>
</body>
```

Combining with getElementById()


```
var addressDiv = document.getElementById("address");
var addrParas = addressDiv.getElementsByTagName("p");
for (var i = 0; i < addrParas.length; i++) {
        addrParas[i].style.backgroundColor = "yellow";
}
```
JS

```
<p>This won't be returned!</p>
<div id="address">
        <p>1234 Street</p>
        <p>Atlanta, GA</p>
</div>
```
HTML

In this example, only the paragraphs contained **within** "addressDiv" are called. This is because "getElementsByTagName("p") is called from the div element.

Creating and Deleting Elements

Creating new nodes

name	description
document.createElement("tag")	creates and returns a new empty DOM node representing an element of that type
document.createTextNode("text")	creates and returns a text node containing given text

```
// create a new <h2> node
var newHeading = document.createElement("h2");
newHeading.innerHTML = "This is a heading";
newHeading.style.color = "green";
```

JS

- merely creating a node does not add it to the page
- you must add the new node as a child of an existing element on the page...

Modifying the DOM tree

name	description
appendChild (node)	places given node at end of this node's child list
insertBefore(new, old)	places the given new node in this node's child list just before old child
removeChild(node)	removes given node from this node's child list
replaceChild(new, old)	replaces given child with new node

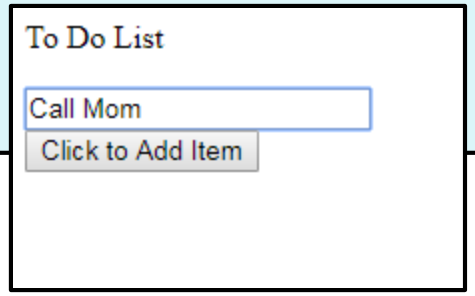
```
var div = document.getElementById("mydiv");
var p = document.createElement("p");
p.innerHTML = "A paragraph!";
div.appendChild(p);    /* append ads
```

JS

This would add a new paragraph to div with id=mydiv.

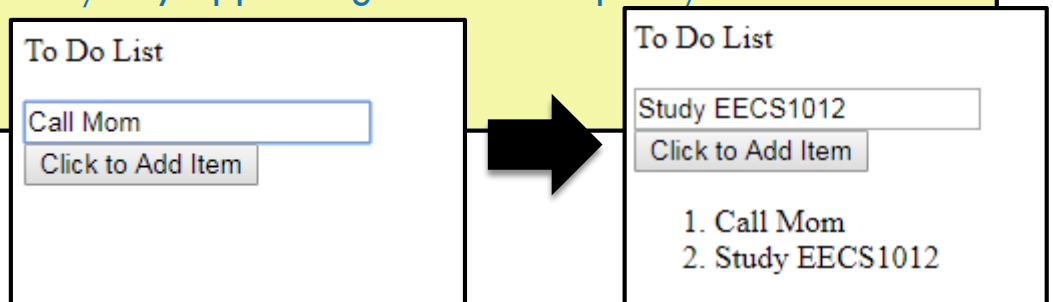
Example – adding items


```
<html>
<head>
    <title> My page</title>
    <meta charset="utf-8">
    <script src="dom_example5.js"
type="text/javascript"></script>
</head>
<body>
  <p>To Do List</p>
  <input type="text" id="textToAdd" size="20"><br>
  <button id="button"> Click to Add Item</button>
  <ol id="list">
  </ol>
</body>
```



Example – adding items


```
window.onload = function() {  /* This finds the button and sets the onclick function */
  var button = document.getElementsByTagName("button");
  button[0].onclick = insertItem;
}

function insertItem()
{
  var todoList = document.getElementById("list"); /* get list element */
  var textToAdd = document.getElementById("textToAdd"); /* get text input element */

  if (textToAdd.value != "")          /* if text input value isn't empty */
  {
    var newLi = document.createElement("li");       /* create a new li element */
    newLi.innerHTML = textToAdd.value;              /* set the innerHTML to the text input value */
    todoList.appendChild(newLi);                    /* add this to the DOM tree */
                                                    /* by appending to the list object */

  }
}
```



Example – delete items


```
<html>
<head>
   <title> My page</title>
   <meta charset="utf-8">
   <script src="dom_example4.js" type="text/javascript"></script>
</head>
<body>
  <p>To Do List</p>
  <button id="button"> Click Remove Item</button>
  <ol id="mylist">
            <li> Study EECS1012 </li>
   <li> Call mom </li>
   <li> Pay rent </li>
   <li> Return library book </li>
  </ol>
</body>
```

To Do List

Click Remove Item

1. Study EECS1012
2. Call mom
3. Pay rent
4. Return library book

Example – deleting items


```
window.onload = function() {  /* attaches the deleteListItem function to the button */
  var button = document.getElementsByTagName("button");
  button[0].onclick = deleteListItem;
}

function deleteListItem()
{
  var mylist = document.getElementById("mylist");  /* get list element */
  var pars = mylist.getElementsByTagName("li");    /* get all li elements in the list element */
  if (pars.length > 0)                             /* pars (array of li elements) is not 0 */
  {
    mylist.removeChild(pars[0]);                   /* remove the first li element from the */
  }                                                /* list element */
}
```

To Do List

Click Remove Item

1. Call mom
2. Pay rent
3. Return library book

Prototype Library

Problem with JavasScript

- JavaScript is a powerful language, but the DOM can be clunky to use
- JS is also not standardized
  - The same code doesn't work the same way on some browsers
- as a result, some developers have created a "library" (set of JS functions) call the "Prototype" library
  - There are others . . e.g., **jQuery**

Prototype and jQuery Libraries


```
<script src="https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/prototype/1.7.0.0/prototype.js"
type="text/javascript"></script>
```

```
<script src="https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/3.3.1/jquery.min.js"
type="text/javascript"></script>
```

- add many useful features to JS
  - Makes DOM easier to use
  - improves event-driven programming (next lecture)
  - works the same across many browsers
- To use the library, link to it as shown above
- Note this access the JS file as a URL

Prototype jQuery framework

- the Prototype JavaScript library adds many useful features to JavaScript:
  - many useful extensions to the DOM
  - added methods to String, Array, Date, Number, Object
  - improves event-driven programming
  - many cross-browser compatibility fixes
  - makes Ajax programming easier (seen later)

The $ function


```
$("id")
```
JS

- returns the DOM object representing the element with the given id
- short for document.getElementById("id")
- often used to write more concise DOM code:

```
$("footer").innerHTML = $("username").value;
```
JS

Example

prototype.html

```
<html>
<head>
<script src=" https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/prototype/1.7.0.0/prototype.js "
type="text/javascript"></script>
<script src="dom_example6.js" type="text/javascript"></script>
</head>
<body>
<h1>The Amazing Adder</h1>
<div>
        <input id="num1" type="text" size="3"> +
        <input id="num2" type="text" size="3"> =
        <span id="answer"></span> <br>
        <button onclick="compute();">Compute!</button>
</div>
</body>
</html>
```

prototype.js

```
function compute() {
   var num1 = $("num1").value;
   var num2 = $("num2").value;
  $("answer").innerHTML = parseInt( num1 ) + parseInt( num2 );
}
```

Prototype

HTML – (note: this example is obtrusive HTML . . but the purpose of this example is to who the prototype library in JS)

```
<input id="num1" type="text" size="3"> +
<input id="num2" type="text" size="3"> =
<span id="answer"></span> <br>
<button onclick="compute();">Compute!</button>
```

```
function compute() {
   var num1 = $("num1").value;
   var num2 = $("num2").value;
   $("answer").innerHTML = parseInt( num1 ) + parseInt( num2 );
}
```

Using the $("element_id") we have much more compact JS code. It is also easier to make the connection back to the HTML page.

$("id") is equivalent to calling document.getElementbyId("id").

Recap

- The DOM gives JS access to the underlying webpage
- The DOM tree is used to describe the HTML page
- This gives us the ability to modify, create, and delete elements in the tree (i.e. HTML page)
- The prototype library makes accessing document elements "cleaner"
- We will use the prototype library more in the next lecture on "events".