

Video 2.7 Chris Murphy



How do we use JavaScript and HTML?

 We motivated this part of the course by saying that we wanted a way to dynamically generate HTML

 Now that we've seen JavaScript, how can we use it to access/modify HTML elements?

This is done by using the **DOM**



What is the DOM?

 The Document Object Model is a structured tree representation of a web page

 The HTML of every web page is turned into a DOM representation by the browser



353

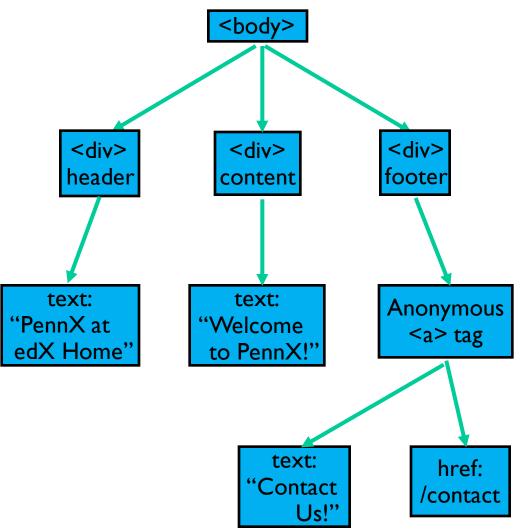
• HTML

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<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <body>
    <div id="header">
        PennX at edX Home
    </div>
    <div id="content">
        Welcome to PennX!
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         Contact Us!
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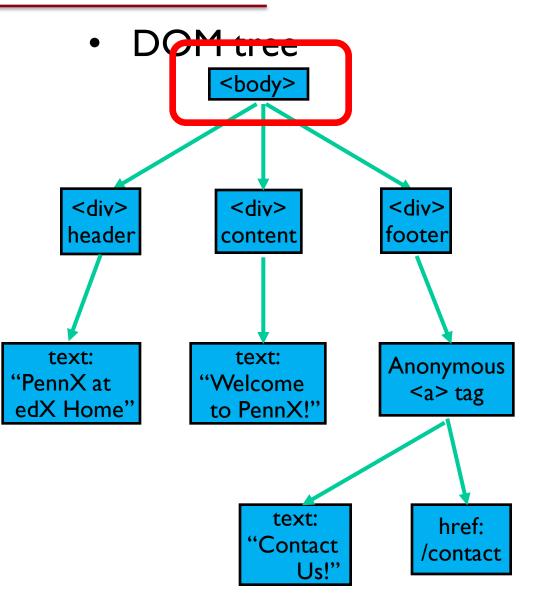
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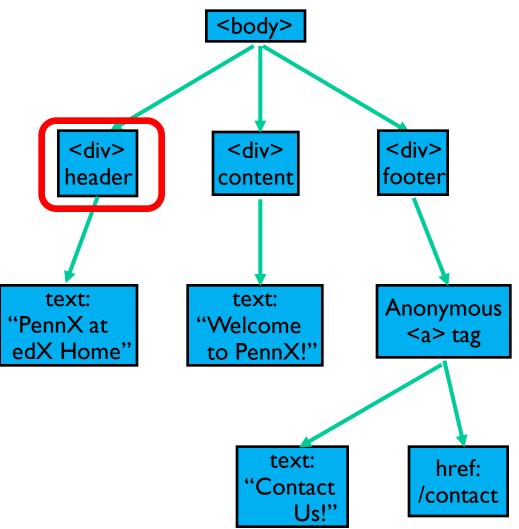
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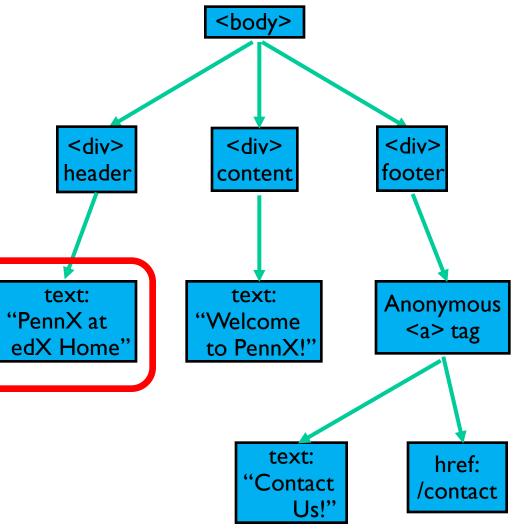
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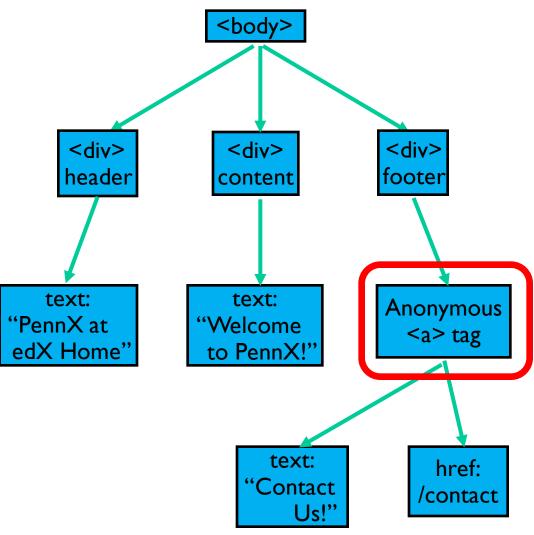
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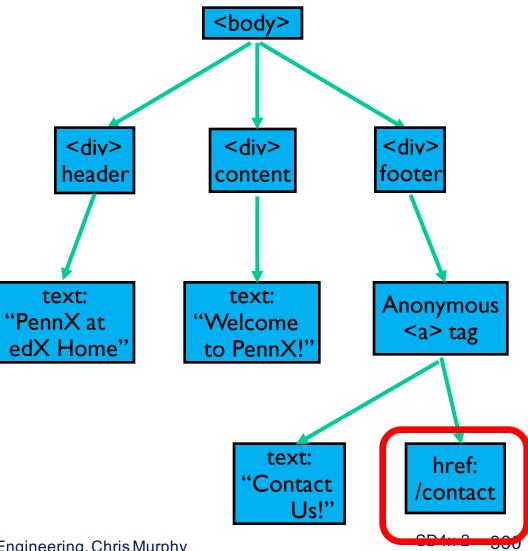
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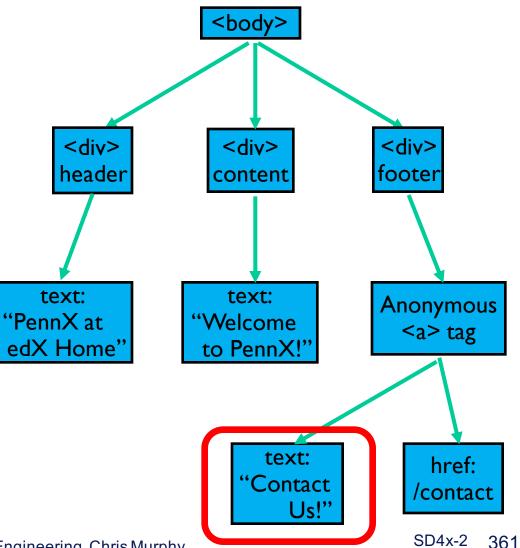
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DOM in console

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363

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364

Why the DOM?

Remember, HTML specifies the **structure** of the content on the Web page

The DOM provides a way for us to programmatically access that structure in JavaScript



- The root DOM object can be accessed by the object called document
- Elements in this DOM tree can be retrieved and manipulated



366

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<div>
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<script>
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 Data can be stored in the browser across multiple page requests using localStorage



378

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  localStorage.setItem('timesVisited', timesVisited);
 var report = document.getElementById('report');
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  if (timesVisited > 10)
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DOM Example

 Data can be stored in the browser across multiple page requests using localStorage

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Objects as JSON

- JSON = JavaScript Object Notation
- JSON is a **textual** representation of a JavaScript Object that can be stored as a string, in a .json file, or be exchanged between programs
- A sample JSON file or string might look like this:

```
"name": "John Doe",
    "age": 25,
    "isMale": true,
    "personality": ["patient", "loyal", "happy"],
    "company": { "name": "EdX", "id": 2984 }
}
```



Converting between JSON and Objects

 JavaScript objects can be converted to a JSON string via JSON.stringify(myObject)

 String representations can be converted back to an object via JSON.parse(jsonString)

 All values must be a string, number, array, boolean, null, or another valid ISON object



Storing JSON

 A great application of JSON usage is to store JSON strings in local browser storage:

```
localStorage.myJSON = JSON.stringify(myObject);
// ... in a later session
myObject = JSON.parse(localStorage.myJSON);
```

 Later on, as you learn about server-side JavaScript, you will also learn how to use JSON data to communicate with a server or API.



```
You have accessed this page <span id="report"></span> times.
>
Your last visit was <span id="lastVisitDate"></span>.
<script>
var timesVisited = 0;
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if (localStorage.lastVisit) {
   var lastVisit = JSON.parse(localStorage.lastVisit);
   timesVisited = lastVisit.numVisits;
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document.getElementById('lastVisitDate').innerHTML = lastVisitDate;
timesVisited++;
document.getElementById('report').innerHTML = timesVisited;
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if (localStorage.lastVisit) {
   var lastVisit = JSON.parse(localStorage.lastVisit);
   timesVisited = lastVisit.numVisits;
   lastVisitDate = lastVisit.date;
document.getElementById('lastVisitDate').innerHTML = lastVisitDate;
timesVisited++;
document.getElementById('report').innerHTML = timesVisited;
var myLastVisit = { }
myLastVisit.date = new Date();
myLastVisit.numVisits = timesVisited;
localStorage.lastVisit = JSON.stringify(myLastVisit);
</script>
```

Summary

- JavaScript can use the DOM to retrieve/modify HTML elements
 - document.getElementById('id') returns the specific
 HTML element with that ID
 - element.innerHTML can be modified to change the element's HTML/content
 - element.style can be modified to change the element's CSS/appearance
- We can use localStorage to save values across page requests
- Objects can be converted to string representations known as JSON

