## Introduction to CSS (CSS2)

## Cascading Style Sheets

## CSS Example



- A style sheet is a collection of formatting rules that can be applied to multiple HTML documents
- it acts as a template, allows the same look for each occurrence of a particular element;
- it can be contained in a separate file, referenced with a <LINK REL="stylesheet"> tag, or embedded within an HTML document by using a <STYLE> tag


## CSS Rules

- A CSS rule consists of two main parts: selector (e.g. 'H1') and declaration (e.g. 'color: blue'); the declaration has two parts: property (e.g. 'color') and value (e.g. 'blue')
- A selector is a chain of one or more simple selectors separated by combinators; combinators are: whitespace, " $>$ ", and "+"; whitespace may appear between a combinator and the simple selectors around it.
- If all conditions in the selector are true for a certain element, the selector matches the element


## Selector Grouping

- When several selectors share the same declarations, they may be grouped into a comma-separated list; example:
- we condense three rules with identical declarations into one:

H1 \{ font-family: sans-serif \}
H2 \{ font-family: sans-serif \}
H3 \{ font-family: sans-serif \}

- is equivalent to:

H1, H2, H3 \{ font-family: sans-serif \}

## Descendant Selector

- To match an element that is the descendant of another element in the document tree; made up of two or more selectors separated by whitespace; a descendant selector of the form " $A B$ " matches when an element $B$ is an arbitrary descendant of some ancestor element A; e.g.:
consider the following rules.
H1 \{ color: red \}
EM \{ color: red \}
although the intention of these rules is to add emphasis to text by changing its color, the effect will be lost in a case such as:
<H1>This headline is <EM>very</EM> important</H1>
we address this case by supplementing the previous rules with a rule that sets the text color to blue whenever an EM occurs anywhere within an H1:

H1 \{ color: red \}
H1 EM \{ color: blue \}

## Universal Selector and Type Selector

- The universal selector, written "*", matches the name of any element type; it matches any single element in the document tree
- If the universal selector is not the only component of a simple selector, the "*" may be omitted; for example:
- *[LANG=fr] and [LANG=fr] are equivalent
- *.warning and .warning are equivalent
- *\#myid and \#myid are equivalent
- A type selector matches the name of a document language element type; a type selector matches every instance of the element type in the document tree; e.g. the following rule matches all H 1 elements in the document tree:
H1 \{ font-family: sans-serif \}


## Child Selector and Adjacent Sibling Selector

- A child selector matches when an element is the child of some element; a child selector is made up of two or more selectors separated by ">"; e.g. the following rule sets the style of all P elements that are children of BODY:
BODY > $P$ \{ line-height: 1.3 \}
- Adjacent sibling selectors have the syntax: E1 + E2, where E2 is the subject of the selector; matches if E1 and E2 share the same parent in the document tree and E1 immediately precedes E 2 , e.g. the following rule states that when a $P$ element immediately follows a MATH element, it should not be indented:
MATH + P \{ text-indent: 0 \}


## Attribute Selectors

- Attribute selectors allows authors to specify rules that match attributes defined in the source document; may match in four ways:
- [att] match when the element sets the "att" attribute, whatever the value of the attribute
- [att=val] match when the element's "att" attribute value is exactly
- [att~=val] match when the element's "att" attribute value is a space-separated list of "words", one of which is exactly "val"
- [att|=val] match when the element's "att" attribute value is a hyphen-separated list of "words", beginning with "val"
Example, the selector matches all P elements whose "align" attribute
has exactly the value "center":
$\mathbf{P}$ [align=center] \{ color: blue \}


## Class Selectors

- For style sheets used with HTML, authors may use the dot (.) notation as an alternative to the " $\sim=$ " notation when matching on the "class" attribute; e.g. the following assigns style to H 1 elements with class~="pastoral":

H1.pastoral \{ color: green \}

- given these rules, the first H 1 instance below would not have green text, while the second would:
<H1>Not green</H1>
<H1 class="pastoral">Very green</H1>
- to match a subset of "class" values, each value must be preceded by a ".", in any order; e.g. the following rule matches any P element whose "class" attribute has been assigned a list of space-separated values that includes "pastoral" and "marine":
P.pastoral.marine \{ color: green \}

This rule matches when class="pastoral blue aqua marine" but does not match for class="pastoral blue")

## ID Selectors

- For style sheets used with HTML, authors may use the (\#) notation as an alternative to the " $=$ " notation when matching on the "id" attribute; e.g. the following ID selector matches the H 1 element whose ID attribute has the value "chapter1":


## H1\#chapter 1 \{ text-align: center \}

- the following ID selector matches the any element whose ID attribute has the value "chapter1":
*\#chapter1 \{ text-align: center \}


## Pseudo Class Selectors - :first-child

- The :first-child pseudo-class matches an element that is the first child of some other element; e.g. in the following example, the selector matches any P element that is the first child of a DIV element (indentation for the first paragraph of a DIV):

DIV > P:first-child \{ text-indent: 0 \}
this selector would match the P inside the DIV of the following fragment:
<P> The last P before the note.

<DIV class="note">
<P> The first \(P\) inside the note.
</DIV>
but would not match the second $P$ in the following fragment
<P> The last P before the note.

<DIV class="note">
\(<P>\) The first \(P\) inside the note.
</DIV>

## Pseudo Class Selectors - :link and :visited

- The :link pseudo-class applies for links that have not yet been visited
- The :visited pseudo-class applies once the link has been visited by the user

The document language determines which elements are hyperlink source
anchors; e.g. in HTML 4.0, the link pseudo-classes apply to A elements with an "href" attribute; thus, the following two CSS2 declarations have similar effect:

## A:link \{ color: red \}

:link \{ color: red \}
E.g. if the following link:
<A class="external" href="http://out.side/">external link</A>
has been visited, this rule:
A.external:visited \{ color: blue \}
will cause it to be blue

## Pseudo Class Selectors - :hover, :active, :focus

- The :hover pseudo-class applies while the mouse pointer hovers over a box generated by the element
- The :active pseudo-class applies while an element is being activated by the user; e.g. between the times the user presses the mouse button and releases it
- The :focus pseudo-class applies while an element has the focus
- Examples:

A:hover \{ color: yellow \}
A:active \{ color: lime \}
A:focus \{ background: yellow \}
A:focus:hover \{ background: white \}

## Pseudo Element Selectors - :before and :after

- The :before and :after pseudo-elements can be used to insert generated content before or after an element's content; e.g.:
H1:before \{content: counter(chapno, upper-roman) ". "\}
- When the :first-letter and :first-line pseudo-elements are combined with :before and :after, they apply to the first letter or line of the element including the inserted text; e.g.:
P.special:before \{content: "Special! "\}
P.special:first-letter \{color: \#ffd800\}
(This will render the "S" of "Special!" in gold)
Other examples:
- H1:before \{ content: "Chapter " counter(chapter) ". "; counter-increment: chapter; /* Add 1 to 'chapter */ counter-increment: chapter; / Add 1 to chapter
counter-reset: section; /* Set section to $0 * /\}$
- P.note:before \{ content: "Note: " \}


## Selector Matching Summary

_ * matches any element

- E matches any E element (i.e., an element of type E )
- EF matches any $F$ element that is a descendant of an $E$ elemen
- E>F matches any $F$ element that is a child of an element $E$
- E:first-child matches element E when E is the first child of its parent

E:link and E:visited matches element $E$ if $E$ is the source anchor of a hyperlink of which the
target is not yet visited (: link) or already visited (:visited)

- E:active, E:hover, and E:focus matches E during certain user actions
- E:lang(c) matches element of type $E$ if it is in (human) language $c$ (the document language
- $\mathbf{E + F}$ matches any F element immediately preceded by an element E
- E[foo] matches any E element with the "foo" attribute set (whatever the value)
- $\quad$ " F [forning" ${ }^{2}$ "warning"] matches any E element whose "foo" attribute value is exactly equal to
- $\begin{gathered}\text { E[foon }=\text { "warning"] matches any E element whose "foo" attribute value is a list of space- } \\ \text { separated }\end{gathered}$
- $\quad$ vallangl $=$ "en"] matches any $E$ element whose "lang" attribute has a hyphen-separated list of
- DIV.warning is the same as DIV[class~="warning"].
- E\#myid matches any E element ID equal to "myid".


## Calculating a Selector's Specificity

- When many rules match the same element, a selector's specificity is calculated as follows:
- count the number of ID attributes in the selector (= a)
- count the number of other attributes and pseudo-classes in the selector ( $=b$ )
- count the number of element names in the selector $(=C)$
- ignore pseudo-elements.
concatenating the three numbers a-b-c gives the specificity; the rule with maximal specificity wins; examples:

| $*$ | $\}$ | $/ * \mathrm{a}=0 \mathrm{~b}=0 \mathrm{c}=0$ | $->$ | specificity $=$ | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | $\mathrm{*} / \mathrm{l}$

## CSS Example



## CSS Descriptors

- Box model
- Visual formatting model
- Visual effects
- Generated content, automatic numbering, lists
- Colors and backgrounds
- Fonts
- Text
- Tables
- User interface


## CSS Box Model

- The CSS box model describes the rectangular boxes that are generated for elements in the document tree and laid out according to the visual formatting model
- Each box has a content area (e.g., text, an image, etc.) and optional surrounding padding, border, and margin areas



## CSS Box Model: Padding

- Padding properties: padding-top, padding-right, padding-bottom, padding-left, and padding; example:

```
H1 {
    background: white;
    padding: 1em 2em;
}
```

The example above specifies a '1em' vertical padding (padding-top and paddingbottom) and a '2em' horizontal padding (padding-right and padding-left)

## CSS Box Model: Margins

- Margin properties: margin-top, margin-right, marginbottom, margin-left, margin; example:

```
BODY { margin: 2em } /* all margins set to 2em */
BODY { margin: lem 2em } /* top & bottom = 1em, right & left = 2em */
the last rule of the example above is equivalent to the example below:
```

```
BODY
    margin-top: 1em;
    margin-right: 2em;
    margin-bottom: 3em;
}
```

Note: '1em' is equal to the size of the font in use

## CSS Box Model: Border

- Border width properties: border-top-width, border-right-width, border-bottom-width, border-leftwidth, and border-width; values: thin, medium, thick, or explicit thickness value; e.g. H1 \{border-width: thin\}
- Border color properties: border-top-color, border-rightcolor, border-bottom-color, border-left-color, and border-color; e.g. H1 \{border-color: red\}
- Border style properties: border-top-style, border-rightstyle, border-bottom-style, border-left-style, and border-style; values: none, dotted, dashed, solid, double, groove, ridge, inset, outset; e.g. H1 \{borderstyle: solid dotted\}


## Box Positioning Schemes

- Normal flow
- Floats - in the float model, a box is first laid out according to the normal flow, then taken out of the flow and shifted to the left or right as far as possible; content may flow along the side of a float.
- Absolute positioning - in the absolute positioning model, a box is removed from the normal flow entirely (it has no impact on later siblings) and assigned a position with respect to a containing block


## Choosing a Positioning Scheme

- Box positioning property: position; values:relative, absolute
- Box offset property: top, right, bottom, and left
- Float positioning property: float; values: left, right, and none
- Controlling flow next to floats: clear property; values: left, right, both, and none


## Positioning Schemes: Example


<P class=one> First paragraph box. First paragraph box. First paragraph box </P>
$<\mathrm{P}$ class=two $>$ Second paragraph box. Second paragraph box. Second paragraph box </P>

## Font Specification

- font-family property; values: serif, sans-serif, cursive, fantasy, monospace, or any other font family name
- font-style property; values: normal, italic, oblique
- font-variant property; values: normal, small-caps
- font-weight property; values: normal, bold, bolder, lighter, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900
- font-stretch property; values:ultra-condensed, extracondensed, condensed, semi-condensed, normal, semiexpanded, expanded, extra-expanded, ultra-expanded
- font-size property; values: $\mathbf{x x}$-small, $\mathbf{x}$-small, small, medium, large, x -large, $\mathbf{x x}$-large, larger, smaller, absolute font size, percentage (relative font size)


## Text Properties

- Indentation property: text-indent; e.g. P \{text-indent: 3em\}
- Alignment property: text-align; values: left, right, center, justify; e.g. P \{text-align: center\}
- Decoration property: text-decoration; values: none, underline, overline, line-through, blink; e.g. P \{textdecoration: 1 ine-through\}
- Text shadow property: text-shadow; e.g. н1 \{text-shadow: 0.2 em 0.2 em \}
- Letter and word spacing properties: letter-spacing and word-spacing; e.g. н1 \{letter-spacing: 0.1 en; word-spacing: lem\}
- Capitalization property: text-transform; values: capitalize, uppercase, lowercase, and none


## Colors and Backgrounds

- Foreground color property: color; e.g.:

EM \{ color: red \} /* predefined color name */
EM \{ color: rgb $(255,0,0)$ \} /* RGB range 0-255 */

- Background properties: background-color, backgroundimage, background-repeat, background-attachment, background-position, and background; e.g.:
H1 \{ background-color: \#F00 \}
BODY \{ background-image: url("marble.gif") \}
BODY \{ background: white url("pendant.gif"); background-repeat: repeat-y; background-position: center; \}
BODY \{
background: red url("pendant.gif"); background-repeat: repeat-y; background-attachment: fixed; \}


## CSS - References

- www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS1-961217.html
- www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2

