Early Web Shit

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Figure 1: Evolve or die!
- Invented in 1991 -- University of Minnesota
- TCP/IP protocol prior to HTTP for
- Provides hierarchical view of served contents
Why Benefits

- Filesystem on the web
- Easily searchable
- Ease of use and setup
Natural Causes

- No client side dynamic content
- UoM licensing fees from 1993 - 2000
- Currently under GPL
- Usage doubled from 2007 to 2012. approx 200 servers
- Approx. 2.5 million unique visitors
Figure 2: it’s a UNIX system!

I know this...
Gopher Usage (Dozens of us!)

- SDF Public Access Unix
- Lorie Liebrock (Rice University)
- Random internet people
After the Meteor Hit
Text formatting

- HTTP more freeform than Gopher
- Styling was specific to browser developer
- Need for ubiquitous standards
- Need the new standard to be as small as is reasonable
In fact, it has been a constant source of delight for me over the past year to get to continually tell hordes (literally) of people who want to – strap yourselves in, here it comes – control what their documents look like in ways that would be trivial in TeX, Microsoft Word, and every other common text processing environment: “Sorry, you’re screwed.” – Marc Andreessen (1994)
Everything but...
RRP (no columns – never implemented)

@BODY fo(fa=he,si=18)
More/Extended HTML tags (fuck off – Mosiac)
PWP (Unix only – ViolaWWW)

(BODY fontSize=normal
    BGColor=white
    FGColor=black
    (H1 fontSize=largest
        BGColor=red
        FGColor=white)
    )
DSSSL (Turing complete (huge) – not implemented)

(define (create-heading heading-font-size)
  (make paragraph
    font-size: heading-font-size
    font-weight: 'bold))

(element h1 (create-heading 24pt))
(element h2 (create-heading 18pt))
Then Everyone Ignored Everything

- CSS 1 not supported by IE until 2000