

# IN4MATX 133: User Interface Software

Lecture 1:  
Introduction & History, Continued  
Basics of Web Communication

# Announcements

- Undergraduate Research Lab



<https://forms.gle/ohs7yA2EvRsCxsyj8>

# Today's goals

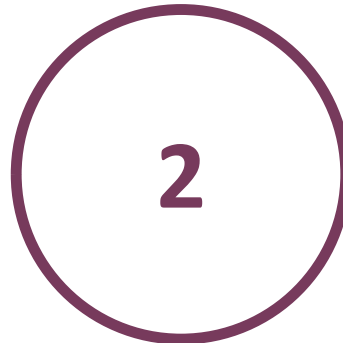
**By the end of today, you should be able to...**

- CONTINUE....Describe how society got to today's ubiquitous computing
- Hypothesize why web technology has become the de-facto tool for interface development
- Describe the fundamentals of web communication
- Identify the syntax of HTML tags and attributes and describe their roles
- Create a HTML template which follows W3C specifications

# Three waves of computing



Mainframe  
computing

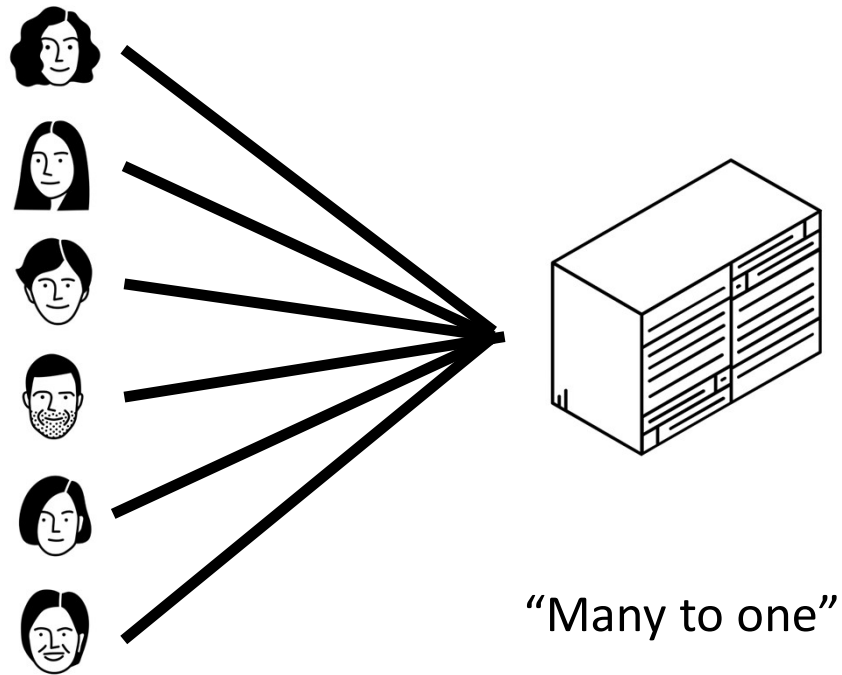


Personal  
computing



Ubiquitous  
computing

# First wave: mainframe computing



# Three waves of computing



Mainframe  
computing



Personal  
computing



Ubiquitous  
computing

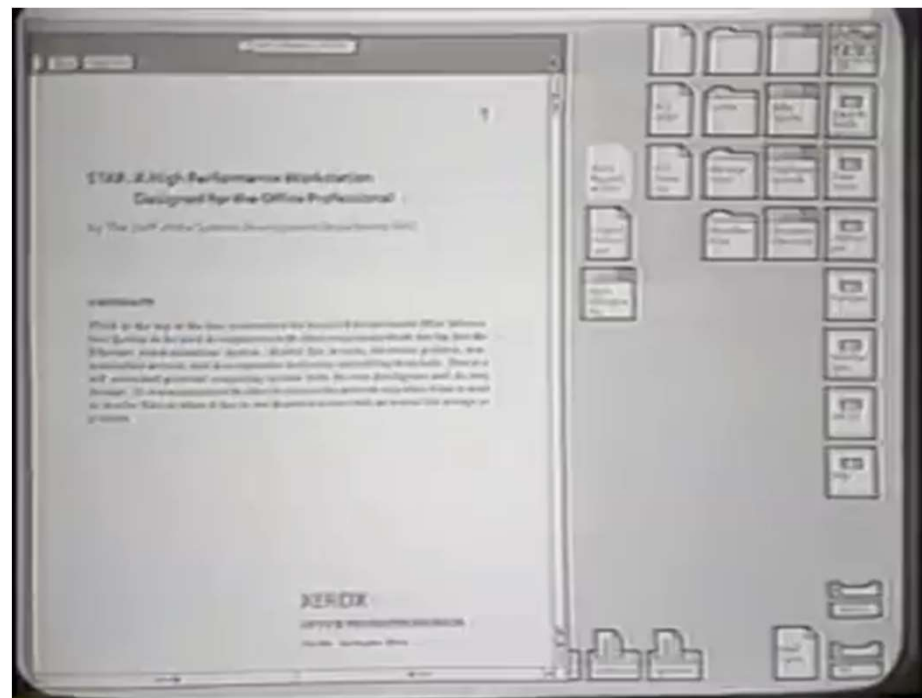
# Second wave: personal computing

- First introduced by Xerox
- Xerox Alto, 1973
  - Mouse
  - Chording keyboard
- Xerox Star, 1981
- Xerox models were commercially unsuccessful
  - Still expensive, too few applications



# Second wave: personal computing

## Xerox Star (1981)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODZBL80JPqw>



Did you recognize any interactions that are commonly used today?

# Second wave: personal computing

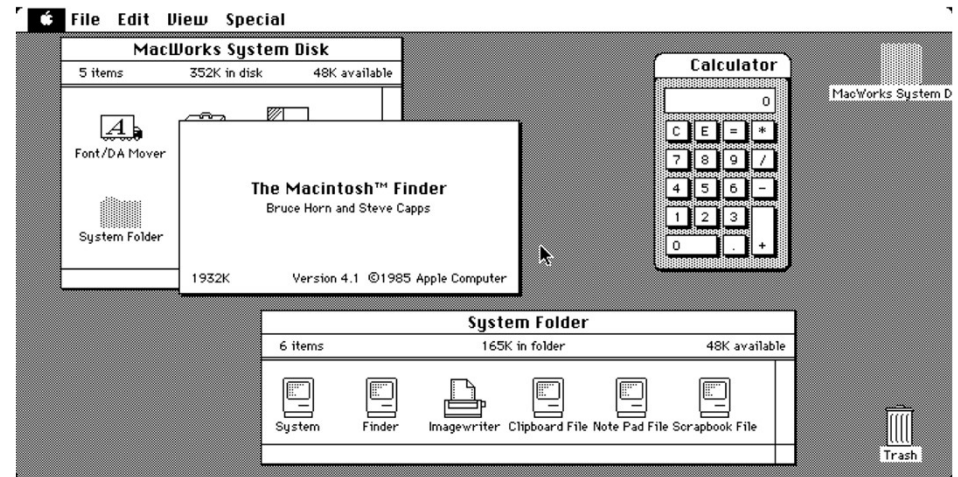
## Xerox Star (1981)

- Software running in windows
- Desktop with icons for navigating between files and programs
- Super slow!



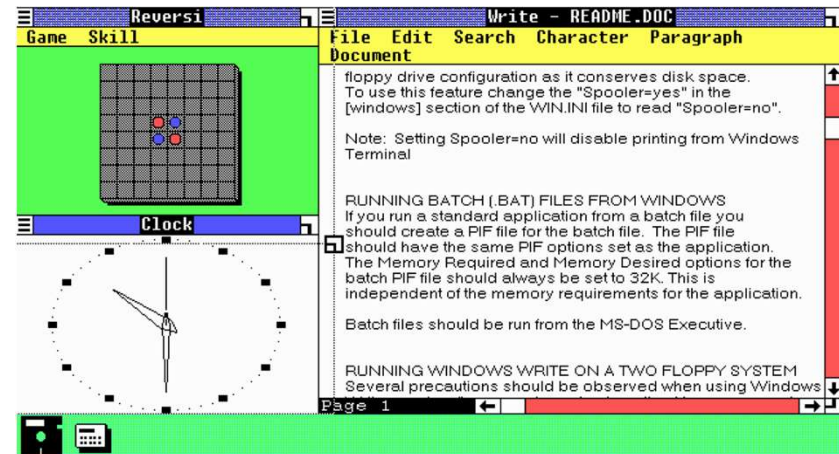
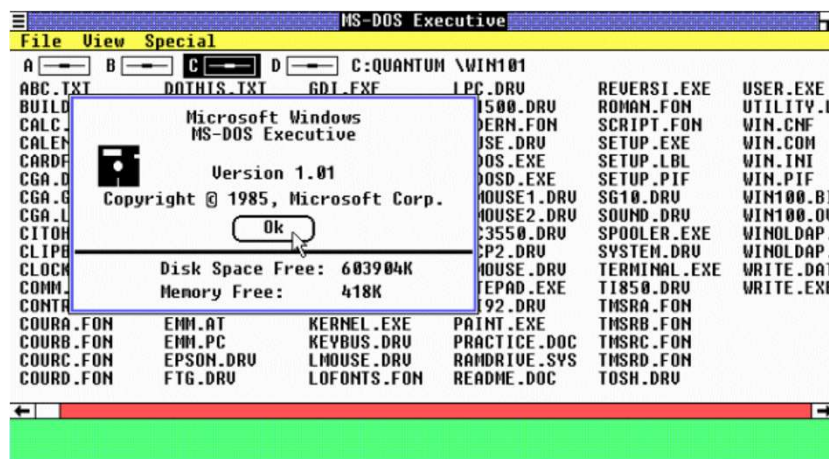
# Second wave: personal computing

## Macintosh (1984)



# Second wave: personal computing

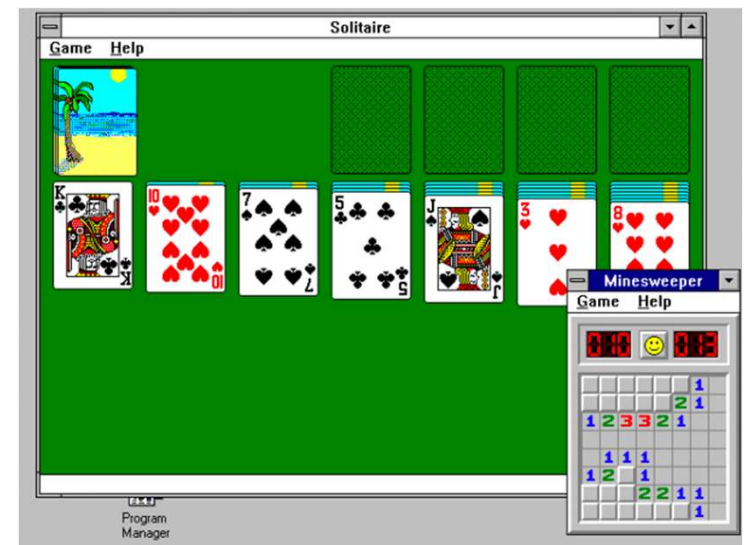
## Windows 1.0 (1985)



# Second wave: personal computing

## Windows 3.0 & 3.1 (1990 & 1992)

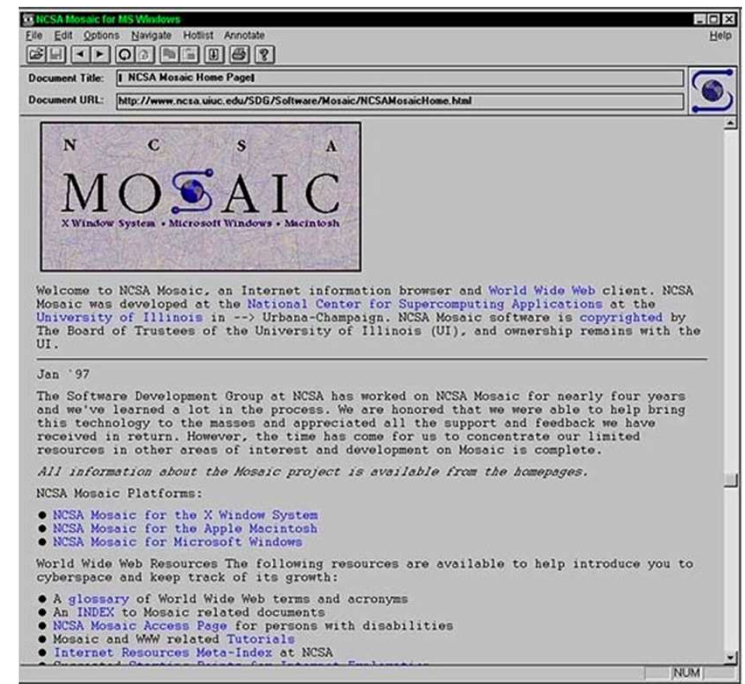
- Windowing became primary
- Added games: Solitaire, Minesweeper, and FreeCell!
- These were a trick to teach mouse skills



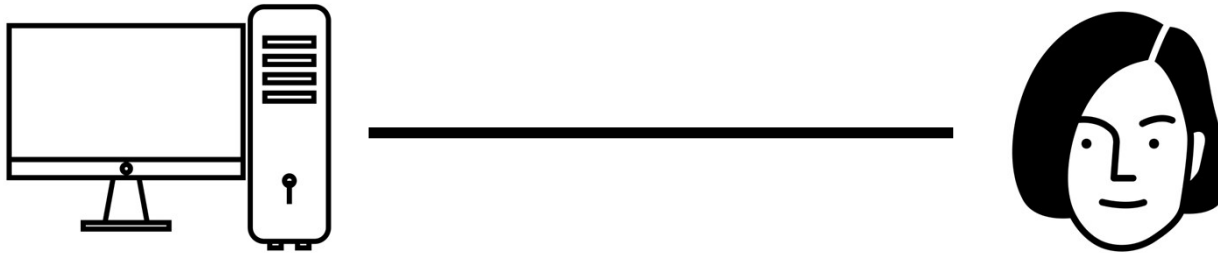
# Second wave: personal computing

## Mosaic Web Browser (1993)

- Originally for Unix systems, later ported to Mac and Windows
- “First” graphical web browser
- Microsoft IE came in 1995
- Apple didn’t make a browser until Safari in 2003



## Second wave: personal computing



“One to one”

# Three waves of computing



Mainframe  
computing



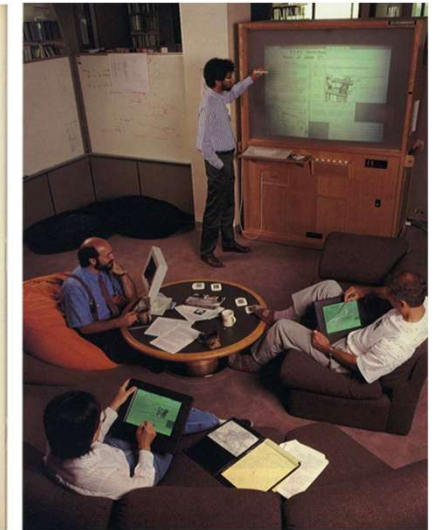
Personal  
computing



Ubiquitous  
computing



- Weiser speculated people would interact with three types of computers
  - Tabs: inch-scale devices, like post-its
  - Pads: foot-scale devices, like paper
  - Boards: yard-scale devices, like whiteboards
- Speculated devices would have shared ownership



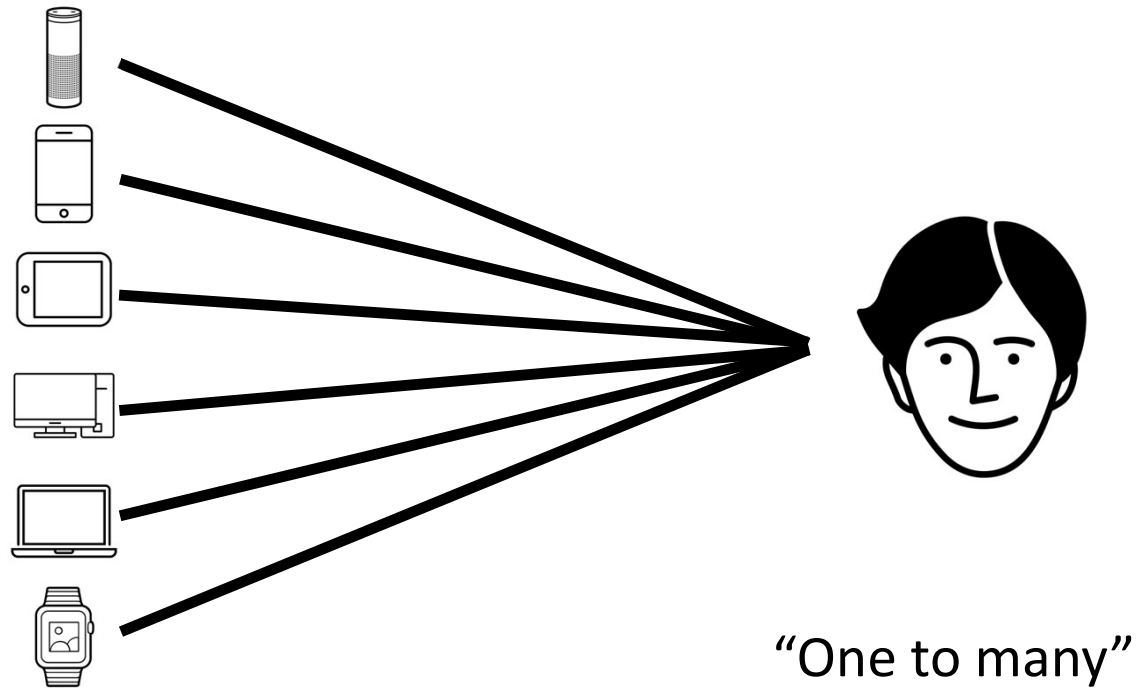
# Third wave: ubiquitous computing



# Third wave: ubiquitous computing

- Lines up with what we use today, for the most part
  - Tabs = phones and watches
  - Pads = tablets and laptops
  - Boards = interactive projectors? smart TVs? augmented reality?
- Still a strong sense of device ownership

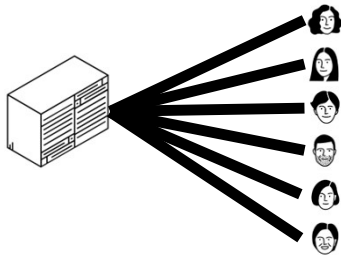
# Third wave: ubiquitous computing



# Three waves of computing

1

Mainframe  
computing



“Many to one”

2

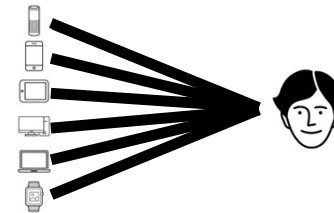
Personal  
computing



“One to one”

3

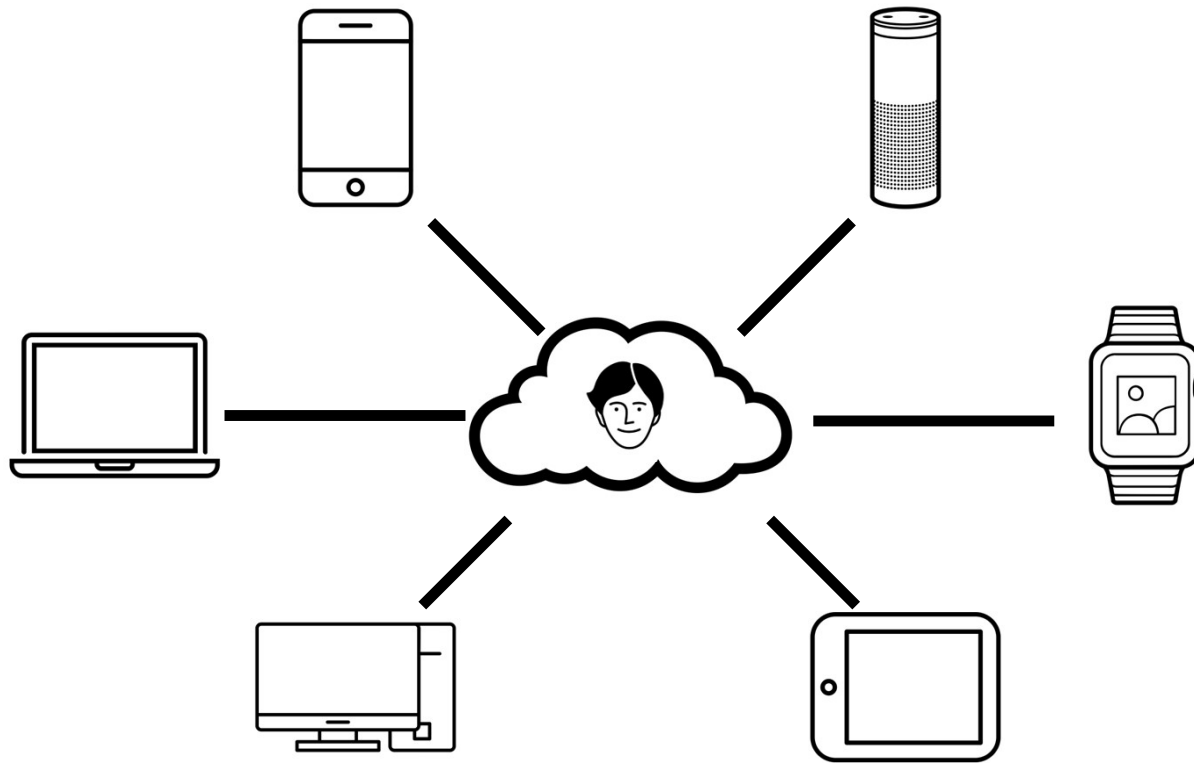
Ubiquitous  
computing



“One to many”

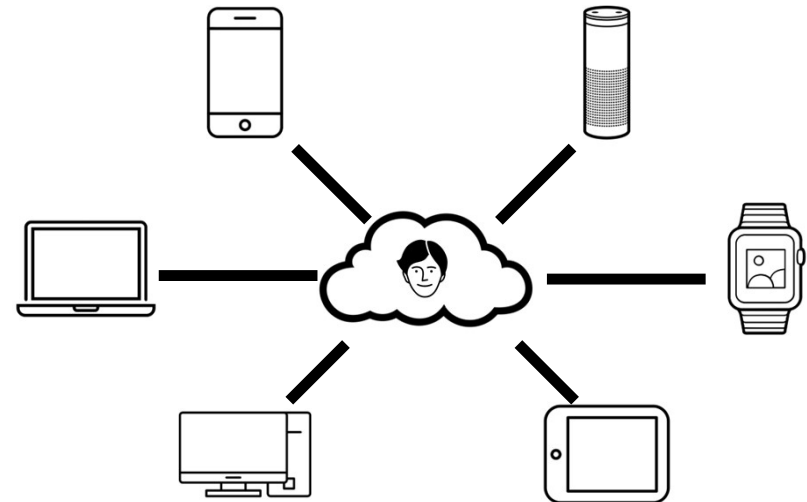
Why are web tools now the standard for interface development?

# One to many, synced over the cloud



# One to many, synced over the cloud

- Use HTTP requests to send data to the cloud and receive data from it
  - JavaScript provided early tools to do this
- Render that data with HTML
- Style it with CSS



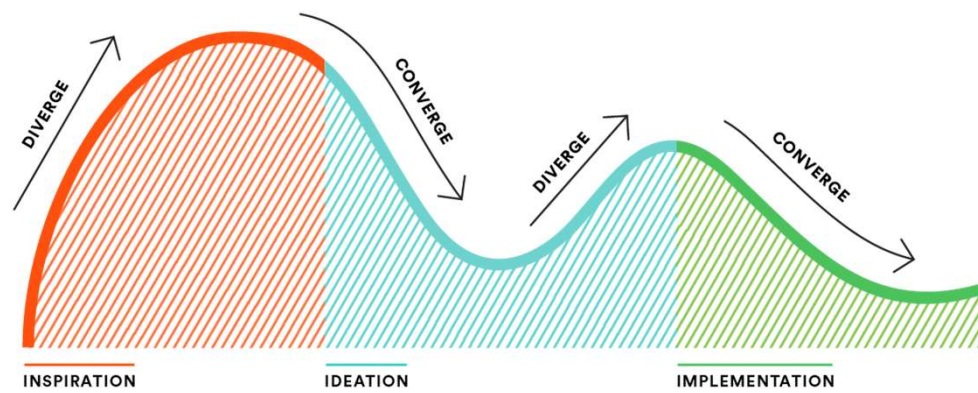


Ubiquitous computing is, in large part, why web tools are the current standard for interface development

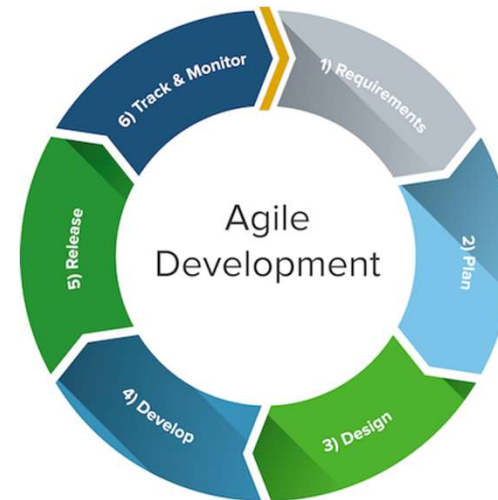
# Web tools as the standard

- Nearly every platform needs to communicate with a cloud system
- Most need a web browser so people can access sites
- Shared programming language and development environment enables efficient work
- Developers can write once, deploy to many platforms
  - Hopefully customize style and functionality to the device
- Other reasons?

# Product design process

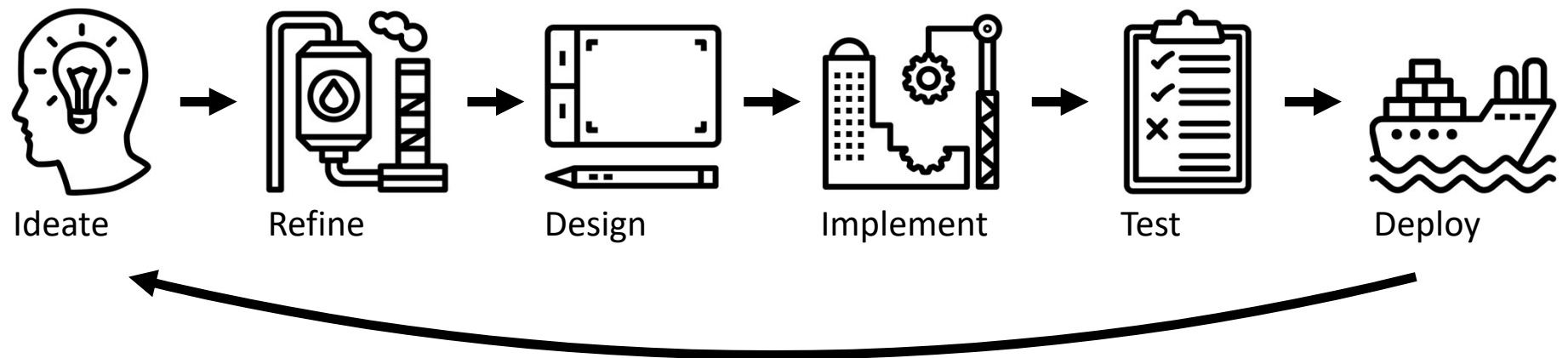


Human-Centered Design, IDEO



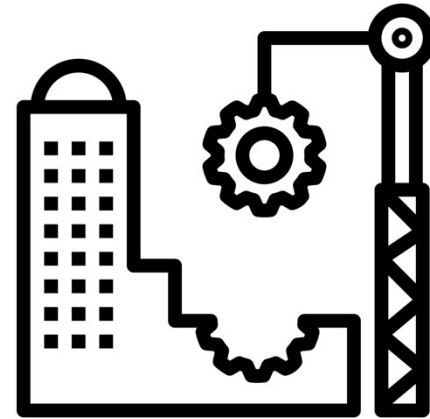
Agile Development, Agile Manifesto

# Product design process, simplified



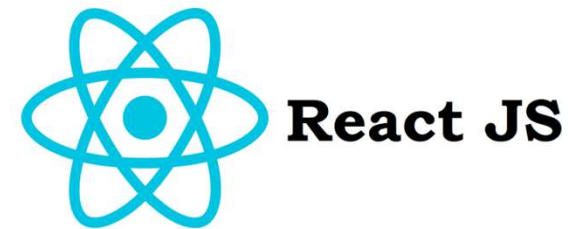
# User interface implementation

- Has the power to turn ideas into reality
- Often dictates design decisions and timelines, for better or for worse
- Either you will be implementing, or you will need to communicate with your colleagues who are



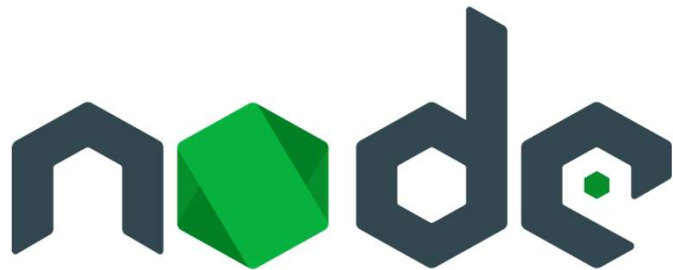
# What is interface implementation today?

Often HTML, CSS, and JavaScript



Bootstrap

METEOR



ember

There are lot of languages  
and development frameworks.

Why do most people use web tools?

# Assignments

- A1: Static web with HTML and CSS
- A2: Programming on the web
- A3: Web frameworks
- A4: Mobile development
- Final Project

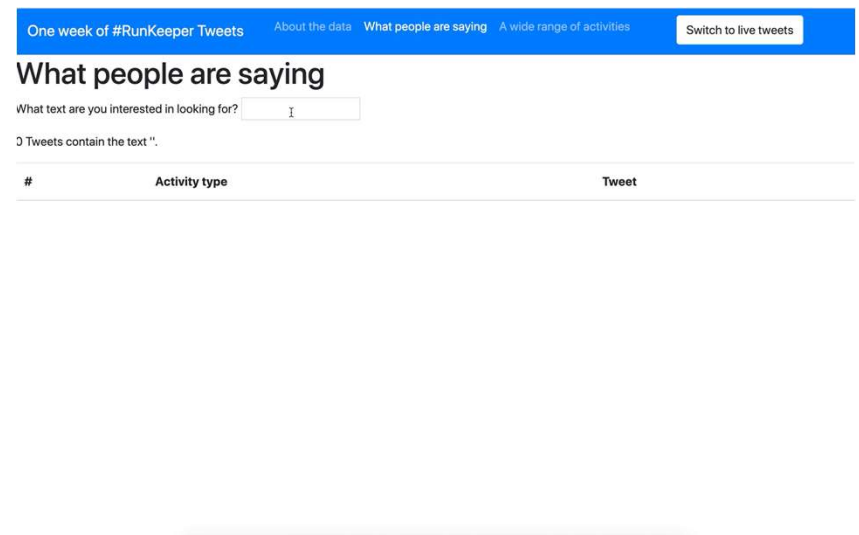




# A2

## Runkeeper Tweet Report in JavaScript and TypeScript

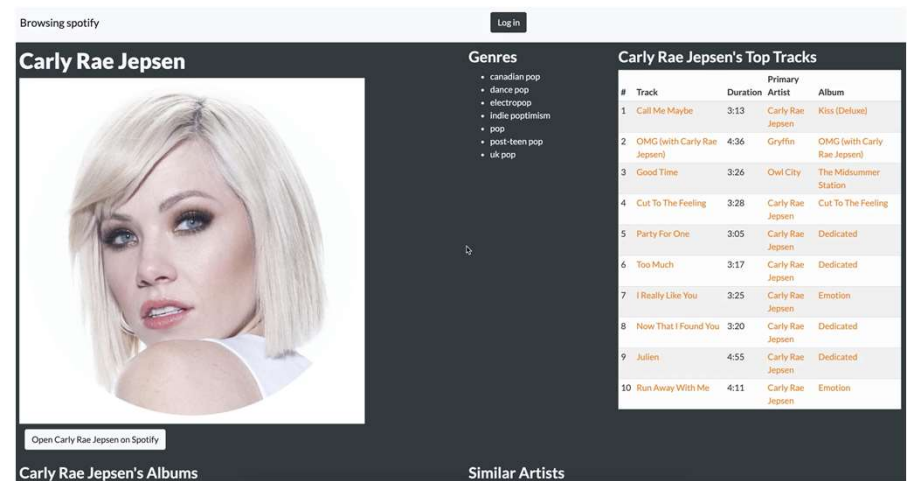
- Learning goal: become comfortable with JavaScript, a widely-used development language on the web
- Will learn to use JavaScript libraries for visualization and interaction
- Optional partner



# A3

## Spotify Browser in Angular

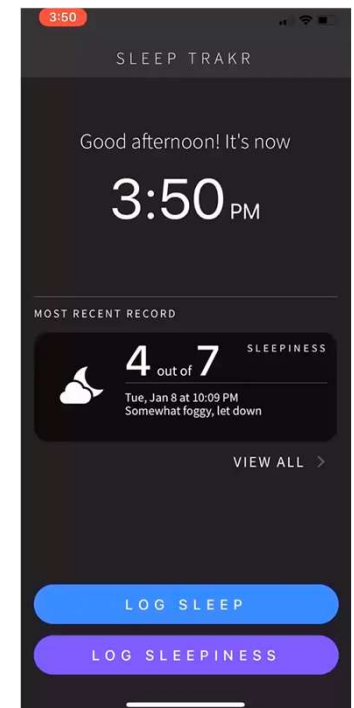
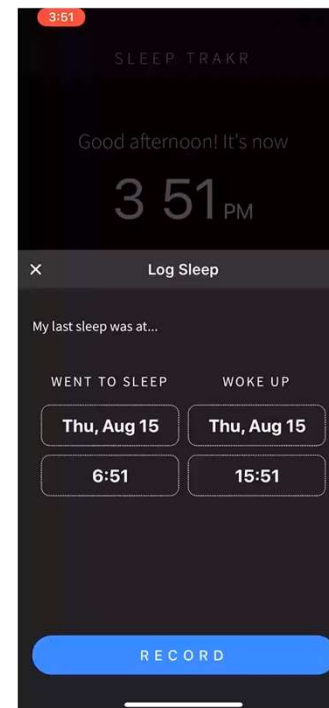
- Learning goal: develop skills in web frameworks which separate interface from data and interaction (Model-View-Controller)
- Will make an interactive browser of Spotify's library
- Optional partner



# A4

## Sleep Tracker Mobile App

- Learning goal: learn to leverage UI components in a mobile framework and align with principles of good mobile design
- Will implement an app to log daily sleep
- Optional partner



# A5

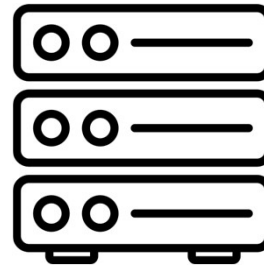
## Final Project

- Learning goal: Apply principles of user interface design to build an alternative mode of interaction
- Implement with a web, mobile, or wearable framework of your choice
- Optional partner

# Client-side web development

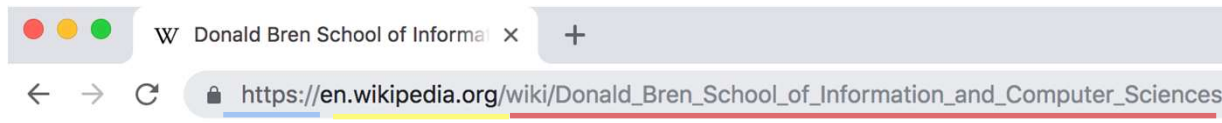


Your browser



Web server

# Using the internet

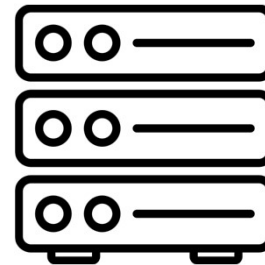


Protocol    Host    Resource  
(how to handle info)    (who has info)    (what info you want)

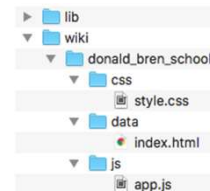
“Hey Wikipedia, I’d like to see the page for the school of ICS!”

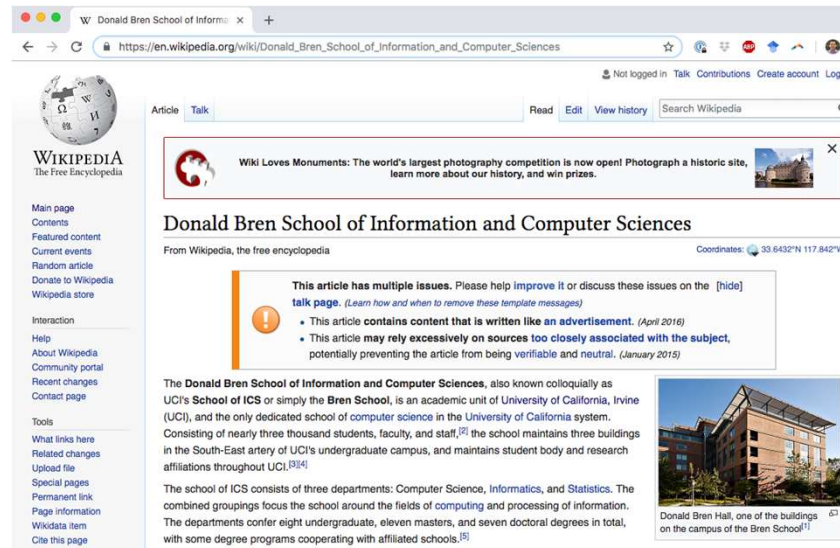
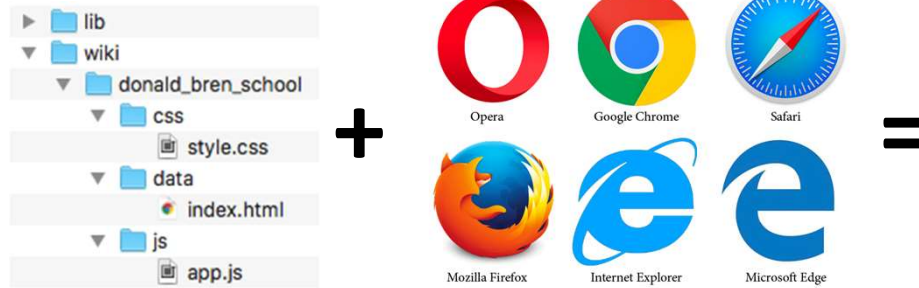


Your browser



Web server





Fundamentally, the web is  
designed to send files around



So what does a file on the web look like?

Take a minute to create a file, name it with the extension 'html'

Ex: mypage.html

What if we wanted to specify  
how the content is rendered?

# HTML (HyperText Markup Language)

- Adds meaning to text
- Links documents to one another
  - Vanneaver Bush, hypertext vision



# Tags

`<div>` ← Open/start tag

Content goes here. ← Content

`</div>` ← Close/end tag

Whitespace and tag case are ignored

# Some common tags

`<h1>`Heading level 1`</h1>`

`<h2>`Heading level 2`</h2>`

...

`<p>`A paragraph`</p>`

`<!--A comment-->`

`<img>` An image

`<ul>` An unordered list (bullets)

`<li>` A list item

`<table>` A data table

`<strong>` Important content (**bolded**)

`<em>` Emphasized content (*italicized*)

`<div>` A division (section) of content

## Tags

- There are hundreds of tags!
- You may not use them all, but it's good to explore them
- Search on Google or W3C to understand each tag's purpose
- <https://www.w3schools.com/tags/>

[illegible]

How would you specify a `<div>`  
with the `<p>` (paragraph) I **love** HTML! ?

`<div><p>I <strong>love HTML!`

`<div><p>I <strong>love</strong> HTML!</p>`

`<div><p>I <strong>love<strong> HTML!<p><div>`

`<div><p>I <strong>love</strong> HTML!</p></div>`

`<div><p>I </p><strong>love</strong><p> HTML!</p></div>`

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`<div><p>I <strong>love<strong> HTML!<p><div>`

➡ `<div><p>I <strong>love</strong> HTML!</p></div>`

`<div><p>I </p><strong>love</strong><p> HTML!</p></div>`



# Nesting

- The **Content** of a tag can contain other HTML tags

```
<div><p>I <strong>love</strong> HTML!</p></div>
```

# Nesting: HTML

- By convention, HTML is specified via the **Content** of an `<html>` element.

```
<html> ← Start of HTML document
  <body> ← Start of body (visible) content
    <h1>Hello, IN4MATX 133!</h1>
    <p>HTML is <em>great</em>!</p>
  </body> ← End of body content
</html> ← End of HTML document
```

# Attributes

- Attributes specify options and add meaning
- Attributes are space-separated lists of names and values.
  - Kind of like variables
  - Almost always Strings

```
<div attributeA="valueA" attributeB="valueB">  
  Content goes here  
</div>
```

# Attributes

```
<a href="http://inf133-fa20.baldwin.in/">IN4MATX 133</a>
```



anchor  
(hyperlink) hypertext  
          reference

```

```



source



alternative text for  
screen readers



img tags have no (text) content,  
so no closing tag

```
<html lang="en">
```

```
</html>
```



Language of document is  
English

# HTML structure

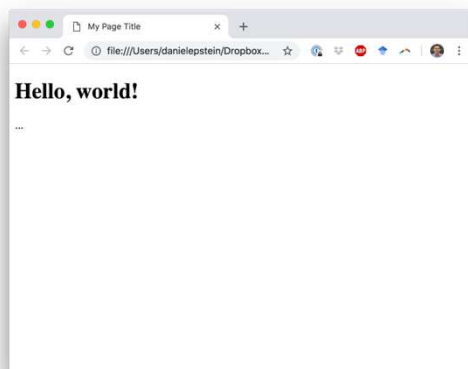
```
<!DOCTYPE html> ← Document format
<html lang="en"> ← Specify language
<head> ← Document header (content that's not shown)
  <meta charset="UTF-8"> ← Character set (for non-latin characters)
  <meta name="author" content="your name"> ← For search engines
  <title>My Webpage</title> ← Webpage title in tab
</head>
<body> ← Document body (content that's shown)
  <h1>Hello, world!</h1>
  ...
</body>
</html>
```

# HTML structure

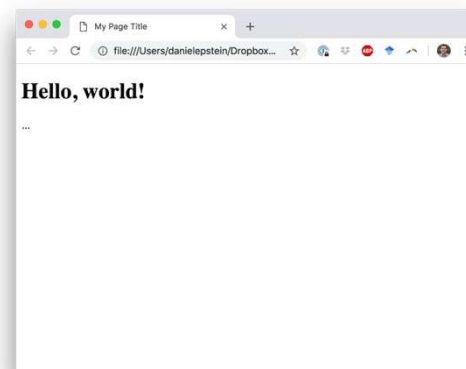
- Surprisingly, browsers are accommodating about HTML structure
- No “compiler errors”
- However, validation can help ensure browser compatibility and site usability

# HTML structure

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta name="author" content="your name">
  <title>My Page Title</title>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Hello, world!</h1>
  ...
</body>
</html>
```



```
<html>
<head>
  <title>My Page Title</title>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Hello, world!</h1>
  <p>...
```



# Let's make a shopping list

## Mark's shopping list

- Milk
- Eggs
- Sandwich ingredients:
  - Bread
  - Tomato
  - Lettuce



# W3C validator

<https://validator.w3.org/>

# Today's goals

**By the end of today, you should be able to...**

- CONTINUE....Describe how society got to today's ubiquitous computing
- Hypothesize why web technology has become the de-facto tool for interface development
- Describe the fundamentals of web communication
- Identify the syntax of HTML tags and attributes and describe their roles
- Create a HTML template which follows W3C specifications