

Javascript and Dynamic Web Pages

Department of Computer Science
City University of New York, Graduate Center

Lecture 7: Javascript and Dynamic Web Pages

September 20 , 2010

Outline

- 1 Review of Last Class
- 2 Javascript
 - What is Javascript
 - Characteristics of the language
 - Important issues for javascript

- Ritchie and Thompson: For their development of generic operating systems theory and specifically for the implementation of Unix operating system.
- Ada Lovelace : The first computer programmer
- Hermann Hollerith : Developed a punched card reader for use in the US census
- Alan Turing : Built the first operational computer and founded the field of Artificial Intelligence.
- Grace Hopper : First used the term debugging because of an actual bug that was stuck in a computer.

- Charles Babbage : Described an Analytical Engine which was a forerunner of computers.
- Jacquard : Invented a loom that used punched cards to control the pattern
- Pascal : Invented the first digital calculator to help in collecting taxes.
- Blaise Pascal : invented the second mechanical calculator, called alternatively the Pascaline
- ENIAC : Electronic Numerical Integrator And Computer, was the first general purpose computer

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What is Javascript

- It is a high-level language that is interpreted - translated into machine language at the time of usage.
- It allows the introduction of dynamic, real-time changes, to the webpage the user is accessing.
- The user causes an "event", e.g. moving the mouse to press a button, and the programmer can use javascript to program a response.
- Developed at Netscape as a web programming language.
- The language is embedded in all Netscape browsers since 2.0 and all Internet Explorer browsers since 3.0.

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Characteristics of the language

- **Allows interactive content on a webpage**
- client-based - works on the users machine, not the remote server machine
- Does not manipulate files - can not write files on either the user's machine or the server machine
- Does not carry out graphics

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Important issues for javascript

- The language instructions are written in lower case.
- All instructions must be spelled correctly or the interpreter will not recognize them.
- Parts of instructions need to be separated by space and not run together.
- The correct punctuation must be used.

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Thank you for your attention.