

Creative Coding

The web as a medium

Phil Gyford

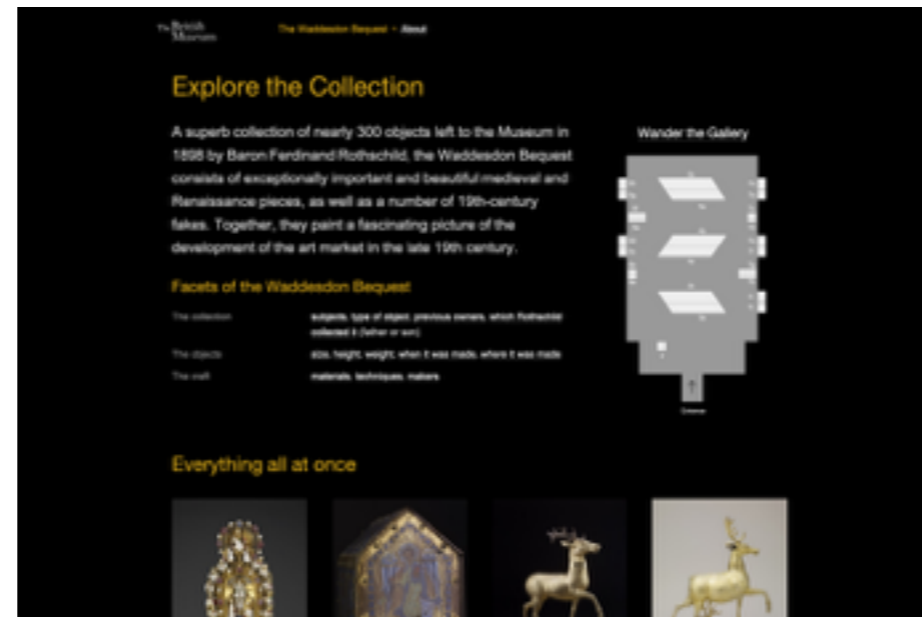
@philgyford

www.gyford.com

wb.britishmuseum.org

www.pepysdiary.org

www.twelescreen.com



Waddesdon Bequest

wb.britishmuseum.org



The Diary of Samuel Pepys

www.pepysdiary.com

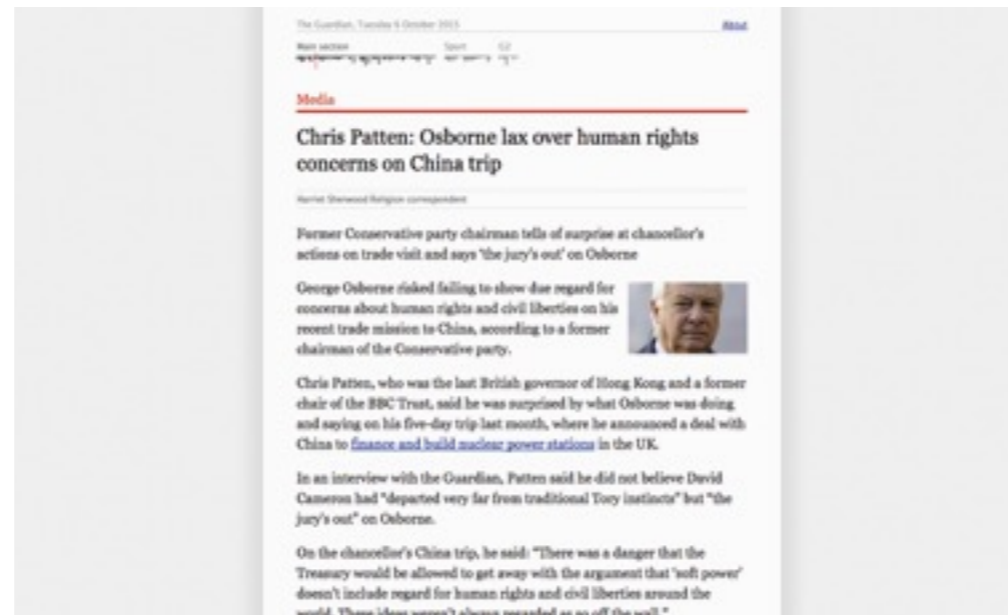
The image shows a screenshot of the Twitter profile for Samuel Pepys (@samuelpepys). The profile header includes the name 'Samuel Pepys', the handle '@samuelpepys', and statistics: 8,369 tweets, 14 following, 48.6K followers, and 1 list. A 'Follow' button is visible. The bio states: '17th century London diarist, currently tweeting the events of 1662 in real time. Run by @tptiggford.' Location is 'London, UK', website is 'pepysdiary.com', and joined 'April 2008'. The main content area shows four tweets, all from Samuel Pepys, with dates ranging from Oct 4 to Oct 5. The tweets contain historical diary entries. The right sidebar features a 'New to Twitter?' sign-up prompt, a 'You may also like' section with recommendations like 'Charlie Brooker' and 'WAG Tweets from 1842', and a 'Trends' section with hashtags like #Windows10debates.

@samuelpepys

HM REVENUE & CUSTOMS 

**FIND OUT WHAT HMRC
IS DOING TO
TACKLE/COMBAT
PENSION LIBERATION**

Twelescreen.com



Today's Guardian

gyford.guardian.com

Monday & Tuesday

- How the web works
- Creating web pages in HTML
- Styling web pages with CSS
- Making a basic portfolio site

Thursday & Friday

- The basics of JavaScript
- A couple of very simple JavaScript pages
- Using JavaScript to combine data from other sites to make an interactive page

This week won't make you...

- Proficient in HTML, CSS or JavaScript
- A brilliant programmer

But, this week should...

- Give you enough knowledge to explore further
- Provide useful basic skills for the future
- Show you how to experiment
- Learn how to find and fix problems
- Help you use the internet's data as your medium

Now

How the web works



The web is not the internet

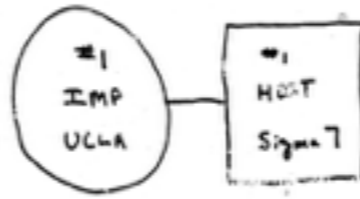
www.w3.org/20

Tim Berners-Lee and Vint Cerf (*one* of the inventors of the internet)

The internet

- Email
- Slack
- Adobe Creative Cloud
- Snapchat
- iCloud
- Dropbox
- Netflix
- Xbox Live
- The web
- App Store
- Phone apps
- PlayStation Network
- Amazon Kindle
- Internet of Things devices
- Apple TV
- Spotify
- WhatsApp
- And more...

All of these are parts of, on on, the Internet.
Only one part is the web.



THE ARPA NETWORK

SEPT. 1969

1 NODE

ARPANET, 1969

[personalpages.manchester.ac.uk/staff/m.dodge/
cybergeography/atlas/historical.html](http://personalpages.manchester.ac.uk/staff/m.dodge/cybergeography/atlas/historical.html)

Started in the 1960s, as ARPANET, US military-funded.

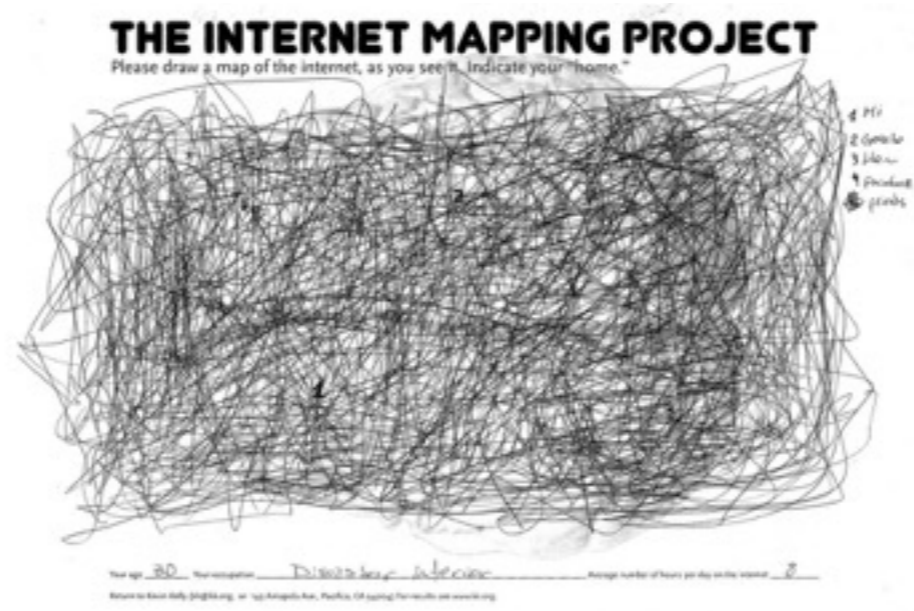
The first computer, the size of a wardrobe, connected to ARPANET.



ARPANET, 1971

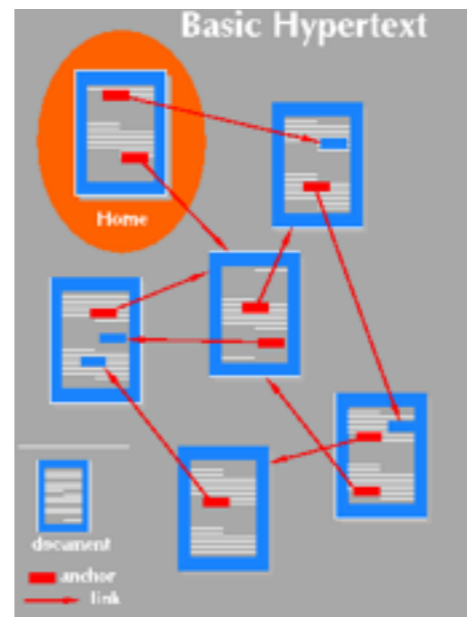
[personalpages.manchester.ac.uk/staff/m.dodge/
cybergeography/atlas/historical.html](http://personalpages.manchester.ac.uk/staff/m.dodge/cybergeography/atlas/historical.html)

More sites connected.



The internet, 2009

kk.org/ct2/the-internet-mapping-project



Hypertext

www.w3.org/Talks/General/Concepts.html

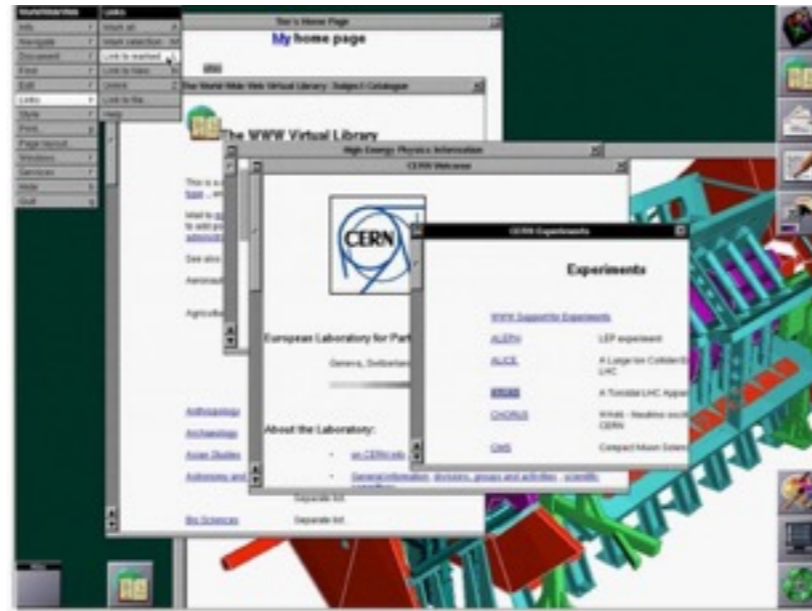
Image from 1991/2.

Clicking links in pages, like we do on the web, seems natural now.

Hard to imagine *before* hypertext.

Vannevar Bush, 'As We May Think', 1945.

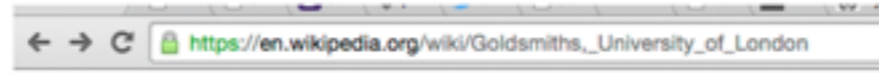
Ted Nelson coined 'hypertext', 1963.



The World Wide Web

info.cern.ch

Tim Berners-Lee, created WWW in 1990.
This screenshot from 1993.



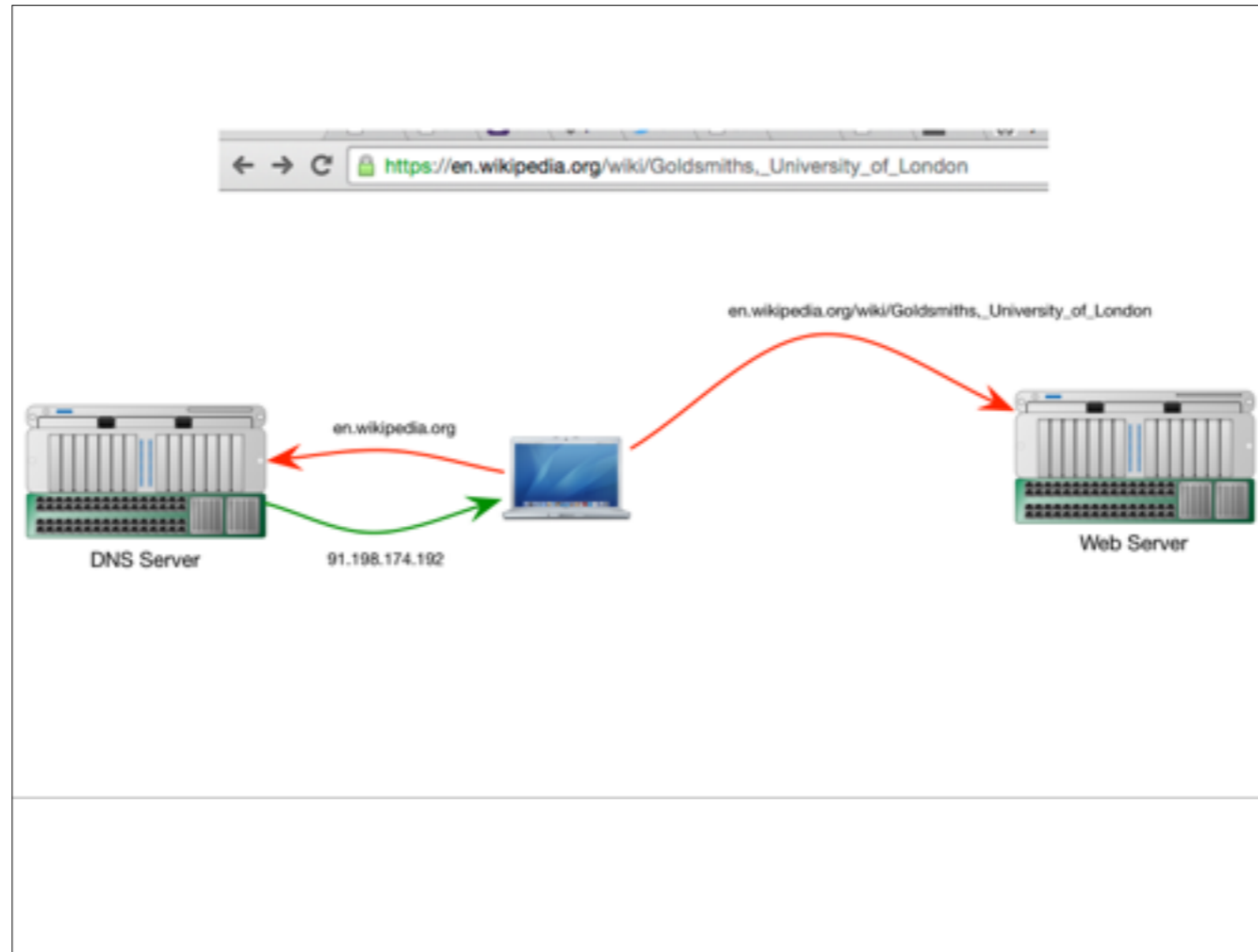
What happens when we type a URL or click a link?

← → ↻ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goldsmiths_University_of_London

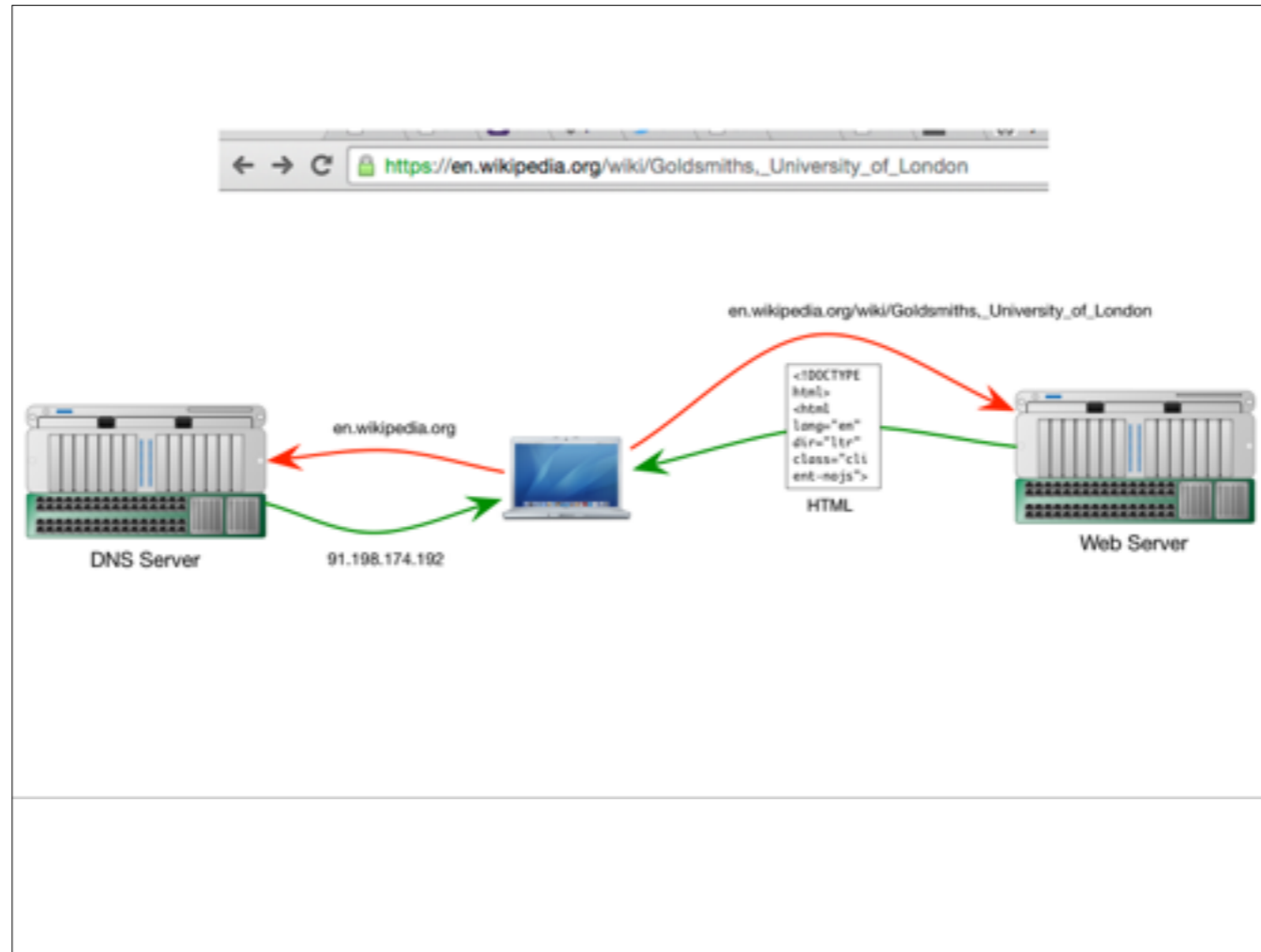


← → ↻ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goldsmiths_University_of_London

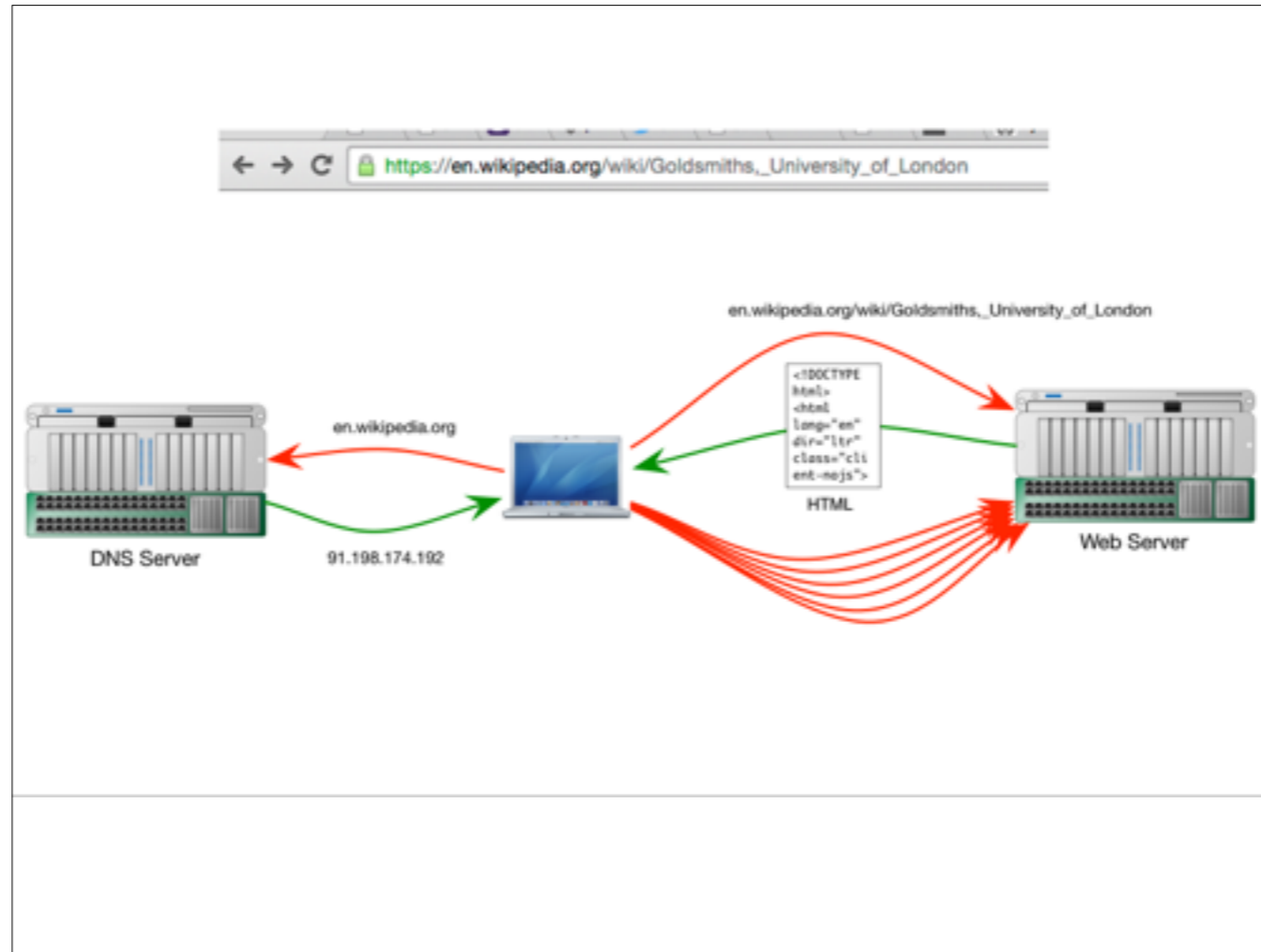




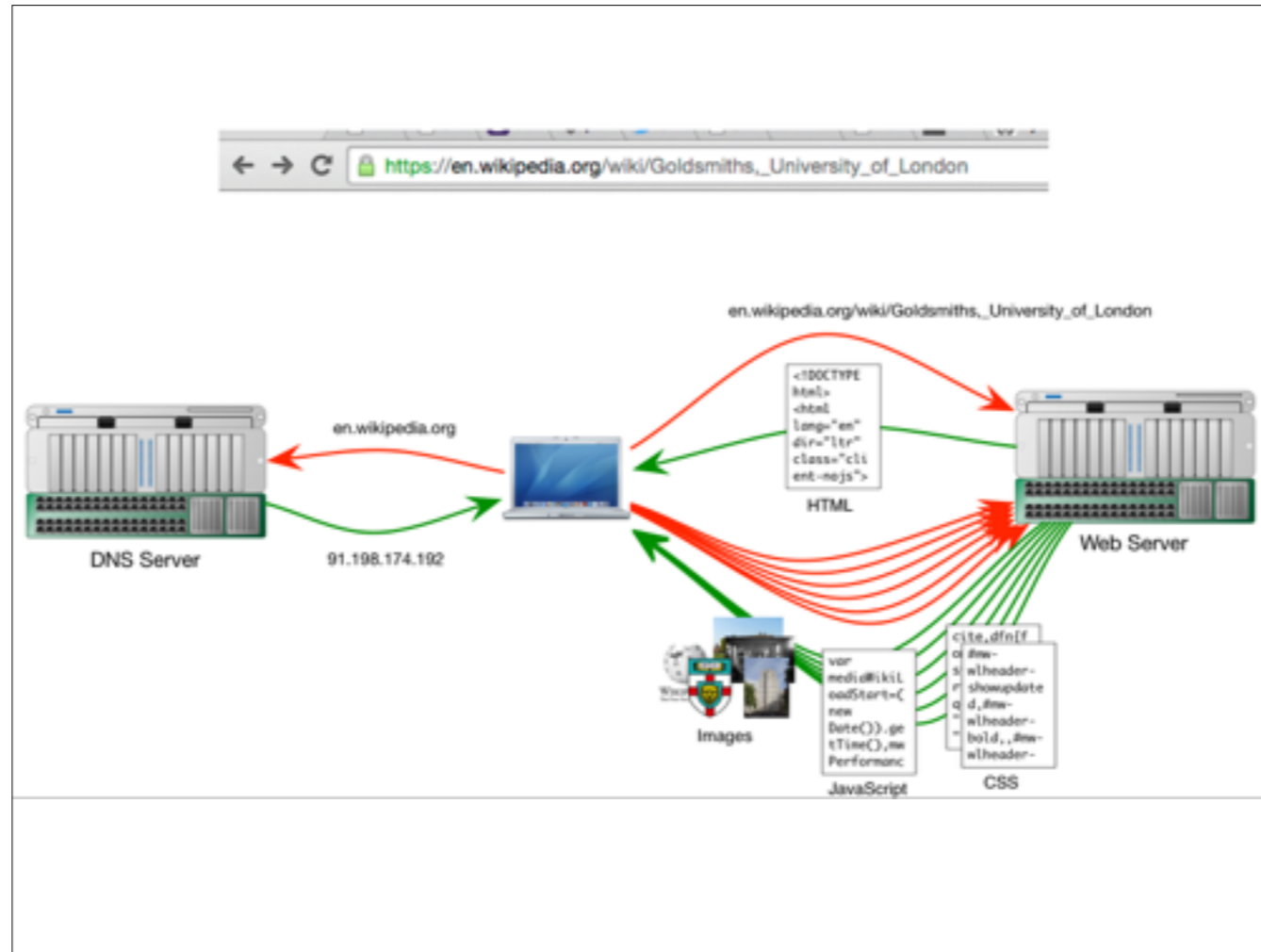
Could show it's more complicated by doing a traceroute.
The server parses the URL to work out what to send back.



Browser parses the document sent back, to find other things it needs to request.

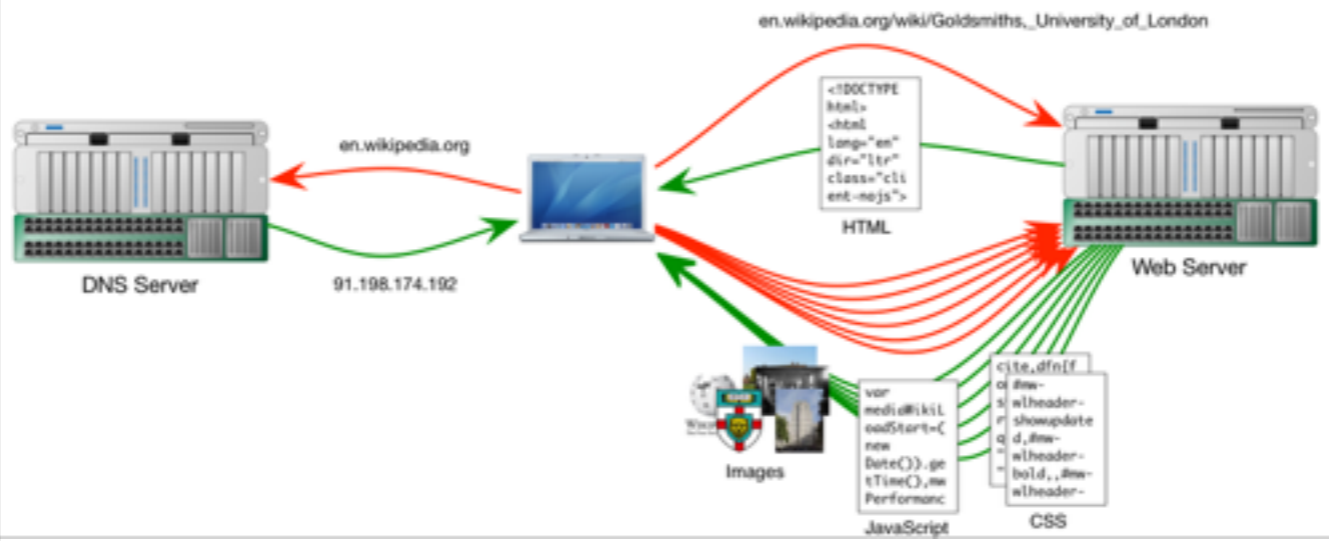


These might be requests to different servers, maybe on different domains.



Next slide shows front-end and back-end.

← → ↻ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goldsmiths_University_of_London



Front-end

Back-end

Back-end

- **Languages:** PHP, Python, Ruby, Perl, JavaScript, Java, ASP, Go, C, C++, Erlang, Scala...
- **Databases:** MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, SQL Server, MongoDB, Redis, SQLite...
- **And also:** web servers, caching, load-balancing, backups...

Front-end

- HTML
- CSS
- JavaScript

HTML

Hypertext Markup Language

View source

Do view source on a page.

Chrome: View > Developer > View Source

Safari: Safari > Preferences > Advanced. “Show Develop menu in menu bar”.

Then: Develop > Show Page Source

FF: Tools > Web Developer > Page Source

Paragraphs

```
<p>This is a paragraph.</p>
```

Paragraphs

```
<p>This is a paragraph.</p>
```

```
<p>  
  This is a  
  paragraph.  
</p>
```

These will look the same.

Headings

```
<h1>This is a heading</h1>
```

Headings

```
<h1>This is a heading</h1>
```

```
<h2>This is a 2nd level heading</h2>
```

```
<h3>This is a 3rd level heading</h3>
```

```
<h4>This is a 4th level heading</h4>
```

```
<h5>This is a 5th level heading</h5>
```

```
<h6>This is a 6th level heading</h6>
```

Images

```

```

Anatomy of a tag

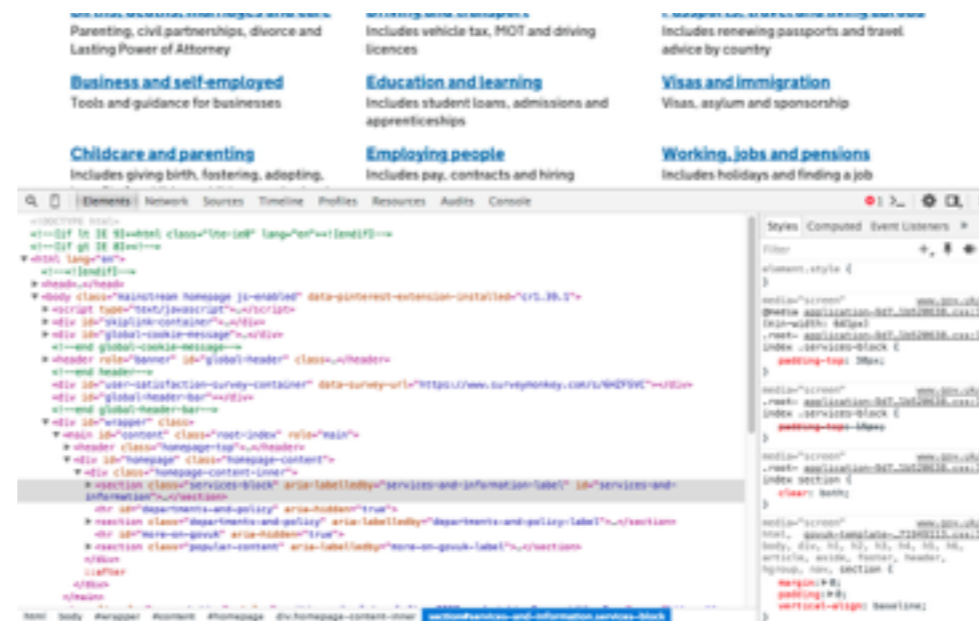
```
<tag attribute="value">  
  Some content.  
</tag>  
  
<tag attribute="value">
```

Empty, self-closing, void elements.

Tags within tags

```
<p>  
  <b>This is bold.</b>  
  <br>  
    
</p>
```

Note
 tag.



Web Inspector

Go to www.bbc.co.uk/news or gov.uk, inspect. Change things. Play.

Chrome: View > Developer Tools

Safari: Develop > Show Web Inspector

FF: Tools > Web Developer > Inspector

Text editors

- atom.io
- SublimeText.com

```
<main id="content" class="root-index" rel="main">
<header class="homepage-top">
<div class="homepage-top-inner">

<div class="welcome-block">
<div class="inner-block floated-children">
<div class="welcome-text">
<div class="floated-inner-block">
<h2>Welcome to GOV.UK</h2>
<p>The best place to find government services and information/>
<p>Simple, clearer, faster/>

<form id="header-search" class="site-search">
action="https://www.gov.uk/search" method="get" rel="search">
<div class="header-search-content">
<label for="search-main">Search GOV.UK</label>
<input type="search" name="q" id="search-main" title="Search"
class="js-search-focus"><input class="submit" type="submit"
value="Search">
</div>
</form>
</div>
<div class="content-links">
<div class="floated-inner-block content-links-inner">
<h2>Popular on GOV.UK</h2>
<ul>
<li><a href="https://www.gov.uk/jobsearch">Universal Jobmatch job
search</a></li>
<li><a href="https://www.gov.uk/vehicle-tax">Renew vehicle
tax</a></li>
<li><a href="https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login">
log in to student finance</a></li>
<li><a href="https://www.gov.uk/bank-theory-test">Book your theory
test</a></li>
</ul>
</div>
</div>
</div>
</div>
</div>
```

- Download. Open. Make new folder.
- Make index.html in it containing "hello". Your first HTML page!
- Add a tag or two.
- HTML5 structure.
- Make a page.

An HTML5 page

```
<!DOCTYPE html>  
<html>  
  <head>  
    <title></title>  
  </head>  
  <body>  
  
  </body>  
</html>
```

utf-8

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <meta charset="utf-8">
    <title></title>
  </head>
  <body>

  </body>
</html>
```

Add utf-8 meta tag.

```
<main></main>
<section></section>
<article></article>
<header></header>
<footer></footer>
<nav></nav>

<div></div>

<h1></h1>   (h1-h6)
<p></p>

<ul>         (or <ol></ol>)
  <li></li>
  <li></li>
</ul>

<form></form>
```

```
<a href="" title=""></a>

<img src="" alt="">

<br>

<strong></strong>
<em></em>

<b></b>
<i></i>
<u></u>

<input type="" value="">
<label></label>
<button></button>
```

Useful links

- **Reference:** devdocs.io
- **and:** developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML
- **Help:** stackoverflow.com
- **Browser support:** caniuse.com
- **Learn more:** codecademy.com/tracks/htmlcss