
Introduction to XML

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Objectives

- XML stands for eXtensible Markup Language – a text based markup language
- XML is used for storing and transporting data through the use of XML tags
- XML does not replace HTML, but complements HTML
- XML is a public standard, developed by the W3C (World Wide Web Consortium)
- XML is just information wrapped in tags, XML itself does not do anything
- Someone must develop software to send, receive, store and display it

Difference between XML and HTML

<p>XML is a markup language that was designed to carry data – with a focus on what the data is. XML is about describing information</p>	<p>HTML is a markup language that was designed to display data (web pages) in a browser – with a focus on what the data looks like. HTML is about displaying data</p>
<p>Dynamic</p>	<p>Static</p>
<p>XML does not use pre-defined tags. The author of the XML file “invents” the tags to be used. The author can specify the structure of the XML document or allowable set of tags through defining an XML schema</p>	<p>HTML makes use of predefined tags such as <p>, <h1></p>
<p>XML stores data in plain-text, to provide a software and hardware independent way of storing, transporting and sharing data</p>	<p>HTML also stores data in plain-text</p>
<p>XML can be used to store data in files and databases. As XML separates data from presentation, the same XML file can be used to display in different presentation scenarios</p>	<p>HTML pages are purely used to display data.</p>