

Tools

Steve Fisher / RAL

Various topics:

- ART Requirements Review
- Code Checking Tools
- Together/Enterprise
- Tools and Web Improvements.

ART Requirements Review

- Maya and I produced requirements document
 - took a little longer than expected
- Review complete
 - also took longer than hoped as I had failed to predict the onset of Summer
- We will now revise the document
- Will examine the various candidates to see how far they all satisfy the requirements and estimate the effort of modifying them
- Recommend a course of action.

Code Checking Tools

- The Coding rules document started by Spider has been completed by Stefano Paoli
- The IPT group is now considering which tool to recommend to check these rules
 - Note that CodeCheck has proved inadequate for STL
- A few people have been asked to help with this work
 - as individuals rather than representatives of an experiment
- Hope to complete study by Christmas.

Together/Enterprise

- Last time recommended that we should make use of Together
- Nothing happened because not available at CERN
- Now have a trial license for 30 days
 - Have sent out mail about it
 - Please give it a try
 - Do read the [web page](#).

The ATLAS (computing) Web

- The top pages of the computing web are built by a script which:
 - takes non-HTML fragment files from outside the web area
 - adds a standard header and footer
 - header has navigation bar
 - footer includes the name of the person who wrote the page and the date of modification
 - A list of the recently modified pages is built.

Observations on this scheme

- The user has non-standard input files to edit.
 - No WYSIWYG HTML editors
 - No validation tools
- Must follow rules about what can go inside the fragment file to ensure that when the header and footer are added, it all looks OK
- The script which rebuilds the web always runs on complete input file set
 - Too heavy for small changes.

BaBar Scheme

- BaBar have something which has similar aims
- Developer runs script which modifies the HTML by merging information from an HTML fragment file which is found in the same directory as the HTML
- e.g.

Observations on BaBar scheme

- The original HTML cannot be regenerated as it was
 - This is because it is checked and laid out by Dave Raggett's tidy program
 - Probably to simplify parsing the HTML however it means that people get their HTML modified which is not very appealing
- Many identical fragment files have to be maintained - they only have about 5 different files
- The script makes other changes to the HTML
- Layout is criticised
 - wastes space below the side bar on a long page
 - some browsers slow to display.

Can we do better?

- The fragment file which acts as a template is replaced by a standard HTML file
 - with HTML comments to indicate where the user HTML should go
- The script does not reformat the user's HTML
 - If the input file is too bad it (currently) gives up
- A template file is not needed in every directory
 - A search is made up the directory tree until one is found.

And better still?

- Maintain the material as normal HTML and add the navigation bars dynamically via a CGI script
 - This has some advantages in that the user when editing HTML only sees what is his
 - the occupation of disk space is minimised
 - no procedure to update navigation bars globally.
 - **BUT** the server has to do some computation for every page
 - The most serious computation is probably changing the URLs of any referenced pages
- e.g. normal sue page and with dynamic wrapping.

Other Web Tools

- Dave Ragget's [tidy](#) program will check and correct html
 - People should use this to check their HTML
 - It is on asis
- [HTDIG](#) is already is use for generating an index
- [Linbot](#) is another robot which is able to detect broken links and find recently changed pages (and many other things besides) The list of recently changed pages will be made available
 - authors will be informed about broken links - if they can be identified.

Web plans

- I plan to:
 - complete and deploy the CGI script
 - deploy linbot and tidy to find bad HTML and bad links and report to the author
 - Update the top pages to reflect the new computing organisation
- Maybe some of this work might then be used in the higher level ATLAS web
- Feedback is very welcome.