

JSON, better than XML?

Give up the benefits of standardization for simplicity
(maybe)

Agenda

- Where we are
- Learning remix
- Project status
- JSON
- Lab

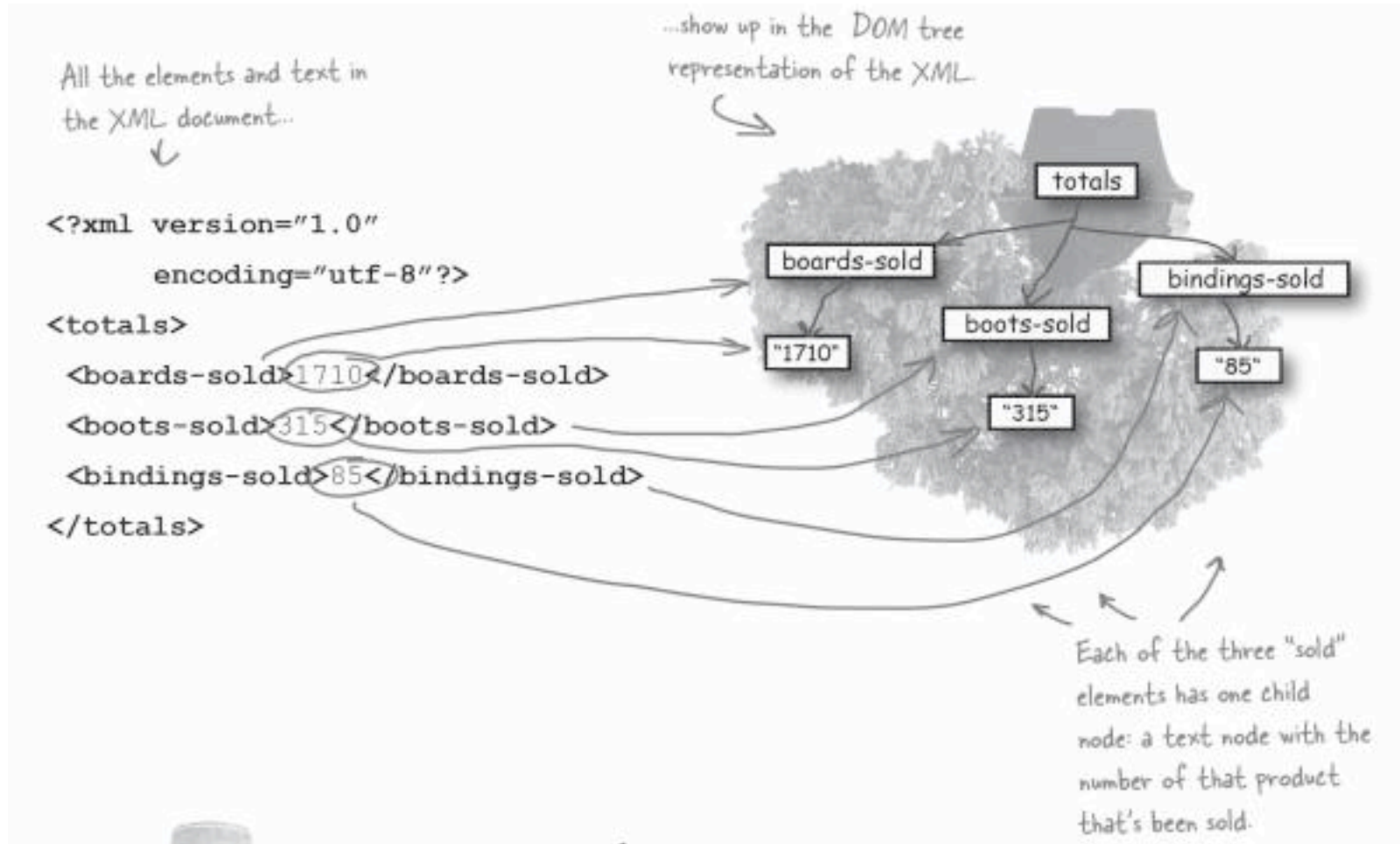
The course in a nutshell

- Agile development
- Web 2.0 and Ajax
 - HTML
 - Javascript
 - HTTP
 - XML
- Three Project Iterations

Learning Remix

- XML Development — Nattakorn, what is the issue exactly?
- We have extra credits back.

Recall XML



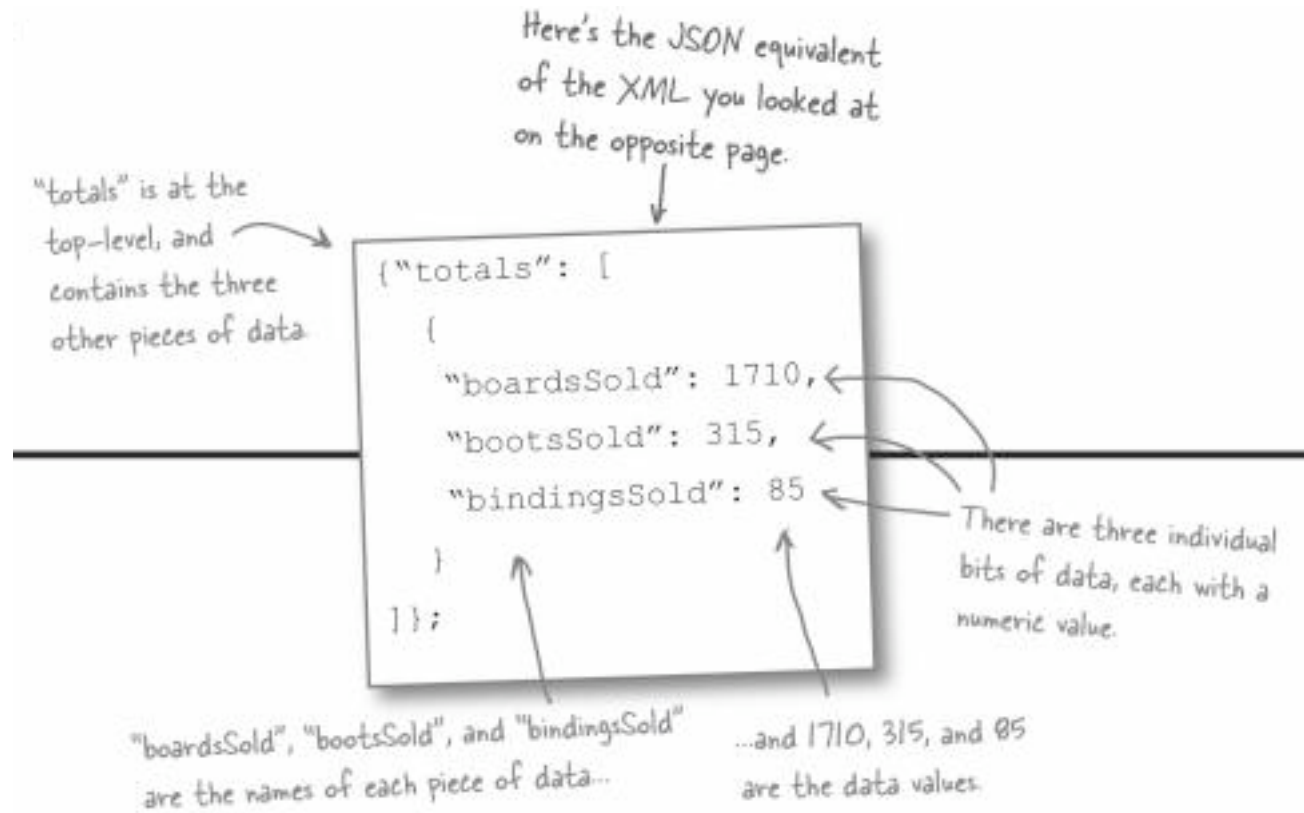
Key Features

- Standard
- Tree-like structure
 - One root element
 - All other elements have only 1 parent
- Use DOM methods (pp. 205, 260–261)

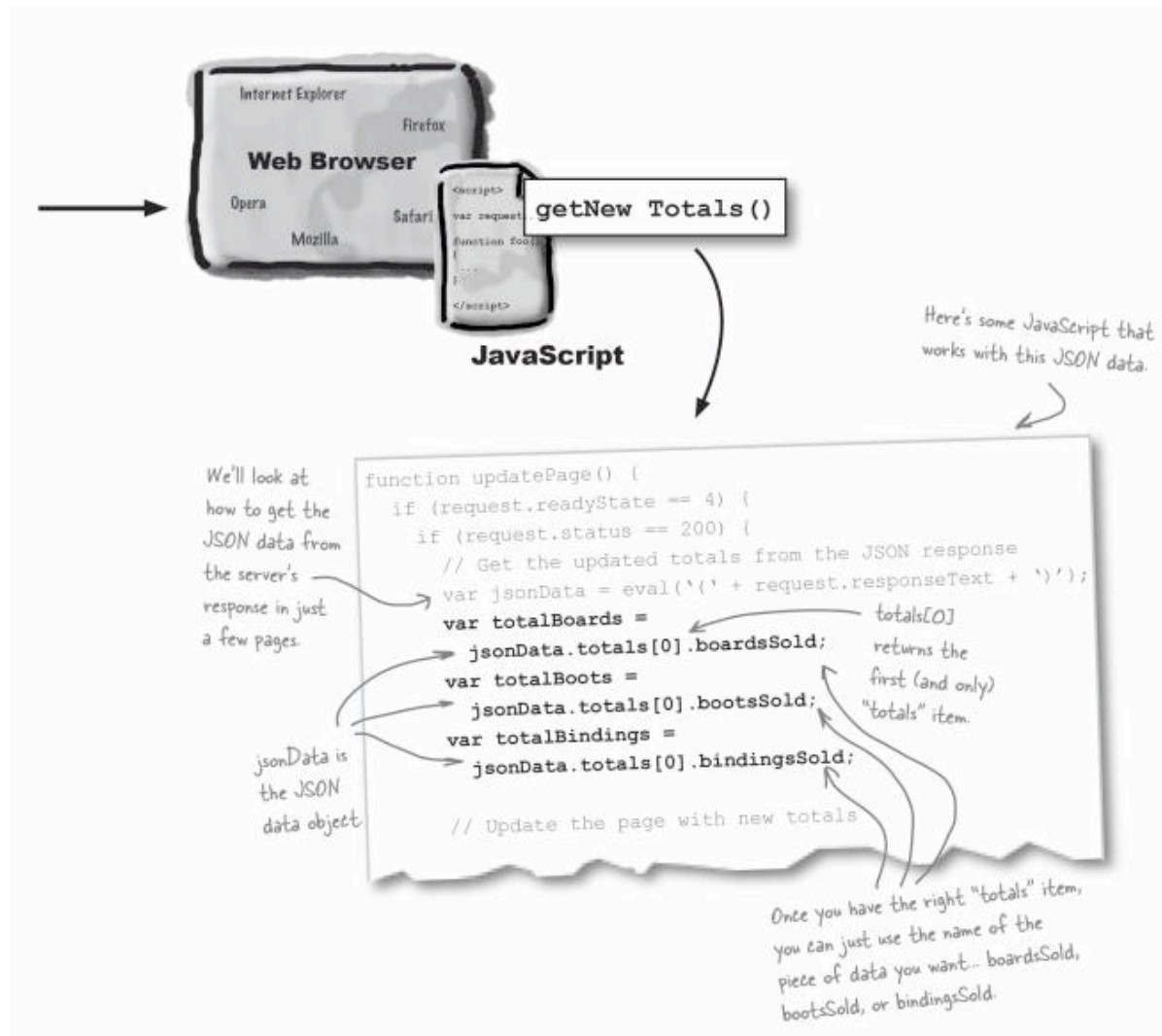
Negatives

- DOM code easy to get wrong (3 chapters)
 - mentally taxing
- Processing overhead
 - Overload browser memory
- Bigger data packet

Enter JSON



Accessed like an associative array (hash)



Web Example

Boards 'R' Us :: How Much Butt We're Kicking

Snowboards Sold	1672
What I Sell 'em For	\$249.95
What it Costs Me	\$84.22
Boots Sold	312
What I Sell 'em For	\$175.47
What it Costs Me	\$54.23
Bindings Sold	82
What I Sell 'em For	\$146.92
What it Costs Me	\$98.03

Cash for the Slopes: \$318936.42

Show Me the Money

Positives

- No DOM!
- Only need to know javascript
- Less browser overhead
- Somewhat less voluminous

Negatives

- Javascript specific
- Need special server side libraries
 - May not work on your server
 - Another thing to go wrong
 - Book examples initially incorrect

Bud's Observations

- Debugging the server side script to work with JSON was a real pain.
- Working with the DOM really is hard.
 - Need a better way to access data.
- E4X uses a JSON-like interface to standard XML.
 - Best of both worlds, but Firefox only.

For Next Week

- Checklist of what you intend for Prototype 3 and what you have completed.
- What are the problems?