

Exploring the Hypertext Transfer Protocol

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Abstract: *This paper, HTTP Explorer, an interactive tool for investigating the Hypertext Transfer Protocol, is presented. The tool will be used in a course on web-based applications to help the study of HTTP, the most important protocol now in use on the internet. Students can send requests to any HTTP server connected to the internet using a web-based user interface, making the data flow between the client and the server clearly visible. Beginners can use the tool to experiment with HTTP, while advanced users can use it to test out more complicated capabilities. We also discuss some preliminary findings from using HTTP Explorer in a live classroom.*

Keywords: HTTP, Simulator, WWW, e-learning

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