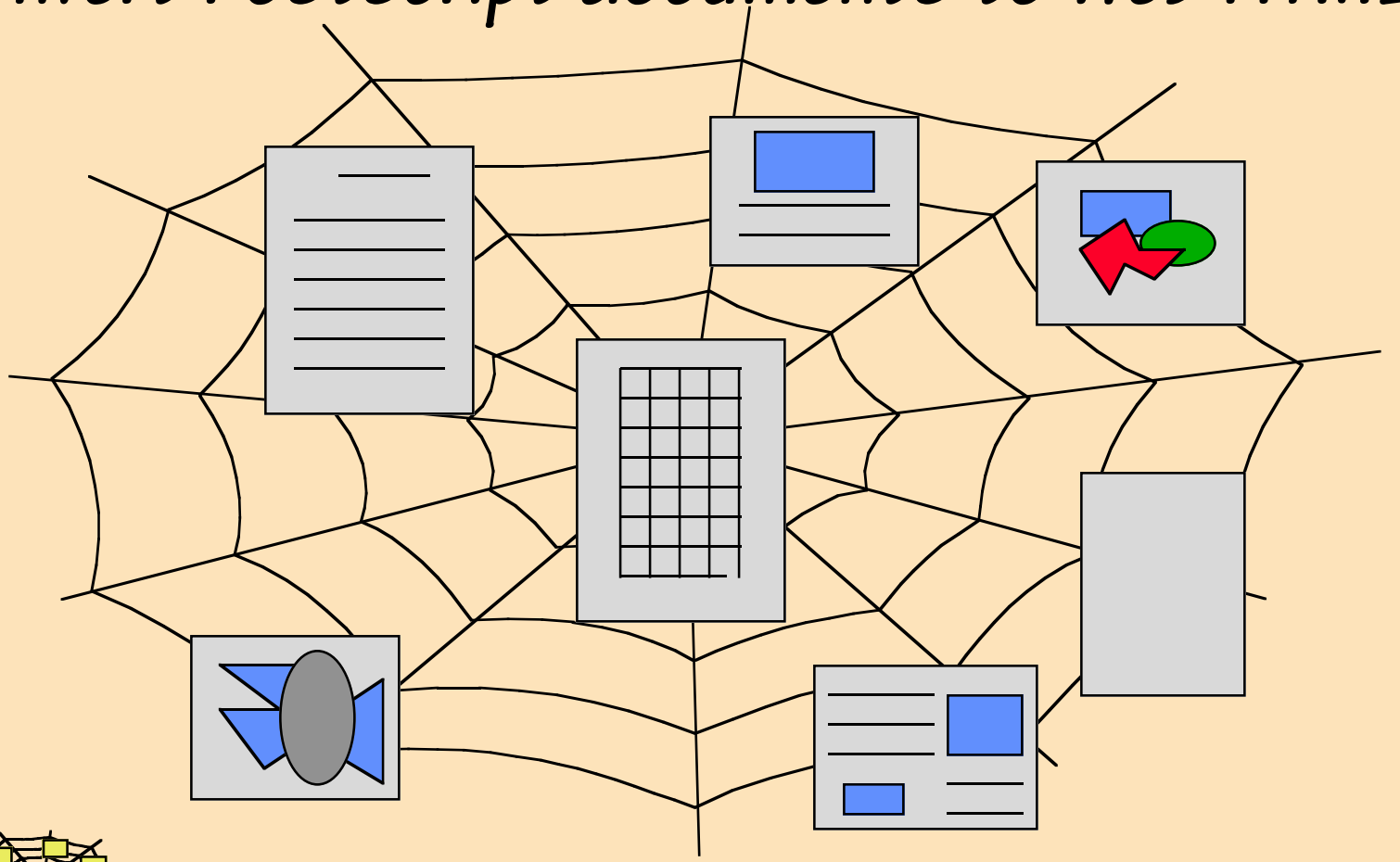
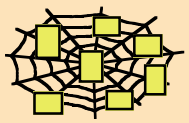
Webify

convert Postscript documents to Web HTML





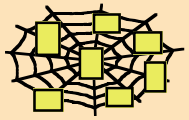
WEBIFY --- Steve Ward, ward@mit.edu

What is Webify?

Webify is a UNIX program which converts an arbitrary, multi-page Postscript file to a tree of HTML files with GIF images and thumbnails for each page. It is useful for

- Converting Powerpoint (and other presentations) to Web-browsable form (the motivating application).
- Generating in-lineable documents from Tex, Framemaker, arbitrary MAC, PC, or UNIX programs capable of generating Postscript.

Webify relies on **Ghostscript**, which must have ***gif8*** device conversion installed.



WEBIFY --- Steve Ward, ward@mit.edu

Using Webify

Invoke ***Webify*** via a command like

webify <options> *template-file ps-file*

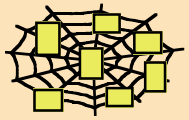
where

template-file is a text file containing template html for the web pages to be generated, as well as other parameters;

ps-file is the source postscript file; and

<***options***> specify parameters which augment or override those in the template-file.

Webify will create a directory containing newly-generated GIFs and html pages for browsing your document.



WEBIFY --- Steve Ward, ward@mit.edu

Webify Help & Options

HELP: Type the command "**webify**" with no arguments for a brief summary of options and template file format.

Common command line **<options>** include:

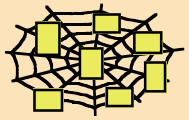
-h horizontal (landscape) mode -- the default.

-v vertical (portrait) mode

-T # Thumbnail resolution # dpi; dictates final size.

-S # Slide (page) resolution # dpi; dictates page size.

-t "title" - gives title of presentation/document.

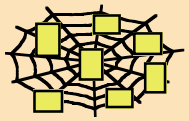


WEBIFY --- Steve Ward, ward@mit.edu

Webify Template File

The Webify template-file is a text file containing special escape sequences enclosed in curly brackets. The escapes are somewhat ad-hoc; you can get a list of them via webify help.

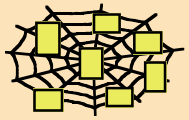
The best way to see how the template works is by example. The template for this description is included in the distribution package.



Getting & Installing Webify

First, check Ghostscript on your UNIX machine: type the command "gs -h", which should give a blurb including installed devices which must include "gif8". If it doesn't, get Ghostscript configured properly on your system.

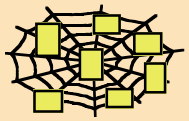
Then click **download** at the bottom of this page to FTP a tar file containing Webify source (a single C program), Makefile, and the sources for this description (which serve as an example). The Makefile should be self-explanatory, or at least capable of being understood by a strongly intuitive technical wizard. No such promises for the C code...



WEBIFY --- Steve Ward, ward@mit.edu

Webify is FREE!

... no strings attached. Of course, you need Ghostscript with its copyleft constraints for Webify to be useful.

Webify will doubtless evolve, perhaps into a reasonably streamlined and workable tool. If you contribute to that evolution, I'd appreciate getting your updates so that they may be rolled into the distributed version.

-Steve Ward 2/95 Ward@MIT.EDU