

Debugging Drupal

Presented at DrupalCampToronto '07 by Dan Kurtz

Outline

- We'll work our way up the stack
- Hardware/UNIX debugging
- Web server
- Drupal and PHP
- Stylesheets and Javascript

Who am I?

- Lead developer at Trellon: <http://trellon.com>
- <http://claimid.com/incidentist>
- <http://brickswithoutclay.com>
- dkurtz@trellon.com

Hardware and UNIX

- See Khalid's presentation from yesterday:
 - <http://2bits.com/articles/presentation-performance-tuning-and-optimization-of-high-traffic-drupal-sites.html>
- `tail -f /var/log/system.log`

Apache

- `tail -f /var/log/httpd/error.log`
 - differs according to distribution

PHP

- `phpinfo`
- `Zend`

Drupal - devel module

- Various debugging features
 - Content of node and user objects
 - database queries
 - `dprint_r`

More Drupal techniques

- Trace module: customizable stack traces
- `db_queryd()` prints query to browser
- `drupal_set_message()`, of course

FireFox

- One word: Firebug (<http://getfirebug.org>)
- Explore and debug HTML, JS and CSS
- Excellent console
- Con: memory hog
- IE and Safari can use FireBug Lite

Firefox cont'd

- Web Developer toolbar
 - outlining blocks
 - browser resizing
- ColorMatch: eyedropper

Internet Explorer

- Internet Explorer Developer Toolbar
- [Quirksmode.com](http://quirksmode.com) for incompatibilities
- Others, presumably?

Safari

- Enable debug menu
 - `> defaults write com.apple.Safari IncludeDebugMenu 1`
 - `console.log()`
- Webkit and Drosera
 - NightShift for auto-downloading of new versions

More from you

- css/html validation tools (online)
- DOCTYPE to transitional
- total validator for FF
- Aptana (google it.)
- IRC (#jquery)
- Coder module - pretty printing, basic security