

Stylable CGM

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Biography

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Biography

Lofton Henderson is an independent contractor with long experience in computer graphics, and especially in Web graphics technologies - WebCGM and SVG. He co-authored the "The CGM Handbook" Henderson & Mumford, Academic Press, 1993, 450 pp). He has long experience on the ANSI and ISO graphics standards committees, and has had a role with several industry consortia defining CGM profiles: ATA, PIP, J2008, and RIF. Currently, he is co-chair of the W3C QA Working Group, Program Director and past chair of the CGM Open Consortium, a member of the W3C SVG Working Group, and a member of two OASIS technical committees, Conformance, and XSLT conformance.

Abstract

The CGM Open Consortium is made up of CGM technology vendors, users, and standards participants. Working with W3C graphics resources, the CGM Open Consortium developed the WebCGM Profile as an approved W3C Recommendation in 1999. Since that time several CGM products have appeared making use of WebCGM to deploy interactive graphics in the Web environment. The interoperability of WebCGM has been demonstrated several times by the vendors involved in CGM Open. The producers and consumers of technical graphics are migrating significant resources to the Web, and WebCGM is a solution designed for and tailored to the efficient and effective management of that resource. Recently, the vendors associated with CGM Open have led the way in prototyping proprietary DOM-like functionality. Now the CGM Open consortium is encapsulating that experience with a standard DOM definition for WebCGM.

While working on an API to WebCGM Viewers (WebCGM DOM), the need arose for communicating sometimes temporary or transient changes to the graphical attributes (style) in the WebCGM instance. CGM inherently contains presentation information through the attributes bound to the graphical primitives. This situation resembles the problem faced by CSS1 with legacy HTML versions (HTML 3 and 4) where presentation attributes were integrated into the instance. Although CGM is a binary format, a WebCGM instance has a well-defined tree structure of named elements, and the CSS approach therefore should be applicable. The CSS solution for HTML is being emulated to cover the requirements for the external styling of WebCGM. Some of the CSS selectors are adopted verbatim, and are combined with styling attributes appropriate to the WebCGM graphics model. Generally, as much as possible of the existing CSS (and other standard) machinery is re-used in the authors' design effort.

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NOTE: This paper concerns the application of CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) styling solutions to the CGM (Computer Graphics Metafile) graphics format. Familiarity with [CSS](#) is assumed. Familiarity with basic concepts of graphics formats (i.e. graphical primitive elements, graphical attributes, non-graphical metadata for interaction, etc.) is assumed. A brief summary of particulars of the [CGM](#) format will be given.

The authors do not take the design in this document to the level of detail where it could be directly implemented. Rather, we explain and illustrate all of the key principles of the styling solution. Binding the solution into a specific implementable syntax would be a relatively easy next level of refinement of details.

Introduction & motivation

WebCGM is a W3C (World Wide Web Consortium) recommendation that was developed as a collaborative effort between members of the CGM Open Consortium and graphical experts from the [W3C](#). It was developed in response to a [W3C](#) document describing requirements for scalable vector graphics in the web environment (see <http://www.w3.org/Graphics/ScalableReq>). Vendor interoperability of WebCGM has been demonstrated several times since it was approved.

Recently, a requirement was identified in CGM Open to control the behavior of the interaction with dynamic WebCGM graphics. CGM Open initiated a project to develop a standardized way of doing this using a DOM (Document Object Model) . In the process of designing a [DOM](#) for WebCGM, the problem of communicating element attribute changes to an implementation of the WebCGM [DOM](#) led to the idea of a [CSS](#)-like styling solution for WebCGM.

The description of the WebCGM Profile on the Graphics Activity pages at W3C has this to say about WebCGM (see <http://www.w3.org/graphics/WebCGM>):

'While WebCGM is a binary file format and is not "stylable", nevertheless WebCGM follows published [W3C](#) requirements for a scalable graphics format where such are applicable.'

"Not stylable" does not necessarily mean that [CSS](#)-like styling could not be applied. The applicability of [CSS](#) is confirmed by the following statement in CSS2 (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/intro.html>):

"[CSS](#) can be used with any structured document format..."

WebCGM is a structured document format.

In exploring the application of [CSS](#) to WebCGM, early thinking focused on CSS1. CSS1 is the format that was originally applied to legacy HTML (analogous to our approach to

WebCGM). We will use CSS2 as our reference for this specification. The CSS2-CSS1 changes are described beginning with (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/changes.html>):

"CSS2 builds on CSS1 and all valid CSS1 style sheets are valid CSS2 style sheets. The changes between the CSS1 specification (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS1>) and this specification fall into three groups: new functionality, updated descriptions of CSS1 functionality, and changes to CSS1."

Amongst the new functionality, the subsequent bullet list mentions: "An extended selector mechanism, including child selectors, adjacent selectors, and attribute selectors." These features may be handy (especially. attribute selectors) for specifying a styling scheme to apply to WebCGM.

Overview of WebCGM functionality

WebCGM is a profile of the [CGM](#) standard (ISO/IEC 8632:1999). It was designed to support both static and dynamic functionalities of technical illustrations in the web environment. A WebCGM file is a streamable binary file that is compact and is well suited for the display of technical illustrations in support of technical documentation.

The profile specifies a comprehensive set of graphical primitives, including polylines, polygons, circles, ellipses, graphical text, compound lines, closed figures, high order curves, and raster capabilities. It also contains a comprehensive set of attribute elements to control the graphical appearance of the primitives, including line and edge colors, widths, and types, text fonts, colors, and sizes.

To support interactivity, WebCGM was developed to support the functionalities of navigation, query, and data extraction. The navigation functionality supports the ability to navigate between graphical objects within an illustration, from a graphical object in one illustration to an object in another illustration, and from a graphical object in one illustration to a text object. The query functionality provides the ability to search for a graphical object based on a property associated with it. The data extraction functionality allows the retrieval of non-graphical metadata associated with a graphical object.

Creating an APS (Application Structure) element is the method of creating graphical objects in [CGM](#). Attributes associated with [APS](#) are defined using the [APS](#) Attribute element. WebCGM defines a small set of [APS](#) types and associated [APS](#) attribute types. [APS](#) types defined by WebCGM are layer, gobject, para, and subpara. Layer [APS](#) have attributes of descriptions and names associated with them. Gobject types have attributes of region, viewcontext, linkuri, screentip, and name associated with them. Para and subpara have attributes of region, linkuri, screentip, and content associated with them. The combination of these [APS](#) and attributes provide the basis for supporting the requirements of dynamic [CGM](#) files in technical documentation.

Specific problem definition & requirements

Scope

The proposed WebCGM styling solution has a limited scope -- not all aspects of a CGM file need to be controllable with styling, and access to individual graphical primitive elements (and attributes) is out of scope, unless a single graphical element comprises the entire content of an [APS](#). The [APS](#) the atomic unit of referenceable structure in WebCGM.

Only a subset of the graphical items enumerated in the following sub-sections need to be controllable. For the functional requirements of this design, the non-graphical metadata does not need to be referenceable by external styling.

Highlight functionality

It was decided that the method of highlighting graphical objects in support of [DOM](#) functionality should be viewer dependent (i.e., there should be a 'highlight' attribute, which causes an object to be highlighted in a way which is otherwise unspecified. The method is at the discretion of the viewer).

Control of attributes

The styling solution being pursued is a consequence of a particular requirement on the WebCGM [DOM](#)/ API (Application Programming Interface) . The [DOM](#) needs to support the capability of setting values and unsetting them as well. That is to say, changing line color from black to red requires the application to "remember" that the original line color was black so that it can be restored. Unsetting values is tricky because it potentially requires knowledge of the initial graphical state of an element. In a true full [DOM](#) model, this would be achievable by 'get' functions, which are complementary to 'set' function. However, the requirements of this graphical [API](#) have a scope and granularity that by design falls short of a proper, full [DOM](#) model, as explained in the following.

The control of attribute values is divided into two levels of granularity: those that apply to the whole picture -- 'pictureScope' -- and those that apply to an entire [APS](#) -- 'apsScope'. Individual [CGM](#) graphical primitive elements within a picture or an [APS](#) cannot be addressed and styled. Whenever an attribute is set, all of the graphical elements of that type (line, edge, text, or fill) that the attribute applies to will be affected. For example, if there are, within an [APS](#), several different line elements with different line colors, all of them will be uniformly changed to a new value. The problem with reversing the change per a classical [DOM](#) model is twofold:

- a 'getColor' inquiry at the [APS](#) granularity in principle does not have a well defined answer. The [APS](#) doesn't have a color. It is the individual line elements within the [APS](#) which have the color.

- if the 'get' and 'set' granularity were lowered to individual primitives, it would be very inefficient for accomplishing the limited goals of the WebCGM [DOM](#) (for which this styling solution is a supporting component).

In addition to directly setting values of graphical attributes, two other methods of attribute control are required. They are intensity and scaling. Intensity may apply to color attributes or a raster image, while scaling can apply to text height or line and edge weight.

Control of color attributes

This section and the following sections identify the requirements for those graphical aspects of WebCGM that need to be controllable through an external styling solution. The requirements derive from the use case of WebCGM access through a [DOM](#)-like [API](#).

The following functions were identified to support control of color attributes:

- PictureScopeLineColor
- PictureScopeEdgeColor
- PictureScopeFillColor
- PictureScopeTextColor
- PictureScopeMarkerColor
- APSScopeLineColor
- APSScopeEdgeColor
- APSScopeFillColor
- APSScopeTextColor
- APSScopeMarkerColor
- PictureScopeRasterIntensity
- APSScopeRasterIntensity

Color attributes may be set absolutely by RGB values or by a relative intensity in the range of zero to one. The relative intensity is a scale factor that is to be applied to the existing color.

Control of line/edge weight

The following functions were identified to support control of line and edge weight attributes:

- PictureScopeLineWeight
- PictureScopeEdgeWeight
- APSScopeLineWeight
- APSScopeEdgeWeight

Line and edge weight may be set absolutely in mm or by a relative scale factor greater than zero. The relative scale factor is applied to the existing line or edge weight.

Control of character height

The following functions were identified to support control of the character height attribute:

- PictureScopeCharacterHeight
- APSscopeCharacterHeight

Character height may be set absolutely in mm or by a relative scale factor greater than zero. The relative scale factor is applied to the existing character height.

NOTE: The width of the restricted text box must be adjusted when the character height is changed.

About the above-enumerated attributes

The above-listed attributes deviate from the actual [CGM](#) attribute model. They either don't exist in the [CGM](#) model (e.g., character height scale factor), or they behave differently (e.g., the scale factor for line weight is applied to the current modal line weight, not to the implementation-dependent nominal line width as is the case with [CGM](#)'s 'line width scale factor').

It is also worth observing that the required ways of setting weights, heights, etc, will be independent of and supersede the various [CGM](#) modes for those attributes (e.g., the line width specification mode). The same is true of the color attributes (the current color selection mode is over-ridden.)

Key issues & resolutions

The following is a summary list of key issues that had to be addressed in the design of the styling solution. Details are found in the following sub-sections.

- binary or clear text format
 - proposal: clear text
- WebCGM tree model
- Alignment: degree of alignment with [CSS](#), SVG (Scalable Vector Graphics) , etc
 - proposal: not too hard -- joint/shared code is not a likely use case
 - proposal: borrow principles, customize for WebCGM
- what subset of [CSS](#) selectors model
- declaration values in style rules
- what names to use to match standard WebCGM elements
 - common names with [SVG](#)? [proposal: no]
 - [CGM](#) Clear Text names? [proposal: yes -- many [CGM](#) implementations have parsers]
- applicability of [CSS](#) inheritance model
- cascade, and specificity, precedence

- user style sheets: applied from outside of WebCGM instance [proposal: yes]
- author style sheets: embedded or referenced from inside [proposal: not now, maybe later]
- user agent style sheets: basically, User-agent-dependent defaults [proposal: no]
- interaction of WebCGM (virtual) stylesheet with WebCGM [DOM](#)? What are some user scenarios or use cases?
 - Proposal: defer this issue until further WebCGM [DOM](#) design.
- what is the processing model, relating WebCGM instance, [DOM](#), viewer, external style sheet, etc?
 - Proposal: defer this issue until further WebCGM [DOM](#) design.
- should WebCGM 2.0 introduce a "processing instruction" that allows reference to external style sheet?
 - Proposal: defer this issue until further WebCGM [DOM](#) design.

Constraints

Aside from above-enumerated requirements, there is one additional basic constraint:

- don't alter any standard WebCGM syntax or semantics.

Alignment of WebCGM styling with [SVG](#) & [CSS](#)

It has been observed that there might be the possibility for significant code sharing if the WebCGM styling solution attempted maximal alignment with [SVG](#) (e.g., element names) and [CSS](#) (e.g., strictly adhering to the cascade order). Presently, we have not seen any use cases to suggest that [CGM/SVG](#) code sharing is a scenario of high importance. After preliminary design, it seems that some [CSS](#) stylesheet parsing might be reusable, but not much else.

The appropriate solution, given the relatively disjoint application communities, seems to be: borrow the styling principles from [CSS](#), including matching some specific details such as kinds of Selectors, but otherwise customize the solution for the WebCGM [DOM](#) requirements.

Binary or clear text

[CSS](#) is a clear text format, which makes it really easy to put together stylesheets manually (is "manual" a use case? or are the use cases all automatic machine processing?). The rule to set all H1 elements to blue is: `H1 {color: blue}`

[CGM](#) is a binary format. Nevertheless, these transactions between (external) user stylesheets and binary [CGM](#) will be through some interface or [API](#) (the [DOM](#)?), and therefore the translation can be handled by the implementation.

The [CGM](#) stylesheets should be text (e.g., `grobjct {color: red}`) to turn all 'grobjct' [APS](#)s to red. (See next sections about modelling the tree and the selectors scheme).

A related issue has to do with some undefined aspects of the [CGM DOM/API](#). How will values of some things like 'linkuri' data be communicated through the [DOM](#)? In [CGM](#), they are user-unfriendly SDR (Structured Data Record) In WebCGM, those are binary.

Alternatives

1. each [API](#) function would specialize it's parameter list for the information content.
e.g.,
 - o setScreenTip (apsid, "a simple ApsAttr")
 - o setLinkUri (apsid, "first substring", "second substring", "third substring")
2. pass a binary [SDR](#)
 - o setScreenTip (apsid, ptr-to-binary-coded-[SDR](#))
3. pass a clear text [SDR](#)
 - o setScreenTip (apsid, "14 1 'a simple ApsAttr'")
 - o setLinkURI (apsid, "14 3 'first substring' 'second substring' 'third substring'")

NOTE: This is presented in terms of a simple [API](#) in some classical programming language like C. We don't know what it would look like if the WebCGM [API](#) were for example built on top of XML (eXtensible Markup Language) XML [DOM](#) core, in some O-O programming language, per "An Approach to a [CGM DOM](#)" (see http://www.cgmpopen.org/technical/approach_to_cgm_dom.html).

Proposal: None yet. If [DOM](#) binding were like above in classical programming language, then option #1 is most appealing (but most inflexible). If it is built on generic [XML DOM](#), then #3 looks most appealing.

WebCGM tree model

Modeling [APS](#) nodes

To apply a [CSS](#)-like styling solution, we need to be clear about a tree model for [CGM](#) graphics. This is mainly for the purpose of defining selectors ([CSS](#) selectors act on a tree structure). It also affects design issues of inheritance and cascading.

WebCGM tree structure is simple:

--> pictures

----> [APS](#) elements (nested)

-----> graphical prims/attrs (leaf nodes)

NOTE: Multiple pictures are deprecated in WebCGM 1.0 (2nd Edition).

What are the element nodes at the [APS](#) level? This is an issue. If we draw analogy to a markup grammar, there are two choices:

1. `APS type="gobject | para | .." <==> <aps type="gobject | para | ..">`
2. `APS type="gobject | para | .." <==> <gobject ..> | <para ..> | ..`

In #2, the [APS](#) 'type' parameter is combined with the [APS](#) element itself and modelled as ([XML](#)) elements of distinct kinds. In #1, the tree is modelled with one kind of element/node -- [APS](#) -- which carries a 'type' attribute (attribute in the [XML](#) sense). Although they are equivalent, #2 is most appealing and cleaner when selectors are chosen and applied.

Solution. #2. Model WebCGM as a tree with element nodes of 4 kinds: gobject, para, subpara, layer.

Modeling APS attributes

NOTE: The styling solution applies only to the graphical aspects, not the [APS](#) attribute (non-graphical metadata) aspects. Because the latter are which are in the WebCGM [DOM](#), the following analysis is included for completeness and context. From the perspective of styling alone, it can be ignored.

Related to this is how to model the [CGM APS](#) attribute elements within an [APS](#). These might be, for example, screen tips or links, (i.e., respectively [CGM APS](#) attribute elements whose 'type' parameter is 'screentip' or 'linkuri'). They could be modelled as:

1. child elements of their containing [APS](#)
2. [XML](#) attributes on their containing element

#2 is most appealing, but there is a problem. Some ApsAttr types can occur multiple times on one element. One way to handle this would be to define an attribute multiplicity and pass a more complex argument that encodes the multiplicity (i.e., if there is a single linkuri, its parameter is of the form of an [SDR](#) with three string members: "1 4 3 'first-substring' 'second-substring' 'third-substring'").

But if there were two linkuri on one [APS](#), then it could be parameterized in the stylesheet (and [DOM](#)) in a couple of ways:

1. an [SDR](#) with two [SDR](#) members
 - o "1 2 'first-linkuri-3-member-[SDR](#)' 'second-linkuri-3-member-[SDR](#)'"
2. a list-of-[SDR](#) approach
 - o "'first-linkuri-3-member-[SDR](#)' 'second-linkuri-3-member-[SDR](#)'"

The difference is subtle. The first encodes the two distinct linkuri parameters as a [CGM](#)-formatted nested [SDR](#). The second uses the [CSS/HTML](#) "list of" approach to parameters.

Neither one is appealing -- by the time you have considered whatever quoting might be needed for the [CSS](#) syntax, and the nesting of parameters in the [CGM](#) Clear Text [SDR](#) coding, you could be looking at several levels deep in nested quotes.

No specific recommendation yet. However, it does seem promising to handle the un-[XML](#)-like multiple-attribute problem as a packaging issue in the [API/DOM](#).

Selectors & declarations

As described in the CSS2 Introduction (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/intro.html>), there are two key parts to a [CSS](#) rule: "A [CSS](#) rule consists of two main parts: selector ('H1') and declaration ('color: blue')".

What subset of CSS selectors for WebCGM styling

[CSS](#) Selectors are how you address the elements within the document, to which your styling should be applied. CSS2 has a table of selectors capabilities (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/selector.html#q1>).

Looking at this table, these seem like the absolute minimal selector pattern matching set:

```
* -- Matches any element [universal selector]
E -- Matches any E element (i.e., an element of type E) [type selector]
E#myid -- Matches any E element ID equal to "myid" [ID selector]
```

Also very useful would be the attribute selectors (so that you could match, or example, on 'name' attribute):

```
E[foo] -- Matches any E element with the "foo" attribute set (whatever the value).
E[foo="warning"] -- Matches any E element whose "foo" attribute value is exactly equal to "warning".
```

We could accomplish a lot with these. In particular, note a capability that would be available if we were to make the convention that a picture is a type of element. All of the pictureScope and apsScope variants could be handled by the selectors mechanisms, instead of some other special syntax. For example, `picture {lineColor: 50%}grobjct[name="foo"] {lineColor: 100%}` would dim all lines in the picture to half-intensity, except for those in the grobject whose name attribute had the value "foo". (Note. This relies on some specificity rules that we haven't explained yet.) Even though multiple pictures are deprecated, you could use the picture element type in combination with ID selector in a multi-picture metafile.

There are other interesting selectors in the [CSS](#) selectors table as well, for example the contextual selectors which allow you to match depending on child, descendent, and sibling relationships in the tree. Also, the link pseudo-classes (link, visited) and the dynamic pseudo-class selectors (hover, active, focus) might have some interesting application.

WebCGM element names to use in selectors

Because of the scope of this styling solution, most of the issue of how to name WebCGM elements in styling selectors goes away. If the granularity of the styling solution descended to the individual graphical elements, then it would be tempting to use the names of the [CGM](#) Clear Text encoding, since many [CGM](#) viewer implementations support that encoding.

However, the only names that are needed are:

- for element selectors: picture, grobject, para, subpara, layer
- for attribute selectors: linkuri, name, screentip, viewcontext, region, layerdescription, layername, content

The question of whether to use [CGM](#) Clear Text names becomes moot, since our design scope is limited to this handful of [APS](#) and [APS](#) attribute types.

We could attempt to force alignment of the names for element selectors, for example, with [SVG](#). But two reasons argue against it: the concepts do not align clearly (e.g., grobject is sort of like [SVG](#) g, but layer does not correlate well with any [SVG](#) concept; and, there are no use cases (yet) indicating the need).

Declaration of attribute values

As previously noted, there is something of a conceptual disconnect between the graphical attributes that exist in WebCGM, and those that we desire to impose by external stylesheets.

- the attribute types themselves deviate, e.g.,
 - LineColour is the [CGM](#) attribute. It applies to individual [CGM](#) graphical line primitives.
 - PictureScopeLineColor is the proposed external style rule, and it would apply to all lines in a picture.
- the attribute values themselves, e.g.,
 - LineColour is specified within [CGM](#) by either an index (into a color table), or a n-tuple direct color specification in the applicable color space (RGB or sRGB only, in WebCGM, although the ISO [CGM](#) standard also allows CIE*LUV, CMYK, etc.)

- PictureScopeLineColor is proposed to have values of RGB or relative percentage (e.g., "50%") to apply to the existing WebCGM color of affected lines.

Given the scope and requirements that are being satisfied by this styling design exercise, this is not a problem. The communication of style information is unidirectional, from outside application to viewer display engine. This only requires that all mappings of the style rule declaration values be well enough defined that the viewer can make the visual effect happen.

This disconnect in the models appears to only become problematic if the scope of the WebCGM [DOM](#) design were extended in the future, specifically to including inquiry functions that provided 'get' access to the graphical aspects and attributes of individual elements in the WebCGM instance, as opposed to the current limited scope of metadata aspects. There would be no reason that such an extension could not be made, but it would require a careful definition of the precise effect on each [CGM](#) elements virtual state, of each of these styling declarations.

The values assumed by the declarations should align with [CSS](#) data types, specifically it looks like the needs are: RGB color, percents (for relative intensity), and lengths (mm appear sufficient).

Inheritance

It seems clear that the graphical styling attributes ought to inherit. (i.e., if you are going to make the "automobile" gobject turn red, then it ought include the wheels). That is, all other potential nested components ([APS](#)) ought to be affected.

Cascade, precedence, specificity

The [CSS](#) cascade (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/cascade.html#cascade>) defines a number of possible sources of styling: author, user, user-agent default. That is also the basic order of importance: author styles override user styles, user styles override user-agent default styles. There are numerous sources of styles in [CSS](#) (some of which are moot for a WebCGM styling solution):

1. intra-element style attributes;
2. a single style element in the document header;
3. @import rules;
4. link elements (HTML) or stylesheet PIs ([XML](#)) to external stylesheets
5. (unspecified) user-agent mechanism that allows user to supply stylesheet
6. user-agent default stylesheet

For [CGM](#), all graphical attributes are well-defined, and therefore "user-agent default styles" makes no sense. The [CGM](#) basically comes with complete author style

information (including [CGM](#) defaults). For this [CGM](#) styling application, apparently only #5 is also relevant -- external application of user stylesheet.

It seems clear that we want "user" styles (#5) to have precedence over author styles (the completely defined [CGM](#) styles). This could be done by forcing `!important` into every [CGM](#) style declaration, but that seems inefficient.

Recommendation. For [CGM](#) styling, define cascade precedence the opposite of [CSS](#) -- user overrides author.

For specificity, basically the [CSS](#) specificity rules (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/cascade.html#specificity>) are okay. When there are clashing styles, the most specific wins. (e.g., `picture {lineColor: 50%}grobjct#foo {lineColor: 100%}` dims all lines except those in the grobject whose ID value is foo, because that rule's selector is more specific than the 50% rule).

Processing model

So far, there are no concrete design proposals for the overall architecture of the system.

- How are styling rules communicated to the viewer?
- Is there some sort of rule-by-rule interface?
- Or, do you have to pass an entire stylesheet at a time?
- How do you turn off a stylesheet after you have applied it and want to go back to default? (i.e., unapply the styles)
- How does the styling interface to the viewer relate to [DOM](#)? ([DOM](#) presumably will 'get' and 'set' all the APSattr parameters)

This is the next stage of design. It is the goal of the current design paper to specify the essential content of a WebCGM external stylesheet, and how its application (by whatever means) affects WebCGM graphics being displayed by a viewer.

References

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"An approach to CGM DOM" (see http://cgmopen.org/technical/approach_to_cgm_dom.html)

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CGM technology (see <http://www.cgmopen.org/>)