

NAME

HTML::PullParser - Alternative HTML::Parser interface

SYNOPSIS

```
use HTML::PullParser;

$p = HTML::PullParser->new(file => "index.html",
    start => 'event, tagname, @attr',
    end => 'event, tagname',
    ignore_elements => [qw(script style)],
) || die "Can't open: $!";
while (my $token = $p->get_token) {
    #...do something with $token
}
```

DESCRIPTION

The [HTML::PullParser](#) is an alternative interface to the [HTML::Parser](#) class. It basically turns the [HTML::Parser](#) inside out. You associate a file (or any [IO::Handle](#) object or string) with the parser at construction time and then repeatedly call `$parser->get_token` to obtain the tags and text found in the parsed document.

The following methods are provided:

```
$p = HTML::PullParser->new( file => $file, %options )
$p = HTML::PullParser->new( doc => $doc, %options )
```

A [HTML::PullParser](#) can be made to parse from either a file or a literal document based on whether the `file` or `doc` option is passed to the parser's constructor.

The `file` passed in can either be a file name or a file handle object. If a file name is passed, and it can't be opened for reading, then the constructor will return an undefined value and `$!` will tell you why it failed. Otherwise the argument is taken to be some object that the [HTML::PullParser](#) can `read()` from when it needs more data. The stream will be `read()` until EOF, but not closed.

A `doc` can be passed plain or as a reference to a scalar. If a reference is passed then the value of this scalar should not be changed before all tokens have been extracted.

Next the information to be returned for the different token types must be set up. This is done by simply associating an `argspec` (as defined in [HTML::Parser](#)) with the events you have an interest in. For instance, if you want `start` tokens to be reported as the string 'S' followed by the tagname and the attributes you might pass an `start`-option like this:

```
$p = HTML::PullParser->new(
    doc => $document_to_parse,
    start => "S", tagname, @attr',
    end => "E", tagname',
);
```

At last other [HTML::Parser](#) options, like `ignore_tags`, and `unbroken_text`, can be passed in. Note that you should not use the `event_h` options to set up parser handlers. That would confuse the inner logic of [HTML::PullParser](#)

```
$token = $p->get_token
```

This method will return the next *token* found in the HTML document, or `undef` at the end of the document. The token is returned as an array reference. The content of this array match the `argspec` set up during [HTML::PullParser](#) construction.

```
$p->unget_token( @tokens )
```

If you find out you have read too many tokens you can push them back, so that they are returned again the next time `$p->get_token` is called.

EXAMPLES

The 'eg/hform' script shows how we might parse the form section of HTML::Documents using HTML::PullParser.

SEE ALSO

[HTML::Parser](#), [HTML::Tokenizer](#)

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