The Wikibooks Paradigm for Collaborative Content Creation

Overview

- Introduction

- History

- Wikitext and MediaWiki

- Common Criticisms

- Wikibooks

- Conclusion

- Questions and Comments

What Is Wiki?

- Hawaiian "Wikiwiki" means "Quick"

- Enables People to Edit Pages
  - Changes Go Live Immediately
  - Changes Logged But Unmoderated

- Edit Any Page At Any Time

What Is Wiki?

- Efficient
  - Simple Wikitext Formatting
- Parallel
  - Multiple Simultaneous Editors
- Fast
  - Changes Go Live Immediately
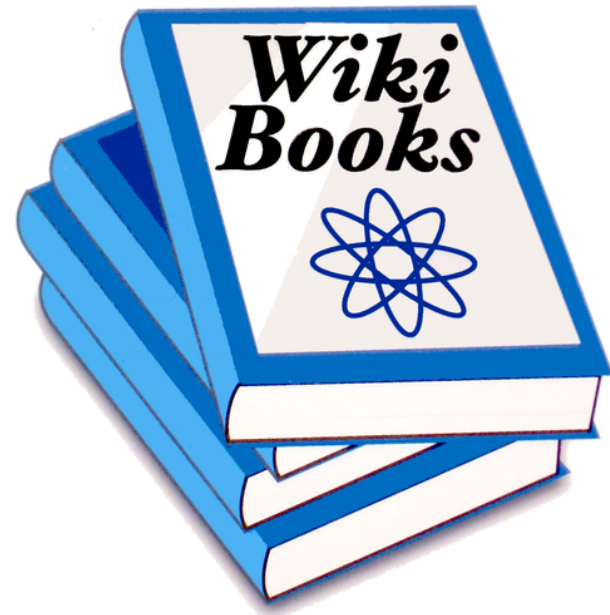 - Not Moderating Saves Time

Save page   Show preview   Show changes

Wikipedia And Wikibooks

- Have You Heard of Wikipedia?
    - 9th Largest Website In The World
    - 9 Million Articles
    - 250 Languages

Wikipedia And Wikibooks

- Wikibooks
  - Textbooks, Manuals, Annotations
  - Over 5000 Open-Content Books
  - 120 Languages

Think free. Learn free.

Wikipedia And Wikipedia

- GNU Free Documentation License (GFDL)
    - "Copyleft" License
    - Maintained By The Free Software Foundation
- You Have The Right To:
    - Edit
    - Copy
    - Distribute
- Properties:
    - Attribution Required
    - Viral – Derivatives Are GFDL Too

History

History of Wikibooks, Wikipedia, and The Wikimedia Foundation

History

- Nupedia
  - Nupedia Founded In March 2000
  - Jimmy Wales And Larry Sanger
  - Operated By Bomis
  - Bottlenecked By "Experts"
- Wikipedia Created in January 2001

Wikimedia Foundation

"Imagine a world in which every single person on the planet is given free access to the sum of all human knowledge. That's what we're doing."

-Jimmy Wales

Wikimedia Foundation

- Wikimedia Foundation
  - Founded by Jimmy Wales
  - June 2003
- Wikibooks
  - Founded July 2003
  - Books Deleted From Wikipedia
- Wikijunior
  - Childrens Books, on Wikibooks

Wikimedia Foundation

- Projects:
  - Wikipedia
  - Wikibooks
  - Wiktionary
  - Wikiversity
  - Wikinews
  - Wikimedia Commons
  - Wikisource
  - Wikiquote

Wikitext and MediaWiki

The Wiki Software Platform

Wikitext

"I was new to editing wikis, as were my students, but I guess that is what makes wikis so great – we can all participate, regardless of our level."

-Dr. Kevin Young, Utah State University

Wikitext

- Minimal Formatting
    - Very Close to HTML
    - Allows Limited HTML and CSS
    - High Readability
- Powerful Templating System
- Wide Range of Extensions and Add-ons

Wikitext

- `'''Bold Text'''`
- `''Italic Text''`
- `== Heading ==`
- `=== Subheading ===`
- `[[Internal Hyperlink]]`
- `[External Hyperlink]`

MediaWiki Wiki Engine

- Open Source
  - Written in PHP
- Under Constant Development
- Easy to Extend
- Free For Public Use

Common Criticisms

This Thing Will Never Work…

It Will Never Work

"The problem about Wikipedia is, that it just works in reality, not in theory."

-Stephen Colbert

It Will Never Work

- It Works for Wikipedia
    - 2 Million English Articles
    - 1,800 "Featured" Articles
    - Compared Favorably to Britannica
- It Works for Wikibooks
    - Over 3,000 English Books
    - Over 60 "Featured" Books
- It Works for Many Groups and Classes

Anybody Can Edit

- Problem: Some People Are Immature

- Problem: People Aren't Experts

- Many Eyes Find Many Problems

- "Facts" Must Be Verifiable

  - Citations

  - Credible References

- Censored By Community Norm

Wikibookian Demographics

- Wikibookians Tend To Be Well-Educated
  - 61% College Educated or Higher
- Wikibookians Tend To Be Mature
  - 91% 18 or Older
- Wikibookians Are Interested In Education
  - 43% Are Professional Educators

Ever-Changing, Unreliable

"The main problem is the lack of authority. With printed publications, the publishers have to ensure that their data is reliable, as their livelihood depends on it. But with this, all that goes out the window."

-Phil Bradley

Ever-Changing, Unreliable

- Errors can be fixed.
- Fixed Versions Available
    - Link To Particular Revisions
    - PDF Versions
    - "Click To Print" On The Way!
- Veropedia
    - Articles From Wikipedia
    - Proof-Read And Peer-Reviewed
- Verobooks?

The Wikibook of:

Control Systems

and Control Engineering

Table of Contents   All Versions   PDF Version

Glossary

Contents [hide]

Control Systems is an inter-disciplinary engineering text that analyzes the effects and interactions of mathematical systems. This book is for third and fourth year undergraduates in an engineering program. edit blurb

Control Systems

(download)

A *printable version* of Control Systems is available. (edit it)

A *PDF version* of Control Systems is available. 2034 KB (info)

Wikibooks

How To Write And Organize Thousands of Free Textbooks and Manuals

Wikibooks

- What We Do
    - Create Free Textbooks
        - Costs No Money
        - Freedom To Modify
    - Pursue Free Education
- Who We Are
    - Volunteers
    - Mostly Anonymous
    - From Many Countries.

Wikibooks

- Why Participate?
- Many Motivations
    - Free Education
    - Free Culture
    - Interactive Education
    - Quid Pro Quo

Wikibooks

- Why Use Wikibooks?
- Benefits
  - Close Integration With Wikipedia
  - Media Libraries At Wikimedia Commons
  - Vibrant And Helpful Community
  - Work Is Public And Persistent
  - Students Own Their Contributions
- Downside
  - Must Follow Site Policies

Wikibooks

- Site Policy
    - Be Civil Towards One Another
    - Discuss, Compromise, Consensus
    - Neutral Point Of View
    - No Original Research

Site Organization

- Sciences and Engineering
  - Over 100 Books in Math, Science, Engineering
- Computing
  - Over 100 Books on Computer Programming
  - Over 100 Books on Computer Software
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Wikijunior Books For Kids

Bookshelf — **Subject** — Department — Dewey Decimal — Library of Congress

Engineering is applying knowledge to design, analyze, and construct works for practical purposes. It is based strongly in science and mathematics. Here you can find general books about engineering. Books specific engineering disciplines are located in the various discipline-specific subtopic pages.

Contents [hide]

1 About Engineering

2 Primary Disciplines

3 Subdisciplines

Subtopics	General Engineering Books
▪ Subject:Geospatial Engineering	▪ Biomedical Engineering: A Roadmap
▪ Subject:Software Engineering	▪ VHDL for FPGA Design
▪ Subject:Petroleum Engineering	▪ Engineering Acoustics
▪ Subject:Nuclear Engineering	▪ Programmable Logic
▪ Subject:Environmental Engineering	▪ System Troubleshooting
▪ Subject:Chemical Engineering	▪ Statics
▪ Subject:Biomedical Engineering	▪ Engineering Tables
▪ Subject:Automotive Engineering	▪ Engineering Analysis
▪ Subject:Architectural Engineering	▪ Control Systems

Circuit Theory

Contents [hide]

This book requires **Calculus** as a prerequisite.

This book is intended for readers at the **Undergraduate** level.

A *printable version* of Circuit Theory is available. (*edit it*)

Preface   [edit]

This wikibook is going to be an introductory text about electric circuits. It will cover some of the basics of electric circuit theory, circuit analysis, and will touch on circuit design. This book will serve as a companion reference for a 1st year student of an Electrical Engineering undergraduate curriculum. Topics covered include AC and DC circuits, passive circuit components, phasors, and RLC circuits. Links in blue or purple are existing pages that (should) have content. Red links point to pages that do not yet exist. Entries in black (no link) represent

This book is part of a series on **Electric Circuits:**

Circuit Theory
Circuit Idea
Digital Circuits

Group And Class Projects

"University students are an immense untapped global resource. They can be engaged in creating open textbooks if the right infrastructure is in place to sustain renewable student projects"

            -Dr. Richard Watson, University of Georgia

Group And Class Projects

- <u>Human Physiology</u>

  - Provo University

- <u>Proteomics</u>

  - Rochester Institute of Technology

- <u>XML: Managing Data Exchange</u>

  - University of Georgia

  - University of Passau

  - Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

Group And Class Projects

- Benefits Of These Books?

- Free Textbooks!

- Get Students Involved

  - Involved In Their Own Learning

  - Interact With Other Students

- Able To Monitor Students Closely

  - All User Contributions Are Logged

  - Know Time And Quality Of Each Edit

Group And Class Projects

- Strategy: One Group Per Page
  - Encourage Students To Critique
  - Remember To Rotate!
- Strategy: Follow The Syllabus
  - Students Work Together
  - Some Can Get Lost

Wikibooks Community

- Staff Members Administer Site
    - Monitor For Inappropriate Behaviors
    - Check Pages For Plagiarism
    - Help Answer Questions
- Act Professionally
    - We Will Block Misbehaving Students

Wikibooks Community

- Other People Will Edit Your Book
    - Anonymous People From Around The World
    - Most Edits Will Be Helpful

You Can Help!

- Edit Anonymously
- Create An Account
    - Fast
    - Easy
    - Hides Your IP Address

You Can Help!

- Choose Your Own Level Of Involvement
  - Edit Old Books
  - Create New Books
- Do What You Want To Do
  - Author
  - Edit
  - Organize
  - Fight Vandals
  - Have Fun!

Conclusion

Thank You

Questions or Comments?