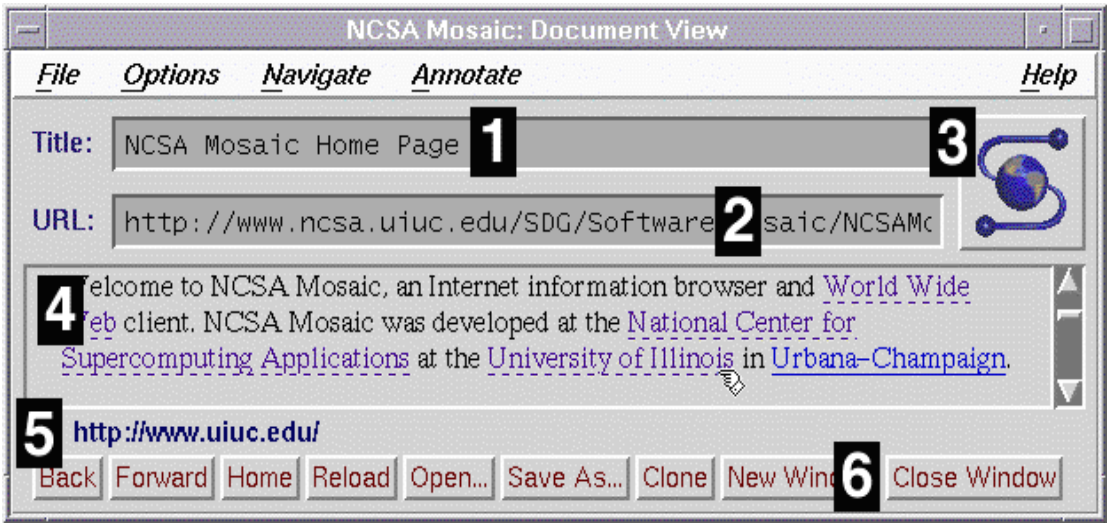
2 Document View Window

Introduction

The Document View window is explained in detail in this chapter.

Window Elements

Figure 2.1 NCSA Mosaic window elements.



There are five menus in NCSA Mosaic for the X Window System:

- **File**
- **Options**
- **Navigate**
- **Annotate**
- **Help**

These menus are explained in detail in Chapter 3 (see “Menus” on page 3–1).
The NCSA Mosaic window is made up of six elements. Each element is explained in more detail below.

1. title field
2. URL (Uniform Resource Locator) field
3. NCSA Mosaic globe
4. document view area
5. status line
6. bottom control panel

Title

Below the top menu bar is the **Title** field that displays the title assigned to the current document. Not all authors include document titles when they prepare files. Therefore, sometimes a default entry is shown in the **Title** field with basic information about the document and its source.

URL

Below the title is the **URL** field, which lists the server type and location and the path of the document being viewed. See *Introducing the World Wide Web* for more information. Briefly, a Uniform Resource Locator is a format that gives the protocol, name of the machine serving the file to the Internet, and the path and filename.

Globe

In the upper right-hand corner of the NCSA Mosaic screen is a globe superimposed on a stylized *S*.

Figure 2.2 NCSA Mosaic *S*

This icon serves two purposes.

1. When a hyperlink is activated by clicking on a word or image, the globe spins and beams of light travel along the segments of the *S* toward the globe. This movement indicates that the document is being retrieved.
2. You can abort the document retrieval process by clicking on the globe. The status line (see "Status Line" on page 2–3) then displays the message "Transfer Aborted." If part of the file was already retrieved without the inline images, the Document View window contains the new document; click the **Back** button (see "Bottom Control Panel" on page 2–3) at the bottom of the window to return to the document containing the hyperlink.

Document View Area

Below the **URL** field is the **Document View** area that displays the body of the current document file. Remember that highlighted or underlined words or images within the viewing area are hyperlinks to other files. Use the scroll bar on the right side of the viewing area to move through the file contents.

Some hyperlinks open in separate windows because they depend on external viewers to display the file contents. This is generally true for movies and for some graphics. To alert you that this is the case, NCSA Mosaic displays the message "Spawning external viewer" in the status line at the bottom of the window (see "Status Line" on page 2–3 and "MIME Explained" on page 4–1 for more information).

If NCSA Mosaic attempts to open an external viewer that is not installed, an error message may be displayed on the console (`xterm`) from which NCSA Mosaic was executed. NCSA Mosaic may ask you to enter a filename to save the current "unidentifiable" document.

Status Line

Sandwiched between the document viewing area and the bottom row of control buttons is an area NCSA Mosaic uses to let you know specific information such as the status of your file retrieval, the use of an external viewer, or the URL of a linked file.

To display the URL of a hyperlink, place your cursor on the link (the cursor changes from an arrow to a pointing hand) but do not click the mouse. The URL of the linked file is shown in the status line. See Figure 2.1.

Bottom Control Panel

Nine buttons form the bottom control panel: **Back**, **Forward, Home**, **Reload**, **Open...**, **Save As...**, **Clone**, **New Window**, and **Close Window**. The buttons provide shortcut access to items contained within four of the five pull-down menus.

Figure 2.3 The Bottom Control Panel

If your Document View window is not wide enough, all nine buttons are not displayed. Because the function of each button is also offered in a pull-down menu, no functionality is lost if you open a narrow Document View window. The list below discusses each button and notes the corresponding pull-down menu option.

Back Returns to the previous document in the Document View window history (i.e., if you followed a hyperlink or selected a menu item). Dimmed if you have only viewed one document so far.

Also available on the **Navigate** menu.

Forward Returns to the document that preceded the current document. Dimmed if you have not moved backward yet. For example, if you moved from Document A to Document B and returned to Document A with **Back**, **Forward** brings up Document B again.

Also available on the **Navigate** menu.

Home Moves to your home page (the file displayed when you first open an NCSA Mosaic session). The default home document is the NCSA Mosaic Home Page. (See "Changing Your Home Page" on page 4–2.)

Also available on the **Navigate** menu.

Reload Reloads the current document from the server, thus displaying any file changes made and saved since the last loading. (This is particularly useful if you are refining a document file.)

Also available on the **File** menu as **Reload Current**.

Open... Opens the Open Document window to enter the URL for a file to be viewed. See xref and the NCSA Mosaic **Help** menu (**On URLs...**).

Also available on the **File** menu as **Open URL...**.

Save As... Opens the Save Document window that lets you save the current document to your local system in one of four different formats: plain text, formatted text, PostScript, HTML.

Also available on the **File** menu.

Clone Opens a duplicate of the window being viewed. This is a useful choice if you want to keep a window open for reference but also want to select another hyperlink or open another file.

Also available on the **File** menu as **Clone Window**.

New Window Opens a new Document View window. The content of the new window is your default home page. There is no limit on the number of windows you can open.

Also available on the **File** menu.

Close Window Closes the current Document View window. If you only have one window open, the entire application exits.

Also available on the **File** menu.