

Web Basics - XML

Lesson 3: XML Schema Definition

Lesson Objectives

- In this lesson, you will learn about:
 - Advantages of Schema over DTD
 - Method to write a schema definition for an XML file
 - Data types used in schemas
 - Simple and Complex type of elements
 - Restrictions on XSD elements
 - Indicator – Order, Occurrence, and Group



Introduction to XML Schema

- The XML Schema Definition Language is an XML language for describing and constraining the content of XML documents
- XML Schema is a W3C recommendation
- XML Schema defines what it means for an XML document to be valid
- XML Schema are a radical departure from Document Type Definitions (DTDs), the existing schema mechanism inherited from SGML

XML Schemas

- Drawbacks of DTD:
 - Use of non-XML syntax
 - No support for data typing
 - Non-extensibility

Why Use XML Schemas?

- XML Schemas
 - support data types
 - use XML syntax
 - secure data communication
 - are extensible
 - Well-Formed is not enough

XML Schema

- An XML Schema defines:
 - Elements that can appear in a document
 - Attributes that can appear in a document
 - The elements that are child elements
 - The order of child elements
 - The number of child elements
 - The criteria whether an element is empty or can include text
 - Data types for elements and attributes
 - Default and fixed values for elements and attributes

Namespaces

- XML Namespaces provide a method to avoid element name conflicts
- Name Conflicts: In XML, element names are defined by the developer. This often results in a conflict when trying to mix XML documents from different XML applications
- XML Namespaces provides a method to avoid element name conflicts

Namespaces

```
<table>
  <tr>
    <td>Apples</td>
    <td>Bananas</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

```
<table>
  <name>African Coffee
  Table</name>
  <width>80</width>
  <length>120</length>
</table>
```

```
<tables>
  <table> .....</table>
  <table> ....</table>
</tables>
```

How do you
differentiate
between these
table?

Namespaces

- The namespace attribute is placed in the start tag of an element and has the following syntax:

`xmlns:namespace-
prefix="namespace"`

- The W3C namespace specification states that the namespace itself should be an Uniform Resource Identifier (URI)
- When a namespace is defined in the start tag of an element, all child elements with the same prefix are associated with the same namespace

Solving the Name Conflict Using a Prefix

■ Code Snippet

```
<root>
<h:table xmlns:h="http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/">
  <h:tr>
    <h:td>Apples</h:td><h:td>Bananas</h:td>
  </h:tr>
</h:table>
<f:table xmlns:f="http://www.w3schools.com/furniture">
```

Solving the Name Conflict Using a Prefix

- Code Snippet continued

```
<f:name>African Coffee Table</f:name>  
<f:width>80</f:width><f:length>120</f:length>  
</f:table>  
</root>
```

Illustration(Message.xsd)

- Let us see an example on writing a schema definition:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>  
<xs:schema xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"  
<xs:element name="message">  
  <xs:complexType>  
    <xs:sequence>  
      <xs:element name="to" type="xs:string"/>  
      <xs:element name="from" type="xs:string"/>
```

Illustration(Message.xsd)

- Code Snippet continued

```
<xs:element name="subject" type="xs:string"/>  
<xs:element name="text" type="xs:string"/>  
<xs:attribute name="priority" type="xs:string" use="required"/>  
</xs:sequence>  
</xs:complexType>  
</xs:element>  
</xs:schema>
```

Using XSD in XML Document

- Example:

```
<note xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema "  
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"  
xsi:schemaLocation="message.xsd">
```

XML-Schema Definition

- Simple Element:
 - `<xs:element name="title" type="xs:string"/>`
- where “title” is the name of the element and “xs:string” is the data type of the element
- Specifying default or fixed values:
 - `<xs:element name="title" type="xs:string" default="No Title"/>`
 - `<xs:element name="category" type="xs:string" fixed="Common"/>`

XML Schema Data Types

- XML Schema Data Types belongs to following categories:
 - XSD String: String data types are used for values that contains character strings.
 - XSD Date: Date and time data types are used for values that contain date and time.
 - XSD Numeric: Numeric data types are used for numeric values
 - XSD Misc: Other miscellaneous data types like boolean, base64Binary, hexBinary, float, double, etc.

String Data Types

- String Data Type:
 - `<xs:element name="Author" type="xs:string"/>`
 - `<Author>John Smith</Author>`
- NormalizedString Data Type:
 - `<xs:element name="Author" type="xs:normalizedString"/>`
 - `<Author>John Smith</Author>`
- Token Data Type:
 - `<xs:element name="Author" type="xs:token"/>`
 - `<Author>John Smith</Author>`

Date and Time Data Types

- Date Data Type:

```
<xs:element name="publishdate" type="xs:date"/>  
    < publishdate>2002-09-24</ publishdate>
```

- Time Data Type:

```
<xs:element name="publishtime" type="xs:time"/>  
    < publishtime>09:00:00</ publishtime>
```

- DateTime Data Type:

```
<xs:element name="publishdatetime" type="xs:dateTime"/>  
    < publishdatetime>2002-05-30T09:00:00</ publishdatetime>
```

Numeric Data Types

- Decimal Data Type:

`<xs:element name="price" type="xs:decimal"/>`

`<price>999.50</price>` or

`<price>+999.5450</price>` or

`<price>-999.5230</price>`

- Integer Data Type:

`<xs:element name="price" type="xs:integer"/>`

`<price>999</price>` Or

`<price>+999</price>` Or

`<price>-999</price>`

Miscellaneous Data Types

- Boolean Data Type:

```
<xs:element name="disabled" type="xs:boolean"/>  
    <disabled>true</disabled>
```

- Binary Data Types:

```
<xs:element name="blobsrc" type="xs:hexBinary"/>
```

- AnyURI Data Type:

```
<xs:element name="PicSrc" type="xs:anyURI"/>  
    <PicSrc>"http://www.w3schools.com/images/smiley.gif" </ PicSrc >
```

Attribute in XSD

- Defining an Attribute:

`<xs:attribute name="AuthorID" type="xs:string"/>`

where "AuthorID" is the name of the attribute and "xs:string" specifies the data type of the attribute.

- Creating Optional and Required Attributes:

`<xs:attribute name="btype" type="xs:string" use="required"/>`

Attributes are optional by default

Complex Type Element

■ Illustration:

```
<xs:element name="book">  
  <xs:complexType>  
    <xs:sequence>  
      <xs:element name="title" type="xs:string"/>  
      <xs:element name="author" type="xs:string"/>  
    </xs:sequence>  
  </xs:complexType>  
</xs:element>
```

Simple Type Element

■ Illustration:

```
<xs:element name="age">  
  <xs:simpleType>  
    <xs:restriction base="xs:integer">  
      <xs:minInclusive value="0"/>  
      <xs:maxInclusive value="100"/>  
    </xs:restriction>  
  </xs:simpleType>  
</xs:element>
```

XSD Restrictions in a Nutshell

- Let us see some of the restrictions on XSD Elements:

Constraint	Description
Enumeration	Defines a list of acceptable values
FractionDigits	Specifies the maximum number of decimal places allowed. Must be equal to or greater than zero.
Length	Specifies the exact number of characters or list items allowed. Must be equal to or greater than zero.
MaxExclusive	Specifies the upper bounds for numeric values (the value must be less than this value)
MaxInclusive	Specifies the upper bounds for numeric values (the value must be less than or equal to this value)
MaxLength	Specifies the maximum number of characters or list items allowed. Must be equal to or greater than zero.

Restriction on Values

■ Example

```
<xs:element name="Quantity">
  <xs:simpleType>
    <xs:restriction base="xs:integer">
      <xs:minInclusive value="0"/>
      <xs:maxInclusive value="500"/>
    </xs:restriction>
  </xs:simpleType>
</xs:element>
```

Restriction on Set Values

■ Example

```
<xs:element name="Category">
  <xs:simpleType>
    <xs:restriction base="xs:string">
      <xs:enumeration value="Dot Net"/>
      <xs:enumeration value="BI"/>
      <xs:enumeration value="RDBMS"/>
      <xs:enumeration value="J2EE"/>
    </xs:restriction>
  </xs:simpleType>
</xs:element>
```

Restrictions on Series of Values

- To limit the content of an XML element to define a series of numbers or letters that can be used, we can use the pattern constraint.

```
<xs:element name="letter">
  <xs:simpleType>
    <xs:restriction base="xs:string">
      <xs:pattern value="[a-z]"/>
    </xs:restriction>
  </xs:simpleType>
</xs:element>
```

- The only acceptable value is ONE of the LOWERCASE letters from a to z
- The “Category” element is a simple type with a restriction.
- The acceptable values are Dot Net, BI, RDBMS, and J2EE

Restrictions on Series of Values

■ Some more examples of Pattern

[a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z]	THREE of the LOWERCASE OR UPPERCASE letters from a to z
[0-9]{10}	Any 10 digit number
[A-Z][0-9]{3}	1 uppercase letter followed by 3 digits
[0-9][0-9][0-9][a-zA-Z]*	3digits followed by any number of uppercase or lowercase letters
EMP[#_!]	'EMP' followed by 1 # or ! Or _

- The “Category” element is a simple type with a restriction.
- The acceptable values are Dot Net, BI, RDBMS, and J2EE

Types of Indicators

- We have seven types of indicators:
 - Order indicators:
 - All
 - Choice
 - Sequence
 - Occurrence indicators:
 - maxOccurs
 - minOccurs
 - Group indicators:
 - Group name
 - attributeGroup name

All Indicator

- The <all> indicator specifies, by default, that the child elements can appear in any order and that each child element must occur once and only once

```
<xs:element name="book">
  <xs:complexType>
    <xs:all>
      <xs:element name="title" type="xs:string"/>
      <xs:element name="author" type="xs:string"/>
    </xs:all>
  </xs:complexType>
</xs:element>
```

Choice Indicator

- The <choice> indicator specifies that either one child element or another can occur

```
<xs:element name="person">  
  <xs:complexType>  
    <xs:choice>  
      <xs:element name="employee" type="employee"/>  
      <xs:element name="member" type="member"/>  
    </xs:choice>  
  </xs:complexType>  
</xs:element>
```

Sequence Indicator

- The <sequence> indicator specifies that the child elements must appear in a specific order

```
<xs:element name="book">  
  <xs:complexType>  
    <xs:sequence>  
      <xs:element name="title" type="xs:string"/>  
      <xs:element name="author" type="xs:string"/>  
    </xs:sequence>  
  </xs:complexType>  
</xs:element>
```


maxOccurs Indicator

- The <maxOccurs> indicator specifies the maximum number of times an element can occur:

```
<xs:element name="book">
  <xs:complexType>
    <xs:sequence>
      <xs:element name="title" type="xs:string"/>
      <xs:element name="author" type="xs:string"/>
      <xs:element name="vendor" type="xs:string" maxOccurs="2"/>
    </xs:sequence>
  </xs:complexType>
</xs:element>
```

minOccurs Indicator

- The <minOccurs> indicator specifies the minimum number of times an element can occur:

```
<xs:element name="book">
  <xs:complexType>
    <xs:sequence>
      <xs:element name="title" type="xs:string"/>
      <xs:element name="author" type="xs:string"/>
      <xs:element name="vendor" type="xs:string"      maxOccurs="2"
minOccurs="0" />
    </xs:sequence>
  </xs:complexType>
</xs:element>
```

Group Indicators

- Group Indicators:
 - Group indicators are used to define related sets of elements
- Element Groups:
 - Element groups are defined with the group declaration, as shown below:

```
<xs:group name="groupname"> ... </xs:group>
```

Group Indicators (Contd)

```
<xs:group name="persongroup">  
  <xs:sequence>  
    <xs:element name="firstname" type="xs:string"/>  
    <xs:element name="lastname" type="xs:string"/>  
    <xs:element name="birthday" type="xs:date"/>  
  </xs:sequence> </xs:group>
```

```
<xs:element name="person" type="personinfo"/>  
<xs:complexType name="personinfo">  
  <xs:sequence>  
    <xs:group ref="persongroup"/>  
    <xs:element name="country" type="xs:string"/>  
  </xs:sequence>  
</xs:complexType>
```

Demo on XML-Schema Definition

- Demo on:
 - Run Validator
 - Code to be validated
 - Schema file
 - Shiporder.xsd (schema File)
 - Shiporder.xml (xml Document)



Summary

- In this lesson, you have learnt:
 - A schema describes the arrangement of markup and character data within a valid XML document
 - The purpose of XML Schema and XML DTD is same
 - Currently, only Microsoft IE5 supports XML Schema
 - XML Schema vocabulary defines different elements



Review Question

- Question 1: List any four valid datatypes in XML Schema: ____, ____, ____, and ____.
- Question 2: The elements defined in a schema come from this namespace:
 - Option 1 : sourceNamespace
 - Option 2: targetNamespace
 - Option 3: cannot be specified
- Question 3: Choice is an Occurrence indicator.
 - True/False

