

XML Syntax Writing XML and Designing DTD's



XML Document



```
<booklist title="Some XML Books">
<book>
  <author>
    <name>St. Laurent</name>
      <initial>S</initial>
  </author>
  <date>1998</date>
  <title edition="Second">XML: A Primer</title>
  <publisher>MIS Press</publisher>
  <website href="http://www.simonstl.com/xmlprim/" />
  <rating stars="4"/>
 </book>
</booklist>
```

Character Data Declaration



For occasions when text must contain uninterpreted markup characters, use CDATA sections:

- Press <<<ENTER>>>
- <![CDATA[Press <<<ENTER>>>]]>



What is a DTD?



- A template for document markup:
 - A file which contains a formal definition of a particular type of document.
 - It's file that constrains or restricts certain elements and attributes to exist in XML document.
- A DTD describes :
 - What names can be used for element types
 - Where & how element types can occur
 - Specifies document hierarchy
 - Specifies names and types of element attributes



Why have a DTD?



- Validating XML parser can check the structure of the XML file against a DTD and check that it is valid.
- DTD can be a mechanism for standardization and hence document/data manipulation and exchange.
- DTD declares all allowed components of XML document as well as the structural relationships among those components.

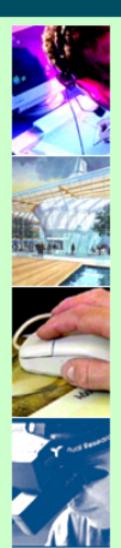






Include in the DOCTYPE declaration

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!DOCTYPE root _ elem [
    <!--- DTD appears here --->
    <! ... >
    <! ... >
    <! ... >
    <!--- Rest of XML file --->
```



External DTD Definition



- Document type declaration: links the DTD file with the XML document.
- <!DOCTYPE rootelem SYSTEM "file.dtd">
- Reference external DTD file as pathname in DOCTYPE declaration
- <!DOCTYPE MyDoc SYSTEM "fullPath">



Designing a DTD



- Identify features of the data that need markup
- For each feature, determine
 - Can it be given a name
 - Does it always appear
 - May there be more than one
 - Does it deconstruct to smaller features
 - Is some of the textual content always the same
 - How is it associated with other features



Element Declarations



- Used to define new elements and their content
 - <!ELEMENT Title (#PCDATA)>
 - ⇒ <Title>Company Name </Title>
- Empty element has no content
 - <!ELEMENT name EMPTY> ⇒ <name/>
- When children are allowed, use model groups
 - <!ELEMENT person (name, e-mail)>
- When declare element the can contain any type of content
 - <!ELEMENT DOCUMENT ANY>



Model Group Quantity Indicators



Describe constraints on elements in DTD:

A? May occur [0..1]

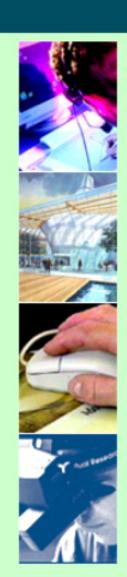
A+ Must occur[1..*]

A* May occur [0..*]

A | B Either A or B

A, B A followed by B

<!Element father (daughter|son)>



Mixed content Declarations



- Used to define Mixed content elements:
- <!ELEMENT father (#PCDATA|job|age)*>

```
⇒ <father>lbrahim
 <job>engineer</job>
 <age>55</age>
 </father>
```



Mixed content Declarations (cont.)



When using mixed content:

- You can't specify the number of occurrences or the order of appearance of the child elements.
- So Mixed Content is to kept as minimum as possible



Attribute Declarations



- Attributes can be attached to elements.
- Declared separately in an "ATTLIST" declaration
- Attribute name
 - <!ATTLIST tag name type default>
 - <!ATTLIST tag first_attr ...
 secon_attr ...
 third_attr ... >
- Attribute types include: CDATA, enumeration,ID





Attribute types

- **CDATA**: simple character data.
- **Enumeration**: list of values
- <!ATTLIST son sport(football | tennis)

"tennis">

- <!ATTLIST son job CDATA #IMPLIED>
- <!ATTLIST son age CDATA #REQUIRED>



Attribute types (cont.)



ID

- Applications can use the ID value of elements to uniquely identify those elements, so they declare attribute type ID (Note attribute doesn't have to be named id).
- Attribute of type ID should have to be unique contain only characters permitted for NMTOKEN and must start with a letter. (ex: C101)
- No element type may have more than one ID, and the value of attribute defined as ID should be unique

<!ATTLIST invoice num ID #REQUIRED>

Default Attribute Values



- Can specify a default attribute value for when its missing from XML document, or state that value must be entered
 - #REQUIRED
 - #IMPLIED
 - "default"
 - #FIXED

Must be specified

May be specified

Default value if unspecified

Only one value allowed

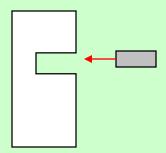
- <!ATTLIST son sports (football|basketball) "football">
- <!ATTLIST son age CDATA #REQUIRED>

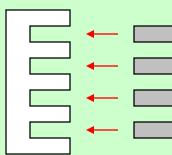




Entities

- XML document may be distributed among units of information:
 - Each unit of information is called an entity
 - Each entity has a name to identify it
 - Defined using an entity declaration
 - Used by calling an entity reference







General Entities



- Declared in 'Document Type Definition'
 - <!ENTITY name "replacement text">
 - <!ENTITY xml "eXtensible Markup
 Language">
 - <!ENTITY copyright "©">
 - The &xml; and ©right; includes entities.

Restrictions on Entities



- General text entities
 - Can appear in element content
 - <para> ··· &ent; ··· </para>
 - Can appear in attribute value
 - <para name="&ent;"> ··· </para>
 - Can appear in internal entity content
 - <!ENTITY cod "&ent;">



XML Document



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE ITI SYSTEM "ITIhierarchy.dtd">
<ITI>
 <ITI-manager>Dr.Heba Saleh</ITI-manager>
 <ITI.vice-manager>Eng.Amr El Shafey
    <ITI.ScientificDept mgr="Eng.Sherif Sharaf">Scientific Departments
       <platform mgr="Eng. Hany Safwat">System Development</platform>
       <platform mgr="Eng. Asmaa">Java</platform>
       <platform mgr="Eng. Shahinaz">ERP</platform>
       platform mgr="Eng. Rania">UNIX</platform>
   </ITI.ScientificDept>
   <ITI.SpecializedTracks name="Specialized Tracks">
       <ProgramManager>Eng.Bahaa</ProgramManager>
       <Track mgr="Eng.Dalia Rasmy">Short Training </Track>
       <Track>Community Development Program</Track>
   </ITI.SpecializedTracks>
 </ITI.vice-manager>
</ITI>
```

ISO 9001

DTD Document

- <!ELEMENT ITI (ITI-manager, ITI.vice-manager)>
- <!ELEMENT ITI-manager (#PCDATA)>
- <!ELEMENT ITI.vice-manager (#PCDATA | ITI.ScientificDept | ITI.SpecializedTracks)*>
- <!ELEMENT ITI.ScientificDept (#PCDATA | platform)*>
- <!ELEMENT platform (#PCDATA)>
- <!ELEMENT ITI.SpecializedTracks (ProgramManager?, Track+)>
- <!ELEMENT ProgramManager (#PCDATA)>
- <!ELEMENT Track (#PCDATA)>
- <!ATTLIST platform mgr CDATA #IMPLIED>
- <!ATTLIST ITI.ScientificDept mgr CDATA #REQUIRED>
- <!ATTLIST ITI.SpecializedTracks name CDATA #FIXED "Specialized Tracks"
- <!ATTLIST Track mgr CDATA #IMPLIED
- >





Disadv. Of DTDs

- DTD has its own syntax.
- Precise number of element repetitions can't be achieved.
- Limited number of data types.
- Only 1 DTD can be referenced from within the XML document.

