University of Stirling, Computing Science and Mathematics

CSCU9T4/CSCU9TF - Managing Information.

XML Practical 4: XML Style (XLS)

The purpose of this practical is to use XLST and XPath to display in the browser information contained in an XML document. We will modify an existing XSL file to add functionality; we will use the browser XSL processor to perform the transformation between XML and HTML for display.

This lab is relatively short, to give you time to ask any question related to the assignment and to work on it.

Linking the XML file with the XLS stylesheet and adding more columns

- Open the file `cd_catalog.xml` in your browser and check how it is displayed
- Open and explore in your text editor the xsl file provided: `cd_catalog.xls`
- Using your text editor, now add the following line in the xml document:, just after the first line: `<?xml-stylesheet type='text/xsl' href='cd_catalog.xsl' ?>`
- Open again the file `cd_catalog.xml` in your browser (or refresh it if you already have it opened). Now it should display differently, as an HTML table with two columns, one for Title and one for Artist.
- Create a new style sheet `cd_catalog2.xls`, based on the first one. This time you want to display the remaining data columns: COUNTRY, COMPANY, PRICE and YEAR.
- Change also the colour of the text background in the heading to "cyan".
- Link the XML document with this new style sheet and display it in the browser.

Sorting

- Create a new stylesheet `sort.xls` based on your previous `cd_catalog2.xls`. This time you want to display the content sorted by YEAR.
- Link the XML document with this new style sheet and display it in the browser.

Conditional and sorting

- Create a new stylesheet `if+sort.xls` based on your previous `sort.xls`. This time you want to display only the CDs coming from the UK, again sorted by year.
- Link the XML document with this new style sheet and display it in the browser

Checkpoints	
sort.xls	**Using the browser, the cd_catalog.xml file should display all the rows sorted by year.**
if+sort.xls	**Using the browser, the cd_catalog.xml file should display all the CDs from the UK sorted by year.**