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## Advanced Databases and Information Systems

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## 1. Sheet: XML & XPath

### Exercise 0 (Setup)

For learning how to construct queries for traversing XML as well as JSON documents, we suggest to work with our test workbench for SQL (<https://dbissql.informatik.uni-freiburg.de/dbis/dpod/sql.php>) as a graphical interface to Oracle databases. You have to login with your student credentials and then choose the `mondial_xml_pph` database. Alternatively, you could download the `mondia.xml` file from ILIAS and directly access it via any programming library for XML which supports XPath.

### Exercise 1 (XPath Queries)

Use *mondia.xml* to answer the following questions with XPath.

- a) What are the names of the countries with more than 10 million citizens and total area less than 200000 km<sup>2</sup>?

```
/mondial/country[population >10000000 and @area<200000]/name
```

- b) What are the names of countries which have a smaller area than the Netherlands?

```
/mondial/country[@area < //country[@car_code='NL']/@area]/name
```

- c) What are the names of the countries which share a border with Germany while having a higher population growth than Germany?

```
//country[border/@country='D' and (./population_growth > /mondial/country[@car_code='D']/population_growth/text())]/name
```

- d) What are the names of the capitals which are situated at at least one waterside?

```
/mondial/country/((province/city|city)[@id=/mondial/country/@capital and located_at/@watertype]/name
```

- e) What are the names of all cities which are situated at a lake?

```
/mondial/country/(city|province/city)[located_at/@lake]/name/text()
```

- f) What are the names of all rivers where at least one capital is situated at?

```
/mondial/river[@id = /mondial/country(city|(province/city))[@id = /mondial/country/@capital]/located_at/@river]
```

- g) What are all "German leaf nodes"? More specifically, what are all elements in Mondial which are located in the subtree of a `country` element with `car_code='D'` and do not have any children themselves?

```
/mondial/country[@car_code="D"]/*[(not (./*))]
```

### Exercise 2 (XPath - Axes und Equivalence)

- a) You are given the following XPath request to compare it with XPath requests 1 to 4:

`//n[preceding-sibling::n]`

Specify XML documents for each of the following XPath requests, such that the respective two requests return **different** results.

- (a) `//n[preceding::n]`
- (b) `//n[preceding::n and following-sibling::n]`
- (c) `//n[preceding::n and parent::*/*child:n]`
- (d) `//n/preceding::n[following-sibling::*]`

Dieses Dokument gilt für Teilaufgaben (1)-(4).

```
<a>
  <b>
    <n id="1"/>
    <c/>
  </b>
  <n id="2"/>
  <n id="3"/>
</a>
```

- b) Find a XPath request which is equivalent to `//n[preceding-sibling::n]`, while not using `preceding-sibling`.  
Eine mögliche Lösung ist die Anfrage `//n/following-sibling::n`.

- c) You are given the following XPath request to compare it with XPath requests (1) to (3):

`//n[parent::n and child::n]`.

Specify XML documents for each of the following XPath requests, such that the respective two requests return **different** results.

- (a) `//n[ancestor::n and child::n]`
- (b) `//n[child::n/child::n]/child::n`
- (c) `//n[preceding::n and parent::*/*child::n]`

Vorschlag zu Teilaufgabe (1):

```
<n id="1">
  <a>
    <n id="2">
      <n id="3"/>
    </n>
  </a>
</n>
```

Vorschlag zu Teilaufgaben (2) und (3):

```
<n id="1">
  <n id="2">
    <n id="3"/>
  </n>
  <n id="4"/>
</n>
```

- d) Find a XPath request which is equivalent to `//n[parent::n and child::n]`, while not using `parent` or `".."`.

Eine mögliche Lösung ist die Anfrage `//n/n[child::n]`.

- e) Let  $p$  be a node in a XML-tree. Specify a XML request to return the set of all nodes of the XML-tree which are **different** than  $p$ .

`(p/preceding::node()|p/ancestor::node()|p/descendant::node()|p/following::node())`

- f) You are given the following two XPath requests:

```
//City[preceding::City[1]/CName = "Freiburg"]/CName
//City[(preceding::City)[1]/CName = "Freiburg"]/CName
```

Specify equivalent requests **without** using backward-axes.

- `//City[CName = "Freiburg"]/following::City[1]/CName`

- (//City)[1][CName="Freiburg"]/following::City/CName

### Exercise 3 (XPath & XRel)

You are given the XML document “bib.xml”<sup>1</sup>, containing a structured bibliography. For each of the following queries, give the XPath expression that answers the query.

XRel<sup>2</sup> is an alternative approach to store and retrieve XML documents via relational databases. Write the corresponding SQL queries using XRel after formulating the needed tables.

Element						
Start	End	PIId				
0	1058	1				
5	167	2				
23	48	4				
56	101	5				
64	76	6				
84	93	7				
110	135	8				
147	159	9				
174	415	2				
192	243	4				
251	296	5				
259	272	6				
279	289	7				
305	349	5				
313	324	6				
331	341	7				
358	383	8				
359	407	9				
422	798	2				
440	462	4				
470	520	5				
478	493	6				
500	512	7				
529	577	5				
537	550	6				
557	569	7				
586	630	5				
594	605	6				
612	622	7				
639	720	10				
647	662	11				
669	681	12				
689	706	13				
729	766	8				
778	790	9				
805	1050	2				
823	884	4				
892	971	10				
900	913	11				
920	932	12				
940	957	13				
980	1017	8				
1029	1042	9				

  

				Text			
Start	End			Value			PIId
30	47			TCP/IP Illustrated			4
70	76			Stevens			6
91	92			W.			7
121	134			Addison-Wesley			8
154	158			65.95			9
199	242			Advanced Programming in the Unix environment			4
265	271			Stevens			6
286	287			W.			7
319	323			Suciu			6
338	340			Dan			7
369	382			Addison-Wesley			8
402	406			65.95			9
447	461			Data on the Web			4
481	492			Abiteboul			6
507	511			Serge			7
543	549			Buneman			6
564	568			Peter			7
600	604			Suciu			6
619	621			Dan			7
653	661			Abiteboul			11
676	680			Serge			12
702	705			CITI			13
740	765			Morgan Kaufmann Publishers			8
785	789			39.95			62
830	883			The Economics of Technology and Content for Digital TV			4
906	912			Gerbarg			11
927	931			Darcy			12
953	956			CITI			13
991	1016			Kluwer Academic Publishers			8
1036	1041			129.95			9

<sup>1</sup><http://tinyurl.com/small-bib-xml>

<sup>2</sup><https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=383038>

Path	
<u>PId</u>	PathExpr
1	#/bib
2	#/bib#/book
3	#/bib#/book#/@year
4	#/bib#/book#/title
5	#/bib#/book#/author
6	#/bib#/book#/author#/last
7	#/bib#/book#/author#/first
8	#/bib#/book#/publisher
9	#/bib#/book#/price
10	#/bib#/book#/editor
11	#/bib#/book#/editor#/last
12	#/bib#/book#/editor#/first
13	#/bib#/book#/editor#/affiliation

- a) Output all unique authors' lastnames.

```
/distinct-values(//author/last)
SELECT distinct Text.Value
FROM Text T, Path P
WHERE P.PathExpr like '#%/author#/last'
AND T.PId = P.PId
```

- b) Output all the books<sup>3</sup> published by "Addison-Wesley".

```
//book[./publisher = "Addison-Wesley"]
SELECT E1.Start, E1.End
FROM Element E1, Element E2, Text T, Path P1, Path P2
WHERE P1.PathExpr like '#%/book'
AND E1.pId = P1.PId
AND P2.PathExpr like '#%/book#/publisher'
AND E2.pId = P2.PId
AND T.Value = "Addison-Wesley"
AND T.Start > E2.Start
AND T.End < E2.End
AND E1.Start < E2.Start
AND E1.End > E2.End
```

- c) Output all the names of books that was published after the year 1994 with a price lower than 50.

```
//book[./@year > 1994 and ./price < 50]
```

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<sup>3</sup>It is enough to output the starting position and the end position of the corresponding element instead of returning the element it self.