



Mastering the Sling Rewriter

Justin Edelson
AEM Evangelist





 Justin Edelson

BASIC

ADVANCED

PERSONAL

PRODUCT DATA

First Name

Justin

Last Name

Edelson

Email

jedelson@adobe.com

Twitter

@justinedelson

Title

AEM Evangelist

Employer

Adobe

About Me

architect, developer, writer, and
technical manager

Projects

Apache Sling, Apache Jackrabbit,
ACS AEM Commons, ACS AEM
Tools

What is the Sling Rewriter?

- Sling Rewriter an Apache Sling module included in AEM.
- Performs transformations of rendered content (typically HTML)
 - Doesn't know anything about your components
- Pipeline-orientated
- Based on Simple API for XML (SAX)



Hello, My Name Is

Sling Rewriter

Is Sling Rewriter related to mod_rewrite?

No.

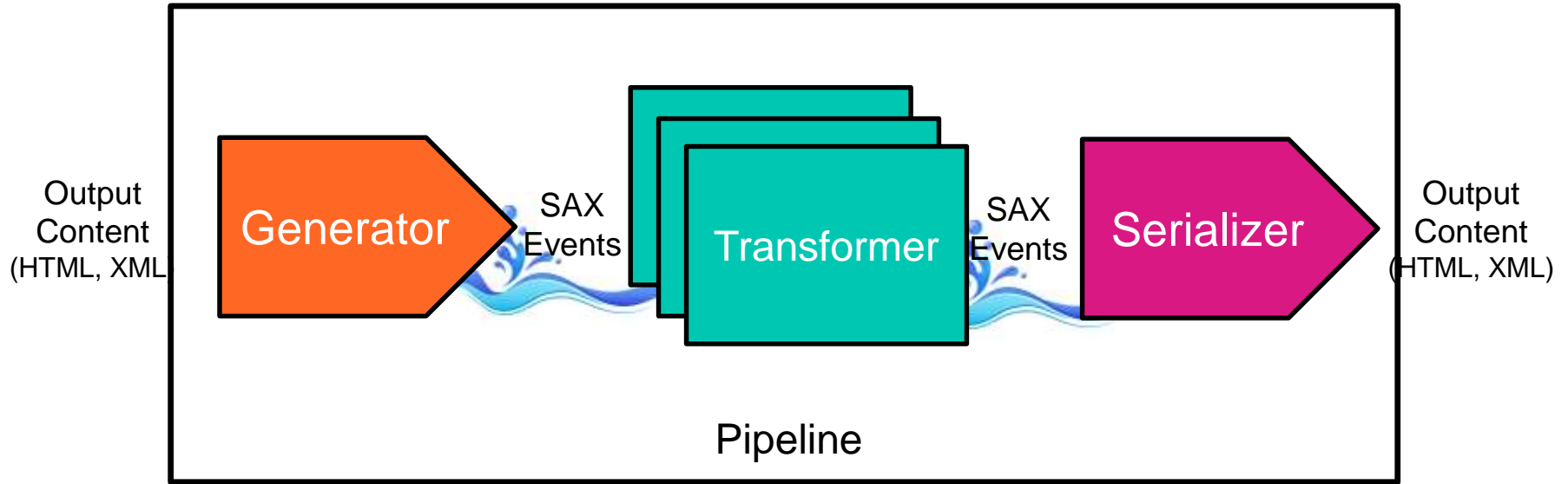
Sling Rewriter is about rewriting the (HTML) output.

mod_rewrite is about rewriting the requesting URL.

There is an Apache module, mod_ext_filter, which can be used for output rewriting.



Rewriter Pipeline



Rewriter Pipeline Configurations

Stored in the repository.

Always /apps/SOMETHING/config/rewriter

Defines **when** the pipeline is executed

Defines **how** the pipeline is composed

Name ▲	Type	Value
contentTypes	String[]	text/html
enabled	Boolean	true
generatorType	String	htmlparser
jcr:primaryType	Name	nt:unstructured
order	String	-1
serializerType	String	htmlwriter
transformerTypes	String[]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">linkcheckermobilemobiledebugcontentsync

Enablement Options

All are optional

contentTypes – Response Content Type (e.g. text/html)

extensions – Request Extension (e.g. html)

resourceTypes – Resolved Resource Type

selectors – Request selectors (soon; not in AEM 6.1)

paths – Path prefixes

enabled – true/false

order – highest wins

Pipeline Options

generatorType

transformerTypes

serializerType

```
@Component @Service
@property(name = "pipeline.type",
    value = "xml-generator")
public class XMLParserGeneratorFactory
    implements GeneratorFactory { }
```

```
@Component @Service
@property(name = "pipeline.type",
    value = "versioned-clientlibs")
public class VersionedClientlibsTransformerFactory
    implements TransformerFactory { }
```

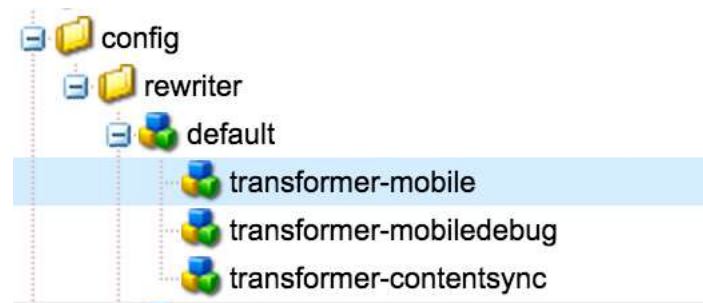
```
@Component @Service
@property(name = "pipeline.type",
    value = "xml-serializer")
public class PlainXMLSerializerFactory
    implements SerializerFactory { }
```


Pipeline Element Configuration

Nodes named <component-type>-<component-name>

Only one defined property - component-optional

Everything else is up to the particular component to define



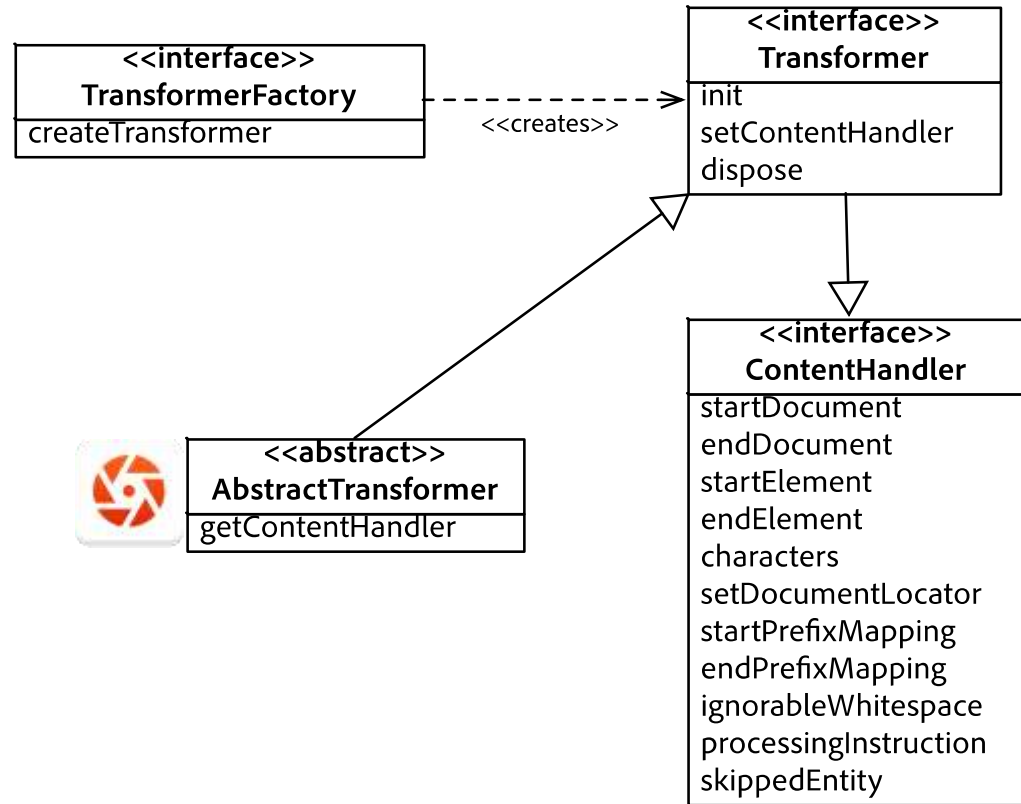
Creating your own Transformer

Implement two interfaces

```
@Component @Service
@property(name = "pipeline.type",
    value = "mytrans")
public class MyTransformerFactory
    implements TransformerFactory {

    public Transformer createTransformer() {
        return new MyTransformer();
    }

    private class MyTransformer
        implements Transformer {
        ...
    }
}
```



“global” Transformers

Transformers can be declared as global.

```
@Component @Service
@property(name="pipeline.mode",
    value="global")
public class MyEvilTransformer
    implements TransformerFactory {}
```

This is a bad idea.

Don't do it.



Creating your own Transformer

```
public void startElement(String namespaceURI, String localName,
    String qName, Attributes attrs) {
    nextHandler.startElement(namespaceURI, localName,
        qName, rebuildAttributes(localName, attrs));
}

private Attributes rebuildAttributes(String elementName, Attributes attrs) {
    if ("a".equals(elementName)) {
        AttributesImpl newAttrs = new AttributesImpl(attrs);
        ...
        return newAttrs;
    } else {
        return attrs;
    }
}
```

Transformer Use Case

Wrapping YouTube Embedded IFrames

```
<iframe width="420" height="315"  
  src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/QfvFWSQQ\_0M"  
  frameborder="0" allowfullscreen>  
</iframe>
```



```
<div class="youtube-container">  
  <iframe width="420" height="315"  
    src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/QfvFWSQQ\_0M"  
    frameborder="0" allowfullscreen class="youtube-wrapped">  
  </iframe>  
</div>
```

Adding YouTube Wrapper

```
public void startElement(String uri, String localName, String qName, Attributes atts) {  
    if ("iframe".equals(localName) && needsWrapping(atts)) {  
        startWrapper();  
        needToUnwrap = true;  
        AttributesImpl newAtts = new AttributesImpl();  
        newAtts.setAttributes(atts);  
        newAtts.addAttribute("", "class", "class", "CDATA", "youtube-wrapped");  
        nextHandler.startElement(uri, localName, qName, newAtts);  
    } else {  
        nextHandler.startElement(uri, localName, qName, atts);  
    }  
}
```

```
public void endElement(String uri, String localName, String qName) {  
    nextHandler.endElement(uri, localName, qName);  
    if (needToUnwrap && localName.equals("iframe")) {  
        endWrapper();  
        needToUnwrap = false;  
    }  
}
```

Adding YouTube Wrapper

```
boolean needsWrapping(Attributes atts) {  
    final String src = atts.getValue("src");  
    if (src == null) {  
        return false;  
    }  
    if (src.contains("youtube")) {  
        final String classAttr = atts.getValue("class");  
        if (classAttr == null) {  
            return true;  
        } else if (classAttr.indexOf("youtube-wrapped") > -1) {  
            return false;  
        } else {  
            return true;  
        }  
    }  
    return false;  
}
```

Adding YouTube Wrapper

```
void endWrapper(){  
    nextHandler.endElement("", "div", "div");  
}
```

```
void startWrapper(){  
    AttributesImpl newAtts = new AttributesImpl();  
    newAtts.addAttribute("", "class", "class", "CDATA",  
        "youtube-container");  
    nextHandler.startElement("", "div", "div", newAtts);  
}
```


BUT...

- AEM's HTML parser ignores <iframe> by default.
- Need to adjust the configuration
 - With a node named generator-htmlparser

Name ▲	Type	Value
includeTags	String[]	<div><div>▶ A</div><div>▶ /A</div><div>▶ IMG</div><div>▶ AREA</div><div>▶ FORM</div><div>▶ BASE</div><div>▶ LINK</div><div>▶ SCRIPT</div><div>▶ BODY</div><div>▶ /BODY</div><div>▶ IFRAME</div><div>▶ /IFRAME</div></div>
jcr:primaryType	Name	nt:unstructured

The init() method

<<interface>> ProcessingContext
getRequest() getResponse() getContentType() getWriter() getOutputStream()

<<interface>> ProcessingComponentConfiguration
getType() getConfiguration()

The characters() method

The characters() method is hard...

```
<div>foo</div>
```

```
characters(['f','o','o'], 0, 2);
```

```
characters(['f'], 0, 1);
```

```
characters(['o'], 0, 1);
```

```
characters(['o'], 0, 1);
```

```
characters(['>','f'], 1, 2);
```

```
characters(['o', 'o'], 0, 2);
```

“SAX parsers may return all contiguous character data in a single chunk, or they may split it into several chunks.”

The characters() method

For simple manipulations:

```
public void characters(char ch[],int start, int length) {  
    String str = new String(ch, start, length);  
    str = str.toUpperCase();  
    nextHandler.characters(str.toCharArray(), 0, length);  
}
```

The characters() method

For complex manipulations:

```
public void startElement(String uri, String localName, String qName,
    Attributes atts) {
    if (isSpecialElement(localName, atts) {
        collectingCharacters = true;
        buffer = new StringBuilder();
    }
    nextHandler.startElement(uri, localName, qName, atts);
}
```

```
public void characters(char[] ch, int start, int length) {
    if (collectingCharacters) {
        buffer.append(ch, start, length);
    } else {
        nextHandler.characters(ch, start, length);
    }
}
```

The characters() method

```
public void endElement(String uri, String localName, String qName) {  
    if (collectingCharacters) {  
        String output = manipulate(buffer);  
        nextHandler.characters(output.toCharArray(), 0, output.length);  
        collectingCharacters = false;  
        buffer = null;  
    }  
    nextHandler.endElement(uri, localName, qName);  
}
```

Rewriting Other Things

- Rewriting XML?
 - Check out xml-generator and xml-serializer in ACS AEM Commons
- Rewriting JSON?
 - Well...

JSON Array Generator

```
public class JsonArrayGenerator implements Generator {  
    public void finished() throws IOException, SAXException {  
        try {  
            JSONArray array = new JSONArray(writer.toString());  
            contentHandler.startDocument();  
            for (int i = 0; i < array.length(); i++) {  
                final JSONObject obj = array.getJSONObject(i);  
                contentHandler.startElement(null, obj.toString(), null, null);  
            }  
            contentHandler.endDocument();  
        } catch (JSONException e) {  
            throw new SAXException("Unable to parse JSON Array", e);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

SAX
Smuggling

JSON Array Content Handler

```
public abstract class JsonArrayContentHandler implements ContentHandler {  
    protected abstract void endArray();  
    protected abstract void startArray()  
    protected abstract void handleObject(JSONObject obj);  
  
    public void startDocument() { startArray(); }  
    public void startElement(String arg0, String arg1, String arg2, Attributes arg3)  
        throws SAXException {  
        try {  
            JSONObject obj = new JSONObject(arg1);  
            handleObject(obj);  
        } catch (JSONException e) {  
            throw new SAXException("Unable to parse JSON string", e);  
        }  
    }  
    public void endDocument() { endArray(); }  
}
```

JSON Object Rewriting

```
protected void handleObject(JSONObject obj) {  
    obj.put("text", obj.get("name"));  
    contentHandler.startElement(null,  
        obj.toString(), null, null);  
}
```

Troubleshooting

- WebConsole Configuration Printer
- Recent Requests Web Console

211 LOG Found processor for post processing ProcessorConfiguration:

```
{
  contentTypes=[text/html],order=-1, active=true, valid=true, processErrorResponse=true,
  pipeline=(generator=Config(type=htmlparser, config=JcrPropertyMap
  [node=Node[NodeDelegate{tree=/libs/cq/config/rewriter/default/generator-htmlparser: {
    jcr:primaryType = nt:unstructured, includeTags = [A, /A, IMG, AREA, FORM, BASE, LINK, SCRIPT,
    BODY, /BODY, IFRAME, /IFRAME]]}, values={jcr:primaryType=nt:unstructured,
    includeTags=[Ljava.lang.String;@3b9d3802}}], transformers=(Config(type=linkchecker, config={}),
    Config(type=mobile, config=JcrPropertyMap
    [node=Node[NodeDelegate{tree=/libs/cq/config/rewriter/default/transformer-mobile: {
      jcr:primaryType = nt:unstructured, component-optional = true}}],
    values={jcr:primaryType=nt:unstructured, component-optional=true}]), Config(type=mobiledebug,
    config=JcrPropertyMap
    [node=Node[NodeDelegate{tree=/libs/cq/config/rewriter/default/transformer-mobiledebug: {
      jcr:primaryType = nt:unstructured, component-optional = true}}],
    values={jcr:primaryType=nt:unstructured, component-optional=true}]), Config(type=contentsync,
    config=JcrPropertyMap
    [node=Node[NodeDelegate{tree=/libs/cq/config/rewriter/default/transformer-contentsync: {
      jcr:primaryType = nt:unstructured, component-optional = true}}],
    values={jcr:primaryType=nt:unstructured, component-optional=true}]), Config(type=youtube-iframe,
    config={}), serializer=Config(type=htmlwriter, config={}))
  )
}
```

Final Thoughts

- Sling Rewriter is awesome
- It has very little to do with mod_rewrite
- Don't use `pipeline.mode=global`
- Adjust `includeTags` if are you rewriting non-link HTML elements.
- Be careful when implementing `characters()`.





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