NPRG036

XML Technologies



Lecture 8

XQuery

6.4.2020

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Lecture Outline

- XQuery
 - Constructors
 - FLWOR expressions
 - Other expressions
 - Comparisons

XML Query Languages

- Aims: querying, views, updates
- ☐ Since 1998 XML-QL, XQL, ...
 - W3C specifications: XSLT 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, ... XPath 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, XQuery 1.0, 3.0
 - □ XPath (1.0) selecting of parts of the tree
 - ☐ XSLT data transformations
 - ☐ XQuery XML querying (user-oriented syntax)

- Currently:
 - XQuery 1.0 recommendation
 - □ http://www.w3.org/TR/xquery/
 - XQuery 3.0 recommendation since 08 April 2014
 - □ http://www.w3.org/TR/xquery-30/
- □ The same data model as XPath 2.0

 - Each XPath 2.0 query is also a query in XQuery
- ☐ XPath 1.0 and 2.0 (and hence XQuery 1.0) are not fully compatible
 - Different subsets of XML Infoset

- ☐ Higher expressive power than XPath 2.0, XQL, etc.
- □ Clear semantics (XQuery Core model)
 - See later
- Exploitation of XML Schema
 - Description of structure
 - Data types
- Compatibility of data model with XML Infoset
- □ W3C: XML Query Use Cases
 - http://www.w3.org/TR/xquery-use-cases/

XQuery Example – Data

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<catalogue>
  <book year="2002">
    <title>The Naked Chef</title>
    <author>Jamie Oliver</author>
    <isbn>0-7868-6617-9</isbn>
    <category>cook book</category>
    <pages>250</pages>
 </book>
  <book year="2007">
    <title>Blue, not Green Planet</title>
    <subtitle>What is Endangered? Climate or Freedom?</subtitle>
    <author>Václav Klaus</author>
    <isbn>978-80-7363-152-9</isbn>
    <category>society</category>
    <category>ecology</category>
    <pages>176</pages>
 </book>
```

```
<book year="2006">
   <title>Jamie po italsku</title>
   <original>
     <title>Jamie's Italy</title>
     <translation>Vladimir Fuksa</translation>
   </original>
   <author>Jamie Oliver</author>
   <isbn>80-89189-18-0</isbn>
   <category>cook book</category>
   <pages>319</pages>
 </book>
 <book year="2007">
   <title>Nepříjemná pravda</title>
   <subtitle>Naše planeta v ohrožení - globální oteplování a co
   s ním můžeme udělat</subtitle>
   <original>
     <title>An incovenient Truth</title>
     <translation>Jitka Fialová</translation>
   </original>
   <author>Al Gore</author>
   <isbn>978-80-7203-868-8</isbn>
   <category>ecology</category>
   <pages>329</pages>
 </book>
</catalogue>
```

- ☐ XQuery is a functional language
 - Query is an expression
 - Expressions can be combined
- □ XQuery query:
 - (Optional) declaration of namespaces
 - (Optional) definition of functions
 - Query itself

- XPath expressions
 - //catalogue/book[author="Jamie Oliver"]
- Constructor
 - element book {element author}
- □ FLWOR expression
 - FOR ... LET ... WHERE ... ORDER BY ... RETURN
- Conditional expression
 - IF ... THEN ... ELSE

- Quantifiers
 - EVERY \$var IN expr SATISFIES expr
 - SOME \$var IN expr SATISFIES expr
- Type operator
 - TYPESWITCH typeexpr CASE ... DEFAULT
- Operators and functions
 - x + y, z = x, func(x,y,z)
- Variables and constants
 - \$x, "Obama", 256
- Comparison

XQuery – Constructors

☐ Direct constructors

```
<html>
 <body>
   <h1>Listing from doc("catalogue.xml")//book</h1>
    <h2>title: {doc("catalogue.xml")//book[1]/title}</h2>
    <h3>subtitle: {doc("catalogue.xml")//book[1]/subtitle}</h3>
   <h2>
      title: {fn:data(doc("catalogue.xml")/book[2]/title)}
   </h2>
   <h3>
      subtitle: {fn:data(doc("catalogue.xml")//book[2]/subtitle)}
   </h3>
 </body>
</html>
```

XQuery – Constructors

□ Computed constructors

```
element html {
  element body {
    element h1 {"Listing from doc('catalogue.xml')//book"},
    element h2 {
      text{"title: "},
      doc("catalogue.xml")//book[1]/title
           <html>
             <body>
              <h1>Listing from doc('catalogue.xml')//book</h1>
              <h2>title: <title>The Naked Chef</title></h2>
              <h3>subtitle: </h3>
              <h2>title: Blue, not Green Planet</h2>
               <h3>subtitle: What is Endangered? Climate or Freedom?</h3>
             </body>
           </html>
```

- □ Basic XQuery construction
 - Like SELECT-FROM-WHERE-... in SQL
- Clause for (for \$var in expr) (FLWOR)
 - Evaluates expression expr whose result is a sequence
 - see XPath 2.0 data model
 - Iteratively assigned to variable \$var
- □ Clause let (let \$var := expr) (FLWOR)
 - Evaluates expression expr and assigns the result to variable \$var
- Clause where (where expr) (FLWOR)
 - Filters sequences from clause for

- ☐ Clause order by (order by expr) (FLWOR)
 - Sorts sequences filtered by clause where according to the given criterion
- ☐ Clause return (return expr) (FLWOR)
 - Concluding clause which constructs the result of the query from the selected, filtered and sorted sequences

☐ For each book with more than 300 pages return the title and author sorted by year of edition

□ For each book having an original title return the translated and original title and author

- ☐ FLWOR expressions enable to transform the original structure of the data
 - e.g., transformation to XHTML and other formats
- □ Example:
 - XHTML table of books
 - Swapping of parent/child elements
 - □ book / author → author / list of books
 - Grouping
 - ☐ Grouping of books according to categories
 - Joining of data from different resources
 - □ We extend the books in the catalogue with reviews from another resource

□ Return an HTML table of cook books with columns title, author and (number of) pages

```
titleauthorpages
         $book in doc("catalogue.xml")//book
  for
  where
         $book/category = "cook book"
  return
    \langle t.r \rangle
     {data($book/title)}
     {data($book/author)}
     {data($book/pages)}
```

☐ For each author return the list of their books

```
<authors>
  for $name in distinct-values(doc("catalogue.xml")//author)
  return
    <author>
      <name>{data($name)}</name>
        for
               $book in doc("catalogue.xml")//book
               $book/author = $name
        where
        return
          <book>{$book/title}</book>
    </author>
</authors>
```

☐ Group the books into categories. For each category create a separate element with its name in an attribute.

```
<list-of-categories>
{
         $category in distinct-values(doc("catalogue.xml")//category)
  for
  return
    <category name="{data($category)}">
               $book in doc("catalogue.xml")//book
        where $book/category = $category
        return
          <book>{$book/title}</book>
    </category>
</list-of-categories>
```

☐ For each book add a list of sold pieces from document sale.xml (inner join)

```
<books>
         $book in doc("catalogue.xml")//book,
  for
         $sale in doc("sale.xml")//book
         $book/ISBN = $sale/ISBN
 where
  return
    <book>
      {$book/title}
      {$book/author}
      {$sale/status}
    </book>
</books>
```

□ For each book add a list of reviews from document review.xml (outer join)

```
<books>{
  for
         $book in doc("catalogue.xml")//book
  return
    <book>
      {$book/title}
      {$book/author}
        for $review in doc("review.xml")//review
        where $review/ISBN = $book/ISBN
        return $review/text
    </book>
}</books>
```

XQuery — Conditions

- ☐ Clause if (if expr)
 - Evaluates expression expr whose value is true/false
- ☐ Clause then (then expr)
- ☐ Clause else (else expr)

XQuery – Conditions

□ For each book return its title and the first category. If it has multiple categories, add element <more-categories/>.

XQuery – Quantifiers

- ☐ Clause every/some (every/some \$var in expr)
 - Evaluates expression expr and requires that each/some of the sequences in its result satisfies the condition
- ☐ Clause satisfies (satisfies expr)
 - expr is the condition of the quantifier

XQuery – Quantifiers

□ Return the authors from document authors.xml, who write only books which are translated (i.e. have an original)

XQuery – Functions

- ☐ Built-in functions
 - distinct-values, empty, name, ...
 - Aggregation functions max, min, avg, count, ...
 - Other: string, numeric and other data types
 - □ A huge number
 - Namespace fn
 - □ URI: http://www.w3.org/2005/xpath-functions
- User-defined functions
 - Defined using the XQuery syntax
 - Typed, recursive, ...
 - Support for libraries

XQuery — Built-in Functions

- ☐ We already know some:
 - Document node related to the specified uri:

```
fn:doc($uri as xs:string?) as document-
node()?
```

- Sequence of atomic values of the given sequence of items fn:data(\$arg as item()*) as xs:anyAtomicType*
- Number of items in a sequence

```
fn:count($arg as item()*) as xs:integer
```

Removing of duplicities (only for atomic values)

```
fn:distinct-values($arg as xs:anyAtomicType*)
as xs:anyAtomicType*
```

XQuery — User-defined Functions

Syntax

```
declare function name (parameters) as type
```

where:

- name = name of the function
- parameters = list of parameters
 - Typed/untyped
- type = type of return value

XQuery – User-defined Functions

□ Function returning names of books of a given author (having the given name and surname) sorted according to name of book. Each book can have multiple authors.

XQuery – User-defined Functions

Import of a library with assigning of a particular namespace prefix

XQuery — User-defined Functions

□ Function which recursively traverses the structure of a book and returns the number of subsections of a given book or section

XQuery – User-defined Functions

Import of a library with assigning of a particular namespace prefix

XQuery – Comparison Value

- Operators
 - It, gt, le, ge, eq, ne meaning "less than", "greater than", "less or equal", "greater or equal", "equal", "non equal"
- ☐ Algorithm:
 - Atomization
 - Atomic value
 - Implicit conversion to the same data type
 - Comparison of the operands

XQuery – Comparison Value

- Untyped operands are implicitly converted to strings
- If any of the operands is converted to an empty sequence, the result is an empty sequence
- □ If any of the operands is converted to a sequence longer than 1, error

XQuery – Comparison Value

```
    □ 1 le 2 => true
    □ (1) le (2) => true
    □ (1) le (2,1) => error
    □ (1) le () => ()
    □ <a>5</a> eq <b>5</b> => true
    □ $book/author eq "Jamie Oliver"
    => true if $book has exactly one subelement author with value "Jamie Oliver"
```

XQuery – Comparison General

- Operators
 - <, >, <=, >=, =, !=
- Also for sequences
- ☐ Algorithm:
 - Atomization
 - □ The result are sequences of atomic values
 - Searching for an item from left and right operands which evaluate to true
 - ☐ If there exists such pair, true
 - □ Otherwise, false

XQuery – Comparison General

- When searching a pair of items, again a conversion
 - Both untyped conversion to xs:string
 - One untyped, other numeric conversion to xs:double
 - One untyped, other typed, but other than numeric/string – conversion to the particular type

XQuery – Comparison General

```
    □ 1 < 2 => true
    □ (1) < (2) => true
    □ (1) < (2,1) => true
    □ (1) < () => false
    □ (0,1) = (1,2) => true
    □ (0,1)!= (1,2) => true
    □ $book/author = "Jamie Oliver" => true if $book has at least one subelement author with value "Jamie Oliver"
```

XQuery – Comparison Node

- □ Operators is, << and >>
- ☐ Algorithm:
 - Evaluation of operands
 - If one of the operands is an empty sequence, the result is an empty sequence
 - If any of the operands returns a sequence longer than 1, error
 - Otherwise:
 - ☐ is returns true if both operands are nodes with the same identity
 - << returns true if the left operand precedes the right operand (in the document order)
 - >> returns true if the left operand follows the right operand (in the document order)

XQuery – Comparison Node

true if both the operands return the same node

XQuery – Comparison Node

Consider a conference program. Return the lectures which take place on the first day before the first coffee break.

```
let $day-program := doc("program.xml")/program/day[1]
let $first-coffee-break := $day-program/break[@type="coffee"][1]
for $lecture in $day-program/lecture
where $lecture << $first-coffee-break
return $lecture</pre>
```

- XML Schema can be used as a tool for specification of various integrity constraints (ICs)
 - e.g. cardinalities, keys, data types, ...
 - Version 1.1: element assert (using XPath)
- □ It does not provide a robust tool for specification of more complex ICs
 - e.g. "If an author does not write in Czech, each of their books must contain also a title in their original language and the name of translator."

- XQuery is a sufficiently powerful language for expressing ICs
 - Like the CHECK constraint in SQL
- □ The IC is expressed as a query which returns a warning if necessary, e.g.
 - If the data are OK
 - □ <ok no="number of IC"/>
 - If an IC is violated
 - □ <error no="number of IC">warning text</error>

□ If an author does not write in Czech, each of their books must contain also a title in their original language and the name of translator (in element original).

```
let $authors := doc("authors.xml")//author[language != "cs"]
let $wrong authors
            := for $author in $authors
               where some Sauthor-book in
                        for $book in doc("catalogue.xml")//book
                        where $book[author = $author/name]
                        return $book
                     satisfies
                         count($author-book/original) = 0
               return $author
return
  if ( count($wrong authors) > 0)
  then for $author in $wrong authors
       return <error no="1001">
                Author {data($author)} has a book without the
                original title and name of translator!
              </error>
  else <ok no="1001" />
```

```
let $wrong authors := (
  for $author in doc("authors.xml")//author[language != "cs"]
  let $wrong books :=
           $book in doc("catalogue.xml")//book
    where $book[author=$author/name] and count($book/original)=0
    return $book/name
 where count($wrong books) > 0
  return <author>{$author/name}
         <books>{$wrong books}</books></author> )
return
  if ( count($wrong authors) > 0 )
  then <error no="1001"> {
           for $author in $wrong authors
           return <suberror>Author {$author/name} does not have
                the original title and translator for books
                { for $name in $author/books/name
                  return $name }.</suberror>
           } </error>
  else <ok no="1001" />
```

□ Refined warning

```
<suberror>
Author {$author/name} does not have
the original title and translator for books
{
   for $name in $author/books/name[position()<last()]
   return $name
} and {
   $author/books/name[last()]
}.
</suberror>
```

XQuery – Support for Schemas

- □ Support for schemas is an important extension of query languages
 - XQuery must be able to work with documents without a schema
 - XQuery must exploit the schema if it exists
 - The implementation can allow static typing and detect and report type errors
- □ The type system is based on XML Schema

XQuery – Support for Schemas

```
typeswitch($customer/billing-address)
  case $a as element(*, USAddress) return $a/state
  case $a as element(*, CanadaAddress) return $a/province
  case $a as element(*, JapanAddress) return $a/prefecture
  default return "unknown"
```

```
5 instance of xs:decimal
(5, 6) instance of xs:integer+
. instance of element()
```

XQuery Semantics

- XQuery contains a huge amount of redundancies
- XQuery Core defines a syntactic subset of XQuery with the same expressive power as XQuery, but without duplicities
 - The definition involves also rules for re-writing of queries into XQuery Core
- XQuery Core is useful mainly from the theoretical point of view
 - The queries are long and complex

XQuery Core Example

```
for $k in /books/book,
    $r in /reviews/book
where $k/name = $r/name
return
    <book>
    { $k/name, $k/author, $r/content }
    </book>
```

```
for $b in (
  for $dot in $root return
    for $dot in $dot/child::books
      return $dot/child::book
) return
    for $r in (
      for $dot in $root return
        for $dot in $dot/child::reviews
          return $dot/child::book
    ) return
      if ( not( empty(
            for $v1 in (
              for $dot in $b return $dot/child::name
            ) return
              for $v2 in (
                for $dot in $r return $dot/child::name
              ) return
                if (eq($v1,$v2)) then $v1 else ()
          ) ) )
      then (
        element book {
          for $dot in $b return $dot/child::name,
            for $dot in $b return $dot/child::author,
              for $dot in $r return $dot/child::content
        } )
      else ()
```