**Xalan-J’s XSLT 3.0 specification implementation status**

Document modified : 2025-03-04

Document author : Apache Xalan-J team

1. **XSL Transformations (XSLT) 3.0 and XML Path Language (XPath) 3.1**

The XSLT 3.0 specification defines the following conformance features, and the level to which Xalan-J implements them.

1. Basic XSLT processor Supported

XSLT 3.0 instructions and XPath language features, whose

implementations are available are described in subsequent

sections of this document, below.

1. Schema aware XSLT processor Supported

An XML Schema document can be imported into an XSL

stylesheet using xsl:import-schema instruction, and schema’s

global type definitions and element & attribute declarations

can be used within the stylesheet.

Schema aware feature where XML input document,

resulting in node tree having detailed type annotations on all

possible nodes is not supported. i.e, XPath processor is

natively not schema aware.

1. Serialization feature Supported

A new support for xsl:output method=”json” is available, in

addition to existing xsl:output method values.

1. Streaming feature Not supported
2. Dynamic evaluation feature Supported
3. XPath 3.1 feature, for arrays Supported
4. Higher-order functions feature Supported

Following are details of XSL 3.0 family of language features, whose working implementation is available on Xalan-J’s dev repos branch ‘xalan-j\_xslt3.0’.

**1.1) XSLT 3.0**

**XSLT version 3.0 specification** : <https://www.w3.org/TR/xslt-30/>

1. xsl:for-each-group instruction
2. xsl:analyze-string instruction
3. xsl:iterate instruction
4. xsl:for-each instruction implementation improvements, for new XSLT 3.0 requirements. Particularly, xsl:for-each instruction being able to iterate XPath atomic values in addition to nodes.
5. xsl:evaluate instruction
6. xsl:function instruction
7. xsl:sequence instruction
8. The following XSL stylesheet elements can now have attributes ‘type’ and ‘validation’ : xsl:element, literal result element (xsl:validation and xsl:attribute), xsl:attribute, xsl:copy-of, xsl:copy.
9. xsl:attribute element can now have both, "select" attribute and child sequence constructor. But only one of these is allowed to be present on xsl:attribute instruction as specified by XSLT 3.0 specification.
10. xsl:import-schema instruction
11. xsl:variable instruction evaluation to node set instead of result tree fragment (RTF). This XSLT

specification change was first introduced in XSLT 2.0. With XSLT 1.0, if RTF has to be

used as node set, then it has to be converted to node set using node-set extension function.

12) The sequence type expression "as" attribute on XSLT elements xsl:variable, xsl:template,

xs:function, xsl:param, xsl:with-param, xsl:evaluate.

1. XSL template tunnel parameters
2. xsl:value-of instruction can now produce result either via its “select” attribute, or by xsl:value-of instruction’s child sequence constructor. xsl:value-of instruction can now have an attribute named ‘separator’ as well.

.

15) XSLT function implementations

a) New function implementations : fn:current-grouping-key, fn:current-group, fn:regex-group

b) Function implementation enhancements : fn:system-property

**Support for following new Xalan-J XSL transformation properties:**

http://apache.org/xalan/validation (used to enable XML input document validation when

xsl:import-schema instruction is used within an XSL stylesheet,

with default value false)

http://apache.org/xalan/xslevaluate (used to enable XSL stylesheet instruction xsl:evaluate, with

default value false)

These new XSL transformation properties can be set, using Xalan-J’s class TransformerImpl when

XSL transformation is invoked via API, or via Xalan-J command line.

**1.2) XPath 3.1**

**XPath version 3.1 specification** : <https://www.w3.org/TR/xpath-31/>

1. Range "to" expression

2) Value comparison operators eq, ne, lt, le, gt, ge

3) Function item "inline function expression"

4) Dynamic function calls

5) "if" expression

6) "for" expression

7) Quantified expressions 'some', 'every'

8) "let" expression

9) Sequence constructor expression, using comma operator

10) String concatenation operator "||"

11) Node comparison operators "is", "<<", ">>"

12) Simple map operator '!'

13) Instance Of expression

14) Implementation of various new XML Schema built-in data types for use in XSLT 3.0 stylesheets and XPath 3.1 expressions. Implementation of, XPath constructor function calls (for e.g, xs:string(‘hello’), xs:date(‘2005-10-07’) etc) for these supported XML Schema data types.

Following XML Schema built-in types are supported (depicted with XML Schema data type and subtype hierarchy as specified by W3C XML Schema data types specification) :

xs:anyType

xs:anySimpleType

xs:anyAtomicType

xs:anyURI

xs:boolean

xs:date

xs:dateTime

xs:decimal

xs:integer

xs:long

xs:int

xs:short

xs:byte

xs:nonNegativeInteger

xs:positiveInteger

xs:unsignedLong

xs:unsignedInt

xs:unsignedShort

xs:unsignedByte

xs:nonPositiveInteger

xs:negativeInteger

xs:double

xs:duration

xs:dayTimeDuration

xs:yearMonthDuration

xs:float

xs:QName

xs:string

xs:normalizedString

xs:token

xs:Name

xs:NCName

xs:time

In addition to above mentioned XML Schema built-in data types, an XML Schema type xs:untyped specified by XPath 3.1 specification has also been implemented.

15) Collation support

Within the context of XSL languages, a collation is a method by which text information is

compared and sorted.

As specified by XPath 3.1 F&O spec, implementations of following collations are available:

15.1) The Unicode Codepoint Collation

15.2) The Unicode Collation Algorithm

Support for following collation uri query parameters is available : 'fallback', 'lang', 'strength'

For the collation’s query “lang” parameter, all languages as those supported by Java’s

‘java.util.Locale’ class are available within Xalan-J’s XSLT 3.0 implementation (ref,

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/Locale.html).

For the collation’s query “strength” parameter, following values are supported : 'primary',

'secondary', 'tertiary', 'identical'.

15.3) The HTML ASCII Case-Insensitive Collation

16) Sequence type expression

17) Map expression

18) Array expression

19) Cast expression

20) Castable expression

21) Treat expression

22) Named function reference

23) Array and map lookup using function call syntax,

Array and map lookup using unary lookup operation “?”

24) Arrow operator (=>)

25) Node combination operators union, intersect and except

**1.3) XPath 3.1 functions**

**XPath version 3.1 F&O specification** : <https://www.w3.org/TR/xpath-functions-31/>

Implementation of XPath built-in default functions namespace : http://www.w3.org/2005/xpath-functions

Implementation of XPath built-in math functions namespace : http://www.w3.org/2005/xpath-functions/math

Implementation of XPath built-in map functions namespace : http://www.w3.org/2005/xpath-functions/map

Implementation of XPath built-in array functions namespace : http://www.w3.org/2005/xpath-functions/array

1) Functions on numeric values

fn:abs

fn:round (implementation of an optional second argument, that’s used to specify ‘precision’)

2) Context functions

fn:current-dateTime

fn:current-date

fn:current-time

fn:implicit-timezone

fn:default-collation

3) Functions giving access to external information

fn:doc

fn:doc-available

fn:collection

fn:unparsed-text

fn:unparsed-text-lines

4) Functions on strings

fn:string-join

fn:upper-case

fn:lower-case

fn:codepoints-to-string

fn:string-to-codepoints

fn:compare (with support for collation argument)

fn:codepoint-equal

fn:contains-token (with support for collation argument)

5) String functions that use regular expressions

fn:matches

fn:replace

fn:tokenize

fn:analyze-string

6) Functions that compare values in sequences

fn:distinct-values (with support for collation argument)

fn:index-of (with support for collation argument)

fn:deep-equal (with support for collation argument)

7) Maths trigonometric and exponential functions

math:pi

math:exp

math:exp10

math:log

math:log10

math:pow

math:sqrt

math:sin

math:cos

math:tan

math:asin

math:acos

math:atan

math:atan2

8) Component extraction functions on durations

fn:years-from-duration

fn:months-from-duration

fn:days-from-duration

fn:hours-from-duration

fn:minutes-from-duration

fn:seconds-from-duration

9) Constructing xs:dateTime value

fn:dateTime

10) Component extraction functions on dates and times

fn:year-from-dateTime

fn:month-from-dateTime

fn:day-from-dateTime

fn:hours-from-dateTime

fn:minutes-from-dateTime

fn:seconds-from-dateTime

fn:timezone-from-dateTime

fn:year-from-date

fn:month-from-date

fn:day-from-date

fn:timezone-from-date

fn:hours-from-time

fn:minutes-from-time

fn:seconds-from-time

fn:timezone-from-time

11) Built-in higher-order functions

fn:for-each

fn:filter

fn:fold-left

fn:fold-right

fn:for-each-pair

fn:sort (with support for collation argument)

fn:apply

12) Functions on sequences

12.1 General functions on sequences

fn:empty

fn:exists

fn:head

fn:tail

fn:insert-before

fn:remove

fn:reverse

fn:subsequence

fn:unordered

12.2 Aggregate functions

fn:avg

fn:max

fn:min

13) Parsing and serializing

fn:parse-xml

fn:parse-xml-fragment

14) Accessors

fn:node-name

fn:string

fn:data

fn:base-uri

fn:document-uri

15) Functions related to QNames

fn:resolve-QName

fn:QName

16) Functions related to maps

map:merge

map:size

map:keys

map:contains

map:get

map:find

map:put

map:entry

map:remove

map:for-each

17) Functions related to arrays

array:size

array:get

array:put

array:append

array:subarray

array:remove

array:insert-before

array:head

array:tail

array:reverse

array:join

array:for-each

array:filter

array:fold-left

array:fold-right

array:for-each-pair

array:sort (with support for collation argument)

array:flatten

18) Functions on JSON data

fn:parse-json

fn:json-doc

fn:json-to-xml

fn:xml-to-json

**Other than the above mentioned newly implemented XPath 3.1 functions, all the functions that are specified for XPath 1.0 are available with Xalan-J’s XPath 3.1 implementation as well.**

Please refer to the link <https://www.w3.org/TR/1999/REC-xpath-19991116/> (section “4 Core Function Library”) for the details about XPath 1.0 functions.

**(2) Xalan-J XSLT 3.0 and XPath 3.1 test suite**

Xalan-J’s XSLT 3.0 and XPath 3.1 test suite is available at the location : <https://github.com/apache/xalan-java/tree/xalan-j_xslt3.0_mvn/src/test> and the results of these XSL tests are available at : [https://xalan.apache.org/xalan-j/xsl3/tests/AllXsl3Tests\_20250304-143623.xml.](https://xalan.apache.org/xalan-j/xsl3/tests/AllXsl3Tests_20250304-143623.xml.%20)

Apache Xalan-J site

<https://xalan.apache.org/xalan-j/>

Copyright © 1999-2025 The Apache Software Foundation