



# Lab Session 1

## XML & JSON



Davide Tessarolo

University of Trento  
Service Design and Engineering (2019-20)

***Team Rocket***

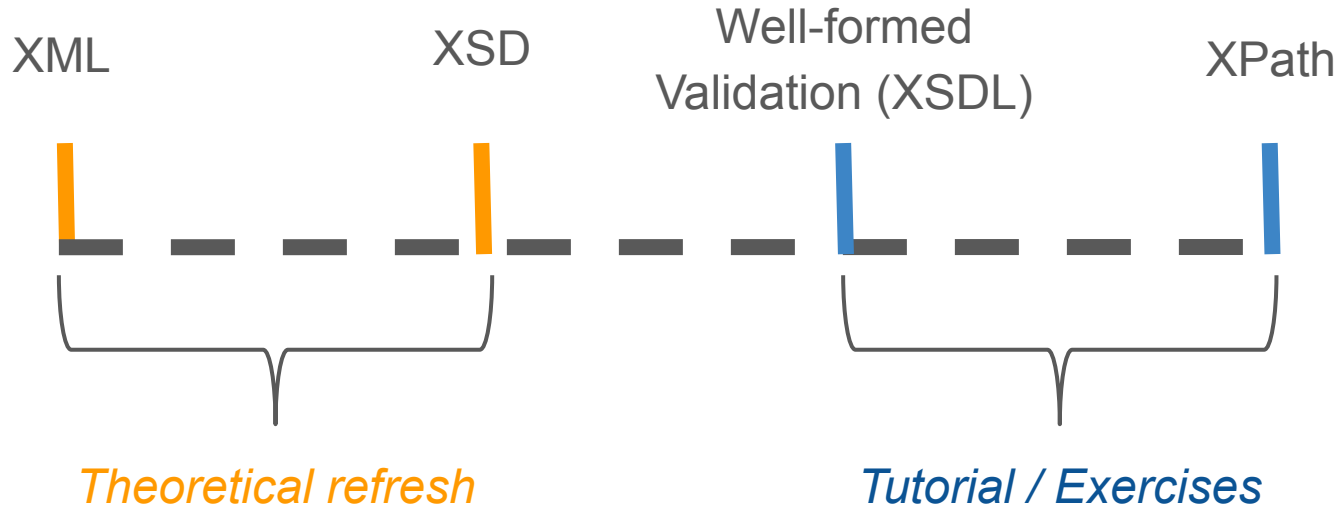
Devis Dal Moro



Mouslim Fatnassi



# Summary for XML



# XML - eXtensible Markup Language

Standard data  
representation and data  
**exchange** format

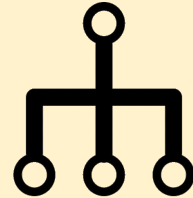
Framework to define  
markup languages  
(**meta-language**)

**Tree-like** structure

*Platform  
independent*

*(UTF-8 compliant)*

*e.g.  
XML for  
Pokémon  
data to store  
them in your  
Pokédex*



# XML - Basic concepts

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="no" ?>
```

```
<!--THIS IS OUR POKEDEX-->
```

```
<Team>
```

```
  <Pokemon nickname="GreenRipper">
```

```
    <species>BULBASAUR</species>
```

```
    <dex>4</dex>
```

```
    <types>
```

```
      <type>GRASS</type>
```

```
      <type>POISON</type>
```

```
    </types>
```

```
    <experience>64</experience>
```

```
    <moves>
```

```
      <attack>
```

```
        <name>RAZOR LEAF</name>
```

```
        <type>GRASS</type>
```

```
        <power>55</power>
```

```
      </attack>
```

```
      <effect>
```

```
        <name>SLEEP POWDER</name>
```

```
        <type>GRASS</type>
```

```
      </effect>
```

```
    </moves>
```

```
  </Pokemon>
```

```
</Team>
```

- Element node  
(logical grouping of contents)

- Text node (actual content)

- Attribute node (name value pairs)

- Comment node

- Processing instruction



# XML - Properties



## Well Formed

Single root node

Appropriate tag nesting

`<a> <../> </a>`

No repetition in attributes per element

## Validated

**compliance**

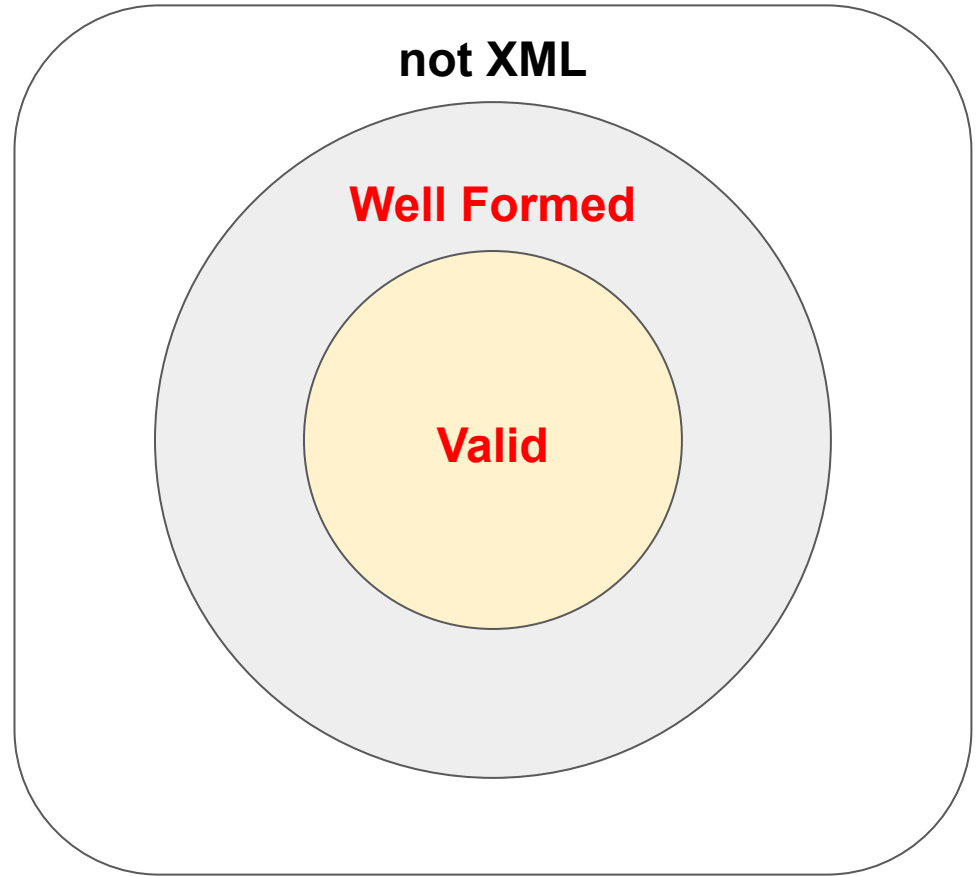
with an DTD/XSD (when defined)



# XML - Properties

*An XML document **MUST**  
be well formed*

*If it's **NOT** well formed,  
it can't be valid either...*



# XML Schema Definition (XSD)

XML file with a specific grammar to define new XML-based languages and validate its instances

## Data types:

by using simple (e.g. string, integer,..) and defining complex (e.g. PokemonType, Move) data types, we can build the **elements** (with their **attributes**) of the XML-based language we're describing

## Constraints:

declarative rules for data types and elements (e.g. min/max values and/or occurrences like “a *Pokémon element must have 1 or two PokémonType assigned to it*”)

## Relationships:

express associations between elements (e.g. “a *Pokémon has multiple moves and these could be attacks, effects, ..*”)



# XSD - Example

- Using the [standard xsd schema](#)
- Defining [new complex type](#)  
(elements in xml instances of this XML-based lang.)
- using **XSD base types**  
(string, decimal, integer, boolean, date, time)
- [Indicators](#)  
(all, choice, sequence)
- [Possible attributes for a Pokémon](#)  
(use="required" if mandatory)

```
<xsd:schema xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema">
  <xsd:element name="Pokemon">
    <xsd:complexType>
      <xsd:all>
        <xsd:element name="species" type="xsd:string"/>

        <xsd:element name="types">
          <xsd:complexType>
            <xsd:sequence>
              <xsd:element name="type" type="xsd:string"
                minOccurs="1" maxOccurs="2"/>
            </xsd:sequence>
          </xsd:complexType>
        </xsd:element>

        <xsd:element name="dex" type="xsd:string"/>

        <xsd:element name="experience">
          <xsd:simpleType>
            <xsd:restriction base="xsd:integer">
              <xsd:minInclusive value="0"/>
              <xsd:maxInclusive value="100"/>
            </xsd:restriction>
          </xsd:simpleType>
        </xsd:element>
      </xsd:all>
      <xsd:attribute name="nickname" type="xsd:string"/>
    </xsd:complexType>
  </xsd:element>
</xsd:schema>
```







In order to avoid confusion,  
we need to see some examples..





QUIZ TIME!



# Is it well formed?

1

```
<Pokemon nickname="GreenRipper" species="BULBASAUR" dex="1">  
  <types type="GRASS" type="POISON"></types>  
</Pokemon>
```

2

```
<Team>  
  <Pokemon>  
    <species name="BULBASAUR" dex="1" />  
    <type>GRASS</type>  
    <experience>64</experience>  
    <moves>  
      <attack>  
        <name>RAZOR LEAF</name>  
        <type>GRASS</type>  
        <power>55</power>  
      </attack>  
      <effect />  
    </moves>  
  </pokemon>  
</Team>
```



# Is it well formed?

1

```
<Pokemon nickname="GreenRipper" species="BULBASAUR" dex="1">
  <types type="GRASS" type="POISON"></types>
</Pokemon>
```



Duplicated attribute **type**  
in tag **types**

2

```
<Team>
  <Pokemon>
    <species name="BULBASAUR" dex="1" />
    <type>GRASS</type>
    <experience>64</experience>
    <moves>
      <attack>
        <name>RAZOR LEAF</name>
        <type>GRASS</type>
        <power>55</power>
      </attack>
      <effect />
    </moves>
  </pokemon>
</Team>
```



**<Pokemon>** is not  
closed  
(XML is case sensitive)



# Is it well formed?

3

```
<T3am>
  <Poké-mon>
    BULBASAUR
  </Poké-mon>
</T3am>
```

4

```
<Team>
  <Pokémon>
    <!-- BULBASAUR DATA -->
  </Pokémon>
  <Pokémon>
    <!-- PIKACHU DATA -->
  </Pokémon>
</Team>
```

```
<Team>
  <Pokémon>
    <!-- CHARMANDER DATA -->
  </Pokémon>
  <Pokémon>
    <!-- SQUIRTLE DATA -->
  </Pokémon>
</Team>
```

5

```
<team>
  <pokemon>
    <bulbasaur>
  </pokemon>
  <bulbasaur>
</team>
```



# Is it well formed?

3

```
<T3am>
  <Poké-mon>
    BULBASAUR
  </Poké-mon>
</T3am>
```



Tag's name must  
start with a  
character, can  
contain any kind of  
letter, digit or  
hyphens  
(avoid special chars)

4

```
<Team>
  <Pokémon>
    <!-- BULBASAUR DATA -->
  </Pokémon>
  <Pokémon>
    <!-- PIKACHU DATA -->
  </Pokémon>
</Team>
```

```
<Team>
  <Pokémon>
    <!-- CHARMANDER DATA -->
  </Pokémon>
  <Pokémon>
    <!-- SQUIRTLE DATA -->
  </Pokémon>
</Team>
```



Multiple root  
elements?

5

```
<team>
  <pokemon>
    <bulbasaur>
  </pokemon>
  <bulbasaur>
</team>
```



This is **NOT** proper  
nesting



# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<effect xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <id>5</id>
  <type>NORMAL</type>
  <name>CONFUSION</name>
</effect>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="effect" type="pkm:effect" />

<!--Pokémon effect attack-->
<xsd:complexType name="effect">
  <xsd:sequence>
    <!--Id of the effect-->
    <xsd:element name="id" type="xsd:string"/>

    <!--Name of the effect-->
    <xsd:element name="name" type="xsd:string"/>

    <!--Type of the effect (e.g. WATER, ELECTRIC,...)-->
    <xsd:element name="type" type="xsd:string"/>
  </xsd:sequence>
</xsd:complexType>
```



# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<effect xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <id>5</id>
  <type>NORMAL</type>
  <name>CONFUSION</name>
</effect>
```



<id /><name/><type/>  
is the correct sequence

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="effect" type="pkm:effect" />

<!--Pokémon effect attack-->
<xsd:complexType name="effect">
  <xsd:sequence>
    <!--Id of the effect-->
    <xsd:element name="id" type="xsd:string"/>

    <!--Name of the effect-->
    <xsd:element name="name" type="xsd:string"/>

    <!--Type of the effect (e.g. WATER, ELECTRIC,...)-->
    <xsd:element name="type" type="xsd:string"/>
  </xsd:sequence>
</xsd:complexType>
```





# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<gender xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <female>1</female>
  <female>1</female>
</gender>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="gender" type="pkm:gender" />

<!--Pokémon gender-->
<xsd:complexType name="gender">
  <xsd:choice>
    <xsd:element name="male" type="xsd:boolean" minOccurs="1"/>
    <xsd:element name="female" type="xsd:boolean" minOccurs="2"/>
  </xsd:choice>
</xsd:complexType>
```



# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<gender xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <female>1</female>
  <female>1</female>
</gender>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="gender" type="pkm:gender" />

<!--Pokémon gender-->
<xsd:complexType name="gender">
  <xsd:choice>
    <xsd:element name="male" type="xsd:boolean" minOccurs="1"/>
    <xsd:element name="female" type="xsd:boolean" minOccurs="2"/>
  </xsd:choice>
</xsd:complexType>
```



Invalid XSD schema:  
xsd:choice cannot  
accept minOccurs value  
greater than 1, since  
xsd:choice implies by  
default a CHOICE...



# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<gender xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <male>1</male>
  <male>false</male>
</gender>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="gender" type="pkm:gender" />

<!--Pokémon gender-->
<xsd:complexType name="gender">
  <xsd:choice minOccurs="0">
    <xsd:element name="male" type="xsd:boolean" maxOccurs="2"/>
    <xsd:element name="female" type="xsd:boolean" maxOccurs="2"/>
  </xsd:choice>
</xsd:complexType>
```



# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<gender xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <male>1</male>
  <male>false</male>
</gender>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="gender" type="pkm:gender" />

<!--Pokémon gender-->
<xsd:complexType name="gender">
  <xsd:choice minOccurs="0">
    <xsd:element name="male" type="xsd:boolean" maxOccurs="2"/>
    <xsd:element name="female" type="xsd:boolean" maxOccurs="2"/>
  </xsd:choice>
</xsd:complexType>
```



Important thing while using XSD is to choose just one child element, while respecting the maxOccurs constraint (by default 1)



# Is it valid?

You can also set minOccurs of xsd:choice to 0 and accept gender element with no child

## XSD

## XML

```
<gender xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <male>1</male>
  <male>false</male>
</gender>
```

```
<xsd:element name="gender" type="pkm:gender" />

<!--Pokémon gender-->
<xsd:complexType name="gender">
  <xsd:choice minOccurs="0">
    <xsd:element name="male" type="xsd:boolean" maxOccurs="2"/>
    <xsd:element name="female" type="xsd:boolean" maxOccurs="2"/>
  </xsd:choice>
</xsd:complexType>
```



Important thing while using XSD is to choose just one child element, while respecting the maxOccurs constraint (by default 1)



# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<trainer xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <name>ASH</name>
  <exp>1</exp>
  <accessories>
    <pokeball>MEGABALL</pokeball>
    <tool>RADAR</tool>
    <pokeball>ULTRABALL</pokeball>
  </accessories>
</trainer>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="trainer">
  <xsd:complexType>
    <xsd:all>
      <xsd:element name="name" type="xsd:string"/>
      <xsd:element name="exp" type="xsd:integer"/>
      <xsd:element name="accessories">
        <xsd:complexType>
          <xsd:choice minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="3">
            <xsd:element name="pokeball" type="xsd:string" />
            <xsd:element name="tool" type="xsd:string" />
          </xsd:choice>
        </xsd:complexType>
      </xsd:element>
    </xsd:all>
  </xsd:complexType>
</xsd:element>
```



# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<trainer xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <name>ASH</name>
  <exp>1</exp>
  <accessories>
    <pokeball>MEGABALL</pokeball>
    <tool>RADAR</tool>
    <pokeball>ULTRABALL</pokeball>
  </accessories>
</trainer>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="trainer">
  <xsd:complexType>
    <xsd:all>
      <xsd:element name="name" type="xsd:string"/>
      <xsd:element name="exp" type="xsd:integer"/>
      <xsd:element name="accessories">
        <xsd:complexType>
          <xsd:choice minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="3">
            <xsd:element name="pokeball" type="xsd:string" />
            <xsd:element name="tool" type="xsd:string" />
          </xsd:choice>
        </xsd:complexType>
      </xsd:element>
    </xsd:all>
  </xsd:complexType>
</xsd:element>
```



xsd:choice by default has  
maxOccurs set to 1, but you  
can modify it!



# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<trainer xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <name>ASH</name>
  <exp>1</exp>
  <accessories></accessories>
</trainer>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="trainer">
  <xsd:complexType>
    <xsd:all>
      <xsd:element name="name" type="xsd:string"/>
      <xsd:element name="exp" type="xsd:integer"/>
      <xsd:element name="accessories">
        <xsd:complexType>
          <xsd:choice minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="2">
            <xsd:element name="pokeball" type="xsd:string" />
            <xsd:element name="tool" type="xsd:string" minOccurs="1" />
          </xsd:choice>
        </xsd:complexType>
      </xsd:element>
    </xsd:all>
  </xsd:complexType>
</xsd:element>
```





# Is it valid?

## XML

```
<trainer xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns="pokemonNamespace"
xsi:schemaLocation="pokemonNamespace pokemon.xsd">
  <name>ASH</name>
  <exp>1</exp>
  <accessories></accessories>
</trainer>
```

## XSD

```
<xsd:element name="trainer">
  <xsd:complexType>
    <xsd:all>
      <xsd:element name="name" type="xsd:string"/>
      <xsd:element name="exp" type="xsd:integer"/>
      <xsd:element name="accessories">
        <xsd:complexType>
          <xsd:choice minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="2">
            <xsd:element name="pokeball" type="xsd:string" />
            <xsd:element name="tool" type="xsd:string" minOccurs="1" />
          </xsd:choice>
        </xsd:complexType>
      </xsd:element>
    </xsd:all>
  </xsd:complexType>
</xsd:element>
```



The minOccurs="0" has a stronger significance than the one (minOccurs="1") we put on tool



# XML: is it well formed ? / is it valid?

*Go into the folder Documents/json-xml-SDElab/xml/.*

*The data of your team is going to be in the file xmlInstances/myTeam.xml while the xsd definition is in xsdDefinitions/pokemonTeam.xsd.*

*In order to call the validation script, you should open a terminal, move to the folder mentioned above and write:* `node validate.js xmlInstances/myTeam.xml xsdDefinitions/pokemonTeam.xsd`



# XPath

Addressing  
elements and  
attributes of an  
XML document

“Path-like” syntax  
to navigate  
through the  
“XML tree”

Select from  
the current  
node

Filter by  
attribute

**`/tagname [@Attribute='Value' ]`**

Name of  
targeted  
tag

**Location Path**



# XPath - Syntax

location path

`/child::Team/child::Pokemon[species='BULBASAUR']`

location step

Axis

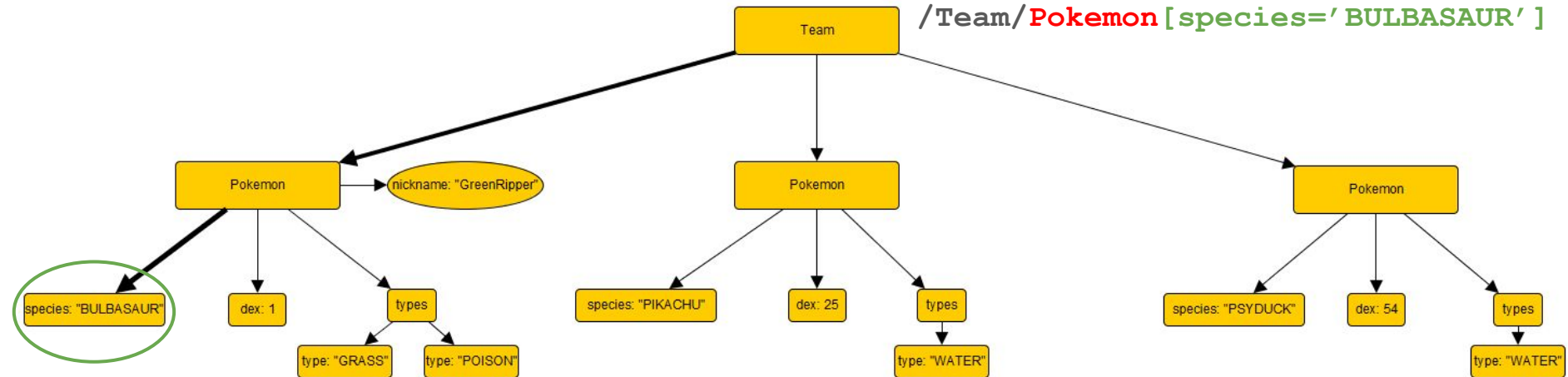
Node test

Predicate

**Note:** there is also an abbreviated syntax: e.g. `/Team/Pokemon[species='BULBASAUR']`



# XPath - Tree navigation



```
Element='<Pokemon xmlns="pokemonNamespace" nickname="GreenRipper">
  <species>BULBASAUR</species>
  <dex>1</dex>
  <types>
    <type>GRASS</type>
    <type>POISON</type>
  </types>
</Pokemon> '
```



# XPath

```
/Team/Pokemon[@nickname='GreenRipper']
```

# SQL

```
SELECT *  
FROM Pokemon P  
WHERE nickname = "GreenRipper" AND  
      P.team IN (SELECT id  
                  FROM Team T  
                  WHERE T.id = P.team)
```

Extracts all the pokemons that have GreenRipper as a nickname



# XPath - Examples

`/Team/Pokemon`

Selects the Pokemons, which in the XML are **children** elements of the **root** **element Team**

`//moves/attack`

Selects the attacks, which in the XML are **children** elements of the **root or other deeper descendents** that in this case are **elements of type “moves”**

`//moves/attack[last()]`

Works just like above, then selects the **last attack** of each pokemon

`//Pokemon[@nickname='TopoGigio']`

Selects the Pokemons, which in the XML are **children** elements of the **root or other deeper descendents** **that has the nickname “TopoGigio”**





QUIZ TIME!





# XPath - Quiz

**`/Team/Pokemon[dex>=2]`**



# XPath - Quiz

`/Team/Pokemon[dex>=2]`

Selects the Pokemons, which in the XML are **children** elements of the **root element Team**, that have a **dex level higher or equal to 2**



# XPath - Quiz

```
//moves/attack/*[last()]
```



# XPath - Quiz

```
//moves/attack/*[last()]
```

Selects the attacks, which in the XML are **children** elements of the **root or other deeper descendants** that in this case are **elements of type “moves”**, then selects the **last children element of every attack** element picked up (in this case they are the <power> elements, since every attack is characterized by name, type and a power coefficient)



# XPath - Exercises

Go into the folder `Documents/json-xml-SDElab/xml/`. The data of your team is going to be in the file `xmlInstances/myTeam.xml`  
In order to call an XPath query on it, you should open a terminal, move to the folder mentioned above and write:

```
node xPath.js xmlInstances/myTeam.xml "query"
```

**Note: YOU MUST USE APPROPRIATE NAMESPACE(s): e.g. `//pkm:moves`**

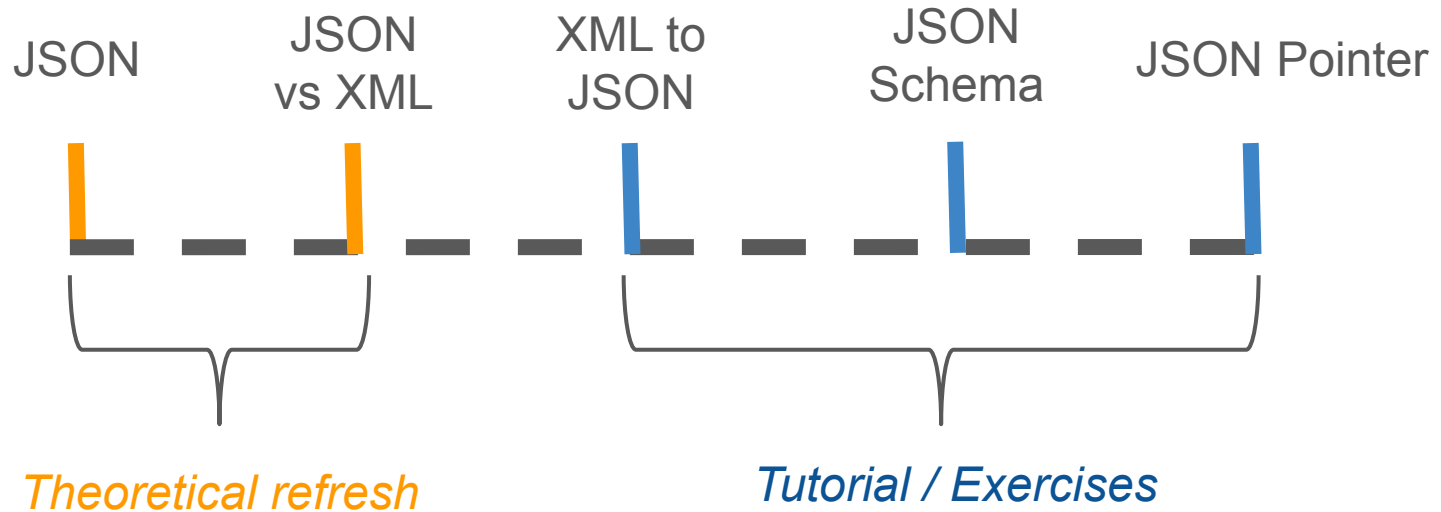
1. Find all the pokemons in your team that have an experience level lower than 50
2. Find all the bulbasaur pokemons that have an attack with a power level higher than 40
3. Find the last pokemon in your team with sleep powder as an effect listed in the moves



# XPath - Solutions

1. `/Team/Pokemon[experience < 50] or //Pokemon[experience < 50]`
2. `/Team/Pokemon[species='BULBASAUR']/moves/attack[power > 40]/parent::* /parent::*`
3. `/Team/Pokemon/moves/effect[name='SLEEP POWDER']/ancestor::Pokemon[last()]`

# Summary for JSON



# JSON - JavaScript Object Notation<sup>1</sup>

Standard data  
representation and data  
**exchange** format

**Easily** generated and  
**readable** for both  
humans and machines

Data type defined in  
forms of **array**, **maps**  
(key value pairs) or both

*Platform  
independent*

*(UTF-8 compliant)*

*Uses conventions  
present in other  
programming  
languages*

*Starting from  
primitive types  
(e.g. number, string,  
boolean)*

---

1: Related/close to a JS object, but not completely the same (e.g. quotes, function type in js)





# JSON - Basic concepts

```
{
  "Team": [
    {
      "@nickname": "GreenRipper",
      "species": "BULBASAUR",
      "dex": "4",
      "types": [
        "GRASS",
        "POISON"
      ],
      "experience": "64",
      "moves": [
        {
          "name": "RAZOR LEAF",
          "type": "GRASS",
          "power": "55"
        },
        {
          "name": "SLEEP POWDER",
          "type": "GRASS"
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

- **Property Name**

(always between double quotes)

- **Property Value**

(could be a number, a string, a boolean, an object or an array)

- **Array**

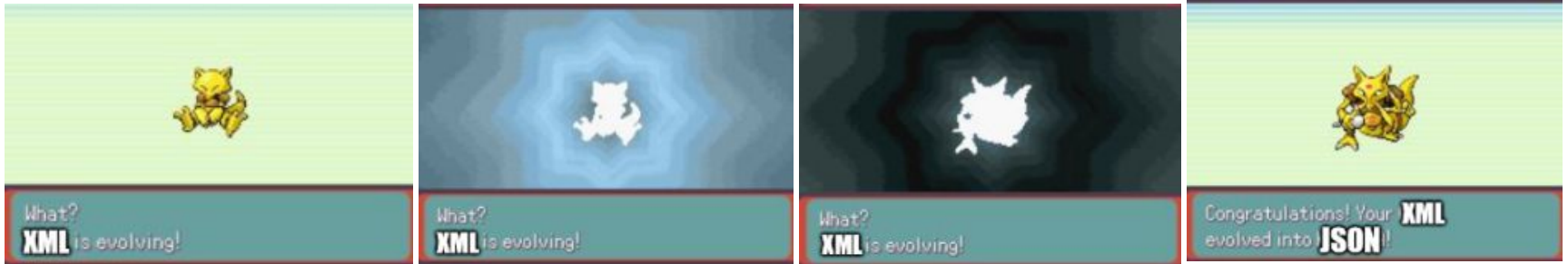
(a list composed of all sort of elements: primitive or composite)

- **Object**

(map of “key”:value properties)



# Is JSON better than XML?



*every evolution comes with its pros & cons...*



# { JSON }

Simple syntax (less verbose)

Easiness to use: time saving

Faster to transmit



# <XML />

Established validation techniques  
(standard)

Strictness: more suitable to  
safety critical use cases

There are  
**MORE STANDARDS**

serialization/deserialization  
faster in ...  
(depends)



# From XML to JSON

Can be done in both ways using, for example, the **xml2json** library in js:

- Easy to use (just call the function)
- Customizable
- Conversion is lossy

```
parser.toJson(xml, options);
```

```
parser.toXml(json);
```

**Good results are not always guaranteed!**



# From XML to JSON

```
<Pokemon nickname="GreenRipper">
  <species>BULBASAUR</species>
  <dex>1</dex>
  <types>
    <type>GRASS</type>
    <type>POISON</type>
  </types>
</Pokemon>
```

Parser.toJson()

```
{
  "Pokemon": {
    "nickname": "GreenRipper",
    "species": "BULBASAUR",
    "dex": 1,
    "types": [
      "GRASS",
      "POISON"
    ]
  }
}
```

Could be useful, but be aware you're going to **lose some information**  
(e.g. XML attributes vs XML simple elements)



# From JSON to XML

```
{  
  "Pokemon": {  
    "nickname": "GreenRipper",  
    "species": "BULBASAUR",  
    "dex": 1,  
    "types": [  
      "GRASS",  
      "POISON"  
    ]  
  }  
}
```

Parser.toXml()

```
<Pokemon  
  |  
  |  
</Pokemon>    nickname="GreenRipper"  
                species="BULBASAUR" dex="1"  
                types="GRASS" types="POISON">
```

Every time there is an array of simple elements in JSON,  
the converted XML will be **NOT WELL-FORMED!**



JSON ↔ XML

{ JSON }

There aren't any arrays



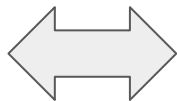
When can I make  
“safe” conversions?

<XML />

Leaf elements have just  
attributes and no content



# JSON



# XML (don't abuse!)

"Bulbasaur.xml"

```
<Pokemon nickname="GreenRipper">
  <species>BULBASAUR</species>
  <dex>1</dex>
  <types>
    <type>GRASS</type>
    <type>POISON</type>
  </types>
</Pokemon>
```

Parser.toJson();  
Parser.toXml();

```
<Pokemon nickname="GreenRipper" species="BULBASAUR" dex="1">
  <types type="GRASS" type="POISON"></types>
</Pokemon>
```

XML not Well Formed!

"Bulbasaur.json"

```
{
  "Pokemon": {
    "nickname": "GreenRipper",
    "species": "BULBASAUR",
    "dex": 1,
    "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"]
  }
}
```

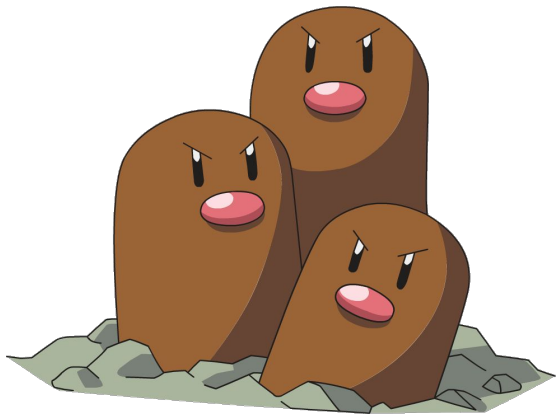
Parser.toXml();  
Parser.toJson();

Error while parsing XML!  
Duplicated attribute "types"

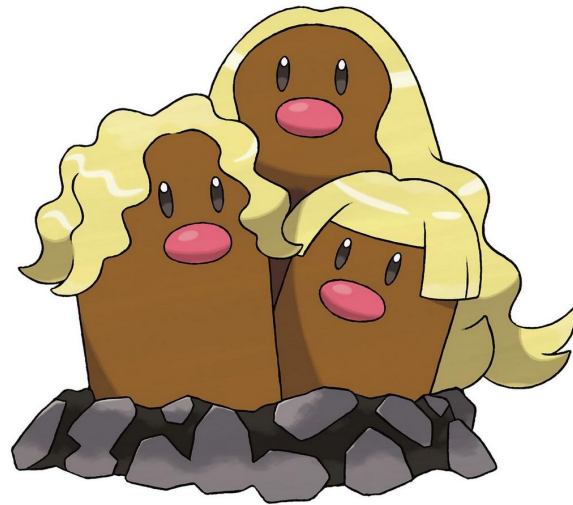




JSON ↔ XML (don't abuse!)



*A few conversions  
later...*



# JSON - XML converter

*Go into the folder Documents/json-xml-SDElab/json2xmlExamples/.*

*In order to call the converter script, you should open a terminal, move to the folder mentioned above and write:*

```
node xml2json.js <xmlInstance.xml>
```

(from xml to json)

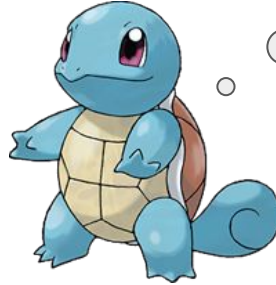
```
node json2xml.js <jsonInstance.json>
```

(from json to xml)



# JSON - Properties

Checking for  
appropriate nesting



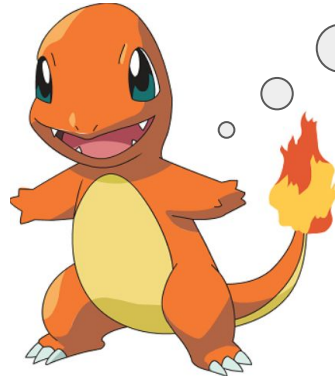
In js, I can just call  
`JSON.parse()`

**WELL-FORMED**



# JSON - Properties

There are methods  
to do it, but **NO**  
actual **STANDARDS**



We can use  
JSON schema

**VALIDATION**



# JSON Schema

Provides a huge variety  
of **constraints**

Makes **combining  
schemas simpler**,  
implying smaller level of  
effort

Some **options** from  
XSD are **missing**

*dependencies,  
max/minItems,  
requires, ...*

*anyOf,  
allOf,  
oneOf*

*Doesn't  
provide  
sequence  
check*



# JSON Schema

- **Constraints**

(# of items, required fields, additional properties,...)

- **Schema declaration**

(draft version of JSON schema)

- **Reference to the definition**

(modularity and reusability)

- **Basic types**

(integer, number, boolean, string, object, array)

```
{
  "$id": "pokemonTeamJSONSchema",
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
  "description": "A representation of a pokemon team",
  "type": "array",
  "items": { "$ref": "#/definitions/Pokemon" },
  "maxItems": 6,

  "definitions": {
    "Pokemon": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "@nickname": { "type": "string" },
        //other properties[...]
        "experience": { "type": "integer", "minimum": 1, "maximum": 100 },
        "moves": {
          "type": "array",
          "items": [
            { "$ref": "#/definitions/attack" },
            { "$ref": "#/definitions/effect" }
          ],
          "minItems": 0, "maxItems": 4
        }
      },
      // other definitions[...]
      "required": ["experience", "moves", // other required properties*/]
    }
  }
}
```



Again...



we need to see some examples





QUIZ TIME!





# Is it well formed?

1

```
{
  "Team":
  [
    {
      "nickname": 'GreenRipper',
      "species": 'BULBASAUR',
      "dex": 1,
      "types": ['GRASS', 'POISON'],
      "experience": 64,
      "moves":
      [
        {
          "name": 'RAZOR LEAF',
          "type": 'GRASS',
          "power": 55
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```



# Is it well formed?

1

```
{
  "Team":
  [
    {
      "nickname": 'GreenRipper',
      "species": 'BULBASAUR',
      "dex": 1,
      "types": ['GRASS', 'POISON'],
      "experience": 64,
      "moves":
      [
        {
          "name": 'RAZOR LEAF',
          "type": 'GRASS',
          "power": 55
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```



JSON forbids the use of single-quotes for strings.



# Is it well formed?

2

```
{
  "Team":
  {
    {
      "nickname": "GreenRipper",
      "species": "BULBASAUR",
      "dex": 1,
      "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"],
      "experience": 64,
      "moves":
      [
        {
          "name": "RAZOR LEAF",
          "type": "GRASS",
          "power": 55
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```



# Is it well formed?

2

```
{
  "Team":
  {
    {
      "nickname": "GreenRipper",
      "species": "BULBASAUR",
      "dex": 1,
      "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"],
      "experience": 64,
      "moves":
      [
        {
          "name": "RAZOR LEAF",
          "type": "GRASS",
          "power": 55
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```



A JSON object is a map containing key value pairs; here "Team" is an object with another object nested inside of it (this is a just value with no key)



# Is it valid?

## JSON

```
{  
  "nickname": "Bulby",  
  "species": "BULBASAUR",  
  "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"],  
  "dex": 5  
}
```

## SCHEMA

```
{  
  "$id": "pokemonJSONSchema",  
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",  
  "type": "object",  
  "properties": {  
    "nickname": {"type": "string"},  
    "species": {"type": "string"},  
    "types": {  
      "type": "array",  
      "items": {"type": "string"},  
      "minItems": 1, "maxItems": 2  
    }  
  },  
  "required": ["nickname", "species", "types"],  
  "dependencies": {},  
  "definitions": {}  
}
```



# Is it valid?

## JSON

```
{
  "nickname": "Bulby",
  "species": "BULBASAUR",
  "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"],
  "dex": 5
}
```



By default JSON Schema allows for additional properties. In order to avoid this "additionalProperties": **false** can be used

## SCHEMA

```
{
  "$id": "pokemonJSONSchema",
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
  "type": "object",
  "properties": {
    "nickname": {"type": "string"},
    "species": {"type": "string"},
    "types": {
      "type": "array",
      "items": {"type": "string"},
      "minItems": 1, "maxItems": 2
    }
  },
  "required": ["nickname", "species", "types"],
  "dependencies": {},
  "definitions": {}
}
```



# Is it valid?

## JSON

```
[
  {
    "nickname": "GreenRipper",
    "species": "BULBASAUR",
    "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"]
  }
]
```

## SCHEMA

```
{
  "$id": "pokemonJSONSchema",
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",

  "Pokemon": {
    "type": "object",
    "properties": {
      "nickname": {"type": "string"},
      "species": {"type": "string"},
      "dex": {"type": "integer"},
      "types": {
        "type": "array",
        "items": {"type": "string"},
        "minItems": 1, "maxItems": 2
      }
    },
    "required": ["species", "dex", "types"]
  },
  "definitions": {}
}
```



# Is it valid?

## JSON

```
[
  {
    "nickname": "GreenRipper",
    "species": "BULBASAUR",
    "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"]
  }
]
```



This schema allows everything, because a “root” type for the schema to validate the instance against is not defined (missed property type)

## SCHEMA

```
{
  "$id": "pokemonJSONSchema",
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",

  "Pokemon": {
    "type": "object",
    "properties": {
      "nickname": { "type": "string" },
      "species": { "type": "string" },
      "dex": { "type": "integer" },
      "types": {
        "type": "array",
        "items": { "type": "string" },
        "minItems": 1, "maxItems": 2
      }
    },
    "required": ["species", "dex", "types"]
  },
  "definitions": {}
}
```





# Is it valid?

## JSON

```
{  
  "nickname": "GreenRipper",  
  "species": "BULBASAUR",  
  "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"],  
  "dex": 1,  
  "accessory": "Peculiar Spoon"  
}
```

## SCHEMA

```
{  
  "$id": "pokemonJSONSchema",  
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",  
  
  "type": "object",  
  "properties": {  
    "nickname": { "type": "string" },  
    "species": { "type": "string" },  
    "dex": { "type": "integer" },  
    "types": {  
      "type": "array",  
      "items": { "type": "string" },  
      "minItems": 1,  
      "maxItems": 2  
    }  
  },  
  "required": ["species", "dex", "types", "accessory"]  
}
```



# Is it valid?

## JSON

```
{
  "nickname": "GreenRipper",
  "species": "BULBASAUR",
  "types": ["GRASS", "POISON"],
  "dex": 1,
  "accessory": "Peculiar Spoon"
}
```



The schema requires an accessory, but doesn't define it. Thus, the accessory can be anything, it only needs to be included in the JSON.

## SCHEMA

```
{
  "$id": "pokemonJSONSchema",
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
  "type": "object",
  "properties": {
    "nickname": { "type": "string" },
    "species": { "type": "string" },
    "dex": { "type": "integer" },
    "types": {
      "type": "array",
      "items": { "type": "string" },
      "minItems": 1,
      "maxItems": 2
    }
  },
  "required": ["species", "dex", "types", "accessory"]
}
```



# JSON: is it well formed ? / is it valid?

*Go into the folder Documents/json-xml-SDElab/json/.*

*The data of your team is going to be in the file jsonInstances/myTeam.json while the json schema definition is in jsonDefinitions/pokemonTeam.json.*

*In order to call the validation script, you should open a terminal, move to the folder mentioned above and write:*

```
node validate.js jsonInstances/myTeam.json jsonDefinitions/pokemonTeam.json
```



# JSONata - Introduction

Query language  
for JSON

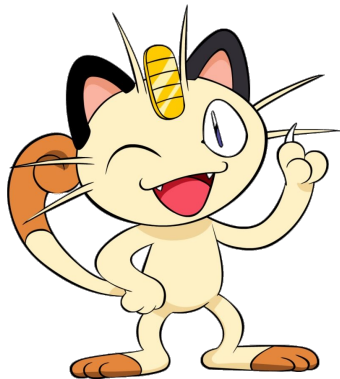
Similar to what  
XPath does for  
an XML  
document

Select from  
the current  
node

Filter by  
property  
value

**.property[property=value]**

Name of  
targeted  
property



# Why JSONata?

There are different libraries, with more “normal” names, like **JSON Pointer** or **JSONPath**.

You could think they work, well.. **DON'T use those libraries.**

They are terrible, like Bidoof.



# JSONata - Syntax

```
$.Team[species='BULBASAUR']
```

Root

Property

Expression

Simply extracting all the pokemons in the team which are of the BULBASAUR species



# JSONata - Examples

`$ .Team`

Selects the Pokemons, which in the JSON are elements of the array **Team** which is a child element of the **root**

`$ .** .moves`

Selects all the moves, which in the JSON are **children** elements of the **root** or other deeper descendents

`$ .Team[dex>4] .moves[-1]`

Selects the **last move** of **all the pokemons** that **have a dex level greater than 4**

`$ .Team[ 'GRASS' in types]`

Selects the Pokemons, which are elements of the array **Team** (which is a child element of the **root**), **that have 'GRASS' as an element of the array types**





QUIZ TIME!





# JSONata - Quiz

```
$ .Team[moves[type="GRASS"] [power<=110]]
```



# JSONata - Quiz

```
$ . Team [ moves [ type = "GRASS" ] [ power <= 110 ] ]
```

Selects **all the pokemons** that have at least **a move** of **type grass** and a **power level less than 110**



# JSONata - Quiz

`$ .Team.moves [-2]`



# JSONata - Quiz

`$ . Team . moves [-2]`

Selects the **penultimate** **move** of **each team's**  
**pokemon**



# JSONata - Exercises

*Go into the folder Documents/json-xml-SDElab/json/. The data of your team is going to be in the file myTeam.json*

*In order to call a JSONata query on it, you should open a terminal, move to the folder mentioned above and write:*

```
node jsonata.js jsonInstances/myTeam.json query
```



1. Find all the pokemons in your team that have an experience level lower than 50
2. Find all the bulbasaur pokemons that have a move with a power level higher than 40
3. Find the last pokemon in your team with sleep powder listed in the moves



# JSONata - Solutions

1. `$.Team[experience<50]`
2. `$.Team[species='BULBASAUR'][moves[power>40]]`
3. `$.Team[moves[name="SLEEP POWDER"]][-1]`

# References

XML [<https://www.w3.org/XML/Core/#Publications>]

XSD [<https://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-1/>]

XPath [<https://www.w3.org/TR/2017/REC-xpath-31-20170321/>]

JSON [[https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global\\_Objects/JSON](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global_Objects/JSON)]

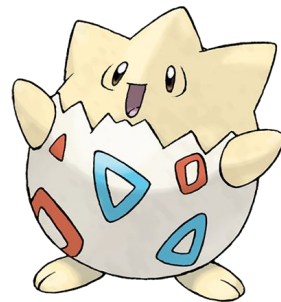
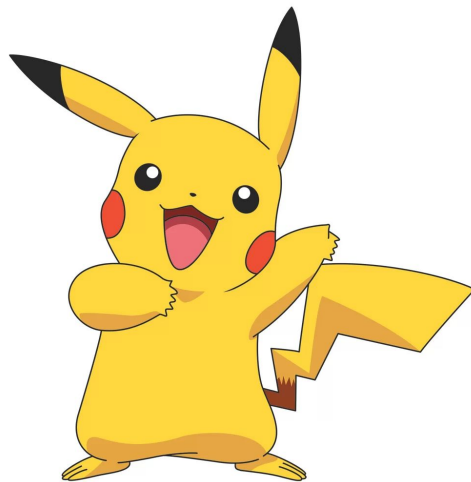
JSON Schema [<https://json-schema.org/understanding-json-schema/>]

JSONata [<http://docs.jsonata.org/overview>]

We hope our  
cheat sheets will  
be useful too!



# Thanks for your attention!



## Hope you've had fun

(well... if by any chance you've learnt something, it's not bad either)

