XML

Ejemplo XML

- ```
  <university>
          <department>
              <dept_name> Comp. Sci. </dept_name>
              <building> Taylor </building>
          </department>
          <course>
              <course_id> CS-101 </course_id>
              <title> Intro. to Computer Science </title>
              <dept_name> Comp. Sci </dept_name>
              <credits> 4 </credits>
          </course>
      </university>
  ```

Json vs. XML

```
{"menu": {
  "id": "file",
  "value": "File",
  "popup": {
    "menuitem": [
      {"value": "New", "onclick": "CreateNewDoc()"},
      {"value": "Open", "onclick": "OpenDoc()"},
      {"value": "Close", "onclick": "CloseDoc()"}
    ]
  }
}}
```

The same text expressed as XML:

```
<menu id="file" value="File">
  <popup>
    <menuitem value="New" onclick="CreateNewDoc()" />
    <menuitem value="Open" onclick="OpenDoc()" />
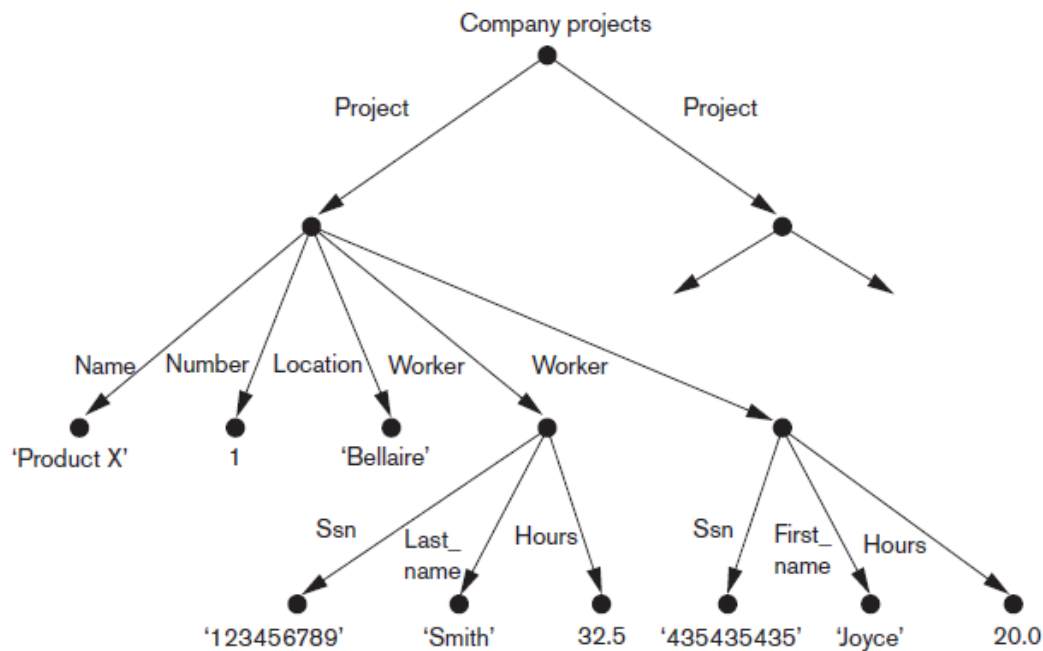    <menuitem value="Close" onclick="CloseDoc()" />
  </popup>
</menu>
```

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Structured, Semistructured, and Unstructured Data

- **Structured data**
    - Represented in a strict format
    - Example: information stored in databases

- **Semistructured data**
    - Has a certain structure
    - Not all information collected will have identical structure

Structured, Semistructured, and Unstructured Data (cont'd.)

- ▶ Schema information mixed in with data values
- ▶ **Self-describing data**
- ▶ May be displayed as a directed graph
    - • **Labels** or **tags** on directed edges represent:
        - • Schema names
        - • Names of attributes
        - • Object types (or entity types or classes)
        - • Relationships

Structured, Semistructured, and Unstructured Data (cont'd.)

Figure 12.1
Representing semistructured data as a graph.

Structured, Semistructured, and Unstructured Data (cont'd.)

- **Unstructured data**
  - Limited indication of the of data document that contains information embedded within it

- **HTML tag**
  - Text that appears between angled brackets: $< . . . >$

- **End tag**
  - Tag with a slash: $</ . . . >$

Introduction

- XML: Extensible Markup Language
- Defined by the WWW Consortium (W3C)
- Derived from SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language), but simpler to use than SGML
- Documents have tags giving extra information about sections of the document
  - E.g. <title> XML </title> <slide> Introduction ...</slide>
- **Extensible**, unlike HTML
  - Users can add new tags, and *separately* specify how the tag should be handled for display

XML Introduction (Cont.)

- The ability to specify new tags, and to create nested tag structures make XML a great way to exchange **data**, not just documents.
  - Much of the use of XML has been in data exchange applications, not as a replacement for HTML

- Tags make data (relatively) self-documenting
  - E.g.

```
<university>
    <department>
       <dept_name> Comp. Sci. </dept_name>
       <building> Taylor </building>
       <budget> 100000 </budget>
    </department>
    <course>
       <course_id> CS-101 </course_id>
       <title> Intro. to Computer Science </title>
       <dept_name> Comp. Sci </dept_name>
       <credits> 4 </credits>
    </course>
</university>
```

XML: Motivation

- Data interchange is critical in today's networked world
  - Examples:
    - Banking: funds transfer
    - Order processing (especially inter-company orders)
    - Scientific data
      - Chemistry: ChemML, …
      - Genetics: BSML (Bio-Sequence Markup Language), …
  - Paper flow of information between organizations is being replaced by electronic flow of information

- Each application area has its own set of standards for representing information

- XML has become the basis for all new generation data interchange formats

XML Motivation (Cont.)

▶ Earlier generation formats were based on plain text with line headers indicating the meaning of fields
  ▶ Similar in concept to email headers
  ▶ Does not allow for nested structures, no standard "type" language
  ▶ Tied too closely to low level document structure (lines, spaces, etc)

▶ Each XML based standard defines what are valid elements, using
  ▶ XML type specification languages to specify the syntax
    ▶ DTD (Document Type Descriptors)
    ▶ XML Schema
  ▶ Plus textual descriptions of the semantics

▶ XML allows new tags to be defined as required
  ▶ However, this may be constrained by DTDs

▶ A wide variety of tools is available for parsing, browsing and querying XML documents/data

Comparison with Relational Data

▶ Inefficient: tags, which in effect represent schema information, are repeated

▶ Better than relational tuples as a data-exchange format
  ▶ Unlike relational tuples, XML data is self-documenting due to presence of tags
  ▶ Non-rigid format: tags can be added
  ▶ Allows nested structures
  ▶ Wide acceptance, not only in database systems, but also in browsers, tools, and applications

XML Documents, DTD, and XML Schema

- **Well formed**
  - Has **XML declaration**
    - Indicates version of XML being used as well as any other relevant attributes
  - Every element must matching pair of start and end tags
    - Within start and end tags of parent element

- **DOM** (Document Object Model)
  - Manipulate resulting tree representation corresponding to a well-formed XML document

XML Documents, DTD, and XML Schema (cont'd.)

- **Valid**
  - Document must be well formed
  - Document must follow a particular schema
  - Start and end tag pairs must follow structure specified in separate XML **DTD (Document Type Definition)** file or XML schema file

Structure of XML Data

▶ **Tag**: label for a section of data

▶ **Element**: section of data beginning with *<tagname>* and ending with matching *</tagname>*

▶ Elements must be properly nested
  ▶ Proper nesting
    ▶ <course> … <title> …. </title> </course>
  ▶ Improper nesting
    ▶ <course> … <title> …. </course> </title>
  ▶ Formally: every start tag must have a unique matching end tag, that is in the context of the same parent element.

▶ Every document must have a single top-level element

Example of Nested Elements

```
<purchase_order>
    <identifier> P-101 </identifier>
    <purchaser>  …. </purchaser>
    <itemlist>
        <item>
            <identifier> RS1 </identifier>
            <description> Atom powered rocket sled </description>
            <quantity> 2 </quantity>
            <price> 199.95 </price>
        </item>
        <item>
            <identifier> SG2 </identifier>
            <description> Superb glue </description>
            <quantity> 1 </quantity>
            <unit-of-measure> liter </unit-of-measure>
            <price> 29.95 </price>
        </item>
    </itemlist>
</purchase_order>
```

Motivation for Nesting

- Nesting of data is useful in data transfer
  - Example: elements representing *item* nested within an *itemlist* element

- Nesting is not supported, or discouraged, in relational databases
  - With multiple orders, customer name and address are stored redundantly
  - normalization replaces nested structures in each order by foreign key into table storing customer name and address information
  - Nesting is supported in object-relational databases

- But nesting is appropriate when transferring data
  - External application does not have direct access to data referenced by a foreign key

Attributes

► Elements can have **attributes**

```
<course course_id= "CS-101">
      <title> Intro. to Computer Science</title>
      <dept name> Comp. Sci. </dept name>
      <credits> 4 </credits>
</course>
```

► Attributes are specified by *name=value* pairs inside the starting tag of an element

► An element may have several attributes, but each attribute name can only occur once

```
<course  course_id = "CS-101"  credits="4">
```

Namespaces

▶ XML data has to be exchanged between organizations

▶ Same tag name may have different meaning in different organizations, causing confusion on exchanged documents

▶ Specifying a unique string as an element name avoids confusion

▶ Better solution: use unique-name:element-name

▶ Avoid using long unique names all over document by using XML Namespaces

```
<university xmlns:yale="http://www.yale.edu">
    …
      <yale:course>
        <yale:course_id> CS-101 </yale:course_id>
        <yale:title> Intro. to Computer Science</yale:title>
        <yale:dept_name> Comp. Sci. </yale:dept_name>
        <yale:credits> 4 </yale:credits>
      </yale:course>
    …
</university>
```

XML Document Schema

- Database schemas constrain what information can be stored, and the data types of stored values

- XML documents are not required to have an associated schema

- However, schemas are very important for XML data exchange
  - Otherwise, a site cannot automatically interpret data received from another site

- Two mechanisms for specifying XML schema
  - **Document Type Definition (DTD)**
    - Loosing importance
  - **XML Schema**
    - Newer, increasing use

XML Schema

- XML Schema is a more sophisticated schema language .Supports
  - Typing of values
    - E.g. integer, string, etc
    - Also, constraints on min/max values
  - User-defined, complex types
  - Many more features, including
    - uniqueness and foreign key constraints, inheritance
- XML Schema is itself specified in XML syntax, unlike DTDs
  - More-standard representation, but verbose
- XML Scheme is integrated with namespaces
- BUT: XML Schema is significantly more complicated than DTDs.

More features of XML Schema

- Attributes specified by xs:attribute tag:
  - <xs:attribute name = "dept_name"/>
  - adding the attribute use = "required" means value must be specified

- Key constraint: "department names form a key for department elements under the root university element:

```
<xs:key name = "deptKey">
     <xs:selector xpath = "/university/department"/>
     <xs:field xpath = "dept_name"/>
<\xs:key>
```

- Foreign key constraint from course to department:

```
<xs:keyref name = "courseDeptFKey" refer="deptKey">
     <xs:selector xpath = "/university/course"/>
     <xs:field xpath = "dept_name"/>
<\xs:keyref>
```

Example: xs:element

```
<xs:element name = "NAME"
    type = "xs:string" />
```

▶ Describes elements such as

   <NAME>Joe's Bar</NAME>

Complex Types

▶ To describe elements that consist of subelements, we use xs:complexType.
   ▶ Attribute name gives a name to the type.

▶ Typical subelement of a complex type is xs:sequence, which itself has a sequence of xs:element subelements.
   ▶ Use minOccurs and maxOccurs attributes to control the number of occurrences of an xs:element.

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Example: a Type for Beers

```
<xs:complexType name = "beerType">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element name = "NAME"
    type = "xs:string"
    minOccurs = "1" maxOccurs = "1" />
    <xs:element name = "PRICE"
    type = "xs:float"
    minOccurs = "0" maxOccurs = "1" />
  </xs:sequence>
</xs:complexType>
```

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Example: a Type for Bars

```
<xs:complexType name = "barType">
   <xs:sequence>
      <xs:element name = "NAME"
      type = "xs:string"
      minOccurs = "1" maxOccurs = "1" />
      <xs:element name = "BEER"
      type = "beerType"
      minOccurs = "0" maxOccurs =  "unbounded" />
   </xs:sequence>
</xs:complexType>
```

xs:attribute

- xs:attribute elements can be used within a complex type to indicate attributes of elements of that type.

- attributes of xs:attribute:
  - name and type as for xs.element.
  - use = "required" or "optional".

Example: xs:attribute

```
<xs:complexType name = "beerType">
  <xs:attribute name = "name"
   type = "xs:string"
   use = "required" />
  <xs:attribute name = "price"
   type = "xs:float"
   use = "optional" />
</xs:complexType>
```

Restricted Simple Types

▶ xs:simpleType can describe enumerations and range-restricted base types.

▶ name is an attribute

▶ xs:restriction is a subelement.

Restrictions

▶ Attribute base gives the simple type to be restricted, e.g., xs:integer.

▶ xs:{min, max}{Inclusive, Exclusive} are four attributes that can give a lower or upper bound on a numerical range.

▶ xs:enumeration is a subelement with attribute value that allows enumerated types.

Example: license Attribute for BAR

```
<xs:simpleType name = "license">
   <xs:restriction base = "xs:string">
     <xs:enumeration value = "Full" />
     <xs:enumeration value = "Beer only" />
     <xs:enumeration value = "Sushi" />
   </xs:restriction>
</xs:simpleType>
```

Example: Prices in Range [1,5)

```
<xs:simpleType name = "price">
  <xs:restriction
   base = "xs:float"
   minInclusive = "1.00"
   maxExclusive = "5.00" />
</xs:simpleType>
```

Availables Constraints

Constraint	Description
enumeration	Defines a list of acceptable values
fractionDigits	Specifies the maximum number of decimal places allowed. Must be equal to or greater than zero
length	Specifies the exact number of characters or list items allowed. Must be equal to or greater than zero
maxExclusive	Specifies the upper bounds for numeric values (the value must be less than this value)
maxInclusive	Specifies the upper bounds for numeric values (the value must be less than or equal to this value)
maxLength	Specifies the maximum number of characters or list items allowed. Must be equal to or greater than zero
minExclusive	Specifies the lower bounds for numeric values (the value must be greater than this value)
minInclusive	Specifies the lower bounds for numeric values (the value must be greater than or equal to this value)
minLength	Specifies the minimum number of characters or list items allowed. Must be equal to or greater than zero
pattern	Defines the exact sequence of characters that are acceptable
totalDigits	Specifies the exact number of digits allowed. Must be greater than zero
whiteSpace	Specifies how white space (line feeds, tabs, spaces, and carriage returns) is handled

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Keys in XML Schema

▶ An xs:element can have an xs:key subelement.

▶ Meaning: within this element, all subelements reached by a certain *selector* path will have unique values for a certain combination of *fields*.

▶ Example: within one BAR element, the name attribute of a BEER element is unique.

Querying and Transforming XML Data

- Translation of information from one XML schema to another

- Querying on XML data

- Above two are closely related, and handled by the same tools

- Standard XML querying/translation languages
  - XPath
    - Simple language consisting of path expressions
  - XSLT
    - Simple language designed for translation from XML to XML and XML to HTML
  - XQuery
    - An XML query language with a rich set of features

Tree Model of XML Data

- Query and transformation languages are based on a **tree model** of XML data

- An XML document is modeled as a tree, with **nodes** corresponding to elements and attributes
  - Element nodes have child nodes, which can be attributes or subelements
  - Text in an element is modeled as a text node child of the element
  - Children of a node are ordered according to their order in the XML document
  - Element and attribute nodes (except for the root node) have a single parent, which is an element node
  - The root node has a single child, which is the root element of the document

Paths in XML Documents

- XPath is a language for describing paths in XML documents.

- The result of the described path is a sequence of items.

XPath

▶ XPath is used to address (select) parts of documents using **path expressions**

▶ A path expression is a sequence of steps separated by "/"
  ▶ Think of file names in a directory hierarchy

▶ Result of path expression: set of values that along with their containing elements/attributes match the specified path

▶ E.g.   /university-3/instructor/name   evaluated on the university-3 data we saw earlier returns
    <name>Srinivasan</name>
    <name>Brandt</name>

▶ E.g.   /university-3/instructor/name/text( )

   returns the same names, but without the enclosing tags

Path Expressions

- Simple path expressions are sequences of slashes (/) and tags, starting with /.
  - Example: /BARS/BAR/PRICE

- Construct the result by starting with just the doc node and processing each tag from the left.

Evaluating a Path Expression

- ▶ Assume the first tag is the root.
  - ▶ Processing the doc node by this tag results in a sequence consisting of only the root element.

- ▶ Suppose we have a sequence of items, and the next tag is *X*.
  - ▶ For each item that is an element node, replace the element by the subelements with tag *X*.

Example: /BARS

```
<BARS>
    <BAR name = "JoesBar">
     <PRICE theBeer = "Bud">2.50</PRICE>
     <PRICE theBeer = "Miller">3.00</PRICE>
    </BAR> ...
    <BEER name = "Bud" soldBy = "JoesBar
     SuesBar ... "/> ...
</BARS>
```

One item, the
BARS element

Example: /BARS/BAR

<BARS>

<BAR name = "JoesBar">

<PRICE theBeer ="Bud">2.50</PRICE>

<PRICE theBeer = "Miller">3.00</PRICE>

</BAR> ...

<BEER name = "Bud" soldBy = "JoesBar

SuesBar ..."/> ...

</BARS>

This BAR element followed by
all the other BAR elements

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Example: /BARS/BAR/PRICE

<BARS>

    <BAR name = "JoesBar">

      <PRICE theBeer ="Bud">2.50</PRICE>

      <PRICE theBeer = "Miller">3.00</PRICE>

      </BAR> …

    <BEER name = "Bud" soldBy = "JoesBar

      SuesBar …"/> …

</BARS>

These PRICE elements followed by the PRICE elements of all the other bars.

Attributes in Paths

- Instead of going to subelements with a given tag, you can go to an attribute of the elements you already have.

- An attribute is indicated by putting @ in front of its name.

Example: /BARS/BAR/PRICE/@theBeer

<BARS>

    <BAR name = "JoesBar">

     <PRICE theBeer = "Bud">2.50</PRICE>

     <PRICE theBeer = "Miller">3.00</PRICE>

    </BAR> …

    <BEER name = "Bud" soldBy = "JoesBar

     SuesBar …"/> …

</BARS>

These attributes contribute "Bud" "Miller" to the result, followed by other theBeer values.

Remember: Item Sequences

- Until now, all item sequences have been sequences of elements.

- When a path expression ends in an attribute, the result is typically a sequence of values of primitive type, such as strings in the previous example.

Paths that Begin Anywhere

▶ If the path starts from the document node and begins with *//X*, then the first step can begin at the root or any subelement of the root, as long as the tag is *X*.

Example: //PRICE

<BARS>

    <BAR name = "JoesBar">

    <PRICE theBeer ="Bud">2.50</PRICE>

    <PRICE theBeer = "Miller">3.00</PRICE>

    </BAR> ...

    <BEER name = "Bud" soldBy = "JoesBar

      SuesBar ..."/> ...

</BARS>

These PRICE elements and any other PRICE elements in the entire document

Wild-Card *

- A star (*) in place of a tag represents any one tag.
- Example: /*/*/PRICE represents all price objects at the third level of nesting.

Example: /BARS/*

This BAR element, all other BA
elements, the BEER element, a
other BEER elements

```
<BARS>
  <BAR name = "JoesBar">
    <PRICE theBeer = "Bud">2.50</PRICE>
    <PRICE theBeer = "Miller">3.00</PRICE>
  </BAR> ...
  <BEER name = "Bud" soldBy = "JoesBar
    SuesBar ... "/> ...
</BARS>
```

Selection Conditions

▶ A condition inside [...] may follow a tag.

▶ If so, then only paths that have that tag and also satisfy the condition are included in the result of a path expression.

Example: Selection Condition

▶ /BARS/BAR/PRICE[. < 2.75]

<BARS>

  <BAR name = "JoesBar">

  <PRICE theBeer = "Bud">2.50</PRICE>

  <PRICE theBeer = "Miller">3.00</PRICE>

  </BAR> …

The current element.

The condition that the PRICE be < $2.75 makes this price but not the Miller price part of the result.

Example: Attribute in Selection

▶ /BARS/BAR/PRICE[@theBeer = "Miller"]

<BARS>

   <BAR name = "JoesBar">

    <PRICE theBeer = "Bud">2.50</PRICE>

    <PRICE theBeer = "Miller">3.00</PRICE>

   </BAR> ...

Now, this PRICE element
is selected, along with
any other prices for Miller.

Axes

- In general, path expressions allow us to start at the root and execute steps to find a sequence of nodes at each step.

- At each step, we may follow any one of several *axes*.

- The default axis is child:: --- go to all the children of the current set of nodes.

Example: Axes

► /BARS/BEER is really shorthand for /BARS/child::BEER .

► @ is really shorthand for the attribute:: axis.
  ► Thus, /BARS/BEER[@name = ”Bud”] is shorthand for /BARS/BEER[attribute::name = ”Bud”]

More Axes

▶ Some other useful axes are:

1. parent:: = parent(s) of the current node(s).
2. descendant-or-self:: = the current node(s) and all descendants.
   - ❓ Note: // is really shorthand for this axis.
3. ancestor::, ancestor-or-self, etc.
4. self (the dot).

XQuery

- XQuery is a general purpose query language for XML data
- Currently being standardized by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)
- XQuery is derived from the Quilt query language, which itself borrows from SQL, XQL and XML-QL
- XQuery uses a
  for … let … where … order by …result …
  syntax

for	⇔	SQL **from**
where	⇔	SQL **where**
order by	⇔	SQL **order by**
result	⇔	SQL **select**

  let allows temporary variables, and has no equivalent in SQL

Example FLWR : FOR

"Expand the en-closed string by replacing variables and path exps. by their values."

for $beer in document("bars.xml")/BARS/BEER/@name

return

        `<BEERNAME>` {$beer} `</BEERNAME>`

▶ $beer ranges over the name attributes of all beers in our example document.

▶ Result is a sequence of BEERNAME elements: `<BEERNAME>`Bud`</BEERNAME>` `<BEERNAME>`Miller`</BEERNAME>` . . .

The Query

```
let $bars = doc("bars.xml")/BARS

for $beer in $bars/BEER

for $bar in $bars/BAR

for $price in $bar/PRICE

where $beer/@soldAt = "JoesBar" and $price/@theBeer =
    $beer/@name

return <BBP bar = {$bar/@name} beer = {$beer/@name}
    >{$price}</BBP>
```

True if "JoesBar"
appears anywhere
in the sequence

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Eliminating Duplicates

- Use function `distinct-values` applied to a sequence.

- Subtlety: this function strips tags away from elements and compares the string values.
  - But it doesn't restore the tags in the result.

SQL/XML

- New standard SQL extension that allows creation of nested XML output
  - Each output tuple is mapped to an XML element *row*

```
<university>
  <department>
    <row>
        <dept name> Comp. Sci. </dept name>
        <building> Taylor </building>
        <budget> 100000 </budget>
    </row>
      …. more rows if there are more output tuples …
  </department>
  … other relations ..
</university>
```

SQL Extensions

▶ **xmlelement** creates XML elements

▶ **xmlattributes** creates attributes

 select xmlelement (**name** "course",
        xmlattributes (*course id* **as** *course id*, *dept name* **as** *dept name*),
        xmlelement (**name** "title", *title*),
        xmlelement (**name** "credits", *credits*))
from *course*

▶ Xmlagg creates a forest of XML elements

        select xmlelement (**name** "department",
                dept_name,
                xmlagg (**xmlforest**(*course_id*)
                        order by *course_id*))
    from *course*
    group by *dept_name*

XML Applications

- Storing and exchanging data with complex structures
  - E.g. Open Document Format (ODF) format standard for storing Open Office and Office Open XML (OOXML) format standard for storing Microsoft Office documents
  - Numerous other standards for a variety of applications
    - ChemML, MathML

- Standard for data exchange for Web services
  - remote method invocation over HTTP protocol
  - More in next slide

- Data mediation
  - Common data representation format to bridge different systems

Implementación de XML en Oracle 1

- **XMLType**

- XMLType is a native server datatype that allows the database to understand that a column or table contains XML. XMLType also provides methods that allow common operations such as XML schema validation and XSL transformations on XML content. You can use the XMLType data-type like any other datatype. For example, you can use XMLType when:

- Creating a column in a relational table

- Declaring PL/SQL variables

- Defining and calling PL/SQL procedures and functions

- Since XMLType is an object type, you can also create a *table* of XMLType. By default, an XMLType table or column can contain any well-formed XML document.

Implementación de XML en Oracle 2

```
SELECT extractValue(object_value,'/PurchaseOrder/Reference')
    "REFERENCE"
FROM PURCHASEORDER
WHERE existsNode(object_value,'/
    PurchaseOrder[SpecialInstructions="Expidite"]') = 1;
```

Implementación de XML en Oracle 3

```
SELECT p.object_value.extract('/PurchaseOrder/Requestor/
    text()').getStringVal() NAME, count(*)
FROM PURCHASEORDER p
WHERE p.object_value.existsNode ( '/PurchaseOrder/
    ShippingInstructions[ora:contains(address/text(),"Shores")>0]',
    'xmlns:ora="http://xmlns.oracle.com/xdb' ) = 1 AND
    p.object_value.extract('/PurchaseOrder/Requestor/
    text()').getStringVal() like '%ll%'
GROUP BY p.object_value.extract('/PurchaseOrder/Requestor/
    text()').getStringVal();
```

Implementación de XML en Oracle 4

UPDATE PURCHASEORDER

SET object_value = updateXML(object_value,'/PurchaseOrder/Actions/Action[1]/User/text()','SKING')

WHERE existsNode(object_value,'/PurchaseOrder[Reference="SBELL-2002100912333601PDT"]') = 1

Presentación

- Esta presentación fue armada utilizando, además de material propio, material contenido en los manuales de Oracle y material provisto por los siguientes autores
  - Siblberschat, Korth, Sudarshan - Database Systems Concepts, 6th Ed., Mc Graw Hill, 2010
  - García Molina/Ullman/Widom - Database Systems: The Complete Book, 2nd Ed.,Prentice Hall, 2009
  - Elmasri/Navathe - Fundamentals of Database Systems, 6th Ed., Addison Wesley, 2011