# Use XPath Queries to Process XML Documents



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## Module Goals



#### Learn to use XPath queries

- Read nodes
- Aggregate nodes



## XPath Queries



## XPath

Language used to navigate and select nodes

## Similar to finding folders on a hard drive

C:\My Music\Rush

D:\Photos\BVI-Trip





#### **XDocument samples**

- All nodes
- Find by element
- Find by attribute





#### XElement samples

- All nodes
- Find by element
- Find by attribute
- Read config file



## Aggregation



## XPath Functions

count()

Counts total number of nodes

sum()

Sums the value in a set of nodes



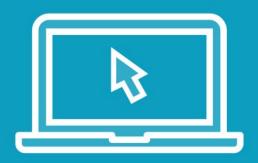
## XPath Function Usage

Load XML document

Create a Navigator object

Call nav.Evaluate() method





Count

Sum

Average



### Min and Max

No XPath functions

Use not(), /preceding-sibling and /following-sibling





**Minimum** 

**Maximum** 



## Summary



XPath queries are terse, but concise

XPath functions help aggregate data

Sometimes you have to get creative to perform calculations such as min/max





Coming up in the next module...

Use XDocument/XElement classes
Add, edit, and delete
Write XML to disk

