

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



Demo



XDocument samples

- All nodes
- Find by element
- Find by attribute



Demo



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**



Demo



Count

Sum

Average



Min and Max

No XPath functions

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



Demo



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

