Q1: XML and XPath

The table "users" has been altered such that the "address" attribute's datatype is XML rather than string. To do so, the address column was dropped, using the following command:

ALTER TABLE users DROP COLUMN address;

The address attribute was then re-added to the table using the following command, with its type as XML:

ALTER TABLE users ADD address xml;

Using the fact that "email" is the primary key in the users table, the address value for all the tuples in the table was updated with XML content. Below are the 6 UPDATE queries, and a screenshot of the updated schema:

SET address = '<addr country = "Canada"> <street> 1115 Sherbrooke Ouest </street>

3) UPDATE users

1) UPDATE users

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</addr>'
WHERE email = 'lucien.george@mail.mcgill.ca';

<postal> H3A 2W9</postal>

6) UPDATE users

Description of XML data inserted:

The updated *address* attribute with XML datatype is used to conveniently store frequently requested information about an address such as: country, city, street, province, and postal code. It makes it easier to extract the city/province/street/postal code/country of a specific user¹.

Description of the Altered Relation:

The altered relation - *users* - stores the exact same information as did the old relation. The only difference is the datatype switch of the *address* attribute from string to XML.

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¹ "Specific user" instead of all users or multiple users who satisfy a certain predicate, because in PostgreSQL the XPATH statement only works on a single tuple. Thus, within the scope of this deliverable XPATH queries are executed on a single tuple. *This information has been relayed to the Professor and has been verified, and XPATH queries operating on a single tuple have been deemed acceptable as it is a restriction posed by the system used (PostgreSQL).

Result after updating these 6 tuples (this is the result of a selection and projection statement on the email and address attributes²):

email	address	
josephakl95@gmail.com	<addr country="Canada"></addr>	
	<street> 3212 Stanley</street>	
	<city> Quebec City </city>	
	<pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	
	<postal> H3A 1W8</postal> 	
zeyadhazemsaleh@gmail.com	<pre><addr country="Canada"></addr></pre>	
	<pre><street> 3510 Guy</street></pre>	
	<pre><city> Montreal </city></pre>	
	<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	
	<postal> H3C 1M7</postal> 	
bettina.kemme@mcgill.ca	<pre><addr country="Canada"></addr></pre>	
	<street> 1115 Sherbrooke Ouest <td>reet>+</td></street>	reet>+
	<pre><city> Montreal </city></pre>	
	<pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	
	<postal> H3C 2F0</postal>	
ossama.samir.ahmed@gmail.com	<addr country="Canada"></addr>	
	<street> 1201 Clark </street>	
	<city> Toronto </city>	
	<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	
	<postal> H4D 2QA</postal>	
lucien.george@mail.mcgill.ca	<addr country="Canada"></addr>	
tation accurate magnetical	<street> 3208 Drummond </street>	
	<pre><city> Montreal </city></pre>	
	<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	
	<postal> H3A 2W9</postal>	
aliaamoharram@hotmail.com	<addr country="Canada"></addr>	
a cadamond rame and child a cricom	<street> 3410 Peel </street>	
	<pre><city> Montreal </city></pre>	
	<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	
	<postal> H3A 1H3 </postal>	
(6 rows)		

XPath Queries

As mentioned in footnote 1, the XPATH statement in PostgreSQL only operates on a *single* tuple, and therefore the queries are restricted by this.

1) This query extracts the postal code of the user with email = 'aliaamoharram@hotmail.com, which is 'H3A 1H3':

SELECT (xpath('//postal/text()', (SELECT address FROM users WHERE email = 'aliaamoharram@hotmail.com')));

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² SELECT email, address FROM users;

2) This query extracts the street of the user with email = 'aliaamoharram@hotmail.com' which is '3410 Peel' according the inserted data:

SELECT (xpath('//street/text()', (SELECT address FROM users WHERE email = 'aliaamoharram@hotmail.com')));

A screenshot of the complete revised schema is on the following page.

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email	fname	lname	dateofbirth gender	gender	university	rating	picture	picture phonenumber	add									
josephakl95@gmail.com nada"> +	Joseph	Akl	1995-04-25	Male	McGill University	_		+1(514) 445 7873	+1(514) 445 7873 <addr ca<="" country="Ca</td></tr><tr><td>ave/streaty</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>_</td><td></td><td><street> 3212 Stanl</td></tr><tr><td>e de la constante de la consta</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td><city> Quebec City</td></tr><tr><td></city></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>_</td><td></td><td><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></td></tr><tr><td>province/</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td><pre><postal> H3A 1W8</p</td></tr><tr><td>zeyadhazemsaleh@gmail.com</td><td>
 Zeyad </td><td>Saleh</td><td>1994-05-07</td><td>Male</td><td>
 McGill University</td><td>
ъ</td><td></td><td>+1(514) 585-6769 </td><td> </addr>
 <addr country = " td=""></addr>									
nada"> +									<street> 3510 Guy<!--</td--></street>									
street> +									<pre><city> Montreal </city></pre>									
/www.									<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>									
Aproximent to									<pre><postal> H3C 1M7</postal></pre>									
bettina.kemme@mcgill.ca	 Bettina	Kemme	2016-01-01	 Female	 McGill University			Not Available	<addr country="Ca</td></tr><tr><td>nada"> +</addr>							_		<street> 1115 Sherb</street>
rooke quest +							_		<city> Montreal </city>									
ity> +									<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>									
/province> +									<pre><postal> H3C 2F0</postal></pre>									
ossama.samir.ahmed@gmail.com	Ossama Samir	Ahmed	1992-10-21	Male	McGill University			+1(514) 836-2217	<addr country="Ca</td></tr><tr><td>nada"> +</addr>									<street> 1201 Clark</street>
+									<citv> Toronto </citv>									
ty> +									corrovinces Ontario									
+																		

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Q2) Stored procedure:

Scope:

For this question we decided to implement an "insert and update" procedure, where a user can submit a review about another user, and the procedure will automatically update the other user's rating. The procedure was implemented using PL/pgSQL.

Creation:

CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION review_update(_reviewer_email text, _reviewee_email text, _description text, _rating int) RETURNS void AS \$\$

DECLARE

user_cursor REFCURSOR;

avg_rating INTEGER;

BEGIN

INSERT INTO reviews VALUES (_reviewer_email, _reviewee_email, _description, _rating); OPEN user cursor FOR SELECT AVG(reviews.rating) FROM reviews WHERE

reviews.reviewee_email= _reviewee_email;

FETCH FIRST FROM user_cursor into avg_rating;

CLOSE user_cursor;

UPDATE users

SET rating = avg_rating WHERE users.email = _reviewee_email;

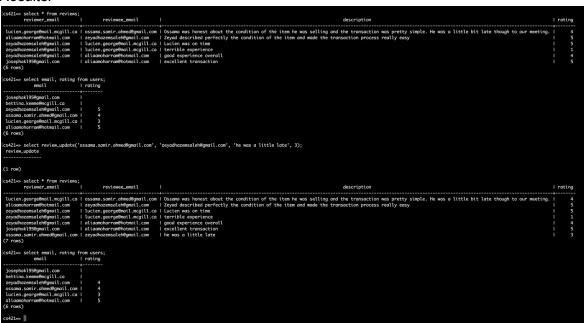
END;

\$\$ Language plpgsql;

Walk through:

The function first inserts the rating, then sets a cursor pointing at the avg(reviews.rating) of the user of interest. It closes the cursor then updates the rating attribute in users accordingly.

Results:



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Q4) Indexing

Index Query 1: CREATE INDEX cind ON item(category);

The category attribute of the item relation has been chosen as an index because in the application domain, certain required information involves the category attribute, such queries include:

- Getting the average bid done by a specific user on a certain category
 - select avg(temp2.price::numeric::float8) from (select * from (select aid,price from bid where email='aliaamoharram@hotmail.com') as temp1 join auction on temp1.aid=Auction.aid) as temp2 join item on temp2.itemid = item.itemid and item.category='Furniture';
- Getting the categories that the user bids on the most
 - select item.category from
 (select bid.aid, bid.email, auction.itemid from bid inner join auction on bid.aid = auction.aid)x
 inner join item on x.itemid = item.itemid
 where email = 'aliaamoharram@hotmail.com' group by item.category order by count(*) desc;

Index Query 2: CREATE INDEX bpind ON bid(price);

The index on bidid combined with the index on its price are strategic for speeding up certain queries involved in a wide scope of applications, in particular point and range queries. Point queries are particularly useful for finding the highest and lowest prices in a certain bid. Range queries however are very useful as they allow for a triage of the seller by bid price and speeds up price sorting. (On a side not, creating an index on the initialprice of an auction wouldn't have been a bad idea either, as the buyers might be looking for a certain item in a certain price range).

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^{*}These queries would be sped up as a result of the indexing.