

XML Process Documentation

ArtBlok 2010 E. Hennepin

WRIT 5662: Writing with Digital Technologies

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Previous XML Experience

I had very little experience with XML before this module. The experience I did have was a 50-field deep product malfunction form maintained with XML by a business analyst at a previous client. The mark up helped accommodate the needs of 10 different user groups. This mostly meant keeping the form short as possible for users only required to complete 15 to 20 of those fields. I assumed XML was classic used mostly for niche industries or by electrical engineers turned business analysts. It was only last week when the epiphany broke that I just haven't been in environments sophisticated enough to have structured authoring solutions.

Starting with XML

I decided to start with the LinkedIn Learnings courses after reading last XML documentation examples from last years' students. (Watch LinkedIn again). Like most of these, they were really helpful and clean. But I think I would've wanted him to build on the same document. The instructor (so and so) but it got easily over my head.

As I started my XML journey, I think I modeled my approach as I did with HTML. With the static site assignment, I knew wanted to running queries XSL, I think I may need a tutor or something.

I realized though that the quandries I was having with classification could be remedied. I'm glad I read what I did, this can be taken further. I was too obsessed with the

unpacking. Trying to blend how the 'tour/ethos' idea could mesh with the end user being the content managers. There's a lot that I missed here, but am so looking forward to figuring out how to continue applying this.

[Update the tree] [Made several versions of this tree to nail the information tree, but then we took a step back anyway. And I lost out on time to actually getting the XML tags to work]

I think HMTL was a little more satisfying because of my previous knowledge. XML was more difficult that way.

I've slowly but surely realized that XML and DTD and likely XSL or id() tags can help with this.

(See Manning) Moving forward into DITA, I'd like to revisit this workflow that he/she prescribes. *What was the purpose of this reading?*

Main goal was to come up a structure that could easily be woven into the rest of the site.

The skill of 'linking' like in Self, T. (2013). Separation of content and form.

Indicates student's familiarity with concepts in Andersen. (2014).]

I used the LinkedIn Learnings for the XML. With the HTML & CSS exercise, I started with the CSS and primary navigation because I wanted a solid foundation. I approached it the same with XML. But I think I spent too much time on the classification systems. That then. I'm finding that reading texts a second time is through is really important.

"2.2 Separation of content and format Anyone who has converted documents from one format to another using traditional tools knows that the conversions are never automatic or easy. There is always lots of hand manipulation required. XML was created with the original goal of making documents portable, to make them easy to transport across systems and applications. XML focuses on the structure of a document, not the presentation. Conversion to other formats is managed in style sheets (more later). This

makes it easy to automate the conversion of XML to many other formats, including PDF and HTML.

2.3 Built-in metadata

In traditional authoring, formatting is usually applied based on some sort of hierarchy, but a general hierarchy. We create chapter, section, subsection tags and so on. But what happens when you want to use something that is a subsection in one document as a section in another? You would have to build in some sort of logic that said in this context, format this content this way, and in the other context, format the document a different way. In XML, you create all of the names applied to elements. You can name things based on their content and use, rather than on a single hierarchy. For example, you can call a procedure a procedure, not simply a subsection. For example: ... Permission to make digital or hard copies of all or part of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. To copy otherwise, or republish, to post on servers or to redistribute to lists, requires prior specific permission and/or a fee. SIGDOC'02, October 20-23, 2002, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Copyright 2002 ACM 1-58113-543-2/02/0010...\$5.00. 110 Where additional information is required to describe content, using attributes that may or not be made visible to users. For example, a common use for metadata in a reuse environment is to indicate who the intended audience is for a specific piece of information.

For example: ... In the example above, we can identify "Merging Databases" as a procedure performed by administrators. The combination of content-specific tags and attributes is very powerful for dynamic documents. For example, with the tagging from our example, it is very"

<Manning >

TAGS

Even this week, they wanted it simple. I put the required fields at the top of the layout. Still could be things that the personal artist's website could rely on. At the end of last week

though, I got very good feedback from one of them. "We need to rely on their personal sites for all that information and decrease our responsibility."

```
<residents>
  <resident type="artist"> Artist
  (add list of types)
    <name type="first_last">Jes Shimek</name>
    <name type="studio">Shimek Studios</name>
      <location type="building">2</location>
      <location type="suite">207</location>
      <contact type="email">jes@jesstudios</contact>
      (required)
      <socialmedia type="instagram">@jes</socialmedia>
      <medium>Printmaking</medium>
      <externalurl>jesstudios.com</externalurl>
      <artimage>##</artimage>

      <!--
      <summary>Jes is a super charged artist.</summary>
      <yearactive type="active">Active since 2017</year>
      <medium>Photography</medium>
      <medium>Painting</medium>
      <participatingevents>Art-a-Whirl</participatingevents> →
    </resident>
</residents>
```

Making a classification system can be an awkward task. Chapter 3, the Semantics of Classification Systems, of Aplen and McDaniel's book, "The Rhetorical Nature of XML, Construction Knowledge in Networked Environments," can remedy that though. The reading should be reviewed by anyone trying to describe the essential nature of information.

ADD A SUMMARY OF THE XML DOCUMENT

Glossary I started building

Drupal

<https://www.drupal.org/>

XLST

Language for transforming XML documents into other XML documents, or other formats such as HTML for web pages, plain text or XSL Formatting Objects, which may subsequently be converted to other formats, such as PDF, PostScript and PNG.

XML Schema

Describes the structure of an XML document. The XML Schema language is also referred to as XML Schema Definition (XSD).

Intelligent Content

Root Element

Each XML document has exactly one single root element. It encloses all the other elements and is therefore the sole parent element to all the other elements. ROOT elements are also called document elements. In HTML, the root element is the <html> element.

Hierarchies of elements/XML Tree/Information Structure

XML documents have a hierarchical structure and can conceptually be interpreted as a tree structure, called an XML tree.

XML documents must contain a root element (one that is the parent of all other elements). All elements in an XML document can contain sub elements, text and attributes. The tree represented by an XML document starts at the root element and branches to the lowest level of elements. Although there is no consensus on the terminology used on XML Trees, at least two standard terminologies have been released by the W3C.

DTD template

Model & Element models

Such an element node has a type p , an ordered list of children c_i , and a set of attributes, which are pairs of attribute names a_i and attribute values A_i .

Metadata

a set of data that describes and gives information about other data.

Style

Format

Three Musketeers for those concepts

"Three Musketeers of Technical Content. TechWhirl. Retrieved from <https://techwhirl.com/three-musketeers-of-technical-content-structure-writing-publishing/>"

References:

LavaCon Conference Podcast Series. (2018). LavaCon Keynote Karen McGrane on Content in a Zombie Apocalypse [Podcast]. Retrieved from

<https://soundcloud.com/user-10737889/lavacon-keynote-karen-mcgrane-on-content-in-a-zombie-apocalypse/>

Three Musketeers of Technical Content. TechWhirl. Retrieved from
<https://techwhirl.com/three-musketeers-of-technical-content-structure-writing-publishing/>

Validate XML file

<https://www.xmlvalidation.com/index.php?id=1&L=0>

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METHODOLOGY

I based the content structure for this project on the “topic-based approach” proposed by Rebekka In her paper, Rhetorical Work in the Age of Content Management: Implications for the Field of Technical Communication, Andersen states that: “In topic-based information development (ID), content is freed from the confines of static documents.

Authors, who may be subject-matter experts, marketing or training specialists, or technical writers, create and edit stand-alone topics (e.g., a procedure or product description) that conform to rules defined by standards and schemas, which ensures that the topics are consistently structured and can be assembled into different information products that are rendered in different outputs for different delivery channels”(2014).

Content created and formatted based on topics becomes mobile,intelligent content that is able to transcend form. The content becomes mobile-able to adapt to different contexts and mediums.

Cooke

"The phone is location aware"

"Take advantage to change the presentation when you want to"

"Digital transformation" provide the alternative means of "

"Context aware and location aware"

Virtual Attendee at Lava Con

<https://www.thinkreg.com/coral/register.do?formId=NF1J054GTS4Y>