Week 10 Paper

This week the topic we discussed was how to use XSLT and XML. With this, we learned when we would use XSLT in the ETL process. What are the advantages and disadvantages of doing so. Also, what the difference is between a XML data source and an XML datatype in a relational data source. Wanting to understand how this would impact an ETL. Lastly, we wanted to understand what XPath is and how it relates to XSLT.

First, let’s look at how we would use XSLT in the ETL process. In the ETL process, we would use XSLT to transform XML documents into other XML documents such as HTML. With this, we can see this in web pages and on data dashboards. There are three main advantages to using XSLT. First, XSLT has been designed to work with enterprise XML technologies. Second, XSLT makes most data conversion tasks very easy to understand and implement. Lastly, solutions written using XSLT can be proven to be correct.

Now let’s look to understand the difference between an XML data source and an XML datatype in a relational data source. XML data source is a control in order to understand data-bound controls. An XML datatype is a document that is assigned to an element on the instance using the attribute or through an XML schema. This has the potential to impact an ETL by knowing the hierarchy of the data source and the datatypes.

The last thing we wanted to take a look at was what is XPath and how does it relate to XSLT. XPath is a major element in the XSLT standard. It can be used to navigate through elements and attributes in an XML document. It contains over 200 built-in functions.

All in all, XSLT, XML, and XPath are great tools to help with converting documents as well as creating paths, programs, and functions. With this, one could use them to help bring in a hierarchy to the data source to an ETL.

References

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* <https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/db2/11.5?topic=overview-comparison-xml-relational-models>
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