Introduction to XProc 3.0 – Part 1

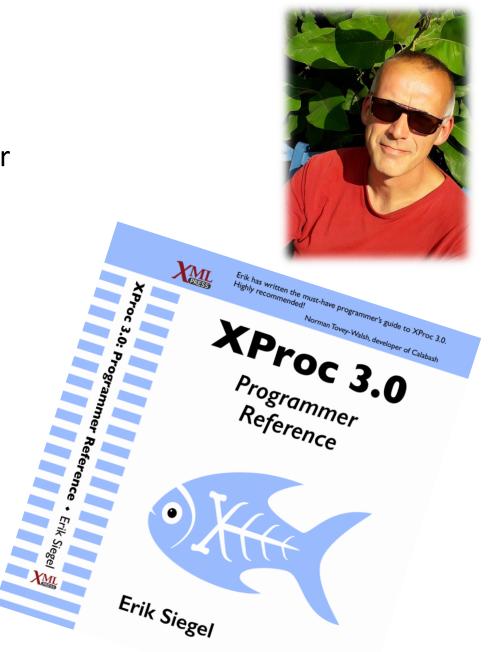
Markup UK 2020
Webinar



Who Am I?

- Erik Siegel
- Content Engineer, XML Specialist, Technical Writer
- Company: Xatapult
 - Groningen, The Netherlands
 - Customers mostly in publishing and standardization
- Member of the XProc 3.0 editing committee
- Writer of the XProc 3.0 Programmer Reference
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XProc?

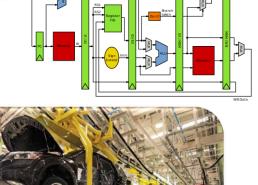
- XProc is an XML based programming language for complex data processing - pipelining
- Extensible set of small, sharp tools for creating and transforming XML and other documents
- V1.0 available (two processor implementations to run your pipelines)
- Specification and implementation V3.0 under development

And my name is Kanava (which is Finnish for... pipeline)
I'm proud to be the XProc logo!



Why should I bother?

- Pipelines are ubiquitous all around us
- Solve problems with a set of small, sharp tools that combine in many ways
 - Like the UNIX command line
- Very natural choice for document processing
- Compose small tools into something bigger, pipelines...
- XProc beats the alternatives



A successful example of large-scale application of XProc (1.0) pipelines doing document engineering: https://www.le-tex.de/en/transpect.html



Important links

- XProc 3.0:
 - Specification: http://spec.xproc.org
 - Github: https://github.com/xproc/
 - W3C: https://www.w3.org/community/xproc-next/
- Morgana XProc processor: https://www.xml-project.com/
- This webinar: https://github.com/xatapult/markupuk-2020
- There are some introductory articles on https://www.xml.com/
- XProc 1.0:
 - Specification: https://www.w3.org/TR/xproc/
 - XML Calabash processor: https://xmlcalabash.com/
 - Morgana XProc processor: https://www.xml-project.com/

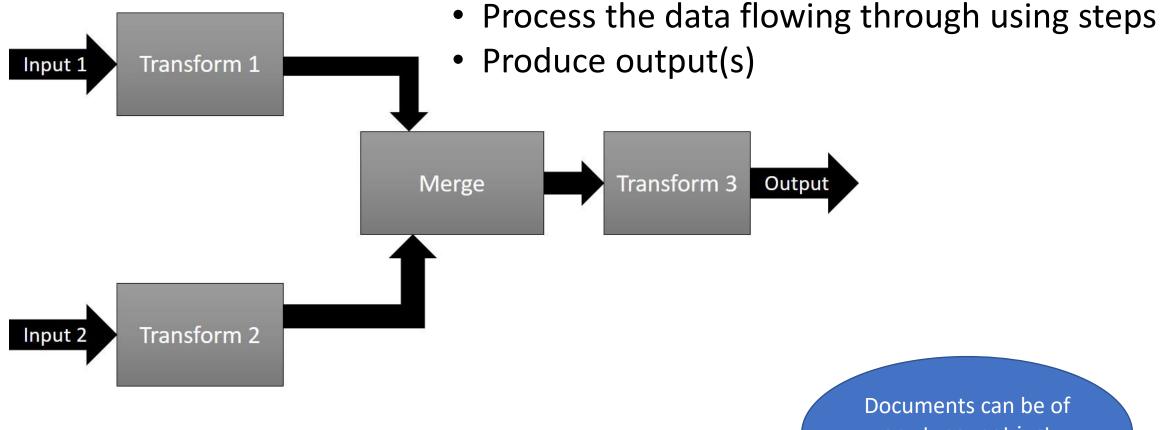


Running XProc 3.0 examples yourself

- Download Morgana by following the download link: https://www.xml-project.com/
- Unzip the zip
- Add one of the Saxon jars to the MorganaXProc-IIIse_lib sub-directory
- Add the main Morgana directory to your system's path
- Switch (cd) to the directory with the pipeline you want to run (assume this is called pipeline.xpl)
- View the command line options:
 - Morgana
- Run with no specific input:
 - Morgana pipeline.xpl
- ... and with a specific input file for the source port:
 - Morgana pipeline.xpl -input source:input.xml
- ... and write the result port's output to a file:
 - Morgana pipeline.xpl -input:source:input.xml -output:result=output.xml



Pipelines, steps

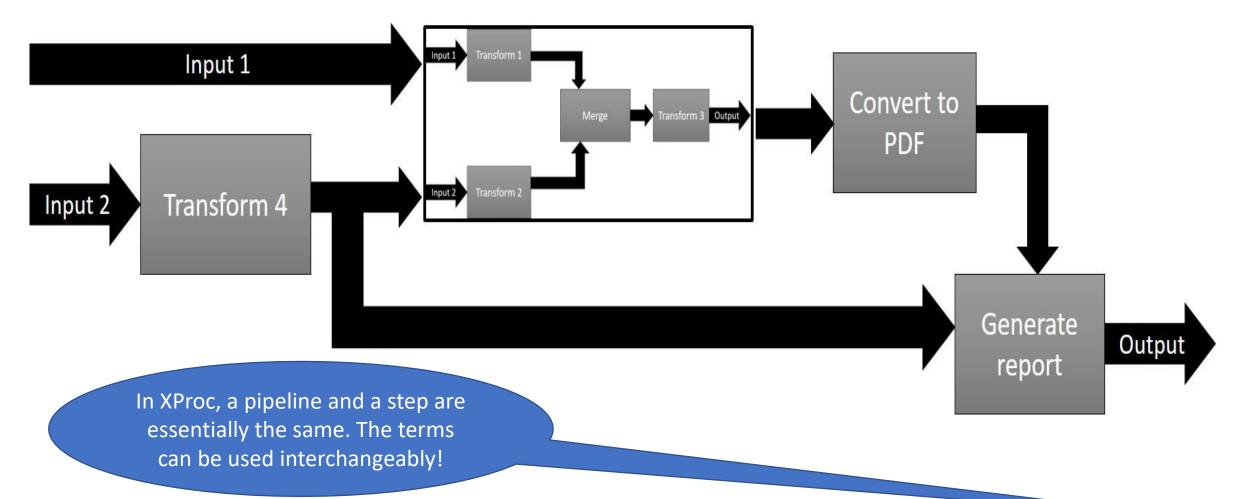


Document(s) as input

Documents can be of any type, not just XML!

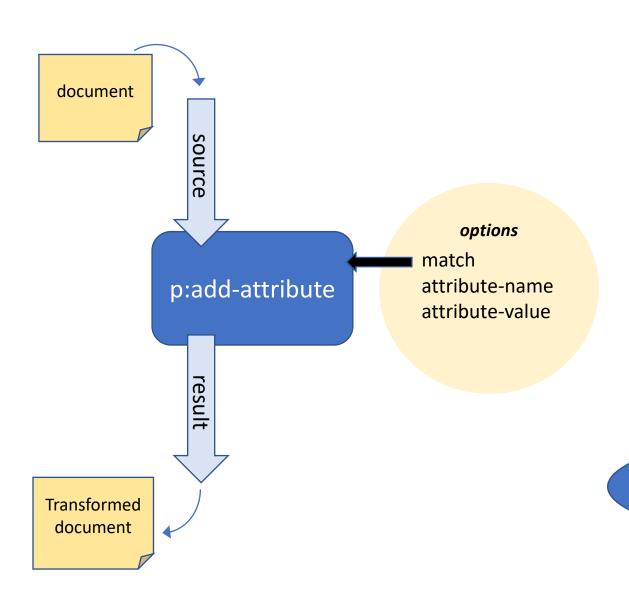


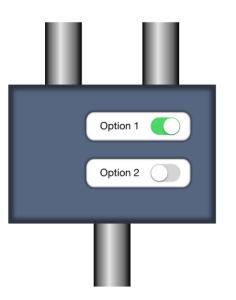
Pipelines, steps





Steps/pipelines, ports, options

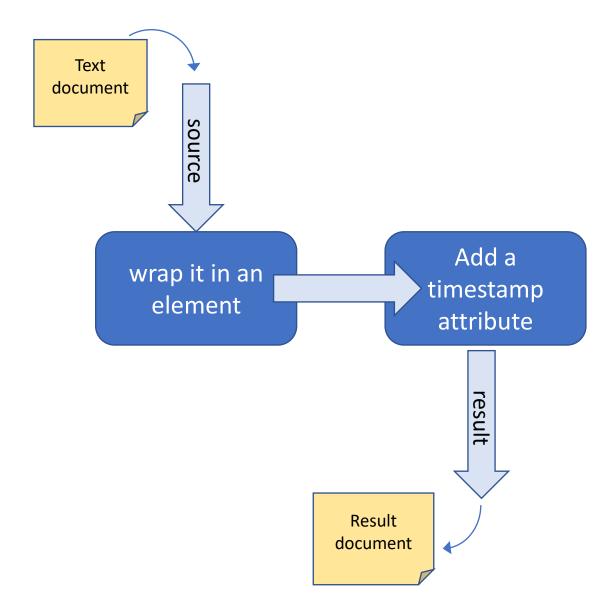




Have a look ate the step specification: http://spec.xproc.org/master/head/steps/ #c.add-attribute

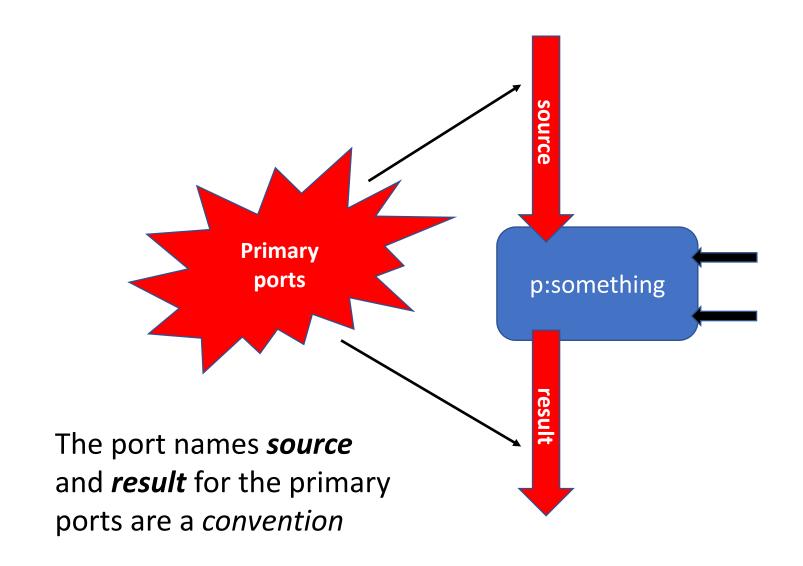


Example 1: markupuk-2020/101-A/example-1/example-1.xpl



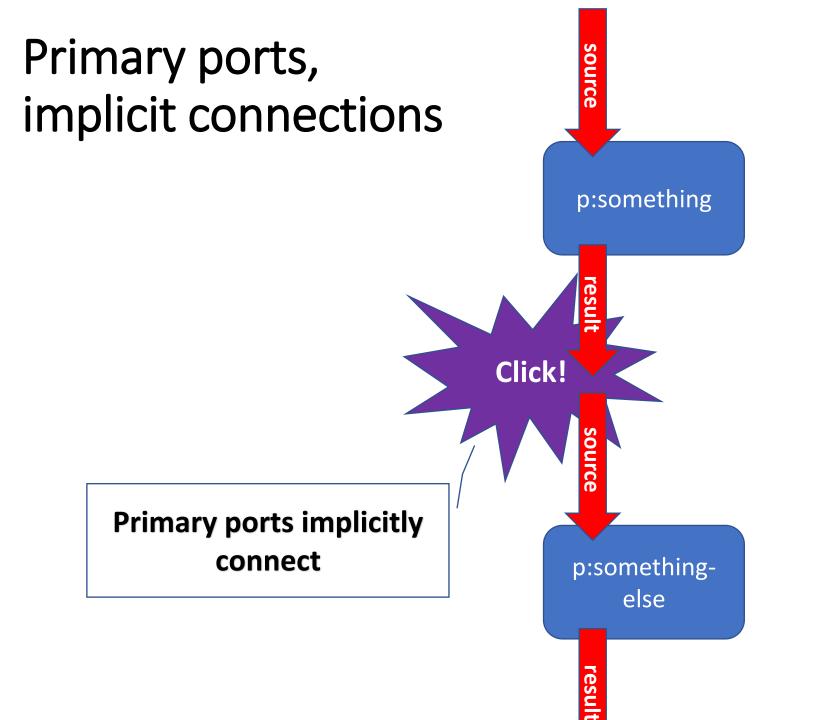


Primary ports







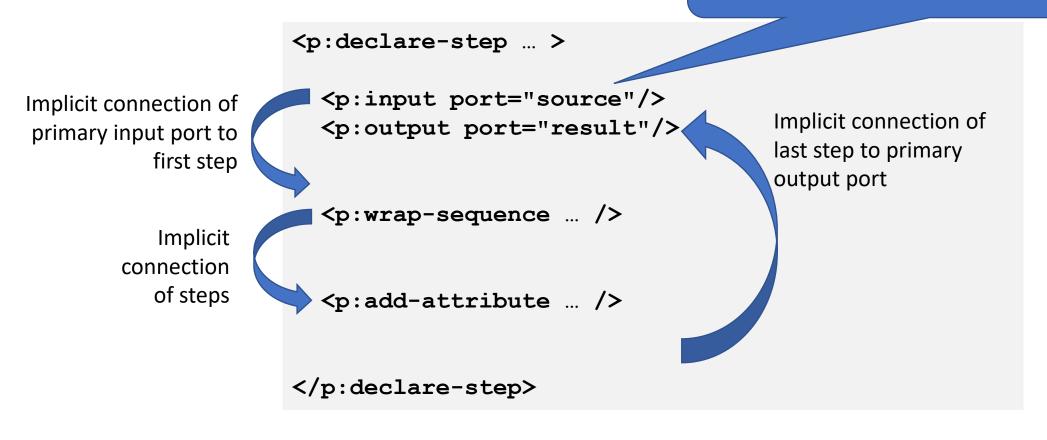


Think of primary ports as having little *magnets* that snap automagically together



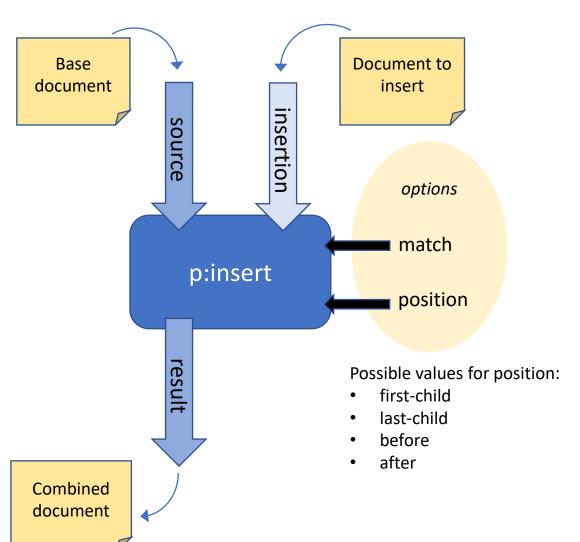
Primary ports, implicit connections

If a step has only a single input or output port, they're primary by default. But you can set the primary status *explicitly* using a primary="true/false" attribute here.





The p:insert step



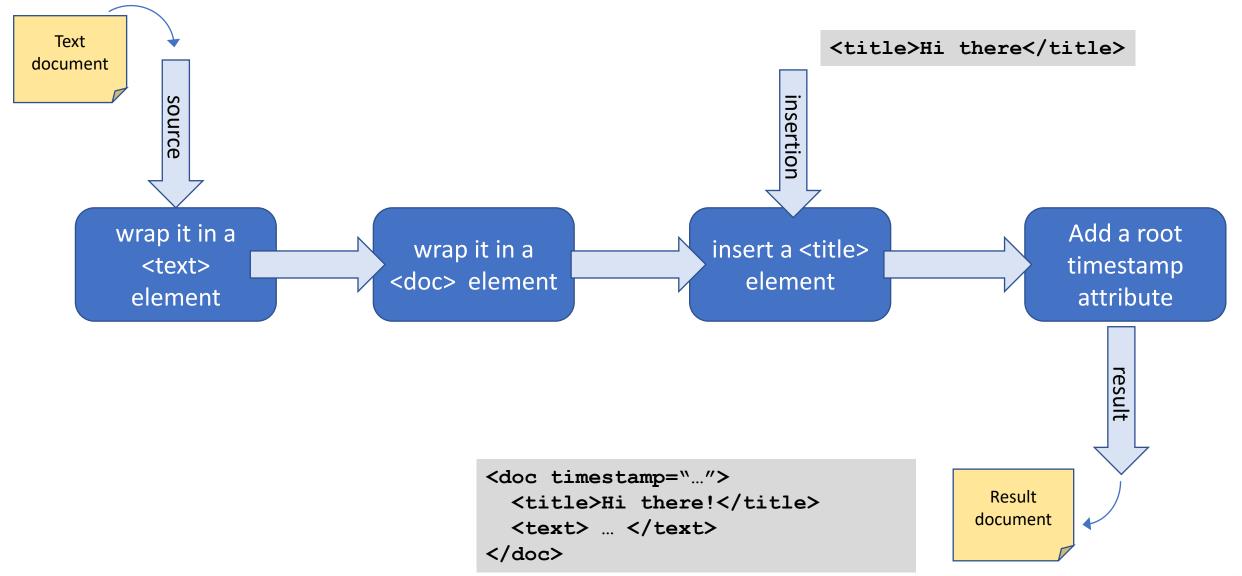
See:

http://spec.xproc.org/master/head/steps/#c.insert

The source and result ports are primary, the insertion port is not...

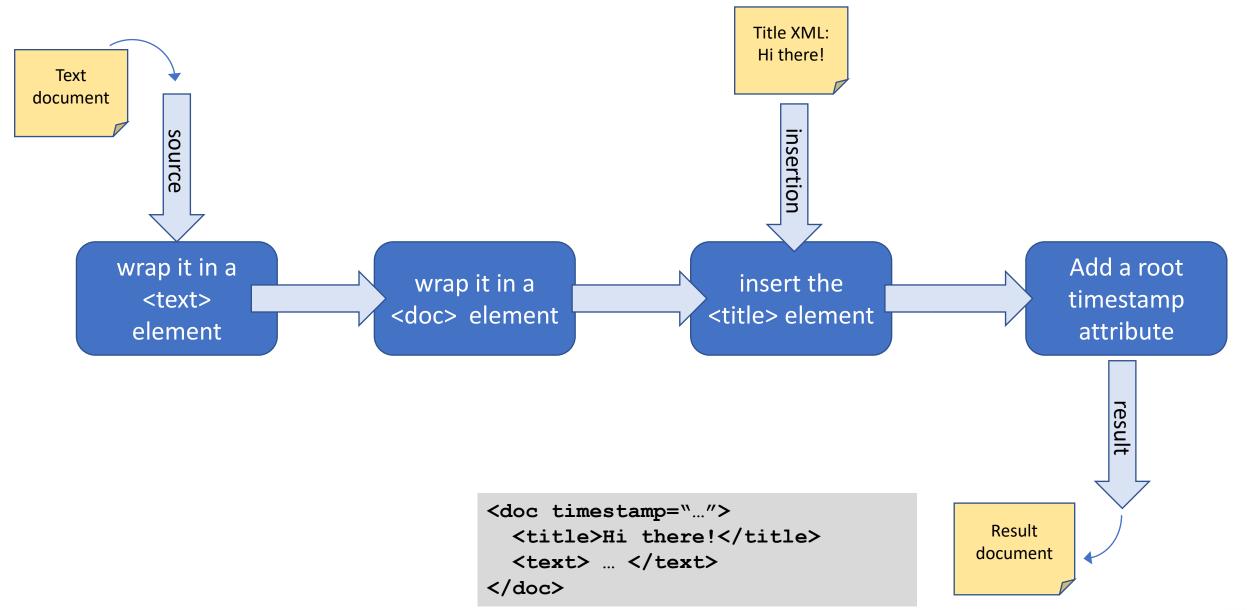


Example 2: markupuk-2020/101-A/example-2/example-2a.xpl



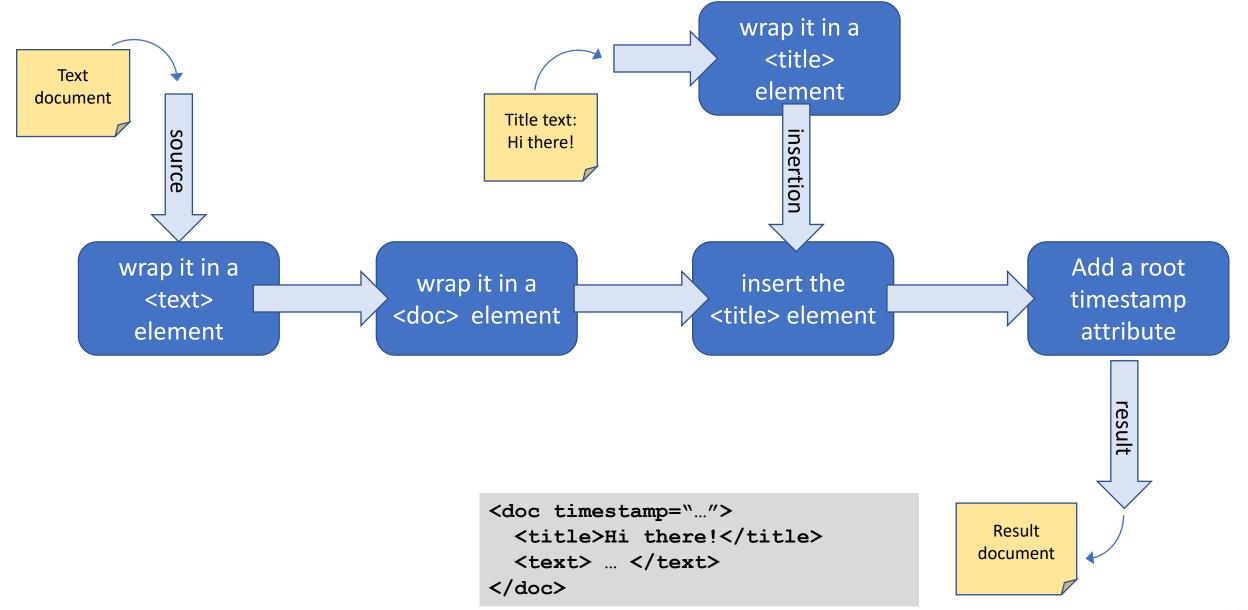


Example 3: markupuk-2020/101-A/example-4/example-3a.xpl



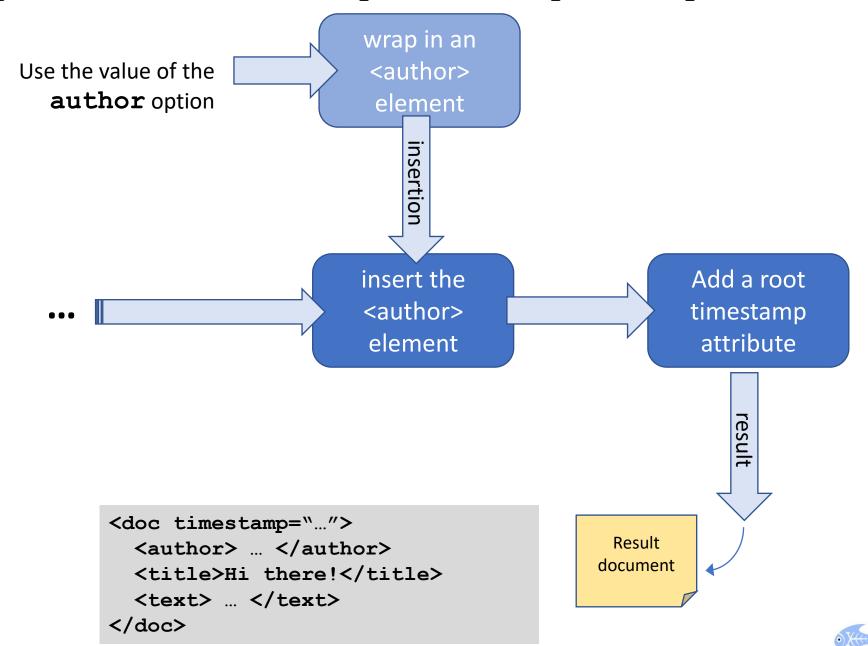


Example 4: markupuk-2020/101-A/example-4/example-4a.xpl





Example 5: markupuk-2020/101-A/example-5/example-5.xpl



Wrap up:

- XProc is a *pipeline* language for documents, it chains *steps*
- Documents flow in and out of steps through ports
- One input and one output port can be *primary*: These ports automatically connect
 - Primary ports are called source and result by convention
- You can connect a port using <p:with-input port="..."> to:
 - Another port (either *implicit* for primary ports or *explicit*: <p:pipe> or @pipe)
 - To a document stated inline (<p:inline>)
 - To a document on disk (<p:document> or @href)
- Options are additional switches for the steps and/or your pipelines



Goodbye and thank the fish!

Your guide today: Erik Siegel – erik@xatapult.nl

Specification: https://spec.xproc.org/

Processors:

- Morgana: https://www.xml-project.com/
- Calabash: https://xmlcalabash.com/

Articles on XProc: https://www.xml.com

Book: https://xmlpress.net/publications/xproc-3-0/

See you!
And remember,
Kanava says:

XProc rocks...

