

# The Essence of XML

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# The Evolution of Language

$2x$  (Descartes)

$\lambda x. 2x$  (Church)

(LAMBDA (X) (\* 2 X)) (McCarthy)

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<LAMBDA-TERM>
  <VAR-LIST>
    <VAR>X</VAR>
  </VAR-LIST>
  <EXPR>
    <APPLICATION>
      <EXPR><CONST>*</CONST></EXPR>
      <ARGUMENT-LIST>
        <EXPR><CONST>2</CONST></EXPR>
        <EXPR><VAR>X</VAR></EXPR>
      </ARGUMENT-LIST>
    </APPLICATION>
  </EXPR>
</LAMBDA-TERM>
```

(W3C)

XML everywhere!



**VoiceXML**  
F O R U M

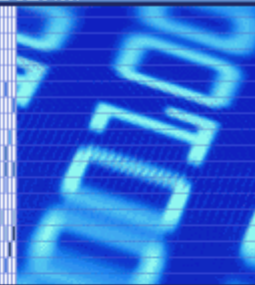
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September 3, 2001

### The Business of VoiceXML



The July/August issue of *Speech Technology* magazine offers an insightful look at VoiceXML as told through interviews conducted with various VoiceXML Forum members. The article, entitled "The Business Side of VoiceXML: Faster Time to Market is Only Part of the Story", covers topics including:

### NEWS

1 August 2001

VoiceXML Forum membership grows to 537 member companies--including 4 Sponsor Members, 59 Promoter Members





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ebXML enables enterprises of any size, in any location to meet and conduct business through the exchange of XML-based messages.

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[30 July 2001] [UN/CEFACT Forms e-Business Transition Ad hoc Working Group](#)

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[22 May 2001] [UN/CEFACT and OASIS](#)

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▪ [Open Applications Group to incorporate ebXML into 182 mature Business Object Documents](#)

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### Technical highlights

The following PDFs are available for download:

- [Version 2.0 Programmer's API Specification \(464 KB\)](#)
- [Version 2.0 Data Structure Specification \(243 KB\)](#)
- [Version 2.0 Replication Specification \(229 KB\)](#)
- [Version 2.0 Operator's Specification \(223 KB\)](#)
- [Version 1.0 Programmer's API Specification \(330 KB\)](#)
- [Version 1.0 Data Structure Specification \(193 KB\)](#)
- [Executive White Paper \(30 KB\)](#)



XQuery  
Use Cases:

[XMP](#)  
[Namespace](#)  
[Parts](#)  
[Relational](#)  
[Sequence](#)  
[SGML](#)  
[String](#)  
[Tree](#)

Other Use  
Cases:

[XMark](#)

### XQuery prolog:

```
{-----  
  Use Case "XMP" : Experiences and Exemplars  
----- --}  
  
define element bib { type Book* }  
  
define type Book {  
  element book {  
    attribute year { xsd:int },  
    element title { xsd:string },  
    (type Author+ | type Editor+),  
    element publisher { xsd:string },
```

### Choose a usecase query:

Q1: Selection and extraction

Submit Query

### XQuery expression:

```
{-- Q1: List books published by Addison-Wesley after 1991,  
including their year and title. --}  
  
<bib>  
  {  
    for $b in $bib/bib/book  
    where ($b/publisher = "Addison-Wesley" and $b/@year > 1991)  
    return <book year="{ $b/@year }">{ $b/title}</book>  
  }  
</bib>
```

# XML Query Language Demo



## New XQuery Prototype released!

A new version of Microsoft's XQuery Prototype was released on December 9, 2002. This version is based on the August 15th draft of the W3C XQuery specification.

### Documentation

- [What's New](#)
- [Readme](#)
- [Known Issues](#)

### Specifications

- [XQuery Syntax Draft](#)
- [XQuery Functions & Operators](#)
- [XQuery Use Cases](#)

### W3C Use

#### Cases

- ▶ [XMP Cases](#)
- ▶ [TREE Cases](#)
- ▶ [SEQ Cases](#)
- ▶ [SGML Cases](#)
- ▶ [NS Cases](#)

### Download

[XQuery Demo \(Dec 20, 2001 Draft\)](#)

### Feedback

[Click here to send us feedback.](#)

## Introduction

Welcome to Microsoft's XQuery Demo. This demo was designed with the August 15th, 2002 version of the XQuery working draft.

### Instructions:

1. Either select one of the example "W3C Use Cases" in the pane to the left or type your own query in the text box below.
2. Click the "Execute Query" Button to generate results. (Note: Results will be displayed in a new window)

Please refer to the [Readme](#) for more information.

## Query Expression

```
<bib>
{
  for $b in document("http://www.bn.com/bib.xml")/bib/book
  where $b/publisher = "Addison-Wesley" and $b/@year > 1991
  return
    <book year="{ $b/@year }">
      { $b/title }
    </book>
}
</bib>
```

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# Oracle XQuery Prototype

## Querying XML the XQuery way

*January 2003*

This download is a prototype implementation of the evolving XQuery language, with Oracle extensions. The release version is RELEASE\_0.2\_030121. This is a technical preview release.

The download contains a jarfile with the Oracle XQuery prototype (in a jarfile), and java docs. Once installed, you can use the Java API (JXQI), or the command-line utility to test the prototype.

The Readme includes simple installation and setup instructions.

Prerequisites :

- [Oracle XDK](#)
- [JDK 1.2.2\\_07](#)
- [Oracle XSU](#): if you want to access the database
- [JDBC driver](#): if you want to access the database

What's new :

*Changes to previous release (RELEASE\_0.1\_020210, March 2002)*

### Download the XQuery Prototype

The download includes installation instructions, Java jar file, and instructions for use.

- [Download Oracle XQuery prototype \(for windows\)](#)
- [Download Oracle XQuery prototype \(for Unix\)](#)
- [Read the Readme](#)

### Related Documents

- [JXQI : a Java API to the](#)

# The Essence of XML

# XML vs. S-expressions

<foo>1 2 3</foo>

(foo "1 2 3")

(foo 1 2 3)

<bar>1 two 3</bar>

(bar 1 "two" 3)

(bar 1 "two" "3")

# XML Schema and Validation

<foo>1 2 3</foo>



**element** foo **of type** integer-list { 1, 2, 3 }



<foo>1 2 3</foo>

```
<xs:simpleType name="integer-list" >
```

```
  <xs:list itemType="xs:integer" />
```

```
</xs:simpleType>
```

```
<xs:element name="foo" type="integer-list" />
```



## Mixing it up

<bar>1 two 3</bar>



**element** bar **of type** mixed-list { 1, "two", 3 }



<bar>1 two 3</bar>

```
<xs:simpleType name="mixed-list" >
```

```
  <xs:list>
```

```
    <xs:union memberTypes="xs:integer xs:string" />
```

```
  </xs:list>
```

```
</xs:simpleType>
```

```
<xs:element name="bar" type="mixed-list" />
```

## Really mixing it up

**element** bar **of type** mixed-list { 1, "two", "3" }



<bar>1 two 3</bar>



**element** bar **of type** mixed-list { 1, "two", 3 }

```
<xs:simpleType name="mixed-list" >
```

```
  <xs:list>
```

```
    <xs:union memberTypes="xs:integer xs:string" />
```

```
  </xs:list>
```

```
</xs:simpleType>
```

```
<xs:element name="bar" type="mixed-list" />
```

# The Essence of XML

- The problem it solves is not hard.
- It doesn't solve it very well.

# The Essence of XML

- The problem it solves is not hard.
- It doesn't solve it very well.
- (Not entirely fair:  
XML is based on SGML, which was aimed at documents, not data)
- (NB. "Essence" is used in the same sense as  
Reynolds "The Essence of Algol"  
Harper and Mitchell "The Essence of ML"  
Wadler "The Essence of Functional Programming" )

# Our contribution

- XML and Schema are in widespread use, so worth some effort to model.
- We give a foundational theory.
- Validation differs from matching.
- We characterize validation with a theorem.
- Simple version in paper, less simple in XQuery formal semantics.

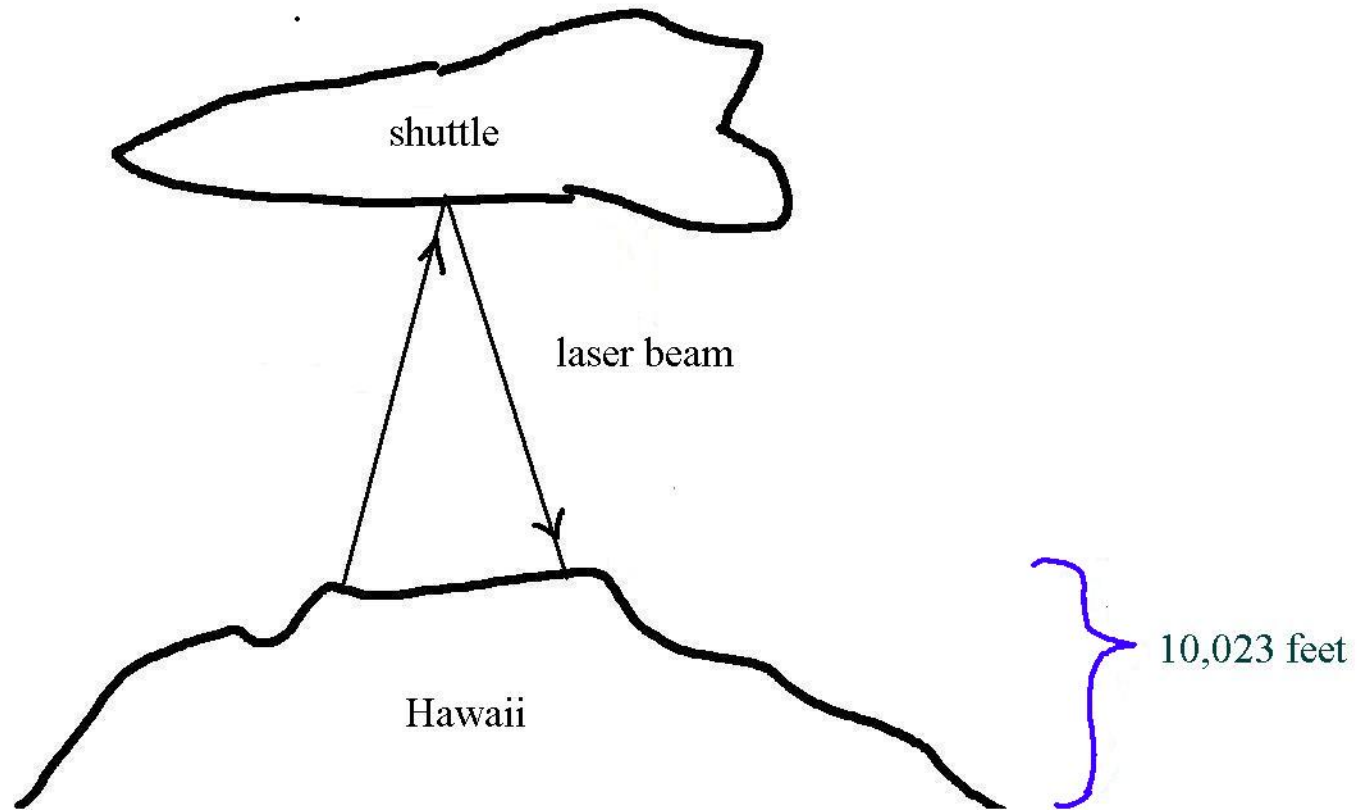
What's in a name?

# Structural types vs. Named types

```
type Feet = Integer  
type Miles = Integer
```

- **Structural**: two names for the same thing
- **Named**: two distinct types

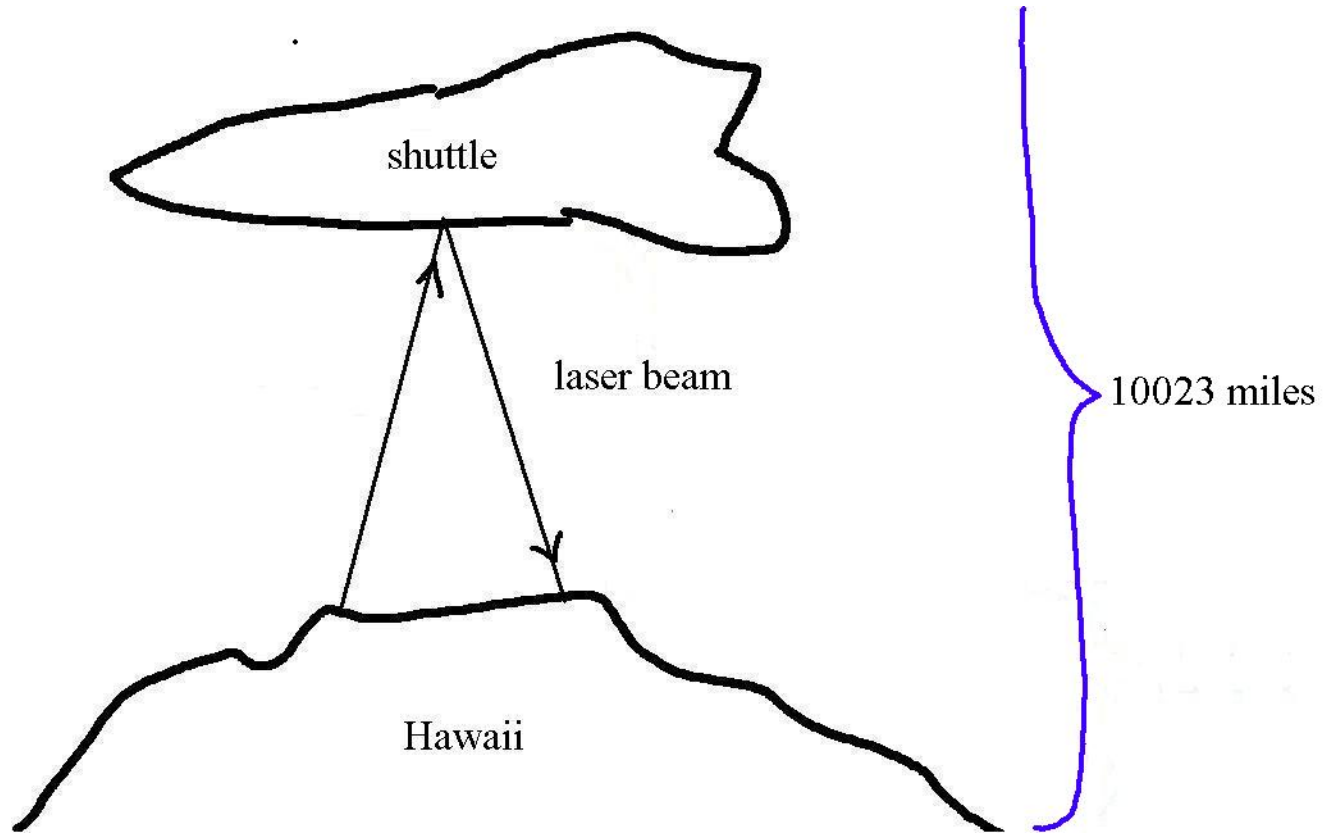
# Named typing and strategic defense



enter height? 10023

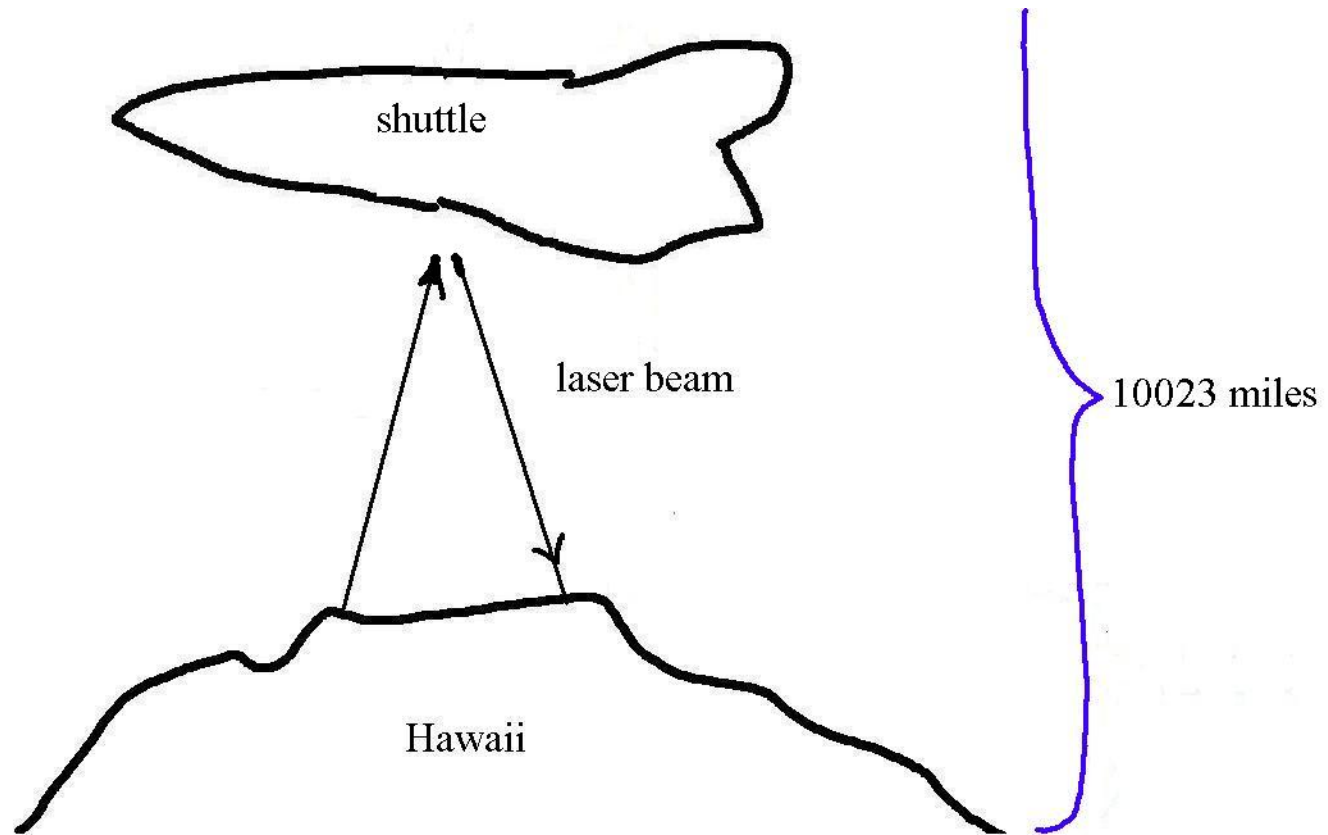


# Named typing and strategic defense



enter height? 10023

# Named typing and strategic defense



enter height? 10023

# Schema and XQuery

# XML Schema

```
<xs:simpleType name="integer-list" >  
  <xs:list itemType="xs:integer" />  
</xs:simpleType>  
<xs:element name="foo" type="integer-list" />
```

```
<xs:simpleType name="mixed-list" >  
  <xs:list>  
    <xs:union memberTypes="xs:integer xs:string" />  
  </xs:list>  
</xs:simpleType>  
<xs:element name="bar" type="integer-list" />
```

# XQuery

```
define type integer-list { xs:integer* }  
define element foo of type integer-list
```

```
define type mixed-list { (xs:integer|xs:string)* }  
define element bar of type mixed-list
```

# Schema

```
<xs:simpleType name="feet" >
  <xs:restriction base="xs:integer" />
</xs:simpleType>
<xs:simpleType name="miles" >
  <xs:restriction base="xs:integer" />
</xs:simpleType>
<xs:element name="configuration" >
  <xs:complexType>
    <xs:sequence>
      <xs:element name="shuttle" type="miles" />
      <xs:element name="laser" type="feet" />
    </xs:sequence>
  </xs:complexType>
</xs:element>
```

# XQuery

```
define type feet restricts xs:integer  
define type miles restricts xs:integer  
define element configuration of type configuration.type  
define type configuration.type {  
  element shuttle of type feet,  
  element laser of type miles  
}
```

# Validation, Matching, and Erasure



# Data model

```
<configuration>  
  <shuttle>120</shuttle>  
  <laser>10023</laser>  
</configuration>
```

=

```
element configuration {  
  element shuttle { " 120" },  
  element laser { " 10023" }  
}
```

# Validation

`validate as Type { UntypedValue } ⇒ Value`

`validate as element configuration {`

`element configuration {`

`element shuttle { "120" },`

`element laser { "10023" }`

`}`

`} ⇒`

`element configuration of type configuration.type {`

`element shuttle of type miles { 120 },`

`element laser of type feet { 10023 }`

`}`

# Matching

*Value matches Type*

```
element configuration of type configuration.type {  
  element shuttle of type miles { 120 },  
  element laser of type feet { 10023 }  
}
```

matches

```
element configuration of type configuration.type
```

# Matching depends on type names

*Value matches Type*

```
element configuration of type configuration.type {  
  element shuttle of type miles { 120 },  
  element laser of type miles { 10023 }  
}
```

matches

```
element configuration of type configuration.type
```

*(not!)*

# Unvalidated data does not match

```
element configuration {  
  element shuttle { "120" },  
  element laser { "10023" }  
}
```

matches

```
element configuration of type configuration.type
```

*(not!)*

# Erasure

*Value erases to UntypedValue*

```
element configuration of type configuration.type {  
  element shuttle of type miles { 120 },  
  element laser of type feet { 10023 }  
}
```

erases to

```
element configuration {  
  element shuttle { "120" },  
  element laser { "10023" }  
}
```

# Erasure is a relation

validate as xs:integer ( "7" )  $\Rightarrow$  7

validate as xs:integer ( "007" )  $\Rightarrow$  7

7 erases to "7"

7 erases to "007"

# Inference rules



# Matching: Sequence and choice

$$\frac{}{() \text{ matches } ()}$$
$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \textit{Value}_1 \text{ matches } \textit{Type}_1 \\ \textit{Value}_2 \text{ matches } \textit{Type}_2 \end{array}}{\textit{Value}_1, \textit{Value}_2 \text{ matches } \textit{Type}_1, \textit{Type}_2}$$
$$\frac{\textit{Value} \text{ matches } \textit{Type}_1}{\textit{Value} \text{ matches } \textit{Type}_1 \mid \textit{Type}_2}$$
$$\frac{\textit{Value} \text{ matches } \textit{Type}_2}{\textit{Value} \text{ matches } \textit{Type}_1 \mid \textit{Type}_2}$$

# Matching: Occurrence and base types

$$\frac{\textit{Value matches } () \mid \textit{Type}}{\textit{Value matches Type?}}$$
$$\frac{\textit{Value matches Type, Type*}}{\textit{Value matches Type+}}$$
$$\frac{\textit{Value matches Type+?}}{\textit{Value matches Type*}}$$
$$\frac{\textit{AtomicTypeName derives from xs:string}}{\textit{String matches AtomicTypeName}}$$
$$\frac{\textit{AtomicTypeName derives from xs:integer}}{\textit{Integer matches AtomicTypeName}}$$

# Matching: Element

*ElementType*

*yields* *BaseElementName* **of type** *BaseTypeName*

*BaseTypeName* *resolves to* *Type*

*ElementName* *substitutes for* *BaseElementName*

*TypeName* *derives from* *BaseTypeName*

*Value* *matches* *Type*

---

**element** *ElementName* **of type** *TypeName* { *Value* }  
*matches* *ElementType*

# Validation: Element

*ElementType*

*yields BaseElementName of type BaseTypeName*

*BaseTypeName resolves to Type*

*ElementName substitutes for BaseElementName*

*validate as Type { UntypedValue } ⇒ Value*

---

*validate as ElementType {*

*element ElementName { UntypedValue }*

*} ⇒ element ElementName of type TypeName { Value }*

# The validation theorem

# The validation theorem

**Theorem** We have that

*validate as Type { UntypedValue }  $\Rightarrow$  Value*

if and only if

*Value matches Type  
Value erases to UntypedValue.*

- Obvious in retrospect, not so obvious in prospect.
- Trick is to make validation and erasure into relations.

# Ambiguity and Roundtripping

**Definition** The type  $Type$  is *unambiguous for validation* if for every  $UntypedValue$  there is at most one  $Value$  such that

$validate\ as\ Type\ \{ UntypedValue \} \Rightarrow Value.$

**Corollary** (Roundtripping) If

$Value\ matches\ Type$   
 $Value\ erases\ to\ UntypedValue$   
 $validate\ as\ Type\ \{ UntypedValue \} \Rightarrow Value'$   
 $Type$  is unambiguous for validation

then

$Value = Value'.$

## Example: An unambiguous type

**element** foo **of type** integer-list { 1, 2, 3 }

erases to

<foo>1 2 3</foo>

validate as **element** foo {

<foo>1 2 3</foo>

} ⇒

**element** foo **of type** integer-list { 1, 2, 3 }



## Example: An ambiguous type

**element** bar **of type** mixed-list { "1", "two", "3" }

erases to

<bar>1 two 3</bar>

validate as **element** bar {

<bar>1 two 3</bar>

} ⇒

**element** bar **of type** mixed-list { 1, "two", 3 }

# Conclusions



# XQuery 1.0: An XML Query Language

**W3C Working Draft 16 August 2002**

This version:

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2002/WD-xquery-20020816/>

Latest version:

<http://www.w3.org/TR/xquery/>

Previous versions:

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2002/WD-xquery-20020430/>

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/WD-xquery-20011220/>

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/WD-xquery-20010607/>

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# XQuery 1.0 and XPath 2.0 Formal Semantics

## W3C Working Draft 16 August 2002

This version:

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2002/WD-query-semantics-20020816/>

Latest version:

<http://www.w3.org/TR/query-semantics/>

Previous versions:

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2002/WD-query-semantics-20020326/>

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/WD-query-semantics-20010607/>

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/WD-query-algebra-20010215/>

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/WD-query-algebra-20001204/>

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### 3.3.2 Matches

#### Notation

The judgment

*Value matches Type*

holds when the given value matches the given type.

#### Semantics

This judgment is specified by the following rules.

The empty sequence matches the empty sequence type.

$$\frac{}{\text{statEnv} \mid - () \text{ matches } ()}$$

If two values match two types, then their sequence matches the corresponding sequence type.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{statEnv} \mid - \text{Value}_1 \text{ matches } \text{Type}_1 \\ \text{statEnv} \mid - \text{Value}_2 \text{ matches } \text{Type}_2 \end{array}}{\text{statEnv} \mid - \text{Value}_1, \text{Value}_2 \text{ matches } \text{Type}_1, \text{Type}_2}$$

# The Essence of XML

- Validation

*validate as Type { UntypedValue }  $\Rightarrow$  Value*

- Matching

*Value matches Type*

- Erasure

*Value erases to UntypedValue*

- Validation Theorem

**Theorem** We have that

*validate as Type { UntypedValue }  $\Rightarrow$  Value*

if and only if

*Value matches Type  
Value erases to UntypedValue.*

# XQuery formal semantics (not in paper)

- Dynamic Semantics

$$\text{DynEnv} \vdash \text{Expr} \Rightarrow \text{Value}$$

- Static Semantics

$$\text{StatEnv} \vdash \text{Expr} : \text{Type}$$

- Type Soundness

**Theorem** If

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{DynEnv} \vdash \text{Expr} \Rightarrow \text{Value} \\ \text{StatEnv} \vdash \text{Expr} : \text{Type} \end{array}$$

then

*Value matches Type.*

## Success stories

- XQuery has two specifications, one in prose and one using formal methods — one of the first uses of formal methods in an industrial standard.
- Formalization of *named typing* raised ten issues not resolved in the prose specification.
- XQuery face-to-face, Chapel Hill, NC, 17–18 October 2002: After presentation of formal semantics of *pure named typing*, it was accepted *without dissent*. In the two-day meeting, this was the *only* decision adopted without dissent.
- Our techniques also adopted by James Clark and Makoto Murata to formalize Relax NG, another industrial standard.





# RELAX NG Specification

## Committee Specification 11 August 2001

This version:

Committee Specification: 11 August 2001

Editors:

James Clark <[jjc@jclark.com](mailto:jjc@jclark.com)>, MURATA Makoto <[mura034@attglobal.net](mailto:mura034@attglobal.net)>

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## § 6.2. Patterns

The axioms and inference rules for patterns use the following notation:

$p$   
ranges over patterns (elements matching the pattern production)

$cx \mid\!-\! \alpha, m \approx\! \sim p$   
asserts that with respect to context  $cx$ , the attributes  $\alpha$  and the sequence of elements and strings  $m$  matches the pattern  $p$

### 6.2.1. choice pattern

The semantics of the `choice` pattern are as follows:

$$\text{(choice 1)} \quad \frac{cx \mid\!-\! \alpha, m \approx\! \sim p_1}{cx \mid\!-\! \alpha, m \approx\! \sim \langle\text{choice}\rangle p_1 p_2 \langle/\text{choice}\rangle}$$

$$\text{(choice 2)} \quad \frac{cx \mid\!-\! \alpha, m \approx\! \sim p_2}{cx \mid\!-\! \alpha, m \approx\! \sim \langle\text{choice}\rangle p_1 p_2 \langle/\text{choice}\rangle}$$

# Action items

- Paper in POPL proceedings misprinted; get it from the web.
- Review XQuery and send us your comments!