## XML

(Additional Parts – xml basic)

#### What is XML?

- XML stands for eXtensible Markup Language
- XML is a markup language much like HTML
- XML was designed to describe data
- XML tags are not predefined. You must define your own tags
- XML uses a Document Type Definition (DTD) or an XML Schema to describe the data
- XML with a DTD or XML Schema is designed to be self-descriptive
- XML is a W3C Recommendation

# The Main Difference Between XML and HTML

- XML was designed to carry data.
- XML is not a replacement for HTML.
   XML and HTML were designed with different goals:
  - (1) XML was designed to describe data and to focus on what data is.
  - (2) HTML was designed to display data and to focus on how data looks.
- HTML is about displaying information, while XML is about describing information.

# XML Does not DO Anything

 Maybe it is a little hard to understand, but XML does not DO anything. XML was created to structure, store and to send information.

```
<note>
<to>Tove</to>
<from>Jani</from>
<heading>Reminder</heading>
<body>Don't forget me this weekend!</body>
</note>
```

Someone must write a piece of software to send, receive or display it.

## XML in Future Web Development

- XML is Free and Extensible
   XML tags are not predefined. You must "invent" your own tags.
- XML is a Complement to HTML
   XML is a cross-platform, software and hardware independent tool for transmitting information.
- XML in Future Web Development
   XML is going to be everywhere.

## How can XML be Used?

It is important to understand that XML was designed to store, carry, and exchange data. XML was not designed to display data.

- XML can Separate Data from HTML
- XML is Used to Exchange Data
- XML and B2B
- XML Can be Used to Share Data
- XML Can be Used to Store Data
- XML Can Make your Data More Useful
- XML Can be Used to Create New Languages
- If Developers Have Sense

## XML Syntax Rules

 XML documents use a self-describing and simple syntax.

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<note>
<to>Tove</to>
<from>Jani</from>
<heading>Reminder</heading>
<body>Don't forget me this weekend!</body>
</note>
```

## XML Syntax Rules

- All XML Elements Must Have a Closing Tag
- XML Tags are Case Sensitive
- XML Elements Must be Properly Nested
- XML Documents Must Have a Root Element
- XML Attribute Values Must be Quoted
- With XML, CR / LF is Converted to LF
- Comments in XML is similar to that in HTML.
- There is Nothing Special About XML

## XML Encoding

XML documents may contain foreign characters.
 To let your XML parser understand these characters, you should save your XML documents as Unicode.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-10646"?>
```

- <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UCS-4"?>
- <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-16"?>
- <?xml version="1.0" encoding="gb2312"?>

#### XML Elements

Elements are related as parents and children.

```
<book>
         title>My First XML</title>
 root.
         prod id="33-657" media="paper">
parent
element
         <chapter>Introduction to XML
            <para>What is HTML</para>
 child
element
            <para>What is XML</para>
         </chapter>
         <chapter>XML Syntax
            <para>Elements must have a closing tag</para>
            <para>Elements must be properly nested</para>
         </chapter>
      </book>
```

#### XML Elements

- XML elements must follow these naming rules:
  - (1) Names can contain letters, numbers, and other characters
  - (2) Names must not start with a number or punctuation character
  - (3) Names must not start with the letters xml (or XML, or Xml, etc)
    - (4) Names cannot contain spaces

#### XML Elements

 Any name can be used, no words are reserved, but the idea is to make names descriptive.
 Names with an underscore separator are nice.

```
<first_name> <last_name>
```

- Avoid "-" and "." in names.
- A good practice is to use the naming rules of your database for the elements in the XML documents.
- The ":" should not be used in element names because it is reserved to be used for something called namespaces

#### XML Attributes

- XML elements can have attributes in the start tag, just like HTML.
- Attributes are used to provide additional information about elements.
- Quote Styles, "female" or 'female'?

```
<person sex="female">
<person sex='female'>
```

Note: If the attribute value itself contains double quotes or single quotes

```
<gangster name= 'Bin "Base" Laden'>
<gangster name= "Bin 'Base' Laden">
```

## Use of Elements vs. Attributes

 There are no rules. Use child elements if the information feels like data.

```
<person>
<sex>female</sex>
<firstname>Anna</firstname>
<lastname>Smith</lastname>
</person>
```

```
<person sex="female">
  <firstname>Anna</firstname>
  <lastname>Smith</lastname>
  </person>
```

### XML Validation

- XML with correct syntax is Well Formed XML.
- XML validated against a DTD or a Schema is Valid XML.
- With CSS or XSL you can add display information to your XML document.
- Errors in XML documents will stop your XML program.
- Validate your XML, we can use some software like that Altova's XMLSpy or XMLwriter.

## XML Namespaces

 Since element names in XML are not predefined, a name conflict will occur when two different documents use the same element names.

```
Apples
Apples

Bananas
```

```
<name>Coffee Table</name>
<width>80</width>
<length>120</length>
```

## XML Namespaces

#### STEP 1:

Solving Name Conflicts
 Using a Prefix

```
<h:table>
<h:tr>
<h:td>Apples</h:td>
<h:td>Bananas</h:td>
</h:tr>
</h:table>
```

```
<f:table>
<f:name>Coffee Table</f:name>
<f:width>80</f:width>
<f:length>120</f:length>
</f:table>
```

#### STEP 2: Using Namespaces

```
<h:table xmlns:h="http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/">
  <h:tr>
  <h:td>Apples</h:td>
  <h:td>Bananas</h:td>
  </h:tr>
  </h:tr>
  </h:table>
```

```
<f:table xmlns:f="http://www.furniture.com/furniture">
 <f:name>Coffee Table</f:name>
 <f:width>80</f:width>
 <f:length>120</f:length>
 </f:table>
```

## XML Namespaces

XML Namespaces Syntax

xmlns:namespace-prefix="namespaceURI"

- When a namespace is defined in the start tag of an element, all child elements with the same prefix are associated with the same namespace.
- Note that the address used to identify the namespace is not used by the parser to look up information. The only purpose is to give the namespace a unique name.

## XML Namespaces

Default Namespaces

Defining a default namespace for an element saves us from using prefixes in all the child elements.

```
xmlns="namespaceURI"
```

```
  Apples
  Apples
  Apples

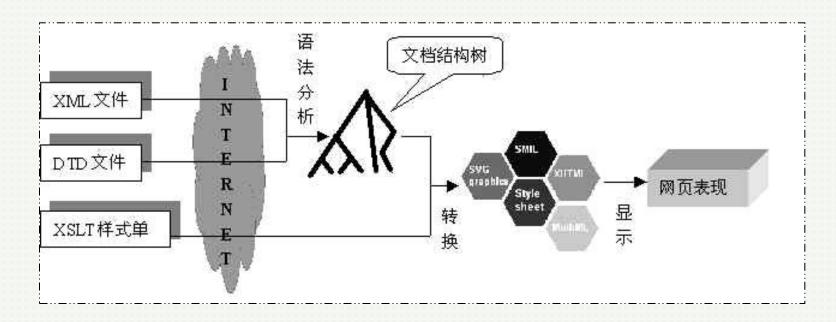
  Bananas
```

#### XML CDATA

 All text in an XML document will be parsed by the parser. Only text inside a CDATA section will be ignored by the parser.

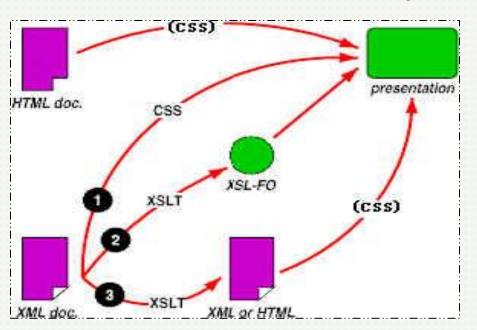
```
<![CDATA] content
<![CDATA[
function match(a,b)
 if (a < b && a < 0) then {return 1}
 else {return 0}
    What string can't contain in a CDATA section?
```

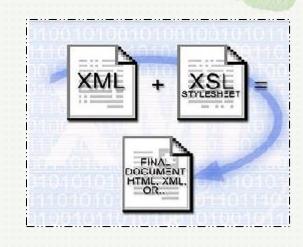
# Displaying XML



 Formatting XML with CSS is NOT the future of how to style XML documents. XML document should be styled by using the W3C's XSL standard!

## Displaying XML

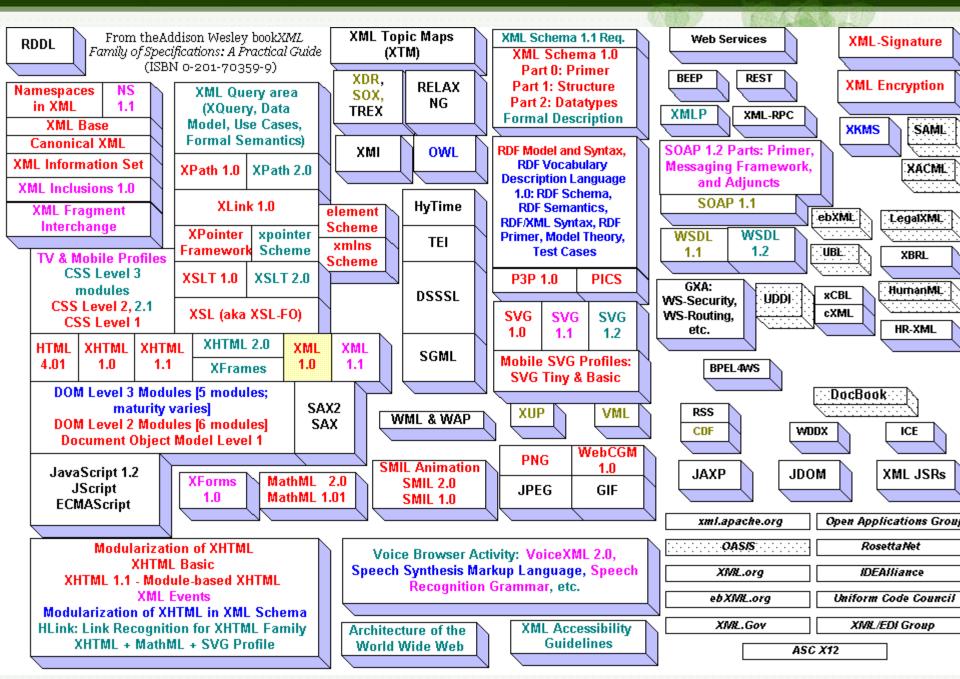




<?xml-stylesheet type="text/css" href="style.css"?>

<?xml-stylesheet type="text/xsl" href="simple.xsl"?>

 XSL (the eXtensible Stylesheet Language) is far more sophisticated than CSS.



## The End