

XSLT, continued

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Recap

We have met the following XSL basic controls:

```
<xsl:stylesheet>  
<xsl:template match="...">  
  <xsl:apply-templates select="...">  
    <xsl:value-of select="...">  
  <xsl:text>  
  <xsl:choose>
```

... with the following 'extras'

```
<xsl:sort>  
<xsl:number>  
count()  
sum()  
XPath axes  
qualified matches with []
```



Modes

You can process the same elements in different ways using modes:

```
<xsl:template match="/">
  <xsl:apply-templates select="./div" mode="toc"/>
  <xsl:apply-templates/>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match="div" mode="toc">
  Heading <xsl:value-of select="head"/>
</xsl:template>
```

This is a very useful technique when the same information is processed in different ways in different places.



More functions

- ➡ document: (*string*)
- ➡ generate-id: (*string*)
- ➡ name: (*node*)
- ➡ concat: (*string, string*)
- ➡ contains: (*string, string*)
- ➡ substring-before: (*string, string*)
- ➡ substring-after: (*string, string*)
- ➡ string-length: (*string*)
- ➡ translate: (*node, string, string*)
- ➡ normalize-space: (*string*)



A useful catchall template

The pattern * matches any element which does not have a more specific template, so

```
<xsl:template match="*">
  <span style="color: red">
    <xsl:text>&lt; </xsl:text>
    <xsl:value-of select="name(.)"/>
    <xsl:text>&gt; </xsl:text>
  </span>
  <xsl:apply-templates/>
  <span style="color: red">
    <xsl:text>&lt; </xsl:text>
    <xsl:value-of select="name(.)"/>
    <xsl:text>&gt; </xsl:text>
  </span>
</xsl:template>
```

puts the names of all elements in red in the output. This shows you clearly which elements you have defined templates for.



.. but what about attributes?

```
<xsl:template match="*">
  <span style="color: red">
    <xsl:text>&lt;</xsl:text>
    <xsl:value-of select="name(.)"/>
    <xsl:for-each select="attribute::*">
      <xsl:text> </xsl:text>
      <xsl:value-of select="name(.)"/>
      <xsl:text>='</xsl:text>
      <xsl:value-of select="."/>
      <xsl:text>'</xsl:text>
    </xsl:for-each>
    <xsl:text>&gt;</xsl:text>
  </span>
  . . . .
```



String functions

```
<xsl:template match="hi[@rend='upper']">
  <xsl:value-of
    select="translate(.,'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwzy',
      'ABCDEFGHJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ')"/>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match="xref">
  <span style="color:red">
    (<xsl:value-of
      select="substring-before(@url,'://')"/> protocol)
  </span>
  <span style="color:green">
    <xsl:value-of
      select="substring-after(@url,'://')"/>
  </span>
</xsl:template>
```

(test4.xsl)



Using generate-id():

```
<xsl:template match="/">
  <p> <xsl:for-each select="."/>p"
    <a href="#para-{generate-id()}">para
      <xsl:number level="any"/>, </a>
    </xsl:for-each>
  </p>
  <xsl:apply-templates/>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match="p">
  <p> <a name="para-{generate-id()}">para</a>
    <xsl:apply-templates/>
  </p>
</xsl:template>
```

(test5.xsl)



The document function

Using **document** to pull in another file and process it:

```
<xsl:template match="*">
  <xsl:copy><xsl:apply-templates/></xsl:copy>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match="xptr[@type='include']">
  <xsl:for-each select="document(@url)/*">
    <xsl:copy><xsl:apply-templates/></xsl:copy>
  </xsl:for-each>
</xsl:template>
```



Named templates, parameters and variables

`<xsl:template name="...">`: define a named template

`<xsl:call-template>`: call a named template

`<xsl:param>`: specify a parameter in a template definition

`<xsl:with-param>`: specify a parameter when calling a template

`<xsl:variable name="...">`: define a variable



Variables

```
<xsl:template match="p">
  <xsl:variable name="n">
    <xsl:number/>
  </xsl:variable>
  Paragraph <xsl:value-of select="$n"/>
  <a name="P{$n}"/>
    <xsl:apply-templates/>
  </xsl:template>
```

(test11.xsl)



Named templates

```
<xsl:template match="/div">
  <html>
    <xsl:call-template name="header">
      <xsl:with-param name="title" select="head"/>
    </xsl:call-template>
    <xsl:apply-templates/>
  </html>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template name="header">
  <xsl:param name="title"/>
  <head>
    <title><xsl:value-of select="$title"/></title>
  </head>
</xsl:template>
```

(test12.xsl)



Top-level commands

`<xsl:import href="...">`: include a file of XSLT templates, overriding them as needed

`<xsl:include href="...">`: include a file of XSLT templates, but do not override them

`<xsl:output>`: specify output characteristics of this job



Some useful `xsl:output` attributes

`method="xml | html | text"`
`encoding="string"`
`omit-xml-declaration="yes | no"`
`doctype-public="string"`
`doctype-system="string"`
`indent="yes | no"`



An identity transform

```
<xsl:output
  method="xml"
  indent="yes"
  encoding="iso-8859-1"
  doctype-system="teixlite.dtd"/>

<xsl:template match="/">
  <xsl:copy-of select="."/>
</xsl:template>
```

(test9.xsl)



A near-identity transform

```
<xsl:template match="*|@*|processing-instruction(">
  <xsl:copy>
    <xsl:apply-templates
      select="*|@*|processing-instruction()|comment()|text()"/>
  </xsl:copy>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match="text(">
  <xsl:value-of select="."/>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match="p">
  <para><xsl:apply-templates/></para>
</xsl:template>
```

(test10.xsl)



XSLT extensions

Although we will not be covering them here, most XSLT processors support various extensions, which will probably be formalized in version 2.0:

- ➡ The ability to create *multiple* output files from one input
- ➡ The ability to 'escape' to another language (eg Java) for special purposes
- ➡ The ability to turn results into input trees for further processing



TEI Stylesheets

A library of stylesheets for transforming TEI documents to either HTML or XSL Formatting Objects, at <http://www.tei-c.org/Stylesheets>, with a form-filling interface for the HTML at <http://www.tei-c.org/tei-bin/stylebear>



TEI Stylesheets (example)

An example of an importing stylesheet:

```
<xsl:stylesheet
  xmlns:xsl="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform"
  version="1.0">
  <xsl:import
    href="http://www.tei-c.org/Stylesheets/teihtml.xsl"/>
  <xsl:param
    name="splitLevel">1</xsl:param>
  <xsl:param
    name="numberHeadings"></xsl:param>
  <xsl:param
    name="topNavigationPanel">true</xsl:param>
  <xsl:param
    name="bottomNavigationPanel">true</xsl:param>
</xsl:stylesheet>
```



What about the delivery problem?

We all have the same problem. We want documents which can be

- ➡ Put on the web, with a consistent style
 - ➡ ... with a different style next week
 - ➡ ... with a different style for colour-blind people
 - ➡ Formatted nicely into a printable PDF file
 - ➡ Printed out in Braille
 - ➡ Indexed intelligently by next-generation web indexing robots
 - ➡ Checked rigourously against syntactic constraints
- ... and all without any human intervention or maintenance cost.



And management too, please

- ➡ We want a complete document history and ability to revert to old versions
- ➡ We want to know who changed a file, and when, and why
- ➡ We want to have a workflow in which documents can be tested, approved, and published

In short, a *Content Management System*.

... and remember not to spend any money

... and keep it Open Source politically correct



Bits of a system, integrated or non-integrated

1. Storage, versioning and history
2. Authoring in some vocabulary
3. Content sanity (eg link validation)
4. Component assembly
5. **delivery via a web server**
6. Interface design (accessibility checking)



Key features of our XSLT system

- ➡ XSLT stylesheets can import others, and then override selected bits of them
- ➡ The local stylesheet can override at any level, right down to trapping character data
- ➡ Local stylesheet wrappers can be created using a web form
- ➡ CSS for decorating the HTML gives the designer a second bite at the cherry



Production system: HTML

Given a *vocabulary* and a *stylesheet*, we can

- ➡ Serve static HTML — too limited
- ➡ Supply XML and XSLT to the browser — not enough browser support yet
- ➡ Throw it all into a database and do the work on retrieval — only delays the problem
- ➡ Have the web server do the work — not perfectly efficient, but flexible

We need a sub-system on the web server.



AxKit summary

- ➡ Open source package by Matt Sergeant, running under Apache mod_perl, written in Perl and C
- ➡ Now part of Apache XML project
- ➡ Uses libxslt XSLT processor by Daniel Veillard (or Sablotron)
- ➡ Normal scripting/extension work is in Perl
- ➡ Same philosophy and setup as Apache Cocoon (Java)
- ➡ Works with a pipeline of transformations, which may be in XSLT or other languages
- ➡ Powerful features for choosing stylesheeting according to PI in source file, DTD, media, client, URL parameters, etc

Under active development at

<http://www.axkit.org/>, currently at version 1.6



The Transformation Pipeline

- ➡ AxKit processes material in a *pipeline*
- ➡ The output of one stage is input of the next (passes DOM tree in memory normally)
- ➡ Processes in the pipeline can be XSLT transformations, Perl programs, or anything we care to define
- ➡ Flexible definition of how to start the pipeline (Providers — ie a file system)
- ➡ Processes map to processors by mime types



How to control AxKit

AxKit is controlled by Apache directives, eg in `httpd.conf` or `.htaccess`:

```
PerlModule AxKit
<Files "*.xml"> AxAddStyleMap text/xsl
Apache::AxKit::Language::LibXSLT AxAddRootProcessor
text/xsl /stylesheets/teihtml-oucs.xsl
TEI.2 AxAddRootProcessor text/xsl
/stylesheets/docbook/html/docbook.xsl article </Files>
```



AxKit config 2: allow for multiple styles

```
<AxStyleName #default> AxAddProcessor text/xsl  
teihtml-oucs.xsl </AxStyleName> <AxStyleName printable>  
AxAddProcessor text/xsl teihtml-oucs-printable.xsl  
</AxStyleName> <AxStyleName text> AxAddProcessor  
text/xsl teihtml-oucs-text.xsl </AxStyleName>  
<AxStyleName css> AxAddProcessor text/xsl  
teihtml-oucs-css.xsl </AxStyleName> <AxStyleName raw>  
AxAddProcessor text/xsl teihtml-oucs-raw.xsl  
</AxStyleName>
```



Choosing the style

By processing instruction `<?xml-stylesheet
title="screen" href="index.xsl"
type="text/xsl"?>`

By URL parameter `index.xml?style=screen`

By user agent

```
PerlSetVar AxUASStyleMap "netscape => Mozilla/4.77,\  
text => Lynx, \  
screen=>"
```

By cookie



Ways of specifying the stylesheet

By root element `AxAddRootProcessor`
`text/xsl teihtml-oucs.xsl TEI.2`

By doctype `AxAddDocTypeProcessor`
`text/xsl teihtml-oucs.xsl "-//TEI
P4//DTD Main DTD Driver File//EN"`

By URI `AxAddURIProcessor` `text/xsl`
`teihtml-oucs.xsl "text.*\*.xml$"`

By DTD `AxAddDTDProcessor` `text/xsl`
`teihtml-oucs.xsl /dtds/tei-oucs.dtd`

