Adding Structure and Semantics with XSLT 2.0

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XML 2010
eMedia Revolution
October 15, 2010
The Scenario

• You have content that is either:
  – almost completely unstructured
  – structured according to its presentation, not its meaning
  – structured according to the desired DTD/Schema, but not granularly enough

• You want it to add structure
Why Add Structure?

• Enable links
  – links to URLs, email addresses, intra- or inter-document references

• Enable automatic generation of TOCs, indexes, summary views, etc.

• Enable more focused searching

• Ensure more consistent formatting
Why XSLT 2.0 for Adding Structure?

- XML-aware
  - Understands XML syntax, encoding, etc.
  - Understands namespaces
- Template processing provides necessary flexibility
  - "Push style" templates allow conversion to be driven by the content
  - Priorities allow templates to be overridden for special cases
- Advanced features (text matching, grouping)
• XSLT 2.0 has excellent regular expression support

• `xsl:analyze-string` element splits string into matching and non-matching parts, based on a regex
  - `xsl:matching-substring` child specifies what to do with matching parts
  - `xsl:non-matching-substring` child specifies what to do with non-matching parts
<xsl:function name="my:markUpPhone">
  <xsl:param name="theText"/>
  <xsl:analyze-string select="$theText"
    regex="[0-9]{3}/[0-9]{3}-[0-9]{4}"
  >
    <xsl:matching-substring>
      <xsl:element name="phone">
        <xsl:value-of select="."/>
      </xsl:element>
    </xsl:matching-substring>
    <xsl:non-matching-substring>
      <xsl:copy/>
    </xsl:non-matching-substring>
  </xsl:analyze-string>
</xsl:function>

can be reached at 231/555-1212 or...

can be reached at <phone>231/555-1212</phone> or...
The regex-group Function

```xml
<xsl:function name="my:markUpPhone">
  <xsl:param name="theText"/>
  <xsl:analyze-string select="$theText"
    regex="([0-9]{3})/([0-9]{3}-[0-9]{4})">
    <xsl:matching-substring>
      <xsl:element name="phone">
        <areaCode><xsl:value-of select="regex-group(1)"/></areaCode>
        <number><xsl:value-of select="regex-group(2)"/></number>
      </xsl:element>
    </xsl:matching-substring>
  </xsl:analyze-string>
</xsl:function>
```

can be reached at 231/555-1212 or...

can be reached at
<phone><areaCode>231</areaCode><number>555-1212</number></phone> or...
Grouping Sections and Lists

- Grouping features are very useful for adding container structures to content
- `xsl:for-each-group` element allows you to iterate through groups
- Two functions can be used within `for-each-group`:
  - `current-group()` returns members of current group
  - `current-grouping-key()` returns the current grouping key
- **group-by**
  - groups based on a shared value

- **group-adjacent**
  - groups adjacent items with the same key together

- **group-starting-with**
  - creates a group of items starting with the specified element

- **group-ending-with**
  - creates a group of items ending with the specified element
Grouping by Starting Element

Input document

Desired output document
Grouping by Starting Element

```xml
<xsl:template match="/">
  <xsl:for-each-group select="body/*" group-starting-with="h1">
    <section level="1">
      <xsl:for-each-group select="current-group()" group-starting-with="h2">
        <xsl:choose>
          <xsl:when test="current-group()[self::h2]">
            <section level="2">
              <xsl:apply-templates select="current-group()"/>
            </section>
          </xsl:when>
          <xsl:otherwise>
            <xsl:apply-templates select="current-group()"/>
          </xsl:otherwise>
        </xsl:choose>
      </xsl:for-each-group>
    </section>
  </xsl:for-each-group>
</xsl:template>
```
The following...:

1. Open the file.
2. Change it to...
3. Save the file.

As you can see...

Desired output document
<xsl:template match="body">
  <body>
    <xsl:for-each-group select="*"
      group-adjacent="my:is-a-list-item(.)">
      <xsl:choose>
        <xsl:when test="current-grouping-key() = true()">
          <ul>
            <xsl:for-each select="current-group()">
              <li><xsl:apply-templates/></li>
            </xsl:for-each>
          </ul>
        </xsl:when>
        <xsl:otherwise>
          <xsl:copy-of select="."/>
        </xsl:otherwise>
      </xsl:choose>
    </xsl:for-each-group>
  </body>
</xsl:template>
Grouping Adjacent Items (cont.)

```xml
<xsl:template match="text()">
  <xsl:choose>
    <xsl:when test="my:is-a-list-item(parent::p)
      and my:is-a-list-item(.)
      and ( . is parent::p/node()[1])">
      <xsl:value-of select="replace(.,'^\s*\d+.\s*','')"/>
    </xsl:when>
    <xsl:otherwise>
      <xsl:copy-of select="."/>
    </xsl:otherwise>
  </xsl:choose>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:function name="my:is-a-list-item">
  <xsl:param name="node"/>
  <xsl:sequence select="matches($node,'^\\s*\d+.\')"/>
</xsl:function>
```
Inferring Structure from Section Numbers

- Use two steps:
  - Convert the p's to their desired names
  - Group based on the element names, as in the first example

```xml
<xsl:template match="body">
  <xsl:variable name="renamed" as="element()[*]">
    <xsl:apply-templates mode="rename"/>
  </xsl:variable>
  <body>
    <xsl:for-each-group select="$renamed" group-starting-with="title">
      <!-- same logic as first grouping example -->
    </xsl:for-each-group>
  </body>
</xsl:template>
```
Inferring Structure from Section Numbers

<xsl:template match="p" mode="rename">
  <xsl:choose>
    <xsl:when test="my:is-a-chapter(.)">
      <title>
        <xsl:apply-templates/>
      </title>
    </xsl:when>
    <xsl:when test="my:is-a-level-1(.)">
      <h1>
        <xsl:apply-templates/>
      </h1>
    </xsl:when>
    <xsl:otherwise>
      <xsl:copy-of select="."/>
    </xsl:otherwise>
  </xsl:choose>
</xsl:template>

<body>
  <p>Chapter 1</p>
  <p>1.1 Introduction</p>
  <p>In this section...</p>
  <p>More text</p>
  <p>1.2 Next Steps</p>
  <p>In this section...</p>
</body>
Using Style Information

- Named styles are usually your most important clue regarding what something means.
- Ideally, you have named styles to work with:
  - Word paragraph and character styles
  - HTML div and span classes
  - etc.
Turning Word Styles into Element Names

Style/Element Mapping Document

XSLT

Simplified intermediate document

Word document
<xsl:template match="w:p">
    <xsl:variable name="newElName">
        <xsl:sequence select="doc('stylemap.xml')/styles
            /style[name=current()/w:pPr/w:pStyle/@w:val]/transformTo"/>
    </xsl:variable>
    <xsl:element name="{if ($newElName != '')
        then $newElName
        else 'p'}">
        <xsl:apply-templates/>
    </xsl:element>
</xsl:template>
Using Formatting Information

• In the absence of named styles, formatting information provides important clues about the structure of content

Methods

RNase L–Null Mice
Six- to 8-week-old RNase L–null mice and congenic control mice were used. The genetic background of the RNase L–null and congenic control mice was 129/sv 1 x Swiss black. The construction of the RNase L gene-targeting vector and the generation of RNase L–null mice have been described. The RNase L–null mice and the congenic control mice were not visually distinguishable. All animals were handled in accordance with the ARVO Statement for the Use of Animals in Ophthalmic and Vision Research.

Cells and Virus
HSV-1 strain McKrae was propagated on primary rabbit kidney cell monolayers in minimal essential medium (GIBCO, Gaithersburg, MD) with 5% fetal bovine serum and titered on African green monkey kidney cells.
<p><strong>RNase L-Null Mice</strong></p>

Six- to 8-week-old RNase L-null mice and congenic control mice were used. The genetic background of the RNase L-null and congenic control mice was 129/o1a <font face="arial,helvetica">x</font> Swiss black.<sup><a href="#B24">24</a></sup> The construction...

<p><strong>Cells and Virus</strong></p>

HSV-1 strain McKrae was propagated on primary rabbit kidney cell monolayers in minimal essential medium (GIBCO, Gaithersburg, MD) with 5% fetal bovine serum and titered on African green monkey kidney cells. </p>
Using Formatting Information

<xsl:template match="table[@bgcolor='#e1e1e1'][tr/th/font[@size='+2']]">
  <h1>
    <xsl:apply-templates/>
  </h1>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match="p">
  <xsl:variable name="firstBr" select="br[1]"/>
  <h2>
    <xsl:apply-templates select="node()[. &lt;&lt; $firstBr]"/>
  </h2>
  <p>
    <xsl:apply-templates select="node()[. &gt;&gt; $firstBr]"/>
  </p>
</xsl:template>
• Formatting combined with content can help identify semantics

Abstract

PURPOSE. The 2',5'-oligoadenylate-dependent RNase L gene functions in the interferon-inducible RNA decay pathway known as the 2–5A system. The purpose of this study was to determine whether the absence of this gene affects the pathogenesis of herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) ocular infection in the mouse.

METHODS. HSV-1 (strain McKrae) was applied bilaterally to unscarified corneas of RNase L–null mice and congenic controls. To evaluate the severity of herpetic keratitis, slit lamp examinations (SLE) were performed every other day for 14 days. To study corneal histology and apoptosis, HSV-1–inoculated RNase-L-null and congenic control mice, as well as mock-inoculated mice (apoptosis negative control), were killed at 6 and 18 hours postinoculation (PI). Uninoculated mice that underwent corneal scarification (apoptosis positive control)
PURPOSE. The 2',5'-oligoadenylate-dependent RNase L gene functions in the interferon-inducible RNA decay pathway known as the ...<p>

METHODS. HSV-1 (strain McKrae) was applied bilaterally to unscarified corneas of RNase L-null mice and congenic controls. To evaluate the severity of herpetic keratitis, slit lamp examinations (SLE) were performed every other day for 14 days. To study corneal histology and apoptosis, HSV-1-inoculated RNase-L-null and congenic control mice, as well as mock-inoculated mice (apoptosis negative control),.... </p>
<xsl:template match="p">
  <xsl:choose>
    <xsl:when test="matches(font[@size='-1'],"^\s*PURPOSE[.\s]*$")">
      <sec type="objectives">
        <xsl:apply-templates/>
      </sec>
    </xsl:when>
    <xsl:when test="matches(font[@size='-1'],"^\s*METHODS[.\s]*$")">
      <sec type="methods">
        <xsl:apply-templates/>
      </sec>
    </xsl:when>
    <xsl:otherwise>
      <p><xsl:apply-templates/></p>
    </xsl:otherwise>
  </xsl:choose>
</xsl:template>
Caveats

- Be careful not to inadvertently flatten mixed content
- Don't assume consistency
  - test your assumptions in your code frequently and write warning messages
- Beware of unexpected whitespace
- Human review is always recommended
Conclusions

• XSLT 2.0 has many useful features for adding structure to content
  – string matching
  – grouping
  – lookup/mapping documents
  – ability to make multiple passes via modes
  – positional testing using << and >>

• Questions?