NIE-PDB | Advanced Database Systems | 2025/26 Winter

Assignment A01 – XQuery

Assignment

- Create an XML document with sample data from the domain of your individual topic
 - Work with mutually interlinked entities of at least 3 different types (e.g., lines, flights, tickets)
 - Insert data about at least 15 particular entities (e.g., 3 lines, 4 flights, 8 tickets)
- Create expressions for exactly 2 different XPath queries (i.e., not more, not less)
- Use each of the following constructs at least once
 - Axes: descendant or descendant-or-self or // abbreviation
 - Predicates (all of the following)
 - Path expression (existence test), position testing, value comparison, general comparison
- Create expressions for exactly 3 different XQuery queries (that cannot be expressed using XPath)
- Use each of the following constructs at least once
 - Direct or computed constructor
 - FLWOR expression (with at least one FOR clause)
 - Conditional expression
 - Existential or universal quantifier

Requirements

- Both the XML document and queries must be well-formed (i.e., syntactically correct)
- Put each XPath / XQuery expression into a standalone file (e.g., xpath1.xp)
- Always add a comment describing the intended query meaning in natural language
 - Comments are written as (: comment :)
- Each query expression must be evaluated to a **non-empty sequence**

Submission

- data.xml: XML document with your data to be queried
- xpath1.xp and xpath2.xp: files with XPath expressions
- xquery1.xq, xquery2.xq, and xquery3.xq: files with XQuery expressions

Execution

- Execute the following shell command to evaluate each individual XPath or XQuery query expression
 - saxonb-xquery -s \$DataFile \$QueryFile
 - \$DataFile is the input XML document to be queried, i.e., data.xml
 - \$QueryFile is a file with query expression to be evaluated, e.g., xquery1.xq

Tools

- VideLibri XPath and XQuery Processor http://videlibri.sourceforge.net/cgi-bin/xidelcgi
- Code Beautify XML Validator https://codebeautify.org/xmlvalidator

References

- Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.1 (Second Edition)
 - W3C Recommendation (16 August 2006) https://www.w3.org/TR/xml11/

- XML Path Language (XPath) 3.1
 - W3C Recommendation (21 March 2017) https://www.w3.org/TR/xpath-31/
- XQuery 3.1: An XML Query Language
 - W3C Recommendation (21 March 2017) https://www.w3.org/TR/xquery-31/