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Chapter 8 - SQL/XML



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Outline

Overview

I. Object-Relational Database Concepts

- User-defined Data Types and Typed Tables
- 2. Object-relational Views and Collection Types
- 3. User-defined Routines and Object Behavior
- 4. Application Programs and Object-relational Capabilities

II. Online Analytic Processing

- 5. Data Analysis in SQL
- 6. Windowed Tables and Window Functions in SQL

III. XML

- 7. XML Data Modeling
- 8. SQL/XML
- XQuery

IV. More Developments (if there is time left)

temporal data models, data streams, databases and uncertainty, ...



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SQL and XML?!

- Two major perspectives
 - Flexible exchange of relational data using XML
 - publish relational as XML
 - decompose or "shred" XML into relational
 - Reliable XML data management
 - manage, search, maintain, update, ...
 - integrate with relational data
- Native-XML databases? No significant customer interest!
 - reluctance to introduce new DBMS environment
 - limited integration with relational DBMS products
 - lack of maturity (scalable, reliable, highly available, ...)
 - skill revolution (not evolution) required

Remember OO-DBMS?



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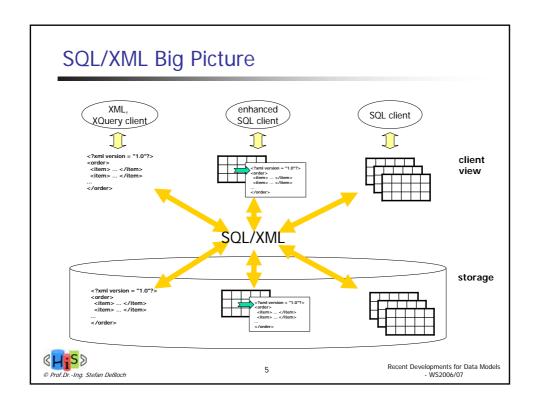
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SQL and XML

- Use existing (object-)relational technology?
 - Large Objects: granularity understood by DBMS may be too coarse!
 - search/retrieval of subsets, update of documents
 - Decompose into tables: often complex, inefficient
 - mapping complexity, especially for highly "denormalized" documents
 - Useful, but not sufficient
 - should be standardized as part of SQL
 - but needs further enhancement to support "native" XML support in SQL
- Enable "hybrid" XML/relational data management
 - supports both relational and XML data
 - storage, access
 - query language
 - programming interfaces
 - ability to view/access relational as XML, and XML as relational
 - all major relational DBMS vendors are moving into this direction



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XML Data Type

- New SQL type "XML"
 - for storing XML data "natively" in the database
 - for capturing the data type of results and input values of SQL/XML functions that work with XML data
 - can have optimized internal representation (different from character string)

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- "Shape" of an XML value
 - not just a well-formed XML document
 - but also the content of an XML element
 - element, sequence of elements, text, mixed content, ...
 - based on XQuery
 - value of type XML is an instance of the XQuery data model

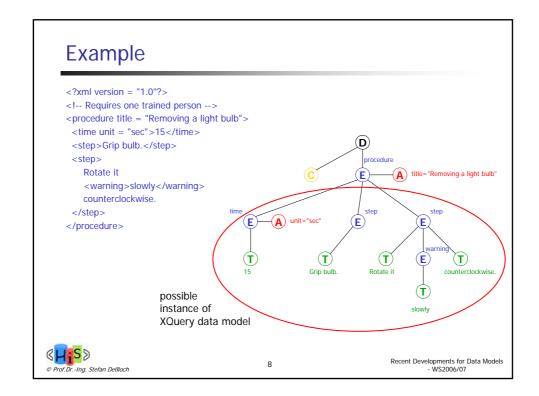


XML Data Model

- There is no uniform XML data model
 - different approaches with different goals
 - XML Information Set, DOM Structure Model, XPath 1.0 data model, XQuery data model
- Common denominator: an XML document is modeled as a tree, with nodes of different node types
 - Document, Element, Attribute, Text, Namespace, Comment, Processing Instruction
- XQuery data model builds on a tree-based model, but extends it to support
 - sequences of items
 - items are
 - nodes of different types (see above)
 - atomic values (instances of XML Schema simple types)
 - can contain heterogeneous values, are ordered, can be empty
 - typed values and type annotations
 - result of schema validation
 - type may be unknown
- Closure property
 - XQuery expressions operate on/produce instances of the XQuery Data Model



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XML Data Type - Example

```
CREATE TABLE employees
( id CHAR(6),
 lastname VARCHAR (30),
 ...,
 resume XML
)
```

ID	LASTNAME		RESUME
940401	Long	•••	<pre><?xml version="1.0"?> <resume xmlns="http://www.res.com/resume"></resume></pre>
862233	Nicks	•••	null
766500	Banner	•••	<pre><resume ref="http://www.banner.com/resume.html"></resume></pre>



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XML Data Type - Modifiers

- Permitted values can (optionally) be restricted (e.g., in column definition)
 - XML(SEQUENCE)
 - XQuery DM instance (i.e., a sequence)
 - XML(CONTENT)
 - XQuery document node
 - more flexible than well-formed documents
 - permits document nodes that have several element children (i.e., no single root)
 - XML(DOCUMENT)
 - document node with a single root element (i.e., a well-formed XML document)
- Further modifiers for CONTENT, DOCUMENT
 - UNTYPED
 - element and attribute nodes don't have type annotations (i.e., have not undergone a schema validation)
 - XMLSCHEMA
 - requires nodes contained in the XML values to be valid according to a registered schema or a global element in a schema
 - XML(DOCUMENT(XMLSCHEMA <XML valid according to what>))



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XML Data Type (continued)

- Conversion to/from character strings and BLOBs
 - XMLPARSE and XMLSERIALIZE functions
 - implicit conversion during host language interaction
- Examples:

INSERT INTO employees VALUES ('123456', 'Smith', ..., XMLPARSE (DOCUMENT '<?xml version="1.0"?> <resume xmlns="http://www.res.com/resume"><name> ... </name><address> ... </address> ... </resume>' PRESERVE WHITESPACE));

SELECT e.id, XMLSERIALIZE (DOCUMENT e.resume AS VARCHAR (2000)) AS resume FROM employees AS e
WHERE e.id = '123456';

→

ID	RESUME
123456	<pre><?xml version="1.0" encoding ="UTF-8"> <resume xmlns="http://www.res.com/resume"></resume></pre>

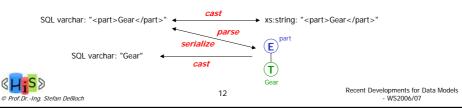


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XMLCAST - Converting SQL to XML, XML to SQL

- Convert an SQL value into an XML value
 - Values of SQL predefined types are cast to XQuery atomic types using
 - The defined mapping of SQL types/values to XML Schema types/values
 - The semantics of XQuery's cast expression
 - XMLCAST(NULL AS XML) returns the SQL null value typed as XML
- Convert an XML value into an SQL value
 - XML values are converted to values of SQL predefined types using a combination
 of
 - The defined mapping of SQL types to XML Schema types and SQL's CAST specification
 - XQuery's fn:data() function and cast expression
 - An XML value that is the empty sequence is converted to a NULL value of the specified SQL data type
- Note: XMLCAST to/from character strings is different from XMLSERIALIZE and XMLPARSE



XML Schema and Validating XML

- XML Schema has to be registered with the DBMS before it can be referenced
 - how this is done is left to the DBMS (i.e., implementation-defined)
 - need to supply at least a location URI, namespace information, and an SQL identifier (three-part name)
 - registered schema can be reference using the SQL identifier (ID) or the location URI (URI)
- XMLVALIDATE function
 - ensure that XML values are valid according to a certain registered XML schema
 - XMLVALIDATE() validates and annotates XML values
 - Multiple options to identify the XML schema to use
 - ID. URI
 - xsi:schemaLocation information provided in the input document
- Example:

INSERT INTO POrders
VALUES ('WO20051234', CURRENT TIMESTAMP, 'R', 'W',

XMLVALIDATE
(XMLPARSE (DOCUMENT '<purchaseOrder>...</purchaseOrder>'

PRESERVE WHITESPACE)

ACCORDING TO XMLSCHEMA ID PORDER));

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SQL/XML "constructor functions"

- Functions/operators for generating XML constructs (elements, attributes, ...)
 within an SQL query
- Function syntax for generating XML nodes of various types
 - XMLELEMENT, XMLATTRIBUTE, XMLCOMMENT, XMLPI, XMLTEXT
 - XMLDOCUMENT wraps an XQuery document node around an XML value
- Producing sequences of values/nodes
 - XMLFOREST generates multiple element nodes
 - XMLCONCAT concatenates XML values
- Concatenation over sets of tuples
 - XMLAGG aggregates XML across multiple tuples



XMLELEMENT

- Produces an XML value that corresponds to an XML element, given:
 - An SQL identifier that acts as its name
 - An optional list of namespace declarations
 - An optional list of named expressions that provides names and values of its attributes, and
 - An optional list of expressions that provides its content
- Options for NULL content
 - empty element
 - NULL
 - empty element with attribute nil='true'
 - empty sequence or XQuery document node with no children



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XMLELEMENT (continued)

A simple example:

SELECT e.id,

XMLELEMENT (NAME "Emp", e.lname) AS "result"

FROM employees e WHERE ... ;

→

ID	result	
1001	<emp>Smith</emp>	
1006	<emp>Martin</emp>	



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XMLELEMENT (continued)

XMLELEMENT can take subqueries as arguments:

```
SELECT e.id,

XMLELEMENT (NAME "Emp",

XMLELEMENT (NAME "name", e.lname ),

XMLELEMENT (NAME "dependants",

(SELECT COUNT (*)

FROM dependants d

WHERE d.parent = e.id))

) AS "result"

FROM employees e

WHERE ...;
```

→

ID	result
1001	<emp> <name>Smith</name> <dependants>3</dependants> </emp>



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XMLATTRIBUTES (within XMLELEMENT)

- Attribute specifications must appear directly after element name and optional namespace declaration.
- Each attribute can be named implicitly or explicitly.

```
SELECT e.id,
XMLELEMENT (NAME "Emp",
XMLATTRIBUTES (e.id, e.Iname AS "name")
) AS "result"
FROM employees e
WHERE ...;
```



ID	result
1001	<pre><emp id="1001" name="Smith"></emp></pre>
1006	<pre><emp id="1206" name="Martin"></emp></pre>



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XMLNAMESPACES (within XMLELEMENT)

• Namespace declarations must appear directly after element name.



ID	result
1130	<pre><admi:employee admi:department="C01" xmlns:admi="http://www.admi.com">QUINTANA</admi:employee></pre>
1140	<pre><admi:employee admi:department="C01" xmlns:admi="http://www.admi.com">NICHOLLS</admi:employee></pre>



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XMLCONCAT

- Produces an XML value given two or more expressions of XML type.
- If any of the arguments evaluate to the null value, it is ignored.

```
SELECT e.id,

XMLCONCAT (XMLELEMENT ( NAME "first", e.fname),

XMLELEMENT ( NAME "last", e.lname)

) AS "result"

FROM employees e ;
```

ID	result
1001	<first>John</first> <last>Smith</last>
1006	<last>Martin</last>



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XMLFOREST

- Produces a sequence of XML elements given named expressions as arguments. Arguments can also contain a list of namespace declarations.
- Element can have an explicit name or an implicit name, if the expression is a column reference
- Same options for handling NULL values as in XMLELEMENT

```
SELECT e.id,
XMLELEMENT (NAME "employee", XMLFOREST (e.hire, e.dept AS "department")
AS "result"
FROM employees e
WHERE ...;
```

ERE ;		
	ID	result
	1001	<pre><employee> <hire>2000-05-24</hire> <department>Accounting</department> </employee></pre>
	1006	<pre><employee> <hire>1996-02-01</hire></employee></pre>

<department>Shipping</department>
</employee>



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XMLAGG

- An aggregate function, similar to SUM, AVG, etc.
 - The argument for XMLAGG must be an expression of XML type.
- Semantics
 - For each row in a group G, the expression is evaluated and the resulting XML values are concatenated to produce a single XML value as the result for G.
 - An ORDER BY clause can be specified to order the results of the argument expression before concatenating.
 - All null values are dropped before concatenating.
 - If all inputs to concatenation are null or if the group is empty, the result is the null value



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XMLAGG - Example

) AS "dept_list", COUNT(*) AS "dept_count" FROM employees e GROUP BY dept ;

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dept_list	dept_count
<pre><department name="Accounting"> <emp>Smith</emp> <emp>Yates</emp> </department></pre>	2
<pre><department name="Shipping"> <emp>Martin</emp> <emp>Oppenheimer</emp> </department></pre>	2



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SQL/XML Constructor Function Usage

- Dynamically retrieve SQL data in XML format (optionally mixed with SQL)
- Use query results to update/insert into tables with XML columns
- Use standard SQL views to create logical tables with XML columns



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Manipulating XML Data

- Constructor functions
 - focus on publishing SQL data as XML
 - no further manipulation of XML
- More requirements
 - how do we select or extract portions of XML data (e.g., from stored XML)?
 - how can we decompose XML into relational data?
 - XMLCAST is not sufficient
 - both require a language to identify, extract and possibly combine parts of XML values

SQL/XML utilizes the XQuery standard for this!



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XMLQUERY

- Evaluates an XQuery or XPath expression
 - Provided as a character string literal
- Allows for optional arguments to be passed in
 - Zero or more named arguments
 - At most one unnamed argument can be passed in as the XQuery context item
 - Arguments can be of any predefined SQL data type incl. XMI
 - Non-XML arguments will be implicitly converted using XMLCAST
- Returns a sequence of XQuery nodes

SELECT XMLQUERY(

'for \$e in \$dept[@count > 3]/emp where \$e/hire > 2004-12-31 return \$e/name' PASSING BY REF deptDoc AS "dept" RETURNING SEQUENCE) AS "Name_elements" FROM XMLDept

= >

Name_elements

<name>Miller</name>

<name>Smith</name>
<name>Johnson</name>

<name>Martin</name>



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XMLTABLE

- Transforming XML data into table format
- Evaluates an XQuery or XPath expression the "row pattern"
 - each item of result sequence is turned into a row
 - allows for optional arguments to be passed in, just like XMLQuery
- Element/attribute values are mapped to column values using path expressions (PATH) – the "column pattern"
- Names and SQL data types for extracted values/columns need to be specified
- Default values for "missing" columns can be provided
- ORDINALITY column can be generated
 - contains a sequential number of the corresponding XQuery item in the XQuery sequence (result of the row pattern)

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XMLTABLE - Example

SELECT X.*

FROM XMLDept d,

XMLTABLE ('\$dept/emp' PASSING d.deptDoc AS "dept"

COLUMNS

"#num" FOR ORDINALITY,

"name" VARCHAR(30) PATH 'name',
"hire" DATE PATH 'hire',
"dept" VARCHAR(40) PATH '../@name'

) AS "X"

#num	name	hire	dept
1	Smith	2005-01-01	Accounting
2	Yates	2002-02-01	Accounting
3	Martin	2000-05-01	Shipping



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SQL Predicates on XML type

- IS DOCUMENT
 - Checks whether an XML value conforms to the definition of a well-formed XML document
- IS CONTENT
 - Checks whether an XML value conforms to the definition of either a well-formed XML document or a well-formed external parsed entity
- IS VALID
 - Checks whether an XML value is valid according to a given XML Schema
 - Does not validate/modify the XML value; i.e., no default values are supplied.
- XMLEXISTS
 - Checks whether the result of an XQuery expression (an XQuery sequence) contains at least one XQuery item



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SQL/XML Mapping Definitions

- Mapping SQL identifiers to XML Names and vice versa
 - rules for mapping regular and delimited identifiers
 - encoding/decoding of illegal character or character combinations
- Mapping SQL (built-in) data types to XML Schema types
 - best match, additional XML schema facets
 - schema annotations
- Mapping of values based on the type mappings
- Mapping of SQL tables, schemas, catalogs to XML documents
 - options for fine-tuning the XML schema structure
 - can be used to produce an XML-only "view" of a relational database
 - potential basis for XQuery over SQL data



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Mapping SQL identifiers to XML Names

- SQL identifiers and XML Names have different rules:
 - SQL regular identifiers are case insensitive
 - SQL delimited identifiers can have characters like space and "<"
 - SQL identifiers use an implementation-defined character set
- Map SQL identifiers to XML Names by:
 - Encoding characters that cannot be included in an XML Name as "_xNNNN_" or "_xNNNNN_" (N is hex digit)
 - "_x" is represented with "_x005F_x"
 - ":" is represented with "_x003A_"
 - For <identifier>s that begin with "XML" or "xml", encode the "X" or "x"
 - "XML..."will be encoded as "_x0078_ML..."



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Examples

SQL <identifier></identifier>	XML Name
employee	EMPLOYEE
"employee"	employee
"hire date"	hire_x0020_date
"comp_xplan"	comp_x005F_xplan
xmlcol	_x0078_MLCOL



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Mapping SQL data types to XML Schema data types

- Each SQL data type is mapped to an XML Schema data type; with the exception of:
 - Structured type
 - Reference type
- Appropriate XML Schema facets are used to constrain the range of values of XML Schema types to match the range of values of SQL types.
- XML Schema annotations may be used to keep SQL data type information that would otherwise be lost (optional).



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Mapping Character Strings - Example

```
CHAR (10)
                        <xsd:simpleType>
CHARACTER SET LATIN1
                           <xsd:restriction base="xsd:string">
COLLATION DEUTSCH
                              <xsd:annotation>
                                 <xsd:appinfo>
                                    <sqlxml:sqltype name="CHAR"
                                       length="10"
                                       characterSetName="LATIN1"
                                       collation="DEUTSCH"/>
                                 </xsd:appinfo>
                              </xsd:annotation>
                              <xsd:length value="10"/>
                           </xsd:restriction>
                        </xsd:simpleType>
```



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Mapping Integer - Example



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Mapping Unnamed Row Types



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Mapping Array Types - Example



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Mapping SQL values to XML

- Data type of values is mapped to corresponding XML schema types.
- Values of predefined types are first cast to a character string and then the resulting string is mapped to the string representation of the corresponding XML value.
- Values of numeric types with no fractional part are mapped with no periods.
- NULLs are mapped to either xsi:nil="true" or to absent elements, except for values of collection types whose NULLs are always mapped to xsi:nil="true".



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Mapping SQL values to XML (continued)

• For scalar types it is straightforward:

SQL data type SQL literal		XML value
VARCHAR (10)	'Smith'	Smith
INTEGER	10	10
DECIMAL (5,2)	99.95	99.95
TIME	TIME'12:30:00'	12:30:00
TIMESTAMP	TIMESTAMP'2001-09-14 11:00:00'	2001-09-14T11:00:00
INTERVAL HOUR TO MINUTE	INTERVAL'2:15'	PT02H15M



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Mapping SQL values to XML (continued)

ROW data type:

SQL data type:	ROW (city VARCHAR(30), state CHAR(2))	
SQL value:	ROW ('Long Beach', 'NY')	
XML Value: (in birth column)	<birth></birth>	



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Mapping SQL values to XML (continued)

ARRAY data type:

SQL data type:	CHAR(12) ARRAY[4]
SQL value:	ARRAY ['1-333-555-1212', NULL, '1-444-555-1212']
XML Value: (in phone column)	<pre><phone> <element>1-333-555-1212</element> <element xsi:nil="true"></element> <element>1-444-555-1212</element> </phone></pre>



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Mapping SQL Tables to XML Documents

- The following can be mapped to an XML Document:
 - Table
 - Tables of an SQL Schema
 - Tables of an SQL Catalog
- The mapping produces an XML Document and an XML Schema Document
- These XML Documents may be physical or virtual
- The mapping of SQL Tables uses the mapping of SQL identifiers, SQL data types, and SQL values
- Two choices for the mapping of null values:
 - nil: use xsi:nil="true"
 - absent: column element is omitted



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Mapping Options

- Users can control whether a table is mapped to a single element or a sequence of elements.
- In a single element option:
 - The table name serves as the element name.
 - Each row is mapped to a nested element with each element named as "row".
 - Each column is mapped to a nested element with column name serving as the element name.
- In a sequence of elements option:
 - Each row is mapped to an element with the table name serving as the element name.
 - Each column is mapped to a nested element with column name serving as the element name.



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Mapping Example - Single Element

• Map the EMPLOYEE table ("single element option"):



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Mapping Example - Sequence of Elements

Map the EMPLOYEE table ("sequence of elements option"):

```
<EMPLOYEE>
  <EMPNO>000010
  <firstnme>CHRISTINE</firstnme>
  <LASTNAME>HAAS</LASTNAME>
  <BIRTHDATE>1933-08-24</birthDATE>
  <SALARY>52750.00</sALARY>

<EMPLOYEE>
  <EMPLOYEE>
  <EMPNO>000020
  <firstnme=MICHAEL</pre>
<LASTNAME>THOMPSON
<LASTNAME>THOMPSON
<BIRTHDATE>1948-02-02
<SALARY>41250.00
```



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Mapping All Tables of a Schema

Map the ADMINISTRATOR schema:

```
<ADMINISTRATOR>
   <DEPARTMENT>
      <row>
         <DEPTNO>A00</DEPTNO>
         <DEPTNAME>SPIFFY COMPUTER SERVICE DIV.</DEPTNAME>
         <MGRNO>000010</MGRNO>
   </DEPARTMENT>
   <ORG>
         <DEPTNUMB>10</DEPTNUMB>
         <DEPTNAME>Head Office/DEPTNAME>
         <MANAGER>160</MANAGER>
   </ORG>
</ADMINISTRATOR>
                                                        Recent Developments for Data Models - WS2006/07
```

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Mapping All Tables of a Catalog

Mapping the HR catalog:

```
<HR>
   <ADMINISTRATOR>
      <DEPARTMENT>
         <row>...</row>
      </DEPARTMENT>
   </ADMINISTRATOR>
   <SYSCAT>
   </SYSCAT>
</HR>
```



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Corresponding XML Schema

- XML Schema that is generated:
 - provides named type for every column, row, table, schema, and catalog
 - allows annotation to be included in each of these definitions
- SQL data types map to XML Schema type names

SQL Data Type	XML Schema type name
INTEGER	INTEGER
CHAR (12)	CHAR_12
DECIMAL (6,2)	DECIMAL_6_2
INTEGER ARRAY [20]	ARRAY_20.INTEGER



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SQL/XML Mapping - Example

- SQL table "EMPLOYEE"
 - XML document:

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Corresponding XML-Schema document

```
<xsd:schema>
                                                                           <xsd:element name="SALARY"
                                                                             type="DECIMAL_9_2" nillable="true"/>
</xsd:sequence>
<xsd:simpleType name="CHAR_6">
<xsd:restriction base="xsd:string">
<xsd:length value="6"/>
                                                                          </xsd:complexType>
                                                                          <xsd:complexType name=
"TableType.HR.ADMINISTRATOR.EMPLOYEE">
<xsd:sequence>
  </xsd:restriction>
</xsd:simpleType>
<xsd:simpleType name="DECIMAL_9_2">
  <xsd:restriction base="xsd:decimal">
                                                                               <xsd:element name="row"
                                                                                 type=
"RowType.HR.ADMINISTRATOR.EMPLOYEE"
minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
     <xsd:totalDigits value="9"/>
     <xsd:fractionDigits value="2"/>
  </xsd:restriction>
                                                                             </xsd:sequence>
</xsd:simpleType>
                                                                          </xsd:complexType>
<xsd:complexType name=
"RowType.HR.ADMINISTRATOR.EMPLOYEE">
                                                                         <xsd:element name="EMPLOYEE" type=
"TableType.HR.ADMINISTRATOR.EMPLOYEE"/>
  <xsd:sequence>
<xsd:element name="EMPNO" type="CHAR_6"/>
                                                                          </xsd:schema>
    <xsd:element name="FIRSTNME
type="VARCHAR_12"/>
     nillable="true"/>
                                                                                                           Recent Developments for Data Models
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                                                                 51
```

XML Schema Annotations

Annotations may be included:

```
<xsd:complexType name="TableType.HR.ADMINISTRATOR.EMPLOYEE">
  <xsd:annotation>
      <xsd:appinfo>
         <sqlxml:sqlname
            type="BASE TABLE"
            catalogName="HR"
            schemaName="ADMINISTRATOR"
            localName="EMPLOYEE"/>
      </xsd:appinfo>
  </xsd:annotation>
   <xsd:sequence>
      <xsd:element name="row"</pre>
        type="RowType.HR.ADMINISTRATOR.EMPLOYEE"
         minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
   </xsd:sequence>
</xsd:complexType>
```

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Product Support

- The "big three" support XML in SQL databases
 - IBM, Oracle implement (almost) complete support of SQL/XML
 - Microsoft supports similar capabilities using proprietary syntax
 - all three support XQuery inside SQL
 - differences in implementation of XML storage
- IBM DB2 V9 (SIGMOD2005, VLDB2005)
 - CLOB-based as well as native storage for XML values
 - efficient storage, indexing, processing techniques
 - allows to include SQL requests in XQuery expressions, too
- Oracle 10g (Oracle XML-DB technical whitepaper, VLDB2004)
 - storage based on CLOBs or object-relational tables
 - · additional indexing capabilities, XML query rewrite
 - protocols (ftp, WebDAV, ...) for supporting file-oriented XML storage/access
- Microsoft SQL Server 2005 (MSDN whitepaper, VLDB2005)
 - stored as BLOB in an internal format
 - primary (B+ tree) and secondary indexes, query processing based on mapping to RDM



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Summary

- Increasing importance of XML in combination with data management
 - flexible exchange of relational data using XML
 - managing XML data and documents
 - trend towards "hybrid" approaches for relational DBMS
- SQL/XML standard attempts to support the following
 - "Publish" SQL query results as XML documents
 - Ability to store and retrieve (parts of) XML documents with SQL databases
 - Rules and functionality for mapping SQL constructs to and from corresponding XML concepts
- Relies partly on XQuery standard
 - XML data model
 - queries over XML data
- Broad support by major SQL DBMS vendors



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