

3. Unit: XML Processing with Java (I)

The first two exercises are “typical” exercises to get into the new technologies:

Exercise 3.1 (DOM Basics)

Parse `mondial.xml` into a DOM instance and implement the following query based on the DOM operations (do not apply XPath in DOM):

For all organisations that have their headquarter in the capital of a member country, output the name of the organisation and the name of the headquarter (to `System.out`).

Exercise 3.2 (SAX and StAX: Basics, Comparison, Queries against Mondial)

(a)-(c) about SAX, (d) is (a-c) in StAX, (e) is StAX

Write SAX Event Handlers in Java for the following tasks.

- Output an HTML file that lists the names of all countries in `mondial.xml`.
- Output the name and the population of the capital of Germany via `System.out`.
- use the previous part of the exercise to output all country names, the country’s capital and the country capital’s population – if available – into an HTML table.

Example:

country	capital	capital population
Albania	Tirane	192000
Greece	Athens	885737
:	:	:

- First, simply output the table values as text to `System.out`.
 - Create an HTML table as a JDOM object with the result during the SAX run and output it into a file.
- Implement parts a) – c) as given in the SAX exercise, now by using StAX. Reuse the program code as far as possible, and adapt it only to the StAX frame.
 - Implement the following query in StAX: For all organisations that have their headquarter in the capital of a member country, output the name of the organisation and the name of the headquarter city.

Exercise 3.3 (SAX, StAX and Streams)

- Extend the SAX event Handler from Exercise 3.2: For each country in `mondial.xml`, output an HTML table containing the names and – if present – the most recent population count for each city in the country. Use a `` (unordered list) environment with one list item per country.

Example:

- ...
- **Germany**

Stuttgart	588482
Mannheim	316223
Karlsruhe	277011
...	...

- Modify the event handler of the previous part of the exercise to output the following for each country with at least 10 valid city population entries:
 - the country’s name,
 - the overall number of cities,
 - each city with name and most recent population count,
 - the average city population,

- inside the city table, mark (either by color, font etc) (1) the capital city, and (2) the city whose population is closest to the average city population of the country.
- c) Modify the event handler from Exercise 3.2, Part 2 as follows:
- stop after the population number of Germany's capital has been printed;
 - add appropriate additional output to show that the process stopped there;
 - instead of printing Germany's population number, print the whole contents of the first argument of the respective `characters(char[], int, int)` call. Explain the result.
- d) Playing with streams: implement a pipe such that the event handler from Exercise 3.2, Part 2 creates results of the form

```
<result>
  <organization name="European Union"/>
  <city name="Brussels"/>
</result>
```

that are written into another `XMLOutputStream`. Create a second thread that reads from this stream and filters (via `StAX`) only the `<city>` elements. Let both threads log to `System.out` to show the concurrent processing.

Exercise 3.4 (Queries against Sloppy HTML Pages)

Often, HTML pages are not strictly valid XHTML, and thus cannot be queried by XQuery (like wikipedia, country pages from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/> or from <https://www.citypopulation.de/>, soccer tables from <https://www.kicker.de/>). Usually, the problem are empty elements that consist only of opening tags instead of correct `<... />` syntax.

A possible strategy is as follows:

- Write a SAX or StAX-based program that reads such HTML pages, and
- on-the-fly corrects such flaws into valid XML,
- materialize them as DOM which then can be queried by XPath. Use the latter for solving Exercise 1.10 by stepwise extracting data from Wikipedia pages.
- write a Java program that is called with a mountain's name and extract data for a single mountain, and then use the same program to try to extract data for all european mountains.

What other strategies are possible? Discuss their advantages and disadvantages.

The following exercises are based on a Usecase Scenario: Some province becomes independent and forms a new country

The second group of exercises implement a "realistic" use case for an update to Mondial.

Consider the case that Catalonia leaves Spain. Then, some updates have to be executed on Mondial:

- plan first your strategy, before starting to program,
- consider especially, what kinds of data items must be changed, and how,
- write the programs as generic as possible (such that they can be applied also whenever some other province turns into a new, independent country).
- Update `mondial.xml` appropriately, especially:
- take as much data as possible from Mondial,
- Catalonia becomes a member of all organizations where Spain is a member.
- Ignore the airport elements at the end of Mondial.
- The below fragment contains all necessary new facts about Catalonia [Filename: `catdata.xml`]:

```

<country car_code='CAT'>
  <name>Catalonia</name>
  <population_growth>0.8</population_growth>
  <infant_mortality>2.5</infant_mortality>
  <gdp_total>204189</gdp_total>
  <gdp_agri>3</gdp_agri>
  <gdp_ind>37</gdp_ind>
  <gdp_serv>60</gdp_serv>
  <inflation>1.5</inflation>
  <unemployment>12.6</unemployment>
  <indep_date from="E">2018-04-01</indep_date>
  <ethnicgroup percentage="100">Mediterranean Nordic</ethnicgroup>
  <religion percentage="52.4">Roman Catholic</religion>
  <religion percentage="2.5">Protestant</religion>
  <religion percentage="7.3">Muslim</religion>
  <religion percentage="1.3">Buddhist</religion>
  <religion percentage="1.2">Christian Orthodox</religion>
  <language percentage="52">Spanish</language>
  <language percentage="41.5">Catalan</language>
  <language percentage="0.1">Occitan</language>
  <border country="AND" length="65"/>
  <border country="F" length="300"/>
  <border country="E" length="320"/>
</country>

```

The task should be solved by different approaches:

- JDOM: just updating the existing Mondial data [lengthy Java programming?],
- XSLT: as a high-level transformation [declarative - maybe the shortest solution?],
- SAX/StAX: Streaming [the only way for really laaaarge XML data - not just hacking, but a strategy is needed],
- JAXB: Mapped to an object-oriented model [and then same as DOM?].

Hints:

- For XSLT and SAX/StAX, you have also to deal with the unchanged portions. Handle this with as little effort as possible, using general rules (XSLT templates and SAX/StAX conditions). Note that these two strategies are closely related.
- Focus on the general, structural issues; don't spend too much time for the dirty details of the new values for Spain.
- Our solution in XSLT just contains 10 templates (85 lines) for the general handling, and another 8 templates (80 lines) for dealing with a reasonable computation of the new Spain values.

Exercise 3.5 (Country Independence in JDOM)

- Read mondial.xml into a JDOM object,
- Update it using the JDOM operations (you can use XPath in the JDOM for searching for values or nodes),
- Write it out into a file,
- Manually, using e.g. xlint: Validate the result file against mondial.dtd.

Exercise 3.6 (Country Independence in XSLT)

Solve the previous exercise with an XSLT transformation.

Exercise 3.7 (Country Independence in SAX)

Solve the previous exercise with a SAX transformation, again writing the result out as XML into a file.

Exercise 3.8 (Country Independence in StAX)

Solve the previous exercise with a StAX transformation, again writing the result out as XML into a file.