

Sanitizing using Metadata in MetaXQuery

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SAC 2005 - Santa Fe

Outline

- XQuery
- Metadata
- Sanitize
- Experiments
- Summary

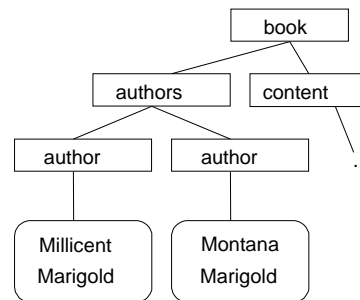
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Book Data in XML

```
<book>
  <authors>
    <author>Millicent Marigold</author>
    <author>Montana Marigold</author>
  </authors>
  <content>
    <chapter>Usability testing is...</chapter>
    ...
  </content>
</book>
```

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Parsed into DOM



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Querying in XQuery

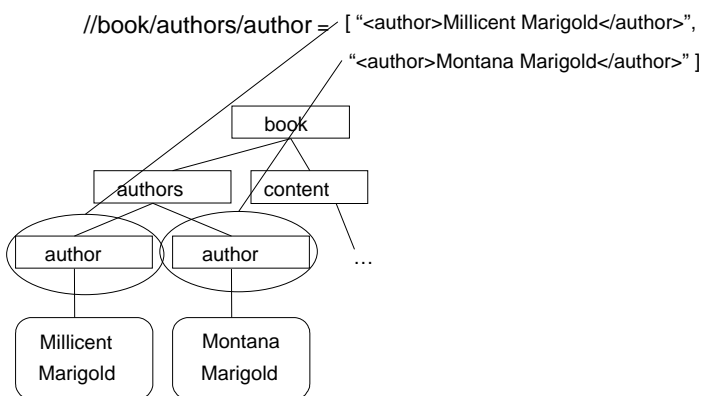
- FLWR expression
 - For some nodes
 - Use XPath locate nodes
 - Let – grab other nodes
 - Where some condition holds
 - Return some value

- Example: List book authors

```
for each $author in //book/authors/author
return $author
```

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Locating Nodes



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Metadata

- Metadata is *data about data*
- Descriptive
 - Language
 - Subject (Dublin Core)
 - Metadata author
- Proscriptive
 - Security
 - Privacy
 - Time (when in the data store)

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Embedding Metadata in XML

```
<book>
  <meta:metadata>
    <meta:subjects>
      <meta:subject>Usability testing</meta:subject>
    </meta:subjects>
    ...
  </meta:metadata>
  <content>
    <chapter>Usability testing is...</chapter>
    ...
  </content>
</book>
```

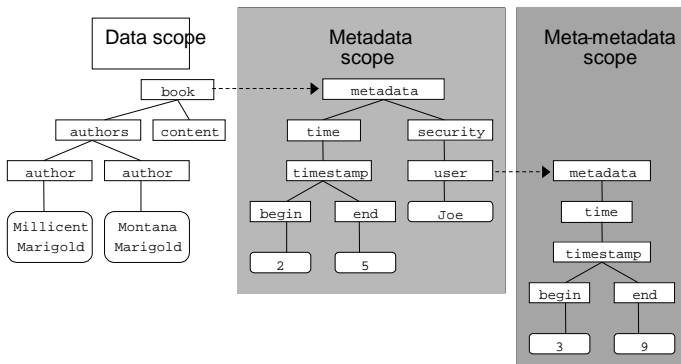
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Using RDF

```
<RDF xmlns="rdf-syntax-ns#">
  <Description about="document(books.xml)//book[1]">
    <subject>Usability testing</subject>
  </Description>
  ...
</RDF>
```

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MetaDOM



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MetaDOM Features

- Support arbitrary levels of metadata
- Reuses DOM at each level
- Separates metadata and data into different scopes
 - `//book/authors/author` – locates only data nodes
 - `//book^user` – ascend into the security metadata (MetaXPath)
- Upwards compatible with DOM/XPath/XQuery/XSLT etc.

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Sanitize

- Ensures that the data conforms to the metadata perspective
- Semantics differs for each kind of metadata
 - Language – equality
 - Time – overlaps
 - Implementation specific
- Recursively evaluate each level of metadata

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Querying with MetaXQuery

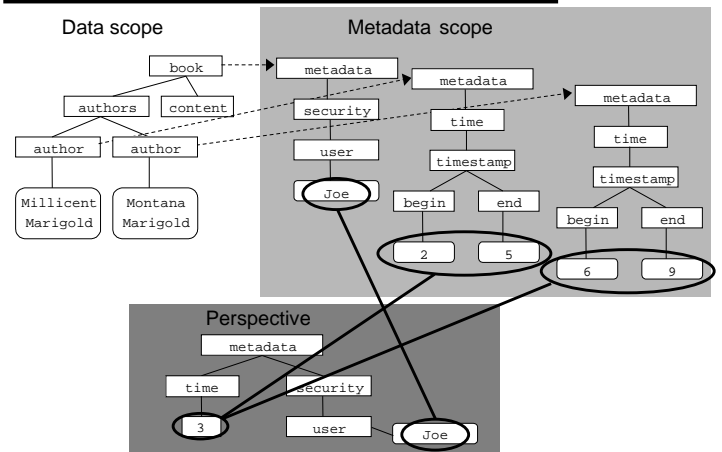
- Data-only (implicit metadata)
 - Implicit perspective
 - Data as of Time 3
 - Security of Joe
 - Language is English
 - List book authors in MetaXQuery

```
for each $author in
  metaxq:sanitizeByPerspective(//book/authors/author, P)
return $author
```

- Metadata-only (implicit meta-metadata)
 - List the users who can access a node

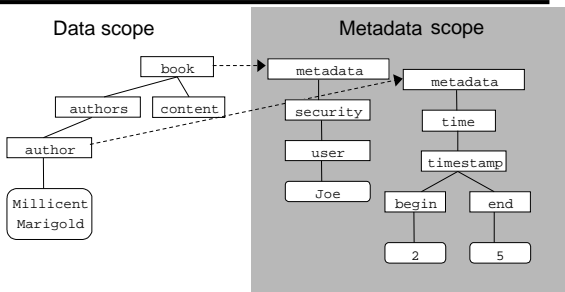
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Sanitizing //book/authors/author



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Sanitizing //book/authors/author



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Certify

- Metadata/data pulled from various sources
 - May conflict
- Is MetaDOM node reachable?
 - Transaction time semantics – a child can exist only if a parent exists, certify that child time is subset of parent time
- metaxq:certify(//book/authors/author)

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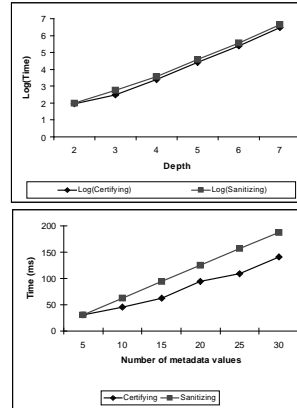
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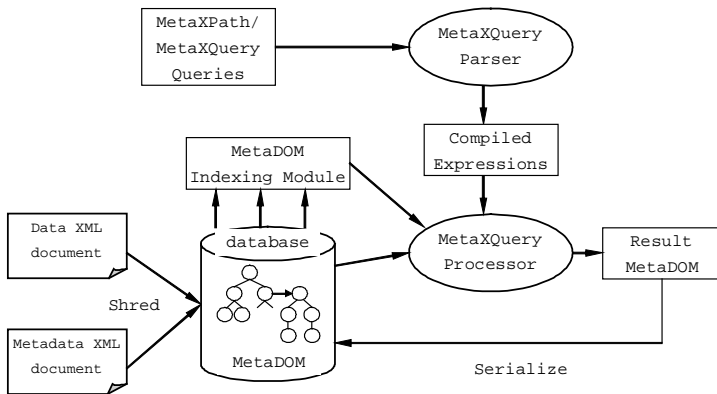
Experiments – Testing Certify/Sanitize

- Overhead is linear is amount of metadata



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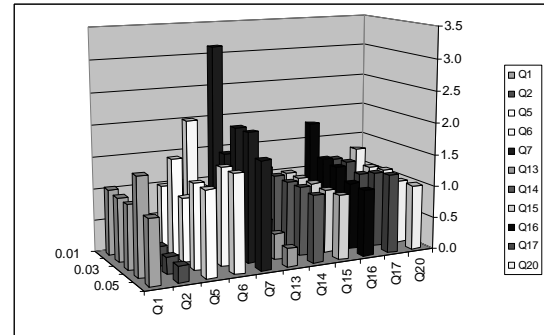
eXist Implementation



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Experiments

- XMark Benchmark
- Cost of Sanitize = MetaXQuery/XQuery
 - 1 - no overhead



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Conclusions

- Extend XQuery to support metadata
- Extend querying
 - Implicit sanitizing using metadata
- Performance results suggest overhead is linear in amount of metadata

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Thanks!