

XML and Databases

Lecture 2
Memory Representations for XML: Space vs Access Speed

Sebastian Maneth
NICTA and UNSW

CSE@UNSW -- Semester 1, 2010

Reminder

You can freely choose to program your assignments in
→ C / C++ (xerces-c library *not installed* on cse, will be fixed shortly)
→ Java

However, your code **must compile with gcc / g++**, **javac**,
as installed on CSE linux systems!

Assignment 1 is due Monday 23:59, **15th of March!**
Submit your code using
% **give** cs4317 ass1 filename.cpp
% **give** cs4317 ass1 filename.java

Problem with DOM

→ Uses massive amounts of memory.
→ Even if application touches only a single element node, the **DOM API** has to maintain a data structure that represents the **whole XML input document**.

Example

XML size DOM process size

81M	x 2 →	164M	Text only, with one embracing element
52M	x 13.1 →	680M	Treebank, deep tree structure with short texts
....			

Usually: more than **10-times** blow up!!

XML and Databases

Lecture 2
Memory Representations for XML: Space vs Access Speed

Sebastian Maneth
NICTA and UNSW
(today: Kim Nguyen)

CSE@UNSW -- Semester 1, 2010

Lecture 2

XML into Memory

To remedy the memory hunger of DOM ...

Preprocess (i.e., filter) the input XML document to reduce its overall size.

- Use an XPath/XSLT processor to preselect *interesting* document regions.
- CAVE: *no updates* on the input XML document are possible
- CAVE: make sure the XPath/XSLT processor is *not* implemented on top of DOM!

→ Use a **completely different** approach to XML processing (→ **SAX**)
"design your own XML data structure and fill it with what you need..."

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on top of DOM!

→ Use a **completely different** approach to XML processing (→ **SAX**)
"design your own XML data structure
and fill it with what you need..."

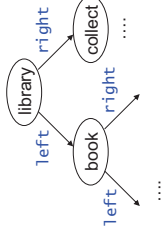
Outline

1. Tree Pointer Structures
2. Binary Tree Encodings
3. Minimal Unique DAGs
4. How to use SAX

1. Tree pointer structures

1. Consider *binary trees*

```
Type Node {  
  label : string,  
  left  : Node,  
  right : Node  
}
```

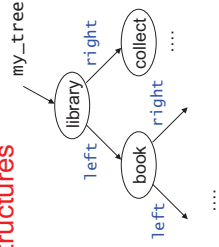


How much memory for **n-node** binary tree?

1. Tree pointer structures

1. Consider *binary trees*

```
Type Node {  
  label : string,  
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  right : Node  
}
```



How much memory for **n-node** binary tree?

cadr1: library0
cadr2: book0

my_tree: cadr1 tadr1 tadr2
tadr1: cadr2 tadr3 tadr4

length(label_1) + 1
+ length(label_2) + 1
+ ... + length(label_n) + 1

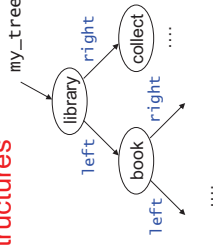
3 * length(pointer) * n

typical: **4 bytes**

1. Tree pointer structures

1. Consider *binary trees*

```
Type Node {  
  label : string,  
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  right : Node  
}
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How much memory for **n-node** binary tree?

my_tree: cadr1 tadr1 tadr2
tadr1: cadr2 tadr3 tadr4

→ Whatever is needed for the labels
PLUS **12 bytes per node**.

length(label_1) + 1
+ length(label_2) + 1
+ ... + length(label_n) + 1

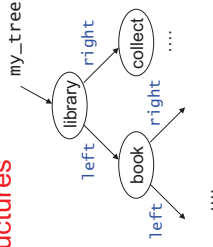
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Tree pointer structures

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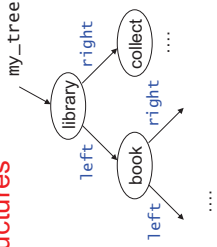
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Tree pointer structures

1. Consider *binary trees*

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  left  : Node,  
  right : Node  
}
```



How much memory for n-node binary tree?

→ Whatever is needed for the labels
PLUS **12 bytes per node**.

Can easily be optimized:
E.g., store each distinct
string only *once*!

$\text{length}(\text{label}_1) + 1$
 $+ \text{length}(\text{label}_2) + 1$
 $+ \dots + \text{length}(\text{label}_n) + 1$
↑ typical: **4 bytes**

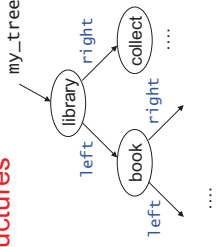
#characters per node: $5 + 2 * \text{Length}(\text{label})$

→ One node w. 2-character ASCII label: **9 bytes** (assuming UTF-8)

Tree pointer structures

1. Consider *binary trees*

```
Type Node {  
  label : String,  
  left  : Node,  
  right : Node  
}
```



Often #distinct node labels is small, ≤ 100 .
Then, only **9 bytes per node**. → Fits in one Byte

→ $\text{MEM}(n\text{-node binary tree pointer struc, } \leq 256 \text{ labels})$
= $\text{SIZE}(n\text{-node binary tree in XML, average label length}=2)$

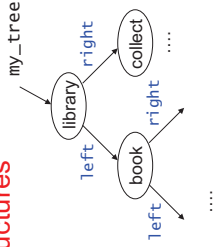
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Tree pointer structures

1. Consider *binary trees*

```
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}
```



Serialization to **XML**

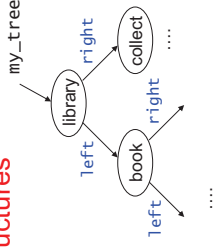
```
<library><book>< ... > </book></library>  
  ^      ^      ^      ^      ^  
  |      |      |      |      |  
  label  left  right label  right
```

#characters per node: $5 + 2 * \text{Length}(\text{label})$

→ E.g., one node w. 4-character ASCII label: **13 bytes** (assuming UTF-8)

Tree pointer structures

Nice
Following pointers is fast!
→ much higher access speed!
(than on doc seen as string...)
E.g. at root, get right-child.



Often #distinct node labels is small, ≤ 100 .
Then, only **9 bytes per node**. → Fits in one Byte

→ $\text{MEM}(n\text{-node binary tree pointer struc, } \leq 256 \text{ labels})$
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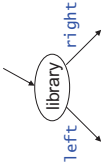
Tree pointer structures

1. Consider *binary trees*

Plain no attributes, no text nodes, ...

Question

Using a (top-down) pointer structure, as the one above,
how can you implement a **DOM interface**?



```
Node  
  nodeName      : DOMString  
  parentNode    : Node  
  firstChild    : Node  
  nextSibling   : Node  
  childNodes    : NodeList
```

leftmost child
returns NULL for root elem

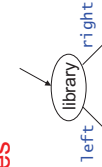
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leftmost child
returns NULL for root elem

→ **At run-time** a node is represented as a pointer, PLUS a stack of
pointers of all its ancestors.

(Node, [parent(Node) :: parent(parent(Node)) :: ... :: root-node])

Tree pointer structures

Access speed of **parentNode** should be approx same, as in a native DOM.
 → What about access speed of **nextSibling**?

What is the *run-time* size of our "binary DOM-tree" data structure? (WC/average)

Question

Using a (top-down) pointer structure, as the one above, how can you implement a **DOM interface**?

```
Node
  nodeName      : DOMString
  parentNode    : Node
  firstChild    : Node
  nextSibling   : Node
  children      : NodeList
  leftmost child returns NULL for root elem
```

→ **At run-time** a node is represented as a pointer, **PLUS a stack of pointers of all its ancestors.**

```
(Node, [parent(Node)::parent(parent(Node)):: ... ::root-node])
```

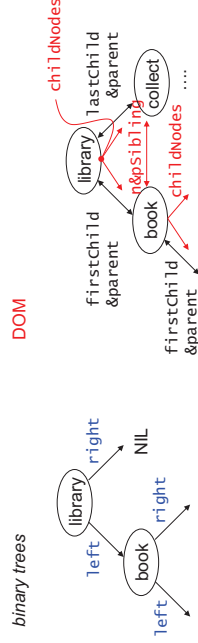
```
interface Node { // NodeType
  const unsigned short ELEMENT_NODE = 1;
  const unsigned short ATTRIBUTE_NODE = 2;
  const unsigned short TEXT_NODE = 3;
  const unsigned short CDATA_SECTION_NODE = 4;
  const unsigned short ENTITY_REFERENCE_NODE = 5;
  const unsigned short ENTITY_NODE = 6;
  const unsigned short PROCESSING_INSTRUCTION_NODE = 7;
  const unsigned short COMMENT_NODE = 8;
  const unsigned short DOCUMENT_NODE = 9;
  const unsigned short DOCUMENT_TYPE_NODE = 10;
  const unsigned short DOCUMENT_FRAGMENT_NODE = 11;
  const unsigned short NOTATION_NODE = 12;
  readonly attribute DOMString nodeName;
  attribute DOMString nodeValue; // raises(DOMException) on setting
  attribute unsigned short nodeType;
  readonly attribute Node parentNode;
  readonly attribute NodeList children;
  readonly attribute Node firstChild;
  readonly attribute Node lastChild;
  readonly attribute Node previousSibling;
  readonly attribute Node nextSibling;
  readonly attribute NamedNodeMap attributes;
  Node insertBefore(in Node newChild, in Node refChild) raises(DOMException);
  Node replaceChild(in Node oldChild, in Node newChild) raises(DOMException);
  Node removeChild(in Node oldChild) raises(DOMException);
  Node appendChild(in Node newChild) raises(DOMException);
  boolean hasChildNodes(); Node cloneNode(in boolean deep);
};
```

Tree pointer structures

To slash memory hunger (of e.g., DOM...)

LESSON 1

→ Avoid all backward pointers (build them online, dynamically)



Tree pointer structures

1. Consider binary trees

```
Type Node {
  label : string,
  left : Node,
  right : Node
}
```

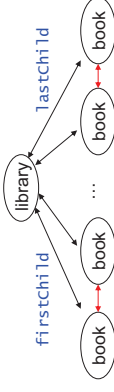
How much memory for n-node binary tree?

How to add attributes and text nodes?

→ Text: can be in the label, starting with a special character (pb: 2 unused pointers)
 → Attributes: pointer to an aux. Data-Structure (expensive)
 → Attributes encoded as children with special labels
 → ...

Tree pointer structures

2. Consider **unranked** trees



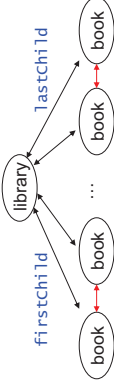
unranked = no a priori bound on #children of a node.

Tree structure of XML: **unranked trees!** (not binary)

```
Type Node {
  label : string,
  children : List[Node]
}
```

Tree pointer structures

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unranked = no a priori bound on #children of a node.

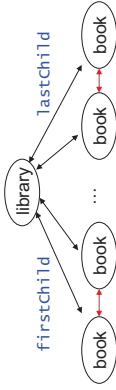
Tree structure of XML: **unranked trees!** (not binary)

```
Type Node {
  label : string,
  children : List[Node]
}
```

→ How much memory for List[Node] of n nodes?

Tree pointer structures

2. Consider *unranked trees*

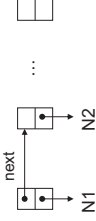


unranked = no a priori bound on #children of a node.

Tree structure of **XML: unranked trees!**

```
Type Node {  
  label : String,  
  children : List[Node]  
}
```

Typically



→ How much memory for List[Node] of *n* nodes?

Tree pointer structures

2. Consider *unranked trees*

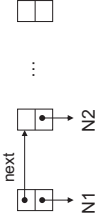
→ In this way, a node of a *binary tree* needs **5 pointers** (plus label info/pointer..)

unranked = no a priori bound on #children of a node.

Tree structure of **XML: unranked trees!**

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Tree pointer structures

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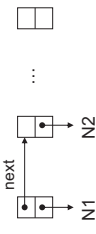
More efficient possibilities:

(1) Use **arrays**. Store #children.

(2) → Encode tree as binary tree. ←

Typically

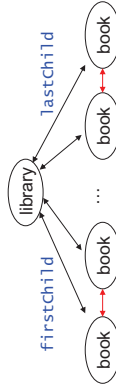
```
Type Node {  
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```



→ How much memory for List[Node] of *n* nodes? 2^n pointers

Tree pointer structures

2. Consider *unranked trees*

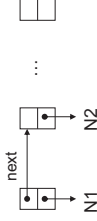


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Tree structure of **XML: unranked trees!**

```
Type Node {  
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Typically



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Tree pointer structures

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More efficient possibilities:

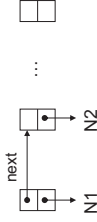
(1) Use **arrays**. Store #children.

(2) Encode tree as binary tree.

n pointers + (log *n*) bits

Length of the array

Typically



→ How much memory for List[Node] of *n* nodes? 2^n pointers

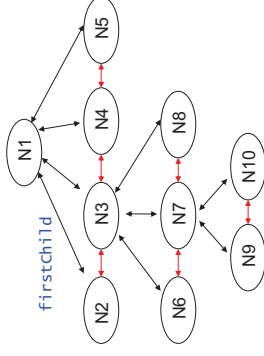
2. Binary Tree Encodings

Any unranked tree can be encoded as a binary tree.

Popular encoding: “**firstChild/nextSibling**” encoding.

The “firstChild” becomes the **left** pointer

The “nextSibling” becomes the **right** pointer

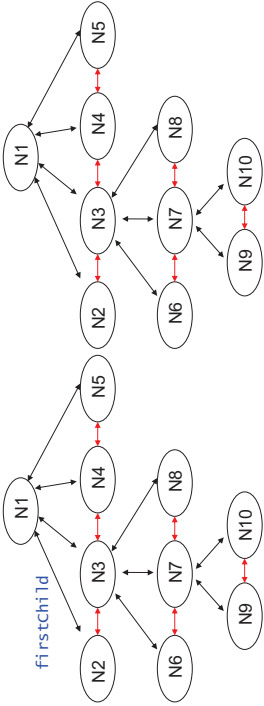


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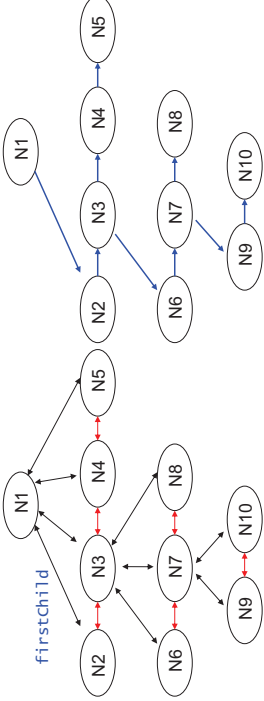


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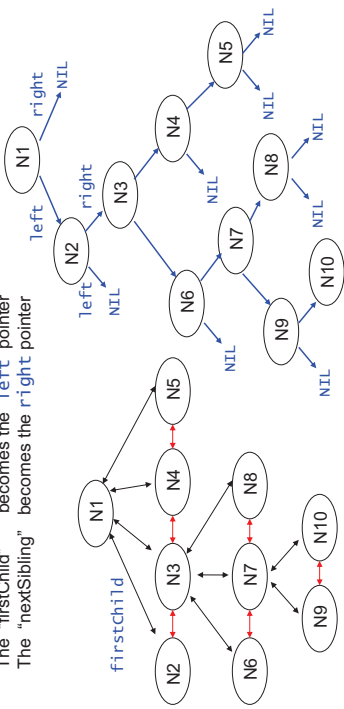


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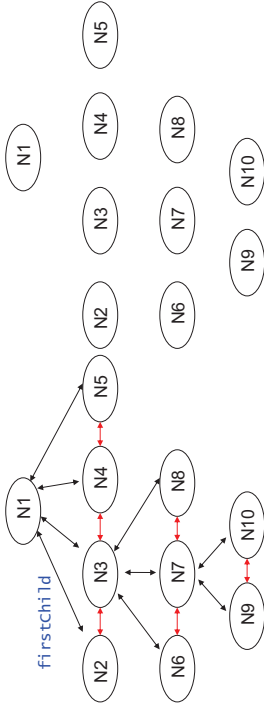


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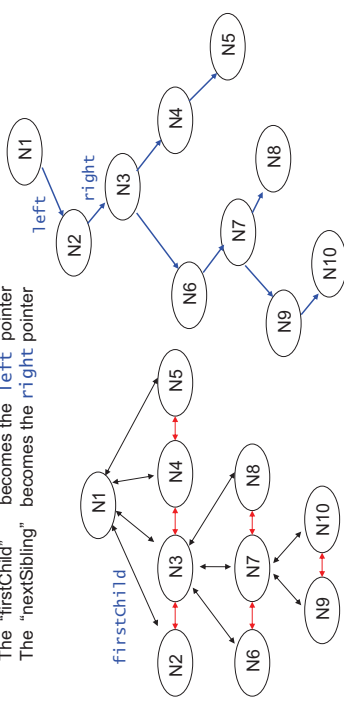


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Binary Tree Encodings

Any unranked tree can be encoded as a binary tree.

n-node unranked tree $\xrightarrow{\text{decoding}}$ "firstChild/nextSibling" encoding $\xrightarrow{\text{binary tree}}$ n-node binary tree

Questions

- Time overhead for simulating lastChild access, on the binary encoding?
- Can you think of other binary tree encodings?
- How to simulate previous-sibling?

Binary Tree Encodings

Any unranked tree can be encoded as a binary tree.



Good Property of the firstChild/nextSibling encoding:

→ XML types (e.g., DTD, XML Schema, Relax NG) are preserved when going from unranked to binary (and vice versa).

Tree Pointer Structures

Question

Give a datatype for binary trees which stores **only non-NIL pointers**.

Then, **n-node tree**: **<n pointers**

```
Type Node {
  label : String,
  left  : Node,
  right : Node
}
```

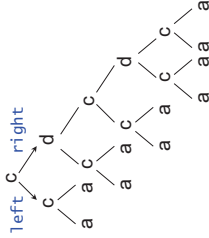
3. Minimal Unique DAGs

Type Node {
 label : Byte,
 left : Node,
 right : Node
}

binary tree
2 pointers per node

Can we do with **even less pointers**?

n-node tree: **2n pointers**



Binary Tree Encodings

Any unranked tree can be encoded as a binary tree.



Good Property of the firstChild/nextSibling encoding:

→ XML types (e.g., DTD, XML Schema, Relax NG) are preserved when going from unranked to binary (and vice versa).

LESSON 2 ... against memory hunger ...

- Use *binary trees instead of unranked trees*. (... or use efficient arrays)
- + Fast child-m access
 - Expensive to update (insert/delete)

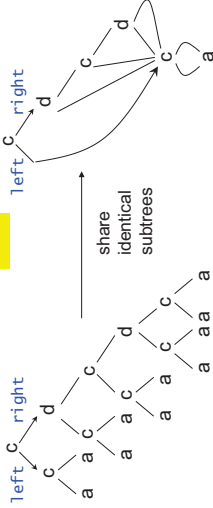
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Can we do with **even less pointers**?

n-node tree: **2n pointers** → **YES!** → **Directed Acyclic Graph DAG**



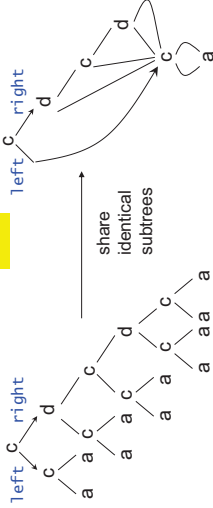
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n-node tree: **2n pointers** → **YES!** → **Directed Acyclic Graph DAG**



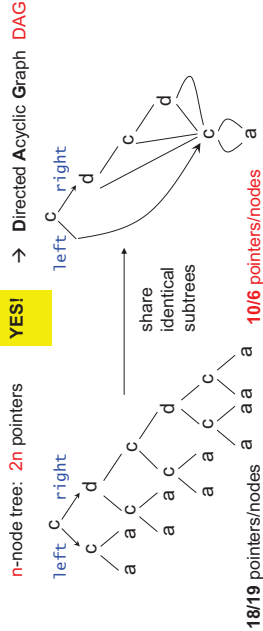
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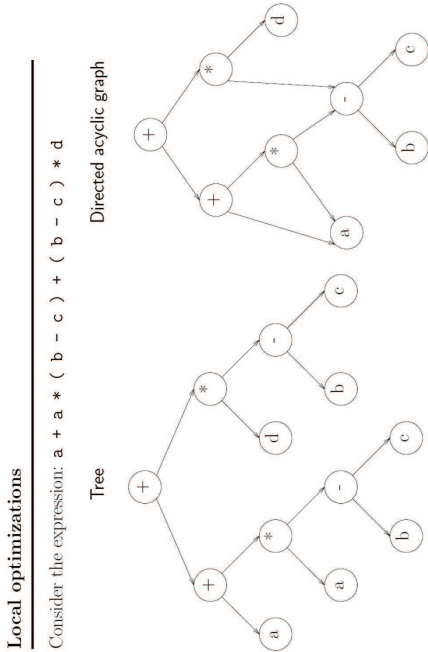
binary tree
2 pointers per node

"18 pointers" really means
"18 non-NIL pointers"

Can we do with even less pointers?



3. Minimal Unique DAGs



3. Minimal Unique DAGs

- (minimal) DAGs have many applications!
- CSE (Common Subexpression Elimination) for efficient evaluation of expressions (do "term graph" rewriting, instead of term rewriting)
 - Model checking with BDDs Binary Decision Diagrams for efficient evaluation of logic formulas
 - Efficient XML query evaluation

3. Minimal Unique DAGs

- A DAG representation of a tree has always
- Less than or equal #nodes than the tree
 - Less than or equal #pointers than the tree.

3. Minimal Unique DAGs

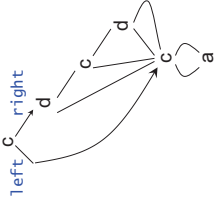
- Local optimizations
- Common subexpressions (CSE)
- portion of expressions
 - repeated multiple times
 - computes same value
 - can reuse previously computed value
- Directed acyclic graph (DAG)
- program representation
 - nodes can have multiple parents
 - no cycles allowed
 - exposes common subexpressions
- Building a DAG for an expression
- maintain hash table for leafs, expressions
 - unique name for each node — its value number
 - reuse nodes found in hash table

3. Minimal Unique DAGs

- (minimal) DAGs have many applications!
- CSE (Common Subexpression Elimination) for efficient evaluation of expressions (do "term graph" rewriting, instead of term rewriting)
 - Model checking with BDDs Binary Decision Diagrams for efficient evaluation of logic formulas
 - Efficient XML query evaluation
- Btw, inside of a DAG, you have "referential completeness" → structural equality = equality of pointers ☺

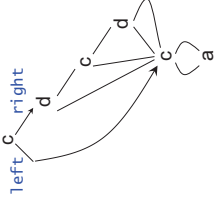
3. Minimal Unique DAGs

- Every tree has a minimal, unique DAG!
- The DAG is at most exponentially smaller than the tree.
- Building the minimal unique DAG is easy!
Can be done in (amortized) *linear time*.



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Can be done in (amortized) *linear time*.



How?

- (even while parsing)
- Build a *hash table* of all subtrees seen so far
(we don't want to compare many trees, node by node, later on..)

Question Give a simple hash function that works for the tree above.

Minimal Unique DAGs

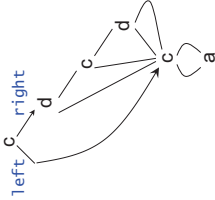
- 1: bib [2,3,4,5]
 - 2: book [6,7]
 - 3: article [8,9]
 - 4: book [10,11]
 - 5: article [12,13]
 - 6: author
 - 7: title
 - 8: author
 - 9: title
 - 10: price
 - 11: title
 - 12: price
 - 13: title
- ```
<bib>
 <author></author>
 <title></title>
 </book>
 <article>
 <author></author>
 <title></title>
 </article>
</bib>

<book>
 <price></price>
 <title></title>
</book>

<article>
 <price></price>
 <title></title>
</article>
</book>
```

### 3. Minimal Unique DAGs

- Every tree has a minimal, unique DAG!
- The DAG is at most exponentially smaller than the tree.
- Building the minimal unique DAG is easy!  
Can be done in (amortized) *linear time*.



How?

**Hash Table HT**

1	a
2	c(a,a), c(c(a,a),a)
3	a(b,c)
4	.
5	.
6	.

Hash function f

a hash "bucket"

**We want**

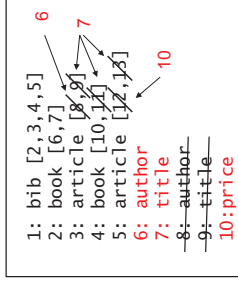
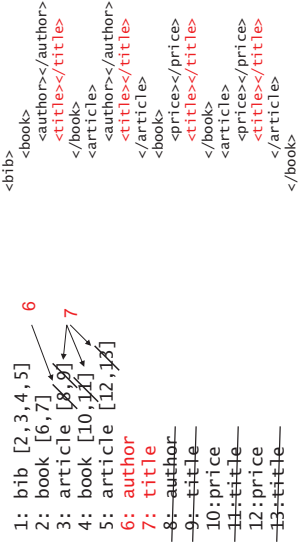
- f distributes trees uniformly into buckets
- test if a tree T is in HT, time  $O(\text{size}(T))$

### 3. Minimal Unique DAGs

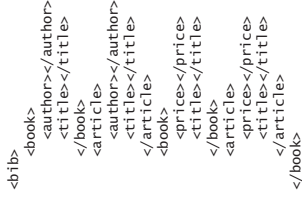
- 1: bib [2,3,4,5]
  - 2: book [6,7]
  - 3: article [8,9]
  - 4: book [10,11]
  - 5: article [12,13]
  - 6: author
  - 7: title
  - 8: author
  - 9: title
  - 10: price
  - 11: title
  - 12: price
  - 13: title
- ```
<bib>  
  <author></author>  
  <title></title>  
  </book>  
  <article>  
    <author></author>  
    <title></title>  
  </article>  
</bib>  
  
<book>  
  <price></price>  
  <title></title>  
</book>  
  
<article>  
  <price></price>  
  <title></title>  
</article>  
</book>
```

Question Give a simple hash function that works for the tree above.

Minimal Unique DAGs



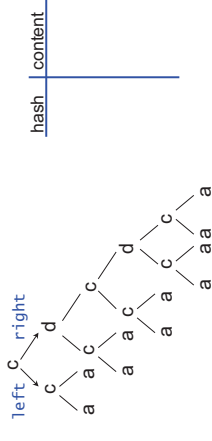
minimal unique DAG
8 nodes (vs 13 nodes in the original tree)



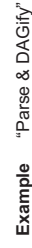
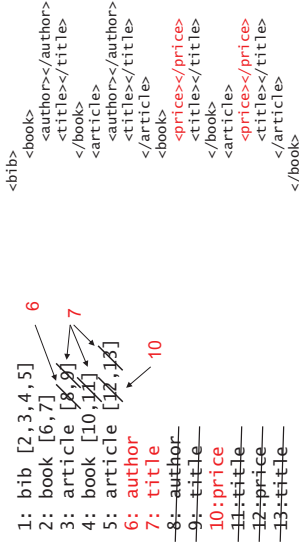
Minimal Unique DAGs

Example “Parse & DAGify”

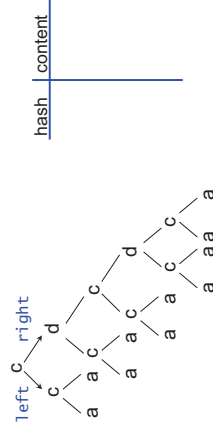
- ```
1: startElement(c)
2: startElement(c)
```



## Minimal Unique DAGs



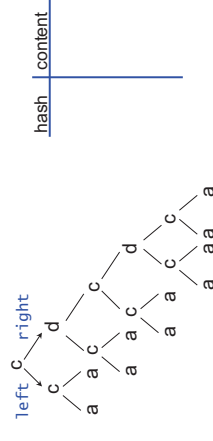
- ```
1: startElement(c)
```



Minimal Unique DAGs

Example

- ```
1: startElement(c)
2: startElement(c)
3: startElement(a)
```



### Minimal Unique DAGs

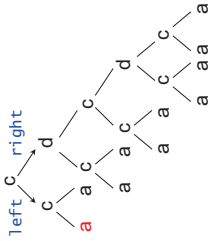
**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)

1. p1=hashT.find(a)

2. if(p1==NULL) { p1=new("a-node", NULL, NULL)

hashT.insert(p1) }



| hash | content |
|------|---------|
| 1    |         |
| 2    |         |

### Minimal Unique DAGs

**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

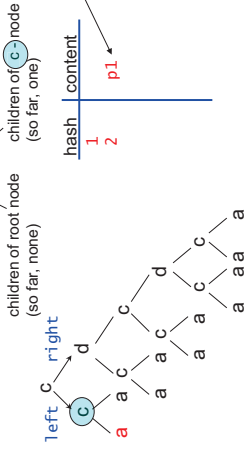
- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)

1. p1=hashT.find(a)

2. if(p1==NULL) { p1=new("a-node", NULL, NULL)

hashT.insert(p1) }

→ must store children lists: [ [], [p1] ]



Memory location p1  
is a DAG with root  
node a, and  
child1-pointer=NULL  
child2-pointer=NULL

| hash | content |
|------|---------|
| 1    |         |
| 2    | p1      |

### Minimal Unique DAGs

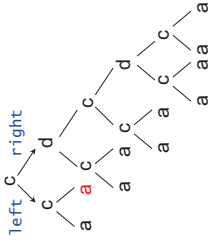
**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)
- 6: endElement(a)

1. p2=hashT.find(a)

2. if(p2==NULL) { p2=new("a-node", NULL, NULL)

hashT.insert(p2) }



| hash | content |
|------|---------|
| 1    |         |
| 2    | p1      |

### Minimal Unique DAGs

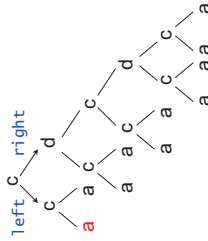
**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
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- 3: startElement(a)
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1. p1=hashT.find(a)

2. if(p1==NULL) { p1=new("a-node", NULL, NULL)

hashT.insert(p1) }



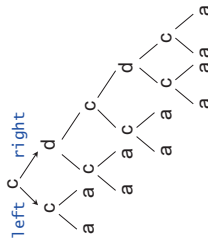
| hash | content |
|------|---------|
| 1    |         |
| 2    | p1      |

Memory location p1  
is a DAG with root  
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### Minimal Unique DAGs

**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)



| hash | content |
|------|---------|
| 1    |         |
| 2    | p1      |

### Minimal Unique DAGs

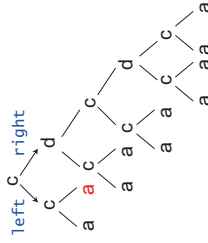
**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)
- 6: endElement(a)

1. p2=hashT.find(a)=p1

2. if(p2==NULL) { p2=new("a-node", NULL, NULL)

hashT.insert(p2) }



| hash | content |
|------|---------|
| 1    |         |
| 2    | p1      |

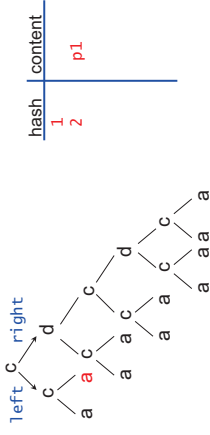
## Minimal Unique DAGs

**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)
- 6: endElement(a)

1.  $p2 = \text{hashT.find}(a) = p1$   
 2. if ( $p2 == \text{NULL}$ ) {  $p2 = \text{new}(\text{"a-node"}, \text{NULL}, \text{NULL})$  }  
 —  $\text{hashT.insert}(p2)$  }

→ store children lists: [ [], [p1, p1] ]



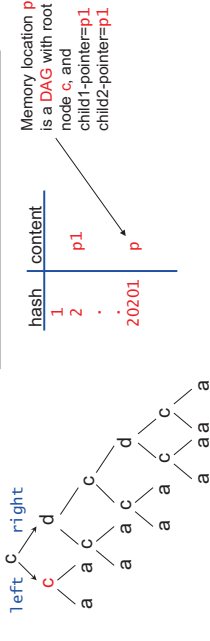
## Minimal Unique DAGs

**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)
- 6: endElement(a)
- 7: endElement(c)

1.  $p = \text{hashT.find}(a)$   
 2. if ( $p == \text{NULL}$ ) {  $p = \text{new}(\text{"c-node"}, p1, p1)$  }  
 —  $\text{hashT.insert}(p)$  }

→ use children list!



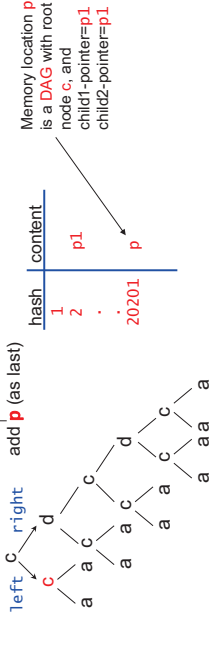
## Minimal Unique DAGs

**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)
- 6: endElement(a)
- 7: endElement(c)

1.  $p = \text{hashT.find}(a)$   
 2. if ( $p == \text{NULL}$ ) {  $p = \text{new}(\text{"c-node"}, p1, p1)$  }  
 —  $\text{hashT.insert}(p)$  }

→ store children lists: [ [], [p, p1] ]

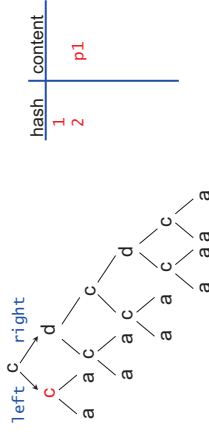


## Minimal Unique DAGs

**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)
- 6: endElement(a)
- 7: endElement(c)

→ store children lists: [ [], [p1, p1] ]



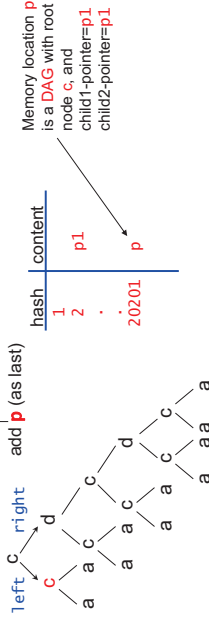
## Minimal Unique DAGs

**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)
- 6: endElement(a)
- 7: endElement(c)

1.  $p = \text{hashT.find}(a)$   
 2. if ( $p == \text{NULL}$ ) {  $p = \text{new}(\text{"c-node"}, p1, p1)$  }  
 —  $\text{hashT.insert}(p)$  }

→ use children list!



## Minimal Unique DAGs

**Example** "Parse & DAGify"

- 1: startElement(c)
- 2: startElement(c)
- 3: startElement(a)
- 4: endElement(a)
- 5: startElement(a)
- 6: endElement(a)
- 7: endElement(c)

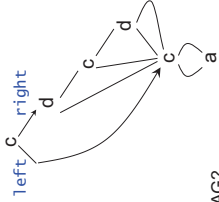
1.  $p = \text{hashT.find}(a)$   
 2. if ( $p == \text{NULL}$ ) {  $p = \text{new}(\text{"c-node"}, p1, p1)$  }  
 —  $\text{hashT.insert}(p)$  }

→ Assume  $\leq 100$  element names  
 Example hash function:

```
(#elementName
+ 100 * #elementName(1st child)
+ 100 * 100 * #elementName(2nd child)
+ 100 * 100 * 100 * #elementName(3rd child of 1st ch.)
+ ...) MOD sizeof(hashT)
```

### Minimal Unique DAGs

- DOM interface to the DAG?
- `parentNode / pnsibling` as before
- Updates can be expensive (copying!)

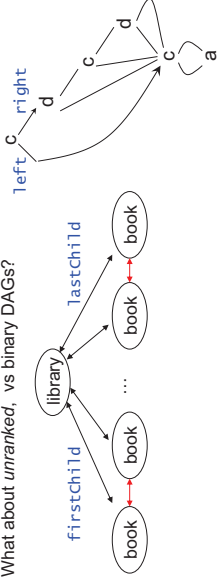


How to attach attribute & text nodes to the DAG?

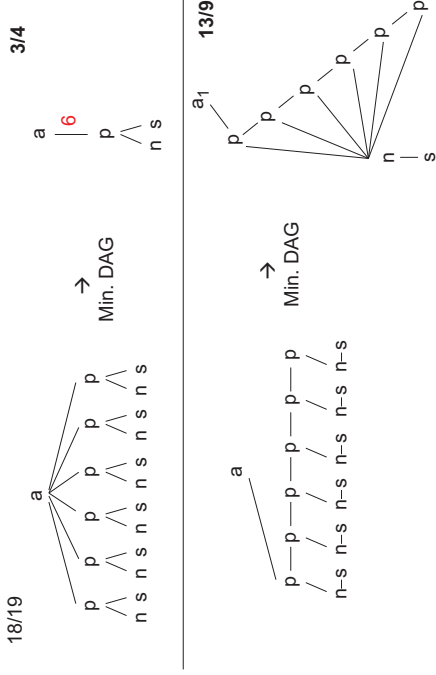
More precisely,

- What about size of minimal-unique-unranked-DAG( Tree )
  - vs size of minimal-unique-binary-DAG( fCnS-enc( Tree ) )
- firstChild/nextSibling

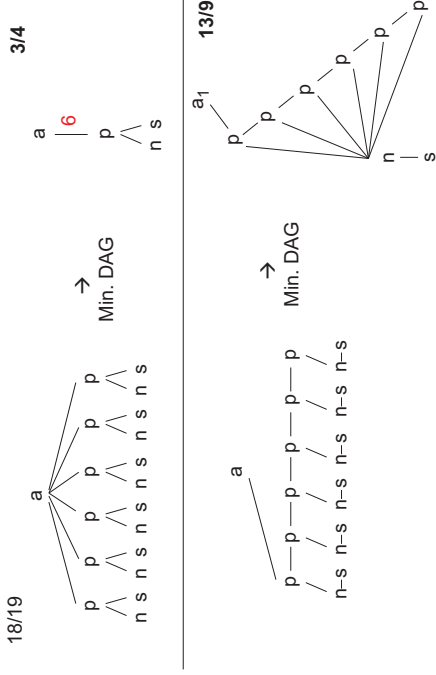
What about *unranked*, vs binary DAGs?



### Minimal Unique DAGs

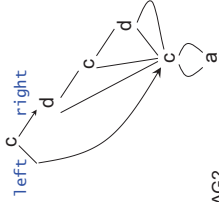


### Unranked vs Binary Trees



### Minimal Unique DAGs

- DOM interface to the DAG?
- `parentNode / pnsibling` as before
- Updates can be expensive (copying!)



How to attach attribute & text nodes to the DAG?

→ Store them separately in a table.

Index by e.g., Node number (in doc-order)  
or number of attr/text nodes

Store index in each DAG node / or compute it online. (pre-traversal)

### Minimal Unique DAGs

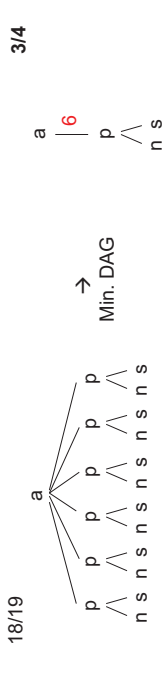
- size of minimal-unique-unranked-DAG( Tree )
- vs size of minimal-unique-binary-DAG( fCnS-enc( Tree ) )

#### Questions

Give a tree for which first is smaller than the second.

Give a tree for which the second is smaller than the first.

### Unranked vs Binary Trees

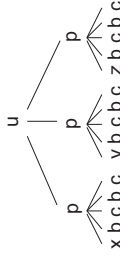


Can it be vica versa? (min bin. DAG is smaller)

**YES!!**

→ Has **18 edges**

→ DAG of bin.coding only **12 edges**

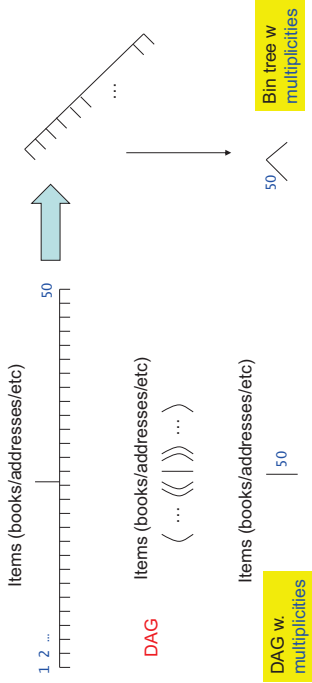


DAG compression is **sensible** to rank/unrankedness!

## Unranked vs Binary Trees

Last comment on binary tree encodings / DAGs

YES: the binary trees become very "regular" (deep, to the right)



## 3. Minimal Unique DAGs

| input file              | size of tree | min. binary DAG size | min. unranked mDAG size | BPELEX output size |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| SwissProt (457.4 MB)    | 10,903,568   | 1,437,445            | 1,100,648               | 311,328            |
| DBLP (103.6 MB)         | 2,611,931    | 533,183              | 222,754                 | 115,902            |
| Treebank (65.8 MB)      | 2,447,727    | 1,454,494            | 1,301,688               | 519,542            |
| 1998statistics (657 KB) | 28,306       | 2,403                | 1,301,688               | 410                |
| catalog-02 (104M)       | 2,240,231    | 52,392               | 32,267                  | 26,774             |
| dictionary-02 (104M)    | 225,194      | 6,990                | 8,503                   | 3,817              |
| dictionary-01 (11M)     | 2,731,764    | 681,130              | 441,322                 | 160,329            |
| JST_snip.chr1 (38M)     | 685,946      | 40,863               | 46,993                  | 20,150             |
| NCBI.snip.chr1 (190M)   | 216,401      | 14,606               | 5,658                   | 12,858             |
| NCBI.snip.chr1 (190M)   | 3,642,225    | 809,394              | 22,225                  | 4,000              |
| NCBI.snip.chr1 (24M)    | 360,350      | 14,356               | 11,767                  | 3,356              |
|                         |              |                      |                         | 7,160              |

## "Efficient XML" & Binary XML

W3C working groups

→ **XML Binary Characterization Working Group**  
<http://www.w3.org/XML/Binary/>

The Figure on the next slide is from the "EXI Measurement Note"  
-- new version of the note came out 25 July 2007...!)

## "Efficient XML" & Binary XML

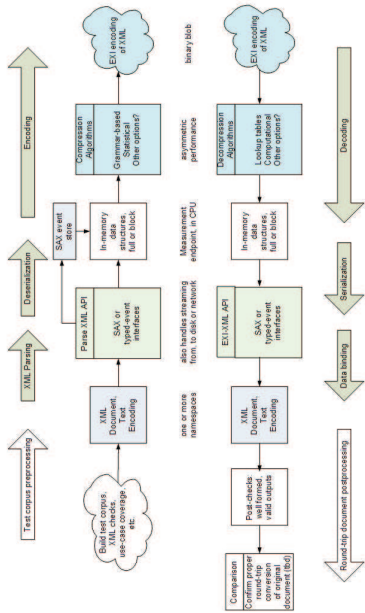
W3C working groups

→ **XML Binary Characterization Working Group**  
ended in 2008, merged with the following:  
→ **Efficient XML Interchange Working Group (EXI)**  
<http://www.w3.org/XML/EXI/>

The Figure on the next slide is from the "EXI Measurement Note"  
-- new version of the note came out 25 July 2007...!)

## Notional EXI Test Corpus & Measurement Overview

Motivation: define consistent EXI terminology for diverse document sets and measurement algorithms



## Minimal Unique DAGs

**Assignment 2** build a minimal DAG for a tree (given in XML)

For simplicity, ignore attributes and text values.  
→ only consider element nodes.

Build the DAG, while parsing the XML!

Construct a **hash table** which stores all (complete) distinct subtrees seen so far.

Clearly, we do not want to parse into DOM, and then pull things out of there.

Instead, we need a **more flexible parser** that gives as the freedom of what exactly to store, and how.

## How to use SAX

Remember one of the promises of XML...

You never need to write a parser again!

... but, of course if you want to build up your own (e.g. memory-efficient) data structure, you need to "talk" to the parser.

You want the parser to

Give low level access to the data:

- Bracket by bracket,
  - text-node by text-node.
- In "document order".

→ SAX

## How to use SAX

Remember one of the promises of XML...

You never need to write a parser again!

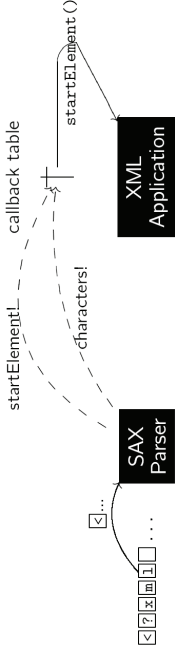
... but, of course if you want to build up your own (e.g. memory-efficient) data structure, you need to "talk" to the parser.

You want the parser to

Give low level access to the data:

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  - text-node by text-node.
- In "document order".

## Sketch of SAX's mode of operations



- A SAX processor reads its input document **sequentially** and **once** only.
- No memory of what the parser has seen so far is retained while parsing. As soon as a *significant bit* of XML text has been recognized, an **event** is sent.
- The application is able to act on events **in parallel** with the parsing progress.

## How to use SAX

Remember one of the promises of XML...

You never need to write a parser again!

... but, of course if you want to build up your own (e.g. memory-efficient) data structure, you need to "talk" to the parser.

You want the parser to

Give low level access to the data:

- Bracket by bracket,
  - text-node by text-node.
- In "document order".

## SAX—Simple API for XML

- **SAX<sup>7</sup> (Simple API for XML)** is, unlike DOM, *not* a W3C standard, but has been developed jointly by members of the XML-DEV mailing list (ca. 1998).
- SAX processors use **constant space**, regardless of the XML input document size.
  - Communication between the SAX processor and the backend XML application does *not* involve an intermediate tree data structure.
  - Instead, the **SAX parser sends events** to the application whenever a certain piece of XML text has been recognized (i.e., parsed).
  - The **backend acts on/ignores events** by populating a **callback function table**.

<sup>7</sup><http://www.saxproject.org/>

- To meet the constant memory space requirement, SAX reports **fine-grained parsing events** for a document:

| Event                        | ... reported when seen                                                           | Parameters sent                                                                        |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>startDocument</i>         | <code>&lt;?xml...?&gt;</code> <sup>8</sup>                                       |                                                                                        |
| <i>endDocument</i>           | (EOF)                                                                            |                                                                                        |
| <i>startElement</i>          | <code>&lt;t a<sub>1</sub>=v<sub>1</sub>...a<sub>n</sub>=v<sub>n</sub>&gt;</code> | <i>t</i> , (a <sub>1</sub> , v <sub>1</sub> ), ..., (a <sub>n</sub> , v <sub>n</sub> ) |
| <i>endElement</i>            | <code>&lt;/t&gt;</code>                                                          | <i>t</i>                                                                               |
| <i>characters</i>            | text content                                                                     | Unicode buffer ptr, length                                                             |
| <i>comment</i>               | <code>&lt;!--c--&gt;</code>                                                      | <i>c</i>                                                                               |
| <i>processingInstruction</i> | <code>&lt;?t pi?&gt;</code>                                                      | <i>t</i> , <i>pi</i>                                                                   |
|                              | :                                                                                | :                                                                                      |

<sup>8</sup>**N.B.:** Event *startDocument* is sent even if the optional XML text declaration should be missing.

dilbert.xml

```
1 <?xml encoding="utf-8"?> *1
2 <bubbles> *2
3 <!-- Dilbert looks stunned --> *3
4 <bubble speaker="pbb" to="dilbert"> *4
5 Tell the truth, but do it in your usual engineering way
6 so that no one understands you. *5
7 </bubble> *6
8 </bubbles> *7 *8
```

| Event <sup>9</sup> 10 | Parameters sent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| *1                    | startDocument   |
| *2                    | startElement    |
| *3                    | comment         |
| *4                    | startElement    |
| *5                    | characters      |
| *6                    | endElement      |
| *7                    | endElement      |
| *8                    | endDocument     |

<sup>9</sup>Events are reported in **document reading order** \*1, \*2, ..., \*8.  
<sup>10</sup>N.B.: Some events suppressed (white space).

Deadline: 29<sup>th</sup> March

For **Assignment 2**, you only need to register *startElement* and *endElement*.

In that way, you automatically receive only element nodes..

Of course you can use SAX for other things than building up a data structure.

E.g.

→ answer path queries while parsing (on a "stream")  
(low memory consumption!)

Java SAX API

In Java, populating the callback table is done via implementation of the SAX ContentHandler interface: a ContentHandler object represents the callback table, its methods (e.g., public void endDocument ()) represent the table slots.

**Example:** Reimplement *content.cc* shown earlier for DOM (find all XML text nodes and print their content) using SAX (pseudo code):

```
content (File f)
// register the callback,
// we ignore all other events
SAXregister (characters, printText);
SAXparse (f);
return;
```

SAX Callbacks

- To provide an efficient and tight **coupling** between the SAX **frontend** and the application **backend**, the SAX API employs **function callbacks**:<sup>11</sup>

- Before parsing starts, the application **registers function references** in a table in which each event has its own slot:

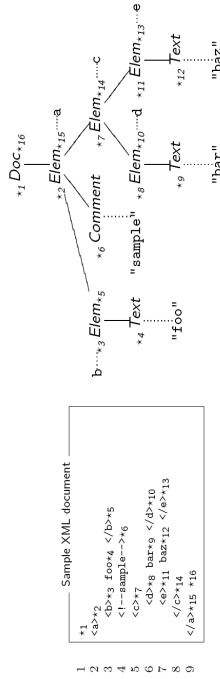
| Event        | Callback | Event        | Callback                                                               |
|--------------|----------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| startElement | ?        | startElement | startElement ()                                                        |
| endElement   | ?        | endElement   | endElement ()                                                          |
| characters   | ?        | characters   | SAXregister (startElement, endElement, startElement (), endElement ()) |

- The application alone decides on the implementation of the functions it registers with the SAX parser.
- **Reporting an event** \*<sub>i</sub> then amounts to call the function (with parameters) registered in the appropriate table slot.

<sup>11</sup>Much like in event-based GUI libraries.

SAX and the XML Tree Structure

- Looking closer, the **order** of SAX events reported for a document is determined by a **preorder traversal** of its document tree<sup>12</sup>:



**N.B.:** An *Elem* [*Doc*] node is associated with two SAX events, namely *startElement* and *endElement* [*startDocument*, *endDocument*].

<sup>12</sup>Sequences of sibling *Char* nodes have been collapsed into a single *Text* node.

END  
Lecture 2