## Chapter 4: XML Schema

## **References:**

- Meike Klettke, Holger Meyer: XML & Datenbanken. Abschnitt 5.1, 7.2.2 dpunkt.verlag, 2003, ISBN 3-89864-148-1.
- Harald Schöning, Walter Waterfeld: XML Schema.
   In: Erhard Rahm, Gottfried Vossen: Web & Datenbanken, Seiten 33-64. dpunkt.verlag, 2003, ISBN 3-89864-189-9.
- Elliotte Rusty Harold, W. Scott Means: XML in a Nutshell, A Desktop Quick Ref., 3rd Ed. O'Reilly, Okt. 2004, ISBN 0-596-00764-7, 689 Seiten, 37 Euro.
- Priscilla Walmsley: Definitive XML Schema. Prentice Hall, 2001, ISBN 0130655678, 560 pages.
- W3C Architecture Domain: XML Schema. [http://www.w3.org/XML/Schema]
- David C. Fallside, Priscilla Walmsley: XML Schema Part 0: Primer.
   W3C, 28. October 2004, Second Edition. [http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-0/]
- Henry S. Thompson, David Beech, Murray Maloney, Noah Mendelsohn: XML Schema Part 1: Structures. W3C, 28. October 2004, Second Edition [http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1/]
- Paul V. Biron, Ashok Malhotra: XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes. W3C, 28. October 2004, Second Edition [http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/]
- Matthias Hansch, Stefan Kulins, Martin Schrader: Aktuelles Schlagwort: XML Schema. In: Informatik Spektrum, Oktober 2002, 363–366. [http://www.wifo.uni-mannheim.de/xml-schema/]
- [http://www.w3schools.com/schema/]

Objectives

After completing this chapter, you should be able to:

- explain why DTDs are not sufficient for many applications.
- explain some XML schema concepts.
- write an XML schema.
- check given XML documents for validity according to a given XML schema.



1. Introduction, Examples

2. Simple Types

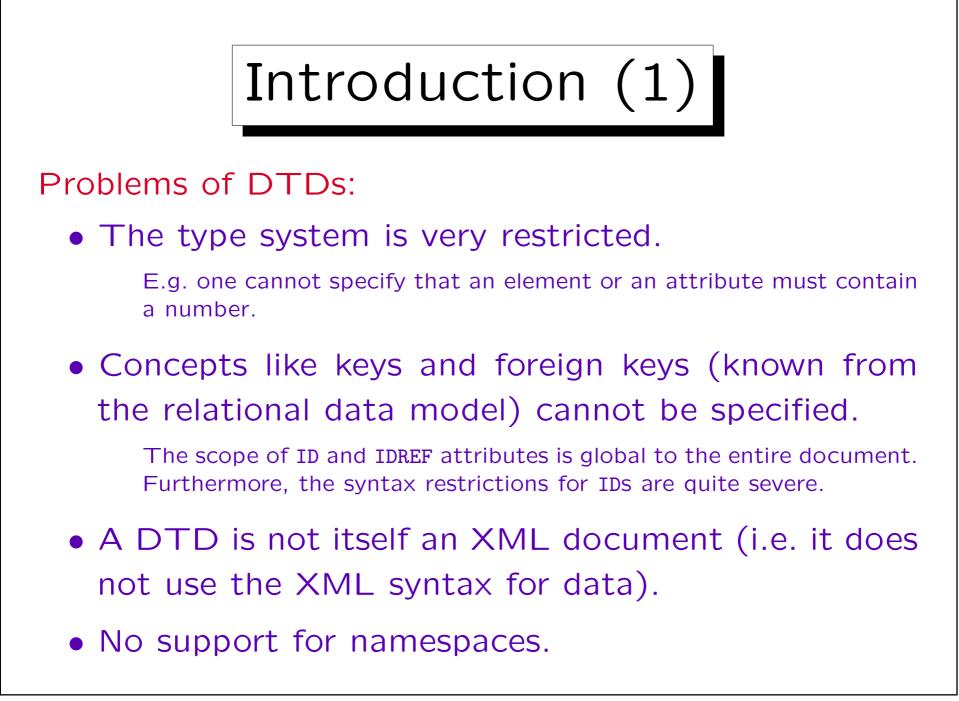
3. Complex Types, Elements, Attributes

4. Integrity Constraints

5. Advanced Constructs

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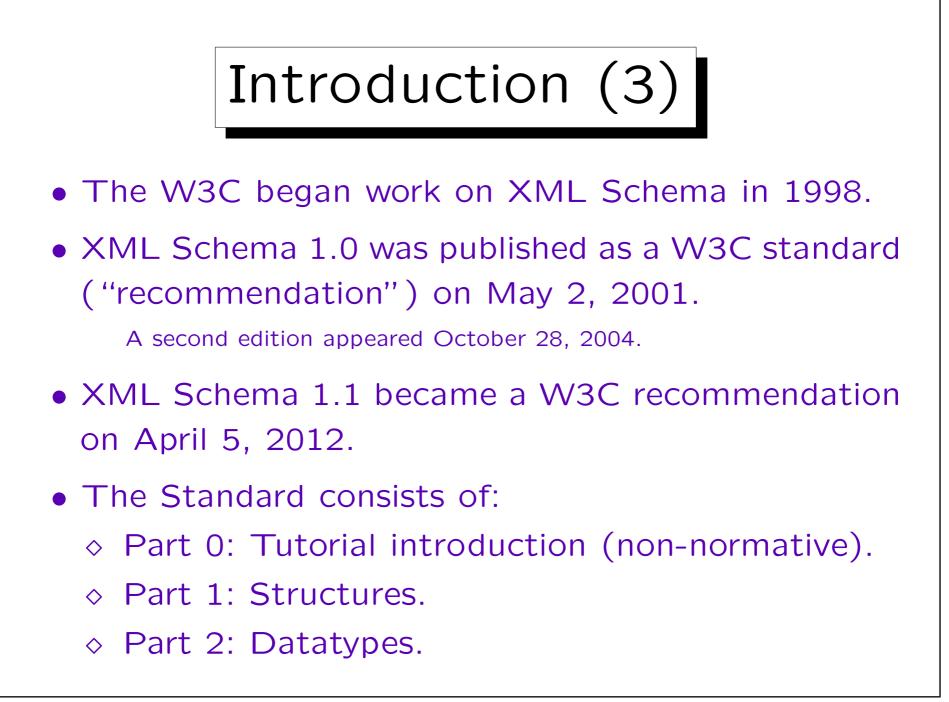
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- DTDs were probably sufficient for the needs of the document processing community, but do not satisfy the expectations of the database community.
- Therefore, a new way of describing the applicationdependent syntax of an XML document was developed: XML Schema.
- In XML Schema, one can specify all syntax restrictions that can be specified in DTDs, and more (i.e. XML Schema is more expressive).

Only entities cannot be defined in XML Schema.





- A disadvantage of XML schema is that it is very complex, and XML schemas are quite long (much longer than the corresponding DTD).
- Quite a number of competitors were developed.

E.g. XDR, SOX, Schematron, Relax NG. See: D. Lee, W. Chu: Comparative Analysis of Six XML Schema Languages. In ACM SIGMOD Record, Vol. 29, Nr. 3, Sept. 2000.

• Relax NG is a relatively well-known alternative.

See: J. Clark, M. Makoto: RELAX NG Specification, OASIS Committee Specification, 3 Dec. 2001. [http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/relax-ng/spec-20011203.html]



Comparison with DBMS:

- In a (relational) DBMS, data cannot be stored without a schema.
- An XML document is self-describing: It can exist and can be processed without a schema.
- In part, the role of a schema in XML is more like integrity constraints in a relational DB.

It helps to detect input errors. Programs become simpler if they do not have to handle the most general case.

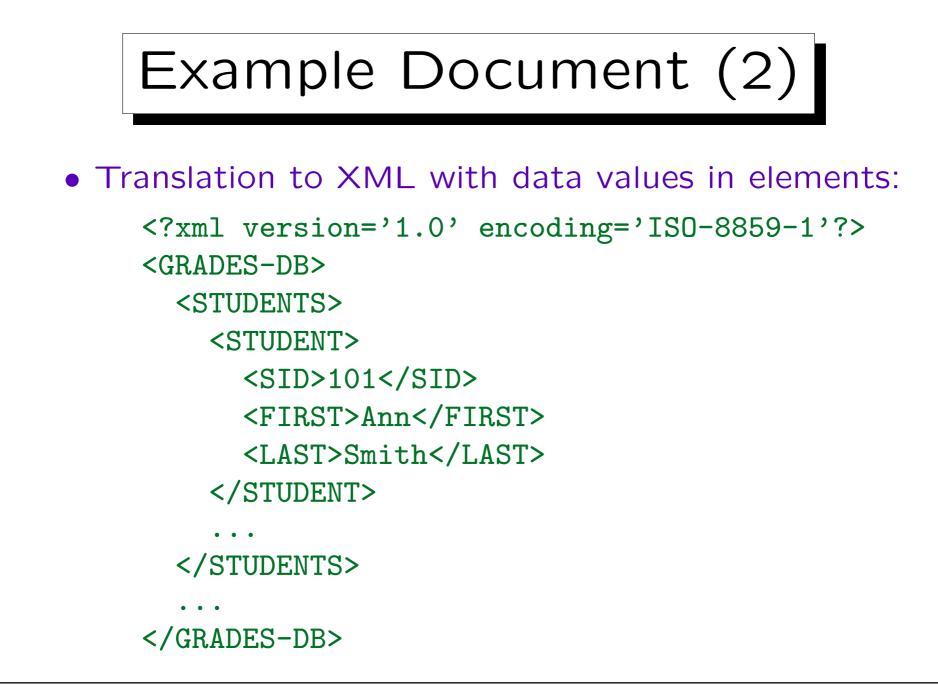
• But in any case, programs must use knowledge about the names of at least certain elements.

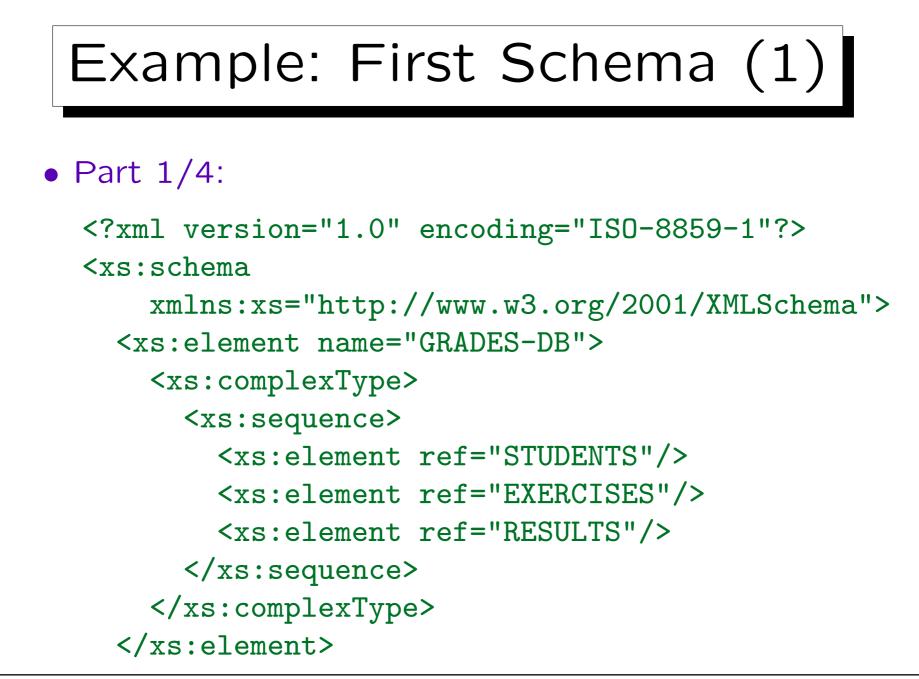
## Example Document (1)

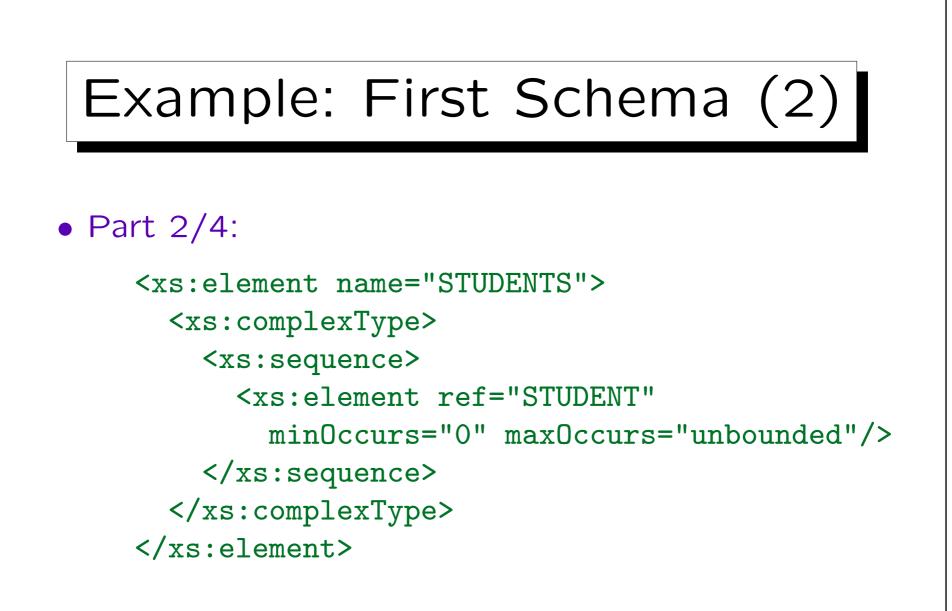
STUDENTS					
SID	FIRST	LAST	EMAIL		
101	Ann	Smith	• • •		
102	Michael	Jones	(null)		
103	Richard	Turner	• • •		
104	Maria	Brown	• • •		

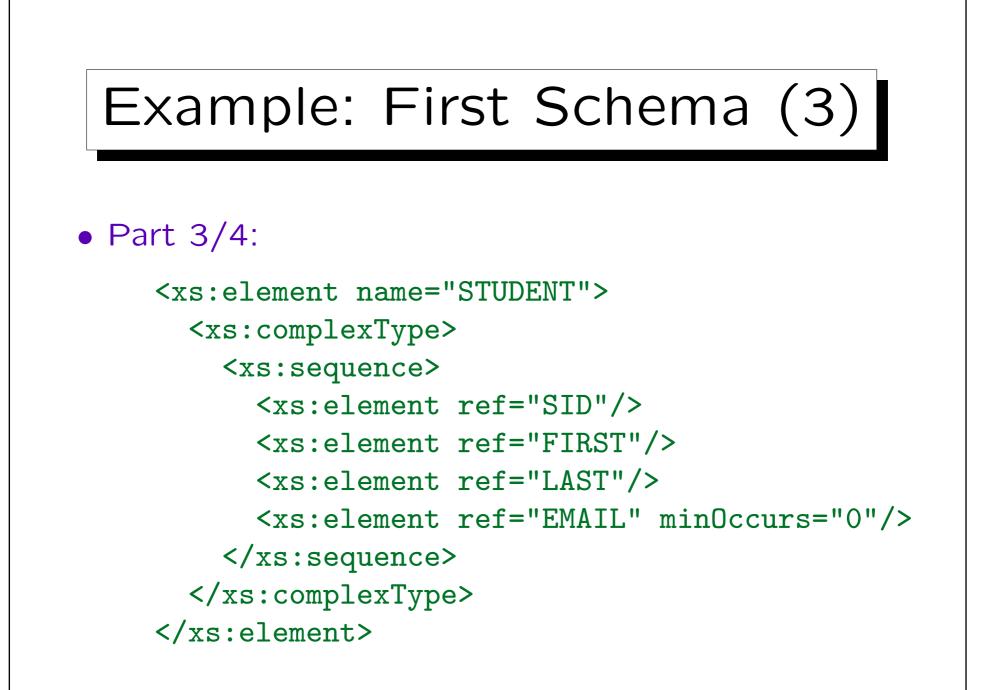
EXERCISES					
CAT	<u>ENO</u>	TOPIC	MAXPT		
Н	1	Rel. Algeb.	10		
H	2	SQL	10		
М	1	SQL	14		

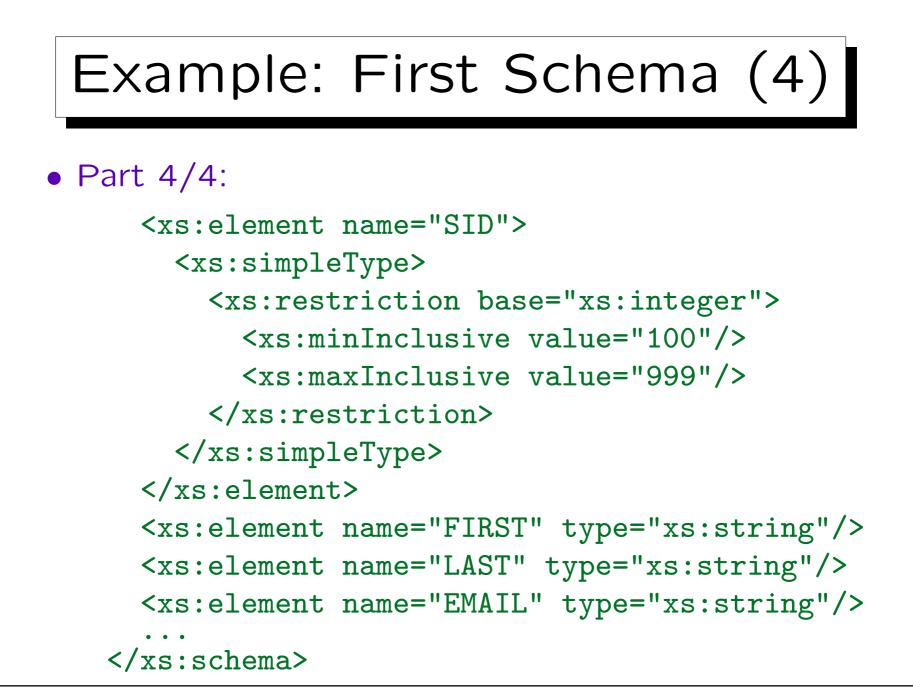
RESULTS						
SID	CAT	<u>ENO</u>	POINTS			
101	Η	1	10			
101	H	2	8			
101	M	1	12			
102	H	1	9			
102	Η	2	9			
102	М	1	10			
103	Η	1	5			
103	M	1	7			

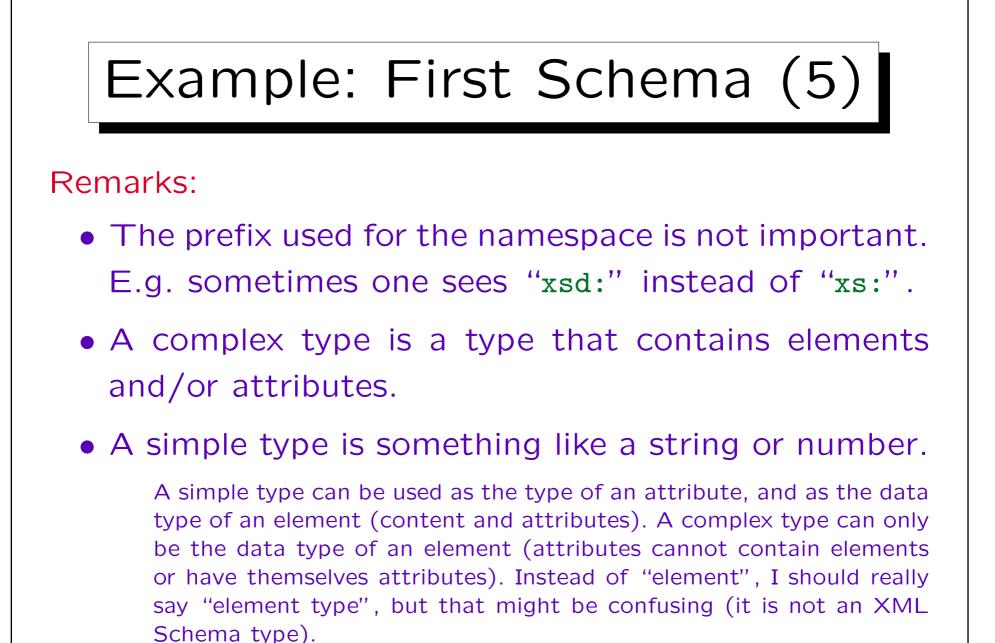


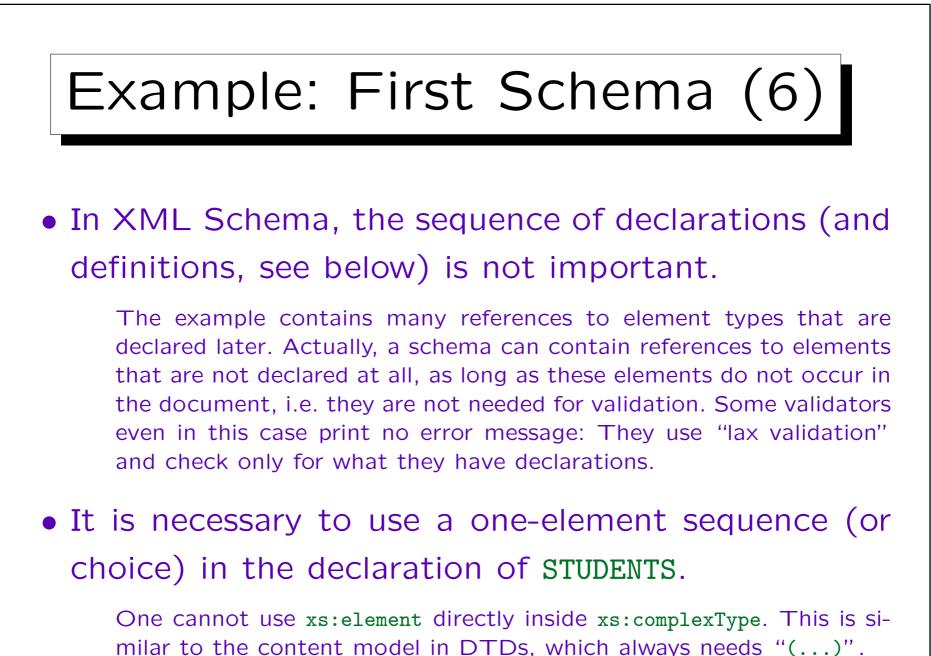














- The default for minOccurs and maxOccurs is 1.
- In XML Schema, one cannot define what must be the root element type. E.g., a document consisting only of a STUDENT-element would validate.

Every "globally" declared element type can be used. Global declarations are declarations that appear directly below xs:schema. As explained below, it is often possible to declare only the intended root element type globally, then there is no problem. Otherwise the application must check the root element type. Note that DTDs also do not define the root element type, this happens only in the DOCTYPE-declaration.

Validation (1)

- Documents in the Web can be validated using the XSV validator on the W3C server:
  - [http://www.w3.org/2001/03/webdata/xsv].

If one wants to check only the correctness of a schema, one can enter its URL an check the box "Check as complete schema". If one wants to validate a document, one enters the URL of the document, then a space, and then the URL of the schema into the input field. In this case, "Check as complete schema" must not be checked.

• One can also download XSV:

[http://www.ltg.ed.ac.uk/~ht/xsv-status.html]

It was developed at the University of Edinburgh and is available under the GNU public license. It is a command line program.

Validation (2)

- Depending on the validator used, it is not necessary that the XML data file (the instance of the schema) contains a reference to the schema.
- If one wants to refer to the schema, this can be done as follows:

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='ISO-8859-1'?>
<GRADES-DB xmlns:xsi=
    "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="ex2.xsd">
```

```
</GRADES-DB>
```

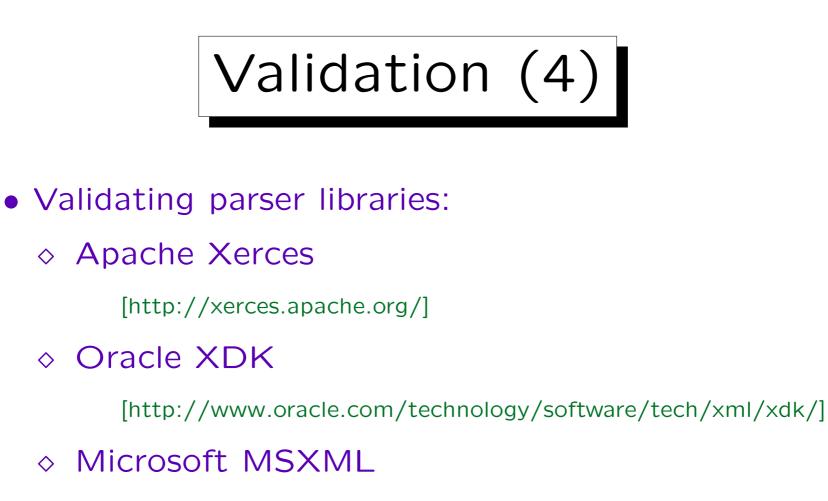
Validation (3)

- More online validators:
  - ◊ [http://www.validome.org/xml/]

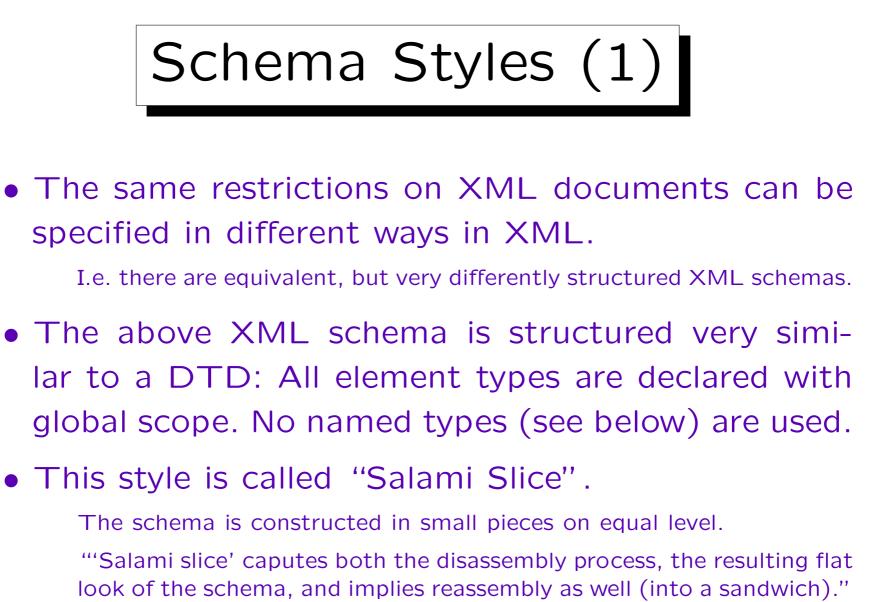
This evaluates the xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation-Link in the XML document to the schema. In order to check the schema only, use [http://www.validome.org/grammar/].

◊ [http://tools.decisionsoft.com/schemaValidate/]

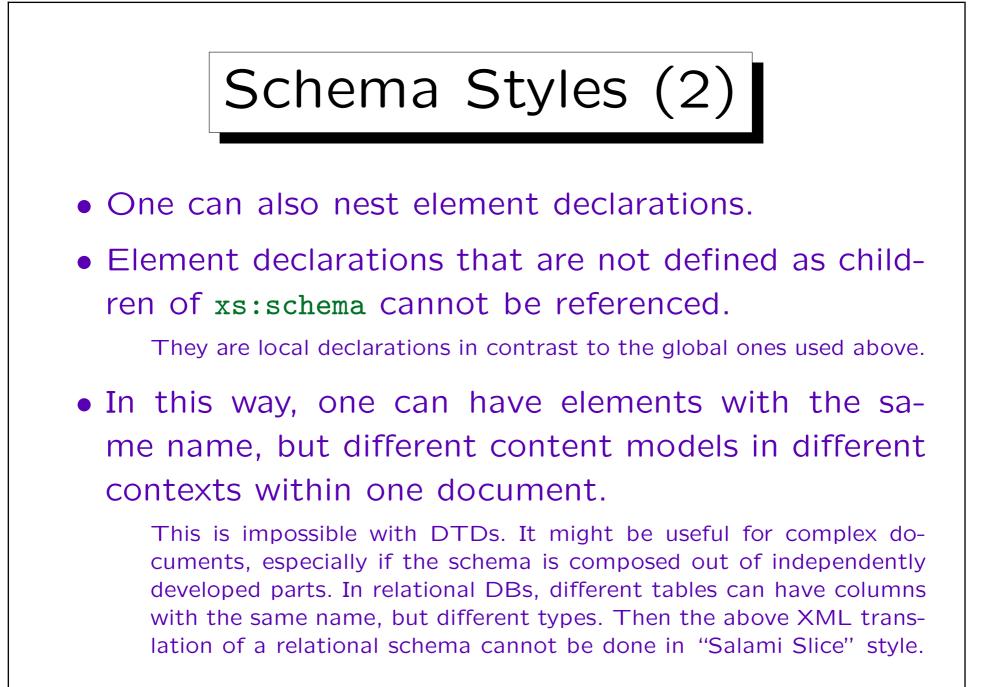
It permits to upload the XML data file and the XML schema file, so the files do not have to be stored on a web server.

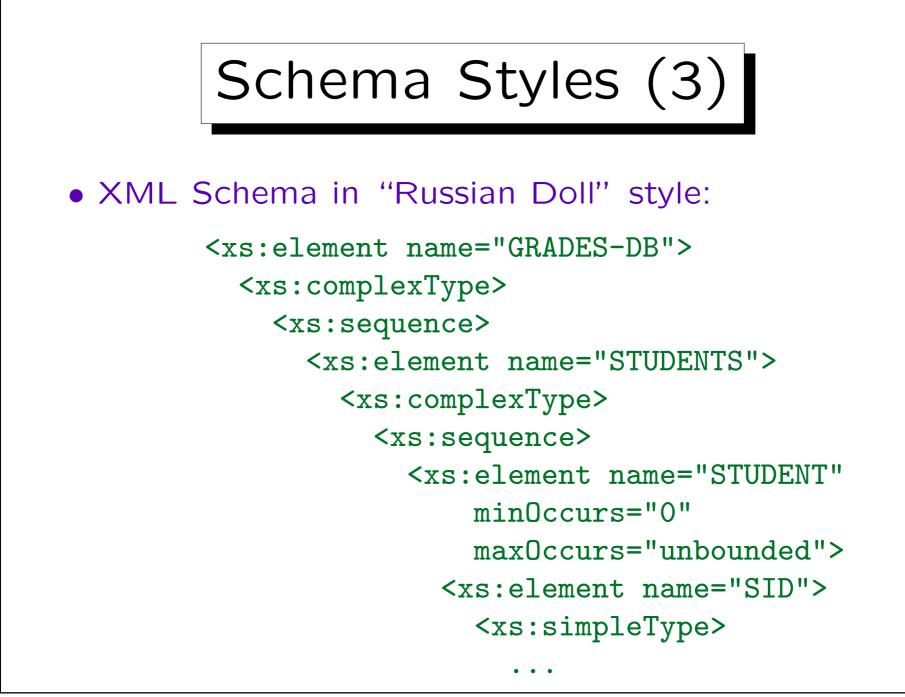


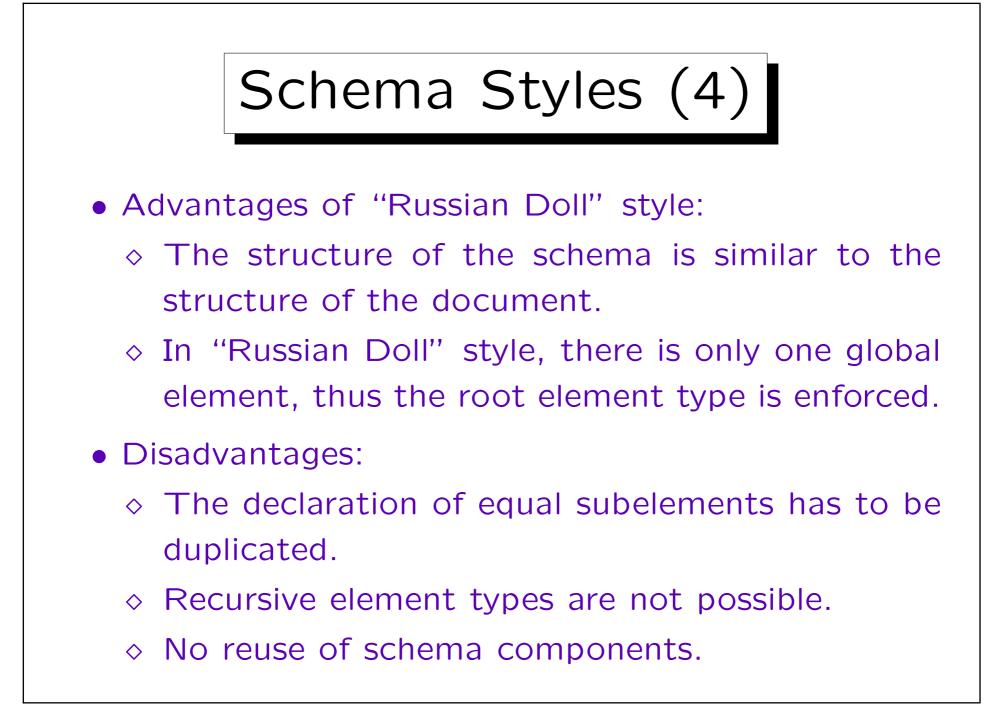
[http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/xml/default.aspx]

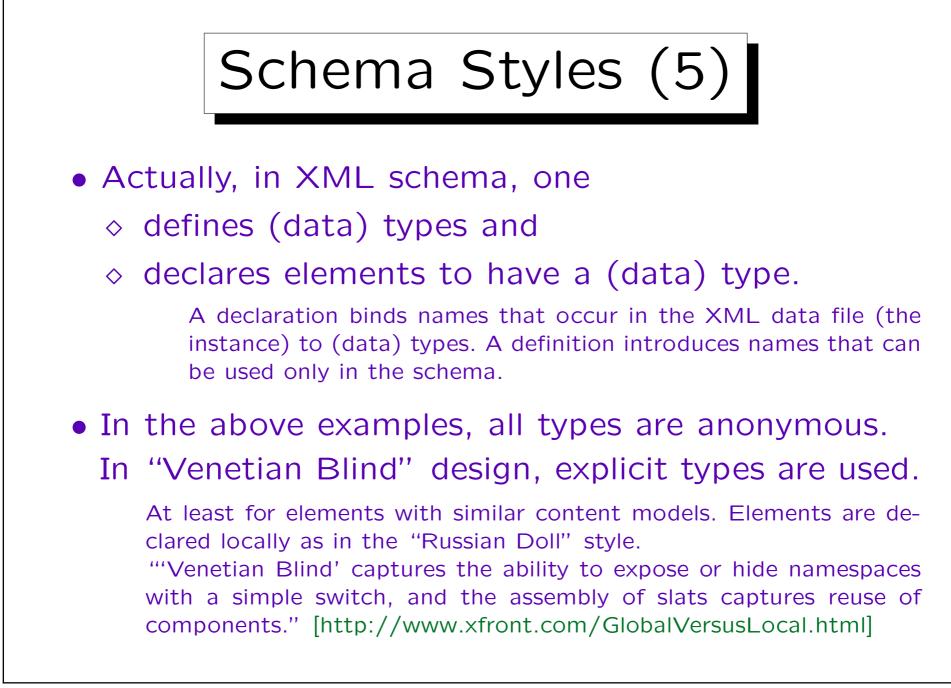


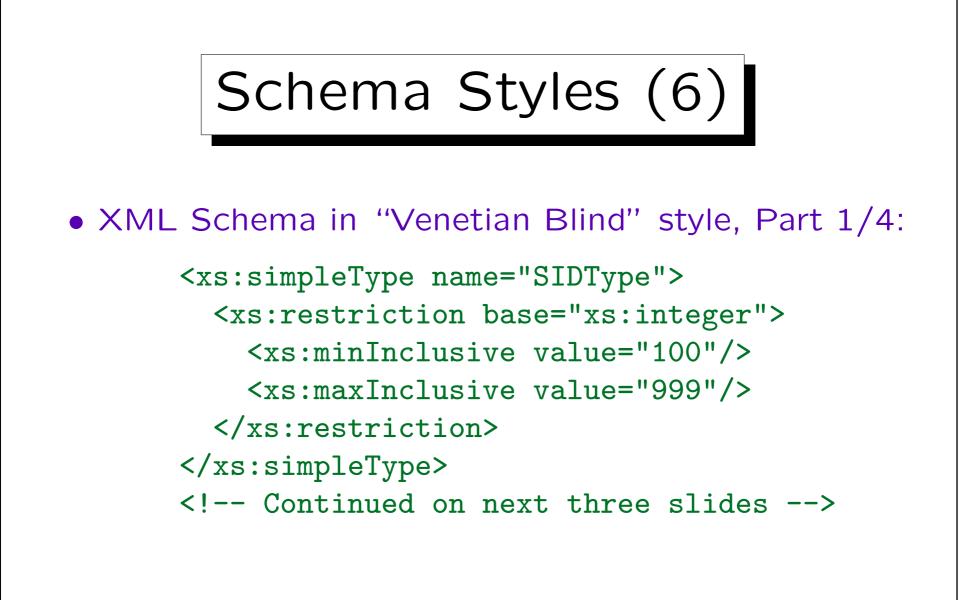
[http://www.xfront.com/GlobalVersusLocal.html]

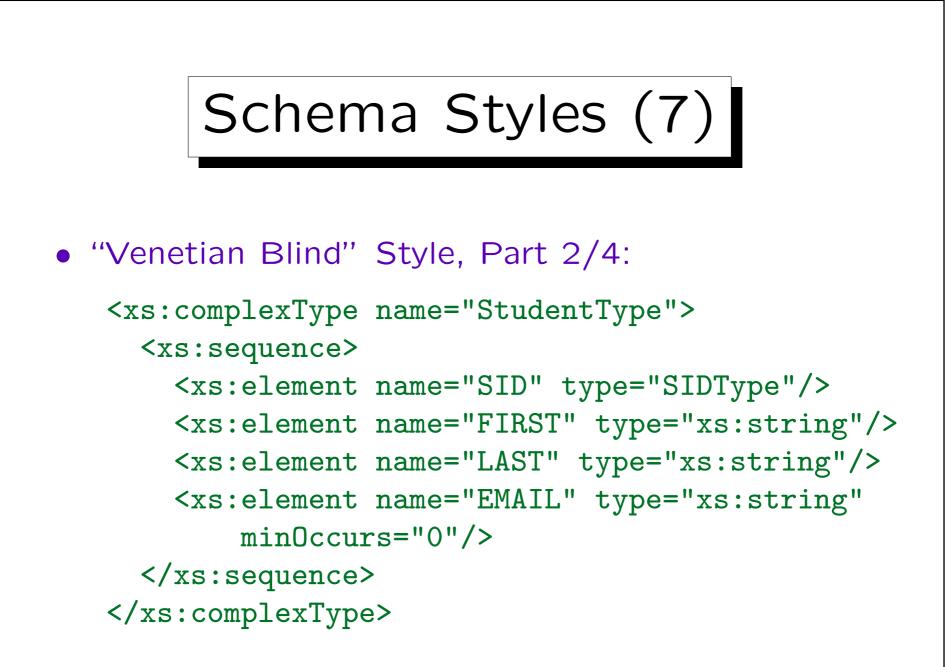








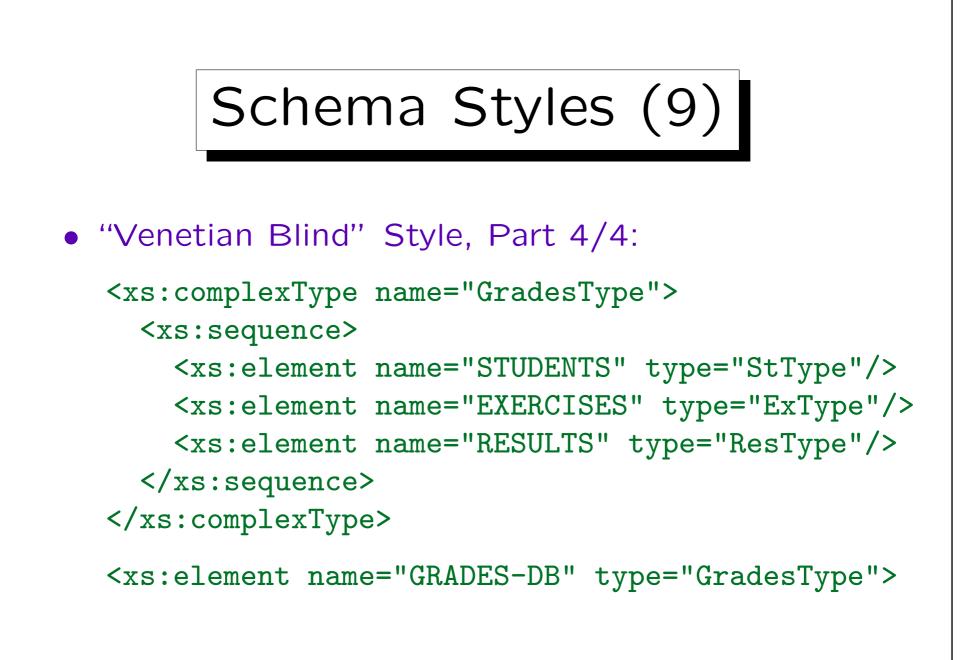


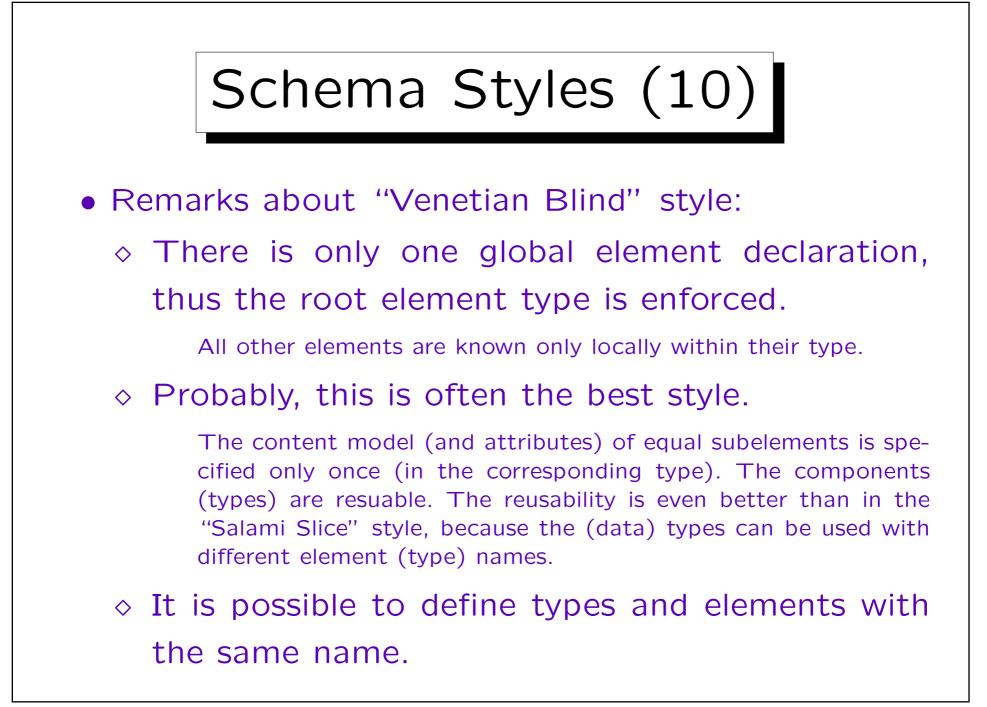


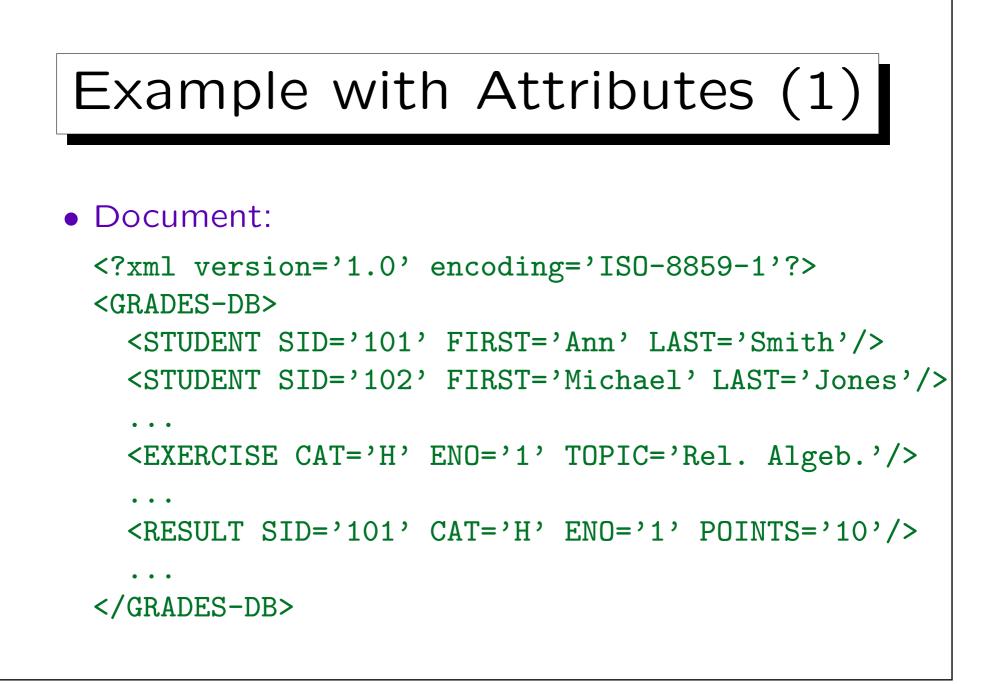


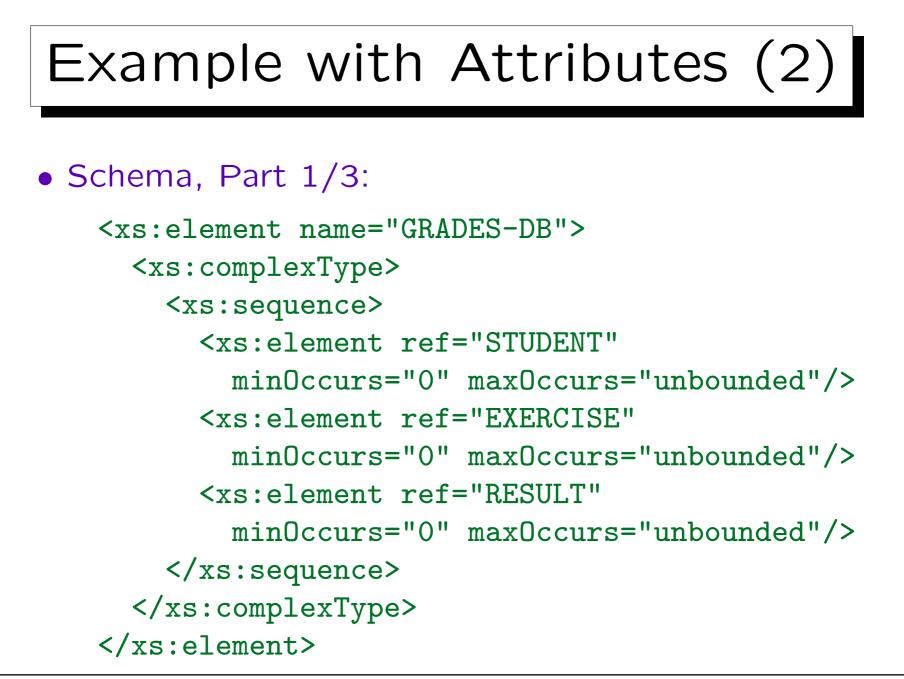
• "Venetian Blind" Style, Part 3/4:

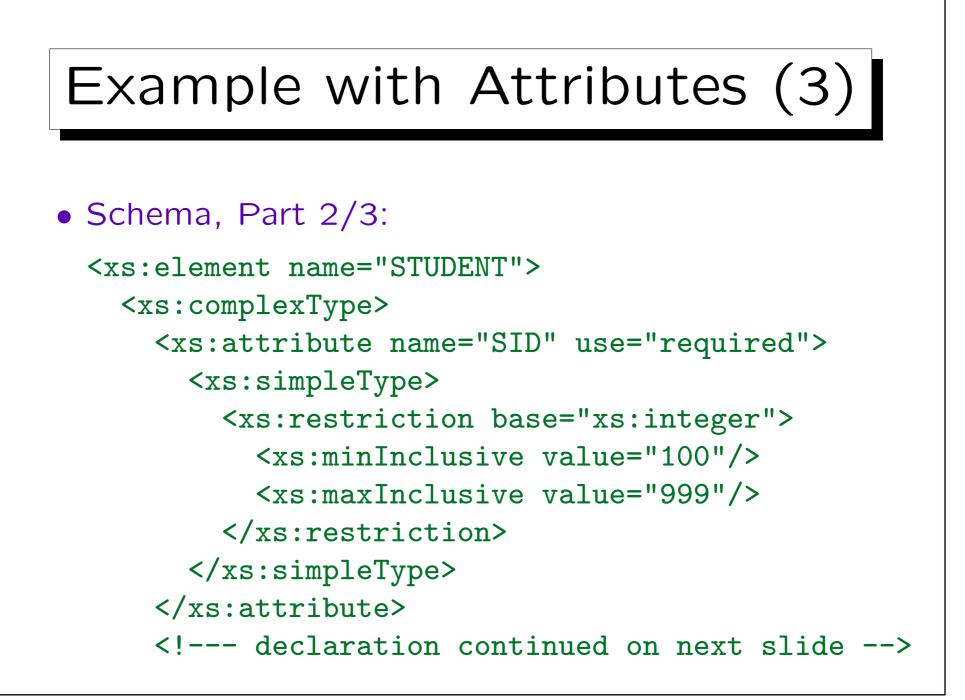
```
<xs:complexType name="StType">
    <xs:sequence>
        <xs:element name="STUDENT" type="studentType"
            minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        </xs:sequence>
    </xs:complexType>
```

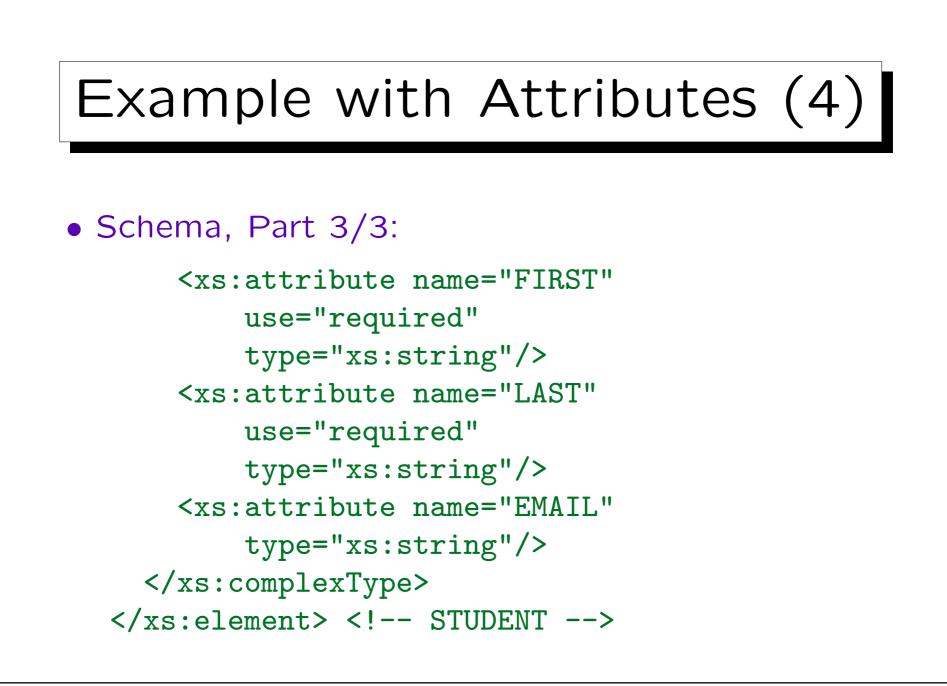


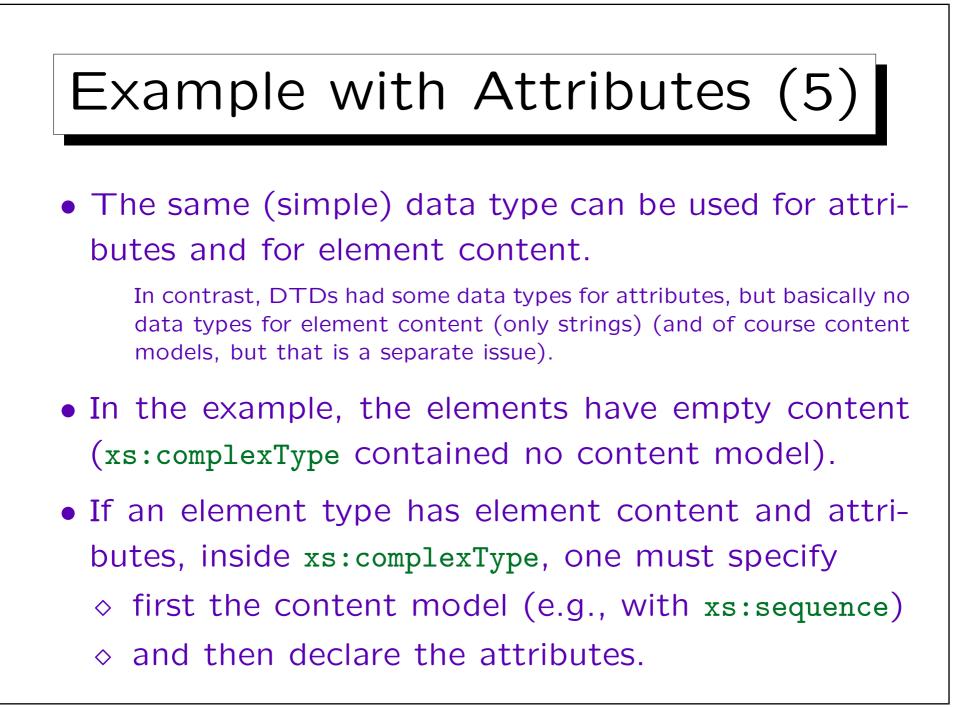


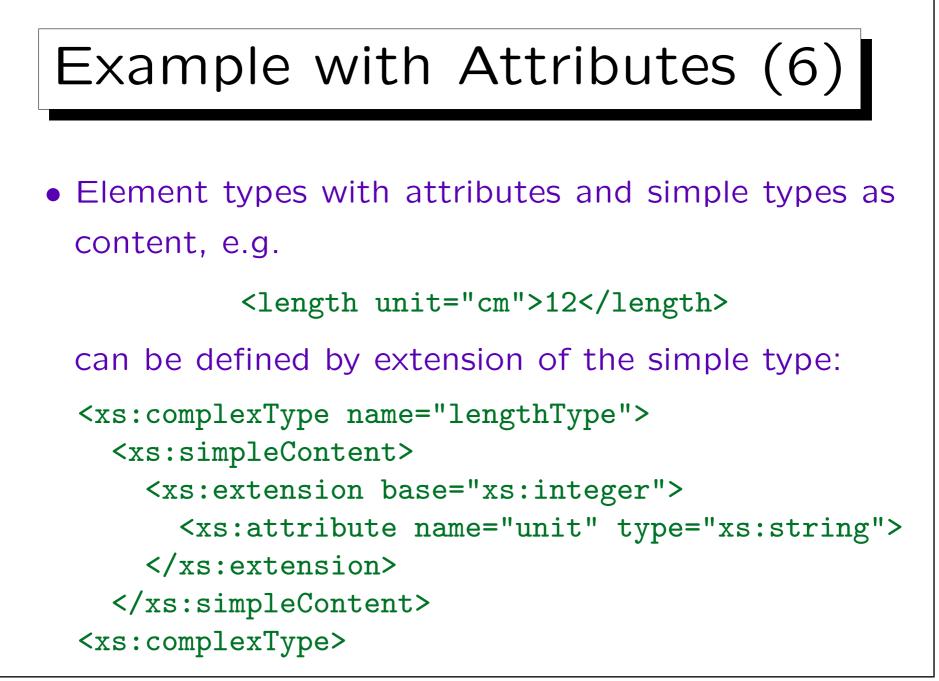










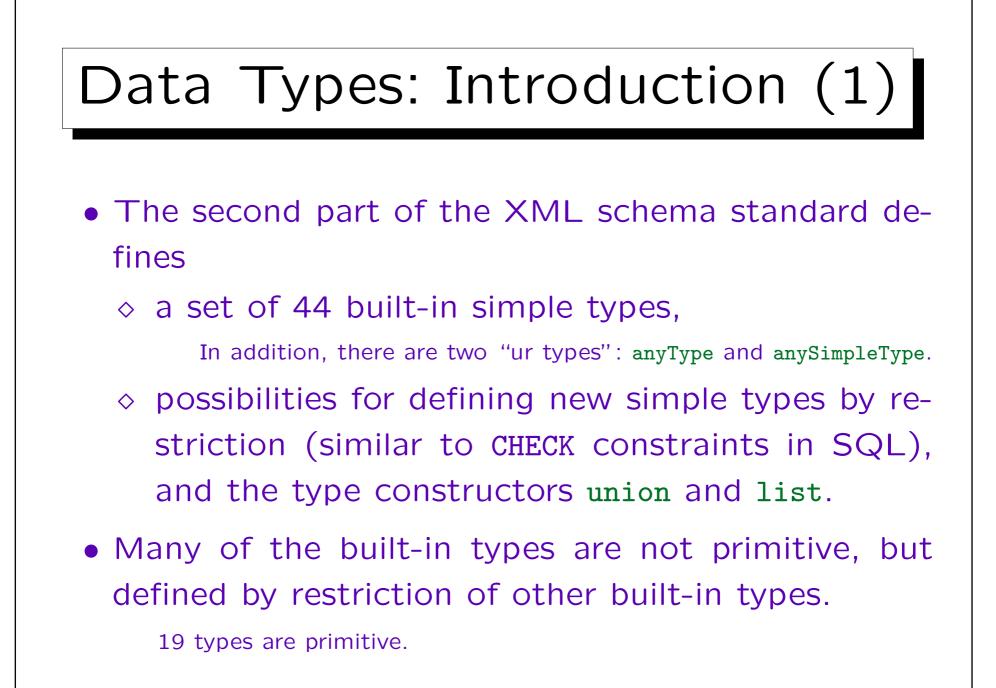


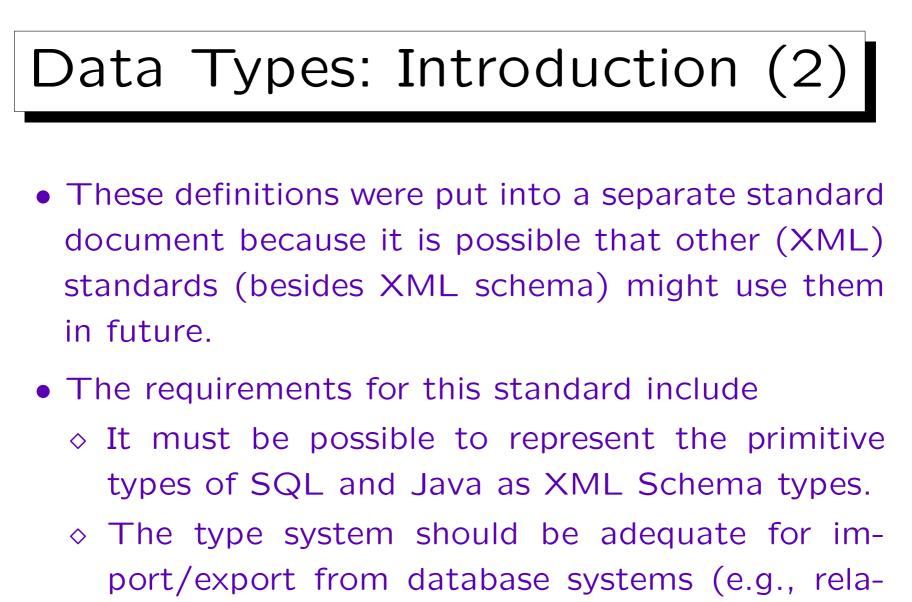


1. Introduction, Examples

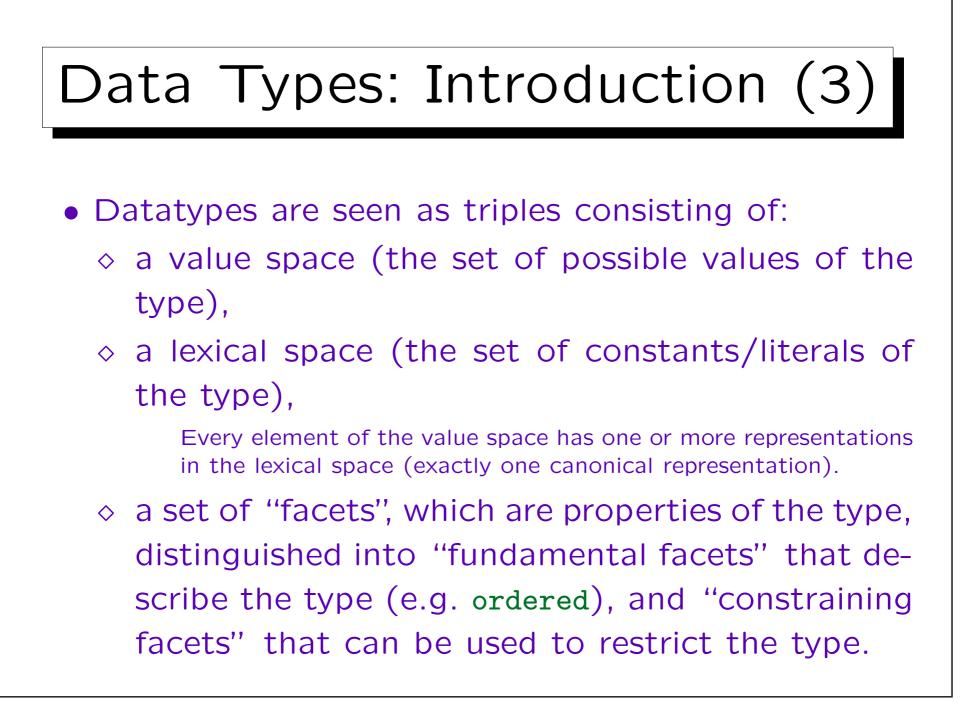
2. Simple Types

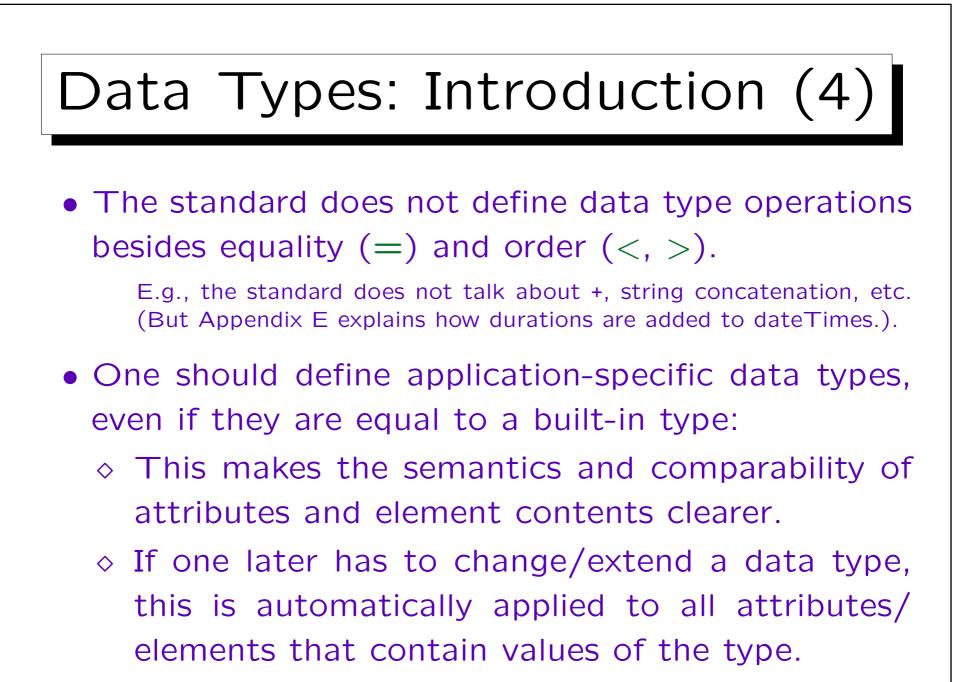
- 3. Complex Types, Elements, Attributes
- 4. Integrity Constraints
- 5. Advanced Constructs



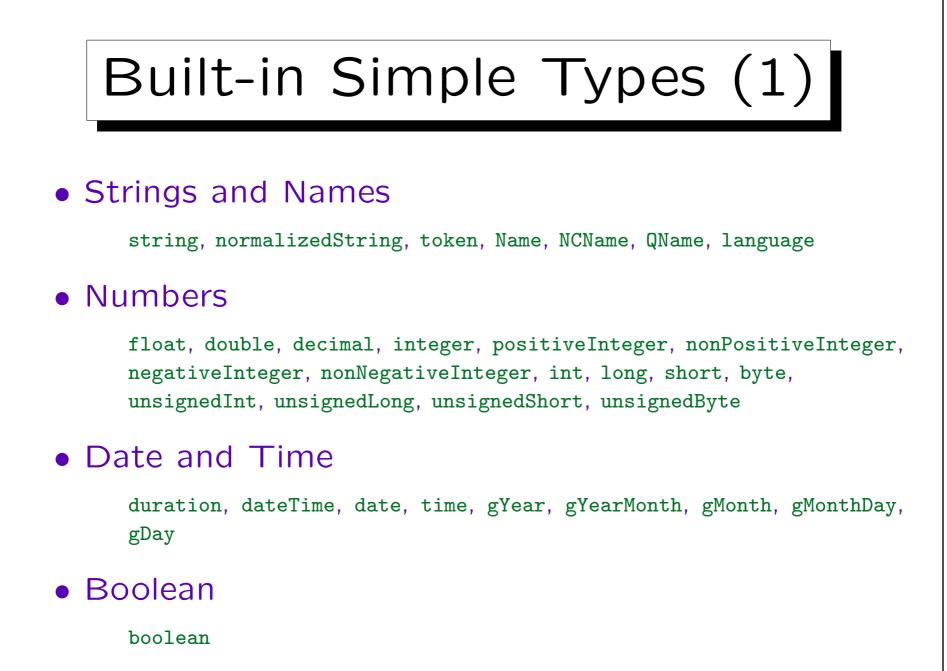


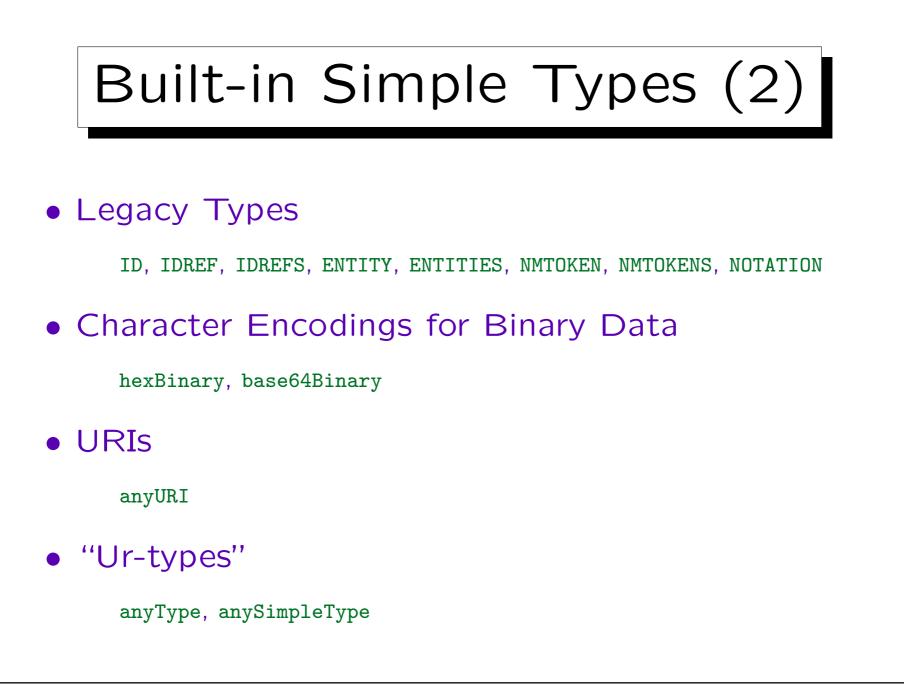
tional, object-oriented, OLAP).





## 4. XML Schema





Facets (1)

Constraining Facets:

- Bounds: minInclusive, maxInclusive, minExclusive, maxExclusive
- Length: length, minLength, maxLength
- Precision: totalDigits, FractionDigits
- Enumerated Values: enumeration
- Pattern matching: pattern
- Whitespace processing: whiteSpace



**Fundamental Facets:** 

## • equal

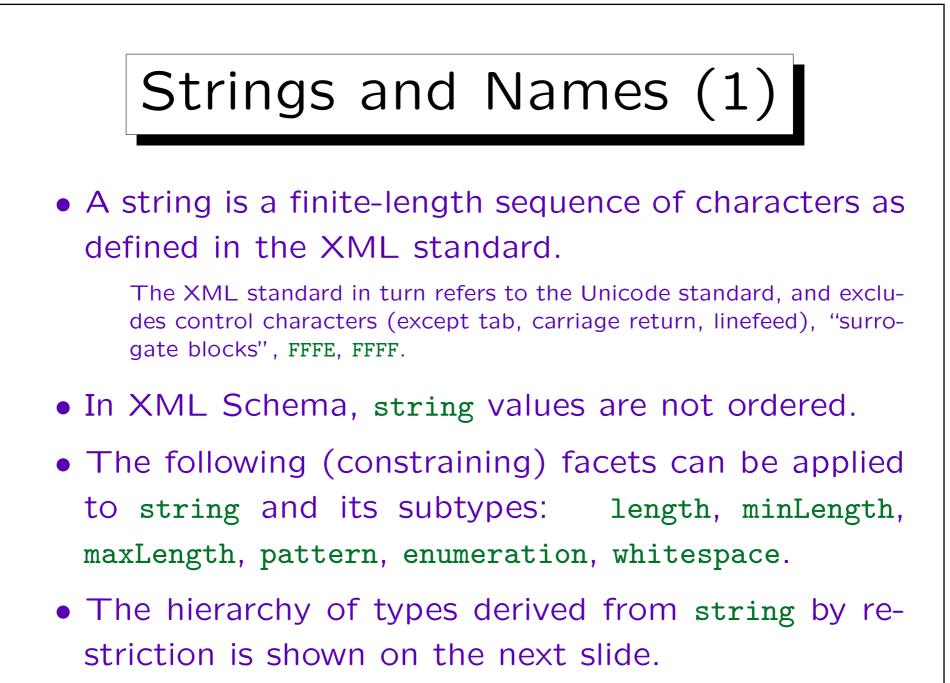
Every value space supports the notion of equality, The value spaces of all primitive data types are disjoint.

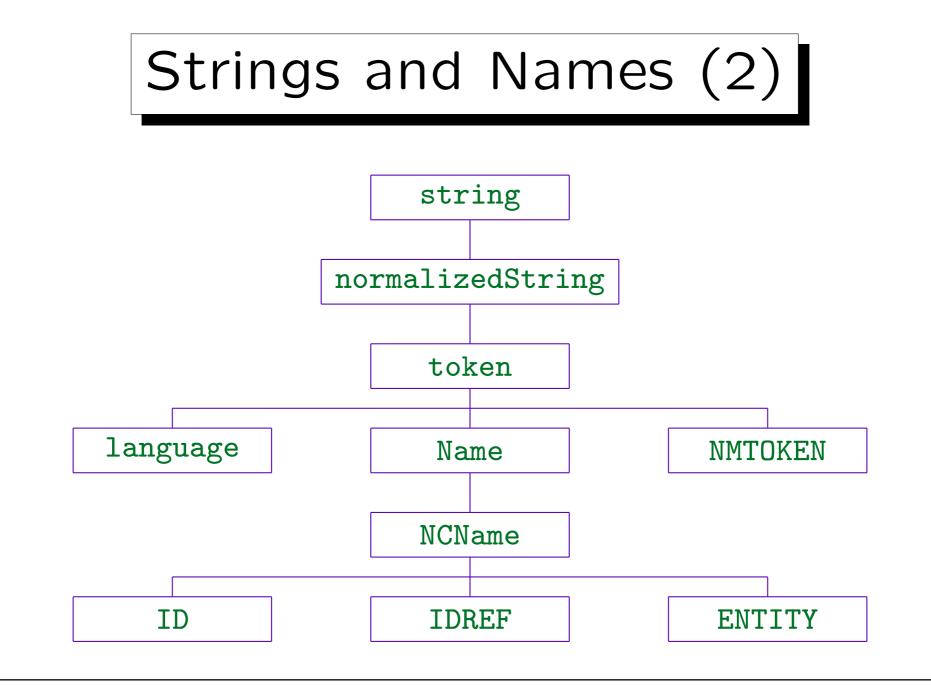
## • ordered: false, partial, total

The specification defines the order between data type values. Sometimes, values are incomparable, which means that the order relation is a partial order. Some types are not ordered at all.

• bounded: true, false

- cardinality: finite, countably infinite
- numeric: true, false





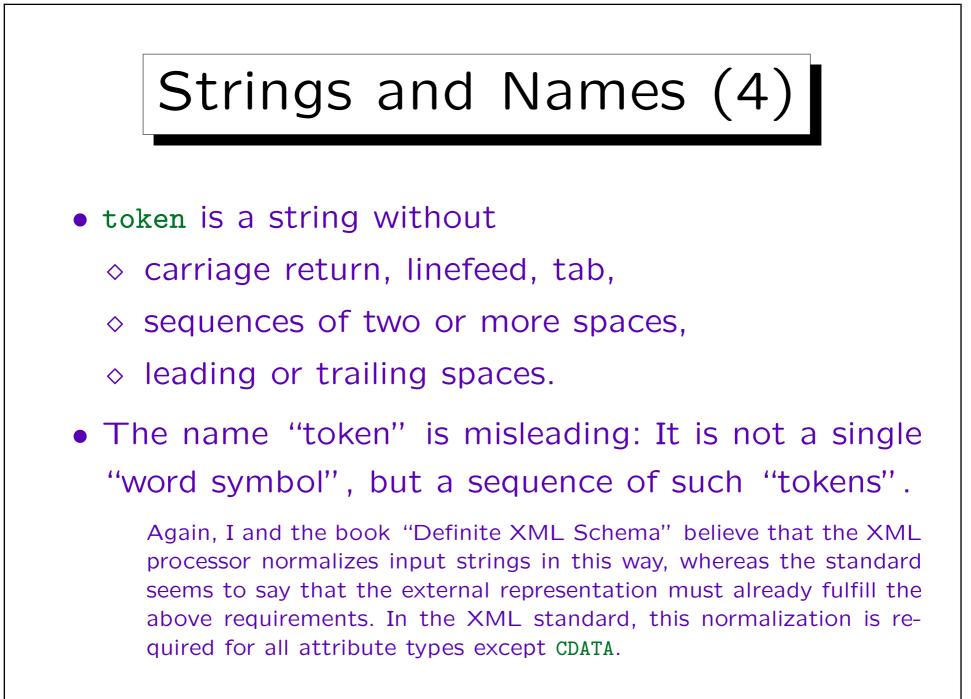
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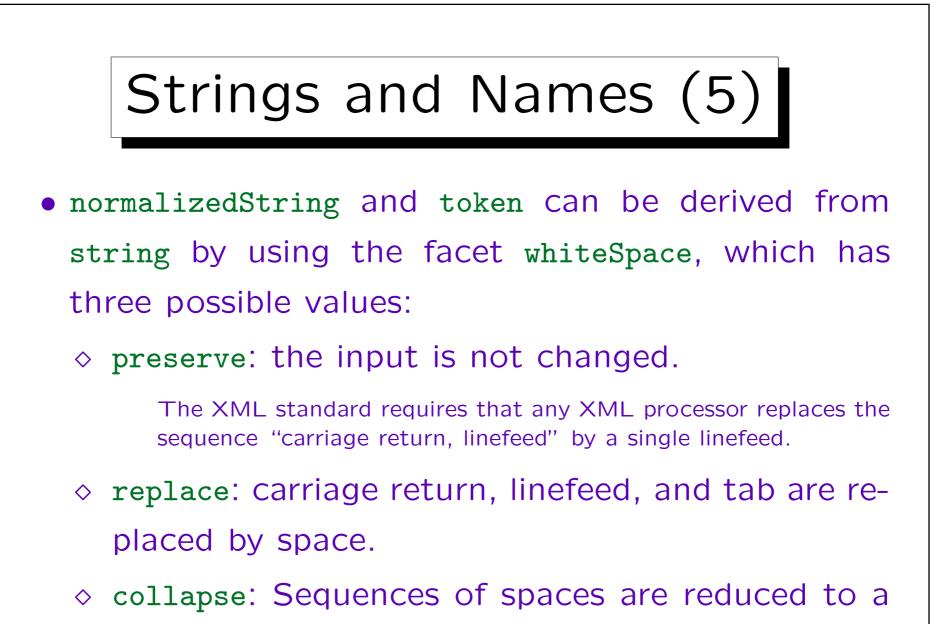
Universität Halle, 2012



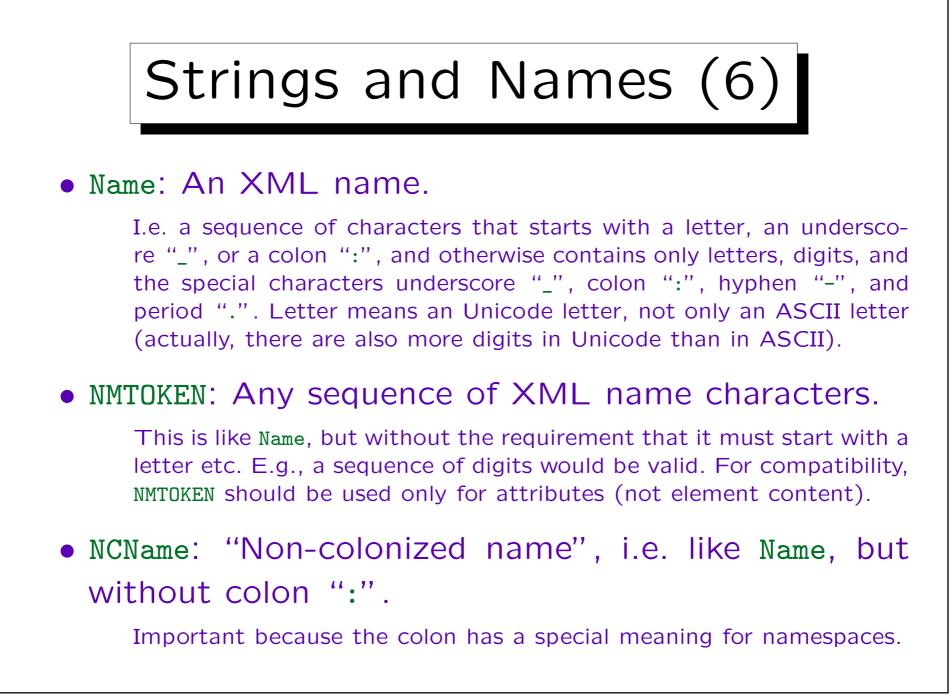
- normalizedString are strings that do not contain the characters carriage return, line feed, and tab.
- The XML processor will replace line ends and tabs by spaces.

The combination "carriage return, linefeed" is replaced by a single space. The XML Schema Standard says that even the lexical space does not contain carriage return, linefeed, tab. If I understand correctly, that would mean that they are forbidden in the input. However, the book "Definite XML Schema" states that the processor does this replacement. This seems plausible, because even in the original XML standard, CDATA attributes were normalized in this way. By the way, this gives an apparent incompatibility with the original XML standard, when one defines an attribute of type string: Does normalization occur anyway, because it is built into XML?





single one, leading/trailing spaces are removed.

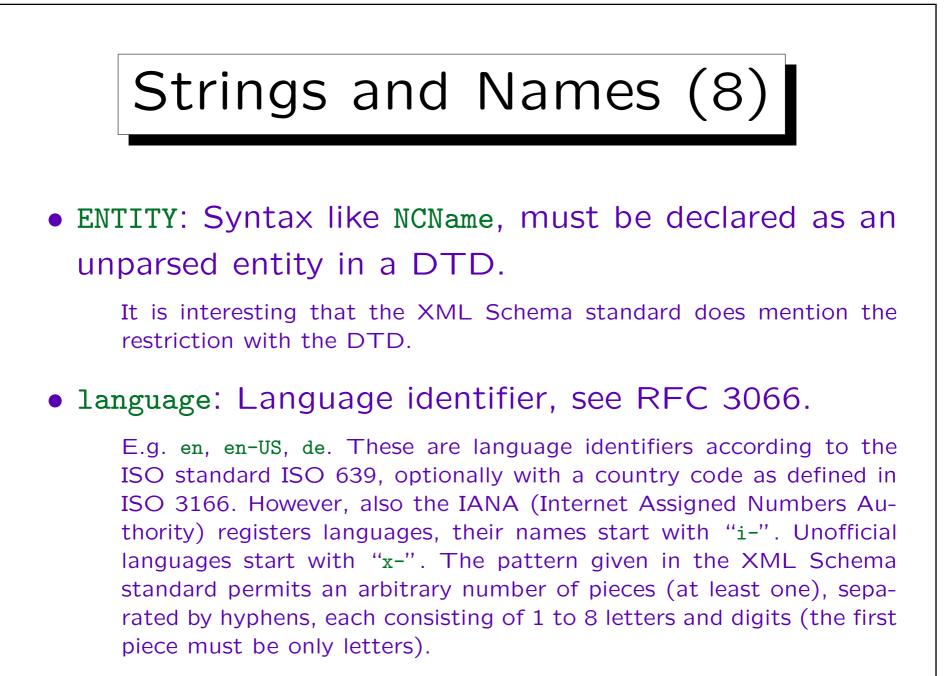


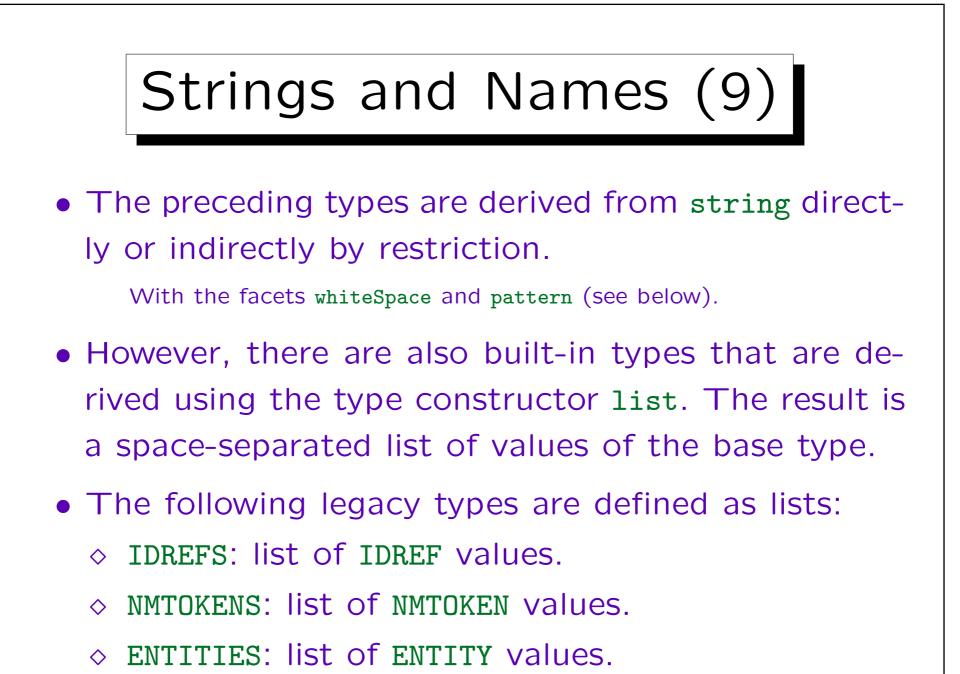
## Strings and Names (7)

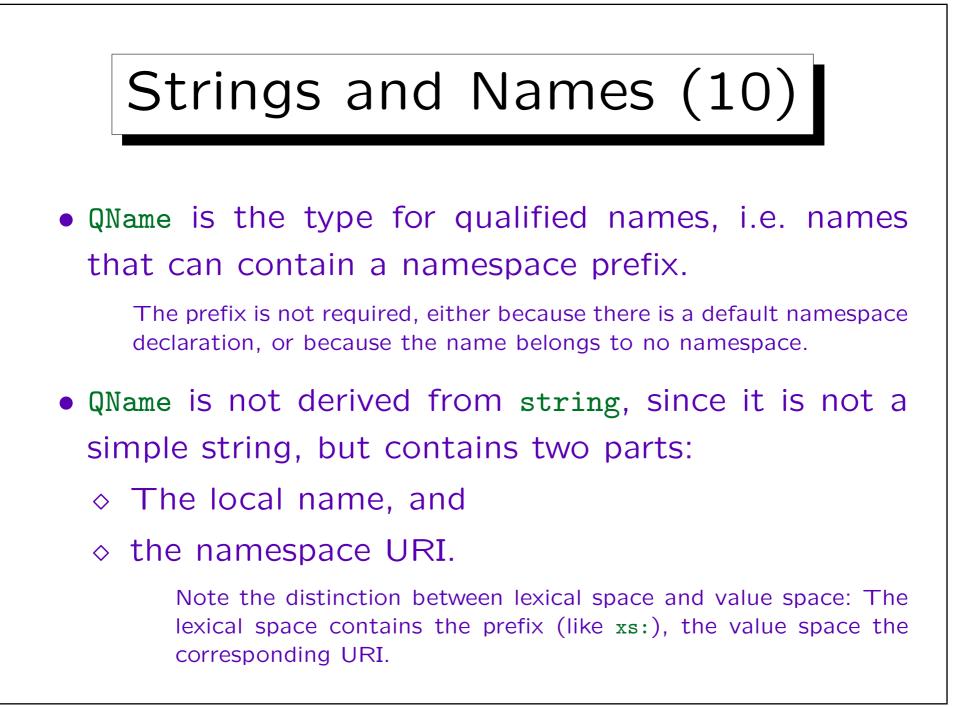
• ID: Syntax like NCName, but the XML processor enforces uniqueness in the document.

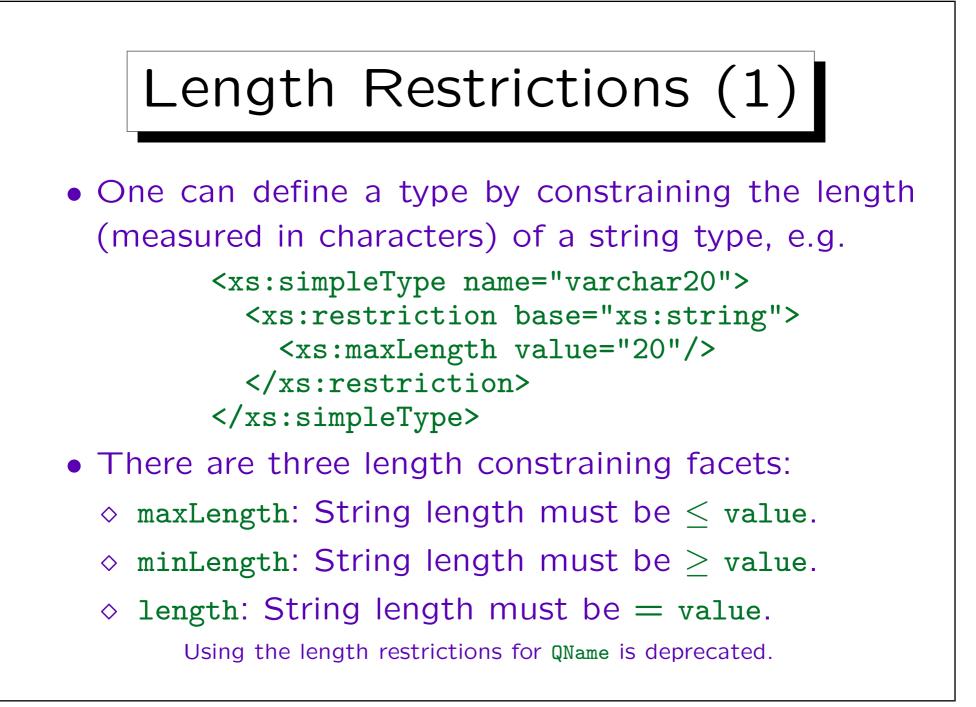
Actually, the XML Schema standard (Part 2) does not mention the uniqueness requirement, but the book "Definite XML Schema" does mention it (it is probably inherited from the XML standard). As all legacy types, ID should be used only for attributes. The XML standard forbids that an element type has two or more attributes of type ID. Furthermore, ID-attributes cannot have default or fixed values specified.

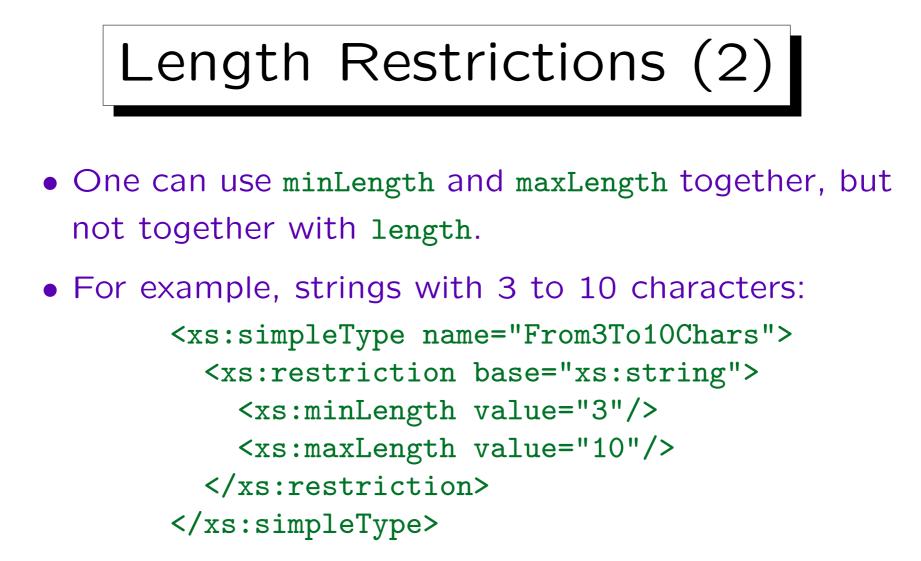
• IDREF: Syntax like NCName, value must appear as value of an ID-attribute in the document.



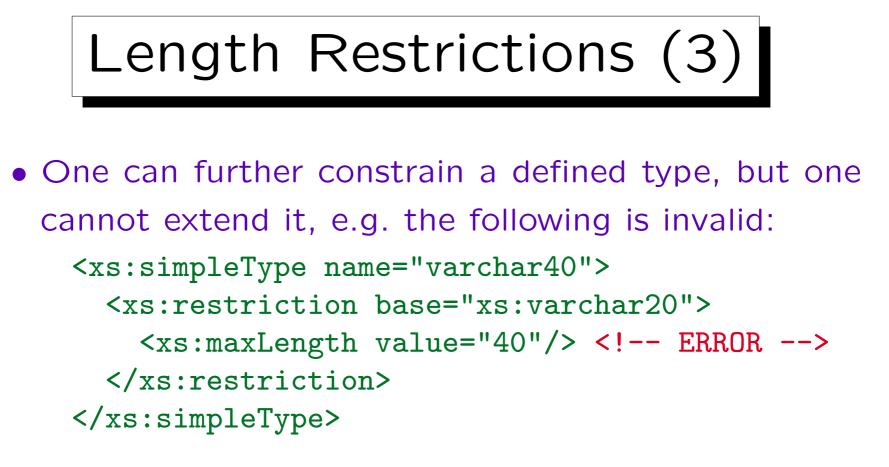








• One cannot specify any of the three facets more than once in the same restriction.



Actually, one can extend a type, but not in xs:restriction. E.g., one can add values with union (see below).

• It would, however, be possible to define strings of maximal length 10 in this way.

Enumeration Types • Example: <xs:simpleType name="weekday"> <xs:restriction base="xs:token"> <rs:enumeration value="Sun"/> <rs:enumeration value="Mon"/> <rs:enumeration value="Tue"/> </xs:restriction> </rs:simpleType>

By using xs:token as base type, leading and trailing white space is accepted and automatically removed.

• If one wants to restrict an enumeration type further, one must again list all possible values.

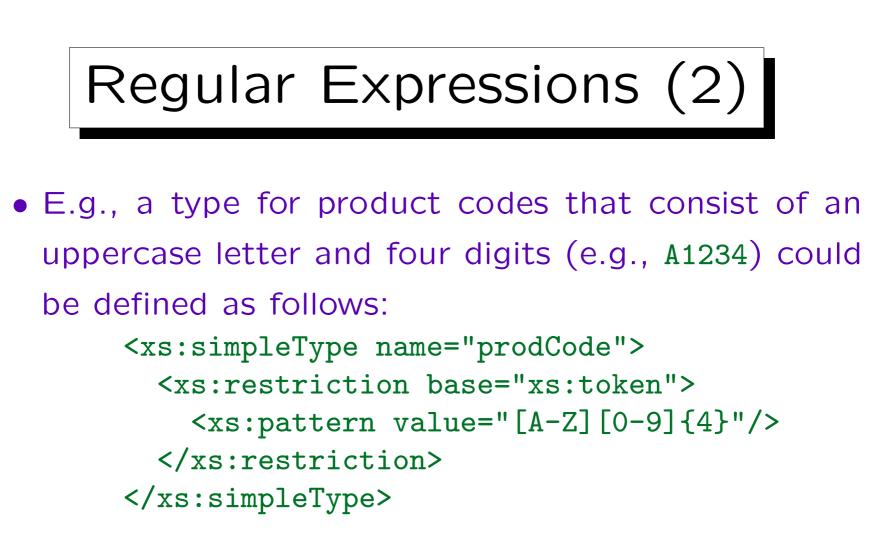


• The facet "pattern" can be used to derive a new (restricted) type from the above string types by requiring that the values match a regular expression.

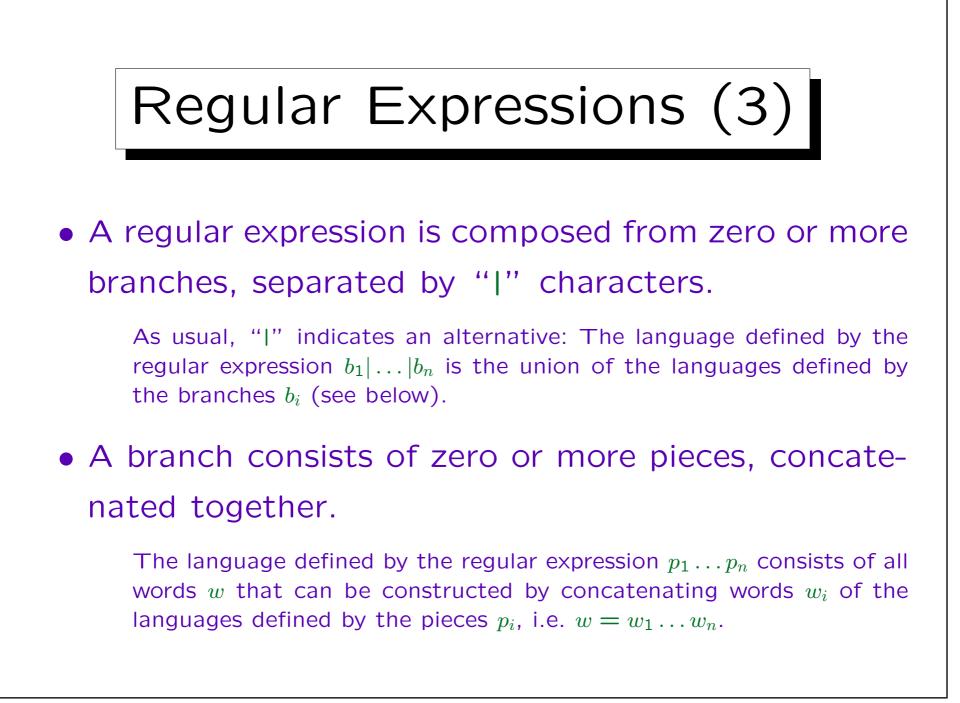
The facet pattern can also be applied to some other types, see below.

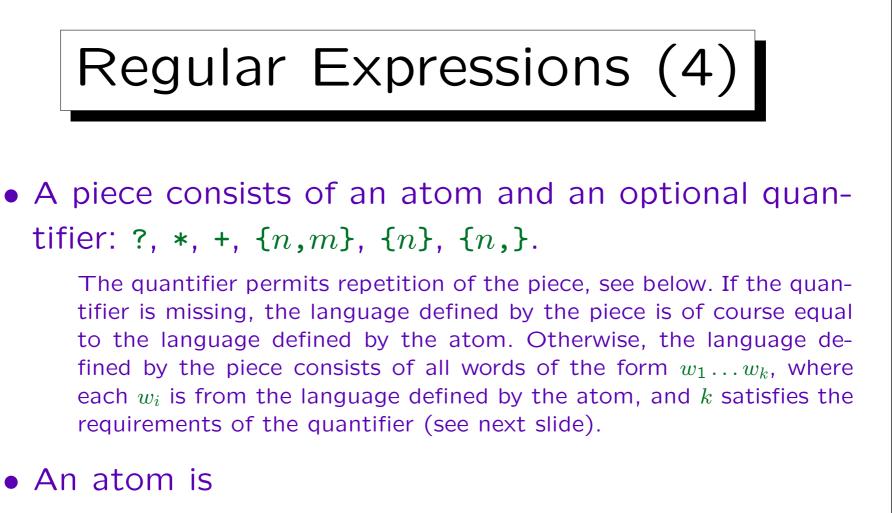
• The regular expressions in XML Schema are inspired by the regular expressions in Perl.

However, XML schema requires that the regular expressions matches the complete string, not only some part inside the string (i.e. there is an implicit ^ at the beginning and \$ at the end: If necessary, use .\* to allow an arbitrary prefix of suffix).



• One can specify more than one pattern, then it suffices if one of the pattern matches.

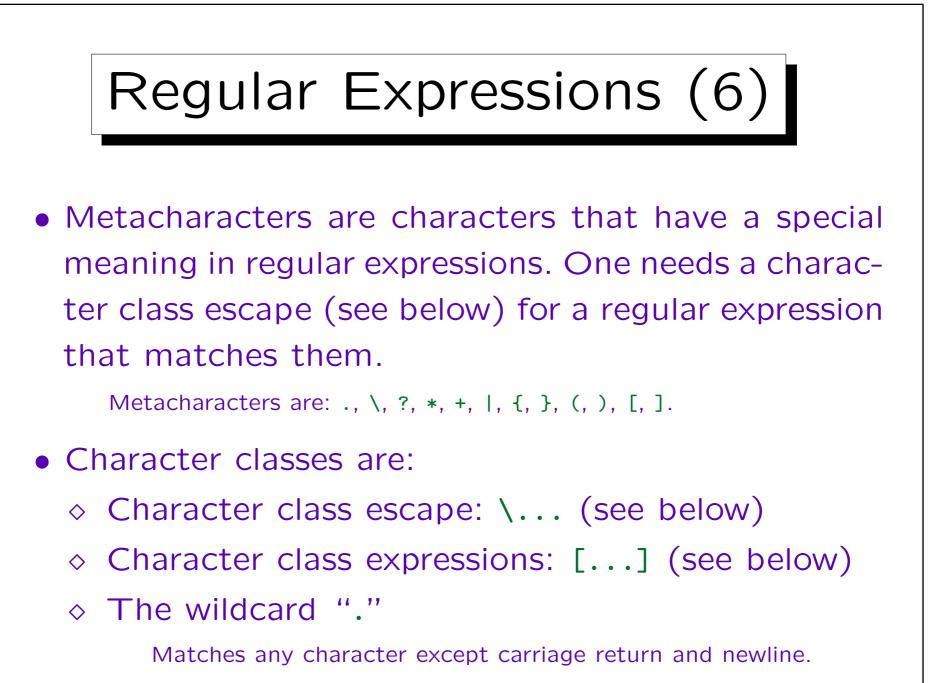


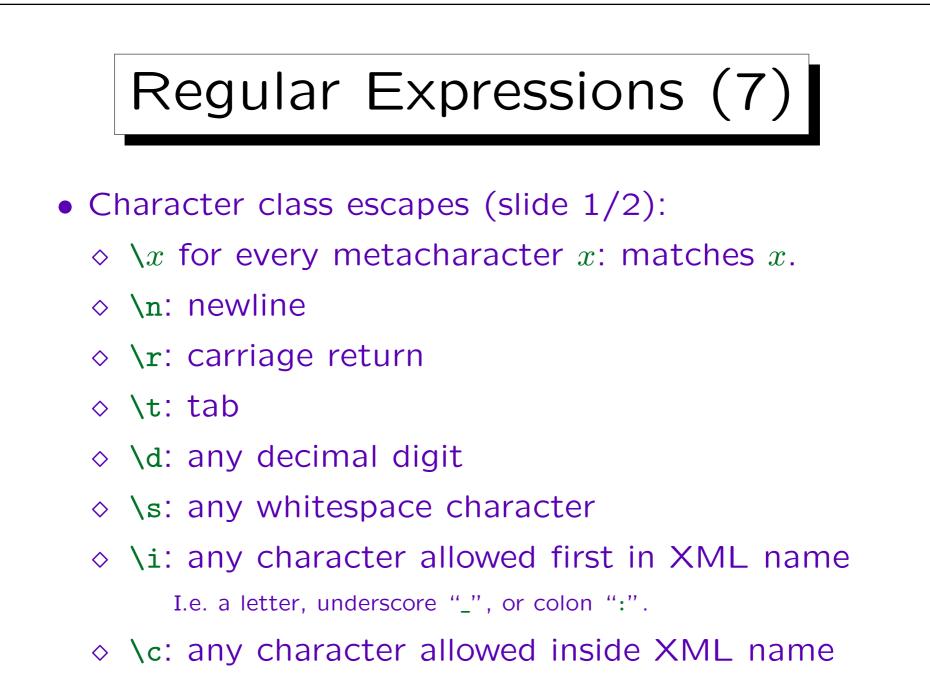


- ◊ a character (except metacharacters, see below)
- ◊ a character class (see below),
- $\diamond$  or a regular expression in parentheses "(...)".

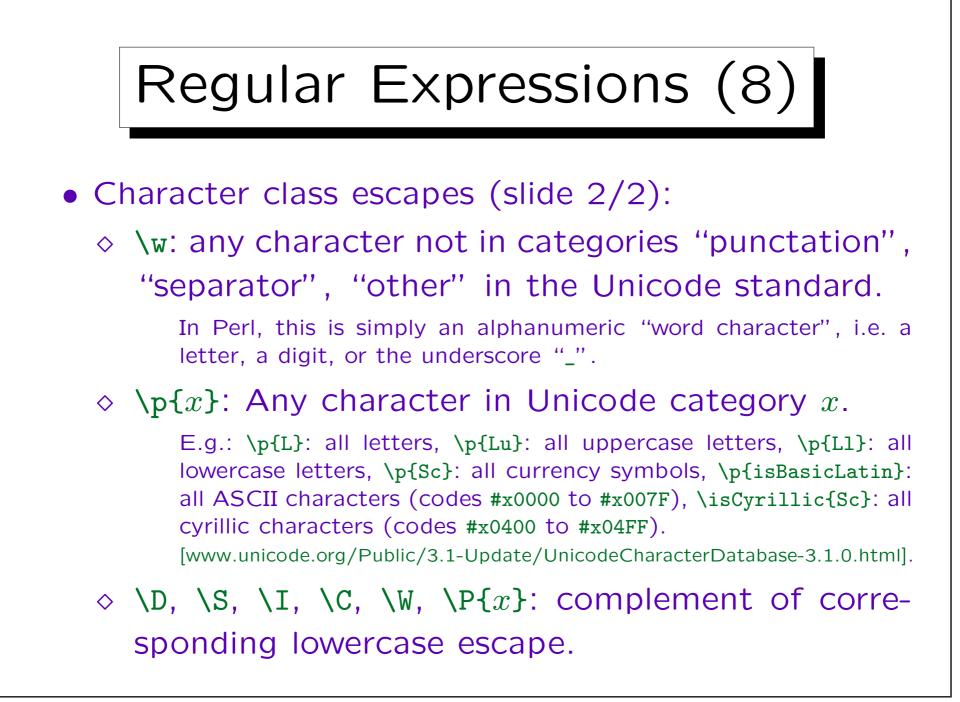


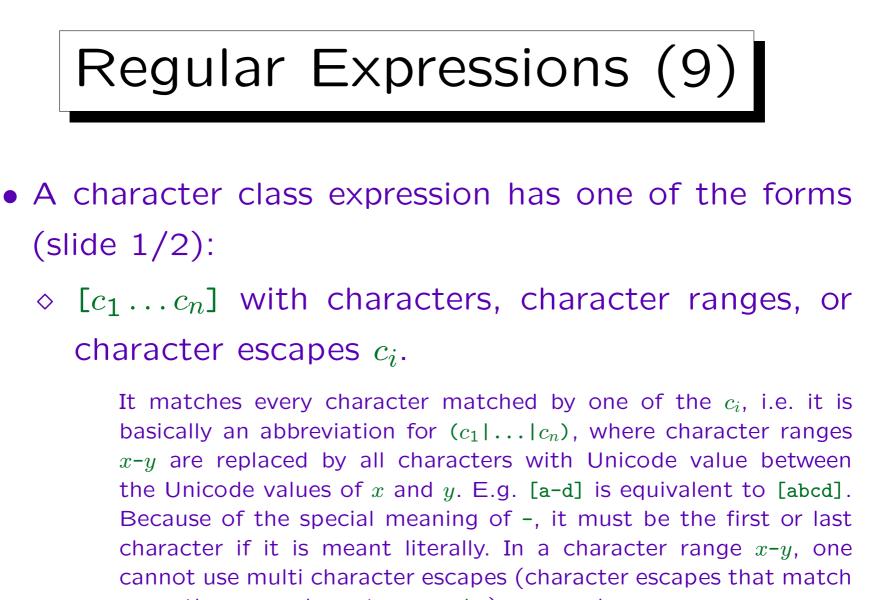
- Meaning of quantifiers (permitted repetitions k):
  - ♦ (No quantifier): exactly once (k = 1).
  - ♦ ?: optional (k = 0 or k = 1).
  - $\diamond$  \*: arbitrarily often (no restriction on k).
  - $\diamond$  +: once or more ( $k \geq 1$ ).
  - ♦ {n,m}: between n and m times  $(n \le k \le m)$ .
  - ♦  $\{n\}$ : exactly *n* times (k = n).
  - ♦  $\{n,\}$ : at least n times  $(k \ge n)$ .

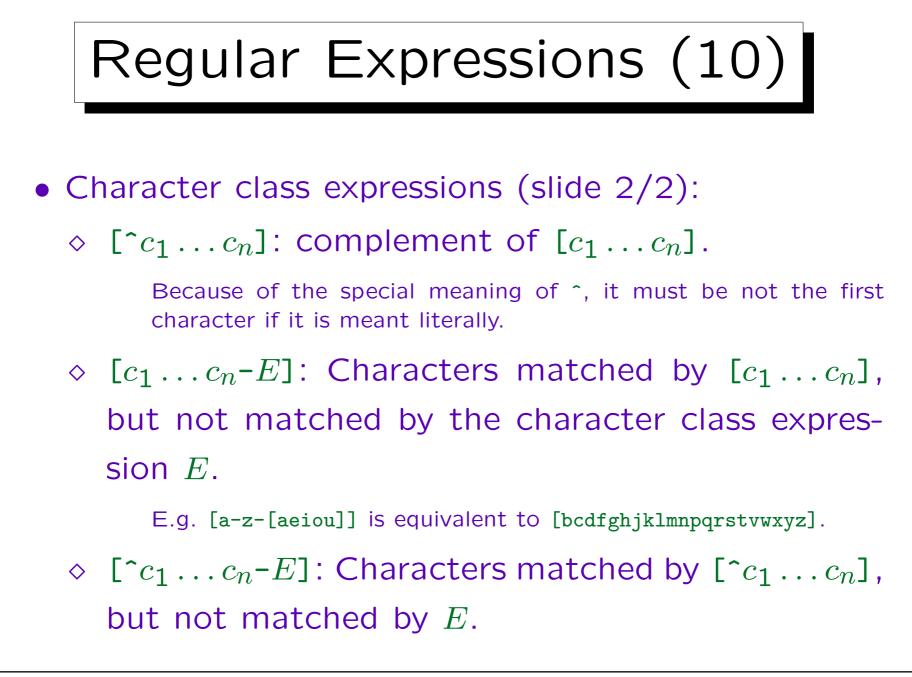


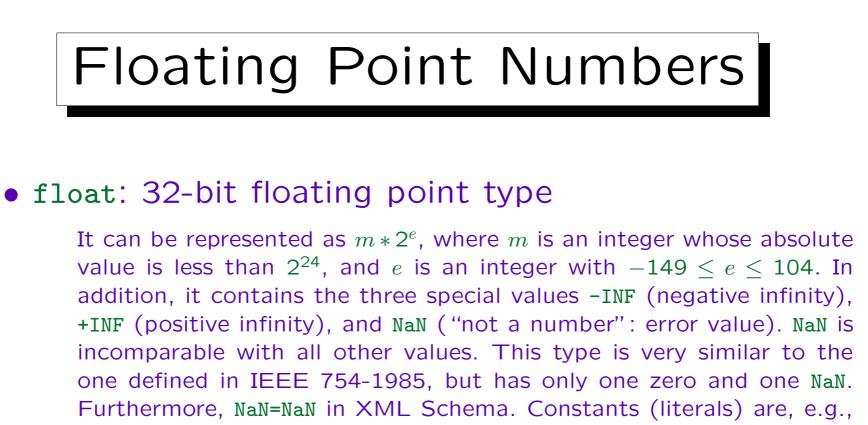


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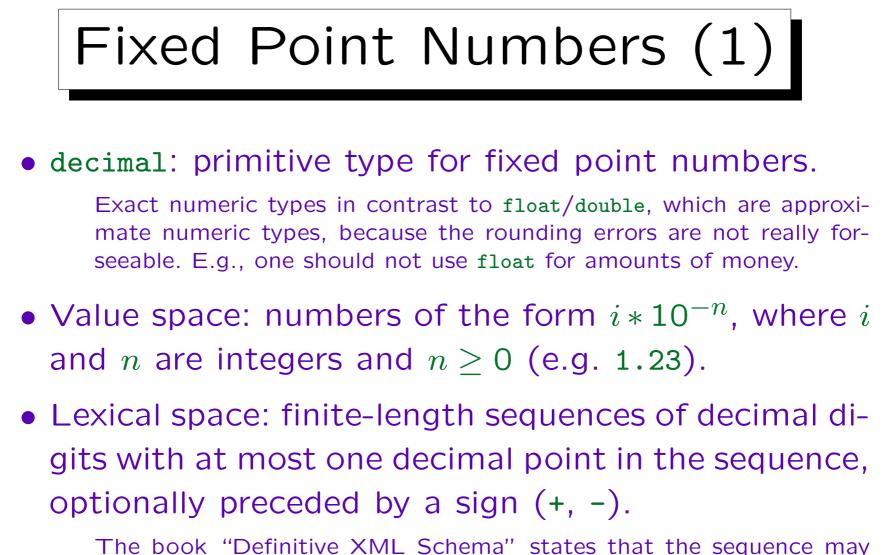


-1E2, +1.2e-3, 1.23, -0.

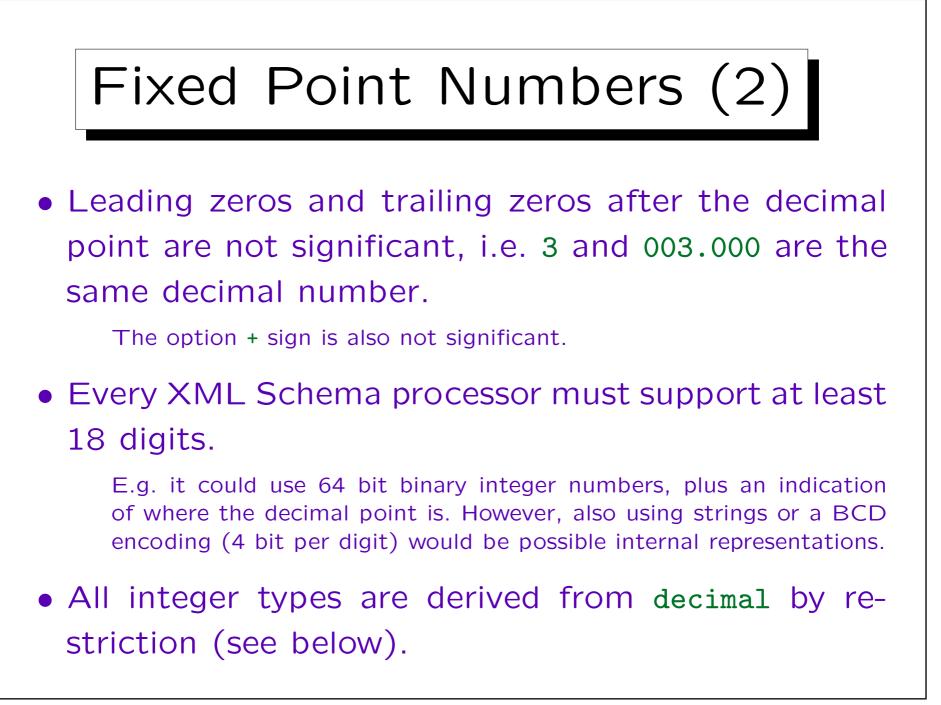
• double: 64-bit floating point type

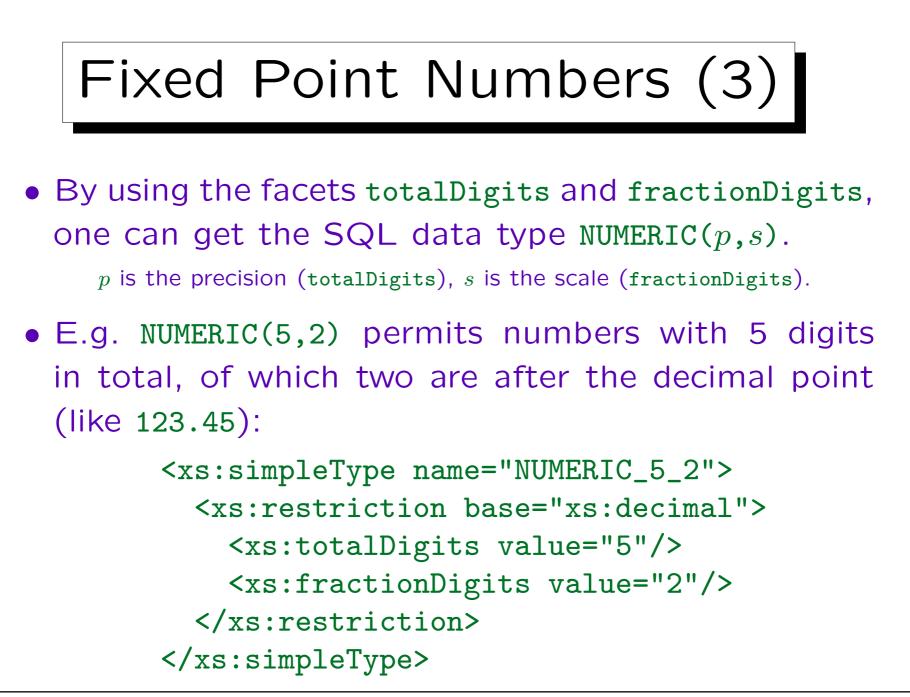
It can be represented as  $m * 2^e$ , where m is an integer whose absolute value is less than  $2^{53}$ , and e is an integer with  $-1075 \le e \le 970$ .

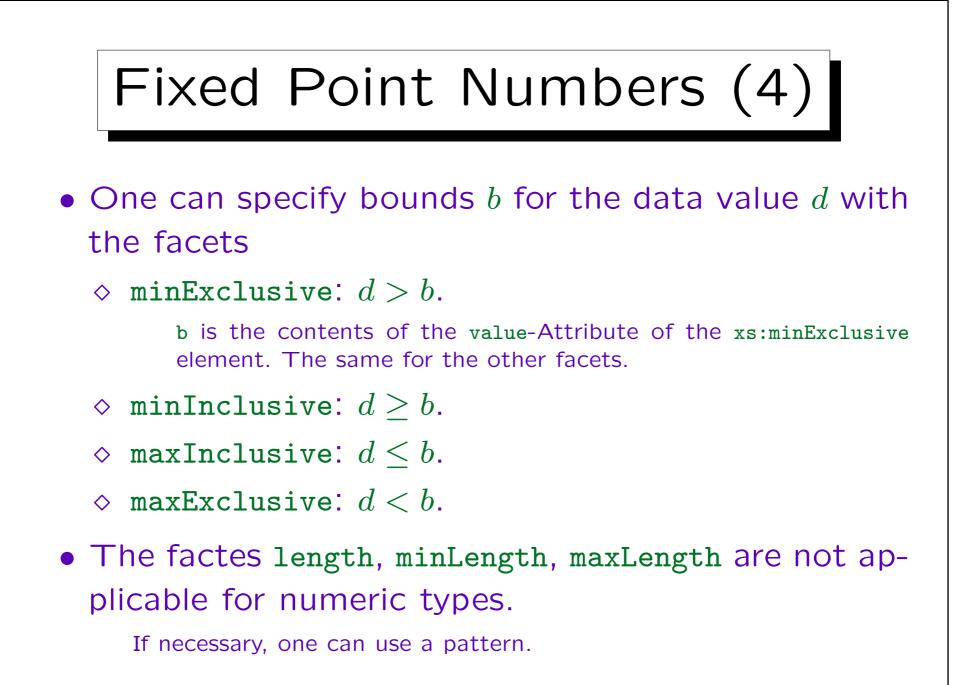
• The two are distinct primitive types.

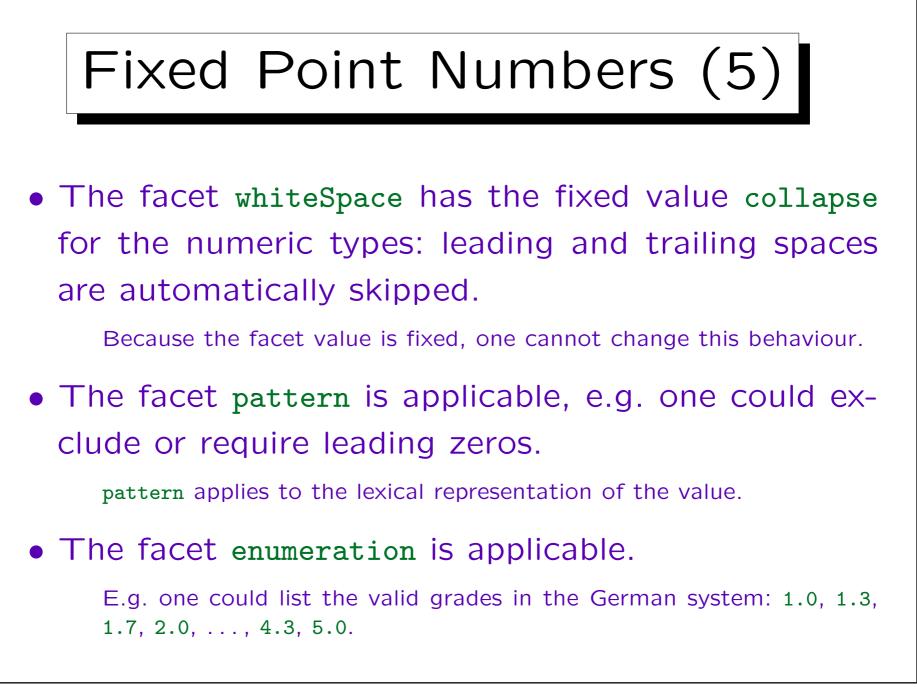


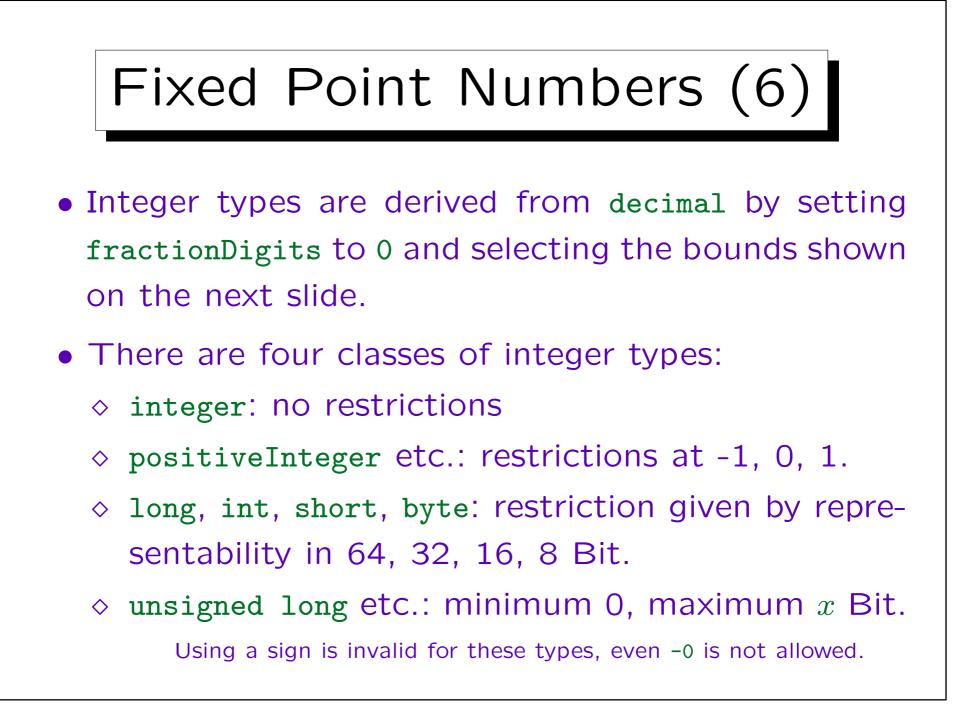
The book "Definitive XML Schema" states that the sequence may start of end with a period (e.g. ".123"), the standard does not clearly specify this.











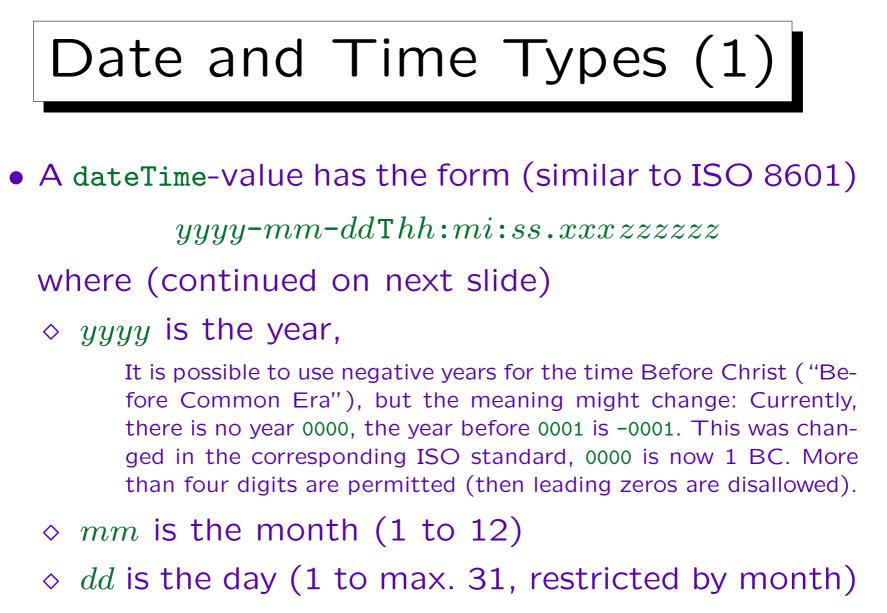
Fixed Point Numbers (7)		
Туре	minInclusive	maxInclusive
integer		
positiveInteger	1	
nonPositiveInteger		0
negativeInteger		-1
nonNegativeInteger	0	
long (64 Bit)	-9223372036854775808	9223372036854775807
int (32 Bit)	-2147483648	2147483647
short (16 Bit)	-32768	32767
byte (8 Bit)	-128	127
unsigned long	0	18446744073709551615
unsigned int	0	4294967295
unsigned short	0	65535
unsigned byte	0	255

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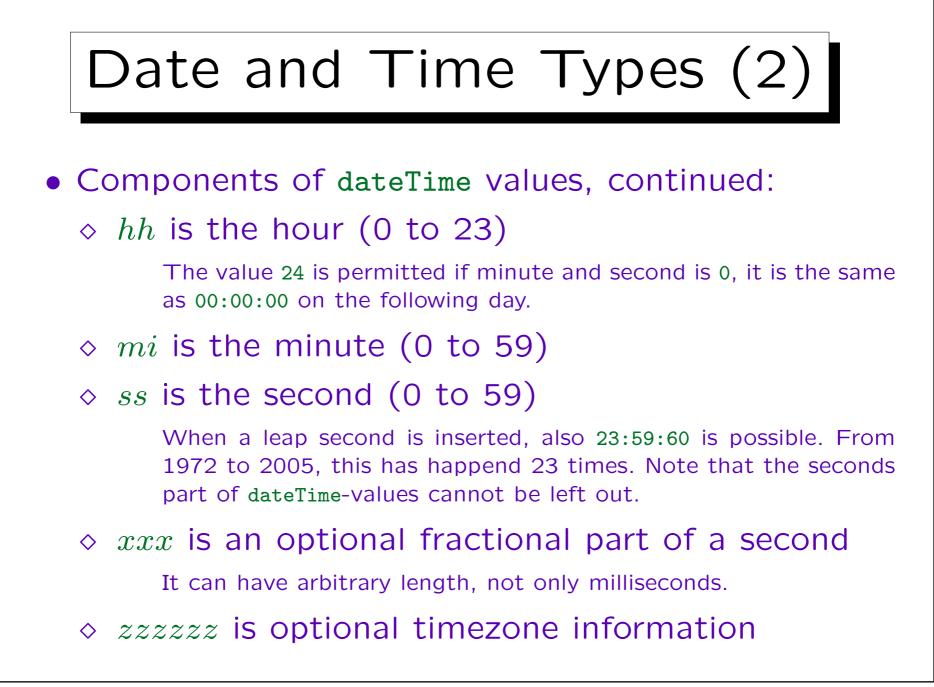


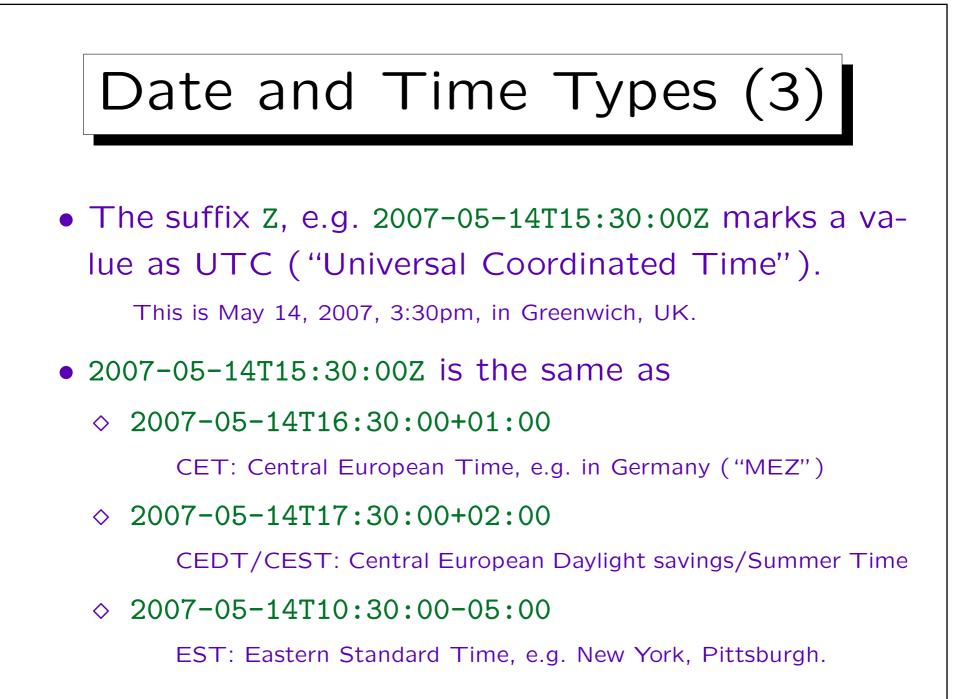
- The value space consists of the truth values true, false.
- The lexical space consists of true, false, 1, 0.
  - As one would expect, 1 represents the value true, and 0 represents the value false.

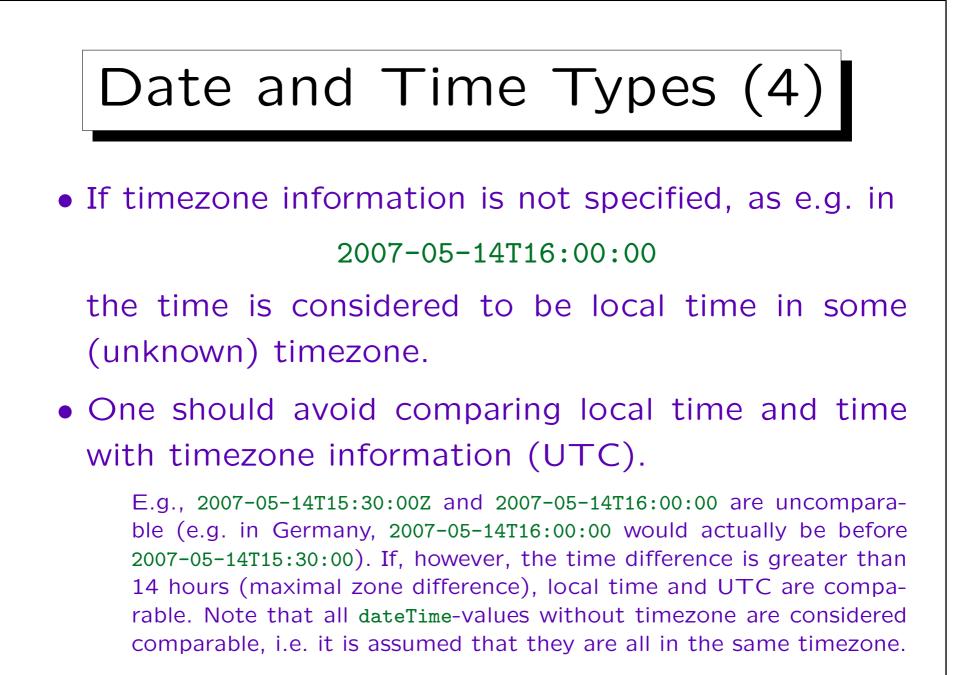
4 - 79

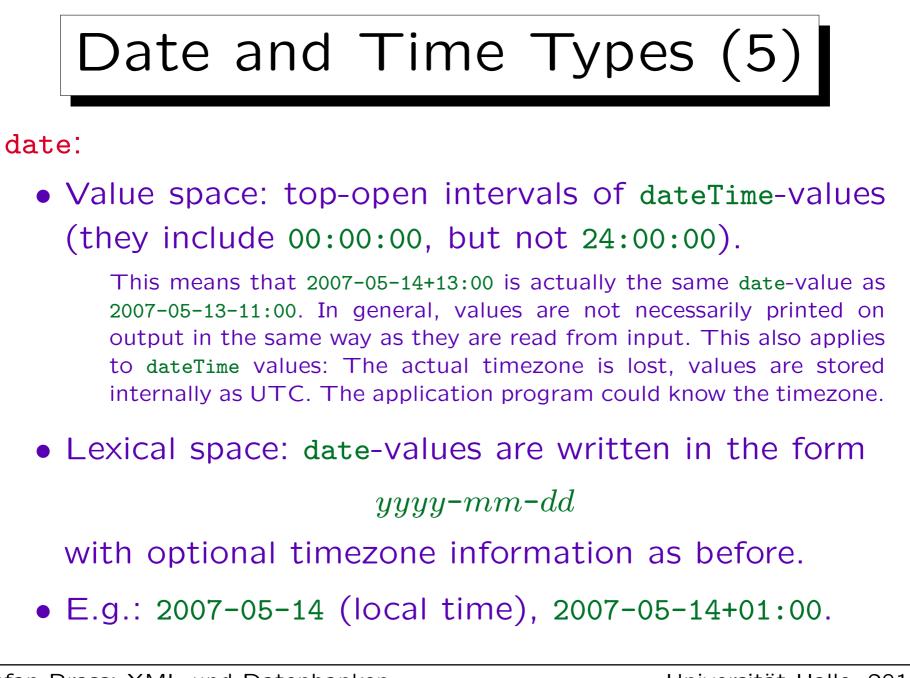


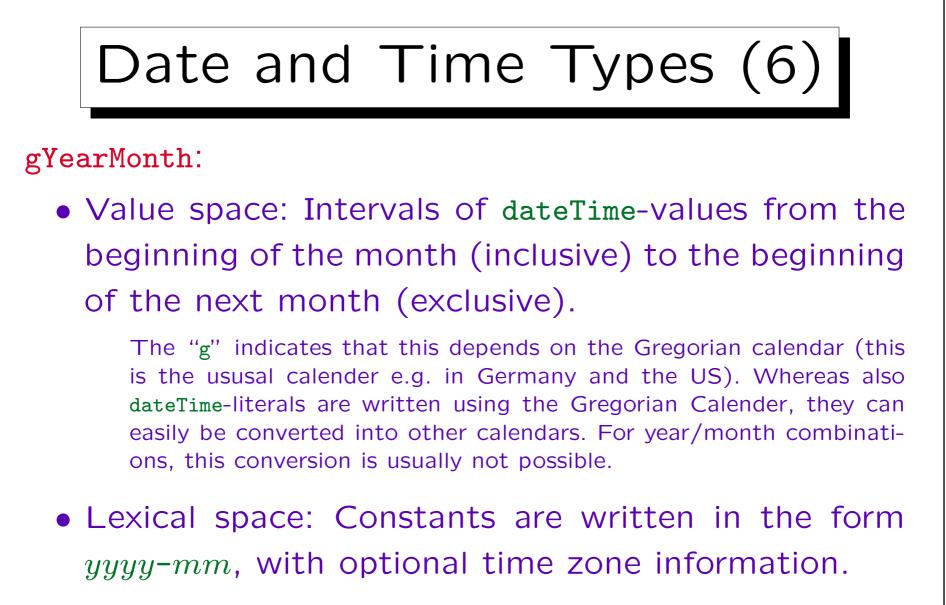
E.g., February 30 is impossible, and February 29 only in leap years.



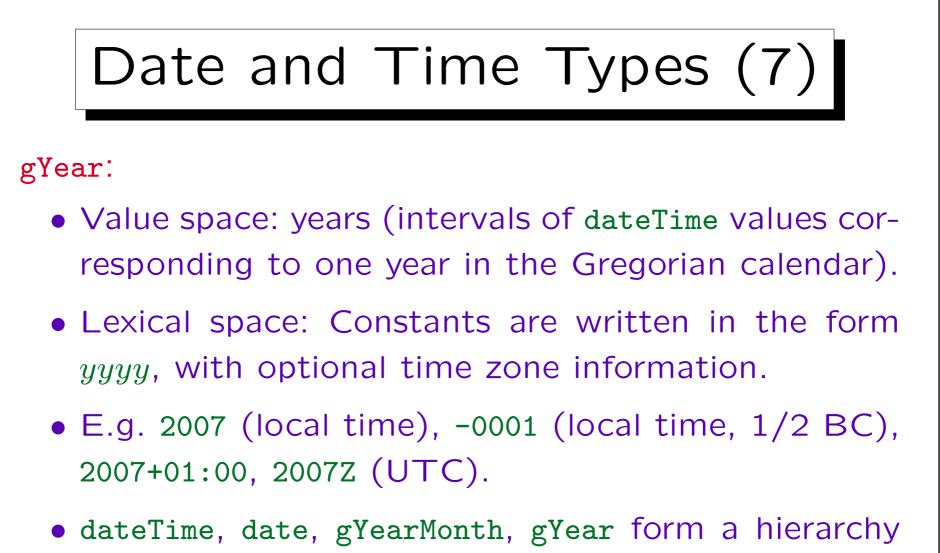






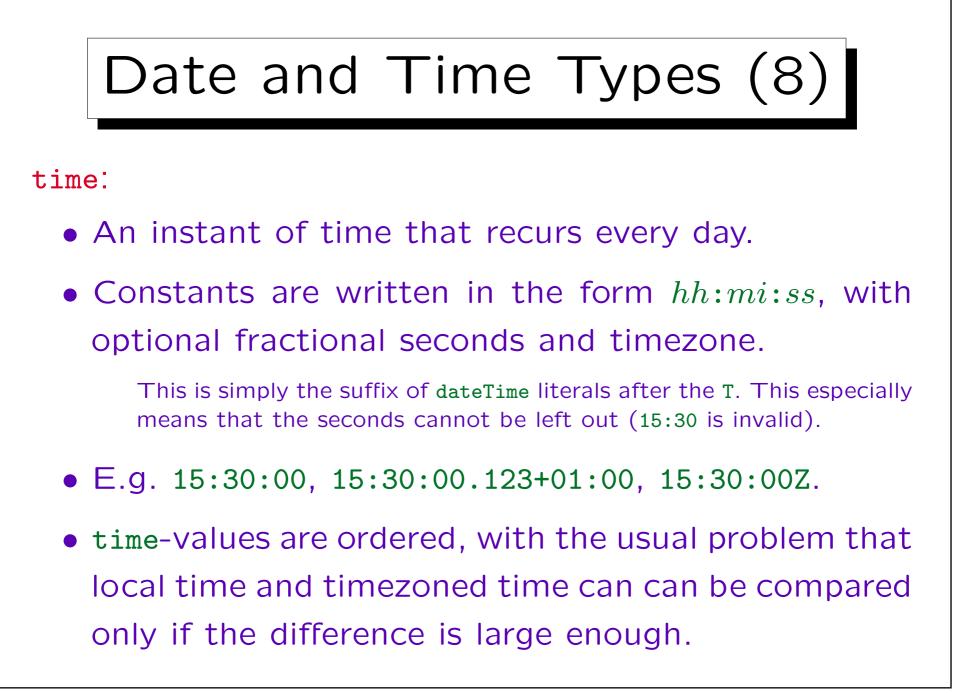


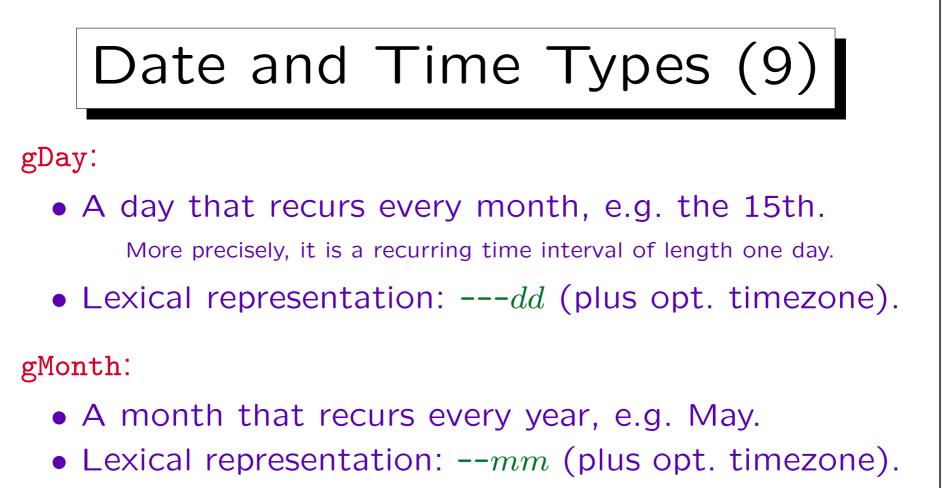
• E.g.: 2007-05 (local time), 2007-05+01:00.



of larger and larger timeline intervals.

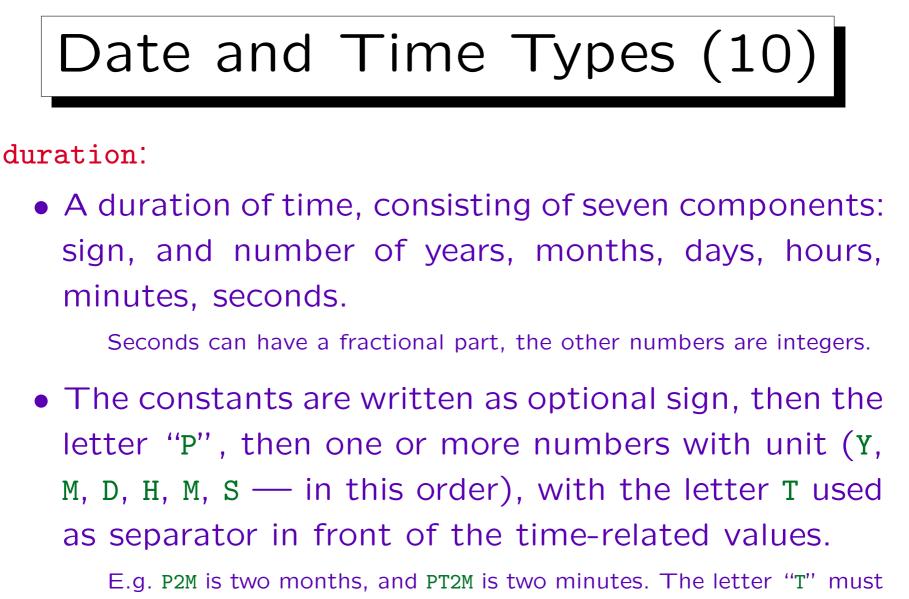
Actually, dateTime values are points on the timeline (zero duration).



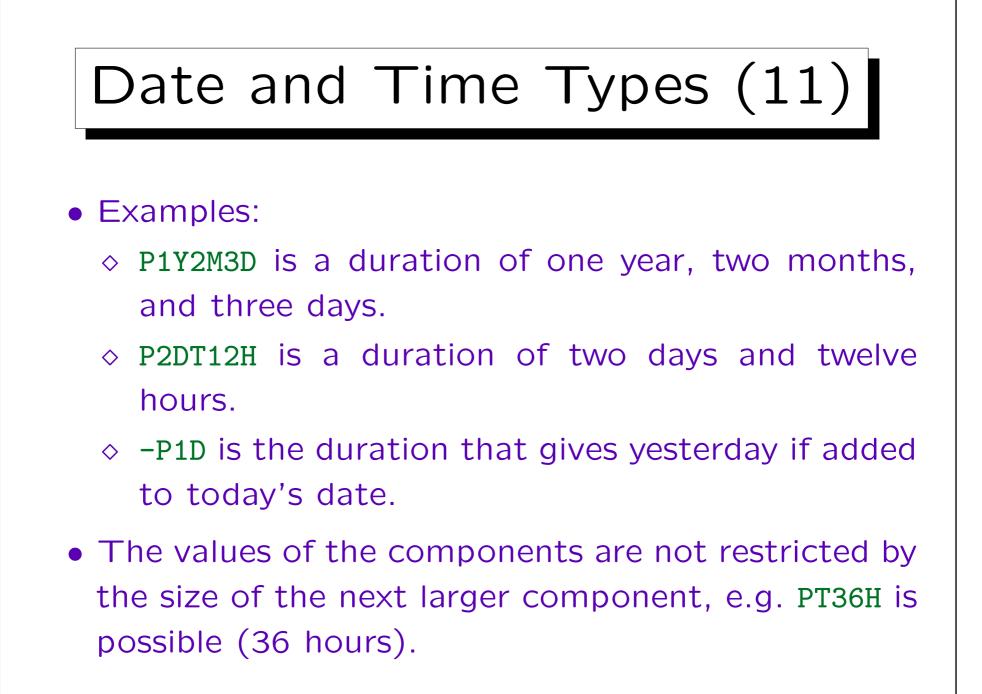


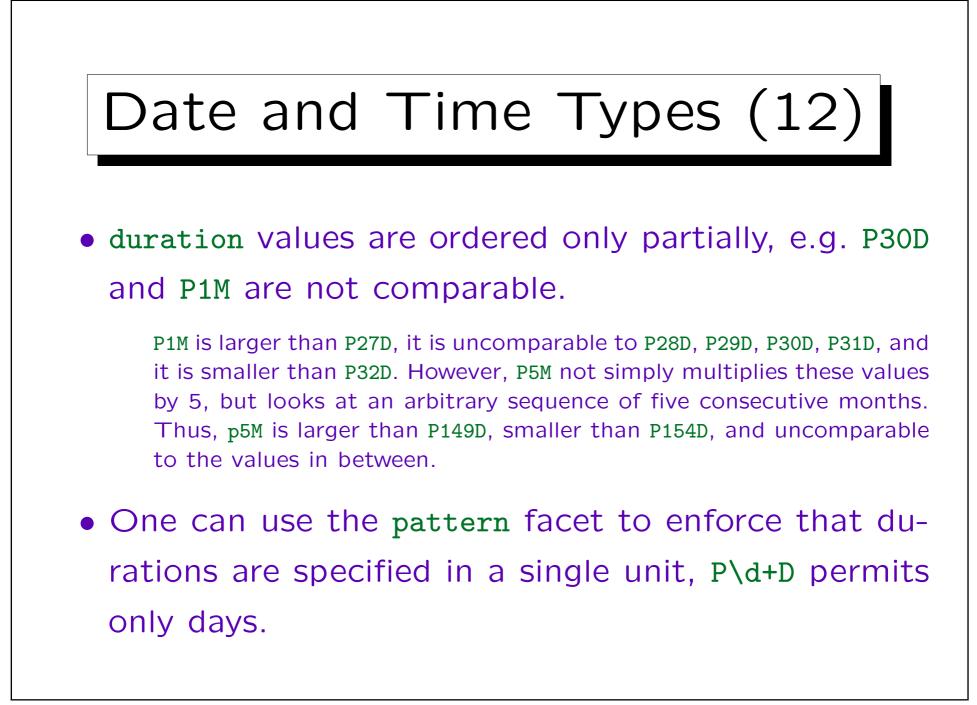
gMonthDay:

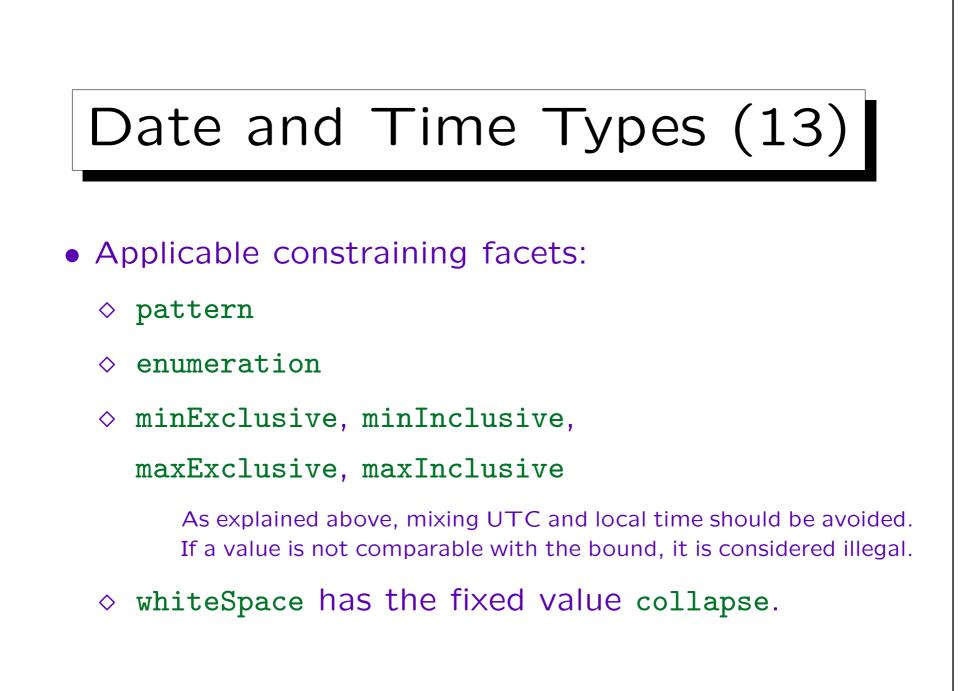
- A day that recurs every year, e.g. December 24.
- Lexical representation: --mm-dd (opt. timezone).



be written if and only if hours, minutes, or seconds are specified.









- Values of the types hexBinary and base64Binary are finite-length sequences of bytes ("binary octets").
- The lexical space of hexBinary is the set of evenlength strings of decimal digits and letters a-f/A-F. Every hexadecimal digit represents 4 bits of the binary string.
- The Base64-encoding packs 6 Bits into every character by using the characters A-Z, a-z, 0-9, "+", "/" (and "=" at the end to mark characters derived from fill bytes).

See RFC 2045. The string length is always a multiple of four (4 characters from the encoding are mapped to 3 bytes of binary data).



- The value space of the built-in type anyURI is the set of (absolute or relative) URIs, optionally with a fragment identifier (i.e., "#").
   See RFC 2396 and RFC 2732.
- Some international characters are allowed directly in constants of type anyURI that would normally have to be escaped with "%xy".

See the XLink specification, Section 5.4 "Locator Attribute", and Section 8 "Character Encoding in URI References".

• It is not required that the URI can be dereferenced (accessed).



- One can declare notations (non-XML data formats) in XML schema:
  - <xs:notation name="gif" public=
     "-//IETF//NOTATION Media Type image/gif//EN"/>
- Values of the built-in data type NOTATION are the qualified names of the declared notations.
- One cannot use this type directly for elements and attributes, but must declare an enumeration:

<xs:simpleType name="imageFormat">
 <xs:restriction base="xs:NOTATION">
 <xs:enumeration value="gif"/>
 <xs:enumeration value="jpeg"/>

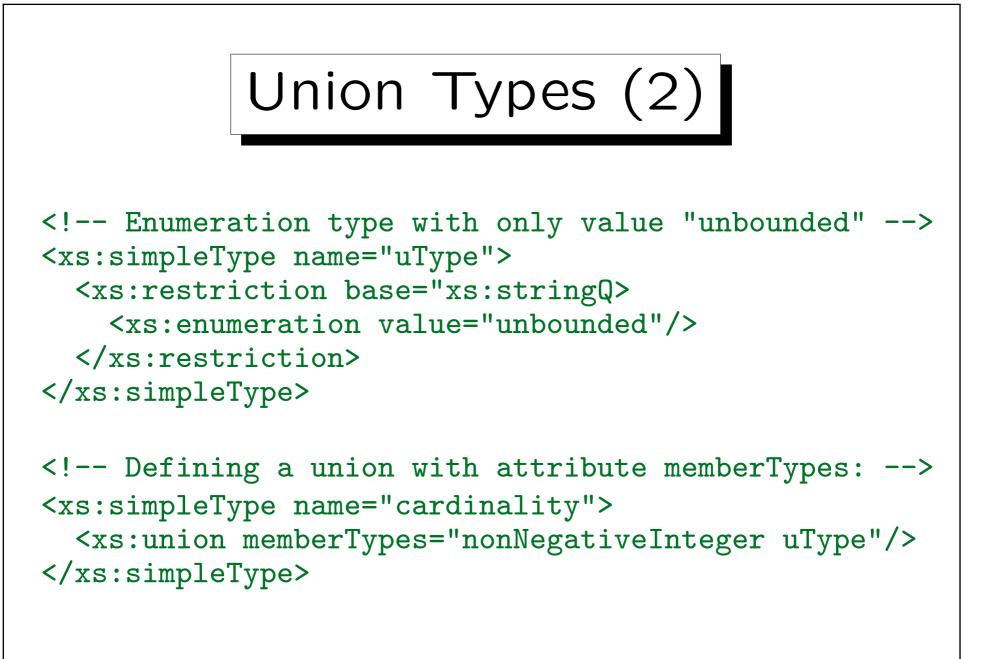


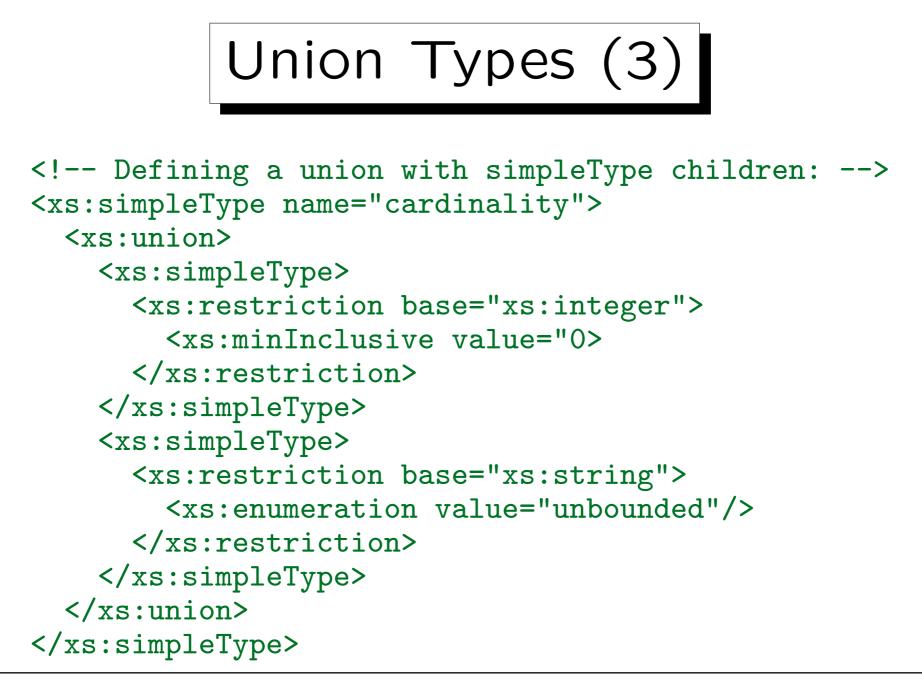
• One can define a new simple type by constructing the union of two or more simple types.

One can construct the union of a union, but this is equivalent to a "flat" union. One cannot take the union of complex types.

- Example: The attribute maxOccurs permits integers
   (≥ 0) and the special value "unbounded" (a string).
- The components of a union type can be specified by the attribute "memberTypes" or by simpleTypechildren, or a mixture of both.

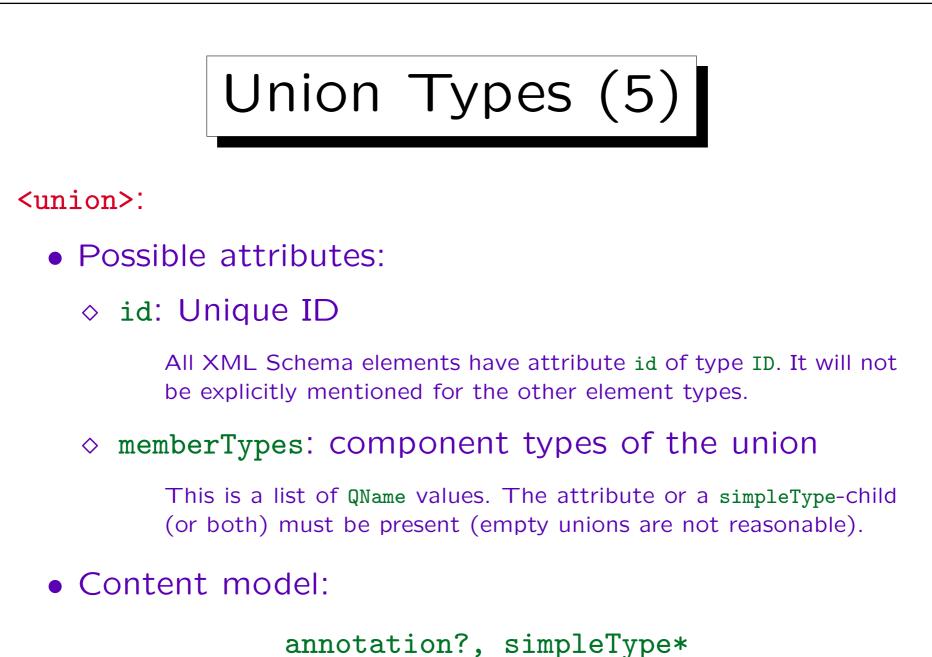
The order of the menber types is insofar significant, as the value will count as a value of the first member type for which it is a legal value.





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## Union Types (4)



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### <union>, continued:

• Possible parent element types: simpleType.

Normally, it is not really necessary to specify the possible parent element types, since this information can be derived from the content model of the other element types. However, this is at least useful cross-reference information: It simplifies the understanding where the current element type can be used. Furthermore, sometimes an element type has different syntactic variants depending on the context in which it appears (remember that this is a feature of XML Schema that goes beyond the possibilities of DTDs). Then the parent type really gives important information.

• Union types can be restricted by facets pattern and enumeration.

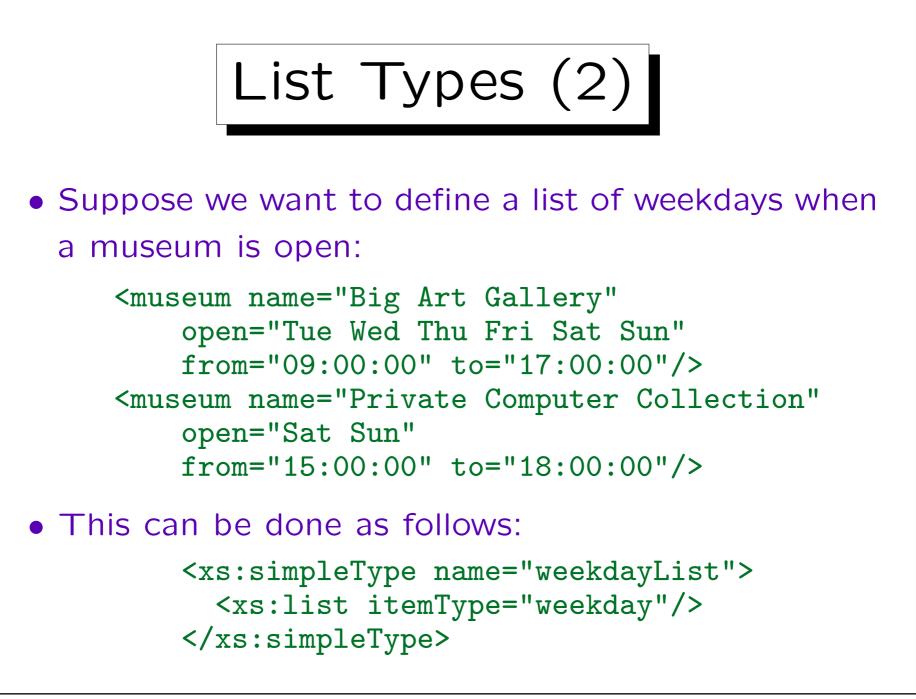
List Types (1)

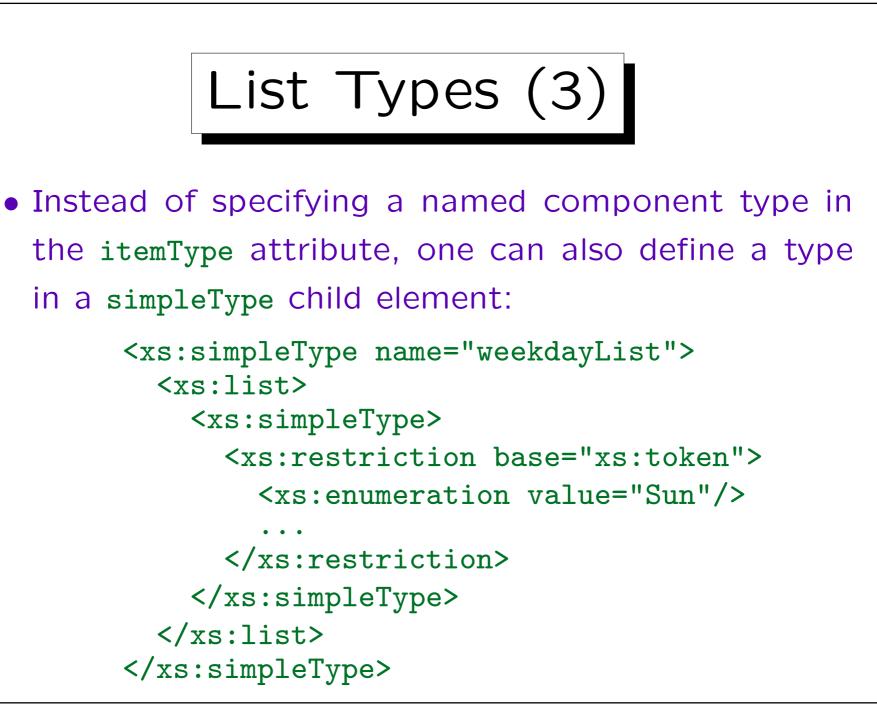
• A simple type can be constructed as list of values of another simple type.

The component type cannot be itself a list type, not a union that contains a list, and so on. Because of the lexical representation, nested lists could not be distinguished from the corresponding flat list. List types can be defined only for simple types, not for complex types.

• The lexical representation of a list value is a string that consists of the lexical representation of the single values, separated by whitespace.

Whitespace is one or more spaces, tabs, and line breaks. This is the same representation that is used in classical SGML/XML e.g. for IDREFS: This type is defined in XML Schema as list of IDREF values.





List Types (4)

• The constants of the list item type must not contain whitespace.

The input string is split into list elements at whitespace before the single list elements are validated.

- Instead of a list type, one could also use a sequence of elements:
  - ♦ Advantage of list type: shorter.
  - Advantage of element list: List items can be structured (e.g. attributes can be added).

Furthermore, currently XPath and XSLT do not permit access to the single items in a list type, but one can of course select single elements in a sequence.

# List Types (5)

<list>:

- Possible attributes:
  - ◊ itemType: Type of list elements (a QName).

One must use either this attribute or a simpleType child element. One cannot use both.

• Content model:

annotation?, simpleType?

• Possible parent element types: simpleType.

List Types (6)

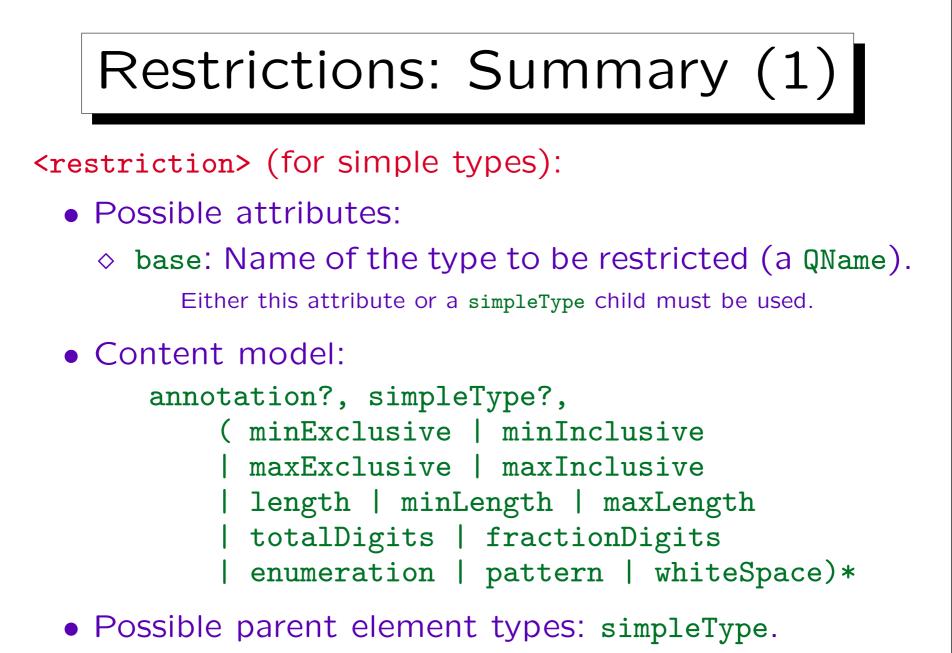
- List types can be restricted by facets:
  - ◊ length, minLength, maxLength,

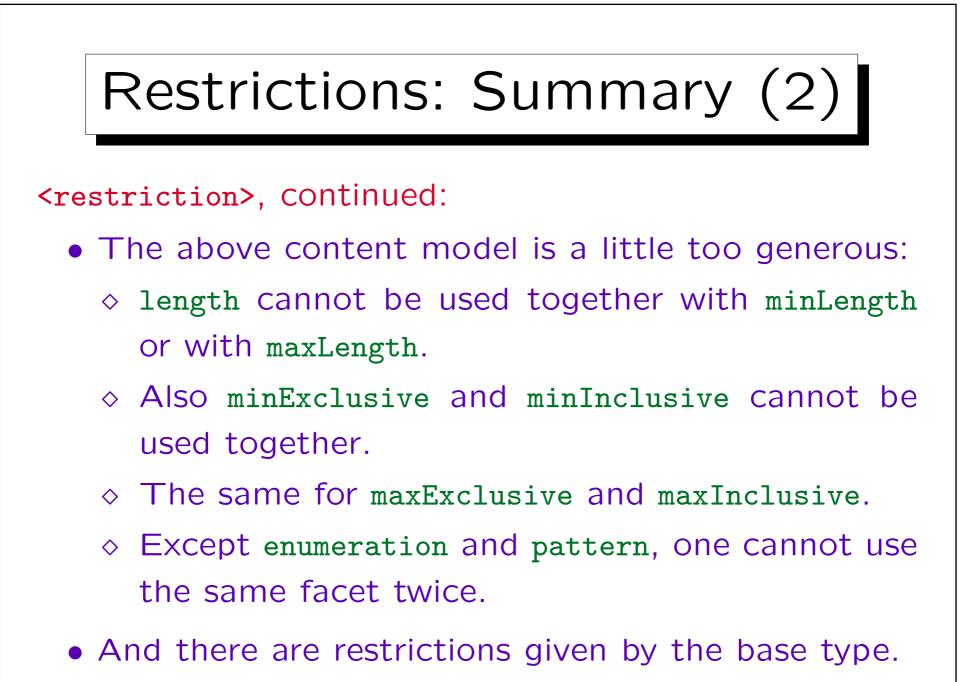
The length is the number of list items, not the string length of the lexical representation. If necessary, the string length can be restricted with pattern. Note that empty lists are possible. If necessary, use minLength with a value of 1.

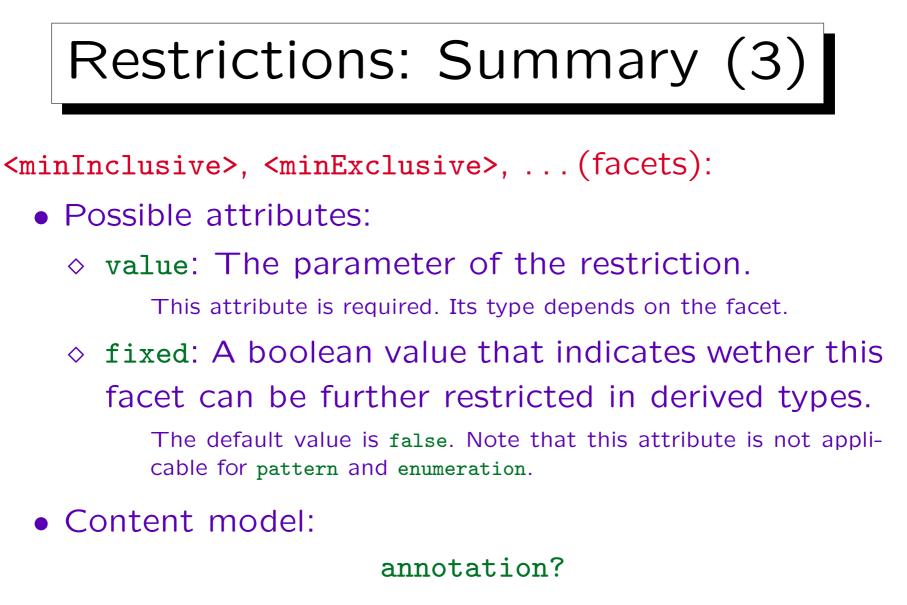
### $\diamond$ pattern,

This is a pattern for the entire list, not for the list items. A pattern for the list items can be specified in the definition of the item type.

#### $\diamond$ enumeration.







• Possible parent element types: restriction.

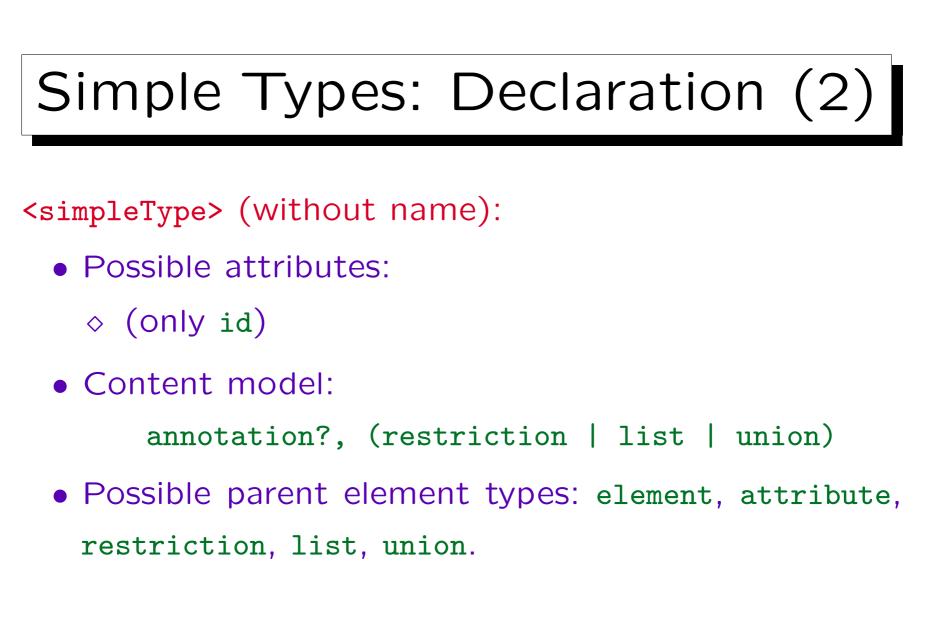


<simpleType> (with name):

- Possible attributes:
  - ◊ name: Name of the type (an NCName).
  - ◇ final: Restrictions for the derivation of other types from this one (see below).
- Content model:

annotation?, (restriction | list | union)

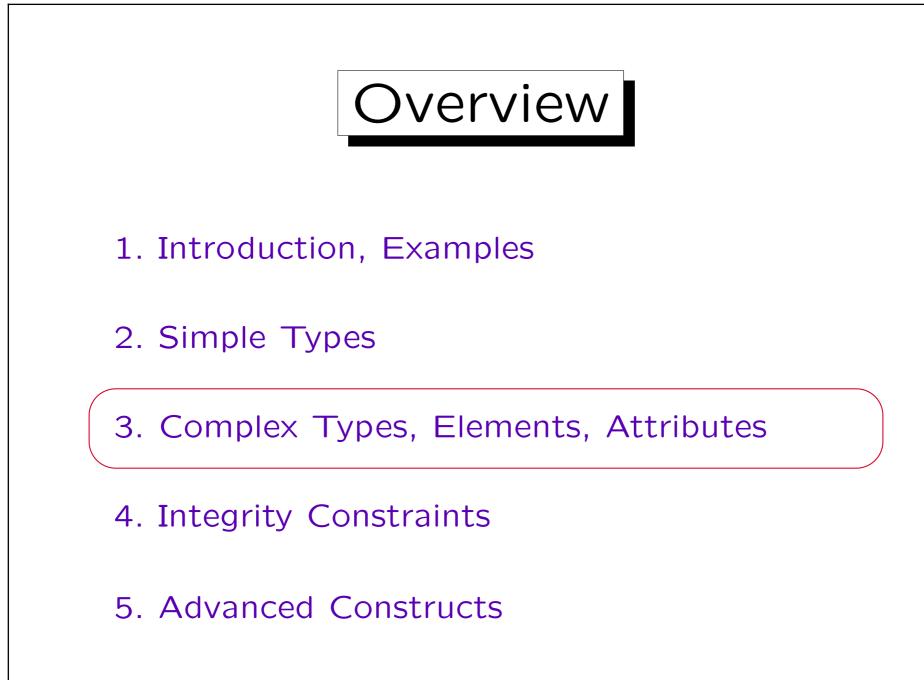
• Possible parent element types: schema, redefine.





## Attribute final:

- One can forbid that a type is used for deriving other types (inspired by object-oriented languages).
- Possible values of the attribute are:
  - ♦ #all: There cannot be any derived type.
  - Lists of restriction, list, union: Only the explicitly listed type derivations are forbidden.
- If final is not specified, the value of the attribute finalDefault of the schema-element is used (which in turn defaults to "", i.e. no restrictions).





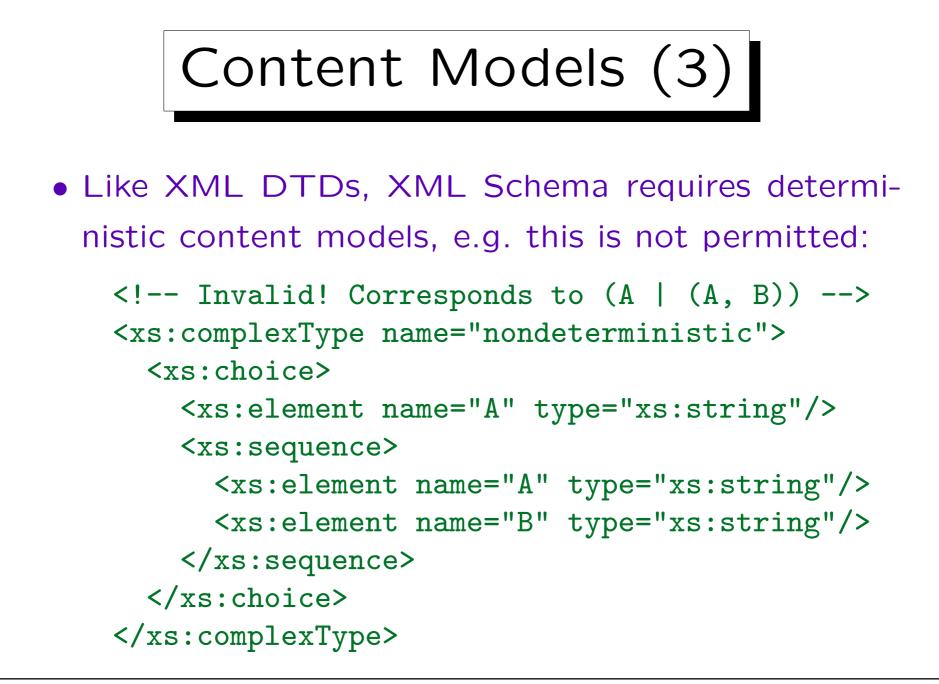
- Content models are used to describe the sequence of elements that are nested inside an element (child elements).
- Content models in XML Schema offer basically the same possibilities as content models in DTDs:
  - $\diamond$  sequence: Corresponds to "," in DTDs.
  - $\diamond$  choice: Corresponds to "|" in DTDs.
  - ◊ all: Corresponds to "&" in (SGML) DTDs.
- The attributes minOccurs and maxOccurs take the place of "?", "\*", "+" in DTDs.

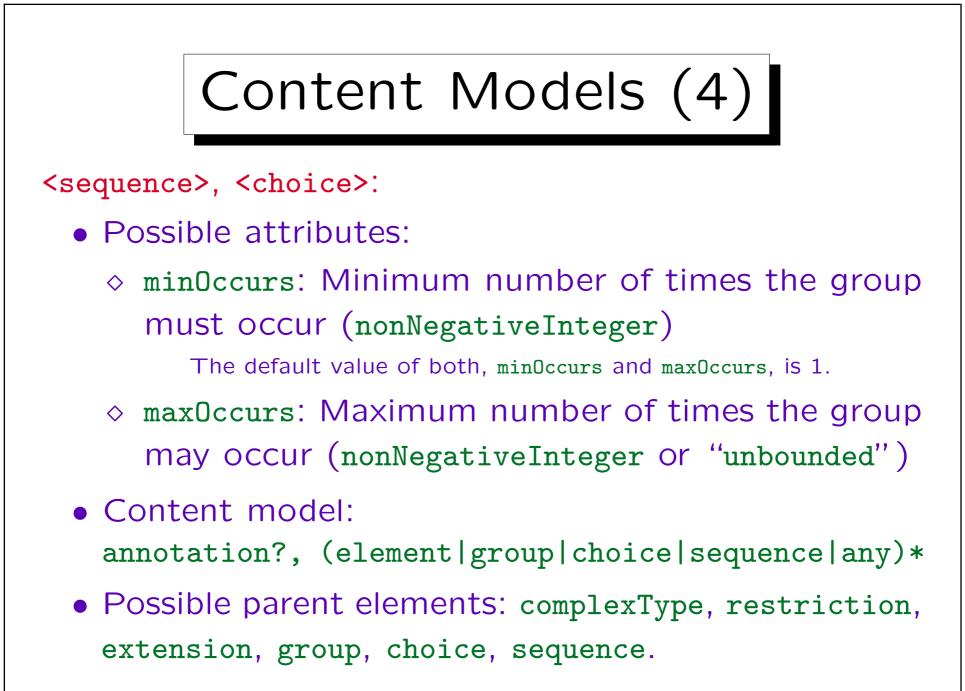


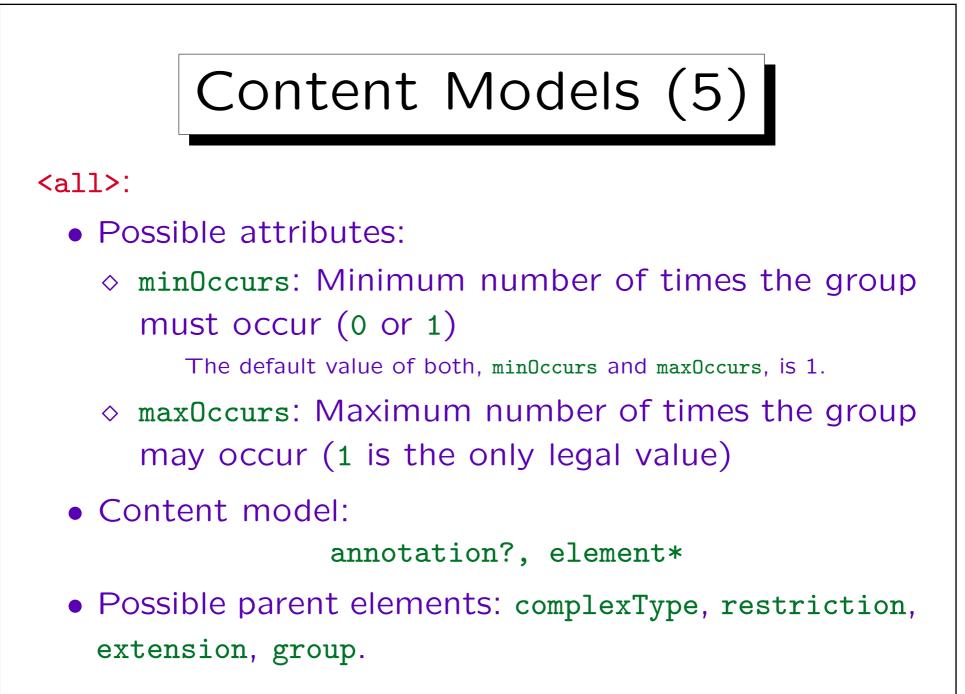
- all means that the elements in the group must occur (unless minOccurs=0 for that element), but the order is arbitrary (any permutation is permitted).
- In XML Schema, all groups are very restricted:
  - They must appear on the outermost level, and they cannot contain other model groups, only elements.

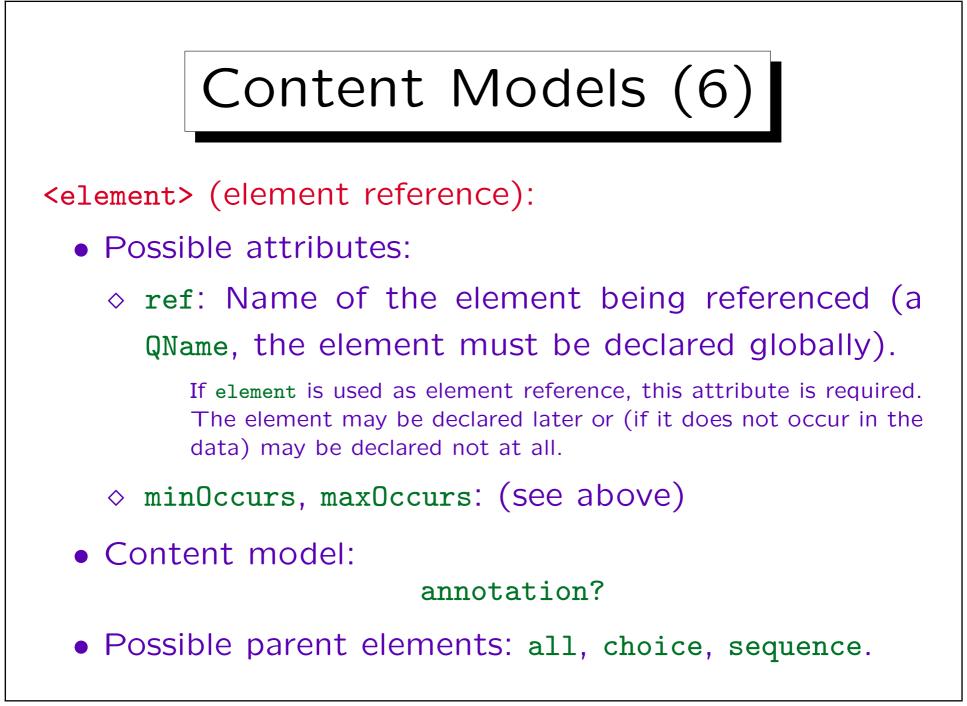
I.e. all cannot be used together with choice and sequence.

◊ For every element it contains, maxOccurs must be 1 (minOccurs may be 0 or 1).







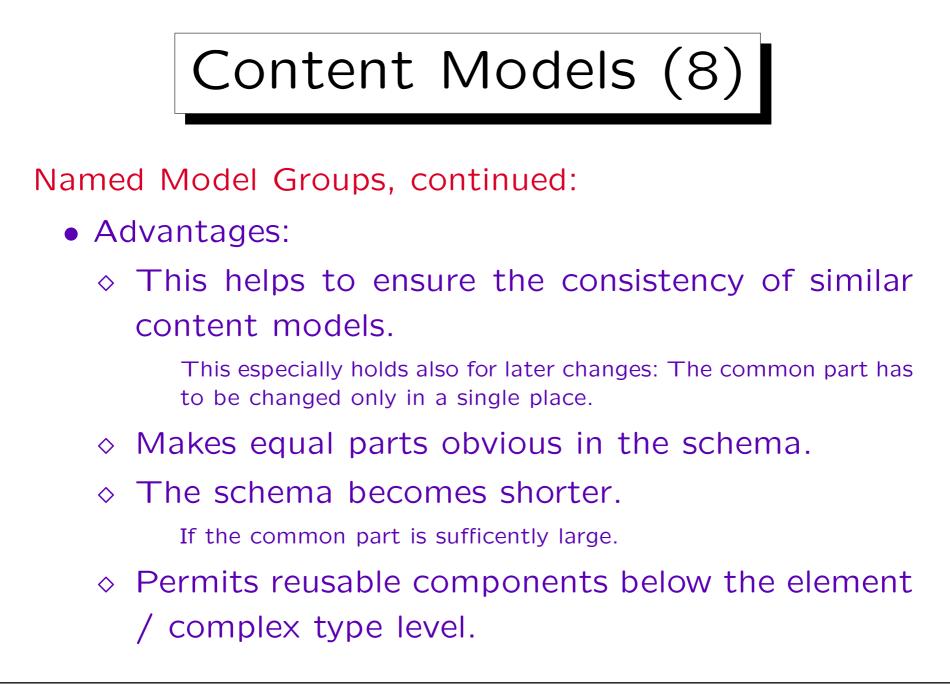


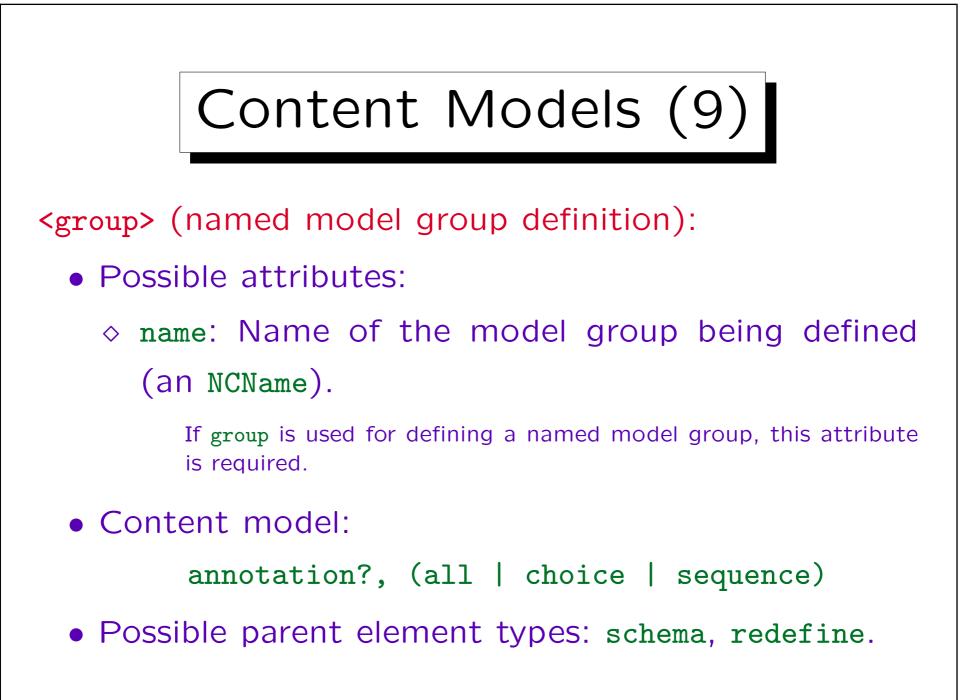


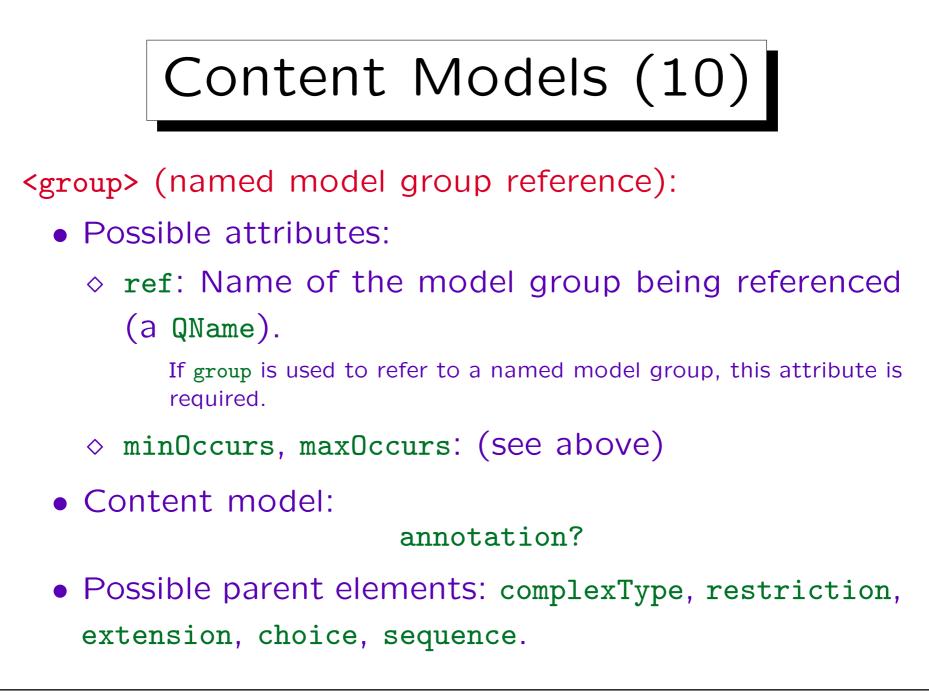
## Named Model Groups:

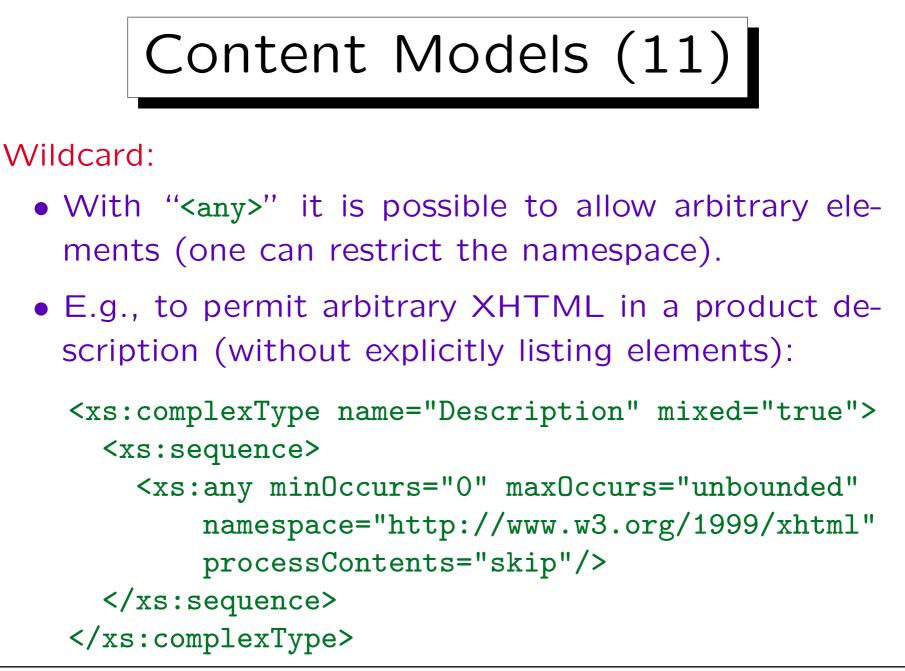
- It is possible to introduce a name for a model group, and to use this "named model group" as part of other model groups (like macro/parameter entity).
- Thus, if one must declare several element types that have in part equal content models, it suffices to define the common part only once.

If one wants to define a common part only once without named model groups, one needs an element as a container for this part. This makes the instance (data file) more complicated (additional level of nesting).

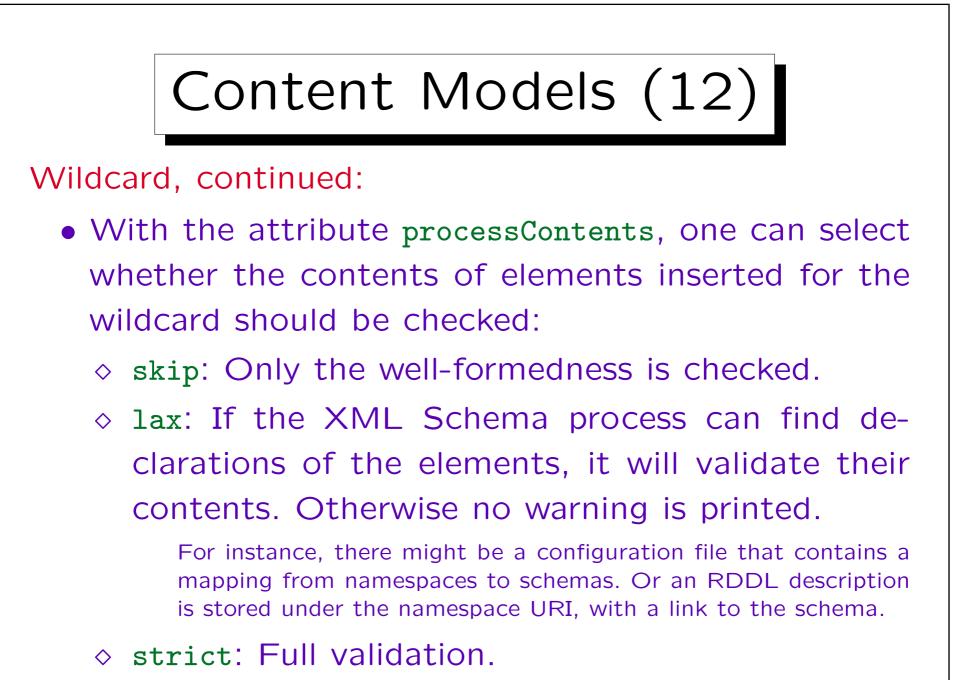








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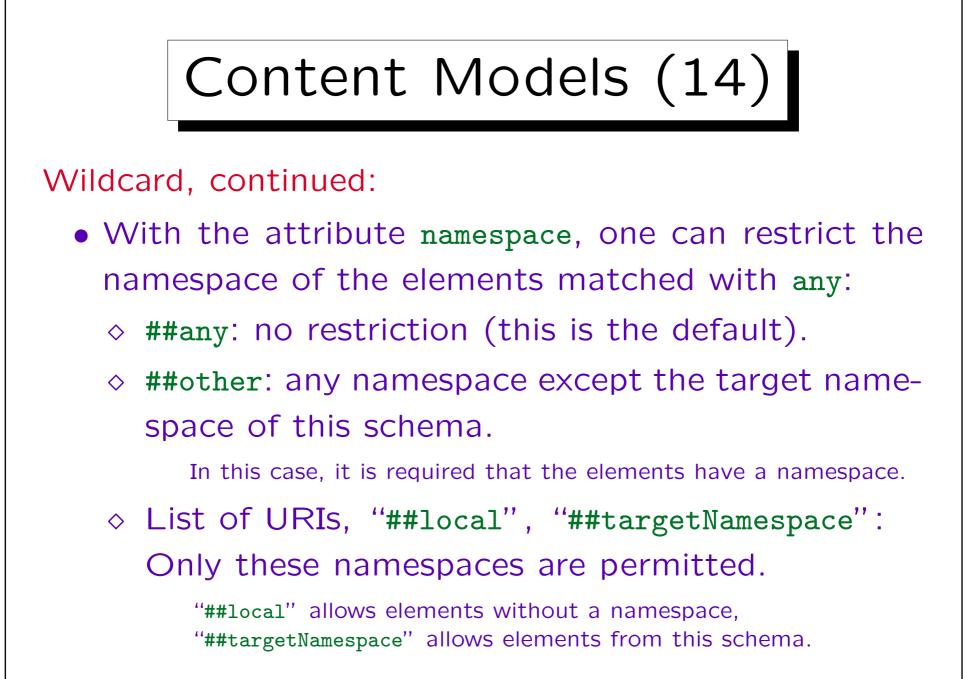


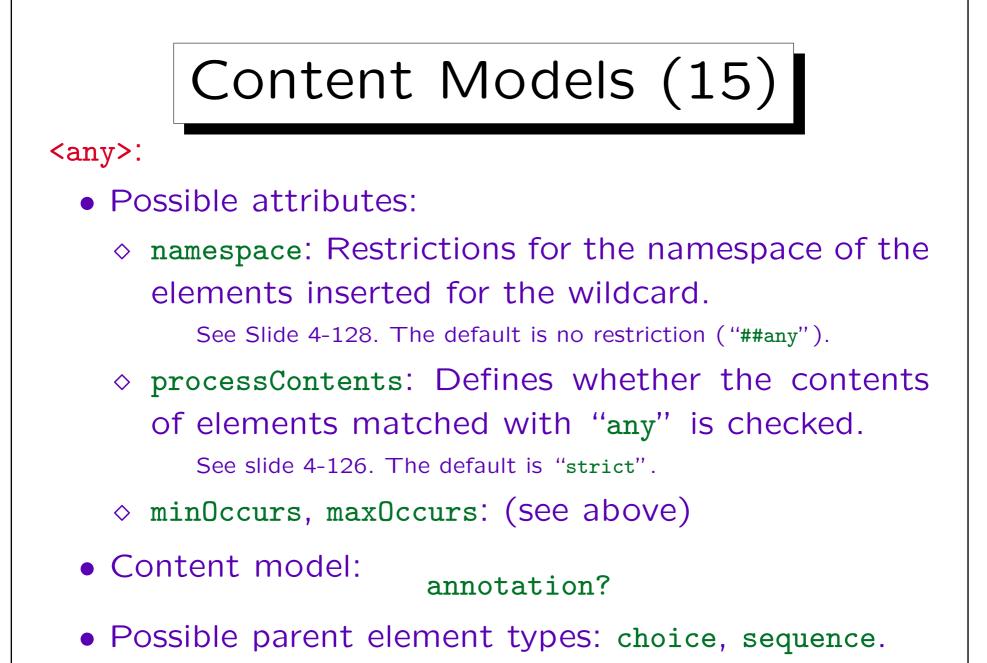


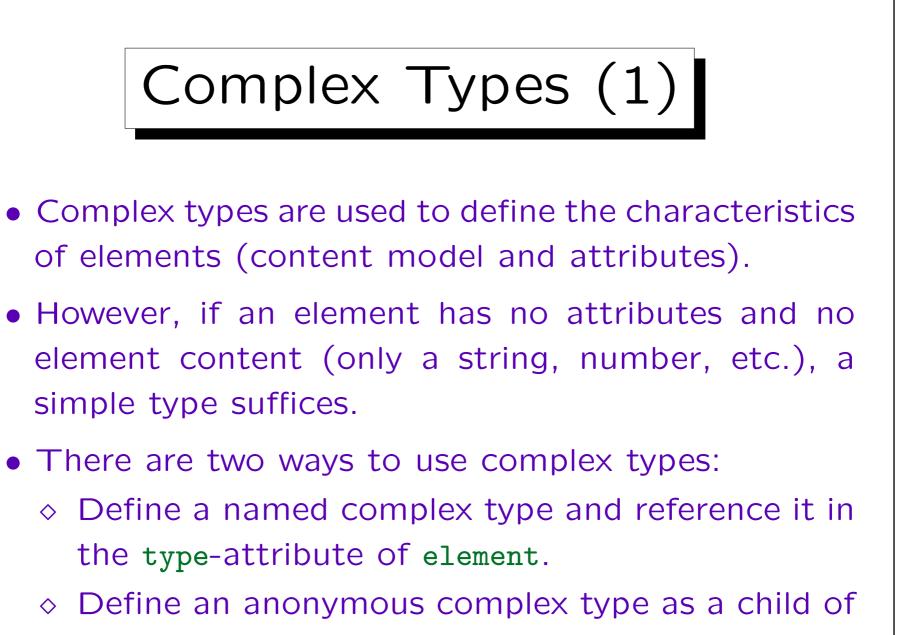
## Wildcard, continued:

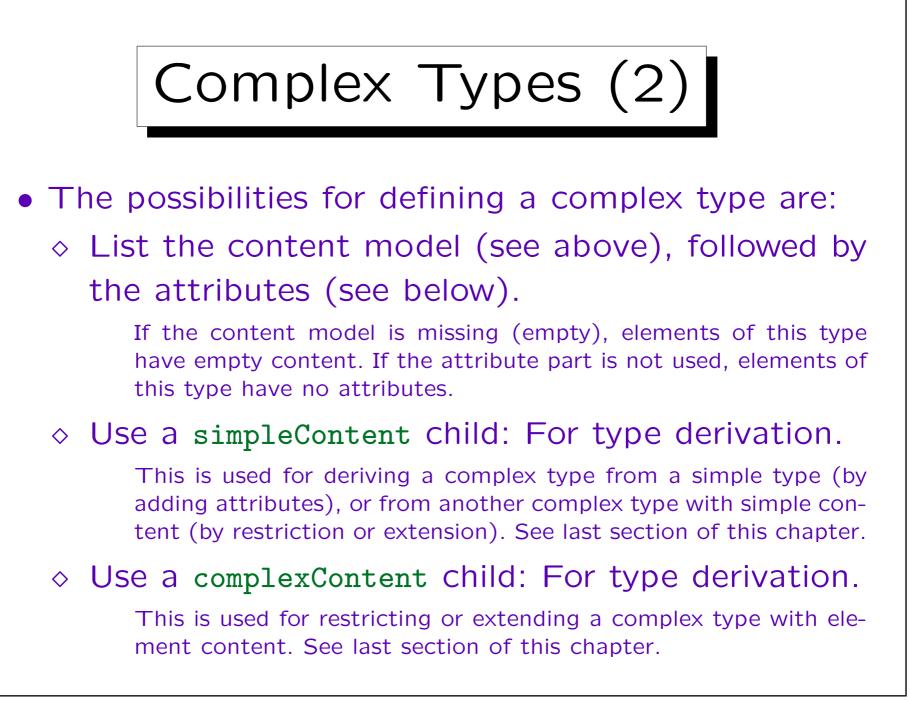
 A wildcard is a "quick&dirty" solution. There are safer ways to use elements from another schema (see below).

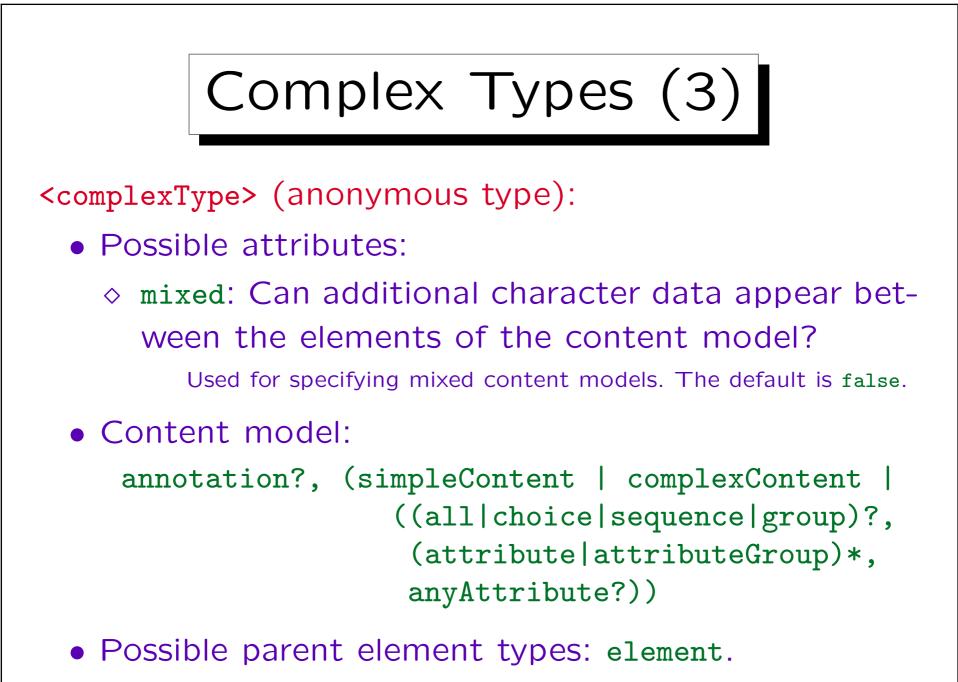
In this case, processContents was set to "skip". But even if it were set to "strict", this would not prevent XHTML elements like meta (intended for the head). Thus, even then it is not guaranteed that a product catalog generated in XHTML will be valid XHTML. Furthermore, one could also use h1 (biggest headline) and other elements that will not look nice if they appear in a product description. The only safe solution is probably to explicitly list the allowed XHTML elements. With a bit of luck, the schema for XHTML contains a named model group that can be used.

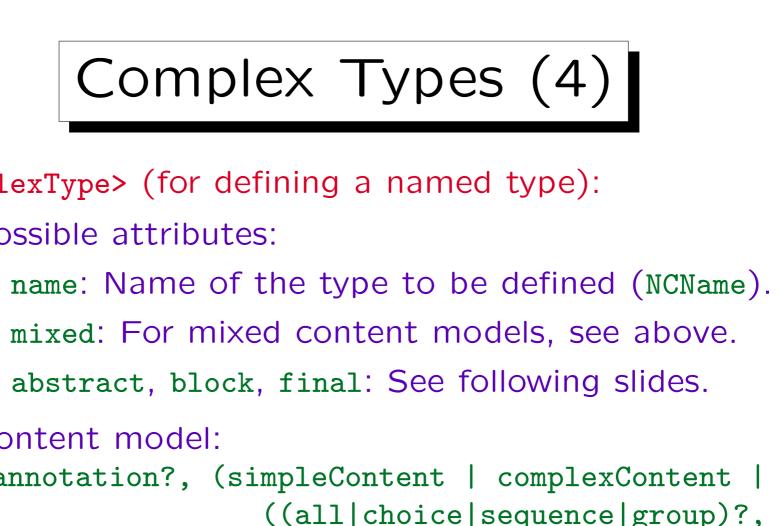






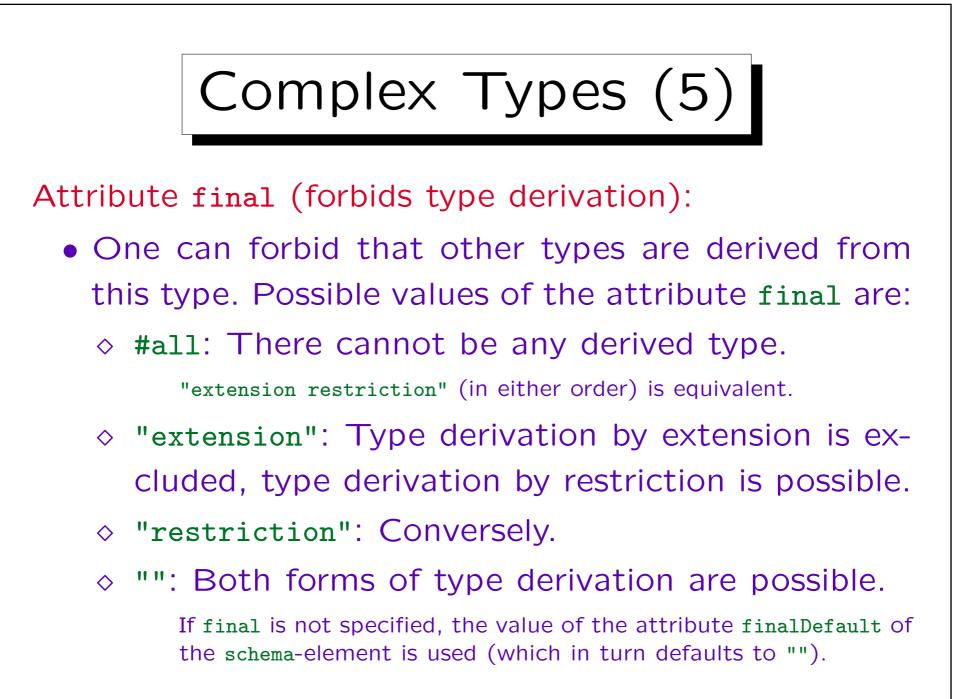






<complexType> (for defining a named type):

- Possible attributes:
  - $\diamond$  name: Name of the type to be defined (NCName).
  - $\diamond$  mixed: For mixed content models, see above.
  - $\diamond$  abstract, block, final: See following slides.
- Content model: annotation?, (simpleContent | complexContent | ((all|choice|sequence|group)?, (attribute|attributeGroup)\*, anyAttribute?))
- Possible parent element types: schema, redefine.



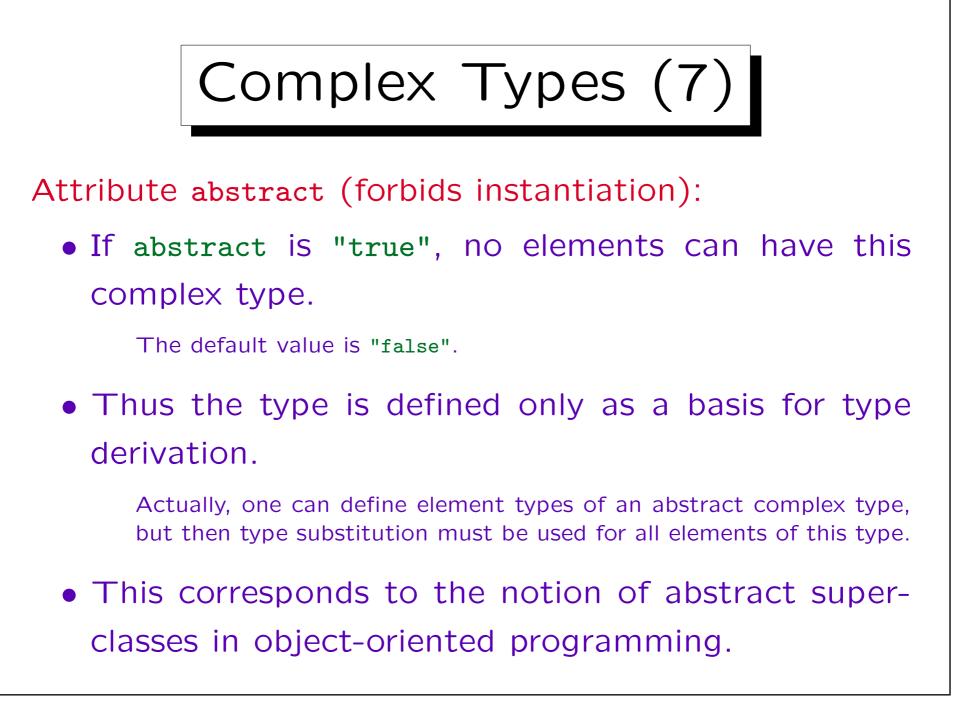
Complex Types (6)

Attribute block (forbids type substitution):

• If an element type *E* is declared with a complex type *C*, and *C'* is derived from *C*, elements of type *E* can state that they are really of type *C'* (with xsi:type=*C'*), and e.g. use the additional attributes or child elements of type *C'*.

## • The attribute block can be used to prevent this.

Possible values are: "#all" (i.e. type substitution is not permitted), "" (i.e. type substitution is possible), "restriction" (i.e. only types defined by extension can be used), "extension" (i.e. only types defined by restriction can be used), "extension restriction" (in either order: same as "#all"). The default is blockDefault in the schema-element, which in turn defaults to "" (no restriction).





- Elements can have attributes, therefore complex types must specify which attributes are allowed or required, and which data types the attribute values must have.
- Attributes can be declared
  - ◊ globally, and then referenced in complex types,
  - locally within a complex type (immediately used, never referenced).

This is a counterpart to "anonymous types" which are defined when they used (and cannot be reused). However, attributes always have a name.

Attributes (2)

- If a target namespace is declared for the schema, globally declared attributes are in this namespace.
- Thus, they need an explicit namespace prefix in each occurrence in the data file.

Default namespaces do not apply to attributes.

• For locally declared attributes, one can choose whether they must be qualified with a namespace.

This is done with the form attribute ("qualified" Or "unqualified"). A default can be set with the attributeFormDefault-attribute of the schema-element. If this is not set, the default is "unqualified", i.e. the attribute is used without namespace prefix.



 Since one usually does not want to specify a namespace prefix, global attribute declarations are seldom used.

Global attributes with a namespace prefix are typically used when many or all elements can have this attribute.

 If several elements/complex types have the same attribute, one can define an attribute group (see below), in order to specify the characteristics of the attribute only once.

When the attribute group is used, it becomes a local declaration (it works like a parameter entity/macro).

Attributes (4)

• As in DTDs, one can specify a default or fixed value for an attribute.

Fixed values are mainly interesting for global attributes, see Chapter 1.

• If the attribute does not occur in the start tag of an element, the XML Schema processor automatically adds it with the default/fixed value.

Thus the application gets this value. Attributes with fixed value can have only this single value and usually do not appear in the data file.

• In XML Schema, default/fixed values are specified with the attributes default/fixed of attribute elements. These attributes are mutually exclusive.



• As in DTDs, one can specify whether an attribute value must be given in every start tag or not.

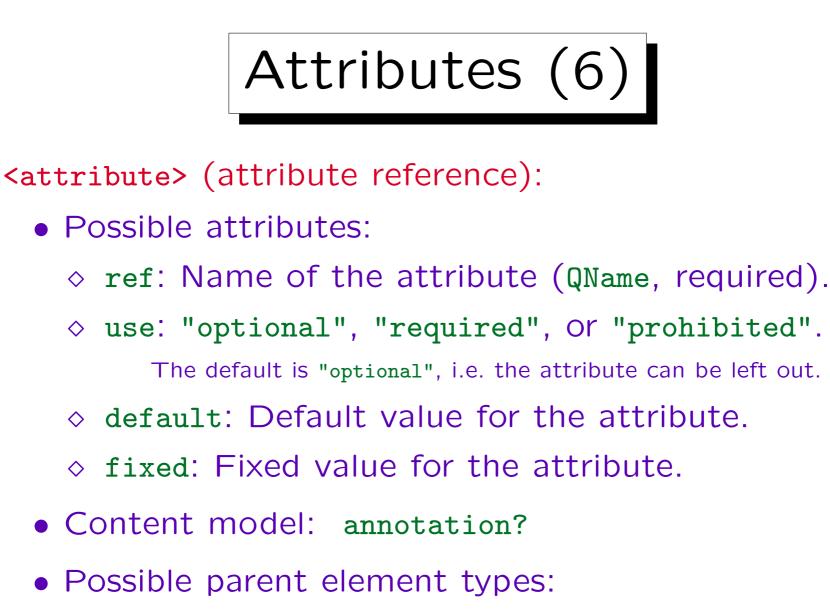
In XML DTDs, the alternatives are: (1) a default value, (2) #REQUIRED, (3) #IMPLIED (meaning optional), and (4) #FIXED with a value.

- In XML Schema, this is done with the attribute "use". It can have three possible values:
  - ◊ "optional": Attribute can be left out.
  - ◊ "required": Attribute value must be given.

This cannot be used together with a default value.

◇ "prohibited": Attribute value cannot be specified. This is only used for restricting complex types, see below.

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complexType, restriction, extension, attributeGroup.

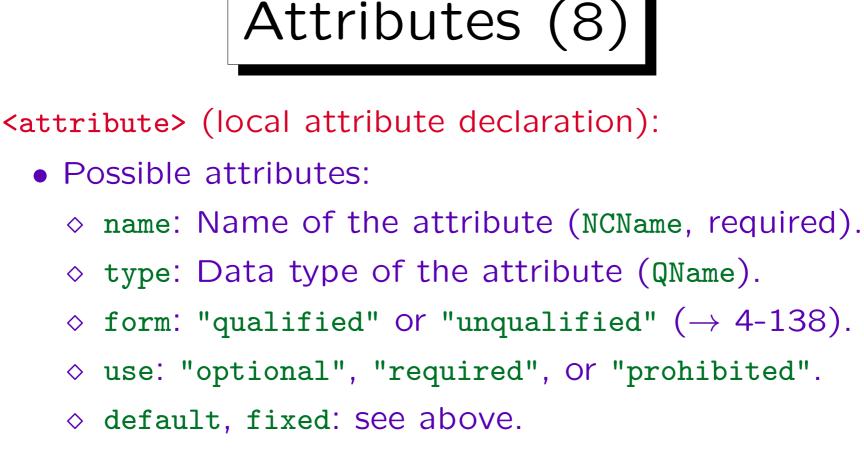


<attribute> (global attribute declaration):

- Possible attributes:
  - ◊ name: Name of the declared attribute (NCName). This attribute is required.
  - ◊ type: Data type of the attribute (QName).

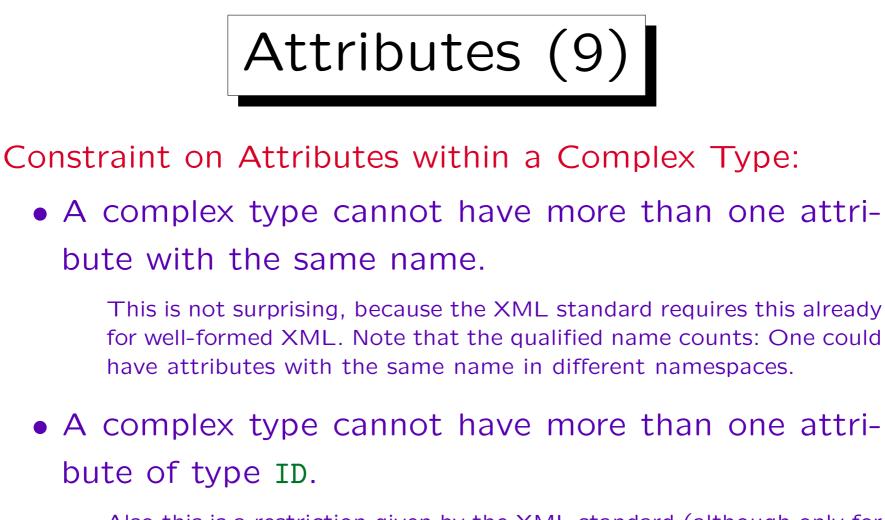
This attribute is mutually exclusive with the simpleType child. If neither is used, the default is anySimpleType (no restriction).

- ◊ default: Default value for the attribute.
- $\diamond$  fixed: Fixed value for the attribute.
- Content model: annotation?, simpleType?
- Possible parent element types: schema.



- Content model: annotation?, simpleType?
- Possible parent element types: complexType, restriction, extension, attributeGroup.





Also this is a restriction given by the XML standard (although only for DTDs, maybe one could have removed it in XML Schema, but XML Schema anyway has more powerful identification mechanisms). Note also that attributes of type ID cannot have default or fixed values.



### Attribute Wildcard:

• One can permit that the start tags of an element type can contain additional attributes besides the attributes declared for that element type.

Actually, certain attributes such as namespace declarations, and xsi:\* are always allowed, and do not have to be explicitly declared.

- This is done by including the attribute wildcard "<anyAttribute>" in the complex type definition.
- The wildcard matches any number of attributes. This is a difference to the element wildcard <any>. Thus, it makes no sense to specify <anyAttribute> more than once in a complex type.



<anyAttribute>:

- Possible attributes:
  - namespace: Restrictions for the namespace of the attributes inserted for the wildcard.
     See Slide 4-128. The default is no restriction ("##any").
  - ◇ processContents: Defines whether the value of the additional attributes is type-checked. See slide 4-126. The default is "strict".
- Content model: annotation?
- Possible parent element types: complexType, restriction, extension, attributeGroup.

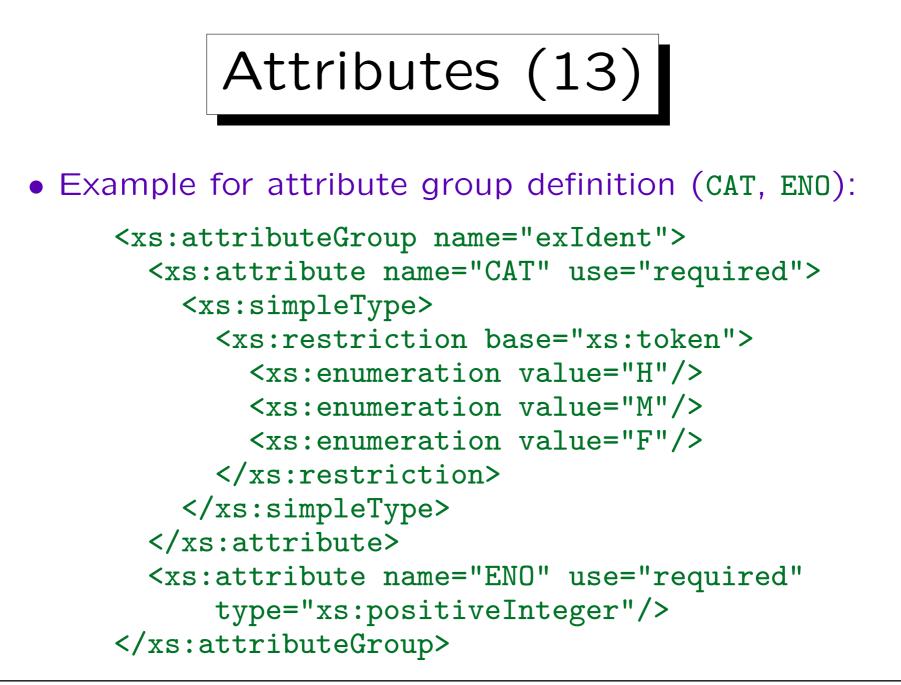


## Attribute Groups:

• If several complex types have attributes in common, one can define these attributes only once in an attribute group (example see next slide).

Since elements / complex types cannot have two attributes with the same name, also attribute groups cannot contain attributes with the same name. In the same way, multiple ID-attributes are forbidden.

- This attribute group can then be referenced in a complex type, or in other attribute groups.
- Like model groups, attribute groups are similar to a special kind of parameter entity.



Attributes (14)

• A reference to the attribute group "exIdent" (see previous slide) looks as follows:

<attributeGroup ref="exIdent"/>

• The attributes of the attribute group (e.g., CAT and ENO) are inserted in place of the group reference.

This is basically done like the expansion of a macro/entity. However, a complex type can contain only one attribute wildcard. In XML Schema, it was decided that referencing two attribute groups that both contain wildcards in the same complex type is no error. In this case, the namespace constraints are intersected, and the processContents-value of the first group is chosen (a wildcard directly in the complex type counts as first).



<attributeGroup> (attribute group definition):

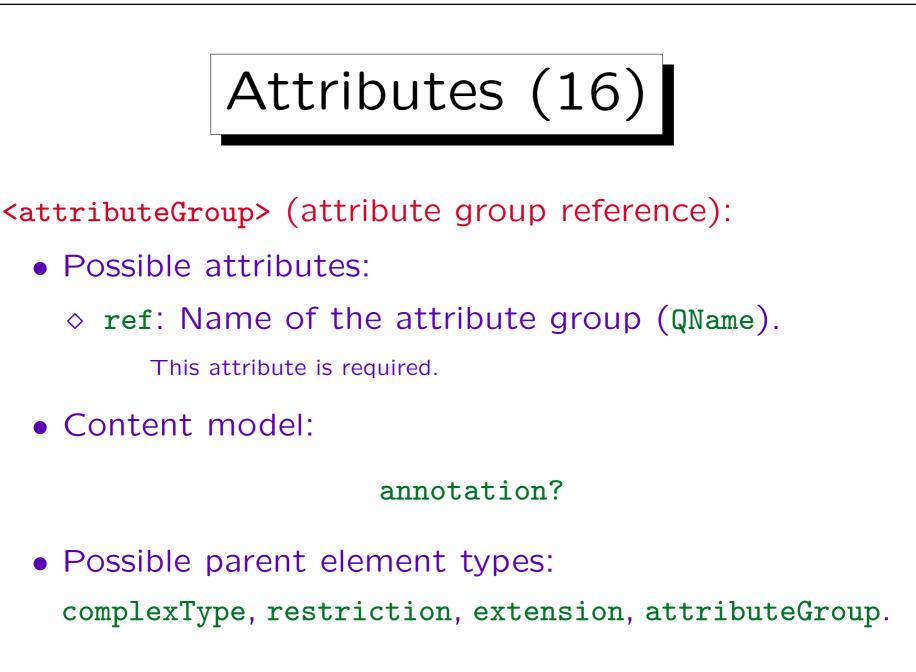
- Possible attributes:
  - ◇ name: Name of the attribute group (NCName).

This attribute is required.

• Content model:

annotation?,
(attribute|attributeGroup)\*, anyAttribute?

• Possible parent element types: schema, redefine.





• The main purpose of an element declaration is to introduce an element type name and associate it with a (simple or) complex type.

In addition, they can define a default/fixed value for the content, permit or forbid a nil value, define keys or foreign keys, block type substitution, and define substitution groups. See below.

• Simple and complex types together are called data types (to distinguish them from "element types").

At least in the book "Definitive XML Schema". The Standard uses simply "type" (for simple and complex type) and avoids the word "element type". On my slides, I sometimes incorrectly use "element" instead of "element type". Maybe, "element name" would be good.



- The association of the declared element type with the simple/complex type can be done in two ways:
  - By including a simpleType or complexType child element (anonymous type definition).
  - By referencing a named (globally declared) simple or complex type with the type-attribute.
     The two possibilities are mutually exclusive.
- If none of the two is used, the element type is associated with anyType, and permits arbitrary (wellformed) content and arbitrary attributes.

Unless the element type is part of a substitution group, see below.



- Element declarations can be
  - ♦ global (later referenced by the element name), For element references, see above ("Content Models": 4-120).
  - ◊ local inside a complex type declaration (immediately used and never referenced again).
- As with attributes,
  - globally declared element types always belong to the target namespace of the schema,
  - whereas one can choose whether locally declared element types belong to the target namespace or remain unqualified (no namespace).

Elements (4)

- The namespace decision for local element declarations is done with the attribute form. It can be
  - "qualified": The element type name belongs to the target namespace of the schema.
  - v "unqualified": The element type name has no namespace.

If a local element type declaration does not contain the form-attribute, the default is defined with elementFormDefault in the schema-element. This in turn defaults to "unqualified". The possibility to switch nearly all element types between unqualified and qualified form with a single attribute setting is one aspect of the "Venetian Blind" design.



• The namespace of elements can be defined implicitly with a default namespace declaration.

Important difference to attributes: For elements, it is no problem if every element belongs to a namespace (if it is the same namespace).

- However, the user of a schema must know which elements belong to a namespace and which not.
   One should use a simple rule, e.g.
  - ♦ The root element belongs to the target namespace of the schema, the others not.
  - ♦ All elements belong to the target namespace.
  - ♦ The schema has no target namespace.



- Global declarations must be used:
  - $\diamond$  for the possible root element type(s),
  - for element types that participate in substitution groups (see below).
- Local declarations must be used:
  - if the same element type has different attributes
     or content models depending on the context.
     It might be better to say if there are different element types with
    - the same name.
  - ◊ if the element type name should be unqualified.

And at least one name in the schema needs a namespace.



Default and Fixed Values:

- Whereas in DTDs, one can specify default and fixed values only for attributes, in XML Schema, this is possible for attributes and elements.
- However,
  - ♦ for an attribute, the default/fixed value is automatically added if the attribute is missing,
  - ◊ for an element, the element must still be present, but with empty content.

In both cases, the validation adds data to the data explicitly given in the input document. This might simplify the application.

# Elements (8)

 Only values of simple types can be specified as default/fixed values.

This is a technical restriction, because default/fixed values are specified in an attribute. But probably default/fixed values for elements were mainly added to make attributes and elements with simple content more similar/interchangable.

• Of course, the default/fixed value must be legal for the declared element content.

Thus, default/fixed values can be used only for elements with simple content, or mixed content when all child elements are optional.



• If a default value is declared, there is no way to enter the empty string as element content.

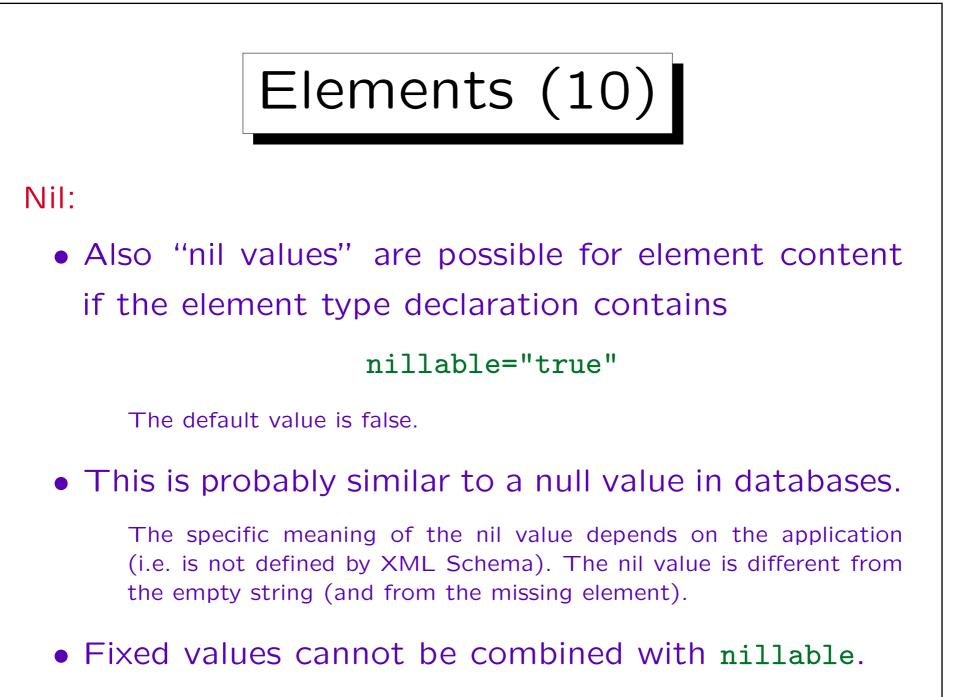
Then the element is empty, and the default value is added. If the whitespace-facet is collapse, the default value is added even if there are spaces between start and end tag. But see xsi:nil below.

• Note that empty elements can have attributes.

The default value added as long as the contents is empty.

• A fixed value is very similar to a default value, with the additional constraint that if a value is explicitly specified, it can be only this value.

Possibly a different lexical representation of the same value.

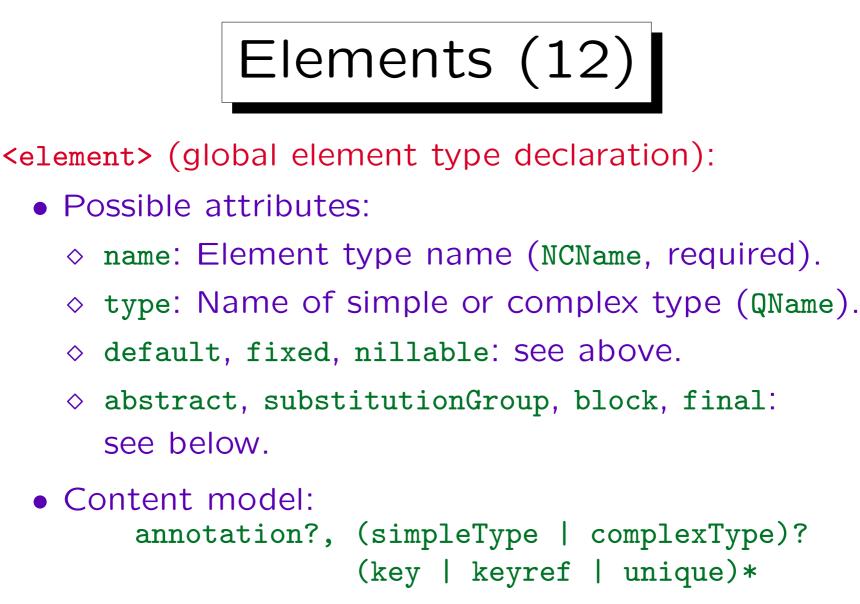




• In the input document, elements with nil content are mared with xsi:nil="true".

Where xsi is mapped to http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance. Note that the attribute xsi:nil can be used even if it is not declared for the element type (if the element type is nillable).

- In this case, the element content must be empty (but the element can still have attributes).
- It is not required that the element type permits an empty content (but it must be nillable).
- If an element is nil, a default value is not added, although the contents looks empty (it is nil).



• Possible parent element types: schema.



<element> (local element type declaration):

- Possible attributes:
  - ◊ name: Element type name (NCName, required).
  - ◊ form: "qualified" Or "unqualified" (see above).
  - ◊ type: Name of simple or complex type (QName).
  - ◊ minOccurs, maxOccurs: see above.
  - ◊ default, fixed, nillable: see above.
  - $\diamond$  block: see below.
- Content model:

annotation?, (simpleType | complexType)?
 (key | keyref | unique)\*

• Possible parent elements: all, choice, sequence.



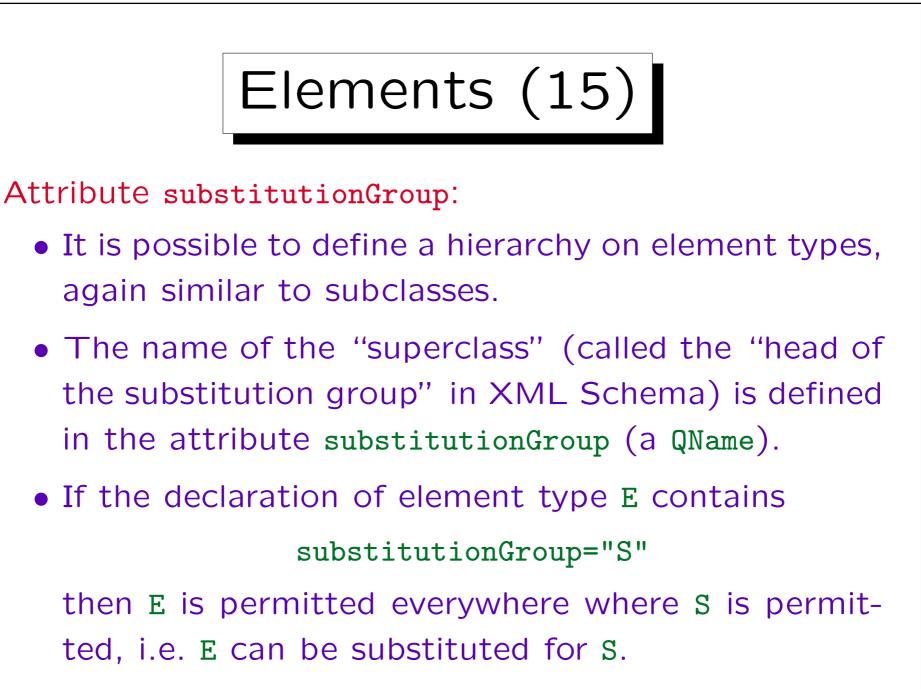
• The scope of a local element type declaration is the enclosing complex type definition.

One can have two completely different local element type declarations inside different complex types.

• Within the same complex type, one can declare the same element type more than once, if the associated data type is identical.

Only the types must be identical. Other properties (like default values) can be different. Anonymous types are never identical, even if they have the same content model and attributes.

This double declaration might be necessary if the element type appears more than once in a content model and one wants a local declaration.





- This is also possible over several levels (if X defines
   E as the head of its substitution group, X can be substituted for E and for S).
- Of course, the data types of these element types must be compatible, e.g. the data type of E must be derived from the data type of S (maybe indirectly) (it can also be the same).
- Alternatives to substitution groups are:
  - ◊ choice model group with all "subclass elements",
  - ◊ "superclass element" with type substitution.



#### Attribute abstract:

- If this is "true", the element type cannot be used in input documents (i.e. it cannot be instantiated).
- It can only be used as head of a substitution group ("superclass").

It appears of course in model groups of the schema, but only as placeholder for one of the element types that can be substituted for this element type. The element type substitution is required in this case.

#### • The default is "false".



#### Attribute final:

• With final="#all", one can prevent that the current type can be used as head of a substitution group.

The default is the value of the finalDefault-attribute of the schemaelement, which defaults to "", i.e. no restriction.

 One can also specify restrictions on the data types of the element types that can be substituted for the current element type.

E.g. final="restriction" means that the current element type can be head of a substitution group, but the data type of the substituted element type must be derived by restriction.



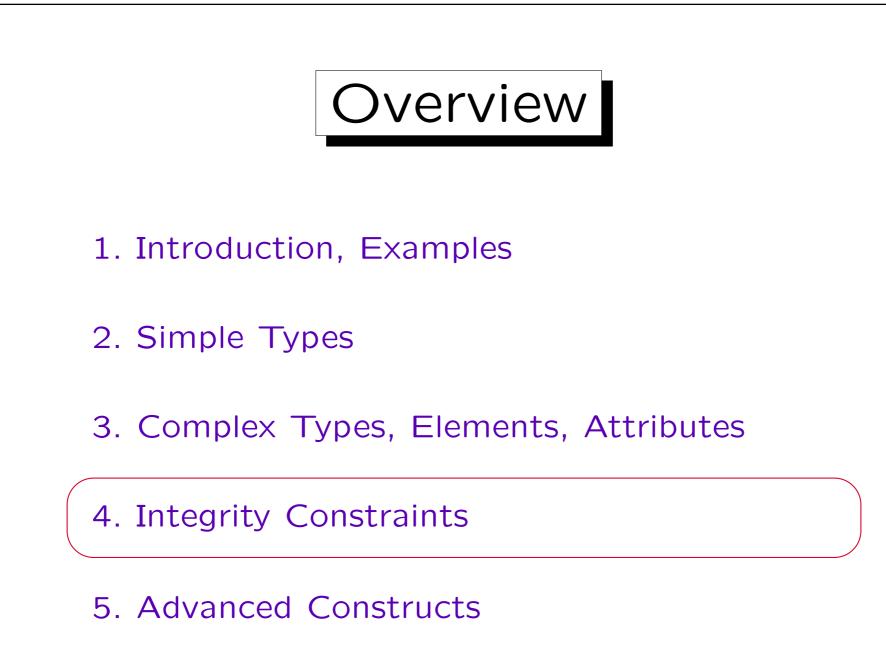
# Attribute block:

- The attribute block can be used to forbid type substitution or usage of substitution groups in the instance (input document, data file).
  - As mentioned on Slide 4-135, one can use xsi:type in the input document (data file) to state that an element type E has not its normal data type C, but a data type C' that is derived from C.
  - With the attribute block, certain forms of type derivation (restriction or extension) can be excluded from this possibility.
  - block="restriction extension" completely excludes type substitution.
  - The list can also contain substitution, which forbids element type substitution (via substitution groups). This is basically the same as final="#all", but now only the concrete occurrence in the input document is false, not the schema.

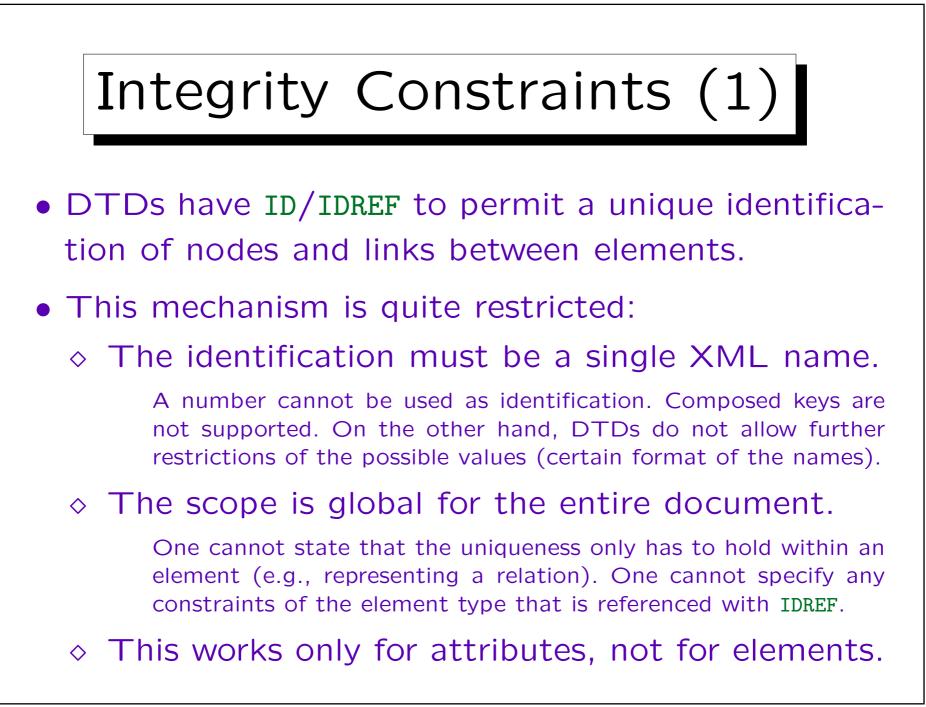


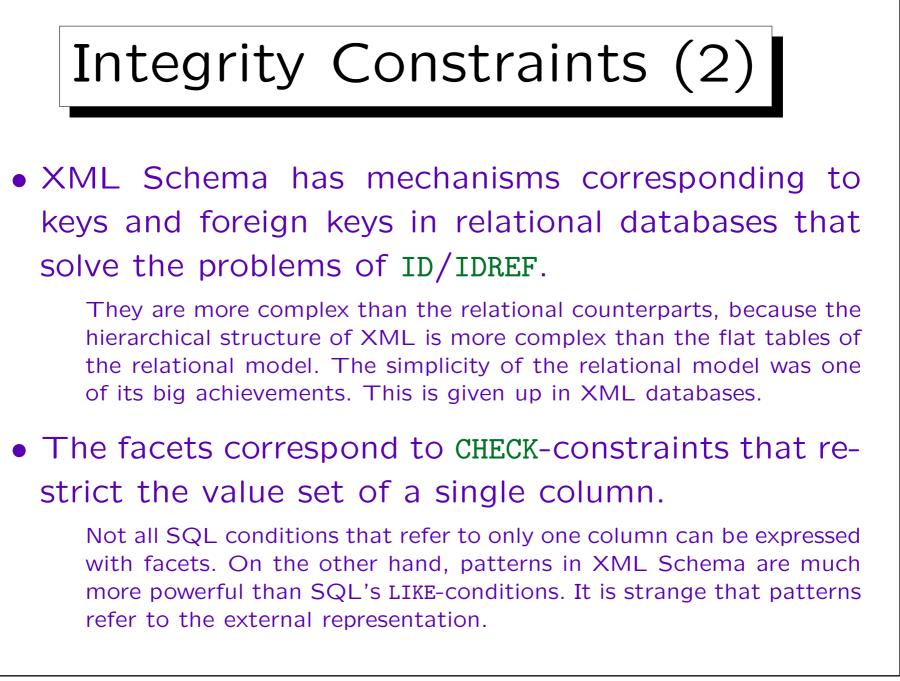
• Please define complex types that correspond to the following part of a DTD:

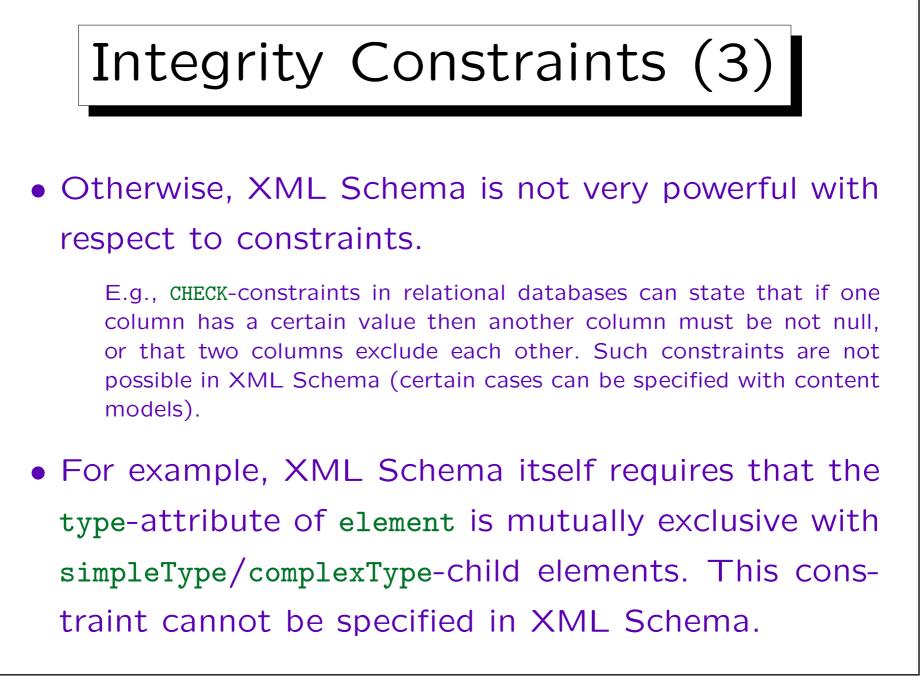
<!ELEMENT EXERCISES (EXERCISE)\*>
<!ELEMENT EXERCISE (ENO, TOPIC, MAXPT, RESULT\*)>
<!ELEMENT ENO (#PCDATA)>
<!=-- Should be positive integer -->
<!ELEMENT TOPIC (#PCDATA)>
<!=-- Should be non-negative integer -->
<!ELEMENT RESULT (SID, POINTS)>
<!ELEMENT SID (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT SID (#PCDATA)>
<!=-- number with one digit after '.' -->

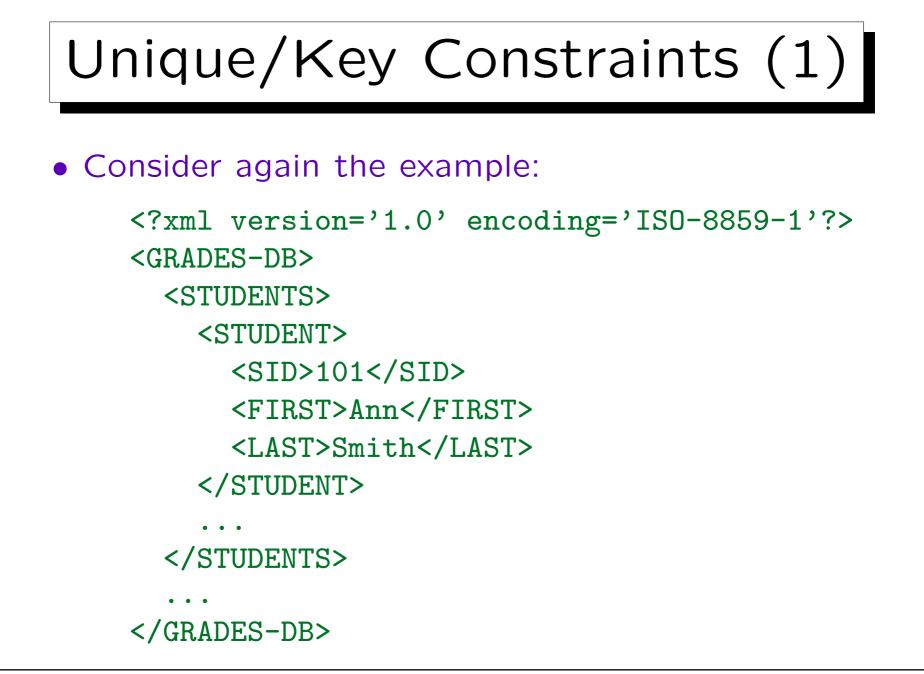


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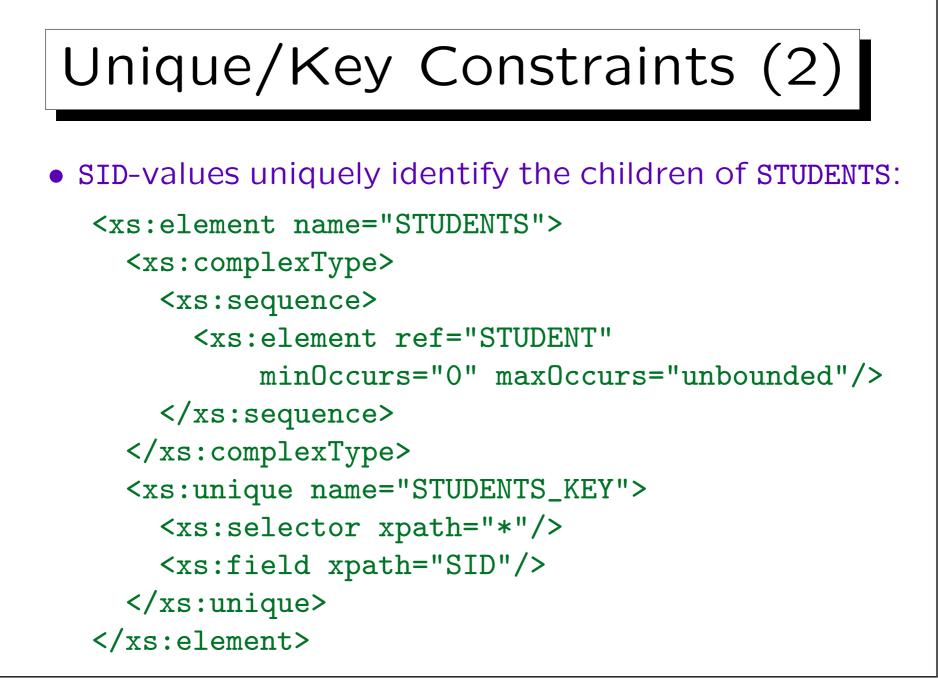


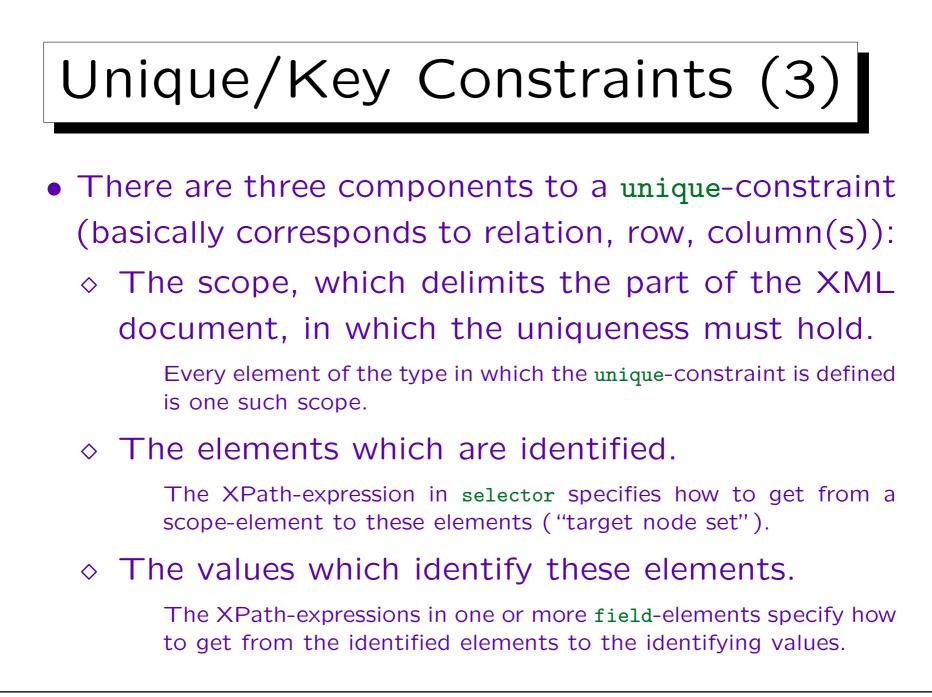


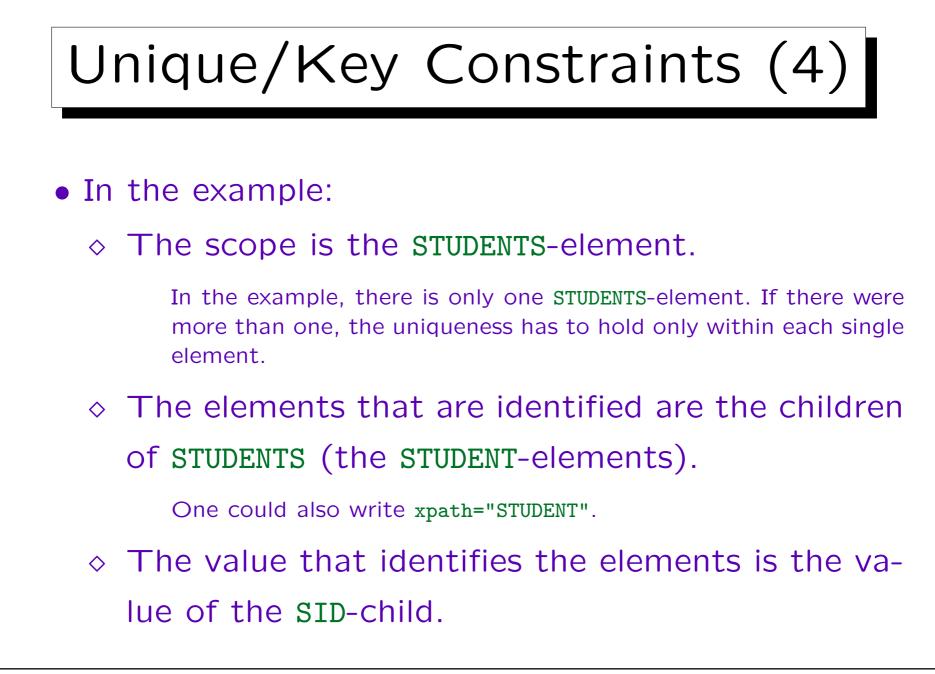


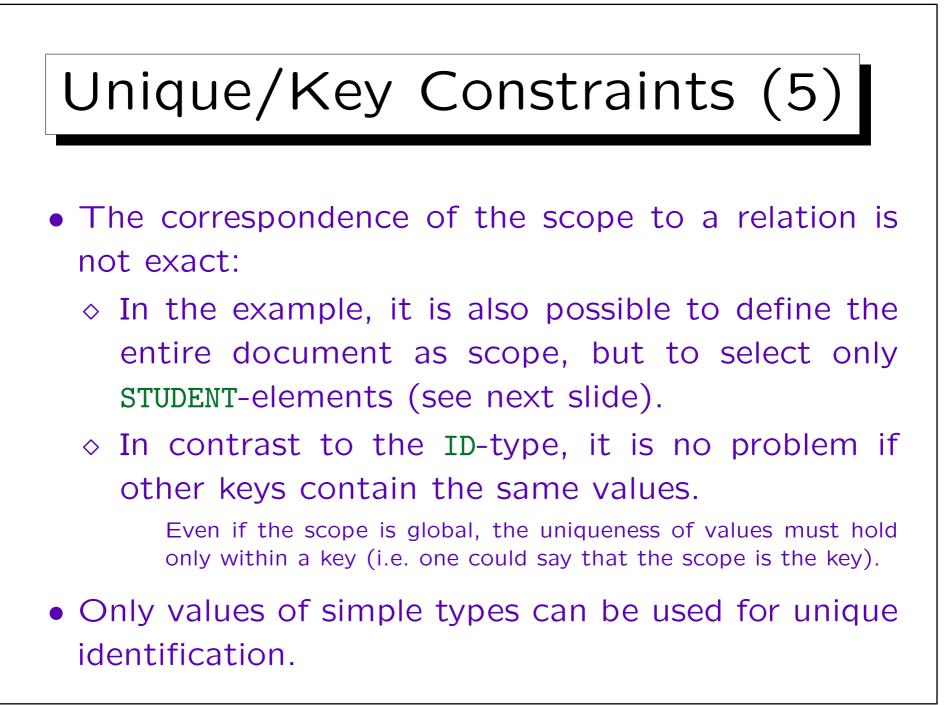


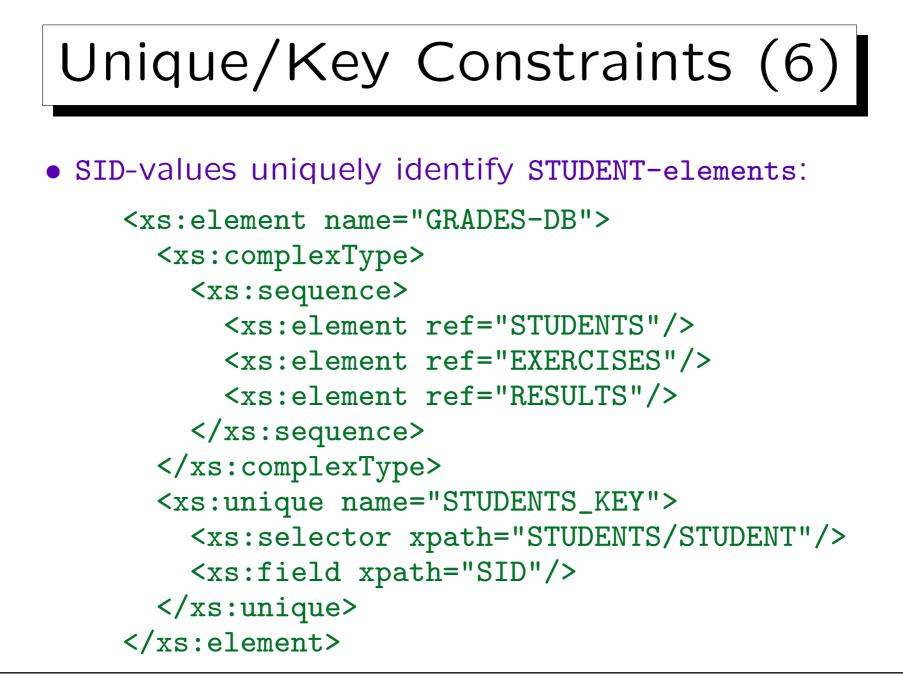
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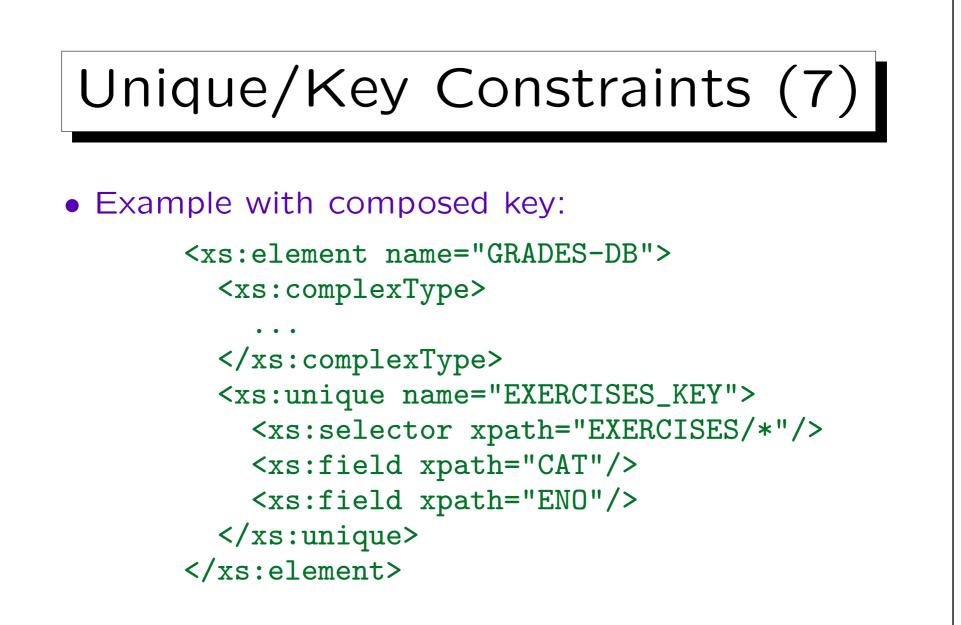


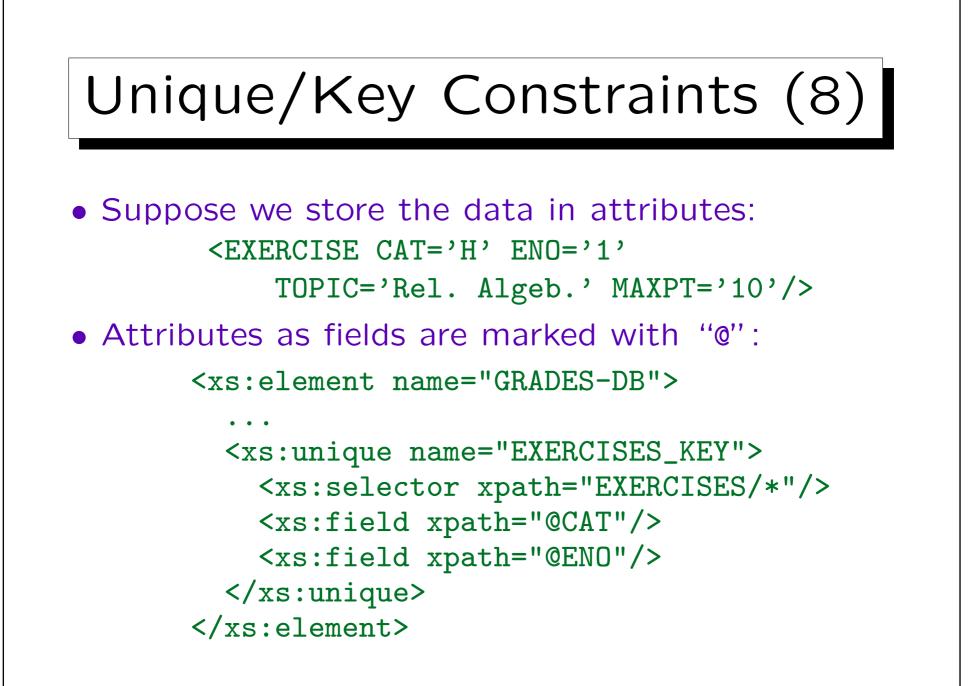


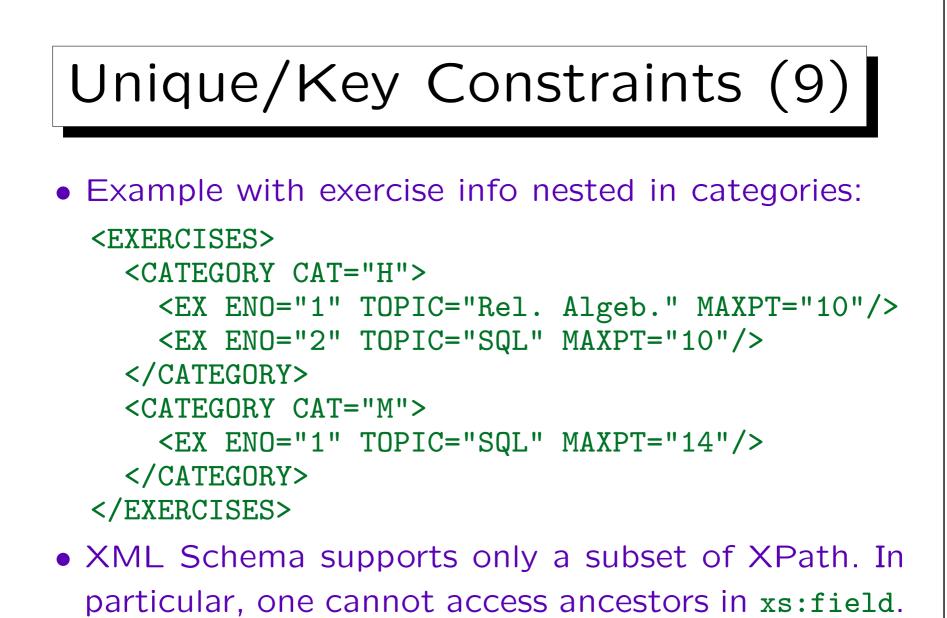




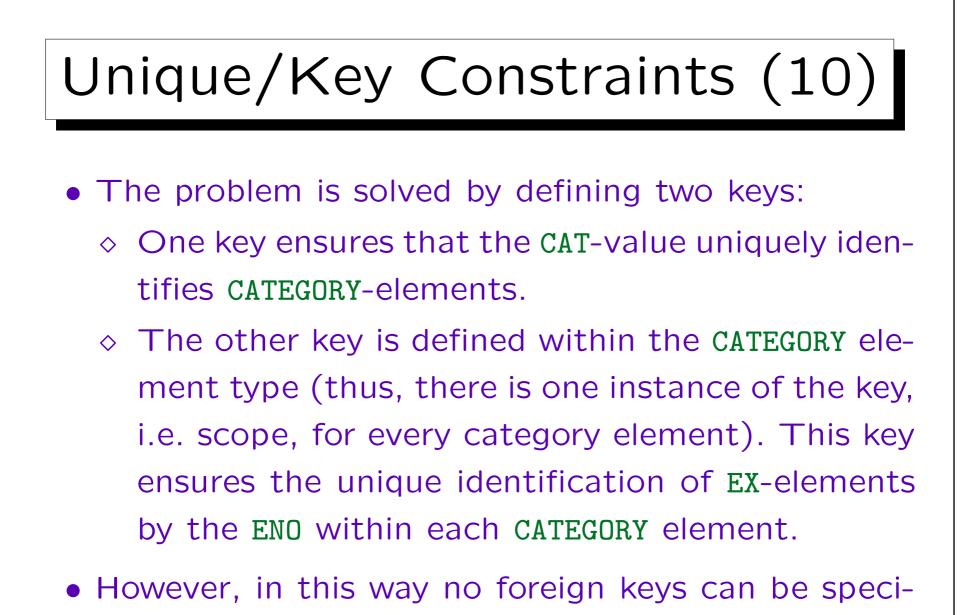
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But the unique identification of EX needs CAT.



```
Unique/Key Constraints (11)
• Key on CATEGORY:
   <xs:element name="GRADES-DB">
     <xs:unique name="CATEGORY_KEY">
       <rs:selector xpath="EXERCISES/CATEGORY"/>
       <rs:field xpath="@CAT"/>
     </rs:unique>
   </rs:element>
```

The XPath-expression in selector could also be EXERCISES/\* (because EXERCISES has only CATEGORY-elements as children).

One could define the key also under EXERCISES (instead of GRADES-DB) since the document contains only one element of type EXERCISES, and all elements to be identified are nested within this element.

```
Unique/Key Constraints (12)
Key on EX-elements within CATEGORY:
```

```
<xs:element name="CATEGORY">
```

```
<xs:unique name="EX_KEY">
    <xs:selector xpath="*"/>
    <xs:field xpath="@ENO"/>
    </xs:unique>
</xs:element>
```

- It is no problem that there are two EX-elements with the same ENO (e.g., 1) as long as they are nested within different CATEGORY-elements.
- This is similar to a weak entity.

## Unique/Key Constraints (13)

- For a given "context node" (in which the key is defined), the selector defines a "target node set".
- For each node in the target node set, the XPathexpression in each field must return 0 or 1 values.
   It is an error if more than one value is returned.
- The target nodes, for which each field has a value (that is not nil), form the "qualified node set".
- The unique identification is required only for the qualified node set. Multiple elements with undefined or partially defined key values can exist.



- If one writes xs:key instead of xs:unique, the fields must exist. In this case, it is an error if the XPathexpression in xs:field returns no values (and it it always an error if it returns more than one value).
  - Furthermore, neither the identified nodes nor the identifying fields may be nillable.
- Note that value equality respects the type:
  - ♦ For a field of type integer, "03" and "3" are the same (so the uniqueness would be violated).
  - ◊ For a field of type string, they are different.

## Unique/Key Constraints (15)

<unique>/<key>:

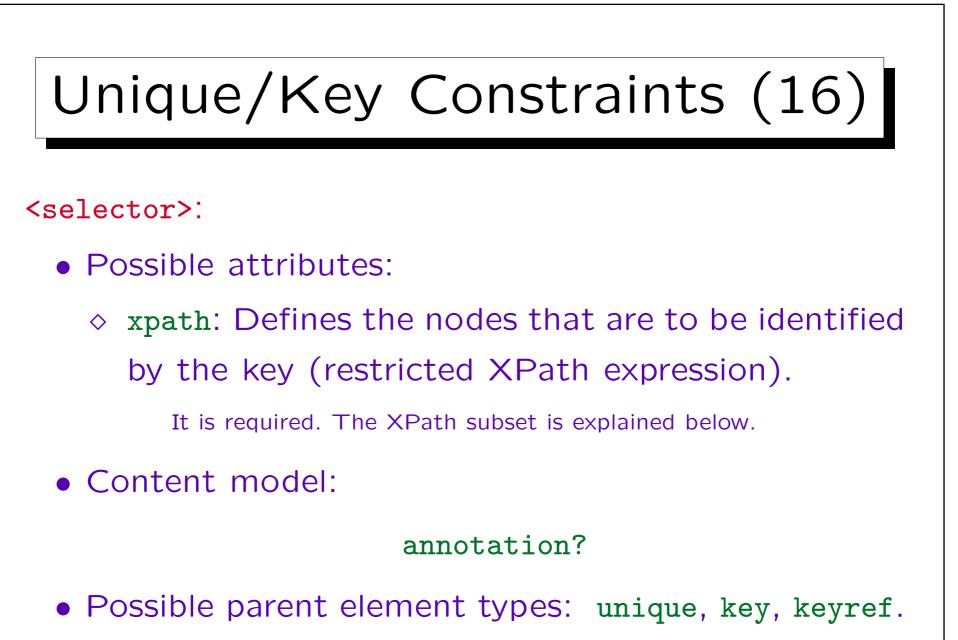
- Possible attributes:
  - ◇ name: Name of the key constraint (NCName).

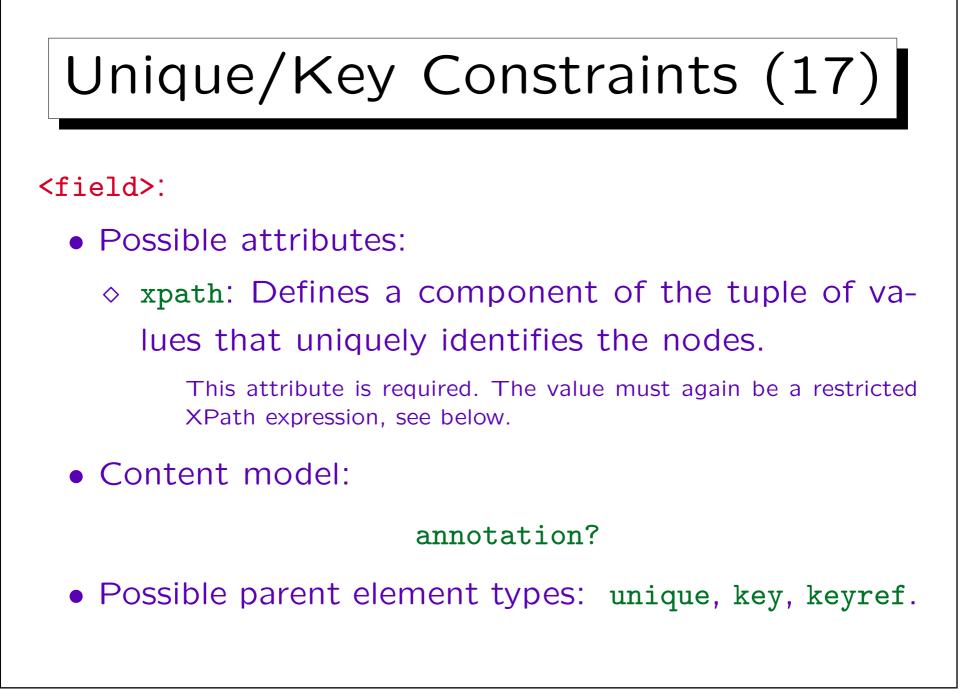
This attribute is required. The value must be unique in the schema among all unique, key, and keyref-constraints.

• Content model:

```
annotation?, selector, field+
```

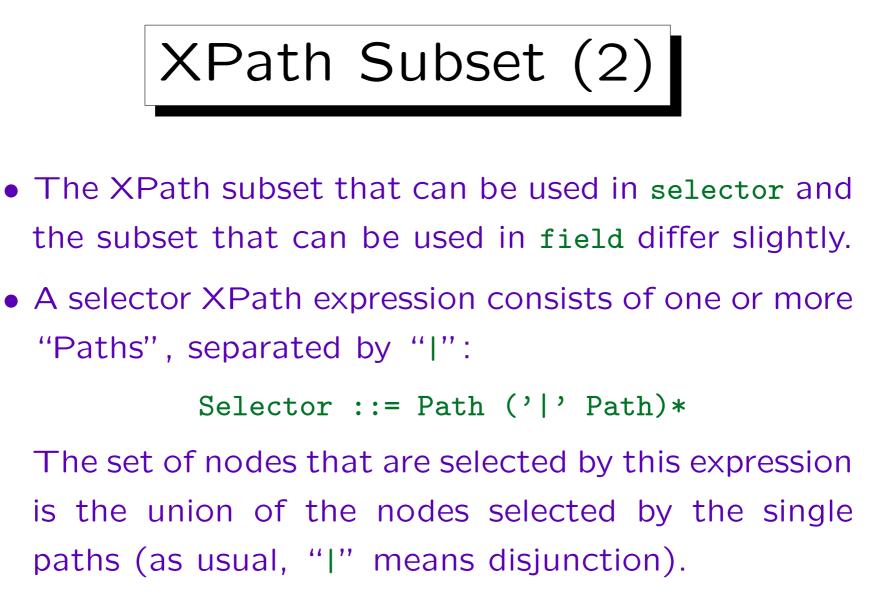
• Possible parent element types: element.



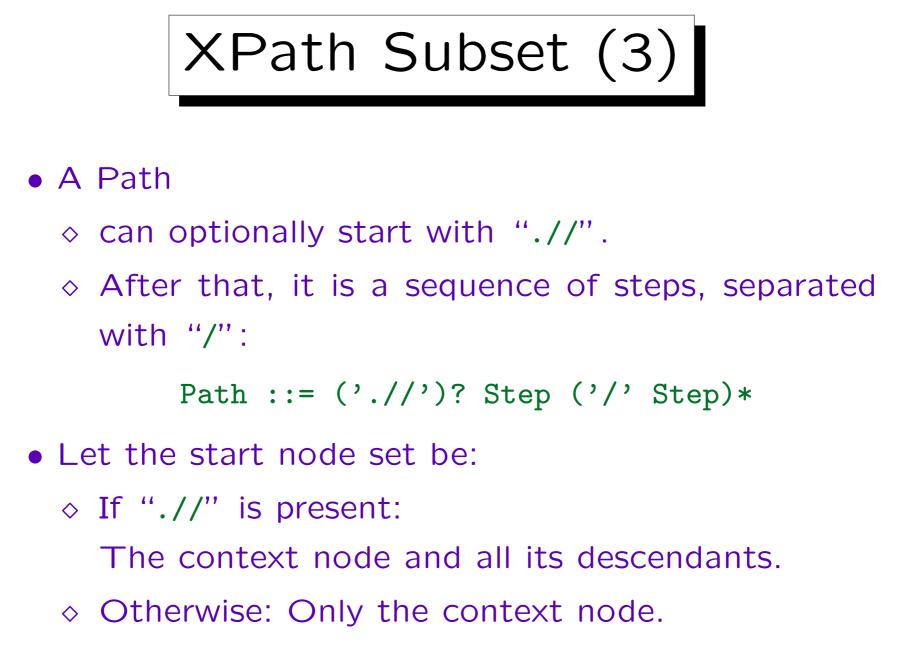


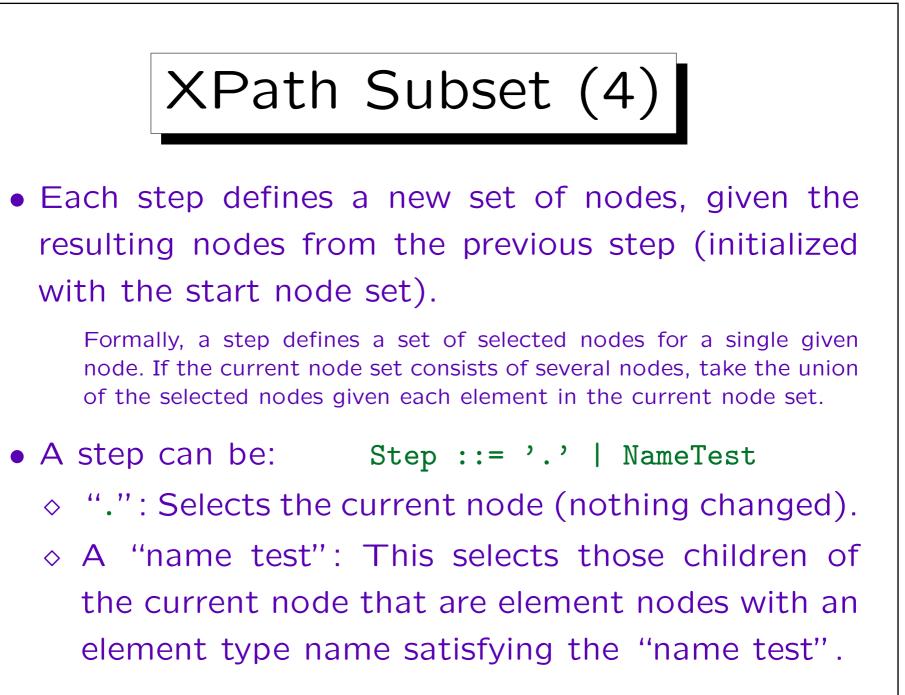
XPath Subset (1)

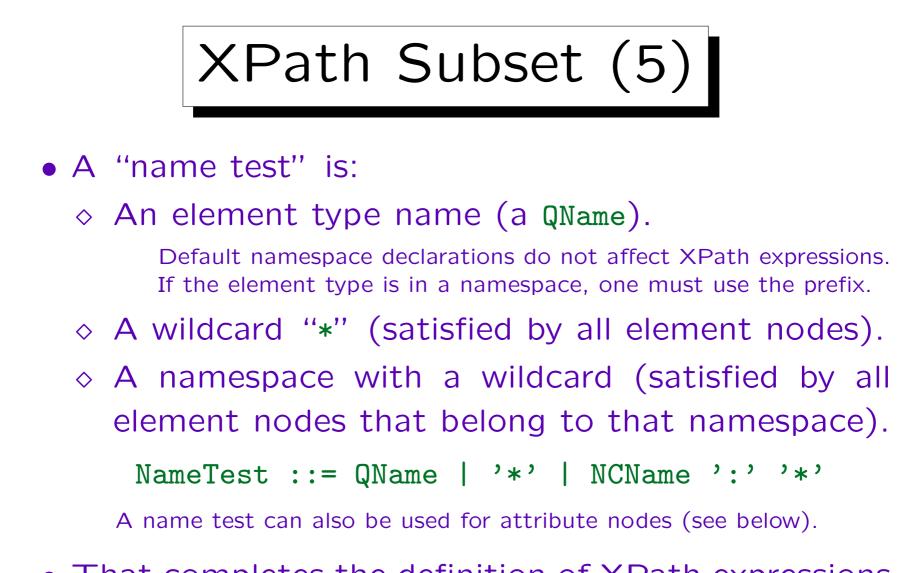
- The standard states: "In order to reduce the burden on implementers, in particular implementers of streaming processors, only restricted subsets of XPath expressions are allowed in {selector} and {fields}."
- Indeed, the subset of XPath that can be used to define the components of keys, is quite simple.
- The purpose of XPath is to select a set of nodes in the XML tree, given a context node as a starting point. In the XPath subset, one can navigate only downward in the tree (in full XPath, also upward).



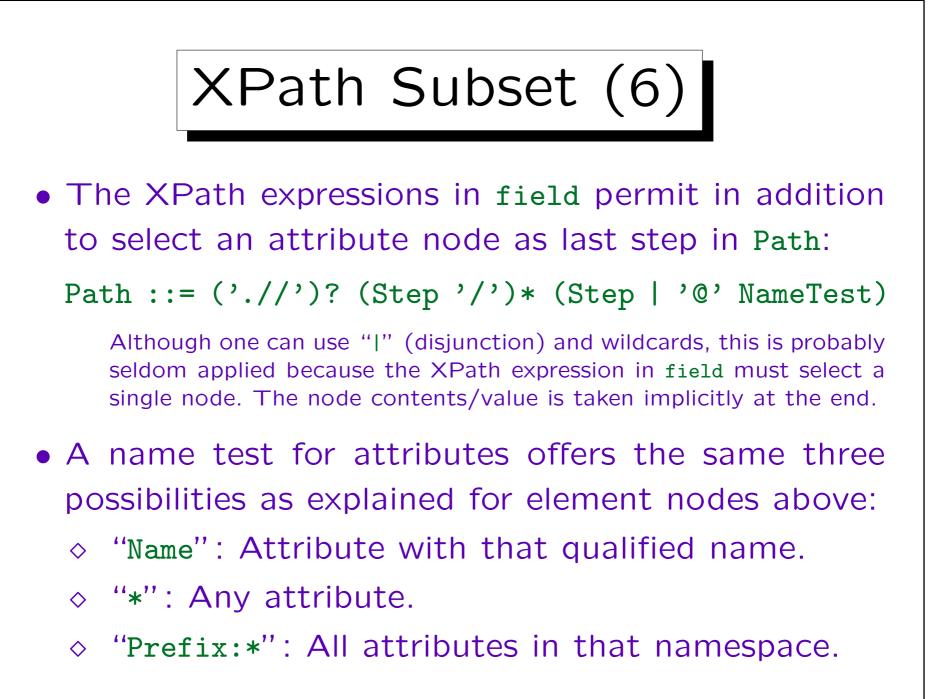
• Between any two tokens, whitespace is allowed.

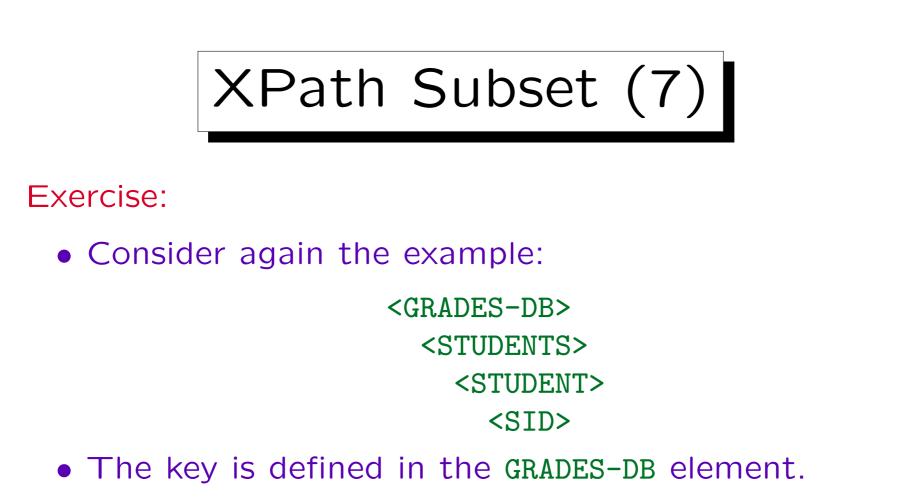






• That completes the definition of XPath expressions that can be used in the attribute xpath of selector.

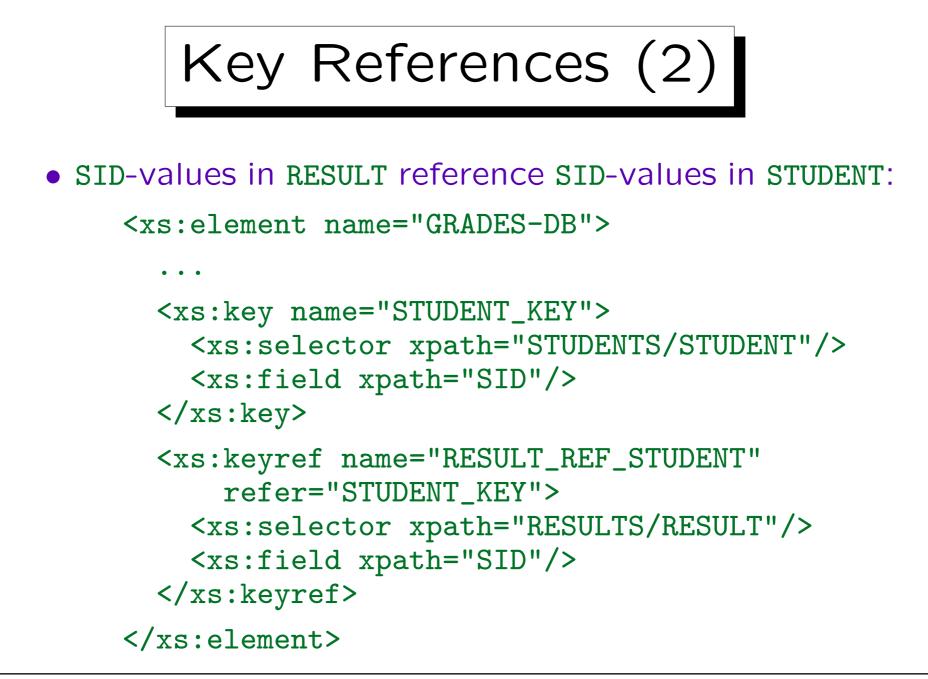


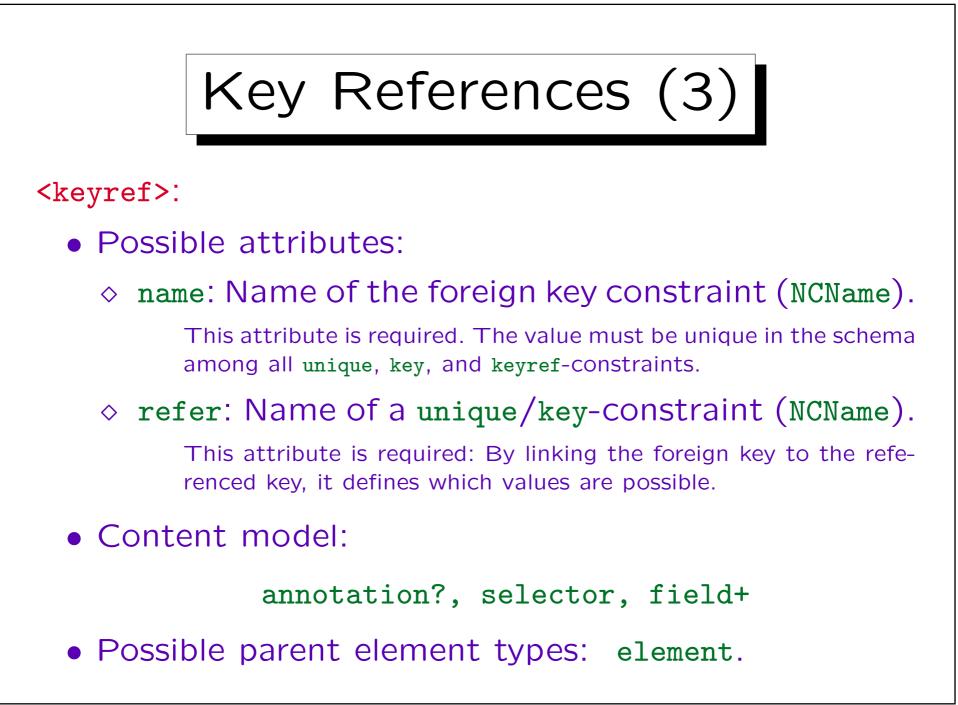


- Above, the following XPath expression was used to select the nodes to be identified: STUDENTS/STUDENT.
- Give three alternatives.



- A "key reference" identity constraint corresponds to a foreign key in relational databases.
- It demands that certain (tuples of) values must appear as identifying values in a key constraint.
   "Key constraint" means key or unique.
- Example: For each SID-value in a RESULT element, there must be a STUDENT-element with the same SID (one can store points only for known students).
   As in relational databases, it is not required that the two fields have the same name.





Key References (4)

• The referenced key must be defined in the same node or in a descendant node (i.e. "below") the node in which the foreign key constraint is defined.

I would have required the opposite direction, because on the way up, there could be only one instance of the referenced key, on the way down, there can be several (see below). But the committee certainly had reasons, probably related to the parsing/checking algorithms.

• The standard explains that "node tables" which map key values to the identified nodes are computed bottom-up.

The standard talks of "key sequence" instead of "key values" to include also composed keys (with more than one field).



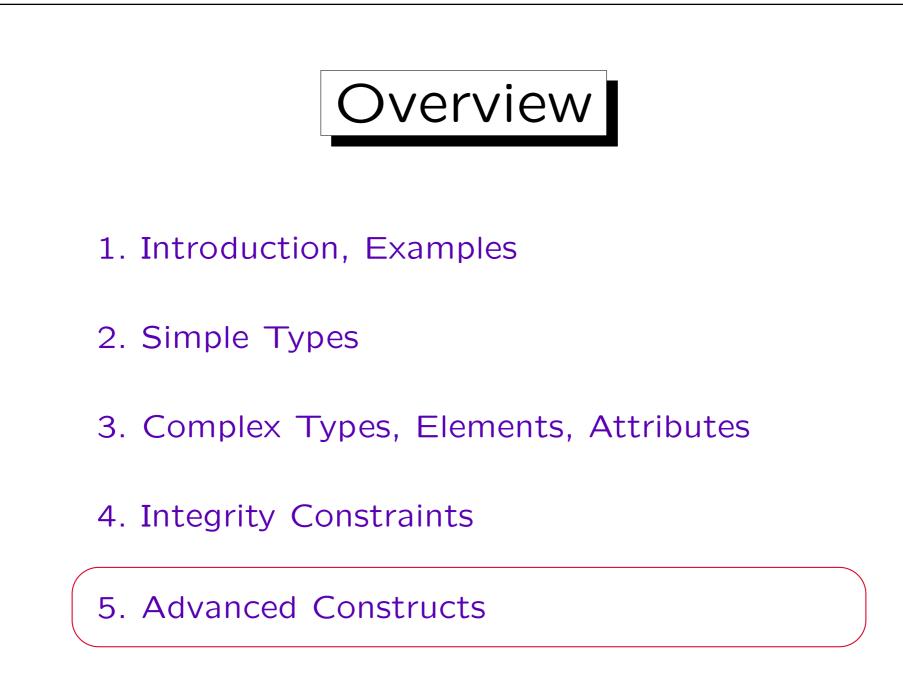
- It is possible that several instances of the referenced key exist below the foreign key.
- In that case, the union of the node tables is taken, with conflicting entries removed.

I.e. if two instances of the referenced key contain the same key value with different identified nodes, that key value is removed from the table: It cannot be referenced (the reference would not be unique).

The situation is even more complicated, if the key is defined in an element type that has descendants of the same type. Then key valuenode pairs originating in the current node take precedence over pairs that come from below. Values that come from below are only entered in the node table if they do not cause a conflict.

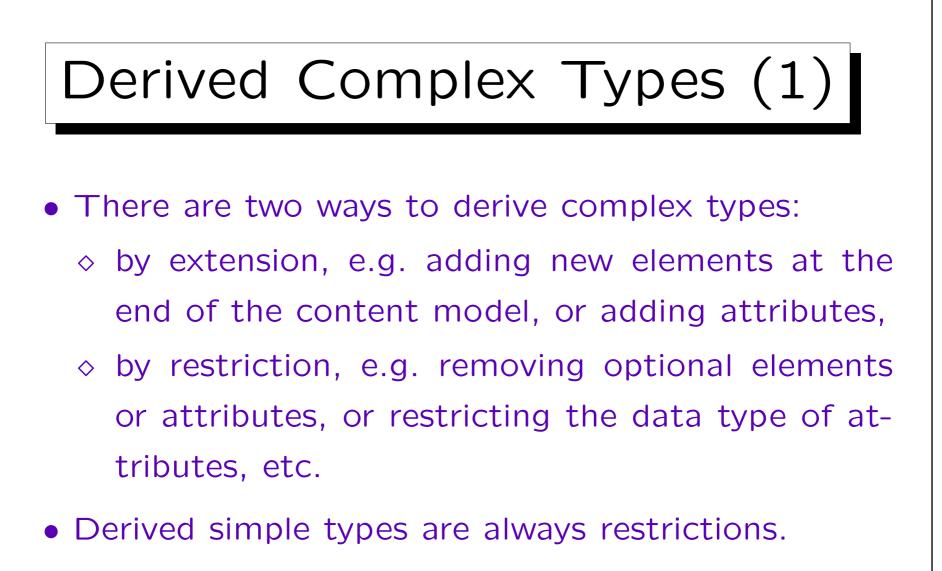
Key References (6)

- Fields of key and foreign key are matched by position in the identity constraint definition, not by name (as in relational databases).
- Normally, the types of corresponding fields (of the key and the foreign key) should be the same.
- However, if the types of both columns are derived from the same primitive type, it might still work (for values in the intersection of both types).
- But values of unrelated types are never identical: E.g. the string "1" is different from the number "1".

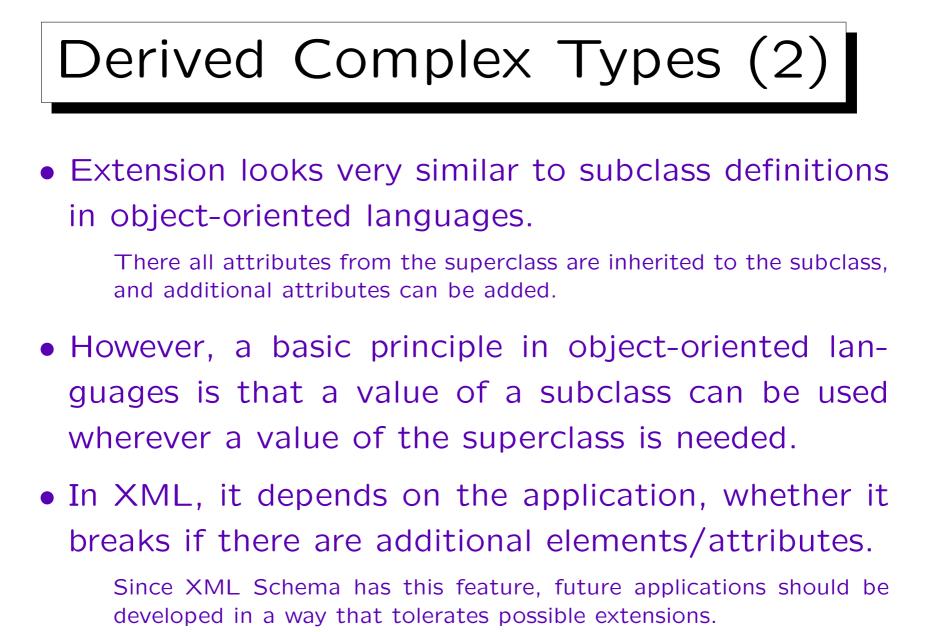


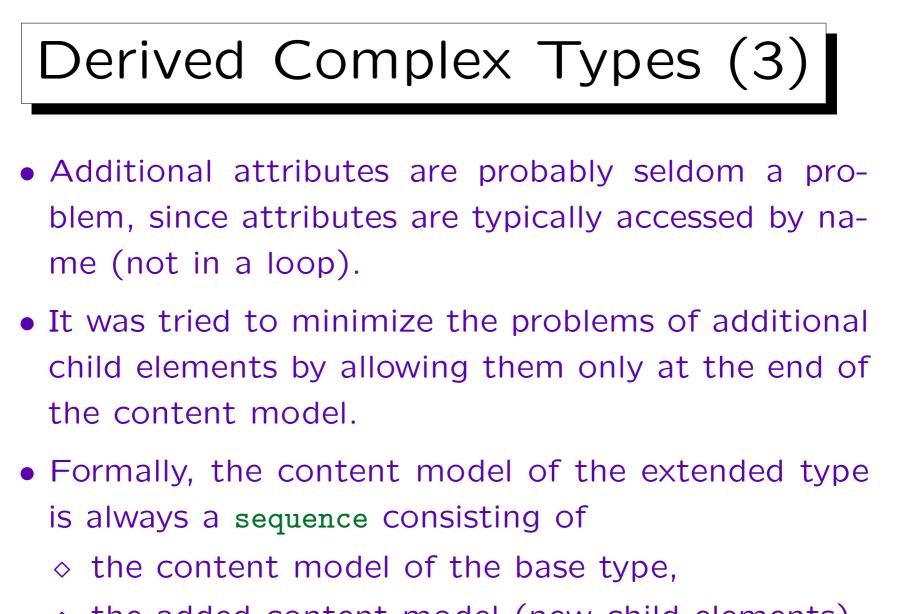
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Universität Halle, 2012

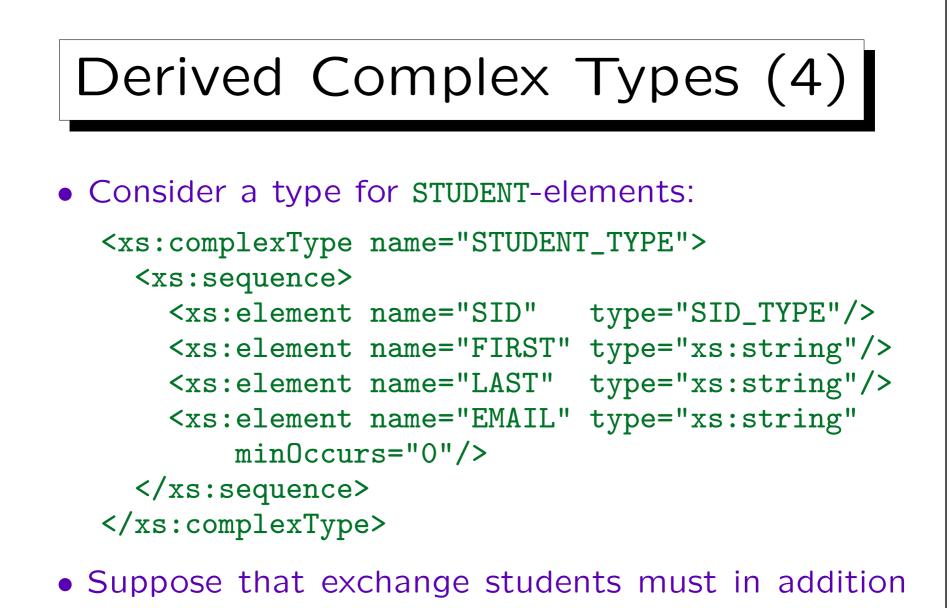


One can extend a simple type by adding attributes, but then it becomes a complex type.

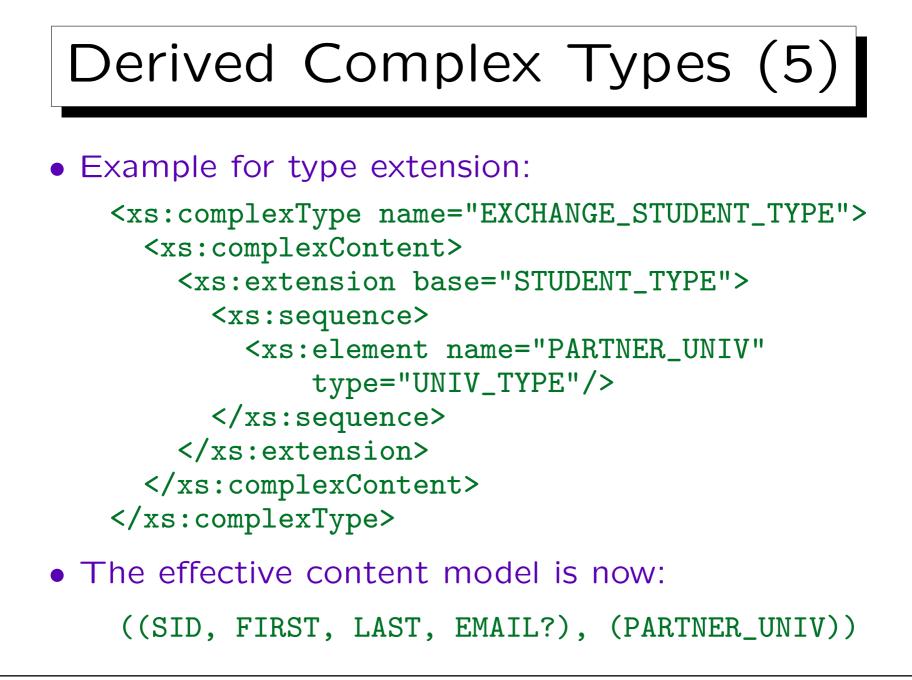


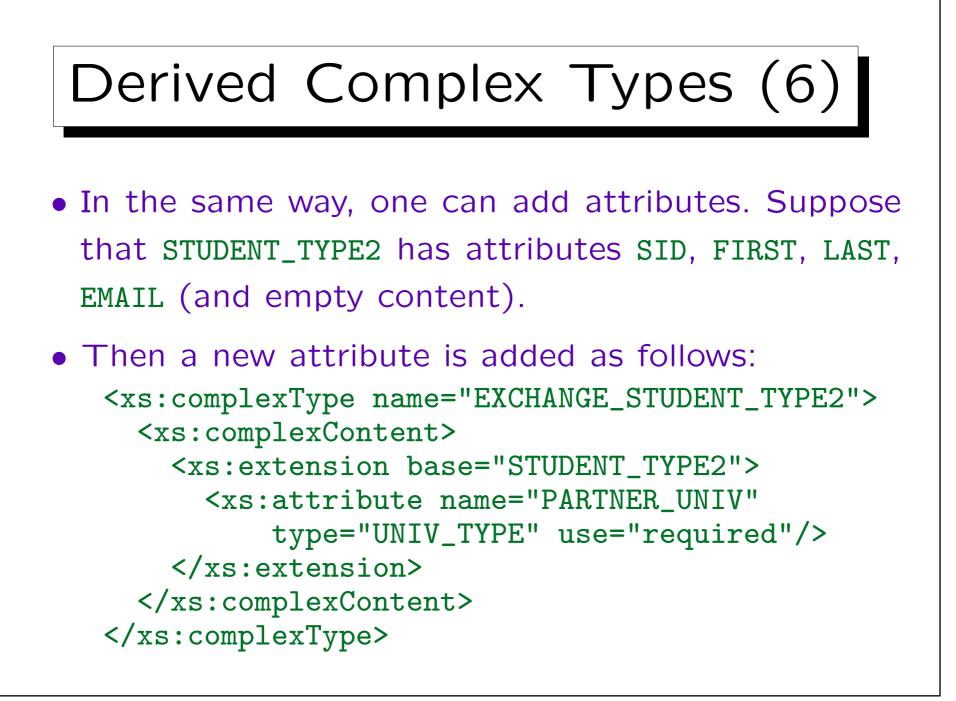


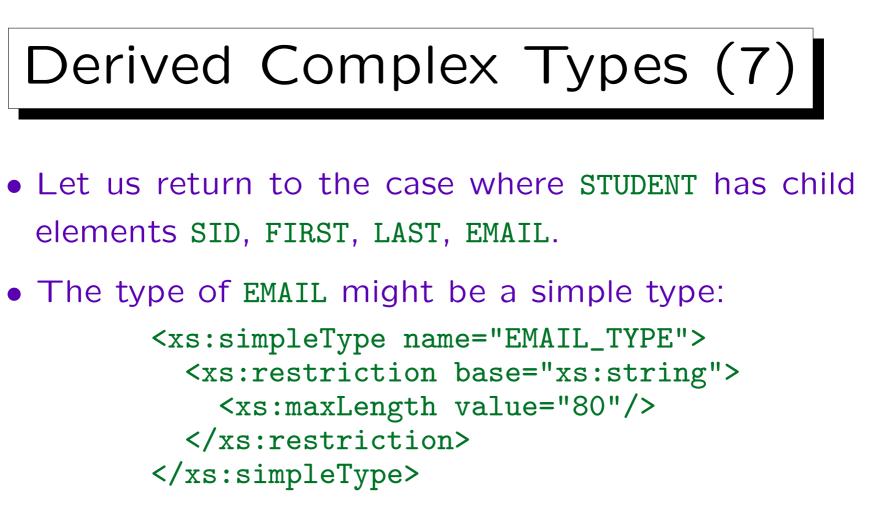
♦ the added content model (new child elements).



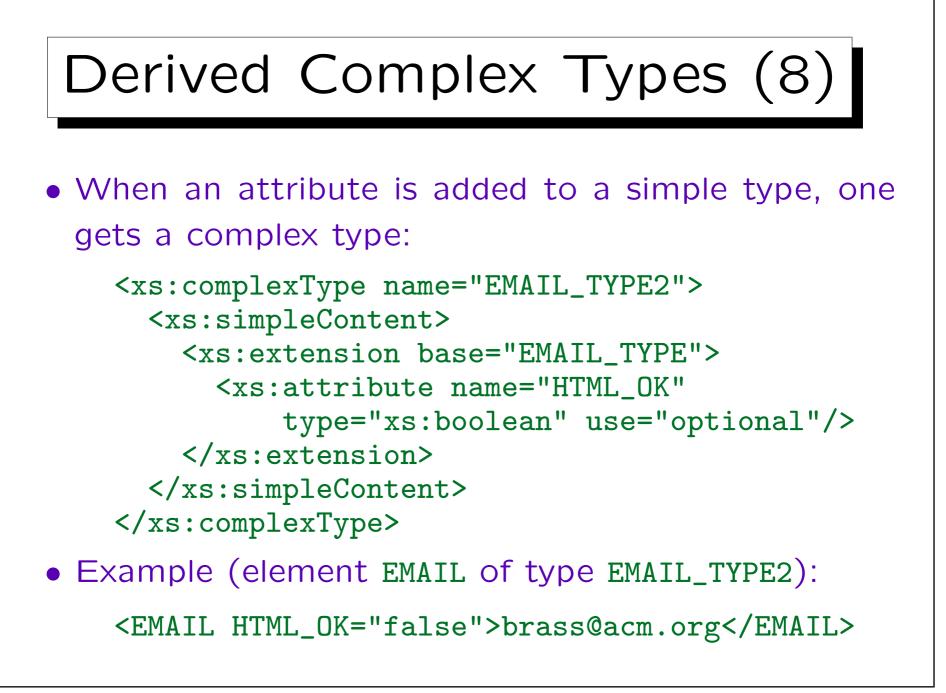
contain the name of the partner university.

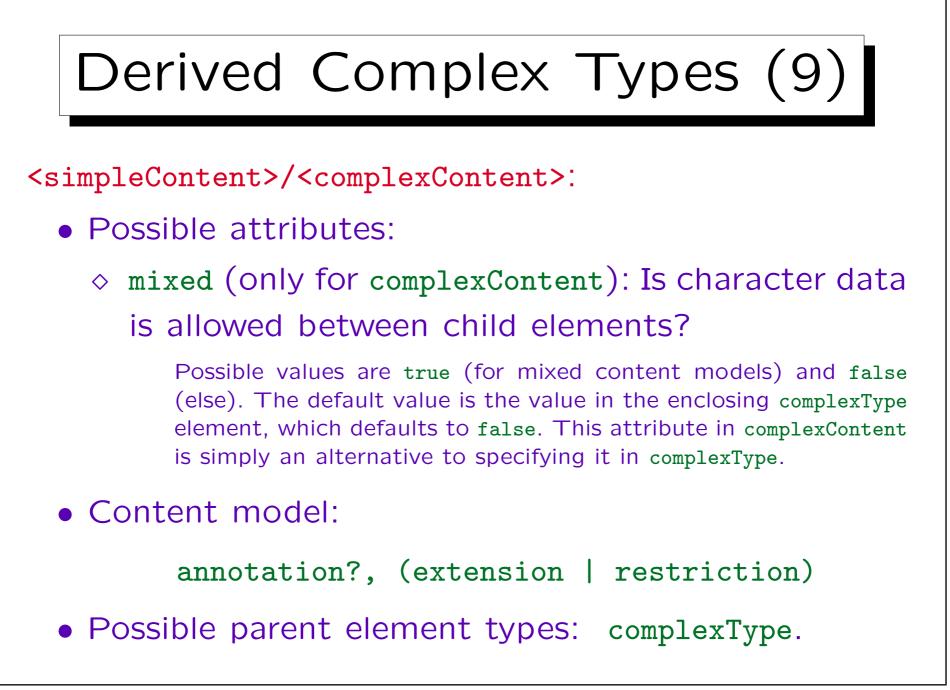


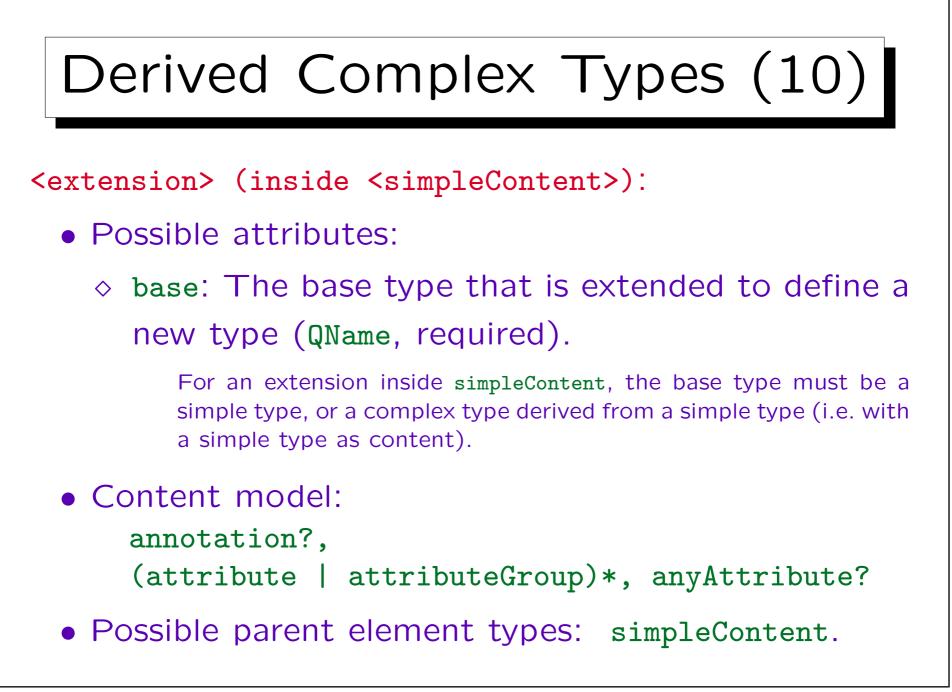


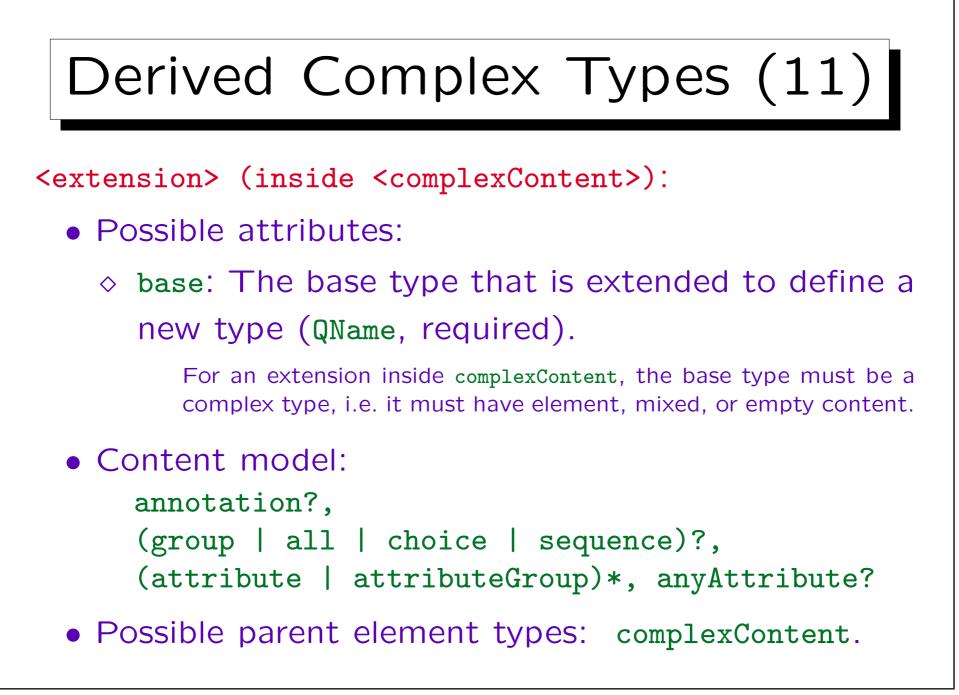


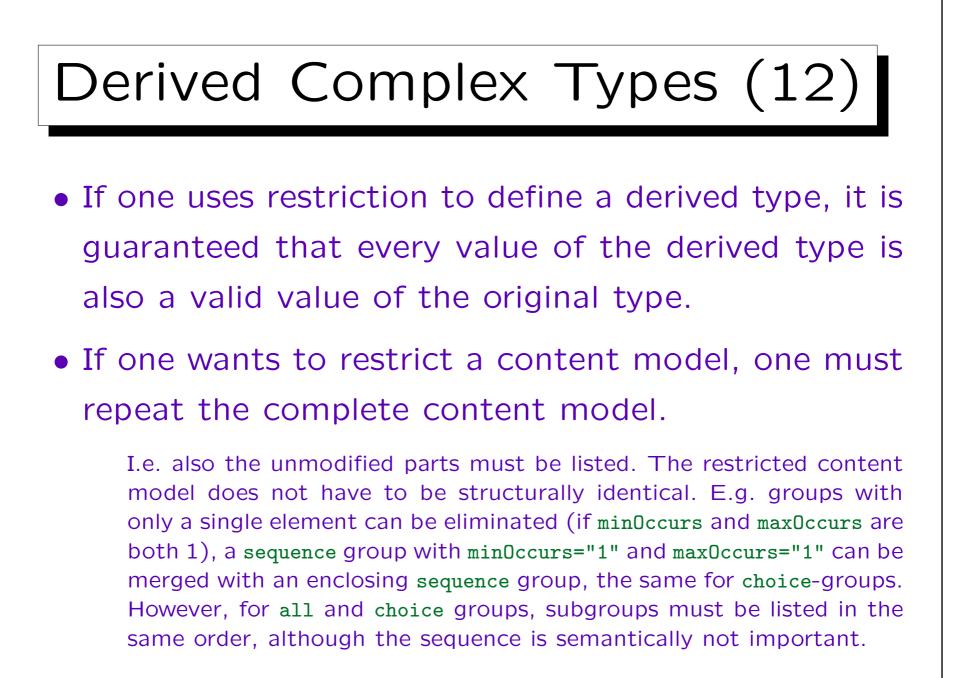
 Suppose that an attribute must be added that indicates whether emails can be formatted in HTML or must be plain text.

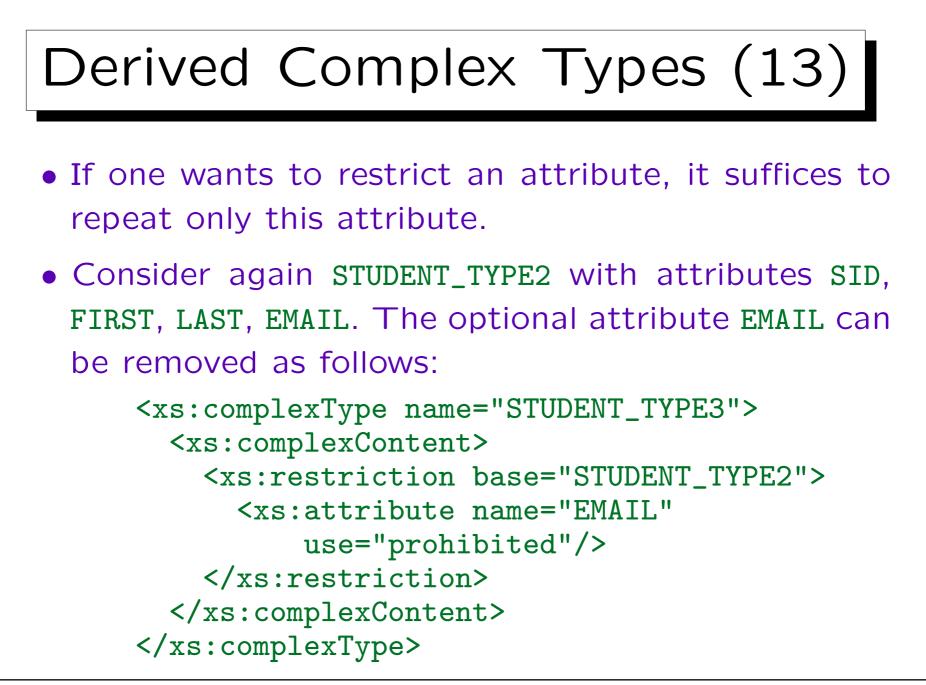


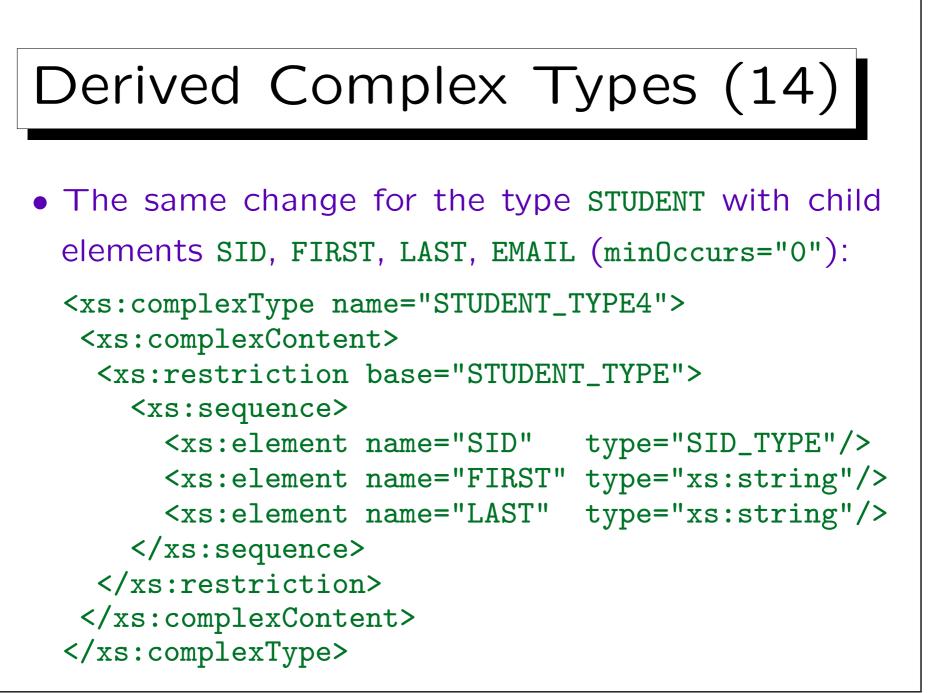


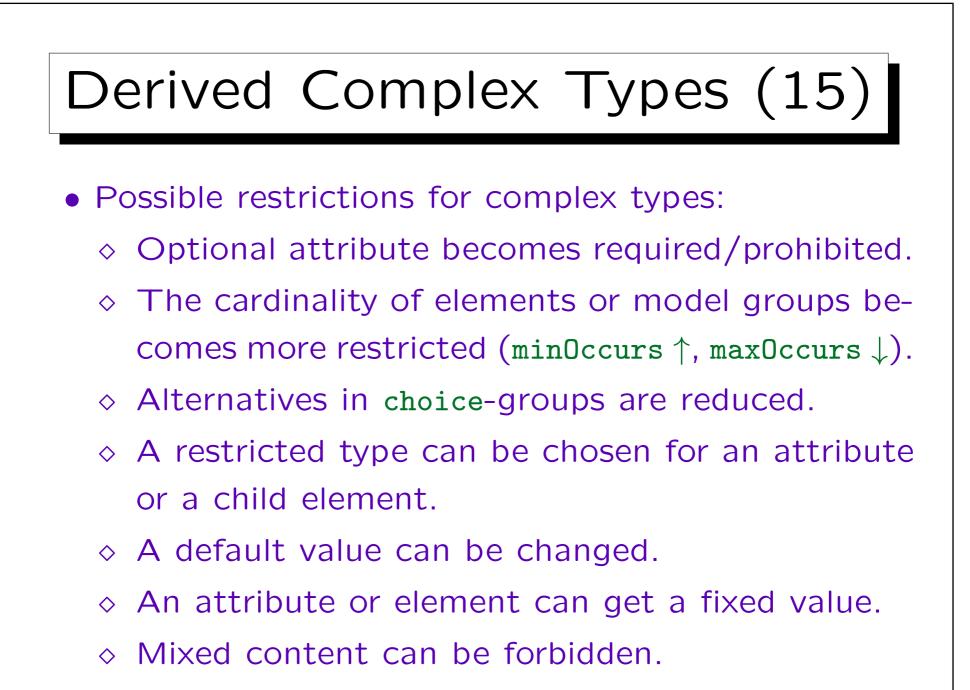


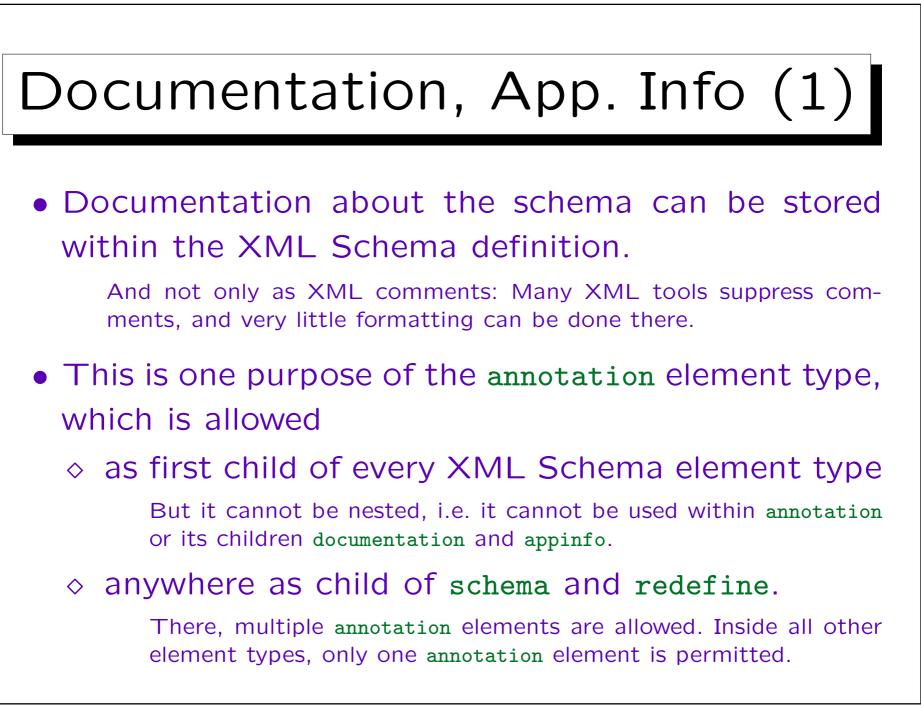


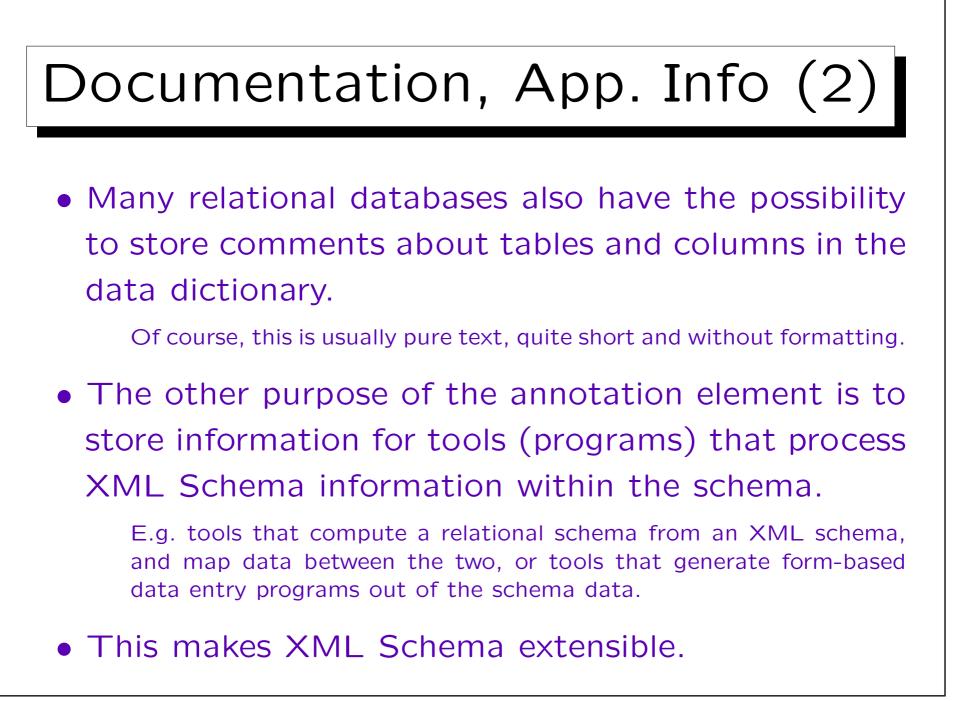


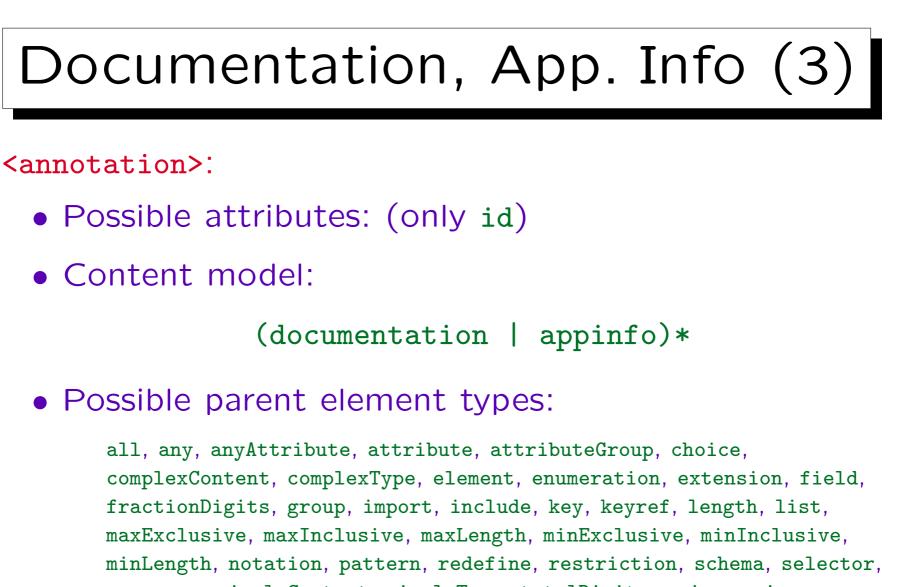




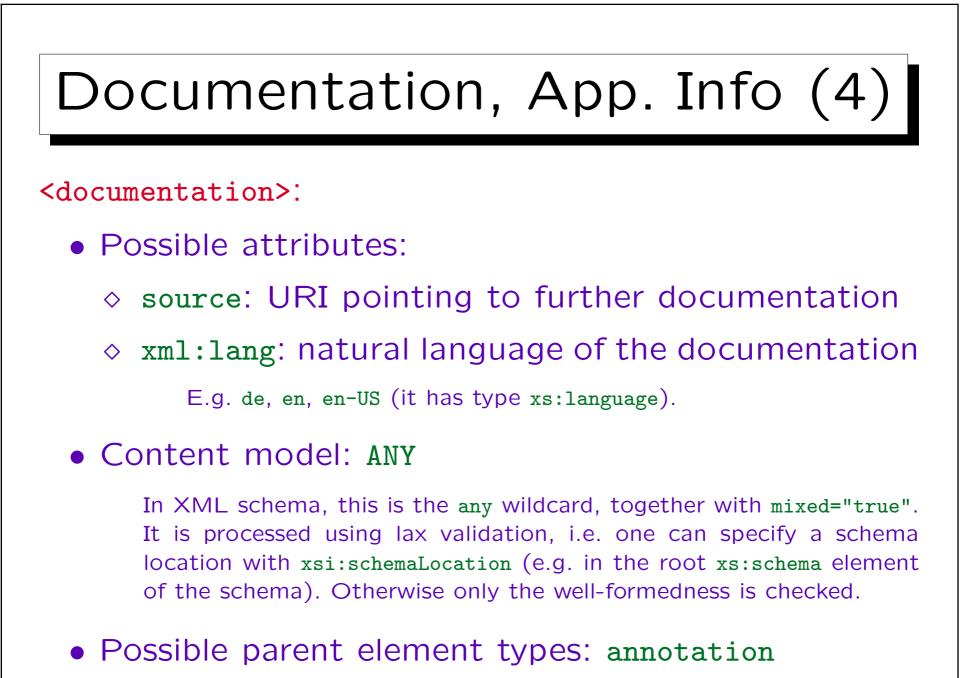








sequence, simpleContent, simpleType, totalDigits, union, unique, whitespace.



## Documentation, App. Info (5)

<appinfo>:

- Possible attributes:
  - ◊ source: URI pointing to further documentation
- Content model: ANY

I.e. any wildcard with mixed content. Processed using lax validation. So appinfo has the same declaration as documentation, only without the xml:lang attribute.

• Possible parent element types: annotation

## Documentation, App. Info (6)

• Example:

```
<xs:schema</pre>
    xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
    xmlns:doc="http://doc.org/d1"
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xsi:schemaLocation="http://doc.org/d1 doc.xsd">
  <xs:element name="GRADES-DB">
    <xs:annotation>
      <xs:documentation xml:lang="en">
        <doc:title>Grades Database</doc:title>
        This is the root element.
    <rs:complexType>
```

## 4. XML Schema

