

XForms and eXist

A perfect couple

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A demo

XForms

- Represents form data as XML
- But how do you persist it?

XForms Persistence

There is no such thing!

<xforms:submission>

- Allows XForms to “talk” to the world
- Fully supports REST in XForms 1.1

REST

- Using HTTP the way it was meant to be
- Identify resources with URIs
- Methods: GET, PUT, DELETE, POST

Traditionally

- UI written with Java, Ruby, ...
- Data captured as objects
- Relational database
- O-R mapping to bridge the gap

Issues

- Middleware to do the mapping
- More software

What about XForms?

- Implement a REST service
- XML-relational mapping
- Or store in BLOB columns

Is there a better way?

eXist

- Native XML database
- Open source
- XQuery
- REST API

$$2 + 2 = ?$$

Perfect Match

- XML
- REST

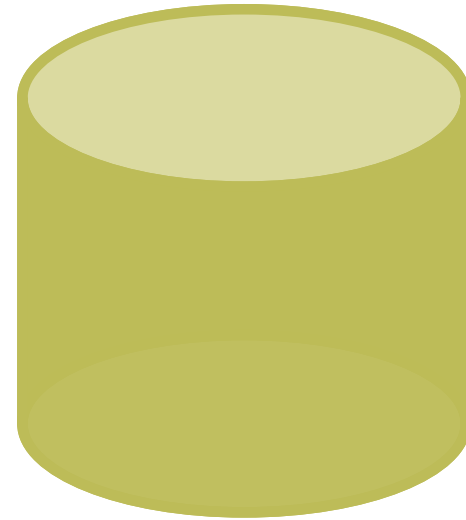


XForms



XML

REST



eXist
XML DB

No need for a middle
man!

GET

```
<xforms:submission  
  serialization="none"  
  method="get"  
  action="http://localhost/exist/db/docs/form1.xml"  
  replace="instance" instance="form-instance"/>
```

PUT

```
<xforms:submission  
  ref="instance('form-instance')"  
  method="put"  
  action="http://localhost/exist/db/docs/form1.xml"  
  replace="none"/>
```

DELETE

```
<xforms:submission  
  serialization="none"  
  method="delete"  
  action="http://localhost/exist/db/docs/form1.xml"  
  replace="none"/>
```

POST

```
<xforms:submission  
  ref="instance('search-query')"  
  method="post"  
  action="http://localhost:8080/exist/db/docs/"  
  replace="instance" instance="query-results"/>
```

XQuery

```
<xforms:instance id="search-query">
  <exist:query>
    <exist:text>
      xquery version "1.0";
      <documents>{ for ... return ... }</documents>
    </exist:text>
  </exist:query>
</xforms:instance>
```

Using XQuery results

- Output values with `<xforms:output>`
- Iterate with `<xforms:repeat>`

Conclusion

Using XForms and eXist allows you to do all the Create/Read/Update/Delete (CRUD) and search operations without any middleware.

The result is increased simplicity.

Q & A