2.4 Document Subsets

Some applications require the ability to create a physical representation for an XML document subset (other than the one generated by default, which can be a proper subset of the document if the comments are omitted). Implementations of XML canonicalization that are based on XPath can provide this functionality with little additional overhead by accepting a node-set as input rather than an octet stream. The processing of an element node E MUST be modified slightly when an XPath node-set is given as input and the element's parent is omitted from the node-set. This is necessary because omitted nodes SHALL not break the inheritance rules of inheritable attributes [C14N-Issues] defined in the xml namespace.

[Definition:] **Simple inheritable attributes** are attributes that have a value that requires at most a simple redeclaration. This redeclaration is done by supplying a new value in the child axis. The redeclaration of a simple inheritable attribute A contained in one of E's ancestors is done by supplying a value to an attribute Ae inside E with the same name. Simple inheritable attributes are `xml:lang` and `xml:space`.

The method for processing the attribute axis of an element E in the node-set is hence enhanced. All element nodes along E's ancestor axis are examined for the nearest occurrences of simple inheritable attributes in the xml namespace, such as `xml:lang` and `xml:space` (whether or not they are in the node-set). From this list of attributes, any simple inheritable attributes that are already in E's attribute axis (whether or not they are in the node-set) are removed. Then,

lexicographically merge this attribute list with the nodes of *E*'s attribute axis that are in the node-set. The result of visiting the attribute axis is computed by processing the attribute nodes in this merged attribute list.

The `xml:id` attribute is not a simple inheritable attribute and no processing of these attributes is performed.

The `xml:base` attribute is not a simple inheritable attribute and requires special processing beyond a simple redeclaration. Hence the processing of *E*'s attribute axis needs to be enhanced further. A "join-URI-References" function is used for `xml:base` fix up. It incorporates xml:base attribute values from omitted xml:base attributes and updates the xml:base attribute value of the element being fixed up, as follows.

An `xml:base` fixup is performed on an element E as follows. Let *E* be an element in the node set whose ancestor axis contains successive elements *En*...*E1* (in reverse document order) that are omitted and *E=En+1* is included. (It is important to note that *En..E1* is for contiguously omitted elements, for example only $e2$ in the example in section 3.8.) The fix-up is only performed if at least one of *E1* ... *En* had an `xml:base` attribute. In that case let *X1* ... *Xm* be the values of the `xml:base` attributes on *E1* ... *En+1* (in document order, from outermost to innermost, *m <= n+1*). The sequence of values is reduced in reverse document order to a single value by first combining *Xm* with *Xm-1*, then the result with *Xm-2*, and so on by calling the "join-URI-References" function until the new value for *E*'s `xml:base` attribute remains. The result may also be null or empty (`xml:base=""`) in which case `xml:base` MUST NOT be rendered.

Note that this xml:base fixup is only performed if an element with an xml:base attribute is removed. Specifically, it is not performed if the element is present but the attribute is removed.

The join-URI-References function takes an xml:base attribute value from an omitted element and combines it with other contiguously omitted values to create a value for an updated xml:base attribute. A simple method for doing this is similar to that found in sections 5.2.1, 5.2.2 and 5.2.4 of RFC 3986 with the following modifications:

- Perform RFC 3986 section 5.2.1. " Pre-parse the Base URI" modified as follows.
    - o The scheme component is not required in the base URI (Base). (i.e. Base.scheme may be null)

- 5.2.4. "Remove Dot Segments" is modified as follows:
    - o Keep leading "../" segments
    - o Replace multiple consecutive "/" characters with a single "/" character.
    - o Append a "/" character to a trailing ".."

- Perform RFC 3986 section 5.2.2. "Transform References" modified as follows to ignore the fragment part of R
    - o After parsing R set R.fragment = null

Then, lexicographically merge this fixed up attribute with the nodes of *E*'s attribute axis that are in the node-set. The result of visiting the attribute axis is computed by processing the attribute nodes in this merged attribute list.

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91 Attributes in the XML namespace other than `xml:base`,
92 `xml:id`, `xml:lang`, and `xml:space` MUST be processed as
93 ordinary attributes.
94

3.8 Document Subsets and XML Attributes

Input Document	``` <!DOCTYPE doc [<!ATTLIST e2 xml:space (default|prese <!ATTLIST e3 id ID #IMPLIED>]> <doc xmlns="http://www.ietf.org" xmln xml:base="something/else"> <e1> <e2 xmlns="" xml:id="abc xml: <e3 id="E3" xml:ba </e2> </e1> </doc> ```

Document Subset Expression	```
	<!-- Evaluate with declaration xmlns
	
	(//. | //@* | //namespace::*)
	[
	   self::ietf:e1 or (parent::ietf:e1
	   or
	   count(id("E3")|ancestor-or-self::n
	self::node())
	]
	``

Canonical Form	``` <e1 xmlns="http://www.ietf.org" xmlns xml:base="something/else"><e3 xmlns= xml:space="preserve"></e3> ```

96 Demonstrates:

97 • `xml:id` not inherited.
98 • simple inheritable XML attribute inherited (`xml:space`)
99 • `xml:base` fixup performed

100
101 Appendix A
102
103 *Remove text in Example A up to and including "Some Examples", retain table.Add*
104 *following text before table;*

105

106 The following informative table outlines example results of the modified Remove Dot
107 Segments algorithm described in Section 2.4.
108
109