

XQuery Syntax in HXQ

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December 6, 2008

Symbols in **blue font** are lexical tokens (terminals), symbols in regular font are either meta-symbols or non-terminals. Here is the meaning of the meta-symbols (ϵ matches the empty input):

(a)	=	a	
$a b$	=	a then b	(concatenation)
$a b$	=	either a or b	(alternation)
$[a]$	=	$a \epsilon$	(optionality)
$\{ a \}$	=	$a a a a a a \dots$	(repetition)
$\{ a , \}$	=	$a a , a a , a , a \dots$	
$\{ a ; \}$	=	$a a ; a a ; a ; a \dots$	
$\{ , a \}$	=	$\epsilon a a , a a , a , a \dots$	

query	::= { declare variable var := e declare function qname ({ var [as type] , }) [as type] { e } e ; }	<i>(a variable declaration)</i> <i>(a function declaration)</i> <i>(an XQuery)</i>
qname	::= [id :] id	<i>(a qualified name is namespace:localname)</i>
var	::= \$ id	<i>(variables should begin with \$)</i>
string	::= “ { { { e , } } char } ”	<i>(you may embed XQuery values in a string)</i>
type	::= qname [()] [* +]	<i>(types are currently ignored)</i>
e	::= (for fbinds let lbinds) { for fbinds let lbinds } [where e] [orderby] return e some fbinds satisfies e every fbinds satisfies e if e then e else e insert e into e delete from e replace e with e @ step predicates step predicates { path } element e binop e unop e integer double string	<i>(FLOWR expression)</i> <i>(existential quantification)</i> <i>(universal quantification)</i> <i>(insert the former inside the latter)</i> <i>(remove from parent)</i> <i>(replace the former with the latter)</i> <i>(an XPath path)</i> <i>(element construction)</i> <i>(binary operation)</i> <i>(unary operation)</i> <i>(integer constant)</i> <i>(floating point)</i>
fbinds	::= { var [at var] in e , }	<i>(for-bindings)</i>
lbinds	::= { var := e , }	<i>(let-bindings)</i>
orderby	::= order by { e [ascending descending] , }	<i>(default is ascending)</i>
binop	::= to + - * div idiv mod = != < <= > >= << >> is eq ne lt le gt ge and or not union intersect except	
unop	::= + - not	
element	::= < qname { qname = string } > content </ qname > < qname { qname = string } /> element (qname { e }) { { e , } } attribute (qname { e }) { { e , } }	<i>(empty element)</i>
content	::= { { { e , } } string text element }	
path	::= / step predicates // step predicates /@ step predicates //@ step predicates /.. predicates	<i>(child-of)</i> <i>(descendant-of)</i> <i>(attribute-of)</i> <i>(descendant-attribute-of)</i> <i>(parent-of)</i>
predicates	::= { [e] }	
step	::= var qname [:: (qname *)] . * ({ , e }) qname ({ , e })	<i>(an XPath step is axis::test)</i> <i>(current context)</i> <i>(any name)</i> <i>(sequence construction)</i> <i>(function call)</i>

Figure 1: XQuery BNF