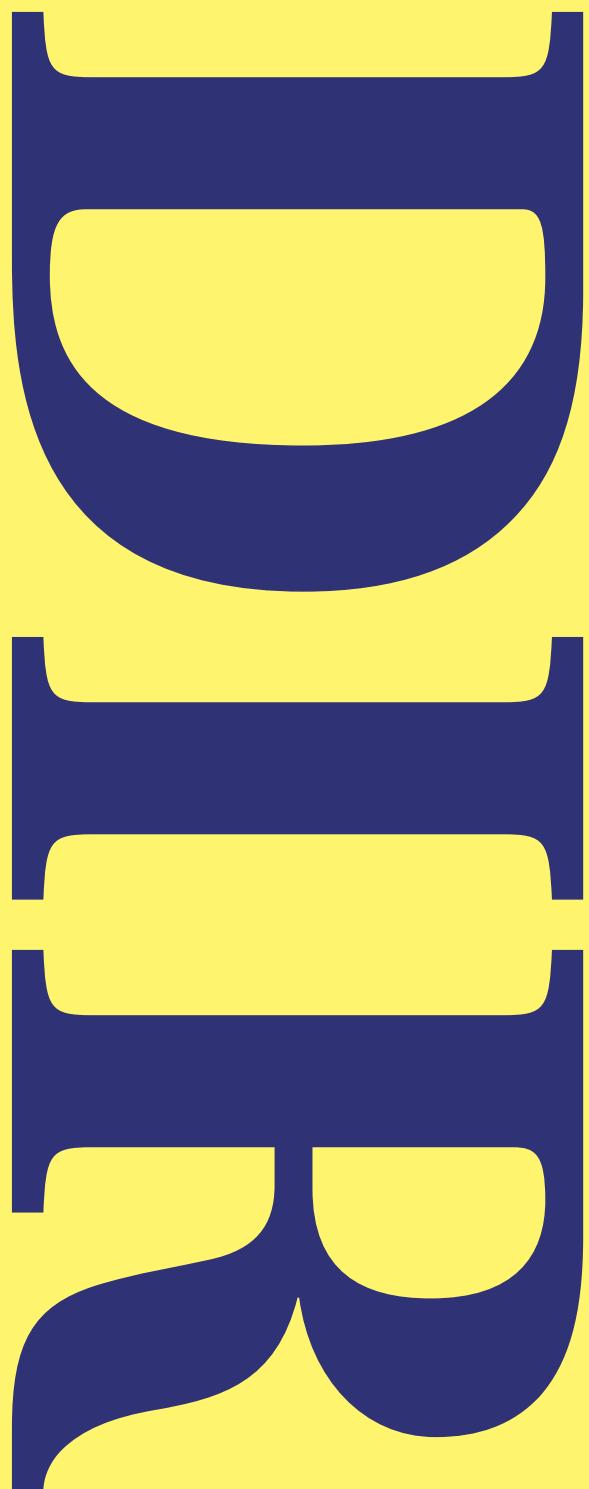
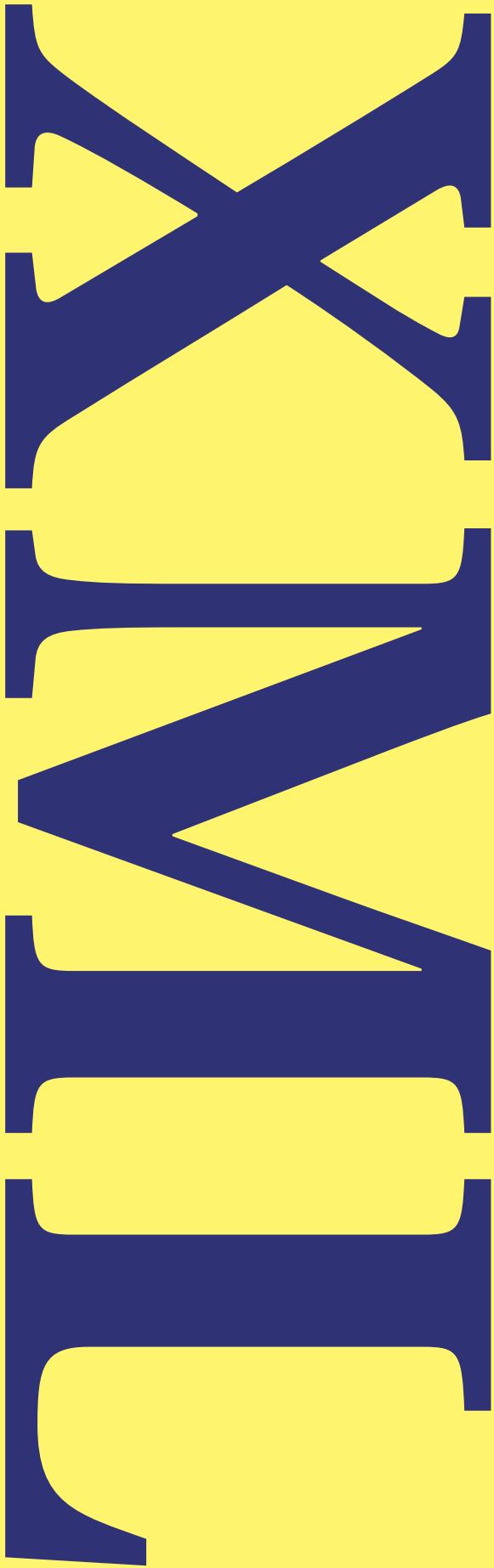


Hans Hagen – Pragma ADE



This document discusses a (simple) interface from ConTeXt to the underlying file system. For the moment this description is limited to simple calls to utilities, the schema, and the modules. A directory listing is generated as follows:

```
xmltools --dir --pattern=x*.tex --output=xmlmdir.xml
```

You can do that before/between runs, but also from within ConTeXt:

```
\executesystemcommand
{xmltools --dir --pattern=x*.tex --output=xmlmdir.xml}
```

or when that fails:

```
\executesystemcommand
{texmfstart xmltools --dir --pat=x*.tex --out=xmlmdir.xml}
```

or more efficient, only in the first run:

```
\startmode[*first]
\executesystemcommand
{xmltools --dir --pattern=x*.tex --output=xmlmdir-1.xml}
\stopmode
```

This produces a file that (on my system) looks as follows:

```
<?xml xmlns='http://www.pragma-ade.com/rlg/xmlmdir.rng'?>

<files>
  <directory name='.'>
    <file name='xcharts.tex'>
      <base>xcharts</base>
      <type>tex</type>
      <size>244</size>
      <date>2001-05-28 23:39</date>
    </file>
    <file name='xchemml.tex'>
      <base>xchemml</base>
      <type>tex</type>
      <size>8039</size>
      <date>2001-09-18 15:04</date>
    </file>
    <file name='xexamns.tex'>
      <base>xexamns</base>
      <type>tex</type>
      <size>223</size>
      <date>2001-05-28 22:53</date>
```

```

</file>
<file name='xfigures.tex'>
  <base>xfigures</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>8740</size>
  <date>2001-07-26 21:46</date>
</file>
<file name='xgeneral.tex'>
  <base>xgeneral</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>224</size>
  <date>2001-05-28 22:53</date>
</file>
<file name='xmathml.tex'>
  <base>xmathml</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>1883</size>
  <date>2001-06-13 23:56</date>
</file>
<file name='xmltest.tex'>
  <base>xmltest</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>830</size>
  <date>2001-01-19 10:04</date>
</file>
<file name='xphysml.tex'>
  <base>xphysml</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>3989</size>
  <date>2001-09-18 11:58</date>
</file>
<file name='xsteps.tex'>
  <base>xsteps</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>19171</size>
  <date>2001-06-18 18:14</date>
</file>
<file name='xstyle.tex'>
  <base>xstyle</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>10376</size>
  <date>2001-10-26 17:59</date>
</file>

```

```

<file name='xtables.tex'>
  <base>xtables</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>223</size>
  <date>2001-05-28 23:40</date>
</file>
<file name='xxmldir.tex'>
  <base>xxmldir</base>
  <type>tex</type>
  <size>5712</size>
  <date>2004-06-17 12:14</date>
</file>
</directory>
</files>

```

Such a file conforms to the following (relax-ng) specification:

```

<grammar xmlns="http://relaxng.org/ns/structure/1.0">
</grammar>

```

The parent element is defined as follows:

```

<start>
  <ref name="files"/>
</start>

<define name="files">
  <element name="files">
    <zeroOrMore>
      <ref name="directory"/>
    </zeroOrMore>
    <optional>
      <attribute name="url"/>
    </optional>
    <attribute name="root"/>
  </element>
</define>

```

This element has zero or more children:

```

<define name="directory">
  <element name="directory">
    <zeroOrMore>
      <ref name="file"/>
    </zeroOrMore>
    <attribute name="name"/>
  </element>
</define>

```

```
</element>
</define>
```

A directory describes files:

```
<define name="file">
  <element name="file">
    <interleave>
      <ref name="base"/>
      <ref name="type"/>
      <ref name="date"/>
      <ref name="size"/>
    </interleave>
    <attribute name="name"/>
  </element>
</define>
```

A file element provides the following information:

```
<define name="base">
  <element name="base">
    <text/>
  </element>
</define>

<define name="type">
  <element name="type">
    <text/>
  </element>
</define>

<define name="date">
  <element name="date">
    <text/>
  </element>
</define>

<define name="size">
  <element name="size">
    <text/>
  </element>
</define>
```

As you can see, we kept things simple. You can influence the data set with the following options to `textools`:

```

recurse      recurse into subdirectories
pattern     the files to list
output       the output file
url         an url to add to the file
stripname   strip basename from pattern
root        the path to run on

```

Juts for fun, we will now process that file:

```
texexec --use=dir-01 --pdf xmldir-1.xml
```

This produces figure 1. As you may expect, the entries are hyperlinks to the files. This also explains the **--url** option to **xmltools** and the **url** attribute. We use this module to provide controlled access to files (graphics) on a server.

Path .				
xcharts	tex	244	2001-05-28	23:39
xchemml	tex	8039	2001-09-18	15:04
xexamns	tex	223	2001-05-28	22:53
xfigures	tex	8740	2001-07-26	21:46
xgeneral	tex	224	2001-05-28	22:53
xmathml	tex	1883	2001-06-13	23:56
xmltest	tex	830	2001-01-19	10:04
xphysml	tex	3989	2001-09-18	11:58
xsteps	tex	19171	2001-06-18	18:14
xstyle	tex	10376	2001-10-26	17:59
xtables	tex	223	2001-05-28	23:40
xxmldir	tex	5712	2004-06-17	12:14

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Figure 1 The output of module x-dir-01.

```
texexec --use=dir-02 --pdf xmldir-2.xml
```



Figure 2 The output of module x-dir-02.

If you want information about a file you can use the following module:

```
\usemodule[dir-05]

\getfilestate{xxmldir.tex}

\starttabulate[|||]
\HL
\NC name \NC \getvariable{filestate}{name} \NC \NR
\NC base \NC \getvariable{filestate}{base} \NC \NR
\NC type \NC \getvariable{filestate}{type} \NC \NR
\NC size \NC \getvariable{filestate}{size} \NC \NR
\NC date \NC \getvariable{filestate}{date} \NC \NR
\HL
\stoptabulate
```

This will produce:

name	xxmldir.tex
base	xxmldir
type	tex
size	5712
date	2004-06-17 12:14
