

# XML 트리 레벨을 고려한 관계형 데이터베이스 기반의 XML 접근 제어 모델

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## 요약

웹 환경에서 안전한 정보의 분배와 공유가 중요해짐에 따라 유동적이고 효율적인 접근 제어 시스템에 대한 요구 또한 나타나게 되었다. 또한 eXtensible Markup Language (XML)이 인터넷 시대에 정보를 저장 및 교환하기 위한 de-factor 표준으로 인식됨에 따라, 최근 보안을 고려한 XML 모델의 확장에 대한 연구가 활발히 진행되고 있다. 그러나 이러한 최근의 연구들은 여전히 XML 문서에 사용되는 데이터들이 관계형 데이터베이스에 저장 및 관리 되고 있다는 사실을 간과하고 있다. 따라서 이러한 연구들은 이미 많이 제안되고 검증된 관계형 데이터베이스에 대한 보안 모델을 활용 할 수 없다. 이 논문에서는 기존의 연구들과는 다른 접근 방법을 기술한다. 이 논문은 객체 관점에서 관계형 데이터베이스에 대한 보안 모델을 지원하기 위한 XML 보안 모델에 대한 연구에 초점을 둔다.

이 논문에서 제안하는 접근 방법에서는 (1) 사용자는 주어진 XML 뷰 또는 스키마에 XML 질의를 한다. (2) XML 데이터에 대한 접근 제어 규칙은 관계형 데이터베이스에 저장된다. (3) XML 문서의 데이터는 관계형 데이터베이스에 저장된다. (4) 접근 제어 및 질의 실행은 관계형 데이터베이스 내에서 수행된다. (5) XML 접근 제어는 XML 트리 레벨을 고려하여 수행된다.

## RDB-based XML Access Control Model with XML Tree Levels

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## Abstract

As the secure distribution and sharing of information over the World Wide Web becomes increasingly important, the needs for flexible and efficient support of access control systems naturally arise. Since the eXtensible Markup Language (XML) is emerging as the de-facto standard format of the Internet era for storing and exchanging information, there have been recently, many proposals to extend the XML model to incorporate security aspects. To the lesser or greater extent, however, such proposals neglect the fact that the data for XML documents will most likely reside in relational databases, and consequently do not utilize various security models proposed for and implemented in relational databases.

In this paper, we take a rather different approach. We explore how to support security models for XML documents by leveraging on techniques developed for relational databases considering object perspective. More specifically, in our approach, (1) Users make XML queries against the given XML view/schema, (2) Access controls for XML data are specified in the relational database, (3) Data are stored in relational databases, (4) Security check and query evaluation are also done in relational databases, and (5) Controlling access control is executed considering XML tree levels

**Keywords :** Relational database, XML Access Control, Object Perspective, XML tree level

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## 1. Introduction

As XML [1] is becoming a de facto standard for distribution and sharing of information, the issues for an efficient secure access of XML data has become very important. Various XML access control models and enforcement methods have been proposed recently. However, these approaches either assume the support of security features from XML database or use proprietary tools outside of databases. Since, there are currently few commercial XML databases with such capabilities, the proposed approaches are not yet practical[2][3][4]. In addition, [5] and [6] executed the researches about XACML, access control language which can be managed in XML documents. However, these researches do not consider the fact that the great amount data and access control information for XML documents is still stored into a relational database. Therefore, limitations of native XML security models are summarized as follows.

- Poor Practicality: The great amount of data is still stored into relational databases and there are few commercial XML databases. In addition, commercial XML database management systems are not used widely due to problem regarding stability and data translation costs.
  - Lack of Stability: Native XML security policy is poor in stability because there are not enough commercial XML database management systems for practical application. However, RDB-based security models are proved to be stable by many researches and practical uses.
  - Low Performance: In case of native XML security models, all of XML documents must be loaded into the system whenever user query is given. Such systems give us performance problem on processing of XML data access control.
  - Simple User-based Security Policy: Native XML security models only provide simple user-based security policy. Therefore, native XML security models cannot support a data priority-based or a XML tree level-based XML access control. Native XML security models only supports 2 types access control: the local type for the indicated node or the recursive type for the indicated node and all of descendant nodes. That is, native XML security models cannot support access control for indicated node and a part of descendant nodes.
- To solve limitations of native XML security models mentioned above, many researches about XML security model using relational database have been executed. [7] presents a XENA (XML sEcurity eNforcement Architecture) which stores XML documents as relational tables with pre-processing method. [8] suggests XML access control method with XACT (XML Access Control Tree). XACT is a tree which stores access control information for each node. However, because XACT must be created for each node in XML documents, if the size of XML documents is increased, the creating costs of XACT can be exorbitant. [9, 10] suggests QFilter which provides XML access control by shared NFA and comparison evaluation between pre-processing and post-processing. [11] suggests SQ-Filter by using the Pre and the Post values. However, the Pre and Post values must be calculated for each node in XML documents. Therefore, if the size of XML documents becomes bigger, the cost for creating Pre and Post values is enormous. Therefore, problems of conventional RDB-based XML security models are summarized as follows.
- Conceptual Model Level: Currently, researches about RDB-based XML security models just describe conceptual ideas or suggested simple conceptual model. That is, detail syst

em architecture or practical security model is not enough.

- Simple User-based Security Policy: RDB-based XML security models only provide simple user-based security policy. Therefore, RDB-based XML security models cannot support a data priority-based or a XML data level-based XML access control. As native XML security models, RDB-based XML security models also only support local and recursive model access control.
- Low Translation Efficiency: RDB-based security models store XML data into the relational database. For exact storing of XML data, we need effective XML-to-RDB and RDB-to-XML translation techniques without loss of hierarchical structure information about XML documents. However, conventional RDB-based security models need too much costs for storing hierarchical structure information of XML documents into the relational database.
- Inefficiency of Processing about User Queries: RDB-based XML security models have format heterogeneity among XML data, ACRs, and user queries. XML data is stored into the relational database. ACRs is defined as text form separately and user queries (XQuery) is translated into SQL form. These methods make us difficult to compare and analyze XML data, ACRs, and user queries. That is, cost of pre-processing is high in conventional RDB-based XML security models.

Therefore, our goal in this paper is to study how to support XML security models more effectively than conventional RDB-based XML security models by utilizing security support of relational security models. In addition, we suggest security model considering XML tree levels for supporting more detailed and exact access control than existing XML security models. In this paper, we assume that

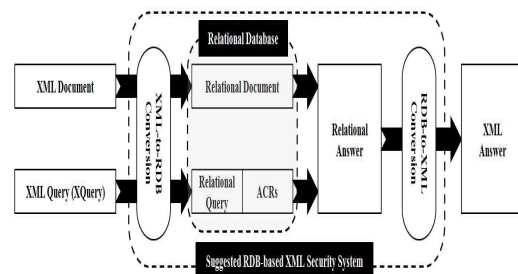
- ✓ XML documents are converted into and stored in relational databases.

- ✓ Users give queries as XQuery form and the queries are analyzed and stored into the relational databases.

- ✓ Access control rules are defined by security administrators and stored into relational databases.

Security check and query evaluation are done by relational databases considering XML tree levels and only valid answers are returned to users in the XML format.

This paper is organized as follows, We analyze existing native XML security models and RDB-based security models as a preliminary works and explore several research issues in section 2. In section 3, we describe a framework of Suggested Models and physical storage schema of XML documents, access control rules, and user queries. In section 4, we illustrate an experiment with experimental dataset and a comparative evaluation between conventional RDB-based XML security models. Finally, we conclude this paper with future works in section 5.



(Figure. 1) Overview Architecture of Suggested Model

## 2. Preliminaries

### 2.1 Native XML Security Models

Current access control research can be categorized into two groups: access control modeling and access control enforcement mechanisms.

On the model side, several XML access control models have been proposed. Starting with [12] for HTML documents; [2][3] describes X

XML access control with an authorization sheet to each document or DTD[4]. proposed and XML access control model to deal with authorization priorities and conflict resolution. [13] introduced provisional authorization and XACL.[14] formalizes the way of specifying objects in XML access control using XPath. Most of the proposals adopt either role-based access control or credential-based access control. The major difference between them is the way they identify users. Credential-based access control is more flexible and powerful in this aspect. However, in the research of access control enforcement mechanisms, people tend to choose a relatively simple access control model to avoid distraction.

XML access control enforcement mechanisms in native XML environment have been intensively studied in recent years. They are categorized into four classes: (1) engine level mechanisms implement security check inside XML database engine; each XML node is tagged with a label [15, 16] or an authorization list [17], and filtered during query processing. (2) view-based approaches build security views that only contain access-granted data [18]. (3) pre-processing approaches check user queries and enforce access control rules before queries are evaluated, such as the static analysis approach [19], QFilter approach [10], access condition table approach [20], policy matching tree [21], secure query rewrite (SQR) approach [22], etc.

However, native XML security models have limitations. The amount of data is still stored into relational databases and commercial XML database is poor to use regarding stability and translation costs. Therefore, native XML security models represent low practicality and stability. In addition, because whenever user queries are given, all of XML document must be loaded. This point gives low processing performance about user queries. Besides, native XML security models just support simple user-based security policy without supporting a data priority

-based or a XML data level-based XML access control.

## 2.2 RDB-based XML Security Models

Since late 1990s, many researches about XML security model using relational databases have been performed. [7] proposes an idea of using RDBMS to handle access controls for XML documents in a limited setting. [7] suggests XENA system with schema-level XML security model, structure-based XML-RDB translation, and pre-pruning. In [9, 10], Bou suggests a practical and scalable solution, called Query Filter (QFilter). As an XML access control pre-processor external to the database engine, the QFilter checks XPath queries against access control policies. Instead of simply filtering out queries that do not satisfy access control policies and deferring the rest of queries to XML query engines for further checking and processing. QFilter takes extra steps to rewrite queries in combination of related access control policies by using shared NFA before passing the revised queries to underlying XML query engine for processing. However, QFilter includes unnecessary information in user query aspect and requests overheads for rewriting user query. [11] suggests SQ-Filter by using the Pre and the Post values. However, the Pre and Post values must be calculated for each node in XML documents. Therefore, if the size of XML documents becomes bigger, the cost for creating Pre and Post values is enormous.

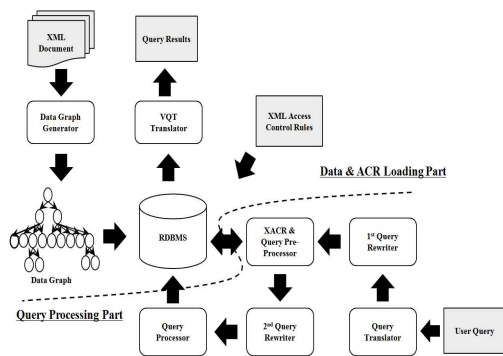
## 3. Framework of Suggested Model

In this section, we describe architecture and detail components of RDB-based XML security model considering data levels (TL-BAC). In addition, we propose XML-to-RDB translation algorithm and use VQT algorithm [23, 24, 25] as RDB-to-XML translation algorithm. Beside

s, we describe relational database schema for storing XML data, ACRs, user queries and user query rewriting process with example.

### 3.1 Architecture

(Figure 2) shows a conceptual flow of access control processing.



(Figure 2) Conceptual Processing Flow of the Suggested Model

In the TL-BAC system, we store XML data from XML documents, XML access control rules by the security administrator, and user queries into relational database with a similar form. XML documents are converted into the data graph and stored into relational database without loss of hierarchical structure information. XML access control rules are defined by the security administrator in relational database directly. User queries are given by XQuery form and rewritten and stored into relational databases. Stored user queries are combined into XML access control rules and rewritten again. User queries rewritten 2 times are sent to relational databases and search results are returned to users. TL-BAC system consists of 9 components and functions of each component are as <Table 1>

<Table 1> Components Constitution

Name of Component	Function
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<b>Data Graph Generator</b>	Creates data graphs based on given XML documents
<b>Data Translator</b>	Analyzes data graphs and stores data into RDB based on data graphs
<b>VQT Translator</b>	Converts relational-form query results into XML form
<b>ACR Manager</b>	Defines and updates XML access control rules Translates Recursive ACR into Local ACR
<b>Query Translator</b>	Converts XQuery into relational form and stores into relational databases
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Query Rewriter</b>	Rewrites recursive mode queries as local mode queries
<b>Query Pre-Processor or 2<sup>nd</sup> Query Rewriter</b>	Combines user queries and access control rules and analyzes for access control Rewrites queries based on analysis results of query pre-processor
<b>Query Processor</b>	Sends user queries to relational database and executes search

### 3.2 XML-to-RDB and RDB-to-XML Conversion

For storing XML data into relational databases, we must convert XML documents into relational database without loss of hierarchical structure information of XML documents. For effective extraction of information about the hierarchical structure from XML documents, the following processes are needed. First, we analyze the schema for the XML document and create a data graph with a hierarchical relationship. Second, we perform a depth-first search from root node to leaf nodes in XML documents based on the created data graph, and create paths for each node. If we arrive at a leaf node, we create a path for the leaf node and the intermediate nodes. However, we create paths for intermediate nodes just once, thus we can avoid duplicate path creation. <Table 2> represents descriptions about the symbols and notations used in the path creation algorithm.

In the data graph, each node consists of the following elements. Definition 1 represents the node constitution in the data graph.

<Table 2> Description about Symbols and Notations in Algorithm

Notations	Description
Node.number	Node number assigned by DFS search in the Data Graph
Node.visiting_flag	Visited nodes have flag set to 1, nodes which have not been visited have flag set to 0
Node.child_flag	Nodes which do not have child nodes have flag set to 0, Nodes which do have them have flag set to 1
Node.sibling_flag	Nodes which do not have sibling nodes have flag set to 0, Nodes which do have them have flag set to 1
visiting_node[ ]	Array for representing visited node lists
DFS_visit( )	Function for search in the Data Graph by DFS search method
Nextnode( )	Function for description of next ordered node in DFS search
path_temp[ ]	Array for storing created path temporarily before duplication checking
path_storage[ ]	Array for storing created path after duplication checking
Createpath( )	Function for creating XPath from root node to current node
Pathcheck( )	Function for checking duplicated creation of node paths
Backtrackingpath( )	Function for execution of path backtracking in the Data Graph

**Definition 1. (Node Constitution in the Data Graph)** Each node in the data graph is denoted by a 5-tuple;  $N(\text{name}) = (N_a, N_u, V_f, C_r, S_f)$ , where

- ✓  $N_a$  represents a specific name of each node
- ✓  $N_u$  represents a specific node number which is assigned by DFS searching when the Data Graph is created
- ✓  $V_f$  represents whether a node has been visited, and a path has been created for the node or not. If a node has been visited and a path has been created for the node, the visiting\_flag of this node is 1, but if a node has not been visited, the flag is 0.
- ✓  $C_r$  represents whether a node has child nodes or not. A node which has no child nodes has a flag set to 0 but a node which has

ve child nodes has a flag set to 1.

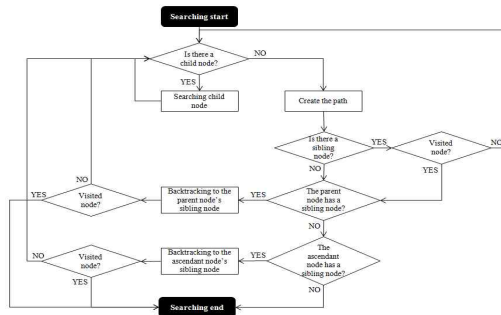
- ✓  $S_f$  represents whether a node has sibling nodes or not. A node which has no sibling nodes has a flag set to 0 but a node which has sibling nodes has a flag set to 1.

**Definition 2. (Case Definition in the Path Creation)** When we create path for each node from a Data graph, there are two representative cases and four detailed cases; case1, case2-1, case2-2, and case2-3.

- ✓ Case 1:  $\text{Node.visiting\_flag} = 0$  AND  $\text{Node.child\_flag} = 0$
- ✓ Case 2:  $\text{Node.visiting\_flag} = 0$  AND  $\text{Node.child\_flag} = 1$
- ✓ Case 2-1:  $\text{Node.sibling\_flag} = 0$  AND  $\text{Sibling\_node.visiting\_flag} = 0$
- ✓ Case 2-2:  $\text{Parent\_node.sibling\_flag} = 0$  AND  $\text{Parent\_node.sibling\_node.visiting\_flag} = 0$
- ✓ Case 2-3:  $\text{Ascendant\_node.sibling\_flag} = 0$  AND  $\text{Ascendant\_node.sibling\_node.visiting\_flag} = 0$

Definition 2 defines various cases of path creation. Case 1 represents the case where the current node has not been visited and has child nodes. In case 1, we store the name of the current node in the visiting\_node array and search the child node as the next order. Case 2 describes the case where a node has not been visited and does not have child nodes; the current node is leaf node. In this case, we create a path for the node and the intermediate nodes between the root node and the current node. However, we must check for duplicate path creation in this case, because the intermediate nodes of all sibling nodes are the same. To check for duplication of node paths, we temporarily store the created path in a path\_temp array. The path stored in the path\_temp array is compared with the path included in a path\_storage array. If the created path is not contained in the path\_storage array, the path is finally stored in the path\_storage array. Case 2-1, case 2-2, and case 2-3 are backtracking cases, after we search leaf nodes. Case 2-1 illustrates th

e case where a leaf node has sibling nodes which have not been visited. In this case, we perform backtracking to a parent node and search sibling nodes in the next ordering. Case 2-2 represents the case where a leaf node does not have sibling nodes which have not been visited. In this case, we perform backtracking to a parent node which has sibling nodes which have not been visited, and search sibling nodes of the parent node. If there are no sibling nodes of the parent node which have not been visited, we perform backtracking to the ascendant node. If the ascendant node has unvisited sibling nodes which have not been visited, we search these nodes, as in case 2-3. This process is iterated until we have searched every node in the Data Graph, and path creation is completed when there are no nodes in Case 1, Case 2-1, Case 2-2, and Case 2-3. (Figure 3) shows the flow of path creation in terms of search cases.



(Figure 3) Flow of Path Creation

<Table 3> Path Creation Algorithm

```

Procedure:
Initialize i=1, j=0, k=0, m=0
Class Node
Initialize stringname=null,
Initializeintnumber=0,
Initializeintvisiting_flag=0,
Initializechild_flag=0,
Initializesibling_flag=0
For(Root_nodetoFinal_leaf_node)
Initializevisiting_node[]
DFS_visit(Node)
if(Node.visiting_flag==0&&Node.child_flag==0)
    
```

```

        visiting_node[k] = Node.name
Incrementk
        Node.visiting_flag = 1
        Nextnode(child_node)
Endif
elseif(Node.visiting_flag==0 &&
Node.child_flag==1)
        visiting_node[k] = Node.name
Dowhile(visiting_node[k]!=null)
        Initializek=0
        Initializepath_temp[],path_storage[]
        path_temp[k] =
Createpath(Root_node,visiting_node[k])
        Forj=0toj(max)
        Form=0tom(max)
Pathcheck(path_temp[j],path_storage[m])
        Incrementm
        if(path_temp[j]!=path_storage[m])
        path_storage[m(max)+1]=path_temp[j]
        Endif
        Incrementj
        Incrementk
if(Node.sibling_flag==0&&sibling_node.visiting_flag
==0)
        Backtrackingpath(sibling_node)
        Nextnode(sibling_node)
else
        Dowhile(parent_node!=null) // in case
of visited leaf nodes and sibling nodes
        Backtrackingpath(parent_node)
if(parent_node.sibling_flag==0|parent_node.sibling_
node.visiting_flag==0)
        Nextnode(parent_node.sibling_node)
        elseLoop
Endelseif
End Procedure
    
```

RDB-to-XML translation is not focused in this paper and we use the VQT algorithm already developed by us [2][24][25]. The VQT algorithm is superior to conventional translation algorithm because the VQT algorithm considers not only syntactic aspect but explicit/implicit semantic aspect.

### 3.3 Relational Database Schema

In TL-BAC system, relational databases include XML data, XML access control rules, and user queries. This information is stored as a s

imilar schema structure. In TL-BAC system, XML access control rules and user queries have to be combined in a pre-processing step for query rewriting. In addition, rewritten user queries and XML data must be processed in a query processing step. If each form of information is different, additional algorithm or additional translation steps are needed for processing. Therefore, XML data, XML access control rules, and user queries are stored into relational databases as a similar schema structure for effective access control processing.

<Table 4> Storage Schema of XML Data

Doc_ID	Node_ID	Name	Parent_ID	Path
1	3	Name	2	Order/Customer_info/Name
1	5	Addr	2	Order/Customer_info/Addr
1	6	City	5	Order/Customer_info/Addr/City
1	7	Zip	5	Order/Customer_info/Addr/Zip
...	...	...	...	...

The storage schema of XML data is as <Table 4> The table for XML data consists of 5 attributes. The Doc\_ID represents XML document number and the Node\_ID represents node number in XML documents. In relational databases, several XML documents can be stored and each XML documents consists of many nodes. Therefore, we need identifiers for distinguishing XML documents and nodes. Name attribute represents name of each node and the Parent\_ID represents the node identifier of parent node. The Parent\_ID attribute can be used for searching child nodes in data priority-based or data level-based XML access control. The Path attribute represents XPath values of each node. By the XPath attribute, we can describe hierarchical structure information of XML documents in the relational databases easily and search

parent node and root node simply.

<Table 5> Storage Schema of Access Control Rules Defined by the Security Administrator

Rule_ID	Subj	Role	Type	Path	Att	Value	Level
1	Bob	R+	R	Order/Order_info/Addr//	City	Seoul	.
2	Bob	W+	R	Order/Custom_r_info//	.	.	2
3	Jane	R-	L	Order/Custom_r_info/Credit_card	Name	Not Jane	.

The storage schema of XML access control rules is as <Table 5> This storage schema is a beginning schema defined by the security administrator and changed recursive form into local form automatically as <Table 6>

**Definition 3. (Definition of Access Control Rules)** Each access control rule in the Suggested Model is denoted by a 7-tuple;  $ACR = (S, R, T, P, A, V, L)$ , where

- ✓ S represents a subject of access control rule.
- ✓ R represents a roles of access control rules. R can have R(read) or W(write). In addition, R represents a positive or negative roles by '+' or '-'.
- ✓ T represents a types of access control rules. T can have R(recursive) and L(local). The local type apply access control rules to only an indicated node. The recursive type apply access control rules to the indicated node and all of descendant nodes.
- ✓ P represents a path information that access control is applied. The path information is represents as the XPath form.
- ✓ A represent a attribute which has value.
- ✓ V represents a value that an attribute has.
- ✓ L represents a scope of access control rules. If L has 1, this means local type access control. If L has 2, this means that the acc



ess control rules are applied to the indicated node and child nodes. Through level, we can perform more detail access control except a local and recursive type access control.

<Table 6> Translated Storage Schema of Access Control Rules

Rule_ID	Subj	Role	Type	Path	Att	Value
1	Bob	R+	L	Order/Order_info/Addr	City	Seoul
2	Bob	R+	L	Order/Order_info/Addr/City	City	Seoul
3	Bob	R+	L	Order/Order_info/Addr/Zip	City	Seoul
4	Bob	W+	R	Order/Customer_info//	.	.
5	Bob	W+	R	Order/Customer_info//Name	.	.
6	Bob	W+	R	Order/Customer_info//Phone	.	.
7	Bob	W+	R	Order/Customer_info/Addr/	.	.
8	Bob	W+	R	Order/Customer_info//Credit_card	.	.
9	Jane	R-	L	Order/Customer_info/Credit_card	Name	Jane

The final storage schema of XML access control rules is as <Table 6> This storage schema is translated from <Table 5> automatically by the ACR Manager component. The table for access control rules consists of 8 attributes. The Rule\_ID attribute is an identifier of each a

ccess control rule and the subj attribute is a subject of access control rule. The Role attribute is a positive/negative role of the subject and can have 'R(read)' or 'W(write)' or 'U(update)' values. Besides, '+' or '-' represent positive or negative roles. The Type attribute is an access control scope and can have 'R(recursive)' or 'L(local)' value. The recursive node includes indicated node and all child nodes of that node. However, the local node only includes indicated node. The Path attribute is a path information of node that the access control is applied to. The Att attribute is attribute information and the Value attribute include values related to the attribute. The Level attribute represents that the described rule is applied to the indicated node and child node represented as the level value. That is, level value 1 means that this access control rule is applied to the only indicated node, same as local mode. As the table 5, level value 2 means that this access control rule is applied to the indicated node and child nodes, not descendant. By using concept of level, the TL-BAC system can support detail and more exact access control that the conventional recursive mode or the local mode cannot support.

<Table 7> Storage Schema of User Queries

Query_ID	Subj	Role	Path
1	Bob	R	Order/Order_info//
2	Bob	W	Order/Customer_info//

The storage schema of XML data is as <Table 7> The table for XML data consists of 4 attributes. The Query\_ID attribute represents an identifier of each user query. The Subj attribute represents a subject of user queries and the Role attribute represents a role which the subject wants to. The Path attribute represents path information of the target node. The given user queries are rewritten 2 times and detail rewriting process will be described in the next

section.

### 3.4 Rewriting Process of User Queries

In the TL-BAC system, the given user queries are rewritten 2 times by the 1st query Rewriter component and 2nd Query Rewriter component. In the first query rewriting process, the Query Rewriter analyzes the given user queries and converts all of recursive mode queries into local model queries. The recursive mode queries includes ---//, ---/\*, //---, \*/---, and so on. Such queries can be divided into several local mode queries. For effective combination and processing between user queries and access control rules, the local form queries are more simple and efficient for processing.

**Theorem 1. (Query Writing Rules in the 1st Query Rewriting)**

- ✓ ----// : Rewriting query with adding all of descendant nodes
- ✓ ---/\* : Rewriting query with adding all of child nodes
- ✓ //--- : Rewriting query with adding all of

ascendant nodes

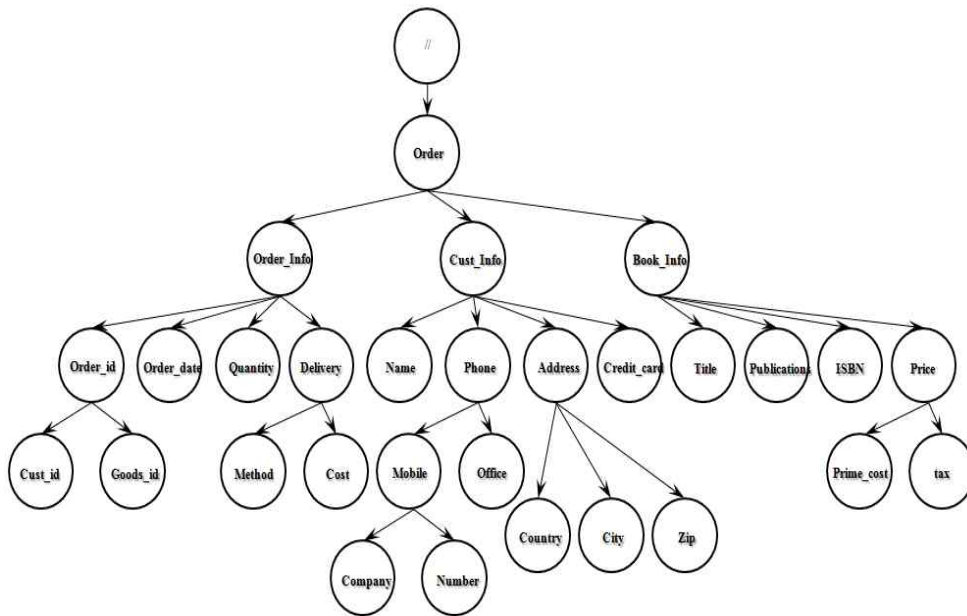
- ✓ \*/--- : Rewriting queries with adding all of parent nodes

<Table 8> 1st Query Rewriting Results

Query_ID	Subj	Role	Path
1	Bob	R	Order/Order_info
2	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Title
3	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Publication
4	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/ISSN
5	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Price
6	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Addr
7	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Addr/Zip
8	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Addr/City
9	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Addr/City
10	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Addr/City
11	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Addr/City
12	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Addr/City
13	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Addr/City
14	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Addr/City
15	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Addr/City

<Table 8> illustrates the 1st query rewriting results about the given user query shown in <Table7>. The 1st query rewriting is executed by rewriting rules mentioned above.

In the second query rewriting process, the



(Fig. 4) Experimental Dataset

Query Pre-Processor combines access control rules and user queries and rewrites queries by following rewriting rules.

**Theorem 2. (Queries Writing Rules in the 2nd Query Rewriting)**

- ✓ If user query included in the positive access control rules, no rewriting
- ✓ If user query included in the negative access control rules, delete query
- ✓ If user query included in the positive access control rules with attribute value, rewrite query with adding with attribute value.
- ✓ If a part of user query is included in the positive access control rules or the negative access control rules,

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q' &= Q \cap (ACR^+ \cap (ACR^-)^{-1}) \\
 &= (Q \cap ACR^+) \cap (Q \cap (ACR^-)^{-1}) \\
 &= (Q \cap ACR^+) - (Q \cap ACR^-)
 \end{aligned}$$

<Table 9> illustrates the 2nd query rewriting results about the rewritten user query shown in <Table 8>. The 2nd query rewriting is performed by rewriting rules mentioned above.

<Table 9> 2nd Query Rewriting Results

Query ID	Subj	Role	Path
1_1	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Addr[City='Seoul']
1_2	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Addr/Zip[City='Seoul']
1_3	Bob	R	Order/Order_info/Addr/City[City='Seoul']
2_1	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Name
2_2	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Phone
2_3	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Addr
2_4	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/Credit_card
2_5	Bob	W	Order/Order_info/ISBN

## 4. Experiment and Evaluation

### 4.1 Experimental Dataset

This experiment is focus on the accuracy a

bout access control of the Suggested Model. In this experiment, we use simple XML dataset shown in the (Figure 4). The XML dataset describes the book order information and includes 29 elements. In addition, the XML dataset consists of an order information, a customer information, and a book information. The XML document is translated and stored into the relational database. The translated dataset is as <Table 10>.

<Table 10> Translated Dataset in the RDB

Cust_id	Goods_id	Order_date	Quantity	Method	Cost
C01	B01	02/13	2	Post	\$3
C02	B03	01/10	3	D-to-D	\$5
C03	B02	03/11	1	Post	\$3
...	...	...	...	...	...

<Order\_Info Table>

Name	Company	Number	Office	Country	City	Zip	Credit_card
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

<Cust\_Info Table>

Title	Publication	ISBN	Prime_cost	tax
...	...	...	...	...

<Book\_Info Table>

### 4.2 Definition of Access Control Rules

Access control rules for the experiment are as follows.

- ✓ ACR1 = (Tom, R+, R, Order/Order\_info, \*, \*, \*)
- ✓ ACR2 = (Bob, R+, R, Order/Cust\_info, Name, Bob, \*)
- ✓ ACR3 = (Jane, W+, R, Order/Cust\_info, Name, Jane, \*)
- ✓ ACR4 = (Jane, R+, L, Order/Order\_info/Order\_date, Name, Jane, \*)
- ✓ ACR5 = (Bob, R-, L, Order/Cust\_info/Credit\_card, Name, not Bob, \*)
- ✓ ACR6 = (Bob, R+, R, Book\_info, \*, \*, 2)
- ✓ ACR7 = (Jane, R+, R, Order/Cust\_info/Phone, \*, \*, 2)

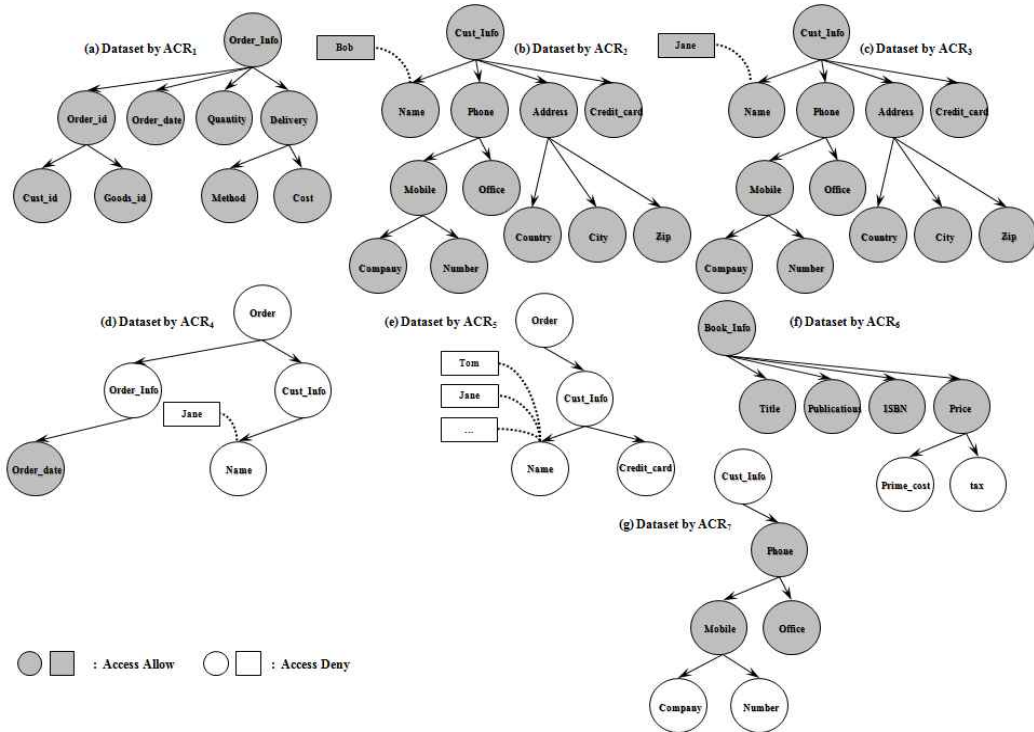
Described access control rules are represented as ACR=(Subject, Role, Type, Path, Attribute, Value, Level) form shown in the definition 3.

(Figure 5) describe the accessible dataset by the 7 access control rules. The access control rule 1 is the general recursive type access control rule. The access control rule is applied to the indicated node described in path tuple and all of descendant nodes. The access control rule 2 is also the recursive type access control rule with attribute value. The access control rule 2 is limited by a value of the 'Name' attribute. That is, this rule is applied when a value of the 'Name' attribute is 'Bob'. The access control rule 3 is similar to the access control rule 2. The access control rule 3 describes the positive rule about write role and is limited by a value of the 'Name' attribute. The access control rule 4 is the local type access control limited by an attribute value. The access control rule 5 is the local type negative access control rule. Generally, if the positive access control is not defined, that part is regarded as access denial. In addition, the negative access control

rules are priority to the positive access control rules. In case of the access control rule 2 and 5, access control rules for 'Credit\_card' attribute are duplicated. However, the access control rule 5 is priority to the access control rule because the access control rule 5 is the negative access control rule. The access control rule 6 is newly defined access control rules in this paper. The access control rule 6 is the recursive type access control rule with tree level specification. The tree level specification means that the access control rule is applied from the indicated node to descendant nodes of specified sub level. By using the concept of tree level specification, we can perform more detail access control about XML documents except for the local type and recursive type access control.

### 4.3 Experiment Results and Evaluation

For experiment, we use 7 queries. If user queries are given as XQuery form, the queries



(Figure 5) Accessible Dataset Part by the Access Control Rules

are stored into the relational database. In addition, the recursive type user queries are changed into the local type user queries and combined with access control rules by the query rewriting rules shown in the theorem 1 and 2.

If user queries are given as XQuery form, the query lists are analyzed and stored into the relational database as <Table 11>.

<Table 11> User Query Lists

Query_ID	Subj	Role	Path
1	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info//
2	Bob	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone[Name='Bob']//
3	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Delivery[Name='Jane']//
4	Bob	R	Order/Cust_Info/Credit_card[Name='Jane']
5	Jane	W	Order/Cust_Info[Name='Bob']//
6	Bob	R	Order/Book_Info[Title='Les Miserables']//
7	Bob	R	Order/Book_Info/Price//
8	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/

The recursive type user queries are translated into the local type queries by the 1st query rewriting rules described in theorem 1 for effective combination and comparison with the access control rules.

In 2nd query rewriting, user queries are rewritten by the 2nd query rewriting rules shown in theorem 2. In case of query 1, the query 1 is equal to the scope of the access control rule 1. Because the access control rule 1 is the positive rules, we do not need to rewrite the user query 1 in the 2nd query rewriting. The user query 2 is included in the scope of the access control 2 and the user query 3 is included in the scope of the access control 2. As a result, the user query 2 and 3 are not rewritten in the 2nd query rewriting.

The user query 4 is included in the scope of the access control rule 5. Because the access

control rule 5 is the negative rule, the user query 4 is deleted. In case of the user query 5, there is no access control rules which have the scope including the user query 5. Basically, if the access control rule is not defined for some node or part, the access control about that node or part is regarded as access denial. Therefore, the user query 5 is also disposed in the 2nd query rewriting. A part of the user query 6 is included in the access control 6. The user query 6 includes 'Book\_Info' node and all of descendant nodes, but the scope of the access control rule 6 is from 'Book\_Info' node to child nodes. Because the access control 6 is defined with level which value is 2, an intersection of the user query 6 and the access control 6 is executed and then the user query 6 is rewritten by the theorem 2 in the 2nd query rewriting. A part of the user query 7 is also included in a scope of the access control rule 6. The user query 7 includes 'Price' node and descendant nodes, but the access control rule 6 is only includes 'Price' node. Therefore, the user query 7 is rewritten and 'Bob' can only access 'Price' node as a result of the intersection of the user query 7 and the access control rule 6.

As shown in the <Table 12>, all of user queries are rewritten or deleted by the theorem 1 and theorem 2. From user query 1 to user query 6 can be processed by the Suggested Model illustrated in this paper and conventional XML security models. However, access control process about user query 6, 7, and 8 can only be processed in the Suggested Model described in this paper. Through the processing of user query 6, 7, and 8 by the access control rule 6 and 7, we can perform more detail access control about XML documents than conventional XML security models which only use the local or recursive type access control rules.

Query_ID	Subj	Role	Path
1_1	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info
1_2	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Order_id
1_3	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Order_id/Cust_id
1_4	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Order_id/Good_id
1_5	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Order_date
1_6	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Quantity
1_7	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Delivery
1_8	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Delivery/Method
1_9	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Delivery/Cost
2_1	Bob	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone[Name='Bob']
2_2	Bob	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone[Name='Bob']/Mobile
2_3	Bob	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone[Name='Bob']/Office
2_4	Bob	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone[Name='Bob']/Mobile/Company
2_5	Bob	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone[Name='Bob']/Mobile/Number
3_1	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Delivery[Name='Jane']
3_2	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Delivery[Name='Jane']/Method
3_3	Tom	R	Order/Order_Info/Delivery[Name='Jane']/Cost
6_1	Bob	R	Order/Book_Info[Title='Les Miserables']
6_2	Bob	R	Order/Book_Info[Title='Les Miserables']/Title
6_3	Bob	R	Order/Book_Info[Title='Les Miserables']/Publication
6_4	Bob	R	Order/Book_Info[Title='Les Miserables']/ISBN
6_5	Bob	R	Order/Book_Info[Title='Les Miserables']/Price
7_1	Bob	R	Order/Book_Info/Price
8_1	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info
8_2	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Name
8_3	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone
8_4	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone/Mobile
8_5	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Phone/Office
8_6	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Address
8_7	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Address
8_8	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Address
8_9	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Address
8_10	Jane	R	Order/Cust_Info/Credit_card

<Table 12> Rewritten User Query Lists

<Table 13> Evaluation of User Queries

Query	Access Result	2nd Rewriting
Q1	FA	None
Q2	FA	None
Q3	FA	None
Q4	D	Deleted
Q5	D	Deleted
Q6	PA	Rewritten
Q7	PA	Rewritten
Q8	PA	Rewritten

**FA: Fully Allow, D: Deny, PA: Partially Allow**

As shown in <Table 13>, query 1, 2, and 3 are included in the scope of the positive access control rules. Therefore, access control results of these queries are fully access allowance and we do not need to rewrite the queries in the 2nd query rewriting. query 4 and 5 are included in the negative access control rule or not defined in access control rule lists. Therefore, access control results of query 4 and 5 are access denial and we delete the queries in the 2nd query rewriting. User query 6, 7, and 8 are partially included in the scope of the positive access control rules. Thus, access control results of query 6, 7, and 8 are partially access

allowance and we rewrite queries by the combination with access control rules.

<Table 14> Comparative Evaluation

Query	Native XML Model	Relational DB-based Model	TL-BAC
1	Support	Support	Support
2	Support	Support	Support
3	Support	Support	Support
4	Support	Support	Support
5	Support	Support	Support
6	Not Support	Not Support	Support
7	Not Support	Not Support	Support
8	Not Support	Not Support	Support

<Table 14> shows the comparative evaluation about processing of the given queries. The native XML security model and Relational DB-based security model can support access control from query 1 to 5 as the access allowance or denial. Query 1, 2, and 3 are related to the recursive or the local type positive access control rules. Therefore, access about query 1, 2, and 3 is allowed and conventional security models and proposed Suggested Model can support access control about query 1, 2, and 3. In addition, query 4 and 5 are related to the recursive or the local type negative access control rules. Thus, access about query 4 and 5 is denied and conventional security models and proposed Suggested Model can support access control about query 4 and 5. However, in case of query 6, 7, and 8, these queries are related to access control rules considering XML tree level. Native XML security models and relational DB-based security models cannot define access control rules as the Suggested Model. Therefore, native XML security models and relational DB-based security models cannot support access control processing about the given user queries.

## 5. Conclusion

In this paper, we suggested the RDB-based XML access control model considering XML tree levels, Suggested Model. We envisage an XML data management system in which (1) user make XML queries against a given XML Schema; (2) access control rules for XML data are re specified in a relational database; (3) XML data are stored into a relational database. (4) access control process is performed considering XML tree levels. The TL-BAC system suggested in this paper can have following contribution.

- ✓ Practicality: the TL-BAC system can support more practical access control processing by using relational database, still widely used, for storing XML data.
- ✓ Stability: through the TL-BAC system adopt RDB access control techniques, already researched and practically used, to XML access control, the TL-BAC system guarantees better stability than conventional XML access control models.
- ✓ Performance: because the TL-BAC system stores XML data into the relational database, when user queries are given, we do not need to load all of XML documents. In addition, because XML data, XML access control rules, and user query are stored into the relational database with similar storage schema, processing performance for query processing is better than conventional XML access control models
- ✓ XML Tree Level-based Access Control: Through adoption of concept about XML tree levels, the TL-BAC system can support more detail access control that conventional recursive type or local type access control rules cannot support.

As a future works, we need to perform the experiment with practical XML data in commercial XML database.

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