

Getting Rid of OMOBJ?

A Proposal from Ernesto Reinaldo Barreiro (RIACA)

MICHAEL KOHLHASE

School of Engineering & Sciences

International University Bremen, Germany

<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~kohlhase>

<OMOBJ> considered dispensable

- There is always a unique child of <OMOBJ>.

(Attribute the information to the unique child)

old	new
<pre><OMOBJ id="bla"> <OMA> ... </OMA> </OMOBJ></pre>	<pre><OMA id="bla"> ... </OMA></pre>

- Example:

no information lost.

- With Namespaces, we do not need a “container object”

(xmlns suffices in XML)

<OMOBJ> considered harmful!

- Consider the following hypothetical JSP code fragment

```
<c:set name="a"><OMOBJ><OMV name="A" /></OMOBJ></c:set>
<c:set name="b"><OMOBJ><OMV name="B" /></OMOBJ></c:set>
```

Let `<inlineequation><c:out name="a" /></inlineequation>` and
`<inlineequation><c:out name="b" /></inlineequation>` be ...

We compute

```
<equation><OMOBJ><OMA><OMS cd="arith1" name="plus" />
    <c:out name="a" /><c:out name="b" />
</OMA></OMOBJ></equation>
```

- a and b are variables containing OM Objects; occurring both at top-level and inside elements.
- **Problem:** what to do with <OMOBJ>
- generally, <OMOBJ> always gets into the way (solvable but annoying)

Concrete Proposal

- Ernesto asks to remove <OMBOJ>

```
<OMA>  
  <OMS cd="arith1" name="plus"/>  
  <OMV name="A"/>  
  <OMV name="B"/>  
</OMA>
```

- **Alternative:** allow OMOBJ everywhere

```
<OMOBJ>  
  <OMA>  
    <OMS cd="arith1" name="plus"/>  
    <OMOBJ><OMV name="A"/></OMOBJ>  
    <OMOBJ><OMV name="B"/></OMOBJ>  
  </OMA>  
</OMOBJ>
```