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Information technology — ASN.1 encoding rules —

Part 5: Mapping W3C XML schema definitions into ASN.1

Technologies de l'information — Règles de codage ASN.1 —
Partie 5: Mappage en ASN.1 des définitions de schéma XML du W3C

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This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO/IEC 8825-5:2015), which has been technically revised.

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Introduction

This Recommendation | International Standard specifies version 1 and version 2 of a mapping from a W3C XML Schema definition (an XSD Schema) into an Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) schema. The mappings can be applied to any XSD Schema. Both mappings specify the generation of one or more ASN.1 modules containing type definitions, together with ASN.1 XER encoding instructions. These are jointly described as an ASN.1 schema for Extensible Markup Language (XML) documents. This ASN.1 schema (produced by either version of the mapping), when used with the ASN.1 Extended XML Encoding Rules (EXTENDED-XER), can be used to generate and to validate the same set of W3C XML 1.0 documents as the original XSD Schema. The resulting ASN.1 types and encodings support the same semantic content as the XSD Schema. Thus ASN.1 tools can be used interchangeably with XSD tools for the generation and processing of the specified XML documents.

Other standardized ASN.1 encoding rules, such as the Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER) or the Packed Encoding Rules (PER), can be used in conjunction with this standardized mapping, but produce encodings for version 2 of the mapping that differ from (and are less verbose than) those produced by version 1 for XSD constructs involving dates and times or wildcards.

The combination of this Recommendation | International Standard with ASN.1 Encoding Rules provides fully standardized and vendor-independent compact and canonical binary encodings for data originally defined using an XSD Schema.

The ASN.1 schema provides a clear separation between the specification of the information content of messages (their abstract syntax) and the precise form of the XML document (e.g., use of attributes instead of elements). This results in both a clearer and generally a less verbose schema than the original XSD Schema.

Annex A forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and is an ASN.1 module containing a set of ASN.1 type assignments that correspond to each of the XSD built-in types for version 1 of the mapping. Mappings of XSD Schemas into ASN.1 schemas either import the type reference names of those type assignments or include the type definitions in-line.

Annex B also forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard and provides the ASN.1 module for version 2 of the mapping.

Annex C does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and summarizes the object identifier, OID internationalized resource identifier and object descriptor values assigned in this Recommendation | International Standard.

Annex D does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and gives examples of the mapping of XSD Schemas into ASN.1 schemas.

Annex E does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and describes the use of the mapping defined in this Recommendation | International Standard, in conjunction with standardized ASN.1 Encoding Rules, to provide compact and canonical encodings for data defined using an XSD Schema.

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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD
ITU-T RECOMMENDATION

Information technology – ASN.1 encoding rules: Mapping W3C XML schema definitions into ASN.1

1 Scope

This Recommendation | International Standard specifies two versions of a mapping from any XSD Schema into an Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) schema. The ASN.1 schema for both versions support the same semantics and validate the same set of XML documents.

This Recommendation | International Standard specifies the final XER encoding instructions that are to be applied as part of the defined mapping to ASN.1 types, but does not specify which syntactic form is to be used for the specification of those final XER encoding instructions, or the order or manner of their assignment.

NOTE – Implementers of tools generating these mappings may choose any syntactic form or order of assignment that results in the specified final XER encoding instructions being applied. Examples in this Recommendation | International Standard generally use the type prefix form, but use of an XER Encoding Control Section may be preferred for the mapping of a complete XSD Schema, as a matter of style.

There are different ways (syntactically) of assigning XER encoding instructions for use in EXTENDED-XER encodings (e.g., use of ASN.1 type prefix encoding instructions or use of an XER encoding control section). The choice of these syntactic forms is a matter of style and lies outside the scope of this Recommendation | International Standard.

2 Normative references

The following Recommendations | International Standards and W3C specifications contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Recommendation | International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All Recommendations, International Standards and W3C specifications are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this Recommendation | International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the Recommendations, International Standards and W3C specifications listed below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards. The Telecommunication Standardization Bureau of the ITU maintains a list of currently valid ITU-T Recommendations. The W3C maintains a list of currently valid W3C specifications. The reference to a document within this Recommendation | International Standard does not give it, as a stand-alone document, the status of a Recommendation or International Standard.

2.1 Identical Recommendations | International Standards

NOTE – The complete set of ASN.1 Recommendations | International Standards is listed in this clause, as these documents can all be applicable in particular uses of this Recommendation | International Standard. Where these are not directly referenced in the body of this Recommendation | International Standard, a † symbol is added to the reference.

- Recommendation ITU-T X.680 (2021) |ISO/IEC 8824-1:2021, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Specification of basic notation.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.681 (2021) | ISO/IEC 8824-2:2021, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Information object specification*.
- Recommendation ITU-T X.682 (2021) | ISO/IEC 8824-3:2021, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Constraint specification*.
- Recommendation ITU-T X.683 (2021) | ISO/IEC 8824-4:2021, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Parameterization of ASN.1 specifications*.
- Recommendation ITU-T X.690 (2021) | ISO/IEC 8825-1:2021, *Information technology – ASN.1 encoding Rules: Specification of Basic Encoding Rules (BER), Canonical Encoding Rules (CER) and Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER)*.
- Recommendation ITU-T X.691 (2021) | ISO/IEC 8825-2:2021, *Information technology – ASN.1 encoding rules: Specification of Packed Encoding Rules (PER)*.
- Recommendation ITU-T X.692 (2021) | ISO/IEC 8825-3:2021, *Information technology – ASN.1 encoding rules: Specification of Encoding Control Notation (ECN)*.
- Recommendation ITU-T X.693 (2021) | ISO/IEC 8825-4:2021, *Information technology – ASN.1 encoding rules: XML Encoding Rules (XER)*.

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– Recommendation ITU-T X.891 (2005) | ISO/IEC 24824-1:2007, *Information technology – Generic applications of ASN.1: Fast infoset.*

NOTE – The references above shall be interpreted as references to the identified Recommendations | International Standards together with all their published amendments and technical corrigenda.

2.2 Additional references

– ISO 8601:2019, *Date and time – Representation for information interchange – Part 1: Basic rules*.

– W3C XML 1.0:2008, *Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0* (Fifth Edition), W3C Recommendation, Copyright © [26 November 2008] World Wide Web Consortium (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique, Keio University), http://www.w3.org/TR/xml/.

– W3C XML Namespaces:1999, *Namespaces in XML*, W3C Recommendation, Copyright © [14 January 1999] World Wide Web Consortium (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique, Keio University), http://www.w3.org/TR/1999/REC-xml-names-19990114.

– W3C XML Information Set:2004, XML *Information Set* (Second Edition), W3C Recommendation, Copyright © [4 February 2004] World Wide Web Consortium (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique, Keio University), http://www.w3.org/TR/xml-infoset/.

– W3C XML Schema:2004, *XML Schema Part 1: Structures* (Second Edition), W3C Recommendation, Copyright © [28 October 2004] World Wide Web Consortium (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique, Keio University), http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1/.

– W3C XML Schema:2004, *XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes* (Second Edition), W3C Recommendation, Copyright © [28 October 2004] World Wide Web Consortium (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique, Keio University), http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/.

NOTE – When the reference "W3C XML Schema" is used in this Recommendation | International Standard, it refers to W3C XML Schema Part 1 and W3C XML Schema Part 2.

– IETF RFC 2396 (1998), *Uniform resource identifiers (URI): Generic syntax*.

– IETF RFC 3066 (2001), *Tags for the Identification of Languages*.

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this Recommendation | International Standard, the following definitions apply.

3.1 Imported definitions

3.1.1 This Recommendation | International Standard uses the terms defined in Rec. ITU-T X.680 | ISO/IEC 8824-1 and in Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4.

NOTE – In particular, the terms "final encoding instructions", "type prefix" and "XER encoding control section" are defined in the Recommendations | International Standards mentioned in this clause.

3.1.2 This Recommendation | International Standard also uses the terms defined in W3C XML Schema and W3C XML Information Set.

NOTE 1 – It is believed that these terms do not conflict with the terms referenced in 3.1.1. If such a conflict occurs, the definition of the term in 3.1.1 applies.

NOTE 2 – In particular, the terms "schema component" is defined in W3C XML Schema, and the terms "element information item" and "attribute information item" are defined in W3C XML Information Set.

NOTE 3 – The terms "top-level **simple type definition**" and "top-level **complex type definition**" do not include XSD built-in types, when used in this Recommendation | International Standard.

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3.2 Additional definitions

For the purposes of this Recommendation | International Standard, the following additional definitions apply:

3.2.1 **XSD namespace**: A namespace with a uniform resource identifier of "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema".

3.2.2 **XSI namespace**: A namespace with a uniform resource identifier of "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance".

3.2.3 **XML namespace**: A namespace with a uniform resource identifier of "http://www.w3.org/XML/1998/namespace".

4 Abbreviations

For the purposes of this Recommendation | International Standard, the following abbreviations apply:

ASN.1 Abstract Syntax Notation One
BER (ASN.1) Basic Encoding Rules
DER (ASN.1) Distinguished Encoding Rules
OID Object Identifier
PER (ASN.1) Packed Encoding Rules
URI (IETF) Uniform Resource Identifier
XER (ASN.1) XML Encoding Rules
XML (W3C) Extensible Markup Language
XSD (W3C) XML Schema

5 Notation

5.1 This Recommendation | International Standard references the notation defined by Rec. ITU-T X.680 | ISO/IEC 8824-1, Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, W3C XML 1.0 and W3C XML Schema.

5.2 When it is necessary in the body of this Recommendation | International Standard to specify, either formally or in examples, the assignment of XER encoding instructions, the type prefix notation is generally used (but see 6.3 and 6.4). In Annex A, an XER encoding control section is used.

5.3 In this Recommendation | International Standard, **`bold Courier`** is used for ASN.1 notation and **bold Arial** is used for XSD notation and for XSD terms and concepts.

5.4 The XSD Schemas used in the examples in this Recommendation | International Standard use the prefix **xsd:** to identify the XSD namespace.

6 Purpose and extent of standardization

6.1 The mapping to ASN.1 that is specified in this Recommendation | International Standard ensures that:

a) any resulting ASN.1 modules generated by tools conforming to this Recommendation | International Standard (from the same XSD Schema) define the same (structured) abstract values;

b) all BASIC-XER, CXER, EXTENDED-XER, and binary encodings of that resulting ASN.1 specification will produce the same encodings (subject to encoder's options); and

c) all XML documents that conform to the source XSD Schema are valid EXTENDED-XER encodings of abstract values of that ASN.1 specification.

6.2 There are many aspects of an ASN.1 definition (such as the use of white-space, or of encoding control sections or type prefixes) that affect neither the abstract values being defined nor the XER or binary encodings of those values. Such aspects of the ASN.1 definition are generally not standardized in this Recommendation | International Standard.

6.3 There are many different ways in ASN.1 of assigning an XER encoding instruction to a type, including:

a) use of a type prefix for every encoding instruction to be assigned; or

b) use of an encoding control section, with a separate encoding instruction for each required assignment; or

c) use of an encoding control section, with a single encoding instruction making a global assignment, possibly supplemented by use of a negating encoding instruction for specific types.

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