

ETSI ES 201 873-1 V4.13.1 (2021-08)



**Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS);  
The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3;  
Part 1: TTCN-3 Core Language**

[ETSI ES 201 873-1 V4.13.1 \(2021-08\)](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/7d864461-ad58-4ec8-8ece-a2a3f378392e/etsi-es-201-873-1-v4-13-1-2021-08)

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**Reference**

RES/MTS-201873-1V4.13.1

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**Keywords**

language, methodology, testing, TTCN-3

**ETSI**

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# Foreword

ETSI ES 201 873-1 V4.13.1 (2021-08)

This ETSI Standard (ES) has been produced by ETSI Technical Committee Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS).

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The present document is part 1 of a multi-part deliverable covering the Testing and Test Control Notation version 3, as identified below:

- Part 1:** "TTCN-3 Core Language";
- Part 3: "TTCN-3 Graphical presentation Format (GFT)";
- Part 4: "TTCN-3 Operational Semantics";
- Part 5: "TTCN-3 Runtime Interface (TRI)";
- Part 6: "TTCN-3 Control Interface (TCI)";
- Part 7: "Using ASN.1 with TTCN-3";
- Part 8: "The IDL to TTCN-3 Mapping";
- Part 9: "Using XML schema with TTCN-3";
- Part 10: "TTCN-3 Documentation Comment Specification";
- Part 11: "Using JSON with TTCN-3".

NOTE 1: Part 2: "TTCN-3 Tabular presentation Format (TFT)" of this multi-part deliverable is in status "historical".

NOTE 2: Part 3 of this multi-part deliverable is not maintained.

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## Modal verbs terminology

In the present document "**shall**", "**shall not**", "**should**", "**should not**", "**may**", "**need not**", "**will**", "**will not**", "**can**" and "**cannot**" are to be interpreted as described in clause 3.2 of the [ETSI Drafting Rules](#) (Verbal forms for the expression of provisions).

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# 1 Scope

The present document defines the Core Language of TTCN-3. TTCN-3 can be used for the specification of all types of reactive system tests over a variety of communication ports. Typical areas of application are protocol testing (including mobile and Internet protocols), service testing (including supplementary services), module testing, testing of CORBA<sup>®</sup> based platforms, APIs, etc. TTCN-3 is not restricted to conformance testing and can be used for many other kinds of testing including interoperability, robustness, regression, system and integration testing. The specification of test suites for physical layer protocols is outside the scope of the present document.

TTCN-3 is intended to be used for the specification of test suites which are independent of test methods, layers and protocols. In addition to the textual format defined in the present document, while GFT (ETSI ES 201 873-3 [i.2]) defines a graphical presentation format for TTCN-3. The specification of these formats is outside the scope of the present document.

While the design of TTCN-3 has taken the eventual implementation of TTCN-3 translators and compilers into consideration the means of realization of Executable Test Suites (ETS) from Abstract Test Suites (ATS) is outside the scope of the present document.

# 2 References

## 2.1 Normative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

Referenced documents which are not found to be publicly available in the expected location might be found at <https://docbox.etsi.org/Reference>.

NOTE: While any hyperlinks included in this clause were valid at the time of publication ETSI cannot guarantee their long term validity.

The following referenced documents are necessary for the application of the present document.

- [1] ETSI ES 201 873-4: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 4: TTCN-3 Operational Semantics".
- [2] ISO/IEC 10646: "Information technology -- Universal Coded Character Set (UCS)".
- [3] Void.

NOTE: The corresponding ISO/IEC standard is ISO/IEC 9646-3: "Information technology -- Open Systems Interconnection -- Conformance testing methodology and framework -- Part 3: The Tree and Tabular Combined Notation (TTCN)".

- [4] Recommendation ITU-T T.50: "International Reference Alphabet (IRA) (Formerly International Alphabet No. 5 or IA5) - Information technology - 7-bit coded character set for information interchange".

NOTE: The corresponding ISO/IEC standard is ISO/IEC 646: "Information technology -- ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange".

- [5] Void.

NOTE: The corresponding ISO/IEC standard is ISO/IEC 9646-1: "Information technology -- Open Systems Interconnection -- Conformance testing methodology and framework; Part 1: General concepts".

- [6] IEEE 754<sup>TM</sup>: "IEEE Standard for Floating-Point Arithmetic".