



Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 9: Using XML schema with TTCN-3

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Foreword

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 9 of a multi-part deliverable. Full details of the entire series can be found in part 1 [1].

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 mapping rules for W3C[®] XML Schema (as defined in [7] to [9]) to TTCN-3 as defined in ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] to enable testing of XML-based systems, interfaces and protocols.

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.

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

- [1] ETSI ES 201 873-1: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 1: TTCN-3 Core Language".
- [2] Void.
- [3] Recommendation ITU-T X.680: "Information technology - Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Specification of basic notation".
- [4] Recommendation ITU-T X.694: "Information technology - ASN.1 encoding rules: Mapping W3C XML schema definitions into ASN.1".
- [5] World Wide Web Consortium W3C[®] Recommendation: "Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.1".

NOTE: Available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/xml11>.

- [6] World Wide Web Consortium W3C[®] Recommendation (2009): "Namespaces in XML 1.0".

NOTE: Available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml-names/>.

- [7] World Wide Web Consortium W3C[®] Recommendation (2004): "XML Schema Part 0: Primer".

NOTE: Available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-0>.

- [8] World Wide Web Consortium W3C[®] Recommendation (2004): "XML Schema Part 1: Structures".

NOTE: Available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1>.

- [9] World Wide Web Consortium W3C[®] Recommendation (2004): "XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes".

NOTE: Available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2>.

2.2 Informative references

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The following referenced documents are not necessary for the application of the present document but they assist the user with regard to a particular subject area.

[i.1] World Wide Web Consortium W3C® Recommendation: "SOAP version 1.2, Part 1: Messaging Framework".

NOTE: Available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/soap12>.

[i.2] ISO 8601 (2004): "Data elements and interchange formats - Information interchange - Representation of dates and times".

[i.3] Void.

[i.4] ISO/IEC 10646 (2012): "Information technology - Universal Coded Character Set (UCS)".

[i.5] ETSI ES 202 781: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; TTCN-3 Language Extensions: Configuration and Deployment Support".

[i.6] Void.

[i.7] Void.

[i.8] Void.

[i.9] Void.

[i.10] Void. <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/bb74dc32-e146-4eff-b320-5780342b4f31/etsi-es-201-873-9-v4-12-1-2021-06>

[i.11] ETSI ES 201 873-7: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 7: Using ASN.1 with TTCN-3".

[i.12] ETSI ES 201 873-8: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 8: The IDL to TTCN-3 Mapping".

[i.13] ETSI ES 201 873-11: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 11: Using JSON with TTCN-3".

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3 Definition of terms, symbols and abbreviations

3.1 Terms

For the purposes of the present document, the terms given in ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1], Recommendation ITU-T X.694 [4] and the following apply:

alphabetical order: way of sorting the XSD names based on the code positions of their characters according to ISO/IEC 10646 [i.4]

NOTE: During this sorting the group, plane, row and cell octets is considered, in this order. Names, starting with a character with a smaller code position take precedence. Among the names with identical first character, names containing no more characters take precedence over all other names. Otherwise, names with the second character of smaller code position take precedence, etc. This algorithm is to be continued recursively until all names are sorted into a sequential order.

schema component: generic XSD term for the building blocks that comprise the abstract data model of the schema

NOTE: The primary components, which may (type definitions) or obliged to (element and attribute declarations) have names are as follows: simple type definitions, complex type definitions, attribute declarations and element declarations. The secondary components, which are obliged to have names, are as follows: attribute group definitions, identity-constraint definitions, model group definitions and notation declarations. Finally, the "helper" components provide small parts of other components; they are not independent of their context: annotations, model groups, particles, wildcards and attribute uses.

schema document: XML document containing a collection of schema components, assembled in a *schema* element information item

NOTE: The target namespace of the schema document may be defined (specified by the *targetNamespace* attribute of the *schema* element) or may be absent (identified by a missing *targetNamespace* attribute of the *schema* element). The latter case is handled in the present document as a particular case of the target namespace being defined.

target TTCN-3 module: TTCN-3 module, generated during the conversion, to which the TTCN-3 definition produced by the translation of a given XSD declaration or definition is added

XML Schema: set of schema documents forming a complete specification (i.e. all definitions and references are completely defined)

NOTE: The set may be composed of one or more schema documents, and in the latter case identifying one or more target namespaces (including absence of the target namespace) and more than one schema documents of the set may have the same target namespace (including absence of the target namespace).

xsi: attributes: XML attribute stipulating the content of schema-instances (schema-valid XML documents)

NOTE 1: XSD defines several attributes for direct use in any XML documents.

NOTE 2: These attributes are in the namespace <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance>. By convention these XML attributes are referred to by using the prefix "xsi:", though in practice, any prefix can be used.

3.2 Symbols

Void.

3.3 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the following abbreviations apply:

ASN.1	Abstract Syntax Notation One
DTD	Document Type Description
LF	Line Feed
SOAP	Simple Object Access Protocol
SUT	System Under Test
TTCN-3	Testing and Test Control Notation version 3
URI	Uniform Resource Identifier
UTF-8	Unicode Transformation Format-8
W3C®	World Wide Web Consortium
XML	eXtensible Markup Language
XSD	XML Schema Definition

4 Introduction

An increasing number of distributed applications use the XML format to exchange data for various purposes like data bases queries or updates or event telecommunications operations such as provisioning. All of these data exchanges follow very precise rules for data format description in the form of Document Type Description (DTD) [5] and [6] or more recently the proposed XML Schemas [7], [8] and [9]. There are even some XML based communication protocols like SOAP [i.1] that are based on XML Schemas. Like any other communication-based systems, components and protocols, XML based systems, components and protocols are candidates for testing using TTCN-3 [1]. Consequently, there is a need for establishing a mapping between XML data description techniques like DTD or Schemas to TTCN-3 standard data types.

The core language of TTCN-3 is defined in ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] and provides a full text-based syntax, static semantics and operational semantics as well as a definition for the use of the language with ASN.1 in ETSI ES 201 873-7 [i.11]. The XML mapping provides a definition for the use of the core language with XML Schema structures and types, enabling integration of XML data with the language as shown in figure 1.

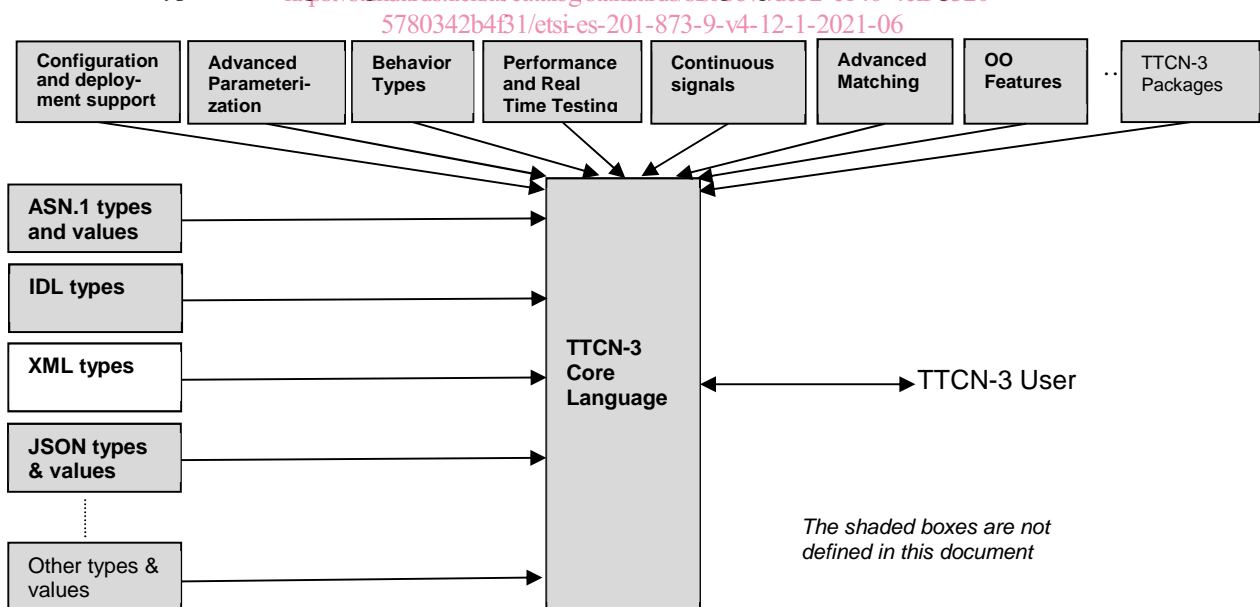


Figure 1: User's view of the core language and its packages

For compatibility reasons, it was the purpose of the present document that the TTCN-3 code obtained from the XML Schema using the explicit mapping will be the same as the TTCN-3 code obtained from first converting the XML Schema using Recommendation ITU-T X.694 [4] into ASN.1 [3] and then converting the resulting ASN.1 code into TTCN-3 according to ETSI ES 201 873-7 [i.11]. However, due to the specifics of testing, in a few cases the present document will produce a superset or different constructs of what Recommendation ITU-T X.694 [4] would produce.

For example, according to Recommendation ITU-T X.694 [4], abstract elements are omitted when converting the head element of a substitution group, while the present document includes also the abstract elements into the resulted **union** type, thus allowing provoking the SUT with incorrect data.

5 Mapping XML Schemas

5.0 Approach

There are two approaches to the integration of XML Schema and TTCN-3, which will be referred to as implicit and explicit mapping. The implicit mapping makes use of the import mechanism of TTCN-3, denoted by the keywords *language* and *import*. It facilitates the immediate use of data specified in other languages. Therefore, the definition of a specific data interface for each of these languages is required. The explicit mapping translates XML Schema definitions directly into appropriate TTCN-3 language artefacts.

NOTE: The present document purely describes the mapping of XML schema definitions to TTCN-3. Possible ambiguities in the XSD source are not resolved at TTCN-3 level.

In case of an implicit mapping an internal representation shall be produced from the XML Schema, which representation shall retain all the structural and encoding information. This internal representation is typically not accessible by the user. To make the internal representations related to a given target namespace referenceable in a TTCN-3 module, the module shall explicitly import the target namespace, using its TTCN-3 name equivalent resulting from applying clause 5.2.2 to the namespace. The TTCN-3 import statement shall use the language identifier string specified below. TTCN-3 data types described in clause 6 (equivalents to built-in XSD types), in case of an implicit conversion, are internal to the tool and can be referenced in TTCN-3 modules importing any target namespaces of an XSD document explicitly. These types can be also referenced in TTCN-3 modules that explicitly import the XSD module (see annex A). In this case, the import clause refers to the tool's internal representation of the XSD data types and not to an existing module. When importing from an XSD Schema using implicit mapping, the following language identifier string shall be used:

- "XSD".

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For explicit mapping, the information present in the XML Schema shall be mapped into accessible TTCN-3 code and - the XML structural information which does not have its correspondent in TTCN-3 code - into accessible encoding instructions. In case of an explicit conversion the TTCN-3 data types described in clause 6 (equivalents to built-in XSD types) are not visible in TTCN-3 by default, the user shall import the XSD module (see annex A) explicitly, in addition to the TTCN-3 modules resulted from the conversion. When importing TTCN-3 modules generated by explicit conversion, the use of the "XSD" language clause is optional, but if used, the imported TTCN-3 module shall be appended with one of the XML encode attributes, specified in clause B.2.

The mapping shall start on a set of valid XSD *schema*-s and shall result in a set of valid TTCN-3 modules.

All XSD definitions are **public** by default (see clause 8.2.3 of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]).

The examples of the present document are written in the assumption of explicit mapping, although the difference is mainly in accessibility and visibility of generated TTCN-3 code and encoding instruction set.

The present document is structured in three distinct parts:

- Clause 6 "Built-in data types" defines the TTCN-3 mapping for all basic XSD data types like strings (see clause 6.2), integers (see clause 6.3), floats (see clause 6.4), etc. and facets (see clause 6.1) that allow for a simple modification of types by restriction of their properties (e.g. restricting the length of a string or the range of an integer).
- Clause 7 "Mapping XSD components" covers the translation of more complex structures that are formed using the components shown in table 1 and a set of XSD attributes (see clause 7.1) which allow for modification of constraints of the resulting types.
- Clause 8 "Substitutions" covers the translation of more XSD elements and types that may be substituted for other XSD elements or types respectively in instance documents.

Table 1: Overview of XSD constructs

Element	Defines tags that can appear in a conforming XML document.
attribute	Defines attributes for element tags in a conforming XML document.
simpleType	Defines the simplest types. They may be a built-in type, a list or choice of built-in types and they are not allowed to have attributes.
complexType	Defines types that are allowed to be composed, e.g. have attributes and an internal structure.
named model group	Defines a named group of elements.
attribute group	Defines a group of attributes that can be used as a whole in definitions of complexTypes.
identity constraint	Defines that a component has to exhibit certain properties in regard to uniqueness and referencing.

5.1 Namespaces and document references

5.1.1 Namespaces

A single XML Schema may be composed of a single or several *schema* element information items, and shall be translated to one or more TTCN-3 modules, corresponding to *schema* components that have the same target namespace, including no target namespace. For XSD *schemas* with the same target namespace exactly one TTCN-3 module shall be generated. For XSD *schemas* without a target namespace either one TTCN-3 module shall be generated or a TTCN-3 module for each xsd file containing the schemas (dependent on some tool configuration beyond the scope of the present document).

The names of the TTCN-3 modules generated based on this clause shall be the result of applying the name transformation rules in clause 5.2.2 to the related target namespace, if it is present. If the target namespace is absent either the name transformation rules shall be applied to the name "NoTargetNamespace" or to the name generated by appending "NoTargetNamespace-" with the base filename of the xsd file (dependent on tool configuration).

NOTE 1: More than one *schema* element information items in an XML Schema may have the same target namespace, including the case of no target namespace.

The information about the target namespaces and prefixes from the *targetNamespace* and *xmlns* attributes of the corresponding *schema* elements, if exist, shall be preserved in the encoding instruction "namespace as..." attached to the TTCN-3 module. If the target namespace is absent, no "namespace as ..." encoding instruction shall be attached to the TTCN-3 module. All declarations in the module shall inherit the target namespace of the module (including absence of the target namespace).

NOTE 2: If different *schema* element information items using the same target namespace associates different prefixes to that namespace, it is a tool implementation option, which prefix is preserved in the "namespace as..." encoding instruction.

EXAMPLE: Schemas with the same namespace:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xsd:schema xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  xmlns:ns1="http://www.example.org"
  targetNamespace="http://www.example.org">
  <!-- makes no difference if this schema is including the next one -->
  :
</xsd:schema>

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xsd:schema xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  xmlns:ns2="http://www.example.org"
  targetNamespace="http://www.example.org">
  <!-- makes no difference if this schema is including the previous one -->
  :
</xsd:schema>
```

Will result e.g. in the following TTCN-3 module:

```

module http_www_example_org {
: // the content of the module is coming from both schemas
}
with {
  encode "XML";
  variant "namespace as 'http://www.example.org' prefix 'ns1'";
// the prefix in the encoding instruction could also be 'ns2', this is a tool's option.
}

```

5.1.2 Includes

XSD *include* element information items shall be ignored if the included *schema* element has the same target namespace as the including one (implying the absence of the target namespace). If the included *schema* element has no target namespace but the including *schema* has (i.e. it is not absent), all definitions of the included *schema* shall be mapped twice, i.e. the resulted TTCN-3 definitions shall be inserted to the TTCN-3 module generated for the *schema* element(s) with no target namespace as well as to the module generated for the *schema* element(s) with the target namespace of the including *schema*.

EXAMPLE: A schema with a target namespace is including a schema without a target namespace:

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xsd:schema xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  xmlns:ns="http://www.example.org"
  targetNamespace="http://www.example.org">
  <!-- the including schema -->
  <xsd:include schemaLocation="included.xsd"/>
:
</xsd:schema>

//in file C:/folder1/folder2/included-schema.xsd
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xsd:schema xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema">
  <!--this is the included schema -->
:
</xsd:schema>

```

Will result the TTCN-3 modules (please note, the content of the modules may come from more than one schemas).

```

module http_www_example_org {
: // contains definitions mapped from both schemas
}
with {
  encode "XML";
  variant "namespace as 'http://www.example.org' prefix 'ns1'";
}

module NoTargetNamespace_included_schema_xsd {
: // contains definitions mapped from the schema without target namespace only
}
with {
  encode "XML"
}

```

5.1.3 Imports

All XSD import statements (i.e. *import* element information items and the related *xmlns* attributes, where present) shall be mapped to equivalent TTCN-3 *import* statements, importing all definitions from the other TTCN-3 module. All XSD components are **public** by default (see clause 8.2.3 of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]). Multiple XSD *import* element information items with the same *namespace* attribute shall be mapped to a single TTCN-3 import statement.

NOTE 1: The above statement means that XSD components using imported XSD references are complete, i.e. in case of implicit mapping it is not needed to additionally import the schema containing the referenced XSD components to TTCN-3, unless the referenced XSD component wanted to be used in TTCN-3 directly.

NOTE 2: XSD permits a bare <import> information item (in schemas having a target namespace). This allows unqualified references to foreign components with no target namespace without giving hints where to find them. The resolution of such cases is left to tool implementations. It is allowed to import single XSD components into TTCN-3. When the TTCN-3 import statement is importing single definitions or definitions of the same kind from XSD (see clauses 8.2.3.2 and 8.2.3.4 of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]), or an import all statement contains an exception list (see clause 8.2.3.5 of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]), this results in the import of a **type** definition only, but not in the import of a **group**, **template**, **testcase**, etc.

NOTE 3: Please note that importing all types of a target namespace has the same effect as importing all definitions of that namespace (i.e. "**import from TargetNamespace { type all };**" results in the same as "**import from TargetNamespace all;**").

It is not allowed to import XSD import statements to TTCN-3 (i.e. there is no transitive import of XSD import statements as defined for TTCN-3, see clause 8.2.3.7 of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]).

5.1.4 Attributes of the XSD schema element

If the TTCN-3 module corresponds to a (present) target namespace and the value of the *attributeFormDefault* and/or *elementFormDefault* attributes of any *schema* element information items that contribute to the given TTCN-3 module is *qualified*, the encoding instructions "**attributeFormQualified**" and/or "**elementFormQualified**" shall be attached accordingly to the given TTCN-3 module. All fields of TTCN-3 definitions in the given TTCN-3 module corresponding to local *attribute* declarations or to attribute and *attributeGroup* references in *schema* element information items with the value of its *attributeFormDefault* attribute being *unqualified* (explicitly or implicitly via defaulting) shall be supplied with the "**form as unqualified**" encoding instruction, unless a *form* attribute of the given declaration requires differently (see clause 7.1.6). All fields of TTCN-3 definitions in the given TTCN-3 module corresponding to local *element* declarations or element and model *group* references in *schema* element information items with the value of its *elementFormDefault* attribute *unqualified* (explicitly or implicitly via defaulting) shall be supplied with the "**form as unqualified**" encoding instruction, unless a *form* attribute of the given declaration requires differently (see clause 7.1.6).

Mapping of the *blockDefault* XSD attribute information item see in clauses 7.1.10, 8.1 and 8.2.

The *finalDefault*, *id*, *version* and *xml:lang* attributes of schema elements shall be ignored.

EXAMPLE: Mapping of schema attributes:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xsd:schema xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  targetNamespace="http://www.example.org"
  attributeFormDefault="qualified"
  elementFormDefault="unqualified">
  <xsd:complexType name="CType1">
    <xsd:sequence>
      <xsd:element name="elem" type="xsd:integer"/>
    </xsd:sequence>
    <xsd:attribute name="attrib" type="xsd:integer"/>
  </xsd:complexType></xsd:schema>

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xsd:schema xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  targetNamespace="http://www.example.org"
  attributeFormDefault="unqualified"
  elementFormDefault="qualified">
  <xsd:complexType name="CType2">
    <xsd:sequence>
      <xsd:element name="elem" type="xsd:integer"/>
    </xsd:sequence>
    <xsd:attribute name="attrib" type="xsd:integer"/>
  </xsd:complexType>
</xsd:schema>
```

Will result in the TTCN-3 modules (please note, that the content of the modules may come from more than one schemas).

```
module http_www_example_org {
  type record CType1 {
    XSD.Integer attrib optional,
    XSD.Integer elem
  }
}
```