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**Information technology — Abstract  
Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) —**

**Part 1:  
Specification of basic notation**

*Technologies de l'information — Notation de syntaxe abstraite  
numéro un (ASN.1) —*

*Partie 1: Spécification de la notation de base*

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## Foreword

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## Introduction

This Recommendation | International Standard presents a standard notation for the definition of data types and values. A *data type* (or *type* for short) is a category of information (for example, numeric, textual, still image or video information). A *data value* (or *value* for short) is an instance of such a type. This Recommendation | International Standard defines several basic types and their corresponding values, and rules for combining them into more complex types and values.

In some protocol architectures, each message is specified as the binary value of a sequence of octets. However, standards-writers need to define quite complex data types to carry their messages, without concern for their binary representation. In order to specify these data types, they require a notation that does not necessarily determine the representation of each value. ASN.1 is such a notation. This notation is supplemented by the specification of one or more algorithms called *encoding rules* that determine the value of the octets that carry the application semantics (called the *transfer syntax*). Rec. ITU-T X.690 | ISO/IEC 8825-1, Rec. ITU-T X.691 | ISO/IEC 8825-2 and Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4 specify three families of standardized encoding rules, called *Basic Encoding Rules (BER)*, *Packed Encoding Rules (PER)*, and *XML Encoding Rules (XER)*.

Some users wish to redefine their legacy protocols using ASN.1, but cannot use standardized encoding rules because they need to retain their existing binary representations. Other users wish to have more complete control over the exact layout of the bits on the wire (the transfer syntax). These requirements are addressed by Rec. ITU-T X.692 | ISO/IEC 8825-3 which specifies an *Encoding Control Notation (ECN)* for ASN.1. ECN enables designers to formally specify the abstract syntax of a protocol using ASN.1, but to then (if they so wish) take complete or partial control of the bits on the wire by writing an accompanying ECN specification (which may reference standardized Encoding Rules for some parts of the encoding).

A very general technique for defining a complicated type at the abstract level is to define a small number of *simple types* by defining all possible values of the simple types, then combining these simple types in various ways. Some of the ways of defining new types are as follows:

- a) given an (ordered) list of existing types, a value can be formed as an (ordered) sequence of values, one from each of the existing types; the collection of all possible values obtained in this way is a new type (if the existing types in the list are all distinct, this mechanism can be extended to allow omission of some values from the list);
- b) given an unordered set of (distinct) existing types, a value can be formed as an (unordered) set of values, one from each of the existing types; the collection of all possible unordered sets of values obtained in this way is a new type (the mechanism can again be extended to allow omission of some values);
- c) given a single existing type, a value can be formed as an (ordered) list or (unordered) set of zero, one or more values of the existing type; the collection of all possible lists or sets of values obtained in this way is a new type;
- d) given a list of (distinct) types, a value can be chosen from any one of them; the set of all possible values obtained in this way is a new type;
- e) given a type, a new type can be formed as a subset of it by using some structure or order relationship among the values.

An important aspect of combining types in this way is that encoding rules should recognize the combining constructs, providing unambiguous encodings of the collection of values of the basic types. Thus, every basic type defined using the notation specified in this Recommendation | International Standard is assigned a *tag* to aid in the unambiguous encoding of values.

Tags are mainly intended for machine use, and are not essential for the human notation defined in this Recommendation | International Standard. Where, however, it is necessary to require that certain types be distinct, this is expressed by requiring that they have distinct tags. The allocation of tags is therefore an important part of the use of this notation, but (since 1994) it is possible to specify the automatic allocation of tags.

NOTE 1 – Within this Recommendation | International Standard, tag values are assigned to all simple types and construction mechanisms. The restrictions placed on the use of the notation ensure that tags can be used in transfer for unambiguous identification of values.

It is also possible to assign encoding instructions to a type in order to affect the encoding of that type. This can be done either by a type prefix placed before a type definition or use of a type reference, or by an encoding control section placed at the end of an ASN.1 module. The generic syntax of type prefixes and encoding control sections is specified in this Recommendation | International Standard, and includes an encoding reference to identify the encoding rules that are modified by the encoding instruction. The semantics and detailed syntax of encoding instructions are specified in the encoding rules Recommendation | International Standard identified by the encoding reference.

An ASN.1 specification will initially be produced with a set of fully defined ASN.1 types. At a later stage, however, it may be necessary to change those types (usually by the addition of extra components in a sequence or set type). If this is to be possible in such a way that implementations using the old type definitions can interwork with implementations using the new type definitions in a defined way, encoding rules need to provide appropriate support. The ASN.1 notation supports the inclusion of an *extension marker* on a number of types. This signals to encoding rules the intention of the designer that this type is one of a series of related types (i.e., versions of the same initial type) called an *extension series*, and that the encoding rules are required to enable information transfer between implementations using different types that are related by being part of the same extension series.

Clauses 11 to 33 (inclusive) define the simple types supported by ASN.1, and specify the notation to be used for referencing simple types and for defining new types using them. Clauses 11 to 33 also specify notations to be used for specifying values of types defined using ASN.1. Two value notations are provided. The first is called the basic ASN.1 value notation, and has been part of the ASN.1 notation since its first introduction. The second is called the XML ASN.1 Value Notation, and provides a value notation using Extensible Markup Language (XML).

NOTE 2 – The XML Value Notation provides a means of representing ASN.1 values using XML. Thus, an ASN.1 type definition also specifies the structure and content of an XML element. This makes ASN.1 a simple schema language for XML.

Clauses 36 to 37 (inclusive) define the types supported by ASN.1 for carrying within them the complete encoding of ASN.1 types.

Clause 38 and Annex B define the types that provide support for ISO 8601.

Clauses 39 to 44 (inclusive) define the character string types.

Clauses 45 to 48 (inclusive) define certain types which are considered to be of general utility, but which require no additional encoding rules.

Clauses 49 to 51 (inclusive) define a notation which enables subtypes to be defined from the values of a parent type.

Clause 52 defines a notation which allows ASN.1 types specified in a "version 1" specification to be identified as likely to be extended in "version 2", and for additions made in subsequent versions to be separately listed and identified with their version number.

Clause 53 defines a notation which allows ASN.1 type definitions to contain an indication of the intended error handling if encodings are received for values which lie outside those specified in the current standardized definition.

Annex A forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and specifies ASN.1 regular expressions.

Annex B forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and defines an ASN.1 module containing the definition of a set of time types providing the full functionality of ISO 8601. These types can be imported from this ASN.1 module by an application designer if the useful time types specified in clause 38 are not adequate for the application.

Annex C forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and specifies rules for type and value compatibility.

Annex D forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and records object identifier and object descriptor values assigned in the ASN.1 series of Recommendations | International Standards.

Annex E forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard and specifies the currently defined encoding references and the Recommendation | International Standard that defines the semantics and detailed syntax of encoding instructions with those encoding references.

Annex F does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and references the specification of the top-level arcs of the International Object Identifier tree and the use of that tree to form an OID internationalized resource identifier which can be used as an IRI or URI registered as the "oid" scheme with IANA.

Annex G does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and provides examples and hints on the use of the ASN.1 notation.

Annex H does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and provides a tutorial on ASN.1 character strings.

Annex I does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and provides a tutorial on the ASN.1 model of type extension.

Annex J does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard and provides a tutorial introduction to ISO 8601 and to the **TIME** type. It is recommended that this be read before the normative text.

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Annex K does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard and provides information on how to identify the time properties of an abstract value from an instance of value notation.

Annex L does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, and provides a summary of ASN.1 using the notation of clause 5.

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**INTERNATIONAL STANDARD  
ITU-T RECOMMENDATION**

**Information technology –  
Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1):  
Specification of basic notation**

## 1 Scope

This Recommendation | International Standard provides a standard notation called Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) that is used for the definition of data types, values, and constraints on data types.

This Recommendation | International Standard:

- defines a number of simple types, with their tags, and specifies a notation for referencing these types and for specifying values of these types;
- defines mechanisms for constructing new types from more basic types, and specifies a notation for defining such types and assigning them tags, and for specifying values of these types;
- defines character sets (by reference to other Recommendations and/or International Standards) for use within ASN.1.

The ASN.1 notation can be applied whenever it is necessary to define the abstract syntax of information.

The ASN.1 notation is referenced by other standards which define encoding rules for the ASN.1 types.

## 2 Normative references

The following Recommendations and International Standards 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 and Standards 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 and Standards 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.

NOTE – This Recommendation | International Standard is based on ISO/IEC 10646:2003 and the Unicode standard version 3.2.0:2002. It cannot be applied using later versions of these two standards.

### 2.1 Identical Recommendations | International Standards

- Recommendation ITU-T X.660 (2011) | ISO/IEC 9834-1:2012, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Procedures for the operation of OSI Registration Authorities: General procedures and top arcs of the ASN.1 International Object Identifier tree.*
- 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).*

- Recommendation ITU-T X.695 (2021) | ISO/IEC 8825-6:2021, *Information technology – ASN.1 encoding rules: Registration and application of PER encoding instructions*.

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

- Recommendation ITU-R TF.460-6 (2002), *Standard-frequency and time-signal emissions*.
- CCITT Recommendation T.100 (1988), *International information exchange for interactive Videotex*.
- Recommendation ITU-T T.101 (1994), *International interworking for Videotex services*.
- ISO *International Register of Coded Character Sets to be used with Escape Sequences*.
- ISO/IEC 646:1991, *Information technology – ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange*.
- ISO/IEC 2022:1994, *Information technology – Character code structure and extension techniques*.
- ISO/IEC 6523:1998, *Data interchange – Structures for the identification of organizations and organization parts*.
- ISO/IEC 7350:1991, *Information technology – Registration of repertoires of graphic characters from ISO/IEC 10367*.
- ISO 8601:2019, *Date and time – Representations for information interchange*.
- ISO/IEC 10646:2003, *Information technology – Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS)*.
- The Unicode Standard, Version 3.2.0:2002. The Unicode Consortium. (Reading, MA, Addison-Wesley)  
NOTE 1 – The above reference is included because it provides names for control characters and specifies categories of characters.
- W3C XML 1.0:2008, *Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0 (Fifth Edition)*, W3C Recommendation, Copyright ©2008 W3C, (MIT, ERCIM, Keio), <http://www.w3.org/TR/2008/REC-xml-20081126/>.

NOTE – 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.

## 3 Definitions

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

### 3.1 International Object Identifier tree specification

This Recommendation | International Standard uses the following terms defined in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1:

- integer-valued Unicode label;
- international object identifier tree;
- OID internationalized resource identifier;
- long arc;
- object identifier;
- primary integer value;
- secondary identifier;
- Unicode label.

### 3.2 Information object specification

This Recommendation | International Standard uses the following terms defined in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2:

- information object;
- information object class;
- information object set;
- instance-of type;
- object class field type.

### 3.3 Constraint specification

This Recommendation | International Standard uses the following terms defined in Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3:

- a) component relation constraint;
- b) table constraint.

### 3.4 Parameterization of ASN.1 specification

This Recommendation | International Standard uses the following terms defined in Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4:

- a) parameterized type;
- b) parameterized value.

### 3.5 Structure for identification of organizations

This Recommendation | International Standard uses the following terms defined in ISO/IEC 6523:

- a) issuing organization;
- b) organization code;
- c) International Code Designator.

### 3.6 Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS)

This Recommendation | International Standard uses the following terms defined in ISO/IEC 10646:

- a) Basic Multilingual Plane (BMP);
- b) cell;
- c) combining character;
- d) graphic symbol;
- e) group;
- f) limited subset;
- g) plane;
- h) row;
- i) selected subset.

### 3.7 Representation of dates and times

This Recommendation | International Standard uses the following terms defined in ISO 8601:

- a) basic format;
- b) calendar date;
- c) common year;
- d) duration;
- e) extended format;
- f) Gregorian calendar;
- g) instant;
- h) leap second;
- i) leap year;
- j) local time of day;
- k) ordinal date;
- l) recurring time interval
- m) time axis;
- n) time interval;
- o) time;
- p) time-scale;
- q) UTC;

r) week date.

### 3.8 Additional definitions

**3.8.1 abstract character:** An abstract value which is used for the organization, control or representation of textual data.

NOTE – Annex H provides a more complete description of the term abstract character.

**3.8.2 abstract value:** A value whose definition is based only on the type used to carry some semantics, independently of how it is represented in any encoding.

NOTE – Examples of abstract values are the values of the integer type, the boolean type, a character string type, or of a type which is a sequence (or a choice) of an integer and a boolean.

**3.8.3 additional time type:** A type defined as a subtype of the time type (see 3.8.83) by applying the property setting subtype notation to the time type or to a useful or defined time type.

**3.8.4 ASN.1 character set:** The set of characters, specified in clause 11, used in the ASN.1 notation.

**3.8.5 ASN.1 specification:** A collection of one or more ASN.1 modules.

**3.8.6 associated type:** A type which is used only for defining the value and subtype notation for a type.

NOTE – Associated types are defined in this Recommendation | International Standard when it is necessary to make it clear that there may be a significant difference between how the type is defined in ASN.1 and how it is encoded. Associated types do not appear in user specifications.

**3.8.7 bitstring type:** A simple type whose distinguished values are an ordered sequence of zero, one or more bits.

NOTE – Where there is a need to carry embedded encodings of an abstract value, the use of a bitstring (or an octetstring) type without a contents constraint (see Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, clause 11) is deprecated. Otherwise, the use of the embedded-pdv type (see clause 36) provides a more flexible mechanism, allowing the announcement of the abstract syntax and of the encoding of the abstract value that is embedded.

**3.8.8 boolean type:** A simple type with two distinguished values.

**3.8.9 character property:** The set of information associated with a cell in a table defining a character repertoire.

NOTE – The information will normally include some or all of the following items:

- a) a graphic symbol;
- b) a character name;
- c) the definition of functions associated with the character when used in particular environments;
- d) whether it represents a digit;
- e) an associated character differing only in (upper/lower) case.

**3.8.10 character abstract syntax:** Any abstract syntax whose values are specified as the set of character strings of zero, one or more characters from some specified collection of characters.

**3.8.11 character repertoire:** The characters in a character set without any implication on how such characters are encoded.

**3.8.12 character string types:** Simple types whose values are strings of characters from some defined character set.

**3.8.13 character transfer syntax:** Any transfer syntax for a character abstract syntax.

**3.8.14 choice types:** Types defined by referencing a list of distinct types; each value of the choice type is derived from the value of one of the component types.

**3.8.15 component type:** One of the types referenced when defining a **CHOICE**, **SET**, **SEQUENCE**, **SET OF**, or **SEQUENCE OF**.

**3.8.16 constraint:** A notation which can be used in association with a type, to define a subtype of that type.

**3.8.17 contents constraint:** A constraint on a bit string or octet string type that specifies either that the contents are to be an encoding of a specified ASN.1 type, or that specified procedures are to be used to produce and process the contents.

**3.8.18 control characters:** Characters appearing in some character repertoires that have been given a name (and perhaps a defined function in relation to certain environments) but which have not been assigned a graphic symbol, and which are not spacing characters.

NOTE – HORIZONTAL TABULATION (9) and LINE FEED (10) are examples of control characters that have been assigned a formatting function in a printing environment. DATA LINK ESCAPE (16) is an example of a control character that has been assigned a function in a communication environment.

**3.8.19 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC):** The time scale maintained by the Bureau International de l'Heure (International Time Bureau) that forms the basis of a coordinated dissemination of standard frequencies and time signals.

NOTE 1 – The source of this definition is Rec. ITU-R TF.460-5. ITU-R has also defined the acronym for Coordinated Universal Time as UTC.

NOTE 2 – UTC and Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) are two alternative time standards which for most practical purposes determine the same time.

**3.8.20 default encoding reference (for a module):** An encoding reference that is specified in the module header and is assumed in all type prefixes which do not contain an encoding reference.

NOTE – If a default encoding reference is not specified in the module header, then all type prefixes which do not contain an encoding reference are assigning tags.

**3.8.21 defined time type:** A type defined in Annex B as a subtype of the time type (see 3.8.83) that is intended for importation by application designers when needed for their application.

**3.8.22 element:** A value of a governing type or an information object of a governing information object class, distinguishable from all other values of the same type or information objects of the same class, respectively.

**3.8.23 element set:** A set of elements, all of which are values of a governing type, or information objects of a governing class.

NOTE – Governing class is defined in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 3.4.7.

**3.8.24 embedded-pdv type:** A type whose set of values is formally the union of the sets of values in all possible abstract syntaxes. This type can be used in an ASN.1 specification that wishes to carry in its protocol an abstract value whose type may be defined externally to that ASN.1 specification. It carries an identification of the abstract syntax (the type) of the abstract value being carried, as well as an identification of the encoding rules used to encode that abstract value.

**3.8.25 encoding:** The bit-pattern resulting from the application of a set of encoding rules to an abstract value.

**3.8.26 encoding control section:** Part of an ASN.1 module that enables encoding instructions to be assigned to types defined or used within that ASN.1 module.

**3.8.27 encoding instruction:** Information which can be associated with a type using a type prefix or an encoding control section, and which affects the encoding of that type by one or more ASN.1 encoding rules.

NOTE – An encoding instruction does not affect the abstract values of a type, and is not expected to be visible to an application.

**3.8.28 encoding reference:** A name (see Annex E) that identifies which encoding rules are affected by an encoding instruction in a type prefix or an encoding control section.

NOTE – The encoding reference **TAG** can be used to specify that a type prefix is assigning a tag rather than an encoding instruction (see 31.2).

**3.8.29 (ASN.1) encoding rules:** Rules which specify the representation during transfer of the values of ASN.1 types. Encoding rules also enable the values to be recovered from the representation, given knowledge of the type.

NOTE – For the purpose of specifying encoding rules, the various referenced type (and value) notations, which can provide alternative notations for built-in types (and values), are not relevant.

**3.8.30 enumerated types:** Simple types whose values are given distinct identifiers as part of the type notation.

**3.8.31 extension addition:** One of the added notations in an extension series. For set, sequence and choice types, each extension addition is the addition of either a single extension addition group or a single component type. For enumerated types it is the addition of a single further enumeration. For a constraint it is the addition of (only) one subtype element.

NOTE – Extension additions are both textually ordered (following the extension marker) and logically ordered (having increasing enumeration values, and, in the case of **CHOICE** alternatives, increasing tags).

**3.8.32 extension addition group:** One or more components of a set, sequence or choice type grouped within version brackets. An extension addition group is used to clearly identify the components of a set, sequence or choice type that were added in a particular version of an ASN.1 module, and can identify that version with a simple integer.

**3.8.33 extension addition type:** A type contained within an extension addition group or a single component type that is itself an extension addition (in such a case it is not contained within an extension addition group).

**3.8.34 extensible constraint:** A subtype constraint with an extension marker at the outer level, or that is extensible through the use of set arithmetic with extensible sets of values.

**3.8.35 extension insertion point (or insertion point):** The location within a type definition where extension additions are inserted. This location is the end of the type notation of the immediately preceding type in the extension series if there is a single ellipsis in the type definition, or immediately before the second ellipsis if there is an extension marker pair in the definition of the type.

NOTE – There can be at most one insertion point within the components of any choice, sequence, or set type.

**3.8.36 extension marker:** A syntactic flag (an ellipsis) that is included in all types that form part of an extension series.

**3.8.37 extension marker pair:** A pair of extension markers between which extension additions are inserted.

**3.8.38 extension-related:** Two types that have the same extension root, where one was created by adding zero or more extension additions to the other.

**3.8.39 extension root:** An extensible type that is the first type in an extension series. It carries either the extension marker with no additional notation other than comments and white-space between the extension marker and the matching "}" or ")", or an extension marker pair with no additional notation other than a single comma, comments and white-space between the extension markers.

NOTE – Only an extension root can be the first type in an extension series.

**3.8.40 extension series:** A series of ASN.1 types which can be ordered in such a way that each successive type in the series is formed by the addition of text at the extension insertion point.

**3.8.41 extensible type:** A type with an extension marker, or to which an extensible constraint has been applied.

NOTE – An extension marker can be textually present or can be inserted by an EXTENSIBILITY-IMPLIED (see 13.4).

**3.8.42 external reference:** A type reference, value reference, information object class reference, information object reference, or information object set reference (which may be parameterized), that is defined in some other module than the one in which it is being referenced, and which is being referred to by prefixing the module name to the referenced item.

EXAMPLE – `ModuleName . TypeReference`

**3.8.43 external type:** A type which is a part of an ASN.1 specification that carries a value whose type may be defined externally to that ASN.1 specification. It also carries an identification of the type of the value being carried.

**3.8.44 false:** One of the distinguished values of the boolean type (see also "true").

**3.8.45 governing (type); governor:** A type definition or reference which affects the interpretation of a part of the ASN.1 syntax, requiring that part of the ASN.1 syntax to reference values in the governing type.

**3.8.46 identical type definitions:** Two instances of the ASN.1 "Type" production (see clause 17) are defined as identical type definitions if, after performing the transformations specified in Annex C, they are identical ordered lists of identical lexical items (see clause 12).

**3.8.47 OID internationalized resource identifier type:** The set of all OID internationalized resource identifiers.

NOTE 1 – This is a simple type whose values are a sequence of Unicode labels that identify a series of arcs leading from the root to a node of the International Object Identifier tree, as specified by the Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-series.

NOTE 2 – The rules of Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 permit a wide range of authorities to independently associate Unicode labels with an arc of the tree.

**3.8.48 integer type:** A simple type with distinguished values which are the positive and negative whole numbers, including zero (as a single value).

NOTE – When particular encoding rules limit the range of an integer, such limitations are chosen so as not to affect any user of ASN.1.

**3.8.49 lexical item:** A named sequence of characters from the ASN.1 character set, specified in clause 12, which is used in forming the ASN.1 notation.

**3.8.50 module:** One or more instances of the use of the ASN.1 notation for type, value, value set, information object class, information object, and information object set (as well as the parameterized variant of those), encapsulated using the ASN.1 module notation (see clause 13).

NOTE – The terms information object class (etc.) are specified in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, and parameterization is specified in Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4.

**3.8.51 null type:** A simple type consisting of a single value, also called null.

**3.8.52 object:** A well-defined piece of information, definition, or specification which requires a name in order to identify its use in an instance of communication.

NOTE – Such an object may be an information object as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2.

**3.8.53 object descriptor type:** A type whose distinguished values are human-readable text providing a brief description of an object (see 3.8.52).

NOTE – An object descriptor value is usually associated with a single object. Only an object identifier value unambiguously identifies an object.

**3.8.54 object identifier type:** A simple type whose values are a sequence of primary integer values that identify a series of arcs leading from the root to a node of the International Object Identifier tree, as specified by the Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834 series.

NOTE 1 – The rules of Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 permit a wide range of authorities to independently associate a primary integer value with an arc of the tree.

NOTE 2 – In the value notation for the object identifier type (and in XML encodings of that type) it is possible to include secondary identifiers for arcs.

**3.8.55 octetstring type:** A simple type whose distinguished values are an ordered sequence of zero, one or more octets, each octet being an ordered sequence of eight bits.

**3.8.56 open systems interconnection:** An architecture for computer communication which provides a number of terms which are used in this Recommendation | International Standard preceded by the abbreviation "OSI".

NOTE – The meaning of such terms can be obtained from the Rec. ITU-T X.200 series and equivalent ISO/IEC Standards if needed. The terms are only applicable if ASN.1 is used in an OSI environment.

**3.8.57 open type notation:** An ASN.1 notation used to denote a set of values from more than one ASN.1 type.

NOTE 1 – The term "open type" is used synonymously with "open type notation" in the body of this Recommendation | International Standard.

NOTE 2 – All ASN.1 encoding rules provide unambiguous encodings for the values of a single ASN.1 type. They do not necessarily provide unambiguous encodings for "open type notation", which carries values from ASN.1 types that are not normally determined at specification time. Knowledge of the type of the value being encoded in the "open type notation" is needed before the abstract value for that field can be unambiguously determined.

NOTE 3 – The only notation in this Recommendation | International Standard which is an open type notation is the "ObjectClassFieldType" specified in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, clause 14, where the "FieldName" denotes either a type field or a variable-type value field.

**3.8.58 parent type (of a subtype):** The type that is being constrained when defining a subtype, and which governs the subtype notation.

NOTE – The parent type may itself be a subtype of some other type.

**3.8.59 production:** A part of the formal notation (also called grammar or Backus-Naur Form, BNF) used to specify ASN.1.

**3.8.60 real type:** A simple type whose distinguished values (specified in clause 21) include the set of real numbers (numerical real numbers) together with special values such as **NOT-A-NUMBER**.

**3.8.61 recursive definition (of a type):** A set of ASN.1 definitions which cannot be reordered so that all types used in a construction are defined before the definition of the construction.

NOTE – Recursive definitions are allowed in ASN.1: the user of the notation has the responsibility for ensuring that those values (of the resulting types) which are used have a finite representation and that the value set associated with the type contains at least one value.

**3.8.62 relative OID internationalized resource identifier type:** A value which identifies an object by its position relative to some known OID internationalized resource identifier.

**3.8.63 relative object identifier:** A value which identifies an object by its position relative to some known object identifier.

**3.8.64 relative object identifier type:** A simple type whose values are the set of all possible relative object identifiers.

**3.8.65 restricted character string type:** A character string type whose characters are taken from a fixed character repertoire identified in the type specification.

**3.8.66 selection types:** Types defined by reference to a component type of a choice type, and whose values are precisely the values of that component type.

**3.8.67 sequence types:** Types defined by referencing a fixed, ordered list of types (some of which may be declared to be optional); each value of the sequence type is an ordered list of values, one from each component type.

NOTE – Where a component type is declared to be optional, a value of the sequence type need not contain a value of that component type.

**3.8.68 sequence-of types:** Types defined by referencing a single component type; each value in the sequence-of type is an ordered list of zero, one or more values of the component type.

**3.8.69 serial application (of constraints):** The application of a constraint to a parent type which is already constrained.

**3.8.70 set arithmetic:** The formation of new sets of values or information objects using the operations of union, intersection and set difference (use of **EXCEPT**) as specified in 50.2.

NOTE – The result of serial application of constraints is not covered by the term "set arithmetic".

**3.8.71 setting (of a time property):** One of a number of values that can be associated with a given time property (see 3.8.82 and the note in J.4.2).

NOTE – Any time property that applies to a particular time abstract value has only a single setting (see Table 6).

**3.8.72 set types:** Types defined by referencing a fixed, unordered, list of types (some of which may be declared to be optional); each value in the set type is an unordered list of values, one from each component type.

NOTE – Where a component type is declared to be optional, a value of the set type need not contain a value of that component type.

**3.8.73 set-of types:** Types defined by referencing a single component type; each value in the set-of type is an unordered list of zero, one or more values of the component type.

**3.8.74 simple types:** Types defined by directly specifying the set of their values.

**3.8.75 spacing character:** A character in a character repertoire which is intended for inclusion with graphic characters in the printing of a character string but which is represented in the physical rendition by empty space; it is not normally considered to be a control character (see 3.8.18).

NOTE – There may be a single spacing character in the character repertoire, or there may be multiple spacing characters with varying widths.

**3.8.76 subtype (of a parent type):** A type whose values are a subset (or the complete set) of the values of some other type (the parent type).

**3.8.77 tag:** Additional information, separate from the abstract values of the type, which is associated with every ASN.1 type and which can be changed or augmented by a type prefix.

NOTE – Tag information is used in some encoding rules to ensure that encodings are not ambiguous. Tag information differs from encoding instructions because tag information is associated with all ASN.1 types, even if they do not have a type prefix.

**3.8.78 tagged types:** A type defined by referencing a single existing type and a tag; the new type is isomorphic to the existing type, but is distinct from it.

**3.8.79 tagging:** Assigning a new tag to a type, replacing or adding to the existing (possibly the default) tag.

**3.8.80 time abstract value:** An abstract value of the time type.

**3.8.81 time component:** Part of the definition of a time abstract value that specifies a part of that abstract value.

NOTE – Examples of time components are a date component (that would have a year component), a time-of-day component, or a time difference component.

**3.8.82 time property (of a time abstract value):** One of a number of terms used to describe a time abstract value (see 3.8.80).

NOTE – The time properties that can be used to describe a time abstract value often depend on the setting of some other time property of that abstract value. The time properties are listed in Table 6, column 1.

**3.8.83 time type:** The **TIME** type that supports all the abstract values implicitly defined by ISO 8601.

**3.8.84 transfer syntax:** The set of bit strings used to exchange the abstract values in an abstract syntax, usually obtained by application of encoding rules to an abstract syntax.

NOTE – The term "transfer syntax" is synonymous with "encoding".

**3.8.85 true:** One of the distinguished values of the boolean type (see also "false").

**3.8.86 type:** A named set of values.

**3.8.87 type prefix:** Part of the ASN.1 notation that can be used to assign an encoding instruction or a tag to a type.

**3.8.88 type reference name:** A name associated uniquely with a type within some context.

NOTE – Reference names are assigned to the types defined in this Recommendation | International Standard; these are universally available within ASN.1. Other reference names are defined in other Recommendations | International Standards, and are applicable only in the context of that Recommendation | International Standard.

**3.8.89 unrestricted character string type:** A type whose abstract values are values from a character abstract syntax, together with an identification of the character abstract syntax and of the character transfer syntax to be used in its encoding.

**3.8.90 useful time type:** A built-in type defined as a subtype of the time type (see 3.8.83) that is intended for direct use by application designers.

**3.8.91 user (of ASN.1):** The individual or organization that defines the abstract syntax of a particular piece of information using ASN.1.

**3.8.92 value mapping:** A 1-1 relationship between values in two types that enables a reference to one of those values to be used as a reference to the other value. This can, for example, be used in specifying subtypes and default values (see Annex C).

**3.8.93 value reference name:** A name associated uniquely with a value within some context.

**3.8.94 value set:** A collection of values of a type. Semantically equivalent to a subtype.

**3.8.95 version brackets:** A pair of adjacent left and right brackets (" [ [" or " ] ] ") used to delineate the start and end of an extension addition group. The pair of left brackets can optionally be followed by a number giving a version number for the extension addition group.

**3.8.96 version number:** A number which can be associated with a version bracket (see I.1.8).

NOTE – A version number cannot be added to an extension addition which is not part of an extension addition group, nor to extension additions to any type other than choice, sequence, or set.

**3.8.97 white-space:** Any formatting action that yields a space on a printed page, such as spaces or tabs.

## 4 Abbreviations

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

ASN.1	Abstract Syntax Notation One
BER	Basic Encoding Rules of ASN.1
BMP	Basic Multilingual Plane
DCC	Data Country Code
DNIC	Data Network Identification Code
ECN	Encoding Control Notation of ASN.1
ICD	International Code Designator
IRI	Internationalized Resource Identifier
OID	Object Identifier
OSI	Open Systems Interconnection
PER	Packed Encoding Rules of ASN.1
ROA	Recognized Operating Agency
UCS	Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
URI	Universal Resource Identifier
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time
XML	Extensible Markup Language

## 5 Notation

### 5.1 General

**5.1.1** The ASN.1 notation consists of a sequence of characters from the ASN.1 character set specified in clause 11.

**5.1.2** Each use of the ASN.1 notation contains characters from the ASN.1 character set grouped into lexical items. Clause 12 specifies all the sequences of characters forming lexical items, and names each item.

**5.1.3** The ASN.1 notation is specified in clause 13 (and following clauses) by specifying and naming those sequences of lexical items which form valid instances of the ASN.1 notation, and by specifying the ASN.1 semantics of each sequence.

**5.1.4** In order to specify the permitted sequences of lexical items, this Recommendation | International Standard uses a formal notation defined in the following subclauses.

## 5.2 Productions

5.2.1 All lexical items are named (see clause 12), and permitted sequences of lexical items are named.

5.2.2 A new (more complex) permitted sequence of lexical items is defined by means of a production. This uses the names of lexical items and of permitted sequences of lexical items and forms a new named permitted sequence of lexical items.

5.2.3 Each production consists of the following parts, on one or several lines, in order:

- a) a name for the new permitted sequence of lexical items;
- b) the characters

::=

- c) one or more alternative sequences of lexical items, as defined in 5.3, separated by the character

|

5.2.4 A sequence of lexical items is present in the new permitted sequence of lexical items if it is present in one or more of the alternatives. The new permitted sequence of lexical items is referenced in this Recommendation | International Standard by the name in 5.2.3 a) above.

NOTE – If the same sequence of lexical items appears in more than one alternative, any semantic ambiguity in the resulting notation is resolved by associated text.

## 5.3 The alternative collections

5.3.1 Each alternative in a production (see 5.2.3.c) is specified by a list of names. Each name is either the name of a lexical item, or is the name of a permitted sequence of lexical items defined and named by some other production.

5.3.2 The permitted sequence of lexical items defined by each alternative consists of all sequences obtained by taking any one of the sequences (or the lexical item) associated with the first name, in combination with (and followed by) any one of the sequences (or lexical item) associated with the second name, in combination with (and followed by) any one of the sequences (or lexical item) associated with the third name, and so on up to and including the last name (or lexical item) in the alternative.

## 5.4 Non-spacing indicator

If the non-spacing indicator "&" (AMPERSAND) is inserted between these items in production sequences, then the lexical item that precedes it and the lexical item that follows it shall not be separated by white-space.

NOTE – This indicator is only used in productions that describe the XML value notation. For example, it is used to specify that the lexical item "<" is to be immediately followed by an XML tag name.

## 5.5 Example of a production

5.5.1 The production:

```

ExampleProduction ::=
    bstring
    | hstring
    | "{" IdentifierList "}"
    
```

associates the name "ExampleProduction" with the following sequences of lexical items:

- a) any "bstring" (a lexical item); or
- b) any "hstring" (a lexical item); or
- c) any sequence of lexical items associated with "IdentifierList", preceded by a "{" and followed by a "}".

NOTE – "{" and "}" are the names of lexical items containing the single characters { and } (see 12.37).

5.5.2 In this example, "IdentifierList" would be defined by a further production, either before or after the production defining "ExampleProduction".

## 5.6 Layout

Each production used in this Recommendation | International Standard is preceded and followed by an empty line. Empty lines do not appear within productions. The production may be on a single line, or may be spread over several lines. Layout is not significant.

## 5.7 Recursion

The productions in this Recommendation | International Standard are frequently recursive. In this case the productions are to be continuously reapplied until no new sequences are generated.

NOTE – In many cases, such reapplication results in an infinite set of permitted sequences of lexical items. Some or all of the sequences in the set may themselves contain an unbounded number of lexical items. This is not an error.

## 5.8 References to permitted sequences of lexical items

This Recommendation | International Standard references a permitted sequence of lexical items (part of the ASN.1 notation) by referencing the name that appears before the "::<=" in a production; the name is surrounded by the QUOTATION MARK (34) character (") to distinguish it from natural language text, unless it appears as part of a production.

## 5.9 References to a lexical item

This Recommendation | International Standard references a lexical item by using the name of the lexical item; when the name appears in natural language text, and could be confused with such text, then it is surrounded by the QUOTATION MARK (34) character (").

## 5.10 Short-hand notations

In order to make productions more concise and more readable, the following short-hand notations are used in the definition of permitted sequences of lexical items in this Recommendation | International Standard and also in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3 and Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4:

- a) An asterisk (\*) following two names, "A" and "B", denotes the "empty" lexical item (see 12.7), or one of the permitted sequences of lexical items associated with "A", or an alternating series of one of the sequences of lexical items associated with "A" and one of the sequences of lexical items associated with "B", both starting and finishing with one associated with "A". Thus:

$$C ::= A B *$$

is equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} C &::= D \mid \text{empty} \\ D &::= A \mid A B D \end{aligned}$$

"D" being an auxiliary name not appearing elsewhere in the productions.

EXAMPLE – "C ::= A B \*" is the shorthand notation for the following alternatives of C:

```
empty
A
A B A
A B A B A
A B A B A B A
...
```

- b) A plus sign (+) is similar to the asterisk in a), except that the "empty" lexical item is excluded. Thus:

$$E ::= A B +$$

is equivalent to:

$$E ::= A \mid A B E$$

EXAMPLE – "E ::= A B +" is the shorthand notation for the following alternatives of E:

```
A
A B A
A B A B A
A B A B A B A
...
```

- c) A question mark (?) following a name denotes either the "empty" lexical item (see 12.7) or a permitted sequence of lexical items associated with "A". Thus:

$$F ::= A ?$$

is equivalent to:

**F ::= empty | A**

NOTE – These short-hand notations take precedence over the juxtaposition of lexical items in production sequences (see 5.2.2).

## 5.11 Value references and the typing of values

**5.11.1** The ASN.1 value assignment notation enables a name to be given to a value of a specified type. This name can be used wherever a reference to that value is needed. Annex C describes and specifies the value mapping mechanism that allows a value reference name for a value of one type to identify a value of a second (similar) type. Thus, a reference to the first value can be used wherever a reference to a value in the second type is required.

**5.11.2** In the body of the ASN.1 standards normal English text is used to specify legality (or otherwise) of constructs where more than one type is involved. These legality specifications generally require that two or more types be "compatible". For example, the type used in defining a value reference is required to be "compatible with" the governing type when the value reference is used. The normative Annex C uses the value mapping concept to give a precise statement about whether any given ASN.1 construct is legal or not.

## 6 The ASN.1 model of type extension

When decoding an extensible type, a decoder may detect:

- the absence of expected extension additions in a sequence or set type; or
- the presence of arbitrary unexpected extension additions above those defined (if any) in a sequence or set type, or of an unknown alternative in a choice type, or an unknown enumeration in an enumerated type, or of an unexpected length or value of a type whose constraint is extensible.

In formal terms, an abstract syntax defined by the extensible type **x** contains not only the values of type **x**, but also the values of all types that are extension-related to **x**. Thus, the decoding process never signals an error when either of the above situations (a or b) is detected. The action that is taken in each situation is determined by the ASN.1 specifier.

NOTE – Frequently the action will be to ignore the presence of unexpected additional extensions, and to use a default value or a "missing" indicator for expected extension additions that are absent.

Unexpected extension additions detected by a decoder in an extensible type can later be included in a subsequent encoding of that type (for transmission back to the sender, or to some third party), provided that the same transfer syntax is used on the subsequent transmission.

## 7 Extensibility requirements on encoding rules

NOTE – These requirements apply to standardized encoding rules. They do not apply to encoding rules defined using ECN (see Rec. ITU-T X.692 | ISO/IEC 8825-3).

**7.1** All ASN.1 encoding rules shall allow the encoding of values of an extensible type **x** in such a way that they can be decoded using an extensible type **y** that is extension-related to **x**. Further, the encoding rules shall allow the values that were decoded using **y** to be re-encoded (using **y**) and decoded using a third extensible type **z** that is extension related to **y** (and hence **x** also).

NOTE – Types **x**, **y** and **z** may appear in any order in the extension series.

If a value of an extensible type **x** is encoded and then relayed (directly or through a relaying application using extension-related type **z**) to another application that decodes the value using extensible type **y** that is extension-related to **x**, then the decoder using type **y** obtains an abstract value composed of:

- an abstract value of the extension root type;
- an abstract value of each extension addition that is present in both **x** and **y**;
- delimited encoding for each extension addition (if any) that is in **x** but not in **y**.

The encodings in c) shall be capable of being included in a later encoding of a value of **y**, if so required by the application. That encoding shall be a valid encoding of a value of **x**.

**Tutorial example:** If system A is using an extensible root type (type **x**) that is a sequence type or a set type with an extension addition of an optional integer type, while system B is using an extension-related type (type **y**) that has two extension additions where each is an optional integer type, then transmission by B of a value of **y** which omits the integer value of the first extension addition and includes the second must not be confused by A with the presence of the first (only) extension addition of **x** that it knows about. Moreover, A must be able to re-encode the value of **x** with a

value present for the first integer type, followed by the second integer value received from B, if so required by the application protocol.

**7.2** All ASN.1 encoding rules shall specify the encoding and decoding of the value of an enumerated type and a choice type in such a way that if a transmitted value is in the set of extension additions held in common by the encoder and the decoder, then it is successfully decoded; otherwise, it shall be possible for the decoder to delimit the encoding of it and to identify it as a value of an (unknown) extension addition.

**7.3** All ASN.1 encoding rules shall specify the encoding and decoding of types with extensible constraints in such a way that if a transmitted value is in the set of extension additions held in common by the encoder and the decoder, then it is successfully decoded, otherwise it shall be possible for the decoder to delimit the encoding of and to identify it as a value of an (unknown) extension addition.

In all cases, the presence of extension additions shall not affect the ability to recognize later material when a type with an extension marker is nested inside some other type.

NOTE 1 – All variants of the Basic Encoding Rules of ASN.1 and the Packed Encoding Rules of ASN.1 satisfy all these requirements. Encoding rules defined using ECN do not necessarily satisfy all these requirements, but may do so.

NOTE 2 – PER and BER do not identify the version number in the encoding of an extension addition. Encodings specified using ECN may or may not provide such identification.

## 8 Tags

**8.1** A tag is specified (either within the text of this Recommendation | International Standard or by using a type prefix) by giving a class and a number within the class. The class is one of:

- universal;
- application;
- private;
- context-specific.

**8.2** The number is a non-negative integer, specified in decimal notation.

**8.3** Restrictions on tags assigned by the user of ASN.1 are specified in 31.2.

NOTE – Subclause 31.2 includes the restriction that users of this notation are not allowed to explicitly specify universal class tags in their ASN.1 specifications. There is no formal difference between use of tags from the other three classes. Where application class tags are employed, a private or context-specific class tag could generally be applied instead, as a matter of user choice and style. The presence of the three classes is largely for historical reasons, but guidance is given in G.2.12 on the way in which the classes are usually employed.

**8.4** Table 1 summarizes the assignment of tags in the universal class which are specified in this Recommendation | International Standard.

**8.5** Some encoding rules require a canonical order for tags. To provide uniformity, a canonical order for tags is defined in 8.6.

**8.6** The canonical order for tags is based on the outermost tag of each type and is defined as follows:

- a) those elements or alternatives with universal class tags shall appear first, followed by those with application class tags, followed by those with context-specific tags, followed by those with private class tags;
- b) within each class of tags, the elements or alternatives shall appear in ascending order of their tag numbers.

**Table 1 – Universal class tag assignments**

UNIVERSAL 0	Reserved for use by the encoding rules
UNIVERSAL 1	Boolean type
UNIVERSAL 2	Integer type
UNIVERSAL 3	Bitstring type
UNIVERSAL 4	Octetstring type
UNIVERSAL 5	Null type
UNIVERSAL 6	Object identifier type
UNIVERSAL 7	Object descriptor type
UNIVERSAL 8	External type and Instance-of type
UNIVERSAL 9	Real type
UNIVERSAL 10	Enumerated type
UNIVERSAL 11	Embedded-pdv type
UNIVERSAL 12	UTF8String type
UNIVERSAL 13	Relative object identifier type
UNIVERSAL 14	The time type
UNIVERSAL 15	Reserved for future editions of this Recommendation   International Standard
UNIVERSAL 16	Sequence and Sequence-of types
UNIVERSAL 17	Set and Set-of types
UNIVERSAL 18-22, 25-30	Character string types
UNIVERSAL 23-24	<b>UTCTime</b> and <b>GeneralizedTime</b>
UNIVERSAL 31-34	<b>DATE</b> , <b>TIME-OF-DAY</b> , <b>DATE-TIME</b> and <b>DURATION</b> respectively
UNIVERSAL 35	OID internationalized resource identifier type
UNIVERSAL 36	Relative OID internationalized resource identifier type
UNIVERSAL 37-...	Reserved for addenda to this Recommendation   International Standard

## 9 Encoding instructions

**9.1** An encoding instruction is assigned to a type using either a type prefix (see 31.3) or an encoding control section (see clause 54).

**9.2** A type prefix may contain an encoding reference. If it does not, the encoding reference is determined by the default encoding reference for the module (see 13.5).

**9.3** An encoding control section always contains an encoding reference. There may be multiple encoding control sections, but each encoding control section shall have a distinct encoding reference.

**9.4** An encoding instruction consists of a sequence of lexical items specified in the Recommendation | International Standard determined by the encoding reference (see Annex E).

**9.5** Multiple encoding instructions with the same or with different encoding references may be assigned to a type (using either or both of type prefixes and an encoding control section). Encoding instructions assigned with a given encoding reference are independent from those assigned with a different encoding reference, and from any use of a type prefix to perform tagging.

**9.6** The effect of assigning several encoding instructions with the same encoding reference (using either or both of type prefixes and an encoding control section) is specified in the Recommendation | International Standard determined by the encoding reference (see Annex E), and is not specified in this Recommendation | International Standard.

**9.7** If an encoding instruction is assigned to the "Type" in a "TypeAssignment", it becomes associated with the type, and is applied wherever the "typerference" of the "TypeAssignment" is used. This includes use in other modules through the export and import statements.

## 10 Use of the ASN.1 notation

10.1 The ASN.1 notation for a type definition shall be "Type" (see 17.1).

10.2 The ASN.1 notation for a value of a type shall be "Value" (see 17.7).

NOTE – It is not in general possible to interpret the value notation without knowledge of the type.

10.3 The ASN.1 notation for assigning a type to a type reference name shall be either "TypeAssignment" (see 16.1), "ValueSetTypeAssignment" (see 16.6), "ParameterizedTypeAssignment" (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.2), or "ParameterizedValueSetTypeAssignment" (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.2).

10.4 The ASN.1 notation for assigning a value to a value reference name shall be either "ValueAssignment" (see 16.2) or "ParameterizedValueAssignment" (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.2).

10.5 The production alternatives of the notation "Assignment" shall only be used within the notation "ModuleDefinition" (except as specified in NOTE 2 of 13.1).

## 11 The ASN.1 character set

11.1 A lexical item shall consist of a sequence of the characters listed in Table 2 except as specified in 11.2, 11.3 and 11.4. In Table 2, characters are identified by the names they are given in ISO/IEC 10646.

Table 2 – ASN.1 characters

A to Z	(LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A to LATIN CAPITAL LETTER Z)
a to z	(LATIN SMALL LETTER A to LATIN SMALL LETTER Z)
0 to 9	(DIGIT ZERO to DIGIT 9)
!	(EXCLAMATION MARK)
"	(QUOTATION MARK)
&	(AMPERSAND)
'	(APOSTROPHE)
(	(LEFT PARENTHESIS)
)	(RIGHT PARENTHESIS)
*	(ASTERISK)
,	(COMMA)
-	(HYPHEN-MINUS)
.	(FULL STOP)
/	(SOLIDUS)
:	(COLON)
;	(SEMICOLON)
<	(LESS-THAN SIGN)
=	(EQUALS SIGN)
>	(GREATER-THAN SIGN)
@	(COMMERCIAL AT)
[	(LEFT SQUARE BRACKET)
]	(RIGHT SQUARE BRACKET)
^	(CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT)
_	(LOW LINE)
{	(LEFT CURLY BRACKET)
	(VERTICAL LINE)
}	(RIGHT CURLY BRACKET)
-	(NON-BREAKING HYPHEN)

NOTE – Where equivalent derivative standards are developed by national standards bodies, additional characters may appear in the following lexical items:

- typereference (see 12.2);
- identifier (see 12.3);
- valuereference (see 12.4);
- modulereference (see 12.5).

When additional characters are introduced to accommodate a language in which the distinction between upper-case and lower-case letters is without meaning, the syntactic distinction achieved by dictating the case of the first character of certain of the above lexical items has to be achieved in some other way. This is to allow valid ASN.1 specifications to be written in various languages.

**11.2** Where the notation is used to specify the value of a character string type, all characters for the defined character set can appear in the ASN.1 notation, surrounded by the QUOTATION MARK (34) characters (") (see 12.14).

**11.3** Additional (arbitrary) graphic symbols may appear in the "comment" lexical item (see 12.6).

**11.4** Where the notation is used to specify the value of a Unicode label, all characters allowed in a Unicode label can appear in ASN.1 notation.

**11.5** There shall be no significance placed on the typographical style, size, colour, intensity, or other display characteristics.

**11.6** The upper-case and lower-case letters shall be regarded as distinct.

**11.7** ASN.1 definitions can also contain white-space characters (see 12.1.6) between lexical items.

**11.8** The NON-BREAKING HYPHEN and the HYPHEN-MINUS should be treated as identical in all names (including reserved words).

NOTE – A name such as My-Type is the same name whether it contains a HYPHEN-MINUS or a NON-BREAKING HYPHEN.

## 12 ASN.1 lexical items

### 12.1 General rules

**12.1.1** The following subclauses specify the characters in lexical items. In each case the name of the lexical item is given, together with the definition of the character sequences which form the lexical item.

**12.1.2** The lexical items specified in the subclauses of this clause 12 (except multiple-line "comment", "bstring", "xmlbstring", "hstring", "xmlhstring", "cstring", "xmlcstring" and "simplestring") shall not contain white-space (see 12.6, 12.10, 12.11, 12.12, 12.13, 12.14, 12.15 and 12.16). A single-line "comment" shall not contain "new-line" characters. The "non-integerUnicodeLabel" lexical item may include the NON-BREAKING-SPACE character.

**12.1.3** The length of a line is not restricted.

**12.1.4** Lexical items may be separated by one or more occurrences of white-space (see 12.1.6) or comments (see 12.6) except when the non-spacing indicator "&" (see 5.4) is used. Within an "XMLTypedValue" production (see 16.2), white-space may appear between lexical items, but the "comment" lexical item shall not be present.

NOTE – This is to avoid ambiguity resulting from the presence of adjacent hyphens or asterisk and solidus within an "xmlcstring" lexical item. Such characters never indicate the start of a "comment" lexical item when they appear within an "XMLTypedValue" production.

**12.1.5** A lexical item shall be separated from a following lexical item by one or more instances of white-space or comment if the initial character (or characters) of the following lexical item is a permitted character (or characters) for inclusion at the end of the characters in the earlier lexical item.

**12.1.6** This Recommendation | International Standard uses the terms "newline", and "white-space". In representing white-space and newline (end of line) in machine-readable specifications, any one or more of the following characters may be used in any combination (for each character, the character name and character code specified in The Unicode Standard are given):

For white-space:

HORIZONTAL TABULATION (9)

LINE FEED (10)

VERTICAL TABULATION (11)

FORM FEED (12)

CARRIAGE RETURN (13)

SPACE (32)

NO-BREAK SPACE ({0,0,0,160})

For newline:

- LINE FEED (10)
- VERTICAL TABULATION (11)
- FORM FEED (12)
- CARRIAGE RETURN (13)

NOTE – Any character or character sequence that is a valid newline is also a valid white-space.

## 12.2 Type references

Name of lexical item – typereference

**12.2.1** A "typereference" shall consist of an arbitrary number (one or more) of letters, digits, and hyphens. The initial character shall be an upper-case letter. A hyphen shall not be the last character. A hyphen shall not be immediately followed by another hyphen.

NOTE – The rules concerning hyphen are designed to avoid ambiguity with (possibly following) comment.

**12.2.2** A "typereference" shall not be one of the reserved character sequences listed in 12.38.

## 12.3 Identifiers

Name of lexical item – identifier

An "identifier" shall consist of an arbitrary number (one or more) of letters, digits, and hyphens. The initial character shall be a lower-case letter. A hyphen shall not be the last character. A hyphen shall not be immediately followed by another hyphen.

NOTE – The rules concerning hyphen are designed to avoid ambiguity with (possibly following) comment.

## 12.4 Value references

Name of lexical item – valuereference

A "valuereference" shall consist of the sequence of characters specified for an "identifier" in 12.3. In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, a "valuereference" is distinguished from an "identifier" by the context in which it appears.

## 12.5 Module references

Name of lexical item – modulereference

A "modulereference" shall consist of the sequence of characters specified for a "typereference" in 12.2. In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, a "modulereference" is distinguished from a "typereference" by the context in which it appears.

## 12.6 Comments

Name of lexical item – comment

**12.6.1** A "comment" is not referenced in the definition of the ASN.1 notation. It may, however, appear at any time between other lexical items, and has no syntactic significance.

NOTE – Nonetheless, in the context of a Recommendation | International Standard that uses ASN.1, an ASN.1 comment may contain normative text related to the application semantics, or constraints on the syntax.

**12.6.2** The lexical item "comment" can have two forms:

- a) One-line comments which begin with "--" as defined in 12.6.3;
- b) Multiple-line comments which begin with "/\*" as defined in 12.6.4.

**12.6.3** Whenever a "comment" begins with a pair of adjacent hyphens, it shall end with the next pair of adjacent hyphens or at the end of the line, whichever occurs first. A comment shall not contain a pair of adjacent hyphens other than the pair which starts it and the pair, if any, which ends it. If a comment beginning with "--" includes the adjacent characters "/\*" or "\*/", these have no special meaning and are considered part of the comment. The comment may include graphic symbols which are not in the character set specified in 11.1 (see 11.3).

**12.6.4** Whenever a "comment" begins with "/\*", it shall end with a corresponding "\*/", whether this "\*/" is on the same line or not. If another "/\*" is found before a "\*/", then the comment terminates when a matching "\*/" has been found for each "/\*". If a comment beginning with "/\*" includes two adjacent hyphens "--", these hyphens have no special meaning and are considered part of the comment. The comment may include graphic symbols which are not in the character set specified in 11.1 (see 11.3).

NOTE – This allows the user to comment parts of an ASN.1 module that already contain comments (whether they begin with "--" or "/\*") by simply inserting "/\*" at the beginning of the part to be commented and "\*/" at its end, provided there are no character string values within the part to be commented out that contain "/\*" or "\*/".

## 12.7 Empty lexical item

Name of lexical item – empty

The "empty" item contains no characters. It is used in the notation of clause 5 when alternative sets of production sequences are specified, to indicate that absence of all alternatives is possible.

## 12.8 Numbers

Name of lexical item – number

A "number" shall consist of one or more digits. The first digit shall not be zero unless the "number" is a single digit.

NOTE – The "number" lexical item is always mapped to an integer value by interpreting it as decimal notation.

## 12.9 Real numbers

Name of lexical item – realnumber

A "realnumber" shall consist of an integer part that is a series of one or more digits, and optionally a decimal point (.). The decimal point can optionally be followed by a fractional part which is one or more digits. The integer part, decimal point or fractional part (whichever is last present) can optionally be followed by an e or E and an optionally-signed exponent which is one or more digits. The leading digit of the "realnumber" shall not be zero unless it is either the only digit or is immediately followed by a decimal point followed by a fractional part of which at least one digit is not zero.

A "number" is also a valid instance of "realnumber". In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, a "realnumber" is distinguished from a "number" by the context in which it appears.

## 12.10 Binary strings

Name of lexical item – bstring

A "bstring" shall consist of an arbitrary number (possibly zero) of the characters:

0 1

possibly intermixed with white-space, preceded by an APOSTROPHE (39) character (') and followed by the pair of characters:

'B

EXAMPLE – '01101100'B

Occurrences of white-space within a binary string lexical item have no significance.

## 12.11 XML binary string item

Name of item – xmlbstring

An "xmlbstring" shall consist of an arbitrary number (possibly zero) of zeros, ones or white-space. Any white-space characters that appear within a binary string item have no significance.

EXAMPLE – 01101100

This sequence of characters is also a valid instance of "xmlhstring" and "xmlcstring". In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, an "xmlbstring" is distinguished from an "xmlhstring" or "xmlcstring" by the context in which it appears.

## 12.12 Hexadecimal strings

Name of lexical item – hstring

**12.12.1** An "hstring" shall consist of an arbitrary number (possibly zero) of the characters:

**A B C D E F 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9**

possibly intermixed with white-space, preceded by an APOSTROPHE (39) character (') and followed by the pair of characters:

'H

EXAMPLE – 'AB0196'H

Occurrences of white-space within a hexadecimal string lexical item have no significance.

**12.12.2** Each character is used to denote the value of a semi-octet using a hexadecimal representation.

### 12.13 XML hexadecimal string item

Name of item – xmlhstring

**12.13.1** An "xmlhstring" shall consist of an arbitrary number (possibly zero) of the characters:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F a b c d e f

or white-space. Any white-space characters that appear within a hexadecimal string item have no significance.

EXAMPLE – Ab0196

**12.13.2** Each character is used to denote the value of a semi-octet using a hexadecimal representation.

**12.13.3** All instances of "xmlhstring" are also valid instances of "xmlcstring" and some instances are also valid instances of "xmlbstring". In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, an "xmlhstring" is distinguished from an "xmlbstring" or "xmlcstring" by the context in which it appears.

### 12.14 Character strings

Name of lexical item – cstring

**12.14.1** A "cstring" shall consist of an arbitrary number (possibly zero) of graphic symbols and spacing characters from the character set referenced by the character string type, preceded and followed by a QUOTATION MARK (34) character ("). If the character set includes a QUOTATION MARK (34) character, this character (if present in the character string being represented by the "cstring") shall be represented in the "cstring" by a pair of QUOTATION MARK (34) characters on the same line with no intervening spacing character. The "cstring" may span more than one line of text, in which case the character string being represented shall not include spacing characters in the position prior to or following the end of line in the "cstring". Any spacing characters that appear immediately prior to or following the end of line in the "cstring" have no significance.

NOTE 1 – The "cstring" can only be used to unambiguously represent (on a printed page) character strings for which every character in the string being represented has either been assigned a graphic symbol, or is a spacing character. Where a character string containing control characters needs to be denoted in a printed representation, alternative ASN.1 syntax is available (see clause 39).

NOTE 2 – The character string represented by a "cstring" consists of the characters associated with the graphic symbols and spacing characters. Spacing characters immediately preceding or following any end of line in the "cstring" are not part of the character string being represented (they are ignored). Where spacing characters are included in the "cstring", or where the graphic symbols in the character repertoire are not unambiguous in a printed representation, the character string denoted by "cstring" may be ambiguous in that printed representation.

EXAMPLE 1 – "屎屍市弒"

EXAMPLE 2 – The "cstring":

"ABCDE FGH

IJK"XYZ"

can be used to represent a character string value of type **IA5String**. The value represented consists of the characters:

ABCDE FGHIJK"XYZ

where the precise number of spaces intended between **E** and **F** can be ambiguous in a printed representation if a proportional spacing font (such as is used above) is used in the printed specification, or if the character repertoire contains multiple spacing characters of different widths.

**12.14.2** When a character is a combining character (see Annex H) it shall be denoted in a printed representation of the "cstring" as an individual character. It shall not be overprinted with the characters with which it combines. (This ensures that the order of combining characters in the string value is unambiguously defined in the printed version.)

EXAMPLE – Lower-case "e" and the accent combining character are two characters in ISO/IEC 10646, and thus a corresponding "cstring" should be printed as two characters and not as the single character é.

## 12.15 XML character string item

Name of item – xmlcstring

**12.15.1** An "xmlcstring" shall consist of an arbitrary number (possibly zero) of the following ISO/IEC 10646 characters:

- a) HORIZONTAL TABULATION (9);
- b) LINE FEED (10);
- c) CARRIAGE RETURN (13);
- d) any character whose ISO/IEC 10646 character code is in the range 32 (20 hex) to 55295 (D7FF hex), inclusive;
- e) any character whose ISO/IEC 10646 character code is in the range 57344 (E000 hex) to 65533 (FFFD hex), inclusive;
- f) any character whose ISO/IEC 10646 character code is in the range 65536 (10000 hex) to 1114111 (10FFFF hex), inclusive.

NOTE – Additional restrictions are imposed by the requirement that the "xmlcstring", in an instance of use, shall contain only characters permitted by the governing character string type.

**12.15.2** The characters "&" (AMPERSAND), "<" (LESS-THAN SIGN) or ">" (GREATER-THAN SIGN) shall appear only as part of one of the character sequences specified in 12.15.4 or 12.15.5.

**12.15.3** An "xmlcstring" is used to represent the value of a restricted character string (see 41.9), and can be used to represent all combinations of ISO/IEC 10646 characters, either directly, or by using the escape sequences specified below.

NOTE 1 – An "xmlcstring" cannot be used to represent characters that are not present in ISO/IEC 10646, such as some of the control characters which can appear in **GeneralString**, nor can it represent characters which might be defined with ISO/IEC 10646 character codes above 10FFFF hex.

NOTE 2 – The characters LINE FEED (10) and CARRIAGE RETURN (13) and the pair CARRIAGE RETURN + LINE FEED are not distinguished when processed by conforming XML processors.

**12.15.4** If the characters "&" (AMPERSAND), "<" (LESS-THAN SIGN) or ">" (GREATER-THAN SIGN) are present in an abstract character string value being represented by "xmlcstring" (see 41.9), they shall be represented in the "xmlcstring" by either

- a) the escape sequences specified in 12.15.8; or
- b) the escape sequences "&"; "&lt;"; or "&gt;"; respectively. These escape sequences shall not contain white-space (see 12.1.6).

**12.15.5** If a character with an ISO/IEC 10646 character code in column 1 of Table 3 is present in the abstract character string value being represented by the "xmlcstring" (see 41.9), it shall be represented by the character sequence in column 2 of Table 3. These character sequences shall not contain white-space (see 12.1.6).

NOTE – This does not include characters with decimal character codes 9, 10, and 13, and all the letters in these character sequences are lower-case.

Table 3 – Escape sequences for control characters in an "xmlcstring"

ISO/IEC 10646 character code	"xmlcstring" representation	ISO/IEC 10646 character code	"xmlcstring" representation
0 (0 hex)	<nul/>	17 (11 hex)	<dc1/>
1 (1 hex)	<soh/>	18 (12 hex)	<dc2/>
2 (2 hex)	<stx/>	19 (13 hex)	<dc3/>
3 (3 hex)	<etx/>	20 (14 hex)	<dc4/>
4 (4 hex)	<eot/>	21 (15 hex)	<nak/>
5 (5 hex)	<enq/>	22 (16 hex)	<syn/>
6 (6 hex)	<ack/>	23 (17 hex)	<etb/>
7 (7 hex)	<bel/>	24 (18 hex)	<can/>
8 (8 hex)	<bs/>	25 (19 hex)	<em/>
11 (B hex)	<vt/>	26 (1A hex)	<sub/>
12 (C hex)	<ff/>	27 (1B hex)	<esc/>
14 (E hex)	<so/>	28 (1C hex)	<is4/>
15 (F hex)	<si/>	29 (1D hex)	<is3/>
16 (10 hex)	<dle/>	30 (1E hex)	<is2/>
		31 (1F hex)	<is1/>

**12.15.6** When "xmlcstring" is used within an "XMLTypedValue" (see 16.2) forming part of an XER encoding (see Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4), it may contain adjacent HYPHEN-MINUS (45) characters. When used within an instance of XML value notation in an ASN.1 module, it shall not contain two adjacent HYPHEN-MINUS characters. If this character sequence is present in an abstract character string value being represented by the "xmlcstring" in an ASN.1 module, then at least one of the adjacent HYPHEN-MINUS characters shall be represented by the escape sequences specified in 12.15.8.

**12.15.7** When "xmlcstring" is used within an "XMLTypedValue" forming part of an XER encoding (see Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4), it may contain adjacent ASTERISK (42) and SOLIDUS (47) characters in any order. When used within an instance of XML value notation in an ASN.1 module, it shall not contain adjacent ASTERISK and SOLIDUS characters (in any order). If this character sequence is present in an abstract character string value being represented by the "xmlcstring", then at least one of the adjacent ASTERISK and SOLIDUS characters shall be represented by the escape sequences specified in 12.15.8.

**12.15.8** Any character that can appear directly in an "xmlcstring" can also be represented in the "xmlcstring" by an escape sequence of the form "&#n;" (where n is the ISO/IEC 10646 character code in decimal notation) or of the form "&#xn;" (where n is the ISO/IEC 10646 character code in hexadecimal notation). These escape sequences shall not contain white-space (see 12.1.6).

NOTE 1 – Leading zeros are permitted in the decimal and hexadecimal values of "n" and both lower-case and upper-case letters "A"-"F" can be used in the hexadecimal value.

NOTE 2 – If the escape sequences "&#n" and "&#xn" are used for ISO/IEC 10646 characters which are not in the Basic Multilingual Plane (BMP), the value of "n" will be greater than 65535 (FFFF hex).

EXAMPLE – The "xmlcstring":

ABCD&#233; FGH&#xEE;JK&amp;XYZ

can be used to represent a character string value of type UTF8String. The value represented consists of the characters:

ABCDé FGHîJK&XYZ

where the precise space characters between é and F can be ambiguous in print media if a proportional spacing font (such as above) is used in the specification.

### 12.16 The simple character string lexical item

Name of item – simplestring

A "simplestring" shall consist of one or more ISO/IEC 10646 characters whose character code is in the range 32 to 126, preceded and followed by a QUOTATION MARK (34) character ("). It shall not contain a QUOTATION MARK (34) character ("). The "simplestring" may span more than one line of text, in which case any characters representing end-of-line shall be treated as spacing characters. In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, a "simplestring" is distinguished from a "cstring" by the context in which it appears.

NOTE – The "simplestring" lexical item is only used in the subtype notation of the time type.

### 12.17 Time value character strings

Name of item – tstring

A "tstring" shall consist of one or more of the characters:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 + - : . , / C D H M R P S T W Y Z

preceded and followed by a QUOTATION MARK (34) character (").

NOTE – The "tstring" lexical item is only used in the value notation for the time type.

### 12.18 XML time value character string item

Name of item – xmltstring

An "xmltstring" shall consist of one or more of the characters:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 + - : . , / C D H M R P S T W Y Z

NOTE – The "xmltstring" lexical item is only used in the XML value notation of the time type.

### 12.19 The property and setting names lexical item

Name of item – psname

A "psname" shall consist of an arbitrary number (one or more) of letters, digits and hyphens. The initial character shall be an upper-case letter. A hyphen shall not be the last character. A hyphen shall not be immediately followed by another hyphen.

NOTE – The "psname" lexical item is only used in the contents of the "simplestring" used in the subtype notation for the time type.

### 12.20 Assignment lexical item

Name of lexical item – " := "

This lexical item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

:=

NOTE – This sequence does not contain white-space (see 12.1.2).

### 12.21 Range separator

Name of lexical item – " .. "

This lexical item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

..

NOTE – This sequence does not contain white-space (see 12.1.2).

### 12.22 Ellipsis

Name of lexical item – " ... "

This lexical item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

...

NOTE – This sequence does not contain white-space (see 12.1.2).

**12.23 Left version brackets**

Name of lexical item – "[["

This lexical item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

[[

NOTE – This sequence does not contain white-space (see 12.1.2).

**12.24 Right version brackets**

Name of lexical item – "]]"

This lexical item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

]]

NOTE – This sequence does not contain white-space (see 12.1.2).

**12.25 Encoding references**

Name of item – encodingreference

An "encodingreference" shall consist of a sequence of characters as specified for a "typereference" in 12.2, except that no lower-case letters shall be included.

NOTE – Currently defined encoding references are listed in Annex E with the Recommendation | International Standard that specifies the syntax and semantics of the corresponding encoding instructions. The "encodingreference" shall consist only of the sequences listed in Annex E in this or in future versions of this Recommendation | International Standard.

**12.26 Integer-valued Unicode labels**

Name of lexical item – integerUnicodeLabel

This lexical item shall consist of an arbitrarily long sequence of ISO/IEC 10646 characters in the range 0 (DIGIT ZERO) to 9 (DIGIT NINE) that identify an arc of the International Object Identifier tree. It shall not commence with a 0 (DIGIT ZERO) character unless it has only a single character and the primary integer value of the associated arc of the International Object Identifier tree is zero.

**12.27 Non-integer Unicode labels**

Name of lexical item – non-integerUnicodeLabel

This lexical item shall consist of an arbitrarily long sequence of ISO/IEC 10646 characters that satisfies the constraints specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO 9834-1, 7.5 and identifies an arc of the International Object Identifier tree. For lexical parsing purposes, it shall not consist only of characters that would enable it to be identified as an "integerUnicodeLabel".

**12.28 XML end tag start item**

Name of item – "<"

This item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

<

NOTE – This sequence does not contain any white-space characters (see 12.1.2).

**12.29 XML single tag end item**

Name of item – ">"

This item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

>

NOTE – This sequence does not contain any white-space characters (see 12.1.2).

**12.30 XML boolean true item**

Name of item – "true"

**12.30.1** This item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

true

**12.30.2** In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, a "true" is distinguished from a "valuereference" or an "identifier" or an instance of XML boolean "extended-true" by the context in which it appears.

NOTE – This sequence does not contain any white-space characters (see 12.1.2).

### **12.31 XML boolean extended-true item**

Name of item – extended-true

**12.31.1** This item shall consist of either the sequence of characters:

true

or of the single character:

1 (DIGIT ONE)

**12.31.2** In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, an "extended-true" is distinguished from a "valuereference" or an "identifier" or an instance of XML boolean "true" by the context in which it appears.

NOTE – This sequence does not contain any white-space characters (see 12.1.2).

### **12.32 XML boolean false item**

Name of item – "false"

**12.32.1** This item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

false

**12.32.2** In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, a "false" is distinguished from a "valuereference" or an "identifier" or an instance of XML boolean "extended-false" by the context in which it appears.

NOTE – This sequence does not contain any white-space characters (see 12.1.2).

### **12.33 XML boolean extended-false item**

Name of item – extended-false

**12.33.1** This item shall consist of either the sequence of characters:

false

or of the single character:

0 (DIGIT ZERO)

**12.33.2** In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, a "false" is distinguished from a "valuereference" or an "identifier" or an instance of XML boolean "false" by the context in which it appears.

NOTE – This sequence does not contain any white-space characters (see 12.1.2).

### **12.34 XML real not-a-number item**

Name of item – "NaN"

**12.34.1** This item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

NaN

**12.34.2** In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, a "NaN" is distinguished from any other lexical item commencing with an upper-case letter by the context in which it appears.

NOTE – This sequence does not contain any white-space characters (see 12.1.2).

### **12.35 XML real infinity item**

Name of item – "INF"

**12.35.1** This item shall consist of the sequence of characters:

INF

**12.35.2** In analyzing an instance of use of this notation, an "INF" is distinguished from any other lexical item commencing with an upper-case letter by the context in which it appears.

NOTE – This sequence does not contain any white-space characters (see 12.1.2).

### 12.36 XML tag names for ASN.1 types

Name of item – `xmlasn1typename`

**12.36.1** This Recommendation | International Standard uses the item "xmlasn1typename" when ASN.1 built-in types are to be used as XML tag names.

**12.36.2** Table 4 lists the character sequences that are to form the "xmlasn1typename" for each of the ASN.1 built-in types listed in 17.2. The ASN.1 built-in type is identified in column 1 of Table 4 by its production name. The character sequence which shall be used for "xmlasn1typename" is identified in column 2 of Table 4, with no white-space before or after these character sequences.

**12.36.3** The "xmlasn1typename" for the "UsefulType"s (see 45.1) shall be the "typereference" used in their definition.

**12.36.4** The character sequence in the "xmlasn1typename" item for the "ObjectClassFieldType" and for the "InstanceOfType" are specified in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 14.1 and Annex C.

**12.36.5** If the ASN.1 built-in type is a "PrefixedType" then the type which determines the "xmlasn1typename" shall be "Type" in the "PrefixedType" (see 31.1.5). If this is itself a "PrefixedType", then this subclause 12.36.5 shall be recursively applied.

NOTE – The subclauses of 26.10 specify the "Type" to be used for a "SelectionType" and a "ConstrainedType".

**Table 4 – Characters in xmlasn1typename**

ASN.1 type production name	Characters in xmlasn1typename
BitStringType	BIT_STRING
BooleanType	BOOLEAN
ChoiceType	CHOICE
DateType	DATE
DateTimeType	DATE_TIME
DurationType	DURATION
EmbeddedPDVType	SEQUENCE
EnumeratedType	ENUMERATED
ExternalType	SEQUENCE
InstanceOfType	SEQUENCE
IntegerType	INTEGER
IRIType	OID_IRI
NullType	NULL
ObjectClassFieldType	<i>See Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, 14.10 and 14.11</i>
ObjectIdentifierType	OBJECT_IDENTIFIER
OctetStringType	OCTET_STRING
PrefixedType	<i>See 12.36.5</i>
RealType	REAL
RelativeIRIType	RELATIVE_OID_IRI
RelativeOIDType	RELATIVE_OID
RestrictedCharacterStringType	<i>The type name (e.g. IA5String)</i>
SequenceType	SEQUENCE
SequenceOfType	SEQUENCE_OF
SetType	SET
SetOfType	SET_OF
TimeType	TIME
TimeOfDayType	TIME_OF_DAY
UnrestrictedCharacterStringType	SEQUENCE

### 12.37 Single character lexical items

Names of lexical items –

```

"{"
"}"
"<"
">"
";"
":"
"."
"/"
"("
")"
"["
"]"
"-" (HYPHEN-MINUS)
":"
"="
""" (QUOTATION MARK)
"'" (APOSTROPHE)
","
"@"
"|"
"!"
"^"

```

A lexical item with any of the names listed above shall consist of the single character without the quotation marks.

### 12.38 Reserved words

Names of reserved words –

ABSENT	ENCODED	INTERSECTION	SEQUENCE
ABSTRACT-SYNTAX	ENCODING-CONTROL	ISO646String	SET
ALL	END	MAX	SETTINGS
APPLICATION	ENUMERATED	MIN	SIZE
AUTOMATIC	EXCEPT	MINUS-INFINITY	STRING
BEGIN	EXPLICIT	NOT-A-NUMBER	SYNTAX
BIT	EXPORTS	NULL	T61String
BMPString	EXTENSIBILITY	NumericString	TAGS
BOOLEAN	EXTERNAL	OBJECT	TeletexString
BY	FALSE	ObjectDescriptor	TIME
CHARACTER	FROM	OCTET	TIME-OF-DAY
CHOICE	GeneralizedTime	OF	TRUE
CLASS	GeneralString	OID-IRI	TYPE-IDENTIFIER
COMPONENT	GraphicString	OPTIONAL	UNION
COMPONENTS	IA5String	PATTERN	UNIQUE
CONSTRAINED	IDENTIFIER	PDV	UNIVERSAL
CONTAINING	IMPLICIT	PLUS-INFINITY	UniversalString
DATE	IMPLIED	PRESENT	UTCtime
DATE-TIME	IMPORTS	PrintableString	UTF8String
DEFAULT	INCLUDES	PRIVATE	VideotexString
DEFINITIONS	INSTANCE	REAL	VisibleString
DURATION	INSTRUCTIONS	RELATIVE-OID	WITH
EMBEDDED	INTEGER	RELATIVE-OID-IRI	

Lexical items with the above names shall consist of the sequence of characters in the name, and are reserved character sequences.

NOTE 1 – White-space does not occur in these sequences.

NOTE 2 – The keywords **CLASS**, **CONSTRAINED**, **CONTAINING**, **ENCODED**, **INSTANCE**, **SYNTAX** and **UNIQUE** are not used in this Recommendation | International Standard; they are used in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3 and Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4.

## 13 Module definition

13.1 A "ModuleDefinition" is specified by the following productions:

```

ModuleDefinition ::=
  ModuleIdentifier
  DEFINITIONS
  EncodingReferenceDefault
  TagDefault
  ExtensionDefault
  " : ="
  BEGIN
  ModuleBody
  EncodingControlSections
  END

ModuleIdentifier ::=
  modulereference
  DefinitiveIdentification

DefinitiveIdentification ::=
  DefinitiveOID
  | DefinitiveOIDandIRI
  | empty

DefinitiveOID ::=
  "{ " DefinitiveObjIdComponentList " }"

DefinitiveOIDandIRI ::=
  DefinitiveOID
  IRIValue

DefinitiveObjIdComponentList ::=
  DefinitiveObjIdComponent
  | DefinitiveObjIdComponent DefinitiveObjIdComponentList

DefinitiveObjIdComponent ::=
  NameForm
  | DefinitiveNumberForm
  | DefinitiveNameAndNumberForm

DefinitiveNumberForm ::= number

DefinitiveNameAndNumberForm ::= identifier " (" DefinitiveNumberForm ")"

EncodingReferenceDefault ::=
  encodingreference INSTRUCTIONS
  | empty

TagDefault ::=
  EXPLICIT TAGS
  | IMPLICIT TAGS
  | AUTOMATIC TAGS
  | empty

ExtensionDefault ::=
  EXTENSIBILITY IMPLIED
  | empty

ModuleBody ::=
  Exports Imports AssignmentList

```

```

| empty
Exports ::=
  EXPORTS SymbolsExported ";"
| EXPORTS ALL ";"
| empty
SymbolsExported ::=
  SymbolList
| empty
Imports ::=
  IMPORTS SymbolsImported ";"
| empty
SymbolsImported ::=
  SymbolsFromModuleList
| empty
SymbolsFromModuleList ::=
  SymbolsFromModule
| SymbolsFromModuleList SymbolsFromModule
SymbolsFromModule ::=
  SymbolList FROM GlobalModuleReference SelectionOption
SelectionOption ::=
  empty
| WITH "SUCCESSORS"
| WITH "DESCENDANTS"
GlobalModuleReference ::=
  modulereference AssignedIdentifier
AssignedIdentifier ::=
  ObjectIdentifierValue
| DefinedValue
| empty
SymbolList ::=
  Symbol
| SymbolList "," Symbol
Symbol ::=
  Reference
| ParameterizedReference
Reference ::=
  typerreference
| valuerreference
| objectclassreference
| objectreference
| objectsetreference
AssignmentList ::=
  Assignment
| AssignmentList Assignment
Assignment ::=
  TypeAssignment
| ValueAssignment
| XMLValueAssignment
| ValueSetTypeAssignment
| ObjectClassAssignment
| ObjectAssignment
| ObjectSetAssignment
| ParameterizedAssignment

```

NOTE 1 – The use of a "ParameterizedReference" in the "Exports" and "Imports" lists is specified in Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4.

NOTE 2 – For examples (and for the definition in this Recommendation | International Standard of types with universal class tags), the "ModuleBody" can be used outside of a "ModuleDefinition".

NOTE 3 – "TypeAssignment", "ValueAssignment", "XMLValueAssignment" and "ValueSetTypeAssignment" productions are specified in clause 16.

NOTE 4 – The value of "TagDefault" for the module definition affects only those types defined explicitly in the module. It does not affect the interpretation of imported types.

NOTE 5 – The character semicolon does not appear in the assignment list specification or any of its subordinate productions, and is reserved for use by ASN.1 tool developers.

**13.2** The "TagDefault" is taken as **EXPLICIT TAGS** if it is "empty".

NOTE – Subclause 31.2 gives the meaning of **EXPLICIT TAGS**, **IMPLICIT TAGS**, and **AUTOMATIC TAGS**.

**13.3** When the **AUTOMATIC TAGS** alternative of "TagDefault" is selected, automatic tagging is said to be selected for the module, otherwise it is said to be not selected. Automatic tagging is a syntactical transformation which is applied (with additional conditions) to the "ComponentTypeLists" and "AlternativeTypeLists" productions occurring within the definition of the module. This transformation is formally specified by 25.8 to 25.10, 27.3 and 29.2 to 29.5 regarding the notations for sequence types, set types and choice types, respectively.

**13.4** The **EXTENSIBILITY IMPLIED** option is equivalent to the textual insertion of an extension marker ("...") in the definition of each type in the module for which it is permitted. The location of the implied extension marker is the last position in the type where an explicitly specified extension marker is allowed. The absence of **EXTENSIBILITY IMPLIED** means that extensibility is only provided for those types within the module where an extension marker is explicitly present.

NOTE – **EXTENSIBILITY IMPLIED** affects only types. It has no effect on object sets and subtype constraints.

**13.5** The "EncodingReferenceDefault" specifies that the "encodingreference" is the default encoding reference for the module. If the "EncodingReferenceDefault" is "empty", then the default encoding reference for the module is **TAG**.

NOTE – Annex E contains a list of allowed encoding references, together with the Recommendation | International Standard which specifies the form and meaning of the corresponding encoding instructions.

**13.6** The "modulereference" appearing in the "ModuleIdentifier" production is called the module name.

NOTE – The possibility of defining a single ASN.1 module by the use of several occurrences of "ModuleBody" assigned the same "modulereference" was (arguably) permitted in earlier specifications. It is not permitted by this Recommendation | International Standard.

**13.7** Module names shall be used only once, (except as specified in 13.10) within the sphere of interest of the definition of the module.

**13.8** If the "DefinitiveIdentification" is not empty, the denoted object identifier, and any optional "IRIValue", value unambiguously and uniquely identify the same node of the OID tree that identifies the module being defined. No defined value may be used in defining the object identifier value. The "IRIValue" production is specified in 34.3.

NOTE 1 – It is strongly recommended that at least an object identifier value (and preferably an object identifier value plus an OID internationalized resource identifier value) be assigned to the module so that others can unambiguously refer to the module.

NOTE 2 – The question of what changes to a module require a new "DefinitiveIdentification" is not addressed in this Recommendation | International Standard.

**13.9** If the "AssignedIdentifier" is not empty, the "ObjectIdentifierValue" and the "DefinedValue" alternatives unambiguously and uniquely identify the module from which reference names are being imported. When the "DefinedValue" alternative of "AssignedIdentifier" is used, it shall be a value of type object identifier. Each "valuereference" which textually appears within an "AssignedIdentifier" shall satisfy one of the following rules:

- a) It is defined in the "AssignmentList" of the module being defined, and all "valuereference"s which textually appear on the right side of the assignment statement also satisfy this rule (rule "a") or the next rule (rule "b").
- b) It appears as a "Symbol" in a "SymbolsFromModule" whose "AssignedIdentifier" does not textually contain any "valuereference"s.

NOTE 1 – It is recommended that an object identifier be assigned so that others can unambiguously refer to the module.

NOTE 2 – This syntax does not provide for the inclusion of an OID internationalized resource reference (if assigned) to the referenced module, but it is recommended that this be included in an ASN.1 comment.

**13.10** The "GlobalModuleReference" in a "SymbolsFromModule" shall appear in the "ModuleDefinition" of another module, except that if it includes a non-empty "DefinitiveIdentification", the "modulereference" may differ in the two cases.

NOTE – A different "modulereference" from that used in the other module should only be used when symbols are to be imported from two modules with the same name (the modules being named in disregard of 13.7). The use of alternative distinct names makes these names available for use in the body of the module (see 13.16).

**13.11** When both a "modulereference" and a non-empty "AssignedIdentifier" are used in referencing a module, the latter shall be considered definitive.

**13.12** When the referenced module has a non-empty "DefinitiveIdentification", the "GlobalModuleReference" referencing that module shall not have an empty "AssignedIdentifier".

**13.13** When the "SymbolsExported" alternative of "Exports" is selected:

- a) each "Symbol" in "SymbolsExported" shall satisfy one and only one of the following conditions:
  - i) is only defined in the module being constructed; or
  - ii) appears exactly once in the "SymbolsImported" alternative of "Imports";
- b) every "Symbol" to which reference from outside the module is appropriate shall be included in the "SymbolsExported" and only these "Symbol"s may be referenced from outside the module (subject to the relaxation specified in 13.14); and
- c) if there are no such "Symbol"s, then the empty alternative of "SymbolsExported" (not of "Exports") shall be selected.

**13.14** When either the "empty" alternative or the **EXPORTS ALL** alternative of "Exports" is selected, every "Symbol" defined in the module or imported by the module may be referenced from other modules subject to the restriction specified in 13.13 a).

NOTE – The "empty" alternative of "Exports" is included for backwards compatibility.

**13.15** Identifiers that appear in a "NamedNumberList", "Enumeration" or "NamedBitList" are implicitly exported if the typereference that defines them is exported or appears as a component (or subcomponent) within an exported type.

**13.16** When the "SymbolsImported" alternative of "Imports" is selected:

- a) Each "Symbol" in "SymbolsFromModule" shall either be defined in the module body, or be present in the "Imports" clause, of the module denoted by the "GlobalModuleReference" in "SymbolsFromModule". Importing a "Symbol" present in the "Imports" clause of the referenced module is only allowed if there is only one occurrence of the "Symbol" in that clause, and the "Symbol" is not defined in the referenced module.

NOTE 1 – This does not prohibit the same symbol name defined in two different modules from being imported into another module. However, if the same "Symbol" name appears more than once in the "Imports" clause of module A, that "Symbol" name cannot be exported from A for import to another module B.

- b) If the "SymbolsExported" alternative of "Exports" is selected in the definition of the module denoted by the "GlobalModuleReference" in "SymbolsFromModule" the "Symbol" shall appear in its "SymbolsExported".
- c) Only those "Symbol"s that appear amongst the "SymbolList" of a "SymbolsFromModule" may appear as the symbol in any "External<X>Reference" which has the "modulereference" denoted by the "GlobalModuleReference" of that "SymbolsFromModule" (where <X> is "Value", "Type", "Object", "Objectclass", or "Objectset").
- d) If there are no such "Symbol"s, then the "empty" alternative of "SymbolsImported" shall be selected.

NOTE 2 – An effect of c) and d) is that the statement **IMPORTS**; implies that the module cannot contain an "External<X>Reference".

- e) All the "SymbolsFromModule" in the "SymbolsFromModuleList" shall include occurrences of "GlobalModuleReference" such that:
  - i) the "modulereference" in them are all different from each other and from the "modulereference" associated with the referencing module; and
  - ii) the "AssignedIdentifier", when non-empty, denotes object identifier values which are all different from each other and from the object identifier value (if any) associated with the referencing module.
- f) If the "SymbolsFromModule" has a non-empty "SelectionOption", the "AssignedIdentifier" in the "GlobalModuleReference" shall not be empty, and the referenced module shall be determined as follows:
  - i) If the "SelectionOption" is **WITH SUCCESSORS**, the module denoted by the "GlobalModuleReference" is the one that has a DefinitiveIdentification with an object identifier whose last node may be incremented zero or more times. If multiple modules meet this criterion, the denoted module is the one whose object identifier has the last node with the greatest number of increments.

- ii) If the "SelectionOption" is **WITH DESCENDANTS**, the module denoted by the "GlobalModuleReference" is the one that has a DefinitiveIdentification that identifies the node identified by the "GlobalModuleReference" or one of its subordinates. If multiple modules meet this criterion, the denoted module is the one with the largest object identifier. For this comparison, the arcs are compared successively until one arc is different (selecting the largest arc) or the end of one object identifier is reached (selecting the longer object identifier).

**13.17** When the "empty" alternative of "Imports" is selected, the module may still reference "Symbols" defined in other modules by means of an "External<X>Reference".

NOTE – The "empty" alternative of "Imports" is included for backwards compatibility.

**13.18** Identifiers that appear in a "NamedNumberList", "Enumeration" or "NamedBitList" are implicitly imported if the typereference that defines them is imported or appears as a component (or subcomponent) within an imported type.

**13.19** A "Symbol" in a "SymbolsFromModule" may appear in "ModuleBody" as a "Reference". The meaning associated with the "Symbol" is that which it has in the module denoted by the corresponding "GlobalModuleReference".

**13.20** Where the "Symbol" also appears in an "AssignmentList" (deprecated), or appears in one or more other instances of "SymbolsFromModule", it shall only be used in an "External<X>Reference". Where it does not so appear, it shall be used directly as a "Reference".

**13.21** The various alternatives for "Assignment" are defined in the following clauses in this Recommendation | International Standard, except as noted otherwise:

<i>Assignment alternative</i>	<i>Defining subclause</i>
"TypeAssignment"	16.1
"ValueAssignment"	16.2
"XMLValueAssignment"	16.2
"ValueSetTypeAssignment"	16.6
"ObjectClassAssignment"	Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, 9.1
"ObjectAssignment"	Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, 11.1
"ObjectSetAssignment"	Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, 12.1
"ParameterizedAssignment"	Rec. ITU-T X.683   ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.1

The first symbol of every "Assignment" is one of the alternatives of "Reference", denoting the reference name being defined. In no two assignments within an "AssignmentList" shall the reference names be the same.

**13.22** "EncodingControlSections" is specified in clause 54.

## 14 Referencing type and value definitions

**14.1** The defined type and value productions:

```

DefinedType ::=
  ExternalTypeReference
  | typereference
  | ParameterizedType
  | ParameterizedValueSetType

DefinedValue ::=
  ExternalValueReference
  | valuereference
  | ParameterizedValue

```

specify the sequences which shall be used to reference type and value definitions. The type identified by a "ParameterizedType" and "ParameterizedValueSetType", and the value identified by a "ParameterizedValue" are specified in Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4.

**14.2** The "NonParameterizedTypeName" production:

```

NonParameterizedTypeName ::=
  ExternalTypeReference
  | typereference

```

| **xmlasn1typename**

is used when an XML tag name is needed to represent an ASN.1 type. If the resulting XML tag name begins with the letters "XML", then a LOW LINE (95) shall be pre-pended to form the "NonParameterizedTypeName".

**14.3** The third alternative shall not be used as the "NonParameterizedTypeName" in the "XMLTypedValue" of "XMLValueAssignment" (see 16.2) or of "XMLOpenTypeFieldVal" (see Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 14.6) when the XML value notation is used in an ASN.1 module if the "xmlasn1typename" is "CHOICE", "ENUMERATED", "SEQUENCE", "SEQUENCE\_OF", "SET" or "SET\_OF".

NOTE – This restriction is imposed in XML value notation used in an ASN.1 module because these "xmlasn1typename"s do not define an ASN.1 type. The restriction is not present for use of this notation in encoding rules (such as XER, see Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4) because XML tag names formed from "xmlasn1typename"s are not used to determine the types that are being encoded.

**14.4** Except as specified in 13.19, the "typereference", "valuereference", "ParameterizedType", "ParameterizedValueSetType" or "ParameterizedValue" alternatives shall not be used unless the reference is within the "ModuleBody" in which a type or value is assigned (see 16.1 and 16.2) to the "typereference" or "valuereference".

**14.5** The "ExternalTypeReference" and "ExternalValueReference" shall not be used unless the corresponding "typereference" or "valuereference":

- a) has been assigned a type or value respectively (see 16.1 and 16.2); or
- b) are present in the "Imports" clause,

within the "ModuleBody" used to define the corresponding "modulereference". Referencing a name in the "Imports" clause of another module shall only be allowed if there is no more than one occurrence of the "Symbol" in that clause.

NOTE – This does not prohibit the same "Symbol" defined in two different modules from being imported into another module. However, if the same "Symbol" appears more than once in the **IMPORTS** clause of a module **A**, then that "Symbol" cannot be referenced using module **A** in an external reference.

**14.6** An external reference shall be used in a module only to refer to a reference name which is defined in a different module, and is specified by the following productions:

```
ExternalTypeReference ::=
  modulereference
  "."
  typereference
```

```
ExternalValueReference ::=
  modulereference
  "."
  valuereference
```

NOTE – Additional external reference productions ("ExternalClassReference", "ExternalObjectReference" and "ExternalObjectSetReference") are specified in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2.

**14.7** When the referencing module is defined using the "SymbolsImported" alternative of "Imports", the "modulereference" in the external reference shall appear in the "GlobalModuleReference" of exactly one of the "SymbolsFromModule" in the "SymbolsImported". When the referencing module is defined using the "empty" alternative of "Imports", the "modulereference" in the external reference shall appear in the "ModuleDefinition" of the module (different from the referencing module) where the "Reference" is defined.

**14.8** Where a "DefinedType" is used as part of notation governed by a "Type" (for example, in a "SubtypeConstraint") then the "DefinedType" shall be compatible with the governing "Type" as specified in clause C.6.2.

**14.9** Every occurrence within an ASN.1 specification of a "DefinedValue" is governed by a "Type", and that "DefinedValue" shall reference a value of a type that is compatible with the governing "Type" as specified in clause C.6.2.

## **15 Notation to support references to ASN.1 components**

**15.1** There is a requirement for formal reference to components of ASN.1 types, values, etc. for many purposes. One such instance is the need to write text to identify a specific type within some ASN.1 module. This clause defines a notation which can be used to provide such references.

**15.2** The notation enables any component of a set or sequence type (which is either mandatorily or optionally present in the type) to be identified.

**15.3** Any part of any ASN.1 type definition can be referenced by use of the "AbsoluteReference" syntactic construct:

```

AbsoluteReference ::=
    "@" ModuleIdentifier
    "."
    ItemSpec

ItemSpec ::=
    typereference
    | ItemId "." ComponentId

ItemId ::= ItemSpec

ComponentId ::=
    identifier
    | number
    | "*"
  
```

NOTE – The AbsoluteReference production is not used elsewhere in this Recommendation | International Standard. It is provided for the purposes stated in 15.1.

**15.4** The "ModuleIdentifier" identifies an ASN.1 module (see 13.1).

**15.5** When the first or second alternative of "DefinitiveIdentification" is used as part of the "ModuleIdentifier", the "DefinitiveIdentification" unambiguously and uniquely identifies the module from which a name is being referenced.

**15.6** The "typereference" references any ASN.1 type defined in the module identified by "ModuleIdentifier".

**15.7** The "ComponentId" in each "ItemSpec" identifies a component of the type which has been identified by the "ItemId". It shall be the last "ComponentId" if the component it identifies is not a set, sequence, set-of, sequence-of, or choice type.

**15.8** The "identifier" form of "ComponentId" can be used if the parent "ItemId" is a set or sequence type, and is required to be one of the "identifier"s of the "NamedType" in the "ComponentTypeLists" of that set or sequence. It can also be used if the "ItemId" identifies a choice type, and is then required to be one of the "identifier"s of a "NamedType" in the "AlternativeTypeLists" of that choice type. It cannot be used in any other circumstance.

**15.9** The number form of "ComponentId" can be used only if the "ItemId" is a sequence-of or set-of type. The value of the number identifies the instance of the type in the sequence-of or set-of, with the value "1" identifying the first instance of the type. The value zero identifies a conceptual integer type component (not explicitly present in transfer) that contains a count of the number of instances of the type in the sequence-of or set-of that are present in the value of the enclosing type.

**15.10** The "\*" form of "ComponentId" can be used only if the "ItemId" is a sequence-of or set-of. Any semantics associated with the use of the "\*" form of "ComponentId" apply to all components of the sequence-of and set-of.

NOTE – In the following example:

```

M DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN
T ::= SEQUENCE {
    a BOOLEAN,
    b SET OF INTEGER
}
END
  
```

the components of "T" could be referenced by text outside an ASN.1 module (or in a comment), such as:

```

-- if (@M.T.b.0 is odd) then:
--     (@M.T.b.* shall be an odd integer)
  
```

which is used to state that if the number of components in **b** is odd, all components of **b** must be odd.

## 16 Assigning types and values

**16.1** A "typereference" shall be assigned a type by the notation specified by the "TypeAssignment" production:

```

TypeAssignment ::=
    typereference
    " : := "
    Type
  
```

The "typereference" shall not be an ASN.1 reserved word (see 12.38).

16.2 A "valuereference" shall be assigned a value by the notation specified by either the "ValueAssignment" or "XMLValueAssignment" productions:

```

ValueAssignment ::=
  valuereference
  Type
  " : : ="
  Value

XMLValueAssignment ::=
  valuereference
  " : : ="
  XMLTypedValue

XMLTypedValue ::=
  "<" & NonParameterizedTypeName ">"
  XMLValue
  "</" & NonParameterizedTypeName ">"
  | "<" & NonParameterizedTypeName ">"

```

The value being assigned to the "valuereference" in the "ValueAssignment" is "Value", and is governed by "Type" and shall be a notation for a value of the type defined by "Type" (as specified in 16.3). The value being assigned to the "valuereference" in the "XMLValueAssignment" is "XMLValue" (see 17.7), and shall be a notation for a value of the type defined by "NonParameterizedTypeName" (as specified in 16.4). If this is the "xmlasn1typename" item, then it identifies the ASN.1 built-in type in the corresponding row of Table 4 (see also 14.3). Whitespace is permitted around "XMLValue" in "XMLTypedValue" except where explicitly forbidden (see 41.9 and Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4, 31.3.4.1).

16.3 "Value" is a notation for a value of a type as specified in 17.7.

16.4 "XMLValue" is a notation for a value of a type if "XMLValue" is an "XMLBuiltinValue" notation for the type (see 17.10).

16.5 The second alternative of "XMLTypedValue" (use of an XML empty-element tag) can be used only if an instance of the "XMLValue" production is empty.

NOTE – If the "XMLValue" production was an "xmlcstring" containing only white-space, this would not be empty, and the second alternative could not be used.

16.6 A "typereference" can be assigned a value set by the notation specified by the "ValueSetTypeAssignment" production:

```

ValueSetTypeAssignment ::=
  typereference
  Type
  " : : ="
  ValueSet

```

This notation assigns to "typereference" the type defined as a subtype of the type denoted by "Type" and which contains exactly the values which are specified in or allowed by "ValueSet". The "typereference" shall not be an ASN.1 reserved word (see 12.38), and may be referenced as a type. "ValueSet" is defined in 16.7.

16.7 A value set governed by some type shall be specified by the notation "ValueSet":

```

ValueSet ::= "{ ElementSetSpecs }"

```

The value set comprises all of the values, of which there shall be at least one, specified by "ElementSetSpecs" (see clause 50).

16.8 The "ValueSetTypeAssignment" production expands into:

```

  typereference
  Type
  " : : ="
  "{ ElementSetSpecs }"

```

For all purposes, including the application of encoding rules, this is defined to be exactly equivalent to the use of the production:

```

typereference
": :="
Type
" (" ElementSetSpecs ") "

```

with the same "Type" and "ElementSetSpecs" specifications.

## 17 Definition of types and values

17.1 A type shall be specified by the notation "Type":

**Type ::= BuiltinType | ReferencedType | ConstrainedType**

17.2 The built-in types of ASN.1 are specified by the notation "BuiltinType", defined as follows:

```

BuiltinType ::=
| BitStringType
| BooleanType
| CharacterStringType
| ChoiceType
| DateType
| DateTimeType
| DurationType
| EmbeddedPDVType
| EnumeratedType
| ExternalType
| InstanceOfType
| IntegerType
| IRIType
| NullType
| ObjectClassFieldType
| ObjectIdentifierType
| OctetStringType
| RealType
| RelativeIRIType
| RelativeOIDType
| SequenceType
| SequenceOfType
| SetType
| SetOfType
| PrefixedType
| TimeType
| TimeOfDayType

```

The various "BuiltinType" notations are defined in the following clauses (in this Recommendation | International Standard unless otherwise stated):

BitStringType	22
BooleanType	18
CharacterStringType	40
ChoiceType	29
DateType	38.4.1
DateTimeType	38.4.3
DurationType	38.4.4
EmbeddedPDVType	36
EnumeratedType	20
ExternalType	37
InstanceOfType	Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, Annex C
IntegerType	19
IRIType	34
NullType	24
ObjectClassFieldType	Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, 14.1
ObjectIdentifierType	32
OctetStringType	23

RealType	21
RelativeIRIType	35
RelativeOIDType	33
SequenceType	25
SequenceOfType	26
SetType	27
SetOfType	28
PrefixedType	31
TimeType	38.1.1
TimeOfDayType	38.4.2

17.3 The referenced types of ASN.1 are specified by the notation "ReferencedType":

```

ReferencedType ::=
  DefinedType
| UsefulType
| SelectionType
| TypeFromObject
| ValueSetFromObjects

```

The "ReferencedType" notation provides an alternative means of referring to some other type (and ultimately to a built-in type). The various "ReferencedType" notations, and the way in which the type to which they refer is determined, are specified in the following places in this Recommendation | International Standard unless otherwise stated:

DefinedType	14.1
UsefulType	45.1
SelectionType	30
TypeFromObject	Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, clause 15
ValueSetFromObjects	Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, clause 15

17.4 The "ConstrainedType" is defined in clause 49.

17.5 This Recommendation | International Standard requires the use of the notation "NamedType" in specifying the components of the set types, sequence types and choice types. The notation for "NamedType" is:

```

NamedType ::= identifier Type

```

17.6 The "identifier" is used to unambiguously refer to components of a set type, sequence type or choice type in the value notation, in inner subtype constraints and in component relation constraints (see Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3). It is not part of the type, and has no effect on the type.

17.7 A value of some type shall be specified by the notation "Value" or by the notation "XMLValue":

```

Value ::=
  BuiltinValue
| ReferencedValue
| ObjectClassFieldValue

XMLValue ::=
  XMLBuiltinValue
| XMLObjectClassFieldValue

```

NOTE 1 – "ObjectClassFieldValue" and "XMLObjectClassFieldValue" are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 14.6.

NOTE 2 – "XMLValue" is only used in "XMLTypedValue".

17.8 If any part of the "XMLValue" production results in an XML start-tag immediately followed by an XML end-tag, possibly separated by white-space inserted as permitted by 12.1.4 (for example, <field1></field1>), these two XML tags, and any intervening white-space, can be replaced by a single XML empty-element tag (<field1/>).

NOTE – If any white-space character, except white-space inserted as permitted by 12.1.4, is present between the final ">" character of the start tag and the initial "<" character of the end-tag, the condition above is not satisfied.

17.9 Values of the built-in types of ASN.1 can be specified by the notation "XMLBuiltinValue" (see 17.10) or "BuiltinValue", defined as follows:

```

BuiltinValue ::=
  BitStringValue
| BooleanValue
| CharacterStringValue
| ChoiceValue

```

EmbeddedPDVValue  
 EnumeratedValue  
 ExternalValue  
 InstanceOfValue  
 IntegerValue  
 IRIValue  
 NullValue  
 ObjectIdentifierValue  
 OctetStringValue  
 RealValue  
 RelativeIRIValue  
 RelativeOIDValue  
 SequenceValue  
 SequenceOfValue  
 SetValue  
 SetOfValue  
 PrefixedValue  
 TimeValue

Each of the various "BuiltinValue" notations is defined in the same subclause as the corresponding "BuiltinType" notation, as listed in 17.2.

**17.10** "XMLBuiltinValue" is defined as follows:

**XMLBuiltinValue ::=**  
 XMLBitStringValue  
 XMLBooleanValue  
 XMLCharacterStringValue  
 XMLChoiceValue  
 XMLEmbeddedPDVValue  
 XMLEnumeratedValue  
 XMLExternalValue  
 XMLInstanceOfValue  
 XMLIntegerValue  
 XMLIRIValue  
 XMLNullValue  
 XMLObjectIdentifierValue  
 XMLOctetStringValue  
 XMLRealValue  
 XMLRelativeIRIValue  
 XMLRelativeOIDValue  
 XMLSequenceValue  
 XMLSequenceOfValue  
 XMLSetValue  
 XMLSetOfValue  
 XMLPrefixedValue  
 XMLTimeValue

Each of the various "XMLBuiltinValue" notations is defined in the same clause as the corresponding "BuiltinType" notation, as listed in 17.2 above.

**17.11** The referenced values of ASN.1 are specified by the notation "ReferencedValue":

**ReferencedValue ::=**  
 DefinedValue  
 ValueFromObject

The "ReferencedValue" notation provides an alternative means of referring to some other value (and ultimately to a built-in value). The various "ReferencedValue" notations, and the way in which the value to which they refer is determined, are specified in the following places (in this Recommendation | International Standard unless otherwise stated):

DefinedValue	14.1
ValueFromObject	Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, clause 15

**17.12** Regardless of whether or not a type is a "BuiltinType", "ReferencedType" or "ConstrainedType", its values can be specified by either a "BuiltinValue" or "ReferencedValue" of that type.

**17.13** The value of a type referenced using the "NamedType" notation shall be defined by the notation "NamedValue", or when used as part of an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLNamedValue". These productions are:

**NamedValue ::= identifier Value**

**XMLNamedValue ::= "<" & identifier ">" XMLValue "</" & identifier ">"**

where the "identifier" is the same as that used in the "NamedType" notation.

NOTE – The "identifier" is part of the notation, it does not form part of the value itself. It is used to unambiguously refer to the components of a set type, sequence type or choice type.

**17.14** The implied (see 13.4) or explicit presence of an extension marker (see clause 6) in the definition of a type has no effect on the value notation. That is, the value notation for a type with an extension marker is exactly the same as if the extension marker was absent.

NOTE – Subclause 50.11 prohibits value notation used in a subtype constraint from referencing a value that is not in the extension root of the parent type.

## 18 Notation for the boolean type

**18.1** The boolean type (see 3.8.8) shall be referenced by the notation "BooleanType":

**BooleanType ::= BOOLEAN**

**18.2** The tag for types defined by this notation is universal class, number 1.

**18.3** The value of a boolean type (see 3.8.85 and 3.8.44) shall be defined by the notation "BooleanValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLBooleanValue". These productions are:

**BooleanValue ::= TRUE | FALSE**

**XMLBooleanValue ::=**  
**EmptyElementBoolean**  
**| TextBoolean**

**EmptyElementBoolean ::=**  
**"<" & "true" ">"**  
**| "<" & "false" ">"**

**TextBoolean ::=**  
**extended-true**  
**| extended-false**

**18.4** If an "EmptyElementBoolean" appears in an "XMLValueAssignment", then there shall be no occurrence of "TextBoolean" in that "XMLValueAssignment".

## 19 Notation for the integer type

**19.1** The integer type (see 3.8.48) shall be referenced by the notation "IntegerType":

**IntegerType ::=**  
**INTEGER**  
**| INTEGER "{" NamedNumberList "}"**

**NamedNumberList ::=**  
**NamedNumber**  
**| NamedNumberList "," NamedNumber**

**NamedNumber ::=**  
**identifier "(" SignedNumber ")"**  
**| identifier "(" DefinedValue ")"**

**SignedNumber ::=**  
**number**  
**| "-" number**

**19.2** The second alternative of "SignedNumber" shall not be used if the "number" is zero.

**19.3** The "NamedNumberList" is not significant in the definition of a type. It is used solely in the value notation specified in 19.9.

**19.4** The "valuereference" in "DefinedValue" shall be of type integer.

NOTE – Since an "identifier" cannot be used to specify the value associated with "NamedNumber", the "DefinedValue" can never be misinterpreted as an "IntegerValue". Therefore in the following case

```
a INTEGER ::= 1
T1 ::= INTEGER { a(2) }
T2 ::= INTEGER { a(3), b(a) }
c T2 ::= b
d T2 ::= a
```

c denotes the value 1, since it cannot be a reference to the second nor the third occurrence of a, and d denotes the value 3.

**19.5** The value of each "SignedNumber" or "DefinedValue" appearing in the "NamedNumberList" shall be different, and represents a distinguished value of the integer type.

**19.6** Each "identifier" appearing in the "NamedNumberList" shall be different.

**19.7** The order of the "NamedNumber"s in the "NamedNumberList" is not significant.

**19.8** The tag for types defined by this notation is universal class, number 2.

**19.9** The value of an integer type shall be defined by the notation "IntegerValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLIntegerValue". These productions are:

```
IntegerValue ::=
    SignedNumber
| identifier

XMLIntegerValue ::=
    XMLSignedNumber
| EmptyElementInteger
| TextInteger

XMLSignedNumber ::=
    number
| "-" & number

EmptyElementInteger ::=
    "<" & identifier ">"

TextInteger ::=
    identifier
```

**19.10** If an "EmptyElementInteger" appears in an "XMLValueAssignment", then there shall be no occurrence of "TextInteger" in that "XMLValueAssignment".

**19.11** The "identifier" in "IntegerValue" and in the last two alternatives for "XMLIntegerValue" shall be one of the "identifier"s in the "IntegerType" with which the value is associated, and shall represent the corresponding number.

NOTE – When referencing an integer value for which an "identifier" has been defined, use of the "identifier" form of "IntegerValue" and one of the "identifier" forms of "XMLIntegerValue" should be preferred.

**19.12** Within an instance of value notation for an integer type with a "NamedNumberList", any occurrence of a name that is both an "identifier" from the "NamedNumberList" and a reference name shall be interpreted as the "identifier".

**19.13** The second alternative of "XMLSignedNumber" shall not be used if the "number" is zero.

## 20 Notation for the enumerated type

**20.1** The enumerated type (see 3.8.30) shall be referenced by the notation "EnumeratedType":

```
EnumeratedType ::=
    ENUMERATED "{" Enumerations "}"

Enumerations ::=
    RootEnumeration
| RootEnumeration "," "... ExceptionSpec
| RootEnumeration "," "... ExceptionSpec "," AdditionalEnumeration
```

**RootEnumeration ::= Enumeration**

**AdditionalEnumeration ::= Enumeration**

**Enumeration ::= EnumerationItem | EnumerationItem "," Enumeration**

**EnumerationItem ::= identifier | NamedNumber**

NOTE 1 – Each value of an "EnumeratedType" has an identifier which is associated with a distinct integer. However, the values themselves are not expected to have any integer semantics. Specifying the "NamedNumber" alternative of "EnumerationItem" provides control of the representation of the value in order to facilitate compatible extensions.

NOTE 2 – The numeric values inside the "NamedNumber"s in the "RootEnumeration" are not necessarily ordered or contiguous, and the numeric values inside the "NamedNumber"s in the "AdditionalEnumeration" are ordered but not necessarily contiguous.

**20.2** For each "NamedNumber", the "identifier" and the "SignedNumber" shall be distinct from all other "identifier"s and "SignedNumber"s in the "Enumeration". Subclauses 19.2 and 19.4 also apply to each "NamedNumber".

**20.3** Each "EnumerationItem" (in an "EnumeratedType") which is an "identifier" is successively assigned a distinct non-negative integer. For the "RootEnumeration", the successive integers starting with 0, but excluding any which are employed in "EnumerationItem"s which are "NamedNumber"s, are assigned.

NOTE – An integer value is associated with an "EnumerationItem" to assist in the definition of encoding rules. It is not otherwise used in the ASN.1 specification.

**20.4** The value of each new "EnumerationItem" shall be greater than all previously defined "AdditionalEnumeration"s in the type.

**20.5** When a "NamedNumber" is used in defining an "EnumerationItem" in the "AdditionalEnumeration", the value associated with it shall be different from the value of all previously defined "EnumerationItem"s (in this type) regardless of whether the previously defined "EnumerationItem"s occur in the enumeration root or not. For example:

A ::= ENUMERATED {a, b, ..., c(0)}            -- invalid, since both 'a' and 'c' equal 0  
 B ::= ENUMERATED {a, b, ..., c, d(2)}    -- invalid, since both 'c' and 'd' equal 2  
 C ::= ENUMERATED {a, b(3), ..., c(1)}    -- valid, 'c' = 1  
 D ::= ENUMERATED {a, b, ..., c(2)}        -- valid, 'c' = 2

**20.6** The value associated with the first "EnumerationItem" in the "AdditionalEnumeration" alternative that is an "identifier" (not a "NamedNumber") shall be the smallest value for which an "EnumerationItem" is not defined in the "RootEnumeration" and all preceding "EnumerationItem"s in the "AdditionalEnumeration" (if any) are smaller. For example, the following are all valid:

A ::= ENUMERATED {a, b, ..., c}            -- c = 2  
 B ::= ENUMERATED {a, b, c(0), ..., d}    -- d = 3  
 C ::= ENUMERATED {a, b, ..., c(3), d}    -- d = 4  
 D ::= ENUMERATED {a, z(25), ..., d}     -- d = 1

**20.7** The enumerated type has a tag which is universal class, number 10.

**20.8** The value of an enumerated type shall be defined by the notation "EnumeratedValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLEnumeratedValue". These productions are:

**EnumeratedValue ::= identifier**

**XMLEnumeratedValue ::=**

**EmptyElementEnumerated**

**| TextEnumerated**

**EmptyElementEnumerated ::= "<" & identifier ">"**

**TextEnumerated ::= identifier**

**20.9** If an "EmptyElementEnumerated" appears in an "XMLValueAssignment", then there shall be no occurrence of "TextEnumerated" in that "XMLValueAssignment".

**20.10** The "identifier" in "EnumeratedValue" and in the two alternatives of "XMLEnumeratedValue" shall be equal to that of an "identifier" in the "EnumeratedType" sequence with which the value is associated.

**20.11** Within an instance of value notation for an enumerated type, any occurrence of a name that is both an "identifier" from the "Enumeration" and a reference name shall be interpreted as the "identifier".

## 21 Notation for the real type

21.1 The real type (see 3.8.60) shall be referenced by the notation "RealType":

**RealType ::= REAL**

21.2 The real type has a tag which is universal class, number 9.

21.3 The abstract values of the real type are the special values **PLUS-INFINITY**, **MINUS-INFINITY**, and **NOT-A-NUMBER** together with numeric real numbers consisting of either plus zero or minus zero, or capable of being specified by the following formula involving three integers, M, B and E:

$$M \times B^E$$

where M (non-zero) is called the mantissa, B (either 2 or 10) the base, and E the exponent. Values with B = 2 ("**base**" 2 abstract values) and B = 10 ("**base**" 10 abstract values) are defined as distinct abstract values. Otherwise, values of  $M \times B^E$  which evaluate to the same numerical value are a single abstract value.

NOTE – Minus zero and plus zero are two distinct abstract values for a mathematical zero, and the "**base**" 2 and "**base**" 10 abstract values are distinct abstract values for all other numeric real numbers.

21.4 The real type has an associated type which is used to support the value and subtype notations for numeric values of the real type (in addition to the notation for the special values of the real type and for plus zero and minus zero).

NOTE – Encoding rules may define a different type which is used to specify encodings, or may specify encodings without reference to the associated type. In particular, the encoding in BER and PER provides a Binary-Coded Decimal (BCD) encoding if "**base**" is 10, and an encoding which permits efficient transformation to and from hardware floating point representations if "**base**" is 2.

21.5 The associated type for value definition (and for subtyping purposes) of the numeric values is (with normative comments):

```
SEQUENCE {
  mantissa INTEGER,
  base INTEGER (2|10),
  exponent INTEGER
  -- The associated mathematical real number is "mantissa"
  -- multiplied by "base" raised to the power "exponent"
}
```

NOTE 1 – Values represented by "**base**" 2 and by "**base**" 10 are considered to be distinct abstract values even if they evaluate to the same real number value, and may carry different application semantics.

NOTE 2 – The notation **REAL (WITH COMPONENTS { ... , base (10) })** can be used to restrict the set of values to the "**base**" 10 numeric values (and similarly for "**base**" 2 numeric values). This notation does not include the values (special real values and plus and minus zero) that cannot be represented by the associated type. If required, these can be added using set arithmetic.

NOTE 3 – This type is capable of carrying an exact finite representation of any number which can be stored in typical floating point hardware, and of any number with a finite character-decimal representation.

21.6 The value of a real type shall be defined by the notation "RealValue", or when used in an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLRealValue":

```
RealValue ::=
  NumericRealValue
| SpecialRealValue

NumericRealValue ::=
  realnumber
| "-" realnumber
| SequenceValue

SpecialRealValue ::=
  PLUS-INFINITY
| MINUS-INFINITY
| NOT-A-NUMBER
```

NOTE – The third alternative of "NumericRealValue" cannot be used for plus zero or minus zero values. These abstract values are specified using either the first or the second alternative respectively, with a single "0" character for "realnumber".

```
XMLRealValue ::=
  XMLNumericRealValue | XMLSpecialRealValue
```

```

XMLNumericRealValue ::=
    realnumber
  | "-" & realnumber

XMLSpecialRealValue ::=
    EmptyElementReal
  | TextReal

EmptyElementReal ::=
    "<" & PLUS-INFINITY ">"
  | "<" & MINUS-INFINITY ">"
  | "<" & NOT-A-NUMBER ">"

TextReal ::=
    "INF"
  | "-" & "INF"
  | "NaN"

```

21.7 If an "EmptyElementReal" appears in an "XMLValueAssignment", then there shall be no occurrence of "TextReal" in that "XMLValueAssignment".

21.8 When the "realnumber" notation is used, it identifies the corresponding "base" 10 abstract value, or plus zero. When a "realnumber" value is preceded by "-", it identifies the corresponding "base" 10 abstract values that are negative numbers, or minus zero. If the "RealType" is constrained to "base" 2, the "realnumber" or "-" "realnumber" identifies the "base" 2 abstract value corresponding either to the decimal value specified by the "realnumber" or to a locally-defined precision if an exact representation is not possible.

## 22 Notation for the bitstring type

22.1 The bitstring type (see 3.8.7) shall be referenced by the notation "BitStringType":

```

BitStringType ::=
    BIT STRING
  | BIT STRING "{" NamedBitList "}"

NamedBitList ::=
    NamedBit
  | NamedBitList "," NamedBit

NamedBit ::=
    identifier "(" number ")"
  | identifier "(" DefinedValue ")"

```

22.2 The first bit in a bit string is called the leading bit. The final bit in a bit string is called the trailing bit.

NOTE – This terminology is used in specifying the value notation and in defining encoding rules.

22.3 The "DefinedValue" shall be a reference to a non-negative value of type integer.

22.4 The value of each "number" or "DefinedValue" appearing in the "NamedBitList" shall be different, and is the number of a distinguished bit in a bitstring value. The leading bit of the bit string is identified by the "number" zero, with succeeding bits having successive values.

22.5 Each "identifier" appearing in the "NamedBitList" shall be different.

NOTE 1 – The order of the "NamedBit" production sequences in the "NamedBitList" is not significant.

NOTE 2 – Since an "identifier" that appears within the "NamedBitList" cannot be used to specify the value associated with a "NamedBit", the "DefinedValue" can never be misinterpreted as an "IntegerValue". Therefore in the following case:

```

a INTEGER ::= 1
T1 ::= INTEGER { a(2) }
T2 ::= BIT STRING { a(3), b(a) }

```

the last occurrence of **a** denotes the value 1, as it cannot be a reference to the second nor the third occurrence of **a**.

22.6 The presence of a "NamedBitList" has no effect on the set of abstract values of this type. Values containing 1 bits other than the named bits are permitted.

22.7 When a "NamedBitList" is used in defining a bitstring type ASN.1 encoding rules are free to add (or remove) arbitrarily any trailing 0 bits to (or from) values that are being encoded or decoded. Application designers should

therefore ensure that different semantics are not associated with such values which differ only in the number of trailing 0 bits.

**22.8** This type has a tag which is universal class, number 3.

**22.9** The value of a bitstring type shall be defined by the notation "BitStringValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLBitStringValue". These productions are:

```

BitStringValue ::=
    bstring
  | hstring
  | "{" IdentifierList "}"
  | "{" "}"
  | CONTAINING Value

IdentifierList ::=
    identifier
  | IdentifierList "," identifier

XMLBitStringValue ::=
    XMLTypedValue
  | xmlbstring
  | XMLIdentifierList
  | empty

XMLIdentifierList ::=
    EmptyElementList
  | TextList

EmptyElementList ::=
    "<" & identifier ">"
  | EmptyElementList "<" & identifier ">"

TextList ::=
    identifier
  | TextList identifier
  
```

**22.10** If an "EmptyElementList" appears in an "XMLValueAssignment", then there shall be no occurrence of "TextList" in that "XMLValueAssignment".

**22.11** The "XMLTypedValue" alternative shall not be used unless the bitstring has a contents constraint which includes an ASN.1 type and does not include an **ENCODED BY**. If this alternative is used, the "XMLTypedValue" shall be a value of the ASN.1 type in the contents constraint.

**22.12** The "XMLIdentifierList" alternative shall not be used unless the bitstring has a "NamedBitList".

**22.13** Each "identifier" in "BitStringValue" or in the alternatives of "XMLBitStringValue" shall be the same as an "identifier" in the "BitStringType" production sequence with which the value is associated.

**22.14** The "empty" alternative denotes a bitstring with no bits.

**22.15** If the bitstring has named bits, the "BitStringValue" or "XMLBitStringValue" notation denotes a bitstring value with ones in the bit positions specified by the numbers corresponding to the "identifier"s, and with all other bits zero.

NOTE – For a "BitStringType" that has a "NamedBitList", the "{" "}" production sequence in "BitStringValue" and the "empty" in "XMLBitStringValue" are used to denote the bitstring which contains no one bits.

**22.16** When using the "bstring" or "xmlbstring" notation, the leading bit of the bitstring value is on the left, and the trailing bit of the bitstring value is on the right.

**22.17** When using the "hstring" notation, the most significant bit of each hexadecimal digit corresponds to the leftmost bit in the bitstring.

NOTE – This notation does not, in any way, constrain the way encoding rules place a bitstring into octets for transfer.

**22.18** The "hstring" notation shall not be used unless the bitstring value consists of a multiple of four bits.

EXAMPLE

'A98A'H

and

'1010100110001010'B

are alternative notations for the same bitstring value. If the type was defined using a "NamedBitList", the (single) trailing zero does not form part of the value, which is thus 15 bits in length. If the type was defined without a "NamedBitList", the trailing zero does form part of the value, which is thus 16 bits in length.

**22.19** The **CONTAINING** alternative can only be used if there is a contents constraint on the bitstring type which includes **CONTAINING**. The "Value" shall then be value notation for a value of the "Type" in the "ContentsConstraint" (see Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, clause 11).

NOTE – This value notation can never appear in a subtype constraint because Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, clause 11.3 forbids further constraints after a "ContentsConstraint", and the above text forbids its use unless the governor has a "ContentsConstraint".

**22.20** The **CONTAINING** alternative shall be used if there is a contents constraint on the bitstring type which does not contain **ENCODED BY**.

## 23 Notation for the octetstring type

**23.1** The octetstring type (see 3.8.55) shall be referenced by the notation "OctetStringType":

**OctetStringType ::= OCTET STRING**

**23.2** This type has a tag which is universal class, number 4.

**23.3** The value of an octetstring type shall be defined by the notation "OctetStringValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLOctetStringValue". These productions are:

**OctetStringValue ::=**

**bstring**  
| **hstring**  
| **CONTAINING Value**

**XMLOctetStringValue ::=**

**XMLTypedValue**  
| **xmlhstring**

**23.4** The "XMLTypedValue" alternative shall not be used unless the octetstring has a contents constraint which includes an ASN.1 type and does not include an **ENCODED BY**. If this alternative is used, the "XMLTypedValue" shall be a value of the ASN.1 type in the contents constraint.

**23.5** In specifying the encoding rules for an octetstring, the octets are referenced by the terms first octet and trailing octet, and the bits within an octet are referenced by the terms most significant bit and least significant bit.

**23.6** When using the "bstring" notation, the left-most bit of the "bstring" notation shall be the most significant bit of the first octet of the octetstring value. If the "bstring" is not a multiple of eight bits, it shall be interpreted as if it contained additional zero trailing bits to make it the next multiple of eight.

**23.7** When using the "hstring" or "xmlhstring" notation, the left-most hexadecimal digit shall be the most significant semi-octet of the first octet.

**23.8** If the "hstring" is an odd number of hexadecimal digits, it shall be interpreted as if it contained a single additional trailing zero hexadecimal digit. The "xmlhstring" shall not be an odd number of hexadecimal digits.

**23.9** The **CONTAINING** alternative can only be used if there is a contents constraint on the octetstring type which includes **CONTAINING**. The "Value" shall then be value notation for a value of the "Type" in the "ContentsConstraint" (see Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, clause 11).

NOTE – This value notation can never appear in a subtype constraint because Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, clause 11.3 forbids further constraints after a "ContentsConstraint", and the above text forbids its use unless the governor has a "ContentsConstraint".

**23.10** The **CONTAINING** alternative shall be used if there is a contents constraint on the octetstring type which does not contain **ENCODED BY**.

## 24 Notation for the null type

**24.1** The null type (see 3.8.51) shall be referenced by the notation "NullType":

**NullType ::= NULL**

24.2 This type has a tag which is universal class, number 5.

24.3 The value of a null type shall be referenced by the notation "NullValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLNullValue". These productions are:

**NullValue ::= NULL**

**XMLNullValue ::= empty**

## 25 Notation for sequence types

25.1 The notation for defining a sequence type (see 3.8.67) shall be the "SequenceType":

**SequenceType ::=**

**SEQUENCE "{" "}"**  
 | **SEQUENCE "{" ExtensionAndException OptionalExtensionMarker "}"**  
 | **SEQUENCE "{" ComponentTypeLists "}"**

**ExtensionAndException ::= "... " | "... " ExceptionSpec**

**OptionalExtensionMarker ::= "," "... " | empty**

**ComponentTypeLists ::=**

**RootComponentTypeList**  
 | **RootComponentTypeList "," ExtensionAndException ExtensionAdditions**  
**OptionalExtensionMarker**  
 | **RootComponentTypeList "," ExtensionAndException ExtensionAdditions**  
**ExtensionEndMarker "," RootComponentTypeList**  
 | **ExtensionAndException ExtensionAdditions ExtensionEndMarker ","**  
**RootComponentTypeList**  
 | **ExtensionAndException ExtensionAdditions OptionalExtensionMarker**

**RootComponentTypeList ::= ComponentTypeList**

**ExtensionEndMarker ::= "," "... "**

**ExtensionAdditions ::=**

**"," ExtensionAdditionList**  
 | **empty**

**ExtensionAdditionList ::=**

**ExtensionAddition**  
 | **ExtensionAdditionList "," ExtensionAddition**

**ExtensionAddition ::=**

**ComponentType**  
 | **ExtensionAdditionGroup**

**ExtensionAdditionGroup ::= "[" VersionNumber ComponentTypeList "]"**

**VersionNumber ::= empty | number ":"**

**ComponentTypeList ::=**

**ComponentType**  
 | **ComponentTypeList "," ComponentType**

**ComponentType ::=**

**NamedType**  
 | **NamedType OPTIONAL**  
 | **NamedType DEFAULT Value**  
 | **COMPONENTS OF Type**

25.2 For the purposes of the following clauses, a "PrefixedType" is defined to be a textually tagged type if either:

- the "PrefixedType" is a "TaggedType"; or
- the "Type" in the "PrefixedType" is a textually tagged type.

**25.3** When the "ComponentTypeLists" production occurs within the definition of a module for which automatic tagging is selected (see 13.3), and none of the occurrences of "NamedType" in any of the first three alternatives for "ComponentType" is a textually tagged type (see 25.2), then the automatic tagging transformation is selected for the entire "ComponentTypeLists", otherwise it is not.

NOTE 1 – The use of the "TaggedType" notation within the definition of the list of components for a sequence type gives control of tags to the specifier, as opposed to automatic assignment by the automatic tagging mechanism. Therefore, in the following case:

```
T ::= SEQUENCE { a INTEGER, b [1] BOOLEAN, c OCTET STRING }
```

no automatic tagging is applied to the list of components **a**, **b**, **c**, even if this definition of sequence type **T** occurs within a module for which automatic tagging is selected.

NOTE 2 – Only those occurrences of the "ComponentTypeLists" production appearing within a module where automatic tagging is selected are candidates for transformation by automatic tagging.

**25.4** The decision to apply the automatic tagging transformation is taken individually for each occurrence of "ComponentTypeLists" and *prior* to the **COMPONENTS OF** transformation specified by 25.5. However, as specified in 25.8 to 25.10, the automatic tagging transformation (if applied) is applied *after* the **COMPONENTS OF** transformation.

NOTE – The effect of this is that the application of automatic tags is suppressed by tags textually present in the "ComponentTypeLists", but not by tags present in the "Type" following **COMPONENTS OF**.

**25.5** "Type" in the "**COMPONENTS OF** Type" notation shall be a sequence type. The "**COMPONENTS OF** Type" notation shall be used to define the inclusion, at this point in the list of components, of all the component types (of which there shall be at least one) of the referenced type, except for any extension marker and extension additions that may be present in the "Type". (Only the "RootComponentTypeList" of the "Type" in the "**COMPONENTS OF** Type" is included; extension markers and extension additions, if any, are ignored by the "**COMPONENTS OF** Type" notation.) Any subtype constraint applied to the referenced type is ignored by this transformation.

NOTE – This transformation is logically completed prior to the satisfaction of the requirements in the following subclauses.

**25.6** The following subclauses each identify a series of occurrences of "ComponentType" in either the root or the extension additions or both. The rule of 25.6.1 shall apply to all such series.

**25.6.1** Where there are one or more consecutive occurrences of "ComponentType" that are all marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT**, the tags of those "ComponentType"s and of any immediately following component type in the series shall be distinct (see 31.2). If automatic tagging was selected, the requirement that tags be distinct applies only after automatic tagging has been performed, and will always be satisfied.

**25.6.2** Subclause 25.6.1 shall apply to the series of "ComponentType"s in the root.

**25.6.3** Subclause 25.6.1 shall apply to the complete series of "ComponentType"s in the root or in the extension additions, in the textual order of their occurrence in the type definition (ignoring all version brackets and ellipsis notation). (See also 52.7.)

**25.7** When the third or fourth alternative of "ComponentTypeLists" is used, all "ComponentType"s in extension additions shall have tags which are distinct from the tags of the textually following "ComponentType"s up to and including the first such "ComponentType" that is not marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT** in the trailing "RootComponentTypeList", if any. (See also 52.7.)

**25.8** The automatic tagging transformation of an occurrence of "ComponentTypeLists" is logically performed *after* the transformation specified by 25.5, but only if 25.3 determines that it shall apply to that occurrence of "ComponentTypeLists". Automatic tagging transformation impacts each "ComponentType" of the "ComponentTypeLists" by replacing the "Type" originally in the "NamedType" production with a replacement "TaggedType" occurrence specified in 25.10.

**25.9** If automatic tagging is in effect and the "ComponentType"s in the extension root have no tags, then no "ComponentType" within the "ExtensionAdditionList" shall be a textually tagged type.

**25.10** If automatic tagging is in effect, the replacement "TaggedType" is specified as follows:

- a) the replacement "TaggedType" notation uses the "Tag Type" alternative;
- b) the "Class" of the replacement "TaggedType" is empty (i.e., tagging is context-specific);
- c) the "ClassNumber" in the replacement "TaggedType" is tag value zero for the first "ComponentType" in the "RootComponentTypeList", one for the second, and so on, proceeding with increasing tag numbers;
- d) the "ClassNumber" in the replacement "TaggedType" of the first "ComponentType" in the "ExtensionAdditionList" is zero if the "RootComponentTypeList" is missing, else it is one greater than the largest "ClassNumber" in the "RootComponentTypeList", with the next "ComponentType" in the "ExtensionAdditionList" having a "ClassNumber" one greater than the first, and so on, proceeding with increasing tag numbers;

- e) the "Type" in the replacement "TaggedType" is the original "Type" being replaced.

NOTE 1 – The rules governing specification of implicit tagging or explicit tagging for replacement "TaggedType"s are provided by 31.2.7. Automatic tagging is always implicit tagging unless the "Type" is a choice type or an open type notation, or a "DummyReference" (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.3), in which case it is explicit tagging.

NOTE 2 – Once 25.8 is satisfied, the tags of the components are completely determined, and are not modified even when the sequence type is referenced in the definition of a component within another "ComponentTypeLists" for which automatic tagging transformation applies. Thus, in the following case:

```
T ::= SEQUENCE { a Ta, b Tb, c Tc }
E ::= SEQUENCE { f1 E1, f2 T, f3 E3 }
```

automatic tagging applied to the components of **E** never affects the tags attached to components **a**, **b** and **c** of **T**, whatever the tagging environment of **T**. If **T** is defined in an automatic tagging environment and **E** is not in an automatic tagging environment, automatic tagging is still applied to components **a**, **b** and **c** of **T**.

NOTE 3 – When a sequence type appears as the "Type" in "COMPONENTS OF Type", each occurrence of "ComponentType" in it is duplicated by the application of 25.5 prior to the possible application of automatic tagging to the referencing sequence type. Thus, in the following case:

```
T ::= SEQUENCE { a Ta, b SEQUENCE { b1 T1, b2 T2, b3 T3 }, c Tc }
W ::= SEQUENCE { x Wx, COMPONENTS OF T, y Wy }
```

the tags of **a**, **b**, and **c** within **T** need not be the same as the tags of **a**, **b**, and **c** within **W** if **W** has been defined in an automatic tagging environment, but the tags of **b1**, **b2** and **b3** are the same in both **T** and **W**. In other words, the automatic tagging transformation is only applied once to a given "ComponentTypeLists".

NOTE 4 – Subtyping has no impact on automatic tagging.

NOTE 5 – When automatic tagging is in place, insertion of new components at any location other than the extension insertion point (see 3.8.35) may result in changes to other components due to the side effect of modifying the tags thus causing interworking problems with an older version of the specification.

- 25.11** If **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT** are present, the corresponding value may be omitted from a value of the new type.
- 25.12** If **DEFAULT** occurs, the omission of a value for that type shall be exactly equivalent to the insertion of the value defined by "Value", which shall be a value notation for a value of the type defined by "Type" in the "NamedType" production sequence.
- 25.13** The value corresponding to an "ExtensionAdditionGroup" (all components together) is optional. However, if such a value is present, then the value corresponding to the components within the bracketed "ComponentTypeList" that are not marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT** shall be present.
- 25.14** The "identifier"s in all "NamedType" production sequences of the "ComponentTypeLists" (together with those obtained by expansion of **COMPONENTS OF**) shall all be distinct.
- 25.15** A value for a given extension addition type shall not be specified unless there are values specified for all extension addition types not marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT** that lie logically between the extension addition type and the extension root.

NOTE 1 – Where the type has grown from the extension root (version 1) through version 2 to version 3 by the addition of extension additions, the presence in an encoding of any addition from version 3 requires the presence of an encoding of all additions in version 2 that are not marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT**.

NOTE 2 – "ComponentType"s that are extension additions but not contained within an "ExtensionAdditionGroup" should always be encoded if they are not marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT**, except when the abstract value is being relayed from a sender that is using an earlier version of the abstract syntax in which the "ComponentType" is not defined.

NOTE 3 – Use of the "ExtensionAdditionGroup" production is recommended because:

- it can result in more compact encodings depending on the encoding rules (e.g., PER);
- the syntax is more precise in that it clearly indicates that a value of a type defined in the "ExtensionAdditionList" and not marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT** should always be present in an encoding if the extension addition group in which it is defined is encoded (compare with Note 1);
- the syntax makes it clear which types in an "ExtensionAdditionList" must as a group be supported by an application.

- 25.16** A "VersionNumber" shall be used only if all "ExtensionAdditions"s and "ExtensionAdditionAlternatives", within the module are "ExtensionAdditionGroup"s or "ExtensionAdditionAlternativesGroup"s with "VersionNumber"s. The "number" in each "VersionNumber" of an "ExtensionAdditionGroup" shall be greater than or equal to two, and shall be greater than the "number" in any preceding "ExtensionAdditionGroup" within an insertion point.

NOTE 1 – The convention used here is that the specification with no extension addition groups is version 1, thus the first added extension addition group will have a number greater than or equal to 2. Where a single "ExtensionAddition" is needed for an "ExtensionAdditions", an "ExtensionAdditionGroup" can be used with a single "ExtensionAddition".

NOTE 2 – The restrictions on use of "VersionNumber" apply only within a single module and impose no constraints on imported types.

- 25.17** All sequence types have a tag which is universal class, number 16.

NOTE – Sequence-of types have the same tag as sequence types (see 26.2).

25.18 The notation for defining a value of a sequence type shall be "SequenceValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLSequenceValue". These productions are:

```

SequenceValue ::=
    "{" ComponentValueList "}"
  |  "{" "}"

ComponentValueList ::=
    NamedValue
  |  ComponentValueList "," NamedValue

XMLSequenceValue ::=
    XMLComponentValueList
  |  empty

XMLComponentValueList ::=
    XMLNamedValue
  |  XMLComponentValueList XMLNamedValue
    
```

25.19 The "{" "}" or "empty" notation shall only be used if:

- a) all "ComponentType" sequences in the "SequenceType" are marked **DEFAULT** or **OPTIONAL**, and all values are omitted; or
- b) the type notation was **SEQUENCE{}**.

25.20 There shall be one "NamedValue" or "XMLNamedValue" for each "NamedType" in the "SequenceType" which is not marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT**, and the values shall be in the same order as the corresponding "NamedType" sequences.

## 26 Notation for sequence-of types

26.1 The notation for defining a sequence-of type (see 3.8.68) from another type shall be the "SequenceOfType".

```

SequenceOfType ::= SEQUENCE OF Type | SEQUENCE OF NamedType
    
```

NOTE – If an initial letter which is upper-case is needed for an XML tag name used in XML Value Notation for the "SequenceOfType", then the first alternative should be used. (The XML tag name is then formed from the name of the "Type".)

26.2 All sequence-of types have a tag which is universal class, number 16.

NOTE – Sequence types have the same tag as sequence-of types (see 25.17).

26.3 The notation for defining a value of a sequence-of type shall be the "SequenceOfValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLSequenceOfValue". These productions are:

```

SequenceOfValue ::=
    "{" ValueList "}"
  |  "{" NamedValueList "}"
  |  "{" "}"

ValueList ::=
    Value
  |  ValueList "," Value

NamedValueList ::=
    NamedValue
  |  NamedValueList "," NamedValue

XMLSequenceOfValue ::=
    XMLValueList
  |  XMLDelimitedItemList
  |  empty

XMLValueList ::=
    XMLValueOrEmpty
  |  XMLValueOrEmpty XMLValueList
    
```

```

XMLValueOrEmpty ::=
    XMLValue
  | "<" & NonParameterizedTypeName ">"

XMLDelimitedItemList ::=
    XMLDelimitedItem
  | XMLDelimitedItem XMLDelimitedItemList

XMLDelimitedItem ::=
    "<" & NonParameterizedTypeName ">" XMLValue
    "</" & NonParameterizedTypeName ">"
  | "<" & identifier ">" XMLValue "</" & identifier ">"

```

The "{ "}" or "empty" notation is used when the "SequenceOfValue" or "XMLSequenceOfValue" is an empty list.

NOTE – Semantic significance may be placed on the order of these values.

**26.4** If the "XMLValue" for the component is "empty", then the second alternative of "XMLValueOrEmpty" shall be chosen to represent that value of the component.

NOTE – This occurs only for **SEQUENCE OF NULL**.

**26.5** The "XMLValueList" or "XMLDelimitedItemList" productions shall be used in accordance with column 2 of Table 5, where the "Type" of the component is listed in column 1.

**Table 5 – "XMLSequenceOfValue" and "XMLSetOfValue" notation for ASN.1 types**

ASN.1 type	XML value notation
BitStringType	XMLDelimitedItemList
BooleanType	See 26.6
CharacterStringType	XMLDelimitedItemList
ChoiceType	XMLValueList
EmbeddedPDVType	XMLDelimitedItemList
EnumeratedType	See 26.7
ExternalType	XMLDelimitedItemList
InstanceOfType	See Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, C.9
IntegerType	XMLDelimitedItemList
IRType	XMLDelimitedItemList
NullType	XMLValueList
ObjectClassFieldType	See Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, 14.10 and 14.11
ObjectIdentifierType	XMLDelimitedItemList
OctetStringType	XMLDelimitedItemList
RealType	XMLDelimitedItemList
RelativeIRType	XMLDelimitedItemList
RelativeOIDType	XMLDelimitedItemList
SequenceType	XMLDelimitedItemList
SequenceOfType	XMLDelimitedItemList
SetType	XMLDelimitedItemList
SetOfType	XMLDelimitedItemList
PrefixedType	See 26.10.1
UsefulType (GeneralizedTime)	XMLDelimitedItemList
UsefulType (UTCTime)	XMLDelimitedItemList
UsefulType (ObjectDescriptor)	XMLDelimitedItemList
TypeFromObject	See Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, 15.6
ValueSetFromObjects	See Rec. ITU-T X.681   ISO/IEC 8824-2, 15.6

**26.6** If "EmptyElementBoolean" is used for the value of a boolean type, then "XMLValueList" shall be used; otherwise, "XMLDelimitedItemList" shall be used.

**26.7** If "EmptyElementEnumerated" is used for the value of an enumerated type, then "XMLValueList" shall be used; otherwise, "XMLDelimitedItemList" shall be used.

**26.8** If the "Type" of the component is a "DefinedType" then the type which determines the "XMLSequenceOfValue" notation shall be the type referenced by the "DefinedType" (see 14.1).

**26.9** The second alternative of "XMLDelimitedItem" shall be used if and only if the "SequenceOfType" contains an "identifier", and the "identifier" in the "XMLDelimitedItem" shall be that "identifier".

**26.10** If the first alternative of "XMLDelimitedItem" is used, then if the component of the sequence-of type (after ignoring any occurrences of "TypePrefix") is a "typereference" or an "ExternalTypeReference", then the "NonParameterizedTypeName" shall be the "typereference" or the "typereference" in the "ExternalTypeReference", respectively; otherwise it shall be the "xmlas1typename" specified in Table 4 corresponding to the built-in type of the component.

**26.10.1** If the "Type" of the component is a "PrefixedType", then the type which determines the "XMLSequenceOfValue" alternative and the "xmlas1typename" (if required) shall be the "Type" in the "PrefixedType" (see 31.1.5). If this is itself a "PrefixedType", a "ConstrainedType" or a "SelectionType", then these subclauses of 26.10 shall be recursively applied.

**26.10.2** If the "Type" of the component is a "ConstrainedType", then the type which determines the "XMLSequenceOfValue" alternative and the "xmlas1typename" (if required) shall be the "Type" in the "ConstrainedType" (see 49.1). If this is itself a "PrefixedType", a "ConstrainedType" or a "SelectionType", then these subclauses of 26.10 shall be recursively applied.

**26.10.3** If the "Type" of the component is a "SelectionType", then the type which determines the "XMLSequenceOfValue" alternative and the "xmlas1typename" (if required) notation shall be the type referenced by the "SelectionType" (see clause 30). If this is itself a "PrefixedType", a "ConstrainedType" or a "SelectionType", then these subclauses of 26.10 shall be recursively applied.

**26.11** If the first alternative of "SequenceOfType" is used, then the first alternative of "SequenceOfValue" shall be used. Each "Value" in the "ValueList" of "SequenceOfValue", and each "XMLValue" in the alternatives of "XMLSequenceOfValue" shall be of the type specified in the "SequenceOfType".

**26.12** If the second alternative of "SequenceOfType" is used, then the second alternative of "SequenceOfValue" shall be used, and each "NamedValue" in the "NamedValueList" shall contain a "Value" of the type specified in the "NamedType" of the "SequenceOfType". The "identifier" in the "NamedValue"s shall be the "identifier" in the "NamedType" of the "SequenceOfType".

## 27 Notation for set types

**27.1** The notation for defining a set type (see 3.8.72) from other types shall be the "SetType":

```
SetType ::=
    SET "{" "}"
  | SET "{" ExtensionAndException OptionalExtensionMarker "}"
  | SET "{" ComponentTypeLists "}"
```

"ComponentTypeLists", "ExtensionAndException" and "OptionalExtensionMarker" are specified in 25.1.

**27.2** "Type" in the "COMPONENTS OF Type" notation shall be a set type. The "COMPONENTS OF Type" notation shall be used to define the inclusion, at this point in the list of components, of all the component types of the referenced type, except for any extension marker and extension additions that may be present in the "Type". (Only the "RootComponentTypeList" of the "Type" in the "COMPONENTS OF Type" is included; extension markers and extension additions, if any, are ignored by the "COMPONENTS OF Type" notation.) Any subtype constraint applied to the referenced type is ignored by this transformation.

NOTE – This transformation is logically completed prior to the satisfaction of the requirements in the following subclauses.

**27.3** The "ComponentType" types in a set type shall all have different tags (see 31.2). The tag of each new "ComponentType" added to the "ExtensionAdditions" shall be canonically greater (see 8.6) than those of the other components in the "ExtensionAdditions".

NOTE – Where the "TagDefault" for the module in which this notation appears is **AUTOMATIC TAGS**, this is achieved regardless of the actual "ComponentType"s, as a result of the application of 25.8. (See also 52.7.)

**27.4** Subclauses 25.3 and 25.8 to 25.14 also apply to set types.

**27.5** All set types have a tag which is universal class, number 17.

NOTE – Set-of types have the same tag as set types (see 28.2).

**27.6** There shall be no semantics associated with the order of values in a set type.

27.7 The notation for defining the value of a set type shall be "SetValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLSetValue". These productions are:

```

SetValue ::=
    "{" ComponentValueList "}"
|   "{" "}"

XMLSetValue ::=
    XMLComponentValueList
|   empty

```

"ComponentValueList" and "XMLComponentValueList" are specified in 25.18.

27.8 The "SetValue" and "XMLSetValue" shall only be "{" "}" and "empty" respectively if:

- a) all "ComponentType" sequences in the "SetType" are marked **DEFAULT** or **OPTIONAL**, and all values are omitted; or
- b) the type notation was **SET{ }**.

27.9 There shall be one "NamedValue" or "XMLNamedValue" for each "NamedType" in the "SetType" which is not marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT**.

NOTE – These "NamedValue"s or "XMLNamedValue"s may appear in any order.

## 28 Notation for set-of types

28.1 The notation for defining a set-of type (see 3.8.73) from another type shall be the "SetOfType":

```

SetOfType ::=
    SET OF Type
|   SET OF NamedType

```

NOTE – If an initial letter which is upper-case is needed for an XML tag name used in XML Value Notation for the "SetOfType", then the first alternative should be used. (The XML tag name is then formed from the name of the "Type".)

28.2 All set-of types have a tag which is universal class, number 17.

NOTE – Set types have the same tag as set-of types (see 27.5).

28.3 The notation for defining a value of a set-of type shall be the "SetOfValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLSetOfValue". These productions are:

```

SetOfValue ::=
    "{" ValueList "}"
|   "{" NamedValueList "}"
|   "{" "}"

XMLSetOfValue ::=
    XMLValueList
|   XMLDelimitedItemList
|   empty

```

"ValueList", "NamedValueList" and the alternatives of "XMLSetOfValue" are specified in 26.3, and the choice of alternative is the same as if "XMLSequenceOfValue" had been used. The "{" "}" or "empty" notation is used when the "SetOfValue" or "XMLSetOfValue" is an empty list.

NOTE 1 – Semantic significance should not be placed on the order of these values.

NOTE 2 – Encoding rules are not required to preserve the order of these values.

NOTE 3 – The set-of type is not a mathematical set of values, thus, as an example, for **SET OF INTEGER** the values { 1 } and { 1 1 } are distinct.

28.4 If the first alternative of "SetOfType" is used, then the first alternative of "SetOfValue" shall be used. Each "Value" in the "ValueList" of "SetOfValue", and each "XMLValue" in the alternatives of "XMLSetOfValue" shall be of the type specified in the "SetOfType".

28.5 If the second alternative of "SetOfType" is used, then the second alternative of "SetOfValue" shall be used, and each "NamedValue" sequence in the "NamedValueList" shall contain a "Value" of the type specified in the "NamedType" of the "SetOfType". The "identifier" in the "NamedValue"s shall be the "identifier" in the "NamedType" of the "SetOfType".

## 29 Notation for choice types

29.1 The notation for defining a choice type (see 3.8.14) from other types shall be the "ChoiceType":

**ChoiceType ::= CHOICE "{" AlternativeTypeLists "}"**

**AlternativeTypeLists ::=**

**RootAlternativeTypeList**  
 | **RootAlternativeTypeList ","**  
     **ExtensionAndException ExtensionAdditionAlternatives**  
     **OptionalExtensionMarker**

**RootAlternativeTypeList ::= AlternativeTypeList**

**ExtensionAdditionAlternatives ::=**

**"," ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList**  
 | **empty**

**ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList ::=**

**ExtensionAdditionAlternative**  
 | **ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList "," ExtensionAdditionAlternative**

**ExtensionAdditionAlternative ::=**

**ExtensionAdditionAlternativesGroup**  
 | **NamedType**

**ExtensionAdditionAlternativesGroup ::=**

**"[" VersionNumber AlternativeTypeList "]"**

**AlternativeTypeList ::=**

**NamedType**  
 | **AlternativeTypeList "," NamedType**

NOTE – "T ::= CHOICE { a A }" and A are not the same type, and may be encoded differently by encoding rules.

29.2 When the "AlternativeTypeLists" production occurs within the definition of a module for which automatic tagging is selected (see 13.3), and none of the occurrences of "NamedType" in any "AlternativeTypeList" is a textually tagged type (see 25.2), the automatic tagging transformation is selected for the entire "AlternativeTypeLists", otherwise it is not.

29.3 The types defined in the "AlternativeTypeList" productions in an "AlternativeTypeLists" shall have distinct tags (see 31.2, and 52.7). If automatic tagging was selected, the requirement that tags be distinct applies only after automatic tagging has been performed, and will always be satisfied.

29.4 If automatic tagging is in effect and the "NamedType"s in the extension root have no tags, then no "NamedType" within the "ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList" shall be a textually tagged type.

29.5 The automatic tagging transformation impacts each "NamedType" of the "AlternativeTypeLists" by replacing the "Type" originally in the "NamedType" production with a replacement "TaggedType". The replacement "TaggedType" is specified as follows:

- the replacement "TaggedType" notation uses the "Tag Type" alternative;
- the "Class" of the replacement "TaggedType" is empty (i.e., tagging is context-specific);
- the "ClassNumber" in the replacement "TaggedType" is tag value zero for the first "NamedType" in the "RootAlternativeTypeList", one for the second, and so on, proceeding with increasing tag numbers;
- the "ClassNumber" in the replacement "TaggedType" of the first "NamedType" in the "ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList" is one greater than the largest "ClassNumber" in the "RootAlternativeTypeList", with the next "NamedType" in the "ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList" having a "ClassNumber" one greater than the first, and so on, proceeding with increasing tag numbers;
- the "Type" in the replacement "TaggedType" is the original "Type" being replaced.

NOTE 1 – The rules governing specification of implicit tagging or explicit tagging for replacement "TaggedType"s are provided by 31.2.7. Automatic tagging is always implicit tagging unless the "Type" is an untagged choice type or an untagged open type notation, or an untagged "DummyReference" (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.3), in which case it is explicit tagging.

NOTE 2 – Once automatic tagging has been applied, the tags of the components are completely determined, and are not modified even when the choice type is referenced in the definition of an alternative within another "AlternativeTypeLists" for which automatic tagging transformation applies. Thus, in the following case:

**T ::= CHOICE { a Ta, b Tb, c Tc }**

**E ::= CHOICE { f1 E1, f2 T, f3 E3 }**

automatic tagging applied to the components of **E** never affects the tags attached to components **a**, **b** and **c** of **T**, whatever the tagging environment of **T**. If **T** is defined in an automatic tagging environment and **E** is not in an automatic tagging environment, automatic tagging is still applied to components **a**, **b** and **c** of **T**.

NOTE 3 – Subtyping does not affect automatic tagging.

NOTE 4 – When automatic tagging is in place, insertion of new alternatives at any location other than the extension insertion point (see 3.8.35) may result in changes to other alternatives due to the side effect of modifying the tags thus causing interworking problems with an older version of the specification.

**29.6** "VersionNumber" is defined in 25.1, and the restrictions on consistent use of "VersionNumber" throughout a module that are specified in 25.16 shall apply to the use of "number"s within this production.

**29.7** The tag of each new "NamedType" added to the "ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList" shall be canonically greater (see 8.6) than those of the other alternatives in the "ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList", and shall be the last "NamedType" in the "ExtensionAdditionAlternativesList".

**29.8** The choice type contains values which do not all have the same tag. (The tag depends on the alternative which contributed the value to the choice type.)

**29.9** When this type does not have an extension marker and is used in a place where this Recommendation | International Standard requires the use of types with distinct tags (see 29.3), all possible tags of values of the choice type shall be considered in such requirement. The following examples which assume that the "TagDefault" is not **AUTOMATIC TAGS** illustrate this requirement.

#### EXAMPLES

```

1      A ::= CHOICE {
b      B,
c      NULL}

      B ::= CHOICE {
d      [0] NULL,
e      [1] NULL}

2      A ::= CHOICE {
b      B,
c      C}

      B ::= CHOICE {
d      [0] NULL,
e      [1] NULL}

      C ::= CHOICE {
f      [2] NULL,
g      [3] NULL}

3      (Incorrect)
      A ::= CHOICE {
b      B,
c      C}

      B ::= CHOICE {
d      [0] NULL,
e      [1] NULL}

      C ::= CHOICE {
f      [0] NULL,
g      [1] NULL}

```

Examples 1 and 2 are correct uses of the notation. Example 3 is incorrect without automatic tagging, as the tags for types **d** and **f** are identical, as well as for **e** and **g**.

**29.10** The "identifier"s of all "NamedType"s in the "AlternativeTypeLists" shall differ from those of the other "NamedType"s in that list.

**29.11** The notation for defining the value of a choice type shall be the "ChoiceValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLChoiceValue". These productions are:

**ChoiceValue ::= identifier ":" Value**

**XMLChoiceValue ::= "<" & identifier ">" XMLValue "</" & identifier ">"**

**29.12** "Value" or "XMLValue" shall be a notation for a value of the type in the "AlternativeTypeLists" that is named by the "identifier".

### 30 Notation for selection types

30.1 The notation for defining a selection type (see 3.8.66) shall be "SelectionType":

**SelectionType ::= identifier "<" Type**

where "Type" denotes a choice type, and "identifier" is that of some "NamedType" appearing in the "AlternativeTypeLists" of the definition of that choice type.

30.2 When "Type" denotes a constrained type, the selection is performed on the parent type, ignoring any subtype constraint on the parent type.

30.3 Where the "SelectionType" is used as a "NamedType", the "identifier" of the "NamedType" is present, as well as the "identifier" of the "SelectionType".

30.4 Where the "SelectionType" is used as a "Type", the "identifier" is retained and the type denoted is that of the selected alternative.

30.5 The notation for a value of a selection type shall be the notation for a value of the type referenced by the "SelectionType".

### 31 Notation for prefixed types

#### 31.1 General

31.1.1 A prefixed type (see 3.8.78) is a new type which is isomorphic with an old type, but which has a different or additional tag and may have a different or additional associated encoding instructions.

31.1.2 A prefixed type is either a "TaggedType" or an "EncodingPrefixedType".

31.1.3 A prefixed type which is a tagged type is mainly of use where this Recommendation | International Standard requires the use of types with distinct tags (see 25.6 to 25.7, 27.3 and 29.3). The use of a "TagDefault" of **AUTOMATIC TAGS** in a module allows this to be accomplished without the explicit appearance of "TaggedType" in that module.

NOTE – Where a protocol determines that values from several data types may be transmitted at any moment in time, distinct tags may be needed to enable the recipient to correctly decode the value.

31.1.4 The assignment of an encoding instruction using an "EncodingPrefixedType" is only relevant to the encodings identified by the associated encoding reference and has no effect on the abstract values of the type.

31.1.5 The notation for a prefixed type shall be "PrefixedType":

**PrefixedType ::=**  
**TaggedType**  
 | **EncodingPrefixedType**

NOTE – Specification of the syntax for "PrefixedType" would be simpler and clearer if tagging was described as the assignment of an encoding instruction. However, historically, tagging was introduced in the earliest versions of the ASN.1 specifications, and can affect the legality of a type definition. Minimum changes to the concepts of tagging (and the associated syntactic descriptions) were made when encoding prefixed types were introduced. Tagging also differs syntactically from assignment of encoding instructions: the specification that tagging is **EXPLICIT** or **IMPLICIT** occurs following the closing "]" of the tag, it is not contained within the paired "[" and "]" as is the case with normal encoding instructions.

31.1.6 The notation for a value of a "PrefixedType" shall be "PrefixedValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLPrefixedValue". These productions are:

**PrefixedValue ::= Value**

**XMLPrefixedValue ::= XMLValue**

where "Value" or "XMLValue" is a notation for a value of the "Type" in the "TaggedType" or the "EncodingPrefixedType" of the "PrefixedType".

NOTE 1 – Neither the "Tag" nor any part of the "EncodingPrefix" appears in this notation.

NOTE 2 – Encoding instructions can also be assigned to a type in an encoding control section (see clause 54). Such an assignment has no effect on the value notation for a type.

## 31.2 The tagged type

31.2.1 The notation for a tagged type shall be "TaggedType":

```

TaggedType ::=
  Tag Type
  | Tag IMPLICIT Type
  | Tag EXPLICIT Type

Tag ::= "[" EncodingReference Class ClassNumber "]"

EncodingReference ::=
  encodingreference ":"
  | empty

ClassNumber ::=
  number
  | DefinedValue

Class ::=
  UNIVERSAL
  | APPLICATION
  | PRIVATE
  | empty

```

31.2.2 When used in "Tag", the "encodingreference" shall be **TAG**. The "EncodingReference" in "Tag" shall not be "empty" unless the default encoding reference for the module is **TAG** (see 13.5).

31.2.3 The "valuereference" in "DefinedValue" shall be of type integer, and assigned a non-negative value.

31.2.4 The new type is isomorphic with the old type, but has a tag with class "Class" and number "ClassNumber", except when "Class" is "empty", in which case the tag is context-specific class and number is "ClassNumber".

31.2.5 The "Class" shall not be **UNIVERSAL** except for types defined in this Recommendation | International Standard.

NOTE 1 – Use of universal class tags are agreed from time-to-time by ITU-T and ISO.

NOTE 2 – Subclause G.2.12 contains guidance and hints on stylistic use of tag classes.

31.2.6 All application of tags is either implicit tagging or explicit tagging. Implicit tagging indicates, for those encoding rules which provide the option, that explicit identification of the original tag of the "Type" in the "TaggedType" is not needed during transfer.

NOTE – It can be useful to retain the old tag where this was universal class, and hence unambiguously identifies the old type without knowledge of the ASN.1 definition of the new type. Minimum transfer octets is, however, normally achieved by the use of **IMPLICIT**. An example of an encoding using **IMPLICIT** is given in Rec. ITU-T X.690 | ISO/IEC 8825-1.

31.2.7 The tagging construction specifies explicit tagging if any of the following holds:

- the "Tag **EXPLICIT** Type" alternative is used;
- the "Tag Type" alternative is used and the value of "TagDefault" for the module is either **EXPLICIT TAGS** or is empty;
- the "Tag Type" alternative is used and the value of "TagDefault" for the module is **IMPLICIT TAGS** or **AUTOMATIC TAGS**, but the type defined by "Type" is an untagged choice type, an untagged open type, or an untagged "DummyReference" (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.3).

The tagging construction specifies implicit tagging otherwise.

31.2.8 If the "Class" is "empty", there are no restrictions on the use of "Tag", other than those implied by the requirement for distinct tags in 25.6 to 25.7, 27.3 and 29.3.

31.2.9 The **IMPLICIT** alternative shall not be used if the type defined by "Type" is an untagged choice type or an untagged open type or an untagged "DummyReference" (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.3).

## 31.3 The encoding prefixed type

31.3.1 The notation for an encoding prefixed type shall be "EncodingPrefixedType":

```

EncodingPrefixedType ::=
  EncodingPrefix Type

```

**EncodingPrefix ::=**  
**"[" EncodingReference EncodingInstruction "]"**

"EncodingReference" is defined in 31.2.1.

**31.3.2** The "EncodingInstruction" production is specified in the Recommendation | International Standard identified by the "EncodingReference" (see Annex E) and can consist of any sequence of ASN.1 lexical items (including comment, cstring and white-space).

NOTE 1 – The "[" and "]" lexical items never appear in "EncodingInstruction".

NOTE 2 – Future versions of this Recommendation | International Standard may add further encoding references to Annex E. It is recommended that ASN.1 tools provide (only) warnings if an "encodingreference" is not one of those specified in Annex E and then ignore the whole "EncodingPrefix" using a "]" as the terminator (see Note 1 above).

**31.3.3** If the "EncodingReference" is empty, then the encoding reference for the encoding prefix is the default encoding reference for the module.

NOTE – If the default encoding reference for the module is **TAG** (see 31.2.2) and the "EncodingReference" is "empty", then the "PrefixedType" is a "TaggedType", not an "EncodingPrefixedType".

**31.3.4** There are in general restrictions on the encoding instructions (with the same encoding reference) that can be used in combination, and on the types to which particular instructions or combinations of instructions can be applied. These restrictions are specified in the Recommendation | International Standard associated with the encoding reference (see Annex E), and are not specified in this Recommendation | International Standard.

## 32 Notation for the object identifier type

**32.1** The object identifier type (see 3.8.54) shall be referenced by the notation "ObjectIdentifierType":

**ObjectIdentifierType ::=**  
**OBJECT IDENTIFIER**

**32.2** This type has a tag which is universal class, number 6.

**32.3** The value notation for an object identifier shall be "ObjectIdentifierValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLObjectIdentifierValue". These productions are:

**ObjectIdentifierValue ::=**  
**"{" ObjIdComponentsList "}"**  
**|** **"{" DefinedValue ObjIdComponentsList "}"**

**ObjIdComponentsList ::=**  
**ObjIdComponents**  
**|** **ObjIdComponents ObjIdComponentsList**

**ObjIdComponents ::=**  
**NameForm**  
**|** **NumberForm**  
**|** **NameAndNumberForm**  
**|** **DefinedValue**

**NameForm ::= identifier**

**NumberForm ::= number | DefinedValue**

**NameAndNumberForm ::=**  
**identifier "(" NumberForm ")"**

**XMLObjectIdentifierValue ::=**  
**XMLObjIdComponentList**

**XMLObjIdComponentList ::=**  
**XMLObjIdComponent**  
**|** **XMLObjIdComponent & "." & XMLObjIdComponentList**

**XMLObjIdComponent ::=**  
**NameForm**  
**|** **XMLNumberForm**  
**|** **XMLNameAndNumberForm**

**XMLNumberForm ::= number**

**XMLNameAndNumberForm ::=  
 identifier & "(" & XMLNumberForm & ")"**

**32.4** The "valuereference" in "DefinedValue" of "NumberForm" shall be of type integer, and assigned a non-negative value.

**32.5** The "valuereference" in "DefinedValue" of "ObjectIdentifierValue" shall be of type object identifier.

**32.6** The "DefinedValue" of "ObjIdComponents" shall be of type relative object identifier, and shall identify an ordered set of arcs from some starting node in the object identifier tree to some later node in the object identifier tree. The starting node is identified by the earlier "ObjIdComponents"s, and later "ObjIdComponents"s (if any) identify arcs from the later node. The starting node is required to be neither the root, nor a node immediately beneath the root.

NOTE – A relative object identifier value has to be associated with a specific object identifier value so as to unambiguously identify an object. Object identifier values are required (see 32.11) to have at least two components. This is why there is a restriction on the starting node.

**32.7** The "NameForm" shall be used only for those object identifier components whose numeric value and identifier are specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1, Annex A (see also Annex F of this Recommendation | International Standard), and shall be one of the identifiers specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1, Annexes A to C.

NOTE – Where the "NameForm" is allowed, the use of the "NameAndNumberForm" instead has been recommended in some circumstances by Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1, A.1.2.

**32.8** Where Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 specifies synonymous identifiers, synonyms may be used under conditions established when the synonym was registered in accordance with Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1. Where the same name is both an identifier specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 and an ASN.1 value reference within the module containing the "NameForm", the name within the object identifier value shall be treated as an Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 identifier.

**32.9** The "number" in the "NumberForm" and "XMLNumberForm" shall be the numeric value assigned to the object identifier component.

**32.10** There is flexibility in the "identifier"s that can be used in the "NameAndNumberForm" and "XMLNameAndNumberForm" beneath the three top-level arcs. These identifiers are not included in encodings, and may change over time. This is in recognition that the names of organizations can change. Identifiers for arcs should normally be agreed between the Registration Authority responsible for the node above an arc, and the Registration Authority to which responsibility for subsequent arcs has been assigned.

NOTE – The Registration Authorities responsible for arcs beneath the three top-level arcs are identified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1.

**32.11** The semantics associated with an object identifier value are specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1.

NOTE – Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 requires that an object identifier value shall contain at least two arcs.

**32.12** The significant part of the object identifier component is the "NameForm" or "NumberForm" or "XMLNumberForm" which it reduces to, and which provides the numeric value for the object identifier component. Except for the arcs specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1, Annexes A to C (see also Annex F of this Recommendation | International Standard), the numeric value of the object identifier component is always present in an instance of object identifier value notation.

**32.13** Where the "ObjectIdentifierValue" includes a "DefinedValue" for an object identifier value, the list of object identifier components to which it refers is prefixed to the components explicitly present in the value.

NOTE – Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 recommends that whenever an object identifier value is assigned to identify an object, an object descriptor value is also assigned.

## EXAMPLES

With identifiers assigned as specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1, the values:

```
{ iso standard 8571 application-context (1) }
and
{ 10 8571 1 }
```

would each identify an object, **application-context**, defined in ISO 8571, as would

```
iso.standard.8571.application-context(1)
```

and

1.0.8571.1

in an "XMLObjectIdentifierValue".

With the following additional definition:

**ftam OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { iso standard 8571 }**

the following value is equivalent to those above:

**{ ftam application-context(1) }**

### 33 Notation for the relative object identifier type

33.1 The relative object identifier type (see 3.8.64) shall be referenced by the notation "RelativeOIDType":

**RelativeOIDType ::= RELATIVE-OID**

33.2 This type has a tag which is universal class, number 13.

33.3 The value notation for a relative object identifier shall be "RelativeOIDValue", or when used as "XMLValue", "XMLRelativeOIDValue". These productions are:

**RelativeOIDValue ::=**  
**"{" RelativeOIDComponentsList "}"**

**RelativeOIDComponentsList ::=**  
**RelativeOIDComponents**  
**| RelativeOIDComponents RelativeOIDComponentsList**

**RelativeOIDComponents ::=**  
**NumberForm**  
**| NameAndNumberForm**  
**| DefinedValue**

**XMLRelativeOIDValue ::=**  
**XMLRelativeOIDComponentList**

**XMLRelativeOIDComponentList ::=**  
**XMLRelativeOIDComponent**  
**| XMLRelativeOIDComponent & "." & XMLRelativeOIDComponentList**

**XMLRelativeOIDComponent ::=**  
**XMLNumberForm**  
**| XMLNameAndNumberForm**

33.4 The productions "NumberForm", "NameAndNumberForm", "XMLNumberForm", "XMLNameAndNumberForm", and their semantics, are defined in subclauses 32.3 to 32.12.

33.5 The "DefinedValue" of "RelativeOIDComponents" shall be of type relative object identifier, and shall identify an ordered set of arcs from some starting node in the object identifier tree to some later node in the object identifier tree. The starting node is identified by the earlier "RelativeOIDComponents"s (if any), and later "RelativeOIDComponents"s (if any) identify arcs from the later nodes.

33.6 The first "RelativeOIDComponents" or "XMLRelativeOIDComponent" identifies one or more arcs from some starting node in the object identifier tree to some later node in the object identifier tree. The starting point can be defined by comments associated with the type definition. If there is no definition of the starting node within comments associated with the type definition, then it needs to be transmitted as an object identifier value in an instance of communication (see G.2.21). The starting node is required to be neither the root, nor a node immediately beneath the root.

NOTE – A relative object identifier value has to be associated with a specific object identifier value so as to unambiguously identify an object. Object identifier values are required (see 32.11) to have at least two components. This is why there is a restriction on the starting node.

EXAMPLE

With the following definitions:

**thisUniversity OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=**  
**{joint-iso-itu-t example(999) universities(56) thisuni(32)}**

**firstgroup RELATIVE-OID ::= {science-fac(4) maths-dept(3)}**

or in XML value notation:

**thisUniversity ::= <OBJECT\_IDENTIFIER>2.999.56.32</OBJECT\_IDENTIFIER>**

**firstgroup ::= <RELATIVE\_OID>4.3</RELATIVE\_OID>**

the relative object identifier:

**relOID RELATIVE-OID ::= {firstgroup room(4) socket(6)}**

or in XML value notation:

**relOID ::= <RELATIVE\_OID>4.3.4.6</RELATIVE\_OID>**

can be used instead of the **OBJECT\_IDENTIFIER** value {2 999 56 32 4 3 4 6} if the current root (known by the application or transmitted by the application) is **thisUniversity**.

## 34 Notation for the OID internationalized resource identifier type

34.1 The OID internationalized resource identifier type (see 3.8.47) shall be referenced by the notation "IRIType":

**IRIType ::= OID-IRI**

34.2 This type has a tag which is universal class, number 35.

34.3 The value notation for an OID internationalized resource identifier shall be "IRIValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLIRIValue". These productions are:

**IRIValue ::=**

**" ""**

**FirstArcIdentifier**

**SubsequentArcIdentifier**

**" ""**

**FirstArcIdentifier ::=**

**"/" ArcIdentifier**

**SubsequentArcIdentifier ::=**

**"/" ArcIdentifier SubsequentArcIdentifier**

**| empty**

**ArcIdentifier ::=**

**integerUnicodeLabel**

**| non-integerUnicodeLabel**

**XMLIRIValue ::=**

**FirstArcIdentifier**

**SubsequentArcIdentifier**

34.4 The "FirstArcIdentifier" shall identify an arc (possibly a long arc) from the root of the OID tree.

34.5 Each "SubsequentArcIdentifier" shall identify an arc from the preceding "ArcIdentifier".

### EXAMPLES

With identifiers assigned as specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 and ISO/IEC 19785 the object identified by:

**{iso registration-authority cbeff (19785) organizations(0) jtc1-sc37(257) patron-formats(1) tlv-encoded (5)}**

or in XML value notation:

**<OBJECT\_IDENTIFIER>1.1.19785.0.257.1.5</OBJECT\_IDENTIFIER>**

which identifies a TLV-encoded CBEFF Patron Format, could also have an ASN.1 OID-IRI identification of

**"/ISO/Registration\_Authority/19785.CBEFF/Organizations/JTC1-SC37/Patron-formats/TLV-encoded"**

Or, in XML value notation:

**<OID-IRI>/ISO/Registration\_Authority/19785.CBEFF/Organizations/JTC1-SC37/Patron-formats/TLV-encoded</OID-IRI>**

### 35 Notation for the relative OID internationalized resource identifier type

35.1 The relative OID internationalized resource identifier type (see 3.8.62) shall be referenced by the notation "RelativeIRIType":

**RelativeIRIType ::=** RELATIVE-OID-IRI

35.2 This type has a tag which is universal class, number 36.

35.3 The value notation for a relative OID internationalized resource identifier shall be "RelativeIRIValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", "XMLRelativeIRIValue". These productions are:

**RelativeIRIValue ::=**

" "

**FirstRelativeArcIdentifier**

**SubsequentArcIdentifier**

" "

**FirstRelativeArcIdentifier ::=**

**ArcIdentifier**

**XMLRelativeIRIValue ::=**

**FirstRelativeArcIdentifier**

**SubsequentArcIdentifier**

35.4 The "FirstRelativeArcIdentifier" shall identify an arc from some starting node in the object identifier tree to some later node in the object identifier tree. The starting point can be defined by comments associated with the type definition. If there is no definition of the starting node within comments associated with the type definition, then it needs to be transmitted as an OID internationalized resource identifier value in an instance of communication.

NOTE – A relative OID internationalized resource identifier value has to be associated with a specific OID internationalized reference identifier value so as to unambiguously identify a resource.

#### EXAMPLE

With the following identified node:

**cbeffPatronFormats OID-IRI ::=**

**"/ISO/Registration\_Authority/19785.CBEFF/Patron-formats"**

the relative OID internationalized resource identifier:

**tlv-encoded RELATIVE-OID-IRI ::= "TLV-encoded"**

identifies the TLV-encoded Patron Format.

### 36 Notation for the embedded-pdv type

36.1 The embedded-pdv type (see 3.8.24) shall be referenced by the notation "EmbeddedPDVType":

**EmbeddedPDVType ::=** EMBEDDED PDV

NOTE – The term "Embedded PDV" means an abstract value from a possibly different abstract syntax (essentially, the value and encoding of a message defined in a separate – and identified – protocol) that is embedded in a message. Historically, it meant "Embedded Presentation Data Value" from its use in the OSI Presentation Layer, but this expansion is not used today, and it should be interpreted as "embedded value".

36.2 This type has a tag which is universal class, number 11.

36.3 The type consists of values representing:

- a) an encoding of a single data value that may, but need not, be the value of an ASN.1 type; and
- b) identification (separately or together) of:
  - 1) an abstract syntax; and
  - 2) the transfer syntax.

NOTE 1 – The data value may be the value of an ASN.1 type, or may, for example, be the encoding of a still image or a moving picture. The identification consists of either one or two object identifiers, or (in an OSI environment) references an OSI presentation context identifier which specifies the abstract and transfer syntaxes.

NOTE 2 – The identification of the abstract syntax and/or the encoding may also be determined by the application designer as a fixed value, in which case it is not encoded in an instance of communication.

**36.4** The embedded-pdv type has an associated type. This associated type is used to support the value and subtype notations of the embedded-pdv type.

**36.5** The associated type for value definition and subtyping, assuming an automatic tagging environment, is (with normative comments):

```

SEQUENCE {
  identification
    syntaxes
      abstract
      transfer
      -- Abstract and transfer syntax object identifiers --,

    syntax
      -- A single object identifier for identification of the abstract
      -- and transfer syntaxes --,

    presentation-context-id
      -- (Applicable only to OSI environments)
      -- The negotiated OSI presentation context identifies the
      -- abstract and transfer syntaxes --,

    context-negotiation
    presentation-context-id
    transfer-syntax
      -- (Applicable only to OSI environments)
      -- Context-negotiation in progress, presentation-context-id
      -- identifies only the abstract syntax
      -- so the transfer syntax shall be specified --,

    transfer-syntax
      -- The type of the value (for example, specification that it is
      -- the value of an ASN.1 type)
      -- is fixed by the application designer (and hence known to both
      -- sender and receiver). This
      -- case is provided primarily to support
      -- selective-field-encryption (or other encoding
      -- transformations) of an ASN.1 type --,

    fixed
      -- The data value is the value of a fixed ASN.1 type (and hence
      -- known to both sender
      -- and receiver) -- },

  data-value-descriptor
      -- This provides human-readable identification of the class of the
      -- value --,

  data-value
      OCTET STRING }

( WITH COMPONENTS {
  ...
  data-value-descriptor ABSENT } )

```

NOTE – The embedded-pdv type does not allow the inclusion of a **data-value-descriptor** value. However, the definition of the associated type provided here underlies the commonalities which exist between the embedded-pdv type, the external type and the unrestricted character string type.

**36.6** The **presentation-context-id** alternative is only applicable in an OSI environment, when the integer value shall be an OSI presentation context identifier in the OSI defined context set. This alternative shall not be used during OSI context negotiation.

**36.7** The **context-negotiation** alternative is only applicable in an OSI environment, and shall only be used during OSI context negotiation. The integer value shall be an OSI presentation context identifier proposed for addition to the OSI defined context set. The object identifier **transfer-syntax** shall identify a proposed transfer syntax for that OSI presentation context which is to be used to encode the value.

36.8 The notation for a value of the embedded-pdv type shall be the value notation for the associated type defined in 36.5, where the value of the **data-value** component of type **OCTET STRING** represents an encoding using the transfer syntax specified in **identification**.

**EmbeddedPDVValue ::= SequenceValue**

**XMLEmbeddedPDVValue ::= XMLSequenceValue**

EXAMPLE – If a single option is to be enforced, such as use of **syntaxes**, then this can be done by writing:

```
EMBEDDED PDV (WITH COMPONENTS {
    ...,
    identification (WITH COMPONENTS {
        syntaxes PRESENT } ) ) )
```

### 37 Notation for the external type

37.1 The external type (see 3.8.43) shall be referenced by the notation "ExternalType":

**ExternalType ::= EXTERNAL**

37.2 This type has a tag which is universal class, number 8.

37.3 The type consists of values representing:

- a) an encoding of a single data value that may, but need not, be the value of an ASN.1 type; and
- b) identification of:
  - 1) an abstract syntax; and
  - 2) the transfer syntax; and
- c) (optionally) an object descriptor which provides a human-readable description of the category of the data value. The optional object descriptor shall not be present unless explicitly permitted by comment associated with use of the "ExternalType" notation.

NOTE – Note 1 in 36.3 also applies to the external type.

37.4 The external type has an associated type. This type is used to give precision to the definition of the abstract values of the external type and is also used to support the value and subtype notations of the external type.

NOTE – Encoding rules may define a different type which is used to derive encodings, or may specify encodings without reference to any associated type. For example, the encoding in BER uses a different sequence type for historical reasons.

37.5 The associated type for value definition and subtyping, assuming an automatic tagging environment, is (with normative comments):

```
SEQUENCE {
  identification
    syntaxes
      abstract
      transfer
      -- Abstract and transfer syntax object identifiers --,
    syntax
      -- A single object identifier for identification of the abstract
      -- and transfer syntaxes --,
    presentation-context-id
      -- (Applicable only to OSI environments)
      -- The negotiated OSI presentation context identifies the
      -- abstract and transfer syntaxes --,
    context-negotiation
      presentation-context-id
      transfer-syntax
      -- (Applicable only to OSI environments)
      -- Context-negotiation in progress, presentation-context-id
      -- identifies only the abstract syntax
      -- so the transfer syntax shall be specified --,
    transfer-syntax
  CHOICE {
    SEQUENCE {
      OBJECT IDENTIFIER,
      OBJECT IDENTIFIER }
    OBJECT IDENTIFIER
    INTEGER
    SEQUENCE {
      INTEGER,
      OBJECT IDENTIFIER }
    OBJECT IDENTIFIER
  }
```

-- the value of an ASN.1 type)  
 -- is fixed by the application designer (and hence known to both  
 -- sender and receiver). This  
 -- case is provided primarily to support  
 -- selective-field-encryption (or other encoding  
 -- transformations) of an ASN.1 type --,

**fixed** **NULL**  
 -- The data value is the value of a fixed ASN.1 type (and hence  
 -- known to both sender  
 -- and receiver) -- },

**data-value-descriptor** **ObjectDescriptor OPTIONAL**  
 -- This provides human-readable identification of the class of  
 -- the value --,

**data-value** **OCTET STRING }**  
**( WITH COMPONENTS {**  
 ...,  
**identification (WITH COMPONENTS {**  
 ...,  
**syntaxes** **ABSENT,**  
**transfer-syntax** **ABSENT,**  
**fixed** **ABSENT } ) )**

NOTE – For historical reasons, the external type does not allow the **syntaxes**, **transfer-syntax** or **fixed** alternatives of **identification**. Application designers requiring these options should use the embedded-pdv type. The definition of the associated type provided here underlies the commonalities which exist between the external type, the unrestricted character string type and the embedded-pdv type.

**37.6** The text of 36.6 and 36.7 also applies to the external type.

**37.7** The notation for a value of the external type shall be the value notation for the associated type defined in 37.5, where the value of the **data-value** component of type **OCTET STRING** represents an encoding using the transfer syntax specified in **identification**.

**ExternalValue ::= SequenceValue**

**XMLExternalValue ::= XMLSequenceValue**

NOTE – For historical reasons, encoding rules are able to transfer embedded values in **EXTERNAL** whose encodings are not an exact multiple of eight bits. Such values cannot be represented in value notation using the above associated type.

## **38 The time type**

### **38.1 General**

**38.1.1** The time type (see 3.8.83) shall be referenced by the notation "TimeType":

**TimeType ::= TIME**

**38.1.2** The tag for types defined by this notation is universal class, number 14.

**38.1.3** The value of a time type shall be defined by the notation "TimeValue", or when used as an "XMLValue", by the notation "XMLTimeValue". The syntax of these notations is defined in 38.3 as the contents of a "simplestring", using notation defined in ISO 8601, 3.4.

### **38.2 Time properties and settings of time abstract values**

**38.2.1** Table 6 specifies in column 1 the description and names of the time properties of time abstract values. In column 2, it specifies the names of the possible time property settings for the column 1 time property. Column 3 specifies (generally by reference to ISO 8601) the abstract values to which the time property is applicable, and that have the corresponding time property settings.

NOTE 1 – ASN.1 does not specify abstract values that are not supported by ISO 8601 representations.

NOTE 2 – The names of time properties and of their settings appear in the property assertions of the property settings subtype notation (see clause 51).

NOTE 3 – ASN.1 recognizes an order relationship between TIME abstract values if they have the same properties and the same settings of those properties. For those abstract values that include a time difference, an order relationship is only recognized between abstract values with the same time difference.

Table 6 – Properties and settings for time abstract values

Time property	Names of property settings	Abstract values that have this property setting
<p><b>Basic nature of the abstract value</b></p> <p><b>Name: Basic</b></p> <p><b>Comment:</b> The setting of this property identifies the basic nature of the abstract value. All time abstract values have this property.</p>	<b>Date</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.1. All abstract values that are dates only.
	<b>Time</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.2. All abstract values that are a time-of-day only.
	<b>Date-Time</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.3. All abstract values that are a date and a time-of-day.
	<b>Interval</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.4. All the time interval abstract values.
	<b>Rec-Interval</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.5. All the recurring interval abstract values.
<p><b>Time scale and accuracy for a date</b></p> <p><b>Name: Date</b></p> <p><b>Comment:</b> This applies only to an abstract value that includes identification of a date. It identifies the time scale and accuracy of that date.</p> <p>NOTE – Any abstract value identifying more than one date (for example, an interval) has a single setting for <b>Date</b> that applies to both dates.</p>	<b>C</b> (Century)	See ISO 8601, 4.1.2.3 c). All abstract values containing a date that represents only a century.
	<b>Y</b> (Year only)	See ISO 8601, 4.1.2.3 b). All abstract values containing a date that represents only a year.
	<b>YM</b> (Year-Month)	See ISO 8601, 4.1.2.3 a). All abstract values containing a date that uses the year-month time scale.
	<b>YMD</b> (Year-Month-Day)	See ISO 8601, 4.1.2.2. All abstract values containing a date that uses the year-month-day time scale.
	<b>YD</b> (Year-Day)	See ISO 8601, 4.1.3.2. All abstract values containing a date that uses the year-day time scale.
	<b>YW</b> (Year-Week)	See ISO 8601, 4.1.4.3. All abstract values containing a date that uses the year-week time scale.
	<b>YWD</b> (Year-Week-Day)	See ISO 8601, 4.1.4.2. All abstract values containing a date that uses the year-week-day time scale.

Table 6 – Properties and settings for time abstract values

Time property	Names of property settings	Abstract values that have this property setting
<p><b>Type of associated year</b></p> <p><b>Name: Year</b></p> <p><b>Comment:</b> This applies only to an abstract value that includes identification of one or more years or centuries. Its setting identifies whether the year (or century) identification is a "normal" year, a year in the proleptic Gregorian Calendar (see J.2.2), a year that is negative, or a year that requires more than four digits to represent it.</p> <p><b>NOTE</b> – Any abstract value involving more than one year (for example, an interval) has a single setting for <b>Year</b> that applies to both years.</p>	<b>Basic</b>	All abstract values containing a year in the range 1582 to 9999 (or a century in the range 15 to 99).
	<b>Proleptic</b>	All abstract values containing a year in the range 0 to 1581 (or a century in the range 00 to 14). <b>NOTE</b> – In the proleptic Gregorian calendar, a year value of zero has a meaning which roughly corresponds to the year 1 BC (see J.2.2).
	<b>Negative</b>	All abstract values containing a year in the range –9999 to –0001 (or a century in the range –99 to –01).
	<b>L5, L6, L7, etc., to infinity (Large)</b>	All abstract values containing a year whose decimal representation requires 5, 6, 7, etc., digits (or a century whose decimal representation requires 3, 4, 5, etc., digits) respectively, whether positive or negative.
<p><b>Accuracy for a time</b></p> <p><b>Name: Time</b></p> <p><b>Comment:</b> This applies only to an abstract value that includes identification of a time-of-day. It identifies the accuracy of that time-of-day.</p> <p><b>NOTE</b> – Any abstract value identifying more than one time-of-day (for example, an interval) has a single setting for <b>Time</b> that applies to both the time-of-days.</p>	<b>H (Hour)</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.2.2.3 b). All abstract values containing a time-of-day to an accuracy of hours.
	<b>HM (Hour-Minute)</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.2.2.3 a). All abstract values containing a time-of-day to an accuracy of minutes.
	<b>HMS (Hour-Minute-Second)</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.2.2.2). All abstract values containing a time-of-day to an accuracy of seconds.
	<b>HF1, HF2, HF3, etc., to infinity (Hour-decimal-fraction)</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.2.2.4 c). All abstract values containing a time-of-day to an accuracy of hours to 1, 2, 3, etc., decimal places.
	<b>HMF1, HMF2, HMF3, etc., to infinity (Hour-Minute-fraction)</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.2.2.4 b). All abstract values containing a time-of-day to an accuracy of minutes to 1, 2, 3, etc., decimal places.
	<b>HMSF1, HMSF2, HMSF3, etc., to infinity (Hour-Minute-Second-Fraction)</b>	See ISO 8601, 4.2.2.4 a). All abstract values containing a time-of-day to an accuracy of seconds to 1, 2, 3, etc., decimal places.

Table 6 – Properties and settings for time abstract values

Time property	Names of property settings	Abstract values that have this property setting
<p><b>Local or UTC time scale for a time</b>  <b>Name: Local-or-UTC</b>  <b>Comment:</b> This applies only to an abstract value that includes identification of a time. It identifies the time scale of that time (local time of day, UTC, or local time of day plus the difference from UTC). Time differences are determined by local administrations. ASN.1 supports time differences in the range –15 hours to +15 hours. The difference is positive if the local time of day is ahead of or equal to UTC (see ISO 8601, 4.2.5.1). See also J.2.11.                      NOTE – Any abstract value identifying more than one time (for example, an interval) has a single setting for <b>Local-or-UTC</b> that applies to both times.</p>	<p><b>L</b> (Local time of day only)</p>	<p>See 38.2.2 and ISO 8601, 4.2.2 and 4.2.3.                      All abstract values containing a time-of-day that specifies local time of day only.</p>
	<p><b>Z</b> (UTC only)</p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.2.4.                      All abstract values containing a time-of-day that specifies UTC and not local time of day.</p>
	<p><b>LD</b> (Local time of day and the difference from UTC)</p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.2.5.                      All abstract values containing a time-of-day that specifies local time of day and the time (which may be negative) added to UTC to obtain local time of day.</p>
<p><b>Form of interval specification</b>  <b>Name: Interval-type</b>  <b>Comment:</b> This applies only to an abstract value that is an interval or a recurring interval. It identifies the form of interval specification (a start and an end point, a duration, a start point and a duration, or a duration with an end point).</p>	<p><b>SE</b> (Start and end points)</p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.4.1 a).                      All abstract values that specify an interval using a start and an end point.</p>
	<p><b>D</b> (Duration only)</p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.4.1 b) and 4.4.3.                      All abstract values that specify an interval using only a duration.</p>
	<p><b>SD</b> (Start point and duration)</p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.4.1 c).                      All abstract values that specify an interval using a start point and a duration.</p>
	<p><b>DE</b> (Duration and end point)</p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.4.1 d).                      All abstract values that specify an interval using a duration and an end point.</p>
<p><b>Nature of the start and/or end point specification</b>  <b>Name: SE-point</b>  <b>Comment:</b> This applies only to intervals or recurring intervals using a start point or an end point or both. The setting of this property identifies the nature of the start point and/or end point that forms part of this abstract value.                      NOTE – All interval abstract values with both a start point and an end point have a single setting for this property, and for any associated properties related to date or time-of-day.                      There are no interval abstract values that have different forms of start point and end point. Thus all abstract values with both an interval start point and an interval end point have the same set of time components for the start point and the end point (but see Table 7 for value notation for the end-point). This is a difference from ISO 8601.</p>	<p><b>Date</b></p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.1.                      All abstract values that specify start and/or end points using dates only.</p>
	<p><b>Time</b></p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.2.                      All abstract values that specify start and/or end points using time-of-day only.</p>
	<p><b>Date-Time</b></p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.3.                      All abstract values that specify start and/or end points using a date and a time-of-day.</p>
<p><b>Recurrence specification</b>  <b>Name: Recurrence</b>  <b>Comment:</b> This applies only to an abstract value that is a recurring interval. It identifies the agreed limits on the number of recurrences (or unlimited).</p>	<p><b>Unlimited</b> (No limit on the number of recurrences, expressed with an empty string for the number of recurrences)</p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.5.                      All abstract values representing an unlimited number of recurrences of an interval.</p>
	<p><b>R1, R2, R3, etc., to infinity</b> (Number of recurrence digits)</p>	<p>See ISO 8601, 4.5.                      All abstract values representing recurrences of an interval that require 1, 2, 3, etc. digits, respectively, to express the number of recurrences.</p>

Table 6 – Properties and settings for time abstract values

Time property	Names of property settings	Abstract values that have this property setting
<b>Midnight start or end of a day</b> <b>Name: Midnight</b> <b>Comment:</b> This applies only to an abstract value that contains a time that represents midnight. It identifies whether this midnight value is the start of a day (often represented as 00:00:00) or the end of a day (often represented as 24:00:00).	<b>Start</b> (Start-of-day)	See ISO 8601, 4.2.3 a). An abstract value containing a time that represents midnight at the start of a day.
	<b>End</b> (End-of-day)	See ISO 8601, 4.2.3 b). An abstract value containing a time that represents midnight at the end of a day.
NOTE – ASN.1 does not support the use of start and end points of intervals that have different time properties, as there is only a single <b>SE-point</b> setting that governs the syntax of both the start point and the end-point. The start and end points are required to use the same time format. This is a difference from ISO 8601.		

**38.2.2** ISO 8601 provides two basic representations for midnight: "2400" for midnight at the end of a day and "0000" for midnight at the start of a day (with any second or fractional part of a second containing only zero digits). These are not considered different representations for a single abstract value, but as distinct abstract values.

NOTE 1 – This is because as a stand-alone time, they are clearly distinct and represent start of a day and end of a day. When used in conjunction with a day, "2400" on day x should be considered less than "0000" on day x+1, despite having exactly the same position on the time axis.

NOTE 2 – They have, respectively, the time property setting "**Midnight=End**" and "**Midnight=Start**".

NOTE 3 – As with other times, there are infinitely many distinct abstract values that are midnight at the start and end of any particular day, depending on the accuracy of the seconds and fractional part of seconds. There are also further infinite sets of midnight abstract values based on the use of fractions of an hour or of a minute rather than of seconds. (All these fractional parts will be zero to various different accuracies if the abstract value is a midnight value.)

**38.2.3** ISO 8601 provides two basic representations for duration (either weeks, or some combination of years, months, days, hours, minutes and seconds) as a component of time intervals and recurring time intervals. Different strings representing durations in ISO 8601 are considered to represent different abstract values in ASN.1, except where the only difference is the omission or inclusion of a zero time component that does not change the duration (including the accuracy of the duration) being represented. Inclusion or omission of zero time components is fully specified in canonical encoding rules, and in all the encoding rules of Rec. ITU-T X.691 | ISO/IEC 8825-2. There are no time properties (other than "**Basic=Interval Interval-type=D**") associated with a duration, but restrictions can be applied to the time components of a duration, requiring them to be absent or limiting their value (see 38.4.4).

NOTE 1 – There is an ISO 8601 requirement for prior agreement on the size of components (and particularly of fractional parts). This is normally handled by property settings for the different accuracies. However, in the case of **DURATION**, for simplicity, property settings were not introduced to determine the accuracy of the components. Instead, inner subtyping constraints on the equivalent sequence type can be applied, as specified in 38.4.4, to record prior agreements on the components of a **DURATION**.

NOTE 2 – ISO 8601 requires that use of a weeks component shall not be combined with the use of any other date component (years, months, days), nor with the use of an hours, minutes, or seconds time component. This restriction is also applied in ASN.1 for consistency with ISO 8601.

**38.2.4** There is no defined order relation between the different **DURATION** abstract values unless they are expressed using a single time element (for example, weeks or months or days only), as there is no agreed international definition of a duration of one month or one year in terms of seconds.

### 38.3 Basic value notation and XML value notation for time abstract values with specified property settings

**38.3.1** All time abstract values with the same time property settings have the same value notation, varied only by the values of year, month, week, day, hour, minute, second, etc. (on the associated time scale) that are used to distinguish that abstract value from others with the same property settings.

**38.3.2** The value notations for the time type shall be "TimeValue" and "XMLTimeValue":

**TimeValue ::= tstring**

**XMLTimeValue ::= xmltstring**

The content of the "tstring" and of the "xmltstring" is defined in 38.3.4 using the time component syntax that is defined in column 3 of Table 7. Table 7 defines a number of possible notations for the different components (for example, the year component). The precise notation to be used depends on the property settings of the abstract value specified in

column 2. Properties not listed in column 2 have no effect on the notation to be used for the component. These time component notations are normally defined by reference to an ISO 8601 representation (with which they are conformant), but in order to avoid ambiguity in value notation, an additional **c** character is added to time components that designate a century and not a full year, as specified in column 3 of Table 7.

**38.3.3** Table 7 specifies (in column 3) the value notation and XML value notation for time components (listed in column 1). Column 1 identifies a time component. Column 2 specifies the conditions in which a particular row is applicable, in terms of the settings of properties associated with abstract values. Column 3 specifies the notation to be used for that time component. The notation used in column 3 is that defined in ISO 8601, 3.4, with the addition of **c** as a century designator.

NOTE 1 – The ISO 8601 notation used in column 3 can be summarized as: Y is a year digit, M is a month digit or month designator, D is a day digit, w is a week digit, h is an hour digit, m is a minute digit, s is a second digit, n is any of 0 to 9, ± is plus or minus, and underline represents zero or more repetitions (for example "±YYYYY"). The ISO 8601 notation is used in preference to any other notation used in this Recommendation | International Standard in order to make the linkage to ISO 8601 clear.

NOTE 2 – Clause J.2 provides a tutorial on ISO 8601 key concepts that will help in understanding this notation. See also clause G.3 for examples of the resulting value notation.

**Table 7 – Value notation for time abstract values with specific properties and settings**

Time component	Property	Value notation syntax
Year component	"Year=Basic" and "Date=C"  or "Year=Proleptic" and "Date=C"	ISO 8601, 4.1.2.3 c) followed by the character LATIN CAPITAL LETTER C: [YYC]
Year component	"Year=Negative" and "Date=C"  or "Year=Ln" and "Date=C"	ISO 8601, 4.1.2.4 d) followed by the character LATIN CAPITAL LETTER C: [± <u>Y</u> YYC]  The number of repetitions of <u>Y</u> shall be zero for "Year=Negative" and equal to <i>n</i> -4 for "Year=Ln".
Year component	"Year=Basic" and Date is not C  or "Year=Proleptic" and Date is not C	ISO 8601, 4.1.2.2: [YYYY]
Year component	"Year=Negative" and Date is not C  or "Year=Ln" and Date is not C	ISO 8601, 4.1.2.4 c): [± <u>Y</u> YYYYY]  The number of repetitions of <u>Y</u> shall be zero for "Year=Negative" and equal to <i>n</i> -4 for "Year=Ln".
Month component	Any	ISO 8601, 4.1.2.3 a): [-MM]
Week component	Any	ISO 8601, 4.1.4.3: [-Www]
Day component	"Year=YMD"	ISO 8601, 4.1.2.2 Extended format: [-DD]
Day component	"Year=YD"	ISO 8601, 4.1.3.2 Extended format: [-DDD]
Day component	"Year=YWD"	ISO 8601, 4.1.4.2 Extended format: [-D]
Hours component	"Basic=Time"  or "Basic=Interval" and "SE-point=Time"  or "Basic=Rec-Interval" and "SE-point=Time"	ISO 8601, 4.2.2.3 b): [hh]  The hours component value notation <b>24</b> shall always be used for the abstract value "midnight at end of day" and the hours component value notation <b>00</b> for "midnight at start of day".

Table 7 – Value notation for time abstract values with specific properties and settings

Time component	Property	Value notation syntax
Hours component	"Basic=Date-Time" or "Basic=Interval" and "SE-point=Date-Time" or "Basic=Rec-Interval" and "SE-point=Date-Time"	ISO 8601, 4.3.2 Extended format: [Thh]  The value notation <b>T24</b> shall always be used for the hours component of the abstract value "midnight at end of day" and the value notation <b>T00</b> for "midnight at start of day".
Minutes component	Any	ISO 8601, 4.3.2 Extended format: [:mm]
Seconds component	Any	ISO 8601, 4.3.2 Extended format: [:ss]
Decimal fraction component of hour, minute, or second	Any	ISO 8601, 4.2.2.4: [,hh] or [.hh], [,mm] or [.mm], or [,ss] or [.ss]  NOTE – It is recommended that in any given ASN.1 module, the comma or full stop be consistently used for the decimal sign.
Decimal fraction component of year, month, week, or day in a duration (see J.2.6, Note)	"Basic=Interval" and "Interval-type=D" or "Basic=Interval" and "Interval-type=SD" or "Basic=Interval" and "Interval-type=DE"	ISO 8601, 4.4.3.2: [,nn] or [.nn]  NOTE – It is recommended that in any given ASN.1 module, the comma or full stop be consistently used for the decimal sign.
UTC designator component	"Local-or-UTC=Z"	ISO 8601, 4.2.4: [Z]
Time difference component	"Local-or-UTC=LD"	ISO 8601, 4.2.5.2 Extended format: [±hh] or [±hh:mm]  The time difference component shall be the exact time difference in minutes if it is not an exact multiple of hours.  NOTE – This means that the minutes component has to be present unless the difference between local time of day and UTC is an integral number of hours.
Duration component	"Interval-type=D" or "Interval-type=SD" or "Interval-type=DE"	ISO 8601, 4.4.3.2:  see 38.3.6
Time interval	"Interval-type=SE" or "Interval-type=SD" or "Interval-type=DE"	ISO 8601, 4.4 Extended formats:  Start point component ("Interval-type=SE" or "Interval-type=SD") or duration component ("Interval-type=DE"), followed by [/], followed by duration component ("Interval-type=SD") or end point component ("Interval-type=SE" or "Interval-type=DE").
Start point component	Depends on SE-point setting	This is determined by the setting of SE-point, which shall be interpreted as a setting of the Basic property for representing this component. The Date, Year, Time, and Local-or-UTC property settings shall then be used to determine the format of the start point component.

Table 7 – Value notation for time abstract values with specific properties and settings

Time component	Property	Value notation syntax
End point component	Depends on <b>SE-point</b> setting	This is determined by the setting of <b>SE-point</b> , which shall be interpreted as a setting of the <b>Basic</b> property for representing this component. The <b>Date</b> , <b>Year</b> , <b>Time</b> , and <b>Local-or-UTC</b> property settings shall then be used to determine the format of the end point component. It is permissible (optionally) to omit the time difference component if the difference between UTC and local time of day for the end point is the same as the difference for the start point. NOTE – This is not as general as ISO 8601, but is restricted to these cases for simplicity.
Recurring time intervals	" <b>Recurrence=Unlimited</b> "	ISO 8601, 4.5 Extended format: [R/] followed by the time interval component.
Recurring time intervals	" <b>Recurrence=R1</b> ", " <b>Recurrence=R2</b> ", " <b>Recurrence=R3</b> ", etc.	ISO 8601, 4.5 Extended format: [R <sub>nn</sub> /] followed by the time interval component.

**38.3.4** The value of the "tstring" shall be the concatenation of the character encodings of the time components (determined by the settings of their properties in accordance with Table 6), preceded and followed by a QUOTATION MARK (34) character (") as specified in 12.17. The value of the "xmltstring" shall be the concatenation of the character encodings of the time components (determined by the settings of their properties in accordance with Table 6), without surrounding QUOTATION MARK characters.

NOTE 1 – The value notation and XML value notation are canonical except for:

- a) the varying representations of duration; and
- b) the varying use of comma or full stop for the decimal separator; and
- c) the varying use of hours and minutes or hours only for time difference components that are an integral number of hours; and
- d) the inclusion or omission of a time difference component in the end point of an interval (with both a start point and an end point) when the time difference in the end point is the same as the time difference in the start point.

NOTE 2 – Examples of the value notation are provided in G.3.

**38.3.5** The notations for the time components shall be concatenated in the order specified in ISO 8601.

NOTE – This means the most significant time component first and the zone designator (time difference component or **z**) last.

**38.3.6** The basic value notation and the XML value notation for the duration component are specified in the following subclauses.

**38.3.6.1** The value notation shall be [P] (see ISO 8601, 4.4.3) followed by either:

- a) a year-month-day designation (see 38.3.6.2) optionally followed by an hours-mins-sec designation (see 38.3.6.3); or
- b) a week designation (see 38.3.6.4); or
- c) an hours-mins-sec designation (see 38.3.6.3).

**38.3.6.2** A year-month-day designation shall be one or more (in order) of:

- a) a year designation (see 38.3.6.5);
- b) a month designation (see 38.3.6.6);
- c) a day designation (see 38.3.6.7).

**38.3.6.3** An hours-mins-secs designation shall be [T] followed by one or more (in order) of:

- a) an hours designation (see 38.3.6.8); or
- b) a minutes designation (see 38.3.6.9); or
- c) a seconds designation (see 38.3.6.10).

**38.3.6.4** A week designation shall consist of one or more digits optionally followed by a fractional part (see 38.3.6.12) followed by [W].

**38.3.6.5** A year designation shall consist of one or more digits optionally followed by a fractional part (see 38.3.6.12) followed by [Y].

**38.3.6.6** A month designation shall consist of one or more digits optionally followed by a fractional part (see 38.3.6.12) followed by [M].

**38.3.6.7** A day designation shall consist of one or more digits optionally followed by a fractional part (see 38.3.6.12) followed by [D].

**38.3.6.8** An hours designation shall consist of one or more digits optionally followed by a fractional part (see 38.3.6.12) followed by [H].

**38.3.6.9** A minutes designation shall consist of one or more digits optionally followed by a fractional part (see 38.3.6.12) followed by [M].

**38.3.6.10** A seconds designation shall consist of one or more digits optionally followed by a fractional part (see 38.3.6.12) followed by [S].

**38.3.6.11** The integral part of a designation shall not contain leading zeros unless it is the single digit zero, optionally followed by a fractional part. There shall be at least one digit in the integral part if there is a following fractional part.

**38.3.6.12** A fractional part shall consist of a decimal separator (which shall be either a full stop or a comma), followed by one or more decimal digits.

**38.3.6.13** If a designation contains a fractional part, there shall be no following designation.

**38.3.6.14** Value notations expressing a duration to different accuracies represent different abstract values.

EXAMPLE 1: The following value notations all represent different abstract values:

- a) **P29M** (or **P0Y29M**) -- 0 years, 29 months to an accuracy of 1 month.
- b) **P29M0D** (or **P0Y29M0D**) -- 0 years, 29 months, 0 days to an accuracy of 1 day.
- c) **P29MT0S** (or **P0Y29M0DT0H0M0S**) -- 0 years, 29 months, 0 days, 0 hours, 0 minutes, 0 seconds, to an accuracy of 1 second.
- d) **P29MT0.00H** (or **P0Y29M0DT0.00H**) -- 0 years, 29 months, 0 days, 0 hours, to an accuracy of one-hundredth of an hour.
- e) **P29MT0.000S** (or **P0Y29M0DT0H0M0.000S**) -- 0 years, 29 months, 0 days, 0 hours, 0 minutes, 0 seconds, to an accuracy of 1 millisecond.

EXAMPLE 2: The following value notations all represent the same abstract value (0 years, 29 months, 0 days, 0 hours, 0 minutes) to an accuracy of one-hundredth of a minute:

- a) **P0Y29M0DT0H0.00M**
- b) **P0Y29M0DT0.00M**
- c) **P0Y29MT0H0.00M**
- d) **P0Y29MT0.00M**
- e) **P29M0DT0H0.00M**
- f) **P29M0DT0.00M**
- g) **P29MT0H0.00M**
- h) **P29MT0.00M**

## 38.4 Useful time types

The following useful time types are defined, and are expected to cover most normal requirements of application designers.

NOTE – These definitions use the property setting subtype notation specified in clause 51. Where alternative time scales are required, for example, use of a Year and Day calendar, defined time types (see Annex B) can be used, or the property setting subtype notation can be used to define additional subtypes of the **TIME** type (see G.3 for examples of properties and settings that can be used).

**38.4.1** The date type shall be referenced by the notation:

**DateType ::= DATE**

and is defined as:

**DATE ::= [UNIVERSAL 31] IMPLICIT TIME**  
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YMD Year=Basic")

38.4.2 The time-of-day type shall be referenced by the notation:

**TimeOfDayType ::= TIME-OF-DAY**

and is defined as:

**TIME-OF-DAY ::= [UNIVERSAL 32] IMPLICIT TIME**  
(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L")

NOTE – This type allows midnight at start of day (00:00:00) as well as midnight at end of day (24:00:00).

38.4.3 The date-time type shall be referenced by the notation:

**DateTimeType ::= DATE-TIME**

and is defined as:

**DATE-TIME ::= [UNIVERSAL 33] IMPLICIT TIME**  
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date-Time Date=YMD Year=Basic Time=HMS  
Local-or-UTC=L")

NOTE – This type allows midnight at start of day (00:00:00) as well as midnight at end of day (24:00:00).

38.4.4 The duration type shall be referenced by the notation:

**DurationType ::= DURATION**

and is defined as:

**DURATION ::= [UNIVERSAL 34] IMPLICIT TIME**  
(SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=D")

Any subset of the **TIME** type, all of whose abstract values have the property settings "**Basic=Interval Interval-type=D**" (whether **UNIVERSAL 34** or **UNIVERSAL 14**), is called a duration subtype. This type can be constrained in accordance with the following subclauses.

38.4.4.1 Inner subtyping constraints can be applied to any duration subtype using an equivalent sequence type (see 38.4.4.2).

NOTE – The inner subtyping constraint applied to the equivalent sequence type can be used to forbid or to require particular time components in the duration type, or to place range constraints on the values of some or all time components of the duration type (see also 51.11.2).

38.4.4.2 The **DURATION-EQUIVALENT** equivalent sequence type is:

**DURATION-EQUIVALENT ::= SEQUENCE {**  
**years**           **INTEGER (0..MAX) OPTIONAL,**  
**months**         **INTEGER (0..MAX) OPTIONAL,**  
**weeks**           **INTEGER (0..MAX) OPTIONAL,**  
**days**           **INTEGER (0..MAX) OPTIONAL,**  
**hours**           **INTEGER (0..MAX) OPTIONAL,**  
**minutes**         **INTEGER (0..MAX) OPTIONAL,**  
**seconds**         **INTEGER (0..MAX) OPTIONAL,**  
**fractional-part** **SEQUENCE {**  
          **number-of-digits** **INTEGER(1..MAX),**  
          **fractional-value** **INTEGER(0..MAX) } OPTIONAL }**

where the years component of the equivalent sequence type corresponds to the years time component of the abstract value of the duration type, and so on.

38.4.4.3 Constraints placed on the components of the equivalent sequence type are constraints on the corresponding time components of the duration type.

NOTE 1 – The rules for duration types require that at least one of the time components be present (see 38.2.3), but that no other time components be present when the week is present. Use of an inner subtyping constraint that violated these rules would be an illegal specification.

NOTE 2 – The fractional-part always applies to the least significant time component that is present in the abstract value.

38.4.5 The basic value notation and the XML value notation for all the useful time types shall be the value notation for the **TIME** type (see 38.3.2), restricted to notation for those abstract values that are present in the useful time type.

## 39 The character string types

These types consist of strings of characters from some specified character repertoire. It is normal to define a character repertoire and its encoding by use of cells in one or more tables, each cell corresponding to a character in the repertoire.

A graphic symbol and a character name are also usually assigned to each cell, although in some repertoires, cells are left empty, or have names but no shapes (examples of cells with names but no shape include control characters such as EOF in ISO/IEC 646 and spacing characters such as THIN-SPACE and EN-SPACE in ISO/IEC 10646).

In general, the information associated with a cell denotes a distinct abstract character in the repertoire even if that information is null (no graphic symbol or name is assigned to that cell).

The ASN.1 basic value notation for character string types has three variants (which can be combined), specified formally below:

- a) A representation of the characters in the string using assigned graphic symbols, possibly including spacing characters; this is the "cstring" notation.
  - NOTE 1 – Such a representation can be ambiguous in a printed representation when the same graphic symbol is used for more than one character in the repertoire.
  - NOTE 2 – Such a representation can be ambiguous in a printed representation when spacing characters of different widths are present in the repertoire or the specification is printed with a proportional-spacing font.
- b) A listing of the characters in the character string value by giving a series of ASN.1 value references that have been assigned the character; a set of such value references is defined in the module **ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE** in clause 42 for the ISO/IEC 10646 character repertoire and for the **IA5String** character repertoire; this form is not available for other character repertoires unless the user assigns to such value references using the value notation described in a) above or c) below.
- c) A listing of the characters in the character string value by identifying each abstract character by the position of its cell in the character repertoire table(s); this form is available only for **IA5String**, **UniversalString**, **UTF8String** and **BMPString**.

The ASN.1 XML value notation for character string types uses the "xmlcstring" notation, which includes the ability to use escape sequences for certain special characters, and for specification of characters using decimal or hexadecimal (see 12.15).

## 40 Notation for character string types

40.1 The notation for referencing a character string type (see 3.8.12) shall be:

```
CharacterStringType ::=
    RestrictedCharacterStringType
  | UnrestrictedCharacterStringType
```

"RestrictedCharacterStringType" is the notation for a restricted character string type and is defined in clause 41. "UnrestrictedCharacterStringType" is the notation for the unrestricted character string type and is defined in 44.1.

40.2 The tag of each restricted character string type is specified in 41.1. The tag of the unrestricted character string type is specified in 44.2.

40.3 The notation for a character string value shall be:

```
CharacterStringValue ::=
    RestrictedCharacterStringValue
  | UnrestrictedCharacterStringValue

XMLCharacterStringValue ::=
    XMLRestrictedCharacterStringValue
  | XMLUnrestrictedCharacterStringValue
```

"RestrictedCharacterStringValue" and "XMLRestrictedCharacterStringValue" are defined in 41.8 and 41.9 respectively. "UnrestrictedCharacterStringValue" and "XMLUnrestrictedCharacterStringValue" are notations for an unrestricted character string value and they are defined in 44.7.

## 41 Definition of restricted character string types

This clause defines types whose values are restricted to sequences of zero, one or more characters from some specified collection of characters. The notation for referencing a restricted character string type shall be "RestrictedCharacterStringType":

```
RestrictedCharacterStringType ::=
    BMPString
  | GeneralString
```

- | **GraphicString**
- | **IA5String**
- | **ISO646String**
- | **NumericString**
- | **PrintableString**
- | **TeletexString**
- | **T61String**
- | **UniversalString**
- | **UTF8String**
- | **VideotexString**
- | **VisibleString**

Each "RestrictedCharacterStringType" alternative is defined by specifying:

- a) the tag assigned to the type; and
- b) a name (e.g., **NumericString**) by which the type is referenced; and
- c) the characters in the collection of characters used in defining the type, by reference to a table listing the character graphics or by reference to a registration number in the ISO International Register of Coded Character Sets (see *ISO International Register of Coded Character Sets to be used with Escape Sequences*), or by reference to ISO/IEC 10646.

**Table 8 – List of restricted character string types**

Name for referencing the type	Universal class number	Defining registration number <sup>a)</sup> , table number, or Rec. ITU-T X.680 / ISO/IEC 8824-1 clause	Notes
<b>UTF8String</b>	12	Subclause 41.16	
<b>NumericString</b>	18	Table 9	(Note 1)
<b>PrintableString</b>	19	Table 10	(Note 1)
<b>TeletexString (T61String)</b>	20	6, 87, 102, 103, 106, 107, 126, 144, 150, 153, 156, 164, 165, 168 + SPACE + DELETE	(Note 2)
<b>VideotexString</b>	21	1, 13, 72, 73, 87, 89, 102, 108, 126, 128, 129, 144, 150, 153, 164, 165, 168 + SPACE + DELETE	(Note 3)
<b>IA5String</b>	22	1, 6 + SPACE + DELETE	
<b>GraphicString</b>	25	All G sets + SPACE	
<b>VisibleString (ISO646String)</b>	26	6 + SPACE	
<b>GeneralString</b>	27	All G and all C sets + SPACE + DELETE	
<b>UniversalString</b>	28	See 41.6	
<b>BMPString</b>	30	See 41.15	

a) The defining registration numbers are listed in ISO International Register of Coded Character Sets to be used with Escape Sequences.

NOTE 1 – The type-style, size, colour, intensity, or other display characteristics are not significant.

NOTE 2 – Register entries 6 and 156 can be used instead of 102 and 103.

NOTE 3 – The entries corresponding to these registration numbers provide the functionality of CCITT Rec. T.100 and Rec. ITU-T T.101.

**41.1** Table 8 lists the name by which each restricted character string type is referenced, the number of the universal class tag assigned to the type, the defining registration number or table, or the defining text clause, and, where necessary, identification of a Note relating to the entry in the table. Where a synonymous name is defined in the notation, this is listed in parentheses.

**41.2** Table 9 lists the characters which can appear in the **NumericString** type and **NumericString** character abstract syntax.

Table 9 – NumericString

Name	Graphic
Digits	0, 1, ... 9
Space	(space)

41.3 The following object identifier, OID internationalized resource identifier and object descriptor values are assigned to identify and describe the **NumericString** character abstract syntax:

{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) characterStrings(1) numericString(0) }

"/Joint-ISO-ITU-T/ASN.1/Specification/Character\_Strings/Numeric\_String"

and

"NumericString character abstract syntax"

NOTE 1 – This object identifier value can be used in **CHARACTER STRING** values and in other cases where there is a need to carry the identification of the character string type separate from the value.

NOTE 2 – A value of a **NumericString** character abstract syntax may be encoded by:

- One of the rules given in ISO/IEC 10646 for encoding the abstract characters. In this case the character transfer syntax is identified by the object identifier associated with those rules in ISO/IEC 10646, Annex N.
- The ASN.1 encoding rules for the built-in type **NumericString**. In this case the character transfer syntax is identified by the object identifier value { joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) basic-encoding(1) }.

41.4 Table 10 lists the characters which can appear in the **PrintableString** type and **PrintableString** character abstract syntax.

Table 10 – PrintableString

Name	Graphic
Latin capital letters	A, B, ... Z
Latin small letters	a, b, ... z
Digits	0, 1, ... 9
SPACE	(space)
APOSTROPHE	'
LEFT PARENTHESIS	(
RIGHT PARENTHESIS	)
PLUS SIGN	+
COMMA	,
HYPHEN-MINUS	-
FULL STOP	.
SOLIDUS	/
COLON	:
EQUALS SIGN	=
QUESTION MARK	?

41.5 The following object identifier, OID internationalized resource identifier and object descriptor values are assigned to identify and describe the **PrintableString** character abstract syntax:

{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) characterStrings(1) printableString(1) }

"/Joint-ISO-ITU-T/ASN.1/Specification/Character\_Strings/Printable\_String"

and

"PrintableString character abstract syntax"

NOTE 1 – This object identifier value can be used in **CHARACTER STRING** values and in other cases where there is a need to carry the identification of the character string type separate from the value.

NOTE 2 – A value of a **PrintableString** character abstract syntax may be encoded by:

- One of the rules given in ISO/IEC 10646 for encoding the abstract characters. In this case the character transfer syntax is identified by the object identifier associated with those rules in ISO/IEC 10646, Annex N.
- The ASN.1 encoding rules for the built-in type **PrintableString**. In this case the character transfer syntax is identified by the object identifier { joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) basic-encoding(1) }.

**41.6** The characters which can appear in the **UniversalString** type are any of the characters allowed by ISO/IEC 10646.

**41.7** Use of this type invokes the conformance requirements specified in ISO/IEC 10646.

NOTE – Clause 42 defines an ASN.1 module containing a number of subtypes of this type for the "Collections of graphics characters for subsets" defined in ISO/IEC 10646, Annex A.

**41.8** The "RestrictedCharacterStringValue" notation for the restricted character string types shall be "cstring" (see 12.14), "CharacterStringList", "Quadruple", or "Tuple". "Quadruple" is only capable of defining a character string of length one, and can only be used in value notation for **UniversalString**, **UTF8String** or **BMPString** types. "Tuple" is only capable of defining a character string of length one, and can only be used in value notation for **IA5String** types.

```

RestrictedCharacterStringValue ::=
    cstring
    | CharacterStringList
    | Quadruple
    | Tuple

CharacterStringList ::= "{" CharSyms "}"

CharSyms ::=
    CharsDefn
    | CharSyms "," CharsDefn

CharsDefn ::=
    cstring
    | Quadruple
    | Tuple
    | DefinedValue

Quadruple ::= "{" Group "," Plane "," Row "," Cell "}"

Group ::= number
Plane ::= number
Row ::= number
Cell ::= number

Tuple ::= "{" TableColumn "," TableRow "}"

TableColumn ::= number
TableRow ::= number

```

NOTE 1 – The "cstring" notation can only be used unambiguously on a medium capable of displaying the graphic symbols for the characters which are present in the value. Conversely, if the medium has no such capability, the only means of unambiguously specifying a character string value that uses such graphic symbols is by means of the "CharacterStringList" notation, and only if the type is **UniversalString**, **UTF8String**, **BMPString** or **IA5String**, and the "DefinedValue" alternative of "CharsDefn" is used (see 42.1.2).

NOTE 2 – Clause 42 defines a number of "valuereference"s which denote single characters (strings of size 1) of type **BMPString** (and hence **UniversalString** and **UTF8String**) and **IA5String**.

EXAMPLE – Suppose that one wishes to specify a value of "abcΣdef" for a **UniversalString** where the character "Σ" is not representable on the available medium, this value can also be expressed as:

```

IMPORTS BasicLatin, greekCapitalLetterSigma FROM ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) iso10646(0) };

```

```

MyAlphabet ::= UniversalString (FROM (BasicLatin | greekCapitalLetterSigma))

```

```

mystring MyAlphabet ::= { "abc" , greekCapitalLetterSigma , "def" }

```

NOTE 3 – When specifying the value of a **UniversalString**, **UTF8String** or **BMPString** type, the "cstring" notation should not be used unless ambiguities arising from different graphic characters with similar shapes have been resolved.

EXAMPLE – The following "cstring" notation should not be used because the graphic symbols 'H', 'O', 'P' and 'E' occur in the BASIC LATIN, CYRILLIC and BASIC GREEK alphabets and thus are ambiguous.

```

IMPORTS BasicLatin, Cyrillic, BasicGreek FROM ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) iso10646(0) };

```

```

MyAlphabet ::= UniversalString (FROM (BasicLatin | Cyrillic | BasicGreek))

```

**mystring MyAlphabet ::= "HOPE"**

An alternative unambiguous definition of **mystring** would be:

**mystring MyAlphabet(BasicLatin) ::= "HOPE"**

Formally, **mystring** is a value reference to a value of a subset of **MyAlphabet**, but it can, by the value mapping rules of Annex C, be used wherever a value reference is needed to this value within **MyAlphabet**.

**41.9** The "XMLRestrictedCharacterStringValue" notation is:

**XMLRestrictedCharacterStringValue ::= xmlcstring**

Whitespace shall not occur around "XMLValue" in "XMLTypedValue" (see 16.2) for an "XMLRestrictedCharacterStringValue" except where this notation is used in an encoding and the encoding rules explicitly allow the whitespace (see Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4, 39.3.2).

**41.10** There are characters which cannot be directly represented in "xmlcstring". These shall be represented using the escape sequences specified in 12.15.

NOTE – If the restricted character string value contains characters which are not ISO/IEC 10646 characters specified in 12.15.1, these cannot be represented in "xmlcstring", and such values cannot be transferred using XML Encoding Rules (see Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4).

**41.11** The "DefinedValue" in "CharsDefn" shall be a reference to a value of that type.

**41.12** The "number" in the "Plane", "Row" and "Cell" productions shall be less than 256, and in the "Group" production it shall be less than 128.

**41.13** The "Group" specifies a group in the coding space of the UCS, the "Plane" specifies a plane within the group, the "Row" specifies a row within the plane, and the "Cell" specifies a cell within the row. The abstract character identified by this notation is the abstract character for the cell specified by the "Group", "Plane", "Row", and "Cell" values. In all cases, the set of permitted characters may be restricted by subtyping.

NOTE – Application designers should consider carefully the conformance implications when using open-ended character string types such as **GeneralString**, **GraphicString**, and **UniversalString** without the application of constraints. Careful text on conformance is also needed for bounded but large character string types such as **TeletexString**.

**41.14** The "number" in the "TableColumn" production shall be in the range zero to seven, and the "number" in the "TableRow" production shall be in the range zero to fifteen. The "TableColumn" specifies a column and the "TableRow" specifies a row of a character code table in accordance with Figure 1 of ISO/IEC 2022. This notation is used only for **IA5String** when the code table contains Register Entry 1 in columns 0 and 1 and Register Entry 6 in columns 2 to 7 (see the *ISO International Register of Coded Character Sets to be used with Escape Sequences*).

**41.15** **BMPString** is a subtype of **UniversalString** that has its own unique tag and contains only the characters in the Basic Multilingual Plane (those corresponding to the first 64K-2 cells, less cells whose encoding is used to address characters outside the Basic Multilingual Plane) of ISO/IEC 10646. It has an associated type defined as:

**UniversalString (Bmp)**

where **Bmp** is defined in the ASN.1 module **ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE** (see clause 42) as the subtype of **UniversalString** corresponding to the "BMP" collection name defined in ISO/IEC 10646, Annex A.

NOTE 1 – Since **BMPString** is a built-in type, it is not defined in **ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE**.

NOTE 2 – The purpose of defining **BMPString** as a built-in type is to enable encoding rules (such as BER) that do not take account of constraints to use 16-bit rather than 32-bit encodings.

NOTE 3 – In the value notation all **BMPString** values are valid **UniversalString** and **UTF8String** values.

**41.16** **UTF8String** is synonymous with **UniversalString** at the abstract level and can be used wherever **UniversalString** is used (subject to rules requiring distinct tags) but has a different tag and is a distinct type.

NOTE – The encoding of **UTF8String** used by BER and PER is different from that of **UniversalString**, and for most text will be less verbose.

## 42 Naming characters, collections and property category sets

This clause specifies an ASN.1 built-in module which contains the definition of a value reference name for each character from ISO/IEC 10646, where each name references a **UniversalString** value of size 1. This module also contains the definition of a type reference name for each collection of characters from ISO/IEC 10646, where each name references a subset of the **UniversalString** type. Finally, it contains the definition of a "typereference" name for the set of characters in each general category of character properties that are listed in 4.5 of The Unicode Standard, where each name references a subset of the **UniversalString** type.

NOTE – These values are available for use in the value notation of the `UniversalString` type and types derived from it. All of the value and type references defined in the module specified in 42.1 are exported and must be imported by any module that uses them.

## 42.1 Specification of the ASN.1 Module "ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE"

The module is not printed here in full. Instead, the means by which it is defined is specified.

NOTE – This Recommendation | International Standard is based on ISO/IEC 10646:2003. It cannot be applied using later versions of this standard. The specification of the means by which the "ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE" is defined can only be applied with ISO/IEC 10646:2003.

42.1.1 The module begins as follows:

```
ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE { joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) iso10646(0) }
"/Joint-ISO-ITU-T/ASN.1/Specification/Modules/ISO_10646"
```

```
DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN
```

```
-- All of the value references and type references defined within this
-- module are implicitly exported, and are available for import by any module.
-- ISO/IEC 646 control characters:
```

```
    nul IA5String ::= {0, 0}
soh   IA5String ::= {0, 1}
stx   IA5String ::= {0, 2}
etx   IA5String ::= {0, 3}
eot   IA5String ::= {0, 4}
enq   IA5String ::= {0, 5}
ack   IA5String ::= {0, 6}
bel   IA5String ::= {0, 7}
bs    IA5String ::= {0, 8}
ht    IA5String ::= {0, 9}
lf    IA5String ::= {0,10}
vt    IA5String ::= {0,11}
ff    IA5String ::= {0,12}
cr    IA5String ::= {0,13}
so    IA5String ::= {0,14}
si    IA5String ::= {0,15}
dle   IA5String ::= {1, 0}
dc1   IA5String ::= {1, 1}
dc2   IA5String ::= {1, 2}
dc3   IA5String ::= {1, 3}
dc4   IA5String ::= {1, 4}
nak   IA5String ::= {1, 5}
syn   IA5String ::= {1, 6}
etb   IA5String ::= {1, 7}
can   IA5String ::= {1, 8}
em    IA5String ::= {1, 9}
sub   IA5String ::= {1,10}
esc   IA5String ::= {1,11}
is4   IA5String ::= {1,12}
is3   IA5String ::= {1,13}
is2   IA5String ::= {1,14}
is1   IA5String ::= {1,15}
del   IA5String ::= {7,15}
```

42.1.2 For each entry in each list of character names for the graphic characters (glyphs) shown in clauses 24 and 25 of ISO/IEC 10646, the module includes a statement of the form:

```
<namedcharacter> BMPString ::= <tablecell>
-- represents the character <iso10646name>, see ISO/IEC 10646
```

where:

- `<iso10646name>` is the character name derived from one listed in ISO/IEC 10646;
- `<namedcharacter>` is a string obtained by applying to `<iso10646name>` the procedures specified in 42.2;
- `<tablecell>` is the glyph in the table cell in ISO/IEC 10646 corresponding to the list entry.

EXAMPLE

```
latinCapitalLetterA BMPString ::= {0, 0, 0, 65}
```

-- represents the character LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A, see ISO/IEC 10646

**greekCapitalLetterSigma BMPString ::= {0, 0, 3, 163}**

-- represents the character GREEK CAPITAL LETTER SIGMA, see ISO/IEC 10646

**42.1.3** For each name for a collection of graphic characters specified in ISO/IEC 10646, Annex A, a statement is included in the module of the form:

```
<namedcollectionstring> ::= BMPString
(FROM (<alternativelist>))
  -- represents the collection of characters <collectionstring>,
  -- see ISO/IEC 10646.
```

where:

- <collectionstring>* is the name for the collection of characters assigned in ISO/IEC 10646;
- <namedcollectionstring>* is formed by applying to *<collectionstring>* the procedures of 42.3;
- <alternativelist>* is formed by using the *<namedcharacter>*s as generated in 42.2 for each of the characters specified by ISO/IEC 10646.

The resulting type reference, *<namedcollectionstring>*, forms a limited subset. (See the tutorial in Annex H.)

NOTE – A limited subset is a list of characters in a specified subset. Contrast this to a selected subset, which is a collection of characters listed in ISO/IEC 10646, Annex A, plus the BASIC LATIN collection.

EXAMPLE (partial)

```
space BMPString      ::= {0, 0, 0, 32}
exclamationMark BMPString ::= {0, 0, 0, 33}
quotationMark BMPString ::= {0, 0, 0, 34}
...                  -- and so on
tilde BMPString      ::= {0, 0, 0, 126}
```

```
BasicLatin ::= BMPString
(FROM (space
| exclamationMark
| quotationMark
| ... -- and so on
| tilde)
)
```

-- represents the collection of characters BASIC LATIN, see ISO/IEC 10646.

-- The ellipsis in this example is used for brevity and means "and so on";

-- you cannot use this in an actual ASN.1 module.

**42.1.4** ISO/IEC 10646 defines three levels of implementation. By default all types defined in **ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE**, except for **Level11** and **Level12** conform to implementation level 3, since such types have no restriction on use of combining characters. **Level11** indicates that implementation level 1 is required, **Level12** indicates that implementation level 2 is required, and **Level13** indicates that implementation level 3 is required. Thus, the following are defined in **ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE**:

**Level11 ::= BMPString (FROM (BMPString(SIZE(1)) EXCEPT CombiningCharacters))**

**Level12 ::= BMPString (FROM (BMPString(SIZE(1)) EXCEPT CombiningCharactersType-2))**

**Level13 ::= BMPString**

NOTE 1 – **CombiningCharacters** and **CombiningCharactersType-2** are the *<namedcollectionstring>*s corresponding to "COMBINING CHARACTERS" and "COMBINING CHARACTERS B-2", respectively, defined in ISO/IEC 10646, Annex A.

NOTE 2 – **Level11** and **Level12** will be used either following an "IntersectionMark" (see clause 50) or as the only constraint in a "ConstraintSpec". (See G.2.7.1 for an example.)

NOTE 3 – See H.2.5 for more information on this topic.

**42.1.5** For each abbreviation and each description listed in The Unicode Standard, Table 4-5, two statements are included in the module of the form:

```
<categoryabbreviation> ::= UniversalString (FROM (<alternativelist>))
  -- represents the set of characters with the property
  -- category <categoryabbreviation>.

<categorydescription> UniversalString ::= <categoryabbreviation>
```

where:

- a) <categoryabbreviation> is the abbreviation for the general category of character properties listed in The Unicode Standard, Table 4-5 (for example, **Lu** or **Nd** or **Pi**);
- b) <categorydescription> is the description for the same general category of characters, with the initial letter of all words uppercased, the comma and all spaces removed, and all description in parentheses removed (for example, **LetterUppercase** or **NumericDigit** or **PunctuationInitialQuote**);
- c) The <alternativelist> for each <categoryabbreviation> is a list of the <namedcharacter> names produced by 42.2 for each of the characters listed in The Unicode Character Database (version 3.2.0) of The Unicode Standard that have the corresponding <categoryabbreviation>.

NOTE – The Unicode name for a character is the same as the <iso10646name> for that character.

**42.1.6** For the initial letter of each abbreviation listed in The Unicode Standard, Table 4-5, two statements are included in the module of the form:

```
<categoryabbreviationletter> ::= UniversalString (FROM (<alternativelist>))
-- represents the set of characters with any category property
-- with the initial letter <categoryabbreviationletter>.
```

```
<maincategorydescription> UniversalString ::= <categoryabbreviationletter>
```

where:

- a) <categoryabbreviationletter> is the first letter of the abbreviation for the general category of character properties listed in The Unicode Standard, Table 4-5 (for example, **L** or **N** or **P**);
- b) <categorydescription> is the first word of the description for the same general category of characters (for example, **Letter** or **Numeric** or **Punctuation**);
- c) The <alternativelist> for each <categoryabbreviationletter> is a list of the <namedcharacter> names produced by 42.2 for each of the characters listed in The Unicode Character Database (version 3.2.0) of The Unicode Standard that have the corresponding <categoryabbreviationletter>.

NOTE – The Unicode name for a character is the same as the <iso10646name> for that character.

**42.1.7** The module is terminated by the statement:

**END**

**42.1.8** A user-defined equivalent of the example in 42.1.3 is:

```
BasicLatin ::= BMPString (FROM (space..tilde))
-- represents the collection of characters BASIC LATIN,
-- see ISO/IEC 10646.
```

**42.2** A <namedcharacter> is the string obtained by taking an <iso10646name> (see 42.1.2) and applying the following algorithm:

- a) each upper-case letter of the <iso10646name> is transformed into the corresponding lower-case letter, unless the upper-case letter is preceded by a SPACE, in which case the upper-case letter is kept unchanged;
- b) each digit and each HYPHEN-MINUS is kept unchanged;
- c) each SPACE is deleted.

NOTE – The above algorithm, taken in conjunction with the character naming guidelines in Annex K of ISO/IEC 10646 will always result in unambiguous value notation for every character name listed in ISO/IEC 10646.

EXAMPLE – The character from ISO/IEC 10646, row 0, cell 60, which is named "LESS-THAN SIGN" and has the graphic representation "<" can be referenced using the "DefinedValue" of:

**less-thanSign**

**42.3** A <namedcollectionstring> is the string obtained by taking <collectionstring> and applying the following algorithm:

- a) each upper-case letter of the ISO/IEC 10646 collection name is transformed into the corresponding lower-case letter, unless the upper-case letter is preceded by a SPACE or it is the first letter of the name, in which case the upper-case letter is kept unchanged;
- b) each digit and each HYPHEN-MINUS is kept unchanged;
- c) each SPACE is deleted.

## EXAMPLES

- 1) The collection identified in Annex A of ISO/IEC 10646 as:

**BASIC LATIN**

has the ASN.1 type reference:

**BasicLatin**

- 2) A character string type consisting of the characters in the BASIC LATIN collection, together with the BASIC ARABIC collection, could be defined as follows:

**My-Character-String ::= BMPString (FROM (BasicLatin | BasicArabic) )**

NOTE – The above construction is necessary because the apparently simpler construction of:

**My-Character-String ::= BMPString (BasicLatin | BasicArabic)**

would allow only strings which were entirely BASIC LATIN or BASIC ARABIC but not a mixture of both.

### 43 Canonical order of characters

**43.1** For the purpose of "ValueRange" subtyping and for possible use by encoding rules, a canonical ordering of characters is specified for **UniversalString**, **UTF8String**, **BMPString**, **NumericString**, **PrintableString**, **VisibleString**, and **IA5String**.

**43.2** For the purpose of this clause only, a character is in one-to-one correspondence with a cell in a code table, whether that cell has been assigned a character name or shape, and whether it is a control character or printing character, combining or non-combining character.

**43.3** The canonical order of an abstract character is defined by the canonical order of its value in the 32-bit representation of ISO/IEC 10646, with low numbers appearing first and high numbers appearing last in the canonical order.

**43.4** Endpoints of "ValueRanges" within "PermittedAlphabet" notations (or individual characters) can be specified using either the ASN.1 value reference defined in the module **ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE** or (where the graphic symbol is unambiguous in the context of the specification and the medium used to represent it) by giving the graphic symbol in a "cstring" (**ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE** is defined in 42.1), or by use of the "Quadruple" or "Tuple" notation of 41.8.

**43.5** For **NumericString**, the canonical ordering, increasing from left to right, is defined (see Table 9 of 41.2) as:

(space) 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

The entire character set contains precisely 11 characters. The endpoint of a "ValueRange" (or individual characters) can be specified using the graphic symbol in a "cstring".

NOTE – This order is the same as the order of the corresponding characters in the BASIC LATIN collection of ISO/IEC 10646.

**43.6** For **PrintableString**, the canonical ordering, increasing from left to right and top to bottom, is defined (see Table 10 of 41.4) as:

(SPACE) (APOSTROPHE) (LEFT PARENTHESIS) (RIGHT PARENTHESIS) (PLUS SIGN)  
(COMMA) (HYPHEN-MINUS) (FULL STOP) (SOLIDUS) 0123456789 (COLON) (EQUAL SIGN)  
(QUESTION MARK) ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

The entire character set contains precisely 74 characters. The endpoint of a "ValueRange" (or individual characters) can be specified using the graphic symbol in a "cstring".

NOTE – This order is the same as the order of the corresponding characters in the BASIC LATIN collection of ISO/IEC 10646.

**43.7** For **VisibleString**, the canonical order of the cells is defined from the ISO/IEC 646 encoding (called ISO 646 ENCODING) as follows:

(ISO 646 ENCODING) - 32

NOTE – That is, the canonical order is the same as the characters in cells 2/0-7/14 of the ISO/IEC 646 code table.

The entire character set contains precisely 95 characters. The endpoint of a "ValueRange" (or individual characters) can be specified using the graphic symbol in a "cstring".

**43.8** For **IA5String**, the canonical order of the cells is defined from the ISO/IEC 646 encoding as follows:

(ISO 646 ENCODING)

The entire character set contains precisely 128 characters. The endpoint of a "ValueRange" (or individual characters) can be specified using the graphic symbol in a "cstring" or an ISO 646 control character value reference defined in 42.1.1.

#### 44 Definition of unrestricted character string types

This clause defines a type whose values are the values of any character abstract syntax. In an OSI environment, this abstract syntax may be part of the OSI defined context set. Otherwise, it is referenced directly for each instance of use of the unrestricted character string type.

NOTE 1 – A character abstract syntax (and one or more corresponding character transfer syntaxes) can be defined by any organization able to allocate ASN.1 **OBJECT IDENTIFIERS**.

NOTE 2 – Profiles produced by a community of interest will normally determine the character abstract syntaxes and character transfer syntaxes that are to be supported for specific instances or groups of instances of **CHARACTER STRING**. It will be usual in OSI applications to include reference to supported syntaxes in an OSI Protocol Implementation Conformance Statement.

44.1 The unrestricted character string type (see 3.8.89) shall be referenced by the notation "UnrestrictedCharacterStringType":

**UnrestrictedCharacterStringType ::= CHARACTER STRING**

44.2 This type has a tag which is universal class, number 29.

44.3 The type consists of values representing:

- a) a character string value that may, but need not, be the value of an ASN.1 character string type; and
- b) identification (separately or together) of:
  - 1) a character abstract syntax; and
  - 2) the character transfer syntax.

44.4 The unrestricted character string type has an associated type. This associated type is used to support its value and subtype notations.

44.5 The associated type for value definition and subtyping, assuming an automatic tagging environment, is (with normative comments):

```

SEQUENCE {
  identification
    CHOICE {
      syntaxes
        SEQUENCE {
          abstract
            OBJECT IDENTIFIER,
          transfer
            OBJECT IDENTIFIER }
        -- Abstract and transfer syntax object identifiers --,
      syntax
        OBJECT IDENTIFIER
        -- A single object identifier for identification of the
        -- abstract and transfer syntaxes --,
      presentation-context-id
        INTEGER
        -- (Applicable only to OSI environments)
        -- The negotiated OSI presentation context identifies the
        -- abstract and transfer syntaxes --,
      context-negotiation
        SEQUENCE {
      presentation-context-id
        INTEGER,
      transfer-syntax
        OBJECT IDENTIFIER }
        -- (Applicable only to OSI environments)
        -- Context-negotiation in progress, presentation-context-id
        -- identifies only the
        -- abstract-syntax, so the transfer syntax shall be specified --,
      transfer-syntax
        OBJECT IDENTIFIER
        -- The type of the value (for example, specification that it is
        -- the value of an ASN.1 type) is fixed by the application
        -- designer (and hence known to both sender and receiver). This
        -- case is provided primarily to support
        -- selective-field-encryption (or other encoding
        -- transformations) of an ASN.1 type --,
      fixed
        NULL
    }
}
    
```



- a) a specification of a calendar date followed by a local time of day, consisting of:
- 1) a string representing the calendar date, as specified in ISO 8601, 4.1.2.2 – Basic format); followed by:
 

NOTE 1 – This specifies a four-digit representation of the year, a two-digit representation of the month and a two-digit representation of the day, without use of separators.
  - 2) a string representing the time of day to an accuracy of one hour, one minute, one second, or fractions of a second (to any degree of accuracy), using either comma or full stop as the decimal sign (as specified in ISO 8601, 4.2.2.2 and 4.2.2.3 – Basic format); optionally followed by:
  - 3) a decimal fraction of a minute if seconds are omitted, or a decimal fraction of an hour if minutes and seconds are omitted (as specified in ISO 8601, 4.2.2.4); or
 

NOTE 2 – ISO 8601 specifies the use of either a comma or a full stop as the decimal sign. There are no other separators present. It is recommended that in any given ASN.1 specification, either comma or full stop be consistently used as the decimal sign.
- b) a specification of a calendar date and a UTC time consisting of the characters in a) above followed by an upper-case letter Z; or
- c) a specification of a calendar date, the local time, and the exact difference between local time of day and UTC as specified in ISO 8601, with the minutes component optionally omitted if the difference is an integral number of hours.

NOTE 3 – Early work on ASN.1 canonical encoding rules assumed that there was no actual concept of accuracy, so that an abstract value that might be represented with a seconds component of 3.000 was regarded as the same abstract value as one that was represented with a seconds component of 3, and forbade the use of trailing zeros in canonical encoding fractional parts, and forbade the omission of seconds or minutes and seconds. It also supported only the use of UTC time, not local time of day or local time of day with a time difference component. This has not been changed in later editions of the ASN.1 standards, for backwards compatibility. The **TIME** type (introduced into ASN.1 in 2004) recognizes that abstract values can have an associated accuracy, and that (e.g.) the representations of seconds as 3.000 and 3 produces different abstract values, and that local time of day and UTC specifications represent different abstract values. The canonical encoding rules for **TIME** encode the full range of its abstract values, so use of **TIME** may be preferred in new specifications to the use of **GeneralizedTime**.

In case c), the part of the string formed as in case a) represents the local time of day ( $t_1$ ), and the (signed) time difference ( $t_2$ ) enables UTC to be determined. If  $t_2$  is positive, local time of day is ahead of UTC. We can thus determine UTC as:

UTC is  $t_1 - t_2$

#### EXAMPLES

Case a)

"19851106210627.3"

Local time of day 6 minutes, 27.3 seconds after 9 pm on 6 November 1985.

Case b)

"19851106210627.3Z"

Coordinated universal time as above.

Case c)

"19851106210627.3-0500"

Local time of day as in example a), with a coordinated universal time of 6 minutes, 27.3 seconds after 2 am on 7 November 1985.

Case d)

"198511062106.456"

Local time of day 6.456 minutes after 9 pm on 6 November 1985.

Case e)

"1985110621.14159"

Local time of day 0.14159 hours after 9 pm on 6 November 1985.

**46.4** The tag shall be as defined in 46.3.

**46.5** The value notation shall be the value notation for the **VisibleString** defined in 46.3.

## 47 Universal time

47.1 This type shall be referenced by the name:

**UTCTime**

47.2 The type consists of values representing:

- a) calendar date; and
- b) time to a precision of one minute or one second; and
- c) (optionally) a local time of day differential from coordinated universal time.

47.3 The type is defined, using ASN.1, as follows:

**UTCTime ::= [UNIVERSAL 23] IMPLICIT VisibleString**

with the values of the **VisibleString** restricted to strings of characters which are the juxtaposition of:

- a) the six digits YYMMDD where YY is the two low-order digits of the Christian year, MM is the month (counting January as 01), and DD is the day of the month (01 to 31); and
- b) either:
  - 1) the four digits hhmm where hh is hour (00 to 23) and mm is minutes (00 to 59); or
  - 2) the six digits hhhmss where hh and mm are as in 1) above, and ss is seconds (00 to 59); and
- c) either:
  - 1) the character Z; or
  - 2) one of the characters + or -, followed by hhmm, where hh is hour and mm is minutes.

The alternatives in b) above allow varying precisions in the specification of the time.

In alternative c) 1), the time is coordinated universal time. In alternative c) 2), the time ( $t_1$ ) specified by a) and b) above is the local time of day; the time differential ( $t_2$ ) specified by c) 2) above enables the coordinated universal time to be determined as follows:

Coordinated universal time is  $t_1 - t_2$

EXAMPLE 1 – If local time of day is 7am on 2 January 1982 and coordinated universal time is 12 noon on 2 January 1982, the value of **UTCTime** is either of:

- "8201021200Z"; or
- "8201020700-0500".

EXAMPLE 2 – If local time of day is 7am on 2 January 2001 and coordinated universal time is 12 noon on 2 January 2001, the value of **UTCTime** is either of:

- "0101021200Z"; or
- "0101020700-0500".

47.4 The tag shall be as defined in 47.3.

47.5 The value notation shall be the value notation for the **VisibleString** defined in 47.3.

## 48 The object descriptor type

48.1 This type shall be referenced by the name:

**ObjectDescriptor**

48.2 The type consists of human-readable text which serves to describe an object. The text is not an unambiguous identification of the object, but identical text for different objects is intended to be uncommon.

NOTE – It is recommended that an authority assigning values of type **OBJECT IDENTIFIER** to an object should also assign values of type **ObjectDescriptor** to that object.

48.3 The type is defined, using ASN.1, as follows:

**ObjectDescriptor ::= [UNIVERSAL 7] IMPLICIT GraphicString**

The **GraphicString** contains the text describing the object.

48.4 The tag shall be as defined in 48.3.

48.5 The value notation shall be the value notation for the **GraphicString** defined in 48.3.

## 49 Constrained types

49.1 The "ConstrainedType" notation allows a constraint to be applied to a (parent) type, either to restrict its set of values to some subtype of the parent or (within a set or sequence type) to specify that component relations apply to values of the parent type and to values of some other component in the same set or sequence value. It also allows an exception identifier to be associated with a constraint.

```

ConstrainedType ::=
    Type Constraint
    | TypeWithConstraint
    
```

In the first alternative, the parent type is "Type", and the constraint is specified by "Constraint" as defined in 49.6. The second alternative is defined in 49.5.

49.2 When the "Constraint" notation follows a set-of or sequence-of type notation, it applies to the "Type" in the (innermost) set-of or sequence-of notation, not to the set-of or sequence-of type.

NOTE – For example, in the following the constraint (**SIZE(1..64)**) applies to the **VisibleString**, not the **SEQUENCE OF**:

```

NamesOfMemberNations ::= SEQUENCE OF VisibleString (SIZE(1..64))
    
```

49.3 When the "Constraint" notation follows the selection type notation, it applies to the choice type, and not to the type of the selected alternative. Such a constraint is ignored (see 30.2).

NOTE – In the following example, the constraint (**WITH COMPONENTS { ..., a ABSENT }**) applies to the **CHOICE** type **T**, not to the selected **SEQUENCE** type, and has no effect on the values of **V**.

```

T ::= CHOICE {
    a SEQUENCE {
        a INTEGER OPTIONAL,
        b BOOLEAN
    },
    b NULL
}

```

```

V ::= a < T (WITH COMPONENTS { ..., a ABSENT })
    
```

49.4 When the "Constraint" notation follows a "PrefixedType" notation, the interpretation of the overall notation is the same regardless of whether the "PrefixedType" or the "Type" is considered as the parent type.

49.5 As a consequence of the interpretation specified in 49.2, special notation is provided to allow a constraint to be applied to a set-of or sequence-of type. This is "TypeWithConstraint":

```

TypeWithConstraint ::=
    SET Constraint OF Type
    | SET SizeConstraint OF Type
    | SEQUENCE Constraint OF Type
    | SEQUENCE SizeConstraint OF Type
    | SET Constraint OF NamedType
    | SET SizeConstraint OF NamedType
    | SEQUENCE Constraint OF NamedType
    | SEQUENCE SizeConstraint OF NamedType
    
```

In the first and second alternatives the parent type is "**SET OF Type**", while in the third and fourth it is "**SEQUENCE OF Type**". In the fifth and sixth alternatives the parent type is "**SET OF NamedType**", and in the seventh and eighth is "**SEQUENCE OF NamedType**". In the first, third, fifth and seventh alternatives, the constraint is "Constraint" (see 49.6), while in the second, fourth, sixth and eighth it is "SizeConstraint" (see 51.5).

NOTE – Although the "Constraint" alternatives encompass the corresponding "SizeConstraint" alternatives, the "SizeConstraint" alternatives are provided for historical reasons.

49.6 A constraint is specified by the notation "Constraint":

```

Constraint ::= " (" ConstraintSpec ExceptionSpec ") "
    
```

**ConstraintSpec ::=**  
     **SubtypeConstraint**  
 |   **GeneralConstraint**

"ExceptionSpec" is defined in clause 53. Unless it is used in conjunction with an "extension marker" (see clause 52), it shall only be present if the "ConstraintSpec" includes an occurrence of "DummyReference" (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.3) or is a "UserDefinedConstraint" (see Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, clause 9). The "GeneralConstraint" is defined in Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, 8.1.

**49.7** The notation "SubtypeConstraint" is the general-purpose "ElementSetSpecs" notation (see clause 50):

**SubtypeConstraint ::= ElementSetSpecs**

In this context, the elements are values of the parent type (the governor of the element set is the parent type). There shall be at least one element in the set.

## 50 Element set specification

**50.1** In some notations a set of elements of some identified type or information object class (the governor) can be specified. In such cases, the notation "ElementSetSpec" is used:

**ElementSetSpecs ::=**  
     **RootElementSetSpec**  
 |   **RootElementSetSpec** ";" "..."  
 |   **RootElementSetSpec** ";" "... " ";" **AdditionalElementSetSpec**

**RootElementSetSpec ::= ElementSetSpec**

**AdditionalElementSetSpec ::= ElementSetSpec**

**ElementSetSpec ::= Unions**

|   **ALL Exclusions**

**Unions ::= Intersections**

|   **UElems UnionMark Intersections**

**UElems ::= Unions**

**Intersections ::= IntersectionElements**

|   **IElems IntersectionMark IntersectionElements**

**IElems ::= Intersections**

**IntersectionElements ::= Elements | Elements Exclusions**

**Elements ::= Elements**

**Exclusions ::= EXCEPT Elements**

**UnionMark ::= "|" | UNION**

**IntersectionMark ::= "^" | INTERSECTION**

NOTE 1 – The caret character "^" and the word **INTERSECTION** are synonymous. The character "|" and the word **UNION** are synonymous. It is recommended that, as a stylistic matter, either the characters or the words be used throughout a user Specification. **EXCEPT** can be used with either style.

NOTE 2 – The order of precedence from highest to lowest is: **EXCEPT**, "^", "|". Notice that **ALL EXCEPT** is specified so that it cannot be interspersed with the other constraints without the use of parentheses around "**ALL EXCEPT xxx**".

NOTE 3 – Anywhere that "Elements" occurs, either a constraint without parentheses [e.g., **INTEGER (1..4)**] or a parenthesized subtype constraint [e.g., **INTEGER ((1..4 | 9))**] can appear.

NOTE 4 – Note that two **EXCEPT** operators must have either "|", "^", "(" or ")" separating them, so **(A EXCEPT B EXCEPT C)** is not permitted. This must be changed to **((A EXCEPT B) EXCEPT C)** or **(A EXCEPT (B EXCEPT C))**.

NOTE 5 – Note that **((A EXCEPT B) EXCEPT C)** is the same as **(A EXCEPT (B | C))**.

NOTE 6 – The elements that are referenced by "ElementSetSpecs" is the union of the elements referenced by the "RootElementSetSpec" and "AdditionalElementSetSpec" (when present).

NOTE 7 – When the elements are information objects (i.e., the governor is an information object class), the notation "ObjectSetElements" as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 12.10 is used.

**50.2** The elements forming the set are:

- a) if the first alternative of the "ElementSetSpec" is selected, those specified in the "Unions" [see b)], otherwise all elements of the governor except those specified in the "Elements" notation of the "Exclusions";
- b) if the first alternative of "Unions" is selected, then those specified in the "Intersections" [see c)], otherwise those specified at least once either in the "UElems" or "Intersections";
- c) if the first alternative of "Intersections" is selected, those specified in the "IntersectionElements" [see d)], otherwise those specified by "IElems" which also are specified by "IntersectionElements";
- d) if the first alternative of "IntersectionElements" is selected, those specified in the "Elements", otherwise those specified in the "Elems" except those specified in the "Exclusions".

**50.3** When the elements are information objects (i.e., the governor is an information object class), the second alternative of "ElementSetSpec" shall not be used.

**50.4** The set of values is defined to be extensible if the following conditions hold:

- a) for "ElementsSetSpecs": there is an extension marker at the outer level;  
NOTE – This applies even if all values of the parent are included in the root of the new constrained type.
- b) for "Unions": at least one of the "UElems" is extensible;
- c) for "Intersections": at least one of the "IElems" is extensible;
- d) for "Exclusions": the set of elements preceding **EXCEPT** is extensible.

Otherwise, the set of values is not extensible (see also I.4).

**50.5** If the set of values is extensible, the root values can be determined by performing the set arithmetic using only root values of the sets of values involved in the set arithmetic, as specified in 50.2. The extension additions can be determined by performing the set arithmetic using the root values augmented by the extension additions, for each set of values involved in the set arithmetic, and then excluding values that were determined to be root values.

**50.6** The "Elements" notation is defined as follows:

```

Elements ::=
    SubtypeElements
    | ObjectSetElements
    | "(" ElementSetSpec ")"
    
```

The elements specified by this notation are:

- a) As described in clause 51 below if the "SubtypeElements" alternative is used. This notation shall only be used when the governor is a type, and the actual type involved will further constrain the notational possibilities. In this context, the governor is referred to as the parent type.
- b) As described in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 12.10, if the "ObjectSetElements" notation is used. This notation shall only be used when the governor is an information object class.
- c) Those specified by the "ElementSetSpec" if the third alternative is used.

**50.7** When performing set arithmetic within a subtype constraint or a value set when the governing type is not extensible, only abstract values of the governing type are used in the set arithmetic. In this case, all instances of value notation (including value references) used in set arithmetic are required to reference an abstract value of the governing type. The end-points of a range constraint are required to reference values of the governing type, and the range specification as a whole references all (and only) those values in the range that are abstract values of the governing type.

**50.8** When performing set arithmetic within a subtype constraint or a value set when the governing type is extensible, only abstract values that are in the extension root of the governing type are used in the set arithmetic. In this case, all instances of value notation (including value references) used in set arithmetic are required to reference an abstract value of the extension root of the governing type. The end-points of a range constraint are required to reference values that are present in the extension root of the governing type, and the range specification as a whole references all (and only) those values in the range that are within the extension root of the governing type.

**50.9** When performing set arithmetic involving information object sets, all information objects are used in the set arithmetic. If any of the information object sets contributing to the set arithmetic are extensible, or if there is an extension marker at the outermost level of an "ElementSetSpecs", the result of the set arithmetic is extensible.

**50.10** If a subtype constraint is applied to a parent type which is not extensible, value notation used within it shall not reference values that are not abstract values of the parent type.

**50.11** If a subtype constraint is serially applied to a parent type which is extensible through the application of an extensible constraint, value notation used within it shall not reference values that are not in the extension root of the parent type. The result of the second (serially applied) constraint is defined to be the same as if the constraint had been applied to the parent type without its extension marker and possible extension additions.

#### EXAMPLE

**Foo ::= INTEGER ( 1..6, ..., 73..80)**

**Bar ::= Foo (73) -- illegal**

**foo Foo ::= 73 -- legal since it is value notation for Foo, not part of a constraint**

**Bar** is illegal since 73 is not in the extension root of **Foo**. If 73 had been in the extension root of **Foo**, the example would have been legal, and **Bar** would have contained the single value of 73.

NOTE – This subclause applies only to "SubtypeConstraint". If a "GeneralConstraint" (see Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3, 8.1) is applied to a parent type, then extensibility of that parent type is not affected.

## 51 Subtype elements

### 51.1 General

A number of different forms of notation for "SubtypeElements" are provided. They are identified below, and their syntax and semantics are defined in the following subclauses. Table 11 and Table 12 summarize which notations can be applied to which parent types. "SubtypeElements" not present in one of the tables means that the corresponding subtype element cannot be applied to any of the parent types listed in that table.

**SubtypeElements ::=**  
**SingleValue**  
 | **ContainedSubtype**  
 | **ValueRange**  
 | **PermittedAlphabet**  
 | **SizeConstraint**  
 | **TypeConstraint**  
 | **InnerTypeConstraints**  
 | **PatternConstraint**  
 | **PropertySettings**  
 | **DurationRange**  
 | **TimePointRange**  
 | **RecurrenceRange**

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Table 11 – Applicability of "SubtypeElements" to types other than the Time type

Type (or derived from such a type by tagging or subtyping)	Single value	Contained subtype	Value range	Size constraint	Permitted alphabet	Type constraint	Inner subtyping	Pattern constraint
Bit string	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Boolean	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Choice	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Embedded-pdv	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Enumerated	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
External	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Instance-of	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Integer	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Null	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Object class field type	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Object descriptor	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Object identifier	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Octet string	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
OID internationalized resource identifier	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
open type	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
Real	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Relative object identifier	Yes <sup>b)</sup>	Yes <sup>b)</sup>	No	No	No	No	No	No
Relative OID internationalized resource identifier	Yes <sup>b)</sup>	Yes <sup>b)</sup>	No	No	No	No	No	No
Restricted character string types	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>a)</sup>	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Sequence	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Sequence-of	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Set	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Set-of	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
GeneralizedTime and UTCTime types	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Unrestricted character string type	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No

a) Allowed only within the "PermittedAlphabet" of **BMPString**, **IA5String**, **NumericString**, **PrintableString**, **VisibleString**, **UTF8String** and **UniversalString**.

b) The starting node for all relative object identifier and relative OID internationalized resource identifier types or values in constraints or valuesets shall be the same as the starting node for the governor.

Table 12 – Applicability of "SubtypeElements" to the Time type

Type (or derived from such a type by tagging or subtyping)	Single value	Contained subtype	Property settings	Duration range	Time point range	Recurrence range	Inner subtyping
Time type	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	(Note)

NOTE – Only allowed if all the abstract values of the parent type have the property settings "Basic=Interval Interval-type=D" (see 38.4.4).

## 51.2 Single value

51.2.1 The "SingleValue" notation shall be:

**SingleValue ::= Value**

where "Value" is the value notation for the parent type.

51.2.2 A "SingleValue" specifies the single value of the parent type specified by "Value".

## 51.3 Contained subtype

51.3.1 The "ContainedSubtype" notation shall be:

**ContainedSubtype ::= Includes Type**

**Includes ::= INCLUDES | empty**

The "empty" alternative of the "Includes" production shall not be used when "Type" in "ContainedSubtype" is the notation for the null type.

51.3.2 A "ContainedSubtype" specifies all of the values in the root of the parent type that are also in the root of "Type". "Type" is required to be derived from the same built-in type as the parent type.

51.3.3 The set of values referenced by an extensible "Type" used in a contained subtype constraint does not inherit the extension marker from the "Type". Any values in "Type" that are not in the extension root of that type are ignored, and do not contribute to the values of the constrained type.

NOTE – The use of an extensible "Type" does not in itself make the constrained type extensible.

## 51.4 Value range

51.4.1 The "ValueRange" notation shall be:

**ValueRange ::= LowerEndpoint " .. " UpperEndpoint**

51.4.2 A "ValueRange" specifies the values in a range of values which are designated by specifying the values of the endpoints of the range. This notation can only be applied to integer types, the "PermittedAlphabet" of certain restricted character string types (**IA5String**, **NumericString**, **PrintableString**, **VisibleString**, **BMPString**, **UniversalString** and **UTF8String** only) and real types. All values specified in the "ValueRange" are required to be in the root of the parent type.

NOTE – For the purpose of subtyping, **NOT-A-NUMBER** exceeds all real values, **PLUS-INFINITY** exceeds all real values except **NOT-A-NUMBER**, minus zero exceeds all negative real values and is less than plus zero, and **MINUS-INFINITY** is less than all real values. Otherwise, normal mathematical ordering is applied.

51.4.3 Each endpoint of the range is either closed (in which case that endpoint is specified) or open (in which case the endpoint is not specified). When open, the specification of the endpoint includes a less-than symbol ("<"):

**LowerEndpoint ::= LowerEndValue | LowerEndValue "<"**

**UpperEndpoint ::= UpperEndValue | "<" UpperEndValue**

51.4.4 An endpoint may also be unspecified, in which case the range extends in that direction as far as the parent type allows:

**LowerEndValue ::= Value | MIN**

**UpperEndValue ::= Value | MAX**

NOTE – When a "ValueRange" is used as a "PermittedAlphabet" constraint, "LowerEndValue" and "UpperEndValue" shall be of size 1.

## 51.5 Size constraint

51.5.1 The "SizeConstraint" notation shall be:

**SizeConstraint ::= SIZE Constraint**

51.5.2 A "SizeConstraint" can only be applied to bit string types, octet string types, character string types, set-of types or sequence-of types.

**51.5.3** The "Constraint" specifies the permitted integer values for the length of the specified values, and takes the form of any constraint which can be applied to the following parent type:

**INTEGER (0 .. MAX)**

The "Constraint" shall use the "SubtypeConstraint" alternative of "ConstraintSpec".

**51.5.4** The unit of measure depends on the parent type, as follows:

<i>Type</i>	<i>Unit of measure</i>
bit string	bit
octet string	octet
character string	character
set-of	component value
sequence-of	component value

NOTE – The count of the number of characters specified in this subclause for determining the size of a character string value shall be clearly distinguished from a count of octets. The count of characters shall be interpreted according to the definition of the collection of characters used in the type, in particular, in relation to references to the standards, tables or registration numbers in a register which can appear in such a definition.

## 51.6 Type constraint

**51.6.1** The "TypeConstraint" notation shall be:

**TypeConstraint ::= Type**

**51.6.2** This notation is only applied to an open type notation and restricts the open type to values of "Type".

## 51.7 Permitted alphabet

**51.7.1** The "PermittedAlphabet" notation shall be:

**PermittedAlphabet ::= FROM Constraint**

**51.7.2** A "PermittedAlphabet" specifies all values which can be constructed using a sub-alphabet of the parent string. This notation can only be applied to restricted character string types.

**51.7.3** The "Constraint" shall use the "SubtypeConstraint" alternative of "ConstraintSpec". Each "SubtypeElements" within that "SubtypeConstraint" shall be one of the four alternatives "SingleValue", "ContainedSubtype", "ValueRange", and "SizeConstraint". The sub-alphabet includes precisely those characters which appear in one or more of the values of the parent string type which are allowed by the "Constraint".

**51.7.4** If "Constraint" is extensible, then the set of values selected by the permitted alphabet constraint is extensible. The set of values in the root are those permitted by the root of "Constraint", and the extension additions are those values permitted by the root together with the extension-additions of "Constraint", excluding those values already in the root.

## 51.8 Inner subtyping

**51.8.1** The "InnerTypeConstraints" notation shall be:

**InnerTypeConstraints ::=**  
**WITH COMPONENT SingleTypeConstraint**  
**| WITH COMPONENTS MultipleTypeConstraints**

**51.8.2** An "InnerTypeConstraints" specifies only those values which satisfy a collection of constraints on the presence and/or values of the components of the parent type. A value of the parent type is not specified unless it satisfies all of the constraints expressed or implied (see 51.8.7). This notation can be applied to the set-of, sequence-of, set, sequence and choice types.

NOTE – An "InnerTypeConstraints" applied to a set or sequence type is ignored by the **COMPONENTS OF** transformation (see 25.5 and 27.2).

**51.8.3** If an "InnerTypeConstraints" contains a "GeneralConstraint" (see 49.6), then it shall only be used (directly or indirectly) as part of the first alternative of the productions, "ElementSetSpecs" (see clause 50) and/or "ObjectSetSpec" (see Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 12.3) and of the first alternative of the productions "ElementSetSpec", "Unions", "Intersections", and "IntersectionElements" (see clause 50).

**51.8.4** For the types which are defined in terms of a single other (inner) type (set-of and sequence-of), a constraint taking the form of a subtype value specification is provided. The notation for this is "SingleTypeConstraint":

**SingleTypeConstraint ::= Constraint**

The "Constraint" defines a subtype of the single other (inner) type. A value of the parent type is specified if and only if each inner value belongs to the subtype obtained by applying the "Constraint" to the inner type.

**51.8.5** For the types which are defined in terms of multiple other (inner) types (choice, set, and sequence), a number of constraints on these inner types can be provided. The notation for this is "MultipleTypeConstraints":

**MultipleTypeConstraints ::=**

**FullSpecification**

| **PartialSpecification**

**FullSpecification ::= "{" TypeConstraints "}"**

**PartialSpecification ::= "{" "... " "," TypeConstraints "}"**

**TypeConstraints ::=**

**NamedConstraint**

| **NamedConstraint "," TypeConstraints**

**NamedConstraint ::=**

**identifier ComponentConstraint**

**51.8.6** The "TypeConstraints" contains a list of constraints on the component types of the parent type. For a sequence type, the constraints must appear in order. The inner type to which the constraint applies is identified by means of its identifier. For a given component, there shall be at most one "NamedConstraint".

**51.8.7** The "MultipleTypeConstraints" comprises either a "FullSpecification" or a "PartialSpecification". When "FullSpecification" is used, there is an implied presence constraint of **ABSENT** on all inner types which can be constrained to be absent (see 51.8.10) and which is not explicitly listed. Where "PartialSpecification" is employed, there are no implied constraints, and any inner type can be omitted from the list.

**51.8.8** A particular inner type may be constrained in terms of its presence (in values of the parent type), its value, or both. The notation is "ComponentConstraint":

**ComponentConstraint ::= ValueConstraint PresenceConstraint**

**51.8.9** A constraint on the value of an inner type is expressed by the notation "ValueConstraint":

**ValueConstraint ::= Constraint | empty**

The constraint is satisfied by a value of the parent type if and only if the inner value belongs to the subtype specified by the "Constraint" applied to the inner type.

**51.8.10** A constraint on the presence of an inner type shall be expressed by the notation "PresenceConstraint":

**PresenceConstraint ::= PRESENT | ABSENT | OPTIONAL | empty**

The meaning of these alternatives, and the situations in which they are permitted are defined in 51.8.10.1 to 51.8.10.3.

**51.8.10.1** If the parent type is a sequence or set, a component type marked **OPTIONAL** may be constrained to be **PRESENT** (in which case the constraint is satisfied if and only if the corresponding component value is present) or to be **ABSENT** (in which case the constraint is satisfied if and only if the corresponding component value is absent) or to be **OPTIONAL** (in which case no constraint is placed upon the presence of the corresponding component value).

**51.8.10.2** If the parent type is a choice, a component type can be constrained to be **ABSENT** (in which case the constraint is satisfied if and only if the corresponding component type is not used in the value), or **PRESENT** (in which case the constraint is satisfied if and only if the corresponding component type is used in the value); there shall be at most one **PRESENT** keyword in a "MultipleTypeConstraints".

NOTE – See G.5.6 for a clarifying example.

**51.8.10.3** The meaning of an empty "PresenceConstraint" depends on whether a "FullSpecification" or a "PartialSpecification" is being employed:

- a) in a "FullSpecification", this is equivalent to a constraint of **PRESENT** for a set or sequence component marked **OPTIONAL** and imposes no further constraint otherwise;
- b) in a "PartialSpecification", no constraint is imposed.

**51.9 Pattern constraint**

**51.9.1** The "PatternConstraint" notation shall be:

**PatternConstraint ::= PATTERN Value**

**51.9.2** "Value" shall be a "cstring" of type **UniversalString** (or a reference to such a character string) which contains an ASN.1 regular expression as defined in Annex A. The "PatternConstraint" selects those values of the parent type that satisfy the ASN.1 regular expression. The entire value shall satisfy the entire ASN.1 regular expression, i.e., the "PatternConstraint" does not select values whose leading characters match the (entire) ASN.1 regular expression but which contain further trailing characters.

NOTE – "Value" is formally defined as a value of type **UniversalString**, but the sets of values of type **UniversalString** and **UTF8String** are the same (see 41.16). Thus a totally equivalent definition could have been to say that "Value" is a value of type **UTF8String**.

**51.10 Property settings**

**51.10.1** The "PropertySettings" notation shall be:

**PropertySettings ::= SETTINGS simplestring**

**51.10.2** The contents of the "simplestring" shall be "PropertySettingsList":

**PropertySettingsList ::=**

**PropertyAndSettingPair**  
**|** **PropertySettingsList PropertyAndSettingPair**

**PropertyAndSettingPair ::= PropertyName "=" SettingName**

**PropertyName ::= pname**

**SettingName ::= pname**

**51.10.3** The "PropertyName" shall be one of the time property names listed in column 1 of Table 6, and shall appear at most once in the "PropertySettingsList".

**51.10.4** The "SettingName" of a "PropertyAndSettingPair" shall be one of the property setting names that are listed in column 2 of Table 6 in the row that contains (in column 1) the "PropertyName" of that "PropertyAndSettingPair".

**51.10.5** An abstract value shall be included in the subtype if, and only if, it satisfies the following condition for all of the "PropertyAndSettingPair"s. Either:

- a) the abstract value does not have a property setting for the "PropertyName" (see columns 2 and 3 of Table 6 for the abstract values that have a property setting for a given "PropertyName"); or
- b) the abstract value has a property setting that is the same as the "SettingName".

NOTE – To assist with human readability, it is recommended, but not required, that the setting of the **Basic** time property be always included as the first "PropertyAndSettingPair".

EXAMPLE: **TIME(SETTINGS "Midnight=Start")** would produce a subset of the **TIME** type in which all abstract values are present (including those that represent dates only) except those that have the property setting **"Midnight=End"**.

**51.10.6** All abstract values of the **TIME** type have settings for the **Basic** time property (this is not true for other time properties). In order to prevent misleading notation in which a "PropertyAndSettingPair" has no effect on the resulting set of abstract values, some restrictions are placed on the "PropertyName"s that can be used with a specific setting of the **Basic** time property. The restrictions are listed in Table 13.

NOTE – Table 13 is not an exhaustive set of rules for preventing the use of "PropertyAndSetting" pairs, some of which are redundant (which is not in general illegal).

**Table 13 – Restrictions on use of property names with Basic property settings**

Basic property setting	Prohibited property names with this Basic property setting
Date	Time, Local-or-UTC, Midnight, Interval-type, SE-point, Recurrence
Time	Date, Year, Interval-type, SE-point, Recurrence
Date-Time	Interval-type, SE-point, Recurrence
Interval	Recurrence
Rec-Interval	No restriction

## 51.11 Duration range

51.11.1 The "DurationRange" subtype notation shall be:

**DurationRange ::= ValueRange**

51.11.2 Both the "Value"s in the "ValueRange" shall identify a time abstract value (either by value notation or by a value reference) that is present in the subtype:

**TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=D")**

51.11.3 Both the "Value"s in the "ValueRange" shall specify the duration using either:

- a) the same single time component to the same accuracy (no fractional part, or the same number of digits in the fractional part); or
- b) multiple time components that have identical values apart from the least significant time component (which may have different values, but shall have the same accuracy).

51.11.4 The selected duration abstract values are those that:

- a) have the same values for the identical time components of the two "Value"s in the "ValueRange"; and
- b) are within the specified range for the least significant time component of the two "Value"s in the "ValueRange"; and
- c) have the same accuracy as the least significant time component of the two "Value"s in the "ValueRange".

NOTE – This provides an alternative to the use of inner subtyping (see 38.4.4) as a means of specifying a duration that uses only a single time component to a specified accuracy.

EXAMPLE: **TIME ("PT2M0.000S" .. "PT2M59.000S")** defines a **TIME** subtype that consists only of abstract values representing durations of 2 minutes and zero to 59 seconds, to an accuracy of one millisecond.

## 51.12 Time point range

51.12.1 The "TimePointRange" notation shall be:

**TimePointRange ::= ValueRange**

51.12.2 Both the "Value"s in the "ValueRange" shall identify a time abstract value (either value notation or a value reference) that is present in the subtype:

**TIME ((SETTINGS "Basic=Date")  
|(SETTINGS "Basic=Time")  
|(SETTINGS "Basic=Date-Time"))**

51.12.3 The two "Value"s in the "ValueRange" shall have identical settings for all time properties except the **Midnight** time property.

51.12.4 If the two "Value"s in the "ValueRange" have the property setting "**Local-or-UTC=LD**" then the time difference in the two "Value"s shall be the same.

NOTE – This allows subtyping using, for example:

**TIME ("00:00" .. "09:00")**

or:

**TIME ("21:00" .. "24:00").**

51.12.5 This subtype notation selects from the parent type those abstract values that have identical settings for all time properties (except the **Midnight** time property) to those of the "Value"s in the "ValueRange" (and the same time difference, if there is a property setting of **Local-or-UTC=LD** in the "Value"s), and that have values within the specified "ValueRange" (see 51.4).

NOTE – The requirement for all relevant abstract values to have identical settings for all time properties (except the **Midnight** time property), and that if they have a time differential it is the same time differential, ensures that they are all using the same time scale, and hence that an order relationship exists among them.

## 51.13 Recurrence range

51.13.1 The "RecurrenceRange" notation shall be:

**RecurrenceRange ::= ValueRange**

51.13.2 Both the "Value"s in the "ValueRange" shall be integer values.

**51.13.3** For the purposes of ordering only, a time value with a property setting of "**Recurrence=Unlimited**" shall be treated as specifying an infinite number of repetitions (an integer value of **MAX**).

**51.13.4** This subtype notation selects from the parent type those abstract values that are also present in the subtype:

**TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-interval")**

and that have a number of recurrence digits that is within the specified "ValueRange" (see 51.4).

## 52 The extension marker

NOTE – Like the constraint notation in general, the extension marker has no effect on some encoding rules of ASN.1, such as the Basic Encoding Rules, but does on others, such as the Packed Encoding Rules. Its effect on encodings defined using ECN is determined by the ECN specification.

**52.1** The extension marker, ellipsis, is an indication that extension additions are expected. It makes no statement as to how such additions should be handled other than that they shall not be treated as an error during the decoding process.

**52.2** The joint use of the extension marker and an exception identifier (see clause 53) is both an indication that extension additions are expected and also provides a means for identifying the action to be taken by the application if there is a constraint violation. It is recommended that this notation be used in those situations where store and forward or any other form of relaying is in use, so as to indicate (for example) that any unrecognized extension additions are to be returned to the application for possible re-encoding and relaying.

**52.3** The result of set arithmetic involving subtype constraints, value sets or information object sets that are extensible is specified in clause 50.

**52.4** If a type defined with an extensible constraint is referenced in a "ContainedSubtype", the newly defined type does not inherit the extension marker or any of its extension additions (see 51.3.3). The newly defined type can be made extensible by including an extension marker at the outermost level in its "ElementSetSpecs" (see also 50.4). For example:

```
A ::= INTEGER (0..10, ..., 12) -- A is extensible.
B ::= INTEGER (A)           -- B is inextensible and is constrained to 0-10.
C ::= INTEGER (A, ...)      -- C is extensible and is constrained to 0-10.
```

**52.5** If a type defined with an extensible constraint is further constrained with an "ElementSetSpecs", the resulting type does not inherit the extension marker nor any extension additions that may be present in the former constraint (see 50.11). For example:

```
A ::= INTEGER (0..10, ...) -- A is extensible.
B ::= A (2..5)           -- B is inextensible.
C ::= A                  -- C is extensible.
```

**52.6** Components of a set, sequence or choice type that are constrained to be absent shall not be present, regardless of whether the set, sequence or choice type is an extensible type.

NOTE – Inner type constraints have no effect on extensibility.

For example:

```
A ::= SEQUENCE {
  a INTEGER
  b BOOLEAN OPTIONAL,
  ...
}
B ::= A (WITH COMPONENTS {b ABSENT})
      -- B is extensible, but 'b' shall not be
      -- present in any of its values.
```

**52.7** Where this Recommendation | International Standard requires distinct tags (see 25.6 to 25.7, 27.3 and 29.3), the following transformation shall conceptually be applied before performing the check for tag uniqueness:

**52.7.1** A new element or alternative (called the conceptually-added element, see 52.7.2) is conceptually added at the extension insertion point if:

- a) there are no extension markers but extensibility is implied in the module header, and then an extension marker is added and the new element is added as the first addition after that extension marker; or

- b) there is a single extension marker in a **CHOICE** or **SEQUENCE** or **SET**, and then the new element is added at the end of the **CHOICE** or **SEQUENCE** or **SET** immediately prior to the closing brace; or
- c) there are two extension markers in a **CHOICE** or **SEQUENCE** or **SET**, and then the new element is added immediately before the second extension marker.

**52.7.2** This conceptually-added element is solely for the purposes of checking legality through the application of rules requiring distinct tags (see 25.6 to 25.7, 27.3 and 29.3). It is conceptually-added *after* the application of automatic tagging (if applicable) and the expansion of **COMPONENTS OF**.

**52.7.3** The conceptually-added element is defined to have a tag which is distinct from the tag of all normal ASN.1 types, but which matches the tag of all such conceptually-added elements and matches the indeterminate tag of the open type, as specified in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 14.2, Note 2.

NOTE – The rules concerning tag uniqueness relating to the conceptually added element and to the open type, together with the rules requiring distinct tags (see 25.6 to 25.7, 27.3 and 29.3) are necessary and sufficient to ensure that:

- a) any unknown extension addition can be unambiguously attributed to a single insertion point when a BER encoding is decoded; and
- b) unknown extension additions can never be confused with **OPTIONAL** elements.

In PER the above rules are sufficient but are not necessary to ensure these properties. They are nonetheless imposed as rules of ASN.1 to ensure independence of the notation from encoding rules.

**52.7.4** If, with these conceptually-added elements, the rules requiring distinct types are violated, then the specification has made illegal use of the extensibility notation.

NOTE – The purpose of the above rules is to make precise restrictions arising from the use of insertion points (particularly those which are not at the end of **SEQUENCES** or **SETS** or **CHOICES**). The restrictions are designed to ensure that in BER, DER and CER it is possible to attribute an unknown element received by a version 1 system unambiguously to a specific insertion point. This would be important if the exception handling of such added elements was different for different insertion points.

## 52.8 Examples

### 52.8.1 Example 1

```
A ::= SET {
  a  A,
  b  CHOICE {
    c  C,
    d  D,
    ...
  }
}
```

is legal, for there is no ambiguity as any added material must be part of **b**.

### 52.8.2 Example 2

```
A ::= SET {
  a  A,
  b  CHOICE {
    c  C,
    d  D,
    ...
  },
  ... ,
  d  D
}
```

is illegal, for added material may be part of **b**, or may be at the outer level of **a**, and a version 1 system cannot tell which.

### 52.8.3 Example 3

```
A ::= SET {
  a  A,
  b  CHOICE {
    c  C,
    ...
  },
  d  CHOICE {
    e  E,
    ...
  }
}
```

}

is also illegal, for added material may be part of **b** or **d**.

**52.8.4** More complex examples can be constructed, with extensible choices inside extensible choices, or extensible choices within elements of a sequence marked **OPTIONAL** or **DEFAULT**, but the above rules are necessary and sufficient to ensure that an element not present in version 1 can be unambiguously attributed by a version 1 system to precisely one insertion point.

## 53 The exception identifier

**53.1** In a complex ASN.1 specification, there are a number of places where it is specifically recognized that decoders have to handle material that is not completely specified in it. These cases arise in particular from use of a constraint that is defined using a parameter of the abstract syntax (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, clause 10).

**53.2** In such cases, the application designer needs to identify the actions to be taken when some implementation-dependent constraint is violated. The exception identifier is provided as an unambiguous means of referring to parts of an ASN.1 specification in order to indicate the actions to be taken. The identifier consists of a "!" character, followed by an optional ASN.1 type and a value of that type. In the absence of the type, **INTEGER** is assumed as the type of the value.

**53.3** If an "ExceptionSpec" is present, it indicates that there is text in the body of the standard saying how to handle the constraint violation associated with the "!" character. If it is absent, then the implementers will either need to identify text that describes the action that they are to take, or will take implementation-dependent action when a constraint violation occurs.

**53.4** The "ExceptionSpec" notation is defined as follows:

**ExceptionSpec ::= "!" ExceptionIdentification | empty**

**ExceptionIdentification ::=**

**SignedNumber**  
| **DefinedValue**  
| **Type ":" Value**

The first two alternatives denote exception identifiers of type integer. The third alternative denotes an exception identifier ("Value") of arbitrary type ("Type").

**53.5** Where a type is constrained by multiple constraints, more than one of which has an exception identifier, the exception identifier in the outermost constraint shall be regarded as the exception identifier for that type.

**53.6** Where an exception marker is present on types that are used in set arithmetic, the exception identifier is ignored and is not inherited by the type being constrained as a result of the set arithmetic.

## 54 Encoding control sections

**54.1** The "EncodingControlSections" is specified by the following productions:

**EncodingControlSections ::=**

**EncodingControlSection EncodingControlSections**  
| **empty**

**EncodingControlSection ::=**

**ENCODING-CONTROL**  
**encodingreference**  
**EncodingInstructionAssignmentList**

**54.2** Each "EncodingControlSection" within an ASN.1 module shall have a different "encodingreference", and assigns encoding instructions for that encoding reference to one or more types in the module.

**54.3** The "encodingreference" shall not be **TAG**.

**54.4** The "EncodingInstructionAssignmentList" production and the associated semantics is specified in the Recommendation | International Standard identified by the "encodingreference" (see Annex E) and can consist of any sequence of ASN.1 lexical items (including comment, cstring and white-space) except the lexical items **END** and **ENCODING-CONTROL**, which will not appear in an "EncodingInstructionAssignmentList".

NOTE 1 – Future versions of this Recommendation | International Standard may add further encoding references to Annex E. It is recommended that ASN.1 tools provide (only) warnings if the "encodingreference" in an "EncodingControlSection" is not one of those specified in Annex E and then ignore the "EncodingControlSection" until the next occurrence of **END** or **ENCODING-CONTROL**, whichever comes first.

NOTE 2 – The "encodingreference" in an "EncodingControlSection" cannot be omitted. The default encoding reference for the module has no effect on an "EncodingControlSection".

**54.5** There are interactions and restrictions on the assignment of encoding instructions (with the same encoding reference) to a type using a type prefix and using an "EncodingControlSection". It is always possible (as a matter of style) to use only "EncodingControlSection"s, but there are in general some encoding instructions (particularly those that apply to all types in a module) that can only be assigned in an "EncodingControlSection". There are also restrictions on the types to which particular instructions or combinations of instructions can be applied. These interactions and restrictions are specified in the Recommendation | International Standard associated with the encoding reference (see Annex E), and are not specified in this Recommendation | International Standard.

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## Annex A

## ASN.1 regular expressions

(This annex forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard.)

## A.1 Definition

**A.1.1** An ASN.1 regular expression is a pattern that describes a set of strings whose format conforms to this pattern. A regular expression is itself a string; it is constructed analogously to arithmetic expressions, by using various operators to combine smaller expressions. The smallest expressions, which are (usually) made of one or two characters, are placeholders that stand for a set of characters.

The regular expressions presented here are very similar to those of scripting languages like Perl and to those of XML Schema, where some other examples of use can be found.

**A.1.2** Most characters, including all letters and digits, are regular expressions that match themselves.

## EXAMPLE

The regular expression `"fred"` matches only the string `"fred"`.

**A.1.3** Two regular expressions may be concatenated; the resulting regular expression matches any string formed by concatenating two substrings that respectively match the concatenated subexpressions.

## A.2 Metacharacters

**A.2.1** A metacharacter sequence (or metacharacter) is a set of one or more contiguous characters that have a special meaning in the context of a regular expression. The following list contains all of the metacharacter sequences. Their meaning is explained in the following clauses.

<code>[ ]</code>		Match any character in the set where ranges are denoted by "-". A "^" after the opening bracket complements the set which follows it.
<code>{g,p,r,c}</code>		Quadruple which identifies a character of ISO/IEC 10646 (see 41.8)
<code>\N{name}</code>		Match the named character (or any character of the named character set) A.2.4
<code>.</code>		Match any character (unless it is one of the newline characters defined in 12.1.6)
<code>\d</code>		Match any digit (equivalent to "[0-9]")
<code>\w</code>		Match any alphanumeric character (equivalent to "[a-zA-Z0-9_]")
<code>\t</code>		Match the HORIZONTAL TABULATION (9) character (see 12.1.6)
<code>\n</code>		Match any one of the newline characters defined in 12.1.6
<code>\r</code>		Match the CARRIAGE RETURN (13) character (see 12.1.6)
<code>\s</code>		Match any one of the white-space characters (see 12.1.6)
<code>\b</code>		Match a word boundary
<code>\</code>	(prefix)	Quote the next metacharacter and cause it to be interpreted literally
<code>\\</code>		Match the REVERSE SOLIDUS (92) character "\"
<code>""</code>		Match the QUOTATION MARK (34) character (")
<code> </code>	(infix)	Alternative between two expressions
<code>( )</code>		Grouping of the enclosed expression
<code>*</code>	(postfix)	Match the previous expression zero, one or several times
<code>+</code>	(postfix)	Match the previous expression one or several times
<code>?</code>	(postfix)	Match the previous expression once or not at all
<code>#n</code>	(postfix)	Match the previous expression exactly n times (where n is a single digit)
<code>#(n)</code>	(postfix)	Match the previous expression exactly n times
<code>#(n,)</code>	(postfix)	Match the previous expression at least n times
<code>#(n,m)</code>	(postfix)	Match the previous expression at least n but not more than m times
<code>#(,m)</code>	(postfix)	Match the previous expression not more than m times

NOTE 1 – The characters CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT (94) "^" and HYPHEN-MINUS (45) "-" are additional metacharacters in certain positions of the string defined in A.2.2.

NOTE 2 – The value in round brackets after a character name in this annex is the decimal value of the character in ISO/IEC 10646.

NOTE 3 – This notation does not provide the metacharacters "^" and "\$" to match the beginning and the end of a string respectively. Hence a string shall match a regular expression in its entirety except if the latter includes ".\*" at its beginning, at its end or at both sides.

NOTE 4 – The following metacharacter sequences cannot contain white-space (see 12.1.6) unless the white-space appears immediately prior to or following a newline:

```
{g,p,r,c}
\N{name}
#n
#(n)
#(n,)
#(n,m)
#(,m)
```

If a regular expression contains a newline, any spacing characters that appear immediately prior to or following the newline have no significance and match nothing (see 12.14.1).

**A.2.2** A list of characters enclosed by "[" and "]" matches any single character in that list. If the first character of the list is the caret "^", then it matches any character which is not in the list. A range of characters may be specified by giving the first and last characters, separated by a hyphen (according to the order relation defined in 43.3). All metacharacter sequences, except "]" and "\", lose their special meaning inside a list. To include a literal CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT (94) "^", place it anywhere except in the first position or precede it with a backslash. To include a literal HYPHEN-MINUS (45) "-", place it first or last in the list, or precede it with a backslash. To include a literal CLOSING SQUARE BRACKET (93) "]", place it first. If the first character in the list is the caret "^", then the characters "-" and "]" also match themselves when they immediately follow that caret. The metacharacter sequences defined in A.2.3, A.2.4, A.2.6 and A.2.7 can be used between the square brackets where they keep their meaning.

#### EXAMPLES

The regular expression "[0123456789]", or equivalently "[0-9]", matches any single digit.

The regular expression "[^0]" matches any single character except 0.

The regular expression "[\d^.-]" matches any single digit, a caret, a hyphen or a period.

**A.2.3** To avoid any ambiguity between two ISO/IEC 10646 characters which have the same glyph, two notations are provided. A notation of the form "{group,plane,row,cell}" references a (single) character according to the "Quadruple" production defined in 41.8.

**A.2.4** A notation of the form "\N{valuereference}" matches the referenced character if "valuereference" is a reference to a restricted character string value of size 1 (see clause 41) which is defined or imported in the current module. A notation of the form "\N{typereference}" matches any character of the referenced character set if "typereference" is a reference to a subtype of a "RestrictedCharacterStringType" which is defined in the current module, or is one of the "RestrictedCharacterStringType"s defined in clause 41. The regular expressions "\N{LetterUppercase}" and "\N{Lu}" match any (single) character of the general category "Letter, uppercase" (abbreviated as "Lu") as defined by The Unicode Standard.

NOTE – In particular, "valuereference" or "typereference" can be one of the references defined in the module **ASN1-CHARACTER-MODULE** (see 42.1) and imported into the current module (see 41.8).

#### EXAMPLES

The regular expression "\N{greekCapitalLetterSigma}" matches GREEK CAPITAL LETTER SIGMA.

The regular expression "\N{BasicLatin}" matches any (single) character of the BASIC LATIN character set.

"[\N{BasicLatin}\N{Cyrillic}\N{BasicGreek}]", or equivalently "(\N{BasicLatin} | \N{Cyrillic} | \N{BasicGreek})+", are regular expressions that match a string made of any (non null) number of characters from the three character sets specified.

**A.2.5** The period "." matches any single character, unless it is one of the newline characters defined in 12.1.6.

**A.2.6** The symbol "\d" is a synonym for "[0-9]", i.e., it matches any single digit. The symbol "\t" matches the HORIZONTAL TABULATION (9) character. The symbol "\w" is a synonym for "[a-zA-Z0-9]", i.e., it matches any single (lower-case or upper-case) character or any single digit.

## EXAMPLE

The regular expression "`\w+(\s\w+)*\.`" matches a sentence made of at least one (alphanumeric) word. The words are separated by one white-space character as defined in 12.1.6. There is no white-space character before the ending period.

**A.2.7** The symbol "`\r`" matches the CARRIAGE RETURN (13) character. The symbol "`\n`" matches any one of the newline characters defined in 12.1.6. The symbol "`\s`" matches any one of the white-space characters defined in 12.1.6. The symbol "`\b`" matches the empty string at the beginning or at the end of a word.

## EXAMPLE

The regular expression "`.*\bfred\b.*`" matches any string which includes the word "fred" (this word is not only a series of four characters; it is delimited). Hence it matches strings like "fred" or "I am fred the first", but not strings like "My name is freddy" or "I am afred I don't know how to spell 'afraid'!".

**A.2.8** A character that normally functions as a metacharacter can be interpreted literally by prefixing it with a "\". If the regular expression includes a QUOTATION MARK (34), this character shall be represented by a pair of QUOTATION MARK characters.

## EXAMPLES

The regular expression "`\.`" matches the (single) string ".", but not any string of any single character.

The regular expression "`\"`" matches the string which contains a single QUOTATION MARK.

The regular expression "`\)`" matches the string ")".

The regular expression "`\a`" matches the character "a".

NOTE – The fourth example shows that the backslash is allowed to precede characters that are not metacharacters, but this use is deprecated (because other metacharacters could be allowed in future versions of this Recommendation | International Standard).

**A.2.9** Two or more regular expressions may be joined by the infix operator "|". The resulting regular expression matches any string matching either subexpression.

**A.2.10** A regular expression that does not end with a repetition operator may be followed by a repetition operator. If the operator is "?", the preceding item is optional and matched at most once. If the operator is "\*", the preceding item will be matched zero or more times. If the operator is "+", the preceding item will be matched one or more times. If the operator is of the form "#(n)", the preceding item is matched exactly n times; in this particular case, the parentheses can be omitted if n consists of one digit. If it is of the form "#(n,)", the item is matched n or more times. If it is of the form "#(,m)", the item is optional and is matched at most m times. Finally, if it is of the form "#(n,m)", the item is matched at least n times, but not more than m times.

NOTE – It is illegal to use the metacharacters "\*", "+", "?" or "#" as the first character of a regular expression or immediately after a repetition operator. It is also illegal to use the metacharacters "#" or "|" as the last character of a regular expression.

## EXAMPLES

A phone number like "555-1212" is matched by the regular expression "`\d#3-\d#4`", or equivalently "`\d#(3)-\d#(4)`".

A price in dollars like "\$12345.90" is matched by the regular expression "`\$\d#(1,)(\.\d#(1,2))?`". Note that parentheses are requested after the "#" symbol when it is followed by a range.

A social security number like "123-45-5678" is matched by the regular expression "`\d#3-?\d#2-?\d#4`".

**A.2.11** Repetition (see A.2.10) takes precedence over concatenation (see A.1.3), which in turn takes precedence over alternation (see A.2.9). A whole subexpression may be enclosed in parentheses to override these precedence rules.

**A.2.12** When a regular expression contains subexpressions in parentheses, each (non-quoted) opening parenthesis is successively assigned a distinct (strictly positive) integer from the left to the right of the regular expression. Each subexpression can then be referenced inside a comment with a notation like "\1", "\2" which uses the associated integer. The empty subexpression "()" is not permitted.

## EXAMPLE

```
"((\d#2)(\d#2)(\d#4))" -- \1 is a date in which \2 is the month, \3 the day  
-- and \4 the year.
```

NOTE – There is a requirement for formal reference to subexpressions of a regular expression for many purposes. One such instance is the need to write text to document the regular expression within the ASN.1 module. This is a notation which can be used to provide such references. This notation is not used elsewhere in this Recommendation | International Standard.

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## Annex B

## The defined time types

(This annex forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard.)

## B.1 General

**B.1.1** This annex contains an ASN.1 module that specifies the defined time types. These types can be imported into an ASN.1 specification and used in that specification, or can be used as a model for the definition of additional time types. They cannot be used without importation.

**B.1.2** In some cases, the defined time types are only useful if subtyped with one of the date or time-of-day subsets (or both) specified in this module. Where this is the case, it is clearly stated in the definition of the type.

EXAMPLE: Use

```
APPLICATION-DATE-TIME ::= DATE-TIME (YEAR-MONTH-DAY-SUBSET) (SECONDS-SUBSET)
```

to define a date-time that is a year, month, day, hours, minutes, seconds. To use this, the type and the two subtypes have to be imported.

## B.2 The ASN.1 defined time types module

```
DefinedTimeTypes {joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) defined-types-
module(3) }
```

```
DEFINITIONS AUTOMATIC TAGS ::= BEGIN
```

```
EXPORTS ALL;
```

```
-- Date types
```

```
CENTURY ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=C Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=C Year=Proleptic"))
```

```
ANY-CENTURY ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=C Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=C Year=L5"))
-- This allows only a 3-digit century if positive.
-- A type with a greater number of digits can be
-- defined as an additional time type.
-- Note that L5 is used for century if the specification
-- of the year would require 5 digits. See Table 6.
```

```
YEAR ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=Y Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=Y Year=Proleptic"))
```

```
ANY-YEAR ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=Y Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=Y Year=L5"))
-- This allows only a 5-digit year if positive.
-- A type with a greater number of digits can be
-- defined as an additional time type.
```

```
YEAR-MONTH ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YM Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YM Year=Proleptic"))
```

```
ANY-YEAR-MONTH ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YM Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YM Year=L5"))
-- This allows only a 5-digit year if positive.
-- A type with a greater number of digits can be
-- defined as an additional time type.
```

```
YEAR-MONTH-DAY ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YMD Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YMD Year=Proleptic"))
```

```
ANY-YEAR-MONTH-DAY ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YMD Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YMD Year=L5"))
-- This allows only a 5-digit year if positive.
-- A type with a greater number of digits can be
-- defined as an additional time type.
```

```

YEAR-WEEK ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YW Year=Basic") |
  (SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YW Year=Proleptic"))

ANY-YEAR-WEEK ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YW Year=Negative") |
  (SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YW Year=L5"))
  -- This allows only a 5-digit year if positive.
  -- A type with a greater number of digits can be
  -- defined as an additional time type.

YEAR-WEEK-DAY ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YWD Year=Basic") |
  (SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YWD Year=Proleptic"))

ANY-YEAR-WEEK-DAY ::= TIME((SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YWD Year=Negative") |
  (SETTINGS "Basic=Date Date=YWD Year=L5"))
  -- This allows only a 5-digit year if positive.
  -- A type with a greater number of digits can be
  -- defined as an additional time type.

-- Types related to time-of-day

HOURS ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=H Local-or-UTC=L")

HOURS-UTC ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=H Local-or-UTC=Z")

HOURS-AND-DIFF ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=H Local-or-UTC=LD")

MINUTES ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HM Local-or-UTC=L")

MINUTES-UTC ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HM Local-or-UTC=Z")

MINUTES-AND-DIFF ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HM Local-or-UTC=LD")

SECONDS ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L")

SECONDS-UTC ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=Z")

SECONDS-AND-DIFF ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=LD")

HOURS-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HF3 Local-or-UTC=L")
  -- 3 digit fraction

HOURS-UTC-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HF3 Local-or-UTC=Z")
  -- 3-digit fraction

HOURS-AND-DIFF-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HF3
  Local-or-UTC=LD")
  -- 3-digit fraction

MINUTES-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMF3 Local-or-UTC=L")
  -- 3-digit fraction

MINUTES-UTC-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMF3 Local-or-UTC=Z")
  -- 3-digit fraction

MINUTES-AND-DIFF-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMF3
  Local-or-UTC=LD")
  -- 3-digit fraction

SECONDS-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMSF3 Local-or-UTC=L")
  -- 3-digit fraction

SECONDS-UTC-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMSF3 Local-or-UTC=Z")
  -- 3-digit fraction

SECONDS-AND-DIFF-AND-FRACTION ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMSF3
  Local-or-UTC=LD")
  -- 3-digit fraction

-- Interval types (DURATION is not included as this is a useful type).

START-END-DATE-INTERVAL ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=SE
  SE-point=Date")
  -- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset (see below).

START-END-TIME-INTERVAL ::= TIME(SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=SE
  SE-point=Time")
  -- This is only useful if subtyped with a TIME-OF-DAY subset
  -- (see below).

```

**START-END-DATE-TIME-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=SE  
SE-point=Date-Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset and a  
 -- TIME-OF-DAY subset (see below).*

**START-DATE-DURATION-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=SD  
SE-point=Date")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset (see below).*

**START-TIME-DURATION-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=SD  
SE-point=Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a TIME-OF-DAY subset  
 -- (see below).*

**START-DATE-TIME-DURATION-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Interval  
Interval-type=SD  
SE-point=Date-Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset and a  
 -- TIME-OF-DAY subset (see below).*

**DURATION-END-DATE-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=DE  
SE-point=Date")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset (see below).*

**DURATION-END-TIME-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=DE  
SE-point=Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a TIME-OF-DAY subset  
 -- (see below).*

**DURATION-END-DATE-TIME-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Interval Interval-type=DE  
SE-point=Date-Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset and a  
 -- TIME-OF-DAY subset (see below).*

*-- Recurring interval types.*

**REC-START-END-DATE-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval Interval-type=SE  
SE-point=Date")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset (see below).*

**REC-START-END-TIME-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval Interval-type=SE  
SE-point=Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a TIME-OF-DAY subset  
 -- (see below).*

**REC-START-END-DATE-TIME-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval  
Interval-type=SE  
SE-point=Date-Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset and a  
 -- TIME-OF-DAY subset (see below).*

**REC-DURATION-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval Interval-type=D")**

**REC-START-DATE-DURATION-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval  
Interval-type=SD  
SE-point=Date")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset (see below).*

**REC-START-TIME-DURATION-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval  
Interval-type=SD  
SE-point=Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a TIME-OF-DAY subset  
 -- (see below).*

**REC-START-DATE-TIME-DURATION-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval  
Interval-type=SD  
SE-point=Date-Time")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset and a  
 -- TIME-OF-DAY subset (see below).*

**REC-DURATION-END-DATE-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval  
Interval-type=DE  
SE-point=Date")**  
*-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset (see below).*

```

REC-DURATION-END-TIME-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval
Interval-type=DE
SE-point=Time")
-- This is only useful if subtyped with a TIME-OF-DAY subset
-- (see below).

REC-DURATION-END-DATE-TIME-INTERVAL ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Basic=Rec-Interval
Interval-type=DE
SE-point=Date-Time")
-- This is only useful if subtyped with a DATE subset and a
-- TIME-OF-DAY subset (see below).

-- Date subsets

CENTURY-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=C Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Date=C Year=Proleptic"))

ANY-CENTURY-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=C Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Date=C Year=L5"))

YEAR-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=Y Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Date=Y Year=Proleptic"))

ANY-YEAR-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=Y Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Date=Y Year=L5"))

YEAR-MONTH-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=YM Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Date=YM Year=Proleptic"))

ANY-YEAR-MONTH-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=YM Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Date=YM Year=L5"))

YEAR-MONTH-DAY-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=YMD Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Date=YMD Year=Proleptic"))

ANY-YEAR-MONTH-DAY-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=YMD Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Date=YMD Year=L5"))

YEAR-WEEK-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=YW Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Date=YW Year=Proleptic"))

ANY-YEAR-WEEK-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=YW Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Date=YW Year=L5"))

YEAR-WEEK-DAY-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=YWD Year=Basic") |
(SETTINGS "Date=YWD Year=Proleptic"))

ANY-YEAR-WEEK-DAY-SUBSET ::= TIME ((SETTINGS "Date=YWD Year=Negative") |
(SETTINGS "Date=YWD Year=L5"))

-- Time subsets

HOURS-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=H Local-or-UTC=L")
HOURS-UTC-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=H Local-or-UTC=Z")
HOURS-AND-DIFF-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=H Local-or-UTC=LD")
MINUTES-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HM Local-or-UTC=L")
MINUTES-UTC-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HM Local-or-UTC=Z")
MINUTES-AND-DIFF-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HM Local-or-UTC=LD")
SECONDS-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L")
SECONDS-UTC-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=Z")
SECONDS-AND-DIFF-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=LD")
HOURS-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HF3 Local-or-UTC=L")
HOURS-UTC-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HF3
Local-or-UTC=Z")
HOURS-AND-DIFF-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HF3
Local-or-UTC=LD")

```

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```
MINUTES-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMF3
Local-or-UTC=L")
MINUTES-UTC-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMF3
Local-or-UTC=Z")
MINUTES-AND-DIFF-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMF3
Local-or-UTC=LD")
SECONDS-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMSF3
Local-or-UTC=L")
SECONDS-UTC-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMSF3
Local-or-UTC=Z")
SECONDS-AND-DIFF-AND-FRACTION-SUBSET ::= TIME (SETTINGS "Time=HMSF3
Local-or-UTC=LD")
END
```

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## Annex C

## Rules for type and value Compatibility

(This annex forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard.)

This annex is expected to be mainly of use to tool builders to ensure that they interpret the language identically. It is present in order to clearly specify what is legal ASN.1 and what is not, and to be able to specify the precise value that any value reference name identifies, and the precise set of values that any type or value set reference name identifies. It is not intended to provide a definition of valid transformations of ASN.1 notations for any purpose other than those stated above.

### C.1 The need for the value mapping concept (tutorial introduction)

C.1.1 Consider the following ASN.1 definitions:

**A ::= INTEGER**

**B ::= [1] INTEGER**

**C ::= [2] INTEGER (0..6,...)**

**D ::= [2] INTEGER (0..6,...,7)**

**E ::= INTEGER (7..20)**

**F ::= INTEGER {red(0), white(1), blue(2), green(3), purple(4)}**

**a A ::= 3**

**b B ::= 4**

**c C ::= 5**

**d D ::= 6**

**e E ::= 7**

**f F ::= green**

C.1.2 It is clear that the value references **a**, **b**, **c**, **d**, **e**, and **f** can be used in value notation governed by **A**, **B**, **C**, **D**, **E**, and **F**, respectively. For example:

**W ::= SEQUENCE {w1 A DEFAULT a}**

and:

**x A ::= a**

and:

**Y ::= A(1..a)**

are all valid given the definitions in C.1.1. If, however, **A** above were replaced by **B**, or **C**, or **D**, or **E**, or **F**, would the resulting statements be illegal? Similarly, if the value reference **a** above were replaced in each of these cases by **b**, or **c**, or **d**, or **e**, or **f**, are the resulting statements legal?

C.1.3 A more sophisticated question would be to consider in each case replacement of the type reference by the explicit text to the right of its assignment. Consider for example:

**f INTEGER {red(0), white(1), blue(2), green(3), purple(4)} ::= green**

**W ::= SEQUENCE {  
w1 INTEGER {red(0), white(1), blue(2), green(3), purple(4)}  
DEFAULT f}**

**x INTEGER {red(0), white(1), blue(2), green(3), purple(4)} ::= f**

**Y ::= INTEGER {red(0), white(1), blue(2), green(3), purple(4)}(1..f)**

Would the above be legal ASN.1?

C.1.4 Some of the above examples are cases which, even if legal (as most of them are – see later text), users would be ill-advised to write similar text, as they are at the least obscure and at worst confusing. However, there are frequent uses of a value reference to a value of some type (not necessarily just an **INTEGER** type) as the default value for that

type with tagging or subtyping applied in the governor. The *value mapping* concept is introduced in order to provide a clear and precise means of determining which constructs such as the above are legal.

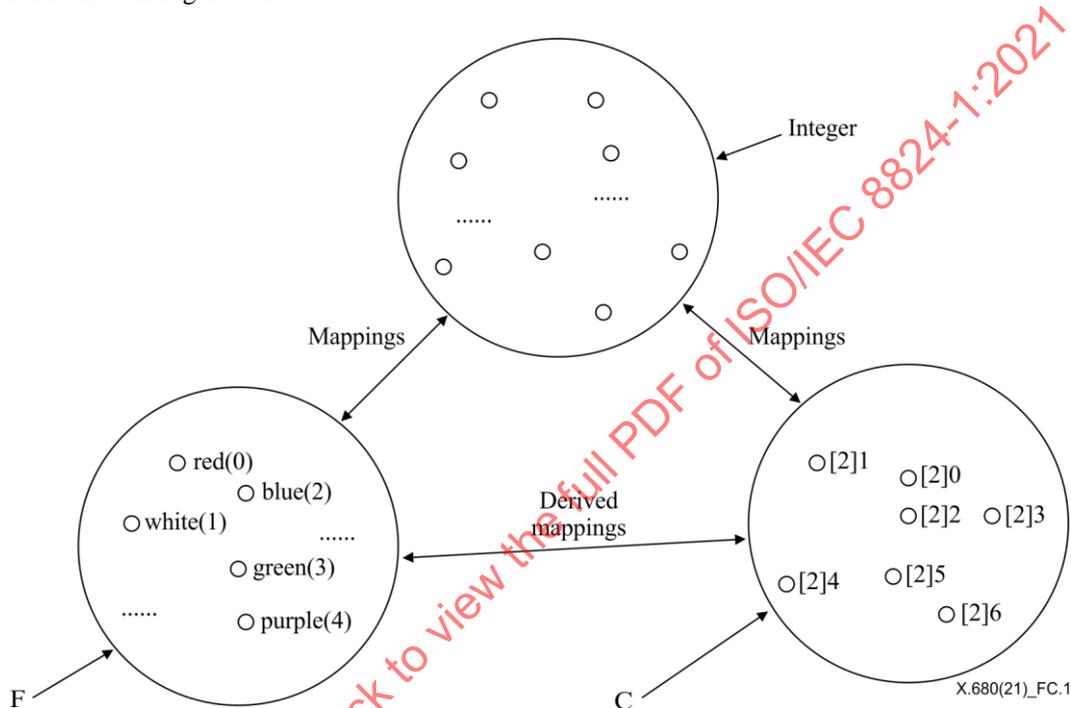
**C.1.5** Again, consider:

**C** ::= [2] INTEGER (0..6,...)

**E** ::= INTEGER (7..20)

**F** ::= INTEGER {red(0), white(1), blue(2), green(3), purple(4)}

In each case a new type is being created. For **F** we can clearly identify a 1-1 correspondence between the values in it and the values in the universal type **INTEGER**. In the case of **C** and **E**, we can clearly identify a 1-1 correspondence between the values in them and a subset of the values in the universal type **INTEGER**. We call this relationship a *value mapping* between values in the two types. Moreover, because values in **F**, **C**, and **E** all have (1-1) mappings to values of **INTEGER**, we can use these mappings to provide mappings between the values of **F**, **C**, and **E** themselves. This is illustrated for **F** and **C** in Figure C.1.



**Figure C.1– Derived mappings**

**C.1.6** Now when we have a value reference such as:

**c** **C** ::= 5

to a value in **C** which is required in some context to identify a value in **F**, then, provided a value mapping exists between that value in **C** and a (single) value in **F**, we can (and do) define **c** to be a legal reference to the value in **F**. This is illustrated in Figure C.2, where the value reference **c** is used to identify a value in **F**, and can be used in place of a direct reference **f1** where we would otherwise have to define:

**f1** **F** ::= 5

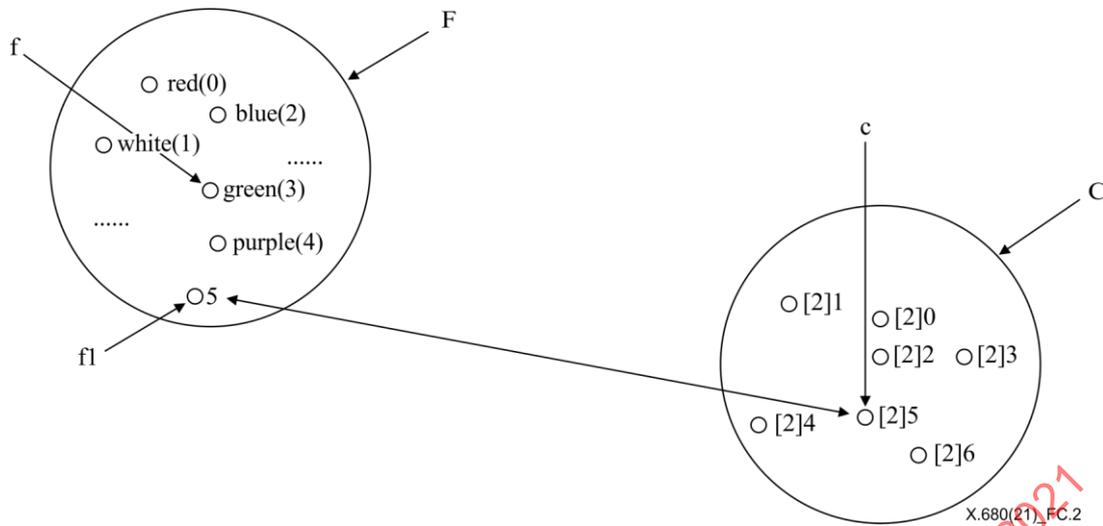


Figure C.2– Mappings for value references

**C.1.7** It should be noted that in some cases there will be values in one type (7 to 20 in **A** of C.1.1 for example) that have value mappings to values in another type (7 to 20 in **E** of C.1.1 for example), but other values (21 upwards of **A**) that have no such mapping. A reference to such values in **A** would not provide a valid reference to a value in **E**. (In this example, the whole of **E** has a value mapping to a subset of **A**. In the general case, there may be a subset of values in both types that have mappings, with other values in both types that are unmapped.)

**C.1.8** In the body of the ASN.1 standards, normal English text is used to specify legality in the above and similar cases. Subclause C.6 gives the precise requirements for legality and should be referenced whenever there is doubt about a complex construction.

NOTE – The fact that value mappings are defined to exist between two occurrences of the "Type" construct permits the use of value references established using one "Type" construct to identify values in another "Type" construct which is sufficiently similar. It allows dummy and actual parameters to be typed using two textually separate "Type" constructs without violating the rules for compatibility of dummy and actual parameters. It also allows fields of information object classes to be specified using one "Type" construct and the corresponding value in an information object to be specified using a distinct "Type" construct which is sufficiently similar. (These examples are not intended to be exhaustive.) It is, however, recommended that advantage be taken of this freedom only for simple cases such as **SEQUENCE OF INTEGER**, or **CHOICE {int INTEGER, id OBJECT IDENTIFIER}**, and not for more complex "Type" constructs.

## C.2 Value mappings

**C.2.1** The underlying model is of types, as non-overlapping containers, that contain values, with every occurrence of the ASN.1 "Type" construct defining a distinct new type (see Figures C.1 and C.2). This annex specifies when *value mappings* exist between such types, enabling a reference to a value in one type to be used where a reference to a value in some other type is needed.

EXAMPLE: Consider:

**X ::= INTEGER**

**Y ::= INTEGER**

**x** and **y** are type reference names (pointers) to two distinct types, but value mappings exist between these types, so any value reference to a value of **x** can be used when governed by **y** (for example, following **DEFAULT**).

**C.2.2** In the set of all possible ASN.1 values, a value mapping relates a pair of values. The whole set of value mappings is a mathematical relation. This relation possesses the following properties: it is reflexive (each ASN.1 value is related to itself), it is symmetric (if a value mapping is defined to exist from a value **x1** to a value **x2**, then there automatically exists a value mapping from **x2** to **x1**), and it is transitive (if there is a value mapping from a value **x1** to **x2**, and a value mapping from **x2** to **x3**, then there automatically exists a value mapping from **x1** to **x3**).

**C.2.3** Furthermore, given any two types **x1** and **x2**, seen as sets of values, the set of value mappings from values in **x1** to values in **x2** is a one-to-one relation, that is, for all values **x1** in **x1**, and **x2** in **x2**, if there is a value mapping from **x1** to **x2**, then:

- a) there is no value mapping from **x1** to another value in **x2** different from **x2**; and
- b) there is no value mapping from any value in **x1** (other than **x1**) to **x2**.

**C.2.4** Where a value mapping exists between a value **x1** and a value **x2**, a value reference to either one can automatically be used to reference the other if so required by some governing type.

NOTE – The fact that value mappings are defined to exist between values in some "Type" constructs is solely for the purpose of providing flexibility in the use of the ASN.1 notation. The existence of such mappings carries no implications whatsoever that the two types carry the same application semantics, but it is recommended that ASN.1 constructs which would be illegal without value mappings are used only if the corresponding types do indeed carry the same application semantics. Note that value mappings will frequently exist in any large specification between two types that are identical ASN.1 constructs, but which carry totally different application semantics, and where the existence of these value mappings is never used in determining the legality of the total specification.

### C.3 Identical type definitions

**C.3.1** The concept of identical type definitions is used to enable value mappings to be defined between two instances of "Type" which are either identical or sufficiently similar that one would normally expect their use to be interchangeable. In order to give precision to the meaning of "sufficiently similar", this subclause specifies a series of transformations which are applied to each of the instances of "Type" to produce a *normal form* for those instances of "Type". The two instances of "Type" are defined to be identical type definitions if, and only if, their normal forms are identical ordered lists of the same lexical items (see clause 12).

**C.3.2** Each occurrence of "Type" in an ASN.1 specification is an ordered list of the lexical items defined in clause 12. The normal form is obtained by applying the transformations defined in C.3.2.1 to C.3.2.6 in that order.

**C.3.2.1** All the comments (see 12.6) are removed.

**C.3.2.2** The following transformations are not recursive and hence need only to be applied once, in any order:

- a) For a type defined by a "ValueSetTypeAssignment", its definition is replaced by a "TypeAssignment" using the same "Type" and a subtype constraint which is the contents of the "ValueSet" as specified in 16.6.
- b) For each integer type: the "NamedNumberList" (see 19.1), if any, is reordered so that the "identifier"s are in alphabetical order ("a" first, "z" last).
- c) For each enumerated type: numbers are added, as specified in 20.3, to any "EnumerationItem" (see 20.1) that is an "identifier" (without a number); then the "RootEnumeration" is reordered so that the "identifiers" are in alphabetical order ("a" first, "z" last).
- d) For each bitstring type: the "NamedBitList" (see 22.1), if any, is reordered so that the "identifiers" are in alphabetical order ("a" first, "z" last).
- e) For each object identifier value: each "ObjIdComponents" is transformed into its corresponding "NumberForm" in accordance with the semantics of clause 32 (see the example in 32.13).
- f) For each relative object identifier value (see 33.3): each "RelativeOIDComponents" is transformed into its corresponding "NumberForm" in accordance with the semantics of clause 33.
- g) For sequence types (see clause 25) and set types (see clause 27): any extension of the form "ExtensionAndException", "ExtensionAdditions", is cut and pasted to the end of the "ComponentTypeLists"; "OptionalExtensionMarker", if present, is removed.

If "TagDefault" is **IMPLICIT TAGS**, the keyword **IMPLICIT** is added to all instances of "Tag" (see 31.2) unless either:

- it is already present; or
- the reserved word **EXPLICIT** is present; or
- the type being tagged is a **CHOICE** type or;
- it is an open type.

If "TagDefault" is **AUTOMATIC TAGS**, the decision on whether to apply automatic tagging is taken according to 25.3 (the automatic tagging will be performed later on).

NOTE – Subclauses 25.4 and 27.2 specify that the presence of a "Tag" in a "ComponentType" which was inserted as a result of the replacement of "Components of Type" does not in itself prevent the automatic tagging transformation.

If "ExtensionDefault" is **EXTENSIBILITY IMPLIED**, an ellipsis ("...") is added after the "ComponentTypeLists" if it is not present.

- h) For choice type (see clause 29): "RootAlternativeTypeList" is reordered so that the identifiers of the "NameType"s are in alphabetical order ("a" first, "z" last). "OptionalExtensionMarker", if present, is removed. If "TagDefault" is **IMPLICIT TAGS**, the keyword **IMPLICIT** is added to all instances of "Tags" (see 31.2) unless either:
- it is already present; or
  - the reserved word **EXPLICIT** is present; or
  - the type being tagged is a **CHOICE** type; or
  - it is an open type.

If "TagDefault" is **AUTOMATIC TAGS**, the decision on whether to apply automatic tagging is taken according to 29.5. If "ExtensionDefault" is **EXTENSIBILITY IMPLIED**, an ellipsis ("...") is added after the "AlternativeTypeLists" if it is not present.

**C.3.2.3** The following transformations shall be applied recursively in the specified order, until a fix-point is reached:

- a) For each object identifier value (see 32.3): if the value definition begins with a "DefinedValue", the "DefinedValue" is replaced by its definition.
- b) For each relative object identifier value (see 33.3): if the value definition contains "DefinedValue"s, the "DefinedValue"s are replaced by their definition.
- c) For sequence types and set types: all instances of "**COMPONENTS OF** Type" (see clause 25) are transformed according to clauses 25 and 27.
- d) For sequence, set and choice types: if it has earlier been decided to tag automatically (see C.3.2.2 g) and h)), the automatic tagging is applied according to clauses 25, 27 and 29.
- e) For selection type: the construction is replaced by the selected alternative according to clause 30.
- f) All type references are replaced by their definitions according to the following rules:
  - If the replacing type is a reference to the type being transformed, the type reference is replaced by a special item that matches no other item than itself.
  - If the replacing type is a sequence-of type or a set-of type, the constraints following the replaced type, if any, are moved in front of the keyword **OF**.
  - If the replaced type is a parameterized type or a parameterized value set (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.2), every "DummyReference" is replaced by the corresponding "ActualParameter".
- g) All value references are replaced by their definitions; if the replaced value is a parameterized value (see Rec. ITU-T X.683 | ISO/IEC 8824-4, 8.2), every "DummyReference" is replaced by the corresponding "ActualParameter".

NOTE – Before replacing any value reference, the procedures of this annex shall be applied to ensure that the value reference identifies, through value mappings or directly, a value in its governing type.

**C.3.2.4** For set type: the "RootComponentTypeList" is reordered so that the "ComponentType"s are in alphabetical order ("a" first, "z" last).

**C.3.2.5** The following transformations shall be applied to value definitions:

- a) If an integer value is defined with an identifier, that identifier is replaced by the associated number.
- b) If a bitstring value is defined using identifiers, it is replaced by the corresponding "bstring" with all trailing zero bits removed.
- c) All white-space immediately before and after each newline (including the newline) in a "cstring" is removed.
- d) All white-space in "bstring" and "hstring" is removed.
- e) Each real value defined with base 2 is normalized so that the mantissa is odd, and each real value defined with base 10 is normalized so that the last digit of the mantissa is not 0.
- f) Each **GeneralizedTime**, **UTCTime**, **TIME**, **TIME-OF-DAY**, **DATE**, **DATE-TIME**, and **DURATION** value is replaced by a string which conforms to the rules used when encoding in DER and CER (see Rec. ITU-T X.690 | ISO/IEC 8825-1, 11.7, 11.8, and 11.9).
- g) After applying c), each **UTF8String**, **NumericString**, **PrintableString**, **IA5String**, **VisibleString (ISO646String)**, **BMPString** and **UniversalString** value is replaced by the equivalent value of type **UniversalString** written using the "Quadruple" notation (see clause 41.8).

**C.3.2.6** Any occurrence of "realnumber" shall be transformed to a "base" 10 associated "SequenceValue". Any occurrence of the "RealValue" associated with "SequenceValue" shall be transformed to the associated "SequenceValue" of the same "base", such that the last digit of the mantissa is not zero.

**C.3.3** If two instances of "Type", when transformed to their normal form, are identical lists of lexical items (see clause 12), then the two instances of "Type" are defined to be identical type definitions with the following exception: if an "objectclassreference" (see Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 7.1), an "objectreference" (see Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 7.2) or an "objectsetreference" (see Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, 7.3) appears within the normalized form of the "Type", then the two types are not defined to be identical type definitions, and value mappings (see C.4 below) will not exist between them.

NOTE – This exception was inserted to avoid the need to provide transformation rules to normal form for elements of syntax concerned with information object class, information object, and information object set notation. Similarly, specification for the normalization of all value notation and of set arithmetic notation has not been included at this time. Should there prove to be a requirement for such specification, this could be provided in a future version of this Recommendation | International Standard. The concept of identical type definitions and of value mappings was introduced to ensure that simple ASN.1 constructs could be used either by using reference names or by copying text. It was felt unnecessary to provide this functionality for more complex instances of "Type" that included information object classes, etc.

## C.4 Specification of value mappings

**C.4.1** If two occurrences of "Type" are identical type definitions under the rules of C.3, then value mappings exist between every value of one type and the corresponding value of the other type.

**C.4.2** For a type, **x1**, created from any type, **x2**, by tagging (see 31.2), value mappings are defined to exist between all the members of **x1** and the corresponding members of **x2**.

NOTE – Whilst value mappings are defined to exist between the values of **x1** and **x2** in C.4.2 above, and between the values of **x3** and **x4** in C.4.3, if such types are embedded in otherwise identical but distinct type definitions (such as **SEQUENCE** or **CHOICE** type definitions), the resulting type definitions (the **SEQUENCE** or **CHOICE** types) will not be identical type definitions, and there will be no value mappings between them.

**C.4.3** For a type, **x3**, created by selecting values from any governing type, **x4**, by the element set construct or by subtyping, value mappings are defined to exist between the members of the new type and those members of the governing type that were selected by the element set or subtyping construct. The presence or absence of an extension marker has no effect on this rule.

**C.4.4** Additional value mappings are specified in C.5 between some of the character string types.

**C.4.5** A value mapping is defined to exist between all the values of any type defined as an integer type with named values and any integer type defined without named values, or with different named values, or with different names for named values, or both.

NOTE – The existence of the value mapping does not affect any scope rule requirements on the use of the names of named values. They can only be used in a scope governed by the type in which they are defined, or by a typereference name to that type.

**C.4.6** A value mapping is defined to exist between all the values of any type defined as a bit string type with named bits and any bit string type defined without named bits, or with different named bits, or with different names for named bits, or both.

NOTE – The existence of the value mapping does not affect any scope rule requirements on the use of the names of named bits. They can only be used in a scope governed by the type in which they are defined, or by a typereference name to that type.

## C.5 Additional value mappings defined for the character string types

**C.5.1** There are two groups of restricted character string types, group A (see C.5.2) and group B (see C.5.3). Value mappings are defined to exist between all types in group A, and value references to values of these types can be used when governed by one of the other types. For the types in group B, value mappings never exist between these different types, nor between any type in group A and any type in group B.

**C.5.2** Group A consists of:

**UTF8String**  
**NumericString**  
**PrintableString**  
**IA5String**  
**VisibleString (ISO646String)**  
**UniversalString**  
**BMPString**

**C.5.3** Group B consists of:

**TeletexString** (**T61String**)  
**VideotexString**  
**GraphicString**  
**GeneralString**

**C.5.4** The value mappings in group A are specified by mapping the character string values of each type to **UniversalString**, then using the transitivity property of value mappings. To map values from one of the group A types to **UniversalString**, the string is replaced by a **UniversalString** of the same length with each character mapped as specified below.

**C.5.5** Formally, the set of abstract values in **UTF8String** is the same set of abstract values that occur in **UniversalString** but with a different tag (see 41.16), and each abstract value in **UTF8String** is defined to map to the corresponding abstract value in **UniversalString**.

**C.5.6** The glyphs (printed character shapes) for characters used to form the types **NumericString** and **PrintableString** have recognizable and unambiguous mappings to a subset of the glyphs assigned to the first 128 characters of ISO/IEC 10646. The mapping for these types is defined using this mapping of glyphs.

**C.5.7** **IA5String** and **VisibleString** are mapped into **UniversalString** by mapping each character into the **UniversalString** character that has the identical (32-bit) value in the BER encoding of **UniversalString** as the (8-bit) value of the BER encoding of **IA5String** and **VisibleString**.

**C.5.8** **BMPString** is formally a subset of **UniversalString**, and corresponding abstract values have value mappings.

## **C.6 Specific type and value compatibility requirements**

This subclause uses the value mapping concept to provide precise text for the legality of certain ASN.1 constructs.

**C.6.1** Any "Value" occurrence, *x-notation*, with a governing type, **Y**, identifies the value, *y-val*, in the governing type **Y** that has a value mapping to the value *x-val* specified by *x-notation*. It is a requirement that such a value exists.

For example, consider the occurrence of **x** in the last line of the following:

**X ::= [0] INTEGER (0..30)**

**x X ::= 29**

**Y ::= [1] INTEGER (25..35)**

**Z1 ::= Y (x | 30)**

These ASN.1 constructs are legal, and in the last assignment the *x-notation* **x** is referencing the *x-val* 29 in **X** and, through value mapping, identifies the *y-val* 29 in **Y**. The *x-notation* 30 is referencing the *y-val* 30 in **Y**, and **Z1** is the set of values 29 and 30. On the other hand, the assignment:

**Z2 ::= Y (x | 20)**

is illegal because there is no *y-val* to which the *x-notation* 20 can refer.

**C.6.2** Any "Type" occurrence, *t-notation*, that has a governing type, **v**, identifies the complete set of values in the root of the governing type **v** that have value mappings to any of the values in the root of the "Type" *t-notation*. This set is required to contain at least one value.

For example, consider the occurrence of **w** in the last line of the following:

**V ::= [0] INTEGER (0..30)**

**W ::= [1] INTEGER (25..35)**

**Y ::= [2] INTEGER (31..35)**

**Z1 ::= V (W | 24)**

**w** contributes values 25-30 to the set arithmetic resulting in **Z1** having the values 24-30. On the other hand, the assignment:

**Z2 ::= V (Y | 24)**

is illegal because there are no values in **Y** which map to a value in **v**.

**C.6.3** The type of any value supplied as an actual parameter is required to have a value mapping from that value to one of the values in the type governing the dummy parameter, and it is a value of that governing type which is identified.

**C.6.4** If a "Type" is supplied as an actual parameter for a dummy parameter which is a value set dummy parameter, then all values of that "Type" are required to have value mappings to values in the governor of the value set dummy parameter. The actual parameter selects the total set of values in the governor which have mappings to the "Type".

**C.6.5** In specifying the type, **A**, of a dummy parameter that is a value or a value set parameter, it is an illegal specification unless for all values of **A**, and for every instance of use of **A** on the right-hand side of the assignment, that value of **A** can legally be applied in place of the dummy parameter.

## C.7 Examples

**C.7.1** This subclause provides examples to illustrate C.3 and C.4.

### C.7.2 Example 1

```
X ::= SEQUENCE          X1 ::= SEQUENCE
{name VisibleString,   {name VisibleString,
age INTEGER}           -- comment --
                      age INTEGER}

X2 ::= [8] SEQUENCE     X3 ::= SEQUENCE
{name VisibleString,   {name VisibleString,
age INTEGER}           age AgeType}

AgeType ::= INTEGER
```

**x**, **x1**, **x2**, and **x3** are all identical type definitions. Differences of white-space and comment are not visible, nor does the use of the **AgeType** type reference in **x3** affect the type definition. Note, however, that if any of the identifiers for the elements of the sequence were changed, the types would cease to be identical definitions, and there would be no value mappings between them.

### C.7.3 Example 2

```
B ::= SET              B1 ::= SET
{name VisibleString,  {age INTEGER,
age INTEGER}          name VisibleString}
```

are identical type definitions provided neither is in a module with **AUTOMATIC TAGS** in the module header, otherwise they are not identical type definitions, and value mappings will not exist between them. Similar examples can be written using **CHOICE** and **ENUMERATED** (using the "Identifier" form of "EnumerationItem").

### C.7.4 Example 3

```
C ::= SET              C1 ::= SET
{name [0]VisibleString, {name VisibleString,
age INTEGER}           age INTEGER (1..64)}
```

are not identical type definitions, nor are either of them identical type definitions to either of **B** or **B1**, and there are no value mappings between any of the values of **C** and **C1**, nor between either of them and either of **B** or **B1**.

### C.7.5 Example 4

```
x INTEGER { y (2) } ::= 3
z INTEGER ::= x
```

is legal, and assigns the value 3 to **z** through the value mapping defined in C.4.5.

### C.7.6 Example 5

```
b1 BIT STRING ::= '101'B
b2 BIT STRING {version1(0), version2(1), version3(2)} ::= b1
```

is legal, and assigns the value {**version1**, **version3**} to **b2**.

**C.7.7 Example 6**

With the definitions of C.1.1, **SEQUENCE** elements of the form:

**X DEFAULT y**

are legal, where **x** is any of **A, B, C, D, E, or F**, or any of the text to the right of the type assignments to these names, and **y** is any of **a, b, c, d, e, or f**, with the following exceptions: **E DEFAULT y** is illegal for all of **a, b, c, d, f**, and **C DEFAULT e** is illegal, because in these cases there are no value mappings available from the defaulting value reference into the type being defaulted.

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## Annex D

**Assigned object identifier and OID internationalized resource identifier values**

(This annex forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard.)

This annex records object identifier, OID internationalized resource identifier and object descriptor values assigned in the ASN.1 series of Recommendations | International Standards, and provides an ASN.1 module for use in referencing those values.

**D.1 Values assigned in this Recommendation | International Standard**

The following values are assigned in this Recommendation | International Standard:

**Subclause 41.3**

Object Identifier Value:

```
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) characterStrings(1) numericString(0) }
```

OID internationalized Resource Identifier Value:

```
"/Joint-ISO-ITU-T/ASN.1/Specification/Character_Strings/Numeric_String"
```

Object Descriptor Value: "NumericString ASN.1 type"

**Subclause 41.5**

Object Identifier Value:

```
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) characterStrings(1) printableString(1) }
```

OID Internationalized Resource Identifier Value:

```
"/Joint-ISO-ITU-T/ASN.1/Specification/Character_Strings/Printable_String"
```

Object Descriptor Value: "PrintableString ASN.1 type"

**Subclause 42.1**

Object Identifier Value:

```
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) iso10646(0) }
```

OID Internationalized Resource Identifier Value:

```
"/Joint-ISO-ITU-T/ASN.1/Specification/Modules/ISO_10646"
```

Object Descriptor Value: "ASN.1 Character Module"

**Subclause D.2**

Object Identifier Value:

```
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) object-identifiers(1) }
```

OID Internationalized Resource Identifier Value:

```
"/Joint-ISO-ITU-T/ASN.1/Specification/Modules/Object_Identifiers"
```

Object Descriptor Value: "ASN.1 Object Identifier Module"

**D.2 Object identifiers in the ASN.1 and encoding rules standards**

This clause specifies an ASN.1 module which contains the definition of a value reference name for each object identifier value defined in the ASN.1 standards (Rec. ITU-T X.680 | ISO/IEC 8824-1 to Rec. ITU-T X.693 | ISO/IEC 8825-4).

NOTE – These values are available for use in the value notation of the OBJECT IDENTIFIER type and types derived from it. All of the value references defined in the module specified in this clause are exported and have to be imported by any module that wishes to use them.

```
ASN1-Object-Identifier-Module { joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) object-identifiers(1) }
```

```
"/Joint-ISO-ITU-T/ASN.1/Specification/Modules/Object_Identifiers"
```

```
DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN
```

```
-- NumericString ASN.1 type (see 41.3) --
```

```
numericString OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
```

```
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) characterStrings(1) numericString(0) }
```

```

-- PrintableString ASN.1 type (see 41.5) --
printableString OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) characterStrings(1) printableString(1) }

-- ASN.1 Character Module (see 42.1) --
asn1CharacterModule OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) iso10646(0) }

-- ASN.1 Object Identifier Module (this module) --
asn1ObjectIdentifierModule OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) specification(0) modules(0) object-identifiers(1) }

-- BER encoding of a single ASN.1 type --
ber OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) basic-encoding(1) }

-- CER encoding of a single ASN.1 type --
cer OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) ber-derived(2) canonical-encoding(0) }

-- DER encoding of a single ASN.1 type --
der OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) ber-derived(2) distinguished-encoding(1) }

-- PER encoding of a single ASN.1 type (basic aligned) --
perBasicAligned OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) packed-encoding(3) basic(0) aligned(0) }

-- PER encoding of a single ASN.1 type (basic unaligned) --
perBasicUnaligned OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) packed-encoding(3) basic(0) unaligned(1) }

-- PER encoding of a single ASN.1 type (canonical aligned) --
perCanonicalAligned OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) packed-encoding(3) canonical(1) aligned(0) }

-- PER encoding of a single ASN.1 type (canonical unaligned) --
perCanonicalUnaligned OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) packed-encoding(3) canonical(1) unaligned(1) }

-- XER encoding of a single ASN.1 type (basic) --
xerBasic OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) xml-encoding(5) basic(0) }

-- XER encoding of a single ASN.1 type (canonical) --
xerCanonical OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) xml-encoding(5) canonical(1) }

-- EXER encoding of a single ASN.1 type (extended) --
xerExtended OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
{ joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) xml-encoding(5) extended(2) }

```

END -- ASN1-Object-Identifier-Module --

## Annex E

### Encoding references

(This annex forms an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard.)

**E.1** This annex specifies the currently defined encoding references and the Recommendation | International Standard that specifies the syntactic form (and semantics) of encoding instructions with that encoding reference (except for the **TAG** encoding reference, which has no associated encoding instructions).

NOTE – It is recommended that, if an encoding reference that is not specified here appears in an ASN.1 specification, the associated encoding instructions be ignored with (only) a warning diagnostic.

**E.2** The encoding references in column 1 of Table E.1 are currently defined. The syntax and semantics of the associated encoding instructions (where applicable) are defined in the Recommendation | International Standard referenced in column 2 of Table E.1.

**Table E.1 – Standards defining the semantics associated with a given encoding reference**

Encoding reference	Refer to standard
TAG	This Recommendation   International Standard
XER	Rec. ITU-T X.693 (2021)   ISO/IEC 8825-4 :2021
PER	Rec. ITU-T X.695 (2021)   ISO/IEC 8825-6 :2021

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## Annex F

### Assignment and use of arcs in the International Object Identifier tree

(This annex does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard.)

#### F.1 General

**F.1.1** The International Object Identifier tree is specified in Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 Annex A. It defines a hierarchy of registration authorities, each of which assigns:

- a) a primary integer identifier (unambiguous and unique) to each subordinate arc to identify the nodes beneath the node it is responsible for;
- b) (optionally) secondary identifiers to each subordinate arc that can aid human-readability of the subordinate arc identification, but are not necessarily unambiguous;
- c) an integer-valued Unicode label (unambiguous) that is the character encoding of the primary integer value of the arc;
- d) (optionally) further Unicode labels (unambiguous) that provide alternative identifications of subordinate arcs.

**F.1.2** Unicode labels are (with minor restrictions) any sequence of Unicode characters.

**F.1.3** Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1, Annex A (and the Recommendations | International Standards and procedures it references) defines the international object identifier tree.

NOTE – An informal repository of information about OID allocations is available at <http://www.oid-info.com>.

#### F.2 Use of the International Object Identifier tree by the object identifier (OBJECT IDENTIFIER) type

**F.2.1** This type (and its value notations and encodings) provides a means of identifying a node of the International Object Identifier tree using only the primary integer values of each arc (with the optional inclusion of secondary identifiers in value notation, XML value notation, and XML encodings).

**F.2.2** It has been in long-term use, and provides a compact means of identifying a node of the International Object Identifier tree in binary-encoded computer communication.

#### F.3 Use of the International Object Identifier tree by the OID internationalized resource identifier (OID-IRI) type

**F.3.1** This type (and its value notations and encodings) provides a means of identifying a node of the International Object Identifier tree using only the Unicode labels of each arc.

**F.3.2** The same syntax also forms the main body of the "oid" IRI and URI schemes registered with IANA (see Annex F of Rec. ITU-T X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1).

## Annex G

## Examples and hints

(This annex does not form an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard.)

This annex contains examples of the use of ASN.1 in the description of (hypothetical) data structures. It also contains hints, or guidelines, for the use of the various features of ASN.1. Unless otherwise stated, an environment of **AUTOMATIC TAGS** is assumed.

### G.1 Example of a personnel record

The use of ASN.1 is illustrated by means of a simple, hypothetical personnel record.

#### G.1.1 Informal description of Personnel Record

The structure of the personnel record and its value for a particular individual are shown below.

Name:	John P Smith
Title:	Director
Employee Number:	51
Date of Hire:	17 September 1971
Name of Spouse:	Mary T Smith
Number of Children:	2
Child Information	
Name:	Ralph T Smith
Date of Birth	11 November 1957
Child Information	
Name:	Susan B Jones
Date of Birth	17 July 1959

#### G.1.2 ASN.1 description of the record structure

The structure of every personnel record is formally described below using the standard notation for data types.

```

PersonnelRecord ::= [APPLICATION 0] SET
{
  name      Name,
  title     VisibleString,
  number    EmployeeNumber,
  dateOfHire Date,
  nameOfSpouse Name,
  children  SEQUENCE OF ChildInformation DEFAULT {}
}

ChildInformation ::= SET
{
  name      Name,
  dateOfBirth Date
}

Name ::= [APPLICATION 1] SEQUENCE
{
  givenName  VisibleString,
  initial    VisibleString,
  familyName VisibleString
}

EmployeeNumber ::= [APPLICATION 2] INTEGER
Date ::= [APPLICATION 3] VisibleString -- YYYY MMDD

```

This example illustrates an aspect of the parsing of the ASN.1 syntax. The syntactic construct **DEFAULT** can only be applied to a component of a **SEQUENCE** or a **SET**, it cannot be applied to an element of a **SEQUENCE OF**. Thus, the **DEFAULT { }** in **PersonnelRecord** applies to **children**, not to **ChildInformation**.

### G.1.3 ASN.1 description of a record value

The value of John Smith's personnel record is formally described below using the standard notation for data values.

```
{
  name      {givenName "John", initial "P", familyName "Smith"},
  title     "Director",
  number    51,
  dateOfHire "19710917",
  nameOfSpouse {givenName "Mary", initial "T", familyName "Smith"},
  children
  { {name {givenName "Ralph", initial "T", familyName "Smith"},
    dateOfBirth "19571111"},
    {name {givenName "Susan", initial "B", familyName "Jones"},
    dateOfBirth "19590717"}
  }
}
```

or in XML value notation:

```
person ::=
<PersonnelRecord>
  <name>
    <givenName>John</givenName>
    <initial>P</initial>
    <familyName>Smith</familyName>
  </name>
  <title>Director</title>
  <number>51</number>
  <dateOfHire>19710917</dateOfHire>
  <nameOfSpouse>
    <givenName>Mary</givenName>
    <initial>T</initial>
    <familyName>Smith</familyName>
  </nameOfSpouse>
  <children>
    <ChildInformation>
      <name>
        <givenName>Ralph</givenName>
        <initial>T</initial>
        <familyName>Smith</familyName>
      </name>
      <dateOfBirth>19571111</dateOfBirth>
    </ChildInformation>
    <ChildInformation>
      <name>
        <givenName>Susan</givenName>
        <initial>B</initial>
        <familyName>Jones</familyName>
      </name>
      <dateOfBirth>19590717</dateOfBirth>
    </ChildInformation>
  </children>
</PersonnelRecord>
```

## G.2 Guidelines for use of the notation

The data types and formal notation defined by this Recommendation | International Standard are flexible, allowing a wide range of protocols to be designed using them. This flexibility, however, can sometimes lead to confusion, especially when the notation is approached for the first time. This annex attempts to minimize confusion by giving guidelines for, and examples of, the use of the notation. For each of the built-in data types, one or more usage guidelines are offered. The character string types (for example, **VisibleString**) and the types defined in clauses 46 to 48 are not dealt with here.

**G.2.1 Boolean**

**G.2.1.1** Use a boolean type to model the values of a logical (that is, two-state) variable, for example, the answer to a yes-or-no question.

EXAMPLE

**Employed ::= BOOLEAN**

**G.2.1.2** When assigning a reference name to a boolean type, choose one that describes the *true* state.

EXAMPLE

**Married ::= BOOLEAN**

not

**MaritalStatus ::= BOOLEAN**

**G.2.2 Integer**

**G.2.2.1** Use an integer type to model the values (for all practical purposes, unlimited in magnitude) of a cardinal or integer variable.

EXAMPLE

**CheckingAccountBalance ::= INTEGER -- *in cents; negative means overdrawn.***

**balance CheckingAccountBalance ::= 0**

or using XML value notation:

**balance ::= <CheckingAccountBalance>0</CheckingAccountBalance>**

**G.2.2.2** Define the minimum and maximum allowed values of an integer type as named numbers.

EXAMPLE

**DayOfTheMonth ::= INTEGER {first(1), last(31)}**

**today DayOfTheMonth ::= first**

**unknown DayOfTheMonth ::= 0**

or using XML value notation:

**today ::= <DayOfTheMonth><first/></DayOfTheMonth>**

**unknown ::= <DayOfTheMonth>0</DayOfTheMonth>**

Note that the named numbers **first** and **last** were chosen because of their semantic significance to the reader, and does not exclude the possibility of **DayOfTheMonth** having other values which may be less than 1, greater than 31 or between 1 and 31.

To restrict the value of **DayOfTheMonth** to just **first** and **last**, one would write:

**DayOfTheMonth ::= INTEGER {first(1), last(31)} (first | last)**

and to restrict the value of the **DayOfTheMonth** to all values between 1 and 31, inclusive, one would write:

**DayOfTheMonth ::= INTEGER {first(1), last(31)} (first .. last)**

**dayOfTheMonth DayOfTheMonth ::= 4**

or using XML value notation:

**dayOfTheMonth ::= <DayOfTheMonth>4</DayOfTheMonth>**

**G.2.3 Enumerated**

**G.2.3.1** Use an enumerated type to model the values of a variable with three or more states. Assign values starting with zero if their only constraint is distinctness.

EXAMPLE

**DayOfTheWeek ::= ENUMERATED {sunday(0), monday(1), tuesday(2),  
wednesday(3), thursday(4), friday(5), saturday(6)}**

**firstDay DayOfTheWeek ::= sunday**

or using XML value notation:

```
firstDay ::= <DayOfTheWeek><sunday/></DayOfTheWeek>
```

Note that while the enumerations **sunday**, **monday**, etc., were chosen because of their semantic significance to the reader, **DayOfTheWeek** is restricted to assuming one of these values and no other. Further, only the name **sunday**, **monday**, etc., can be assigned to a value; the equivalent integer values are not allowed.

**G.2.3.2** Use an extensible enumerated type to model the values of a variable that has just two states now, but that may have additional states in a future version of the protocol.

EXAMPLE

```
MaritalStatus ::= ENUMERATED {single, married}
-- First version of MaritalStatus
```

in anticipation of:

```
MaritalStatus ::= ENUMERATED {single, married, ..., widowed}
-- Second version of MaritalStatus
```

and later yet:

```
MaritalStatus ::= ENUMERATED {single, married, ..., widowed, divorced}
-- Third version of MaritalStatus
```

## G.2.4 Real

**G.2.4.1** Use a real type to model an approximate number.

EXAMPLE

```
AngleInRadians ::= REAL
```

```
pi REAL ::= {mantissa 3141592653589793238462643383279, base 10, exponent -30}
```

or using the alternate value notation for **REAL**:

```
pi REAL ::= 3.14159265358979323846264338327
```

or using XML value notation:

```
pi ::=
<REAL>
  3.14159265358979323846264338327
</REAL>
```

**G.2.4.2** Application designers may wish to ensure full interworking with real values despite differences in floating point hardware, and in implementation decisions to use (for example) single or double length floating point for an application. This can be achieved by the following:

```
App-X-Real ::= REAL (WITH COMPONENTS {
  mantissa (-16777215..16777215),
  base (2),
  exponent (-125..128) } )
```

/\*

*Senders shall not transmit values outside these ranges  
and conforming receivers shall be capable of receiving  
and processing all values in these ranges.*

\*/

```
girth App-X-Real ::= {mantissa 16, base 2, exponent 1}
```

or using XML value notation:

```
girth ::=
<App-X-Real>
  32
</App-X-Real>
```

## G.2.5 Bit string

**G.2.5.1** Use a bit string type to model binary data whose format and length are unspecified, or specified elsewhere, and whose length in bits is not necessarily a multiple of eight.

## EXAMPLE

```

G3FacsimilePage ::= BIT STRING
-- a sequence of bits conforming to Rec. ITU-T T.4.
image G3FacsimilePage ::= '100110100100001110110'B
trailer BIT STRING ::= '0123456789ABCDEF'H
body1 G3FacsimilePage ::= '1101'B
body2 G3FacsimilePage ::= '1101000'B

```

or using XML value notation:

```

image ::= <G3FacSimile>100110100100001110110</G3FacSimile>
trailer ::=
  <BIT_STRING>
    0000 0001 0010 0011 0100 0101 0110 0111 1000 1001 1010 1011
    1100 1101 1110 1111
  </BIT_STRING>
body1 ::= <G3FacSimile>1101</G3FacSimile>
body2 ::= <G3FacSimile>1101000</G3FacSimile>

```

Note that **body1** and **body2** are distinct abstract values because trailing 0 bits are significant (due to there being no "NamedBitList" in the definition of **G3FacsimilePage**).

**G.2.5.2** Use a bit string type with a size constraint to model the values of a fixed sized bit field.

## EXAMPLE

```

BitField ::= BIT STRING (SIZE (12))
map1 BitField ::= '100110100100'B
map2 BitField ::= '9A4'H
map3 BitField ::= '1001101001'B -- Illegal - violates size constraint.

```

or using XML value notation:

```

map1 ::= <BitField>100110100100</BitField>

```

Note that **map1** and **map2** are the same abstract value, for the four trailing bits of **map2** are not significant.

**G.2.5.3** Use a bit string type to model the values of a **bit map**, an ordered collection of logical variables indicating whether a particular condition holds for each of a correspondingly ordered collection of objects.

```

DaysOfTheWeek ::= BIT STRING {
  sunday(0), monday (1), tuesday(2),
  wednesday(3), thursday(4), friday(5),
  saturday(6) } (SIZE (0..7))
sunnyDaysLastWeek1 DaysOfTheWeek ::= {sunday, monday, wednesday}
sunnyDaysLastWeek2 DaysOfTheWeek ::= '1101'B
sunnyDaysLastWeek3 DaysOfTheWeek ::= '1101000'B
sunnyDaysLastWeek4 DaysOfTheWeek ::= '11010000'B -- Illegal

```

or using XML value notation:

```

sunnyDaysLastWeek1 ::=
  <DaysOfTheWeek>
    <sunday/><monday/><wednesday/>
  </DaysOfTheWeek>
sunnyDaysLastWeek2 ::= <DaysOfTheWeek>1101</DaysOfTheWeek>
sunnyDaysLastWeek3 ::= <DaysOfTheWeek>1101000</DaysOfTheWeek>

```

Note that if the bit string value is less than 7 bits long, then the missing bits indicate a cloudy day for those days, hence the first three values above have the same abstract value.

**G.2.5.4** Use a bit string type to model the values of a *bit map*, a fixed-size ordered collection of logical variables indicating whether a particular condition holds for each of a correspondingly ordered collection of objects.

```

DaysOfTheWeek ::= BIT STRING {
    sunday(0), monday (1), tuesday(2),
    wednesday(3), thursday(4), friday(5),
    saturday(6) } (SIZE (7))
sunnyDaysLastWeek1 DaysOfTheWeek ::= {sunday, monday, wednesday}
sunnyDaysLastWeek2 DaysOfTheWeek ::= '1101'B -- Illegal
-- violates size constraint.
sunnyDaysLastWeek3 DaysOfTheWeek ::= '1101000'B
sunnyDaysLastWeek4 DaysOfTheWeek ::= '11010000'B -- Illegal
-- violates size constraint.

```

Note that the first and third values have the same abstract value.

**G.2.5.5** Use a bit string type with named bits to model the values of a collection of related logical variables.

EXAMPLE

```

PersonalStatus ::= BIT STRING
    {married(0), employed(1), veteran(2), collegeGraduate(3)}
billClinton PersonalStatus ::= {married, employed, collegeGraduate}
hillaryClinton PersonalStatus ::= '110100'B

```

or using XML value notation:

```

billClinton ::=
<PersonalStatus>
<married/>
<employed/>
<collegeGraduate/>
</PersonalStatus>
hillaryClinton ::= <PersonalStatus>110100</PersonalStatus>

```

Note that `billClinton` and `hillaryClinton` have the same abstract values.

## G.2.6 Octet string

**G.2.6.1** Use an octet string type to model binary data whose format and length are unspecified, or specified elsewhere, and whose length in bits is a multiple of eight.

EXAMPLE

```

G4FacsimileImage ::= OCTET STRING
-- a sequence of octets conforming to Rec. ITU-T T.5 and CCITT Rec. T.6
image G4FacsimileImage ::= '3FE2EBAD471005'H

```

or using XML value notation:

```

image ::= <G4FacSimileImage>3FE2EBAD471005</G4FacSimileImage>

```

**G.2.6.2** Use a restricted character string type in preference to an octet string type, where an appropriate one is available.

EXAMPLE

```

Surname ::= PrintableString
president Surname ::= "Clinton"

```

or using XML value notation:

```

president ::= <Surname>Clinton</Surname>

```

## G.2.7 UniversalString, BMPString and UTF8String

Use the `BMPString` type or the `UTF8String` type to model any string of information which consists solely of characters from the ISO/IEC 10646 Basic Multilingual Plane (BMP), and `UniversalString` or `UTF8String` to model any string which consists of ISO/IEC 10646 characters not confined to the BMP.

**G.2.7.1** Use `Level11` or `Level12` to denote that the implementation level places restrictions on the use of combining characters.

## EXAMPLE

**RussianName ::= Cyrillic (Level1)**

-- *RussianName uses no combining characters.*

**SaudiName ::= BasicArabic (SIZE (1..100) ^ Level2)**

-- *SaudiName uses a subset of combining characters.*

Representation of letter Σ:

**greekCapitalLetterSigma BMPString ::= {0, 0, 3, 163}**

or using XML value notation:

**greekCapitalLetterSigma ::= <BMPString>#x03a3;</BMPString>**

Representation of string "f → ∞":

**rightwardsArrow UTF8String ::= {0, 0, 33, 146}**

**infinity UTF8String ::= {0, 0, 34, 30}**

**property UTF8String ::= {"f ", rightwardsArrow, " ", infinity}**

or using XML value notation:

**property ::= <UTF8String>f &#x2192; &#x221E;</UTF8String>**

**G.2.7.2** A collection can be expanded to be a selected subset (i.e., include all characters in the BASIC LATIN collection) by use of the "UnionMark" (see clause 50).

## EXAMPLE

**KatakanaAndBasicLatin ::= UniversalString (FROM (Katakana | BasicLatin))**

**G.2.8 CHARACTER STRING**

Use the unrestricted character string type to model any string of information which cannot be modelled using one of the restricted character string types. Be sure to specify the repertoire of characters and their coding into octets.

## EXAMPLE

**PackedBCDString ::= CHARACTER STRING (WITH COMPONENTS {  
 identification (WITH COMPONENTS {  
 fixed PRESENT })**

*/\* The abstract and transfer syntaxes shall be  
 packedBCDString-AbstractSyntaxId and  
 packedBCDString-TransferSyntaxId defined below.  
 \*/*

**})**

*/\* object identifier value for a character abstract syntax  
 (character set) whose alphabet  
 is the digits 0 through 9.  
 \*/*

**packedBCDString-AbstractSyntaxId OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=**  
**{ joint-iso-itu-t example(999) packedBCD(2) charSet(0) }**

*/\* object identifier value for a character transfer syntax that  
 packs two digits per octet, each digit encoded as 0000 to  
 1001, 1111<sub>2</sub> used for padding.  
 \*/*

**packedBCDString-TransferSyntaxId OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=**  
**{ joint-iso-itu-t example(999) packedBCD(2)  
 characterTransferSyntax(1) }**

*/\* The encoding of PackedBCDString will contain only the defined  
 encoding of the characters, with any necessary length field, and in  
 the case of BER with a field carrying the tag. The object  
 identifier values are not carried, as "fixed" has been specified.  
 \*/*

or using XML value notation:

```
packedBCDString-AbstractSyntaxId ::=
<OBJECT_IDENTIFIER>
  joint-iso-itu-t.example(999).packedBCD(2).charSet(0)
</OBJECT_IDENTIFIER>
```

```
packedBCDString-TransferSyntaxId ::=
<OBJECT_IDENTIFIER>
  joint-iso-itu-t.example(999).packedBCD(2).characterTransferSyntax(1)
</OBJECT_IDENTIFIER>
```

or:

```
packedBCDString-AbstractSyntaxId ::=
<OBJECT_IDENTIFIER>2.999.2.0</OBJECT_IDENTIFIER>

packedBCDString-TransferSyntaxId ::=
<OBJECT_IDENTIFIER>2.999.2.1</OBJECT_IDENTIFIER>
```

NOTE – Encoding rules do not necessarily encode values of the type **CHARACTER STRING** in a form that always includes the object identifier values, although they do guarantee that the abstract value is preserved in the encoding.

## G.2.9 Null

Use a null type to indicate the effective absence of a component of a sequence.

EXAMPLE

```
PatientIdentifier ::= SEQUENCE {
  name      VisibleString,
  roomNumber CHOICE {
    room      INTEGER,
    outPatient NULL -- if an out-patient --
  }
}

lastPatient PatientIdentifier ::= {
  name      "Jane Doe",
  roomNumber outPatient : NULL
}
```

or using XML value notation:

```
lastPatient ::=
<PatientIdentifier>
  <name>Jane Doe</name>
  <roomNumber><outPatient/></roomNumber>
</PatientIdentifier>
```

## G.2.10 Sequence and sequence-of

**G.2.10.1** Use a sequence-of type to model a collection of variables whose types are the same, whose number is large or unpredictable, and whose order is significant.

EXAMPLE

```
NamesOfMemberNations ::= SEQUENCE OF VisibleString
-- in alphabetical order

firstTwo NamesOfMemberNations ::= {"Australia", "Austria"}
```

or, using the optional identifier:

```
NamesOfMemberNations2 ::= SEQUENCE OF memberNation VisibleString
-- in alphabetical order

firstTwo2 NamesOfMemberNations2 ::=
{memberNation "Australia", memberNation "Austria"}
```

Using XML value notation, the above two values are as follows:

```
firstTwo ::=
<NamesOfMemberNations>
  <VisibleString>Australia</VisibleString>
```

```

    <VisibleString>Austria</VisibleString>
</NamesOfMemberNations>

firstTwo2 ::=
<NamesOfMemberNations2>
    <memberNation>Australia</memberNation>
    <memberNation>Austria</memberNation>
</NamesOfMemberNations2>

```

**G.2.10.2** Use a sequence type to model a collection of variables whose types are the same, whose number is known and modest, and whose order is significant, provided that the make-up of the collection is unlikely to change from one version of the protocol to the next.

EXAMPLE

```

NamesOfOfficers ::= SEQUENCE {
    president      VisibleString,
    vicePresident   VisibleString,
    secretary       VisibleString}

acmeCorp NamesOfOfficers ::= {
    president      "Jane Doe",
    vicePresident   "John Doe",
    secretary       "Joe Doe"}

```

or using XML value notation:

```

acmeCorp ::=
<NamesOfOfficers>
    <president>Jane Doe</president>
    <vicePresident>John Doe</vicePresident>
    <secretary>Joe Doe</secretary>
</NamesOfOfficers>

```

**G.2.10.3** Use an inextensible sequence type to model a collection of variables whose types differ, whose number is known and modest, and whose order is significant, provided that the make-up of the collection is unlikely to change from one version of the protocol to the next.

EXAMPLE

```

Credentials ::= SEQUENCE {
    userName      VisibleString,
    password      VisibleString,
    accountNumber INTEGER}

```

**G.2.10.4** Use an extensible sequence type to model a collection of variables whose order is significant, whose number currently is known and is modest, but which is expected to be increased:

EXAMPLE

```

Record ::= SEQUENCE {-- First version of protocol containing "Record"
    userName      VisibleString,
    password      VisibleString,
    accountNumber INTEGER,
    ...,
    ...
}

```

in anticipation of:

```

Record ::= SEQUENCE {-- Second version of protocol containing "Record"
    userName      VisibleString,
    password      VisibleString,
    accountNumber INTEGER,
    ...,
    [[2:         -- Extension addition added in protocol version 2
    lastLoggedIn  GeneralizedTime OPTIONAL,
    minutesLastLoggedIn  INTEGER
    ]],
    ...
}

```

and later yet (version 3 of the protocol made no additions to **Record**):

```

Record ::= SEQUENCE {-- Third version of protocol containing "Record"
  userName      VisibleString,
  password      VisibleString,
  accountNumber INTEGER,
  ...,
  [[2:          -- Extension addition added in protocol version 2
    lastLoggedIn GeneralizedTime OPTIONAL,
    minutesLastLoggedIn INTEGER
  ]],
  [[4:          -- Extension addition added in protocol version 3
    certificate  Certificate,
    thumb       ThumbPrint OPTIONAL
  ]],
  ...
}

```

### G.2.11 Set and set-of

**G.2.11.1** Use a set type to model a collection of variables whose number is known and modest and whose order is insignificant. If automatic tagging is not in effect, identify each variable by context-specifically tagging it as shown below. (With automatic tagging, the tags are not needed.)

EXAMPLE

```

UserName ::= SET {
  personalName      [0] VisibleString,
  organizationName  [1] VisibleString,
  countryName       [2] VisibleString}

user UserName ::= {
  countryName       "Nigeria",
  personalName      "Jonas Maruba",
  organizationName  "Meteorology, Ltd."}

```

or using XML value notation:

```

user ::=
<UserName>
  <countryName>Nigeria</countryName>
  <personalName>Jonas Maruba</personalName>
  <organizationName>Meteorology, Ltd.</organizationName>
</UserName>

```

**G.2.11.2** Use a set type with **OPTIONAL** to model a collection of variables that is a (proper or improper) subset of another collection of variables whose number is known and reasonably small and whose order is insignificant. If automatic tagging is not in effect, identify each variable by context-specifically tagging it as shown below. (With automatic tagging, the tags are not needed.)

EXAMPLE

```

UserName ::= SET {
  personalName      [0] VisibleString,
  organizationName  [1] VisibleString OPTIONAL
    -- defaults to that of the local organization -- ,
  countryName       [2] VisibleString OPTIONAL
    -- defaults to that of the local country -- }

```

**G.2.11.3** Use an extensible set type to model a collection of variables whose make-up is likely to change from one version of the protocol to the next. The following assumes **AUTOMATIC TAGS** was specified in the module definition.

EXAMPLE

```

UserName ::= SET {
  personalName      VisibleString,          -- First version of "UserName"
  organizationName  VisibleString OPTIONAL ,
  countryName       VisibleString OPTIONAL,
  ...,
  ...
}

```

```
user UserName ::= { personalName "Jonas Maruba" }
```

or using XML value notation:

```
user ::=
<UserName>
  <personalName>Jonas Maruba</personalName>
</UserName>
```

in anticipation of:

```
UserName ::= SET { -- Second version of "UserName"
  personalName      VisibleString,
  organizationName  VisibleString OPTIONAL,
  countryName       VisibleString OPTIONAL,
  ...,
  [[2:              -- Extension addition added in protocol version 2
    internetEmailAddress VisibleString,
    faxNumber           VisibleString OPTIONAL
  ]],
  ...
}

user UserName ::= {
  personalName      "Jonas Maruba",
  internetEmailAddress "jonas@meteor.ngo.com"
}
```

or using XML value notation:

```
user ::=
<UserName>
  <personalName>Jonas Maruba</personalName>
  <internetEmailAddress>jonas@meteor.ngo.com</internetEmailAddress>
</UserName>
```

and later yet (versions 3 and 4 of the protocol made no additions to **UserName**):

```
UserName ::= SET { -- Fifth version of protocol containing "UserName"
  personalName      VisibleString,
  organizationName  VisibleString OPTIONAL,
  countryName       VisibleString OPTIONAL,
  ...,
  [[2:              -- Extension addition added in version 2
    internetEmailAddress VisibleString,
    faxNumber           VisibleString OPTIONAL
  ]],
  [[5:              -- Extension addition added in version 5
    phoneNumber       VisibleString OPTIONAL
  ]],
  ...
}

user UserName ::= {
  personalName      "Jonas Maruba",
  internetEmailAddress "jonas@meteor.ngo.com"
}
```

or using XML value notation:

```
user ::=
<UserName>
  <personalName>Jonas Maruba</personalName>
  <internetEmailAddress>jonas@meteor.ngo.com</internetEmailAddress>
</UserName>
```

**G.2.11.4** Use a set-of type to model a collection of variables whose types are the same and whose order is insignificant.

EXAMPLE

```
Keywords ::= SET OF VisibleString -- in arbitrary order
```

```
someASN1Keywords Keywords ::= {"INTEGER", "BOOLEAN", "REAL"}
```

or, using the optional identifier:

```
Keywords2 ::= SET OF keyword VisibleString -- in arbitrary order
someASN1Keywords2 Keywords2 ::= {keyword "INTEGER", keyword "BOOLEAN",
keyword "REAL"}
```

Using XML value notation, the above two values are as follows:

```
someASN1Keywords ::=
<Keywords>
  <VisibleString>INTEGER</VisibleString>
  <VisibleString>BOOLEAN</VisibleString>
  <VisibleString>REAL</VisibleString>
</Keywords>

someASN1Keywords2 ::=
<Keywords2>
  <keyword>INTEGER</keyword>
  <keyword>BOOLEAN</keyword>
  <keyword>REAL</keyword>
</Keywords2>
```

### G.2.12 Tagged

Prior to the introduction of the **AUTOMATIC TAGS** construct, ASN.1 specifications frequently contained tags. The following subclauses describe the way in which tagging was typically applied. With the introduction of **AUTOMATIC TAGS**, new ASN.1 specifications need make no use of the tag notation, although those modifying old notation may have to concern themselves with tags. New users of the ASN.1 notation are encouraged to use **AUTOMATIC TAGS** as this makes the notation more readable.

**G.2.12.1** Universal class tags are used only within this Recommendation | International Standard. The notation **[UNIVERSAL 30]** (for example) is provided solely to enable precision in the definition of the "UsefulTypes" (see 45.1). It should not be used elsewhere.

**G.2.12.2** A frequently encountered style for the use of tags is to assign an application class tag precisely once in the entire specification, using it to identify a type that finds wide, scattered, use within the specification. An application class tag is also frequently used (once only) to tag the types in the outermost **CHOICE** of an application, providing identification of individual messages by the application class tag. The following is an example use in the former case:

EXAMPLE

```
FileName ::= [APPLICATION 8] SEQUENCE {
  directoryName      VisibleString,
  directoryRelativeFileName  VisibleString}
```

The above example assumes that the default encoding reference is either "empty" or **TAG**. Otherwise, the above example would be written:

```
FileName ::= [TAG: APPLICATION 8] SEQUENCE {
  directoryName      VisibleString,
  directoryRelativeFileName  VisibleString}
```

A similar change would be needed in subsequent examples.

**G.2.12.3** Context-specific tagging is frequently applied in an algorithmic manner to all components of a **SET**, **SEQUENCE**, or **CHOICE**. Note, however, that the **AUTOMATIC TAGS** facility does this easily for you.

EXAMPLE

```
CustomerRecord ::= SET {
  name                [0] VisibleString,
  mailingAddress      [1] VisibleString,
  accountNumber       [2] INTEGER,
  balanceDue          [3] INTEGER -- in cents --}

CustomerAttribute ::= CHOICE {
  name                [0] VisibleString,
  mailingAddress      [1] VisibleString,
  accountNumber       [2] INTEGER,
  balanceDue          [3] INTEGER -- in cents --}
```

**G.2.12.4** Private class tagging should normally not be used in internationally standardized specifications (although this cannot be prohibited). Applications produced by an enterprise will normally use application and context-specific tag classes. There may be occasional cases, however, where an enterprise-specific specification seeks to extend an internationally standardized specification, and in this case use of private class tags may give some benefits in partially protecting the enterprise-specific specification from changes to the internationally standardized specification.

EXAMPLE

```
AcmeBadgeNumber ::= [PRIVATE 2] INTEGER
```

```
badgeNumber AcmeBadgeNumber ::= 2345
```

or using XML value notation:

```
badgeNumber ::= <AcmeBadgeNumber>2345</AcmeBadgeNumber>
```

**G.2.12.5** Textual use of **IMPLICIT** with every tag is generally found only in older specifications. BER produces a less compact representation when explicit tagging is used than when implicit tagging is used. PER produces the same compact encoding in both cases. With BER and explicit tagging, there is more visibility of the underlying type (**INTEGER**, **REAL**, **BOOLEAN**, etc.) in the encoded data. These guidelines use implicit tagging in the examples whenever it is legal to do so. This may, depending on the encoding rules, result in a compact representation, which is highly desirable in some applications. In other applications, compactness may be less important than, for example, the ability to carry out strong type-checking. In the latter case, explicit tagging can be used.

EXAMPLE

```
CustomerRecord ::= SET {
    name                [0] IMPLICIT VisibleString,
    mailingAddress      [1] IMPLICIT VisibleString,
    accountNumber       [2] IMPLICIT INTEGER,
    balanceDue          [3] IMPLICIT INTEGER -- in cents --}

CustomerAttribute ::= CHOICE {
    name                [0] IMPLICIT VisibleString,
    mailingAddress      [1] IMPLICIT VisibleString,
    accountNumber       [2] IMPLICIT INTEGER,
    balanceDue          [3] IMPLICIT INTEGER -- in cents --}
```

**G.2.12.6** Guidance on use of tags in new ASN.1 specifications referencing this Recommendation | International Standard is quite simple: DON'T USE TAGS. Put **AUTOMATIC TAGS** in the module header, then forget about tags. If you need to add new components to the **SET**, **SEQUENCE** or **CHOICE** in a later version, add them to the end.

### G.2.13 Choice

**G.2.13.1** Use a **CHOICE** to model a variable that is selected from a collection of variables whose number are known and modest.

EXAMPLE

```
FileIdentifier ::= CHOICE {
    relativeName VisibleString,
    -- name of file (for example, "MarchProgressReport")
    absoluteName VisibleString,
    -- name of file and containing directory
    -- (for example, "<Williams>MarchProgressReport")
    serialNumber INTEGER
    -- system-assigned identifier for file --}
```

```
file FileIdentifier ::= serialNumber : 106448503
```

or using XML value notation:

```
fileIdentifier ::=
<FileIdentifier>
  <serialNumber>106448503</serialNumber>
</FileIdentifier>
```

**G.2.13.2** Use an extensible **CHOICE** to model a variable that is selected from a collection of variables whose make-up is likely to change from one version of the protocol to the next.

EXAMPLE

```
FileIdentifier ::= CHOICE {
    -- First version of FileIdentifier
```

```

        relativeName VisibleString,
        absoluteName VisibleString,
        ..., ...
    }
    fileId1 FileIdentifier ::= relativeName : "MarchProgressReport.doc"

```

or using XML value notation:

```

fileId1 ::=
<FileIdentifier>
  <relativeName>MarchProgressReport.doc</relativeName>
</FileIdentifier>

```

in anticipation of:

```

FileIdentifier ::= CHOICE {
  relativeName VisibleString,
  absoluteName VisibleString,
  ...,
  serialNumber INTEGER,
  ...
}
-- Second version of FileIdentifier
-- Extension addition added in version 2

```

```

fileId1 FileIdentifier ::= relativeName : "MarchProgressReport.doc"

```

```

fileId2 FileIdentifier ::= serialNumber : 214

```

or using XML value notation:

```

fileId1 ::=
<FileIdentifier>
  <relativeName>MarchProgressReport.doc</relativeName>
</FileIdentifier>

fileId2 ::=
<FileIdentifier>
  <serialNumber>214</serialNumber>
</FileIdentifier>

```

and later yet:

```

FileIdentifier ::= CHOICE {
  relativeName VisibleString,
  absoluteName VisibleString,
  ...,
  serialNumber INTEGER,
  [[
    vendorSpecific VendorExt,
    unidentified NULL
  ]],
  ...
}
-- Third version of FileIdentifier
-- Extension addition added in version 2
-- Extension addition added in version 3

```

```

fileId1 FileIdentifier ::= relativeName : "MarchProgressReport.doc"

```

```

fileId2 FileIdentifier ::= serialNumber : 214

```

```

fileId3 FileIdentifier ::= unidentified : NULL

```

or using XML value notation:

```

fileId1 ::=
<FileIdentifier>
  <relativeName>MarchProgressReport.doc</relativeName>
</FileIdentifier>

fileId2 ::=
<FileIdentifier>
  <serialNumber>214</serialNumber>
</FileIdentifier>

fileId3 ::=

```

```
<FileIdentifier>
<unidentified/>
</FileIdentifier>
```

**G.2.13.3** Use an extensible **CHOICE** of only one type where the possibility is envisaged of more than one type being permitted in the future.

EXAMPLE

```
Greeting ::= CHOICE {           -- First version of "Greeting"
  postCard    VisibleString,
  ...,
  ...
}
```

in anticipation of:

```
Greeting ::= CHOICE {           -- Second version of "Greeting"
  postCard    VisibleString,
  ...,
  [[2:       -- Extension addition added in version 2
  audio       Audio,
  video       Video
  ]],
  ...
}
```

**G.2.13.4** Multiple colons are required when a choice value is nested within another choice value.

EXAMPLE

```
Greeting ::= [APPLICATION 12] CHOICE {
  postCard    VisibleString,
  recording    Voice }

Voice ::= CHOICE {
  english     OCTET STRING,
  swahili     OCTET STRING }

myGreeting Greeting ::= recording : english : '019838547E0'H
```

or using XML value notation:

```
myGreeting ::=
<Greeting>
  <recording><english>019838547E0</english></recording>
</Greeting>
```

## G.2.14 Selection type

**G.2.14.1** Use a selection type to model a variable whose type is that of some particular alternatives of a previously defined **CHOICE**.

**G.2.14.2** Consider the definition:

```
FileAttribute ::= CHOICE {
  date-last-used INTEGER,
  file-name      VisibleString}
```

then the following definition is possible:

```
AttributeList ::= SEQUENCE {
  first-attribute  date-last-used < FileAttribute,
  second-attribute file-name < FileAttribute }
```

with a possible value notation of:

```
listOfAttributes AttributeList ::= {
  first-attribute 27,
  second-attribute "PROGRAM" }
```

or using XML value notation:

```
listOfAttributes ::=
<AttributeList>
  <first-attribute>27</first-attribute>
```

```
<second-attribute>PROGRAM</second-attribute>
</AttributeList>
```

### G.2.15 Object class field type

**G.2.15.1** Use an object class field type to identify a type defined by means of an information object class (see Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2). For example, fields of the information object class **ATTRIBUTE** may be used in defining a type, **Attribute**.

EXAMPLE

```
ATTRIBUTE ::= CLASS {
  &AttributeType,
  &attributeId OBJECT IDENTIFIER UNIQUE
}

Attribute ::= SEQUENCE {
  attributeID ATTRIBUTE.&attributeId, -- this is normally constrained.
  attributeValue ATTRIBUTE.&AttributeType -- this is normally constrained.
}
```

Both **ATTRIBUTE.&attributeId** and **ATTRIBUTE.&AttributeType** are object class field types, in that they are types defined by reference to an information object class (**ATTRIBUTE**). The type **ATTRIBUTE.&attributeId** is fixed because it is explicitly defined in **ATTRIBUTE** as an **OBJECT IDENTIFIER**. However, the type **ATTRIBUTE.&AttributeType** can carry a value of any type defined using ASN.1, since its type is not fixed in the definition of the information object class **ATTRIBUTE**. Notations that possess this property of being able to carry a value of any type are termed "open type notation", hence **ATTRIBUTE.&AttributeType** is an open type.

### G.2.16 Embedded-pdv

**G.2.16.1** Use an embedded-pdv type to model a variable whose type is unspecified, or specified elsewhere with no restriction on the notation used to specify the type.

EXAMPLE

```
FileContents ::= EMBEDDED PDV
DocumentList ::= SEQUENCE OF document EMBEDDED PDV
```

### G.2.17 External

The external type is similar to the embedded-pdv type, but has fewer identification options. New specifications will generally prefer to use embedded-pdv because of its greater flexibility and the fact that some encoding rules encode its values more efficiently.

### G.2.18 Instance-of

**G.2.18.1** Use an instance-of to specify a type containing an object identifier field and an open type value whose type is determined by the object identifier. The instance-of type can only be used if the association between the object identifier value and the type is specified using an information object of a class derived from **TYPE-IDENTIFIER** (see Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2, Annex A and Annex C).

EXAMPLE

```
ACCESS-CONTROL-CLASS ::= TYPE-IDENTIFIER

Get-Invoke ::= SEQUENCE {
  objectClass ObjectClass,
  objectInstance ObjectInstance,
  accessControl INSTANCE OF ACCESS-CONTROL-CLASS, -- this is normally
  -- constrained.
  attributeID ATTRIBUTE.&attributeId
}
```

Get-Invoke is then equivalent to:

```
Get-Invoke ::= SEQUENCE {
  objectClass ObjectClass,
  objectInstance ObjectInstance,
  accessControl [UNIVERSAL 8] IMPLICIT SEQUENCE {
    type-id ACCESS-CONTROL-CLASS.&id, -- this is normally
    -- constrained.
    value [0] ACCESS-CONTROL-CLASS.&Type-- this is normally
```

```

-- constrained.
    },
    attributeID    ATTRIBUTE.&attributeId
}

```

The true utility of the instance-of type is not seen until it is constrained using an information object set, but such an example goes beyond the scope of this Recommendation | International Standard. See Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3 for the definition of information object set, and Annex A of Rec. ITU-T X.682 | ISO/IEC 8824-3 for how to use an information object set to constrain an instance-of type.

### G.2.19 Object identifier

Use an **OBJECT IDENTIFIER** when a compact numerical identification of a node of the OID tree is needed in binary encodings.

### G.2.20 OID internationalized resource identifier

Use an **OID-IRI** when the use of names that include all most Unicode characters is desired, and where character encodings are acceptable. **OID-IRI** values can also be used as an IRI or URI using the "oid" IRI/URI scheme (see ITU-T Rec X.660 | ISO/IEC 9834-1 Annex F).

### G.2.21 Relative object identifier

**G.2.21.1** Use a relative object identifier type to transmit object identifier values in a more compact form in contexts where the early part of the object identifier value is known. There are three situations that can arise:

- a) The early part of the object identifier value is fixed for a given specification (it is an industry-specific standard, and all OIDs are relative to an OID allocated to the standardizing body. In this case, use:

```

RELATIVE-OID -- The relative object identifier value is
-- relative to {iso identified-organization set(22)}

```

- b) The early part of the object identifier value is frequently a value that is known at specification time, but may occasionally be a more general value. In this case, use:

#### CHOICE

```

{a RELATIVE-OID -- The value is relative to {1 3 22}--,
b OBJECT IDENTIFIER -- Any object identifier value--}

```

- c) The early part of the object identifier value is not known until communications time, but will frequently be common to many values that need to be sent, and quite often will be a value known at specification time. In this case use (for example):

#### SEQUENCE

```

{oid-root OBJECT IDENTIFIER DEFAULT {1 3 22},
reloids SEQUENCE OF RELATIVE-OID --relative to oid-root--}

```

## G.3 Value notation and property settings (TIME type and useful time types)

This subclause provides examples of value notation for the time type. The same value notation is used for the useful time types, but is restricted to denotation of abstract values that are present in those types. Each example gives a time abstract value in normal human notation, then a value assignment for that value, using a useful time type if there is one that contains it, otherwise using the **TIME** type. The following comment gives the settings needed to define a subtype of the **TIME** type that contains all similar abstract values.

### G.3.1 Date

#### EXAMPLES

Calendar date – 12 April 1985:

```
date1 DATE ::= "1985-04-12" -- Basic=Date Date=YMD Year=Basic
```

Ordinal date – 12 April 1985:

```
date2 TIME ::= "1985-102" -- Basic=Date Date=YD Year=Basic
```

Week date – Friday 12 April 1985:

```
date3 TIME ::= "1985-W15-5" -- Basic=Date Date=YWD Year=Basic
```

Calendar week – 15th week of 1985:

**date4 TIME ::= "1985-W15" -- Basic=Date Date=YW Year=Basic**

Calendar month – April 1985:

**date5 TIME ::= "1985-04" -- Basic=Date Date=YM Year=Basic**

Calendar year – 1985:

**date6 TIME ::= "1985" -- Basic=Date Date=Y Year=Basic**

Calendar date – 12 April 1985:

**date7 TIME ::= "+11985-04-12" -- Basic=Date Date=YMD Year=L5**

The 12th April in the 2nd year before the year 0000:

**date8 TIME ::= "-0002-04-12" -- Basic=Date Date=YMD Year=Negative**

The 20th century:

**date9 TIME ::= "19C" -- Basic=Date Date=C Year=Basic**

### G.3.2 Time of day

#### EXAMPLES

27 minutes and 46 seconds past 15 hours:

**time1 TIME-OF-DAY ::= "15:27:46"**

**-- Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L**

To the nearest minute:

**time2 TIME ::= "15:28"**

**-- Basic=Time Time=HM Local-or-UTC=L**

Local time of day with decimal fractions using comma – 27 minutes and 35 and a half second past 15 hours:

**time3 TIME ::= "15:27:35,5"**

**-- Basic=Time Time=HMSF1 Local-or-UTC=L**

UTC – 20 minutes and 30 seconds past 23 hours:

**time4 TIME ::= "23:20:30Z"**

**-- Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=Z**

To the nearest hour:

**time5 TIME ::= "23Z"**

**-- Basic=Time Time=H Local-or-UTC=Z**

Local time of day and the difference from UTC – 27 minutes 46 seconds past 15 hours locally in Geneva (one hour ahead of UTC):

**time6 TIME ::= "15:27:46+01:00"**

**-- Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=LD**

Alternative value notation for the same abstract value:

**time7 TIME ::= "15:27:46+01"**

**-- Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=LD**

27 minutes 46 seconds past 15 hours locally in New York (five hours behind UTC):

**time8 TIME ::= "15:27:46-05:00"**

**-- Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=LD**

### G.3.3 Date and time of day

#### EXAMPLES

Combination of calendar date and local time of day:

**date-time1 DATE-TIME ::= "1985-04-12T10:15:30"**

**-- Basic=Date-Time Date=YMD Year=Basic Time=HMS**

**-- Local-or-UTC=L**

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Combination of calendar date and local time of day with time differential; the local time of day is 01:30 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1985; the UTC time at that location is 23:30 on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 1985:

```
date-time2 TIME ::= "1985-04-01T01:30:00+02:00"  
-- Basic=Date-Time Date=YMD Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=LD
```

Combination of ordinal date and UTC:

```
date-time3 TIME ::= "1985-102T23:50:30Z"  
-- Basic=Date-Time Date=YD Year=Basic Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=Z
```

Combinations of week date and local time of day:

```
date-time4 TIME ::= "1985-W14-5T23:50:30"  
-- Basic=Date-Time Date=YWD Year=Basic Time=HMS  
-- Local-or-UTC=L
```

### G.3.4 Time interval

#### EXAMPLES

A time interval starting at 20 minutes and 50 seconds past 23 hours on 12 April 1985 and ending at 30 minutes past 10 hours on 25 June 1985:

```
interval1 TIME ::= "1985-04-12T23:20:50/1985-06-25T10:30:00"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=SE SE-point=Date-Time  
-- Date=YMD Year=Basic Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L
```

A time interval starting at local time of day 30 minutes past 12 hours (UTC time 30 minutes past 10 hours) on 12 April 1985 and ending at 30 minutes past 13 hours on 12 April with the same time difference (which is not a requirement):

```
interval2 TIME ::= "1985-04-12T12:30:00+02:00/1985-04-12T13:30:00+02:00"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=SE SE-point=Date-Time  
-- Date=YMD Year=Basic Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L
```

Alternative value notation for the same abstract value, omitting the second time difference:

```
interval3 TIME ::= "1985-04-12T12:30:00+02:00/1985-04-12T13:30:00"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=SE SE-point=Date-Time  
-- Date=YMD Year=Basic Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L
```

A time interval starting at 12 April 1985 and ending on 25 June 1985:

```
interval4 TIME ::= "1985-04-12/1985-06-25"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=SE SE-point=Date  
-- Date=YMD Year=Basic
```

A time interval of 2 years, 10 months, 15 days, 10 hours, 20 minutes and 30 seconds:

```
duration1 DURATION ::= "P2Y10M15DT10H20M30S"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=D
```

A time interval of 1 year and 6 months:

```
duration2 DURATION ::= "P1Y6M"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=D
```

A time interval of seventy-two hours:

```
duration3 DURATION ::= "PT72H"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=D
```

A time interval of 1 year, 2 months, 15 days and 12 hours, beginning on 12 April 1985 at 20 minutes past 23 hours:

```
interval5 TIME ::= "1985-04-12T23:20:00/P1Y2M15DT12H"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=SD SE-point=Date-Time  
-- Date=YMD Year=Basic Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L
```

A time interval of 1 year, 2 months, 15 days and 12 hours, ending on 12 April 1985 at 20 minutes past 23 hours:

```
interval6 TIME ::= "P1Y2M15DT12H/1985-04-12T23:20:00"  
-- Basic=Interval Interval-type=DE SE-point=Date-Time  
-- Date=YMD Year=Basic Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L
```

### G.3.5 Recurring interval

#### EXAMPLES

Fifteen recurrences of a time interval of 2 years, 10 months, 15 days, 10 hours, 20 minutes and 30 seconds:

```
rec-int1 TIME ::= "R15/P2Y10M15DT10H20M30S"
-- Basic=Rec-Interval Recurrence=R2 Interval-type=D
```

An unbounded number of recurrences of a time interval of 2 years, 15 days, 10 hours, 20 minutes and 30 seconds:

```
rec-int2 TIME ::= "R/P2Y15DT10H20M30S"
-- Basic=Rec-Interval Recurrence=Unlimited Interval-type=D
```

Two recurrences of a time interval of 1 year and 6 months:

```
rec-int3 TIME ::= "R2/P1Y6M"
-- Basic=Rec-Interval Recurrence=R1 Interval-type=D
```

An unbounded number of occurrences of a time interval of 1 year, 2 months, 15 days and 12 hours of which the last occurrence ends at 12 April 1985 at 20 minutes and 50 seconds past 23 hours:

```
rec-int4 TIME ::= "R/P1Y2M15DT12H/1985-04-12T23:20:50"
-- Basic=Rec-Interval Recurrence=Unlimited Interval-type=DE
-- SE-point=Date-Time Date=YMD Year=Basic Time=HMS
-- Local-or-UTC=L
```

### G.4 Identifying abstract syntaxes

**G.4.1** It is common for protocols to be defined by associating semantics with each of the values of a single ASN.1 type, typically a choice type. (This ASN.1 type is sometimes referred to informally as "the top-level type for the application".) This set of abstract values is formally called the abstract syntax for the application. An abstract syntax can be identified by giving it an abstract syntax name of ASN.1 type object identifier.

**G.4.2** The assignment of an object identifier to an abstract syntax can be done using the built-in information object class **ABSTRACT-SYNTAX** which is defined in Rec. ITU-T X.681 | ISO/IEC 8824-2. This also serves to clearly identify the top-level type for the application.

**G.4.3** The following is an example of text which might appear in an application specification:

#### EXAMPLE

```
Application-ASN1 DEFINITIONS ::=
BEGIN
EXPORTS Application-PDU;

  Application-PDU ::= CHOICE {
    connect-pdu ..... ,
    data-pdu CHOICE {
      .....
    }
  }
  .....
END
```

```
Abstract-Syntax-Module DEFINITIONS ::=
BEGIN
IMPORTS Application-PDU FROM Application-ASN1;
```

-- This application defines the following abstract syntax:

```
abstract-Syntax ABSTRACT-SYNTAX ::=
  { Application-PDU IDENTIFIED BY
    application-abstract-syntax-object-id }

application-abstract-syntax-object-id OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=
  { joint-iso-itu-t asn1(1) examples(123)
    application-abstract-syntax(3) }
```

-- The corresponding object descriptor is:

**application-abstract-syntax-descriptor ObjectDescriptor ::=**  
**"Example Application Abstract Syntax"**

- The ASN.1 object identifier and object descriptor values:
  - encoding rule object identifier
  - encoding rule object descriptor
- assigned to encoding rules in Rec. ITU-T X.690 | ISO/IEC 8825-1
- and Rec. ITU-T X.691 | ISO/IEC 8825-2 can be used as the transfer
- syntax identifier in conjunction with this transfer syntax.

**END**

**G.4.4** In order to ensure interworking, the standard may additionally identify a mandatory transfer syntax (typically one of those defined in the encoding rules of Rec. ITU-T X.690 | ISO/IEC 8825-1 or Rec. ITU-T X.691 | ISO/IEC 8825-2 or Rec. ITU-T X.692 | ISO/IEC 8825-3).

## G.5 Subtypes

**G.5.1** Use subtypes to limit the values of an existing type which are to be permitted in a particular situation.

EXAMPLES

**AtomicNumber ::= INTEGER (1..104)**

**TouchToneString ::= IA5String**  
**(FROM ("0123456789" | "\*" | "#")) (SIZE (1..63))**

**ParameterList ::= SET SIZE (1..63) OF Parameter**

**SmallPrime ::= INTEGER (2|3|5|7|11|13|17|19|23|29)**

**G.5.2** Use an extensible subtype constraint to model an **INTEGER** type whose set of permitted values is small and well defined, but which is expected to increase.

EXAMPLE

**SmallPrime ::= INTEGER (2 | 3, ...)** *-- First version of SmallPrime*

in anticipation of:

**SmallPrime ::= INTEGER (2 | 3, ..., 5 | 7 | 11)**  
*-- Second version of SmallPrime*

and later yet:

**SmallPrime ::= INTEGER (2 | 3, ..., 5 | 7 | 11 | 13 | 17 | 19)**  
*-- Third version of SmallPrime*

NOTE – For certain types, some encoding rules (e.g., PER) provide a highly optimized encoding for subtype constraint extension root values (i.e., values appearing before the "...") and a less optimized encoding for subtype constraint extension addition values (i.e., values appearing after the "..."), while in some other encoding rules (e.g., BER) subtype constraints have no effect on the encoding.

**G.5.3** Where two or more related types have significant commonality, consider explicitly defining their common parent as a type and use subtyping for the individual types. This approach makes clear the relationship and the commonality, and encourages (though does not force) this to continue as the types evolve. It thus facilitates the use of common implementation approaches to the handling of values of these types.

EXAMPLE

**Envelope ::= SET {**  
**typeA TypeA,**  
**typeB TypeB OPTIONAL,**  
**typeC TypeC OPTIONAL}**  
*-- the common parent*

**ABEnvelope ::= Envelope (WITH COMPONENTS**  
**{...**  
**typeB PRESENT, typeC ABSENT})**  
*-- where typeB must always appear and typeC must not*

**ACEnvelope ::= Envelope (WITH COMPONENTS**  
**{...**  
**typeB ABSENT, typeC PRESENT})**

-- where *typeC* must always appear and *typeB* must not

The latter definitions could alternatively be expressed as:

**ABEnvelope ::= Envelope (WITH COMPONENTS {typeA, typeB})**

**ACEvelope ::= Envelope (WITH COMPONENTS {typeA, typeC})**

The choice between the alternatives would be made upon such factors as the number of components in the parent type, and the number of those which are optional, the extent of the difference between the individual types, and the likely evolution strategy.

**G.5.4** Use subtyping to partially define a value, for example, a protocol data unit to be tested for in a conformance test, where the test is concerned only with some components of the PDU.

EXAMPLE

Given:

```
PDU ::= SET
{alpha    INTEGER,
 beta     IA5String OPTIONAL,
 gamma    SEQUENCE OF Parameter,
 delta    BOOLEAN}
```

then in composing a test which requires the Boolean to be false and the integer to be negative, write:

```
TestPDU ::= PDU (WITH COMPONENTS
{... ,
 delta (FALSE),
 alpha (MIN.<0)})
```

and if, further, the **IA5String**, **beta**, is to be present and either 5 or 12 characters in length, write:

```
FurtherTestPDU ::= TestPDU (WITH COMPONENTS {... , beta (SIZE (5|12)) PRESENT } )
```

**G.5.5** If a general-purpose data type has been defined as a **SEQUENCE OF**, use subtyping to define a restricted subtype of the general type.

EXAMPLE

**Text-block ::= SEQUENCE OF VisibleString**

**Address ::= Text-block (SIZE (1..6)) (WITH COMPONENT (SIZE (1..32)))**

**G.5.6** If a general-purpose data type had been defined as a **CHOICE**, use subtyping to define a restricted subtype of the general type.

EXAMPLE

```
Z ::= CHOICE {
  a    A,
  b    B,
  c    C,
  d    D,
  e    E
}
```

```
V ::= Z (WITH COMPONENTS { ..., a ABSENT, b ABSENT })
-- 'a' and 'b' must be absent,
-- either 'c', 'd' or 'e' may be present in a value.
```

```
W ::= Z (WITH COMPONENTS { ..., a PRESENT }) -- only 'a' can be present
-- (see 51.8.10.2).
```

```
X ::= Z (WITH COMPONENTS { a PRESENT }) -- only 'a' can be present
-- (see 51.8.10.2).
```

```
Y ::= Z (WITH COMPONENTS { a ABSENT, b, c })
-- 'a', 'd' and 'e' must be absent,
-- either 'b' or 'c' may be present in a value.
```

NOTE – **w** and **x** are semantically identical.

**G.5.7** Use contained subtypes to form new subtypes from existing subtypes.

EXAMPLE

```
Months ::= ENUMERATED {
    january      (1),
    february    (2),
    march        (3),
    april        (4),
    may          (5),
    june         (6),
    july         (7),
    august       (8),
    september    (9),
    october      (10),
    november     (11),
    december     (12) }

First-quarter ::= Months ( january | february | march )
Second-quarter ::= Months ( april | may | june )
Third-quarter ::= Months ( july | august | september )
Fourth-quarter ::= Months ( october | november | december )
First-half ::= Months ( First-quarter | Second-quarter )
Second-half ::= Months ( Third-quarter | Fourth-quarter )
```

**G.5.8** Examples of subtyping the time type are present in 38.4, and several useful settings are given in the comments in G.3. Additional examples follow, with comments. Note that all examples of subtyping can also be applied to the useful time types, but will only select abstract values that are already present in those types. The main use of this notation is to provide variations on the useful time types.

EXAMPLES

```
My-Date ::= TIME
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Year=Basic Date=YD")
-- A date type that uses years and days

My-Date1 ::= TIME
(SETTINGS "Basic=Date Year=Basic Date=YD")
("2000-001" .. < "2011-001")
-- A date type that uses years and days restricted to the
-- period from the 1st Jan. AD 2000 to Dec. 31st AD 2010, inclusive.

My-Date2 ::= TIME
("2000-001" .. < "2011-001")
-- The same date type as My-Date1, but this is probably less
-- clear to a human user. It relies on the property settings
-- being deduced from the value notation (see Annex K).

My-Illegal-Date ::= TIME
("1500-01" .. < "2011-01")
-- The lower bound is a proleptic date, and the upper bound
-- is a basic date, so they do not have the same properties,
-- and this is illegal.

My-time-of-day-1 ::= TIME
(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L
Midnight=Start")
-- This is the same as TIME-OF-DAY, but midnight at the end of
-- the day is excluded, with the only midnight being represented
-- by the value notation "00:00:00".

My-time-of-day-2 ::= TIME
(SETTINGS "Basic=Time Time=HMS Local-or-UTC=L
Midnight=End")
-- This is the same as TIME-OF-DAY, but midnight at the start of
-- the day is excluded, with the only midnight being represented
-- by the value notation "24:00:00".

My-time-of-day-3 ::= TIME
```