In XML Schema, can mixed content restrict the type of the text?

Asked 8 years, 8 months ago   Active 4 years, 3 months ago   Viewed 1k times

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In XML Schema, one can use the "mixed" attribute on a `<complexType>` to allow it to contain text as well as child elements.

My question is whether there is any way to constrain what type of textual content is allowed, when using the "mixed" attribute. For instance, can I specify that the text must represent a floating-point number?

xml   xsd

edited Mar 16 '16 at 18:47   asked Nov 2 '11 at 10:55
james.garriss   PeteAC
10.8k 6 71 92   **739** 8 18

1 Answer

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No, you cannot place constraints on the mixed content's text nodes. You can constrain the elements of the mixed content as usual, but the actual mixed-in text is free from constraints.

I'm afraid W3C XML Schema's definition of mixed content is kind of slapped onto complex content in a not-too-thorough way. If Schema made a better abstraction of nodes with shared ground between text, elements, processing instructions and the like, like DOM does, it'd work better. But as it stands, I do believe you're out of luck.

Maybe someone with a tighter grasp on the actual XML Schema spec can confirm/deny this.

answered Nov 2 '11 at 11:47
G_H
11.1k 2 30 70

> You can restrict a mixed complex type to a simple type and restrict the text, but have no elements, or you can restrict the elements but not the mixed text; at least that's my experience thus far. – Jeff Yates Oct 14 '15 at 15:39