### [textDirection](textDirection.docx) (Table Cell Text Flow Direction)

This element specifies the direction of the text flow for this [table](table.docx) cell.

If this element is omitted on a given [table](table.docx) cell, its value is determined by the setting previously set at any level of the style hierarchy (i.e. that previous setting remains unchanged). If this setting is never specified in the style hierarchy, then the [table](table.docx) cell shall inherit the text flow settings from the parent section.

[Example: Consider a [table](table.docx) with one cell in which all the [table](table.docx) cell's text flow is top to bottom - right to left:

|  |
| --- |
| Text in this [table](table.docx) cell |

This [table](table.docx) cell would specify this text flow using the following WordprocessingML:

<w:[tc](tc.docx)>

<w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>

…

<w:[textDirection](textDirection.docx) w:val="tbRl" />

</w:[tcPr](tcPr.docx)>

…

</w:[tc](tc.docx)>

The [textDirection](textDirection.docx) element specifies via the tbRl value in the val attribute that the text flow should go top to bottom, then right to left. end example]

|  |
| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| [tcPr](tcPr.docx) (§); [tcPr](tcPr.docx) (§); [tcPr](tcPr.docx) (§); [tcPr](tcPr.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| val (Direction of Text Flow) | Specifies the direction of the text flow for this object.  [Example: Consider a document with a section in which text shall flow bottom to top vertically, and left to right horizontally. This setting requires the following WordprocessingML:  <w:[sectPr](sectPr.docx)>  …  <w:[textDirection](textDirection.docx) w:val="btLr" /> </w:[sectPr](sectPr.docx)>  The [textDirection](textDirection.docx) element specifies via the btLr value in the val attribute that the text flow shall go bottom to top, and left to right. end example]  The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_TextDirection](ST_TextDirection.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

The following [XML](XML.docx) Schema fragment defines the contents of this element:

<complexType [name](name.docx)="CT\_TextDirection">

<attribute [name](name.docx)="val" [type](type.docx)="[ST\_TextDirection](ST_TextDirection.docx)" use="required"/>

</complexType>