Data Analytics and Visualization Environment for xAPI and the Total Learning Architecture: DAVE Learning Analytics Algorithms

Yet Analytics October 4, 2019

Introduction

This report introduces the updated definition of learning analytics algorithms in terms of **Operations**, **Primitives** and **Algorithms** and presents an updated definition for each of the previously defined algorithms. The previous definitions will be included for reference. In a more general sense, this report establishes a set of style guidelines for the reporting of algorithms and associated visualization templates.

This document will be updated to include additional Operations, Primitives and Algorithms as they are defined by the Author of this report or members of the Open Source Community. Updates may also address refinement of existing definitions and this document should be understood to be an example of algorithm presentation and not the final state of any defined algorithm.

The structure of this documents is as follows:

- 1. An Introduction to Z notation and its usage in this document
- 2. A formal specification for xAPI written in Z
- 3. An Introduction to Terminology of Operations, Primitives and Algorithms
- 4. What is an Operation
- 5. What is a Primitive
- 6. What is an Algorithm
- 7. Foundational Operations
- 8. Example Primitives
- 9. An algorithm definition including
 - (a) Init
 - (b) Relevant?
 - (c) Accept?
 - (d) Step
 - (e) Result
- 10. Previous Algorithm definitions where each consists of
 - (a) an introduction for the algorithm
 - (b) the structure of the ideal input data
 - (c) how to retrieve input data from an LRS
 - (d) the statement parameters which the algorithm will utilize

- (e) notices regarding data collected during the 2018 pilot test of the TLA
- (f) a summary of the algorithm
- (g) the formal specification of the algorithm
- (h) pseudocode representation of the algorithm
- (i) JSONSchema for the output of the algorithm
- (j) a description of the associated visualization
- (k) a prototype of the visualization
- (l) a collection of suggestions describing how the algorithm could be adapted to improve the quality of the visualization prototype

1 Z Notation Introduction

The following subsections provide a high level overview of select properties of Z Notation based on "The Z Notation: A Reference Manual" by J. M. Spivey. A copy of this reference manual can be found at dave/docs/z/Z-notation reference manual.pdf. In many cases, definitions will be pulled directly from the reference manual and when this occurs, the relevant page number(s) will be included. For a proper introduction with tutorial examples, see chapter 1, "Tutorial Introduction" from pages 1 to 23. For the LaTeX symbols used to write Z, see the reference document found at dave/docs/z/zed-csp-documentation.pdf.

1.1 Decorations

The following decorations are used through this document and are taken directly from the reference manual. For a complete summary of the Syntax of Z, see chapter 6, Syntax Summary, startingon page 142.

```
[indicates final state of an operation]
[indicates input to an operation]
[indicates output of an operation]
[indicates output of an operation]
[indicates the schema results in a change to the state space]
[indicates the schema does not result in a change to the state space]
[indicates output of the left schema is input to the right schema]
```

1.2 Types

Objects have a type which characterizes them and distinguish them from other kinds of objects.

- Basic types are sets of objects which have no internal structure of interest meaning the concrete definition of the members is not relevant, only their shared type.
- Free types are used to describe (potentially nested and/or recursive) sets
 of objects. In the most simple case, a free type can be an enumeration of
 constants.

Within the xAPI Formal Specification, both of these types are used to describe the Inverse Functional Identifier property.

- Introduction of the basic types MBOX, $MBOX_SHA1SUM$, OPENID and ACCOUNT allows the specification to talk about these constraints within the xAPI specification without defining their exact structure
- The free type IFI is defined as one of the above basic types meaning an object of type IFI is of type MBOX or $MBOX_SHA1SUM$ or OPENID or ACCOUNT.

Types can be composed together to form composite types and thus complex objects.

```
[MBOX, MBOX\_SHA1SUM, OPENID, ACCOUNT] \\ IFI ::= MBOX \mid MBOX\_SHA1SUM \mid OPENID \mid ACCOUNT \\
```

Within the xAPI Formal Specification, IFI is used within the definition of an agent as presented in the schema Agent.

```
\begin{array}{c} Agent \\ agent : AGENT \\ objectType : OBJECTTYPE \\ name : \mathbb{F}_1 \ \# 1 \\ ifi : IFI \\ \\ \hline objectType = Agent \\ agent = \{ifi\} \cup \mathbb{P}\{name, objectType\} \end{array}
```

See section 2.2, pages 28 to 34, and chapter 3, pages 42 to 85, for more information about Schemas and the Z Language.

1.3 Sets

A collection of elements that all share a type. A set is characterized solely by which objects are members and which are not. Both the order and repetition of objects are ignored. Sets are written in one of two ways:

- listing their elements
- by a property which is characteristic of the elements of the set.

such that the following law from page 55 holds for some object y

$$y \in \{x_1, ..., x_n\} \iff y = x_1 \vee ... \vee y = x_n$$

1.4 Ordered Pairs

Two objects (x, y) where x is paired with y. An n-tuple is the pairing of n objects together such that equality between two n-tuple pairs is given by the law from page 55

$$(x_1, ..., x_n) = (y_1, ..., y_n) \iff x_1 = y_1 \land ... \land x_n = y_n$$

When ordered pairs are used with respect to application (as seen on page 60)

$$fx \Rightarrow f(x) \iff (x,y) \in f$$

which states that f(x) is defined if and only if there is a unique value y which result from fx Additionally, application associates to the left

$$fxy \Rightarrow (fx)y \Rightarrow (f(x), y)$$

meaning f(x) results in a function which is then applied to y.

1.5 Sequences

A collection of elements where their ordering matters such that

$$\langle a_1, ..., a_n \rangle \Rightarrow \{1 \mapsto a_1, ..., n \mapsto a_n\}$$

as seen on page 115. Additionally, iseq is used to describe a sequence whose members are distinct.

1.6 Bags

A collection of elements where the number of times an element appears in the collection is meaningful.

$$[a_1, ..., a_n] \Rightarrow \{a_1 \mapsto k_1, ..., k_n \mapsto k_n\}$$

As described on page 124, each element a_i appears k_i times in the list $a_1, ..., a_n$ such that the number of occurances of a_i within bag A is returned by

$$count A a_i \equiv A \# a_i$$

1.7 Maps

This document introduces a named subcategory of sets, map of the free type KV, which are akin to sequences and bags. To enumerate the members of a map, $\langle \ldots \rangle$ is used but should not be confused with $d_i \langle \langle E_i[T] \rangle \rangle$ within a Free Type definition. The distinction between the two usages is context dependent but in general, if $\langle \ldots \rangle$ is used outside of a constructor declaration within a Free Type definition, it should be assumed to represent a map.

$$KV ::= base \mid associate \langle \langle KV \times X \times Y \rangle \rangle$$

where

base [is a constant which is the empty $KV \Rightarrow \langle \langle \rangle \rangle$] associate [is a constructor and is inferred to be an injection]

The full enumeration of all properties, constraints and functions specific to a map with type KV will be defined elsewhere but associate can be understood to (in the most basic case) operate as follows.

$$associate(base, x_i, y_i) = \langle \langle (x_i, y_i) \rangle \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \langle x_i \mapsto y_i \rangle \rangle$$

The enumeration of a map was chosen to be $\langle ... \rangle$ as a map is a collection of injections such that if M is the result of $associate(base, x_i, y_i)$ from above then

$$atKey(M, x_i) = y_i \iff x_i \mapsto y_i \land (x_i, y_i) \in M$$

1.8 Select Operations and Symbols

The follow are defined in Chapter 4 (The Mathematical Tool-kit) within the reference manual and are used extensively throughout this document. In many cases, the functions listed here will serve as Operations in the context of Primitives and Algorithms.

1.8.1 Functions

1.8.2 Ordered Pairs, Maplet and Composition of Relations

 $X \twoheadrightarrow Y == \{ f : X \rightarrowtail Y \mid \operatorname{ran} f = Y \}$ $X \twoheadrightarrow Y == (X \twoheadrightarrow Y) \cap (X \rightarrow Y)$ $X \rightarrowtail Y == (X \twoheadrightarrow Y) \cap (X \rightarrowtail Y)$

```
\begin{array}{lll} first & & [\text{returns the first element of an ordered pair, page 93}] \\ second & & [\text{returns the second element of an ordered pair, page 93}] \\ \mapsto & & [\text{maplet is a graphic way of expressing an ordered pair, page 95}] \\ \text{dom} & & [\text{set of all } x \in X \text{ related to at least one } y \in Y \text{ by R, page 96}] \\ \text{ran} & & [\text{set of all } y \in Y \text{ related to at least one } x \in X \text{ by R, page 96}] \\ \text{g} & & [\text{The composition of two relationships, page 97}] \\ \text{o} & & [\text{The backward composition of two relationships, page 97}] \\ \end{array}
```

```
[X,Y]
-\mapsto -: X \times Y \to X \times Y
\forall x : X; y : Y \bullet
x \mapsto y = (x,y)
```

```
[X, Y] = \frac{1}{\text{dom}: (X \leftrightarrow Y) \to \mathbb{P} X}
\text{ran}: (X \leftrightarrow Y) \to \mathbb{P} Y
\forall R: X \leftrightarrow Y \bullet
\text{dom } R = \{x: X; y: Y \mid x\underline{R}y \bullet x\} \land
\text{ran } R = \{x: X; y: Y \mid x\underline{R}y \bullet y\}
```

1.8.3 Numeric

succ [the next natural number, page 109]
.. [set of integers within a range, page 109]
[number of members of a set, page 111]
min [smallest number in a set of numbers, page 113]
max [largest number in a set of numbers, page 113]

```
succ: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}
-...: \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{P} \mathbb{Z}
\forall n: \mathbb{N} \bullet succ(n) = n + 1
foralla, b: \mathbb{Z} \bullet
a..b = \{ k: \mathbb{Z} \mid a \leq k \leq b \}
```

```
\begin{split} & \min: \mathbb{P}_1 \, \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z} \\ & \max: \mathbb{P}_1 \, \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z} \\ \\ & \min = \{ \, S: \mathbb{P}_1 \, \mathbb{Z}; m: \mathbb{Z} \, | \\ & m \in S \, \wedge \, (\forall n: S \bullet m \leq n) \bullet S \mapsto m \} \\ & \max = \{ \, S: \mathbb{P}_1 \, \mathbb{Z}; m: \mathbb{Z} \, | \\ & m \in S \, \wedge \, (\forall n: S \bullet m \geq n) \bullet S \mapsto m \} \end{split}
```

1.8.4 Sequences

```
[concatenation of two sequences, page 116]
                                             [reverse a sequence, page 116]
rev
                                     [first element of a sequence, page 117]
head
last
                                     [last element of a sequence, page 117]
                 [all elements of a sequence except for the first, page 117]
tail
front
                  [all elements of a sequence except for the last, page 117]
          [sub seq based on provided indices, order maintained, page 118]
       [sub seq based on provided condition, order maintained, page 118]
squash
             [compacts a fn of positive integers into a sequence, page 118]
^{\prime}
                              [flatten seq of seqs into single seq, page 121]
disjoint
                [pairs of sets in family have empty intersection, page 122]
partition
                      [union of all pairs of sets = the family set, page 122]
```

```
[X] = [X]
- ^ - : \operatorname{seq} X \times \operatorname{seq} X \to \operatorname{seq} X
\operatorname{rev} : \operatorname{seq} X \to \operatorname{seq} X
\forall s, t : \operatorname{seq} X \bullet
s ^ t = s \cup \{n : \operatorname{dom} t \bullet n + \# s \mapsto t(n)\}
\forall s : \operatorname{seq} X \bullet
\operatorname{revs} = (\lambda n : \operatorname{dom} s \bullet s (\# s - n + 1))
```

1.8.5 Bags

```
[X] = \underbrace{items : \operatorname{seq} X \to \operatorname{bag} X}
\forall s : \operatorname{seq} X; x : X \bullet 
(items s) \# x = \# \{ i : \operatorname{dom} s \, | \, s(i) = x \}
```

2 xAPI Formal Specification

The current formal specification only defines xAPI statements abstractly within the context of Z. A concrete definition for xAPI statements is outside the scope of this document.

2.1 Basic and Free Types

 $[MBOX, MBOX_SHA1SUM, OPENID, ACCOUNT]$

• Basic Types for the abstract representation of the different forms of Inverse Functional Identifiers found in xAPI

[CHOICES, SCALE, SOURCE, TARGET, STEPS]

• Basic Types for the abstract representation of the different forms of Interaction Components found in xAPI

 $IFI ::= MBOX \mid MBOX_SHA1SUM \mid OPENID \mid ACCOUNT$

• Free Type unique to Agents and Groups, The concrete definition of the listed Basic Types is outside the scope of this specification

 $OBJECTTYPE := Agent \mid Group \mid SubStatement \mid StatementRef \mid Activity$

• A type which can be present in all activities as defined by the xAPI specification

 $INTERACTIONTYPE ::= true-false \mid choice \mid fill-in \mid long-fill-in \mid matching \mid performance \mid sequencing \mid likert \mid numeric \mid other$

• A type which represents the possible interaction Types as defined within the xAPI specification

 $INTERACTION COMPONENT ::= CHOICES \,|\, SCALE \,|\, SOURCE \,|\, TARGET \,|\, STEPS$

- \bullet A type which represents the possible interaction components as defined within the xAPI specification
- the concrete definition of the listed Basic Types is outside the scope of this specification

 $CONTEXTTYPES ::= parent \mid grouping \mid category \mid other$

• A type which represents the possible context types as defined within the xAPI specification

[STATEMENT]

• Basic type for an xAPI data point

[AGENT, GROUP]

• Basic types for Agents and collections of Agents

2.2 Id Schema

• the schema *Id* introduces the component *id* which is a non-empty, finite set of 1 value

2.3 Schemas for Agents, Groups and Actors

```
\begin{array}{c} Agent \\ agent : AGENT \\ objectType : OBJECTTYPE \\ name : \mathbb{F}_1 \# 1 \\ ifi : IFI \\ \\ objectType = Agent \\ agent = \{ifi\} \cup \mathbb{P}\{name, objectType\} \end{array}
```

• The schema Agent introduces the component agent which is a set consisting of an ifi and optionally an objectType and/or name

• The schema Member introduces the component member which is a set of objects a, where for every a within $a_0..a_n$, a is an agent

```
Group = Group = GROUP
objectType : OBJECTTYPE
ifi : IFI
name : \mathbb{F}_1 \# 1
objectType = Group
group = \{objectType, name, member\} \lor \{objectType, member\} \lor
\{objectType, ifi\} \cup \mathbb{P}\{name, member\}
```

• The schema *Group* introduces the component *group* which is of type *GROUP* and is a set of either *objectType* and *member* with optionally *name* or *objectType* and *ifi* with optionally *name* and/or *member*

```
Actor \_\_\_
Agent
Group
actor : AGENT \lor GROUP
actor = agent \lor group
```

• The schema *Actor* introduces the component *actor* which is either an *agent* or *group*

2.4 Verb Schema

```
Verb \_ Id \\ display, verb : \mathbb{F}_1 \\ verb = \{id, display\} \lor \{id\}
```

• The schema *Verb* introduces the component *verb* which is a set that consists of either *id* and the non-empty, finite set *display* or just *id*

2.5 Object Schema

- The schema Extensions introduces the component extensions which is a non-empty, finite set that consists of ordered pairs of extensionId and extensionVal. Different extensionIds can have the same extensionVal but there can not be two identical extensionId values
- extension Id is a non-empty, finite set with one value
- extensionVal is a non-empty, finite set

```
InteractionActivity \_\_\_\_ \\ interactionType : INTERACTIONTYPE \\ correctResponsePattern : seq_1 \\ interactionComponent : INTERACTIONCOMPONENT \\ \hline interactionActivity = \{interactionType, correctReponsePattern, interactionComponent\} \lor \\ \{interactionType, correctResponsePattern\} \\ \hline
```

• The schema InteractionActivity introduces the component interactionActivity which is a set of either interactionType and correctResponsePattern or interactionType and correctResponsePattern and interactionComponent

```
\begin{tabular}{l} Log in the finition $$\_$ Interaction $Activity$ \\ Extensions \\ definition, name, description: $\mathbb{F}_1$ \\ type, more $Info: \mathbb{F}_1 \# 1$ \\ \hline \hline $definition = \mathbb{P}_1 \{name, description, type, more Info, extensions, interaction $Activity$ \}$ \\ \hline \end{tabular}
```

• The schema *Definition* introduces the component *definition* which is the non-empty, finite power set of *name*, *description*, *type*, *moreInfo* and *extensions*

```
.Object\_
Id
Definition
Agent
Group
Statement
objectTypeA, objectTypeS, objectTypeSub, objectType: OBJECTTYPE
substatement: STATEMENT\\
object: \mathbb{F}_1
substatement = statement \\
objectTypeA = Activity
objectTypeS = StatementRef
objectTypeSub = SubStatement
objectType = objectTypeA \lor objectTypeS
object = \{id\} \lor \{id, objectType\} \lor \{id, objectTypeA, definition\}
         \vee \{id, definition\} \vee \{agent\} \vee \{group\} \vee \{objectTypeSub, substatement\}
         \vee \{id, objectTypeA\}
```

- The schema Object introduces the component object which is a non-empty, finite set of either id, id and objectType, id and objectTypeA, id and objectTypeA and definition, agent, group, or substatement
- The schema *Statement* and the corresponding component *statement* will be defined later on in this specification

2.6 Result Schema

```
Score = Score : \mathbb{F}_1
scaled, min, max, raw : \mathbb{Z}
scaled = \{n : \mathbb{Z} \mid -1.0 \le n \le 1.0\}
min = n < max
max = n > min
raw = \{n : \mathbb{Z} \mid min \le n \le max\}
score = \mathbb{P}_1 \{scaled, raw, min, max\}
```

• The schema *Score* introduces the component *score* which is the non-empty powerset of min, max, raw and scaled

```
\begin{tabular}{ll} Result & & \\ Score & & \\ Extensions & & \\ success, completion, response, duration: $\mathbb{F}_1$ #1 \\ \hline result: $\mathbb{F}_1$ & \\ \hline success & = \{true\} \lor \{false\} \\ completion & = \{true\} \lor \{false\} \\ result & = \mathbb{P}_1 \{score, success, completion, response, duration, extensions\} \end{tabular}
```

• The schema Result introduces the component result which is the nonempty power set of score, success, completion, response, duration and extensions

2.7 Context Schema

```
Instructor \_
Agent
Group
instructor: AGENT \lor GROUP
instructor = agent \lor group
```

• The schema *Instructor* introduces the component *instructor* which can be ether an *agent* or a *group*

• The schema Team introduces the component team which is a group

```
Context
Instructor
Team
Object
Extensions
registration, revision, platform, language: \mathbb{F}_1 \, \# 1
parentT, groupingT, categoryT, otherT: CONTEXTTYPES
contextActivities, statement: \mathbb{F}_1
statement = object \setminus (id, objectType, agent, group, definition)
parentT = parent
groupingT = grouping
categoryT = category
other T=other \\
contextActivity = \{ca: object \setminus (agent, group, objectType, objectTypeSub, substatement)\}
contextActivityParent = (parentT, contextActivity)
contextActivityCategory = (categoryT, contextActivity)
contextActivityGrouping = (groupingT, contextActivity)
contextActivityOther = (otherT, contextActivity)
contextActivities = \mathbb{P}_1 \{ contextActivityParent, contextActivityCategory, \}
                        contextActivityGrouping, contextActivityOther\}
context = \mathbb{P}_1 \{ registration, instructor, team, contextActivities, revision, \}
              platform, language, statement, extensions}
```

- The schema Context introduces the component context which is the nonempty powerset of registration, instructor, team, contextActivities, revision, platform, language, statement and extensions
- \bullet The notation $object \setminus agent$ represents the component object except for its subcomponent agent

2.8 Timestamp and Stored Schema

```
Timestamp \\ timestamp : \mathbb{F}_1 \# 1 Stored \\ stored : \mathbb{F}_1 \# 1
```

• The schema *Timestamp* and *stored* introduce the components *timestamp* and *stored* respectively. Each are non-empty, finite sets containing one value

2.9 Attachements Schema

```
Attachments \_ \\ display, description, attachment, attachments : \mathbb{F}_1 \\ usageType, sha2, fileUrl, contexntType : \mathbb{F}_1 \# 1 \\ length : \mathbb{N} \\ \\ attachment = \{usageType, display, contentType, length, sha2\} \cup \mathbb{P}\{description, fileUrl\} \\ attachments = \{a : attachment\}
```

- The schema Attachements introduces the component attachements which is a non-empty, finite set of the component attachement
- The component attachment is a non-empty, finite set of the components usageType, display, contentType, length, sha2 with optionally description and/or fileUrl

2.10 Statement and Statements Schema

```
Statement \\ Id \\ Actor \\ Verb \\ Object \\ Result \\ Context \\ Timestamp \\ Stored \\ Attachements \\ statement : STATEMENT \\ \\ statement = \{actor, verb, object, stored\} \cup \\ \mathbb{P}\{\mathrm{id}, result, context, timestamp, attachments\}
```

- The schema Statement introduces the component statement which consists of the components actor, verb, object and stored and the optional components id, result, context, timestamp, and/or attachments
- $\bullet\,$ The schema Statement allows for subcomponent of statement to refrenced via the . (selection) operator

```
Statements \\ IsoToUnix \\ statements : \mathbb{F}_1 \\ statements = \{s : statement | \forall s_n : s_i...s_j \bullet i \leq n \leq j \\ \bullet convert(s_i.timestamp) \leq convert(s_j.timestamp) \}
```

• The schema Statements introduces the component statements which is a non-empty, finite set of the component statement which are in chronological order.

3 Operations, Primitives and Algorithms

The following sections introduce, define and explain Operations, Primitives and Algorithms generally using the Terminology presented below. Operations are the building blocks of Primitives whereas Primitives are the building blocks of Algorithms. The definitions which follow are flexible enough to support implementation across programing languages but have been inspired by the core concepts found within Lisp and Z. The focus of these sections is to define the properties of and interactions between Operations, Primitives and Algorithms in a general way which doesn't place unnecessary bounds on their range of possible functionality with respect to processing xAPI data.

3.1 Terminology

Within this document, (s) indicates one or more. When talking about some $x \in X$ at some index within a range i ... n ... j, the notation $i_X \vee n_X$, $\vee j_X$ may be used in cases where it is a more concise version of an equivalent expression.

3.1.1 Scalar

When working with xAPI data, Statements are written using JavaScript Object Notation (JSON). This data model supports a few fundamental types as described by JSON Schema. In order to speak about a singular valid JSON value (string, number, boolean, null) generically, the term Scalar is used. To talk about a scalar within a Z Schema, the following free and basic types are introduced.

```
\begin{split} [STRING, NULL] \\ Boolean :== true \, | \, false \\ Scalar :== Boolean \, | \, STRING \, | \, NULL \, | \, \mathbb{Z} \end{split}
```

Arrays and Objects are also valid JSON values but will be referenced using the terms Collection and Map \vee KV respectively.

3.1.2 Collection

```
a sequence \langle ... \rangle of items c such that each c: \mathbb{N} \times V \Rightarrow (\mathbb{N}, V) \Rightarrow \mathbb{N} \mapsto V
```

```
C: Collection
C = \langle c_i...c_n...c_j \rangle \Rightarrow \{i \mapsto c_i, n \mapsto c_n, j \mapsto c_j\} \bullet i \leq n \leq j \Rightarrow i \prec n \prec j \iff i \neq n \neq j
```

And the following free type is introducted for collections

```
Collection :== emptyColl \mid append \langle \langle Collection \times Scalar \vee Collection \vee KV \times \mathbb{N} \rangle \\ emptyColl \qquad \qquad [\text{the empty Collection } \langle \rangle] \\ append \qquad \qquad [\text{is a constructor and is infered to be an injection}] \\ KV \qquad \qquad [\text{a free type introduced bellow}] \\ append(emptyColl, c?, 0) = \langle c_0 \rangle \Rightarrow \{0 \mapsto c?\} \qquad [append \text{ adds } c? \text{ to } \langle \rangle \text{ at } \mathbb{N}]
```

3.1.3 Key

An identifier k paired with some value v to create an ordered pair (k, v). k can take on any valid JSON value (Scalar, Collection, KV) except for the Scalar null. The following free type is introduced for keys.

$$K ::= (Scalar \setminus NULL) \mid Collection \mid KV$$

3.1.4 Value

A value v is paired with an identifier k to create an ordered pair (k, v). v can be any valid JSON value (Scalar, Collection, KV) The following free type is introduced for values.

$$V ::= Scalar \mid Collection \mid KV$$

3.1.5 Map

Within the Z Notation Introduction section, Maps are introduced using the free type KV.

$$KV ::= base \mid associate \langle \langle KV \times X \times Y \rangle \rangle$$

This definition is more accurately

$$KV ::= base \mid associate \langle \langle KV \times K \times V \rangle \rangle$$

which indicates the usage of Key k and Value v within associate. Using this updated definition,

$$associate(base, k, v) = \langle \langle (k, v) \rangle \rangle$$

such that a Map is a Collection of ordered pairs (k_n, v_n) and thus a Collection of mappings

$$(k_n, v_n) \Rightarrow k_n \mapsto v_n$$

but Maps are special cases of Collections as k_n is the unique identifier of v_n within a Map but the opposite is not true. In fact, keys are their own identifiers

$$id v_n = k_n$$

 $id k_n \neq v_n$
 $id k_n = k_n$

Given a Map $M = \langle \langle (k_i, v_i) ... (k_n, v_n) ... (k_j, v_j) \rangle \rangle$ the following demonstrates the uniqueness of Keys but the same is not true for all v within M

$$i_k \neq n_k \neq j_k$$

$$i_v = n_v \lor i_v \neq n_v \ i_v = j_v \lor i_v \neq j_v \ j_v = n_v \lor j_v \neq n_v$$

which can all be stated formally as

```
= [K, V] = Map : K \times V \rightarrowtail KV
Map = \langle \langle (k_i, v_i) ... (k_n, v_n) ... (k_j, v_j) \rangle \rangle \bullet
dom Map = \{ k_i ... k_n ... k_j \}
ran Map = \{ v_i ... v_n ... v_j \}
first(k_i, v_i) \neq first(k_n, v_n) \neq first(k_j, v_j) \wedge
i_v = n_v \lor i_v \neq n_v \ i_v = j_v \lor i_v \neq j_v \ j_v = n_v \lor j_v \neq n_v \land
id \ v_i = k_i \land id \ v_n = k_n \land id \ v_j = k_j \land
id \ k_i = k_i \land id \ k_n = k_n \land id \ k_j = k_j
```

Given that v can be a Map M, or a Collection C, Arbitrary nesting is allowed within Maps but the properties of a Map hold at any depth.

```
M = \langle \langle (k_i, v_i) ... (k_n, \langle \langle (k_{ni}, v_{ni}) \rangle \rangle) ... (k_i, \langle v_{ii} ... \langle \langle (k_{in}, v_{in}) \rangle \rangle ... \langle v_{iji} ... v_{iji} ... v_{iji} \rangle \rangle) \rangle
```

such that $\langle \langle (k_{ni}, v_{ni}) \rangle \rangle$ and $\langle \langle (k_{nj}, v_{nj}) \rangle \rangle$ are both Maps and adhere to the constraints enumerated above.

3.1.6 Statement

Immutable Map conforming to the xAPI Specification as described in the xAPI Formal Definition section of this document. The imutability of a Statement s is demonstrated by the following which indicates that s was not altered when passed to associate.

```
s!, s?: STATEMENT
k?: K
v?: V
s! = associate(s?, k?, v?) = s? \Rightarrow (k?, v?) \notin s! \Rightarrow s! = s?
```

Additionally, given the schema *Statements* the following is true for all *Statement(s)*

```
Statements \\ Keys: STRING \\ S: Collection \\ Keys = \{id, actor, verb, object, result, context, attachments, timestamp, stored\} \\ dom statement = K \lhd Keys \\ S = \langle statement_i ... statement_n ... statement_j \rangle \bullet \\ atKey(statement_i, id) \neq atKey(statement_n, id) \neq atKey(statement_j, id) \Rightarrow id_i \neq id_n \neq id_j \iff statement_i \neq statement_n \neq statement_j
```

Which confirms the constraints found in the schema *Statement* and adds an additional constraint to *Statements* such that every unique *Statement* in a *Collection* of *Statements* has a unique *id*.

3.1.7 Algorithm State

Mutable Map state without any domain restriction such that

```
state?, state!: KV \\ k?: K \\ v?: V \\ \hline associate(state?, k?, v?) = state! \bullet (k, v) \in state! \Rightarrow state? \neq state!
```

3.1.8 Option

Mutable Map opt which is used to alter the result of an Algorithm. The effect of opt on an Algorithm will be discussed in the Algorithm Result section bellow.

4 Operation

An Operation is a function of arbitrary arguments and is defined using Z. For example, Operations pulled directly from "The Z Notation: A Reference Manual" include

- \bullet first
- \bullet second
- \bullet succ
- min
- max
- $\bullet \ count \equiv \#$
- ~
- \bullet rev
- head
- \bullet last
- \bullet tail
- \bullet front
- 1
- |
- ^/
- disjoint
- partition
- 🛇
- 🖽
- \forall
- \bullet items

4.1 Domain

The arguments passed to an Operation can be any of the following but the definition of an Operation may limit the domain to a subset of the following

- Key(s)
- Value(s)
- Set(s)
- Collection(s)
- Bag(s)
- KV(s)
- Statement(s)
- Algorithm State

4.2 Range

The result of an Operation can be any of the following but the definition of an Operation may limit this range to a subset of the following

- Key(s)
- Value(s)
- Set(s)
- Collection(s)
- Bag(s)
- KV(s)
- Statement(s)
- Algorithm State

5 Primitive

Primitives break the processing of xAPI data down into discrete units that can be composed to create new analytical functions. Primitives allow users to address the methodology of answering research questions as a sequence of generic algorithmic steps which establish the necessary data transformations, aggregations and calculations required to reach the solution in an implementation agnostic way.

Within this document, they will be defined as a Collection of Operations and/or Primitives where the output is piped from member to member. In this section, o_n and p_n can be used as to describe Primitive members but for simplicity, only o_n will be used.

$$p_{\langle i \dots n \dots j \rangle} = o_i \gg o_n \gg o_j$$

Within any given Primitive p, variables local to p and any global variables may be passed as arguments to any member of p and there is no restriction on the ordering of arguments with respect to the piping. In the following, q? is a global variable where as the rest are local.

```
x?, y?, z?, i!, n!, j!, p! : Value
o_i : Value \rightarrow Value
o_n : Value \times Value \rightarrow Value
o_j, p : Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value
i! = o_i(x?)
n! = o_n(i!, y?)
j! = o_j(z?, n!, q?)
p! = j! \Rightarrow o_i(z?, o_n(o_i(x?), y?), q?)
```

In the rest of this document, the following notation is used to distinguish between the functionality of a Primitive and its composition. This notation should be used when defining Primitives.

- The top line indicates the Primitive
 - should be written using postfix notation within other schemas
 - is at least a partial function from some input to some output
- The bottom line is an enumeration of the composing Operations and/or Primitives and their order of execution

This means the definition of p from above can be updated as follows.

```
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: Value \times Value \times Value \rightarrow Value \\ \hline p_{-}: V
```

5.1 Domain

Any of the following dependent upon the Operations which compose the Primitive

- Key(s)
- Value(s)
- Set(s)
- Collection(s)
- Bag(s)
- KV(s)
- Statement(s)
- Algorithm State

5.2 Range

Any of the following dependent upon the Domain and Functionality of the Primitive

- Key(s)
- Value(s)
- Set(s)
- Collection(s)
- Bag(s)
- KV(s)
- Statement(s)
- Algorithm State

6 Algorithm

Given a Collection of statement(s) $S_{\langle a..b..c\rangle}$ and potentially option(s) opt and potentially an existing Algorithm State state an Algorithm A executes as follows

- 1. call init
- 2. for each $stmt \in S_{\langle a..b..c\rangle}$
 - (a) relevant?
 - (b) accept?
 - (c) step
- 3. return result

with each process within A is enumerated as

```
(init [state] body)
- init state

(relevant? [state statement] body)
- is the statement valid for use in algorithm?

(accept? [state statement] body)
- can the algorithm consider the current statement?

(step [state statement] body)
- processing per statement
- can result in a modified state

(result [state] body)
- return without option(s) provided
- possibly sets default option(s)

(result [state opt] body)
- return with consideration to option(s)
```

- \bullet body is a collection of Primitive(s) which establishes the processing of inputs \to outputs
- \bullet state is a mutable Map of type KV and synonymous with Algorithm State
- ullet statement is a single statement within the collection of statements passed as input data to the Algorithm A
- opt are additional arguments passed to the algorithm A which impact the return value of the algorithm and synonymous with Option

An Algorithm must be passed an Algorithm State and a Collection of Statement(s). Option is optional.

- Statement(s)
- Algorithm State
- Option(s)

An Algorithm will return an Algorithm State.

• Algorithm State

An Algorithm can be described via its components. A formal definition for an Algorithm is presented at the end of this section. The following subsections go into more detail about the components of an Algorithm.

```
Algorithm ::= Init \ Relevant? \ Accept? \ Step \ Result
```

6.1 Initialization

First process to run within an Algorithm which returns the Algorithm State for the current iteration.

such that some *state*! does not need to be related to its arguments *state*? but *state*! could be derived from some seed *state*?. This functionality is dependent upon the composition of *body* within *init*.

6.1.1 Domain

• Algorithm State

6.1.2 Range

• Algorithm State

6.2 Relevant?

First process that each stmt passes through \Rightarrow relevant? \prec accept? \prec step

```
Relevant? [KV, STATEMENT] \\ state? : KV \\ stmt? : STATEMENT \\ relevant? \_ : KV \times STATEMENT \rightarrow Boolean \\ \hline relevant? = \langle body \rangle \\ relevant? (state?, stmt?) = true \lor false
```

resulting in an indication of whether the stmt is valid within algorithm A. The criteria which determines validity of stmt within A is defined by the body of relevant?

6.2.1 Domain

- Statement
- Algorithm State

6.2.2 Range

• Boolean

6.3 Accept?

Second process that each stmt passes through $\Rightarrow relevant? \prec accept? \prec step$

```
State?: KV \\ state?: KV \\ stmt?: STATEMENT \\ accept? \_: KV \times STATEMENT \rightarrow Boolean \\ accept? = \langle body \rangle \\ accept? (state?, stmt?) = true \lor false
```

resulting in an indication of whether the *stmt* can be sent to *step* given the current *state*. The criteria which determines usability of *stmt* given *state* is defined by the *body* of *accept*?

6.3.1 Domain

- Statement
- Algorithm State

6.3.2 Range

• Scalar

6.4 Step

An Algorithm Step consists of a sequential composition of Primitive(s) where the output of some function is passed as an argument to the next function both within and across Primitives in body.

```
body = p_i \gg p_n \gg p_j \Rightarrow o_{ii} \gg o_{in} \gg o_{ij} \gg o_{ni} \gg o_{nn} \gg o_{nj} \gg o_{ji} \gg o_{jn} \gg o_{jj}
```

The selection and ordering of Operation(s) and Primitive(s) into an Algorithmic Step determines how the Algorithm State changes during iteration through Statement(s) passed as input to the Algorithm.

```
P = \langle p_i ... p_n ... p_j \rangle \bullet i \leq n \leq j \Rightarrow i \prec n \prec j \iff i \neq n \neq j \bullet p_i \gg p_n \gg p_j
P' = \langle p_{i'} ... p_{n'} ... p_{j'} \rangle \bullet i' \leq n' \leq j' \Rightarrow i' \prec n' \prec j' \iff i' \neq n' \neq j' \bullet p_{i'} \gg p_{n'} \gg p_{j'}
P'' = \langle p_x ... p_y ... p_z \rangle \bullet x \leq y \leq z \Rightarrow x \prec y \prec z \iff x \neq y \neq z \bullet p_x \gg p_y \gg p_z
P = P' \iff i \mapsto i' \land n \mapsto n' \land j \mapsto j'
P = P'' \iff (i \mapsto x \land n \mapsto y \land j \mapsto z) \land (p_i \equiv p_x \land p_n \equiv p_y \land p_j \equiv p_z)
```

step may or may not update the input Algorithm State given the current Statement from the Collection of Statement(s).

```
S: Collection \\ stmt_a, stmt_b, stmt_c: STATEMENT \\ state?, step_a!, step_b!, step_c!: KV \\ step_-: KV \times STATEMENT \twoheadrightarrow KV \\ \\ S = \langle stmt_a..stmt_b..stmt_c \rangle \bullet a \leq b \leq c \Rightarrow a \prec b \prec c \iff a \neq b \neq c \\ step_a! = step(state?, stmt_a) \bullet step_a! = state? \lor step_a! \neq state? \\ step_b! = step(step_a!, stmt_b) \bullet step_b! = step_a! \lor step_b! \neq step_a! \\ step_c! = step(step_b!, stmt_c) \bullet step_c! = step_b! \lor step_c! \neq step_b! \\
```

In general, this allows step to be defined as

```
Step[KV, STATEMENT] \\ state?, state!: KV \\ stmt?: STATEMENT \\ step_-: KV \times STATEMENT \twoheadrightarrow KV \\ \\ step = \langle body \rangle \\ state! = step(state?, stmt?) = state? \lor state! \neq state?
```

A change of $state? \rightarrow state! \bullet state! \neq state?$ can be predicted to occur given

- The definition of individual Operations which constitute a Primitive
- The ordering of Operations within a Primitive
- The Primitive(s) chosen for inclusion within the body of step
- The ordering of Primitive(s) within the body of step
- The key value pair(s) in both Algorithm State and the current Statement
- The ordering of Statement(s)

6.4.1 Domain

- Statement
- Algorithm State

6.4.2 Range

• Algorithm State

6.5 Result

Last process to run within an Algorithm which returns the Algorithm State state when all $s \in S$ have been processed by step

```
relevant? \prec accept? \prec step \prec result \prec relevant? \iff S \neq \emptysetrelevant? \prec accept? \prec step \prec result \iff S = \emptyset
```

and does so without preventing subsequent calls of A

```
Result[KV, KV] = \\ result!, state?, opt?: KV \\ result \_: KV \times KV \rightarrow KV \\ \hline result = \langle body \rangle \\ result! = result(state?, opt?) = state? \lor state! \neq state?
```

such that if at some future point j within the timeline $i \dots n \dots j$

```
S(t_n) = \emptyset [S is empty at t_n]
S(t_j) \neq \emptyset [S is not empty at t_j]
S(t_{n-i}) [stmts(s) added to S between t_i and t_n]
S(t_{j-n}) [stmts(s) added to S between t_n and t_j]
S(t_{j-i}) = S(t_{n-i}) \cup S(t_{j-n}) [stmts(s) added to S between t_i and t_j]
```

Algorithm A can pick up from a previous $state_n$ without losing track of its own history.

```
state_{n-i} = A(state_i, S(t_{n-i}))
state_{n-1} = A(state_{n-2}, S(t_{n-1}))
state_n = A(state_{n-1}, S(t_n))
state_{j-n} = A(state_n, S(t_{j-n}))
state_j = A(state_i, S(t_{j-i}))
state_n = state_{n-1} \iff S(t_n) = \emptyset \land S(t_{n-1}) \neq \emptyset
state_j = state_{j-n} \iff state_{n-i} = state_n = state_{n-1}
```

Which makes A capable of taking in some $S_{\langle i..n.j..\infty\rangle}$ as not all $s \in S_{\langle i..\infty\rangle}$ have to be considered at once. In other words, the input data does not need to

persist across the history of A, only the effect of s on state must be persisted. Additionally, the effect of opt is determined by the body within result such that

```
A(state_n, S(t_{j-n}), opt)
\equiv A(state_i S(t_{j-i}))
\equiv A(state_i, S(t_{j-i}), opt)
\equiv A(state_n, S(t_{j-n}))
```

implying that the effect of opt doesn't prevent backwards compatibility of state.

6.5.1 Domain

- Algorithm State
- Option(s)

6.5.2 Range

• Algorithm State

6.6 Algorithm Formal Definition

In previous sections, A_{-} was used to indicate calling an Algorithm. In the rest of this document, that notation will be replaced with $algorithm_{-}$. This new notation is defined using the definitions of Algorithm Components presented above. The previous definition of an Algorithm

```
Algorithm ::= Init \ {}_{\S} Relevant? \ {}_{\S} Accept? \ {}_{\S} Step \ {}_{\S} Result
```

can be refined using the Operation recur and Primitive algorithm Iter (defined in following subsections) to illustrate how an Algorithm processes a Collection of Statement(s).

```
Algorithm[KV, Collection, KV]_{\perp}
Algorithm Iter, Recur, Init, Result
opt?, state?, state!: KV
S?: Collection \bullet \forall s? \in S? \mid s?: STATEMENT
algorithm_-: KV \times Collection \times KV \twoheadrightarrow KV
algorithm = \langle init\_, \langle algorithmIter\_, recur\_ \rangle^{\#S?}, result\_ \rangle
state! = algorithm(state?, S?, opt?) \bullet
     let init! == init(state?) \bullet
     \forall s_n \in S? \mid s_n : STATEMENT, n : \mathbb{N} \bullet i \leq n \leq j \bullet
           \exists_1 state_n \mid state_n : KV \bullet
                 let S_n^2 = tail(S_n^2)^{n-i}
                       state_i = algorithmIter(init!, S?_n) \Rightarrow S?_n = S? \iff n = i
                       state_n = recur(state_i, S?_n, \_algorithmIter\_)^{j-1} \iff n \neq i \land n \neq j
                       state_j = recur(state_n, (\{j-1, j\} \uparrow S?), \_algorithmIter\_) \iff n = j
                       state_{j+1} = state_j \Rightarrow recur(state_j, (j \mid S?), \_algorithmIter\_) \iff n = j + 1
       = result(state_i, opt?)
```

Within the schema above, the following notation is intended to show that algorithm is a Primitive \Rightarrow Collection of Primitives and/or Operations.

$$\langle init_-, \langle algorithmIter_-, recur_- \rangle^{\# S?}, result_- \rangle$$

Within that notation, the following notation is intended to represent the iteration through the Statement(s) via tail recursion.

$$\langle algorithmIter_, recur_ \rangle^{\# S?}$$

which implies that each Statement is passed to $algorithmIter_$ and the result is then passed on to the next iteration of the loop. The completion of this loop is the prerequisites of $result_$

6.6.1 Recur

```
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}\hline p_{i...j} : \operatorname{seq}_1 \bullet \forall o \in p \mid o : \_ \to \_\\ \hline p_{i...j} = \langle \forall n : \mathbb{N} \mid i \leq n \leq j \land o_n \in p_{i...j} \bullet \\ \exists_1 o_n \bullet o_n \neq recur \lor o_n = recur \iff n = j \rangle \Rightarrow \\ front(p_{i...j}) \upharpoonright recur = \langle \rangle \end{array}
```

and results in a call to the passed in function where the accumulator ack? and the Collection (minus the first member) are passed as arguments to fn?. If this would result in the empty Collection ($\langle \rangle$) being passed to fn?, instead the accumulator ack? is returned.

```
Recur[KV, Collection, (\_ + + \_)]
ack? : KV
S? : Collection
fn? : (\_ + + \_)
recur\_ : KV \times Collection \times (\_ + + \_) \leftrightarrow (KV \times Collection + + \_)
recur(ack?, S?, fn?) = fn? (ack?, tail(S?)) \iff tail(S?) \neq \langle \rangle
recur(ack?, S?, fn?) = first(ack?, tail(S?)) \iff tail(S?) = \langle \rangle
```

In the context of Algorithms,

```
ack? = AlgorithmState

S? = Collection of Statement(s)

fn? = algorithmIter
```

6.6.2 Algorithm Iter

The following schema introduce the Primitive algorithm Iter which demonstrates the life cycle of a single statement as its passed through the components of an Algorithm.

```
AlgorithmIter[KV, Collection]
Relevant?, Accept?, Step
state?, state!: KV
S?: Collection
s?: STATEMENT
algorithmIter_: KV × STATEMENT \Rightarrow KV

algorithmIter = \langle relevant?\_, accept?\_, step\_ \rangle
s? = head(S?)
state! = algorithmIter(state?, s?) •
let relevant! == relevant? (state?, s?)
accept! == accept? (state?, s?)
step! == step(state?, s?)
step! == step(state?, s?)
= (state? \iff relevant! = false \lor accept! = false) \lor (step! \iff relevant! = true \land accept! = true)
```

If a statement if both relevant and acceptable, state! will be the result of step. Otherwise, the passed in state is returned $\Rightarrow step! = state?$.

7 Foundational Operations

The Operations in this section use the Operations pulled from the Z Reference Manual (section 1,4) within their own definitions. They are defined as Operations opposed to Primitives because they represent core functionality needed in the context of processing xAPI data given the definition of an Algorithm above. As such, these Operations are added to the global dictionary of symbols usable within the definition of Operations and Primitives throughout the rest of this document.

7.1 Collections

Operations which expect a Collection $X = \langle x_i...x_n...x_j \rangle$

7.1.1 Array?

The operation array? will return a boolean which indicates if the passed in argument is a Collection

where $V \setminus (Scalar, KV)$ is used to indicate that coll? is of type V

```
V ::= Scalar \mid Collection \mid KV
```

but in order for bol! = true, coll? must not be of type $Scalar \vee KV$ such that

```
X = \langle x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \rangle
      x_0 = 0
      x_1 = foo
      x_2 = \langle baz, qux \rangle
      x_3 = \langle \langle abc \mapsto 123, \ def \mapsto 456 \rangle \rangle
      x_4 = \langle \langle \langle ghi \mapsto 789, jkl \mapsto 101112 \rangle \rangle, \langle \langle ghi \mapsto 131415, jkl \mapsto 161718 \rangle \rangle \rangle
array?(X) = true
                                                                          [collection by definition]
array?(x_2) = true
                                                              [collection of 0 \mapsto baz, 1 \mapsto qux]
array?(x_4) = true
                                                                                 [collection of maps]
array?(x_0) = false
                                                                                                   [Scalar]
array?(x_1) = false
                                                                                                   [String]
array?(x_3) = false
                                                                                                     [Map]
```

7.1.2 Append

The operation append will return a Collection with a Value added at a specified numeric Index.

```
 \begin{array}{l} Append[Collection,V,\mathbb{N}] \\ coll?,coll!:Collection \\ v?:V \\ idx?:\mathbb{N} \\ append_{-}:Collection \times V \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrowtail Collection \\ \\ \# idx?=1 \\ coll!=append(coll?,v?,idx?) \bullet \\ let \ coll'==front(\{i:\mathbb{N}\,|\,i\in 0\,...idx?\}\,|\,coll?)\,^{\smallfrown}v? \\ coll''==\{j:\mathbb{N}\,|\,j\in idx?\,..\,\#\,coll?\}\,|\,coll? \\ = coll'\,^{\smallfrown}coll''\Rightarrow \\ (front(coll')\,^{\smallfrown}v?\,^{\smallfrown}coll'')\,^{\wedge} \\ (v?\mapsto idx?\in coll!)\,^{\wedge} \\ (\#\,coll!=\#\,coll?+1) \end{array}
```

append results in the composition of coll' and coll'' such that

$$coll! = coll' \cap coll'' \wedge idx? \mapsto v? \in coll!$$

- coll' is the items in coll? up to and including idx? but the value at idx? is replaced with v? such that idx? $\mapsto coll$? idx? $\notin coll'$
- coll'' is the items in coll? from idx? to # coll? $\Rightarrow coll$? $_{idx}$? $\in coll''$

The following example illustrates these properties.

```
X = \langle x_0, x_1, x_2 \rangle
x_0 = 0
x_1 = foo
x_2 = \langle a, b, c \rangle
v? = bar
append(X, v?, 0) = \langle bar, 0, foo, \langle a, b, c \rangle \rangle
append(X, v?, 1) = \langle 0, bar, foo, \langle a, b, c \rangle \rangle
append(X, v?, 2) = \langle 0, foo, bar, \langle a, b, c \rangle \rangle
append(X, v?, 3) = \langle 0, foo, \langle a, b, c \rangle, bar \rangle
```

7.1.3 Remove

The inverse of the append Operations.

```
remove(coll, idx) = ^{\sim} append(coll, idx)
```

The operation remove will return a Collection minus the Value removed from the specified Numeric Index

```
Remove[Collection, \mathbb{N}] \\ coll?, coll!: Collection \\ idx?: \mathbb{N} \\ remove\_: Collection \times \mathbb{N} \twoheadrightarrow Collection \\ \\ \# idx? = 1 \\ coll! = remove(coll?, idx?) \bullet \\ let \ coll' == front(\{i: \mathbb{N} \mid i \in 0 ... idx?\} \mid coll?) \\ coll'' == tail(\{j: \mathbb{N} \mid j \in idx? .. \# coll?\} \mid coll?) \\ = coll' \cap coll'' \Rightarrow \\ (coll?_{idx?} \notin coll') \land \\ (coll?_{idx?} \notin coll'') \land \\ (\# coll! = \# coll? -1)
```

such that

```
 \begin{array}{l} X = \langle x_0, x_1, x_2 \rangle \\ x_0 = 0 \\ x_1 = foo \\ x_2 = baz \\ remove(X,0) = \langle foo, baz \rangle & [0 \text{ was removed from } X] \\ remove(X,1) = \langle 0, baz \rangle & [foo \text{ was removed from } X] \\ remove(X,2) = \langle 0, foo \rangle & [baz \text{ was removed from } X] \\ remove(X,3) = \langle 0, foo, baz \rangle = X & [nothing at 3, X \text{ unaltered}] \\ \end{array}
```

7.1.4 At Index

The operation *atIndex* will return the Value at a specified numeric index within a Collection or an empty Collection if there is no value at the specified index.

Given the definition of the Collection and V free types

```
Collection :== emptyColl \mid append \langle \! \langle Collection \times Scalar \vee Collection \vee KV \times \mathbb{N} \rangle \! \rangle \\ V ::= Scalar \mid Collection \mid KV
```

The collection member $coll?_{idx?}: V$ is implied from append accepting the argument of type $Scalar \vee Collection \vee KV \equiv V$ which means each Collection member is of type V. Given that extraction ($_ \uparrow _$) returns a Collection,

```
\frac{\operatorname{seq} X : Collection}{-1 - : \mathbb{P} \mathbb{N}_1 \times \operatorname{seq} X \to \operatorname{seq} X}
```

in order for atIndex to return the collection member without altering its type, the first member of atIdx' must be returned, not atIdx' itself.

```
atIdx' : Collection
coll!, coll?_{idx?} : V
atIdx' = (idx? \mid coll?) \Rightarrow \langle coll?_{idx?} \rangle
coll! = head(atIdx') = coll?_{idx?}
```

The *head* call is made possible by restricting idx? to be a single numeric value.

```
\begin{split} idx?, idx': \mathbb{N} \\ & \# idx? = 1 \bullet (idx? \mid coll?) = \langle coll?_{idx?} \rangle \bullet \\ & (head(idx? \mid coll?)) = coll?_{idx?} \quad \text{[expected return given } idx?] \\ & \# idx' \geq 2 \bullet (idx' \mid coll?) = \langle coll?_{idx'_i} \dots coll?_{idx'_j} \rangle \bullet \\ & (head(idx' \mid coll?)) = coll?_{idx'_i} \quad \text{[unexpected return given } idx'] \end{split}
```

Additionally, if the provided $idx? \notin coll?$ then an empty Collection will be returned given that head must be passed a non-empty Collection.

The properties of atIndex are illustrated in the following examples.

$$X = \langle x_0, x_1, x_2 \rangle$$

$$x_0 = 0$$

$$x_1 = foo$$

$$x_2 = \langle a, b, c \rangle$$

$$atIndex(X, 0) = 0 \qquad \qquad [head(\langle x_0 \rangle)]$$

$$atIndex(X, 1) = foo \qquad \qquad [head(\langle x_1 \rangle)]$$

$$atIndex(X, 2) = \langle a, b, c \rangle \qquad \qquad [head(\langle x_2 \rangle)]$$

$$atIndex(X, 3) = \langle \rangle \qquad \qquad [3 \notin X \Rightarrow x_3 \notin X]$$

7.2 Key Value Pairs

Operations which expect a Map $M = \langle \langle k_i v_{k_i} ... k_n v_{k_n} ... k_j v_{k_j} \rangle \rangle$

7.2.1 Map?

The operation map? will return a boolean which indicates if the passed in argument is a KV

```
 \begin{array}{c} Map? \, [V] \\ m? : V \\ bol! : Boolean \\ map? \, \_ : V \to Boolean \\ \\ bol! = map? \, (m?) \bullet bol! = true \iff m? : KV \Rightarrow V \setminus (Scalar, Collection) \end{array}
```

where $V \setminus (Scalar, Collection)$ is used to indicate that m? is of type V

$$V ::= Scalar \mid Collection \mid KV$$

but in order for bol! = true, m? must not be of type $Scalar \vee Collection$ such that

```
X = \langle \langle x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \rangle \rangle
       x_0 = 0
       x_1 = foo
       x_2 = \langle baz, qux \rangle
       x_3 = \langle \langle abc \mapsto 123, \ def \mapsto 456 \rangle \rangle
       x_4 = \langle \langle \langle ghi \mapsto 789, jkl \mapsto 101112 \rangle \rangle, \langle \langle ghi \mapsto 131415, jkl \mapsto 161718 \rangle \rangle \rangle
map?(X) = true
                                                                                     [KV by definition]
map?(x_3) = true
                                                                                                          [KV]
map?(x_2) = false
                                                                                               [Collection]
map?(x_4) = false
                                                                                  [Collection of maps]
map?(x_0) = false
                                                                                                      [Scalar]
map?(x_1) = false
                                                                                                      [String]
```

7.2.2 Associate

The operation associate establishes a relationship between k? and v? at the top level of m!.

```
Associate[KV, K, V] \\ m?, m!, m' : KV \\ k? : K \\ v? : V \\ associate_{-} : KV \times K \times V \rightarrowtail KV \\ \hline \\ m! = associate(m?, k?, v?) \bullet \\ let \ m' == m? \lessdot k? \Rightarrow \\ (\operatorname{dom} \ m' = \operatorname{dom} \ (m? \setminus k?)) \land \\ (m? \setminus m' = k? \iff k? \in m?) \land \\ (m? \setminus m' = \emptyset \iff k? \not\in m? \Rightarrow m? = m') \\ = \langle\!\langle k? \mapsto v? \rangle\!\rangle \cup m'
```

This implies that any existing mapping at $k? \in m?$ will be overwritten by associate but an existing mapping is not a precondition.

```
\begin{array}{c} (k?\,,m?_{k?}\,) \in m? \lor (k?\,,m?_{k?}\,) \not\in m? \\ (k?\,,m?_{k?}\,) \not\in m! \\ \hline (k?\,,v?\,) \in m! \\ \hline \hline m! = associate(m?\,,k?\,,v?\,) \end{array}
```

associate does not alter any other mappings within m? and this property is illustrated by the definition of local variable m'

```
m': KV \mid m' = m? \lessdot k? \Rightarrow m' \vartriangleleft (m? \backslash k?)
dom \ m? = \{ k_i : K \mid 0 ... \# m? \bullet k_i \in m? \land 0 \le i \le \# m? \}
dom \ m' = \{ k'_i : K \mid 0 ... \# m' \bullet k'_i \in m? \land k'_i \ne k? \land 0 \le i \le \# m' \}
dom \ m' = dom \ m? \iff k? \not\in m? \Rightarrow \forall k_i \in m? \mid k_i \ne k?
\# m' = \# m? \iff k? \not\in m?
\# m' = \# m? -1 \iff k? \in m?
```

and its usage within the definition of associate.

$$\begin{aligned} m! &= m? \cup \langle\!\langle \, k? \mapsto v? \, \rangle\!\rangle \Rightarrow k? \not\in m? \\ m! &= m' \cup \langle\!\langle \, k? \mapsto v? \, \rangle\!\rangle \Rightarrow m' \neq m? \land k? \in m? \end{aligned}$$

The following examples demonstrate the intended functionality of associate.

$$\begin{split} M &= \langle \langle k_0 v_{k_0}, k_1 v_{k_1} \rangle \rangle \\ k_0 &= abc \ \land v_{k_0} = 123 \\ k_1 &= def \ \land v_{k_1} = xyz \mapsto 456 \\ associate(M, baz, foo) &= \langle \langle abc \mapsto 123, \ def \mapsto xyz \mapsto 456, \ baz \mapsto foo \rangle \rangle \\ associate(M, abc, 321) &= \langle \langle abc \mapsto 321, \ def \mapsto xyz \mapsto 456 \rangle \rangle \end{split}$$

7.2.3 Dissociate

The operation dissociate will remove some $k \mapsto v$ from KV given $k \in KV$

$$dissociate(KV,k) \rightarrow KV'$$

such that if KV is a collection of Key Value pair(s) $\langle k_0 v_{k_0}, k_1 v_{k_1} \rangle$ where

$$k_0 = abc \wedge v_{k_0} = 123$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

$$k_0 v_{k_0} = abc \mapsto 123$$

and

$$k_1 = def \land v_{k_1} = xyz \mapsto 456$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

$$k_1v_{k_1} = def \mapsto xyz \mapsto 456$$

such that

$$KV = \langle abc \mapsto 123, def \mapsto xyz \mapsto 456 \rangle$$

Which means disocciate(KV, k) results in

- $KV \neq KV' \iff k \in KV \text{ where } k \mapsto v_k \text{ is removed from } KV$ $dissociate(KV, abc) = \langle def \mapsto xyz \mapsto 456 \rangle = KV'$ $dissociate(KV, def) = \langle abc \mapsto 123 \rangle = KV'$
- $KV = KV' \iff k \notin KV$ where nothing is removed from KV $dissociate(KV, cba) = \langle abc \mapsto 123, \ def \mapsto xyz \mapsto 456 \rangle = KV' = KV$

7.2.4 At Key

The operation atKey will return the Value v at some specified

• Top level Key k within KV

$$atKey(KV, k) \rightarrow v$$

• Nested location $K = \langle k_i..k_n..k_i \rangle$ within KV

$$atKey(KV,K) \rightarrow v$$

such that if KV is a collection of Key Value pair(s) $< k_0 v_{k_0}, k_1 v_{k_1} >$ where

$$k_0 = abc \land v_{k_0} = 123$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

$$k_0 v_{k_0} = abc \mapsto 123$$

and

$$k_1 = def \land v_{k_1} = xyz \mapsto 456$$

 \Rightarrow
 $k_1v_{k_1} = def \mapsto xyz \mapsto 456$

such that

$$KV = \langle abc \mapsto 123, \ def \mapsto xyz \mapsto 456 \rangle$$

When k is a single Key

• $k \notin KV$, atKey will return the representation of nothingness

$$atKey(KV, cba) = nil$$

• $k \in KV$, atKey will return v_k

$$atKey(KV, k_0) \Rightarrow atKey(KV, abc) = 123$$

$$atKey(KV, k_1) \Rightarrow atKey(KV, def) = xyz \mapsto 456$$

When K is a Collection of Key(s)

• $K \notin KV$, atKey will return the representation of nothingness

$$atKey(KV, \langle cba, 321 \rangle) = nil$$

• $k_i \in KV \land k_j \notin KV$, atKey will return the representation of nothingness

$$atKey(KV, < def, abc >) = nil$$

• $k_i \in KV \land k_j \in KV$, atKey will return the nested value

$$atKey(KV, < def, xyz >) = 456$$

7.3 Utility

Operations which are usefull in many Statement processing contexts.

7.3.1 Map

The map operation takes in a function fn?, Collection coll? and additional Arguments args? (as necessary) and returns a modified Collection coll! with members fn!_n. The ordering of coll? is maintained within coll!

```
 \begin{array}{l} Map[(\_ \  \, \leftrightarrow \  \, \_), Collection, V] \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ fn?: (\_ \  \, \leftrightarrow \  \, \_) \\ args?: V \\ coll?, coll!: Collection \\ map\_: (\_ \  \, \leftrightarrow \  \, \_) \times Collection \times V \twoheadrightarrow Collection \\ \hline \\ coll!= map(fn?, coll?, args?) \bullet \\ (\forall n: i..j \in coll? \mid i \leq n \leq j \land j = \# coll? \bullet \\ \exists_1 \ fn!_n: V \mid fn!_n = \\ (fn? \  (coll?_n, args?) \iff args? \neq \emptyset) \lor \\ (fn? \  (coll?_n) \iff args? = \emptyset) \rangle \Rightarrow fn!_i \cap fn!_n \cap fn!_j \\ \end{array}
```

Above, $fn!_n$ is introduced to handle the case where fn? only requires a single argument. Additional arguments may be necessary but if they are not $(args? = \emptyset)$ then only $coll?_n$ is passed to fn?.

```
X = \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle map\left(succ, X\right) = \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle [increment each member of X] map\left(+, X, 2\right) = \langle 3, 4, 5 \rangle [add 2 to each member of X]
```

7.3.2 Iso To Unix Epoch

The *isoToUnix* operation converts an ISO 8601 Timestamp (see the xAPI Specification) to the number of seconds that have elapsed since January 1, 1970

```
ts = 2015 - 11 - 18T12: 17: 00 + 00: 00 \equiv 2015 - 11 - 18T12: 17: 00Z isoToUnixEpoch(ts) = 1447849020 \qquad \qquad [\text{ISO 8601} \rightarrow \text{Epoch time}]
```

7.3.3 Timeunit To Number of Seconds

The operation toSeconds will return the number of seconds corresponding to the input Timeunit

 $Timeunit ::= second \, | \, minute \, | \, hour \, | \, day \, | \, week \, | \, month \, | \, year$

such that the following schema defines toSeconds

```
ToSeconds[Timeunit] \\ toSeconds_: Timeunit \\ toSeconds(t?) = 1 \iff t? = second \\ toSeconds(t?) = 60 \iff t? = minute \\ toSeconds(t?) = 3600 \iff t? = hour \\ toSeconds(t?) = 86400 \iff t? = day \\ toSeconds(t?) = 604800 \iff t? = week \\ toSeconds(t?) = 2629743 \iff t? = month \\ toSeconds(t?) = 31556926 \iff t? = year
```

8 Common Primitives

8.1 Accumulate

Performs an update at path within state using the supplied item or $k~\wedge~v$

$$accumulate(state, path, item) \rightarrow state'$$

 $accumulate(state, path, k, v) \rightarrow state'$

8.1.1 Arguments

- state is an Algorithm State
- path is a Collection of Key(s) used to navigate into state
- item is a Scalar which should be reflected within state' at path
- \bullet k is a Value used as the target
 - Index within some Collection
 - Key within some KV such that $k \mapsto v \in KV$
- \bullet v is a Value
 - Added to some Collection at index k
 - Mapped to k within some KV such that $k\mapsto v\in KV$

8.1.2 Relevant Operations

The primitive accumulate uses the operations

- array?
- object?
- append
- associate
- \bullet atKey
- count

8.1.3 Summary

accumulate will do one of the following things

- replace an existing non-array Scalar or KV
 accumulate(state, path, item) = associate(state, path, item)
- update an existing array Scalar or Collection $accumulate(state, path, item) \equiv associate(state, path, append(state_{path}, item, count(state_{path})))$
- updates an existing Scalar object or KV
 accumulate(state, path, k, v) = associate(state, append(path, k, count(path)), v)
- updates an existing array Scalar or Collection $accumulate(state, path, k, v) \equiv associate(state, path, append(state_{path}, v, k))$
- create a new Collection containing $state_{path}$ and v $accumulate(state, path, k, v) \equiv associate(state, path, append(append(<>, state_{path}, 0), v, k))$

8.1.4 Usage of Operations

In order to update the argument state at path using item or $k \wedge v$ the first step is always retrieving the value at path using the operation atKey. This operation is used because by definition, state is a KV

$$state_{path} = atKey(state, path)$$

to determine its type

$$state_{path} = Object \lor KV \lor x \lor X$$

such that the following bullet points represent the beahvior of accumulate under various conditions

- $object?(state_{path}) = true$
 - and *item* passed in as argument

$$updatedState = associate(state, path, item)$$

- and $k \wedge v$ passed in as argument

$$index = count(path)$$

$$fullPath = append(path, k, index)$$

 $updatedState = associate(state, fullPath, v)$

- $array?(state_{path}) = true$
 - and *item* passed in as argument

$$index = count(state_{path})$$

$$updatedArray = append(state_{path}, item, index)$$

$$updatedState = associate(state, path, updatedArray)$$

- and $k \wedge v$ passed in as argument

$$updatedArray = append(state_{path}, v, k)$$

updatedState = associate(state, path, updatedArray)

- $\bullet \ array? \, (state_{path}) = false \ \land \ object? \, (state_{path}) = false$
 - and *item* passed in as argument

$$updatedState = associate(state, path, item)$$

- and $k \wedge v$ passed in as argument

$$newArray = append(<>, state_{path}, 0)$$

$$updatedArray = append(newArray, v, k)$$

updatedState = associate(state, path, updatedArray)

Which shows that accumulate has common steps across all conditions

$$state_{path} = atKey(state, path)$$

$$objectAtPath? = object? (state_{nath})$$

$$arrayAtPath? = array? (state_{path})$$

but then the steps deviate based item vs $k \wedge v$ such that the action of accumulate when item is passed in results in either

- an overwrite of $state_{path}$ via associate(state, path, item)
 - objectAtPath? = true
 - objectAtPath? = false \land arrayAtpath? = false
- an updated $state_{path}$ via $associate(state, path, append(state_{path}, item, count(state_{path})))$
 - arrayAtPath? = true

and the action of accumulate when $k \wedge v$ is passed in results in either

• objectAtPath? = true

- an update of $state_{path}$ to include $k \mapsto v$ associate(state, append(path, k, count(path)), v)
- $\bullet \ arrayAtPath? = true$
 - an update of $state_{path}$ to include v at index k $associate(state, path, append(state_{path}, v, k))$
- $objectAtPath? = false \land arrayAtpath? = false$
 - creation of a new array which contains $state_{path}$ and v at index k $associate(state, path, append(append(<>>, state_{path}, 0), v, k))$

8.1.5 Example output

To demonstrate the functionality of accumulate, the following assumptions will be made

$$\begin{split} state = < a \mapsto < b \mapsto < 1, 2, 3 >, c \mapsto 4 > d \mapsto foo, e \mapsto < 4, 5, 6 >> \\ \Rightarrow \\ state_a = < b \mapsto < 1, 2, 3 >, c \mapsto 4 > \\ state_d = foo \\ state_e = < 4, 5, 6 > \end{split}$$

such that

$$accumulate(state, < d >, baz) = < state_a, d \mapsto baz, state_e >$$

and

$$accumulate(state, \langle a \rangle, baz) = \langle a \mapsto baz, state_d, state_e \rangle$$

and

$$accumulate(state, < a, c >, baz) = < a \mapsto < b \mapsto < 1, 2, 3 >, c \mapsto baz >, \ state_d, \ state_e > c \mapsto < b \mapsto <$$

and

$$accumulate(state, \langle e \rangle, 7) = \langle state_a, state_d, e \mapsto \langle 4, 5, 6, 7 \rangle \rangle$$

and

$$accumulate(state, < e>, < 7, 8, 9>) = < state_a, \ state_d, \ e \mapsto < 4, 5, 6, < 7, 8, 9>>>$$

and

$$accumulate(state, < a >, b, < 3, 2, 1 >) = < a \mapsto < b \mapsto < 3, 2, 1 >, c \mapsto 4 >, \ state_d, \ state_e >$$

and

$$\begin{split} &accumulate(state, < a>, q, baz) = < a \mapsto < b \mapsto < 1, 2, 3>, c \mapsto 4, q \mapsto baz>, \ state_d, \ state_e> \\ &\text{and} \\ &accumulate(state, < a, q>, r, baz) = < a \mapsto < b \mapsto < 1, 2, 3>, c \mapsto 4, q \mapsto r \mapsto baz>, \ state_d, \ state_e> \\ &\text{and} \\ &accumulate(state, < e>, 1, 7) = < state_a, \ state_d, \ e \mapsto < 4, 7, 5, 6>> \\ &\text{and} \end{split}$$

 $accumulate(state, < d >, 0, baz) = < state_a, < baz, foo >, state_e >$

and

 $accumulate(state, < d >, 1, < baz, bar >) = < state_a, < foo, < baz, bar >>, state_e >$

8.2 At JSONPath

Performs a lookup at path within source similar to atKey

such that the fundamental functionality of JSONPath is covered in this definition.

• A more complete definition will come at a future date if/as necessary

8.2.1 Arguments

- source is an object Scalar, KV, Statement or an Algorithm State
- path is a JSONPath string which adheres to the additional requirements, clarifications, and additions placed on JSONPath by the xAPI Profile Specification

8.2.2 Relevant Operations

The primitive atJsonPath uses the operations

- atKey
- atIndex
- append
- count

8.2.3 Summary

atJsonPath will return a v found within source after converting

$$path \rightarrow < path_{i+1}..path_j >$$

such that if

$$path = \$.a.b$$

then

$$path \rightarrow < a, b >$$

so that

$$atJsonPath(\langle a \mapsto b \mapsto 123 \rangle, \$.a.b) = 123$$

8.2.4 Usage of Operations

In order to convert

$$path \rightarrow < path_{i+2}..path_{j} >$$

an empty Collection keyState is introduced

$$keyState = <>$$

so that the relevant k'(s) can be stored in keyState during iteration over path

$$\forall n: i..j \bullet i = 0 \land j = count(path) - 1$$

and the number of stored keys can be tracked using curKeyStateIndex

$$curKeyStateIndex = count(keyState) - 1$$

such that the current $path_n$ can be retrieved

$$curKey = atIndex(path, n)$$

and keepKey? can indicate the relevance of $path_n$

$$keepKey? = true \iff curKey \neq \$ \land curKey \neq .$$

such that during each iteration n, keyState will be updated if necessary

 $keyState = append(keyState, curKey, curKeyStateIndex) \iff keepKey? = true$ so at the end of the loop

$$keyState = \langle path_{i+2}..path_n..path_i \rangle$$

which provides the Collection of Key(s) necessary for calling atKey

$$valueInSource = atKey(source, keyState)$$

such that

$$atJsonPath(source, path) \equiv atKey(source, keyState)$$

8.2.5 Example output

Given an example source

$$source = < a \mapsto < b \mapsto 123, c \mapsto 456 >, d \mapsto foo >$$
 then
$$atJsonPath(source, \$.a) = < b \mapsto 123, c \mapsto 456 >$$
 and
$$atJsonPath(source, \$.a.b) = 123$$
 and
$$atJsonPath(source, \$.a.c) = 456$$
 and
$$atJsonPath(source, \$.a.c) = foo$$

8.3 Rate Of

Calculates the number of times something occured within an interval of time given a unit of time.

Where the output translates to: the rate of occurance per unit within interval

8.3.1 Arguments

- \bullet nOccurances is the number of times something happened and should be an Integer
- \bullet start is an ISO 8601 timestamp which serves as the first timestamp within the interval
- \bullet end is an ISO 8601 timestamp which servers as the last timestamp within the interval
- unit is a String Enum representing the unit of time

8.3.2 Relevant Operations

- isoToUnixEpoch
- $timeunit \rightarrow seconds$

8.3.3 Summary

rateOf determines the number of seconds within the interval $start \rightarrow end$

$$intervalSeconds = isoToUnixEpoch(end) - isoToUnixEpoch(start)$$

and resolves the numer of seconds corresponding to unit

$$unitSeconds = timeunit \rightarrow seconds(unit)$$

so that the interval can be converted from Seconds to unit

$$per = intervalSeconds/unitSeconds$$

and the rate can be calculated

$$rateOf(nOccurances, start, end, unit) \equiv nOccurances \div per$$

8.3.4 Usage of Operations

The Operations used within rateOf convert from a String to a Integer

 \bullet isoToUnixEpoch is used to convert

$$end \land start \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

• $timeunit \rightarrow seconds$ is used to convert

$$unit \to \mathbb{R}$$

The only other functionality required by rateOf is supplied via basic arithmetic

8.3.5 Example output

Given an example start and end

$$start = 2015 - 11 - 18T12:17:00Z$$

$$end = 2015 - 11 - 18T14:17:00Z$$

Then the Unix Epoch of each is

$$nStart = 1447849020$$

$$nEnd = 1447856220$$

Which provides an interval range (in seconds)

$$intervalSeconds = nEnd - nStart = 7200$$

which is divided by $timeunit \rightarrow seconds(unit)$ to derive per unit

$$per = 7200 \iff unit = second \Rightarrow 7200/1$$

$$per = 120 \iff unit = minute \Rightarrow 7200/60$$

$$per = 2 \iff unit = hour \Rightarrow 7200/3600$$

such that if

$$nOccurances=10\\$$

and unit=second then the output is 0.001389 occurances per second within $start \rightarrow end$

$$rateOf(nOccurances, start, end, second) \equiv 10/7200 \equiv 0.001389$$

and unit=minute then the output is 0.0833 occurances per minute within $start \rightarrow end$

$$rateOf(nOccurances, start, end, minute) \equiv 10/120 \equiv 0.0833$$

and unit = hour then the output is 5 occurances per hour within $start \rightarrow end$

$$rateOf(nOccurances, start, end, hour) \equiv 10/2 \equiv 5$$

Updated Algorithm Definitions

The following are examples of the new way in which Algorithms were defined. These sections are either in draft form or are a work in progress.

9 Rate of Completions

As learners engage in activities supported by a learning ecosystem, they will build up a history of learning experiences. When the digital resources of that learning ecosystem adhere to a framework dedicated to supporting and understanding the learner, such as the Total Learning Architecture (TLA), it becomes possible to retell their learning story through data and data visualization. One important aspect of that story is the rate of completion of the various digital resources within the learning ecosystem.

9.1 Initialization

init(state) sets up an empty KV within state for the Algorithm to update at each step

$$init(state) = state_0$$

where

 $state_0 = associate(state, < state, completions >, <>) \iff atKey(state, < state, completions >) = nilear (state, < state, < state$

otherwise

$$state_0 = state$$

such that if

$$state = \langle a \mapsto b \rangle$$

then

$$state_0 = \langle a \mapsto b, state \mapsto completions \mapsto \langle > \rangle$$

9.2 Relevant?

relevant? (state, stmt) determines if stmt is valid for use within step of rateOfCompletions and does so by looking into various $k \to v$ within stmt. The following Primitives are used as the body of relevant? (state, stmt)

• is the Object of the Statement an Activity?

$$activityType = atKey(stmt, < object, objectType >)$$
 $activity?(activityType) = true \iff activityType = Activity \lor activityType = nil$

• is the Verb indicative of a completion event?

$$verbId = atKey(stmt, < verb, id >)$$
 $completionVerb?(verbId) = true$
 \iff

V

$$verbId = https: //w3id.org/xapi/dod - isd/verbs/answered \\ \lor$$

verbId = http: //adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/completed

• does the *stmt* indicate completion using Result?

$$result = atKey(stmt, < result, completion >)$$

 $resultCompletion = true \iff result = true$

such that the body of relevant? contains

$$p_a(stmt) = activity? (atKey(stmt, < object, objectType >))$$

and

$$p_v(stmt) = completionVerb? (atKey(stmt, < verb, id >))$$

and

$$p_r(stmt) = resultCompletion(atKey(stmt, < result, completion >))$$
 which are used to form higher level Primitives

$$p_{continue}(stmt) = stmt \iff p_a(stmt) = true$$

and

 $p_{completed?}(stmt) = stmt \iff p_v(stmt) = true \ \lor \ p_r(stmt) = true$ which results in a final Primitive $p_{return?}$

$$p_{return?}(stmt) = object? (p_{completed?}(p_{continue}(stmt)))$$

which defines the *body* of *relevant*?

$$relevant? (stmt) = p_{return?} (stmt) \Rightarrow object? (p_{completed?} (p_{continue} (stmt)))$$

and can be summarized as

$$relevant? (state, stmt) = true$$

 \iff

$$activity? (activitType) = true$$

Λ

$$completionVerb?(verbId) = true \ \lor \ resultCompletion = true$$

9.3 Accept?

rateOfCompletions does not require further boolean logic to determine if stmt and state can be passed to step

$$accept?(state, stmt) = object?(stmt)$$

which should always return true assuming valid xAPI Statements are passed to rateOfCompletions

9.4 Step

9.4.1 summary

step(state, stmt) updates state to include

 $\$.object.id \mapsto < domain, statementCount, name >$

where

$$\begin{aligned} domain \mapsto < start, end > \\ statementCount \mapsto \mathbb{R} \\ name \mapsto < \$.object.definition.name > \end{aligned}$$

at

$$< state, completions, \$.object.id >$$

9.4.2 processing

step starts by extracting the relevant information from stmt

• currentTime

$$currentTime = atKey(stmt, timestamp)$$

name

$$name_{stmt} = atKey(stmt, < object, definition, name >)$$

• objectId

$$objectId = atKey(stmt, < object, id >)$$

which allows for the previous state to be resolved using objectId

 \bullet domain

$$domain_{state} = atKey(state, < state, completions, objectId, domain >)$$

$$start_{state} = first(domain_{state})$$

$$end_{state} = last(domain_{state})$$

- statementCount $statementCount_{state} = atKey(state, < state, completions, objectId, statementCount >)$
- name

$$name_{state} = atKey(state, < state, completions, objectId, name >)$$

so that the previous state can be used along side the information parsed from stmt

• does $start_{state}$ need to be updated to currentTime?

where

$$inSeconds_{stmt} = isoToUnixEpoch(currentTime)$$

$$inSeconds_{start} = isoToUnixEpoch(start_{state}) \iff start_{state} \neq nil$$

such that

$$start(state, stmt) = currentTime$$

$$\iff$$

$$start_{state} = nil \\$$

 \vee

 $inSeconds_{stmt} \leq inSeconds_{start}$

otherwise

$$start(state, stmt) = start_{state}$$

• does end_{state} need to be updated to currentTime?

where

$$inSeconds_{stmt} = isoToUnixEpoch(currentTime)$$

$$inSeconds_{end} = isoToUnixEpoch(end_{state}) \iff end_{state} \neq nil$$

such that

$$end(state, stmt) = currentTime$$

$$\leftarrow$$

$$end_{state} = nil \\$$

V

 $inSeconds_{stmt} \ge inSeconds_{end}$

otherwise

$$end(state, stmt) = end_{state}$$

• what should statementCount be?

$$nStmts(state) = 1 \iff statementCount_{state} = 0 \lor nil$$

V

 $nStmts(state) = 1 + statementCount_{state} \iff statementCount_{state} \geq 1$

• do we need to add a new name?

 $allNames(state, stmt) = append(name_{state}, name_{stmt}, count(name_{state}))$

 $name_{stmt} \not \in name_{state}$

otherwise

$$allNames(state, stmt) = name_{state}$$

which allows for the following primitives to be defined

$$p_{start}(state, stmt) = start(state, stmt)$$

$$p_{end}(state, stmt) = end(state, stmt)$$

$$p_{stmtCount}(state, stmt) = nStmts(state)$$

$$p_{names}(state, stmt) = allNames(state, stmt)$$

and establish relevant paths into state

$$K_{domain} = \langle state, completions, objectId, domain \rangle$$

 $K_{stmtCount} = < state, completions, objectId, statementCount >$

$$K_{names} = \langle state, completions, objectId, name \rangle$$

which are used within higher level primitives concerned with updating state

$$p_{updateStart}(state, stmt)$$

=

 $associate(state, K_{domain}, append(remove(domain_{state}, 0), p_{start}(state, stmt), 0)) \\$ and

$$p_{updateEnd}(state, stmt)$$

Ξ

 $associate(state, K_{domain}, append(remove(domain_{state}, 1), p_{end}(state, stmt), 1)) \\$ and

$$p_{updatedCount}(state, stmt)$$

 \equiv

 $associate(state, K_{stmtCount}, p_{stmtCount}(state, stmt))$

 $p_{updatedNames}(state, stmt)$

=

 $associate(state, K_{names}, p_{names}(state, stmt))$

such that body of step is defined as

 $step(state, stmt) = p_{updateNames}(p_{updateCount}(p_{updateEnd}(p_{updateStart}(state, stmt), stmt), stmt), stmt)$

where

and

 $state' = p_{updateStart}(state, stmt)$

and

 $state'' = p_{updateEnd}(state', stmt)$

and

 $state''' = p_{updateCount}(state'', stmt)$

such that

$$step(state, stmt) = p_{updateNames}(state''', stmt)$$

9.5 Result

The only opts used by rateOfCompletions is timeUnit

 $timeUnit = second \lor minute \lor hour \lor day \lor month \lor year$

and will default to day if not passed to rateOfCompletions

$$result(state) = result(state, < timeUnit \mapsto day >)$$

which is passed to rateOf along with the arguments parsed from state

$$unit = atKey(opts, timeUnit)$$

allCompletions(state) = atKey(state, < state, completions >)

such that

$$\forall k_n : i..n..j \in allCompletions(state)$$

the following primitives are called each iteration

 $getCount(state, k_n) = atKey(allCompletions(state), < k_n, statementCount >)$

 $getStart(state, k_n) = atKey(allCompletions(state), < k_n, domain, start >)$

 $getEnd(state, k_n) = atKey(allCompletions(state), < k_n, domain, end >)$

 $getName(state, k_n) = atKey(allCompletions(state), < k_n, name >)$

which allows for

 $rate_n(state, k_n, unit) = rateOf(getCount(state, k_n), getStart(state, k_n), getEnd(state, k_n), unit)$

such that

$$value_n(state, k_n, unit) = \langle x_n, y_n \rangle$$

where

$$name_n(state, k_n) = first(getName(state, k_n))$$

$$x_n = x \mapsto name_n(state, k_n) \iff name_n(state, k_n) \neq nil$$

otherwise

$$x_n = x \mapsto k_n$$

and

$$y_n = y \mapsto rate_n(state, k_n, unit)$$

such that

$$value_n(state, k_n, unit) = < name_n(state, k_n), \ rate_n(state, k_n, unit) >$$

and

 $value(state, unit) = \forall k_n : i..n..j \in allCompletions(state) \exists ! \ value_n(state, k_n, unit) = < x_n, y_n > 1$

 \Rightarrow

 $value(state, unit) = \langle value_i(state, k_i, unit)...value_n(state, k_n, unit)...value_j(state, k_j, unit) \rangle$ which allows the body of result to be defined using

$$unit = atKey(opts, timeUnit)$$

$$K_{store} = \langle state, completions, values, unit \rangle$$

so that result returns an updated state with the rate of completions per unit located at K_{store}

 $result(state, opts) = associate(state, K_{store}, value(state, unit))$

10 Timeline Of Learner Success

Intro text about the Algorithm

10.1 Initialization

What does $state_0$ look like?

10.2 Relevant?

What primitives are used to determine if a Statement is relevant

10.3 Accept?

What primitives are used to determine if a Statement is accepted

10.4 Step

What primitives are used to process a Statement to update state

10.5 Result

What opts are used if any + what does the state look like?

11 Which Assessment Questions are the Most Difficult

Intro text about the Algorithm

11.1 Initialization

What does $state_0$ look like?

11.2 Relevant?

What primitives are used to determine if a Statement is relevant

11.3 Accept?

What primitives are used to determine if a Statement is accepted

11.4 Step

What primitives are used to process a Statement to update state

11.5 Result

What opts are used if any + what does the state look like?

12 How Often are Recommendations Followed

Intro text about the Algorithm

12.1 Initialization

What does $state_0$ look like?

12.2 Relevant?

What primitives are used to determine if a Statement is relevant

12.3 Accept?

What primitives are used to determine if a Statement is accepted

12.4 Step

What primitives are used to process a Statement to update state

12.5 Result

What opts are used if any + what does the state look like?

Previous Algorithm Definitions

The following are examples of the previous way in which Algorithms were defined.

13 Rate of Completions

As learners engage in activities supported by a learning ecosystem, they will build up a history of learning experiences. When the digital resources of that learning ecosystem adhere to a framework dedicated to supporting and understanding the learner, such as the Total Learning Architecture (TLA), it becomes possible to retell their learning story through data and data visualization. One important aspect of that story is the rate of completion of the various digital resources within the learning ecosystem.

13.1 Ideal Statements

In order to accurately portray the rates of completion, there are a few base requirements of the data produced by a Learning Record Provider (LRP). They are as follows:

- statements describing a learner completing an activity should² use the verb http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/completed
- statements describing a learner completing an activity should report if the learner was successful or not via \$.result.success
- statement describing a learner completing a scored activity should report the learners score via \$.result.score.raw, \$.result.score.min and \$.result.score.max
- activites must be uniquely and consistently identified across all statements
- The time at which a learner completed a learning activity must be recorded
 - The timestamp should contain an appropriate level of specificity.
 - ie. Year, Month, Day, Hour, Minute, Second, Timezone
- statements describing a learner completing an activity should report the amount of time taken to complete the activity via \$.result.duration

13.2 Input Data Retrieval

How to query an LRS via a GET request to the Statements Resource via curl. The following section contains the appropriate parameters with example values as well as the curl command necessary for making the request.³⁴⁵

 $^{^1}$ Completion can be defined by the presence of the verb completed or by the presence of \$.result.completion set equal to true. In this algorithm, completion is defined by the presence of the verb completed regardless of \$.result.completion. This decision affects how statements are retrieved and filtered. In the case where completion is defined by \$.result.completion, the query to the LRS would not include the verb parameter and there would need to be a filtering process which looks for the presence of $\$.result.completion = {\rm true}$

 $^{^2}$ See footnote 4

 $^{^3}$ See footnote 1.

⁴ See footnote 2.

⁵ See footnote 3.

13.3 Statement Parameters to Utilize

The statement parameter locations here are written in JSONPath. This notation is also compatable with the xAPI Z notation due to the defined hierarchy of components. Within the Z specifications, a variable name will be used instead of the \$

- \bullet \$.timestamp
- \$.object.id

13.4 2018 Pilot TLA Statement Problems

The initial pilot test data supports the core requirements of this algorithm but completion statements only reports completion scores via \$.result.scaled instead of \$.result.score.raw, \$.result.score.min and \$.result.score.max.⁶ Given that the offical 2018 pilot test is scheduled to take place on July 27th, 2018, this section may require updates pending future data review.

13.5 Summary

1. Query an LRS via a GET request to the statemetrs endpoint using the paramters verb, since and until.

 $^{^6}$ The one potential issue with using scaled score is the calculation of scaled is not stricly defined by the xAPI specification but is instead up to the authors of the LRP. This results in the inability to reliably compare scaled scores across LRPs. if \$.result.score.raw, \$.result.score.min and \$.result.score.max are reported for all questions, it becomes possible to reliably compare scores across LRPs by generating a scaled score in a consistent way.

- 2. group statements by their \$.object.id
- 3. select time range unit for use within rate calculation. Will default to day.
- 4. determine the amount of time between the first and last instance of a \$.object.id (in seconds) and divide it by the time unit. ie if the unit is minute, you would divide by 60.
- 5. calculate the rate by dividing the count of a group (2) by the number of time units covered by the statements (4) so that the rate is the number of completions per activity per time unit.

13.6 Formal Specification

13.6.1 Basic Types

```
TIMEUNIT :== \{second\} | \{minute\} | \{hour\} | \{day\} | \{week\} | \{month\} | \{year\} \} | \{minute\} | \{min
```

13.6.2 System State

```
RateOfCompletion \\ Statements \\ S_{completions}: \mathbb{F}_1 \\ S_{grouped}, S_{timeunit}, S_{processed}: \mathbb{F} \\ \\ S_{completions} = statements \\ S_{grouped} = \{byId: seq_1 \ statement\} \\ S_{withRate} = \{byGroup: (seq_1 \ statement, \mathbb{N})\} \\ S_{processed} = \{rate: (id, \mathbb{N}, TIMEUNIT)\} \\ \\
```

- The set $S_{completions}$ is a non-empty, finite set and is the component statements which contains the results of the query to the LRS.
- The sets $S_{qrouped}$, $S_{withRate}$ and $S_{processed}$ are all finite sets
- the set $S_{grouped}$ is a finite set of objects byId which are non-empty, finite sequences of the component statement
- the set $S_{withRate}$ is a finite set of objects byGroup which are ordered pairs of non-empty, finite sequences of the component statement and a natural number
- the set $S_{processed}$ is a finite set of objects rate where each contains the component id, a natural number and the type TIMEUNIT

13.6.3 Initial System State

```
InitRateOfCompletion \\ RateOfCompletion \\ T:TIMEUNIT \\ \\ S_{completions} \neq \emptyset \\ S_{grouped} = \emptyset \\ S_{withRate} = \emptyset \\ S_{processed} = \emptyset \\ T = \{day\}
```

- The set $S_{completions}$ is a non-empty set which contains the results of the GET request(s) to the LRS
- The sets $S_{grouped}$, $S_{withRate}$ and $S_{processed}$ are all initially empty
- the variable T has the type TIMEUNIT and the value $\{day\}$

13.6.4 Calculate Rate

```
IsoToUnix \\ convert: \mathbb{F}_1 \to \mathbb{N}\#1 \\ c?: \mathbb{F}_1 \\ c!: \mathbb{N}\#1 \\ c! = convert(c?)
```

- The schema *IsoToUnix* introduces the function *convert* which takes in a finit set of one thing (a timestamp) and converts it to a single natural number.
- the purpose of this function is to convert an ISO 8601 timestamp to the Unix epoch. The concrete definition of the conversion is outside the scope of this document
 - The Unix epoch is the number of seconds that have elapsed since January 1, 1970 (midnight UTC/GMT), not counting leap seconds.

```
 \begin{array}{l} -CalcRateByUnit \\ -Statement \\ -IsoToUnix \\ -CountPerGroup \\ -unit?: TIMEUNIT \\ s?, s!: \mathbb{F} \\ r: \mathbb{N} \\ -rate: (\mathbb{F}, TIMEUNIT) \rightarrow \mathbb{F} \\ \\ \hline \\ unit? = \{second\} \Rightarrow 1 \lor \{minute\} \Rightarrow 60 \lor \{hour\} \Rightarrow 3600 \lor \\ -\{day\} \Rightarrow 86400 \lor \{week\} \Rightarrow 604800 \lor \\ -\{month\} \Rightarrow 2629743 \lor \{year\} \Rightarrow 31556926 \\ s? = \{g: seq_1 statement\} \\ s! = rate(s?, unit?) \\ s! = \{s: (g, r) \mid \forall g_n: g_i..g_j \bullet i \leq n \leq j \bullet \exists s_n: (g_n, r_n) \bullet \\ -r_n = count(g_n) \div ((convert(last g_n.timestamp) - convert(head g_n.timestamp)) \div unit?) \} \\ \end{array}
```

- The schema CalcRateByUnit introduces the function rate where the input s? is a set of objects g which are each a non-empty, finite sequence of statements and the input unit? represents a unit of time.
- for every g_n within the range $g_i...g_j$, there exists an associated object s_n which is an orderd pair of (g_n, r_n) where r_n is equal to the number of items within g_n divided by the number of unit?s within the time range of $last\ g_n.timestamp head\ g_n.timestamp$
- the output of the function rate is s!, the set of all s_n

13.6.5 Processes Results

```
AggergateCompletionStatements
\Delta RateOfCompletion
GroupByActivityId
CalcRateByUnit
grouped, processed, with Rate : \mathbb{F}
r: \mathbb{N}
T?: TIMEUNIT
T? = \{day\}
grouped = \emptyset
grouped' = group(S_{completions})
S'_{grouped} = S_{grouped} \cup grouped'
withRate \subseteq S'_{grouped}
withRate' = rate(withRate, T?)
S'_{withRate} = withRate' \cup S_{withRate}
processed \subseteq S'_{withRate}
processed' = \{p : (id, r, T?) \mid
                  let \{processed_i..processed_i\} == \{b_i..b_i\} \bullet
                  \forall b_n : b_i ... b_j \bullet i \le n \le j \bullet \exists p_n : (id_n, r_n, T?) \bullet
                  id_n = (head (first b_n)).object.id \land
                  r_n = (second \, b_n)
S'_{processed} = processed' \cup S_{processed}
```

- The schema AggergateCompletionStatements outlines how to calculate the rate of completion per \$.object.id per second|minute|hour|day|week|month|year
 - 1. $S'_{grouped}$ is the result of grouping the statements within $S_{completions}$ by their \$.object.id
 - 2. The groups from (1) are passed to the function *rate* with the variable *T*? which controls the unit of time, ie per day vs per week
 - 3. the result of (2) is then processed to create a triplet of \$.object.id, rate, unit of time for all unique \$.object.id within $S_{completions}$

13.6.6 Return

```
Return Aggergate Completion Statements \Xi Rate Of Completion Aggergate Completion Statements S_{processed}!: \mathbb{F} S_{processed}! = S_{processed}
```

• The return value $S_{processed}$! is equal to $S_{processed}$ after the operation described by AggergateCompletionStatements

13.7 Pseudocode

```
Algorithm 1: Rate of Completions
 Input: S_{completed}, timeUnit
 Result: ratePerObjTu'
  context = \{\};
  ratePerObjTu = //;
 while S_{completion} \neq \emptyset do
      for
each s \in S_{completion} do
          id \leftarrow s.object.id;
          ts \leftarrow convert(s.timestamp);
         if id \notin context then
              do
              times = [ts];
              context' \leftarrow \{id: times\};
              S'_{completion} \leftarrow S_{completion} \setminus s;
              recur context', S'_{completion};
          else
              do
              times' \leftarrow context.id \cap ts;
              context' \leftarrow \{id : times'\};
              S'_{completion} \leftarrow S_{completion} \setminus s;
              recur context', S'_{completion};
          end
      end
  end
 foreach k \in context' do
      allTs \leftarrow context'.k;
      totalDuration \leftarrow max(allTs) - min(allTs);
      totalCount \leftarrow count(allTs);
      rate \leftarrow totalCount \div (totalDuration \div timeUnit);
      subVec = [k, rate, timeUnit];
      ratePerObjTu' \leftarrow ratePerObjTu \cap subVec;
      recur ratePerObjTu';
  end
 return ratePerObjTu'
```

- Values from Z schemas are used within this pseudocode
- the result of the algorithm is an array of arrays where each subarray contains a *statement.object.id*, the *rate* and the *timeUnit* used to calculate *rate*.

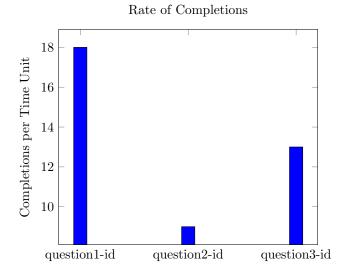
13.8 JSON Schema

```
{"type":"array",
    "items":{"type":"array",
        "items":[{"type":"string"}, {"type":"number"},
{"type":"string"}]}
```

13.9 Visualization Description

The Rate of Completions visualization will be a bar chart where the domain consists of statement.object.id and the range is a number greater than 0 (the rate of completions for that statement.object.id). Every subarray within the array ratePerObjTu will be a grouping within the bar chart. The pseudocode specifies an input paramter timeUnit which controls the calculation of the rate (range of the visualization). timeUnit could be per minute, per day, per week, etc.

13.10 Visualization prototype



13.11 Prototype Improvement Suggestions

Additional features may be implemented on top of this base specification but they would require adding aditional values to each subarray returned by the algorithm. These additional values can be retrieved via (1) performing metadata lookup within or independently of the algorithm (2) by utilizing additional xAPI statement paramters and/or (3) by performing additional computations. The following examples assume the metadata is contained within each statement available to the algorithm.

- use statement.object.definition.name instead of statement.object.id for x axis label
- populate a tooltip with the people who have completed the activity. This could also include the number of times they have completed it.
- populate a tooltip with the breakdown of which devices or platforms the activity was completed on. This would require the device type or platform to be reported within *statement.context.platform*
- populate a tooltip with the breakdown of percentage successful for all completions of the activity. This would require statement.result.success
- populate a tooltip with the breakdown of scores earned (if appliciable) for the completions. This would require statement.result.score.raw, statement.result.score.min and statement.result.score.max
- populate a tooltip with the competency assocaited with the completed activities. The competency should be reported via *statement.context.contextActivities*
- populate a tooltip with the average duration spent to reach completions. This would require *statement.result.duration* to be reported.

14 Timeline Of Learner Success

As learners engage in activities supported by a learning ecosystem, they will build up a history of learning experiences. When the digital resources of that learning ecosystem adhere to a framework dedicated to supporting and understanding the learner, such as the Total Learning Architecture (TLA), it becomes possible to retell their learning story through data and data visualization. One important aspect of that story is the learners history of success.

14.1 Ideal Statements

In order to accurately portray a learner's timeline of success, there are a few base requirements of the data produced by a Learning Record Provider (LRP). They are as follows:

- the learner must be uniquely and consistently identified across all statements
- learning activities which evaluate a learner's understanding of material must report if the learner was successful or not
 - the grade earned by the learner must be reported
 - the minimum and maximum possible grade must be reported
- The learning activities must be uniquely and consistently identified across all statements
- The time at which a learner completed a learning activity must be recorded
 - The timestamp should contain an appropriate level of specificity.
 - ie. Year, Month, Day, Hour, Minute, Second, Timezone

14.2 Input Data Retrieval

How to query an LRS via a GET request to the Statements Resource via curl. The following section contains the appropriate parameters with example values as well as the curl command necessary for making the request.⁷⁸⁹

 $^{^7}$ S is the set of all statements parsed from the statements array within the HTTP response to the Curl request(s). It may be possible that multiple Curl requests are needed to retrieve all query results. If multiple requests are necessary, S is the result of concatenating the result of each request into a single set

 $^{^8}$ Querying an LRS will not be defined within the following Z specifications but the results of the query will be utilized

⁹ If you want to query across the entire history of a LRS, omit Since and Until from the endpoint(s) and remove the associated & symbols.

```
Agent = "agent={"account":
    {"homePage": "https://example.homepage",
        "name": 123456}}"

Since = "since=2018-07-20T12:08:47Z"

Until = "until=2018-07-21T12:08:47Z"

Base = "https://example.endpoint/statements?"

endpoint = Base + Agent + "&" + Since + "&" + Until

Auth = Hash generated from basic auth

S = curl -X GET -H "Authorization: Auth"
-H "Content-Type: application/json"
-H "X-Experience-API-Version: 1.0.3"
Endpoint
```

14.3 Statement Parameters to Utilize

The statement parameter locations here are written in JSONPath. This notation is also compatable with the xAPI Z notation due to the defined hierarchy of components. Within the Z specifications, a variable name will be used instead of the \$

- \$.timestamp
- \bullet \$.result.success
- \$.result.score.raw
- \bullet \$.result.score.min
- \bullet \$.result.score.max
- \bullet \$.verb.id

14.4 2018 Pilot TLA Statement Problems

The initial pilot test data supports this algorithm. This section may require updates pending future data review following iterations of the TLA testing.

14.5 Summary

1. Query an LRS via a GET request to the statements endpoint using the parameters agent, since and until

- 2. Filter the results to the set of statements where:
 - \$.verb.id is one of:
 - http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/passed
 - https://w3id.org/xapi/dod-isd/verbs/answered
 - http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/completed
 - \$.result.success is true
- 3. process the filtered data
 - extract \$.timestamp
 - extract the score values from \$.result.score.raw, \$.result.score.min and \$.result.score.max and convert them to the scale 0..100
 - create a pair of [\$.timestamp, #]

14.6 Formal Specification

14.6.1 Basic Types

```
\begin{split} &COMPLETION :== \\ &\{ http: //adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/passed \} \mid \\ &\{ https: //w3id.org/xapi/dod-isd/verbs/answered \} \mid \\ &\{ http: //adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/completed \} \\ &SUCCESS :== \{ true \} \end{split}
```

14.6.2 System State

```
Timeline Learner Success \_
Statements
S_{all}: \mathbb{F}_1
S_{completion}, S_{success}, S_{processed}: \mathbb{F}

S_{all} = statements
S_{completion} \subseteq S_{all}
S_{success} \subseteq S_{completion}
S_{processed} = \{pair: (statement.timestamp, \mathbb{N})\}
```

- The set S_{all} is a non-empty, finite set and is the component statements
- The sets $S_{completion}$ and $S_{success}$ are both finite sets
- the set $S_{completion}$ is a subset of S_{all} which may contain every value within S_{all}
- the set $S_{success}$ is a subset of $S_{completion}$ which may contain every value within $S_{completion}$
- the set $S_{processed}$ is a finite set of pairs where each contains a statement.timestamp and a natural number

14.6.3 Initial System State

```
InitTimelineLearnerSuccess \\ \hline S_{all} \neq \emptyset \\ S_{completion} = \emptyset \\ S_{success} = \emptyset \\ S_{processed} = \emptyset
```

- The set S_{all} is a non-empty set
- The sets $S_{completion}$, $S_{success}$ and $S_{processed}$ are all initially empty

14.6.4 Filter for Completion

```
Completion \\ Statement \\ completion: STATEMENT \rightarrow \mathbb{F} \\ s?: STATEMENT \\ s!: \mathbb{F} \\ \\ \hline s? = statement \\ s! = completion(s?) \\ completion(s?) = \mathbf{if} \ s? .verb.id: COMPLETION \\ \mathbf{then} \ s! = s? \\ \mathbf{else} \ s! = \emptyset \\ \\ \hline
```

- The schema *Completion* inroduces the function *completion* which takes in the variable s? and returns the variable s!
- The variable s? is the component statement
- s! is equal to s? if \$.verb.id is of the type COMPLETION otherwise s! is an empty set

```
Filter For Completion \\ \Delta Timeline Learner Success \\ Completion \\ completions: \mathbb{F} \\ \hline completions \subseteq S_{all} \\ completions' = \{s: STATEMENT \mid completion(s) \neq \emptyset\} \\ S'_{completion} = S_{completion} \cup completions' \\ \hline \end{cases}
```

ullet the set completions is a subset of S_{all} which may contain every value within S_{all}

- The set completions' is the set of all statements s where the result of completion(s) is not an empty set
- the updated set $S'_{completion}$ is the union of the previous state of set $S_{completion}$ and the set completions'

14.6.5 Filter for Success

```
Success = Statement
success : STATEMENT \rightarrow \mathbb{F}
s? : STATEMENT
s! : \mathbb{F}
s? = statement
s! = success(s?)
success(s?) = \mathbf{if} \ s? .result.success : SUCCESS
\mathbf{then} \ s! = s?
\mathbf{else} \ s! = \emptyset
```

- the schema *Success* introduces the function *success* which takes in the variable s? and returns the variable s!
- the variable s? is the component statement
- s! is equal to s? if \$.result.success is of the type SUCCESS otherwise s! is an empty set

```
FilterForSuccess \\ \Delta TimelineLearnerSuccess \\ Success \\ successes : \mathbb{F} \\ \hline successes \subseteq S_{completion} \\ successes' = \{s: STATEMENT \mid success(s) \neq \emptyset\} \\ S'_{success} = S_{success} \cup successes' \\ \hline
```

- \bullet the set successes is a subset of $S_{completion}$ which may contain every value within $S_{completion}$
- The set successes' contains elements s of type STATEMENT where success(s) is not an empty set
- The updated set $S'_{success}$ is the union of the previous state of $S_{success}$ and successes'

14.6.6 Processes Results

```
Scale \\ scaled!: \mathbb{N} \\ raw?, min?, max?: \mathbb{Z} \\ scale: \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{N} \\ \\ scaled! = scale(raw?, min?, max?) \\ scale(raw?, min?, max?) = \\ (raw?*((0.0 - 100.0) div (min? - max?))) + \\ (0.0 - (min?*((0.0 - 100.0) div (min? - max?))))) \\ \\ \end{cases}
```

• The schema *Scale* introduces the function *scale* which takes 3 arguments, raw?, min? and max?. The function converts raw? from the range min?..max? to 0.0..100.0

```
ProcessStatements \\ \Delta Timeline Learner Success \\ Scale \\ Filter Statements \\ processed : \mathbb{F} \\ \\ processed \subseteq S_{success} \\ processed' = \{p: (\mathbb{F}_1 \# 1, \mathbb{N}) \mid \\ \textbf{let } \{processed_i..processed_j\} == \{s_i..s_j\} \bullet \\ i \leq n \leq j \bullet \forall s_n: s_i..s_j \bullet \exists p_n: p_i..p_j \bullet \\ first p_n = s_n.timestamp \land \\ second p_n = scale(s_n.result.score.raw, \\ s_n.result.score.min, \\ s_n.result.score.min, \\ s_n.result.score.max)\} \\ S'_{processed} = S_{processed} \cup processed'
```

- The operation ProcessStatements introduces the variable processed which is a subset of $S_{success}$ which may contain every value within $S_{success}$
- \bullet $S_{success}$ is the result of the operation FilterStatements
- The operation defines the variable processed' which is a set of objects p which are ordered pairs of (1) a finite set containing one value and (2) a single positive number.
- The first component of every object p, is the timestamp from the associated statement within processed ie. s.timestamp
- The second component of every object p is the result of the function scale. The score values contained within the associated statement s are the arugments passed to scale. ie scale(s.result.score.raw, s.result.score.min, s.result.score.max)
- The result of the operation ProcessStatements is to updated the set $S_{processed}$ with the values contained within processed'

14.6.7 Sequence of Operations

 $Filter Statements \stackrel{\frown}{=} Filter For Completion \, {}^\circ_{\mathbb{S}} \, Filter For Success$

- \bullet The schema FilterStatements is the sequential composition of operation schemas FilterForCompletion and FilterForSuccess
- \bullet FilterForCompletion happens before FilterForSuccess

 $ProcessedStatements \triangleq FilterStatements \otimes ProcessStatements$

- ullet The schema ProcessedStatements is the sequential composition of operation schemas FilterStatements and ProcessStatements
- \bullet Filter Statements happens before Process Statements

14.6.8 Return

```
Return \_
\Xi Timeline Learner Success
Processed Statements
S_{processed}!: \mathbb{F}
S_{processed}! = S_{processed}
```

• The returned variable $S_{processed}$! is equal to the current state of variable $S_{processed}$ after the operations FilterForCompletion, FilterForSuccess and ProcessStatements

14.7 Pseudocode

Algorithm 2: Timeline of Learner Success

```
Input: S_{all}
Result: coll'
coll = [];
while S_{all} \neq \emptyset do
     foreach s \in S_{all} do
           if s.verb.id = COMPLETION then
                S'_{completion} \leftarrow s \cup S_{completion};
                S'_{all} \leftarrow S_{all} \setminus s;
                recur S'_{completion}, S'_{all};
           else
                do
               S'_{all} \leftarrow S_{all} \setminus s;
recur S'_{all};
           end
     \quad \text{end} \quad
end
 \begin{aligned} \textbf{while} \ S'_{completion} \neq \emptyset \ \textbf{do} \\ \big| \ \ \textbf{foreach} \ sc \in S'_{completion} \ \textbf{do} \end{aligned} 
           if sc.result.success = SUCCESS then
                S'_{success} \leftarrow sc \cup S_{success};
                S'_{completion} \leftarrow S_{completion} \setminus sc;
                recur S'_{success}, S'_{completion};
          else
                do
                S'_{completion} \leftarrow S_{completion} \setminus sc;
               recur S'_{completion};
          \mathbf{end}
     end
end
for
each ss \in S'_{success} do
     raw? \leftarrow ss.result.score.raw;
     max? \leftarrow ss.result.score.max;
     min? \leftarrow ss.result.score.min;
     scaled \leftarrow scale(raw?, min?, max?);
     subVec \leftarrow [ss.timestamp, scaled];
     coll' \leftarrow coll \cap subVec;
     \mathbf{recur}\ coll'
\mathbf{end}
return \ coll'
```

- The Z schemas are used within this pseudocode
- The return value coll is an array of arrays, each containing a *statement.timestamp* and a scaled score.

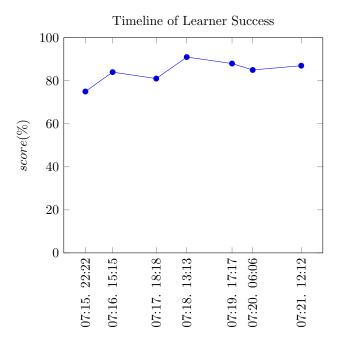
14.8 JSON Schema

```
{"type":"array",
    "items":{"type":"array",
        "items":[{"type":"string"}, {"type":"number"}]}}
```

14.9 Visualization Description

The **Timeline of Learner Success** visualization will be a line chart where the domain is time and the range is score on a scale of 0.0 to 100.0. Every subarray will be a point on the chart. The domain of the graph should be in chronological order.

14.10 Visualization prototype



14.11 Prototype Improvement Suggestions

Additional features may be implemented on top of this base specification but they would require adding aditional values to each subarray returned by the

algorithm. These additional values can be retrieved via (1) performing metadata lookup within or independently of the algorithm (2) by utilizing additional xAPI statement paramters and/or (3) by performing additional computations. The following examples assume the metadata is contained within each statement available to the algorithm.

- A tooltip containing the name of an activity when hovering over a specific point on the chart
 - this would require utilizing \$.object.definition.name
- A tooltip containing the device on which the activity was experienced
 - this would require utilizing \$.context.platform
- A tooltip containing the instructor associated with a particular data point
 - this would require utilizing \$.context.instructor

15 Which Assessment Questions are the Most Difficult

As learners engage in activities supported by a learning ecosystem, they will experience learning content as well as assessment content. Assessments are designed to measure the effectiveness of learning content and help assess knowledge gained. It is possible that certain assessment questions do not accurately represent the concepts contained within learning content and this may be indicated by a majority of learners getting the question wrong. It is also possible that the question accurately represents the learning content but is very difficult. The following algorithm will identify these types of questions but will not be able to deduce why learners answer them incorrectly.

15.1 Ideal Statements

In order to accurately determine which assessment questions are the most dificult, there are a few requirements of the data produced by a LRP. They are as follows:

- statements describing a learner answering a question must report if the learner got the question correct or incorrect via \$.result.success
- if it is possible to get partial credit on a question, the amount of credit should be reported within the statement
 - the credit earned by the learner should be reported within \$.result.score.raw
 - the minimum and maximum possible credit amount should be reported within \$.result.score.min and \$.result.score.max respectively
- If it is possible to get partial credit on a question, it must still be reported if the learner reached the threshold of success via \$.result.success
- Statements describing a learner answering a question should contain activities of the type *cmi.interaction*
- activities must be uniquely and consistently identified across all statements
- Statements describing a learner answering a question should 10 use the verb http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/answered

¹⁰ it is possible to use another verb iri but if another is used, that will need to be accounted for in data retrieval

15.2 Input Data Retrieval

How to query an LRS via a GET request to the Statements Resource via curl. The following section contains the appropriate parameters with example values as well as the curl command necessary for making the request. 111213

```
Verb = "verb=http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/answered"

Since = "since=2018-07-20T12:08:47Z"

Until = "until=2018-07-21T12:08:47Z"

Base = "https://example.endpoint/statements?"

endpoint = Base + Verb + "&" + Since + "&" + Until

Auth = Hash generated from basic auth

S = curl -X GET -H "Authorization: Auth"
-H "Content-Type: application/json"
-H "X-Experience-API-Version: 1.0.3"
Endpoint
```

15.3 Statement Parameters to Utilize

The statement parameter locations here are written in JSONPath. This notation is also compatable with the xAPI Z notation due to the defined hierarchy of components. Within the Z specifications, a variable name will be used instead of the \$

- \bullet \$.result.success
- \$.object.id

15.4 2018 Pilot TLA Statement Problems

The initial pilot test data supports this algorithm. Given that the offical 2018 pilot test is scheduled to take place on July 27th, 2018, this section may require updates pending future data review.

15.5 Summary

1. Query an LRS via a GET request to the statements endpoint using the parameters verb, since and until

¹¹ See footnote 1.

¹² See footnote 2.

 $^{^{13}}$ See footnote 3.

- 2. Filter the results to the set of statements where:
 - \$.result.success is false
- 3. process the filtered data
 - group by \$.object.id
 - determine the count of each group
 - create a collection of pairs = [\$.object.id, #]

15.6 Formal Specification

15.6.1 Basic Types

```
INCORRECT :== \{false\}
```

15.6.2 System State

```
MostDifficultAssessmentQuestions
Statements
S_{all}: \mathbb{F}_1
S_{incorrect}, S_{grouped}, S_{processed}: \mathbb{F}

S_{all} = statements
S_{incorrect} \subseteq S_{all}
S_{grouped} = \{groups : seq_1 \ statement\}
S_{processed} = \{pair : (id, \mathbb{N})\}
```

- The set S_{all} is a non-empty, finite set and is the component statements
- The sets $S_{incorrect}$, $S_{grouped}$ and $S_{processed}$ are all finite sets
- the set $S_{incorrect}$ is a subset of S_{all} which may contain every value within S_{all}
- the set $S_{grouped}$ is a finite set of objects groups which are non-empty, finite sequences of the component statement
- the set $S_{processed}$ is a finite set of pairs where each contains the component id and a natural number

15.6.3 Initial System State

```
InitMostDifficultAssessmentQuestions \\ MostDifficultAssessmentQuestions \\ \hline S_{all} \neq \emptyset \\ S_{incorrect} = \emptyset \\ S_{grouped} = \emptyset \\ S_{processed} = \emptyset
```

- The set S_{all} is a non-empty set
- The sets $S_{incorrect}$, $S_{grouped}$ and $S_{processed}$ are all initially empty

15.6.4 Filter for Incorrect

```
Incorrect \_
Statement
incorrect : STATEMENT \rightarrow \mathbb{F}
s? : STATEMENT
s! : \mathbb{F}
s? = statement
s! = incorrect(s?)
incorrect(s?) = \mathbf{if} \ s? .result.success : INCORRECT
\mathbf{then} \ s! = s?
\mathbf{else} \ s! = \emptyset
```

- the schema *Incorrect* introduces the function *incorrect* which takes in the variable s? and returns the variable s!
- the variable s? is the component statement
- s! is equal to s? if \$.result.success is of the type INCORRECT otherwise s! is an empty set

- the set *incorrects* is a subset of S_{all} which may contain every value within S_{all}
- The set incorrects' contains elements s of type STATEMENT where incorrect(s) is not an empty set
- The updated set $S'_{incorrect}$ is the union of the previous state of $S_{incorrect}$ and incorrects'

15.6.5 Processes Results

- The schema GroupByActivityId introduces the function group which has the input of g? and the output of g!
- The input variable g? is the component statements which implies its a set of objects g which are each a statement
- the output variable g! is a set of objects groups which are each a nonempty, finite sequence of statement where each member of the sequence $s_i...s_j$ has the same \$.object.id

```
CountPerGroup \\ Statement \\ c!: seq_1 statement \\ c!: \mathbb{N} \\ count: seq_1 statement \to \mathbb{N} \\ \\ \hline c! = count(c?) \\ c! \geq 1 \\ count(c?) = \forall c_n?: \langle c?_i ...c?_j \rangle \bullet i \leq n \leq j \land i = 0 \bullet \\ \exists_1 c!: \mathbb{N} \bullet \text{ if } n = i \text{ then } c! = n+1 \text{ else } c! = j+1 \\ \hline \end{cases}
```

- The schema CountPerGroup introduces the function count which has the input of c? and the output of c!
- ullet The input variable c? is a non-empty, finite sequence in which each element is a statement
- The function *count* reads: for all elements $c?_n$ within the sequence $\langle c?_i ... c?_j \rangle$, such that n is greater than or equal to i and less than or equal to j, i is equal to zero and there exits a number c! which is equal to n+1 (when $n=i \Rightarrow n=0$) or equal to n

```
AggregateQuestionStatements \\ \Delta MostDifficultAssessmentQuestions \\ FilterForIncorrect \\ GroupByActivityId \\ CountPerGroup \\ grouped, processed : \mathbb{F} \\ \\ grouped = \emptyset \\ grouped' = group(S_{incorrect}) \\ S'_{grouped} = S_{grouped} \cup grouped' \\ processed \subseteq S'_{grouped} \\ processed' = \{p: (id, \mathbb{N}) \mid \\ \textbf{let} \ \{\langle processed_i \rangle .. \langle processed_j \rangle\} == \{g_i..g_j\} \bullet \\ i \leq n \leq j \bullet \forall g_n : g_i..g_j \bullet \exists p_n : p_i..p_j \bullet \\ first \ p_n = head \ g_n.object.id \land second \ p_n = count(g_n) \\ S'_{processed} = S_{processed} \cup processed' \\ \end{cases}
```

- \bullet The schema AggregateQuestionStatements introduces the variables grouped and processed
- grouped starts as an empty set but then becomes grouped' which is the output of applying the function group to the set of statements $S_{incorrect}$ created by the opperation FilterForIncorrect
- grouped' is a set of sequences. The elements of those sequences are statements which all have the same statement.object.id
- The set $S_{grouped}$ is updated to the set $S'_{grouped}$ which is the union of $S_{grouped}$ and grouped'
- the variable processed is a subset of $S'_{grouped}$ which can contain every value within $S'_{grouped}$
- the variable *processed* is updated to be the variable *processed'* which is a set of objects p which are ordered pairs of the component id and a natural number. p is defined as:
 - for all sequences $g_i..g_j$ within the set *processed*, there exists an ordered pair p_n such that:
 - * the first element of p_n is equal to the *object.id* of the first statement within the sequence g_n .
 - * The second element of p_n is equal to the value returned when g_n is passed to the function count.
- The set $S'_{processed}$ is the union of the sets $S_{processed}$ and processed'

15.6.6 Sequence of Operations

 $ProcessedQuestions \triangleq FilterForIncorrect$ % AggregateQuestionStatements

- \bullet The schema ProcessedQuestions is the sequential composition of operation schemas FilterForIncorrect and AggregateQuestionStatements
- $\bullet \ \ Filter For Incorrect \ {\bf happens} \ \ {\bf before} \ \ Aggregate Question Statements$

15.6.7 Return

```
Return Aggregate \_
\Xi Most Difficult Assessment Questions
Processed Questions
S_{processed}!: \mathbb{F}
S_{processed}! = S_{processed}
```

• The returned variable $S_{processed}$! is equal to the current state of variable $S_{processed}$ after the operations FilterForIncorrect and AggregateQuestionStatements

15.7 Pseudocode

Algorithm 3: Most Difficult Assessment Questions

```
Input: S_{all}, displayN
Result: display"
context = \{\};
display = //;
while S_{all} \neq \emptyset do
     foreach s \in S_{all} do
          {f if}\ s.result.success = INCORRECT\ {f then}
               S'_{incorrect} \leftarrow s \cup S_{incorrect};
              S'_{all} \leftarrow S_{all} \setminus s;
              recur S'_{all}, S'_{incorrect};
          else
              S'_{all} \leftarrow S_{all} \setminus s;
recur S'_{all}
          end
     end
\mathbf{end}
while S'_{incorrect} \neq \emptyset do
     foreach si \in S'_{incorrect} do
          id \leftarrow si.object.id;
          if id \notin context then
               do
               count = 1;
               context' \leftarrow \{id : count\};
               S'_{incorrect} \leftarrow S_{incorrect} \setminus si;
              recur context', S'_{incorrect};
          else
               do
               count' \leftarrow inc(context.id);
               context' \leftarrow \{id : count'\};
              S'_{incorrect} \leftarrow S_{incorrect} \setminus si;
recur context', S'_{incorrect};
          end
     end
end
foreach id \in context' do
     IdToCount \leftarrow [id, context.id];
     display' \leftarrow display \cap IdToCount;
     recur display'
return display'' \leftarrow take(sortBySubArray(display'), displayN)
```

- The Z schemas are used within this pseudocode
- The return value display is an array of length display-n, where each element of display is an array of [statement.object.id, #] where # representing the number of times statement.object.id appeared within S'_incorrect

15.8 JSON Schema

```
{"type":"array",
    "items":{"type":"array",
        "items":[{"type":"string"}, {"type":"number"}]}}
```

15.9 Visualization Description

The Most Difficult Assessment Questions visualization will be a bar chart where the domain consists of *statement.object.id* and the range is a number greater than or equal to 1. Every subarray within the array display will be a grouping within the bar chart. The pseudocode specifies an input paramter display-n which controls the length of the array display and therefor the number of groups contained within the visualization.

15.10 Visualization prototype





15.11 Prototype Improvement Suggestions

Additional features may be implemented on top of this base specification but they would require adding additional values to each subarray returned by the algorithm. These additional values can be retrieved via (1) performing metadata lookup within or independently of the algorithm (2) by utilizing additional xAPI statement paramters and/or (3) by performing additional computations. The following examples assume the metadata is contained within each statement available to the algorithm.

- Use the name of the activity for the x-axis label instead of its id.
 - -\$.object.definition.name
 - grouping of statements should still happen by \$.object.id to ensure an accurate count
- a tooltip containing contextual information about the question such as:
 - The question text
 - * \$.object.definition.description
 - Interaction Type
 - * \$.object.definition which contains interaction properties
 - Answer choices
 - * \$.object.definition which contains interaction properties
 - Correct answer
 - * \$.object.definition which contains interaction properties
 - Most popular incorrect answer
 - * This would require an extra step of processing and all statements would need to utilize interaction properties within \$.object.definition
 - average partial credit earned (if applicable)
 - * \$.result.score.scaled
 - * The one potential issue with using scaled score is the calculation of scaled is not stricly defined by the xAPI specification but is instead up to the authors of the LRP. This results in the inability to reliably compare scaled scores across LRPs.
 - * if \$.result.score.raw , \$.result.score.min and \$.result.score.max are reported for all questions, it becomes possible to reliably compare scores across questions and LRPs.
 - average number of re-attempts
 - * this would require additional steps of processing so that \$.actor is considered as well
 - * due to the problem of actor unification, ie the same person being identified differently across statements, this metric may not be accurate.
 - average time spent on the question
 - * \$.result.duration
 - * this would require additional steps of processing to extract the duration and average it.

- a tooltip containing contextual information about the course and/or assessment the question was within
 - the instructor for the course
 - $* \ \$.context.instructor$
 - competency associated with the question and/or course
 - *~\$.context.contextActivities
 - metadata about the learning content associated with the question such as average time spent engaging with associated content before attempting the question.
 - this would require additional steps of processing to retrieve metadata about the content and its usage.
 - $* \ \$.context.contextActivities$

16 How Often are Recommendations Followed

As learners engage in activities supported by a learning ecosystem, they will build up a history of learning experiences. When the digital resources of that learning ecosystem adhere to a framework dedicated to supporting and understanding the learner, such as the Total Learning Architecture (TLA), it becomes possible to retell their learning story through data and data visualization. One important aspect of that story is the recommendations provided to the learner and whether or not the learner follows those recommendations.

16.1 Ideal Statements

In order to accurately determine if a learner is following recommendations, there are a few requirements of the data produced by a LRP and the recommender itself. They are as follows:

- Every time the recommender makes a recommendation, a statement should be produced which uses the verb https: //w3id.org/xapi/dod-isd/verbs/recommended and has the recommended piece of content as the object.
 - the content should be uniquely and consistently identified across all statements.
- When a learner launches recommended content, the resulting launched statement should use the verb $http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/launched^{15}$ and contain a refrence to the recommended content statement within \$.context.statement
 - Launching of content should use the above IRI regardless of why the content was launched
 - If it not possible to refrence the exact recommended content statement, the launch statement should have some indication that it was the result of a recommendation.¹⁶

¹⁴ See footnote 4

 $^{^{15}}$ See footnote $4\,$

¹⁶ It is possible to determine if recommendations are followed (with some level of error) without this explicit linking of launched to recommended but this severly complicates the algorithm. In this case, in order to optmize for accuracy, the algorithm would need to consider the actor and their general activity within a session, the object of both launched and recommended statements generated within the session, the time lapse between recommendations and launches with a predefined lapse value which determines if a launch was close enough in time to a recommendation to be considered a result of the recommendation. An additional constraint on the above case is the recommendation statements should contain a reference to to the person recieving the recommendation, otherwise determining the 1:1 relationships between recommendations and launches requires additional complexity and will still not be 100% accurate due to the reliance on the time lapse value.

16.2 Input Data Retrieval

How to query an LRS via a GET request to the Statements Resource via $\operatorname{curl}^{171819}$

```
R = "verb=https://w3id.org/xapi/dod-isd/verbs/recommended"
L = "verb=http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/launched"
Since = "since = 2018 - 07 - 20T12 : 08 : 47Z"
Until = "until = 2018 - 07 - 21T12 : 08 : 47Z"
Base = "https://example.endpoint/statements?"
endpoint1 = Base + R + "\&" + Since + "\&" + Until
endpoint2 = Base + L + "&" + Since + "&" + Until
Auth = Hash generated from basic auth
SR = curl -X GET -H "Authorization: Auth"
         -H "Content-Type: application/json"
         -H "X-Experience-API-Version: 1.0.3"
         endpoint1
SL = curl -X GET -H "Authorization: Auth"
         -H "Content-Type: application/json"
         -H "X-Experience-API-Version: 1.0.3"
         endpoint2
S = SR + SL
```

16.3 Statement Parameters to Utilize

The statement parameter locations here are written in JSONPath. This notation is also compatable with the xAPI Z notation due to the defined hierarchy of components. Within the Z specifications, a variable name will be used instead of the \$

- \bullet \$.verb.id
- \$.context.statement

16.4 2018 Pilot TLA Statement Problems

At the time of writing this document, launched statements do not include a statement reference or any indication of a connection between recommendations and launches. The authors of this document do not have access to the LRS

¹⁷ footnote 1 applies to both S1 and S2.

 $^{^{18}}$ See footnote 2.

¹⁹ See footnote 3.

containing the recommended statements and thus can not draw any conclusions about any issues which may be present within those statements or any aspects of those statements which may correlate them to launch statements. The following algorithm is going to assume that the input set of statements follow the guidlines outlined in section 5.1 as the additional algorithmic considerations brought on by non ideal statements, as specified within footnote 16, result in an algorithm which is not optimal for near real time visualizations.

16.5 Summary

- 1. Query an LRS via a GET request to the statements endpoint using the paramters verb, since and until to gather all statements with the verb http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/launched.
- 2. Query an LRS via a GET request to the statements endpoint using the paramters verb, since and until to gather all statements with the verb https://w3id.org/xapi/dod-isd/verbs/recommended.
- 3. Group all collections of statements by a TIMEUNIT
- 4. seperate the collection of grouped launched statements into a collection of those which were the result of a recommendation and those which were not.
- 5. Take the count of all groups of statements
 - Recommended statements per TIMEUNIT
 - Launches due to recommendations per TIMEUNIT
 - Launches not due to recommendations per TIMEUNIT
- 6. Calculate summary statistics for the overall time range and per TIMEUNIT
 - Divide launches due to recommendations by the total number of launches to determine the percentage of launches due to recommendations
 - Divide launches due to recommendations by the total number of recommendations to determine the percentage of recommendations which are followed.

 $^{^{20}}$ If since and until are specified, they should be the same in both requests.

16.6 Formal Specification

16.6.1 System State

```
FollowedRecommendations
Statements
CountPerGroup
S_{recommended}, S_{launched} : \mathbb{F}_1
ordered_L, ordered_R, grouped_{launched}, grouped_{recommended},
only Recommended, cPerGroup_{launched}, cPerGroup_{recommended}, \\
cPerGroup_{followed}, combined : seq
t_{start}, N_{launched}, N_{recommended}, N_{followed}, P_{followed}, P_{dueto} : \mathbb{N}
tr_{start}, tr_{end} : \mathbb{F}
unit?:TIMEUNIT
S_{recommended} = statements
S_{launched} = statements
combined = \langle (tr_{start}, tr_{end}, N_{launched}, N_{recommended}, N_{followed}, P_{followed}, P_{dueto}) \rangle
count(grouped_{launched}) = count(grouped_{recommended})
count(onlyRecommended) = count(grouped_{launched}) \Rightarrow
count(onlyRecommended) = count(grouped_{recommended})
count(cPerGroup_{launched}) = count(cPerGroup_{followed}) = count(cPerGroup_{recommended})
```

- $S_{recommended}$, $S_{launched}$ are both non-empty, finite sets.
 - $S_{recommended}$ and $S_{launched}$ contain the results of querying an LRS for recommended and launched statements respectively.
- $ordered_L$, $ordered_R$, $grouped_{launched}$, $grouped_{recommended}$, only Recommended, $cPerGroup_{launched}$, $cPerGroup_{recommended}$, $cPerGroup_{followed}$ and combined are all finite sequences.
 - $ordered_L$ and $ordered_R$ are the sequences of statements within $S_{launched}$ and $S_{recommended}$ respectively and sorted by timestamp.
 - $grouped_{launched}$ is the result of grouping the statements within $ordered_L$ by unit?.
 - $grouped_{recommended}$ is the result of grouping the statements within $ordered_R$ by unit?.
 - onlyRecommended is the result of filtering the statements within the sequence $grouped_{launched}$ to only include statements where statement.context.statement is present
 - cPerGroup_{launched}, cPerGroup_{recommended}, cPerGroup_{followed} are all sequences of numbers which represent the count within each subsequence of grouped_{launched}, grouped_{recommended} and onlyRecommended respectively.

- combined is a sequence of ordered pairs where each pair consists of tr_{start} , tr_{end} , $N_{launched}$, $N_{recommended}$, $N_{followed}$, $P_{followed}$ and P_{dueto}
- t_{start} , $N_{launched}$, $N_{recommended}$, $N_{followed}$, $P_{followed}$, P_{dueto} are all natural numbers
- tr_{start} , tr_{end} are both timestamps which represent the start and end of the time range for each a group of statements.
- unit? is an input representing a time interval, ie day vs month vs hour.
- all sequences are the same length so that each subsequence represents the same time grouping. In other words, indexes are comparable across sequences.

16.6.2 Initial System State

```
InitFollowedRecommendations _
FollowedRecommendations
S_{recommended} \neq \emptyset
S_{launched} \neq \emptyset
unit? = \{day\}
ordered_L = \langle \rangle
ordered_R = \langle \dot{\rangle}
grouped_{launched} = \langle \rangle
grouped_{recommended} = \langle \rangle
onlyRecommended = \langle \rangle
cPerGroup_{launched} = \langle \rangle
cPerGropu_{recommended} = \langle \rangle
cPerGroup_{followed} = \langle \rangle
combined = \langle \rangle
t_{start} = 0 \,
N_{launched} = 0
N_{recommended} = 0
N_{followed} = 0
P_{followed} = 0
P_{dueto} = 0
```

- $S_{recommended}$ and $S_{launched}$ are initially not empty sets
- all sequences are initially empty
- all numbers are initially zero
- the default TIMEUNIT is set to day

16.6.3 Group by Timestamp

- The schema SortByTimestamp introduces the function orderByTimestamp which takes in a non-empty, finite set and returns a non-empty, finite sequence.
- orderByTimestamp is a sequence of statements ordered from earliest to

- The schema WithinRange introduces the function withinRange which takes in three numbers and a TIMEUNIT and returns either $\{TRUE\}$ or $\{FALSE\}$
- withinRange checks to see if in? is less than or equal to a start time start? plus the result of multiplying the numeric conversion for unit? by the state?.
- *state*? represents the current group, ie. day 1 vs day 2 vs day 3. The +1 is to account for array indexes starting at 0.

```
Statement \\ IsoToUnix \\ WithinRange \\ groupByTimeUnit: (seq_1, \mathbb{N}, TIMEUNIT) \rightarrow seq_1 \\ g?, g!: seq_1 \\ t_{start}?: \mathbb{N} \\ \hline g? = \langle g?_i ...g?_j \rangle \bullet \forall g?_n : g?_i ...g?_j \bullet i \leq n \leq j \bullet g?_n = statement \land \\ convert(g?_i .timestamp) \leq convert(g?_n .timestamp) \leq convert(g?_j .timestamp) \\ g! = groupByTimeUnit(g?, t_{start}? state?, unit?) \\ g! = \langle g: seq \mid \forall g?_n : g?_i ...g?_j \bullet \exists_1 \langle g_r \rangle : \langle g_q \rangle ... \langle g_s \rangle \bullet q \leq r \leq s \land r = state? \bullet \\ \text{if } withinRange(convert(g?_n .timestamp), t_{start}, r, unit?) = \{TRUE\} \\ \text{then } g? \mid g?_n \land g?_n \text{ in } \langle g_r \rangle \Rightarrow \langle g_r \rangle = \langle g_{ri} ...g_{rn} ...g_{rj} \rangle \bullet ri \leq rn \leq rj \bullet g_{rn} = g?_n \\ \text{else if } \forall g_n? : g_i? ...g_j? \bullet withinRange(g?_n , t_{start}, r, unit?) = \{FALSE\} \\ \text{then } groupByTimeUnit((g? \mid \langle g_r \rangle), t_{start}? (r+1), unit?) \bullet \langle g_r \rangle = \langle \rangle \lor \neq \langle \rangle \rangle \\ \end{cases}
```

- The schema GroupByTimeUnit intorudces the function groupByTimeUnit which takes as arguments a non-empty, finite sequence, a natural number and a TIMEUNIT and outputs a non-empty, finite sequence of sequences.
- For every statement within the input sequence, groupByTimeUnit checks to see if the timestamp of that statement is within the range of t_{start} and unit?. If it is, that statement is removed from the input sequence g? and added to the current subsequence $\langle g_r \rangle$. If none of the remaining statements within the input sequence are within the range of t_{start} and unit?, then the variable state? is incremented, the current subsequence $\langle g_r \rangle$ is either a collection of matched statements or is an empty sequence and the search for remaining subsequences $\langle g_{r+state} \rangle$ continues.
- because the input sequence g? is orderd chronologically, this implies that once a statement does not fit into a range, the rest of the statements remaining in the input sequence will not fit into that range and state? must be incremented to generate a new subsequence $\langle g_{r+state}? \rangle$ so that the remaining statements can be grouped.

16.6.4 Processes Results

```
Order Statements
\Delta Followed Recommendations
Sort By Timestamp

ordered'_L = order By Timestamp(S_{launched})
ordered'_R = order By Timestamp(S_{recommended})
t'_{start} = convert((head ordered'_L).timestamp)
```

- The schema *OrderStatements* updates the system state defined by the schema *FollowedRecommendations*.
- $ordered'_L$ is the result of ordering the statements contained within the set $S_{launched}$ chronologically.
- $ordered'_R$ is the result of ordering the statements contained within the set $S_{recommended}$ chronologically.
- t'_{start} is the timestamp from the first statement within $ordered'_L$ converted to unix time.

```
\begin{tabular}{l} $-GroupByTime $\_$ \\ $\Delta Followed Recommendations \\ $GroupByTimeUnit$ \\ \hline \\ $grouped'_{launched} = groupByTimeUnit(ordered'_L, t'_{start}, 0, unit?)$ \\ $grouped'_{recommended} = groupByTimeUnit(ordered'_R, t'_{start}, 0, unit?)$ \\ \hline \end{tabular}
```

- \bullet The schema Group By Time updates the state defined by the schema Followed Recommendations.
- $grouped'_{launched}$ is the result of passing $ordered'_L$, t'_{start} , 0 and unit? to the function groupByTimeUnit.
- $grouped'_{recommended}$ is the result of passing $ordered'_R$, t'_{start} , 0 and unit? to the function groupByTimeUnit.

- The schema OnlyRecommendedLaunches updates the state defined by the schema FollowedRecommendations.
- onlyRecommended' is the sequence of objects o where o is a sequence consisting of statements (or no statements) from the corresponding sequences within $grouped'_{launched}$ where statement.context.statement exists.
- only Recommended' maintains the same number and ordering of time groups (subsequences) as $grouped'_{launched}$ and $grouped'_{recommended}$.

```
GetCounts\_
 \Delta FollowedRecommendations
CountPerGroup
cPerGroup'_{launched} = \langle c : \mathbb{N} \, | \, \textbf{let} \, grouped'_{launched} == gl \Rightarrow \langle \langle gl_i \rangle .. \langle gl_j \rangle \rangle \bullet \\ \forall \langle gl_n \rangle : \langle gl_i \rangle .. \langle gl_j \rangle \bullet \exists_1 c_n : \mathbb{N} \bullet
                                                           if gl_n = \langle \rangle
                                                                       then c_n = 0
                                                                       else c_n = count(\langle gl_n \rangle) \rangle
cPerGroup'_{recommended} = \langle c : \mathbb{N} \mid \mathbf{let} \ grouped'_{recommended} == gr \Rightarrow \langle \langle gr_i \rangle .. \langle gr_j \rangle \rangle \bullet \\ \forall \langle gr_n \rangle : \langle gr_i \rangle .. \langle gr_j \rangle \bullet \exists_1 c_n : \mathbb{N} \bullet
                                                                       if gr_n = \langle \rangle
                                                                                   then c_n = 0
                                                                                   else c_n = count(\langle gr_n \rangle) \rangle
cPerGroup'_{followed} = \langle c : \mathbb{N} \mid \mathbf{let} \ onlyRecommended' == or \Rightarrow \langle \langle or_i \rangle ... \langle or_j \rangle \rangle \bullet
                                                           \forall \langle or_n \rangle : \langle or_i \rangle .. \langle or_j \rangle \bullet \exists_1 c_n : \mathbb{N} \bullet
                                                           if or_n = \langle \rangle
                                                                       then c_n = 0
                                                                       else c_n = count(\langle or_n \rangle) \rangle
```

- The schema GetCounts updates the state defined by the schema FollowedRecommednations.
- $cPerGroup'_{launched}$ is a sequence of numbers c where each c is either 0 or the result of passing the current subsequence of $grouped'_{launched}$ (gl_n) to the function count.
- $cPerGroup'_{recommended}$ is a sequence of numbers c where each c is either 0 or the result of passing the current subsequence of $grouped'_{recommended}$ (gr_n) to the function count.
- $cPerGroup'_{followed}$ is a sequence of numbers c where each c is either 0 or the result of passing the current subsequence of onlyRecommended' (or_n) to the function count.

```
Combine Sequences
\Delta FollowedRecommendations
combined' = \langle c: (tr'_{start}, tr'_{end}, N'_{launched}, N'_{recommended}, N'_{followed}, P'_{followed}, P'_{dueto}) \mid
                      let grouped'_{launched} == gl \Rightarrow \langle \langle gl_i \rangle .. \langle gl_n \rangle .. \langle gl_j \rangle \rangle
                            cPerGroup'_{launched} == cl \Rightarrow \langle cl_i...cl_n...cl_j \rangle
                            cPerGroup'_{recommended} == cr \Rightarrow \langle cr_i..cr_n..cr_j \rangle
                            cPerGroup'_{followed} == cf \Rightarrow \langle cf_i..cf_n..cf_j \rangle
                      • \forall \langle gl_n \rangle : \langle gl_i \rangle ... \langle gl_j \rangle \bullet i \leq n \leq j \bullet
                      \exists_1 c_n : (tr_{startn}, tr_{endn}, N_{launchedn}, N_{recommendedn}, N_{followedn}, P_{followedn}, P_{dueton}) \bullet
                      tr_{startn} = (head gl_n).timestamp
                      tr_{endn} = (last gl_n).timestamp
                      N_{launchedn} = cl_n
                      N_{recommendedn} = cr_n
                      N_{followedn} = cf_n
                      P_{followedn} = cf_n \div cr_n
                      P_{dueton} = cf_n \div cl_n \rangle
```

- The schema CombineSequences changes the state defined by the schema FollowedRecommendations.
- combined' is a sequence of objects c where each c is an ordered pair of $tr'_{start}, tr'_{end}, N'_{launched}, N'_{recommended}, N'_{followed}, P'_{followed}, P'_{dueto}$.
- for each c_n :
 - $-\ tr'_{start} \leadsto tr_{startn}$ which is equal to the timestamp for the first statement within gl_n
 - $-tr'_{end} \sim tr_{endn}$ which is equal to the timestamp for the last statement within ql_n .
 - $-N'_{launched} \sim N_{launchedn}$ which is equal to the current count of launched statements within the nth time grouping aka cl_n .
 - $-N'_{recommended} \sim N_{recommendedn}$ which is equal to the current count of recommended statements within the nth time grouping aka cr_n .
 - $-N'_{followed} \sim N_{followedn}$ which is equal to the current count of recommended statements within the nth time grouping aka cf_n .
 - $-P'_{followed} \sim P_{followedn}$ which is equal to the result of dividing cf_n by cr_n .
 - $-P'_{dueto} \sim P_{dueton}$ which is equal to the result of dividing cf_n by cl_n .

16.6.5 Sequence of Operations

 $ProcessFollowedRecommendations \ \widehat{=} \\ OrderStatements \ _{\S}\ GroupByTime \ _{\S}\ OnlyRecommendedLaunches \ _{\S}\ GetCounts \ _{\S}\ CombineSequences$

ullet The schema ProcessFollowedRecommendations defines the order of operations for the steps within the FollowedRecommendations algorithm.

16.6.6 Return

```
ReturnFollowedRecommendations
\Xi FollowedRecommendations
ProcessFollowedRecommendations
combined!: seq
combined! = combined'
```

- \bullet The schema Return Followed Recommendations describes the return value of the system defined by the schema Followed Recommendations
- \bullet The return value combined! is the variable combined' defined within the schema CombineSequences

16.7 Pseudocode

Algorithm 4: Followed Recommendations
Input: $S_{recommended}$, $S_{launched}$ timeUnit

recur grouped'_{followed}

end

end

return combined'

Result: combined' $ordered'_{L} \leftarrow orderByTimestamp(S_{launched});$ $ordered'_{R} \leftarrow orderByTimestamp(S_{recommended});$ $t'_{start} \leftarrow convert((head\ ordered'_L).timestamp);$ $grouped'_{launched} \leftarrow groupByTimeUnit(ordered'_L, t'_{start}, 0, timeUnit);$ $grouped'_{recommended} \leftarrow$ $groupByTimeUnit(ordered'_R, t'_{start}, 0, timeUnit);$ $grouped_{followed} \leftarrow [];$ foreach G in $grouped'_{launched}$ do $curGrouping \leftarrow [];$ foreach G_n in G do if $G_n.context.statement \neq nil$ then $curGrouping' \leftarrow curGrouping \cap G_n;$ recur curGrouping' else | recur curGrouping' end $\quad \text{end} \quad$ $grouped'_{followed} \leftarrow grouped_{followed} \cap curGrouping';$

```
\begin{split} &C_{launched} \leftarrow \text{map count}() \, \text{grouped}'_{launched}; \\ &C_{recommended} \leftarrow \text{map count}() \, \text{grouped}'_{recommended}; \\ &C_{followed} \leftarrow \text{map count}() \, \text{grouped}'_{followed}; \\ &combined \leftarrow []; \\ &\text{for } i \leftarrow 0 \, \text{to } count(c_{launched}) \, \text{by 1 do} \\ & | tr_{starti} \leftarrow (first(nth(grouped'_{launched},i))).timestamp; \\ &tr_{endi} \leftarrow (last(nth(grouped'_{launched},i))).timestamp; \\ &N_{Li} \leftarrow nth(C_{launched},i); \\ &N_{Ri} \leftarrow nth(C_{recommended},i); \\ &N_{Fi} \leftarrow nth(C_{followed},i); \\ &P_{Fi} \leftarrow N_{fi} \div N_{Ri}; \\ &P_{duetoi} \leftarrow N_{fi} \div N_{Li}; \\ &subVec_i \leftarrow [tr_{starti}, tr_{endi}, N_{Li}, N_{Ri}, N_{Fi}, P_{Fi}, P_{duetoi}]; \\ &combined' \leftarrow combined \cap subVec_i \end{split}
```

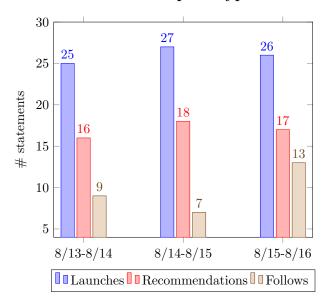
• map count() grouped'... means apply the function count() to every sequence within the sequence grouped... and put all results into a single array.

16.8 JSON Schema

16.9 Visualization Description

The Followed Recommendations visualization can be a bar chart where the domain is time ranges and the range is a number representing the total count of statements recorded. For each time range, there will be three groups: 1) the number of launched statements 2) the number of recommended statements 3) the number of launches which are due to recommendations. Above each grouping or on hover, summary statistics can be desplayed which describe the percentage of launches due to recommendations and the percentage of recommendations which were followed.

16.10 Visualization prototype



• The percentages described in section 5.9 are not displayed here.

16.11 Prototype Improvement Suggestions

Additional features may be implemented on top of this base specification but they would require adding aditional values to each subarray returned by the algorithm. These additional values can be retrieved via (1) performing metadata lookup within or independently of the algorithm (2) by utilizing additional xAPI statement paramters and/or (3) by performing additional computations. The following examples assume the metadata is contained within each statement available to the algorithm.

- populate a tooltip with the most popular launched, recommended and followed activity.
- populate a tooltip with the number of actors associated with the launches and follows.
- populate a tooltip with the actor who most often and the actor who lease often follows recommendations.

Appendex A: Visualization Exemplars

Appendex A includes a typology of data visualizations which may be supported within DAVE workbooks. These visualizations can either be one to one or one to many in regards to the algorithms defined within this document. Future iterations of this document will increasingly include these typologies within the domain-question template exemplars.

Line Charts

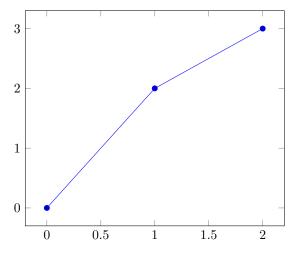


Figure 1: Line Chart

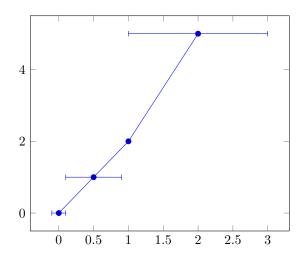


Figure 2: Line Chart with Error

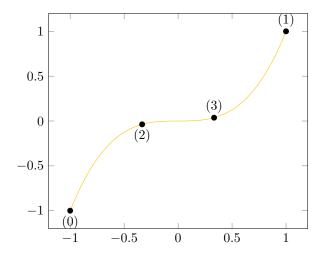


Figure 3: Spline Chart



Figure 4: Quiver Chart

Grouping Charts

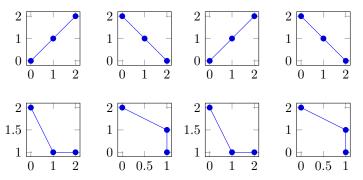


Figure 5: Grouped Line Charts

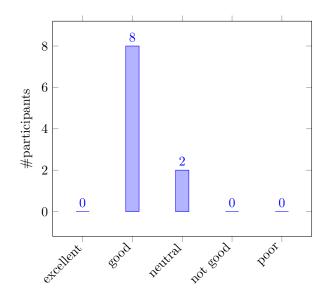


Figure 6: Histogram

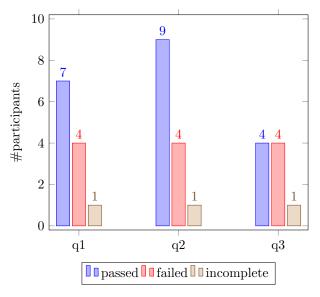


Figure 7: Bar Chart

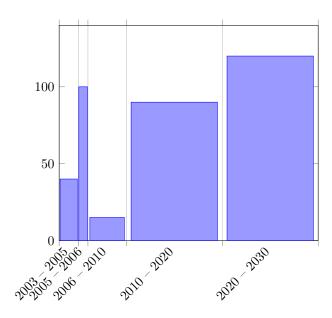


Figure 8: Bar Chart Grouped by Time Range

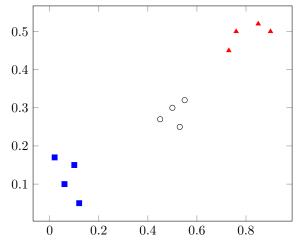


Figure 9: Scatter Plot

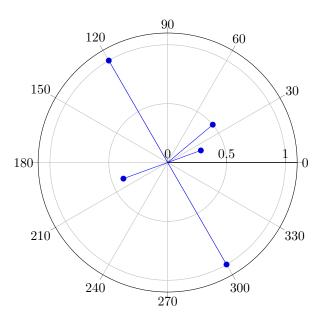


Figure 10: Polar Chart

Specialized Charts

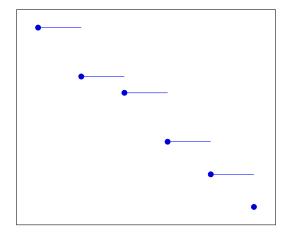


Figure 11: Gantt Chart

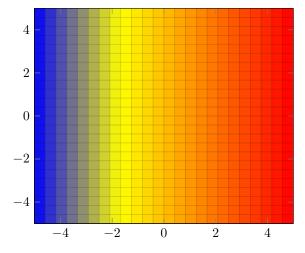


Figure 12: Heat Map

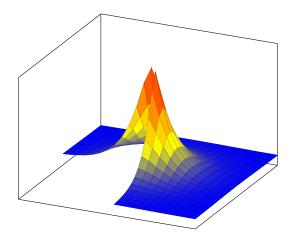


Figure 13: 3D Plot

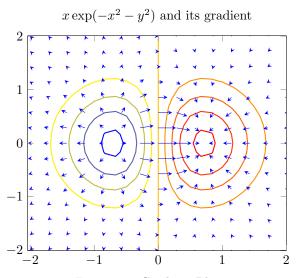


Figure 14: Gradient Plot