DR 19-0008 — DML: omissions and inconsistencies in the specification of attributes

Status: Open

Subject: DML: omissions and inconsistencies in the specification of attributes

Qualifier: Request for clarification

Submitter: Francis Cave Organization: (BSI)

Contact Information: francis@franciscave.com

Submitter’s Defect Number: n/a

Supporting Document(s): none

Date Circulated by Secretariat: 2019-01-24

Deadline for Response from Editor: 2019-03-24

IS 29500 Reference(s): Part 1 §19, §20, §21

Related DR(s): 16-0005

Nature of the Defect:

*NOTE: References to MS-OI29500 are to v20180828. DR 16-0005 referred to an earlier version of the implementer notes, so the section references have changed.*

**§20.1.2.3.33 sysClr (@lastClr) (complex type: CT\_SystemColor)**

MS-OI29500, section 2.1.1240(a) states: "In Office, the lastClr attribute stores the RGB value of the last sysClr used". This suggests that Office might always specify this attribute, but this isn't completely certain. §20.1.10.58 states: "Applications shall use the lastClr attribute to determine the absolute value of the last color used if system colors are not supported". We cannot assume that all implementations specify this attribute, although we could recommend that new implementations do so for interoperability reasons. See solution proposed below.

**§19.3.1.4, §20.1.8.14, §20.2.2.1, §20.5.2.2, §21.3.2.2 blipFill (@rotWithShape)   
(complex type: CT\_BlipFillProperties  
§20.1.8.33 gradFill (@rotWithShape) (complex type: CT\_GradientFillProperties)**

MS-OI29500 does not mention either of these elements. A test of the omission of @rotWithShape suggests that MS Office treats **true** as the default value in both cases. On the other hand, it would seem entirely reasonable for an implementation to decide that the default value should be **false**. So, should a default value of **true** be added to the schema, or should the default value be declared in the text to be implementation-defined?

**§20.1.8.47 pattFill (@prst) (complex\_type: CT\_PatternFillProperties)**

MS-OI29500 does not mention this element. The element pattFill makes no sense without @prst being specified, unless there is an explicit or implicit value for this attribute. None of the values in ST\_PresetPatternVal suggests itself as a default value. Do implementations require that this attribute be specified?

**§20.1.8.48 prstDash (@val) (complex type: CT\_PresetLineDashProperties)**

MS-OI29500 does not mention this element. The element prstDash makes no sense without @val being specified, unless there is an explicit or implicit value for this attribute. Do implementations require that this attribute be specified, or is a default value assumed ('dash', maybe)?

**§20.1.8.58 tile (@algn, @sx, @sy, @tx, @ty) (complex type: CT\_TileInfoProperties)**

MS-OI29500 does not mention this element. The omission of any of these attributes makes no sense unless there are implicit or explicit default values. However, different implementations might choose different default values, e.g. 'tl' or 'ctr' for @algn. Do implementers assume default values for these attributes? Would it be safest to document that the default values are implementation-defined?

**§21.1.2.2.2 defPPr, §21.1.2.2.7 pPr, §21.1.2.4.13 lvl1pPr, §21.1.2.4.14 lvl2pPr, §21.1.2.4.15 lvl3pPr, §21.1.2.4.16 lvl4pPr, §21.1.2.4.17 lvl5pPr, §21.1.2.4.18 lvl6pPr, §21.1.2.4.19 lvl7pPr, §21.1.2.4.20 lvl8pPr, §21.1.2.4.21 lvl9pPr (@algn, @defTabSz, @eaLnBrk, @fontAlgn, @hangingPunct, @indent, @latinLnBrk, @lvl, @marL, @marR, @rtl) (complex type: CT\_TextParagraphProperties)**

@algn: The prose specifies a default value **left**. The schema doesn’t specify a default value.

@defTabSz: MS-OI29500, Section 2.1.1399(e) states: "Office uses a default value of 914400 EMUs". Other implementations might choose a different default value. Would it be safest to document that the default value is implementation-defined?

@eaLnBrk: The prose specifies a default value **true**. The schema doesn’t specify a default value.

@fontAlgn: The prose specifies a default value **base**. The schema doesn’t specify a default value.

@hangingPunct: MS-OI29500, Section 2.1.1399(d) states: “Office uses a default value of 1, or true, for the hangingPunct attribute”. The prose in the standard states: “If this attribute is omitted, then a value of 0, or false, is implied”. These two statements are not consistent.

@indent: MS-OI29500, Section 2.1.1399(f) states: “Office uses a default value of 0 for the indent attribute”. The prose in the standard states: “If this attribute is omitted, then a value of -342900 is implied”. These two statements are not consistent.

@latinLnBrk: MS-OI29500, Section 2.1.1399(g) states: “Office uses a default value of 0, or false, for the latinLnBrk attribute”. The prose in the standard states: “If this attribute is omitted, then a value of 1 or true is implied”. These two statements are not consistent. Should we change the attribute description to specify that the default value is implementation-defined?

@lvl: The omission of this attribute appears to imply simply that the paragraph does not “follow” (i.e. inherit properties from) a particular level within a lstStyle element. Would it be helpful if the description of this attribute make this explicit?

@marL: MS-OI29500, Section 2.1.1399(a) states: “Office uses a default value of 0 for the marL attribute”. The standard states: “If this attribute is omitted, then a value of 347663 is implied”. These two statements are not consistent.

@marR: The prose specifies a default value **0**. The schema doesn’t specify a default value.

@rtl: The prose specifies a default value **0**. The schema doesn’t specify a default value.

Solution Proposed by the Submitter:

**§20.1.2.3.33 sysClr (@lastClr) (complex type: CT\_SystemColor)**

I propose that the description of @lastClr be modified as follows:

Specifies the color value that was last computed by the generating application. It is recommended that this attribute be specified, to promote interoperability with consuming applications that do not support named system colors.

We should ask MS Office experts to confirm that the additional wording is consistent with their implementer notes.

**§19.3.1.4, §20.1.8.14, §20.2.2.1, §20.5.2.2, §21.3.2.2 blipFill (@rotWithShape)   
(complex type: CT\_BlipFillProperties  
§20.1.8.33 gradFill (@rotWithShape) (complex type: CT\_GradientFillProperties)**

We should forward the question to MS Office experts. Depending upon the response, we should either add a default value to the schema or state in the attribute description that the default value is implementation-defined.

The description of @rotWithShape in §20.1.8.33 needs to be improved, possibly by copying text from the description of the same attribute on one of the other elements.

**§20.1.8.47 pattFill (@prst) (complex\_type: CT\_PatternFillProperties)**

We agreed to forward the question to MS Office experts. Further action will depend upon their response.

**§20.1.8.48 prstDash (@val) (complex type: CT\_PresetLineDashProperties)**

We agreed to forward the question to MS Office experts. Further action will depend upon their response.

**§20.1.8.58 tile (@algn, @sx, @sy, @tx, @ty) (complex type: CT\_TileInfoProperties)**

We agreed to forward the question to MS Office experts. Further action will depend upon their response.

**§21.1.2.2.2 defPPr, §21.1.2.2.7 pPr, §21.1.2.4.13 lvl1pPr, §21.1.2.4.14 lvl2pPr, §21.1.2.4.15 lvl3pPr, §21.1.2.4.16 lvl4pPr, §21.1.2.4.17 lvl5pPr, §21.1.2.4.18 lvl6pPr, §21.1.2.4.19 lvl7pPr, §21.1.2.4.20 lvl8pPr, §21.1.2.4.21 lvl9pPr (@algn, @defTabSz, @eaLnBrk, @fontAlgn, @hangingPunct, @indent, @latinLnBrk, @lvl, @marL, @marR, @rtl) (complex type: CT\_TextParagraphProperties)**

Add default values to the schema where default values are specified in prose.

In the case of @rtl, the prose should specify that “a value of **0** or **false** is implied”.

We should forward all the questions and inconsistencies to MS Office experts. Further action will depend upon their response.

Schema Change(s) Needed:

Yes/No

**Editor’s Response:**

None

Changes to Part 1: N Part 2: N Part 3: N Part 4: N