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Synthetic Biology Open Language (SBOL) Version 2.1.0

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Synthetic Biology Open Language (SBOL) Version 2.1.0

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Summary

Synthetic biology builds upon the techniques and successes of genetics, molecular biology, and metabolic engineering by applying engineering principles to the design of biological systems. The field still faces substantial challenges, including long development times, high rates of failure, and poor reproducibility. One method to ameliorate these problems would be to improve the exchange of information about designed systems between laboratories. The Synthetic Biology Open Language (SBOL) has been developed as a standard to support the specification and exchange of biological design information in synthetic biology, filling a need not satisfied by other pre-existing standards. This document details version 2.1 of SBOL that builds upon version 2.0 published in last year’s JIB special issue. In particular, SBOL 2.1 includes improved rules for what constitutes a valid SBOL document, new role fields to simplify the expression of sequence features and how components are used in context, and new best practices descriptions to improve the exchange of basic sequence topology information and the description of genetic design provenance, as well as miscellaneous other minor improvements.
BBF RFC 112: Synthetic Biology Open Language (SBOL) Version 2.1.0

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1 Purpose

Synthetic biology builds upon the techniques and successes of genetics, molecular biology, and metabolic engineering by applying engineering principles to the design of biological systems. These principles include standardization, modularity, and design abstraction. The field still faces substantial challenges, including long development times, high rates of failure, and poor reproducibility. A common factor of these challenges is the exchange of information about designed systems between laboratories. When designing a synthetic system, synthetic biologists need to exchange information about multiple types of molecules and their expected behavior in the design. Furthermore, there are often multiple degrees of separation between a specified nucleic acid sequence (e.g., a sequence that encodes an enzyme or transcription factor) and the molecular interactions that a designer intends to result from said sequence (e.g., chemical modification of metabolites or regulation of gene expression), yet these different perspectives need to be connected together in the engineering of biological systems.

The Synthetic Biology Open Language (SBOL) has been developed as a standard to support the specification and exchange of biological design information in synthetic biology, filling a need not satisfied by other pre-existing standards. Previous nucleic acid sequence description formats lack key capabilities. For example, simple sequence encoding formats such as FASTA encode almost nothing about design rationale. More sophisticated formats such as GenBank and Swiss-Prot support a flat annotation of sequence features that is well suited to the description of natural systems, but is unable to represent the multi-layered design structure common to engineered systems. Figure 1 shows the relationship of selected prior sequence description formats to SBOL 1.x and SBOL 2.x. Modelling languages, such as the Systems Biology Markup Language (SBML) Finney et al. (2006) can be used represent biological processes, but are not sufficient to represent the associated nucleotide or amino acid sequences. Synthetic biology needs a structured standard that defines how to represent relevant molecules and their functional roles within a designed system, standardized rules on how such information is encoded in a file format, and software libraries to enable the exchange of such data between participating laboratories and as part of the publication process.

To help address these challenges, SBOL introduces a standardized format for the electronic exchange of information on the structural and functional aspects of biological designs. The standard has been designed to support the explicit and unambiguous description of biological designs by means of a well defined data model. The standard further describes the rules and best practices on how to use this data model and populate it with relevant design details. SBOL uses existing Semantic Web practices and resources, such as Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs) and ontologies, to unambiguously identify and define genetic design elements. The definition of the data model and associated format, the rules on the addition of data within the format and the representation of this in electronic data files are intended to make the SBOL standard a useful means of promoting global data exchange between laboratories and between software programs.

This document details version 2.1 of SBOL, a minor update to SBOL 2.0. The previous version 1.1 of the SBOL standard focused on representing the structural aspects of genetic designs. Users of the standard were able to exchange information on DNA designs, but they could not represent molecules other than DNA or the functional aspects of designs beyond DNA sequence features. The SBOL 2 data model defined in this specification extends the version 1.1 data model to provide for the most pressing data exchange needs identified by the SBOL community. In particular, the extended data model can:

- Represent non-DNA structural components of a biological design, including RNA, proteins, small molecules and other physical components.
- Describe the behavioral aspects of a biological design, such as the intended or expected molecular interactions, and link to mathematical models written in other standards.
- Associate structure and function so that a single design can be understood in terms of its structure, behavior, or both.
- Support rich annotation of biological designs, so that classes of design data that are not explicitly covered by...
Figure 1: SBOL 2 extends prior sequence description formats to represent both the structure and function of a genetic design in a modular, hierarchical manner.

this specification can be safely exchanged

Taken together, these extensions enable SBOL to support the description and exchange of hierarchical, modular representations of both the intended structure and function of designed biological systems.

While the ultimate goal of SBOL is to describe synthetic biological designs such that they can be reproduced in the lab with a high degree of fidelity, SBOL 2 does not yet provide a complete catalog of the different classes of data that are necessary to achieve this goal. For example, SBOL 2 does not yet include data on environmental and host context, or details on how the performance of a design is measured. To enable progress towards capturing these types of data, SBOL 2 provides an annotation mechanism that allows SBOL to be easily extended (see Section 7.11).

Three scenarios are envisaged for extending SBOL:

- Critical data related to the reproducibility of designs. These include what growth media was used, what temperature the organisms were grown at, or where the recombinant DNA was integrated into the host genome or a plasmid.
- Tool specific data. These could include tool settings specific to the design that is being loaded, such as which windows are to be opened or which settings are to be initialized. Tool makers could also include encrypted proprietary information related to a company or client in an extension.
- Data that are non-essential for reproducibility but are nevertheless useful to many users. There are many cases where specific communities of users require data that cannot be explicitly represented using the SBOL data model. These include data on visualization, evolutionary stability, or other.

The extension mechanism is therefore a critical part of SBOL 2 and will allow others in the community to incorporate their own custom data into SBOL files and contribute to community efforts to expand the scope of SBOL.

The SBOL 2 specifications also add a number of measures to simplify adoption and validation of compatibility with the standard. First, unlike the SBOL 1.1 specification, the SBOL 2 specification explicitly incorporates the primary
serialization format for its data model to better show how the standard can be used. Second, the specification includes a set of validation rules for determining the compatibility of a document with SBOL 2, most of which are machine-verifiable. Finally, the specification includes a set of recommended best practices that can allow software tools to take best advantage of the standard and effectively exchange data.

In addition, care has been taken to ensure that all SBOL 2.x specifications are backwards-compatible with previous versions. First, every SBOL 2.0 file is also a valid SBOL 2.1 file. Second, while the changes made in SBOL 2 do mean that an SBOL 1.x file is not a valid SBOL 2.x file, there does exist a direct mapping from the SBOL 1.x data model to the SBOL 2 data model, making it possible to automatically convert any SBOL 1.x file to an SBOL 2 file. Since SBOL 2 can encode all data previously encoded in SBOL 1.1, developers are encouraged to upgrade their SBOL 1.1 compliant software tools to use SBOL 2 software libraries.

Lastly, the SBOL standard has been developed in collaboration between both “wet” bench scientists and “dry” scientific modelers and software developers that are active within the synthetic biology community. As before with SBOL version 1.1, this open community has met to discuss and agree upon the data exchange needs that each version of the SBOL 2.x standard is intended to address. These discussions have informed the efforts of developers within the community to produce a SBOL 2 specification after several rounds of proposal and revision. This specification has been evaluated by the community for its ability to represent a wide range of synthetic biology designs and share these designs between different laboratories. This specification has also informed the development of software libraries that implement the standard, and software tools that employ the standard by means of these libraries, thereby providing further testing of SBOL 2. The publication of this specification is intended to make these capabilities more widely accessible to potential developers and users in the synthetic biology community and beyond.
2 Relation to other BBF RFCs

BBF RFC 112 replaces BBF RFC 108 (the SBOL 2.0 standard), as well as the minor update SBOL 2.0.1.

BBF RFC 112 updates BBF RFC 30 (RDF-based framework for synthetic biology data), as it proposes a standard conforming to BBF RFC 30.

BBF RFC 112 also implicitly supersedes the previously replaced BBF RFC 87 (SBOL 1.1, replaced by BBF RFC 108), BBF RFC 84 (SBOL 1.0, replaced by BBF RFC 87) and BBF RFC 31 (PoBoL, replaced by BBF RFC 84).
3 Copyright and License Statement

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In addition to the listed authors, the following people are specifically recognized as additional contributors sharing in the copyright (alphabetically by institution): Douglas Densmore (Boston University, USA), Jacqueline Quinn (Google, USA), and Guy-Bart Stan (Imperial College London, UK).
The SBOL effort was kickstarted in 2006 with the goal of developing a data exchange standard for genetic designs. Herbert Sauro (University of Washington) secured a modest grant from Microsoft in the field of computational synthetic biology, which was used to fund the initial meeting in Seattle on April 26-27, 2008. This workshop was organized by Herbert Sauro, Sean Sleight, and Deepak Chandran, and included talks by Raik Gruenberg, Kim de Mora, John Cumbers, Christopher Anderson, Mac Cowell, Jason Morrison, Jean Peccoud, Ralph Santos, Andrew Milar, Vincent Rouilly, Mike Hucka, Michael Blinov, Lucian Smith, Sarah Richardson, Guillermo Rodrigo, Jonathan Goler, and Michal Galdzicki.

Michal’s early efforts were instrumental in making SBOL successful. As part of his doctoral work, Mike led the development of PoBol, as SBOL was originally known. He organized annual workshops from 2008 to 2011 and kept the idea of developing a genetic design standard alive. The original SBOL 1.0 was developed by a small group of dedicated researchers calling themselves the Synthetic Biology Data Exchange Working Group, meeting at Stanford in 2009 and Anaheim, CA in 2010. During the Anaheim meeting, the community decided to write a letter to Nature Biotechnology highlighting the issue of reproducibility in synthetic biology. This letter was initiated by Jean Peccoud and submitted by participants of the Anaheim meeting, including Deepak Chandran, Douglas Densmore, Dmytriv, Michal Galdzicki, Timothy Ham, Cesar Rodriguez, Jean Peccoud, Herbert Sauro, and Guy-Bart Stan. The overall pace of development quickened when several new members joined at the next workshop in Blacksburg, Virginia on January 7-10, 2011. This early work was also supported by an STTR grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH #1R41LM010745 and #9R42HG006737, from 2010-13) in collaboration with Clark & Parsia, LLC (Co-PIs: John Gennari and Evren Sirin). New members included Cesar Rodriguez, Mandy Wilson, Guy-Bart Stan, Chris Myers, and Nicholas Roehner.

The SBOL Developers Group was officially established at a meeting in San Diego in June 2011. Rules of governance were established, and the first SBOL editors were elected: Mike Galdzicki, Cesar Rodriguez, and Mandy Wilson. At our next meeting in Seattle in January 2012, Herbert Sauro was elected the SBOL chair, and two new editors were added: Matthew Pocock and Ernst Oberortner. New developers joining at these workshops included several representatives from industry, Kevin Clancy, Jacob Beal, Aaron Adler, and Fusun Yaman Sirin. New members hailing from Newcastle University included Anil Wipat, Matthew Pocock, and Goksel Misirli.

Development of the first software library (libSBOLj) based on the SBOL standard was initiated by Allan Kuchinsky, a research scientist from Agilent, at the 2011 meeting. By the time of the 2012 meeting, the first data exchange between software tools using SBOL was conducted when a design was passed from Newcastle University’s VirtualParts Repository to Boston University’s Eugene tool, and finally to University of Utah’s iBioSim tool.

SBOL 1.0 was officially released in October 2011. In March 2012, SBOL 1.1 was released, the version that this document replaces. SBOL 1.1 did not make any major changes, but provided a number of small adjustments and clarifications, particularly around the annotation of sequences. Multi-institutional data exchange using SBOL 1.1 was later demonstrated in Nature Biotechnology Galdzicki et al. (2014).

While SBOL 1.1 had a number of significant advantages over the GenBank representation of DNA sequences, such as representing hierarchical organization of DNA components, it was still limited in other respects. The major topic of discussion at the 8th SBOL Workshop at Boston University in November 2012 was how to address these shortcomings through extensions. Several extensions were discussed at this meeting, such as a means to describe genetic regulation, which later became important classes in the current 2.x specification.

A general framework for SBOL 2.0 emerged at the 9th SBOL workshop at Newcastle University in April 2013. Subsequently, Nicholas Roehner, Matthew Pocock, and Ernst Oberortner drafted a proposal for SBOL 2.0, and Nicholas presented this proposal at the SEED conference in Los Angeles in July 2014 Roehner et al. (2015). The proposed 2.0 data model was discussed over the course of the 10th, 11th, and 12th workshops. The actual specification document you are now reading was drafted at the 13th workshop in Wittenberg, Germany by the authors. The SBOL 2.x data model presented here is essentially the result of these meetings and ongoing discussions conducted through the SBOL Developers mailing lists, plus minor adjustments and updates approved by the community.
through subsequence meetings and mailing list discussions.

The Computational Modeling in Biology Network (COMBINE) holds regular workshops where synthetic biologists and systems biologists can work toward a common goal of integrating biological knowledge through inter-operable and non-overlapping data standards. In April of 2014, several SBOL Developers attended a COMBINE workshop and then proposed that SBOL join this larger standards community. The proposal passed and SBOL workshops have been co-located with COMBINE meetings since the 11th workshop at the University of Southern California in August 2014.

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5 SBOL Specification Vocabulary

5.1 Term Conventions

This document indicates requirement levels using the controlled vocabulary specified in IETF RFC 2119 and reiterated in BBF RFC 0. In particular, the key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119.

- The words "MUST", "REQUIRED", or "SHALL" mean that the item is an absolute requirement.
- The phrases "MUST NOT" or "SHALL NOT" mean that the item is an absolute prohibition.
- The word "SHOULD" or the adjective "RECOMMENDED" mean that there might exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications need to be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.
- The phrases "SHOULD NOT" or "NOT RECOMMENDED" mean that there might exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular behavior is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications needs to be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behavior described with this label.
- The word "MAY" or the adjective "OPTIONAL" mean that an item is truly optional.

5.2 SBOL Class Names

SBOL defines the following “top-level” and dependent classes:

**Collection**: Represents a user-defined container for organizing a group of SBOL objects.

**ComponentDefinition**: Describes the structure of designed entities, such as DNA, RNA, and proteins, as well as other entities they interact with, such as small molecules or environmental properties.

- **Component**: Pointer class. Incorporates a child ComponentDefinition by reference into exactly one parent ComponentDefinition. Represents a specific occurrence or instance of an entity within the design of a more complex entity. Because the same definition might appear in multiple designs or multiple times in a single design, a single ComponentDefinition can have zero or more parent ComponentDefinitions, and each such parent-child link requires its own, distinct Component.
- **Location**: Specifies the base coordinates and orientation of a genetic feature on a DNA or RNA molecule or a residue or site on another sequential macromolecule such as a protein.
- **SequenceAnnotation**: Describes the Location of a notable sub-sequence found within the Sequence of a ComponentDefinition. Can also link to and effectively position a child Component.
- **SequenceConstraint**: Describes the relative spatial position and orientation of two Component objects that are contained within the same ComponentDefinition.

**GenericTopLevel**: Represents a data container that can contain custom data added by user applications.

**Model**: Links to quantitative or qualitative computational models that might be used to predict the functional behavior of a biological design.

**ModuleDefinition**: Describes a "system" design as a collection of biological components and their functional relationships.

- **FunctionalComponent**: Pointer class. Incorporates a child ComponentDefinition by reference into exactly one parent ModuleDefinition. Represents a specific occurrence or instance of an entity within
the design of a system. Because the same definition might appear in multiple designs or multiple times in a single design, a single ComponentDefinition can have zero or more parent ModuleDefinitions, and each such parent-child link requires its own, distinct FunctionalComponent.

- **Interaction**: Describes a functional relationship between biological entities, such as regulatory activation or repression, or a biological process such as transcription or translation.

- **MapsTo**: When a design (ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition) includes another design as a sub-design, the parent design might need to refer to a ComponentInstance (either a Component or FunctionalComponent) in the sub-design. In this case, a MapsTo needs to be added to the instance for the sub-design, and this MapsTo needs to link between the ComponentInstance in the sub-design and a ComponentInstance in the parent design.

- **Module**: Pointer class. Incorporates a child ModuleDefinition by reference into exactly one parent ModuleDefinition. Represents a specific occurrence or instance of a subsystem within the design of a larger system. Because the same definition might appear in multiple designs or multiple times in a single design, a single ModuleDefinition can have zero or more parent ModuleDefinitions, and each such parent-child link requires its own, distinct Module.

- **Participation**: Describes the role that a FunctionalComponent plays in an Interaction. For example, a transcription factor might participate in an Interaction as a repressor or as an activator.

**Sequence**: Generally represents a contiguous series of monomers in a macromolecular polymer such as DNA, RNA, or protein. A Sequence can also encode the atoms and bonds of a molecule with non-linear structure (see Section 7.6).
6 Overview of SBOL

Synthetic biology designs can be described using:

- Structural terms, e.g., a set of annotated sequences or information about the chemical makeup of components.
- Functional terms, e.g., the way that components might interact with each other and the overall behavior of a design.

In broad strokes, the prior SBOL 1.1 standard focused on conveying physical, structural information, whereas SBOL 2 expands the scope to include functional aspects as well. The physical information about a designed genetic construct includes the order of its constituents and their descriptions. Specifying the exact locations of these constituents and their sequences allow genetic constructs to be defined unambiguously and reused in other designs. SBOL 2 extends SBOL 1.1 in several ways: it extends physical descriptions to include entities beyond DNA sequences, and it supports functional descriptions of designs.

As an example, consider the design of an expression cassette, such as the one found in the plasmid pUC18 Norrander et al. (1983). This device is designed to detect successful versus unsuccessful molecular cloning. As an overall system, the device is designed to grow either blue-colored (unsuccessful) or white-colored (successful) colonies in the presence of IPTG and the chemical X-gal. Internally, the device has a number of parts, including a promoter, the lac repressor binding site, and the lacZ coding sequence. These parts have specific component-level interactions with IPTG and X-gal, as well as native host gene products, transcriptional machinery and translational machinery that collectively cause the desired system-level behavior.

Knowledge of how such a device functions within the context of a host and how it might be adapted to new experimental applications has generally been passed on through working with fellow scientists or reading articles in papers and books. But there has been no systematic way to communicate the integration of sequences with functional designs, so users typically have had to look in many different places to develop an understanding of a system. The SBOL 2 standard allows designers to describe these functional characteristics and connect them to the physical parts and sequences that make up the design.

SBOL 2 includes two main classes that match the structural/functional distinction above:

- The ComponentDefinition object describes the physical aspects of the designed system, such as its DNA or RNA sequences, and the physical relationships among sub-components, as when one sequence contains another as a sub-sequence.
- The ModuleDefinition object describes interactions of the designed system, such as specific binding relationships and repression and activation relationships.

Figure 2 shows a simplified view of these classes, as well as other helper classes in SBOL. To continue with the pUC18 example, the description would begin with a top-level ModuleDefinition. The ModuleDefinition specifies the structural elements that make up the cassette by referencing a number of ComponentDefinition objects. These would include the DNA component for the promoter and the small molecule component for IPTG, for example. The ComponentDefinition objects can be organized hierarchically. For example, the plasmid ComponentDefinition might reference ComponentDefinitions for the promoter, coding sequence, etc. Each ComponentDefinition object can also include the actual Sequence information (if available), as well as SequenceAnnotation objects that identify the locations of the promoters, coding sequences, etc., on the Sequence. In order to specify functional information, the ModuleDefinition can specify Interaction objects that describe any qualitative relationships among components, such as how IPTG and X-gal interact with the gene products. Finally, a ModuleDefinition object can point to a Model object that provides a reference to a complete computational model using a language such as SBML, CellML, Matlab, etc. Finally, all the of elements of the genetic design can be grouped together within a Collection.
Figure 2: Main classes of information represented by the SBOL standard, and their relationships. Red boxes are classes from the SBOL 1.1 that focused on structure, whereas blue classes are some of the new classes that support the functional aspects of designs.

Whereas Figure 2 provides a broad overview of SBOL, Figure 3 provides a detailed, implementation-level overview of the class structure for the SBOL 2.x data model. This figure relies on the semantics of the Unified Modeling Language (UML), which will be presented in more detail in the next section. Figure 3 distinguishes between top level classes, in green, and other supporting classes (note that Figure 2 also includes all of the top level classes). In Figure 3, dashed arcs represent “refersTo”, whereas a solid arrow represents ownership. In UML, the meaning of ownership is that if a parent class is deleted, so are all of its owned children. Thus, a Collection does not own its ComponentDefinition objects, because these can stand on their own. All of the supporting classes (in orange) have to be owned by some top-level class, directly or indirectly.

Figure 3: Main classes of information represented by the SBOL 2.x standard, and their relationships. Green boxes are “top level” classes, while the other classes are in support of these classes. Solid arrows indicates ownership, whereas a dashed arrow indicates that one class refers to an object of another class.

Figure 3 additionally shows that when it is possible to incorporate a single object into multiple parents, we always incorporate that object by reference. We do not directly incorporate it by copy, because when an object is used many times, keeping many copies becomes spatially inefficient and difficult to maintain. Instead, each
reference is handled by a pointer object. Pointers refer from a parent to a child. There are three distinct pointer classes: Component, Module, and FunctionalComponent. A Component points from a ComponentDefinition to a child ComponentDefinition, incorporating it by reference into the parent structure. A Module points from a ModuleDefinition to a child ModuleDefinition, likewise incorporating the child by reference into the parent system. Similarly, a parent ModuleDefinition on the functional side of a model might incorporate a child ComponentDefinition from the model's physical side by means of a FunctionalComponent reference. These three pointer classes allow the efficient reuse of definitions in multiple locations.

SBOL 2.x provides a few helper classes. Location generalizes the positioning information from SBOL 1.1 to allow discontinuous ranges and cuts to be annotated. SequenceConstraint generalizes the relative positioning information among Components. There are also Participations, which allow Interaction objects to specify the roles of their participants while referencing the FunctionalComponents, so that these can stand on their own. Additionally, there is the MapsTo class (not shown), which enables connections to be made between Components and FunctionalComponents across various levels of the design hierarchy. The next section provides complete definitions and details for all of these classes.

There is one final, critical element of SBOL 2: its extension mechanism. This extension mechanism enables the storage of application specific information within an SBOL document. It is also intended to support the prototyping of data representations whose format is not yet a matter of consensus within the community. In particular, each SBOL entity can be annotated using the Resource Description Framework (RDF). Moreover, application specific entities in the form of RDF documents can be included as GenericTopLevel entities. SBOL libraries make these annotations and entities available to tools as generic properties and objects that are preserved during subsequent read and write operations.
7 SBOL Data Model

In this section, we describe the types of biological design data that can belong to an SBOL document and the relationships between these data types. The SBOL data model is specified using Unified Modeling Language (UML) 2.0 diagrams (OMG 2005). Subsections Section 7.1, Section 7.2, Section 7.3 review the basics of UML diagrams and explain the naming conventions and generic data types used in this specification. The remaining sections then describe the SBOL data model in detail. Complete SBOL examples and best practices when using the standard can be found in Section 9 and Section 12, respectively.

7.1 Understanding the UML Diagrams

The types of biological design data modeled by SBOL are commonly referred to as classes, especially when discussing the details of software implementation. Each SBOL class can be instantiated by many SBOL objects. These objects MAY contain data that differ in content, but they MUST agree on the type and form of their data as dictated by their common class. Classes are represented in UML diagrams as rectangles labeled at the top with class names.

Classes can be connected to other classes by association properties, which are represented in UML diagrams as arrows. These arrows are labeled with data cardinalities in order to indicate how many values a given association property can possess (see below). The remaining (non-association) properties of a class are listed below its name. Each of the latter properties is labeled with its data type and cardinality.

In the case of an association property, the class from which the arrow originates is the owner of the association property. A diamond at the origin of the arrow indicates the type of association. Open-faced diamonds indicate shared aggregation, in which the owner of the association property exists independently of its value. In the SBOL data model, the value of an association property MUST be a URI or set of URIs that refer to SBOL objects belonging to the class at the tip of the arrow.

By contrast, filled diamonds indicate composite aggregation, also known as a part-whole relationship, in which the value of the association property MUST NOT exist independently of its owner. In addition, in the SBOL data model, it is REQUIRED that the value of each composite aggregation property is a unique SBOL object (that is, not the value for more than one such property). Note that in all cases, composite aggregation is used in such a way that there SHOULD NOT be duplication of such objects.

All SBOL properties are labeled with one of several restrictions on data cardinality. These are:

- 1 - REQUIRED, one: there MUST be exactly one value for this property.
- 0…1 - OPTIONAL: there MAY be a single value for this property, or it MAY be absent.
- 0…* - unbounded: there MAY be any number of values for this property, including none.
- 1…* - REQUIRED, unbounded: there MAY be any number of values for this property, as long as there is at least one.
- n…* - at least: there MUST be at least n values for this property.

Finally, classes can inherit the properties of other classes. Inheritance relationships are represented in UML diagrams as open-faced, triangular arrows that point from the inheriting class to the inherited class. Some classes in the SBOL data model cannot be instantiated as objects and exist only to group common properties for inheritance. These classes have italicized names and are known as abstract classes.

7.2 Naming and Font Conventions

SBOL classes are named using upper "camel case," meaning that each word is capitalized and all words are run together without spaces, e.g., Identified, SequenceAnnotation. Properties, on the other hand, are named using lower camel case, meaning that they begin lowercase (e.g., identity) but if they consist of multiple words, all words...
after the first begin with an uppercase letter (e.g., persistentIdentity).

Within the SBOL data model, each property is given a singular or plural name in accordance with its data cardinalities. The forms of these names follow the usual rules of English grammar. For example, sequenceAnnotation is the singular form of sequenceAnnotations.

SBOL properties are always given singular names, however, when SBOL objects are serialized (using Resource Description Framework (RDF) as described in Section 10). This is because the SBOL data model does not contain classes that correspond directly to the RDF elements that group other elements into ordered or unordered sets. Consequently, if an SBOL property has multiple values, then it is serialized as multiple property entries, each with a singular name and a single value. For example, if an SBOL property has five values, then its serialization contains five RDF triples, each with a singular predicate name and one of the five values as its object.

7.3 Data Types

When SBOL use simple “primitive” data types such as Strings or Integers, these are defined as the following specific formal types:

- **String**: http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/#string
  Example: “LacI coding sequence”

- **Integer**: http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/#integer
  Example: 3

- **Double**: http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/#double
  Example: 3.14159

- **Boolean**: http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/#boolean
  Example: true

The term literal is used to denote an object that can be any of the four types listed above. In addition to the simple types listed above, SBOL also uses objects with types Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) and XML Qualified Name (QName):

- **URI**: http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/#anyURI
  Example: http://www.partsregistry.org/Part:BBa_J23119

- **QName**: http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/#QName
  Example: myapp:Datasheet where myapp="http://www.myapp.org/"

Note that, in compliance with RDF standards, URIs are generally serialized using an rdf:resource property, e.g.: rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/Part:BBa_J23119"

It is important to realize that in RDF, a URI might or might not be a resolvable URL (web address). A URI is always a globally unique identifier within a structured namespace. In some cases, that name is also a reference to (or within) a document, and in some cases that document can also be retrieved (e.g., using a web browser).

7.4 Identified

All SBOL-defined classes are directly or indirectly derived from the Identified abstract class. This inheritance means that all SBOL objects are uniquely identified using URIs that uniquely refer to these objects within an SBOL document or at locations on the World Wide Web.

As shown in Figure 4, the Identified class includes the following properties: identity, persistentIdentity, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, and annotations. The latter property is described separately in Section 7.11.
When an SBOL resource reference takes the form of a URI, that URI can either be the value of an identity property or the value of a persistentIdentity property. If the URI is equal to the value of an identity property, then it is guaranteed to be unique, and it refers to precisely one SBOL object with that URI. If the URI is equal to the value of a persistentIdentity property, then it MAY refer to multiple SBOL objects that are different “versions” of each other. These objects SHOULD be compared to one another to determine which single object the URI resolves to (normally the most recent version - see Section 7.4). Throughout this document, when a URI is used to refer to an SBOL object, it could fall into either of these cases.

The identity property

The identity property is REQUIRED by all Identified objects and has a data type of URI. A given Identified object’s identity URI MUST be globally unique among all other identity URIs. It is also highly RECOMMENDED that the URI structure follows the recommended best practices for compliant URIs specified in Section 12.3.

Although most SBOL properties are defined by SBOL and serialized with its namespace, the identity property is defined by the analogous RDF about property and is serialized with the RDF namespace as follows:

http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#about.

The use of about is expressly for the purpose of making SBOL compliant with pre-existing standards: when you see about in an SBOL document, you SHOULD interpret it as meaning identity.

The persistentIdentity property

The persistentIdentity property is OPTIONAL and has a data type of URI. This URI serves to uniquely refer to a set of SBOL objects of the same class that are different versions of each other. An Identified object MUST be referred to using either its identity URI or its persistentIdentity URI.

The displayId property

The displayId property is an OPTIONAL identifier with a data type of String. This property is intended to be an intermediate between name and identity that is machine-readable, but more human-readable than the full URI of an identity.

If the displayId property is used, then its String value SHOULD be locally unique (global uniqueness is not necessary) and MUST be composed of only alphanumeric or underscore characters and MUST NOT begin with a digit.

The version property

The version property is OPTIONAL and has a data type of String. This property can be used to compare two SBOL objects with the same persistentIdentity.
If the `version` property is used, then it is RECOMMENDED that version numbering follow the conventions of semantic versioning (http://semver.org/), particularly as implemented by Maven (http://maven.apache.org/). This convention represents versions as sequences of numbers and qualifiers that are separated by the characters “.” and “-” and are compared in lexicographical order (for example, 1 < 1.3.1 < 2.0-beta). For a full explanation, see the linked resources.

**The `wasDerivedFrom` property**

The `wasDerivedFrom` property is OPTIONAL and has a data type of `URI`. An SBOL object with this property refers to another SBOL object or non-SBOL resource from which this object was derived.

2.0.1 The `wasDerivedFrom` property of a TopLevel SBOL object is subject to the following rules. If the `wasDerivedFrom` property of an SBOL object A that refers to an SBOL object B has an identical `persistentIdentity`, and both A and B have a `version`, then the `version` of B MUST precede that of A. In addition, an SBOL object MUST NOT refer to itself via its own `wasDerivedFrom` property or form a cyclical chain of references via its `wasDerivedFrom` property and those of other SBOL objects. For example, the reference chain "A was derived from B and B was derived from A" is cyclical.

**The `name` property**

The `name` property is OPTIONAL and has a data type of `String`. This property is intended to be displayed to a human when visualizing an `Identified` object.

If an `Identified` object lacks a name, then software tools SHOULD instead display the object’s `displayId` or `identity`. It is RECOMMENDED that software tools give users the ability to switch perspectives between `name` properties that are human-readable and `displayId` properties that are less human-readable, but are more likely to be unique.

**The `description` property**

The `description` property is OPTIONAL and has a data type of `String`. This property is intended to contain a more thorough text description of an `Identified` object.

**The `annotations` property**

The `annotations` property is OPTIONAL and MAY specify a set of `Annotation` objects that are contained by the `Identified` object. The `Annotation` class is described in more detail in Section 7.11.1.

**Serialization**

No complete serialization is defined for `Identified`, since this class is only used indirectly through its child classes. Any such child class, however, has the following form for serializing properties inherited from `Identified`, where `CLASS_NAME` is replaced by the name of the class:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:CLASS_NAME rdf:about="...">
    zero or one `<sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="..."/>` element
    zero or one `<sbol:displayId>...</sbol:displayId>` element
    zero or one `<sbol:version>...</sbol:version>` element
    zero or one `<prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="..."/>` element
    zero or one `<dcterms:title>...</dcterms:title>` element
    zero or one `<dcterms:description>...</dcterms:description>` element
    ...
  </sbol:CLASS_NAME>
  ...
</rdf:RDF>
```
Note that several of the properties are not in the `sbol` namespace, but are mapped to standardized terms defined elsewhere:

- `identity` is serialized as `rdf:about`
- `wasDerivedFrom` is serialized as `prov:wasDerivedFrom`
- `name` is serialized as `dcterms:title`
- `description` is serialized as `dcterms:description`

### 7.5 TopLevel

`TopLevel` is an abstract class that is extended by any `Identified` class that can be found at the top level of an SBOL document or file. In other words, `TopLevel` objects are not nested inside any other object via a composite aggregation or black diamond arrow association property. Instead of nesting, composite `TopLevel` objects refer to subordinate `TopLevel` objects by their URIs using shared aggregation or white diamond arrow association properties. The `TopLevel` classes defined in this specification are `Sequence`, `ComponentDefinition`, `Model`, `ModuleDefinition`, `Collection`, and `GenericTopLevel` (Figure 5).

![Diagram of TopLevel classes](image)

**Figure 5:** Classes that inherit from the `TopLevel` abstract class.

### Serialization

No serialization is defined for `TopLevel`, since this class has no properties of its own and is only used indirectly through its child classes. All `TopLevel` classes are serialized one level beneath the RDF document root.

### 7.6 Sequence

The purpose of the `Sequence` class is to represent the primary structure of a `ComponentDefinition` object and the manner in which it is encoded. This representation is accomplished by means of the `elements` property and `encoding` property (Figure 6).

**The elements property**

The `elements` property is a REQUIRED `String` of characters that represents the constituents of a biological or chemical molecule. For example, these characters could represent the nucleotide bases of a molecule of DNA, the amino acid residues of a protein, or the atoms and chemical bonds of a small molecule.
The encoding property

The encoding property is REQUIRED and has a data type of URI. This property MUST indicate how the elements property of a Sequence MUST be formed and interpreted.

For example, the elements property of a Sequence with an IUPAC DNA encoding property MUST contain characters that represent nucleotide bases, such as a, t, c, and g. The elements property of a Sequence with a Simplified Molecular-Input Line-Entry System (SMILES) encoding, on the other hand, MUST contain characters that represent atoms and chemical bonds, such as C, N, O, and =.

Table 1 provides a list of possible URI values for the encoding property. The terms in Table 1 are organized by the type of ComponentDefinition (see Table 2) that typically refer to a Sequence with such an encoding. It is RECOMMENDED that the encoding property of a Sequence contains a URI from Table 1. When the encoding of a Sequence is well described by one of the URIs in Table 1, it MUST contain that URI.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Encoding</th>
<th>URI</th>
<th>ComponentDefinition Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IUPAC DNA, RNA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/misc/naseq.html">http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/misc/naseq.html</a></td>
<td>DNA, RNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IUPAC Protein</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iupac/AminoAcid/">http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iupac/AminoAcid/</a></td>
<td>Protein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMILES</td>
<td><a href="http://www.opensmiles.org/opensmiles.html">http://www.opensmiles.org/opensmiles.html</a></td>
<td>SmallMolecule</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: URIs for specifying the encoding property of a Sequence, organized by the type of ComponentDefinition (see Table 2) that typically refer to a Sequence with such an encoding.

Serialization

The serialization of a Sequence MUST have the following form:

```xml
<sbol:Sequence rdf:about="...">  
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  one <sbol:elements>...<sbol:elements> element
  one <sbol:encoding rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:Sequence>
```

The example below shows the serialization of the Sequence for a promoter. The nucleotide bases of the Sequence are serialized as the String value of its elements property, while its IUPAC DNA encoding is serialized as the URI value of its encoding property.

```xml
  <sbol:Sequence rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/seq/RB_a_J23119">  
    <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/RB_a_J23119"/>
    <sbol:displayId>RB_a_J23119</sbol:displayId>
    <sbol:Sequence rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/seq/RB_a_J23119">  
      <sbol:elements rdf:resource="..."/>
      <sbol:elements>...</sbol:elements> element
      one <sbol:encoding rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/RB_a_J23119"/> element
  </sbol:Sequence>
</rdf:RDF>
```
7.7 ComponentDefinition

The ComponentDefinition class represents the structural entities of a biological design. The primary usage of this class is to represent structural entities with designed sequences, such as DNA, RNA, and proteins, but it can also be used to represent any other entity that is part of a design, such as small molecules, molecular complexes, and light.

As shown in Figure 7, the ComponentDefinition class describes a structural design entity using the following properties: types, roles, and sequences. In addition, this class has properties for describing and organizing the substructure of said design entity, including components, sequenceAnnotations, and sequenceConstraints.

![Diagram of the ComponentDefinition class and its associated properties.](image)

**The types property**

The types property is a REQUIRED set of URIs that specifies the category of biochemical or physical entity (for example DNA, protein, or small molecule) that a ComponentDefinition object abstracts for the purpose of engineering design. For DNA or RNA entities, additional types fields are used to describe nucleic acid topology (circular / linear) and strandedness (double- or single-stranded).

The types property of every ComponentDefinition MUST contain one or more URIs that MUST identify terms from appropriate ontologies, such as the BioPAX ontology or the ontology of Chemical Entities of Biological Interest (ChEBI). Table 2 provides a list of possible ontology terms for the types property and their URIs. In order to maximize the compatibility of designs, the types property of a ComponentDefinition SHOULD contain a URI from Table 2, and any ComponentDefinition that can be well-described by one of the terms in Table 2 MUST use the URI for that term as one of its types. Finally, if the types property contains multiple URIs, then they MUST identify non-conflicting terms (otherwise, it might not be clear how to interpret them). For example, the BioPAX terms provided by Table 2 would conflict because they specify classes of biochemical entities with different molecular structures.

**Nucleic Acid Topology types** [New in 2.1.0; see SEP 011: https://github.com/SynBioDex/SEPs/issues/26]

Any ComponentDefinition classified as DNA (see Table 2) is RECOMMENDED to encode circular/linear topology information in an additional type field. This (topology) type field SHOULD specify a URI from the Topology Attribute
### ComponentDefinition Type URI for BioPAX Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ComponentDefinition Type</th>
<th>URI for BioPAX Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DNA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#DnaRegion">http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#DnaRegion</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#RnaRegion">http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#RnaRegion</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein</td>
<td><a href="http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#Protein">http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#Protein</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Molecule</td>
<td><a href="http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#SmallMolecule">http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#SmallMolecule</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complex</td>
<td><a href="http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#Complex">http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#Complex</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2:** BioPAX terms to specify the molecule type using the *types* property of a ComponentDefinition.

branch of the SO (this is currently just ‘linear’ or ‘circular’ as given in Table 3). There is no default topology for DNA. Lack of topology information is only acceptable for DNA records without or with incomplete sequence information. Topology information SHOULD be specified for DNA ComponentDefinition records with a fully specified sequence – unless the topology is genuinely unknown, in which case the sequence is, in fact, not fully specified. Any ComponentDefinition classified as RNA (see Table 2), a topology type field is OPTIONAL. The default assumption in this case is linear topology. In any case, no more than one topology should be specified.

Any ComponentDefinition classified as DNA or RNA MAY also have strand information encoded in an additional (third) type field using a URI from the Strand Attribute branch of the SO (currently there are only two possible terms for single or double-stranded nucleic acids given in Table 3). In absence of this field, the default strand information assumed for DNA is ‘double-stranded’ and for RNA is ‘single-stranded’.

Any other type of ComponentDefinition record (protein, small molecule, etc) SHOULD NOT have any type field pointing to SO terms from the topology or strand attribute branches of SO.

Note that a *circular* topology instructs software to interpret the beginning / end position of a given sequence (be it DNA or RNA) as arbitrary so that sequence features may be mapped or identified across this junction. *Double stranded* instructs software to apply sequence searches to both strands (i.e. sequence and reverse complement of sequence).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nucleic Acid Topology</th>
<th>URI for Nucleic Acid Topology Term in SO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>linear</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/so/SO:0000987">http://identifiers.org/so/SO:0000987</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circular</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/so/SO:0000988">http://identifiers.org/so/SO:0000988</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>single-stranded</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/so/SO:0000984">http://identifiers.org/so/SO:0000984</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double-stranded</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/so/SO:0000985">http://identifiers.org/so/SO:0000985</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 3:** Sequence Ontology terms to encode DNA or RNA topology information in *types* properties of a ComponentDefinition.

---

**The roles property**

The roles property is an OPTIONAL set of URIs that clarifies the potential function of the entity represented by a ComponentDefinition in a biochemical or physical context.

The roles property of a ComponentDefinition MAY contain one or more URIs that MUST identify terms from ontologies that are consistent with the *types* property of the ComponentDefinition. For example, the roles property of a DNA or RNA ComponentDefinition could contain URIs identifying terms from the Sequence Ontology (SO). As a best practice, a DNA or RNA ComponentDefinition SHOULD contain exactly one URI that refers to a term from the sequence feature branch of the SO. Table 4 contains a list of possible ontology terms for the roles property and their URIs. These terms are organized by the type of ComponentDefinition to which they SHOULD apply (see Table 2). Any ComponentDefinition that can be well-described by one of the terms in Table 4 MUST use the URI for that term as one of its roles.

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The sequences property

The sequences property is OPTIONAL and MAY include a set of URIs that refer to Sequence objects. These objects define the primary structure of the ComponentDefinition.

Many ComponentDefinition objects will refer to precisely one Sequence object. For certain use cases, however, it can be appropriate to refer to multiple Sequence objects. For example, a user might wish to provide two different representations of the structure of a DNA ComponentDefinition, one that represents its structure at the level of nucleotide bases and one that represents its structure at the level of atoms and bonds.

If a ComponentDefinition refers to more than one Sequence object, then these objects MUST be consistent with each other, such that well-defined mappings exist between their elements properties in accordance with their encoding properties. Furthermore, these objects MUST NOT have conflicting encoding properties. For example, the IUPAC encoding properties provided by Table 1 conflict with each other because they do not specify how to encode the same class of biochemical entity. The SMILES encoding, however, does not conflict with them because it specifies how to encode biochemical entities in general, which includes DNA, RNA, and proteins. If a ComponentDefinition refers to more than one Sequence with the same encoding, then the elements of these Sequence objects SHOULD have equal lengths. These requirements and best practices are intended to make it easier for software tools to locate any regions specified by the SequenceAnnotation objects of a ComponentDefinition on its associated Sequence objects, as well as validate whether its Sequence objects are consistent with those associated with any ComponentDefinition objects that it composes via its Component objects.

Finally, if a ComponentDefinition refers to one or more Sequence objects and its types property refers to a term from Table 2, then one of these Sequence objects MUST have the encoding that is cross-listed with this term in Table 1. Conversely, if a ComponentDefinition refers to a Sequence with an encoding from Table 1, then its types property MUST refer to the term from Table 2 that is cross-listed with this encoding in Table 1. For example, if the types property of a ComponentDefinition refers to the BioPAX term for DNA, then one of the Sequence objects to which it refers (if any) MUST have an IUPAC DNA encoding, and if a ComponentDefinition refers to a Sequence with an IUPAC DNA encoding, then its types property MUST refer to the BioPAX term for DNA. These requirements are meant to provide for some degree of consistency between the types property of a ComponentDefinition and the encoding properties of the Sequence objects to which the ComponentDefinition refers.

The components property

The components property is OPTIONAL and MAY specify a set of Component objects that are contained by the ComponentDefinition. The set of relations between Component and ComponentDefinition objects is strictly acyclic (see Section 7.7.1).

While the ComponentDefinition class is analogous to a blueprint or specification sheet for a biological part, the Component class represents the specific occurrence of a part within a design. Hence, this class allows a biological design to include multiple instances of a particular part (defined by reference to the same ComponentDefinition).

Table 4: Ontology terms to specify the roles property of a ComponentDefinition, organized by the type of ComponentDefinition to which they are intended to apply (see Table 2).
For example, the ComponentDefinition of a polycistronic gene could contain two Component objects that refer to the same ComponentDefinition of a CDS.

The components properties of ComponentDefinition objects can be used to construct a hierarchy of Component and ComponentDefinition objects. If a ComponentDefinition in such a hierarchy refers to one or more Sequence objects, and there exist ComponentDefinition objects lower in the hierarchy that refer to Sequence objects with the same encoding, then the elements properties of these Sequence objects SHOULD be consistent with each other, such that well-defined mappings exist from the "lower level" elements to the "higher level" elements in accordance with their shared encoding properties. This mapping is also subject to any restrictions on the positions of the Component objects in the hierarchy that are imposed by the SequenceAnnotation or SequenceConstraint objects contained by the ComponentDefinition objects.

A DNA ComponentDefinition, for example, could refer to a Sequence with an IUPAC DNA encoding and an elements String of "gattaca." In turn, this ComponentDefinition could contain a Component that refers to a "lower level" ComponentDefinition that also refers to a Sequence with an IUPAC DNA encoding. Consequently, a consistent elements String of this "lower level" Sequence could be "gatta," or perhaps "tgta" if the Component is positioned by a SequenceAnnotation that contains a Location with an orientation of "reverse complement" (see Section 7.7.5).

The sequenceAnnotations property

The sequenceAnnotations property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of SequenceAnnotation objects. Each SequenceAnnotation specifies and describes a potentially discontinuous region on the Sequence objects referred to by the ComponentDefinition.

In addition, each SequenceAnnotation can position a Component of the ComponentDefinition at the region specified by its Location objects (see Section 7.7.5). The sequenceAnnotations property MUST NOT contain two or more SequenceAnnotation objects that refer to the same Component in this way.

Finally, as a best practice, if a ComponentDefinition refers to a Sequence with an IUPAC encoding from Table 1, then each of its SequenceAnnotation objects that contains a Range or Cut SHOULD specify a region on the elements of this Sequence. For example, the ComponentDefinition of a eukaryotic gene could refer to a Sequence with an IUPAC DNA encoding. In order to specify the discontinuous region occupied by its CDS, this gene ComponentDefinition would need a SequenceAnnotation that contains one or more Range objects, each one specifying start and end positions that correspond to indices of the elements of its DNA Sequence.

The sequenceConstraints property

The sequenceConstraints property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of SequenceConstraint objects. These objects describe any restrictions on the relative, sequence-based positions and/or orientations of the Component objects contained by the ComponentDefinition. For example, the ComponentDefinition of a gene might specify that the position of its promoter Component precedes that of its CDS Component. This is particularly useful when a ComponentDefinition lacks a Sequence and therefore cannot specify the precise, sequence-based positions of its Component objects using SequenceAnnotation objects.

Serialization

The serialization of a ComponentDefinition MUST have the form below. The components, sequenceAnnotations, and sequences properties of a ComponentDefinition contain or reference objects belonging to the appropriate SBOL classes as their values, while the types and roles properties contain URIs that identify ontology terms as their values.

As shown below, each of these objects and URIs are serialized as part of an implicit set of SBOL properties with singular rather then plural names. In particular, each object is serialized as an RDF/XML node nested within a property, while each URI (except the identity) is serialized as an rdf:resource on a property.
The example below shows the serialization for the ComponentDefinition of a promoter. The BioPAX term DnaRegion and the ChEBI term CHEBI:4705 (double-stranded DNA) are used to indicate that the type of biological entity represented by this ComponentDefinition is DNA. Its role is specified using the SO terms SO:0000167 (promoter) and the more specific SO:0000613 (bacterial_RNAPol_promoter).

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119">
    <sbol:displayId>BBa_J23119</sbol:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/Part:BBa_J23119"/>
    <dcterms:title>J23119 promoter</dcterms:title>
    <dcterms:description>Constitutive promoter</dcterms:description>
    <sbol:sequence rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_J23119"/>
  </sbol:ComponentDefinition>
</rdf:RDF>
```

7.7.1 ComponentInstance

The ComponentInstance abstract class is inherited by SBOL classes that represent the usage or occurrence of
Section 7.7 ComponentDefinition

A ComponentDefinition within a larger design (that is, another ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition). Currently, there are two subclasses of ComponentInstance:

- The Component class is used to specify the structural usage of a ComponentDefinition inside another ComponentDefinition via the components property.
- The FunctionalComponent class is used to specify the functional usage of a ComponentDefinition inside a ModuleDefinition via the functionalComponents property. This class is described in Section 7.9.2.

The definition property

The definition property is a REQUIRED URI that refers to the ComponentDefinition of the ComponentInstance. As described in the previous section, this ComponentDefinition effectively provides information about the types and roles of the ComponentInstance.

The definition property MUST NOT refer to the same ComponentDefinition as the one that contains the ComponentInstance. Furthermore, ComponentInstance objects MUST NOT form a cyclical chain of references via their definition properties and the ComponentDefinition objects that contain them. For example, consider the ComponentInstance objects A and B and the ComponentDefinition objects X and Y. The reference chain “X contains A, A is defined by Y, Y contains B, and B is defined by X” is cyclical.

The mapsTos property

The mapsTos property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of MapsTo objects that refer to and link together ComponentInstance objects (both Component objects and FunctionalComponent objects) within a larger design.

Section 7.7.3 contains a more detailed description of the MapsTo class.

The access property

The access property is a REQUIRED URI that indicates whether the ComponentInstance can be referred to remotely by a MapsTo on another ComponentInstance or Module contained by a different parent ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition (one that does not contain this ComponentInstance).

Table 5 provides a list of REQUIRED access URIs. The value of the access property MUST be one of these URIs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access URI</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#public">http://sbols.org/v2#public</a></td>
<td>The ComponentInstance MAY be referred to by remote MapsTo objects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#private">http://sbols.org/v2#private</a></td>
<td>The ComponentInstance MUST NOT be referred to by remote MapsTo objects.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5: REQUIRED URIs for the access property.

In some cases, a designer might want to set the access property of a ComponentInstance such that others cannot map to the ComponentInstance when they reuse its parent ComponentDefinition. For example, a designer who is concerned about retroactivity might set the access of the ComponentInstance to “private” in order to prevent its mapping to another ComponentInstance that participates in a new Interaction as part of a composite design.

Serialization

No serialization is defined for the ComponentInstance class, since this class is only used indirectly through the Component and FunctionalComponent subclasses.

7.7.2 Component

The Component class is used to compose ComponentDefinition objects into a structural hierarchy. For example, the ComponentDefinition of a gene could contain four Component objects: a promoter, RBS, CDS, and terminator.
In turn, the ComponentDefinition of the promoter Component could contain Component objects defined as various operator sites.

### 2.1.0 The roles property

[New in 2.1.0; see SEP 004: https://github.com/SynBioDex/SEPs/issues/4]

The expected purpose and function of a genetic part are described by the roles property of ComponentDefinition. However, the same building block might be used for a different purpose in an actual design. In other words, purpose and function are sometimes determined by context.

The roles property comprises an OPTIONAL set of zero or more role URIs describing the purpose or potential function of this Component’s included sub-ComponentDefinition in the context of its parent ComponentDefinition. If provided, these role URIs MUST identify terms from appropriate ontologies. Roles are not restricted to describing biological function; they may annotate a Component’s function in any domain for which an ontology exists.

It is RECOMMENDED that these role URIs identify terms that are compatible with the type properties of both this Component’s parent ComponentDefinition and its included sub-ComponentDefinition. For example, a role of a Component which belongs to a ComponentDefinition of type DNA and includes a sub-ComponentDefinition of type DNA might refer to terms from the Sequence Ontology. A table of recommended ontology terms for roles is given in Table 4.

### 2.1.0 The roleIntegration property

[New in 2.1.0; see SEP 004: https://github.com/SynBioDex/SEPs/issues/4]

A roleIntegration specifies the relationship between a Component instance’s own set of roles and the set of roles on the included sub-ComponentDefinition.

The roleIntegration property has a data type of URI. A Component instance with zero roles MAY OPTIONALLY specify a roleIntegration. A Component instance with one or more roles MUST specify a roleIntegration from Table 6. If zero Component roles are given and no Component roleIntegration is given, then http://sbols.org/v2#mergeRoles is assumed. It is RECOMMENDED to specify a set of Component roles only if the integrated result set of roles would differ from the set of roles belonging to this Component’s included sub-ComponentDefinition.
Section 7.7 ComponentDefinition

### 2.1.0 Role Integration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>roleIntegration URI</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#overrideRoles">http://sbols.org/v2#overrideRoles</a></td>
<td>In the context of this Component, ignore any roles given for the included sub-ComponentDefinition. Instead use only the set of zero or more roles given for this Component.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#mergeRoles">http://sbols.org/v2#mergeRoles</a></td>
<td>Use the union of the two sets: both the set of zero or more roles given for this Component as well as the set of zero or more roles given for the included sub-ComponentDefinition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6: Each roleIntegration mode is associated with a rule governing how a Component's roles are to be combined with the included sub-ComponentDefinition's roles.

### Serialization

#### 2.1.0 The serialization of a Component MUST have the following form:

```xml
<sbol:Component rdf:about="...">
  ...
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_R0062"/>
</sbol:Component>
```

The example below shows the serialization of a Component that represents an instance of a promoter:

```xml
<sbol:Component rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_F2620/pLuxR">
  <sbol:displayId>pLuxR</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_R0062"/>
</sbol:Component>
```

#### 7.7.3 MapsTo

![Diagram of the MapsTo class and its associated properties.](image)

Figure 9: Diagram of the MapsTo class and its associated properties.

When ComponentDefinition and ModuleDefinition objects are composed into structural and functional hierarchies using ComponentInstance and Module objects, it is often the case that some ComponentInstance objects are intended to represent the same entity in the overall design. The purpose of the MapsTo class is to make these identity
relationships clear and explicit. For example, consider a ModuleDefinition for a genetic inverter that includes a FunctionalComponent for an abstract repressor protein. When this ModuleDefinition is instantiated within a “higher level” ModuleDefinition that includes a FunctionalComponent for a LacI protein, the MapsTo object can be used to indicate that the repressor protein in the first ModuleDefinition is LacI in the context of the composite design.

In particular, a MapsTo object provides two pieces of information:

- An identity relationship between two ComponentInstance objects, the first contained by the “lower level” definition of the ComponentInstance or Module that owns the MapsTo, and the second contained by the “higher level” definition that contains the ComponentInstance or Module that owns the MapsTo. The remote property of a MapsTo refers to the first “lower level” ComponentInstance, while the local property refers to the second “higher level” ComponentInstance.

- Instructions on how to interpret local and remote ComponentInstance objects that refer to different ComponentDefinition objects (that is, non-identical objects). These are specified using the refinement property of the MapsTo class.

![Figure 10: Linking Component objects using MapsTo entities. Boxes with diagrams represent ComponentDefinition objects, boxes with the C label represent Component objects, and boxes with the M label represent MapsTo objects. In both diagrams, a promoter-RBS ComponentDefinition and a RBS-CDS ComponentDefinition are being composed to form the ComponentDefinition of a complete transcriptional unit. In the left-hand diagram, the two Component objects inside the promoter-RBS ComponentDefinition and RBS-CDS ComponentDefinition objects both refer to an abstract RBS ComponentDefinition that lacks a sequence (white semicircle). Through the use of MapsTo objects with refinement set to useLocal, these “lower level” ComponentDefinition objects are effectively overridden by that of the green RBS in the ComponentDefinition of the complete transcriptional unit. In the right-hand diagram, however, the two “lower level” RBS ComponentDefinition objects do not lack sequences and it is the “higher level” RBS ComponentDefinition that is abstract. In this case, one of the MapsTo objects has a useRemote refinement, resulting in the green RBS ComponentDefinition overriding that of the abstract RBS in the “higher level” ComponentDefinition.](image)

To illustrate this concept, two examples are provided in Figure 10, in which the ComponentDefinition of a transcriptional unit is specified by composing two “lower level” ComponentDefinition objects. In both examples, the two “lower level” ComponentDefinition objects each contain a RBS Component that is intended to represent the same design entity in the “higher level” ComponentDefinition of the transcriptional unit.

In order to explicitly represent the identity relationships in this example, a new RBS Component needs to be created inside the “higher level” ComponentDefinition. This “higher level” Component then needs to be linked to the equivalent “lower level” Component objects by means of the MapsTo class, using one MapsTo object per link. For
example, in order to link the “higher level” RBS Component to the “lower level” RBS Component of the promoter-RBS ComponentDefinition, a MapsTo has to be created on the “higher level” promoter-RBS Component. The local property of this MapsTo then has to refer to the “higher level” RBS Component, while its remote property has to refer to the “lower level” RBS Component. In this way, many “lower level” Component objects can be linked together at the “higher level” using as an equal number of MapsTo objects, each one referring to a different remote Component, but all referring to the same local Component.

The same types of identity relationships can also be declared between FunctionalComponent objects contained by ModuleDefinition objects, or between Component objects and FunctionalComponent objects contained by ComponentDefinition objects and ModuleDefinition objects, respectively. See Section 9 and Section B for additional examples using the MapsTo class.

The local property

This REQUIRED property has a data type of URI and is used to refer to the ComponentInstance contained by the “higher level” ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition. This local ComponentInstance MUST be contained by the ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition that contains the ComponentInstance or Module that owns the MapsTo.

The remote property

This REQUIRED property has a data type of URI and is used to refer to the ComponentInstance contained by the “lower level” ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition. This remote ComponentInstance MUST be contained by the ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition that is the definition of the ComponentInstance or Module that owns the MapsTo. Lastly, the access property of the remote ComponentInstance MUST be set to “public.”

The refinement property

The refinement property is REQUIRED and has a data type of URI. Each MapsTo object MUST specify the relationship between its local and remote ComponentInstance objects using one of the REQUIRED refinement URIs provided in Table 7. Note that if multiple MapsTo belonging to the Component of a ComponentDefinition have local properties that refer to the same Component, then there MUST NOT be more than one such MapsTo that has a refinement property that contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#useRemote. Similarly, if multiple MapsTo belonging the Modules and FunctionalComponents of a ModuleDefinition have local properties that refer to the same FunctionalComponent, then there MUST NOT be more than one such MapsTo that has a refinement property that contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#useRemote.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Refinement URI</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#useRemote">http://sbols.org/v2#useRemote</a></td>
<td>All references to the local ComponentInstance MUST dereference to the remote ComponentInstance instead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#useLocal">http://sbols.org/v2#useLocal</a></td>
<td>In the context of the ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition that contains the owner of the MapsTo, all references to the remote ComponentInstance MUST dereference to the local ComponentInstance instead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#verifyIdentical">http://sbols.org/v2#verifyIdentical</a></td>
<td>The definition properties of the local and remote ComponentInstance objects MUST refer to the same ComponentDefinition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#merge">http://sbols.org/v2#merge</a></td>
<td>In the context of the ComponentDefinition or ModuleDefinition that contains the owner of the MapsTo, all references to the local ComponentInstance or the remote ComponentInstance MUST dereference to both objects.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: REQUIRED URIs for the refinement property.

Serialization

The serialization of MapsTo MUST have the following form.
<sbol:MapsTo rdf:about="...">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  one <sbol:refinement rdf:resource="..."/> element
  one <sbol:remote rdf:resource="..."/> element
  one <sbol:local rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:MapsTo>

In the example below, a FunctionalComponent in a “higher level” ModuleDefinition of a genetic toggle switch is linked to a FunctionalComponent in a “lower level” LacI inverter ModuleDefinition. The full example can be found in Section B.2.2.

```
<sbol:MapsTo rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/laci_inverter/LacI_mapping">
  <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/laci_inverter/LacI_mapping"/>
  <sbol:displayId>LacI_mapping</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:refinement rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#useRemote"/>
  <sbol:remote rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/TF"/>
  <sbol:local rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/LacI"/>
</sbol:MapsTo>
```

### 7.7.4 SequenceAnnotation

The **SequenceAnnotation** class describes one or more regions of interest on the **Sequence** objects referred to by its parent **ComponentDefinition**. In addition, **SequenceAnnotation** objects can describe the substructure of their parent **ComponentDefinition** through association with the **Component** objects contained by this **ComponentDefinition**.

![Diagram of the SequenceAnnotation class and its associated properties.](image)

**The locations property**

The **locations** property is a **REQUIRED** set of one or more **Location** objects that indicate which **elements** of a **Sequence** are described by the **SequenceAnnotation**.

Allowing multiple **Location** objects on a single **SequenceAnnotation** is intended to enable representation of discontinuous regions (for example, a **Component** encoded across a set of exons with interspersed introns). As such, the **Location** objects of a single **SequenceAnnotation** SHOULD NOT specify overlapping regions, since it is not clear what this would mean. There is no such concern with different **SequenceAnnotation** objects, however, which can freely overlap in **Location** (for example, specifying overlapping linkers for sequence assembly).

**The component property**

The **component** property is **OPTIONAL** and has a data type of **URI**. This **URI** MUST refer to a **Component** that is contained by the same parent **ComponentDefinition** that contains the **SequenceAnnotation**. In this way, the properties of the **SequenceAnnotation**, such as its **description** and **locations**, are associated with part of the substructure of its parent **ComponentDefinition**.

---

**Figure 11:** Diagram of the **SequenceAnnotation** class and its associated properties.

---

2.1.0

**Section 7 SBOL Data Model**

http://journal.imbio.de/

doi:10.2390/biecoll-jib-2016-291
The roles property

[New in 2.1.0; see SEP 004: https://github.com/SynBioDex/SEPs/issues/4]
[New in 2.1.0; see SEP 010: https://github.com/SynBioDex/SEPs/issues/10]

Alternatively to describing substructure, a SequenceAnnotation can be utilized to identify a feature, such as a GenBank feature, of a specified Sequence. In this use case, the SequenceAnnotation MUST NOT have a component property, but instead it would have a roles property.

The roles property comprises an OPTIONAL set of zero or more URIs describing the specified sequence feature being annotated. If provided, these role URIs MUST identify terms from appropriate ontologies. Roles are not restricted to describing biological function; they may annotate Sequence's function in any domain for which an ontology exists.

It is RECOMMENDED that these role URIs identify terms that are compatible with the type properties of this SequenceAnnotation’s parent ComponentDefinition. For example, a role of a SequenceAnnotation which belongs to a ComponentDefinition of type DNA might refer to terms from the Sequence Ontology. A table of recommended ontology terms for roles is given in Table 4.

Serialization

2.1.0

The serialization of a SequenceAnnotation MUST have the form below. In this template, A_LOCATION_SUBCLASS represents one of the Location subclasses.

```
<sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="...">
  ...
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  zero or one <sbol:component rdf:resource="..."/> element
  one or more <sbol:location>
    <sbol:A_LOCATION_SUBCLASS rdf:about="..."/>
    ...
    ...
  </sbol:location> elements
  zero or more <sbol:role rdf:resource="..."/> elements
</sbol:SequenceAnnotation>
```

The example below shows the serialization of a SequenceAnnotation object. It specifies the region occupied by a Component named BBa_F2620.

```
<sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_F2620/anno2">
  <sbol:displayId>anno2</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:location>
    <sbol:Range rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_F2620/anno2/range">
      <sbol:displayId>range</sbol:displayId>
      <sbol:start>56</sbol:start>
      <sbol:end>68</sbol:end>
      <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
    </sbol:Range>
  </sbol:location>
</sbol:SequenceAnnotation>
```

7.7.5 Location

The Location class is extended by the Range, Cut, and GenericLocation classes.

The orientation property

The orientation property is OPTIONAL and has a data type of URI. All subclasses of Location share this property, which can be used to indicate how the region specified by the SequenceAnnotation and any associated double-stranded Component is oriented on the elements of a Sequence from its parent ComponentDefinition. Table 8 provides a list of REQUIRED orientation URIs. If a Location object has an orientation, then it MUST come...
from Table 8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orientation URI</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#inline">http://sbols.org/v2#inline</a></td>
<td>The region specified by this Location is on the elements of a Sequence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#reverseComplement">http://sbols.org/v2#reverseComplement</a></td>
<td>The region specified by this Location is on the reverse-complement translation of the elements of a Sequence. The exact nature of this translation depends on the encoding of the Sequence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 8: REQUIRED URIs for the orientation property**

**Range**

A Range object specifies a region via discrete, inclusive start and end positions that correspond to indices for characters in the elements String of a Sequence.

Note that the index of the first location is 1, as is typical practice in biology, rather than 0, as is typical practice in computer science.

**The start property**

The start property specifies the inclusive starting position of the Range. This property is REQUIRED and MUST contain an Integer value greater than zero.

**The end property**

The end property specifies the inclusive ending position of the Range. This property is REQUIRED and MUST contain an Integer value greater than zero. In addition, this Integer value MUST be greater than or equal to that of the start property.

**Serialization**

The serialization of a Range MUST have the following form:

```xml
<sbol:Range rdf:about="...">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  one <sbol:start>...</sbol:start> element
  one <sbol:end>...</sbol:end> element
  zero or one <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:Range>
```
The example below shows the serialization of a `Range` object. It specifies the region between the inclusive positions 56 and 68, with an orientation of “inline.”

```xml
<sbol:Range rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_F2628/anno2/range">
  <sbol:displayId>range</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:start>56</sbol:start>
  <sbol:end>68</sbol:end>
  <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
</sbol:Range>
```

**Cut**

The `Cut` class has been introduced to enable the specification of a region between two discrete positions. This specification is accomplished using the `at` property, which specifies a discrete position that corresponds to the index of a character in the elements String of a `Sequence` (except in the case when `at` is equal to zero—see below).

**The at property**

The `at` property is REQUIRED and MUST contain an `Integer` value greater than or equal to zero. The region specified by the `Cut` is between the position specified by this property and the position that immediately follows it. When the `at` property is equal to zero, the specified region is immediately before the first discrete position or character in the elements String of a `Sequence`.

**Serialization**

The serialization of a `Cut` MUST have the following form:

```xml
<sbol:Cut rdf:about="...">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  one <sbol:at>...</sbol:at> element
  zero or one <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:Cut>
```

The example below shows the serialization of a `Cut` object. It specifies a region in between positions 10 and 11, with an orientation of "inline."

```xml
<sbol:Cut rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119/cutat10/cut">
  <sbol:displayId:cut><sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:at>10</sbol:at>
  <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
</sbol:Cut>
```

**GenericLocation**

While the `Range` and `Cut` classes are best suited to specifying regions on `Sequence` objects with IUPAC encodings, the `GenericLocation` class is included as a starting point for specifying regions on `Sequence` objects with different encoding properties and potentially nonlinear structure. This class can also be used to set the orientation of a `SequenceAnnotation` and any associated `Component` when their parent `ComponentDefinition` is a partial design that lacks a `Sequence`.

**Serialization**

The serialization of a `GenericLocation` MUST have the following form:

```xml
<sbol:GenericLocation rdf:about="...">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  one <sbol:at>...</sbol:at> element
  zero or one <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:GenericLocation>
```
The example below shows the serialization of a `GenericLocation` object with an `orientation` of "reverse complement":

```
<sbol:GenericLocation rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/Part:BBa_F2620/anno5/location">
  <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#reverseComplement"/>
</sbol:GenericLocation>
```

### 7.7.6 SequenceConstraint

The `SequenceConstraint` class can be used to assert restrictions on the relative, sequence-based positions of pairs of `Component` objects contained by the same parent `ComponentDefinition`. The primary purpose of this class is to enable the specification of partially designed `ComponentDefinition` objects, for which the precise positions or orientations of their contained `Component` objects are not yet fully determined. Each `SequenceConstraint` includes the `restriction`, `subject`, and `object` properties.

The `subject` property

The `subject` property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that refers to a `Component` contained by the same parent `ComponentDefinition` that contains the `SequenceConstraint`.

The `object` property

The `object` property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that refers to a `Component` contained by the same parent `ComponentDefinition` that contains the `SequenceConstraint`. This `Component` MUST NOT be the same `Component` that the `SequenceConstraint` refers to via its `subject` property.

The `restriction` property

The `restriction` property is REQUIRED and has a data type of URI. This property MUST indicate the type of structural restriction on the relative, sequence-based positions or orientations of the `subject` and `object` `Component` objects. The URI value of this property SHOULD come from the RECOMMENDED URIs in Table 9.

**Serialization**

The serialization of a `SequenceConstraint` MUST have the following form:

```
... properties inherited from identified ...
zero or one <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:GenericLocation>
```

---

**Figure 13:** Diagram of the `SequenceConstraint` class and its associated properties.
Table 9: RECOMMENDED URIs for the restriction property.

The example below shows the serialization of a SequenceConstraint belonging to the ComponentDefinition of a LacI-repressible promoter. This SequenceConstraint has a "precedes" restriction that indicates that the subject Component, which represents the core of the promoter, is positioned before the object Component, which represents the Lac operator of the promoter.

7.8 Model

The purpose of the Model class is to serve as a placeholder for an external computational model and provide additional meta-data to enable better reasoning about the contents of this model. In this way, there is minimal duplication of standardization efforts and users of SBOL can formalize the function of a ModuleDefinition in the language of their choice.
The meta-data provided by the Model class include the following properties: the source or location of the actual content of the model, the language in which the model is implemented, and the model's framework.

**The source property**
The source property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI reference to the source file for a model.

**The language property**
The language property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that specifies the language in which the model is implemented. It is RECOMMENDED that this URI refer to a term from the EMBRACE Data and Methods (EDAM) ontology. Table 10 provides a list of terms from this ontology and their URIs. If the language property of a Model is well-described by one these terms, then it MUST contain the URI for this term as its value.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Language</th>
<th>URI for EDAM Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SBML</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/edam/format_2585">http://identifiers.org/edam/format_2585</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CellML</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/edam/format_3240">http://identifiers.org/edam/format_3240</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BioPAX</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/edam/format_3156">http://identifiers.org/edam/format_3156</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 10: Terms from the EDAM ontology to specify the language property of a Model.*

**The framework property**
The framework property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that specifies the framework in which the model is implemented. It is RECOMMENDED this URI refer to a term from the modeling framework branch of the SBO when possible. A few suggested modeling frameworks and their corresponding URIs are shown in Table 11. If the framework property of a Model is well-described by one these terms, then it MUST contain the URI for this term as its value.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Framework</th>
<th>URI for SBO Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuous</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000062">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000062</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discrete</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000063">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000063</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 11: SBO terms to specify the framework property of a Model.*

**Serialization**
The serialization of a Model MUST have the following form:

```xml
<sbol:Model rdf:about="http://www.sbolstandard.org/examples/toggleswitch">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  one <sbol:source rdf:resource="..."/> element
  one <sbol:language rdf:resource="..."/> element
  one <sbol:framework rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:Model>
```

The example below shows the serialization of a Model object that refers to a quantitative model of a genetic toggle switch. The model is implemented in the SBML language and adheres to a continuous modeling framework. Lastly, the model can be retrieved from a model repository via its source URI, which is a URL.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
```
### 7.9 ModuleDefinition

The `ModuleDefinition` class represents a grouping of structural and functional entities in a biological design. The primary usage of this class is to assert the molecular interactions and abstract function of its child entities.

As shown in [Figure 15](#), these child entities are aggregated via the `functionalComponents` modules properties, while representation of their abstract function is accomplished via the `roles` property. More detailed descriptions of the function of a `ModuleDefinition` are provided by its `interactions` and `models` properties. Lastly, since `ModuleDefinition` objects can be more abstract and represent entities of engineering design rather than biology, they can have designated “inputs” and “outputs” expressed by the `direction` properties on its `FunctionalComponent` objects.

**The roles property**

The `roles` property is an OPTIONAL set of URIs that clarifies the intended function of a `ModuleDefinition`. These URIs might identify descriptive biological roles, such as “metabolic pathway” and “signaling cascade,” but they can also identify identify “logical” roles, such as “inverter” or “AND gate,” or other abstract roles for describing the function of design. Interpretation of the meaning of such roles currently depends on the software tools that read and write them.

**The modules property**

The `modules` property is OPTIONAL and MAY specify a set of `Module` objects contained by the `ModuleDefinition`. Note that the set of relations between `Module` and `ModuleDefinition` objects is strictly acyclic.

While the `ModuleDefinition` class is analogous to a specification sheet for a system of interacting biological elements, the `Module` class represents the occurrence of a particular subsystem within the system. Hence, this
The ModuleDefinition class allows a system design to include multiple instances of a subsystem, all defined by reference to the same ModuleDefinition. For example, consider the ModuleDefinition for a network of two-input repressor devices in which the particular repressors have not been chosen yet. This ModuleDefinition could contain multiple Module objects that refer to the same ModuleDefinition of an abstract two-input repressor device.

The functionalComponents property
The functionalComponents property is OPTIONAL and MAY specify a set of FunctionalComponent objects contained by the ModuleDefinition.

Just as a Module represents an instance of a subsystem in the overall system represented by a ModuleDefinition, a FunctionalComponent represents an instance of a structural entity (represented by a ComponentDefinition) in the system. This concept allows a ModuleDefinition to assert different interactions for separate copies of the same structural entity if needed. For example, a ModuleDefinition might contain multiple FunctionalComponent objects that refer to the same promoter ComponentDefinition, but assert different interactions for these promoter copies based on their separate positions in another ComponentDefinition that represents the structure of the entire system.

The interactions property
The interactions property is OPTIONAL and MAY specify a set of Interaction objects within the ModuleDefinition.

The Interaction class provides an abstract, machine-readable representation of entity behavior within a ModuleDefinition (whereas a more detailed model of the system might not be suited to machine reasoning, depending on its implementation). Each Interaction contains Participation objects that indicate the roles of the FunctionalComponent objects involved in the Interaction.

The models property
The models property is OPTIONAL and MAY specify a set of URI references to Model objects. Model objects are placeholders that link ModuleDefinition objects to computational models of any format. A ModuleDefinition object can link to more than one Model since each might encode system behavior in a different way or at a different level of detail.

Serialization
The serialization of ModuleDefinition has the following form:

```xml
<sbol:ModuleDefinition rdf:about="...">...
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  zero or more <sbol:role rdf:resource="..."/> elements
  zero or more <sbol:module rdf:resource="..."/> elements
  zero or more <sbol:functionalComponent>
    <sbol:FunctionalComponent rdf:about="...">...</sbol:FunctionalComponent>
  </sbol:module>
  zero or more <sbol:interaction>
    <sbol:Interaction rdf:about="...">...</sbol:Interaction>
  </sbol:interaction>
</sbol:ModuleDefinition>
```

The example below shows a simple ModuleDefinition containing two components, a FunctionalComponent for a DNA sequence encoding constitutive expression of GFP and another for the GFP protein expressed from this sequence, plus an interaction describing that relation.

```xml
<sbol:ModuleDefinition rdf:about="http://sholstandard.org/example/md/GFP_expression">
  <sbol:module rdf:about="http://sholstandard.org/example/md/GFP_sequence">
    <sbol:FunctionalComponent rdf:about="http://sholstandard.org/example/md/GFP_sequence">
      <sbol:Interaction rdf:about="http://sholstandard.org/example/md/GFP_expression">
        <sbol:Interaction rdf:about="http://sholstandard.org/example/md/GFP_expression">
        </sbol:Interaction>
      </sbol:Interaction>
    </sbol:FunctionalComponent>
  </sbol:module>
</sbol:ModuleDefinition>
```
### 7.9.1 Module

![Diagram of the Module class and its associated properties.](image)

The **Module** class represents the usage or occurrence of a **ModuleDefinition** within a larger design (that is, another **ModuleDefinition**).

**The definition property**

The **definition** property is a REQUIRED URI that refers to the **ModuleDefinition** for the **Module**. The **definition** property MUST NOT refer to the same **ModuleDefinition** as that which contains the **Module**. Furthermore, **Module** objects MUST NOT form a cyclical chain of references via their **definition** properties and the **ModuleDefinition** objects that contain them. For example, consider the **Module** objects A and B and the **ModuleDefinition** objects X and Y. The reference chain “X contains A, A is defined by Y, Y contains B, and B is defined by X” is cyclical.

**The mapsTo property**

The **mapsTo** property is an OPTIONAL set of **MapsTo** objects that refer to and link **ComponentInstance** objects together within the heterarchy of **Module**, **ModuleDefinition**, **ComponentInstance**, and **ComponentDefinition** objects.

**Section 7.7.3** contains a detailed description of the **MapsTo** class.
7.9 ModuleDefinition

Serialization

The serialization of Modules has the following form.

```xml
<sbol:Module rdf:about="...">
  ...
  properties inherited from identified ...
  one <sbol:definition rdf:resource="..."/>
  zero or more <sbol:mapsTo>
    <sbol:MapsTo rdf:about="...">...</sbol:MapsTo>
  </sbol:mapsTo>
</sbol:Module>
```

The example below specifies a TetR inverter that is being used as a part of a genetic toggle switch:

```xml
<sbol:Module rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/tetr_inverter">
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/tetr_inverter"/>
</sbol:Module>
```

7.9.2 FunctionalComponent

A FunctionalComponent is an instance of a ComponentDefinition being used as part of a ModuleDefinition. The ModuleDefinition describes how the that describes how the FunctionalComponent interacts with others and summarizes their aggregate function.

The FunctionalComponent class inherits from the ComponentInstance class and therefore has the definition, access, and mapsTos properties. In addition, it has a direction property that specifies whether it serves as an input, output, both, or neither with regards to the ModuleDefinition that contains it.

The direction property

Each FunctionalComponent MUST specify via the direction property whether it serves as an input, output, both, or neither for its parent ModuleDefinition object. The value for this property MUST be one of the URIs given in Table 12.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direction URI</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#in">http://sbols.org/v2#in</a></td>
<td>Indicates that the FunctionalComponent is an input.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#out">http://sbols.org/v2#out</a></td>
<td>Indicates that the FunctionalComponent is an output.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#inout">http://sbols.org/v2#inout</a></td>
<td>Indicates that the FunctionalComponent is both an input and output.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://sbols.org/v2#none">http://sbols.org/v2#none</a></td>
<td>Indicates that the FunctionalComponent is neither an input or output.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 12: REQUIRED URIs for the direction property.

The direction property is a means to encode how a designer thinks about the “purpose” of a connection in a system. In SBOL, such a connection is represented with a FunctionalComponent, and a system is represented as with a ModuleDefinition. For example, consider a system that has been designed to sense the concentration of the cell-to-cell signaling molecule 3OC₆HSL and report it via the concentration of another gene product. In this system, the concentration of 3OC₆HSL is being sensed by the system, so the FunctionalComponent for 3OC₆HSL would have a direction of “input.” In turn, the concentration of the reporter gene product is intended to be read/consumed by other biological systems, so the FunctionalComponent for this product would have a direction of “output.” The CDS encoding the product, however, is not intended to directly transfer information into or out of the ModuleDefinition for the system, so its FunctionalComponent would have a direction of “neither.”
### Serialization

The serialization of a `FunctionalComponent` has the following form.

```xml
<sbol:FunctionalComponent rdf:about="...">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  one  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="..."/> element
  one  <sbol:access rdf:resource="..."/> element
  one  <sbol:direction rdf:resource="..."/> element
  zero or more <sbol:mapsTo rdf:resource="..."/> elements
</sbol:FunctionalComponent>
```

In the example below, the functional component is defined as a public input/output. The component refers to the `Part:BBa_R0010` promoter from the iGEM Parts Registry.

```xml
<sbol:FunctionalComponent rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/promoter">
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0010"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:direction rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inout"/>
</sbol:FunctionalComponent>
```

### 7.9.3 Interaction

The `Interaction` class provides more detailed description of how the `FunctionalComponent` objects of a `ModuleDefinition` are intended to work together. For example, this class can be used to represent different forms of genetic regulation (e.g., transcriptional activation or repression), processes from the central dogma of biology (e.g. transcription and translation), and other basic molecular interactions (e.g., non-covalent binding or enzymatic phosphorylation). Each `Interaction` includes a `types` property that refers to descriptive ontology terms and a `participations` property that describes which `FunctionalComponent` objects participate in the `Interaction`.

#### The `types` property

The `types` property is a REQUIRED set of URIs that describes the behavior represented by an `Interaction`. The `types` property MUST contain one or more URIs that MUST identify terms from appropriate ontologies. It is RECOMMENDED that exactly one URI contained by the `types` property refer to a term from the occurring entity branch of the Systems Biology Ontology (SBO). (See [http://www.ebi.ac.uk/sbo/main/](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/sbo/main/) Table 13 provides a list of possible SBO terms for the `types` property and their corresponding URIs.

2.0.1 If an `Interaction` is well described by one of the terms from Table 13, then its `types` property MUST contain the URI that identifies this term. Lastly, if the `types` property of an `Interaction` contains multiple URIs, then they MUST identify non-conflicting terms. For example, the SBO terms "stimulation" and "inhibition" would conflict.
Table 13: SBO terms to specify the types property of an Interaction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction Type</th>
<th>URI for SBO Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inhibition</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000169">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000169</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stimulation</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000170">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000170</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemical Reaction</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000176">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000176</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Covalent Binding</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000177">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000177</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degradation</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000179">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000179</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetic Production</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000589">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000589</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000168">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000168</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The participations property

The participations property is an OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of Participation objects, each of which identifies the roles that its referenced FunctionalComponent plays in the Interaction.

Even though an Interaction generally contains at least one Participation, the case of zero Participation objects is allowed because it is plausible that a designer might want to specify that an Interaction will exist, even if its participants have not yet been determined.

Serialization

The serialization of an Interaction has the following form.

```xml
<sbol:Interaction rdf:about="...">
    ... properties inherited from identified ...
    one or more <sbol:type rdf:resource="..."/> elements
    zero or more <sbol:participation>
        <sbol:Participation rdf:about="..."/>
        <sbol:role rdf:resource="..."/>
        <sbol:participant rdf:resource="..."/>
    </sbol:participation>
</sbol:Interaction>
```

The example below shows an Interaction representing an inhibition relationship (SBO:0000169) between a repressor (SBO:0000020, full Participation details shown) and a promoter:

```xml
<sbol:Interaction rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/LacI_pLacI">
    <sbol:type rdf:resource="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000169"/>
    <sbol:participation>
        <sbol:Participation rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/LacI_pLacI/P03023">
            <sbol:participant rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/TF"/>
        </sbol:Participation>
    </sbol:participation>
    <sbol:participation>
        <sbol:Participation rdf:about="..."/>
        <sbol:role rdf:resource="..."/>
        <sbol:participant rdf:resource="..."/>
    </sbol:participation>
</sbol:Interaction>
```

2.0.1 7.9.4 Participation

Each Participation represents how a particular FunctionalComponent behaves in its parent Interaction.

The roles property

2.0.1 The roles property is a REQUIRED set of URIs that describes the behavior of a Participation (and by extension its referenced FunctionalComponent) in the context of its parent Interaction.
The `roles` property MUST contain one or more URIs that MUST identify terms from appropriate ontologies. It is RECOMMENDED that exactly one URI contained by the `roles` property refer to a term from the participant role branch of the SBO. Table 14 provides a list of possible SBO terms for the `roles` property and their corresponding URIs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation Role</th>
<th>URI for SBO Term</th>
<th>Interaction Types</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inhibitor</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000020">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000020</a></td>
<td>Inhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inhibited</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000642">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000642</a></td>
<td>Inhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stimulator</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000459">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000459</a></td>
<td>Stimulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stimulated</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000643">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000643</a></td>
<td>Stimulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reactant</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:00006410">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:00006410</a></td>
<td>Non-Covalent Binding, Degradation Biochemical Reaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000011">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000011</a></td>
<td>Non-Covalent Binding, Genetic Production Biochemical Reaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoter</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000598">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000598</a></td>
<td>Inhibition, Stimulation, Genetic Production Biochemical Reaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modifier</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000598">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000598</a></td>
<td>Biochemical Reaction, Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modified</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000644">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000644</a></td>
<td>Biochemical Reaction, Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Template</td>
<td><a href="http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000645">http://identifiers.org/biomodels.sbo/SBO:0000645</a></td>
<td>Genetic Production</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 14: SBO terms to specify the `roles` property of a Participation.

If a Participation is well described by one of the terms from Table 14, then its `roles` property MUST contain the URI that identifies this term. Also, if a Participation belongs to an Interaction that has a type listed in Table 13, then the Participation SHOULD have a role that is cross-listed with this type in Table 14. Lastly, if the `roles` property of a Participation contains multiple URIs, then they MUST identify non-conflicting terms. For example, the SBO terms “stimulator” and “inhibitor” would conflict.

**The participant property**

The `participant` property MUST specify precisely one `FunctionalComponent` object that plays the designated role in its parent Interaction object.

**Serialization**

The serialization of Participation objects has the following form.

```xml
<sbol:Participation rdf:about="...">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  zero or more <sbol:role rdf:resource="..."/> elements
  one <sbol:participant rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:Participation>
```
In the example below, the role of participating FunctionalComponent is defined to be inhibitor, using the SBO:0000020 term. This component is specified using the participant property of the Participation entity.

```
<sbol:Participation rdf:about="http://sholstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/LacI_placI/P03023">
  <sbol:participant rdf:resource="http://sholstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/TF"/>
</sbol:Participation>
```

### 7.10 Collection

The **Collection** class is a class that groups together a set of TopLevel objects that have something in common. Some examples of Collection objects:

- The results of a query to find all ComponentDefinition objects in a repository that function as promoters.
- A set of ModuleDefinition objects representing a library of genetic logic gates.
- A ModuleDefinition for a complex design, and all of the ModuleDefinition, ComponentDefinition, Sequence, and Model objects used to provide its full specification.

![Diagram of the Collection class and its associated properties.](image_url)

**Figure 19:** Diagram of the Collection class and its associated properties.

#### The members property

The members property of a Collection is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URI references to zero or more TopLevel objects.

#### Serialization

The serialization of a Collection has the following form:

```
<sbol:Collection rdf:about="...">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  zero or more <sbol:member rdf:resource="..."/> element
</sbol:Collection>
```

The example below shows the serialization of a Collection object grouping together a library of constitutive promoters.

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
  <sbol:Collection rdf:about="http://parts.igem.org/Promoters/Catalog/Anderson">
    <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://parts.igem.org/Promoters/Catalog/Anderson"/>
    <sbol:displayId rdf:resource="http://parts.igem.org/Promoters/Catalog/Anderson"/>
    <dcterms:title>Anderson promoters</dcterms:title>
  </sbol:Collection>
</rdf:RDF>
```
7.11 Annotation and Extension of SBOL

SBOL does not currently represent all types of biological design data, since many of these data types (e.g., biological context and design performance metrics) lack a clear consensus on their proper representation. In addition, some types of biological data are not directly relevant to design and are therefore outside of the scope of SBOL.

To enable representation of these data, SBOL allows developers to embed custom data within SBOL objects and documents, such that these data can be exchanged without being damaged or lost. This annotation and extension mechanism is designed to enable new types of data to be easily incorporated into the SBOL standard once there is community consensus on their proper representation.

Several methods are supported for connecting the SBOL data model with other types of application-specific data:

- Custom data can be added to an SBOL object by annotating that object with non-conflicting properties. These properties could contain literal data types such as Strings or URIs that require a resolution mechanism to obtain external data. An example is annotating a ComponentDefinition with a property that contains a String description and URI for the parts registry from which its source data was originally imported.

- Custom data in the form of independent objects can be added to an SBOL document by creating GenericTopLevel objects and annotating them as described above. An example is a GenericTopLevel object that is annotated such that it represents a data sheet that describes the performance of a ModuleDefinition in a particular context.

- Finally, just as custom objects can be embedded in an SBOL document, external documents can embed or refer to SBOL objects. Support for this last case is not explicitly provided in this specification. Rather, this case depends on the external non-SBOL system managing its relationship to SBOL and data serialized in RDF/XML, and is included here for completeness.

7.11.1 Annotating SBOL objects

Each Identified object MAY contain any number of Annotation objects that store data in the form of name/value property pairs. The qName is REQUIRED and MUST contain a QName, which is composed of a namespace, an OPTIONAL prefix, and a local name. The qName property MUST be stored in the data model to allow for proper serialization as described below. The value property is also REQUIRED and MUST contain a literal (i.e., a String, Integer, Double, Boolean), URI, or NestedAnnotations object. A NestedAnnotations object MUST contain nestedQName and nestedURI properties, and it MAY contain an annotations property that contains zero or more Annotation objects.

Serialization

The serialization of an Annotation has the following form:

```xml
<Annotation>
  <qName>PREFIX:LOCAL_NAME</qName>
  <value>STRING</value>
  <nestedQName>NAMESPACE:LOCAL_NAME</nestedQName>
  <nestedURI>URI</nestedURI>
  <annotations>
    <Annotation>
      <qName>PREFIX:LOCAL_NAME</qName>
      <value>STRING</value>
    </Annotation>
    ...
  </annotations>
</Annotation>
```
Section 7.11 Annotation and Extension of SBOL

The `qName` property specifies a namespace, prefix, and local part/name. The use of such qualified names is described in detail by the W3C ([http://www.w3.org/TR/1999/REC-xml-names-19990114/#ns-using](http://www.w3.org/TR/1999/REC-xml-names-19990114/#ns-using)). Essentially, the "xmlns" property defines the prefix `String` to use as an alias for the namespace. The prefix can be any `String`. Its use is OPTIONAL, since it simply replaces the full namespace, thereby making the serialization easier for a human to read.

The first form of `Annotation` shown above is for an `Annotation` that contains a literal as its value. The second form is for an `Annotation` that contains a URI as its value. Finally, the third form is for an `Annotation` that contains a `NestedAnnotations` object as its value. In the last case, the `nestedQName` property specifies the nested namespace, nested prefix, and nested local part/name, while the `nestedURI` property specifies the URI for the `NestedAnnotations` object.

The example below shows how the serialization for a promoter `ComponentDefinition` can be annotated with custom data. `Annotations` are added containing the relevant information from the iGEM Parts Registry. Each property serialization of an `Annotation` is qualified with the `http://www.partsregistry.org/` namespace, which is prefixed using `pr`. The first `Annotation` is named `pr:group`. It specifies the iGEM group that has designed the promoter and has a `String` value. The second `Annotation` is named `pr:experience`. It contains a URI value that is serialized as an RDF resource and can be resolved to the information Web page on the Parts Registry for the promoter. Finally, the third `Annotation` is named `pr:information`. It contains a `NestedAnnotations` object that is serialized as shown and includes information about the regulatory details of the promoter using `Annotations` that correspond to Parts Registry categories.

### 7.11.2 GenericTopLevel

Custom data can also be embedded at the top level of an SBOL document. The `GenericTopLevel` class is used to represent top-level entities whose purpose is to contain a set of annotations that are independent of any other class of SBOL object. Entities that have independent existence and are not recognized by the SBOL standard are deserialized to `GenericTopLevel` objects. These `GenericTopLevel` objects can be safely used by tools to exchange non-SBOL data.
As with other `TopLevel` objects, `GenericTopLevel` objects MAY include the properties `displayId`, `name`, `description`, etc. The type of data annotating a `GenericTopLevel` object is indicated using the REQUIRED `rdfType` property, which MUST contain a `QName`. As before with the `qName` property, the `rdfType` property is used to set the namespace, prefix, and local part/name during serialization.

![Diagram](image)

**Figure 21:** Diagram of the `GenericTopLevel` class and its associated properties, which is used for embedding externally defined entities into SBOL documents.

### Serialization

The serialization of the `GenericTopLevel` class has the following form, where the prefix, namespace, and local part/name are defined by the `rdfType` property:

```xml
<applicationPrefix:APPLICATION_OBJECT_NAME rdf:about="..."> ...
properties inherited from identified ...
any non-conflicting application-specific properties ...
</applicationPrefix:APPLICATION_OBJECT_NAME>
```

The example below shows how a datasheet object can be added to an SBOL document using the `GenericTopLevel` class. The J23119 promoter `ComponentDefinition` is annotated with the `myapp:datasheet` property that contains the URI of a `TopLevel` Datasheet object. The Datasheet object is further annotated with the transcription rate and...
URI for the actual characterization data using the `myapp:transcriptionRate` and `myapp:characterizationData` properties, respectively. As specified by their `rdfType` and `qName` properties, the TopLevel Datasheet object and all Annotation objects in this example are serialized with the custom `http://www.myapp.org/` namespace and `myapp` prefix.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119">
    <sbol:displayId>BBa_J23119</sbol:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/Part:BBa_J23119"/>
    <dcterms:title>J23119</dcterms:title>
    <dcterms:description>Constitutive promoter</dcterms:description>
  </sbol:ComponentDefinition>

  <myapp:Datasheet rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/gen/datasheet1">
    <sbol:displayId=datasheet1</sbol:displayId>
    <myapp:characterizationData rdf:resource="http://www.myapp.org/measurement/1"/>
    <myapp:transcriptionRate>1</myapp:transcriptionRate>
    <dcterms:title>Datasheet 1</dcterms:title>
  </myapp:Datasheet>
</rdf:RDF>
```
8 Mapping Between SBOL 1.1 and SBOL 2.x

Figure 22 depicts the mapping of SBOL 1.1 classes to SBOL 2.x classes, indicating corresponding classes/properties by color. The SBOL 2.x Model and ModuleDefinition classes have no SBOL 1.1 equivalent, and thus are not shown. In particular:

- SBOL 1.1 Collection objects containing DnaComponent objects map to SBOL 2.x Collection objects that contain ComponentDefinition objects with DNA types properties.
- SBOL 1.1 DnaComponent objects map to SBOL 2.x ComponentDefinition objects with DNA types properties.
- SBOL 1.1 DnaSequence objects map to an SBOL 2.x Sequence objects with IUPAC DNA encoding properties.
- SBOL 1.1 SequenceAnnotation objects with bioStart and bioEnd properties map to SBOL 2.x SequenceAnnotation objects that contain Range objects.
- SBOL 1.1 SequenceAnnotation objects that lack bioStart and bioEnd properties map to an SBOL 2.x SequenceAnnotation objects that contain GenericLocation objects.
- Each SBOL 1.1 SequenceAnnotation also maps to an SBOL 2.x Component, which represents the instantiation or usage of the appropriate ComponentDefinition.
- Each SBOL 1.1 precedes property maps to an SBOL 2.x SequenceConstraint that specifies a precedes restriction property.

Figure 22: The mapping from the SBOL 1.1 data model to the SBOL 2.x data model, indicating corresponding classes/properties by color.
This section illustrates how to use the SBOL data model by specifying the design of a LacI/TetR toggle switch similar to those constructed in Gardner et al. (2000). This design is visualized conceptually in Figure 23 and in detail in Figure 24.

Conceptually, the toggle switch is constructed from two mutually repressing genes. With repressors LacI and TetR, this results in a bi-stable system that will tend to settle into a state where precisely one of the two repressors is strongly expressed, repressing the other. Each of these repressors can have its activity disrupted by a small molecule (IPTG for LacI, aTc for TetR), which enables the system to be “toggled” from one state to the other by dosing it with the appropriate small molecule.

The LacI/TetR toggle switch is modeled in SBOL as two parallel hierarchies of structure and function. The structural hierarchy of the toggle switch is represented using ComponentDefinitions:

- The base elements of the hierarchy are DNA components, transcription factor proteins, and small molecules. As an example, Figure 25 is a UML diagram of the ComponentDefinition objects that represent these elements.
- Base elements are composed to form more complex structures at the top of the hierarchy, including genes and non-covalent complexes between transcription factor proteins and small molecules. As an example, Figure 26 is a UML diagram of the composite ComponentDefinition objects that represent the TetR gene and IPTG-LacI complex.

The functional hierarchy of the toggle switch is represented using ModuleDefinitions:

- The base elements of the hierarchy are LacI-dependent repression of TetR expression (the LacI inverter) and TetR-dependent repression of LacI (the TetR inverter). As an example, Figure 27 is a UML diagram of the ModuleDefinition that represents the LacI inverter.
- Base elements are composed to form the toggle switch at the top of the hierarchy. As an example, Figure 28 is a UML diagram of the ModuleDefinition that represents the toggle switch.
Figure 24: Design of a LacI/TetR toggle switch. This design is composed of two inverter sub-designs, each containing a single gene. These genes mutually repress each other's expression via their encoded protein transcription factors, LacI and TetR. Furthermore, both LacI and TetR are bound by specific small molecules that sequester them and prevent them from acting as repressors. In this design, arrows represent different molecular interactions, including the repression of pLac via LacI, the non-covalent binding of IPTG to LacI, the transcription of TetR mRNA, and the translation of TetR. Dashed lines serve to map between transcription factors in the inverter sub-designs and those in the overall toggle switch design.
Figure 25: ComponentDefinition objects for the LacI inverter. These include ComponentDefinition objects based on DNA parts from the iGEM Parts Registry and ComponentDefinition objects that represent TetR mRNA, TetR, LacI, and IPTG. Each ComponentDefinition is associated with a Sequence that has an IUPAC DNA/RNA or IUPAC protein encoding, except the ComponentDefinition of IPTG, which is associated with a Sequence that has a SMILES encoding.
**Figure 26:** Composite `ComponentDefinition` objects for the LacI inverter. In the case of the `ComponentDefinition` that represents the TetR gene, its sub-`Component` objects are located as `Range`s along its `Sequence` using `SequenceAnnotation` objects. The `ComponentDefinition` that represents the IPTG-LacI complex, however, has no `Sequence` and its sub-`Component` objects are composed without any data about their relative positions.
Figure 27: ModuleDefinition of the LacI inverter. This ModuleDefinition contains FunctionalComponent objects that instantiate the ComponentDefinition objects for the LacI/TetR transcription factors and TetR gene. These FunctionalComponent objects participate in a repression Interaction and a genetic production Interaction, thereby indicating which biological structures carry out the function of the LacI inverter ModuleDefinition. In this case, the transcription and translation of TetR are represented as a single genetic production Interaction that abstracts away the presence of the intermediate TetR mRNA. In addition, this ModuleDefinition is also associated with a continuous Model written in the SBML source file “LacI_Inverter.xml.”
Figure 28: Composite ModuleDefinition of the LacI/TetR toggle switch. This ModuleDefinition contains the Module objects that instantiate LacI and TetR inverter ModuleDefinition objects. It also contains FunctionalComponent objects that instantiate the ComponentDefinition objects for the LacI/TetR transcription factors and IPTG/aTc small molecules. These FunctionalComponent objects each participate in a non-covalent binding Interaction. To complete the composition of the toggle switch, MapsTo objects are used to indicate that the output of the LacI inverter ModuleDefinition is identical to the input of the TetR inverter ModuleDefinition and vice versa.
10 SBOL RDF Serialization

In order for SBOL objects to be readily stored and exchanged, it is important that they are able to be serialized, i.e., converted to a sequence of bytes that can be stored in a file or exchanged over a network. The serialization format for SBOL is designed to meet several competing requirements. First, SBOL needs to support ad-hoc annotations and extensions. Second, SBOL needs to support processing by general database and semantic web software tools that have little or no knowledge of the SBOL data model. Finally, it ought to be relatively simple to write a new software implementation, so that SBOL can be readily used even in software environments where community-maintained implementations are not available.

To meet these goals, the canonical serialization of SBOL has been selected to be a strict dialect of RDF/XML Beckett and McBride (2004), a syntactic standard defined for Semantic Web data exchange. This serialization provides a standard base from which to meet further requirements. Moreover, it allows any RDF/XML-aware software tool to consume and operate on an SBOL file without needing any customization to support SBOL. Where possible, we have re-used predicates from widely-used terminologies (such as Dublin Core DCMI Usage Board (2012)) to expose as much of the data as practical to such standard RDF tooling.

Arbitrary RDF/XML, however, provides a sometimes problematically large amount of flexibility in how equivalent data can be serialized. This flexibility can result in different serializations when processing RDF/XML files using standard off-the-shelf XML tools, such as DOM-OO mappings. To address this issue, we define a canonical association between the nesting of data structures within the SBOL UML data model and the RDF/XML file. For all ownership associations (filled diamonds), the RDF/XML for the owned entity is embedded within the owner's RDF/XML (note, however, that the property values MAY be listed in any order). For all associations that are by reference (open diamonds), the RDF/XML for the referenced property is linked via a resource URI. For example, the serialization of a ComponentDefinition embeds the serializations of the SequenceConstraint and Component objects associated with it. Those SequenceConstraint objects, however, link to the Component objects with a URI rather than embedding another copy.

Every SBOL document MUST be a valid RDF/XML document. Accordingly, each SBOL document starts with an XML declaration that has its XML version set to “1.0.” As shown in the example below, this declaration is then followed by an rdf:RDF XML element that includes the namespace declarations for RDF, Dublin Core, PROV, and SBOL. The SBOL namespace, which is http://sbols.org/v2#, is used to indicate which entities and properties in the SBOL document are defined by SBOL, and MUST NOT be used for any entities or properties not defined in this specification.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  ...
</rdf:RDF>
```

All first-class SBOL data types (i.e., those enumerated in Section 7) have an associated identifying URI. In the RDF, this is the resource URI used by instances of that type. For example, ComponentDefinition has the type URI sbol:ComponentDefinition. Properties and associations are then asserted as nested RDF/XML assertions. Section 7 provides the serialization template and an example at the end of its description of each data type. All of the data types that are TopLevel are so named because they always appear at the top-most level of the RDF/XML serialization. All other data types will always appear nested within their parent container and, ultimately, some TopLevel object. For example, a ComponentDefinition is a TopLevel and therefore listed at the top-most level of the RDF/XML serialization, and contains its SequenceConstraint objects, since they are not TopLevel. Its Sequence, however, is also TopLevel and is therefore not nested within and instead linked via a URI.

Each instance of a first-class SBOL data type MAY have annotations attached, as described in Section 7.11. These annotations are composed of a name and a value. They are serialized to RDF as a conceptual triple with the subject being the identity of the instance they annotate, the predicate being the name of the annotation, and the object...
being the value of that annotation. Annotation values are always nested within the RDF/XML serialization of the instance that they annotate. For example, a `ModuleDefinition` might add a DOI annotation that links to the scientific article that first described the system that it represents.

SBOL also supports top-level, user-defined data, again as described in Section 7.11. This is to allow non-standardized but necessary information to be carried around as part of a design. For example, a particular sub-community might have an internal standard for genetic device characterization data sheets. Such data can be represented as a `GenericTopLevel` object with internal structured annotations. For example, each individual data sheet might be contained in its own `GenericTopLevel` instance. This custom data is serialized into the RDF/XML in the usual way, as an RDF/XML block at the top level of the file. Other objects can refer to this entity through their annotations by reference, and this generic top-level entity can refer to other entities via references. For example, a `ModuleDefinition` might use an annotation to refer to the data sheet `GenericTopLevel` that documents its properties.

2.0.1 As previously stated, XML is the preferred RDF serialization for SBOL files, and these files should use the ".xml" file extension. While any RDF serialization is valid, as the contents of the triples and not their format determine the validity, restriction to XML enhances human ability to classify a document as SBOL easily. Furthermore, documents can be human-examined by using XML formatting tools and syntax highlighters. It should be noted that XML was chosen for no particular reason than the simple fact of its widespread use in the community and by existing libraries. The proposers are aware that many of these benefits apply to several serializations of SBOL. The choice of XML is simply a codification of the existent standard and practice.

By adopting this paradigm of RDF/XML serialization, SBOL is able to adapt to future changes in the standard without requiring large-scale alterations to the RDF files. Since exactly the same scheme is used to serialize annotations as is used to serialize specification-defined properties and associations, it is possible to update the SBOL standard to recognize a different range of properties and associations. Those properties not recognized by the specification will always be available through the API as annotations. Similarly, by allowing arbitrary top-level entities in a SBOL file, we enable future specifications or extensions to ratify the structure of other top-level objects. These entities would then become part of the explicit data model, but the identical RDF serialization would be used. Applications lacking support for a given extension can safely read in, manipulate, and write out the top-level data that is not understood, treating it as a top-level structured annotation, without data loss or corruption. Finally, the very regimented control of nesting versus referencing also allows the XML structure to be very predictable, enabling XML/DOM-based tooling to work with SBOL RDF/XML files safely.
2.0.1 There are different types of software compliance with respect to the SBOL specification. First, a software tool can either support all classes of the SBOL 2.x data model or only its structural subset. The structural subset includes the following classes:

- Sequence
- ComponentDefinition
  - Component
  - SequenceAnnotation
  - SequenceConstraint
- Collection
- Annotation
- GenericTopLevel

Second, an SBOL-compliant software tool can support import of SBOL, export of SBOL, or both. If it supports both import and export, it can do so in either a lossy or lossless fashion.

In order to test import compliance, developers are encouraged to use the SBOL test files found here: https://github.com/SynBioDex/SBOLTestSuite
Examples of every meaningful subset of objects are provided, including both structural-only SBOL (that is, annotated DNA sequence data) and complete tests.

In order to test export compliance, developers are encouraged to validate SBOL files generated by their software with the SBOL Validator found here: http://www.async.ece.utah.edu/sbol-validator/
This validator can also be used to check lossless import/export support, since it can compare the data content of files imported and exported by a software tool.

Finally, developers of SBOL-compliant tools are encouraged to notify the SBOL editors (editors@sbolstandard.org) when they have determined that their tool is SBOL compliant, so their tool can be publicly categorized as such on the SBOL website.
12 Recommended Best Practices

2.0.1 SBOL Namespaces

Namespaces for different versions of SBOL SHOULD NOT be semantically mixed in the same document. For example, an SBOL 2.x ComponentInstance SHOULD NOT refer to an SBOL 1.x DNAComponent. However, namespaces for different versions MAY be present in the same document so long as they are semantically independent (that is, so long as objects belonging to these namespaces do not refer to each other). When multiple SBOL namespaces are present in a document, libraries SHOULD default to interpreting as SBOL only those objects belonging to the namespace for the most recent version of SBOL in the document. Any remaining objects belonging to any other SBOL namespace SHOULD be interpreted as GenericTopLevels and custom Annotations.

12.2 Use of the Version Property

Once an SBOL object has been published where others might have access it (e.g., to an online repository), it might be the case that other objects come to depend on the particular contents of the published object. Thus, in order to avoid creating conflicting data, if a person wants to change the properties of a published object, they SHOULD do so by making a new copy of object that incorporates the change and has an identity property that contains a new URI.

The relationship between the old and new objects (i.e., that the new object was derived from the old object), however, is not visible unless it is explicitly declared. This is RECOMMENDED to be done using the persistentIdentity, and version properties. The preferred practice for declaring such a relationship is to use the same persistentIdentity for both objects, but give the newer object a later version. Then, when the new object is published, it can be clear to both humans and machines that this object is intended to update the previously published object. In this way, when a user wants the latest version of an object, they can obtain it by referencing the object via its persistentIdentity and rely on a tool to find the object with that persistentIdentity and the latest version.

As stated in Section 7.4, it is RECOMMENDED that version numbering follow the conventions of semantic versions (http://semver.org/), particularly as implemented by Maven (http://maven.apache.org/). This convention represents versions as sequences of numbers and qualifiers separated by the characters . and - and compared in lexicographical order (for example, 1 < 1.3.1 < 2.0-beta). For a full explanation, see the linked resources.

12.3 Compliant SBOL Objects

Maintaining unique identity URIs for all SBOL objects can be a very challenging implementation task. To reduce this burden, users of SBOL 2.x are encouraged to follow a few simple rules when constructing the identity properties and related properties for SBOL objects. When these rules are followed in constructing an SBOL object, we say that this object is compliant. These rules are as follows:

1. The identity of a compliant SBOL object MUST begin with a URI prefix that maps to a domain over which the user has control. Namely, the user can guarantee uniqueness of identities within this domain.
2. The persistentIdentity and displayId properties are REQUIRED of a compliant SBOL object.
3. The persistentIdentity of a compliant TopLevel object MUST end with a delimiter (‘/’, ‘#’, or ‘:’) followed by the displayId of the object.
4. The persistentIdentity of a compliant SBOL object that is not also a TopLevel object MUST begin with the persistentIdentity of its parent object and be immediately followed by a delimiter (‘/’, ‘#’, or ‘:’) and the displayId of the compliant object.
5. If a compliant SBOL object is not given a version, then its identity and persistentIdentity properties MUST contain the same URI.
6. If a compliant SBOL object has a `version`, then its `identity` property MUST contain a `URI` of the form 
   `\langle persistentIdentity\rangle/\langle version\rangle`.

7. The `version` of a compliant SBOL object that is not also a `TopLevel` object MUST contain the same `String`
   as the `version` property of the compliant object's parent object.

8. The `identity`, `persistentIdentity`, `displayId`, and `version` properties of a compliant SBOL object MUST
   NOT be changed once set.

All examples in this specification use compliant `URIs`.

## 12.4 Annotations: Embedded Objects vs. External References

When annotating an SBOL document with additional information, there are two general methods that can be used:

- Embed the information in the SBOL document, either as non-SBOL properties or `GenericTopLevel` objects.
- Store the information separately and annotate the SBOL document with `URIs` that point to it.

In theory, either method can be used in any case. (Note that a third case not discussed here is to use SBOL to
annotate external objects with linking to SBOL documents, rather than annotate SBOL documents with links
external objects.)

In practice, embedding massive amounts of non-SBOL data into SBOL documents is likely to cause problems
for people and software tools trying to manage and exchange such documents. Therefore, it is RECOMMENDED
that small amounts of information (e.g., design notes or preferred graphical layout) be embedded in the SBOL
model, while large amounts of information (e.g., the contents of the scientific publication from which a model was
derived or flow cytometry data that characterizes performance) be linked with `URIs` pointing to external resources.
The boundary between “small” and “large” is left deliberately vague, recognizing that it will likely depend on the
particulars of a given SBOL application.

## 12.5 Completeness and Validation

RDF documents containing serialized SBOL objects might or might not be entirely self-contained. A SBOL document
is self-contained or “complete” if every SBOL object referred to in the document is contained in the document. It is
RECOMMENDED that serializations be complete whenever practical. In order words, when serializing an SBOL
object, serialize all of the other objects that it points to, then serialize all of the other objects that these objects point
to, etc., until the document is complete.

It is important to note that there is no guarantee that an RDF document contains valid SBOL. When an RDF
document is deserialized to SBOL objects, the program doing so SHOULD verify that all of the property values
encoded therein have the right data type (e.g., that the object pointed to by the `sequences` property of a `ComponentDefinition`
is really a `Sequence`). For complete files, this validation can be carried out entirely locally. For files that are not complete, an implementation either needs to have a means of validating those external references
(e.g., by retrieving them from various repositories), or it needs to mark them as unverified and not depend on
their correctness.

## 12.6 Recommended Ontologies for External Terms

External ontologies and controlled vocabularies are an integral part of SBOL. SBOL uses `URIs` to access existing
biological information through these resources. New SBOL specific terms are defined only when necessary. For
example, `ComponentDefinition` types, such as DNA or protein, are described using BioPAX terms. Similarly, the
roles of a DNA or RNA `ComponentDefinition` are described via SO terms. Although RECOMMENDED ontologies
have been indicated in relevant sections where possible, other resources providing similar terms can also be used. A
summary of these external sources can be found in Table 15.
### 12.7 Annotating Entities with Date & Time

Entities in an SBOL document can be annotated with creation and modification date. It is RECOMMENDED that predicates, or properties, from DCMI Metadata Terms SHOULD be used to include date and time information. The `created` and `modified` terms SHOULD respectively be used to annotate SBOL entities with creation and modification dates. Date and time values SHOULD be expressed using the XML Schema `dateTime` datatype (Biron et al., 2004). For example, "2016-03-16T20:12:00Z" specifies that the day is 16 March 2016 and the time is 20:12 pm in UTC (Coordinated Universal Time). An example serialization is shown below:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:CLASS_NAME rdf:about="...">
    <dcterms:created>DATE_TIME_STRING</dcterms:created>
    <dcterms:modified>DATE_TIME_STRING</dcterms:modified>
  </sbol:CLASS_NAME>
  ...
</rdf:RDF>
```

### 12.8 Adding Provenance

Provenance is central to a range of quality control and attribution tasks within the Synthetic Biology design process. Tracking attribution and derivation of one resource from another is paramount for managing intellectual property purposes. Source designs are often modified in systematic ways to generate derived designs, for example, by applying codon optimization or systematically removing all of a class of restriction enzyme sites. Documenting the transformation used, and any associated parameters, makes this explicit and potentially allows the process to be reproduced systematically. If a design has been used within other designs, and is later found to be defective, it is paramount that all uses of it, including uses of edited versions of the design, can be identified, and ideally replaced with a non-defective alternative. When importing data from external sources, it is important not only to attribute the original source (for example, GenBank), but also the tool used to perform the import, as this may have made arbitrary choices as to how to represent the source knowledge as SBOL. All these activities have in common that it is necessary to track what resource, and what transformation process was applied by whom to derive an SBOL design.

The PROV-O ontology ([https://www.w3.org/TR/prov-o/](https://www.w3.org/TR/prov-o/)) already defines a data model for provenance. PROV-O's `wasDerivedFrom` property was adopted in SBOL 2.x to describe the derivation of an SBOL entity from another in...
a light-weight provenance scheme. Here, a subset of PROV-O is adopted for SBOL as a best practice to describe these activities in more detail. PROV-O defines three core classes: Entity, Activity and Agent. An Agent (for example a software or a person) runs an Activity (according to a Plan) to generate one Entity from another. Although, PROV-O provides many other classes and rich set of terms, this specification describes the minimal subset of PROV-O that a provenance-aware SBOL tool should handle. This subset (Figure 29) includes the PROV-O’s Activity, Usage, Association, Agent and Plan classes. Any SBOL’s Identified object implicitly can act as an instance of PROV-O’s Entity class and can include provenance through relationships to different activities. Resources representing Agent, Activity and Plan classes should be handled as GenericTopLevel, whilst Usage and Association resources should be nested within their parent activities.

Providers of provenance information are free to make use of more of PROV-O than is described here. It is acceptable for tools that understand more than this subset and use as much as they are able. Tools that only understand this subset must treat any additional data as annotations. Tools that are not aware of SBOL provenance at all must maintain and provide access to this information as annotations. This specification does not state what the newly added properties must point to. As long as they are resources that are consistent with the PROV-O property domains, they are legal. For example, a ComponentDefinition may be derived from another ComponentDefinition, but it would probably not make sense for it to be derived from a Collection.

The adopted subset of PROV-O terms and their relationships to SBOL objects are defined below.

---

1We thank Dr Paolo Missier from the School of Computing Science, Newcastle University for discussions regarding the use of PROV-O.
12.8.1 Activity

A generated Entity is linked through a `wasGeneratedBy` relationship to an Activity, which is used to describe how different Agents and other entities were used. An Activity is linked through a `qualifiedAssociation` to Associations, to describe the role of agents, and is linked through `qualifiedUsage` to Usages to describe the role of other entities used as part of the activity. Moreover, each Activity includes optional `startedAtTime` and `endedAtTime` properties. When using Activity to capture how an entity was derived, it is expected that any additional information needed will be attached as annotations. This may include software settings or textual notes. Activities can also be linked together using the `wasInformedBy` relationship to provide dependency without explicitly specifying start and end times.

The `qualifiedAssociation` property

The `qualifiedAssociation` property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs that refers to Association objects.

The `qualifiedUsage` property

The `qualifiedUsage` property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs that refers to Usage objects.

The `endedAtTime` property

The `endedAtTime` property is OPTIONAL and contains a dateTime (see section Section 12.7) value, indicating when the activity ended.

The `startedAtTime` property

The `startedAtTime` property is OPTIONAL and contains a dateTime (see section Section 12.7) value, indicating when the activity started. If this property is present, then the `endedAtTime` property is REQUIRED.

The `wasInformedBy` property

The `wasInformedBy` property is OPTIONAL and contains a URI of another activity.

Serialization

The serialization of an Activity MUST have the following form:

```xml
<prov:Activity rdf:about="...">
 ... properties inherited from identified ... 
 zero or more <prov:qualifiedAssociation>
   <prov:Association rdf:about="..."/>
 </prov:qualifiedAssociation> elements 
 zero or more <prov:qualifiedUsage>
   <prov:Usage rdf:about="..."/>
 </prov:qualifiedUsage> elements 
 zero or one <prov:startedAtTime/>
 </prov:Activity>
```

2.1.0

12.8.2 Association

An Association is linked to an Agent through the agent relationship. The Association includes the `hadRole` property to qualify the role of the Agent in the Activity.

The agent property

The `agent` property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that refers to an Agent object.
The hadRole property

The hadRole property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that refers to a particular term describing the usage of the agent.

The hadPlan property

The hadPlan property is OPTIONAL and contains a URI that refers to a Plan.

Serialization

The serialization of an Association MUST have the following form:

```xml
<prov:Association rdf:about="...">
    ...
    one <prov:hadRole rdf:resource="..."/>
    zero or one <prov:hadPlan rdf:resource="..."/>
    one <prov:agent rdf:resource="..."/>
</prov:Association>
```

12.8.3 Usage

How different entities are used in an Activity is specified with the Usage class, which is linked from an Activity through the qualifiedUsage relationship. A Usage is then linked to an Entity through the Entity’s URI and the role of this entity is qualified with the hadRole property. When the wasDerivedFrom property is used together with the full provenance described here, the entity pointed at by the wasDerivedFrom property MUST be included in a Usage.

The entity property

The entity property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI which MAY refer to an SBOL Identified object.

The hadRole property

The hadRole property is REQUIRED and MAY contain a URI that refers to a particular term describing the usage of an entity referenced by the entity property.

Serialization

The serialization of an Usage MUST have the following form:

```xml
<prov:Association rdf:about="...">
    ...
    one <prov:hadRole rdf:resource="..."/>
    one <prov:entity rdf:resource="..."/>
</prov:Association>
```

12.8.4 Plan

The Plan entity can be used as a place holder to describe the steps (for example scripts or lab protocols) taken when an Agent is used in a particular Activity.

Serialization

The serialization of an Usage MUST have the following form:

```xml
<prov:Plan rdf:about="...">
    ...
    ...
</prov:Plan>
```
12.8.5 Agent

Examples of agents are person, organisation or software. These agents should be annotated with additional information, such as software version, needed to be able to run the same software again.

Serialization

The serialization of an Agent MUST have the following form:

```xml
<prov:Agent rdf:about="...">
  ... properties inherited from identified ...
  ... other annotations ...
</prov:Agent>
```

Example - Codon optimisation

Codon optimisation is a practical real-world example where provenance properties can be applied. Using the current specification, the relationship between an original CDS and the codon-optimized version could simply be represented using the prov:wasDerivedFrom predicate, in a light-weight form. With more comprehensive use of the PROV ontology, the codon optimization can be represented as an Activity. This Activity can then include additional information, such as the Agent responsible (in this case, codon-optimizing software), and additional parameters.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://myapp.com/cd/non_codon_optimized">
    <dcterms:title>Non Codon optimised CDS</dcterms:title>
  </sbol:ComponentDefinition>
  <sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://myapp.com/cd/codon_optimized">
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/cd/non_codon_optimized"/>
    <dcterms:title>Codon optimised CDS</dcterms:title>
    <prov:wasGeneratedBy rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/gen/codon_optimization_activity"/>
  </sbol:ComponentDefinition>
  <prov:Agent rdf:about="http://myapp.com/gen/codon_optimization_software">
    <dcterms:title>Codon Optimization Software</dcterms:title>
  </prov:Agent>
  <prov:Activity rdf:about="http://myapp.com/gen/codon_optimization_activity">
    <dcterms:title>Codon Optimization Activity</dcterms:title>
    <prov:qualifiedUsage>
        <prov:entity rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/cd/non_codon_optimized"/>
        <prov:hadRole rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#source"/>
      </prov:Usage>
    </prov:qualifiedUsage>
    <prov:qualifiedAssociation>
        <prov:hadRole rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/codonoptimiser"/>
      </prov:Association>
    </prov:qualifiedAssociation>
  </prov:Activity>
</rdf:RDF>
```
Example - Deriving strains

Bacterial strains are often derived from other strains through modifications such as gene knockouts or mutations. For example, the B. subtilis 168 strain was derived from the Ncib3610 strain in the 1940s through x-radiation. B. subtilis 168 is a laboratory strain and has several advantages as a model organism in synthetic biology. Particularly, the 168 strain is easy to transform and is not motile, facilitating the analysis of engineered cells. The parent strain, on the other hand, is motile but more difficult to transform. The example below shows the derivation of the 168 strain using the new provenance classes.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  xmlns:identifiers="http://identifiers.org/so/">
  <sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://myapp.com/cd/non_codon_optimized">
    <dcterms:title>Non Codon optimised CDS</dcterms:title>
    <sbol:role rdf:resource="http://identifiers.org/so/0000316"/>
  </sbol:ComponentDefinition>
  <sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://myapp.com/cd/codon_optimized">
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/cd/non_codon_optimized"/>
    <dcterms:title>Codon optimised CDS</dcterms:title>
    <prov:wasGeneratedBy rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/gen/codon_optimization_activity"/>
    <sbol:role rdf:resource="http://identifiers.org/so/0000316"/>
  </sbol:ComponentDefinition>
  <prov:Agent rdf:about="http://myapp.com/gen/codon_optimization_software">
    <dcterms:title>Codon Optimization Software</dcterms:title>
  </prov:Agent>
  <prov:Activity rdf:about="http://myapp.com/gen/codon_optimization_activity">
    <dcterms:title>Codon Optimization Activity</dcterms:title>
    <prov:qualifiedUsage>
        <prov:entity rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/cd/non_codon_optimized"/>
        <prov:hadRole rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#source"/>
      </prov:Usage>
      <prov:qualifiedAssociation>
          <prov:hadRole rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/codonoptimiser"/>
        </prov:Association>
        <prov:qualifiedAssociation>
            <prov:hadRole rdf:resource="http://myapp.com/codonoptimiser"/>
          </prov:Association>
        </prov:qualifiedAssociation>
      </prov:qualifiedAssociation>
    </prov:qualifiedUsage>
  </prov:Activity>
</rdf:RDF>
```
References


A Validation Rules

This section summarizes all the conditions that either MUST be or are RECOMMENDED to be true of an SBOL Version 2.1 document. There are different degrees of rule strictness. Rules of the former kind are strict SBOL validation rules—data encoded in SBOL MUST conform to all of them in order to be considered valid. Rules of the latter kind are consistency rules that SBOL data are RECOMMENDED to adhere to as a best practice. To help highlight these differences, we use the following symbols next to the rule numbers:

A checked box indicates a strong REQUIRED condition for SBOL conformance. If an SBOL document does not follow this rule, it does not conform to the SBOL specification.

A circle indicates a weak REQUIRED condition for SBOL conformance. While this rule MUST be followed, there are conditions under which it cannot be checked by a machine.

A star indicates a RECOMMENDED condition for following best practices. This rule is not strictly a matter of SBOL conformance, but its recommendation comes from logical reasoning. If an SBOL document does not follow this rule, it is still valid SBOL, but it might have degraded functionality in some tools.

We also include a fourth type of rule that represents a required condition for SBOL-compliance that cannot be checked by a machine. Therefore, violations of these rules are not expected to be reported as errors by any of the software libraries implementing SBOL 2.1. It is the user’s responsibility to make sure that these validation rules are followed.

A triangle indicates a weak REQUIRED condition for SBOL conformance. While this rule MUST be followed, it is not possible in practice for a machine to automatically check whether the rule has been followed.

The validation rules listed in the following subsections are all believed to be stated or implied in the rest of this specification document. They are enumerated here for convenience and to provide a “master checklist” for SBOL validation. In case of a conflict between this section and other portions of the specification (though there are believed to be none), this section is considered authoritative for the purpose of determining the validity of an SBOL document.

For convenience and brevity, we use the shorthand “sbol:x” to stand for an attribute or element name x in the namespace for the SBOL specification, using the namespace prefix sbol. In reality, the prefix string can be different from the literal “sbol” used here (and indeed, it can be any valid XML namespace prefix that the software chooses). We use “sbol:x” because it is shorter than to write a full explanation everywhere we refer to an attribute or element in the SBOL specification namespace.

General rules for an SBOL document

2.0.1 sbol-10101 [✓] An SBOL document MUST declare the use of the following XML namespace: “http://sbols.org/v2#”. Reference: Section 10 on page 58

2.0.1 sbol-10102 [✓] An SBOL document MUST declare the use of the following XML namespace: “http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#”. Reference: Section 10 on page 54

2.0.1 sbol-10103 [✓] If an SBOL document includes any name or description properties, then it MUST declare the use of the following XML namespace: “http://purl.org/dc/terms/”. Reference: Section 10 on page 54
If an SBOL document includes any wasDerivedFrom properties, then it MUST declare the use of the following XML namespace:

http://www.w3.org/ns/prov#

Reference: Section 10 on page 54

An SBOL document MUST be serialized as a well-formed RDF/XML file that adheres to the grammar defined by:

"https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-syntax-grammar/"

Reference: Section 10 on page 58

Rules for the Identified class

The identity property of an Identified object is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that adheres to the syntax defined by:

"http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/#anyURI"

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The identity property of an Identified object MUST be globally unique.

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The persistentIdentity property of an Identified object is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a URI that MUST adhere to the syntax defined by:

"http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/#anyURI"

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The displayId property of an Identified object is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a String that MUST be composed of only alphanumeric or underscore characters and MUST NOT begin with a digit.

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The displayId property of an Identified object SHOULD be locally unique.

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 16

The version property of an Identified object is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a String that MUST be composed of only alphanumeric characters, underscores, hyphens, or periods and MUST begin with a digit.

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The wasDerivedFrom property of an Identified object is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a URI.

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The name property of an Identified object is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a String.

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The description property of an Identified object is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a String.

Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17
The annotations property of an Identified object is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of Annotation objects.
Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The displayId property of a compliant Identified object is REQUIRED.
Reference: Section 12.3 on page 61

The persistentIdentity property of a compliant TopLevel object is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that ends with a delimiter ('/', '#', or ':') followed by the displayId of the TopLevel object.
Reference: Section 12.3 on page 61

The persistentIdentity property of a compliant Identified object that is not also a TopLevel object is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI that begins with the persistentIdentity of the compliant object’s parent and is immediately followed by a delimiter ('/', '#', or ':') and the displayId of the compliant object.
Reference: Section 12.3 on page 61

If a compliant Identified object has no version property, then its identity property MUST contain the same URI as its persistentIdentity property. Otherwise, the compliant object’s identity property MUST contain a URI that begins with its persistentIdentity and is immediately followed by a delimiter ('/', '#', or ':') and its version.
Reference: Section 12.3 on page 61

The version property of a compliant Identified object that is not also a TopLevel object is REQUIRED to contain the same String as the version property of the compliant object’s parent.
Reference: Section 12.3 on page 61

Objects with the same persistentIdentity MUST be instances of the same class.
Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

Rules for the TopLevel class

A TopLevel object MUST inherit all properties of the Identified class.
Reference: Section 7.5 on page 19

If the wasDerivedFrom property of one TopLevel object refers to another TopLevel object with the same persistentIdentity property, then the version property of the second TopLevel object SHOULD precede that of the first if both objects have a version and it is assumed that these versions follow the conventions of semantic versioning.
Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

The wasDerivedFrom property of an TopLevel object MUST NOT contain a URI reference to the TopLevel object itself.
Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

TopLevel objects MUST NOT form circular reference chains via their wasDerivedFrom properties.
Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17

If the wasDerivedFrom property of one TopLevel object refers to another TopLevel object with the same persistentIdentity property, then version property of the second TopLevel object MUST precede that of the first if both objects have a version.
Reference: Section 7.4 on page 17
**Rules for the Sequence class**

2.0.1 sbol-10401 □ ✓
A Sequence MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, elements, and encoding.
Reference: Section 7.6 on page 20

sbol-10402 □ ✓
The elements property of a Sequence is REQUIRED and MUST contain a String.
Reference: Section 7.6 on page 20

sbol-10403 □ ✓
The encoding property of Sequence is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI.
Reference: Section 7.6 on page 20

sbol-10404 ▲
The encoding property of a Sequence MUST indicate how the elements property of the Sequence is to be formed and interpreted.
Reference: Section 7.6 on page 20

2.0.1 sbol-10405 ●
The elements property of a Sequence MUST be consistent with its encoding property.
Reference: Section 7.6 on page 20

sbol-10406 ▲
The encoding property of a Sequence MUST contain a URI from Table 1 if it is well-described by this URI.
Reference: Section 7.6 on page 20

2.0.1 sbol-10407 ★
The encoding property of a Sequence SHOULD contain a URI from Table 1.
Reference: Section 7.6 on page 20

**Rules for the ComponentDefinition class**

2.0.1 sbol-10501 □ ✓
A ComponentDefinition MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, types, roles, components, sequences, sequenceAnnotations, and sequenceConstraints.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10502 □ ✓
The types property of a ComponentDefinition is REQUIRED and MUST contain a non-empty set of URIs.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10503 □ ✓
The types property of a ComponentDefinition MUST NOT contain more than one URI from Table 2.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10504 ▲
Each URI contained by the types property of a ComponentDefinition MUST refer to an ontology term that describes the category of biochemical or physical entity that is represented by the ComponentDefinition.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10505 ▲
The types property of a ComponentDefinition MUST contain a URI from Table 2 if it is well-described by this URL.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10506 ▲
All URIs contained by the types property of a ComponentDefinition MUST refer to non-conflicting ontology terms.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22
The roles property of a ComponentDefinition is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

Each URI contained by the roles property of a ComponentDefinition MUST refer to an ontology term that clarifies the potential function of the ComponentDefinition in a biochemical or physical context.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

Each URI contained by the roles property of a ComponentDefinition MUST refer to an ontology term that is consistent with its types property.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

The roles property of a ComponentDefinition MUST contain a URI from Table 4 if it is well-described by this URI.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

2.0.1 The roles property of a ComponentDefinition SHOULD NOT contain a URI that refers to a term from the sequence feature branch of the SO unless its types property contains the DNA or RNA type URI listed in Table 2.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

The sequences property of a ComponentDefinition is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

2.0.1 Each URI contained by the sequences property of a ComponentDefinition MUST refer to a Sequence object.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

The Sequence objects referred to by the sequences property of a ComponentDefinition MUST be consistent with each other, such that well-defined mappings exist between their elements properties in accordance with their encoding properties.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

The sequences property of a ComponentDefinition MUST NOT refer to Sequence objects with conflicting encoding properties.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

2.0.1 If the sequences property of a ComponentDefinition refers to one or more Sequence objects, and one of the types of this ComponentDefinition comes from Table 2, then one of the Sequence objects MUST have the encoding that is cross-listed with this type in Table 1.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

If the sequences property of a ComponentDefinition refers to a Sequence with an encoding from Table 1, then the types property of the ComponentDefinition MUST contain the type from Table 2 that is cross-listed with this encoding in Table 1.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

If a ComponentDefinition refers to more than one Sequence with the same encoding, then the elements of these Sequence objects SHOULD have equal lengths.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

The components property of a ComponentDefinition is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of Component objects.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22
sbol-10520 ★ If a ComponentDefinition in a ComponentDefinition-Component hierarchy refers to one or more Sequence objects, and there exist ComponentDefinition objects lower in the hierarchy that refer to Sequence objects with the same encoding, then the elements properties of these Sequence objects SHOULD be consistent with each other, such that well-defined mappings exist from the “lower level” elements to the “higher level” elements in accordance with their shared encoding properties. This mapping is also subject to any restrictions on the positions of the Component objects in the hierarchy that are imposed by the SequenceAnnotation or SequenceConstraint objects contained by the ComponentDefinition objects in the hierarchy.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10521 ☑ The sequenceAnnotations property of a ComponentDefinition is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of SequenceAnnotation objects.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10522 ☑ The sequenceAnnotations property of a ComponentDefinition MUST NOT contain two or more SequenceAnnotation objects that refer to the same Component.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10523 ★ If the sequences property of a ComponentDefinition refers to a Sequence with an IUPAC encoding from Table 1, then each SequenceAnnotation that includes a Range and/or Cut in the sequenceAnnotations property of the ComponentDefinition SHOULD specify a region on the elements of this Sequence.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10524 ☑ The sequenceConstraints property of a ComponentDefinition is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of SequenceConstraint objects.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

2.0.1 sbol-10525 ★ The types property of a ComponentDefinition SHOULD contain a URI from Table 2.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

sbol-10526 ☑ If multiple MapsTo belonging to the Components of a ComponentDefinition have local properties that refer to the same Component, then there MUST NOT be more than one such MapsTo that has a refinement property that contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#useRemote.
Reference: Section 7.7.3 on page 29

sbol-10527 ★ If the types property of a ComponentDefinition contains the DNA or RNA type URI, then its roles property SHOULD contain exactly one URI that refers to a term from the sequence feature branch of the SO.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

2.1.0 sbol-10528 ★ If the types property of a ComponentDefinition contains the DNA or RNA type URI, then its types property SHOULD also contain at most one URI that refers to a term from the topology attribute branch of the SO.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

2.1.0 sbol-10529 ★ The types property of a ComponentDefinition SHOULD NOT contain a URI that refers to a term from the topology attribute or strand attribute branches of the SO unless its types property contains the DNA or RNA type URI listed in Table 2. Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22

2.1.0 sbol-10530 ▲ If the types property of a ComponentDefinition contains the DNA or RNA type URI, then its types property MUST contain a URI that refers to a term from the topology attribute branch of the SO, if the topology is known.
Reference: Section 7.7 on page 22
Rules for the ComponentInstance class

2.0.1 sbol-10601 ☐ A ComponentInstance MUST inherit all properties of the Identified class.
Reference: Section 7.7.1 on page 24

2.0.1 sbol-10602 ☐ The definition property of a ComponentInstance is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI.
Reference: Section 7.7.1 on page 26

2.0.1 sbol-10603 ☐ The definition property of a ComponentInstance MUST NOT contain a URI reference to the ComponentDefinition that contains the ComponentInstance.
Reference: Section 7.7.1 on page 26

2.0.1 sbol-10604 ☐ The URI contained by the definition property MUST refer to a ComponentDefinition object.
Reference: Section 7.7.1 on page 26

2.0.1 sbol-10605 ☐ ComponentInstance objects MUST NOT form circular reference chains via their definition properties and parent ComponentDefinition objects.
Reference: Section 7.7.1 on page 26

2.0.1 sbol-10606 ☐ The mapsTos property of a ComponentInstance is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of MapsTo objects.
Reference: Section 7.7.1 on page 26

2.0.1 sbol-10607 ☐ The access property of a ComponentInstance is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI from Table 5.
Reference: Section 7.7.1 on page 26

Rules for the Component class

2.1.0 sbol-10701 ☐ A Component MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, access, definition, mapsTos, roles, and roleIntegration.
Reference: Section 7.7.2 on page 27

2.1.0 sbol-10702 ☐ The roles property of a Component is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs.
Reference: Section 7.7.2 on page 27

2.1.0 sbol-10703 ☀ Each URI contained by the roles property of a Component MUST refer to an ontology term that clarifies the potential function of the Component in a biochemical or physical context.
Reference: Section 7.7.2 on page 27

2.1.0 sbol-10704 ☀ Each URI contained by the roles property of a Component MUST refer to an ontology term that is consistent with the types property of the ComponentDefinition referred to by its definition property.
Reference: Section 7.7.2 on page 27

2.1.0 sbol-10705 ☀ The roles property of a Component MUST contain a URI from Table 4 if it is well-described by this URI.
Reference: Section 7.7.2 on page 27

2.1.0 sbol-10706 ★ The roles property of a Component SHOULD NOT contain a URI that refers to a term from the sequence feature branch of the SO unless the types property of the ComponentDefinition referred to by its definition property contains the DNA or RNA type URI listed in Table 2.
Reference: Section 7.7.2 on page 27
If the types property of the ComponentDefinition referred to by its definition contains the DNA or RNA type URI, then its roles property SHOULD contain no more than one URI that refers to a term from the sequence feature branch of the SO.

The roleIntegration property of a Component, if provided, MUST contain a URI from Table 6.

The roleIntegration property of a Component is REQUIRED, if roles property includes one or more roles.

Rules for the MapsTo class

A MapsTo MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, refinement, local, and remote.

The local property of a MapsTo is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI.

If a MapsTo is contained by a Component in a ComponentDefinition, then the local property of the MapsTo MUST refer to another Component in the ComponentDefinition.

If a MapsTo is contained by a FunctionalComponent or Module in a ModuleDefinition, then the local property of the MapsTo MUST refer to another FunctionalComponent in the ModuleDefinition.

The remote property of a MapsTo is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI.

The remote property of a MapsTo MUST refer to a ComponentInstance.

The ComponentInstance referred to by the remote property of a MapsTo MUST have an access property that contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#public.

If a MapsTo is contained by a ComponentInstance, then the remote property of the MapsTo MUST refer to a Component in the ComponentDefinition that is referenced by the definition property of the ComponentInstance.

If a MapsTo is contained by a Module, then the remote property of the MapsTo MUST refer to a FunctionalComponent in the ModuleDefinition that is referenced by the definition property of the Module.

The refinement property of a MapsTo is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI from Table 7.
If the refinement property of a MapsTo contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#verifyIdentical, then the ComponentInstance objects referred to by local and remote properties of the MapsTo MUST refer to the same ComponentDefinition via their definition properties. Reference: Section 7.7.3 on page 29

**Rules for the SequenceAnnotation class**

2.1.0 sbol-10901  
A SequenceAnnotation MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, component, locations, and roles. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

sbol-10902  
The locations property of a SequenceAnnotation is REQUIRED and MUST contain a non-empty set of Location objects. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

sbol-10903  
The Location objects contained by the locations property of a single SequenceAnnotation SHOULD NOT specify overlapping regions. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

sbol-10904  
The component property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a URI reference to a Component. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

sbol-10905  
The Component referenced by the component property of a SequenceAnnotation MUST be contained by the ComponentDefinition that contains the SequenceAnnotation. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

2.1.0 sbol-10906  
The roles property of a SequenceAnnotation is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

2.1.0 sbol-10907  
Each URI contained by the roles property of a SequenceAnnotation MUST refer to an ontology term that clarifies the potential function of the SequenceAnnotation in a biochemical or physical context. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

2.1.0 sbol-10908  
The roles property of a SequenceAnnotation MUST contain a URI from Table 4 if it is well-described by this URI. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

2.1.0 sbol-10909  
A SequenceAnnotation MUST NOT include both a component property and a roles property. Reference: Section 7.7.4 on page 32

**Rules for the Location class**

2.0.1 sbol-11001  
A Location MUST inherit all properties of the Identified class. Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 30

sbol-11002  
The orientation property of a Location is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a URI from Table 8. Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 35
### Rules for the Range class

2.0.1 sbol-11101 □ ✓ A Range MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayName, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, orientation, start, and end.

Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 34

sbol-11102 □ ✓ The start property of a Range is REQUIRED and MUST contain an Integer greater than zero.

Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 34

sbol-11103 □ ✓ The end property of a Range is REQUIRED and MUST contain an Integer greater than zero.

Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 34

sbol-11104 □ ✓ The value of the end property of a Range MUST be greater than or equal to the value of its start property.

Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 34

### Rules for the Cut class

2.0.1 sbol-11201 □ ✓ A Cut MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayName, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, orientation, and at.

Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 35

sbol-11202 □ ✓ The at property is REQUIRED and MUST contain an Integer greater than or equal to zero.

Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 35

### Rules for the GenericLocation class

2.0.1 sbol-11301 □ ✓ A GenericLocation MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayName, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, and orientation.

Reference: Section 7.7.5 on page 35

### Rules for the SequenceConstraint class

2.0.1 sbol-11401 □ ✓ A SequenceConstraint MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayName, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, restriction, subject, and object.

Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

sbol-11402 □ ✓ The subject property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI reference to a Component.

Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

sbol-11403 □ ✓ The Component referenced by the subject property of a SequenceConstraint MUST be contained by the ComponentDefinition that contains the SequenceConstraint.

Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

sbol-11404 □ ✓ The object property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI reference to a Component.

Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

sbol-11405 □ ✓ The Component referenced by the object property of a SequenceConstraint MUST be contained by the ComponentDefinition that contains the SequenceConstraint.

Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

sbol-11406 □ ✓ The object property of a SequenceConstraint MUST NOT refer to the same Component as the subject property of the SequenceConstraint.

Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36
The restriction property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI.
Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

The URI contained by the restriction property of a SequenceConstraint MUST indicate the type of structural restriction on the relative, sequence-based positions or orientations of the Component objects referred to by the subject and object properties of the SequenceConstraint.
Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

If the restriction property of a SequenceConstraint contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#precedes, then the position of the Component referred to by the subject property of the SequenceConstraint MUST precede that of the Component referred to by its object property.
Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

If the restriction property of a SequenceConstraint contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#sameOrientationAs, then the orientation of the Component referred to by the subject property of the SequenceConstraint MUST be the same as that of the Component referred to by its object property.
Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

If the restriction property of a SequenceConstraint contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#oppositeOrientationAs, then the orientation of the Component referred to by the subject property of the SequenceConstraint MUST be opposite that of the Component referred to by its object property.
Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

The URI contained by the restriction property SHOULD come from Table 9.
Reference: Section 7.7.6 on page 36

Rules for the Model class

A Model MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, source, language, and framework.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The source property is a REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The URI contained by the source property of a Model MUST specify the location of the model’s source file.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The language property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The URI contained by the language property of a Model MUST specify the language in which the model is encoded.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The language property of a Model MUST contain a URI from Table 10 if it is well-described by this URI.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37
The language property of a Model SHOULD contain a URI that refers to a term from the EDAM ontology.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The framework property is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The URI contained by the framework property of a Model MUST specify the modeling framework of the model.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The framework property of a Model MUST contain a URI from Table 11 if it is well-described by this URI.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

The framework property SHOULD contain a URI that refers to a term from the modeling framework branch of the SBO.
Reference: Section 7.8 on page 37

Rules for the ModuleDefinition class

A ModuleDefinition MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, roles, modules, interactions, functionalComponents, and models.
Reference: Section 7.9 on page 39

The roles property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs.
Reference: Section 7.9 on page 39

Each URI contained by roles property of a ModuleDefinition MUST refer to a resource that clarifies the intended function of the ModuleDefinition.
Reference: Section 7.9 on page 39

The modules property OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of Module objects.
Reference: Section 7.9 on page 39

The interactions property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of Interaction objects.
Reference: Section 7.9 on page 39

The functionalComponents property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of FunctionalComponent objects.
Reference: Section 7.9 on page 39

The models property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs.
Reference: Section 7.9 on page 39

Each URI contained by the models property of a ModuleDefinition MUST refer to a Model.
Reference: Section 7.9 on page 39

If multiple MapsTo belonging to the Modules and FunctionalComponents of a ModuleDefinition have local properties that refer to the same FunctionalComponent, then there MUST NOT be more than one such MapsTo that has a refinement property that contains the URI http://sbols.org/v2#useRemote.
Reference: Section 7.7.3 on page 29
Rules for the Module class

2.0.1 sbol-11701 □ ✓ A Module MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, definition, and mapsTos.
Reference: Section 7.9.1 on page 41

2.0.1 sbol-11703 ● The definition property of a Module MUST refer to a ModuleDefinition.
Reference: Section 7.9.1 on page 41

2.0.1 sbol-11704 □ ✓ The definition property of a Module MUST NOT contain a URI reference to the ModuleDefinition that contains the Module.
Reference: Section 7.9.1 on page 41

2.0.1 sbol-11705 ● Module objects MUST NOT form circular reference chains via their definition properties and parent ModuleDefinition objects.
Reference: Section 7.9.1 on page 41

2.0.1 sbol-11706 □ ✓ The mapsTos property is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of MapsTo objects.
Reference: Section 7.9.1 on page 41

Rules for the FunctionalComponent class

2.0.1 sbol-11801 □ ✓ A FunctionalComponent MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, access, definition, and mapsTos, and direction.
Reference: Section 7.7.1 on page 26

2.0.1 sbol-11802 □ ✓ The direction property of a FunctionalComponent is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI from Table 12.
Reference: Section 7.9.2 on page 42

Rules for the Interaction class

2.0.1 sbol-11901 □ ✓ An Interaction MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, types, and participations.
Reference: Section 7.9.3 on page 43

2.0.1 sbol-11902 □ ✓ The types property of an Interaction is REQUIRED and MUST contain a non-empty set of URIs.
Reference: Section 7.9.3 on page 43

2.0.1 sbol-11903 ▲ Each URI contained by the types property of an Interaction MUST refer to an ontology term that describes the behavior represented by the Interaction.
Reference: Section 7.9.3 on page 43

2.0.1 sbol-11904 ▲ All URIs contained by the types property of an Interaction MUST refer to non-conflicting ontology terms.
Reference: Section 7.9.3 on page 43
Exactly one URI contained by the types property of an Interaction SHOULD refer to a term from the occurring entity relationship branch of the SBO.

Reference: Section 7.9.3 on page 43

2.0.1

The participations property of an Interaction is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of Participation objects.

Reference: Section 7.9.3 on page 43

If the participations property of an Interaction refers to one or more Participation objects, and one of the types of this Interaction comes from Table 13, then the Participation objects SHOULD have a role from the set of roles that is cross-listed with this type in Table 14.

Reference: Section 7.9.4 on page 44

A Participation MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, roles, and participant.

Reference: Section 7.9.4 on page 44

The participant property of a Participation is REQUIRED and MUST contain a URI reference to a FunctionalComponent.

Reference: Section 7.9.4 on page 44

The FunctionalComponent referenced by the participant property of a Participation MUST be contained by the ModuleDefinition that contains the Interaction which contains the Participation.

Reference: Section 7.9.4 on page 44

The roles property of a Participation is REQUIRED and MUST contain a non-empty set of URIs.

Reference: Section 7.9.4 on page 44

Each URI contained by the roles property of an Participation MUST refer to an ontology term that describes the behavior represented by the Participation.

Reference: Section 7.9.4 on page 44

All URIs contained by the roles property of an Participation MUST refer to non-conflicting ontology terms.

Reference: Section 7.9.4 on page 44

Exactly one role in the set of roles SHOULD be a URI from the participant role branch of the SBO.

Reference: Section 7.9.4 on page 44

A Collection MUST NOT have properties other than the following: identity, persistentIdentity, displayId, version, wasDerivedFrom, name, description, annotations, and members.

Reference: Section 7.10 on page 46

The members property of a Collection is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of URIs.

Reference: Section 7.10 on page 46
Each URI contained by the `members` property of a `Collection` MUST reference a `TopLevel` object.

Reference: Section 7.10 on page 46

Rules for the `Annotation` class

- **sbol-12201** ✓ The `name` property of an `Annotation` is REQUIRED and MUST contain a `QName`.
  Reference: Section 7.11 on page 43

- **sbol-12202** ✓ The `value` property of an `Annotation` is REQUIRED and MUST contain an `AnnotationValue`.
  Reference: Section 7.11 on page 43

- **sbol-12203** ▲ An `AnnotationValue` MUST be a literal (a `String`, `Integer`, `Double`, or `Boolean`), `URI`, or a `NestedAnnotations` object.
  Reference: Section 7.11 on page 47

- **sbol-12204** ▲ The `nestedQName` property of a `NestedAnnotations` object is REQUIRED and MUST contain a `QName`.
  Reference: Section 7.11 on page 47

- **sbol-12205** ▲ The `nestedURI` property of a `NestedAnnotations` object is REQUIRED and MUST contain a `URI`.
  Reference: Section 7.11 on page 47

- **sbol-12206** ▲ The `annotations` property of a `NestedAnnotations` object is OPTIONAL and MAY contain a set of `Annotation` objects.
  Reference: Section 7.11 on page 47

Rules for the `GenericTopLevel` class

- **sbol-12301** ✓ A `GenericTopLevel` MUST NOT have properties other than the following: `identity`, `persistentIdentity`, `displayId`, `version`, `wasDerivedFrom`, `name`, `description`, and `annotations`.
  Reference: Section 7.11.2 on page 48

- **sbol-12302** ✓ The `rdfType` property of a `GenericTopLevel` object is REQUIRED and MUST contain a `QName`.
  Reference: Section 7.11.2 on page 48
B Examples of Serialization

B.1 Simple Examples

B.1.1 Serializing Sequence Objects

This example shows the serialization of a Sequence.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <shbol:Sequence rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_J23119">
    <shbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_J23119"/>
    <shbol:displayId>BBa_J23119</shbol:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://parts.igem.org/Part:BBa_J23119:Design"/>
    <shbol:elements>ttgacagctagctcagtcctaggtataatgctagc</shbol:elements>
    <shbol:encoding rdf:resource="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/subsb/misc/naseq.html"/>
  </shbol:Sequence>
</rdf:RDF>
```

B.1.2 Serializing ComponentDefinition Objects

This example shows the serialization of a simple promoter ComponentDefinition and the Sequence to which it refers.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <shbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119">
    <shbol:displayId>BBa_J23119</shbol:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://parts.registry.org/Part:BBa_J23119"/>
    <dcterms:title>J23119 promoter</dcterms:title>
    <dcterms:description>Constitutive promoter</dcterms:description>
    <shbol:sequence rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_J23119"/>
  </shbol:ComponentDefinition>
  <shbol:Sequence rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_J23119">
    <shbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_J23119"/>
    <shbol:displayId>BBa_J23119</shbol:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://parts.igem.org/Part:BBa_J23119:Design"/>
    <shbol:elements>ttgacagctagctcagtcctaggtataatgctagc</shbol:elements>
    <shbol:encoding rdf:resource="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/subsb/misc/naseq.html"/>
  </shbol:Sequence>
</rdf:RDF>
```

B.1.3 Serializing SequenceConstraint Objects

This example shows the serialization of SequenceConstraint between two Component objects in a composite promoter ComponentDefinition. In the example, the promoter ComponentDefinition has two sub-Component objects that instantiate the ComponentDefinition objects for a core promoter region and a binding site. The SequenceConstraint specifies that the core promoter region precedes the binding site.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <cd:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_K174004">
    <cd:displayId>BBa_K174004</cd:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://parts.registry.org/Part:BBa_K174004:Design"/>
    <dcterms:title>Composite promoter</dcterms:title>
    <dcterms:description>Composite promoter</dcterms:description>
    <shbol:sequence rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_K174004"/>
  </cd:ComponentDefinition>
  <cd:Sequence rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_K174004">
    <cd:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_K174004"/>
    <cd:displayId>BBa_K174004</cd:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://parts.igem.org/Part:BBa_K174004:Design"/>
    <shbol:elements>ttgacagctagctcagtcctaggtataatgctagc</shbol:elements>
    <shbol:encoding rdf:resource="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/subsb/misc/naseq.html"/>
  </cd:Sequence>
  <cd:SequenceConstraint rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_K174004">
    <cd:displayId>BBa_K174004</cd:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://parts.registry.org/Part:BBa_K174004:Design"/>
    <shbol:elements>ttgacagctagctcagtcctaggtataatgctagc</shbol:elements>
    <shbol:encoding rdf:resource="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/subsb/misc/naseq.html"/>
    <shbol:sequence rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_J23118"/>
    <shbol:sequence rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/seq/BBa_J23119"/>
  </cd:SequenceConstraint>
</rdf:RDF>
```
B.1.4 Serializing Cut Location Objects

This example shows the serialization of a Cut Location.

```xml
<xml version="1.0"/>
  <sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119">
    <sbol:displayId>BBa_J23119</sbol:displayId>
    <prov:wasDerivedFrom rdf:resource="http://partsregistry.org/Part:BBa_J23119"/>
    <dc:title>J23119 promoter</dc:title>
    <dc:description>Constitutive promoter</dc:description>
    <sbol:sequenceAnnotation>
      <sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119/cutat10">
        <sbol:displayId>cutat10</sbol:displayId>
        <sbol:location>
          <sbol:Cut rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119/cutat10/cut1">
            <sbol:displayId>cut1</sbol:displayId>
            <sbol:at>10</sbol:at>
            <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
          </sbol:Cut>
        </sbol:location>
      </sbol:SequenceAnnotation>
    </sbol:sequenceAnnotation>
    <sbol:sequenceAnnotation>
      <sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119/cutat12">
        <sbol:displayId>cutat12</sbol:displayId>
        <sbol:location>
          <sbol:Cut rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119/cutat12/cut1">
            <sbol:displayId>cut1</sbol:displayId>
            <sbol:at>18</sbol:at>
            <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
          </sbol:Cut>
        </sbol:location>
      </sbol:SequenceAnnotation>
    </sbol:sequenceAnnotation>
  </sbol:ComponentDefinition>
</rdf:RDF>
```
B.1.5 Serializing Model Objects

This example shows the serialization of a Model. In this example, the Model refers to an ODE model written in SBML that can be accessed the identified source repository.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:Model rdf:about="http://www.sbolstandard.org/examples/pIKE_Toggle_1">
    <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://www.sbolstandard.org/examples/pIKE_Toggle_1"/>
    <sbol:displayId>pIKE_Toggle_1</sbol:displayId>
    <dcterms:title>pIKE_Toggle_1 toggle switch</dcterms:title>
    <sbol:source rdf:resource="http://virtualparts.org/part/pIKE_Toggle_1"/>
    <sbol:language rdf:resource="http://identifiers.org/edam/format_2585"/>
  </sbol:Model>
</rdf:RDF>
```

B.1.6 Serializing ModuleDefinition Objects

This example shows the serialization of a simple ModuleDefinition. This ModuleDefinition includes an Interaction that represents the translation of a protein.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:ModuleDefinition rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/md/GFP_expression">
    <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/md/GFP_expression"/>
    <sbol:displayId>GFP_expression</sbol:displayId>
    <sbol:functionalComponent rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/md/GFP_expression/Constitutive_GFP">
      <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/md/GFP_expression/Constitutive_GFP"/>
      <sbol:displayName>Constitutive_GFP</sbol:displayName>
    </sbol:functionalComponent>
  </sbol:ModuleDefinition>
</rdf:RDF>
```
Section B.1 Simple Examples

B.1.7 Serializing Application Specific Data Within SBOL Objects

This example shows the serialization of application-specific data from Annotatin objects. A ComponentDefinition that represents a promoter is annotated with custom data on the promoter's sigma factor and how it is regulated.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://partsregistry.org/cd/BBa_J23119">
    <sbol:displayId>BBa_J23119</sbol:displayId>
    <pr:group>iGEM2006_Berkeley</pr:group>
    <pr:experience rdf:resource="http://parts.igem.org/cgi/partsdb/part_info.cgi?part_name=BBa_J23119"/>
    <pr:information>
      <pr:Information rdf:about="http://parts.igem.org/cgi/partsdb/part_info.cgi?part_name=BBa_J23119">
        <pr:sigmafactor>//rnap/prokaryote/ecoli/sigma70</pr:sigmafactor>
        <pr:regulation>//regulation/constitutive</pr:regulation>
      </pr:Information>
    </pr:information>
    <dcterms:title>J23119</dcterms:title>
    <dcterms:description>Constitutive promoter</dcterms:description>
  </sbol:ComponentDefinition>
</rdf:RDF>
```

B.1.8 Serializing Application-Specific Data Outside SBOL Objects

This example shows the serialization of application-specific data from GenericTopLevel objects. Such data can be referenced by other SBOL objects via Annotation objects.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <dcterms:title>constitutive promoter</dcterms:title>
  <dcterms:description>Constitutive promoter</dcterms:description>
</rdf:RDF>
```
B.2 Complex Examples

B.2.1 PoPS Receiver

This example shows the serialization of the PoPS Receiver device designed by Canton and co-workers Canton et al. (2008). In particular, this example includes the serialization of a ComponentDefinition that composes five Component objects to define the structure of a detector for the cell-cell signaling molecule 3OC6HSL. The five components are arranged in a sequence: first come four Component objects that together implement constitutive expression of the LuxR protein, which in turn responds to 3OC6HSL: a constitutive promoter, 5’UTR, coding sequence for LuxR, and terminator. Finally, after these objects comes the Component object for the pLuxR promoter, which is activated in the presence of LuxR and 3OC6HSL. Complete details of the device can be found in the cited paper and also at http://parts.igem.org/Part:BBa_F2620.
Section B.2 Complex Examples
B.2.2 Toggle Switch

This example shows the serialization of the ComponentDefinition and ModuleDefinition objects for a LacI/TetR toggle switch similar to those constructed in Gardner et al. (2000). This design is essentially similar to the one presented in Section 9, except that it uses some alternate groupings in how the total design is built up out of smaller entities.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
  <sbol:ModuleDefinition rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch">
    <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch"/>
    <sbol:displayId>toggle_switch</sbol:displayId>
    <sbol:role rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/module_role/toggle_switch"/>
    <sbol:functionalComponent>
      <sbol:FunctionalComponent rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/TetR">
        <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/TetR"/>
        <sbol:displayId>TetR</sbol:displayId>
        <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://identifiers.org/uniprot/Q6QR72"/>
        <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
        <sbol:direction rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inout"/>
      </sbol:FunctionalComponent>
    </sbol:functionalComponent>
    <sbol:functionalComponent>
      <sbol:FunctionalComponent rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/LacI">
        <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/LacI"/>
        <sbol:displayId>LacI</sbol:displayId>
        <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://identifiers.org/uniprot/P03023"/>
        <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
        <sbol:direction rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inout"/>
      </sbol:FunctionalComponent>
    </sbol:functionalComponent>
  </sbol:ModuleDefinition>
  <sbol:ModuleDefinition rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter">
    <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter"/>
    <sbol:displayId>laci_inverter</sbol:displayId>
    <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter"/>
    <sbol:mapsTo>
      <sbol:MapsTo rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/laci_inverter">
        <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter"/>
        <sbol:displayId><sbol:Module rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter">laci_inverter</sbol:Module></sbol:displayId>
        <sbol:mapsTo>
          <sbol:MapsTo rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/laci_inverter/LacI_mapping">
            <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/LacI_mapping"/>
            <sbol:displayId>LacI</sbol:displayId>
            <sbol:remote rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/laci_inverter/LacI"/>
            <sbol:local rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/LacI"/>
          </sbol:MapsTo>
        </sbol:mapsTo>
      </sbol:MapsTo>
    </sbol:Module>
    </sbol:Module>
  </sbol:ModuleDefinition>
  <sbol:ModuleDefinition rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/tetr_inverter">
    <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/tetr_inverter"/>
    <sbol:displayId>tetr_inverter</sbol:displayId>
    <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/tetr_inverter"/>
    <sbol:mapsTo>
      <sbol:MapsTo rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/tetr_inverter">
        <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/tetr_inverter"/>
        <sbol:displayId>tetr_inverter</sbol:displayId>
        <sbol:mapsTo>
          <sbol:MapsTo rdf:about="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/tetr_inverter/TetR_mapping">
            <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/tetr_inverter/TetR_mapping"/>
            <sbol:displayId>TetR</sbol:displayId>
            <sbol:remote rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/tetr_inverter/TetR"/>
            <sbol:local rdf:resource="http://sbolstandard.org/example/toggle_switch/TetR"/>
          </sbol:MapsTo>
        </sbol:mapsTo>
      </sbol:MapsTo>
    </sbol:Module>
  </sbol:ModuleDefinition>
</rdf:RDF>
```
**Section B.2 Complex Examples**

<sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKE_Toggle_1/anno1">
  <sbol:component rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKE_Toggle_1/pIKELeftCassette_1"/>
  <sbol:location rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKE_Toggle_1/pIKELeftCassette_1"/>
</sbol:SequenceAnnotation>

<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_J61130"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_J61119"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_J61101"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/ECK120033736"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_C0012"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_C00612"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0049"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0046"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0048"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0047"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0046"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0048"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0049"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0044"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0042"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0046"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0048"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0049"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0044"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0042"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0046"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0048"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0049"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0044"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0042"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0046"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0048"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0049"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0044"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0042"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0046"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0048"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0049"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0044"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0042"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0046"/
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0048"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0049"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0044"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0042"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0046"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0048"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0049"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0044"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0042"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0040"/>
<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0045"/>
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<sbol:location> 1
<sbol:Range rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKELeftCassette_1/anno4/location4"> 2
<sbol:displayId>location4</sbol:displayId> 4
<sbol:start>1198</sbol:start> 5
<sbol:end>1288</sbol:end> 6
<sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/> 7
</sbol:Range> 8
</sbol:location> 9
</sbol:sequenceAnnotation> 10
</sbol:sequenceAnnotation> 11
</sbol:ComponentDefinition>

<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_J61101"> 16
<sbol:displayId>BBa_J61101</sbol:displayId> 18
<dcterms:title>BBa_J61101 RBS</dcterms:title> 19
<dcterms:description>RBS1</dcterms:description> 20
<sbol:type rdf:resource="http://www.biopax.org/release/biopax-level3.owl#DnaRegion"/> 21
</sbol:ComponentDefinition>
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<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_J61120">
  <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/BBa_J61120"/>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/ECK120033736"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>BBa_J61120</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/ECK120033736"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>ECK120033736</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_J611130"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>BBa_J611130</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/BBa_E0040"/>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_E0040"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>BBa_E0040</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0010"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>BBa_R0010</sbol:displayId>
</sbol:ComponentDefinition>

<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1">
  <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1"/>
  <sbol:displayId>BBa_J61120</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/ECK120033736"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>ECK120033736</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_J611130"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>BBa_J611130</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/BBa_E0040"/>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_E0040"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>BBa_E0040</sbol:displayId>
  <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_R0010"/>
  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>BBa_R0010</sbol:displayId>
</sbol:ComponentDefinition>

<sbol:ComponentDefinition rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1">
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    <sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/pIKERightCassette_1"/>
    <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
    <sbol:displayId>pIKERightCassette_1</sbol:displayId>
    <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1"/>
  </sbol:persistentIdentity>
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  <sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
  <sbol:displayId>pIKERightCassette_1</sbol:displayId>
</sbol:ComponentDefinition>
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<sbol:access rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#public"/>
<sbol:definition rdf:resource="http://www.partsregistry.org/BBa_J61120"/>
</sbol:Component>
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  <sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/anno1">
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    <sbol:location>
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      <sbol:persistentIdentity rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/anno1/location1"/>
      <sbol:displayId> anno1.location1</sbol:displayId>
      <sbol:start>1</sbol:start>
      <sbol:end>55</sbol:end>
      <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
    </sbol:Range>
  </sbol:location>
  <sbol:component rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/BBa_R0010"/>
</sbol:SequenceAnnotation>
<sbol:sequenceAnnotation>
  <sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/anno5">
    <sbol:displayId>anno5</sbol:displayId>
    <sbol:location>
      <sbol:Range rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/anno5/location5"/>
      <sbol:displayId> anno5.location5</sbol:displayId>
      <sbol:start>743</sbol:start>
      <sbol:end>1463</sbol:end>
      <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
    </sbol:Range>
  </sbol:location>
  <sbol:component rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/BBa_E0040"/>
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<sbol:sequenceAnnotation>
  <sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/anno6">
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    <sbol:location>
      <sbol:displayId> anno6.location6</sbol:displayId>
      <sbol:start>1464</sbol:start>
      <sbol:end>1554</sbol:end>
      <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
    </sbol:Range>
  </sbol:location>
  <sbol:component rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/ECK120033736"/>
</sbol:SequenceAnnotation>
<sbol:sequenceAnnotation>
  <sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/anno3">
    <sbol:displayId>anno3</sbol:displayId>
    <sbol:location>
      <sbol:displayId> anno3.location3</sbol:displayId>
      <sbol:start>69</sbol:start>
      <sbol:end>729</sbol:end>
      <sbol:orientation rdf:resource="http://sbols.org/v2#inline"/>
    </sbol:Range>
  </sbol:location>
  <sbol:component rdf:resource="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/BBa_C0040"/>
</sbol:SequenceAnnotation>
<sbol:sequenceAnnotation>
  <sbol:SequenceAnnotation rdf:about="http://www.virtualparts.org/part/pIKERightCassette_1/BBa_H8010"/>
</sbol:SequenceAnnotation>
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<sbol:displayId>ECK120033736</sbol:displayId>
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ctttttctttc</sbol:elements>
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</sbol:Sequence>

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</sbol:Sequence>

<sbol:displayId>BBa_R0064</sbol:displayId>
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<sbol:encoding rdf:resource="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/misc/naseq.html"/>
</sbol:Sequence>

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</sbol:Sequence>

<sbol:displayId>BBa_C0040</sbol:displayId>
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<sbol:encoding rdf:resource="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/misc/naseq.html"/>
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<sbol:encoding rdf:resource="http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/misc/naseq.html"/>
</sbol:Sequence>