

# Data Structure Definition

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## Discussion

A Data Structure Definition describes the expected structure, meaning, and constraints of a class of information. It defines the reusable model that governs one or more Data Structure Instances.

A Data Structure Definition may identify required fields, optional fields, field meanings, permitted data types, constraints, identifiers, timestamps, provenance references, lifecycle values, or other structural and semantic expectations.

A Data Structure Definition exists at the conceptual level. Later parts may realise it as an IDL structure, a JSON Schema definition, an XML Schema definition, a UML class, a SysML block, a database schema, a message schema, an ontology class, or another formal structure.

## Definition

*description of the structure, meaning, and constraints of a class of information*

## Source

Adapted from FX Demo Reference Architecture, Section 2.1.3, Data Structure Definition; aligned with SIP-RA separation of data, structure, semantics, and interpretation.

## Note

A Data Structure Definition is not a Data Structure Instance, Communication Endpoint, DDS Topic, database table, file, or message.

## Example

A later FX profile may define a CashFlowObligation structure that identifies the fields, meanings, and constraints for cash-flow obligation records.

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