

# - Open Vulnerability and Assessment Language - Element Dictionary

- Schema: Core Variable
- Version: 5.2
- Release Date: 31 January 2007

The following is a description of the elements, types, and attributes that compose the core schema for encoding Open Vulnerability and Assessment Language (OVAL) Variables. This schema provided to give structure to any external variables and their values that an OVAL definition is expecting.

The OVAL Schema is maintained by The MITRE Corporation and developed by the public OVAL Community. For more information, including how to get involved in the project and how to submit change requests, please visit the OVAL website at <http://oval.mitre.org>.

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## < oval\_variables >

The `oval_variables` element is the root of an OVAL Variable Document. Its purpose is to bind together the different variables contained in the document. The generator section must be present and provides information about when the variable file was compiled and under what version. The optional Signature element allows an XML Signature as defined by the W3C to be attached to the document. This allows authentication and data integrity to be provided to the user. Enveloped signatures are supported. More information about the official W3C Recommendation regarding XML digital signatures can be found at <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlsig-core/>.

Child Elements	Type	MinOccurs	MaxOccurs
generator	oval:GeneratorType	1	1
variables	<a href="#">oval-var:VariablesType</a>	0	1
ds:Signature	n/a	0	1

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## == VariablesType ==

The `VariablesType` complex type is a container for one or more variable elements. Each variable element holds the value of an external variable used in an OVAL Definition. Please refer to the description of the `VariableType` for more information about an individual variable.

Child Elements	Type	MinOccurs	MaxOccurs
variable	<a href="#">oval-var:VariableType</a>	1	unbounded

## == VariableType ==

Each variable element contains the associated datatype and value which will be substituted into the OVAL Definition that is referencing this specific variable.

**Attributes:**

- 
- id            oval:VariableIDPattern            (required)
  - datatype    oval:DatatypeEnumeration           (required)
  - comment    xsd:string                            (required)

<b>Child Elements</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>MinOccurs</b>	<b>MaxOccurs</b>
value	xsd:anySimpleType	1	unbounded