

# JSONPath

November 10 (Wednesday), 12:00–14:00 UTC  
(13:00–15:00 CET, 04:00–06:00 PST)

# #127

Should we provide for structured types in containable?  
#127

Sub-issues:

- value notation for structured types
- comparison semantics for structured types

## value notation for structured types...

containable = path / ; path to primitive value  
              number /  
              string-literal  
container = path / ; resolves to array  
              array-literal

; array-literal UNDEFINED

cf.:

comparable = number / string-literal / ; primitive ...  
              true / false / null / ; values only  
              path ; path value

## **...value notation for structured types**

Cannot just copy JSON, as we have different syntax ('a'...)

Allow path in array/object constructor?  
(Proposal: if we do this at all, yes.)

## **comparison semantics for structured types**

Would need to write up the obvious.

## #127 Resolution?

#120 says "(From 2012-09-17 interim:)  
So we would have syntax for array literals composed of primitive values only (subset of JSON array literals); other JSON array literals cause a syntax error."

Did we change our mind?

# #124

JsonInclude Processing Extension #124

Proposal: Not in base RFC.

# #123

Is absent equal to absent? #123

Proposal: empty nodelist converts to "undefined" in comparison (i.e., yes!)

Underlying assumption: The domain/range of expression language constructs is not limited to JSON values

# #122

Nodeslists on RHS of in-op #122

```
@.color in $..allowed_color
```

Assumption: The semantics of "in" is based on that for "==", just scanning the RHS array.

Of course there is the more general problem what a nodelist with more than one entry means for comparison:

```
@.color == $..allowed_color
```

# #120

regex-expr and contain-expr are missing lhs #120  
(they no longer are)

```
regex-expr    = (path / string-literal) S regex-op S regex
contain-expr  = containable in-op container
containable   = path / ; path to primitive value
               number / string-literal
```

Note that this is missing false/null/true -- OK?

# #119

Semantics of `@.foo` as a standalone expression  
(truthiness) #119

Proposal: In a boolean context (filter expression, `!`, `&&/||`),  
a path converts to `false` if `nodelist` empty, `true` otherwise

- (1) we have no other existence test
- (2) gets rid of "truthiness" weirdnesses

# #118

key missing vs key present with null #118

This is the same thing again.

Confusion: Direct conversion to Boolean (existence of node) vs. comparison (extracts value from node)

# #117

Normalization #117 (Unicode)

read <https://www.w3.org/TR/charmod-norm/>

[https://cбургmer.github.io/json-path-comparison/results/filter\\_expression\\_with\\_equals\\_string\\_in\\_NFC.html](https://cбургmer.github.io/json-path-comparison/results/filter_expression_with_equals_string_in_NFC.html)  
(Mot\u00f6rhead and Moto\u0308rhead), consensus seems to be to not normalize.

Proposal: Byte string comparison (~ code point sequences)

Could add normalizing comparison, indexing[!]?

# ##109

filtering w/o child selection #109

# #103 (closed)

Partial determinism of the descendant selector (..) #103

Proposal: stick with

B. Require .. to visit arrays in array order and visit nodes before their descendants

(Obviously, "objects" are unordered in JSON, so there is the non-determinism)

→ PR #134 (merged)

Continue at #23

(See also #27, #60)

# #95

ER - Provide syntax for returning a specific number of filtered elements #95

Proposal: Keep pagination in the APIs to JSONPath, not in the actual JSONPath expressions



"Index-selection query" in bracket notation #93

Not sure we have a proposal yet.

#92

bracket notation #92

(No idea if there is anything left from this discussion)  
Proposal: close.



What do we want our RFC to do? #78

Discussion item.  
Proposal: close.

# #70

Regular expressions in filters #70

Already decided: RE literals only, no compute.

- Select (define) one regular expression flavor
- Provide a way to plug in regular expressions
- Not in base RFC (but keep an extension point)

## **select one regular expression flavor**

No implementation consensus.

So we get to choose.

Principle of least surprise vs. interoperability

Parsing/searching REs vs. matching REs

- Select **a version of** ECMAScript (parsing/searching RE)
- Select W3C XSD RE (matching RE)
- Build "modest subset" (e.g., iregexp)



Examples Appendix #69

Yeah, should make one, when we have time...

# #67

Differentiation from JSON Pointer #67

Write a passage contrasting JSONPath to JSON Pointer.  
Placeholder already in Intro.

Need to write text, with suggestions from Mark Nottingham and Carsten Bormann  
(See also #44)

# #64

## Filter Expressions #64

This is another issue that rehashes just about everything. Filter expressions work on arrays and objects. Editorial work needed.

# #63

Respect Implementations #63

Discussion item.  
Proposal: close.

# #62

## Error Handling #62

Discussion item; records consensus that there are no runtime errors (just failed matches), i.e., the error behavior of a JSONPath expression is data-independent. Implemented in Section 3.1.  
Proposal: Close.

# #61

## Array Slice Operator #61

Originally raised `::0`, which is now decided in 3.5.6. Proponents of this issue should read that closely and close the issue unless there is one.



Relative paths support #59

OBE -- can we close?

# #58

A "General Considerations" section #58

Dump of text from [json-schema.org](https://json-schema.org) drafts; mostly OBE. Contains a definition of a "modest subset" of ECMAScript REs (which requires the insertion of anchors), which probably needs some fixing.  
Proposal: close.

# #55

WoT discovery, geolocation, and JSON pointers #55

Actual user requirements, for once.

(With some confusion about where JSON pointers go in a URI, clarified).

Proposal: get updated info; make sure we meet these requirements.

# #53

Hello Issue #53

Discussion item, now mostly OBE.  
Proposal: close.

# #49

Proposal - Selecting a subset of an object's properties  
#49

Interesting syntax proposal for  
~ relational algebra projection as in SELECT x, y...

Resolution was: "jsonpath selects and doesn't transform"  
Proposal: close

# #44

Including value locations in output #44

Turned into an interesting discussion of JSON Pointer, which should be reflected in the resolution of #67

# #37

Scrap or apply RFC 2119 language #37

Resolution:

Like soy sauce, BCP 14 (RFC2119+RFC8174) language is an essential addition, but only works well if applied sparingly. [...] a continuing task during editing of this document.

Proposal: Close (but keep in mind).

# #25

Security items #25

Discussion item.

Proposal: Write the Security Considerations section, close this.

# #23

Duplicates in selector output #23

Discussion confused by the lack of distinction between duplicate **values** and duplicate **nodes**.

Pretty clear that we don't remove duplicate **values**.

PR #134 makes it less attractive to remove duplicate **nodes**.

Proposal: Don't.

# #21

"Union" could have more description, and maybe a new name #21

Discussion item without much discussion.

Proposal: close.

# #88, #59, #17, #15, #14

label:"overtaken by events -- can we close this now?"

Please check, and then:

Proposal: close.

Unions revisited #88

Relative paths support #59

Query expression language support #17

Selector definitions (basically an analysis and description of the DSL) #15

Define an algorithm #14