#### decimalSymbol (Radix Point for Field Code Evaluation)

This element specifies the character that shall be interpreted as the radix point when evaluating the contents of all fields in the current document.

[Rationale: When evaluating field instructions based on the contents of the current document, it is necessary to know the character which shall be treated as the radix point in order to prevent changes to the calculation of the same field instructions based on the current user's locale. This element stores the radix point which shall be used to evaluate fields in the contents of this document, irrespective of the locale of the application loading the file. end rationale]

If this element is omitted, the application shall use the default radix point of its current locale setting to evaluate field instructions. If this element's attribute value is more than a single character, then the document is non-conformant.

[Example: Consider a WordprocessingML document which should use the comma character as the radix point for all field instructions. This requirement is specified using the following WordprocessingML in the document settings:

<w:decimalSymbol w:val="," />

The decimalSymbol element's val attribute has a value of , specifying that the comma character shall be interpreted as the radix point.

For instance, the string 12.345,00 would be interpreted as a numeric value of twelve thousand three hundred and forty five. If the decimalSymbol was a period, the same string would be twelve and three hundred and forty five thousandths. end example]

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| Parent Elements |
| settings (§) |

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| Attributes | Description |
| val (String Value) | Specifies that its contents will contain a string.The contents of this string are interpreted based on the context of the parent [XML](XML.docx) element.[Example: Consider the following WordprocessingML fragment:<w:[pPr](pPr.docx)> <w:[pStyle](pStyle.docx) w:val="heading1" /> </w:[pPr](pPr.docx)>The value of the val attribute is the ID of the associated paragraph style's styleId. However, consider the following fragment:<w:[sdtPr](sdtPr.docx)> <w:[alias](alias.docx) w:val="SDT Title Example" /> ...</w:[sdtPr](sdtPr.docx)>In this case, the decimal number in the val attribute is the [caption](caption.docx) of the parent structured document tag. In each case, the value is interpreted in the context of the parent element. end example]The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_String](ST_String.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

The following [XML](XML.docx) Schema fragment defines the contents of this element:

<complexType [name](name.docx)="CT\_String">

 <attribute [name](name.docx)="val" [type](type.docx)="[ST\_String](ST_String.docx)" use="required"/>

</complexType>