2.1. SPECIFICATION OF THE STAR FILE

```
<SC_bounded_string> ::=
    <char>* <terminate> <line_of_text>*
```

The string bounded by square brackets can consist of any character including `<terminate>` and `<blank>`, and excluding the characters [and] unless they are escaped or are balanced.

```
<SB_bounded_string> ::= { <not_an_S_bracket>
                        | '\\' '[' | '\\' ']'
                        | <terminate>
                        | <SB_bounded_string> }*
```

The development of the STAR File, and particularly its application to crystallographic data, involved many people. The major contributions are acknowledged in the references below and other chapters in this volume. We name here only contributors who are not listed elsewhere in STAR-related publications. Particular thanks are due to Richard Goddard, Ted Maslen, Andre Authier, Philip Coppens, Jim King, Mike Dacombe, Peter Strickland, Mike Hoyland and George Sheldrick for their interest, support and commitment during the development of the STAR File concepts and its applications to crystallography.

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