INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Management of terminology resources — Data category specifications

Gestion des ressources terminologiques — Spécifications des catégories de données

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Language and terminology*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Management of terminology resources*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 12620:2009), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows.

ISO 12620:2009, *Terminology and other language and content resources — Specification of data categories and management of a Data Category Registry for language resources*, described a data model and management features for a Data Category Registry designed for the purpose of standardizing data category specifications. The current edition of ISO 12620 has been streamlined to eliminate the standardization function previously built into the data model. It describes requirements for maintaining a consensus-based, industry-appropriate repository of harmonized data category specifications for use in language resources.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Data associated with language resources are identified, collected, managed and stored in a wide variety of environments. Data appearing in language resources are generalized into classes that are referred to as *data categories*. Differences in approach for developing different kinds of language resources as well as differences in technical environments inevitably lead to variations in data category definitions and data category names. The use of uniform data category names and definitions employed in resources within the same linguistic domain (for example, among terminological resources, lexicographical resources, annotated text corpora, etc.) contributes to system coherence and enhances the re-usability of data. Such uniform use requires access to formal data category specifications. Defining a clear framework for specifying, managing and using data categories will increase interoperability of language resources.

Management of terminology resources — Data category specifications

1 Scope

This document provides guidelines and requirements governing data category specifications for language resources. It specifies mechanisms for creating, documenting, harmonizing and maintaining data category specifications in a data category repository. It also describes the structure and content of data category specifications. The intended audience of this document is researchers and practitioners in fields of language resource management who use data categories and data category specifications.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 24619, *Language resource management — Persistent identification and sustainable access (PISA)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
conceptual domain
permissible content of a *data category* (3.2)

EXAMPLE   In a terminology database, the data category /part of speech/ could have a conceptual domain consisting of the values: /noun/, /verb/, /adjective/, /adverb/.

Note 1 to entry: The permissible content can be enumerated (such as in a pick list), as in the example, or subject to formal restrictions such as dates, or free text such as the conceptual domain of /definition/. Although the latter type is not formally restricted, it is nevertheless subject to adherence to the requirements of its data category specification, i.e., it contains a true definition and not a note, example, or some other piece of information.

3.1.1
open conceptual domain
conceptual domain (3.1) that has no formal restrictions

Note 1 to entry: An open conceptual domain is frequently associated with data categories that take free text as their content, such as /definition/.

Note 2 to entry: Some requirements are not machine processable, for instance, to require that /definition/ only contain definitional information.

3.1.2
closed conceptual domain
conceptual domain (3.1) that is restricted to a set of enumerated values

EXAMPLE   The data category /grammatical gender/ can have a conceptual domain consisting of the values