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Geographic information — Rules for application schema

Information géographique — Règles de schéma d'application



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ISO copyright office
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
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Contents

	Page
Foreword	vi
Introduction	vii
1 Scope	1
2 Conformance	1
2.1 General.....	1
2.2 Meta-model.....	1
2.3 UML application schema.....	2
2.4 Profiling standard schema.....	2
2.5 Metadata.....	2
2.6 Quality.....	2
2.7 Temporal.....	2
2.8 Spatial.....	3
2.9 Coverages.....	3
2.10 Observations.....	3
2.11 Spatial referencing by identifiers.....	3
2.12 Code list.....	3
2.13 Multi-lingual support.....	4
3 Normative references	4
4 Terms and definitions	4
5 Presentation and abbreviations	7
5.1 Presentation.....	7
5.1.1 General.....	7
5.1.2 Conformance class.....	7
5.1.3 Requirements class.....	7
5.1.4 Rules.....	7
5.1.5 Identifiers.....	8
5.1.6 Conceptual schemas.....	8
5.1.7 Descriptions of concepts.....	8
5.2 Abbreviations.....	8
5.3 Package abbreviations.....	8
6 Context	9
6.1 Purpose of an application schema.....	9
6.2 Rules for application schema.....	9
6.3 Application schema supporting data interchange.....	10
6.3.1 Introduction.....	10
6.3.2 Data interchange by transfer.....	10
6.3.3 Data interchange by transactions.....	11
7 Principles for defining features	12
7.1 General.....	12
7.2 Features, Coverages and Properties.....	13
7.2.1 Features.....	13
7.2.2 Coverages.....	13
7.2.3 Properties and observations.....	14
7.3 Features and the application schema.....	14
7.4 The General Feature Model.....	16
7.4.1 Introduction.....	16
7.4.2 The purpose of the GFM.....	16
7.4.3 The main structure of the GFM.....	16
7.4.4 IdentifiedType.....	18
7.4.5 FeatureType.....	18
7.4.6 PropertyType.....	19
7.4.7 AttributeType.....	19

7.4.8	Operation.....	20
7.4.9	FeatureAssociationRole.....	21
7.4.10	ValueAssignment.....	21
7.4.11	FeatureAssociationType.....	23
7.4.12	InheritanceRelation.....	23
7.5	Attributes of feature types.....	24
7.5.1	Introduction.....	24
7.5.2	SpatialAttributeType.....	24
7.5.3	TemporalAttributeType.....	24
7.5.4	QualityAttributeType.....	25
7.5.5	LocationAttributeType.....	25
7.5.6	MetadataAttributeType.....	25
7.5.7	ThematicAttributeType.....	25
7.5.8	CoverageFunctionAttributeType.....	25
7.6	Relationships between feature types.....	25
7.6.1	Introduction.....	25
7.6.2	InheritanceRelation.....	25
7.6.3	FeatureAssociationType.....	26
7.7	Constraints.....	27
8	Rules for application schema in UML.....	27
8.1	The application modelling process.....	27
8.2	The application schema.....	28
8.2.1	General.....	28
8.2.2	Conceptual schema language for application schemas.....	28
8.2.3	Packaging and identification of an application schema.....	30
8.2.4	Documentation of an application schema.....	30
8.2.5	Integration of application schemas and standard schemas.....	30
8.2.6	Modelling structures in UML.....	32
8.3	Domain profiles of standard schemas in UML.....	37
8.3.1	Introduction.....	37
8.3.2	Adding information to a standard schema.....	37
8.3.3	Tailored use of standard schemas.....	38
8.4	Rules for use of metadata schema.....	39
8.4.1	Introduction.....	39
8.4.2	Metadata for features, feature attributes, and feature associations.....	40
8.5	Rules for use of quality schema.....	40
8.5.1	Introduction.....	40
8.5.2	Data quality rules.....	41
8.6	Temporal rules.....	44
8.6.1	Rules for modelling applications with temporal properties.....	44
8.6.2	Use of the temporal conceptual schema.....	44
8.6.3	Temporal attributes.....	44
8.6.4	Temporal associations between features.....	46
8.7	Spatial rules.....	48
8.7.1	Rules for modelling applications with spatial properties.....	48
8.7.2	Use of standard spatial schema.....	49
8.7.3	Spatial attributes.....	50
8.7.4	Use of geometric aggregates and spatial complexes to represent the values of spatial attributes of features.....	51
8.7.5	Spatial associations between features.....	55
8.7.6	Features sharing geometry.....	57
8.7.7	Point features, line features and area features.....	58
8.7.8	Defining interpolation methods.....	58
8.7.9	Independent spatial complexes.....	59
8.8	Rules for use of coverage functions.....	61
8.9	Rules for the use of observations.....	63
8.10	Spatial referencing using geographic identifiers.....	66
8.11	Code lists, vocabularies, lexicons.....	68

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8.12 Linguistic adaptation.....	69
Annex A (normative) Abstract test suite.....	70
Annex B (informative) The modelling approach and the General Feature Model.....	82
Annex C (informative) Application schema examples.....	85
Bibliography.....	91

Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 211, *Geographic information/Geomatics*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 19109:2005).

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Introduction

Any description of reality is always an abstraction, always partial, and always just one of many possible "views", depending on the application field.

The widespread application of computers and geographic information systems (GIS) has led to an increased use of geographic data within multiple disciplines. With current technology as an enabler, society's reliance on such data is growing. Geographic datasets are increasingly being shared and exchanged. They are also used for purposes other than those for which they were produced.

To ensure that data will be understood by both computer systems and users, the data structures for data access and exchange must be fully documented. The interfaces between systems, therefore, need to be defined with respect to data and operations, using the methods standardized in this International Standard. For the construction of internal software and data storage within proprietary systems, any method may be used that enables the standardized interfaces to be supported.

An application schema provides the formal description of the data structure and content required by one or more applications. An application schema contains the descriptions of both geographic data and other related data. A fundamental concept of geographic data is the feature.