
Information technology — Topic Maps — Constraint Language (TMCL)

*Technologies de l'information — Plans relatifs à des sujets —
Contraintes de langage (TMCL)*



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

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Introduction

TMCL is a constraint language for Topic Maps, allowing definitions of Topic Maps schemas to be written in a precise and machine-readable form. This makes it possible to validate a topic map against a TMCL schema to see if it conforms to the constraints in the schema, and also enables other uses, such as schema-driven editors, object mappings, and so on.

TMCL is defined as a Topic Maps vocabulary consisting of a number of topic, association, occurrence, and role types, identified by Published Subject Identifiers (PSIs), and defined using English prose. TMCL defines the concept of validation, by which a given topic map is valid according to a schema if it conforms to all the constraints in that schema and a number of global validation rules which apply to all topic maps independent of schema.

TMCL does not have any syntax of its own, since it is defined simply as a Topic Maps vocabulary. However, a number of CTM templates are defined in this International Standard in order to facilitate authoring of TMCL schemas using CTM.

Information technology — Topic Maps — Constraint Language (TMCL)

1 Scope

This International Standard defines a Topic Maps vocabulary for representing constraints on Topic Maps instance data and CTM templates for authoring TMCL schemas.

It does not define a syntax for representing constraints on Topic Maps instance data.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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.

NOTE Each of the following documents has a unique identifier that is used to cite the document in the text. The unique identifier consists of the part of the reference up to the first comma.

ISO/IEC 13250-2:2006, *Information technology — Topic Maps — Part 2: Data model*

ISO/IEC 18048, *Information technology — SGML applications — Topic Map Query Language (TMQL)*¹⁾

ISO/IEC 13250-6, *Information technology — Topic Maps — Part 6: Compact syntax*

XML Schema-2, *XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes Second Edition*, W3C Recommendation, 28 October 2004, available at <<http://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xmlschema-2-20041028/>>

1) To be published