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Terminology work and terminology science — Vocabulary

Travail terminologique et science de la terminologie — Vocabulaire

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Contents

Page

Foreword

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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).

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For an explanation of 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Language and Terminology*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Principles and methods*.

This document cancels and replaces ISO 1087-1:2000, which has been technically revised.

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

— most of the terminological entries have been reviewed to reflect the current state of the art;

— some terminological entries from the former ISO 1087-2:2000 (withdrawn) have been incorporated.

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

The main purpose of this document is to provide a systematic description of the concepts related to terminology work and terminology science and to clarify the use of the terms in this field. This document is addressed to anyone involved in terminology work. In particular, its target group comprises standardizers, terminologists, other individuals involved in terminology work, terminology users as well as researchers and professionals dealing with terminology science and/or natural language processing.

The terminological entries in this document are listed in a systematic order under a number of general headings.

The layout follows the directions given in ISO 10241-1. Thus, the elements of an entry appear in the following order:

— entry number

— preferred term(s)

— admitted term(s)

— abbreviated form(s)

— definition

— example(s)

— note(s)

The terminological entries hereunder have been formatted according to ISO 10241-1, which stipulates the current ISO rules for the presentation of terminology standards. Specifically, in the examples and notes in this document, terms (including appellations) and proper names are indicated by double quotation marks, whereas objects, concepts, properties, characteristics, and types of characteristics are indicated by single quotation marks. This markup is intended to facilitate the distinction between references to the three terminological levels and other text throughout this document.

This new revision of ISO 1087 has been prepared in accordance with the principles and methods of terminology work described in ISO 704:2009.

The alphabetical index includes preferred and admitted terms.

Annex A gives concept diagrams and concept models that illustrate the relations between concepts described in the various entries of Clause 3.

It should be noted that most examples are specific to the English language in the English version and to the French language in the French version.

Terminology work and terminology science — Vocabulary

1 Scope

This document establishes basic terms and definitions for terminology work and terminology science. It does not include terms and definitions that are specific to computer applications in terminology work.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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 Reality and language

3.1.1
object
anything perceivable or conceivable

Note 1 to entry: Objects can be material (e.g. 'engine', 'sheet of paper', 'diamond'), immaterial (e.g. 'conversion ratio', 'project plan') or imagined (e.g. 'unicorn', 'scientific hypothesis').

3.1.2
extension
set of all of the *objects* (3.1.1) to which a *concept* (3.2.7) corresponds

3.1.3
property
feature of an *object* (3.1.1)

EXAMPLE 1 'Being made of wood' as a property of a given 'table'.

EXAMPLE 2 'Belonging to person A' as a property of a given 'pet'.

EXAMPLE 3 'Having been formulated by Einstein' as a property of the equation '$E = mc^2$'.

EXAMPLE 4 'Being compassionate' as a property of a given 'person'.

EXAMPLE 5 'Having a given cable' as a property of a given 'computer mouse'.

Note 1 to entry: One or more objects can have the same property.

3.1.4
domain
subject field
field of special knowledge

Note 1 to entry: The borderlines and the granularity of a domain are determined from a purpose-related point of view. If a domain is subdivided, the result is again a domain.

[SOURCE: ISO 10241-1:2011, 3.3.1, modified — Note 1 to entry and Note 3 to entry have been merged; Note 2 to entry and Note 4 to entry have been omitted.]

3.1.5
subject
area of interest or expertise

3.1.6
language
system of sounds, characters, *symbols* (3.4.5) used for communication

[SOURCE: ISO 18841:2018, 3.4.1, modified — The wording "or signs" has been deleted.]

3.1.7
natural language
language (3.1.6) that is or was in active use in a community of people, and the rules of which are mainly deduced from usage

[SOURCE: ISO 5127:2017, 3.1.5.2, modified — Note 1 to entry not included.]

3.1.8
general language
natural language (3.1.7) characterized by the use of linguistic means of expression independent of any specific *domain* (3.1.4)

3.1.9
special language
language for special purposes
language for specific purposes
LSP
natural language (3.1.7) used in communication between experts in a *domain* (3.1.4) and characterized by the use of specific linguistic means of expression

Note 1 to entry: The specific linguistic means of expression always include domain-specific *terminology* (3.1.11) and phraseology and also can cover stylistic or syntactic features.

3.1.10
formal language
language (3.1.6) whose rules are explicitly established before its use

EXAMPLE Web Ontology Language (OWL).

Note 1 to entry: The purpose of formal language is to assure exact communication of information.

[SOURCE: ISO 24156-1:2014, 3.6]

3.1.11
terminology
set of *designations* (3.4.1) and *concepts* (3.2.7) belonging to one *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5)

3.1.12
terminology science
terminology studies
science studying *terminologies* (3.1.11), aspects of *terminology work* (3.5.1), the resulting *terminology resources* (3.7.1), and *terminological data* (3.6.1)

3.2 Concepts

3.2.1
characteristic
abstraction of a *property* (3.1.3)

EXAMPLE 'Having a cable for connecting with a computer' as a characteristic of the concept 'cord mouse'.

Note 1 to entry: Characteristics are used for describing *concepts* (3.2.7).

3.2.2
type of characteristic
category of *characteristics* (3.2.1) that are grouped for the purposes of terminological analysis

EXAMPLE 1 For the *concept* (3.2.7) 'safety sign' according to ISO 3864-1:2011, 3.12, 'geometric shape' is a type of characteristic. It includes *characteristics* (3.2.1) such as 'circle' and 'square'.

EXAMPLE 2 For the *concept* (3.2.7) 'computer mouse', 'computer connection' is a type of characteristic. It includes *characteristics* (3.2.1) such as 'having a cable' and 'using wireless technology'.

3.2.3
essential characteristic
characteristic (3.2.1) of a *concept* (3.2.7) that is indispensable to understand that concept

3.2.4
non-essential characteristic
characteristic (3.2.1) of a *concept* (3.2.7) that is not indispensable to understand that concept

EXAMPLE For defining the *concept* (3.2.7) 'traffic light', the colour 'red', 'green' or 'amber' is an *essential characteristic* (3.2.3), while for defining the *concept* 'computer mouse', the colour (e.g. 'ivory', 'blue' or 'red') is a non-essential characteristic.

3.2.5
delimiting characteristic
essential characteristic (3.2.3) used for distinguishing a *concept* (3.2.7) from related concepts

EXAMPLE The delimiting characteristic 'support for the back' may be used for distinguishing the *concepts* (3.2.7) 'stool' and 'chair'.

3.2.6
intension
set of *characteristics* (3.2.1) that make up a *concept* (3.2.7)

3.2.7
concept
unit of knowledge created by a unique combination of *characteristics* (3.2.1)

Note 1 to entry: Concepts are not necessarily bound to particular *natural languages* (3.1.7). They are, however, influenced by the social or cultural background which often leads to different categorizations.

Note 2 to entry: This is the concept 'concept' as used and designated by the term "concept" in *terminology work* (3.5.1). It is a very different concept from that designated by other domains such as industrial automation or marketing.

3.2.8
individual concept
concept (3.2.7) that corresponds to a unique *object* (3.1.1)

EXAMPLE 'Saturn', 'Eiffel Tower', 'Moon', 'serial number FRHR603928', '2016 Nobel Prize in Physics'.

Note 1 to entry: Individual concepts are represented by *proper names* (3.4.4).

3.2.9
general concept
concept (3.2.7) that corresponds to a potentially unlimited number of *objects* (3.1.1) which form a group by reason of shared *properties* (3.1.3)

EXAMPLE 'planet', 'tower', 'Nobel Prize in Physics', 'moon'.

Note 1 to entry: For a general concept it is essential that a number of corresponding objects greater than 1 can be perceived or conceived of. For example 'spaceship' has been a general concept before such a material object existed, at the time when there existed only 1 such object, and later, when there existed several such objects.

3.2.10
concept field
unstructured set of *concepts* (3.2.7) belonging to the same *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5)

3.2.11
concept relation
relation between *concepts* (3.2.7)

3.2.12
hierarchical relation
hierarchical concept relation
generic relation (3.2.13) or *partitive relation* (3.2.14)

3.2.13
generic relation
generic concept relation
genus-species relation
concept relation (3.2.11) between a *generic concept* (3.2.19) and a *specific concept* (3.2.20) where the *intension* (3.2.6) of the *specific concept* (3.2.20) includes the intension of the *generic concept* (3.2.19) plus at least one additional *delimiting characteristic* (3.2.5)

EXAMPLE A generic relation exists between the *concepts* (3.2.7) 'word' and 'noun', 'vehicle' and 'car', and 'person' and 'child'.

Note 1 to entry: Outside the terminology community, "type-of relation" and "is-a relation" are also used instead of "generic relation".

Note 2 to entry: In a generic relation the *subordinate concept* (3.2.16) is a *specific concept* (3.2.20) and the *superordinate concept* (3.2.15) is a *generic concept* (3.2.19).

3.2.14
partitive relation
partitive concept relation
part-whole relation
part-of relation
concept relation (3.2.11) between a *comprehensive concept* (3.2.21) and a *partitive concept* (3.2.22)

EXAMPLE A partitive relation exists between the *concepts* (3.2.7) 'bicycle' and 'wheel', 'molecule' and 'atom'.

3.2.15
superordinate concept
broader concept
generic concept (3.2.19) or *comprehensive concept* (3.2.21)

EXAMPLE 'furniture' is a superordinate concept to 'table' and 'chair' in a *generic relation* (3.2.13); 'tree' is a superordinate concept to 'root' or 'branch' in a *partitive relation* (3.2.14).

3.2.16
subordinate concept
narrower concept
specific concept (3.2.20) or *partitive concept* (3.2.22)

EXAMPLE 'table' is a subordinate concept to 'furniture' in a *generic relation* (3.2.13); the concept 'root' is a subordinate concept to 'tree' in a *partitive relation* (3.2.14).

3.2.17
criterion of subdivision
subdivision criterion
type of characteristic (3.2.2) according to which a *superordinate concept* (3.2.15) is divided into *subordinate concepts* (3.2.16)

EXAMPLE 1 For the *concept system* (3.2.28) 'safety sign' according to ISO 3864-1:2011, 5, Table 1, the *type of characteristic* (3.2.2) 'geometric shape' is used as a criterion of subdivision to divide the *generic concept* (3.2.19) 'safety sign' into *specific concepts* (3.2.20) such as 'mandatory action sign' and 'safe condition sign'.

EXAMPLE 2 For the *concept system* (3.2.28) 'computer mouse' according to ISO 704:2009, 5.5.2.2.1, Example 4 the *type of characteristic* (3.2.2) 'computer connection' is used as a criterion of subdivision to divide the *generic concept* (3.2.19) 'computer mouse' into *specific concepts* (3.2.20) such as 'cord mouse' and 'cordless mouse'.

EXAMPLE 3 For the *concept system* (3.2.28) 'computer' the *type of characteristic* (3.2.2) 'function' is used as a criterion of subdivision to divide the *comprehensive concept* (3.2.21) 'computer' into *partitive concepts* (3.2.22) such as 'main board', 'display adapter', 'power supply', 'storage device' and 'input device'.

3.2.18
coordinate concept
subordinate concept (3.2.16) resulting from the same *criterion of subdivision* (3.2.17) as another *subordinate concept* (3.2.16)

EXAMPLE Applying 'layer of clothing' as a *criterion of subdivision* (3.2.17) to 'clothing' yields 'outerwear' and 'underwear' as *specific concepts* (3.2.20). These concepts are coordinate concepts in relation to their *generic concept* (3.2.19) 'clothing'.

Note 1 to entry: Coordinate concepts have the same immediate *superordinate concept* (3.2.15).

3.2.19
generic concept
concept (3.2.7) in a *generic relation* (3.2.13) that has the narrower *intension* (3.2.6)

EXAMPLE In relation to 'electronic signature', 'signature' is a generic concept.

3.2.20
specific concept
concept (3.2.7) in a *generic relation* (3.2.13) that has the broader *intension* (3.2.6)

EXAMPLE In relation to 'signature', 'electronic signature' is a specific concept.

3.2.21
comprehensive concept
concept (3.2.7) in a *partitive relation* (3.2.14) that is viewed as a whole consisting of various parts

EXAMPLE In relation to 'pedal', 'bicycle' is a comprehensive concept.

Note 1 to entry: A comprehensive concept is viewed as a whole consisting of parts, which are the corresponding *partitive concepts* (3.2.22).

3.2.22
partitive concept
concept (3.2.7) in a *partitive relation* (3.2.14) that is viewed as a part of a whole

EXAMPLE In relation to 'bicycle', 'pedal' is a partitive concept.

Note 1 to entry: The partitive concept is viewed as one of the parts constituting the whole of a *comprehensive concept* (3.2.21).

3.2.23
associative relation
associative concept relation
pragmatic relation
non-hierarchical *concept relation* (3.2.11)

EXAMPLE An associative relation exists between the *concepts* (3.2.7) 'education' and 'teaching'.

3.2.24
sequential relation
associative relation (3.2.23) by which *concepts* (3.2.7) can be ordered by a relevant ordering criterion

Note 1 to entry: Sequential relations are usually based on *spatial relations* (3.2.25), *temporal relations* (3.2.26) or *causal relations* (3.2.27).

3.2.25
spatial relation
sequential relation (3.2.24) based on the criterion of relative location in space

EXAMPLE A spatial relation exists between the *concepts* (3.2.7) 'floor' and 'ceiling'.

3.2.26
temporal relation
sequential relation (3.2.24) based on the criterion of following or preceding in time

EXAMPLE A temporal relation exists between the *concepts* (3.2.7) 'production' and 'consumption'.

3.2.27
causal relation
cause-effect relation
sequential relation (3.2.24) based on the criterion of cause and its effect

EXAMPLE A causal relation exists between the *concepts* (3.2.7) 'action' and 'reaction', 'nuclear explosion' and 'fallout'.

3.2.28
concept system
system of concepts
set of *concepts* (3.2.7) structured in one or more related *domains* (3.1.4) according to the *concept relations* (3.2.11) among its concepts

3.2.29
concept diagram
graphic representation of a *concept system* (3.2.28)

3.2.30
concept model
concept diagram (3.2.29) formed by means of a *formal language* (3.1.10)

[SOURCE: ISO 24156-1:2014, 3.2]

3.3 Definitions

3.3.1
definition
representation of a *concept* (3.2.7) by an expression that describes it and differentiates it from related concepts

3.3.2
intensional definition
definition (3.3.1) that conveys the *intension* (3.2.6) of a *concept* (3.2.7) by stating the immediate *generic concept* (3.2.19) and the *delimiting characteristic(s)* (3.2.5)

EXAMPLE 1 optical mouse: computer mouse in which movements are detected by light sensors.

EXAMPLE 2 mechanical mouse: computer mouse in which movements are detected by rollers and a ball.

Note 1 to entry: Intensional definitions are preferable to other types of *definitions* (3.3.1) because they clearly reveal the *characteristics* (3.2.1) of a *concept* (3.2.7) within a *concept system* (3.2.28): they should be used whenever possible.

3.3.3
extensional definition
definition (3.3.1) that enumerates all the *subordinate concepts* (3.2.16) of a *superordinate concept* (3.2.15) under one *criterion of subdivision* (3.2.17)

3.3.4
generic extensional definition
extensional definition (3.3.3) that enumerates all the *specific concepts* (3.2.20) of a *generic concept* (3.2.19) under one *criterion of subdivision* (3.2.17) on the same hierarchical level

EXAMPLE Noble gas: helium, neon, argon, crypton, xenon or radon.

Note 1 to entry: A generic extensional definition is based on a *generic relation* (3.2.13), and the enumeration ends with the operator "or".

3.3.5
partitive extensional definition
extensional definition (3.3.3) that enumerates all the *partitive concepts* (3.2.22) of a *comprehensive concept* (3.2.21) on the same hierarchical level

EXAMPLE Family 18 in the Periodic Table: helium, neon, argon, crypton, xenon and radon.

Note 1 to entry: A partitive extensional definition is based on a *partitive relation* (3.2.26), and the enumeration ends with the operator "and".

3.4 Designations

3.4.1
designation
designator
representation of a *concept* (3.2.7) by a sign which denotes it in a *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5)

Note 1 to entry: A designation can be linguistic or non-linguistic. It can consist of various types of characters, but also punctuation marks such as hyphens and parentheses, governed by domain-, subject-, or language-specific conventions.

Note 2 to entry: A designation can be a *term* (3.4.2) including *appellations* (3.4.3), a *proper name* (3.4.4), or a *symbol* (3.4.5).

[SOURCE: ISO 10241-1:2011, 3.4.1.1.1, modified — Added "in a domain (3.1.4) or subject (3.1.5)" in the definition; order and content of Notes to entry changed.]

3.4.2
term
designation (3.4.1) that represents a *general concept* (3.2.9) by linguistic means

EXAMPLE "laser printer", "planet", "pacemaker", "chemical compound", "¾ time", "Influenza A virus", "oil painting".

Note 1 to entry: Terms may be partly or wholly verbal.

3.4.3
appellation
term (3.4.2) that is applied to a group of *objects* (3.1.1) whose relevant *properties* (3.1.3) are identical

EXAMPLE "Nokia 7 Plus®" (mobile phone), "Adobe® Acrobat® X Pro" (software), "Road King®" (motorcycle)[1].

3.4.4
proper name
designation (3.4.1) that represents an *individual concept* (3.2.8)

EXAMPLE "International Organization for Standardization", "IBM®"[2], "British Isles", "United Nations".

3.4.5
symbol
designation (3.4.1) that represents a *concept* (3.2.7) by non-linguistic means

Note 1 to entry: There are several types of symbols such as graphical symbols (ISO 3864, all parts) and letter symbols (ISO 80000, all parts).

3.4.6
simple term
term (3.4.2) that consists of a single word or lexical unit

EXAMPLE "sound", "light", "barrier", "accessory", "accessorize", "virus", "viral".

Note 1 to entry: Simple terms include *terms* (3.4.2) coined by *derivation* (3.4.38).

3.4.7
single-word term
simple term (3.4.6) that consists of one word

EXAMPLE "cherry", "ship", "iron", "barrier".

3.4.8
compound term
single-word term (3.4.7) that can be split morphologically into separate components

EXAMPLE "steamship", "blackbird", "afterbirth".

[SOURCE: ISO 25964-1:2011, 2.9, modified — Replaced Examples and deleted Note 1 to entry.]

3.4.9
complex term
term (3.4.2) that consists of more than one word or lexical unit

EXAMPLE "computer mouse", "fault recognition circuit".

3.4.10
multi-word term
complex term (3.4.9) that consists of more than one word

EXAMPLE "bird cherry", "bulk carrier ship", "steam and spray iron", "vegetative noise barrier".

Note 1 to entry: In particular *languages* (3.1.6) there may be a preference for spelling such terms as single words, or even a rule so stating.

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[SOURCE: ISO 25964-1:2011, 2.36, modified — Added “complex” before “term”, replaced EXAMPLES and added Note 1 to entry.]

3.4.11
borrowed term
term (3.4.2) taken from another *language* (3.1.6) or from another *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5)

EXAMPLE 1 The *term* (3.4.2) “virus” was originally used in biology and later transferred to information technology.

EXAMPLE 2 The English *term* (3.4.2) “internet” has been borrowed by many other languages.

3.4.12
new term
neonym
neoterm
terminological neologism
term (3.4.2) that is specifically coined for a given *general concept* (3.2.9)

EXAMPLE “smartwatch”.

Note 1 to entry: A new term may supersede an older *term* (3.4.2) or may designate a new *concept* (3.2.7).

3.4.13
blend
blended designation
designation (3.4.1) that is formed by clipping and combining two or more words

EXAMPLE “infotainment”, “cyberspace”, “quasar”.

3.4.14
abbreviation
abbreviated form
designation (3.4.1) that is formed by omitting parts from its full form and that represents the same *concept* (3.2.7)

Note 1 to entry: Abbreviations can be created by removing individual words, or can be *acronyms* (3.4.15), *initialisms* (3.4.16), or *clipped terms* (3.4.17).

3.4.15
acronym
abbreviation (3.4.14) that is made up of the initial letters of the components of the full form of a *term* (3.4.2) or *proper name* (3.4.4) or from syllables of the full form and that is pronounced syllabically

EXAMPLE “laser”, “ISO”, “GATT”, “UNESCO”, “UNICEF”.

3.4.16
initialism
abbreviation (3.4.14) that is made up of the initial letters of the components of the full form of a *term* (3.4.2) or *proper name* (3.4.4) or from syllables of the full form and that is pronounced letter by letter

EXAMPLE “UN”, “ASTM”, “IEC”, “US”, “EU”, “DNA”.

3.4.17
clipped term
abbreviation (3.4.14) that is made up of a truncated *term* (3.4.2)

EXAMPLE “vet school” (veterinarian school).

3.4.18
acceptability rating
rating that allows for *designations* (3.4.1) to be placed in order of preference as a guide to users

Note 1 to entry: The following ratings are common: *preferred term* (3.4.19), *admitted term* (3.4.20), *deprecated term* (3.4.21).

3.4.19
preferred term
term (3.4.2) rated according to the *acceptability rating* (3.4.18) as the primary term for a given *concept* (3.2.7)

EXAMPLE With regard to the *concept* (3.2.7) 'terminology science' the preferred term is "terminology science", whereas "terminology studies" is an *admitted term* (3.4.20), and "terminology" is a *deprecated term* (3.4.21).

Note 1 to entry: By analogy, "preferred" can also apply to *appellations* (3.4.3), *proper names* (3.4.4) and *symbols* (3.4.5).

3.4.20
admitted term
term (3.4.2) that is a synonym for a *preferred term* (3.4.19), but not rated according to the *acceptability rating* (3.4.18) scale as a preferred term

EXAMPLE With regard to the *concept* (3.2.7) 'terminology science' "terminology studies" is an *admitted term*, whereas "terminology science" is the *preferred term* (3.4.19), and "terminology" is a *deprecated term* (3.4.21).

Note 1 to entry: There can be more than one admitted term. By analogy, "admitted" can also apply to *appellations* (3.4.3), *proper names* (3.4.4) and *symbols* (3.4.5).

3.4.21
deprecated term
term (3.4.2) which is a synonym for a *preferred term* (3.4.19), but rated according to the *acceptability rating* (3.4.18) scale as undesired

EXAMPLE With regard to the *concept* (3.2.7) 'terminology science' "terminology" is a deprecated term, whereas "terminology science" is the *preferred term* (3.4.19), and "terminology studies" is an *admitted term* (3.4.20).

Note 1 to entry: There can be more than one deprecated term. By analogy, "deprecated" can also apply to *appellations* (3.4.3), *proper names* (3.4.4) and *symbols* (3.4.5).

3.4.22
obsolete term
term (3.4.2) which is no longer in common use

Note 1 to entry: By analogy, "obsolete" can also apply to *appellations* (3.4.3), *proper names* (3.4.4) and *symbols* (3.4.5).

3.4.23
synonymy
relation between *designations* (3.4.1) in a given *natural language* (3.1.7) representing the same *concept* (3.2.7)

EXAMPLE Synonymy exists between "deuterium" and "heavy hydrogen", between "United Nations" and "UN".

Note 1 to entry: Designations in the relation of synonymy are called "synonyms".

3.4.24
equivalence
relation between *designations* (3.4.1) in different *natural languages* (3.1.7) representing the same *concept* (3.2.7)

EXAMPLE The French *term* (3.4.2) "ordinateur" is an equivalent of the English term "computer".

Note 1 to entry: Designations in the relation of equivalence are called “equivalents”.

3.4.25
antonymy
relation between two *designations* (3.4.1) representing two *coordinate concepts* (3.2.18) viewed as opposites of each other

EXAMPLE Antonymy exists between the *terms* (3.4.2) “encoding” and “decoding”, “positive” and “negative”.

Note 1 to entry: *Designations* (3.4.1) in the relation of antonymy are called “antonyms”.

3.4.26
mononymy
relation in which a *concept* (3.2.7) is represented by only one *designation* (3.4.1)

Note 1 to entry: *Designations* (3.4.1) in the relation of mononymy are called “mononyms”.

3.4.27
monosemy
relation in which a *designation* (3.4.1) represents only one *concept* (3.2.7)

Note 1 to entry: Designations in the relation of monosemy are called “monosemes”.

3.4.28
polysemy
relation in which a *designation* (3.4.1) represents two or more related *concepts* (3.2.7)

EXAMPLE The *term* (3.4.2) “bridge” represents three *concepts* (3.2.7) that are related in form and/or function: 1) the concept ‘bridge’ corresponding to structures to carry traffic over a gap; 2) the concept ‘bridge’ corresponding to certain wooden parts of string instruments; 3) the concept ‘bridge’ corresponding to dental plates.

Note 1 to entry: Designations in the relation of polysemy are called “polysemes”.

3.4.29
homonymy
relation in which a *designation* (3.4.1) represents two or more unrelated *concepts* (3.2.7)

EXAMPLE The *term* (3.4.2) “bark” represents three unrelated *concepts* (3.2.7): 1) the concept ‘bark’ corresponding to certain vocal repertoires of dogs; 2) the concept ‘bark’ corresponding to the outside coverings of stems of woody plants; 3) the concept ‘bark’ corresponding to some sailing vessels.

Note 1 to entry: *Designations* (3.4.1) in the relation of homonymy are called “homonyms”.

3.4.30
terminologization
process by which a *general language* (3.1.8) word or lexical unit is being used more and more as a *term* (3.4.2) in a specific *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5)

3.4.31
term formation
terminology work (3.5.1) aimed at creating *new terms* (3.4.12) using one or more of a variety of methods

Note 1 to entry: Methods of term formation may among others include *transdisciplinary borrowing* (3.4.33), *translingual borrowing* (3.4.34), *loan translation* (3.4.35), *transliteration* (3.4.36), *transcription* (3.4.37), *derivation* (3.4.38), or *conversion* (3.4.39), the creation of *abbreviations* (3.4.14) or *blends* (3.4.13).

Note 2 to entry: By analogy, “term formation” can apply also to *appellations* (3.4.3), *proper names* (3.4.4) and *symbols* (3.4.5).

3.4.32
borrowing
method for the formation of *designations* (3.4.1) in which a designation is adopted from another *natural language* (3.1.7) or another *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5)

3.4.33
transdisciplinary borrowing
borrowing (3.4.32) from another *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5)

EXAMPLE The *term* (3.4.2) "virus" was originally used in biology and later transferred to information technology.

3.4.34
translingual borrowing
borrowing (3.4.32) from another *natural language* (3.1.7)

Note 1 to entry: An example of a direct borrowing into English is the French term "calque".

3.4.35
loan translation
calque translation
method for the formation of *designations* (3.4.1) in which the elements of a designation in another *natural language* (3.1.7) are translated literally into the recipient language

EXAMPLE Loan translations in English are "flea market" (from French marché aux puces), "loan translation" (from German Lehnübersetzung).

3.4.36
transliteration
method for the formation of *designations* (3.4.1) in which a designation results from a one-to-one conversion of one script into another

EXAMPLE "книга" (Russian for 'book') → "kniga".

Note 1 to entry: Transliteration makes use of bidirectional correspondence between the characters of the two involved scripts and allows to reconstruct the original script without any loss of information about graphic characters (see ISO 639-4:2010, 3.20).

3.4.37
transcription
method for the formation of *designations* (3.4.1) in which the script of a *natural language* (3.1.7) is used to represent the sounds of another natural language

EXAMPLE "Coca-Cola"[3] → "kěkǒukělè"; "logic" → "luójí" (Chinese pinyin transcription); "Lancelot" (English) → "لانسلوت" (Arabic); "Чайковский" (Russian) → "Tschaikowski" (German), "Tchaikovsky" (English), "Tchaïkovski" (French).

3.4.38
derivation
method for the formation of *designations* (3.4.1) in which a designation is formed by adding one or more morphological elements to a word or lexical unit

EXAMPLE *Terms* (3.4.2) formed by derivation: "printer" (print | -er), "disassembly" (assemble | dis- | -y), "hormonal" (hormon | -al).

3.4.39
conversion
method for the formation of *designations* (3.4.1) in which the syntactic category of an existing word or lexical unit is changed

EXAMPLE The conversion of "constant" as an adjective to "constant" as a noun in the *domain* (3.1.4) of mathematics; the conversion of "output" as a noun to "output" as a verb in the domain of economics.

3) Coca-Cola is a trademark of Coca Cola Company. This information is given for the convenience of users of this document and does not constitute an endorsement by ISO of the product named.

3.4.40
transparency
relation between a *designation* (3.4.1) and a *concept* (3.2.7) in which the designation expresses one or more *characteristics* (3.2.1) of the concept

EXAMPLE "energy-efficient building".

Note 1 to entry: *Designations* (3.4.1) in the relation of transparency are called "transparent" designations or "motivated" designations. Designations lacking transparency are called "unmotivated" designations.

3.5 Terminology work activities

3.5.1
terminology work
terminology management
work concerned with the systematic collection, description, processing and presentation of *concepts* (3.2.7) and their *designations* (3.4.1)

Note 1 to entry: Terminology work often aims at creating and maintaining *terminology resources* (3.7.1).

Note 2 to entry: Terminology work often aims at *terminology planning* (3.5.3) and can involve all of *concept harmonization* (3.5.4), *term harmonization* (3.5.5), and *term formation* (3.4.31).

3.5.2
terminography
terminology work (3.5.1) aimed at creating and maintaining *terminology resources* (3.7.1)

3.5.3
terminology planning
terminology work (3.5.1) aimed at developing, improving, implementing and disseminating the *terminology* (3.1.11) of a *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5)

Note 1 to entry: Terminology planning involves all aspects of *terminology work* (3.5.1) and has among other objectives the objective of achieving vocabulary control through such normative documents as thesauri and terminology standards.

3.5.4
concept harmonization
terminology work (3.5.1) aimed at the establishment of a correspondence between two or more closely related or overlapping *concepts* (3.2.7) to eliminate or reduce minor differences between them

3.5.5
term harmonization
terminology work (3.5.1) leading to the selection of *designations* (3.4.1) for harmonized *concepts* (3.2.7) either in different *natural languages* (3.1.7) or within the same natural language

3.5.6
term extraction
terminology work (3.5.1) that involves the identification and excerption of *terminological data* (3.6.1) by searching through a *text corpus* (3.6.4)

Note 1 to entry: Terminological data of primary interest are typically *designations* (3.4.1), *definitions* (3.3.1) and *contexts* (3.6.5).

Note 2 to entry: Term extraction is often supported by dedicated software tools.

3.5.7
base list
list of *designations* (3.4.1) resulting from *term extraction* (3.5.6)

Note 1 to entry: A base list usually gives rise to further *terminology work* (3.5.1).

3.5.8
terminological concordance
list of *designations* (3.4.1) extracted from a *text corpus* (3.6.4) together with a *context* (3.6.5) and a source reference

3.6 Terminological data

3.6.1
terminological data
data related to *concepts* (3.2.7) and their *designations* (3.4.1)

Note 1 to entry: Common terminological data include *designations* (3.4.1), *definitions* (3.3.1), *contexts* (3.6.5), notes to entry, grammatical labels, subject labels, language identifiers, country identifiers, and source identifiers.

3.6.2
terminological entry
collection of *terminological data* (3.6.1) related to only one *concept* (3.2.7)

Note 1 to entry: A terminological entry prepared in accordance with the principles and methods given in ISO 704 follows the same structural principles whether it is monolingual or multilingual.

3.6.3
data category
specification of a type of *terminological data* (3.6.1) that is used for structuring *terminological entries* (3.6.2) or *terminology resources* (3.7.1)

3.6.4
text corpus
corpus
collection of *natural language* (3.1.7) data

Note 1 to entry: Text corpora can be used for various activities such as text analysis or terminology work.

3.6.5
context
text that illustrates a *concept* (3.2.7) or the use of a *designation* (3.4.1) for a given situation

3.6.6
data validation
validation carried out to determine if *terminological data* (3.6.1) are correct, complete or meet specified criteria

3.6.7
double-entry check
data validation (3.6.6) carried out to determine whether the same *terminological entry* (3.6.2) has been stored more than once

3.6.8
consistency check
data validation (3.6.6) carried out to determine whether interdependent *terminological entries* (3.6.2) comply with predefined conditions

EXAMPLE Verification of cross-references.

3.6.9
spell-check
data validation (3.6.6) carried out to determine that all words comply with predefined spelling rules

Note 1 to entry: See ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2126170 for the *definition* (3.3.1) of 'spelling checker' in the context of text editing in information processing.

3.6.10
completeness check
data validation (3.6.6) carried out to see whether *terminological data* (3.6.1) are present where required

Note 1 to entry: Data must be present in mandatory data fields.

3.6.11
format check
data validation (3.6.6) to determine whether *terminological data* (3.6.1) conform to a specified *macrostructure* (3.7.8) or *microstructure* (3.7.9)

3.6.12
plausibility check
reasonableness check
data validation (3.6.6) to determine whether *terminological data* (3.6.1) conform to specified criteria

3.6.13
terminology management system
TMS
software tool with a metadata structure specifically designed for collecting, maintaining, and accessing *terminological data* (3.6.1)

[SOURCE: ISO 26162:2012, 3.1.2, modified — Added "with a metadata structure".]

3.7 Terminology resources

3.7.1
terminology resource
terminological data collection
TDC
collection of *terminological entries* (3.6.2)

Note 1 to entry: Terminology resources may be in paper or electronic format, e.g. paper dictionaries or *glossaries* (3.7.6), CDs, DVDs, databases or *term banks* (3.7.3).

[SOURCE: ISO 26162:2012, 3.1.1, modified — Term changed from "terminological resource" to "terminology resource"; reworded definition; original Note 1 to entry omitted.]

3.7.2
terminology database
termbase
database comprising a *terminology resource* (3.7.1)

[SOURCE: ISO 26162:2012, 3.1.3, modified — Term changed from "terminological database" to "terminology database"; reworded definition.]

3.7.3
term bank
terminological data bank
collection of *terminology databases* (3.7.2) including the organizational framework for recording, processing and disseminating *terminological data* (3.6.1)

3.7.4
terminological dictionary
special-language dictionary
LSP dictionary
terminology resource (3.7.1) that is designed to be used as a reference work

3.7.5
vocabulary
terminological dictionary (3.7.4) that contains *designations* (3.4.1) and *definitions* (3.3.1) from one or more *domains* (3.1.4) or *subjects* (3.1.5)

Note 1 to entry: The vocabulary may be monolingual, bilingual or multilingual.

3.7.6
glossary
terminological dictionary (3.7.4) that contains *designations* (3.4.1) from one or more *domains* (3.1.4) or *subjects* (3.1.5) together with equivalents in one or more *natural languages* (3.1.7)

Note 1 to entry: In English common language usage, glossary can refer to a monolingual list of designations and *definitions* (3.3.1) in a *domain* (3.1.4) or *subject* (3.1.5).

3.7.7
nomenclature
terminology resource (3.7.1) structured systematically according to pre-established naming rules

EXAMPLE International Code of Virus Classification and Nomenclature.

Note 1 to entry: Nomenclatures have been elaborated in various *domains* (3.1.4), such as biology, medicine, physics and chemistry.

3.7.8
macrostructure
selection and arrangement of *terminological entries* (3.6.2) in a collection

3.7.9
microstructure
selection and arrangement of *terminological data* (3.6.1) in each *terminological entry* (3.6.2) of a collection

3.7.10
systematic order
systematic arrangement
macrostructure (3.7.8) in which the *terminological entries* (3.6.2) reflect the underlying *concept system* (3.2.28)

3.7.11
thematic order
thematic arrangement
macrostructure (3.7.8) in which the *terminological entries* (3.6.2) are grouped in accordance with a relational theme

EXAMPLE In a human resource *vocabulary* (3.7.5), one group of *terminological entries* (3.6.2) relates to recruitment processes, while another group relates to employee assessment.

3.7.12
language-specific order
macrostructure (3.7.8) in which the *terminological entries* (3.6.2) reflect the ordering conventions specific to a given *natural language* (3.1.7) or script

EXAMPLE Alphabetical order in a monolingual terminology resource.

3.7.13
mixed order
mixed arrangement
macrostructure (3.7.8) which is a combination of *systematic order* (3.7.10), *thematic order* (3.7.11), and *language-specific order* (3.7.12)

3.7.14
index
list of *terms* (3.4.2) to assist users in finding the location of a *terminological entry* (3.6.2) in a *terminology resource* (3.7.1)

Note 1 to entry: An index indicates the location of individual points of reference as distinct from the more general list of contents.

3.8 Natural language processing

3.8.1
word form
form of a given word that is a morphosyntactic variant

EXAMPLE Word forms for the word "indicate" include: indicates; word forms of the word "visitor" include: visitors, visitor's.

Note 1 to entry: In inflecting *natural languages* (3.1.7), word forms are often equivalent to inflected forms e.g. go: goes.

3.8.2
paradigm
set of *word forms* (3.8.1) belonging to a given word or *term* (3.4.2)

EXAMPLE A paradigm of the word "sell" may include: sells, sold, selling.

3.8.3
base form
reference form
canonical form
word form (3.8.1) chosen according to grammatical conventions to represent the forms of a *paradigm* (3.8.2)

EXAMPLE "bind" is the base form for the word forms: bind, bound, binds, binding.

Note 1 to entry: The relevant grammatical conventions may vary between languages and from discipline to discipline such as *terminology work* (3.5.1), lexicography or documentation.

3.8.4
disambiguation
differentiation between homonyms or polysemes by assigning each of them to the relevant *concept* (3.2.7) or, where appropriate, to the relevant syntactic function

3.8.5
lemmatization
process of deriving the *base form* (3.8.3)

EXAMPLE "go" becomes the *base form* (3.8.3) of "goes" by deinflection. "go" also serves as the base form for "went" by virtue of irregular verb conventions that do not conform to standard inflectional practice.

Note 1 to entry: The result may also be called lemmatization.

3.8.6
permutation
presentation of a *designation* (3.4.1) that displays the designation's components in an order different from the order given in the *base form* (3.8.3)

EXAMPLE In an *index* (3.7.14) with alphabetical ordering, the *term* (3.4.2) "international standard" would appear as "international standard" and "standard, international", to ensure that the desired components are searchable in that index.

Note 1 to entry: A *term* (3.4.2) may have only one lexically relevant component.

Note 2 to entry: Permutation is a means to make one and the same *terminology resource* (3.7.1) more accessible, especially in a printed form.

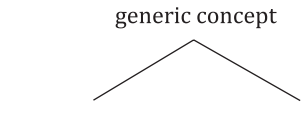
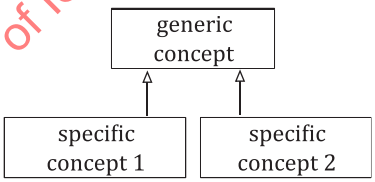
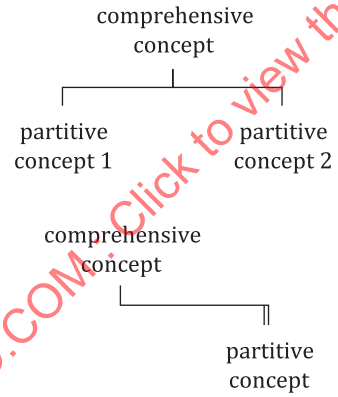
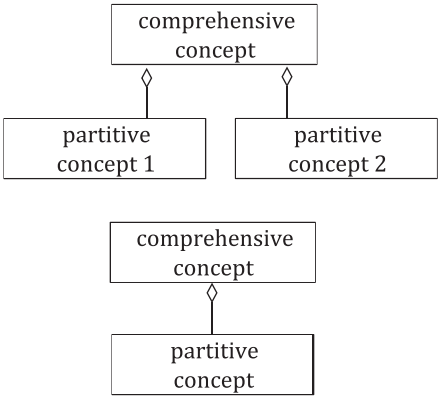
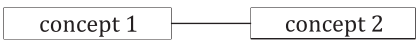
Annex A
(informative)

Concept diagrams and concept models

This annex gives concept diagrams and concept models that illustrate the relations between concepts described in the various entries of Clause 3. See Figures A.1 to A.18. Concept diagrams have been drawn according to ISO 704:2009. Concept models have been drawn according to ISO 24156-1:2014.

Table 1 illustrates the use of graphical means in the concept diagrams and concept models.

Table 1 — Graphical means in the concept diagrams and concept models

Type of concept relation	Concept diagrams[a,b]	Concept models[a]
generic relation (see 3.2.13)		
partitive relation (see 3.2.14)		
associative relation (see 3.2.23)		

[a] In concept diagrams and concept models, dashed lines (not shown in this table) illustrate concept relations that are not explicitly shown in the definitions of the related concepts.

[b] In concept diagrams, a thicker line (not shown in this table) in the context of generic relations indicates a criterion of subdivision.

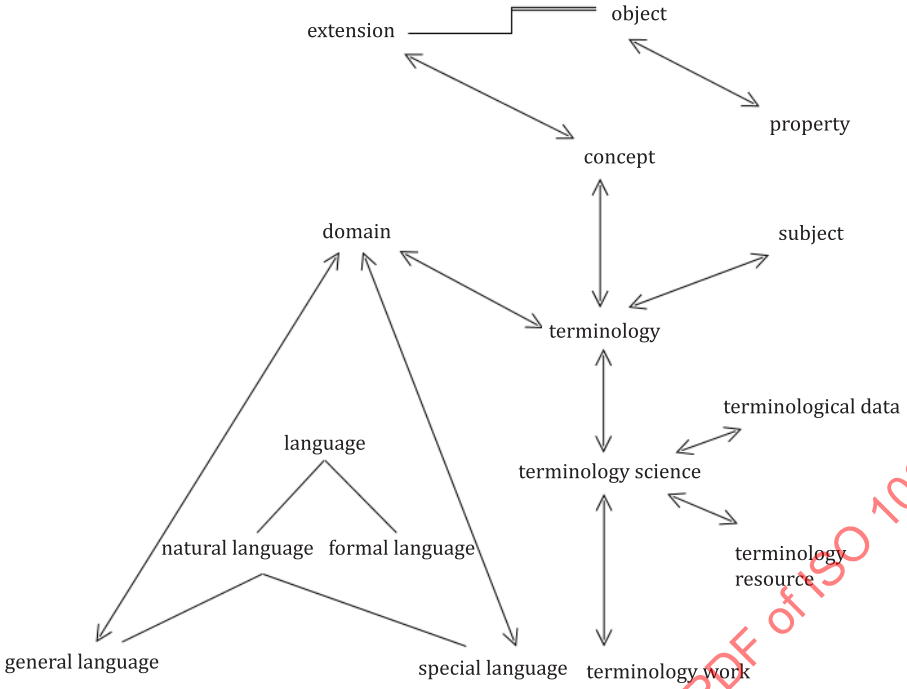


Figure A.1 — Concept diagram 'Reality and language' (see 3.1)

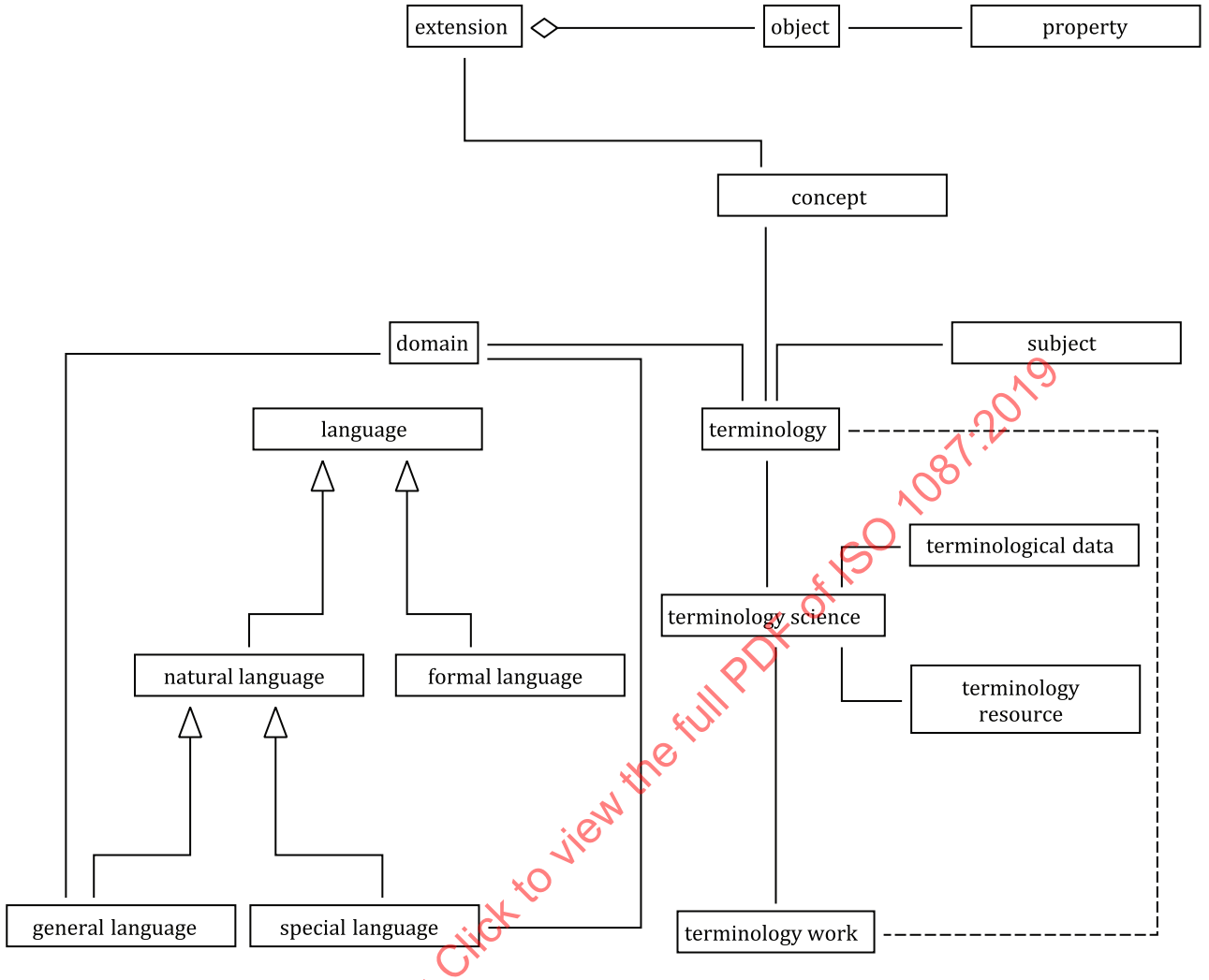


Figure A.2 — Concept model 'Reality and language' (see 3.1)

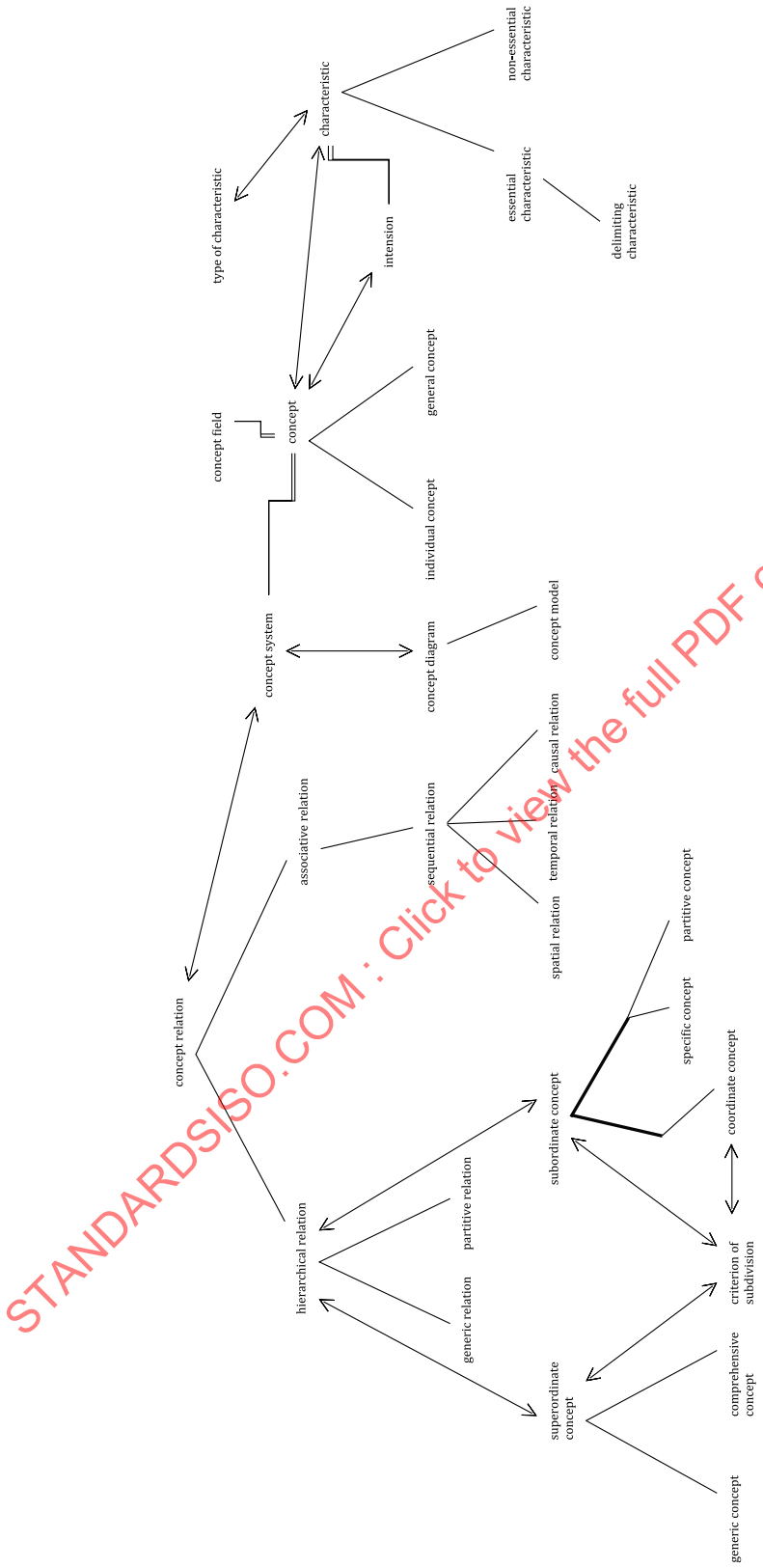


Figure A.3 — Concept diagram 'Concepts' (see 3.2)

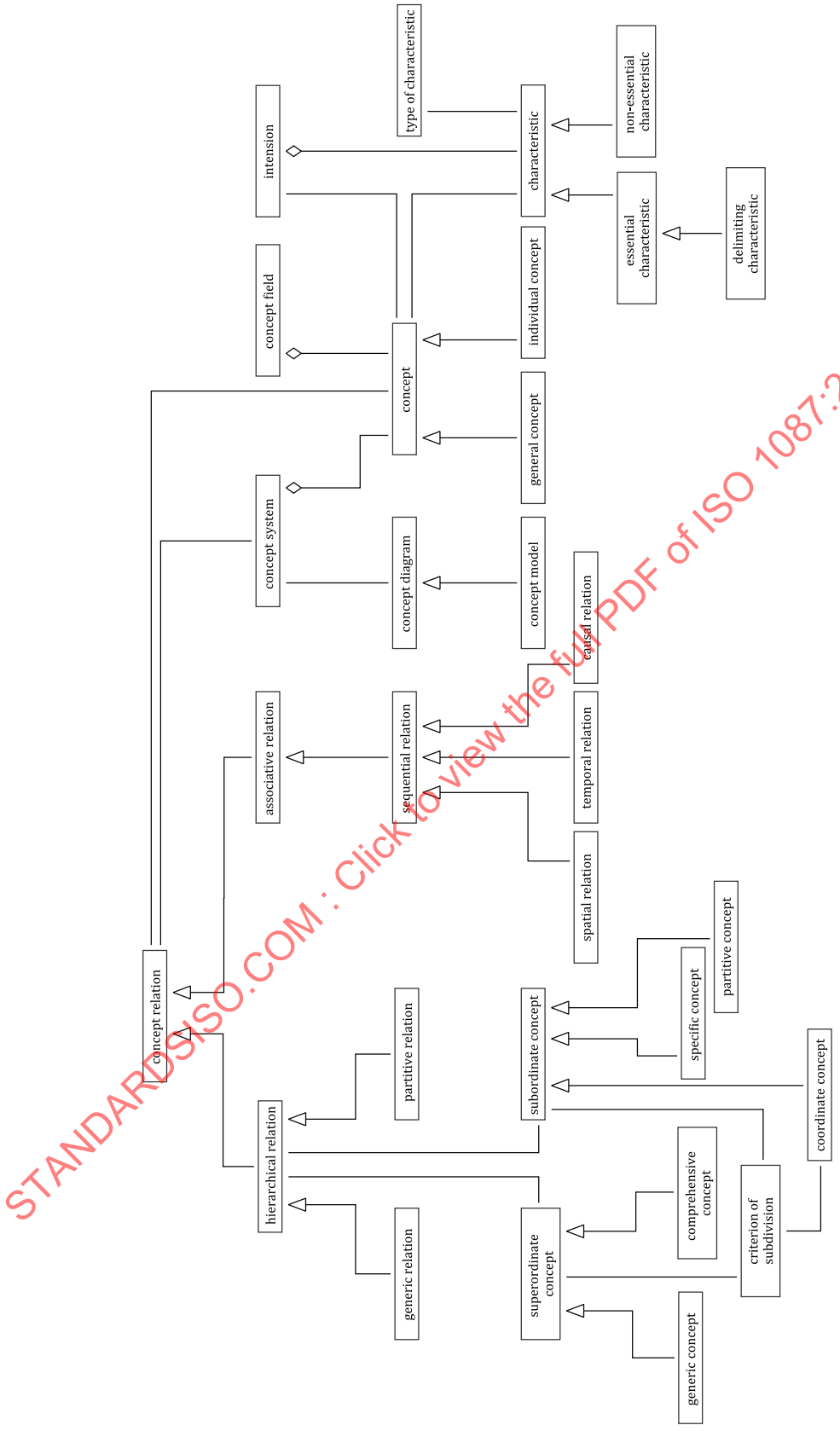


Figure A.4 — Concept model 'Concepts' (see 3.2)

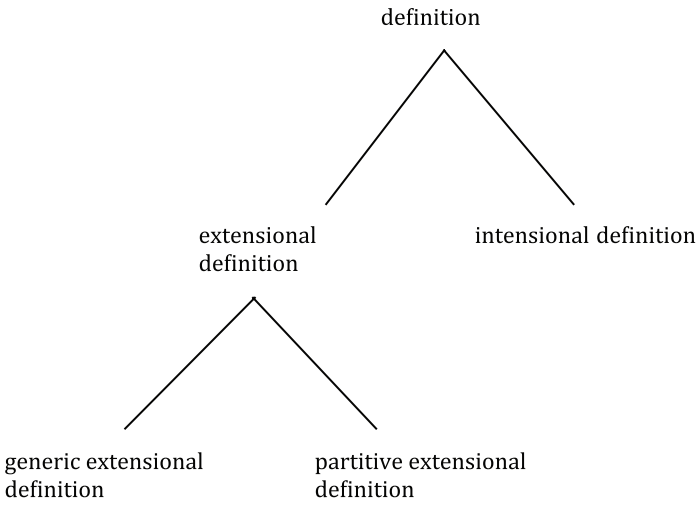


Figure A.5 — Concept diagram 'Definitions' (see 3.3)

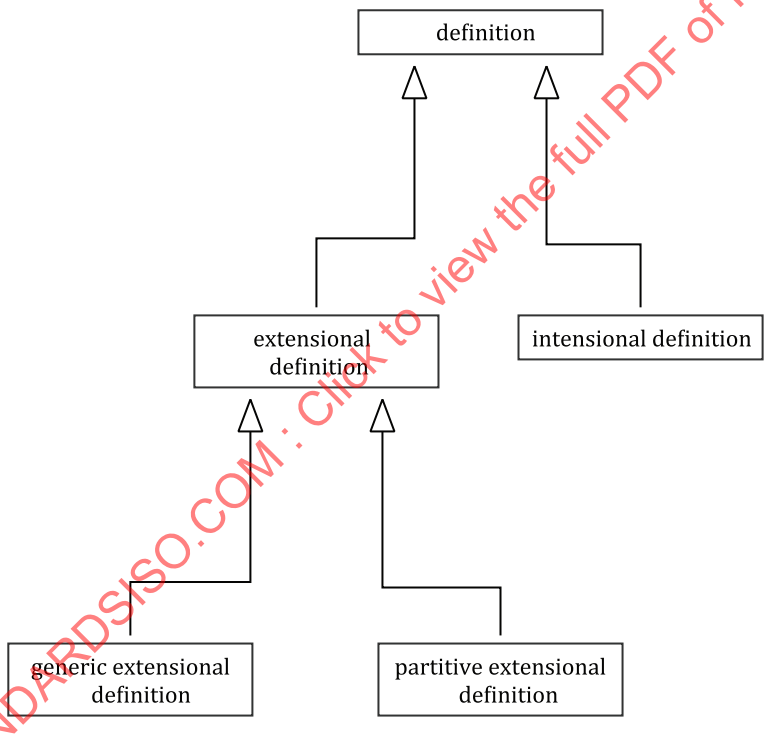


Figure A.6 — Concept model 'Definitions' (see 3.3)

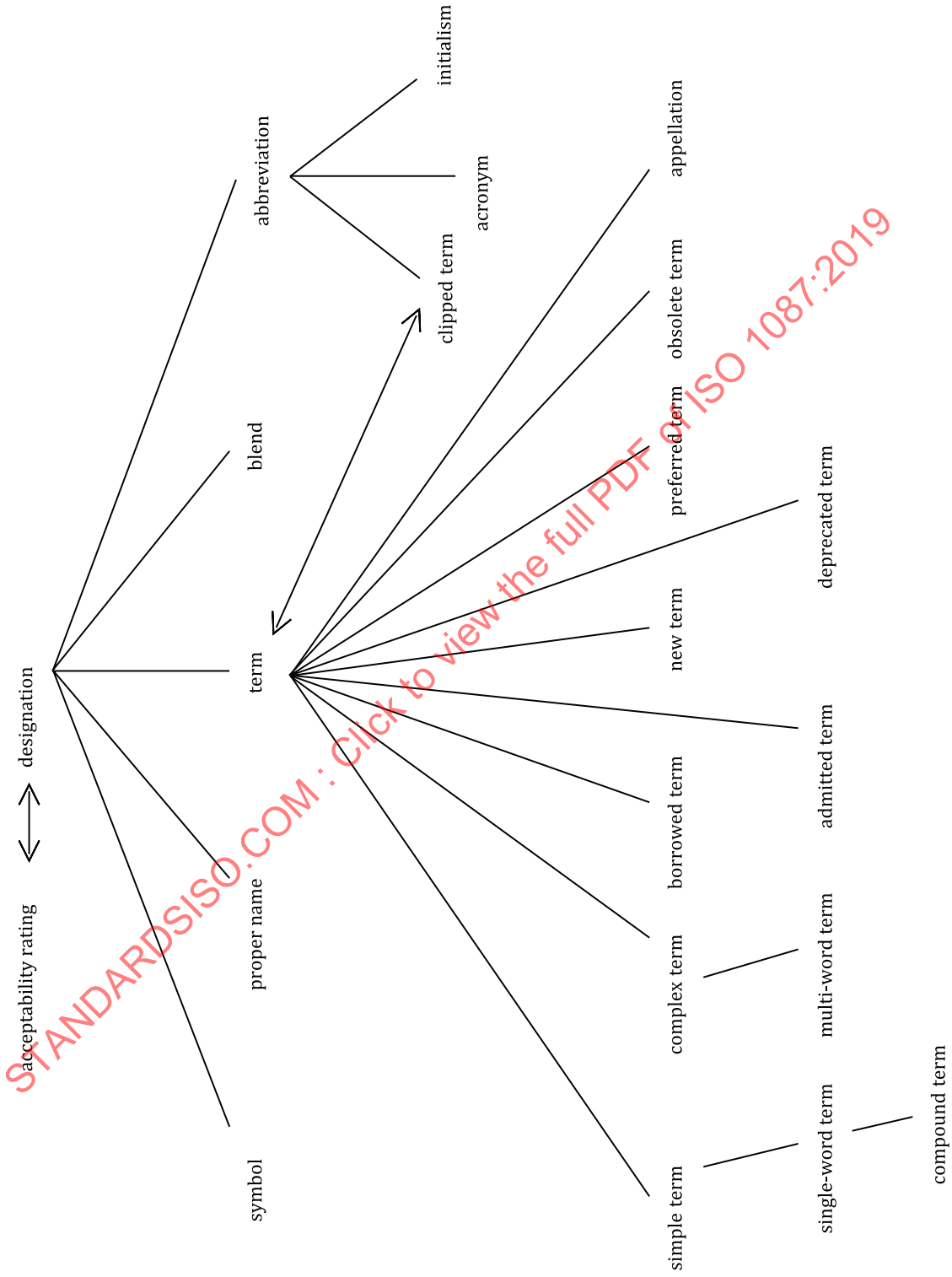


Figure A.7 — Concept diagram 'Designations' — Part 1 (see 3.4)

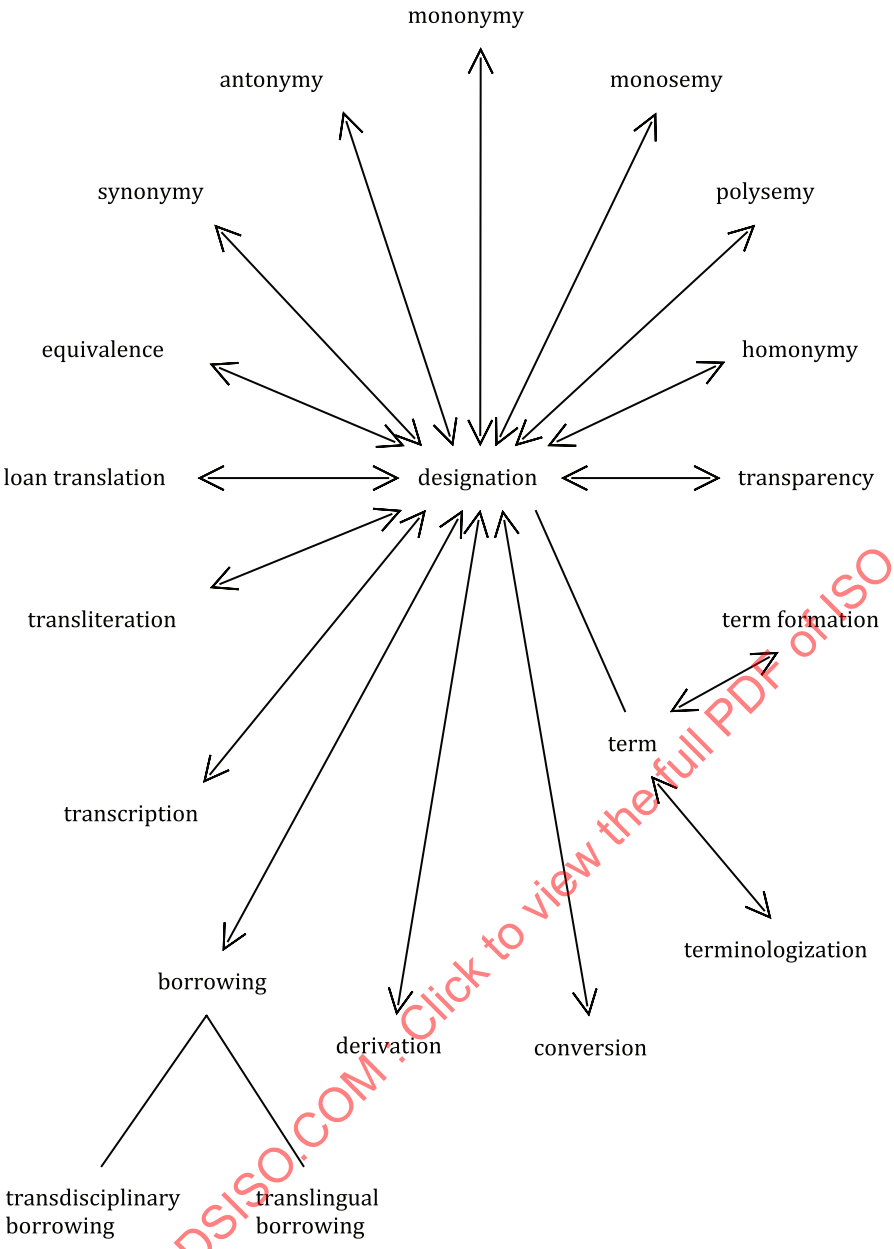


Figure A.8 — Concept diagram 'Designations' — Part 2 (see 3.4)

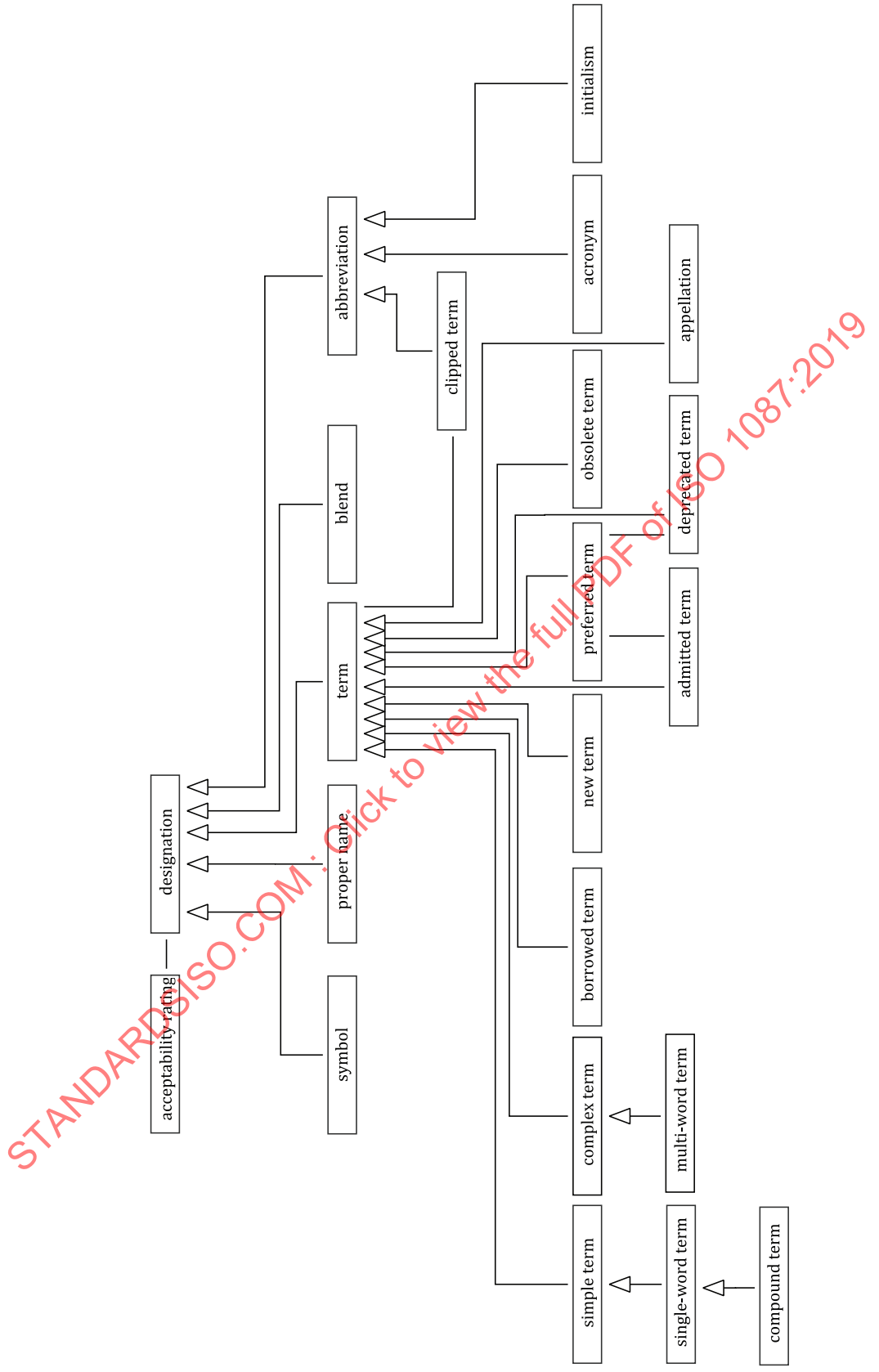


Figure A.9 — Concept model 'Designations' — Part 1 (see 3.4)

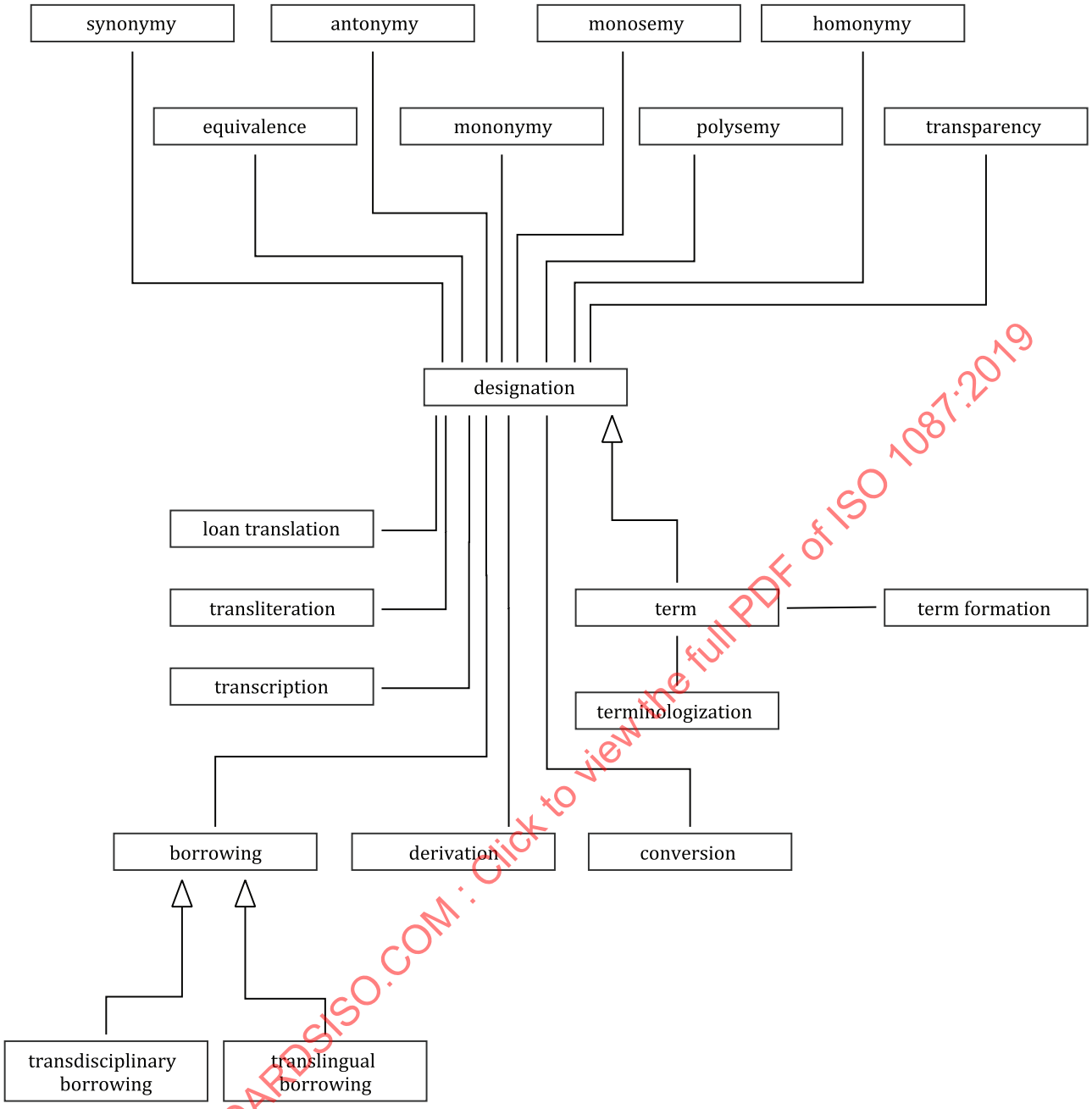


Figure A.10 — Concept model 'Designations' — Part 2 (see 3.4)

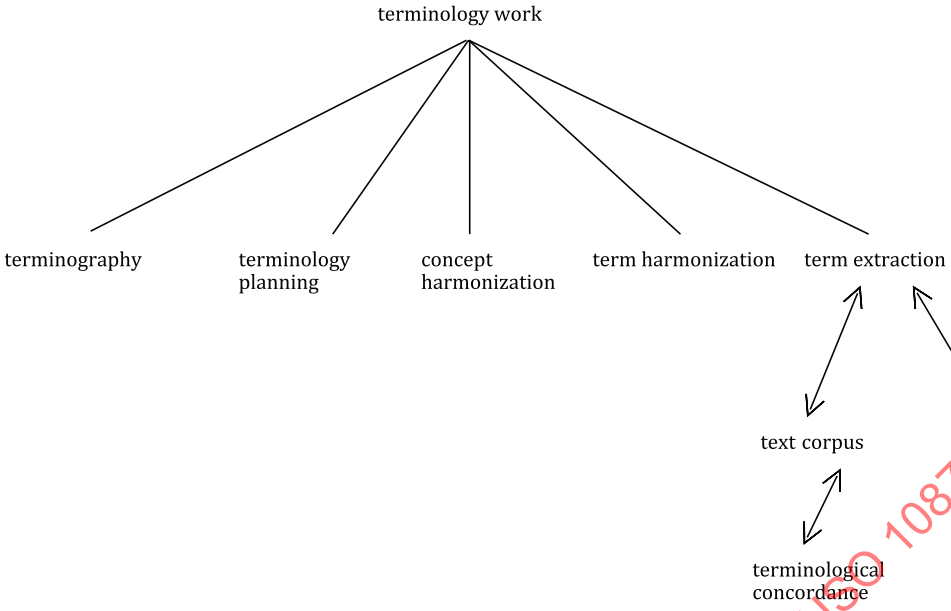


Figure A.11 — Concept diagram 'Terminology work activities' (see 3.5)

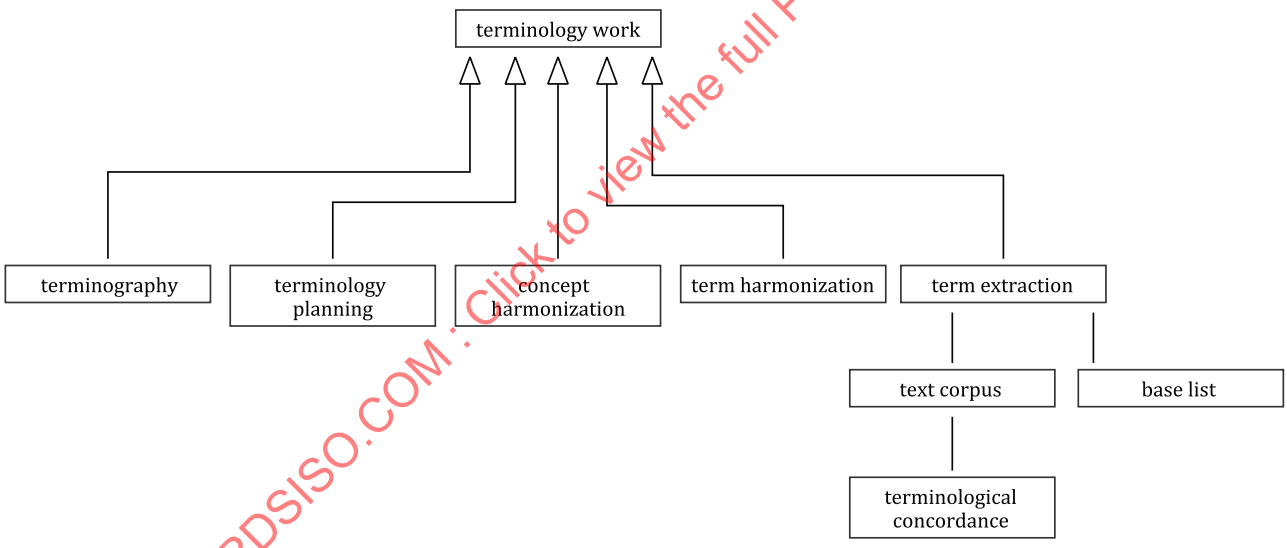


Figure A.12 — Concept model 'Terminology work activities' (see 3.5)

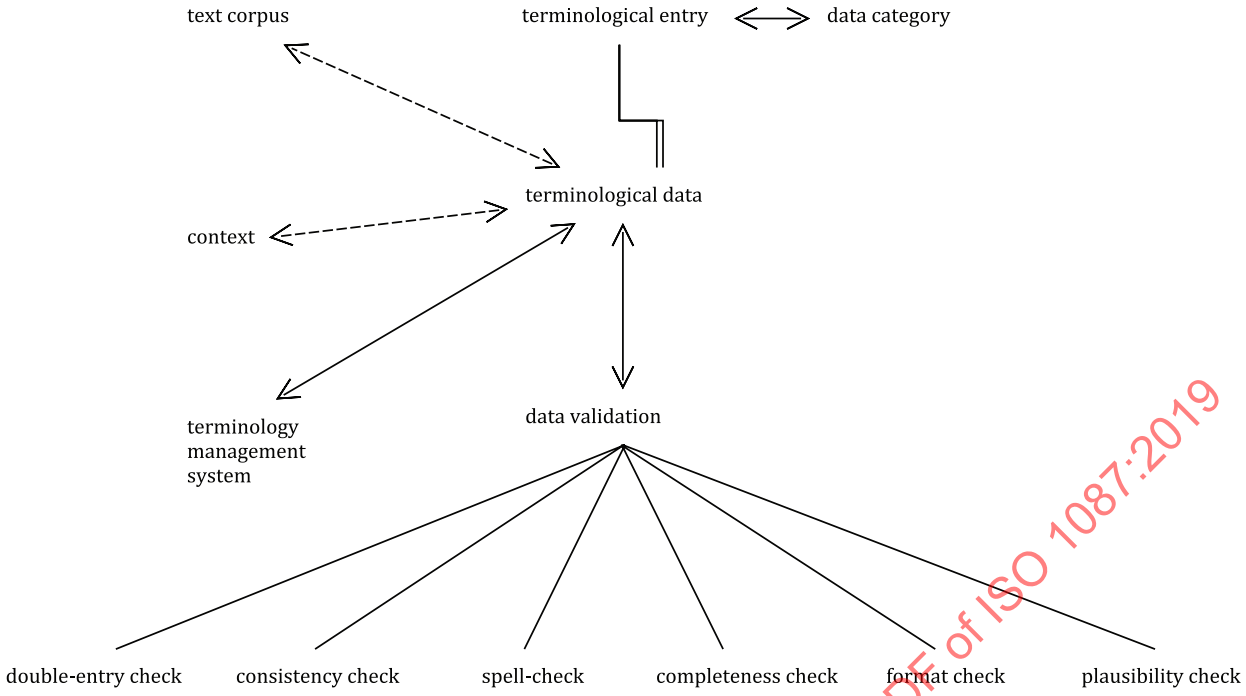


Figure A.13 — Concept diagram 'Terminological data' (see 3.6)

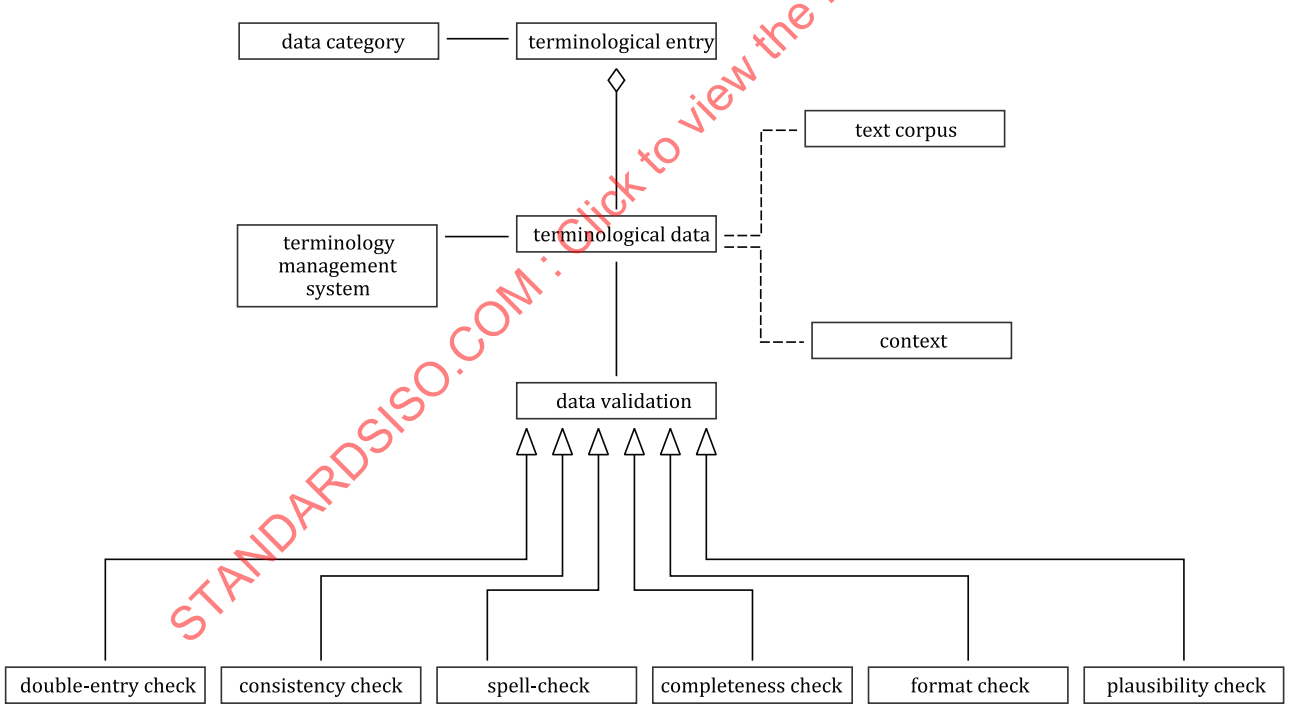


Figure A.14 — Concept model 'Terminological data' (see 3.6)