
**Information technology — User
interface — Gesture-based interfaces
across devices and methods —**

**Part 5:
Gesture Interface Markup Language
(GIML)**

*Technologies de l'information — Interface utilisateur — Interfaces
fondées sur la gestuelle entre dispositifs et méthodes —*

Partie 5: Langage de balisage de l'interface gestuelle (GIML)

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Contents

	Page
Foreword.....	iv
Introduction.....	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 General	1
5 Syntax and structure	2
5.1 General.....	2
5.2 Elements.....	2
5.2.1 General.....	2
5.2.2 The <GIML> element.....	2
5.2.3 The <gesture> element.....	3
5.2.4 The <description> element.....	3
5.2.5 The <alternative> element.....	4
5.2.6 The <keyboard> element.....	4
5.2.7 The <mouse> element.....	5
5.2.8 The <range> element.....	5
5.2.9 The <minMovement> element.....	6
5.2.10 The <maxAngle> element.....	6
5.2.11 The <classification> element.....	7
5.2.12 The <xMovement> element.....	7
5.2.13 The <yMovement> element.....	7
5.2.14 The <zMovement> element.....	8
5.2.15 The <commandInstance> element.....	8
5.3 Attributes.....	8
5.3.1 General.....	8
5.3.2 The “id” attribute.....	9
5.3.3 The “name” attribute.....	9
5.3.4 The “desc” attribute.....	9
5.3.5 The “figure” attribute.....	10
Annex A (normative) XML schema of GIML	11
Annex B (informative) Examples of GIML	13
Bibliography	17

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.

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 document 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/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 35, *User interfaces*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 30113 series can be found on the ISO website.

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

This document provides definition, syntax, structure and explanation of GIML (Gesture Interface Markup Language) which is used to formally describe gestures for gesture-based interfaces of ICT products, systems and services. The gestures are recognized by the gesture software for the gesture-based interfaces and translated into corresponding gesture commands of the ICT products, systems and services. Some examples of the gestures are defined in international standards such as ISO/IEC 30113-1 and ISO/IEC 30113-11.

GIML is defined in terms of XML (Extensible Markup Language) which is a special subset of SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language). It is useful in exchanging data in various ICT products and services and used to describe syntax and features of the standard gestures.

GIML is designed to achieve the following goals:

- The standard gestures are formally and consistently defined in a well-formed format.
- The standard gestures are concretely expressed as both human-readable and machine-readable.
- The information of the standard gestures is exchanged and shared among ICT products, systems and services.

This document focuses on the syntax and the structure of GIML. The XML schema of GIML is presented in [Annex A](#). Some examples of GIML are listed in [Annex B](#).

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Information technology — User interface — Gesture-based interfaces across devices and methods —

Part 5: Gesture Interface Markup Language(GIML)

1 Scope

This document defines GIML (Gesture Interface Markup Language). The syntax and the structure of GIML are described in this document.

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/IEC 30113-1, *Information technology — User interface — Gesture-based interfaces across devices and methods — Part 1: Framework*

ISO/IEC 30113-11, *Information technology — Gesture-based interfaces across devices and methods — Part 11: Single-point gestures for common system actions*

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

4 General

GIML is used to describe syntax and features of gestures which support interactions between human users and gesture interfaces of ICT product, systems and services. The gesture interfaces provide information and controls for the users to accomplish specific tasks as defined in ISO/IEC 30113-1. They include mice, touch screens, 3D mice, joysticks, game controllers, wired gloves, depth-aware cameras, stereo cameras, etc.

The gestures of the users are translated into gesture commands for the ICT product, systems and services. According to ISO/IEC 30113-1, gesture software implements functionalities of the gesture interfaces including gesture recognition, command processing and feedback generation. Some of the standard gestures are single-point gestures for common system actions as defined in ISO/IEC 30113-11.

Since GIML is used to describe syntax, structure and schema (as specified in [Annex A](#)) of the standard gestures in a well-formed format, the GIML-based descriptions are used in developing gestures, gesture interfaces, gesture software, etc. The GIML-based descriptions of the standard gestures can be understood by human and machines. Also, the description of the standard gestures can be utilized in exchanging and sharing information about the gestures.

5 Syntax and structure

5.1 General

The syntax and the structure of GIML are defined in this Clause. The GIML elements and the GIML attributes are defined. The elements are used to define gestures in a formal way. The attribute is used to present additional and more detailed information of its associated element.

5.2 Elements

5.2.1 General

The GIML element shall be defined using a start tag, an end tag and its content.

A start tag shall be defined as a string which is a concatenation of the symbol "<", the name of the element, optional attributes of the element, and the symbol ">".

An end tag shall be defined as a string which is a concatenation of the symbol "</", the name of the element, and the symbol ">". Every element with a start tag should end with an end tag.

The content of the element shall be located between a start tag and an end tag.

A GIML element with no content is termed as an empty element. An empty element can be represented in two ways as follows:

EXAMPLE 1 A start tag is immediately followed by an end tag.

```
<GIML> </GIML>
```

EXAMPLE 2 A complete empty tag is expressed without an end tag.

```
<GIML />
```

The following elements are defined in this document: <GIML>, <gesture>, <description>, <alternative>, <keyboard>, <mouse>, <range>, <minMovement>, <maxAngle>, <classification>, <xMovement>, <yMovement>, <zMovement>, and <commandInstance>.

5.2.2 The <GIML> element

The root element of GIML is annotated as "<GIML>". The <GIML> element holds a single type of a child element, i.e. the <gesture> element. The root element, <GIML>, shall not need any attribute. It shall not be a child of any other elements.

Annotation	GIML
Definition	The root element of a GIML document
Children	<gesture>
Attributes	None
Occurrence	1 This is the root element

EXAMPLE The root element, <GIML>, in the example contains the <gesture> element.

```
<GIML>
  <gesture> </gesture>
</GIML>
```

5.2.3 The <gesture> element.

The <gesture> element defines a specific gesture and contains one or more children elements, i.e., <description>, <alternative>, <range>, <classification>, and <commandInstance>.

Annotation	gesture
Definition	Specific gesture
Children	<description>, <alternative>, <range>, <classification>, <commandInstance>
Attributes	Required: "id", "name"
Occurrence	1 or more in the <GIML> element

EXAMPLE The "Left" gesture is specified using the <gesture> element. As defined in ISO/IEC 30113-11, its name is "Left" and its "id" is "G11-1".

```
<gesture id="G11-1" name="Left">
</gesture>
```

5.2.4 The <description> element

The <description> element explains the characteristics of the gesture. The element shall not have any child element. It has two attributes: the "desc" attribute and the "figure" attribute.

Annotation	description
Definition	Explanation of the characteristics of the gesture
Children	None
Attributes	Required: "desc" Optional: "figure"
Occurrence	1 or more in the <gesture> element

EXAMPLE The <description> element is used to explain feature of the "Left" gesture. It is explained in the "desc" attribute of the <description> element. The term, "POI" in the example, stands for a "point of interest" as defined in ISO/IEC 30113-11. The "figure" attribute is optional and specifies that the "Left" gesture is illustrated using a figure in the file named "left.png" as shown in [Figure 1](#).

```
<gesture id="G11-1" name="Left">
  <description desc="a gesture of moving a POI horizontally along a left distance."
    figure="left.png" />
</gesture>
```

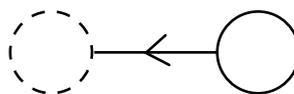


Figure 1 — "Left" gesture stored in a file named as "left.png"

5.2.5 The <alternative> element

Most standard gestures are naturally performed using a touch screen, a pen, a finger or a hand. There exist alternative ways to formulate the gestures using a different input device and/or a different method. A gesture command which is associated with a standard gesture shall be as same as the gesture command which is associated with the gesture generated by the alternative way. The <alternative> element describes the alternative way of performing a gesture using conventional input devices such as a mouse or a keyboard. The element should contain the <mouse> element or the <keyboard> element.

Annotation	Alternative
Definition	Alternative way of generating the gesture using a mouse or a keyboard
Children	<mouse>, <keyboard>
Attributes	None
Occurrence	1 or more in the <gesture> element

EXAMPLE The “Left” gesture is alternatively performed using a “left arrow key” of a keyboard.

```
<gesture id="G11-1 " name="Left">
  <alternative>
    <keyboard> left arrow key </keyboard>
  </alternative>
</gesture>
```

5.2.6 The <keyboard> element

The <keyboard> element describes an alternative way of creating a standard gesture using a keyboard which is regarded as a correspondence of the standard gesture.

Annotation	Keyboard
Definition	Alternative activity of generating the standard gesture using a keyboard
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <alternative> element

EXAMPLE The “Up” gesture is alternatively performed by pressing an “up arrow” key of a keyboard.

```
<gesture id="G11-3 " name="Up">
  <alternative>
    <keyboard> up arrow key </keyboard>
  </alternative>
</gesture>
```

5.2.7 The <mouse> element

The <mouse> element describes an alternative action using a mouse.

Annotation	Mouse
Definition	Alternative activity of generating a gesture using a mouse
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <alternative> element

EXAMPLE The “Backward” gesture can be alternatively performed by rotating a wheel of a mouse backward.

```
<gesture id="G11-6" name="Backward">
  <alternative>
    <mouse> rotate a wheel of the mouse along a backward direction </mouse>
  </alternative>
</gesture>
```

5.2.8 The <range> element

The <range> element describes a range within which the movement is recognized as a specific gesture. The element may contain different child elements according to the gesture. The <range> element has several elements including the <minMovement> element and the <maxAngle> element.

Annotation	Range
Definition	Range of the allowed movement for the specific gesture
Children	<minMovement>, <maxAngle>
Attributes	None
Occurrence	1 or more in the <gesture> element

EXAMPLE The “Left” gesture would allow its POI movement of more than 30 pixels from the starting point of the gesture within the maximum angle of 30 degrees from the x-axis of the Cartesian coordinate system to be recognized as the standard “Left” gesture.

```
<gesture id="G11-1" name="Left">
  <range>
    <minMovement> 30 </minMovement>
    <maxAngle> 30 </maxAngle>
  </range>
</gesture>
```

5.2.9 The <minMovement> element

The <minMovement> element describes the minimum number of pixels of permitted movement to be recognized as a specific gesture. The minimum movement of the standard gestures are defined in ISO/IEC 30113-11.

Annotation	minMovement.
Definition	Minimum number of pixels of permitted movement to be a specific gesture
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <range> element

EXAMPLE The "Left" gesture is recognized as a standard gesture with moving a POI more than 30 pixels from its starting point along the x-axis.

```
<gesture id="G11-1" name="Left">
  <range>
    <minMovement> 30 </minMovement>
  </range>
</gesture>
```

5.2.10 The <maxAngle> element

The <maxAngle> element describes the maximum angle in degrees of permitted variable to decide the specific gesture. The maximum angle from the axis movement of the standard gestures are defined in ISO/IEC 30113-11.

Annotation	maxAngle
Definition	Maximum angle in degrees of permitted variation of movement to decide the specific gesture
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <range> element

EXAMPLE The "Left" gesture is recognized as a standard gesture with a movement with an angle less than 30 degrees according to the x-axis.

```
<gesture id="G11-1" name="Left">
  <range>
    <maxAngle> 30 </maxAngle>
  </range>
</gesture>
```

5.2.11 The <classification> element

The <classification> element describes the status of classifying a specific gesture successfully.

Annotation	Classification
Definition	Classification of a specific gesture
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <gesture> element

EXAMPLE A movement of a POI of a gesture is more than 30 pixels (to the left direction) along the x-axis, when the gesture is successfully recognized as the "Left" gesture.

```
<gesture id="G11-1" name="Left">
  <classification>
    <xMovement> -30 </xMovement>
  </classification>
</gesture>
```

5.2.12 The <xMovement> element

The <xMovement> element denotes a movement value of a POI along the x-axis of the Cartesian coordinates.

Annotation	xMovement
Definition	Movement of POI along the x-axis of a Cartesian coordinate system
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <classification> element

EXAMPLE The gesture interface recognizes the movement of the gesture more than 30 pixels to the left direction along the x-axis.

```
<gesture id="G11-1" name="Left">
  <classification>
    <xMovement> -30 </xMovement>
  </classification>
</gesture>
```

5.2.13 The <yMovement> element

The <yMovement> element denotes a movement value of a POI along the y-axis of the Cartesian coordinates.

Annotation	yMovement
Definition	Movement of POI along the y-axis of a Cartesian coordinate system
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <classification> element

EXAMPLE The gesture interface recognizes the movement of the gesture more than 30 pixels to the up direction along the y-axis.

```
<gesture id="G11-3" name="Up">
  <classification>
    <yMovement> 30 </yMovement>
  </classification>
</gesture>
```

5.2.14 The <zMovement> element

The <zMovement> element denotes a movement value of a POI along the z-axis of the Cartesian coordinates.

Annotation	zMovement
Definition	Movement of POI along the z-axis of a Cartesian coordinate system
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <classification> element

EXAMPLE The gesture interface recognizes the movement of the gesture more than 30 pixels to the backward direction along the z-axis.

```
<gesture id="G11-6" name="Backward">
  <classification>
    <zMovement> 30 </zMovement>
  </classification>
</gesture>
```

5.2.15 The <commandInstance> element

The <commandInstance> element describes a specific instance of the gesture which is translated into a command depending on its context and circumstance.

Annotation	commandInstance
Definition	Specific command instance
Children	None
Attributes	None
Occurrence	0 or more in the <gesture> element

EXAMPLE The gesture is translated as a command of “moving a selected object to a left direction”.

```
<gesture id="G11-1" name="Left">
  <commandInstance> moving a selected object to a left direction</commandInstance>
</gesture>
```

5.3 Attributes

5.3.1 General

The GIML attributes, which are defined in this Clause, are “id”, “name”, “desc”, and “figure”.

The values of the attributes shall be quoted using single or double quotes. If the attribute values contain double quotes, single quotes or character entities (") shall be used.

5.3.2 The “id” attribute

The “id” attribute is a core attribute of XML. The attribute can be used for any GIML element. It shall be uniquely identified in terms of the “id” value which shall be expressed in a string type.

Annotation	Id
Definition	Core attribute of GIML
Value	string "G11-1", "G11-2", "G11-3", "G11-4", "G11-5", "G11-6", "G11-7", "G11-8", "G11-9", "G11-10", "G11-11", "G11-12", "G11-13", "G11-14"
Occurrence	required in the <gesture> element

EXAMPLE The “id” of the gesture is “G11-4”.

```
<gesture id="G11-4" />
```

5.3.3 The “name” attribute

The “name” attribute is a name of a gesture and represents the gesture. It shall be uniquely identified in terms of the name which shall be expressed in a string type.

Annotation	Name
Definition	Name of the standard gestures
Value	string "Left", "Right", "Up", "Down", "Forward", "Backward", "Clockwise rotation", "CounterClockwise rotation", "Tap", "Displace", "DoubleTap", "TapandHold", "HorizontalWave", "VerticalWave"
Occurrence	required in the <gesture> element

EXAMPLE The name of the gesture is “Left”.

```
<gesture id="G11-1 " name="Left" />
```

5.3.4 The “desc” attribute

The “desc” attribute explains features of a gesture. The value of the attribute shall be a string type.

Annotation	desc
Definition	Description of a gesture in terms of its features
Value	string
Occurrence	required in the <description> element

EXAMPLE The “Left” gesture is a gesture of moving a POI horizontally along a left direction. The “desc” attribute explains it.

```
<gesture id="G11-1 " name="Left">
  <description desc ="a gesture of moving a POI horizontally along a left direction." />
</gesture>
```

5.3.5 The “figure” attribute

The “figure” attribute describes a name of a file where a graphical representation of a gesture is stored. The value of the attribute shall be a string type. The attribute denotes a name of a file where a gesture is graphically expressed.

Annotation	figure
Definition	Graphical representation of a gesture
Value	string
Occurrence	optional in the <description> element

EXAMPLE The “Left” gesture is illustrated in a file named “left.png” as shown in [Figure 1](#).

```
<gesture id="G11-1 " name="Left">
  <description figure ="left.png" />
</gesture>
```

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Annex A (normative)

XML schema of GIML

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xs:schema xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" xmlns:vc="http://www.w3.org/2007/XMLSchema-
versioning elementFormDefault="qualified" attributeFormDefault="unqualified">

  <xs:element name="GIML">
    <xs:annotation>
      <xs:documentation>a group of gestures in GIML</xs:documentation>
    </xs:annotation>
    <xs:complexType>
      <xs:sequence>
        <xs:element ref="gesture" maxOccurs="14"/>
      </xs:sequence>
    </xs:complexType>
  </xs:element>

  <xs:element name="gesture">
    <xs:annotation>
      <xs:documentation>an element for a gesture in GIML</xs:documentation>
    </xs:annotation>
    <xs:complexType>
      <xs:sequence>
        <xs:element name="description">
          <xs:complexType>
            <xs:attribute name="desc" type="xs:string" use="required"/>
            <xs:attribute name="figure" use="optional">
              <xs:simpleType>
                <xs:restriction base="xs:string">
                  <xs:pattern value="[a-zA-Z]*.(gif|jpg|bmp|png)"/>
                </xs:restriction>
              </xs:simpleType>
            </xs:attribute>
          </xs:complexType>
        </xs:element>
        <xs:element name="alternative">
          <xs:complexType>
            <xs:sequence>
              <xs:element name="keyboard" type="xs:string" minOccurs="0"/>
              <xs:element name="mouse" type="xs:string" minOccurs="0"/>
            </xs:sequence>
          </xs:complexType>
        </xs:element>
        <xs:element name="range">
          <xs:complexType>
            <xs:sequence>
              <xs:element name="minMovement" type="xs:positiveInteger" minOccurs="0"/>
              <xs:element name="maxAngle" type="xs:positiveInteger" minOccurs="0"/>
            </xs:sequence>
          </xs:complexType>
        </xs:element>
        <xs:element name="classification">
          <xs:complexType>
            <xs:sequence>
              <xs:element name="xMovement" type="xs:Integer" minOccurs="0"/>
              <xs:element name="yMovement" type="xs:Integer" minOccurs="0"/>
              <xs:element name="zMovement" type="xs:Integer" minOccurs="0"/>
            </xs:sequence>
          </xs:complexType>
        </xs:element>

        <xs:element name="commandInstance" type="xs:string" minOccurs="0"/>
      </xs:sequence>
      <xs:attribute name="name" type="gesture_name" use="required"/>
      <xs:attribute name="id" type="gesture_id" use="required"/>
    </xs:complexType>
  </xs:element>

  <xs:simpleType name="gesture_name">
    <xs:annotation>

```

```
<xs:documentation>a gesture name</xs:documentation>
</xs:annotation>
<xs:restriction base="xs:string">
  <xs:enumeration value="Left"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="Right"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="Up"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="Down"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="Forward"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="Backward"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="ClockwiseRotation"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="CounterClockwiseRotation"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="Tap"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="Displace"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="DoubleTap"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="TapandHold"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="HorizontalWave"/>
  <xs:enumeration value="VerticalWave"/>
</xs:restriction>
</xs:simpleType>

<xs:simpleType name="gesture_id">
  <xs:annotation>
    <xs:documentation>a gestue id</xs:documentation>
  </xs:annotation>
  <xs:restriction base="xs:string">
    <xs:pattern value="(G11)\-([1-9]|1[0-4])"/>
  </xs:restriction>
</xs:simpleType>
</xs:schema>
```

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Annex B (informative)

Examples of GIML

The standard gestures defined in ISO/IEC 30113-11 are expressed in terms of GIML.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<GIML xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="giml.xsd">

  <gesture name="Left" id="G11-1">
    <description desc="a gesture of moving a POI horizontally along a left direction" figure="left.png"/>
    <alternative>
      <keyboard>left arrow key</keyboard>
    </alternative>
    <range>
      <minMovement>30</minMovement>
      <maxAngle>30</maxAngle>
    </range>

    <classification>
      <xMovement>-30</xMovement>
    </classification>

    <commandInstance>Moving a selected object to a left direction</commandInstance>
  </gesture>

  <gesture name="Right" id="G11-2">
    <description desc="a gesture of moving a POI horizontally along a right direction" figure="right.png"/>
    <alternative>
      <keyboard>right arrow key</keyboard>
    </alternative>
    <range>
      <minMovement>30</minMovement>
      <maxAngle>30</maxAngle>
    </range>

    <classification>
      <xMovement>30</xMovement>
    </classification>
  </gesture>

  <gesture name="Up" id="G11-3">
    <description desc="a gesture of moving a POI vertically along an up direction" figure="up.png"/>
    <alternative>
      <keyboard>up arrow key</keyboard>
    </alternative>
    <range>
      <minMovement>30</minMovement>
      <maxAngle>30</maxAngle>
    </range>

    <classification>
      <yMovement>30</yMovement>
    </classification>
  </gesture>

  <gesture name="Down" id="G11-4">
    <description desc="a gesture of moving a POI vertically along a down direction" figure="down.png"/>
    <alternative>
      <keyboard>down arrow key</keyboard>
    </alternative>
    <range>
      <minMovement>30</minMovement>
      <maxAngle>30</maxAngle>
    </range>

    <classification>
      <yMovement>-30</yMovement>
    </classification>
  </gesture>
</GIML>
```