What does "term meaning" mean?

Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)



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Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift





"[...] since words are only names for things, it would be more convenient for all men to carry about them such things as were necessary to express the particular business they are to discourse on"

"Gavagai" in "Word & Object", Quine

Communication & Meaning

Meaning depends on:

- the intention of the speakers
- knowledge about the world



What does "term meaning" mean?

Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)





What is a term?

term

A term is a word or expression with a specific meaning, especially one which is used in relation to a particular subject. **Collins**

A word or phrase used to describe a thing or to express a concept, especially in a particular kind of language or branch of study. **Oxford Dictionary**

verbal designation of a general concept
in a specific subject field.
ISO 1087-1



What is a term?

显微镜

✓ It is a word

microscope

μικροσκόπιο

✓ It is a lexical unit electron microscope

✓ But not any lexical unit

 A lexical unit which designates a specialized knowledge



Is any lexical unit designating a specialized knowledge a term?



Terminology



Collins

The terminology of a subject is the set of special words and expressions used in connection with it.

The body of terms used with a particular technical application in a subject of study, profession, etc.

Oxford

special words or expressions used in relation to a particular subject or activity Cambridge





- "set of designations belonging to one special language" [ISO 1087-1]

- "science studying the structure, formation, development, usage and management of terminologies in various subject fields" [ISO 1087-1]

a **term** is a **"verbal designation** of a **general concept** in a specific subject field" [ISO 1087-1]



Terminology



Terminology work is <u>multidisciplinary</u> and draws support from a number of disciplines (e.g. <u>logic</u>, <u>epistemology</u>, <u>philosophy of science</u>, <u>linguistics</u>, <u>translation studies</u>, <u>information science</u> and <u>cognitive sciences</u>) in its <u>study</u> of <u>concepts</u> and their <u>representations</u> in <u>special language</u> and <u>general language</u>. It combines elements from many theoretical approaches that deal with the description, ordering and transfer of <u>knowledge</u>.

Terminology



The terminology work dealt with in this International Standard is concerned with terminology used for <u>unambiguous communication in</u> <u>natural, human language</u>. The goal of terminology work as described in this International Standard is, thus, a clarification and standardization of concepts and terminology for <u>communication between humans</u>. Terminology work may be used as input for information modelling and data modelling, but <u>this International Standard does not cover the relation with these fields</u>.

What does "term meaning" mean?

Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)





What is the meaning of a term?

'*Must* a name mean something?' Alice asked

"Through the looking-glass" Lewis Carroll



whether you CAN make words mean so many different things.'

'The question is,' said Humpty Dumpty, 'which is to be 'master—that's all.'

Meaning?

" the thing one intends to convey especially by language" Merriam-Webster

"What is meant by a word, text, concept, or action" Oxford living Dictionaries

"The meaning of a word, expression, or gesture is the thing or idea that it refers to or represents and which can be explained using other words" Collins

"The meaning of something is what it expresses or represents" Cambridge



What is the meaning of a term?

The <u>concept</u> denoted by the term? (*definition of name*)

The <u>definition of the concept</u> denoted by the term? (*definition of thing*)

The <u>meaning of the term</u> in discourse? (*definition of word*)





2 types of term definition

Lexicographic definition (definition of word)

- the definition (meaning, signified) of the term built in discourse?
- standardized signified?
- definition in a natural language of the denoted object?



Terminological definition (definition of thing)



The definition of the concept denoted by the term

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Semantic Triangles





scholastic

"The Meaning of Meaning: A Study of the Influence of Language upon Thought and of the Science of Symbolism" by C. K. Ogden and I. A. Richards (1923)

Term & Concept



A term is a "verbal designation of a concept" ISO 1087-1

Concept?

Concept name versus Term ?



Double dimension of Terminology



The History of the Computer Mouse

Today, the mouse is an essential input device for all modern computers but it wasn't so long ago that computers had no mouse and no graphical user interface. Data was entered by typing commands on a keyboard.

The mouse was invented by Douglas Engelbart in 1964 and consisted of a wooden shell, circuit board and two metal wheels that came into contact with the surface it was being used on.

It was 8 years later in 1972 that Bill English developed the design further by inventing what is known as the "Ball Mouse" that we know today. The ball replaced the wheels and was capable of monitoring movement in any direction. The ball came into contact with two rollers that in turn spun wheels with graduations on them that could be turned into electrical pulses representing direction and speed.

At the time Bill English was working for Xerox Parc (Palo Alto Research Centre) the research and development centre setup by Xerox to 'design the future of computing'. The mouse became part of the ground breaking Xerox Alto computer system which was the first minicomputer system to offer a graphical user interface.



Which language?

- natural? - artificial?

Double dimension of Terminology

"The Machine Tool: an Interlingual dictionary of basic concepts" E. Wüster

236 guide bush(ing); guiding bush: A bushing (234) serving as guide (547, 528) for a cylindrical rotary relement (209) which is subjected to very small radial stresses.

douille de guidage; manchon pilote; bague de guidage: Coussinet en une pièce (234) servant de guide (547, 528) à un élément (209) cylindrique en rotation et soumis à des efforts radiaux très faibles.



1898-1977



Relationship between Lexical system & Conceptual system







✓ A term is a verbal designation of a concept



Term Meaning

 ✓ The <u>meaning of a term</u> is the <u>definition of the concept</u> denoted by the term

Definition of "definition"?



- natural language?
- formal language?

Are languages equivalent?

<Seat for one person with feet with back without arm>

::= <Seat> + /for one person/ + /with feet/ + /with back/ + /without arm/

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> chair: seat for one person with feet woth back without arm

CONCEPTUAL ISSUES



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Concept



Conceptualization

Conceptualize: Form a concept or idea of (something). Oxford Dictionary.

Conceptualize: to form (a concept or concepts) out of observations, experience, data, etc . Collins

- Goals: To understand the world
 - To put in order the objects which populate the world

Domain





What do we need?





Understanding & Representing





Epistemological Principles

Language of Representation

Understanding



Epistemological Principles

Epistemological Principles

Individual (object, thing)?

Concept?

Nature?

Class?

Property?

Characteristic?

Essential Characteristic?

Descriptive Characteristic?

Conceptual System ?

Relations?

- generic/specific
- partitive
- associative





Epistemological Principles



ISO Epistemological Principles

Concept: Unit of knowledge created by a <u>unique combination</u> of characteristics [ISO 1087-1]

Characteristic: abstraction of a property of an object or of a set of objects

Delimiting characteristic: essential characteristic used for distinguishing a concept from related concepts



ISO Epistemological Principles

Relations [ISO 1087-1]

3.2.20 hierarchical relation

relation between two **concepts** (3.2.1) which may be either a **generic relation** (3.2.21) or a **partitive relation** (3.2.22)

3.2.21

generic relation

genus-species relation

relation between two **concepts** (3.2.1) where the **intension** (3.2.9) of one of the concepts includes that of the other concept and at least one additional **de-limiting characteristic** (3.2.7)

3.2.22 partitive relation

part-whole relation relation between two **concepts** (3.2.1) where one of the concepts constitutes the whole and the other concept a part of that whole



3.2.23 associative relation pragmatic relation relation between two **concepts** (3.2.1) having a nonhierarchical thematic connection by virtue of experience

Representing



Language of Representation

Languages of Representation

There is no knowledge without language

☑ Natural Language

the force of attraction or repulsion acting along a straight line between two electric charges is directly proportional to the product of the charges and inversely to the square of the distance between them

☑ Artificial Languages

$$\vec{F}_{1\to2} = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \|\vec{r}_{12}\|^2} \cdot \frac{\vec{r}_{12}}{\|\vec{r}_{12}\|}$$

Categories of Language

Languages of Representation


Natural language versus Formal languages





Ifferent and linked semiotic systems handled by different rules
The lexical structure and the conceptual structure do not match

The discourse on knowledge should not be confused with knowledge itself



Graphical Notation









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Graphical Notation



ISO 24156-1: Graphic notations for concept modelling in terminology work Part 1: Guidelines for using UML notation in terminology work



Formal Language

Syntax and Semantics:

- √ Clear
- ✓ Precise
- ✓ Formally specified



Properties of Axiomatic System

Definitions are:

- Objective
- Coherent
- Precise
- Consensual
 - Reusable
 - Sharable

- Readable (for an expert)

Artificial Intelligence

Schema (Frame) - Minsky

Define the **object structure**

A class is defined as a set of slots with values

(defun-class lamp (is-a 'lighting-object) (space 'inside) (has-part 'chamber 'beak 'base))

Clear, powerful, readable both by human and computer





A concept is a well formed formula

Definition:

```
Pocket-Watch(x) ::= Time-Piece(x) \land Portable(x) \land Pocket(x)
```

Properties:

 $\models \neg$ (Pocket(x) \land Wrist(x))

Reasoning:

 $Portable(x) \rightarrow (Wrist-Watch(x) \lor Pocket-Watch(x))$



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Which Language?

X The expression of knowledge is limited to the well formed formulas of the theory

X The formal languages are not equivalent

The Sapir-Whorf's hypothesis is true for all languages

- Power of expression : categories of thought supported
 - by the categories of the language
- Logical Properties
- Operationalization

Which Language?

Epistemological Problems

X Logic

Man(x), Reasonable (x), Sick(x)

X Frame Languages



Which Language?

w Use a language whose categories of language support the categories of thought

w Use a formal and computer-readable language



- **Objective definitions**
- **Constructive definitions**
- Operationalization

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Ontology

Knowledge Engineering



"A specification of a conceptualization" T. Gruber

A definition in a **formal** and **computer readable language** of a set of **concepts** and of their **relationships**



Operational Language



IT Applications of Terminology:

- \checkmark Semantic (Multilingual) Search Engine
- ✓ (Multilingual) Content Management Systems
- \checkmark (Multilingual) Specialized Encyclopedias
- ✓ Knowledge Capitalization
- \checkmark Semantic web

Ontology



ONTOTERMINOLOGY



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Ontology + Terminology



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Ontology + Terminology

Ontoterminology: a terminology whose conceptual system is a formal ontology



Double Semantic Triangle



➡ a **signified** is not a **concept**

⇒a term (designation, signifier) is not the identifier of the concept (concept name)

<u>A term is given</u>

A concept name is built: Chinese is a suitable language for building neoterms

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Ontoterminology



Ontoterminology

« Ontoterminology standardizes the only thing that can be standardized, namely knowledge of the field, and preserves what must be preserved, namely linguistic diversity »

« If a conceptualization is worded in natural language, it is defined in a formal language guided by epistemological principles »

CONCLUSION

There is no Terminology without a Concept Theory

- ✓ Essential Characteristic
- ✓ Descriptive Characteristic
- ✓ Concept: combination of essential characteristics
- \checkmark Relation

CONCLUSION

How to represent essential characteristic in an A.I. language?



CONCLUSION

How to represent essential characteristic in a Logic language (Protégé)?

Lamp(x) ::= LightingObject(x) \land InsideSpace(x)

Lamp(x) $\rightarrow \exists y, z, t / Chamber (y) \land HasPart (x, y) \land ...$





- Essential characteristic == Class
- Essential characteristic == individual

Onto-Terminology: Theory & Practice



Part 2: Practice

 Environments: CmapTools, Protégé, Tedi
Example

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Example Terminology of seats



Definition of: - "chaise" in French - "chair" in English - "椅子" in Chinese

Translations



Definition of: - "chaise"? French - "chair"? English - "椅子"? Chinese

chair:

- A separate seat for one person, typically with a back and four legs (<u>https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/</u>)
- A chair is a piece of furniture for one person to sit on. Chairs have a back and four legs (https://www.collinsdictionary.com/).
- a piece of furniture for one person to sit on, with a back, legs, and sometimes two arms (https://www.macmillandictionary.com/)
- a seat for one person, with a support for the back (WordNet)







Definition of: - "chaise"? French - "chair"? English - "椅子"? Chinese

chaise:

- siège à dossier et généralement sans bras.





Definition of: - "chaise" ? - "chair" ?

French English

- "椅子"? Chinese

椅子:

 椅,无靠背的称为櫈,是一件用來坐的傢具,為腳物家具的 一種,一般包括一個座位、椅背,有時還包括扶手,通常會 有椅腳使座位高於地面。当椅子坐久后坐垫便会熱。.





Definition of:	- "chaise" ?	French
	- "chair" ?	English
	- "椅子"?	Chinese



Terminology: the **definition of a term** is the **definition of the concept** denoted by the term expressed in a **natural language**

How to **define the concepts** denoted by the terms "seat", "chair", "armchair", "bench", etc. ?

Theory of Concept for Terminology (C.T.T)



What is (are) the difference(s) between:

- a chair and a armchair ?
- a chair and a bench ?
- a couch and a bench with back and arms ?

- ...

Essential characteristics:

- /one person/ or /several persons/
- /with feet/ or /without feet/
- /with back /or /without back/
- /with arms/ or /without arms/
- /for interior/ or /for exterior/
- /confortable/ or /not confortable/

Descriptive characteristics:

- material
- colour
- weight





Parts of :

- arm
- feet
- back

Properties:

- no arms without back



Tools & Environments









CmapTools

http://cmap.ihmc.us/



Concept maps are graphical tools for organizing and representing knowledge. They include **concepts**, usually enclosed in circles or boxes of some type, and **relationships** between concepts indicated by a connecting line linking two concepts. Words on the line, referred to as linking words or linking phrases, specify the relationship between the two concepts. (http://cmap.ihmc.us/docs/theory-of-concept-maps.php)

CmapTools

Cmap software is a result of research conducted at the Florida Institute for Human & Machine Cognition (IHMC). It empowers users to construct, navigate, share and criticize knowledge models represented as concept maps.

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CmapTools



Epistemological Principles

- **<u>Concept</u>**: Concept as a perceived regularity in events or objects, or records of events or objects, designated by a label.
- <u>Proposition</u>: Propositions are statements about some object or event in the universe, either naturally occurring or constructed. Propositions contain two or more concepts connected using linking words or phrases to form a meaningful statement.



Conceptual System




Protégé

Protégé is a free, open source ontology editor and knowledge management system. Protégé а provides a graphic user interface to define ontologies. It also includes deductive classifiers to validate that models are consistent and to infer new information based on the analysis of an ontology. Like Eclipse, Protégé is a framework for which various other projects suggest plugins. This application is written in Java and heavily uses Swing to create the user interface. Protégé recently has over 300,000 registered users.[4] According to a 2009 book it is "the leading ontological engineering tool".[5]



Protégé is being developed at Stanford University and is made available under the BSD 2-clause license.[6] Earlier versions of the tool were developed in collaboration with the University of Manchester.

Protégé



Protégé



Protégé

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Classes Object properties Data properties Annotation properties Datatypes Individuals	Siège_une_personne_avec_pieds_avec_dossier_sans_bras	— http://www.condilla
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	Instances 🛨	
	Target for Key 🛨	-

TEDI ontoTerminology EDItor

www.ontoterminology.com



Tedi

Tedi is a software environment dedicated to ontoterminology building providing several specialized editors.



Concept Theory of Terminology (C.T.T.)

Ontology relies on a Concept Theory

Tedi is based on the C.T.T. (Concept Theory of Terminology)

CTT epistemological principles:

- essential characteristic
- descriptive characteristic
- axis of analysis
- concept
- relation

CTT logical properties







Term Editor

🚱 Tedi - Term editor		- 🗆 X
Term Editor	Terminology Terminologie des Sièges Image: fr Last update: 4 août 2018	user Christophe author Christophe institution Condillac
Term List Number of Terms: 9	Term chaise update	e text content proper name list editor
banc ^ bergère canapé chaise chaise d'intérieur	Siège pour une personne sans bras avec pieds et dossier. Source GE	Status preferred change PoS none change Gender none change
fauteuil pouf siège tabouret	Contexts "Les cafés à l'entour avaient depuis 1 Ingtemps couché sur leurs tables de marbre leurs chaises tendrement rabotées par des derrières peu soucieux de voyages. QUENEAU, Dierrot mon ami. 1942, p. 199 " Source Vertical de lete	à dossier et généralement sans Source : TLFi 31/05/2017 update delete
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Ontoterminology List					
Sièges 🔨	author	Christophe			
	creation date	29 juin 2017	last update	2 septembre 2017	
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CSV Format





Protégé (OWL)



Dynamic HTML Format



CONCLUSION

The definition of term is the definition of the concept denoted by the term



- Dedicated Concept Theory
- Software Environment
- Methodology