






FIG WORKING WEEK 2012
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Ontology for reference geographical data
facing the challenge of applications diversity



Dr./Ing. Fatiha IBANNAIN



Plan

- **Context**
- **Goals**
- **Achieved tasks**
- **Conclusions and prospects**

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Stakes of geographical information

- **Geographical Information**
 - Strategic aspect
 - Customers/users diversity
- **Approach of reconciliation**
 - Technical agreements
 - Organizational agreements
- **Technological advances**
 - Norms
 - Formalisms
 - Models

Geographical information in Morocco !

- New needs
- Accompaniment framework
- Technical and legal aspects

Extant and needs Diagnostic

Producers / Users

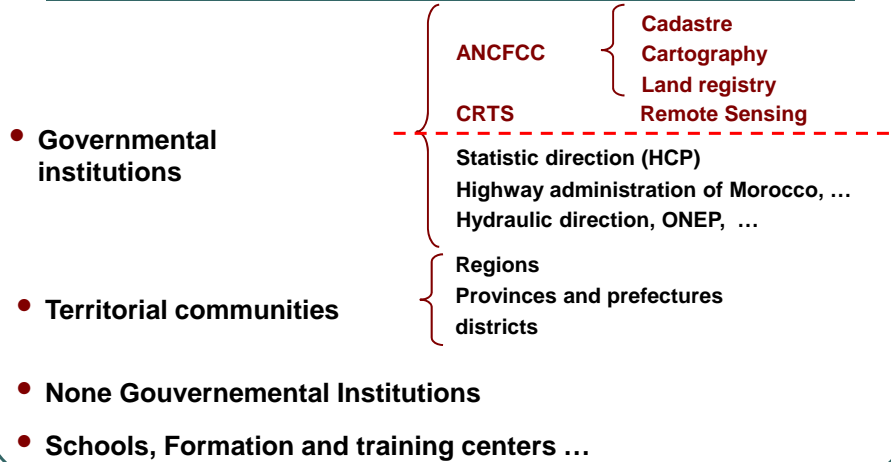


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Extant and needs Diagnostic

Available Geographical Data

• Handling difficulties of available numerical data

- Data Structure (product object)
- Geographical data / cartographic representation
- Information redundancy
- Lack of pre-definite conceptual data models (CDM)

• Coordination Lack

- DB Independency (management)
- Heterogeneity (structure and semantic inconsistencies)
- Multitude of actors

• Integration

Reflection !

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How to bring closer the doers?

- **Legal aspect**

- Dialogue remains essential to initiate agreements

- **Technical aspect**

- responsibilities clearness
- information adaptability to user's needs
- maintain of a common and coherent language
- optimization of information use

General Object :

Modeling of Reference data in Morocco

Specific Objects

- Establishment of **ontology** for **reference data**
→ *responsibilities clearness of various doers*
- Features **Cataloguing**
→ *adaptability to user's needs*
- Setting up of **data dictionaries**
→ *Maintain of a common language*
- Setting up of a **global model** adapted to applications using reference data.
→ *Optimization of information use*

Plan

- Context
- **Achieved tasks**
 - **Ontology for reference data** ✓
 - Concretization elements
 - Features cataloguing
 - Conceptual modeling
 - Reference model implementation
- Conclusions and Prospects

Ontology for reference data

Establishment frame of the ontology

- Context
- Goals
- **Ontology**
 - Approach
 - Principles
 - Cataloguing
 - Modeling
 - Implementation
- Conclusions and Prospects

Existent :

- Reference data identification

Object :

- Reference model

Approach :



- Definition of reference objects types
- Establishment of an ontology for reference data

Ontology for reference data

Establishment frame of the ontology

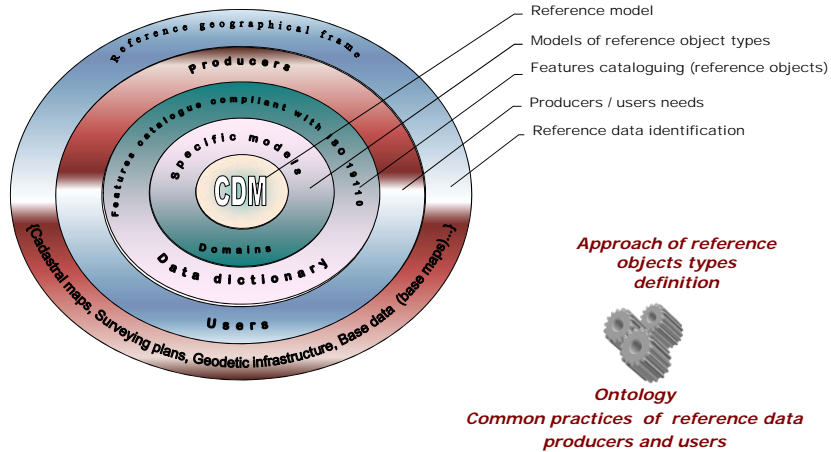


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Ontology for reference data

Principles of the established ontology

- Context
 - Goals
 - Ontology
 - Approach
 - Principles
 - Cataloguing
 - Modeling
 - Implementation
 - Conclusions and Prospects
- Independence and the complementarity of objects types
 - 11 objects types (1^{ère} classification)
 - Consistency checks at a **general** level (**Independency**)
 - **Multiple inheritance** according to the level of **detail**
 - Adaptability of objects types to specific domains
 - Definition is **independent from context**
 - **Exploitation** in a particular application must be **functional**
 - Hierarchy
 - Relations of **specialization** (SOT / ROT)
 - **Generic** features classes / sub-classes

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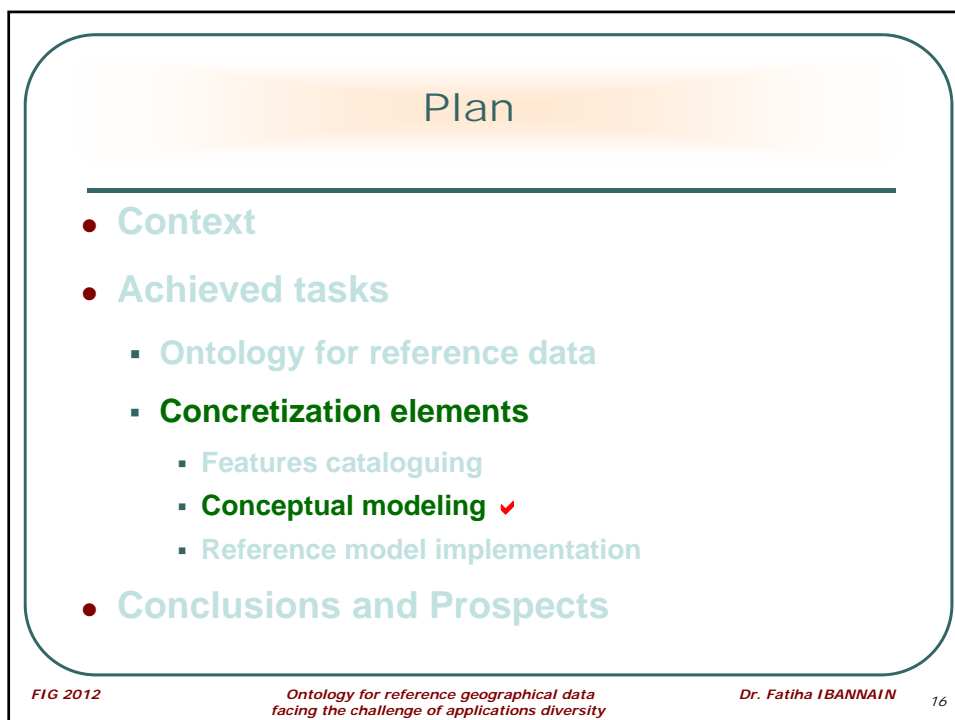
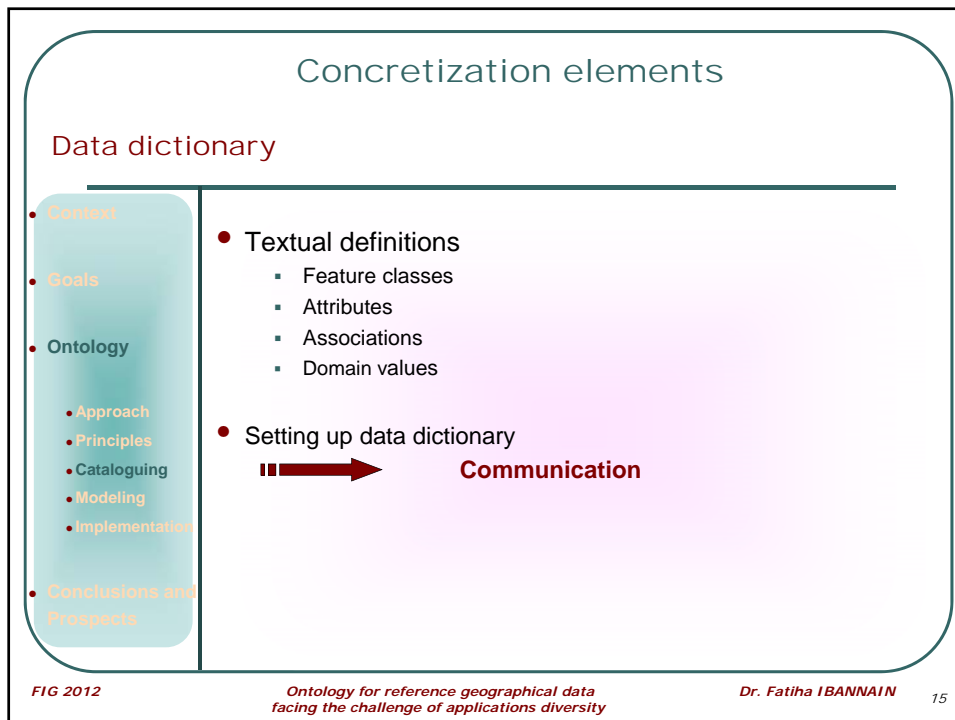
Plan

- Context
- Achieved tasks
 - Ontology for reference data
 - **Concretization elements**
 - **Features cataloguing** ✓
 - Conceptual modeling
 - Reference model implementation
- Conclusions and Prospects

Concretization elements

Features cataloguing

- Context
 - Goals
 - Ontology
 - Approach
 - Principles
 - Cataloguing
 - Modeling
 - Implementation
 - Conclusions and Prospects
- To clear up the knowledge of the geographical field described
 - Definition of eleven reference objects types
 - Features cataloguing
 - Definition of concepts ensuring the adaptability of the definite structure
 - Development of a features catalogue compliant with ISO standards (ISO 19110).
- ➡ **Normalisation**



Concretization elements

Conceptual modeling

- Contexte

- Objectifs

- Ontologie

- Démarche
- Principes
- Catalogage
- Modélisation
- Implémentation

- Conclusions et Perspectives

- Establishment of a reference data conceptual model
 - 11 Specific CDM
 - Global Model (Hierarchy)
 - Modeling of topological relations (CONGOO within Web2GIS AGL)

- Constitution of data bases resulting from the same CDM

➔ **Integration**

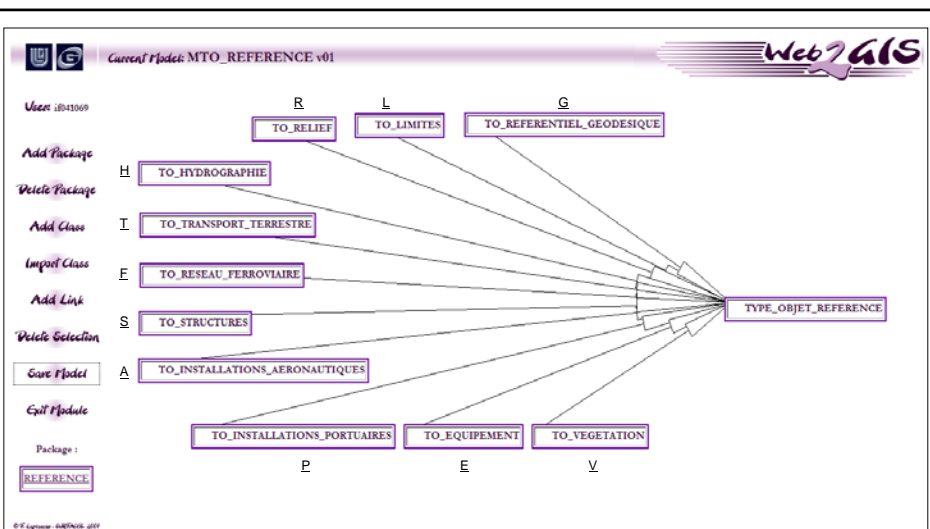
- Conceptual modeling
- Structure of data bases
- Features spatial modeling
- Objects semantic

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Reference model MTO_REFERENCE

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Plan

- Context
- Achieved tasks
 - Ontology for reference data
 - **Concretization elements**
 - Features cataloguing
 - Conceptual modeling
 - **Reference model implementation** ✓
- Conclusions and Prospects

Concretization elements

Application

- Context
 - Goals
 - Ontology
 - Approach
 - Principles
 - Cataloguing
 - Modeling
 - Implementation
 - Conclusions and Prospects
- Exploitation and adaptation of reference model to user intention
 - Confrontation of this research developments to genuine datasets
 - Lacks in terms of data documentation
 - Topology control / Problem of data quality
 - Cadastre / Cartography
 - Geographical data / Cartographic representations

Plan

- Context
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 - Ontology for reference data
 - Concretization elements
 - Features cataloguing
 - Conceptual modeling
 - Reference model implementation
- **Conclusions and Prospects** ✓

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Conclusions

Establishment of an ontology for reference data

- Context
 - Goals
 - Ontology
 - Approach
 - Principles
 - Cataloguing
 - Modeling
 - Implementation
 - **Conclusions and Prospects**
- To moderate problems associated to data use, the approach was guided by :
 - Purposes of data producers and users
 - Available data configurations
 - Anterior application domains
 - To establish principles
 - Independence / Complementarity
 - Adaptability
 - Hierarchy

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Prospects

Ontology for reference data

- Context
- Goals
- Ontology
 - Approach
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 - Modeling
 - Implementation
- Conclusions and Prospects

- To go deeper into an ontology aspect concerning relations and spatial attributes of reference data to assure their adaptation to various applications
- To illustrate the reference notion through the extension of the reference model (ontology of reference / domain)

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Prospects

Reference model exploitation

- Context
- Goals
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 - Approach
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- To implement developed models
- To illustrate various detail levels to concretize possibilities of multiple inheritance of some feature classes illustrating transition mechanisms
 - Feature classes
 - Spatial modeling

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