

Tekla Structures glossary

2025

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Foreword

The Tekla Structures glossary is intended for technical writers, user interface designers, marketing people, trainers, and the end users of the software. The glossary aims to facilitate communications related to Tekla Structures by clarifying various concepts and terms.

The glossary covers the contents of 632 Tekla Structures related concepts explaining how they are used in Tekla Structures. The relations between concepts are illustrated by means of concept diagrams, and the definitions and supplementary notes offer an effortless way to familiarize oneself with Tekla Structures terminology. Additionally, the glossary gives recommendations on the usage of the English terms.

The terms have been compiled broadly, since the construction terminology is not fully established, but a number of synonyms (that is, words with the same meaning) exist. In such cases, the glossary gives first the terms used in the Tekla Structures user interface and the Tekla Structures related communication.

As the software evolves, the Tekla Structures glossary is updated. In November 2025, the glossary was revised with new and updated concepts that mainly relate to the latest updates in Tekla Structures.

The glossary was first published in 2009. In earlier revisions numerous concepts were updated to reflect the development of Tekla Structures and the established use of terms in the user interface, and on the basis of comments received from the glossary users.

Several people from Trimble and the Finnish Terminology Centre (Sanastokeskus) have participated in compiling the glossary and given their expertise to the project.

Any questions and comments related to the glossary can be sent to:

Email: tekla.documentation@trimble.com

Structure and layout of the glossary

Grouping of the glossary and searching for terms

The concepts in this glossary are **thematically** grouped into chapters, and within the chapters, related concepts are placed close to each other.

An **alphabetical index** can be found at the end of the glossary. The numbers in the index refer to the entry numbers used in the glossary. The index consists of preferred, admitted and deprecated terms in the glossary, and it also contains such search words that are closely related to certain concepts in the glossary. Each search word is marked with a reference to the related concept and its entry number.

Structure of the glossary

The concepts in the glossary are presented in terminological entries and for the most part also in diagrams illustrating concept systems. Concept systems and terminological entries are intended to complete each other.

A terminological entry includes first the **terms** followed by a **definition** and possible supplementary information, the **notes**. The concepts have consecutive numbers.

The following symbols and notations are used in the glossary:

Notation in terminological entry	Explanation of notation
1	concept number; the concepts in the glossary are given consecutive numbers
bold	the preferred one first, followed by admitted synonyms
<i>link in italics</i>	(in definition and note) term in italics is a reference to a concept defined in the glossary; in an electronic version of the glossary, the term works as a link
(1)	(number in parentheses after a term) homonym; indicates that the glossary contains two or more terms that have identical spellings but different meanings
rather than:	term whose use is not recommended, for example, on linguistic grounds
not:	deprecated term; the term does not have the same meaning as the preferred term and should therefore not be used in the defined meaning; or the term is linguistically erroneous or obsolete
(obsolete)	(text in parentheses after a term) obsolete term
/GB/	British English
/US/	American English
/IN/	Indian English
pl	term is used in plural form
verb	part of speech of the term is verb
>	the term refers to a concept that is narrower than the defined concept
(obsolete)	(text in parentheses under the entry number) the concept is obsolete
<Tekla Structures>	(text in angle brackets under the entry number) subject field for which the definition applies or the point of view from which the definition is drawn up
Concept diagram:	reference to one or more concept diagrams containing the concept; in an electronic version of the glossary, the name of the diagram works as a link

Interpreting the concept diagrams

Concept diagrams aim to visualise relations between concepts and help to show each concept as a part of a larger whole. The terminological relations are represented in UML (Unified Modeling Language) notation (see ISO 24156-1 Graphic notations for concept modelling in terminology work and its relationship with UML – Part 1: Guidelines for using UML notation in terminology work). All of the relations listed below do not necessarily appear in this glossary. The diagram at the end of this sub-chapter gives examples of how concept relations are illustrated.

Representing concepts in diagrams

- concept diagrams display the entry number, the preferred term, a possible homonym number in parentheses, and the definition of the concept in question
- concept diagrams may also include terms not in bold-type; they are there to make it easier to interpret the diagram but are not defined in the glossary

Generic relation (line that ends in a triangle $\rightarrow\triangleright$)

- between a broader superordinate concept (*associative annotation object*) and a narrower subordinate concept (*mark*)
- the subordinate concept has all the characteristics of the superordinate concept and at least one additional characteristic, and it covers a smaller set of objects than the superordinate concept
- a subordinate concept can be regarded as a special case of the superordinate concept
- the triangle points towards the superordinate concept

Partitive relation (line that ends in a diamond $\rightarrow\lozenge$)

- subordinate concepts are parts of the whole formed by the superordinate concept
- the characteristics of the superordinate concept are not included in the subordinate concept the same way as in the generic concept system
- for example, a *nested assembly* consists of a *parent assembly* and one or several *sub-assemblies*
- the diamond points towards the superordinate concept
- the number of parts in the partitive relation can be illustrated, when necessary, with the following notations:
 - 1..* denotes that the superordinate concept consists of one or more parts representing the subordinate concept
 - 2..* denotes that the superordinate concept consists of two or more parts representing the subordinate concept

Associative relation (line without any symbol at the end)

- a concept relation that cannot be classified as generic or partitive (for example, relations based on time, location, function, tool, or origin)
- the type of the relation is usually manifested in the linguistic form of the definition
- for example, the relation between *assembly*, *assembly hierarchy*, and *assembly level* are associative

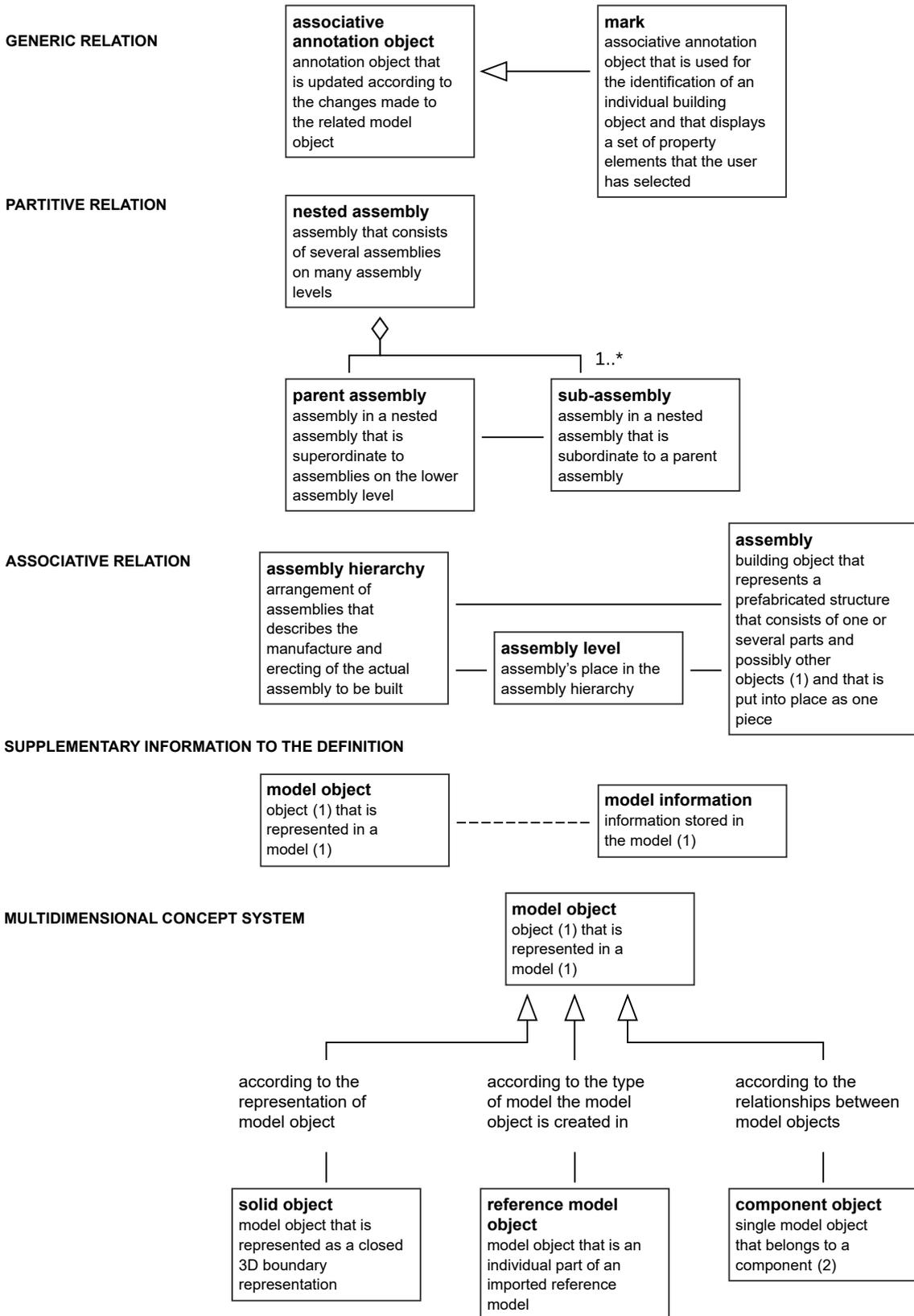
Multidimensional concept system (line connected to a text element showing a criterion of subdivision)

- both generic and partitive concept systems may be multidimensional
- a superordinate concept may be divided into different ranges of subordinate concepts (different dimensions) by applying different criteria of subdivision
- in a generic concept system subordinate concepts that belong to a certain dimension (those concepts shown under the same criterion of subdivision in a diagram) are always mutually exclusive (for example, a *drawing object* cannot be a *model object*) whereas subordinate concepts that belong to different dimensions can be combined to form new concepts
- the criterion of subdivision is often marked in the middle of the line (for example, *model object* has been divided into subordinate concepts on one hand based on the type of model the model object is created in and on the other hand based on the relationships between model objects)

Supplementary information to the definition (dashed line - - -)

- dashed lines illustrate concept relations that are not reflected in the wording of the definition (for example, the associative relation between the *model object* and *model information* is marked with a dashed line because their definitions have no direct reference to each other)
- concept relations marked with dashed lines provide information supplementary to the definition, and help the user to understand concepts
- dashed lines can be used to illustrate any concept relation: generic relation, partitive relation, or associative relation

Tekla Structures glossary



1 General concepts

1.1 Building information modeling

1

Tekla Structures

definition

building information modeling software for organizations that operate in design, detailing, manufacturing, and construction

note

Tekla Structures is software for structural engineers, steel detailers and fabricators, precast concrete detailers and manufacturers, rebar detailers, as well as contractors.

There are three *Tekla Structures configurations*, Tekla Structures Diamond, Tekla Structures Graphite, and Tekla Structures Carbon.

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#), [Licensing and configuring](#), [User interface](#) and [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

2

building information modeling; BIM

definition

process of *modeling* and communicating the structure of a building in detail to benefit the entire construction life cycle

note

Building information modeling facilitates the exchange and use of building information in a digital format.

Concept diagram: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#)

3

bridge information modeling; BrIM

definition

building information modeling for bridges and other civil structures

Concept diagram: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#)

4

modeling

definition

simulation of an *object (1)*, a system, or a process that exists or will exist in the real world

note

The product of modeling is a *model (2)*.

Concept diagram: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#)

5

model (2)

definition

pattern of an *object (1)*, a system, or a process that exists or will exist in the real world

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#) and [Model types](#)

6

model (1); Tekla Structures model

definition

building information model that is built with *Tekla Structures* and that represents a structure to be constructed, containing information needed to manufacture and construct the structure, and other information related to the *project*

note

A model (1) is the single source of information for *drawings (1)* and other *model outputs*, such as *reports* and *NC files*. This ensures that the information in drawings (1) and reports is always up to date, since they react to modifications in the model (1) and are updated accordingly.

Tekla Structures supports multiple users working concurrently on the same model (1), even in different locations.

A model (1) can be utilized in other software.

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#), [Model types](#), [Objects](#) and [Filtering and visualization tools](#)

7

model information

definition

information stored in the *model (1)*

note

Model information covers, for example, *model objects*, and *drawing (1)* and *project* information.

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#), [Objects](#) and [Organizer](#)

8

reference model

definition

model (2) which the designer can use as an aid when building another *model (2)*

note

A reference model is created in *Tekla Structures* or in other software and can be inserted into a Tekla Structures model. The reference model appears together with the *model (1)* but it is not modified by Tekla Structures. The user can *snap* to reference model *points (1)*.

For example, an architectural model, a plant design model, or a heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning (HVAC) model can be a reference model.

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#), [Model types](#) and [Modeling aids](#)

9

comparison set

definition

set of *object properties* that are used for detecting changes in *reference models*

note

Tekla Structures compares different versions of the reference model based on a comparison set, which tells if a change in a property is considered a change.

Concept diagram: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#)

10

overlay model

definition

lightweight *reference model* for viewing purposes that is stored in a *Trimble Connect* project

note

Overlay models can be used in a *Tekla Structures model (1)* through Trimble Connector if the Tekla Structures model (1) has been linked to a Trimble Connect project.

Overlay models can be used in a Tekla Structures model (1) to show overlay *model objects* on top of the Tekla Structures model (1).

Concept diagram: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#)

11

drawing (2)

definition

building contract document that shows, in graphic or pictorial form, the design, location, and dimension of the elements of a [project](#)

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#) and [Drawing types](#)

12

drawing (1); Tekla Structures drawing

definition

[drawing \(2\)](#) that includes the output of the selected information in a [model \(1\)](#) or a part of the model (1) and other information related to the model (1) and the [project](#)

note

Drawings (1) react to modifications in the model (1) and are updated accordingly.

[Tekla Structures](#) includes the following types of drawings (1): [single-part drawings](#), [assembly drawings](#), [cast unit drawings](#), [general arrangement drawings](#), and [multidrawings](#). Tekla Structures creates drawings (1) using the drawing properties defined for each type of a drawing (1).

Every drawing (1) is made up of a [drawing layout](#) and [drawing views](#).

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#), [Drawing types](#), [Drawing layout and views](#), [Drawing settings and properties](#), [Independent annotation objects](#) and [Import and export](#)

13

report

definition

[model output](#) that is represented as a list of information for the entire [model \(1\)](#), selected [objects \(1\)](#), or selected [drawings \(1\)](#)

note

Reports react to modifications in the model (1).

Reports are for quantity surveying or any other measurement purpose.

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#), [Editors and templates](#) and [Import and export](#)

14

project

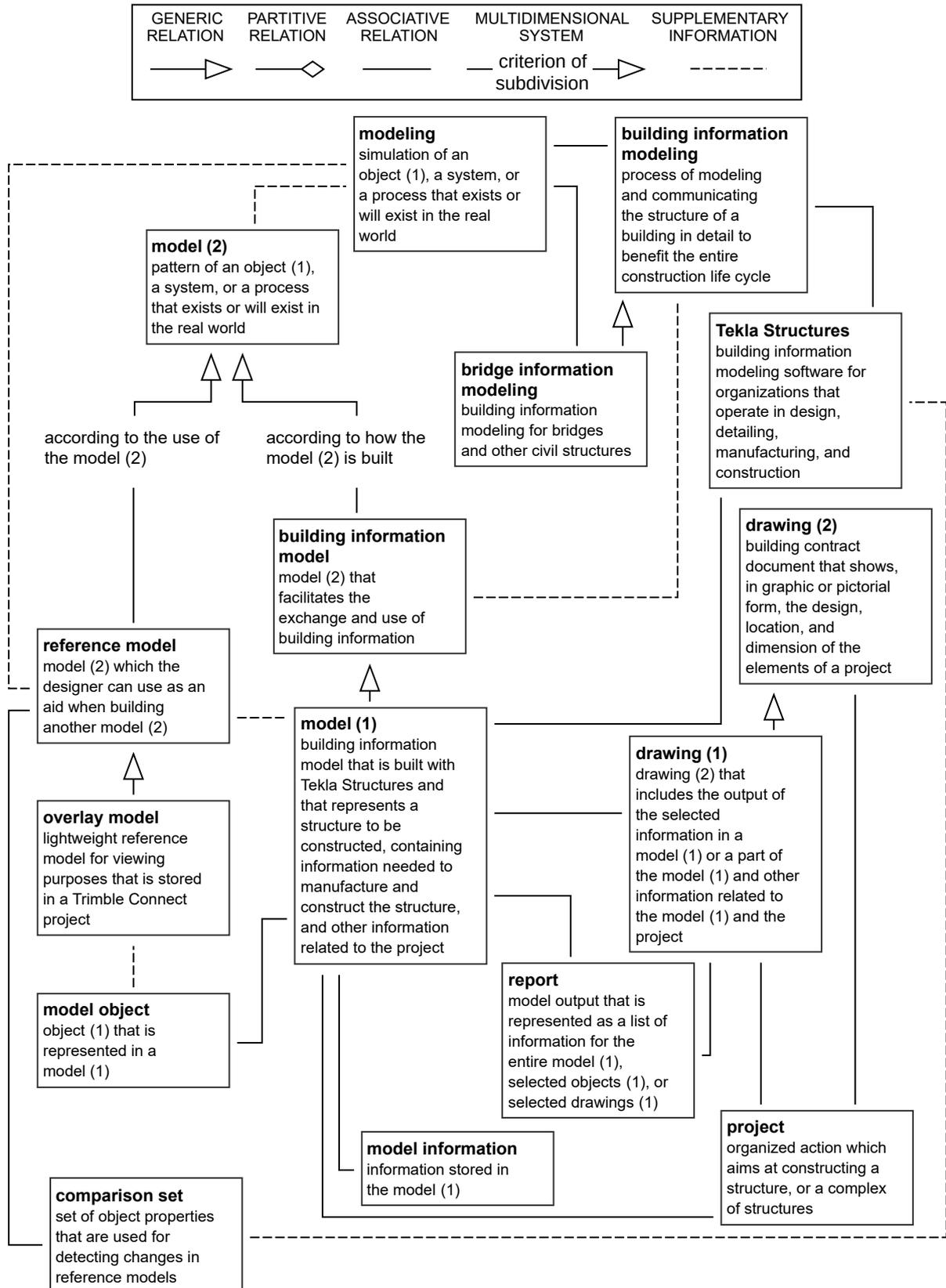
definition

organized action which aims at constructing a structure, or a complex of structures

note

A project can include several [models \(2\)](#), for example [models \(1\)](#) created with [Tekla Structures](#).

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#) and [Building hierarchy](#)



Concept diagram 1. Modeling with Tekla Structures.

1.2 Licensing and configuring

15

Tekla Structures configuration; configuration

definition

Tekla Structures software set-up for a specific user group

note

Tekla Structures *license* is a permission to activate and use certain Tekla Structures configurations. A Tekla Structures configuration consists of a set of *features* that the user is entitled to based on the license agreement, and is the commercial part of Tekla Structures.

There are three Tekla Structures configurations. Tekla Structures Diamond is for detailing and production information, Tekla Structures Graphite is for modeling and design documentation, and Tekla Structures Carbon is for viewing and collaboration.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

16

license

definition

grant given by the holder to use the object of the intellectual property rights

note

For example, in *Tekla Structures* license is a permission to activate and use a certain *Tekla Structures configuration*.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

17

subscription

definition

offering that includes a *license* for selected software and related services for a specific period

note

Tekla Structures online license usage and subscription renewals are managed with the *Tekla Online Admin tool*.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

18

Tekla Structures environment

definition

region- or company-specific *settings* and information that are predefined in *Tekla Structures* or that are defined by the user

note

To be able to use Tekla Structures, the user must install the software and for region-specific settings at least one Tekla Structures environment. The software installation includes the *common* and *blank project* environments and the global settings. The common environment and global settings form the basis for all other environments.

Property files form the largest part of a Tekla Structures environment. A Tekla Structures environment consists of, for example, *profile catalogs*, *part* property files, and *drawing settings*.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

19

common environment

definition

Tekla Structures environment that forms a basis for other environments

note

The common environment is included in the software installation and includes the global *settings*, *macros*, *symbols (2)*, and fonts, for example. The common environment and global settings form the basis for all other environments.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

20

default environment

definition

Tekla Structures environment that contains basic example *settings* that are not related to any standards specific to a country or a region

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

21

local environment

definition

Tekla Structures environment that contains *settings* that are based on country- or region-specific standards and are different from the global settings

note

The local environment settings may override the global settings.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

22

blank project

definition

Tekla Structures environment that contains only generic content and is used as a basis for customized environments

note

The blank project contains, for example, *parametric profiles* and undefined materials, and it can be used for gathering region-, company-, or project-specific *settings*, tools, and information. The blank project comes with *Tekla Structures* software installation.

Tekla Warehouse can be used to download content to a blank project.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

23

role

definition

user group profile in a certain *Tekla Structures environment* that limits the available files and *settings*

note

Different roles may be available in each *Tekla Structures* environment. For example, the following roles can be available: concrete contractor, general contractor, engineer, precast concrete detailer, rebar detailer, and steel detailer.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

24

feature

definition

part of *Tekla Structures* functionality that is maintained and owned by Trimble and that is included in the Tekla Structures installation

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

25

extension

definition

part of *Tekla Structures* functionality that is developed in order to extend the capability of Tekla Structures but that is not included in the Tekla Structures installation

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

26

component (1)

definition

part of *Tekla Structures* functionality that is used for creating a group of *model objects* that are easy to model and modify as a single unit

note

Components (1) are located in the *applications and components catalog*.

Components (1) can be used for creating, for example, *parts*, *bolts (1)*, and *reinforcing bars*.

The created *component (2)* adapts to changes in the *model (1)*. For example, Tekla Structures automatically modifies a *connection* if the user modifies the parts it connects.

Concept diagrams: [Licensing and configuring](#), [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#) and [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

27

macro

definition

saved series of actions that includes instructions for a program

note

Macros are located in the *applications and components catalog*. They are recorded or created manually and stored as .cs file in a folder defined with the *advanced option* XS_MACRO_DIRECTORY.

Macros can, for example, be used for creating *drawings (1)* or *reports*.

Macros are sometimes used to run an application.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

28

bridge tools

definition

group of tools used for designing bridges, road and rail structures, and other load bearing structures and complex shapes

note

Bridge tools include tools called bridge creator and beam extruder, and concrete bridge reinforcement tools.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

29

migration wizard

definition

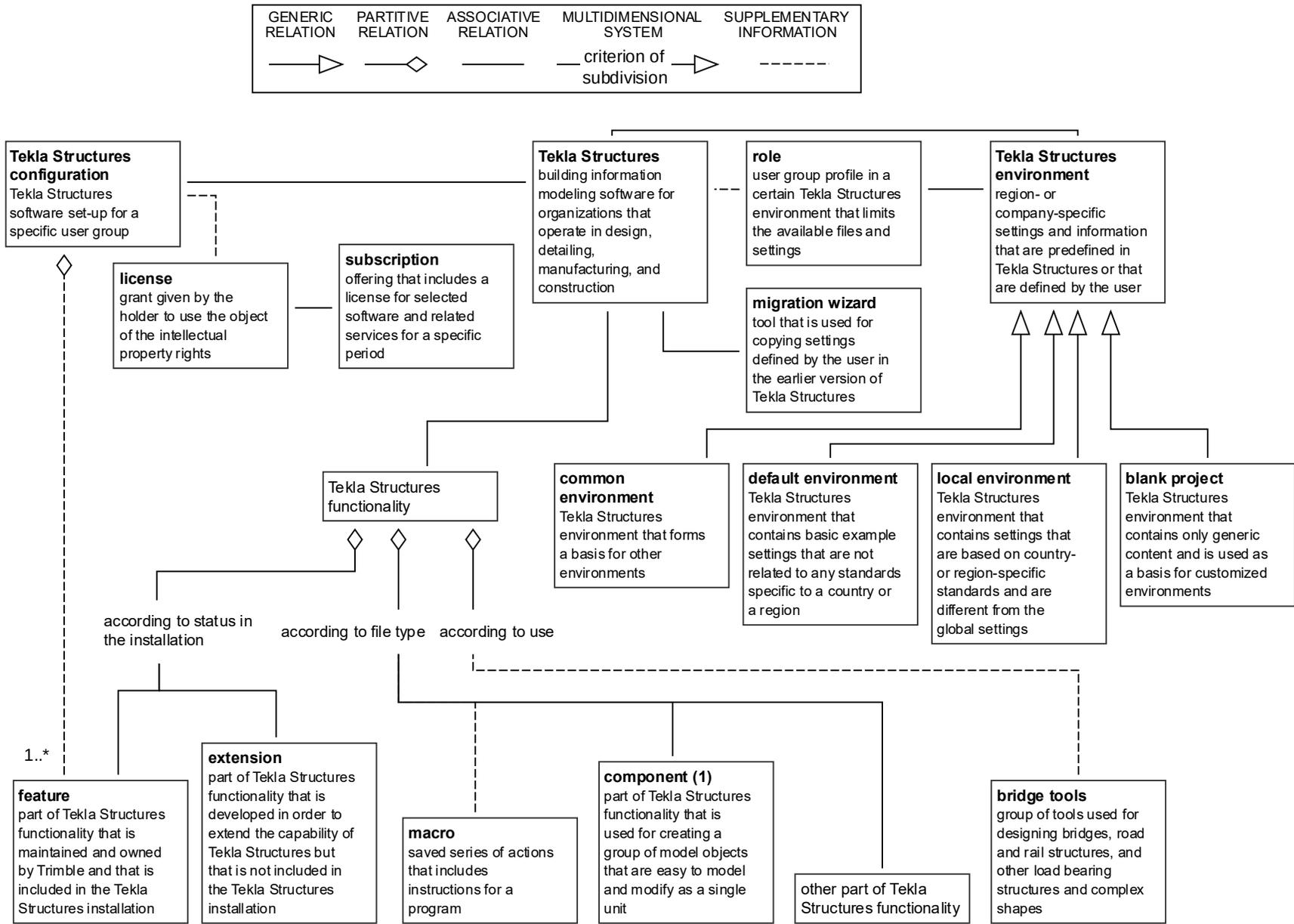
tool that is used for copying *settings* defined by the user in the earlier version of *Tekla Structures*

note

Migration wizard is typically used when starting to use a new version of Tekla Structures. The migration wizard can be used to copy settings included in *initialization files*.

Concept diagram: [Licensing and configuring](#)

Concept diagram 2. Licensing and configuring.



1.3 User interface

30

ribbon

definition

element in a user interface in the form of adjacent tabs that contain commands

note

In *Tekla Structures* the selection of commands on the ribbon may vary depending on the *Tekla Structures configuration*, *role*, or customization.

The ribbon can be customized by using the *ribbon editor*.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

31

ribbon editor

definition

tool that is used for customizing the *ribbon* and adding user-defined commands to it

note

The ribbon editor can be used, for example, to add new buttons, to change the icons and texts of the buttons.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

32

command editor

definition

tool that is used for creating user-defined commands that can be included in the *ribbon* with the *ribbon editor*

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

33

side pane

definition

element in a user interface in the form of an area on the side of the main window

note

In *Tekla Structures* the side pane can be used to show the *property pane* and the *instructor*, for example.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

34

property pane

definition

side pane window that is used to show and modify the *properties* of *Tekla Structures model objects*

note

The property pane can be customized by using the *property pane editor*.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

35

property pane editor

definition

tool that is used for customizing the *property pane* and adding *user-defined attributes* to it

note

The property pane editor can be used, for example, to organize *properties*, to create groups of properties, and to create nested property groups.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

36

instructor

definition

side pane window that shows instructions for the currently active *ribbon* command

note

In *Tekla Structures* instructor is available for all ribbon commands both in *modeling* and *drawing mode*.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

37

contextual toolbar

definition

floating toolbar that contains commands for modifying the most common *object properties*

note

The user can customize the contextual toolbar.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

38

model search toolbar

definition

toolbar that contains options for searching *model objects* in an entire *model (1)* or within selected model objects based on their property values

note

Depending on the model object it is possible to search with name, material, or *position number*, for example.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

39

work plane handler toolbar

definition

toolbar that contains options for selecting the active *work plane* in the *model (1)*

note

The work plane handler toolbar can be used if there are defined *base points* or saved work planes.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

40

selecting toolbar

definition

toolbar that contains *selection switches*

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

41

snapping toolbar

definition

toolbar that contains *snap switches*

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

42

quick launch

definition

element in the user interface that is used for quickly finding commands, dialogs, and other functions in *Tekla Structures*

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)

43

Tekla Open API

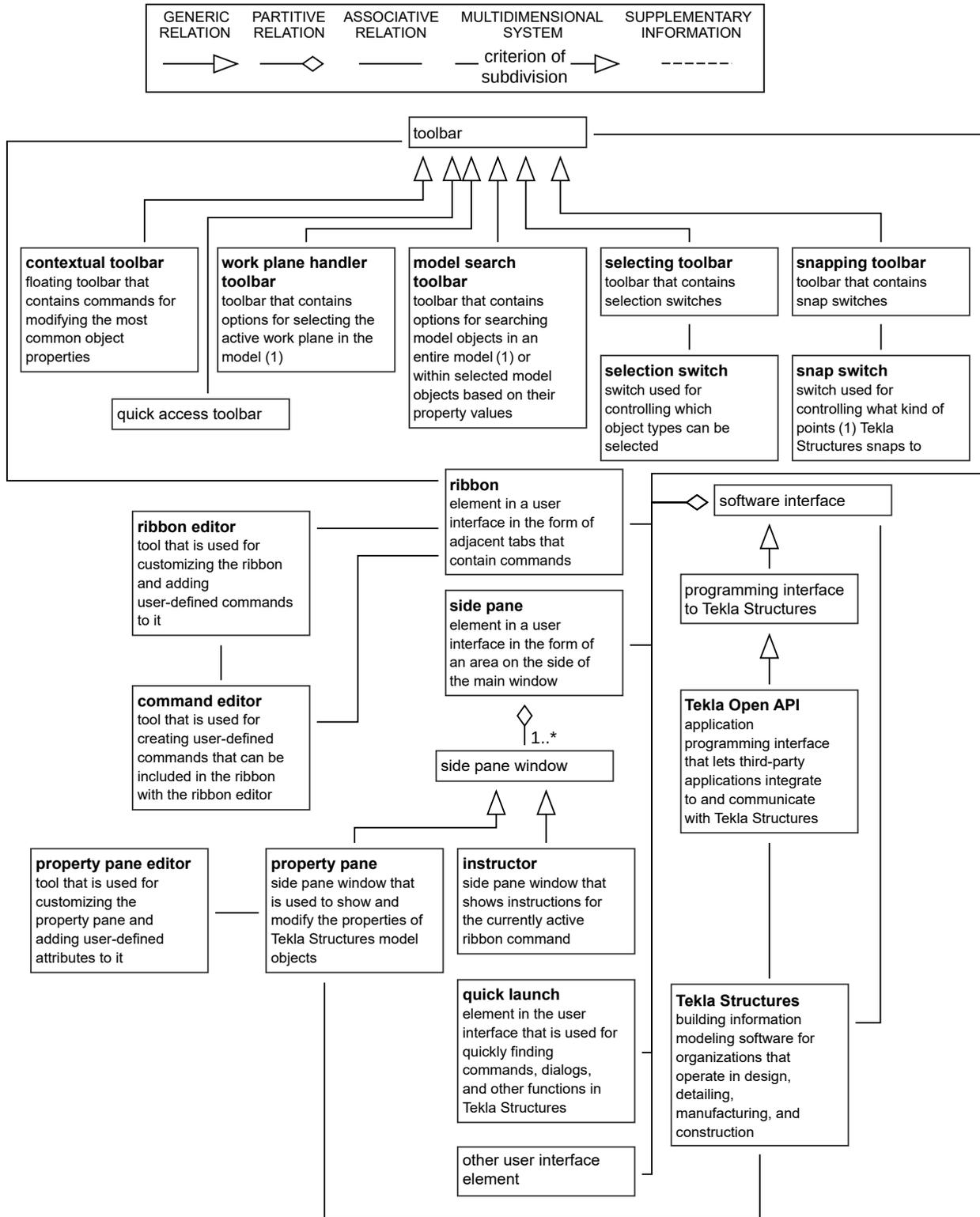
definition

application programming interface that lets third-party applications integrate to and communicate with [Tekla Structures](#)

note

Tekla Open API enables, for example, customizing Tekla Structures.

Concept diagram: [User interface](#)



Concept diagram 3. User interface.

1.4 Modes

44

modeling mode

definition

mode that is used for creating and analyzing a *model (1)*, and initiating the creation of a *drawing (1)* or a *report*

Concept diagram: [Modes](#)

45

drawing mode

definition

mode that is used for editing the appearance and content of a *drawing (1)*

note

Tekla Structures switches to drawing mode when the user opens any drawing (1).

Concept diagram: [Modes](#)

46

single-user mode

definition

mode in which only one user can work on a *model (1)*

Concept diagram: [Modes](#)

47

multi-user mode

definition

mode in which several users can work on the same *model (1)* using their own *working models*

Concept diagram: [Modes](#)

48

Tekla Structures multi-user server

definition

computer in a multi-user system set up as a server running the *Tekla Structures multi-user server program*

Concept diagram: [Modes](#)

49

Tekla Structures multi-user server program

definition

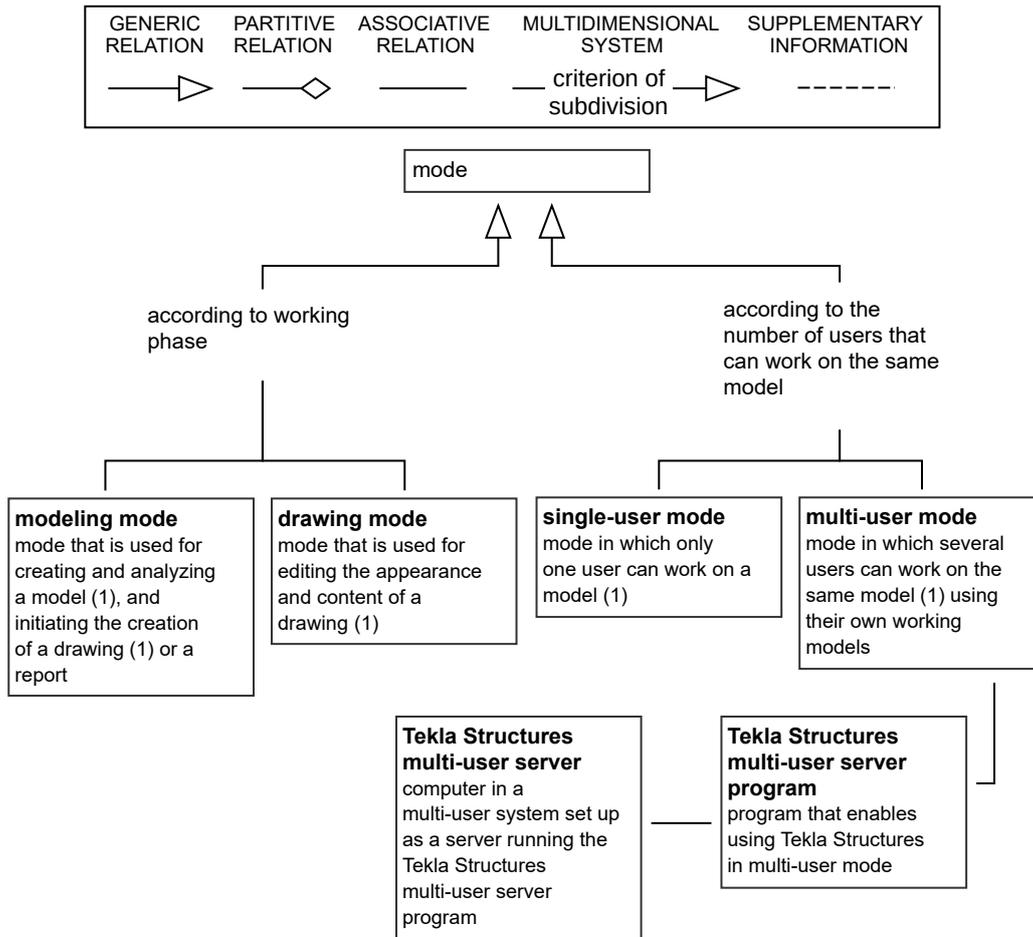
program that enables using *Tekla Structures* in *multi-user mode*

note

The Tekla Structures multi-user server program is xs_server.exe.

The Tekla Structures multi-user server program's main tasks are to distribute ID numbers for new *objects (1)*, to *lock* the *model (1)* when somebody saves or numbers the model (1), and to identify client computers.

Concept diagram: [Modes](#)



Concept diagram 4. Modes.

1.5 Model types

50

building information model

definition

model (2) that facilitates the exchange and use of building information

note

In the context of *Tekla Structures*, the term BIM is only used to refer to *building information modeling*.

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#) and [Model types](#)

51

single-user model

definition

model (1) that is opened in *single-user mode*

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)

52

multi-user model

definition

model (1) that is used for collaboration and that is opened in *multi-user mode*

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)

53

master model

definition

multi-user model from and to which information is fetched and saved in *multi-user mode*, and into which *Tekla Structures* merges changes that individual users make in the *working models*

note

It is not possible to work on the master model.

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)

54

working model

definition

multi-user model that an individual user works on in *multi-user mode*

note

Working model is a local copy of a *master model* and the user's *current model*.

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)

55

shared model; Tekla Model Sharing model

definition

model (1) used for collaboration in *Tekla Model Sharing*

note

With a shared model, each user works with their own model (1) and the changes are shared through Tekla Model Sharing. A shared model requires the use of a *single-user model*. The same model (1) cannot be a shared model and a *multi-user model*.

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)

56

model template

definition

model (1) which is used as a basis for creating new models (1)

note

The user can save a model (1) including all its elements, such as *object properties*, certain *settings*, *parts*, and *components (2)*, in a model template.

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)

57

current model

definition

model (1) that is active in *Tekla Structures*

note

The current model can be a *single-user model*, a *shared model* or a *working model*.

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)

58

standard-part model

rather than: standard part model

definition

model (1) that contains *standard parts* and that is only used for defining *part* prefixes when *numbering* parts in the *current model*

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)

59

structural model

definition

model (2) that represents a structure to be constructed

Concept diagrams: [Model types](#) and [Analysis objects](#)

60

physical model

definition

structural model with a direct or indirect counterpart in the structure to be built

Concept diagrams: [Model types](#) and [Analysis objects](#)

61

analysis model; analysis and design model; analysis & design model

definition

structural model that is created from a *physical model* and used on the one hand for analyzing structural behavior and *load* bearing, and on the other hand for design

note

Analysis model can be viewed in *Tekla Structures* in a *model view*.

Analysis model that is made with Tekla Structures can be worked on in other analysis and design software or application.

Concept diagrams: [Model types](#), [Analysis objects](#) and [Analysis settings](#)

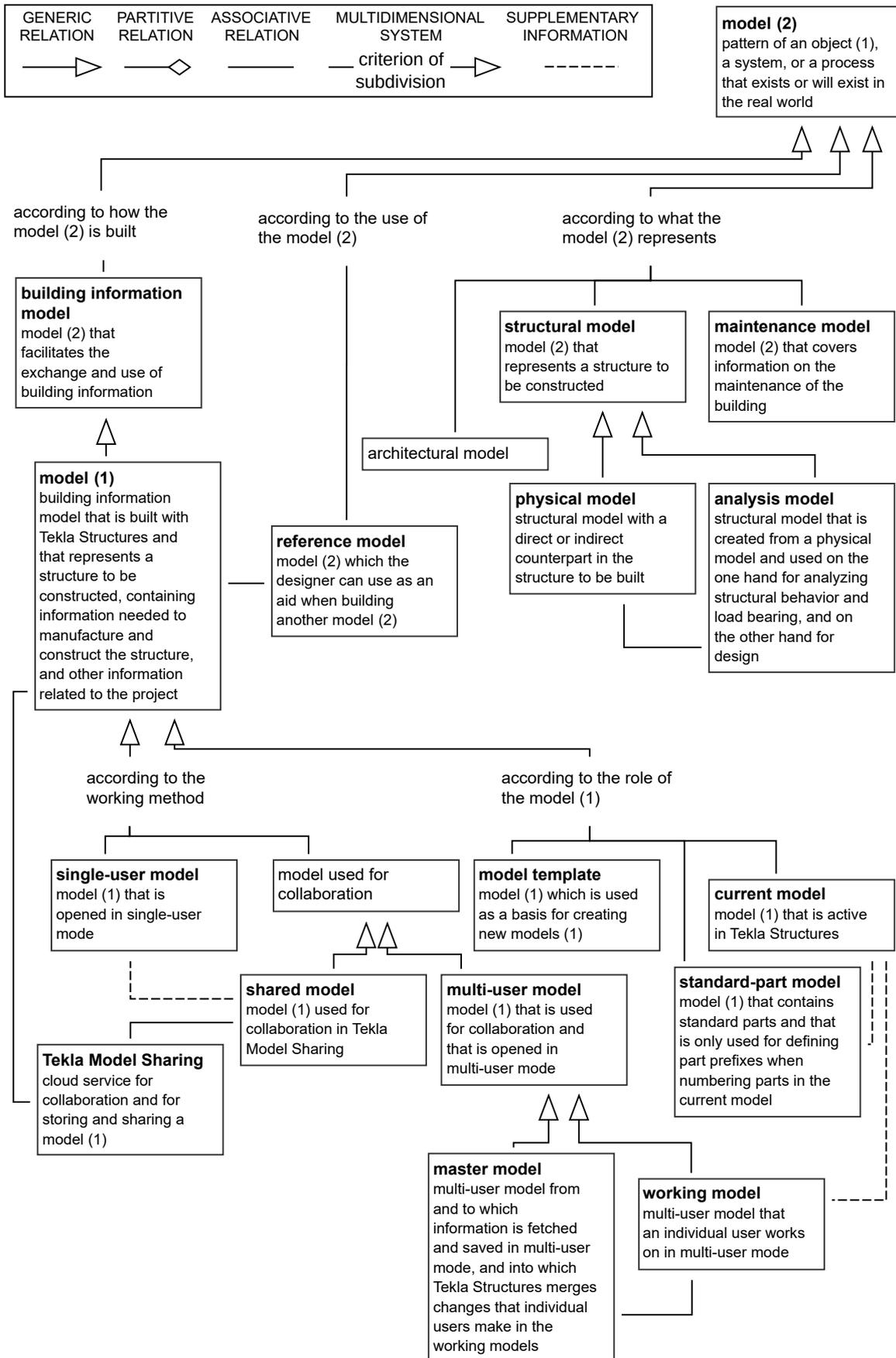
62

maintenance model

definition

model (2) that covers information on the maintenance of the building

Concept diagram: [Model types](#)



Concept diagram 5. Model types.

1.6 Views and representation

63

representation

definition

the way that the information included in a *model (1)* is represented visually

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

64

object representation

definition

representation of a *model object* or an *object group* in a *model view* that is based on the color and transparency *settings* applied to the model object or the object group

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

65

view

definition

representation of a *model (1)* or a part of it, which is displayed inside the *Tekla Structures* window

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Drawing layout and views](#)

66

view plane

definition

plane in a space that defines the *view*

note

In *Tekla Structures*, the *grids* are projected onto the view plane and the *grid lines* can be visible on it.

View depth is defined starting from the view plane.

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Planes](#)

67

view depth

definition

thickness of a slice of the *model (1)* defined starting from, and perpendicular to, the *view plane*

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

68

work area

definition

certain portion of the *model (1)* that is currently active for working on in a *view*

note

Tekla Structures indicates the work area using dashed lines. Since *objects (1)* outside the work area exist but are not visible the user can set a certain sized work area so that the views of the model (1) are simpler and quickly updated, for example.

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

69

view name

definition

name of an individual *view*

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

70

model view

definition

view that is represented in *modeling mode*

note

Model view is available also in *drawing mode* and it is represented in its own window.

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Drawing layout and views](#)

71

basic view

definition

model view whose *view plane* is defined by two axes of the *global coordinate system* and the *distance (1)* from the global origin along the third axis

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

72

perspective

definition

view projection that displays *objects (1)* in a *model view* from a particular standpoint so that distant objects (1) appear smaller than close ones, as do text and *points (2)*

note

The user can zoom, rotate, pan, or fly through the *model objects*.

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

73

orthogonal

definition

view projection that displays *objects (1)* in right-angles projection

note

In orthogonal *model view* the size of the objects (1) is the same despite of their *distance (1)* to the viewing point and the zoom remains on *part faces*.

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

74

drawing view

definition

view that includes selected *model objects* or an area in the *model (1)*, that is represented in a *drawing (1)*

note

A drawing view is a container for model and *drawing objects*.

A drawing (1) can include several drawing views, which usually are two-dimensional views, *plane views*, to the model (1).

Examples of drawing views in *Tekla Structures* include *main views*, *section views*, *single-part views*, and *3D views*.

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Drawing layout and views](#)

75

plane view; 2D view

definition

view that displays *objects (1)* two-dimensionally

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

76

3D view

definition

view that displays *objects (1)* three-dimensionally

note

3D view is one of the *default views*.

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

77

default view

definition

view that is created for a selected *part* or *component (2)* and whose *view plane* is defined by the coordinate system of the selected part or component (2)

note

Tekla Structures creates four default views at the same time: *front*, *top*, *end (2)*, and *3D views*.

Each default view can have its own view *properties*.

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

78

end view (2)

definition

default view that is created perpendicular to the *part's* or *component's (1) front* and *top view*

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

79

front view

definition

default view that is created using the *part's* or *component's (2)* coordinate system and that shows the part or component (2) from the front direction

note

Part's front view is a *view on part plane* created of the part's front *plane*.

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Drawing layout and views](#)

80

top view

definition

default view that is created using the *part's* or *component's (2)* coordinate system and that shows the part or component (2) from the top direction

note

Part's top view is a *view on part plane* created of the part's top *plane*.

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Drawing layout and views](#)

81

grid view; view along grid line

definition

view that is created along a specified *grid line* of a selected *grid* and whose *view plane* is the same as the specified *grid plane*

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

82

view on plane

definition

view that is created on the *work plane* or on any *plane* of an existing *part*

note

The plane can be selected by the user and it shows the selected part only.

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

83

view on part plane

definition

view that is created based on a selected *part* and using the part's coordinate system

note

The view on part plane is a *front*, *top*, *bottom*, or *back view*.

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

84

back view

definition

view on part plane that is created using the *part's* coordinate system and that shows the part from the back direction

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Drawing layout and views](#)

85

bottom view

definition

view on part plane that is created using the *part's* coordinate system and that shows the part from the bottom direction

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Drawing layout and views](#)

86

undeformed view

definition

view that shows a deformed *part* in undeformed form

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

87

pour view

definition

view that displays *cast-in-place concrete parts* merged into *pour objects*

note

The cast-in-place concrete parts are merged into one pour object if they have the same material grade and if they touch each other.

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Pour unit](#)

88

clip plane

definition

tool that creates a single *plane* that cuts through a *model (1)*, allowing focus on specific details on a section of a model (1) and hiding the rest of the model (1) in a *model view*

note

Clip plane can be created in model views that show *model object faces*. The clip plane is aligned with the selected model object face or created based on the *view depth* settings.

Concept diagram: [Views](#)

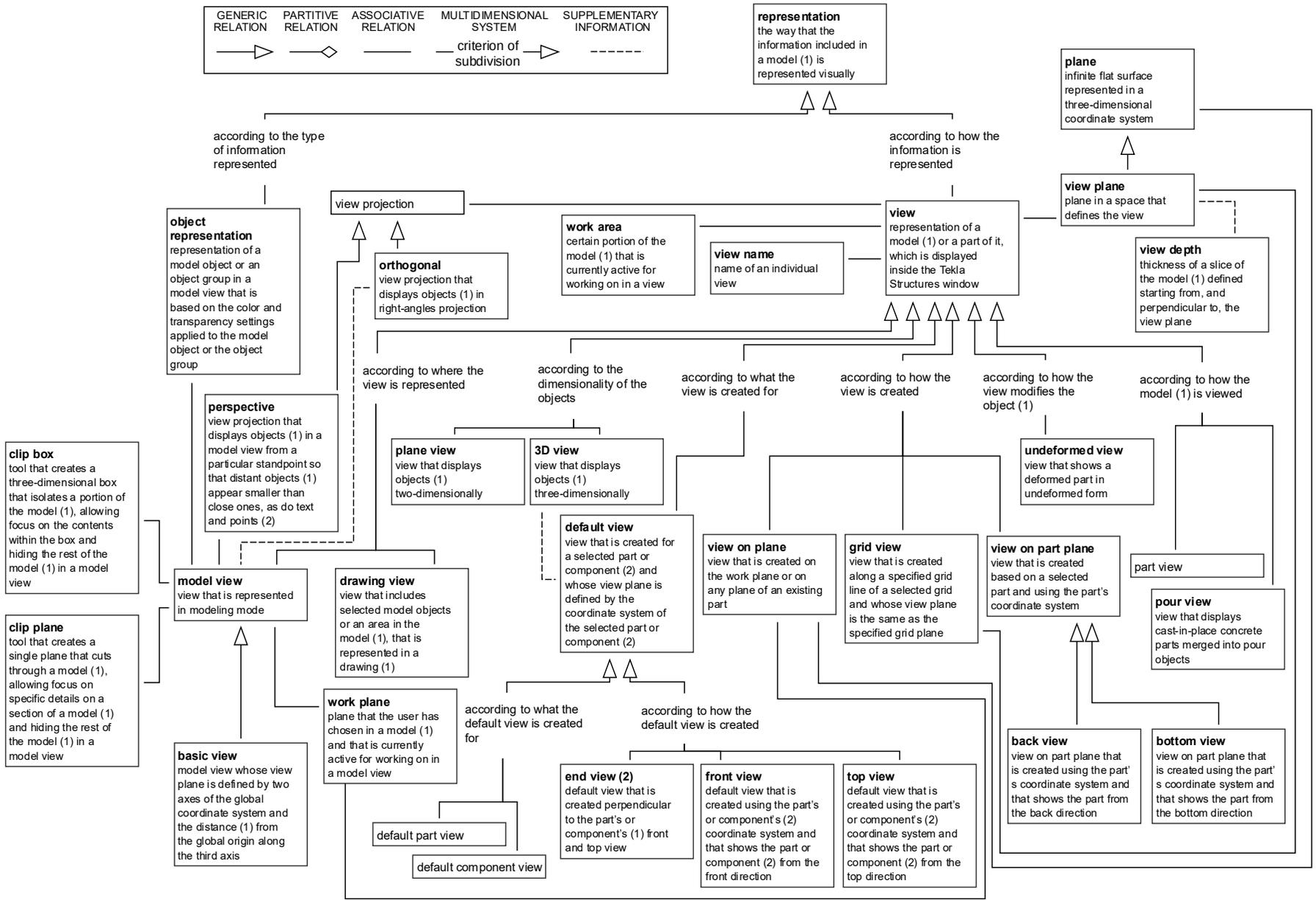
89

clip box

definition

tool that creates a three-dimensional box that isolates a portion of the *model (1)*, allowing focus on the contents within the box and hiding the rest of the model (1) in a *model view*

Concept diagram: [Views](#)



1.7 Coordinates, planes, points, and lines

1.7.1 Coordinate systems

90

global coordinate system

definition

coordinate system that reflects the entire space of a *model (1)*

note

A green cube represents the global coordinate system and lies at the global *point of origin* in the *3D view*.

Concept diagram: [Coordinate systems](#)

91

local coordinate system

definition

coordinate system that reflects the current *work plane* or *drawing view plane*

note

The local coordinate system is represented in a *model (1)* by a symbol with three axes (x, y, and z). This symbol indicates the direction of the model (1). It is located in the lower right corner of the *model view*.

In a *drawing (1)*, the local coordinate system symbol has two axes.

Concept diagram: [Coordinate systems](#)

92

user coordinate system; UCS

definition

local coordinate system defined by the user and used in a *drawing view*

note

User coordinate system makes it easier to place *drawing objects*, because the user can place the drawing objects relative to a *user-defined point of origin*, or a *base point* in the drawing view.

Tekla Structures displays the user coordinate system symbol in the current drawing view when the user creates, copies, moves, or modifies drawing objects.

Concept diagram: [Coordinate systems](#)

93

point of origin

definition

center of the coordinate system where the axes intersect and form a fixed point of reference for the geometry of the surrounding space

Concept diagram: [Coordinate systems](#)

94

model origin

definition

global coordinate system point of origin used for the *model (1)*

note

Model origin is the default *project base point*.

Concept diagram: [Coordinate systems](#)

95

user-defined point of origin

definition

local *point of origin* defined by the user in the *user coordinate system* and used in a *drawing view*

Concept diagram: [Coordinate systems](#)

96

base point

definition

base point (1) in a *model (1)* that is used to define a starting point (1) in surveying and that is used as an anchor point (1) in coordinate and height transformations

note

A *Tekla Structures project* can have several base points but only one of them can be the *project base point*.

Base points allow the use of another coordinate system needed for interoperability and collaboration. Base points can also be used in *drawings (2)*, and in *reports* and *templates (1)*. *Model origin* is the default base point in Tekla Structures.

Base points are also called control points.

Concept diagrams: [Coordinate systems](#) and [Points and lines](#)

97

project base point

definition

base point that sets the *point of origin* for a *project* if the *model (1)* has several base points

note

A project can have only one project base point.

Concept diagrams: [Coordinate systems](#) and [Points and lines](#)

98

current base point

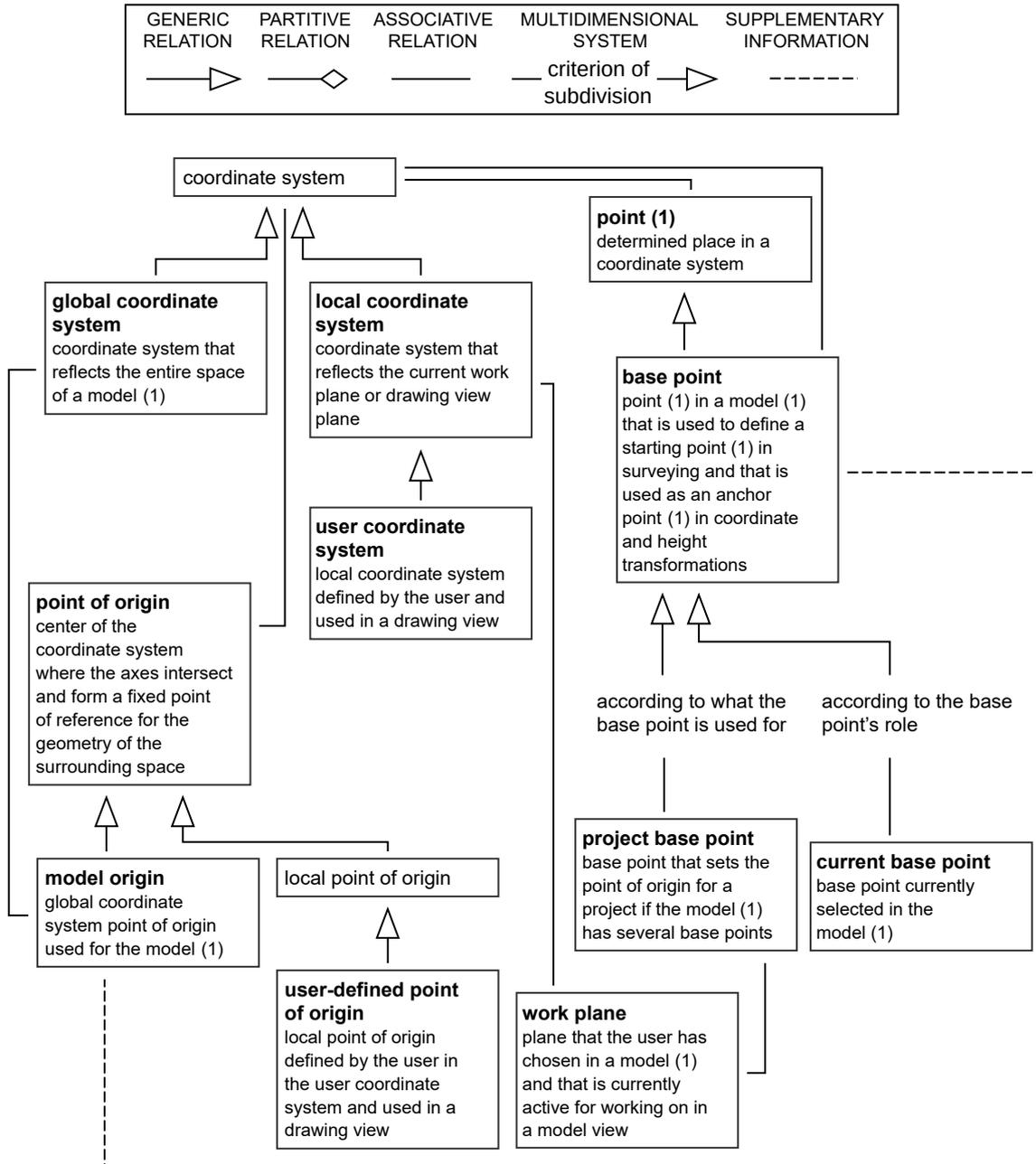
definition

base point currently selected in the *model (1)*

note

If the model (1) has no defined base points, the *model origin* is the base point.

Concept diagram: [Coordinate systems](#)



Concept diagram 7. Coordinate systems.

1.7.2 Planes

99

plane

definition

infinite flat surface represented in a three-dimensional coordinate system

Concept diagrams: [Views](#) and [Planes](#)

100

face

definition

flat surface that forms part of a faceted representation object

note

Both *solid objects* and non-solid objects can have faces.

Typically *parts* have faces.

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

101

positioning plane

definition

plane that defines the position of a *model object* relative to the *part's reference points* or other *model objects*

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

102

connection positioning plane

definition

positioning plane that defines the position of *component objects* in a *connection* relative to *component main parts*

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

103

part positioning plane

definition

positioning plane that defines the position of a *part* relative to its *reference points*

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

104

component plane

definition

plane that is in a *component (2)* and that defines the position of the *component objects* inside the component (2)

note

Component plane is used for *binding model objects* in *custom components*.

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

105

outline plane

definition

plane whose position is defined by the outer and inner surfaces of a *part*

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

106

boundary plane

definition

plane whose position is defined by the edge of a *bounding box*

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

107

bounding box

definition

rectangular border with the smallest measure within which all the selected *points (1)* that position the *model objects* lie

note

In *Tekla Structures* two-dimensional bounding boxes are used in *drawings (1)* and three-dimensional bounding boxes in *models (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

108

center plane

definition

plane whose position is defined so that it passes through the midpoint of a *part cross section*

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

109

cut plane

definition

plane whose position is defined by a cut surface

Concept diagram: [Planes](#)

110

work plane

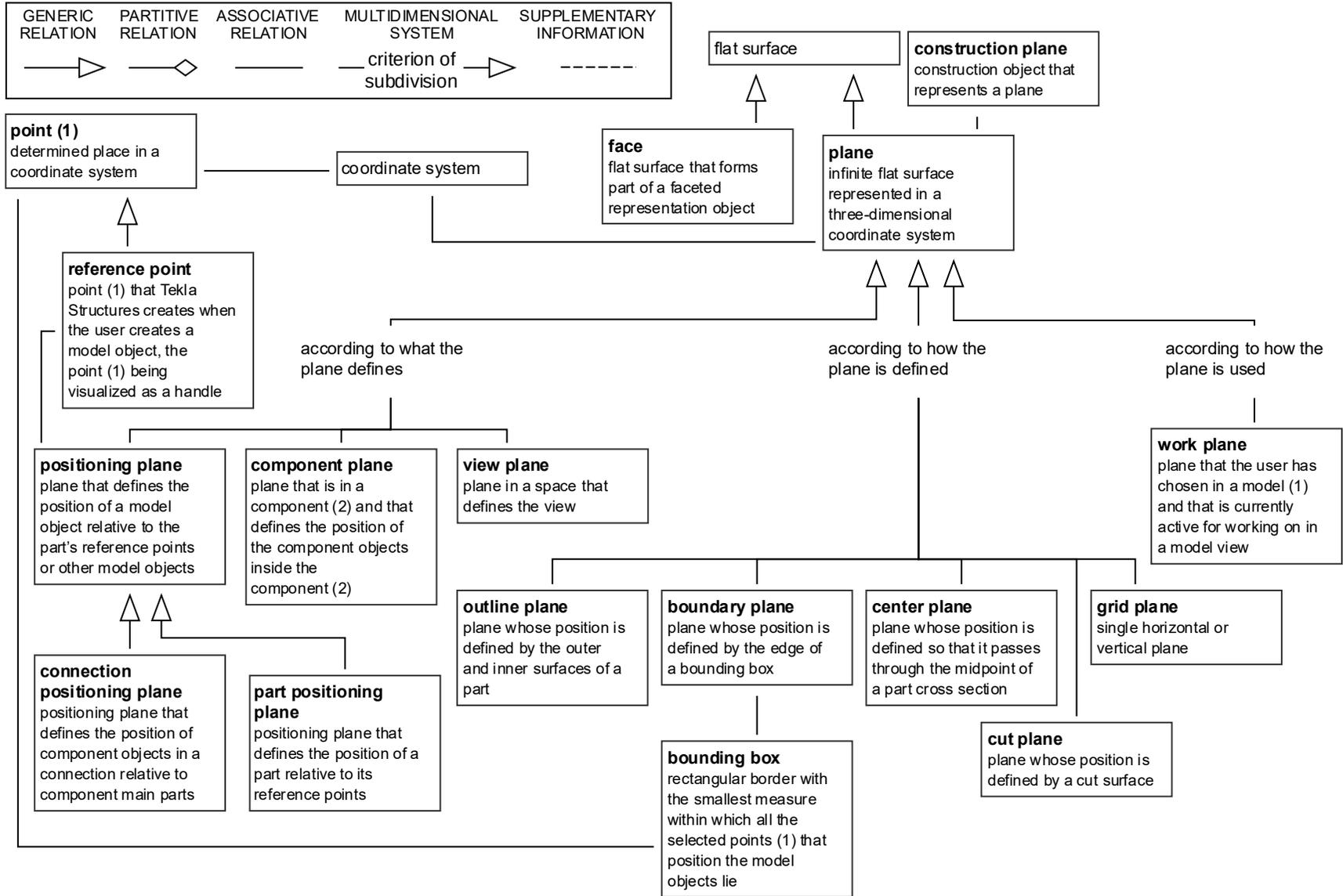
definition

plane that the user has chosen in a *model (1)* and that is currently active for working on in a *model view*

note

Newly created, copied, or moved *model objects* comply with the work plane. For example, shifting the work plane to follow a sloped plane makes it easier to model sloped structures.

Concept diagrams: [Views](#), [Coordinate systems](#) and [Planes](#)



1.7.3 Points and lines

111

point (1); location

definition

determined place in a coordinate system

note

The user can determine a point (1) by clicking it or by inputting numerical coordinates.

Concept diagrams: [Coordinate systems](#), [Planes](#), [Points and lines](#), [Snapping](#), [Modeling aids](#) and [Dimensions](#)

112

reference point

definition

point (1) that *Tekla Structures* creates when the user creates a *model object*, the point (1) being visualized as a *handle*

note

The reference points follow the model object if it is moved. They are only deleted if the related model object is deleted.

Reference points can be selected as *snap points* in a *snap switch*.

Concept diagrams: [Planes](#), [Points and lines](#) and [Snapping](#)

113

handle

definition

symbol that is shown if a *model object* is selected

note

Handles always appear at the *reference points* and *reference line* ends.

Handles can be used to modify a model object's shape or size.

Concept diagram: [Points and lines](#)

114

direct modification handle

definition

symbol that is shown if an *object (1)* is selected when *direct modification* is activated

note

Direct modification handles are used instead of *handles* when direct modification is on.

115

direct modification

definition

function that allows to resize, reshape, and move *objects (1)*

note

Direct modification enables *direct modification handles* and modification options.

116

reference line

definition

line between two *reference points*

note

For example, if the user *picks* two *points (1)* to position a *beam*, these points (1) form the reference line, and *handles* appear at the line ends.

Reference lines can be used in snapping in a *snap switch*.

Concept diagrams: [Points and lines](#) and [Snapping](#)

117

geometry point

definition

point (1) on an *object's (1)* geometry determined by the object's (1) shape

note

Geometry points can be selected as *snap points* in a *snap switch*.

Concept diagrams: [Points and lines](#) and [Snapping](#)

118

geometry line

definition

line on an *object's (1)* geometry determined by the object's (1) shape

note

Geometry lines can be used in snapping in a *snap switch*.

Concept diagrams: [Points and lines](#) and [Snapping](#)

119

associativity point

definition

in a *drawing object*, a *point (1)* that follows the changes in the *model (2)*

note

For example, an end point (1) of a line or a start point of a *dimension* is an associativity point.

Concept diagrams: [Points and lines](#) and [Parametric modeling](#)

120

layout point

definition

point (1) that can be exported to a layout device

note

Layout point can be a *reference point*.

Concept diagram: [Points and lines](#)

121

design point

definition

layout point that is created in the *Tekla Structures model (1)*

Concept diagram: [Points and lines](#)

122

measured point

definition

layout point that has been measured on the construction site and imported to *Tekla Structures model (1)*

Concept diagram: [Points and lines](#)

123

point cloud

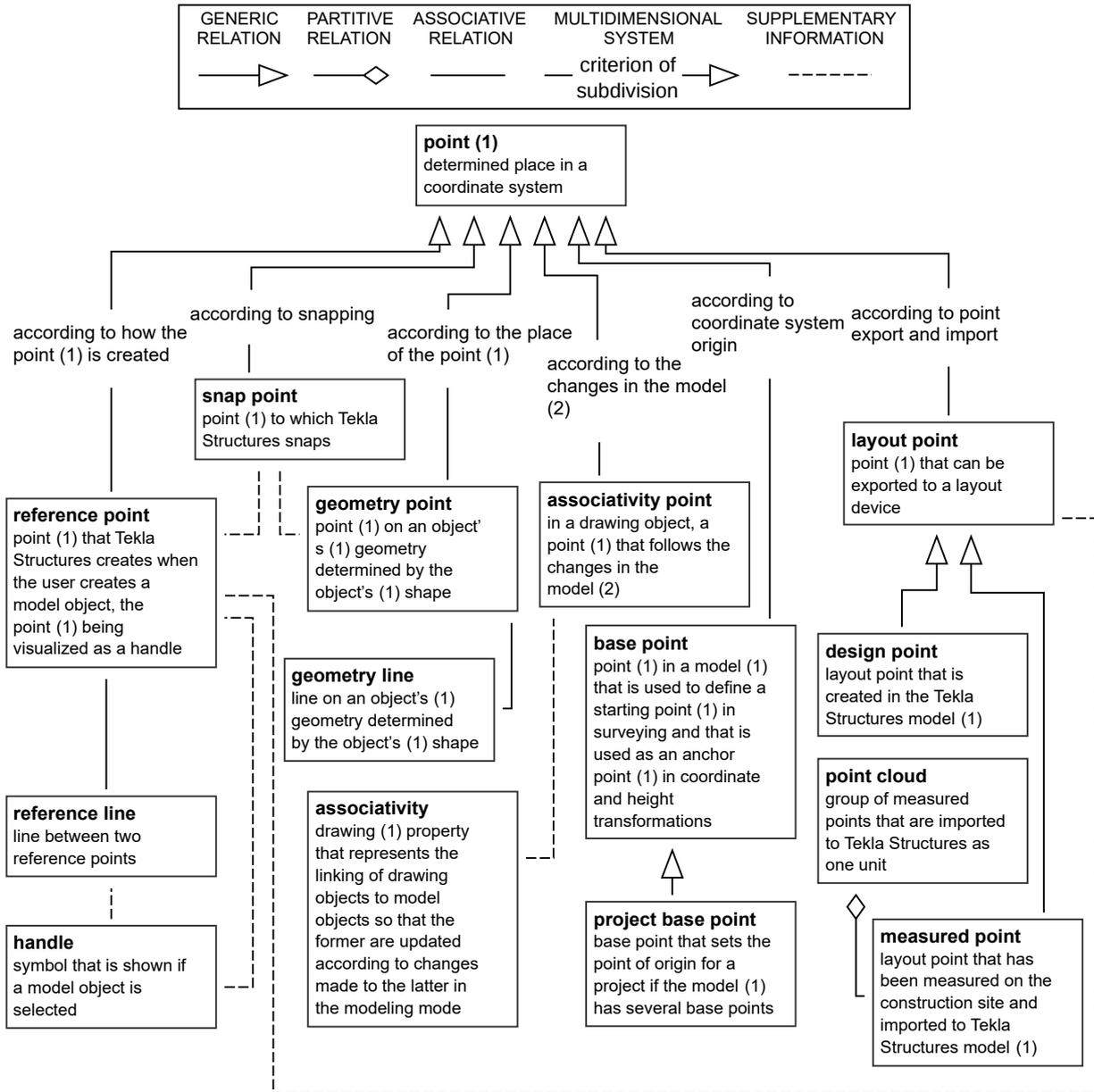
definition

group of *measured points* that are imported to *Tekla Structures* as one unit

note

Point clouds can be placed by the *model origin* or by a defined *base point*.

Concept diagram: [Points and lines](#)



Concept diagram 9. Points and lines.

1.7.4 Snapping

124

verb

pick

definition

(performed by *Tekla Structures* user) to click one or more *points (1)* in a *model (1)* in order to execute an action using those points (1)

note

The user picks points (1) to position *model objects* when creating them, for example.

Picking can be done by using the left mouse button, for example.

Concept diagram: [Snapping](#)

125

verb

snap

definition

(performed by Tekla Structures) to automatically hit an exact *point (1)* on a *model object* when the user moves the mouse pointer near it

Concept diagrams: [Snapping](#) and [Modeling aids](#)

126

snap point

definition

point (1) to which *Tekla Structures snaps*

Concept diagrams: [Points and lines](#) and [Snapping](#)

127

snap zone

definition

zone around one or more *snap points* inside which *Tekla Structures* hits the closest snap point corresponding to the active *snap switches*

Concept diagram: [Snapping](#)

128

snap priority

definition

property of a *snap point* that defines its ranking among the snap points inside a *snap zone*

note

Tekla Structures automatically *snaps* to the *point (1)* with the highest snap priority, but the user can also choose another point (1).

Concept diagram: [Snapping](#)

129

snap grid

definition

area covered with regularly spaced *snap points*

Concept diagram: [Snapping](#)

130

snap switch

definition

switch used for controlling what kind of *points (1)* *Tekla Structures snaps* to

note

The user needs to activate snap switches to be able to *pick* different points (1), for example, line ends and intersections.

Snap switches help the user to pick points (1) in order to position *model objects* precisely without having to know the coordinates or create additional lines or *points (2)*.

Concept diagrams: [User interface](#) and [Snapping](#)

131

snap override

definition

tool that is used for temporarily bypassing the *snap switch* in use

note

Snap override only bypasses the snap switch *settings* for the next *point (1)* the user *picks*.

Concept diagram: [Snapping](#)

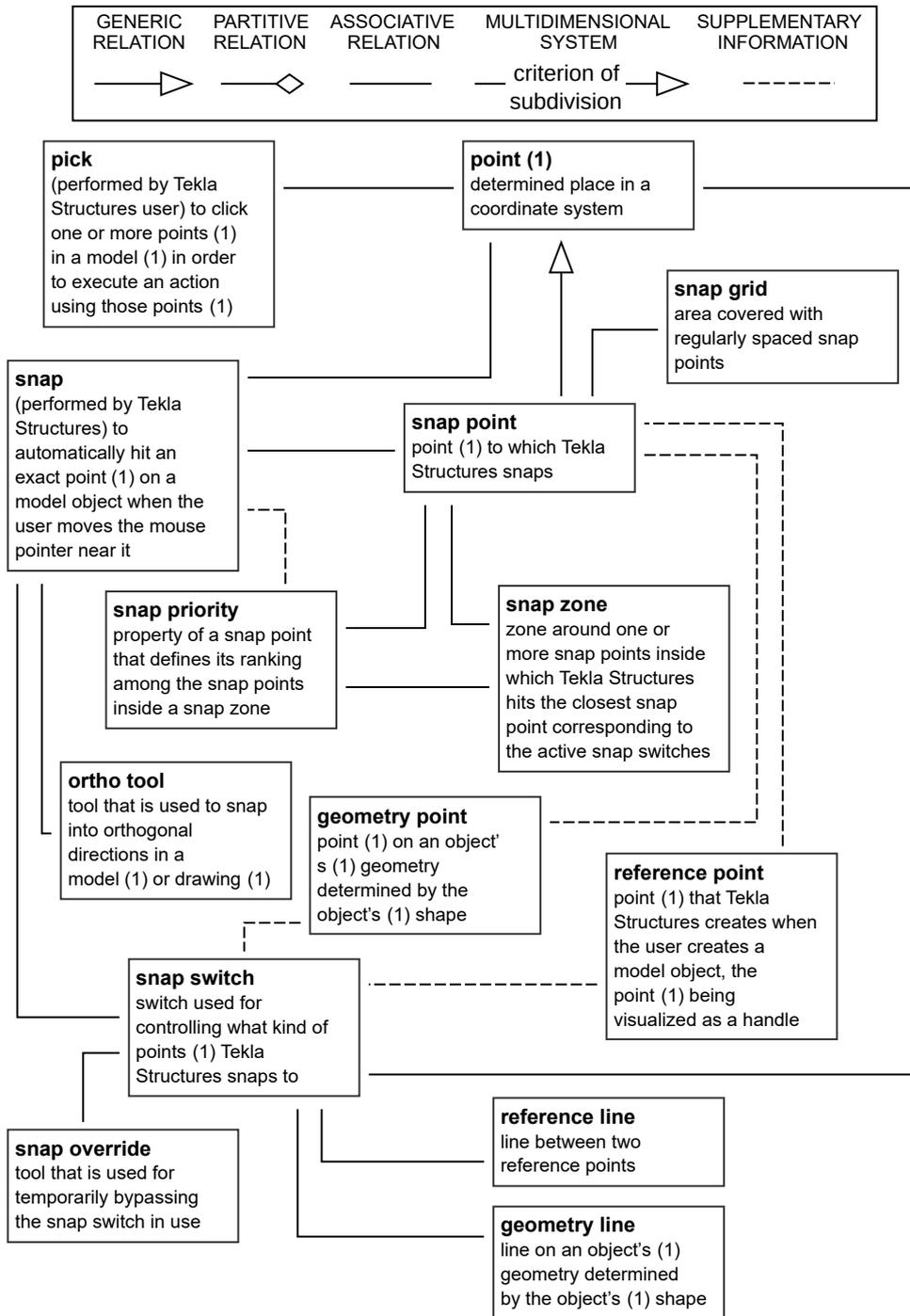
132

ortho tool

definition

tool that is used to *snap* into *orthogonal* directions in a *model (1)* or *drawing (1)*

Concept diagram: [Snapping](#)



Concept diagram 10. Snapping.

1.8 Settings and properties

133

settings *pl*

definition

collection of choices defined by a software user or predefined in the software in order to control operations of the software

note

Settings may affect general functions of the software (see [general settings](#)) or a specific function. Examples of settings in *Tekla Structures* include display settings, [numbering](#) settings, and color settings. Also [advanced options](#) are a category of settings.

The user can define settings, for example, by entering a value or by selecting a value among the available ones.

Giving values to [properties](#) also influences operations of the software. Therefore, values given to properties are also regarded as settings. For example, values given to [grid](#) properties form part of general [modeling settings](#).

The term settings is sometimes used as a synonym for properties. The term properties is used to refer to real-world entities, such as [parts](#) or [details](#). The term settings is used to refer to software operations, for example rotation settings and display settings. The term properties is used when the viewpoint is that of a single [object \(1\)](#) and the term settings is used when the viewpoint is more general.

Concept diagrams: [Settings and properties](#) and [Databases and files](#)

134

general settings *pl*; options *pl*

definition

[settings](#) that are used to control the general functions of the software

note

In *Tekla Structures* general settings include, for example, autosave interval and settings related to units and decimals. General settings can be saved for each [model \(1\)](#) or as a [standard file](#).

In Tekla Structures, general settings are defined in the Options dialog box.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

135

advanced options *pl*

definition

[settings](#) used to customize *Tekla Structures* for specific companies, standards, users, or user groups

note

In Tekla Structures, advanced options are settings that are used, for example, in a specific [project](#) or geographical area, or by a specific company.

In Tekla Structures, advanced options usually begin with the initials XS and are followed by the name of the function, for example XS_BACKGROUND_COLOR.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

136

role-specific advanced options *pl*

definition

[advanced options](#) that work for all users with the same [role](#)

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

137

user-specific advanced options *pl*

definition

[advanced options](#) that affect all [models \(1\)](#) the user has

note

User-specific advanced options set the user's personal preferences, for example, the background color of the [model views](#).

User-specific advanced options are saved in the options.bin file.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

138

model-specific advanced options *pl*

definition

advanced options that affect the *current model*

note

Model-specific advanced options are saved in the *model options* and *drawing options databases*.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

139

system-specific advanced options *pl*

definition

advanced options that affect all sessions and work for all users and in all *models (1)*

note

System-specific advanced options are read from *initialization files*.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

140

modeling settings *pl*

definition

settings applied in the *modeling mode*

note

Examples of modeling settings include settings related to *model views* and *model objects*.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

141

current properties *pl*

rather than: applied values *pl*

definition

properties related to an *object type* and applied to new *objects (1)* of this type

note

In *Tekla Structures*, properties related to an object type are activated in the *property pane* or in the dialog.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

142

properties *pl*

definition

collection of characteristics of an *object (1)* in a software or application

note

The selection of properties related to each object (1) is usually predefined. For example, properties related to *parts* include name, *profile* and material. The software user can also create certain properties (see *user-defined attributes*).

In *Tekla Structures* the values related to properties can be given in the *property pane* or in the dialog box.

The term *settings* is sometimes used as a synonym for properties. The term properties is used to refer to real-world entities, such as parts or *details*. The term settings is used to refer to software operations, for example rotation settings and display settings. The term properties is used when the viewpoint is that of a single object (1) and the term settings is used when the viewpoint is more general.

Concept diagrams: [Settings and properties](#) and [Drawing settings and properties](#)

143

object properties *pl*

definition

properties associated with an *object type*

note

Usually a single *object property* includes a default value that the user can modify.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

144

object property

definition

single characteristic associated with an *object type*

note

For example, *profile* and material are object properties.

Concept diagrams: [Settings and properties](#), [Part properties](#) and [Organizer](#)

145

drawing hatch

definition

drawing *object property* that is used for filling part *faces*, part sections or *drawing shapes* in a *drawing (1)* with a pattern or color

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

146

user-defined attribute; UDA

definition

object property created by the user in order to widen the range of predefined *object properties*

note

User-defined attributes are used when the predefined object properties are not sufficient but more *properties* are needed. For example, comment, locked, and erection status are user-defined attributes.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)

147

object lock

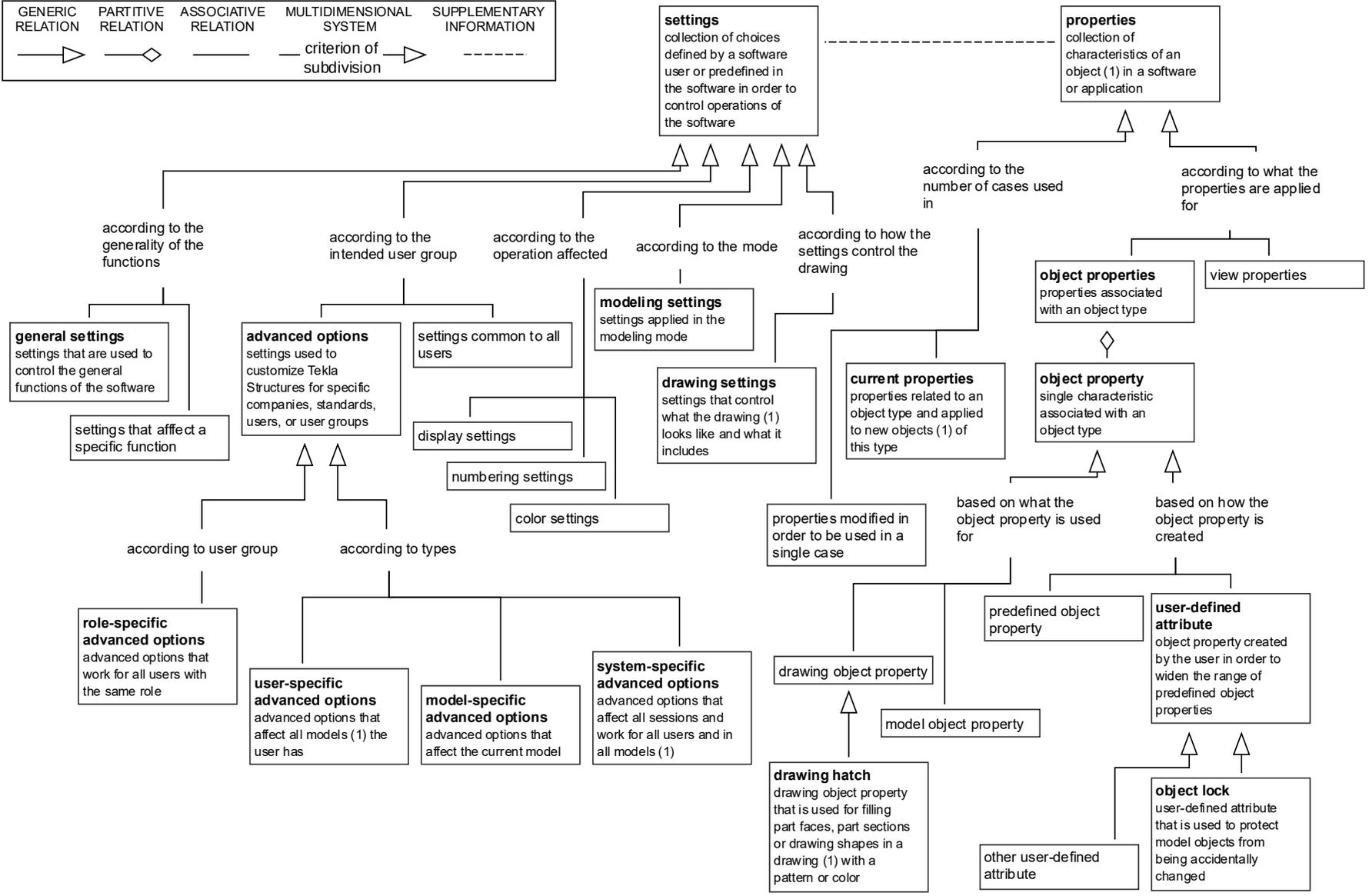
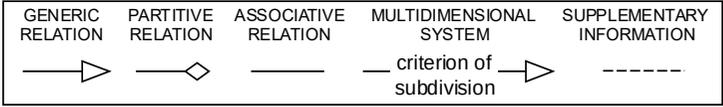
definition

user-defined attribute that is used to protect *model objects* from being accidentally changed

note

The model objects can be *locked* and unlocked in the object locks dialog and in the *phase manager*.

Concept diagram: [Settings and properties](#)



1.9 Parametric modeling

148

<Tekla Structures>

associativity

definition

drawing (1) property that represents the linking of *drawing objects* to *model objects* so that the former are updated according to changes made to the latter in the *modeling mode*

note

In *Tekla Structures*, associativity only relates to one type of drawing objects, namely *associative objects*. These can be *building objects* and *associative annotation objects*.

In Tekla Structures, the term associativity has traditionally been used when referring to the linking of drawing objects to model objects. In other *modeling* contexts, however, the term associativity may refer to any kind of linking between model objects or *parts* of a *model (1)* by using *dependencies (1)*.

Concept diagrams: [Points and lines](#) and [Parametric modeling](#)

149

adaptivity

definition

automatic linking of *model objects* to another model object

note

For example, *reinforcement objects* and *surface treatment* automatically adapt to the changes made to the *part* they are linked with.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

150

<Tekla Structures>

parametric modeling

definition

modeling that uses *parametric variables* to define various *properties*

note

In *Tekla Structures*, parametric modeling is used in *custom components* and *parametric user-defined profiles*.

Parametric modeling can be used for defining a *model object's* geometry, *location*, and relationship to other model objects. Parametric modeling may also use *dependencies (1)* between the model objects to update the model objects.

The term parametric modeling has traditionally been used in Tekla Structures as defined above. In other modeling contexts, the term associative parametric modeling may be used (see also how *associativity* is defined in Tekla Structures).

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

151

magnetic; magnetism

definition

property of a rectangular *grid*, a *grid plane*, a *construction line*, and a *construction plane* that enables the *attached model objects* to follow when the object in question is moved

note

See also *adaptivity*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

152

verb

attach

definition

to relate a *model object* to another model object or to a *point (1)* so that the related model object follows when the other model object or point (1) is moved or deleted

note

For example, *reinforcement objects* can be attached to a concrete *beam* and a *load* can be attached to a *part*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

153

<Tekla Structures>

variable (1)

definition

string that is used to *bind model objects* or to set or store values

note

For example, variables (1) can be used in *custom components* and *sketched profiles*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

154

reference distance variable; reference distance

definition

variable (1) used to pass on *distance (1)* information in order to define *properties*

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

155

distance variable; distance (2)

definition

variable (1) used to *bind* the *model object* to the *object (1) planes* or *construction planes*

note

A distance variable includes a value and a *dependency (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

156

parametric variable

rather than: parameter

definition

variable (1) used to define a value for a *parametric property*

note

A parametric variable does not include a *dependency (1)*.

For example, name, material grade, and bolt size are parametric variables.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

157

parametric property

rather than: variable (2)

definition

model object property that can include *dependencies (1)*

note

For example, length is a parametric property.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

158

dependency (1)

definition

rule that defines a *model object's* relationship to other model objects so that the latter ones adapt to changes made in the former

note

A dependency (1) can be created between *parametric properties* or between *variables (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

159

verb

bind

definition

to relate a *model object point (1)* or *plane* to an *object (1)* plane or *construction plane* so that they change according to the changes made to the object (1) plane or construction plane

note

For example, *distance variables* can be used to bind *handles*, *fittings*, and *cuts* to construction planes, so that the *custom component* can adapt to different situations, such as different shapes and sizes of *component main part profile*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

160

binding

definition

geometric *dependency (1)* between *model objects* and model object *planes* or *construction planes*

note

In *Tekla Structures*, bindings are used to define *locations* using *distance variables*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

161

equation

definition

dependency (1) that determines that two things are equal

note

In *Tekla Structures*, equations are used to define values for *parametric properties*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)

162

formula

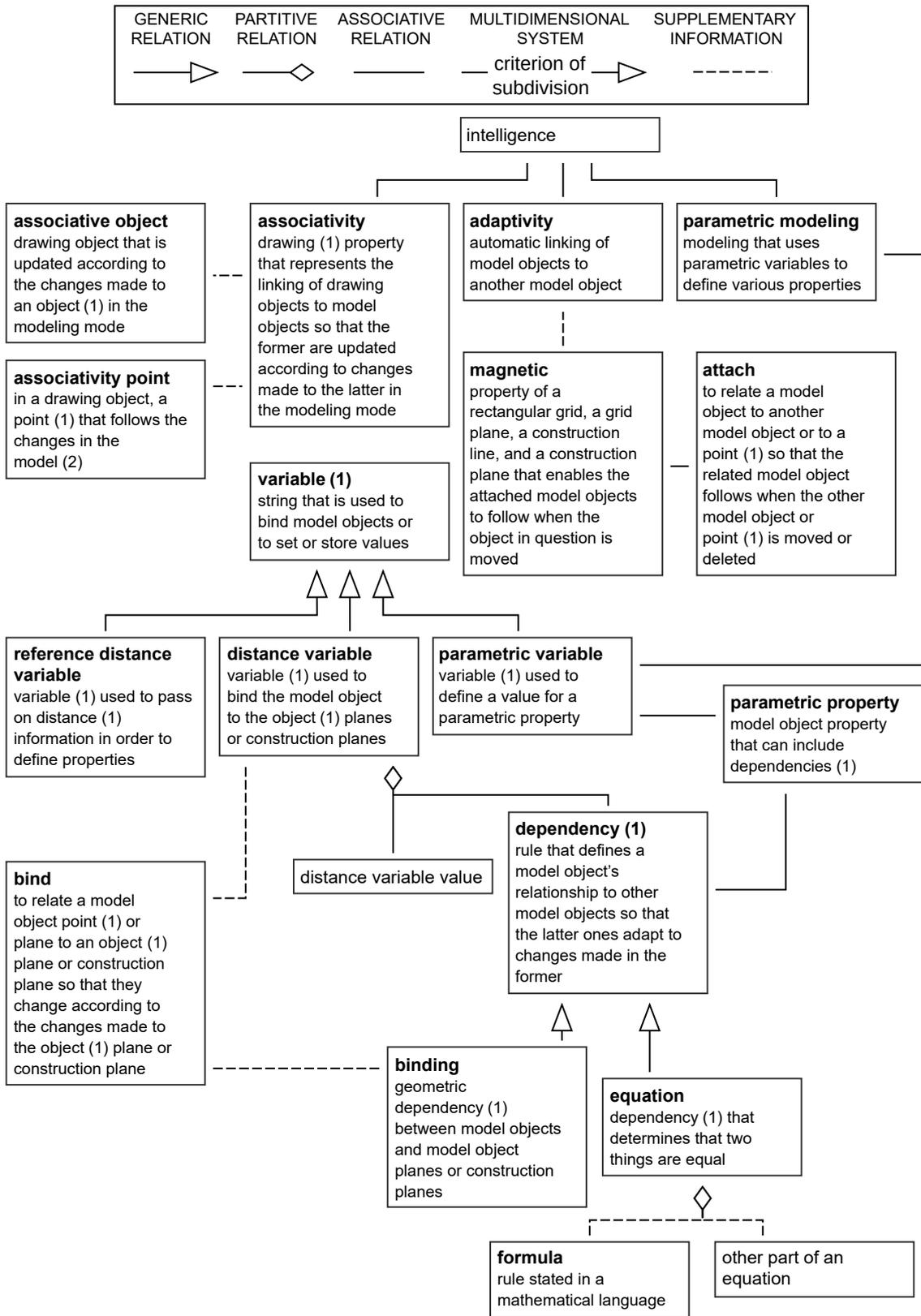
definition

rule stated in a mathematical language

note

Formula is part of an *equation*.

Concept diagram: [Parametric modeling](#)



Concept diagram 12. Parametric modeling.

1.10 Online services related to Tekla Structures

163

Trimble Identity

definition

user account to sign in to and access both Trimble and Tekla products and services

note

For a [Tekla Structures](#) user, Trimble Identity is a single sign-on account which enables the user's online identity management. Trimble Identity is needed, for example, to download a software package from [Trimble Downloads](#), and to access content in [Tekla Warehouse](#).

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

164

Online Profile

definition

user account providing personal preferences and access rights to the users signing in to Tekla products and services for Tekla products

note

[Trimble Identity](#) is used to generate the Online Profile. The users sign in using their Trimble Identity.

The Online Profile can be connected to the [Tekla Online account](#) in order to grant the user access to the [licenses](#) purchased by the company.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

165

Tekla Online account

definition

company account created for a customer that has purchased Tekla software [licenses](#)

note

The [Online Profile](#) can be connected to the Tekla Online account in order to grant the user access to the licenses purchased by the company. The licenses can be, for example, [Tekla Model Sharing](#) licenses or [Trimble Connect](#) licenses.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

166

Tekla Online Admin tool

definition

tool that is used in a company to manage the users' [licenses](#) and access rights to services for Tekla products

note

Each user must have a [Trimble Identity](#). The users can be the company's internal or external members.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

167

Tekla Online administrator

definition

Tekla Online user who has the rights to use the [Tekla Online Admin tool](#)

note

The Tekla Online administrator manages the access of the company's users to the [licenses](#) and services for Tekla products. The Tekla Online administrator can assign Tekla product specific roles. A company can have more than one Tekla Online administrator.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

168

Tekla Warehouse

definition

service for collaboration and for storing and sharing *Tekla Structures* content

note

In Tekla Warehouse the *content items* are stored in *collections*.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

169

collection

definition

group of *content items* that are organized and stored together in *Tekla Warehouse*

note

Collections can be private or public.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

170

content item

definition

logical group of content files in *Tekla Warehouse*

note

A content item can be, for example, a product catalog or a *model template*. Content items can be labeled by type and use case to help find the content. Content items may have versions that work with different versions of *Tekla Structures*.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

171

Trimble User Assistance

definition

online help and self-support service for Tekla products

note

Trimble User Assistance includes product guides, support articles, and instructional videos, and it offers a possibility for feedback.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

172

Tekla Model Sharing

definition

cloud service for collaboration and for storing and sharing a *model (1)*

Concept diagrams: [Model types](#) and [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

173

Management Console for Tekla Model Sharing

definition

web-based tool for administrators to manage all the company's *models (1)* shared with *Tekla Model Sharing*

note

The Management Console for Tekla Model Sharing requires administrator rights.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

174

on-premises sharing service

definition

alternative service for *Tekla Model Sharing* that uses a local server

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

175

Trimble Downloads

definition

online portal service for downloading Trimble product software packages and applications

note

For example, [Tekla Structures](#) can be downloaded from Trimble Downloads.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

176

Tekla Discussion Forum

definition

site where the users can have discussions and ask questions

note

Tekla Discussion Forum has a wish list for sending ideas and wishes.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

177

Tekla Developer Center

definition

online service for providing [Tekla Open API](#) material

note

Tekla Developer Center includes Tekla Open API reference material and code examples, for example.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

178

Trimble Connect

definition

Trimble's cloud-based collaboration platform for information sharing and collaboration for construction [projects](#)

note

Trimble Connect can be used, for example, to view and share Trimble Connect project files, documents and 3D models, and to manage Trimble Connect project members.

Trimble Connect is available on desktop, web and mobile.

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

179

Trimble Connector

definition

tool that enables connection between [Tekla Structures](#) and Trimble Connect for managing the [reference models](#) in the linked [Trimble Connect](#) project

Concept diagram: [Online services related to Tekla Structures](#)

2 Modeling and detailing

2.1 Tekla Structures objects

180

object (1)

definition

collection of human and computer interpretable data that is needed to model, manufacture, and construct a structure

Concept diagrams: [Objects](#) and [Modeling aids](#)

181

model object; object (2)

definition

[object \(1\)](#) that is represented in a [model \(1\)](#)

note

A model object is either created in a model (1) or imported into it.

Concept diagrams: [Modeling with Tekla Structures](#), [Objects](#), [Model objects](#), [Filtering and visualization tools](#) and [Analysis objects](#)

182

layer

definition

set of similar [model objects](#) assigned together by selected criteria to organize the [model \(1\)](#)

note

Each set of model objects forms one layer. With layers it is possible to show, hide, or export the model objects assigned to the same layer.

Concept diagram: [Objects](#)

183

drawing object

definition

[object \(1\)](#) that is represented in a [drawing \(2\)](#)

Concept diagram: [Objects](#)

184

associative object

definition

[drawing object](#) that is updated according to the changes made to an [object \(1\)](#) in the [modeling mode](#)

note

All the [associative annotation objects](#) and the [building objects](#) that are represented in [drawings \(1\)](#) are associative objects.

Concept diagrams: [Parametric modeling](#), [Objects](#) and [Indicators](#)

185

annotation object

definition

[drawing object](#) that represents information that is only relevant in a [drawing \(1\)](#)

note

An annotation object can be either an [associative annotation object](#) or an [independent annotation object](#).

For example, [dimensions](#), [marks](#), texts, and [symbols \(2\)](#) are annotation objects.

Concept diagrams: [Objects](#), [Associative annotation objects](#) and [Independent annotation objects](#)

186

leader line

definition

line that connects an *annotation object* to the related *object (1)* or *point (1)*

Concept diagram: [Objects](#)

187

building object

definition

object (1) that represents something that will exist in the real building or will be closely related to it

note

A building object is always created in a *model (1)*, but it is also represented as a *drawing object* in a *drawing (1)* in which its *properties* can be modified.

Concept diagrams: [Objects](#), [Building objects](#) and [Pour unit](#)

188

modeling aid

definition

object (1) that represents information that is only relevant in building a *model (1)*

note

For example, *grids*, *points (2)*, *construction lines*, *construction circles*, and *reference models* are modeling aids.

Concept diagrams: [Objects](#) and [Modeling aids](#)

189

object type

definition

description of a group of *objects (1)* that share common characteristics

note

The objects (1) are grouped based on different characteristics in *models (1)* and in *drawings (1)*. Examples of *model object* types are *beams* and *rebar sets*. Examples of *drawing object* types are *parts* and *marks*.

Concept diagram: [Objects](#)

190

selection switch

not: select switch

definition

switch used for controlling which *object types* can be selected

Concept diagrams: [User interface](#) and [Objects](#)

191

area selection

definition

method of selecting *objects (1)* that are included in a certain rectangular area of a *model (1)*

note

In addition to the selected area, *selection switches* and *selection filters* control which *object types* are selected.

Concept diagram: [Objects](#)

192

verb

explode

definition

to ungroup the *objects (1)* that are parts of another object (1) or a *component (2)*

note

In *Tekla Structures*, it is possible to explode components (2), *cast units*, *assemblies*, *bent plates (1)*, *parts* that have attached parts, and *drawing shapes* and *plug-ins*.

The exploded objects (1) cannot be reverted back to the original group.

Concept diagrams: [Objects](#), [Building objects](#) and [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

193

reference model object

definition

model object that is an individual part of an imported *reference model*

note

The user can define *user-defined attributes* for a reference model object.

The reference model objects can be moved to a *model (1)* that is currently being worked on.

Information included in a reference model object can be saved in the *model database*.

Concept diagram: [Model objects](#)

194

component object

definition

single *model object* that belongs to a *component (2)*

note

Component objects created by a *component (1)* can be modified separately or as a group.

Concept diagrams: [Model objects](#), [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#) and [Component objects in steel components](#)

195

solid object

definition

model object that is represented as a closed 3D boundary representation

note

Solid objects are based on solid modeling and they can be described as being watertight. Solid objects can be poured, detailed, and deformed, for example.

Concept diagram: [Model objects](#)

196

surface; surface object

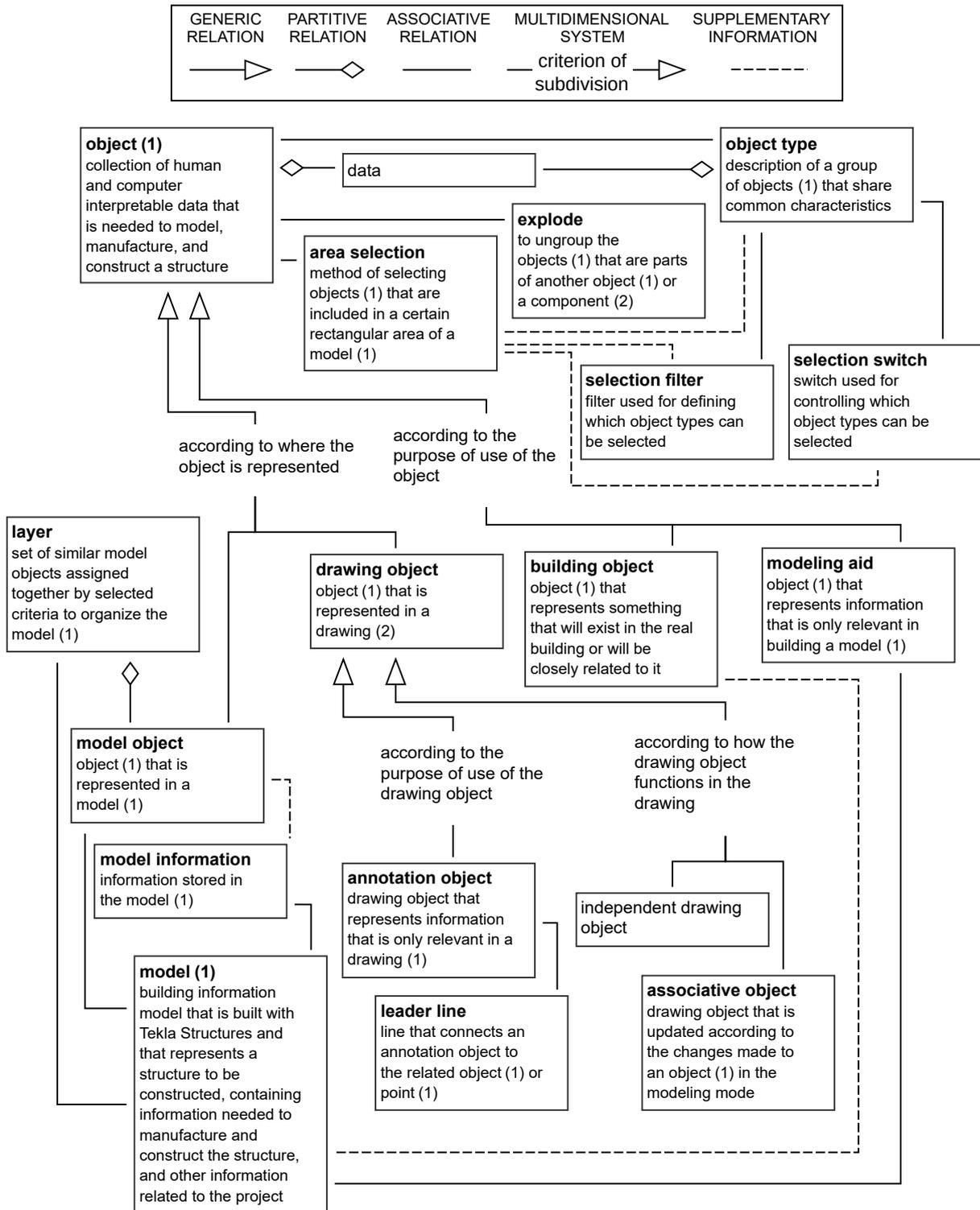
definition

model object that is created on the *face* of a *part* or a *pour object*

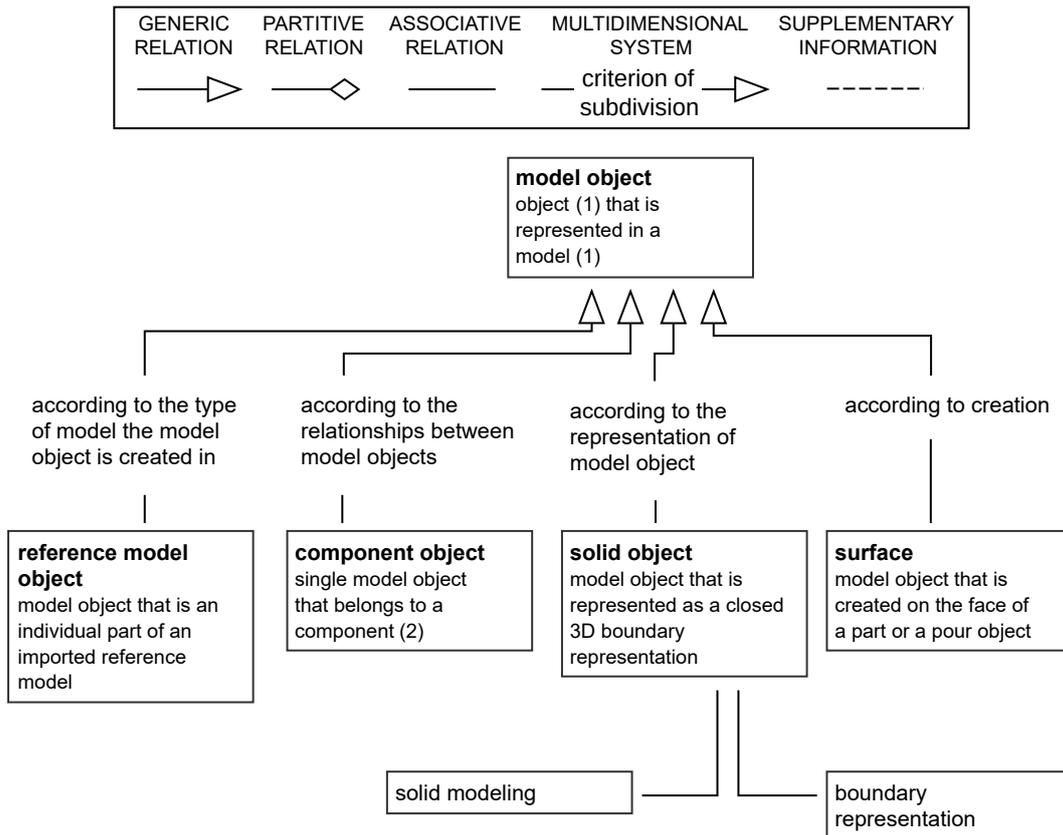
note

Surface can be used to calculate surface areas, such as formwork areas.

Concept diagram: [Model objects](#)



Concept diagram 14. Objects.



Concept diagram 15. Model objects.

2.1.1 Building objects

197

part; piece /US/

definition

building object that is a basic element of a *model (1)* and that can be modeled and detailed further

note

The main concrete parts are: *column*, *beam*, *polybeam*, *spiral beam*, *panel*, *slab*, *lofted slab*, *pad footing*, *strip footing*, and *item*.

The main steel parts are: column, beam, polybeam, *curved beam*, *twin profile*, *orthogonal beam*, spiral beam, *contour plate*, *bent plate (1)*, *lofted plate*, and item.

The term piece is sometimes used to refer to part.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#), [Part types](#), [Parts according to their roles in the model](#) and [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

198

composite structure

definition

structure of *parts* that have been produced by combining different materials (such as steel and concrete, or *cast-in-place* and *precast concrete*) in such a way that the combined parts act together as a single part

note

Composite *beams* and composite *slabs* are examples of composite structures.

Concept diagram: [Building objects](#)

199

bolt (1)

definition

connecting *building object* that is defined in the *bolt assembly*, and that fastens *parts* or *assemblies* or attaches to them

note

Bolt (1) must belong to a bolt assembly before it can be used in *modeling*.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Bolt assembly](#)

200

bolt group

definition

group of *bolts (1)* that forms a connecting *building object* between an *assembly main part* and *secondary parts*

note

The number of bolts (1) in a bolt group depends on the bolt group shape and the values of bolt (1) *distances (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Building objects](#)

201

weld

definition

connecting *building object* that joins steel *parts* or *assemblies* to form an assembly, or attaches to them

Concept diagram: [Building objects](#)

202

cut length

definition

bolt (1) property that indicates the depth at which *Tekla Structures* searches for the sections of the bolted *parts*

note

Cut length determines whether the bolt (1) will go through one flange or two, for example.

Concept diagram: [Bolt assembly](#)

203

cutting part

definition

building object that creates a *part*-shaped *hollow*

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Cuts and fittings](#)

204

embed

rather than: embedded object

definition

building object that represents an *object (1)* that is to be cast into a concrete structure and that is used to connect structures or as an aid when constructing a structure

note

For example, a cast-in socket is an embed that is placed in concrete structures to allow *parts* to be fastened together on site. In *Tekla Structures*, embeds are typically steel parts and they are added to *cast units* as *sub-assemblies*.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Pour unit](#)

205

grouting; grout

definition

building object that represents the filling of *seams* between *parts*, or *holes* or *voids* in a part with grout

note

Grouting can be used when connecting parts with anchor *bolts (1)* or rods, or in seams between *panels*, for example.

Grout is flowing concrete that hardens after application.

Concept diagram: [Building objects](#)

206

surface treatment; surface finish

definition

building object that represents finishing of a *part*

note

The term surface treatment is used in concrete detailing. For concrete parts surface treatment includes surface mixes, tiles, and flat *finishes*, such as troweling and sandblasting.

The term surface finish is used in steel detailing. For steel parts surface finishes include fire-proofing and unpainted areas.

Concept diagram: [Building objects](#)

207

batch editor

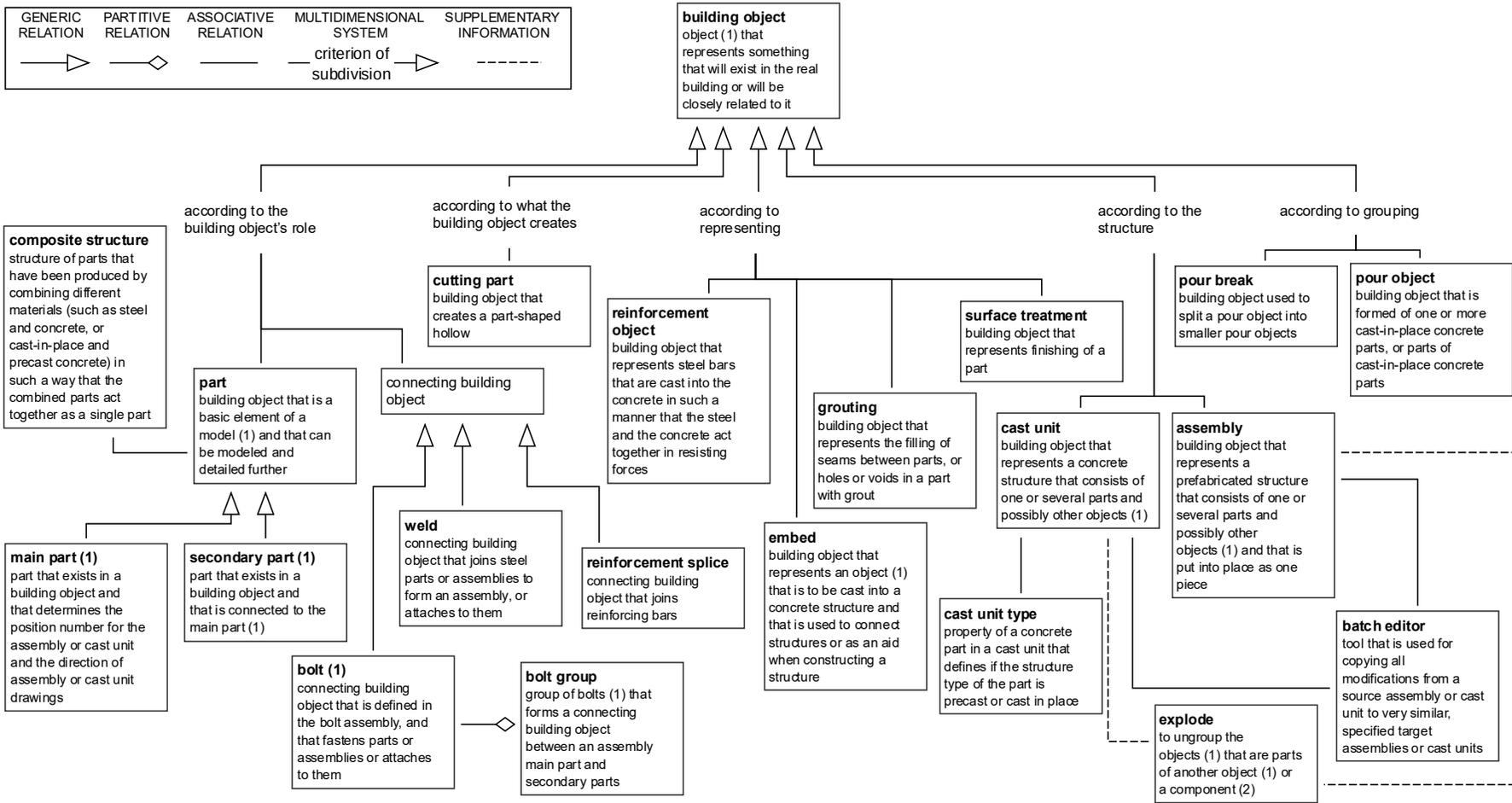
definition

tool that is used for copying all modifications from a source *assembly* or *cast unit* to very similar, specified target assemblies or cast units

note

The batch editor can be used with identical assemblies and cast units that have the same *position number*, or with very similar but differently numbered assemblies and cast units.

Concept diagram: [Building objects](#)



Concept diagram 16. Building objects.

2.1.2 Parts

208

beam

definition

part that represents a linear extruded structure in a mainly horizontal position

note

In *Tekla Structures*, beams are created with two **points (1)**.

In some contexts, for example in *structural analysis*, the term beam object may be used to refer to beams and **columns**.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

209

orthogonal beam

definition

beam created perpendicular to a **work plane** in a **picked** location

note

Beam is only **orthogonal** in the creation stage. After its creation, an orthogonal beam can be modified as if it were a beam or **column**.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

210

spiral beam

definition

beam that follows the form of a helix and is defined by a start **point (1)**, center point (1) and the rotation axis

note

Spiral beams can be concrete spiral beams or steel spiral beams. They can be used to create spiral staircases, complex architectural structures, and concrete parking ramps, for example.

Spiral beam can rise from the **work plane** or be flat. If the spiral beam rises, the total rise is defined between the start and the end point (1).

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

211

curved beam

definition

beam that follows the form of an arc

note

Steel curved beams can be created by picking three **points (1)**, where a point (1) between the start point (1) and the end point (1) defines the arc. Both steel and concrete curved beams can be created by adjusting radius in beam **properties** or by using **polybeams**.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

212

column

definition

part that represents a linear extruded structure in a mainly vertical position

note

In *Tekla Structures*, columns are created with one **point (1)**.

In some contexts, for example in *structural analysis*, the term beam object may be used to refer to **beams** and columns.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

213

pile

definition

slender *column* or pole that is put into the ground to carry *loads* or to provide support

note

Pile may be made of *precast* or *cast-in-place concrete*, or steel.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

214

footing

definition

part that represents a construction that is located under another part and used for distributing *loads* on the ground

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

215

pile cap

definition

footing that covers the heads of a group of *piles*, tying them together so that the structural *load* is distributed and they act as a single unit

note

Pile caps usually include *reinforcement objects*.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

216

pad footing

definition

footing that supports a single point of contact

note

Pad footing usually supports one *column*.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

217

strip footing

definition

footing that supports several points of contact or a region of points of contact

note

Strip footing supports a length of wall or a line of closely spaced *columns*, for example.

In *Tekla Structures*, strip footing has a polygon shape that the user defines by *picking points (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

218

plate (1)

definition

part that represents a flat structure

note

In some contexts, for example in *structural analysis*, the term plate object may be used to refer to plates (1).

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

219

panel; > wall

definition

plate (1) that represents a structure such as a wall or roof panel

note

In *Tekla Structures*, a panel is created by *picking* two or more *points (1)*.

In *cast-in-place concrete* the term wall refers to a concept similar to panel.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

220

slab

definition

plate (1) that represents a concrete structure

note

In *Tekla Structures*, a slab is created by *picking* three or more *points (1)*.

Slab may be part of a floor, for example.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

221

lofted slab

definition

slab that is created by using *construction objects*

note

Lofted slabs can be used to model curved or double-curved slabs or walls, for example.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

222

plate (2)

definition

plate (1) that represents a steel structure

note

Plate (2) is mainly used as a connection piece or as a floor plate.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

223

bent plate (1)

not: folded plate /UK/

definition

part that is created from *contour plates*, or *beams* whose *profile* is a *plate (1)*

note

Bent plates (1) can include conical or cylindrical sections.

Curved beams, *spiral beams*, or deformed parts cannot be used for creating a bent plate (1).

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

224

stand-alone bent plate

definition

plate (2) that is created by picking *points (1)* and whose shape is conical or cylindrical

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

225

lofted plate

definition

plate (2) that is created by using *construction objects*

note

Lofted plates can be used to model plates (2) with complex shape, for example, rolled plates (2) and plates (2) with double-curved form.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

226

polybeam

definition

part of a certain shape that is created as a continuous chain of *beams* passing through *points (1)* that the user *picks*

note

The segments of the polybeam are straight, but segment intersections can be curved. For example, a beam that follows a zigzag line is a polybeam.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

227

contour plate

definition

part whose outline form the user defines by *picking* three or more *points (1)*

note

The user can define the shape of the contour plate parallel to the *work plane*. The *profile* in use defines the thickness. The corners of the contour plate can be chamfered.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

228

twin profile

definition

part that represents two identical parts mirrored in relation to their position

note

Twin profile can be separated into two individual parts, after which it is no longer a twin profile.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

229

corbel

definition

concrete *part* representing a structure that projects from the *face* of a concrete part and that serves as a support for an overhanging part and connects the parts

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

230

item

definition

part that has a three-dimensional *shape*

note

Items are an exception to other parts because they have a shape instead of a *profile*.

Concept diagram: [Part types](#)

231

main part (1)

definition

part that exists in a *building object* and that determines the *position number* for the *assembly* or *cast unit* and the direction of *assembly* or *cast unit drawings*

note

Main part (1) can be an *assembly main part* or a *cast unit main part*.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Parts according to their roles in the model](#)

232

secondary part (1)

definition

part that exists in a *building object* and that is connected to the *main part (1)*

note

Secondary part (1) can be an *assembly secondary part* or a *cast unit secondary part*.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Parts according to their roles in the model](#)

233

assembly main part

definition

main part (1) that exists in an *assembly*

note

The assembly main part in a steel assembly may have other *parts* welded or bolted to it. By default, the assembly main part is not welded or bolted to any other parts.

The user can change the assembly main part.

Concept diagram: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#)

234

cast unit main part

definition

main part (1) that exists in a *cast unit*

note

The cast unit main part in a concrete cast unit is, by default, the *part* with the largest volume of concrete.

The user can change the cast unit main part.

Concept diagram: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#)

235

assembly secondary part

definition

secondary part (1) that exists in an *assembly* and that is connected to an *assembly main part*

Concept diagram: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#)

236

cast unit secondary part

definition

secondary part (1) that exists in a *cast unit* and that is connected to a *cast unit main part*

Concept diagram: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#)

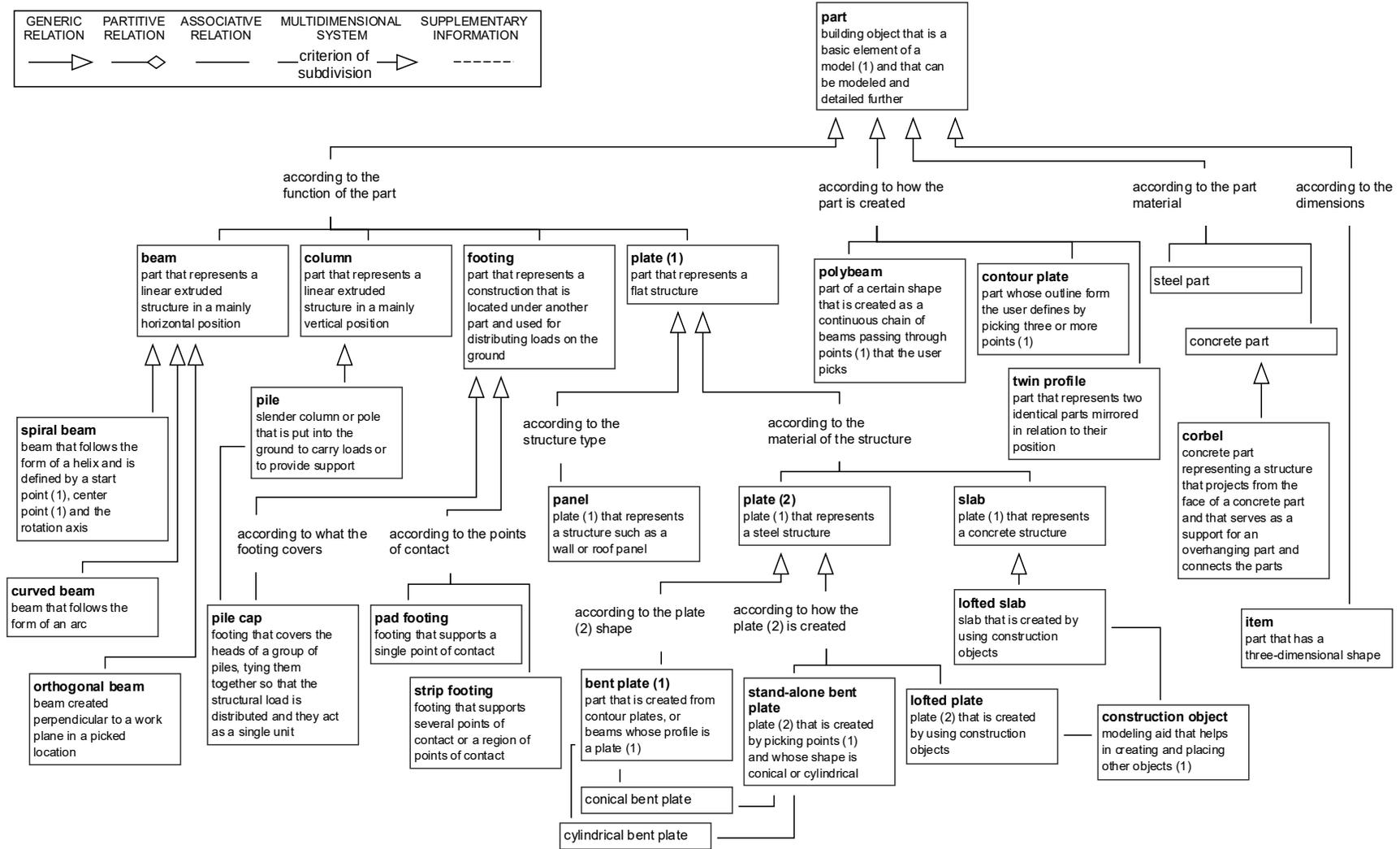
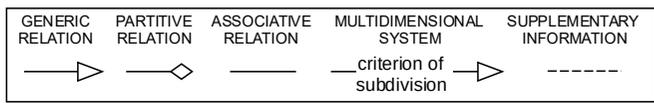
237

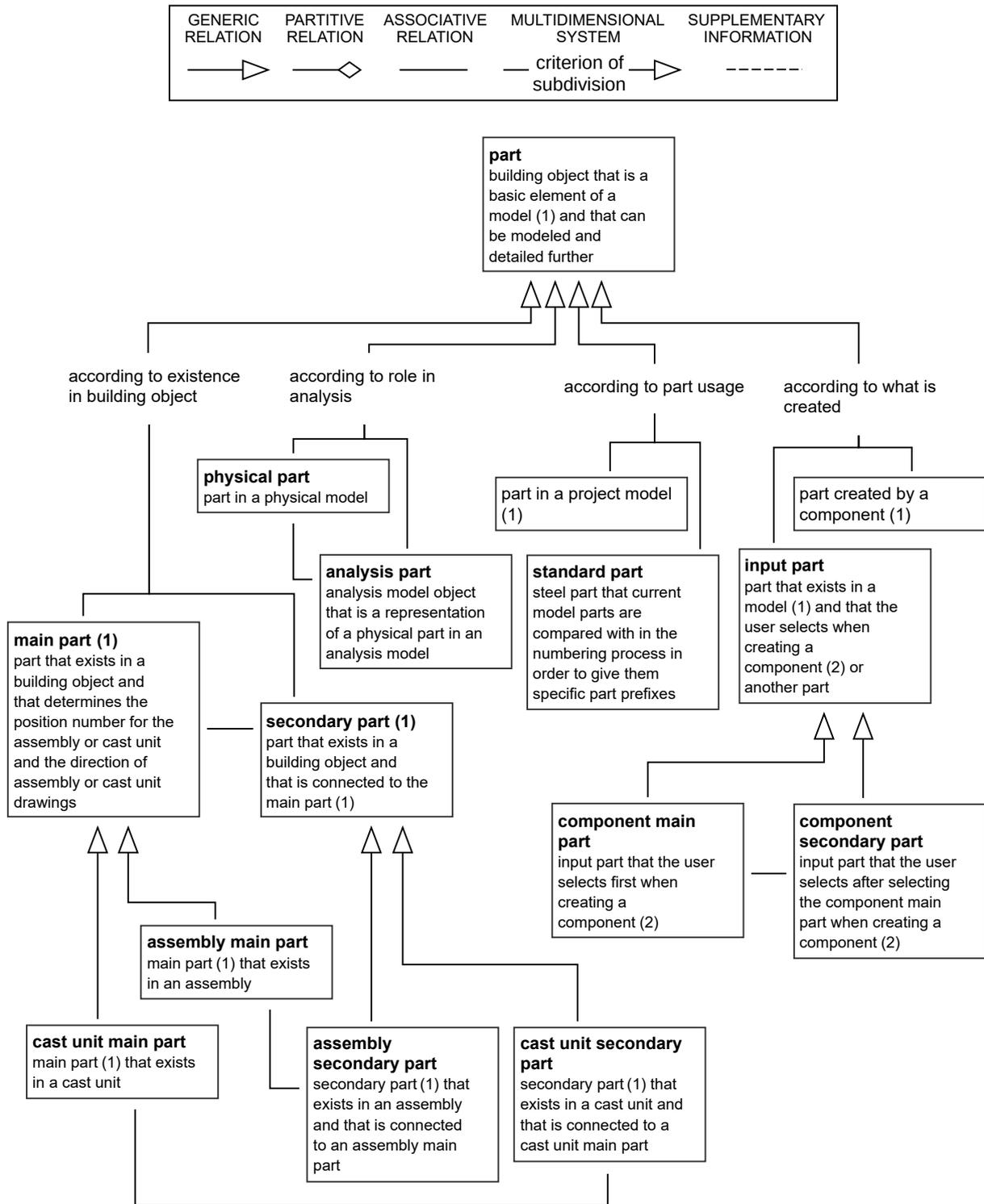
standard part

definition

steel *part* that *current model* parts are compared with in the *numbering* process in order to give them specific part prefixes

Concept diagram: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#)





Concept diagram 18. Parts according to their roles in the model.

2.1.3 Part properties and profiles

238

profile

definition

part property that specifies the *cross sections* of the whole length of the part

note

A profile can have one or more cross sections, and the separate cross sections can have different geometrical forms and dimensions. The cross sections are extruded to create the length of the part.

In *Tekla Structures*, it is possible to use different functionalities for creating and managing profiles of different types.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

239

cross section

definition

geometrical form of a **part** sectioned perpendicular to its axis

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

240

fixed profile

rather than: library profile

definition

predefined **profile** whose *cross section* dimensions the user cannot change

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

241

fixed user-defined profile

definition

fixed profile whose *cross section* dimensions the user has predefined from scratch, or by modifying an existing **parametric profile**

note

The user can create a fixed user-defined profile in several ways, for example, by importing a DWG file to a *model (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

242

standard fixed profile

definition

fixed profile whose *cross section* dimensions are predefined in *Tekla Structures*

note

The standard fixed profiles are located in the *profile catalog*.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

243

parametric profile

definition

predefined **profile** whose *cross section* dimensions the user can change by using *parametric variables*

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

244

predefined parametric profile

definition

parametric profile whose *cross section* dimensions are predefined in *Tekla Structures*

note

For example, ledger beams and fixed I-shaped profiles are predefined parametric profiles.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

245

parametric user-defined profile

definition

parametric profile whose *cross section* dimensions the user has predefined

note

Parametric user-defined profiles are defined using the *sketch editor* or .clb files.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

246

sketch editor

rather than: cross section sketch editor

definition

tool that is used for creating and editing *parametric user-defined profiles*

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

247

sketched profile

definition

parametric user-defined profile created in the *sketch editor*

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

248

class

definition

part property that groups parts according to identifiers given by the user

note

The identifiers of classes are usually numbers. Classes can be used for defining the color of parts in the *model (1)*, for example. Class does not influence the *numbering* of *model objects*.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

249

finish

definition

part property that describes how the part surface will be treated

note

Finish influences *numbering*.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

250

deforming

definition

part property that changes the geometry of the part

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

251

shortening

definition

deforming that decreases the modeled length of a *part* in a *drawing (1)* by a value the user has entered

note

Shortening is used when the parts are manufactured shorter than modeled.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

252

warping

definition

deforming that twists the *part* by rotating the ends of the part

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

253

cambering

definition

deforming that curves a *part* to compensate for deflection which arises due to *loads* on the structure

note

Cambering is typically an upward curvature defined for a *beam*.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

254

shape

definition

part property that specifies an *item's* three-dimensional geometry in space

note

Shapes can be modeled in *Tekla Structures* or by using other 3D modeling software, such as SketchUp.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

255

geometry editing

definition

method that is used to modify an *item's* *shape* or to create a new item shape based on an existing item

note

Geometry editing can be used to modify the items that are *solid objects*.

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)

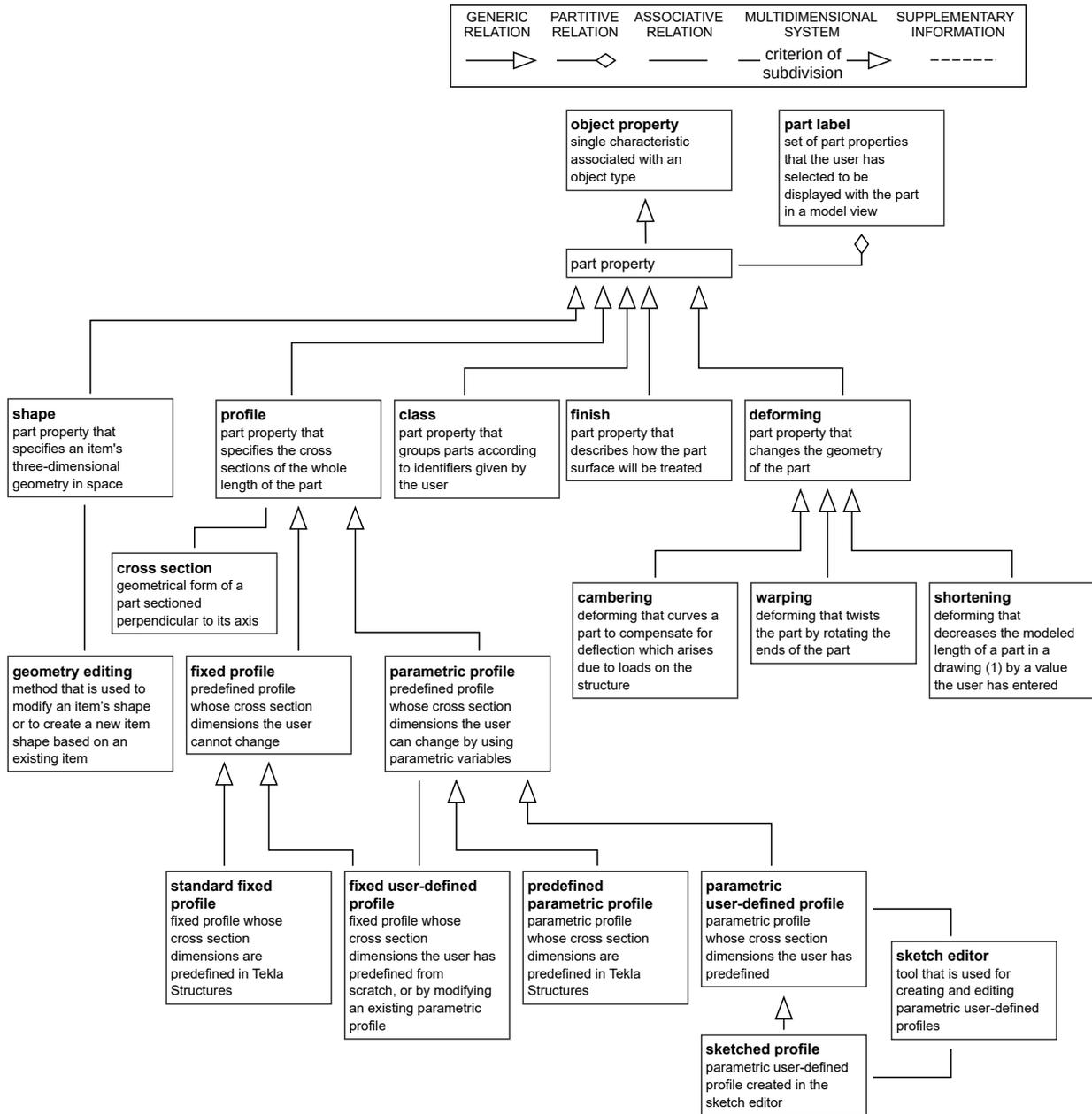
256

part label

definition

set of *part properties* that the user has selected to be displayed with the part in a *model view*

Concept diagram: [Part properties](#)



Concept diagram 19. Part properties.

2.1.4 Assemblies

257

assembly

definition

building object that represents a prefabricated structure that consists of one or several *parts* and possibly other *objects (1)* and that is put into place as one piece

note

Typically, an assembly is a steel structure, for example, a steel *beam* with *stiffeners* welded in a workshop.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Assemblies](#)

258

basic assembly

definition

assembly that is an independent unit on one *assembly level*

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

259

nested assembly

definition

assembly that consists of several assemblies on many *assembly levels*

note

Nested assemblies include elements that are manufactured as *sub-assemblies*.

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

260

parent assembly

definition

assembly in a *nested assembly* that is superordinate to assemblies on the lower *assembly level*

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

261

sub-assembly

definition

assembly in a *nested assembly* that is subordinate to a *parent assembly*

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

262

single-part assembly

definition

assembly that consists of one *part*

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

263

assembly hierarchy

definition

arrangement of *assemblies* that describes the manufacture and erecting of the actual assembly to be built

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

264

assembly level

definition

assembly's place in the *assembly hierarchy*

note

The assembly level is expressed as a number.

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

265

lotting

definition

process of creating *lots* and adding *assemblies* to them

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

266

lot

definition

consignment of *assemblies* for transportation to site

note

It is possible to use *lot numbers* and descriptions in *reports*.

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

267

lot number

definition

numerical value that indicates a *lot*

Concept diagram: [Assemblies](#)

268

control number; ACN

definition

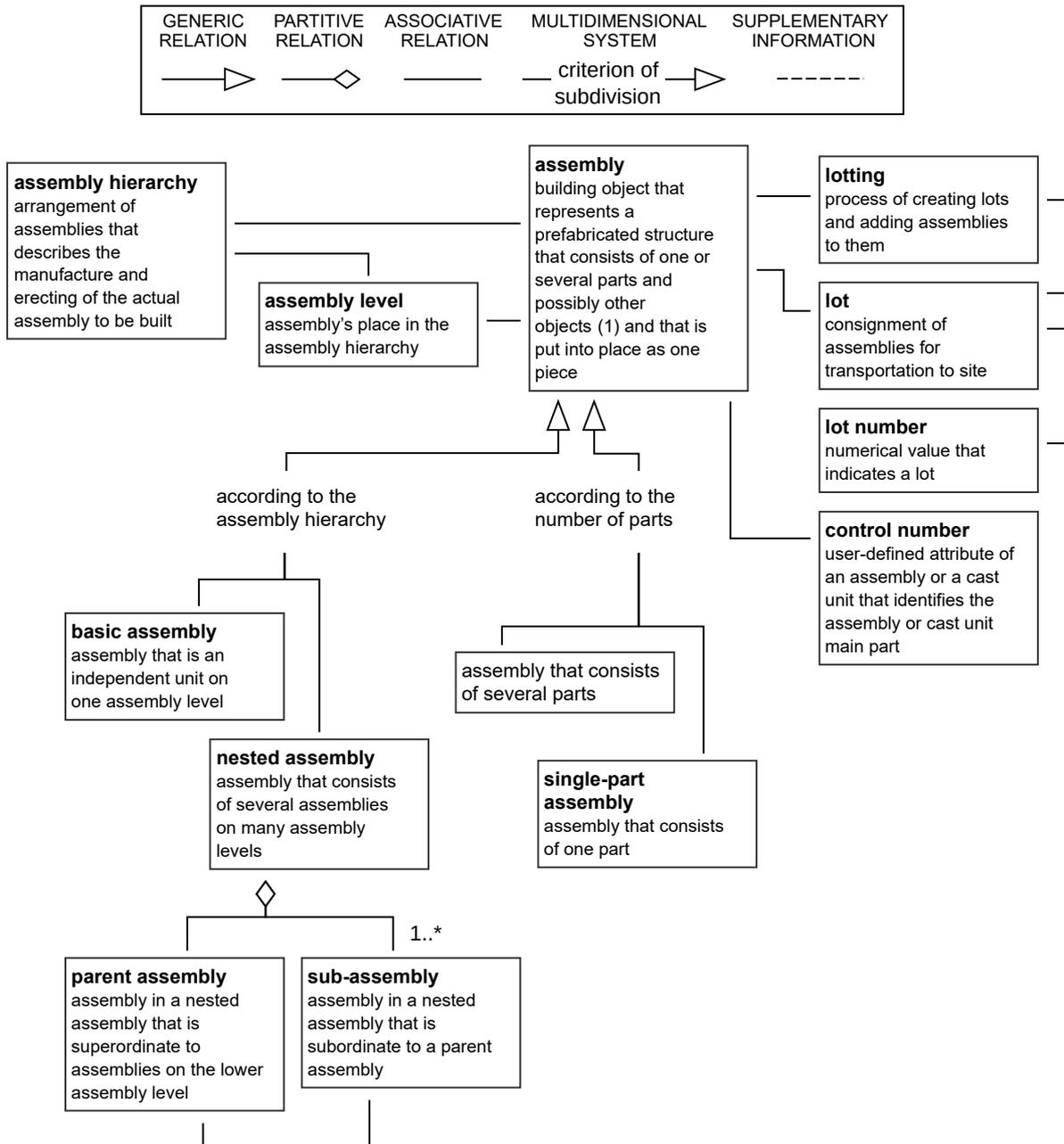
user-defined attribute of an *assembly* or a *cast unit* that identifies the *assembly* or *cast unit main part*

note

A control number does not affect *numbering*.

Control numbers are running numbers.

Concept diagrams: [Assemblies](#) and [Cast unit](#)



Concept diagram 20. Assemblies.

2.1.5 Cast units

269

cast unit

definition

building object that represents a concrete structure that consists of one or several *parts* and possibly other *objects (1)*

note

Typically, a cast unit is a *precast concrete* element, for example, a *column* with *corbels* that is put into place as one piece.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Cast unit](#)

270

cast unit type

definition

property of a concrete *part* in a *cast unit* that defines if the structure type of the part is precast or cast in place

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Cast unit](#)

271

precast concrete

definition

cast unit type where the concrete is formed, cast, and cured before moved to its final position

Concept diagram: [Cast unit](#)

272

precast planning tool

definition

tool used in process planning related to *precast concrete*

note

For example stacker and palletizer are precast planning tools.

Concept diagram: [Cast unit](#)

273

cast-in-place concrete; CIP; cast-in-situ concrete /UK/; poured concrete /US/; reinforced concrete (2) /IN/

definition

cast unit type where the concrete is formed, poured, and cured in its final position

Concept diagram: [Cast unit](#)

274

reinforced concrete (1)

definition

concrete structure which contains reinforcement designed on the assumption that the concrete and reinforcement act together in resisting forces

note

Reinforcement in reinforced concrete (1) is usually steel bars, wires, or welded wire fabric. It may also be structural fiber of some other material.

In *Tekla Structures*, reinforced concrete (1) is modeled with *reinforcement objects*.

Concept diagrams: [Cast unit](#) and [Reinforcement](#)

275

prestressed concrete

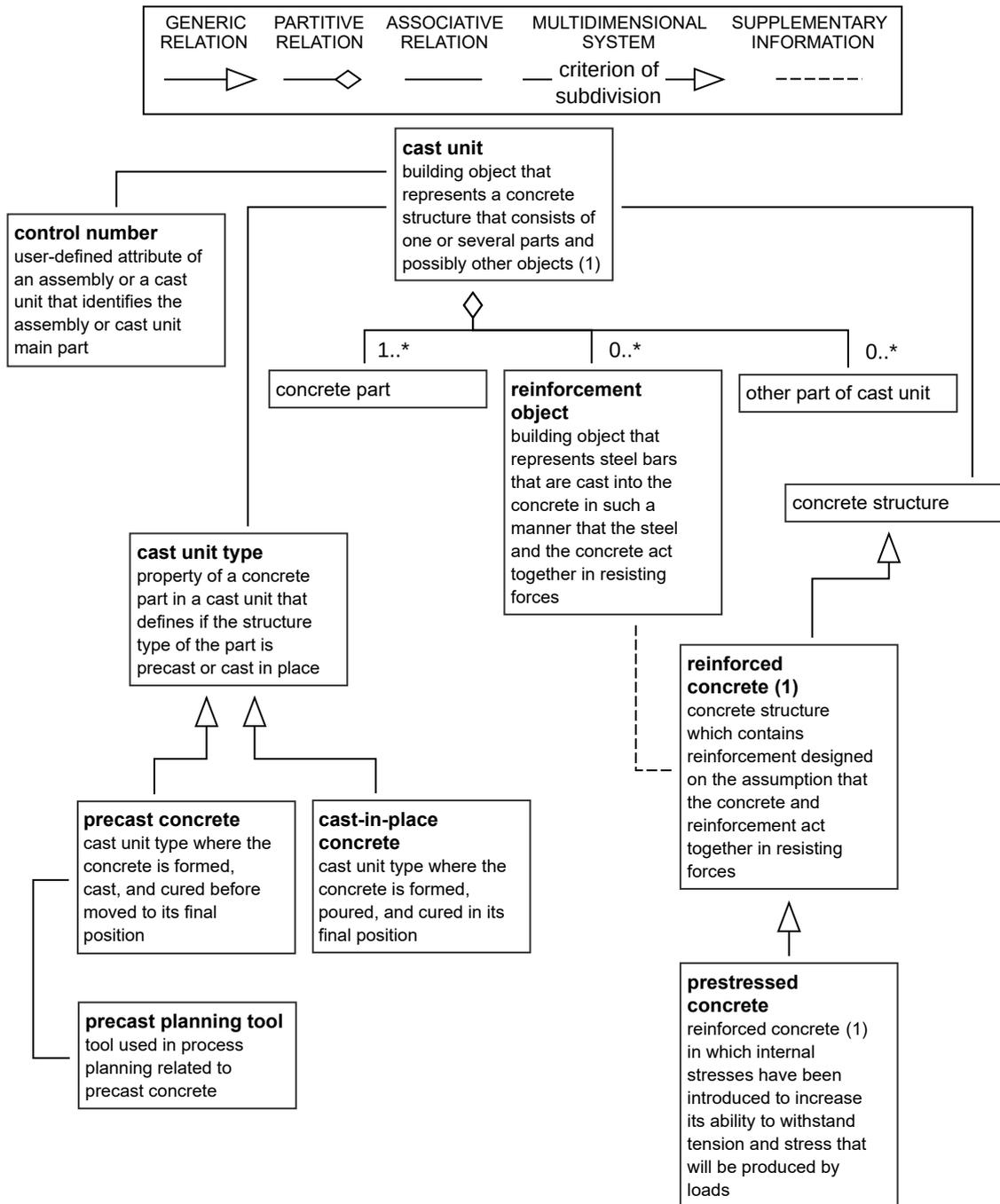
definition

reinforced concrete (1) in which internal stresses have been introduced to increase its ability to withstand tension and stress that will be produced by loads

note

In reinforced concrete (1), prestressing is commonly introduced by tensioning the *tendons*.

Concept diagram: [Cast unit](#)



Concept diagram 21. Cast unit.

2.1.6 Pour units

276

pour

definition

group of *pour objects* that is poured at the same time

Concept diagram: [Pour unit](#)

277

pour unit

definition

entity that combines together a *pour object* and the other *building objects* that need to be in place before *cast-in-place concrete* can be poured

note

The needed building objects can be *reinforcement objects* and *embeds*, for example.

Concept diagram: [Pour unit](#)

278

pour object

definition

building object that is formed of one or more *cast-in-place concrete parts*, or parts of cast-in-place concrete parts

note

The cast-in-place concrete parts are merged into one pour object if they have the same material grade and *pour phase*, and if they touch each other. Pour objects are visible in *pour view*.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Pour unit](#)

279

pour number

definition

property of a *pour object* that defines to which *pour* the pour object belongs

Concept diagram: [Pour unit](#)

280

pour type

definition

property of a *pour object* that uses a cast-in-place *part* name or a manually given value to describe the pour object

note

By default, the part name is used for pour type. The part name used is the name of the part with the largest volume in the pour object.

Concept diagram: [Pour unit](#)

281

pour break

definition

building object used to split a *pour object* into smaller pour objects

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Pour unit](#)

282

pour phase

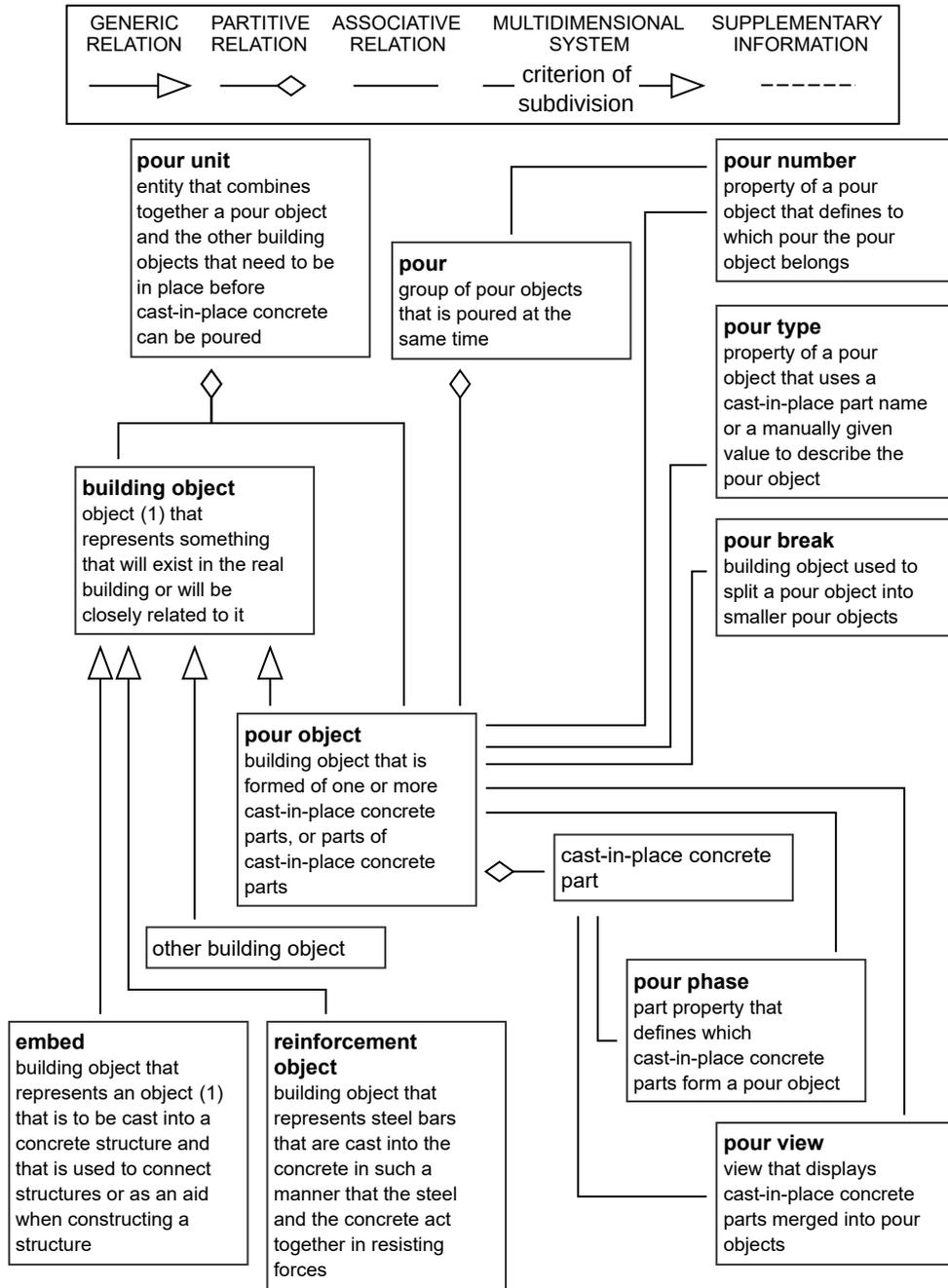
definition

part property that defines which *cast-in-place concrete* parts form a *pour object*

note

Pour phase can be used to prevent cast-in-place concrete parts from merging into one pour object.

Concept diagram: [Pour unit](#)



Concept diagram 22. Pour unit.

2.1.7 Reinforcement

283

reinforcement object; rebar object; reinforcement

definition

building object that represents steel bars that are cast into the concrete in such a manner that the steel and the concrete act together in resisting forces

note

Reinforcement object types include single *reinforcing bars*, *reinforcing bar groups*, *reinforcement meshes*, *strands*, and *rebar sets*, for example.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#), [Cast unit](#), [Pour unit](#) and [Reinforcement](#)

284

rebar assembly

definition

prefabricated entity that consists of one or more *reinforcement objects* and possibly steel *parts*

note

For example, reinforcement cages can be modeled as rebar assemblies.

Rebar assemblies can contain single *reinforcing bars*, different *reinforcing bar groups* and *rebar sets*, or *reinforcement meshes*, for example.

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

285

rebar set

definition

reinforcement object that represents multiple *reinforcing bars* that may have different geometries, spacings and properties

note

Rebar sets can be modified by using *direct modification* features and by adding *rebar set modifiers*.

Tekla Structures automatically groups reinforcing bars in a rebar set when they fulfill the grouping criteria. Reinforcing bars can also be grouped manually by using *rebar set property modifiers*.

Concept diagrams: [Reinforcement](#) and [Rebar set](#)

286

reinforcing bar group; rebar group

definition

reinforcement object that represents multiple *reinforcing bars* that are side by side and have identical *properties*, except the possible variation in bar lengths

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

287

reinforcing bar; rebar

definition

reinforcement object that represents a steel bar used to reinforce a concrete structure

note

The steel bars are usually ribbed and they are used to increase the tensile strength of concrete.

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

288

stirrup

definition

reinforcing bar that is used in *parts* located in mainly horizontal position and that is transverse to the other reinforcing bars which is parallel to the part

note

Stirrups are used to take the shear force in the structure and prevent buckling of the main reinforcing bars in compressed structures.

Typically, stirrup is a bar or a wire, either single leg or bent into an L, a U, or rectangular shape, and located perpendicular to or at an angle to a longitudinal main bars.

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

289

tie

definition

reinforcing bar that is used in *parts* located in mainly vertical position and that is transverse to the other reinforcing bars which is parallel to the part

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

290

lacer bar

definition

reinforcing bar that is placed at the sides of a *footing*

note

Lacer bars are used, for example, in *pile caps*.

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

291

shear reinforcement

definition

reinforcement provided to resist shear force

note

Shear reinforcement in *beams* is in form of *stirrups* and in *columns* in form of *ties*.

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

292

rebar shape manager

definition

tool that is used for customizing the bending shapes of *reinforcing bars*

note

Rebar shape manager can be used for bending shapes only and not for any other reinforcing bar properties.

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

293

reinforcement splice; rebar splice

definition

connecting *building object* that joins *reinforcing bars*

note

Reinforcement splices are used to extend reinforcing bars by lapping or welding them or by using couplers. With a reinforcement splice there is continuity of tensile stress in the reinforcing bars when concrete is subjected to a flexural or tensile load.

Concept diagrams: [Building objects](#) and [Reinforcement](#)

294

reinforcement mesh; mesh

definition

reinforcement object that represents a mesh of steel bars in two perpendicular directions

note

In *Tekla Structures*, the reinforcement mesh bars in one direction are called main bars and reinforcement mesh bars perpendicular to them are called crossing bars.

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

295

strand; prestressing strand; prestressed strand

definition

reinforcement object that represents a group of wires spun together

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

296

tendon

definition

reinforcement object that represents *reinforcing bars*, *strands*, or wires that are used to produce a compressive stress in *prestressed concrete*

note

Besides the actual reinforcing bars, strands, or wires, tendons may comprise an anchorage. Tendons can be prestressing or post-tensioning tendons.

Concept diagram: [Reinforcement](#)

297

rebar set leg face; leg face

definition

plane that defines where the *reinforcing bar* legs are created in a *rebar set*

note

Tekla Structures creates rebar set leg faces at the reinforced *faces* of concrete parts or *pour objects*, or according to the *points (1)* picked when creating a rebar set.

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

298

rebar set leg surface; leg surface

definition

surface that inherits its geometry from one or more *faces* of a concrete *part* and that defines where the *reinforcing bar* legs are created in a *rebar set*

note

Rebar set leg surfaces are typically needed in curved structures.

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

299

rebar set guideline; guideline

definition

definition of the distribution and direction of the *reinforcing bars* in *rebar sets*

note

The spacing of the reinforcing bars is measured along the rebar set guidelines. Rebar set guidelines can be lines, or polylines that may have corner *chamfers*.

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

300

rebar set primary guideline; primary guideline

definition

rebar set guideline that is created automatically when a *rebar set* is created

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

301

rebar set secondary guideline; secondary guideline

definition

rebar set guideline that can be used in addition to the *rebar set primary guideline* to modify the geometry, direction, and spacing of *reinforcing bars* in a *rebar set*

note

Rebar set secondary guidelines can be used to create curved reinforcing bars or to define a different spacing at the start and end of the rebar set reinforcing bars, for example.

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

302

rebar set modifier; modifier

definition

line or polyline that can be used to locally modify *reinforcing bars* in a *rebar set*

note

Rebar set modifiers can be *rebar set property modifiers*, *end detail modifiers*, or *splitters*. Also *rebar set secondary guidelines* behave like rebar set modifiers.

Polyline modifiers may have corner *chamfers*. Each rebar set modifier only affects those rebar set reinforcing bars that its projection touches.

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

303

rebar set property modifier; property modifier

definition

rebar set modifier that can be used to locally change the *properties* of certain *reinforcing bars* in a *rebar set*

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

304

rebar set end detail modifier; end detail modifier

definition

rebar set modifier that can be used to modify certain *reinforcing bar* ends in a *rebar set*

note

Rebar set end detail modifiers can be used to create hooks, *cranking*, or threading, for example.

The rebar set end detail modifier affects the nearest end of the reinforcing bar.

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

305

rebar set splitter; splitter

definition

rebar set modifier that can be used to split and splice certain *reinforcing bars* in a *rebar set*

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

306

cranking

definition

rebar set end detail that creates cranks for certain *reinforcing bars* in a rebar set

note

Cranks refer to crank-shaped bends and they can be created with *rebar set end detail modifiers* or *rebar set splitters*.

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

307

rebar shape placing tool

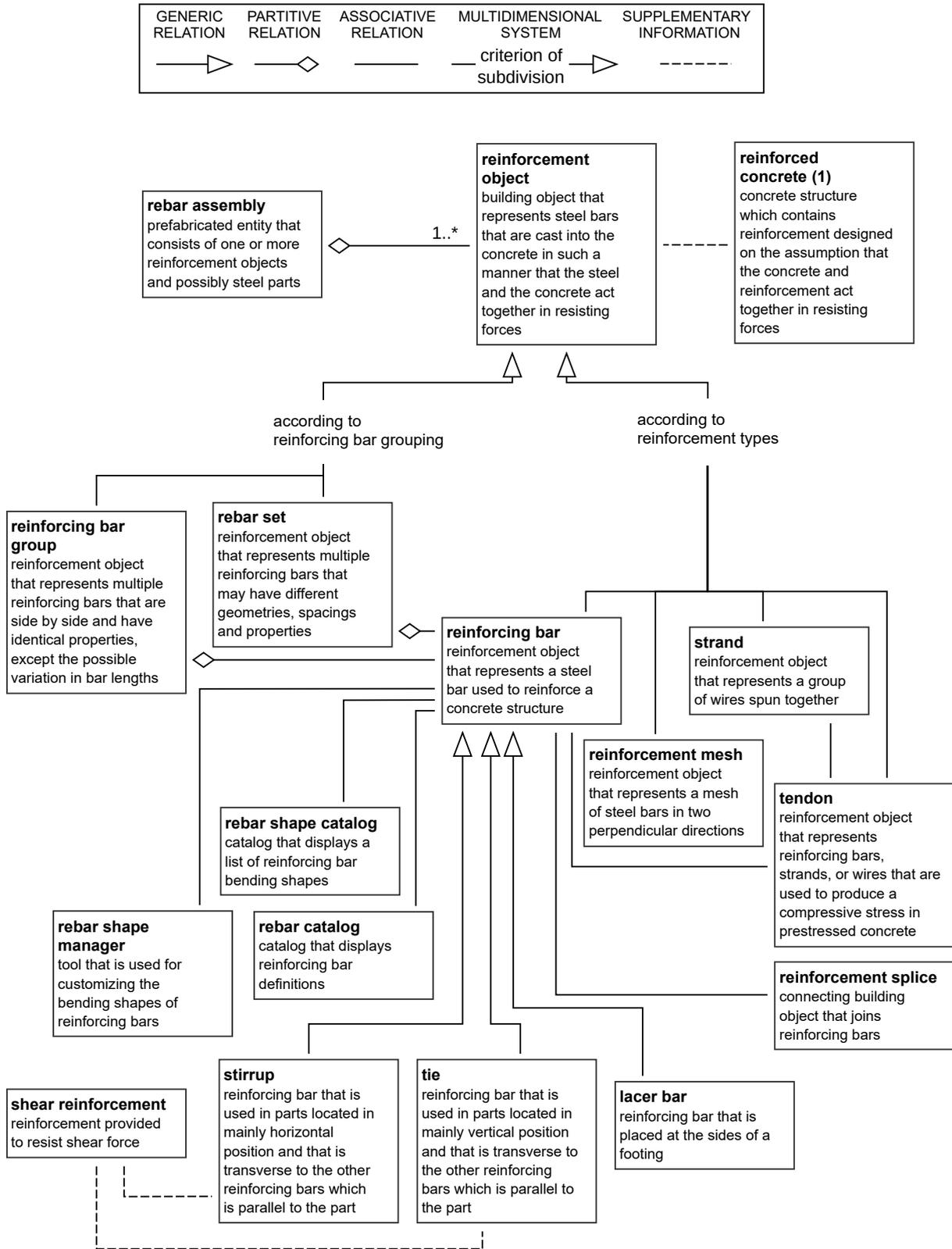
definition

tool that is used for creating *rebar sets* using predefined *reinforcing bar* bending shapes

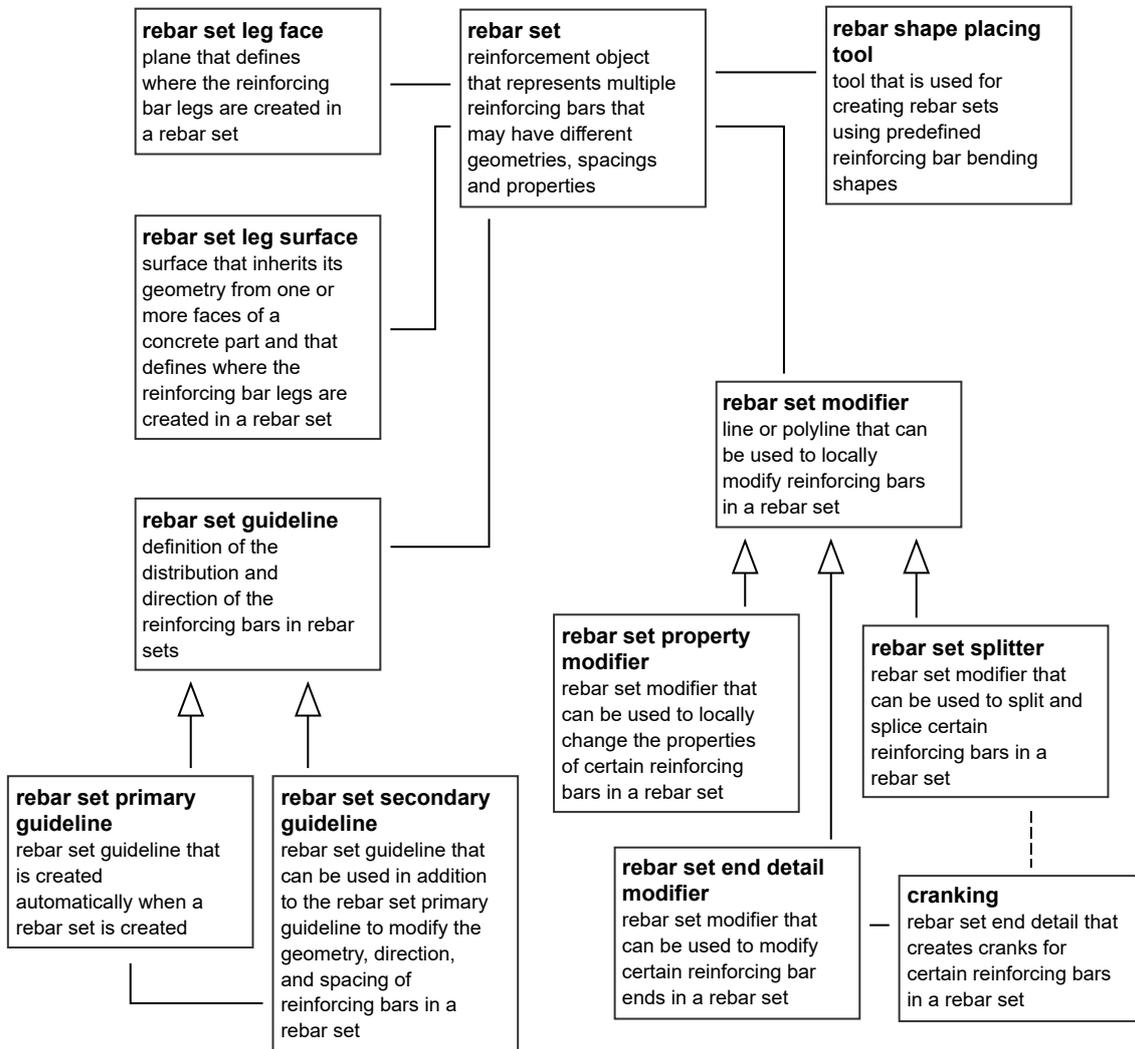
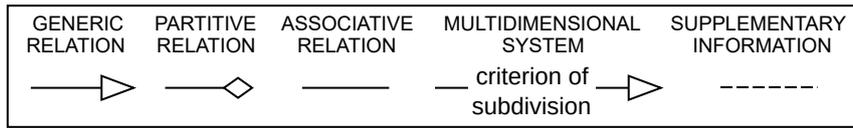
note

Rebar shape placing tool for rebar sets is similar to *rebar shape catalog* for *reinforcing bar groups*.

Concept diagram: [Rebar set](#)

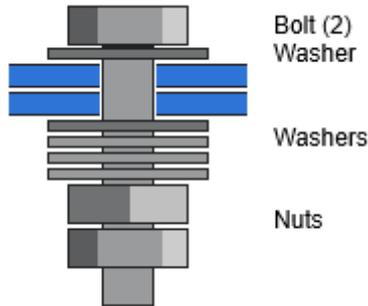


Concept diagram 23. Reinforcement.



Concept diagram 24. Rebar set.

2.1.8 Details



Picture 1. Bolt assembly and bolt elements.

308

bolt assembly

definition

set of bolt elements that consists of a *bolt (2)*, a *stud*, or a screw, and possibly the related washers and nuts

Concept diagram: [Bolt assembly](#)

309

bolt (2)

definition

bolt element that represents a metal rod or pin that has a head at one end and the other end is open and threaded

note

Bolts (2) and other bolt elements are listed in the *bolt catalog*.

A bolt (2) is usually secured by a nut. A bolt (2) is part of the *bolt assembly*.

Concept diagram: [Bolt assembly](#)

310

stud

definition

bolt element that represents a metal rod or pin that is used to transfer *loads*

note

Studs and other bolt elements are listed in the *bolt catalog*.

A stud can be secured with two or more nuts and have threading at both ends, or it can be welded to steel *parts*, for example.

A stud is part of the *bolt assembly*.

Concept diagram: [Bolt assembly](#)

311

cut

definition

deletion of a portion of a *part* or a *rebar set*

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

312

line cut

definition

cut that is defined by a *cutting line*

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

313

cutting line

definition

straight line that is defined by *picking* two *points (1)* and used for shaping the *part* or a *rebar set*

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

314

polygon cut

definition

cut that is defined by a polygon

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

315

part cut

definition

cut that is defined by a *cutting part*

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

316

hollow

definition

cut in a *part*

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

317

hole; bolt hole

definition

small *hollow* open throughout a *part* or *assembly* that is usually used for fastening parts with *bolts (1)* or other such *objects (1)*

note

Hole is created in the same way as bolts (1) and hole *properties* are defined in the bolt properties.

Concept diagrams: [Bolt assembly](#) and [Cuts and fittings](#)

318

blind hole; partial-depth hole

definition

small *hollow* that does not extend completely through a *part*

note

Blind holes are used in aluminum curtain walls and light gauge steel construction, for example.

Blind holes are created by using *bolt (1) properties*.

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

319

opening

definition

large *hollow* open throughout a wall, partition, roof, floor, ceiling or other such *part*

note

Opening can be created for a door, window or ductwork, for example.

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

320

recess

definition

hollow that does not extend through an *object (1)* or part of the construction

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

321

void

definition

hollow inside a *part*

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

322

<steel>

notch /UK/; cope /US/

definition

cut in one *component object* or *input part* for receiving another component object or input part

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

323

weld access hole; rathole

definition

small *cut* that is made on the *beam* web in order to enable welding by using an electrode

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

324

weld preparation

not: weld prep

definition

cut that is made on the *part* edge in order to enable a more complete weld penetration which provides a stronger joint

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

325

fitting

definition

adjustment of a *part* end

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

326

chamfer

definition

refining of the *part* corners and edges

note

Chamfers can be corner chamfers or edge chamfers.

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

327

distance (1)

definition

space that represents the degree or amount of separation between two *points (1)*, lines, *planes*, or *objects (1)*

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

328

setback distance; setback

definition

distance (1) between a *part* end and its *reference point*

note

In *Tekla Structures*, knock-off dimensions are an example of setback distances.

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

329

clearance

definition

set space between [objects \(1\)](#)

note

In bolted connections, clearance is required for entering and tightening the [bolts \(2\)](#) with an impact wrench. In addition to this, there may be a clearance for a fillet.

In welded connections, clearances are required in order to allow a welder to lay a correct weld.

Reinforcing bar clearance defines the minimum clearance or the allowed overlap for [reinforcing bars](#) when they are checked against other objects (1).

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

330

gap

definition

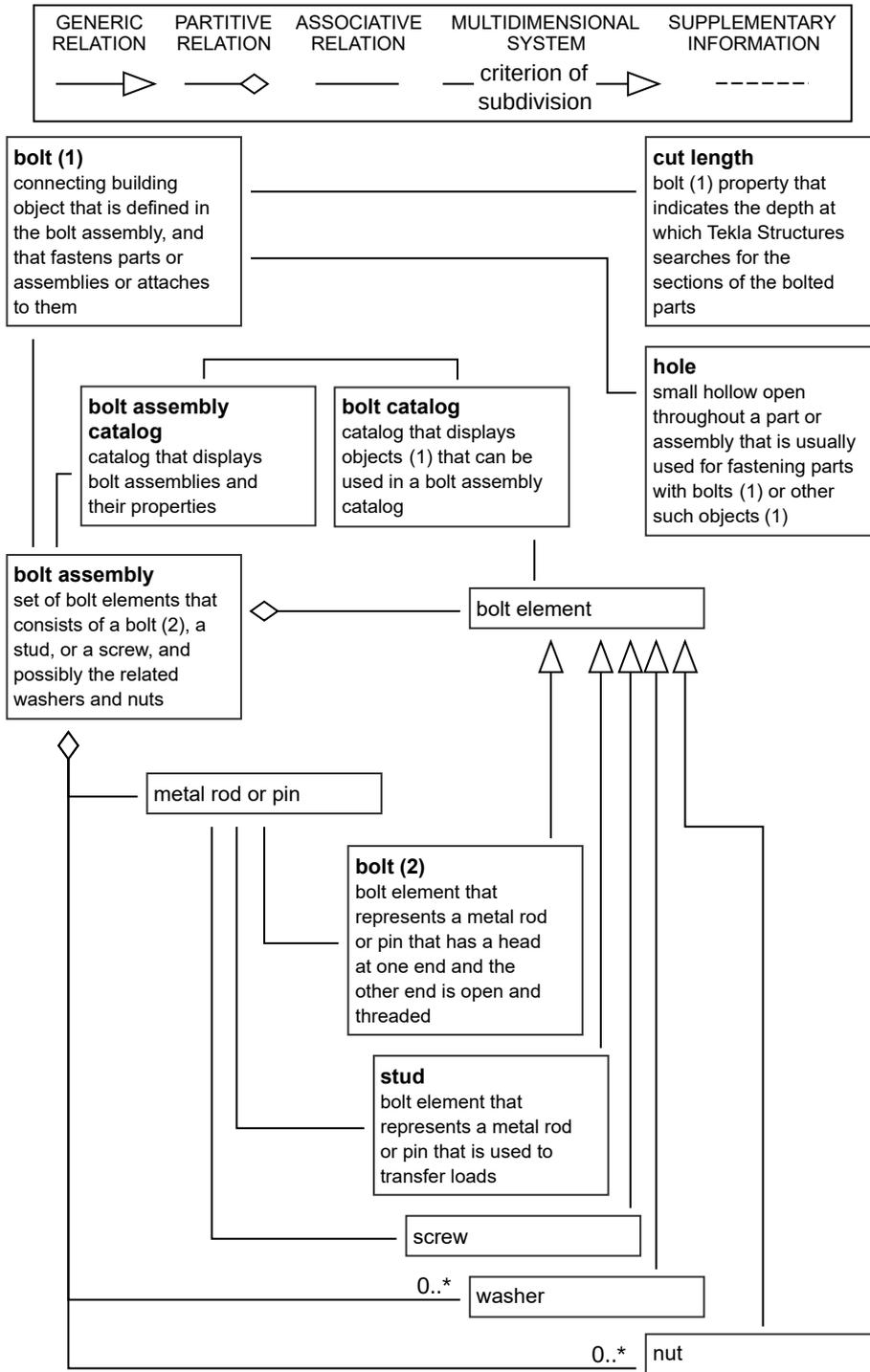
any space between two [objects \(1\)](#)

note

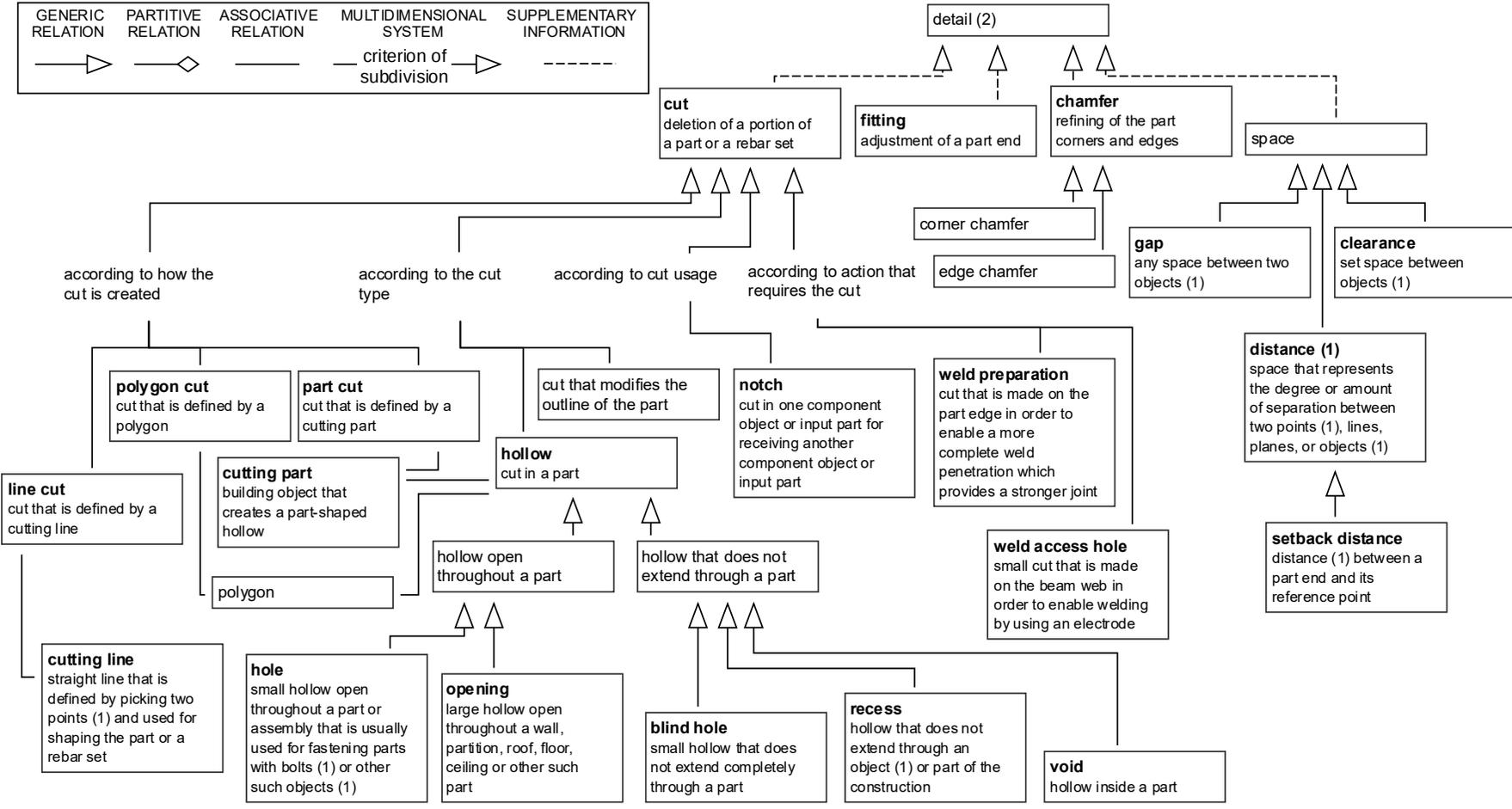
The term gap is used in its general sense in [Tekla Structures](#).

Concept diagram: [Cuts and fittings](#)

Tekla Structures glossary



Concept diagram 25. Bolt assembly.



Concept diagram 26. Cuts and fittings.

2.1.9 Modeling aids

331

grid

definition

modeling aid that represents a three-dimensional complex of intersecting *grid planes* or intersecting grid planes and *curved grid surfaces*

note

The grid is defined by coordinates in 3D space. It is shown two-dimensionally on the *view plane* by dash-and-dot lines. A grid can be rectangular or radial.

It is possible to have more than one grid in a *model (1)*. For example, a large-scale grid for the entire structure, and smaller grids for some detailed sections.

It is also possible to show grids and *grid line labels* in *drawings (1)*, and to modify how they are shown in the drawings (1).

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

332

grid line

definition

single line that visualizes a *grid plane* or a *curved grid surface* on a *view plane*

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

333

grid line label; grid label

definition

name of a *grid line*

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

334

grid label frame

definition

frame of a *grid line label* in a *drawing (1)*

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

335

grid plane

definition

single horizontal or vertical *plane*

note

Grid planes form a rectangular *grid* or, together with *curved grid surfaces*, a radial grid.

Concept diagrams: [Planes](#) and [Modeling aids](#)

336

curved grid surface

definition

single cylindrical surface

note

Curved grid surfaces and *grid planes* form a radial *grid*.

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

337

construction object

definition

modeling aid that helps in creating and placing other *objects (1)*

note

Construction object can represent a *point (1)*, line, arc, or *plane*, for example.

Concept diagrams: [Part types](#) and [Modeling aids](#)

338

construction line

definition

construction object that represents a line between two *points (1)*

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

339

construction plane

definition

construction object that represents a *plane*

Concept diagrams: [Planes](#) and [Modeling aids](#)

340

construction circle

definition

construction object that represents a circle

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

341

construction arc

definition

construction object that represents an arc defined by three points

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

342

construction polycurve

definition

construction object that represents a polycurve passing through several picked points

note

Construction polycurves can have straight and curved segments.

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

343

measure

definition

modeling aid that displays the *distance (1)* between *points (1)* in the *model (1)*, or the measurements of angles, arcs, or *bolt groups*

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

344

point (2)

definition

modeling aid that visualizes a determined place in a coordinate system, compare with *point (1)*

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

345

constraint

definition

modeling aid that represents a *dependency (1)* between two *model objects*

note

Constraints are used in *sketched profiles*, in *custom components*, and in a *model view*.

With constraints in sketched profiles, it is possible to straighten lines, create 90-degree angles, force lines to meet, and add *chamfers* in corners, for example.

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

346

extension line (2)

definition

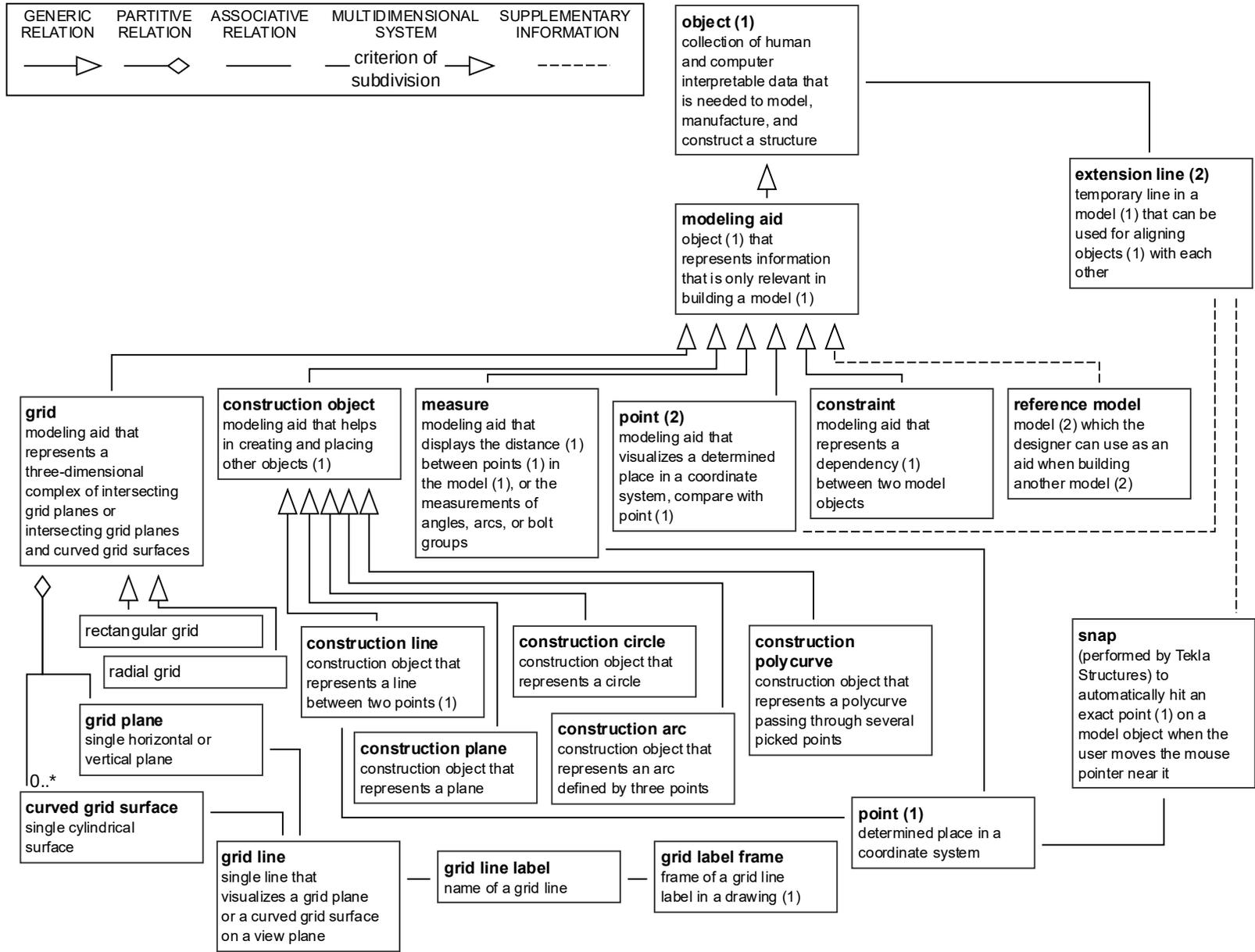
temporary line in a [model \(1\)](#) that can be used for aligning [objects \(1\)](#) with each other

note

Extension lines (2) can be used when snapping or creating [points \(2\)](#).

Concept diagram: [Modeling aids](#)

Concept diagram 27. Modeling aids.



2.2 System and custom components

347

system component

definition

component (1) that is included in a *Tekla Structures configuration* and whose *component objects* and composition the user can modify within the limits of the component (1) *properties*

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

348

detailing component

definition

system component for creating and assembling *component objects* for building a structure

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

349

custom component

definition

component (1) that the user creates and uses for creating *model objects* whose composition the user can modify as a group

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

350

custom part

definition

custom component for creating a *part* that cannot be created by using any existing part command or part *profile*

note

Typically, custom parts are used to create parts that have a complex composition. For example, castellated *beams* and sandwich panels are often created as custom parts.

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

351

custom component editor

definition

tool that is used for modifying *component (2)* that is created by a *custom component*, and for creating *dependencies (1)* between *component objects* and other *model objects*

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

352

custom component dialog editor

definition

tool that is used for modifying the *custom component* dialog in *custom component editor*

note

The custom component dialog editor is used for adding and arranging the dialog elements, such as images, tabs, and lists.

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

353

connection

definition

component (1) for creating such *component objects* that automatically connect *component secondary parts* to a *component main part* and create the necessary other *objects (1)*

note

A connection can be a *system* or a *custom component*. Other objects (1) can include *bolts (1)*, *welds*, *cuts*, and *fittings*.

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

354

AutoConnection

definition

tool that creates connections with predefined *properties* in certain framing conditions

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

355

AutoDefaults

definition

predefined *properties* that *AutoConnection* uses when creating connections

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

356

up direction

definition

connection or *detail* property that indicates how the created connection is rotated around the *component secondary part*, or the created detail around the *component main part*, relative to the current *work plane*

note

The up direction options are +x, -x, +y, -y, +z, -z, and auto.

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

357

detail

definition

component (1) for creating such *component objects* that automatically connect to a *component main part* at a *picked location*

note

A detail can be a *system* or a *custom component*. For example, an alignment hook or a steel *column base plate* is a detail.

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

358

seam

definition

component (1) for creating such *component objects* that connect *parts* along a line *picked* using two *points (1)*

note

A seam can be a *system* or a *custom component*.

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

359

plug-in

definition

component (1) that is developed using *Tekla Open API*

note

Plug-in is a .dll file and loaded inside *Tekla Structures* process.

Plug-ins can be started from the *applications and components catalog*.

Concept diagram: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#)

360

component (2)

definition

group of *model objects* that is created by a *component (1)* and that *Tekla Structures* treats as a single unit

note

Components (2) adapt to changes in the *model (1)*. For example, Tekla Structures automatically modifies a connection if the user modifies the *parts* it connects.

Concept diagrams: [Components \(parts of Tekla Structures functionality\)](#) and [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

361

nested component

definition

component (2) that consists of several components (2)

note

Nested components include elements that are modeled as *sub-components*.

Concept diagram: [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

362

sub-component

definition

component (2) in a *nested component* that is subordinate to another component (2)

Concept diagram: [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

363

component hierarchy

definition

arrangement of *components (2)* that describes the internal structure of a *nested component*

Concept diagram: [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

364

component symbol

definition

symbol in a *model (1)* that indicates a *component (2)* type, functions as a link to component (2) *properties*, and can be used to control *component objects*

note

Component symbol of a *connection* or a *detail* also indicates the status of the connection or the detail using colors.

Concept diagram: [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

365

input point

definition

point (1) that the user *picks* when creating a *component (2)*

Concept diagram: [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

366

input part

definition

part that exists in a *model (1)* and that the user selects when creating a *component (2)* or another part

Concept diagrams: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#) and [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

367

component main part; main part (2)

not: primary part; supporting part

definition

input part that the user selects first when creating a *component (2)*

note

Connections and details always have a component main part.

Concept diagrams: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#) and [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

368

component secondary part; secondary part (2)

not: supported part

definition

input part that the user selects after selecting the *component main part* when creating a *component (2)*

note

A component (2) can have none, one or more component secondary parts.

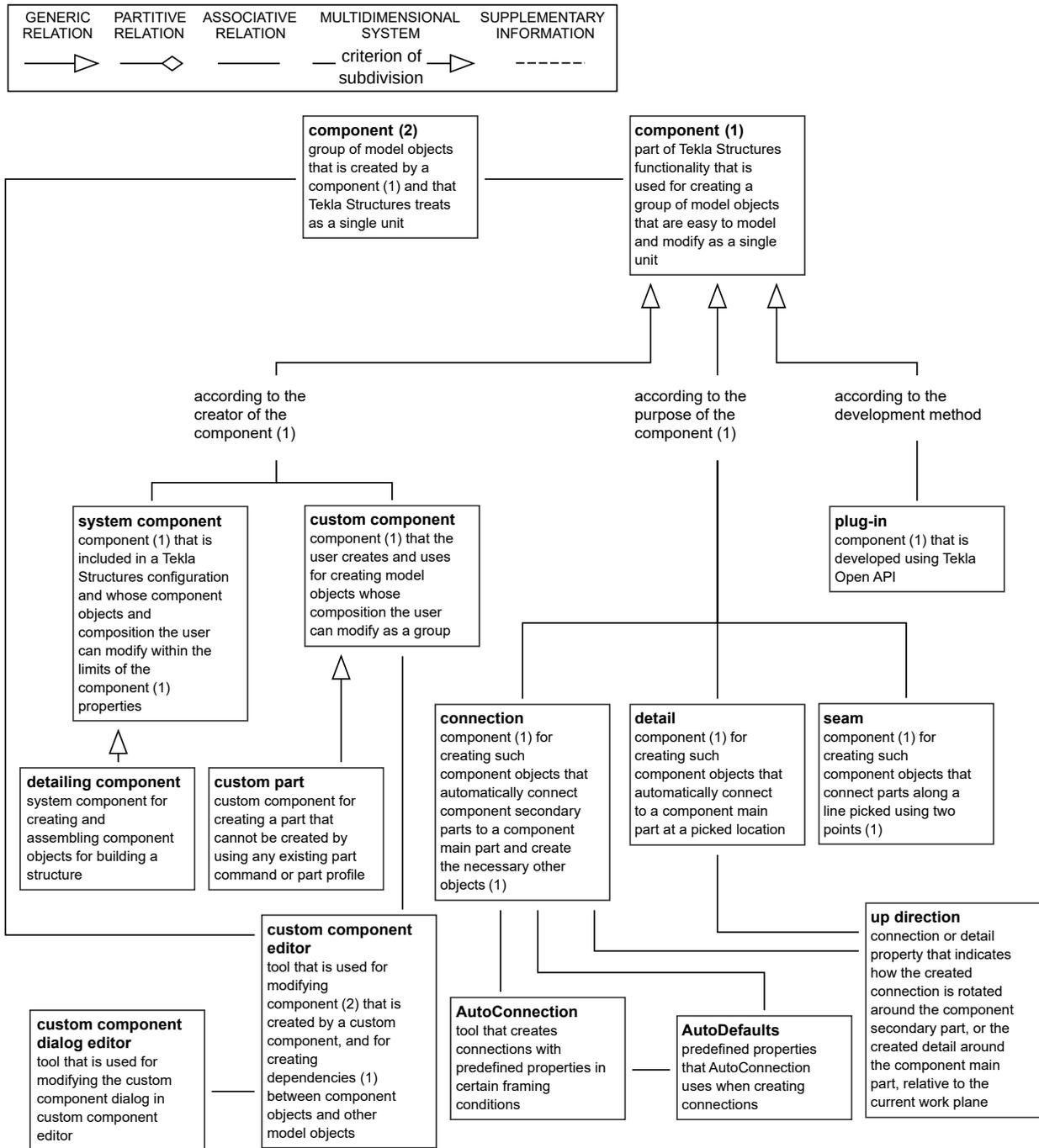
Concept diagrams: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#) and [Components \(groups of model objects\)](#)

369

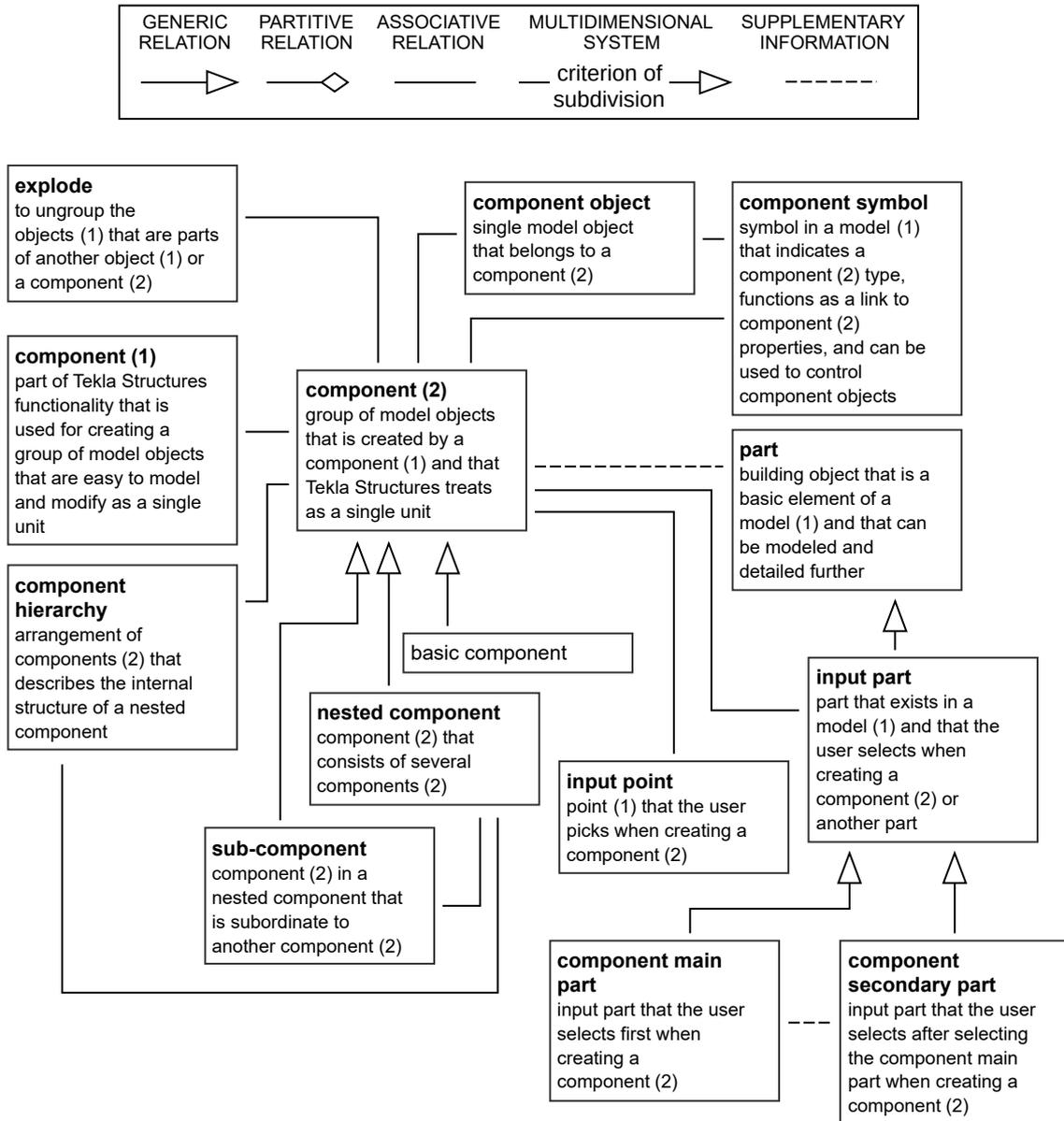
applications and components catalog; component catalog

definition

collection of all *system components* and *custom components*, and the *macros* and applications



Concept diagram 28. Components (parts of Tekla Structures functionality).



Concept diagram 29. Components (groups of model objects).

2.2.1 Component objects in steel components

370

<steel>

shear tab /US/

rather than: shear plate /UK/

definition

component object that represents a *plate (2)* welded to the *component main part* and bolted to the web of the *component secondary part*

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

371

<steel>

gusset

definition

component object that represents a *plate (2)* that connects braces to a *beam*, *column*, or *base plate*

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

372

<steel>

base plate

definition

component object that represents a *plate (2)* welded to a *column* base

note

Base plates are used to distribute the concentrated *load* of the column over a wider area.

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

373

<steel>

end plate

definition

component object that represents a *plate (2)* welded perpendicular to the end of the *component secondary part*

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

374

<steel>

seat

definition

component object that represents a structure upon which a *component secondary part* rests

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

375

<steel>

seat angle

rather than: angle seat

definition

seat that represents an angle

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

376

<steel>

seat plate

definition

seat that represents a *plate (2)*

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

377

<steel>

clip angle /US/; angle cleat /UK/

definition

component object that represents a right angle that is made of a standard L-shaped profile and that connects *parts*

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

378

<steel>

bent plate (2)

definition

component object that represents an angle that is bent from a *plate (2)* and that connects *parts*

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

379

<steel>

haunch

definition

component object that represents a wedge-like structure that strengthens a *beam* at its end

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

380

<steel>

weld backing bar; backing bar

definition

component object that represents a structure that facilitates the welding process

note

Weld backing bars are used, for example, to help contain the weld metal or suspend the structure.

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

381

<steel>

shim plate; shim

rather than: fitting plate; filler plate

definition

component object that represents a *plate (2)* that is used for filling *clearances* and *gaps* on the construction site

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

382

<steel>

finger shim; comb

definition

shim plate with slots cut through the edge

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

383

<steel>

strip shim

definition

shim plate with round punched *holes*

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

384

<steel>

stiffener

definition

component object that represents a structure that strengthens a steel *beam* or *column*

note

Stiffeners are usually *plates (2)*.

Stiffeners are used to prevent web buckling at supports or concentrated *loads*.

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

385

<steel>

web doubler plate; doubler plate

definition

component object that represents a structure that strengthens a steel *beam* web or steel *column* web by thickening it

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

386

<steel>

flange plate

definition

component object that represents a *plate (2)* that connects the flanges of a *beam* to a *column*

note

Flange plates are used in moment connections, for example.

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

387

<steel>

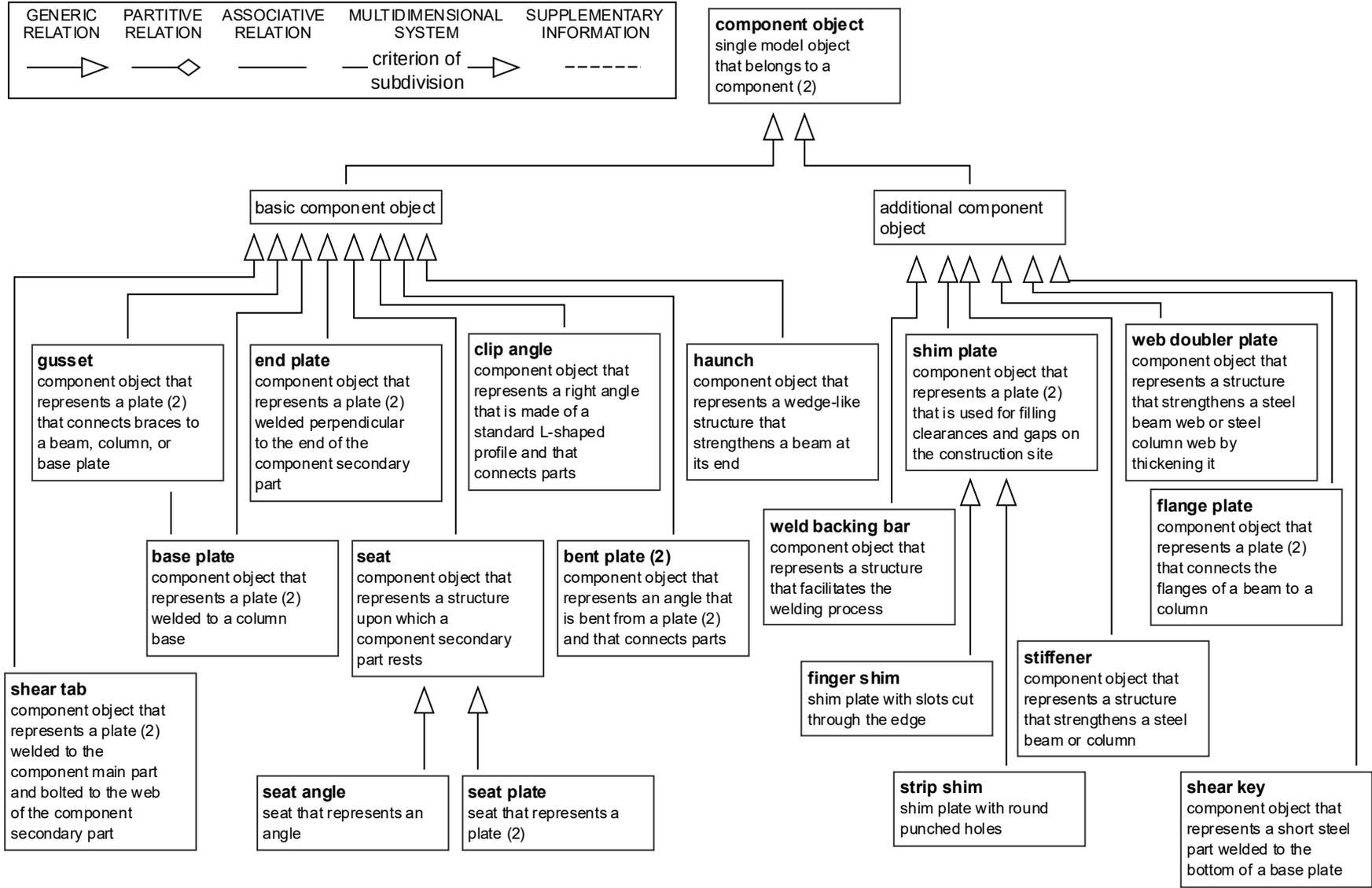
shear key

definition

component object that represents a short steel *part* welded to the bottom of a *base plate*

Concept diagram: [Component objects in steel components](#)

Concept diagram 30. Component objects in steel components.



2.3 Filtering and visualization tools

388

filter

definition

tool that is used for displaying, modifying, or selecting only the desired information in a *model (1)* or in a *drawing (1)*

note

For example, *part properties* can be used as criteria in filters. The user can select, modify, or hide parts based on their properties.

Concept diagram: [Filtering and visualization tools](#)

389

view filter

definition

filter used for defining which *objects (1)* are displayed in a *model view* or *drawing view*

note

View filter chooses objects (1) according to *object properties*. The user can filter objects (1) according to their *profile* or material, for example.

Concept diagram: [Filtering and visualization tools](#)

390

selection filter

not: select filter

definition

filter used for defining which *object types* can be selected

note

Selection filter chooses *model objects* or *objects (1)* in *drawings (1)* according to *object properties*.

Selection filters can be standard or user-defined.

For example, selection filters can be used to select *parts* for drawings (1) or *structural analysis*.

Concept diagrams: [Objects](#) and [Filtering and visualization tools](#)

391

object group

definition

model objects whose *settings* match the settings that the user has defined for a certain purpose

note

In *Tekla Structures*, an object group is defined by rules and conditions, for example, to control the transparency and coloring of model objects in the *views*. Object groups can also be used in filtering tools, for example in *selection filter*, to select all *objects (1)* that match certain *properties*.

Concept diagram: [Filtering and visualization tools](#)

392

project status visualization

definition

tool that is used in *modeling mode* for visualizing the status of *model objects* in a specific time frame

note

The project status visualization tool can be used, for example, to show model objects related to different phases of a *project* in different colors. A typical example of using the project status visualization tool is creating an erection schedule.

Concept diagram: [Filtering and visualization tools](#)

393

Trimble Connect Visualizer; Visualizer

definition

tool that creates photorealistic renderings of the *model (1)* or selected *model objects* and can be used for taking screenshots and creating animations that demonstrate the design and build options of the model (1)

note

Trimble Connect Visualizer shows the model's (1) material types and sets it in a scene.

Concept diagram: [Filtering and visualization tools](#)

394

rendering

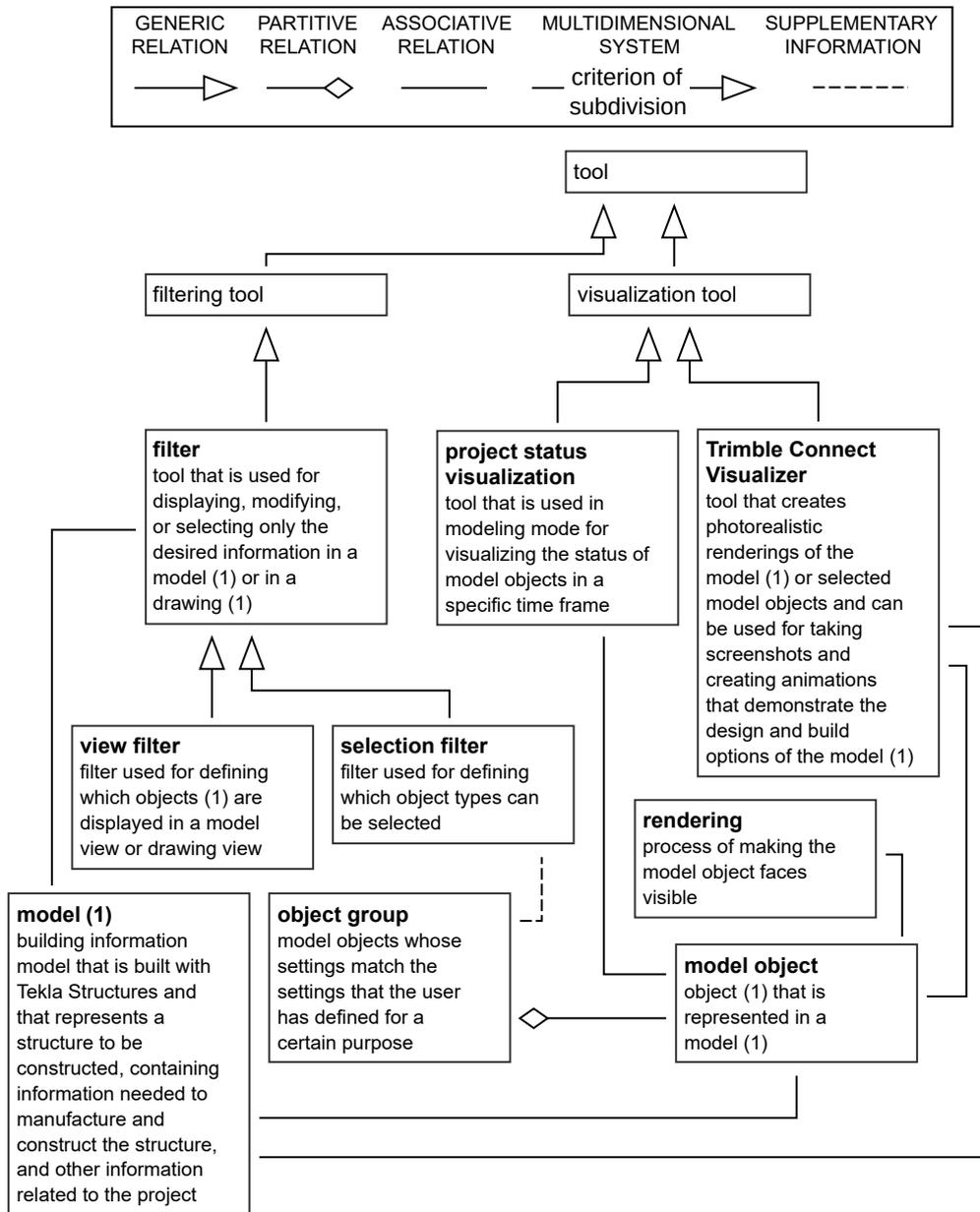
definition

process of making the *model object faces* visible

note

The rendered model object faces can be transparent or non-transparent

Concept diagram: [Filtering and visualization tools](#)



Concept diagram 31. Filtering and visualization tools.

2.4 Numbering

395

numbering

definition

process of assigning *position numbers*

note

In *Tekla Structures*, the position numbers assigned in the numbering are shown in *marks* and *templates (1)*, for example.

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

396

position number

definition

identifier that is assigned to *parts*, *assemblies*, *cast units*, *reinforcement objects*, and *rebar assemblies* within the whole *model (1)*

note

Position number consists of a prefix, separator, and running number. The prefix is part of the position number, identifying a *numbering series* with a start number. The running number is part of the position number, and is the assigned number in the numbering series, based on the *start number*. The separator is an optional character, such as a slash, that separates the prefix and the running number.

In *Tekla Structures*, the position numbers assigned in the *numbering* are shown in *marks* and *templates (1)*, for example.

In the US, the term piece mark or ship mark is used to refer to a position number.

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

397

part position; part position number

definition

position number that is assigned to a *part*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

398

preliminary number

definition

user-defined attribute of a *part* that defines the part's *part position* before the structure is detailed

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

399

assembly position; assembly position number

definition

position number that is assigned to an *assembly*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

400

cast unit position number

definition

position number that is assigned to a *cast unit*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

401

rebar assembly position number

definition

position number that is assigned to a *rebar assembly*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

402

reinforcement position number; rebar position number

definition

position number that is assigned to a *reinforcement object*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

403

numbering series

definition

set of identifiers defined by the user, based on which *Tekla Structures* compares *parts*, *assemblies*, *cast units*, *reinforcement objects*, or *rebar assemblies* with each other during the *numbering* and gives *position numbers*

note

Numbering series is defined by a prefix and a *start number*.

The user can, for example, allocate separate numbering series to different *phases* or part types.

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

404

start number; starting number

definition

first number of a *numbering series*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

405

family numbering

definition

process of assigning *family-based numbers* to *cast units* or *assemblies*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

406

family

definition

group of *cast units* or *assemblies* within the same *numbering series* created based on the criteria selected by the user

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

407

family-based number; family position number

definition

identifier that *Tekla Structures* assigns to *cast units* or *assemblies* based on a *family*

note

Family-based number consists of a *family number* and a *qualifier*.

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

408

family number

definition

family-based number component that refers to a *numbering series*

note

Family number is typically used to identify *cast units* that can be cast using the same mold.

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

409

qualifier

definition

family-based number component that refers to a group of similar *cast units* or *assemblies* within a *family*

note

Qualifier is a running number. It is used to describe cast units that contain, for example, the same *embeds*.

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

410

reinforcement sequence numbering

definition

process of assigning *reinforcement sequence numbers*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

411

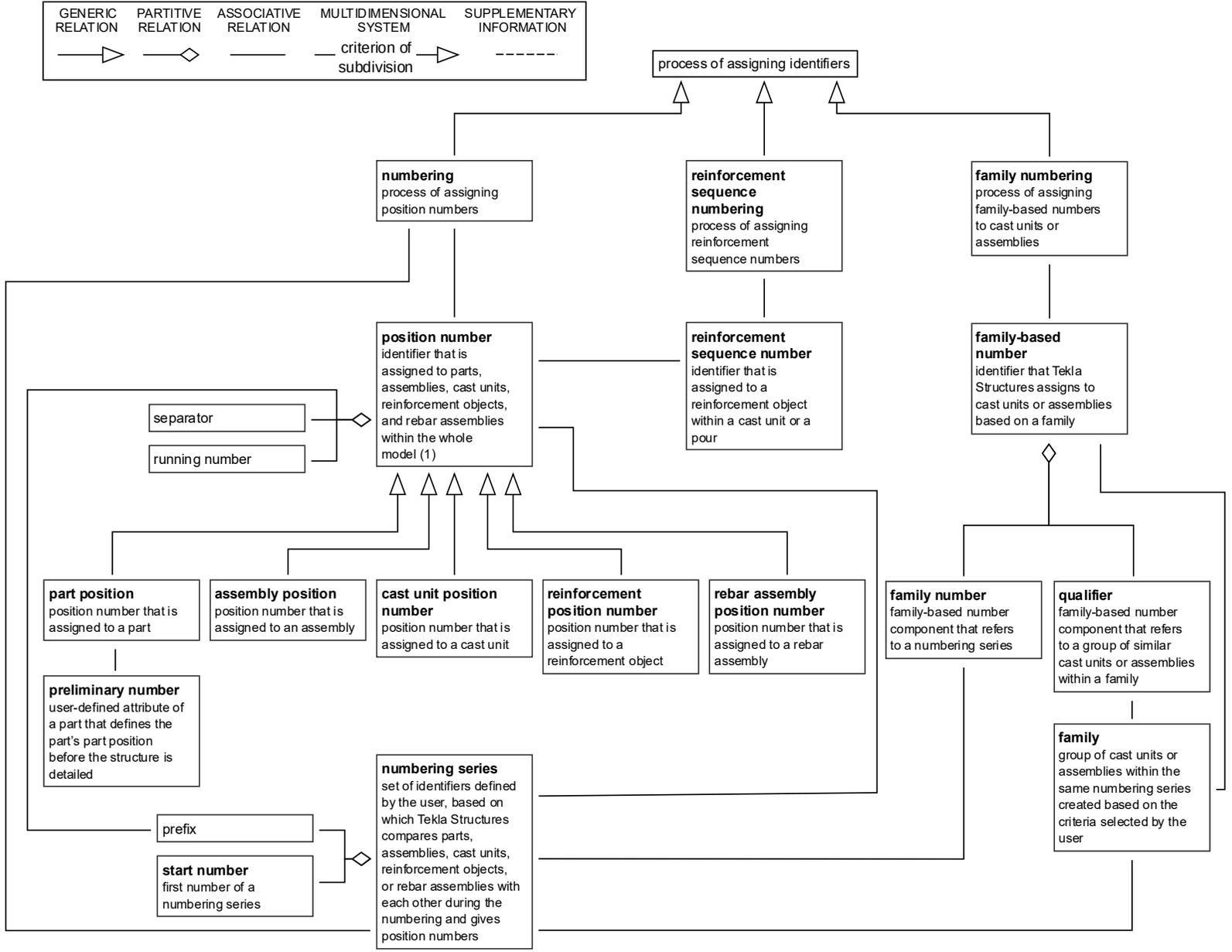
reinforcement sequence number

definition

identifier that is assigned to a *reinforcement object* within a *cast unit* or a *pour*

Concept diagram: [Numbering](#)

Concept diagram 32. Numbering.



3 Drawings

3.1 Drawing types

412

general arrangement drawing; GA drawing

definition

drawing (1) that is created from one or more *model views* and that shows information needed to understand the general arrangement of structural elements on a *project*

note

General arrangement drawings show how *parts*, *assemblies*, *cast units*, or *pour objects* are located in a building.

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

413

anchor bolt plan

definition

general arrangement drawing that displays the anchor bolt layout

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

414

fabrication drawing

definition

drawing (1) that shows information needed to fabricate or construct a structure

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

415

single-part drawing

definition

fabrication drawing that shows fabrication information for one *part*

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

416

assembly drawing

definition

fabrication drawing that shows fabrication information for a *basic* or a *nested assembly*, including *bolts (1)* and *welds*

note

Assembly drawings show how *parts* are located in an *assembly*. They contain the parts of the assembly presented in one or more *views*.

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

417

cast unit drawing

rather than: cast-unit drawing

definition

fabrication drawing that displays information on concrete *parts*, including *reinforcement objects*, cast-in *embeds*, edge *chamfers*, and insulation, in a *cast unit*

note

Cast unit drawings are generally used either at the element factory or at the construction site.

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

418

multidrawing

definition

drawing (1) that gathers together several *fabrication drawings* on one sheet

note

A multidrawing consists of fabrication drawings or their *views*.

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

419

multinumber

definition

identifier of a *part* or *assembly* in a *multidrawing*

note

Multinnumbers can include, for example, the multidrawing number and an identifier that indicates the order of parts or assemblies in the multidrawing.

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

420

drawing snapshot

definition

image of a *drawing (1)* that shows the drawing (1) as it was at a certain point in time

note

Drawing snapshots make it possible to have a quick look at any drawing (1) without opening the drawing (1). Snapshots are used, for example, for finding a certain drawing (1) edition. Snapshots can be viewed in *Tekla Structures* but they cannot be edited.

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)

421

snapshot overlay

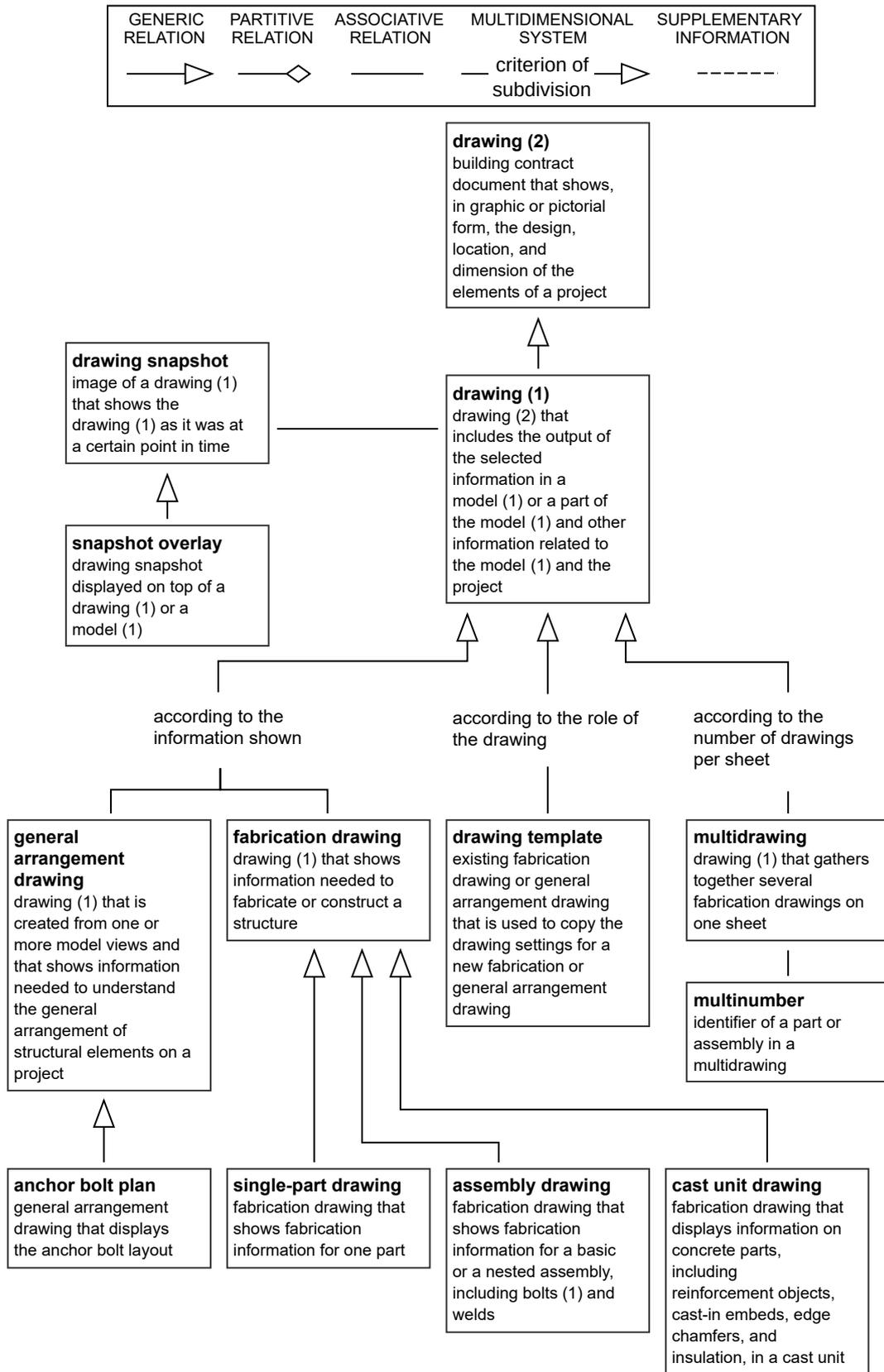
definition

drawing snapshot displayed on top of a *drawing (1)* or a *model (1)*

note

Snapshot overlays can be used to view the contents of the drawings (1) directly in a *model view* without opening the actual drawing (1). Drawing snapshots can also be shown against the latest version of a drawing (1), or against another drawing (1) in *drawing mode*.

Concept diagram: [Drawing types](#)



Concept diagram 33. Drawing types.

3.2 Drawing layout and drawing views

422

drawing layout

definition

plan of a *drawing (1)* that includes the *table set* and definitions of the sheet size

note

Tekla Structures includes several predefined drawing layouts, which are drawing-type specific. The user can also create new drawing layouts.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

423

table set

not: table layout (obsolete)

definition

plan that defines the selection, placing, and scale of *tables (1)* in a *drawing (1)*

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

424

drawing layout editor; layout editor

definition

tool that enables editing the *table set* directly on a *drawing (1)*

note

In the drawing layout editor, it is possible select which *tables (1)* are included in the table set and where they are placed. The table (1) scale, and rotation and overlapping with *drawing views* can be adjusted.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

425

table (1)

definition

element in a *drawing (1)* that may include information on the *building objects* in the drawing (1), and information on the *project*

note

In *Tekla Structures*, the term table (1) is used to refer to various elements of a drawing (1), such as revision tables, title blocks, bills of material, lists, general notes, *key plans*, and DWG and DXF files.

When the user makes changes to a *model (1)*, Tekla Structures updates the drawing (1) and the contents of the affected tables (1). This means that not only drawings (1) are associative but also the tables (1).

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

426

table (2)

rather than: template (2)

definition

table (1) created with the *template editor*

note

In template editor tables (2) are called templates (2).

Concept diagrams: [Drawing layout and views](#) and [Editors and templates](#)

427

key plan

definition

small-scale *view* in a *drawing (1)* that indicates the location of an *assembly*, a *cast unit*, or a *part* in the *model (1)*

note

A key plan contains the model (1) *grid* and the assembly, cast unit, or part shown in the included *drawing view*.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

428

drawing view frame

definition

solid frame around all the contents of a *drawing view*

note

Drawing view frame can be used when modifying *properties* of a single drawing view. Drawing views can be dragged using the drawing view frame.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

429

drawing view boundary; view boundary

not: *view extrema pl*

definition

dashed frame inside a *drawing view*

note

Drawing view boundary can be used when cropping the contents of a drawing view. For example, it is possible to resize drawing views so that there is no unnecessary empty space in them, or to show just a specific part of the drawing view contents.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

430

main view

definition

drawing view that shows all *parts* in an *assembly*, *cast unit*, or *single-part drawing* from the selected viewing direction

note

Main view can be *front view*, *top view*, *back view*, or *bottom view*. The user can create several main views.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

431

single-part view

definition

drawing view that is in an *assembly drawing* and that shows an individual *part* in the *assembly*

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

432

detail view

definition

drawing view that is created from an existing drawing view and that shows a selected area of that view in the same viewing direction

note

Detail view is usually in a larger scale than the source view.

The *view plane* of the detail view is the same as the view plane of the source view.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

433

section view

definition

drawing view that shows a selected area as a cross section

note

A section view can be created of the *parts* in a drawing view. A section view can be created manually or automatically.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

434

curved section view

definition

section view that is created based on a curved *view plane*

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

435

end view (1)

definition

section view that shows a selected area of an end of a *part* in a *drawing (1)*

note

An end view (1) can be created manually or automatically. Automatic end views (1) represent the part from one end of the part or also from the other end of the part, depending on the *settings*.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

436

automatic drawing view

definition

drawing view that *Tekla Structures* creates when it creates a *drawing (1)*

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

437

additional drawing view

definition

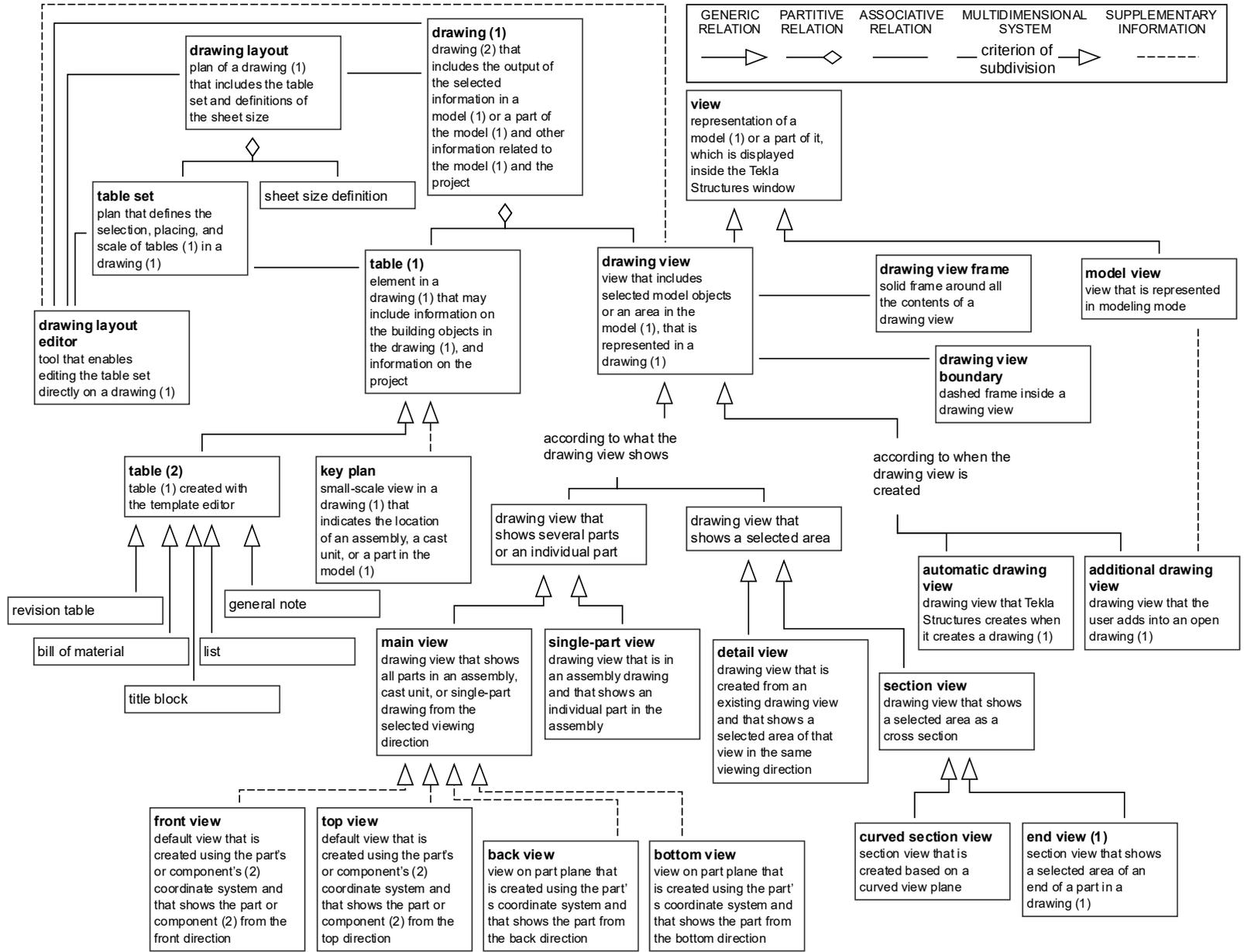
drawing view that the user adds into an open *drawing (1)*

note

It is possible to create additional drawing views in the open drawing (1) of a *model view* or to add *section views* or *detail views*.

Concept diagram: [Drawing layout and views](#)

Concept diagram 34. Drawing layout and views.



3.3 Creating and modifying drawings

438

drawing settings *pl*

definition

settings that control what the *drawing (1)* looks like and what it includes

note

Drawing settings can be defined in *modeling mode* when creating a drawing (1), and they can be modified in *drawing mode*.

The range of the *objects (1)* and elements that drawing settings affect may vary.

Concept diagrams: [Settings and properties](#) and [Drawing settings and properties](#)

439

object level settings *pl*

definition

drawing settings that affect the *representation* of selected *drawing objects*

note

Object level settings can be defined when creating a new *drawing (1)* or when modifying an open drawing (1).

Object level settings can be use in a drawing (1) or in a *drawing view* in order to change the representation of the chosen drawing objects.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

440

view level settings

definition

drawing settings that affect the *properties* of all *building objects*, *marks*, and *dimensions* in a selected *view*

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

441

drawing level settings

definition

drawing settings that affect the *properties* of all *building objects*, *marks*, and *dimensions* in all *drawing views*

note

Depending on the drawing type, drawing level settings are defined in the *property pane* or in the drawing properties dialog.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

442

master drawing

definition

collection of *properties* and *drawing settings* that are used for creating a new *drawing (1)*

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

443

master drawing catalog

definition

collection of *master drawings*

note

Master drawing catalog can be used for searching for master drawings usually in the *current model* and saving the search results.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

444

saved settings *pl*

definition

master drawing where the *drawing settings* are saved in a drawing *property file* and used when creating a new *drawing (1)* of a specific drawing type

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

445

rule set

definition

master drawing that contains model *selection filters* and where the *properties* and *drawing settings* vary based on the selected *model objects*

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

446

drawing wizard file; wizard file

definition

rule set that is saved in a file

note

The rule sets in drawing wizard files are modified by editing the file in a text editor.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

447

drawing template

not: template drawing

definition

existing *fabrication drawing* or *general arrangement drawing* that is used to copy the *drawing settings* for a new fabrication or general arrangement drawing

note

In fabrication drawings and general arrangement drawings, the term drawing template is used.

In the *master drawing catalog* and *cloning*, the term cloning template is used.

Concept diagrams: [Drawing types](#) and [Drawing settings and properties](#)

448

verb

clone

definition

(performed by Tekla Structures) to create a new *drawing (1)* by using a *cloning template*

note

Cloning aims at using the drawing (1) properties, *view properties*, and *object properties* from the cloning template in a new drawing (1).

Drawings (1) can be cloned from the *current model* or another *model (1)*.

Cloned drawings (1) need some manual checking.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

449

automatic cloning

definition

process of creating a *drawing (1)* that *Tekla Structures* carries out for a *part* or *assembly* when its *position number* changes and the original drawing is no longer valid for that part or assembly

note

In automatic cloning, Tekla Structures creates a new drawing (1) using the original drawing (1) as a *cloning template*, and the original drawing (1) is saved for other, similar parts or assemblies.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

450

document manager

definition

tool that is used for listing and managing *drawings (1)* and other types of documents

note

With the document manager the user can, for example, reorganize, update, *freeze*, *lock*, and delete drawings (1).

The user can also organize file documents, such as PDF, NC, and DWG files, and drawings (1), in document categories, and search documents and open drawings (1).

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

451

verb

freeze

definition

to prevent *Tekla Structures* from updating *annotation objects* and certain *drawing view properties* in a *drawing (1)* when it updates the drawing (1) as the *model (1)* changes

note

When a drawing (1) is frozen, only *part* geometry is updated when the model (1) changes.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

452

verb

lock

definition

to prevent unwanted action in a *model (1)* or a *drawing (1)*

note

It is possible to lock *model objects*, *reference models*, and drawings (1), for example.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)

453

verb

issue

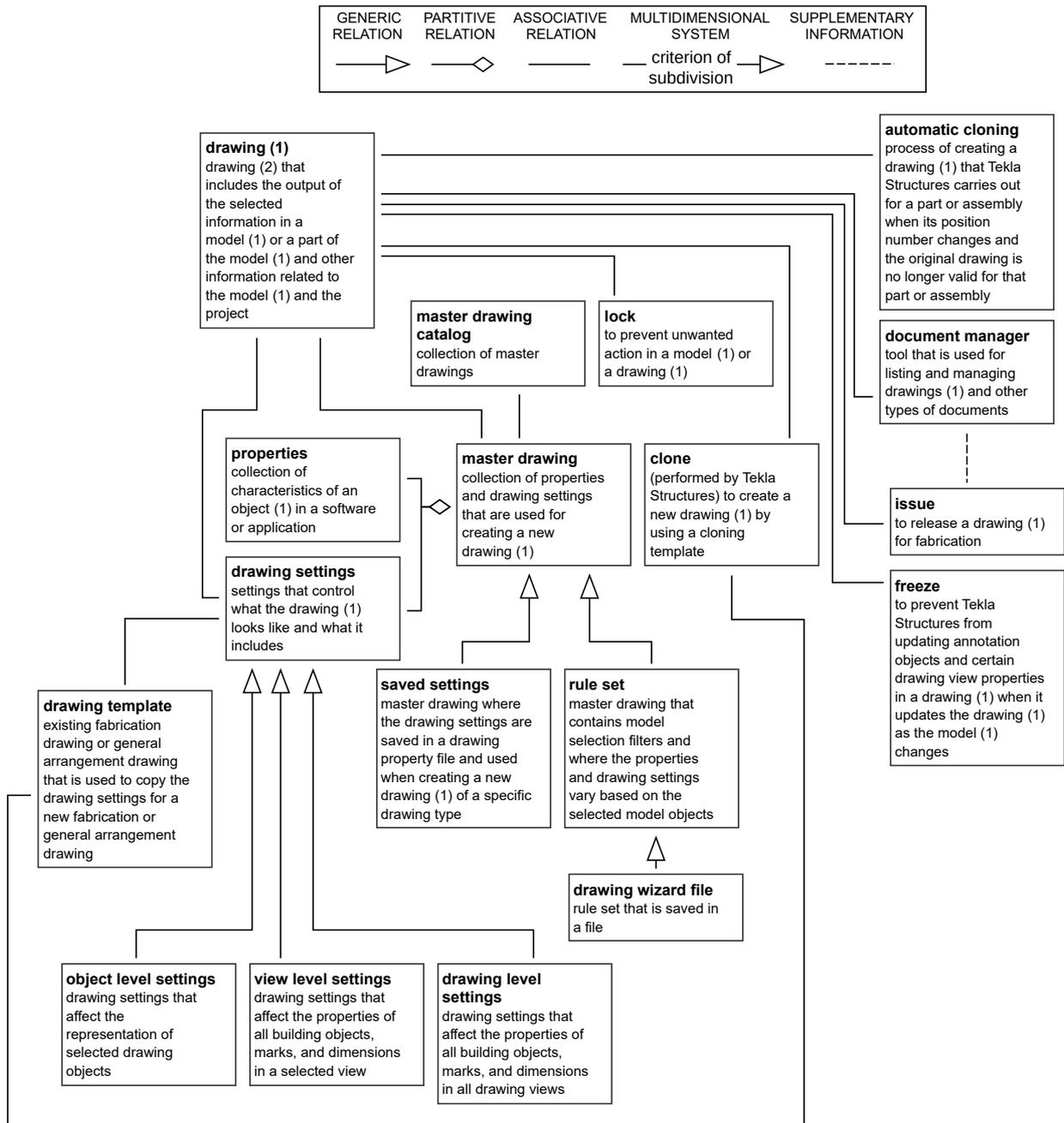
definition

to release a *drawing (1)* for fabrication

note

Issued drawings (1) are marked with a flag in the *document manager*.

Concept diagram: [Drawing settings and properties](#)



Concept diagram 35. Drawing settings and properties.

3.4 Objects in drawings

3.4.1 Associative annotation objects

454

associative annotation object

definition

annotation object that is updated according to the changes made to the related *model object*

note

An associative annotation object can be automatic or additional. *Tekla Structures* creates the automatic associative annotation objects based on the *drawing's (1)* properties when it creates the drawing (1). The user adds the additional associative annotation objects in a drawing (1).

Concept diagrams: [Associative annotation objects](#) and [Independent annotation objects](#)

455

dimension

definition

associative annotation object that represents *building object* measurements

note

A dimension consists of *dimension lines*, *extension lines (1)*, a *dimension mark*, *dimension tags*, and possibly other elements.

Concept diagrams: [Associative annotation objects](#) and [Dimensions](#)

456

automatic dimension

definition

dimension that *Tekla Structures* creates in a *drawing (1)* based on the dimensioning properties of the drawing (1)

Concept diagrams: [Associative annotation objects](#) and [Dimensions](#)

457

additional dimension

definition

dimension that the user adds in an open *drawing (1)*

Concept diagrams: [Associative annotation objects](#) and [Dimensions](#)

458

neighbor part; neighboring part

definition

part that is close to a part that the *drawing (1)* is made for but that is not in the same *assembly* or *cast unit*

note

The *representation* of neighbor parts is usually different from that of the part.
Neighbor parts can be used as reference in dimensioning.

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

459

level mark

definition

associative annotation object that represents the elevation of a *point (1)*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

460

view label

definition

associative annotation object that is displayed in an individual *drawing view* and that includes information about the view

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

461

mark

definition

associative annotation object that is used for the identification of an individual *building object* and that displays a set of property elements that the user has selected

note

Examples of marks are *part mark*, *bolt mark*, and *reinforcement mark*.

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

462

part mark; piece mark /US/

not: part number

definition

mark that includes a set of selected property elements related to a *part*

note

Part marks are used for identifying constructions, for giving information about welding, for giving information about *assemblies* to a workshop, for giving information about how parts should be connected to each other, and for creating bills of quantities, for example.

In the US, the term piece mark is used to refer to *position number*.

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

463

bolt mark

definition

mark that includes a set of selected property elements related to a *bolt (1)* or *bolt group*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

464

weld mark

definition

mark that includes a set of selected property elements related to a *weld*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

465

connection mark

definition

mark that includes a set of selected property elements related to a *connection*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

466

reinforcement mark

definition

mark that includes a set of selected property elements related to a *reinforcement object*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

467

pull-out; pull-out picture

definition

small graphic in a *reinforcement mark*, *table (1)*, or *report template* that shows the shape and dimensions of a *reinforcing bar*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

468

pour object mark

definition

mark that includes a set of selected property elements related to a *pour object*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

469

surface treatment mark

definition

mark that includes a set of selected property elements related to *surface treatment*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

470

automatic mark

definition

mark that *Tekla Structures* creates in a *drawing (1)* based on the mark *properties* of a *building object*

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

471

additional mark

definition

mark that the user adds in an open *drawing (1)*

note

Additional marks are typically used for temporary, revision-related, or other similar types of information. Examples of the additional marks that the user can add in a drawing (1) include *part marks*, *bolt marks*, *connection marks*, *level marks*, *revision marks*, and *weld marks*.

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

472

associative note

definition

associative annotation object that can include any additional information about the *building object* it is attached to

note

One building object can have several associative notes.

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)

473

drawing content manager

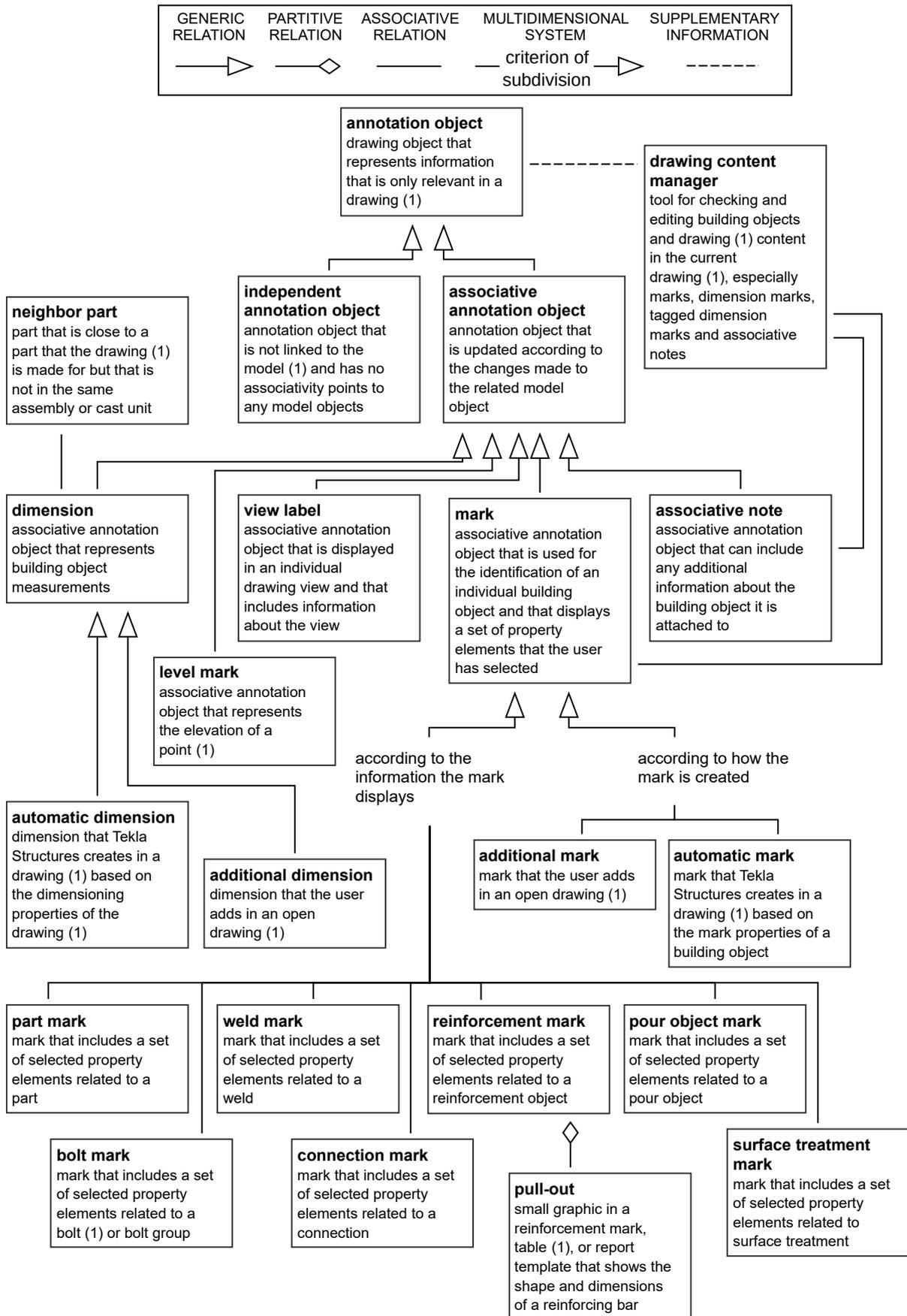
definition

tool for checking and editing *building objects* and *drawing (1)* content in the current drawing (1), especially *marks*, *dimension marks*, tagged dimension marks and *associative notes*

note

The building object categories available in drawing content manager include, for example, *assemblies*, *parts*, *welds* and *bolts (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Associative annotation objects](#)



Concept diagram 36. Associative annotation objects.

3.4.2 Independent annotation objects

474

independent annotation object

definition

annotation object that is not linked to the *model (1)* and has no *associativity points* to any *model objects*

note

Independent annotation objects are added to *drawings (1)* by the user.

Types of independent annotation objects that can be added to drawings (1) include text, text files, *symbols (2)*, links, hyperlinks, DWG and DXF files, and *reference models*.

Concept diagrams: [Associative annotation objects](#) and [Independent annotation objects](#)

475

symbol (1)

definition

independent annotation object that the user has added in a *drawing view* and that is related to a certain *point (1)* in the drawing view

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

476

plate side mark

definition

user-created *symbol (1)* that indicates whether a *dimension point* is to the *face* or center of a *part*

note

Plate side mark can be found on the *dimension extension line (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

477

section mark

definition

user-created *symbol (1)* that includes a set of *mark* elements, identifies a section, and is displayed in the source view

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

478

detail mark

definition

user-created *symbol (1)* that includes a set of *mark* elements, identifies the point of creation of the *detail view*, and is displayed in the source view

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

479

revision mark

definition

user-created *symbol (1)* that indicates a change in the *model (1)* or in the *drawing (1)*, and in which information about the change is enclosed

note

Information enclosed in a revision mark is shown in a revision *table (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

480

drawing 2D library

definition

tool that can be used to quickly select *objects (1)* in *drawings (1)* and save them as 2D drawing details

note

With drawing 2D library the user can insert drawing details in *drawing views* and *drawings (1)*. It is possible to create drawing details out of many kinds of *drawing objects*, such as *parts*, texts, notes, drawing sketch objects, or DWG files. In addition to details, the user can browse and insert DWG files and images directly to the *drawings (1)* from the drawing 2D library.

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

481

orientation mark; north mark

definition

symbol (1) that indicates the construction direction of an *assembly*

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

482

symbol (2)

definition

independent annotation object in graphical format

note

Symbols (2) are saved in *symbol files*. It is possible to create new *symbol files*, and to create and modify symbols (2) in the *symbol editor*.

Concept diagrams: [Independent annotation objects](#) and [Editors and templates](#)

483

drawing shape

definition

independent annotation object that represents a graphic form or outline

note

Examples of drawing shapes are clouds, lines, and rectangles.

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

484

pattern line

definition

drawing shape that consists of one or several blocks of elements and that may include *symbols (2)*, lines, and spacings.

note

Pattern lines can be used to indicate cut lines, foundations, weld paths, or electrical wiring, for example.

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)

485

pattern line editor

definition

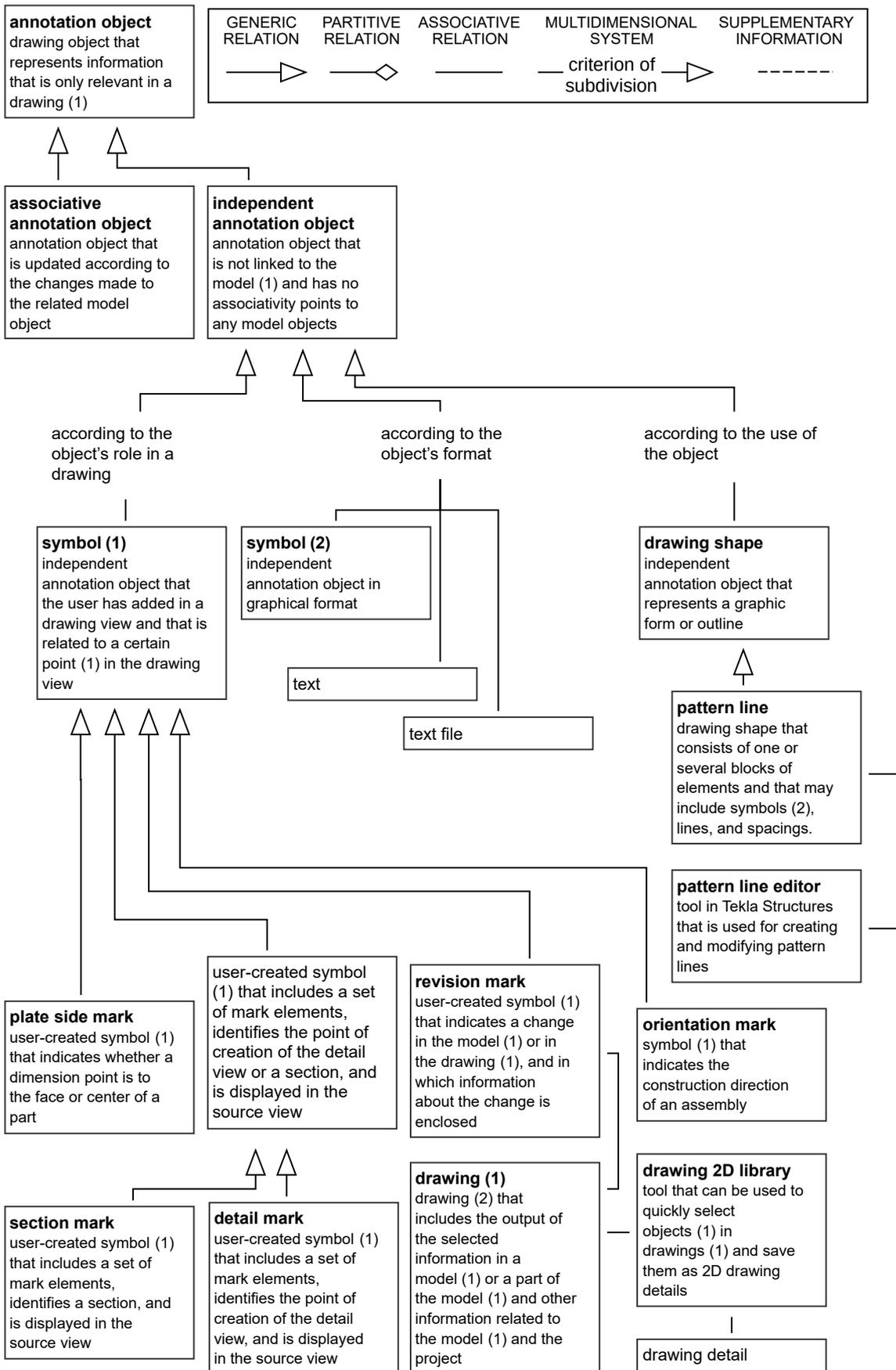
tool in *Tekla Structures* that is used for creating and modifying *pattern lines*

note

Pattern line editor can be used in a *model (1)* or in an open *drawing (1)*.

The created pattern lines are added to *drawings (1)* with the pattern line command.

Concept diagram: [Independent annotation objects](#)



Concept diagram 37. Independent annotation objects.

3.4.3 Graphical symbols in drawings

486

change symbol

definition

graphic that *Tekla Structures* creates in a *drawing (1)* and that indicates that an *associative annotation object* has been changed

note

Change symbols are created for *dimensions*, *marks*, and *associative notes*, for example.

Examples of change symbols include mark change symbols and dimension change symbols.

Concept diagram: [Indicators](#)

487

associativity symbol

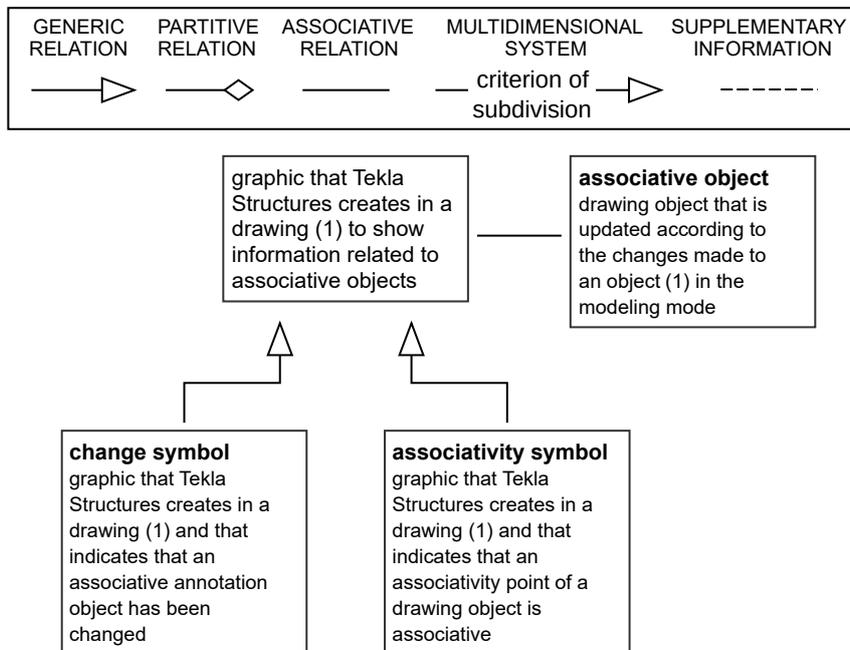
definition

graphic that *Tekla Structures* creates in a *drawing (1)* and that indicates that an *associativity point* of a *drawing object* is associative

note

The associativity symbol changes if the associativity point is not associative.

Concept diagram: [Indicators](#)



Concept diagram 38. Indicators.

3.4.4 Dimensions

488

check dimension

definition

dimension used for checking detailing

note

Tekla Structures uses *work points* to create check dimensions.

Concept diagram: [Dimensions](#)

489

dimension mark

definition

part of a *dimension* that displays the basic information about the *building object* measurements

note

A dimension mark can consist of a prefix, numerical value, and postfix.

Concept diagram: [Dimensions](#)

490

dimension tag

definition

part of a *dimension* that displays additional information about the *building object*

Concept diagram: [Dimensions](#)

491

extension line (1); dimension extension line

definition

line in a *drawing (1)* that is perpendicular to a *dimension line* and that connects the dimension line to the *building object*

Concept diagram: [Dimensions](#)

492

dimension line

definition

line that visualizes the *distance (1)* between the defined *dimension points*

note

Separate *dimensions* can be combined into a longer dimension line.

Concept diagram: [Dimensions](#)

493

dimension point

definition

point (1) that *Tekla Structures* or the user has used for dimensioning

Concept diagram: [Dimensions](#)

494

work point

definition

dimension point that is based on *reference points* or *reference lines*

note

A work point can be either a *part* reference point, or an intersection of reference lines.

In bracings, for example, the work point is where the brace reference line intersects the main *beam* or *column* reference line. For example, the location of *bolts (1)* is then dimensioned from this work point.

Concept diagram: [Dimensions](#)

4 Templates and reports

495

symbol editor; SymEd

definition

tool in *Tekla Structures* that is used for creating and modifying *symbols (2)* to be used in *drawings (1)*, *reports*, and *templates (1)*

note

The symbols (2) are saved in *symbol files*.

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

496

template editor; TplEd

definition

tool in *Tekla Structures* that is used for creating and modifying *templates (1)* to be used in *drawings (1)* and *reports*

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

497

template (1)

definition

file that gathers information to be output in a defined format

note

Templates (1) can be viewed and printed.

The properties of *template components*, *template objects*, and the template (1) itself determine the final appearance of the template (1) output.

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

498

textual template

definition

template (1) that may contain only text

note

Textual templates are used for creating *reports* or listings of *objects (1)*, for example, material lists of *assemblies*.

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

499

graphical template

definition

template (1) that may contain text, graphics, and bitmaps

note

Graphical templates are primarily used in *drawings (1)* but they can also be used in HTML *reports*. Graphical templates display *project* and company information, for example. In addition to text, they can contain graphics, such as *table (1)* outlines, bitmaps or *symbols (2)*.

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

500

report template

definition

template (1) that is used for creating a *report*

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

501

template component

definition

building block of a [template \(1\)](#) that is used for displaying data in a defined format

note

Template components define the [template \(1\)](#) layout.

Templates (1) can contain the following template components: header, page header, row, page footer, and footer. Not all of the template components need to be present in a [template \(1\)](#).

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

502

template object

definition

entity in a [template component](#) that is used to add either graphical or textual data

note

The [template \(1\)](#) type determines what kinds of template objects can appear inside its template components. Template objects can be basic geometric shapes, text objects, [symbols \(2\)](#), bitmaps, imported files, or field objects.

Template objects are represented as rows in the template components.

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

503

template attribute

definition

attribute in a [template object](#) that *Tekla Structures* uses to calculate and display information from a [model database](#)

note

Template attributes represent [object properties](#).

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)

504

content type

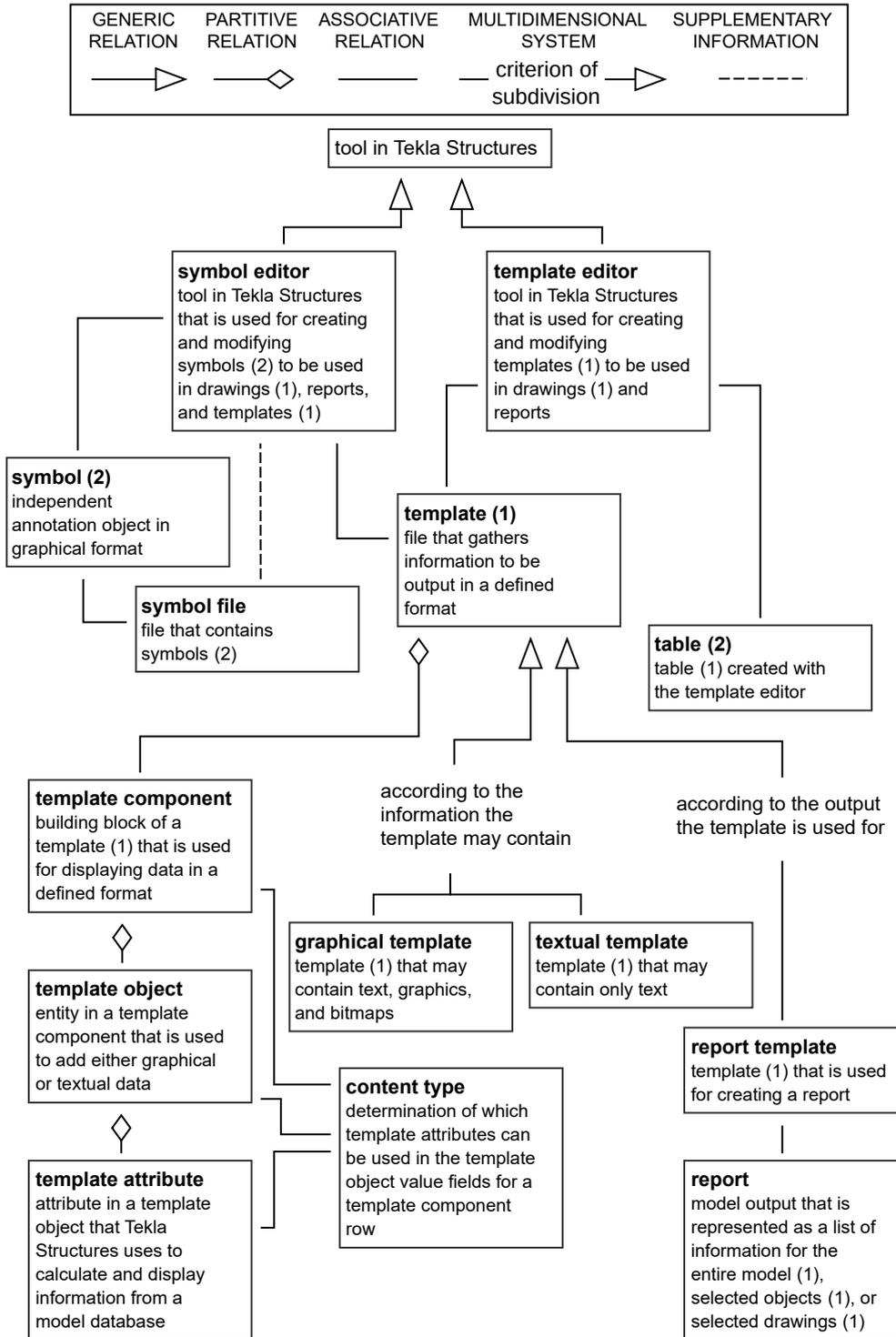
definition

determination of which [template attributes](#) can be used in the [template object](#) value fields for a [template component](#) row

note

Content types are mainly based on [object types](#).

Concept diagram: [Editors and templates](#)



Concept diagram 40. Editors and templates.

5 System

5.1 Databases and files

505

model database

definition

database file that contains a [model \(1\)](#)

note

Model database file has the file name extension .db1. In addition, other files, such as the corresponding [numbering database](#) .db2, are needed in order to obtain the functionality of the model database.

Concept diagrams: [Databases and files](#) and [Folders](#)

506

model history database

definition

database file that collects [model \(1\)](#) history on the actions in the model (1)

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

507

numbering database

definition

database file that contains [numbering](#) information and [family numbering settings](#) and [reinforcement sequence numbering](#) settings

note

Numbering database file has the file name extension .db2.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

508

Organizer database

definition

database file that contains [object properties](#), [category](#) information and rules, and [property templates](#)

note

The Organizer database is created when [Organizer](#) is started for the first time.

Concept diagrams: [Databases and files](#) and [Organizer](#)

509

drawing file

definition

file that contains a [drawing \(1\)](#)

note

Drawing files have the file name extension .dg.

Drawing files cannot be used without a [model \(1\)](#).

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

510

catalog file

definition

file that contains [catalog items](#)

note

Catalog files can have different file name extensions, for example, .bin, .db, or .inp.

Concept diagrams: [Databases and files](#) and [Catalogs](#)

511

symbol file

definition

file that contains [symbols \(2\)](#)

note

The symbol file in use can be changed in the symbol files dialog.

Concept diagrams: [Editors and templates](#) and [Databases and files](#)

512

property file

not: properties file

definition

[object type](#) specific file that contains values of [properties](#) or [settings](#) used in the [property pane](#) or in a dialog

note

Property files are saved in the current [model folder](#). The user can create and modify property files and copy them to the [project](#) or [firm folders](#) for future use.

[User-defined attributes](#) related to a specific object type are stored in a separate property file.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

513

standard file

definition

[property file](#) that [Tekla Structures](#) uses by default

note

Standard file name is standard.* where the symbol * is the file name extension. For example, standard.clm file is used for [column properties](#) and standard.clm.more file is used for [column user-defined attributes](#).

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

514

data file

definition

file that contains options for [object properties](#)

note

Data files contain information used by certain [components \(1\)](#) or the [rebar shape manager](#), for example.

Data files have the file name extension .dat.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

515

reference file

definition

file that contains information that can be used in a [model \(1\)](#) or a [drawing \(1\)](#)

note

A reference file can contain a [reference model](#) or a reference drawing, for example.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

516

log file

definition

file that contains information related to changes, actions, and errors in the [model \(1\)](#) or [drawing \(1\)](#)

note

[Tekla Structures](#) writes information in log files when the [model \(1\)](#) is saved, numbered or checked for clashes, for example.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

517

initialization file

definition

text file that contains user interface definitions, start-up parameters, default [settings](#), or [advanced options](#)

note

Initialization files are used when starting [Tekla Structures](#) and they can contain [system-specific](#) and [user-specific advanced options](#) that are used to configure Tekla Structures for different standards and the user's individual style of working.

Initialization files have the file name extension .ini.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

518

environment database

definition

database file that contains the definitions of [user-defined attributes](#) used in a [model \(2\)](#)

note

The file name of the environment database is environment.db.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

519

options database

definition

database file that contains the [settings](#) of model-specific [general settings](#) and [advanced options](#)

note

There are two options databases, the [model options database](#) (options_model.db) and the [drawing options database](#) (options_drawings.db).

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

520

model options database

definition

[options database](#) that contains [settings](#) specific to a [model \(2\)](#)

note

The file name of the model options database is options_model.db.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

521

drawing options database

definition

[options database](#) that contains [settings](#) specific to [drawings \(2\)](#) belonging to a [model \(2\)](#)

note

The file name of the drawing options database is options_drawings.db.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

522

input file

definition

file that contains data used as input to a program

note

Input files are used for different purposes, for example, for managing [user-defined attributes](#) and for defining certain reinforcement-related [settings](#).

Input files have the file name extension .inp, for example rebar_config.inp.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

523

Tekla Structures extension package file

definition

file for collecting, sharing and installing [extensions](#) and [Tekla Structures](#) content

note

For example, Tekla Structures extension package file can be used for installing additional environment content or for sharing applications created with [Tekla Open API](#).

Tekla Structures extension package files have the file name extension .tsep.

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

524

Tekla Structures extension manager; extension manager

definition

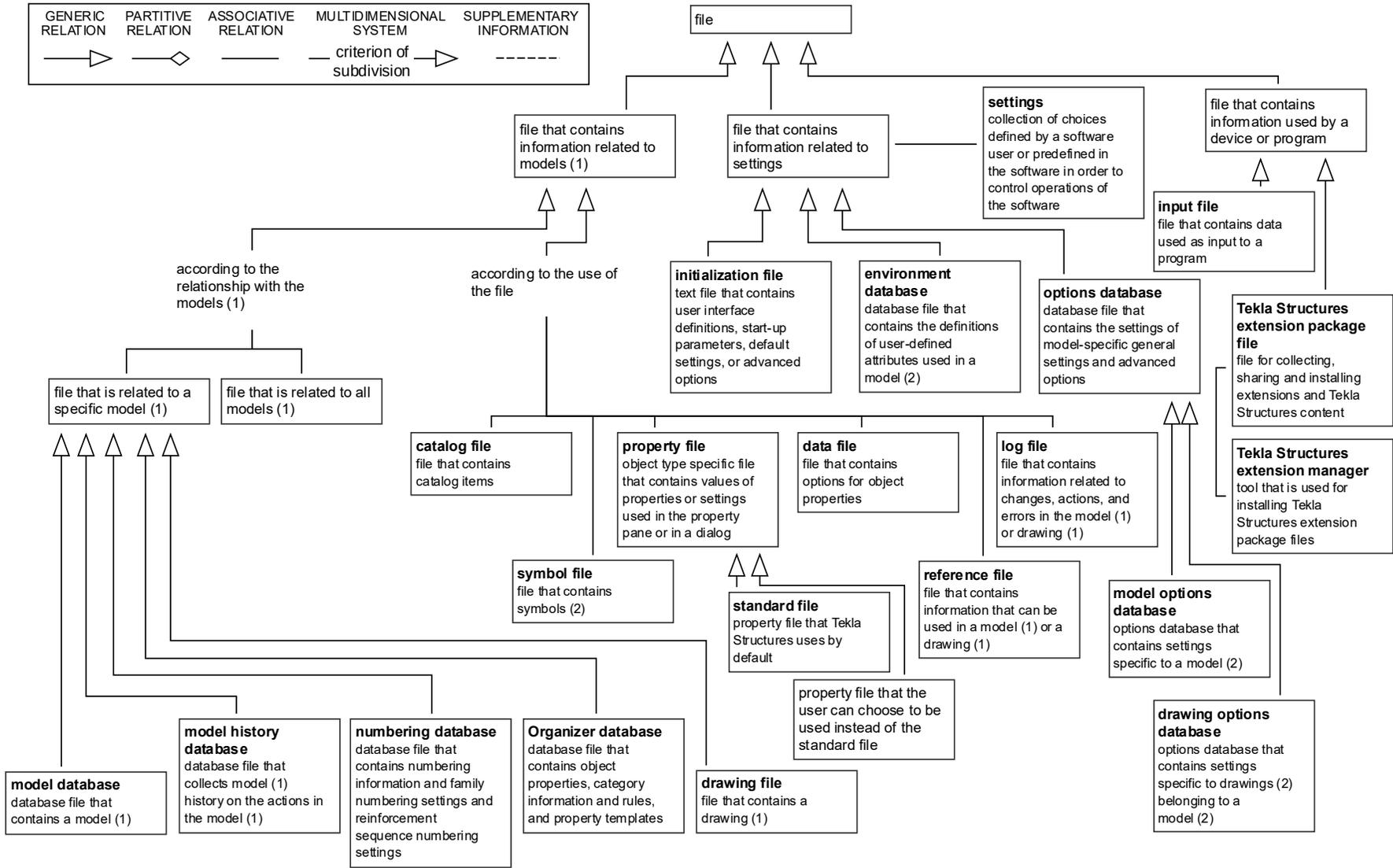
tool that is used for installing [Tekla Structures extension package files](#)

note

Tekla Structures extension manager can be accessed through [applications and components catalog](#).

Concept diagram: [Databases and files](#)

Concept diagram 41. Databases and files.



5.2 Folders

525

Tekla Structures software folder; Tekla Structures folder; Tekla Structures software installation folder

definition

folder that is created when *Tekla Structures* is installed and that contains folders related to Tekla Structures software

note

The location of the Tekla Structures software folder can be selected in the software installation wizard.

Concept diagram: [Folders](#)

526

Tekla Structures environments folder; Tekla Structures environment installation folder

definition

folder that is created when *Tekla Structures* or any *Tekla Structures environment* is installed and that contains folders related to the Tekla Structures environments

note

The location of the Tekla Structures environments folder depends on the location of the *Tekla Structures software folder*.

Concept diagram: [Folders](#)

527

system folder

definition

folder that is used for storing *Tekla Structures*-related files that define default *settings*

Concept diagram: [Folders](#)

528

firm folder

definition

folder that is used for storing *Tekla Structures*-related files customized for a particular organization or company

note

A Tekla Structures user can, for example, customize a company's *settings* and save them in a sub-folder located under the firm folder. After this, the customized settings can be used in all *projects* carried out for the company.

Concept diagram: [Folders](#)

529

project folder

definition

folder that is used for storing *Tekla Structures*-related files customized for a particular *project*

Concept diagram: [Folders](#)

530

model folder

definition

folder that is used for storing files associated with a *model (1)*

note

Tekla Structures stores all files associated with a model (1) in a folder it creates with the same name as the *model database* (.db1).

In *multi-user mode* all users access the same model folder.

Concept diagram: [Folders](#)

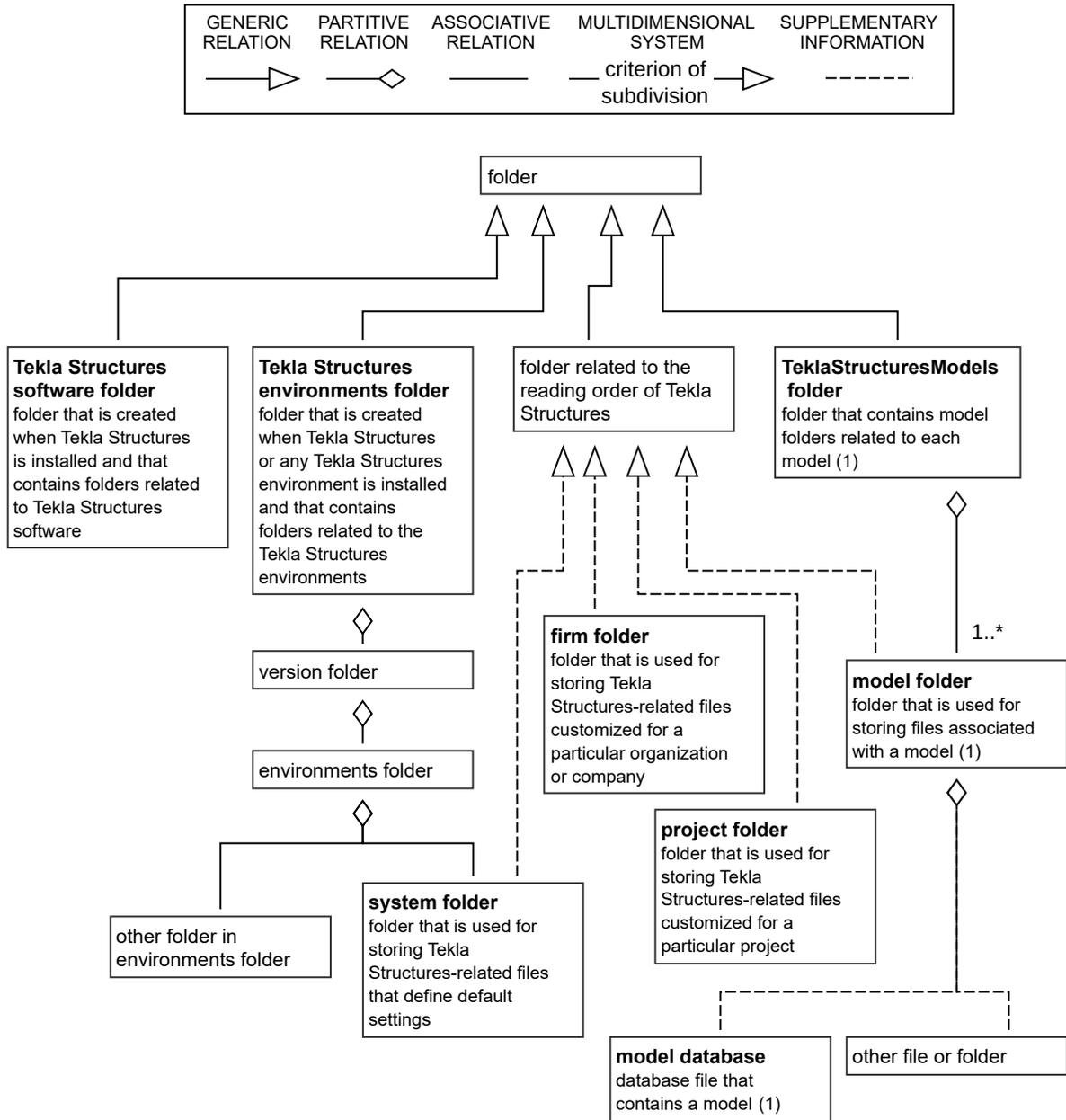
531

TeklaStructuresModels folder

definition

folder that contains *model folders* related to each *model (1)*

Concept diagram: [Folders](#)



Concept diagram 42. Folders.

5.3 Catalogs

532

catalog

definition

database that contains information that is displayed in categorized lists in the user interface

note

For example, [profile catalog](#) and [shape catalog](#) are catalogs.

In [Tekla Structures](#) it is possible to import or export an entire catalog or part of the catalog content to a [model \(1\)](#).

Concept diagram: [Catalogs](#)

533

catalog item

definition

entry in a [catalog](#)

note

Catalog items can be, for example, [profiles](#) or [shapes](#) or material grades.

Concept diagram: [Catalogs](#)

534

profile catalog

definition

[catalog](#) that displays [profiles](#) and their properties

note

In addition to the available profiles in the respective [Tekla Structures environment](#), the user can add [fixed](#) or [parametric user-defined profiles](#) to the profile catalog. It is also possible to import profiles to the profile catalog.

Concept diagram: [Catalogs](#)

535

material catalog

definition

[catalog](#) that displays material grades and information on them

note

By default, the material catalog contains standard, environment-specific materials. The user can add, modify, and delete material grades.

Concept diagram: [Catalogs](#)

536

shape catalog

definition

[catalog](#) that displays information on [item shapes](#)

note

For example, [Tekla Structures](#) shows the shape solidity and a preview of the selected shape.

Shapes can be modeled in Tekla Structures or by using other software, such as SketchUp, or they can be downloaded from [Tekla Warehouse](#).

Concept diagram: [Catalogs](#)

537

rebar catalog; reinforcing bar catalog

definition

[catalog](#) that displays [reinforcing bar](#) definitions

Concept diagrams: [Reinforcement](#) and [Catalogs](#)

538

rebar shape catalog; reinforcing bar shape catalog

definition

catalog that displays a list of *reinforcing bar* bending shapes

note

The reinforcing bar bending shapes can be defined in the *rebar shape manager*.

Concept diagrams: [Reinforcement](#) and [Catalogs](#)

539

mesh catalog

definition

catalog that displays standard *reinforcement mesh properties*

Concept diagram: [Catalogs](#)

540

bolt assembly catalog

definition

catalog that displays *bolt assemblies* and their *properties*

note

The user can add, modify, and delete bolt assemblies.

Concept diagrams: [Bolt assembly](#) and [Catalogs](#)

541

bolt catalog

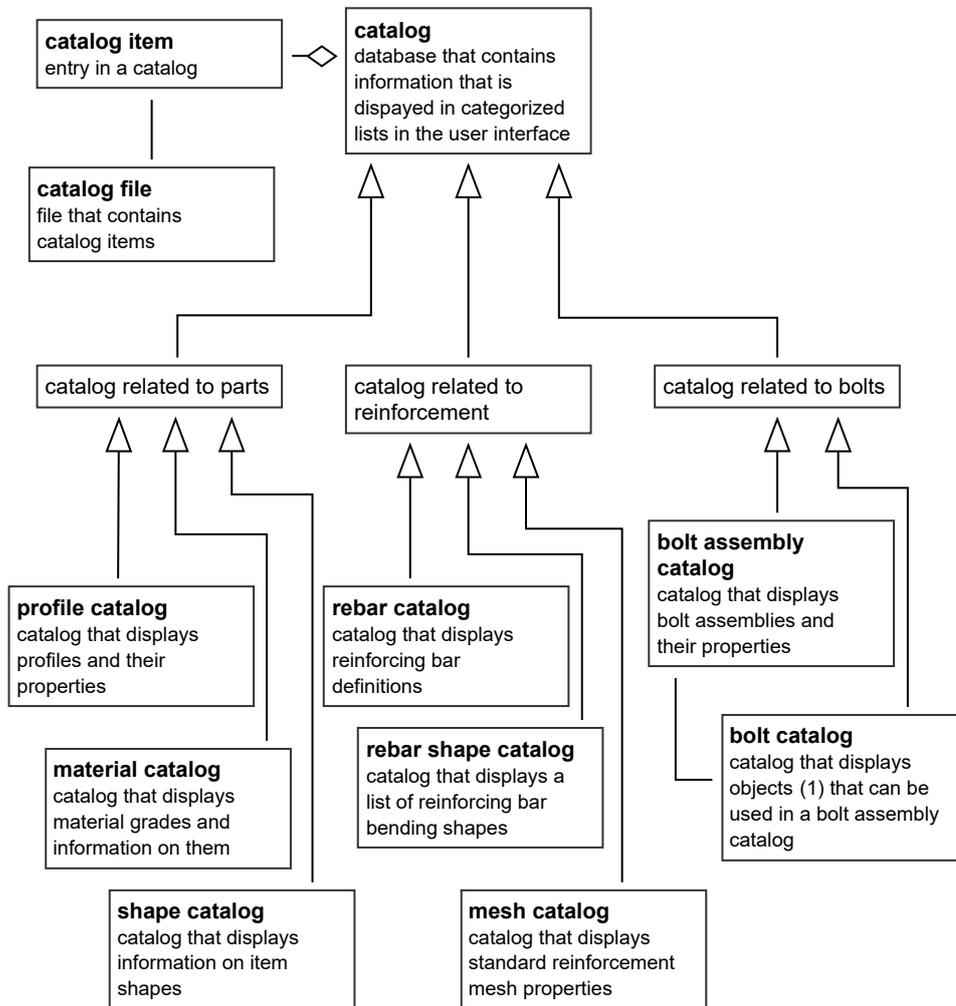
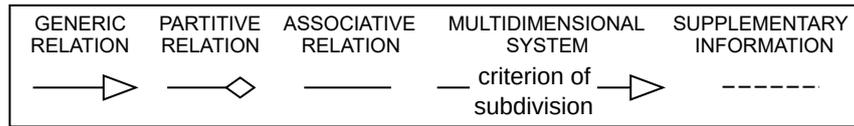
definition

catalog that displays *objects (1)* that can be used in a *bolt assembly catalog*

note

Objects (1) in the bolt catalog are bolt elements, for example, *bolts (2)* of different sizes and lengths, washers, and nuts.

Concept diagrams: [Bolt assembly](#) and [Catalogs](#)



Concept diagram 43. Catalogs.

5.4 Import and export

542

model transfer

definition

moving the *model (2)* in a selected format from another software to *Tekla Structures* or from Tekla Structures to another software

note

Model transfer refers to the use of both import and export. Model transfer may include the use of conversion files.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

543

model output

definition

representation of information included in a *model (1)* exported into the desired format

note

In *Tekla Structures*, for example, *drawings (1)*, *reports*, lists, and *NC files* are model output.

Some common output formats of Tekla Structures are, for example, *IFC*, DWG, DGN, and SDNF.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

544

precast automation file

definition

file that contains precast information gathered from the *model (1)* and exported for management and production software

note

Tekla Structures produces precast automation files in several formats, for example, Unitechnik, ELiPLAN, and BVBS.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

545

NC file

definition

file that contains information gathered from a *model (1)* and exported to *computer numerical controlled* fabrication machinery

note

Tekla Structures produces NC files in several formats, for example, DSTV.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

546

hard stamp

definition

information written in an *NC file* that sets the NC machine to create a text mark, containing information on the *part* or *assembly*, in a part

note

Hard stamp can contain, for example, a *project* and *lot number*, *phase*, or part and *assembly position*.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

547

pop mark

definition

information written in an *NC file* that sets the NC machine to drill a small hole in the surface of the material, which is used to weld or bolt *assembly secondary parts* to the right location on an *assembly main part*

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

548

contour marking

definition

information written in an *NC file* that passes information to the NC machine on the layout and the *parts* that are welded together

note

Tekla Structures contour marking does not work on *polybeams*.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

549

computer numerical control; CNC

definition

operation of a machine tool with a computer controlling the manufacturing process

note

During the computer numerical control manufacturing process, a machine tool or machining center drills, *cuts*, or shapes the piece of material.

The terms numerical control and NC refer to the method used prior to computer numerical control. However, the abbreviation NC is often used in the term *NC file*.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

550

layout manager

definition

tool that is used to import and export layout data between *Tekla Structures* and field layout devices

note

Layout manager enables the use of accurate *model (2) point (1)* and line data on the construction site.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

551

IFC; Industry Foundation Classes

definition

file format commonly used in *building information modeling* that facilitates software interoperability

note

IFC is an open specification developed by the IAI (International Alliance for Interoperability).

Model (1) can be exported into an IFC file.

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

552

model import

definition

import of a *model (2)* from another software to *Tekla Structures*

note

Tekla Structures supports several different formats to import models (2).

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)

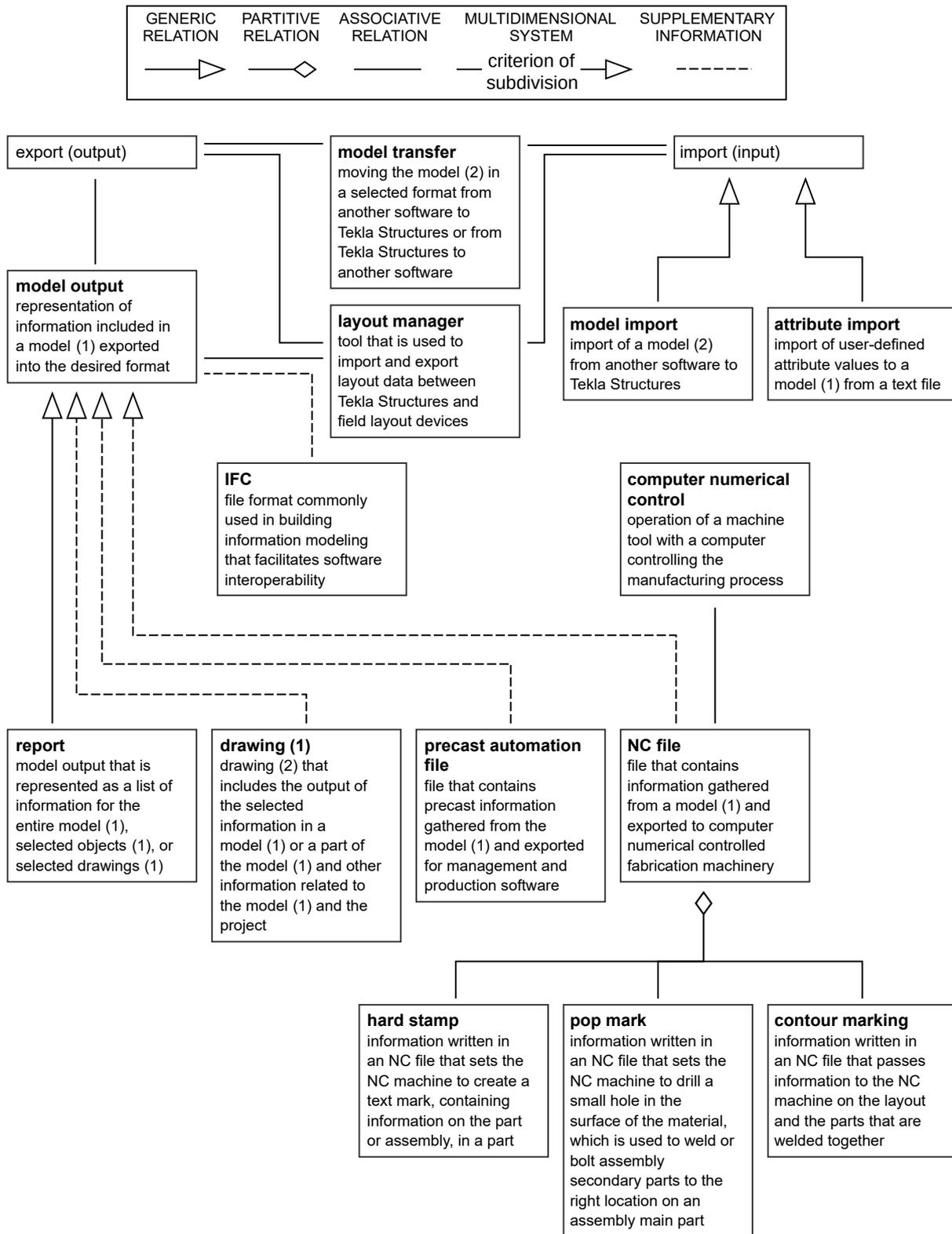
553

attribute import

definition

import of *user-defined attribute* values to a *model (1)* from a text file

Concept diagram: [Import and export](#)



Concept diagram 44. Import and export.

6 Tools related to managing models

6.1 Building hierarchy

554

building hierarchy (1)

definition

spatial structure of a *model (1)* that can be displayed as a hierarchical tree-structure in the *Building hierarchy (2)* tool

Concept diagram: [Building hierarchy](#)

555

Building hierarchy (2)

definition

tool that is used for defining a spatial structure of a *model (1)*

note

See also *building hierarchy (1)*.

Concept diagrams: [Building hierarchy](#) and [Managing the model](#)

556

building hierarchy element

definition

element in the *building hierarchy (1)* that can be managed as a single unit with the *Building hierarchy (2)* tool

note

In *Tekla Structures*, *project*, *site*, *building*, *building section*, *building storey*, and *space* are building hierarchy elements.

Building hierarchy elements are shown as boxes in *model views*, except for project and site, which are not visualized. All the building hierarchy elements are shown as a tree-structure in the *side pane*.

Concept diagram: [Building hierarchy](#)

557

site

definition

part of a spatial structure of the *model (1)* that refers to a defined area of land for construction work

note

Site is not visualized in the in *model views*.

Concept diagram: [Building hierarchy](#)

558

building

definition

part of a spatial structure of the *model (1)* that represents the boundaries of a spatial volume of a structure that provides shelter for its occupants or contents and stands in one place

Concept diagram: [Building hierarchy](#)

559

building section

definition

part of a spatial structure of the *model (1)* that represents a specific portion of a *building*

Concept diagram: [Building hierarchy](#)

560

building storey

definition

part of a spatial structure of the *model (1)* that represents a subdivision of a *building* or a *building section*, defined by its level within the structure

Concept diagram: [Building hierarchy](#)

561

space

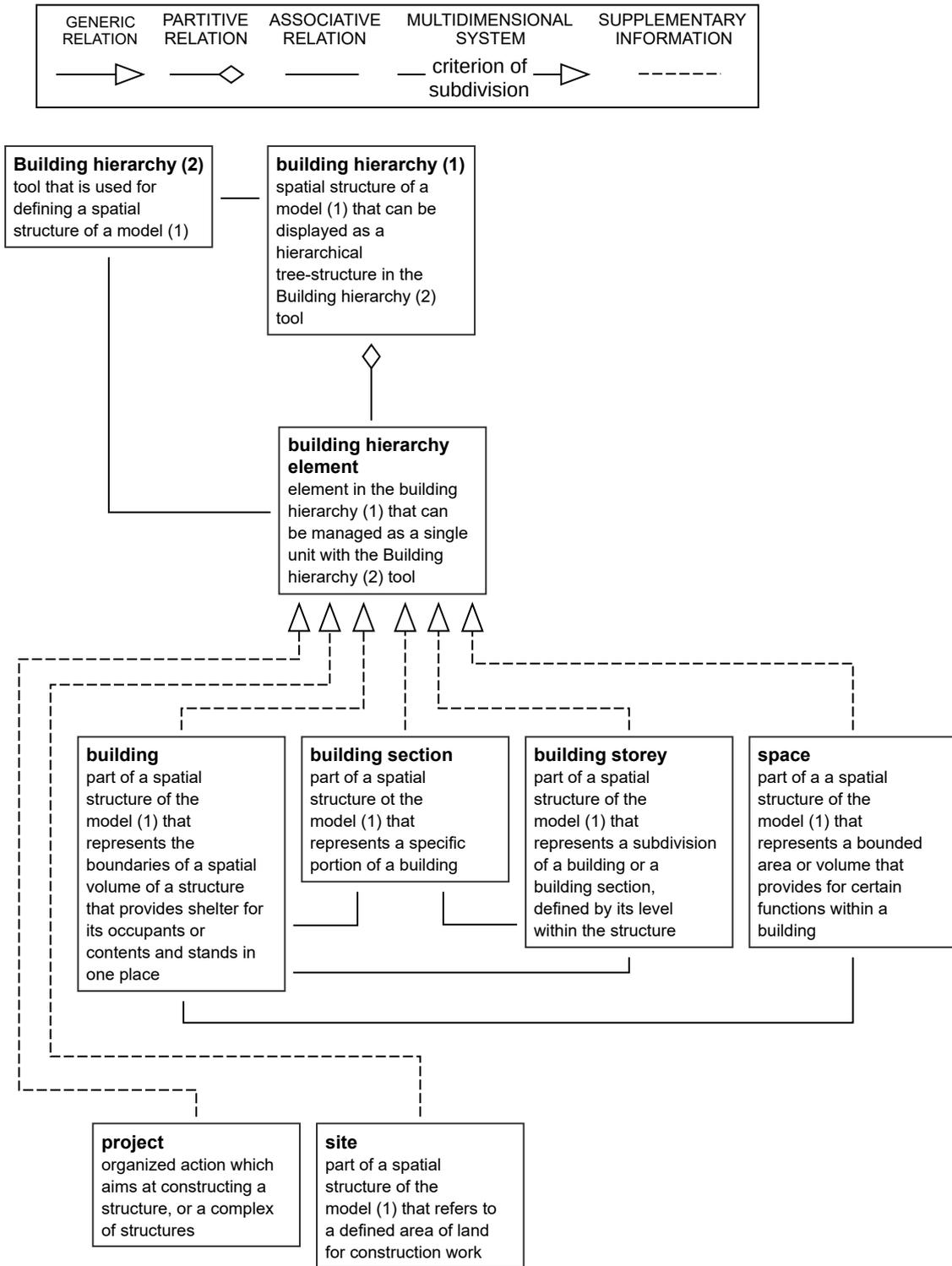
definition

part of a spatial structure of the *model (1)* that represents a bounded area or volume that provides for certain functions within a building

note

A space defines rooms, halls, or corridors, for example.

Concept diagram: [Building hierarchy](#)



Concept diagram 45. Building hierarchy.

6.2 Organizer

562

Organizer

definition

tool that is used for categorizing and managing *model information*, *object properties* and *object property* queries, and *model object* classification

note

Organizer consists of two tools, *object browser* and *categories*.

Concept diagrams: [Organizer](#) and [Managing the model](#)

563

object browser

definition

tool in *Organizer* used to inquire, view, and report *model information* based on selected *model objects*

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

564

property template

definition

definition of *object property* layout for the *property table* in *object browser*

note

The property template is saved in an .xml file or in the *Organizer database*.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

565

property table

definition

view in *object browser* that shows the values of selected *model object properties*

note

The property table is created based on a selected *property template*.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

566

categories *pl*

definition

tool in *Organizer* that is used to define *location*, *property*, and *custom categories*

note

The defined *categories* and their combinations can be used to highlight or select *model objects*, or to apply *user-defined attributes* and their values to model objects.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

567

category

definition

in *Organizer*, a set of *model objects* that is formed based on rules or by selecting the model objects manually

note

The rules can be based on model object location, *object properties*, the content of other categories or *filters*.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

568

property category

definition

category in *Organizer* based on adding *user-defined attributes* to *model objects*

note

Within a property category, a model object can belong to only one lowest level category at a time.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

569

custom category

definition

category in *Organizer* based on user-defined rules or manually selected *properties*

note

A custom category can be created based on any property or other *model information*. Custom categories can be used to group the *model objects* based on other than location-based information.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

570

custom property

definition

object property that the user can manually include in *Organizer*

note

Some *properties* are not automatically available in the Organizer, for example the properties of *reference model objects*.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

571

location category

definition

category based on location rules in *Organizer*

note

Location categories divide the *model (1)* into *projects*, sites, buildings, sections, and floors. Location category can be defined automatically based on the *boundary box* or manually.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

572

boundary box

definition

user-defined box that defines which *model objects* are placed in the same *location category* in *Organizer*

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

573

location breakdown structure

definition

logical subdivision of the *model (1)* into work units based on the location of the *model objects*

note

In *Organizer*, location breakdown structure forms a hierarchical tree-structure and it can be used, for example, to divide the model (1) into *projects*, *sites*, *buildings*, sections and floors.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

574

location property; location category property

definition

object property that reports the *model object* location in the *location breakdown structure* in *Organizer*

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

575

uncategorized category

definition

category where the *model objects* are automatically placed in *Organizer* if they are not inside a defined *boundary box*

note

The uncategorized category shows that the *location breakdown structure* is incomplete. The model objects can be manually moved from the uncategorized category to a chosen *location category*, or boundary boxes can be changed to move the model objects to the wanted location category.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)

576

automated subcategory

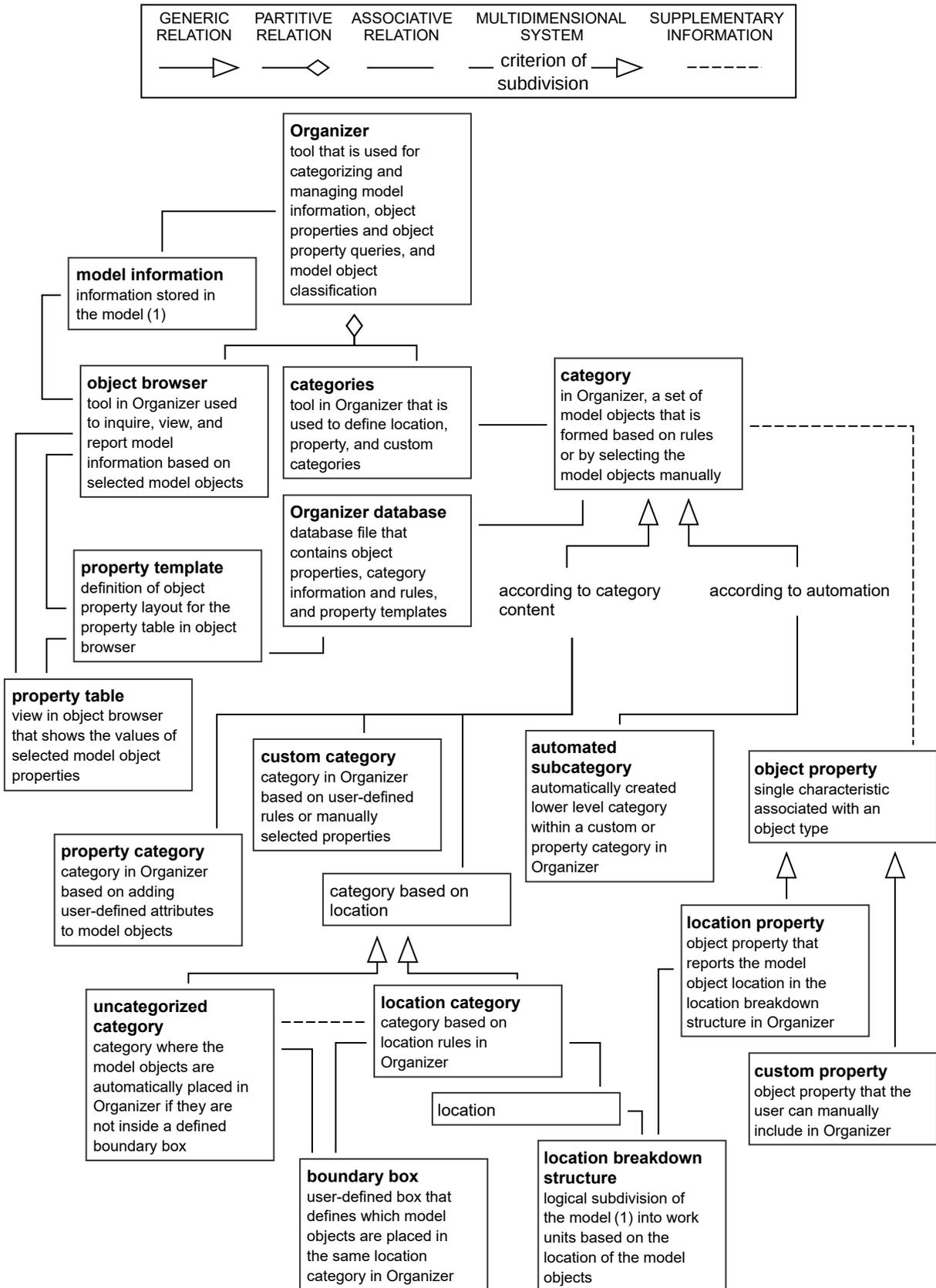
definition

automatically created lower level *category* within a *custom* or *property category* in *Organizer*

note

Subcategories can also be created manually.

Concept diagram: [Organizer](#)



Concept diagram 46. Organizer.

6.3 Managing the model

577

clash check manager

definition

tool that is used for finding *model objects* and *point clouds* that collide on a selected area and managing information related to the collisions

note

Clash check manager finds clashes in both *Tekla Structures models (1)* and *reference models*.

Model objects included in clash check can be *parts*, *bolts (1)*, *welds*, *pour objects*, or *reinforcement objects*.

In addition to finding and highlighting clashes, clash check manager classifies them according to their type, and allows the user, for example, to sort the detected clashes and save clash check sessions.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

578

task manager

definition

tool that enables the linking of temporal data to a *model (1)*

note

The task manager can be used to create, save, and manage *tasks* that are used to create a schedule.

Model objects can be added to the tasks. *Organizer categories* can be used to select the model objects that will be added to the tasks.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

579

task

definition

in the *task manager*, a representation of a piece of work that needs to be carried out in order to complete a *project*

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

580

task information

definition

data related to a *task*

note

Task information includes properties related to a task, such as task name, *task type*, planned and actual start and end dates, and task completeness.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

581

task type

definition

task information that reflects the category into which *tasks* can be classified in order to apply the same *settings* to all of them

note

Examples of task types in the *task manager* include formwork, reinforcement, and pour.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

582

production rate

definition

task information that reflects the quantity produced in a given amount of time

note

The *task manager* is able to count the production rate automatically on the basis of the values given to quantity and duration, or the user may define the rate.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

583

task dependency; dependency (2)

definition

task information which expresses that starting or finishing a *task* requires that a certain other task has been started or finished

note

Task dependency types in *Tekla Structures* are start-to-start, start-to-finish, finish-to-start, and finish-to-finish.

Changes made to a task's schedule may cause automatic changes to the schedules of the tasks that depend on it.

Task dependency is represented as a symbol in the *Gantt chart*.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

584

task list

definition

list that displays *task information* belonging to a certain *scenario*

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

585

Gantt chart

definition

diagram that displays the schedule related to a *scenario* in a graphic form

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

586

scenario

definition

view in the *task manager* which includes the *tasks* chosen and the *task information* defined by the user for a certain purpose

note

In different scenarios users can define alternative workflows by adding different tasks or dependencies between the tasks.

A scenario may include the tasks belonging to an entire *project* or a certain project phase, such as design, fabrication, or erection. In addition, a scenario may be related to certain deliverables, such as *footings*, a frame, or an HVAC (heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning) system.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

587

phase manager

definition

tool that is used for assigning *model objects* to *phases*

note

The phase content can be viewed and modified in the phase manager.

The phase manager can be used to *lock* and unlock model objects.

See *object lock*.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

588

phase

definition

selection of *model objects* in a *model (1)* that the user can create for a desired purpose

note

Model objects have a *phase number* that indicates the phase they belong to.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

589

phase name

definition

description that indicates a *phase*

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

590

phase number

definition

numeric value that indicates a *phase*

note

For example, it is possible to create *reports*, to *filter* and *lock model objects*, and to copy model objects from other *models (1)*, according to their phase number.

New model objects are given the current phase number.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

591

sequencer

definition

tool that is used for creating named sequences for *parts* and assigning *sequence numbers* to the parts

note

Sequencer is used for defining erection sequences, for example.

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

592

sequence number

definition

incremental number of an individual *part* that belongs to a sequence of parts

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

593

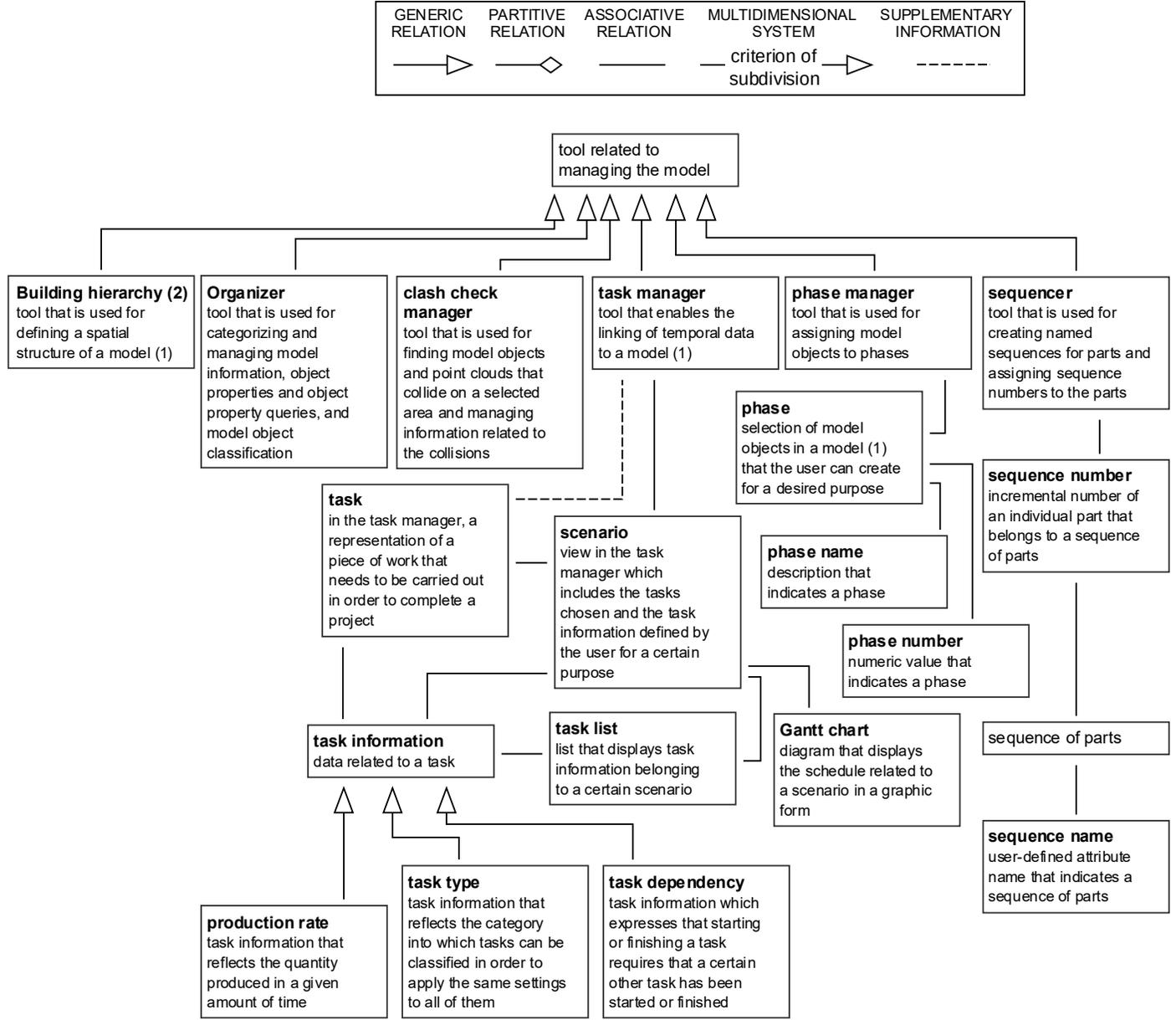
sequence name

definition

user-defined attribute name that indicates a sequence of *parts*

Concept diagram: [Managing the model](#)

Concept diagram 47. Managing the model.



7 Analysis and design

7.1 Structural analysis and design

594

structural analysis; analysis

definition

method that calculates the forces, moments, and stresses on a structure

note

Structural analysis also calculates the displacements, deflections, rotations, and warping of objects under various loading conditions.

Concept diagram: [Analysis](#)

595

seismic analysis

definition

structural analysis that determines a set of forces for which it is statistically expected that the structure will not collapse in an earthquake

Concept diagram: [Analysis](#)

596

structural design; design

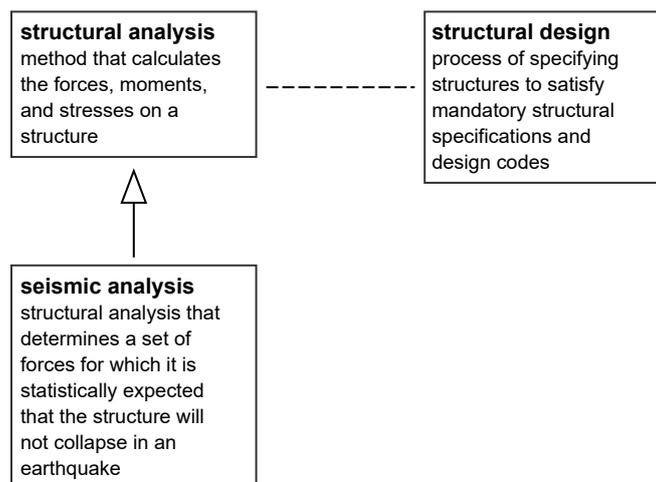
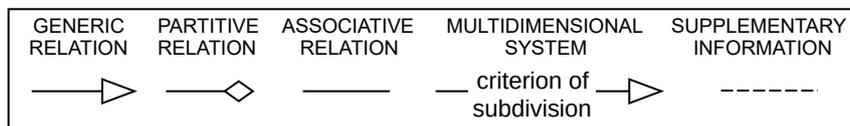
definition

process of specifying structures to satisfy mandatory structural specifications and design codes

note

Structural design is the methodical investigation of the stability, strength and rigidity of structures. The basic objective in both *structural analysis* and structural design is to produce a structure capable of resisting all applied *loads* without failure during its intended life.

Concept diagram: [Analysis](#)



Concept diagram 48. Analysis.

7.2 Loads

597

load modeling code

definition

information about the building or design code, and about the *load group types*, safety factors, and *load combination (1)* factors used in the *load combination (2)*

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)

598

load group type

definition

load group property that indicates the action that causes a *load* and that is used as a basis for a load group

note

Load group types are, for example, wind loads, thermal loads, snow loads, traffic loads, dead loads, and live loads.

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)

599

load combination (1)

definition

set of *load groups* multiplied by their partial safety factors that is created in the *load combination (2)* process

note

Each load combination (1) represents a loading situation to be checked according to the design code.

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)

600

load combination (2); load combination process

definition

process in which some simultaneously acting *load groups* are multiplied by their partial safety factors and combined with each other according to specific rules

note

Load combination (2) rules are specific to a design process and are defined in design codes.

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)

601

load group

definition

set of *loads* and *loadings* that are caused by the same action and to which the user wants to refer collectively

note

Loads belonging to the same load group are treated alike during *load combination (2)*.

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)

602

loading

definition

analysis part property that represents a force or system of forces carried by a structure

note

Forces can be self-weight or area *loads*.

Concept diagrams: [Load in analysis](#) and [Analysis settings](#)

603

load

definition

model object that represents a force or system of forces carried by a structure or part of a structure

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)

604

load type

definition

collection of data describing a *load* that represents the common characteristics shared by a number of individual loads, see also *object type*

note

The basic load types are point load, line load, area load, uniform load, and temperature load.

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)

605

compatibility; load group compatibility

definition

property of a *load group* that indicates that load groups having the same compatibility indicator can act together and need to be considered in the *load combination (2)*

note

The compatible load groups act together with or separately from other load groups.

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)

606

incompatibility; load group incompatibility

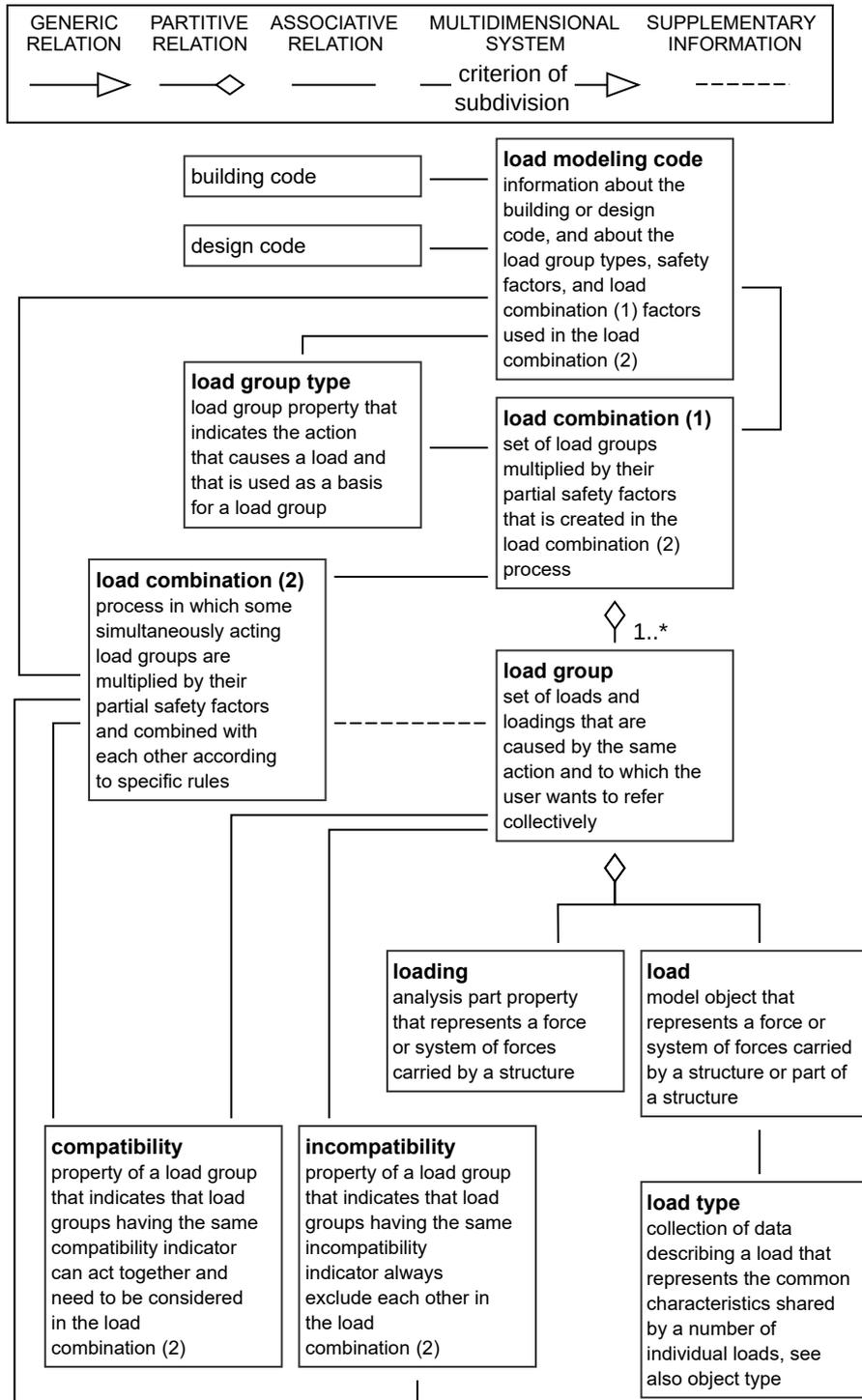
definition

property of a *load group* that indicates that load groups having the same incompatibility indicator always exclude each other in the *load combination (2)*

note

Only one incompatible load group can exist in a given *load combination (1)*.

Concept diagram: [Load in analysis](#)



Concept diagram 49. Load in analysis.

7.3 Analysis objects

607

physical model object; physical object

definition

model object in a *physical model*

note

For example, *physical parts* are physical model objects in *Tekla Structures*.

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

608

physical part

definition

part in a *physical model*

Concept diagrams: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#), [Analysis objects](#) and [Analysis settings](#)

609

analysis model object; analysis object

definition

model object that *Tekla Structures* creates from a *physical model object* or on the basis of *analysis part connectivity* into an *analysis model*

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

610

analysis part

definition

analysis model object that is a *representation* of a *physical part* in an *analysis model*

note

In different analysis models, a physical part is represented by different analysis parts.

Concept diagrams: [Parts according to their roles in the model](#), [Analysis objects](#) and [Analysis settings](#)

611

analysis area

definition

analysis part that is a representation of a *plate (2)*, a *slab*, or a *panel*

note

Analysis area consists of one or more *analysis elements*.

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

612

analysis bar

definition

analysis part that *Tekla Structures* creates from a *beam*, a *column*, or a brace, or from a segment of these *parts*

note

Tekla Structures creates more than one analysis bar from a *physical part* if the part is a *polybeam* or if the part *cross section* changes non-linearly. An analysis bar consists of one or more *analysis members*.

Some analysis applications use analysis members whereas others use analysis bars.

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

613

node; analysis node

definition

analysis model object that *Tekla Structures* creates at a defined *point (1)* of an *analysis model* based on *analysis part connectivity*

note

Tekla Structures creates nodes at ends and intersection points (1) of *analysis parts*, and the corners of *analysis areas*.

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

614

analysis member

definition

analysis model object that *Tekla Structures* creates between two *nodes* of an *analysis bar*

note

Every *physical part* that the user selects for inclusion in the *analysis model* produces one or more analysis members. A single physical part produces several analysis members if the physical part intersects with other physical parts. Tekla Structures splits the physical part at the intersection *points (1)* of the member axes. For example, a *physical model beam* that supports two other beams is split into three analysis members between nodes.

Some analysis applications use analysis members whereas others use analysis bars.

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

615

analysis element

definition

analysis model object that the analysis application creates between three or more *nodes* in an *analysis area*

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

616

rigid link

definition

analysis model object that connects two *nodes* so that they do not move in relation to each other

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

617

rigid diaphragm

definition

analysis model object that connects more than two *nodes* that move with exactly the same rotation and translation

Concept diagram: [Analysis objects](#)

619

analysis results *pl*

definition

results that concern forces and stresses and that an analysis application generates after it has analyzed an *analysis model*

note

Analysis results are stored in *Tekla Structures* in an analysis results database.

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

620

utilization ratio

definition

ratio of the actual to maximum allowable performance values of structural *building objects*

note

Utilization ratio is an *analysis result*. In *Tekla Structures* utilization ratio is calculated for steel *parts*.

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

621

design group

definition

group of *physical parts* that *Tekla Structures* uses when it searches for optimal *profiles* for steel *parts* and optimal reinforcement for concrete parts

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

622

design properties *pl*

definition

properties that concern *physical part* design

note

Design properties vary depending on the analysis application that is used.

Design properties may be applied to the entire *model (1)* or to individual *objects (1)*.

For example, buckling length is a design property.

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

623

design results *pl*

rather than: optimization results *pl*

definition

results that concern *physical part* design and that an analysis application generates after it has analyzed an *analysis model*

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

624

design check; check design

definition

option that checks if criteria of the selected design code are fulfilled for the *analysis part*

note

The design check is activated in the *analysis part properties* or in the *analysis model properties*.

Design check might check whether *cross sections* are adequate, for example.

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

625

analysis part properties *pl*

definition

object properties associated with an *analysis part*

note

Analysis part properties can be defined in the *physical model* or in the *analysis model*.

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

626

analysis part property

definition

single characteristic in *analysis part properties*

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

627

analysis axis

definition

analysis part property or *analysis model setting* that defines the location of the *analysis part* in relation to the corresponding *physical part*

note

The analysis axis can be defined on the analysis part or the *analysis model* level. For example, the analysis axis can be the neutral axis or the *reference line* of the physical part.

Concept diagrams: [Analysis objects](#) and [Analysis settings](#)

628

analysis part connectivity; connectivity

definition

analysis part property that defines the *analysis part's* relationship to other analysis parts

note

For example, an analysis part automatically *snaps* or connects with *rigid links* to other parts based on the analysis part connectivity.

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

629

analysis class

definition

analysis part property that defines how *Tekla Structures* handles each *analysis part*

Concept diagrams: [Analysis objects](#) and [Analysis settings](#)

630

support condition

definition

analysis part property that describes if the *analysis part* is supported or not

note

If an analysis part end is supported, the *physical part* end is the ultimate support for a superstructure (for example, the foot of a *column* in a frame), and some of the part end's degrees of freedom result in zero translation and/or rotation.

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

631

start releases *pl*

definition

analysis part properties that define the *support conditions* and describe the degrees of freedom at the start of the *part*

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)

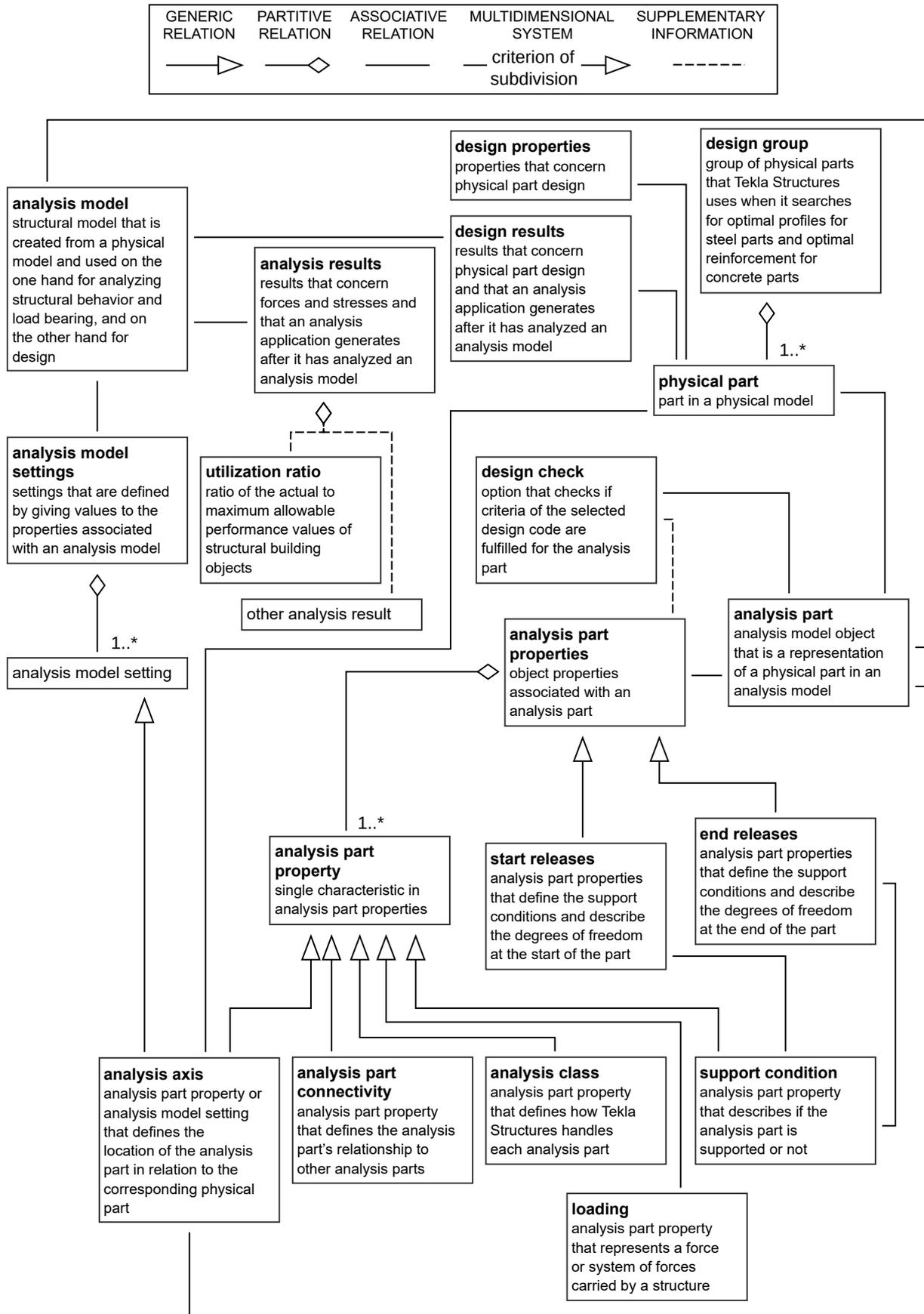
632

end releases *pl*

definition

analysis part properties that define the *support conditions* and describe the degrees of freedom at the end of the *part*

Concept diagram: [Analysis settings](#)



Concept diagram 51. Analysis settings.

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