

# Mereology

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## 1 Introduction

**theory** *Mereology*

**imports** *Main*

**begin**

This is a presentation in Isabelle/HOL of *Classical Extensional Mereology*. The presentation is based on those in “Parts” by Peter Simons [3] and “Parts and Places” by Roberto Casati and Achille Varzi [1]. Some corrections and important proofs are from [2]

Please note that this is an extremely ROUGH DRAFT.

## 2 Ground Mereology

Ground Mereology (M) introduces parthood as a primitive relation amongst individuals. It's assumed that parthood is a partial ordering relation - that is reflexive, symmetric and transitive [1], p. 36:

**typeddecl**  $i$  — the type of individuals

**locale**  $M =$

**fixes**  $P:: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow \text{bool}$  (**infix**  $\leq 50$ )

**assumes**  $R: x \leq x$  — reflexivity of parthood

**and**  $AS: x \leq y \longrightarrow y \leq x \longrightarrow x = y$  — antisymmetry of parthood

**and**  $T: x \leq y \longrightarrow y \leq z \longrightarrow x \leq z$  — transitivity of parthood

**begin**

The following relations are defined in terms of parthood [1], p. 36-7:

**definition**  $PP:: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow \text{bool}$  (**infix**  $< 50$ )

**where**  $x < y \equiv x \leq y \wedge \neg y \leq x$  — proper parthood

**definition**  $O:: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow \text{bool}$  ( $O$ )

**where**  $O\ x\ y \equiv \exists\ z. z \leq x \wedge z \leq y$  — overlap

**definition**  $D:: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow \text{bool}$  ( $D$ )

**where**  $D\ x\ y \equiv \neg O\ x\ y$  — disjointness

**definition**  $U:: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow \text{bool}$  ( $U$ )

**where**  $U\ x\ y \equiv \exists\ z. x \leq z \wedge y \leq z$  — underlap

As are the following operations on individuals [1], p. 43-5:

**definition**  $S:: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow i$  (**infix**  $+$  52)

**where**  $x + y \equiv \text{THE } z. \forall\ w. O\ w\ z \longleftrightarrow O\ w\ x \vee O\ w\ y$  — sum or fusion

**definition**  $T:: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow i$  (**infix**  $\times$  53)

**where**  $x \times y \equiv \text{THE } z. \forall\ w. O\ w\ z \longleftrightarrow O\ w\ x \wedge O\ w\ y$  — product or intersection

**definition**  $u:: i$  ( $u$ )

**where**  $u \equiv \text{THE } z. \forall\ w. P\ w\ z$  — universe

**definition**  $M:: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow i$  (**infix**  $-$  51)

**where**  $x - y \equiv \text{THE } z. \forall\ w. O\ w\ z \longleftrightarrow O\ w\ x \wedge \neg O\ w\ y$  — difference

**definition**  $C:: i \Rightarrow i$  ( $\neg$ )

**where**  $\neg x \equiv (u - x)$  — complement

And the operations of general sum and product [1], p. 46:

**definition**  $\sigma:: (i \Rightarrow \text{bool}) \Rightarrow i$  ( $\sigma$ )

**where**  $\sigma\ F \equiv \text{THE } z. (\forall\ y. O\ y\ z \longleftrightarrow (\exists\ x. F\ x \wedge O\ x\ y))$

**abbreviation**  $\sigma x:: (i \Rightarrow \text{bool}) \Rightarrow i$  (**binder**  $\sigma$  [8] 9)

**where**  $\sigma\ x. F\ x \equiv \sigma\ F$  — general sum or fusion of the Fs

**definition**  $\pi:: (i \Rightarrow \text{bool}) \Rightarrow i$  ( $\pi$ )

**where**  $\pi\ F \equiv \text{THE } z. (\forall\ x. F\ x \longrightarrow z \leq x)$  — general products [1], p. 46

**abbreviation**  $\pi x:: (i \Rightarrow \text{bool}) \Rightarrow i$  (**binder**  $\pi$  [8] 9)

**where**  $\pi\ x. F\ x \equiv \pi\ F$  — general sum or product of the Fs

Note that the symbols for part, proper part, sum, product, difference and complement are distinguished by bold font.

**end**

### 3 Minimal Mereology

Minimal mereology (MM) adds to ground mereology the axiom of weak supplementation [1], p. 39:

**locale**  $MM = M +$   
**assumes**  $WS: x < y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z < y \wedge D z x)$  — weak supplementation

Weak supplementation is sometimes stated with parthood rather than proper parthood in the consequent. The following lemma in ground mereology shows that the two definitions are equivalent, given anti-symmetry:

**lemma** (**in**  $M$ )  $(x < y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z < y \wedge D z x)) \longleftrightarrow (x < y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq y \wedge D z x))$   
**by** (*metis AS D-def O-def PP-def R*)

The following two lemmas are weaker supplementation principles taken from Simons [3], p. 27. The names *company* and *strong company* are from Varzi's *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* entry on mereology [4].

**lemma** (**in**  $MM$ )  $C: x < y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \neq x \wedge z < y)$  **by** (*metis WS D-def O-def R*) — company

**lemma** (**in**  $MM$ )  $SC: x < y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z < y \wedge \neg z \leq x)$  **by** (*metis WS D-def O-def R*) — strong company

Minimal Mereology is not strong enough to prove the *Proper Parts Principle*, according to which if  $x$  has a proper part, and every proper part of  $x$  is a part of  $y$ , then  $x$  is a part of  $y$  [3] p. 28:

**lemma** (**in**  $MM$ )  $PPP: \exists z. z < x \implies \forall z. z < x \longrightarrow z \leq y \implies x \leq y$  — proper parts principle  
**nitpick** [*user-axioms*] **oops**

The proper parts principle is Simons way of expressing *extensionality*, which is not a theorem of Minimal Mereology either:

**lemma** (**in**  $M$ )  $E: (\exists z. z < x \vee z < y) \longrightarrow (\forall z. z < x \longleftrightarrow z < y) \longrightarrow x = y$   
— extensionality  
**nitpick** **oops**

The failure of weak supplementation to entail the proper parts principle or extensionality motivates a stronger axiom, to which we turn in the next section.

## 4 Extensional Mereology

Extensional Mereology (EM) adds the axiom of strong supplementation [1], p. 39:

**locale**  $EM = M +$   
**assumes**  $SS: \neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq x \wedge D z y)$  — strong supplementation

Extensional Mereology ( $EM$  is so called because it entails the proper parts principle [3] p. 29:

**lemma** (in  $EM$ )  $PPP: \exists z. z < x \implies \forall z. z < x \longrightarrow z \leq y \implies x \leq y$   
**by** (*metis SS D-def R O-def PP-def T*)

And thus extensionality proper [1] p. 40:

**lemma** (in  $EM$ )  
 $E: (\exists z. z < x \vee z < y) \longrightarrow (\forall z. z < x \longleftrightarrow z < y) \longrightarrow x = y$  — extensionality  
**by** (*metis R O-def D-def AS PP-def SS*)

In the context of the other axioms, strong supplementation entails weak supplementation [3], p. 29:

**lemma** (in  $M$ )  $SStoWS$ :  
**assumes**  $SS: \bigwedge x. \bigwedge y. \neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq x \wedge D z y)$   
— assumes strong supplementation  
**shows**  $WS: \bigwedge x. \bigwedge y. x < y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z < y \wedge D z x)$   
— shows weak supplementation  
**by** (*metis AS D-def O-def PP-def R assms*)

But not vice versa:

**lemma** (in  $M$ )  $WStoSS$ :  
**assumes**  $WS: \bigwedge x. \bigwedge y. x < y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z < y \wedge D z x)$   
— assumes weak supplementation  
**shows**  $SS: \bigwedge x. \bigwedge y. \neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq x \wedge D z y)$   
— shows strong supplementation  
**nitpick oops**

So Extensional Mereology is stronger than Minimal Mereology [1] p. 43:

**sublocale**  $EM \subseteq MM$  **using**  $T SS SStoWS$  **by** (*metis MM.intro MM-axioms.intro M-axioms*)  
**sublocale**  $MM \subseteq EM$  **nitpick oops**

**lemma** (in  $MM$ )  
**assumes**  $PPP: \exists z. z < x \implies \forall z. z < x \longrightarrow z \leq y \implies x \leq y$   
**shows**  $SS: \neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq x \wedge D z y)$  **nitpick oops**

## 5 Closure Mereology

Closure Mereology adds to Ground Mereology the axioms of sum closure and product closure [1] p. 43:

**locale**  $CM = M +$   
**assumes**  $SC: U\ x\ y \longrightarrow (\exists\ z. \forall\ w. O\ w\ z \longleftrightarrow (O\ w\ x \vee O\ w\ y))$  — sum closure  
**assumes**  $PC: O\ x\ y \longrightarrow (\exists\ z. \forall\ w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y))$  — product closure

Combining Closure Mereology with Minimal Mereology yields the theory known as Closure Minimal Mereology  $CMM$  whereas combining Closure Mereology with Extensional Mereology obtains *Closed Extensional Mereology*  $CEM$  [1] p. 43:

**locale**  $CMM = CM + MM$   
**locale**  $CEM = EM + CM$

In Closed Minimal Mereology, the product closure axiom and weak supplementation jointly entail strong supplementation. The proof verified here is from Pontow [2] p. 200:

**lemma** (in  $CMM$ )  $SS: \neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists\ z. z \leq x \wedge D\ z\ y)$   
**proof** **fix**  $x\ y$   
**assume**  $\neg x \leq y$   
**show**  $(\exists\ z. z \leq x \wedge D\ z\ y)$   
**proof** *cases*  
**assume**  $D\ x\ y$   
**thus**  $(\exists\ z. z \leq x \wedge D\ z\ y)$  **using**  $R$  **by** *auto*  
**next**  
**assume**  $\neg D\ x\ y$   
**hence**  $O\ x\ y$  **using**  $D$ -def **by** *simp*  
**hence**  $\exists\ z. \forall\ w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y)$  **using**  $PC$  **by** *simp*  
**then obtain**  $z$  **where**  $z: \forall\ w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y)$ ..  
**hence**  $z < x$  **using**  $PP$ -def  $R$   $(\neg x \leq y)$  **by** *auto*  
**hence**  $(\exists\ w. w < x \wedge D\ w\ z)$  **using**  $WS$  **by** *simp*  
**then obtain**  $w$  **where**  $w < x \wedge D\ w\ z$ ..  
**hence**  $w \leq x \wedge D\ w\ y$  **by** (*meson*  $D$ -def  $O$ -def  $PP$ -def  $T\ z$ )  
**thus**  $(\exists\ z. z \leq x \wedge D\ z\ y)$ ..  
**qed**  
**qed**

Because Strong Supplementation is provable in Closed Minimal Mereology, it follows that Closed Extensional Mereology and Closed Minimal Mereology are the same theory [1] p. 44:

**sublocale**  $CEM \subseteq CMM$  **by** (*simp add: CMM.intro CM-axioms MM-axioms*)  
**sublocale**  $CMM \subseteq CEM$  **by** (*simp add: CEM.intro CM-axioms EM.intro EM-axioms.intro M-axioms SS*)

Closure Mereology with Universe (CMU) is obtained by adding an axiom ensuring existence of a universe [1] p. 44:

**locale**  $CMU = CM +$   
**assumes**  $U: \exists z. \forall x. x \leq z$  — universe

And adding Extensional Mereology (or Minimal Mereology) to this theory results in Closed Extensional Mereology with Universe  $CEMU$ :

**locale**  $CEMU = EM + CMU$

In Closure Extensional Mereology with Universe, it's possible to derive a strengthening of the sum axiom, since everything underlaps everything else:

**lemma** (in  $CEMU$ )  $EU: U x y$  **using**  $U\text{-def } U$  **by**  $auto$  — everything underlaps  
**lemma** (in  $CEMU$ )  $SSC: (\exists z. \forall w. O w z \longleftrightarrow (O w x \vee O w y))$  **using**  $EU SC$   
**by**  $simp$   
— strengthened sum closure

## 6 General Mereology

General Mereology is obtained from Ground Mereology by adding the axiom of fusion or unrestricted composition [1] p. 46:

**locale**  $GM = M +$   
**assumes**  $F: (\exists x. F x) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y))$  — fusion or unrestricted composition

Substituting  $x = a \vee x = b$  for  $F x$  in the fusion axiom allows the derivation of an unrestricted version of sum closure  $GS$ , and so of course sum closure itself, as follows:

**lemma** (in  $GM$ )  $FS:$   
 $(\exists x. (x = a \vee x = b)) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. (x = a \vee x = b) \wedge O x y))$   
**using**  $F$  **solve-direct.**  
**lemma** (in  $GM$ )  $GFS: (\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. (x = a \vee x = b) \wedge O x y))$   
**using**  $FS$  **by**  $blast$   
**lemma** (in  $M$ )  $GFS\text{to}GS:$   
**assumes**  $GFS: (\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. (x = a \vee x = b) \wedge O x y))$   
**shows**  $(\exists z. \forall w. O w z \longleftrightarrow (O w a \vee O w b))$  **by** ( $metis O\text{-def } GFS$ )  
**lemma** (in  $GM$ )  $GS: (\exists z. \forall w. O w z \longleftrightarrow (O w x \vee O w y))$   
**using**  $GFS GFS\text{to}GS$  **by**  $simp$   
**lemma** (in  $GM$ )  $S: U x y \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. O w z \longleftrightarrow (O w x \vee O w y))$   
**using**  $GS$  **by**  $simp$

But product closure cannot be derived:

**lemma** (in  $GM$ )  $T: O x y \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y))$   
**nitpick** [ $show\text{-all}$ ] **oops**

It follows that General Mereology does not encompass Closure Mereology, contrary to Simons [3] p. 36 and Casati and Varzi [1] p. 46 (this point is discussed in detail by Pontow [2]):

**sublocale**  $GM \subseteq CM$  **nitpick** *[show-all]* **oops**

It's possible to prove from fusion in General Mereology that there is something that overlaps everything:

**lemma** (in  $GM$ )  $\exists z. \forall x. O x z$  — something overlaps everything

**proof** —

**have**  $(\exists x. x = x) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. x = x \wedge O x y))$  **using**  $F$   
**by** *fast*

**hence**  $\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. x = x \wedge O x y)$  **by** *simp*

**hence**  $\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. O x y)$  **by** *simp*

**thus** *?thesis* **by** (*metis O-def R*)

**qed**

But it doesn't follow that there is a universe, let alone a unique universe. If for example, there is just an infinite ascending chain, then everything overlaps everything else, but there isn't a particular thing which everything is a part of, since for anything in particular, the things above it are not part of the chain:

**lemma** (in  $GM$ )  $U: \exists z. \forall x. x \leq z$  **nitpick** **oops**

The existence of differences is not guaranteed either:

**lemma** (in  $GM$ )  $D: (\exists w. w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y))$  **nitpick** **oops**

Call the combination of General Mereology with weak supplementation General Minimal Mereology, or  $GMM$ :

**locale**  $GMM = MM + GM$  — General Minimal Mereology

Although Strong Supplementation can be derived from Weak Supplementation in Closed Minimal Mereology via the product axioms, it cannot be derived in General Minimal Mereology, since the product axiom itself still cannot be derived in General Minimal Mereology:

**lemma** (in  $GMM$ )  $SS: \neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq x \wedge D z y)$  **nitpick** **oops**

**lemma** (in  $GMM$ )  $T: O x y \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y))$   
**nitpick** *[show-all]* **oops**

Nor can the existence of a universe or differences be proved in General Minimal Mereology:

**lemma** (in  $GMM$ )  $U: \exists z. \forall x. x \leq z$  **nitpick** **oops**

**lemma** (in  $GMM$ )  $D: (\exists w. w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y))$  **nitpick** **oops**

## 7 Classical Extensional Mereology

Classical Extensional Mereology *GEM* is simply Extensional Mereology combined with General Mereology [1] p. 46:

**locale** *GEM* = *EM* + *GM*

The presence of strong supplementation in Classical Extensional Mereology enables the derivation of product closure from fusion. The following proof is from Pontow [2] pp. 202-3.

The proof begins by substitutions  $z \leq a \wedge z \leq b$  for  $F$  in the fusion axiom, to give the existence of a sum of all the parts of  $a$  and  $b$ :

**lemma** (in *GM*) *FP*:  $(\exists z. (z \leq a \wedge z \leq b)) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. O w z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. (x \leq a \wedge x \leq b) \wedge O x w))$   
**using** *F solve-direct*.

Three lemmas are helpful before proceeding with the proof proper. First, strong supplementation is needed to proceed from the fact that  $z$  is a sum of the  $F$ s to the fact that  $z$  is *the* sum of the  $F$ s:

**lemma** (in *EM*) *atothesum*:

**assumes** *asum*:  $\forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y)$

**shows** *thesum*:  $(THE v. \forall y. O y v \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y)) = z$

**proof** (*rule the-equality*)

**show**  $\forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y)$  **using** *asum*.

**show**  $\bigwedge v. \forall y. O y v = (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y) \implies v = z$  **by** (*metis SS AS D-def O-def R asum*)

**qed**

Using this lemma, we can show that if something overlaps  $z$  just in case it overlaps an  $F$ , then it is the sum of the  $F$ s:

**lemma** (in *EM*) *UGS*:  $(\forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y)) \longrightarrow (\sigma x. F x) = z$   
**proof**

**assume**  $(\forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y))$

**hence**  $(THE v. \forall y. O y v \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y)) = z$  **using** *atothesum* **by** *simp*

**thus**  $(\sigma v. F v) = z$  **using**  $\sigma$ -def **by** *blast*

**qed**

With this lemma in hand, we can proceed with a final lemma the proof from Pontow [2] pp. 202-3, according to which if there is an  $F$ , then everything is part of the sum of the  $F$ s just in case every part of it overlaps with an  $F$ .

**lemma** (in *GEM*) *PS*:  $(\exists x. F x) \longrightarrow (\forall y. y \leq (\sigma v. F v) \longleftrightarrow (\forall w. w \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists v. F v \wedge O v w)))$

**proof**

**assume**  $(\exists x. F x)$

**hence**  $\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y)$  **using** *F* **by** *simp*

**then obtain**  $z$  **where**  $z: \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. F x \wedge O x y)$ .



hence  $\sigma: (\sigma v. F v) = z$  **using** *UGS* **by** *simp*  
 show  $\forall y. y \leq (\sigma v. F v) \longleftrightarrow (\forall w. w \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists v. F v \wedge O v w))$   
**proof**  
   fix  $y$   
   show  $y \leq (\sigma v. F v) \longleftrightarrow (\forall w. w \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists v. F v \wedge O v w))$   
   **proof**  
     assume  $y \leq (\sigma v. F v)$   
     hence  $y \leq z$  **using**  $\sigma$  **by** *simp*  
     hence  $O y z$  **using** *O-def*  $R$  **by** *auto*  
     hence  $(\exists x. F x \wedge O x y)$  **using**  $z$  **by** *simp*  
     thus  $(\forall w. w \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists v. F v \wedge O v w))$  **by** (*metis* *O-def*  $R$   $T \langle y \leq z \rangle z$ )  
   next  
     assume  $(\forall w. w \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists v. F v \wedge O v w))$   
     hence  $y \leq z$  **using**  $z$  **by** (*meson* *D-def*  $SS$ )  
     thus  $y \leq (\sigma v. F v)$  **using**  $\sigma$  **by** *simp*  
   qed  
 qed  
 qed

Continuing to follow the proof from [2] pp. 204, we can prove the Product Axiom proper:

**lemma** (in *GEM*)  $T: O x y \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y))$   
**proof**  
   assume  $O x y$   
   hence *ez*:  $(\exists z. (z \leq x \wedge z \leq y))$  **using** *O-def* **by** *simp*  
   hence  $(\exists z. \forall w. O w z \longleftrightarrow (\exists v. (v \leq x \wedge v \leq y) \wedge O v w))$  **using** *FP* **by** *simp*  
   then obtain  $z$  where  $(\forall w. O w z \longleftrightarrow (\exists v. (v \leq x \wedge v \leq y) \wedge O v w))$ ..  
   hence *σxy*:  $(\sigma v. v \leq x \wedge v \leq y) = z$  **using** *UGS* **by** *simp*  
   have *gragra*:  $(\forall s. s \leq (\sigma v. v \leq x \wedge v \leq y) \longleftrightarrow (\forall w. w \leq s \longrightarrow (\exists v. v \leq x \wedge v \leq y \wedge O v w)))$  **using** *PS ez* **by** *simp*  
   have  $\forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y)$   
   **proof**  
     fix  $w$   
     show  $w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y)$   
     **proof**  
       assume  $w \leq z$   
       hence  $w \leq (\sigma v. v \leq x \wedge v \leq y)$  **using** *σxy* **by** *simp*  
       hence *dadada*:  $(\forall t. t \leq w \longrightarrow (\exists v. v \leq x \wedge v \leq y \wedge O v t))$  **using** *gragra* **by** *simp*  
       have  $\forall t. t \leq w \longrightarrow (O t x \wedge O t y)$   
       **proof**  
         fix  $t$   
         show  $t \leq w \longrightarrow (O t x \wedge O t y)$   
         **proof**  
           assume  $t \leq w$   
           hence  $(\exists v. v \leq x \wedge v \leq y \wedge O v t)$  **using** *dadada* **by** *simp*  
           thus  $O t x \wedge O t y$  **using** *O-def*  $T$  **by** *blast*  
         qed  
       qed  
     qed

```

qed
thus  $w \leq x \wedge w \leq y$  using SS T D-def by meson
next
assume  $w \leq x \wedge w \leq y$ 
thus  $w \leq z$  using O-def R  $\sigma zxy$  gragra by fastforce
qed
qed
thus  $(\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y))..$ 
qed

```

It follows that General Extensional Mereology is stronger than Closed Extensional Mereology

```

sublocale GEM  $\subseteq$  CEM using CEM.intro CM.intro CM-axioms-def EM-axioms
M-axioms S T by blast

```

Likewise, substituting  $x = x$  for  $F x$  in fusion allows the derivation of the existence of a universe:

```

lemma (in GM) selfidentity:
 $(\exists x. x = x) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. x = x \wedge O x y))$ 
using F by fast
lemma (in GM)  $(\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. O x y))$  using selfidentity by simp
lemma (in GEM) U:  $\exists z. \forall x. x \leq z$ 
using selfidentity by (metis D-def O-def SS)

```

It follows that Classical Extensional Mereology is also stronger than Closed Extensional Mereology with Universe:

```

sublocale GEM  $\subseteq$  CEMU
proof
show  $\exists z. \forall x. x \leq z$  using U by simp
qed

```

The existence of differences is also derivable in General Extensional Mereology. Like, the proof of the product axiom, the proof of the existence of differences is quite involved. It can be found in Pontow [2] p. 209.

```

lemma (in GM) FD:  $(\exists x. x \leq a \wedge \neg O x b) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall y. O y z \longleftrightarrow (\exists x. (x \leq a \wedge \neg O x b) \wedge O x y))$  using F solve-direct.

```

```

lemma (in GEM) D:  $(\exists w. w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y) \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y))$ 

```

```

proof
assume  $(\exists w. w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y)$ 
hence  $(\exists z. \forall w. O w z \longleftrightarrow (\exists v. (v \leq x \wedge \neg O v y) \wedge O v w))$  using FD by simp
then obtain  $\Sigma$  where  $\Sigma: \forall w. O w \Sigma \longleftrightarrow (\exists v. (v \leq x \wedge \neg O v y) \wedge O v w)..$ 
have  $\forall w. w \leq \Sigma \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y)$ 
proof
fix w
show  $w \leq \Sigma \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y)$ 

```

```

proof
  assume  $w \leq \Sigma$ 
  have  $\forall z. z \leq w \longrightarrow O z x$ 
  proof
    fix  $z$ 
    show  $z \leq w \longrightarrow O z x$ 
    proof
      assume  $z \leq w$ 
      hence  $\exists s0. (s0 \leq x \wedge \neg O s0 y) \wedge O s0 z$  using  $M.T\ M\text{-}axioms$ 
       $O\text{-}def\ R\ \Sigma\ \langle w \leq \Sigma \rangle$  by  $blast$ 
      thus  $O z x$  using  $M.T\ M\text{-}axioms\ O\text{-}def$  by  $blast$ 
    qed
  qed
  hence  $w \leq x$  using  $SS\ D\text{-}def$  by  $blast$ 
  have  $\forall v. v \leq w \longrightarrow \neg v \leq y$  by  $(metis\ O\text{-}def\ M.T\ M\text{-}axioms\ \Sigma\ \langle w \leq \Sigma \rangle)$ 
  hence  $\neg O w y$  using  $O\text{-}def$  by  $simp$ 
  thus  $w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y$  using  $\langle w \leq x \rangle$  by  $blast$ 
  next
    assume  $w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y$ 
    show  $w \leq \Sigma$  by  $(meson\ D\text{-}def\ O\text{-}def\ R\ SS\ \Sigma\ \langle w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y \rangle)$ 
  qed
  qed
  thus  $(\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge \neg O w y))..$ 
qed

```

## 8 Atomism

An atom is an individual with no proper parts:

**definition** (in  $M$ )  $A:: i \Rightarrow bool\ (A)$   
**where**  $A\ x \equiv \neg (\exists y. y < x)$

Each theory discussed above can be augmented with an axiom stating that everything has an atom as a part, viz. [1], p. 48:

**locale**  $AM = M +$   
**assumes**  $A: \forall x. \exists y. A\ y \wedge y \leq x$  — atomicity  
**locale**  $AMM = AM + MM$   
**locale**  $AEM = AM + EM$   
**locale**  $ACM = AM + CM$   
**locale**  $ACEM = AM + CEM$   
**locale**  $AGM = AM + GM$   
**locale**  $AGEM = AM + GEM$

It follows in  $AEM$  that if something is not part of another, there is an atom which is part of the former but not part of the later:

**lemma** (in  $AEM$ )  
 $ASS: \neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. A\ z \wedge (z \leq x \wedge \neg O z y))$

**proof**

assume  $\neg x \leq y$   
 hence  $(\exists w. w \leq x \wedge D w y)$  **using** *SS* **by** *simp*  
 then obtain  $w$  **where**  $w: w \leq x \wedge D w y..$   
 hence  $\exists z. A z \wedge z \leq w$  **using** *A* **by** *simp*  
 then obtain  $z$  **where**  $z: A z \wedge z \leq w..$   
 hence  $A z \wedge (z \leq x \wedge \neg O z y)$  **by** (*meson D-def O-def T w*)  
 thus  $\exists z. A z \wedge (z \leq x \wedge \neg O z y)..$

**qed**

Moreover, in Minimal Mereology this lemma entails both strong supplementation and atomism, so it serves as an alternative characterisation of Atomistic Extensional Mereology:

**lemma (in MM)**

assumes *ASS*:  $\neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. A z \wedge (z \leq x \wedge \neg O z y))$   
 shows *SS*:  $\neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq x \wedge D z y)$  **using** *D-def asms* **by** *blast*

**lemma (in M)**

assumes *ASS*:  $\forall x. \forall y. \neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. A z \wedge (z \leq x \wedge \neg O z y))$   
 shows *A*:  $\forall x. \exists y. A y \wedge y \leq x$

**proof**

**fix**  $x$

**show**  $\exists y. A y \wedge y \leq x$

**proof** *cases*

assume  $A x$

hence  $A x \wedge x \leq x$  **using** *R* **by** *simp*

thus  $\exists y. A y \wedge y \leq x..$

**next**

assume  $\neg A x$

hence  $\exists y. y < x$  **using** *A-def* **by** *simp*

then obtain  $y$  **where**  $y: y < x..$

hence  $\neg x \leq y$  **using** *PP-def* **by** *simp*

hence  $\exists z. A z \wedge (z \leq x \wedge \neg O z y)$  **using** *ASS* **by** *blast*

thus  $\exists y. A y \wedge y \leq x$  **by** *blast*

**qed**

**qed**

So the axiom of Atomistic Strong Supplementation could be used in place of the two axioms of Atomicity and Strong Supplementation [1]

For the same reason that the Product axiom and Strong Supplementation do not follow from the Fusion Axiom in General Mereology, and so General Mereology is strictly weaker than Classical Extensional Mereology, the Product Axiom and Strong Supplementation still do not follow from the Fusion Axiom in Atomistic General Mereology, and so Atomistic General Mereology is also strictly weaker than Atomistic Classical Extensional Mereology [2], p. 206:

**lemma (in AGM)**  $T: O x y \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y))$  **nitpick**

```
[user-axioms] oops
lemma (in AGM) SS:  $\neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq x \wedge D z y)$  nitpick [user-axioms]
oops
```

Alternatively, each theory discussed above can be augmented with an axiom stating that there are no atoms, viz.:

```
locale XAM = M +
  assumes XA:  $\neg (\exists x. A x)$  — atomlessness
locale XAMM = XAM + MM
locale XAEM = XAM + EM
locale XACM = XAM + CM
locale XACEM = XAM + CEM
locale XAGM = XAM + GM
locale XAGEM = XAM + GEM
```

Pontow notes that the question of whether the Fusion Axiom entails the Product and Strong Supplementation axioms in Atomless General Mereology is open [2]. Nitpick does not find a countermodel (since an infinite countermodel is needed?) and sledgehammer fails to find a proof, so this problem remains open for now:

```
lemma (in XAGM) T:  $O x y \longrightarrow (\exists z. \forall w. w \leq z \longleftrightarrow (w \leq x \wedge w \leq y))$  oops
lemma (in XAGM) SS:  $\neg x \leq y \longrightarrow (\exists z. z \leq x \wedge D z y)$  oops
```

## 9 Consistency

I conclude by proving the consistency of all the theories mentioned.

```
lemma (in M) False nitpick [show-all] oops
lemma (in MM) False nitpick [show-all] oops
lemma (in EM) False nitpick [show-all] oops
lemma (in CM) False nitpick [show-all] oops
lemma (in CEM) False nitpick [show-all] oops
lemma (in CMU) False nitpick [show-all] oops
lemma (in CEMU) False nitpick [show-all] oops
lemma (in GM) False nitpick [show-all] oops
lemma (in GEM) False nitpick [show-all] oops

end
```

## References

- [1] R. Casati and A. C. Varzi. *Parts and Places: The Structures of Spatial Representation*. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1999.
- [2] C. Pontow. A note on the axiomatics of theories in parthood. *Data & Knowledge Engineering*, 50(2):195–213, Aug. 2004.

- [3] P. Simons. *Parts: A Study in Ontology*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1987.
- [4] A. Varzi. Mereology. In E. N. Zalta, editor, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Metaphysics Research Lab, Stanford University, winter 2016 edition, 2016.