



European Materials & Modelling Ontology

Emanuele Ghedini (University of Bologna)

Gerhard Goldbeck (Goldbeck Consulting Ltd)

Adham Hashibon (Fraunhofer IWM)

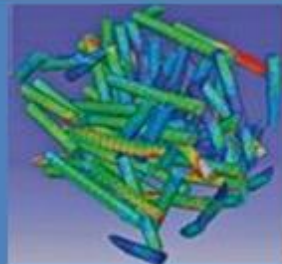
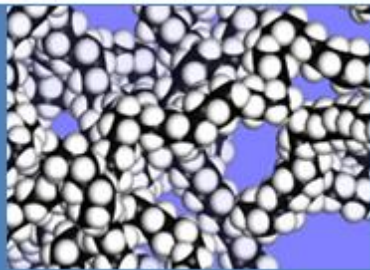
Georg J. Schmitz (ACCESS)

Jesper Friis (SINTEF)

<https://github.com/emmo-repo/EMMO>

Application Domain

- Applied Sciences, including applications in
 - Materials science: modelling, characterisation etc
 - Chemistry: modelling, analytical, formulations etc
 - Physics: e.g. representations of a system in terms of different interpretations of quantum mechanics
 - Engineering: components and systems, processes etc



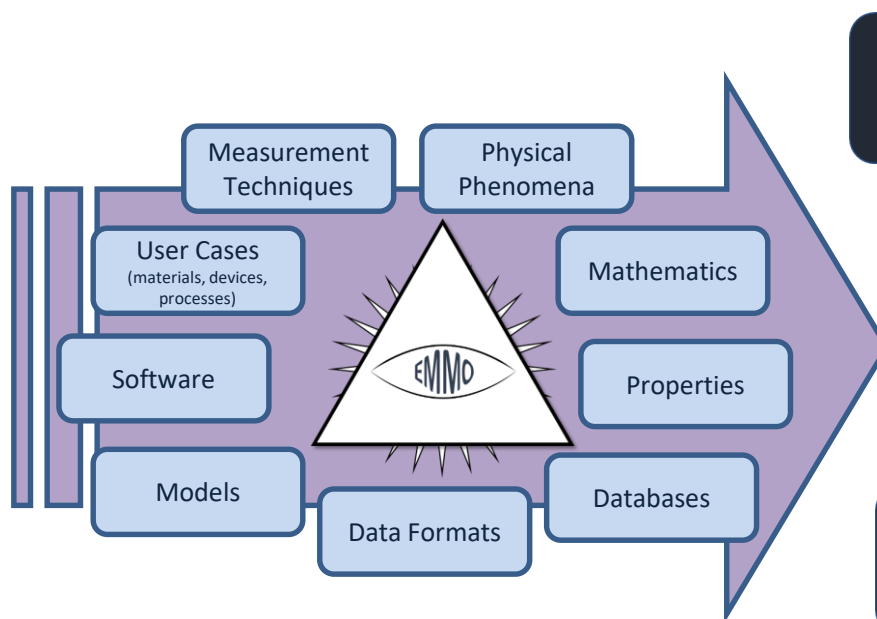
Intended Purpose

- EMMO is a **tool connecting** Materials User Cases to Models, Characterisation etc, incl. Inference, organising concepts according to scientific and mereotopological principles
- EMMO supports Interoperability, Data organisation, Databases integration, Translation etc.



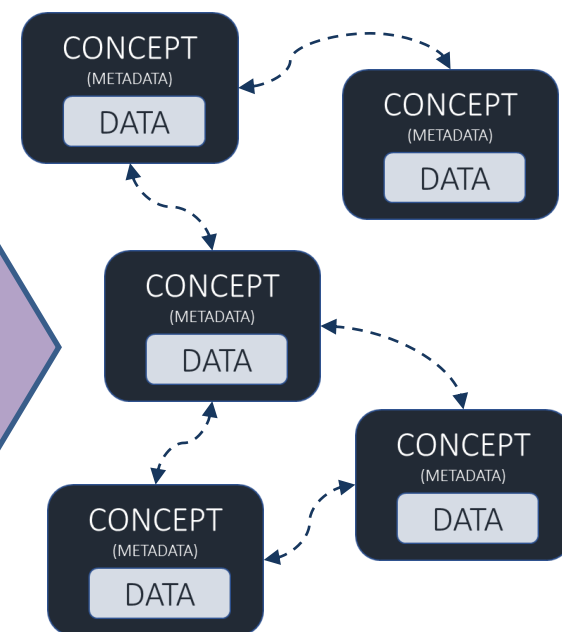
USER CASE

From real world entities
at different scales...



ONTOLOGY

...through a formal knowledge-
based representational system...



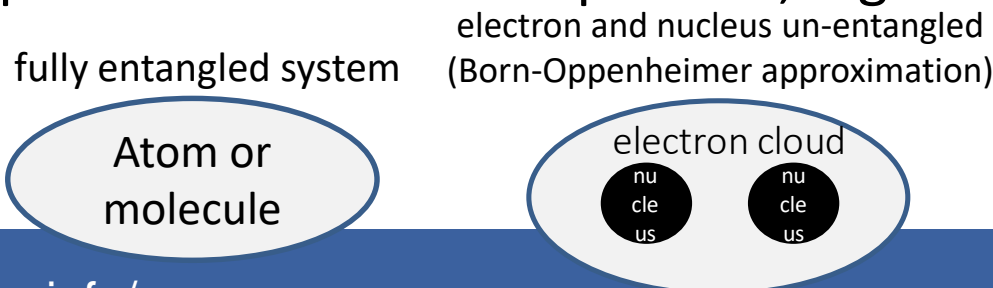
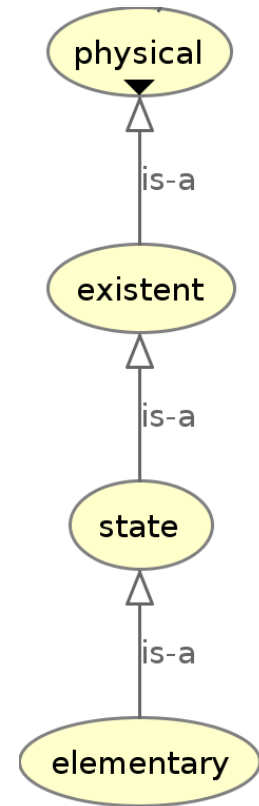
INFORMATION

...to a digital representation
and knowledge management.

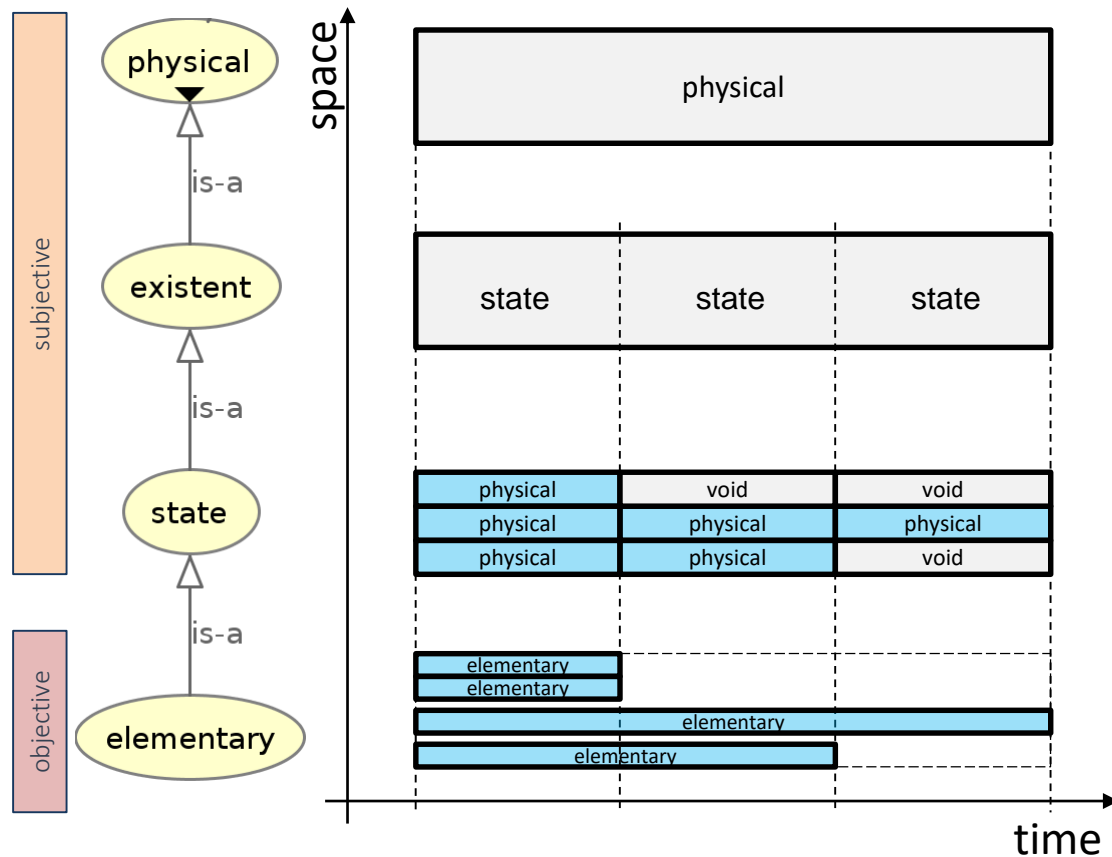
Representation “of the world”

continuum, discrete, quantum mechanics?

- **4D:** Real world entities exists only in full **spacetime**:
 - a physical object **is** a topological subspace of the 4D universe
- **Elementary:** ‘fundamental/indivisible’ physical object: hence space is discrete.
- **Causality:** Interactions between physical objects require them to be topologically connected.
- **Existent:** made of sub parts, as defined by interpreter:
 - Enables different quantum mechanical representations to be expressed, e.g.



Representation of the world



The **EMMO** identifies a parthood hierarchy in **physicals**, by introducing the concept of:

- **elementary** as the fundamental, non-divisible, constituent of entities (i.e. atomistic mereology)
- **state** as a **physical** whose parts have a constant cardinality during its life time (similar to endurants)
- **existent** as a succession of **states** (similar to perdurants)

so that a **physical** entity can be defined using a multiscale perspective.

An elementary particle, that expresses some fundamental physical properties (e.g. mass, charge, spin) can be represented by an **elementary** in a physics ontology.

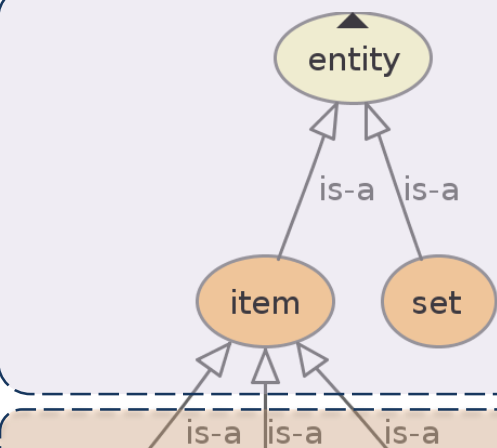
However, in another material ontology an **elementary** can be something else, depending on the perspective (e.g. a brick for a LEGO ontology, a furniture component in a IKEA ontology)

Upper level concepts

ABSTRACT CONCEPTUAL LEVEL

Clear separation between **set** (set theory) and **item** (mereotopology). **set** individuals are collection of **items** according to defined concepts (e.g. red entities). **item** individuals stand for something that is 'real', i.e. a 4D portion of the universe.

Abstract concepts are represented as the **sets** that concretize them (e.g. friendship is the collection of all friendship acts)



GEOMETRIC/TOPOLOGICAL LEVEL

items unfolds in space (3D) and time (1D) and can be sliced in pure **time**, pure **space** or **hybrid** space and time entities.

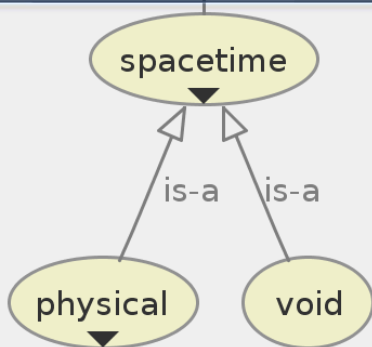


PHYSICAL LEVEL

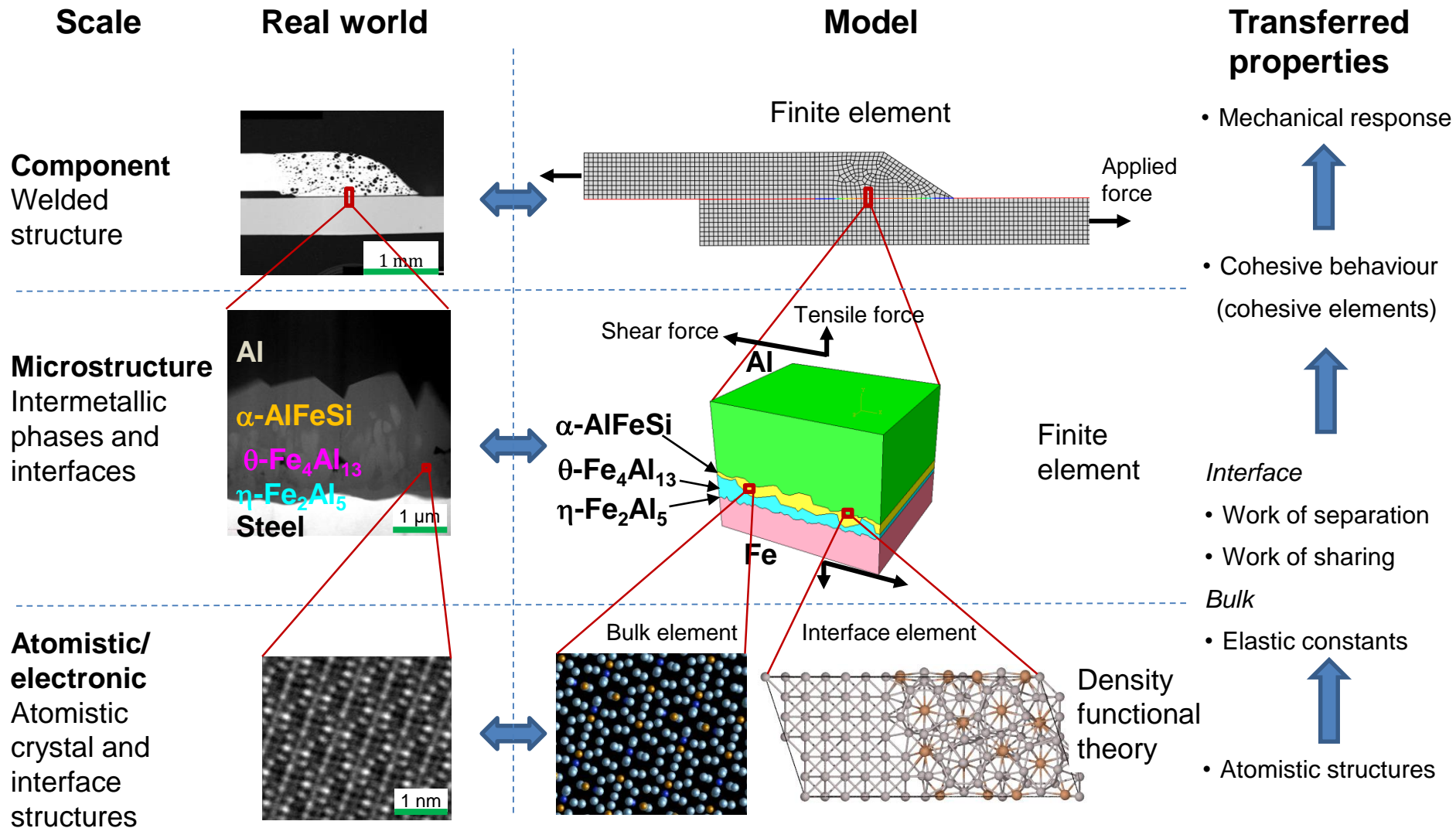
Real world entities exists only in full 4D **spacetime** (3D space and 1D time).

A **spacetime** that can be perceived by (interact with) the interpreter is a **physical**.

If the **spacetime** entity is empty in terms of perception, it is a **void**.

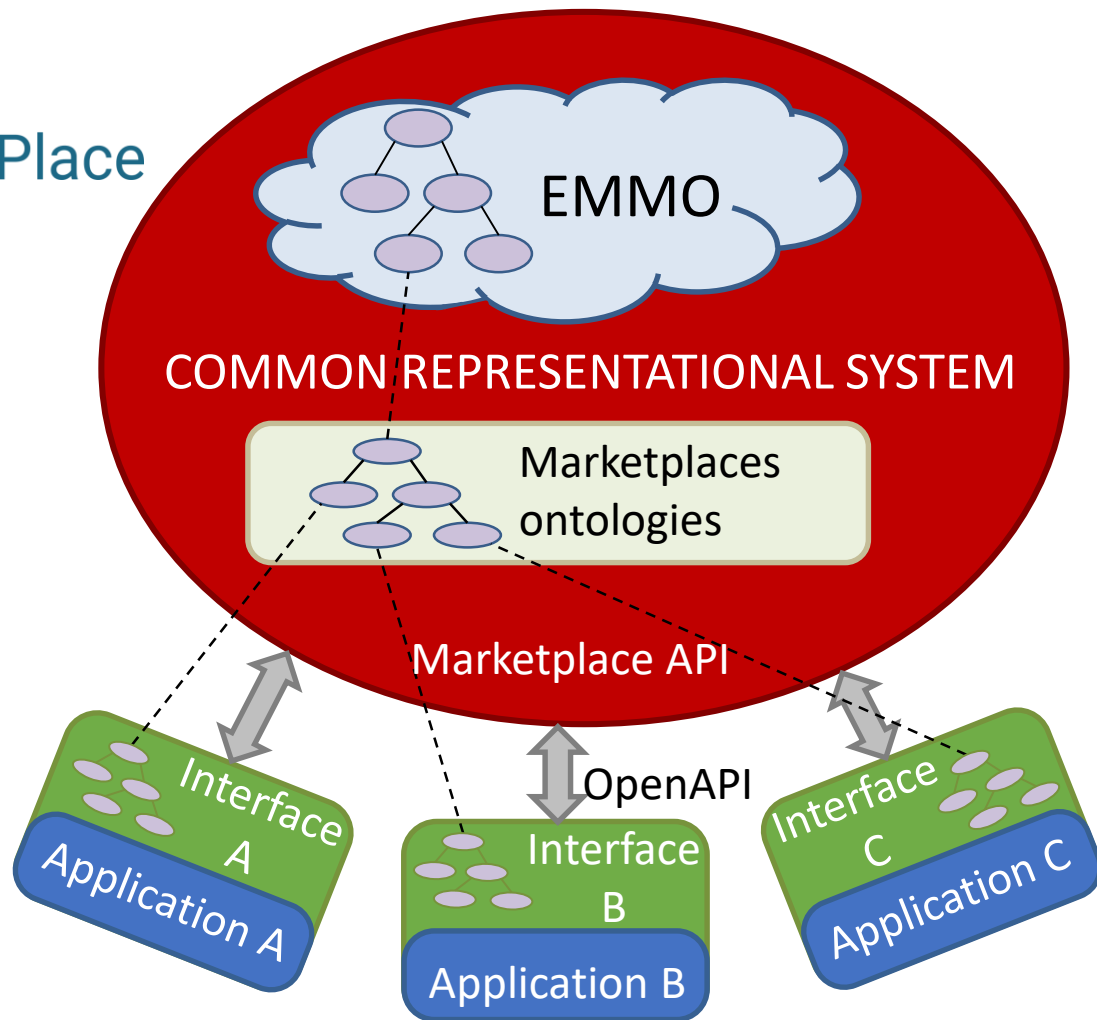


Interoperability user case



Marketplaces Use Case

Mapping between ontologies





EMMO implementations in current EU projects



Formulations and Computational Engineering



Digital Ontology-based Modelling Environment for Simulation of materials



Active & intelligent PACKaging materials and display cases as a tool for preventive conservation of Cultural Heritage



Open characterisation and modelling environment to drive innovation in advanced nano-architected and bio-inspired hard/soft interfaces



Interoperable Material-to-Device simulation box for disruptive electronics

ReaxPRO

SOFTWARE PLATFORM FOR MULTISCALE MODELLING OF REACTIVE MATERIALS AND PROCESSES



Intended Purpose

(Summary from all mentioned projects)

- **Computational representation**
 - of top-down and bottom-up workflows including the user case and all computational details and GUI elements
- **Wrapper development**
- **Dataspaces**
- **Marketplace services**
- **Integrated materials modelling workflows**
- **Coupling and Linking**
- **Characterisation**
- **Pre and post processing**
- **Manufacturing processes (as far as needed for the demonstration cases)**



Overlaps with other taxonomies and/or ontologies

- EMMO is a tool.
- There is no application of EMMO (yet) which would overlap with existing semantic assets.
- EMMO allows for semantic connection to existing domain ontologies.

Main relations

Only 4 primitive families

TAXONOMY

Classification

Ex: `is_a`

MEREOTOPOLOGY

Parthood and Slicing

Ex: `has_part`

SEMIOTIC

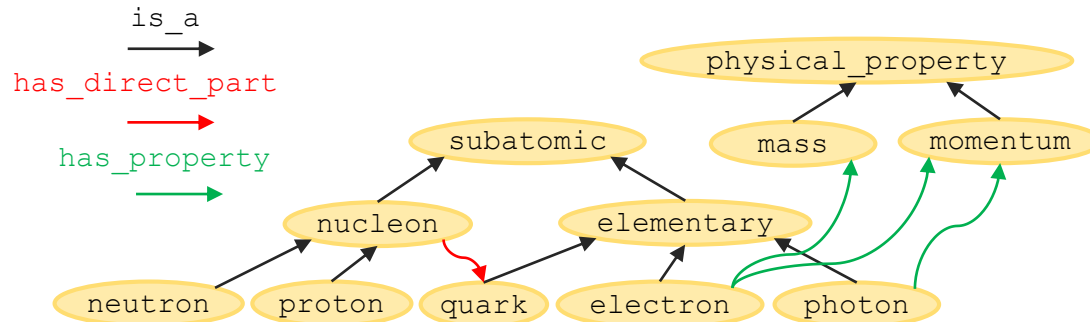
Representation

Ex: `has_property`

SET THEORY

Membership

Ex: `has_member`

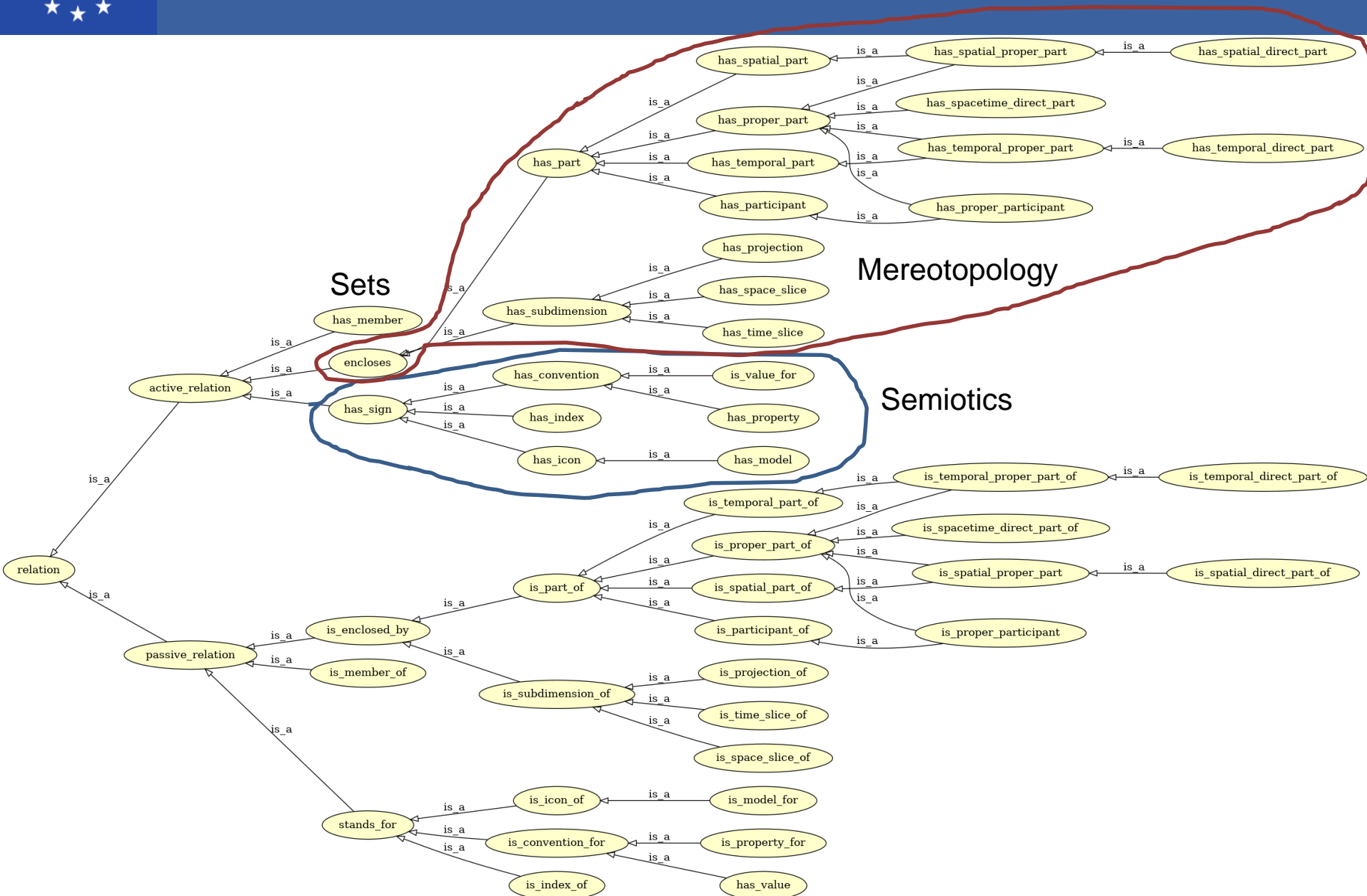


Items that unfolds in space and time
Granularity (multi-scale modelling)

Signs that stands for something else
Represents real-world objects

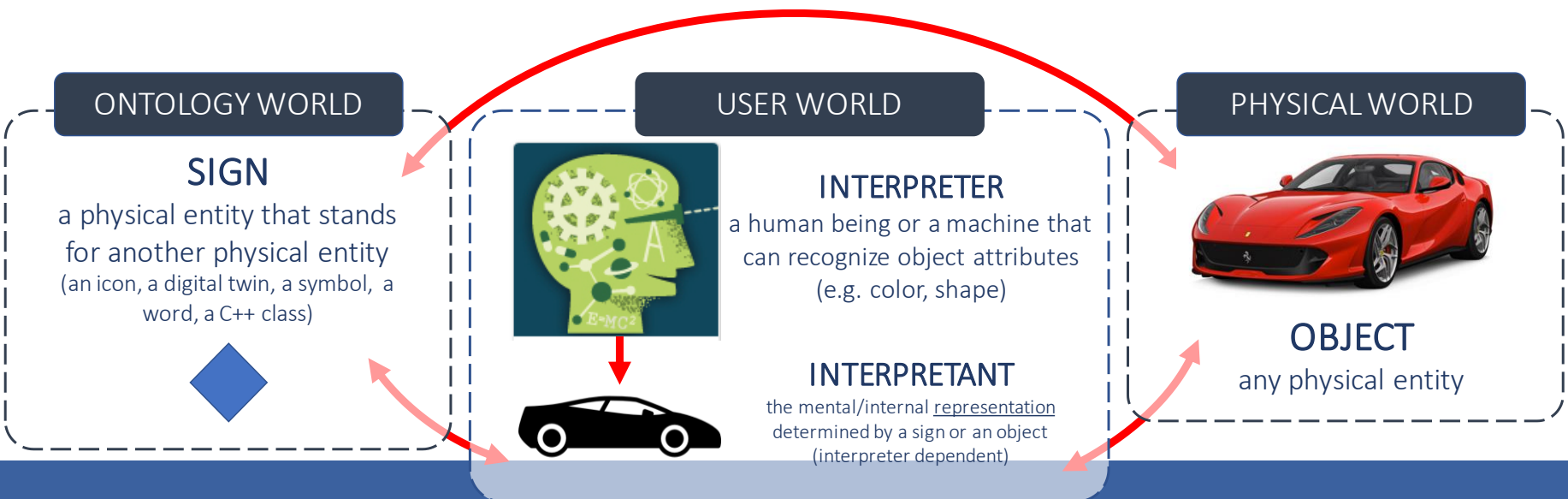
Abstract collections of items

EMMO relations



Knowledge represented

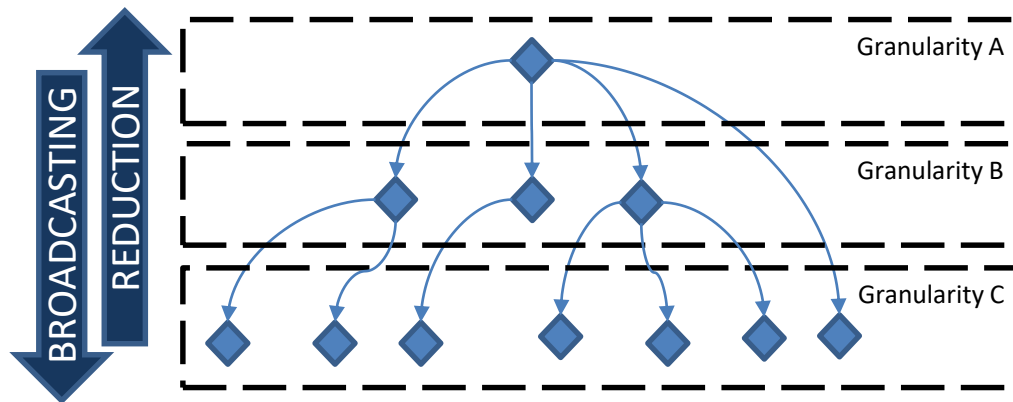
- Semiotics, Nominalism, Mereotopology, Set Theory
- EMMO is rooted in a strict form of nominalism
 - Real-world objects are represented by signs, where the relation between signs and object only exists via the interpreter: non-existence of universals!
 - everything (i.e. signs, interpreters and objects) exists in space and time. There are no abstract objects outside space and time.



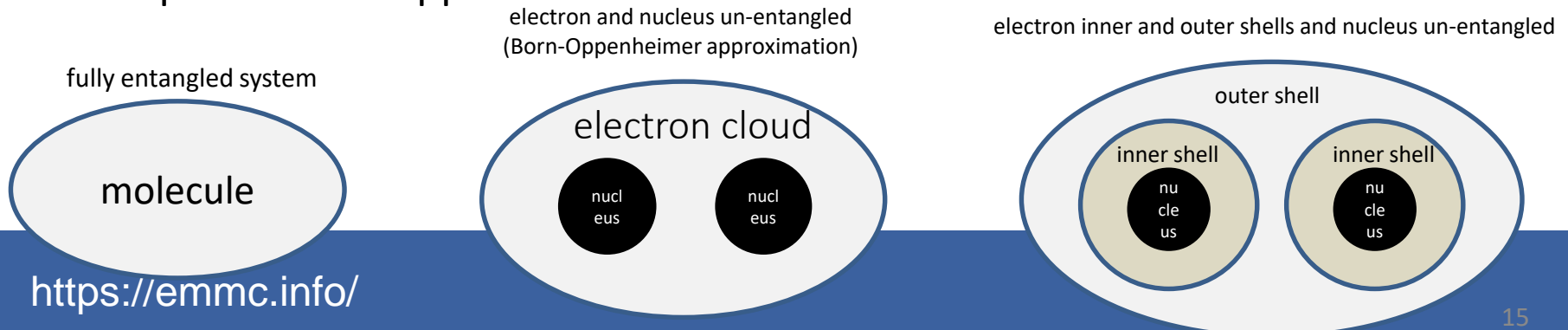
Representing granularity

- EMMO covers continuum and discrete representations

By defining the mereological relation of **direct parthood**, EMMO is able to describe entities as made of parts at different level of **granularity**. The individuals form a directed rooted tree



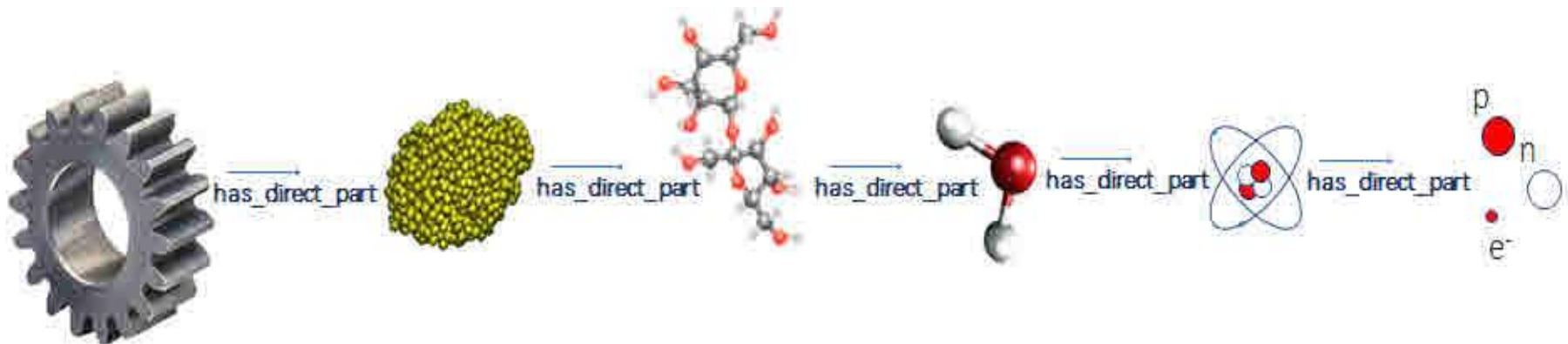
- EMMO covers quantum systems: declaring parts based on the relevant QM interpretation or approximation



Capturing of materials

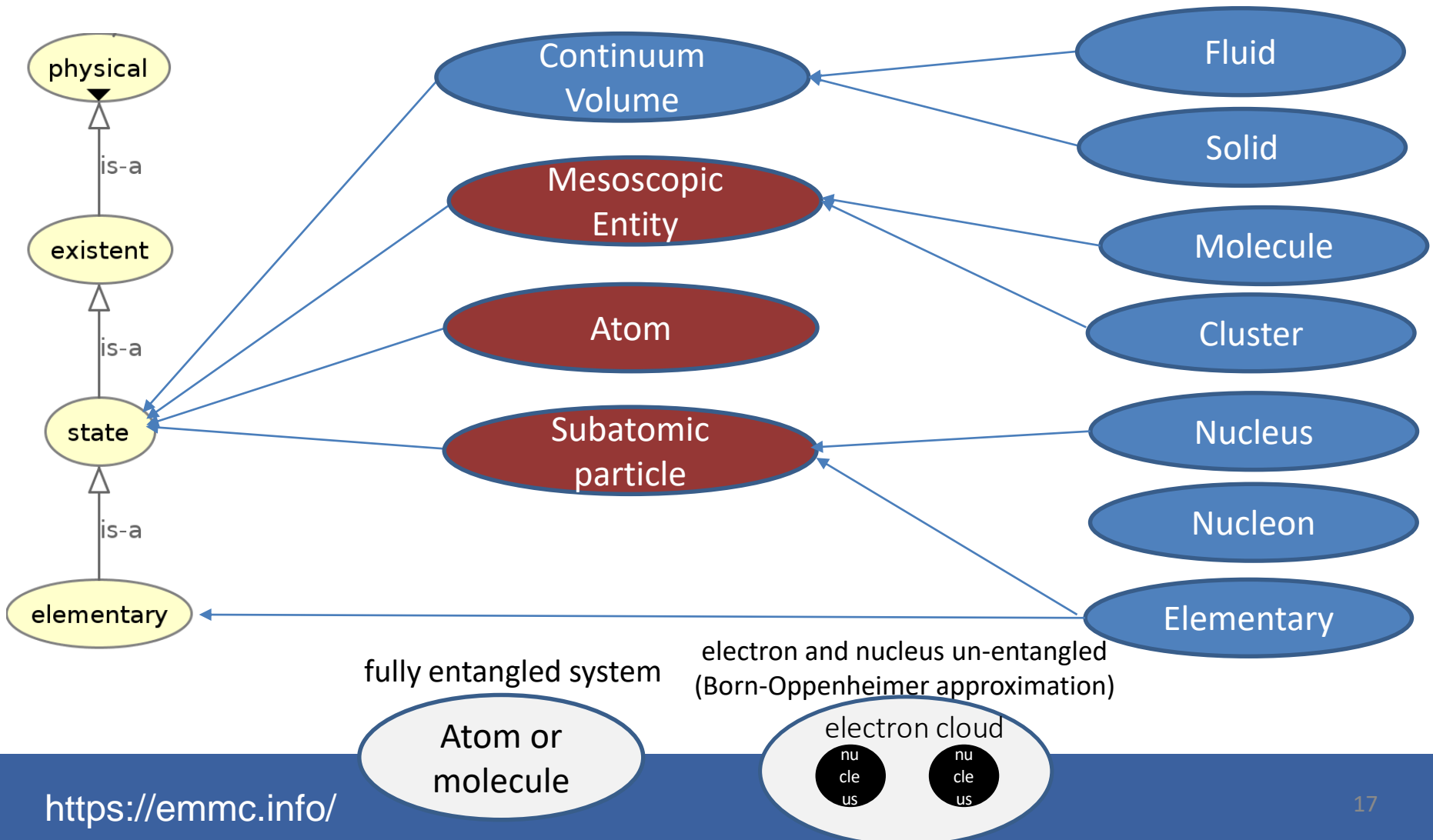
EMMO Material Entities are defined by a
Hierarchy of parthood relations,
including the NEW concept of **direct parthood**

Material can be represented at different levels of granularity.
Hierarchy of structure can be univocally defined.



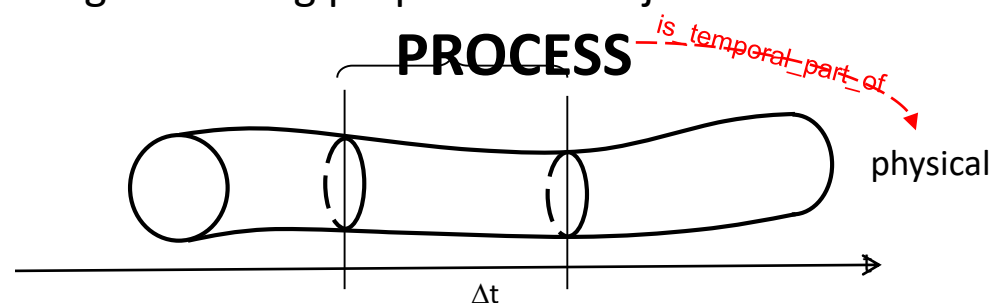
- **Elementary:** the fundamental, non-divisible, constituent of entities

Capturing of materials



Representation of processes

- EMMO is about describing the 'real world', i.e. things that we perceive (we can interact with). The real world is within a 4D spacetime.
- Real world objects can be processes: objects evolving in time.
- Classes of processes can be defined as required/relevant, e.g.
 - OBSERVATION: A process that involves an observer that perceives other physicals by interacting with them and track instants or intervals of their evolutions in time.
 - MEASUREMENT: An observation that results in a quantitative comparison of a physical property with a standard reference.
 - EXPERIMENT: A process that is aimed to replicate a physical phenomena in a controlled environment.
 - MANUFACTURE: A process aiming at altering properties of objects towards a desired property





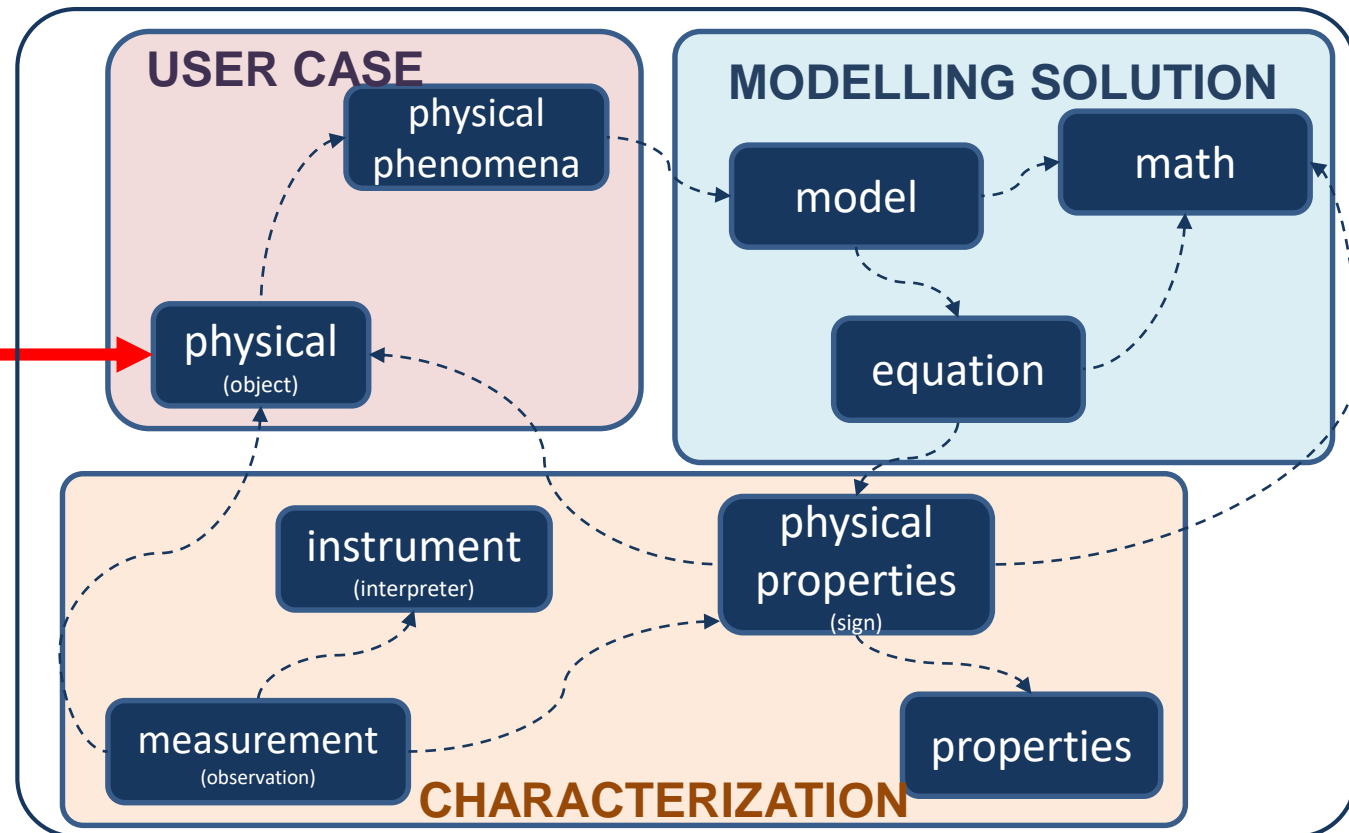
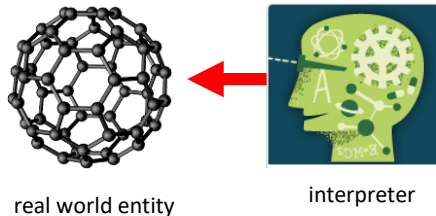
Capturing manufacturing

- EMMO Physicals can represent any real world object and process, including manufacturing.
- See also previous slide on Processes.

Connection between physical properties, materials models and measurement

Horizontal interoperability:

one user case, multiple modelling solutions.



Linking between properties database, models and user cases to facilitate **validation** and **data collection**.



Representation language and Implementation

- EMMO is implemented in OWL-DL (Description Logic)
- It draws on Mereotopology (MT) which is a First Order Logic (FOL) theory,
- FOL MT can be used as a tool at the EMMO 'Interpreter' level, to enable understanding what EMMO OWL entities stand for in the real world.
- Future work may develop a FOL version of EMMO.
- EMMO and EMMO python tools are available on:
<https://github.com/emmo-repo/EMMO>
- More info: <https://emmc.info/emmo-info/>



This project has received funding from the EU H2020 project:

EMMC-CSA H2020-NMPB-2016-2017 GA n. 723867