

## FAIRmat Tutorial 8:

# Using NOMAD as an Electronic lab notebook (ELN) for FAIR data

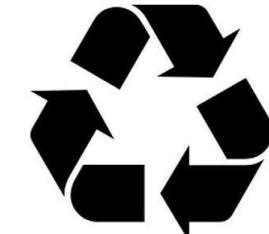
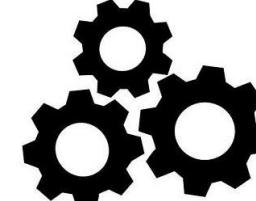
Organized by FAIRmat Area A Synthesis



# FAIRmat Area A: Synthesis

# Why Structured Data?

- ☐ shareable (using a community agreed structure)
- ☐ the structure highlights relationships between data points (semantic interoperability)
- ☐ machine-readable
- ☐ ideal for classification, regression, and clustering with AI
- ☐ searchable
- ☐ leads to data-driven decisions



# Research Data Management

Raw Data

ELN

Data Analysis

# Research Data Management

Raw Data

ELN

Data Analysis

- Log files from instruments
- Recipe files from process software
- Spreadsheet files



[https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/illustration-des-biedienfeldkonzepts\\_13662974.htm](https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/illustration-des-biedienfeldkonzepts_13662974.htm)

# Research Data Management

## Raw Data

- Log files from instruments
- Recipe files from process software
- Spreadsheet files



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## ELN

- Manually entered data and metadata



## Data Analysis

# Research Data Management

## Raw Data

- Log files from instruments
- Recipe files from process software
- Spreadsheet files



[https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/illustration-des-bedenfeldkonzepts\\_13662974.htm](https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/illustration-des-bedenfeldkonzepts_13662974.htm)

## ELN

- Manually entered data and metadata



[https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/laptop-mit-bildungssymbol-isoliert\\_11691038.htm](https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/laptop-mit-bildungssymbol-isoliert_11691038.htm)

## Data Analysis

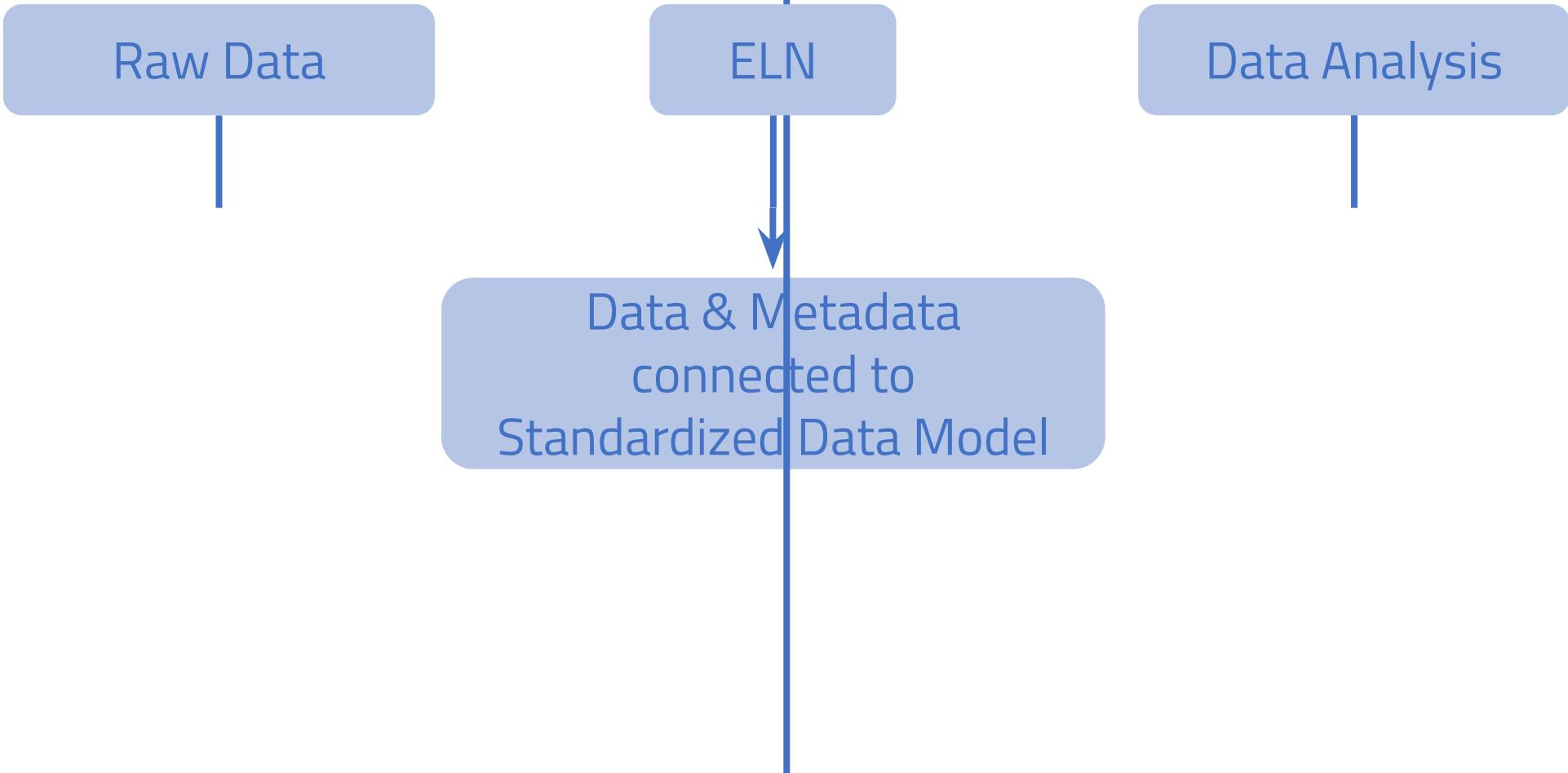
- Post processing software
- User-tailored scripts



[https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/site-statistik-konzeptillustration\\_7140739.htm](https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/site-statistik-konzeptillustration_7140739.htm)

# Research Data Management

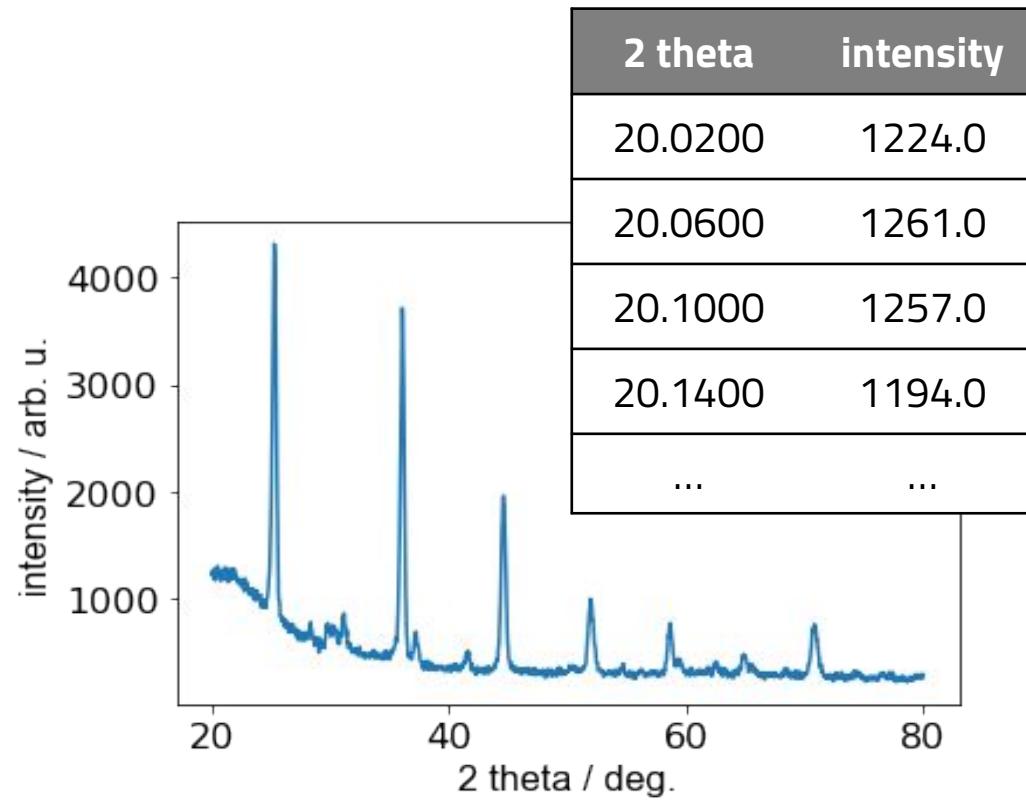
Data Modelling



# Data & Metadata

## Data:

actual content of information



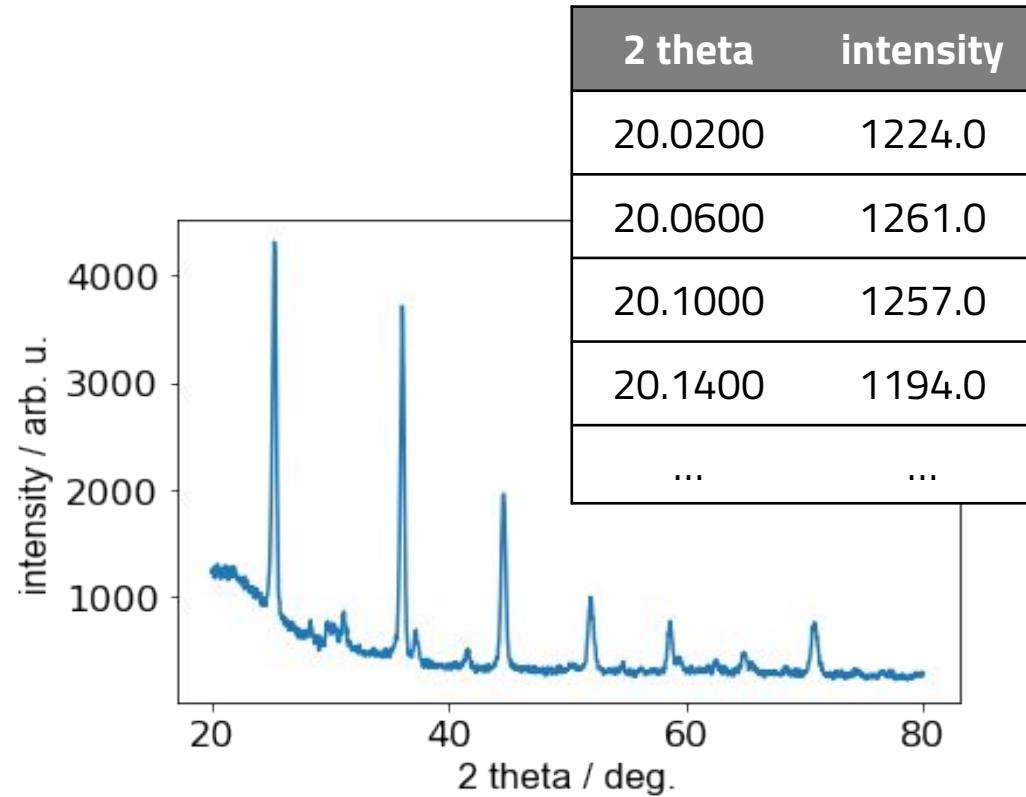
# Data & Metadata

### Data:

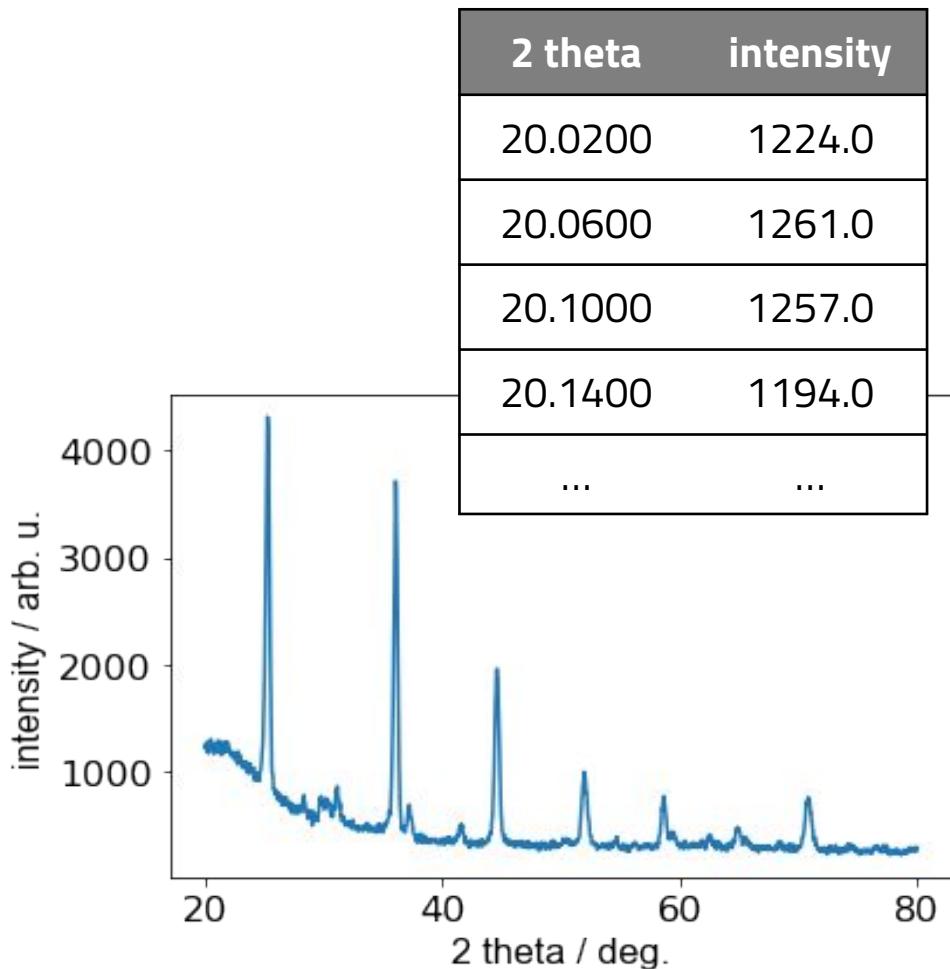
actual content of information

### Metadata:

data that provides information about other data



# Data & Metadata



## Data:

actual content of information

## Structural Metadata:

provides information about containers of data

### XRD Measurement:

#### 2 theta:

description: The 2-theta angle of the diffractogram.

unit: °

type: float

#### intensity:

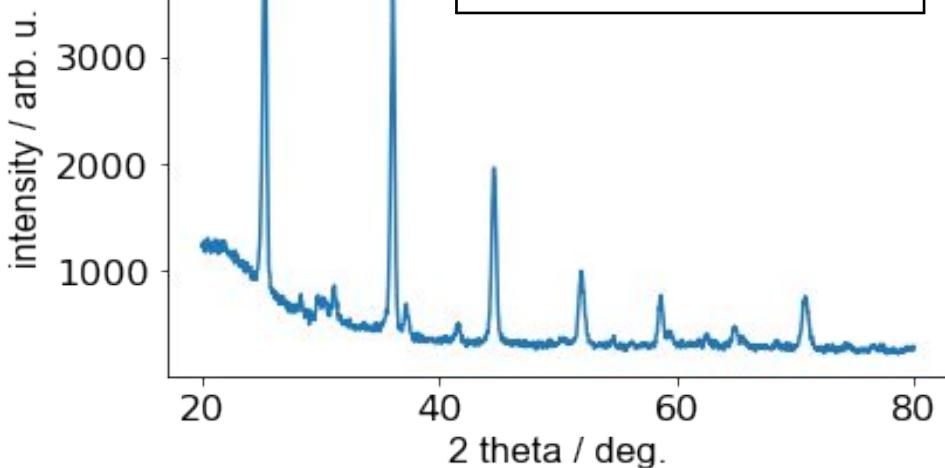
description: The count at each 2-theta value.

unit: dimensionless

type: float



# Data & Metadata



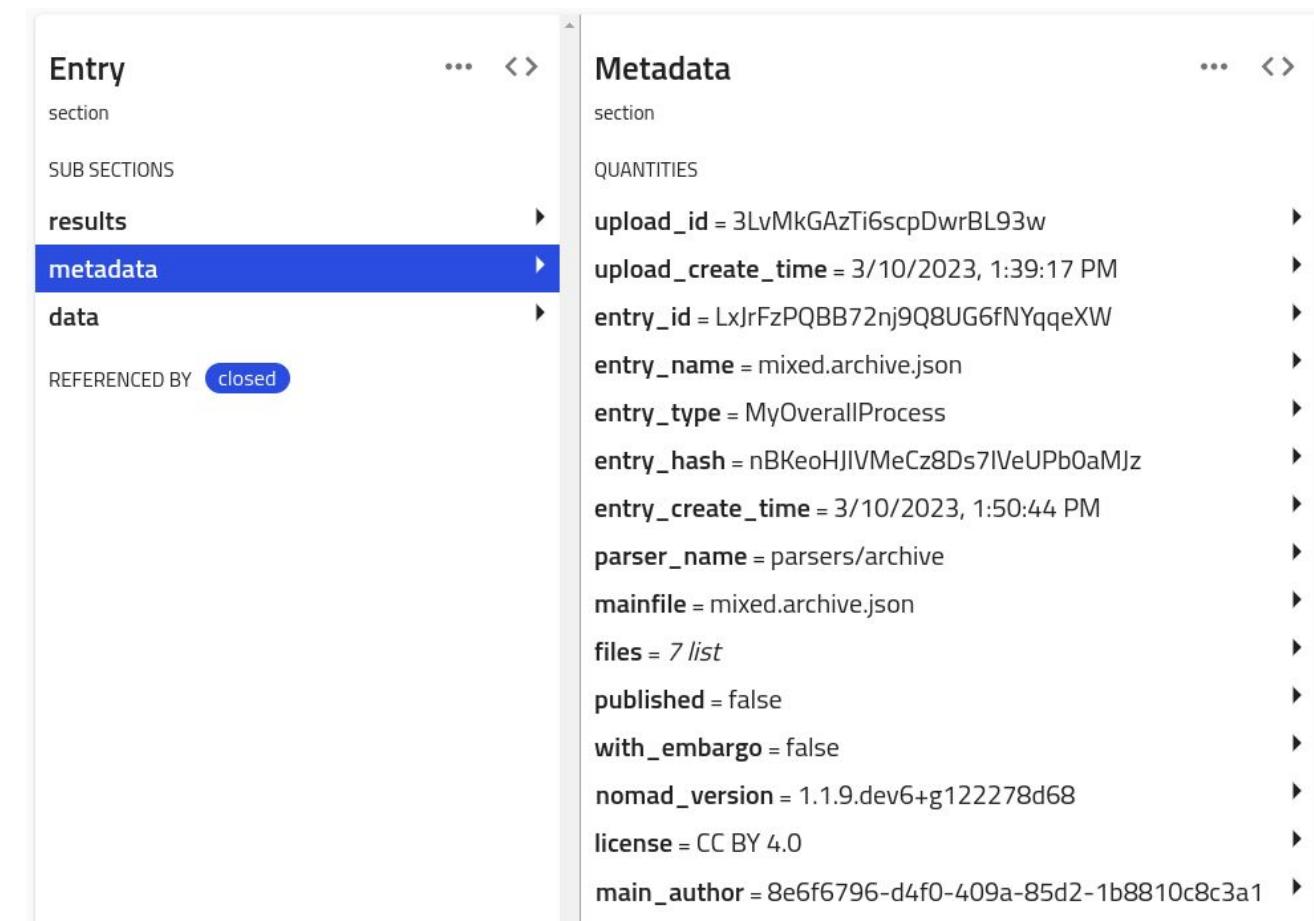
## Data:

actual content of information

2 theta	intensity
20.0200	1224.0
20.0600	1261.0
20.1000	1257.0
20.1400	1194.0
...	...

## Structural Metadata:

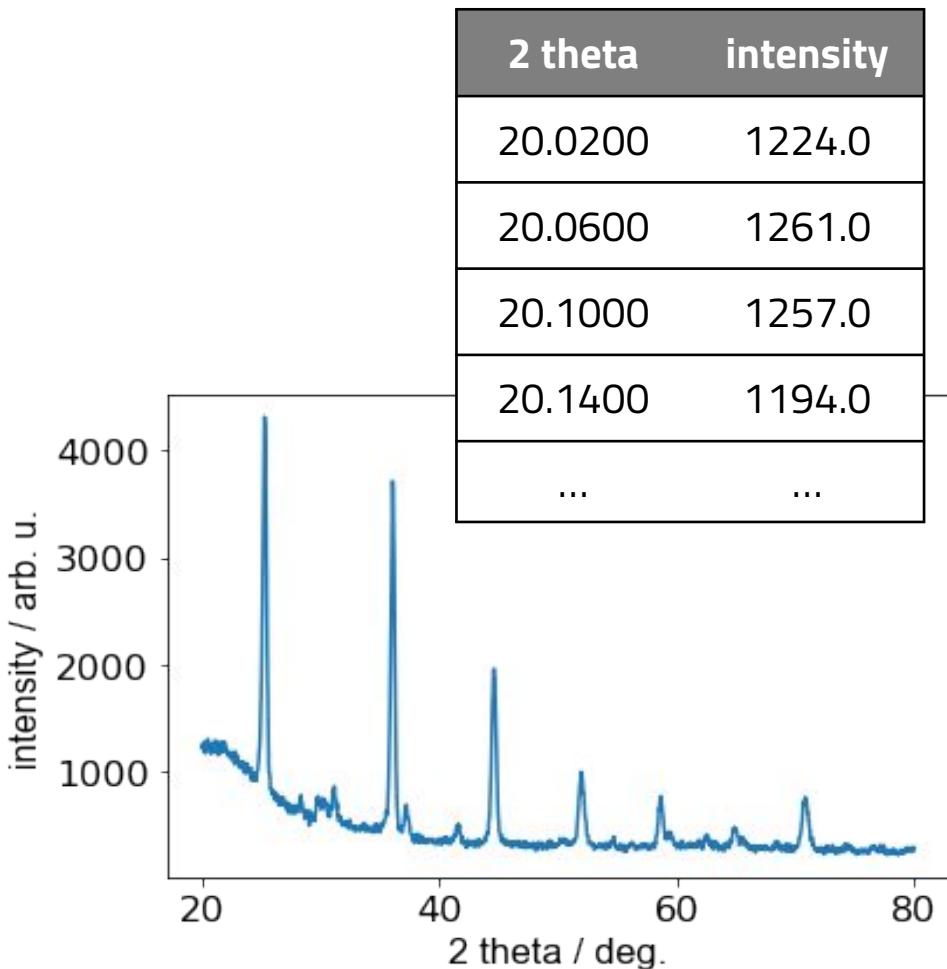
provides information about containers of data



# Data & Metadata

## Data:

actual content of information



## Descriptive Metadata:

provides important context  
about data

Date of the experiment?

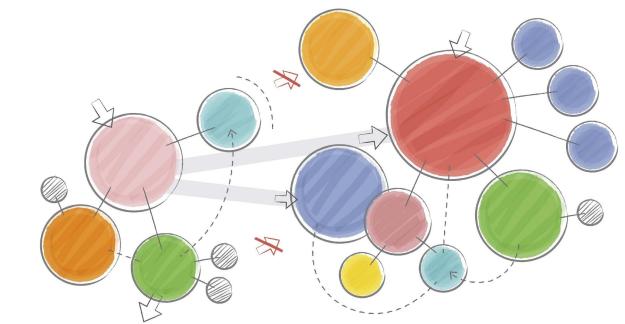
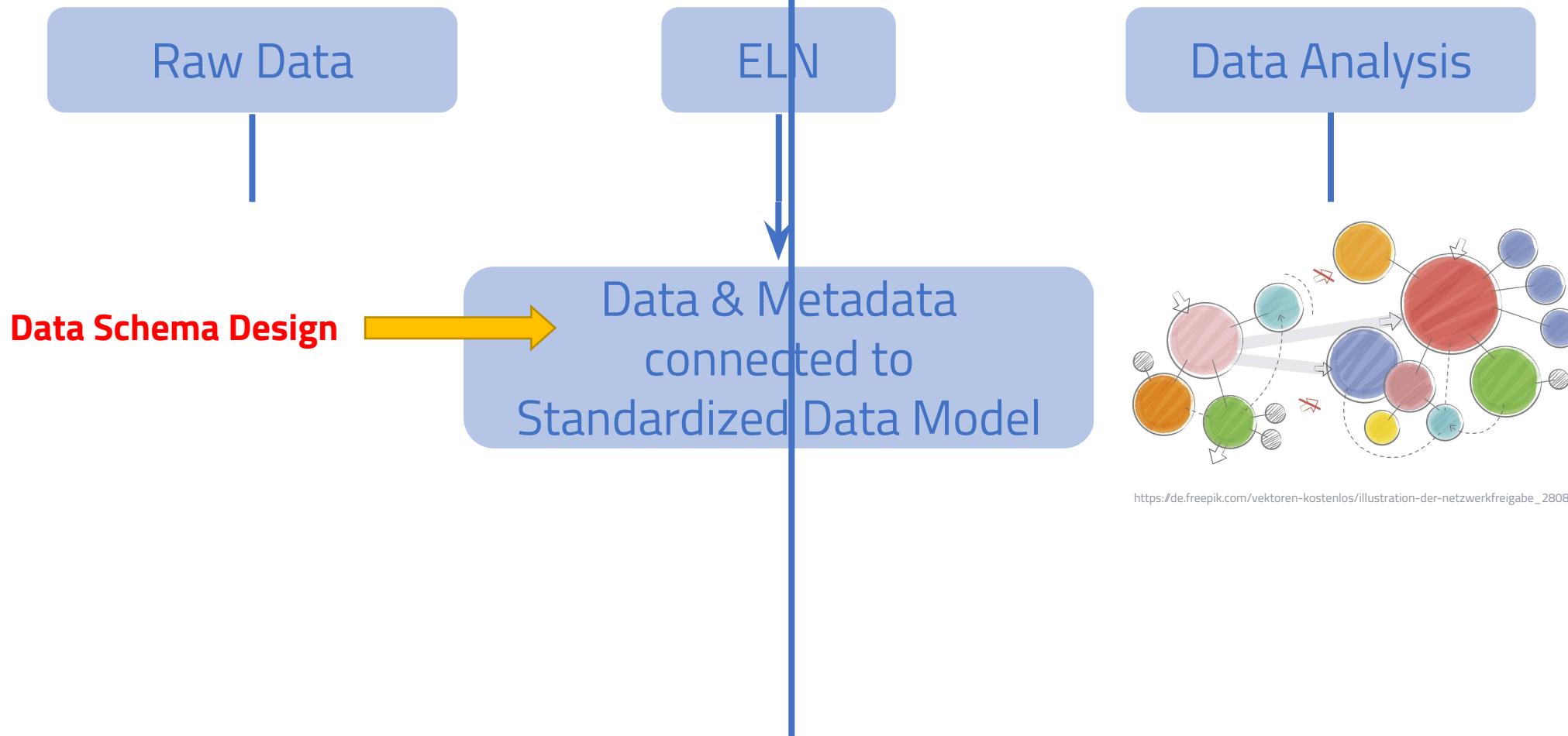
Temperature?

Instrument specifications?

Specimen specifications?

Humidity in the room?

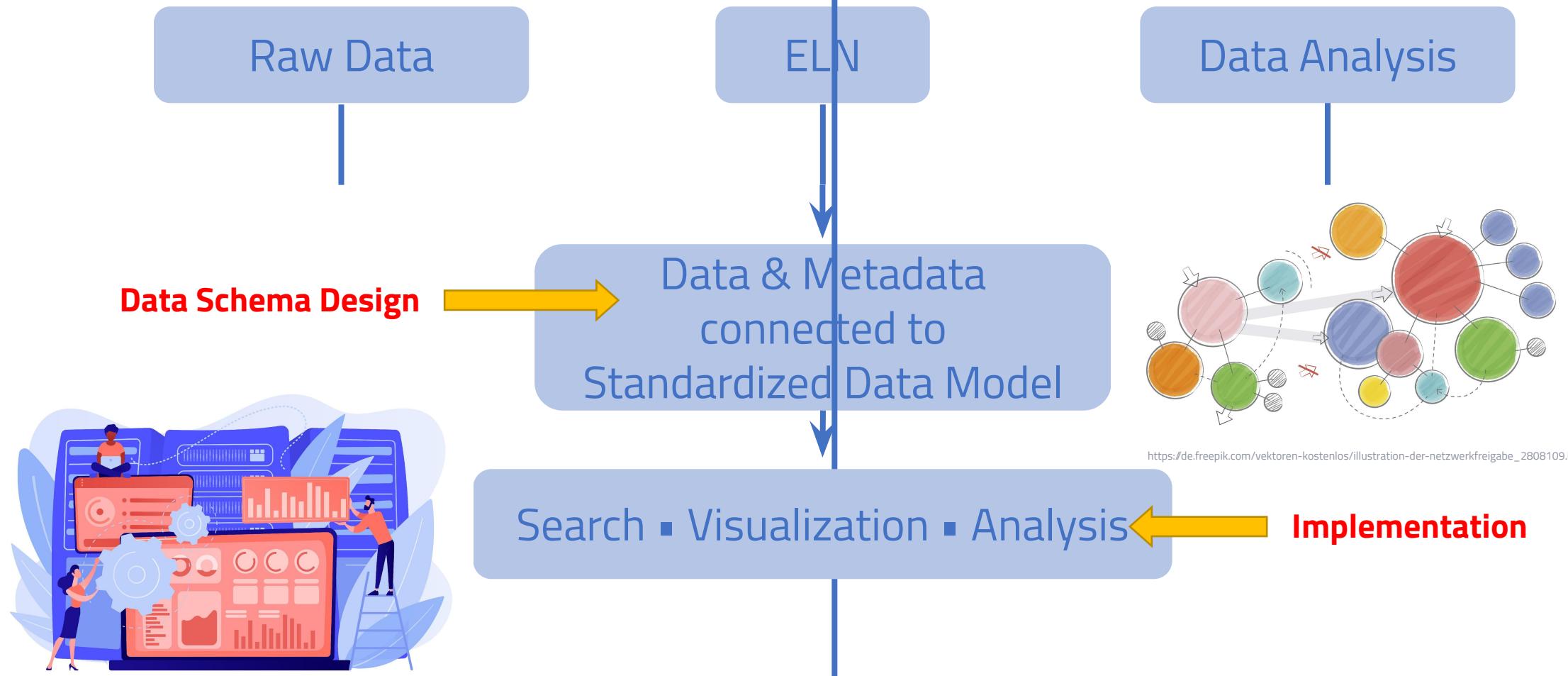
# Research Data Management



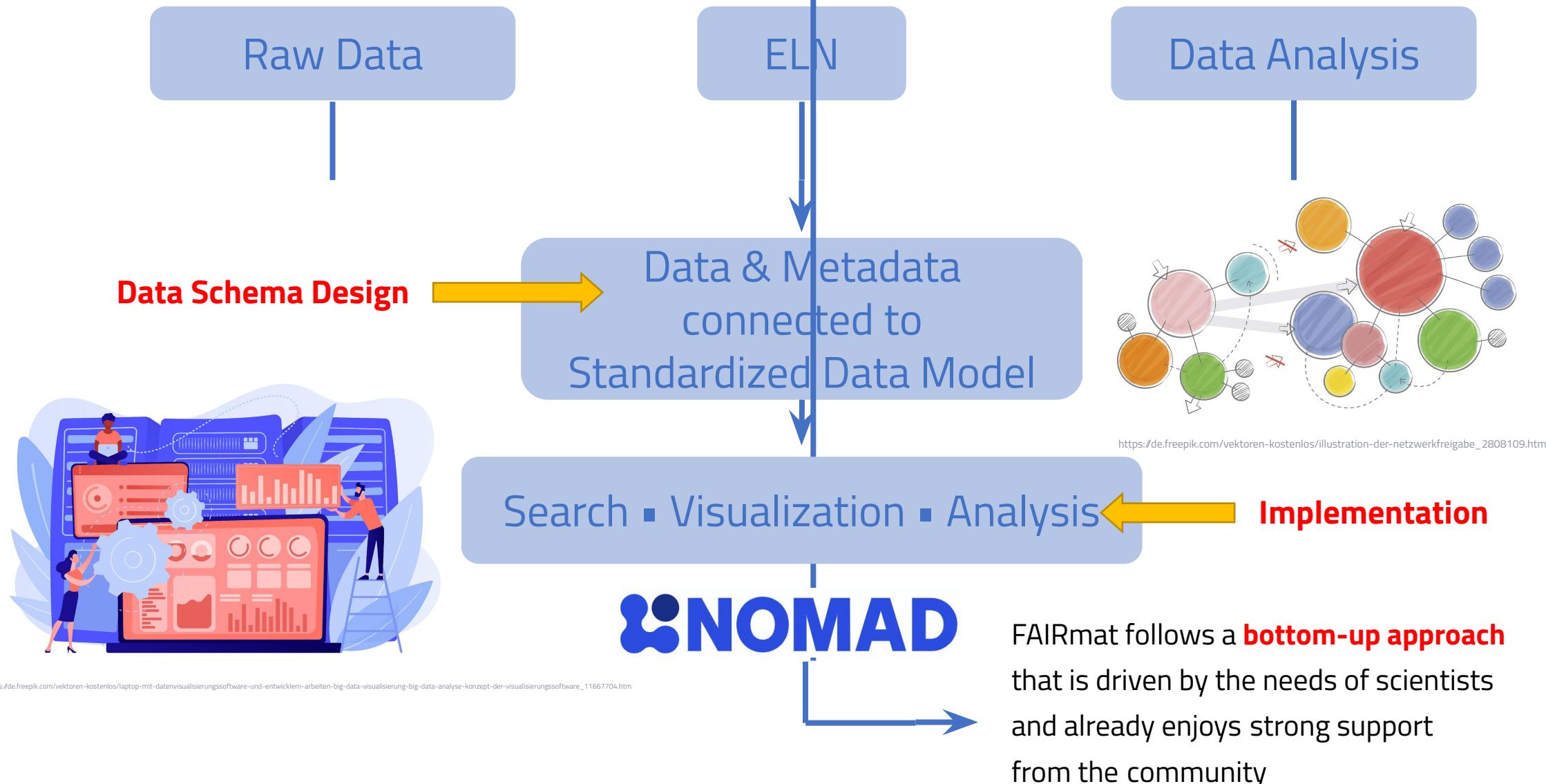
[https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/illustration-der-netzwerkfreigabe\\_2808109.htm](https://de.freepik.com/vektoren-kostenlos/illustration-der-netzwerkfreigabe_2808109.htm)

# Research Data Management

Data Modelling



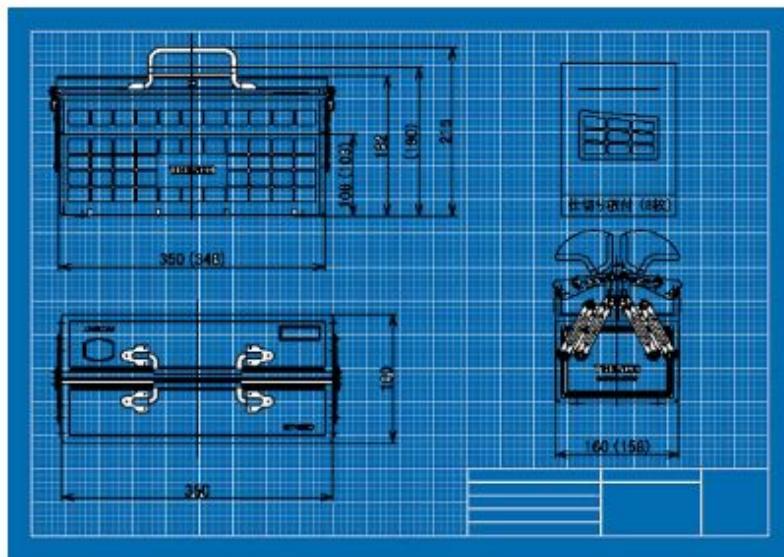
# Research Data Management



# Schema and Template Concepts

## Schema:

A formal description of data, data types, and data file structures, such as XML files.



The blueprint of a toolbox

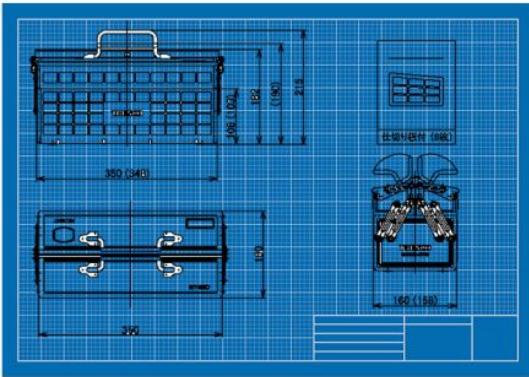
## Template:

A physical object from which other objects are based or derived.



A toolbox made for a specific set of tools

# Schema and Template Concepts



Schema



Template



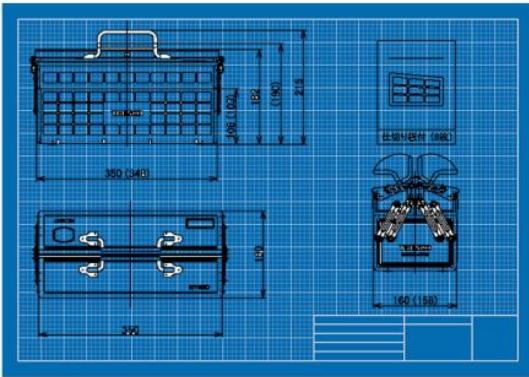
Structured Archive File



Data



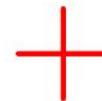
# Schema and Template Concepts



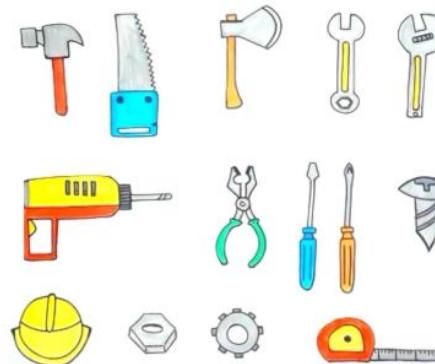
Schema



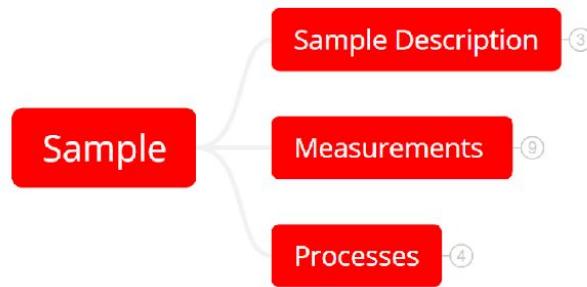
Template



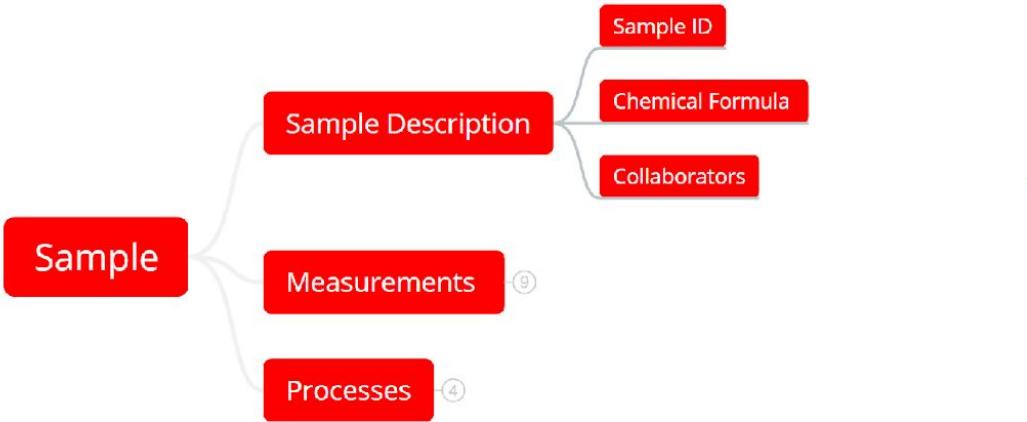
Structured Archive File



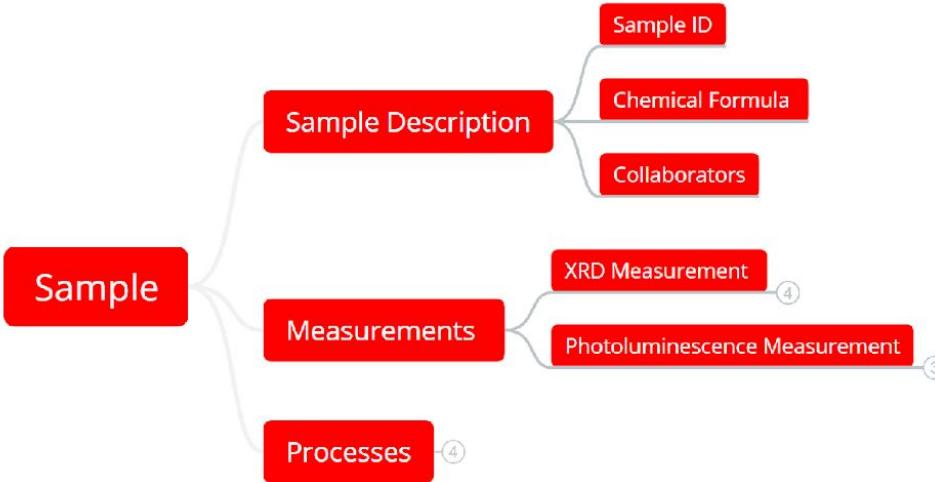
Data



Example of file formats: **XML, JSON, YAML, or HDF5**

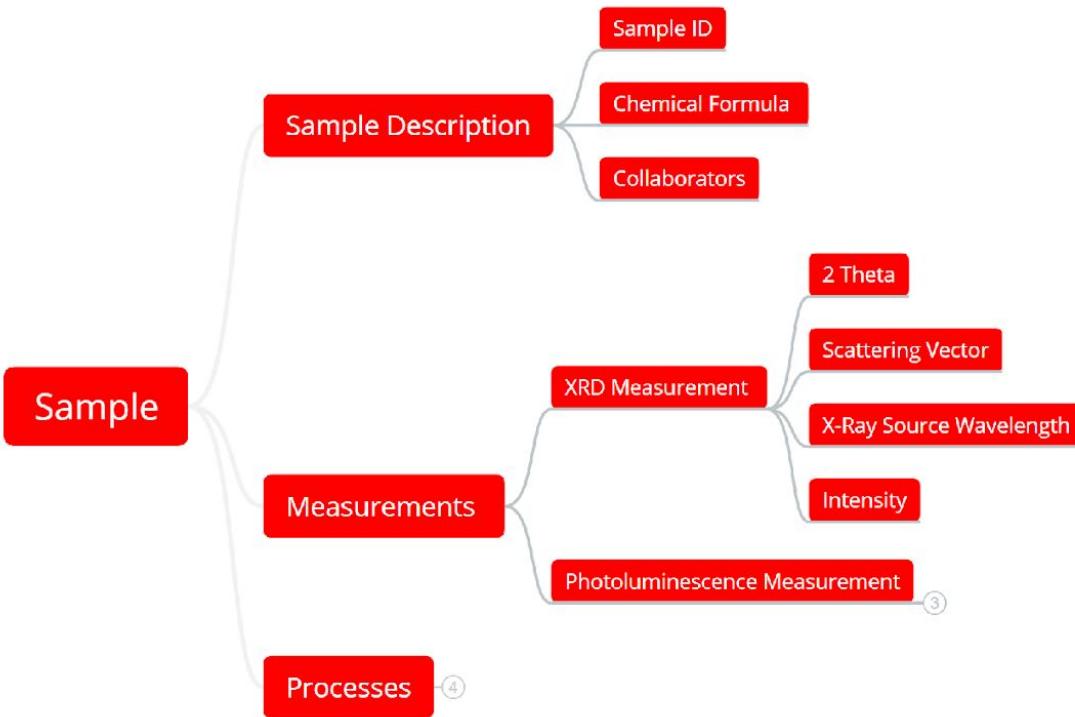


Example of file formats: **XML, JSON, YAML, or HDF5**



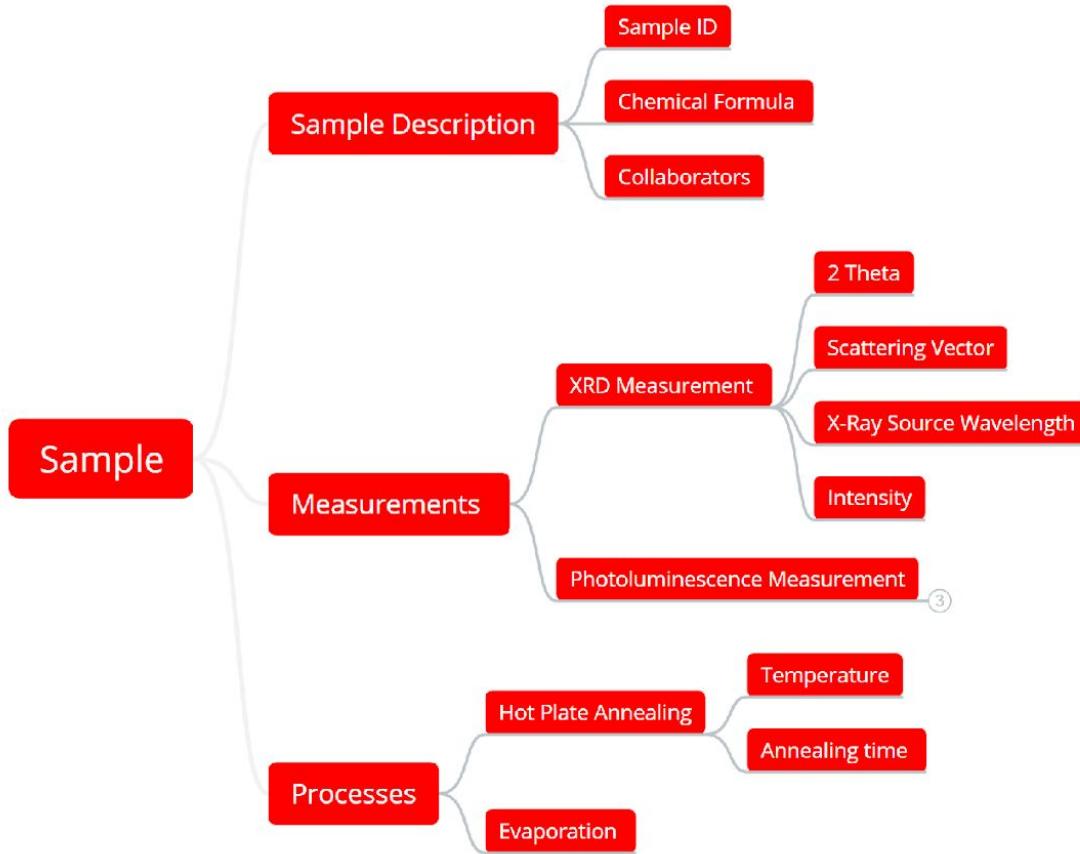
Example of file formats: **XML, JSON, YAML, or HDF5**

# Hierarchical organization



Example of file formats: **XML, JSON, YAML, or HDF5**

# Hierarchical organization



Example of file formats: **XML, JSON, YAML, or HDF5**

# YAML files to describe data structures

It is a Markup Language defining hierarchy with indentation

```
definitions:  
  name: My Custom Schemas  
  sections:  
    MyProcess:  
      base_sections:  
        - nomad.datamodel.metainfo.eln.BasicEln  
      quantities:  
        data_file:  
          type: str  
        m_annotations:  
          browser:  
            adaptor: RawFileAdaptor  
          eln:  
            component: FileEditQuantity  
      sub_sections:  
        MyProcessesCollection:  
          section:  
            quantities:  
              sample_id:  
                type: str  
              m_annotations:  
                eln:  
                  component: StringEditQuantity
```

- extensible
- structured
- plain text
- human readable



```

definitions:
  name: My Custom Schemas
  sections:
    MyProcess:
      base_sections:
        - nomad.datamodel.metainfo.sections.MyProcess
      quantities:
        data_file:
          type: str
        m_annotations:
          browser:
            adaptor: RawFileAdaptor
          eln:
            component: FileEditQuantity
      sub_sections:
        MyProcessesCollection:
          section:
            quantities:
              sample_id:
                type: str
              m_annotations:
                eln:
                  component: StringEditQuantity
            roughness:
              type: np.float64
              unit: nm
              m_annotations:
                eln:
                  component: NumberEditQuantity
                  defaultDisplayUnit: nm

```

The screenshot shows the NOMAD interface with the following structure:

- OVERVIEW** tab is active.
- FILES** tab is visible.
- DATA** tab is visible.
- Entry** section is expanded.
- MyProcess** section is expanded.
- QUANTITIES** list:
  - data\_file: process\_data\_row.csv
- SUB SECTIONS** list:
  - MyProcessesCollection
- MyProcessesCollection** section is expanded.
- 0**, **1**, **2**, **aa** are listed under it.
- REFERENCED BY**: closed

## Main elements:

- Quantities (data fields int, float, str, datetime)
- Attributes (type, shape, unit, annotations)
- Sections (or Classes, collections of Quantities)

```

definitions:
  name: My Custom Schemas
  sections:
    MyProcess:
      base_sections:
        - nomad.datamodel.metainfo.sections
      quantities:
        data_file:
          type: str
        m_annotations:
          browser:
            adaptor: RawFileAdaptor
          eln:
            component: FileEditQuantity
      sub_sections:
        MyProcessesCollection:
          section:
            quantities:
              sample_id:
                type: str
              m_annotations:
                eln:
                  component: StringEditQuantity
            roughness:
              type: np.float64
              unit: nm
              m_annotations:
                eln:
                  component: NumberEditQuantity
                  defaultDisplayUnit: nm

```

The screenshot shows the NOMAD interface with the following details:

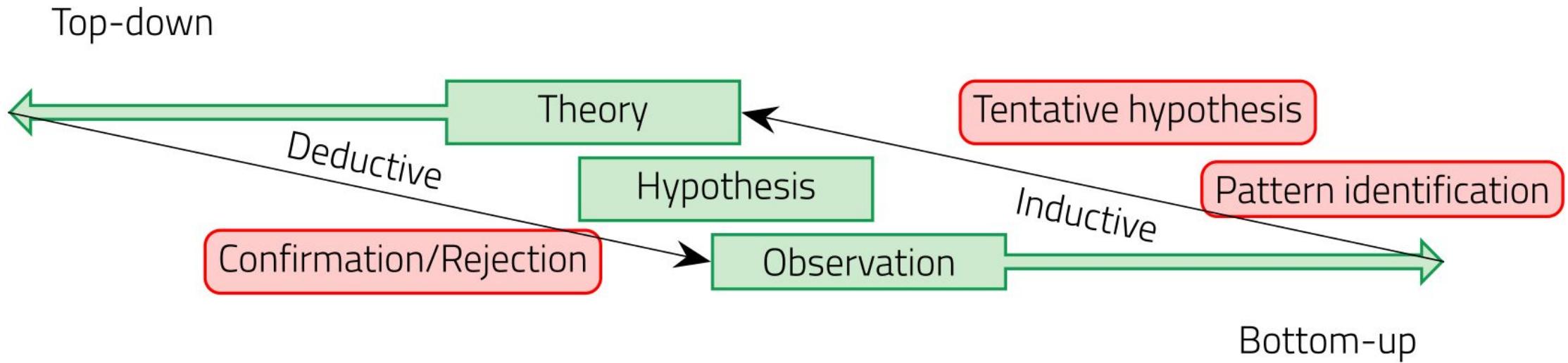
- Top Bar:** PUBLISH, EXPLORE, ANALYZE, ABOUT.
- Left Sidebar:** Your uploads / Upload / Entry / Data
- Entry Overview:**
  - Section:** MyProcess
  - Quantities:** data\_file (process\_data\_row.csv)
  - Sub Sections:** MyProcessesCollection (0, 1, 2, aa)
- Right Panel (FILES):**
  - Section:** Myprocessescollection
  - Quantities:**
    - Sample id: aa
    - Roughness: 24 (Unit: nm)
    - Thickness: 45 (Unit: nm)

Several examples are already public:

[github.com/FAIRmat-NFDI/AreaA-data  
modeling and schemas](https://github.com/FAIRmat-NFDI/AreaA-data-modeling_and_schemas)

# Towards a Standard / an Ontology

Towards a Standard



An iterative exchange among scientific communities  
is necessary to acquire generality, consistency, usefulness

# “Base Classes” approach

Boil down the data structure to elemental building blocks:

Instrument

Sample

Steps

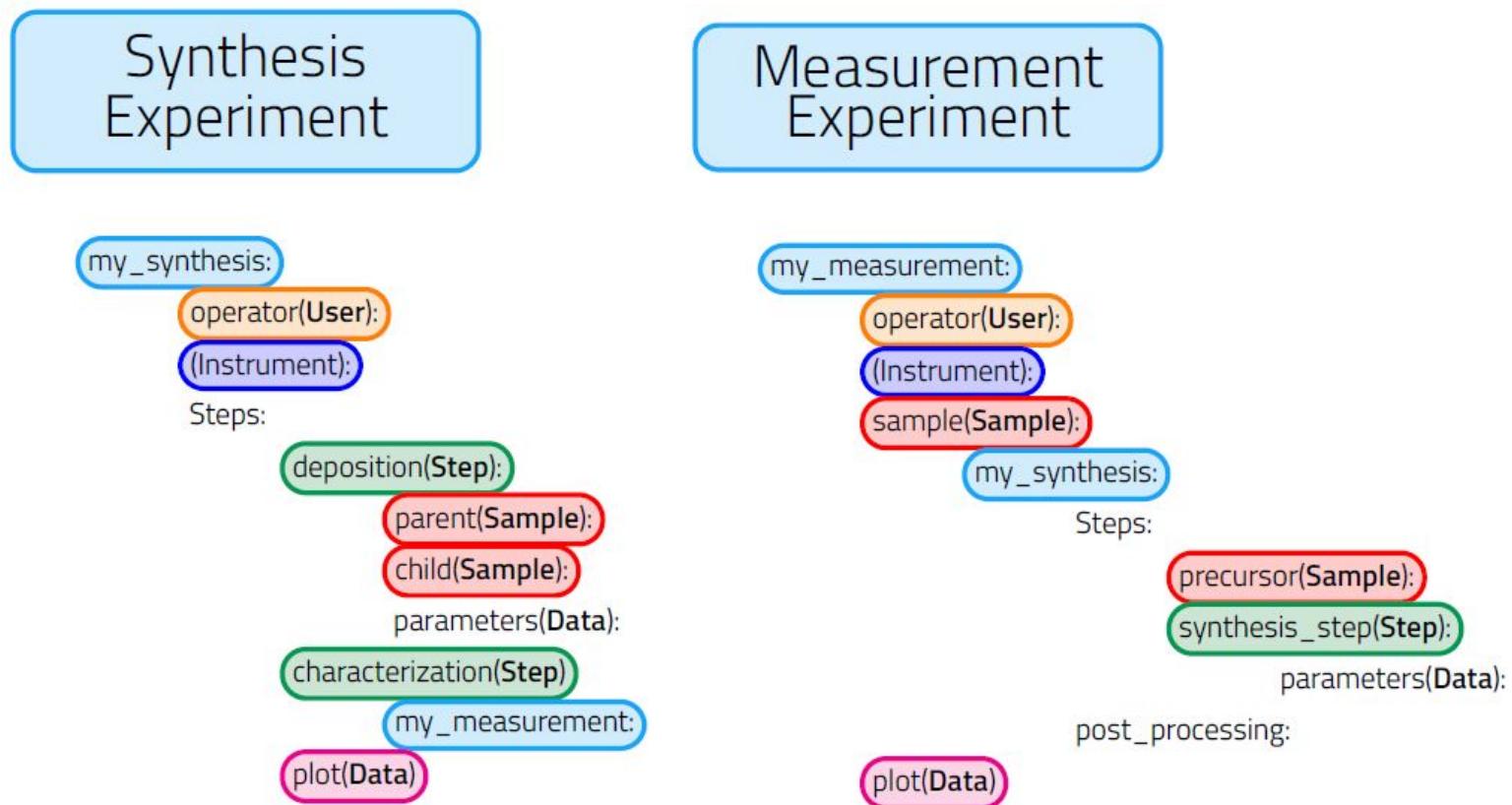
User

Each Base Class contains a set of properties (Quantities)

Allows for additional searchability and processing capabilities in Nomad!

# Modularity and Flexibility

Combine base classes into complex structures, depending on single user needs

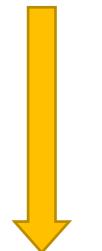


# Representing Hierarchy: Coding a Schema

# Representing Hierarchy: Coding a Schema

## Inheritance

My Gaussmeter



“is a”

Instrument

“My Gaussmeter”

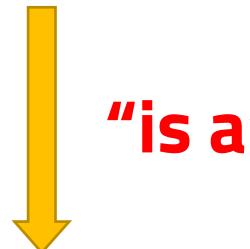
inherits

the properties of  
“Instrument”

# Representing Hierarchy: Coding a Schema

## Inheritance

My Gaussmeter



Instrument

"My Gaussmeter"  
inherits

the properties of  
"Instrument"

&

## Composition

Experiment



My Gaussmeter

"Experiment"  
is composed by  
an "Instrument"  
(a "User", a "Sample", etc.)

# How it looks like in Nomad YAML files:

Inheritance

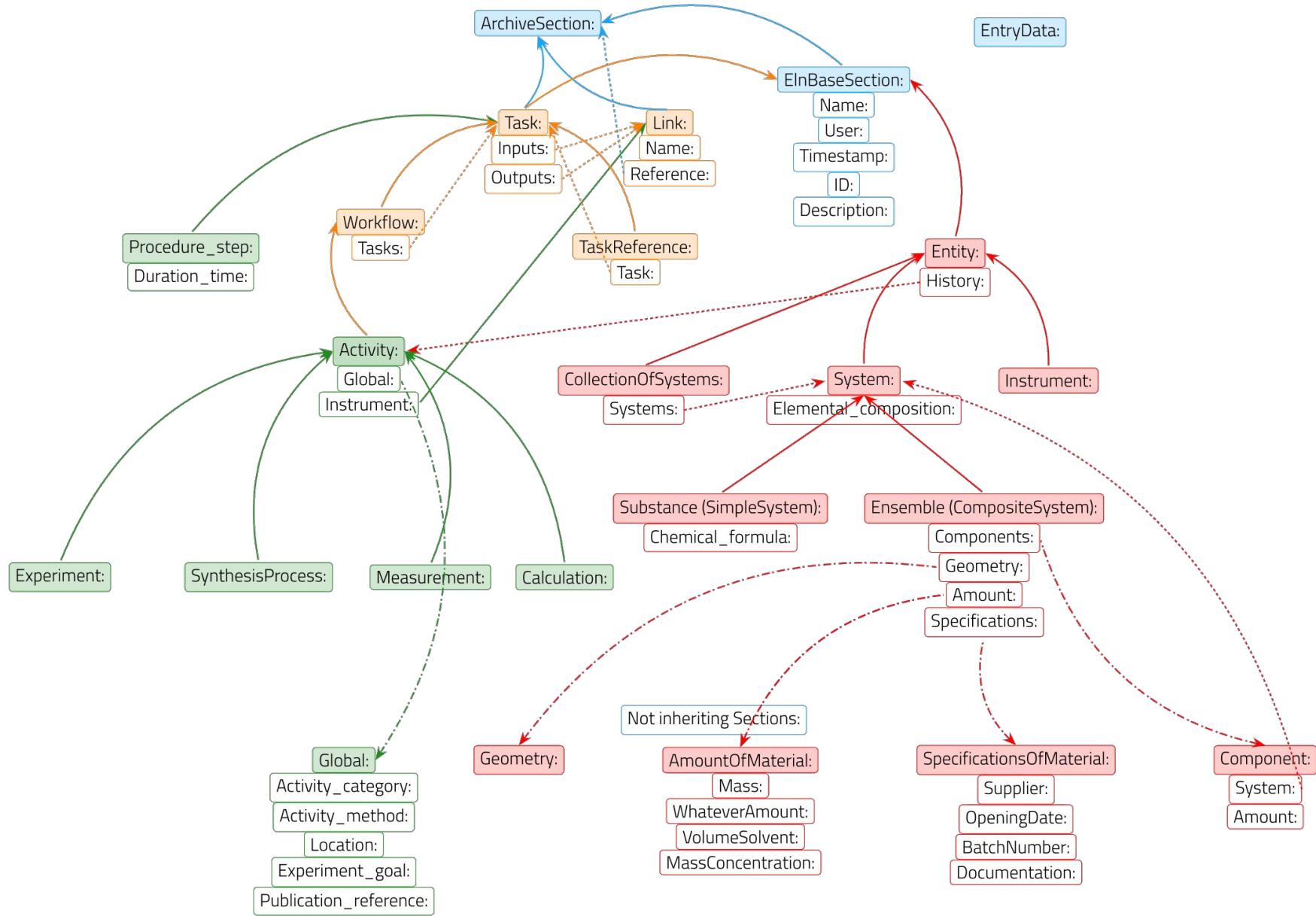
Composition

```
definitions:  
  name: My Custom Schemas  
  sections:  
    MyProcess:  
      quantities:  
        data_file:  
          type: str  
        duration:  
          type: np.float64  
          unit: s  
    MySpecifiedProcess:  
      base_sections:  
        - '#/MyProcess'  
      quantities:  
        carrier_gas:  
          type: str  
      sub_sections:  
        MyProcessesCollection:  
          section:  
            quantities:  
              sample_id:  
                type: str  
              m_annotations:  
                eln:  
                  component: StringEditQuantity
```

"MySpecifiedProcess"  
**is a**  
"MyProcess"

"MySpecifiedProcess"  
**has**  
quantities  
and  
sub\_sections

# Experimental data model is under development



# Get Involved

Developed by FAIRmat



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[github.com/FAIRmat-NFDI/AreaA-data\\_modeling\\_and\\_schemas](https://github.com/FAIRmat-NFDI/AreaA-data_modeling_and_schemas)

[github.com/nomad-coe/nomad](https://github.com/nomad-coe/nomad)



Thank you!