Strengths and deficits of CEN Workshop Agreements for data documentation in materials modelling and characterization

Björn Schembera (UStuttgart)
Martin T Horsch (NMBU)
Heinz A Preisig (NTNU)

Going beyond FAIR

Björn Schembera
Institute for Applied Analysis and Numerical Simulation
University of Stuttgart

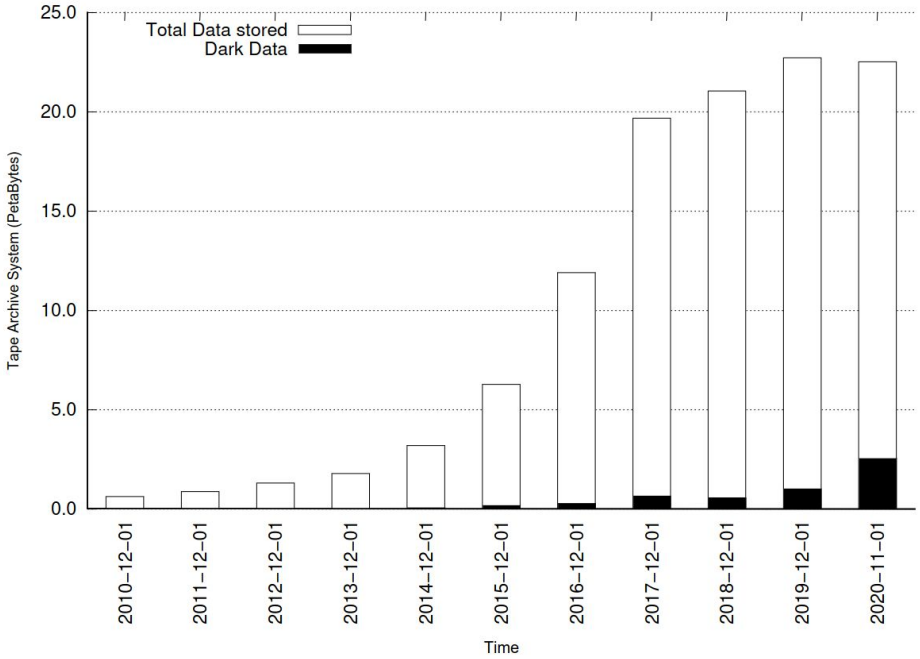
Dark Data - Definition

- Dark Data[1] which is
  - Hidden
  - Unavailable
  - Unstructured
  - Undocumented/unannotated
  - Biased
  - Stemming from abandoned research
- Up to 80% of the global data is dark[2]
- Why should we care?
  - Economical: it costs
  - Ecological: “..annual global [..] footprints resulting from storing dark data might approach 5.26 million tons CO2 [..].”[3]
  - Responsibility problem
  - Epistemic problem (epistemic opaqueness)
  - Legal Implications

[1] Schembera, Björn, and Martin T. Horsch. Dark data and epistemic metadata in molecular modeling. In preparation
[2] Ahmad, Norita, Areeba Hamid, and Vian Ahmed. "Data Science: Hype and Reality."Computer 55.2 (2022): 95-101.
[3] Al Kez, Dlzar, et al. Exploring the sustainability challenges facing digitalization and internet data centers. J. of Cleaner Production 371 (2022).

Dark Data - Example 1: HPC Center

- Dark data at an HPC Center[4], > 11% dark data by 2020
  - Lots of data is dark due to orphaned accounts or missing metadata



[4] Schembera, Björn, and Juan M. Durán. "Dark data as the new challenge for big data science and the introduction of the scientific data officer."Philosophy & Technology 33.1 (2020): 93-115.

Dark Data - Example 2: Mathematics

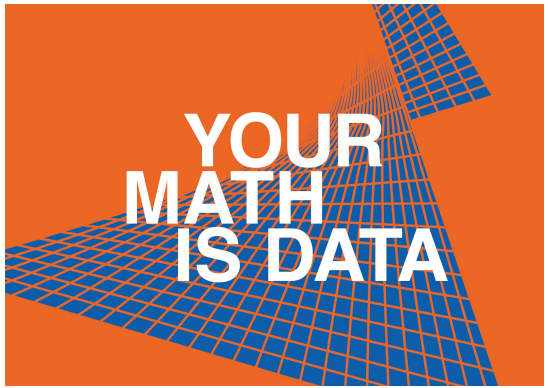
- Another example from the field of mathematics[5]

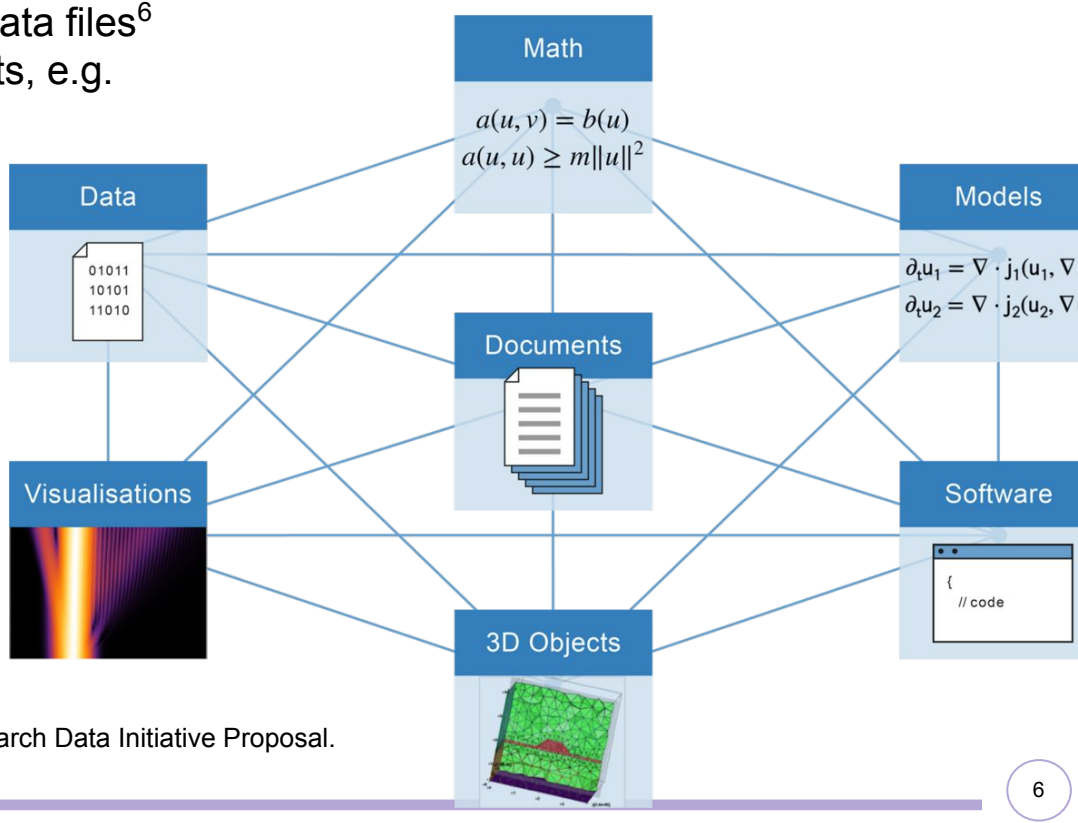
"[..] a classification of all conditional independence structures on up to four discrete random variables, originally published in a series of papers (Matus and Studeny, 1995; Matus, 1995, 1999). [..] Simcek (2006) digitized this result and left the field after his PhD in 2007. His **research data was deleted in 2021 from his former institute's website** [..]. It was encoded in a packed binary **format which is hard to read, search, and reuse**. Some files supporting the correctness of the classification for binary distributions use an **unspecified, compiler-specific binary serialization format** for floating-point data. The programs used for the creation and inspection of the database were written in a **dialect of the Pascal** programming language which **has not been maintained since 2006**. The **sparse documentation is in Czech**."

[5] Boege, Tobias, et al. Data Management Planning in the German Mathematical Community. arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.12071 (2022).

Your Math is Data!

- Research Data goes beyond pure data files[6]
- It's a spiderweb of information assets, e.g.
  - Models
  - Algorithms
  - …
- MaRDI@NFDI is working on this





[6] The MaRDI consortium. (2022). MaRDI: Mathematical Research Data Initiative Proposal. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6552436l

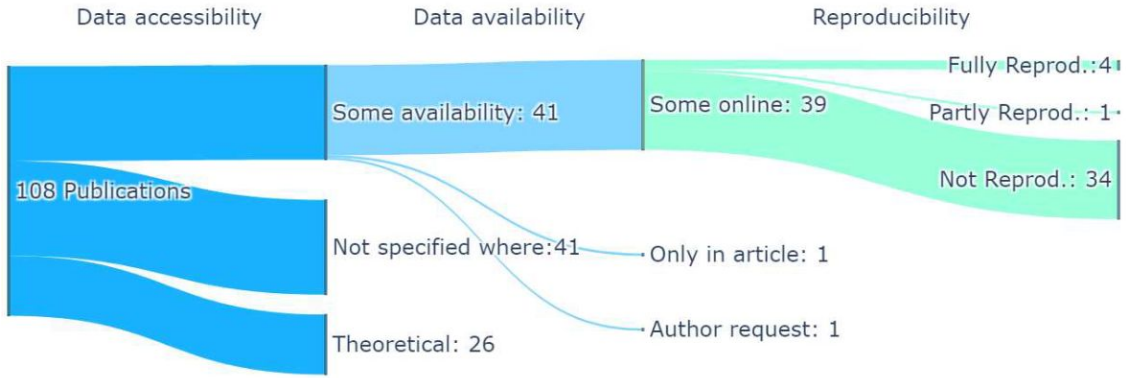
Dark Data vs. FAIR Data

- FAIR has reached a quasi-standard paradigm in research data management
- Dark data is not FAIR -> Diminish dark data to achieve FAIRness
  - Organizational measures
    - Data Management Plans
    - Scientific Data Officers / Data curators
    - Incentives (extrinsic / intrinsic)
  - Technical measures
    - Semantic Technology
    - Data infrastructures
- Usually we limit ourselves to record pure data provenance (origin and genesis) when talking FAIR

Reproducibility and FAIR Data

- FAIR does not make statements about reproducibility, just about reusability

Example: A study that analyzed 108 publications for reproducibility:



} This is data FAIR, however not reproducible

Riedel, Christian, et al. "Including data management in research culture increases the reproducibility of scientific results." *INFORMATIK 2022* (2022).

…is FAIR really the End of the Line?

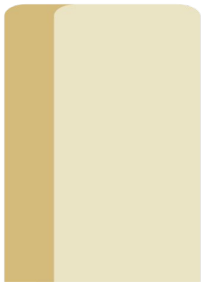
- FAIR formulates a minimum standard in data documentation
- Its ultimate goal is to optimize data for reusability with regards to data formats, licenses, retrievability, and provenance
- However it does not make statements about
  - To what extent the data is reproducible
  - What's the scientific ground for the data?
  - Why is it valid
  - Which claims have been formulated
  - Responsibility
- There is much more than just FAIR data
  - RIOT[7]: Reproducible, interpretable, open, transparent
  - CARE[8]: Collective benefit, authority to control, responsibility, ethics
  - XAIR[9]: Explainable AI ready

[8] E. Ganley et al., BMC Res. Notes 15: 51, doi:10.1186/s13104-022-05932-5, 2022
[9] S. Russo Carroll et al., Sci. Data 8: 108, doi:10.1038/s41597-021-00892-0, 2021
[10] Horsch, M., et al. "Epistemic metadata for computational engineering information systems." *Manuscript, to appear in Proc. FOIS* 2023 (2023).

RIOT

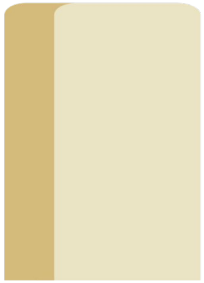
R

Reproducible
Get the same answer asked of the same or different dataset



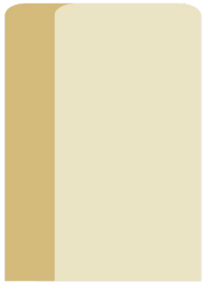
I

Interpretable
Be clear, concise, accessible, and unambiguous



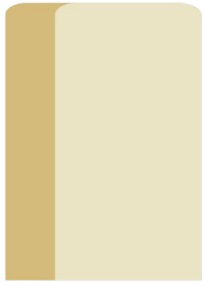
O

Open
Open, inclusive, diverse, collective effort



T

Transparent
Whenever possible, make public every part of research



CARE


Be
FAIR
Findable
Accessible
Interoperable
Reusable
and
CARE
Collective Benefit
Authority to Control
Responsibility
Ethics

Epistemic Metadata and XAIR

- Goal: Make the knowledge reusable and not only the data
- This can be accomplished by epistemic metadata
  - documenting the knowledge status of data
  - Research data must be stored and exchanged jointly with this metadata
- This makes the data XAIR (**Explainable** AI ready)
- All XAIR data is FAIR
- Not all FAIR data is XAIR
- Metadata standardization is utterly important

Personification of Episteme in Celsus Library in Ephesus, Source: Wikipedia

Toward data documentation standardization meeting regulatory and users' requirements

Martin T Horsch

Dept of Data Science

Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Responsible data documentation

European AI Act proposal: “To address the **opacity** that may make certain AI systems incomprehensible to or too complex for natural persons, a certain degree of transparency should be required for high-risk AI systems. [...] High-risk AI systems should therefore be accompanied by **relevant documentation**”

- "High-risk" includes energy safety, water, *etc.*, and all that affects fundamental rights.
- This is not in force yet, negotiations are taking place at least until end of the year.

Epistemic opacity (Humphreys, 2011): A cognitive “process is **epistemically opaque** relative to [...] agent *X* at time *t* [... if …] X does not know at t all of the epistemically relevant elements”

Tendency: Making data trustworthy through explanations becomes a **legal** requirement.

Responsible data documentation

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- The "epistemically relevant elements" from Humphreys are the same as the "relevant documentation" from the AI Act. We call them the **epistemic metadata**.

Tendency: Making data trustworthy through explanations becomes a **legal** requirement.

This means that **explainable-AI-ready** (XAIR) data cannot rely on *informal* metadata standardization. *Formal standardization* going through the official agencies becomes necessary.

From informal to formal standards

European AI Act proposal: “To address the **opacity** that may make certain AI systems incomprehensible to or too complex for natural persons, a certain degree of transparency should be required for high-risk AI systems. [...] High-risk AI systems should therefore be accompanied by **relevant documentation**”

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Beginning with the EC's Battery Regulation, **digital product passports** will be mandatory first for batteries, later textiles, electronics, and successively more and more products.

- Characterizing the **knowledge status** becomes a priority.

Molecular modelling case study

Epistemic metadata and their **documentation** were explored in molecular thermodynamics:

First stage report (10 cases), doi:10.5281/zenodo.7516532, **2023**.

Discussion of five papers each from two research groups (Berlin, London) without involving the papers' authors. Obtained a tentative **taxonomy for epistemic metadata** and explored the patterns of epistemic grounding.

Second stage report (12 claims), doi:10.5281/zenodo.7608074, **2023**.

Discussion of two claims each from six papers, involving the papers' authors, some of whom became co-authors of the present work. **Ontology of epistemic metadata**, except for epistemic grounding, implemented in PIMS-II.

Good data documentation standards give researchers the freedom to say what they want to say. Ontologies should **provide a language, not micromanage** researchers' self-expression.

Epistemic metadata and reproducibility claims

Epistemic metadata

Metadata are “descriptive data about an object” (ISO 11179).

Epistemic metadata are metadata that support **characterizing the knowledge status** of data.

Epistemic metadata:

a) “what **knowledge claim** φ has been formulated?,”

b) “where do the data and the claim come from?” (**provenance**),

c) “what **validity claim** was made about φ?,”

d) “why should we accept any of this?” (**grounding**).

These concepts are implemented in the PIMS-II ontology.

Subject matter of research data

We understand subject matter of a knowledge claim and/or the associated research data as given by the research question that is being answered, or by the “equivalence relation over logical space” with respect to that question.[1]

Assertion: "*A* is the factually correct answer to question *Q*."

Subject matter of the assertion: Q.

Equivalence relation: Two states of affairs are equivalent if the answer to Q is the same for both.
Two knowledge bases are equivalent if they return equivalent tables for the respective SPARQL query.

[1]S. Yablo, *Aboutness*, Princeton Univ. Press (ISBN 978-0-691-14495-5), **2014**.

Subject matter of research data

We understand subject matter of a knowledge claim and/or the associated research data as given by the research question that is being answered, or by the “equivalence relation over logical space” with respect to that question.[1]

With respect to the research question[2]

q_1 = “What is the **D** matrix of liquid *M* as a function of **x**, *p*, and *T*?,”

two states of affairs are equivalent if their **D**(**x**, *p*, *T*) dependencies are the same.

[1]S. Yablo, Aboutness, Princeton Univ. Press (ISBN 978-0-691-14495-5), **2014**.

[2]G. Guevara Carrión *et al.*, *J. Phys. Chem. B* **124**(22): 4527–4535, doi:10.1021/acs.jpcb.0c01625, **2020**.

Reproducibility claims

Common formulation and schema for reproducibility claims (RCs):

«Whenever research process *κ*" is carried out, it must lead to the outcome *φ*".»

1. Researcher *a* did *κ* and found *φ*.

2. Researcher *b* did *γ*, somehow similar to *κ*, and found something that is inconsistent with *φ*.

3. Now we think that *φ* has not been reproduced successfully, maybe it is "falsified." But why?

Reproducibility claims

Common formulation and schema for reproducibility claims (RCs):

«Whenever research process *κ*'' is carried out, it must lead to the outcome *φ*''.»

1. Researcher *a* did *κ* and found *φ*.

   Here, *a* also made the **positive reproducibility claim** $\psi = \Box(\varphi'' \mid \kappa'')$.

   - Read $\Box(\varphi'' \mid \kappa'')$ as «given that *κ*'' is done, necessarily a result consistent with *φ*'' is obtained.»

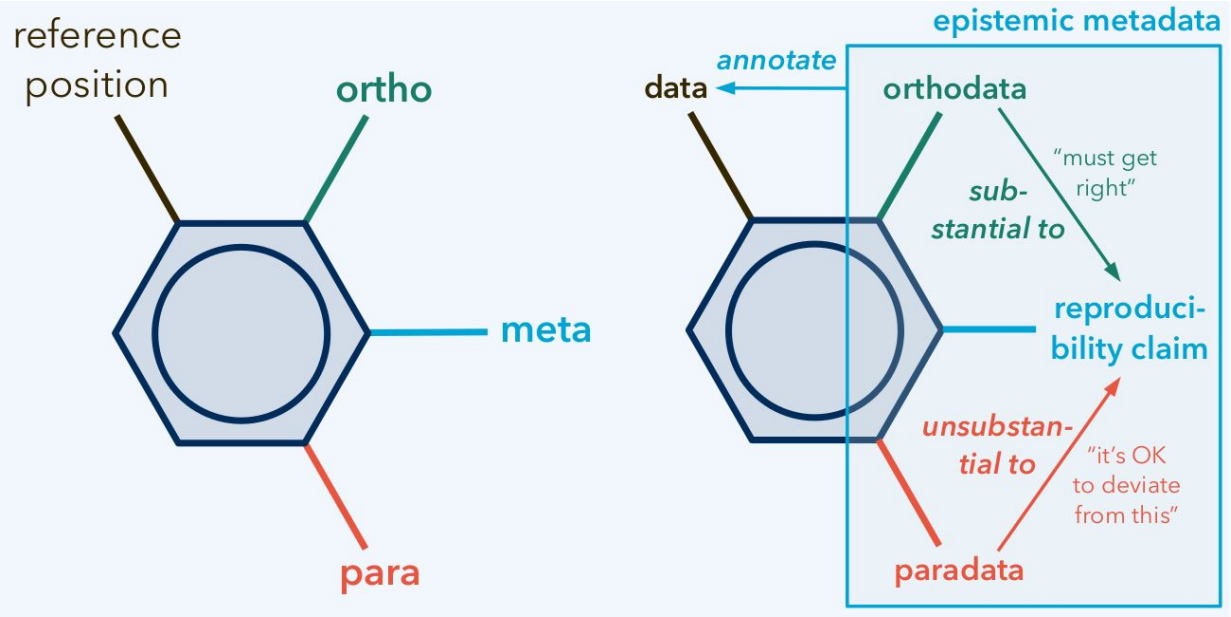
2. Researcher *b* did *γ*, consistent with *κ*'', and found something that is inconsistent with *φ*''.

   Here, *b* made the **negative reproducibility claim** $\Diamond(\neg\varphi'' \mid \kappa'') \equiv \neg\Box(\varphi'' \mid \kappa'') \equiv \neg\psi$.

   - Read $\Diamond(\neg\varphi'' \mid \kappa'')$ as «if *κ*'' is done, it can happen that a result consistent with ¬*φ*'' is obtained.»

3. What is relevant there is the contradiction between *ψ* and ¬*ψ*.

Reproducibility claims



provenance metadata κ

provenance paradata κ'

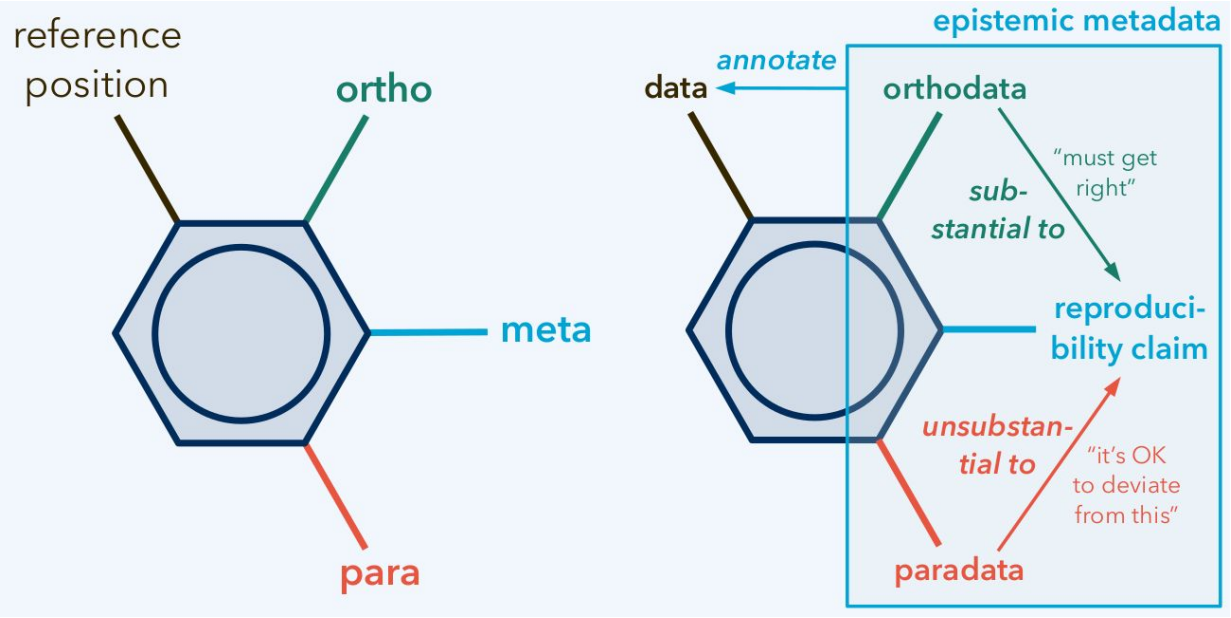
output metadata φ

output paradata φ'

«repeat κ, but no need to retain κ'»

«obtain φ again, except for φ' maybe»

Paradata and logical subtraction



provenance metadata κ

provenance paradata κ'

$\kappa'' = \kappa - \kappa'$

(provenance orthodata)

output metadata φ

output paradata φ'

$\varphi'' = \varphi - \varphi'$

(output orthodata)

«repeat κ, but no need to retain κ'»

«obtain φ again, except for φ' maybe»

Paradata and logical subtraction

Logical subtraction is a concept from analytic philosophy.

Its formalization is closely connected to the theory of **subject matter**.

Example from Yablo (*Aboutness*, **2014**): Someone who rejects ontological commitment to the existence of numbers is asked how many prime numbers there are greater than ten. “Infinitely many, of course, except that numbers don’t exist.”

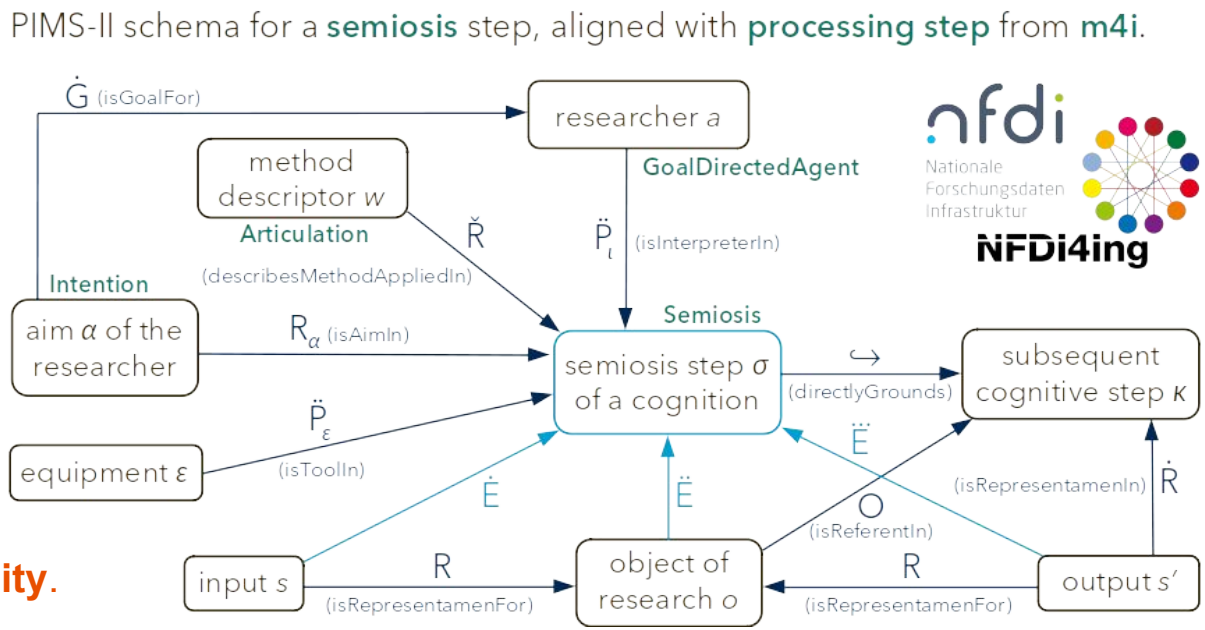
Reproducibility in computational engineering:

> Could you try to replicate my old simulation result? Just do the same as I did.
>
> Except that you of course log in with your user account, not mine.
>
> Your result was off by 0,5%? Don’t worry, that is totally normal.

Connection to NFDI4Ing work

DORIS

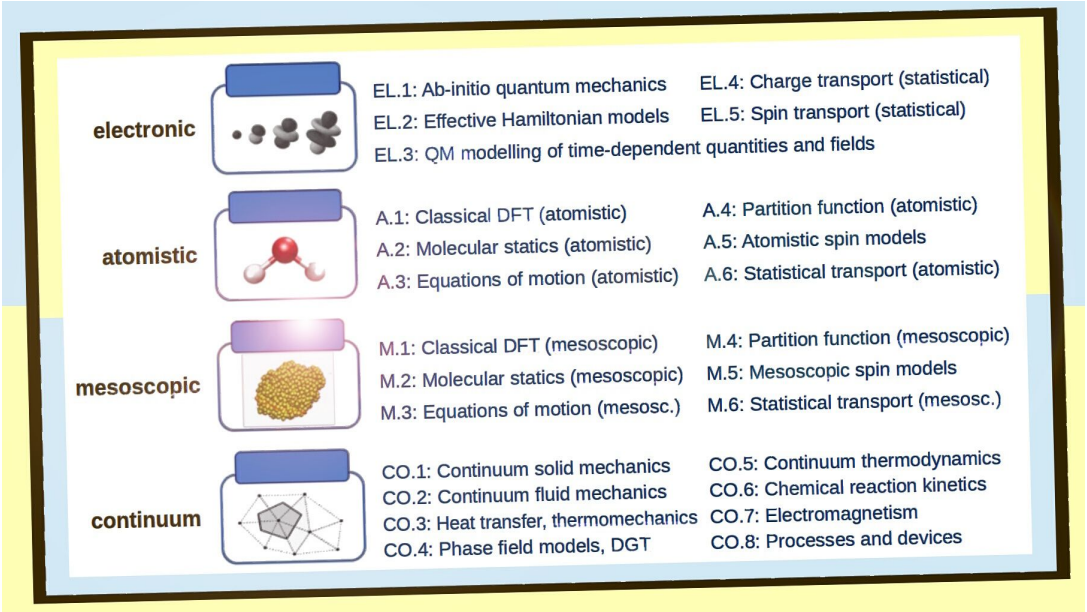
- … will develop **standards for reproducibility**.
- … and **best-practice guidelines** for reproducibility.

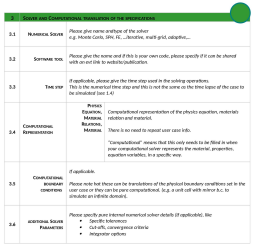


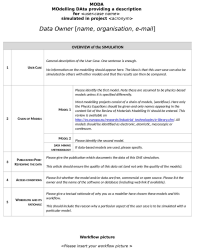
Previous work at the European level

CEN Workshop Agreements (CWAs)

As an attempt at metadata standardization, **MODA** resulted in a closed epistemic space with a rigid categorization of modelling and simulation methodologies.





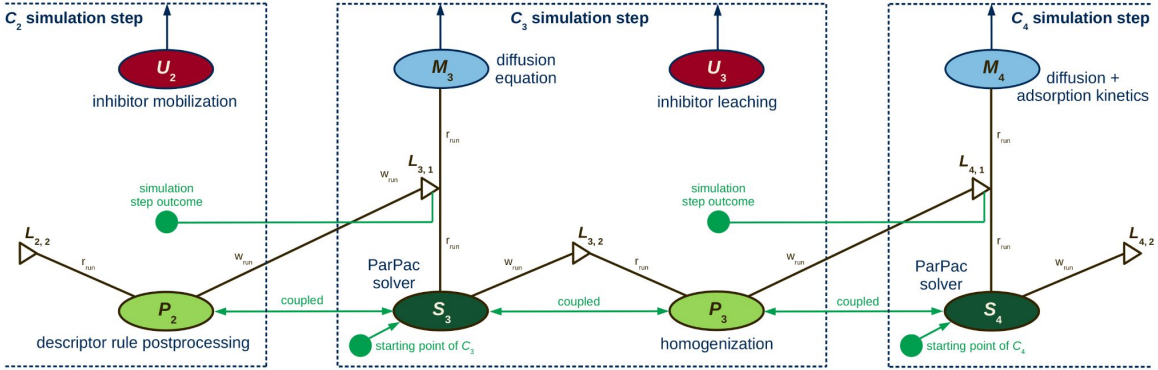


MODA: "Model Data"

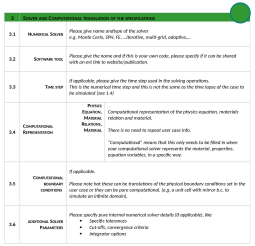
CWA 17284:2018 E

Criticism of the old CWAs

As an attempt at metadata standardization, MODA resulted in a closed epistemic space with a rigid categorization of modelling and simulation methodologies. Both **MODA** and **CHADA** documentations are **hard to create** and **hard to use** by humans, but **not machine-actionable**.



1	ASPECT OF THE USER CASE/SYSTEM TO BE SIMULATED	
1.5	PROCESS OR IN-SERVICE CONDITIONS	*Please note that these might appear as terms in the PE or as boundary conditions, and this will be documented in the relevant chapters.* *Note: These conditions will be expressed in physics relations in Ch 2.4* *Please specify the values used for parameters and from which database these are taken. If pre-processing was needed please specify the methodology.*
1.6	PUBLICATION ON THIS DATA	*Publication documenting the simulation with this single model (if available and if not already included in the overall publication).*



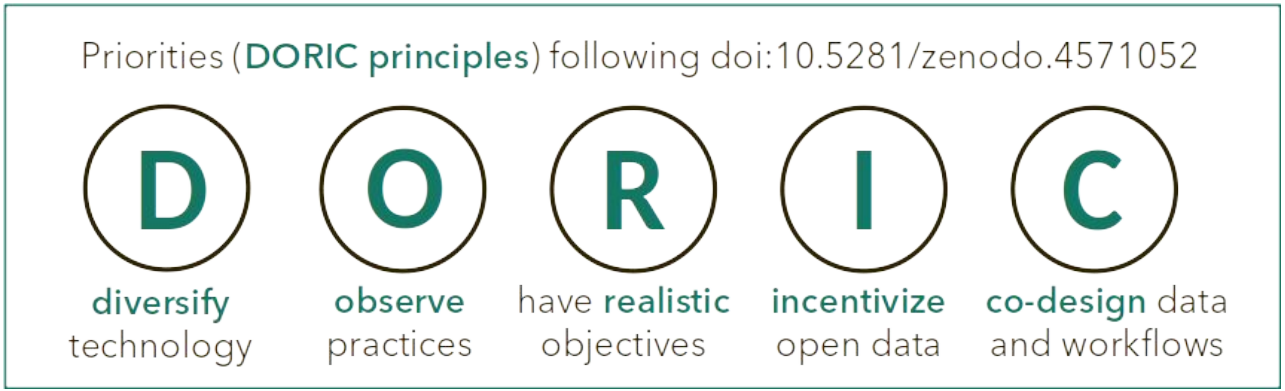
MODA: "Model Data"

CWA 17284:2018 E

CHADA: "Characterization Data"

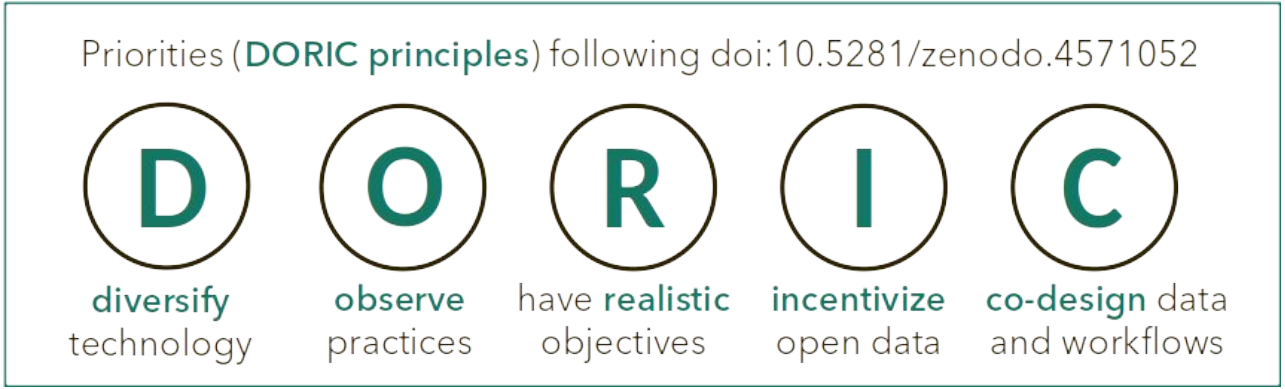
CWA 17815:2021 E

Criticism of the old CWAs



- **MODA** was a **closed epistemic space**, modelling methods had to be chosen from a small list.
- **MODA** imposed a **given level of detail** in data documentation; namely, **unrealistically** detailed.
- **MODA** documentations are **complicated**, and of **limited use** to all, including to humans.

Toward meeting user requirements



- MODA was a closed epistemic space, modelling methods had to be chosen from a small list. **ModGra** gives the user a **highly expressive** graph **language** to describe their method.
- MODA imposed a given level of detail in data documentation; namely, unrealistically detailed. **ModGra** gives the user the choice to document the model at a **flexible level of detail**.
- MODA documentations are complicated, and of limited use to all, including to humans. **ModGra** specifies semantics at the level of physics and is **actionable** through ProMo tools.

CWA 17960:2022
ModGra: A graphical representation of physical process models

Heinz A Preisig

Dept of Chemical Engineering

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Contents

1. How to go about generating a CWA
2. ModGra
   a. motivation
   b. approach
   c. basic components
   d. examples

CWA

CEN workshop agreement

step 1: decide on what shall be standardise -- aim at something minimal

step 2: contact people who may be interested

step 2: draft a working plan

step 3: get in contact with a standardisation organisation in a European country

step 4: provide workshop proposal to standardisation organisation

(form https://boss.cen.eu/media/BOSS%20CEN/formtemp/ws_proposal.docx)

step 5: form a committee -- aim at a wide spread in terms of expertise

step 6: standardisation organisation submits proposal to CEN and announce 30 days in advance a kick-off meeting

step 7: keep on meeting until standard is established -- standardisation organisation provides the secretary

step 8: the CWA is submitted to CEN

Instructions can be found on : https://boss.cen.eu/developingdeliverables/cwa/pages/ or google for *how to generate CEN workshop agreement*

Practicalities

- Aim at a small document
- Simple over complex
- A main body of a CWA document is structured like a contract
  - terms are defined
  - terms can only be used once defined or defined as commonly known
- Adding examples helps
- Simple language helps

Experience: terminology requires a lot of effort

ModGra

Approach: Reductionism

Break a process recursively down into smaller and smaller entities

How long?

- until a level of granulation is achieved that captures the essentials of the process
- the granules can be viewed as **simple systems, control volumes** characterised by
  - a time scale
  - a distribution property
    - intensive properties are a function of the location → **distributed** systems
    - intensive properties are NOT a function of the location → **lumped** systems

Approach

View a process model as a directed graph with:

- nodes being capacities, control volumes containing conserved extensive quantities
- arcs transferring conserved extensive quantities

Add information processing as directed graph with main application of control:

- nodes being input/output functions
- arcs transferring information -- signals

Abstraction: directed graph with tokens living in there, giving the graph context

similar to Petri's thinking

Foundation

A physical process contains

- mass,
- energy,
- momentum,
- charge

→ conserved quantities.

There are

- “holders”/”accumulators” and
- “transfers”
  of conserved quantities

Abstract to

tokens

being stored/accumulated and move

- **capacities** for tokens
- **transfer** of tokens

Foundation

Abstract to

tokens

being stored/accumulated and move

- **capacities** for tokens
- **transfer** of tokens

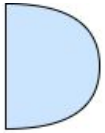
Abstract to

directed graph

with

- nodes being the capacities
- arcs the transport of tokens between capacities

Capacities

constant		physical : temporal constant, spatial: uniform & infinitely large information: temporal constant
dynamic lumped		physical : temporal dynamic, spatial: uniform (0D) & finite size information: temporal dynamic
dynamic distributed		physical : temporal dynamic, spatial: not uniform (nD, n := 1,2,3) & finite size
dynamic point		physical : temporal event-dynamic, spatial: infinite small information: temporal event-dynamic
event-dynamic distributed		physical : temporal event-dynamic, spatial: not uniform & finite size information: temporal event-dynamic

Extensions

composite 

physical : composite entity -- a subgraph
information: ditto

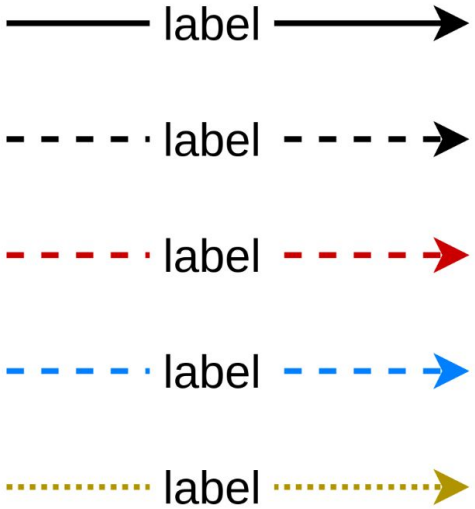
surrogate 

physical : surrogate replacing typically a composite entity -- a subgraph
information: ditto

Enables

- the construction of large systems
- empirical models

Transfers



physical : mass transfer

physical : diffusional mass transfer

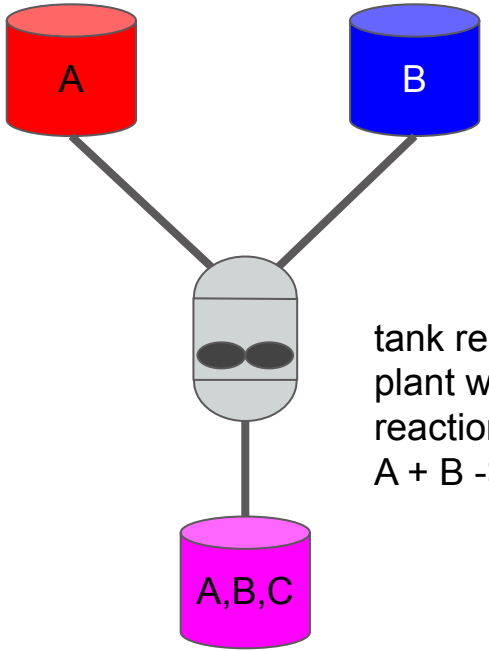
physical : conductive heat transfer

physical : work flow

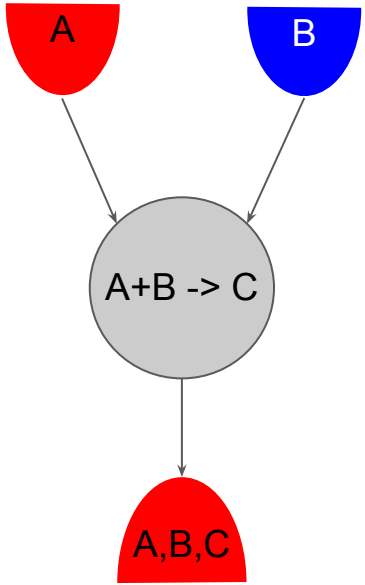
information : signal

Directionality defines a reference coordinate system for the respective flow

A simple example



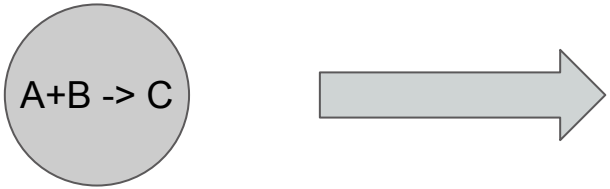
tank reactor plant with reaction
A + B -> C



Simplest model

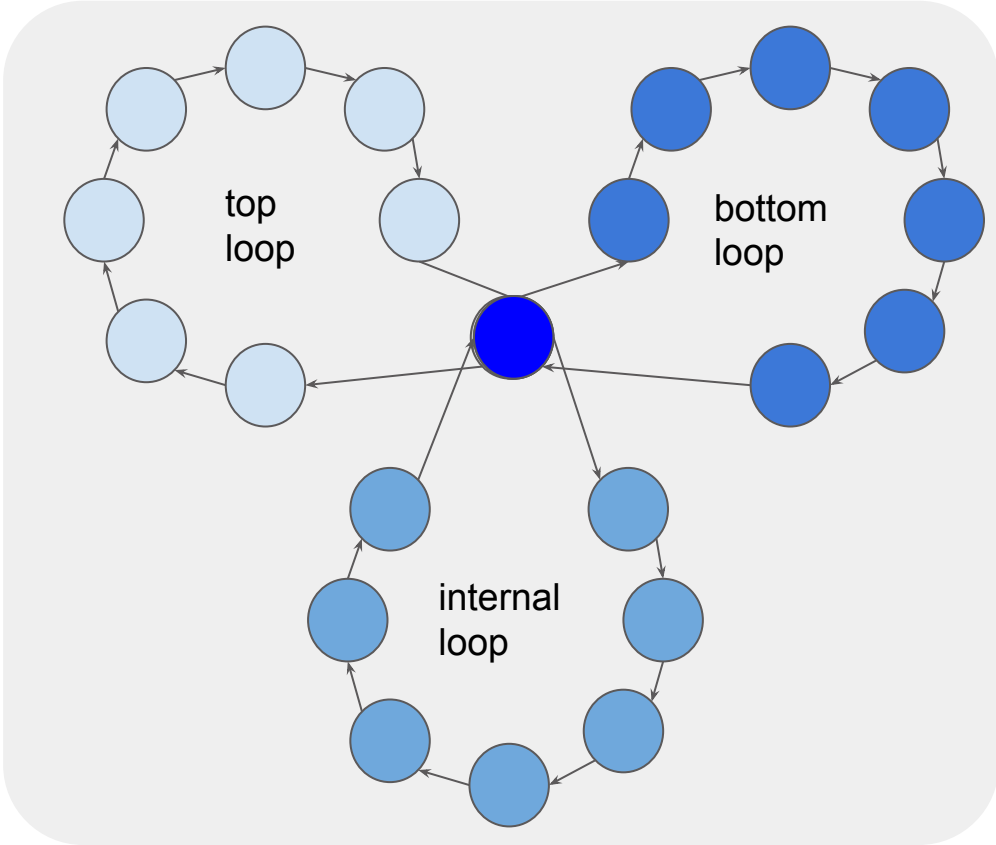
- reservoirs for supply and product
- lumped liquid volume in the tank
- no control

More complex mixing model

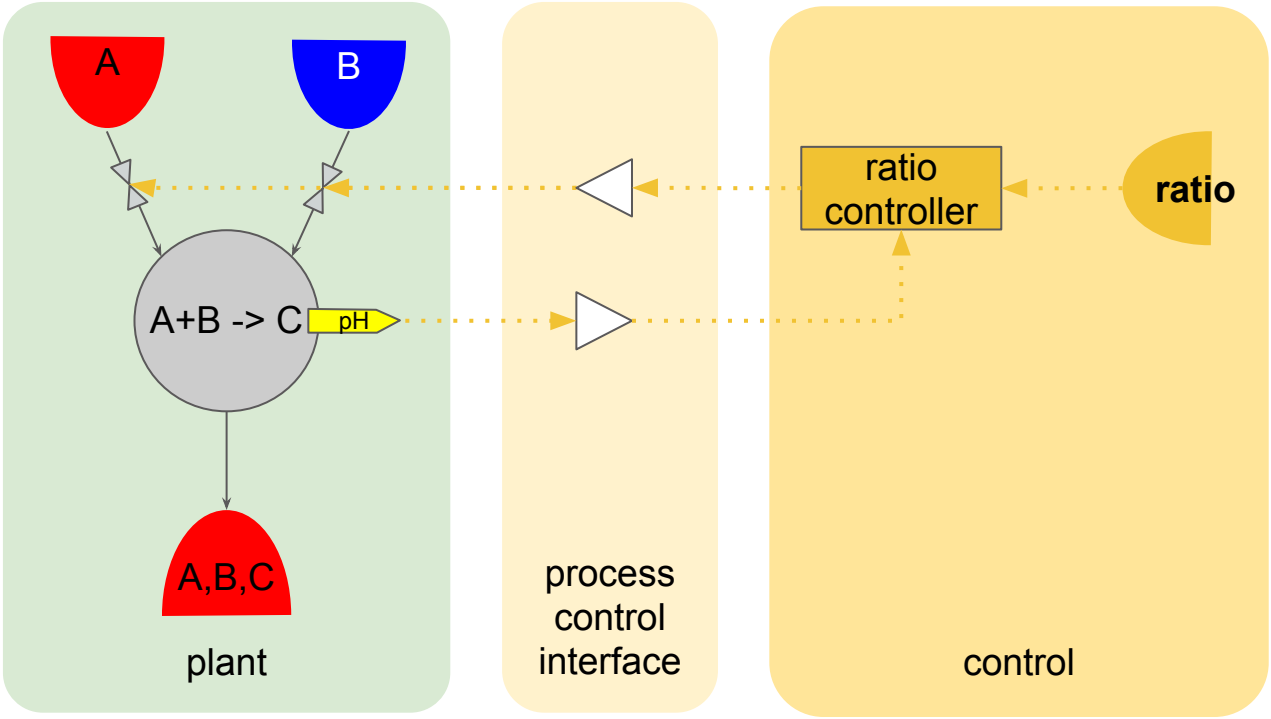


Only hydraulic shown
Would need definition

- where reaction takes place
- where A and B flows in
- where product is drawn

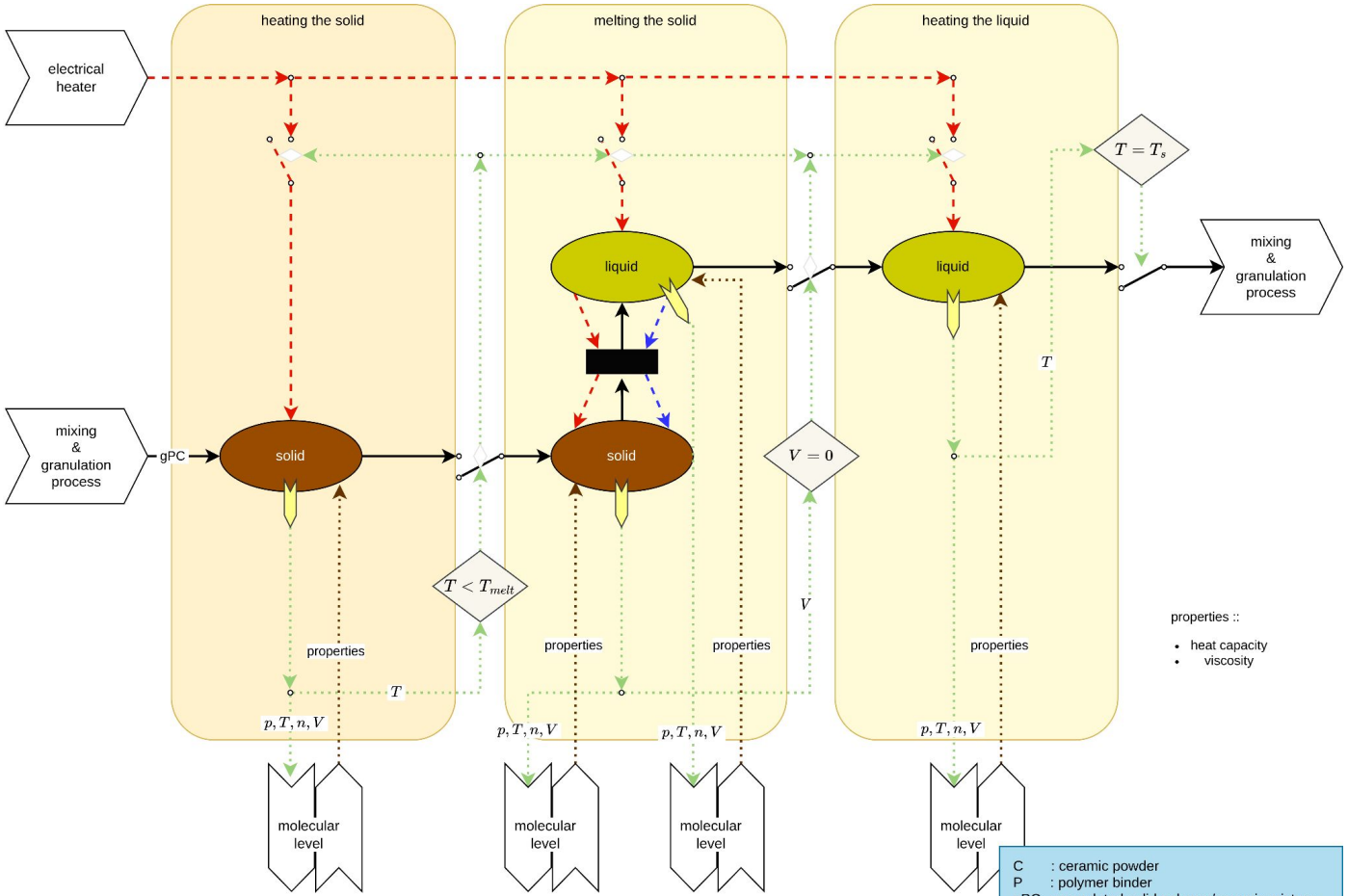


Adding control



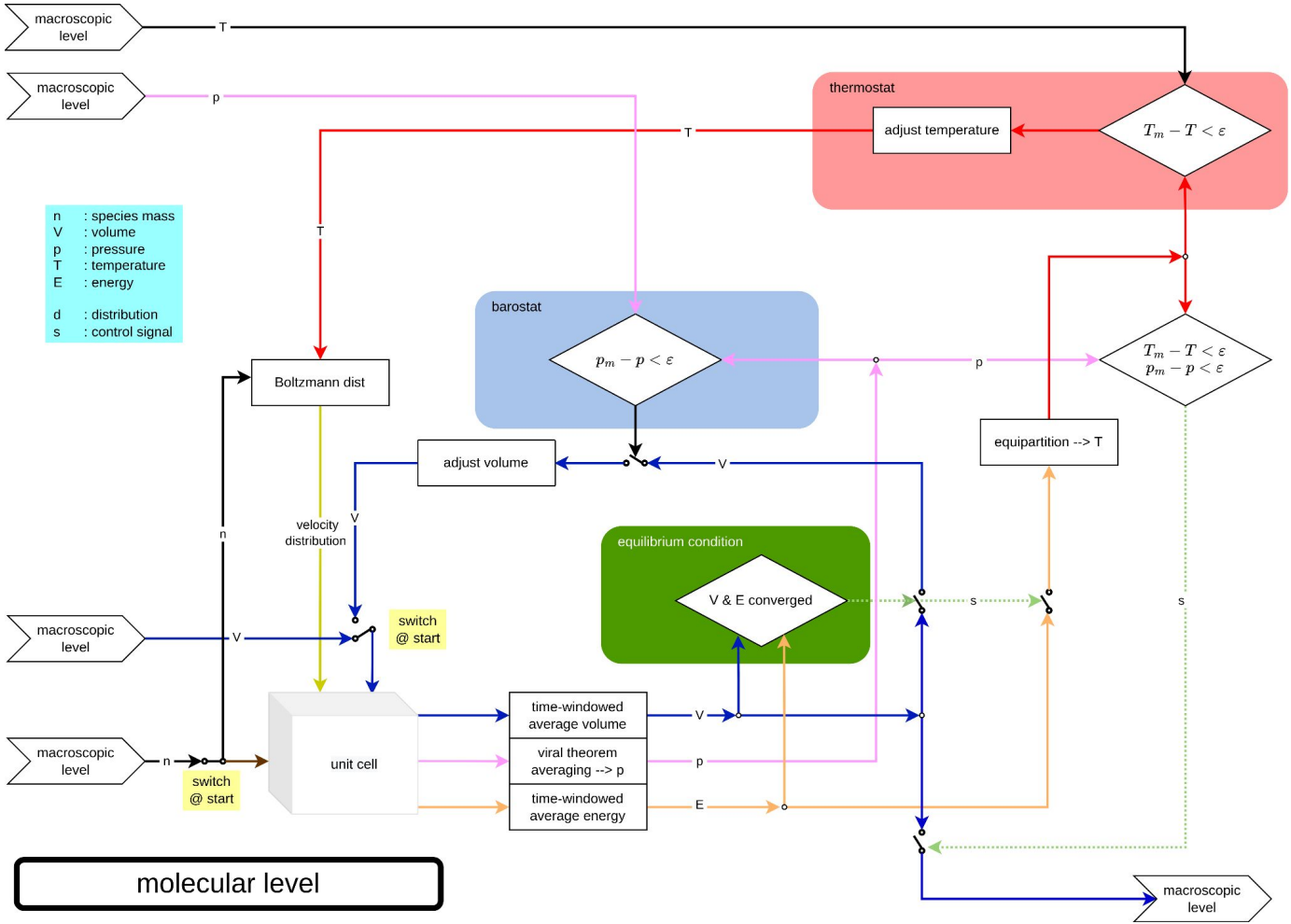
Multi-scale model -> workflow

Melting process



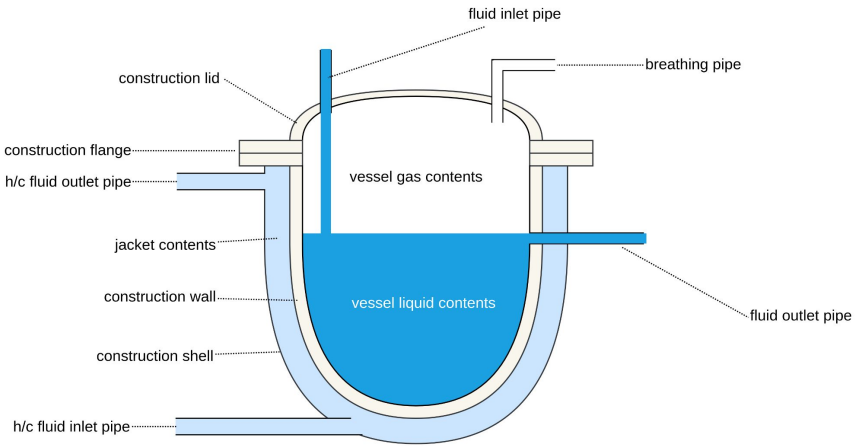
three staged melting process

Molecular modelling

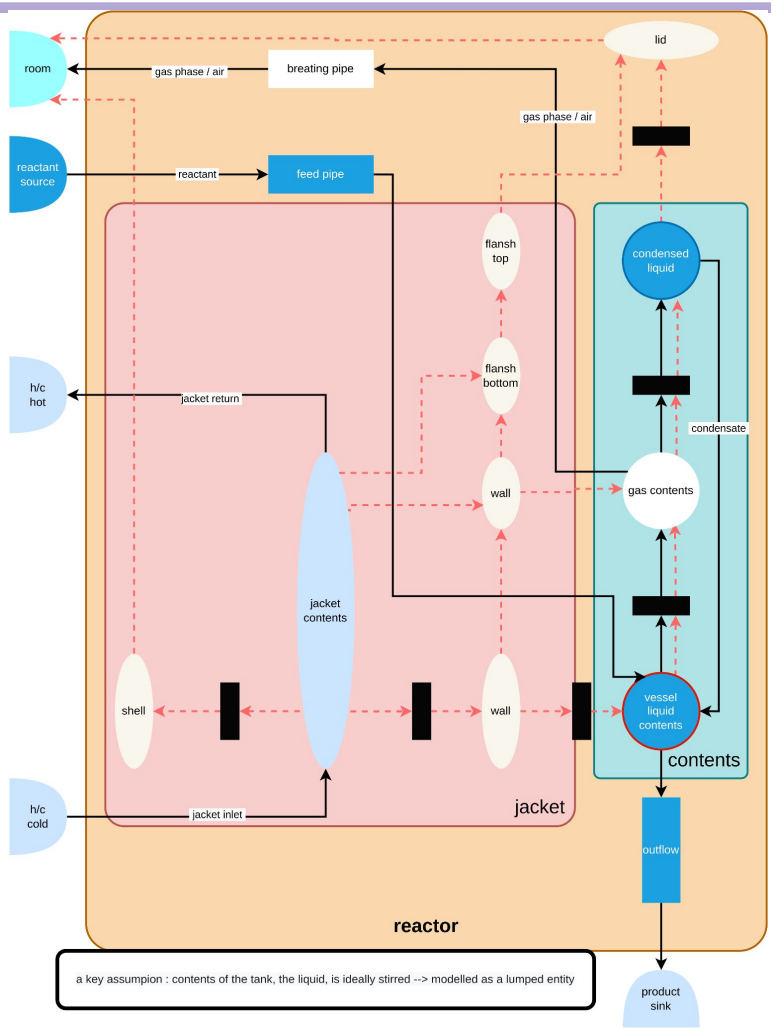


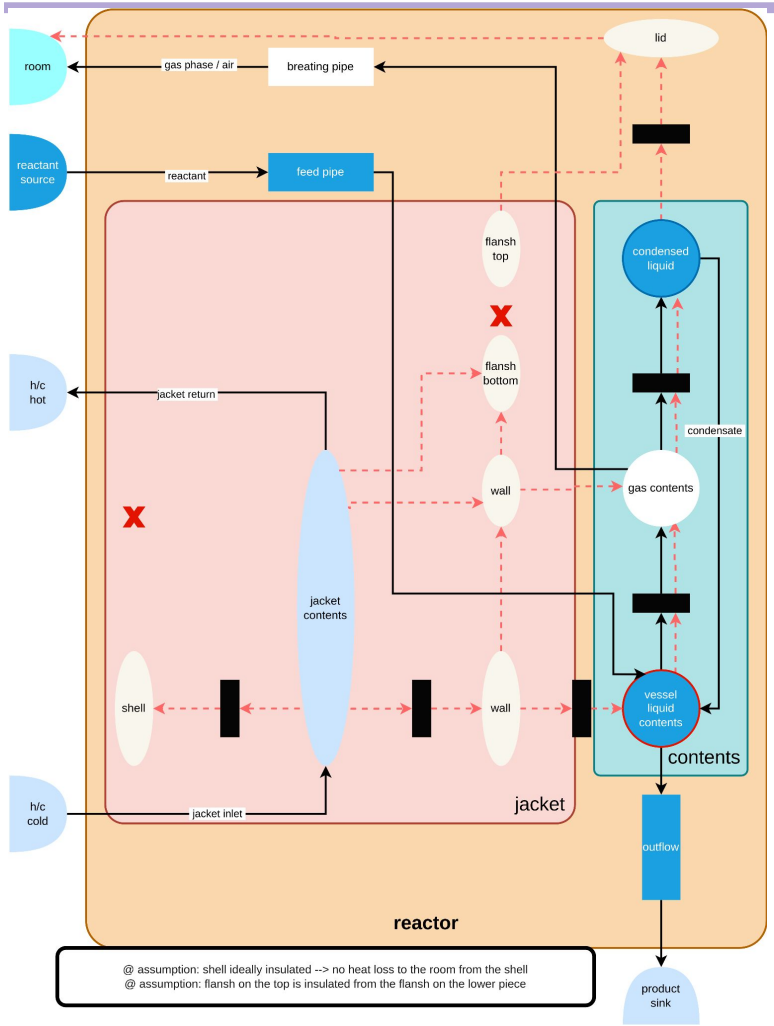
Model simplification

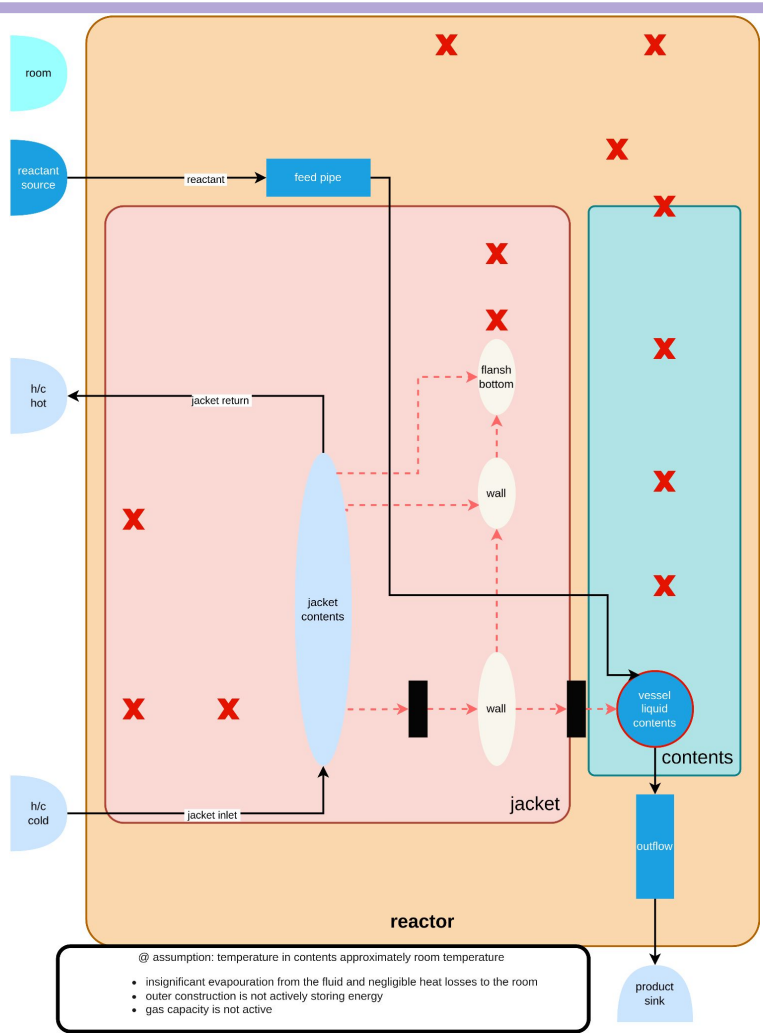
Stirred tank

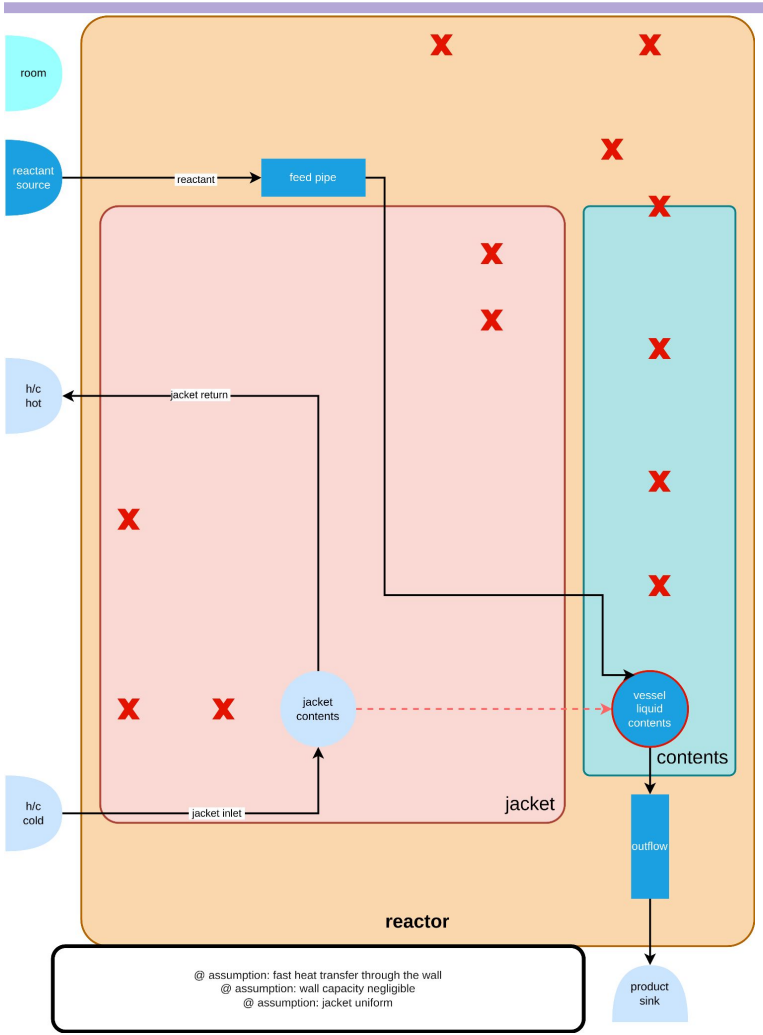


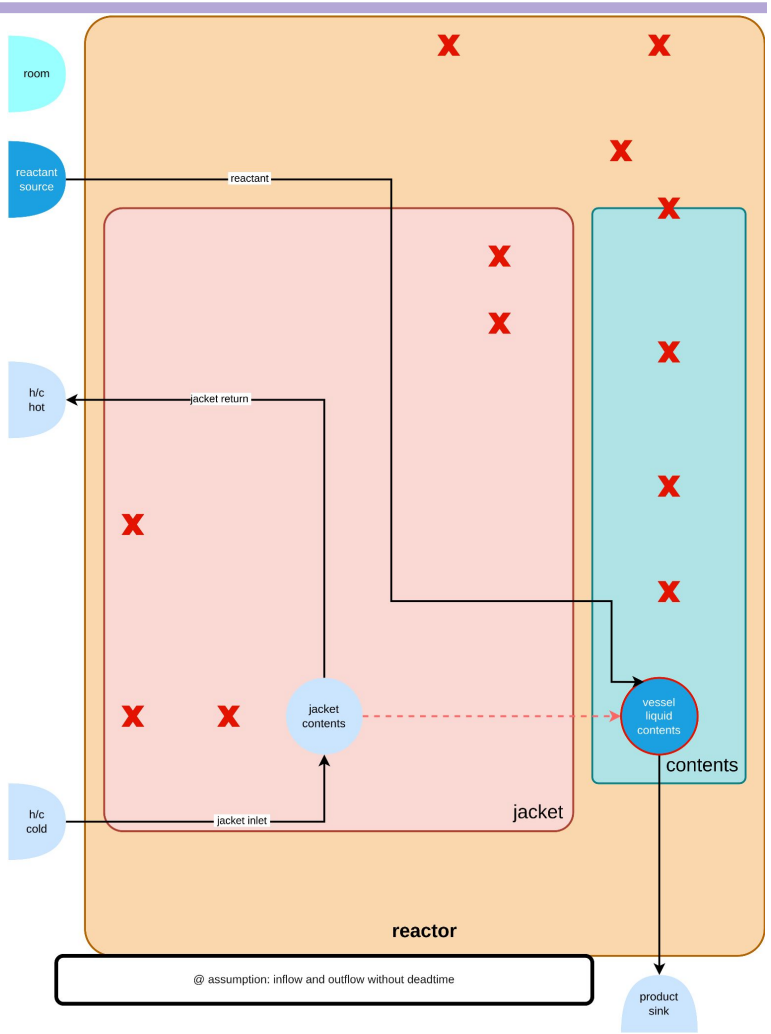
schema of a standard stirred tank



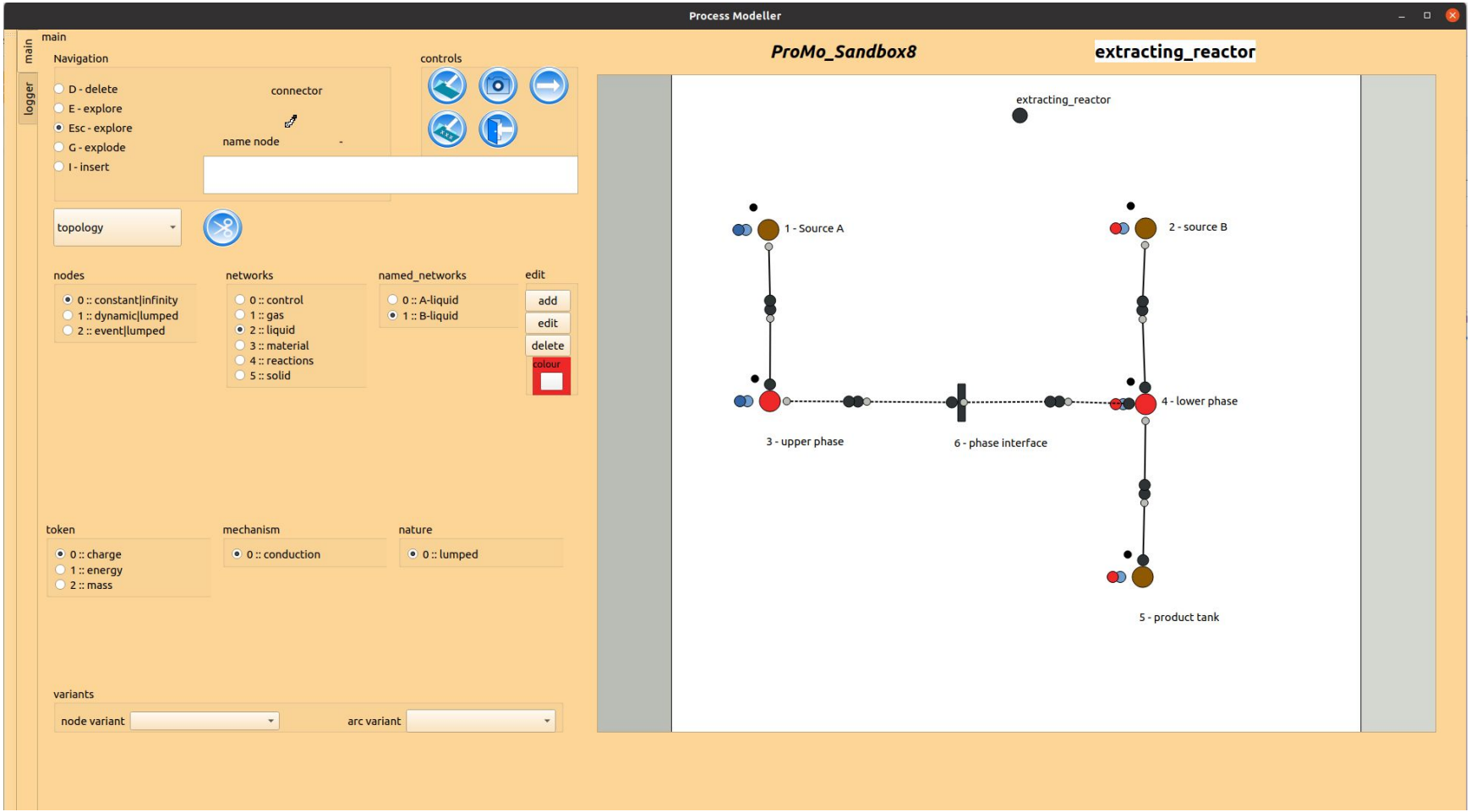

room
gas phase / air
breating pipe
lid
reactant source
reactant
feed pipe
flansh top
condensed liquid
flansh bottom
h/c hot
jacket return
condensate
wall
gas contents
jacket contents
shell
wall
vessel liquid contents
contents
h/c cold
jacket inlet
jacket
outflow
reactor
@ assumption: shell ideally insulated --> no heat loss to the room from the shell
@ assumption: flansh on the top is insulated from the flansh on the lower piece
product sink


room
reactant source
reactant
feed pipe
flansh bottom
h/c hot
jacket return
wall
jacket contents
wall
vessel liquid contents
contents
h/c cold
jacket inlet
jacket
outflow
reactor
@ assumption: temperature in contents approximately room temperature
insignificant evapouration from the fluid and negligible heat losses to the room
outer construction is not actively storing energy
gas capacity is not active
product sink


room
reactant source
reactant
feed pipe
h/c hot
jacket return
jacket contents
vessel liquid contents
contents
h/c cold
jacket inlet
jacket
outflow
reactor
@ assumption: fast heat transfer through the wall
@ assumption: wall capacity negligible
@ assumption: jacket uniform
product sink


room
reactant source
reactant
h/c hot
jacket return
jacket contents
vessel liquid contents
contents
h/c cold
jacket inlet
jacket
reactor
@ assumption: inflow and outflow without deadtime
product sink

Use in model-design software


Process Modeller
main
logger
main
Navigation
D - delete
E - explore
Esc - explore
G - explode
I - insert
connector
name node
-
controls
topology
nodes
0 :: constant|infinity
1 :: dynamic|lumped
2 :: event|lumped
networks
0 :: control
1 :: gas
2 :: liquid
3 :: material
4 :: reactions
5 :: solid
named_networks
0 :: A-liquid
1 :: B-liquid
edit
add
edit
delete
colour
token
0 :: charge
1 :: energy
2 :: mass
mechanism
0 :: conduction
nature
0 :: lumped
variants
node variant
arc variant
ProMo_Sandbox8
extracting_reactor
extracting_reactor
1 - Source A
2 - source B
3 - upper phase
6 - phase interface
4 - lower phase
5 - product tank

ProMo -- Process Modeller

- expert section defines primitive blocks
- translator builds models using the primitive blocks
  and generate higher-level models again as a building block
- all generated building blocks can be reused
- automatic code generation

Software suite ProMo written in Python using pyqt and deployed with ABCdesktop as browser application on https://promo-abcloudtop.io/ as beta release. First release soon. Will be announced on my webpage https://folk.ntnu.no/preisig/

Conclusions

- ModGra is a powerful model design tool
  - as a discussion tool
  - model reduction
  - multi-scale workflow generation tool
  - generation of a model library -- model dissemination