INTEGRATED COMPUTATIONAL/EXPERIMENTAL MATERIAL ENGINEERING OF THERMAL SPRAY COATINGS

EMMO for Manufacturing: the CoBRAIN Knowledge Base for Thermal Spraying Process, Modelling and Characterisation



MatCHMaker @ EMMC 2025 Satellite Workshop

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CoBRAIN

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The Project





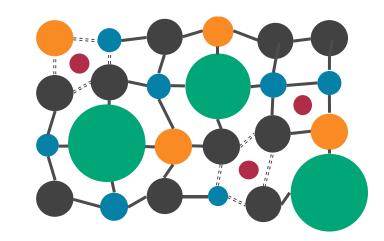
INTEGRATED COMPUTATIONAL/EXPERIMENTAL MATERIAL ENGINEERING OF THERMAL SPRAY COATINGS

- Protective coatings against wear and corrosion play a critical role in strategic industrial fields
- Extant technologies have considerable <u>drawbacks</u> in terms of <u>sustainability</u>
 - ✓ <u>Electroplated Cr</u> is a safe material, but its deposition involves the use of carcinogenic Cr⁶⁺ compounds subject to authorisation under REACH Annex XIV
 - ✓ <u>Electroplated or electroless Ni(P) or Ni(B)</u> based layers also use hazardous raw materials and result in coatings that might be less safe
 - ✓ <u>Thermal spray WC-Co</u>-based coatings utilize carcinogenic materials Co as well as critical raw materials (CRMs) – Co, W
- \Rightarrow **Identify novel formulations**, exploiting the versatility and low environmental impact of <u>thermal spraying</u> to produce <u>alloy and hardmetal</u> coatings <u>free of toxic/critical</u> materials.

The Project



High Entropy Alloys - HEA



Materials space

Multi-principal element metal matrix and carbides

Elements for HEA metal binder



Elements for hard phase



126 equiatomic combinations of 4 or 5 elements62370 cermets (without composition optimization)

- High-entropy effect

Multi-element systems often consist of one (HEAs) or two main phases, instead of a wider range of binary or ternary solid solutions and intermetallics, because of the stabilizing effect of the large entropy of a multi-element random solid solution ($\Delta G = \Delta H - T \cdot \Delta S$)

- Lattice strain effect

The mismatch in atomic radii result in lattice distortions that increase strength

- Sluggish diffusion effect

The distorted lattice hinders long-range diffusion, which also results in better high-temperature stability

- "Cocktail" effect

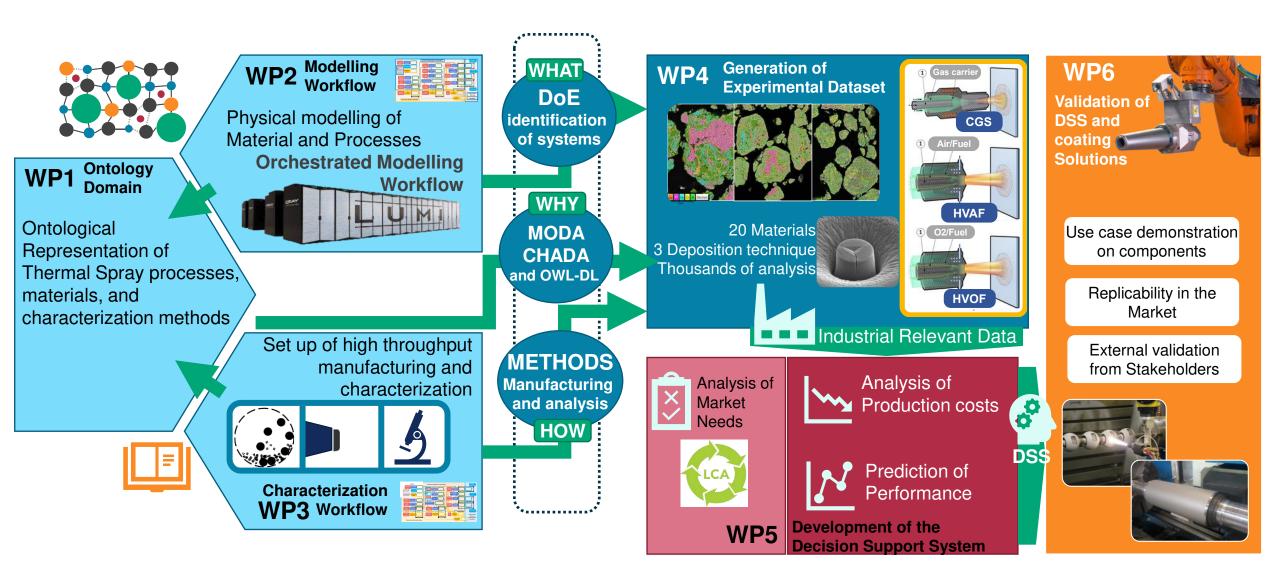
Non-linearities and unexpected synergistic effects may sometimes yield somewhat unpredictable outcomes



Need to combine experimental development, physical modelling & artificial intelligence

The Project





o Did they plan a priory which data they needed, and how to extract knowledge from it? o Did they work with Data Management Plans?



CoBRAIN Data Management Plan

All datasets from **experiments**, **modelling** and **characterisation**, are documented in the DMP.

The tables are divided into **SHARED DATA** and **LOCAL DATA**:

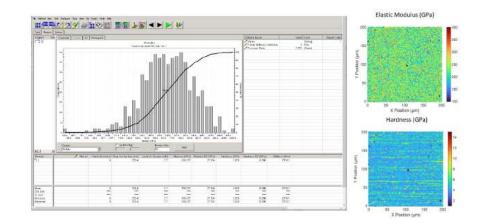
SHARED DATA and METADATA Information that is uploaded in the CoBRAIN Knowledge Base: it has to be in the form of <u>numerical or string values</u> (rdfs:literal). For data which are not in the form of rdfs shareable values (i.e., images, XRD plots) quantitative values must be provided and/or its location specified using URIs or similar.

LOCAL DATA Information that is kept at <u>partner premises</u>: for these data a curator must be identified, and it is specified whether the data are openly shareable on request or confidential. Nanoindentation - High speed 3D mapping

SHARED DATA and METADATA

Field	Description
Sample ID	String: Sample name and identification number of test.
Sample description	String: sample composition and production information.
Test definition	String: Type of test and instrument name (i.e. Nanoindentation-High speed 3D mapping, MTS G200).
SOP file name	String: indication of the file name containing parameters of measurement (i.e. acquisition rate, max load, loading rate, approach speed etc.) .
Measurement Date Time	dd/mm/aaaa hh:mm:ss
Indenters	String: type of the indenter (i.e. Berkovich); serial number; material of the indenter
H, E maps	Data for 3D hardness and modulus maps (i.e. hardness value for x-y positions).

Field	Description
Field	Description
Sample ID	String: Sample name and identification number of test.
Measurement file	.mss, located in UNIROMA3's servers, contains all the information related to the measurement, and the complete raw results.
Indentation map	.PNG, located in UNIROMA3's servers, contains pictures of the indentation maps, (i.e. applied load [mN] vs penetration depth [nm]).
Indentation Data	.dat, located in UNIROMA3's servers, contains all data from raw to final to obtain 3D map (i.e. applied load [mN] vs penetration depth [nm]).



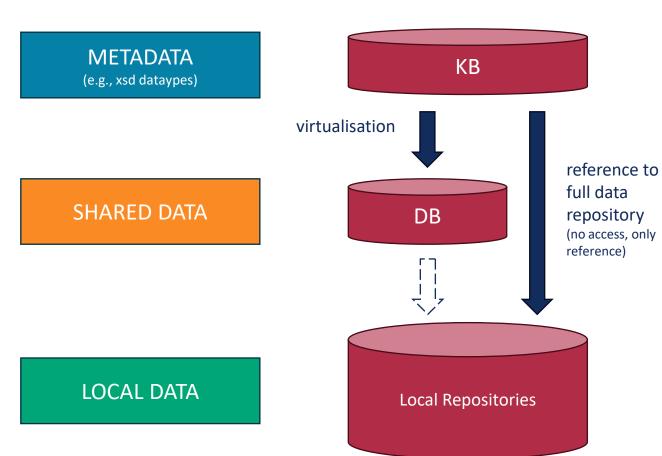
RDFS

non RDFS

o Did they plan a priory which data they needed, and how to extract knowledge from it? o Did they work with Data Management Plans?

SHARED DATA and METADATA





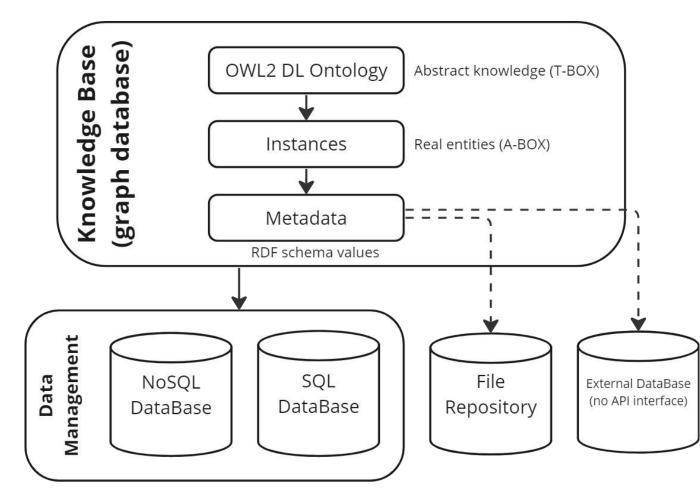
Original Architecture

Field Description String: Sample name and identification number of test. Sample ID Sample description String: sample composition and production information. **Test definition** String: Type of test and instrument name (i.e. Nanoindentation-Pillar splitting, MTS G200). SOP file name String: indication of the file name containing parameters of measurement (i.e. acquisition rate, max load, loading rate, approach speed etc.). Measurement Date Time dd/mm/aaaa hh:mm:ss String: type of the indenter (i.e. Berkovich); serial number; material of the Indenters indenter. Indentation curve: Load applied [N] vs penetration depth [m]. Curves mN, the value of the critical load, identified from Indentation curve: (Load Pc applied [N] vs penetration depth). K_{IC} **MPa√m**, the value of the fracture toughness calculated from the value of the critical load.

LOCAL DATA	
Field	Description
Sample ID	String: Sample name and identification number of test.
Measurement file	.mss, located in UNIROMA3's servers, contains all the information related to the measurement and the complete results.
Indentation Data	.xls, located in UNIROMA3's servers, contains data, exported from .mss, needed for fracture toughness calculation (i.e. applied load [mN] vs penetration depth [nm]).

o Did they plan a priory which data they needed, and how to extract knowledge from it? o Did they work with Data Management Plans?





Data Federation is possible i.e. data can be made **directly reachable** from the KB through mapping with the graph database vendor querying system. Data are **not directly reachable** from the KB but provide users with information about their location and accessibility.

OTE Capabilities

- (from OntoTrans and EMMC)
- **1. Representing** manufacturing process challenges in a standard ontological form as technical and business Innovation Cases
- 2. Connecting innovation cases with existing appropriate information sources i.e. available data and materials modelling solutions
- **3. Recommending** consistent materials modelling workflow options
- 4. Supporting simulation and validation activities
- **5. Providing** semantic results interpretation to facilitate sharing and re-use of innovation cases and results

o Did they look for existing semantic assets to prepare for interoperability?

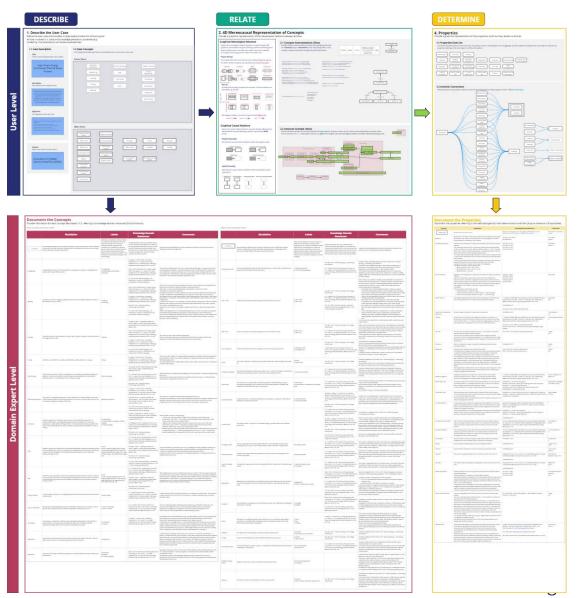


How to **extract the knowledge from domain experts** for an ontologist to create a formal representation of the domain knowledge (**T**-**BOX** of a **Domain Ontology**)?

OntoTrans Conceptualisation Template!

Gathering and formalising a domain knowledge is done through the process of **conceptualisation**, i.e., by identifying ontological concepts in the form of **classes**, **relations**, and **axiomatic constraints** that cover the domain of interest.

To overcome the **barriers** coming from the **lack of expertise** in ontology engineering, the **OntoTrans project** has developed a methodology for the interaction between the **translator** and the industrial stakeholders, aimed to facilitate collective contributions to the conceptualization effort.



User Level

RELATE



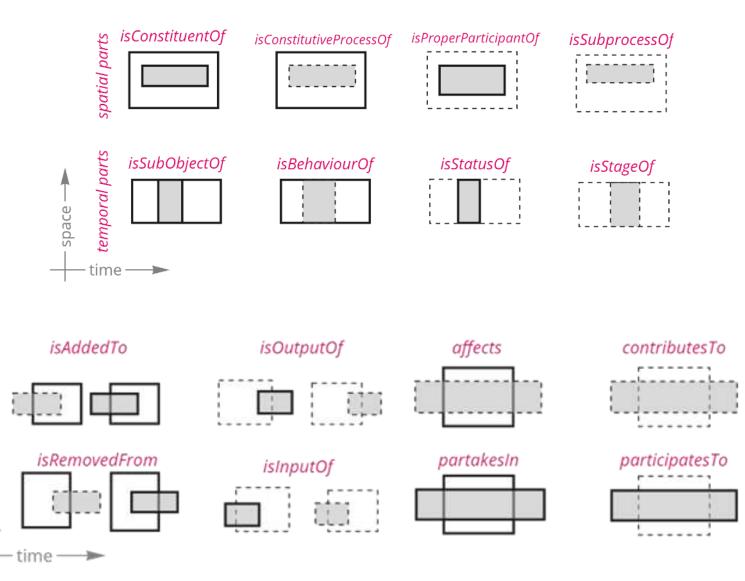
DESCRIBE

1. Describe the User Case Define the user case and provide a sim entitles involved in it. Data and knowler	ple object/process list of the physical	2. 4D Mereocausal Representation of the	ion of Concepts
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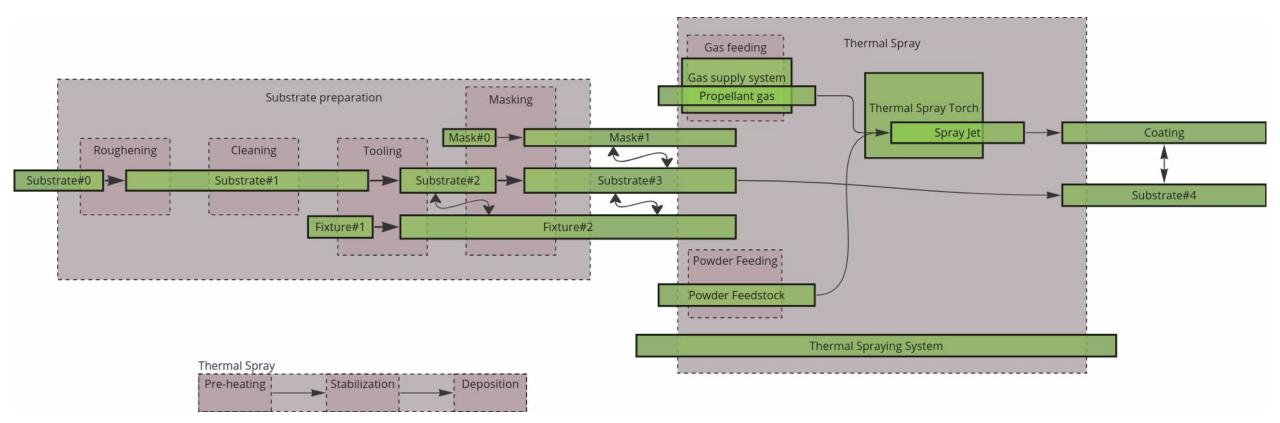
A simple visual summary of EMMO fundamental ontological relations has been provided to the users to let them understand how an ontology formalise the relations between entities.

space





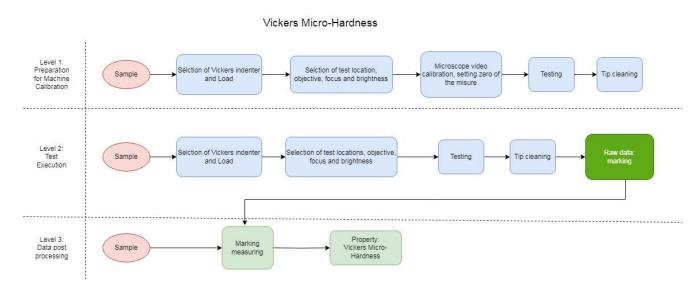
4D conceptual representation of a **Thermal Spraying process**, connecting all the relevant entities using EMMO mereocausality relations, to document the **overall state of things**.

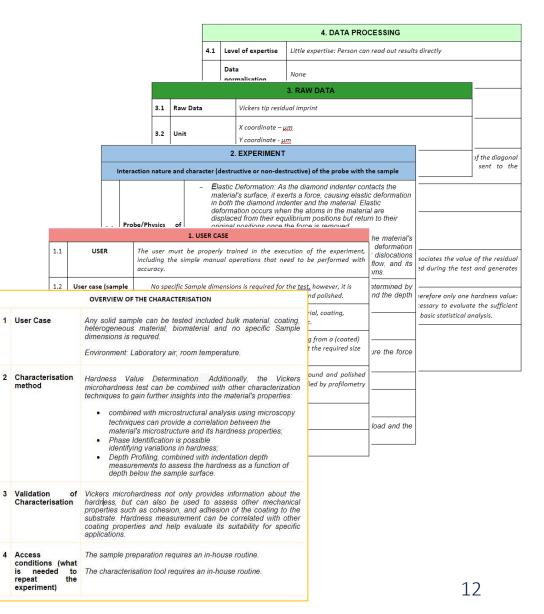




MODA and CHADA templates have been used mainly to document modelling and characterisation workflows.

Their ontological representation has been simplified since we had to focus more on data mapping and ingestion.

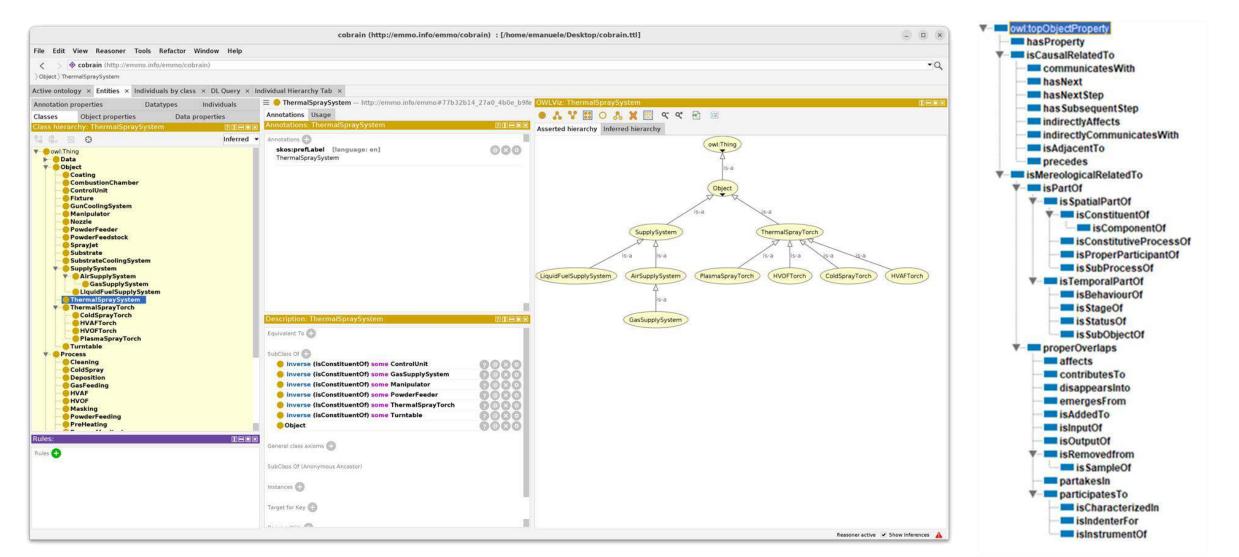




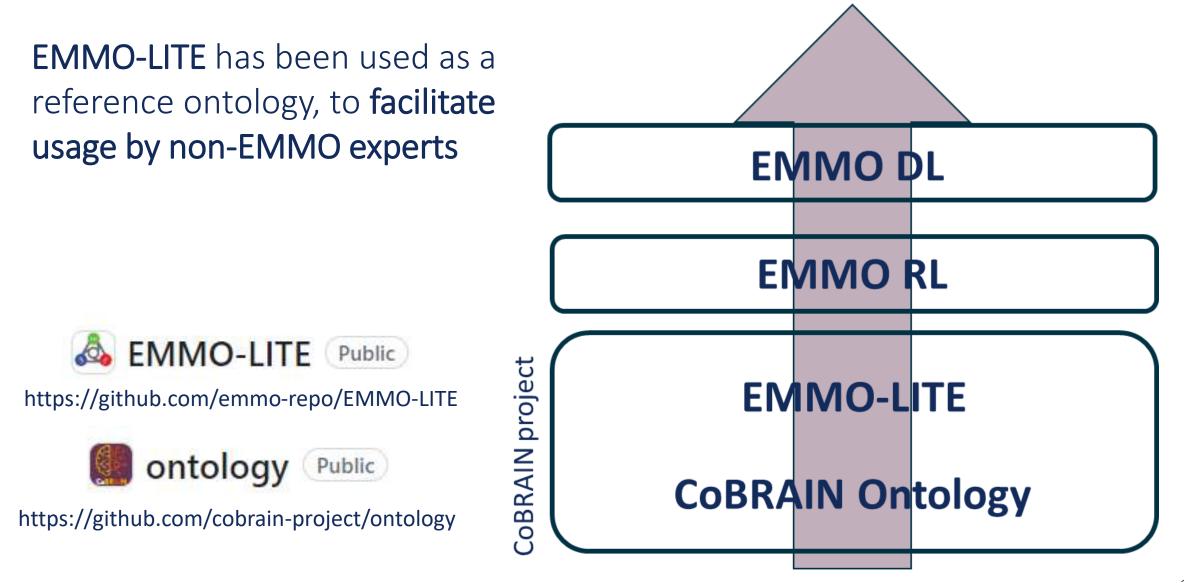


CoBRAIN Thermal Spraying Ontology

https://github.com/cobrain-project





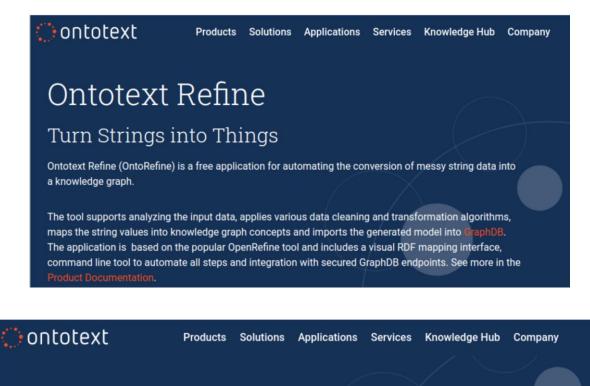




Key point for the CoBRAIN **Knowledge Management Platform** design:

No wheel reinventing!

The overall system must rely on <u>existing commercial tools</u> with <u>free-to-use licensing</u> option and <u>W3C standards</u> that have reached a significant <u>level of</u> <u>maturity</u>.



Ontotext GraphDB

Get the Best RDF Database for Knowledge Graphs

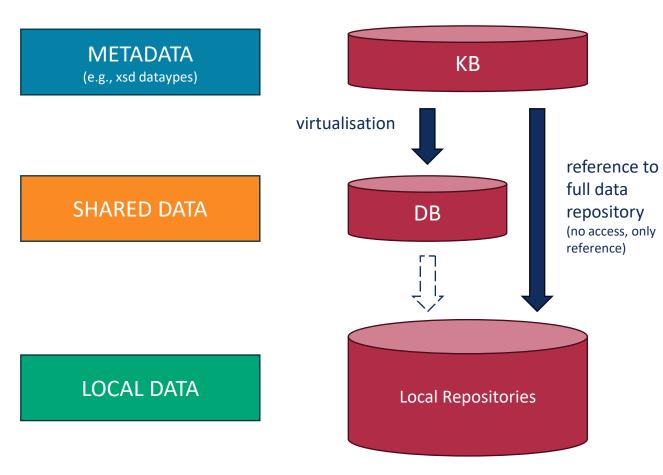
GraphDB allows you to link diverse data, index it for semantic search and enrich it via text analysis to build big knowledge graphs.

2. Acquiring

o How is data acquired? o Are meta data acquired?



Original Architecture



SHARED DATA and METADATA

Field	Description
Sample ID	String: Sample name and identification number of test.
Sample description	String: sample composition and production information.
Test definition	String: Type of test and instrument name (i.e. Nanoindentation-Pillar splitting, MTS G200).
SOP file name	String: indication of the file name containing parameters of measurement (i.e. acquisition rate, max load, loading rate, approach speed etc.).
Measurement Date Time	dd/mm/aaaa hh:mm:ss
Indenters	String: type of the indenter (i.e. Berkovich); serial number; material of the indenter.
Curves	Indentation curve: Load applied [N] vs penetration depth [m].
P _c	mN , the value of the critical load, identified from Indentation curve: (Load applied [N] vs penetration depth).
K _{IC}	MPa√m , the value of the fracture toughness calculated from the value of the critical load.

LOCAL DATA	
Field	Description
Sample ID	String: Sample name and identification number of test.
Measurement file	.mss, located in UNIROMA3's servers, contains all the information related to the measurement and the complete results.
Indentation Data	xis , located in UNIROMA3's servers, contains data, exported from .mss, needed for fracture toughness calculation (i.e. applied load [mN] vs penetration depth [nm]).

2. Acquiring

o How is data acquired? o Are meta data acquired?



METADATA (stored in KB as e.g., xsd dataypes)

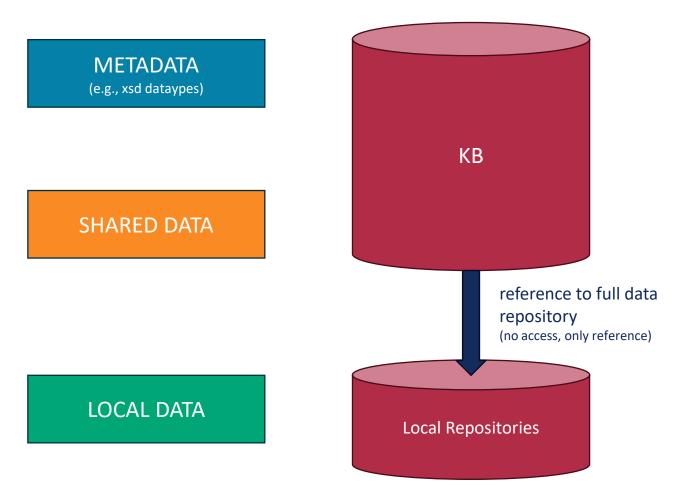
SHARED DATA (stored in KB as e.g., xsd dataypes)

Field	Description
Measurement type	String: "Volume di una buca o un picco:" followed by a shortened form of the string indicating the name of the original file and the elaboration operation
File name	String: Original profilometer file including path
Date/time	yyyy/mm/dd hh:mm:ss: date and time of elaboration
Hole surface	µm ² : area of the projected surface occupied by peaks, followed by a string listing the complete sequence of operations leading to the elaborated profile
Peak surface	µm ² : area of the projected surface occupied by peaks, followed by a string listing the complete sequence of operations leading to the elaborated profile
Hole volume	µm ³ : overall volume of the hole (below the reference plane) followed by a string listing the complete sequence of operation leading to the elaborated profile
Peak volume	µm ³ : overall volume of the peaks (above the reference plane followed by a string listing the complete sequence of operation leading to the elaborated profile
Maximum depth (hole)	µm: maximum depth of the hole (below the reference plane) followed by a string listing the complete sequence of operation leading to the elaborated profile
Maximum height (peak)	µm: maximum height of the hole (below the reference plane) followed by a string listing the complete sequence of operation leading to the elaborated profile
Average depth (hole)	µm: average depth of the hole (below the reference plane) followed by a string listing the complete sequence of operations leading to the elaborated profile
Average height (peak)	µm: average height of the hole (below the reference plane) followed by a string listing the complete sequence of operations leading to the elaborated profile
Objective	String: Magnification of the objective employed in the measurement [optional, user-typed, inserted in the first measurement file]
Step	µm: z-scan step size [optional, user-typed, inserted in the firs measurement file]

2. Acquiring



Unfortunately, local data management in the form of local query-able databases (e.g., MongoDB, SQL) as foreseen in the GA was not a realistic possibility for partners... so we dropped virtualisation



Field	Description
Sample ID	String: Sample name and identification number of test.
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Test definition	String: Type of test and instrument name (i.e. Nanoindentation-Pillar splitting, MTS G200).
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Measurement Date Time	dd/mm/aaaa hh:mm:ss
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LOCAL DATA	
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Indentation Data	.xls , located in UNIROMA3's servers, contains data, exported from .mss, needed for fracture toughness calculation (i.e. applied load [mN] vs penetration depth [nm]).

2. Acquiring o How is data acquired? o Are meta data acquired?



Data are acquired and stored locally using partner's specific methods and formats.

Most of them are Excel tables. Some data are in JSON format (unfortunately not JSON-LD).

Example of tabular data providing HVOF process details.

Sample ID	Nominal Composition	Lot. N.	Substrate	Date	Run n° le	ngth w	idth FR I	H ₂ pH ₂	FR O ₂ p	O2 FR	p Air Pw	dr. Feed St	andoff Pit	tch Spee	d n° cyc	cles e	pass	ses we	ight in w	eight fin v	weight in w	eight fin w	eight in v	veight fin g	gain spra	yed mass eff	ficienc
					m	m m	m FM	R psi	FMR p	si FM	psi g/r	nin m	m mi	m mm/	s			g	g	8	8 8	g	8	1	g g	g	
Al0(CrMnFeNi)+60TiC RUN1	Al0(Cr20Mn25Fe40Ni15)86+60vol%TiC	1364-N-23	AISI 304	19/02/2024	1	60	25	56 140	30 1	170 35	100	20	250	5 75	0	13	3	3	34,67	37,76	34,35	37,5	34,26	37,35	3,11	5,2	59
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Ideal solution: a new project that implements a full framework for assisted/automated data collection for all CoBRAIN datasets, providing a built-in semantic enhancement of data

Proposed Solution: UNIBO will **refactor all collected data**, providing asmuch-as-possible **constrained templates** for data collection ("if you can't beat them, join them")

				_	META	DATA						DA		
	Sample Test Inden													
Sample ID	Composition	Production Information	Origin ID	Test ID	Test Type	Instrument ID	SOP File	DateTime	Туре	S/N	Material	Indentation Curve	Pc	кіс
FCCOq8		Some text about sample production	yQvzd7	h2baA2	PillarSplitting	MT5G200-1	file://emanuele@kant.unibo.it:22/home /emanuele/file3.txt	12/3/2023 11:54	Berkovich	XIUQ32	w	[[1,2,3],[1,2,3]]	12	34
TatORe		Some other text about sample production	yQvzd7	ap6eUT	PillarSplitting	MT5G200-1		14/3/2023 12:54:00 AM	Berkovich	XIUQ32	w	[[1,3,4],[2,1,5]]	5	3

2. Acquiring o What types of data are there? o Are the data described as and when they come in?



Excel files have been reviewed and templates for the acquisition of data for each dataset type have been provided by UNIBO after meetings with partners (still WIP)

HVOF		POWDER	§)	SUBSTRATE	COATED SU	JESTRATE		100	HVOF COATED SUBSTRATE										<u>8</u>		HVOF							
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3. Processing o How are data extracted? o Are there automatic workflows in place?

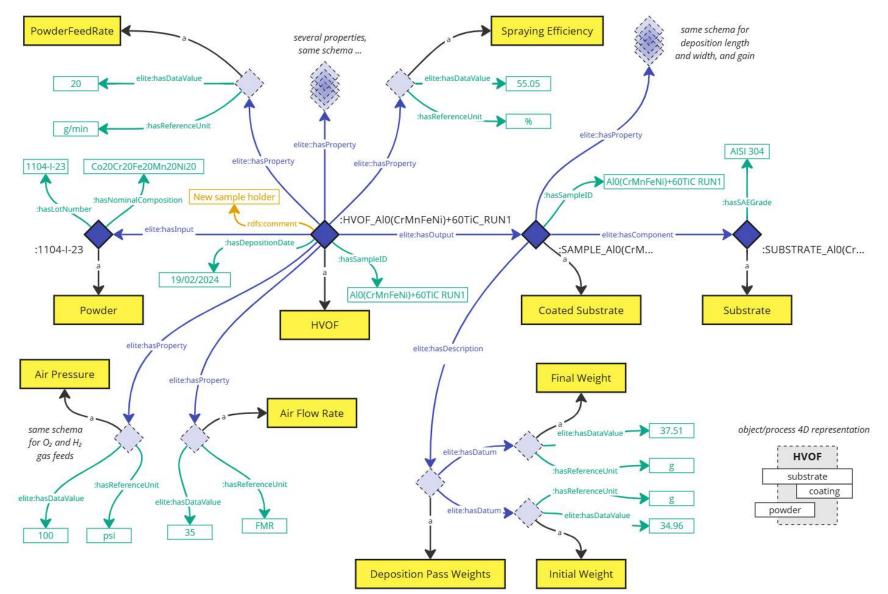
o How is provenance ensured?



Graphical Approach to Conceptual Mapping

Partners collaborated with UNIBO to build the conceptual mapping between the Excel file columns and the ontological concepts, including relations.

> UMR HVOF Thermal Spraying Logbook



urn:cobrain:hvof

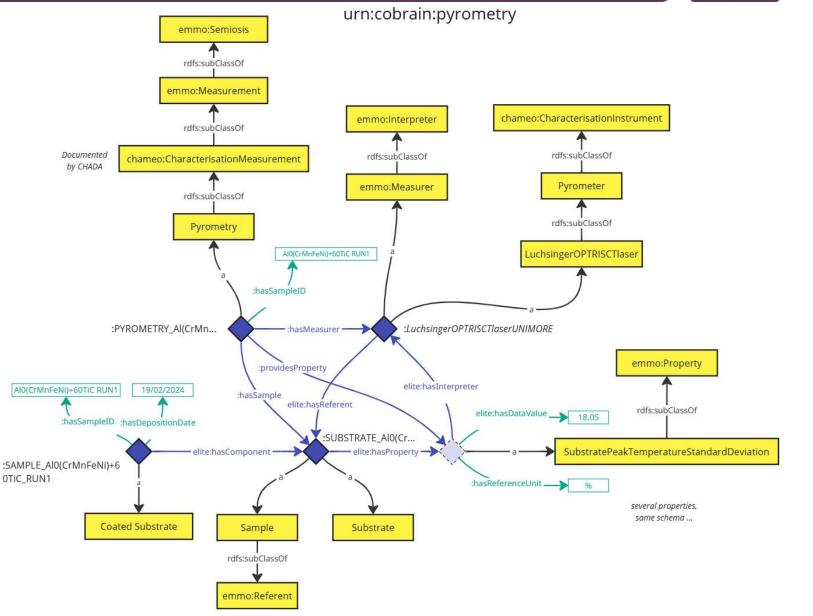
3. Processing o How are data extracted? c o Are there automatic workflows in place? c

o How is provenance ensured?

Co-BRAIN

Graphical Approach to Conceptual Mapping

Partners collaborated with UNIBO to build the conceptual mapping between the Excel file columns and the ontological concepts, including relations.



Optical pyrometer Luchsinger OPTRIS CTlaser

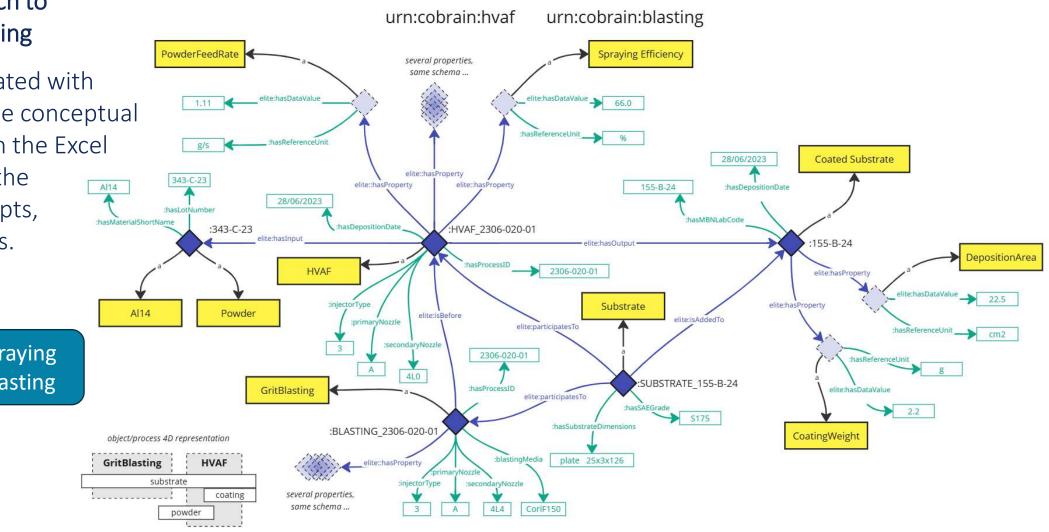
3. Processing o How are data extracted? o Are there automatic workflows in place?



Graphical Approach to Conceptual Mapping

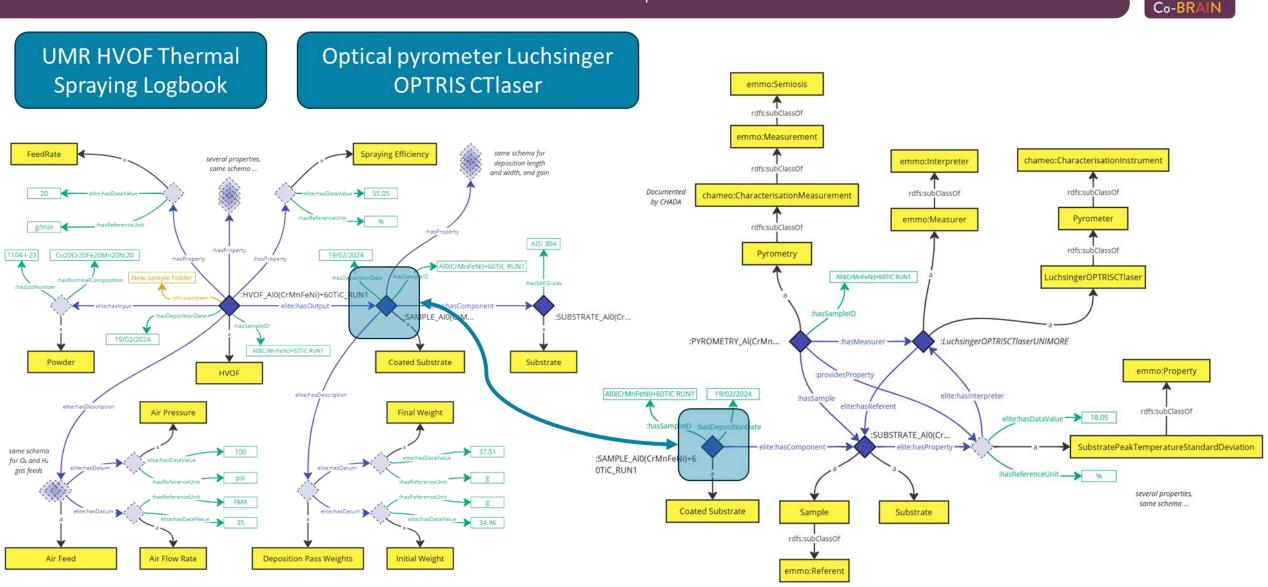
Partners collaborated with UNIBO to build the conceptual mapping between the Excel file columns and the ontological concepts, including relations.

HVAF Thermal Spraying Logbook + Grit Blasting



o How is provenance ensured?

3. Processing o How are data extracted? o Are there automatic workflows in place?



o How is provenance ensured?



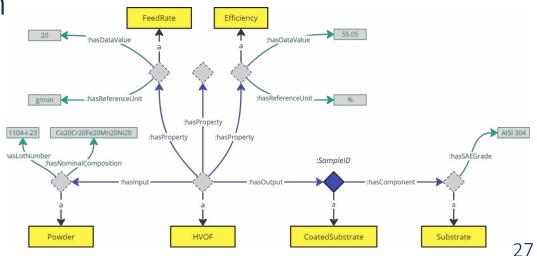
Mapping of HVOF Pyrometry UNIMORE T3.2 with OntoRefine

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We have found **some practical issues** in the excel-oriented approach experimental and characterisation datasets:

- Unprecise IDs (e.g., case change, spaces, use of reserved character)
- **Non-Unique IDs**: same ID used for e.g., deposition, sample, substrate...
- Multiple intended interpretation for the same cell-value, leading to an excessive blank-node rich representation
- Too many degree of freedom for the user to fill the sheets, leading to inconsistencies and scattered text





SPARQL stands for SPARQL Protocol and RDF Query Language

SPARQL is a standard semantic query language for databases used for manipulating and retrieving data in the RDF (Resource Description Framework) format

RDF is a data model for representing information as a set of triples.

A triple consists of a subject, predicate, and object:

- **Subject**: Represents a resource (e.g., a person, a place).
- **Predicate**: Describes a property or relationship of the subject.
- **Object**: The value of the property or the resource related to the subject. Subjects and predicates are always URI identifiers, but objects can be URIs or literal values.

4. Analysing

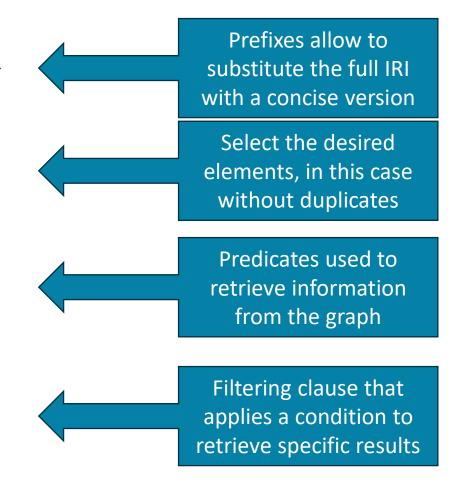


PREFIX mov: <http://example.org/ontology/movies#>

SELECT DISTINCT ?movie ?genre WHERE {

?movie mov:director mov:StevenSpielberg .
?movie mov:genre ?genre .
?movie mov:releaseYear ?releaseYear .

FILTER (?releaseYear > 2000) .



4. Analysing

What tools did/will your project develop to extract knowledge from your data?



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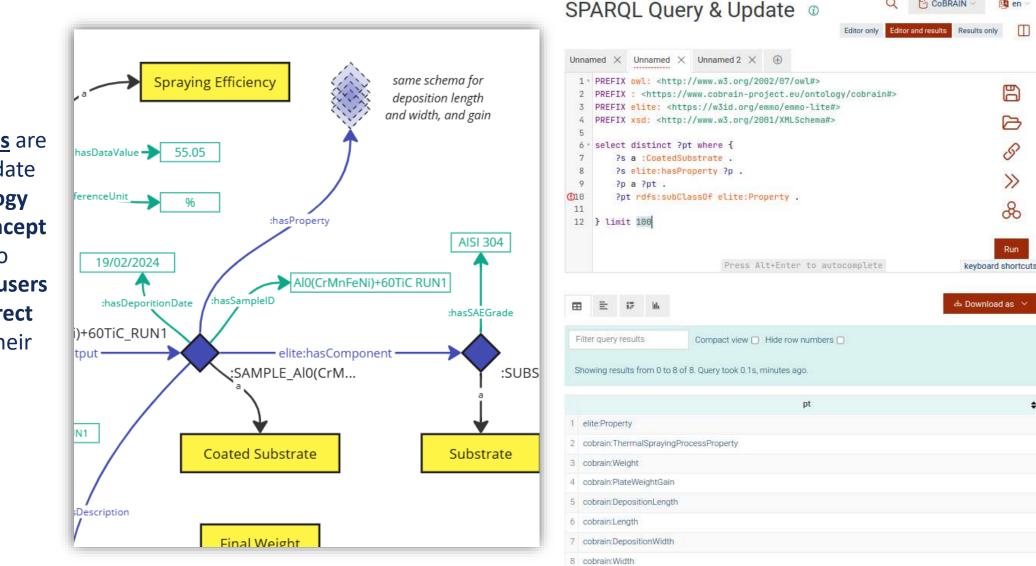
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Run

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Conceptual schemes are paramount to elucidate the **CoBRAIN ontology** data model and concept relations, in order to enable non-expert users to generate the **correct SPARQL query** for their needs.



4. Analysing



• SPARQL Query Example

GraphDB	SPARQL Query & Update 💿					
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	<pre>3 * select ?spray_eff_val ?av_peak_t_val where { 4 #want to find the values of spray efficiency 5 ?spray_eff a cobrain:SprayingEfficiency .</pre>					
Monitor 🔨	<pre>6 ?spray_eff elite:hasDataValue ?spray_eff_val . 7 #for a HVOF spraying process 8 ?spray_eff elite:isPropertyOf ?spray_proc .</pre>					
Setup 🔨	 9 ?spray_proc a cobrain:HVOF . 10 #and compare with the values of average peak temperature 11 ?av_peak_t a cobrain:SubstrateAveragedPeakTemperature . 					
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Э	Showing results from 0 to 2 of 2. Query took 0.1s, moments ago.							
2	spray_	eff_val	÷	av_peak_t_val	÷			
>	1 "60.9686609686609"**xsd	"60.9686609686609" ^{^^} xsd:decimal		"406.3234116948068"***xsd:float				
2	2 "59.4017094017094"^^xsd:decimal		*387.4334548484541*^^xsd:float					





CoBRAIN Knowledge Base will be used mainly to:

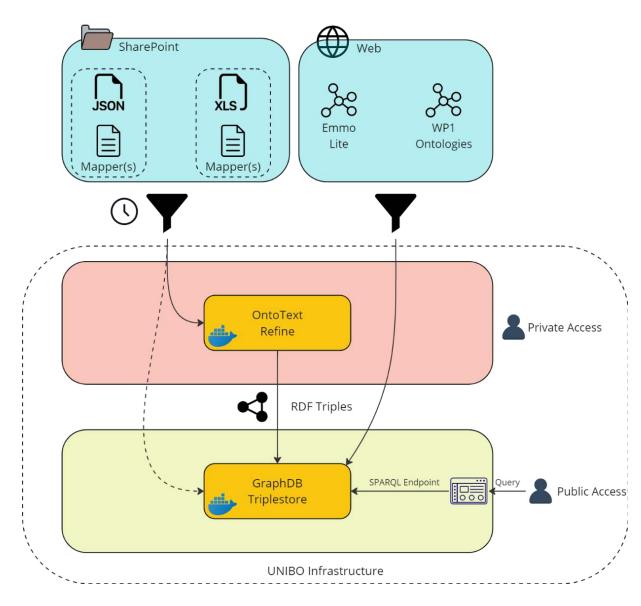
- Create a **federated interoperable database** for the CoBRAIN partners that can be used also after the project ends
- Provide **FAIR solution** for the dissemination and exploitation of project data
- Support the creation of a **SDSS** (Sustainable Decision Support System)

The **CoBRAIN ontology for Thermal Spraying** can be used by other research groups to make their data interoperable with CoBRAIN.

5. Preserving

o How do you document your "new" data?o In what sort of repository does theo Are you using versioning?preservation happen?





Ingestion Point

- Periodic import of experimental data and mappings from the project sharepoint
- Import of EMMO and project ontologies from websites

OntoTextRefine

- Conversion of raw data into formatted RDF triples
- Automatic saving on triplestore

GraphDB

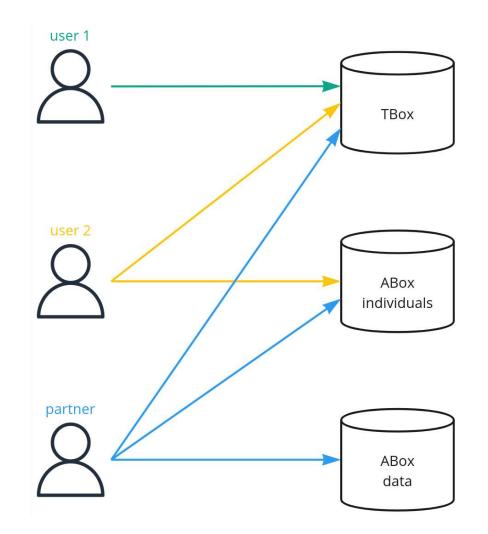
- Storing of concepts and individuals with data
- Dashboard for query submission

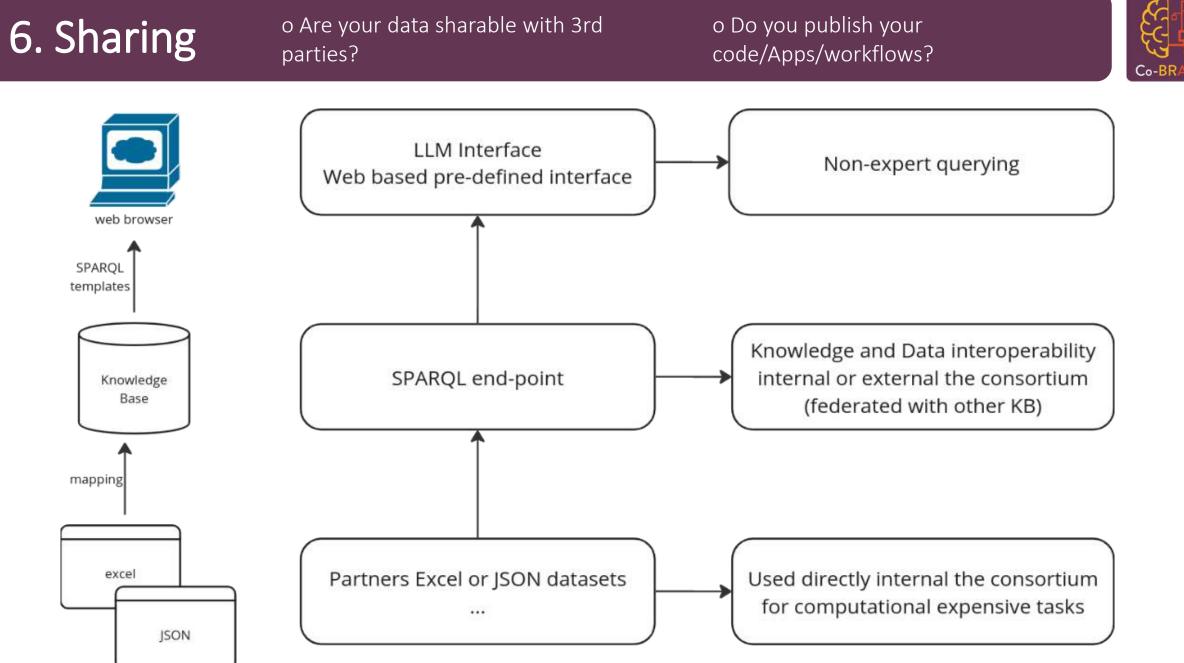
o Are your data sharable with 3rd parties?

o Do you publish your code/Apps/workflows?



- We identify three distinct types of users, categorized by their access levels:
- **TBox-only users:** These users have access exclusively to the TBox, so the connection between entities.
- TBox and ABox users: These users can access the TBox and individuals within the ABox.
- Partners with full access: These users have access to the TBox, ABox individuals, and the real data.





CoBRAIN Actual Status



We now have:

- Developed a fully operable methodology for the KB, based on the free version of a wellknown commercial triplestore (GraphDB) _ and tools (OntoRefine)
- Easy to deploy and share in other frameworks (the overall KB can be shared as a single file, ontology included)
- The TBox is based on EMMO-LITE and CoBRAIN ontology, usable with OWL 2 RL/QL/EL profiles
- Established a low-mid level framework for
 FAIR data in the field of thermal spraying of materials

- Proposed user-friendly methodologies for data collection in experimental environment
- Provide a scalable and federated environment for knowledge management that can be expanded in the future with external DB (e.g. Mongo DB)
- Set of **semantically connected datasets** for interoperable SPARQL queries
- Knowledge Base deployed in a test server.

Our Team - Partners









the European Union

CoBRAIN Project

23/02/23

CoBRAIN

Thank you for your attention!

Name: Emanuele Ghedini

Entity: University of Bologna

Funded by the European Union