



Integration and Interoperability in Automated and Smart Manufacturing Systems

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Retired HoU from EU Institutions, Luxembourg

Context: From Computer-Integrated Manufacturing (CIM)...



... to highly global business environments

- Global business environments:
 - ICT platforms to support information sharing & collaboration
 - Aligned organizational structures and processes to support collaborative work involving different functional groups
 - Compatible vision and values as well as complementary competencies and capabilities
- Smart Manufacturing / Industry 4.0:
 - Cyber-physical systems, IIoT, Manufacturing-as-a-Service (MaaS), applied Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Big Data

=> Strong need for Systems Integration and Interoperability

2 I's and the 4 C's

- Integration (Ig) & Interoperability (Ip)
- Communication, Coordination, Cooperation & Collaboration





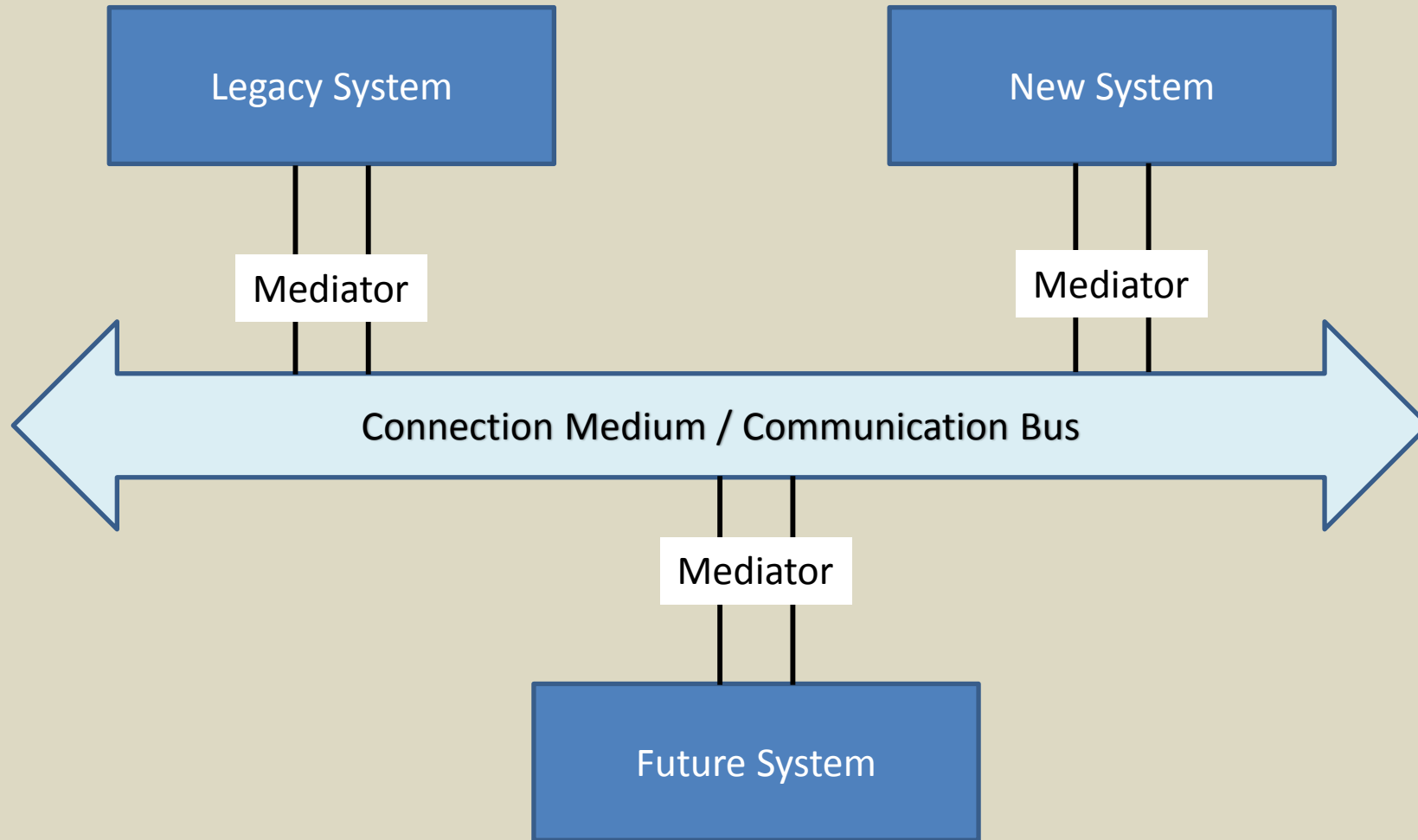
Integration

Interoperability

Integration & Interoperability: What for?

- Fundamentally, to enable (heterogeneous or foreign) systems to “talk” to one another and to “work” with each other
- To overcome:
 - Siloed environments
 - Interchange needs / Collaboration requirements
 - Heterogeneous systems
 - Incompatible solutions
 - Language / legislation / regulation / legal barriers
 - ...

Distributed System Interplay Principle



Historical Overview in Manufacturing

Manufacturing Integration Need Evolution

ICT Solution Evolution

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 70's | CAD/CAM interfacing | Computer networks |
| | CAD/CAPP/CAM integration | Dedicated interfaces /APIs |
| | FMS (NC machines, robots, conveyors, AS/AR syst.) | Synchronization by PLC's |
| 80's | CIM (ICAM, IPAD, CAM-I, ESPRIT), CAE | Distributed computing, Shared databases / SQL |
| | Just-in-time / Kanban | IGES / SET / STEP, EDI/EDIFACT |
| | | TCP/IP, MAP, TOP |
| 90's | Concurrent Engineering (CE), EE / VE | OOP (Java, C++, C#, VB...), Client-server architecture |
| | Enterprise Integration, ERP, MES, SCADA, PDM | CORBA / OSF-DCE / ODP, COM/DCOM, Workflow Eng. |
| | Agile Manufacturing, Global Supply Chains | XML, HTTP/S, HTML, UML, PSL |
| Y2K | Collaborative Networked Organization (CNO) | SOA, JEEE / .Net, SOAP, EJB, Web Services, MDA |
| | eBusiness (B2B, B2C), eWork, eServices | JMS/MOM/ESB, Enterprise Portals / Portlets, EAI, BPEL |
| | PLM, Green Mfg, Sustainable Mfg | Semantic Web / OWL, Virtualization, Cloud computing |
| 2010's | Cloud Manufacturing, Virtual Manufacturing | IoT / IoS / IoE, RFID, Wi-Fi, IPv6, 4G/5G |
| | Smart Manufacturing / Industry 4.0 | Micro-servers, Micro-services, Ind. Internet Platf. (IIPs) |
| | Smart Products, Digital Twins, CPS | Product / Manufacturing ontologies, IOF |
| 2020's | Industry 5.0, ... | Big Data Analytics, Blockchains |
| | | Deep learning, AR, VR, ... |

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| IoT / IoE, RFID, Wi-Fi, IPv6, 4G/5G Micro-services, Micro-services, Internet of Things (IIoT) Product / Manufacturing ontologies, IOF |
| Big Data Analytics Deep learning, AI |

Dedicated solutions
Monolithic architectures

Open standards, software (OSS)
Open source, software architectures (MDA)
Model-Driven Architectures



Integration & Interoperability: What is it?

(Webster and Oxford dictionaries)

- To integrate:
 - *“To make whole or complete”*
 - *“To put parts together to form a synergistic whole”*
(applies to data, systems, processes, organizations and people)
- To interoperate:
 - *“The ability of a system to use parts of another system”*
(mostly applies to systems and processes)

Enterprise Integration

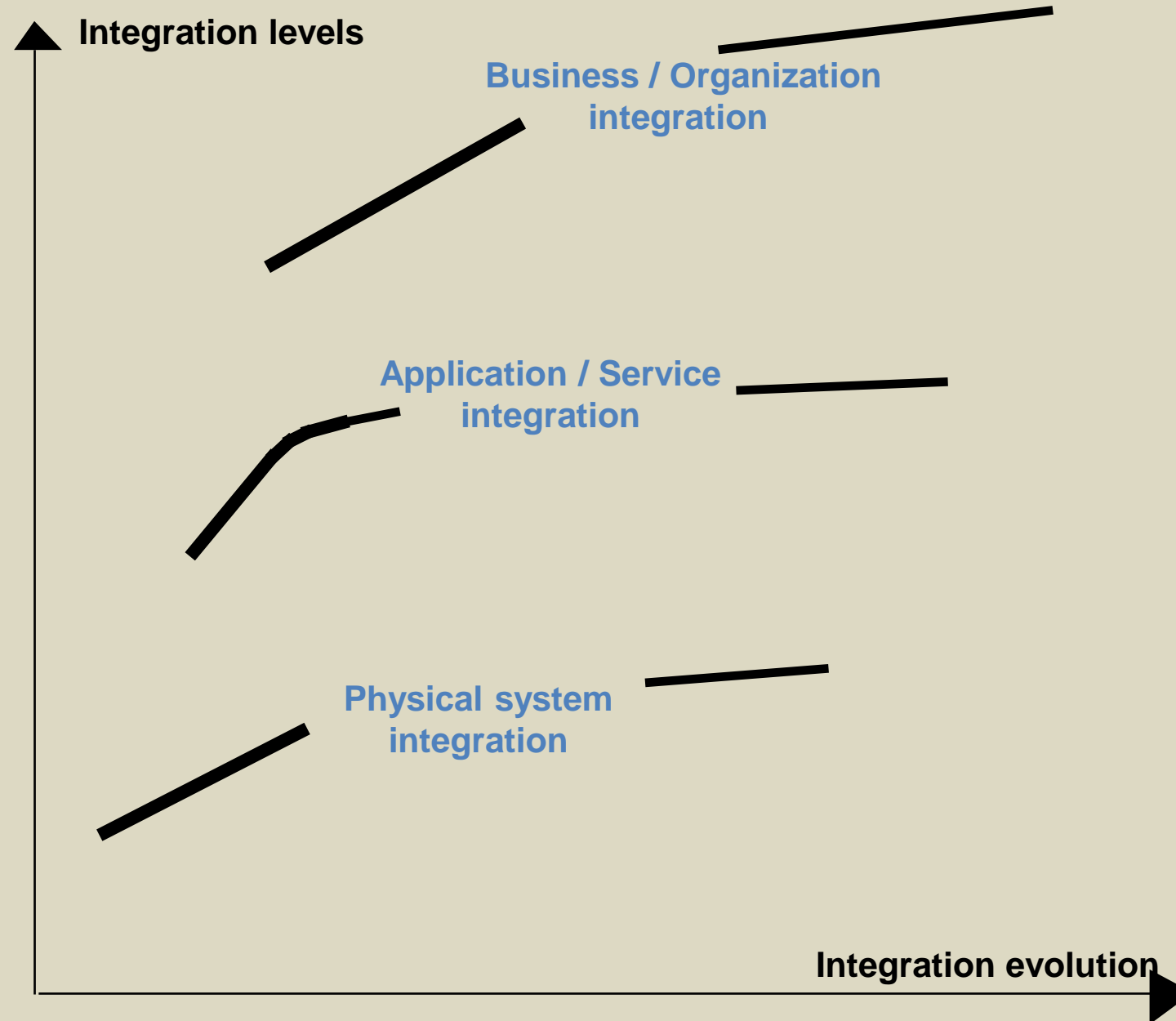
- Deals with removing barriers between people, machines and applications to enhance **synergy** within an enterprise (or a network of enterprises) to better achieve business objectives (or **mission**) (Vernadat, 1996)

Challenge: The right information at the right place at the right time

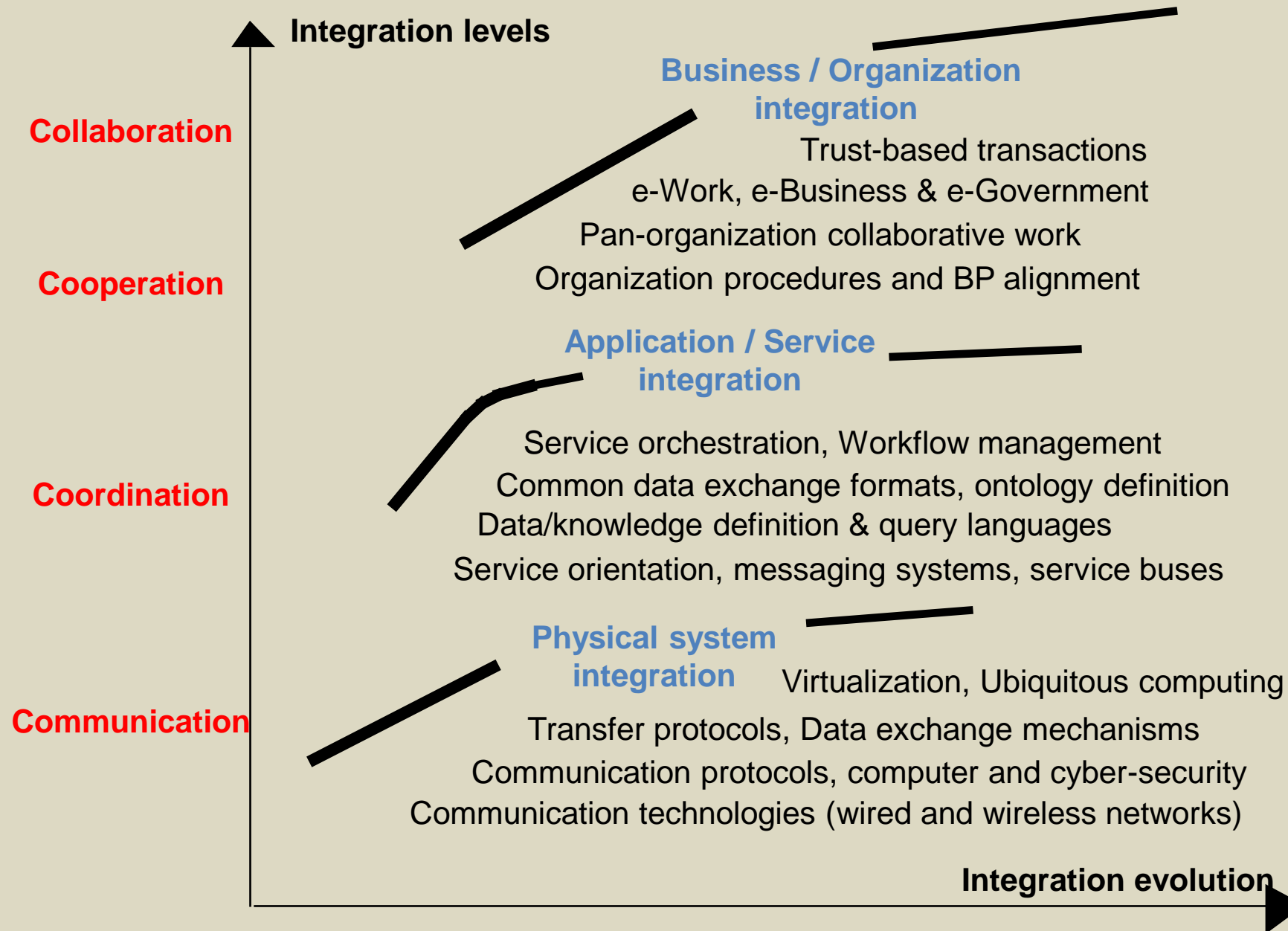
- Is the **coordination** of all elements including business processes, people, and technology of the enterprise **working together** in order to achieve the optimal fulfillment of the mission of that enterprise as defined by enterprise management (Williams and Li, 1999)

Strong organizational dimension in addition to technological dimension

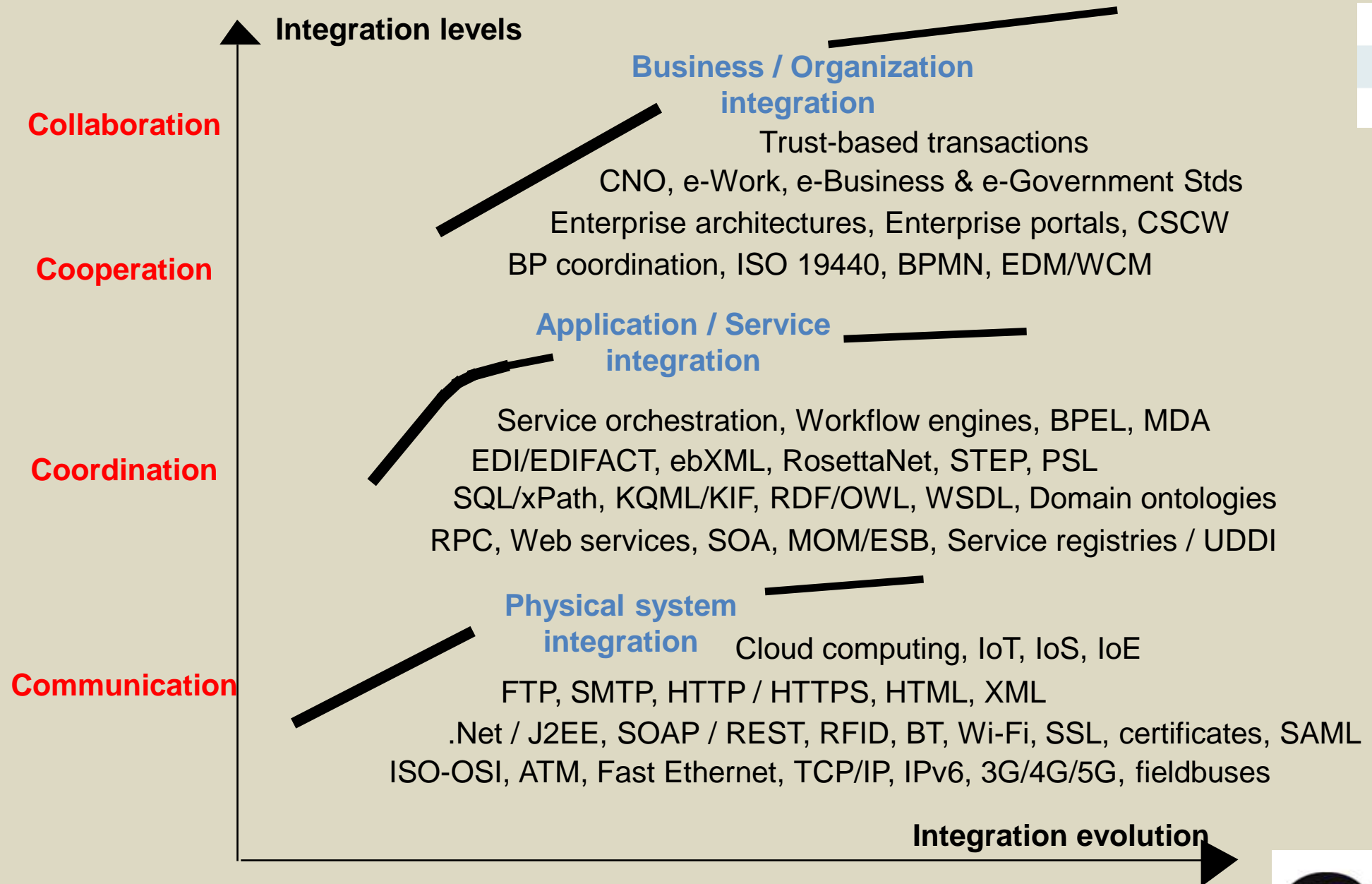
El drivers: communication, co-ordination, co-operation and collaboration



(AMICE, 1991,
Rev. 2021)

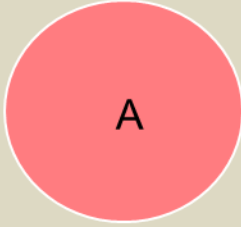


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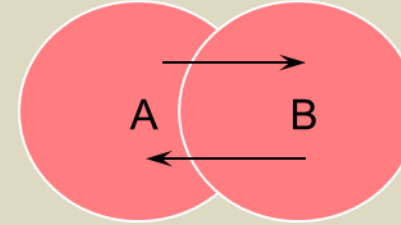
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Degrees of integration



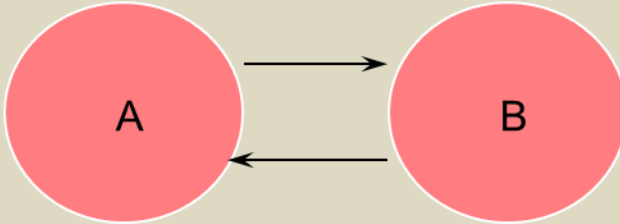
STAND ALONE

- . Elements make their own decisions
- . No communication between elements



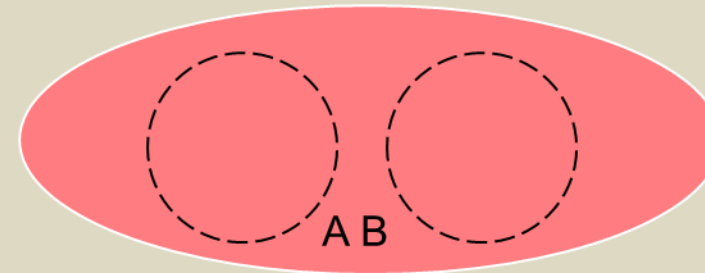
TIGHTLY INTEGRATED

- . Make decisions for combined benefit
- . Two way communication between elements



INTERFACED / LOOSELY COUPLED

- . Make decisions for own benefit
- . One or two way communication



UNITED / FULLY INTEGRATED

- . No individual decision making
- . Centralised control
- . Single database

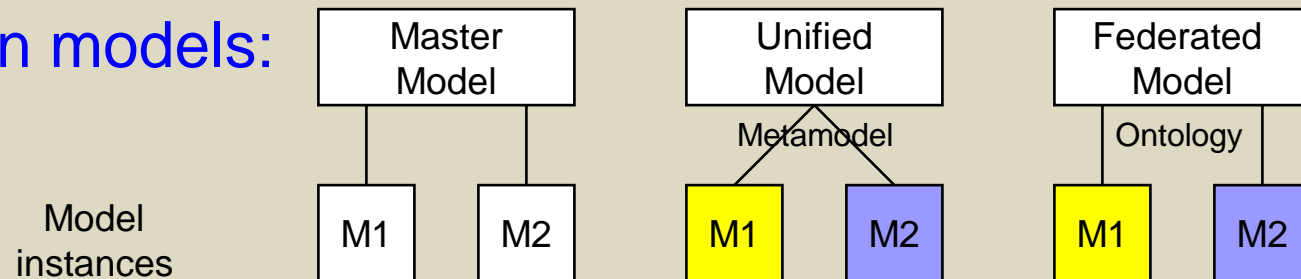
Different types of system integration

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Integration vs. Interoperability

- Types of integration:
 - **Intra-enterprise integration** vs. **Inter-enterprise integration**
 - **Vertical integration** (within one functional domain) vs. **Horizontal integration** (across functional domains) vs. **End-to-end** integration
- Semantic unification: concept alignment space (the hardest challenge)

- Integration models:



(ICEIMT, 1991)

Interoperability = Loosely coupled integration
(i.e. each system component preserves its autonomy)

Systems Interoperability

- **IT Definition:** “the ability of two or more systems or components to exchange information and to use the information that has been exchanged”
(IEEE, 1991)
- **SE Definition:** “the ability of a system or process to seamlessly use information and/or functionality of another system or process by adhering to common (open) standards”

To inter-operate: to work together and understand information exchanged

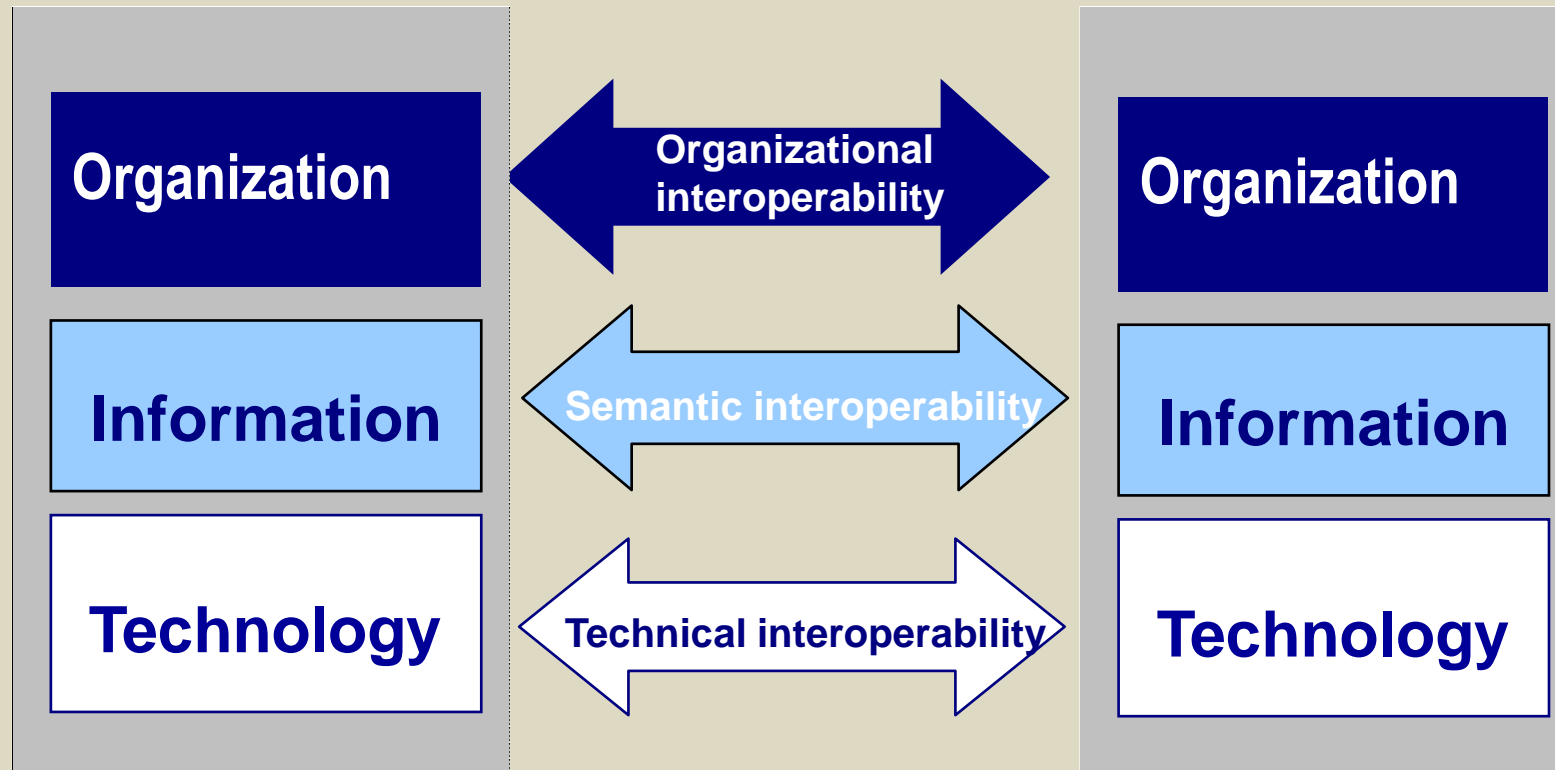
Enterprise Interoperability

- **Enterprise Interoperability:** to provide two or more business entities with the ability of exchanging or sharing information and/or using functionality of one another with minimal effort (Athena EU Project, 2005)
- **Interoperable enterprise systems:** offer greater flexibility and use less monolithic approaches than integrated systems

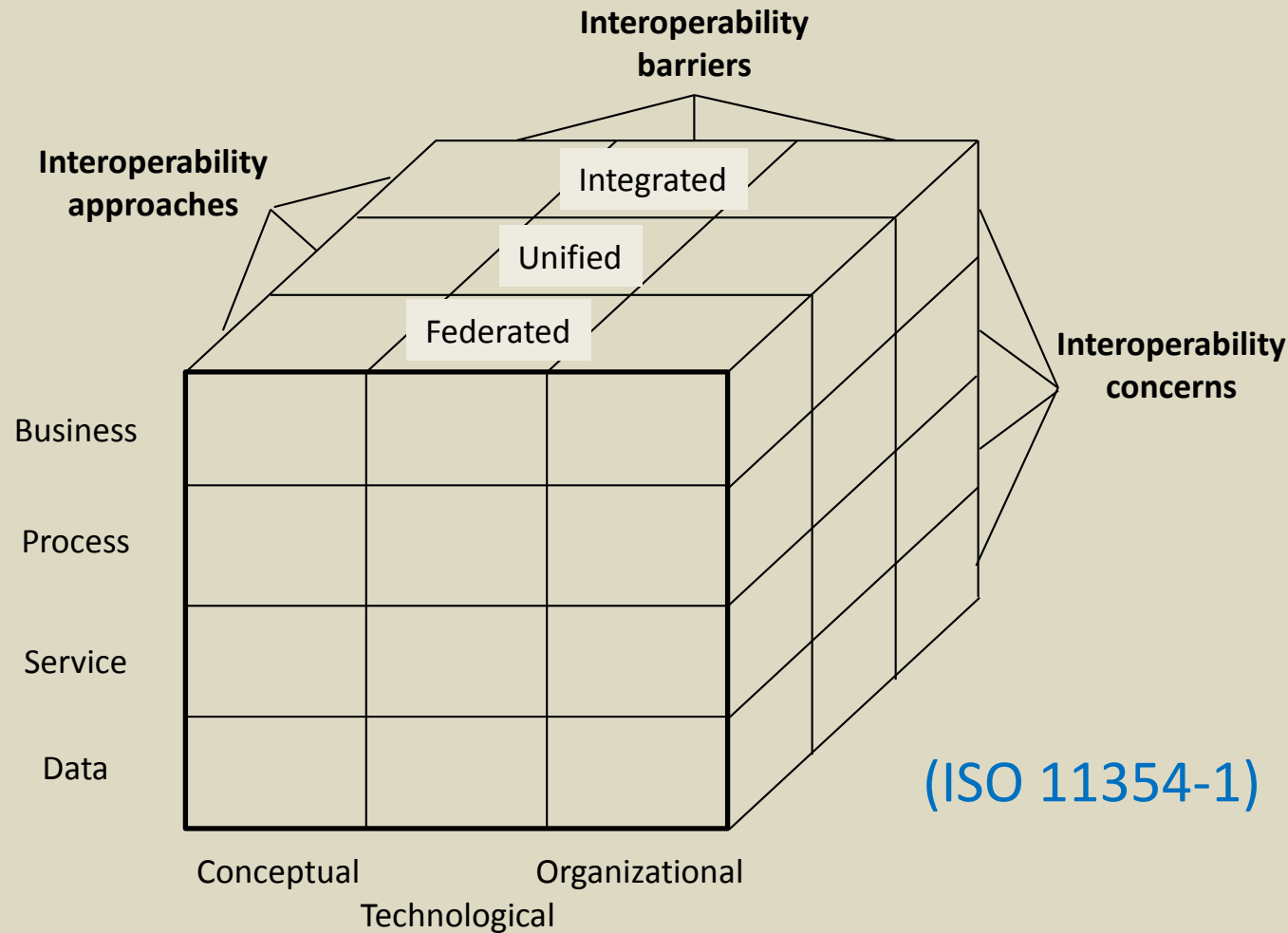
Ig & Ip Frameworks

- Enterprise Integration Frameworks
 - CIMOSA, PERA, GRAI-GIM, TOVE...
 - Generalized into [GERAM](#) (1999) by IFAC-IFIP Task Force (-> ISO 15704)
- Enterprise Interoperability Frameworks
 - The LISI Reference Model: levels of information systems interoperability (C4ISR US DoD, 1998)
 - LCIM: The Levels of Conceptual Interoperability Model (Tolk, 2003)
 - The ATHENA Interoperability Framework (AIF) (2005)
 - E-Health Interoperability Framework by NEHTA, AU and i2-Health (EU)
 - Federated Interoperability Framework (FIF) - dedicated to aerospace PLM (since 2007)
 - ...
 - The [Framework for Enterprise Interoperability](#) (D. Chen & INTEROP-NoE, 2007)
 - EU's [European Interoperability Framework \(EIF\)](#) (EU IDABC, since 2004)

Dimensions of Interoperability



The Framework for Enterprise Interoperability (FEI)

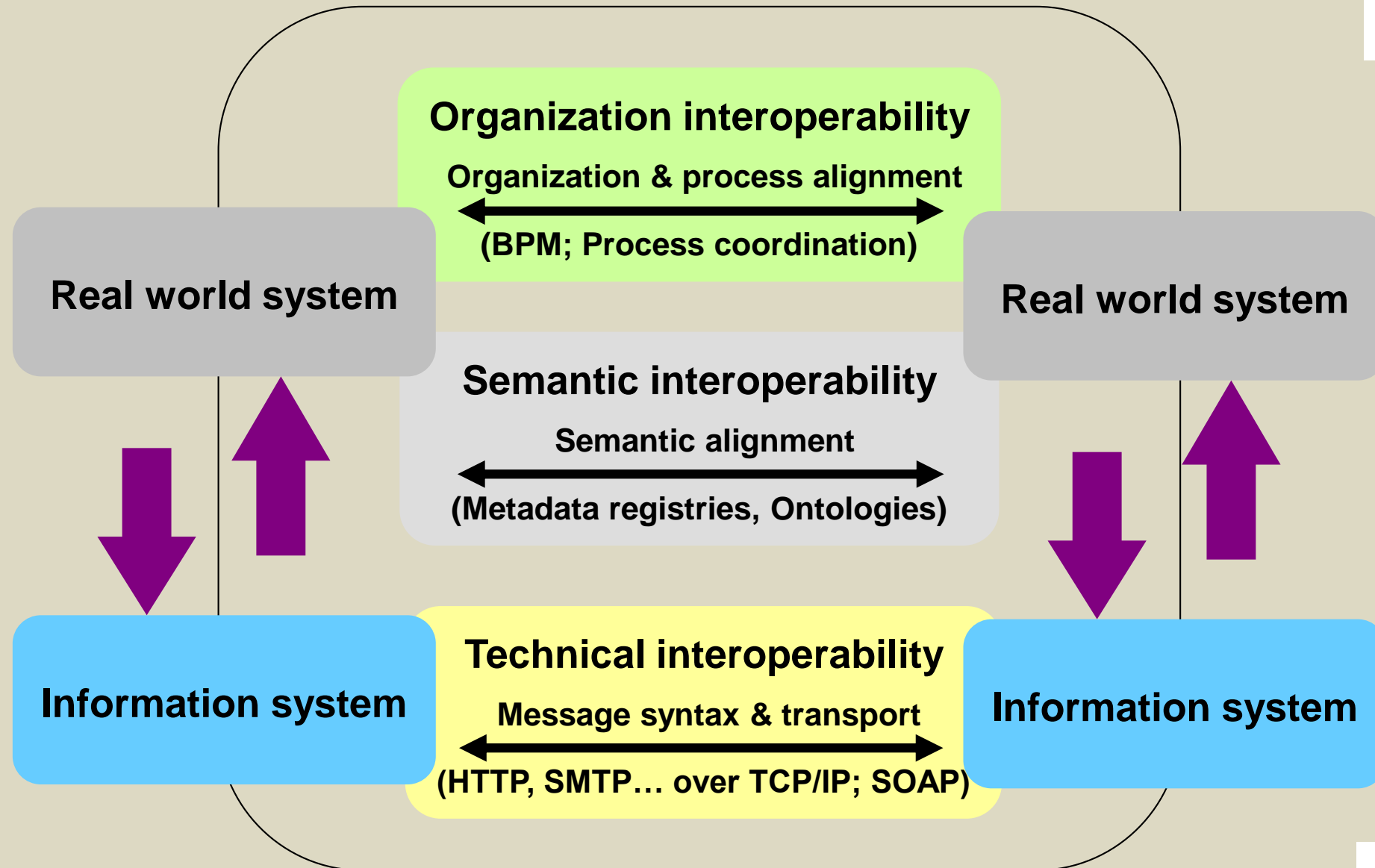


Related topics:

- Interoperability Maturity Models
- Interoperability Capability Models
- Interoperability Assessment (INAS)
- Interoperability project management
- ...

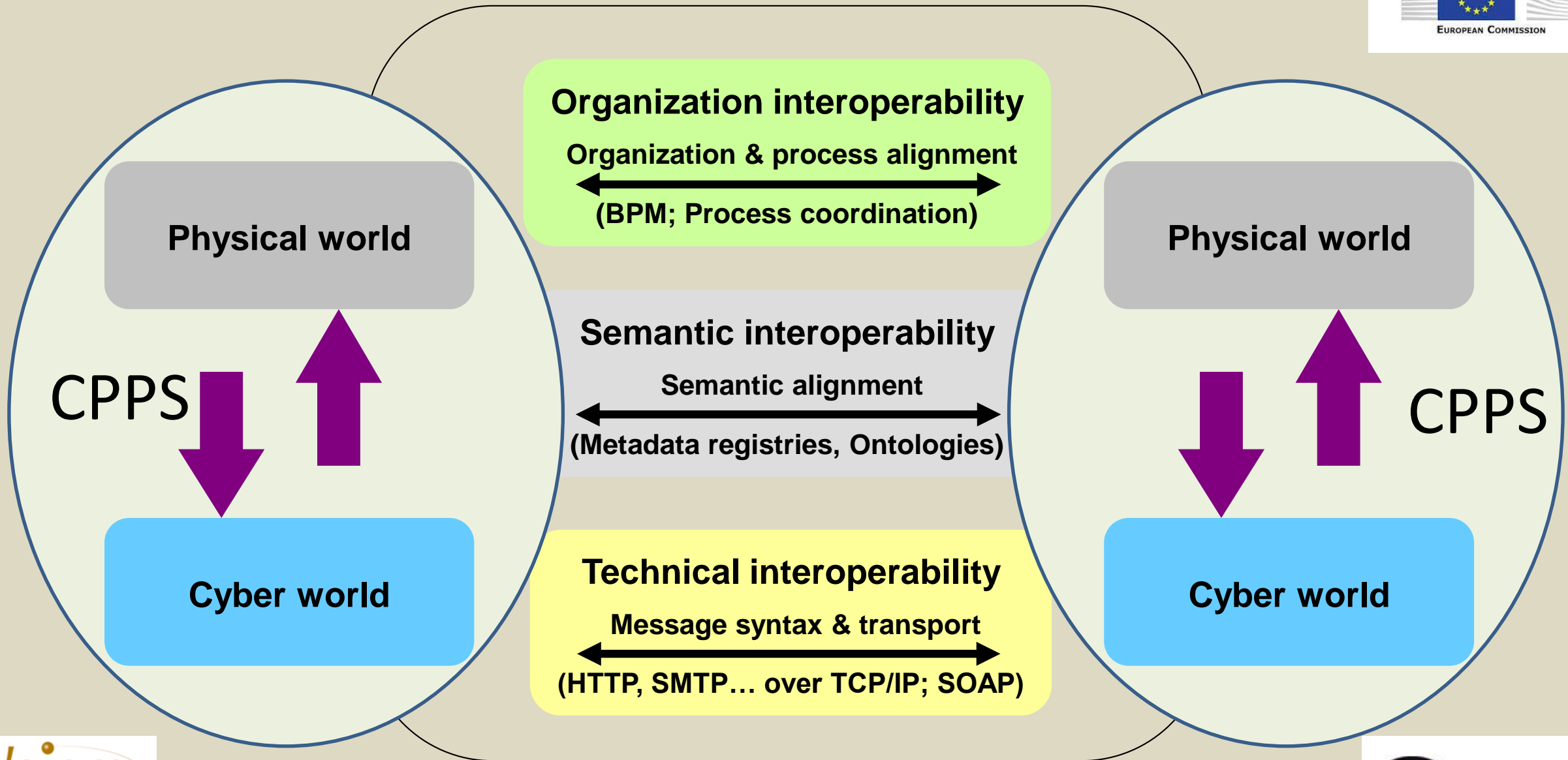
(See Guédria, Naudet, Chen, Ducq, Panetto, Jardim-Goncalvez, Tolk, Ford, Cestari, Weichhart et al. Whitman ...)

European Interoperability Framework (EIF)



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EIF and I4.0 / Smart Manufacturing



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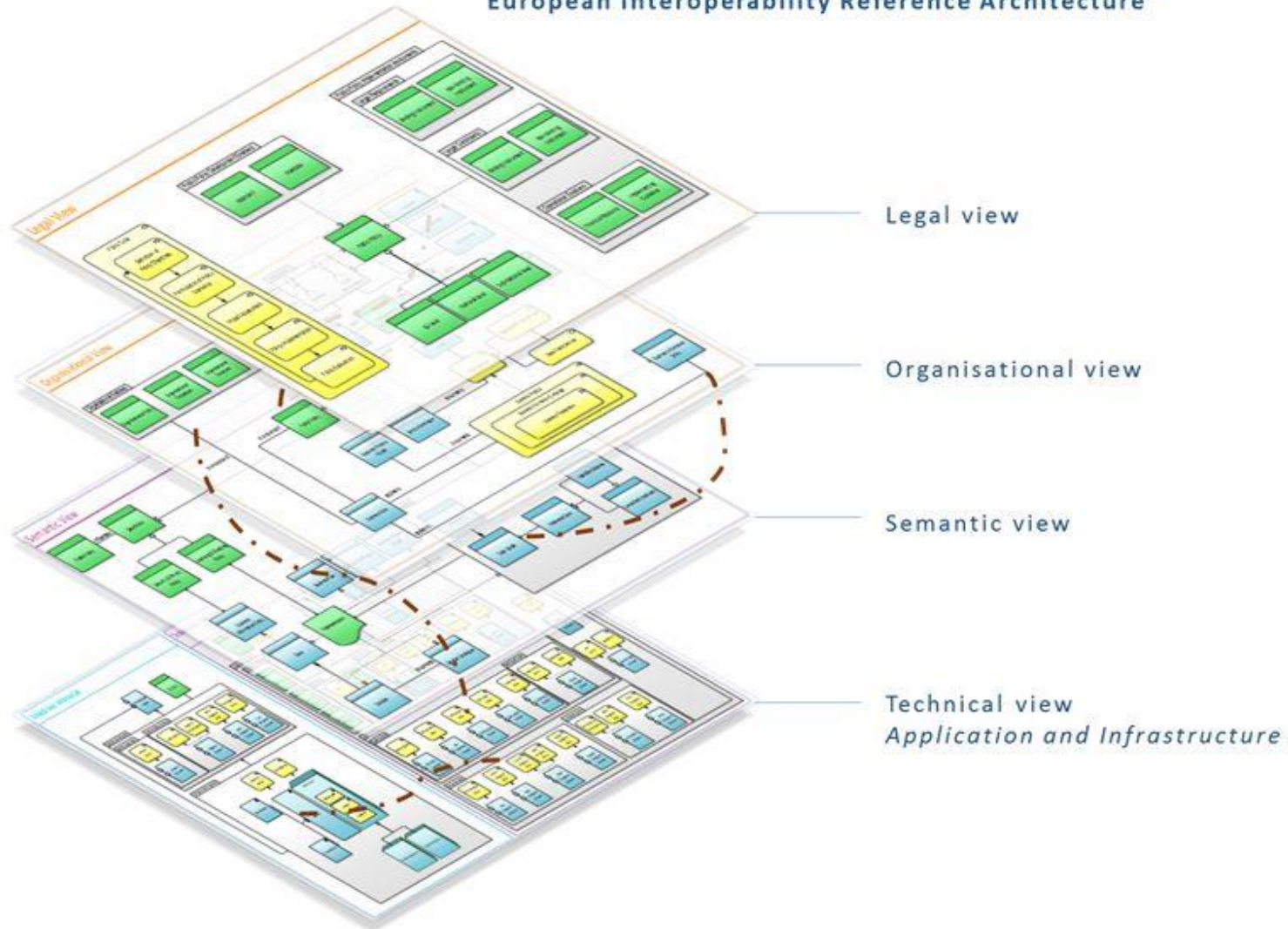
EIRA Overview



1 2 3



European Interoperability Reference Architecture



Some Solutions for I4.0 / Smart Manufacturing

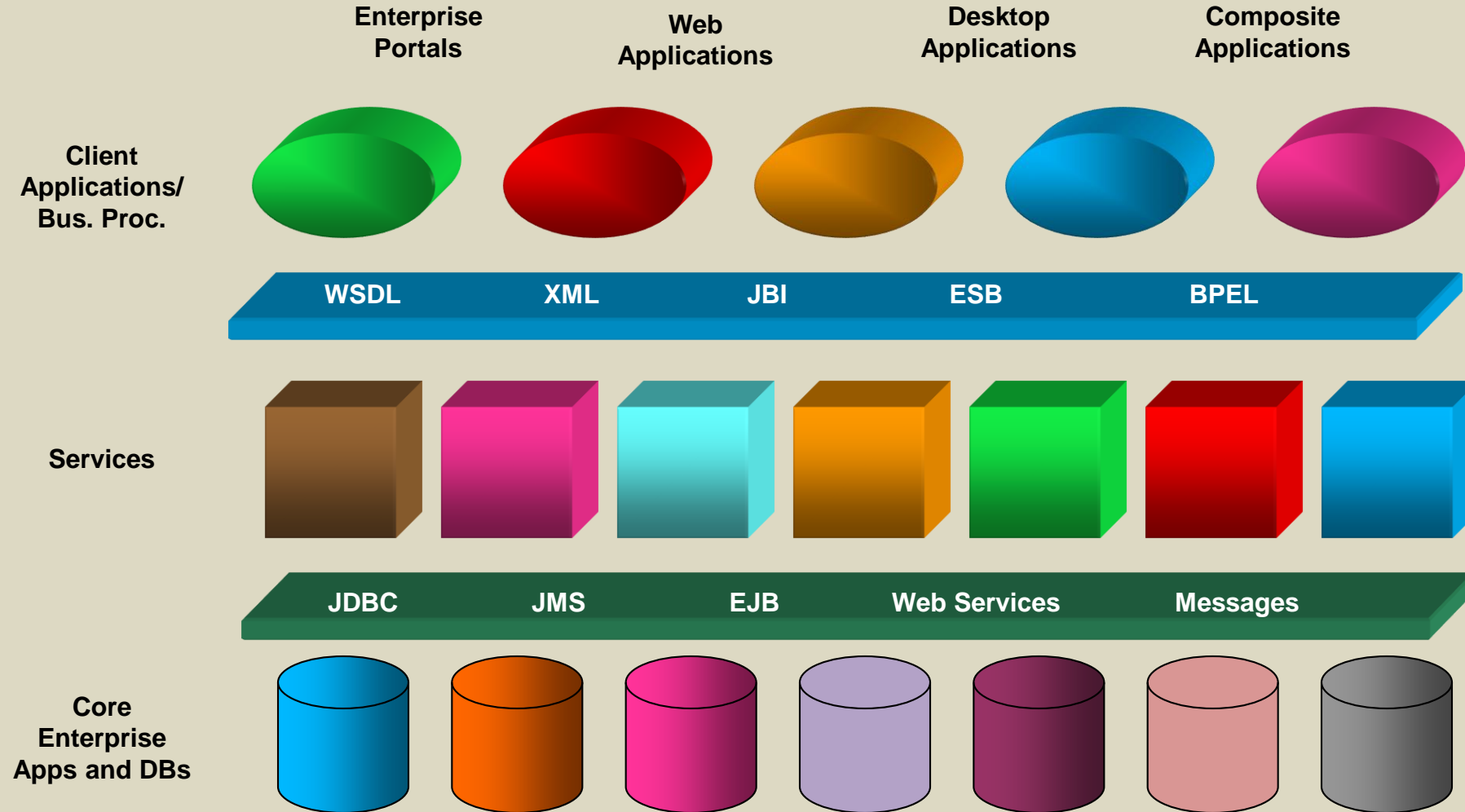
- **Technical level** (connection and communication)
- **Semantic level** (communication)
- **Organization level** (coordination/cooperation/collaboration)

Technical Level

Obj.: To send/receive data/information and messages (requests/replies)

- **TCP/IP, HTTP/S and XML** open standards revolution (1995) with Service-Oriented Architecture (**SOA**) and **Web Services** (2000's)
- **MTConnect** (ANSI MTC1.4-2018)
- **OPC-UA** (OPC Unified Architecture)
- **IIoT**, Micro-Web servers and **Connected Objects**

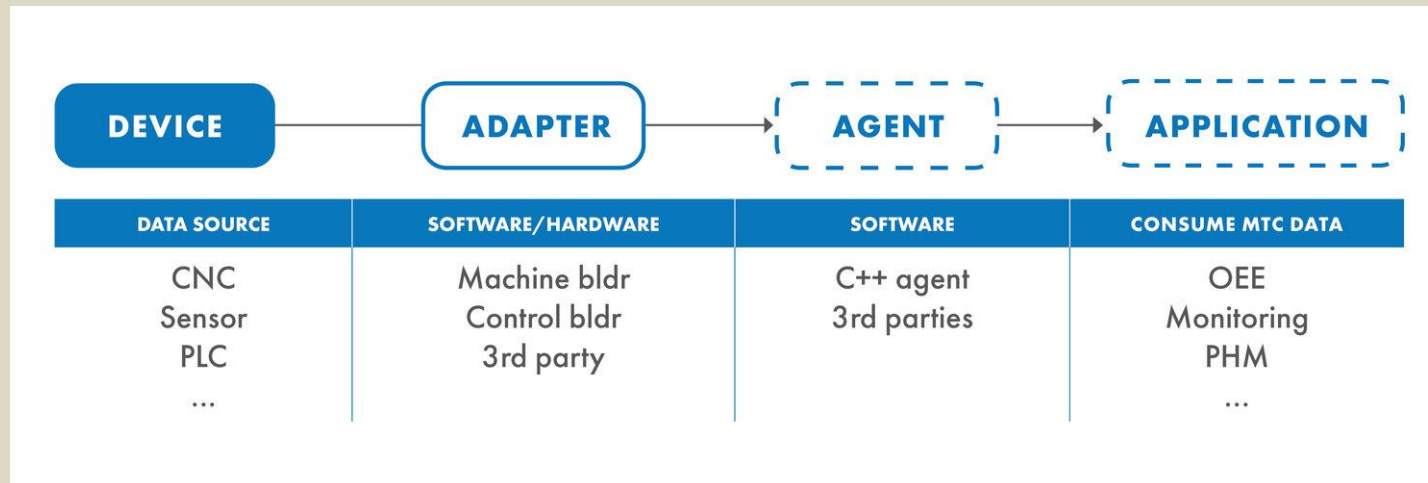
SOA (using J2EE tech.)



MTConnect






- ANSI/MTC1.4-2018 (last version 1.7, 2021)
- Facilitates data exchange between devices (sensors, control devices, shopfloor equipment and tools or software applications)
- Provides normalized domain-specific vocabulary and data models for mfg devices
- Made of data tags and behavior specifications of adapter agents for devices
- MTConnect devices output data in XML via HTTP servers



MTConnect Example



| | Brand X | Brand Y | MTConnect ANSI/MTC1.4-2018 |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
|  | exec position tool_number | EXECUTION:STATE POSITION:ABS TOOL:POT_NO | Execution Position ToolNumber |
|  | part_ct path_feed_ovr pgm_name | COUNT:PART OVERRIDE:PATH_FEED PROGRAM:NAME | PartCount PathFeedrateOverride Program |
|  | estop rotary_speed motion_mode | SAFETY:READY VELOCITY MOTION:MODE | EmergencyStop RotaryVelocity ControllerMode |
| | ... | ... | +100s of standard terms +unlimited extension tags |

OPC-UA



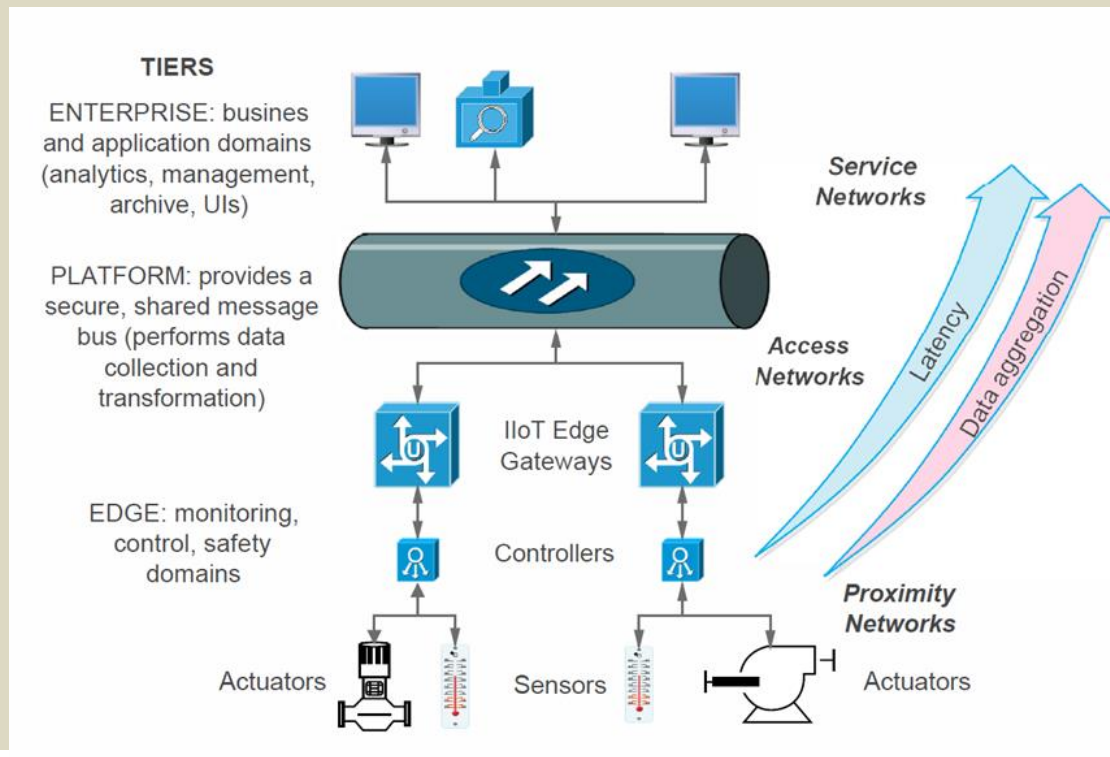
- Open Platform Communication – Unified Architecture
- By OPC Foundation
- OPC-UA is an interoperability standard for the secure and reliable exchange of data in the industrial automation space and in other industries
- Evolved from OPC Classic (based on MS COM/DCOM)
- Is a platform independent service-oriented architecture (SOA) and ensures the seamless flow of information among devices from multiple vendors
- Is a series of specifications developed by industry vendors, end-users and software developers



IEC 62541

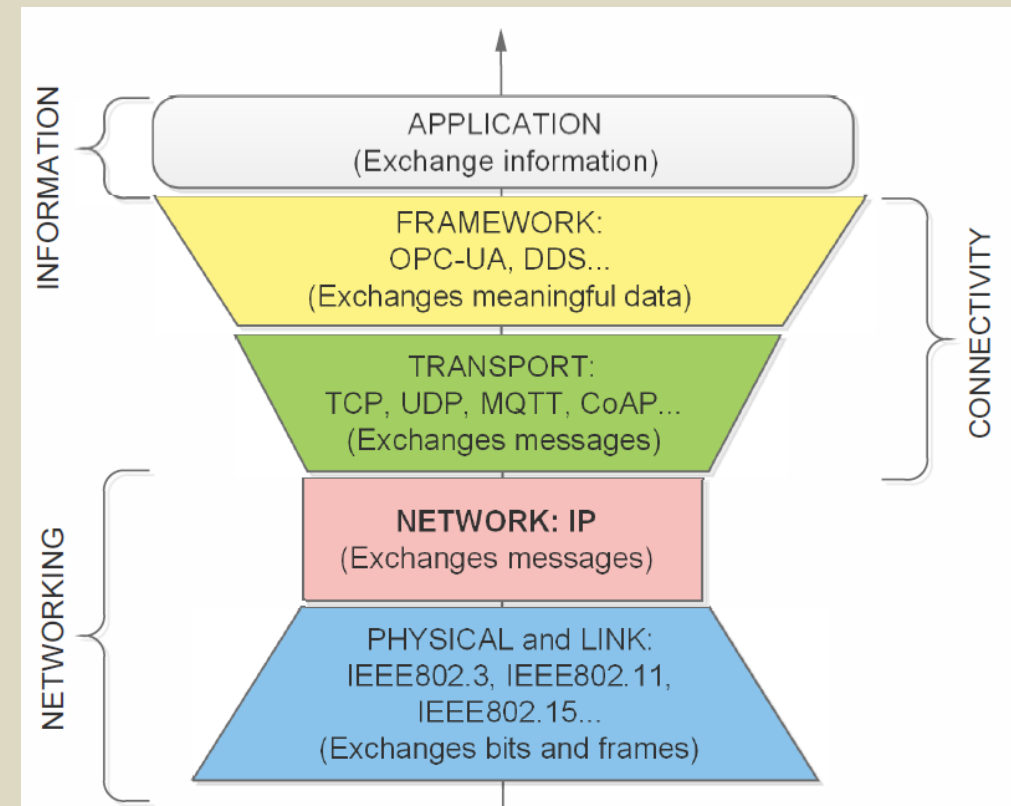
IIoT (Industrial IoT)

- IIoT is a computing concept describing ubiquitous connection to the Internet, turning common objects into connected objects
- IIoT has made possible the CPS (Cyber-Physical System) paradigm



3-tier IIoT architecture

(Sisinni et al., 2018)



IIoT protocol stack

Micro-Web servers and Connected Objects

Micro-Web Servers: two kinds:

- Software: e.g. TinyWeb by Ritlabs
- Hardware:



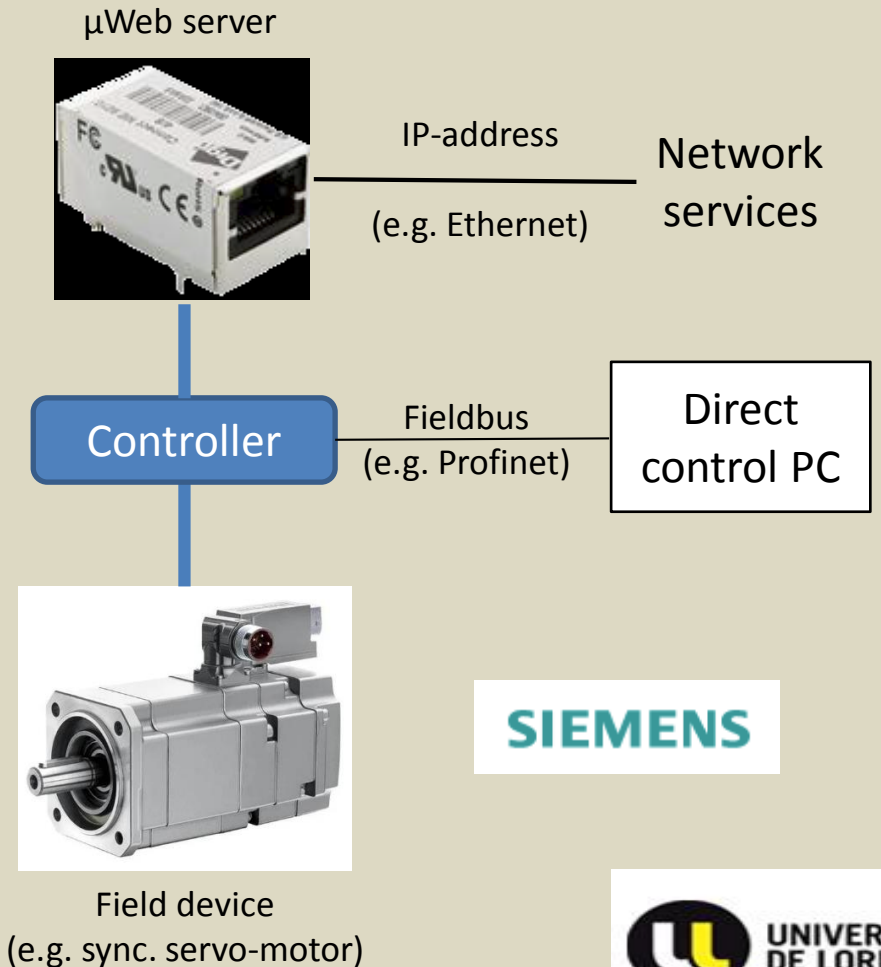
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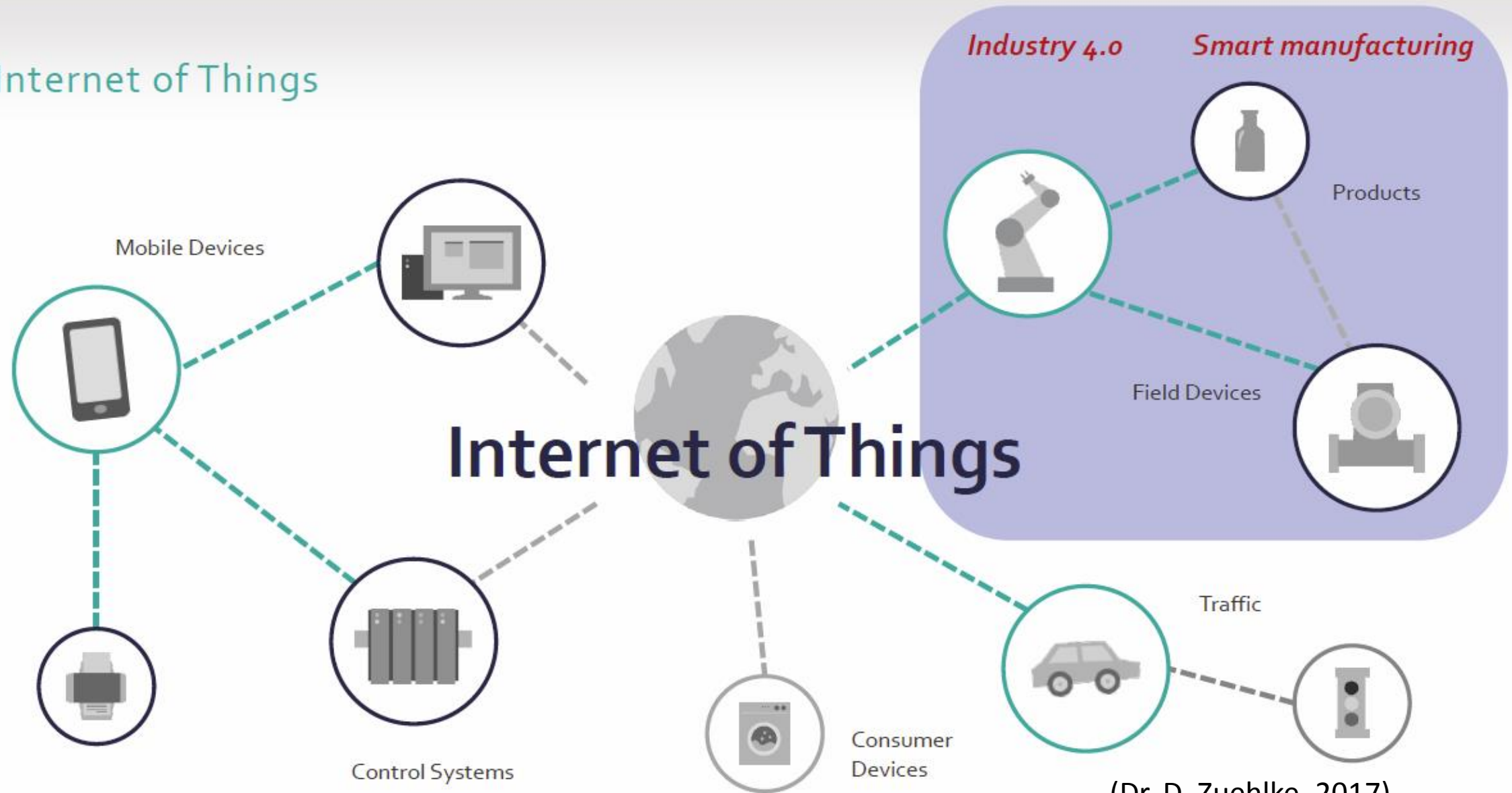
- Software: e.g. TinyWeb by Ritlabs
- Hardware:



Turning a device into a connected object:



Internet of Things



(Dr. D. Zuehlke, 2017)

Semantic Level

Obj.: To read information, understand what it means and know why it was sent

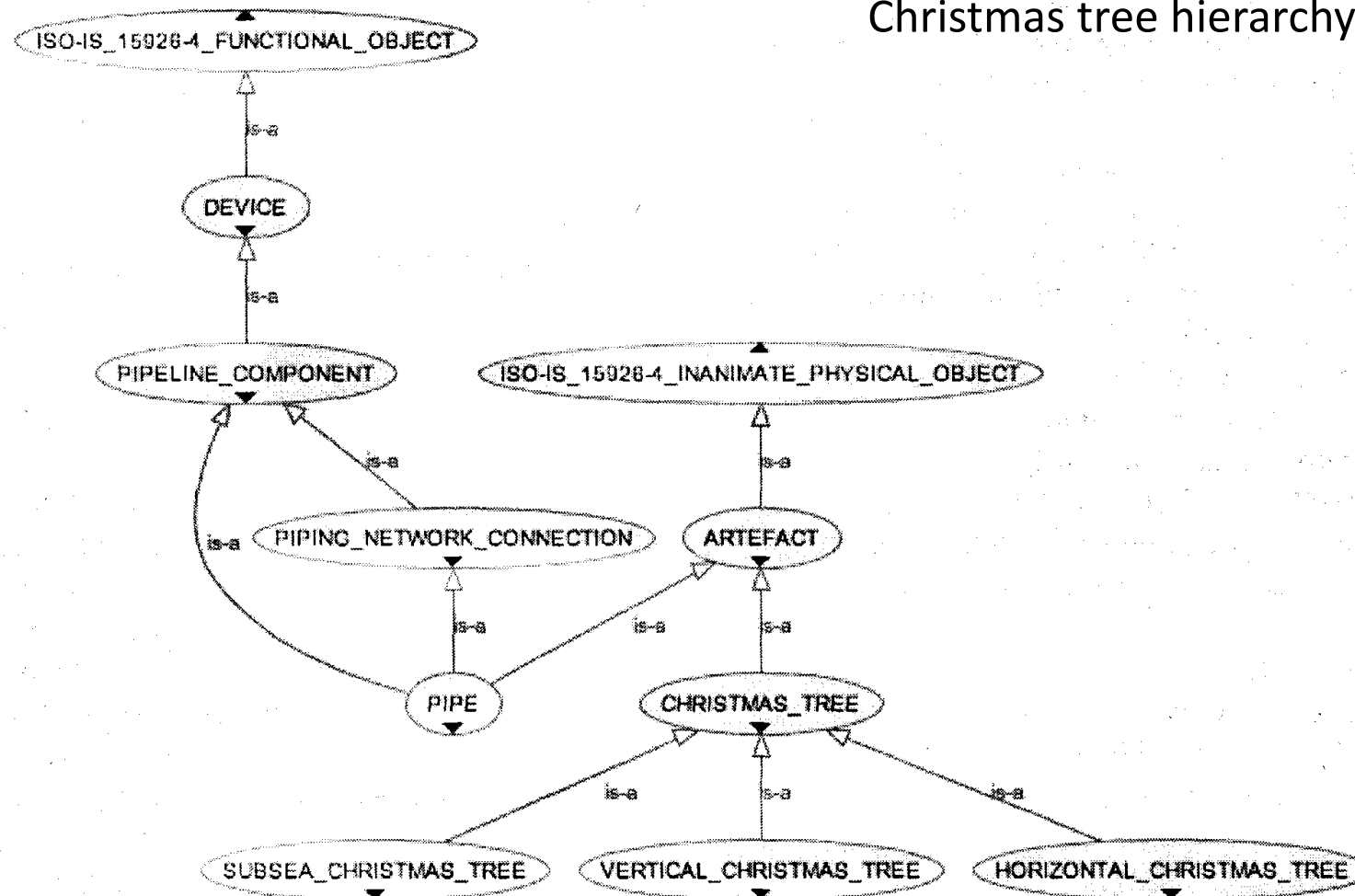
- Enterprise / Manufacturing Ontologies
- Semantic annotations
- IOF: Industrial Ontologies Foundry

Enterprise / Manufacturing Ontologies

- **Ontology:** An explicit specification of a shared conceptualization in a certain domain (Neches et al., 91 Gruber, 93)
- Idea of using ontology in EI introduced at 1st ICEIMT, 1991
- Pioneering work: The TOVE Project (M. Fox et al., Toronto Univ.)
- Then, numerous research proposals since 2000, among which
 - The Enterprise Ontology (Uschold et al., U. of Edinburgh, 1996)
 - The Formal Manufacturing Reference Ontology + MCCO (Usman/Young/Harding/Palmer et al. , Loughborough Univ.) – See also K. Popplewell et al., Coventry Univ.
- Ontology representations:
 - Drafting: UML object classes
 - Formal specification: Semantic networks
 - Formal languages: CL (ISO/IEC 24707), RDF/OWL DL, KFL...

Ontology example in petroleum industry

Christmas tree hierarchy



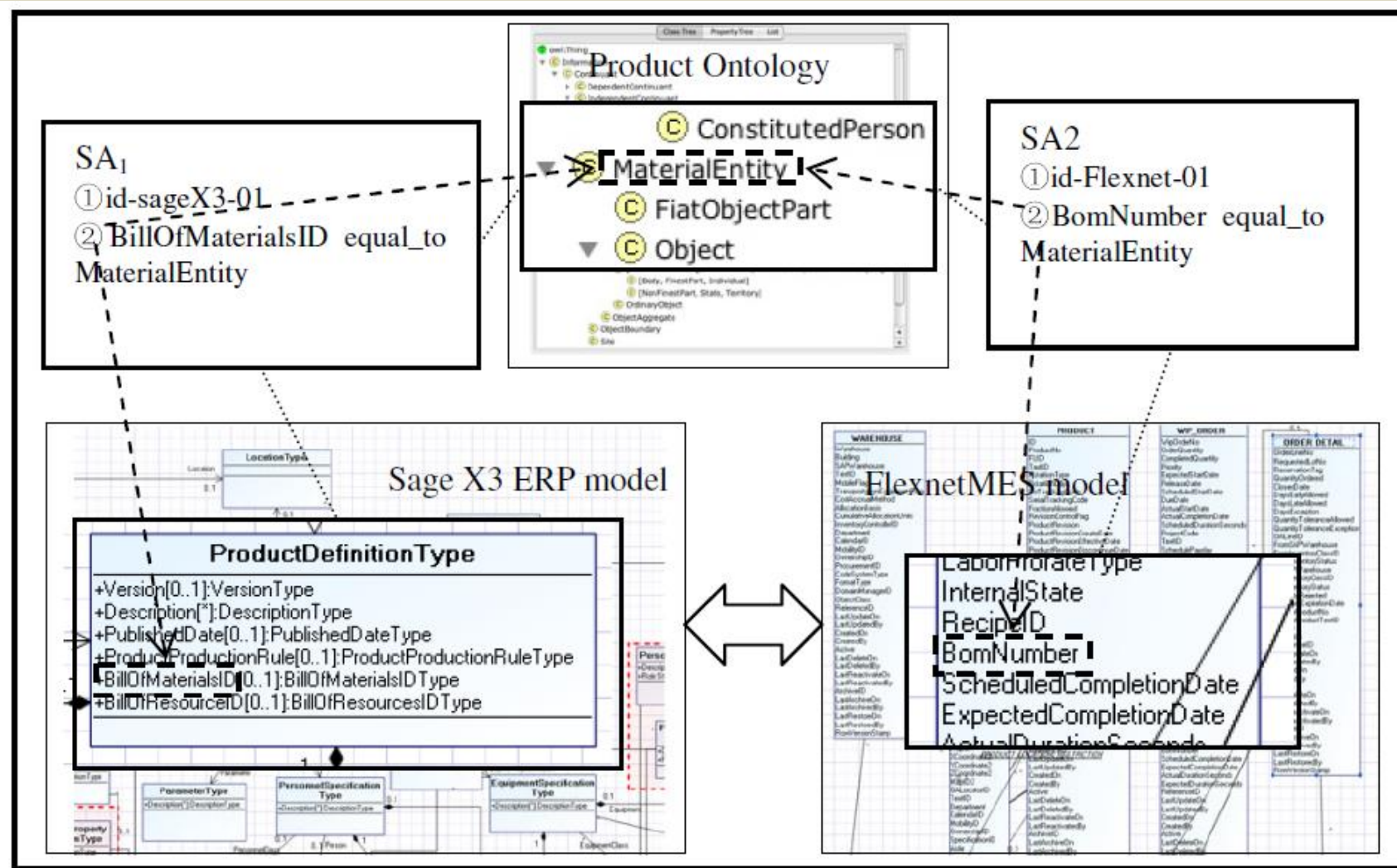
Christmas tree hierarchy in RDF/OWL

```
<owl:Class rdf:about="#CHRISTMAS_TREE">
  ...
  <dc:description
    rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">
    An artefact that is an assembly of pipes and piping parts, with
    valves and associated control equipment that is connected to the
    top of a wellhead and is intended for control of fluid from a well.
  </dc:description>
  <dc:title
    rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">
    CHRISTMAS_TREE
  </dc:title>
  ...
  <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#ARTEFACT"/>
</owl:Class>
```

Semantic Annotations

- **Semantic annotation:** a kind of formal (machine and human readable) **metadata**
- The process of **tagging** documents with relevant concepts, described in a knowledge graph (preferably, an ontology)
- **IT definition:** Action and result of describing an electronic resource by means of metadata whose meaning is formally specified in an ontology (Fernandez, 2010)
- **Purpose:** Added information can be interpreted (depending on context and objective) to address the gap between different data/model structures

Semantic Annotations: Example



IOF



- **Industrial Ontologies Foundry:** a group working to
 - co-create a set of open ontologies to support needs of the manufacturing and engineering industry and
 - advance data interoperability
- On-going reference ontologies in domain areas such as
 - production planning and scheduling
 - supply chains
 - maintenance
 - product-service systems



Organizational Level

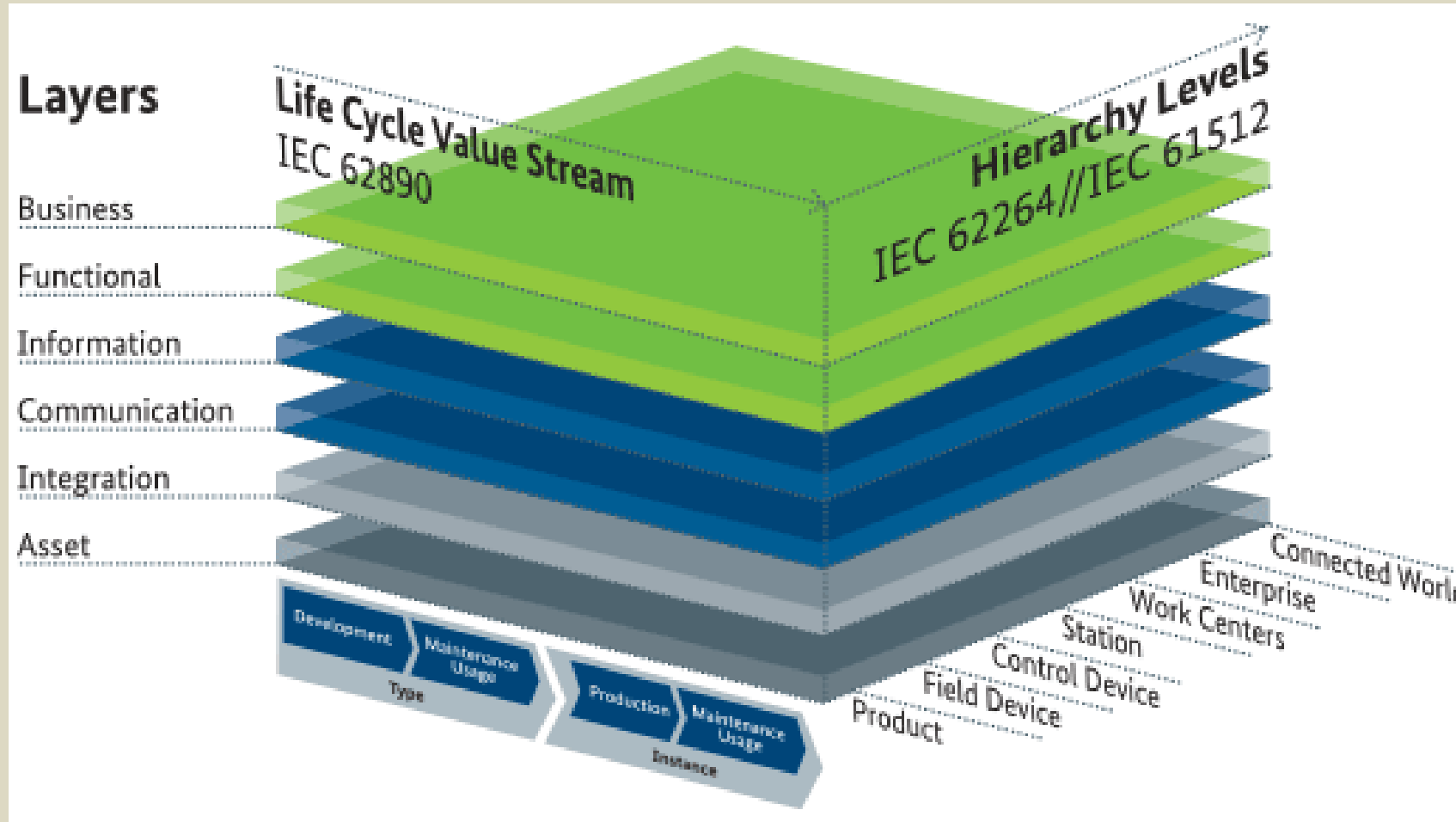
Obj.: To work together and jointly solve problems

- Enterprise Interoperability Frameworks (EIFs)
 - FEI, EIF, FIF...
- RAMI 4.0 by ISA
- 5C Architecture (for CPS implementation)

RAMI 4.0 ISA



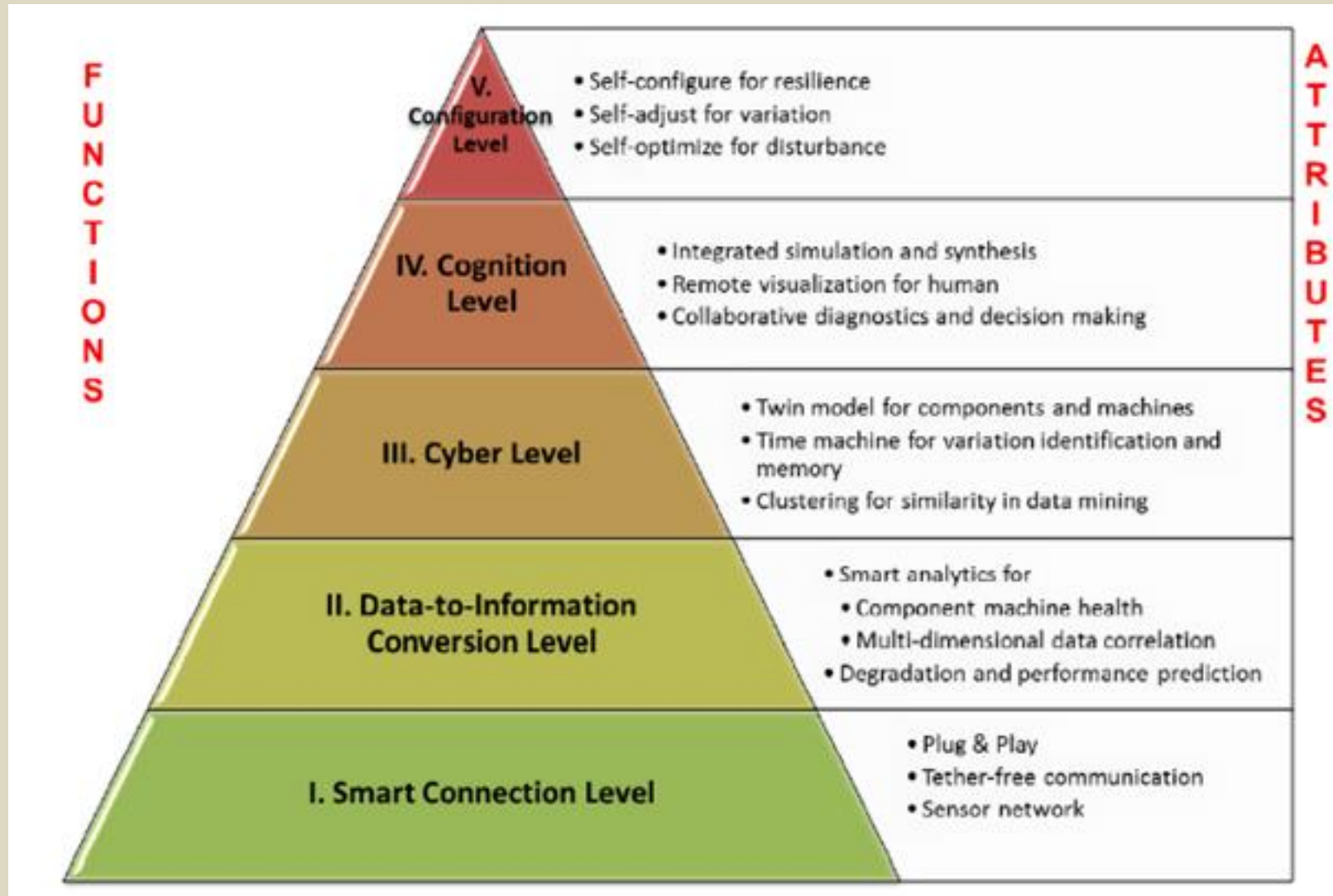
International Society of Automation
Setting the Standard for Automation™



Reference Architecture Model for Industry 4.0

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5C Architecture for CPS Implementation



(Lee et al., 2015)

Conclusion

- Technical Level
 - Proven, efficient and robust solutions available
 - Further progress depends on ICT technical advances. Main issues: **cyber-security**, **data integrity** and **system reliability**
- Organization Level
 - Well understood and mastered
 - Main issues: **Legal issues**, especially at international levels, and **trust mgt**
- Semantic Level
 - Academic solutions only. Few wide-range or heavy-duty applications in industry
 - Main issues: **Ontology completeness & agreement**. Multilingualism

Final words for young researchers

- Industry 4.0, 5.0, ..., n.0
 - Distributed decision-making & pb solving
 - Increased machine intelligence & autonomy
 - Augmented operators
 - Wonderful, but: Role distribution? Degree of autonomy? Responsibility?
- Ethical issues
 - Code of ethics (for humans, for smart machines, within CPS)
 - Transhumanism: OK, but how far? Who will set the borderlines?



Thank you for your attention

If I could only think as
fast as a computer
and process big data!



If I could only dream
and have emotions like
Humans do!



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