An introduction to the data model and ontology content and methodology for Finance Users, Data Architects, and Ontologists.
FIB-DM is enormous, 1875 entities as of October 2019, and still growing, there may be 2500 entities in a year from now.

The Fundamental Concepts are the bridge to understanding the design and content. Concept Maps are the bridge between Data Architect and Finance Business user.

This introduction for all audiences provides an overview of the fifteen concepts.

- FIBO definition
- Concept hierarchy
- Significant associations

All Fundamental concepts are ultimate supertypes defined in FIBO Foundation, a package in the Open Source FIB-DM Core. Some subtype entities for Securities, Swaps, and Indices are in the commercial version.

You can download PowerPoint on the FIB-DM website and comment on LinkedIn.
The Fundamental Concepts are for all audiences.

As a **Data Architect** or **Modeler**, you want to understand the FIB-DM design and content to scope and customize the model. You want to use Concept Maps for reviews and joint design with your Business clients.

As a **Finance** user and subject matter expert, you find 15 concepts and their icon diagrams easy, non-technical business notation. The fifteen concept charts are for business users.

As an **Ontologist** can use the very same FIB concepts to understand, scope and customize the FIBO. Just like the DA, you can use the concept maps, rather than complex graphs to work with the business.
This lesson within the education path

Previous: Practical, hands-on exercise using five of the concepts.

Next: Detail modules for all 15 concepts.
### Semantic Enterprise Information Architecture

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FIB concept maps have an agreed vocabulary

A concept map is a diagram that depicts suggested relationships [arrows] between concepts [circles].

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concept_map

The Financial Industry Business (FIB) concept map has standardized icons for concepts and an agreed vocabulary for labels.
The concepts and vocabulary establish a direct correspondence between the map and the data model.
The 15 concept mnemonic icons, and abbreviations

- **AA**: Autonomous Agent
- **TIR**: Thing in Role
- **REF**: Reference
- **ARR**: Arrangement
- **LOC**: Location
- **PRD**: Product
- **SVC**: Service
- **AGR**: Agreement
- **DOC**: Document
- **COM**: Commitment
- **CE**: Contractual Element
- **LC**: Legal Construct
- **AC**: Account
- **TI**: Time
- **OCC**: Occurrence

Each FIB concept is an in-depth business taxonomy

Agreement taxonomy, for example, has 79 classification items.

You use the MS-Excel workbook or other representations and visualizations to research the taxonomies:

Identify items that fit your business requirements.

Do not create synonyms!

Work with your Data or Business Architect to extend the taxonomy as needed.

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FIB-CM Relationships come from the vocabulary of more than agreed 200 names.

Our first data model Bank, the Bank Call Report had:

<table>
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<th>JPM Chase</th>
<th>$176 billion</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stock Corporation</td>
<td>has Issued Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autonomous Agent (AA)</td>
<td>Reference (REF)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use the MS-Excel workbook to research relationship names.

A search for “Capital” finds has Issued and Nominal Capital

Concept Map Relationship
- has Guarantor
- has Headquarters Address
- has Holding Period
- has Identity
- has Indicator Value
- has inforce
- has Initial Interest Accrual Date
- has Initial Interest Payment Date
- has Initial Principal Payment Date
- has Initial Stub
- has Interest Calculation Schedule
- has Interest Payment Day
- has Interest Payment Frequency
- has Interest Payment Terms
- has Interest Rate
- has Interest Rate Reset Schedule
- has Issued Capital
- has Jurisdiction
- has Legal Form
- has Lender
- has Lifecycle
- has Listing Date
- has Majority Controlling Interest Party
- has Market Identifier Code Status
- has Measurement Unit
- has Nominal Capital
Relationships pertain to designated concepts

The Pivot of Relationships and Fundamental FIB Concepts confirms that has Issued Capital has at least one connection from Autonomous Agent to Reference.
Complete the conformed Concept Map

Use the MS-Visio template with the FIB Concept stencils or any Concept Map diagramming tool.

Some PowerDesigner modelers create a custom model and map to the FIB-DM conceptual data model.

Who does this, the Business Analyst, Data Modeler, or Finance user depends on your organization and the people on the project.

15 Concepts, their taxonomies, and relationships express 80% of the business, data requirements, and high-level design.
The business introduction stated a direct correspondence between the FIB Concept Map and FIB Data Model.

The Semantic Enterprise Architecture called the FIB-CM a simplified conceptual data model in sync with FIB-DM.

Indeed, just like we derive a Physical Data Model (PDM) from a Logical Data Model (LDM), we can derive the Conceptual Data Model (CDM) from the Concept Map (CM). And we should reflect CDM changes in the CM.

The controlled vocabulary of the FIB-CM comprises of FIB-DM base, and associative entities, and associations. The MS-Excel workbook derived from Data Model list reports!
In the data model, the 15 Fundamental Concepts are entities that are not subtype of any other entity.

They are the most important supertypes, ranked by their number of subtype entities.*

70% of FIB-DM base entities (non-associative) are a subtype of the 15 concepts.

* Astute observers notice that Time Interval and Time Instant are combined into one concept although they don’t have a common supertype. Language and Convention didn’t make FIB-CM, although they have more subtypes than account. Also, the metrics will change with model customizations and the next FIB-DM release. The list of 15 concepts is qualitative judgment.
The FIB Taxonomy is the subtype hierarchy

The business user sees a taxonomy depicted as a diagram, a list or pivot in MS-Excel, or any other taxonomy visualization tool.

That taxonomy derived from the data model.

It is OK to omit entities from the user taxonomy. For example, we may remove the Written Contract, if it adds no explanatory value.

However, we must not add classification items to the taxonomy, unless we also add them to FIB-DM.
FIB Concept Map Relationships are data model Associations and Associative Entities

The Excel tab below is the data underlying the business user matrix for the controlled relationship vocabulary.

It is a combination of data model relationship and entity subtype list reports.

The user doesn’t need concept or relationship hierarchies in the FIB Concept Map notation. You, the data modeler, resolve the intricacies of how and where concepts associate in the data model.

Additions to the controlled vocabulary of concept map relationships must reflect in the data model as new associations.
Approaching an extensive model

A common approach is middle-out. Working on a specific requirement, like the Bank Call Report exercise, we investigate the subject up the subtype hierarchy.

Or we follow the FIBO module, FIB-DM package structure, and with it the development history.

BTW, the Ontologist has it more comfortable because she can examine and query sample data.

The Fundamental Concept approach is top-down. We examine the concept
• Business content
• Subtype hierarchy
• Associations
Ontology and Data Model hierarchies are the same

The only difference is in the diagram notation.

FIB-DM concept diagrams can help you to understand the FIBO rdfs:subClassOf, Class hierarchies.
The concepts and vocabulary directly correspond to the ontology graph.

Concept relations derive from FIBO rdfs:range, rdfs:domain, and owl:Restriction.

Create concept maps to communicate your design with Finance users!
Guide to the Reference Sheets
Concept Name (Abbr.)

FIBO definition (cursive)

Explanation, examples and most important subtypes

Note: The FIB-DM website has fully scalable diagrams of the complete subtype hierarchies. Download the SVG files here: https://fib-dm.com/financial-industry-business-concept-diagrams/

Explanation and examples of concept relationships
An agent is an autonomous individual that can adapt to and interact with its environment.

- The Person is an intuitive subtype of an autonomous Agent. There can only be one record of You in an Autonomous Agent table.
- Likewise, there must be only one record of Legal Person with its subtype Legal Entity, Organization and Automated System.

- Foremost, the Autonomous Agent is the identity for Things in Role. Your roles as an investor, borrower, guarantor, all converge to one person.
- IDs identify the AA.
- Various Arrangements classify the AA.
- Government Entities govern Locations, such as a country or municipality.
- In turn, Agreements govern certain Legal Entities and Organizations.
A thing-in-role is a relative concept that ties some thing to a role it plays in a given situational context

- Agent in Role are Client, Contract/Controlling/Reporting Party, Obligor, and Manager.
- Assets are things of values, in the context of Financial Asset or Collateral.
- Functional Entity has rich taxonomies for Government and (Financial) Service Providers.
- Pool and Basket Constituents model indices and pooled investments.
- Facilities and Venues cover financial market places.

- As a Services Provider and Functional entity, the TIR provides Products and Services.
- It is a Party in Role or Contract Party in Agreements.
- The TIR issues Documents and as a Registry or Agency issues Identifiers.
- The Identifiers, in turn, identify other Functional Entities or Service Providers.
Reference (REF)

A concept that refers to (or stands in for) another concept.

- Identifiers are the most critical subtype of REF. We find Currency codes, and various system-generated IDs for accounts, trades, and everything else.
- Registry Entries perform a similar function, but a Registrar issues the IDs. Securities ID Numbers, Bank Identifiers, and the LEI and FDIC from the Call Report example.
- Codes and Classifiers, categorize things. Note that some codes like currency are also a subtype of Identifier. REF subtypes also support Expressions, Formulas, Variables, and Measures (amounts are measures!).

- The Reference identifies instances of other concepts: Autonomous Agents, Things in Role (i.e., a Broker ID), Locations, Agreements, and Occurrences (i.e., Transactions).
- Various concepts have Monetary Amounts, a Reference.
- Arrangements may define References, typically in a classification.
- Things in Role, such as Registrars issue Reference IDs.
Arrangement (ARR)

An organizing structure for something.

- Indexing, Identification, and Classification Schemes can arrange things multi-level.
- Collections are groupings for Baskets, Pools, Portfolios, Registries, etc.
- Trade and Product Lifecycle are specializations of Lifecycle.
- Well known examples of Code Sets are Industry codes, like NAIC and SIC.

- Arrangements define References. Some References, like Indexes, can also be arguments for a Reference.
- An Arrangement may apply to a contract, AGR.
- A Basket has Constituents, TIR. The role is Basket Constituent, played by a Financial Instrument an Agreement.
- Schedules comprise of Occurrence Kinds.
Location (LOC)

A named geographic place.

- Geopolitical Entities are physical Locations with a political identity, such as Country, Subdivision, Municipality, or Tribal Area.
- Physical Locations are Housing Units, Post Code and Statistical Areas, or any other Populated Places.
- Notional Places are abstract locations. Notional Financial Marketplaces are an important subtype.
- Virtual Locations are in the net. E.g. URLs and E-Mail addresses.

- A Reference identifies a Location. (e.g. ISO Country Codes)
- A Government Thing in Role governs the Location.
- Locations can comprise other Locations. This hierarchy may be formally supported by an Arrangement classifying the Locations. For example, Country, State, County.
Document (DOC)

Something tangible that records something, such as a recording or a photograph, or a writing that can be used to furnish evidence or information

- Important subtypes of DOC are (Regulatory) Reports and Legal Documents, like Contract, Identity Documents, and Transaction Confirmations.
- Published Financial Information has subtypes for Market Rates and Quotes.

- Documents apply to Agreements. They are the written contract.
- Identity Documents and Business Licenses identify Legal Persons.
- Documents have various Dates and Time Intervals.
- Things in Role, publish or issue Documents.
- Rate Authorities (AA Central Banks) set Market Rates.
Service (SVC)

A type of economic activity that is intangible, is not stored and does not result in ownership; a service is consumed at the point of sale.

• Subtypes of Services are Regulatory, Registration, and Financial Service.
• The major financial services are Banking, Investment, Insurance and Capital Market related.

• Things in Role, provide services.
• The Account realizes the service.
• An agreement may specify services, for example, a Listing Service may list Securities, Agreements.
• A Payment Service involves the Payment Obligation, a Commitment.
• Some Legal Constructs apply to Services.
Product (PRD)

A commercially distributed good that is (1) tangible property, (2) the output or result of a fabrication, manufacturing, or production process, or (3) something that passes through a distribution channel before being consumed or used.

- Most significant subtypes are Contractual and Financial Products.
- The Time Deposit is an example of an Account Product.
- There are many Financial Products for Banking and Over The Counter.
- Packaged Products are both Financial and Contractual Products.

- Service Providers, Things in Role, provide Products.
- Agreements realize the Product. The Contract is to buy the Product and may specify details and conditions.
- Documents characterize or specify the Product.
- A Packaged Product comprises of other Products.
- The Account also realized or implements the Product.
Agreement (AGR)

A negotiated and usually legally enforceable understanding between two or more legally competent parties.

- Agreements break down into three subtypes, Mutual, Contracts, and Securities Offerings.
- Mutual Agreements are not transferable without the other party’s consent.
- Credit Agreements are all forms of loans and lending.
- The Written Contract is supertype Service Agreements, Organization Covering Agreements, and Financial Instruments, among others.

- Agreements have TIR, Contract Parties or Parties in Role.
- Various Dates set terms for the Agreement.
- Agreements confer Commitments and Legal Elements.
- Accounts realize the Agreement, and in turn, Agreements realize Products and Services.
- Financial Instruments are Agreements and Transactions are Occurrence Kind. Hence, a REF, Security ID identifies the Security and Transactions apply to the Instrument.
Commitment (COM)

A legal construct which represents the undertaking on the part of some party to act or refrain from acting in some manner.

- The financial subtypes of Commitment, Payment Obligation, Debt and Guaranty are self-explanatory.
- The Contract Terms Set should be used for other commitments specified in a contract.

- Contracts confer Commitments.
- A debtor, TIR owes or is owed Debt.
- Commitments have various dates and often References, such as Amount, Rate, and Interest.
- Commitments specify Occurrence Kinds, such as payments, interest calculations in loans and swaps.
- A Commitment can be broken down into sub-commitments.
Contractual Element (CE)

General and special arrangements, provisions, requirements, rules, specifications, and standards that form an integral part of an agreement or contract.

• Contractual Elements can be Priority, as in Loans, Conditions, Terms and the Definition of the Contract.
• We mainly use the Contractual Commitment in Financial Markets for Debt Terms, Settlement, and Derivatives.

Note that the Contractual Commitment is also a subtype of the Mutual Commitment, a COM, which handles most relationships.
• Agreements, Contracts have Contractual Elements.
• The CE can have Parts that are (sub) Contractual Elements.
• Commitments can have Priority Level. For example, Debt priority in case of bankruptcy.
Legal Construct (LC)

Something which is conferred by way of law or contract, such as a right.

- Legal Constructs break down into Duty to pay or fulfill a contractual obligation, Regulations, Claims, Securities Restrictions and Legal Capacity.
- The Signatory Capacity defines, who can sign on behalf of a Legal Person. Borrowing Capacity is the amount you can borrow under a credit facility.

- Things in Role, for example Regulatory Authorities issue Regulations, Legal Constructs.
- Agreements may confer Legal Constructs.
- Services and Products may have Restrictions
- A Legal Construct may imply, mandate, or apply to other Legal Constructs.
- Th LC governs Documents and may have effective Dates.
Account (AC)

A container for records associated with a business arrangement for regular dealings or services (such as personal or professional services, banking).

- Accounts currently have Financial Service and Bank Accounts as subtypes.
- Financial Services Accounts are Investment, Deposits, Loans, Credits, and other services.
- Expect General Ledger Accounts in the future.

- Things in Role, Financial Service Providers, Things in Role provide accounts to their customers.
- The Account realizes a Financial Services Agreements, and in turn, the underlying Product or Service.
- The Account number to identify an Account is a Reference.
**Time (TI)**

*Time Instant:* A temporal entity that is a member of a time scale, with no extent or duration

*Time Interval:* A segment of the time axis, a location in time, with an extent or duration

- Time Instant subtypes reflect precision, Date, datetime, and timestamp.
- The Time Interval can be a Duration (e.g., 10-year) or the period between two dates.

- Every concept has time Instants or Intervals.
- A Person, AA has a date of birth.
- Documents have issuance dates.
- Commitment have settlement dates.
- Arrangements may specify recurrence and other intervals.
- Time Intervals have Start and End Dates.
An Occurrence is a happening of an Occurrence Kind. Instances of Occurrence Kind are types of events, each having a description.

- Transaction Events are the most important Occurrence Kinds.
- We find Trade, Payment, Swap and Accounting Transactions.
- Lifecycle Events occur during the stages of a Lifecycle.
- The Occurrence, the actual instance of an event follows the Occurrence Kind Structure. For example, a Payment is an instance of the Payment Event.

- Commitments and Agreements may specify for certain Occurrence Kinds to happen.
- Arrangement can comprise of Occurrence Kinds.
- A Reference identifies the Occurrence, for example a transaction or trade ID.
- The Occurrence exemplifies the Occurrence Kind.
- Accounts have transactions
- Things in Role may facilitate Occurrences.
## Semantic Enterprise Information Architecture

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**Use**
- Business
- Design
- Development

**Type**
- Conceptual
- Logical
- Physical

**Level**
- Enterprise
- Department
- Project

**Data Models**
- FIBO
- RDF
- OWL
- FIB-DM
- FIB-UM

**Tools and Technologies**
- XSD
- BPMN
- XML
- RDBMS
- RDF

**Finance key point**

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References and further reading

The FIB-DM website
- scalable SVG diagrams of the complete subtype hierarchies
- Diagrams of the Concept Maps

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https://spec.edmcouncil.org/fibo/
FIBO
Financial Industry Business Ontology
in
SAP
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https://fib-dm.com/
jziemer@jayzed.com