1. Concept Arrangement Patterns

The purpose of this section is to explain the notion of the concept arrangement pattern.

A list of report elements, by itself, is not sufficient to describe a model for a digital financial report. A digital financial report contains both terms that describe things that exist within that model (things that exist, report elements) and associations between those terms or report elements (how they interact with one another).

In this section we discuss the patterns of the associations between a set of report elements within a set of [Line Items].

1.1. Understanding the utility and leverage of patterns

The world is full of patterns and information technology engineers and architects leverage these patterns when trying to get a computer to do something effectively and efficiently for humans. Understanding the patterns which exist can help make both building and using software easier.

A *system* is a cohesive conglomeration of interrelated and interdependent parts that is either natural or man-made¹. A *pattern* is any form of correlation between the states of elements within a system².

Business reports, including financial reports, have patterns. Another way of saying this is that financial reports are not random. There are not an infinite number of patterns in financial reporting.

Business Reporting Use Cases³, introduces a set of approximately 30 financial reporting use cases collected over a number of years. That set of 30 business use cases was condensed from many, many different financial reporting use cases examined in order to understand how to model financial information using XBRL. These business use cases were also used within the USFRTF Patterns Guide which was created in order to help understand how to construct the US GAAP XBRL Taxonomy.

These 30 business use cases were distilled down further, basically to their essence. This distilled version is referred to here as a *Concept Arrangement Patterns* and *Member Arrangement Patterns*. Basically, every financial reporting use case follows one or a combination of these patterns. While it is hard to say if these patterns will cover 100% of all financial reporting use cases, it is hard to dispute that any of these 9 patterns. If some pattern is deemed missing, that pattern can be added to the inventory of patterns.

The US GAAP Taxonomy Architecture refers to these patterns as *compact pattern definitions* and documents a number of these patterns in what it refers to as style guides. These style guides were never released publicly but they are referred to in

¹ YouTube, Systems Theory, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRnkggRSIDY&feature=youtu.be

² Systems Theory, http://xbrl.squarespace.com/journal/2019/12/29/systems-theory-method-to-my-madness.html

³ Business Use Case Examples, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2017/IntelligentDigitalFinancialReporting/Part04 Chapter07.4 BusinessU seCaseExamples.pdf

the US GAAP Taxonomy Architecture. Everything within the US GAAP Taxonomy fits into one or a combination of these patterns.

1.2. Results of Analysis of US GAAP Financial Reports

As explained in the document *Understanding and Leveraging Fact Sets*⁴ and the blog post *Breaking Down the Pieces of an XBRL-based Digital Financial Report*⁵ financial reports are not one big thing; they are lots of little things.

The analysis of a set of 6,023 XBRL-based financial reports submitted to the SEC by public companies revealed:

- Total reports: 6,023
- Total facts reported: 8,532,275
- Average number of facts per report: 1,416
- Total number of networks in all reports: 462,786
- Average number of networks per report: 77
- Total number of fact sets in all reports: 754,430
- Average number of fact sets per report: 125
- Average number of fact sets per network: 1.6
- Average facts per network: 18
- Average facts per fact set: 11

So, the actual average size of the pieces of a report are quite small. Information is skewed a bit by the relatively large number of Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 text blocks. Of the **754,430** fact sets there are:

- Text Blocks: 407,392 (54%) are text blocks (Level 1 Notes, Level 2 Policies, Level 3 Disclosures)
- **Sets**: 181,063 (24%) are sets (or hierarchies, no mathematical computations)
- Roll Ups: 120,708 (16%) are roll ups
- Roll Forwards: 37,721 (5%) are roll forwards
- Other (including **Roll Forward Info**, **Adjustment**, **Variance**): 7,546 (1%) are Roll Forward Infos or something else

What is more, which we will get to elsewhere in these documents, each of the concept arrangement patterns can be associated with a specific disclosure. See these US GAAP disclosures⁶ and these IFRS disclosures⁷.

⁴ Understanding and Leveraging Fact Sets,

 $[\]underline{http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Library/UnderstandingAndLeveragingFactSets.pdf}$

⁵ Breaking Down the Pieces of an XBRL-based Digital Financial Report, http://xbrl.squarespace.com/journal/2019/4/9/breaking-down-the-pieces-of-an-xbrl-based-digital-financial.html

⁶ US GAAP Disclosures, http://xbrlsite-app.azurewebsites.net/DisclosureBestPractices/DisclosureBestPractices.aspx?DisclosureName=BalanceSheet

1.3. Concept arrangement patterns

Remember that a concept arrangement pattern explains how some set of Concepts is represented within a [Line Items]. The following is a summary of the identified financial reporting related concept arrangement patterns⁸. Another resource for examining actual concept arrangement patterns is the digital financial reporting conformance suite⁹. You can use the conformance quite to example each of the XBRL artefacts that describe the business report. Each of the concept arrangement patterns references human readable information which helps the reader understand the concept arrangement pattern.

Note that for each of the examples shown below there are multiple software vendors that provide the capability to render the information contained within the concept arrangement patterns. See the document, *Comparison of Renderings for Concept Arrangement Patterns*¹⁰, for more information.

1.4. Set (a.k.a. Hierarchy)

A \mathbf{set}^{11} (hierarchy 12 is a synonym for set) concept arrangement pattern denotes a hierarchy of concepts with no numeric relations. If no numeric relations exist, then the concept arrangement pattern of the report fragment is a set (hierarchy). Basically, anything can be represented as a set. It is the addition of additional relations, typically mathematical computations, which turns a set into some other concept arrangement pattern.

A set (hierarchy) can be detected because there are no XBRL calculation relations or XBRL Formulas related to mathematical computations. Also, none of the concepts within a set can be a Text Block which is its own unique pattern.

⁷ IFRS Disclosures, http://xbrlsite-app.azurewebsites.net/DisclosureBestPractices IFRS/DisclosureBestPractices.aspx?DisclosureName=Balan caSheet

⁸ Concept Arrangement Pattern Examples,

http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/DigitalFinancialReporting/ConceptArrangementPatterns/2017-05-07/

 $^{^9}$ Conformance Suite, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/index.xml

¹⁰ Comparison of Renderings for Concept Arrangement Patterns, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformancesuite/Production/ComparisonOfConceptArrangementPatternRenderings.pdf

¹¹ Set, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/11-Set/evidence-package

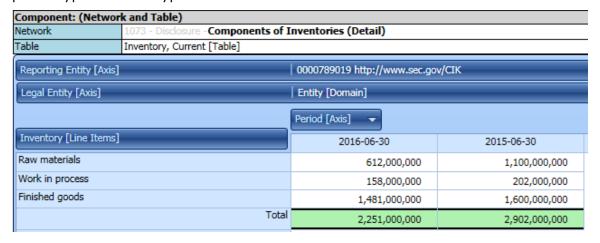
¹² Hierarchy, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/01-Hierarchy/evidence-package



A set is simply some group of concepts that generally has something in common.

1.5. Roll up

A **roll up**¹³ concept arrangement pattern represents a total, or roll up, and some set of other Concepts that aggregate to that total. This concept arrangement pattern is commonly referred to a "roll up", or the equation A + B + n = Total where "n" can be any number of numeric Concepts. All concepts involved in this concept arrangement pattern have the same set of aspects and all must be numeric and of the same period type and data type.



¹³ Roll Up, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/02-RollUp/evidence-package

A roll up concept arrangement pattern is detected by the existence of XBRL calculation relations that are used to represent the roll up mathematical relations. Alternatively, XBRL Formula could have been used to represent the mathematical relations. Note that a roll up can have other roll ups (subtotals) nested within one another.

1.6. Roll forward

A **roll forward**¹⁴ concept arrangement pattern reconciles the balance of a concept between two points in time. This concept arrangement pattern is commonly referred to as a "roll forward" or "movement analysis" or "reconciliation" or the equation: beginning balance + additions - subtractions = ending balance. In this equation the Period [Axis] is as of two different points in time and the changes (additions/subtractions) occur during the period between those two points in time.

Detail) rrangements by Share-based Payment Award [Tab 00789019 http://www.sec.gov/CIK ock Awards
00789019 http://www.sec.gov/CIK ock Awards
ock Awards
er for 11
tity [Domain]
iod [Axis] Ÿ ▼
2015-07-01/2016-06-30
216,000,000
83,000,000
(85,000,000)
(20,000,000)
194,000,000
i

A roll forward can be detected because (a) it always has in instant as the first and last concept in the presentation relations, (b) the first instant has a periodStart label role, (c) the second instant concept is the same as the first and has the periodEnd label, and (d) XBRL Formulas exist the represent the roll forward mathematical relation.

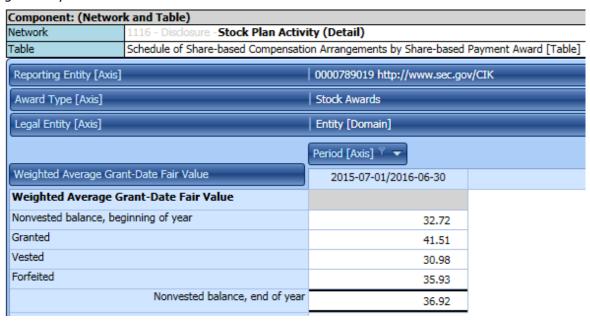
Another form of expressing the relationship is: $Instant^{T1} = Instant^{T0} + Changes^{P1}$ where T0 is the balance at time 0, P1 are changes during some period, and T1 is the balance at time 1. Another way to understand the roll forward is to use the notion of stocks and flows¹⁵. Stocks are accumulations. Flows change the accumulation.

¹⁴ Roll Forward, http://xbr/site.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/03-RollForward/evidence-package

¹⁵ Stocks and Flows, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRIYGDBGcRA

1.7. Roll forward info

A **roll forward info**¹⁶ concept arrangement pattern looks somewhat like a roll forward visually, but is not really a roll forward. While a roll forward reconciles the balance of a concept between two points in time; the roll forward info is really just a set which shows a beginning and ending balance and other information that is generally about some roll forward. A roll forward info concept arrangement pattern is generally shown with a roll forward.



A roll forward info pattern can be detected because (a) the first concept has a periodStart label, (b) the last concept in the presentation relations has a periodEnd label. A roll forward info is numbers that describe other numbers.

1.8. Adjustment

An **adjustment**¹⁷ concept arrangement pattern reconciles an originally stated balance to a restated balance, the adjustment being the total change, between two different report dates.

An adjustment is similar to a roll forward in that it is a reconciliation, however rather than the period [Axis] changing; it is the *Report Date [Axis]* which changes: originally reported balance + adjustment = restated balance.

¹⁶ Roll Forward Info, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/10-RollForwardInfo/evidence-package

¹⁷ Adjustment, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/05-Adjustment/evidence-package/



Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)		
Reporting Entity [Axis]	SAMP (http://www.SampleCompany.com)	
Legal Entity [Axis]	Consolidated Entity [Member]	

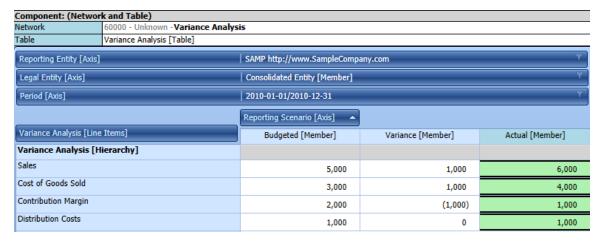
		Period [Axis]
Prior Period Adjustments [Line Items]	Report Date [Axis]	2009-12-31
Prior Period Adjustments to Retained Earnings [Adjustment]		
Retained Earnings (Accumulated Losses), Origionally Stated	Reported March 21, 2010 [Member]	4,000
Changes in Accounting Policy	Reported March 18, 2011 [Member]	3,000
Correction of an Error	Reported March 18, 2011 [Member]	(1,000)
Retained Earnings (Accumulated Losses), Restated	Reported March 18, 2011 [Member]	6,000

An adjustment always has a Report Date [Axis] that is generally specific to the profile used by the XBRL instance (because XBRL International does not provide this standard dimension), the first concept in the presentation relations is an instant and uses the origionallyStated label role appropriate for the profile (because XBRL international does not provide this as a standard label role), the last concept in the presentation relations is an instant and uses the restated label role (which is published by XBRL International) ¹⁸. Between the originally stated and restated concepts are the adjustments.

Concepts for Report Creation Date [Axis]: us-gaap:CreationDateAxis, ifrs-full:CreationDateAxis, frm:ReportDateAxis.

1.9. Variance

A **variance**¹⁹ concept arrangement pattern reconciles some reporting scenario with some other reporting scenario, the variance between reporting scenarios being the variance or changes. For example, an analysis which reconciles the concept sales for the reporting scenarios of actual and budgeted is a variance. The equation is: actual – budget = variance. Note that the actual member is represented as the dimension default because the actual would tie to the income statement in this case.



¹⁸ Originally stated label role, https://specifications.xbrl.org/registries/lrr-2.0/#role-restatedLabel

¹⁹ Variance, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/06-Variance/evidence-package/

A variance can be a specialization of other concept arrangement patterns such as a [Hierarchy] as shown above, a [Roll Up] if the [Line Items] rolled up, or even a [Roll Forward].

A variance can always be discovered because it uses the Reporting Scenario [Axis] that is related to the reporting profile. Concepts for Reporting Scenario [Axis]:us-gaap:StatementScenarioAxis, frm:ReportingScenarioAxis. (Seems missing from IFRS).

1.10. Arithmetic (a.k.a. Complex computation)

An **arithmetic**²⁰ (a.k.a. complex computation) concept arrangement pattern can be thought of as a set plus a mathematical commutation between different concepts within that set which are challenging to model as the parent/child relations of the XBRL presentation relations. The type of mathematical computations can vary significantly, thus potentially challenging when modelling. For example, the computation of earnings per share is an arithmetic concept arrangement pattern.

Component: (Network and Table)				
Network	70000 - Document -Earnings Per	70000 - Document - Earnings Per Share Components		
Table	Earnings Per Share Components [1	Earnings Per Share Components [Table]		
Reporting Entity	[Axis]	SAMP http://www.SampleCompany.com		
Legal Entity [Axi:	s]	Consolidated Entity [Member]		
		Period [Axis] ▼		
Earnings Per Share Components [Line Items]		2010-01-01/2010-12-31	2009-01-01/2009-12-31	
Earnings Per Share Components [Hierarchy]				
Net Income (Loss	s)	10,000,000	20,000,000	
Weighted Averag	e Common Shares	100,000,000	100,000,000	
Earnings Per Sha	re	0.10	0.20	

An arithmetic concept arrangement pattern can be identified because (a) there are numeric relations and those relations do not follow any of the other mathematical patterns, (b) there is an XBRL formula that represents a mathematical relation other than one of the other mathematical computation patterns.

An arithmetic pattern mathematical computation can be quite complex. For example 21 ,

```
0= (($Equity_BalanceStart + (($Revenues - $Expenses) + ($Gains - $Losses)) + ($InvestmentsByOwners - $DistributionsToOwners)) + ($Liabilities BalanceEnd - $Assets BalanceEnd))
```

The facts that would be involved in this computation is provided here simply as a set of facts. The XBRL formula describes the relationship between the facts.

²⁰ Arithmetic, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/12-Arithmetic/evidence-package/

²¹ XBRL Formula, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/12-Arithmetic/Arithmetic-formula.xml

Component: (Network and Table)		
Network	Elements of Financial Statement (http://www.xbrlsite.com/arithmetic/role/ElementsOfFinancialStatement)	
Table	(Implied)	

Slicers (applies to each fact value in each table cell)

eporting Entity [Axis]	GH259400TOMPUOLS65II (http://standards.iso.org/iso/17442)
------------------------	---

	Period [Axis]	
Elements of Financial Statements [Arithmetic]	2020-01-01 - 2020-12-31	2019-12-31
Elements of Financial Statements [Arithmetic]		
Assets	3,500	0
Liabilities	0	0
Equity	3,500	0
Investments by Owners	1,000	
Distributions to Owners	500	
Revenues	7,000	
Expenses	3,000	
Gains	1,000	
Losses	2,000	

1.11. Text block

A **text block**²² concept arrangement pattern is a concept arrangement pattern which contains, by definition, only one concept and that concept expresses what amounts to a narrative or prose as escaped HTML within that one concept. That single concept always has the data type of "nonnum:textBlockItemType" which is defined by XBRL International²³ or in the XBRL International Data Type Registry²⁴.

For example, the narrative associated with a set of accounting policies expressed as a list or a table presentation format is a text block. Another term for this formatted information is "prose". As there is only one concept, there can be no relations within the concept arrangement pattern that are identifiable in terms of meaning, however, there is presentation related structure contained within the Text Block.

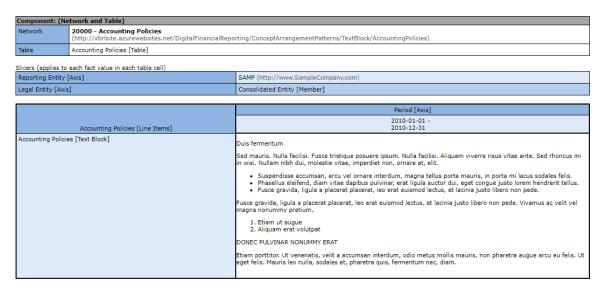
Note that escaped XHTML is used because rather than simple XHTML because XBRL concepts are prohibited from containing mark up of any kind.

Note that the US GAAP XBRL Taxonomy and the SEC break down text blocks into three distinct groups: Level 1 Note Text Blocks, Level 2 Policy Text Blocks, Level 3 Disclosure Text Blocks. Everything that is NOT a text block per these rules is considered a Level 4 Disclosure Detail. The IFRS XBRL Taxonomy uses similar notions but different terms that basically mean the same thing.

²² Text Block, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/08-TextBlock/evidence-package

²³ Nonnumeric data types, http://www.xbrl.org/dtr/type/nonNumeric-2009-12-16.xsd

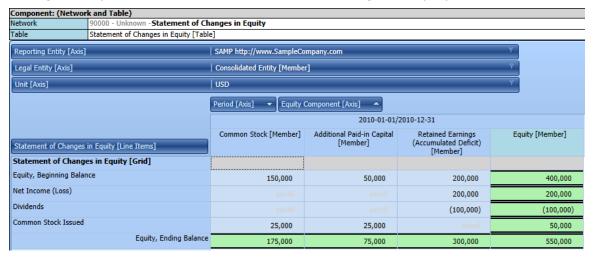
²⁴ XBRL International Data Type Registry, http://www.xbrl.org/dtr/dtr.xml



A text block can always be identified by the data type "nonnum:textBlockItemType" being used (or some other similar allowed data type) to represent the text block.

1.12. Grid (not really a pattern)

A **grid**²⁵ pattern which uses the presentation characteristics of the columns and rows of a table to represent information is a pseudo concept arrangement pattern. Because the grid models presentation information and not business semantics, it cannot be considered a true concept arrangement pattern. However, the grid is included in this list because the US GAAP Taxonomy uses a grid concept arrangement pattern to model the statement of changes in equity.



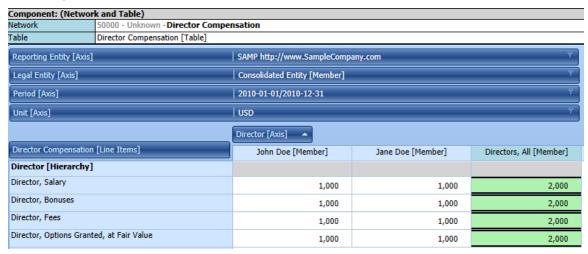
The grid pattern simply uses the [Member]s of an Axis to indicate which column information should be represented in and the [Line Items] to indicate the information which should be represented within the rows. This forms a readable table of information.

²⁵ Grid, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/09-Grid/evidence-package

1.13. Compound fact (not really a pattern)

A **compound fact**²⁶ is a pseudo pattern were a concept arrangement pattern that is further characterized by one or more additional [Axis].

For example, the salary information for the directors of an entity shown below is a [Hierarchy] of concepts that is further characterized by the name of the director which receives the compensation. The salary information is made up of salary, bonuses, director fees and this set of information (or compound facts) can be expressed for any number of directors, the director being the characteristic or axis of the compound fact.



The compound fact may, or may not, have mathematical relations that explain the mathematical associations between the concepts contained within the compound fact. For example, in the example above the sum of all salaries, bonuses, fees, and options granted is totalled for each director and is represented using an XBRL formula²⁷.

1.14. Proof

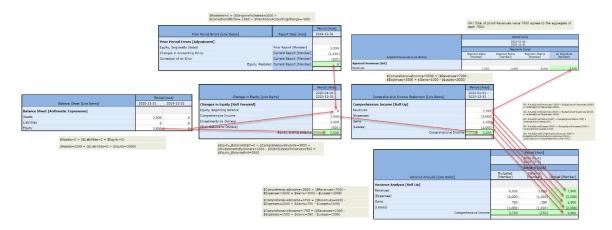
In order to test each concept arrangement pattern individually and to test the interaction between concept arrangement patterns, a proof which combines all the concept arrangement patterns into one document was created²⁸.

The graphic below shows the interaction between the concept arrangement patterns and that the logic of the represented information interconnects correctly within the one report:

²⁶ Compound Fact, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/04-CompoundFact/evidence-package

²⁷ Compound Fact XBRL Formula, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/1000-ConceptArangementPatterns/04-CompoundFact/CompoundFact-formula.xml

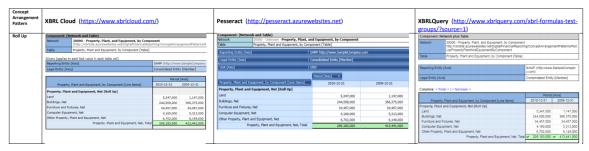
²⁸ Charles Hoffman, CPA, *Understanding Proof*, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2020/Library/UnderstandingProof.pdf



1.15. Interoperability

Any software application that presents information to business users about reports should provide a consistent representation of the meaning of that information. Saying this another way, by changing which software application you use should not change the meaning of the information you are working with.

For example, here is a comparison of three separate implementations showing how a roll up is represented in each²⁹:



²⁹ Comparison of Renderings for Concept Arrangement Patterns, http://xbrlsite.azurewebsites.net/2019/Prototype/conformance-suite/Production/ComparisonOfConceptArrangementPatternRenderings.pdf