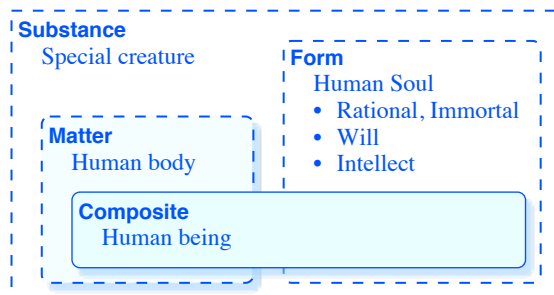
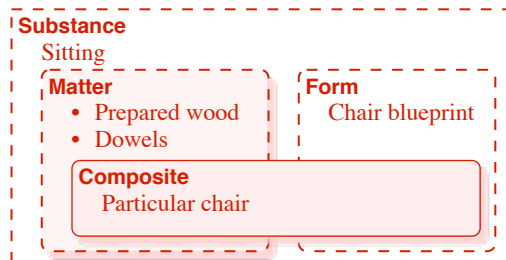
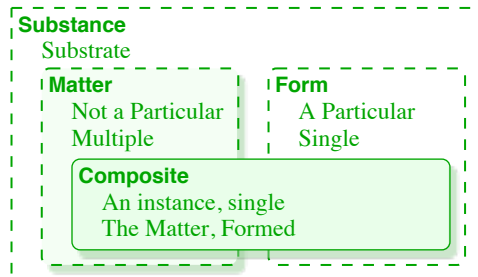




Composition

Vehicle 2 • Composition



Composition

- Taught in Modern "philosophy" ashylomorphism¹, however, Aristotle's Composition is not so limited
- Every **thing** in the created universe (not necessarily physical, or natural) is composed:
 - of Matter: *out of which* the thing is made
 - and Form: *according to which* the thing is made
 resulting in the Composite: the Matter, Formed
(There is one exception, angels, which are Forms only: they do not have a body, Matter)
- The Hierarchic Set diagram (with additional notation) is used for the vehicle, to illustrate the subject. The relations and dependencies are clear.

Matter

- **Matter** is the immediate Matter (prepared wood; dowels; etc) that is Formed, not the prior Matter (acorn; mature oak tree) from which the immediate Matter is Formed. Any prior Matter can be shown as a Composite (tree Formed into planks)
- Matter is shown with colour and depth, signifying that it is **sensible** (can be sensed)
- The dashed line signifies **Potentiality**, the solid line **Actuality**
 - The Composite is the only Actuality
- The Composition vehicle can be used for simple or complex things
- A particular chair is a Composite of:
 - Matter: prepared wood, not a tree, not just timber, but that required by the Form
 - Form: the blueprint for the particular chair, not the archetypal blueprint for all chairs of that type

Form

- The Form may not be sensed, but it can be known; determined, it is **intellective**
- It defines the *nature* of the thing, and thus the *nature of its existence*
- The Form holds the Matter as the Composite, if the Form were to be removed:
 - the chair would cease to exist (as that particular chair)
 - the policeman would revert to a person
 - the particular human being would die
- The Form is the principle of motion and power (action). Thus it defines its power to act, what it can and cannot do (while the Form remains a Potentiality in relation to the Composite)

Substance

- Aristotle's **Substance** is the substrate of both **Matter** and **Form**. It is not about sub-atomic particles, in those times it was related to the *ether*.
- In simple terms, it relates to the Final Cause, the teleology.

Composite

- The Composite is the particular, the individual being studied
- The Matter, Formed by a single particular Form
- The Composite (Actuality, particular) performs the act: the Form defines the nature of the policeman, his power to act, but it is the particular policeman who performs the act

Composition • Formation



- Forms are quite involved, perceive them as Sets
- This allows them to be arranged or nested, and clearly understood
- For any particular Composite, just one Form is Causal, it is shown in the Composition (above)
- Here, in the discussion of Forms, it is the innermost

Aristotle *De Anima* (On the Soul)

- ... the soul is, as it were, the principle of living things ... the cause for its existence
- ... the soul is the cause of its body
- ... the [final] cause of the soul is to partake in the eternal and divine

¹ *Hylomorphism* is misunderstood; taught incorrectly in order to suppress Aristotle; and limited to physical objects (materialism). Aristotle's vehicles have no such limitations. Hence I do not use the term. The vehicle can be used to study (conceptualise, analyse) anything: the natural universe; a person or office; or something that does not comprise Matter (a concept).