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Process Knowledge Graph Modeling Techniques and Application Methods for Ship Heterogeneous Models

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Abstract: In the process design and reuse of marine component products, there are a lot of heterogeneous models, causing the problem that the process knowledge and process design experience contained in them are difficult to express and reuse. Therefore, a process knowledge representation model for ship heterogeneous model is proposed in this paper. Firstly, the multi-element process knowledge graph is constructed, and the heterogeneous ship model is described in a unified way. Then, the multi-strategy ontology mapping method is applied, and the semantic expression between the process knowledge graph and the entity model is realized. Finally, by obtaining implicit semantics based on case-based reasoning and checking the similarity of the matching results, the case knowledge reuse is achieved, to achieve rapid design of the process. This method provides reliable technical support for the design of ship component assembly and welding process, greatly shortens the design cycle, and improves the working efficiency. In addition, a case study of the test model is carried out to verify the feasibility and efficiency of the proposed method.

Key words: Process knowledge graph, Process design, Knowledge reuse, Case-Based Reasoning, Knowledge-Based System

1 Introduction

With the development of manufacturing process, a large amount of process design data is continuously generated and stored in the database, which is a direct and effective carrier of process design results and process designer experience \[1\]. According to statistics, in the design phase, only one-third of the time is spent on design activities, and 70% of the time is spent on sorting and searching existing data and knowledge. Therefore, how to effectively manage and reuse this knowledge to match process design and improve the level of intelligent process design has become a key issue to be solved urgently.

In order to face the competition from world-class shipyards, large shipyards must increase the application of information technology \[2\]. The design process of ship assembly and welding technology is one of the key factors that determine product cost, quality and cycle. On the one hand, after years of accumulation, the relevant knowledge in the field of ship process design has been very rich. However, as far as the extensive production management mode of the shipyard is concerned, the engineering knowledge lacks effective summary and sorting, and a large amount of knowledge is scattered in the local storage medium or in the minds of domain experts, reusability and sharing are poor, so this also reflects how to effectively manage and reuse this knowledge to achieve rapid design of assembly and welding processes has become a problem to be solved \[3\]. On the other hand, in the process of ship design and construction, a large number of heterogeneous models containing assembly and welding processes will be generated. If these heterogeneous models cannot be effectively expressed and managed, then the heterogeneous models containing process design information will be regarded as implicit Knowledge is stored in the database, it is difficult to be reused, and it is a huge waste for enterprises. Therefore, it is necessary to study how to construct a unified expression model for heterogeneous models.
In order to overcome the above problems, the process knowledge graph modeling method oriented to heterogeneous models is proposed. First, the process knowledge graph is constructed by using heterogeneous model information and assembly welding process knowledge. Then, the preliminary unified semantic representation is obtained, through the multi-strategy similarity ontology mapping method guided by the knowledge graph. Finally, invisible semantics are obtained by case-based reasoning, and the similarity of matching results is checked.

The rest of this article is arranged as follows: In section 2 provides related work. In section 3, the basic concepts of the design of this paper are introduced, and the proposed methods are described. In section 4, a knowledge model based on the process knowledge graph and a case-based reasoning system is constructed respectively. In section 5, the effectiveness of the method is verified according to the selected model. Finally, we discuss directions for future research and present conclusions about the proposed method in section 6.

2 Literature review

Along with the continuous development of CAD system in the field of ship construction and the widespread application, a large number of heterogeneous model and the associated process data and knowledge continuously generated and stored in the knowledge base of the enterprise, and for the unity of the heterogeneous model representation method is on the increase, our work inspired by recent progress in several different areas [4], such as the knowledge map and knowledge reuse research, we will review below.

2.1 Knowledge graph

The concept of knowledge graph was formally proposed by Google in May 2012 [5]. Its original purpose was to improve the capabilities of search engines, improve the quality of search results and enhance the user’s search experience. In essence, knowledge graph is a way of revealing the relationship between entities. The semantic network can continue to formally describe things in the real world and their relationships. After 2013, with the continuous development of intelligent information services and applications and the effective management of heterogeneous and dynamic data, knowledge graphs have received widespread attention in specific fields such as academia and industry.

In academia, Hu Zewen [6] and others studied the application of knowledge graphs in information science and introduced the necessity, current situation, development trend, and knowledge graph receipt tools and method processes of information science knowledge graph research. Hu Fanghuai [7] studied the construction method of the Chinese knowledge graph based on multiple data sources; Giovanni Adorni and Frosina Koceva [8] constructed knowledge representation tools for educational theory based on subject structure and representation method. Jacopo Urbani and Ceriel Jacobs [9] studied the method of enriching query results by top-down rule-based reasoning on large RDF knowledge bases.

In other specific fields, research on knowledge graphs has also appeared. Jintao Liu [10] proposed a new method based on knowledge graphs to explore railway operation accidents, aiming to reveal the potential rules of accidents by describing accidents and hazards in heterogeneous networks. This work is an extension and supplement to the accident analysis of the classic homogeneous network. The analysis results of the knowledge map provide railway operators with a decision-making basis for accident prevention investment. Maya [11] et al. extracted medical concepts from a large number of patient records and used the maximum likelihood estimation of
three probability models to automatically construct a knowledge graph: logistic regression, naive Bayes classifier and Bayesian network using noise, from the learned parameters. Obtain the disease-symptom relationship graph in the process, and evaluate and verify the constructed process knowledge graph based on Google’s artificial knowledge graph and the advice of experts and doctors with permission. Said Fathalla [12] described how investigations in the research field are represented semantically, thus forming a knowledge graph that describes various research questions, methods, and evaluations in a structured and comparable way. By using the generated knowledge graph to answer questions about the different contributions covered by the survey, and to evaluate how the query answers meet the reader’s information needs compared with letting readers extract the same information from reading survey papers, to demonstrate the utility of the knowledge graph. Some companies have used knowledge graphs to improve existing products and have developed prominent examples of large-scale knowledge graphs, including DBpedia [13], Google knowledge graph [14], Microsoft’s Satori [15], Freebase, YAGO, and Wikidata [16]. Jayaram and Khan et al. [17] established a “Graph Query by Example” system, automatically finds the weighted hidden maximum query graph based on the input query tuple to obtain the user's query intent. Then, the top approximate matching answer graph and answer tuple can be effectively found and arranged.

However, the above knowledge graphs are mainly concentrated in the public domain, and the research on the field of ship construction is relatively limited. There is still no unified expression form for heterogeneous models based on knowledge graphs, but it is foreseeable that this technology will be used in the field of ship construction [18]. The knowledge representation and application aspects of the company have great potential. We will use the existing research results to realize the construction of process knowledge graph models for heterogeneous models.

2.2 Domain ontology and Case-Based Reasoning

Ontology [19] is derived from the ontology of philosophy and is used to describe the objective existence in the world. It is a systematic explanation or explanation of objective existence. Ontology can formalize the semantic expression of concepts, which is a common method of knowledge base construction. Blythe [20] uses the idea of ontology to research the knowledge association of the knowledge owned by the enterprise. This research can help the enterprise realize the acquisition of domain knowledge more quickly. Maedche et al. [21] proposed the use of ontology technology to develop an integrated enterprise knowledge management framework. Wang [22] proposed a knowledge management (KM) framework based on the Web ontology language DAML+OIL, which makes knowledge sharing more flexible and efficient. Li Zhimin [23] proposed a simpler ontology development and expansion and a two-stage mapping method to integrate virtual enterprise ontology. These methods can improve the comprehensiveness, scalability, reusability, and sharing requirements of the ontology knowledge organization of virtual enterprises.

Case-based reasoning (CBR) first appeared in Roger’s description of dynamic memory in 1982. The core idea of CBR is to help us solve the current problems with the help of cases that have solved similar problems in the past. Its core work is to retrieve historical cases that are most similar to the current case in the case library, and then retrieve the specific information based on the current problem the solutions reached are adjusted and applied to the current situation. Chang Liyun [24] proposed a method combining discernible matrix and mathematical logic operation to get the best attribute reduction results. Sun Yanqing et al. [25] redefines the importance of attributes so that the algorithm can simplify attributes while maintaining expert experience. Finally, an example proves that this method can greatly improve the efficiency of case retrieval. Lin and Chen [26] proposed
the use of the artificial immune algorithm for attribute feature selection and the use of UCI machine
learning data set data to prove that the accuracy and effectiveness of case retrieval are improved
after the feature is selected by the artificial immune algorithm. Shen [27] combined grey relational
analysis with a genetic algorithm to optimize the feature selection process and used the result of
grey relational analysis as the initial population of genetic algorithm heuristic search. The result
proved that this method can get a better feature combination. In the method of determining feature
weights, Chen Hong and Mao Hongbao [28] used knowledge entropy to determine the feature
weights of cases and verified the credibility of the method through examples. Norri [29] conducted
a comparative study on three feature weighting algorithms of genetic algorithm, rough set theory,
and fuzzy inference system, and the research results proved that the fuzzy set theory is the best
feature weighting method. Cunningham [30] shows that in case-based reasoning, evaluating the
similarity between cases is a key aspect of the retrieval stage. Therefore, a taxonomy is proposed to
organize new similar mechanisms and more established similar mechanisms into a coherent
framework.

In summary, the combination of ontology and CBR can effectively improve the performance
of knowledge representation and improve the performance of the CBR system [31]. The calculation
of semantic similarity is one of the hotspots of ontology research. Introducing it into CBR research
can effectively improve the drawbacks of traditional CBR systems that only use attribute similarity
as the main matching reference basis, thereby improving the accuracy of matching results. However,
the existing research on semantic similarity has not considered the influence of concept relevance
on similar results, which leads to limited knowledge matching effect. Therefore, based on existing
research in the industry, this paper introduces concept relevance to improve semantic similarity to
obtain comprehensive semantic similarity, to improve the accuracy and objectivity of knowledge
similarity calculation; and in the ontology representation of case knowledge After that, it is clustered
according to the comprehensive semantic similarity to compress the knowledge matching space and
improve the matching efficiency.

3 Overviews of the proposed method

In this section, we first define some basic concepts, and then briefly outline our approach.

3.1 Basic concepts

In order to visualize the dimension of each process model in machining process, the basic
concepts of process dimension, dimension completeness and standardization are condensed.

Definition 1: Process Element (PE). Process Element is used as a set of constraint conditions
for assembly and welding process. It can be expressed as:

$$PE = \{ < F > |< PE_i >, i = 1,2,......k \}$$

(1)

Among, F represents the feature in the assembly and welding process, PEi represents the i-th
process element related to process decision-making, and k is the process element category, such as
assembly feature type, part material, welding material, etc.

Definition 2: Process Knowledge (PK). Standards, rules and experience knowledge used in
welding process design, such as welding equipment selection rules, process analysis rules, etc.
Remember to:

$$PK = \{ P_i, P_2, ... P_i, ... P_k \}, i = 1,2,....$$

(2)

Among them, Pi represents rule knowledge; R represents the category of rule knowledge.

Definition 3: Process Knowledge Node Relationships (PKNR). Given the process element
node $P_i$ and the process knowledge node $P_j$, suppose the mutual entity relationship between them is:

$$\lambda_{ij} = PE(P_i) \cap PK(P_j)$$  \hspace{1cm} (3)

If the $\lambda_{ij} \neq \emptyset$, given the relationship between two nodes. In the field of assembly and welding technology, the nodes of process knowledge can be extracted by the 3D model in the process of process design. This paper constructs three types of knowledge node relations, which are hierarchy relation, reference relation, and example relation respectively. Among them, the hierarchical relationship reflects the hierarchical structure and composition relationship between the three-dimensional model feature concepts; the reference relationship reflects the concept and the concept can be matched together through the reference rule; the exemplified relationship is the instantiation of the class concept.

**Definition 4**: Process Knowledge Graph (PKG). Process knowledge graph is the entity expansion and enrichment of various process knowledge under the concept nodes and relationships, and it is a structured semantic knowledge base. Process knowledge graph $K$ defines a set of $(O, I)$, where $O$ stands for ontology and $I$ stands for instance. Both $O$ and $I$ triple with the form $(s, p, o)$, $s$ and $o$ belong to concepts or entities, and $p$ is an attribute.

### 3.2 Overview of the proposed method

Fig.1 shows the overall flow of the proposed method, which is guided by the process knowledge graph, the unified structured representation of heterogeneous models is realized from the perspective of process semantics. The framework consists of two parts: the process knowledge graph for building heterogeneous model of ships and the knowledge reuse system based on case-based reasoning (CBR).

Based on the analysis of the heterogeneous three-dimensional model and the process information model instance database, the process knowledge graph is constructed, and the concept mapping, semantic mapping, and other multi-strategy mapping methods are used to realize the unified structured semantic representation of the heterogeneous model.

The purpose of a case-based reasoning system is to reuse the knowledge stored in the case base with the help of a heterogeneous model process case base so that new process planning can be generated quickly. Usually, after a new case is entered, the system is a cyclic process that includes four steps: retrieval, reuse, modification, and retention.
4 Knowledge model construction based on process knowledge graph

4.1 Construct process knowledge graph of heterogeneous model

Process knowledge graph is the entity expansion and enrichment of various process knowledge under conceptual nodes and relationships and is a structured semantic knowledge network. In the field of ship process design, in order to solve the existence of heterogeneous models with conceptual mismatches and semantic inconsistencies, it is necessary to build a general process knowledge graph model to achieve a unified structured representation of ship heterogeneous models.

The process knowledge graph is divided into two levels: data layer and model layer. The model layer is usually built on the data layer and stores abstract knowledge, rules, and patterns. The actual data is stored by the data layer. The overall architecture of building process knowledge graph for heterogeneous ship model is shown in Fig.2. The part in the dashed box in the figure is the process of constructing the process knowledge graph and also the process of updating the process knowledge graph. The construction process of knowledge graph is based on the acquired heterogeneous model of ships, and a series of automatic or semi-automatic technical means are adopted. The knowledge elements are extracted from the heterogeneous model and then the knowledge is processed. After knowledge fusion and knowledge processing, it is stored in the process knowledge graph. Finally, the model layer and the data layer are linked through services to form a large process knowledge graph. The construction of the process knowledge graph is an iterative construction process. As can be seen from the figure, each round of iteration includes the following three stages.
The extraction of assembly and welding process information is the first step in the construction of process knowledge graph. The key issue is to extract entities, attributes and relationships from heterogeneous models of ships with different structures, and convert them into structured data. The process knowledge extraction in this paper includes attribute extraction, relation extraction, and entity extraction. Entity extraction refers to automatically identifying named entities from heterogeneous model data. The quality of entity extraction has a great influence on the efficiency and quality of subsequent knowledge acquisition, so it is the most basic and key part of the knowledge extraction of the assembly and welding process. As shown in Fig.3, take the welding process parameters as an example. In order to link the extracted knowledge to the process knowledge graph, it is also necessary to extract the association relationships between entities and connect the entities through the relationships. Relation extraction is to solve the basic problem of how to extract the relations between entities. The purpose of attribute extraction is to collect attribute information of specific entities from different heterogeneous model information. The method of data mining is used to directly mine the relationship pattern between entity attributes and attribute values from heterogeneous model information to realize the positioning in the model.
4.1.2 Knowledge Fusion and Knowledge Processing

Through the knowledge extraction of the assembly and welding process, the goal of obtaining entity, relationship, and entity attribute information from unstructured and semi-structured data is realized. However, this knowledge can contain a lot of redundancy and error information, and the relationships between data are flat and lack logic and hierarchy. Therefore, it is necessary to clean and integrate it to form structured data in the knowledge base.

Knowledge fusion includes two parts, namely entity link, and knowledge fusion. Through knowledge fusion, ambiguity and misconceptions can be eliminated, thereby ensuring the quality of knowledge. Entity linking refers to the operation of linking the entity object extracted from the text to the corresponding correct entity object in the knowledge base. The process of entity linking is: extracting entity referents from model information through entities; Whether the entity with the same name in the knowledge base and it represent different meanings is judged, and whether there are other named entities in the knowledge base and it represents the same meanings; After confirming the correct entity object in the knowledge base, the entity reference necklace is connected to the corresponding entity in the knowledge base.

Through the knowledge extraction of the assembly and welding process, knowledge factors such as entities, relationships and attributes can be extracted from heterogeneous models. After knowledge fusion, the ambiguity between entity referents and entity objects can be eliminated, and basic fact expressions can be obtained. However, the fact itself is not equivalent to knowledge. It needs to go through the process of knowledge processing to obtain the final structured and networked knowledge system.

Taking the heterogeneous model in Fig.4 as an example, the process knowledge contained in the heterogeneous model is expressed through processes such as knowledge extraction, knowledge fusion, and knowledge processing.

Figure 4 Based on the process knowledge graph to express the process knowledge contained in the heterogeneous model
4.2 Unified semantic expression of heterogeneous models

The unified semantics of the ship heterogeneous model is an expression form in which the concepts in multiple ontologies are established correspondingly, and the multiple ontologies are linked together through mapping. At the same time, the similarity of concepts is evaluated, the mapping rules are formulated according to the similarity results, and the mapping rules are corrected to ensure that the unified semantic representation of heterogeneous models is realized in the process knowledge graph.

As there are related concepts and semantic connections between the various process knowledge ontology contained in the ship heterogeneous model, the mapping relationship between the ontology is established. Taking the welding tool resource ontology and the feature welding set resource ontology as an example, the mapping relationship between the welding tool resource ontology $W$ and the feature welding set resource ontology $T$ is represented by the set $M=\{m\}$, where $m$ represents the basis of a five-tuple, the mapping unit can be written in the form $e=(g, u, v, r, s)$. $g$ is the unique identifier of the mapping unit; $u$ and $v$ are elements in $W$ and $T$ respectively; $r$ represents the relationship between $u$ and $v$; $s$ is used to identify the similarity of the ontology mapping. Thus, the mapping relationship between the concepts and parameters in the welding tool resource ontology and the feature welding set resource ontology is established. The mapping relationship among connection tools, feature welding sets, and instance ontology is shown in Fig.5. The semantic similarity of the concepts in the heterogeneous model is calculated through the corresponding mapping rules, to ensure that the unified semantic expression of the ship heterogeneous model is realized in the process knowledge graph.

4.3 Knowledge reuse technology based on Case-based Reasoning

After the construction of the heterogeneous ship model case base is completed, the assembly and welding process decisions extracted previously are recorded and stored. A case-based reasoning (CBR) method is needed to retrieve and reuse assembly and welding process knowledge stored in heterogeneous ship models. In the CBR system, the existing welding process information is
retrieved by calculating the similarity degree. Similarity can be divided into local similarity and global similarity. Local similarity refers to the similarity between two attributes, while global similarity refers to the similarity between two cases.

Fig. 6 shows the calculation method of local similarity and global similarity between the new case A and the existing case B, where j represents the serial number of influencing factors and n represents the total number of influencing factors. Once the influencing factors of ship heterogeneous model cases ($D_1, D_2, \ldots, D_n$), the similarity of these attributes can be calculated by the nearest neighbor algorithm. Through the analytic hierarchy process, according to the importance of each factor to the case, each factor is assigned a weight, and then all the local similarities and their respective weights are considered, and the overall situation of the new case A and case B in the knowledge base can be calculated. Similarity. In the process of using the analytic hierarchy process, a comparison matrix is created based on the input of the decision-maker, which gives the relative importance between the two influencing factors. Experts need to make judgments on factor X relative to factor Y. The more important the factor, the higher the score. The score is generally set to 1-9. If the importance of X relative to Y is set to 3, the importance of Y relative to X is 1/3. By calculating the geometric mean and standardizing it to obtain the relative weight associated with each influencing factor.

$$\text{Sim}(A, B) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \theta_p \text{Sim}(X_j, Y_j)$$  \hspace{1cm} (4)$$

Among them, $\text{Sim}(X_j, Y_j)$ represents the local similarity between the j-th influencing factor $X_j, Y_j$ between the new case A and the existing case B, and $\text{Sim}(A, B)$ is the local similarity between the new case A and the existing case B. The global similarity. n represents the number of influencing factors. $\theta_p$ represents the weight of the p-th influencing factor.

For the calculation of local similarity, there are different calculation methods for different types of influencing factors: enumerated factors, numerical factors, and irrelevant factors.

For numerical influencing factors that can be identified by numerical values, the following
formula can be used to express:

$$Sim(X_j, Y_j) = \frac{1}{1+ |X_j - Y_j|}$$

(5)

The attribute domain of enumerated influencing factor similarity is generally enumerated, that is, any two values of influencing factors correspond to a local similarity. Attributes such as assembly requirements, welding methods, and construction types have this type of local similarity.

$$Sim(X_j, Y_j) = 1 - \frac{|X_j - Y_j|}{M}$$

(6)

The irrelevant factor means that there is no connection between the different values of the influencing factors. If the two influencing factors are the same, the local similarity is 1; otherwise, the local similarity is 0.

$$Sim(X_j, Y_j) = \begin{cases} 1, & X_j = Y_j \\ 0, & X_j \neq Y_j \end{cases}$$

(7)

5 Case study and discussion

In the construction of modern ships, heterogeneous models occupy an important proportion. The double bottom segment is a typical heterogeneous model. Through the study of double bottom segmentation, the process knowledge graph of the double bottom segment is constructed to verify the proposed feasibility of the method.

Fig.7 shows the process knowledge graph modeling prototype system for ship heterogeneous models constructed in this paper, it mainly includes two main stages: construction of heterogeneous model process knowledge graph and unified semantic generation, and case knowledge reuse. It also includes CATIA platform information extraction, heterogeneous model, and process information model analysis, which provides support for heterogeneous model information extraction and process knowledge graph construction. It can be seen from Figure 7 that, firstly, the system ontology model is constructed by extracting the inherent concepts, terminology, and relationships of the system through the CATIA platform. Secondly, by analyzing the heterogeneous model case library and mapping related concepts, the model layer of the process knowledge graph is established. Then, the multi-strategy ontology mapping of the Protégé platform is used to generate a process knowledge graph with a unified semantic expression of heterogeneous models. At the same time, through the mutual transformation of process knowledge graph, can realize knowledge reuse and data exchange.
5.1 Build heterogeneous model process knowledge graph

The construction of the process knowledge graph is divided into two stages. First, in order to ensure the accuracy and uniformity of concepts in the model layer of process knowledge graph, a top-down approach is adopted to map the features and process knowledge concepts to the process knowledge graph model layer to form the basic model layer of the process knowledge graph model. Since the assembly process decision is closely related to the coupling relationship and the heterogeneous model contains the macro process. Therefore, to ensure the integrity of the process knowledge graph, the relationship attributes resolved by the heterogeneous model are added to the basic model layer of the process knowledge graph to form an extended model layer of the process knowledge graph. Secondly, with the increase of process information model instance data, the process knowledge graph can be updated and expanded by extracting process entity concepts and process entity relationships.

Taking the heterogeneous model of the ship's double bottom segment as shown in Figure 8 as an example, the following steps are used to construct a process knowledge map by applying the Protégé platform:

Step 1. Identify N assembly welding process characteristics \( P_i \) from the heterogeneous model.

Step 2. In the process file of the heterogeneous model, M assembling and welding process information are traversed.

Step 3. Through semantic analysis and lexical analysis, traverse M assembly and welding process information, and extract welding method information, welding equipment information, and assembly and welding strategy information. In this step, the relationship between the geometric features and the welding equipment involved in the current assembly and welding process will be
obtained.

Taking the heterogeneous model shown in Fig. 8 as an example, the process knowledge graph constructed by the above method is shown in Fig. 9.

**Figure 8 Double bottom section**

**Figure 9 Constructing a heterogeneous model process knowledge graph**

### 5.2 Case knowledge reuse

Fig. 10 shows the case retrieval interface. The designer extracts the semantic words according to the retrieval intention and enters them into the semantic retrieval column, and enters the attribute value of the case knowledge in the attribute similarity check layer. The semantic concept words in this example are "plate thickness", "groove type", "welding method" and "weld seam length".

In hierarchical retrieval, the semantic similarity optimization algorithm is first used to calculate the semantic relatedness, and the semantic relatedness between domain ontologies is used to retrieve a subset of cases mapped by concept nodes, and then the numerical similarity is calculated by the attribute similarity algorithm retrieval to improve the retrieval accuracy of case knowledge. In the process acquisition interface, the system gives a sorted list of the most relevant cases, and the case structure and corresponding process design principles can be viewed through the case process information interface to realize the reuse of case knowledge.

**Figure 10 Case search and reuse module interface**
5.3 Discussion

Table 1 shows the comparison between the method in this paper and other related methods. It can be seen that the method in this paper and the method in [32] both use structural elements of different granularities (for example, parts, features); Both of them are oriented towards the manufacturing domain and have multi-level detail characteristics. The method in [32] takes manufacturing characteristics as the carrier to structurally represent the welding current, welding voltage, welding wire diameter, and other microscopic process knowledge, without considering macroscopic process knowledge and heterogeneous model. [33] is based on the meta-model of parts and processing technology, and multi-level structured representation of process data such as resources and manufacturing processes associated with parts, to realize the sharing of underlying manufacturing resources; However, this method is oriented to the field of mechanical processing and does not systematically consider the macro and micro process knowledge. In addition, although the unified structured representation of heterogeneous model features is solved by the methods in [34], the sharing and reuse of heterogeneous models cannot be realized.

| Comparison factor          | our approach | Error! Reference source not found. | Error! Reference source not found. | Error! Reference source not found. |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Degree of structure        | Parts/Features | Part                              | Manufacturing features            | Design features                   |
| Model representation       | PKG          | UML                               | UML                               | Ontology                          |
| Level of detail            | ▲            | ▲                                 | ▲                                 |                                   |
| Micro process knowledge    | ▲            |                                   | ▲                                 |                                   |
| Macro process knowledge    | ▲            |                                   |                                   |                                   |
| Application field          | Manufacture  | Manufacture                       | Manufacture                       | Design                            |
| Data set                   | Heterogeneous model | Process data                 | Isomorphic model                 | Heterogeneous model               |

6 Conclusion and future works

Aiming at the problem that the knowledge contained in the existing heterogeneous models is difficult to express the influence on process knowledge reuse and sharing, a structured modeling method that uses process knowledge graph to uniformly represent heterogeneous models is proposed in this paper. Ontology is used to organize and formalize various process-related information that exists in the heterogeneous model. It provides a structured way to express and manage the process knowledge in the model. At the same time, case-based reasoning (CBR) can process the process knowledge stored in the semantic model, so it is used to retrieve and reuse the existing process knowledge to obtain the candidate welding process information.

The paper takes the construction of the process knowledge graph model of the heterogeneous model as the starting point. First, the heterogeneous model analysis is extracted through feature recognition, manufacturing semantic. And then the extracted information is fused and processed to obtain the process knowledge ontology. The method based on multi-strategy ontology mapping is used to generate a unified semantic expression of heterogeneous models. This technology can not only express the process knowledge contained in the heterogeneous model, but also effectively improve the efficiency of knowledge reuse, which is of great significance for shortening the design cycle of the ship component welding process. The experimental results show that the method is
feasible. This method has the following characteristics: (1) With the help of ontology modeling, ontology mapping, and semantic reasoning, a unified semantic expression is established for heterogeneous models to support knowledge sharing and reuse in-process collaborative design, and has the characteristics of semantic interconnection; (2) Support multi-modal retrieval by using an improved similarity measurement scheme. (3) The process knowledge graph is used to express the knowledge contained in the heterogeneous model, to realize the reuse of assembly and welding process knowledge quickly.

In the future, we still need to further explore some issues to improve the practicability of our method: More semantic rules will be used to improve the accuracy of semantic description; Process design information and knowledge are highly complex, and uncertainties caused by fuzzy information in the process design process need to be considered.

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Compliance with ethical standards

Ethical approval The authors state that this paper is an original work, it has not been published in any journals, and this research does not involve any ethical issues of humans or animals.

Consent to participate The authors declare that this research involves no human participants and/or animals.

Consent for publish This work described has not been published before and has not been under consideration for publication anywhere else. Authors are responsible for the correctness of the statements provided in the manuscript and consent to be published.

Authors’ contributions

Jinfeng Liu: methodology, writing, supervision, validation—original draft preparation
Jianwei Dong: Investigation and methodology
Xuwen Jing: Supervision, writing — reviewing and editing
Xuwu Cao: Validation
Chenxiao Du: Supervision
Lei Li: Supervision

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Informed consent Consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the work.

Data availability In this submission, all the data are transparent.

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