Unit 1 – a "Bird's Eye" View on RDF(S), OWL & SPARQL

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VU 184.729 Semantic Web Technologies

Unit Outline

1. Motivation – Aggregating Web Data
2. How can I publish data? RDF
3. How can I query that data? SPARQL
4. What does that data mean? Ontologies described in RDFS + OWL
5. What's next?

Prerequisites

- Some basic knowledge about first-order logics.
- Some basic knowledge about databases (mainly: SQL).
- Some basic knowledge about HTML and HTTP.
- Some basic knowledge about XML would be nice.

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Questions:

- Where do I get the right data?
- What is the format & structure (schema) of this data?
- Which rules and query languages do I use to aggregate this data?
- Which systems are out there to support me?

Where is the data? 1/4

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- it’s linked

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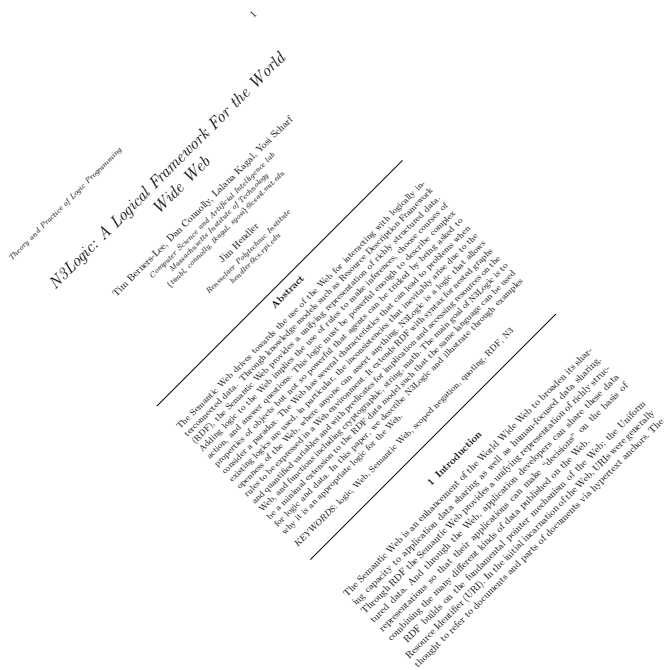

- A lot of Web data already available "out there"
- it's linked
- More and more of it available in in a machine-readable format (RDF) following the *Linked Data* principles (cf. introductory slides from last week)

Where is the data? 2/4

Obtaining Machine-Readable RDF data
(i) RDF directly by the publishers, (ii) as RDFa by content management systems, or (iii) by 3rd-party wrappers:

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Obtaining Machine-Readable RDF data

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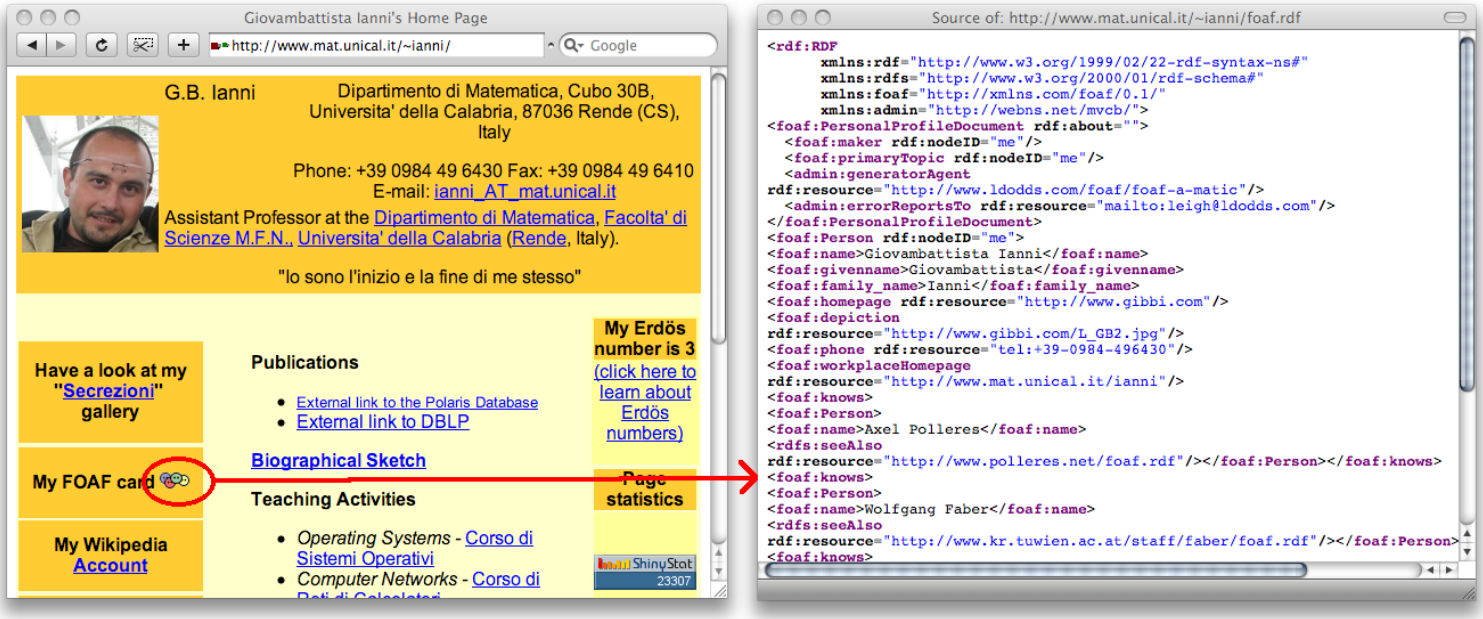
"FOAF-files" in RDF linked from a home page: personal data (`foaf:name`, `foaf:phone`, etc.), relationships `foaf:knows`, `rdfs:seeAlso`)



Different Options:

e.g. linking RDF/XML [Beckett and McBride (eds.), 2004] from (X)HTML,

Let's check, e.g.`http://www.w3.org/People/Berners-Lee/`, or

`http://www.cs.rpi.edu/~hendler/`

Where is the data? 3/4

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Some sites provide RDF in terms of microformats, or RDFa (=RDF embedded in HTML), e.g. on `http://bestbuy.com`, more and more using `http://schema.org` metadata

- ... try using W3C's RDFa Distiller: `http://www.w3.org/2007/08/pyRdfa/`
- This RDFa is often generated directly by the underlying CMS (e.g. Drupal provides modules for RDFa)

Where is the data? 4/4

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L3S' RDF export of the DBLP citation index, see http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/

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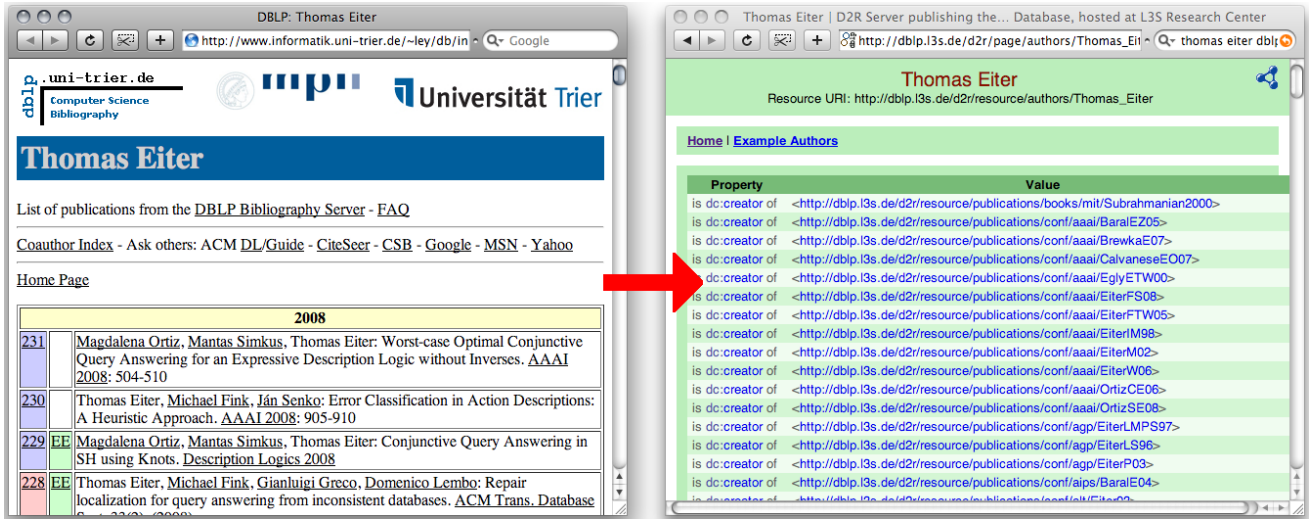


- Gives unique URIs to authors, documents, etc. on DBLP! E.g., http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/Thomas_Eiter, http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/Tim_Berners-Lee, http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/publications/journals/tplp/Berners-LeeCKSH08, etc.
- Provides RDF version of all DBLP data + query interface!
- Other nice example: RDF+query interface for large parts of wikipedia: http://dbpedia.org/

How can I query that data? SPARQL

SPARQL – W3C approved standardized query language for RDF:

- look-and-feel of "SQL for the Web"
- allows to ask queries like
- "*All documents created by Thomas Eiter*"
- "*Names of all persons who co-authored with authors of the present paper*"
- "*Names of persons who know Tim Berners-Lee or who are known by Tim Berners-Lee*"
- "*All people who have published in TPLP but have not co-authored with any of the authors of the present paper*"

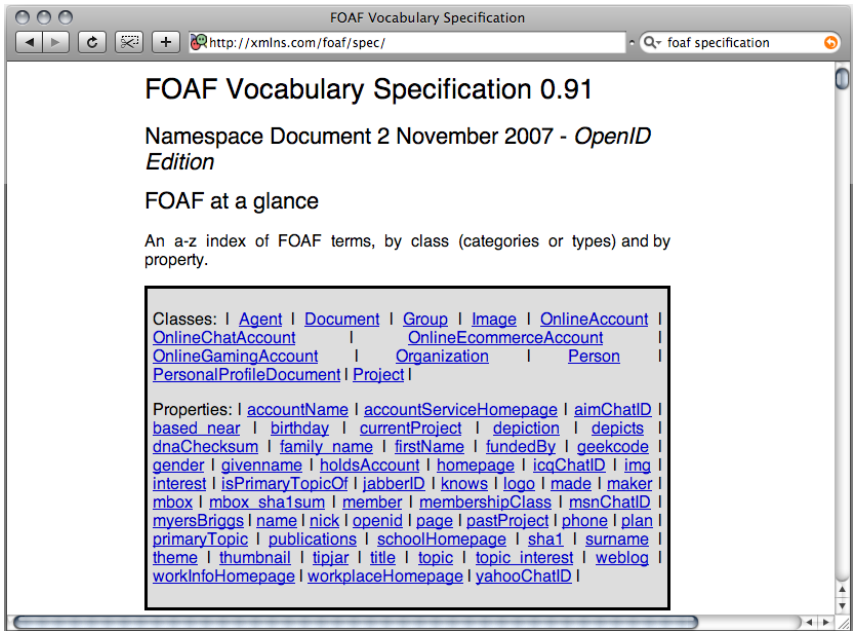
Example (**query1.sparql**):

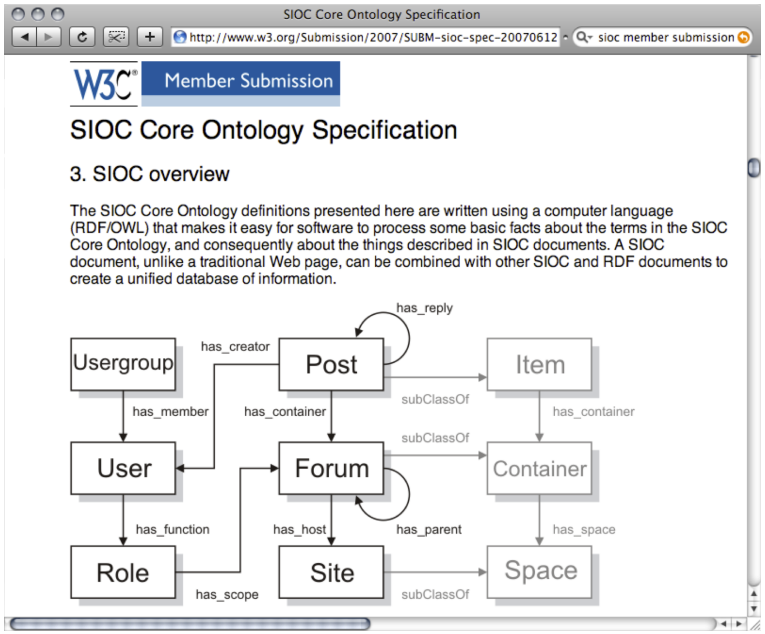
```
SELECT ?D
FROM <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/data/authors/Thomas_Eiter>
WHERE {?D dc:creator <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/Thomas_Eiter>}
```

What does the data mean?

Data, i.e. the used *vocabulary* to write down RDF is described by *ontologies*,themselves published in RDF, e.g.:

- Friend-of-a-Friend (FOAF) [Brickley and Miller, 2007]
- Socially-Interlinked-Online-Communities (SIOC) [Bojārs *et al.*, 2007]
- Dublin Core [Nilsson *et al.*, 2008]





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Semantic Web Data: The Resource Description Framework (RDF)

- RDF is describing *resources* per triples/statements

  Subject **P**redicate **O**bject.

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- abstracts away from tables (RDBMS) or tree-like (XML) schemas
- triples can be viewed as edges of a labeled,directed graph.
- main advantage: Graphs are easy to merge! (Trees,Tables aren't)

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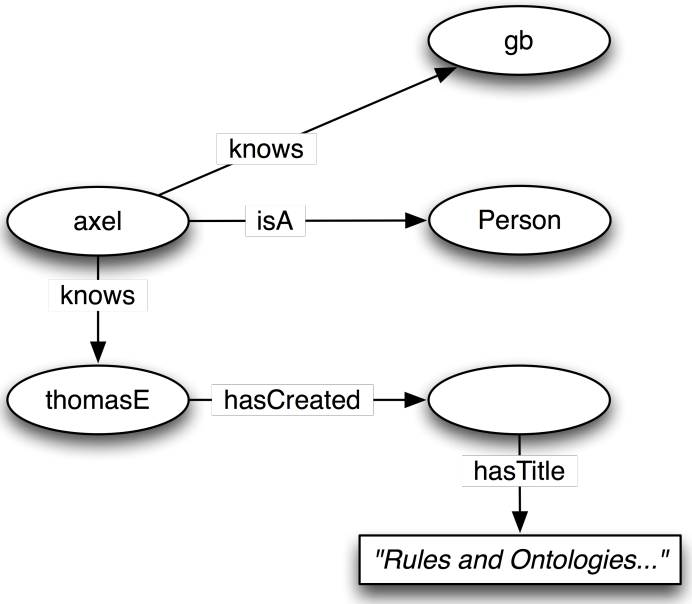

gb isA Person .
gb knows axel .
gb knows thomasK.
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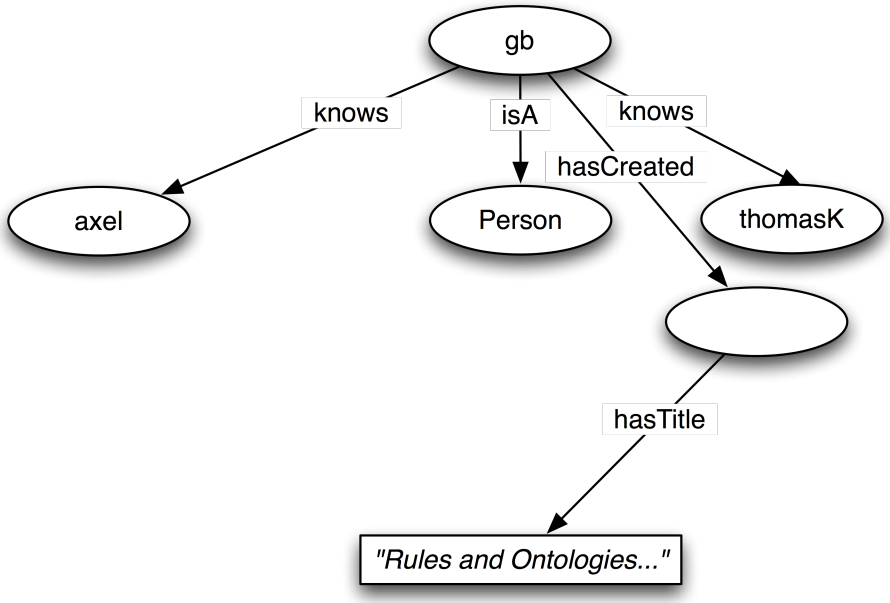

Observe: the "existential variables" became "blank" nodes in the Graph.

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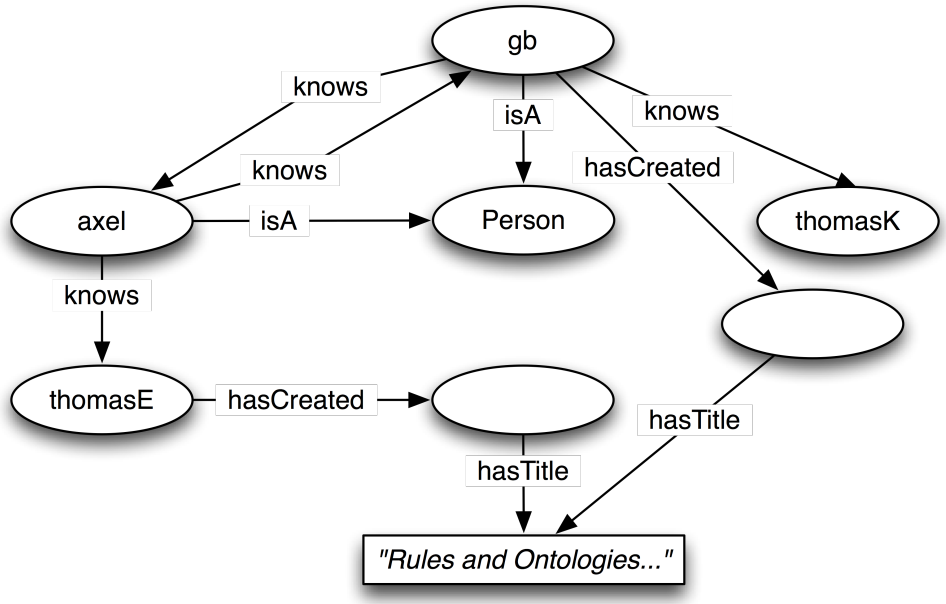

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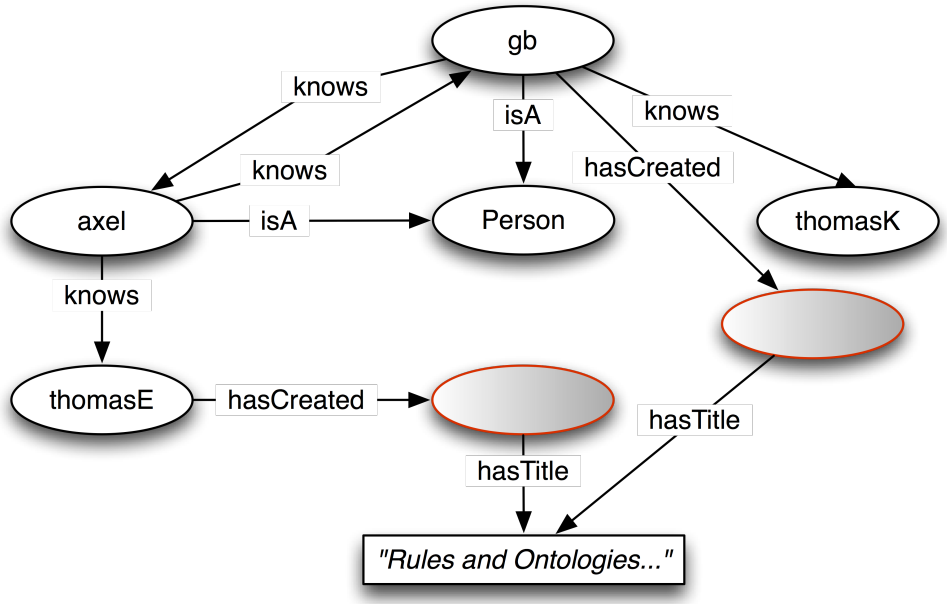

Observe: the "existential variables" became "blank" nodes in the Graph. Note that we have no reason to assume that the two blank nodes are the same.

A Syntax for RDF: Turtle

There are different syntaxes for RDF

- RDF/XML [Beckett and McBride (eds.), 2004]
- Turtle [Beckett *et al.*, 2008], N3 [Berners-Lee and Connolly, 2008]
- RDFa [Adida *et al.*, 2008] (i.e., RDF "embedded" in (X)HTML)
- RDF in JSON

We'll use Turtle syntax in this lecture:

- it is a subset of Notation 3 [Berners-Lee and Connolly, 2008]
- sufficient to write all RDF
- almost human-readable
- also the basis for SPARQL
- upcoming W3C standard!
- tools and APIs to convert from one syntax into the other

Resources in RDF, Turtle Syntax

- Resources are identified by URIs (to encourage web-wide unique identifiers)
- There are special URIs, defined in vocabularies (FOAF, SIOC, RDF, etc.)
- Objects can be literals,

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becomes:

```
<http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type>
                    <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/Person>.
<http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/name>
                    "Axel Polleres".
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```

Ugly to read... more compact syntaxes like Turtle [Beckett *et al.*, 2008] allow prefix definitions á la XML:

```
@prefix :  <http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf#> .
@prefix rdf:  <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix xs:  <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .
:me rdf:type foaf:Person .
:me foaf:name "Axel Polleres"^^xs:string.
```

More on RDF – Shortcuts in Turtle Syntax

```
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@prefix rdf:  <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix dc:  <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
:me rdf:type foaf:Person .
:me foaf:name "Axel Polleres" .
:me foaf:knows <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/data/authors/Giovambattista_Ianni> .
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<http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/page/authors/Thomas_Eiter> dc:creator X .
X rdf:type foaf:Document .
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  - typed literals l of type dt are written as $l^{\wedge\wedge}dt$.

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                a foaf:Document ;
                dc:title "Rules and Ontologies for the Semantic Web"@en ] .
```

- Blank nodes in Turtle are written as _ : *Varname*
- Turtle allows shortcuts:
  - Same subject triples can be grouped together with ';' , ','
  - Blank nodes can be grouped/replaced using "bracket syntax" '[', ']'
  - `rdf:type` is often abbreviated with `a`.
  - typed literals l of type dt are written as $l^{\wedge\wedge}dt$.
  - untyped literals can have a language tag [BCP-47, 2006].

More on RDF – Shortcuts in Turtle Syntax

```
@prefix :  <http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf#>
@prefix rdf:  <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix dc:  <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
:me  foaf:Person;
     foaf:name "Axel Polleres"^^xs:string;
     foaf:knows <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/data/authors/Giovambattista_Ianni> ,
              <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/page/authors/Thomas_Eiter> .
<http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/page/authors/Thomas_Eiter> dc:creator [
              a foaf:Document ;
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  - typed literals l of type dt are written as $l^{\wedge\wedge}dt$.
  - untyped literals can have a language tag [BCP-47, 2006].
  - (untyped literals with or without language tag are also called "plain" literals.)

Collecting RDF from the Web

- For us this is enough so far to "read" RDF on the Web.

[1] http://librdf.org/
[2] http://jena.sourceforge.net/

Collecting RDF from the Web

- For us this is enough so far to "read" RDF on the Web.
- For published RDF data there exists a machine-readable XML syntax. Lots of tools and APIs to read/process/convert this data (Redland (C++),[1] Jena (Java),[2] etc.)

```
@prefix rdfs:  <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix rdf:   <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix :  <http://www.gibbi.com/foaf.rdf#> .

<http://www.gibbi.com/foaf.rdf> a foaf:PersonalProfileDocument.
<http://www.gibbi.com/foaf.rdf> foaf:maker :me .
<http://www.gibbi.com/foaf.rdf> foaf:primaryTopic :me .
:me a foaf:Person .
:me foaf:name "Giovambattista Ianni" .
:me foaf:homepage <http://www.gibbi.com> .
:me foaf:knows [ a foaf:Person ;
        foaf:name "Wolfgang Faber" ;
        rdfs:seeAlso <http://www.kr.tuwien.ac.at/staff/faber/foaf.rdf>].
:me foaf:knows [ a foaf:Person .
        foaf:name "Axel Polleres" ;
        rdfs:seeAlso <http://www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf> ].
:me foaf:knows [ a foaf:Person .
        foaf:name "Thomas Eiter" ] .
:me foaf:knows [ a foaf:Person .
        foaf:name "Alessandra Martello" ] .
```

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Collecting RDF from the Web

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```
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@prefix foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix :  <http://www.gibbi.com/foaf.rdf#> .
```


```
        foaf:name "Alessandra Martello" ] .
```

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Using *rapper*

Example tool for converting RDF between different syntaxesL: `rapper` (part of the Redland API, cf. `http://librdf.org/`), e.g.

```
rapper http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf -i rdfxml -o turtle
```

or

```
rapper http://polleres.net/teaching/SemWebTech_2012/testdata/foaf.ttl -i turtle -o rdfxml
```

cf. Part 1 of assignment 1:

- Create your own FOAF file. You can use a generator tool such as FOAF-a-Matic (returns RDF/XML) to generate a skeleton.
- Convert the FOAF file to Turtle syntax [...]

Unit Outline

How can I query/aggregate RDF data? SPARQL

- First "ingredient": a standardized query language – SPARQL [Prud'hommeaux and Seaborne, 2008; Harris and Seaborne, 2013] – based on graph pattern matching

Prologue:	P	`PREFIX` *prefix*: <*namespace-URI*>	
Head:	C or	`CONSTRUCT { template }`	. . . construct a new RDF graph
	S or	`SELECT` *variable list*	. . . select matching resources/literals in a graph
	A	`ASK`	. . . boolean query
Body:	D	`FROM` / `FROM NAMED` <*dataset-URI*>	
	W	`WHERE { pattern }`	
	M	`ORDER BY` *expression*	
		`LIMIT` *integer* > 0	
		`OFFSET` *integer* > 0	

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- Let us start with `SELECT` queries and focus on the different patterns:
  - basic graph patterns (Conjunctive queries)
  - `FILTER`s
  - `UNION`s of patterns
  - `OPTIONAL` Patterns
  - `GRAPH` Patterns

Basic Graph Patterns (Conjunctive queries)

"select all names of persons known by G.B. from his FOAF file"

```
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

SELECT ?N
FROM <http://www.mat.unical.it/~ianni/foaf.rdf>
WHERE {
       <http://www.mat.unical.it/~ianni/foaf.rdf#me> foaf:knows ?X .
       ?X a foaf:Person .  ?X foaf:name ?N .
      }
```

- graph patterns (`WHERE` part) allow Turtle syntax

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SELECT ?N
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WHERE {
       [ foaf:knows
         [ a foaf:Person; foaf:name ?N ]]
      }
```

- graph patterns (`WHERE` part) allow Turtle syntax
- all Turtle shortcuts allowed[3]

[3] We assume here that the only people declared "known" in G.B.'s FOAF file are those known by him.

Basic Graph Patterns (Conjunctive queries)

"select all names of persons known by G.B., Axel, and Thomas K. from their FOAF files"

```
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

SELECT ?N
FROM <http://www.mat.unical.it/~ianni/foaf.rdf>
FROM <http://www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf>
FROM <http://www.postsubmeta.net/foaf>
WHERE {
       [ foaf:knows
         [ a foaf:Person; foaf:name ?N ]]
      }
```

- graph patterns (`WHERE` part) allow Turtle syntax
- all Turtle shortcuts allowed[3]
- merge of several graphs can be queried at once

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WHERE {
       [ foaf:knows
         [ a foaf:Person; foaf:name ?N ]]
      }
```

- graph patterns (`WHERE` part) allow Turtle syntax
- all Turtle shortcuts allowed[3]
- merge of several graphs can be queried at once
- Try it! E.g. using ARQ (`http://jena.sourceforge.net/ARQ/`)

```
arq --query
http://www.polleres.net/teaching/SemWebTech_2012/testdata/query2.sparql
```

FILTERs in Basic Graph Patterns

"select all names of persons known by GB, Thomas, and Axel from their FOAF files" (`query3.sparql`)

```
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

SELECT ?N
WHERE {
       [ foaf:knows
         [a foaf:Person ; foaf:name ?N] ]
      }
```

- graph patterns (`WHERE` part) allow Turtle syntax
- all Turtle shortcuts allowed
- Dataset can also be implicit, depending on the implementation

FILTERs in Basic Graph Patterns

"select all names of persons known by GB, Thomas, and Axel from their FOAF files" (`query3.sparql`)

```
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

SELECT ?N
WHERE {
       [ foaf:knows
        [a foaf:Person ; foaf:name ?N] ]
       FILTER ( ?N != "Giovambattista Ianni" &&
                ?N != "Thomas Krennwallner" && ?N != "Axel Polleres")
      }
```

- graph patterns (`WHERE` part) allow Turtle syntax
- all Turtle shortcuts allowed
- Dataset can also be implicit, depending on the implementation
- Now, let us try to filter out the authors' names from the result.

UNIONs (Disjunction)

"Names of persons who know Axel Polleres or who are known by Axel Polleres"

```
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

SELECT ?N
FROM ...
WHERE {
       { [ foaf:name "Axel Polleres" ] foaf:knows [foaf:name ?N ] }
       UNION
       { [ foaf:name ?N ] foaf:knows [foaf:name "Axel Polleres" ] }
      }
```

UNIONs (Disjunction)

"Names of persons who know Axel Polleres or who are known by Axel Polleres"

```
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

SELECT ?N
FROM ...
WHERE {
       { [ foaf:name "Axel Polleres" ] foaf:knows [foaf:name ?N ] }
       UNION
       { [ foaf:name ?N ] foaf:knows [foaf:name "Axel Polleres" ] }
      }
```

- UNION s allow alternative matching of several patterns, similar to UNIONs in SQL.

OPTIONALs 1/2 – Partial Matching

"Select all names of persons known by Axel from his FOAF file and – if available – their `rdfs:seeAlso` links" *`query4.sparql`*

```
PREFIX rdfs:  <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

SELECT ?N ?L
FROM <http://www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf>
WHERE {<http://www.www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> foaf:knows ?X .
       ?X foaf:name ?N . ?X rdfs:seeAlso ?L
      }
```

- "Normal" basic graph pattern doesn't work here, returns only those `?X` with **both** a name **and** a `rdfs:seeAlso` link.

?N	?L
"Dan Brickley" "Ruben Lara Hernandez" ...	<http://danbri.org/foaf.rdf> <http://nets.ii.uam.es/řlara/foaf.rdf>

OPTIONALs 1/2 – Partial Matching

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       ?X foaf:name ?N .  OPTIONAL  { ?X rdfs:seeAlso ?L }
      }
```

- "Normal" basic graph pattern doesn't work here, returns only those `?X` with **both** a name **and** a `rdfs:seeAlso` link.
- `OPTIONAL` allows partial variable bindings in the solutions.

?N	?L
"Dan Brickley" "Ruben Lara Hernandez" ... "Thomas Eiter" ...	<http://danbri.org/foaf.rdf> <http://nets.ii.uam.es/rlara/foaf.rdf>

CONSTRUCT

CONSTRUCT queries in SPARQL allow to generate new RDF graphs from the results of a query, e.g.

> *"Create a graph which establishes 'foaf:knows relations for all persons who I have co-authored with according to DBLP." (query7.sparql)*

```
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
PREFIX dc:  <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
PREFIX: <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/>

CONSTRUCT  { <http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> foaf:knows ?Y }
WHERE { ?D dc:creator :Axel_Polleres;
        dc:creator ?Y . FILTER( ?Y != :Axel_Polleres )
      }
```

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      }
```

- "Output pattern" is a basic graph pattern
- similar to "views" in SQL
- May be viewed as a "rules language" itself.

ASK

ASK queries are "yes/no" queries without explicit output, e.g.

"Does Axel know one of the co-authors of <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/publications/journals/tplp/Berners-LeeCKSH08>?"

```
PREFIX rdfs:  <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>
PREFIX foaf:  <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
PREFIX dc:  <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>

ASK
FROM <http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf>
FROM <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/data/publications/journals/tplp/Berners-LeeCKSH08>
WHERE { <http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> foaf:knows ?A .
        <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/publications/journals/tplp/Berners-LeeCKSH08>
                                                  dc:creator ?A }
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        <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/publications/journals/tplp/Berners-LeeCKSH08>
                                                    dc:creator ?A }
```

Interestingly, this query returns "no"... why? Because SPARQL doesn't know that

- <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/Jim_Hendler> = <http://www.cs.rpi.edu/ hendler/foaf.rdf#jhendler>

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although, in http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf there is a triple:

<http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> foaf:knows <http://www.cs.rpi.edu/~hendler/foaf.rdf#jhendler>

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FROM <http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf>
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More on that later...

Exercise

Using the SPARQL interface to DBLP at `http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/snorql/` write a query that outputs the following:

Task

Names of people who have published in TPLP or have co-authored with any of the authors of

`http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/publications/journals/tplp/Berners-LeeCKSH08`

- Can you do it in one query?
- Which of the constructs discussed do you need?

SPARQL summary

- We have only "scratched the surface" here
- Particularly, we didn't treat SPARQL1.1 ... more on that in later lectures:
- Extensions of SPARQL (updates (DELETE, INSERT, ...), aggregate functions (SUM, MAX, COUNT,...), etc.) currently being standardized
- Rigid investigation of SPARQL's semantics and complexity [Pérez *et al.*, 2006; Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2004]
- Peculiarities in SPARQL's semantics (multiset semantics, joins over unbound variables, etc. [Prud'hommeaux and Seaborne, 2008])
- SPARQL only does RDF graph pattern matching, what about ontologies? ... Let's take a look at this next!

Unit Outline

What does RDF data mean?

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  - *properties*,i.e., predicates
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  - (*individuals*, i.e., concrete objects)

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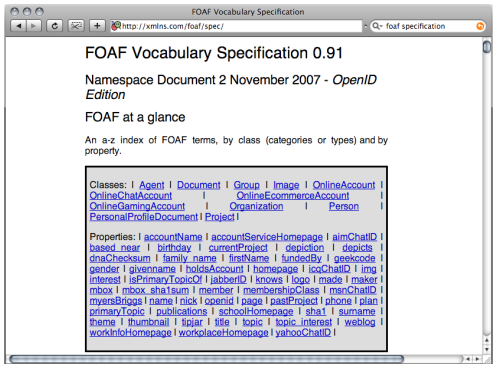
- Ontologies describe ***relations*** among properties, classes and individuals (subclasses, subproperties, equivalence, domain, range, etc.)
- The W3C has published two standards to describe ontologies, namely *RDF Schema (RDFS)* [Brickley and Guha (eds.), 2004] and the *Web Ontology language (OWL)* [W3C OWL 2 Working Group, 2012]
  - RDFS . . . simple schema language with minimal expressivity, mostly expressible in simple forward chaining inference rules (*Horn Rules*)
  - OWL . . . higher expressivity, foundations in *Description Logics*
  - both RDFS and OWL ontologies are RDF graphs themselves, i.e., OWL and RDFS provide "an RDF vocabulary to describe RDF vocabularies"

Example Vocabulary 1 – The FOAF ontology:

- **Properties:** `name`, `knows`, `homepage`, `primaryTopic` etc.
- **Classes:** `Person`, `Agent`, `Document`, `Organisation`, etc.
- **Relations:** e.g.
  - *Each `Person` is a `Agent`* (subclass)



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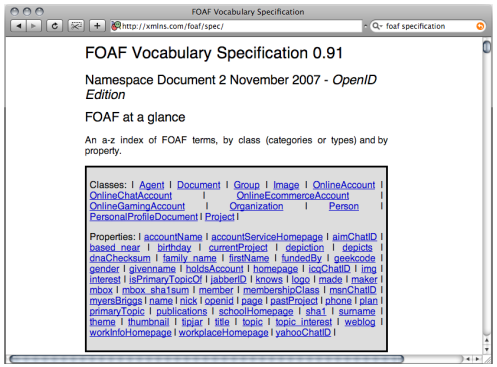
  - *The `img` property is more specific than `depiction`* (subproperty)



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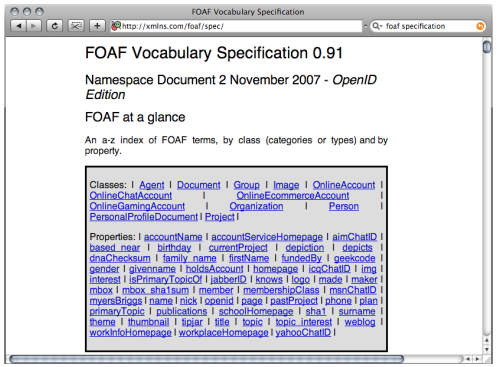
  - *`img` is a relation between `Persons` and `Imgages`* (domain/range)



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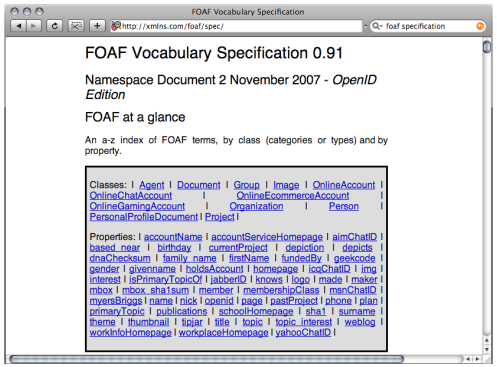
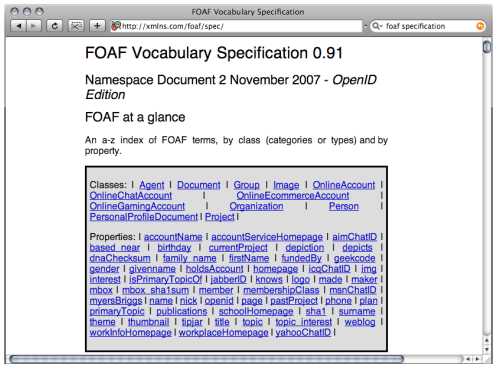
  - *The `img` property is more specific than `depiction`* (subproperty)
  - *`img` is a relation between `Persons` and `Imgages`* (domain/range)
  - *`knows` is a relation between two `Persons`* (domain/range)



Example Vocabulary 1 – The FOAF ontology:

- **Properties:** `name`, `knows`, `homepage`, `primaryTopic` etc.
- **Classes:** `Person`, `Agent`, `Document`, `Organisation`, etc.
- **Relations:** e.g.
  - *Each `Person` is a `Agent`* (subclass)
  - *The `img` property is more specific than `depiction`* (subproperty)
  - *`img` is a relation between `Persons` and `Imgages`* (domain/range)
  - *`knows` is a relation between two `Persons`* (domain/range)
  - *`homepage` denotes **unique** homepage of an `Agent`* (uniquely identifying property)



⋮

Examples 2 – A simple ontology about reviewers:

- **Properties:** `title`, `isAuthorOf`, `publishedIn`, etc.
- **Classes:** `Senior`, `Paper`, `Publication`, etc.
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  - *A `Publication` is a `Paper` which has been `published`* (subclass + existential condition on property)

[4] reuse of external ontologies!

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  - *A `Senior` researcher is a `foaf:Person` who `isAuthorOf` 10+ `Publications`* (subclass + condition on cardinality)
  - *Each item can be `publishedIn` at most one venue* (functional property)

⋮

[4] reuse of external ontologies!

RDF(S) vocabulary: RDF and RDFS themselves are vocabularies!

- **Properties:** `rdf:type`, `rdfs:domain`, `rdfs:range`, `rdfs:subClassOf`, `rdfs:subPropertyOf`, `rdf:first`, `rdf:rest` etc.
- **Classes:** `rdf:XMLLiteral`, `rdfs:Literal`, `rdfs:Resource`, `rdf:Property`, `rdfs:Class`, `rdf:List`, etc.
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- **Classes:** `rdf:XMLLiteral`, `rdfs:Literal`, `rdfs:Resource`, `rdf:Property`, `rdfs:Class`, `rdf:List`, etc.
- **Relations:** The semantics of the RDFs vocabulary is defined in [Hayes, 2004]; it is a "meta vocabulary" used to define the semantics of other vocabularies

The Semantics of RDF graphs:

```
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
<http://www.mat.unical.it/~ianni/foaf.rdf> a foaf:PersonalProfileDocument.
<http://www.mat.unical.it/~ianni/foaf.rdf> foaf:maker _:me .
<http://www.mat.unical.it/~ianni/foaf.rdf> foaf:primaryTopic _:me .
:me a foaf:Person .
:me foaf:name "Giovambattista Ianni" .
:me foaf:homepage <http://www.gibbi.com> .
:me foaf:phone <tel:+39-0984-496430> .
:me foaf:knows [ a foaf:Person ;
                 foaf:name "Wolfgang Faber" ;
                 rdfs:seeAlso <http://www.kr.tuwien.ac.at/staff/faber/foaf.rdf>].
:me foaf:knows [ a foaf:Person .
                 foaf:name "Axel Polleres" ;
                 rdfs:seeAlso <http://www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf>].
:me foaf:knows [ a foaf:Person .
                 foaf:name "Thomas Eiter" ] .
:me foaf:knows [ a foaf:Person .
                 foaf:name "Alessandra Martello" ] .
```

The Semantics of RDF graphs:

As we will see in the next Units, each RDF graph can "roughly" be viewed as a first-order formula:

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\exists b1, b2, b3, b4 \\
&(triple(\texttt{foaf.rdf}, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{PersonalProfileDocument}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(\texttt{foaf.rdf}, \texttt{maker}, me) \\
&\wedge\ triple(\texttt{foaf.rdf}, \texttt{primaryTopic}, me) \\
&\wedge\ triple(me, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{Person}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(me, \texttt{name}, \texttt{"Giovambattista Ianni"}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(me, \texttt{homepage}, \texttt{http://www.gibbi.com}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(me, \texttt{phone}, \texttt{tel:+39-0984-496430}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(me, \texttt{knows}, b2) \wedge\ triple(b1, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{Person}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(b1, \texttt{name}, \texttt{"Wolfgang Faber"}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(b1, \texttt{rdfs:seeAlso}, \texttt{http://www.kr.tuwien...}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(me, \texttt{knows}, b1) \wedge\ triple(b1, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{Person}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(b2, \texttt{name}, \texttt{"Axel Polleres"}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(b2, \texttt{rdfs:seeAlso}, \texttt{http://www.polleres...}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(me, \texttt{knows}, b3) \wedge\ triple(b1, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{Person}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(b3, \texttt{name}, \texttt{"Thomas Eiter"}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(me, \texttt{knows}, b4) \wedge\ triple(b1, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{Person}) \\
&\wedge\ triple(b4, \texttt{name}, \texttt{"Alessandra Martello"}))
\end{aligned}
$$

The Semantics of RDF graphs:

Alternatively, especially the OWL favors unary/binary predicate representation:

$$\exists me, b1, b2, b3, b4 \ (\texttt{PersonalProfileDocument}(\texttt{foaf.rdf}) \\ \wedge \texttt{maker}(\texttt{foaf.rdf}, me) \\ \wedge \texttt{primaryTopic}(\texttt{foaf.rdf}, me) \\ \wedge \texttt{Person}(me) \wedge \cdots)$$

- unary predicates for `rdf:type` predicates
- binary predicates for all other predicates

The Semantics of the RDFS vocabulary:

The formal semantics of RDF(S) [Hayes, 2004] is accompanied by a set of (informative) entailment rules . . . can be written down roughly as the following first-order formulas:

$$\forall S, P, O\ (triple(S, P, O) \supset triple(S, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{rdfs:Resource}))$$

$$\forall S, P, O\ (triple(S, P, O) \supset triple(P, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{rdf:Property}))$$

$$\forall S, P, O\ (triple(S, P, O) \supset triple(O, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{rdfs:Resource}))$$

$$\forall S, P, O\ (triple(S, P, O) \wedge triple(P, \texttt{rdfs:domain}, C) \supset triple(S, \texttt{rdf:type}, C))$$

$$\forall S, P, O, C\ (triple(S, P, O) \wedge triple(P, \texttt{rdfs:range}, C) \supset triple(O, \texttt{rdf:type}, C))$$

$$\forall C\ (triple(C, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{rdfs:Class}) \supset triple(C, \texttt{rdfs:subClassOf}, \texttt{rdfs:Resource}))$$

$$\forall C_1, C_2, C_3\ (triple(C_1, \texttt{rdfs:subClassOf}, C_2) \wedge triple(C_2, \texttt{rdfs:subClassOf}, C_3) \supset triple(C_1, \texttt{rdfs:subClassOf}, C_3))$$

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$$\forall C\ (triple(C, \texttt{rdf:type}, \texttt{rdfs:Class}) \supset triple(C, \texttt{rdfs:subClassOf}, C))$$

$$\forall P_1, P_2, P_3\ (triple(P_1, \texttt{rdfs:subPropertyOf}, P_2) \wedge triple(P_2, \texttt{rdfs:subPropertyOf}, P_3) \supset triple(P_1, \texttt{rdfs:subPropertyOf}, P_3))$$

$$\forall S, P_1, P_2, O\ (triple(S, P_1, O) \wedge triple(P_1, \texttt{rdfs:subPropertyOf}, P_2) \supset triple(S, P_2, O))$$

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plus the axiomatic triples from [Hayes, 2004, Sections 3.1 and 4.1].

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The Semantics of the RDFS vocabulary:

Note 1:
All those rules were Datalog expressible, i.e. Horn rules, no negation, no function symbols.

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Writing entailment rules in unary/binary representation would yield second order, e.g.:

$$\forall S, C_1, C_2 \; (triple(S, \texttt{rdf:type}, C_1) \; \wedge triple(C_1, \texttt{rdfs:subClassOf}, C_2) \supset triple(S, \texttt{rdf:type}, C_2))$$

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RDFS Semantics Example: The FOAF ontology

FOAF Ontology:

- *Each `Person` is a `Agent`* (subclass)
- *The `img` property is more specific than `depiction`* (subproperty)
- *`img` is a relation between `Persons` and `Imgages`* (domain/range)
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- *`homepage` denotes **unique** homepage of an `Agent`* (uniquely identifying property)

⋮

RDFS: Semantics

⋮

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⋮

Data:

```
:me rdf:type foaf:Person .
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RDFS Semantics Example: The FOAF ontology

FOAF Ontology in RDF:

- `foaf:Person rdfs:subClassOf foaf:Agent .`
- `foaf:img rdfs:subPropertyOf foaf:depiction .`
- `foaf:img rdfs:domain foaf:Person ; rdfs:range foaf:Image .`
- `foaf:knows rdfs:domain foaf:Person ; rdfs:range foaf:Person .`
- `???`

$\vdots$

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$\vdots$

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- `foaf:knows rdfs:domain foaf:Person ; rdfs:range foaf:Person .`
- ???

$\vdots$

RDFS: Semantics

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The OWL vocabulary:

- *foaf:homepage denotes* ***unique*** *homepage of an Agent* (uniquely identifying property)

For expressing this, we need more than the RDFS vocabulary. OWL is again an RDF vocabulary, extending RDF(S), fixed semantics that adds more expressivity on top of RDFS:

- **Properties:** `owl:sameAs`, `owl:differentFrom`, `owl:inverseOf`, `owl:onProperty`, `owl:allValuesFrom`, `owl:someValuesFrom`, `owl:minCardinality`, `owl:maxCardinality` etc.
- **Classes:** `owl:Restriction`, `owl:DatatypeProperty`, `owl:ObjectProperty`, `owl:FunctionalProperty`, `owl:InverseFuncionalProperty`, `owl:SymmetricProperty` etc.
- **Relations:** The semantics of OWL is defined in
  - in terms of its RDF reading (RDF-based-semantics), and

[5] direct semantics puts some restrictions on the use of the OWL and RDF vocabulary, fragment sometimes called OWL DL

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  - in terms of its RDF reading (RDF-based-semantics), and
  - in terms of its Description Logics reading (direct semantics)[5]

[5] direct semantics puts some restrictions on the use of the OWL and RDF vocabulary, fragment sometimes called OWL DL

The Semantics of the OWL vocabulary (DL reading):

Description Logics:

- syntactic variant of first-order logic with equality
- especially tailored for talking about concepts (classes, sets) and roles (properties)
- dedicated symbols for class membership and subclass/subproperty relation:

`foaf:Person rdfs:subClassOf foaf:Agent`	$Person \sqsubseteq Agent$
`:me rdf:type foaf:Person`	$me \in Person$

OWL DL in one slide

Expressing property characteristics:

OWL property axioms as RDF triples	DL syntax	FOL short representation
P `rdfs:domain` C .	$\top \sqsubseteq \forall P^-.C$	$\forall x, y.P(x, y) \supset C(x)$
P `rdfs:range` C .	$\top \sqsubseteq \forall P.C$	$\forall x, y.P(x, y) \supset C(y)$
P `owl:inverseOf` P_0 .	$P \equiv P_0^-$	$\forall x, y.P(x, y) \equiv P_0(y, x)$
P `rdf:type owl:SymmetricProperty.`	$P \equiv P^-$	$\forall x, y.P(x, y) \equiv P(y, x)$
P `rdf:type owl:FunctionalProperty.`	$\top \sqsubseteq \leqslant 1P$	$\forall x, y, z.P(x, y) \wedge P(x, z) \supset y = z$
P `rdf:type owl:InverseFunctionalProperty.`	$\top \sqsubseteq \leqslant 1P^-$	$\forall x, y, z.P(x, y) \wedge P(z, y) \supset x = z$
P `rdf:type owl:TransitiveProperty.`	$P^+ \sqsubseteq P$	$\forall x, y, z.P(x, y) \wedge P(y, z) \supset P(x, z)$

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Expressing complex class descriptions:

OWL complex class descriptions*	DL syntax	FOL short representation
`owl:Thing`	$\top$	$x = x$
`owl:Nothing`	$\bot$	$\neg x = x$
`owl:intersectionOf` $(C_1 \ldots C_n)$	$C_1 \sqcap \cdots \sqcap C_n$	$C_1(x) \wedge \cdots \wedge C_n(x)$
`owl:unionOf` $(C_1 \ldots C_n)$	$C_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup C_n$	$C_1(x) \vee \cdots \vee C_n(x)$
`owl:complementOf` (C)	$\neg C$	$\neg C(x)$
`owl:oneOf` $(o_1 \ldots o_n)$	$\{o_1, \ldots, o_n\}$	$x = o_1 \vee \cdots \vee x = o_n$
`owl:restriction` $(P$ `owl:someValuesFrom` $(C))$	$\exists P.C$	$\exists y.P(x,y) \wedge C(y)$
`owl:restriction` $(P$ `owl:allValuesFrom` $(C))$	$\forall P.C$	$\forall y.P(x,y) \supset C(y)$
`owl:restriction` $(P$ `owl:value` $(o))$	$\exists P.\{o\}$	$P(x,o)$
`owl:restriction` $(P$ `owl:minCardinality` $(n))$	$\geqslant nP$	$\exists y_1 \ldots y_n . \bigwedge_{k=1}^{n} P(x,y_k) \wedge \bigwedge_{i<j} y_j \neq y_j$
`owl:restriction` $(P$ `owl:maxCardinality` $(n))$	$\leqslant nP$	$\forall y_1 \ldots y_{n+1} . \bigwedge_{k=1}^{n+1} P(x,y_k) \supset \bigvee_{i<j} y_i = y_j$

*For reasons of legibility, we use a variant of the OWL abstract syntax [Patel-Schneider *et al.*, 2004] in this table.

OWL DL in two slides: 2/2

Relating Class descriptions:

C_1 `rdfs:subClassOf` C_1	$C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2$
C_1 `owl:equivalentClass` C_2	$C_1 \equiv C_2$
C_1 `owl:disjointWith` C_2	$C_1 \sqcap C_2 \sqsubseteq \bot$

Relating individuals:

o_1 `owl:sameAs` o_1	$o_1 = o_2$
o_1 `owl:differentFrom` o_2	$o_1 \neq o_2$

OWL DL in two slides: 2/2

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Examples:

```
<http://www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> owl:sameAs
        <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/Axel_Polleres> .
<http://polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> owl:differentFrom
        <http://www.mat.unical.it/~ianni/foaf.rdf#me> .
```

OWL DL in two slides: 2/2

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        <http://www.mat.unical.it/~ianni/foaf.rdf#me> .
```

Many more features in OWL2 (2009) . . . wouldn't have fit in 2 slides ;-)

OWL Example: The FOAF ontology

- *homepage denotes* ***unique*** *homepage of an* *Agent* (uniquely identifying property)

. . . in OWL/RDF syntax:

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foaf:homepage rdf:type owl:InverseFunctionalProperty .
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$$\top \sqsubseteq \leqslant 1 homepage^{-}$$

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```

. . . in DL syntax:

$$\top \sqsubseteq \leqslant 1 homepage^{-}$$

Example inference:

```
<http://www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> foaf:homepage
        <http://www.polleres.net/> .
<http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/Axel_Polleres> foaf:homepage
        <http://www.polleres.net/> .
```

OWL Example: The FOAF ontology

- *homepage denotes* ***unique*** *homepage of an* *Agent* (uniquely identifying property)

. . . in OWL/RDF syntax:

```
foaf:homepage rdf:type owl:InverseFunctionalProperty .
```

. . . in DL syntax:

$$\top \sqsubseteq \leqslant 1 homepage^{-}$$

Example inference:

```
<http://www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> foaf:homepage
        <http://www.polleres.net/> .
<http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/Axel_Polleres> foaf:homepage
        <http://www.polleres.net/> .

            ⊨

 <http://www.polleres.net/foaf.rdf#me> owl:sameAs
        <http://dblp.l3s.de/d2r/resource/authors/Axel_Polleres> .
```

Reasoning with Ontologies

Tools:

- Special purpose DL reasoners:
  Pellet [Sirin *et al.*, 2005], Racer [Haarslev and Möller, 2001], Fact++ [Tsarkov and Horrocks, 2006], Hermit [Motik *et al.*, 2007]
- General purpose FOL theorem provers:
  SNARK [Stickel *et al.*, online], SPASS [SPASS, online], Vampire [Riazanov and Voronkov, 2002]
- For special fragments of OWL [Motik *et al.*, 2012]:
  - **Rule/LP engines** (OWL RL)
  - **Relational databases** (OWL QL)

SPARQL & Ontologies

SPARQL on top of ontologies not trivial:

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- Challenge 2: blank nodes as existentials
- Challenge 3: SPARQL is SQL inspired (CWA), OWL/RDFS are (OWA):
  e.g., OPTIONAL patterns are non-monotonic, RDFS+OWL inference are both monotonic

SPARQL & Ontologies

SPARQL on top of ontologies not trivial:

- Challenge 1: infinite RDFS/OWL inferences on a finite graph
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→ W3C's SPARQL1.1 WG has defined Entailment regimes for RDFS and OWL [Glimm *et al.*, 2013], stay tuned for later lectures.

Unit Outline

Summary

- We should all have a rough idea about where to find RDF now.
- We should all have a rough idea about how to read RDF now.
- We should all have a rough idea about how to write RDF now
  $\rightarrow$ *Homework!*
- We should all have a rough idea of how to query RDF (SPARQL)
  $\rightarrow$ *Homework!*
- We should all have a rough idea of how the semantics of RDF vocabularies and data can be described (RDFS + OWL)

Details to come!

What's next?

- Details on the semantics of RDF+RDFS
- Details on the semantics of SPARQL+SPARQL1.1
- OWL2 and efficient reasoning for some fragments (particularly, OWL RL & OWL QL
- Linked Data
- Using SPARQL1.1 + RDFS + OWL on Linked Data
- Time allowed: applications.


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