

## **RDFS Semantics**

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Lecturer in Artificial Intelligence

### **Extra session and Forums**

- Extra Q&A hours:
  - During during drop-in session (Wednesdays 1-2pm).
  - Thursdays 1-2pm
- Reading week (Week 6) extra session for Q&A.
- Please do not hesitate to use the forums.

# Recap

### London is a city in England called Londres in Spanish

```
dbp:london a dbo:City .
```

dbp:london dbo:locationCountry dbp:england .

dbp:london rdfs:label "Londres"@es .

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```

dbp:london

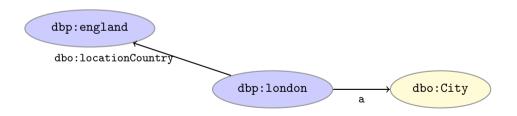
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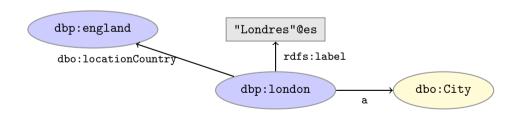
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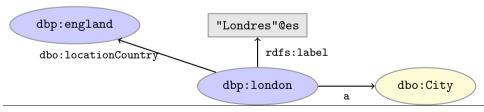
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## Recap: SPARQL Example (i)

#### **Return all Cities:**

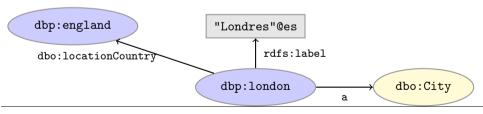
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### Recap: SPARQL Example (i)

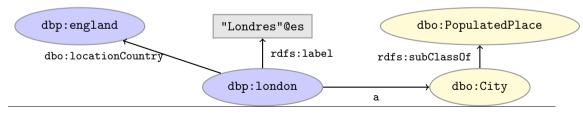
### Return all Cities: Query Result= {dbp:london}

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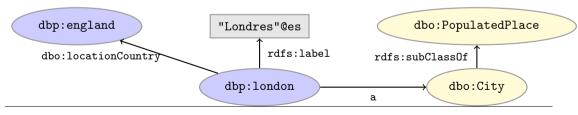
## Recap: SPARQL Example (ii)

### **Return all Populated Places:**



## Recap: SPARQL Example (ii)

### Return all Populated Places: Query Result= {}



## **Recap: Grammar for triples**

- RDF imposes a basic grammar. A triple consists of subject, predicate, and object
  - URI references may occur in all positions
  - Literals may only occur in object position
  - Blank nodes can not occur in predicate position
- But one could still define:

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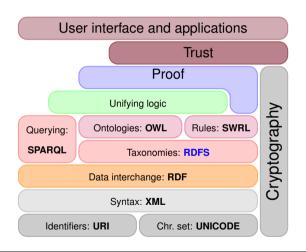
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- RDF Schema (RDFS) extends the grammar for the "expected" triples, extends the vocabulary, and include a set of inference rules.
- We will need to wait until OWL to have a proper validation mechanism.

## RDF Schema (RDFS)

## **Semantic Web Technology Stack**



### **RDF Schema**

- RDF Schema (RDFS) is a vocabulary defined by W3C.
  - https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-schema/
  - https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf11-mt
- Namespace:

```
rdfs: http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#
```

- Originally though of as a "schema language" like XML Schema.
  - Not strictly doesn't describe "valid" RDF graphs.
- A very simple modeling language for RDF data → Taxonomies

### **RDFS Semantics**

- RDFS is a semantic extension (adds semantics/meaning) that
  - proposes some syntactic conditions on RDF graphs,
  - comes with some (non-ambiguous) inference rules, and
  - includes some (default) triples as part of the specification.

### **RDFS Semantics**

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  - proposes some syntactic conditions on RDF graphs,
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  - includes some (default) triples as part of the specification.
- For example, RDFS expects as range of rdf:type a resource/IRI
  - dbp:london rdf:type "some string"^^xsd:string .
  - RDFS: Not expected triple, but not prohibited (by specification).
  - OWL semantic extension: prohibited triple will lead to an error.

## **RDFS Vocabulary**

- RDFS adds the concept of "classes" which are sets of resources.

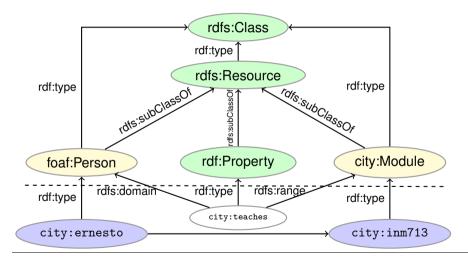
## RDFS Vocabulary

- RDFS adds the concept of "classes" which are sets of resources.
- Defined resources:
  - rdfs:Resource: The class of resources, everything.
  - rdfs:Class: The class of classes.
  - rdfs:Literal: The class of all literal values.
  - rdfs:Datatype: The class of all datatypes.

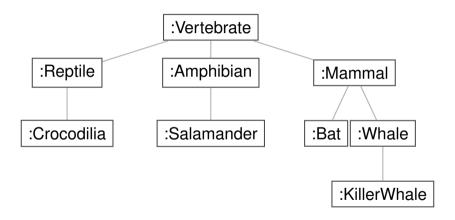
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  - rdfs:Literal: The class of all literal values.
  - rdfs:Datatype: The class of all datatypes.
- Defined properties:
  - rdfs:domain: The domain (sources) of a relation.
  - rdfs:range: The range (targets) of a relation.
  - rdfs:subClassOf: Class inclusion.
  - rdfs:subPropertyOf: Property inclusion.

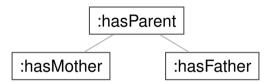
## **Example RDF graph and RDF Schema**



## Class Taxonomy (via rdfs:subClassOf)



## Property Taxonomy (via rdfs:subPropertyOf)



## **Expected RDF/RDFS resources**

### Types of resources or elements:

- Object Properties like foaf:knows
- Datatype Properties like dc:title, foaf:name
- Classes like foaf:Person
- Built-ins, a fixed set including rdf:type, rdfs:domain, etc.
- Individuals (all the rest, "usual" resources) like city:ernesto
- Datatypes like xsd:integer
- Literals like "ernesto", "39"
- (\*) Not real split of properties into object and data properties in RDFS. This comes in OWL

## **Expected RDF/RDFS triple grammar**

```
Triples
indi o-prop indi .
indi d-prop "lit" .
indi rdf:type class .
class rdfs:subClassOf class .
o-prop rdfs:subPropertyOf o-prop .
d-prop rdfs:subPropertyOf d-prop .
o-prop rdfs:domain class .
o-prop rdfs:range class .
d-prop rdfs:domain class .
d-prop rdfs:range datatype .
```

## (Default) RDFS axiomatic triples (excerpt)

- Indeed RDF and RDFs include a set of default triples to guide the above grammar of expected triples.
- Only resources have types:

```
rdf:type rdfs:domain rdfs:Resource .
```

– types are classes:

```
rdf:type rdfs:range rdfs:Class .
```

– Ranges apply only to properties:

```
rdfs:range rdfs:domain rdf:Property .
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## (Default) RDFS axiomatic triples (excerpt)

– Ranges are classes:

```
rdfs:range rdfs:range rdfs:Class .
```

– Only properties have subproperties:

```
rdfs:subPropertyOf rdfs:domain rdf:Property .
```

Only classes have subclasses:

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```

– ... (another 30 or so)

## Classes as Sets

- A set is a mathematical object:

$$\{$$
'a',  $1, \triangle \}$ 

 $\{\cdots\}$ 

– Contains 'a', 1, and  $\triangle$ , and nothing else.

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- Sets with different elements are different:

$$\{1,2\} \neq \{2,3\}$$

### **Sets: Element of-relation**

 $- \in$  indicates that something is element of a set:

$$1 \in \{\text{`a'}, 1, \triangle\}$$
  
'b'  $\not\in \{\text{`a'}, 1, \triangle\}$ 



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\end{array}$$

- $\{3, 7, 12\}$ : a set of numbers
  - $-3 \in \{3, 7, 12\}, 0 \not\in \{3, 7, 12\}$
- {'a', 'b', . . . , 'z'}: a set of letters
  - 'y'  $\in \{$ 'a', 'b', ..., 'z' $\}$ , 'æ'  $\not\in \{$ 'a', 'b', ..., 'z' $\}$ ,
- $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \ldots\}$ : the set of all natural numbers
  - $-713 \in \mathbb{N}, \pi \notin \mathbb{N}.$

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- $-\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \ldots\}$ : the set of all natural numbers
  - $-713 \in \mathbb{N}, \pi \notin \mathbb{N}.$
- The set  $P_{inm713}$  of people in the zoom meeting right now
  - city:ernesto  $\in P_{inm713}$ , dbp:Johnny\_Depp  $\not\in P_{inm713}$ .

### The Empty Set

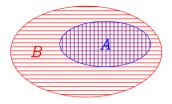
- A set that has no elements.
- This is called the *empty set*
- Notation: ∅ or {}
- $-x \notin \emptyset$ , for any x



#### **Subsets**

- Let A and B be sets
- if every element of A is also in B
- then A is called a *subset* of B

$$A \subseteq B$$





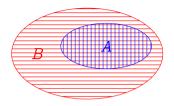
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- {city:ernesto, city:dave}  $\subseteq P_{inm713}$
- $-\{1,3\} \not\subseteq \{1,2\}$
- $\{1,3\}\subseteq\mathbb{N}$
- $-\emptyset\subseteq A$  for any set A





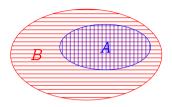
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- -A = B if and only if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$





#### Intuition: Classes as Sets of Resources

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RDFS	Set Theory
A rdf:type rdfs:Class	A is a set of resources
x rdf:type $A$	$x \in A$
A rdfs:subClassOf $B$	$A\subseteq B$
:Person rdf:type rdfs:Class	:Person is a set of resources
:ernesto rdf:type :Person	$\texttt{:ernesto} \in \texttt{:Person}$
:Person rdfs:subClassOf :Animal	$\texttt{:Person} \subseteq \texttt{:Animal}$

# Properties as Relations

#### **Pairs**

A pair is an ordered collection of two objects

$$\langle x,y 
angle$$

 $\langle \cdots \rangle$ 

– Equal if components are equal:

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- Order matters:

$$\langle 1, \text{`a'} \rangle \neq \langle \text{`a'}, 1 \rangle$$

– An object can be twice in a pair:

$$\langle 1, 1 \rangle$$

 $-\langle x,y\rangle$  is a pair, no matter if x=y or not.

#### **The Cross Product**

- Let A and B be sets.
- Construct the set of all pairs  $\langle a, b \rangle$  with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ .
- This is called the *cross product* of *A* and *B*, written

$$A \times B$$



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– Example:

$$-A = \{1, 2, 3\}, B = \{\text{`a'}, \text{`b'}\}.$$

$$egin{array}{lll} -A imes B = & \left\{ & \left<1, \mbox{`a'}
ight>, & \left<2, \mbox{`a'}
ight>, & \left<3, \mbox{`a'}
ight>, \\ & \left<1, \mbox{`b'}
ight>, & \left<2, \mbox{`b'}
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ight> \end{array} 
ight\} \end{array}$$

#### Relations

- A relation R between two sets A and B is...
- $-\ldots$  a set of pairs  $\langle a,b \rangle \in A \times B$

$$R\subseteq A imes B$$

- We often write a R b to say that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$
- A relation R on some set A is a relation between A and A:

$$R \subseteq A \times A = A^2$$

### **Example: Family Relations**

- Consider the set  $A = \{Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa, Maggie\}$ .
- Consider a relation P on A such that

$$x P y$$
 iff  $x$  is parent of  $y$ 

– As a set of pairs:

$$P = \{ \langle \mathsf{Homer}, \mathsf{Bart} \rangle, \langle \mathsf{Homer}, \mathsf{Lisa} \rangle, \langle \mathsf{Homer}, \mathsf{Maggie} \rangle, \langle \mathsf{Marge}, \mathsf{Bart} \rangle, \langle \mathsf{Marge}, \mathsf{Lisa} \rangle, \langle \mathsf{Marge}, \mathsf{Maggie} \rangle \} \subseteq A^2$$

- For instance:

```
\langle \mathsf{Homer}, \mathsf{Bart} \rangle \in P \qquad \langle \mathsf{Marge}, \mathsf{Maggie} \rangle \in P
```

### Set operations on relations

- Since relations are just sets of pairs, we can use set operations and relations on them.
- We say that  $R_1$  is a subrelation of R if  $R_1 \subseteq R$ .

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- We say that  $R_1$  is a subrelation of R if  $R_1 \subseteq R$ .
- E.g.: if F is the father-of-relation,  $F = \{ \langle \mathsf{Homer}, \mathsf{Bart} \rangle, \langle \mathsf{Homer}, \mathsf{Lisa} \rangle, \langle \mathsf{Homer}, \mathsf{Maggie} \rangle \}$  then  $F \subset P$  (P=parent-of relation).
- If M is the mother-of-relation,
  - $M = \{ \langle \mathsf{Marge}, \mathsf{Bart} \rangle \,, \langle \mathsf{Marge}, \mathsf{Lisa} \rangle \,, \langle \mathsf{Marge}, \mathsf{Maggie} \rangle \}$  then  $M \subseteq P$  (P=parent-of relation).

### **Domain and Range of Relations**

- Given a relation R from A to B  $(R \subseteq A \times B)$
- The *domain* of R is the set of all x with  $x R \cdots$ :

$$\mathsf{dom}\,R = \{x \in A \mid xRy \; \mathsf{for} \; \mathsf{some} \; y \in B\}$$

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- The *range* of R is the set of all y with  $\cdots Ry$ :

$$\operatorname{\mathsf{rg}} R = \{y \in B \mid xRy ext{ for some } x \in A\}$$

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- Example:
  - $-R = \{\langle 1, riangle 
    angle , \langle 1, riangle 
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    angle \}$
  - $dom_R = \{1, 2\}$
  - $-\operatorname{rg}_R = \{\triangle, \square, \lozenge\}$

### **Intuition: Properties as Relations**

- An rdf: Property is like a relation on resources.
- (not exactly, but OK as intuition).

RDFS	Set Theory
R rdf:type rdf:Property	R is a relation on resources
$x \ R \ y$	$\langle x,y\rangle\in R$
R rdfs:subPropertyOf $S$	$R\subseteq S$
R rdfs:domain $A$	$dom_R \subseteq A$
R rdfs:range $B$	$rg_R\subseteq B$

(\*) Without domain and range R is a relation from rdf:Class to rdf:Class (i.e.,  $R \subseteq rdf:Class \times rdf:Class = rdf:Class^2$ )

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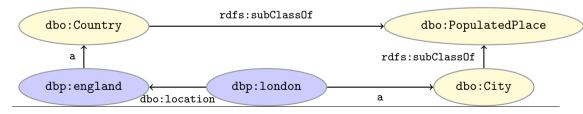
RDFS	Set Theory
:teaches rdf:type rdf:Property	:teaches is a relation on resources
:ernesto :teaches :inm713	$\langle :  exttt{ernesto}, :  exttt{inm713}  angle \in :  exttt{teaches}$
:teaches rdfs:subPropertyOf :manages	$\texttt{:teaches} \subseteq \texttt{:manages}$
:teaches rdfs:domain :Person	${\sf dom:teaches\subseteq:Person}$
:teaches rdfs:range :Module	$ ext{rg:teaches} \subseteq  ext{:Module}$

(\*) With domain and range :teaches is a relation from :Person to :Module (i.e., :teaches  $\subset$  :Person  $\times$  :Module)

## Entailment via Model-Theoretic Semantics

#### **SPARQL Example**

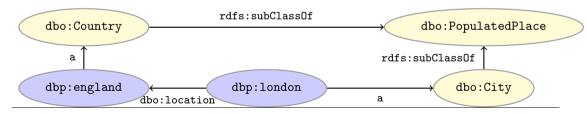
#### **Return all Populated Places:**



#### **SPARQL Example**

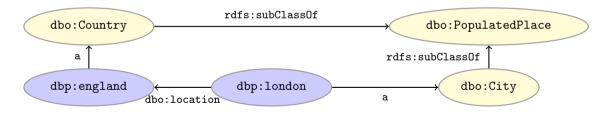
#### Return all Populated Places: Query Result= {}

```
PREFIX dbo: <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/>
PREFIX rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
SELECT DISTINCT ?place WHERE {
     ?place rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace .
}
```



#### **Entailment in RDFS**

- Given a set of triples  $\mathcal{G}$  (i.e., a Graph) can we entail a triple t ( $\mathcal{G} \models t$ )?
- Can we entail the triple: dbp:london rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace and add it to the graph below?
- Similarly for dbp:england



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- Interpretations assign values to elements.
  - (The intuitions behind set-theory are formally represented.)

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- Interpretations assign values to elements.
  - (The intuitions behind set-theory are formally represented.)
- Given an interpretation  $\mathcal I$  and a set of triples  $\mathcal G$
- $-\mathcal{G}$  is valid in  $\mathcal{I}$  (written  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{G}$ ), iff  $\mathcal{I} \models t$  for all  $t \in \mathcal{G}$ .
- Then  $\mathcal{I}$  is also called a **model** of  $\mathcal{G}$ .

- The following interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of our example  $\mathcal{G}$ :
  - $dbo:City^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp:london\}$
  - $dbo:Country^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp:england\}$
  - dbo:PopulatedPlace $^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp:london, dbp:england\}$
  - dbo:location $^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle dbp:london, dbp:england \rangle\}$

– The following interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of our example  $\mathcal{G}$ :

```
- dbo:Citv^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp:london\}
   - dbo: Country^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp: england\}
   - dbo:PopulatedPlace^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp:london, dbp:england\}
   - dbo:location \mathcal{I} = \{\langle dbp:london, dbp:england \rangle\}
-\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{G}:
   - dbo:City^{\mathcal{I}} \subset dbo:PopulatedPlace^{\mathcal{I}}
   - dbo:Country^{\mathcal{I}} \subset dbo:PopulatedPlace^{\mathcal{I}}
   - dbp:london^{\mathcal{I}} \in dbo:City^{\mathcal{I}}
```

- -t = dbp:london rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace
- Does  $\mathcal{I} \models t$  ?

- -t = dbp:london rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace
- Does  $\mathcal{I} \models t$  ?
  - Yes:  $dbo:PopulatedPlace^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp:london, dbp:england\}$

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  - Yes:  $dbo:PopulatedPlace^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp:london, dbp:england\}$
- Does  $\mathcal{G}$  |= t ?

- t = dbp:london rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace
- Does  $\mathcal{I} \models t$  ?
  - Yes: dbo:PopulatedPlace $^{\mathcal{I}} = \{dbp:london, dbp:england\}$
- Does  $\mathcal{G}$   $\models t$  ?
  - if and only if
    - For any interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  with  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{G}$
    - $-\mathcal{I} \models t$ .
  - Yes, in this case too.

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- Does  $\mathcal{G} \models t_2$  ( $t_2$ =dbp:london rdf:type dbo:Country)?

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    - $-\mathcal{I} \models t$ .
  - Yes, in this case too.
- Does  $\mathcal{G} \models t_2$  ( $t_2$ =dbp:london rdf:type dbo:Country)?
  - No:  $\mathcal{I}$  is a counter example.  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{G}$  but  $\mathcal{I} \not\models t_2$

#### **Model-Theoretic Semantics (iv)**

- Model-theoretic semantics yields an unambigous notion of entailment.
- In principle, all interpretations need to be considered.
- However there are infinitely many such interpretations,
- An algorithm should terminate in finite time.

Foundations of Semantic Web Technologies. Chapter 3.

# Entailment via Inference Rules

### **Syntactic Reasoning**

- From the computation point of view, we need means to decide entailment syntactically.
- Syntactic methods operate
  - only on the form of a statement, that is on its concrete grammatical structure (i.e., triples),
  - without recurring to interpretations.
- Syntactic methods should justify that their so-called operational semantics are expected with respect to model-theoretic semantics.

## Inference rules (i)

- Inference rules (also known as deduction rules or derivation rules) is an option to describe syntactic solutions.
- The general form of an inference rule is:

$$\frac{P_1,\ldots,P_n}{P}$$

- the  $P_i$  are premises
- and P is the **conclusion**.
- An inference rule may have,
  - any number of premises (typically one or two),
  - but only one conclusion.

#### Inference rules (ii)

- Recall that syllogisms (i.e., inference) can be traced back to Aristotle
- Example:

All men are mortal
Socrates is a man
Therefore, Socrates is mortal

## Inference rules (iii)

- The whole set of inference rules given for a logic is called **deduction** calculus.
- ⊢ is the inference relation, while ⊨ was the entailment relation using model theoretic semantics.
  - − We write  $\Gamma \vdash P$  if we can deduce P from the premises  $\Gamma$ .
- In our setting
  - the **premises**  $\Gamma$  are a **set of triples** (*i.e.*, a (sub)graph  $\mathcal{G}$ ),
  - the conclusion is a new triple t

#### **RDFS Inference Rules**

RDFS supports several rules. Organized into three groups:

#### 1. Type propagation:

- "London is a City, all Cities are populated places, so. . . "

#### 2. Property propagation:

- "London is the capital of England, anything that is capital of a country is also located in that country, so..."

#### 3. Domain and range propagation:

- "Everything that has a capital is a country, so England is a..."
- "Everything that is a capital is a city, so London is a..."

#### Type propagation

- Members of superclasses:

(\*) rdfs9, rdfs10, rdfs11 are the names of the inference rules in the W3C standard.

#### Type propagation

- Members of superclasses:

$$\frac{ \text{A rdfs:subClassOf B .} \quad \text{x rdf:type A .} }{ \text{x rdf:type B .} } \text{rdfs9}$$

- Reflexivity of sub-class relation:

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### Type propagation

Members of superclasses:

Reflexivity of sub-class relation:

Transitivity of sub-class relation:

RDFS Semantics

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#### Type propagation: Examples

– Members of superclasses:

```
:City rdfs:subClassOf :PopulatedPlace . :london rdf:type :City . :london rdf:type :PopulatedPlace . rdfs9
```

Reflexivity of sub-class relation:

```
:City rdf:type rdfs:Class .
:City rdfs:subClassOf :City .
```

Transitivity of sub-class relation:

```
:City rdfs:subClassOf :PopulatedPlace . :PopulatedPlace rdfs:subClassOf :Place . :City rdfs:subClassOf :Place .
```

#### **Property Propagation**

#### - Transitivity:

```
P rdfs:subPropertyOf Q . Q rdfs:subPropertyOf R .

P rdfs:subPropertyOf R . rdfs5
```

#### **Property Propagation**

- Transitivity:

– Reflexivity:

### **Property Propagation**

- Transitivity:

- Reflexivity:

– Property transfer:

#### **Property Propagation: Examples**

- Transitivity:

```
:has_writer rdfs:subPropertyOf :has_author . :has_author rdfs:subPropertyOf :has_creator . rdfs:subPropertyOf :has_creator .
```

– Reflexivity:

```
:has_writer rdf:type rdf:Property .
:has_writer rdfs:subPropertyOf :has_writer .
```

– Property transfer:

```
:has_author rdfs:subPropertyOf :has_creator . :Hamlet :has_author :Shakespeare . rdfs:
```

Week 4. Feb 10, 2021

### Domain and range propagation

Typing triggered by the use of properties.

– Domain propagation:

## Domain and range propagation

Typing triggered by the use of properties.

- Domain propagation:

Range propagation:

#### **Domain and Range Propagation: Examples**

– Domain propagation:

```
:capitalOf rdfs:domain :City . :london :capitalOf :england . :clondon rdf:type :City . rdfs2
```

– Range propagation:

# Properties of RDFS Semantics

#### **Entailment and Inference**

- Both have the monotonic property.
  - If a graph  $\mathcal{G} \models t$  (or  $\mathcal{G} \vdash t$ ),
  - then adding more triples  $(e.g., t_1)$  does not alter the entailment  $\mathcal{G} \cup \{t_1\} \models t$  (or derivation  $\mathcal{G} \cup \{t_1\} \vdash t$ )

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- The set of RDFS rules we have seen are sound.
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- The set of RDFS rules we have seen are sound.
  - If  $\mathcal{G} \vdash t$  then  $\mathcal{G} \models t$
- But not complete.
  - Not always applies that If  $\mathcal{G} \models t$  then  $\mathcal{G} \vdash t$

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## (Non) Validation in RDFS (i)

- RDFS was conceived of as a schema language for RDF
- However, the statements in an RDFS graph never trigger inconsistencies.
- Reasoning will not lead to a "contradiction", "error", "non-valid document"
- Inference rules add more triples, but do not detect errors.

#### (Non) Validation in RDFS (ii)

- RDFS has no notion of negation
  - For instance, the two triples

```
city:ernesto rdf:type ex:Smoker .
city:ernesto rdf:type ex:NonSmoker .
are not inconsistent.
```

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 Object Properties, Datatype Properties, Classes, Built-in properties,
 Individuals, Datatypes and Literals.

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- There is also not clear notion of disjointness among RDF resources:
   Object Properties, Datatype Properties, Classes, Built-in properties,
   Individuals, Datatypes and Literals.
- OWL includes additional vocabulary and includes consistency-checks (next week!).

# Laboratory: RDFS Semantics

#### **Tasks**

- Manually checking inferences.
- Extracting inferences programmatically and checking via SPARQL.
- Python: We are using the OWL-RL library (new) owlrl.DeductiveClosure(owlrl.RDFS\_Semantics).expand(g)
- Java: Jena API InfModel inf\_model =
   ModelFactory.createRDFSModel(model);