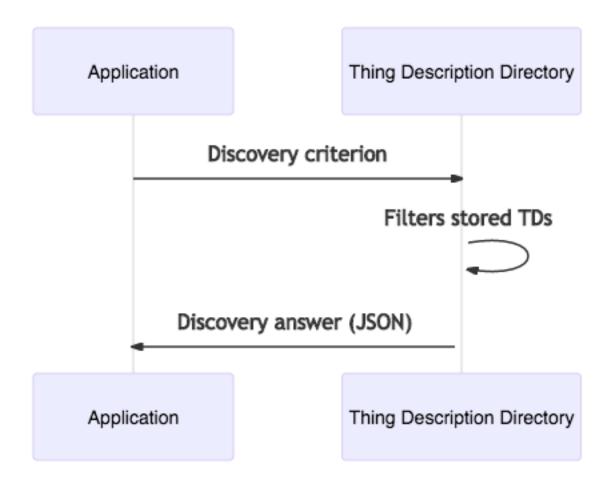


Semantic Discovery in Directories

Andrea Cimmino (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid) 17/03/21

Discovery in a nutshell





Thing Description Directory (TDD) and discovery



- TDD syntactic discovery criterion:
 - (Syntactic discovery) MUST support JSONPath as discovery criterion
 - (Syntactic discovery) SHOULD support XPath as discovery criterion
- TDD semantic discovery criterion:
 - (Semantic discovery) May support SPARQL as discovery criterion
- TDD discovery answer:
 - A set (array) of Thing Descriptions (TD) meeting the criterion are found
 - A set (array) of Thing Descriptions (TD) fragments fulfilling the criterion are found
 - Discovery results could be paginated (depending on the discovery criterion)

SPARQL semantic discovery API



- The discovery criterion is a SPARQL query
 - https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-sparql-query/
 - W3C standard
 - All SPARQL queries should use content-negotiation to return JSON-LD or JSON
 - Supported: SELECT, ASK, CONSTRUCT, and DESCRIBE
 - Not-Supported: UPDATE
- Response code:
 - 200 (Ok) with application/json Content-Type header
- Error codes:
 - 400 (Bad Request): SPARQL query not provided or contains syntax errors.
 - 401 (Unauthorized): No authentication.
 - 403 (Forbidden): Insufficient rights to the resource.
 - 501 (Not Implemented): SPARQL API not supported.





Find the href of devices that have the property status - XPath: *//properties/status//href

SPARQL queries

?form hyp:hasTarget ?href.



PREFIX%20wot%3A%20%3Chttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.w3.org%2F2019%2F wot%2Ftd%23%3E%0APREFIX%20sch%3A%20%3Chttps%3A%2F%2Fww w.w3.org%2F2019%2Fwot%2Fjson-

schema%23%3E%0APREFIX%20hyp%3A%20%3Chttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.w3.org%2F2019%2Fwot%2Fhypermedia%23%3E%0A%0ASELECT%20DISTINCT%20%3Fhref%20WHERE%20%7B%0A%3Fdevice%20wot%3AhasPropertyAffordance%20%3Fproperty%20.%0A%3Fproperty%20sch%3ApropertyName%20%22status%E2%80%9D%20.%0A%3Fproperty%20wot%3AhasForm%20%3Fform%20.%0A%3Fform%20hyp%3AhasTarget%20%3Fhref%20.%0A%7D%0A%00



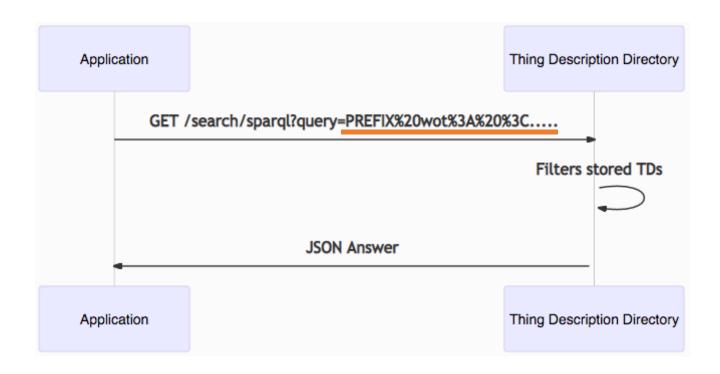


```
"searchSPARQL": {
     "description": "SPARQL semantic search",
     "uriVariables": {
      "query": {
       "title": "A valid SPARQL 1.1. query",
       "type": "string",
       "format": "iri-reference"
     "forms": [
       "href": "/search/sparql?query={query}",
       "htv:methodName": "GET",
       "response": {
         "description": "Success response",
         "htv:statusCodeValue": 200
       "scopes": "search"
       "href": "/search/sparql",
       "htv:methodName": "POST".
       "response": {
        "description": "Success response",
         "htv:statusCodeValue": 200
       "scopes": "search"
```





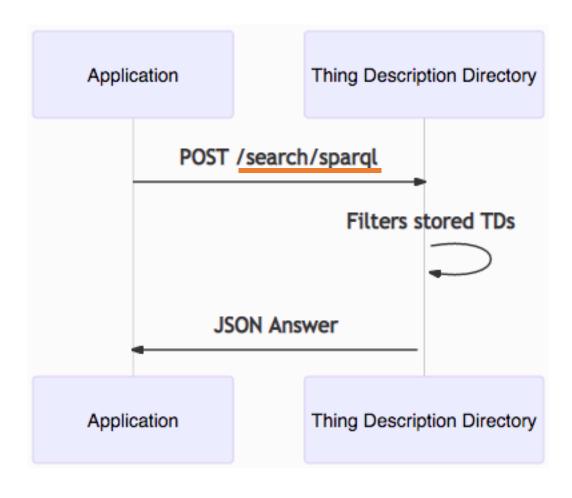
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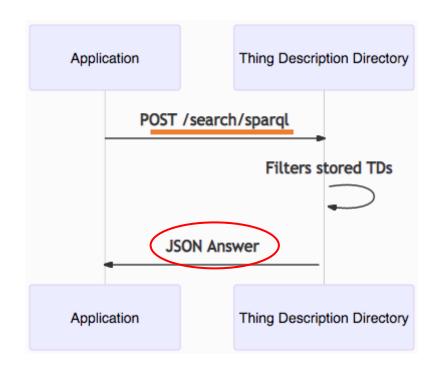


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SPARQL semantic discovery API example

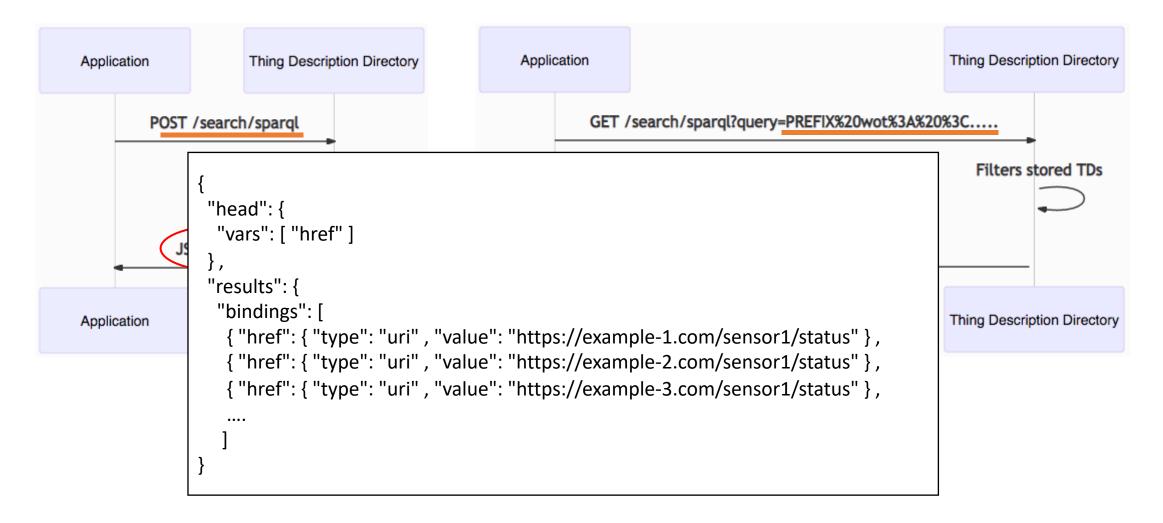












SPARQL queries examples: SELECT



- Useful for filtering TDs
 - filtering and exploratory queries
- As result return a JSON

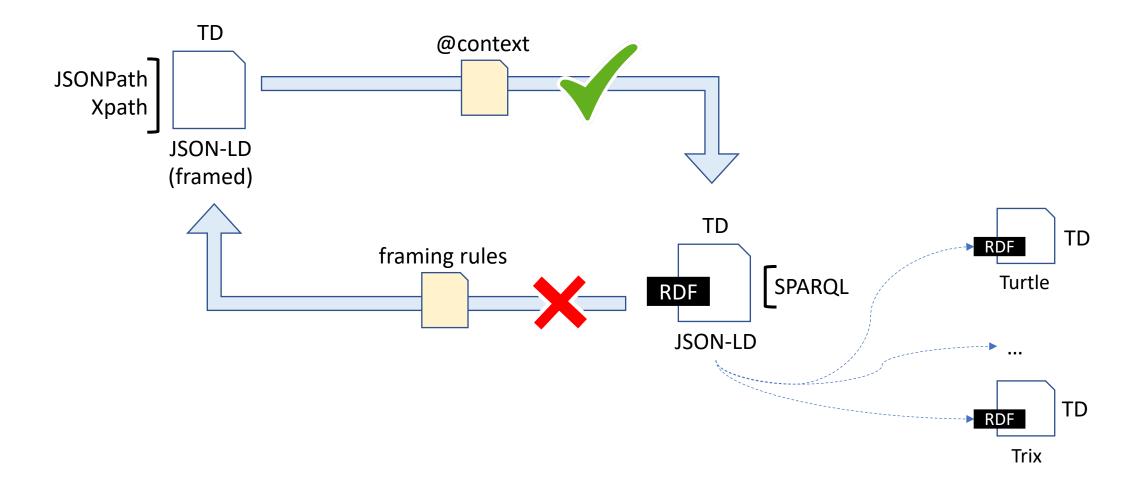




- Useful to know if a TD with some restrictions exists
- As result returns a boolean value inside a JSON

Translating TDs (using JSON-LD 1.1 spec)





SPARQL queries examples: DESCRIBE



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- Useful to retrieve TDs fulfilling some restrictions
- As result returns RDF → JSON-LD (problem to translate to JSON-LD framed)

```
PREFIX wot: <a href="https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td#">
DESCRIBE ?thing {
    ?thing a wot:Thing .
}
```

```
PREFIX wot: <a href="https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td#">https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td#>PREFIX dc: <a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">http://purl.org/dc/terms/>

DESCRIBE ?thing {
    ?thing a wot: Thing .
    ?thing dc:title "Smart-Coffee-Machine"@en .
}
```

SPARQL queries examples: CONSTRUCT



- Not very useful for discovery
 - Generates RDF from a set of restrictions and allows to introduce new triples
 - Does not modifies the original stored TD
- As result returns RDF → JSON-LD (problem to translate to JSON-LD framed)

```
PREFIX wot: <a href="https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td#">https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td#>
PREFIX dc: <a href="https://purl.org/dc/terms/">https://purl.org/dc/terms/>

CONSTRUCT {
    ?thing dc:title "new property".
    ?thing ?p ?o .
} WHERE {
    ?thing a wot:Thing .
    ?thing ?p ?o .
}
```

Advanced SPARQL queries



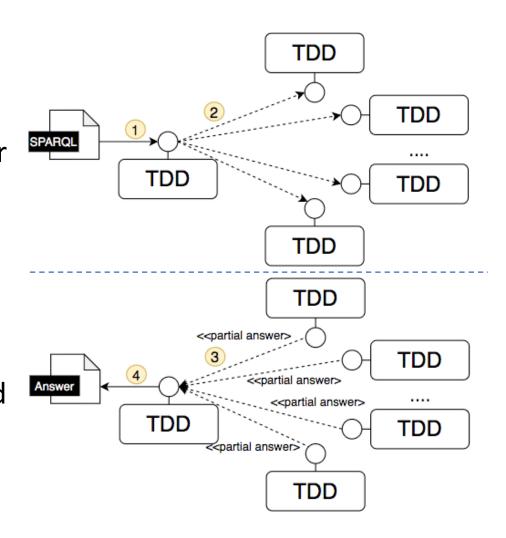
- Query Federation
 - SPARQL allows query federation
 - TDD forwards the query to other TDDs
 - Former TDD Returns a unified query answer

Pros

- Allows extending discovery criterion to other TDDs easily
- Extends the discovery scope

Cons

- TDDs addresses must be known beforehand
 - Previous service discovery
- Brute force forwarding



Advanced SPARQL queries example



- Assuming the following TDDs:
 - http://tdd-example-1.org,
 - http://tdd-example-2.org ,
 - http://tdd-example-3.org ,
 - ...
 - http://tdd-example-100.org

```
PREFIX wot: <a href="https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td#>">PREFIX wot: <a href="https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td#">https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td#</a>
PREFIX sch: <a href="https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/json-schema">https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/json-schema#>
PREFIX hyp: <a href="https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/hypermedia#">https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/hypermedia#>
SELECT DISTINCT ?href WHERE {
      SERVICE ?tdd {
            ?device wot:hasPropertyAffordance?property.
             ?property sch:propertyName "status".
            ?property wot:hasForm ?form .
             ?form hyp:hasTarget ?href.
      } VALUES ?tdd {
             <http://tdd-example-1.org>,
             <http://tdd-example-100.org>
```

Pros and Cons of SPARQL



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• Pros

- Expressive, takes advantages of ontology semantics and linked data
 - E.g., reasoning over data
 - E.g., linked Thing Descriptions → distributed TDs
- SPARQL is a query language
 - Has functions, e.g., for aggregation or data cleaning
 - Allows complex queries
 - Query federation
- SPARQL is a W3C standard
- Federated queries
 - Including SPARQL endpoints from directories and URLs of LinkDescriptions

Cons

- Simple queries are more verbose than those expressed in JSONPath or Xpath
- Consumes more resources than XPath and JSONPath?
- SPARQL can be complex and not easy to learn

Conclusion



- Semantic discovery allows to filter registered TDs using:
 - (MAY) SPARQL queries
- Semantic discovery (SPARQL) is very flexible:
 - Allows complex queries with functions
 - Exploits the semantics of ontologies, reasoning
 - Implementing SPARQL 1.1 enables query federation
- Privacy & Security
 - Discovery is binded to security and privacy policies defined in a TDD