SPARQL

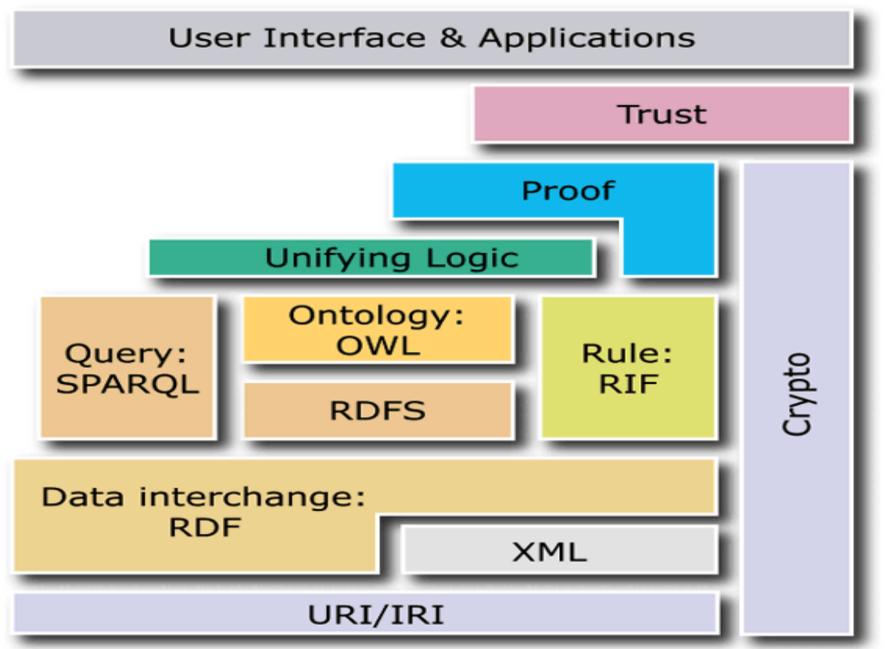
Hala Skaf-Molli
Associate Professor
Nantes University
Hala.Skaf@univ-nantes.fr
http://pagesperso.lina.univ-nantes.fr/~skaf-h

The Semantic Web

The Semantic Web provides standards to

- Identify entities (URIs)
- Express facts (RDF)
- Express concepts (RDFS)
- Share vocabularies
- Describe constraints (OWL)
- Query knowledge (SPARQL)
 - Linked data

Semantic Web Cake

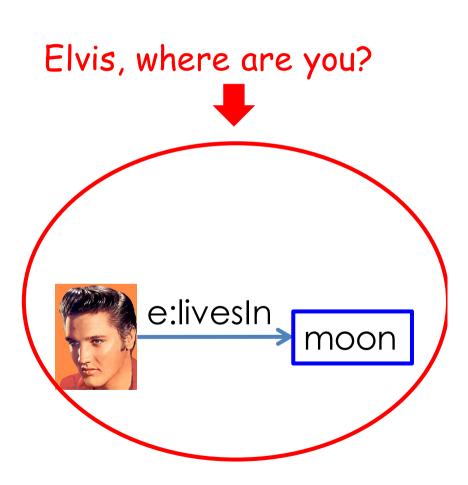


SPARQL

- SAPRQL is the query language for the Semantic Web
- RDF query language + access protocol
- SPARQL Protocol for RDF
 - Transmission of SPARQL queries and the results
 - SPARQL endpoint: Web service that implements the protocol

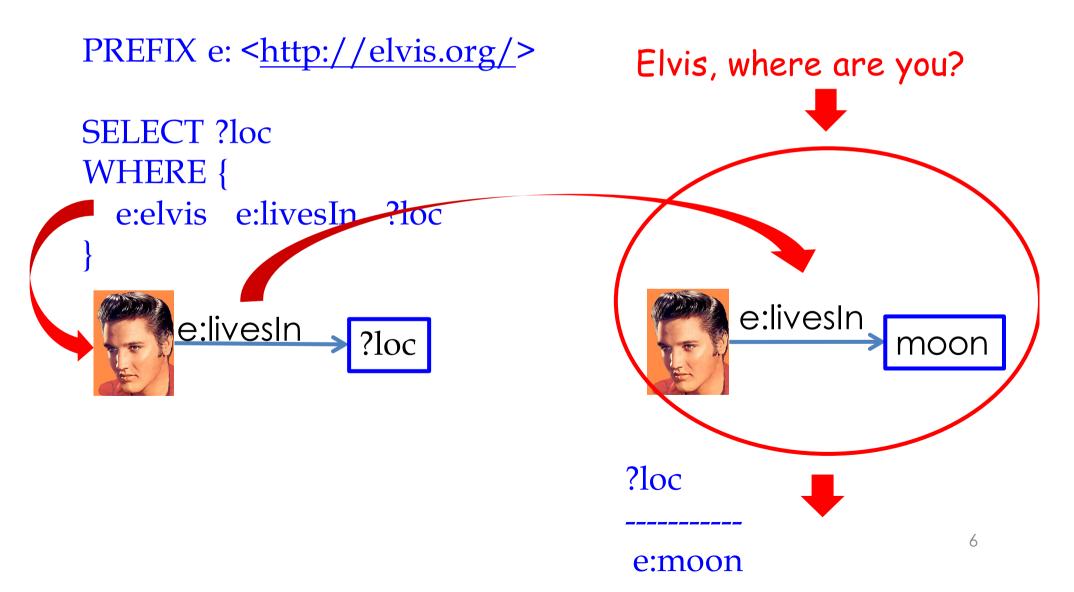
SPARQL

```
PREFIX e: < <a href="http://elvis.org/">http://elvis.org/</a>
SELECT ?loc
WHERE {
  e:elvis e:livesIn ?loc
Find me all the values
for ?loc such that the
triple is true.
```



SPARQL Matching

SPARQL is based on matching graph patterns



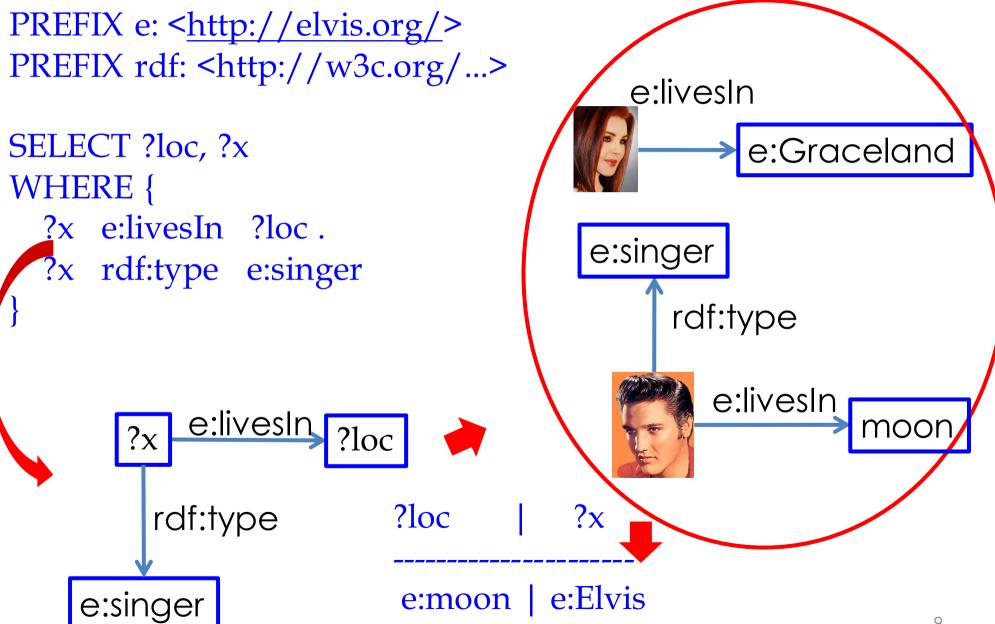
SPARQL Matching

- A triple pattern is matched against the RDF data
- Each way a pattern can be matched yields a solution
- Matches the graph
 - find a set of bindings such that the substitution of variables for values creates a triple that is in the set of triples making up the graph.

SPARQL Patterns

- Triple pattern: like an RDF triple, but with the
 possibility of a variable instead of an RDF term
 in the subject, predicate, or object positions
 - e:elvis e:livesIn ?loc
- Basic Graph Pattern (BGP) is a set of triple patterns
- Group Graph Pattern set of BGP delimited by {
- Optional Graph Pattern
- Alternative Graph Pattern
- Patterns on Named Graphs

Basic Graph Patterns



BGP Example 1: Simple Matching

Query: Find the title of a book.

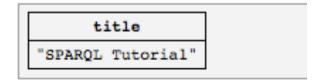
Data:

```
<http://example.org/book/bookl> <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/title> "SPARQL Tutorial" .
```

Query:

```
SELECT ?title
WHERE
{
    <http://example.org/book/bookl> <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/title> ?title .
}
```

Query Result:



BGP Example 2: Multiple Matches

Q: Retrieve name and mailbox ..

Data:

Query:

```
PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
SELECT ?name ?mbox
WHERE
{ ?x foaf:name ?name .
    ?x foaf:mbox ?mbox }
```

Query Result:

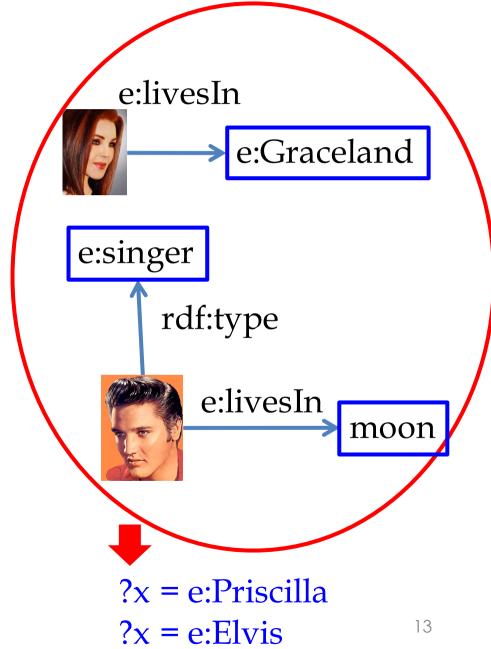
name	mbox	
"Johnny Lee Outlaw"	<mailto:jlow@example.com></mailto:jlow@example.com>	
"Peter Goodguy"	<pre><mailto:peter@example.org></mailto:peter@example.org></pre>	

Simplified Syntaxes

```
SELECT ?name ?mbox WHERE { WHERE { ?x foaf:name ?name . ?x foaf:mbox ?mbox foaf:mbox ?mbox } }
```

Optional Graph Pattern (1)

```
PREFIX e: < <a href="http://elvis.org/">http://elvis.org/</a>
PREFIX rdf: <a href="http://w3c.org/...>">
SELECT ?x
WHERE {
  ?x e:livesIn ?loc.
  OPTIONAL
    ?x rdf:type e:singer
              e:livesIn
                          ?loc
           rdf:type
     e:singer
```



Optional Graph Pattern (2)

```
@prefix foaf:
                   <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix rdf:
                   <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
_:a rdf:type
                    foaf:Person .
:a foaf:name
                   "Alice" .
:a foaf:mbox
                    <mailto:alice@example.com> .
:a foaf:mbox
                    <mailto:alice@work.example> .
                   foaf:Person .
    rdf:type
                   "Bob" .
    foaf:name
```

name	mbox
"Alice"	<mailto:alice@example.com></mailto:alice@example.com>
"Alice"	<mailto:alice@work.example></mailto:alice@work.example>
"Bob"	

Exercise (1)

Retrieve the names of friends and their nickname, if it exist...

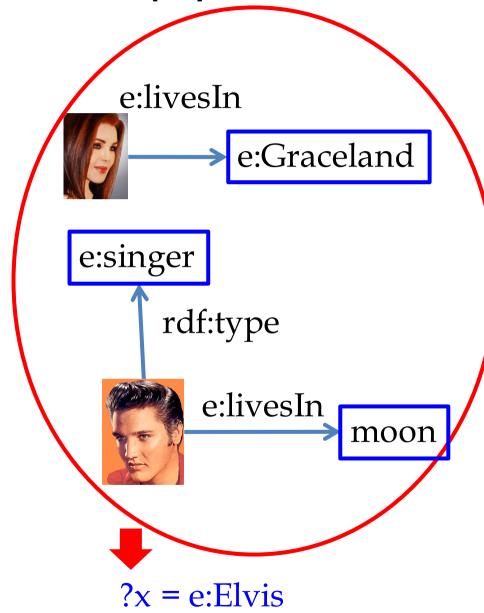
```
PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
SELECT ?nameX ?nameY ?nickY
WHERE
{ ?x foaf:knows ?y ;
    foaf:name ?nameX .
    ?y foaf:name ?nameY .
    OPTIONAL { ?y foaf:nick ?nickY }
}
```

nameX	nameY	nickY
"Alice"	"Bob"	
"Alice"	"Clare"	"CT"

SPARQL Filters (1)

```
PREFIX e: < http://elvis.org/>
PREFIX rdf: <a href="http://w3c.org/...>">
SELECT ?loc ?x
WHERE {
  ?x e:livesIn ?loc.
   FILTER regex(?loc,"^m")
            e:livesIn
                       ?loc
```

Results can be filtered through external boolean functions.



SPARQL Filters (2)

Retrieve titles starts with SPARQL.

Data:

```
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
@prefix : <http://example.org/book/> .
@prefix ns: <http://example.org/ns#> .

:bookl dc:title "SPARQL Tutorial" .
:bookl ns:price 42 .
:book2 dc:title "The Semantic Web" .
:book2 ns:price 23 .
```

Query:

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
SELECT ?title
WHERE { ?x dc:title ?title
FILTER regex(?title, "^SPARQL")
}
```

Query Result:

```
title
"SPARQL Tutorial"
```

Scope of Filters (3)

A constraint, expressed by the keyword FILTER, is a restriction on solutions over the whole group in which the filter appears.

Data:

```
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
@prefix : <http://example.org/book/> .
@prefix ns: <http://example.org/ns#> .

:book1 dc:title "SPARQL Tutorial" .
:book1 ns:price 42 .
:book2 dc:title "The Semantic Web" .
:book2 ns:price 23 .
```

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
PREFIX ns: <http://example.org/ns#>
SELECT ?title ?price
WHERE { ?x ns:price ?price .
    FILTER (?price < 30.5)
    ?x dc:title ?title . }
```

title	price
"The Semantic Web	" 23

SPARQL Filters and Optional

```
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
@prefix : <http://example.org/book/> .
@prefix ns: <http://example.org/ns#> .

:book1 dc:title "SPARQL Tutorial" .
:book1 ns:price 42 .
:book2 dc:title "The Semantic Web" .
:book2 ns:price 23 .
```

title	price
"SPARQL Tutorial"	
"The Semantic Web"	23

Filtering Using Graph Patterns Negation: not exists

```
Data:
 @prefix : <http://example/> .
 @prefix rdf: <a href="mailto:rdf">http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>.</a>
  @prefix foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>.
 :alice rdf:type foaf:Person.
 :alice foaf:name "Alice".
  :bob rdf:type foaf:Person.
Query:
PREFIX rdf: <a href="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#">http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#</a>
PREFIX foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
SELECT?person
WHERE {
     ?person rdf:type foaf:Person.
     FILTER NOT EXISTS { ?person foaf:name ?name }
```

Filtering Using Graph Patterns exists

```
Data:
 @prefix : <http://example/> .
 @prefix rdf: <a href="mailto:rdf">http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>.</a>
  @prefix foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>.
 :alice rdf:type foaf:Person.
 :alice foaf:name "Alice".
  :bob rdf:type foaf:Person.
Query:
PREFIX rdf: <a href="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#">http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#</a>
PREFIX foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
SELECT?person
WHERE {
      ?person rdf:type foaf:Person.
     FILTER EXISTS { ?person foaf:name ?name }
```

Negation with MINUS

Data: @prefix : <http://example/> . @prefix foaf: http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>. :alice foaf:givenName "Alice"; foaf:familyName "Smith". :bob foaf:givenName "Bob"; foaf:familyName "Jones". :carol foaf:givenName "Carol"; foaf:familyName "Smith". Query: PREFIX: http://example/ PREFIX foaf: http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> SELECT DISTINCT?s WHERE { ?s ?p ?o. MINUS { ?s foaf:givenName "Bob".

- NOT FXISTS in FILTERS
 - detect non-existence
- (P1 MINUS P2) as a new binary operator
 - "Remove rows with matching bindings"
 - only effective when P1 and P2 share variables

Alternative Graph Pattern

```
PREFIX dc10: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.0/>
PREFIX dc11: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>

SELECT ?title
WHERE { { ?book dc10:title ?title } UNION { ?book dc11:title ?title } }
```

```
title

"SPARQL Protocol Tutorial"

"SPARQL"

"SPARQL (updated)"

"SPARQL Query Language Tutorial"
```

Summary of Graph Pattern

- Different types of graph patterns for the query pattern
- (WHERE clause):
 - Basic graph pattern (BGP)
 - Group graph pattern
 - Optional graph pattern keyword OPTIONAL
 - Alternative graph pattern keyword UNION
 - Constraints keyword FILTER

Solution Modifiers

- Order by: put the solutions in order
- Distinct: removes duplicates from the result set
- Offset: control where the solutions start from in the overall sequence of solutions
- Limit: puts an upper bound on the number of solutions returned

Examples

```
Q1: PREFIX foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
SELECT ?name
WHERE {
       ?x foaf:name ?name }
ORDER BY ?name
Q2: PREFIX : <a href="http://example.org/ns#">http://example.org/ns#>
PREFIX foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
PREFIX xsd: <a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#">http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#</a>
SELECT?name
WHERE { ?x foaf:name ?name ;
                :empld ?emp }
ORDER BY DESC(?emp)
Limit 5
```

Examples

```
Q1: PREFIX foaf:
:x foaf:name "Alice".
                                          <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
:x foaf:mbox
                                          SELECT?name
<mailto:alice@example.com> .
                                          WHERE {
:y foaf:name "Alice".
                                          ?x foaf:name ?name }
:y foaf:mbox .
                                          Q2: PREFIX foaf:
<mailto:asmith@example.com> .
                                          <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/</a>
:z foaf:name "Alice".
:z foaf:mbox
                                          SELECT DISTINCT?name
<mailto:alice.smith@example.com> . WHERE {
                                          ?x foaf:name ?name }
```

SPARQL Query forms

Select

- Sequence of results (i.e. sets of variable bindings)
- Selected variables separated by space (not by comma!)

Construct

- Returns an RDF graph created from a template
- Template: graph pattern with variables from the query pattern

Describe

- Returns an RDF graph with data about resources
- Nondeterministic (i.e. query processor determines the actual structure of the returned RDF graph).

Ask

Check whether there is at least one answer

Construct

Question: construct the foaf graph containing the name of employees

```
@prefix org: <http://example.com/ns#> .
_:a org:employeeName "Alice" .
_:a org:employeeId 12345 .
_:b org:employeeName "Bob" .
_:b org:employeeId 67890 .
```

```
PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
PREFIX org: <http://example.com/ns#>

CONSTRUCT { ?x foaf:name ?name }
WHERE { ?x org:employeeName ?name }
```

```
@prefix org: <http://example.com/ns#> .
_:x foaf:name "Alice" .
_:y foaf:name "Bob" .
```

```
<rdf:RDF
    xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
    xmlns:foaf="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/"
    >
    <rdf:Description>
        <foaf:name>Alice</foaf:name>
        </rdf:Description>
        <foaf:name>Bob</foaf:name>
        </rdf:Description>
        <foaf:name>Bob</foaf:name>
        </rdf:Description>
        </rdf:RDF>
```

ASK

- Test whether or not a query pattern has a solution.
- No information is returned about the possible query solutions, just whether or not a solution exists.

```
PREFIX foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
ASK { ?x foaf:name "Alice" }

Does Alice has a mailbox ?
```

```
yes
```

DESCRIBE

 The DESCRIBE form returns a single result RDF graph containing RDF data about resources

```
PREFIX ent: <http://org.example.com/employees#>
DESCRIBE ?x WHERE { ?x ent:employeeId "1234" }
```

might return a description of the employee and some other potentially useful details:

```
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix vcard: <http://www.w3.org/2001/vcard-rdf/3.0> .
@prefix exOrg: <http://org.example.com/employees#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
               <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#>
@prefix owl:
       exOrg:employeeId
                           "1234" ;
:a
       foaf:mbox shalsum
                           "ABCD1234" ;
       vcard:N
        [ vcard:Family
                             "Smith";
                             "John" 1 .
          vcard:Given
foaf:mbox shalsum rdf:type owl:InverseFunctionalProperty .
```

RDF Data Sets

- A SPARQL query is executed against an RDF Dataset
- An RDF Dataset comprises
 - One default graph
 - and zero or more named graphs (identified by an IRI).
- Keyword GRAPH make one of the named graph the active graph used for patterns matching

Using Select-From-Where

- SELECT specifies the projection: the number and order of retrieved data
- FROM is used to specify the source (RDF data set) being queried (optional)
- WHERE imposes constraints on possible solutions in the form of graph pattern templates and boolean constraints

Specifying RDF Datasets

```
PREFIX foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
SELECT ?name
FROM <a href="http://example.org/foaf/aliceFoaf">http://example.org/foaf/aliceFoaf</a>
WHERE { ?x foaf:name ?name }
```

name
"Alice"

Example of Dataset

```
# Default graph
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
<http://example.org/bob>
                           dc:publisher "Bob" .
                           dc:publisher "Alice" .
<http://example.org/alice>
# Named graph: http://example.org/bob
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
:a foaf:name "Bob" .
:a foaf:mbox <mailto:bob@oldcorp.example.org> .
# Named graph: http://example.org/alice
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
:a foaf:name "Alice" .
:a foaf:mbox <mailto:alice@work.example.org> .
```

GRAPH FROM NAMED

```
# Default graph (stored at http://example.org/dft.ttl)
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
<http://example.org/bob>
                                dc:publisher
                                                "Bob Hacker" .
                                dc:publisher "Alice Hacker" .
<http://example.org/alice>
# Named graph: http://example.org/bob
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
:a foaf:name "Bob" .
-: a foaf:mbox <mailto:bob@oldcorp.example.org> .
# Named graph: http://example.org/alice
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
_:a foaf:name "Alice" .
-: a foaf:mbox <mailto:alice@work.example.org> .
PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
PREFIX dc: <a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
SELECT ?who ?g ?mbox
FROM <a href="from">http://example.org/dft.ttl></a>
FROM NAMED <a href="http://example.org/alice">http://example.org/alice</a>
FROM NAMED <a href="http://example.org/bob">http://example.org/bob>
WHERE
   ?q dc:publisher ?who .
   GRAPH ?g { ?x foaf:mbox ?mbox }
```

DataSet:

```
# Default graph
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
@prefix g: <tag:example.org,2005-06-06:> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .

g:graph1 dc:publisher "Bob" .
g:graph2 dc:date "2004-12-06"^^xsd:date .

g:graph2 dc:publisher "Bob" .
g:graph2 dc:date "2005-01-10"^^xsd:date .
```

```
# Graph: locally allocated IRI: tag:example.org,2005-06-06:graph1
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .

_:a foaf:name "Alice" .
_:a foaf:mbox <mailto:alice@work.example> .

_:b foaf:name "Bob" .
_:b foaf:mbox <mailto:bob@oldcorp.example.org> .
```

```
# Graph: locally allocated IRI: tag:example.org,2005-06-06:graph2
@prefix foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/</a>.

_:a foaf:name "Alice" .
_:a foaf:mbox <mailto:alice@work.example> .

_:b foaf:name "Bob" .
_:b foaf:mbox <mailto:bob@newcorp.example.org> .
```

Question

Finds email addresses, detailing the name of the person and the date the information was discovered.

```
PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
SELECT ?name ?mbox ?date
WHERE
{    ?g dc:publisher ?name ;
        dc:date ?date .
    GRAPH ?g
    { ?person foaf:name ?name ; foaf:mbox ?mbox }
}
```

name	mbox	date
"Bob"	<pre><mailto:bob@oldcorp.example.org></mailto:bob@oldcorp.example.org></pre>	"2004-12-06"^^xsd:date
"Bob"	<pre><mailto:bob@newcorp.example.org></mailto:bob@newcorp.example.org></pre>	"2005-01-10"^^xsd:date

SPARQL Endpoints

- Service that can
 - receive SPARQL queries sent by a machine
 - receive SPARQL queries typed by a human in a Web interface

http://esw.w3.org/SparqlEndpoints

Currently Alive SPARQL Endpoints

(alphabetical. let's avoid PoorMansHypertext and in-your-face URIs, please)

Project	status	SPARQL endpoint	Webform	c
BBC Programmes and Music	(2010-06-29) alive	<u>endpoint</u>	Ajax based Visual Query Builder	P E
Bio2RDF	(2010-01-07) alive	List of 40 SPARQL endpoints	n/a	u
RioGateway	(2010-01-07)	andpoint	wahfarm	В

SPARQL Example

Example at http://dbpedia.org/sparql:

```
PREFIX dbo: <a href="http://dbpedia.org/ontology/">http://dbpedia.org/ontology/>
```

```
SELECT ?name ?birth ?death ?person WHERE {
    ?person dbo:birthPlace :Berlin .
    ?person dbo:birthDate ?birth .
    ?person foaf:name ?name .
    ?person dbo:deathDate ?death .
    FILTER (?birth < "1900-01-01"^^xsd:date) .
}
```

birth	death	person
"1843-10-13"^^xsd:date	"1925-06-28"^^xsd:date	:Hugo_Phillip_Graf_von_Lerchenfeld_auf_K%C3%B6fering_und_Sch%C3%B6nberg ₪
"1843-10-13"^^xsd:date	"1925-06-28"^^xsd:date	:Hugo_Phillip_Graf_von_Lerchenfeld_auf_K%C3%B6fering_und_Sch%C3%B6nberg ₪
"1831-06-21"^^xsd:date	"1855-03-30"^^xsd:date	:Princess_Charlotte_Frederica_of_Prussia ☑
"1705-06-10"^^xsd:date	"1762-06-22"^^xsd:date	:Charles_Frederick_Albert,_Margrave_of_Brandenburg-Schwedt ₺
"1842-02-01"^^xsd:date	"1906-03-26"^^xsd:date	:Princess_Alexandrine_of_Prussia_(1842%E2%80%931906) ©
"1839-05-30"^^xsd:date	"1923-03-24"^^xsd:date	:Ellen_Franz 🗗
"1811-10-29"^^xsd:date	"1873-06-06"^^xsd:date	:Prince_Adalbert_of_Prussia_(1811%E2%80%931873) ₺
"1801-09-25"^^xsd:date	"1865-05-29"^^xsd:date	:Eduard_Knoblauch ☑
"1781-01-26"^^xsd:date	"1831-01-21"^^xsd:date	:Ludwig_Achim_von_Arnim 🗗
"1811-10-29"^^xsd:date	"1873-06-06"^^xsd:date	:Prince_Adalbert_of_Prussia_(1811%E2%80%931873) ₽
"1779-06-30"^^xsd:date	"1829-01-17"^^xsd:date	:Adam_M%C3%BCller ☑
"1779-06-30"^^xsd:date	"1829-01-17"^^xsd:date	:Adam_M%C3%BCller &
"1811-08-07"^^xsd:date	"1883-07-13"^^xsd:date	:Adolf_Christen &
"1803-04-10"^^xsd:date	"1868-01-08"^^xsd:date	:Adolf_Heinrich_von_Arnim-Boitzenburg 🗗
"1876-12-25"^^xsd:date	"1959-06-09"^^xsd:date	:Adolf_Otto_Reinhold_Windaus 🗗
	"1843-10-13"^^xsd:date "1843-10-13"^^xsd:date "1831-06-21"^^xsd:date "1705-06-10"^^xsd:date "1842-02-01"^^xsd:date "1839-05-30"^^xsd:date "1811-10-29"^^xsd:date "1801-09-25"^^xsd:date "1781-01-26"^^xsd:date "1779-06-30"^^xsd:date "1779-06-30"^^xsd:date "1779-06-30"^^xsd:date "1811-08-07"^^xsd:date "1803-04-10"^^xsd:date	"1843-10-13"^^xsd:date

Summary

- SPARQL is a protocol and query language for RDF data model..
- It designed for open, decentralized Web
- Select and Construct forms are suitable for querying known endpoint with known vocabularies
- Describe is suitable for known IRI and unknown vocabularies, the results is a RDF graph describing the requested resource
- Ask discover which SPARQL endpoint could answer the query