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# RDFS Semantics and OWL 2 Profiles

**Ernesto Jiménez-Ruiz**

Lecturer in Artificial Intelligence

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# Before we start...

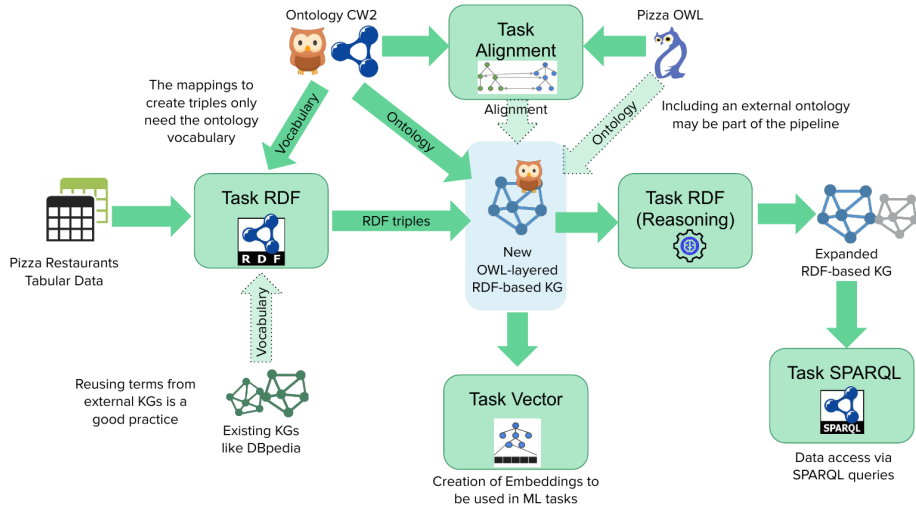
## Drop-in sessions

- Today from **3pm** to **5pm** (shifted by 1h).
- **Tuesdays, online 10am.**

## Where are we? Module organization.

- ✓ Introduction: Becoming a knowledge scientist.
  - ✓ RDF-based knowledge graphs.
  - ✓ OWL ontology language. Focus on modelling.
  - ✓ SPARQL 1.0 Query Language.
  - ✓ From tabular data to KG.
6. **RDFS Semantics and OWL 2 profiles.**(Today)
  7. SPARQL 1.1, Rules and Graph Database solutions.
  8. Ontology Alignment.
  9. Ontology (KG) Embeddings and Machine Learning.
  10. (Large) Language Models and KGs. (Seminar)

# The global picture



## Coursework part 2

- Sunday, 12 May 2024, 5:00 PM
- Team registration March 17
- Components:
  - ✓ Tabular Data to Knowledge Graph: 40% (Weeks 2 and 5)
  - SPARQL and Reasoning: 20% (Weeks 4, 7 and 8)
  - Ontology Alignment: 10% (Week 9)
  - Ontology Embeddings: 10% (Week 10)

## Learning outcomes for today

- Light understanding of how reasoning works.
- Usefulness of OWL 2 Profiles (specially OWL 2 RL)
- Learning how to do reasoning programmatically (coursework): basically 1 line of code.

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# Recap



# Recap: RDF Example

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

```
dbr:london a dbo:City .
```

```
dbr:london dbo:locationCountry dbr:england .
```

```
dbr:london rdfs:label "Londres"@es .
```

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dbr:london

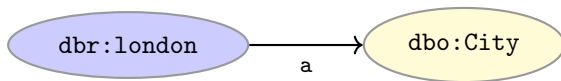
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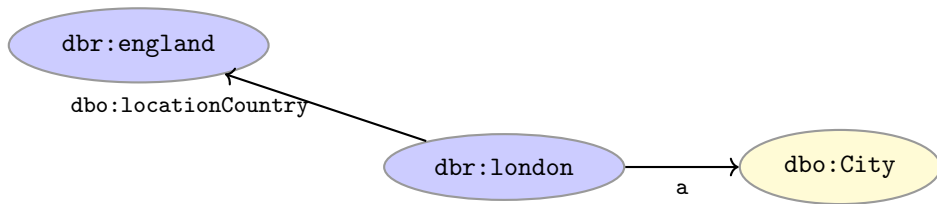
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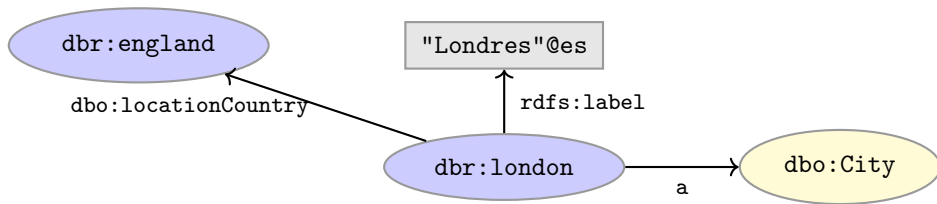
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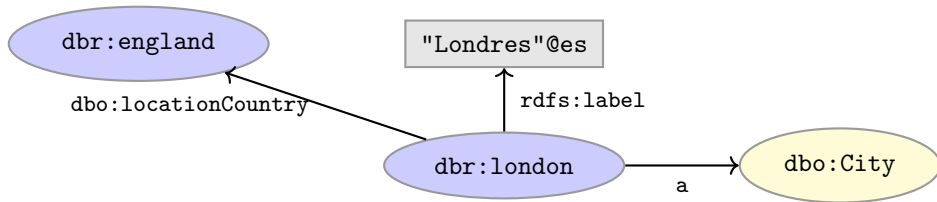
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## Recap: SPARQL Example (i)

### Return all Cities:

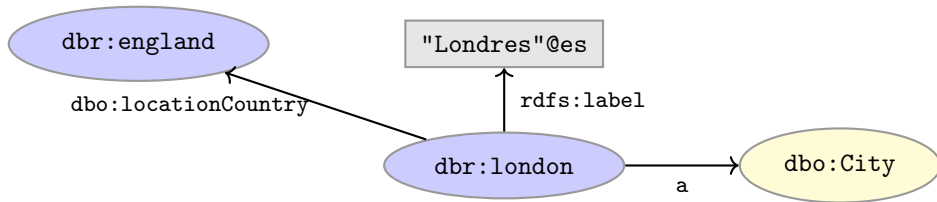
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PREFIX rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>  
SELECT DISTINCT ?city WHERE {  
    ?city rdf:type dbo:City .  
}
```



## Recap: SPARQL Example (i)

Return all Cities: **Query Result= {dbr:london}**

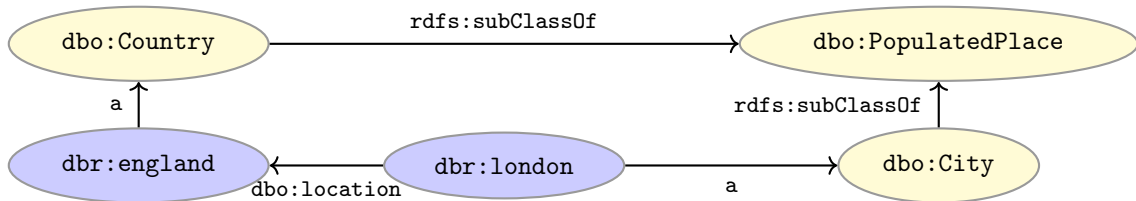
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PREFIX rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
SELECT DISTINCT ?city WHERE {
    ?city rdf:type dbo:City .
}
```



## Recap: SPARQL Example (ii)

### Return all Populated Places:

```
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 .  
}
```

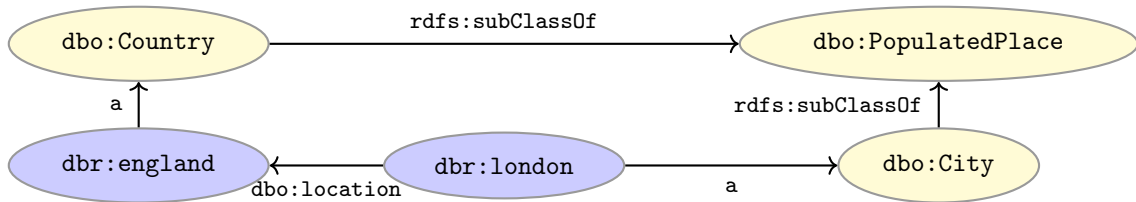




## Recap: SPARQL Example (ii)

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 {
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## Recap: RDF Grammar for triples

- RDF imposes a basic grammar. A triple consists of *subject*, *predicate*, and *object*

- |   | s | p | o |
|---|---|---|---|
| • 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:

```
dbr:london rdf:type "some string"^^xsd:string .
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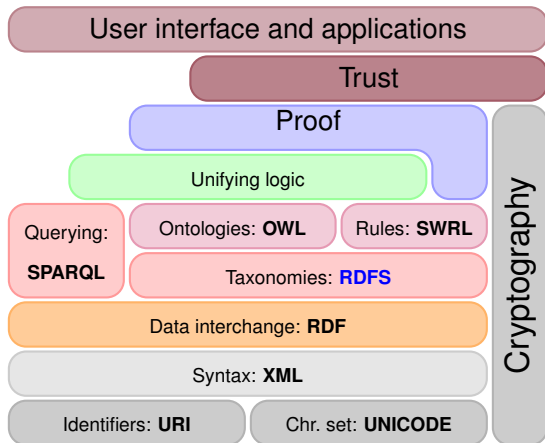
`dbr:london rdf:type "some string"^^xsd:string .`

- RDF Schema (RDFS) extends the **grammar** for the “**expected**” triples (*e.g.*, `rdf:type rdf:range rdfs:Resource .`), extends the vocabulary, and include a set of **inference rules**.

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# 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-nt/>
- Namespace:  
`rdfs: http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#`
- Originally designed as a “schema language” like XML Schema.
  - Not strictly – doesn’t describe “valid” RDF graphs.
- A very simple **modeling language** for RDF data → Taxonomies
- **(For our purposes)** it can be seen as a language less expressive than OWL, useful to understand how reasoning works.

# 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.

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  - comes with some (non-ambiguous) **inference rules**, and
  - includes some **(default) triples** as part of the specification.
- For example, RDFS expects as range of `rdf:type` a resource/IRI (*e.g.*,  
`rdf:type rdf:range rdfs:Resource .`)
  - `dbr:london rdf:type "some string"^^xsd:string .`
  - *RDFS*: **Not expected triple**, but not prohibited by specification.
  - *OWL*: a **prohibited triple** will lead to an error (validation).



# RDFS Vocabulary

- RDFS adds the concept of “classes” which are *sets* of resources.

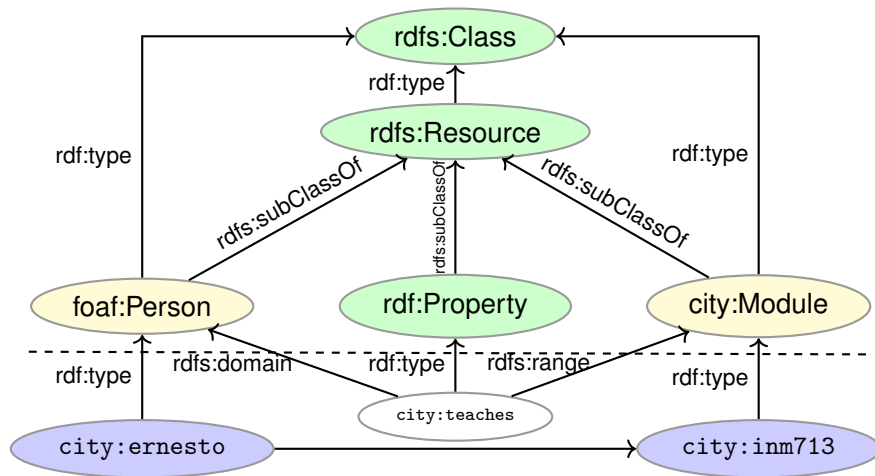
# RDFS Vocabulary

- 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. (similar to `owl:Class`)
  - `rdfs:Literal`: The class of all literal values.
  - `rdfs:Datatype`: The class of all datatypes.

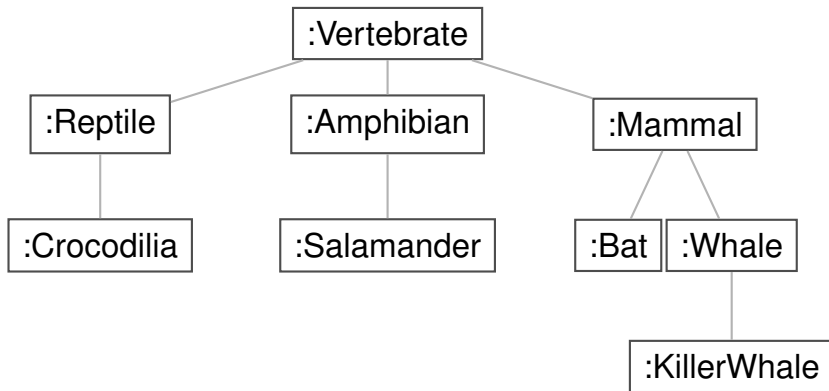
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  - `rdfs:Literal`: The class of all literal values.
  - `rdfs:Datatype`: The class of all datatypes.
- Defined properties:
  - `rdfs:domain`: The domain (sources) of a relation.
  - `rdfs:range`: The range (targets) of a relation.
  - `rdfs:subClassOf`: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

# Example RDF graph and RDF Schema

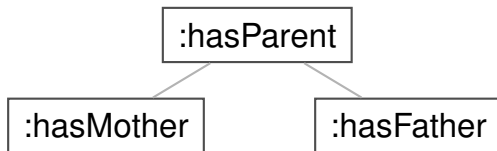


## Class Taxonomy (via `rdfs:subClassOf`)



(\*) As in OWL.

## Property Taxonomy (via `rdfs:subPropertyOf`)



(\*) As in OWL.

## 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

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## 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 .`

RDFS Entailment Rules: [https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-mt/#rdfs\\_interp](https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-mt/#rdfs_interp)

## (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:

```
rdfs:subClassOf rdfs:domain rdfs:Class .
```

- ... (another 30 or so)

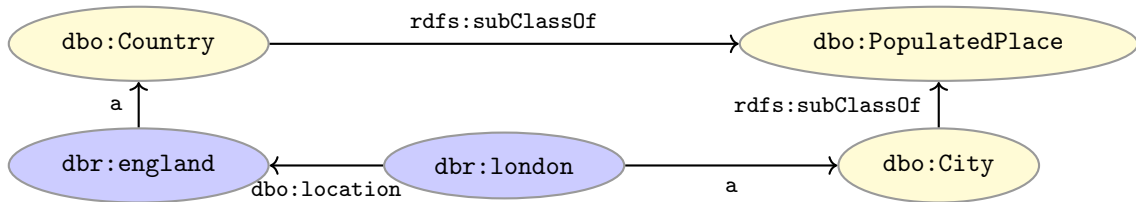
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# Entailment via Model-Theoretic Semantics

# SPARQL Example

## Return all Populated Places:

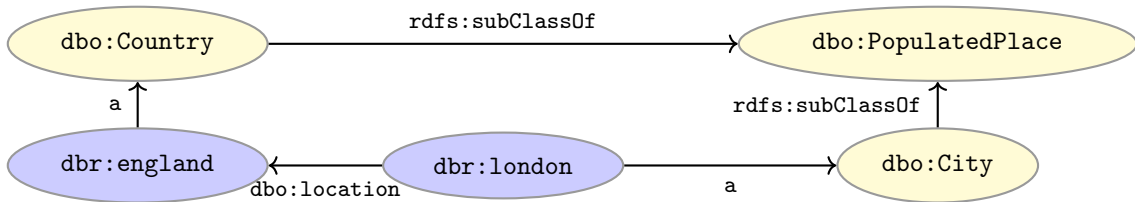
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# SPARQL Example

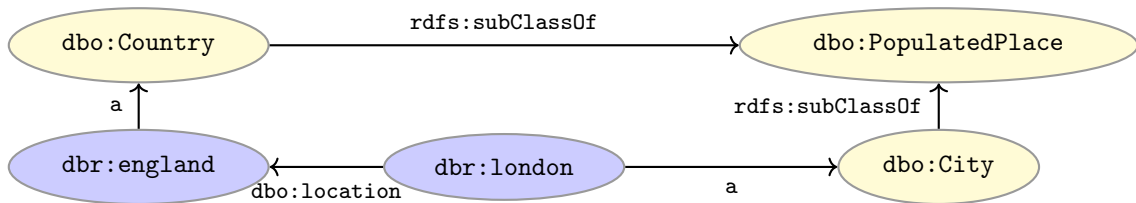
**Return all Populated Places: Query Result= {}**

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SELECT DISTINCT ?place WHERE {
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```



# 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: `dbr:london rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace` and add it to the graph below? (*Graph expansion via reasoning*).
- Similarly for `dbr:england`



## Model-Theoretic Semantics (i)

- **Interpretations** might be conceived as potential "realities" or "worlds".
- Interpretations assign values to elements.
  - (*The **intuitions** behind set-theory are **formally represented**.*)

## Model-Theoretic Semantics (i)

- **Interpretations** might be conceived as potential "realities" or "worlds".
- 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  $\mathcal{G}$ .



## Model-Theoretic Semantics (ii)

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

## Model-Theoretic Semantics (ii)

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  - $\text{dbo:location}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle \text{dbr:london}, \text{dbr:england} \rangle\}$
- $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{G}$  (is a model of  $\mathcal{G}$ ) as the following holds:
  - $\text{dbo:City}^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \text{dbo:PopulatedPlace}^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\text{dbo:Country}^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \text{dbo:PopulatedPlace}^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\text{dbr:london}^{\mathcal{I}} \in \text{dbo:City}^{\mathcal{I}}$

## Model-Theoretic Semantics (iii)

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

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## Model-Theoretic Semantics (iii)

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

## Model-Theoretic Semantics (iii)

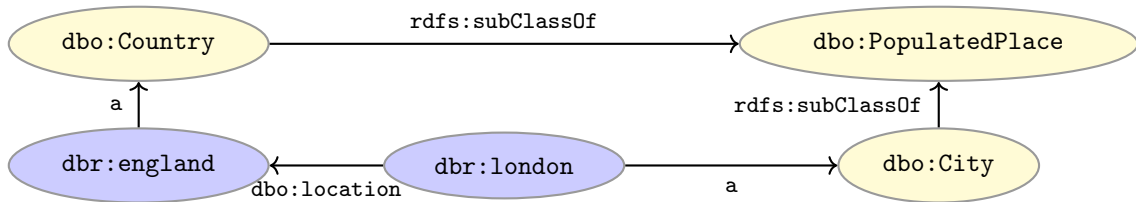
- $t = \text{dbr:london rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace}$
- Does  $\mathcal{I} \models t$  ?
  - **Yes:**  $\text{dbo:PopulatedPlace}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\text{dbr:london}, \text{dbr:england}\}$
- Does  $\mathcal{G} \models t$  ?
  - **if and only if**
    - For **any interpretation**  $\mathcal{I}$  with  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{G}$
    - $\mathcal{I} \models t$ .
  - (Yes, in this case too.)
- Does  $\mathcal{G} \models t_2$  ( $t_2 = \text{dbr:london rdf:type dbo:Country}$ )?
  - **No:** Our  $\mathcal{I}$  is a counter example.  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{G}$  but  $\mathcal{I} \not\models t_2$



# SPARQL Example: with entailment

## Return all Populated places:

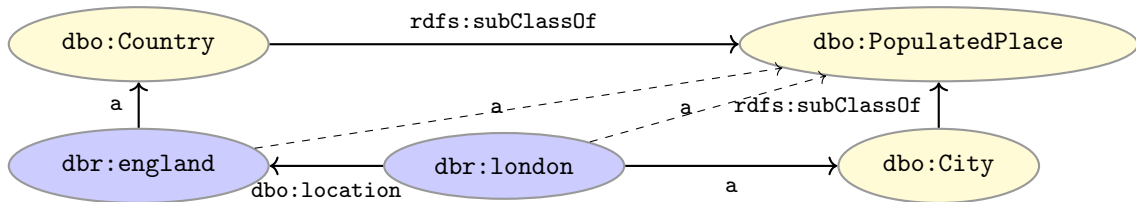
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}
```



# SPARQL Example: with entailment

Return all Populated places: **Query Result= {dbr:england, dbr:london}**

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SELECT DISTINCT ?place WHERE {
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# Model-Theoretic Semantics in practice

- Model-theoretic semantics yields an unambiguous 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.

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# 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:

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

- the  $P_i$  are **premises** (body)
  - and  $P$  is the **conclusion** (head).
- 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 human are mortal
Socrates is a human
-----
Therefore, Socrates is mortal

## Inference rules (iii)

- The whole set of inference rules given for a logic is called **deduction calculus**.
- $\vdash$  is the **inference relation**, while  $\models$  was the entailment relation using model theoretic semantics.
  - We write  $\Gamma \vdash P$  if we can deduce  $P$  from the premises  $\Gamma$ .



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- $\vdash$  is the **inference relation**, while  $\models$  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**  $P$  is a **new triple**  $t$
  - After applying the rules to  $\mathcal{G}$  we will get an **expanded graph**  $\mathcal{G}'$

# 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...”

RDFS Entailment Rules: <https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-mt/#RDFSRules>

# Type propagation

- **Members of superclasses:**

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

(\*) rdfs9, rdfs10, rdfs11 are the names of the inference rules in the W3C standard.  
A, B are classes; x is an instance.

# Type propagation

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- **Reflexivity of sub-class relation:**

$$\frac{A \text{ rdf:type rdfs:Class } .}{A \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } A .} \text{ rdfs10}$$

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- **Reflexivity of sub-class relation:**

$$\frac{A \text{ rdf:type rdfs:Class } .}{A \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } A .} \text{ rdfs10}$$

- **Transitivity of sub-class relation:**

$$\frac{A \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } B . \quad B \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } C .}{A \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } C .} \text{ rdfs11}$$

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A, B are classes; x is an instance.

# Type propagation: Examples

- **Members of superclasses:**

$$\frac{:City \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } :PopulatedPlace . \quad :london \text{ rdf:type } :City .}{:london \text{ rdf:type } :PopulatedPlace .} \text{ rdfs9}$$

- **Reflexivity of sub-class relation:**

$$\frac{:City \text{ rdf:type rdfs:Class .}}{:City \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } :City .} \text{ rdfs10}$$

- **Transitivity of sub-class relation:**

$$\frac{:City \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } :PopulatedPlace . \quad :PopulatedPlace \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } :Place .}{:City \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } :Place .} \text{ rdfs11}$$

# Property Propagation

## – Transitivity:

$$\frac{P \text{ rdfs:subPropertyOf } Q . \quad Q \text{ rdfs:subPropertyOf } R .}{P \text{ rdfs:subPropertyOf } R .} \text{ rdfs5}$$

(\*) P, Q are properties; u, v are instances.

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- **Reflexivity:**

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- **Property transfer:**

$$\frac{P \text{ rdfs:subPropertyOf } Q . \quad u P v .}{u Q v .} \text{ rdfs7}$$

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# Property Propagation: Examples

## – Transitivity:

$$\frac{\text{ :has\_writer rdfs:subPropertyOf :has\_author . } \quad \text{ :has\_author rdfs:subPropertyOf :has\_creator . }}{\text{ :has\_writer rdfs:subPropertyOf :has\_creator . }} \text{ rdfs5}$$

## – Reflexivity:

$$\frac{\text{ :has\_writer rdf:type rdf:Property . }}{\text{ :has\_writer rdfs:subPropertyOf :has\_writer . }} \text{ rdfs6}$$

## – Property transfer:

$$\frac{\text{ :has\_author rdfs:subPropertyOf :has\_creator . } \quad \text{ :Hamlet :has\_author :Shakespeare . }}{\text{ :Hamlet :has\_creator :Shakespeare . }} \text{ rdfs7}$$

# Domain and range propagation

Typing triggered by the use of properties.

– **Domain propagation:**

$$\frac{P \text{ rdfs:domain } A . \quad x P y .}{x \text{ rdf:type } A .} \text{ rdfs2}$$

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# Domain and range propagation

Typing triggered by the use of properties.

- **Domain propagation:**

$$\frac{P \text{ rdfs:domain } A . \quad x P y .}{x \text{ rdf:type } A .} \text{ rdfs2}$$

- **Range propagation:**

$$\frac{P \text{ rdfs:range } B . \quad x P y .}{y \text{ rdf:type } B .} \text{ rdfs3}$$

(\*) P, Q are properties; x, y are instances.

# Domain and Range Propagation: Examples

## – Domain propagation:

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

## – Range propagation:

:capitalOf rdfs:range :Country .      :london :capitalOf :england .  
:england rdf:type :Country .      rdfs3

---

# 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**.
  - If  $\mathcal{G} \vdash t$  then  $\mathcal{G} \models t$
- But **not complete**.
  - Not always applies that If  $\mathcal{G} \models t$  then  $\mathcal{G} \vdash t$
  - Due to how RDFS deals with datatypes.

## (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 in RDFS 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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are not inconsistent.
- There is also **not clear notion of disjointness** among RDF resources: **Object Properties**, **Datatype Properties**, **Classes**, **Built-in properties**, **Individuals**, **Datatypes** and **Literals**.
- **OWL** (and OWL 2) includes additional vocabulary and also **consistency-checks**.

---

# OWL 2 Reasoning and Profiles

# Recap: OWL (The Web Ontology Language)

- A **W3C** recommendation:

- OWL 1 (2004): <http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-ref/>

- OWL 2 (2009): <https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-overview/>



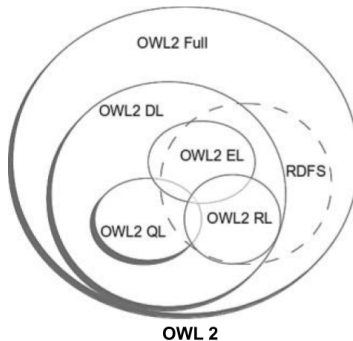
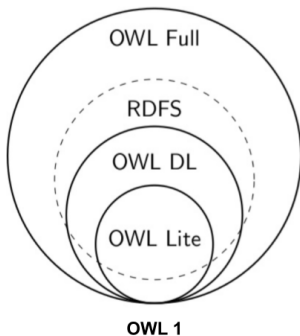
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  - OWL 2 (2009): <https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-overview/>
- OWL semantics based on **Description Logics (DL)**.
  - Family of knowledge representation languages
  - Decidable subset of First Order logic (FOL)
  - Original called: **Terminological language** or **concept language**



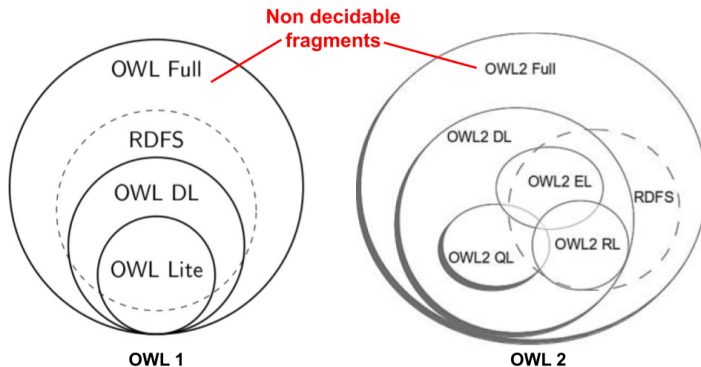


# Recap: OWL 1, OWL 2 (profiles) and RDFS



Olivier Cure and Guillaume Blin. RDF Database Systems (Chapter 3). 2015. Elsevier.

# Recap: OWL 1, OWL 2 (profiles) and RDFS



† **Reasoning in OWL 2** will partially get the same consequences as in the RDFS inference rules and many more.

# Automated Reasoning in OWL

- Formal semantics allows the automatic deduction of **new facts** (*i.e., not explicit but derived from others*).
- Also allows us to perform checks that aim to detect the **correctness** of the designed model (*e.g., is :dolphin a :Fish?*). [New respect to RDFS.](#)

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  - `:Mammal` and `:Fish` are disjoint classes.
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- In the form of **logical errors**:
  - `:Mammal` and `:Fish` are disjoint classes.
  - `:dolphin` cannot be an individual (or a subclass) of both `:Mammal` and `:Fish`.
- Extremely valuable for designing **correct** ontologies/KGs, specially when working **collaboratively** and **integrating** various sources.

---

# OWL 2 Reasoning

## Recap: OWL 2 Axioms into Boxes

- Traditionally OWL 2 axioms are put in boxes.
- The **TBox** (terminological knowledge)
  - Typically independent of any actual instance data.
  - Property axioms are also referred to as **RBox**
- The **ABox** (assertional knowledge)
  - Contains facts about concrete instance.

# OWL 2 TBox Reasoning

(Standard) Reasoning tasks that use only the TBox  $\mathcal{T}^\dagger$

- Concept **unsatisfiability**: Given  $C$ , does  $\mathcal{T} \models C \sqsubseteq \perp$ ? (i.e.,  $\mathcal{C}^\mathcal{I} = \emptyset$ )

† (**Model-Theoretic Semantics**) The answer to ‘does  $\mathcal{T} \models \alpha$ ?’ will be positive if for each interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  such that  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$ ,  $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$  too.



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Is there a model for  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ ? i.e., is there an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  such that  $\mathcal{I} \models (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ ?

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$\dagger$  (**Model-Theoretic Semantics**) The answer to ‘does  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models \alpha$ ?’ will be positive if for each interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  such that  $\mathcal{I} \models (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ ,  $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$  too.

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## OWL 2 Reasoning Algorithms

- Reasoning in OWL 2 is typically based on **(Hyper)Tableau Reasoning Algorithms** (tableau = truth tree)
- Reasoning tasks **reduced to (un)satisfiability**.
- Algorithm tries to construct an **abstraction** of a model.

Chapter 5: Foundations of Semantic Web Technologies. CRC Press 2009

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- Reasoning tasks **reduced to (un)satisfiability**.
- Algorithm tries to construct an **abstraction** of a model.
- State-of-the-art algorithms:
  - *e.g.*, **HermiT** (default option in Protégé).
  - Implement a number of (search) **optimisations**.
  - **Effective** with many realistic ontologies

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# Tractability Problems with OWL 2 Reasoning

- Problems with **very large** and/or **cyclical ontologies**.
  - Ontologies may define hundred of thousands of terms (*e.g.*, SNOMED CT)
  - Large number of tests for classification (each test can lead to the construction of very large models).

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  - Large number of tests for classification (each test can lead to the construction of very large models).
- Problems with **medium/large** data sets (ABoxes)
  - OWL 2 Reasoners typically optimized for TBox reasoning tasks.
  - Data also brings additional complexity.

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# OWL 2 profiles

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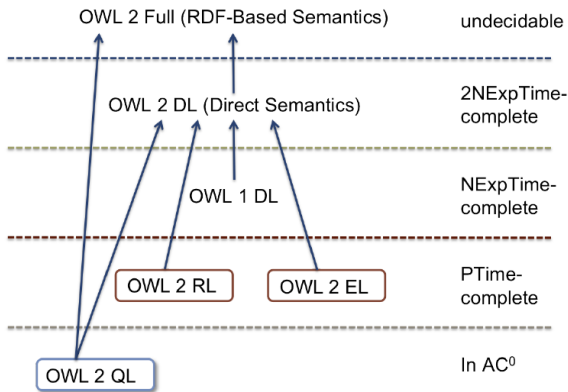


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  - **OWL 2 QL**:
    - Specifically designed for efficient database integration.
  - **OWL 2 EL**:
    - A lightweight language with polynomial time reasoning.
  - **OWL 2 RL**:
    - Designed for compatibility with rule-based inference tools.
    - Efficient reasoning with large datasets.

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# Data Complexity OWL 2 Profiles



<https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-profiles/>

# OWL EL profile (i)

Based on the DL  $\mathcal{EL}^{++}$ . Concept descriptions (simplified)

$C, D \rightarrow$	$A$		(atomic concept)
	$\top$		(universal concept)
	$\perp$		(bottom concept)
	$\{a\}$		( <i>singular</i> enumeration)
	$C \sqcap D$		(intersection)
	$\exists R.C$		(existential restriction)

## Axioms

- $C \sqsubseteq D$  and  $C \equiv D$  for concept descriptions  $D$  and  $C$ .
- $P \sqsubseteq Q$  and  $P \equiv Q$  for roles  $P, Q$ . Also Domain and Range.
- $C(a)$  and  $R(a, b)$  for concept  $C$ , role  $R$  and individuals  $a, b$ .

## OWL EL Profile (ii)

- ✓ Standard reasoning tasks in  $P$  time
- ✓ Very good for large ontologies.
- ✓ Used in many biomedical ontologies (*e.g.*, SNOMED CT).

Not supported features, simplified:

- ✗ negation (but  $C \sqcap D \sqsubseteq \perp$  possible)
- ✗ disjunction
- ✗ universal quantification and cardinalities
- ✗ inverse roles and some role characteristics
- ✗ reduced list of datatypes

## OWL EL Profile (iii)

- Reasoning can be performed via saturation<sup>†</sup> (*i.e.*, inference rules).
- For example:

$$\frac{A \sqsubseteq B \quad B \sqsubseteq C}{A \sqsubseteq C}$$
$$\frac{A \sqsubseteq \exists R.B \quad \exists S.B \sqsubseteq C \quad S \sqsubseteq R}{A \sqsubseteq C}$$

<sup>†</sup> Using a saturation-based approach over an OWL 2 ontology is not possible.

**ELK reasoner** (also available as Protégé plugin): <https://github.com/liveontologies/elk-reasoner/wiki>

# OWL QL Profile (i)

## Based on DL-Lite<sub>R</sub>. Concept descriptions (simplified)

$C, C' \rightarrow$	$A$		(atomic concept)
	$\exists R. \top$		(existential restriction with $\top$ only)
$D, D' \rightarrow$	$A$		(atomic concept)
	$\exists R. D$		(existential restriction)
	$\neg D$		(negation)
	$D \sqcap D'$		(intersection)

## Axioms

- $C \sqsubseteq D$  for concept descriptions  $D$  and  $C$  (and  $C \equiv C'$ ).
- $P \sqsubseteq Q$  and  $P \equiv Q$  for roles  $P, Q$ . Also Domain and Range.
- $C(a)$  and  $R(a, b)$  for concept  $C$ , role  $R$  and individuals  $a, b$ .

## OWL QL Profile (ii)

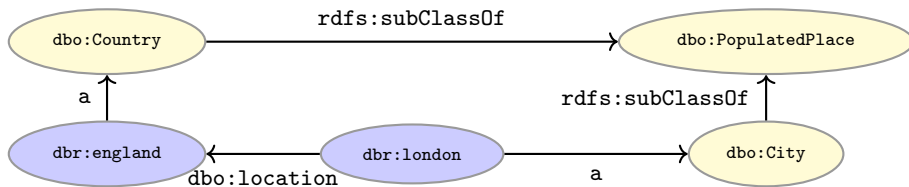
- ✓ Required language so that queries can be rewritten using the TBox.
- ✓ Used in Ontology Based Data Access (OBDA) where SPARQL queries are translated to SQL

Not supported, simplified:

- ✗ disjunction
- ✗ universal quantification, cardinalities, and functional roles
- ✗ `= (SameIndividual)`
- ✗ enumerations (closed classes)
- ✗ subproperties of chains, transitivity
- ✗ reduced list of datatypes

## OWL QL Profile (iii)

- Reasoning is performed via backward chaining (e.g., rewriting of a given query  $Q$  into  $Q'$  via the ontology axioms, instead of expanding the graph). For example:

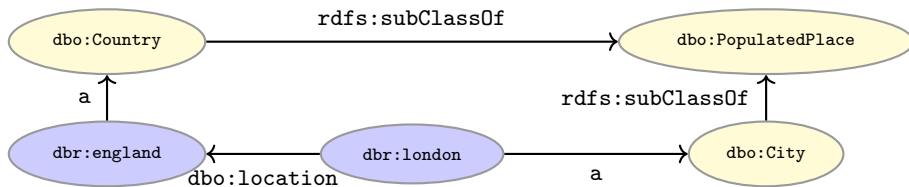




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$Q$ : `SELECT DISTINCT ?place WHERE {?place rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace . }`

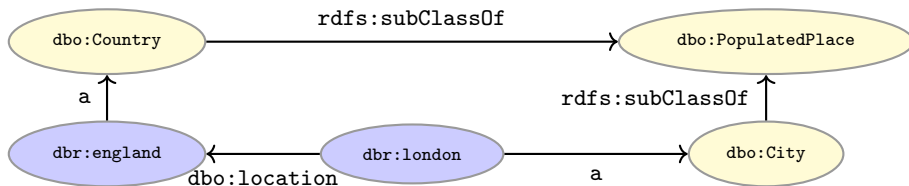


## OWL QL Profile (iii)

- Reasoning is performed via backward chaining (e.g., rewriting of a given query  $Q$  into  $Q'$  via the ontology axioms, instead of expanding the graph). For example:

$Q$ : `SELECT DISTINCT ?place WHERE {?place rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace . }`

$Q'$ : `SELECT DISTINCT ?place WHERE {  
 {?place rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace .}  
 UNION {?place rdf:type dbo:Country .}  
 UNION {?place rdf:type dbo:City .} }`



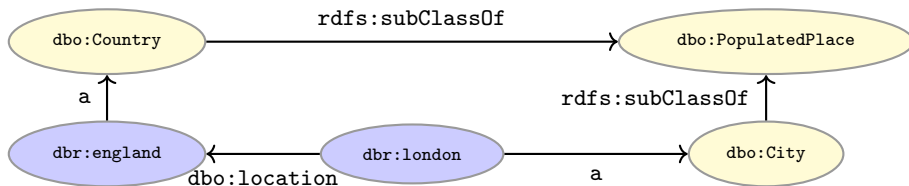
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```
Q': SELECT DISTINCT ?place WHERE {
    {?place rdf:type dbo:PopulatedPlace .}
    UNION {?place rdf:type dbo:Country .}
    UNION {?place rdf:type dbo:City .} }
```

$Q'$  Result= {dbr:england, dbr:london}



# OWL 2 RL Profile (i)

Based on Description Logic Programs (DLP). Concept descriptions:

$C, C' \rightarrow$	$A$		(atomic concept)
	$C \sqcap C'$		(intersection)
	$C \sqcup C'$		(union)
	$\exists R.C$		(existential restriction)
$D, D' \rightarrow$	$A$		(atomic concept)
	$D \sqcap D'$		(intersection)
	$\forall R.D$		(universal restriction)

## Axioms

- $C \sqsubseteq D$ ,  $C \equiv C'$ ,  $\top \sqsubseteq \forall R.D$ ,  $\top \sqsubseteq \forall R^-.D$ ,  $R \sqsubseteq P$ ,  $R \equiv P^-$  and  $R \equiv P$  for roles  $R, P$  and concept descriptions  $C, C'$  and  $D$ . Also Domain and Range.
- $C(a)$  and  $R(a, b)$  for concept  $C$ , role  $R$  and individuals  $a, b$ .

## OWL 2 RL Profile (ii)

- ✗ Puts syntactic constraints in the way in which constructs are used (i.e., syntactic subset of OWL 2).
- ✗ Imposes a reduced list of allowed datatypes
- ✓ OWL 2 RL axioms can be directly translated into datalog rules
- ✓ Enables desirable computational properties using rule-based reasoning engines.

## OWL 2 RL Profile (iii)

- Reasoning via full materialisation of the graph, similarly to RDFS inference rules. *e.g.*,

$$\frac{p1 \text{ owl:inverseOf } p2 . \quad ?x \text{ ?p1 } ?y .}{?y \text{ ?p2 } ?x .}$$

- See W3C specification for further inference rules in OWL 2 RL.

W3C: [https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-profiles/#Reasoning\\_in\\_OWL\\_2\\_RL\\_and\\_RDF\\_Graphs\\_using\\_Rules](https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-profiles/#Reasoning_in_OWL_2_RL_and_RDF_Graphs_using_Rules)

GraphDB: <https://graphdb.ontotext.com/documentation/standard/reasoning.html>

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# Practical Examples: OWL Reasoning

## Necessary conditions and primitive classes

Hawaiian pizza **implies** having pineapple as ingredient (among others); but not the other way round.

Description: Hawaiian pizza

Equivalent To +

SubClass Of +

'American pizza'

? @ x o

hasIngredient some 'Tomato sauce'

? @ x o

hasIngredient some Cheese

? @ x o

hasIngredient some Ham

? @ x o

hasIngredient some Pineapple

? @ x o

NamedPizza

? @ x o

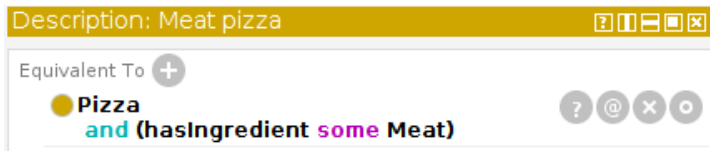


## Sufficient conditions and defined classes

Meat pizza **implies** having meat as ingredient (and being pizza).

A pizza with meat as ingredient **implies** being a meat pizza.

Hawaiian pizza has ham as ingredient and thus is a meat pizza.



# Detecting modelling errors

Ice cream **implies** having fruit as topping

Ice cream is **disjoint with** Pizza

The **domain** of has topping is pizza, that is, having any topping **implies** being a pizza (domain is a type of sufficient condition).

Description: IceCream

Equivalent To +

- owl:Nothing

SubClass Of +

- Food
- hasTopping some FruitTopping

Disjoint With +

- PizzaTopping, Pizza, PizzaBase

Description: hasTopping

Equivalent To +

SubProperty Of +

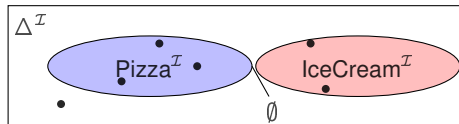
- hasIngredient
- inverse (isIngredientOf)

Inverse Of +

- isToppingOf

Domains (intersection) +

- Pizza



## Detecting modelling errors: part-of VS subclass-of

:City rdfs:subClassOf :Country . ?

- **Members of superclasses (rdfs9 rule):**

:City rdfs:subClassOf :Country .      :london rdf:type :City . rdfs9

## Detecting modelling errors: part-of VS subclass-of

:City rdfs:subClassOf :Country . ? **Incorrect**

### – Members of superclasses (rdfs9 rule):

:City rdfs:subClassOf :Country .      :london rdf:type :City . rdfs9  
:london rdf:type :Country .

## Detecting modelling errors: part-of VS subclass-of

:City rdfs:subClassOf :Country . ? **Incorrect**

### – Members of superclasses (rdfs9 rule):

$$\frac{:City \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } :Country . \quad :london \text{ rdf:type } :City .}{:london \text{ rdf:type } :Country .} \text{ rdfs9}$$

:City rdfs:subClassOf :locatedIn some :Country

## Detecting modelling errors: property hierarchy

`:isLocatedInCity rdfs:subPropertyOf :isLocatedInCountry . ?`

- **Property transfer (rdfs7 rule):**

`:isLocInCity rdfs:subPropertyOf :isLocInCountry .      :big_ben :isLocInCity :london .`

## Detecting modelling errors: property hierarchy

`:isLocatedInCity rdfs:subPropertyOf :isLocatedInCountry .` ? **Incorrect**

- Property transfer (rdfs7 rule):

---

`:isLocInCity rdfs:subPropertyOf :isLocInCountry .      :big_ben :isLocInCity :london .`  
`:big_ben :isLocInCountry :london .`

## Detecting modelling errors: property hierarchy

`:isLocatedInCity rdfs:subPropertyOf :isLocatedInCountry .` ? **Incorrect**

- Property transfer (rdfs7 rule):

---

`:isLocInCity rdfs:subPropertyOf :isLocInCountry .`      `:big_ben :isLocInCity :london .`  
`:big_ben :isLocInCountry :london .`

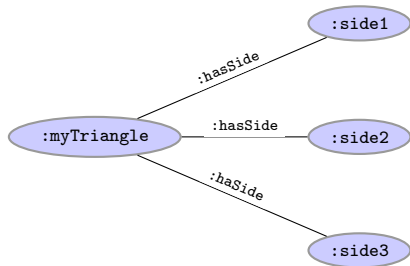
`:isLocatedInCity rdfs:subPropertyOf :isLocatedIn .`

`:isLocatedInCountry rdfs:subPropertyOf :isLocatedIn .`



## OWL 2 and Open World Assumption

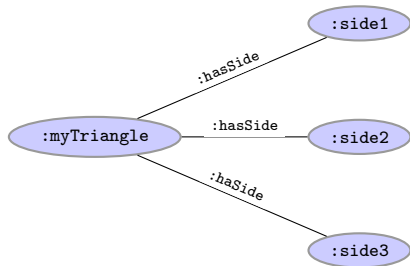
- `:Triangle EquivalentTo :hasSide exactly 3 :Side`



- is `:myTriangle` a `:Triangle`?

## OWL 2 and Open World Assumption

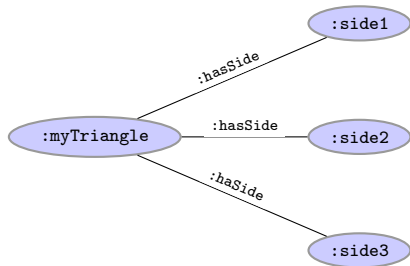
- `:Triangle EquivalentTo :hasSide exactly 3 :Side`



- is `:myTriangle` a `:Triangle`?

## OWL 2 and Open World Assumption

- `:Triangle EquivalentTo :hasSide exactly 3 :Side`



- is `:myTriangle` a `:Triangle`? **I don't know** because of OWA and NUNA.
- **Solution:** reasoning in OWL can be complemented with SPARQL queries (in this case with aggregates) → SPARQL 1.1

---

# Laboratory: RDFS Semantics and OWL 2 RL

# Tasks

- **Manually checking** inferences using RDFS and OWL 2 RL semantics.
- Extracting inferences and expanding the graph/model **programmatically** and checking **via SPARQL**.

- **Python:** We are using the OWL-RL library

```
owlrl.DeductiveClosure(owlrl.RDFS_Semantics).expand(g)  
owlrl.DeductiveClosure(owlrl.OWLRL_Semantics).expand(g)
```

- **Java:** Jena API

```
Reasoner reasoner = ReasonerRegistry.getRDFSReasoner();  
Reasoner reasoner = ReasonerRegistry.getOWLMiniReasoner();  
InfModel inf_model = ModelFactory.createInfModel(reasoner,  
model);
```

# RDFS inference rules (cheatsheet)

Rule	If	Then add	
rdf1	(x p y)	(p rdf:type rdf:Property)	
rdfs2	(p rdfs:domain c) (x p y)	(x rdf:type c)	
rdfs3	(p rdfs:range c) (x p y)	(y rdf:type c)	
rdfs4a	(x p y)	(x rdf:type rdfs:Resource)	
rdfs4b	(x p y)	(y rdf:type rdfs:Resource)	
rdfs5	(p rdfs:subPropertyOf q) (q rdfs:subPropertyOf r)	(p rdfs:subPropertyOf r)	schema only
rdfs6	(p rdf:type rdf:Property)	(P rdfs:subPropertyOf p)	data + schema
rdfs7	(p rdfs:subPropertyOf q) (x p y)	(x q y)	
rdfs8	(c rdf:type rdfs:Class)	(c rdfs:subClassOf rdfs:Resource)	
rdfs9	(c rdfs:subClassOf d) (x rdf:type c)	(x rdf:type d)	
rdfs10	(c rdf:type rdfs:Class)	(c rdfs:subClassOf c)	not relevant
rdfs11	(c rdfs:subClassOf d) (d rdfs:subClassOf e)	(c rdfs:subClassOf e)	
rdfs12	(p rdf:type rdfs:ContainerMembershipProperty)	(p rdfs:subPropertyOf rdfs:Member)	
rdfs13	(x rdf:type rdfs:Datatype)	(x rdfs:subClassOf rdfs:Literal)	
	(p owl:inverseOf q)	(q owl:inverseOf p)	
	(p owl:inverseOf q) (x p y)	(y q x)	
	(p rdf:type owl:SymmetricProperty) (x p y)	(y p x)	

(\*) Figure adapted from “Towards Efficient Schema-Enhanced Pattern Matching over RDF Data Streams”. ISWC’11 slides.