Ontology for Analytic Claims in Music (OMAC)

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Overview

Part I: Research context and OMAC ontology (main)

Part II: Insights on ontological analysis (brief)

Conclusions



The Concert (1623) by Gerard van Honthorst

Part I: Research context and OMAC ontology

General research context

Semantic Web languages, models, and technologies:

 Used to handle musical data on the basis of an explicit formal treatment of domain experts' knowledge

See the paper for some references, as well as the following **Web repository**:

MusoW - Musical Data on the Web: https://musow.kmi.open.ac.uk/ (by Enrico Daga et al.)

From music to musicology

The world of music is highly heterogeneous:

- Different types of entities (musical compositions, scores, editions, performances, performing requirements, composers, performers, etc.)
- Different genres, styles, cultures, historical periods, etc.

It is becoming common for scholars to express:

- **Features** of musical entities like who is the composer of a composition, when a composition was composed, what are its performing requirements ... but also ...
- Observations (aka scholarly/analytic claims). For example:
 - About authorship
 - About similarity
 - About date, etc.

Our work

- To provide an ontology of music for musicology that represents both basic aspects of musical entities as well as scholarly analytic claims
- Main focus on: Early Music (1200-1600)*

In such a way to **represent** and **share** research results on Linked Data publishing platforms

Development and driving insights based on: **CRIM - Citations: The Renaissance Imitation Mass Project** (ACLS grant - American Council of Learned Societies)

CRIM

Citations: The Renaissance Imitation Mass Project

https://crimproject.org/

Ontology for Analytic Claims in Music (OMAC)

Ontology in OWL

Reuse existing resources, e.g.:

- <u>DBpedia ontology</u>: for some classes and relations (e.g., dbp:birthPlace, etc.)
- <u>Dublin Core</u>: for annotations (e.g., dcterms:title, etc.)
- <u>SKOS</u>: for labeling (e.g., skos:prefLabel, etc.)
- VIAF: (testing) to populate the ontology with specific musical works and composers

Available on GitHub: https://github.com/HCDigitalScholarship/OMAC

Competency questions (CQs)

Some CQs driving the development of the ontology:

- Who is the composer of musical work x?
- When was musical work x composed?
- Which authorial parts (sections and subsections) do x have (if any)?
- What are the performing forces of musical work *x*?

- Which observations are about musical work x?
- What is the model for musical work x?
- What is the derivative of musical work x?
- What is the musical schema of analytic segment x?

Some common features of musical entities

Observations (relative to claim-classes in CRIM)

A quick note - Authorial Structure

- Musical Work (a whole composition), e.g.,
 - Missa je suis desheritèe (MJSD; by Jean Guyon) [with sections and subsections]
 - Ite rime, dolenti (Cipriano de Rore) [with sections only]
 - Tota pulchra es (by Claudin de Sermisy) [no further decomposed]
- Musical (authorial) sections, e.g.,:
 - Kyrie_MJSD, Gloria_MJSD, Credo_MJSD, Sanctus_MJSD, and Agnus Dei_MJSD
 (customary five liturgical sections of the Ordinary of the Catholic Mass)
- Musical (authorial) subsections, e.g.,:
 - A Kyrie has three subsections: Kyrie1_MSJD, Christe_MSJD, Kyrie_MSJD

A quick note – Authorial Structure

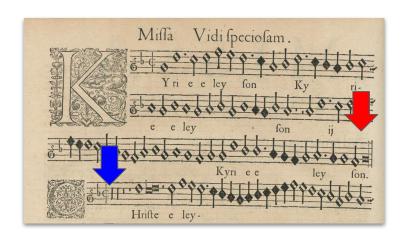
An example from Renaissance Paris:

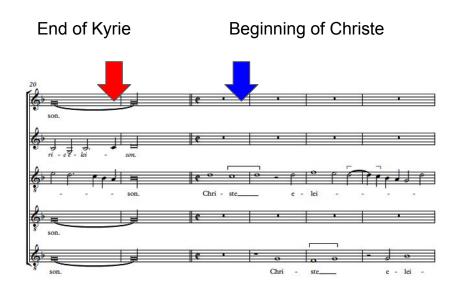
Two sections from the first movement (Kyrie) of the

Missa Vidi speciosam, by Mathieu Sohier.

They are distinct but inseparable parts of a single

movement of a larger work.





Musical Work (partial view)

Controversial among music scholars whether the same authorial part can be related to multiple entities.

- We tend to think that this is not possible
- The identity of an authorial part is bound to a specific author/musical entity
- In principle, relations of derivations could be included to tell that, e.g., a section derives from another one

UML Class Diagram model **Musical Entity** {disjoint} Authorial parts 1..* 0..* **Musical Work Musical Work** Part authorial part of {disjoint} Section Subsection section of 0..* subsection of OWL 2 object property chains like: has section o has subsection \rightarrow has

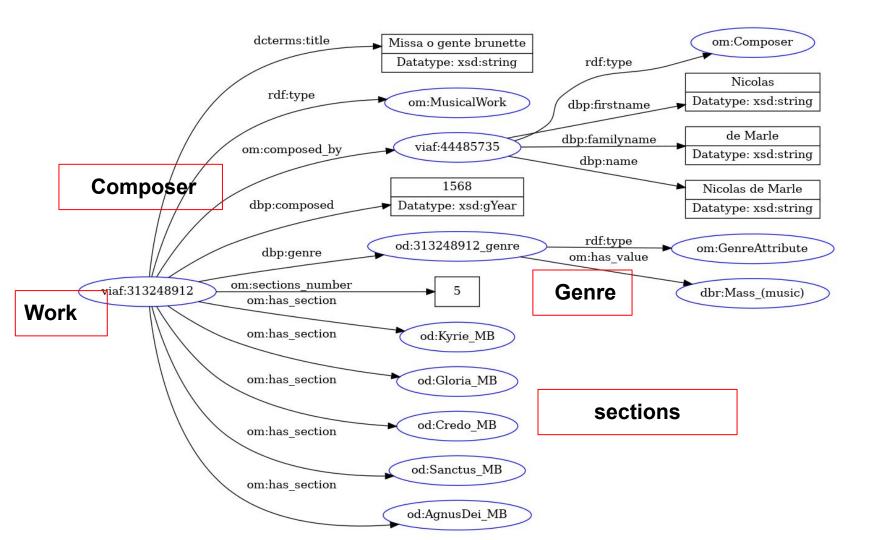
subsection

At the current state, the ontology does **not** use cardinality restrictions for the authorial structure of musical entities

Example of mass from CRIM's project







Observations (aka claims)*

Some aspects of observations:

- An observation represents the properties under which an entity is classified by an agent on the basis of certain procedures, research studies, background knowledge, socio-cultural contexts, etc.
- Do not necessarily represent true facts (e.g., mistake in authorship attribution)

Also, there can be multiple observation about the same entities – expressed by <u>different</u> scholars (sometimes independently from each other). Hence, it is possible that obs:

- Are not compatible
- Contradict each other
- Represent information at different abstraction levels
- Are reviewed in time

^{*}Based on on-going work with Claudio Masolo and Roberta Ferrario at ISTC-CNR

Observations in CRIM

In the context of the CRIM project, musicologists focus on two types of obs:

- About structure
- About similarity

For some technical readings, see:

https://sites.google.com/haverford.edu/crim-project/vocabularies/musical-types

https://sites.google.com/haverford.edu/crim-project/vocabularies/relationship-types

Observations in OMAC (insights)

Representing claims requires considering at least:

Agent (who), time (when), "content" (what)

Some modeling elements OMAC for the general modeling of observations:

- Observation (class)
- observed_by, concerns (object properties); stated_at (data property)
- + specific claim-classes/relations; e.g., **StructureObservcations**, **SimilarityObservations** (covers various subclasses):
 - has_model, has_derivative + specific CRIM relations

About Structure

An observation from the CRIM Project

Observation <1>

Observer: Ian Lorenz

<R1> Quotation — Model for <2> Missa Tota pulchra es: Credo

Score: Claudin de Sermisy, Tota pulchra es



Fuga

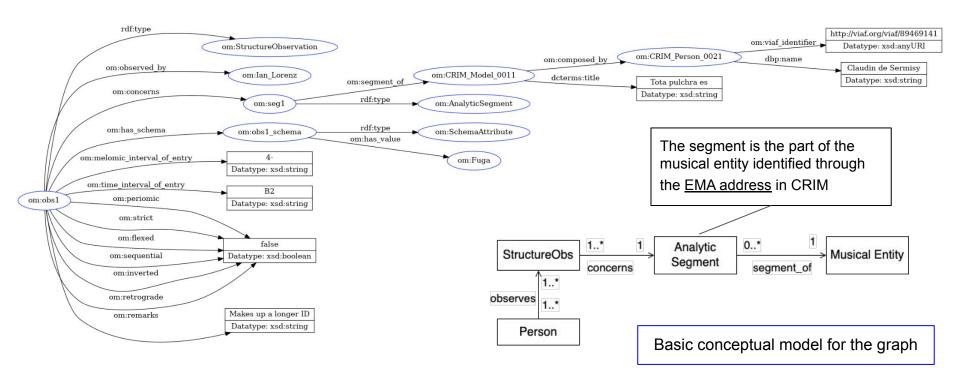
Voices:

1: Superius
2: Contratenor
Entry intervals: 4Time intervals: B2
Regularity: Inverted: False
Periodic: False
Retrograde: False
Sequential: False
Remarks: Makes up a longer ID

start

See data here: https://crimproject.org/observations/1/

In RDF (data) graph according to OMAC



A CRIM Relationship

Relationship <R2>

[Duplicate this relationship]

Observer: Ian Lorenz

Non-mechanical transformation

Extent: -

Activity: -

Sounding in different voices: -

Whole passage transposed: -Whole passage metrically shifted: -

Melodically inverted: -

Retrograde: -

New counter subject: False

Old counter subject shifted metrically: True Old counter subject transposed: False Double or invertible counterpoint: -

New combination: False

Self: -

Model: Claudin de Sermisy, Tota pulchra es

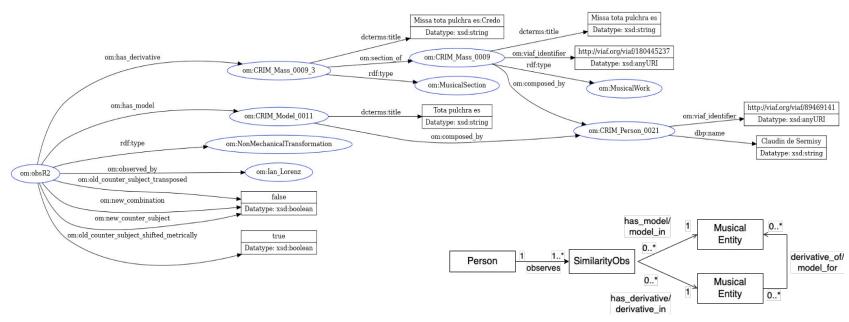
Derivative: Missa Tota pulchra es: Credo

See data here: https://crimproject.org/relationships/2/

Remarks: Shifted and transposed

About Similarity

In RDF (data) graph according to OMAC



TO BE CHECKED HOW THIS IS REPRESENTED IN CRIM

Basic conceptual model for the graph

Part II: Insights on ontological analysis



What is a musical work?

This is **hotly debated** in, e.g., philosophy and musicology (see paper for references).

In different contexts, including common sense, people often classify, e.g., multiple scores as *alternatives* for the same work (≅ <u>literary works</u> in different editions)

But then:

- What kind of entity is a musical work? Plethora of opinions, e.g.,
 - **a.** Abstract Platonic entity
 - **b.** Mental entity in individuals' minds
 - c. etc.

For some discussions, see: Sanfilippo, E. M. (2021). <u>Ontologies for information entities: State of the art and open challenges</u>. *Applied ontology*, *16*(2), 111-135.

What is a musical work?

"[W]ithin the tradition of what we call [...] Western art music, it has seemed axiomatic until quite recently that the basic unit of artistic production and consumption is the 'work' - a hard-edged artefact with a clear identity. [T]his common-sense or perhaps naive view is increasingly coming under fire from several sides."

Talbot, M. (2000). Introduction, in: The musical work: reality or invention? Liverpool University Press

Scholars of **Renaissance music** often confront rival versions of a musical text that strain our very notion of the **stable work** in the first place.

What is a musical work?

Our intuition:

- From a library science perspective, a musical work is a documentary entity useful for classification purposes to support computational tasks, e.g., relative to data management
- **But then** ... the classification of, e.g., multiple scores as alternatives for the same work is an **interpretative act**; e.g., experts sometimes disagree on how to classify a work and its arrangement(s)
- From this perspective, a musical work is a cultural artifact relative to specific interpreting communities

Wrt to OMAC:

The cultural nature of (more generally) musical entities is not made explicit in the axiomatic structure since this would requires a heavier logical machinery (see: Masolo, C., Sanfilippo, E. M., Ferrario, R., & Pierazzo, E. (2021). <u>Texts, Compositions, and Works: A Socio-Cultural Perspective on Information Entities</u>. In JOWO 2021, CEUR vol. 2969.)

Conclusions

Main result:

 OMAC - Semantic Web ontology in OWL - of music for musicology to express features of musical entities but also musicological claims

Future work includes:

- Further refine/test OMAC wrt CRIM and other collaborations
- Implement the ontology in an application setting relative to CRIM; use of an
 Ontology-Based Data Access (OBDA) architecture based on OnTop to
 connect OMAC to the project relational database in such a way to make some
 portions of the project data available in RDF (see next slides for insights)

Linking OMAC to CRIM's relational DB (ongoing work)

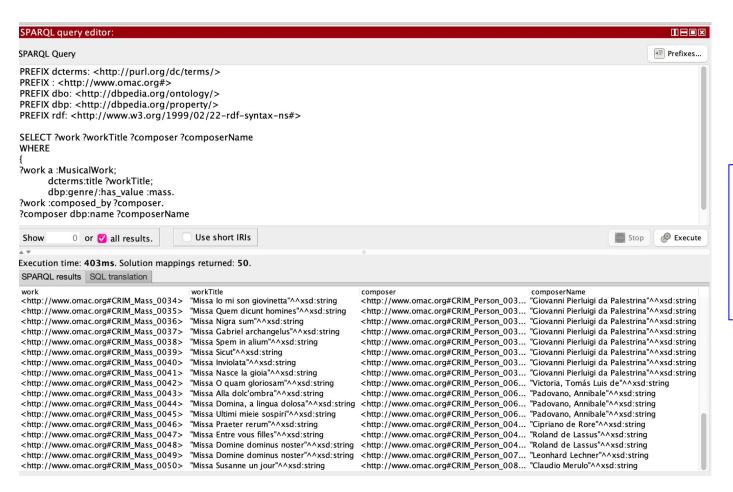
OBDA architecture via mappings between (some portions of) the CRIM's relational database and OMAC (to be developed)

About OBDA:

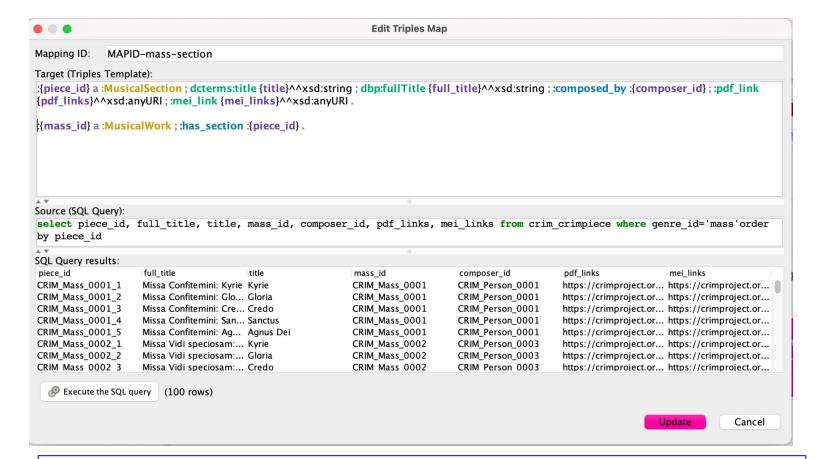
<u>Diego Calvanese</u>, Tutorial on <u>Ontology-based Data Access Made Practical</u>, held at the EDBT-INTENDED Summer School 2022 on Data and Knowledge (EDBT-INTENDED 2022). Bordeaux, France, 4-9 July 2022.

```
Edit Triples Map
Mapping ID:
              MAPID-mass
Target (Triples Template):
{mass id} a:MusicalWork;
           dbp:genre :{mass id} genre ;
           dcterms:title {title}^^xsd:string;
           :composed by :{composer id}.
:{mass_id}_genre a :GenreAttribute ; :has_value :{genre_id}.
Source (SQL Query):
select * from crim crimmass
SQL Query results:
     mass id
                                      ... genre id composer id
                                                                                                                       max number of voices min number of voices
                      title
                                                                               date
                                                                                                    date sort
113 CRIM Mass 0005 Missa Ave Maria
                                                CRIM Person 0015
                                                                               1515
                                                                                                   1515
                                        mass
114 CRIM Mass 0006 Missa Je suis dé...
                                                CRIM Person 0018
                                                                               1556
                                                                                                   1556
                                        mass
115 CRIM Mass 0007 Missa Je suis dé...
                                                CRIM Person 0020
                                                                               1557
                                        mass
                                                                                                   1557
158 CRIM_Mass_0050 Missa Susanne u...
                                        mass
                                                CRIM_Person_0082
117 CRIM_Mass_0009 Missa Tota pulch...
                                                CRIM_Person_0021
                                                                               1556
                                                                                                   1556
                                        mass
118 CRIM_Mass_0010 Missa Voulant ho...
                                                CRIM_Person_0021
                                                                               1556
                                                                                                   1556
                                        mass
119 CRIM_Mass_0011 Missa Je n'en pu...
                                                CRIM_Person_0024
                                        mass
                                                                               1557
                                                                                                   1557
120 CRIM_Mass_0012 Missa Si bona su...
                                                CRIM_Person_0026
                                                                               1557
                                                                                                   1557
                                        mass
121 CRIM Mass 0013 Missa Quo abiit ...
                                                CRIM Person 0028
                                                                               1556
                                                                                                   1556
                                        mass
```

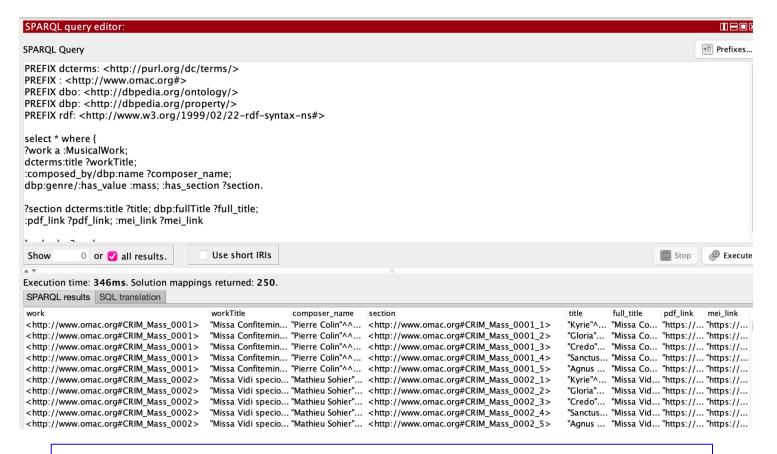
Example of **OBDA mapping** via Ontop's plugin on Protégé: it instantiates CRIM's masses as OMAC's musical works.



Example of SPARQL query over the CRIM's RDF virtual graph generated through the OBDA mapping in the previous slide

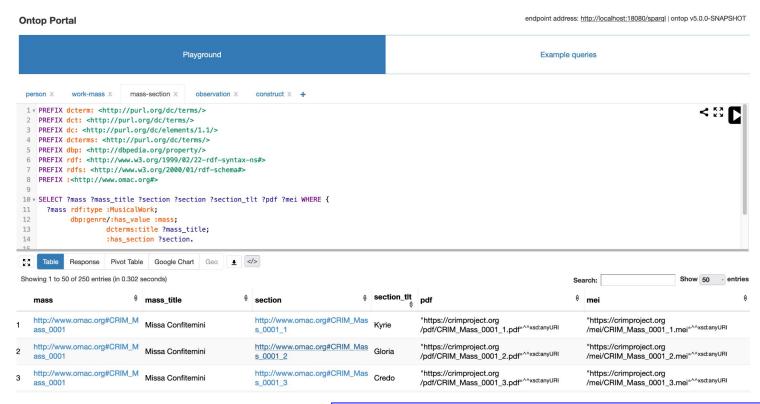


Example of **OBDA mapping** via Ontop's plugin on Protégé: it models the structure of masses, namely, the relation between masses and their sections



Example of SPARQL query over the CRIM's RDF virtual graph generated through the OBDA mapping in the previous slide

OnTop portal for CRIM



Running on local machine

Based on Ontop (see

https://ontop-vkg.org/tutorial/endpoint/endpoint-docker.html)

Thank you!

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