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# **CS520: KNOWLEDGE GRAPHS**

**Data Models, Knowledge Acquisition, Inference, Applications**

**Lectures and Invited Guests**

**Spring 2021, Tu/Thu 4:30-5:50, [cs520.Stanford.edu](https://cs520.stanford.edu)**

**Learn about the basic concepts,  
latest research & applications**

What are some Knowledge  
Graph Data Models?

# Outline

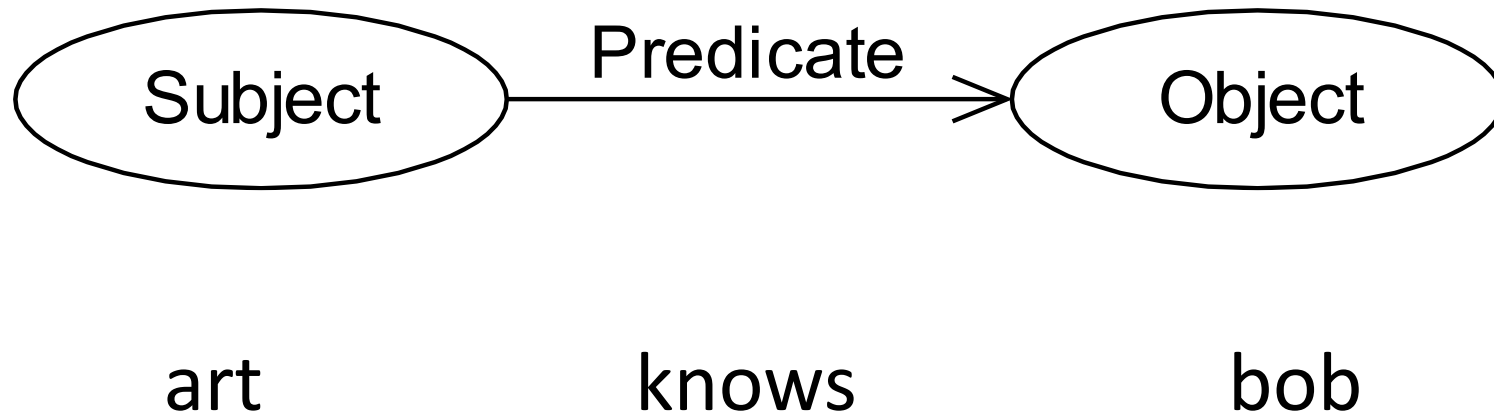
- Two Popular Knowledge Graph Data Models
  - Resource Description Framework (RDF) (Query language: SPARQL)
  - Property Graphs (Query language: Cypher)
- Comparison of RDF and Property Graphs
- Comparison of Graph Models with Relational Model
- Limitations of Graph Data Models
- Summary

# Resource Description Framework

- Designed to represent information on the web
- Standardized by World Wide Web (W3C) Consortium

# RDF Data Model

- Triple is the basic unit of representation
  - Consists of subject, predicate, and object



# RDF Data Model

- The nodes can be of three types
  - Internationalized Resource Identifiers (IRI)
    - Uniquely identifies resources on the web
  - Literals
    - A value of certain type (integer, string, etc.)
  - Blank nodes
    - A node with no identifier (anonymous)

# Internationalized Resource Identifiers

URL: <http://www.wikipedia.org>

URI: [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

IRI: [https://hi.wikipedia.org/हिन्दी\\_विकिपीडिया](https://hi.wikipedia.org/हिन्दी_विकिपीडिया)



# Internationalized Resource Identifiers

- Generalization of Uniform Resource Identifiers
  - URIs sequence of characters chosen from a limited subset of the repertoire of US-ASCII
    - Uniform Resource Locator (URL) is a URI that also specifies the method of access
  - IRIs use characters chosen from Universal Character Set (UCS)

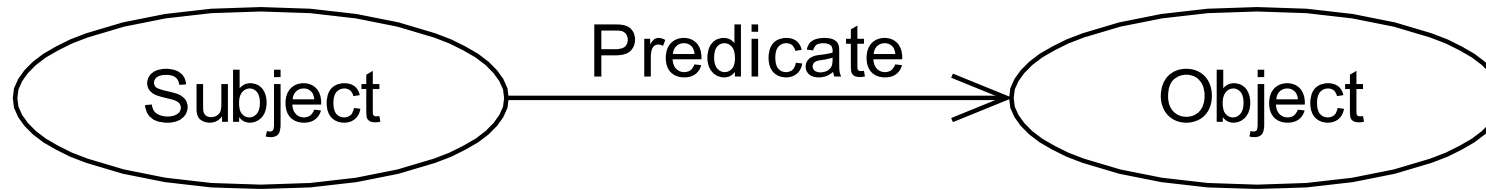
Examples:

URL: <http://www.wikipedia.org>

URI: [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

IRI: [https://hi.wikipedia.org/हिन्दी\\_विकिपीडिया](https://hi.wikipedia.org/हिन्दी_विकिपीडिया)

# Internationalized Resource Identifiers



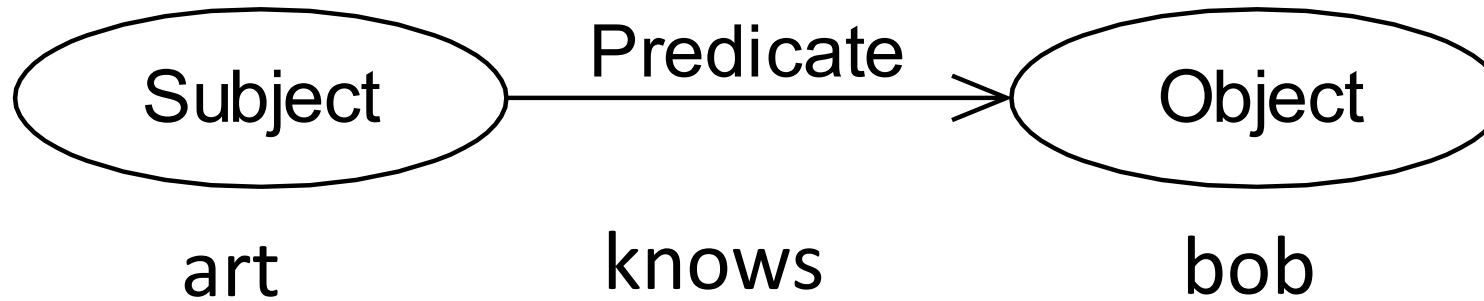
art

knows

bob

<http://example.org/art> <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/knows> <http://example.org/bob>

# Internationalized Resource Identifiers



`<http://example.org/art> <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/knows> <http://example.org/bob>`

We can define prefixes

@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

@prefix ex: <http://example.org/>

`ex:art foaf:knows ex:bob`

# Literal

- A value of certain type

Examples:

ex:bea foaf:age 23

"1"^^xsd:integer

"01"^^xsd:integer

# Blank Nodes

- Used for representing structured information

exstaff:85740 exterms:address "1501 Grant Avenue, Bedford, Massachusetts 01730" .

exstaff:85740 exterms:address **\_:art\_address**  
**\_:art\_address** exterms:street "1501 Grant Avenue"  
**\_:art\_address** exterms:city "Bedford"  
**\_:art\_address** exterms:state "Massachusetts"  
**\_:art\_address** exterms:zip "01730"

# RDF Vocabulary

- A set of IRIs to be used in describing the data
- RDF graphs are static
  - By providing suitable vocabulary extension dynamics of data may be captured

# RDF Dataset

- A collection of RDF graphs with
  - Exactly one default graph
  - One or more named graphs
    - Name can be a blank node or an IRI

# Query Language: SPARQL

- Simple Protocol and Query Language (pronounced “sparkl”)
- Queries can go across multiple sources
  - Show me on a map the birthplace of people who died in Winterthour
- Full-featured query language
  - Required/optional parameters
  - Filtering the results
  - Results can be graphs



# Query Language: SPARQL

- Example: Who are the persons that art knows?

SELECT ?person

WHERE

<http://example.org/art> <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/knows> ?person

Graph Pattern



<b>?person1</b>
<http://example.org/bob>
<http://example.org/bea>

# Query Language: SPARQL

- Example: Who are the persons known by the persons that art knows?

SELECT ?person ?person1

WHERE

<http://example.org/art> <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/knows> ?person  
?person <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/knows> ?person1

?person	?person1
<http://example.org/bob>	<http://example.org/cal>
<http://example.org/bob>	<http://example.org/cam>
<http://example.org/bea>	<http://example.org/coe>
<http://example.org/bea>	<http://example.org/cory>

# Query Language: SPARQL

PREFIX ex: <http://example.org/>

PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>

SELECT ?person ?person1

WHERE

ex:art foaf:knows ?person

?person foaf:knows ?person1

?person	?person1
<http://example.org/bob>	<http://example.org/cal>
<http://example.org/bob>	<http://example.org/cam>
<http://example.org/bea>	<http://example.org/coe>
<http://example.org/bea>	<http://example.org/cory>

Basic graph pattern match

# Query Language: SPARQL

```
@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/>
SELECT ?title
WHERE { ?x dc:title ?title
        FILTER regex(?title, "^SPARQL")
      }
```

title
"SPARQL Tutorial"

# Query Language: SPARQL

```
@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

# Query Language: SPARQL

- Instead of SELECT, we can use CONSTRUCT
  - Returns a graph
- Queries can contain more than one graph pattern
- Eliminate duplicates, total number of results

# Outline

- Two Popular Knowledge Graph Data Models
  - Resource Description Framework (RDF) (Query language: SPARQL)
  - Property Graphs (Query language: Cypher)
- Comparison of RDF and Property Graphs
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# Property Graph Data Model

- Used by many graph databases
- General graph data
  - Do not require a predefined schema
- Optimize graph traversals

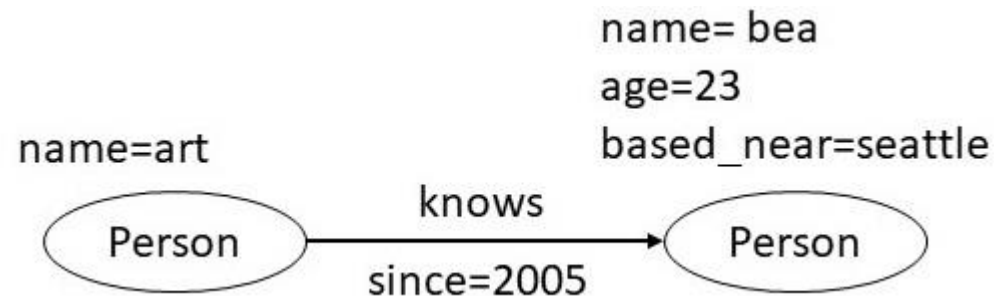


# Property Graph Data Model

- Nodes, relationships and properties
- Each node and a relationship has a label and set of properties
- Properties are key value pairs
  - Keys are strings, values can be any data types
- Each relationship has a direction

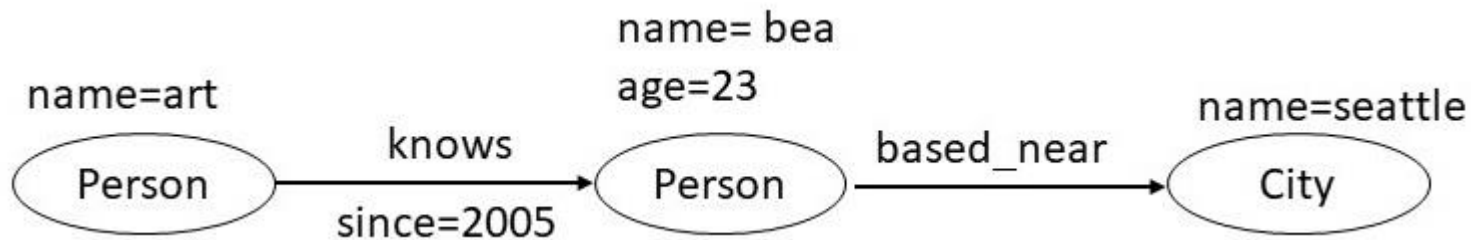
# Property Graph Data Model

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# Property Graph Data Model

- Nodes, relationships and properties
- Each node and a relationship has a label and set of properties
- Properties are key value pairs
  - Keys are strings, values can be any data types
- Each relationship has a direction



# Query Language: Cypher

- Query language for querying graph data
- Being considered for adoption as an ISO Standard
- Supports CRUD operations
  - Create, **read**, update, delete

# Query Language: Cypher

- Which people does art know?

```
MATCH (p1:Person {name: art}) -[:knows]-> (p2: Person)
RETURN p2
```

# Query Language: Cypher

- Which people does art know since 2010?

```
MATCH (p1:Person {name: art}) -[:knows {since: 2010}]-> (p2: Person)
RETURN p1, p2
```

# Query Language: Cypher

- Which people does art know since 2010?

```
MATCH (p1:Person) -[:knows {since: Y}]-> (p2: Person)
```

```
WHERE Y <= 2010
```

```
RETURN p1, p2
```

- WHERE clause can be used to specify a variety of filtering constraints

# Query Language: Cypher

- Constructs for
  - Counting
  - Grouping
  - Aggregating
  - Min/Max



# Outline

- Two Popular Knowledge Graph Data Models
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# RDF and Property Graphs

- RDF supports several additional layers
  - RDF Schema, Web Ontology, etc.
- Basic differences
  - Property graph model supports edge properties
  - Property graph model does not require IRIs
  - Property graph model does not support blank nodes

# Reification in RDF

- Suppose we wish to specify the provenance of a triple

`exproducts:item10245` `externs:weight` `"2.4"^^xsd:decimal`

- We wish to state who took the above measurement
  - In a property graph we would do it using an edge property

# Reification in RDF

- Reification Vocabulary
  - *rdf:type, rdf:Statement*
  - *rdf:subject*
  - *rdf:predicate*
  - *rdf:object*

# Reification in RDF

- Reification Vocabulary

- `rdf:type` *rdf:Statement*
- *rdf:subject*
- *rdf:predicate*
- *rdf:object*

`exproducts:item10245` `externs:weight` `"2.4"^^xsd:decimal`

`exproducts:triple12345` `rdf:type` `rdf:Statement` .

`exproducts:triple12345` `rdf:subject` `exproducts:item10245` .

`exproducts:triple12345` `rdf:predicate` `externs:weight` .

`exproducts:triple12345` `rdf:object` `"2.4"^^xsd:decimal` .

`exproducts:triple12345` `dc:creator` `exstaff:85740` .

The diagram illustrates the reification of the statement `exproducts:item10245 externs:weight "2.4"^^xsd:decimal`. It shows how this statement is represented as a resource `exproducts:triple12345` of type `rdf:Statement`. The subject, predicate, and object of the original statement are mapped to the corresponding properties (`rdf:subject`, `rdf:predicate`, `rdf:object`) of the reified statement. Additionally, the creator of the statement is identified as `exstaff:85740` using the `dc:creator` property.

# Translating Property Graphs into RDF


- Property Graph

- Node properties
- Edges
- Edge properties

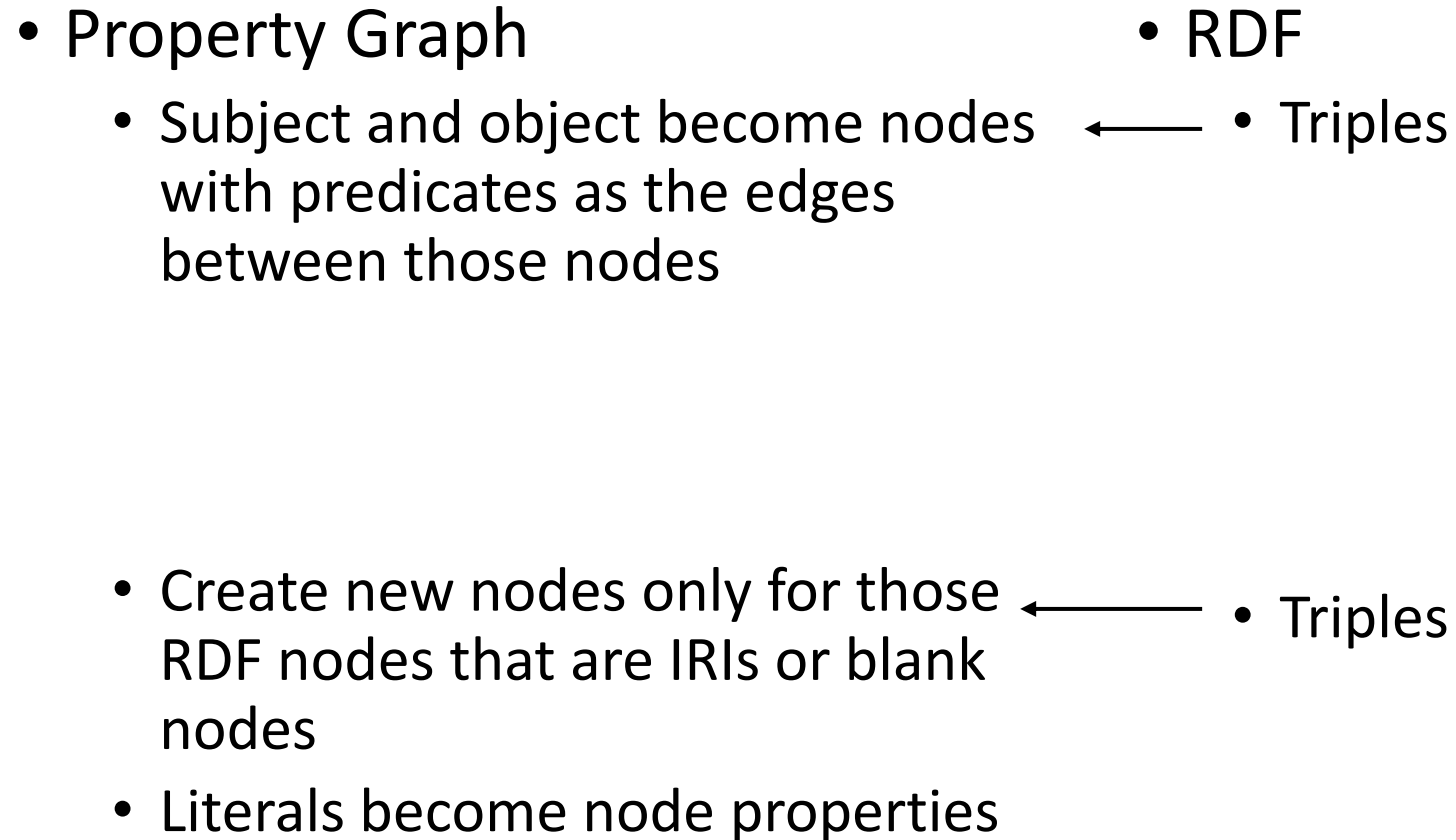
- RDF

- • Triples
- • Triples
- • Reified edges + Triples

# Translating Property Graphs into RDF

- Property Graph
    - Subject and object become nodes with predicates as the edges between those nodes
  - RDF
    - Triples
- 

# Translating Property Graphs into RDF

- Property Graph
    - Subject and object become nodes with predicates as the edges between those nodes
  - RDF
    - Triples
- 
- Create new nodes only for those RDF nodes that are IRIs or blank nodes
  - Literals become node properties
- 
- Triples
- 



# RDF and Property Graphs

- RDF supports several additional layers
  - RDF Schema, Web Ontology, etc.
- Basic differences
  - Property graph model supports edge properties
  - Property graph model does not require IRIs
  - Property graph model does not support blank nodes
- Similarities
  - Data in one can be inter-converted into the other

# Graph Model and Relational Model

- Graphs are easier to understand
  - Relational schemas can be visualized
- Graph queries are more compact and faster
  - Translator from graph queries to relational queries can be written

# Example

Employee		
id	name	ssn
e01	alice	...
e02	bob	...
e03	charlie	...
e04	dana	...

Employee_Department	
employee id	department id
e01	d01
e01	d02
e02	d01
e03	d02
e04	d03

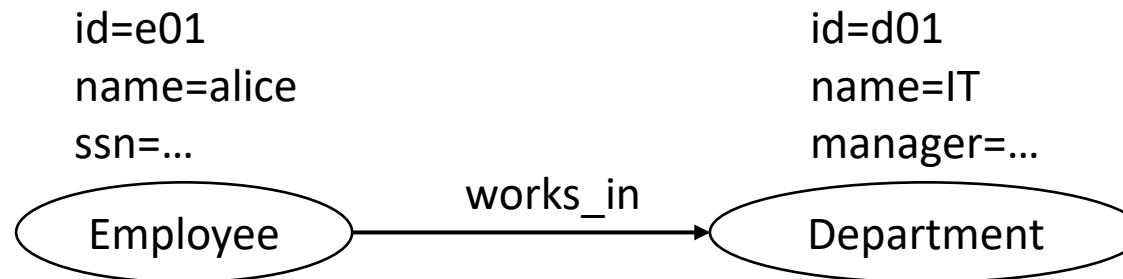
Department		
id	name	manager
d01	IT	...
d02	Finance	...
d03	HR	...

# Example

Employee		
id	name	ssn
e01	alice	...
e02	bob	...
e03	charlie	...
e04	dana	...

Employee_Department	
employee id	department id
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e03	d02
e04	d03

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# Example

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Employee_Department	
employee id	department id
e01	d01
e01	d02
e02	d01
e03	d02
e04	d03

Department		
id	name	manager
d01	IT	...
d02	Finance	...
d03	HR	...

## List the employees in the IT Department

```
SELECT name FROM Employee
LEFT JOIN Employee_Department
  ON Employee.Id = Employee_Department.EmployeeId
LEFT JOIN Department
  ON Department.Id = Employee_Department.DepartmentId
WHERE Department.name = "IT"
```

# Example

Employee		
id	name	ssn
e01	alice	...
e02	bob	...
e03	charlie	...
e04	dana	...

Employee_Department	
employee id	department id
e01	d01
e01	d02
e02	d01
e03	d02
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Department		
id	name	manager
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## List the employees in the IT Department

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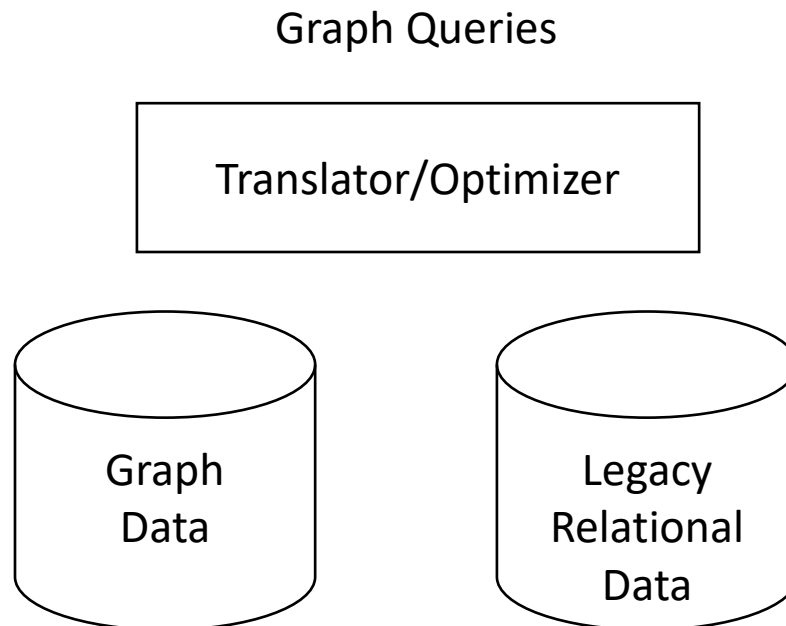
```
MATCH (p:Employee) -[:works_in]-> (d:Department)
WHERE d.id = "IT"
RETURN p
```

# Mapping Graph Model to Relational Model

- Provide two relational tables
  - A table that represents node properties and relationships as triples
  - A table that represents edge properties as four tuples

# Mapping Graph Model to Relational Model

- Provide a translator from graph queries to relational queries
  - Incorporate optimizations in the translator
  - Can optimize queries across the graph data and legacy data in relational systems





# Graph Model and Relational Model

- Graphs are easier to understand
  - Relational schemas can be visualized
- Graph queries are more compact and faster
  - Translator from graph queries to relational queries can be written

# Limitations of the Graph Model

- Triples are not always sufficient
  - For example, the ternary relationships such as between
- Time series data is naturally modeled in relations
  - Evolving population of a country over a period of time

# Summary

- RDF/SPARQL and Property Graph / Cypher are common graph data models in use today
- RDF addresses the need to model information on the web, while Property Graphs are used as a model in general graph databases
- Translations exist between RDF and property graph models
- Translations also exist from graph models to relations
- Unique features of graph models
  - More compact queries
  - Optimized for traversals
  - Graphical visualization

Prof. Tamer Özsu



Distributed SPARQL Execution

Dr. Petra Selmer



Querying Property Graphs  
with [open]Cypher

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