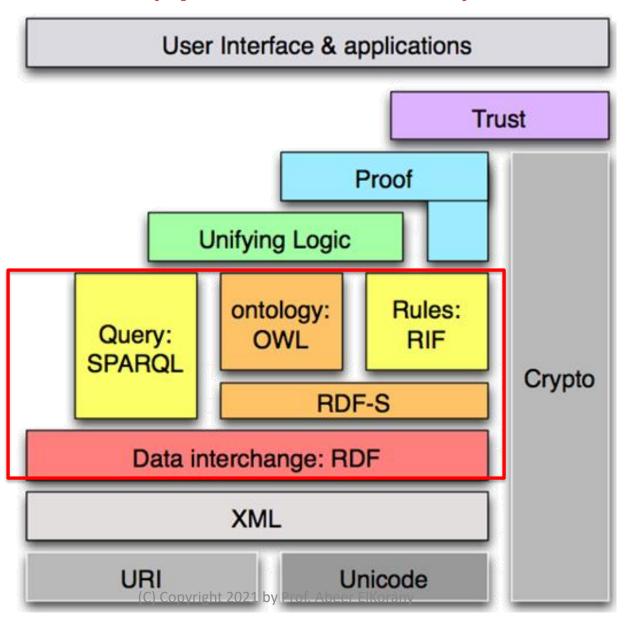
Ontology Building using RDF

- Basic Ideas of RDF
- RDF Data and graph Model
- RDF Components
- Blank Node
- RDF Syntax

Semantic Web Stack

(updated, W3C, 2006)



What is RDF?

Resource Description Framework"

- A W3C standard data model since 2004
- originally for describing metadata for web pages, but has grown beyond that
 - structured information
 - universal, machine-readable data exchange format
 - main syntax uses XML for serialization

RDF Basics

- RDF is based on the idea of identifying resources using Web identifiers and describing resources in terms of simple properties and property values.
- To identify resources, RDF uses Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs) and URI references (URIrefs).
- **Definition:** A **resource** is anything that is identifiable by a URIref.

RDF Triples

 RDF statements can be written down using triple notation. In this notation, a statement is written as follows:

subject predicate object.

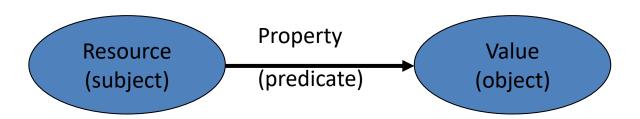
Example:

• **Note:** In this notation URIs are written out completely, in angle brackets.

RDF Triples

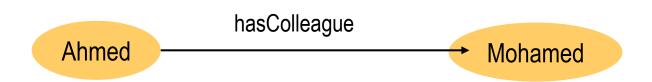
Triple

- A Resource (Subject) is anything that can have a URI: URIs or blank nodes
- A Property (Predicate) is one of the features of the Resource:
 URIs
- A Property value (Object) is the value of a Property, which can be literal or another resource: URIs, literal, blank nodes (anonymous label)



Basic Ideas of RDF

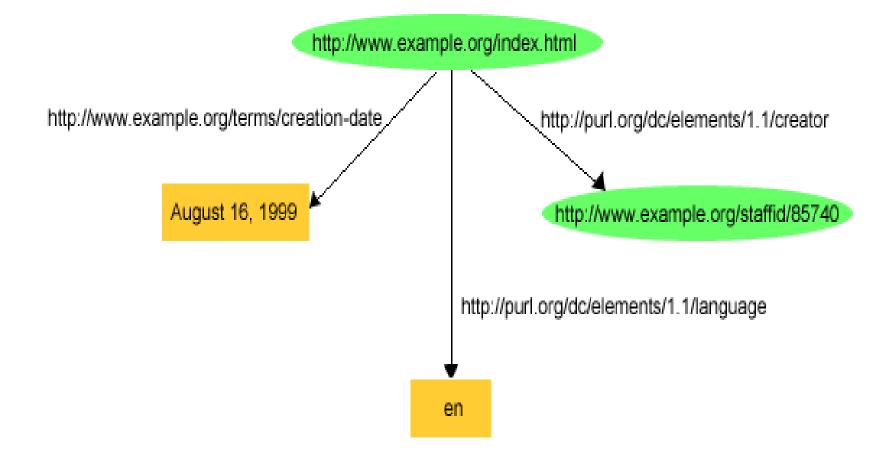
- The fundamental concepts of RDF are:
 - resources
 - properties
 - Statements
- Basic building block: subject-predicate-object (triple).
 - E.g.: "Prof. Abeer ElKorany teaches CS465".
 - This is called a statement.
 - View 1: <u>Sentences</u> in the form <subject, predicate, object>
 - <Abeer ElKorany works-for FCAI>
 - View 2: <u>Directed graph</u>s with labeled edges



Example

- Consider the following statements:
 - http://www.example.org/index.html has a creation-date whose value is August 16, 1999.
 - http://www.example.org/index.html has a language whose value is English.

The RDF Graph of the Example



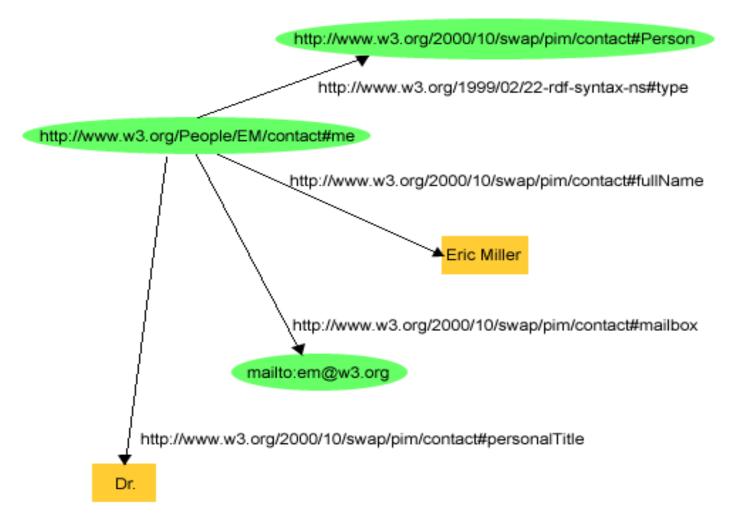
Example

Consider the following information:

"There is a Person identified by

http://www.w3.org/People/EM/contact#me, whose name is Eric Miller, whose email address is em@w3.org, and whose title is Dr."

Example (cont'd)



Example

http://www.example.org/index.html has a creator whose value is "John Smith"

- The subject is the URL
 http://www.example.org/index.html
- The predicate is the word "creator"
- The object is the phrase "John Smith"

What does a URI mean?

- Sometimes URIs denote a web resource
 - "http://umbc.edu/~finin/finin.jpg" denotes a file
 - We can use RDF to make assertions about the resource,
 e.g., it's an image and depicts a person with name Tim
 Finin, ...
- Sometimes concepts in the external world
 - E.g., "http://umbc.edu/" denotes a particularUniversity located in Baltimore.

URI (Unique Resource Identifier)

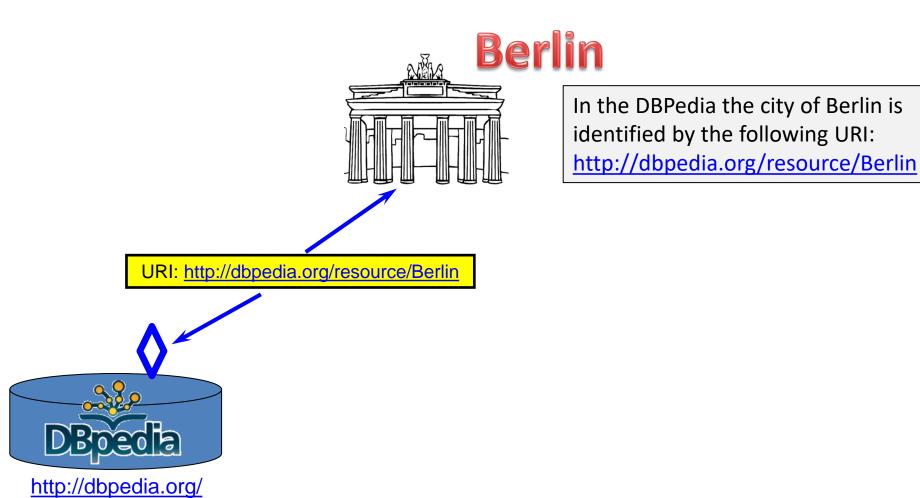
 RDF uses a URI (Uniform Resource Identifier) to identify a web resource, and properties to describe the resource.

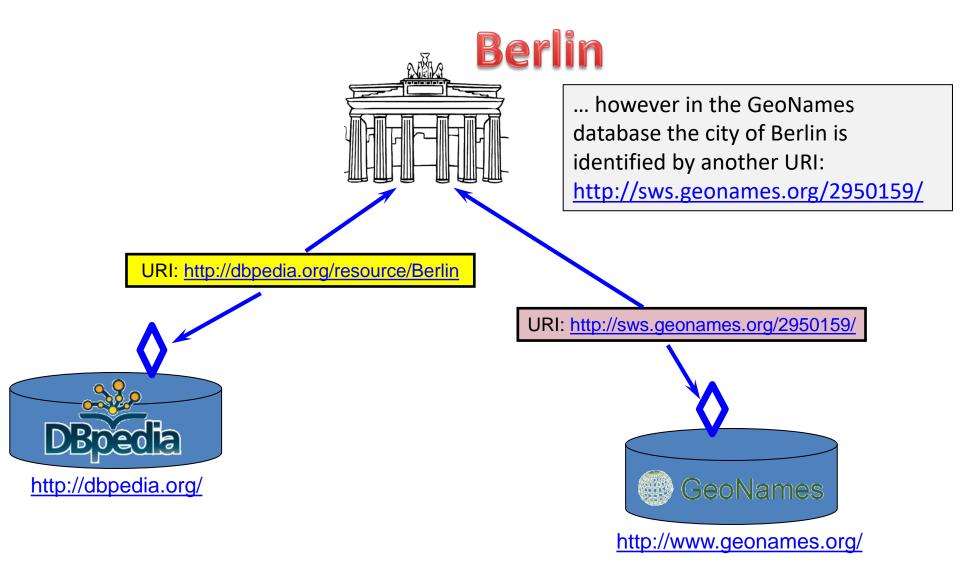
 Unlike URLs, URIs are not limited to identifying things that have a network location.

 Using the URI as a standard for global identifiers allows people anywhere in the world to refer to the same thing.

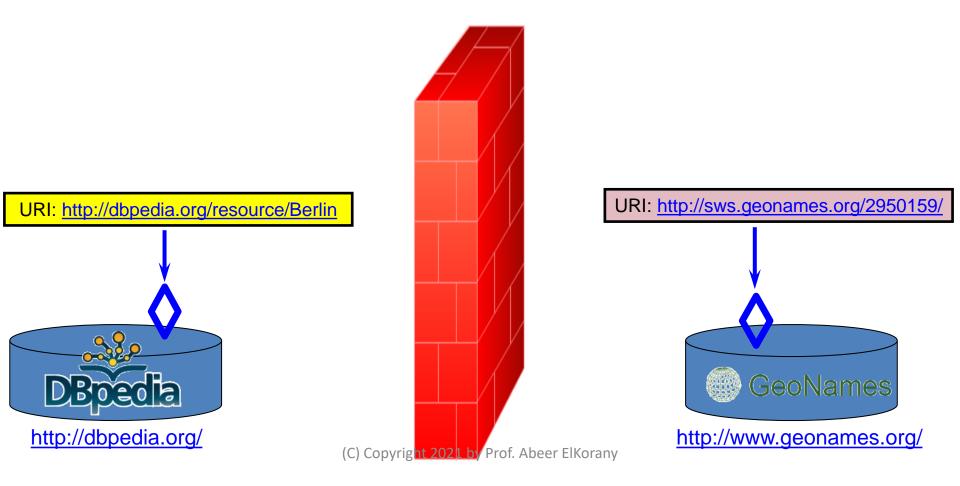


Lets take city of Berlin as an example ...



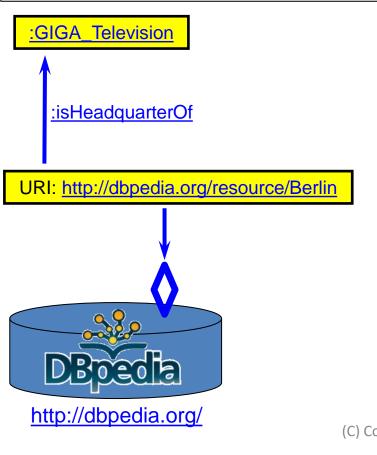


For any software application these two URIs (URI aliases) look now like they refer to totally different objects

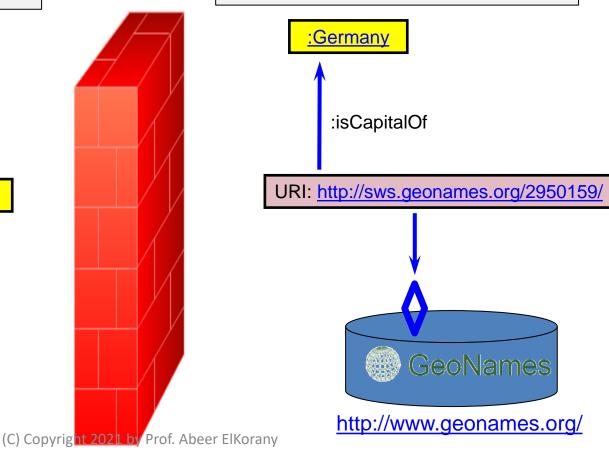


... now we have two isolated "islands" of data ...

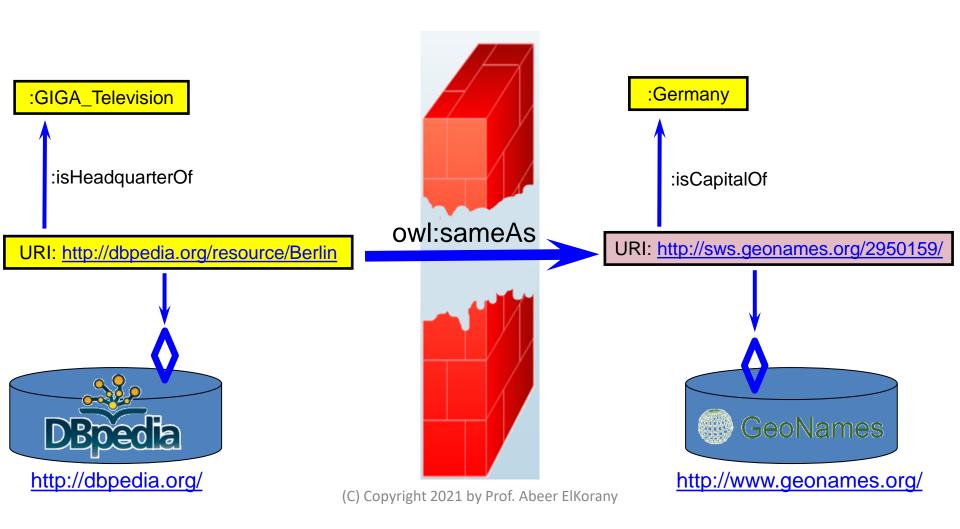
Here you can answer queries like, e.g., "Which city is a headquarter of GIGA Television?"



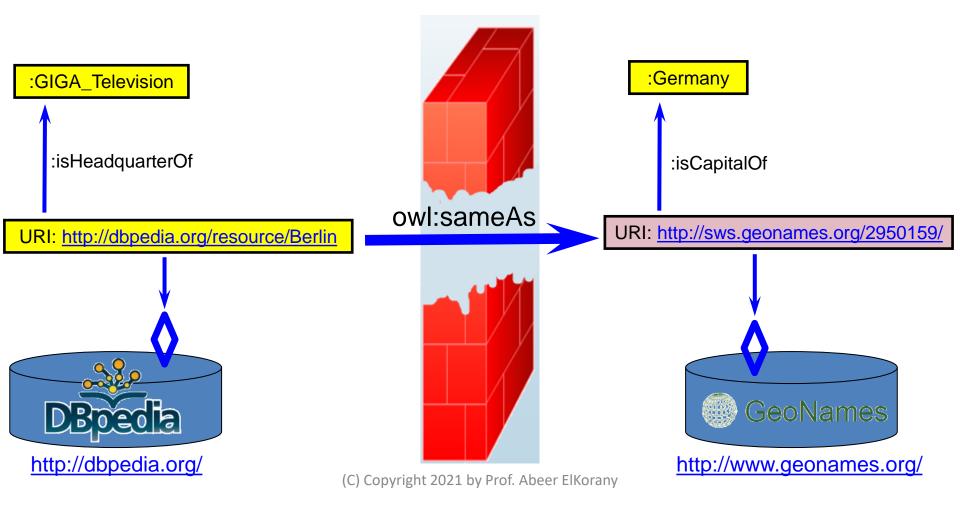
Here you can answer queries, like e.g., "Which city is a capital of Germany?"



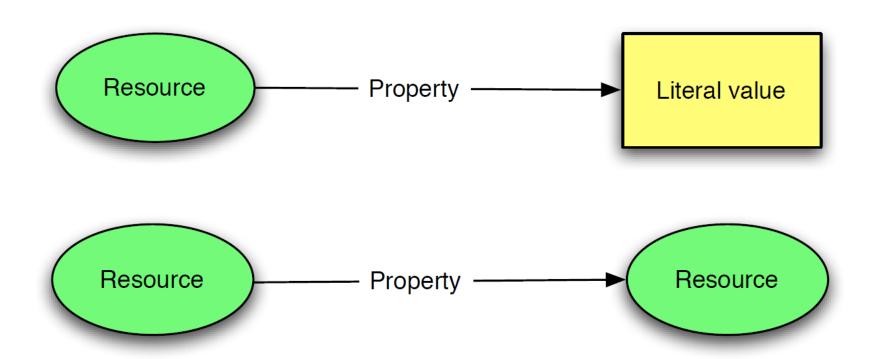
"Break the wall!" Make the connection between distinct URIs explicit! You will obtain a Linked Data ...



... now you are able to make queries over the Linked Data (distributed database) like, e.g.: "Which companies have headquarters in the capital of Germany?"



RDF Data Model



Graph Data

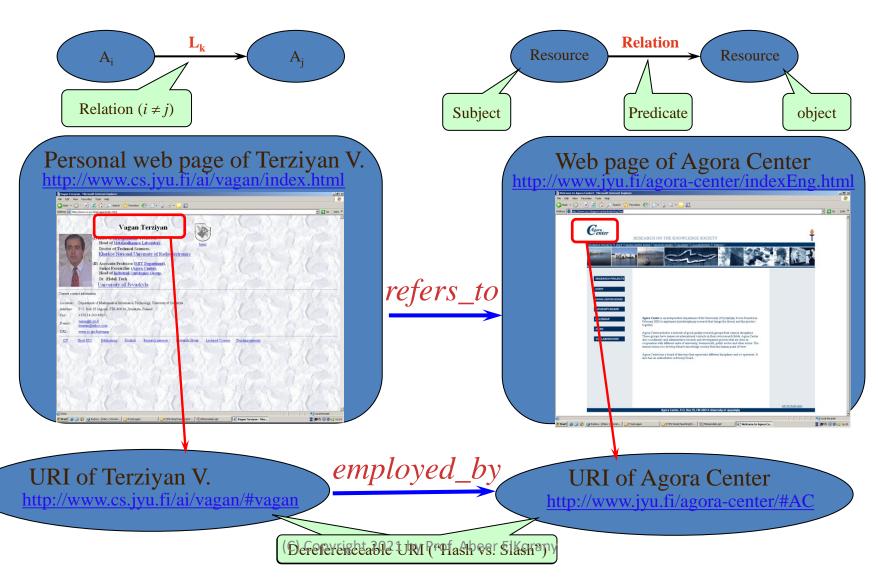
- 1. Resource nodes: A resource is anything that can have things said about it (e.g., book, person, etc). In a visual representation, resources are represented by ovals.
- Literal nodes: a literal is the same as a value. In a visual representation, literals are represented by rectangles.

Resource: "http://www.cambridge.../about/rob"

Value of the foaf:name property is "Rob Gonzalez".

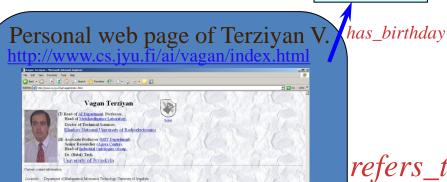
Semantic Relation as RDF statement

(so called "object property")



Semantic Network of Web Resources

15.02.2000



refers_to

Web page of Agora Center

isWebPageOf

27.12.1958

hasWebPage

hasWebPage

has birthday

URI of Terziyan V.

http://www.cs.jyu.fi/ai/vagan/#vaga

employed_by

URI of Agora Center

http://www.jyu.fi/agora-center/#AC

isWebPageOf

RDF Triples

• Since a cell is represented with three values, the basic building block for RDF is called the triple.

A sample triple

Subject	Predicate	Object
Shakespeare	wrote	King Lear

- Subject is what the sentence is about
- Predicate is the property of the subject
- Finally, the object is the value of the property

Example of RDF Statement

Subject (resource)	http://www.w3.org/Home/Lassila
Predicate (property)	Creator
Object (literal)	"Ora Lassila"



Statements

- Statements assert the properties of resources
- A statement is an object-attribute-value triple
 - It consists of a resource, a property, and a value

- Values can be resources or literals
 - Literals are atomic values (strings)

Statement examples

- Statement: "The author of <u>http://www.w3schools.com/RDF</u> is Jan Egil Refsnes"
 - Subject: http://www.w3schools.com/RDF
 - Predicate: author
 - Object: Jan Egil Refsnes
- Statement: "The homepage of <u>http://www.w3schools.com/RDF</u> is http://www.w3schools.com"
 - Subject: http://www.w3schools.com/RDF
 - Predicate: homepage
 - Object: http://www.w3schools.com

RDF Example (subject of statement)

RDF Example (predicate of statement)

RDF Example (object of statement)

RDF Example (reference to ontology)

Ora Lassila is the creator of the resource http://www.w3.org/Home/Lassila.

a specific namespace prefix as reference to ontology where predicates are defined, e.g. xmlns: s="http://description.org/schema/"

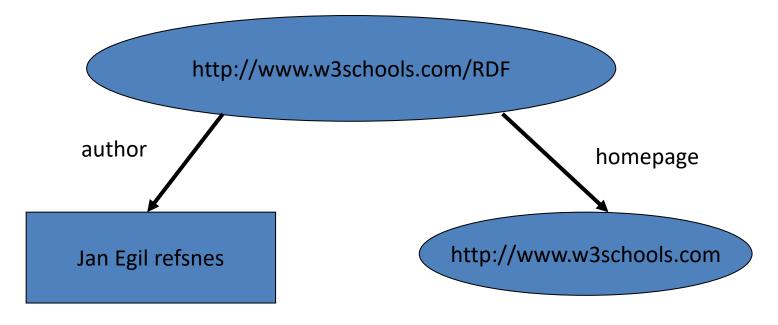
Resources (subject of statement)

- A resource is any object ("things" we want to talk about)
 that can be pointed to by a URI
 - a document, a picture, a library book, a real person, authors, books, publishers, places, people, hotels
- Every resource has a URI, a Universal Resource Identifier
- A URI can be
 - Web addrresshttp://dbpedia.org/page/Tim_Berners-Lee **OR**
 - some other kind of unique identifier

Properties (predicate of statement)

- Properties are a special kind of resources that describe relations between resources
 - E.g. "written by", "age", "title", "author-of" etc.
- Properties are also identified by URIs
- Advantages of using URIs:
 - A global, worldwide, unique naming scheme
 - Reduces the homonym problem of distributed data representation

Simple example of RDF



The RDF Graph

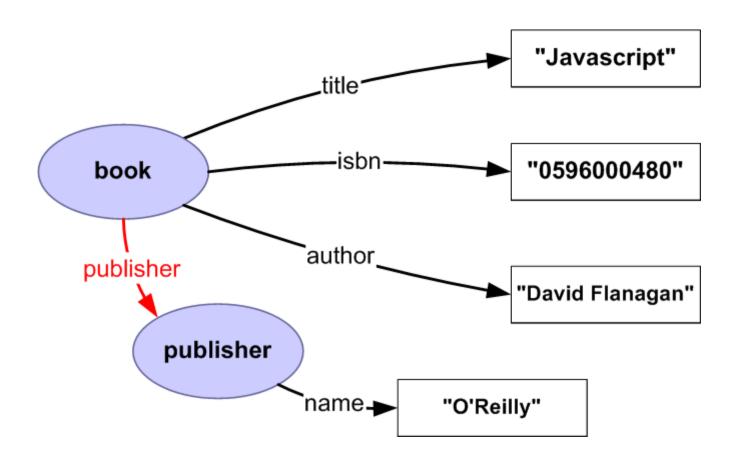
 An RDF document is an unordered collection of triples.

The subject of one triple can be the object of another.

So the result is a directed, labelled graph.

A triple's object can also be a literal, e.g., a string.

RDF is a graph

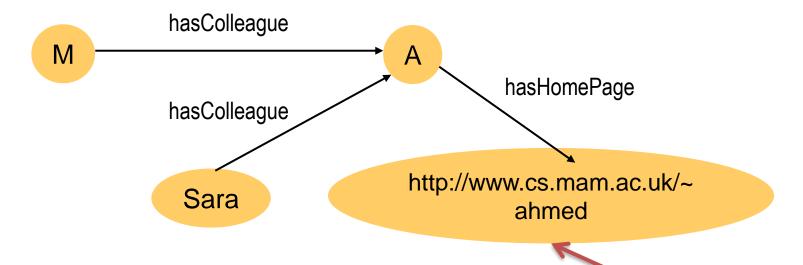


RDF Graph(cont.)

- Graphically, RDF models statements by nodes and arcs in a graph.
- In the RDF graph notation, a statement is represented by:
 - a node for the subject
 - a node for the object
 - an arc for the predicate, directed from the subject node to the object node.
- A node may be identified by a URIref or it can be a literal (it can also be a blank node; will explain this later).
- An arc is identified by a URIref.

The RDF Graph (cont.)

- The subject of a statement can be the object of another.
- Such collections of statements form a directed, labeled graph.

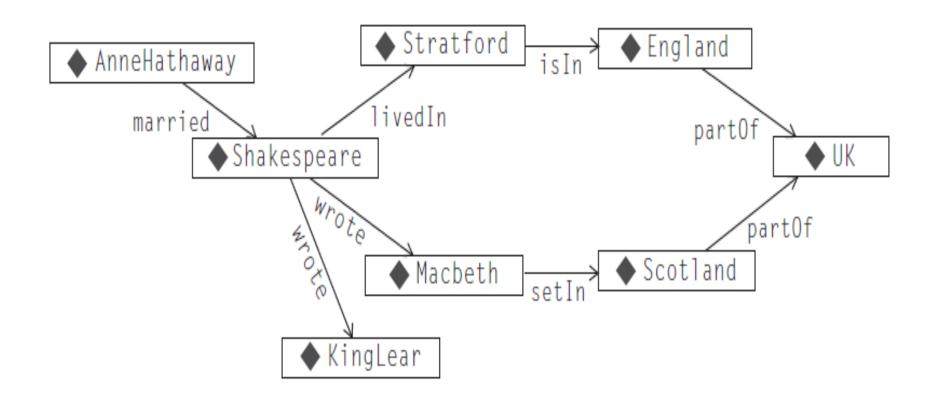


The object of a triple can also be a "literal" (a string).

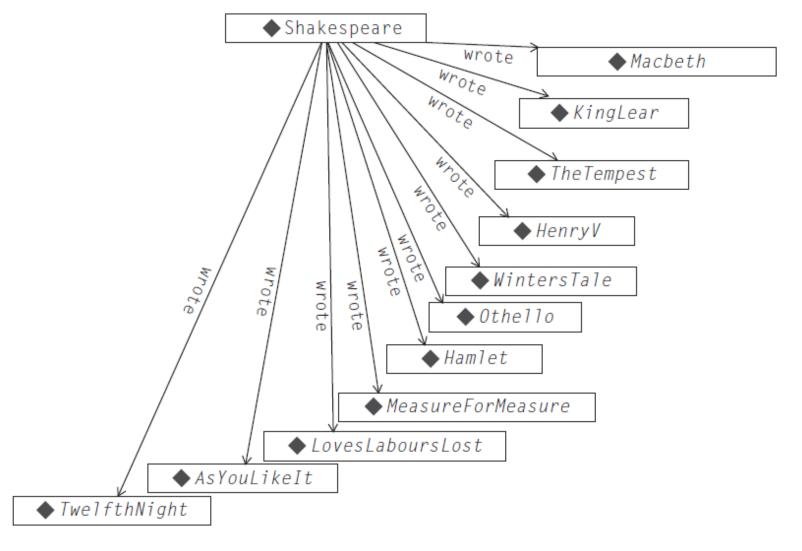
RDF Tabular Representation

Subject	Predicate	Object
Shakespeare	wrote	King Lear
Shakespeare	wrote	Macbeth
Anne Hathaway	married	Shakespeare
Shakespeare	lived in	Stratford
Stratford	is in	England
Macbeth	set in	Scotland
England	part of	The UK
Scotland	part of	The UK

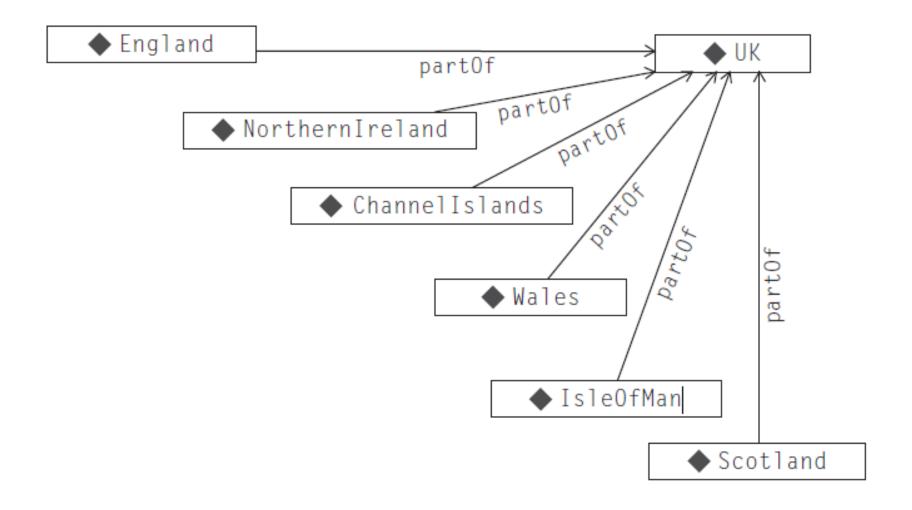
RDF Tabular as a Graph



More data



More data



Combining data

- Same Shakespeare? Not necessarily.
 - What about the movie "Shakespeare in love"?
- A node from one graph is merged with a node from another grap when they have the same URI.
- URI is the answer
 - http://www.WorkingOntologist.org/Examples/ Chapter3/Shakespeare.owl#Shakespeare
- URI helps merging graphs and getting all of the information about a subject.

Namespaces

- A namespace is a URI that is defined once at the beginning and used in sentences later without referring to URI again.
 - Example:

```
lit stands for http://www.WorkingOntologist.com/
    Examples/Chapter3/Shakespeare.owl#
geo stands for http://www.WorkingOntologist.com/
    Examples/Chapter3/geography.owl#
```

lit and *geo* are called Namespaces.

Replace with namespaces

Subject	Predicate	Object
Shakespeare	lit:wrote	KingLear
Shakespeare	lit:wrote	MacBeth
AnneHathaway	bio:married	Shakespeare
AnneHathaway	bio:livedWith	Shakespeare
Shakespeare	bio:livedIn	Stratford
Stratford	geo:isIn	England
England	geo:partOf	UK
Scotland	geo:partOf	UK

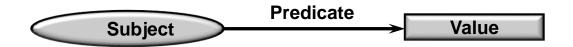
RDF Syntax

- RDF has an XML syntax that has a specific meaning.
- An RDF document starts by an rdf:RDF element
 - The content of that element is a number of statements.
- A namespace mechanism is used
 - Disambiguation
 - Namespaces are expected to be RDF documents defining resources that can be reused
 - Large, distributed collections of knowledge

RDF syntax(cont.)

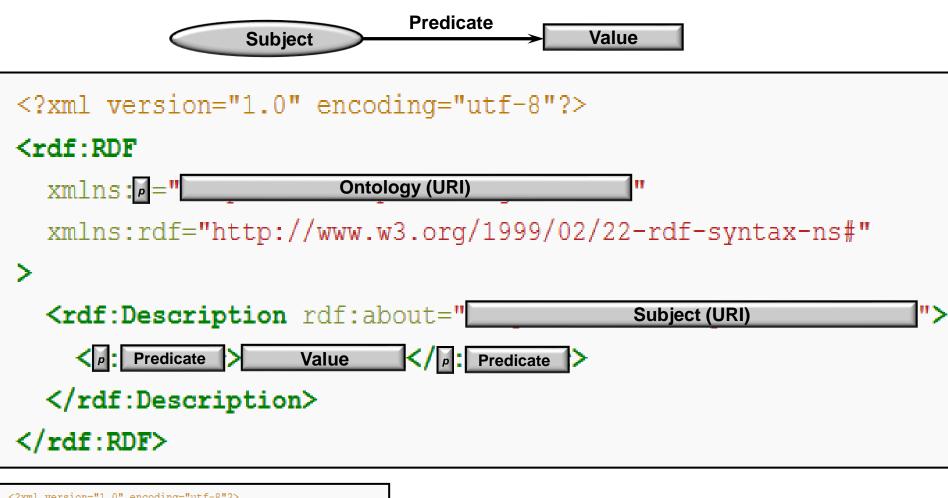
- Starting with <rdf:RDF> and end with </rdf:RDF>
- <rdf:RDF>: the root element
- <rdf:Description> is the main element to
 define the subject, predicate and object of the
 statement
- RDF Namespace
 - http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#,
- File format: .rdf

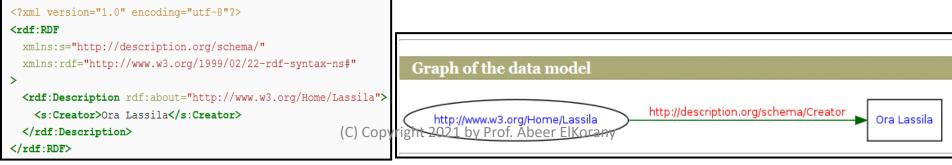
Template/frame for RDF statement



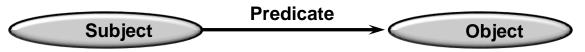
```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
  <rdf:RDF
xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
xmlns: prefix = "Ontology (URI) "
<rdf:Description rdf:about= " Subject (URI)</pre>
                 prefix | Predicate | = "
                                     Value
</rdf:RDF>
```

Template/frame for RDF/XML statement (1)





Template/frame for RDF/XML statement (1)



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<rdf:RDF</pre>
   xmlns: p="
                                 Ontology (URI)
   xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
                                                              Subject (URI)
   <rdf:Description rdf:about="</pre>
           Predicate rdf:resource="
                                                                Object (URI)
   </rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
                                           Graph of the data model
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
                                             http://www.w3.org/Home/Lassila
                                                                                  http://www.w3.org/Home/Lassila#Ora
<rdf:RDF
  xmlns:s="http://description.org/schema/"
  xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
 <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://www.w3.org/Home/Lassila">
   <s:Creator rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/Home/Lassila#Ora"/>
  </rdf:Description>
                                   (C) Copyright 2021 by Prof. Abeer ElKorany
```

</rdf:RDF>

RDF Syntax(cont.)

- •A subject can contain several property elements
- •Object-descriptions can be used as subject-descriptions for further triples

RDF Syntax

- Statements are defined using the tag Descriptions "rdf:Description".
- Every description makes a statement about a resource
- Every attribute or nested element inside a Description is a property of that Resource.
- URIs are in <angle brackets>
 - Literals are "enclosed in quotes"
 - whitespace (blanks, line feeds) is ignored
- Recall the previous example

RDF Complete Example

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
xmlns:cd="http://www.recshop.fake/cd#">
<rdf:Description
  rdf:about="http://www.rechshop.fake/cd/Empire Burlesque">
    <cd:artist>Bob Dylan</cd:artist>
    <cd:country>USA</cd:country>
    <cd:company>Columbia</cd:company>
    <cd:price>10.90</cd:price>
    <cd:year>1985</cd:year>
</rdf:Description>
<rdf:Description
  rdf:about="http://www.rechshop.fake/cd/Hide your heart">
    <cd:artist>Bonnie Tyler</cd:artist>
    <cd:country>UK</cd:country>
    <cd:company>CBS Records</cd:company>
    <cd:price>9.90</cd:price>
    <cd:year>1988</cd:year>
</rdf:Description>
<!-- more cds -->
</rdf:RDF>
```

RDF Container Elements

- RDF Container used to collect a number of resources or attributes, about which we want to make statements as a whole It is used to describe group of things
 - <Bag>: a list of members without order
 - <Seq>: a list of members with order
 - <Alt>: a list of members that only one can be selected

Containers

- Groups of things that has no way to close them : <bag> <seq> <alt>
 - <bag> unordered list; duplicates allowed
 - <seq> ordered list; duplicates allowed
 - <alt> list of alternatives; one will be selected
- While "RDF:Collection": enumerates the specified members (the group only contains the specified members listed in the collection)

Example <alt>

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<rdf:RDF
xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
xmlns:cd="http://www.recshop.fake/cd#">
<rdf:Description
rdf:about="http://www.recshop.fake/cd/Beatles">
<cd:format>
 <rdf:Alt>
  <rdf:li>CD</rdf:li>
  <rdf:li>Record</rdf:li>
  <rdf:li>Tape</rdf:li>
                                    Exactly one of these formats
 </rdf:Alt>
 </cd:format>
</rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
```

Limiting the scope

Collection - describes a group of things represented as a predefined list structure i.e contains only the specified members, no others.

```
<rdf:Description
rdf:about="http://recshop.fake/cd/Beatles">
<cd:artist rdf:parseType="Collection">
<rdf:Description
  rdf:about="http://recshop.fake/cd/Beatles/George"/>
<rdf:Description
   rdf:about="http://recshop.fake/cd/Beatles/John"/>
<rdf:Description
  rdf:about="http://recshop.fake/cd/Beatles/Paul"/>
<rdf:Description
   rdf:about="http://recshop.fake/cd/Beatles/Ringo"/>
</cd:artist>
</rdf:Description>
```

Blank node

- Blank node is called anonymous resource in RDF
- Blank node are nodes without URI:
 - Unnamed resources
 - More complex constructs
- Resources for which we do not have a URI as identifier, because
 - We may not know the URI
 - There is no point in minting a URI for them

Semantics of Blank Nodes

• In terms of **first-order logic**, a blank node **corresponds to an existentially quantified variable (or a Skolem constant).**Thus, a graph with blank nodes is similar to an **existentially quantified first order logic statement.**

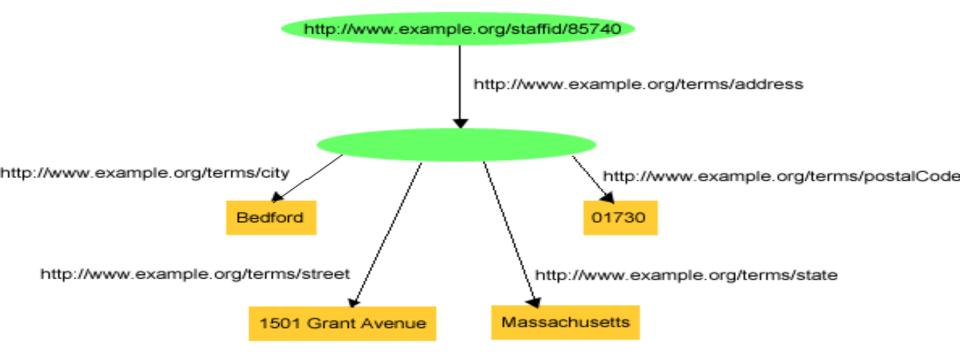
- Blank nodes are useful to represent **n-ary relationships** in RDF (e.g., the relationship between John Smith and the street, city, state, and postal code components of his address.
- Blank nodes are also useful to more accurately make statements about **resources that may not have URIs**, but that are described in terms of relationships with other resources that do have URIs.

Blank node(cont.)

- Blank nodes are also useful to more accurately make statements about resources are described in terms of relationships with other resources that do have URIs
- It just provides the necessary connectivity between various parts of the graph.

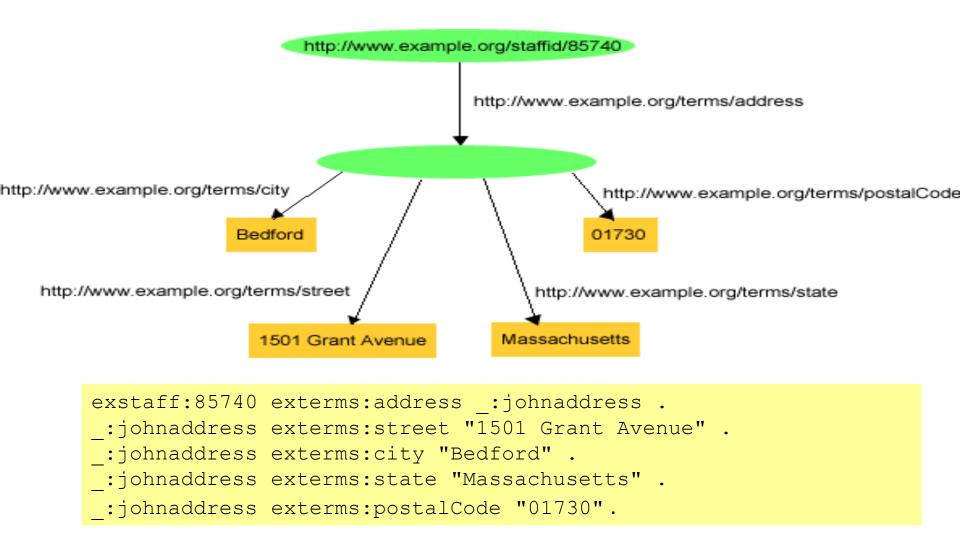
 Blank node in RDF can essentially be interpreted as a logical statement, "there exists." That is, in these statements we assert "there exists student, who lived in cairo, who attend class SE465"

Blank Node

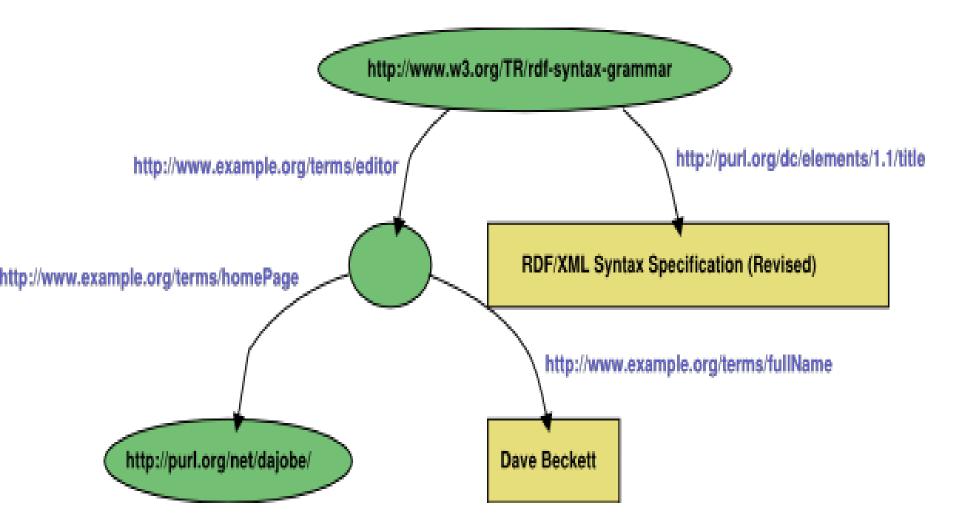


If we gives _:johnaddress as the identifier for the blank node

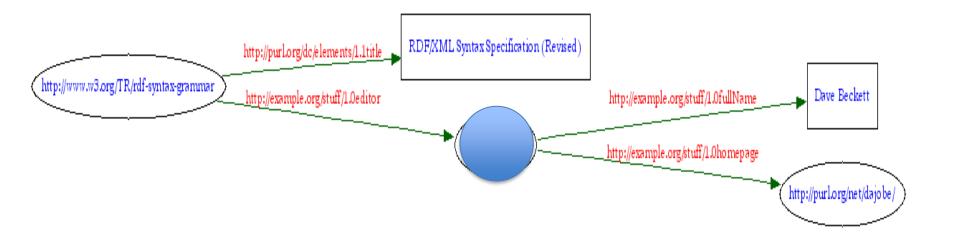
- Nodes like John's address may not require "universal" identifiers.
- Nodes with only local meaning can be blank.



Blank node



Blank node



No	Subject	Predicate	Object
1	http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf- syntax-grammar	http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1title	"RDF/XML Syntax Specification (Revised)"
2		http://example.org/stuff/1.0fullName	"Dave Beckett"
3	http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf- syntax-grammar	http://example.org/stuff/1.0editor	
4		http://example.org/stuff/1.0homepage	http://purl.org/net/dajobe/

RDF Validator

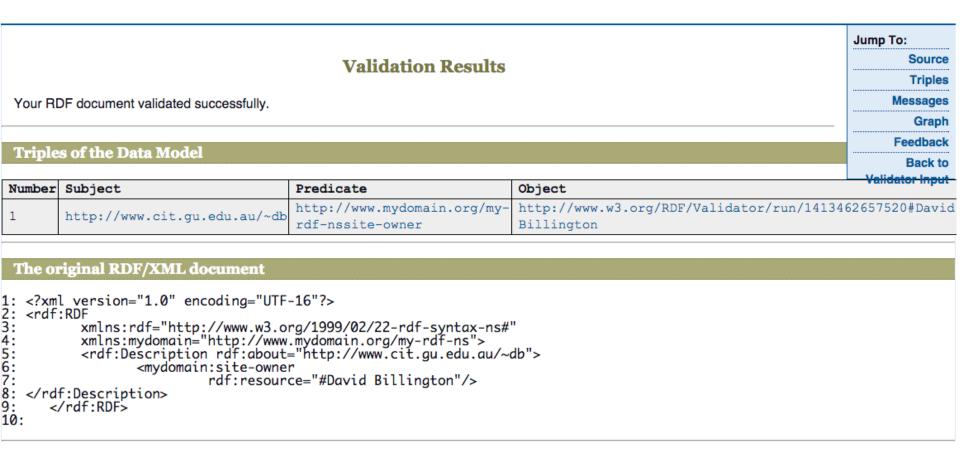
http://www.w3.org/RDF/Validator/

Provides a validator for your RDF data.

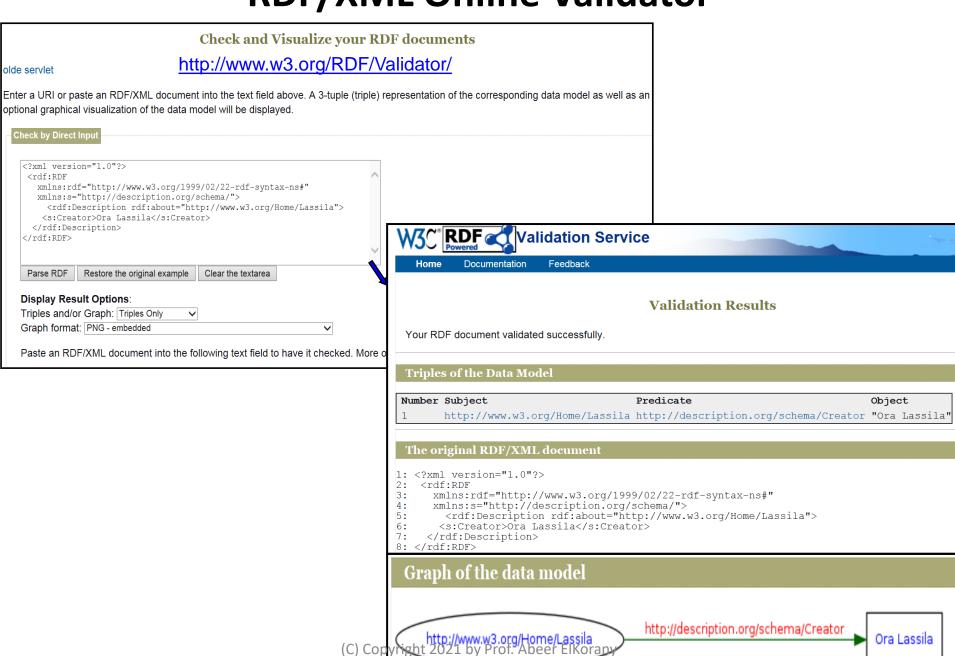
- It creates a graph of your RDF statements
 - Choose the appropriate "Display Result Option".
- Very useful to start writing RDF documents

RDF Validator

Validation results:



RDF/XML Online Validator



... and check with RDF/XML validator

http://www.w3.org/RDF/Validator/

