### Web Ontology Languages

- Different Web ontology language
- Web Ontology Language (OWL)
- OWL characteristics

### Web Ontology Language Requirements

#### **Desirable features** identified for Web Ontology Language:

- Extends existing Web standards
  - Such as XML, RDF, RDFS
- Easy to understand and use
  - Should be based on familiar KR
- Formally specified
- Of "adequate" expressive power
- Possible to provide automated reasoning support

# OWL: Web Ontology Language

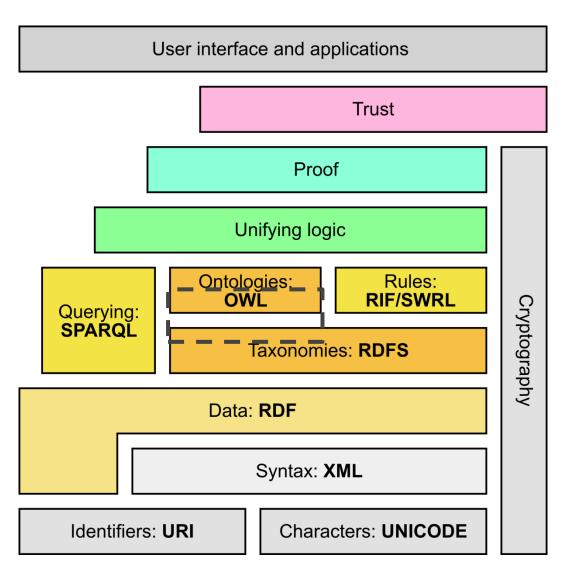
- The Web Ontology Language (OWL) is a family of knowledge
   representation languages or ontology languages for engineering ontologies
   or knowledge bases.
- OWL DL (Description Logic) designed to provide the maximum expressiveness possible while retaining computational completeness and availability of practical reasoning algorithms.
- OWL DL includes all OWL language constructs, but they can be used only under certain restrictions.

The built-in vocabulary for OWL all comes from the OWL namespace http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#

http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-ref/ OWL 2004

http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-overview/ OWL-2 2009

### Semantic Web Stack



# Why OWL? Limitations of RDFS

- RDFS is too weak in describing resources with sufficient details, e.g.:
  - No localised range and domain constraints
    - Cannot say that the range of *isToughtBy* is only professor when applied to professors and lecturer when applied to lecturers
  - No cardinality constraints
    - Cannot say that a course is taught by at least one professor, or persons have exactly 2 parents
  - No transitive, inverse or symmetrical properties
    - Cannot say that isPartOf is a transitive property, that hasSupervisor is the inverse of isSupervisorOf, and, that friendOf is symmetrical
  - Disjoint classes
    - Cannot say that Under-Graduate and PhD. Students are two disjoint classes
  - Boolean combinations of classes
    - Sometimes we may need to build new classes by combining other classes using union, intersection, and complement (e.g. person is the disjoint union of the classes male and female)

#### Why OWL

#### Reasoning About Knowledge in Ontology Languages

- Class membership
  - If x is an instance of a class C, and C is a subclass of
     D, then we can infer that x is an instance of D
- Equivalence of classes
  - If class A is equivalent to class B, and class B is equivalent to class C, then A is equivalent to C, too

#### Why OWL

Reasoning About Knowledge in Ontology Languages (2)

#### Consistency

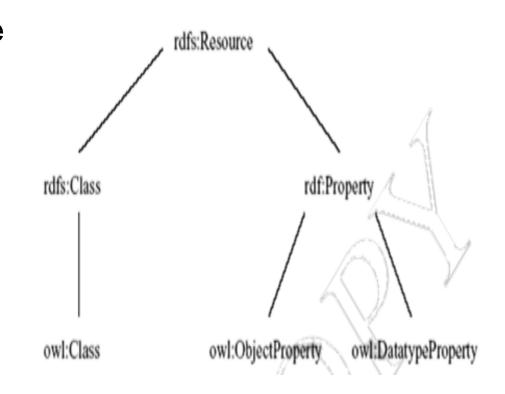
- X instance of classes A and B, but A and B are disjoint
- This is an indication of an error in the ontology

#### Classification

 Certain property-value pairs are a sufficient condition for membership in a class A; if an individual x satisfies such conditions, we can conclude that x must be an instance of A

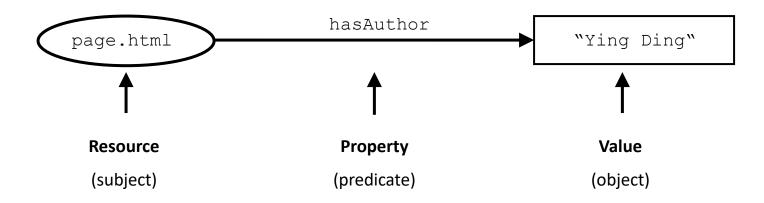
### OWL Compatibility with RDF Schema

- All varieties of OWL use RDF for their syntax
- Instances are declared as in RDF, using RDF descriptions
- and typing information OWL constructors are specialisations of their RDF counterparts



### **OWL-RDFS** Relationship

Both use the same data model:



 OWL extends vocabulary and adds axioms to express more <u>complex relations of</u> <u>classes and properties</u>

# Web Ontology Language (OWL)

#### **OWL**

- A richer ontology language.
- Relations between classes
  - e.g., disjointness
- Cardinality
  - e.g. "exactly one"
- Richer typing of properties
- Characteristics of properties (e.g., symmetry)

# Simple Named Classes

- Every individual in the OWL world is a member of the class owl:Thing.
- Named classes
  - Example:
     <owl:Class rdf:ID= "Staff"/>
     <owl:Class rdf:ID= "Researcher"/>
     <owl:Class rdf:ID= "Academic"/>
- The fundamental taxonomic constructor for classes is rdfs:subClassOf.
  - Example:

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID= "Researcher">
  <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#Staff" />
  ...
</owl:Class>
```

### 1. Class

- Basic concept (owl:Class) which is a subclass of rdfs:Class
- Subclasses as we know them from RDFS: rdfs:subClassOf
- In particular, the following holds:
- owl:Class rdfs:subClassOf rdfs:Class.
- Two predefined classes:
  - owl:Thing
  - owl:Nothing
- For each class c, the following axioms hold: –

```
rdfs:subClassOf owl:Thing.
```

owl:Nothing rdfs:subClassOf??.

- owl:Thing is the most general class, which contains everything
- owl:Nothing is the empty class

### Class relationships

- In OWL, you can construct classes from existing ones:
- 1. enumerate its content (individuals that together form the instances of a class)
- 2. <u>intersection</u> of two or more class descriptions
- 3. the <u>union</u> of two or more class descriptions
- 4. the **complement** of a class description

# An Example

- Woman ≡ Person □ Female
- Man ≡ Person □ ¬Woman
- Mother ≡ Woman □ ∃hasChild.Person
- Father ≡ Man □ ∃hasChild.Person
- Parent ≡ Father ⊔ Mother

We can further infer (though not explicitly stated):

→ Grandmother 
 □ Person
 Grandmother 
 □ Man 
 □ Woman etc.

### **OWL Class Elements**

owl:Class

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID="associateProfessor">
  <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#academicStaffMember"/>
  </owl:Class>
```

owl:disjoinWith

owl:equivalentClass

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID="faculty">
     <owl:equivalentClass rdf:resource="#academicStaffMember"/>
</owl:Class>
```

#### OWL constructs for classes

#### OWI construct

owl:Thing

owl:Nothing

intersectionOf( $C_1 \dots C_n$ )

unionOf( $C_1 \dots C_n$ )

complementOf(C)

 $oneOf(a_1 \dots a_n)$ 

restriction(r allValuesFrom(C))

restriction(r someValuesFrom(C))

restriction(r minCardinality(C))

restriction(r maxCardinality(C))

restriction(r value(a))

#### Example

Human □ Male

**Doctor** ⊔ **Lawyer** 

¬Male

{john, mary}

∀hasChild.Doctor

∃hasChild.Doctor

> 2 hasChild.Lawyer

< 2 hasChild.Lawyer

∃citizen\_of.{France}

### OWL class relationships

#### OWL axiom

Class(A partial  $C_1 \dots C_n$ ))

Class(A complete  $C_1 \dots C_n$ ))

SubClassOf( $C_1$   $C_2$ )

EquivalentClasses $(C_1 \ C_2)$ 

DisjointClasses  $(C_1 \ C_2)$ 

SameIndividual $(a_1 \ a_2)$ 

#### Example

Human □ Physical\_Object

 $Man \equiv Human \sqcap Male$ 

Human 

Animal 

Biped

Biped

 $Man \equiv Human \sqcap Male$ 

Male □ ¬Female

PresidentBush=G.W.Bush

DifferentIndividual  $(a_1 \ a_2)$  (C) Copyright 2021 by Prof Abeer El-KoraBush $\neq$ Obama

### Class definition in owl

A class expression is the name used for either:

- 1- a class name (a URI), or
- 2- an enumeration, enclosed in <owl:Class>...</owl:Class> tags, or
- 3- a property-restriction, or
- 4- a boolean combination of class expressions, enclosed in <rdfs:Class>...</rdfs:Class> tags

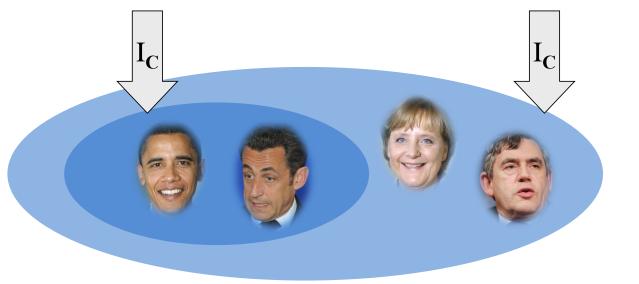


### Class Inclusion

classuri1 rdfs:subClassCf classuri2.

• Example:

ex:President rdfs:subClassOf ex:Politician



### Class Enumeration

- A class description of the "enumeration" kind is defined with the owl:oneOf property that represents exactly the enumerated individuals, no more, no less.
- The value of this property must be a list of individuals that are the instances of the class.

- This enables a class to be described by exhaustively enumerating its instances.
- The list of individuals is typically represented by RDF construct rdf:parseType="Collection"

# Class Enumeration(cont.)

- This enables a class to be described by exhaustively enumerating its instances
- List of **individuals** that are the instances of the class

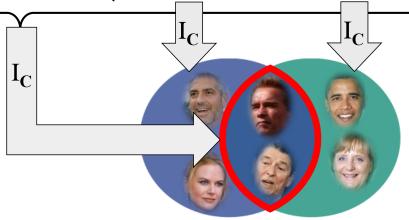
The class extension of a class described with owl:oneOf contains exactly the enumerated individuals, <u>no more</u>, <u>no less</u>.



### Complex Classes: Intersection

- [owl:intersectionOf (class1, ..., classn)]
- $I_C([owl:intersectionOf(class1, ..., classn)])$ =  $I_C(class1) Å ... Å <math>I_C(classn)$
- Example:

[owl:intersectionOf (ex:Actor, ex:Politician)]



### 2. Intersection

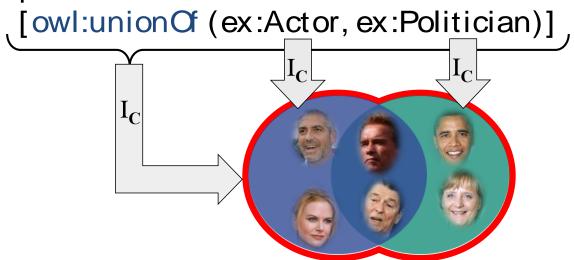
• The **owl:intersectionOf** links a class to a list of class descriptions.

owl:intersectionOf:



### Complex Classes: Union

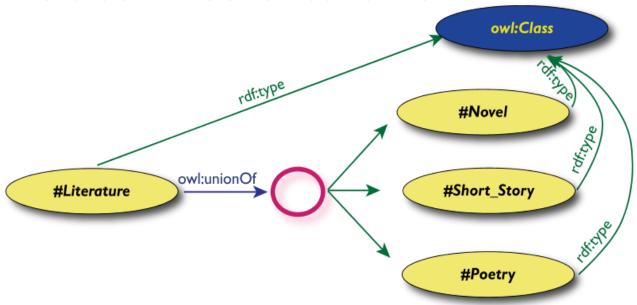
- [owl:unionOf (class1, ..., classn)]
- $I_C([owl:unionOf(class1,...,classn)])$ =  $I_C(class1)[...[I_C(classn)]$
- Example:



Markus Krötzsch, Sebas6an Rudolph: Seman6c Web Modelling Languages, ESSLLI 2009, Bordeaux. www.seman6c-web-book.org

### 3-Union of classes

Essentially, like a set-theoretical union:



### Union of classes (cont..)

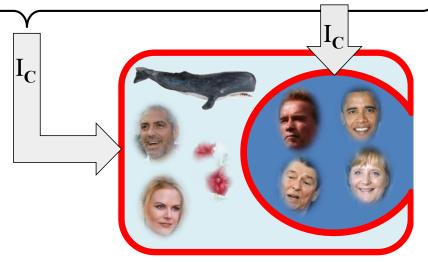
owl:unionOf element



### Complex Classes: Complement

- [owl:complement of class]
- $I_{C}([owl:complement Of class]) = \Delta I_{C}(class)$
- Example:

[owl:complement of ex:Politician]



Markus Krötzsch, Sebas6an Rudolph: Seman6c Web Modelling Languages, ESSLLI 2009, Bordeaux. www.seman6c-web-book.org

# 4-Complement of classes

### Class Axioms

- Class axioms typically contain additional components that state necessary and/or sufficient characteristics of a class
- OWL contains three language constructs for combining class descriptions into class axioms:
- 1. rdfs:subClassOf: a class description is a subset of another class description.
- 2. owl:equivalentClass: a class description is exactly the same as another class description.
- 3. owl:disjointWith a class description has no members in common with the other class description.

# Class Axioms (cont.)

 owl:disjointWith <owl:Class rdf:about="Mammal"> <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#Animal"/> <owl:disjointWith rdf:resource="#Reptile"/> </owl:Class> <owl:Class rdf:about="#associateProfessor"> <owl:disjointWith rdf:resource="#professor"/> <owl:disjointWith rdf:resource="#assistantProfessor"/> </owl:Class>

# Class Axioms(cont.)

owl:equivalentClass defines equivalence of classes

```
<owl:Class rdf:about="# faculty">
     <owl:equivalentClass rdf:resource="#academicStaffMember"/>
</owl:Class>
```

owl:equivalentClass

```
<owl:Class rdf:about="#US_President">
<equivalentClass
    rdf:resource="#PrincipalResidentOfWhiteHouse"/>
</owl:Class>
```

### **OWL** Properties

Individuals in OWL are related by properties. There are two types of property in OWL:

1. Object properties (owl:ObjectProperty relates individuals (instances) of two OWL classes.

2. Datatype properties (owl:DatatypeProperty) relates individuals (instances) of OWL classes to literal values.

### **OWL** Properties

#### Datatype Property

```
<owl:DatatypeProperty rdf:ID="FName"/>
     <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Staff" />
     <rdfs:range rdf:resource="&rdfs;Literal"/>
     </owl:DatatypeProperty>
```

#### Object Property

```
<owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="hasParent">
  <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Animal"/>
  <rdfs:range rdf:resource="#Animal"/>
  </owl:ObjectProperty>
```

### **OWL Property Elements**

Object property (relate objects to other objects)

```
<owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="teaches">
    <rdfs:range rdf:resource="#course"/>
    <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#academicStaffMember"/>
    <owl:inverseOf rdf:resource="#isTaughtBy"/>
    </owl:ObjectProperty>
```

Data type property (relate objects to datatype values)

```
<owl:DatatypeProperty rdf:ID="age">
    <rdfs:range rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema
    #nonNegativeInteger"/>
</owl:DatatypeProperty>
```

# Simple Properties- Example

Using DatatypeProperty

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID= "hasName" />
<owl:DatatypeProperty rdf:ID= "nameValue" />
<rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#PhDStudent" />
<rdfs:range rdf:resource="&xsd; string"/>
</owl:DatatypeProperty>
```

# Property Characteristics in OWL

- Datatype Properties:
   DataProperty(pp:service\_number range(xsd:integer))
- Property Hierarchy: SubPropertyOf(pp:has\_pet pp:likes)
- Algebraic properties:
   ObjectProperty(pp:married\_to Symmetric)
   ObjectProperty(pp:ancestor\_of Transitive)
   ObjectProperty(pp:passport\_nr Functional)

# **Property Characteristics**

- OWL also allows for specifying that properties are:
  - Functional
  - inverse
  - Transitive
  - Equivalent

#### **Property Hierarchies**

- Hierarchical relationships for properties
  - E.g., "is taught by" is a subproperty of "involves".
  - If a course C is taught by an academic staff member
     A, then C also involves A.

- The converse is not necessarily true
  - E.g., A may be the teacher of the course C, or
  - A tutor who marks student homework but does not teach C.

# Property Axioms(cont.) Equivalent Properties

owl:equivalentProperty

<owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="lecturesIn">

<owl:equivalentProperty</pre>

rdf:resource="#teaches"/>

</owl>

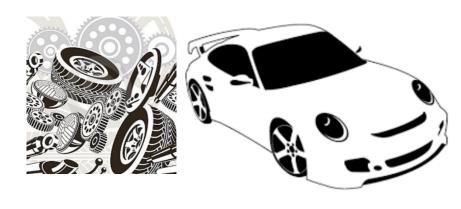
## Flavors of a Partonomy

#### **isPartOf**

is Ingradient Of



isComponentOf



isMemberOf



isContainedIn



isPieceOf



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# Transitive property Example

- Consider part\_of property which has the characteristic of being transitive.
- If a property P is transitive, and the property relates individual a to individual b, and also individual b to individual c, then we can infer that individual a is related to individual c via property P.
- Example: is greater than, is taller than, etc

#### Transitive property

```
Student 3
                        Has Groupmate
       Has Groupmate
                           Student 2
                                        Has Groupmate
 Student 1
 <owl:TransitiveProperty rdf:ID="Has Groupmate">
     <rdfs:range rdf:resource="#Student"/>
     <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Student"/>
 rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#ObjectProperty"/>
                                                                                         William
   </owl:TransitiveProperty>
Any ancestor of an ancestor of mine is also an ancestor of
mine.
                                               Matthew
```

# Property Axioms(cont.) Inverse Properties

```
<owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="teaches">
    <rdfs:range rdf:resource="#course"/>
    <rdfs:domain rdf:resource=
        "#academicStaffMember"/>
        <owl:inverseOf rdf:resource="#isTaughtBy"/>
        </owl:ObjectProperty>
```

# Property Axioms(cont.) functional property

- A functional property is a property that can have only one <u>(unique)</u> value y for each instance x
- Example: a woman can have at most one husband

```
<owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="has-husband">
<rdf:type rdf:resource="&owl;FunctionalProperty" />
<rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Woman" />
<rdfs:range rdf:resource="#Man" />
</owl:ObjectProperty>
```

 Both object properties and datatype properties can be declared as "functional".

#### **Property restrictions**

- A property restriction is a special kind of class description.
- OWL distinguishes two kinds of property restrictions: value constraints and cardinality constraints.
- Property restrictions have the following general form:

```
<owl:Restriction>
```

<owl:onProperty rdf:resource="(some property)" />
(precisely one value or cardinality constraint)

</owl:Restriction>

#### **Property restrictions (cont..)**

#### A value Constraint

- 1- owl:allValuesFrom
- 2- owl:someValuesFrom
- 3- owl:hasValue

#### - Cardinality Constraint

- 1- owl:maxCardinality
- 2- owl:minCardinality
- 3- owl:cardinality

### Property Restrictions

- A (restriction) class is achieved through an owl:Restriction element
- This element contains an owl:onProperty element and one or more restriction declarations
- One type defines cardinality restrictions (at least one, at most 3,...)

## Property Restrictions (2)

- The other type defines restrictions on the kinds of values the property may take
  - owl:allValuesFrom specifies universal quantification
  - owl:hasValue specifies a specific value
  - owl:someValuesFrom specifies existential quantification

#### owl:allValuesFrom

#### owl:someValuesFrom

```
<owl:Class rdf:about="#academicStaffMember">
  <rdfs:subClassOf>
   <owl><owl>Restriction>
     <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="#teaches"/>
     <owl:someValuesFrom rdf:resource=</pre>
           "#undergraduateCourse"/>
   </owl>
  </rdfs:subClassOf>
</owl:Class>
```

#### owl:hasValue

```
<owl:Class rdf:about="#mathCourse">
    <rdfs:subClassOf>
        <owl><owl>Restriction>
            <owl:onProperty rdf:resource=</pre>
            "#isTaughtBy"/>
            <owl:hasValue rdf:resource=</pre>
        "#949352"/>
        </owl>
    </rdfs:subClassOf>
</owl>
```

#### Cardinality Restrictions

- We can specify minimum and maximum number using owl:minCardinality and owl:maxCardinality
- It is possible to specify a precise number by using the same minimum and maximum number
- For convenience, OWL offers also owl:cardinality

# Cardinality Restrictions (2)

owl:minCardinality constraint describes a class of all individuals that have at least N semantically distinct values

```
For example:
<owl:Class rdf:about="#course">
  <rdfs:subClassOf>
       <owl><owl>Restriction>
              <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="#isTaughtBy"/>
              <owl:minCardinality rdf:datatype=</pre>
              "&xsd;nonNegativeInteger">1
              </owl:minCardinality>
       </owl>
  </rdfs:subClassOf>
</owl>
```

## Cardinality Restrictions (3)

```
<owl: Class rdf:ID= "PhDStudent">
  <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#DeptMembers"/>
  <rdfs:subClassOf>
     <owl:Restriction>
       <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="#hasSupervisor"/>
       <owl:minCardinality</pre>
            rdf:datatype="&xsd;nonNegativeInteger">1
    </owl:minCardinality>
   </owl:Restriction>
</rdfs:subClassOf>
</owl:Class>
```

#### Property Inherence in OWL

- Some "features" of OWL are "inherited". Others are not. For example:
- (a subPropertyOf b) and (b inverseOf c) doesn't imply (a inverseOf c)
- (a subPropertyOf b) and (b equivalentPropertyOf c) doesn't imply (a equivalentPropertyOf c)
- (a subPropertyOf b) and (b type TransitiveProperty) doesn't imply (a type TransitiveProperty)

- Individuals enable us to describe members of a class.
- On the **web**, such an assumption is **not possible**. The same person could be referred to in many different ways (i.e. with different URI references).
- OWL does not make this assumption (unless explicitly stated).

#### **Declaring Instances**

Instances of classes are declared as in RDF:

 OWL provides three constructs for stating facts about the identity of individuals:

- 1. owl:sameAs: is used to state that two URI references refer to the same individual.
- 2. owl:differentFrom: is used to state that two URI references refer to different individuals.
- 3. owl:AllDifferent: provides an idiom for stating that a list of individuals are all different.

Example:

```
<rdf:Description
    rdf:about="#William_Jefferson_Clinton">
    <owl:sameAs rdf:resource="#BillClinton"/>
    </rdf:Description>

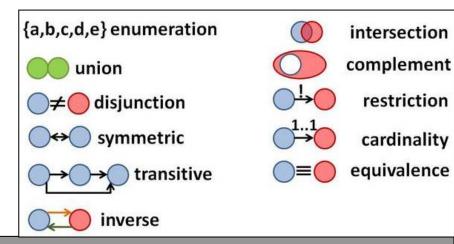
<rdf:Description rdf:about="#Obama">
    <owl:differentFrom rdf:resource="#BillClinton"/>
    </rdf:Description>
```

#### Example:

```
<owl:AllDifferent>
<owl:distinctMembers rdf:parseType="Collection">
<Opera rdf:about="#Don_Giovanni"/>
<Opera rdf:about="#Nozze_di_Figaro"/>
<Opera rdf:about="#Cosi_fan_tutte"/>
<Opera rdf:about="#Tosca"/>
<Opera rdf:about="#Turandot"/>
<Opera rdf:about="#Turandot"/>
<Opera rdf:about="#Salome"/>
</owl:distinctMembers>
</owl:AllDifferent>
```

#### OWL on one Slide

- **Symmetric**: if P(x, y) then P(y, x)
- **Transitive**: if P(x,y) and P(y,z) then P(x, z)
- Functional: if P(x,y) and P(x,z) then y=z
- **InverseOf**: if P1(x,y) then P2(y,x)
- InverseFunctional: if P(y,x) and P(z,x) then y=z
- allValuesFrom: P(x,y) and y=allValuesFrom(C)
- someValuesFrom: P(x,y) and y=someValuesFrom(C)
- hasValue: P(x,y) and y=hasValue(v)
- cardinality: cardinality(P) = N
- minCardinality: minCardinality(P) = N
- maxCardinality: maxCardinality(P) = N
- equivalentProperty: P1 = P2
- intersectionOf: C = intersectionOf(C1, C2, ...)
- **unionOf**: C = unionOf(C1, C2, ...)
- complementOf: C = complementOf(C1)
- oneOf: C = one of(v1, v2, ...)
- equivalentClass: C1 = C2
- disjointWith: C1 != C2
- sameIndividualAs: |1 = |2
- differentFrom: |1 != |2
- **AllDifferent**: |1 != |2, |1 != |3, |2 != |3, ...
- Thing: 11, 12, ...



#### Legend:

Properties are indicated by: P, P1, P2, etc Specific classes are indicated by: x, y, z Generic classes are indicated by: C, C1, C2

Values are indicated by: v, v1, v2

Instance documents are indicated by: I1, I2, I3, etc.

A number is indicated by: N

P(x,y) is read as: "property P relates x to y"

#### Example:

One of the clearer human-readable syntaxes

```
Class(SpicyPizza complete
    annotation(rdfs:label "PizzaTemperada")
    annotation(rdfs:comment "Any pizza that has a spicy topping is a SpicyPizza")
    restriction(hasTopping
someValuesFrom(SpicyTopping))
)
```

## OWL Syntax: N3

 Recommended for human-readable fragments

```
default:SpicyPizza
a owl:Class;
rdfs:comment "Any pizza that has a spicy topping is a
SpicyPizza";
rdfs:label "PizzaTemperada";
owl:equivalentClass
[ a owl:Class;
    owl:intersectionOf (default:Pizza [ a owl:Restriction;
        owl:onProperty default:hasTopping;
        owl:someValuesFrom default:SpicyTopping
])
].
```

## OWL Syntax: RDF/XML

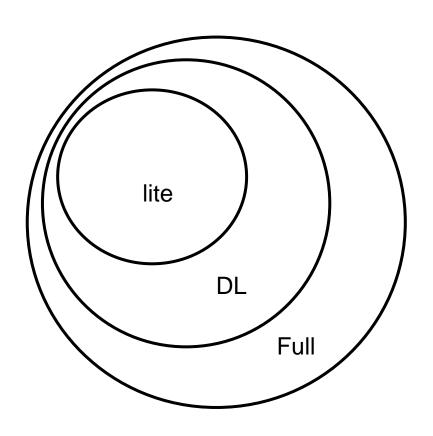
Recommended for serialisation

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID="SpicyPizza">
 <rdfs:label xml:lang="pt">PizzaTemperada</rdfs:label>
 <rdfs:comment xml:lang="en">Any pizza that has a spicy topping is a SpicyPizza</rdfs:comment>
 <owl:equivalentClass>
  <owl>Class>
   <owl:intersectionOf rdf:parseType="Collection">
    <owl:Class rdf:about="#Pizza"/>
    <owl:Restriction>
     <owl><owl>owl:onProperty>
       <owl:ObjectProperty rdf:about="#hasTopping"/>
     </owl>
     <owl:someValuesFrom rdf:resource="#SpicyTopping"/>
    </owl:Restriction>
   </owl:intersectionOf>
  </owl:Class>
 </owl:equivalentClass>
</owl:Class>
```

#### **OWL Dialects**

- OWL Lite
  - Classification hierarchy
  - Simple constraints
- OWL DL
  - Maximal expressiveness while maintaining tractability
  - Standard formalization in a DL
- OWL Full
  - Very high expressiveness
  - Losing tractability
  - All syntactic freedom of RDF (self-modifying)): e.g. statements about statements are possible. Meta-modeling as well.

#### OWL comes in 3 Dialects



# 1. Lite partially restricted to aid learning curve

# 2. DL = Description Logic Description Logics are a fragment of First Order Logic (FOL) that can be reasoned with

# 3. Full unrestricted use of OWL constructs, but cannot reason

### Three Species of OWL

- W3C'sWeb Ontology Working Group defined OWL as three different sublanguages:
  - OWL Full
  - OWL DL
  - OWL Lite
- Each sublanguage geared toward fulfilling different aspects of requirements

#### Summary

- RDF (Resource Description Framework) is a simple language for expressing RDF statements.
- RDF/XML is syntax to express a RDF graph as a XML document.
- RDFS (RDF Schema) extends the vocabulary of simple RDF.
- OWL further extends the RDFS vocabulary to allow more complex inference and reasoning.
- SPARQL (Search Protocol and RDF Query Language or "sparkle") is a query language for semantic data similar to SQL.