Discovering Digital Art Collections using Link-Traversal-based Query Processing

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Index Terms—**component, formatting, style, styling, insert**

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Number equations consecutively. To make your equations more compact, you may use the solidus (/), the exp function, or appropriate exponents. Italicize Roman symbols for quantities and variables, but not Greek symbols. Use a long dash rather than a hyphen for a minus sign. Punctuate equations with commas or periods when they are part of a sentence, as in:

$$a + b = \gamma \tag{1}$$

Be sure that the symbols in your equation have been defined before or immediately following the equation. Use "(1)", not

"Eq. (1)" or "equation (1)", except at the beginning of a sentence: "Equation (1) is . . ."

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Please don't use the `{eqnarray}` equation environment. Use `{align}` or `{IEEEeqnarray}` instead. The `{eqnarray}` environment leaves unsightly spaces around relation symbols.

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E. Some Common Mistakes

- The word "data" is plural, not singular.
- The subscript for the permeability of vacuum μ_0, and other common scientific constants, is zero with subscript formatting, not a lowercase letter "o".
- In American English, commas, semicolons, periods, question and exclamation marks are located within quotation marks only when a complete thought or name is cited, such as a title or full quotation. When quotation marks are used, instead of a bold or italic typeface, to highlight a word or phrase, punctuation should appear outside of the quotation marks. A parenthetical phrase or statement at the end of a sentence is punctuated outside of the closing parenthesis (like this). (A parenthetical sentence is punctuated within the parentheses.)
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- Do not use the word "essentially" to mean "approximately" or "effectively".

- In your paper title, if the words "that uses" can accurately replace the word "using", capitalize the "u"; if not, keep using lower-cased.
- Be aware of the different meanings of the homophones "affect" and "effect", "complement" and "compliment", "discreet" and "discrete", "principal" and "principle".
- Do not confuse "imply" and "infer".
- The prefix "non" is not a word; it should be joined to the word it modifies, usually without a hyphen.
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- The abbreviation "i.e." means "that is", and the abbreviation "e.g." means "for example".

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Component heads identify the different components of your paper and are not topically subordinate to each other. Examples include Acknowledgments and References and, for these, the correct style to use is "Heading 5". Use "figure caption" for your Figure captions, and "table head" for your table title. Run-in heads, such as "Abstract", will require you to apply a style (in this case, italic) in addition to the style provided by the drop down menu to differentiate the head from the text.

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a) Positioning Figures and Tables: Place figures and tables at the top and bottom of columns. Avoid placing them in the middle of columns. Large figures and tables may span across both columns. Figure captions should be below the figures; table heads should appear above the tables. Insert figures and tables after they are cited in the text. Use the abbreviation "Fig. 1", even at the beginning of a sentence.

TABLE I
TABLE TYPE STYLES

Table Head	Table Column Head		
	Table column subhead	Subhead	Subhead
copy	More table copy[a]		

[a]Sample of a Table footnote.

Fig. 1. Example of a figure caption.

Figure Labels: Use 8 point Times New Roman for Figure labels. Use words rather than symbols or abbreviations when writing Figure axis labels to avoid confusing the reader. As an example, write the quantity "Magnetization", or "Magnetization, M", not just "M". If including units in the label, present them within parentheses. Do not label axes only with units. In the example, write "Magnetization (A/m)" or "Magnetization {A[m(1)]}", not just "A/m". Do not label axes with a ratio of quantities and units. For example, write "Temperature (K)", not "Temperature/K".

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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REFERENCES

Please number citations consecutively within brackets [1]. The sentence punctuation follows the bracket [2]. Refer simply to the reference number, as in [3]—do not use "Ref. [3]" or "reference [3]" except at the beginning of a sentence: "Reference [3] was the first ..."

Number footnotes separately in superscripts. Place the actual footnote at the bottom of the column in which it was cited. Do not put footnotes in the abstract or reference list. Use letters for table footnotes.

Unless there are six authors or more give all authors' names; do not use "et al.". Papers that have not been published, even if they have been submitted for publication, should be cited as "unpublished" [4]. Papers that have been accepted for publication should be cited as "in press" [5]. Capitalize only the first word in a paper title, except for proper nouns and element symbols.

For papers published in translation journals, please give the English citation first, followed by the original foreign-language citation [6].

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Contents

List of Figures

x

List of Tables

List of Code Fragments

1

Introduction

TODO

2

Related work

2.1 Linked Data

This section presents a comprehensive exploration of Linked Data, encompassing its fundamental principles, data modeling, syntax, query interfaces, and the associated challenges and advantages. In Section 2.1.1, the concept of Linked Data and its principles are introduced, highlighting the significance of unique URIs, dereferencing, and data interlinking. Section 2.1.2 focuses on the Resource Description Framework (RDF) as the cornerstone for representing relationships and knowledge connections within Linked Data. Section 2.1.3 provides an overview of RDF syntax, including popular formats such as XML, Turtle, N-Triples, and JSON-LD, which facilitate the flexible expression and exchange of RDF data. Lastly, Section 2.1.4 briefly introduces SPARQL, the query language for RDF data This comprehensive examination serves as a solid foundation for the subsequent discussions on Linked Traversal-based Query Processing.

2.1.1 Introduction and Principles

To better understand the origins of the idea behind Linked Data, it is important to examine the origins of the World Wide Web. For example, its first, but still rather primitive, underlying technology was introduced in 1989 at CERN. Tim Berners-Lee was the man responsible for its development. By using HyperText Markup Language (HTML), it enabled scientists, and later the rest of the world, to publish documents that could contain links to other documents. This helped create a mesh of documents and information. However, since these documents in fact contained nothing more than raw data dumps and links between documents represented simply an indication of how to reach the document, these documents and their relationships lacked semantics. Figure 2.1 illustrates what a web of documents without unambiguous indications of what their contents and the links between them represent, might look like. It is necessary to note here that the used icons are not the contents of their

respective documents, but only a representation of their contents. Nevertheless, in themselves, they prove the weakness of such web as much as when the effective content of the documents had been represented. After all, just from the raw content of documents and their mutual links, a person cannot clearly infer exactly what their constellation represents, let alone a computer. From that deficiency, therefore, emerged the idea of Linked Data. (Jacksi and Abass, 2019) (Bizer et al., 2011)
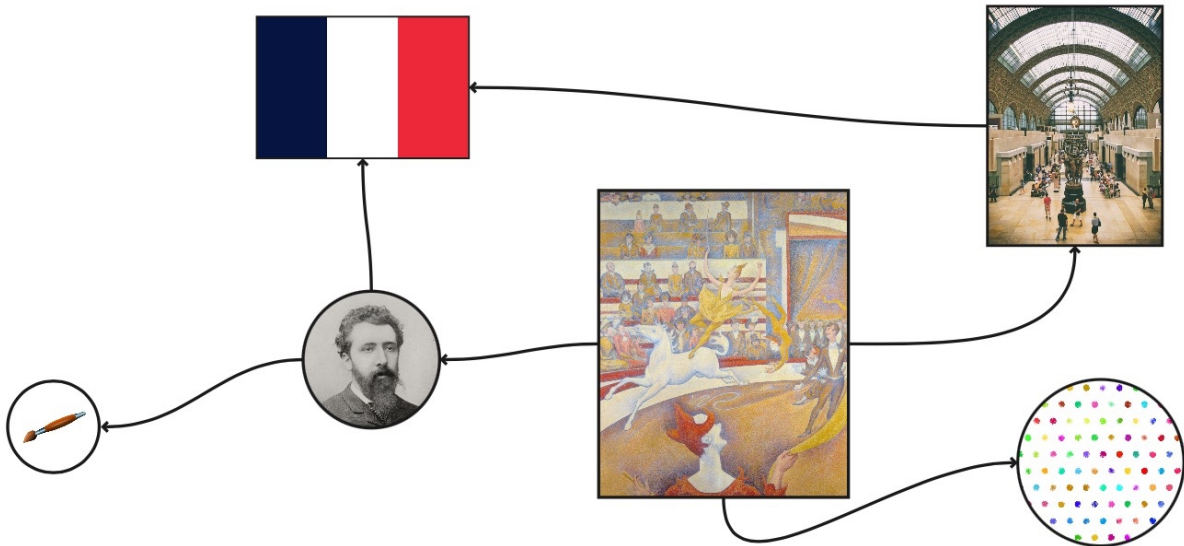
Figure 2.1: Representation of a web of documents without unambiguous indications of what the documents and the links between them represent

Simply put, data coming from different sources can be labeled as Linked Data as soon as they are linked by typed links. In other words, links are no longer just an indication of how to reach another document. Indeed, within the Linked Data story, they also contain information about what exactly the link in question represents. Linked Data thereby ensures the meaning of data is explicitly defined, in turn rendering the data machine-readable. Figure 2.2 represents the same web of documents as Figure 2.1, but this time in accordance with the idea of Linked Data. Indeed, the documents have been given an unambiguous indication of what they represent, and their mutual semantics have also been clarified thanks to the labeling of their links. (Bizer et al., 2011)

Although several technologies exist to achieve the goals of Linked Data, the use of URIs is essential. After all, since URIs are unique, they can unambiguously reference a particular entity. Practically speaking, the URIs that appear in a Linked Data document can be dereferenced using the HTTP protocol in order to retrieve the underlying entities. For instance, `https://stad.gent/id/concept/530010539`, is a URI that can be dereferenced using the HTTP(S) protocol.
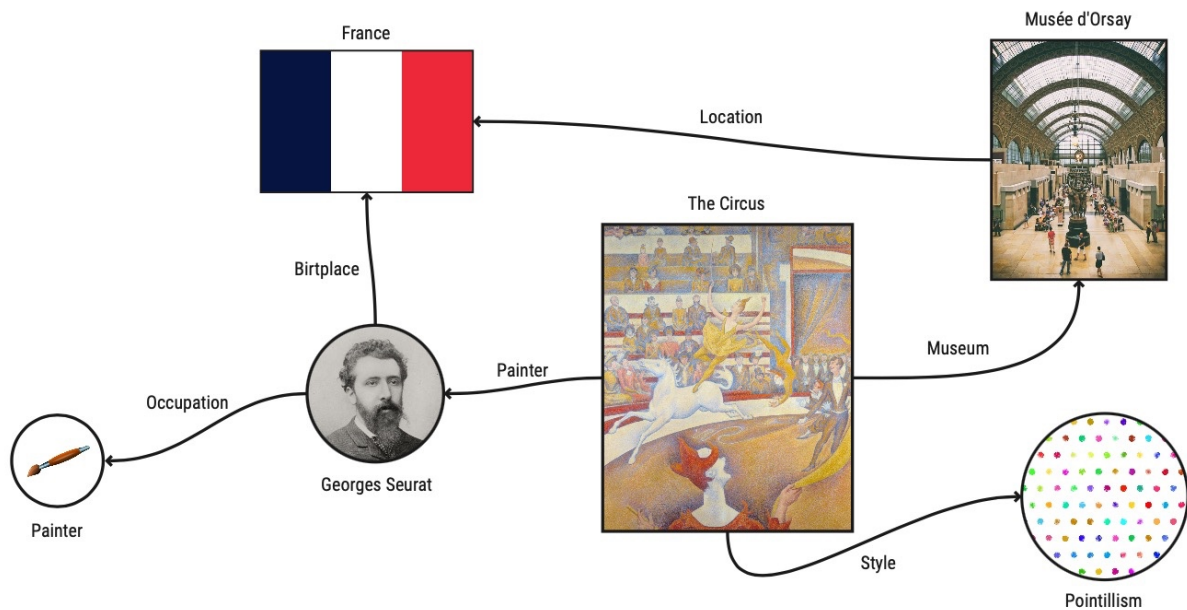
Figure 2.2: Representation of a web of documents composed according to the spirit of Linked Data

By dereferencing URI after URI in this way, little by little a – what could be called – *field of information* unfolds, whose semantics can be unambiguously determined by both man and machine. (Bizer et al., 2011)

To clarify the concept of Linked Data, Berners-Lee (2006) put forth four principles to be taken into consideration.

1. **Use URIs as names for things**

   The principle of using URIs has already been discussed above.

2. **Use HTTP URIs so that people can look up those names**

   The principle of using the HTTP protocol to dereference URIs was also touched on above. Nevertheless, it is important to reiterate its importance, as there are other protocols besides HTTP for dereferencing URIs. However, these will technically differ from the HTTP protocol, each in its own different ways. For example, not using the ubiquitous Domain Name System (DNS), is, among others, a common practice among alternative protocols. However, in light of clarity and uniformity, as well as for other technical reasons, the HTTP protocol should be adhered to. (Berners-Lee, 2006)

3. **When someone looks up a URI, provide useful information, using the standards (RDF, SPARQL)**

   Obviously, it would not fit within the spirit of Linked Data to obtain a raw data dump when dereferencing a URI that was included from another document as a *Linked Data link*. The obtained data itself must comply with Linked Data

principles. Therefore, there are some standards that clearly indicate how ontologies can be described. Consequently, to enable the construction of applications that deal with Linked Data, it goes without saying that a Linked Data document should be built according to the principles of an existing standard. RDF is the most common such standard and is therefore discussed further in Sections 2.1.2. In addition, Section 2.1.4 introduces the SPARQL query interface. After all, large datasets are expected to also provide such interface. (Berners-Lee, 2006)

4. **Include links to other URIs so that they can discover more things**

   The fourth and final principle, too, is rather obvious. After all, by definition, one can only speak of Linked Data when a document refers to at least one other document. In addition, to help advance the cause of transforming the World Wide Web in its current form into a semantic World Wide Web, aided by the concepts of Linked Data, it is preferable to also include links to documents belonging to other sites. (Berners-Lee, 2006)

In conclusion, Linked Data plays a crucial role in giving meaning to the Web by enabling the interconnection and integration of diverse data sources. By adhering to the principles of unique URIs, dereferencing, linking, and using standardized formats, Linked Data fosters a more structured and interconnected web of knowledge. Examples such as DBpedia[1], which provides a structured representation of Wikipedia data, and Friend of a Friend (FOAF), which allows for the description of people and their relationships, illustrate how publishing data as Linked Data benefits from enhanced data discoverability, interlinking with other datasets, and enabling novel applications and insights. Local initiatives like Collections of Ghent (CoGhent[2]), which digitizes art collections from cultural houses in Ghent and will be further discussed in Section 2.4, similarly demonstrate the potential of Linked Data for local organizations in contributing to the broader web of knowledge. (Auer et al., 2007) (Golbeck and Rothstein, 2008) (Van de Vyvere et al., 2022)

2.1.2 Resource Description Framework

The idea behind Linked Data is interesting in itself, but does not yet describe exactly how to get started with it. Therefore, this section introduces the Recourse Description Framework (RDF). Developed under the auspices of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), RDF is an infrastructure that allows for the construction of Linked Data datasets and their metadata. Consequently, this not only allows data publishers to lay out their data as Linked Data, but also gives data consumers clear guidance on how the data can be understood. Note here that data consumers can be both individuals and computer applications. (Miller, 1998)

An interesting way to understand RDF is to first make a jump to the English language. Take the sentence below:

---

[1]https://www.dbpedia.org

[2]https://www.collections.gent

The birthplace of Georges Seurat is France.

According to English grammar, the *who* or *what* around which a sentence revolves, is called the subject of the sentence. Therefore, when looking at the sentence above, *Georges Seurat* is its subject. In addition, the part of a sentence that gives more information about the subject, is referred to as the predicate, making *the birthplace* the predicate in the above sentence. Finally, the matching value complementing the predicate and completing the sentence, is also of importance. Logically, in the case of the sentence above, that would be *France*. Together, these three components form the most basic building blocks of a sentence. In fact, no matter their lengths, combined, they will always establish a piece of knowledge, exactly what RDF also seeks to accomplish. (Powers, 2003)

The building blocks of RDF data are basically exactly the same as those of linguistic sentences. After all, they are also three in number and even partly share the same names. Moreover, much like with sentences, combined, they form a single yet very clear piece of knowledge. Unlike the English language, however, they are not referred to as sentences. Rather, they are called triples. (Powers, 2003)

- **Resource**

  Miller (1998) defines a resource as any object that is uniquely identifiable by a URI. This enables it to come in different forms: as a web page, as an entire website or simply as any resource on the Web that conveys information in one way or another. (Candan et al., 2001)

  To make the comparison with the English language again, in a triple, the resource corresponds to the subject in a sentence. Moreover, in practice, the term *subject* is often preferred over *resource*. (Powers, 2003)

- **Property Type**

  A property type, or simply a property, introduces a specific aspect, characteristic, attribute, or relationship of a resource. A property type always expects a value to ultimately define the piece of knowledge represented by a triple. (Candan et al., 2001) (Miller, 1998)

  As for property types, in practice, the corresponding term from the English language, *predicate*, is also frequently used as opposed to the more theoretical *property type*. (Powers, 2003)

- **Value**

  A value resolves the concept or relationship initiated by a property type. In this way, it captures the knowledge conveyed by the triple. Values can be represented as text strings, numbers, or any atomic data. However, they

can also be resources themselves. This characteristic allows triples therefore to be the building blocks of a web of knowledge. (Miller, 1998)

It is evident that a value in a triple corresponds to a value in an English sentence. However, in practice, the term *object* is often preferred. (Powers, 2003)

While triples convey a clear and distinct piece of knowledge, a collection of triples can naturally convey a more comprehensive knowledge. Such a collection of triples, interconnected by values that are themselves resources, is also referred to as an *RDF description*. Figure 2.3 illustrates what such an RDF description might look like. Additionally, it is important to note that each of its components, whether it be a resource, property type, or value, does not necessarily have to be a digital concept. After all, Web assets can perfectly represent real-life concepts. (Miller, 1998) (Candan et al., 2001)
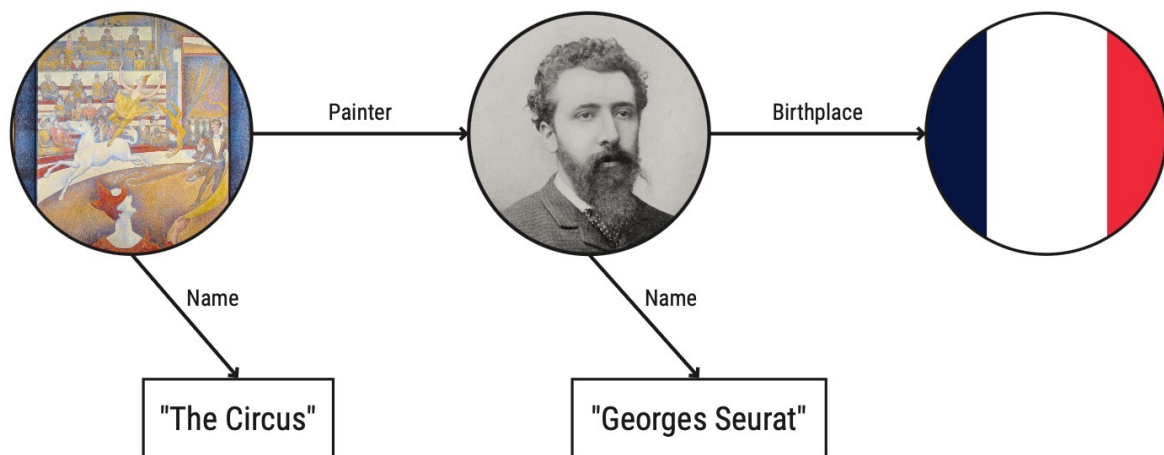
Figure 2.3: Representation of an RDF description

Circles represent resources, arrows represent property types and values are situated at the end of arrows

Clearly, different terms exist to denote the same RDF concepts. For instance, in addition to the synonyms mentioned above, in literature, the term *statement* is sometimes preferred over *triple*. However, in light of uniformity and clarity, throughout the rest of this text, the terms *triple*, *subject*, *predicate* and *object* will be used instead of their counterparts. (Candan et al., 2001)

2.1.3 Resource Description Framework Syntax

What constitutes RDF exactly, should be clear by now, but the question of how to actually write down RDF descriptions, still remains to be answered. Therefore, this section introduces some RDF syntaxes. However, since they are not the focus of this

research, they will not be discussed in detail. Instead, their outlines will be illustrated by presenting the RDF description from Figure 2.3 in the syntax in question. Incidentally, since the schema presented in Figure 2.3 also has clear guidelines on how to be used, in itself, it also qualifies as an RDF syntax, albeit a graphical one. (Miller, 1998)

All the syntaxes to be discussed are instantiations of the RDF Model and Syntax Specification, providing concrete implementations. However, the first syntax stands apart from the rest as it primarily serves as a notation recommendation for humans to express RDF descriptions in a manner that is unambiguous yet simple. Unlike the other syntaxes, this particular one is not intended for machine consumption. Code Fragment 2.1 demonstrates how the RDF description, as schematically depicted in Figure 2.3, can be represented using this human-centric syntax. In this representation, resources are enclosed in straight brackets, while property types are represented by arrows. Furthermore, the representation of values varies depending on their types. As denoted, resources are encapsulated within brackets. However, if the values are atomic in nature, they are simply enclosed in quotation marks. (Miller, 1998)

```
[The Circus] ------name--------> "The Circus"
[The Circus] ------painter-----> [Georges Seurat]
[Georges Seurat] --name--------> "Georges Seurat"
[Georges Seurat] --birthplace--> [France]
```

Code Fragment 2.1: RDF description depicted using a human-centric RDF syntax

The example from Code Fragment 2.1 is easy to read, but at the same time rather confusing. Indeed, certain resource names correspond to certain atomic values. One could of course try to give the resources a more generic name to indicate what exactly the resource in question means. However, that would make little sense given the way the following machine-readable RDF syntaxes refer to resources. After all, they use URIs, allowing for a more clear distinction between resources and atomic values.

- **N-Triples**

  Code Fragment 2.2 depicts the representation of the RDF description using N-Triples. In this syntax, each line corresponds to a triple, wherein the subject, predicate, and object are delimited by spaces or tabs. The triple is terminated by a period and a new line character. (Beckett, 2014)

```
<http://example.org/The_Circus> <http://example.org/name> "The Circus" .
<http://example.org/The_Circus> <http://example.org/painter> <http://example.org/Georges_Seurat> .
<http://example.org/Georges_Seurat> <http://example.org/name> "Georges Seurat" .
<http://example.org/Georges_Seurat> <http://example.org/birthplace> <http://dbpedia.org/resource/France> .
```

Code Fragment 2.2: RDF description depicted using the N-Triples syntax

Furthermore, absolute URIs are employed to denote resources, while atomic values are enclosed within quotation marks. With that in mind, it is important to note that if a value itself contains a quotation mark, it must be properly escaped to ensure correct interpretation. (Beckett, 2014)

- **N3**

  Parsing an RDF description in N-Triples syntax is relatively straightforward for computers, but it can be challenging for humans to comprehend at a glance. The use of absolute URIs in N-Triples can lead to visual clutter and hinder readability. To address this, the N3 syntax builds upon N-Triples by introducing the concept of relative URIs. (Beckett, 2014)

  In N3, it is possible to specify a base URI by including a `@base <URI>` directive at the beginning of the document. When a relative URI is encountered elsewhere in the document, the parser appends it to the specified base URI. This allows for a more concise representation of URIs. (Berners-Lee and Connolly, 2011)

  However, RDF descriptions may contain URIs with different base URIs, making a single base URI insufficient. To overcome this limitation, N3 allows the document to be preceded by one or more `@prefix prefix: <URI>` directives. These directives associate prefixes with URIs, and the parser appends any relative URI preceded by a prefix to the corresponding base URI associated with that prefix. This mechanism enables the use of multiple base URIs within the same document and enhances the flexibility and expressiveness of the N3 syntax. Code Fragment 2.3 illustrates the use of prefixes for the N3 syntax. (Berners-Lee and Connolly, 2011)

```
@prefix ex: <http://example.org/> .
@prefix dbp: <http://dbpedia.org/resource/> .

ex:The_Circus ex:name "The Circus" .
ex:The_Circus ex:painter ex:Georges_Seurat .
ex:Georges_Seurat ex:name "Georges Seurat" .
ex:Georges_Seurat ex:birthplace dbp:France .
```

Code Fragment 2.3: RDF description depicted using the N3 and Turtle syntaxes

- **Turtle**

  The Turtle syntax is very similar to N3. In fact, Turtle is a subset of N3. Specifically, Code Fragment 2.3 can be processed by a Turtle parser just as well. However, while N3 allows for more expressiveness in principle, Turtle keeps things simpler, making it a popular choice for human readability. (Berners-Lee and Connolly, 2011) (Beckett et al., 2014)

Providing an exhaustive list of the precise differences between the two syntaxes would exceed the scope of this text since the intricacies of RDF syntaxes are not the primary focus here.

- **RDF/XML**

  RDF/XML is one of the earliest RDF syntaxes and remains widely used. To introduce this syntax, Code Fragment 2.4 serves as a guide.

```xml
<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
         xmlns:ex="http://example.org/"
         xmlns:dbp="http://dbpedia.org/resource/">
  <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://example.org/The_Circus">
    <ex:name>The Circus</ex:name>
    <ex:painter rdf:resource="http://example.org/Georges_Seurat"/>
  </rdf:Description>
  <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://example.org/Georges_Seurat">
    <ex:name>Georges Seurat</ex:name>
    <ex:birthplace rdf:resource="http://dbpedia.org/resource/France"/>
  </rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
```

Code Fragment 2.4: RDF description depicted using the RDF/XML syntax

The RDF description in RDF/XML is enclosed within `rdf:RDF` elements, where necessary prefixes can also be defined. While an XML declaration like `<?xml version="1.0"?>` can precede the RDF/XML document, it is optional and omitted in Code Fragment 2.4 to focus primarily on the basics of RDF syntaxes. (Gandon et al., 2014)

Upon encountering the `rdf:RDF` tag, a parser recognizes that it should process an RDF description. In RDF/XML, such an RDF description is constructed using one or more `rdf:Description` elements. In fact, each `rdf:Description` element represents a subject, and its optional `rdf:about` attribute denotes the subject's URI. Consequently, the triples associated with the subject are enclosed within the corresponding `rdf:Description` tags. Predicates on the one hand, whether represented using a prefix or not, have their own elements. The representation of subjects, on the other hand, depends on their nature: for atomic values, they can simply be placed between opening and closing subject tags, while for resource subjects, their URIs are included as the value of an `rdf:resource` attribute within the subject tag. (Gandon et al., 2014)

Once again, it is important to note that the Code Fragments used in this section provide only an introductory glimpse of the proposed syntaxes. They cover only a small portion of the potential scope of a syntax. Code Fragment 2.4, in particular, demonstrates that RDF/XML syntax can obscure simplicity, especially when dealing with more extensive RDF descriptions. Consequently, RDF/XML is not commonly used for human-readable purposes but rather as a syntax primarily intended for machine consumption. (Dongo and Chbeir, 2019)

- **JSON-LD**

  The final RDF syntax introduced is called JSON-LD. Similar to RDF/XML, JSON-LD builds upon an existing syntax for representing data on the web. However, JSON-LD representations are generally more human-readable. As most resources and examples in the following text will be presented in JSON-LD, a slightly more comprehensive overview of this syntax is provided compared to the previous ones. Nevertheless, what follows is not an exhaustive listing of all the intricacies of the syntax. Instead, it aims to offer readers a concise introduction to JSON-LD without prior knowledge, making the rest of the text more easily comprehensible. For those seeking more in-depth information about JSON-LD, it is recommended to consult other sources[3].

It is evident that the same data can be represented in various ways, and this applies to RDF data as well. While the visual representation of an RDF description, as depicted in Figure 2.3, is relatively straightforward, converting it into a fully textual format poses certain choices to be made. After all, there are numerous possibilities regarding the exact data representation. In the introduction of previous syntaxes, a specific representation was chosen each time. However, in this section, three different approaches for representing the same set of data using the JSON-LD syntax are presented.

To start off, Code Fragment 2.5 closely resembles the previous examples, using nesting to store all the data in a single JSON-LD document. However, some may question whether it is appropriate to make the `George_Seurat` resource a child of `The_Circus` resource, implying a hierarchical relationship that may not be relevant.

Subsequently, in Code Fragment 2.6, the data is split into two JSON-LD documents. Utilizing URIs, the documents can still refer to each other uniquely, without suggesting any hierarchical relationship between the resources.

Finally, Code Fragment 2.7 takes a distinct approach by using the `@graph` property. This allows listing the necessary resources in a JSON array, placing them on equal footing within a single document. However, this method introduces extra clutter and overhead compared to the previous approaches. (Sporny et al., 2020)

---

[3]The W3C JSON-LD 1.1 Recommendation provides very in-depth information about the JSON-LD syntax.

```
{
  "@context": {
    "ex": "http://example.org/",
    "dbp": "http://dbpedia.org/resource/"
  },
  "@id": "ex:The_Circus",
  "ex:name": "The Circus",
  "ex:painter": {
    "@id": "ex:Georges_Seurat",
    "ex:name": "Georges Seurat",
    "ex:birthplace": "dbp:France"
  }
}
```

Code Fragment 2.5: RDF description with nested objects depicted using the JSON-LD syntax

```
Document 1:
{
  "@context": {
    "ex": "http://example.org/"
  },
  "@id": "ex:The_Circus",
  "ex:name": "The Circus",
  "ex:painter": "ex:Georges_Seurat"
}


Document 2:
{
  "@context": {
    "ex": "http://example.org/",
    "dbp": "http://dbpedia.org/resource/"
  },
  "@id": "ex:Georges_Seurat",
  "ex:name": "Georges Seurat",
  "ex:birthplace": "dbp:France"
}
```

Code Fragment 2.6: RDF description spread over two documents depicted using the JSON-LD syntax

Ultimately, the choice of representation depends on the specific use case and the desired balance between simplicity and expressiveness. Each approach has its advantages and trade-offs, showcasing the flexibility of the JSON-LD syntax in accommodating different data representation needs.

```json
{
  "@context": {
    "ex": "http://example.org/",
    "dbp": "http://dbpedia.org/resource/"
  },
  "@graph": [
    {
      "@id": "ex:The_Circus",
      "ex:name": "The Circus",
      "ex:painter": {
        "@id": "ex:Georges_Seurat"
      }
    },
    {
      "@id": "ex:Georges_Seurat",
      "ex:name": "Georges Seurat",
      "ex:birthplace": {
        "@id": "dbp:France"
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

Code Fragment 2.7: RDF description as a graph depicted using the JSON-LD syntax

Understanding Code Fragments 2.5, 2.6, and 2.7 becomes relatively straightforward after having discussed the previous syntaxes. However, two aspects deserve further attention: the use of `@id` and `@context` keywords in JSON-LD.

Firstly, the `@id` keywords uniquely identify the proposed resources using URIs. Indeed, in the given examples, the id's do exactly that. (Sporny et al., 2020)

Secondly, the `@context` keyword plays a crucial role in JSON-LD. It introduces specifics that can be taken for granted in the actual data, reducing the need for repetitive information and cleaning up the actual JSON. While Code Frag-

ments 2.5, 2.6, and 2.7 use the context in a straightforward way by introducing prefixes, in practice, it can do more than that. Essentially, the context maps terms to URIs. These terms can be freely chosen to enhance human readability. (Sporny et al., 2020)

W3C's JSON-LD Recommendation[4] offers a valuable example of how the context is typically used, as illustrated in Code Fragment 2.8. The provided context clearly indicates that when the key `name` appears in the data, it refers to `http://schema.org/name`. Similarly, for `image` and `homepage`, their respective values are *expanded* into objects that hold additional information. The `@type` keyword is also used in the example to indicate the type of the final value. In Code Fragment 2.8, it shows that the `image` and `homepage` keys are followed by an `@id`, representing unique resources. Moreover, JSON-LD supports various other types, and custom types can be defined to suit specific requirements. (Sporny et al., 2020)

```
{
  "@context": {
    "name": "http://schema.org/name",
    "image": {
      "@id": "http://schema.org/image",
      "@type": "@id"
    },
    "homepage": {
      "@id": "http://schema.org/url",
      "@type": "@id"
    }
  },
  "name": "Manu Sporny",
  "homepage": "http://manu.sporny.org/",
  "image": "http://manu.sporny.org/images/manu.png"
}
```

Code Fragment 2.8: Example of context use in JSON-LD, proposed by Sporny et al. (2020)

To further enhance the cleanliness of a JSON-LD document, one can opt to store the context as a separate resource rather than embedding it directly in the document. Using this approach, the JSON-LD document includes the URI that references the context as the value for the `@context` key. Storing the context separately allows for greater modularity and reusability, making it easier to manage and maintain complex JSON-LD documents. The use of separate

---

[4]https://www.w3.org/TR/json-ld11/

contexts can significantly improve the organization and readability of JSON-LD data, enhancing its compatibility with RDF and Linked Data principles. (Sporny et al., 2020)

To finish off this section on JSON-LD, it is interesting to note that when the JSON-LD document presented in Code Fragment 2.8 is *expanded*, the data takes on its typical RDF form, adhering fully to the Linked Data principles. This expansion, as shown in Code Fragment 2.9, reveals the underlying structure of the data and its connection to other resources. (Sporny et al., 2020)

```
[{
  "http://schema.org/name": [{"@value": "Manu Sporny"}],
  "http://schema.org/url": [{ "@id": "http://manu.sporny.org/" }],
  "http://schema.org/image": [{ "@id": "http://manu.sporny.org/images/manu.png" }]
}]
```

Code Fragment 2.9: Example of an expanded JSON-LD document, proposed by Sporny et al. (2020)

In summary, the `@id` and `@context` keywords in JSON-LD contribute to the readability, expressiveness, and flexibility of representing RDF data, enabling a more human-friendly approach to data serialization.

Before concluding this section on RDF syntaxes, it is crucial to reiterate that the explanations provided are not exhaustive. Only a surface-level overview of these syntaxes was covered, and there is much more to explore and learn about them. This section serves as a reference for those with limited or no prior knowledge of RDF syntaxes, aiming to facilitate their understanding of the remaining text. In the following sections, several RDF examples will be presented, with the majority of them using the JSON-LD syntax. However, there will be no further elaboration on new elements that are specific to each syntax unless they are essential for a clear understanding of the text. For readers seeking a more in-depth understanding of the syntaxes, additional resources are recommended to further explore their intricacies and capabilities.

2.1.4 SPARQL

TODO

2.2 Link-Traversal-based Query Processing

TODO

2.3 Comunica

TODO

2.4 Collections of Ghent

TODO

2.4.1 Example Queries

TODO

```sparql
PREFIX cidoc:<http://www.cidoc-crm.org/cidoc-crm/>
PREFIX adms:<http://www.w3.org/ns/adms#>
PREFIX skos:<http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#>
PREFIX la:<https://linked.art/ns/terms/>
SELECT ?title ?note ?image ?objectname ?objectnumber ?associatie
       ?creator ?plaats ?timespan ?techniek ?materiaal
WHERE {
    # Title
    ?o cidoc:P102_has_title ?title.
    # Description
    ?o cidoc:P3_has_note ?note.
    # Image
    ?o cidoc:P129i_is_subject_of ?image.
    # Objectname
    ?o cidoc:P41i_was_classified_by ?classified.
    ?classified cidoc:P42_assigned ?assigned.
    ?assigned skos:prefLabel ?objectname.
    # Association
    ?o cidoc:P128_carries ?carries.
    ?carries cidoc:P129_is_about ?about.
    ?about cidoc:P2_has_type ?type.
    ?type skos:prefLabel ?associatie.
    # Objectnumber
    ?o adms:identifier ?identifier.
    ?identifier skos:notation ?objectnumber.
    # Creator
    ?o cidoc:P108i_was_produced_by ?production.
    ?production cidoc:P14_carried_out_by ?producer.
    ?producer la:equivalent ?equivalent.
    ?equivalent rdfs:label ?creator.
    # Place
    ?o cidoc:P108i_was_produced_by ?produced.
    ?produced cidoc:P7_took_place_at ?tookplace.
    ?tookplace la:equivalent ?plaatsequivalent.
    ?plaatsequivalent skos:prefLabel ?plaats.
    # Date
    ?o cidoc:P108i_was_produced_by ?produced.
    ?produced cidoc:P4_has_time-span ?timespan.
    # Technique
    ?o cidoc:P108i_was_produced_by ?produced.
    ?produced cidoc:P32_used_general_technique ?technique.
    ?technique cidoc:P2_has_type ?hastype.
```

3

CoGhent Data and Link Traversal

The primary focus of this research is the development of tools for constructing queries that target specific properties of CoGhent Human-Made Objects. These queries can either be confined to data within the CoGhent LDESs or extend beyond them by employing Link Traversal to follow links and traverse the corresponding documents. This approach facilitates the acquisition of new insights into the CoGhent data by not only enhancing the understanding of specific Human-Made Objects but also enabling their comparison in novel ways.

In the subsequent sections of this research, Comunica's link traversal capabilities will be utilized, as its modularity allows for the creation of link traversal engines tailored to the structure of the CoGhent data and the specific needs of this research. However, it is important to note that link traversal, despite its potential, remains an active area of research and can be configured in various ways.

This chapter therefore aims to explore the use of link traversal for discovering properties of Human-Made Objects, starting from the CoGhent LDESs. The chapter begins by providing an overview of the available data sources that can serve as starting points for the link traversal process. It then delves into the development of a link traversal engine optimized for the objectives outlined above. Finally, the chapter examines the most pertinent and intriguing types of resources to which the

CoGhent Human-Made Objects link. These resources will be crucial for achieving the goal of broadening the knowledge of the CoGhent data.

3.1 CoGhent Data Sources

CoGhent provides a set of LDESs for each participating institution. These LDESs are accessible through specific endpoints, as listed in Table 3.1

Table 3.1: CoGhent LDES endpoints as published by CoGhent (2022)

Publishing organisation	Endpoint URI
Design Museum Gent (DMG)	https://apidg.gent.be/opendata/adlib2eventstream/v1/dmg/objecten
Huis van Alijn (HVA)	https://apidg.gent.be/opendata/adlib2eventstream/v1/hva/objecten
Industriemuseum	https://apidg.gent.be/opendata/adlib2eventstream/v1/industriemuseum/objecten
STAM	https://apidg.gent.be/opendata/adlib2eventstream/v1/stam/objecten
Archief Gent	https://apidg.gent.be/opendata/adlib2eventstream/v1/archiefgent/objecten

3.1.1 URI Redirection

When accessing any of the URIs listed in Table 3.1, it is resolved to the same URI but with an additional query parameter `generatedAtTime`. For example, accessing the LDES from Industriemuseum results in the original URI being extended with `?generatedAtTime=2023-08-17T00:07:32.016Z`[1].

This behavior is confirmed by running the following command:

```
curl -i "https://apidg.gent.be/opendata/adlib2eventstream/v1/industriemuseum/objecten"
```

This returns an HTTP `302 Found` response code and a `Location` header with the extended URI, indicating a redirect to that link. Eventually, when a client (e.g. a browser or Comunica) sends a `GET` request to the updated link, the server returns the last (most recent) page of the requested LDES in JSON-LD format. (MDN Web Docs, 2023)

---

[1]Since the query parameter's value is time-dependent, this specific value serves only as an example of how it is structured.

3.1.2 Non-deterministic results

When configuring a query engine, any or multiple of the CoGhent endpoints can be chosen as data sources, depending on the specific data of interest. Naturally, due to the nature of LDESs, the same query should never be assumed to yield the same results across multiple executions. However, even when running the same query multiple times in a row with the certainty that the LDES hasn't updated yet, the results will still differ in terms of content and order. This variability is attributed to the nature of LTQP and Comunica's implementation of it. After all, results are influenced by the order in which links are pushed to the link queue, which in turn is influenced by the time it takes for the corresponding HTTP requests to get resolved.

This phenomenon is demonstrated by running the query displayed in Code Fragment 3.1[2] twice, using Design Museum Gent's LDES as data source. Tables 3.2 and 3.3 show, for both executions respectively, each result's IIIF Manifest URI, as well as the order in which the results were returned. Comparing both outputs clearly proves the results from the two executions differ in both content and order.

```
PREFIX iiif: <http://iiif.io/api/presentation/2#>
PREFIX cidoc:<http://www.cidoc-crm.org/cidoc-crm/>
PREFIX rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
PREFIX w3-exif: <http://www.w3.org/2003/12/exif/ns#>
PREFIX w3-oa: <http://www.w3.org/ns/oa#>
SELECT ?manifest ?height ?image
WHERE {
  # Manifest URI
  ?human_made_object cidoc:P129i_is_subject_of ?manifest.
  # Image height
  ?manifest iiif:hasSequences/rdf:first/iiif:hasCanvases/rdf:first/w3-exif:height ?height.
  # Image URI
  ?canvas iiif:hasImageAnnotations/rdf:first/w3-oa:hasBody ?image.
}
LIMIT 10
```

Code Fragment 3.1: SPARQL query fetching ten Human-Made Object's IIIF Manifest URIs, image heights and image file URIs

For similar reasons, the order in which CoGhent endpoint URIs are given to the engine as data sources does not necessarily imply that one endpoint's data has priority over the other. This is illustrated by running the same query (see Code Fragment 3.1) with the Design Museum Gent LDES first and the Huis Van Alijn LDES second, and then reversing the order. The

---

[2]The query's specifics are discussed in Section 3.3.1.

Table 3.2: (Part of) results after **first** execution of query displayed in Code Fragment 3.1

	IIIF Manifest URI
1	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:3086_3-5
2	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:1992-0068
3	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:3130
4	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:1990-0051_0-5
5	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:3054
6	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:3124
7	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2018-0284
8	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2018-0296
9	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2018-0305
10	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2018-0281_21-21

Table 3.3: (Part of) results after **second** execution of query displayed in Code Fragment 3.1

	IIIF Manifest URI
1	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:3075
2	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2018-0305
3	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:3054
4	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:1563
5	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:1987-0447
6	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:1987-1127_1-2
7	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2018-0271
8	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2018-0284
9	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2018-0296
10	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/dmg:2990_0-4

results from both executions, as shown in Tables 3.4 and 3.5 respectively, once again show variations in content and order, yet most importantly don't seem to show any notable correlation to the order in which the endpoints were given to the engine.

Table 3.4: (Part of) results after execution of query displayed in Code Fragment 3.1 with Design Museum Gent (**DMG**) LDES endpoint as **first** data source and Huis Van Alijn (**HVA**) LDES endpoint as **second** data source

	IIIF Manifest URI
1	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2014-031-015
2	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2015-024-001
3	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**dmg**:3223
4	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**dmg**:3086_3-5
5	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**dmg**:1563
6	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2014-031-001
7	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**dmg**:1987-1127_2-2
8	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2014-031-002
9	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**dmg**:1987-0447
10	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2014-031-003

3.1.3 Duplicate Human-Made Objects

It is also important to note that, since updates to an LDES object are performed by adding a new version of the object to the LDES, it is possible to receive multiple results for the same Human-Made Object. As discussed in Section 2.4.1, a potential workaround would be to use a combination of `distinct` and `order by` clauses in the query itself, to only retrieve the newest versions. However, since ordering can only occur when all results are in, this approach prevents them from appearing in a *streaming* manner. A more efficient solution, therefore, is to let the application that initiated the query, keep track of Human-Made Object URIs while the results are coming in. That way, when the application encounters duplicate Human-Made Objects, it can decide to only retain the latest version's results. Since implementing such a solution is considered trivial, the issue will not be discussed further in this research.

Table 3.5: (Part of) results after execution of query displayed in Code Fragment 3.1 with Huis Van Alijn (**HVA**) LDES endpoint as **first** data source and Design Museum Gent (**DMG**) LDES endpoint as **second** datasource

	IIIF Manifest URI
1	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2014-031-002
2	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2014-031-001
3	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2014-031-003
4	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2009-018-568
5	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2009-018-568
6	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2015-024-004
7	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**dmg**:2018-0261
8	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**dmg**:2990_4-4
9	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**dmg**:2018-0260
10	https://api.collectie.gent/iiif/presentation/v2/manifest/**hva**:2015-024-001

3.1.4 Conclusion

In conclusion, the CoGhent LDES endpoints work perfectly well to initiate the Link Traversal-based Querying process from. Each institution having a separate LDES is an added bonus, as this gives users the flexibility to choose which institutions' data to query. However, it is essential to be aware that the results and order of results are not predictable due to the nature of LDESs as well as Comunica's LTQP implementation. Additionally, Human-Made Objects are spread over multiple pages in the LDES, which needs to be taken into consideration when building the Comunica link traversal engine configuration.

3.2 Comunica Link Traversal Engine Configuration

TODO

3.3 Links to Follow

TODO

3.3.1 IIIF Manifest

TODO

3.3.2 Wikidata

TODO

3.3.3 Stad Gent

TODO

3.3.4 Getty Vocabularies

TODO

4

Tools for Query Building

TODO

4.1 Building Queries from Predicate Sequences

TODO (see LateX comments for notes)

```
objectname: [
    '?o cidoc:P41i_was_classified_by ?classified.',
    '?classified cidoc:P42_assigned ?assigned.',
    '?assigned skos:prefLabel ?objectname.',
]
```

Code Fragment 4.1: WHERE clause statements to query for *objectname* stored as elements in array

```
PREFIX cidoc:<http://www.cidoc-crm.org/cidoc-crm/>
PREFIX adms:<http://www.w3.org/ns/adms#>
PREFIX skos:<http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#>
PREFIX la:<https://linked.art/ns/terms/>
```

Code Fragment 4.2: All possible PREFIX statements of original CoGhent Query Builder

```
objectname: [
    { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P41i_was_classified_by' },
    { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P42_assigned' },
    { prefix: 'skos', predicate: 'prefLabel' },
]
```

Code Fragment 4.3: Prefixes and predicates for WHERE clause statements to query for *objectname* stored as elements in array

```
# Objectname
?o cidoc:P41i_was_classified_by ?s1.
?s1 cidoc:P42_assigned ?s2.
?s2 skos:prefLabel ?s3.
```

Code Fragment 4.4: WHERE clause statements with object variable names constructed using numbers

```
# Objectname
?o
    cidoc:P41i_was_classified_by
        ?o_cidoc_P41i_was_classified_by.
?o_cidoc_P41i_was_classified_by
    cidoc:P42_assigned
        ?o_cidoc_P41i_was_classified_by_cidoc_P42_assigned.
?o_cidoc_P41i_was_classified_by_cidoc_P42_assigned
    skos:prefLabel
        ?o_cidoc_P41i_was_classified_by_cidoc_P42_assigned_skos_prefLabel.
```

Code Fragment 4.5: WHERE clause statements with object variable names constructed from preceding statements

```
# Place
?o cidoc:P108i_was_produced_by ?produced.
?produced cidoc:P7_took_place_at ?tookplace.
?tookplace la:equivalent ?plaatsequivalent.
?plaatsequivalent skos:prefLabel ?plaats.
# Date
?produced cidoc:P4_has_time-span ?timespan.
```

Code Fragment 4.6: WHERE clause statements without overlapping statements

```
# Place
?o cidoc:P108i_was_produced_by ?produced.
?produced cidoc:P7_took_place_at ?tookplace.
?tookplace la:equivalent ?plaatsequivalent.
?plaatsequivalent skos:prefLabel ?plaats.
# Date
?o cidoc:P108i_was_produced_by ?produced.
?produced cidoc:P4_has_time-span ?timespan.
```

Code Fragment 4.7: WHERE clause statements with overlapping statements

```javascript
const properties = {
    title: [
        { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P102_has_title' }
    ],
    description: [
        { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P3_has_note', object_variable_name: 'note' },
    ],
    objectname: [
        { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P41i_was_classified_by' },
        { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P42_assigned' },
        { prefix: 'skos', predicate: 'prefLabel' },
    ],
    association: [
        { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P128_carries' },
        { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P129_is_about', object_variable_name: 'about' },
        { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P2_has_type' },
        { prefix: 'skos', predicate: 'prefLabel' },
    ],
};


const prefixes = {
    cidoc: 'http://www.cidoc-crm.org/cidoc-crm/',
    skos: 'http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#',
};
```

Code Fragment 4.8: Properties and prefixes ready to be consumed by query building function

```
PREFIX cidoc:<http://www.cidoc-crm.org/cidoc-crm/>
PREFIX skos:<http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#>


SELECT ?title ?note ?objectname ?association


WHERE {
    # title
    ?human_made_object cidoc:P102_has_title ?title.


    # description
    ?human_made_object cidoc:P3_has_note ?note.


    # objectname
    ?human_made_object
        cidoc:P41i_was_classified_by/cidoc:P42_assigned/skos:prefLabel
            ?objectname.


    # association
    ?human_made_object cidoc:P128_carries/cidoc:P129_is_about ?about.
    ?about cidoc:P2_has_type/skos:prefLabel ?association.
}
```

Code Fragment 4.9: SPARQL query generated from input displayed in Code Fragment 4.8

```
const properties = {
    title: {
        statements: [
            { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P102_has_title' }
        ],
    },
    description: {
        statements: [
            { prefix: 'cidoc', predicate: 'P3_has_note', object_variable_name: 'note' },
        ],
        filters: { string: 'luchter', language: 'nl' },
        optional: true,
    },
};
```

Code Fragment 4.10: Example of properties dictionary to illustrate use of filters and optionals

```
PREFIX cidoc:<http://www.cidoc-crm.org/cidoc-crm/>

SELECT ?title ?note

WHERE {
    # title
    ?human_made_object cidoc:P102_has_title ?title.

    # description
    OPTIONAL {
        ?human_made_object cidoc:P3_has_note ?note.

        FILTER(REGEX(?note, "luchter", "i"))
        FILTER(LANG(?note) = "nl")
    }
}
```

Code Fragment 4.11: SPARQL query generated from input displayed in Code Fragment 4.10

4.2   A New Query Builder

TODO

4.3   Discovering Predicate Sequences

TODO

5

Handling Query Results

TODO

5.1 Visualizing Query Results

TODO

5.2 Saving Query Results

TODO

Conclusion

TODO

Ethical and social reflection

TODO

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Appendices

Appendix A

TODO

Appendix B

TODO