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Aim

The aim of this course work is to define a plausible ontology by implementing Semantic web principles learnt and to populate the ontology with data from two sets of external data source and to create SPARQL query demonstrate the correctness of the ontology and the data loaded into the ontology.

Ontology

The project is all about defining an Ontology for Companies. Once the ontology is created, data from external source like DBpedia will be loaded. To demonstrate the correctness of the ontology, the ontology can be queried using SPARQL queries.

Creating the Ontology

First the data source needs to be identified. The source should essentially provide SPARQL endpoint to fetch the data and load it into the ontology. The data and its properties should be studied properly so a meaningful ontology can be created.

Once the properties are analyzed, the ontology needs to be structured so it can be a source of cohesive and wholistic data about the subject. Significant research is required to model the ontology to establish the purpose. To create the ontology, I have used Protégé tool which is one of the most popular tools available to create ontologies.

Otology Structure

The three main structural units of the ontology are as follows

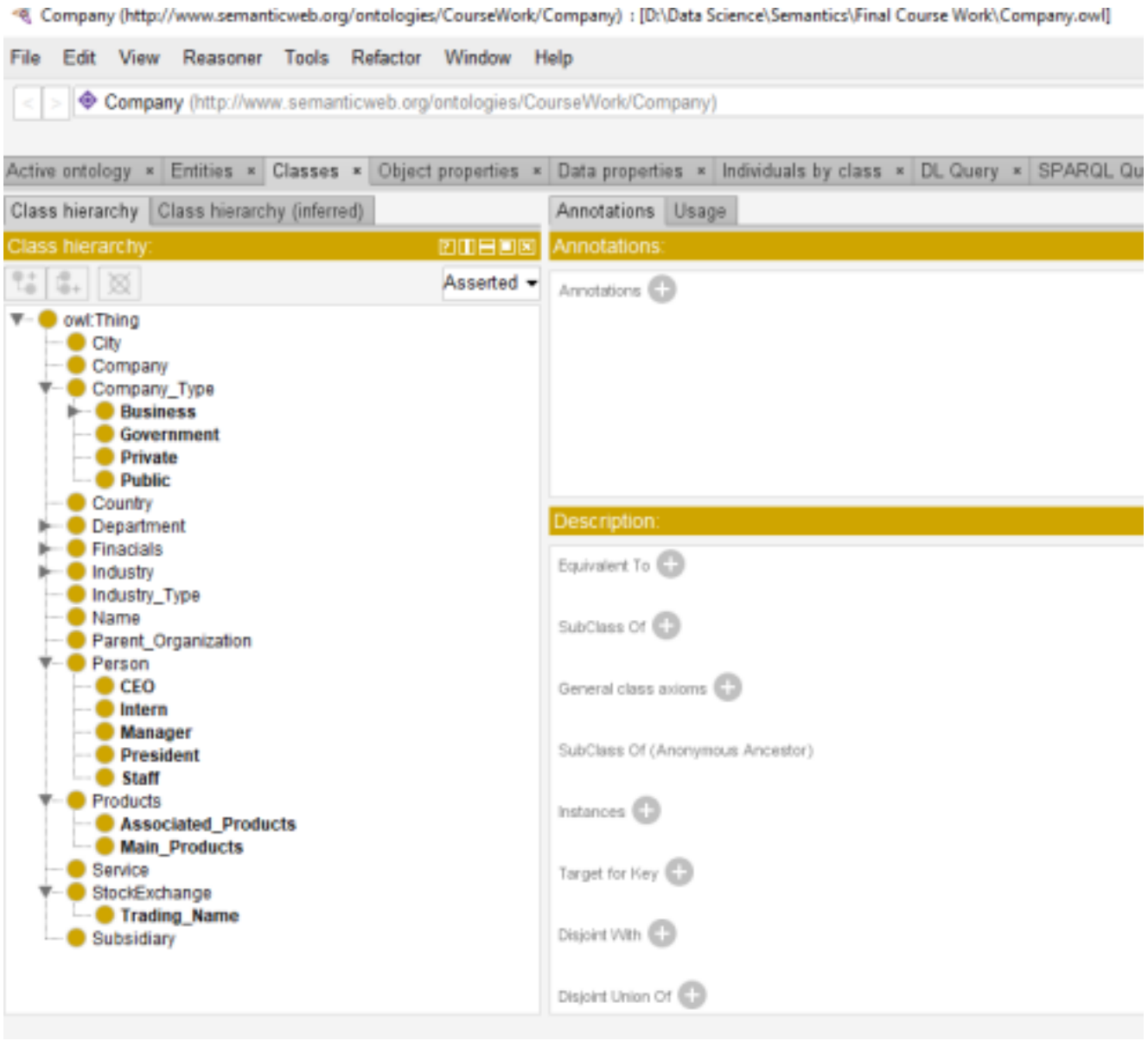
1. Class Hierarchy
2. Object Properties
3. Data Properties

Let us analyze them in detail

- **Class hierarchy**

The success of the ontology lies in identifying the classes and to create object and data properties to connect the classes. Classes needs to be structed so the subject is represented properly and are well connected through object and data properties.

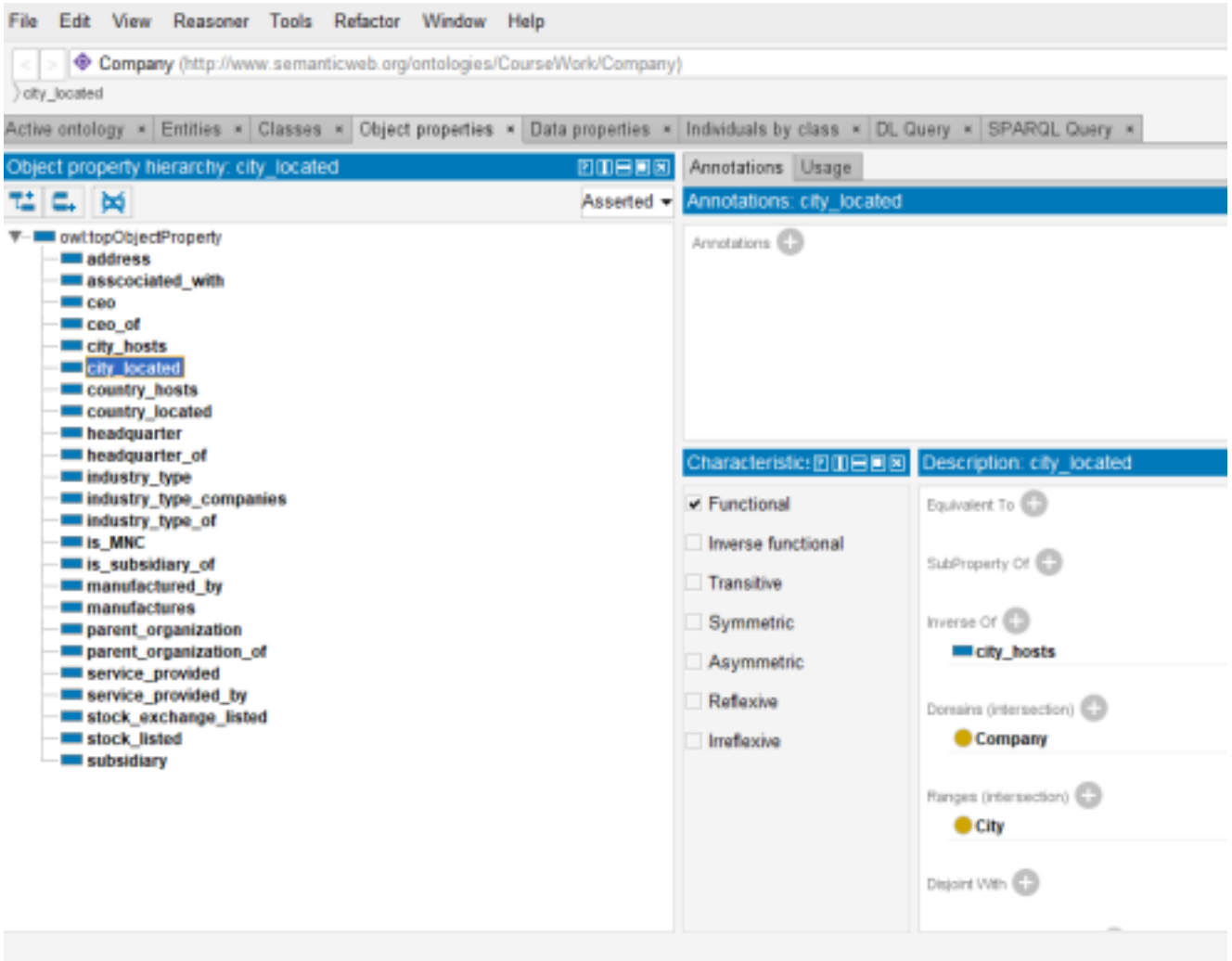
It was quite challenging for me to decide and structure the classes. To overcome this, I studied extensively the data and its properties available in the data source using SPARQL. I have created 15 top level classes and 22 sub-classes. The below picture (Picture1) depicts the class hierarchy of the ontology.



Picture 1 – Class hierarchy

- **Object properties**

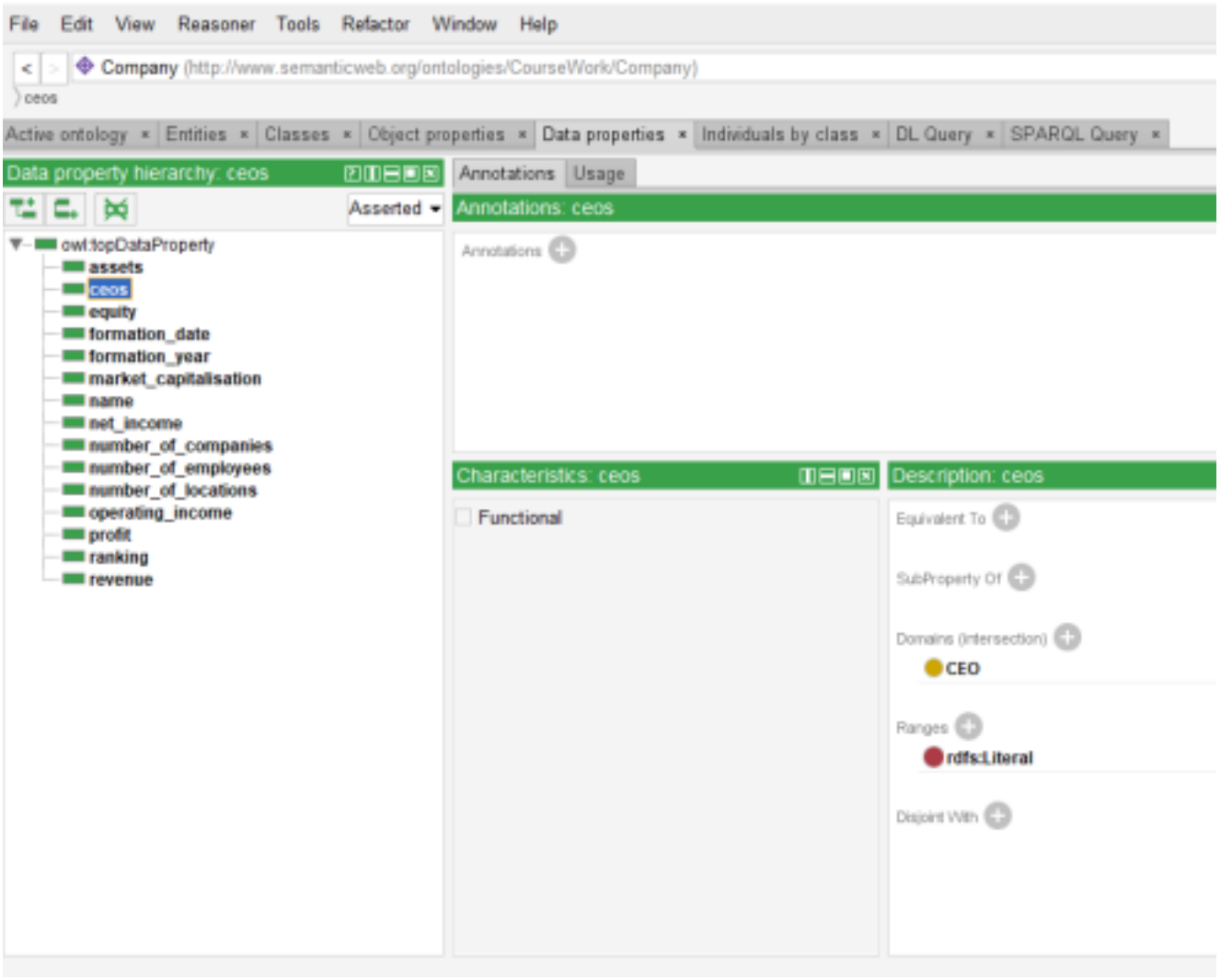
Object properties are essential to relate different classes by linking them. For instance I have created object properies like ceo, city_located, county_located, headquarter, industry_type, manufactures, subsidiary, and reverse functional properties like city_hosts, county_hosts, manufactured_by, is_subsidiary_of etc. Picture depicts the object properties of the onltology.



Picture 2 – Object properties

- **Data properties**

Data properties are defined to hold the values for properties like profit, revenue, number of employees, net income, assets etc. Picture 3 illustrates the Data properties of the ontology.



Picture 3 – Data properties

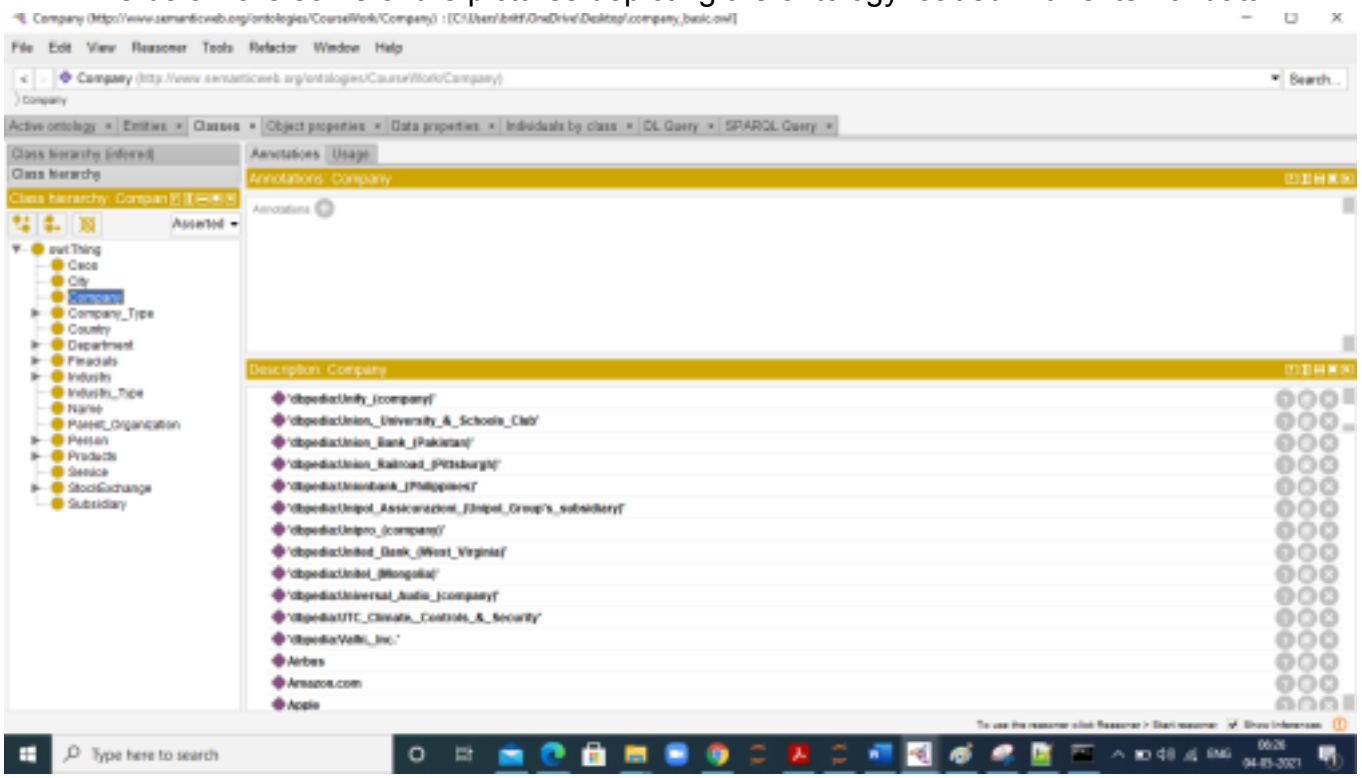
Data population into Ontology

Now that we have created the ontology, we need to populate the ontology with data. First to check the correctness of the ontology I manually input data for 25 Fortune 500 companies. I collected the data for the companies from various sources including Wikipedia.

Once the manual population is completed, I tested the correctness of the ontology by executing a few queries in SPARQL tab and I was convinced that the ontology is properly constructed and data are represented in a wholistic manner.

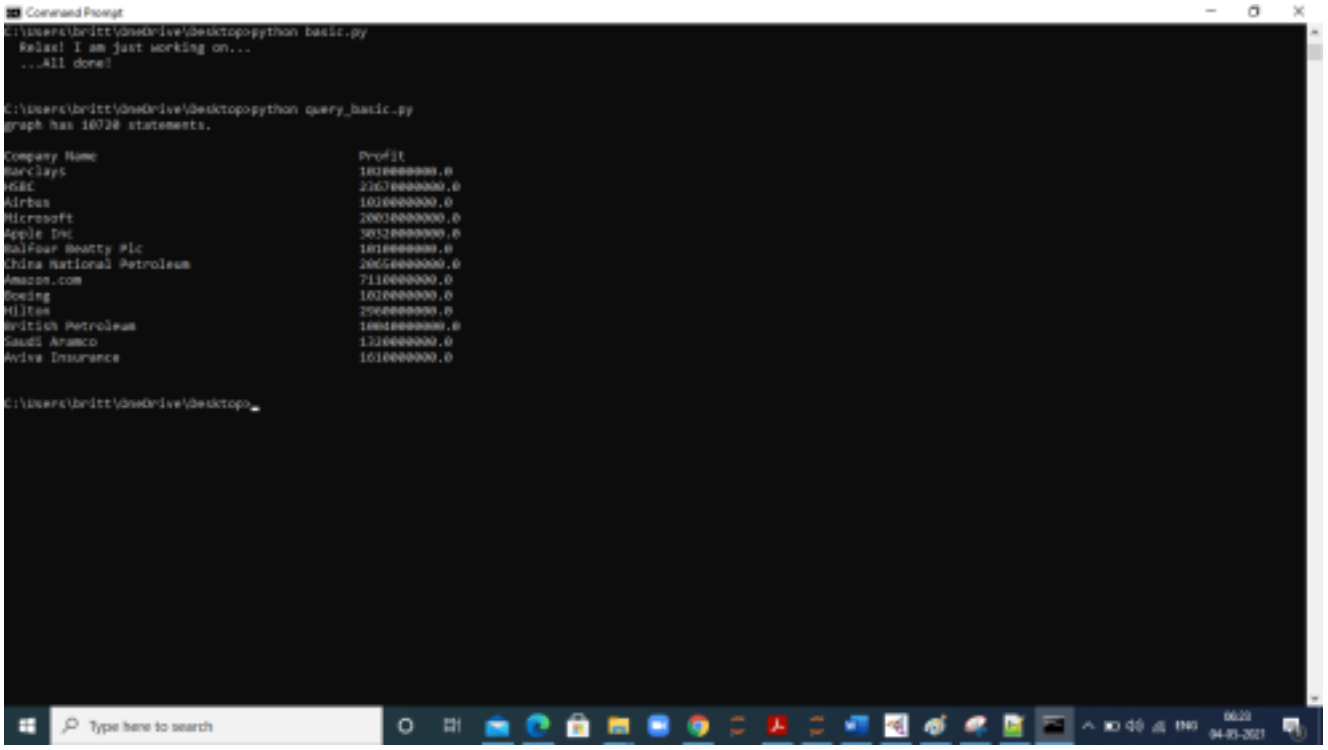
Once the correctness is verified, I loaded the data from DBpedia. For this I constructed SPARQL query and embedded it in a python script and executed. I faced a few of challenges like a data for a few classes did not load. I overcame by analyzing the data and object structure and making suitable correction in object hierarchy, adding few more classes to hold the data and checking the correctness of the characteristics of the object.

The below are some of the pictures depicting the ontology loaded with external data.



Querying the Ontology populated from DBpedia

Now that data from DBpedia is loaded into the ontology. I used a simple query to fetch the name and profit of all the companies in the ontology. The query was executed using Python script. The below is the snapshot of the query result.



SWRL Rule

The below SWRL rule has been set up and tested in Company ontology. The result output is as shown below.

List of Files

1. CompanyOntology.pdf – Project report

2. Company.owl – Ontology file
3. basic.py – Python script to load data from DBpedia
4. query_basic.py – Python script to execute basic query

Instructions to run the code

To load the ontology in Protégé, please select Company.owl file through Open file option.

Execute basic.py in command prompt to populate the ontology DBpedia data

Execute query_basic.py to test the ontolog

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