

Hands-On Lab: Convert CSV + JSON Data into RDF Triples and Query with SPARQL

This lab will teach you how to:

1. Convert **CSV** and **JSON** data into **RDF triples**
 2. Load that RDF into a **triple store** (we'll use **Apache Jena Fuseki**)
 3. Query it using **SPARQL** to validate and explore your knowledge graph
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PART 1: Convert CSV to RDF Using OpenRefine

Step 1: Install OpenRefine with RDF Plugin

1. Download OpenRefine: <https://openrefine.org/download.html>
 2. Download RDF plugin: <https://github.com/stkenny/grefine-rdf-extension>
 3. Install the RDF plugin:
 - o Unzip the plugin
 - o Copy the folder into OpenRefine/extensions
 - o Restart OpenRefine
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Step 2: Prepare CSV File

Create a file named products.csv :

```
id,name,category,price
P001,Laptop,Electronics,1200
P002,Chair,Furniture,200
P003,Smartphone,Electronics,800
```

Step 3: Load CSV in OpenRefine

1. Open OpenRefine in your browser (typically runs at <http://127.0.0.1:3333>)
 2. Click “**Create Project**” → **Upload products.csv** → **Next** → **Create Project**
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Step 4: Create RDF Mapping

1. Click **RDF** in top-right → Configure RDF Mapping
2. Set base namespace: <http://example.org/products#>

Now define mappings:

- Row node: `http://example.org/products#{{cells["id"].value}}`
 - Add **rdf:type**: `ex:Product`
 - Add properties:
 - `ex:name` → value from `name`
 - `ex:category` → value from `category`
 - `ex:price` → value from `price` (add datatype: `xsd:decimal`)
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Step 5: Export as RDF (Turtle)

1. Click **RDF → Export RDF as Turtle**
 2. Save as `products.ttl`
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PART 2: Convert JSON to RDF Using Python + RDFLib

Step 1: Install RDFLib

```
pip install rdflib
```

Step 2: Sample JSON File

Create `employees.json`:

```
[  
  {  
    "id": "E001",  
    "name": "Alice",  
    "role": "Engineer",  
    "department": "R&D"  
  },  
  {  
    "id": "E002",  
    "name": "Bob",  
    "role": "Manager",  
    "department": "HR"  
  }]
```

Step 3: Python Script to Convert to RDF

```
from rdflib import Graph, Literal, RDF, Namespace, URIRef  
import json
```

```

g = Graph()
EX = Namespace("http://example.org/employees#")

g.bind("ex", EX)

with open("employees.json") as f:
    data = json.load(f)

for item in data:
    emp_uri = URIRef(EX + item["id"])
    g.add((emp_uri, RDF.type, EX.Employee))
    g.add((emp_uri, EX.name, Literal(item["name"])))
    g.add((emp_uri, EX.role, Literal(item["role"])))
    g.add((emp_uri, EX.department, Literal(item["department"])))

g.serialize("employees.ttl", format="turtle")

```

PART 3: Load RDF Triples into Apache Jena Fuseki

Step 1: Download and Launch Fuseki

1. Download Apache Jena Fuseki: <https://jena.apache.org/download/index.cgi>
2. Extract folder and run from terminal:

```
cd apache-jena-fuseki-*/fuseki
./fuseki-server
```

By default, Fuseki runs at `http://localhost:3030`

Step 2: Create a Dataset

1. Visit `http://localhost:3030`
 2. Click “**Manage datasets**” → “**Add new dataset**”
 3. Choose name `enterpriseKG` → Persistent memory → Create
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Step 3: Upload RDF Files

1. Go to `http://localhost:3030/enterpriseKG/upload`
2. Upload both:
 - `products.ttl`
 - `employees.ttl`

These are now stored in your knowledge graph.

PART 4: Query with SPARQL

Example 1: Get All Products

```
PREFIX ex: <http://example.org/products#>
SELECT ?product ?name ?category ?price
WHERE {
  ?product a ex:Product ;
    ex:name ?name ;
    ex:category ?category ;
    ex:price ?price .
}
```

Example 2: Get Employees in R&D

```
PREFIX ex: <http://example.org/employees#>
SELECT ?employee ?name
WHERE {
  ?employee a ex:Employee ;
    ex:department "R&D" ;
    ex:name ?name .
}
```

Example 3: List All Unique Roles

```
PREFIX ex: <http://example.org/employees#>
SELECT DISTINCT ?role
WHERE {
  ?s a ex:Employee ;
    ex:role ?role .
}
```

Bonus Tips

- Add `rdfs:label` to improve readability
 - Add `xsd:decimal`, `xsd:string`, `xsd:date` datatypes where appropriate
 - Use **SHACL** or **reasoners** to validate consistency
 - Add **owl:sameAs** if entities exist in other datasets (e.g., Wikidata)
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- Convert real-world CSV and JSON data into RDF
- Load it into a triple store
- Explore and validate the graph using SPARQL