

Information  
Visualization

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# Introduction to RDFLib

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Lesson 3



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Access and manipulate LOD  
with RDFLib





# 01

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## RDF data model

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Basics of Semantic Web technologies



# The web we know

01

URI



UNIFORM RESOURCE  
IDENTIFIER

Identify the  
location of  
documents on the web

HTTP



HYPERTEXT TRANSFER  
PROTOCOL

It's the protocol  
for exchanging data  
and documents on the  
web

HTML



HYPERTEXT MARKUP  
LANGUAGE

It's the markup  
language for  
documents returned  
via HTTP

RDF



# The web of data

01

URI



UNIFORM RESOURCE  
IDENTIFIER

HTTP



HYPertext TRANSFER  
PROTOCOL

HTML



HYPertext MARKUP  
LANGUAGE

RDF

In the Web of Data a URI is a ***persistent conceptual mapping*** to a real entity (e.g. a person), not to a HTML page.

- If the **location** of a HTML file describing the entity changes, the URI does not change.
- Many HTML pages can describe the **same entity** identified by the same URI.
- A HTML page can include information about **many entities**, hence being linked to many URIs.



# RDF

RDF

---

**URI**

subject

---

**URI**

predicate

---

**URI**

object

## RESOURCE DESCRIPTION FRAMEWORK

In the WoD a URI identifies both **real entities** and the **relations** (links) between them.


Every piece of information is represented as a **triplet** of URIs, identifying respectively a subject, a predicate, and an object.



# RDF example

01

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_Capa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Capa)



WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

[Main page](#)  
[Contents](#)  
[Current events](#)  
[Random article](#)

## Robert Capa

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

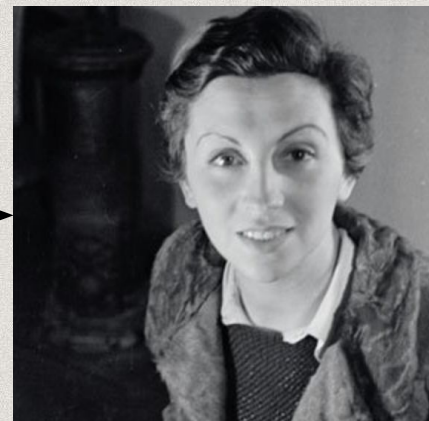
**Robert Capa** (born **Endre Ernő Friedmann**;<sup>[1]</sup> October 22, 1913 – May 25, 1954) was a Hungarian-American war photographer and photojournalist as well as the companion and professional partner of photographer **Gerda Taro**. He is considered by some to be the greatest combat and adventure photographer in history.<sup>[4]</sup>

RDF

Robert Capa



Gerda Taro



Has spouse



# RDF example

01

RDF

URI

[http://dbpedia.org/resource/Robert\\_Capa](http://dbpedia.org/resource/Robert_Capa)



URI

<http://example.org/hasSpouse>

URI

[http://dbpedia.org/resource/Gerda\\_Taro](http://dbpedia.org/resource/Gerda_Taro)





# RDF example

01

## Data

---

```
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Robert_Capa>  
<http://example.org/hasSpouse>  
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Gerda_Taro> .
```

## Save as

---

data.rdf

RDF





# 02

---

# Knowledge management

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Basics of Knowledge organisation and  
representation



# Classify entities and properties

Ontologies

## Person

Entity of the **class**  
Person



## property

A property relating  
**objects**, e.g. people

## Person

Entity of the **class**  
Person





# Vocabulary terms

## Ontologies

### Person

<http://dbpedia.org/ontology/Person>



### property

<http://example.org/ontology/hasSpouse>

### Person

<http://dbpedia.org/ontology/Person>





# Namespaces

Ontologies

## Person

`http://dbpedia.org/ontology/Person`



## property

`http://example.org/ontology/hasSpouse`

## Person

`http://dbpedia.org/ontology/Person`





# Ontology example

## Ontologies

### Data

```
<http://dbpedia.org/ontology/Person>  
<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type>  
<http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#Class> .
```

```
<http://dbpedia.org/ontology/Person>  
<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#label> "Person" .
```

```
<http://dbpedia.org/ontology/Person>  
<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#comment> "A human being" .
```

```
<http://example.org/ontology/hasSpouse>  
<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type>  
<http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#ObjectProperty> .
```

```
<http://example.org/ontology/hasSpouse>  
<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#label> "has spouse".
```

### Save as

ontology.rdf or  
ontology.owl



# RDF is not a format

Serialisations

## It's a framework

---

Conceptual model to formalise the **logical** structure of data in Graphs (VS tables, hierarchies)

## Has n serialisations

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While the triplet pattern is always respected, there exist several **syntaxes** to serialise RDF.

## Has n formats

---

A **parser** can read and interpret the same information even if served according to different syntaxes and stored in different file **formats**.



# RDF serializations

## Serialisations

### data.nt – ntriples

---

```
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Robert_Capa>  
<http://example.org/hasSpouse>  
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Gerda_Taro> .
```

### data.ttl – turtle

---

```
@prefix db: <http://dbpedia.org/resource/> .  
@prefix ex: <http://example.org/> .  
db:Robert_Capa ex:hasSpouse db:Gerda_Taro .
```

### data.xml – XML

---

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>  
<rdf:RDF xmlns:db="http://dbpedia.org/resource/" xmlns:ex="http://example.org/">  
  <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Robert_Capa">  
    <ex:hasSpouse rdf:resource="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Gerda_Taro" />  
  </rdf:Description>  
</rdf:RDF>
```



# What if triples are not enough

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_Capa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Capa)

WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

[Main page](#)  
[Contents](#)  
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## Robert Capa

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Robert Capa** (born **Endre Ernő Friedmann**;<sup>[1]</sup> October 22, 1913 – May 25, 1954) was a Hungarian-American war photographer and photojournalist as well as the companion and professional partner of photographer Gerda Taro. He is considered by some to be the greatest combat and adventure photographer in history.<sup>[4]</sup>

Graphs

Robert Capa



Has source

Gerda Taro



Has spouse



# Named graphs

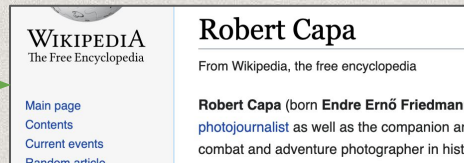
We wrap triples in a graph, a container of triples. We can assign a URI to the **graph** and use the latter as subject of further triples.

Graphs

Robert Capa has  
spouse Gerda Taro



Has source



`http://example.org/resource  
/Robert_Capa_hasSpouse_Gerda_Taro`

`http://example.org/hasSource`

`https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki  
/Robert_Capa`



# Named graphs serializations

## data.nq – nQuads

```
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Robert_Capa>  
<http://example.org/hasSpouse>  
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Gerda_Taro>  
<http://example.org/resource/Robert_Capa_hasSpouse_Gerda_Taro> .  
  
<http://example.org/resource/Robert_Capa_hasSpouse_Gerda_Taro>  
<http://example.org/hasSource>  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Capa>  
<http://example.org/resource/Robert_Capa_hasSpouse_Gerda_Taro> .
```



# Named graphs serializations

---

Serialisations

## data.trig – Trig

---

```
@prefix db: <http://dbpedia.org/resource/> .
@prefix ex: <http://example.org/> .
@prefix wiki: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/> .

ex:Robert_Capa_hasSpouse_Gerda_Taro {
  db:Robert_Capa ex:hasSpouse db:Gerda_Taro .
  ex:Robert_Capa_hasSpouse_Gerda_Taro ex:hasSource wiki:Robert_Capa .
}
```





**03**

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**Case study**

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ARTchives



# Scope and content

ARTchives

## Art historians

---

The creators of archival collections.

Focus on historians of **Italian Modern Art** (15-16th centuries).

## Collections

---

Materials produced by art historians (**letters, photos, etc.**)

<30 collections.

## Keepers

---

Cultural institutions (archives) **preserving** collections.

6 institutes promoting the project.



# Types of entities

ARTchives

## Actors

---

**Artists and artistic movements** studied by the art historian.

Other art historians.

**Universities** and research centres.

## Contents

---

**Types** of materials.  
Dates.

Contents: Artists and movements.

Correspondants.

Places. **Bibliography**.

Descriptions  
(biographies, scope and content)

## Other

---

**Cities** and contact addresses.



# Vocabularies and data

ARTchives

## Wikidata vocab.

Whenever applicable classes and properties are taken from Wikidata.

## Wikidata entities

Likewise, entities reuse Wikidata URIs when existing, otherwise new URIs are minted.

## Named graphs

All information about a collection, its creator, and the keeper, are stored in a named graph.

**Aby Warburg's collection** <<https://w3id.org/artchives/collectionfondo-aby-warburg>>

**Main subject** <<http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P921>>

**Federico Zeri** <<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q1089074>>

**The graph of A.W.'s collection** <<https://w3id.org/artchives/1598630286-3009102/>> .



# Some problems

ARTchives

## User data

---

Duplication of data  
(e.g. **labels**).

Wrong  
reconciliation.

Misspelling.

## Design choices

---

Data about historians  
and keepers appear  
only in the **graph** of  
the first created  
collection

(if there are two  
collections for the  
same historian, only  
one includes data  
about the historian).

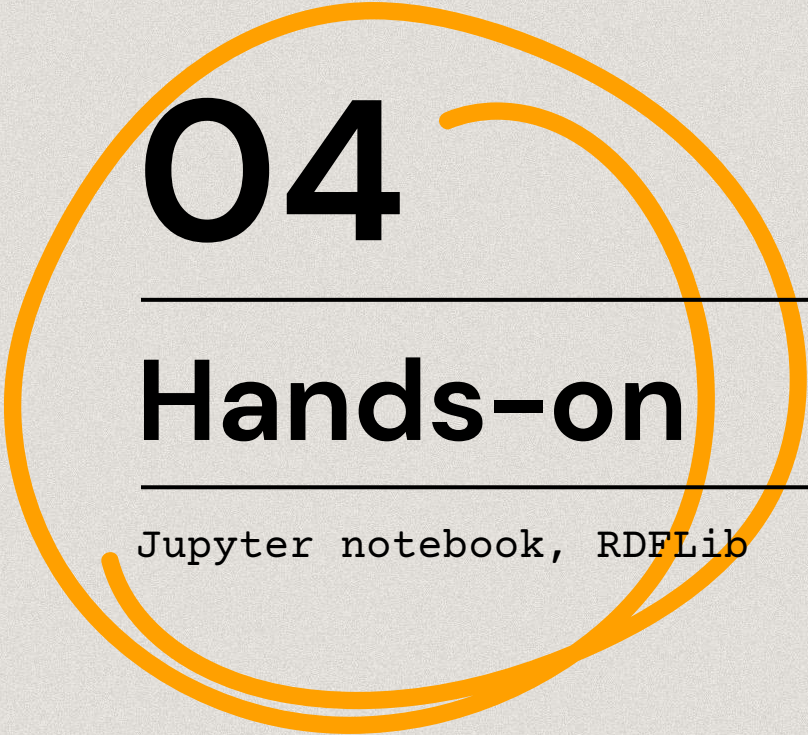
## Mistakes

---

URIs of Wikidata  
properties use the wrong  
**namespace** in the online  
version.

The data dump you will  
use, has the correct  
namespaces.





# 04

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## Hands-on

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Jupyter notebook, RDFLib



# Hands-on

Get all the  
materials

## Download data

---

Download the data  
(resources/artchives.nq) in  
a folder for the exercise

## Install packages

---

In the terminal/shell  
(if IDE or Jupyter)

```
pip install rdflib  
pip install pprint
```

## Tutorial

---

Open the tutorial:  
in GitHub, Colab  
or Jupyter (download)

## Practice

---

Choose your environment:  
IDE: create a .py file  
Jup: create .ipynb file  
Colab: new notebook



# Exercise

04

Assignment

## Review

---

Review the tutorial

## Exercise

---

Solve the problems  
(time to code!)

Fill in the form  
with your answers

## TODO

---

Come prepared!  
Install the python  
library with pip  
SPARQLWrapper



# Thanks!

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Do you have any questions?

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[https://github.com/marilenadaquino/information\\_visualization](https://github.com/marilenadaquino/information_visualization)

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