





# 1. Ontologies

### **Asunción Gómez-Pérez**

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# **Ontological Engineering**

It refers to the set of activities that concern
the ontology development process,
the ontology life cycle,
the methods and methodologies for building ontologies,
and the tool suites

and languages that support them.

## **Table of Content**

## **Ontologies**

- 1. Reuse and Sharing
- 2. Definitions of Ontologies
- 3. Modeling of Ontologies
- 4. Type of Ontologies
- **5.** Searching Ontologies



# The knowledge Sharing Initiative

"Building new Knowledge Based Systems today usually entails constructing new knowledge bases from scratch. It could instead be done by assembling reusable components. System developers would then only need to worry about creating the specialized knowledge and reasoners new to the specific task of their systems. This new system would interoperate with existing systems, using them to perform some of its reasoning. In this way, declarative knowledge, problem-solving techniques, and reasoning services could all be shared between systems. This approach would facilitate building bigger and better systems cheaply. The infraestructure to support such sharing and reuse would lead to greater ubiquity of these systems, potentially transforming the knowledge industry ..."



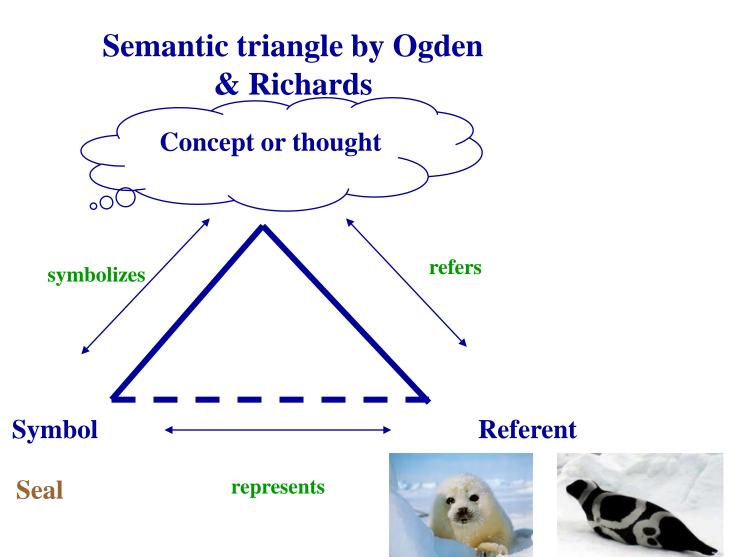
Neches, R.; Fikes, R.; Finin, T.; Gruber, T.; Patil, R.; Senator, T.; Swartout, W.R. *Enabling Technology for Knowledge Sharing*. **Al Magazine**. Winter 1991. 36-56.

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# **Definitions of Ontologies (I)**

1. "An ontology defines the basic terms and relations comprising the vocabulary of a topic area, as well as the rules for combining terms and relations to define extensions to the vocabulary"



Neches, R.; Fikes, R.; Finin, T.; Gruber, T.; Patil, R.; Senator, T.; Swartout, W.R. *Enabling Technology for Knowledge Sharing*. **Al Magazine**. Winter 1991. 36-56.

2. "An ontology is an explicit specification of a conceptualization"



Gruber, T. A translation Approach to portable ontology specifications. Knowledge Acquisition. Vol. 5. 1993. 199-220.



# **Definitions of Ontologies (II)**

3. An ontology is a hierarchically structured set of terms for describing a domain that can be used as a skeletal foundation for a knowledge base.



B. Swartout; R. Patil; k. Knight; T. Russ. *Toward Distributed Use of Large-Scale Ontologies* **Ontological Engineering.** AAAI-97 Spring Symposium Series. 1997. 138-148.

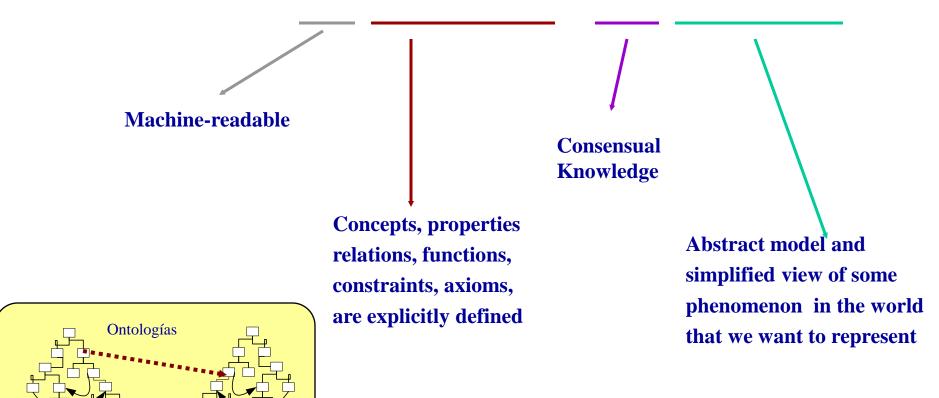
4. An ontology provides the means for describing explicitly the conceptualization behind the knowledge represented in a knowledge base.



A. Bernaras;I. Laresgoiti; J. Correra. *Building and Reusing Ontologies for Electrical Network Applications* **ECAl96. 12th European conference on Artificial Intelligence.** Ed. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. 298-302.

# **Definitions of Ontologies (III)**

3. "An ontology is a formal, explicit specification of a shared conceptualization"





Studer, Benjamins, Fensel. Knowledge Engineering: Principles and Methods. Data and Knowledge Engineering. 25 (1998) 161-197

# **Definitions of Ontologies (IV)**

### **Lightweight Ontologies:**

- •Include Concepts with properties and Taxonomies
- •Do not include Axioms and constraints.

### **Heavyweight Ontologies:**

- •Include all the components
- Excellent!! If they have a lot of axioms.

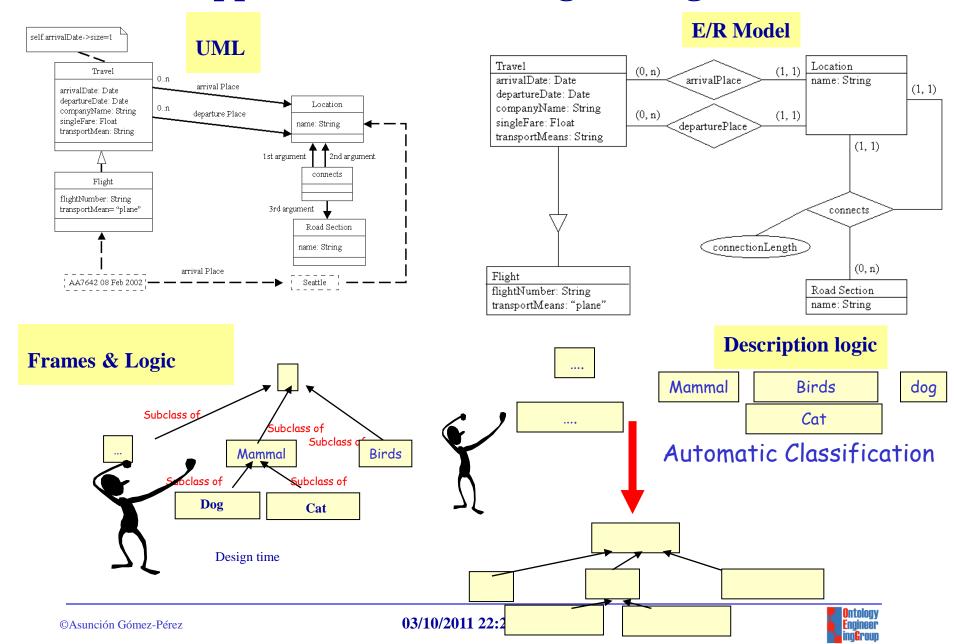
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# **Approaches for building ontologies**



# **Components of an Ontology**

### **Concepts are organized in taxonomies**

**Relations** R:  $C_1 \times C_2 \times ... \times C_{n-1} \times C_n$ 

**Subclass-of: Concept 1 x Concept2** 

**Connected to: Component1 x Component2** 

Functions F:  $C_1 \times C_2 \times ... \times C_{n-1} \longrightarrow C_n$ 

**Mother-of: Person --> Women** 

Price of a used car: Model x Year x Kilometers --> Price

**Instances** Elements

Gruber, T. A translation Approach to portable

ontology specifications. Knowledge Acquisition.

Axioms Sentences which are always true

Vol. 5, 1993, 199-220.

# **Description of a concept**

 Concepts are described according to their common features, properties or characteristics, either by intension or extension

### Intension

- Set of characteristics which makes up the concept (ISO 1087-1: 2000)
- The intension of the concept winter in polar countries includes: low temperatures, ice, wind, snow, etc.

### Extension

- Totality of objects to which a concept corresponds (ISO 1087-1: 2000)
- The extension of the concept planet includes: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.

# Characteristics of a concept

- According to the importance in forming a concept
  - essential: indispensable to understand and distinguish a concept
    - The back of a seat distinguishes a stool and a chair.
  - complementary: colour, material, shape, ...



- a device;
- ivory-coloured;
- hand-manoeuvred along a firm, flat surface;
- has a ball on its underside:
- has three buttons;
- has a wire for connecting to a computer;
- rollers detect the movement of the ball;
- the ball controls the movement of a cursor on a computer display screen.



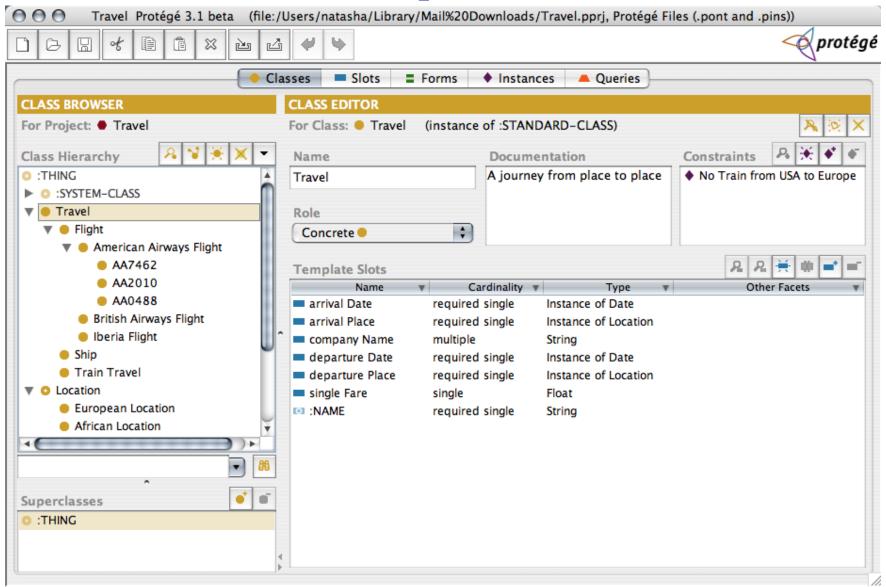
- a device;
- blue and grey;
- hand-manoeuvred along a firm, flat surface;
- has a ball on its underside:
- has two buttons;
- has a wire for connecting to a computer;
- without rollers;
- the ball controls the movement of a cursor on a computer display screen.



- a device;
- black-grey;
- hand-manoeuvred along a firm, flat surface;
- has a ball on its underside:
- has two buttons;
- has a wire for connecting to a computer;
- rollers detect the movement of the ball;
- the ball controls the movement of a cursor on a computer display screen.

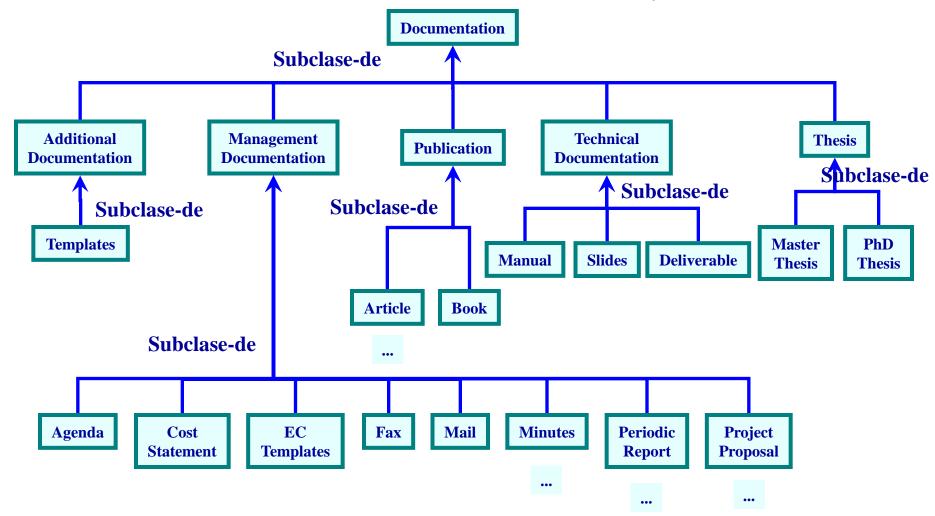


# **Properties**

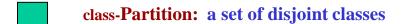




# **Documentation Taxonomy**



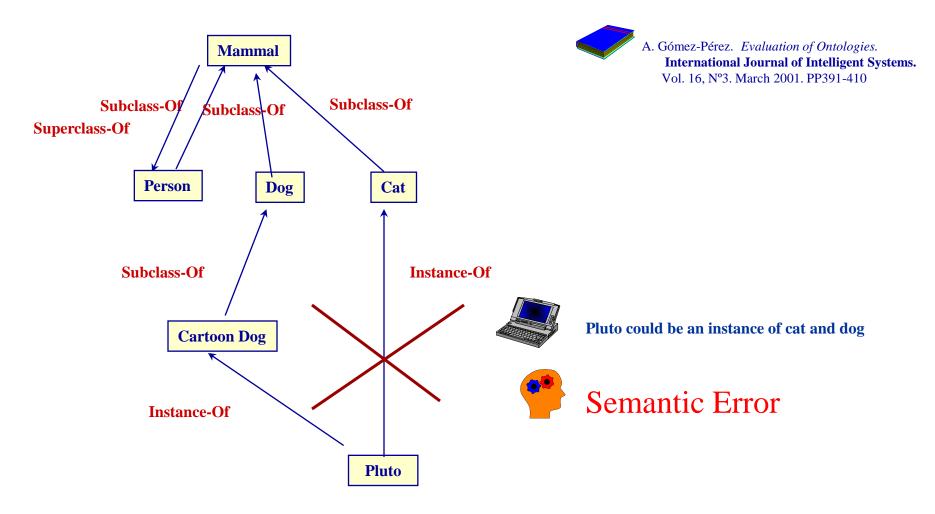
# Modelling disjoint knowledge



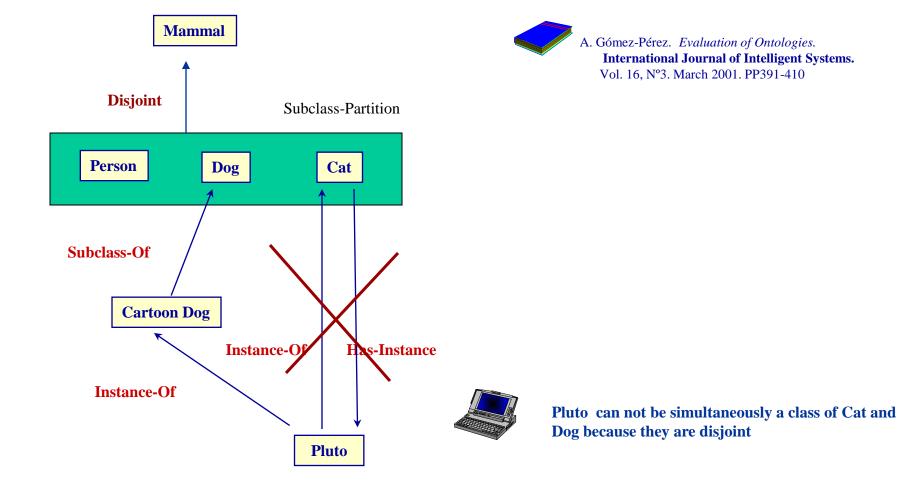
**Disjoint:** Defines the set of classes in the partition as subclasses of the parent class. This classification does not necessarily to be complete.

**Exhaustive-Disjoint:** Defines the set of classes in the partition as subclasses of the parent class. This classification is complete.

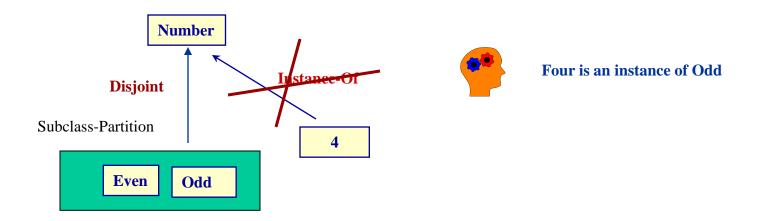
# Why disjoint knowledge is important (I)



# Why disjoint knowledge is important (II)



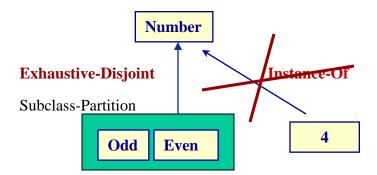
# Why disjoint knowledge is important (III)





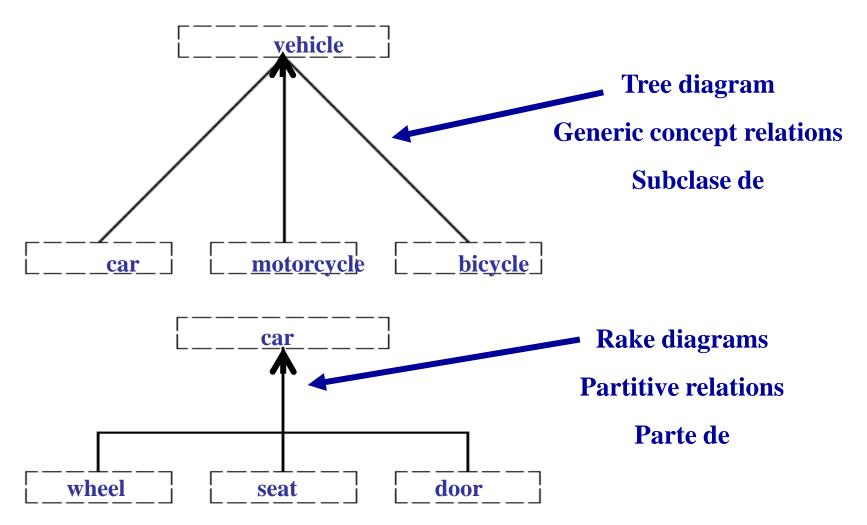
Gómez-Pérez. Evaluation of Ontologies. International Journal of Intelligent Systems. Vol. 16, N°3. March 2001. PP391-410

# Why disjoint knowledge is important (IV)





Four is an instance of something in the partition



# Ejemplos de relaciones Parte de

Relación	Ejemplo		
componente - objeto	pedal - bicicleta		
miembro - colección	barco - flota		
porción - masa	rebanada - pan		
material - objeto	acero - coche		
fase - actividad	pagar - comprar		
lugar - área	oasis - desierto		

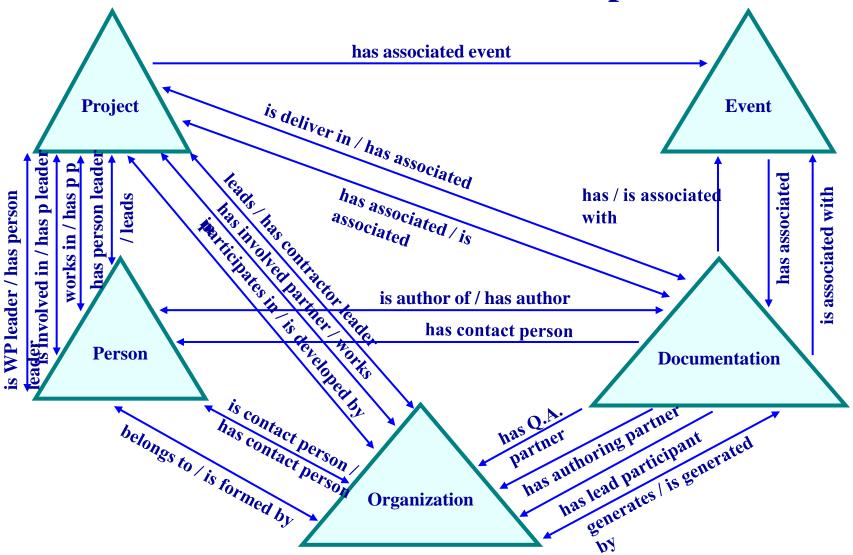
Tabla II.2: Modelo de Winston et al. (1987)



Climent, S. 1999 Individuación e información parte-todo. Representación para el procesamiento computacional del lenguaje

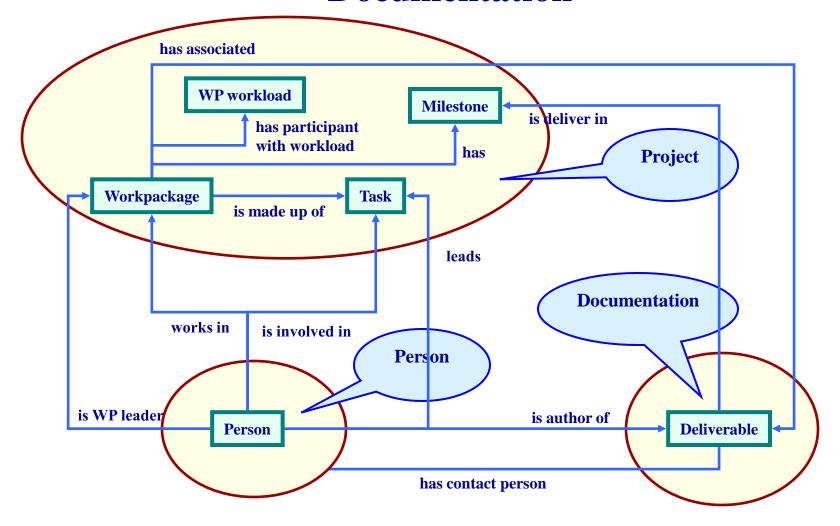


**Relations between concepts** 





# Relationships between Person, Project and Documentation





## **Example of axioms**

```
(define-axiom No-Train-from-USA-to-Europe
   "It is not possible to travel from the USA to Europe by train"
:= (forall (?travel)
    (forall (?city1)
     (forall (?city2)
       (=> (and (Travel ?travel)
                (arrivalPlace ?travel ?city1)
                (departurePlace ?travel ?city2)
                (EuropeanLocation ?city1)
                (USALocation ?city2))
           (not (TrainTravel ?travel))))))
(define-axiom No-Train-between-USA-and-Europe
   "It is not possible to travel by train between the USA and Europe"
:= (forall (?travel)
    (forall (?city1)
     (forall (?city2)
      (=> (and (Travel ?travel)
               (arrivalPlace ?travel ?city1)
               (departurePlace ?travel ?city2)
               (or (and (EuropeanLocation ?city1)
                        (USALocation ?city2))
                   (and (EuropeanLocation ?city2)
                        (USALocation ?city1))))
          (not (TrainTravel ?travel))))))
```

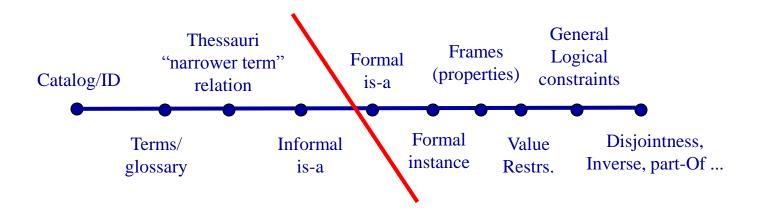
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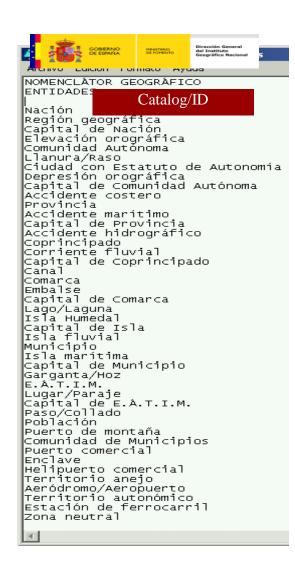


# Types of Ontologies Lassila and McGuiness Classification





Lassila O, McGuiness D. The Role of Frame-Based Representation on the Semantic Web. Technical Report. Knowledge Systems Laboratory. Stanford University. KSL-01-02. 2001.





## Lexicon

- A lexicon is a list of words in a language (a vocabulary) along with some knowledge of how to use each word.
  - General or domain-specific;
  - Monolingual (Wordnet) or multilingual (Eurowordnet)

Key: "S:" = Show Synset (semantic) relations, "W:" = Show Word (lexical) relations

### Noun

- {09411430} S (n) river (a large natural stream of water (larger than a creek)) "the river was navigable for 50 miles"
  - part meronym
    - {09274500} S: (n) estuary (the wide part of a river where it nears the sea; fresh and salt water mix)
    - {09405396} S: (n) rapid (a part of a river where the current is very fast)
    - {09475292} S: (n) waterfall, falls (a steep descent of the water of a river)
  - domain term category
  - has instance
  - o direct hypernym I inherited hypernym I sister term
    - {09448361} S: (n) stream, watercourse (a natural body of running water flowing on or under the earth)
  - part holonym
    - {09476011} S: (n) water system (a river and all of its tributaries)

WordNet home page



## **Thesaurus**

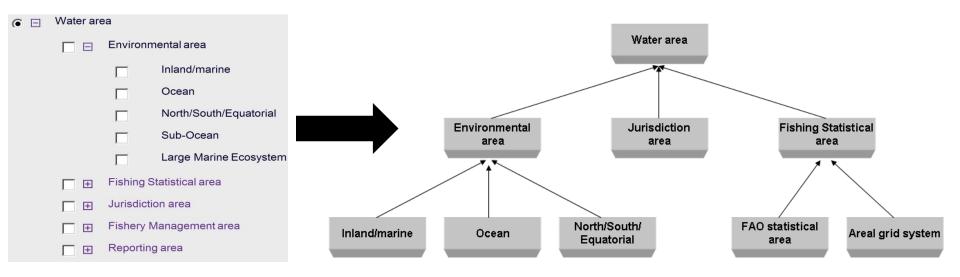
- Controlled vocabularies of terms in a particular domain
- Relations: hierarchical, associative and equivalence relations between terms.
- Thesauri are mainly used for indexing and retrieving of articles in large databases.

EN : Oryza BT ( subclassOf ) : Poaceae				
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Oryza sativa			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Oryza perennis			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Oryza rufipogon			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Oryza longistaminata			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Wetland rice			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Oryza glaberrima			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Upland rice			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Oryza punctata			
	RT : Rice fields			
	RT : Cereal crops			
	RT : Rice			
EN : Rice	BT ( subclassOf ) : Cereals			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Broken rice			
	NT ( hasSubclass ) : Basmati rice			
	RT : Rice straw			
	RT : Oryza			
	RT : Rice flour			
	UF : Paddy			



## **Classification schemes**

• A classification scheme<sup>1</sup> is the descriptive information for an arrangement or division of objects into groups based on characteristics, which the objects have in common. E.g. water area classification scheme<sup>2</sup>.





<sup>1.</sup> International Standard Organization (ISO). Information technology - Metadata registries - Part 1: Framework, 2004. Report ISO/IEC FDIS 11179-1.

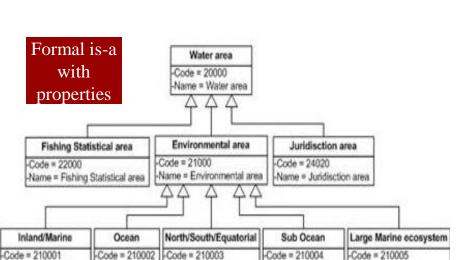


<sup>2.</sup> http://www.fao.org/figis/servlet/RefServlet

Id	Category Name	Parent	
20000	Water area	1	
21000	Environmental area	20000	
22000	Fishing Statistical area	20000	
24020	Jurisdiction area	20000	
21001	Inland/marine	21000	
21002	Ocean	21000	
21003	North/South/Equatorial	21000	
21004	Sub Ocean	21000	
21005	Large Marine ecosystem	21000	

ID	CSI_Name
20000	Water area
20000.21000	Environmental area
20000.24020	Jurisdiction area
20000.22000	Fishing Statistical area
20000.21000.21001	Inland/marine
20000.21000.21002	Ocean
20000.21000.21003	North/South/Equatorial
20000.22000.22001	FAO statistical area
20000.22000.22002	Areal grid system

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<b> </b>						



-Name = Sub Ocean

-Name = North/So

"A journey from place to place"

(and (Superclass-Of Travel Flight)

arrivalDate Travel 1)

singleFare Travel 1))

(departureDate ?travel Date)

(singleFare ?travel Number)

(companyName ?travel String)))

(and (arrivalDate ?travel Date)

(Template-Facet-Value Cardinality

(Template-Facet-Value Cardinality

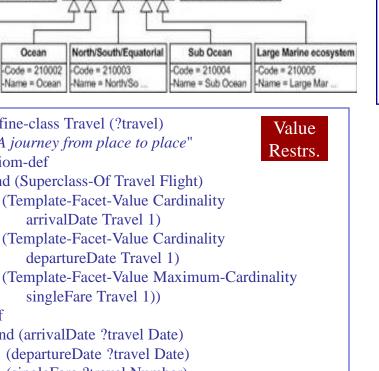
departureDate Travel 1)

(define-class Travel (?travel)

Formal instance

Formal is-a

-Name = Inland/Marine



Frames (properties)

```
(define-relation connects (?edge ?source ?target)
  "This relation links a source and a target by an edge. The source and
destination are considered as spatial points. The relation has the
following properties: symmetry and irreflexivity."
:def (and (SpatialPoint ?source)
      (SpatialPoint ?target)
      (Edge ?edge))
:axiom-def
((=> (connects ?edge ?source ?target)
                                                          General
   (connects ?edge ?target ?source)) ;symmetry
                                                          Logical
(=> (connects ?edge ?source ?target)
   (not (or (part-of ?source ?target); irreflexivity
                                                        constraints
       (part-of ?target ?source)))))
```

General

Logical

constraints

Value

Restrs.

Disjointness,

Inverse, part-Of ...

```
(define-class American Airlines Flight (?X)
:def (Flight ?X)
:axiom-def
 (Disjoint-Decomposition American Airlines Flight
        (Setof AA7462 AA2010 AA0488)))
                                     Disjointness
(define-class Location (?X)
:axiom-def
 (Partition Location
    (Setof EuropeanLocation NorthAmericanLocation
        SouthAmericanLocation AsianLocation
        African Location Australian Location
        AntarcticLocation)))
```

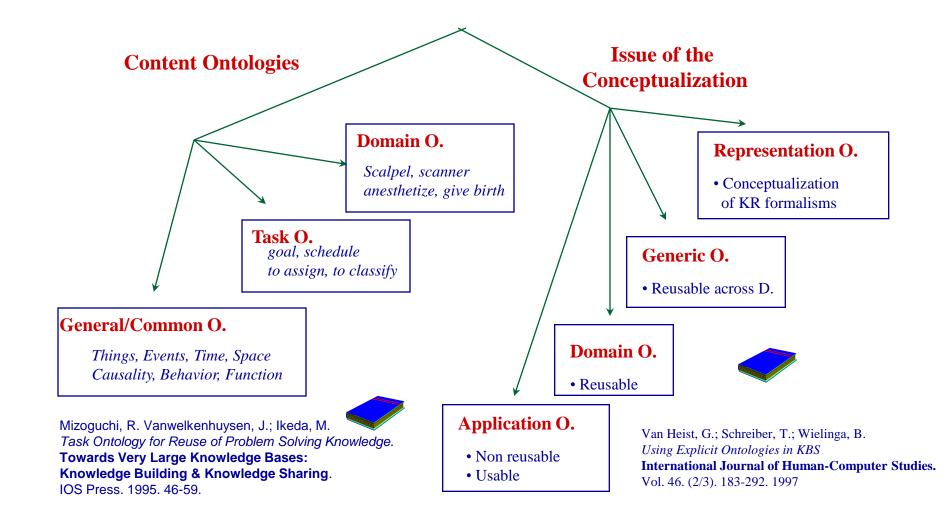


-Name = Ocean

:axiom-def

:def

# **Types of Ontologies**





# **Knowledge Representation Ontologies**

owl:TransitiveProperty owl:SymmetricProperty

### The Frame Ontology and the OKBC Ontology

(http://ontolingua.stanford.edu)

### •RDF and RDF Schema knowledge representation ontologies

(http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema)

### •OIL knowledge representation ontology

(http://www.ontoknowledge.org/oil/rdf-schema/2000/11/10-oil-standard)

### •DAML+OIL knowledge representation ontology

(http://www.daml.org/2001/03/daml+oil)

### •OWL knowledge representation ontology



### Class hierarchy (23 classes defined):

```
Binary-Relation
   Antisymmetric-Relation
      Asymmetric-Relation
      Partial-Order-Relation
         Total-Order-Relation
   Irreflexive-Relation
      Asymmetric-Relation
   Many-To-Many-Relation
   Many-To-One-Relation
   One-To-Many-Relation
   Reflexive-Relation
      Equivalence-Relation
      Partial-Order-Relation ...
   Symmetric-Relation
      Equivalence-Relation
   Transitive-Relation
      Equivalence-Relation
      Partial-Order-Relation ...
   Weak-Transitive-Relation
Class
   Root Class
Class-Partition
Function
   Many-To-One-Relation
Individual-Thing
Named-Axiom
One-To-One-Relation
Relation
Unary-Relation
```

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# **Definition of the relation SUBCLASS-OF** in the Frame Ontology

```
(define-relation Subclass-Of (?child-class ?parent-class)
```

"Class C is a subclass of parent class P if and only if every instance of C is also an instance of P. A class may have multiple superclasses and subclasses. Subclass-of is transitive: if (subclass-of C1 C2) and (subclass-of C2 C3) then (subclass-of C1 C3). Object-centered systems sometimes distinguish between a subclass-of relationship that is asserted and one that is inferred. For example, (subclass-of C1 C3) might be inferred from asserting (subclass-of C1 C2) and (subclass-of C2 C3)..."

```
:iff-def
(and (Class ?parent-class)
(Class ?child-class)
(forall (?instance)
(=> (Instance-Of ?instance ?child-class)
(Instance-Of ?instance ?parent-class))))
```

```
:axiom-constraints
```

(Transitive-Relation Subclass-Of)

#### :issues

((:see-also direct-subclass-of)

(:see-also "In CycL, subclass-of is called #%allGenls because it is a slot from a collection to all of its generalizations (superclasses)."

"In the KL-ONE literature, subclass relationships are also called subsumption relationships and ISA is sometimes used for subclass-of.")

("Why is it called Subclass-of instead of subclass or superclass?"

"Because the latter are ambiguous about the order of their arguments. We are following the naming convention that a binary relationship is read as an English sentence `Domain-element Relation-name Range-value'. Thus, `person subclass-of animal' rather than `person superclass animal'.")))

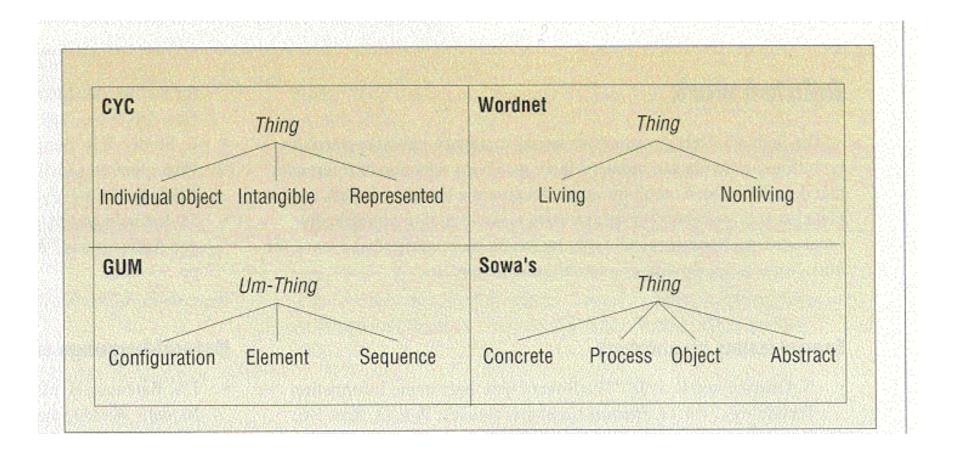


http://www-ksl.stanford.edu



# **One Unique Top-Level Ontology?**

### **Various proposals**



# **Domain Ontologies: e-Commerce Ontologies**

 The United Nations Standard Products and **Services Codes (UNSPSC)** 

(http://www.unspsc.org/)

•NAICS (North American Industry Classification System)

(http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html)

•SCTG (Standard Classification of Transported Goods)

(http://www.statcan.ca/english/Subjects/Standard/sctg/sctg-menu.htm)

•E-cl@ss

(http://www.eclass.de/)

RosettaNet

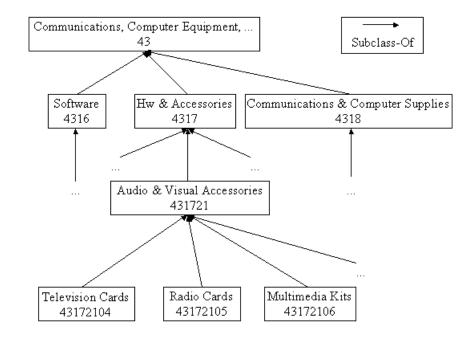
(http://www.rosettanet.org)

segment

family

class

commodity



# **Domain Ontologies: Medical Ontologies**

#### •GALEN (http://www.opengalen.org/)



Rector AL, Bechhofer S, Goble CA, Horrocks I, Nowlan WA, Solomon WD (1997) The GRAIL concept modelling language for medical terminology. Artificial Intelligence in Medicine 9:139–171

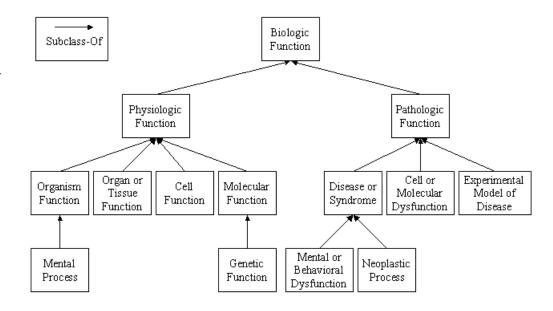
#### •UMLS (Unified Medical Language System)

(http://www.nih.gov/research/umls/)

•ON9 (http://saussure.irmkant.rm.cnr.it/ON9/index.html)

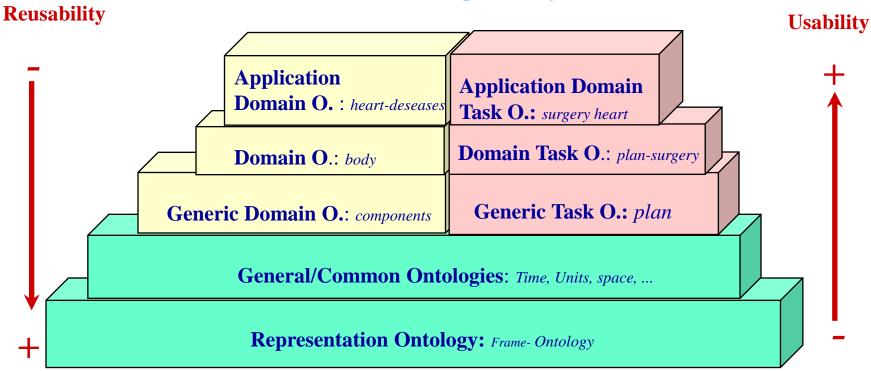


Gangemi A, Pisanelli DM, Steve G (1998) Some Requirements and Experiences in Engineering Terminological Ontologies over the WWW. In: Gaines BR, Musen MA (eds) 11th International Workshop on Knowledge Acquisition, Modeling and Management (KAW'98). Banff, Canada, SHARE10:1–20



# **Libraries of Ontologies**

### **Example library**



http://delicias.dia.fi.upm.es/mirror-server/ont-serv.html

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## **Ontologies**

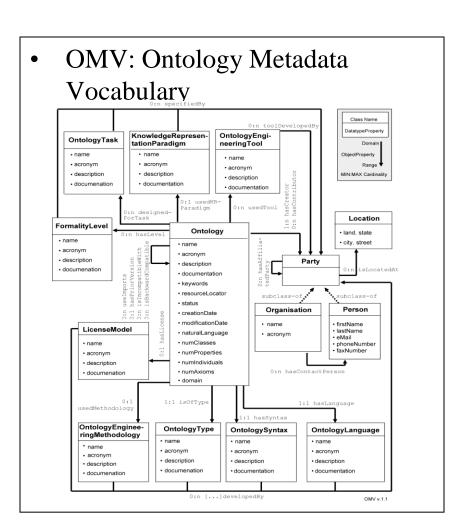
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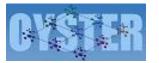


# **Searching Ontologies**

O. Searching
O. Selection



Ontology registries

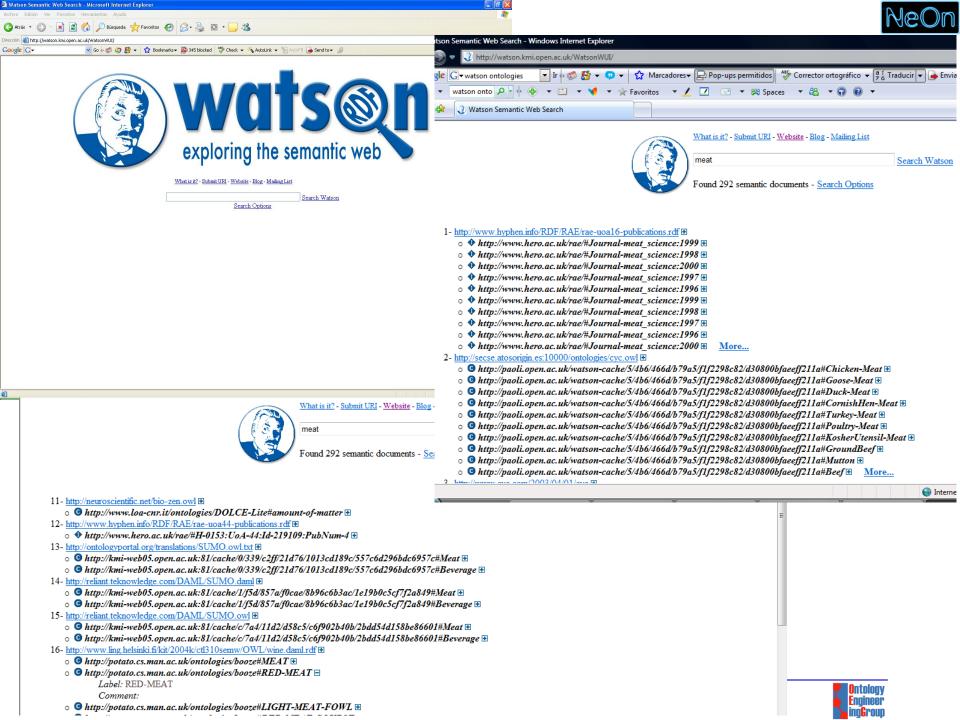












# What is an Ontology?

## Shared understanding of a domain



## Repository of vocabulary

- Formal definitions
- Informal definitions