SPARQL: Simple Protocol And RDF Query Language

W3C Recommendation

- SPARQL 1.0 Query (2008)
- SPARQL 1.1 Query (2013)
 https://www.w3.org/TR/sparql11-query/
- SPARQL 1.1 Update (2013)
 https://www.w3.org/TR/sparql11-update/

SPARQL 1.1

- 1. SPARQL 1.1 Overview
- 2. SPARQL 1.1 Query Language
- 3. SPARQL 1.1 Update
- 4. SPARQL1.1 Service Description
- 5. SPARQL 1.1 Federated Query
- 6. SPARQL 1.1 Query Results JSON Format
- 7. SPARQL 1.1 Query Results CSV and TSV Formats
- 8. SPARQL Query Results XML Format (Second Edition)
- 9. SPARQL 1.1 Entailment Regimes
- 10. SPARQL 1.1 Protocol
- 11. SPARQL 1.1 Graph Store HTTP Protocol

SPARQL

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SPARQL 1.1 QUERY LANGUAGE

SPARQL 1.1 Query Language

- Syntax
- Triple Pattern
- Graph Pattern Matching
- Filter
- Query Form
- Statement
- Modifier

SPARQL Syntax

Triple Pattern

- Turtle triple syntax
- Variables
- ?x a foaf:Person
- ?x foaf:name "John"

http://example.org/John foaf:name ?name

 ?p ?v

select

from

where

select: result

from: target graph

where: query pattern

```
select *
where {
     ?x rdf:type foaf:Person .
}
```

```
select *
where {
    ?x rdf:type foaf:Person;
    foaf:name "John".
}
```

```
select *
where {
    ?x rdf:type foaf:Person;
    foaf:name "John", ?name.
```

```
select *
where {
    ?x rdf:type foaf:Person;
    foaf:name "John", ?name .
    ?y foaf:knows ?x
}
```

Prefix, Namespace

```
prefix foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
select *
where {
 ?x a foaf:Person;
   foaf:name?name.
```

Prefix, Namespace

```
select *
where {
   ?x a <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/Person>;
   <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/name> ?name .
}
```

Prefix, Namespace

```
prefix foaf: <a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
prefix ex: <http://example.org/ns#>
select *
where {
 ?x a foaf:Person;
  ex:name?name.
```

Literal

...

XSD Datatype

```
"1930-01-29"^^xsd:date

"3.14"^^xsd:double

"12"^^xsd:integer 12

"true"^^xsd:boolean true

"Never surrender"^^xsd:string "Never surrender"
```

Literal

Language tag

"Person"@en

"Personne"@fr

Literal

```
"Person"
!=
"Person"@en
```

```
<http://example.org/John>
!= "http://example.org/John"
!= "http://example.org/John"^^xsd:anyURI
```

Blank Node

- Anonymous variable
- Value of Blank Node is not returned in result

```
select *
where {
    _:b a foaf:Person;
    foaf:name ?name
}
```

Blank Node

```
select ?x where {
     ?x a foaf:Person;
      foaf:knows [foaf:name "John"].
select ?x where {
     ?x a foaf:Person;
       foaf:knows _:b .
     :b foaf:name "John" .
```

RDF List

Retrieve a list with the exact number of elements

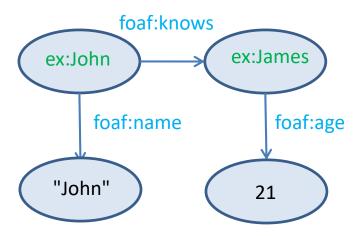
```
select * where {
    ?x rdf:value (?y ?z)
}
```

RDF List

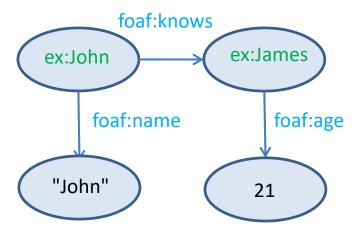
```
select * where {
      ?x rdf:value (?y ?z)
select * where {
      ?x rdf:value [
            rdf:first?y;
            rdf:rest [rdf:first?z;rdf:restrdf:nil]
```

SPARQL Query Processing

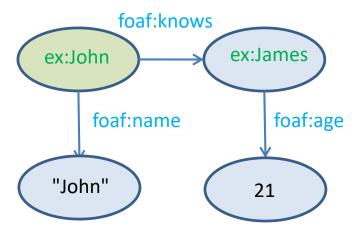
- A query is a Graph Pattern (graph with variables)
- Search occurrences of Graph Pattern in RDF Graph
- Zero, one or several results

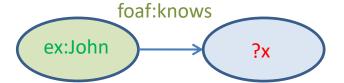


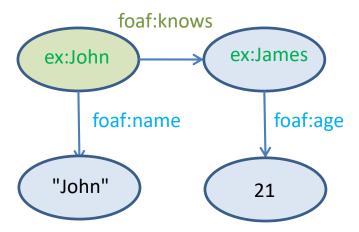


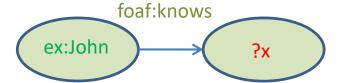


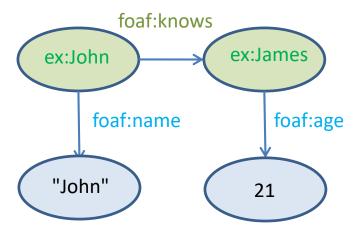


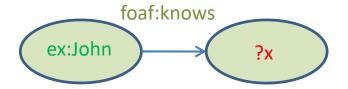


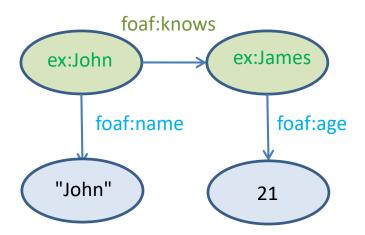






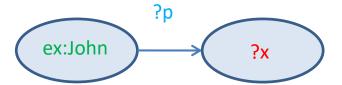


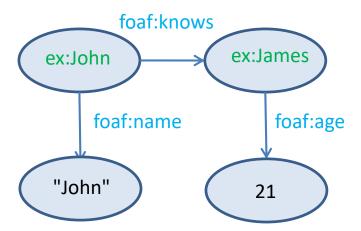


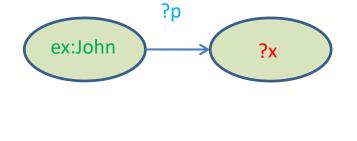


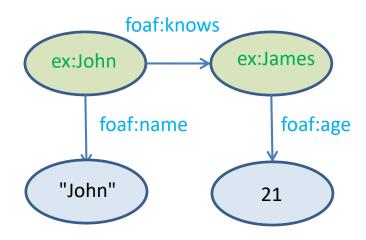
ex:John foaf:knows ?x

(1) ?x = ex:James



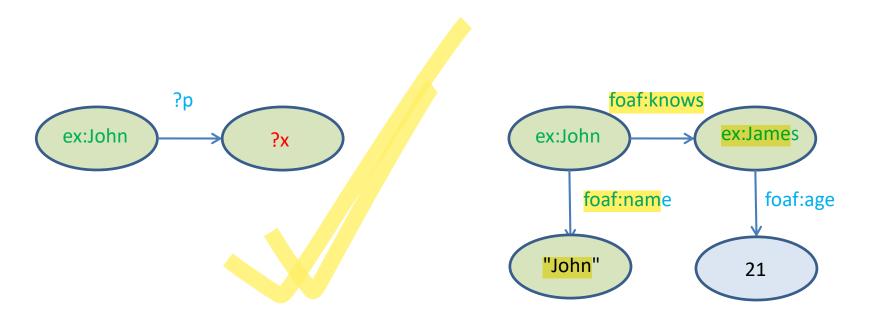






ex:John?p?x

(1) p = foaf:knows; x = ex:James



ex:John?p?x

- (1) ?p = foaf:knows; ?x = ex:James
- (2) p = foaf:name ; ?x = "John"

SPARQL Query Processing

Result: (multi) set of variable bindings

```
1. ?x = ex:John; ?z = ex:Jack
```

- 2. ?x = ex:Jim ; ?z = ex:Jesse
- 3. 2x = ex:John; 2z = ex:Jack

Multiset of results

```
select ?x ?z where {
  ?x foaf:knows ?y .
  ?y foaf:knows ?z .
}
```

Multiset of results

```
select ?x ?z where {
   ?x foaf:knows ?y .
   ?y foaf:knows ?z .
}
```

ex:John foaf:knows ex:James . ex:James foaf:knows ex:Jack ex:John foaf:knows ex:Patty . ex:Patty foaf:knows ex:Jack

Multiset of results

```
select ?x ?z where {
  ?x foaf:knows ?y .
  ?y foaf:knows ?z .
}
```

```
ex:John foaf:knows ex:James . ex:James foaf:knows ex:Jack ex:John foaf:knows ex:Patty . ex:Patty foaf:knows ex:Jack
```

Multiset of results

```
select ?x ?z where {
 ?x foaf:knows ?y .
 ?y foaf:knows?z.
ex:John foaf:knows ex:James . ex:James foaf:knows ex:Jack
ex:John foaf:knows ex:Patty . ex:Patty foaf:knows ex:Jack
       ?x = ex:John; ?z = ex:Jack
   3. ?x = ex:John; ?z = ex:Jack
```

 Resources with name "lannis" and possibly other name(s)

 Resources with name "lannis" and possibly other name(s)

?x foaf:name "lannis", ?name.

Triple with same subject and object

Triple with same subject and object

?x ?p ?x

• Triple with property as subject

Triple with property as subject

?p ?p ?x

Filter Expression

- Reduce result multiset
- Keep results that match a condition
- Match: expression evaluates to true

```
?age >= 10
?name != "John"
isURI(?x) || isBlank(?x)! us:boring(?course)
```

- Variable:
 - 1. bound by triple pattern

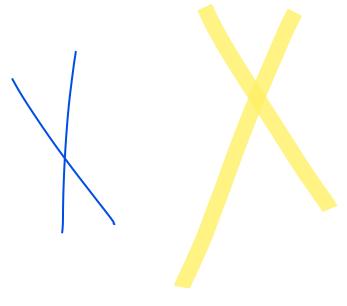
```
select * where {
  ?x foaf:age ?age
```

- Variable:
 - 1. bound by triple pattern
 - tested by filter

```
select * where {
  ?x foaf:age ?age
  filter (?age >= 18)
```

- Variable:
 - 1. bound by triple pattern
 - 2. tested by filter

```
select * where {
  filter (?age >= 18)
}
```



Filter Language

• URI, Literal, Variable ex:John, 3.14, ?x

- < <= >= >
- = !=
- ()
- + * /
- && || !
- Function
- Exists

$$(?n * (?n + 1))/2$$

$$!(?x < 0 \&\& ?y < 0)$$

datatype(?x)

exists { ?x foaf:knows ?y}

Resources with name "lannis" and with another name

Resources with name "lannis" and with another name

```
?x foaf:name "lannis", ?name.
filter (?name!="lannis")
```

Resources with different values for same property

Resources with different values for same property

Resources with same value for different properties

Resources with same value for different properties

```
?x ?p ?v ; ?q ?v .
filter (?p != ?q)
```

Conditional Statement

if then else

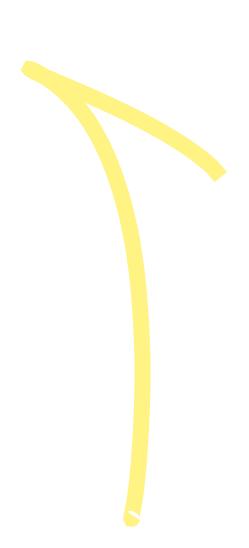
```
filter if (lang(?name) = "fr",
?age >= 18,
?age >= 21)
```

Coalesce

 Result of first expression that does not return an error (e.g. unbound variable)

filter coalesce $(exp_1, ... exp_n)$

- isBlank(?x)
- isURI(?x)
- isLiteral(?x)
- bound(?x)



- datatype(?x)
- lang(?I)
- langMatches(lang(?l), "fr")
- str(<http://example.org>)
- uri("http://example.org")
- xsd:integer("123")
- xsd:string(12)
- strdt(str, datatype)
- strlang(str, lang)

- now()
- year(?date)
- month(?date)
- day(?date)
- hours(?date)
- minutes(?date)
- seconds(?date)
- •

- contains(str₁, str₂)
- strstarts(str₁, str₂)
- strends(str₁, str₂)
- concat(str₁, str₂)
- substr(str, n)
- strlen(str)
- regex(str, ".*cnrs")

•

- abs(?x)
- ceil(?x)
- floor(?x)
- round(?x)
- rand()
- ...

Extension Function

Application specific external function

```
prefix fun: <function://fr.geo.Extend>
select *
where {
     ?x geo:loc (?lon, ?lat)
     filter fun:locate(?lon, ?lat)
}
```

• Teenager : age between 13 and 19

Teenager: age between 13 and 19

?x foaf:age ?age

filter (?age >= 13 && ?age <= 19)

Resource whose name length is less than 20

Resource whose name length is less than 20

?x foaf:name ?name

filter (strlen(?name) < 20)

• URI from inria

URI from inria

```
?x ?p ?y
filter regex(str(?x), "inria")
```

Query Form

Query Form

- 1. Select
- 2. Ask
- 3. Construct
- 4. Describe

Select

Return variable bindings

```
select * where {
    ?x foaf:knows ?y
}
```

Ask

Return true/false

```
ask { ?x rdf:type ex:Yeti }
```

Construct

Return new RDF graph

- 1. Instantiate construct pattern with every results
- 2. Merge result triples into one new RDF graph

```
construct { ?x rdfs:seeAlso ?z }
where { ?x foaf:knows ?y . ?y foaf:knows ?z }
```

Describe

Return description of resource(s) as RDF graph

describe <http://example.org/John>





describe?x

where { ?x foaf:name "John" }



EX

Statement

Statement

- 1. Union
- 2. Optional
- 3. Minus
- 4. Filter (Not) Exists
- 5. Named Graph
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Union

- «Union» of results of alternative graph patterns
- One branch must match
- Both branches may match

```
{ ?x a ex:Good }
union
{ ?x a ex:Evil }
```

Statement

- 1. Union
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Optional

- Part of a query that is not mandatory
- Optional part may fail

```
?x a foaf:Person
optional { ?x foaf:name ?name }
```

- 1. 2x = us:John
- 2. ?x = us:Jack ; ?name = "Jack"

Optional

- Part of a query that is not mandatory
- Optional part may fail

```
?x a foaf:Person
optional { ?x foaf:name ?name }
optional { ?x foaf:age ?age . filter (?age > 50) }
```

Optional

- Part of a query that is not mandatory
- Optional part may fail

```
?x a foaf:Person
optional { ?x foaf:name ?name
    optional { ?x foaf:age ?age . filter (?age > 50) }
}
```

Statement

- 1. Union
- 2. Optional
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Minus

- Negation
- Remove result of minus pattern from result of pattern

?x a foaf:Person

minus { ?x foaf:age ?age . filter (?age < 18) }

Minus

There must be (at least) one variable in common

```
?x)a foaf:Person
minus {(?x)foaf:age ?age . filter (?age < 18) }</pre>
```

Statement

- 1. Union
- 2. Optional
- 3. Minus
- 4. Filter (Not) Exists
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Filter Exists

 Check the existence of a pattern: return true or false

?x a foaf:Person
filter exists { ?y foaf:knows ?x }



Filter Exists

 Check the existence of a pattern: return true or false

Filter Not Exists

 Check the absence of a pattern: return true or false

?x a foaf:Person

filter not exists { ?y foaf:knows ?x }

 Find persons and the resources they know union the resources they are known by

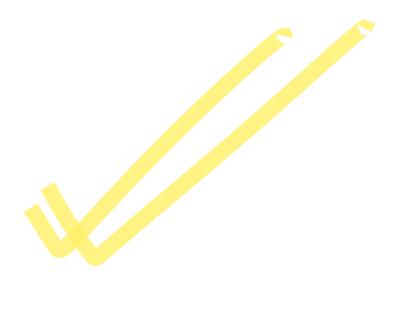
```
select * where {
   ?x a foaf:Person
   { ?x foaf:knows ?y } union { ?y foaf:knows ?x }
}
```

 Find persons except those who know John Doe

```
select * where {
 ?x a foaf:Person
 minus { ?x foaf:knows us:JohnDoe }
```

Find persons and, if possible, persons they know and their name.

```
select * where {
   ?x a foaf:Person
   optional {
      ?x foaf:knows ?y
      ?y foaf:name ?name
   }
}
```



Statement

- 1. Union
- 2. Optional
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- 4. Filter (Not) Exists
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RDF Dataset

- One default graph (mandatory)
- Several named graphs (optional)
- { G, (uri₁, G₁), ... (uri_n, G_n) }

Basic Graph Pattern queries the default graph

RDF Dataset

```
\{G, (ex:g1, G_1), ... (ex:g2, G_2)\}
```

- Redefine the default graph, for the query, either as:
 - one named graph
 - merge of several named graphs

```
select *

from ex:g1 { G, (ex:g1) G_1), ... (ex:g2, G_2) }

where {

?x a foaf:Person
}
```

- Redefine the default graph, for the query, either as:
 - one named graph
 - merge of several named graphs

```
select * from ex:g1 \{G, (ex:g1, G_1), ... (ex:g2, G_2)\} where \{ ?x \ a \ foaf:Person \ G_1
```

- Redefine the default graph, for the query, either as:
 - one named graph
 - merge of several named graphs

```
select * from ex:g1 \{G, (ex:g1, G_1), ... (ex:g2, G_2)\} from ex:g2 where \{ ?x a foaf:Person \}
```

- Redefine the default graph, for the query, either as:
 - one named graph
 - merge of several named graphs

```
select * from ex:g1 \{G, (ex:g1, G_1), ... (ex:g2, G_n)\} from ex:g2 where \{ ?x a foaf:Person \}
```

Named Graph Pattern

Query one named graph

```
select * where {
    graph ex:cnrs {
       ?x foaf:knows ?y
    }
}
```

Named Graph Pattern

Query all named graphs

```
select * where {
    graph ?g {
      ?x foaf:knows ?y
    }
}
```

From named

Query specific named graphs, « one by one »

```
select *
from named ex:cnrs
from named ex:uca
where {
     graph ?g { ?x foaf:knows ?y }
}
```

From and From named

```
select *
from ex:inria
from named ex:cnrs
from named ex:uca
where {
      ?x a foaf:Person
      graph ?g { ?x foaf:knows ?y }
```

Statement

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Find resources related by several triples:

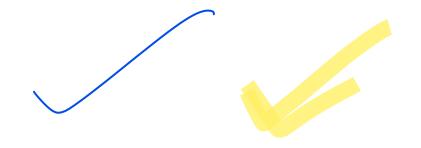
ex:John foaf:knows ?y

(1) ?y = ex:Jack

Find resources related by several triples:

ex:John foaf:knows/foaf:knows ?y

(1)
$$?y = ex: Jim$$



Find resources related by several triples:

ex:John foaf:knows/foaf:knows/foaf:knows ?y

$$(1)$$
 ?y = ex:James



Find resources related by several triples:

```
foaf:knows foaf:knows foaf:knows ex:John ex:Jack — ex:Jim — ex:James
```

ex:John foaf:knows+ ?y

- (1) ?y = ex:Jack
- (2) ?y = ex:Jim
- (3) ?y = ex:James

Property Path Language

?x exp ?y

```
exp ::=
```

uri: property

!uri: negation

exp/exp: sequence

exp|exp: alternative

exp?: optional

exp*: zero or several

exp+: one or several

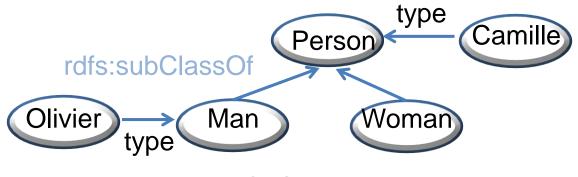
^exp: reverse

Property Path: Reverse

```
?x ^(p/q) ?y
::=
?y p/q ?x
```

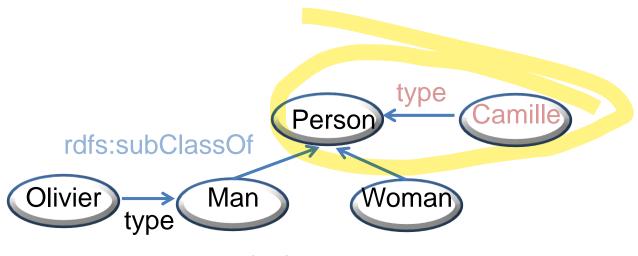
```
?x ^exp ?y
::=
?y exp ?x
```

Emulate class subsumption



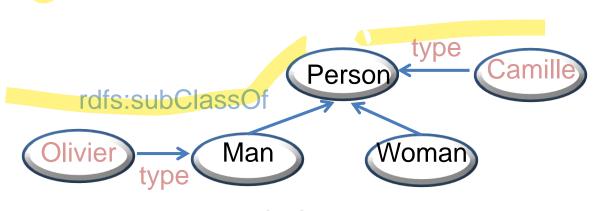
Emulate class subsumption

?x rdf:type foaf:Person



Emulate class subsumption

?x rdf:type/rdfs:subClassOf* foaf:Person



Enumerate RDF list elements

?list rdf:rest*/rdf:first ?e

 Resources related by several foaf:knows and/or rdfs:seeAlso

 Resources related by several foaf:knows and/or rdfs:seeAlso

```
?x (foaf:knows|rdfs:seeAlso)+ ?y
```

Enumerate list elements with position

```
select ?val (count(?mid) as ?pos) where {
  ?list rdf:rest* ?mid
  ?mid rdf:rest* ?node
  ?node rdf:first ?val
}
group by ?node ?val
```

Statement

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Nested Query

Subquery within a query

```
select * where {
     {select ?x (?w * ?l as ?area)
      where { ?x ex:width ?w; ex:length ?l }}
     ?z ex:area ?area
```

Statement

- 1. Union
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Bind

Bind result of expression to variable

bind (exp as var)

Bind

?x geo:width ?w; geo:length ?l
bind (?w * ?l as ?area)

Statement

- 1. Union
- 2. Optional
- 3. Minus
- 4. Filter (Not) Exists
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Values

Focus variable(s) on predefined constant values

```
select * where {
     ?x rdfs:label ?name
}
values ?name { "Blue" "Red" "Yellow" }
```

Values

Focus variable(s) on predefined constant values

```
select * where {
    values ?name { "Blue" "Red" "Yellow" }
    ?x rdfs:label ?name
}
```

Statement

- 1. Union
- 2. Optional
- 3. Minus
- 4. Filter (Not) Exists
- 5. Named Graph
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SPARQL 1.1. Federated Query

Query remote SPARQL endpoint

```
select * where {
  service <http://fr.dbpedia.org/sparql> {
     ?x rdfs:label "Nice"@fr;
     rdf:type ?t
  }
}
```

- Query remote SPARQL endpoint
- Join service results with local results

```
select * where {
    service <http://fr.dbpedia.org/sparql> {
        ?x rdfs:label "Nice"@fr;
        rdf:type ?t
    }
    ?y a ?t
}
```

Query remote SPARQL endpoint with nested query

```
select * where {
    service <http://fr.dbpedia.org/sparql> {
        select * where {
            ?x rdfs:label "Nice"@fr;
            rdf:type ?t
        }
        limit 50
    }
}
```

back to

SPARQL 1.1. Query Language

Solution Sequence Modifiers

- 1. Distinct
- 2. Order By
- 3. Limit
- 4. Offset

Distinct

Remove similar results with same values for same variables

```
select ?x ?z
where {
      ?x foaf:knows ?y.
      ?y foaf:knows ?z
1. ?x = ex:John; ?z = ex:Jack
2.
3. ?x = ex:John; ?z = ex:Jack
```

Distinct

Remove similar results with same values for same variables

```
select distinct ?x ?z
where {
       ?x foaf:knows ?y.
       ?y foaf:knows ?z
1. ?x = ex:John; ?z = ex:Jack
3. ?x = ex:John; ?z = ex:Jack
```

Order By

Sort results by numbers, strings, dates, ...

```
select * where {
  ?x foaf:name ?name ;
    foaf:age ?age
}
order by desc(?age) ?name
```

Limit, Offset

- Limit number of results
- Slice results with an offset

```
select * where {
...
}
limit 10
offset 10
```

Select Expression and Aggregates

Select Expression

Complete the select clause with expressions

```
select ?s (?w * ?l as ?area)
where {
    ?s ex:width ?w; ex:length ?l
}
```

Aggregates

Combine several results into an aggregate value.

```
select (avg(?p) as ?avg) where {
      ?x ex:price ?p
   count
   sum
3.
   avg
   min
5.
   max
6. group_concat
7. sample
```

Aggregates and Group By

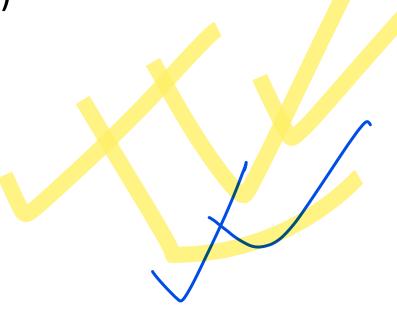
Group results with similar values, aggregate in each group

```
select ?x (avg(?s) as ?score)
where {
     ?x ex:score ?s
}
group by ?x
```

Aggregates, Group By and Having

 Group results with similar values, aggregate in each group, filter aggregate values

```
select ?x (avg(?s) as ?score)
where {
     ?x ex:score ?s
}
group by ?x
having (?score >= 10)
```



DESIGN PATTERNS

Negation as Failure

```
?x a foaf:Person
optional { ?x dc:creator ?doc }
filter (! bound(?doc))
```

Negation: take care

Find people that are not fisherman

```
ex:John a foaf:Person, ex:Fisherman.
```

```
select * where {
    ?x a ?t
    filter (?t != ex:Fisherman)
}
```

?x = ex:John ; ?t = foaf:Person

Negation: take care

Find people that are not fisherman

```
ex:John a foaf:Person, ex:Fisherman.
```

```
select * where {
    ?x a ?t
    minus { ?x a ex:Fisherman }
}
```





```
select *
where {
    graph ?g {
       ?x ex:workAt < http://www.cnrs.fr>
    }
}
```

```
select *
where {
     ?g a ex:Context
     graph ?g {
         ?x ex:workAt < http://www.cnrs.fr>
     }
}
```

```
select *
where {
     ?g a ex:Context ; ex:date 2001
     graph ?g {
          ?x ex:workAt < http://www.cnrs.fr>
     }
}
```

```
select *
where {
     ?g1 a ex:Context; ex:date 2001.
     ?g1 rdfs:seeAlso ?g2
     graph ?g2 {
           ?x ex:workAt <http://www.cnrs.fr>
```

Distinct distinct

```
select distinct ?x ?y
where {
     ?x foaf:knows/foaf:knows ?y
?x = ex:John ; ?y = ex:Patty
?x = ex:Patty; ?y = ex:John
```

Distinct distinct

```
select distinct ?x ?y
where {
      ?x foaf:knows/foaf:knows ?y
      filter (?x < ?y)
?x = ex:John ; ?y = ex:Patty
?x = ex:Patty; ?y = ex:John
```

SPARQL 1.1 QUERY RESULT

SPARQL Query Result Formats

- XML
- JSON
- CSV, TSV

SPARQL 1.1 UPDATE

SPARQL Update

Manage (modify) the content of RDF Datasets

- Load
- Delete/Insert Data
- Delete/Insert Where
- Copy, Move, Add

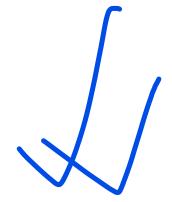
Load RDF document

load <http://example.org/data.ttl>

load <http://example.org/data.ttl> into graph ex:g

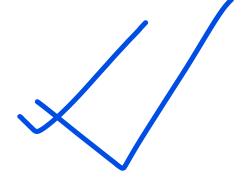
Insert Data

```
insert data {
    ex:John a foaf:Person ; foaf:age 18 .
    ex:Jill a foaf:Person ; foaf:age 81 .
}
```



Delete Data

```
delete data {
    ex:John a foaf:Person ; foaf:age 18 .
    ex:Jill a foaf:Person ; foaf:age 81 .
}
```



Delete Data

```
delete data {
    [] a foaf:Person; foaf:age 18.
    ex:Jill a foaf:Person; foaf:age 81.
}
```

No Blank Node in a delete clause !!!

Delete Where

```
delete {
     ?x foaf:age ?age
where {
     ?x a foaf:Person; foaf:age?age
     filter (?age < 0)
```

Delete Where

```
delete {
     1 foaf:age ?age
where {
     ?x a foaf:Person; foaf:age?age
     filter (?age < 0)
No Blank Node in a delete clause !!!
```

Delete Where

```
delete {
     ?x foaf:age ?age
where {
     ?x a foaf:Person; foaf:age?age
     filter (?age < 0)
(1) ?x = ex:John
(2) ?x = :b1
```

Insert Where

```
insert {
     ?x foaf:mail ?mail
where {
     ?x ex:firstName ?f; ex:lastName ?l
     bind (concat(?f, ".", ?l, "@acme.com")
     as ?mail)
```

Insert Where

```
insert {
     [] foaf:mail?mail
where {
     ?x ex:firstName ?f; ex:lastName ?l
     bind (concat(?f, ".", ?l, "@acme.com")
     as ?mail)
```

Update: Delete Insert Where

```
delete { ?x foaf:age ?age }
insert { ?x foaf:age ?int }
where {
     ?x foaf:age ?age
     filter (datatype(?age) = xsd:string)
     bind (xsd:integer(?age) as ?int)
```

- 1. Compute solutions $\{S_1, ... S_n\}$ of the where clause
- 2. Apply delete on $\{S_1, ... S_n\}$
- 3. Apply insert on $\{S_1, ... S_n\}$

Named Graph

```
insert {
     graph ex:info { ?x foaf:mail ?mail }
where {
     ?x ex:firstName ?f; ex:lastName ?l
     bind (concat(?f, ".", ?I, "@acme.com")
     as ?mail)
```

Others

- Copy
- Move
- Add

SPARQL 1.1. PROTOCOL

SPARQL Protocol

- SPARQL Endpoint
 - Triple Store embedded in an HTTP server
- SPARQL Protocol
 - Interact with SPARQL endpoint by means of HTTP

SPARQL Protocol

Interact with SPARQL endpoint by means of HTTP

```
http://dbpedia.org/sparql?query=
select * where { ?x rdfs:label "Paris"@fr }
```

```
http://example.org/sparql?update=
load <a href="http://example.org/data.ttl">http://example.org/sparql?update=
```