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: <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="mailto:right">foaf: <a href="mailto:right">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/></a>
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 <u>not returned</u> 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

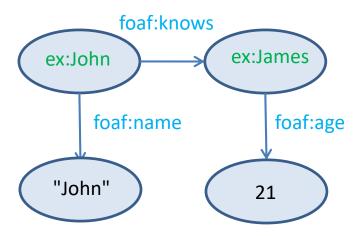
```
select * where {
    ?x rdf:value (?y ?z)
}
```

RDF List

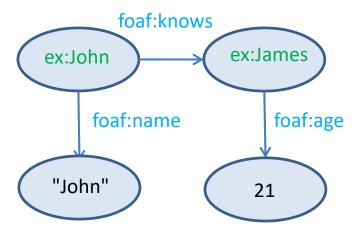
```
select * where {
      ?x rdf:value (?y ?z)
select * where {
      ?x rdf:value [
            rdf:first?y;
            rdf:rest [rdf:first?z;rdf:restrdf:nil]
```

SPARQL Query Processing

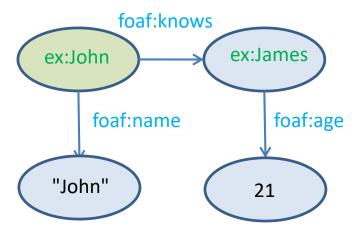
- A query is a Graph Pattern (graph with variables)
- Search occurrences of Graph Pattern in RDF Graph
- Zero, one or several results

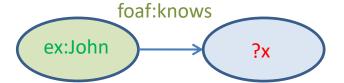


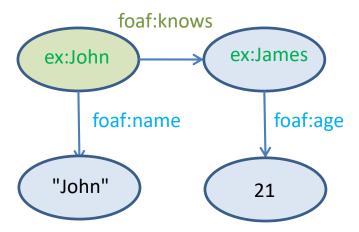


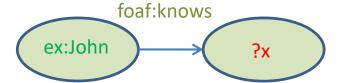


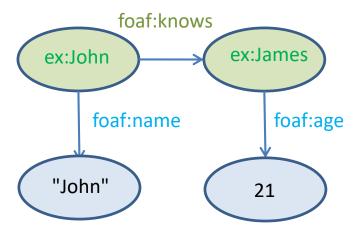


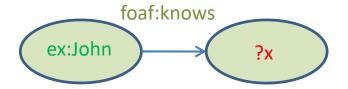


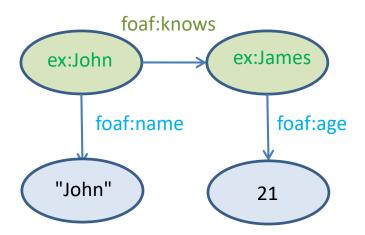






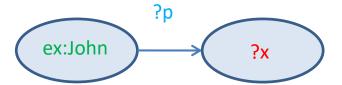


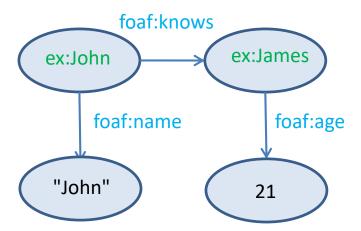


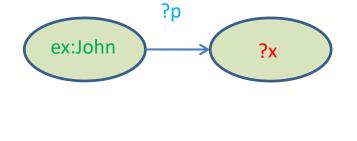


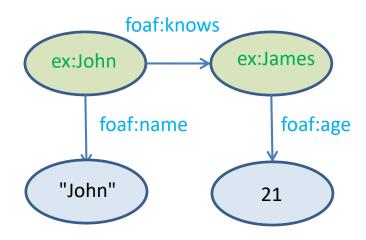
ex:John foaf:knows ?x

(1) ?x = ex:James



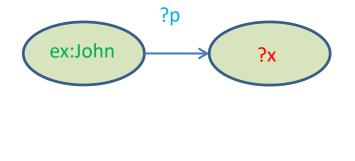


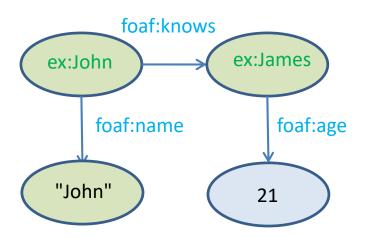




ex:John?p?x

(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. ?x = ex:John; ?z = 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

3. ?x = ex:John; ?z = ex:Jack

```
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
   1. ?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
 - 2. 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

- ?age >= 18, ?n < "John"
- ?x != ?y, ?y = "James"

- (?n * (?n + 1))/2
- !(?x < 0 && ?y < 0)
- datatype(?x)
- exists { ?x foaf:knows ?y}

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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

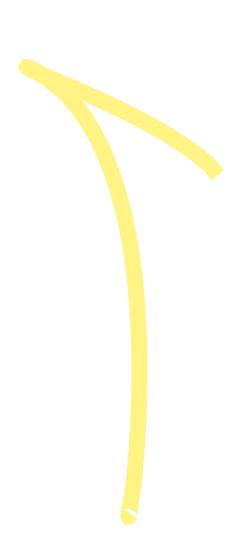
```
filter if (lang(?name) = "fr",
?age >= 18,
?age >= 21)
```

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(?l)
- 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
- 2. Optional
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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
- 3. Minus
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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) }</pre>
```

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

```
?x a foaf:Person
filter ( ?x = ex:JohnDoe ||
    exists { ?y foaf:knows ?x } )
```

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

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

```
{ G, (ex:g1, G<sub>1</sub>), ... (ex:g2, G<sub>2</sub>) }
```

- 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:

foaf:knows foaf:knows foaf:knows ex:John
$$\longrightarrow$$
 ex:Jack \longrightarrow ex:James

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

(1) ?y = ex:James



Find resources related by several triples:

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

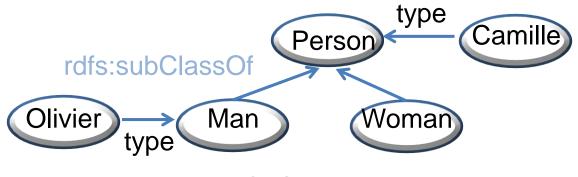
^exp: reverse

Property Path: Reverse

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

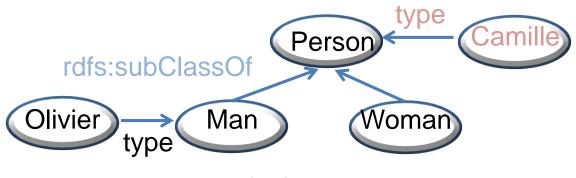
```
?x ^exp ?y
::=
?y exp ?x
```

Emulate class subsumption



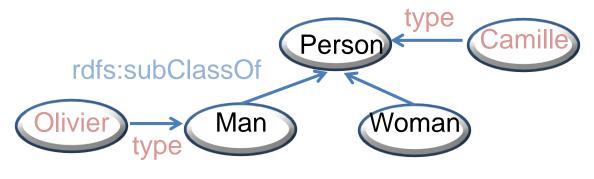
Emulate class subsumption

?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

Statement

- 1. Union
- 2. Optional
- 3. Minus
- 4. Filter (Not) Exists
- 5. Named Graph
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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
- 5. Named Graph
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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
- 6. Property Path
- 7. Nested Query
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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

7. sample

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
```

Aggregates and Group By

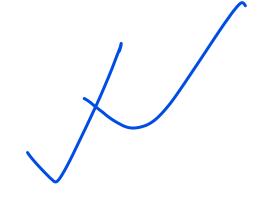
Group results with similar values, aggregate in each group

```
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)
```

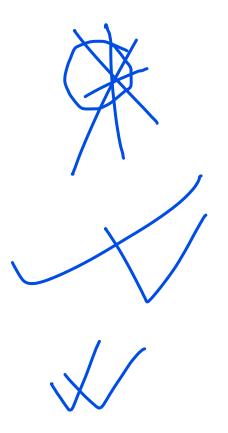
② ?x = ex:John; ?t = foaf:Person

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 }
}
```





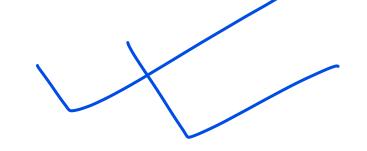
```
select *
where {
    graph ?g {
      ?x ex:workAt < http://www.cnrs.fr>
    }
}
```

```
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

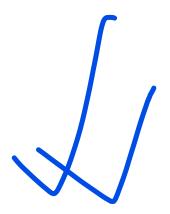
Load RDF document

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

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

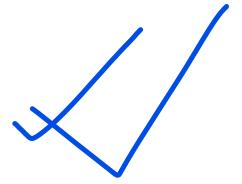
Insert Data

```
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=
```