

I K N E X

Knowledge Engineering and Linked Data

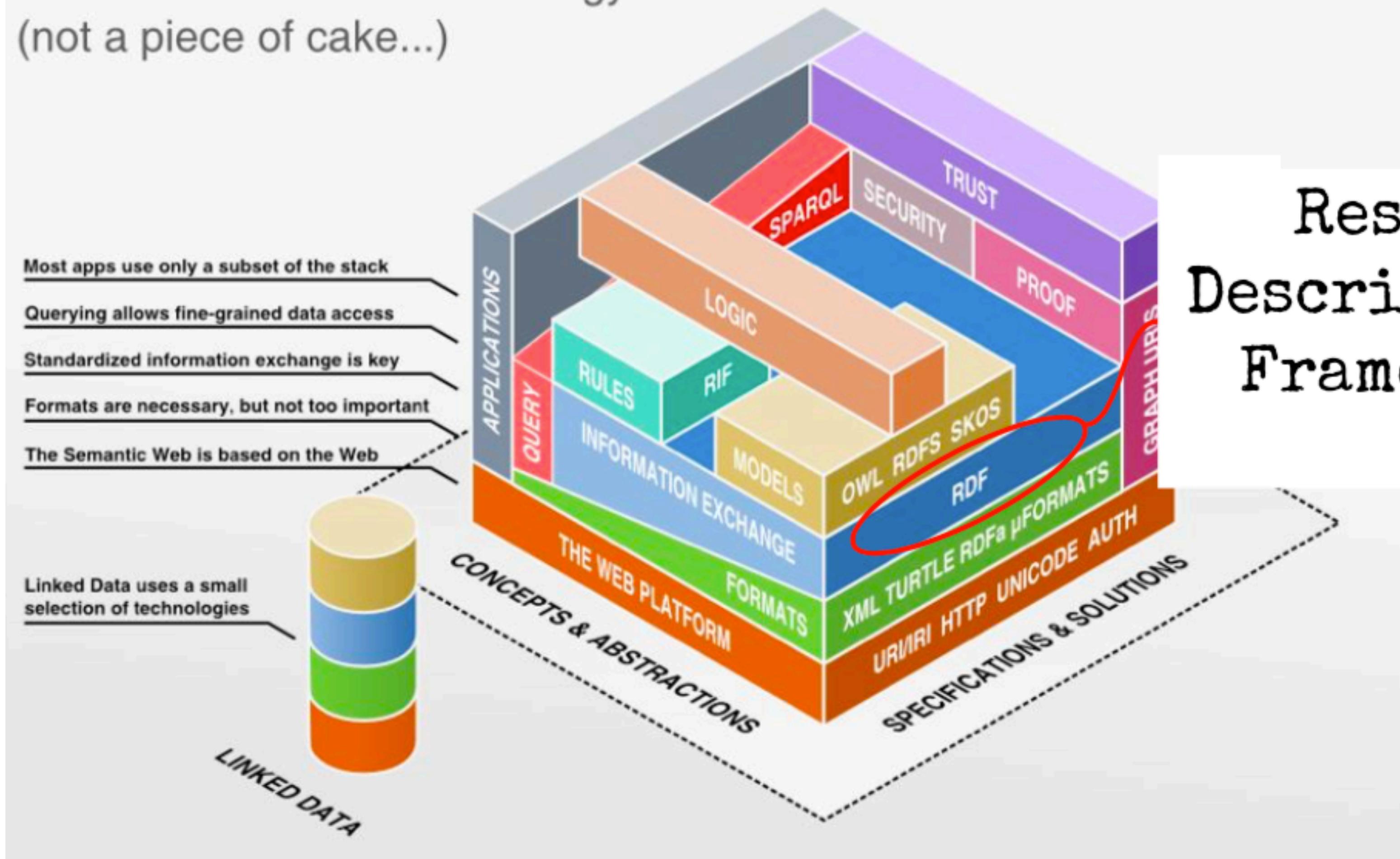
Fall 2023

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RDF

The Semantic Web Technology Stack
(not a piece of cake...)



Resource
Description
Framework
(RDF)



Resource Description Framework

**Basic concepts of RDF
Formats for serializing RDF data
Advanced features of RDF
What is Linked Data?**



Resource Description Framework

- **Resource**

- can be everything
- must be uniquely identified and referencable via URI

- **Description**

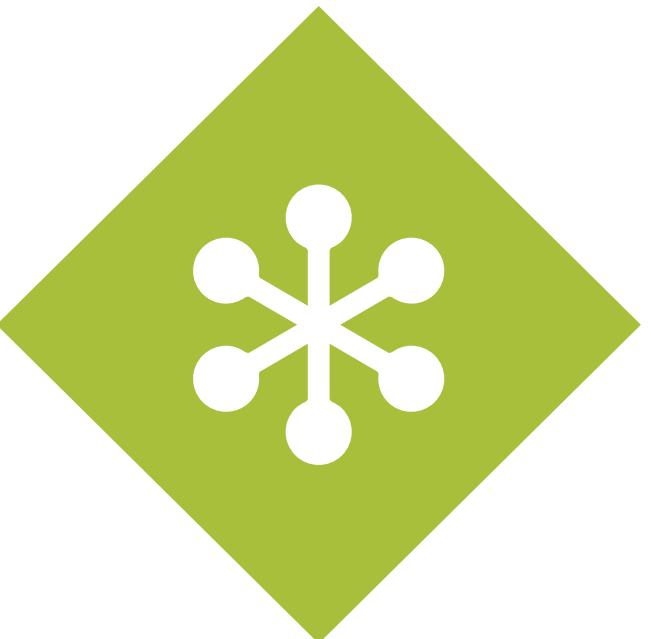
- = description of resources
- ia representing properties and relationships among resources as graphs

- **Framework**

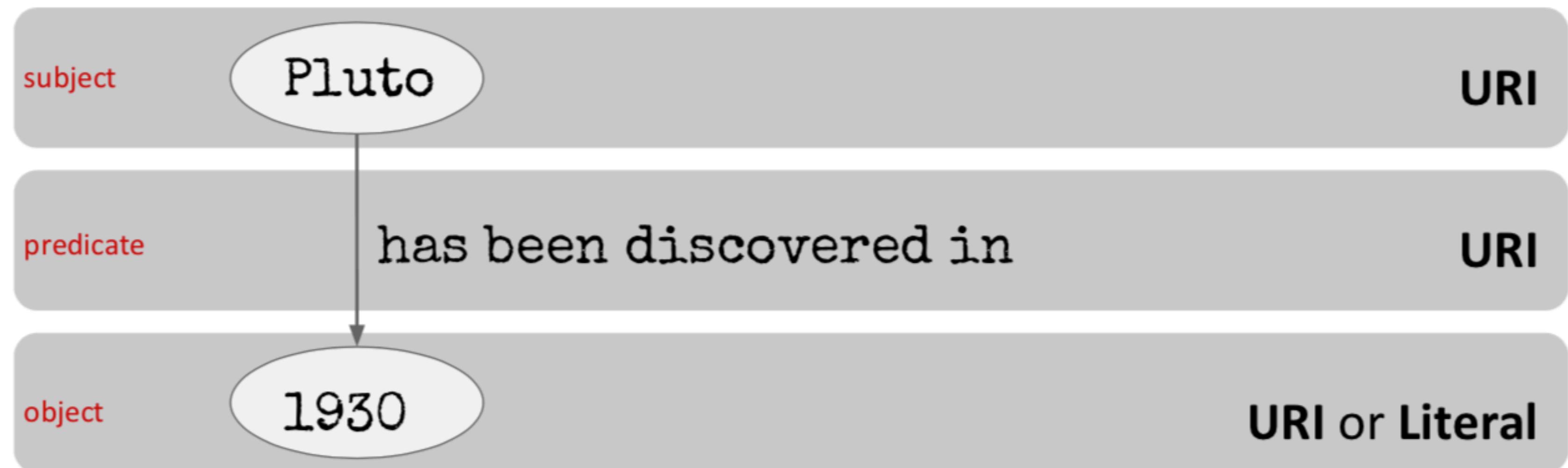
- = combination of web based protocols (URI, HTTP, XML, Turtle, JSON, ...)
- based on formal model (semantics)

- Knowledge in RDF is expressed as a list of **statements**

- All RDF statements follow the same simple schema (= **RDF Triple**)



Resource Description Framework





URIs



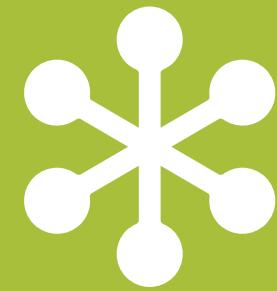
Uniform Resource Identifier

- A Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) defines a simple and extensible schema for worldwide unique identification of abstract or physical resources (RFC 3986).
- A **Resource** can be every object with a clear identity (according to the context of the application)
 - as e.g., web pages, books, locations, persons, relations among objects, abstract concepts, etc.
- URI concept is already established in various domains, as e.g.,
 - the Web (URL),
 - Books and publications (ISBN, ISSN),
 - Digital Object Identifier (DOI)



What if a URI Does Not Exist (Yet)?

- Define a URI by yourself:
 - avoid overlaps → use your own website
 - enable documentation at the same place → Content Negotiation
- Use separate URIs for the resource (Designatum) and its documentation (Designator) via
 - Content Negotiation and/or
 - URI references (e.g. via "#" fragment identifier)



Resource Description Framework

- **RDF Statements (RDF-Triple):**

Subject

+

Property

+

Object / Value

URI

URI

URI / Literal

RDF Building Blocks

<<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Pluto>>

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

"1930" .

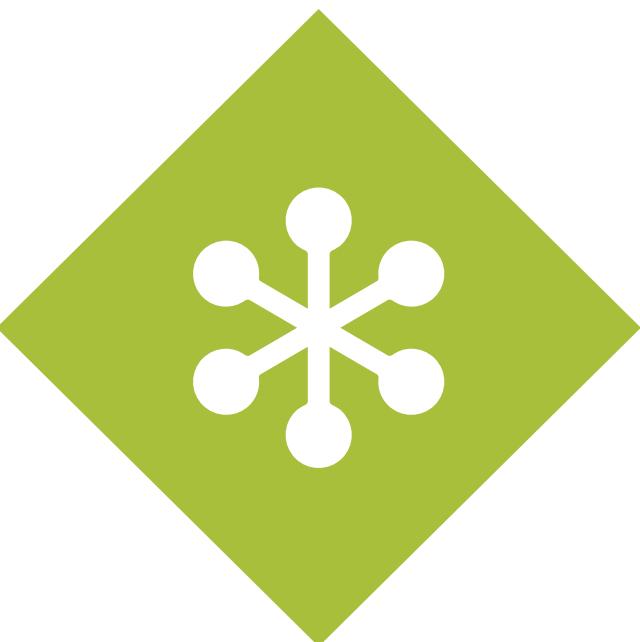
N-Triples Serialization

<<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Pluto>>

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

"1930"

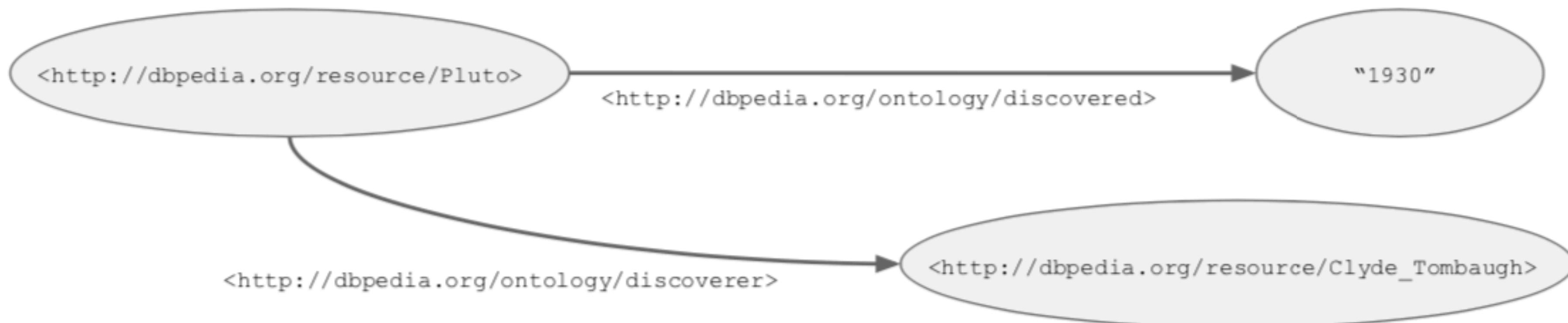
graph
representation



Resource Description Framework

- **URIs and Literals**

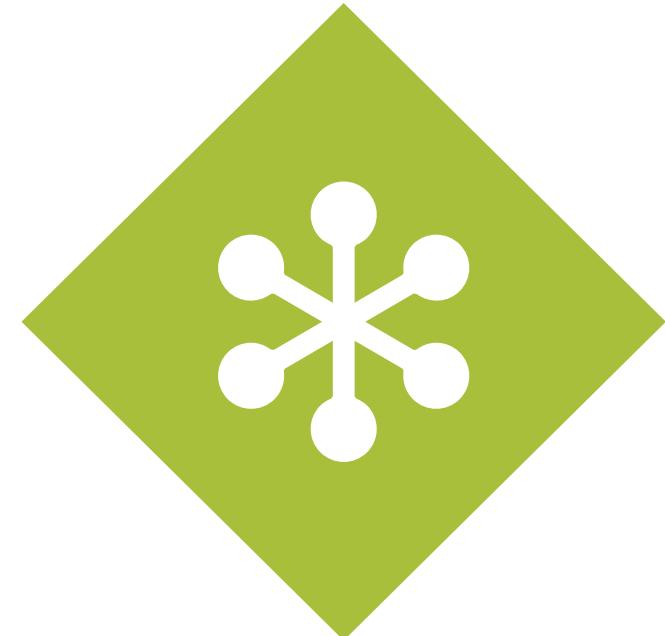
- URIs reference resources uniquely
- Literals describe data values that don't have a separate existence.





Literals and Data Types

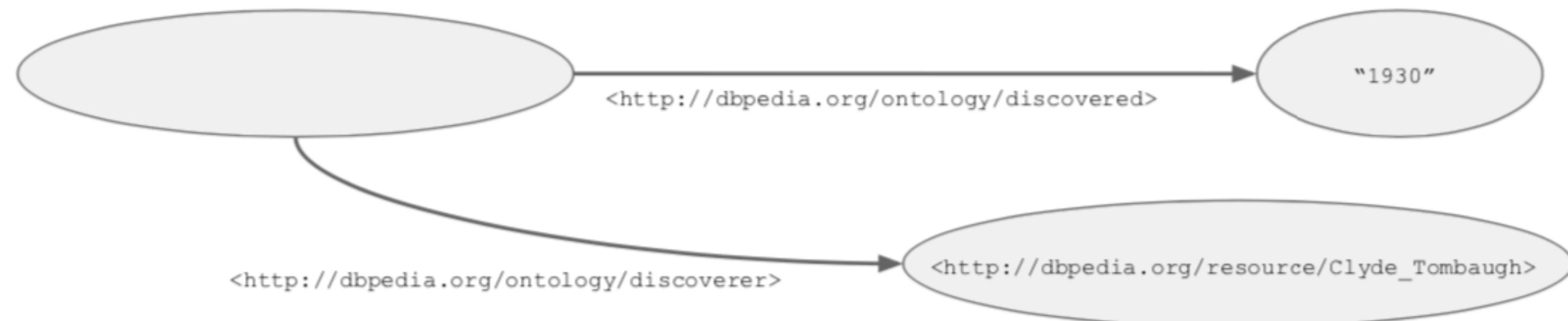
- typed literals can be expressed via **XML Schema datatypes**
- Namespace for typed literals:
`http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#`
- Examples:
`"Semantics"^^<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string>`
`"1161.00"^^<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#float>`
`"2015-08-02"^^<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#date>`
- **Language Tags** denote the (natural) language of the text:
 - Example:
`"Semantik"@de , "Semantics"@en`



Blank Nodes

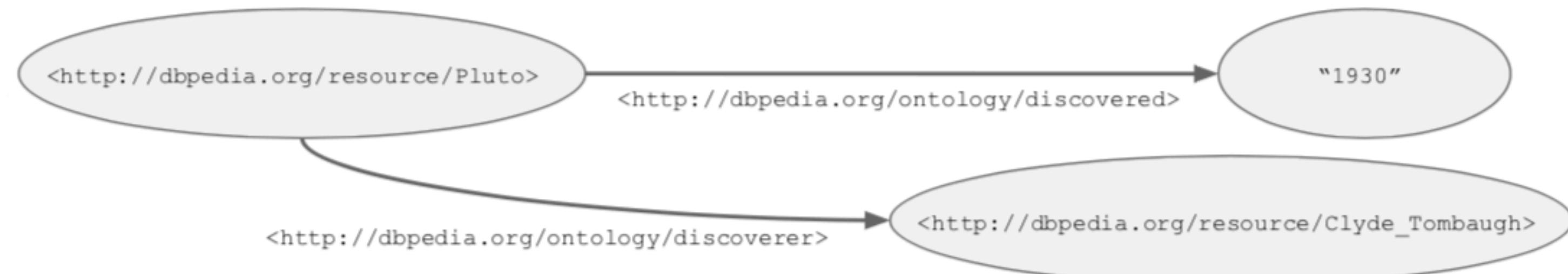
- **Blank Nodes**

- denote existence of an individual with specific attributes, but without
- providing an identification or reference





RDF Serialization



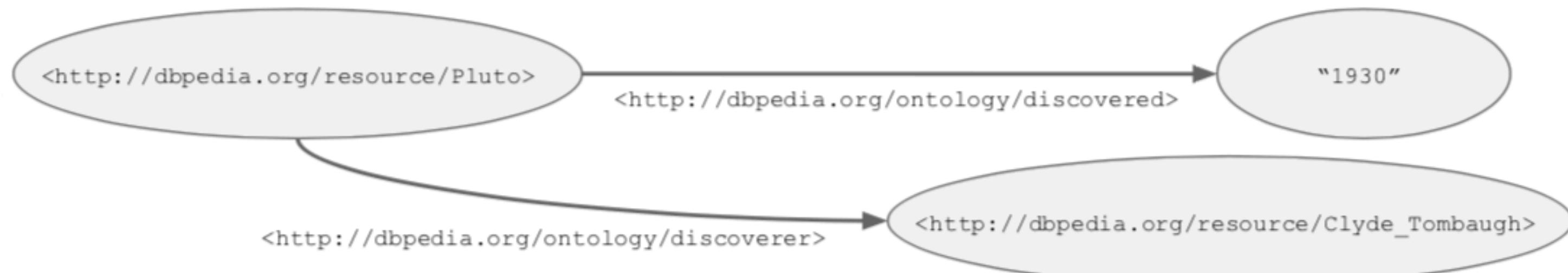
- **N-Triples Notation**

- URIs/IRIs in angle brackets
- Literals in quotation marks
- Triple ends with a period

```
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Pluto> <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/discovered> "1930" .  
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Pluto> <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/discoverer>  
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Clyde_Tombaugh> .
```



RDF Serialization



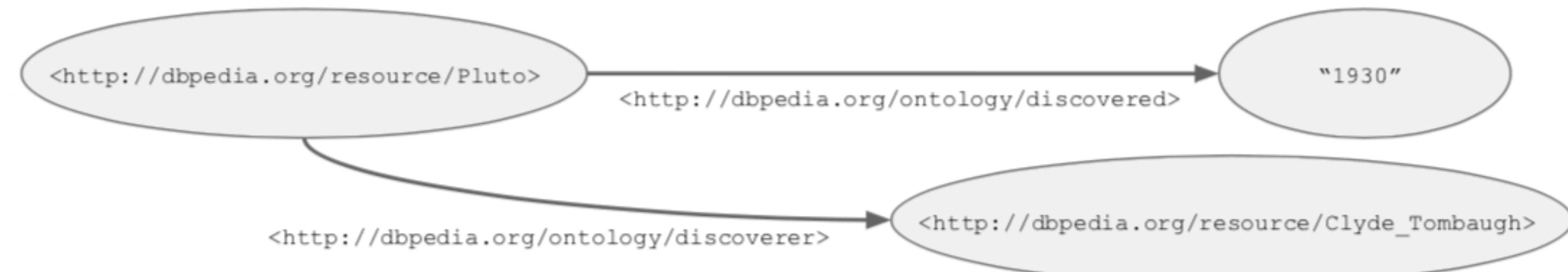
● RDF/XML Notation

S P O

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
           xmlns:ns0="http://dbpedia.org/ontology/">
  <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Pluto">
    <ns0:discovered>1930</ns0:discovered>
    <ns0:discoverer rdf:resource="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Clyde_Tombaugh"/>
  </rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
```



RDF Serialization

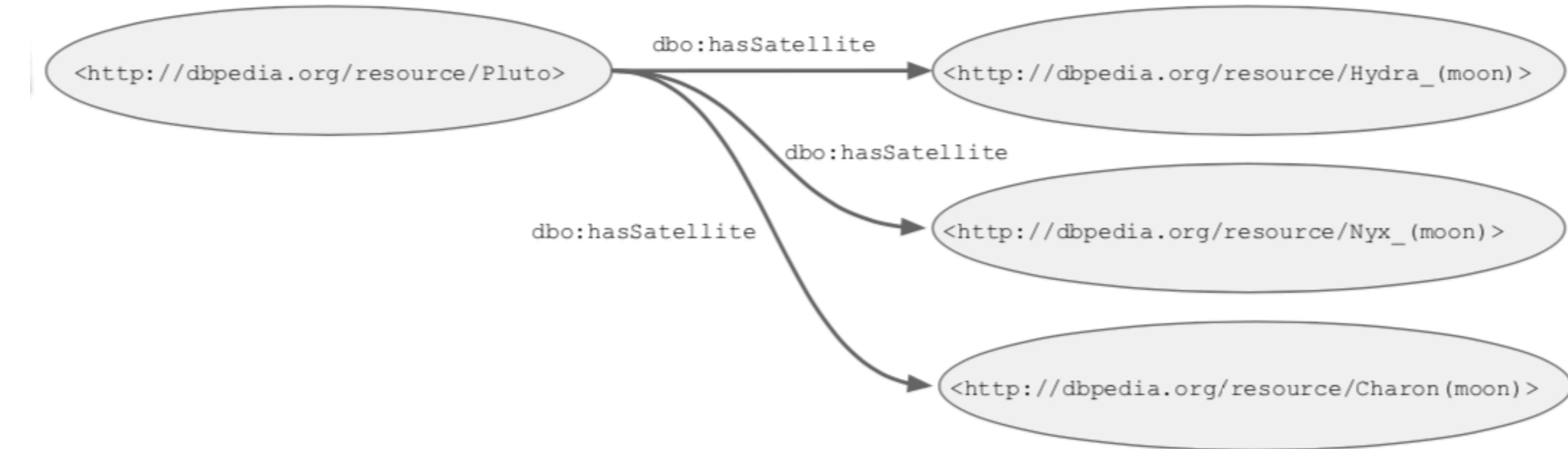


- **Turtle (Terse RDF Triple Language) Notation**
 - extension of N_Triples

```
@prefix dbo: <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/> .  
@base  <http://dbpedia.org/resource/> .  
  
<Pluto> dbo:discovered "1930" .  
  
<Pluto> dbo:discoverer <Clyde_Tombaugh> .
```



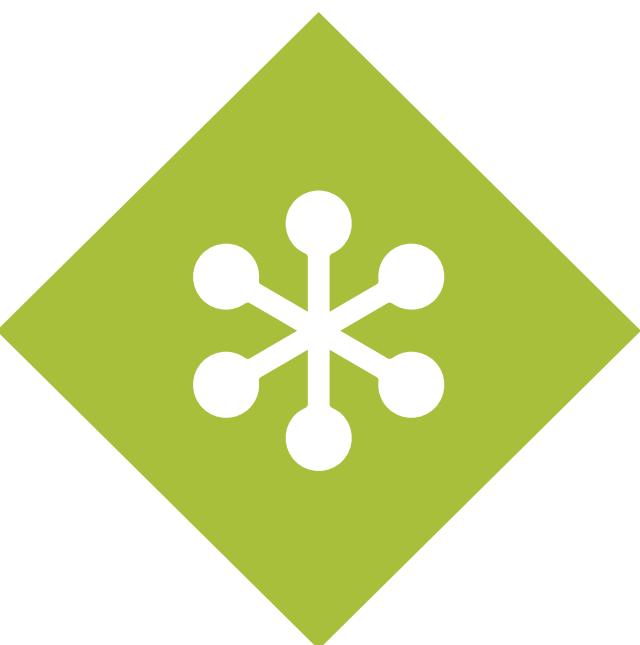
RDF Serialization



● Abbreviating in Turtle

```
@prefix dbo: <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/> .  
@base <http://dbpedia.org/resource/> .  
  
<Pluto> dbo:hasSatellite <Hydra_(moon)> ,  
                      <Nyx_(moon)> ,  
                      <Charon_(moon)> .
```

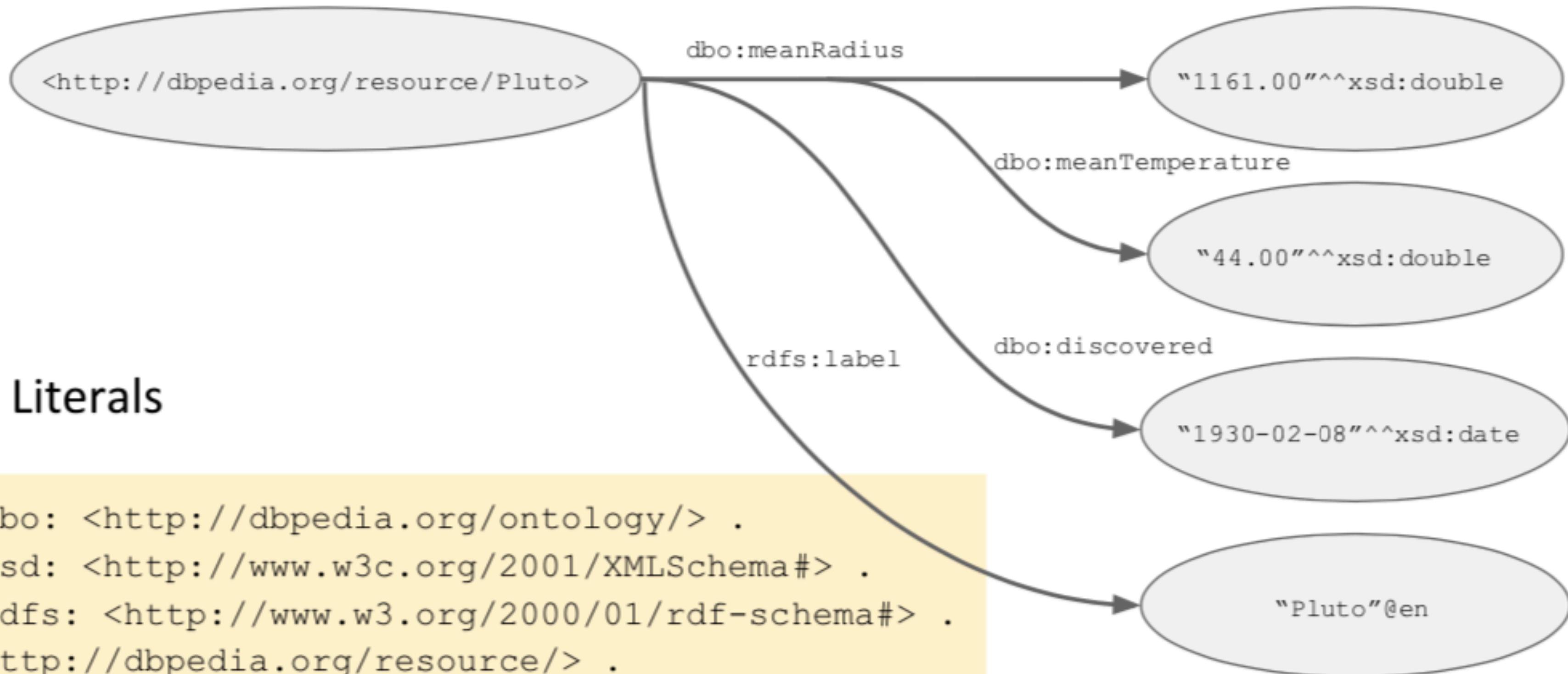
comma indicates that subsequent triples have same subject and property (**object list**)

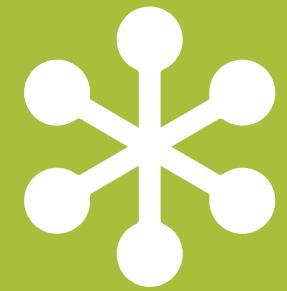


Turtle - Terse RDF

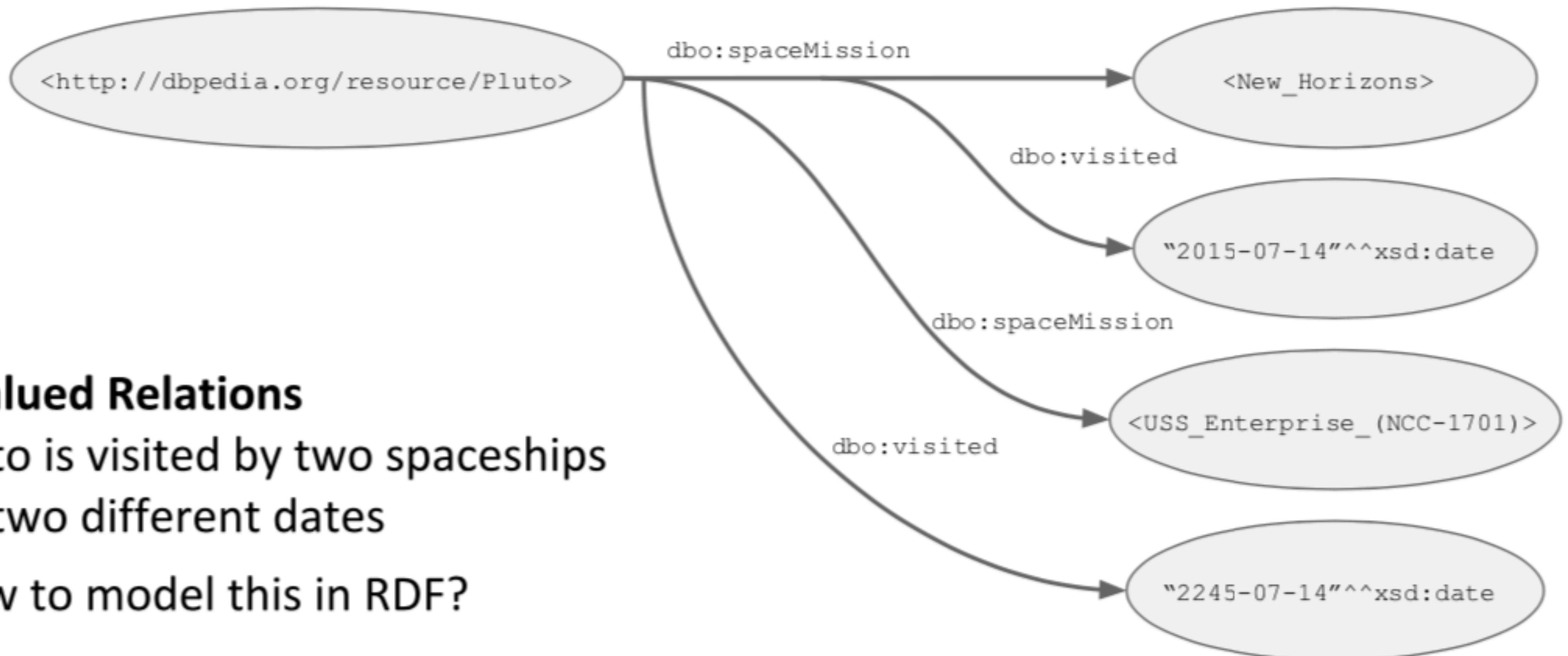
- Typed Literals

```
@prefix dbo: <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/> .  
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3c.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .  
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .  
@base <http://dbpedia.org/resource/> .  
  
<Pluto> dbo:meanRadius "1161.00"^^xsd:double ;  
    dbo:meanTemperature "44.00"^^xsd:double ;  
    dbo:discovered "1930-02-18"^^xsd:date ;  
    rdfs:label "Pluto"@en .
```





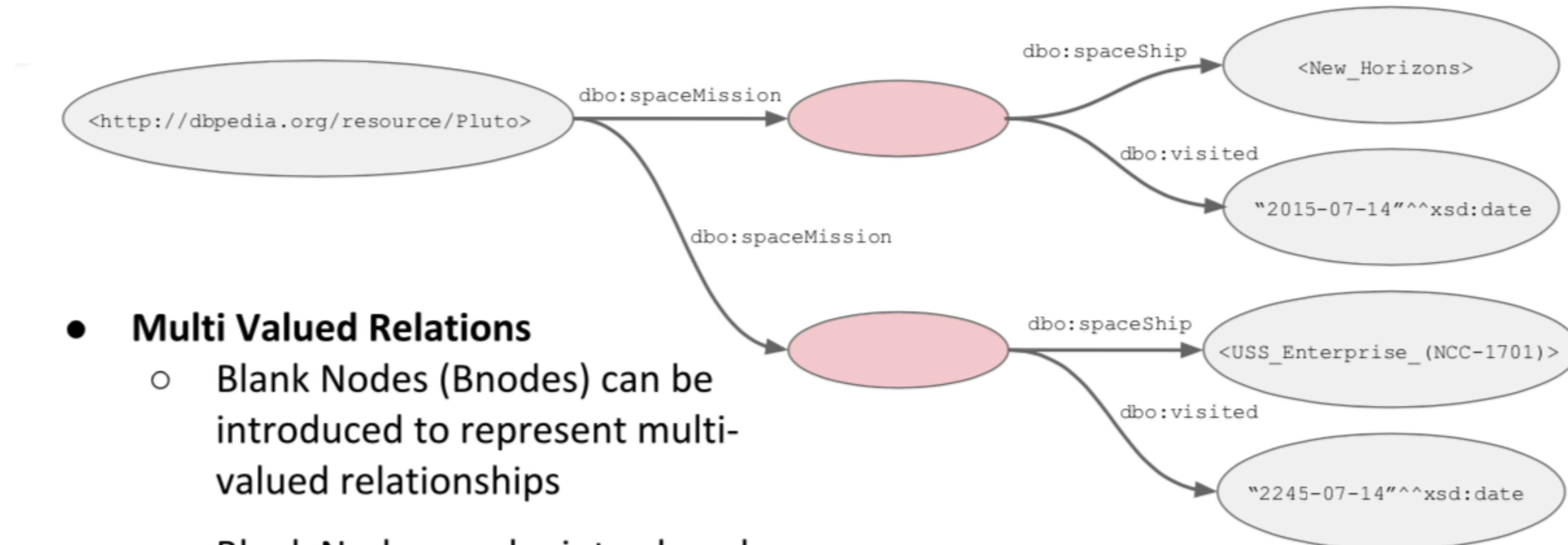
Multi-Valued Relations



- **Multi Valued Relations**
 - Pluto is visited by two spaceships on two different dates
 - How to model this in RDF?
 - **Problem:** unique association



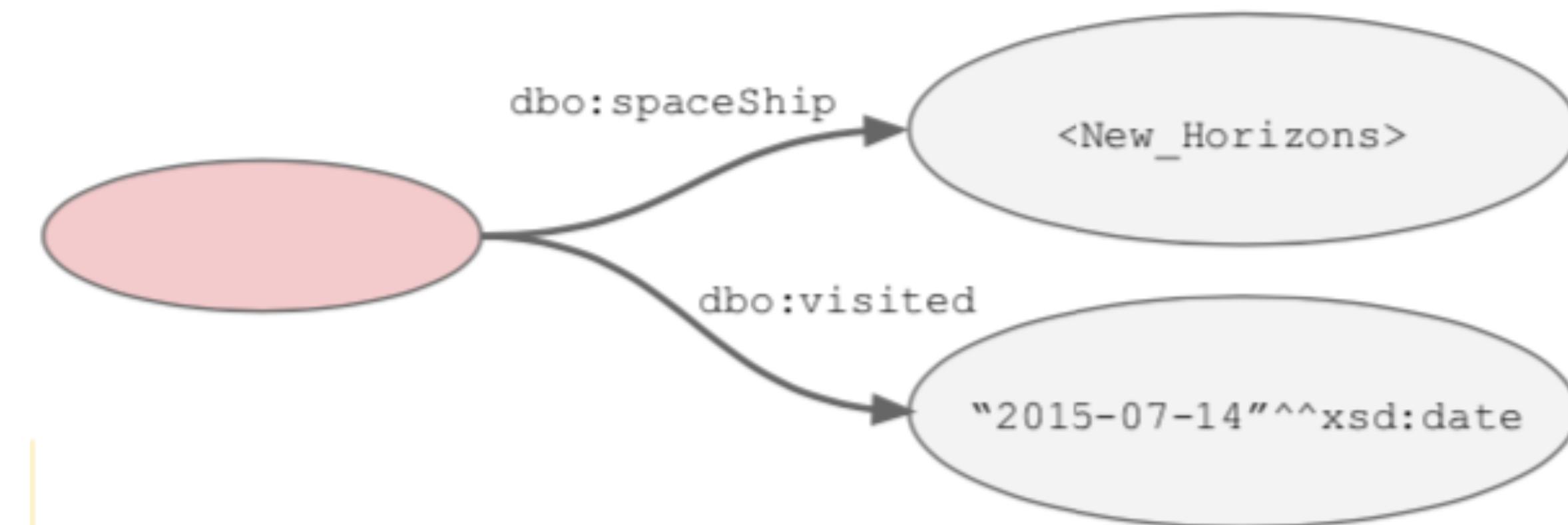
Blank Nodes



- **Multi Valued Relations**
 - Blank Nodes (Bnodes) can be introduced to represent multi-valued relationships
 - Blank Nodes can be introduced for resources that don't need a name (auxiliary nodes)



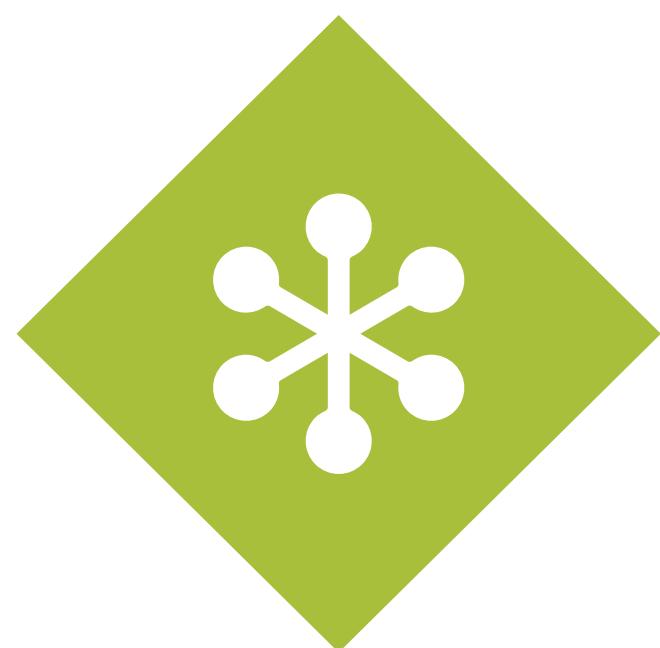
Turtle - Terse RDF



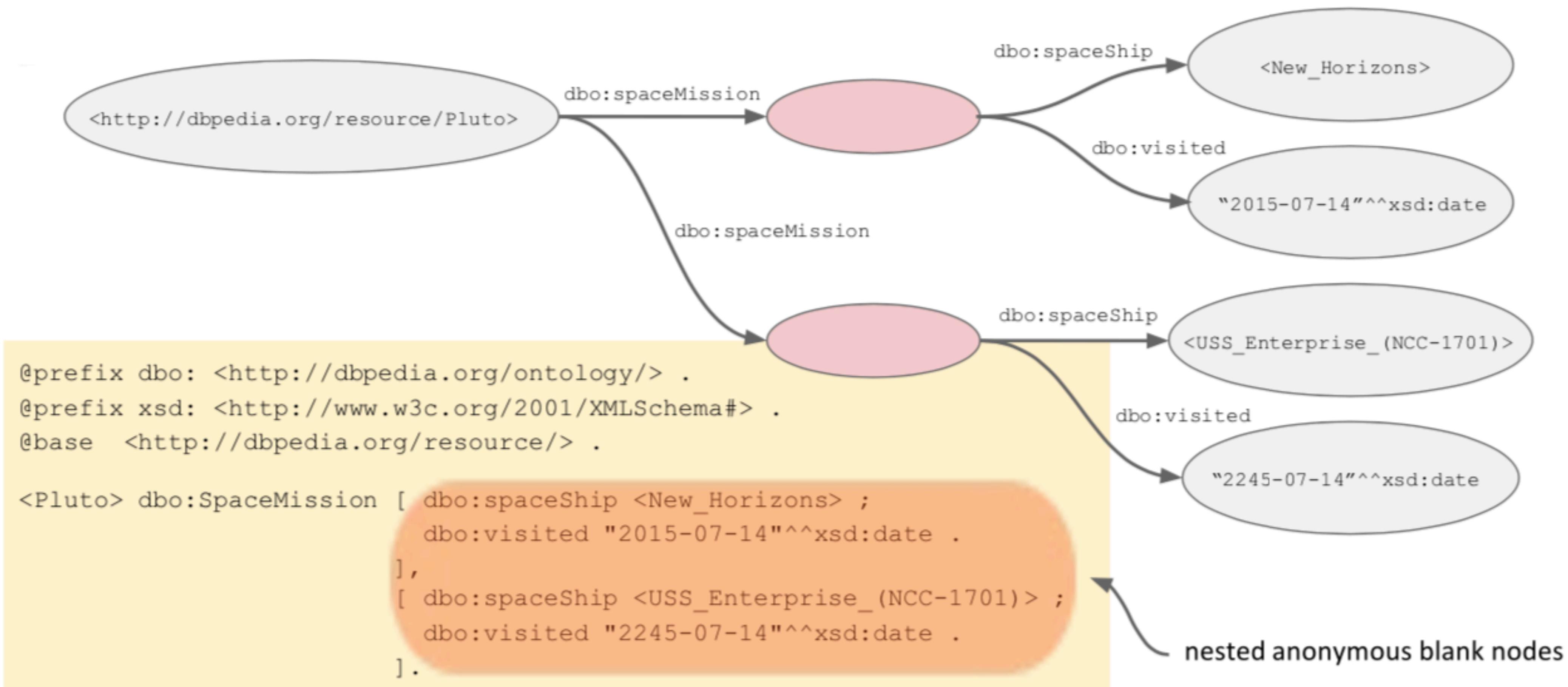
```
@prefix dbo: <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/> .  
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3c.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .  
@base <http://dbpedia.org/resource/> .
```

```
[] dbo:spaceShip <New_Horizons> ;  
    dbo:visited "2015-07-14"^^xsd:date .
```

anonymous blank node as subject

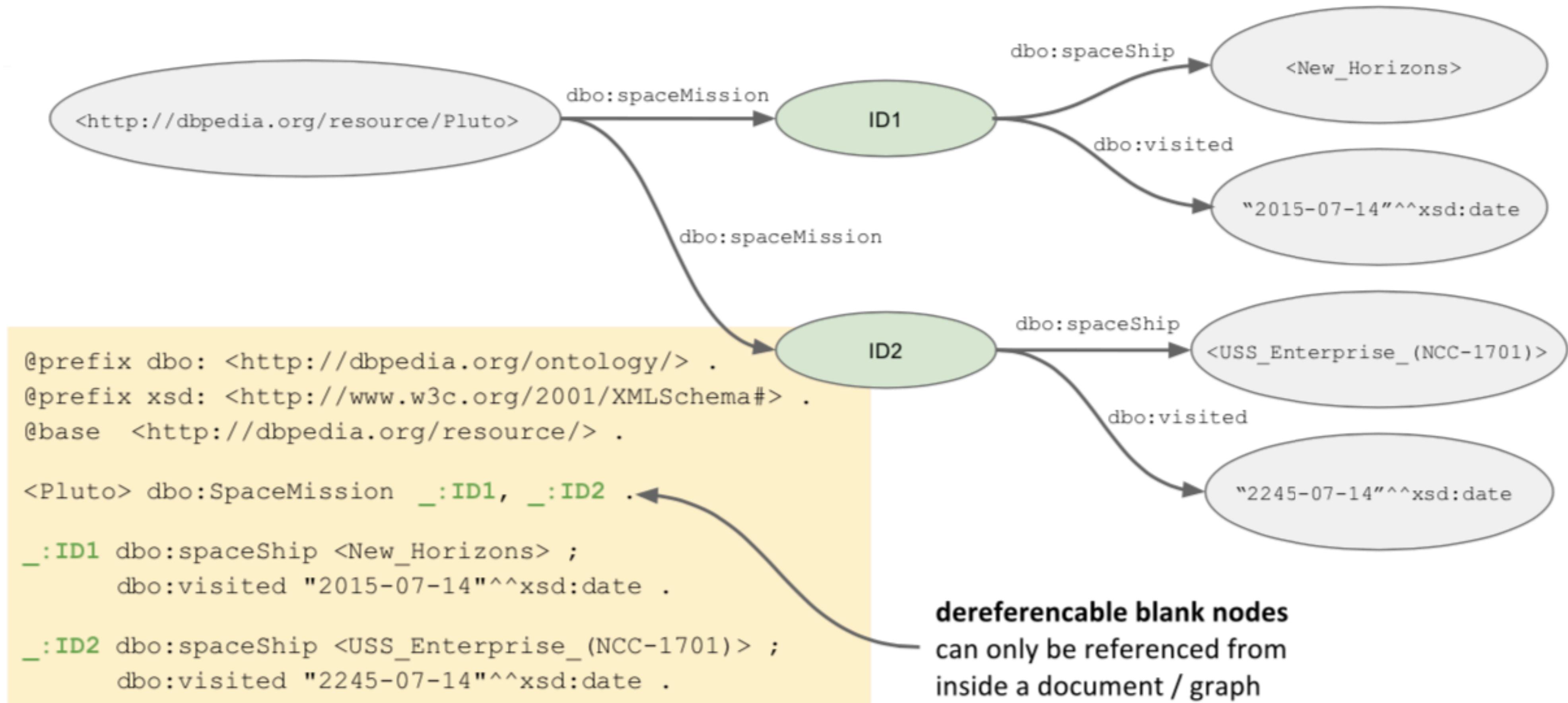


Turtle - Terse RDF





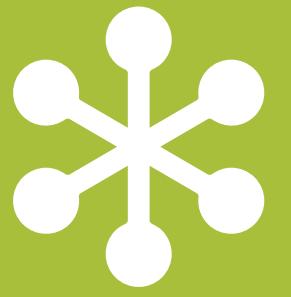
Turtle - Terse RDF



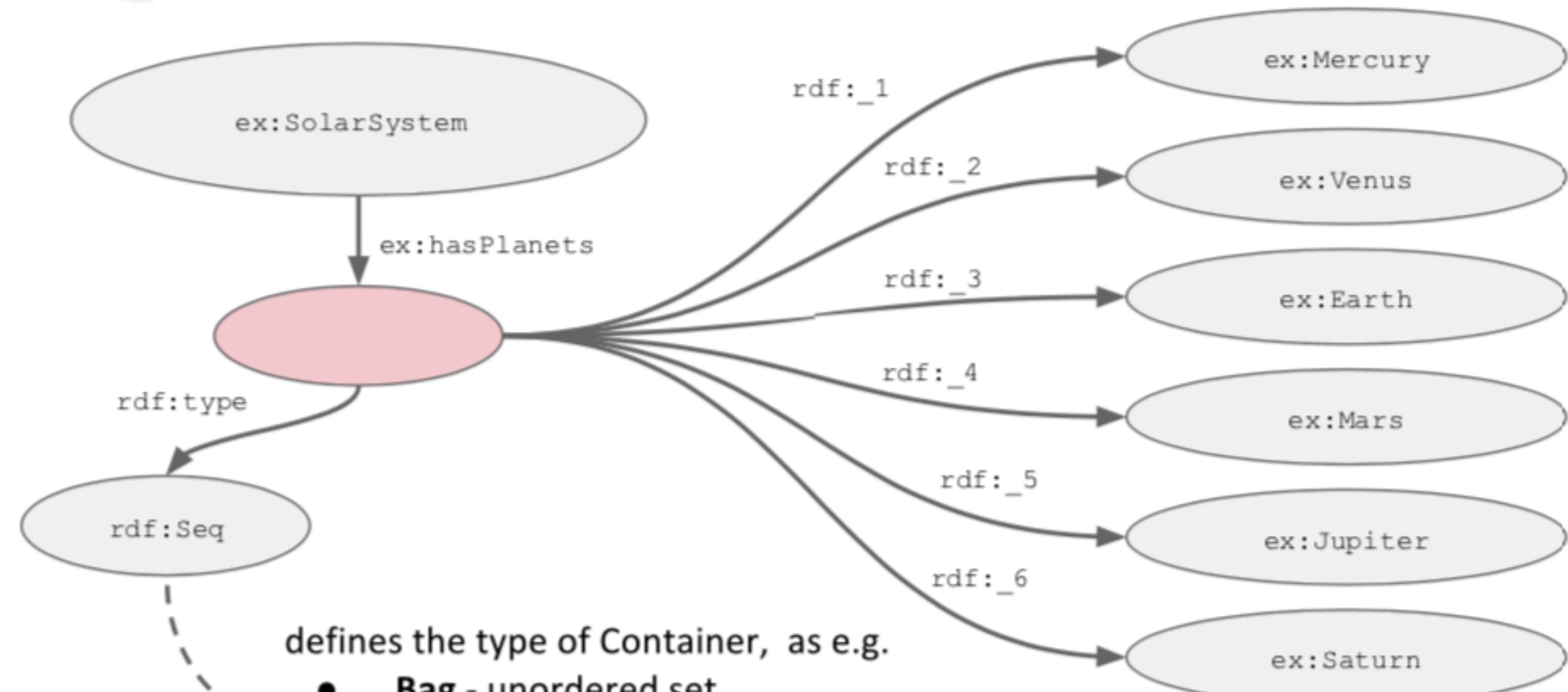


RDF Lists

- General Data structure to enumerate any resources or literals
- Only shortcuts without additional semantic expressivity
- Distinguish between
 - **Container**: open list, i.e. extension (new entries) possible
 - **Collection**: closed list, i.e. no extension possible



RDF Container



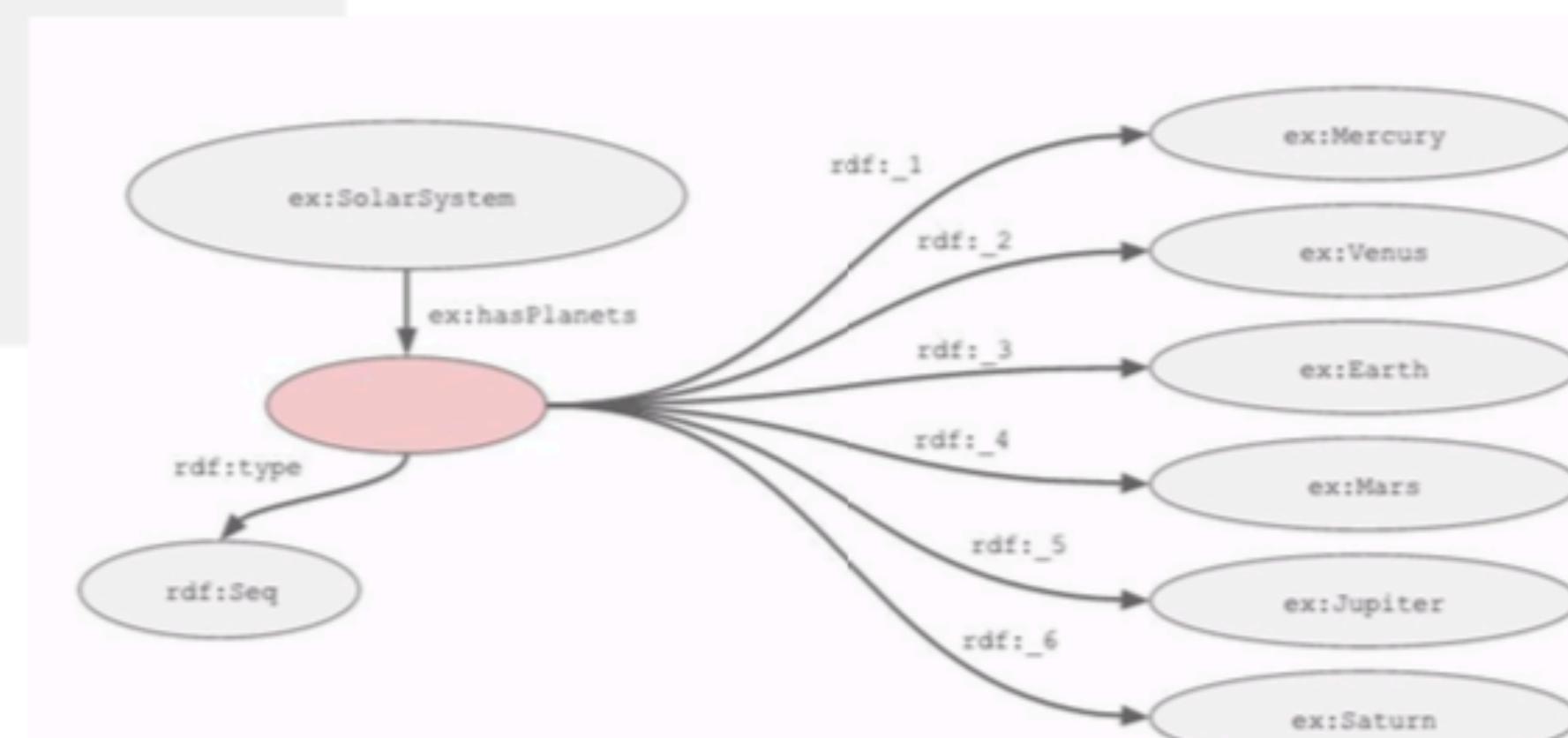
defines the type of Container, as e.g.

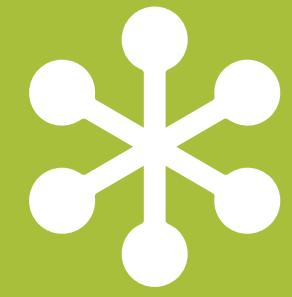
- **Bag** - unordered set
- **Seq** - ordered set
- **Alt** - alternatives



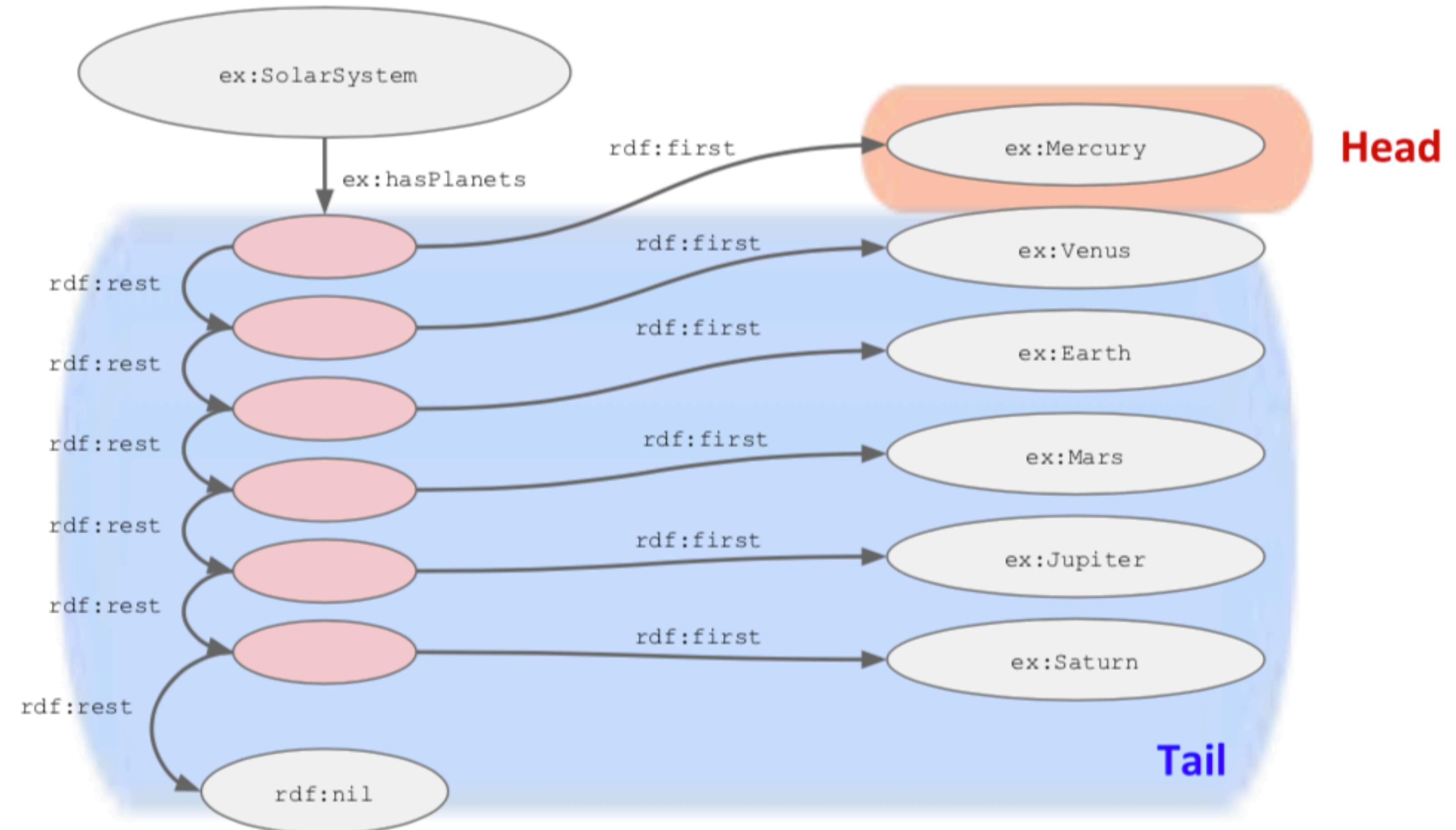
RDF Container

```
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .  
@prefix ex: <http://example.org/test#> .  
  
ex:SolarSystem ex:hasPlanets [  
    a rdf:Seq ;  
    rdf:_1 ex:Mercury ;  
    rdf:_2 ex:Venus ;  
    rdf:_3 ex:Earth ;  
    rdf:_4 ex:Mars ;  
    rdf:_5 ex:Jupiter ;  
    rdf:_6 ex:Saturn  
] .
```

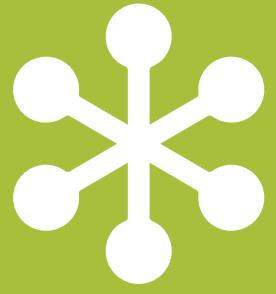




RDF Collection



RDF Collection



```
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .  
@prefix ex: <http://example.org/test#> .  
  
ex:SolarSystem ex:hasPlanets [  
    rdf:first ex:Mercury ; rdf:rest [  
        rdf:first ex:Venus ; rdf:rest [  
            rdf:first ex:Earth ; rdf:rest [  
                rdf:first ex:Mars ; rdf:rest [  
                    rdf:first ex:Jupiter ; rdf:rest [  
                        rdf:first ex:Saturn ;  
                        rdf:rest rdf:nil  
                ]  
            ]  
        ]  
    ]  
]  
].
```

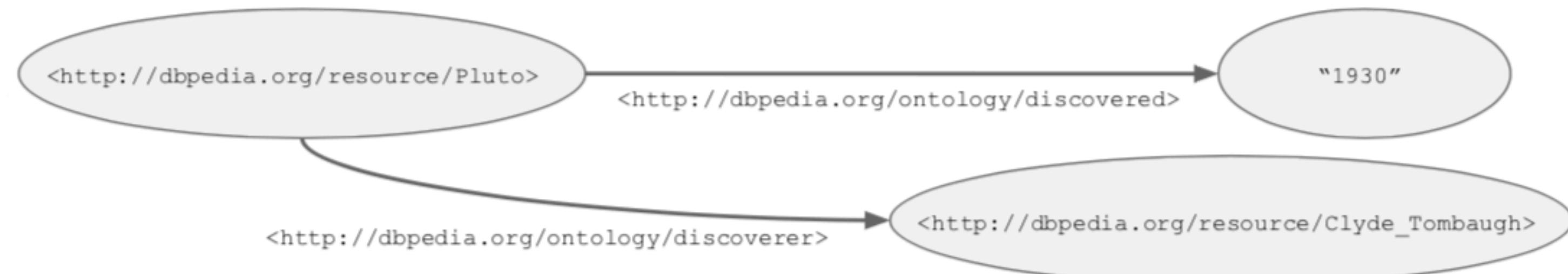


```
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .  
@prefix ex: <http://example.org/test#> .  
  
ex:SolarSystem ex:hasPlanets (  
    ex:Mercury ex:Venus ex:Earth ex:Mars ex:Jupiter ex:Saturn  
) .
```





RDF Serialization



● JSON-LD Notation (RDF 1.1)



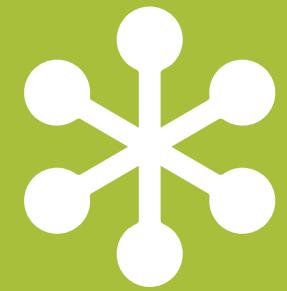
How Would You Say?

**“My dear Watson, ...I suppose that
it was the gardener who has killed
the butler!”**



RDF Reification

Making Statements about
Statements



RDF Reification

- RDF also permits interleaving of statements, i.e. to make statements about statements
- Example:
 - Sherlock Holmes supposes that the gardener has killed the butler
- ■ **Part 1:** the gardener has killed the butler
ex:Gardener ex:hasKilled ex:butler .
- **Part 2:** Sherlock Holmes supposes...
dbpedia:Sherlock_Holmes ex:supposes ????



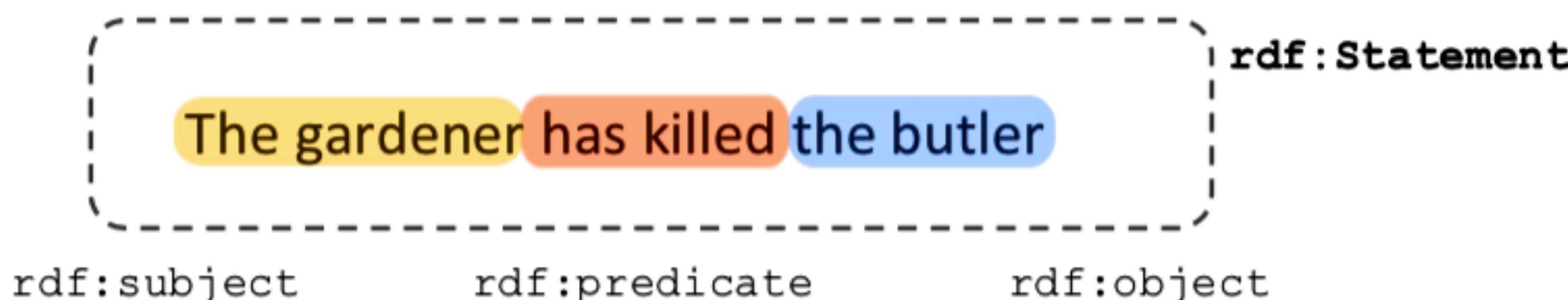
RDF Reification

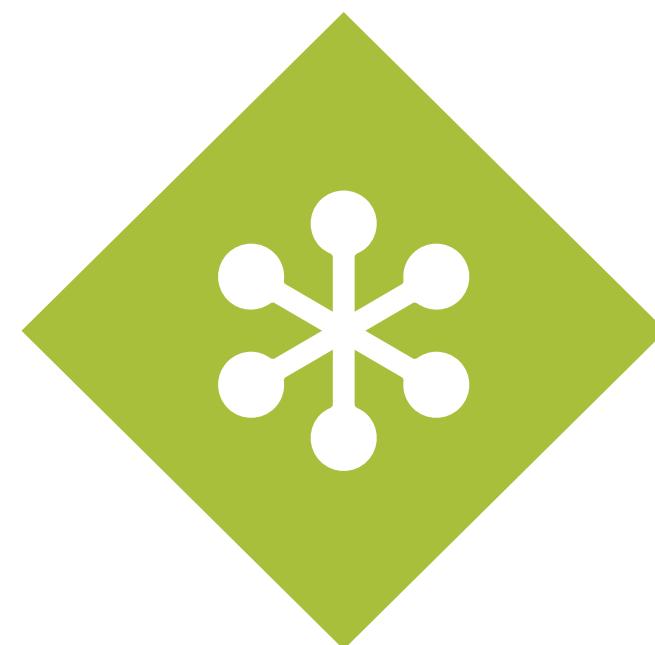
- **rdf:Statement**

- defines an RDF statement consisting of subject, predicate, object

-

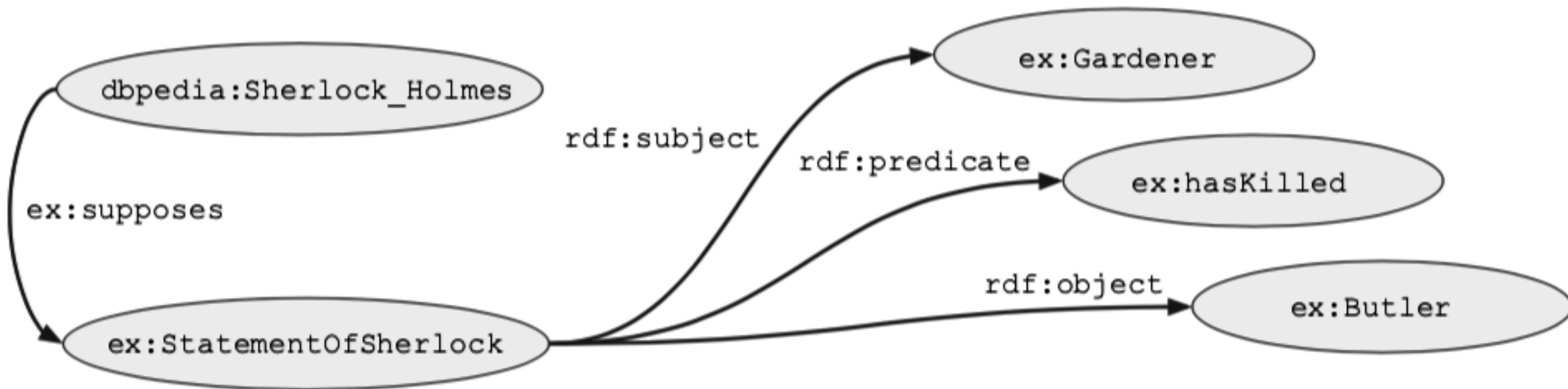
- **rdf:subject** - the described resource
 - **rdf:predicate** - the original property
 - **rdf:object** - the value of the property



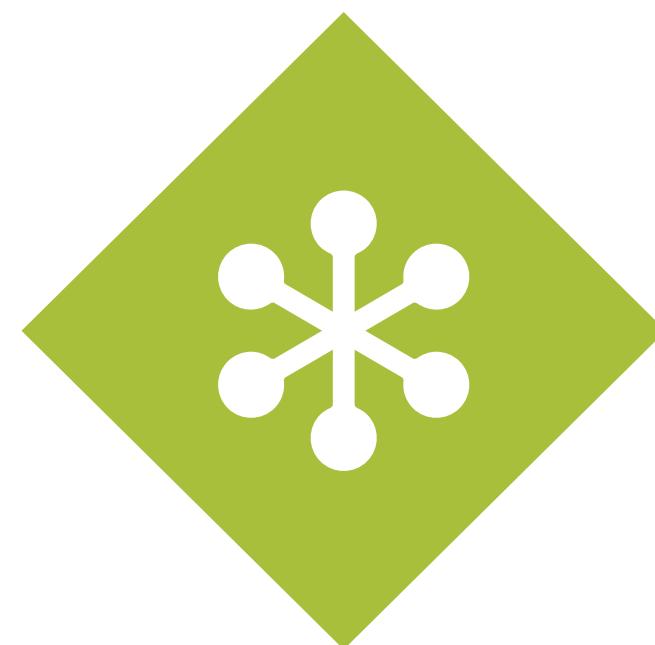


RDF Reification

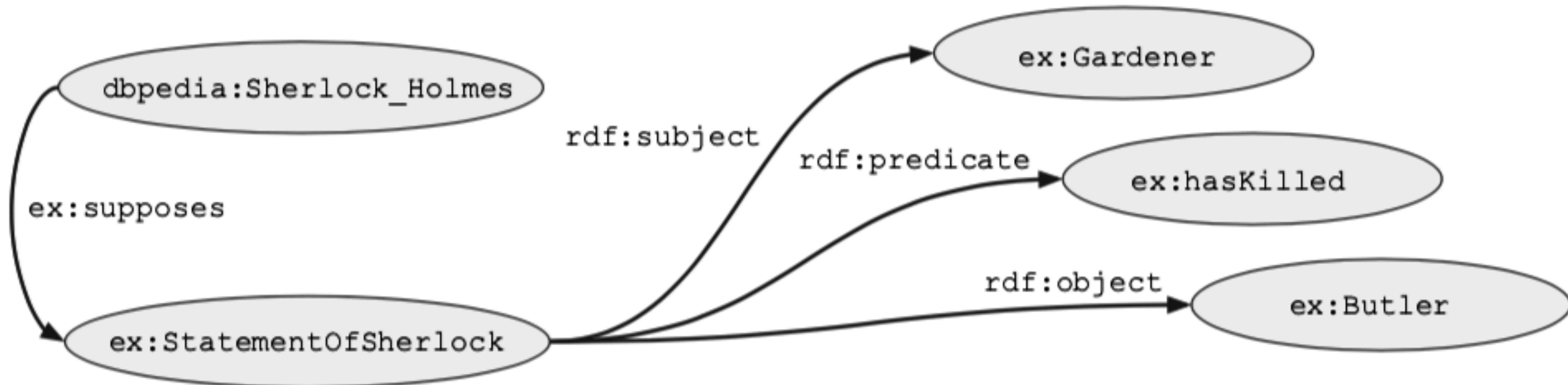
- Sherlock Holmes supposes that the gardener has killed the butler



@prefix	rdf: < http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns# > .
@prefix	dbpedia < http://dbpedia.org/resource/ > .
@prefix	ex: < http://example.org/Crimestories# > .



RDF Reification



```
@prefix dbpedia: <http://dbpedia.org/resource/> .  
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .  
@prefix ex: <http://example.org/Crimestories#> .
```

```
dbpedia:SherlockHolmes ex:supposes ex:StatementOfSherlock .  
ex:StatementOfSherlock a rdf:Statement ;  
    rdf:subject ex:Gardener ;  
    rdf:predicate ex:hasKilled ;  
    rdf:object ex:Butler .
```



RDF Reification

- What is the use of reification?
 - modeling data provenance
 - formalizing statements about reliability and trust
 - define metadata about statements
- But... you should be careful....
 - with reification relations can be transformed into classes/instances (type conflicts)
 - definition of infinite recursions and cycles



RDFS

Enhancing the expressivity of RDF

What does it really mean?

<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Pluto>

<http://dbpedia.org/property/satelliteOf>

[http://dbpedia.org/resource/Charon_\(moon\)](http://dbpedia.org/resource/Charon_(moon))

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

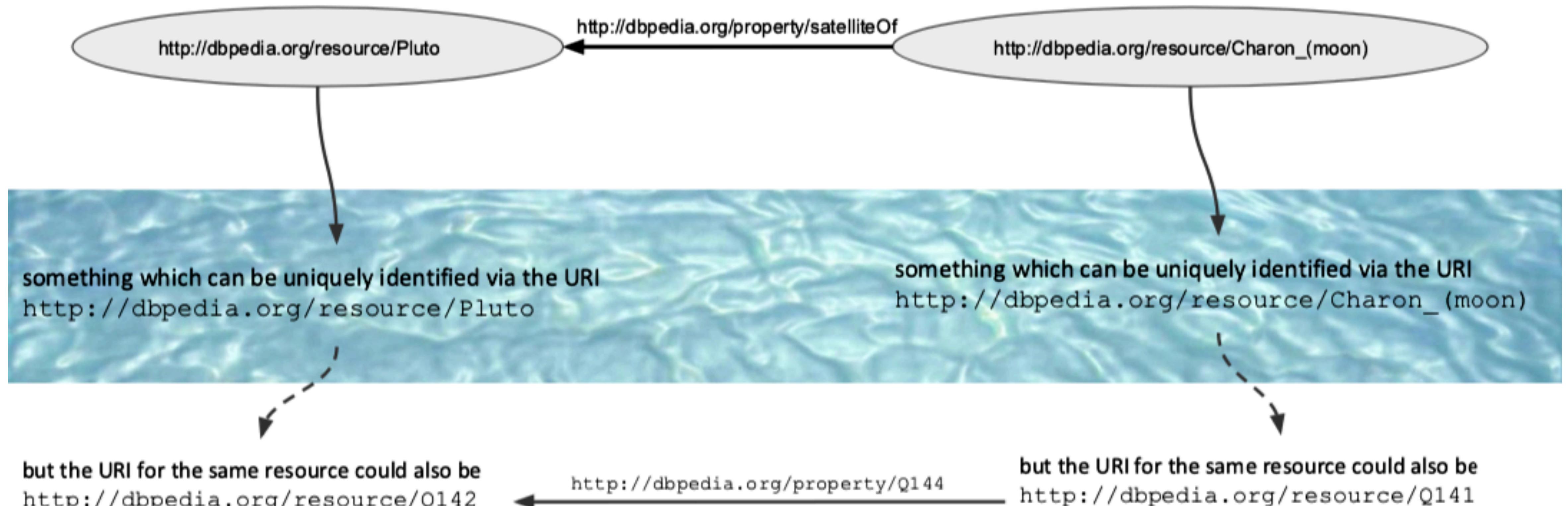
http://dbpedia.org/resource/Clyde_Tombaugh

Where does the intended meaning really come from?

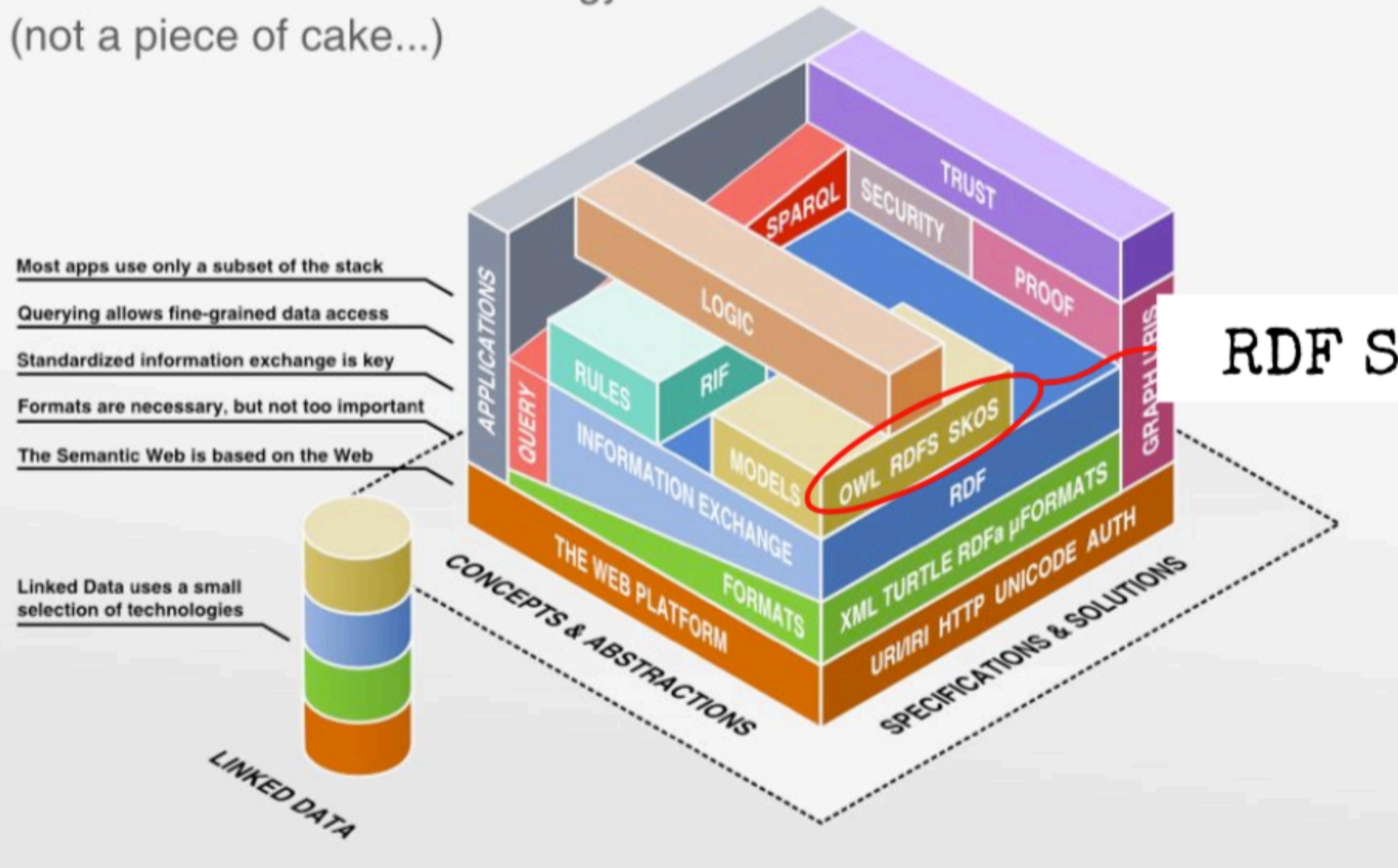




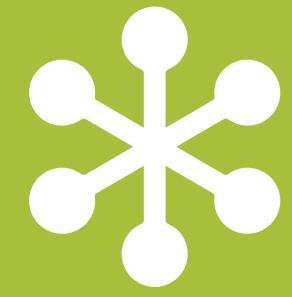
What Does It Really Mean?



The Semantic Web Technology Stack (not a piece of cake...)

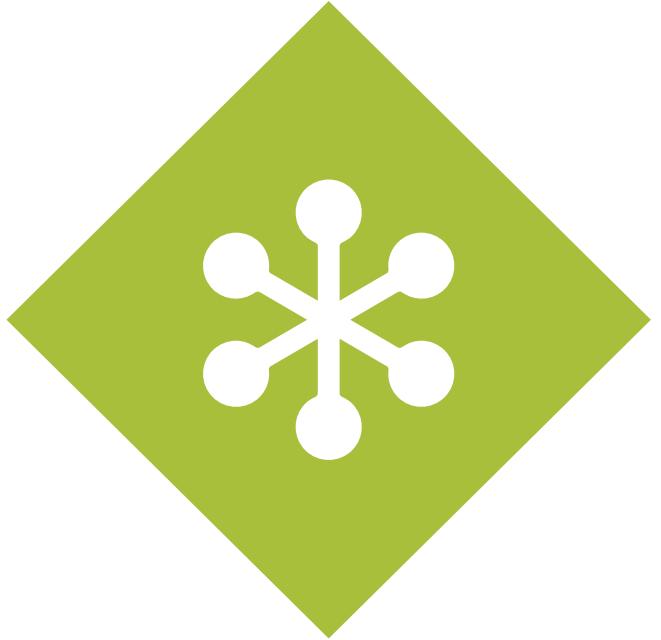


RDF Schema



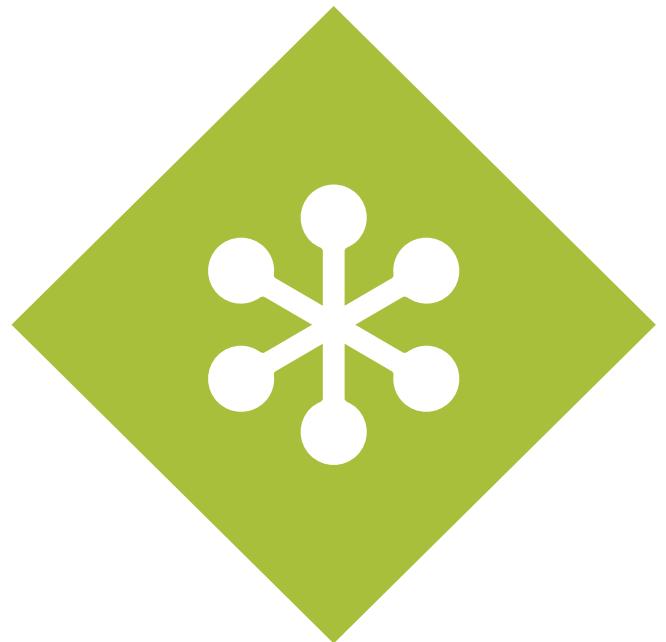
RDF Schema

- RDF Schema, officially called “RDF Vocabulary Description Language”
- RDF Schema allows:
 - Definition of classes via rdfs:Class
 - Class instantiation in RDF via rdf:type
- Example:
 - :Planet rdf:type rdfs:Class .
 - :Earth rdf:type :Planet .



RDF Schema

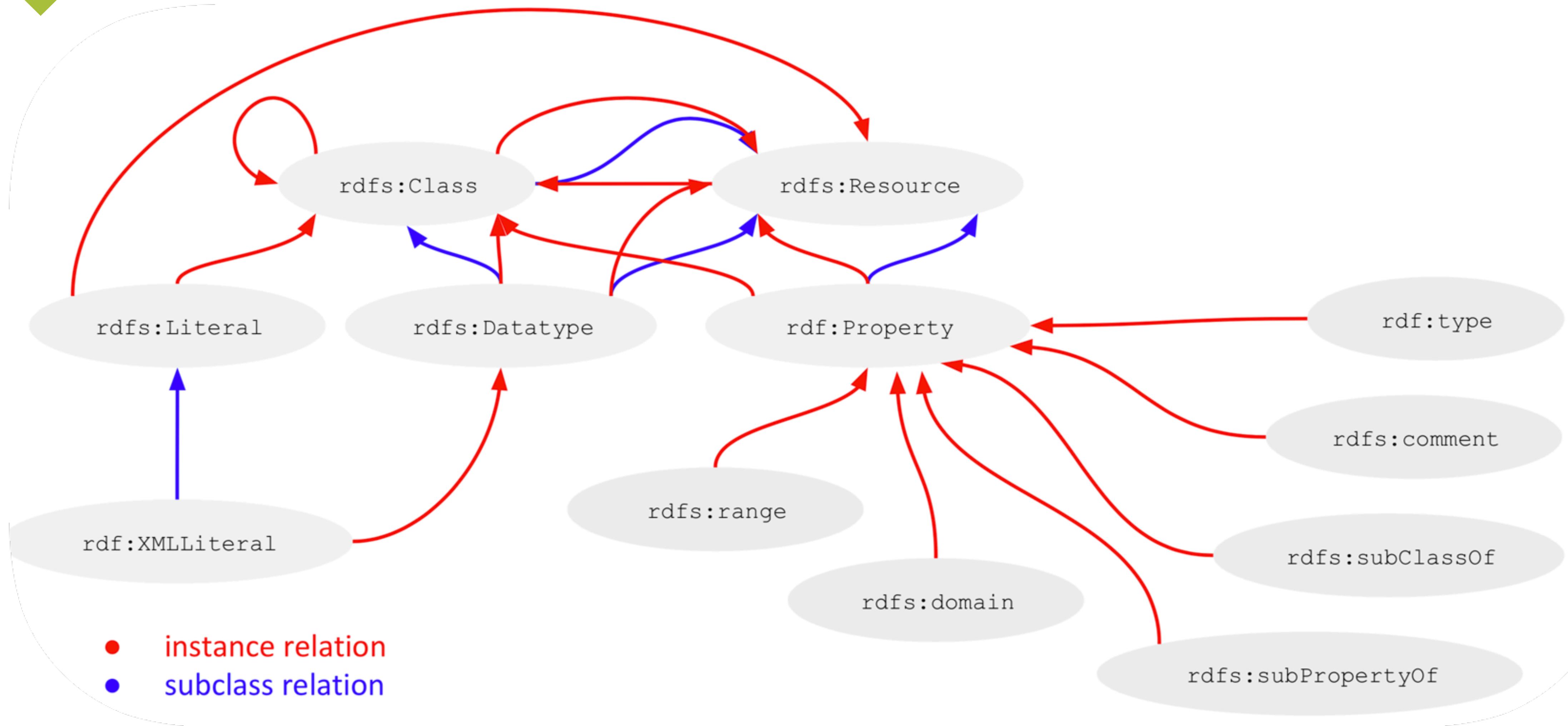
- Definition of properties via `rdf:Property`
- Definition of property restrictions on domain and range via `rdfs:domain` and `rdfs:range`
- Example
 - `:CelestialBody rdf:type rdfs:Class .`
 - `:satelliteOf rdf:type rdf:Property .`
 - `:satelliteOf rdfs:domain :CelestialBody .`
 - `:satelliteOf rdfs:range :CelestialBody .`

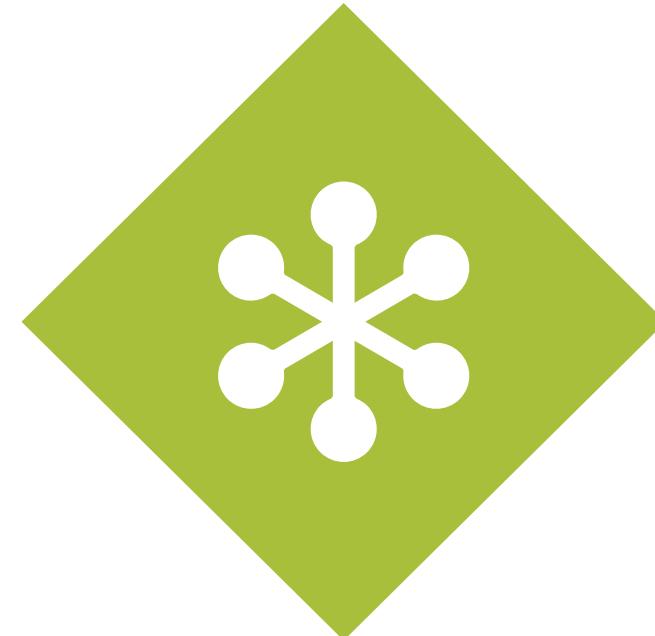


RDF Schema

- Everything in the RDF model is a resource
 - rdfs:Class rdf:type rdfs:Resource .
 - rdf:Property rdf:type rdfs:resource .
 - rdfs:Literal rdf:type rdfs:Resource .
 - rdfs:XMLLiteral rdf:type rdfs:Resource .
 - rdfs:Datatype rdf:type rdfs:Resource .
 - rdfs:Container rdf:type rdfs:Resource .
 - rdfs:ContainerMembershipProperty rdf:type rdfs:Resource .

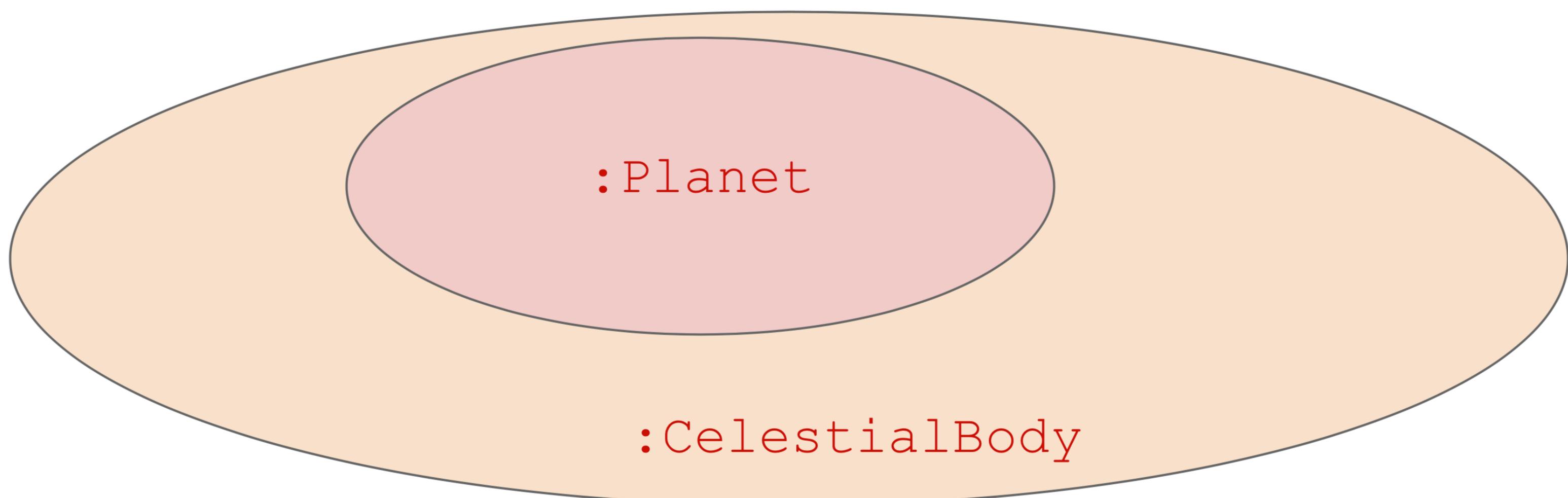
RDF Schema

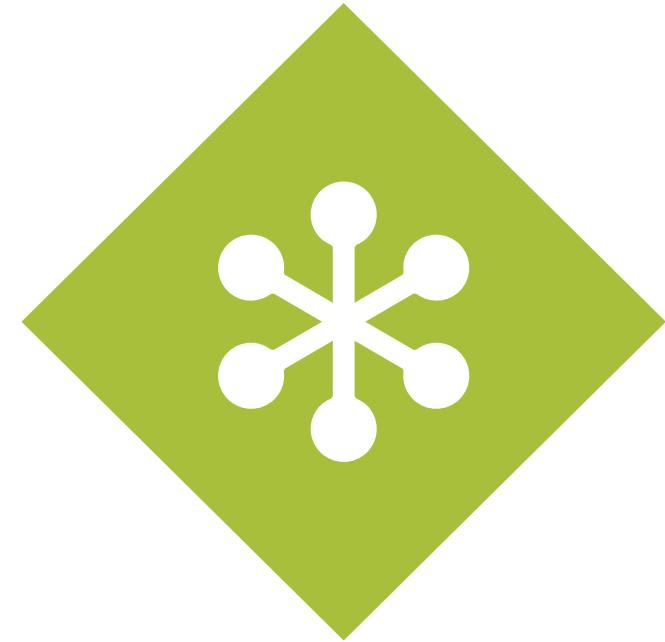




Definition of Hierarchical Relationships

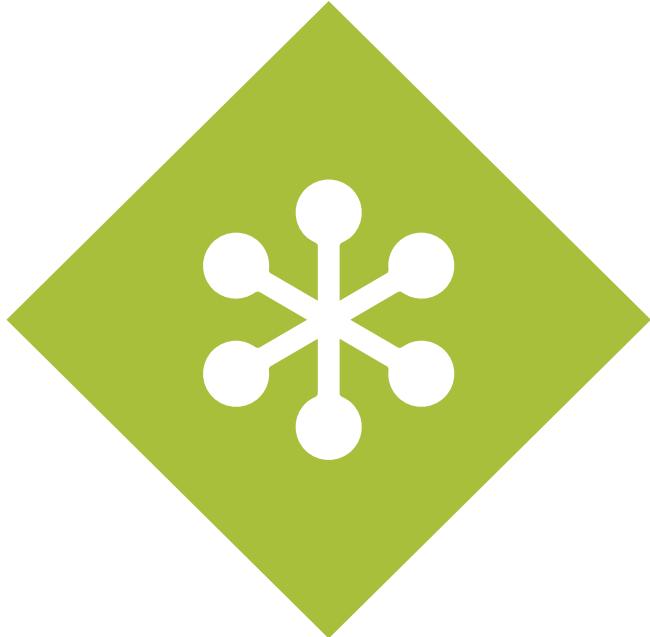
- Subclasses and superclasses via rdfs:subClassOf
 - Example:
 - *:Planet rdfs:subClassOf :CelestialBody .*





Definition of Hierarchical Relationships

- Definition of hierarchical relationships:
 - Subclasses and superclasses via rdfs:subClassOf
 - Example:
 - *:Planet rdfs:subClassOf :CelestialBody .*
 - Subproperties and superproperties via subPropertyOf
 - Example
 - *:artificialSatelliteOf rdfs:subPropertyOf :satelliteOf .*



RDF Schema

- Some more properties:

- **rdfs:seeAlso**

- defines a relation of a resource to another, which explains it

- **rdfs:isDefinedBy**

- subproperty of rdfs:seeAlso, defines the relation of a resource to its definition

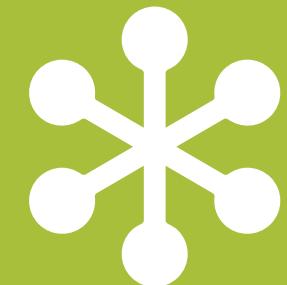
- **rdfs:comment** comment, usually as text

- **rdfs:label**

- „readable“ name of a resource (contrary to ID)

- **rdfs:member**

- super-property of all the container membership properties (e.g. rdf:_1, ...)



RDFS Example

```
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .  
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .  
@prefix : <http://example.org/Space#> .
```

```
:Planet rdf:type rdfs:Class ;  
         rdfs:subClassOf :CelestialBody .  
:Satellite rdf:type rdfs:Class ;  
         rdfs:subClassOf :CelestialBody .  
:ArtificialSatellite rdf:type rdfs:Class ;  
         rdfs:subClassOf :Satellite .
```

Class Definitions

```
:satelliteOf rdf:type rdf:Property ;  
         rdfs:domain :CelestialBody .  
         rdfs:range :CelestialBody .
```

Property Definitions

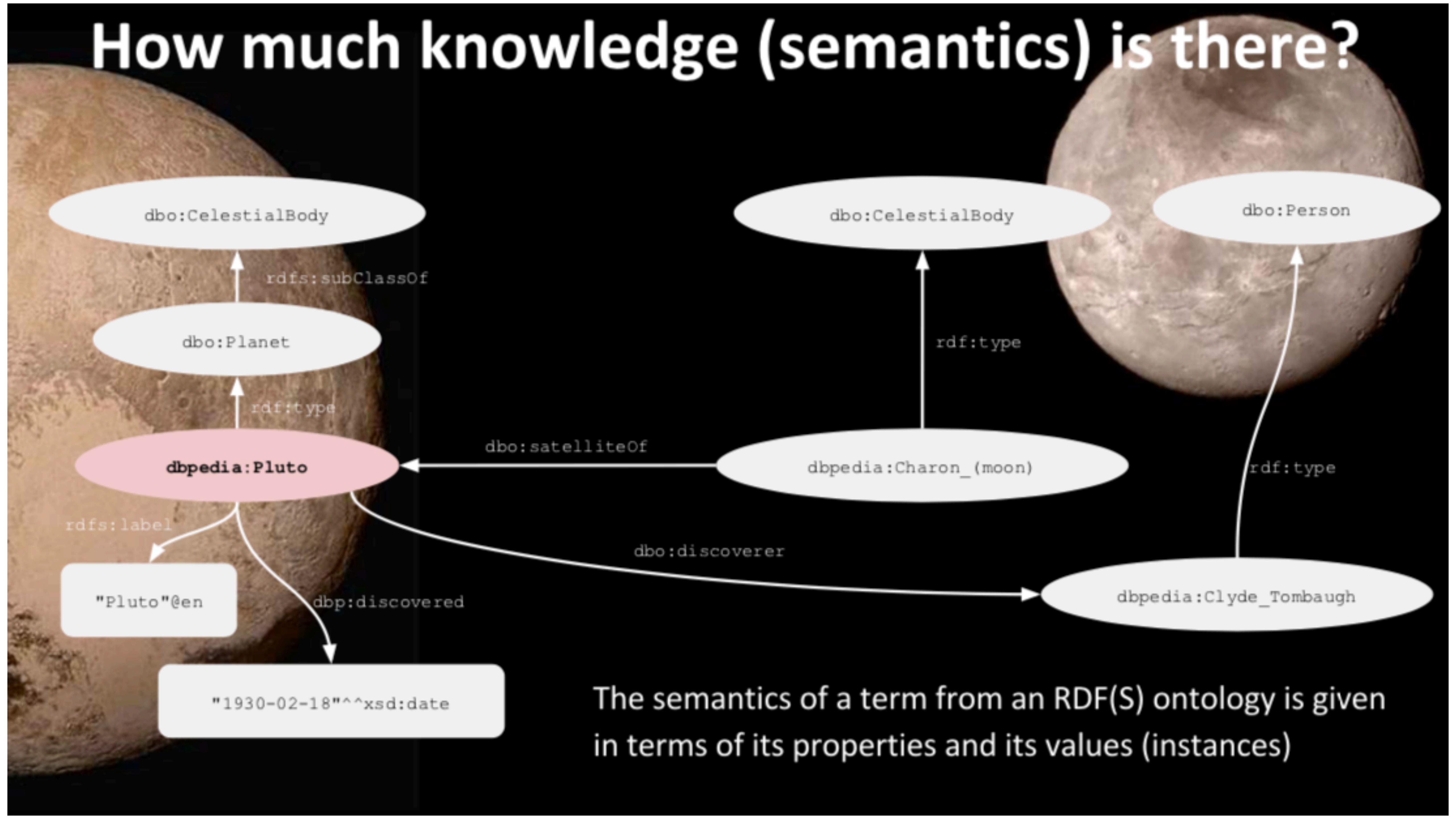
```
:Earth rdf:type :Planet .  
:Moon rdf:type :Satellite ;  
       :satelliteOf :Earth .  
:Sputnik1 rdf:type :ArtificialSatellite ;  
         :satelliteOf :Earth ;  
         rdfs:label "Sputnik 1"@en ;  
         rdfs:comment "the first artificial Earth satellite in 1957" .
```

Instance Definitions



Logical Inference With RDFS

How much knowledge (semantics) is there?



The semantics of a term from an RDF(S) ontology is given in terms of its properties and its values (instances)



RDF(S) Semantics

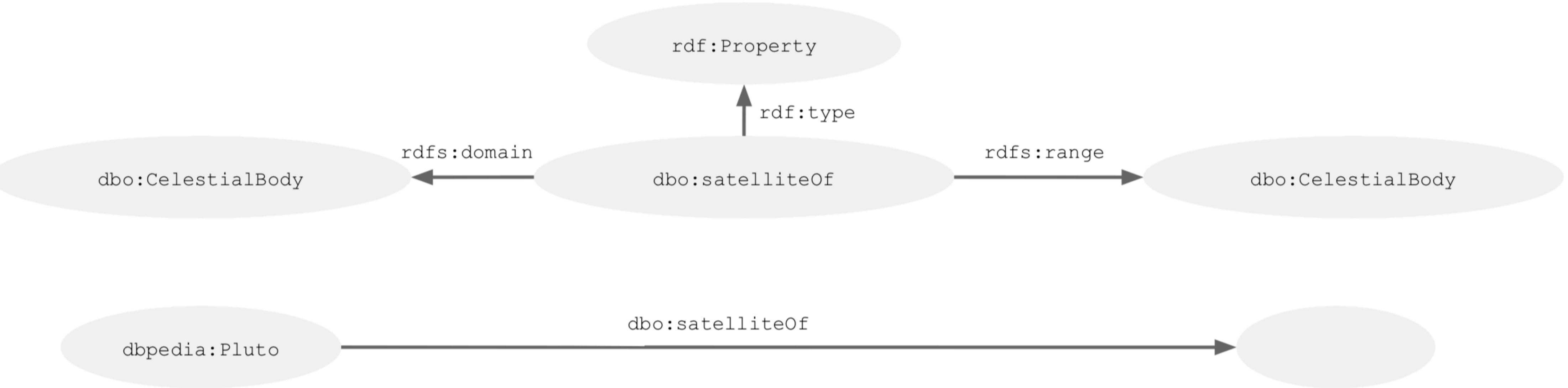
- In difference to other data definition languages, RDF(S) is based on **formal semantics**
- Formal semantics enables RDF(S) to draw **valid** and **sound logical inferences**
- Examples:
 - dbpedia:Pluto `rdf:type` dbo:Planet
 - dbo:Planet `rdfs:subClassOf` dbo:CelestialBody
 - dbo:artificialSatelliteOf `rdfs:subPropertyOf` dbo:satelliteOf

dbpedia:Pluto \in dbo:Planet
dbo:Planet \subseteq dbo:CelestialBody
dbo:artificialSatelliteOf \subseteq dbo:satelliteOf

Model-theoretic Semantics



Which Conclusions Can We Deduce With RDF(S)?

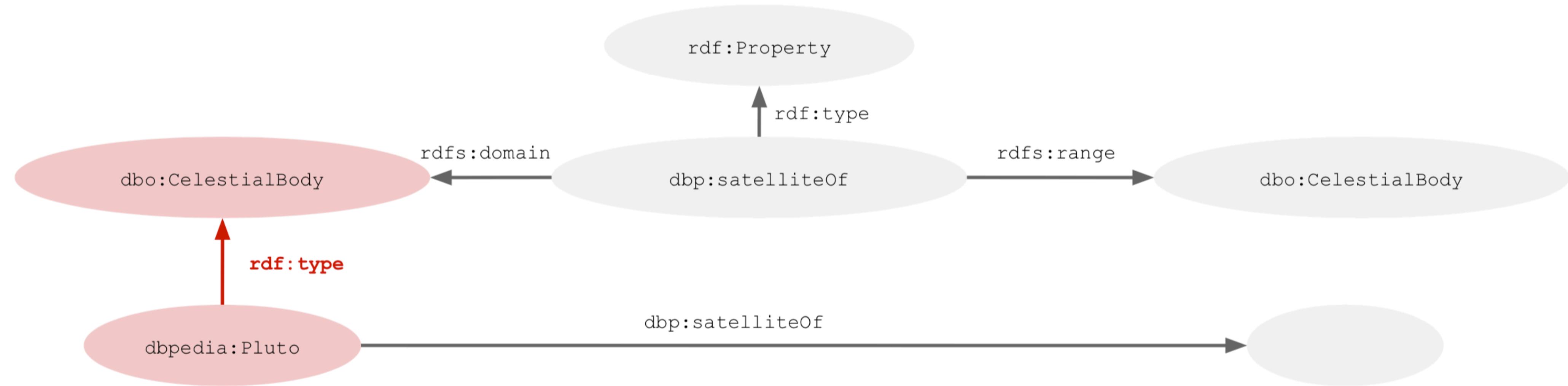




Which Conclusions Can We Deduce With RDF(S)?

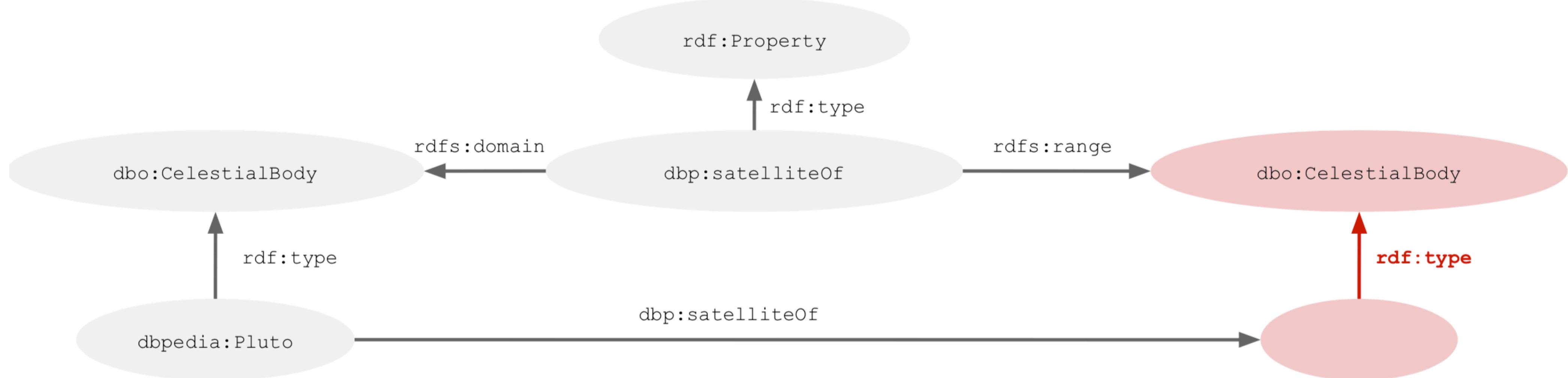


Which Conclusions Can We Deduce With RDF(S)?



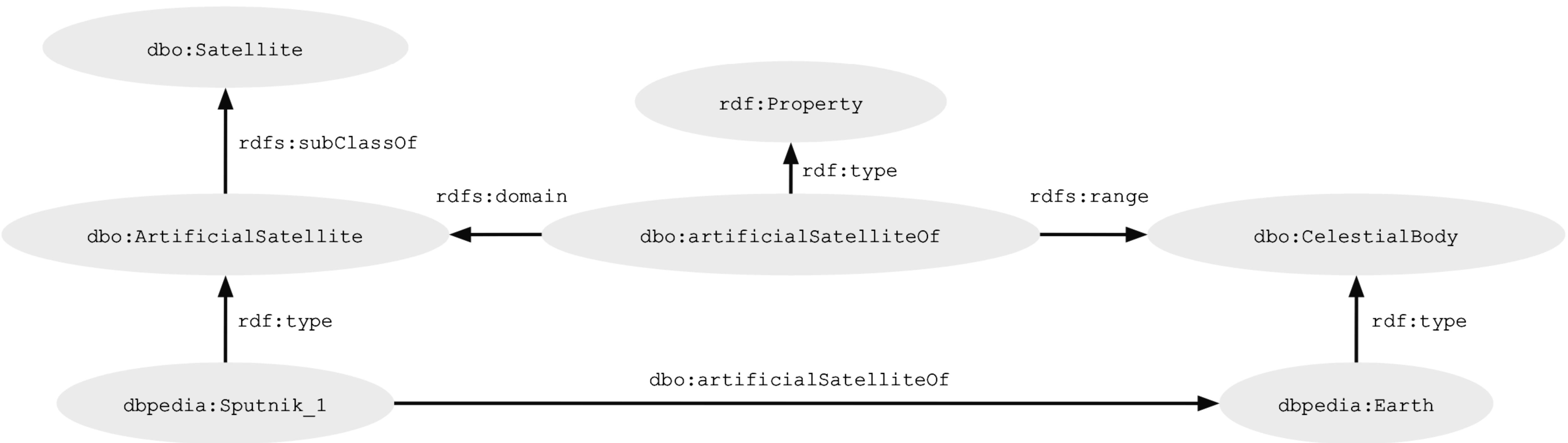
- Deduction of entity **class membership** from **domain** of one of its properties

Which Conclusions Can We Deduce With RDF(S)?

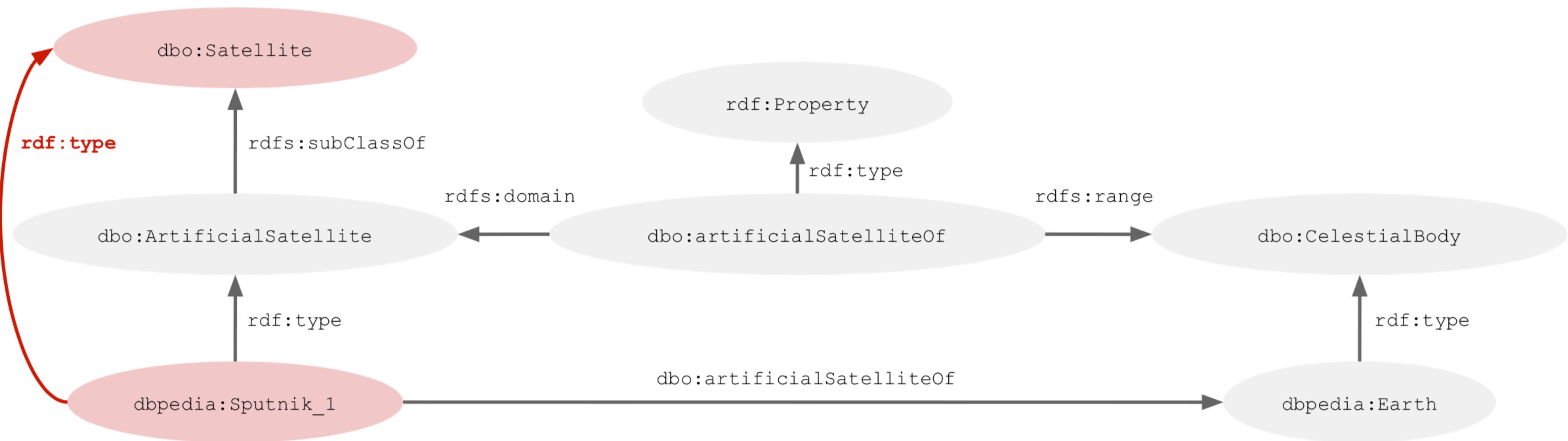
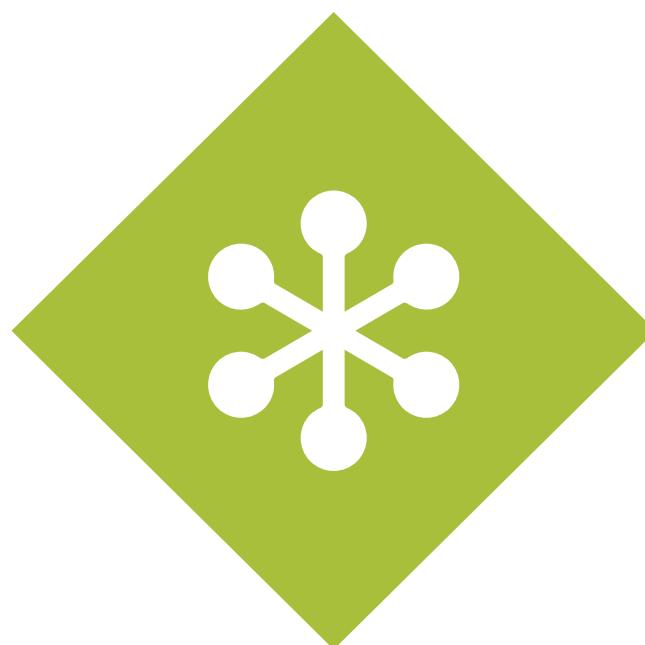


- Deduction of entity **class membership** from the **range** of one of its properties

Which Conclusions Can We Deduce With RDF(S)?



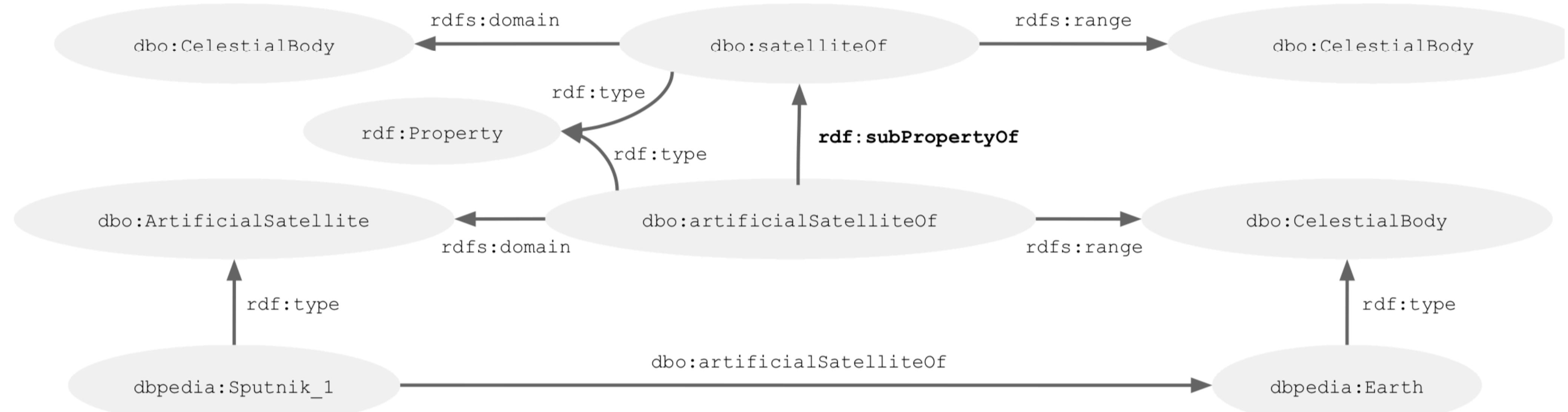
Which Conclusions Can We Deduce With RDF(S)?



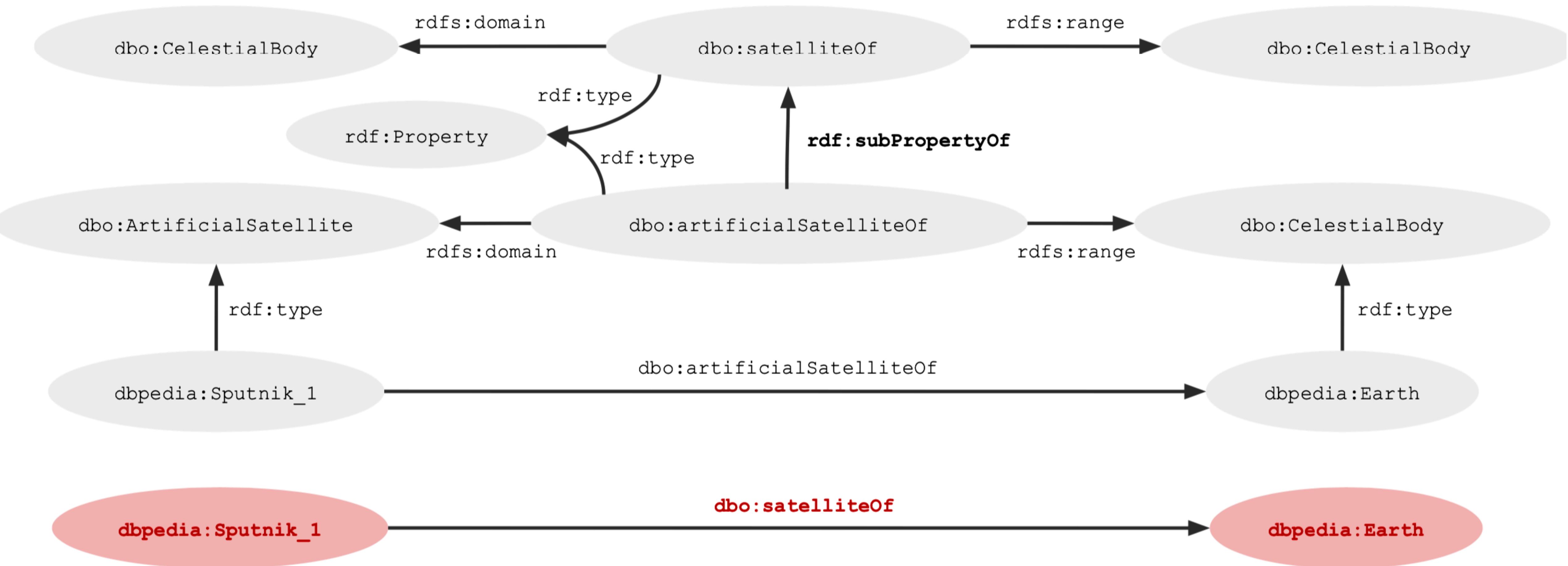
- Deduction of entity **superclass membership** from a **class hierarchy**.



Which Conclusions Can We Deduce With RDF(S)?



Which Conclusions Can We Deduce With RDF(S)?



- Deduction of entity **new facts** from **subproperty** relationships.