2.2 RDF: Data Model 27



Figure 2.1: An RDF statement represented graphically

resource or a *literal*. Literals are atomic values – for example, numbers, strings, or dates. We often use the word subject to refer to the entity in a statement and object to refer to its value.

Take an example statement "Baron Way Building is located in Amsterdam." We can write this as:

http://dbpedia.org/ontology/location>

http://dbpedia.org/resource/Amsterdam.

Notice how we used URLs to identify the things we are referring to in our statement.

2.2.4 Graphs

We can also write this same statement down graphically. Note that we leave off the URIs in the picture for readability.

In figure 2.1, labeled nodes are connected by labeled arcs. The arcs are directed from the subject of the statement to the object of the statement, with the label on the arc to the statement's property. The labels on the nodes are the identifiers of the subject and object. The object of a statement can be the subject of another statement. For example, we can say that "Amsterdam is a city." We can see this graphically in figure 2.2.