

THE NOTE MOCS MARS

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Knowledge Graphs

Lecture 4 – Ontologies as Key to Knowledge Representation

4.3 The Web Ontology Language OWL

Prof. Dr. Harald Sack & Mahsa Vafaie

FIZ Karlsruhe – Leibniz Institute for Information Infrastructure

AIFB – Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

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FIZ Karlsruhe

Leibniz-Institut für Informationsinfrastruktur

Knowledge Graphs

Lecture 4: Ontologies as Key to Knowledge Representation

4.1 From Aristotle to AI: Exploring Ontologies in Computer Science

4.2 The Crucial Role of Mathematical Logic

Excursion 5: Essential Logics in a Nutshell

Excursion 6: Description Logics

4.3 The Web Ontology Language OWL

4.4 From simple to complex: Scaling up with OWL

4.5 Unlocking the Potential of OWL

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

Most apps use only a subset of the stack

Querying allows fine-grained data access

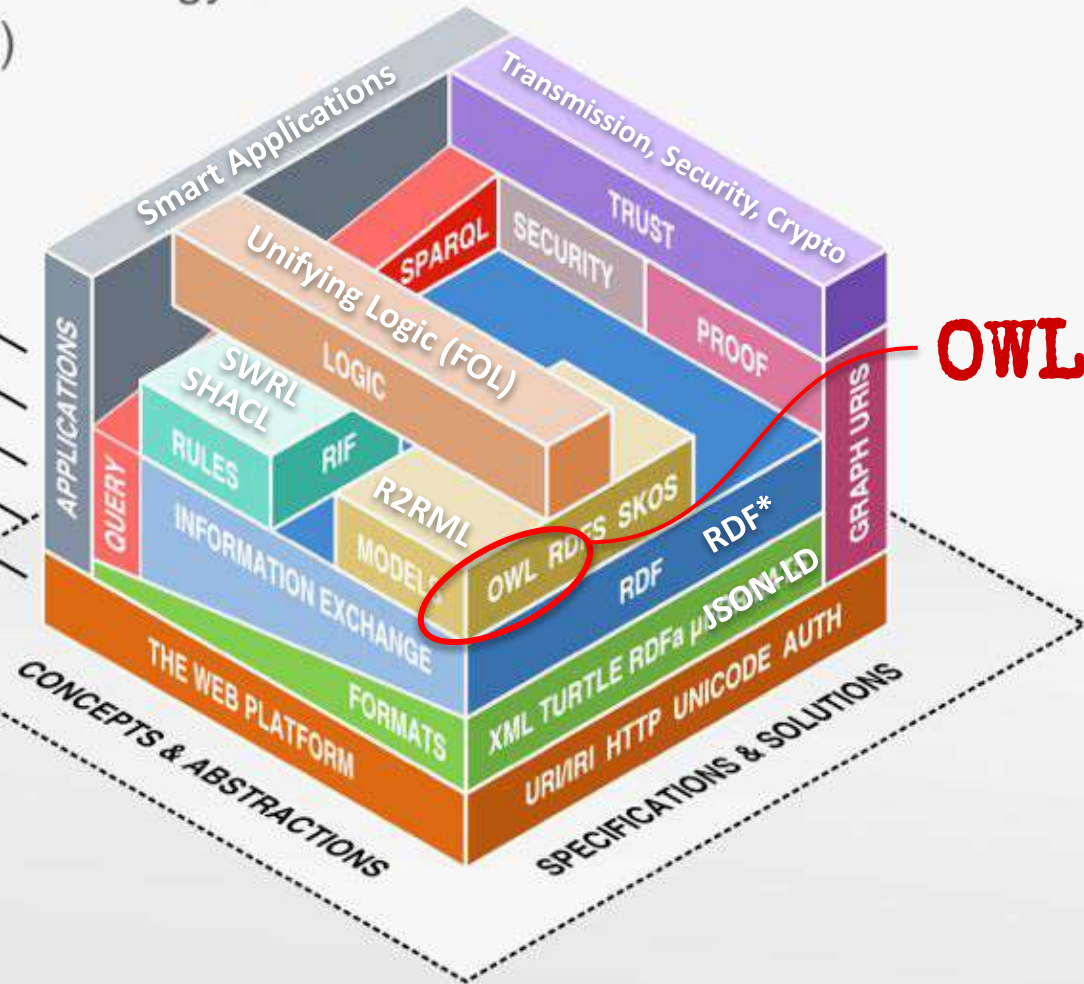
Standardized information exchange is key

Formats are necessary, but not too important

The Semantic Web is based on the Web

Linked Data uses a small
selection of technologies

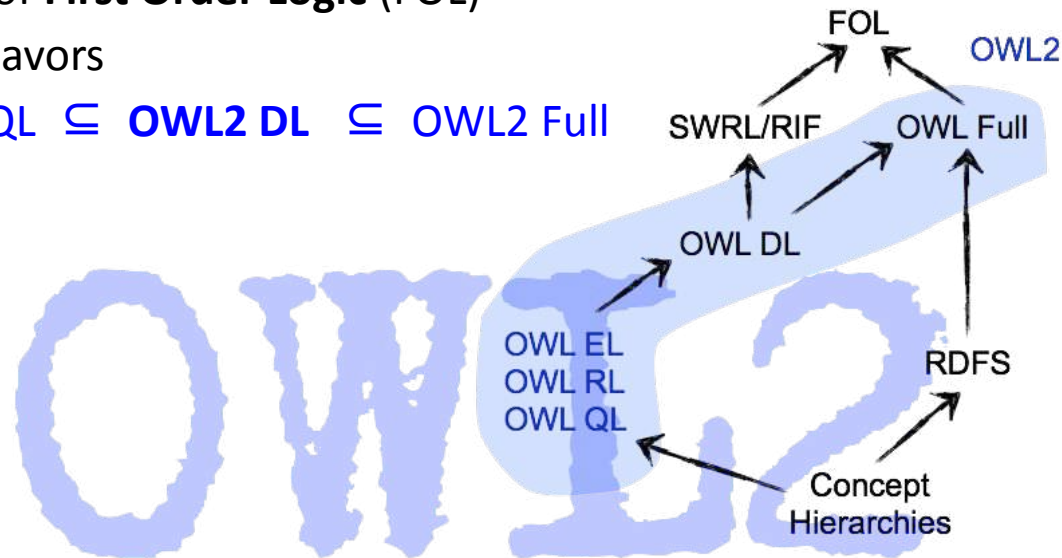
LINKED DATA



Web Ontology Language OWL – OWL Flavors

- OWL is a semantic fragment of **First Order Logic (FOL)**
- OWL also exists in different flavors

OWL EL, OWL RL, OWL QL \subseteq OWL2 DL \subseteq OWL2 Full



OWL2 DL is based on Description Logic $\mathcal{SROIQ}(\mathcal{D})$

Class Expressions

- Class names A, B
- Conjunction $C \sqcap D$
- Disjunction $C \sqcup D$
- Negation $\neg C$
- Exist. property restriction $\exists R.C$
- Univ. property restriction $\forall R.C$
- Self $\exists S.\text{Self}$
- Greater-than $\geq n \ S.C$
- Less-than $\leq n \ S.C$
- Enumerated classes $\{a\}$

Properties

- Property names R, S, T
- Simple properties S, T
- Inverse properties R^{-}
- Universal property U

Tbox (Class axioms)

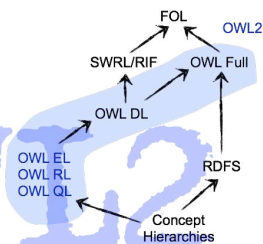
- Inclusion $C \sqsubseteq D$
- Equivalence $C \equiv D$

Rbox (Property Axioms)

- Inclusion $R_1 \sqsubseteq R_2$
- General Inclusion $R^{(-)}_1 \circ R^{(-)}_2 \circ \dots \circ R^{(-)}_n \sqsubseteq R$
- Transitivity
- Symmetry
- Reflexivity
- Irreflexivity
- Disjointness

Abox (Facts)

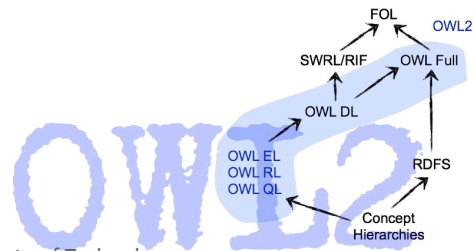
- Class membership $C(a)$
- Property relation $R(a, b)$
- Negated property relation $\neg S(a, b)$
- Equality $a=b$
- Inequality $a \neq b$



OWL2

OWL2 Building Blocks

- **OWL namespace:**
@prefix owl: <<http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#>>
- There is a **Turtle Syntax** for OWL
- OWL axioms consist of the following three building blocks:
 - **Classes**
comparable with classes in RDFS
 - **Individuals**
comparable with class instances in RDFS
 - **Properties**
comparable with properties in RDFS



OWL2 Classes

- There exist two **predefined classes**

`owl:Thing` (class that contains all individuals)

`owl:Nothing` (empty class)

- Definition of a class**

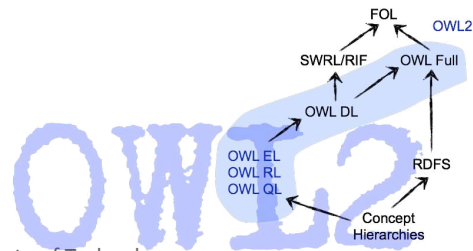
`:Person a owl:Class .`

This is owl in RDF/Turtle serialization.

equivalent expression in
description logics

$\top \equiv C \sqcup \neg C$

$\perp \equiv C \sqcap \neg C$



OWL2 Individuals

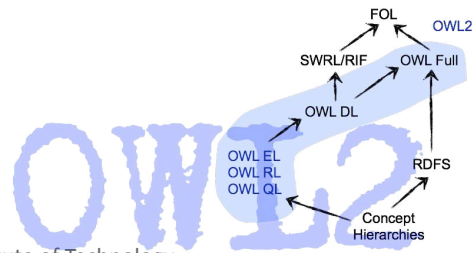
- **Definition of individuals** via class membership

`:IsaacAsimov a :Person .`

`Person(IsaacAsimov)`

- Individuals can also be defined **without class membership**
as **named individuals**

`:HaraldSack a owl:NamedIndividual .`

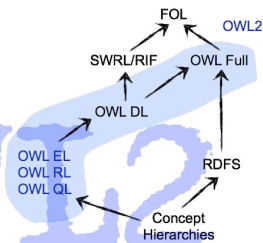


OWL2 Object Properties

- There exist two **property variants**:
 - Object properties
 - Datatype properties
- **Object properties** have classes as range
:author a **owl:ObjectProperty** .
- **Domain and Range** of object properties
:author a **owl:ObjectProperty** ;
rdfs:domain :Book ;
rdfs:range :Person .

$\exists \text{author} . \top \sqsubseteq \text{Book}$

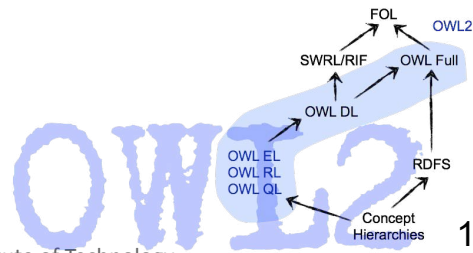
$\top \sqsubseteq \forall \text{author} . \text{Person}$



OWL2 Datatype Properties

- **Datatype properties** have datatypes as range
:publicationDate a owl:DatatypeProperty .
- **Domain and Range** of datatype properties
:publicationDate a owl:DatatypeProperty ;
rdfs:domain owl:Thing ;
rdfs:range xsd:date .

$\exists \text{publicationDate} . \top \sqsubseteq \top$
 $\top \sqsubseteq \forall \text{publicationDate} . \text{xsd:date}$



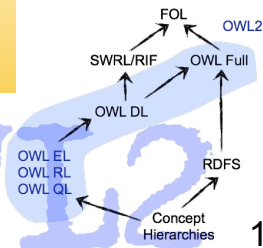
OWL2 Properties and Individuals

OWL TBox

```
:Book a owl:Class .  
:Person a owl:Class .  
  
:author a owl:ObjectProperty ;  
    rdfs:domain :Book ;  
    rdfs:range :Person .  
  
:publicationDate a owl:DatatypeProperty ;  
    rdfs:domain owl:Thing ;  
    rdfs:range xsd:date .
```

```
:IsaacAsimov a Person .  
:Foundation a :Book ;  
    :author :IsaacAsimov ;  
    :publicationDate "1951-08-30"^^xsd:date .
```

OWL ABox



OWL2 Class Hierarchies

```
:Poet a owl:Class ;  
    rdfs:subClassOf :Writer .  
:Writer a owl:Class ;  
    rdfs:subClassOf :Person .  
:Person a owl:Class .
```

we don't need to define a new
subClassOf property for owl, we
simply reuse rdfs:subClassOf

Poet \sqsubseteq Writer
Writer \sqsubseteq Person

Via **inference** it can be entailed that :Poet is also a subclass of :Person.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Poet} \sqsubseteq \text{Writer} \\ \text{Writer} \sqsubseteq \text{Person} \end{array} \right\} \models \text{Poet} \sqsubseteq \text{Person}$$

OWL2 Class Hierarchies and Disjunctiveness

```

:Book a owl:Class .
:Person a owl:Class .
:Novel a owl:Class ;
      rdfs:subClassOf :Book .
:Author a owl:Class ;
      rdfs:subClassOf :Person .

:Book owl:disjointWith :Person .

```

In owl everything might be potentially identical if we don't explicitly state the difference.

$\text{Novel} \sqsubseteq \text{Book}$
 $\text{Author} \sqsubseteq \text{Person}$
 $\text{Book} \sqcap \text{Person} \sqsubseteq \perp$

Via **inference** it can be entailed that `:Novel` and `:Author` are also disjoint classes.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Novel} \sqsubseteq \text{Book} \\ \text{Author} \sqsubseteq \text{Person} \\ \text{Book} \sqcap \text{Person} \sqsubseteq \perp \end{array} \right\} \models \text{Novel} \sqcap \text{Author} \sqsubseteq \perp$$

OWL2 Class Hierarchies and Equivalence

```

:Author a owl:Class .
:Writer a owl:Class .
:Poet a owl:Class ;
      rdfs:subClassOf :Writer .

:Author owl:equivalentClass :Writer .
  
```

Poet \sqsubseteq Writer
 Writer \equiv Author

Via **inference** it can be entailed that :Poet is also an :Author.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Poet} \sqsubseteq \text{Writer} \\ \text{Writer} \equiv \text{Author} \end{array} \right\} \models \text{Poet} \sqsubseteq \text{Author}$$

OWL2 Individuals – Identity and Distinctiveness

```
:Foundation a :Novel ;  
  :author :IsaacAsimov ;  
  :publishingDate "1951-08-30"^^xsd:date ;  
  owl:sameAs :ARX012345 .  
  
:Novel a owl:Class ;  
  rdfs:subClassOf :Book .  
  
:Book a owl:Class.
```

For identical individuals: owl:sameAs

For identical classes: owl:equivalentClass

- Via **inference** it can be entailed that :ARX012345 is a :Book.
- **Difference of Individuals** via owl:differentFrom.

```
:ARX012345 a :Novel ;  
  owl:differentFrom :ARX012346 .
```

A surreal image of three owls walking in a city street. The owl on the left is simple, wearing a blue skirt. The middle owl is more complex, wearing a brown jacket, blue shirt, and tie. The owl on the right is the most complex, wearing a brown suit and holding a briefcase. They are walking on a wet street with other pedestrians in the background. Neon signs are visible on the buildings, including one that says 'WOT NC Y'.

From simple to complex:
Scaling up with OWL

Next Lecture...

Bibliographic References:

- Pascal Hitzler, Markus Krötzsch, Bijan Parsia, Peter F. Patel-Schneider, Sebastian Rudolph (eds., 2012), [OWL 2 Web Ontology Language Primer \(Second Edition\)](#), W3C Recommendation 11 December 2012
- Aidan Hogan (2020), [The Web of Data](#), Springer.
Chap. 5.4 OWL 2 Vocabulary, 196–242.

Picture References:

- [1] “A Scifi movie poster “The Owls of Mars” depicting a huge owl sitting in the lonely red prairies of Mars in a retro futuristic rural environment of planet Mars. A rocket ship is starting in the background far away leaving contrails behind.”, created via ArtBot, Deliberate, 2023, [CC-BY-4.0], <https://tinybots.net/artbot>
- [2] Benjamin Nowack, *The Semantic Web - Not a Piece of cake ...*, at bnode.org, 2009-07-08, [CC BY 3.0], <https://web.archive.org/web/20220628120341/http://bnode.org/blog/2009/07/08/the-semantic-web-not-a-piece-of-cake>
- [3] “Several owls are walking on a crowded street in a Bladerunner like dystopian city environment.”, created via ArtBot, Deliberate, 2023, [CC-BY-4.0], <https://tinybots.net/artbot>