

# Shaping Knowledge Graphs

## ISWC'24 Tutorial

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# About me...

Main researcher at WESO (Web Semantics Oviedo)

Some books:

"*Web semántica*" (in Spanish), 2012

"*Validating RDF data*", 2017

"Knowledge Graphs", 2021

...and software:

SHaclEX (Scala library, implements ShEx & SHACL)

RDFShape (RDF playground)

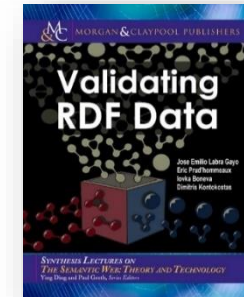
rudof (RDF & Shapes library in Rust)



<http://labra.weso.es>

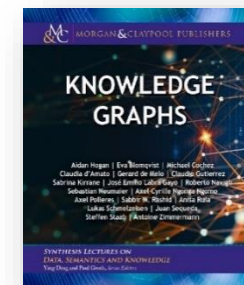


2012



2017 HTML version:

<http://book.validatingrdf.com>



2021, HTML version

<https://kgbook.org/>

# Contents



Introduction to Knowledge graphs

Types of Knowledge Graphs:

RDF, Property graphs, Wikibase, RDF-Star

Validating RDF: ShEx & SHACL

Validating Property Graphs

Validating Wikibase and Wikidata graphs

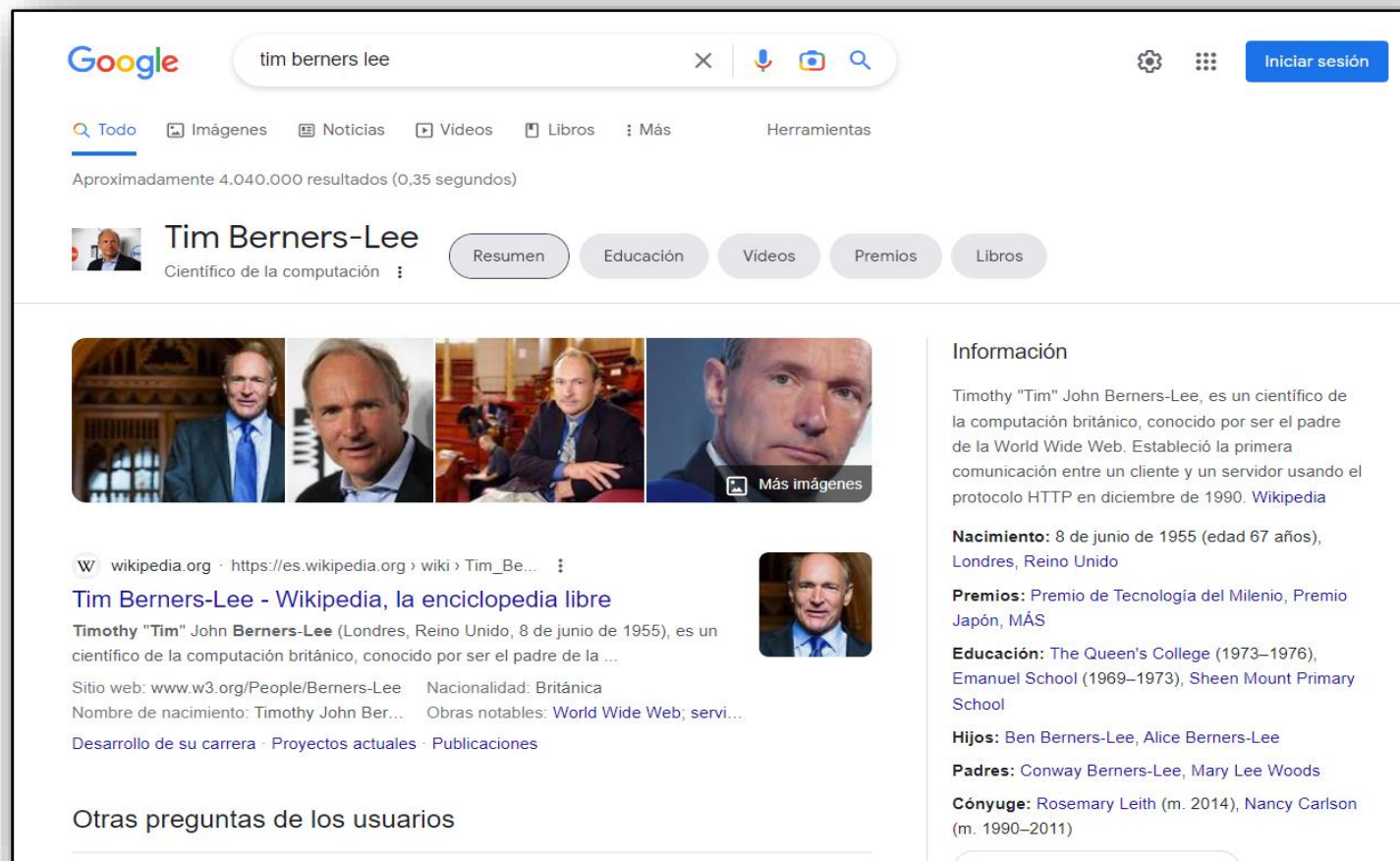
Validating RDF-Star

Applications:

Inferring shapes from data, Knowledge Graphs Subsets, etc.

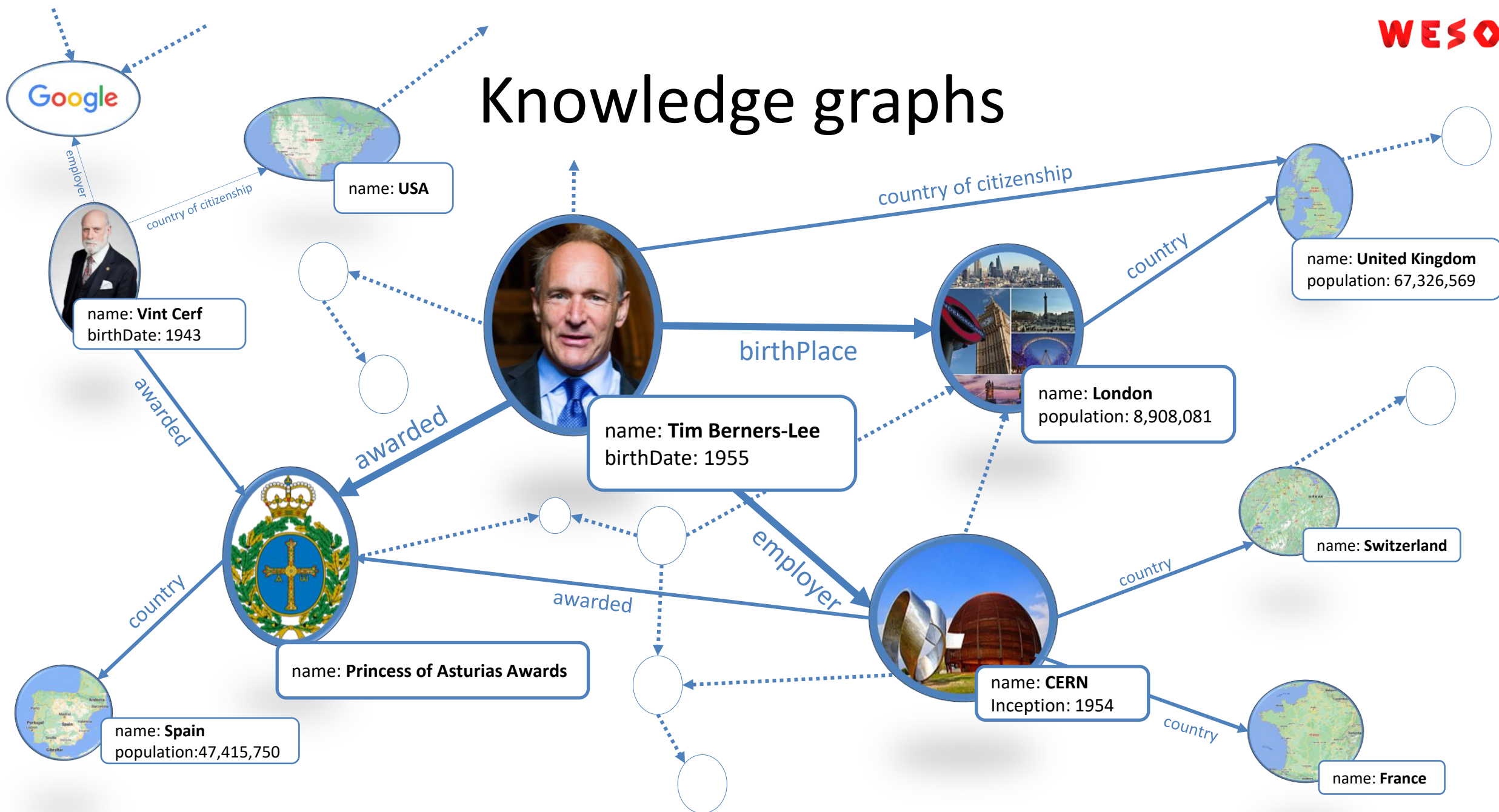
# Knowledge Graphs

Current notion of Knowledge Graphs Popular after Google, 2012\*



Link: <https://www.blog.google/products/search/introducing-knowledge-graph-things-not/>

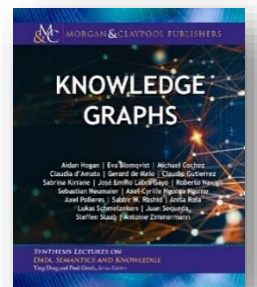
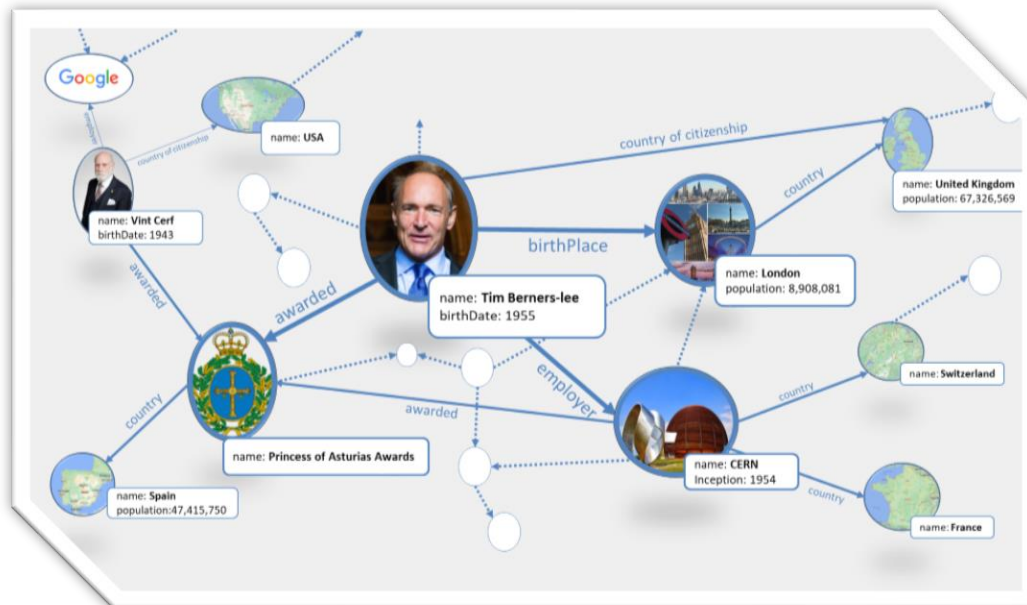
# Knowledge graphs



# Knowledge graphs

Knowledge graph = *a **graph of data***

*intended to accumulate and convey **knowledge** of the real world  
whose **nodes** represent **entities** of interest and  
whose **edges** represent **relations** between these entities.*

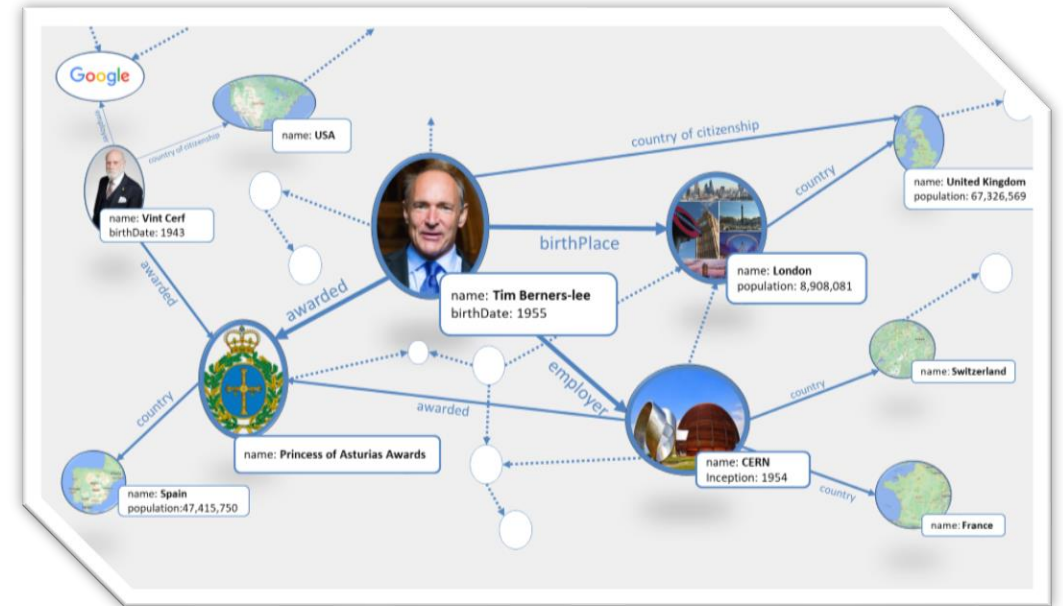


<https://kgbook.org/>



# Chatbots and NLP

• • •



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# Types of Knowledge graphs

## Open Knowledge graphs

Cross-domain: Wikidata, Dbpedia, Freebase, YAGO, ...

Domain specific

Academic: Open citations, SciGraph, Microsoft Academic Knowledge Graph, ...

Life sciences: UniProt, PubChem, PDB, ...

Government: EU Knowledge graph, ...

...

## Enterprise Knowledge graphs

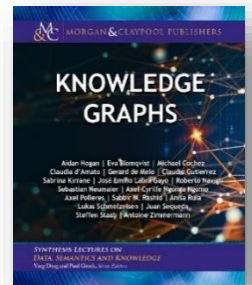
Web search: Google, Bing...

Commerce: AirBnb, Amazon, eBay, Uber,...

Social networks: Linkedin, Facebook,...

Finance: Banca d'Italia, Bloomberg, Wells Fargo, Capital One,...

...



<https://kgbook.org/>

# Wikidata as an example

Wikidata created in 2012 as a collaborative knowledge graph

Initial goal:

Support multilingual infoboxes in Wikipedia



# Wikidata as an example

English Wikipedia page of Tim Berners-Lee

WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

Article Talk

Read View source View history Search Wikipedia

## Tim Berners-Lee

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Sir Timothy John Berners-Lee**, OM, KBE, FRS, FREng, FRSA, DFBCS, RDI (born 8 June 1955),<sup>[1]</sup> also known as **TimBL**, is an English computer scientist best known as the inventor of the World Wide Web. He is a Professorial Fellow of Computer Science at the University of Oxford<sup>[2]</sup> and a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).<sup>[3]</sup><sup>[4]</sup> Berners-Lee proposed an information management system on 12 March 1989,<sup>[5]</sup><sup>[6]</sup> then implemented the first successful communication between a *Hypertext Transfer Protocol* (HTTP) client and server via the Internet in mid-November.<sup>[7]</sup><sup>[8]</sup><sup>[9]</sup><sup>[10]</sup><sup>[11]</sup>

Berners-Lee is the director of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), which oversees the continued development of the Web. He co-founded (with his then wife-to-be Rosemary Leith) the World Wide Web Foundation. He is a senior researcher and holder of the 3Com founder's chair at the MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL).<sup>[12]</sup> He is a director of the Web Science Research Initiative.

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f the 100 as the stage NeXT received the ing the Web

Wikimedia Foundation

विकिपीडिया  
एगो मुक्त ज्ञानकोष

खाला बनाई ...

टिम बर्नर्स-ली

पन्ना बातचीत

विकिपीडिया से

सर टिमोथी जॉन बर्नर्स-ली एगो अंगरेज इंजीनियर आ बैज्ञानिक हवें। इनके परसिद्धि वल्ल वाइड वेब के बनावेवाला के रूप में बा आ आजकालह ई ऑक्सफोर्ड युनिवर्सिटी आ मैसाचुसेट्स युनिवर्सिटी में प्रोफेसर बाड़ें।

**Sir Tim Berners-Lee**  
OM KBE FRS FREng FRSA FBSC

Berners-Lee in 2014

जनम Timothy John Berners-Lee  
8 जून 1955 (उमिर 67)  
लंदन, इंग्लैंड, यूनाइटेड किंगडम

दूसरा नाँव TimBL  
TBL

शिक्षा Emanuel School

<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80>

WIKIDATA

Main page  
Community portal  
Project chat  
Create a new item  
Recent changes  
Random item  
Query Service  
Nearby  
Help  
Donate

Lexicographical data  
Create a new Lexeme  
Recent changes  
Random Lexeme

Tools  
What links here  
Related changes  
Special pages  
Permanent link  
Page information  
Concept URI  
Cite this page

## Tim Berners-Lee (Q80)

English computer scientist, inventor of the World Wide Web (born 1955)  
TimBL | Sir Tim Berners-Lee | Timothy John Berners-Lee | TBL | T. Berners-Lee | T Berners-Lee | Tim Berners Lee | T.J. Berners-Lee | Sir Timothy John Berners-Lee

► In more languages

### Statements

instance of human edit

► 1 reference + add value

image edit

Sir Tim Berners-Lee (cropped).jpg  
570 × 713; 178 KB

point in time 2014

media legend

Tim Berners-Lee in 2014. (English)  
Tim Berners-Lee i 2014. (Norwegian Bokmål)  
Tim Berners-Lee i 2014. (Norwegian Nynorsk)

► 0 references + add reference

+ add value

sex or gender male edit

► 2 references + add value

Bihari Wikipedia of Tim Berners-Lee

# Wikidata: some features

Collaborative: anyone can edit

Free and open license

Currently (01/2023): 101m items, 1,8b edits

Co-edited by humans and bots: 23k active users, 343 bots

Open Wikidata Query Service: Public SPARQL endpoint

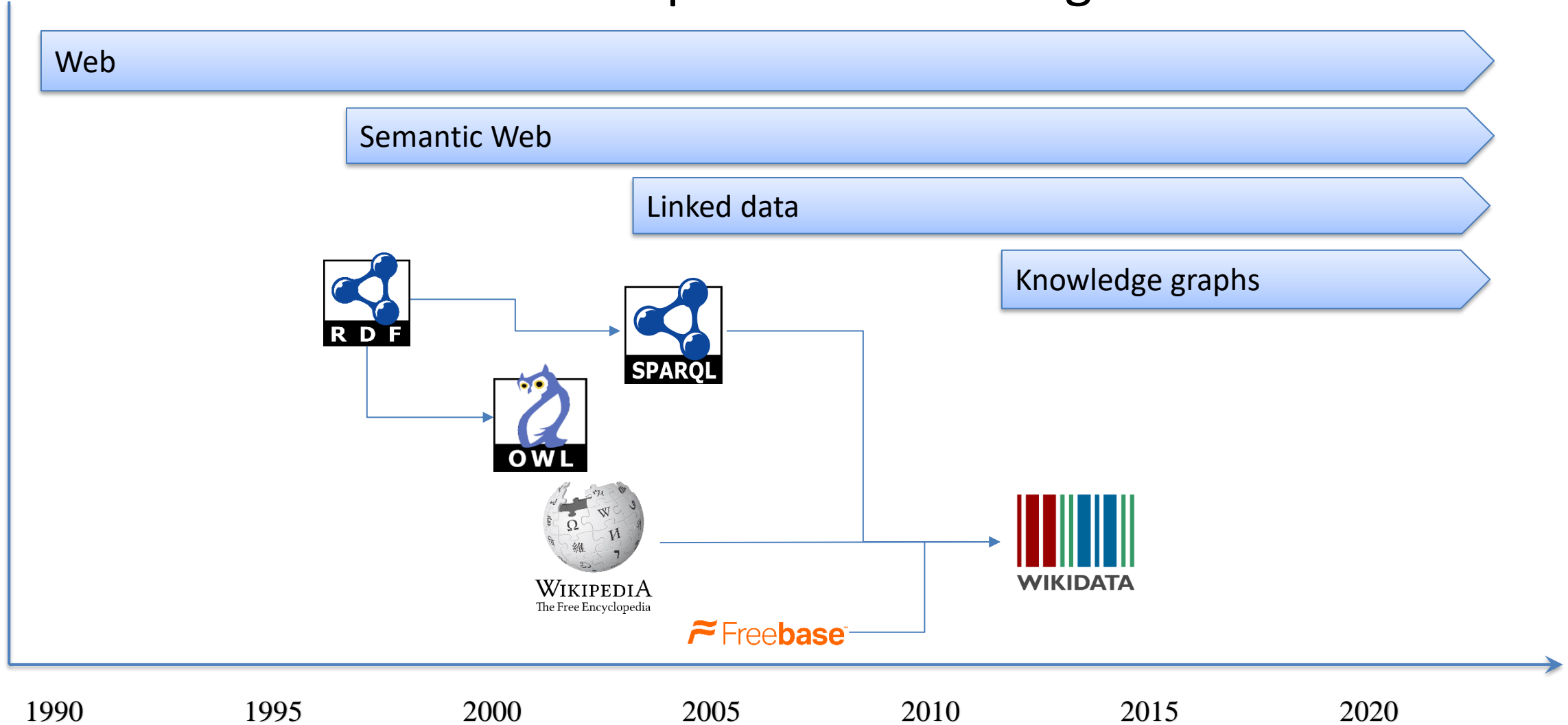
Dumps freely available: 109Gb compressed

Software that supports Wikidata = Wikibase



# Evolution

Timeline with some concepts and technologies...



# Knowledge Graphs models

## 3 popular knowledge graphs models

- RDF based
- Property graphs
- Wikibase graphs



# RDF graphs

RDF = W3C recommendation (since 98)

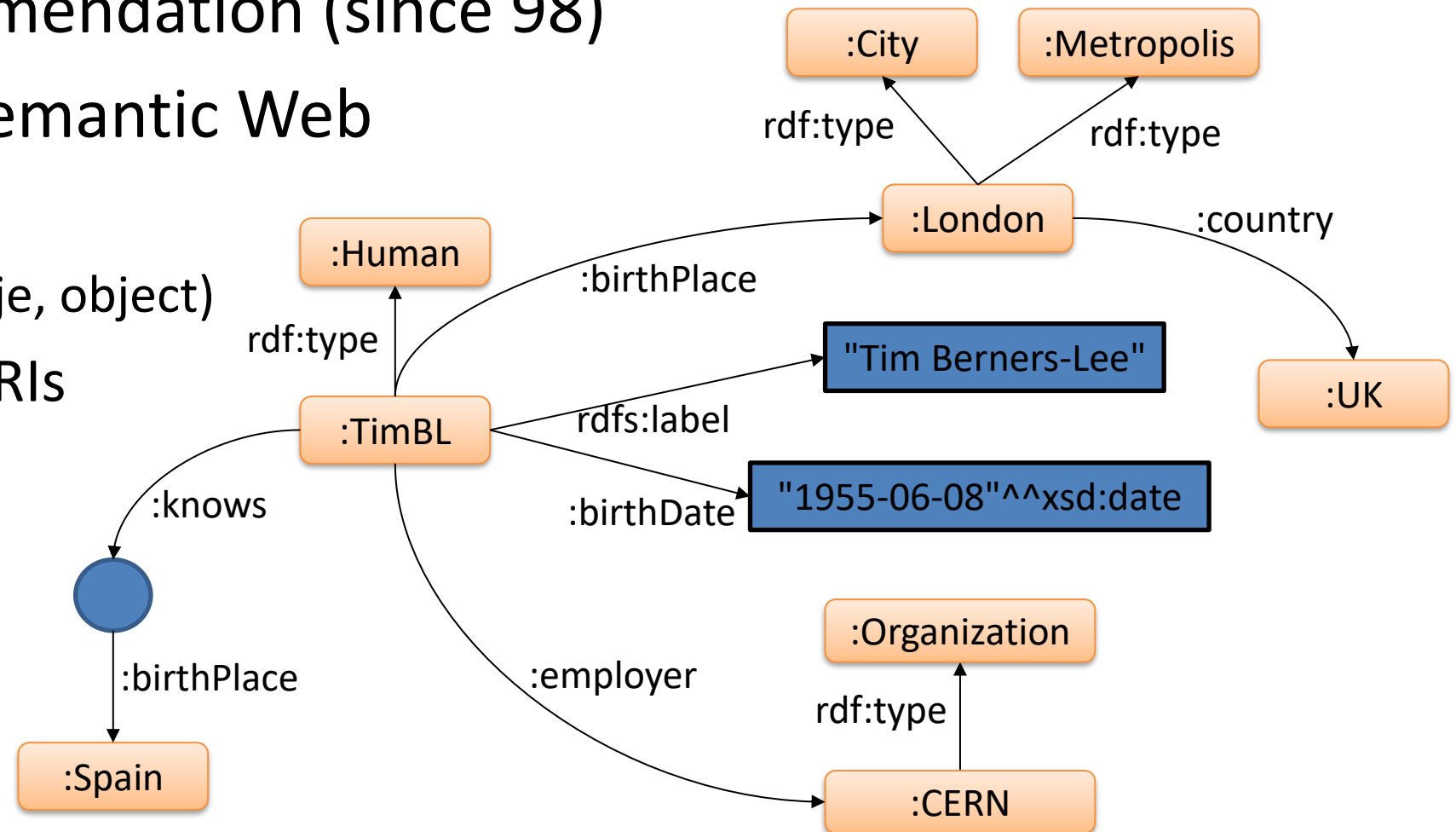
*Lingua franca* of Semantic Web

Based on triples

(subject, predicate, object)

Most nodes are URIs

Interoperability







# RDF ecosystem

One data model, several syntaxes: Turtle, N-Triples, JSON-LD

Vocabularies: RDF Schema, OWL, SKOS, etc.

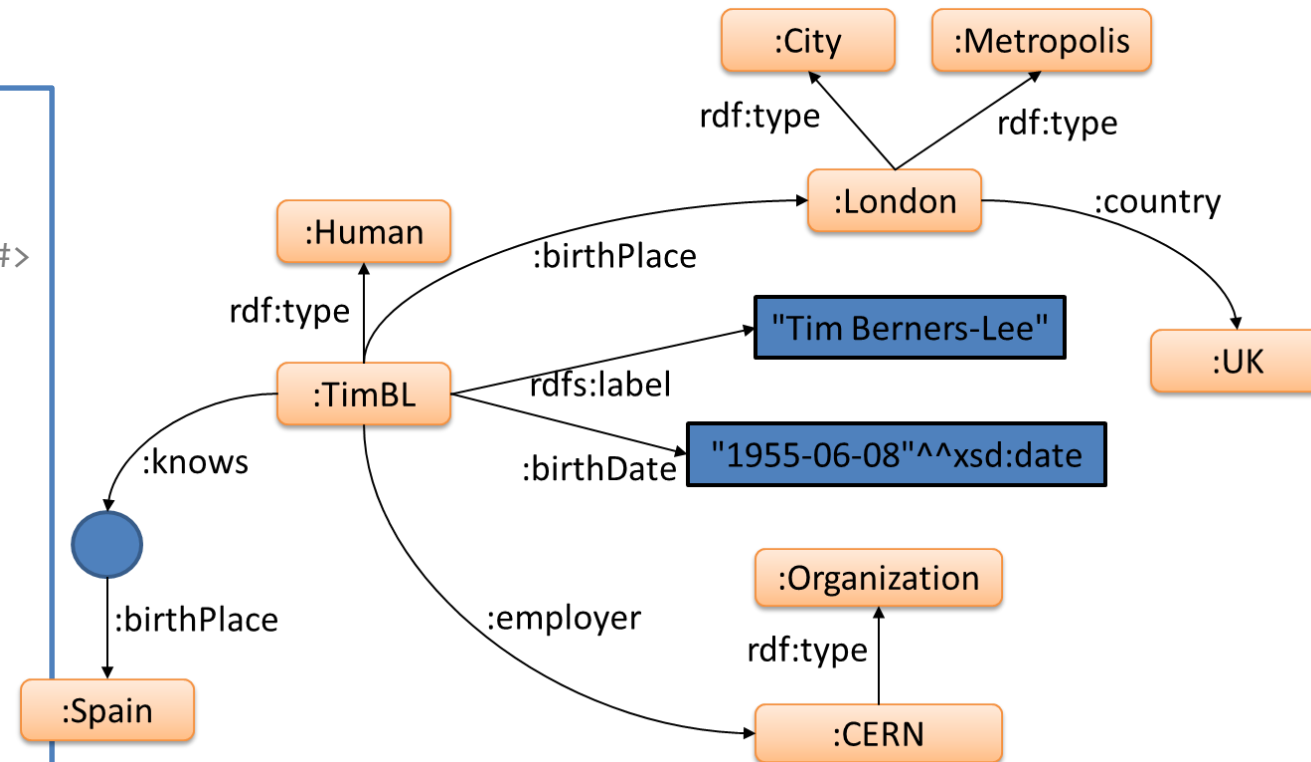
## Turtle

```
prefix :      <http://example.org/>
prefix rdfs:  <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>
prefix xsd:   <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
prefix rdf:   <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>

:timbl rdf:type      :Human ;
       :birthPlace  :london ;
       rdfs:label    "Tim Berners-Lee" ;
       :birthDate   "1955-06-08"^^xsd:date ;
       :employer    :CERN ;
       :knows       _:1 .

:london rdf:type      :City, :Metropolis ;
        :country      :UK .

:CERN   rdf:type      :Organization .
_:1     :birthPlace   :Spain .
```



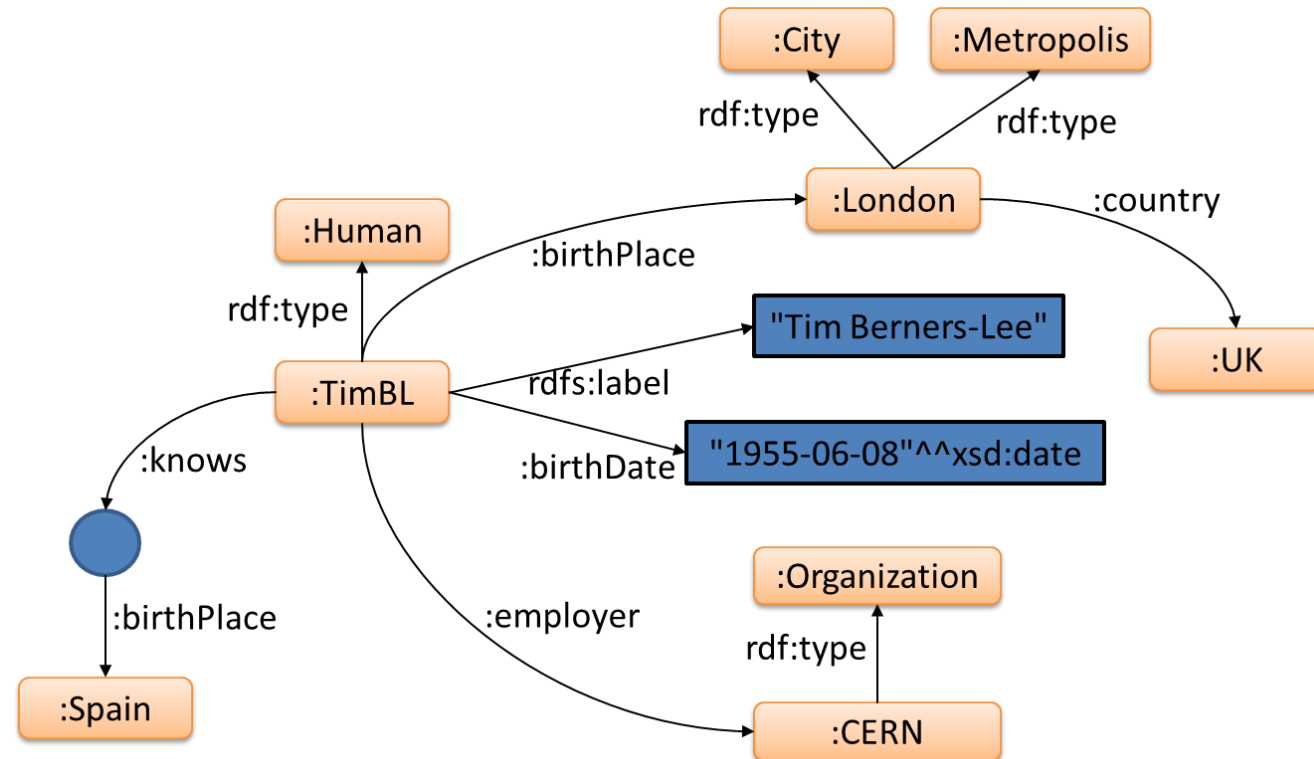


# RDF ecosystem: SPARQL

SPARQL is an RDF query language and protocol  
It enables the creation of SPARQL endpoints

```
select ?person ?date ?country where {  
  ?person :birthDate ?date .  
  ?person :birthPlace ?p .  
  ?p      :country ?country  
}
```

?person	?date	?country
:timbl	1955-06-08	:UK



# RDF1.2 (RDF-Star)

Triple terms

Add statements about triples

Reifiers

```
prefix :      <http://example.org/>

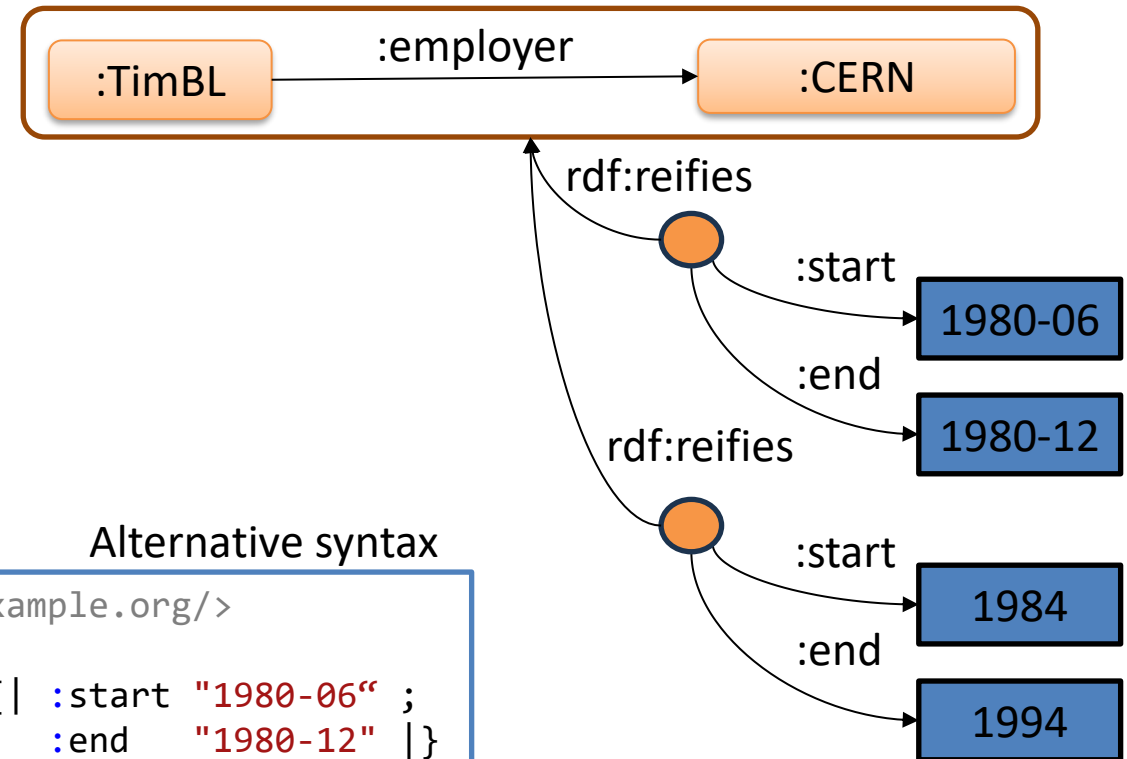
_:r1 rdf:reifies << :timbl :employer :CERN >> .
_:r1 :start "1980-06";
      :end  "1980-12" .

_:r1 rdf:reifies << :timbl :employer :CERN >> .
_:r2 :start "1984";
      :end  "1994" .
```

Alternative syntax

```
prefix :      <http://example.org/>

:timbl :employer :CERN { | :start "1980-06" ;
                           :end  "1980-12" | }
                        { | :start "1984" ;
                           :end  "1994" | } .
```



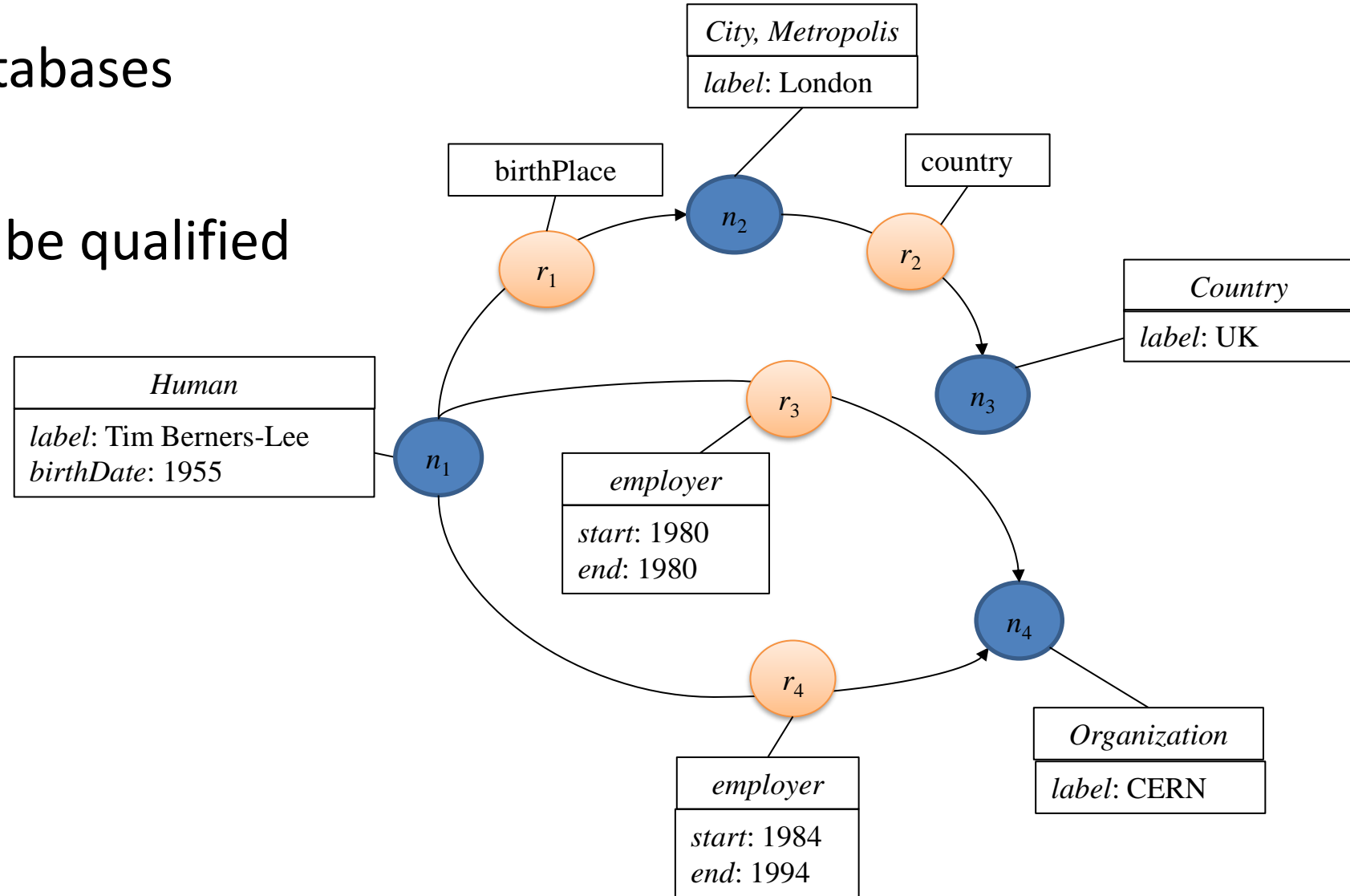
# Property graphs

Popularized by graph databases

Example: Neo4j

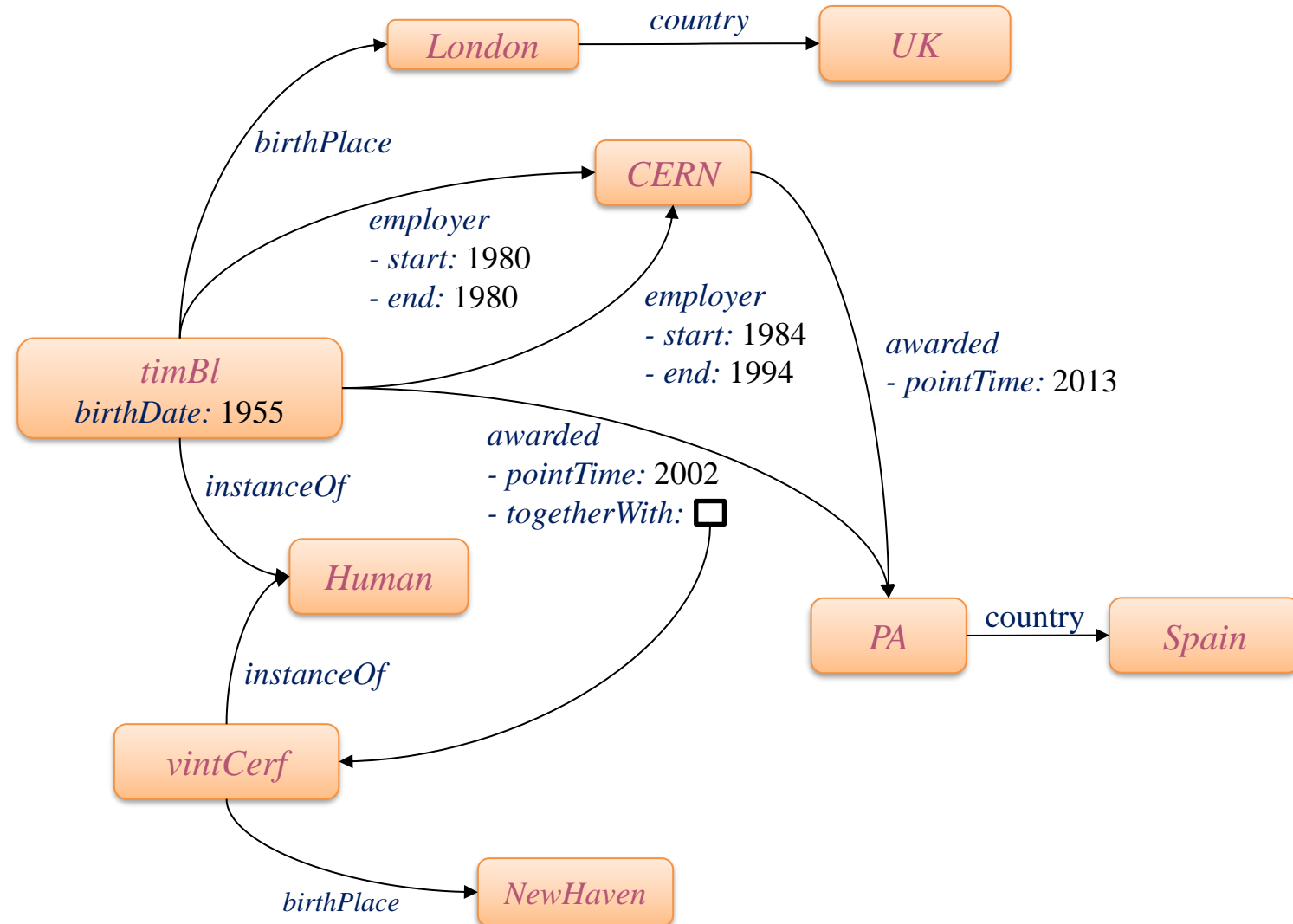
Nodes and relations can be qualified

Nodes can have types



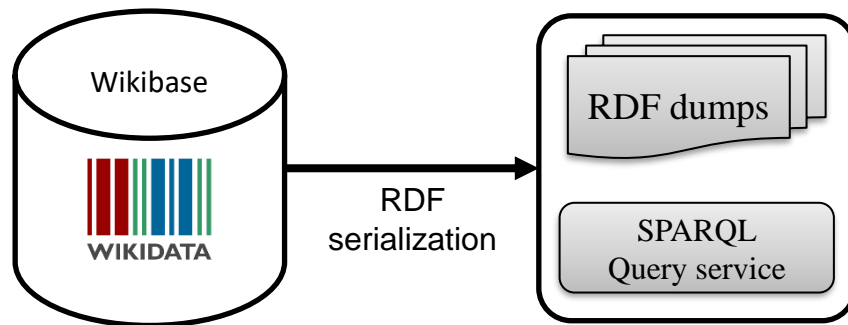
Popularized by Wikidata  
Wikibase = software supporting Wikidata  
The values can be nodes in the graph  
Example:  
Tim Berners Lee  
<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80>

# Wikibase graphs



# Wikibase graphs and SPARQL

Wikibase graphs generate RDF serializations for each item  
SPARQL endpoint and Query service available



```
select ?name ?date ?country where {  
  wd:Q80 wdt:P1559 ?name .  
  wd:Q80 wdt:P569 ?date .  
  wd:Q80 wdt:P19 ?place .  
  ?place wdt:P17 ?country  
}
```

?name	?date	?country
Tim Berners-lee	1955-06-08	:UK

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# RDF Data Model

Overview of RDF Data Model and simple exercise

Link to slides about  
RDF Data Model



<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13174562>

# RDF, the good parts...

RDF as an integration language

RDF as a *lingua franca* for semantic web and linked data

RDF flexibility

- Data can be adapted to multiple environments

- Open and reusable data by default

RDF for knowledge representation

RDF data stores & SPARQL

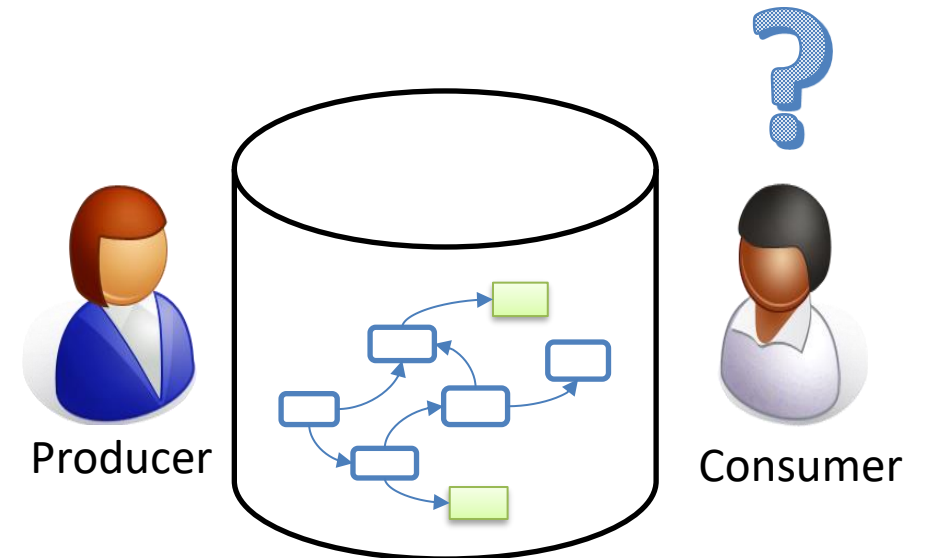
# RDF, the other parts

## Consuming & producing RDF

Multiple serializations: Turtle, RDF/XML, JSON-LD, ...

Embedding RDF in HTML

Describing and validating RDF content



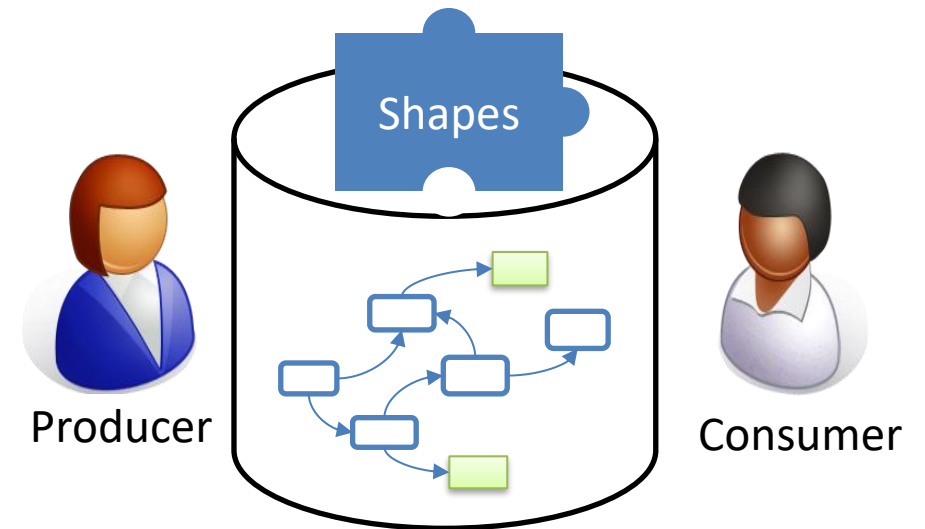
# Why describe & validate RDF?

## For producers

- Developers can understand the contents they are going to produce
- They can ensure they produce the expected structure
- Advertise and document the structure
- Generate interfaces

## For consumers

- Understand the contents
- Verify the structure before processing it
- Query generation & optimization



# Similar technologies

Technology	Schema
Relational Databases	DDL
XML	DTD, XML Schema, RelaxNG, Schematron
Json	Json Schema
RDF	?

Fill that gap



# Understanding the problem

RDF is composed by nodes and arcs between nodes

We can describe/check

- The form of the node itself (node constraint)

- The number of possible arcs incoming/outgoing from a node

- The possible values associated with those arcs

RDF Node

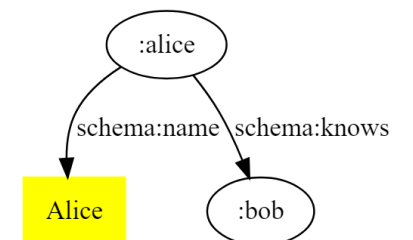
```
:alice schema:name "Alice";  
      schema:knows :bob .
```

Abstract shape of a node that represents a User

```
IRI schema:name string 1  
      schema:knows IRI 0, 1, ...
```

ShEx

```
<UserShape> IRI {  
  schema:name xsd:string ;  
  schema:knows IRI *  
}
```



# Understanding the problem

## RDF flexibility

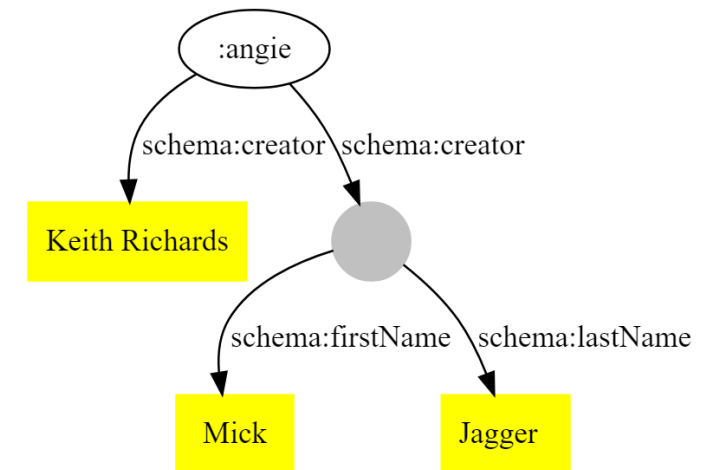
Mixed use of objects & literals

Example:

Values of `schema:creator` can be:

`string` or `schema:Person`  
in the same data

```
:angie schema:creator "Keith Richards" ;  
      schema:creator [  
        schema:firstName "Mick" ;  
        schema:lastName  "Jagger"  
      ] .
```



Lots of examples at <http://schema.org>



# Understanding the problem

## Repeated properties

The same property can be used for different purposes in the same data

Example: A product must have 2 codes with different structure

```
:product schema:productID "isbn:123-456-789";  
      schema:productID "code456" .
```

A practical example from FHIR

See: <http://hl7-fhir.github.io/observation-example-bloodpressure.ttl.html>

# Understanding the problem

Shapes  $\neq$  types

Nodes in RDF graphs can have zero, one or many `rdf:type` declarations

One type can be used for multiple purposes (`schema:Person`)

Data doesn't need to be annotated with fully discriminating types

Nodes with type `schema:Person` can also be customers, patients, etc...

Different meanings and different structure depending on the context

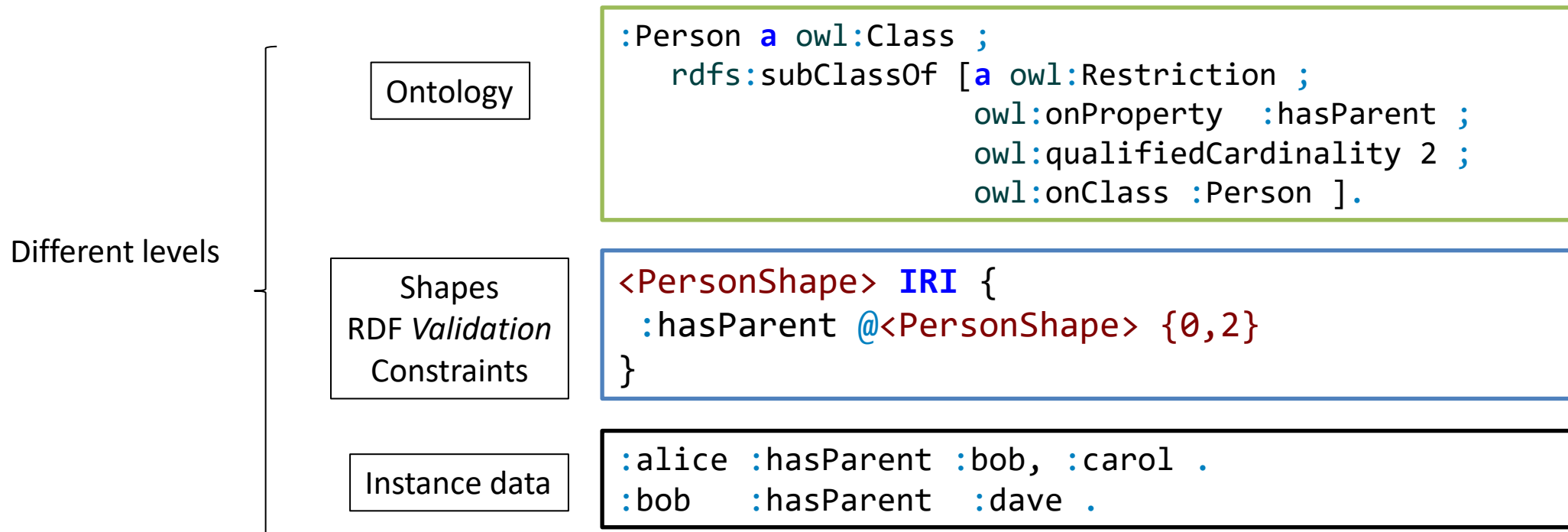
Different validation constraints at different contexts

# Shapes vs Ontology

Ontologies  $\neq$  Shapes  $\neq$  instance data

Ontologies are usually focused on domain entities (higher level)

RDF validation/shapes focused on RDF graph features (lower level)



# Previous RDF validation approaches

## SPARQL based

- Plain SPARQL

- SPIN: <http://spinrdf.org/>

## OWL based

- Stardog ICV

- <http://docs.stardog.com/icv/icv-specification.html>

## Grammar based

- OSLC Resource Shapes

- <https://www.w3.org/Submission/2014/SUBM-shapes-20140211/>

# Define SPARQL queries that detect errors

## Pros:

Expressive

Ubiquitous

## Cons

Expressive

Idiomatic - many ways to encode the same constraint

### Example: SPARQL query to check that...

There is one `schema:name` which must be a `xsd:string` and one `schema:gender` must be `schema:Male` or `schema:Female`

```
ASK {{ SELECT ?Person {
    ?Person schema:name ?o .
} GROUP BY ?Person HAVING (COUNT(*)=1)
}
{ SELECT ?Person {
    ?Person schema:name ?o .
    FILTER ( isLiteral(?o) &&
             datatype(?o) = xsd:string )
} GROUP BY ?Person HAVING (COUNT(*)=1)
}
{ SELECT ?Person (COUNT(*) AS ?c1) {
    ?Person schema:gender ?o .
} GROUP BY ?Person HAVING (COUNT(*)=1)}
{ SELECT ?Person (COUNT(*) AS ?c2) {
    ?S schema:gender ?o .
    FILTER ((?o = schema:Female ||
             ?o = schema:Male))
} GROUP BY ?Person HAVING (COUNT(*)=1)}
FILTER (?c1 = ?c2)
}
```

# SPIN

SPARQL inferencing notation <http://spinrdf.org/>

Developed by TopQuadrant

Commercial product

Vocabulary associated with user-defined functions in SPARQL

SPIN has influenced SHACL (see later)

# Stardog ICV

ICV - Integrity Constraint Validation

Commercial product

OWL with unique name assumption and closed world

Compiled to SPARQL

More info: <http://docs.stardog.com/icv/icv-specification.html>



# OSLC Resource Shapes

## OSLC Resource Shapes

<https://www.w3.org/Submission/shapes/>

Grammar based approach

Language for RDF validation

Input for ShEx and SHACL

```
:user a rs:ResourceShape ;  
  rs:property [  
    rs:name "name" ;  
    rs:propertyDefinition schema:name ;  
    rs:valueType xsd:string ;  
    rs:occurs rs:Exactly-one ;  
  ] ;  
  rs:property [  
    rs:name "gender" ;  
    rs:propertyDefinition schema:gender ;  
    rs:allowedValue schema:Male, schema:Female ;  
    rs:occurs rs:Zero-or-one ;  
  ] .
```

# Other approaches

Dublin Core Application profiles (K. Coyle, T. Baker)

<http://dublincore.org/documents/dc-dsp/>

RDF Data Descriptions (Fischer et al)

<http://ceur-ws.org/Vol-1330/paper-33.pdf>

RDFUnit (D. Kontokostas)

<http://aksw.org/Projects/RDFUnit.html>

...

# ShEx and SHACL

## 2013 RDF Validation Workshop

Conclusions of the workshop:

*There is a need of a higher level, concise language for RDF Validation*

ShEx initially proposed (v 1.0)

2014 W3c Data Shapes WG chartered

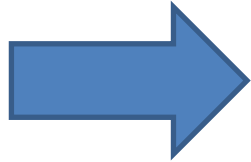
2017 SHACL accepted as W3C recommendation

2017 ShEx 2.0 released as W3C Community group draft

2019 ShEx adopted by Wikidata

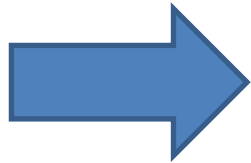
# Continue this tutorial with...

ShEx by example



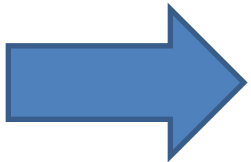
<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13174571>

SHACL by example



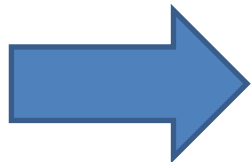
<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13174577>

ShEx and SHACL  
compared



<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13174583>

Shapes applications  
and tools



<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13174586>