RDF, ShEx and Entity Schemas

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Overview

Why RDF, ShEx and entity schemas?

RDF data model

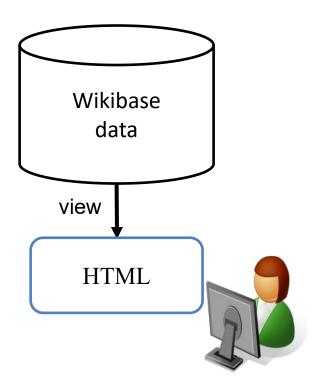
Wikibase data model and RDF

ShEx

Entity schemas

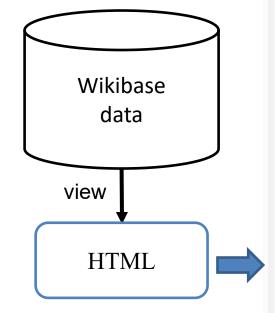
Traditional web

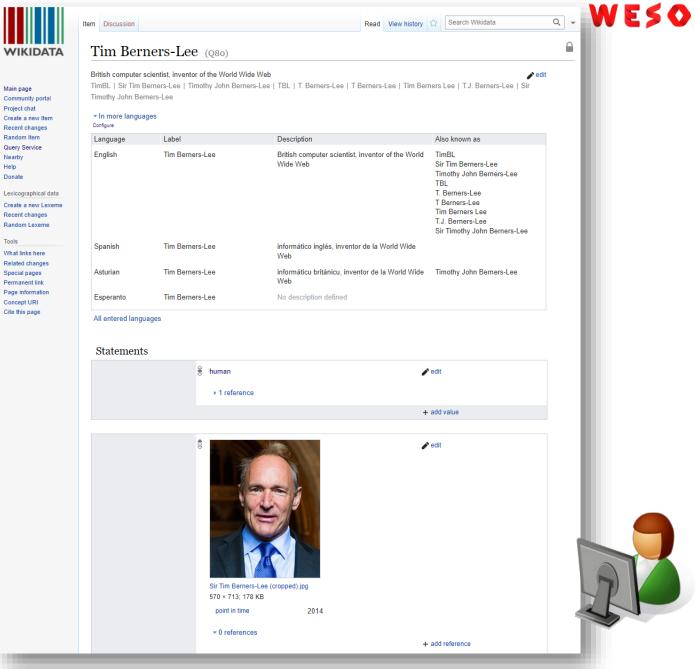
Provide HTML for humans to browse



Example (Q80)

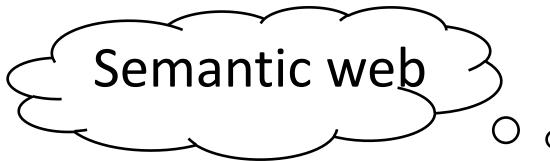
Tim Berners-Lee



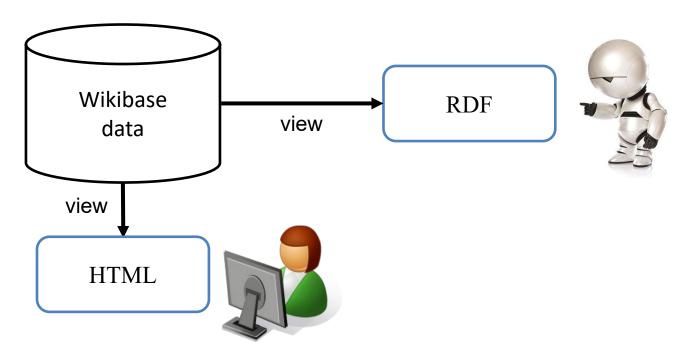


Try it: http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80



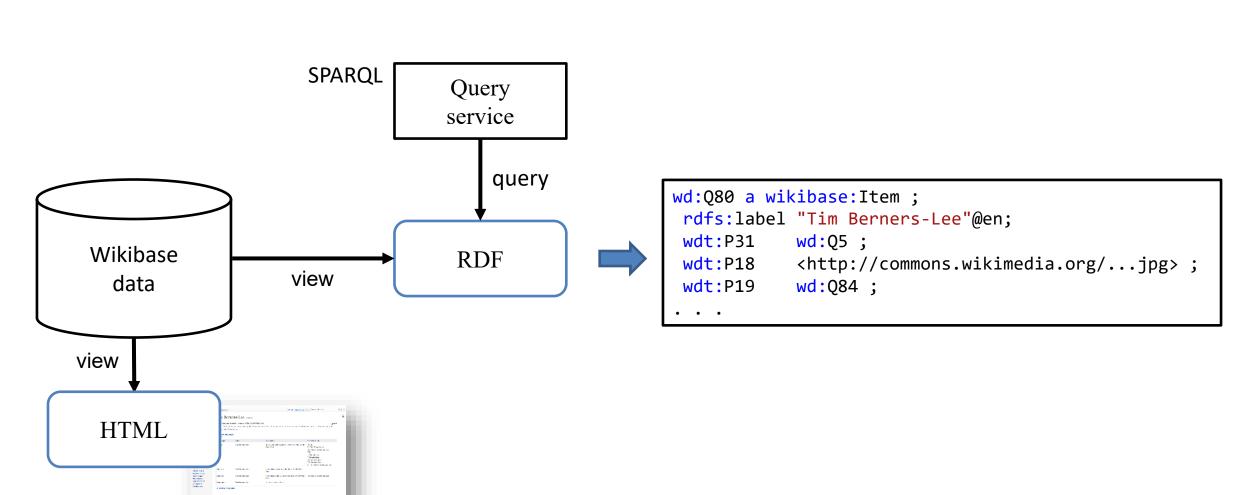


Data for humans (HTML) and for machines (RDF)
Web of data + web of documents





RDF view





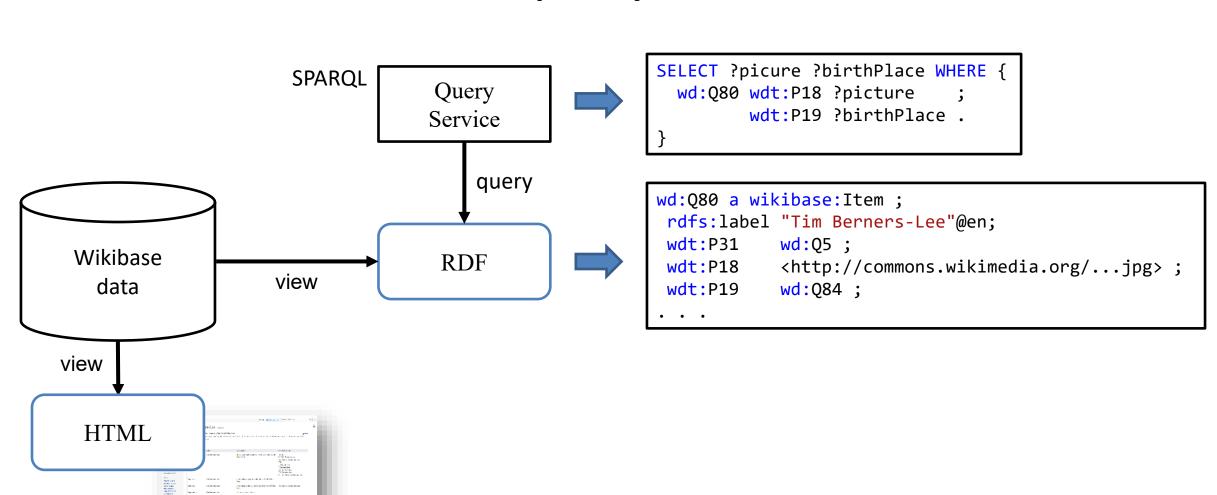
Content negotiation

Each item has a concept URI (http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80)

System redirects to HTML, RDF, JSON, views depending on client



SPARQL query service





RDF and SPARQL, the good parts

Interoperability

RDF as a communication language

Basis for knowledge representation

Flexibility

Graph data can be adapted to multiple models

No need to fix a schema before adding statements

Reusability and existing tools

Part of the semantic web stack: existings tools and specs

RDF data stores and SPARQL endpoints

Wikidata query service is really great



Wikidata is one of the best showcases of semantic web



RDF and SPARQL, the other parts...

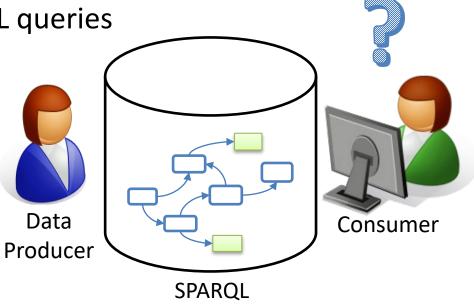
Consuming & producing RDF

Describing and validating RDF content

SPARQL endpoints can be overwhelming

Typical documentation = set of example SPARQL queries

Difficult to know where to start doing queries





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 that structure

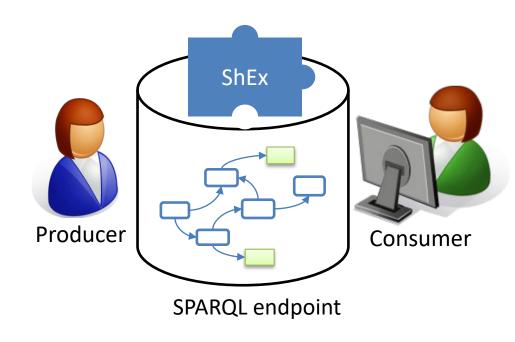
Generate interfaces

For consumers

Understand the contents

Verify the structure before processing it

Query generation & optimization

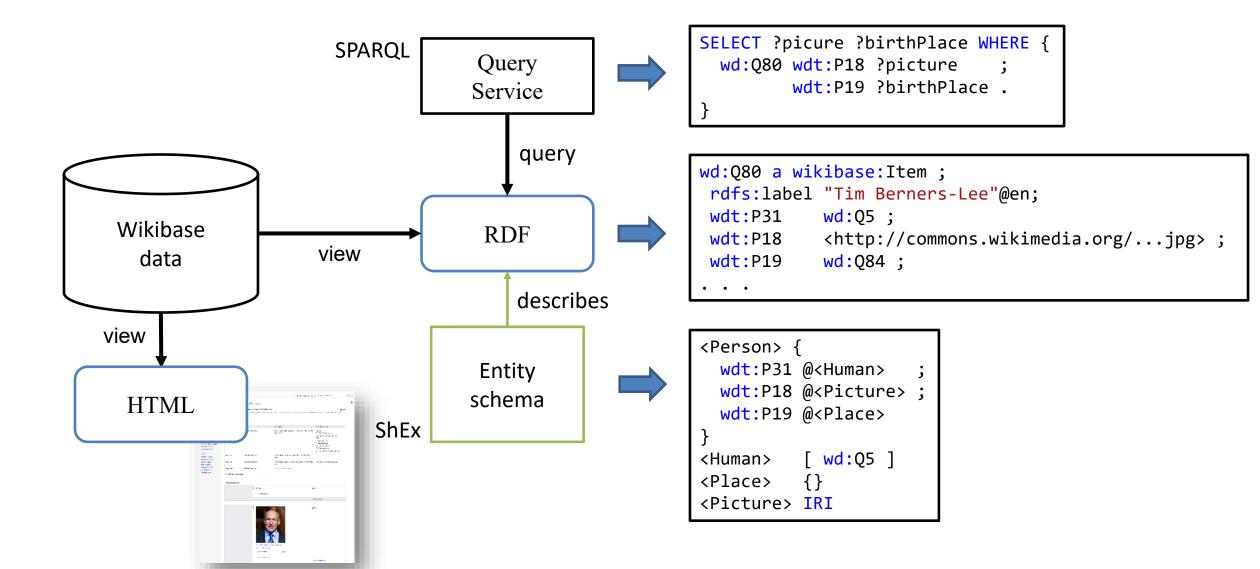




Similar technologies

Technology	Schema
Relational Databases	DDL
XML	DTD, XML Schema, RelaxNG, Schematron
Json	Json Schema
RDF	ShEx
	Fill that gap

Example (Q80)



Introduction to the RDF data model



RDF

RDF = Resource description framework

Based on triples and URIs to represent properties and nodes

Short history

Around 1997 - PICS, Dublin core, Meta Content Framework

1997 1st Working draft https://www.w3.org/TR/WD-rdf-syntax-971002, RDF/XML

1999 1st W3C Rec https://www.w3.org/TR/1999/REC-rdf-syntax-19990222/, XML Syntax, first applications RSS, EARL

2004 - RDF Revised https://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-rdf-concepts-20040210/, SPARQL, Turtle, Linked Data

2014 - RDF 1.1 https://www.w3.org/TR/rdf11-concepts/, SPARQL 1.1, JSON-LD

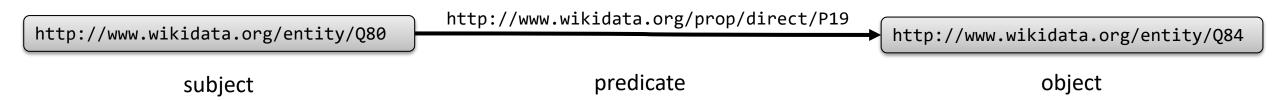


RDF Data Model

RDF is made from statements

Statement = a triple (subject, predicate, object)

Example:



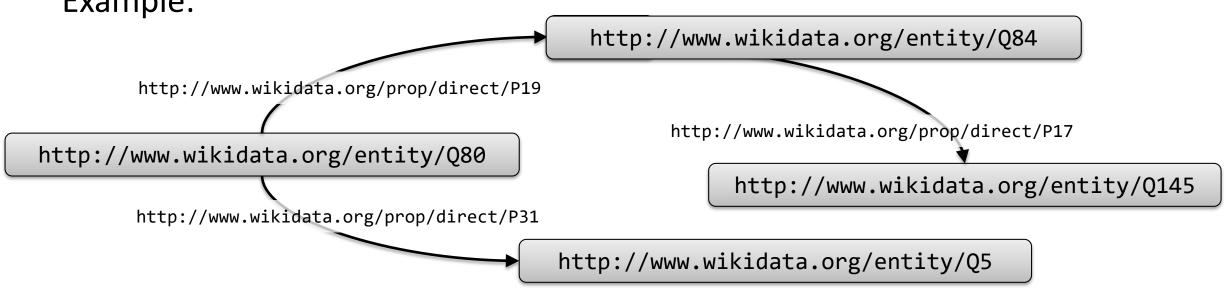
N-Triples representation

<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80> <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P19> <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q84>



Set of statements = RDF graph

RDF data model = directed graph Example:



N-triples representation

```
<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80> <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P19> <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q84> .
  <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q84> <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P17> <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q145> .
  <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80> <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P31> <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q5> .
```



Turtle notation

Human readable notation that simplifies N-Triples Allows namespace declarations and some abreviations

N-Triples

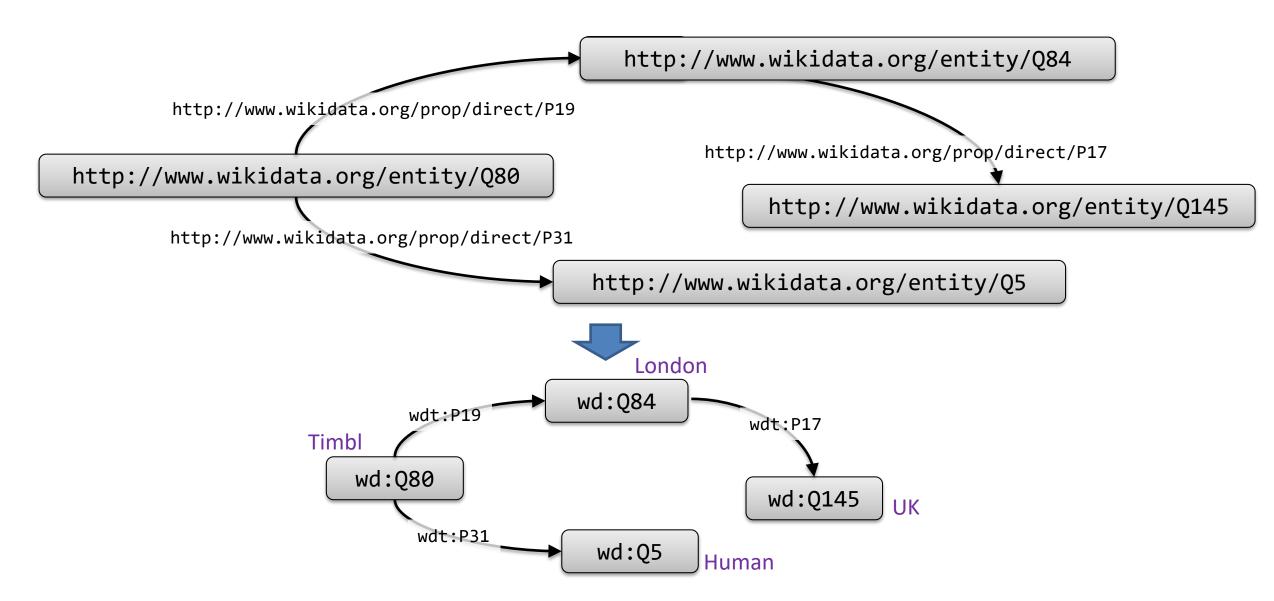
```
<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q84> <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P17> <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q145> .
  <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80> <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P19> <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q84> .
  <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q80> <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P31> <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q5> .
```



```
Turtle prefix wd: <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/>
prefix wdt: <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/>
wd:Q80 wdt:P19 wd:Q84;
    wdt:P31 wd:Q5 .
wd:Q84 wdt:P17 wd:Q145 .
```



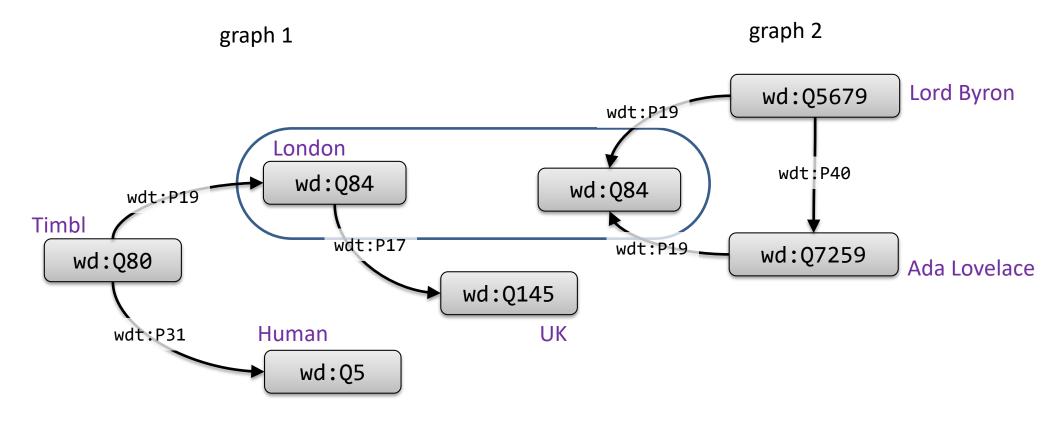
Namespaces simplification





RDF is compositional

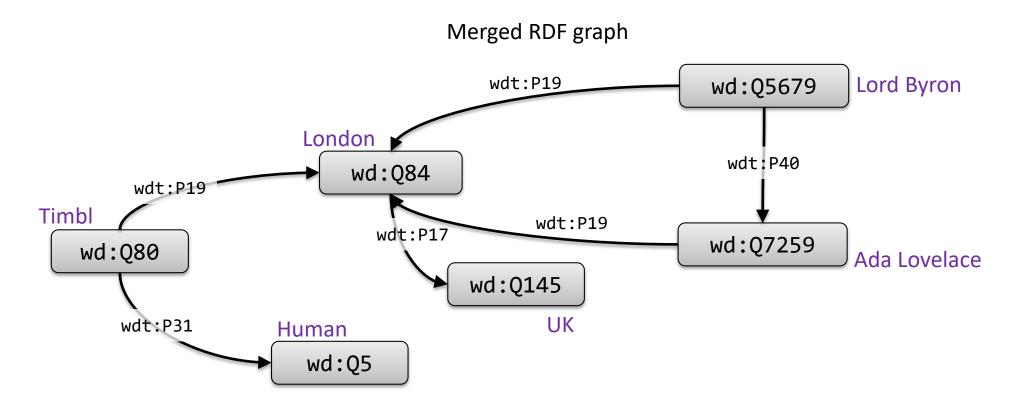
RDF graphs can be merged to obtain a bigger RDF graphs Automatic data integration





RDF is compositional

RDF graphs can be merged to obtain a bigger RDF graphs Automatic data integration





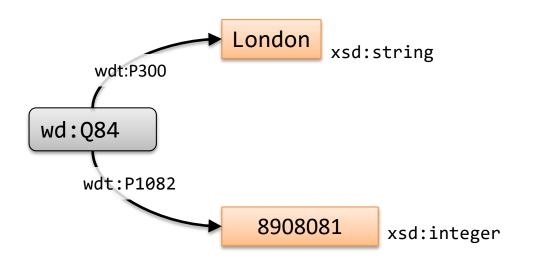
RDF Literals

Objects can also be literals

Literals contain a lexical form and a datatype

Typical datatypes = XML Schema primitive datatypes

If not specified, a literal has datatype xsd:string

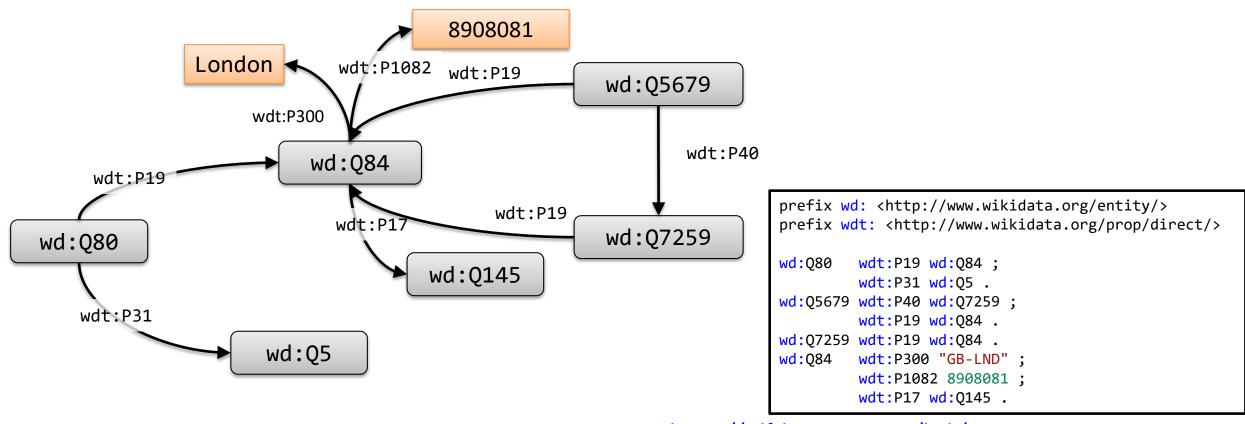


Turtle notation



Remember...RDF is compositional

Merging previous data

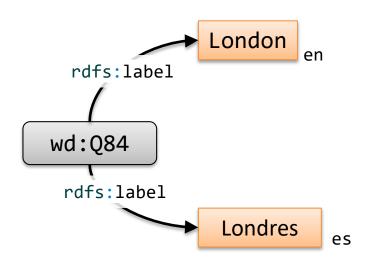


https://rdfshape.weso.es/link/16417186264



Language tagged strings

String literals can be qualified by a language tag They have datatype rdfs:langString



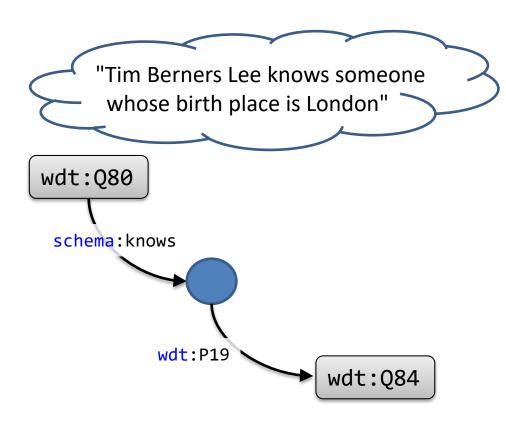
Turtle notation

```
wd:Q84 rdfs:label "London"@en ;
    rdfs:label "Londres"@es .
```



Blank nodes

Subjects and objects can also be Blank nodes



Turtle notation with local identifier

```
wd:Q80 schema:knows _:x .
_:x wdt:P19 wd:Q84 .
```

Turtle notation with square brackets

```
wd:Q80 schema:knows [ wdt:P19 wd:Q84 ] .
```

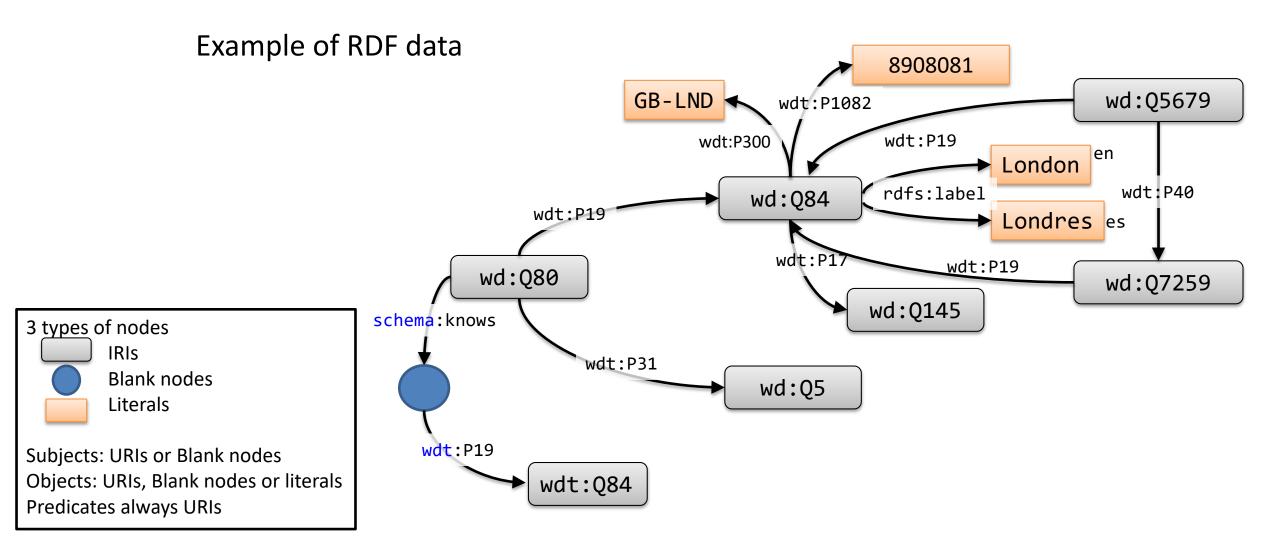
Mathematical meaning:

```
\exists x(schema:knows(wd:Q80,x) \land wdt:P19(x, wdt:Q84))
```





RDF data model

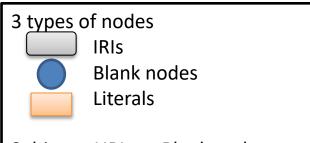




Formal definition of RDF data model

Given a set of IRIs \mathcal{I} , a set of blank nodes \mathcal{B} and a set of literals Lit an RDF graph is a tuple $\mathcal{G} = \langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{O}, \rho \rangle$ where $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{I} \cup \mathcal{B}$, $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{I}$,

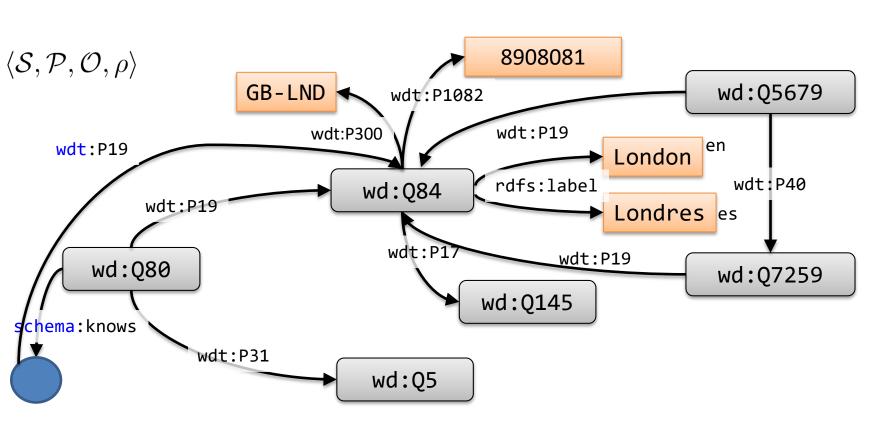
 $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{I},$ $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{I} \cup \mathcal{B} \cup Lit$ $\rho \subseteq \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{O}$



Subjects: URIs or Blank nodes

Objects: URIs, Blank nodes or literals

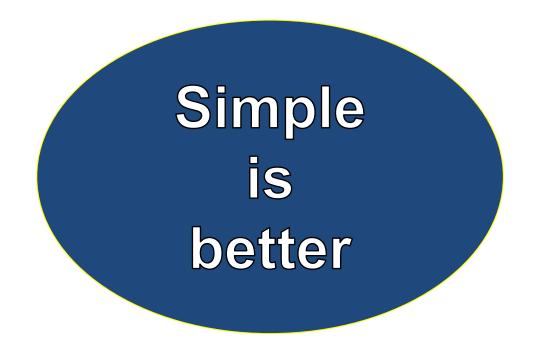
Predicates always URIs





...and that's all about the RDF data model

The RDF Data model is very simple



Wikibase data model and RDF

2 different data models

Wikibase

Intial goal: support Wikipedia

Collaborative model based on

MediaWiki

Combines 2 models

Document centric (MediaWiki

Graph model (statements)

Statements can have qualifiers & references

RDF

Initial goal: Knowledge representation

Basis for Semantic Web

Resources = URIs

Graph based model

Graph = Set of triples



Wikibase data model

Described in https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Wikibase/DataModel

Entities

Items (Q..), Properties (P..), Lexemes (L..)

Each entity has:

- Labels, descriptions, aliases
- List of statements (Property-values)
- Each statement can have qualifiers and references

Built-in data values

Examples: strings, numbers, dates, time-values, geo-coordinates, ...

Example

Multilingual labels, descriptions and aliases

Concept URI

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

Rank



Community portal Project chat Create a new Item Recent changes Random Item

Query Service Nearby

Create a new Lexeme Recent changes Random Lexeme

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

Item Discussion

Tim Berners-Lee (Q80)

British computer scientist, inventor of the World Wide Web

🥜 edit 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

Read View history 🏠 Search Wikidata

▼ In more languages

Language	Label	Description	Also known as
English	Tim Berners-Lee	British computer scientist, inventor of the World Wide Web	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
Spanish	Tim Berners-Lee	informático inglés, inventor de la World Wide Web	
Asturian	Tim Berners-Lee	informáticu británicu, inventor de la World Wide Web	Timothy John Berners-Lee
Esperanto	Tim Berners-Lee	No description defined	

All entered languages

Statements



Hidden reference

WESO

Sir Tim Berners-Lee (cropped).jpg 570 × 713; 178 KB 2014

point in time

▼ 0 references

+ add reference

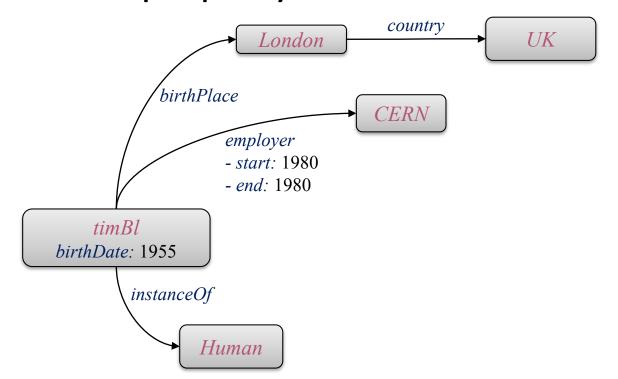
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Qualifier



Wikibase graphs

Wikibase graph model similar to Property Graphs
Nodes can have a list of property-values
Statements can also have a list of property-values





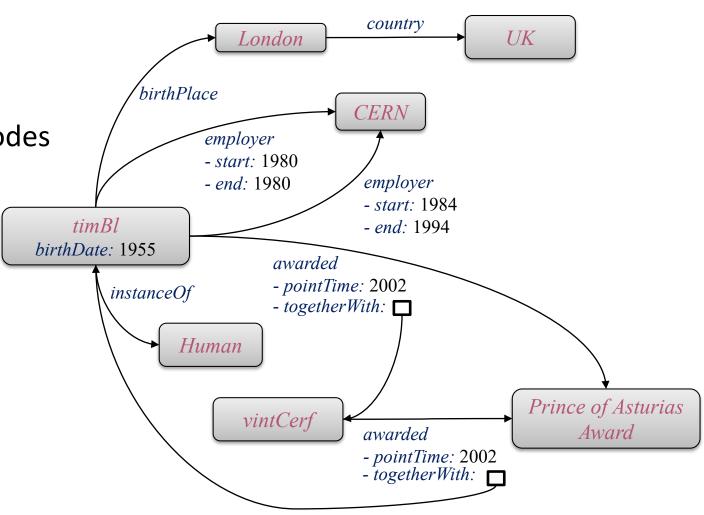
Wikibase graphs

Wikibase graphs = Multigraphs

It is possible to have more than one statement between the same 2 nodes

Generalize property graphs

The values can also be nodes





Wikibase → RDF: prefixes

New namespaces created for Wikidata: wd, wdt, p, ps, pr, psv ... Reuse popular namespaces: rdf, rdfs, dct, owl, prov, skos, ...

Some popular prefix declarations

wd	http://www.wikidata.org/entity/
wdt	http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/
р	http://www.wikidata.org/prop/
ps	http://www.wikidata.org/prop/statement/
pq	http://www.wikidata.org/prop/qualifier/
pr	http://www.wikidata.org/prop/reference/
psv, pqv, prv	http://www.wikidata.org/prop/{statement qualifier reference}/value/
rdf	http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#
rdfs	http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#
•••	•••

Wikidata query service assumes those prefix declarations



Wikibase → RDF: entities

Entity nodes (ex. wd:Q80) have type wikibase: Item

Labels declared using rdfs:label, skos:prefLabel, schema:name

Descriptions declared using schema: description

Aliases declared using skos:altLabel

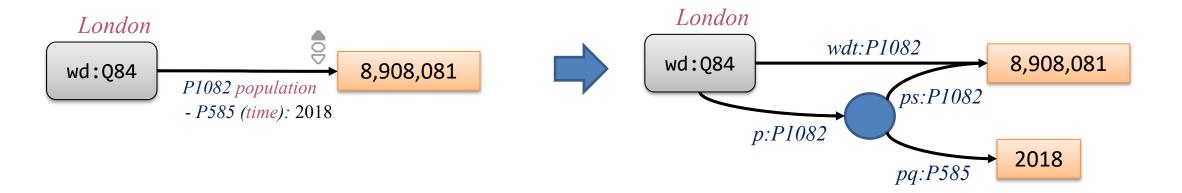


Wikibase → RDF: statements

Statements have 2 possibilities

Truthy statements: best non-deprecated rank for a property

Full statements: contain all data about a statement



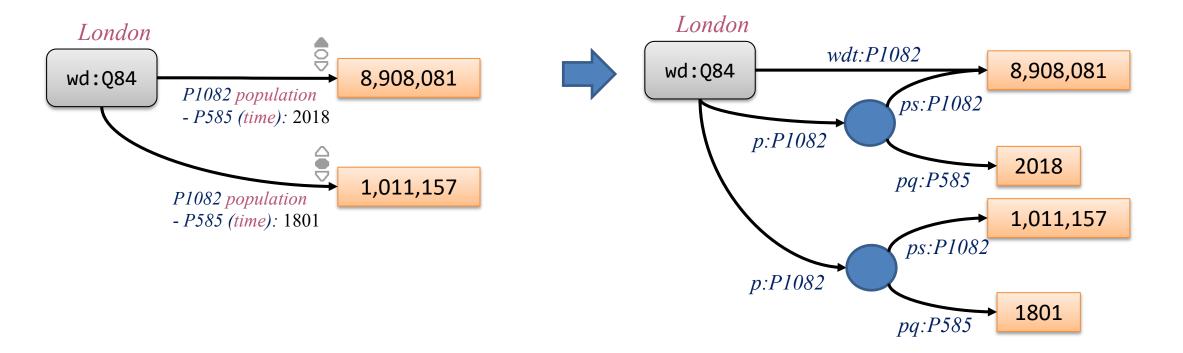


Wikibase → RDF: statements

Statements have 2 possibilities

Truthy statements: best non-deprecated rank for a property

Full statements: contain all data about a statement





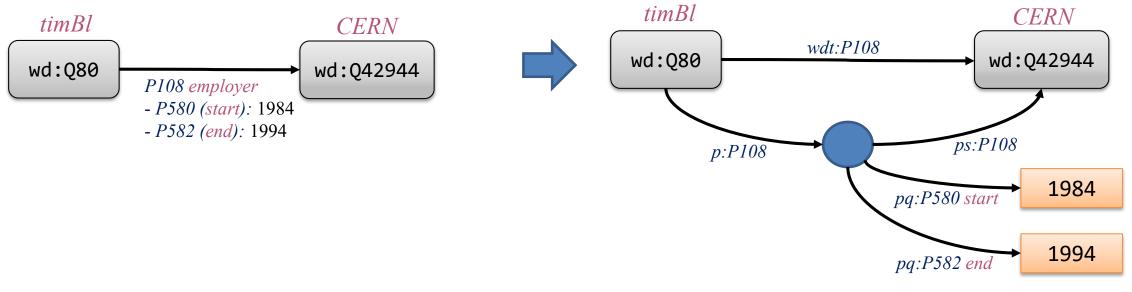
Wikibase → RDF: qualifiers

Qualifiers = statements about statements

RDF reification can be used for that

Different RDF reification alternatives

Wikibase approach to reification uses auxiliary nodes



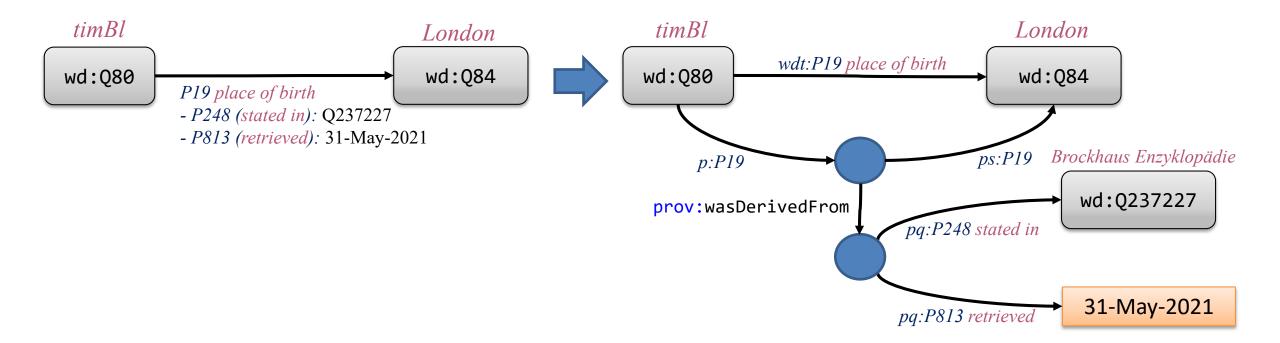
Wikibase RDF



Wikibase → RDF: references

References = similar to qualifiers

Adds a new node that represents the provenance information





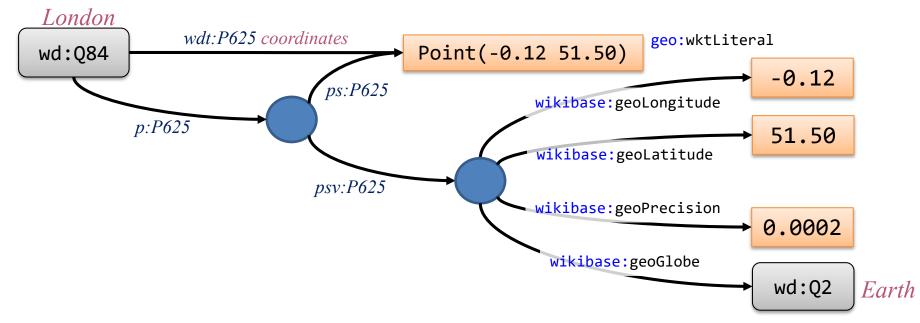
Wikibase → RDF: values

Values represented as simple and full values

Simple values = literals or URIs

Full values include more information

Example London's coordinates:





Wikibase → RDF: other features

Normalized values

Special values: Some values, NoValues

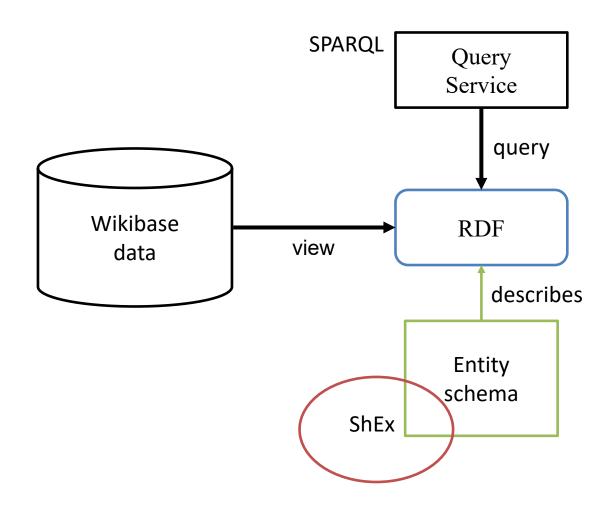
Sitelinks

Redirects



Wikibase, RDF and ShEx

Overview



Introduction to Shape Expressions



ShEx

ShEx (Shape Expressions Language)

Goal: RDF validation & description

Design objectives: High level, concise, human-readable, machine processable language

Syntax inspired by SPARQL, Turtle

Semantics inspired by RelaxNG

Official info: http://shex.io



ShEx as a language

```
Language based approach
```

ShEx = domain specific language for RDF validation

Specification: http://shex.io/shex-semantics/

Primer: http://shex.io/shex-primer

Different serializations:

ShExC (Compact syntax)

JSON-LD (ShExJ)

RDF obtained from JSON-LD (ShExR)



Short history of ShEx

2013 - RDF Validation Workshop

Conclusions: "SPARQL queries cannot easily be inspected and understood..."

Need of a higher level, concise language

Agreement on the term "Shape"

2014 First proposal of Shape Expressions (ShEx 1.0)

2014 - Data Shapes Working Group chartered

Mutual influence between SHACL & ShEx

2017 - ShEx Community Group - ShEx 2.0

2018 - ShEx 2.1



ShEx implementations and demos

Implementations:

shex.js: Javascript

Apache Jena ShEx: Java

shex-s: Scala (Jena/RDF4j)

PyShEx: Python

shex-java: Java

Ruby-ShEx: Ruby

ShEx-ex: Elixir

Online demos & playgrounds

ShEx-simple

RDFShape

ShEx-Java

ShExValidata

Wikishape





```
Prefix declarations as in
Turtle/SPARQL

prefix schema: <a href="http://schema.org/">http://schema.org/</a>
prefix xsd: <a href="http://schema.org/">http://schema.org/</a>
prefix xsd: <a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#">http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#</a>

<a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#">www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#</a>
schema:name xsd:string ;
schema:knows @<User> *
}
```

Nodes conforming to <User> shape must:

- Be IRIs
- Have exactly one schema: name with a value of type xsd:string
- Have zero or more schema: knows whose values conform to <User>



RDF Validation using ShEx

Data

```
Schema
```

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

Shape map

```
:alice@<User>✓
:bob @<User>✓
:carol@<User>×
:dave @<User>×
:emily@<User>×
:frank@<User>✓
:grace@<User>×
```

Try it (RDFShape): https://goo.gl/97bYdv
Try it (ShExDemo): https://goo.gl/Y8hBsW

```
:alice schema:name "Alice";
      schema:knows:alice .
:bob
      schema:knows :alice ;
      schema:name
                   "Robert".
:carol schema:name "Carol", "Carole" .
:dave schema:name
                    234
:emily foaf:name
                    "Emily" .
:frank schema:name "Frank" ;
      schema:email <mailto:frank@example.org> ;
      schema:knows :alice, :bob .
:grace schema:name "Grace" ;
      schema:knows :alice, _:1 .
:1 schema:name "Unknown" .
```



Validation process

Input: RDF data, ShEx schema, Shape map

Output: Result shape map

```
ShEx Schema
:User {
schema:name xsd:string;
schema:knows @:User *
                                                                           Result shape map
                                   Shape map
                                                     ShEx
                                                                       :alice@:User,
                                                                      :bob@:User,
:alice@:User, :bob@:User, :carol@:User
                                                   Validator
                                                                      :carol@!:User
                                    RDF data
:alice schema:name
                   "Alice" ;
       schema:knows:alice .
      schema:knows :alice ;
:bob
      schema:name
                    "Robert".
                   "Carol", "Carole".
:carol schema:name
```



Example with more ShEx features

```
:AdultPerson EXTRA rdf:type {
rdf:type [ schema:Person ]
 :name
          xsd:string
:age MinInclusive 18
:gender [:Male :Female] OR xsd:string ;
:address @:Address ?
:worksFor @:Company +
                             :alice rdf:type :Student, schema:Person;
                                       "Alice" :
                              :name
:Address CLOSED {
                                       20 ;
                              :age
 :addressLine xsd:string {1,3}
                              :gender :Male ;
 :postalCode /[0-9]{5}/
                              :address
:state
            @:State
                              :addressLine "Bancroft Way" ;
:city xsd:string
                                    "Berkeley" ;
                              :city
                              :postalCode
                                          "55123" ;
:Company {
                                           "CA"
                              :state
 :name xsd:string
         @:State
:state
                              :worksFor [
:employee @:AdultPerson *
                                          "Company";
                               :name
                              :state
                                         "CA" ;
:State
       /[A-Z]{2}/
                               :employee
                                         :alice
```

```
:AdultPerson
           a : [ schema:Person ]
            :name : xsd:string
            age : >= 18
            :gender : [ :Male :Female ] OR xsd:string
                  address
                             :worksFor
                                          :employee
            :Address
Closed
                                       S :Company
addressLine: xsd:string {1,3}
                                     :name : xsd:string
:postalCode : /[0-9]{5}/
city: xsd:string
                          state
                                      state
                           S:State
                           /[A-Z]{2}/
```

Try it: https://tinyurl.com/yd5hp9z4



ShExC - Compact syntax

BNF Grammar: http://shex.io/shex-semantics/#shexc

Shares terms with Turtle and SPARQL

Prefix declarations

Comments starting by #

a keyword = rdf:type

Keywords aren't case sensitive (MinInclusive = MININCLUSIVE)

Shape Labels can be URIs or BlankNodes



ShEx-Json

JSON-LD serialization for Shape Expressions and validation results

equivalent



Some definitions

Schema = set of Shape Expressions Shape Expression = labeled pattern

```
<label> {
    ...pattern...
}
```



Focus Node and Neighborhood

Focus Node

= node that is being

validated

```
:alice
                            "Alice";
            schema:name
            schema:follows
                             :bob;
            schema:worksFor :OurCompany .
: bob
            foaf:name
                            "Robert" ;
            schema:worksFor :OurCompany .
:carol
            schema:name
                           "Carol" ;
            schema:follows :alice .
                             "Dave" .
:dave
            schema:name
:OurCompany schema:founder :dave ;
            schema:employee :alice, :bob .
```

```
Neighbourhood of :alice = {
  (:alice,
                                         "Alice")
                   schema:name,
  (:alice, schema:follows,
                                         :bob),
  (:alice, schema:worksFor, :OurCompany),
  (:carol, schema:follows, :alice),
  (:OurCompany, schema:employee, :alice)
                         :OurCompany
       schema:founder
                               schema:employee
                                         schema:worksFor
                                                     schema:follows
                                                              kschema:name
                   schema:employee schema:worksFor
      :dave
                                  schema:follows schema:name
        chema:name
      Dave
```



Shape maps

Shape maps declare which node/shape pairs are selected

They declare the queries that ShEx engines solve

3 types of shape maps:

Query shape maps: Input shape maps

Fixed shape maps: Simple pairs of node/shape

Result shape maps: Shape maps generated by the validation process



Shape map resolver

Converts query shape maps to fixed shape maps

```
Fixed shape map
Query shape map
                                                                       :alice@:User,
{FOCUS schema:worksFor }@:User
                                                                       :bob@:User,
                                                       ShapeMap
{FOCUS rdf:type schema:Person}@:User,
                                                       Resolver
                                                                       :carol@:User,
{_ schema:worksFor FOCUS }@:Company
                                                                       :c1@:Company,
                                                                       :c2@:Company,
                                              RDF Graph
                                              :alice a :User .
                                              :bob
                                                      schema:worksFor :c1,
                                                                       :c2 .
                                              :carol a schema:Person ;
                                                      schema:worksFor :c1 .
```



ShEx validator

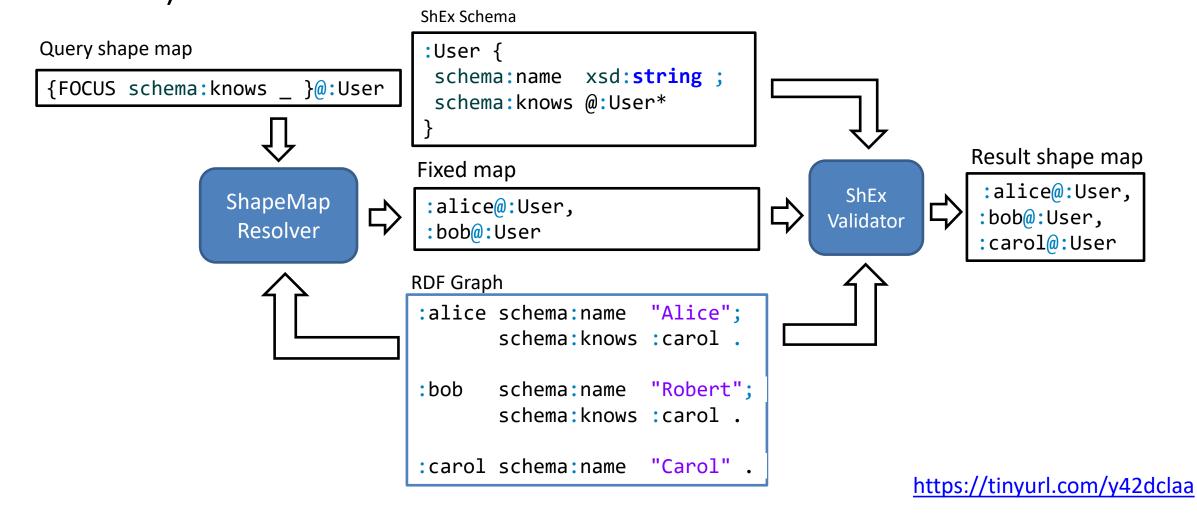
Input: schema, rdf data and fixed shape map, Output:

result shape map ShEx Schema :User { schema:name xsd:string; schema:knows @:User* Result Shape map Fixed shape map :alice@:User, ShEx :alice@:User, :bob@:User, Validator :bob @:User :carol@:User RDF data :alice schema:name "Alice"; schema:knows :carol . "Robert" . : bob schema:name :carol schema:name "Carol" .



Validation process

2 stages: 1) ShapeMap resolver2) ShEx validator





A simple language that can be used to generate fixed shape maps

Specification: http://shex.io/shape-map/

Examples:

```
:alice@:User
                               Checks:alice as:User
:alice@:User, :cmp@:Company Checks:alice as:User and :cmp as
                               : Company
{ schema:knows FOCUS
                               Checks nodes who schema: know some node
}@:User
{FOCUS schema:knows _
                               Checks nodes who are schema: known by
}@:User
                               some node
SPARQL
                               The same as before
prefix schema:
                               Any SPARQL query can be used to obtain focus
<http://schema.org/>
                               nodes
select ?node where {
 ?node schema:knows
?someone
"""@:User
```



Node constraints

Constraints over an RDF node



Triple constraints

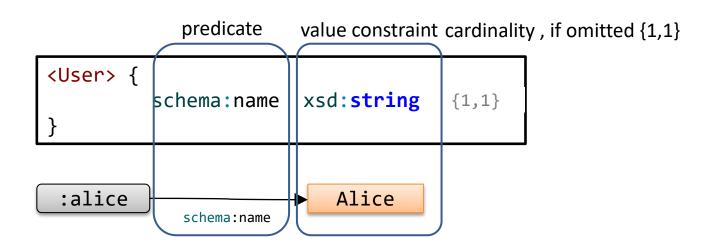
Constraints about the incoming/outgoing arcs of a node



Triple constraints

A basic expression consists of a Triple Constraint

Triple constraint ≈ predicate + value constraint + cardinality



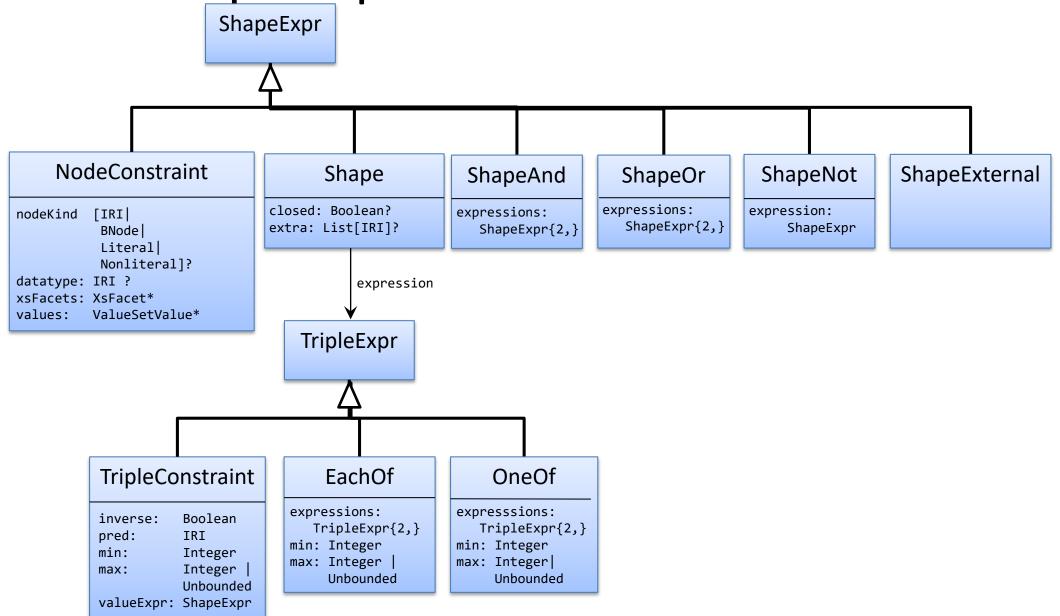


Shape expressions

Labelled rules



Structure of Shape Expressions





Simple expressions and grouping

The each-of operator; combines triple expressions
Unordered sequence

```
:alice schema:name
                   "Alice";
      foaf:age
                   10;
      schema:email "alice@example.org" .
                                              (\Xi)
:bob
      schema:name
                   "Robert Smith";
      foaf:age
                   45 ;
      schema:email <mailto:bob@example.org> .
                    "Carol";
:carol schema:name
      foaf:age
                    56, 66;
      schema:email
                     "carol@example.org" .
```



Repeated properties

A repeated property indicates that each of the expressions must be satisfied

```
<User> {
               xsd:string;
 schema:name
 schema:parent @<Male>;
 schema:parent @<Female>
<Male> {
 schema:gender [schema:Male ]
<Female> {
 schema:gender [schema:Female]
```

Means that **<User>** must have two parents, one male and another female

Try it (RDFShape): https://goo.gl/d3KWPJ



Cardinalities

Inspired by regular expressions

```
Traditional operators: *, +, ?
```

...plus cardinalities {m, n}

If omitted {1,1} = default cardinality

*	0 or more	
+	1 or more	
?	0 or 1	
{m}	m repetitions	
{m,n}	Between m and n repetitions	
{m,}	m or more repetitions	



Example with cardinalities

```
<User> {
   schema:name xsd:string
   schema:worksFor @<Company> ?;
   schema:follows @<User> *
}

<Company> {
   schema:founder @<User> ?;
   schema:employee @<User> {1,100}
}
```

```
:alice
                             "Alice";
            schema:name
            schema: follows
                             :bob;
            schema:worksFor :OurCompany .
            schema:name
                             "Robert" ;
: bob
            schema:worksFor :OurCompany .
:carol
            schema:name
                             "Carol" ;
            schema:follows
                             :alice .
                              "Dave" .
:dave
            schema:name
:OurCompany schema:founder :dave ;
            schema:employee :alice, :bob .
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/ddQHPo



Choices - OneOf

The one-of operator | represents alternatives (either one or the other)

```
:User {
   schema:name xsd:string;
| schema:givenName xsd:string + ;
   schema:lastName xsd:string
}
```



Node constraints

Туре	Example	Description
Anything	•	The value can be anything
Datatype	xsd:string	Matches a literal with datatype xsd:string
Kind	IRI BNode Literal NonLiteral	The object must have that kind
Value set	<pre>[:Male :Female]</pre>	The value must be :Male or :Female
Reference	@ <user></user>	The value must have shape <user></user>
Composed with OR AND NOT	xsd:string OR IRI	The value must have datatype xsd:string or be an IRI
IRI Range	foaf:~	The value must start with the IRI associated with foaf
Any except	- :Checked	Any value except : Checked



No constraint

A dot (.) matches anything \Rightarrow no constraint on values

```
:User {
  schema:name
    schema:affiliation .;
  schema:email .;
  schema:birthDate
}
```



Datatypes

Datatypes are directly declared by their URIs

Predefined datatypes from XML Schema:

```
xsd:string xsd:integer xsd:date ...
```



Facets on Datatypes

It is possible to qualify the datatype with XML Schema facets

See: http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/#rf-facets

Facet	Description	
MinInclusive, MaxInclusive MinExclusive, MaxExclusive	Constraints on numeric values which declare the min/max value allowed (either included or excluded)	
TotalDigits, FractionDigits	Constraints on numeric values which declare the total digits and fraction digits allowed	
Length, MinLength, MaxLength	Constraints on string values which declare the length allowed, or the min/max length allowed	
/ /	Regular expression pattern	



Facets on Datatypes

```
:User {
  schema:name xsd:string MaxLength 10;
  foaf:age xsd:integer MinInclusive 1 MaxInclusive 99;
  schema:phone xsd:string /\\d{3}-\\d{3}-\\d{3}/
}
```

```
:alice schema:name "Alice";
    foaf:age 10;
    schema:phone "123-456-555" .

:bob schema:name "Robert Smith";
    foaf:age 45;
    schema:phone "333-444-555" .

:carol schema:name "Carol";
    foaf:age 23;
    schema:phone "23-456-555" .
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/8KanuJ



Node Kinds

Define the kind of RDF nodes: Literal, IRI, BNode, ...

Value	Description	Examples
Literal	Literal values	"Alice" "Spain"@en 23 true
IRI	IRIs	<pre><http: alice="" example.org=""> ex:alice</http:></pre>
BNode	Blank nodes	_:1
NonLiteral	Blank nodes or IRIs	<pre>_:1 <http: alice="" example.org=""> ex:alice</http:></pre>



Example with node kinds

```
:User {
  schema:name Literal;
  schema:follows IRI
}
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/B6x2rE



Value sets

The value must be one of the values of a given set Denoted by [and]

```
:Product {
schema:color [ "Red" "Green" "Blue" ];
schema:manufacturer [ :OurCompany :AnotherCompany ]
              :x1 schema:color "Red";
                  schema:manufacturer :OurCompany .
              :x2 schema:color "Cyan" ;
                  schema:manufacturer :OurCompany .
              :x3 schema:color "Green" ;
                  schema:manufacturer :Unknown .
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/AJ1eQX



Single value sets

Value sets with a single element

A very common pattern

```
:product1 schema:country :Spain .
<SpanishProduct> {
 schema:country [ :Spain ]
                                          :product2 schema:country :France .
                                          :product3 a :VideoGame ;
<FrenchProduct> {
                                                    schema:country :Spain .
 schema:country [ :France ]
                                   Note: ShEx doesn't interact with inference
                                   It just checks if there is an rdf:type arc
<VideoGame> {
                                      Inference can be done before/after validating
   [ :VideoGame ]
                                      It can even be used to validate inference systems
                                                                   Try it: https://goo.gl/NpZN9n
```



Language tagged literals

```
:FrenchProduct {
schema:label [ @fr ]
:SpanishProduct {
schema:label [ @es @es-AR @es-ES ]
                :car1 schema:label "Voiture"@fr . # Passes as :FrenchProduct
                :car3 schema:label "Carro"@es-AR . # Passes as :SpanishProduct
                :car4 schema:label "Coche"@es-ES . # Passes as :SpanishProduct
```



Shape references

Defines that the value must match another shape References are marked as @

```
:User {
  schema:name xsd:string ;
  schema:worksFor @:Company
}
:Company {
  schema:founder xsd:string
}
```

```
:alice a :User;
    schema:worksFor :OurCompany .

:bob a :User;
    schema:worksFor :Another .

:OurCompany
    schema:name "OurCompany" .

:Another
    schema:name 23 .
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/Q3SriH



Recursion and cyclic data models

```
:User {
schema:name xsd:string
schema:worksFor @:Company ;
:Company {
schema:founder xsd:string
schema:employee @:User *
```

```
schema:worksFor schema:employee

S:Company
schema:founder: xsd:string

Try it: https://goo.gl/eMNiyR
```

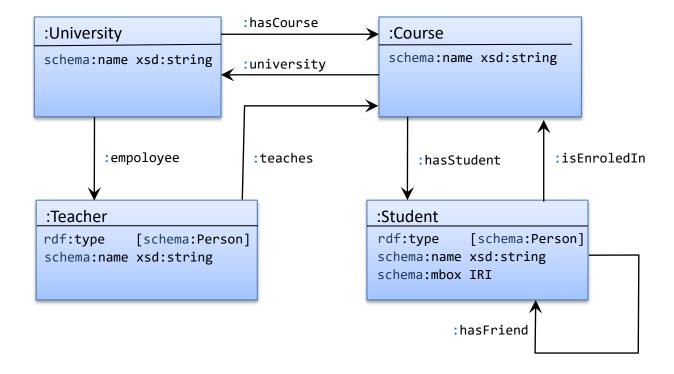
```
:alice
                          "Alice";;
          schema:name
          schema:worksFor :OurCompany .
: bob
          schema:name
                          "Robert";
          schema:worksFor :Another .
                             "Carol";
:companyA schema:founder
          schema:employee
                             :alice .
                             "Another"
:companyB schema:founder
          schema:employee
                              unknown
```





Exercise

Define a Schema for the following domain model





IRI ranges

uri:~ represents the set of all URIs that start with stem uri

```
prefix codes: <http://example.codes/>
:User {
    :status [ codes:~ ]
}
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/EC521J



IRI Range exclusions

The operator - excludes IRIs or IRI ranges from an IRI range

```
prefix codes: <http://example.codes/>
:User {
    :status [
        codes:~ - codes:deleted
    ]
}
```

```
:x1 :status codes:resolved .
:x2 :status other:done. 
:x3 :status <<u>http://example.codes/pending</u>> .
:x4 :status codes:deleted .
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/pU8u4b



Nested shapes

Syntax simplification to avoid defining two shapes Internally, the inner shape is identified using a blank node

```
:alice schema:name     "Alice";
     schema:worksFor :OurCompany .
:OurCompany a schema:Company .
```

Try it (RDFShape): https://goo.gl/2Eoehi



Labeled constraints

\$label <constraint> associates a constraint to a label It can later be used as &label



Inverse triple constraints

^ reverses the order of the triple constraint

Try it (RDFShape): https://goo.gl/9FbHi3



Allowing other triples

Triple constraints limit all triples with a given predicate to match one of the constraints

This is called *closing a property*

Example:

```
<Company> {
  a [ schema:Organization ];
  a [ org:Organization ]
}
```

Sometimes we would like to permit other triples (open the property)



Allowing other triples

EXTRA <listOfProperties> declares that a list of properties can contain
 extra values

```
<Company> EXTRA a {
  a [ schema:Organization ];
  a [ org:Organization ]
}
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/MxZVts



Closed Shapes

CLOSED can be used to limit the appearance of any predicate not mentioned in the shape expression

```
<user> {
   schema:name IRI;
   schema:knows @<User>*
}
```

By default open, so all match <user>

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

:bob schema:name "Bob";
    schema:knows :alice .

:dave schema:name "Dave";
    schema:knows :emily;
    :link2virus <virus> .

:emily schema:name "Emily";
    schema:knows :dave .
```

```
<User> CLOSED {
  schema:name IRI;
  schema:knows @<User>*
}
```

With closed, only :alice and :bob match <User>



Node constraints

Constraints on the focus node

```
<User> IRI {
   schema:name xsd:string;
   schema:worksFor IRI
}
```

```
:alice schema:name "Alice";
  :worksFor :OurCompany .
_:1 schema:name "Unknown";
  :worksFor :OurCompany .
```



Composing Shape Expressions

It is possible to use AND, OR and NOT to compose shapes

```
:alice
           schema:name
                           "Alice":
           schema:follows
                           :bob:
           schema:worksFor :OurCompany .
           schema:name "Robert";
: bob
           schema:worksFor [
            schema:Founder "Frank";
            schema:employee :carol ;
:carol
                           "Carol";
           schema:name
           schema:follows
            schema:name "Emily";
:OurCompany schema:founder :dave ;
           schema:employee :alice, :bob .
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/auLBiu



Implicit AND

AND can be omitted between a node constraint

and a shape

```
:User {
   schema:name xsd:string;
   schema:worksFor IRI AND @:Company
}
```



```
:User {
   schema:name xsd:string;
   schema:worksFor IRI @:Company
}
```



Conjunction of Shape Expressions

AND can be used to define conjunction on Shape Expressions



Using AND to extend shapes

AND can be used as a basic form of inheritance

```
:Person {
                      [ schema:Person ];
a
schema:name
                      xsd:string ;
:User @:Person AND {
schema:name
                      MaxLength 20;
schema:email
                      IRI
:Student @:User AND {
                      IRI *;
 :course
```

```
:alice a
                   schema:Person :
      schema:name "Alice" .
:bob schema:name
                  "Robert";
    schema:email
                   <bob@example.org> .
:carol a
         schema:Person;
      schema:name "Carol";
      schema:email <carol@example.org> .
:dave a
           schema:Person;
      schema:name "Carol";
      schema:email <carol@example.org>;
                   :algebra .
      :course
```



Disjunction of Shape Expressions

OR can be used to define disjunction of Shape Expressions

```
:User { schema:name xsd:string }
  OR { schema:givenName xsd:string ;
     schema:familyName xsd:string }
```



Disjunction of datatypes





Exercise

Emulate recursive property paths in ShEx

A node conforms to :Person if it has rdf:type schema:Person or if it has a type that is a rdfs:subClassOf some type that has rdf:type schema:Person



Negation

NOT s creates a new shape expression from a shape s. Nodes conform to NOT s when they do not conform to s.

```
:NoName Not {
   schema:name .
}
```

```
:alice schema:givenName "Alice";
    schema:familyName "Cooper".

:bob schema:name "Robert".

:carol schema:givenName "Carol";
    schema:name "Carol";
```

Try it: https://goo.gl/GMvXy7





IF-THEN pattern

All products must have a schema:productID and if a product has type schema:Vehicle, then it must have the properties schema:vehicleEngine and schema:fuelType.

```
:kitt schema:productID "C21";  # Passes as :Product
    a schema:Vehicle;
    schema:vehicleEngine :x42;
    schema:fuelType :electric .

:bad schema:productID "C22";  # Fails as :Product
    a schema:Vehicle;
    schema:fuelType :electric .

:c23 schema:productID "C23";  # Passes as :Product
    a schema:Computer .
```





IF-THEN-ELSE pattern

If a product has type schema: Vehicle, then it must have the properties schema: vehicle Engine and schema: fuel Type, otherwise it must have the property schema: category with a



Cyclic dependencies with negation

One problem of combining NOT and recursion is the possibility of declaring ill-defined shapes

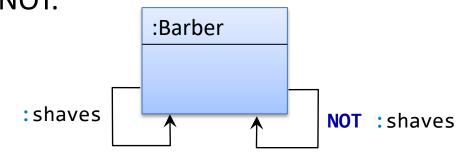
```
# Violates the negation requirement
:Barber {
 : shaves
            @:Person
} AND NOT {
        @:Barber
 :shaves
                              :albert :shaves :dave .
                                                           # Passes as a :Barber
:Person {
schema:name xsd:string
                              :bob schema:name "Robert";  # Passes as a :Person
                                   :shaves :bob .
                                                  # Passes :Barber?
                              :dave schema:name "Dave" . # Passes as a :Person
```



Restriction on cyclic dependencies and negation

Requirement to avoid ill formed data models:

Whenever a shape refers to itself either directly or indirectly, the chain of references cannot traverse an occurrence of the negation operation NOT.



:Barber shape is rejected



Semantic Actions

Arbitrary code attached to shapes

Can be used to perform operations with side effects

Independent of any language/technology

Several extension languages: GenX, GenJ

(http://shex.io/extensions/)

```
<Person> {
  schema:name xsd:string,
  schema:birthDate xsd:dateTime
  %js:{ report = _.o; return true; %},
  schema:deathDate xsd:dateTime
  %js:{ return _[1].triple.o.lex > report.lex; %}
  %sparql:{
    ?s schema:birthDate ?bd . FILTER (?o > ?bd) %}
}
```

```
:alice schema:name "Alice";
  schema:birthDate "1980-01-23"^^xsd:date;
  schema:deathDate "2013-01-23"^^xsd:date.

:bob schema:name "Robert";
  schema:birthDate "2013-08-12"^^xsd:date;
  schema:deathDate "1990-01-23"^^xsd:date.
```



Importing schemas

The import statement allows to import schemas

```
import <http://example.org/Person.shex>

:Employee {
    &:name ;
    schema:worksFor <CompanyShape>
}

:Company {
    schema:employee @:Employee ;
    schema:founder @:Person ;
}
```



Annotations

Annotations are lists (predicate, object) that can be associated to an element

Specific annotations can be defined for special purposes, e.g.

forms, UI, etc.



Other features

Current ShEx version: 2.1

Some features postponed for next version

Inheritance (extends/abstract)

UNIQUE



Future work & contributions

More info http://shex.io

ShEx currently under active development

Curent work

Improve error messages

Inheritance of shape expressions

If you are interested, you can help

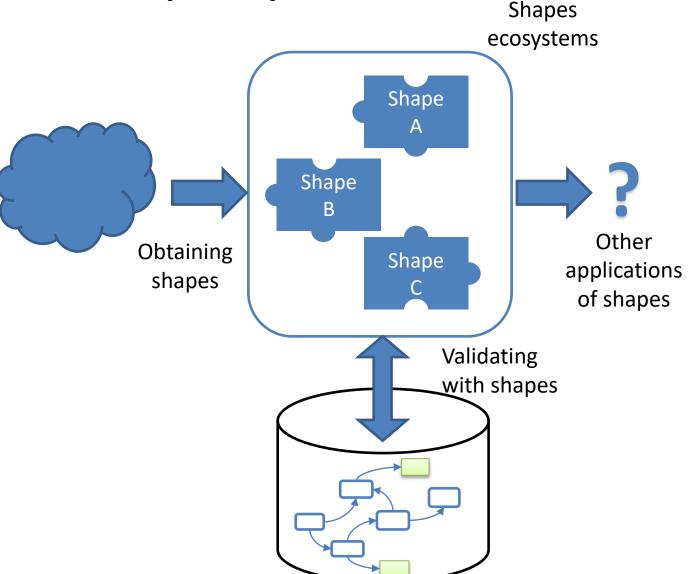
List of issues: https://github.com/shexSpec/shex/issues

Shapes tools



Tools: challenges and perspectives

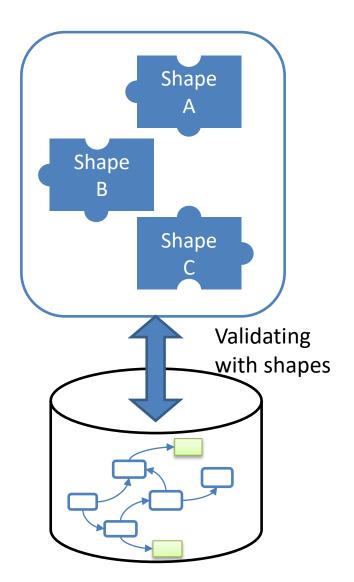
Validating with shapes
Obtaining shapes
Other applications of shapes
Shapes ecosystems





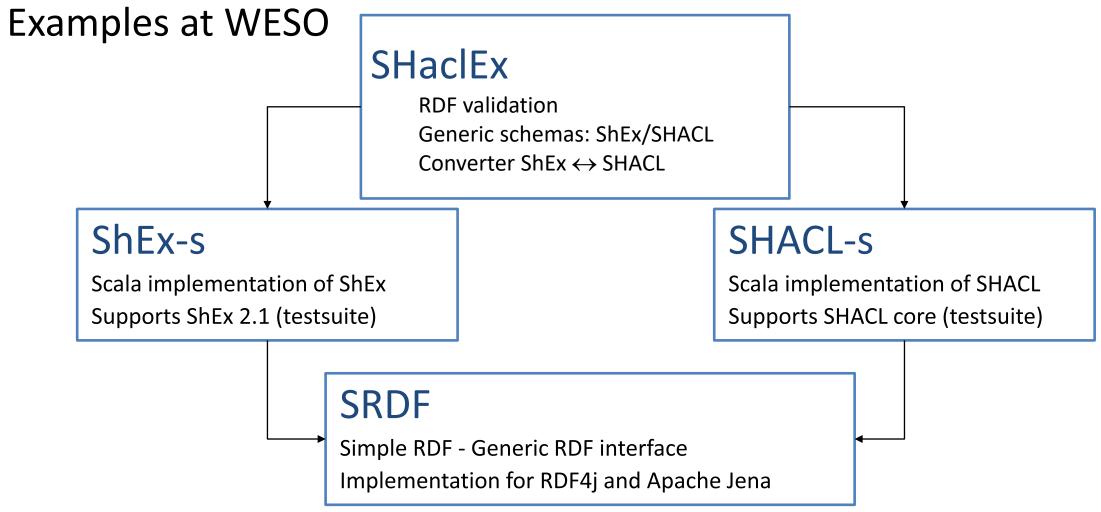
Validating with shapes

Libraries and command line validators
Online demos
Integrated in ontology editors
Continuous integration with Shapes





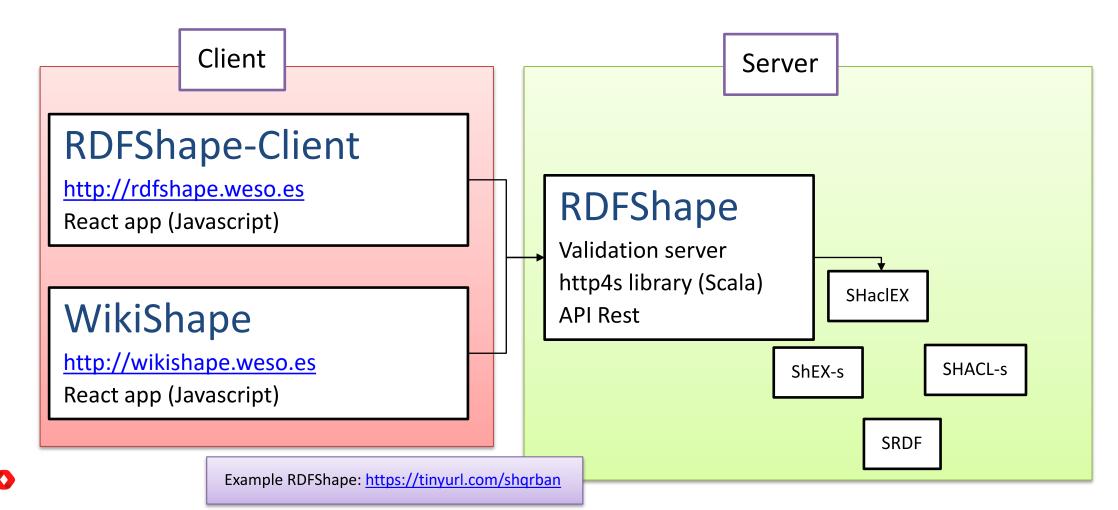
Libraries and command line validators



All libraries are available at: https://github.com/weso/

Online demos

Web Demos and playgrounds





Continuous

Integration

server

Ontology

engineer

Continuous integration with Shapes

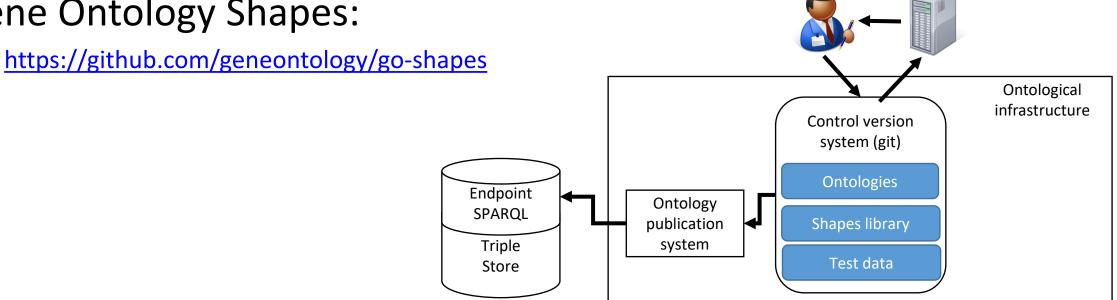
Coexistence between ontologies/shapes

Shapes can validate the behaviour of inference systems

Shapes pre- and post- inference

TDD and continuous integration based on shapes

Gene Ontology Shapes:





Continuous integration with Shapes

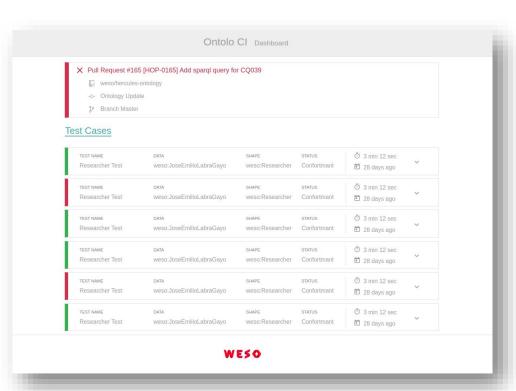
Ontolo-ci: https://www.weso.es/ontolo-ci/

Developed as part of HERCULES-Ontology

Test-Driven-Development applied to Ontologies

Input:

- Ontologies
- Shapes
- Test data
- Input shape map (SPARQL competency question)
- Expected result shape map





Obtaining shapes

Shapes editors

Text-based editors

Visual editors and visualizers

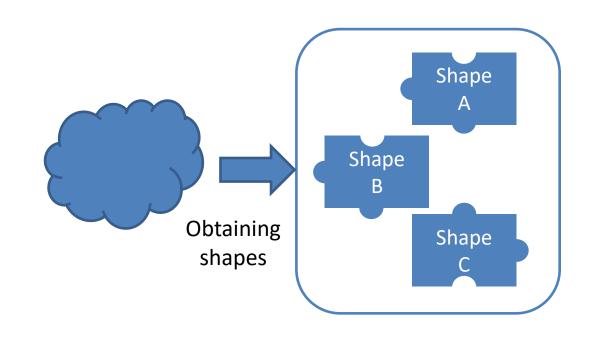
Obtaining shapes from...

Spreadsheets

RDF data

Ontologies

Other schemas (XML Schema)





Text-based editors

YaSHE: Forked from YASGUI: http://www.weso.es/YASHE/

Syntax highlighting

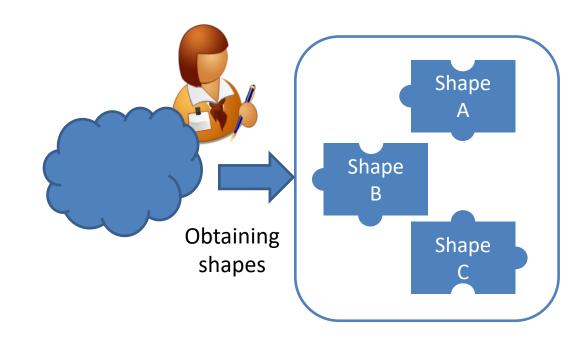
Auto-completion

```
1 PREFIX xsd: <a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#">http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#</a>
                                                                                                                       土 ≜ 百 ● □
2 prefix wd: <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/>
   prefix wdt: <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/>
    # Example SPARQL query: select ?researcher where { ?researcher wdt:P106 wd:Q1650915 } limit 5
7 ▼ <Researcher> EXTRA wdt:P31 wdt:P106 {
                                ; # Instance of = human
      wdt:P31 [ wd:Q5 ]
     wdt:P106 [ wd:Q1650915 ] ; # Occupation = researcher
     wdt:P101 @<Discipline> * ; # Field of work
     wdt:P496 xsd:string
                                 ? ; # ORCID-ID
                                 ? ; # Scopus-Author ID
     wdt:P1153 xsd:string
                  Scopus Author ID (P1153)
13
                  identifier for an author
                     assigned in Scopus
                   bibliographic database
```



Shapes author tools

ShEx-Author

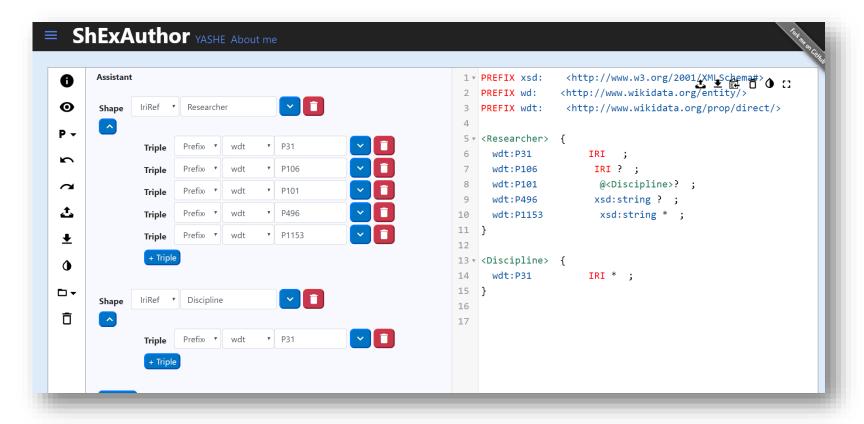




Shapes author tools: ShEx Author

ShEx-Author: Inspired by Wikidata Query Service

2 column: Visual one synchronized with text based

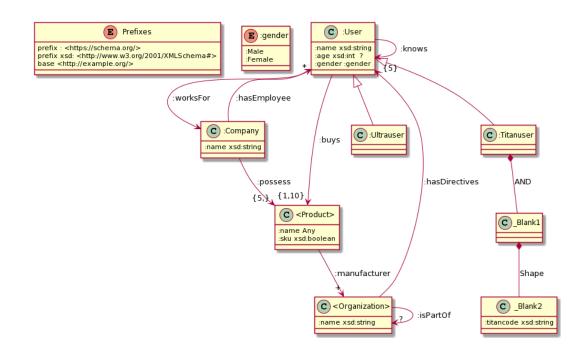


Shapes visualization

Integrated in RDFShape/Wikishape

- UMLSHacIEX UML diagrams for ShEx
- ShUMLex: Conversion to UML through XMI





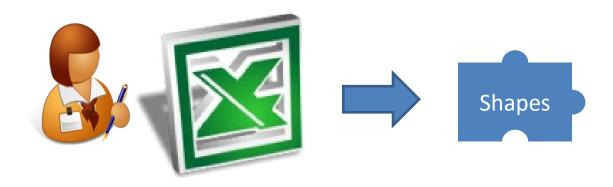


Shapes from spreadsheets

ShExstatements: https://shexstatements.toolforge.org/

ShExCSV: CSV representation of Shapes

Hermes: ShExCSV processor, https://github.com/weso/hermes





Generating Shapes from RDF data

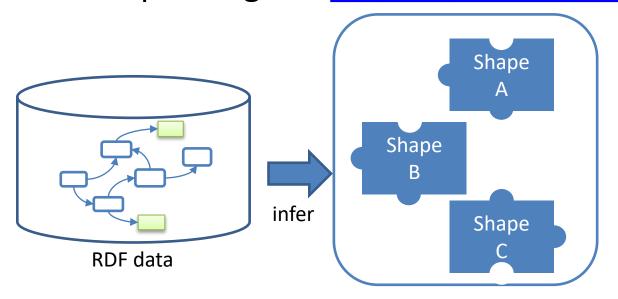
Useful use case in practice

Some prototypes

sheXer: http://shexer.weso.es/

RDFShape: http://rdfshape.weso.es

ShapeDesigner: https://gitlab.inria.fr/jdusart/shexjapp

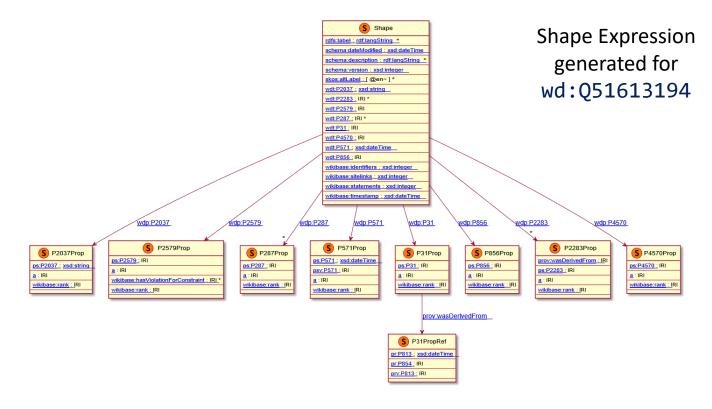


Try it with RDFShape: https://tinyurl.com/y8pjcbyf



Shapes from data: RDFShape

RDFShape/Wikishape implement a basic prototype to derive Shapes from RDF data

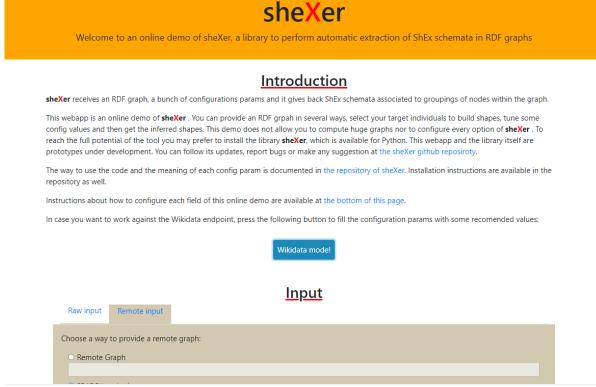




Shapes from data: sheXer

sheXer: http://shexer.weso.es/

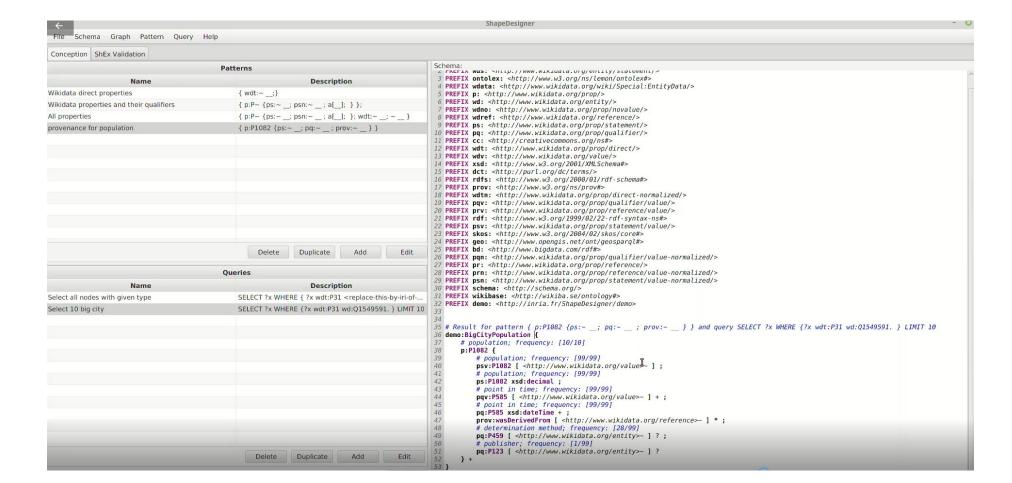
Implemented in Python Configuration options





Shapes from data: ShapeDesigner

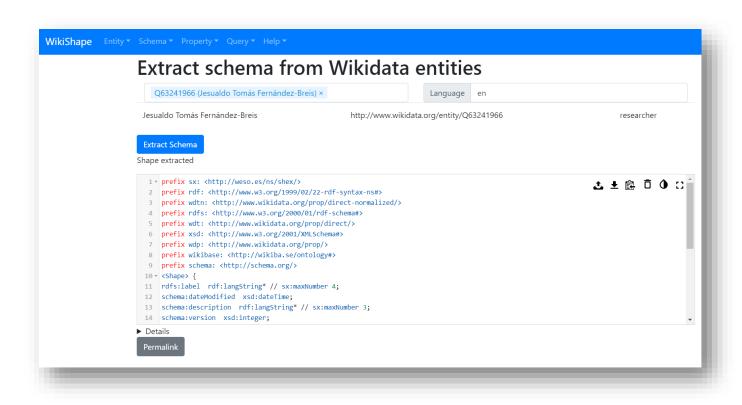
https://gitlab.inria.fr/jdusart/shexjapp





Shapes from RDF data

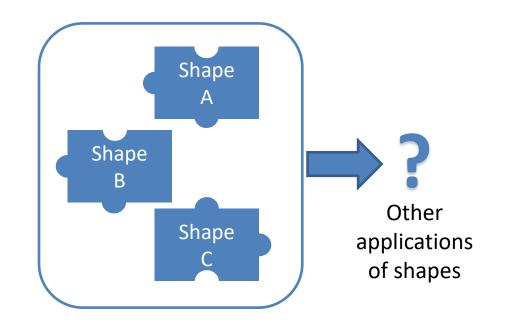
RDFShape allows to infer basic shapes automatically





Other applications of Shapes

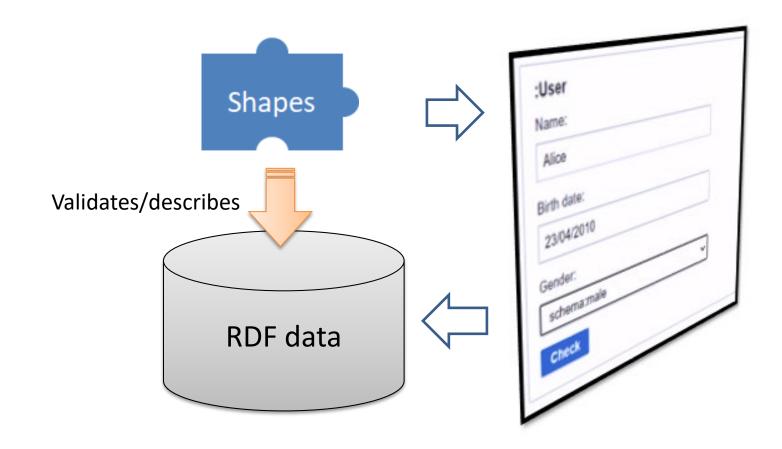
UIs and shapes
Generating code from Shapes
Shapes and rules
Generate subsettings





UIs and shapes

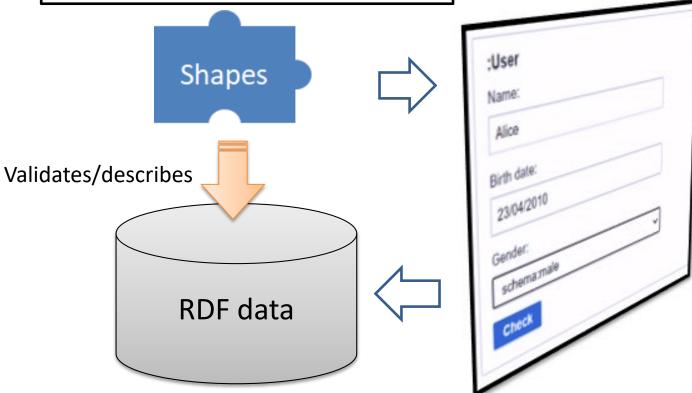
Shapes can provide hints to generate user interfaces/forms





UI and shapes: ShapeForms

ShapeForms





UIs and Shapes: ShapePath and ShapeForms

ShEx Path can be used to point to parts of a ShEx schema

https://shexspec.github.io/spec/ShExPath

ShEx generated forms demo based on UI ontology:

https://ericprud.github.io/shex-form/?manifestURL=examples/manifest.json

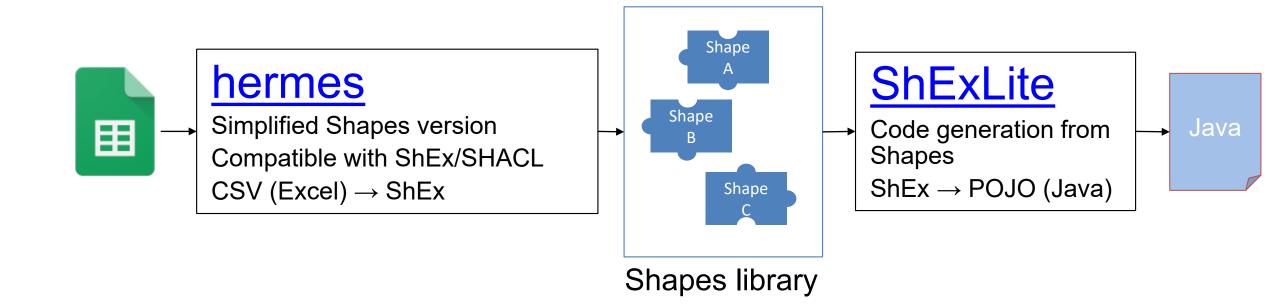
ShapeForms

https://github.com/weso/shapeForms

Generating code from shapes

Generate domain model from shapes

Entities (pseudo-shapes) defined with Excel (Google spreadsheets) Shapes generation from those templates Java code generation (POJOs) from those shapes





Generating code from shapes

Domain model based on Shapes

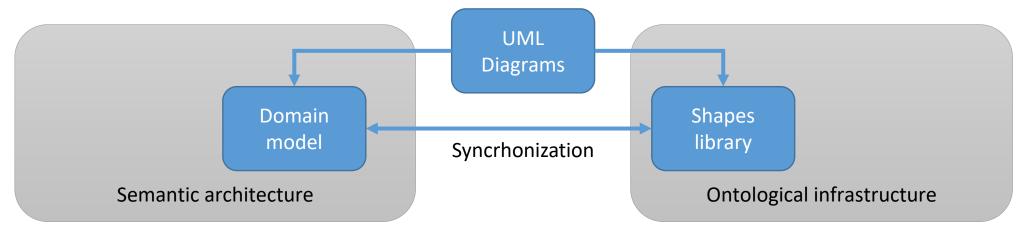
Clean architecture pattern

Domain model as central element

Simple classes (POJO): Plain Old Java Objects

Shapes synchronization

Application logic and services based on domain model

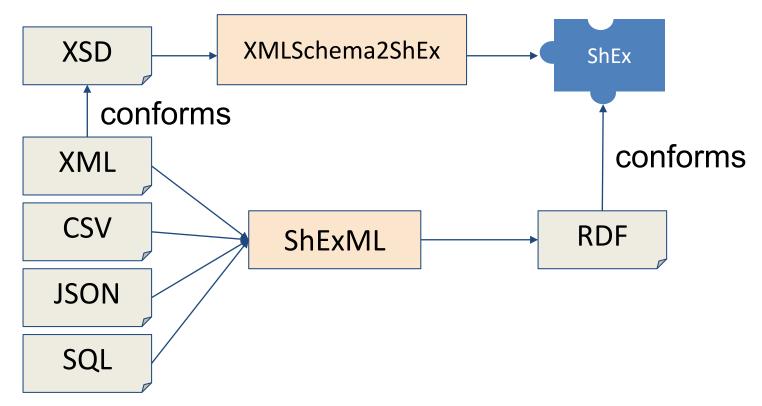


Shapes for data integration

XMLSchema2ShEx: Convert XML Schemas to shapes

ShExML: Domain specific language to convert data to RDF

Input formats: CSV, XML, JSON, SQL

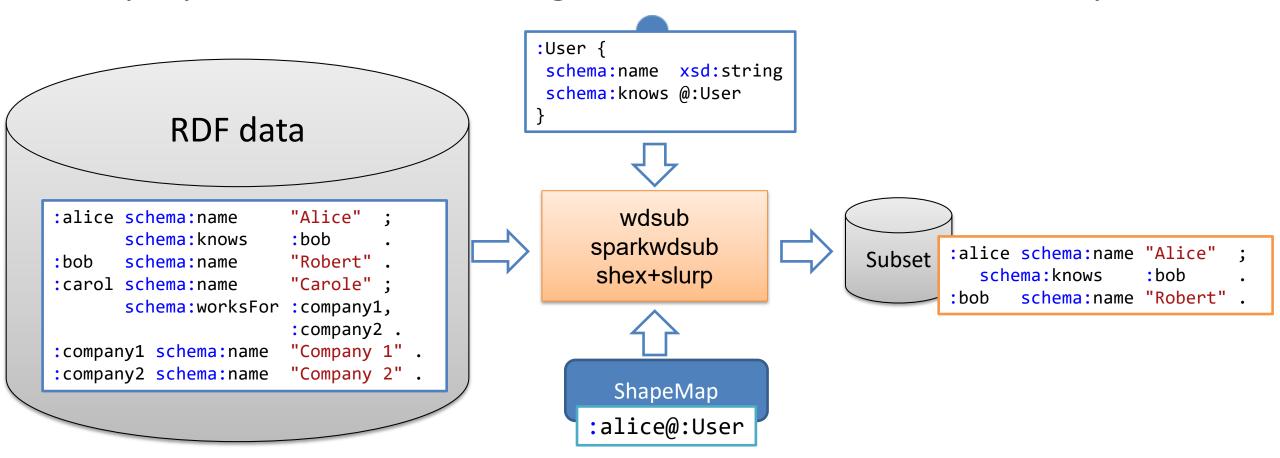




Subsetting based on Shapes

Generate subsets from ShEx

Slurp option: when validating, collect the affected nodes/triples





WShEx

ShEx extension for Wikibase graphs
Built-in support for qualifiers/references, data values
Work in progress





<Researcher> {

```
WE SO
```

```
wdt:birthPlace @<Place> ;
                                                          p:birthPlace
        <Researcher> {
                                                             ps:birthPlace @<Place>
         <birthPlace>
                            @<Place> ;
         <awarded>
                            @<Award> {{
                                                          wdt:awarded
                                                                             @<Awarded> ;
            <togetherWith> @<Researcher> *
                                                          p:awarded {
          }} *
                                                            ps:awarded
                                                                             @<Awarded> ;
                                                            pq:togetherWith @<Researcher> *;
        <Place> {
         <country>
                            @<Country>
                                                         <Place> {
        <Country> {}
                                                          wdt:country
                                                                             @<Country> ;
                                                          p:country {
                                                           ps:country
                                                                             @<Country> }
                                                         <Country> {}
                       Wikibase
JSON dumps
                                                           RDF dumps
                                        serialization
                      data model
                                                        describe
                  describe 1
                                                              ShEx
                       WShEx
```



Shapes ecosystems

Wikidata provides a whole ShEx ecosystem

Entity schemas can evolve and relate between each other

Directory: https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:Database_reports/EntitySchema_directory

Different schemas for the same entities?

Some schemas stress some aspects while others stress others

Evolution of schemas

Searching entity schemas

End of presentation