

# Semantic Web - OWL

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# RDF meta-model basic elements

- All defined in rdf namespace
  - <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
- Types (or classes)
  - **rdf:Resource** – everything that can be identified (with a URI)
  - **rdf:Property** – specialization of a resource expressing a binary relation between two resources
  - **rdf:statement** – a triple with properties **rdf:subject**, **rdf:predicate**, **rdf:object**
- Properties
  - **rdf:type** - subject is an *instance* of that category or class defined by the value
  - **rdf:subject**, **rdf:predicate**, **rdf:object** – relate elements of statement tuple to a resource of type statement.

# RDFs Namespace

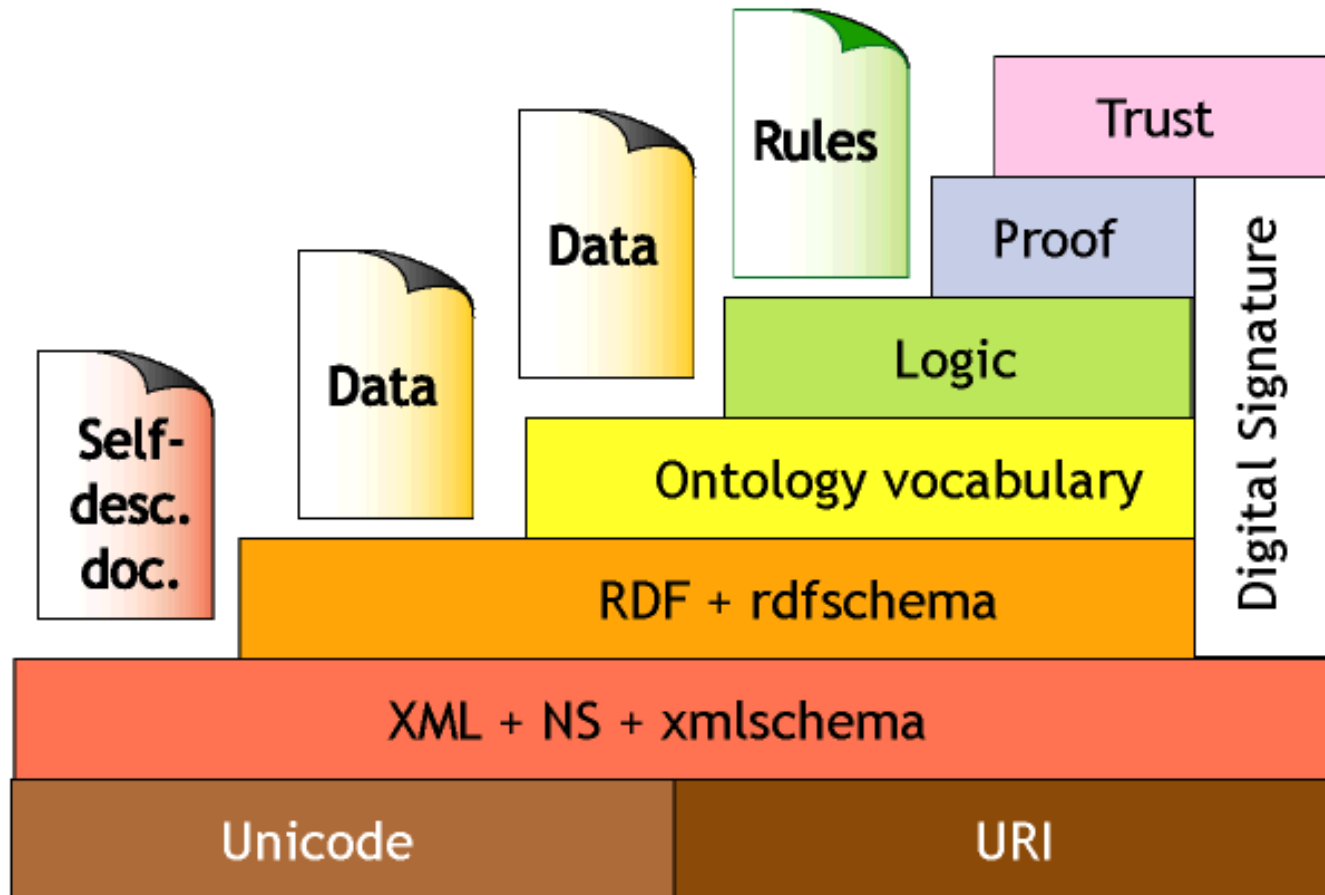
- Class-related
  - `rdfs:Class`, `rdfs:subClassOf`
- Property-related
  - `rdfs:subPropertyOf`, `rdfs:domain`, `rdfs:range`

# Sub-Class Inferencing

Explicit Model	Inferences
(:s rdf:type :o)	(:o rdf:type rdfs:Class)
(:s rdf:type :o) (:o rdfs:subClassOf :c)	(:s rdf:type :c)
(:s rdfs:subClassOf :o) (:o rdfs:subClassOf :c)	(:s rdfs:subClassOf :c)
(:s rdfs:subClassOf :o)	(:s rdf:type rdfs:Class) (:o rdf:type rdfs:Class)
(:s rdf:type rdfs:Class)	(:s rdfs:subClassOf rdf:Resource)

# Components of the Semantic Web

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# Problems with RDF/RDFs

## Non-standard, overly “liberal” semantics

- No distinction between class and instances
  - <Species, type, Class>
  - <Lion, type, Species>
  - <Leo, type, Lion>
- Properties themselves can have properties
  - <hasDaughter, subPropertyOf, hasChild>
  - <hasDaughter, type, Property>
- No distinction between language constructors and ontology vocabulary, so constructors can be applied to themselves/each other
  - <type, range, Class>
  - <Property, type, Class>
  - <type, subPropertyOf, subClassOf>
- No known reasoners for these non-standard semantics

# Problems with RDF/RDFs

## Weaknesses in expressivity

- No localized domain and range constraints
  - Can't say the range of hasChild is person in context of persons and elephants in context of elephants
- No existence/cardinality constraints
  - Can't say that all instances of persons have a mother that is also a person
  - Can't say that persons have exactly two biological parents
- No transitive, inverse or symmetric properties
  - Can't say isPartOf is a transitive property
  - Can't say isPartOf is inverse of hasPart
  - Can't say touches is symmetric



So, we need a more expressive  
and well-grounded ontology  
language....

# Web Ontology Language (OWL)

- W3C Web Ontology Working Group (WebOnt)
- Follow on to DAML, OIL efforts
- W3C Recommendation
- Vocabulary extension of RDF

# Species of OWL

- *OWL Lite*
  - Good for classification hierarchies with simple constraints (e.g., thesauri)
  - Reasoning is computational simple and efficient
- *OWL DL*
  - Computationally complete and decidable (computation in finite time)
  - Correspondence to *description logics* (decidable fragment of first-order logic)
- *OWL Full*
  - Maximum expressiveness
  - No computational guarantees (probably never will be)
- Each language is extension of simpler predecessor

# Relationship between OWL and RDF(s)

- OWL Full is extension of RDF
- OWL Lite and DL are extensions of a restricted view of RDF
- Every OWL document is an RDF document
- Every RDF document is an OWL Full document
- Only some RDF documents are OWL Lite or OWL DC
- Constraining an RDF document to be OWL Lite or DL
  - Every individual must have class membership (at least owl:thing)
  - URIs for classes, properties, and individuals must be mutually disjoint.

# The “DL” in Owl DL

- Description Logics
- Goal: want to be able to reason (infer information) about a knowledge base
- Remember: a knowledge base consists of both meta (schema) information and instance (individual) information
- Remember: we want to do this based on an open world assumption
- OWL (Lite/DL) is then an RDF expression of DL

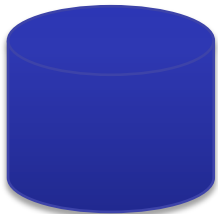
# Closed World

John has a  
sister Betty

Betty has a  
sister Mary

Does John  
have a  
brother?

No!



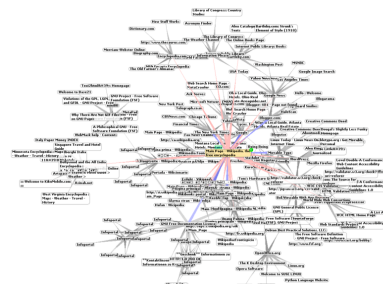
# Open World

John has a  
sister Betty

Betty has a  
sister Mary

Does John  
have a  
brother?

??



# Description Logics

- Highly expressible fragment of FOL with:
  - **Decidability**: guaranteed that computation can be done in finite amount of time
  - **Completeness**: every question within the logical system can be answered, or there are no paradoxes
- Designed for logical representation of object-oriented formalisms
  - frames/classes/concepts
    - sets of objects
  - roles/properties
    - binary relations on objects
  - individuals
- Represented as a collection of statements, with unary and binary predicates that stand for concepts and roles, from which deductions can be made

# Description Logics Primitives

- Atomic Concept
  - Human
- Atomic Role
  - likes
- Conjunction
  - human *intersection* male
- Disjunction
  - nice *union* rich
- Negation
  - *not* rich
- Existential Class Restriction
  - *exists* enrolledIn.CSclass
- Universal Class Restriction
  - *all.enrolledIn*.CSclass
- Cardinality Restriction
  - $\geq 2$  has-wheels
- Inverse Roles
  - has-child, has-parent
- Transitive roles
  - has-child



# Description Logic - Tboxes

- Terminological knowledge
- Concept Definitions
  - Father is conjunction of Man and has-child.Human
- Axioms
  - motorcycle *subset-of* vehicle
  - has-favorite.Brewery *subrelation-of* drinks.Beer

# Description Logics: Aboxes

- Assertional knowledge
- Concept assertions
  - John is-a Man
- Role assertions
  - has-child(John, Bill)

# Description Logics: Basic Inferencing

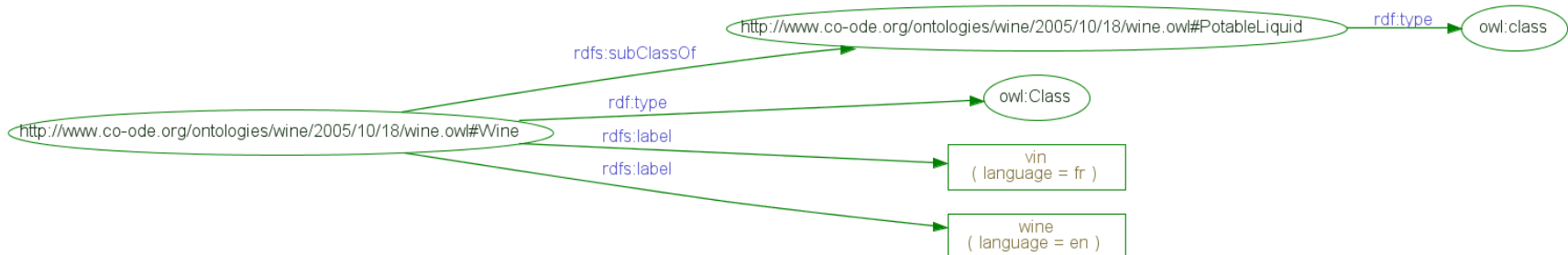
- **Subsumption**
  - Is C1 subclass-of C2
  - Compute taxonomy
- **Consistency**
  - Can C have any individuals
- Note what is **NOT** included
  - Does assertional knowledge follow constraints of terminological knowledge
  - Ontologies will provide an inference mechanisms, not a constraint mechanism ( remember the open world)

# Namespaces and OWL

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>  
<rdf:RDF xmlns="http://www.co-ode.org/ontologies/wine/2005/10/18/wine.owl#"   
  xml:base="http://www.co-ode.org/ontologies/wine/2005/10/18/wine.owl"   
  xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#"   
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"   
  xmlns:rdfs="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#"   
  xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"   
  xmlns:owl="http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#">
```

# OWL Class Definition

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns="http://www.co-ode.org/ontologies/wine/2005/10/18/wine.owl#"
  xml:base="http://www.co-ode.org/ontologies/wine/2005/10/18/wine.owl"
  xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:rdfs="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#"
  xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
  xmlns:owl="http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#">
  <owl:class rdf:ID="PotableLiquid"/>
  <owl:Class rdf:ID="Wine">
    <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#PotableLiquid"/>
    <rdfs:label xml:lang="en">wine</rdfs:label>
    <rdfs:label xml:lang="fr">vin</rdfs:label>
  </owl:Class>
```



# Why owl:class vs. rdfs:class

- Rdfs:class is “class of all classes”
- In DL class can not be treated as individuals (undecidable)
- Thus owl:class, which is expressed as rdfs:subclass of rdfs:class
  - No problem for standard rdf processors since an owl:class “is a” rdfs:class
- Note: there are other times you want to treat class of individuals, but you give up decidability
  - Class drinkable liquids has instances wine, beer, ....
  - Class wine has instances merlot, chardonnay, zinfandel, ...

# OWL class building operations

- **disjointWith**
  - No individuals who are vegetarians are carnivores
- **sameClassAs** (equivalence)
  - All individuals that are in class human are in class homo sapien
  - Relationship is reflexive, unlike subClass
- **Enumerations** (on instances)
  - The Ivy League only has individuals Cornell, Harvard, Yale, ....
- Boolean set semantics (on classes)
  - **Union** (logical disjunction)
    - Class *parent* is union of *mother*, *father*
  - **Intersection** (logical conjunction of class with properties)
    - Class *WhiteWine* is conjunction of things of class *wine* and have property *white*
  - **complimentOf** (logical negation)
    - Class *bad wine* is compliment of class *French wine*

# OWL Properties

/

Two types

- **ObjectProperty** - relations between instances of classes
- **DatatypeProperty** - relates an instance to an **rdfs:Literal** or XML Schema datatype

(Both **rdfs:subClassOf** **rdf:Property**)

```
<owl:DatatypeProperty rdf:ID="name">
  <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="Person" />
  <rdfs:range rdf:resource=
    "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema/string" />
</owl:DatatypeProperty>

<owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="activity">
  <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="Person" />
  <rdfs:range rdf:resource="ActivityArea" />
</owl: ObjectProperty>
```

All properties must be one or the other.



# OWL property building operations & restrictions

- Transitive Property
  - $P(x,y) \text{ and } P(y,z) \rightarrow P(x,z)$
- SymmetricProperty
  - $P(x,y) \text{ iff } P(y,x)$
- Functional Property
  - $P(x,y) \text{ and } P(x,z) \rightarrow y=z$
- inverseOf
  - $P_1(x,y) \text{ iff } P_2(y,x)$
- InverseFunctional Property
  - $P(y,x) \text{ and } P(z,x) \rightarrow y=z$
- Cardinality
  - Only 0 or 1 in lite and full

# All this allows a whole bunch of new inferences

- Candy bar time....
- RDQLPlus - <http://rdqlplus.sourceforge.net/doc/ridiql.html>

# Class/Property Example

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns="http://www.co-ode.org/ontologies/wine/2005/10/18/wine.owl#"
  xml:base="http://www.co-ode.org/ontologies/wine/2005/10/18/wine.owl"
  xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:rdfs="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#"
  xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
  xmlns:owl="http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#">
  <owl:Class rdf:ID="PotableLiquid"/>
  <owl:Class rdf:ID="Wine">
    <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#PotableLiquid"/>
    <rdfs:label xml:lang="en">wine</rdfs:label>
    <rdfs:label xml:lang="fr">vin</rdfs:label>
  </owl:Class>
  <owl:DatatypeProperty rdf:ID="color">
    <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Wine"/>
    <rdfs:range rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema/string"/>
  </owl:DatatypeProperty>
  <owl:Class rdf:ID="Appellation"/>
  <owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="hasAppellation">
    <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Wine"/>
    <rdfs:range rdf:resource="#Appellation"/>
  </owl:ObjectProperty>
  <owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="producesWine">
    <rdfs:range rdf:resource="#Wine"/>
    <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Appellation"/>
    <owl:inverseOf rdf:resource="#hasAppellation"/>
  </owl:ObjectProperty>
</rdf:RDF>
```

# OWL DataTypes

- Full use of XML schema data type definitions
- Examples
  - Define a type age that must be a non-negative integer
  - Define a type clothing size that is an enumeration  
“small” “medium” “large”

# OWL Instance Creation

- Create individual objects filling in slot/attribute/property definitions

```
<Person ref:ID="William Arms">  
  <rdfs:label>Bill</rdfs:label>  
  <age><xsd:integer rdf:value="57"/></age>  
  <shoesize><xsd:decimal rdf:value="10.5"/></shoesize>  
</Person>
```

# OWL Lite Summary

## RDF Schema Features:

- [\*Class \(Thing, Nothing\)\*](#)
- [\*rdfs:subClassOf\*](#)
- [\*rdf:Property\*](#)
- [\*rdfs:subPropertyOf\*](#)
- [\*rdfs:domain\*](#)
- [\*rdfs:range\*](#)
- [\*Individual\*](#)

## (In)Equality:

- [\*equivalentClass\*](#)
- [\*equivalentProperty\*](#)
- [\*sameAs\*](#)
- [\*differentFrom\*](#)
- [\*AllDifferent\*](#)
- [\*distinctMembers\*](#)

## Property Characteristics:

- [\*ObjectProperty\*](#)
- [\*DatatypeProperty\*](#)
- [\*inverseOf\*](#)
- [\*TransitiveProperty\*](#)
- [\*SymmetricProperty\*](#)
- [\*FunctionalProperty\*](#)
- [\*InverseFunctionalProperty\*](#)

## Property Restrictions:

- [\*Restriction\*](#)
- [\*onProperty\*](#)
- [\*allValuesFrom\*](#)
- [\*someValuesFrom\*](#)

## Restricted Cardinality:

- [\*minCardinality\*](#) (only 0 or 1)
- [\*maxCardinality\*](#) (only 0 or 1)
- [\*cardinality\*](#) (only 0 or 1)

## Header Information:

- [\*Ontology\*](#)
- [\*imports\*](#)

## Class Intersection:

- [\*intersectionOf\*](#)

## Versioning:

- [\*versionInfo\*](#)
- [\*priorVersion\*](#)
- [\*backwardCompatibleWith\*](#)
- [\*incompatibleWith\*](#)
- [\*DeprecatedClass\*](#)
- [\*DeprecatedProperty\*](#)

## Annotation Properties:

- [\*rdfs:label\*](#)
- [\*rdfs:comment\*](#)
- [\*rdfs:seeAlso\*](#)
- [\*rdfs:isDefinedBy\*](#)
- [\*AnnotationProperty\*](#)
- [\*OntologyProperty\*](#)

## Datatypes

- [\*xsd datatypes\*](#)

# OWL DL and Full Summary

## Class Axioms:

- ♦ [oneOf](#)  
[dataRange](#)
- ♦ [disjointWith](#)
- ♦ [equivalentClass](#)  
(applied to class expressions)
- ♦ [rdfs:subClassOf](#)  
(applied to class expressions)

## Arbitrary Cardinality:

- ♦ [minCardinality](#)
- ♦ [maxCardinality](#)
- ♦ [cardinality](#)

## Boolean Combinations of Class Expressions:

- ♦ [unionOf](#)
- ♦ [complementOf](#)
- ♦ [intersectionOf](#)

## Filler Information:

- ♦ [hasValue](#)

# OWL DL vs. OWL-Full

- Same vocabulary
- OWL DL restrictions
  - Type separation
    - Class can not also be an individual or property
    - Property can not also be an individual or class
  - Separation of ObjectProperties and DatatypeProperties



# Language Comparison

	DTD	XSD	RDF(S)	OWL
Bounded lists ("X is known to have exactly 5 children")				X
Cardinality constraints (Kleene operators)	X	X		X
Class expressions (unionOf, complementOf)				X
Data types		X		X
Enumerations	X	X		X
Equivalence (properties, classes, instances)				X
Formal semantics (model-theoretic & axiomatic)				X
Inheritance			X	X
Inference (transitivity, inverse)				X
Qualified constraints ("all children are of type person")				X
Reification			X	X

# Storing and querying RDF-based models

- Persistent storage implementations
  - Jena 2 - <http://www.hpl.hp.com/semweb/jena2.htm>
    - Relational databases (mysql , postgres, oracle)
  - Kowari – <http://www.kowari.org>
    - Mapped files
  - Sesame - <http://www.openrdf.org/>
    - Relational databases (mysql, postgres, oracle)
- Query languages
  - RDQL (Kowari, Jena)
  - SPARQL
    - W3C working draft
    - <http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-sparql-query/>

# RDQL-by-example

- RDF source
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-db-3.rdf>
- Queries
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-q1>
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-q2>
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-q3>
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-q4>
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-q5>
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-q6>
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-q7>
  - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs431/2006sp/examples/RDQL/vc-q8>

# Protégé and RACER – tools for building, manipulating and reasoning over ontologies

- Protégé - <http://protege.stanford.edu/>
  - Use the 3.x version
  - Multiple plug-ins are available
- Protégé OWL plug-in
  - <http://protege.stanford.edu/plugins/owl/>
- Other semantic web related plug-ins
  - <http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?ProtegePluginsLibraryByTopic#nid349>
- Racer
  - Description Logic based reasoning engine
  - Server-based
  - Integrates with Protégé-OWL