

# Semantic Web Basics (cont.)

CS 431 – March 29, 2006

Carl Lagoze – Cornell University

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- Ian Horrocks (Manchester U.K.)
- Eric Miller (W3C)
- Dieter Fensel (Berlin)
- Volker Haarslev (Montreal)

# Semantic Web and the W3C

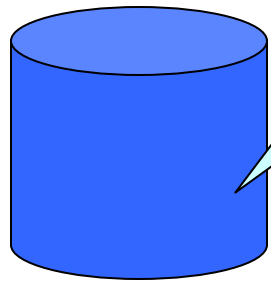
- <http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/>
- <http://www.w3.org/RDF/>

# RDF Data Model

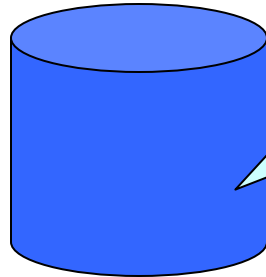
- Directed Graph expressing typed binary relations between typed resources
- Relations are:
  - $P(S,O)$  or  $(:s :p :o)$
- Primitives
  - resource
  - property
  - literal
  - statement
- Other constructs
  - container
  - reification
  - collection
- URI's for everything *except* literals
  - “bnodes” are a special case, but more about that later
- Common serialization is RDF/XML

# Why URIs

- Purpose of RDF is integrating information from multiple sources
- URI's form basis of joins of graph
- Instance data combines into larger graphs
- Inferences can be made based on:
  - RDF primitives
  - Ontology definitions
    - RDFs
    - OWL



M. Doe  
illustrated the  
book “Best  
Stories”



Mary Doe  
animated the  
cartoon “Best  
Stories – the  
movie”

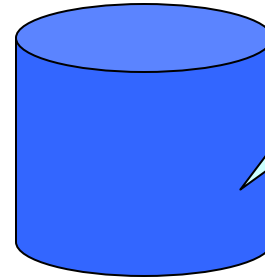
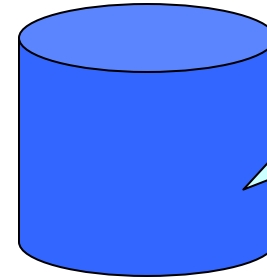
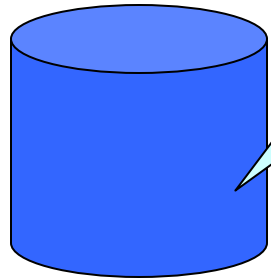


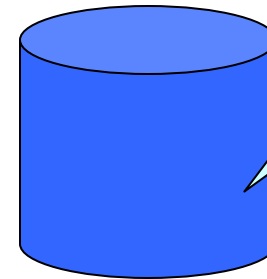
Illustration is a  
type of  
contribution



Cartoons and  
Books are types  
of Works



animation is a  
type of  
contribution

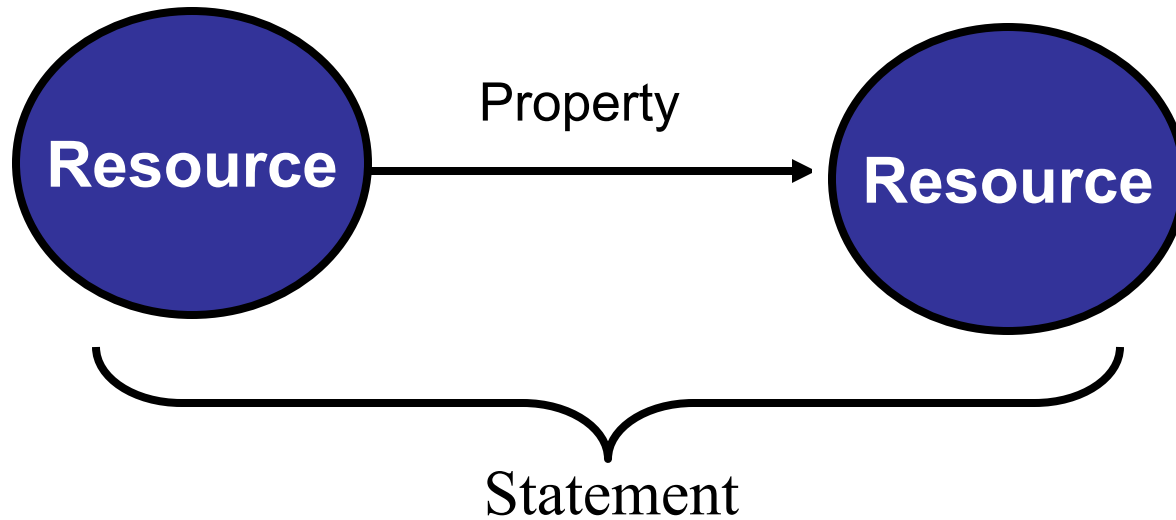


M. Doe and  
Mary Doe are  
pseudonyms for  
Susan Mann



Show me the works  
to which Susan  
Mann contributed?

# RDF Model Primitives



# RDF Containers

- Permit aggregation of several values for a property
- Different container semantics
  - Bag
    - unordered grouping (e.g., students in this class)
  - Sequence
    - ordered grouping (e.g., authors of a paper)
  - Alternatives
    - alternate values (e.g., measurement in different units)



# RDF Reification

- Treat a statement as a first-class object (resource)
- It then can become a graph element (and be used as subject and object of statements)

http://www.example.org/staffid/85740

http://www.example.org/terms/age

"27"^^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer

# Typed Literals

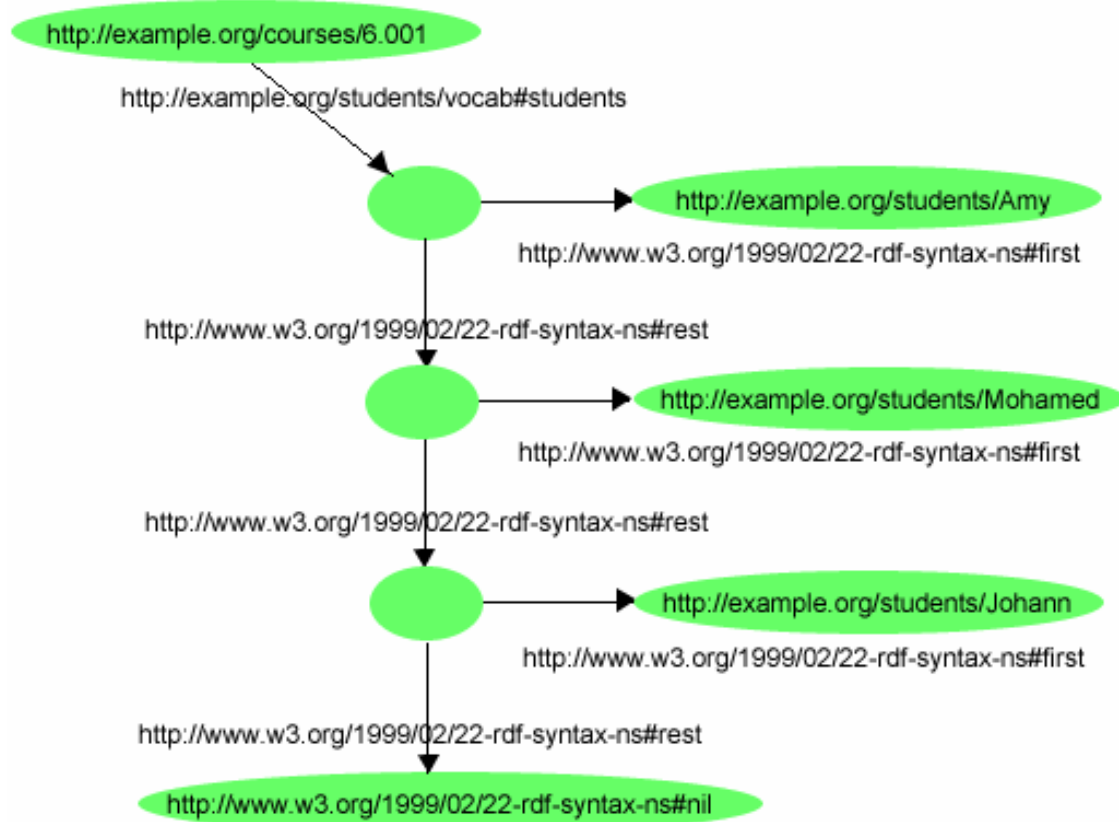
```
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
- <rdf:RDF xmlns:gss="http://www.w3.org/2001/11/IsaViz/graphstylesheets#"
  xmlns:core="http://www.example.org/terms/"
  xmlns:s="http://example.org/students/vocab#"
  xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
  xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#"
  xmlns:rdfs="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#"
  xmlns:ex="http://example.org/terms/"
  xml:base="file:/C:/cygwin/tmp/tmp2978.rdf">
- <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://www.example.org/staffid/85740">
  <core:age
    rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer">27</core:age>
  </rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
```

# RDF Collections

- Containers are not closed
  - open world assumption in all of them
- Collections use lisp-like primitives (first, rest, nil) to express a close list.

# RDF Collections

The students in course 6.001 are Amy, Mohamed, and Johann



# Formalizing RDF

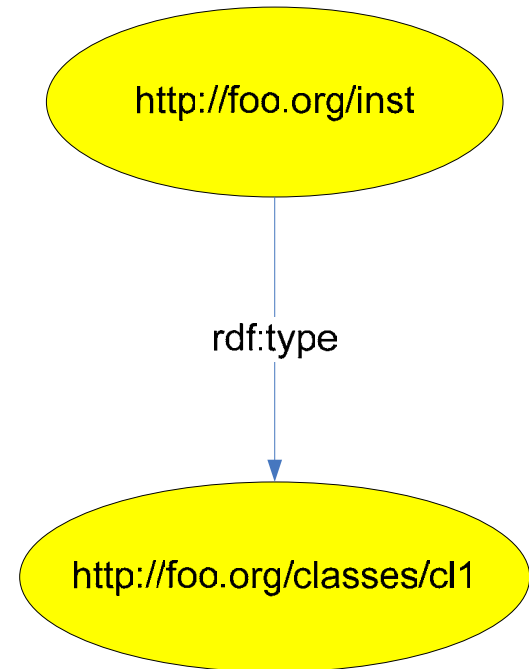
- There is a meta-model that bootstraps RDF
- Set of basic types (Classes) and properties
- Allows basic inferencing

# RDF meta-model basis elements

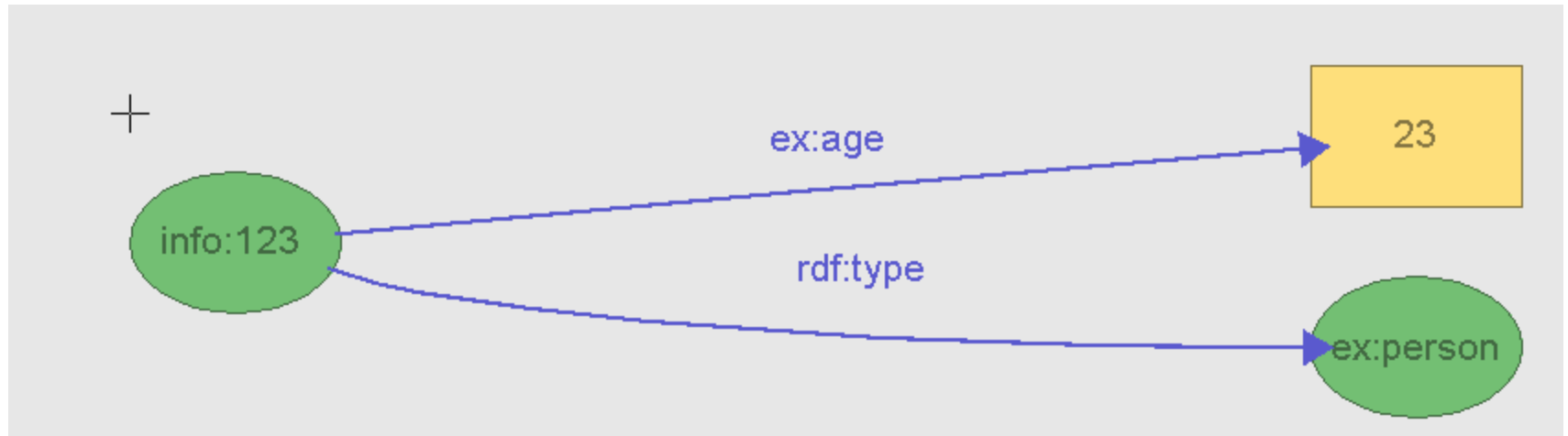
- All defined in rdf namespace
  - <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
- Properties
  - **rdf:type** - subject is an *instance* of that category or class defined by the value
  - **rdf:subject**, **rdf:predicate**, **rdf:object** – relate elements of statement tuple to a resource of type statement.
- 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**

# Use of rdf:type

- “Resource named `http://foo.org/inst` is member of class `http://foo.org/classes/cl1`”
- `<http://foo.org/inst> <rdf:type> <http://foo.org/classes/cl1>`



# Typing the Resources in Statements



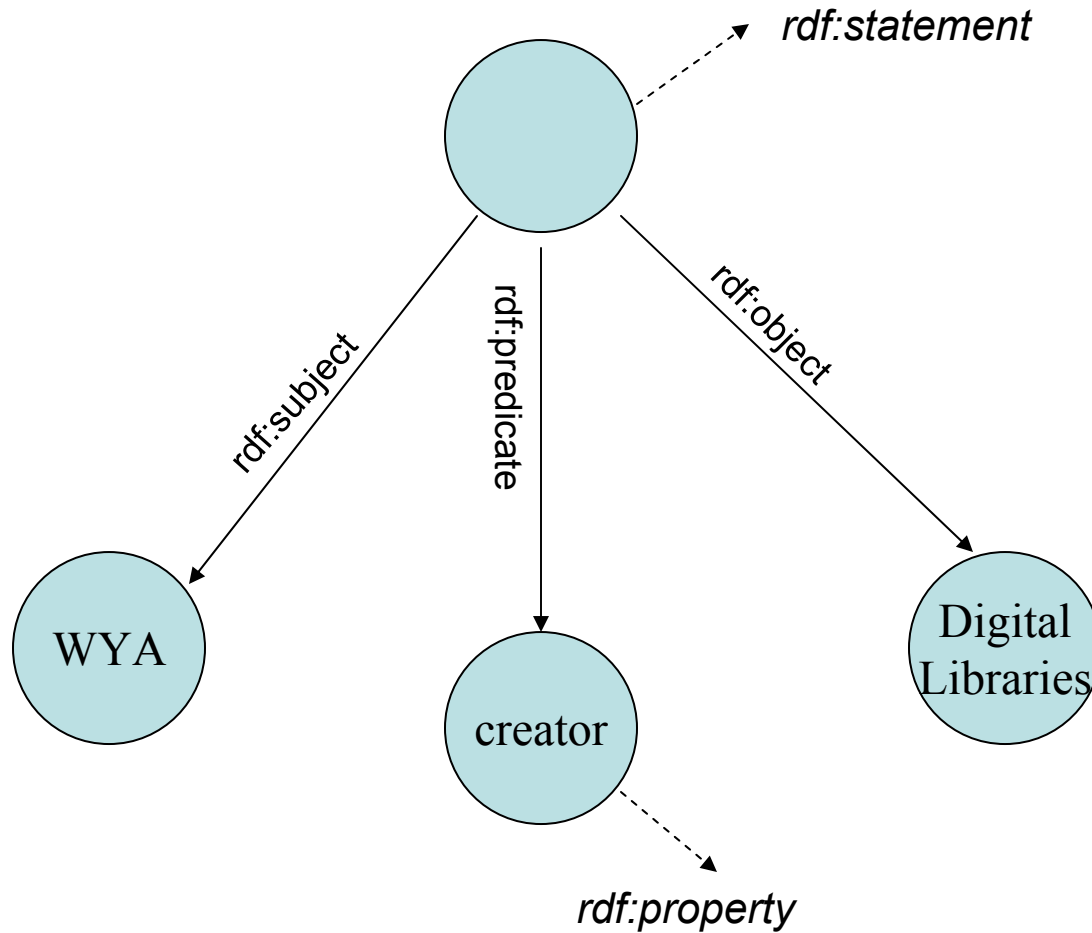
```
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
- <rdf:RDF xmlns:gss="http://www.w3.org/2001/11/IsaViz/graphstylesheets#"
  xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
  xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#"
  xmlns:rdfs="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#"
  xmlns:ex="http://example.org/terms#">
- <ex:person rdf:about="info:123">
  <ex:age
    rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer">23</ex:age>
  </ex:person>
</rdf:RDF>
```



# Formalizing a statement

- An RDF statement is a triple consisting of:
  - subject → rdf:type resource
  - property → rdf:type property
  - object → rdf:type resource | literal
  - Examples
    - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/lagoze>  
<http://purl.org/dc/elements/creator>  
“Carl Lagoze”
    - <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/lagoze>  
<http://purl.org/dc/elements/creator>  
<mailto:lagoze@cs.cornell>
- Expressible as:
  - triple (ns1:s ns2:p ns3:o)

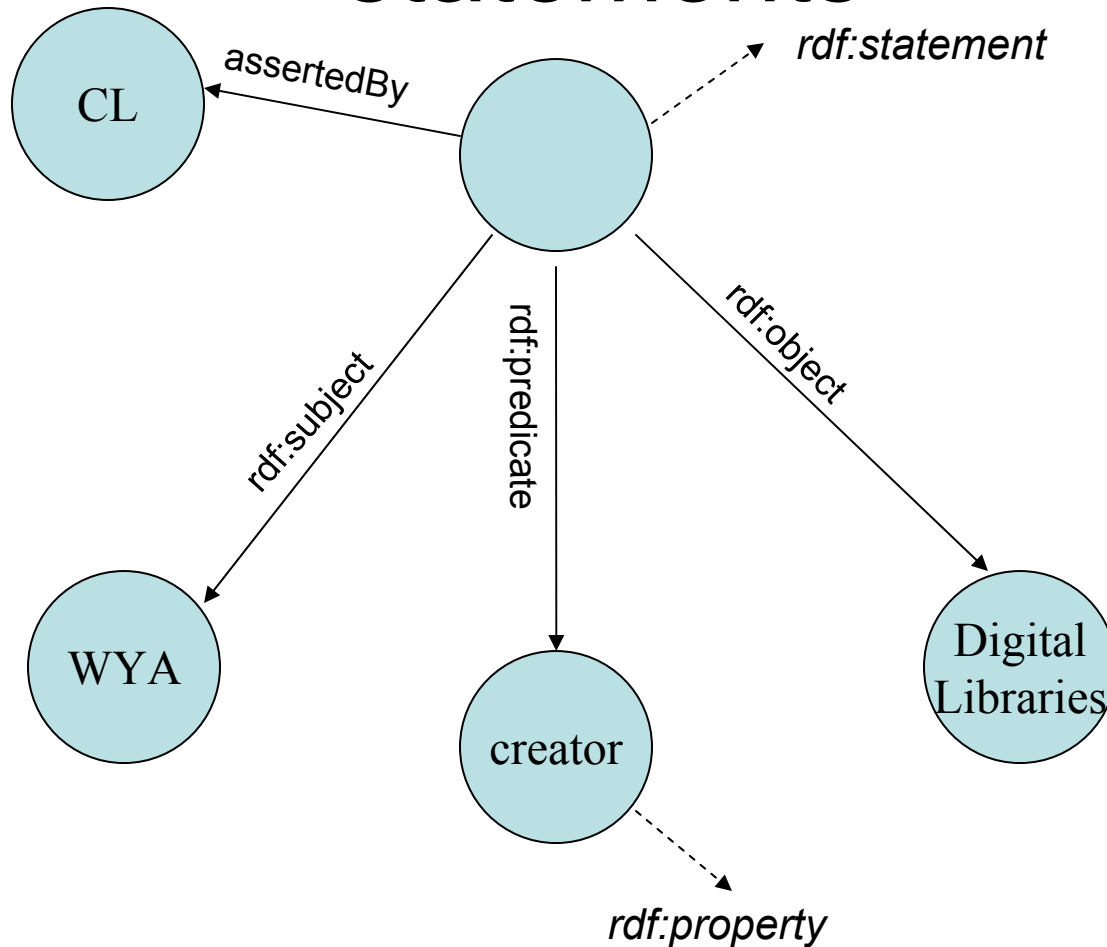
# RDF statements and basic types



# Simple type inferencing

explicit triple	Allows inference
<code>{ :s :p :o }</code>	<code>{ :s rdf:type rdf:Resource }</code> <code>{ :p rdf:type rdf:Property }</code> <code>{ :o rdf:type rdf:Resource }</code>

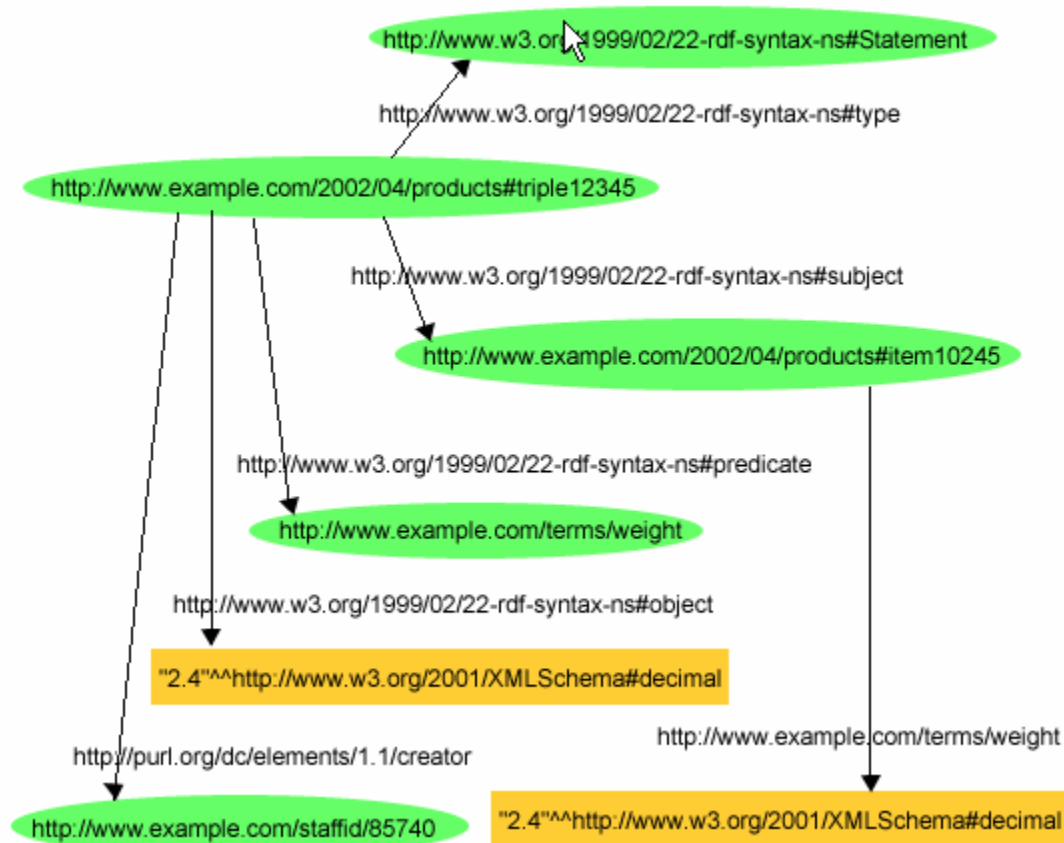
# Reification – Statements about statements



"CL says 'WYA wrote Digital Libraries'"

# Reification Structure

Staff member 85740 said the weight of item 10245 is 2.4 units



# Reification XML

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!DOCTYPE rdf:RDF [<!ENTITY xsd "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#">]>
<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:ext="http://www.example.com/terms/"
  xml:base="http://www.example.com/2002/04/products">

  <rdf:Description rdf:ID="item10245">
    <ext:weight rdf:datatype="&xsd;decimal">2.4</ext:weight>
  </rdf:Description>

  <rdf:Statement rdf:about="#triple12345">
    <rdf:subject rdf:resource="http://www.example.com/2002/04/products#item10245"/>
    <rdf:predicate rdf:resource="http://www.example.com/terms/weight"/>
    <rdf:object rdf:datatype="&xsd;decimal">2.4</rdf:object>

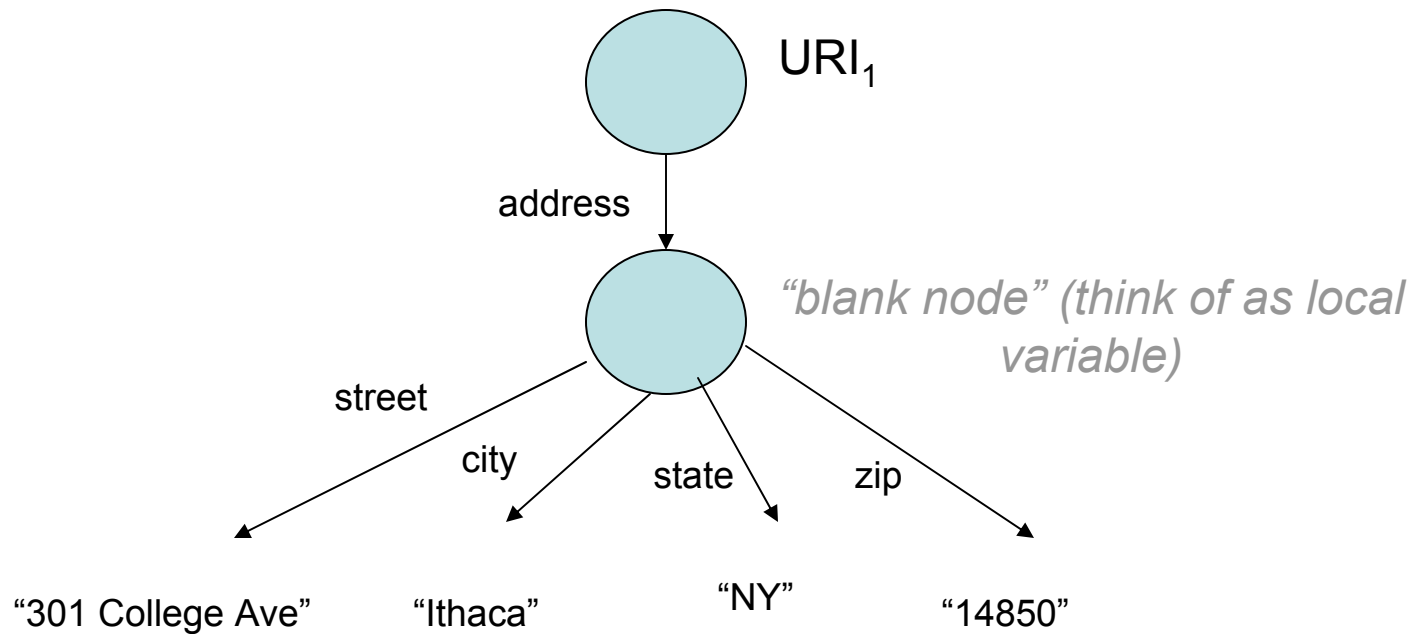
    <dc:creator rdf:resource="http://www.example.com/staffid/85740"/>
  </rdf:Statement>

</rdf:RDF>
```

# Beyond binary relations

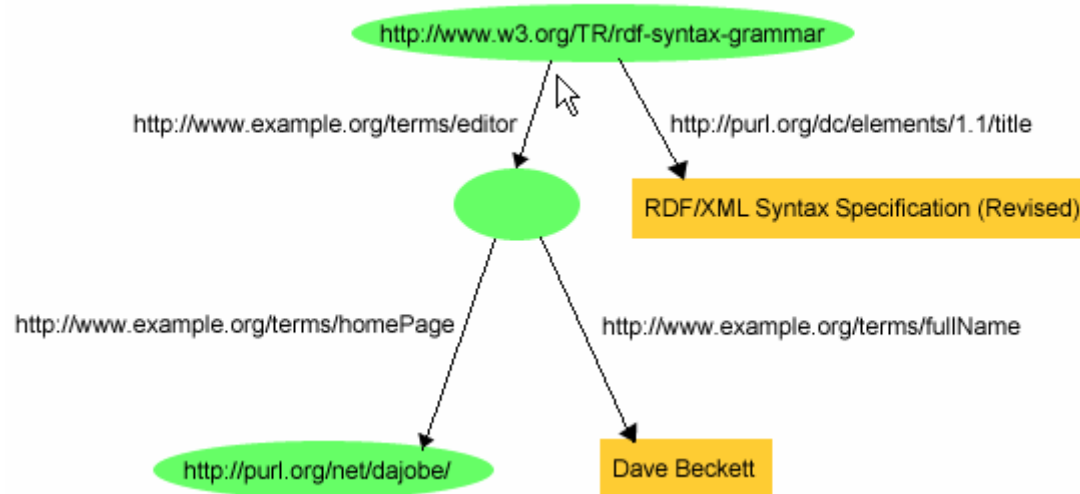
- Note mapping of RDF statements to binary relations that could be stored in a database:
  - (`:s :p :o`) maps to  $P(S,O)$  – e.g., `Title(R, “War & Peace”)`
- But the world is more complex and statements are arbitrary n-tuples
  - Carl Lagoze has his office at 301 College Ave., Ithaca, NY 14850
  - (“Carl Lagoze” “hasOffice” “301 College Ave, Ithaca, NY 14850”)
  - (“Carl Lagoze” “address” “301 College Ave” “Ithaca” “NY” “14850”)

# Expressing n-ary relations with blank nodes





# Another n-ary relation example



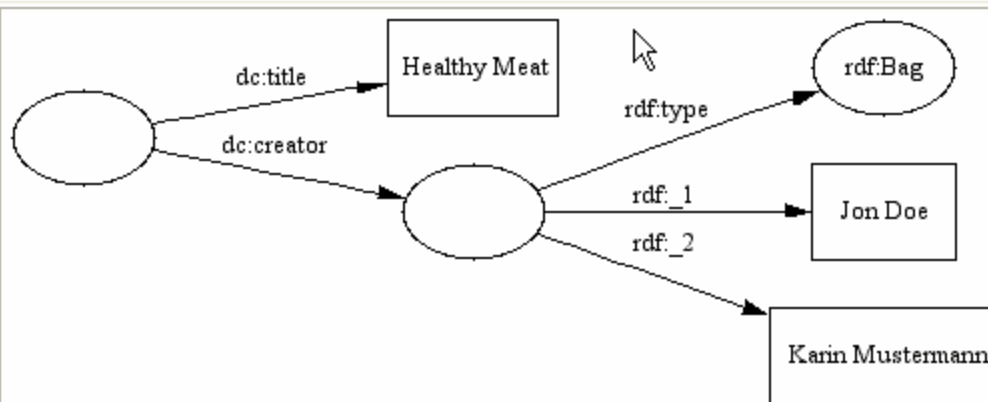
```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:exterm="http://example.org/stuff/1.0/">

  <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-syntax-grammar">
    <dc:title>RDF/XML Syntax Specification (Revised)</dc:title>
    <exterm:editor rdf:nodeID="abc"/>
  </rdf:Description>

  <rdf:Description rdf:nodeID="abc">
    <exterm:fullName>Dave Beckett</exterm:fullName>
    <exterm:homePage rdf:resource="http://purl.org/net/dajobe/">
  </rdf:Description>

</rdf:RDF>
```

# Expressing Collection Primitives in Binary Relations

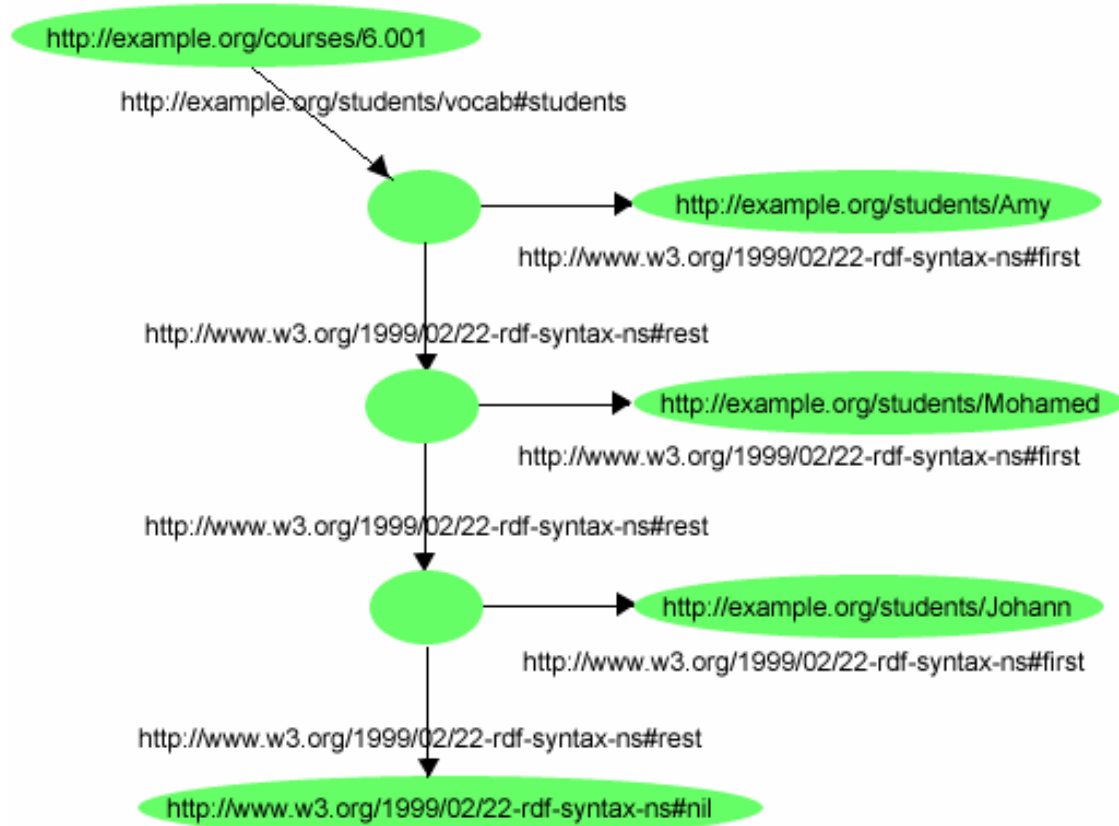


Jon Doe and Karin Mustermann joint their forces to create a gadget with title *Healthy Meat*

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
         xmlns:rdfs="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#"
         xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
         xmlns:dcterms="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">
  <rdf:Description dc:title="Healthy Meat">
    <dc:creator>
      <rdf:Bag>
        <rdf:li>Jon Doe</rdf:li>
        <rdf:li>Karin Mustermann</rdf:li>
      </rdf:Bag>
    </dc:creator>
  </rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
```

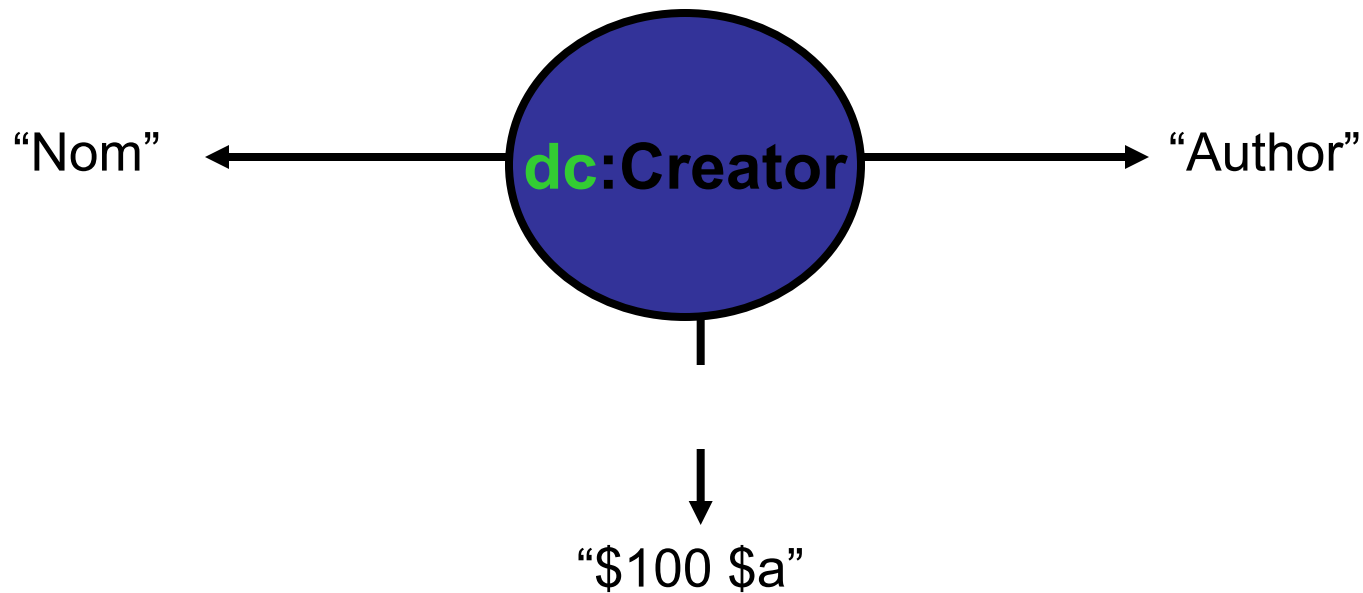
# RDF Collections and blank nodes

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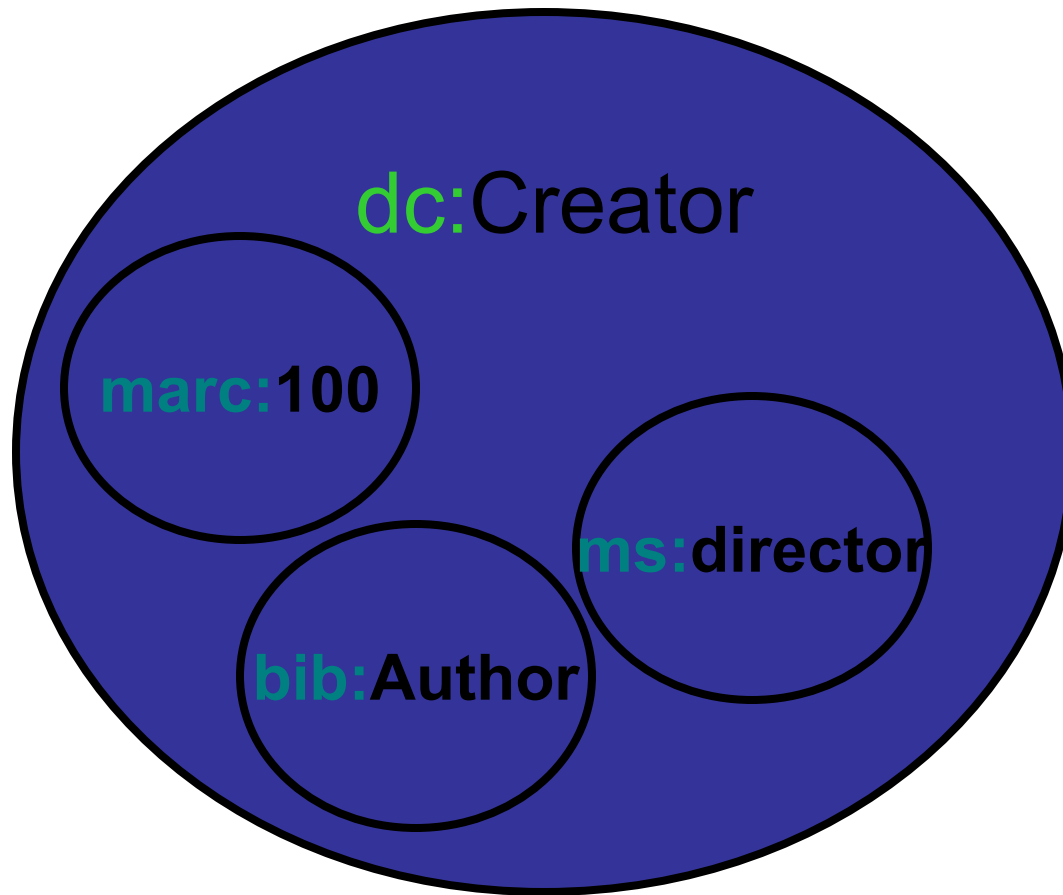
# Why Schema (1)?

- Enables communities to share machine readable tokens and locally define human readable labels.



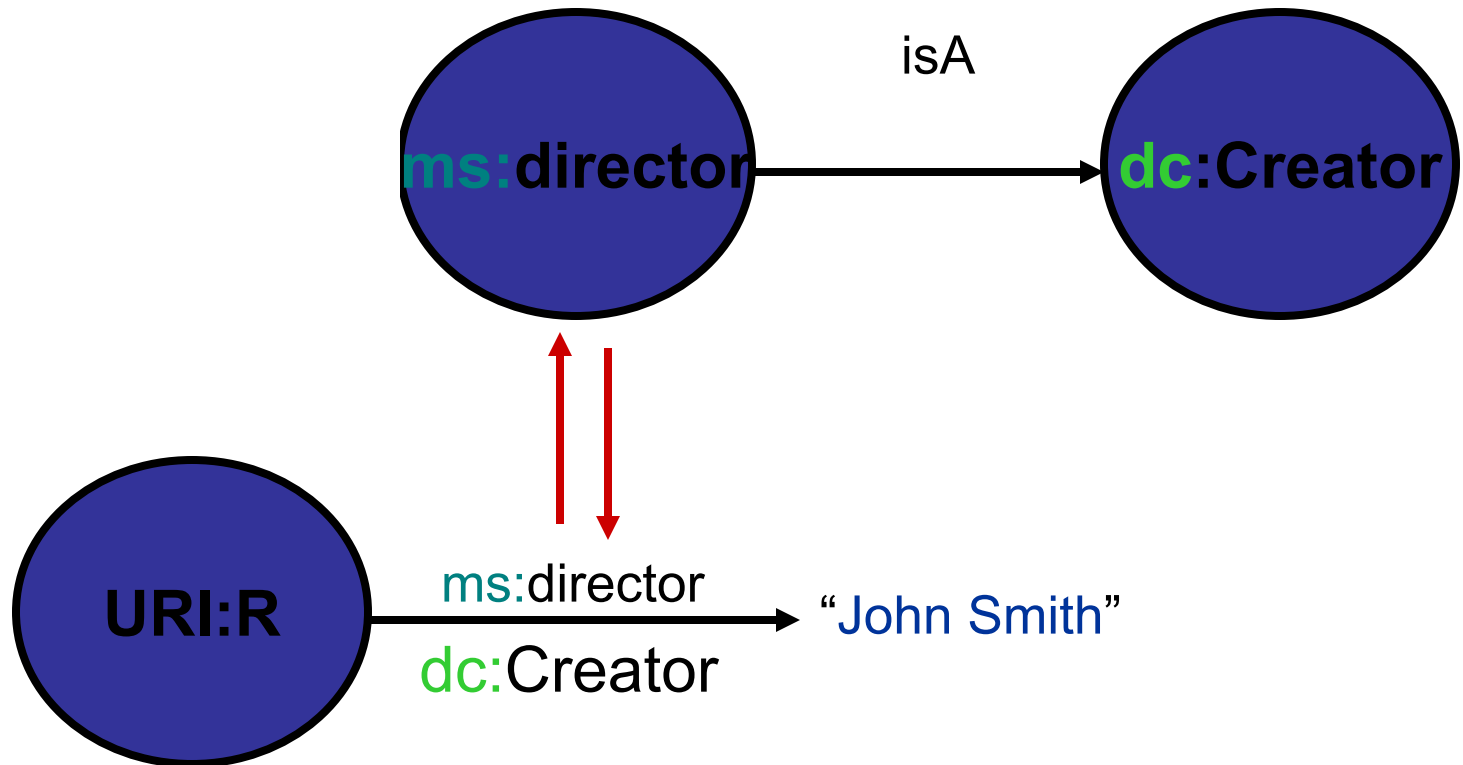
# Why Schema (2)?

## Relationships among vocabularies



# Why Schema(3)?

## Relationships among vocabulary elements



# RDF Schemas

- Declaration of vocabularies
  - classes, properties, and structures defined by a particular community
  - relationship of properties to classes
- Provides substructure for inferences based on existing triples
- NOT prescriptive, but descriptive
- Schema language is an expression of basic RDF model
  - uses meta-model constructs
  - schema are “legal” rdf graphs and can be expressed in RDF/XML syntax

# RDFs Namespace

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



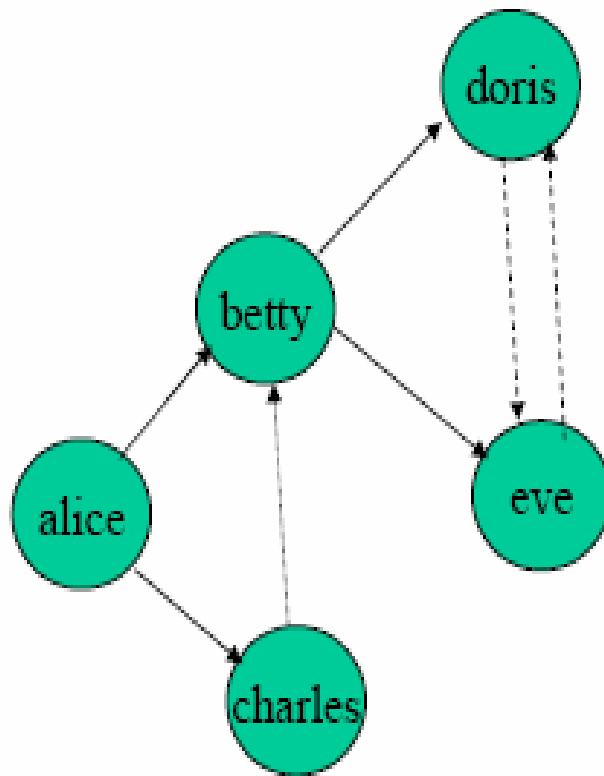
# RDF Schema: Specializing Properties

- `rdfs:subPropertyOf` – allows specialization of relations
  - E.g., the property “father” is a `subPropertyOf` the property `parent`
- `subProperty` semantics

If M contains	Then add
<code>(:s rdfs:subPropertyOf :o)</code>	<code>(:s rdf:type rdf:Property)</code> <code>(:o rdf:type rdf:Property)</code>
<code>(:s :p :o)</code> <code>(:p rdfs:subPropertyOf :q)</code>	<code>(:s :q :o)</code>
<code>(:p rdfs:subPropertyOf :q)</code> <code>(:q rdfs:subPropertyOf :r)</code>	<code>(:p rdfs:subPropertyOf :r)</code>

# Inferences from Property Relationships

5/6



```
(:alice :has-child :betty)
(:alice :has-child :charles)

(:betty :has-child :doris)
(:betty :has-child :eve)

(:charles :has-sibling :betty)

(:doris :has-sister :eve)
(:eve :has-sister :doris)
```

# Sub-Property Semantics

```
(:has-sister rdfs:subPropertyOf :has-sibling)
(:has-brother rdfs:subPropertyOf :has-sibling)
(:has-child rdfs:subPropertyOf :has-descendant)
```

- Using the intended semantics, we can infer:

```
(:alice :has-descendant :betty)
(:alice :has-descendant :charles)

(:alice :has-descendant :doris)
(:alice :has-descendant :eve)
```

# Property-based semantics

- Provide basis for type inference from properties
- Not restrictive like xml schema constraints
- `rdfs:domain`
  - classes of resources that have a specific property
- `rdfs:range`
  - classes of resources that may be the value of a specific property

If M contains	Then add
<code>(:s :p :o)</code> <code>(:p rdfs:domain :t)</code>	<code>(:s rdf:type :t)</code>
<code>(:s :p :c)</code> <code>(:p rdfs:range :t)</code>	<code>(:o rdf:type :t)</code>

# Inferences from Constraints

```
(:has-child rdfs:domain parent)
(:has-child rdfs:range person)

(:has-sibling rdfs:domain person)

(:has-brother rdfs:range :male-person)
(:has-sister rdfs:range :female-person)
```

- Using the intended semantics, we can infer:

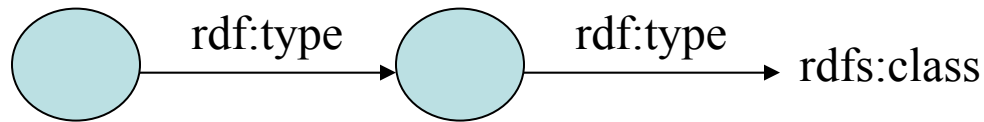
```
(:alice rdf:type parent)
(:betty rdf:type parent)

(:eve    rdf:type female-person)

(:charles rdf:type :person)
```

# Class Declaration

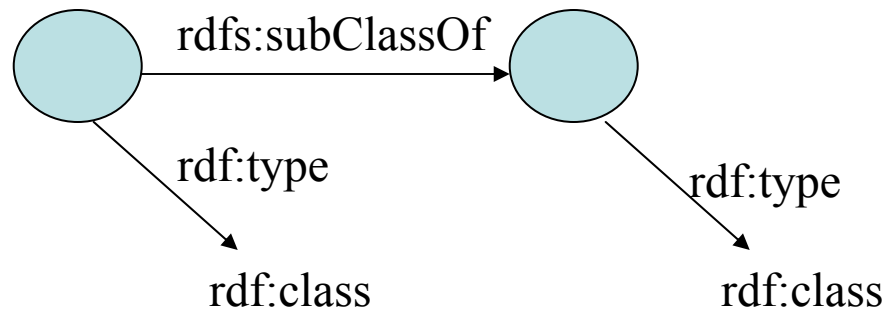
- `rdfs:Class`
  - Resources denoting a set of resources; range of `rdf:type`



`ex:MotorVehicle rdf:type rdfs:Class`  
`exthings:companyCar rdf:type ex:MotorVehicle`

# Class Hierarchy

- `rdfs:subClassOf`
  - Create class hierarchy



```
ex:MotorVehicle rdf:type rdfs:Class
ex:SUV rdf:type rdfs:Class
ex:SUV rdfs:subClassOf ex:MotorVehicle
exthings:companyCar rdf:type ex:SUV
```

# Sub-Class Inferencing

If M contains	Then add
<code>(:s rdf:type :o)</code>	<code>(:o rdf:type rdfs:Class)</code>
<code>(:s rdf:type :o)</code> <code>(:o rdfs:subClassOf :c)</code>	<code>(:s rdf:type :c)</code>
<code>(:s rdfs:subClassOf :o)</code> <code>(:o rdfs:subClassOf :c)</code>	<code>(:s rdfs:subClassOf :c)</code>
<code>(:s rdfs:subClassOf :o)</code>	<code>(:s rdf:type rdfs:Class)</code> <code>(:o rdf:type rdfs:Class)</code>
<code>(:s rdf:type rdfs:Class)</code>	<code>(:s rdfs:subClassOf rdf:Resource)</code>



# Sub-class Inferencing Example

```
(:parent rdfs:subClassOf :person)
(:male-person rdfs:subClassOf :person)
(:female-person rdfs:subClassOf :person)
(:mother rdfs:subClassOf :parent)
(:mother rdfs:subClassOf :female-person)
```

- Using the intended semantics, we can infer:

```
(:betty rdf:type person)
```

# Jena Toolkit

- Robust tools for building and manipulating RDF models
  - HP Labs Bristol
  - Capabilities
    - Model construction
    - XML and N3 parsing
    - Model persistence (DB foundation)
    - Model querying
    - Ontology building
    - Inferencing
- <http://www.hpl.hp.com/semweb/jena2.htm>

# IsaViz

- Visualizing and constructing RDF models
- <http://www.w3.org/2001/11/IsaViz/>