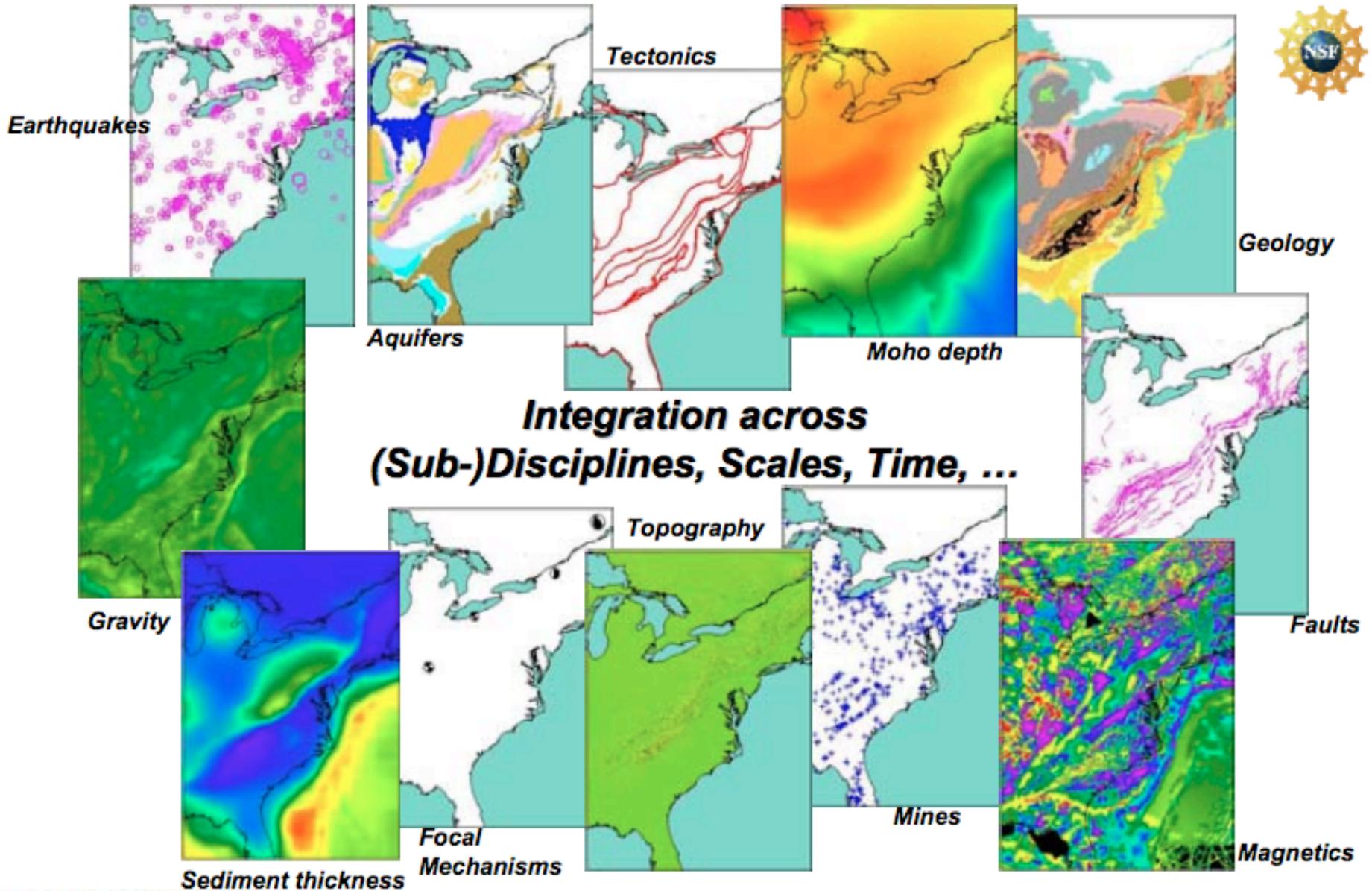
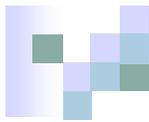




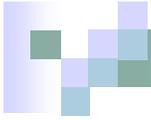
Metadata and Semantic Technologies for Science

Bill Howe



Metadata

- Literally: **data about data**
- Descriptive (meta-)information about the “actual” data
- Distinction between data and metadata is not always clear
- “Someone’s metadata is someone else’s data”
- Related notions:
 - schema, data dictionary, conceptual model, ontology,
- **Traditional example: Library catalog card** contains metadata about the contents and location of books



Perspectives on Metadata

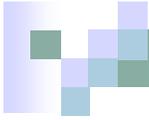
■ Digital Library perspective?

- **Resource descriptions**
- **Operation: retrieval**

■ Database perspective?

- **Schema, describing the logical (“almost physical”) structure of the data**
- **Operation: query (query as “computation” -- more than retrieval)**

paraphrasing Bertram Ludascher



Metadata Standards

■ Content standards:

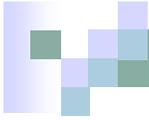
- which pieces of information are to be recorded (e.g. DC)

■ Value standards:

- how is the information to be recorded (= DC *encoding schemes*)
- formats (ISO date format, NCA name formats, AACR)
- lists of valid values (thesauri, controlled vocabularies, authority files)

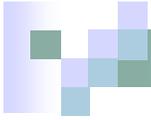
■ Structure standards:

- how the information is to be grouped and labelled for use by computers and humans (XML schemas, MARC)



Content Standard Example: Dublin Core

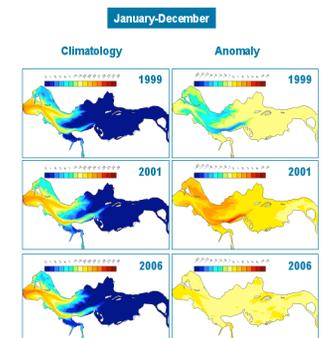
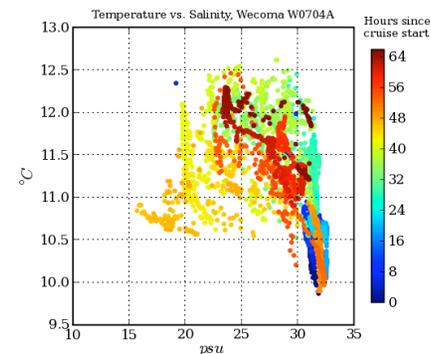
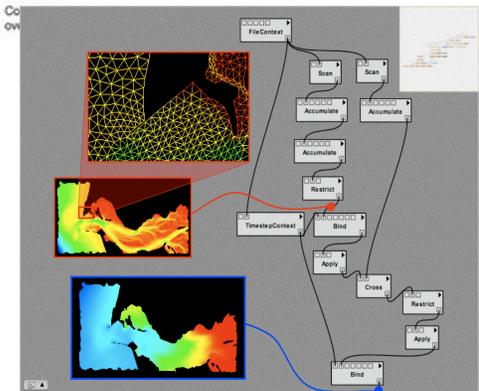
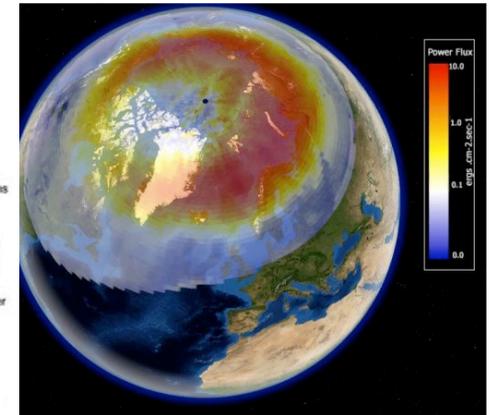
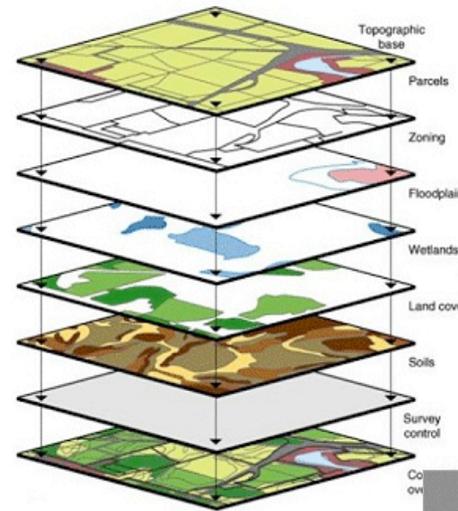
- 1. Title
- 2. Creator
- 3. Subject
- 4. Description
- 5. Publisher
- 6. Contributor
- 7. Date
- 8. Type
- 9. Format
- 10. Identifier
- 11. Source
- 12. Language
- 13. Relation
- 14. Coverage
- 15. Rights



Why Metadata?

Types of Integration

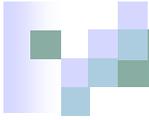
- Spatiotemporal co-registration/“overlay”
 - **“Desktop integration”**
- Schema-oriented integration
 - **View-based**
 - **Task: Derive mediated schema**
 - **Global as View or Local as View**
- Application/Process Integration
 - **Workflows, Mashups**
- “Manual”, Programmatic Integration
 - **Statistics, Visualization**





What's Missing?

- Spatiotemporal co-registration
 - **Assumes agreement on coordinate systems**
- Schema-oriented integration
 - **Assumes agreement on (complex) data model**
- Application integration
 - **Assumes agreement on process descriptions**
- Programmatic integration
 - **Few assumptions, but no real help either**
- All of these assume agreement on semantics



Goal: Interoperability

Resolve heterogeneity in...

Synthesis	Workflow, applications, “the science”
Semantics	RDF, OWL
Structure	XML, RDBMS
System	files, byte-order, networking

Paraphrasing Bertram Ludascher

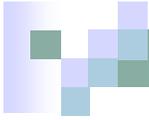
Example: XML

No commitment to
or specification of
semantics

What is a “name”?

What are the units of
“length”?

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes" ?>
<!-- This XML document was generated by RCCOB.XML -->
- <TRAINDOC>
- <SOAP-ENV:Envelope
  xmlns:SOAP-ENV="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap"
  xmlns:uk="http://www.greenwichmeantime.co.uk"
  xmlns:us="http://www.easternstandardtime.com">
- <SOAP-ENV:Body>
- <TRAIN Date="18/03/2003" Time="13:00">
- <LOCOMOTIVE>
  <Name>Thomas</Name>
  <Length>12,500.00</Length>
  <Weight>3,400</Weight>
</LOCOMOTIVE>
- <CARRIAGE>
  <Name>Annie</Name>
  <Length>10,000.00</Length>
  <Weight>2,000</Weight>
- <Other_Information>
  Room for
  <count>100</count>
  standing & seated
</Other_Information>
</CARRIAGE>
- <CARRIAGE>
  <Name>Clarabel</Name>
  <Length>12,500.00</Length>
  <Weight />
</CARRIAGE>
</TRAIN>
</SOAP-ENV:Body>
</SOAP-ENV:Envelope>
</TRAINDOC>
```



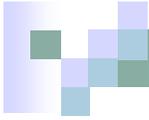
Example: Relational

type	name	length	weight	other
locomotive	Thomas	12,500	3,400	
carriage	Annie	10,000	2,000	room for 100
carriage	Clarabel	12,500		

No commitment to or specification of semantics

What is a “name”?

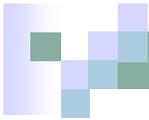
What are the units of “length”?



Semantic Web

- “The Semantic Web is an extension of the current Web in which information is given well-defined meaning, enabling computers and people to work in better cooperation”
- “The web will reach its full potential when it becomes an environment where data can be shared and processed by automated tools as well as by people.”

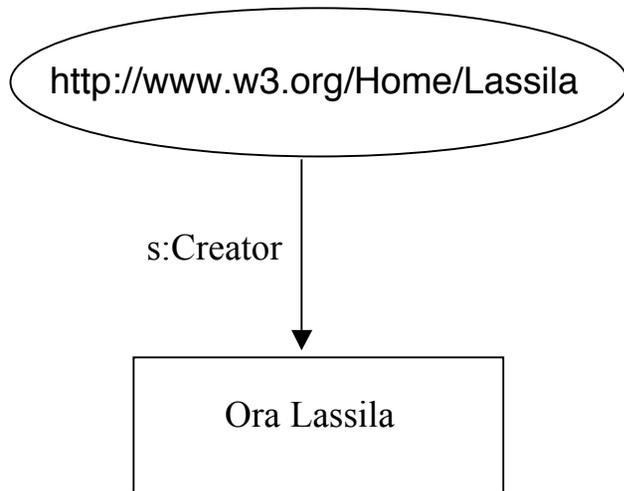
-- Tim Berners-Lee and Eric Miller



RDF: Web based data model

- Semantic Web: beyond machine readable to *machine understandable*.
- Resource Description Framework *is the W3C language for describing metadata on the Web.*
- RDF consists of two parts
 1. **RDF Model (a set of triples)**
 2. **RDF Syntax (different XML serialization syntaxes)**
 - **RDF a small set of modelling primitives + syntax**
 - **RDF *does not* commit to a domain vocabulary**
- RDF Schema for definition of Vocabularies (simple Ontologies) for RDF (and in RDF)

A simple RDF example



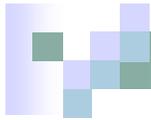
Triples

Resource (subject)
`http://www.w3.org/Home/Lassila`

Property (predicate)
`http://www.schema.org/#Creator`

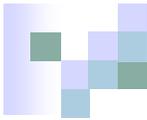
Value (object) "Ora Lassila"

- Resources
 - **A thing you can reference (URI)**
 - **RDF definitions are themselves Resources.**
- Properties
 - **slots, defines relationship to other resources or atomic values**
 - **Similar to Frames.**
- Statements
 - **“Resource has Property with Value”**
 - **Values can be resources or atomic XML Schema data types.**
- Directed graph

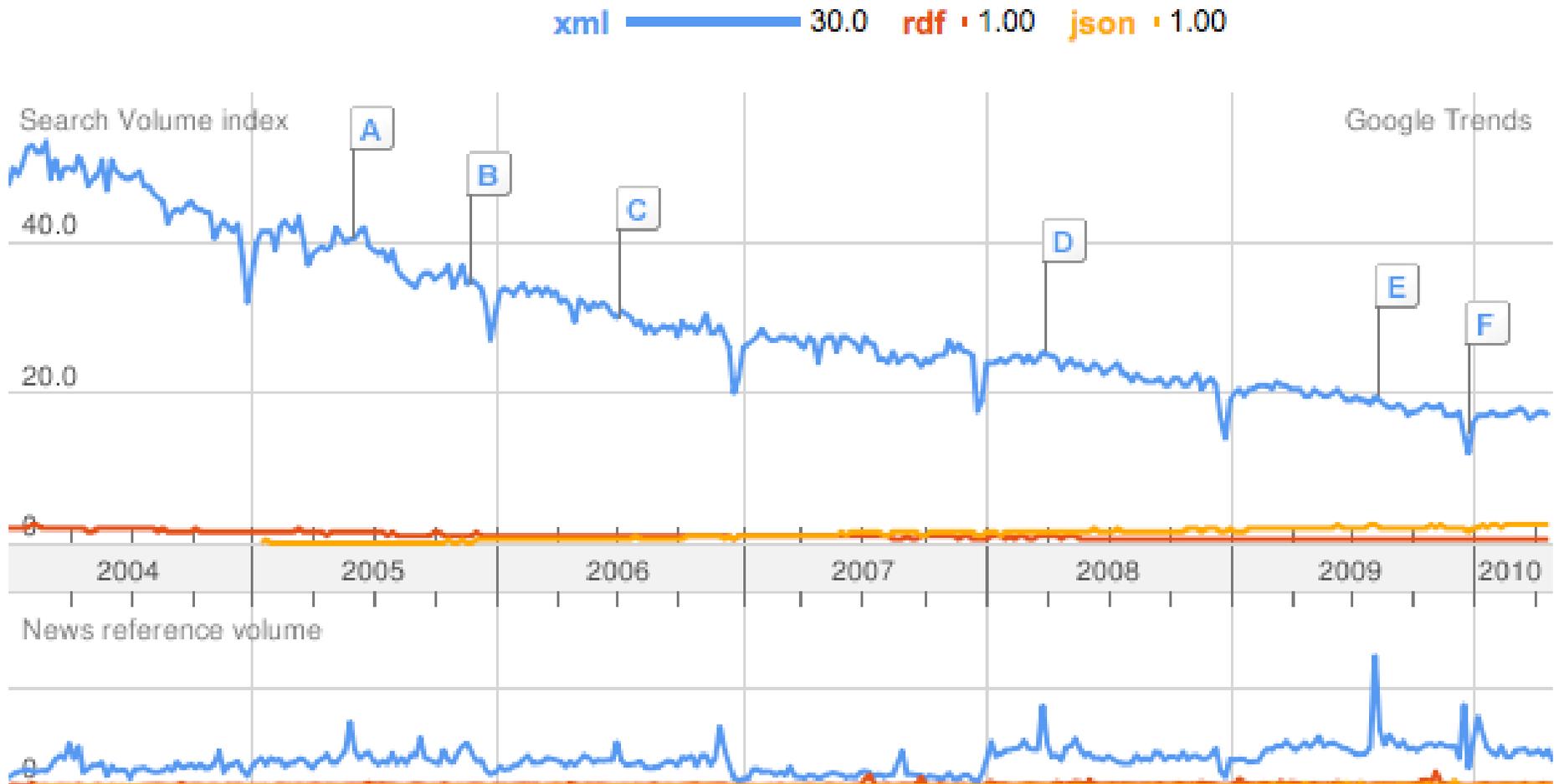


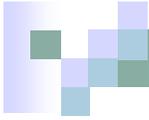
Why RDF? 1st Attempt

- Universal machine-readable standard for representing semantics
- “Push-based” integration
 - **Describe everything precisely up-front, and integration is easier**
 - **So easy, in fact, that little autonomous agents will be able to scurry around the web booking flights on your behalf**

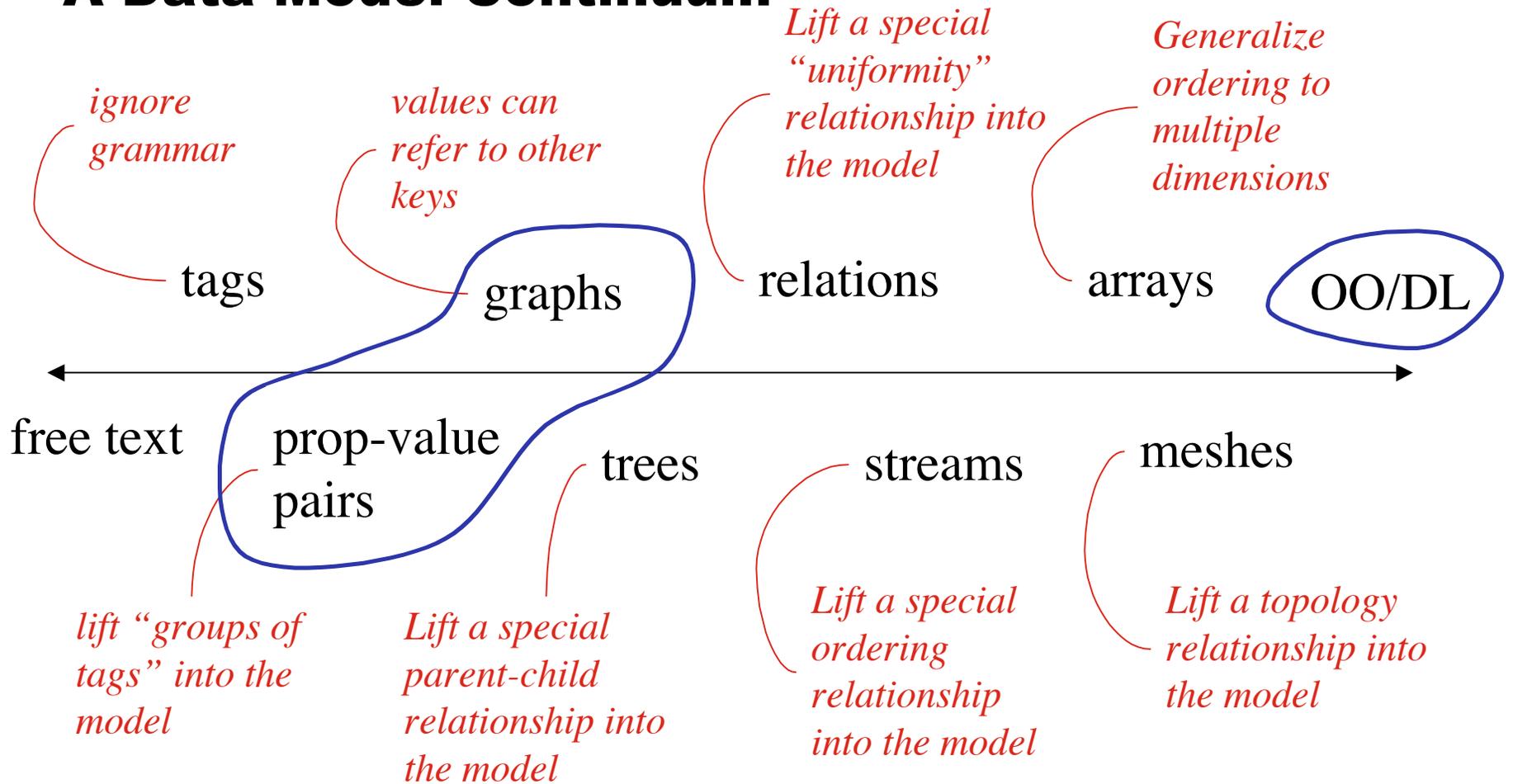


An allegory

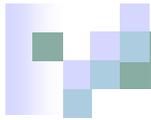




A Data Model Continuum

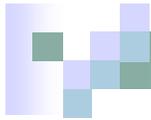


higher-level services, stronger guarantees, up-front design, difficulty in optimization



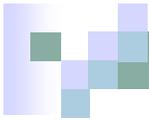
Why RDF? 2nd attempt

- “Lowest common denominator” data model
- Just enough structure to represent explicit machine-readable relationships
 - **unlike free text, tags, key-value pairs**
- Not so much structure as to require complicated, brittle modeling decisions
 - **unlike XML, RDBMS, OO**



Roadmap

- Background and Motivation
- Overview of Ontologies and Reasoning
- Storing and Querying RDF
- Papers



Ontologies

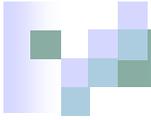
■ What is an ontology? An ontology usually

- specifies a theory (a set of logic models models) by...
- defining and relating ...
- concepts representing features of a domain of interest

■ Also overloaded (sloppy) for:

- **Controlled vocabularies**
- **Database schema** (relational, XML Schema/DTD)
- **Conceptual schema** (ER, UML)
- **Thesauri** (synonyms, broader term/narrower term)
- **Taxonomies** (classifications)
- **Informal/semi-formal knowledge representations** Concept spaces, concept maps, Labeled graphs / semantic networks (RDF)
- **Formal ontologies**, e.g., in [Description] Logic (OWL) formalization of a specification constrains possible interpretation of terms

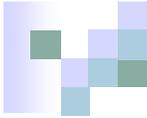
src: Carole Goble



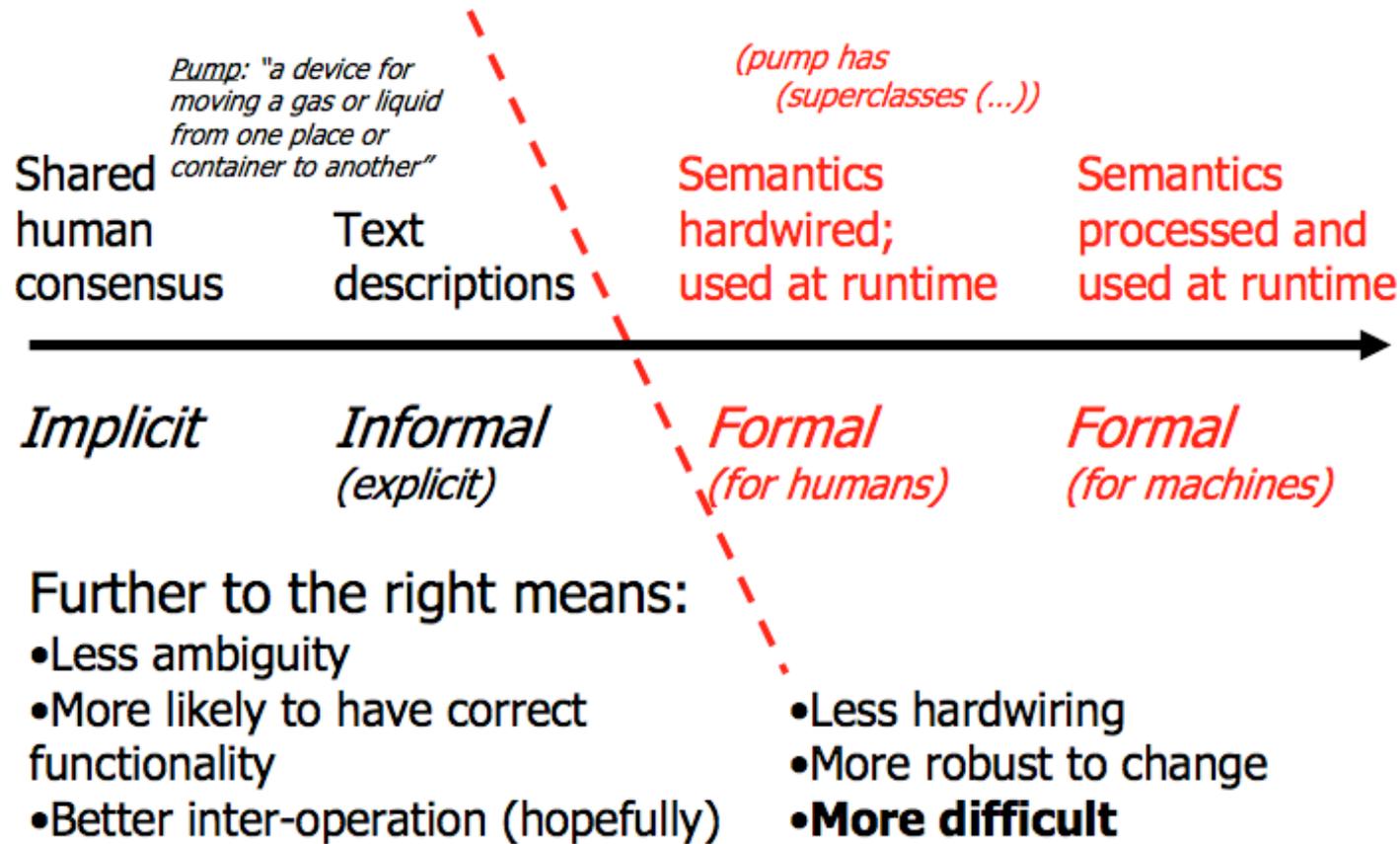
Inference machinery

- Any knowledge is
 - **A language representation +**
 - **An inference mechanism for deduction**

- First order calculus + resolution method
- Frames + matcher
- Semantic net + graph traversal
- Description logics + theorem prover



Ontologies: A Semantic Continuum



Src: [Mike Uschold, Boeing Corp]



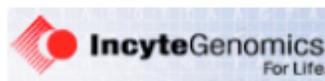
Example: Gene Ontology (GO)

- Well-known life science ontology
- Three things described
 - **sub-cellular localization**
 - **molecular function (what the gene does)**
 - **biological process (the cellular, developmental or physiological events the gene product is involved in)**
- Example:
 - Taking 4 kinases at random from 4 different organisms (Fly: ZWIM, Mouse: DAPK2 and Arabidopsis: KIPK and yeast: WEE1), based on gene nomenclature it is not clear that all of these genes encode protein kinases!
 - However, in GO, all 4 genes are annotated to the term "*protein kinase activity*" making it simple to find genes with similar functions in diverse species.

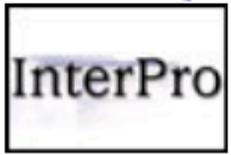
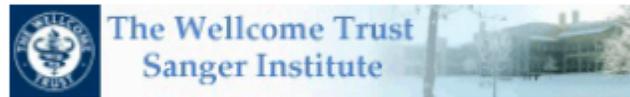
WormBase

FlyBase

AstraZeneca



UniProt
the universal protein resource



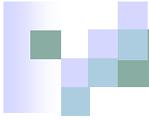
<http://www.geneontology.org/GO.people.shtml>

RDF Schema (RDFS)

- RDF just defines the data model.
- Need for definition of vocabularies for the data model - an Ontology Language!
- RDF-Schemas describe rules for using RDF properties
 - **Define a domain vocabulary for RDF**
 - **Organise this vocabulary in a typed hierarchy**
- RDF Schemas are Web resources (and have URIs) and can be described using RDF.
- Are not to be confused with XML Schemas.
- RDFS is the *framework for a vocabulary*.

RDF Schema Model

- Each property specifies what classes of subjects and objects it relates. New properties can be added to a class without modifying the class
 - **resource, class, subclassOf, type**
 - **property, subPropertyOf**
 - **domain, range, constraintResource, constraintProperty**
- Definitions can include constraints which express validation conditions
 - **domain constraints link properties with classes**
 - **range constraints limit property values**
- BUT expressive inadequacy and poorly defined semantics



Blank Nodes

- Existentially quantified variables

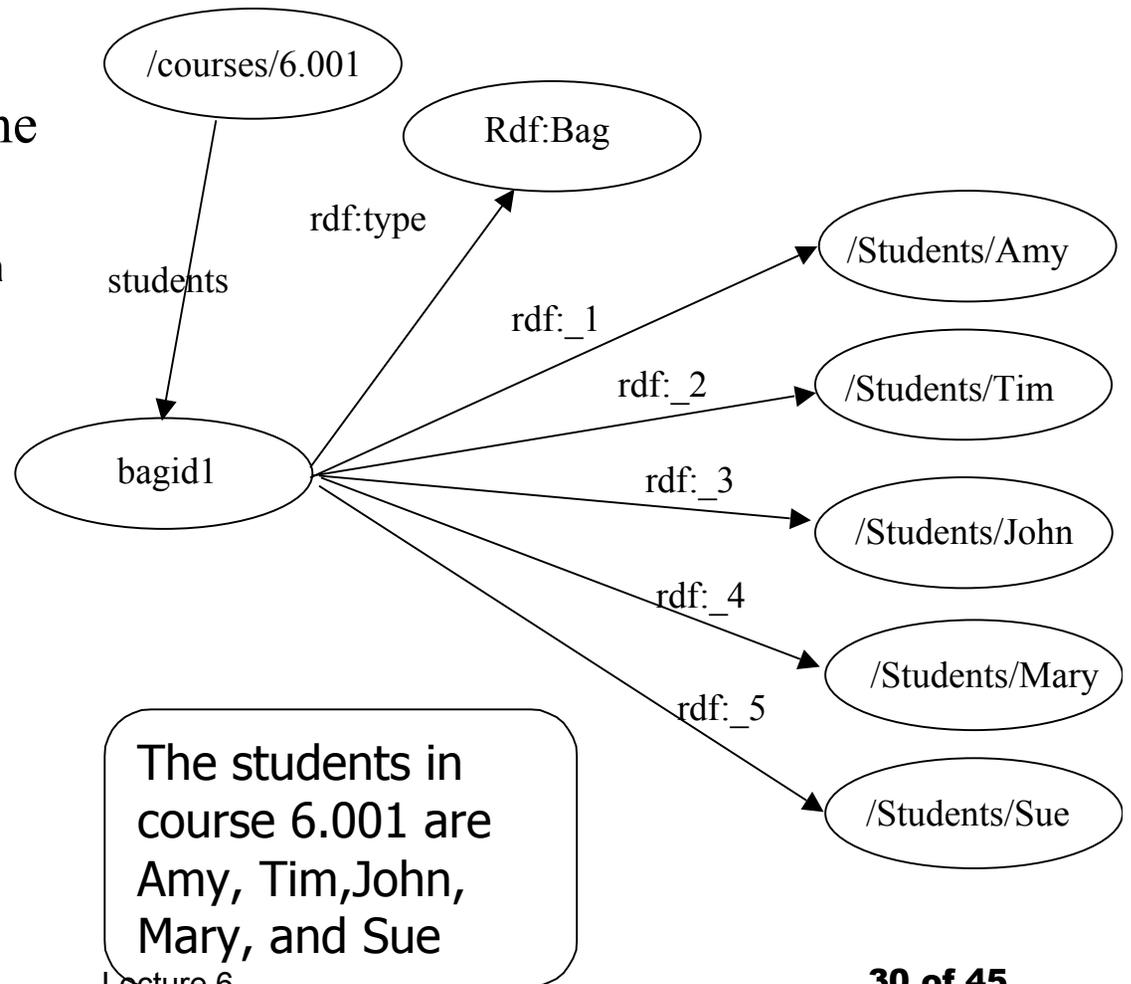
```
ex:John foaf:knows _:p1
_:p1 foaf:birthDate 04-21
```

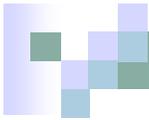
- Use cases

- Reasoning/Graph entailment**
- Modeling complex structures; Collections**
- Anonymous classes in OWL**

Collection Containers

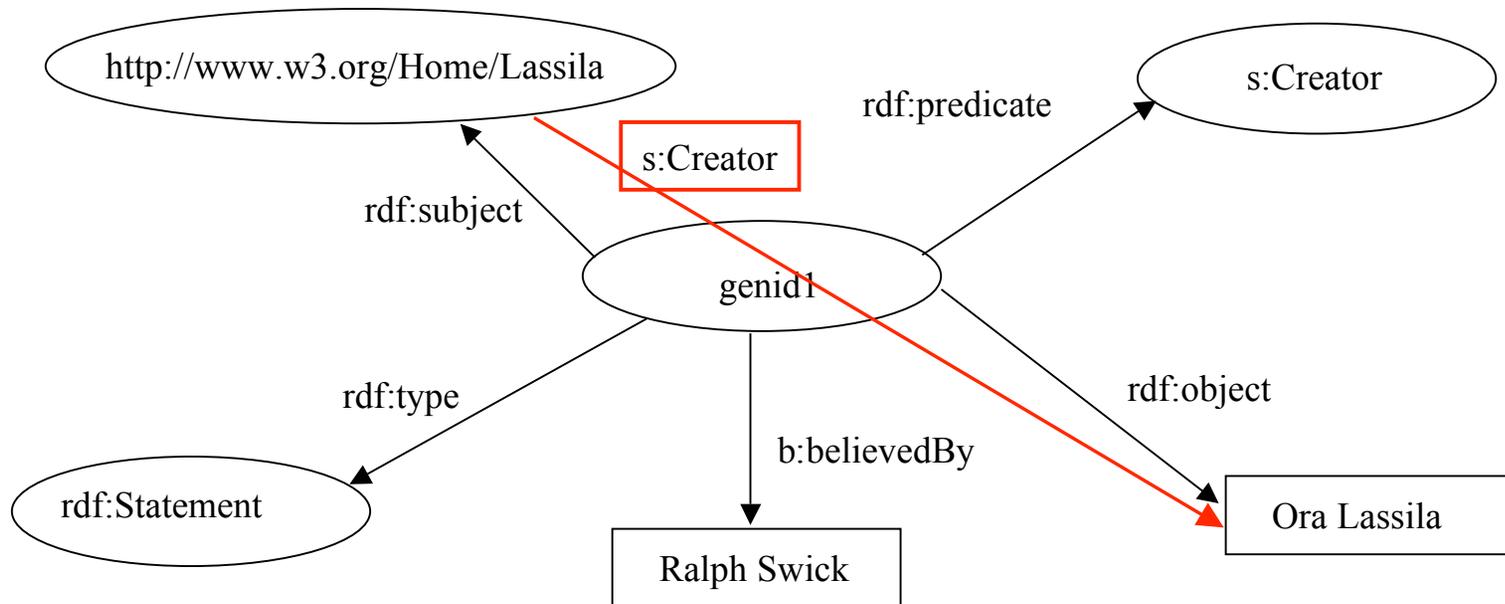
- Multiple occurrences of the same PropertyType doesn't establish a relation between the values
 - **The Millers own a boat, a bike, and a TV set**
- RDF defines three special Resources:
 - **Bag**
 - **Sequence**
 - **Alternative**





Reification: Statements about statements

- Transform them into Resources.
- *Ralph Swick believes that*
 - **the creator of the resource**
http://www.w3.org/Home/Lassila is Ora Lassila

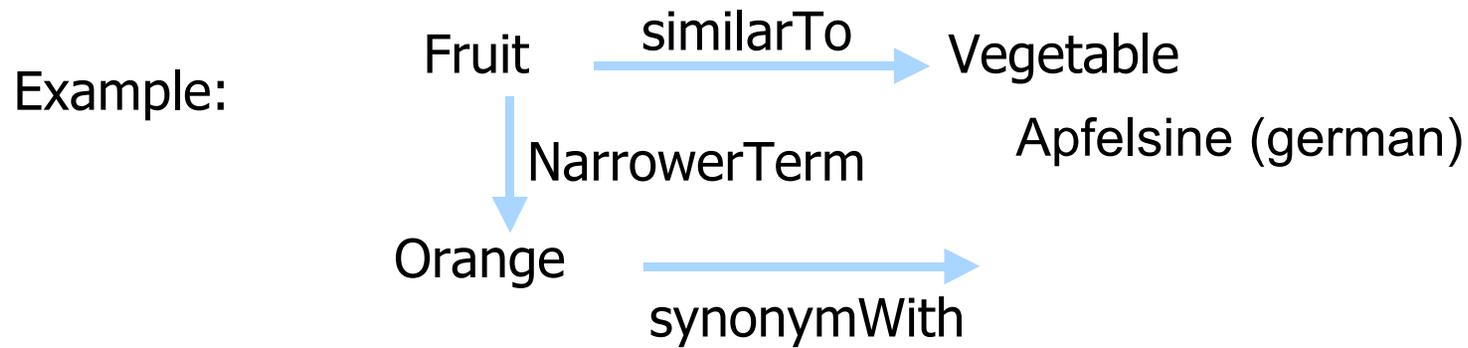




Related Concept: Controlled Vocabulary

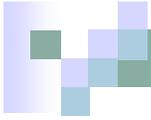
- Domain model
- No relationships
- Standardizes terminology to reduce semantic heterogeneity

Related concept: Thesauri



- Graph with labels edges (similar, nt, bt, synonym)
- Fixed set of edge labels (aka relations)
- no instances

- Well known in library science
- cf. terminologies / classifications (Dewey)



Related Concept: Topic Maps

- Topics
 - **concepts/categories/classes/etc.**
- Associations
 - **n-ary relationships (key difference with RDF)**
- Occurrences
 - **instances**

- Standardized: ISO/IEC 13250:2003
- To enable information resources to be classified and navigated in a consistent manner

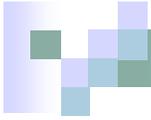


Related Technology: Description Logics

- KL-ONE [Brachman and Schmolze, 1985]
 - **Inheritance**
- AL
 - **Atomic negation, Concept intersection, Universal restrictions, existential quantification**
- ALC (+concept complement)
- SHIQ (+cardinality restrictions, inverse relationships)
- Many more permutations...

Related Concept: Description Logics

- DAML+ OIL equivalent to the expressive Description Logic (an extension of) SHIQ DL
- The descendants of frame systems and object hierarchies via KL-ONE.
- Core distinction between (T-Box \approx Schema) and (A-Box \approx Database tuples)
- Many years of DL research
 - Well defined semantics
 - Formal properties well understood (complexity, decidability)
 - Known reasoning algorithms
 - Implemented systems (highly optimised)



OO languages

- How are they different?
- What relationships are “lifted” into the model?



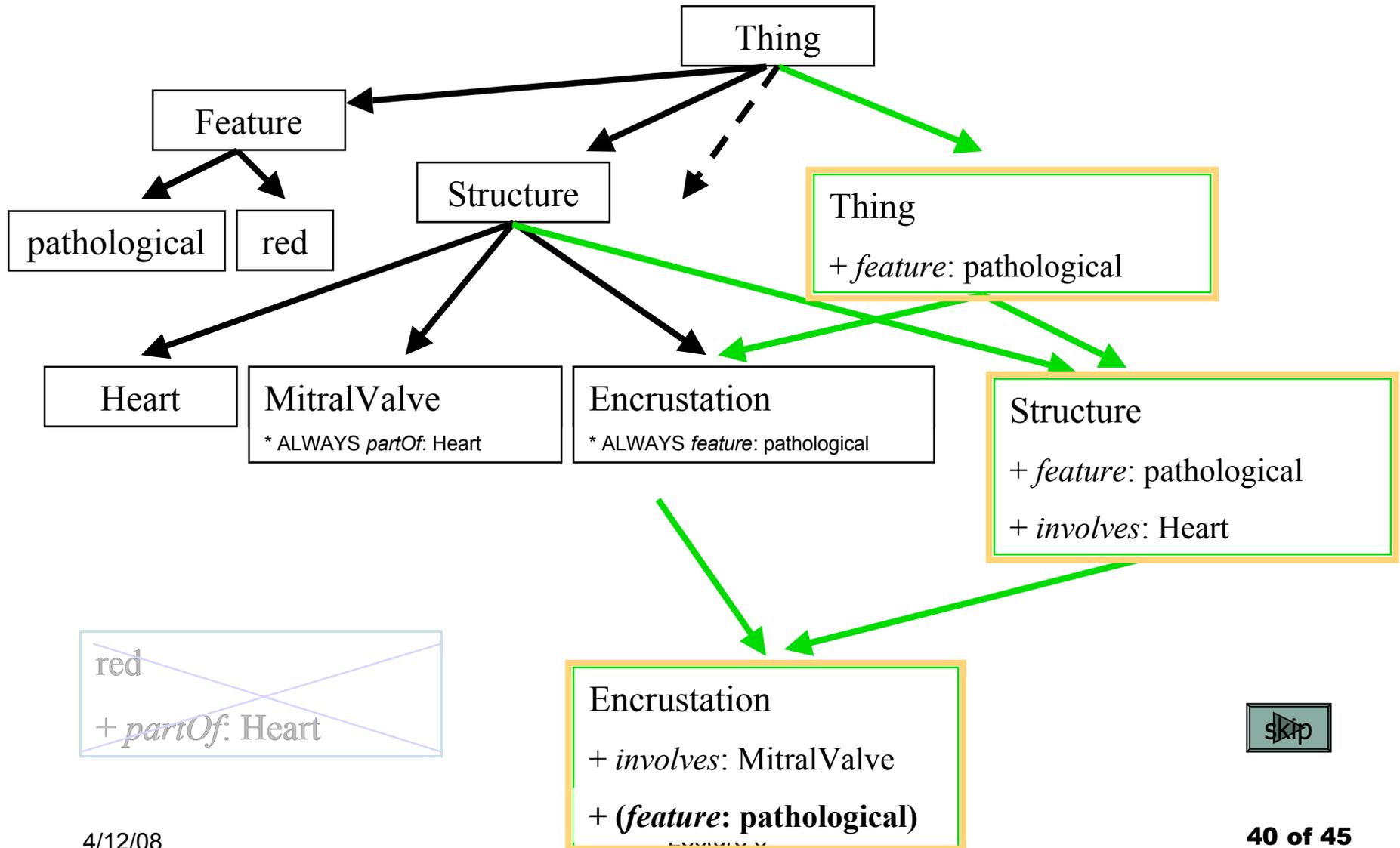
History: DAML+OIL

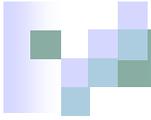
- OIL : developed by group of (largely) European researchers.
- DAML- ONT: developed by group of (largely) US researchers (in DARPA DAML programme).
- Efforts merged to produce DAML+ OIL.
- Development was overseen by joint EU/ US committee.
- Now submitted to W3C as basis for standardisation
WebOnt working group developing language standard.
- Subsumed by OWL

OWL Semantics

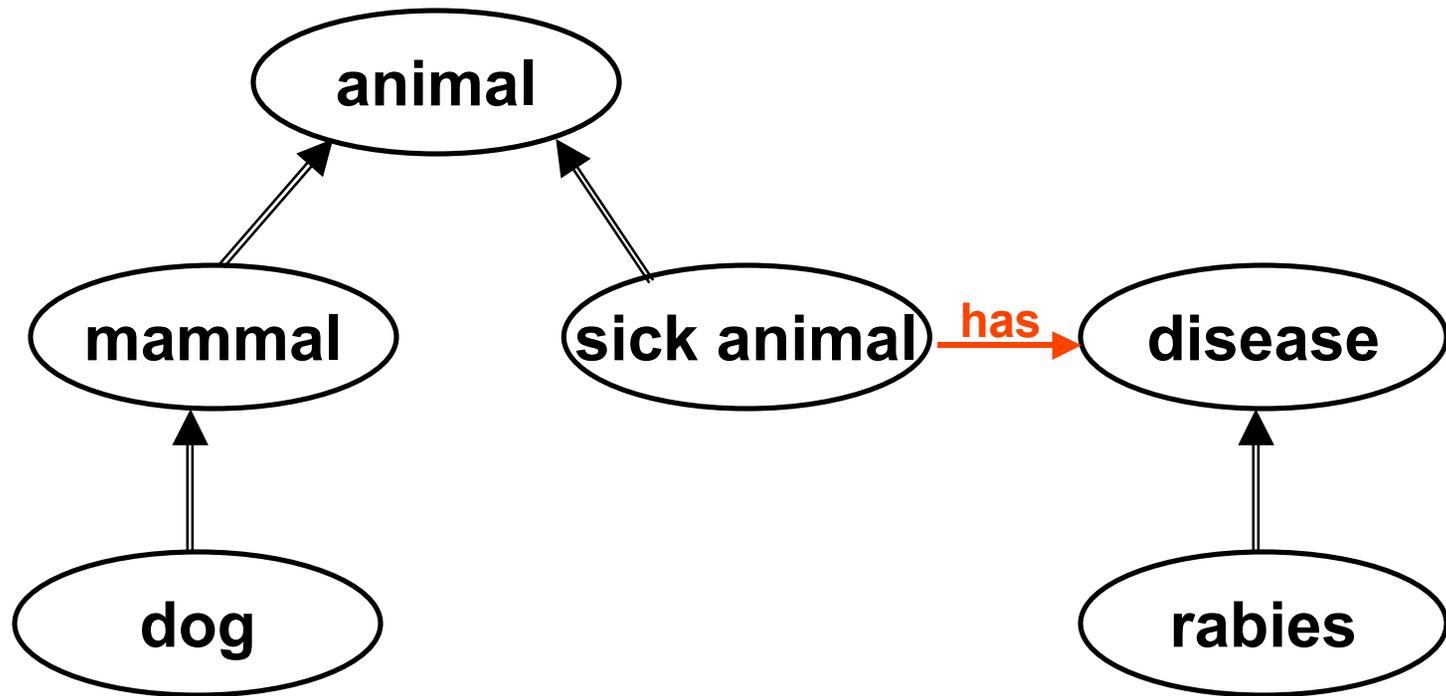
Abstract Syntax	DL Syntax	Semantics
Descriptions (C)		
A (URI Reference)	A	$A^I \subseteq \Delta^I$
<code>owl:Thing</code>	\top	$\text{owl:Thing}^I = \Delta^I$
<code>owl:Nothing</code>	\perp	$\text{owl:Nothing}^I = \emptyset$
<code>intersectionOf($C_1 C_2 \dots$)</code>	$C_1 \sqcap C_2$	$C_1^I \cap C_2^I$
<code>unionOf($C_1 C_2 \dots$)</code>	$C_1 \sqcup C_2$	$C_1^I \cup C_2^I$
<code>complementOf(C)</code>	$\neg C$	$\Delta^I \setminus C^I$
<code>oneOf($o_1 \dots$)</code>	$\{o_1, \dots\}$	$\{o_1^I, \dots\}$
<code>restriction(R someValuesFrom(C))</code>	$\exists R.C$	$\{x \mid \exists y (x, y) \in R^I \cup y \in C^I\}$
<code>restriction(R allValuesFrom(C))</code>	$\forall R.C$	$\{x \mid \forall y (x, y) \in R^I \rightarrow y \in C^I\}$
<code>restriction(R hasValue(o))</code>	$R : o$	$\{x \mid (x, o^I) \in R^I\}$
<code>restriction(R minCardinality(n))</code>	$\geq nR$	$\{a \in \Delta^I \mid \{b \mid (a, b) \in R^I\} \geq n\}$
<code>restriction(R maxCardinality(n))</code>	$\leq nR$	$\{a \in \Delta^I \mid \{b \mid (a, b) \in R^I\} \leq n\}$
<code>restriction(U someValuesFrom(D))</code>	$\exists U.D$	$\{x \mid \exists y (x, y) \in U^I \cup y \in D^D\}$
<code>restriction(U allValuesFrom(D))</code>	$\forall U.D$	$\{x \mid \forall y (x, y) \in U^I \rightarrow y \in D^D\}$
<code>restriction(U hasValue(v))</code>	$U : v$	$\{x \mid (x, v^D) \in U^I\}$
<code>restriction(U minCardinality(n))</code>	$\geq nU$	$\{a \in \Delta^I \mid \{b \mid (a, b) \in U^I\} \geq n\}$
<code>restriction(U maxCardinality(n))</code>	$\leq nU$	$\{a \in \Delta^I \mid \{b \mid (a, b) \in U^I\} \leq n\}$
Data Ranges (D)		
D (URI reference)	D	$D^D \subseteq \Delta_D^I$
<code>oneOf($v_1 \dots$)</code>	$\{v_1 \dots\}$	$\{v_1^D \dots\}$
Object Properties (R)		
R (URI reference)	R	$\Delta^I \times \Delta^I$
	R^-	$(R^I)^-$
Datatype Properties (U)		
U (URI reference)	U	$U^I \subseteq \Delta^I \times \Delta_D^I$
Individuals (o)		
o (URI reference)	o	$o^I \in \Delta^I$
Data Values (v)		
v (RDF literal)	v	v^D

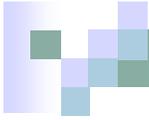
Logic Based Ontologies



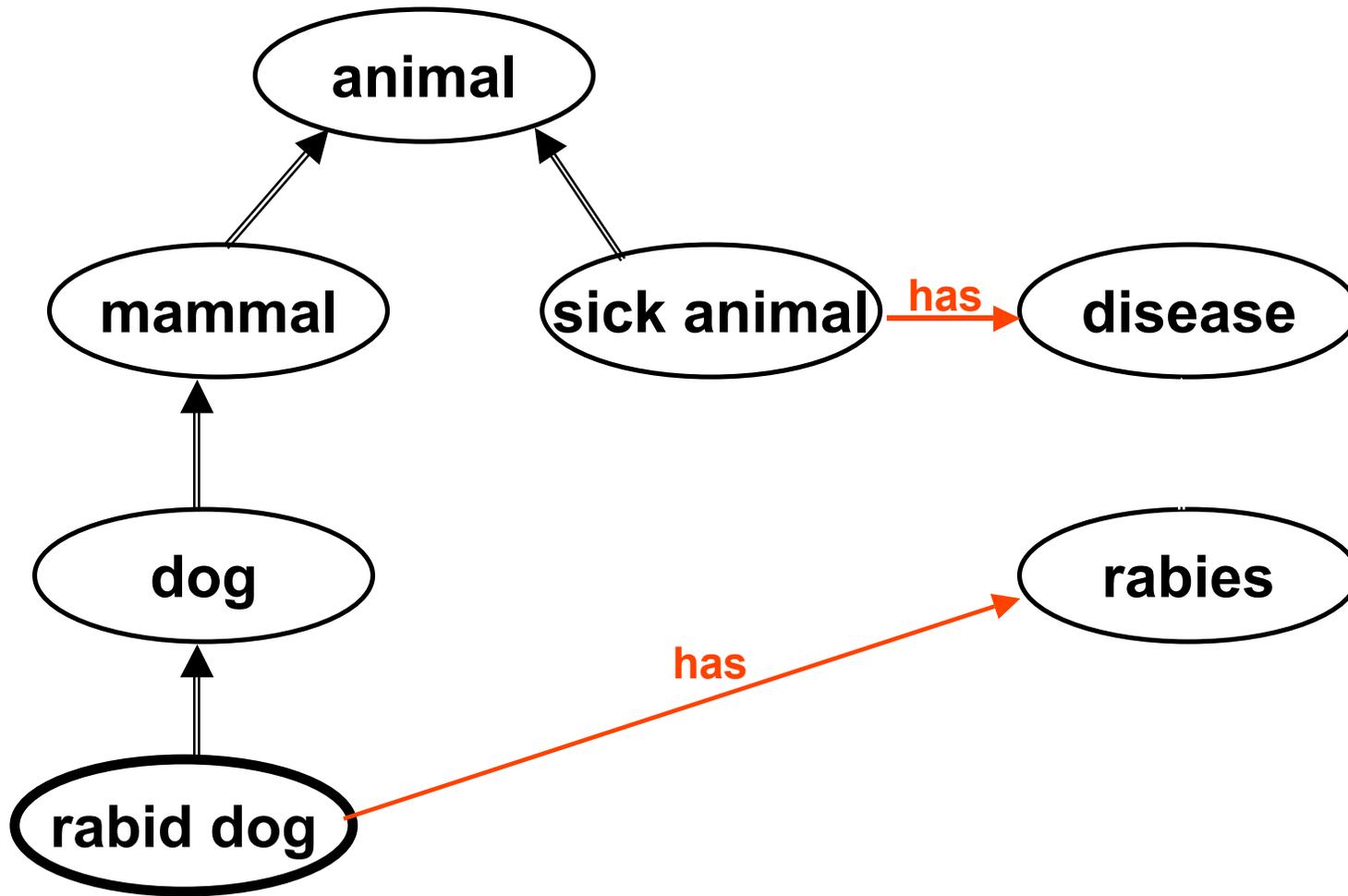


A Simple Ontology [Swartout]





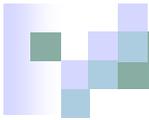
Defining a “rabid dog”



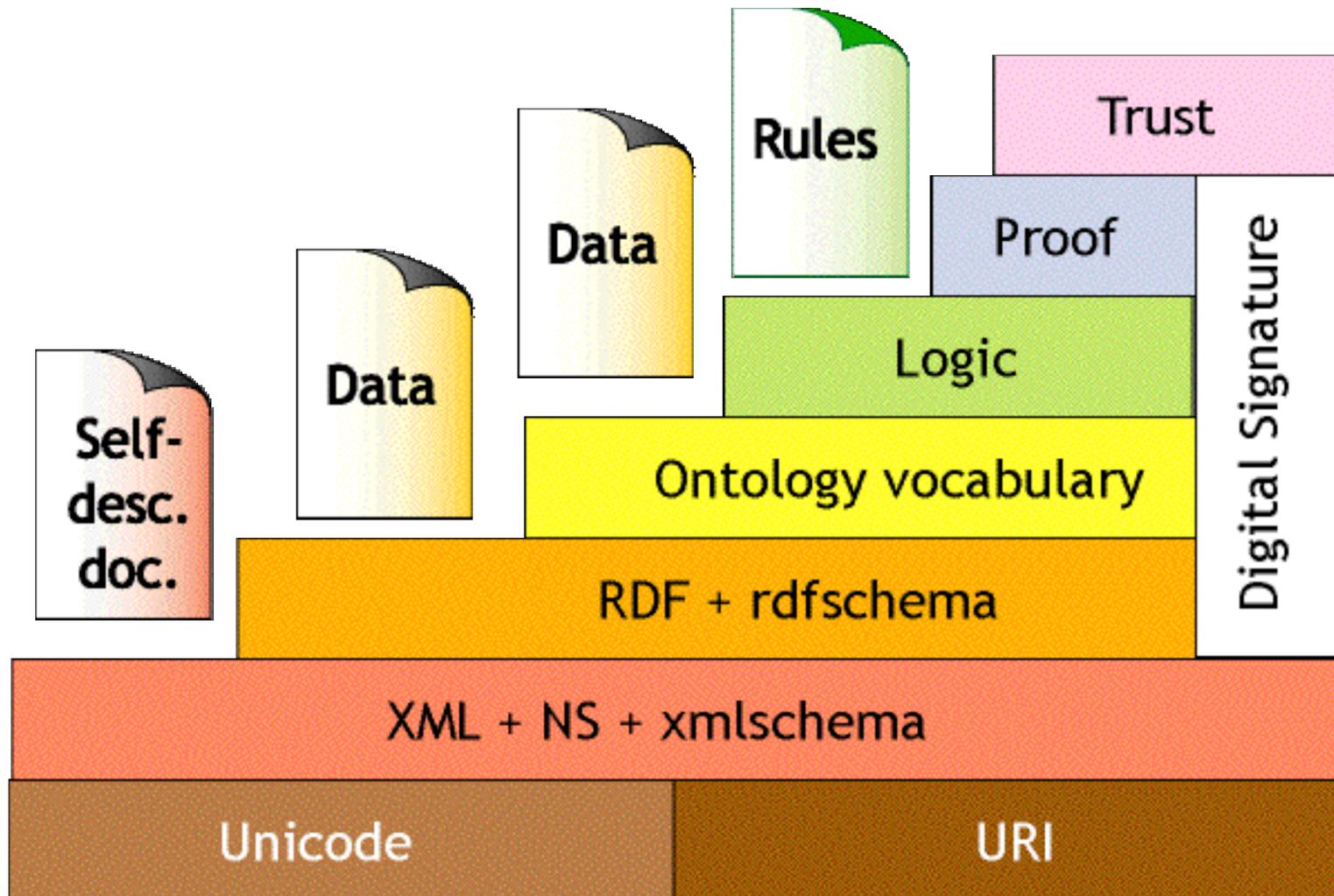


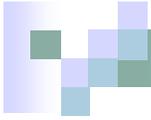
Reasoning Tasks

- Satisfiability of a concept
 - **determine whether a description of the concept is not contradictory, i.e., whether an individual can exist that would be instance of the concept.**
- Subsumption of concepts
 - **determine whether concept C subsumes concept D, i.e., whether description of C is more general than the description of D.**
- Consistency of individuals with respect to concept
 - **determine whether individuals in ABox do not violate descriptions and axioms described by TBox.**
- Membership
 - **check whether the individual is an instance of a concept**
- Compute Extent
 - **find all individuals that are instances of a concept**
- Realization of an individual
 - **find all concepts which the individual belongs to, especially the most specific ones**



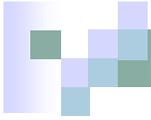
Stack of languages:





Web Language Stack summary

- **XML:**
 - **interchange syntax, no semantics**
- **RDF:**
 - **Data model, some semantics & inference**
- **RDF Schema:**
 - **concept modelling, more semantics & inference**
- **OWL:**
 - **more expressive ontology language;**
 - **quite expressive; expensive inference**



Roadmap

- Background and Motivation
- Ontologies and Reasoning
- Storing and Querying RDF
- Papers

OWL Example

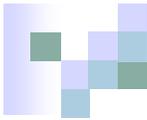
```
<owl:Class rdf:ID="Lookout">
  <owl:equivalentClass>
    <owl:Class rdf:ID="Scout"/>
  </owl:equivalentClass>
  <rdfs:label>Lookout</rdfs:label>
</owl:Class>
```

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID="Person">
  <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="http://..."/>
  <rdfs:subClassOf>
    <owl:Class rdf:about="http://..."/>
  </rdfs:subClassOf>
  <rdfs:subClassOf>
    <owl:Class rdf:about="http://..."/>
  </rdfs:subClassOf>
  <rdfs:comment xml:lang="en">
    An individual human being.
  </rdfs:comment>
  <rdfs:label>Person</rdfs:label>
</owl:Class>
```

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID="PoliceOfficer">
  <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#Person"/>
  <rdfs:comment xml:lang="en">
    A warranted employee of a police force.
  </rdfs:comment>
  <rdfs:label>Police Officer</rdfs:label>
</owl:Class>
```

```
<owl:Class rdf:about="#Scout">
  <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="#Person"/>
  <rdfs:label>Scout</rdfs:label>
</owl:Class>
```

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID="CashierPost">
  <rdfs:subClassOf>
    <owl:Restriction>
      <owl:someValuesFrom>
        <owl:Class rdf:ID="Cashier"/>
      </owl:someValuesFrom>
      <owl:onProperty>
        <owl:ObjectProperty rdf:ID="associatedWith"/>
      </owl:onProperty>
    </owl:Restriction>
  </rdfs:subClassOf>
  <rdfs:subClassOf>
    <owl:Class rdf:ID="Post"/>
  </rdfs:subClassOf>
  <rdfs:label>Cashier Post</rdfs:label>
</owl:Class>
```



RDF Example

```
<rdf:Description rdf:about="http://www.jhuapl.edu/merc/ba-instance-example#edge-31066">
  <rdf:type rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Statement"/>
  <rdf:subject rdf:resource="#Person-24"/>
  <rdf:predicate rdf:resource="http://bethew11-wd1.dom1.jhuapl.edu/Ontology/BAOntology.owl#meetswith"/>
  <rdf:object rdf:resource="#Person-23"/>
  <ba:beginTime rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer"> 78397</ba:beginTime>
</rdf:Description>
<rdf:Description rdf:about="http://www.jhuapl.edu/merc/ba-instance-example#edge-31067">
  <rdf:type rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Statement"/>
  <rdf:subject rdf:resource="#Person-15"/>
  <rdf:predicate rdf:resource="http://bethew11-wd1.dom1.jhuapl.edu/Ontology/BAOntology.owl#gf"/>
  <rdf:object rdf:resource="#Person-21"/>
  <ba:beginTime rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer"> 78399</ba:beginTime>
  <ba:endTime rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer">78439</ba:endTime>
</rdf:Description>
<rdf:Description rdf:about="http://www.jhuapl.edu/merc/ba-instance-example#edge-31068">
  <rdf:type rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Statement"/>
  <rdf:subject rdf:resource="#Person-15"/>
  <rdf:predicate rdf:resource="http://bethew11-wd1.dom1.jhuapl.edu/Ontology/BAOntology.owl#signals"/>
  <rdf:object rdf:resource="#Person-21"/>
  <ba:beginTime rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer"> 78399</ba:beginTime>
</rdf:Description>
```

SPARQL Example

```
PREFIX rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
PREFIX ba: <http://bethew11-wd1.dom1.jhuapl.edu/Ontology/BAOntology.owl#>
PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
PREFIX op: <http://www.w3.org/2005/xpath-functions#>
```

```
SELECT ?a ?b ?c ?t1 ?t2 ?t3
WHERE
```

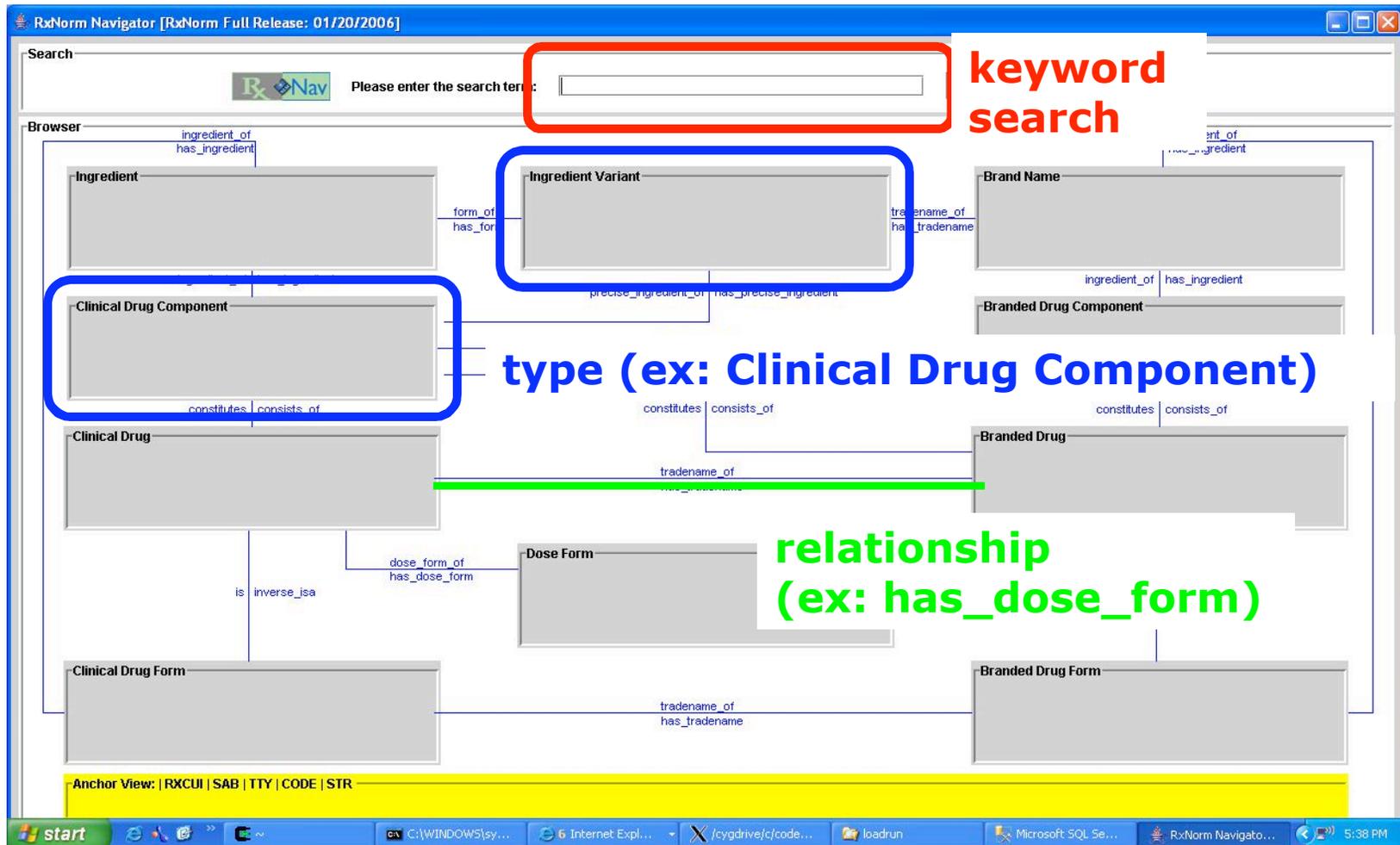
```
{
  ?s1 rdf:type rdf:Statement .
  ?s1 rdf:subject ?a .
  ?s1 rdf:predicate ba:meetswith .
  ?s1 rdf:object ?b .
  ?s1 ba:beginTime ?t1 .
```

```
?s2 rdf:type rdf:Statement .
?s2 rdf:subject ?b .
?s2 rdf:predicate ba:signals .
?s2 rdf:object ?c .
?s2 ba:beginTime ?t2 .
```

```
?s3 rdf:type rdf:Statement .
?s3 rdf:subject ?c .
?s3 rdf:predicate ba:meetswith .
?s3 rdf:object ?a .
?s3 ba:beginTime ?t3 .
```

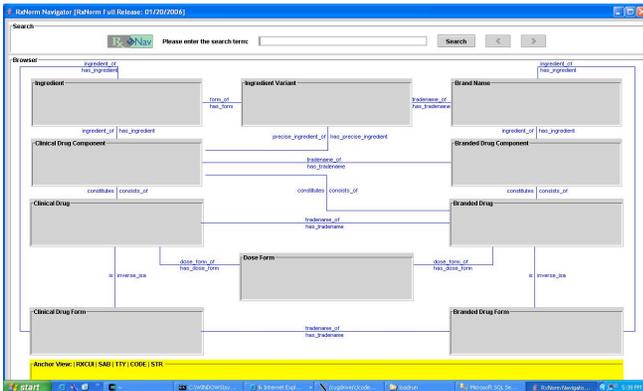
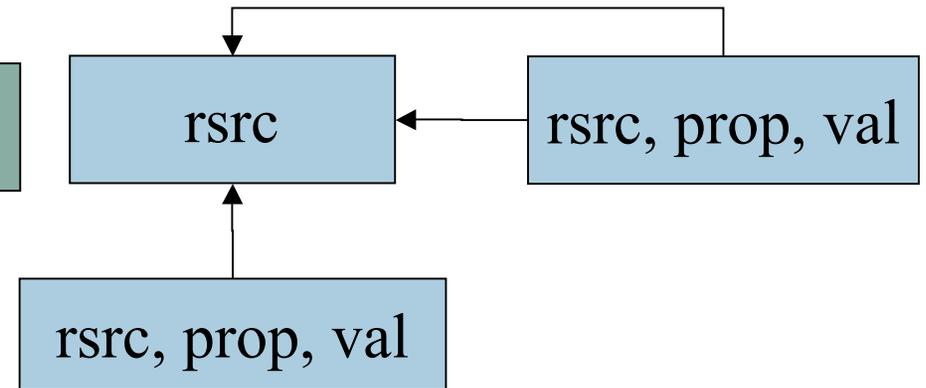
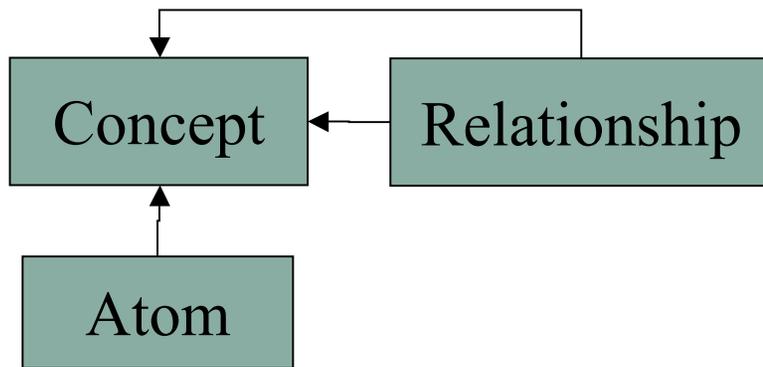
```
FILTER (
  ((?t1 < ?t2) && (?t2 < ?t3))
  && (((xsd:integer(?t2) - xsd:integer(?t1)) <= "1200"^^xsd:integer)
  && ((xsd:integer(?t3) - xsd:integer(?t2)) <= "1200"^^xsd:integer))
)
```

Example: Medical Nomenclature



"RxNav" Interface developed by the National Library of Medicine

Example: UMLS

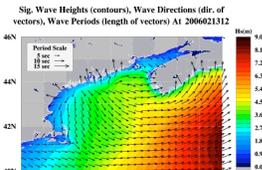


concept	prop	value
10001	NDC	1
10001	ORIG_CODE	123
10001	ingredient_of	10004
10001	type	DC

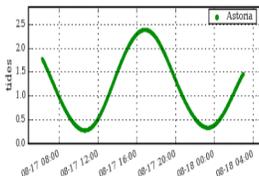
up to 23M triples describing 0.6M "concepts"

Example: Ocean Circulation Forecasting System

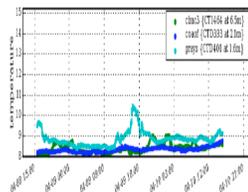
Atmospheric models



Tides

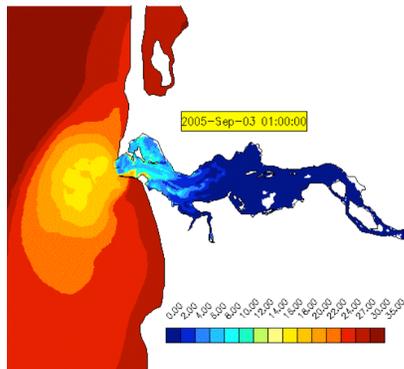


River discharge

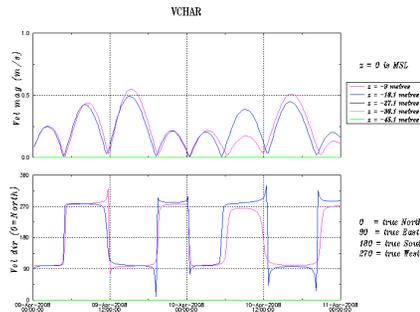


forcings (i.e., inputs)

products via the web



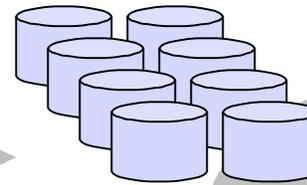
salinity isolines



station^{tr} extractions

model-data comparisons

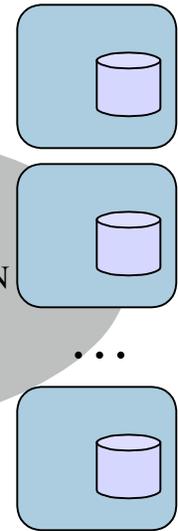
filesystem



perl and cron

FORTRAN

perl and cron

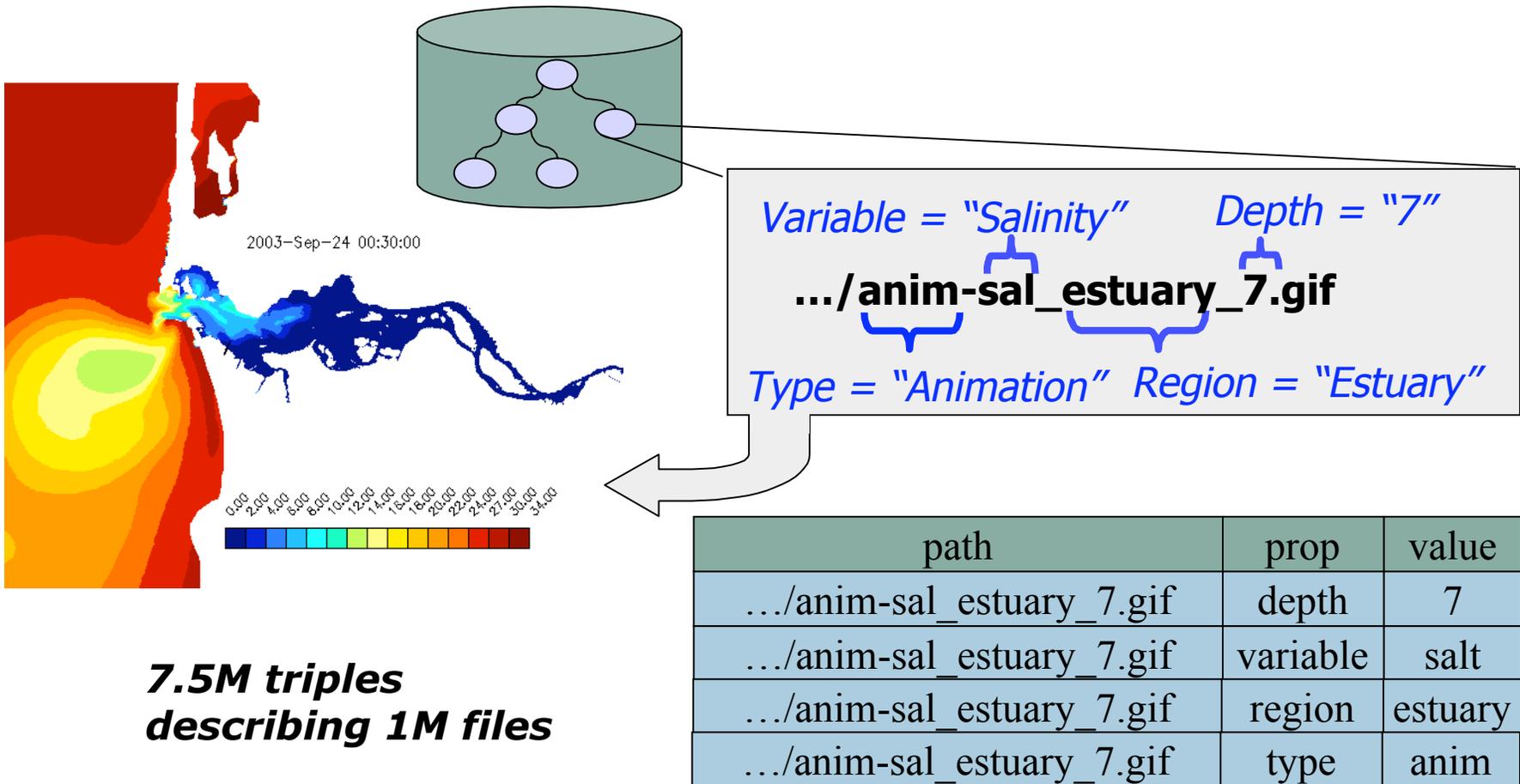


cluster

- Simulation results
- Config and log files
- Intermediate files
- Annotations
- Data Products
- Relations



Example: Ocean Circulation Forecasting





Exercise

- data1
 - **year=2004, week=24, day=1, variable=salt**
- data2
 - **year=2004, week=24, day=1, variable=temp**
- image1
 - **variable=salt, depth=7**
 - **src=data1**
- image2
 - **type=animation, variable=temp, depth=12**
 - **src=data2**

Q1: Find all resources with variable = “salt”

Q2: Find all images generated from week 24 data (use “src”)



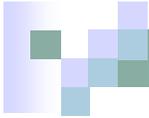
Some Storage Models

- Schema-dependent storage (RDFS)
 - **Chen et al 06**
 - **Pan and Heflin 03**
- Indexed Triple Store
 - **RDF-3X, 10**
 - **Sesame, Broekstra 02**
 - **YARS, Harth and Decker 05**
 - **3store, Harris and Gibbons 03**
 - **Oracle, Chong et al 05 (and ICDE 08)**
- Property Tables
 - **Jena, Wilkinson 06**
 - **C-Store, Abadi et al 07**
- Horizontal DB
 - **Agrawal 01**
- Signature-based
 - **Howe 04, 06**
 - **RDFBroker 06**



Simple Idea: Cluster by Signature

- Resources expressing the same properties clustered together
- Posit that $|\text{Signature}| \ll |\text{Resource}|$
- Queries evaluated transparently over Signature Extents



1) Triple Store

Triples

rsrc	prop	value
101	depth	7
336	variable	temp
101	path	.../iso_e_s_7.gif
101	variable	salt
843	channel	north
843	variable	salt
336	path	.../trans_s_t.gif
843	path	.../trans_n_s.gif
336	channel	south
101	region	estuary

One join per condition

A Query in SPARQL/RDQL:

```
select ?v
where
  (?r, <s:region>, <s:estuary>),
  (?r, <s:variable>, <s:salt>),
  (?r, <s:depth>, <s:7>),
  (?r, <s:path>, ?v)
```

... and in SQL:

```
SELECT p.value as path
FROM Triples r, Triples v,
     Triples d, Triples p
WHERE r.property = 'region'
     AND v.property = 'variable'
     AND d.property = 'depth'
     AND p.property = 'path'
     AND r.rsrc = v.rsrc
     AND v.rsrc = d.rsrc
     AND d.rsrc = p.rsrc
```

1) Triple Store, single pass trick

Triples

rsrc	prop	value
101	depth	7
336	variable	temp
101	path	.../iso e s 7.gif
101	variable	salt
843	channel	north
843	variable	salt
336	path	.../trans s t.gif
843	path	.../trans n s.gif
336	channel	south
101	region	estuary

```
select ?v
where
  (?r, <s:region>, <s:estuary>),
  (?r, <s:variable>, <s:salt>),
  (?r, <s:depth>, <s:7>)
  (?r, <s:path>, ?v)
```

```
SELECT MAX(CASE WHEN property='path' THEN value END) as path
FROM Triples
GROUP BY rsrc
HAVING
  MAX(CASE WHEN property='region' THEN value END) = 'estuary'
AND MAX(CASE WHEN property='variable' THEN value END) = 'salt'
AND MAX(CASE WHEN property='region' THEN value END) = '7'
```

2) Property Tables

depth

rsrc	value
101	7

variable

rsrc	value
336	temp
101	salt
843	salt

channel

rsrc	value
843	north
336	south

region

rsrc	value
101	estuary

path

rsrc	value
101	.../iso_e_s_7.gif
336	.../trans_s_t.gif
843	.../trans_n_s.gif

```
select ?p
where
  (?r, <s:region>, <s:estuary>),
  (?r, <s:variable>, <s:salt>),
  (?r, <s:depth>, <s:7>)
  (?r, <s:path>, ?p)
```

```
select p.value
  from region r, variable v,
       depth d, path p
 where r.value = 'estuary'
       and v.value = 'salt'
       and d.value = '7'
       and r.rsrc = v.rsrc
       and v.rsrc = d.rsrc
       and d.rsrc = p.rsrc
```

3) Signature Tables

S1: variable, channel, path

rsrc	variable	channel	path
336	temp	south	.../trans_s_t.gif
843	salt	north	.../trans_n_s.gif

```
select ?p
where
  (?r, <s:region>, <s:estuary>),
  (?r, <s:variable>, <s:salt>),
  (?r, <s:depth>, <s:7>)
  (?r, <s:path>, ?p)
```

S2: depth, region, variable, path

rsrc	depth	region	variable	path
101	7	estuary	salt	.../iso_e_s_7.gif

```
select path
from S2
where region = 'estuary'
and variable = 'salt'
and depth = '7'
```

3) Signature Tables (2)

S1: variable, channel, path

rsrc	variable	channel	path
336	temp	south	.../trans_s_t.gif
843	salt	north	.../trans_n_s.gif

```
select ?v
where
    (?r, <s:variable>, ?v)
```

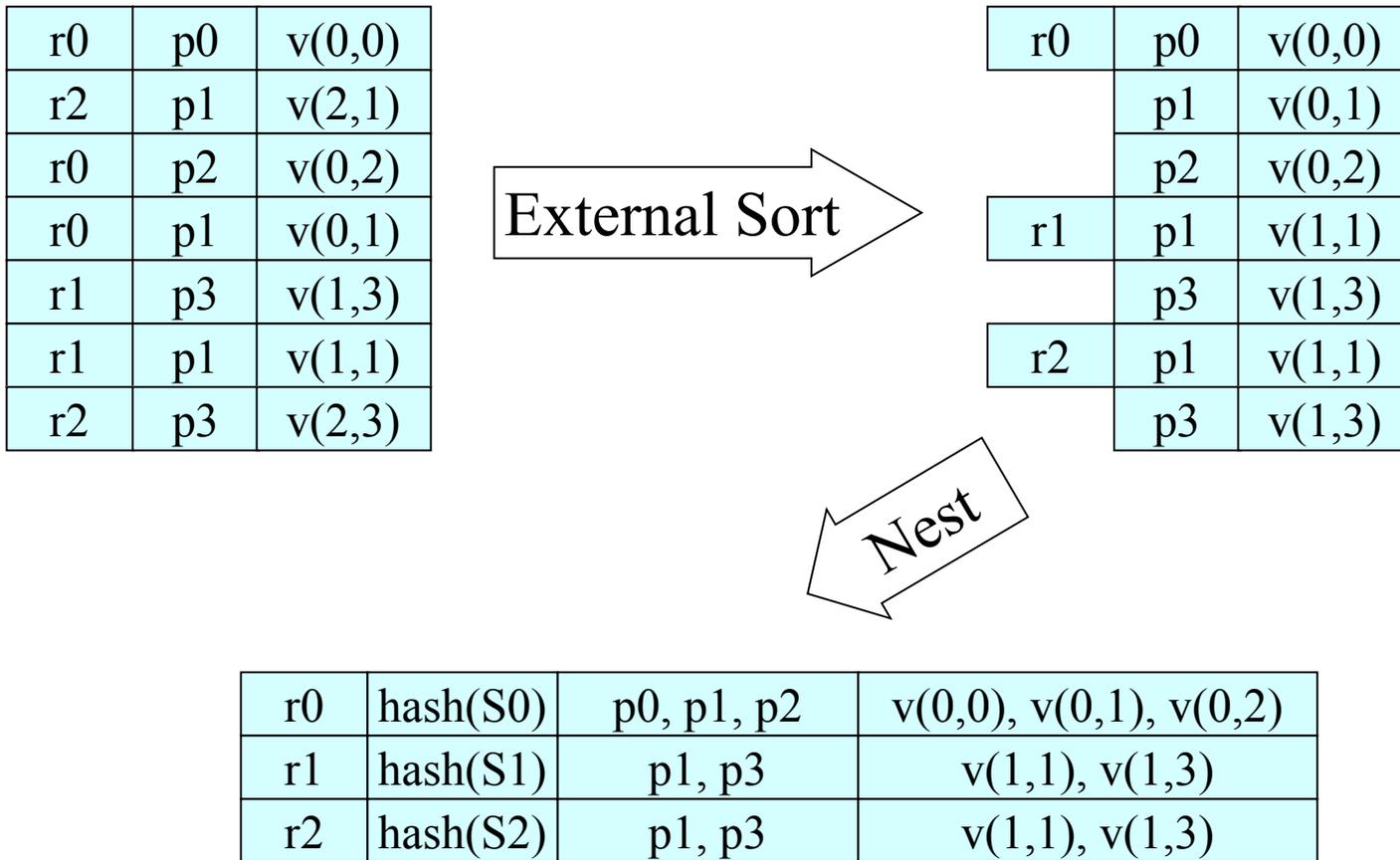
S2: depth, region, variable, path

rsrc	depth	region	variable	path
101	7	estuary	salt	.../iso_e_s_7.gif

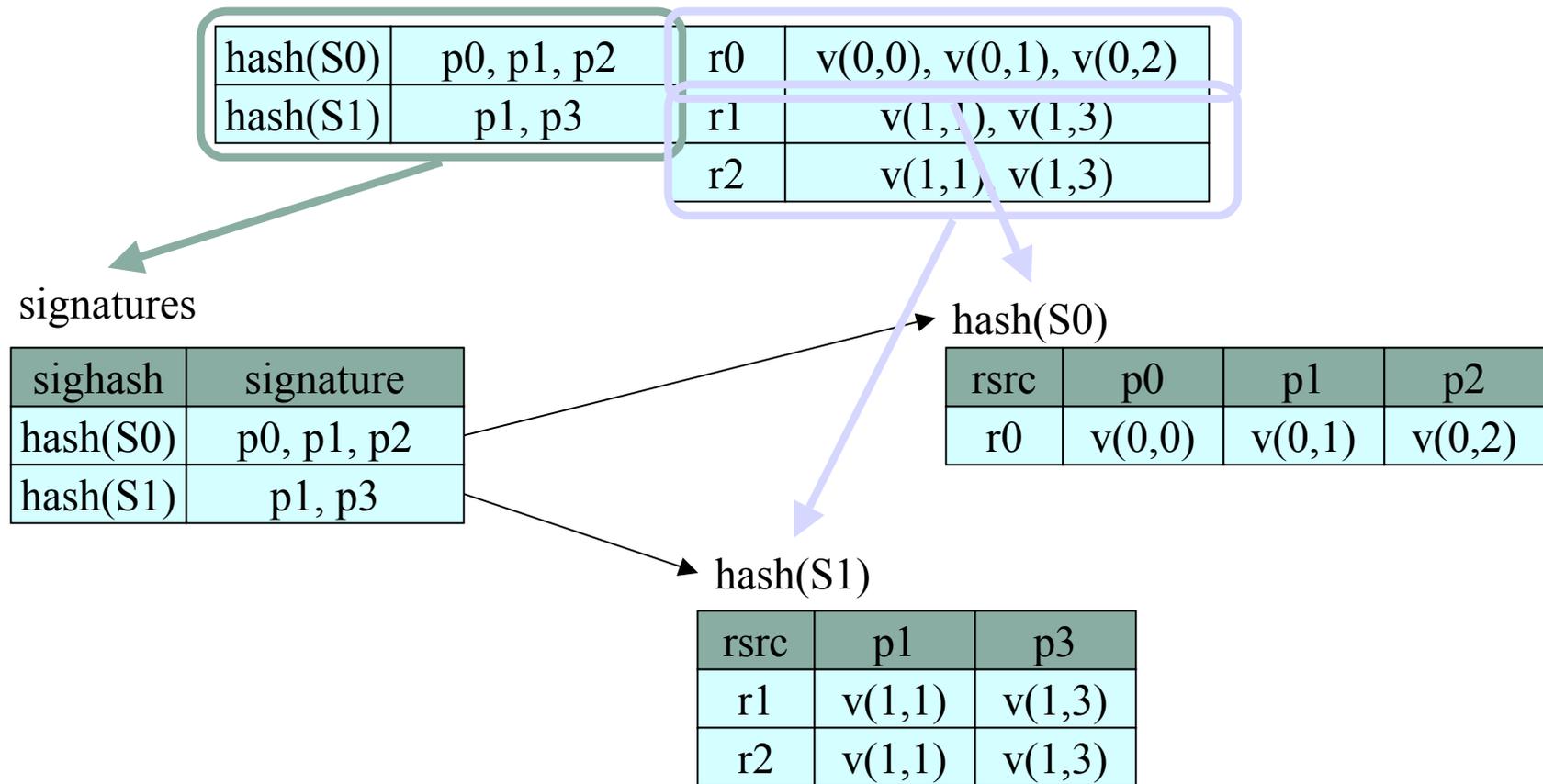
```
select variable
    from S2
UNION
select variable
    from S1
```

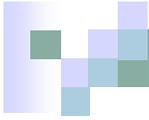


Computing Signatures



Computing Signatures





Experimental Results

- **Yet Another RDF Store (YARS)**

- **9 B-Tree indexes in Berkeley DB**

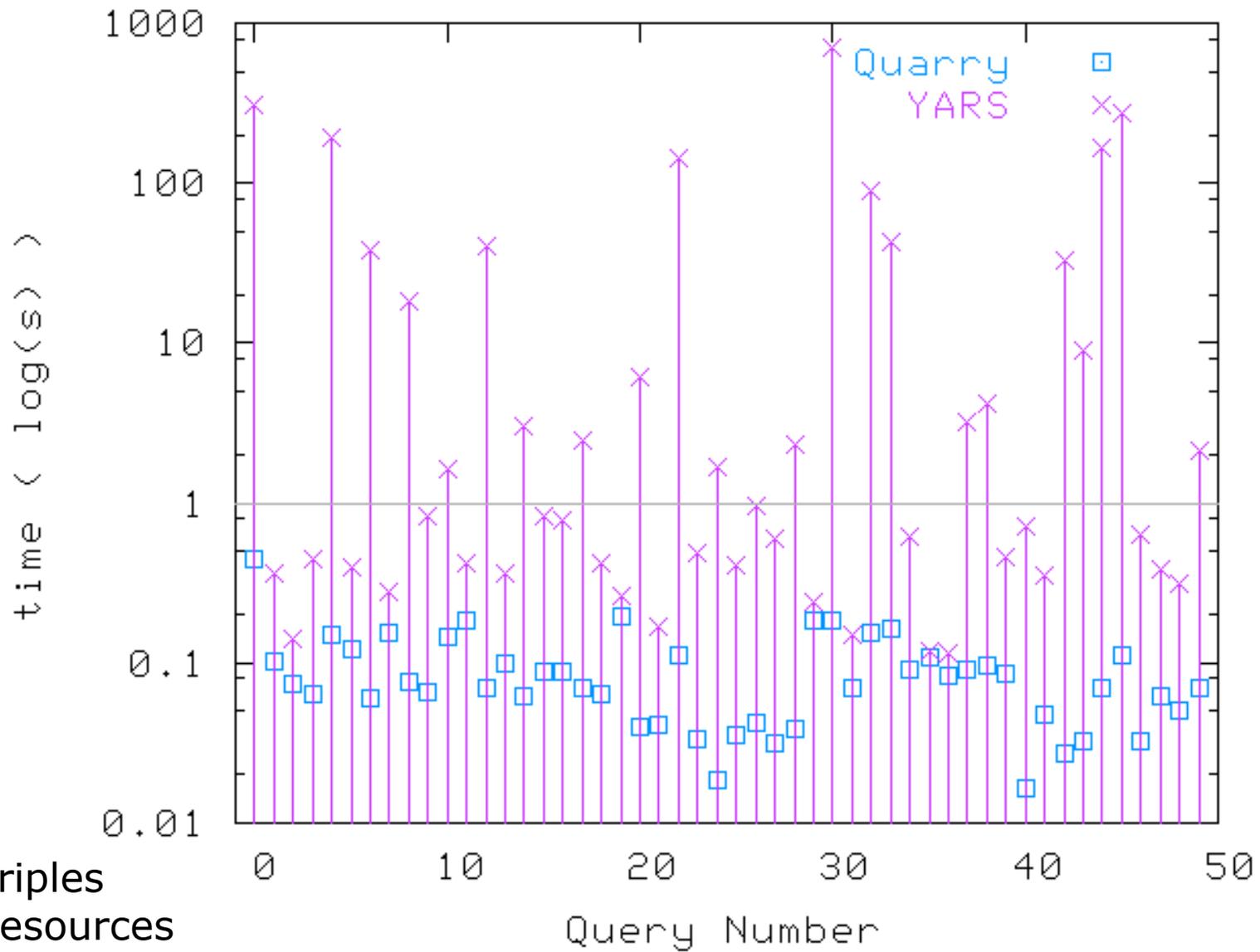
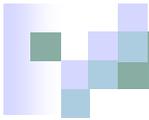
- $rpv \rightarrow _$
 - $pv \rightarrow r$
 - $vr \rightarrow p$
 - etc.

- **Authors report performance gain over Redland and Sesame**

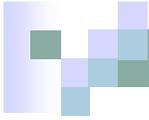
- ~3M triples, single term queries

- Random multi-term conjunctive queries

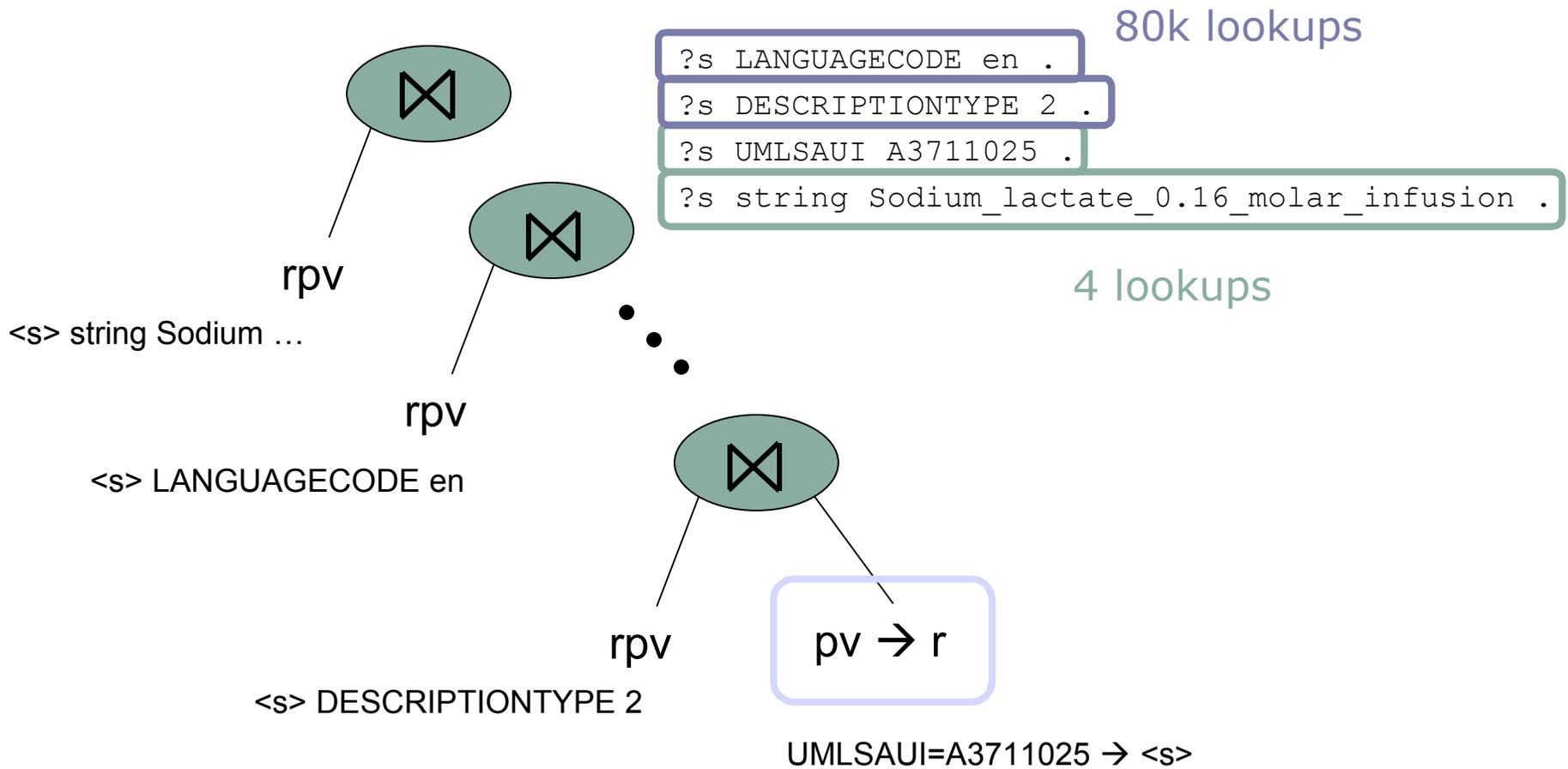
```
?s <p0> <o0>  
?s <p1> <o1>  
:  
?s <pn> <on>
```



3.6M triples
606k resources
149 signatures



A Common YARS Query Plan



YARS Plan Speed

