

# **Lecture 4: Ontologies**

#### TIES4520 Semantic Technologies for Developers Autumn 2023



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# Part 1

#### **Ontology basics**



# Ontology

- A person's vocabulary is the set of words within a language that are familiar to that person. (Wikipedia)
- On the Semantic Web, vocabularies define the concepts and relationships used to describe and represent an area of concern. (W3C). Vocabularies are used to:
  - classify the terms that can be used in a particular application,
  - characterize relationships, and
  - define constraints on using those terms.



# Ontology

- An Ontology is an explicit, formal specification of a shared conceptualization. Ontologies are formal models that describe a certain domain and specify the definitions of terms by describing their relationships with other terms in the ontology.
- Example: medical ontology, IT ontology, music ontology, etc.
- Consists of:
  - TBox
    - Describes abstract concepts (Class) and their relationships (Property)
    - Taxonomy, classification
  - ABox
    - Describes concrete individuals (*Instance*) and their relationships to other individuals and/or abstract concepts from Tbox
- There cannot be a global ontology of everything
  - Ontologies are dynamic (they change in time)
  - Every person can have a different perspective on the domain



# Instance vs. class

- Class (type)
  - Represents a set of things that share same properties (and/or behavior)
  - characterized via attributes (name-value pairs)
  - Example: Person, Fruit, Feeling...
- Instance (individual)
  - Represents a concrete thing
  - Can belong to one or more classes
  - Example: johnDoe, appleGoldenDelicious, anger...

```
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix ont: <http://www.john.com/myOntology.owl#> .
```

```
ont:benny rdf:type ont:Dog .
ont:superman a ont:ComicBookCharacter .
ont:mrBean <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type> ont:ComicCharacter .
```

Usually names start with a capital letter

Usually names start with a small letter

# **Important parts of TBox**

- Class hierarchy
- Defines classes of things and their relationships (classsubclass and others)
- Object properties
  - Connections between two individuals
  - Example:
- p:john p:loves p:mary.
- Data properties
  - Connection between an individual and a value
  - Example: p:john p:hasHeight "178.5"^^xsd:float .

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# Sample ontology: class hierarchy





# **Properties**

- In ontologies we define property's domain and range
  - Domain: What can have this property
  - **Range:** What can be the value of this property





# **Properties**

- Object properties:
  - Domain: URI
  - Range: URI

@prefix o: <http://john.com/myOnt.owl#> .

o:mary o:likes o:chocolate .

- Data properties:
  - Domain: URI
  - Range: Literal (typed or plain)

```
@prefix o: <http://john.com/myOnt.owl#> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .
```

```
o:mary o:age "30"^^xsd:int .
```



# Sample ontology: object properties



# Sample ontology: data properties



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

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# **Ontology language**

Language that is used to formally define ontologies

# Example:

- **RDFS** (RDF Schema)
- OWL (Web Ontology Language)
- OWL2

Majority is based on RDF model as well

- Ontology written in such language is RDF itself
- Differences between ontology languages
  - Expressiveness
  - Computational complexity of reasoning



# **RDF Schema (RDFS)**

- Simple ontology language (W3C Recommendation in 2004)
- Prefix: @prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>
- Features:
  - Declaration of classes and subclass hierarchy:

```
x:Human rdf:type rdfs:Class .
x:Human rdfs:subClassOf x:LivingBeing .
```

Declaration of literals and their hierarchy:

```
x:Henkilotunnus rdf:type rdfs:Literal .
rdfs:Datatype rdfs:subClassOf rdfs:Literal .
```

- Definition of properties and their hierarchy:

```
x:hasAge rdf:type rdf:Property .
x:hasAge rdfs:domain x:LivingBeing .
x:hasAge rdfs:range xsd:int .
rdfs:subPropertyOf rdf:type rdf:Property .
x:hasMovablePart rdfs:subPropertyOf x:hasPart .
x:hasStaticPart rdfs:subPropertyOf x:hasPart .
```

- Other features (statement, container, collections, comments, etc.)

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# **RDFS** example

#### Ontology

```
@prefix x: <http://mypage.com/myOntologies/humanOntology#> .
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
```

x:LivingBeing	rdf:type	rdfs:Class .
x:Human	a	rdfs:Class ;
	rdfs:subClassOf	x:LivingBeing
x:hasAge	a	<pre>rdf:Property ;</pre>
	rdfs:domain	x:Human ;
	rdfs:range	<pre>xsd:int .</pre>

#### Annotated resource

@prefix x: <http://mypage.com/myOntologies/humanOntology#> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .

x:bill a x:Human ; x:hasAge "40"^^xsd:int

@prefix x: <http://mypage.com/myOntologies/humanOntology#> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .

```
x:bill a x:LivingBeing ; x:hasAge "40"^^xsd:int
```



# **OWL language**

- Web Ontology Language (OWL) is a semantic markup language for publishing and sharing ontologies on the World Wide Web.
- OWL is vocabulary extension RDF and derived from DAML+OIL Web Ontology Language.
- Two versions:
  - Version 1 (W3C Recommendation Feb 2004)
    - Dialects: OWL-Lite, OWL-DL, OWL-Full
  - Version 2 (W3C Recommendation Oct 2009)
    - Profiles: OWL EL, OWL QL, OWL RL
- Uses vocabulary from RDF and RDFS
- More expressive than RDFS



# **OWL version 1**

- OWL has more expressive power than RDF Schema, provides additional vocabulary along with a formal semantics
  - Three sublanguages:
    - OWL Lite was designed for easy implementation and to provide users with a functional subset that will get them started in the use of OWL.
    - OWL DL was designed to support the existing Description Logic business segment and to provide a language subset that has desirable computational properties for reasoning systems.
      - More expressive
      - Based on DL (Description Logic)
      - (Almost) all features included
      - Still computationally complete and decidable
    - OWL Full relaxes some of the constraints on OWL DL so as to make available features which may be of use to many database and knowledge representation systems, but which violate the constraints of Description Logic reasoners.
      - Maximum expressiveness
      - Computational properties not guaranteed

# **OWL version 2**

**OWL 2** is extension of OWL designed to facilitate ontology development and sharing via the Web, with the ultimate goal of making Web content more accessible to machines.

- OWL 2 ontologies provide classes, properties, individuals, and data values and are stored as Semantic Web documents;
- RDF/XML is primary exchange syntax for OWL 2 and provides interoperability of OWL 2 tools. Other alternative syntaxes also are used (Turtle, XML, Manchester Syntax, Functional-Style Syntax, etc.)
- OWL 2 Profiles (sublanguages) are syntactic restrictions of OWL 2. Each is more restrictive than OWL DL and provides different computational and/or implementational benefits:
  - **OWL 2 EL** enables polynomial time algorithms for all the standard reasoning tasks
    - applications with very large ontologies that need expressive power for performance
  - OWL 2 QL enables conjunctive queries to be answered in LogSpace using standard relational database technology
    - applications with relatively lightweight ontologies used to organize large numbers of individuals and need to access the data directly via relational queries (e.g., SQL)
  - OWL 2 RL enables the implementation of polynomial time reasoning algorithms using rule-extended database technologies operating directly on RDF triples
    - applications with relatively lightweight ontologies used to organize large numbers of individuals and need to operate directly on data in the form of RDF triples



# **OWL version 2**

- Additionally to three new profiles and new OWL 2 Manchester Syntax, **OWL 2** adds new functionality with respect to OWL 1:
  - syntactic sugar to make some common patterns easier to write (e.g., disjoint union of classes);
  - property chains and keys (in order to uniquely identify individuals of a given class by values of (a set of) key properties);
  - richer datatypes:
    - various kinds of *numbers*: a wider range of XML Schema Datatypes (double, float, decimal, positiveInteger, etc.) and providing its own datatypes, e.g., owl:real;
    - strings with (or without) a Language Tag (using the rdf:PlainLiteral datatype);
    - boolean values, binary data, IRIs, time instants, etc.
  - datatype restrictions by means of constraining *facets* that constrain the range of values allowed for a given datataype, by length (for strings) *e.g., minLength, maxLength,* and minimum/maximum value, *e.g., minInclusive, maxInclusive*.
  - N-ary Datatypes;
  - qualified cardinality restrictions;
  - asymmetric, reflexive, and disjoint properties;
  - enhanced annotation capabilities.





# Protégé

- Protégé is an ontology editor (http://protege.stanford.edu/)
- Documentation: (http://protegewiki.stanford.edu/wiki/Main\_Page)
- Differences between Protege 3.x and 5.x (4.x) are equivalent to those between Frames based systems and OWL (and DL reasoning) based ones (http://users.jyu.fi/~olkhriye/ties4520/lectures/FramesAndOWLSideBySide.pdf)
  - Version 3.x (OWL 1 + RDFS)
  - Version 4.x & 5.x (OWL 2)
    - written in a much more principled way than Protege 3 and for OWL ontologies Protege 5 (4) is generally the right choice;
    - does not include some of the plugins of Protege 3 and Protege 3 forms mechanism.
- Many plugins
  - Reasoners (HermiT, Pellet, FaCT++)
  - Exporters
  - New views
- Manchester syntax
  - Used in Protégé to define set operations and property restrictions
  - More info: http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-manchester-syntax/

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# WebProtege

WebProtege is an open source, lightweight, web-based ontology editor (http://protegewiki.stanford.edu/wiki/WebProtege):

- allows users to collaboratively develop ontologies in a distributed way;
- supports OWL 2 ontologies;
- users can upload OBO Format ontologies and edit them collaboratively
- WebProtege has a content management system.
  - Users can log in and upload their ontologies to the server, edit them, invite collaborators to contribute, and set permissions for collaborators (who can then view, edit, or make comments).

#### Two modes of WebProtege:

- Local Mode: WebProtégé loads the ontologies from a standalone instance of Protégé running in a servlet container (default mode);
- External Server Mode: WebProtégé loads the ontologies from a Protégé server running outside of the servlet container, and acts as a web-based client connecting to the Protégé server.
- WebProtege On-line: http://webprotege.stanford.edu/



# Part 2

#### **Ontologies and Protégé**

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# **OWL document**

# Parts

- Ontology header
- Class axioms
- Property axioms
- Facts about individuals
- Order of components is not important
- Extensions usually: rdf, owl. But supports many of main serializations...
  - MIME type:
    - application/rdf+xml or
    - application/xml



# **OWL: Ontology header**

- Ontology is a resource as well, therefore can have own annotations (properties).
- Annotations (owl:AnnotationProperty):
  - owl:versionInfo string that provides version information (does not influence the logical meaning of the ontology);
  - owl:priorVersion identifies the ontology as a prior version of the containing ontology;
  - owl:backwardCompatibleWith identifies the specified ontology as a prior version of the containing ontology, and further indicates that it is backward compatible with it;
  - owl:incompatibleWith indicates that the containing ontology is a later version of the referenced ontology, but is not backward compatible with it.
  - also: rdfs:label, rdfs:comment, rdfs:seeAlso, rdfs:isDefinedBy
  - also (OWL-2): owl:deprecated used to specify whether IRI is deprecated or not
- Ontology imports (owl:imports)
  - Imports another ontology that is considered to be a part of the importing ontology

# **OWL: Ontology header**

@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix : <http://jyu.fi/ontology1.owl#> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .
@prefix xml: <http://www.w3.org/XML/1998/namespace> .
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#> .

<http://jyu.fi/ontology1.owl> rdf:type owl:Ontology ; rdfs:comment "simple family ontology"@en ; owl:backwardCompatibleWith <http://jyu.fi/ontology0.owl> .



# **OWL: Class axioms**

- Class descriptions
  - 1. Plain declaration a class identifier (URI reference)
  - 2. Exhaustive enumeration of all individuals
  - 3. Property restriction
  - 4. Set operations:
    - Intersection of classes;
    - Union of classes;
    - Complement of a class.
- Each class belongs to owl:Class
  - owl:Class is a subclass of rdfs:Class
- Special classes:
  - owl: Thing (class with all individuals);
  - owl:Nothing (class with no individuals, empty set).

# owl:Thing and owl:Nothing

# owl:Thing

- Contains all the individuals in the world
- Automatically parent of every other class
- Any individual is automatically a member of this class
- Any class is automatically a subclass of owl: Thing

# owl:Nothing

- No individual belongs to this class (empty set)
- Automatically subclass of all other classes
  - Empty set is always a subset of any non-empty set
- Automatically disjoint with other classes
  - Empty set is always disjoint with any non-empty set



# **Classes: Axioms**

# Axiom

- Formula in a formal language that is universally valid and describes knowledge that cannot be expressed simply with the help of other existing components.
- Some statement ("rule") that is always true
- It is given, you don't question it or prove it

# Necessary condition

- X is necessary condition for Y: (Y=>X)
- Example: Having PhD. is a necessary condition for being a professor (but not sufficient)

# Sufficient condition

- X is sufficient condition for Y: (X=>Y)
- Stronger than necessary condition
- Example: Being a human is a sufficient condition for being a living being (but not necessary)



# **Classes: Axioms 2**

- Class-subclass axiom
  - rdfs:subClassOf (came from RDFS)
  - Same meaning as in RDFS
- Equivalence axiom (owl:equivalentClass)
  - Class description has exactly the same meaning as some other class description (they represent the same set)
- Disjointness axiom (owl:disjointWith) (is not part of OWL Lite)
  - Only necessary condition, not sufficient
  - You specify what the class <u>is not</u> about
  - You do not specify what the class <u>is</u> about
  - Example: Car is disjoint with Bicycle
  - a shortcut to define several classes to be disjunctive

```
:x45 rdf:type owl:AllDisjointClasses;
```

owl:members (:Car :Human :Organization).

# **Classes: 1.Plain declaration, 2.Enumeration**

- Plain declaration
  - You specify that some URI represents a class
     ex:Human rdf:type owl:Class
- Enumeration (is not part of OWL Lite)
  - You define the Class by saying what individuals belong to it. The Class has exactly those individuals, nothing more, nothing less;
  - Use owl:oneOf predicate. Value must be a list of individual of that class;

ex:Gender owl:oneOf (ex:female ex:male)

- Example: Continent, Gender, Grade, etc.



# **Classes: 3.Property restrictions**

- Anonymous class (restriction) defined by specifying restrictions on its properties
- owl:Restriction is a subclass of owl:Class
- Restrictions:
  - Value constraint:
    - owl:allValuesFrom,
    - owl:someValuesFrom,
    - OWI:has Value (is not part of OWL Lite)
  - Cardinality constraint:
    - *Owl:cardinality* (*owL Lite* supports cardinality constraint with only values "0" or "1"),
    - owl:minCardinality and owl:maxCardinality,
    - owl:qualifiedCardinality (owL-2),
    - owl:minQualifiedCardinality and owl:maxQualifiedCardinality (owL-2)
  - Self-Restriction:
    - owl:hasSelf (owL-2)

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# **Classes: 3.Property restrictions**

Value constraint: owl:allValuesFrom

:HumanChild	rdf:type	owl:Class ;
	owl:equiv	valentClass [
		rdf:type owl:Restriction ;
		<pre>owl:onProperty :hasParent ;</pre>
		owl:allValuesFrom :Human
	].	
		Asserted Conditions





# **Classes: 3. Property restrictions**

Value constraint: owl:someValuesFrom





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# **Classes: 3.Property restrictions**

Value constraint: owl:hasValue







# **Classes: 3. Property restrictions**

Cardinality constraint example:

```
:Mammal rdf:type owl:Class;
        rdfs:subClassOf [
                rdf:type owl:Restriction;
                owl:onProperty :hasParent;
                owl:cardinality 2
        1;
        rdfs:subClassOf [
                rdf:type owl:Restriction;
                owl:gualifiedCardinality 1;
                owl:onProperty :hasParent;
                owl:onClass :Female
        1;
        rdfs:subClassOf [
                rdf:type owl:Restriction;
                owl:gualifiedCardinality 1;
                owl:onProperty :hasParent;
                owl:onClass :Male
        1.
```



# **Classes: 3. Property restrictions**

Cardinality: owl:cardinality, owl:minCardinality, owl:maxCardinality





# **Classes: 3. Property restrictions**

Qualified cardinality: owl:qualifiedCardinality, owl:minQualifiedCardinality, owl:maxQualifiedCardinality (owL-2)



# **Classes: 3. Property restrictions**

Qualified cardinality *is not a part of OWL-1*. Such restriction can be done via intersection of two other restrictions:

```
:Mammal rdf:type owl:Class;
    rdfs:subClassOf [ rdf:type owl:Class ;
                          owl:intersectionOf
                                  [ rdf:type owl:Restriction ;
                                    owl:onProperty :hasParent ;
                                    owl:allValuesFrom :Female ]
                                  [ rdf:type owl:Restriction ;
                                    owl:onProperty :hasParent ;
                                    owl:cardinality "1"^^xsd:int ; ]
    ] ...
             of of 🗣 🚱
                                              Asserted Conditions
                                            NECESSARY & SUFFICIENT
             owl:Thing
            (hasParent only Female) and (hasParent exactly 1)
                                      X
                                                   protégé
```



# **Classes: 3. Property restrictions**

Self-restriction: owl:hasSelf (owL-2)



Description: NarcisticPerson	
Equivalent To 🛨	≪ NarcisticPerson 🔀
loves Self	Class expression editor
SubClass Of 🛨	loves Self
General class axioms 🕂	
SubClass Of (Anonymous Ance	
Instances 🛨	
Target for Key 🛨	
Disjoint With 🕂	A protógó 5
Disjoint Union Of 🕂	protege

# **Classes: 3. Property restrictions**

- Constraining facets can be used to *restrict datatype values*. The following constraining facets can be used:
  - Numbers and time instants: xsd:minInclusive, xsd:maxInclusive, xsd:minExclusive, xsd:maxExclusive
  - Strings and IRIs: xsd:minLength, xsd:maxLength, xsd:length, xsd:pattern
  - Binary data: xsd:minLength, xsd:maxLength, xsd:length

Example: class *Teenager* is defined as those who are between 13 and 19 years old (both inclusive).

```
:Teenager rdfs:subClassOf _:x .
_:x rdf:type owl:Restriction ;
    owl:onProperty :hasAge ;
    owl:someValuesFrom _:y .
_:y rdf:type rdfs:Datatype ;
    owl:onDatatype xsd:integer ;
    owl:withRestrictions ( _:z1 _:z2 ) .
_:z1 xsd:minInclusive "13"^^xsd:integer .
_:z2 xsd:maxInclusive "19"^^xsd:integer .
```





Disjoint sets

# **Classes: 4. Set operations**

- Intersection (has some restrictions in OWL Lite)
  - owl:intersectionOf (= logical AND)
  - Example: class *Man* is intersection of classes *Male* and *Human*
  - Example: Man = Male AND Human

```
:Man rdf:type owl:Class ;
    owl:equivalentClass [
        rdf:type owl:Class ;
        owl:intersectionOf ( :Human :Male)
    ] ;
```

Asserted Conditions      NECESSARY & SUFFICIENT      NECESSARY	Human and Male
Human and Male	Class expression editor     Inherite     Hur
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# **Classes: 4. Set operations**

- Union (is not part of OWL Lite)
  - owl:unionOf (= logical OR)
  - Example: class Vehicle is union of classes Car and Motorcycle
  - Example: Vehicle = Car OR Motorcycle





# **Classes: 4. Set operations**

- Complement (is not part of OWL Lite)
  - owl:complementOf (logical NOT)
  - Example: class *DeadPerson* is complement of class *LivingPerson*
  - Example: *DeadPerson* = NOT *LivingPerson*

	:DeadPerson	rdf:typ owl:equ	e owl:Cla ivalentCl rdf:typ owl:com	ss ; ass [ e owl:Class ; <mark>plementOf</mark> :Liv	ringPerson
		];	Das	crintion: DeadDarson	
			Equ	ivalent classes 🕕	
D 🕜 💽 🌚		Asserted	Conditions	not LivingPerson	
not ivingPerson		NECESSARY &	SUFFICIENT	DeadPerson	3
	2 3 0 0 0 2	×		Class expression editor	
• • •	↔ ↔ ⊕ 0 ←		Me	Object restriction creator	
				Class hierarchy not LivingPerson	1
protégé	3)		Key	OK Cancel	<i>protégé</i>



# Classes

#### Keys: owl:hasKey (owL-2)

- a collection of (data or object) properties can be assigned as a key to a class expression. This means that each named instance of the class expression is uniquely identified by the set of values which these properties attain in relation to the instance.
- Example: the identification of a person by his/her social security number (SSN)

#### :Person owl:hasKey ( :hasSSN ) .

Description: Living	Person	
Equivalent To 🕂		
SubClass Of 🕂	≪ LivingPerson	
General class axiom	hasSSN	
SubClass Of (Anony		
Instances 🛨		
Target for Key 🛨 hasSSN		
Disjoint With 🕂	OK Cancel	
Disjoint Union Of 🕂		protégé 5

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# **Properties:**

- In OWL we already recognize 2 properties
  - Object property (class owl:ObjectProperty)
  - Datatype property (class owl:DatatypeProperty)
  - There are two other type of properties that are used in OWL DL (owl:AnnotationProperty and owl:OntologyProperty classes).
- All of them are subclass of *rdf:Property*
- Special properties:
  - owl:topObjectProperty (the object property that relates every two individuals).
  - owl:topDataProperty (the data property that relates every individual to every data value).
- More property axioms:
  - Old RDFS: rdfs:subPropertyOf, rdfs:domain, rdfs:range
  - Relation to other properties: owl:equivalentProperty, owl:inverseOf
  - Global cardinality constraints: *owl:FunctionalProperty*, *owl:InverseFunctionalProperty*
  - Logical characteristics: owl:SymmetricProperty, owl:TransitiveProperty
  - Logical characteristics (OWL-2): owl:AsymmetricProperty, owl:ReflexiveProperty, owl:IrreflexiveProperty
  - Property chains (owL-2): owl:propertyChainAxiom

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# **Old RDFS axioms**

# rdfs:subPropertyOf

Same meaning as in RDFS (sublanguage limitations must be taken into account)

# rdfs:domain and rdfs:range

- Same meaning as in RDFS;
- Multiple axioms allowed and interpreted as a conjunction (intersection of provided classes);
- If union of classes is needed, then use owl:unionOf

```
:hasFriend rdf:type owl:ObjectProperty ;
  rdfs:domain :Human ;
  rdfs:range [ rdf:type owl:Class ;
        owl:unionOf ( :Animal :Human )
  ] .
```

# **Relation to other properties**

# owl:equivalentProperty

- Equivalence of two properties.

# owl:inverseOf

- Simply: property P<sub>1</sub> is inverse property of the property P<sub>2</sub>, if range and domain of these properties are switched (direction of "arrow" is switched);
- Example: properties ex:isOwnedBy & ex:owns are inverse, ex:hasChild & ex:hasParent are inverse.

#### owl:propertyDisjointWith (owL-2)

- Simply: properties P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> are disjunctive, if two individuals are never related via both properties;
- Example: properties ex:hasParent & ex:hasChild are disjunctive.
- a shortcut to define several properties to be disjunctive

#### :x25 rdf:type owl:AllDisjointProperties; owl:members (:hasParent :hasChild :hasGrantchild).

R

 $P_1$ 

 $P_2$ 

 $P_1$ 

 $P_2$ 

# **Global cardinality constraints**

# owl:FunctionalProperty

- Simply: such property can have only one value. Property may relate individual A only to one individual;
- Example: ex:marriedTo (in monogamous cultures);



# owl:InverseFunctionalProperty

- Simply: such property cannot relate two or more individuals (only one) to the same destination individual A;
- Example: ex:biologicalMotherOf





# **Logical characteristics**

# owl:SymmetricProperty

- Simply: if property P relates individual A to individual B, then the same property P also relates individual B to individual A;
- Example: *ex:hasSpouse*.



# owl:AsymmetricProperty (owL-2)

- Simply: If the property *P* relates individual *A* to individual *B*, then individual *B* cannot be related to individual *A* via the same property *P*; *P*
- Example: *ex:isChildOf*.



# **Logical characteristics (OWL-2)**

#### owl:ReflexiveProperty (owL-2)

- Simply: If the property P relates individual A to individual A (to itself) and at the same time the property P may relate individual A to other individuals;
- Example: *ex:knows*.



# owl:IrreflexiveProperty (owL-2)

- Simply: If the property P relates individual A to individual B, then individuals A and B are not the same individuals;
- Example: ex:motherOf.



# **Logical characteristics**

# owl:TransitiveProperty

- Simply: if property P relates individual A<sub>1</sub> to individual A<sub>2</sub>, and the same property P relates individual A<sub>2</sub> to individual A<sub>n</sub>, then the same property P also relates individual A<sub>1</sub> to individual A<sub>n</sub>;
- Example: *ex:bossOf, ex:hasAncestor.*



# **Property chains (OWL-2)**

#### owl:propertyChainAxiom (owL-2)

Simply: If the property  $P_1$  relates individual  $A_1$  to individual  $A_2$ , and property  $P_2$  relates individual  $A_2$  to individual  $A_n$ , then property P relates individual  $A_1$  to individual  $A_n$ ;



Example:

:hasGrandparent rdf:type owl:ObjectProperty ;
 owl:propertyChainAxiom ( :hasParent :hasParent ) .

```
:hasComponentFrom rdf:type owl:ObjectProperty ;
```

owl:propertyChainAxiom ( :hasComponent :hasCountryOfOrigin ) .



# Individuals' identity

- Equality:
  - Predicate owl:sameAs;
  - Saying that URI1 and URI2 mean the same individual.
- Non-equality:
  - Predicate owl:differentFrom;
  - Saying that URI1 and URI2 are definitely not the same individual.
- Different among each other:
  - property owl:distinctMembers is defined as a predicate that links an instance of owl:AllDifferent class to a list of individuals which are all different from each other;
  - Saying that URI1, ..., URIn are all different from each other.

```
_:x39 rdf:type owl:AllDifferent;
        owl:distinctMembers (f:John f:Mary f:Bill f:Susan).
```

Important: If no information about equality or non-equality is specified, then we must assume that both are possible.

# Individuals' identity

- Negated Property Instantiation:
  - Two individuals can be explicitly defined as "not related to each other" via a given property

```
:x29 rdf:type owl:NegativePropertyAssertion ;
    owl:sourceIndividual :Bob ;
    owl:assertionProperty :isBrother ;
    owl:targetIndividual :Michael .
```

Can also be used with Datatype properties...

```
:x19 rdf:type owl:NegativePropertyAssertion ;
    owl:sourceIndividual :Bob ;
    owl:assertionProperty :hasAge ;
    owl:targetValue "53"^^xsd:integer.
```



# **OWL Full**

- All the constructs are allowed;
- owl:Class is equivalent to rdfs:Class;
- owl:Thing is equivalent to rdfs:Resource;
- owl:ObjectProperty is equivalent to rdf:Property. Therefore, datatype property is subclass of object property;
- Very expressive (a lot of "freedom" to define things);
- You lose some guarantees on computability.



# OWL DL

- Requires disjointness of:
  - classes, properties (datatype properties, object properties, annotation properties, ontology properties), individuals, data values, datatypes, built-in vocabulary
  - This has many implications...
- All axioms must be:
  - well-formed
  - with no missing or extra components
  - must form a tree-like structure

:Car rdf:type owl:Class ; rdfs:subClassOf :Vehicle .

:Vehicle rdf:type owl:Class .

... not enough



# **OWL Lite**

- Least expressive
- "Minimal useful subset of language features, that are relatively straightforward for tool developers to support"
- No use of:
  - owl:oneOf
  - owl:unionOf
  - owl:complementOf
  - owl:hasValue
  - owl:disjointWith
  - owl:DataRange
  - + some other limitations

# **Ontology Development Process**

In theory:



# **Further reading**

- OWL Reference guide
  - http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-ref/
  - Easy to understand, many examples
  - Good chapters
    - All language elements (http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-ref/#appA)
    - Differences between sublanguages (*http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-ref/#Sublanguage-def*)
    - Tips (http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-ref/#app-DLinRDF)
- OWL-2 (http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-syntax/and http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-primer/)
- Ontology editors (https://www.w3.org/wiki/Ontology\_editors)
  - TopBraid Composer;
  - Fluent Editor;
  - Knoodl;
  - Semantic Turkey;
  - NeOn Toolkit;
  - Etc.



# Task 3