

# INFO216: Advanced Modelling

Theme, spring 2017:  
**Modelling and Programming  
the Web of Data**

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# Session 6: SPARQL

- Themes:
  - repetition of SPARQL queries
    - ...and a little new stuff
    - SPARQL 1.1
    - programming SPARQL queries
  - introducing SPARQL Update
    - SPARQL 1.1 Update Language (older: “SPARUL”)
    - programming SPARQL Updates



# Readings

- Sources:
  - Allemang & Hendler (2011):  
Semantic Web for the Working Ontologist,  
chapter 5 (SPARQL)
  - W3C resources:
    - <http://www.w3.org/TR/sparql11-overview/>
    - <http://www.w3.org/TR/sparql11-query/>
    - <http://www.w3.org/TR/sparql11-update/>



# SPARQL



# SPARQL

- Simple/SPARQL Protocol and RDF Query Language

- Example:

```
SELECT ?child ?sister WHERE {  
  ?child fam:hasParent ?parent .  
  ?parent fadm:hasSister ?sister .  
}
```

- **Main idea:**

- we give SPARQL a partial RDF graph: a **pattern**...
- some of the nodes are **variables**:
  - others are **IRIs**, or **literal values**
- SPARQL tries to **match** the pattern to an RDF graph
- returns each match as a **result**



# SPARQL organisation

- SPARQL 1.1 comprises:
  - *Query Language* – the core of SPARQL
  - result formats: XML, JSON, CSV, TSV
  - *federated queries*
  - *SPARQL Update Language* (“SPARUL”) – since 1.1
  - service descriptions and protocols
  - test cases



# SPARQL execution

- Defined in two parts:
  - SPARQL protocol: RDF over HTTP
  - SPARQL results: XML or JSON (or CSV, TSV...)
- SPARQL engine:
  - working on a native RDF data set
  - working on a wrapped (virtualised) non-RDF data set
    - e.g., a relational database wrapped by D2R
- **RDF and SPARQL offer a *common abstraction level* for data interoperability**



# Three-level architecture

- Raw data sets (level 1):
  - available in a standard format
    - perhaps virtually
  - SPARQL end points, RDF files
- Abstract data representation (RDF, level 2):
  - graph of nodes and arrows
- Queries (level 3):
  - standard query languages
  - based on the abstract data representation
- *Enabled by the semantic technologies*





# SPARQL queries and updates

- Four types of dataset *queries*:
  - SELECT: returns table
  - ASK: returns yes/no
  - CONSTRUCT: returns a graph
  - DESCRIBE: returns a graph
- To groups of manipulations:
  - graph store *updates*:
    - LOAD, CLEAR, INSERT, DELETE
  - graph store *management*:
    - CREATE, DROP, COPY, MOVE, ADD
- *All are written in TURTLE-like style*
  - *...the variations are similar too*



*The next slides are intended as "schemas"  
to provide a quick overview...*

*The text book and links to W3C documents  
in the portal provide lots of examples!*



# SELECT queries: Basic forms

- Basic form:
  - **SELECT** *projection* **WHERE** { *pattern* }
  - the *projection* is a list of *variables*
  - the *pattern* is (centrally) a list of *triples*
  - returns a table with *one row per result* and *one column per project variable*
- Optional and combinable variations:
  - SELECT \* WHERE { ... }
  - SELECT **DISTINCT** ... WHERE { ... }
  - SELECT ... WHERE { ... } **LIMIT** *n*
  - SELECT ... WHERE { ... } **LIMIT** *n* **OFFSET** *m*
  - SELECT ... WHERE { ... } **ORDER BY** ...*variable*...
  - SELECT ... WHERE { ... } **ORDER BY** **DESC**(...*variable*...)



# SELECT: Grouping

- Grouping of results:
  - SELECT *...grouping or aggregate variables...* WHERE { ... }  
**GROUP BY** *...grouping variables...* [**HAVING ...**]
  - example: counting students in courses

```
SELECT COUNT(?student) WHERE {  
  ?student ex:takes ?course .  
}
```



# SELECT: Grouping

- Grouping of results:
  - SELECT *...grouping or aggregate variables...* WHERE { ... }  
**GROUP BY** *...grouping variables...* [**HAVING ...**]
  - example: counting students in courses

```
SELECT (COUNT(?student) AS ?count) WHERE {  
  ?student ex:takes ?course .  
}
```



# SELECT: Grouping

- Grouping of results:
  - SELECT *...grouping or aggregate variables...* WHERE { ... }  
**GROUP BY** *...grouping variables...* **[HAVING ...]**
  - example: counting students in courses

```
SELECT ?course (COUNT(?student) AS ?count) WHERE {  
    ?student ex:takes ?course .  
}  
GROUP BY ?course
```



# SELECT: Grouping

- Grouping of results:
  - SELECT *...grouping or aggregate variables...* WHERE { ... }  
**GROUP BY** *...grouping variables...* [**HAVING ...**]
  - example: counting students in courses

```
SELECT ?course (COUNT(?student) AS ?count) WHERE {  
    ?student ex:takes ?course .  
}  
GROUP BY ?course  
HAVING (?count >= 10)
```



# SELECT: Grouping

- Grouping of results:
  - SELECT *...grouping or aggregate variables...* WHERE { ... }  
**GROUP BY** *...grouping variables...* **[HAVING ...]**
  - example: counting students in courses

```
SELECT ?course (COUNT(?student) AS ?count) WHERE {  
    ?student ex:takes ?course .  
}  
GROUP BY ?course  
HAVING (?count >= 10)  
ORDER BY DESC(?count)
```





# SELECT: Grouping

- Grouping of results:
  - SELECT *...grouping or aggregate variables...* WHERE { ... }  
**GROUP BY** *...grouping variables...* [ **HAVING (...)** ]
  - *grouping variables:*
    - regular variables
    - used to group the rows in the results
  - *aggregate variables:*
    - the results of aggregate functions:  
**SUM, COUNT, MIN, MAX, AVG, GROUP\_CONCAT**  
or **SAMPLE** (aggregate functions)



# SELECT: Bindings

- In the **list of projection variables**:
  - SELECT **(SUM(...) AS ...)** ... WHERE { ... }
  - SELECT **(...xsd:function...(...) AS ...)** ... WHERE { ... }
- In the graph **pattern**:
  - SELECT ... WHERE { ... **BIND(... AS ...)** ... }
- In the **GROUP BY** variable list
  - SELECT ... WHERE { ... }  
GROUP BY ... **(... AS ...)** ...
- In-line values:
  - SELECT ... WHERE {  
...  
**VALUES var { value1, value2, ... }**  
...  
}



# SELECT: Composite patterns

- WHERE-variants with multiple *pattern groups*:
  - ... WHERE { { ... } UNION { ... } }
  - ... WHERE { ... OPTIONAL { ... } }
  - ... WHERE { ... MINUS { ... } }
  - ... WHERE { ... FILTER ( ... ) }
  - ... WHERE { ... FILTER [NOT] EXISTS { ... } }
- *Filters* are *logical expressions*:
  - standard logic operators: `!, &&, ||`
  - (in-)equality operators: `=, !=, <, <=, >, >=`
  - arithmetic: `+, -, /, *`
  - built-in, imported (*xsd:...*) and self-defined functions



# SELECT: Built-in functions

- Examples of built-ins:
  - **bound**, **if**
  - **exists**, **not exists**
  - **in**, **not in**
  - **IRI**, **bnode**
  - **isIRI**, **isBlank**, **isLiteral**, **isNumeric**
  - **str**, **lang**, **strlang** (“for language tagged literals”@en)
  - **regex**, **strlen**, **contains**, **substr...** (from XPath)
  - **replace**
  - **abs**, **rand**, **ceil**, **floor**
  - **now**, **year**, **month**, **days**, **hours**, **minutes**, **seconds**



# SELECT: Federated queries

- Local queries to non-default graphs:

```
SELECT ... WHERE { ... GRAPH <iri> { ... } . ... }
```

- Nested queries:

```
SELECT ... WHERE { ... { SELECT ... WHERE { ... } } }
```

- Remote queries:

```
SELECT ... WHERE { ... SERVICE <irl> { ... } }
```

```
SELECT ... WHERE { ... SERVICE SILENT <irl> { ... } }
```



# SELECT queries: Naming graphs

- SELECT ... WHERE { ... }
  - matching a pattern from the default graph in the dataset
- SELECT ... WHERE { ... **GRAPH** <iri> { ... } . ... }
  - matching a pattern from the *named graph* <iri> in the dataset
- SELECT ... **FROM** <iri1> WHERE { ... }
- SELECT ... **FROM** <iri1> ... <iriN> WHERE { ... }
  - the *union* of named graphs <iri1>...<iriN> becomes a *default graph* to be matched by the WHERE-pattern
- SELECT ... **FROM NAMED** <iri>  
WHERE { ... **GRAPH** <iri> { ... } . ... }
  - the *named graph* <iri> becomes a *named graph* to be explicitly matched by a part of the WHERE-pattern



# SELECT: Composite properties

- *Property paths (in SPARQL 1.1):*
- Concatenation:  $a / b$  (means “first  $a$ , then  $a$ 's  $b$ ”)
- Repetition:  $a^*$  (0:n),  $a^+$  (1:n),  $a?$  (0:1)
- Alternative:  $a | b$  (means “ $a$  or  $b$ ”)
- Inversion:  $^a$  (means “ $a$  backwards”)
- Grouping:  $( \dots )$
- Negation:  $!a$  (means “any other predicate than  $a$ ”)



# SELECT: Composite properties

- *Property paths (in SPARQL 1.1):*
- Concatenation: ***a / b*** (means “first ***a***, then ***a***'s ***b***”)
  - example:  
    ?***nephew*** :***hasParent*** ?***parent*** .  
    ?***parent*** :***hasBrother*** ?***uncle*** .
  - can be written as:  
    ?***nephew*** :***hasParent*** / :***hasBrother*** ?***uncle*** .
- Repetition: ***a\**** (0:n), ***a+*** (1:n), ***a?*** (0:1)
- Alternative: ***a | b*** (means “***a*** or ***b***”)
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  - example:
    - ?person :hasParent\* ?ancestor .
    - ?person :hasParent+ ?ancestor .
    - ?person :hasSibling? ?sibling .
- Alternative: ***a | b*** (means “***a*** or ***b***”)
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- Repetition: ***a\**** (0:n), ***a+*** (1:n), ***a?*** (0:1)
  - these two pattern-lines always match:  
***?anyResource :anyProperty\* ?anyResource .***  
***?anyResource :anyProperty? ?anyResource .***
    - for any ***?anyResource***
    - and any ***:anyProperty***
- Alternative: ***a | b*** (means “***a*** or ***b***”)
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- Alternative: ***a | b*** (means *a* or *b*)
  - example:  
`?child :hasFather | :hasMother ?parent .`  
`?person :hasBrother | :hasSister ?sibling .`
- Inversion: ***^a*** (means *a* backwards)
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`?parent ^(:hasFather | :hasMother) ?child .`  
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- Inversion: ***^a*** (means *a* backwards)
- Grouping: ***( ... )***
  - example:  
`?uncle ^(:hasParent / :hasBrother) ?nephew .`  
`?uncle ?nephew .`
- Negation: ***!a*** (any other predicate than *a*)



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- Grouping: ***( ... )***
  - example:  
`?uncle ^(:hasParent / :hasBrother) ?nephew .`  
`?uncle (^:hasBrother / ^:hasParent) ?nephew .`
- Negation: ***!a*** (any other predicate than *a*)





# The other query types

- ASK { ... }
  - *can the pattern be matched, yes or no?*
- CONSTRUCT { ?s1 ?p1 ?o1 . ?s2 ?p2 ?o2 . ... } WHERE { ... }
  - *returns triples*, e.g., for copying a graph:  
CONSTRUCT { ?s ?p ?o }  
WHERE { GRAPH <iri> { ?s ?p ?o } . }
- DESCRIBE ?resource WHERE { ... }
  - *returns a “relevant excerpt” of the graph for ?resource*
  - not well defined: *all triples where a resource is subject?*  
*all triples where a resource is subject or object?*  
*concise bounded descriptions (CBDs)?*  
*symmetric CBDs?*
- Most variations of SELECT can also be used for  
ASK/CONSTRUCT/DESCRIBE when they give meaning!

# Programming SPARQL in Jena



# SELECT query

```
Model model = ModelFactory.createDefaultModel();
```

```
...
```

```
Query selectQuery = QueryFactory.create(""
    + "SELECT DISTINCT ?type WHERE {"
    + "  ?res <" + RDF.type + "> ?type ."
    + "}");
```

```
QueryExecution queryExecution =
```

```
    QueryExecutionFactory.create(selectQuery, model);
```

```
ResultSet table = queryExecution.execSelect();
```

```
while (table.hasNext()) {
```

```
    QuerySolution row = table.nextSolution();
```

```
    System.out.println(row.get("type")); // returns RDFNode, or
```

```
    System.out.println(row.getResource("type")); // returns Resource
```

```
}
```

```
...
```

```
model.close();
```



# SELECT query

```
Model model = ModelFactory.createDefaultModel();  
Dataset dataset = DatasetFactory.create(model);
```

...

```
Query selectQuery = QueryFactory.create("" +  
    + "SELECT DISTINCT ?label WHERE {" +  
    + "  ?res <" + RDFS.label + "> ?label ." +  
    + "}" +  
    );
```

```
QueryExecution queryExecution =  
    QueryExecutionFactory.create(selectQuery, dataset);  
ResultSet table = queryExecution.execSelect();  
while (table.hasNext()) {  
    QuerySolution row = table.nextSolution();  
    System.out.println(row.getLiteral("label")); // returns Literal  
}
```

...

```
dataset.close();
```



# ASK query

```
Model model = ModelFactory.createDefaultModel();  
Dataset dataset = DatasetFactory.create(model);
```

```
...
```

```
Query askQuery = QueryFactory.create("""  
    + "ASK WHERE {"  
    + "    ?res <" + RDFS.label + "> ?label ."  
    + "}");
```

```
QueryExecution queryExecution =  
    QueryExecutionFactory.create(askQuery, dataset);  
Boolean answer = queryExecution.execAsk();
```

```
...
```

```
dataset.close()
```



# CONSTRUCT query

```
Model model = ModelFactory.createDefaultModel();  
Dataset dataset = DatasetFactory.create(model);
```

...

```
String myOwnLabel = "http://example.org/label";  
Query constructQuery = QueryFactory.create("""  
    + "CONSTRUCT {"  
    + "    ?res <" + RDFS.label + "> ?label ."  
    + "} WHERE {"  
    + "    ?res <" + myOwnLabel + "> ?label ."  
    + "}");
```

```
QueryExecution queryExecution =  
    QueryExecutionFactory.create(constructQuery, dataset);  
Model resultModel = queryExecution.execConstruct();
```

...

```
dataset.close()
```



# DESCRIBE query

```
Model model = ModelFactory.createDefaultModel();  
Dataset dataset = DatasetFactory.create(model);
```

```
...
```

```
String myOwnLabel = "http://example.org/label";  
Query describeQuery = QueryFactory.create("" +  
    + "DESCRIBE ?res WHERE {" +  
    + "  ?res <" + myOwnLabel + "> ?label ." +  
    + "}");
```

```
QueryExecution queryExecution =  
    QueryExecutionFactory.create(describeQuery, dataset);  
Model resultModel = queryExecution.execDescribe();
```

```
...
```

```
dataset.close()
```



# SPARQL Update





# Data sets and graph stores

- RDF *data set*:
  - one *default graph*
  - zero or more *named graphs* (named with IRIs)
  - each graph is a Jena Model
  - *used in SPARQL queries*
  - graphs in the same data set can share *blank (anonymous) nodes*
- RDF *graph store*:
  - one *default graph*, zero or more *named graphs*
  - the graphs are *writable*, graphs can be *created and dropped*
    - (empty graphs can be kept or ignored)
  - *used in SPARQL Update* “a writable data set”
    - (but in Jena, data sets can be written to...)



# Management of graph stores

- CREATE GRAPH <<http://example.org/testGraph>>  
CREATE SILENT GRAPH <<http://example.org/testGraph>>
  - creates a new empty graph with the specified name in the graph store
- DROP GRAPH <<http://example.org/testGraph>>  
DROP DEFAULT  
DROP NAMED  
DROP ALL
  - removes the specified graph(s) from the graph store



# Management of graph stores

- COPY <http://example.org/testGraph> TO DEFAULT  
COPY DEFAULT TO <http://example.org/otherGraph>  
COPY <http://example.org/otherGraph> TO  
<http://example.org/yetAnotherGraph>
  - inserts all data from the source into the destination graph
  - source graph not affected
  - destination graph emptied before insertion
- MOVE <http://example.org/testGraph> TO DEFAULT
  - like COPY, but source graph is removed afterwards
- ADD <http://example.org/testGraph> TO DEFAULT
  - like COPY, but destination graph is not emptied beforehand



# Updates: LOAD and CLEAR

- Read an RDF document from an IRL:

```
LOAD <file:/home/andreas/myGraph.ttl>
```

```
LOAD <file:/home/andreas/myGraph.ttl> INTO GRAPH  
  <http://example/org/testGraph>
```

- Remove all triples from a graph in the graph store:

```
CLEAR GRAPH <http://example/org/testGraph>
```



# Updates: INSERT DATA

- Create new triples, e.g.:

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
```

```
INSERT DATA
```

```
{  
  <http://example/book3> dc:title "A new book" ;  
                           dc:creator "A.N.Other" .  
}
```

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
```

```
PREFIX ns: <http://example.org/ns#>
```

```
INSERT DATA
```

```
{  
  GRAPH <http://example/bookStore>  
  { <http://example/book1> ns:price 42 }  
}
```

- *Good for uploading small data sets...*



# Updates: DELETE DATA

- Remove given triples, e.g.:

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
DELETE DATA
{
    <http://example/book2> dc:title "David Copperfield" ;
                          dc:creator "Edmund Wells" .
}
```

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
DELETE DATA
{
    GRAPH <http://example/bookStore> {
        <http://example/book2> dc:title "David Copperfield" ;
                          dc:creator "Edmund Wells" .
    }
}
```



# Updates: DELETE/INSERT from pattern

- Remove and create triples from patterns, e.g.:

```
PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
```

```
WITH <http://example/addresses>
```

```
DELETE { ?person foaf:givenName 'Bill' }
```

```
INSERT { ?person foaf:givenName 'William' }
```

```
WHERE {
```

```
    ?person foaf:givenName 'Bill'
```

```
}
```



# Updates: DELETE from pattern

- Create triples from pattern, e.g.:

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
```

```
PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
```

```
WITH <http://example/bookStore>
```

```
DELETE {
```

```
    ?book ?p ?v
```

```
} WHERE {
```

```
    ?book dc:date ?date .
```

```
    FILTER ( ?date > "1970-01-01T00:00:00-02:00"^^xsd:dateTime )
```

```
    ?book ?p ?v
```

```
}
```





# Updates: INSERT from pattern

- Create triples from pattern, e.g.:

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
```

```
PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
```

```
INSERT {
```

```
    GRAPH <http://example/bookStore2> { ?book ?p ?v }
```

```
} WHERE {
```

```
    GRAPH <http://example/bookStore> {
```

```
        ?book dc:date ?date .
```

```
        FILTER ( ?date > "1970-01-01T00:00:00-02:00"^^xsd:dateTime )
```

```
        ?book ?p ?v
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

# Programming SPARQL Update in Jena



# UPDATE query

```
Model model = dataset.getDefaultModel();  
Dataset dataset = DatasetFactory.create(model);  
GraphStore graphStore = GraphStoreFactory.create(dataset);
```

...

```
UpdateRequest update = UpdateFactory.create("""  
    + "PREFIX ex: <http://example.org/myTDBTest#>"  
    + ""  
    + "INSERT DATA {"  
    + "    ex:Shakespeare ex:hasName 'Shakespeare' ."  
    + "}"  
    );
```

```
UpdateAction.execute(update, graphStore);
```

...

```
graphStore.close();
```

