Ontological Engineering for the Semantic Web
with special focus on
Pattern-based Ontology Transformation

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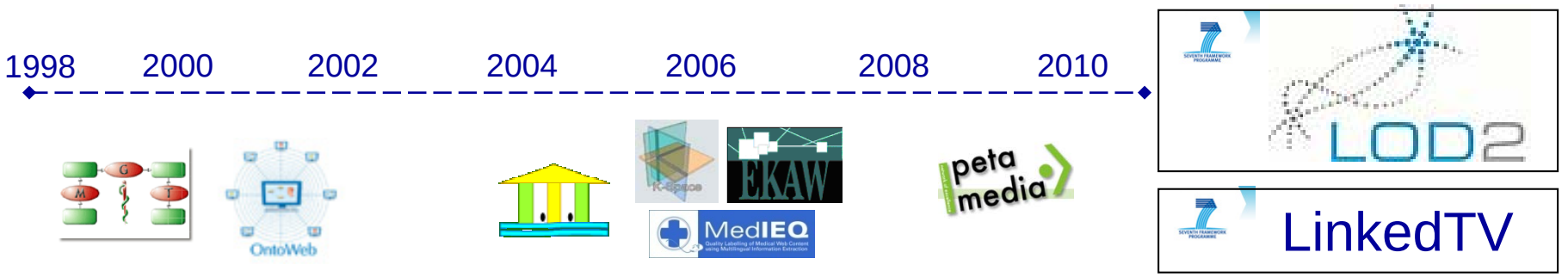
ISSLOD 2011, September 13, 2011

Speaker's background

- MSc in information science, with focus on AI and expert systems, and eventually machine learning (1991);
  PhD (1998) on prior knowledge in propositional learning
- More than 10 years' research in **ontological engineering** (and related knowledge modelling: PSMs, clinical guidelines)
- In parallel various projects on data/text/multimedia mining
- In the last 2 years (obviously) interested in Linked Data as the 'proximal' side of the semweb: pushing at national level
- Backed by UEP's Knowledge Engineering Group, http://keg.vse.cz



Credits

- Ondra Šváb-Zamazal, Mirek Vacura (UEP)
- Aldo Gangemi, Valentina Presutti, Enrico Daga (ISTC/CNR, Rome)
- Luigi Iannone (Univ. Manchester)
- Francois Scharffe (INRIA / Univ. Montpellier)

Lecture blocks

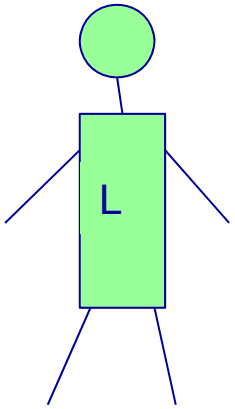
- Prelude: Semantic web as dancing party
- I. Linked Data and ontologies
  - role of ontological engineering on the semantic web
- II. Ontology patterns
  - design patterns & empirical patterns
- III. Pattern-based ontology transformation
  - principles, use cases, implemented tools

Semantic web as dancing party

- Dancers
  - L = logician
  - KE = knowledge engineer
  - WE = web engineer
  - SE DE = software engineer + data engineer
- Party hats
  - AI = Artificial Intelligence
  - Onto(logy)
  - LD = Linked Data

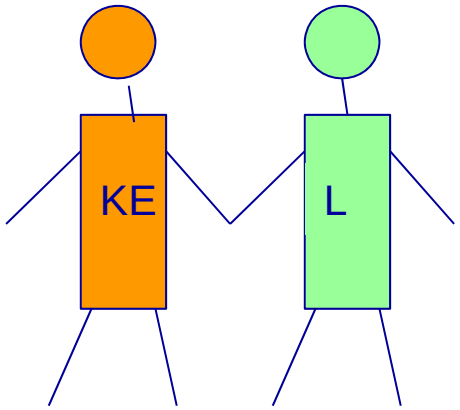
Semantic web as dancing party

- Since old times



Semantic web as dancing party

- 1970s



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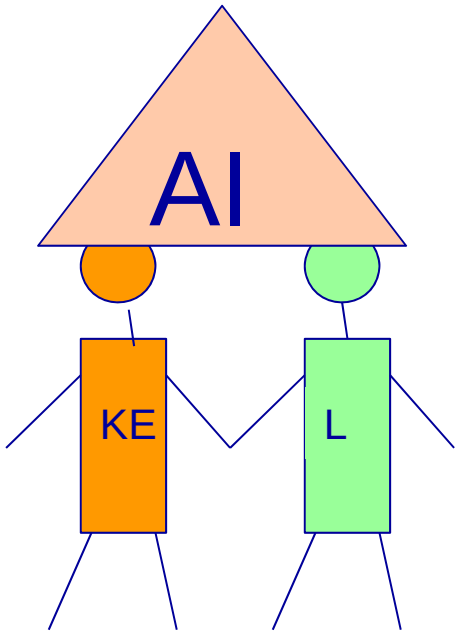
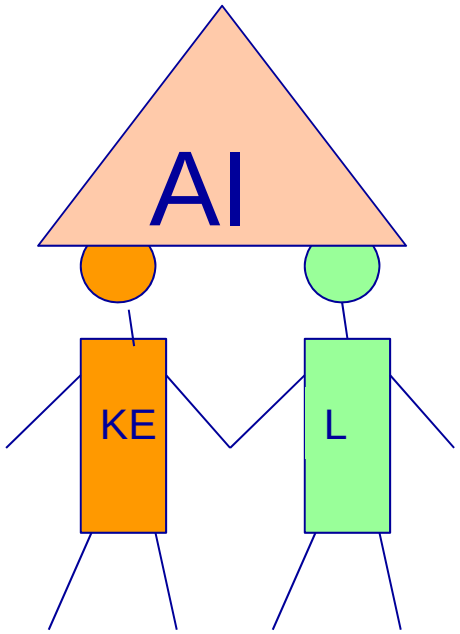


Semantic web as dancing party

- 1991



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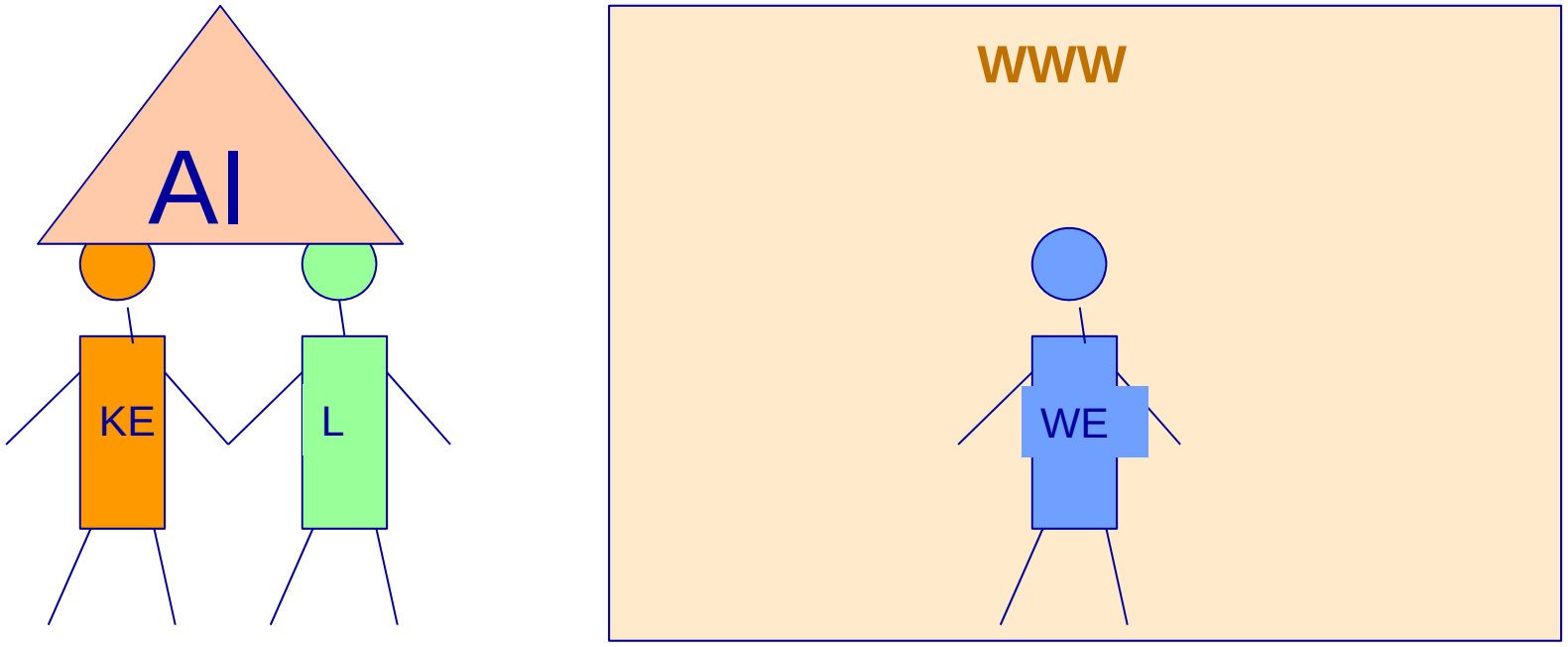

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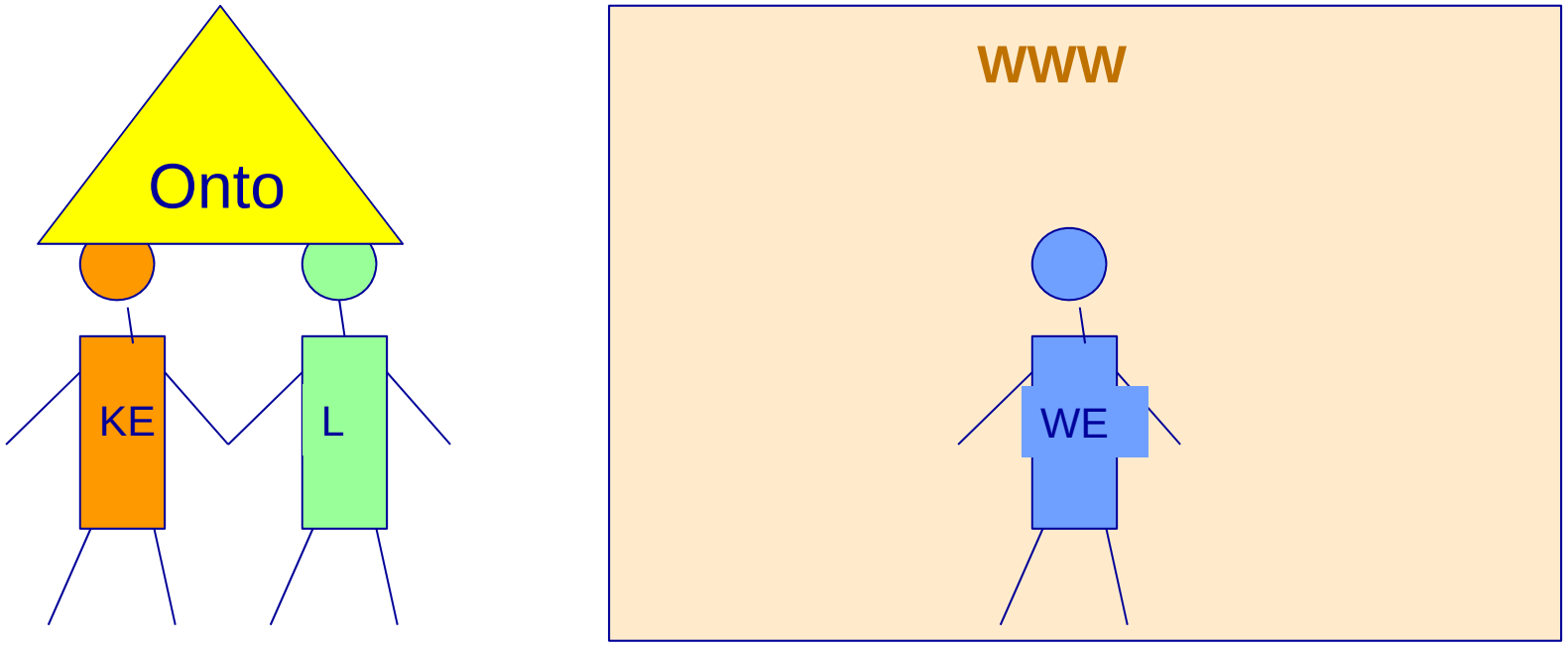

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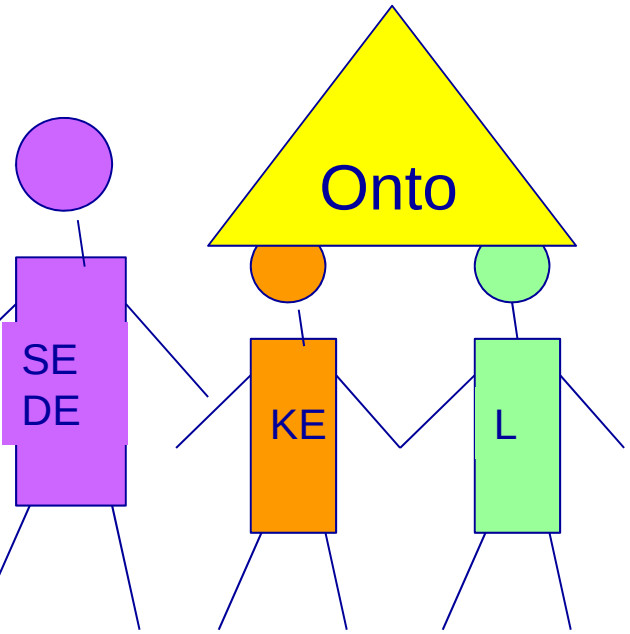

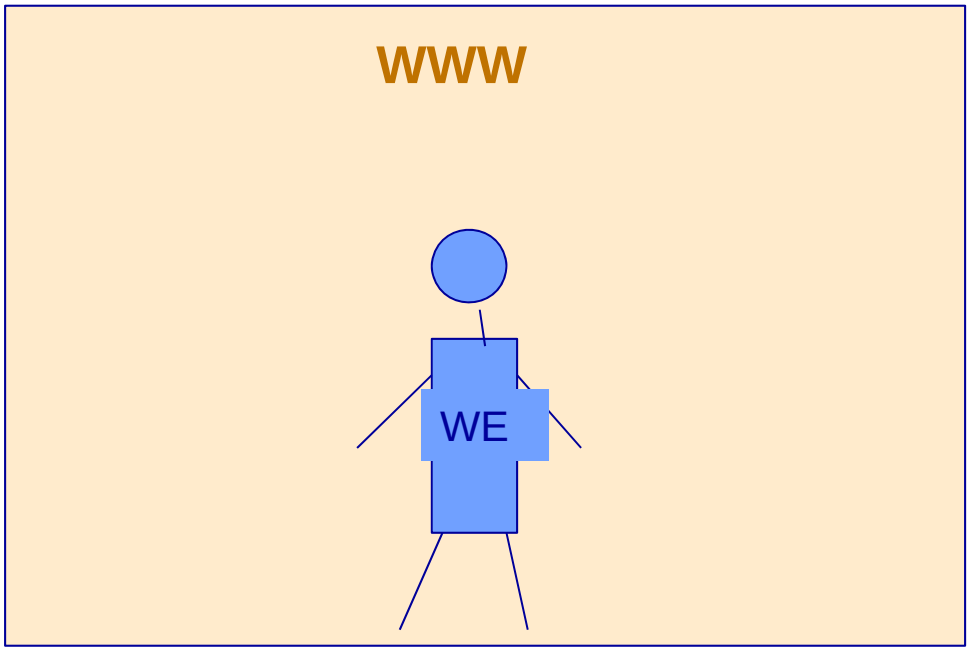

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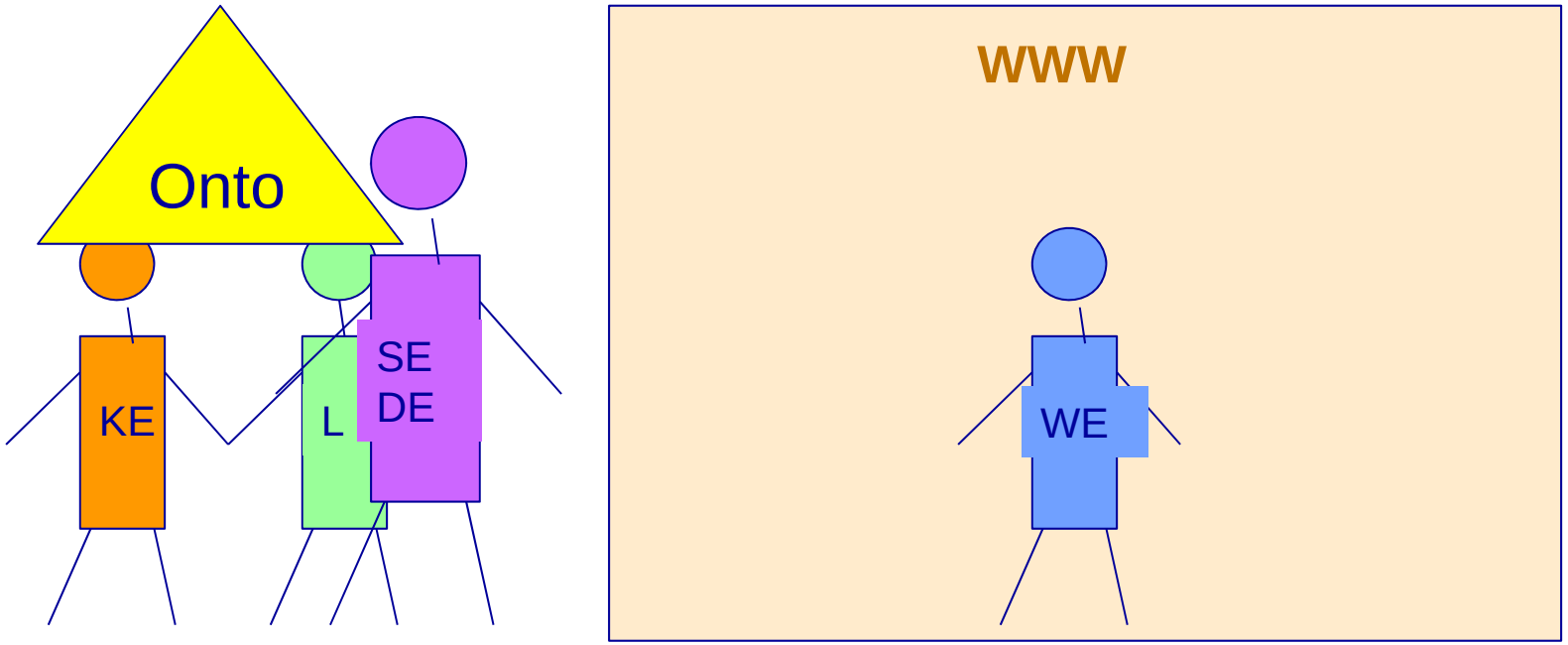

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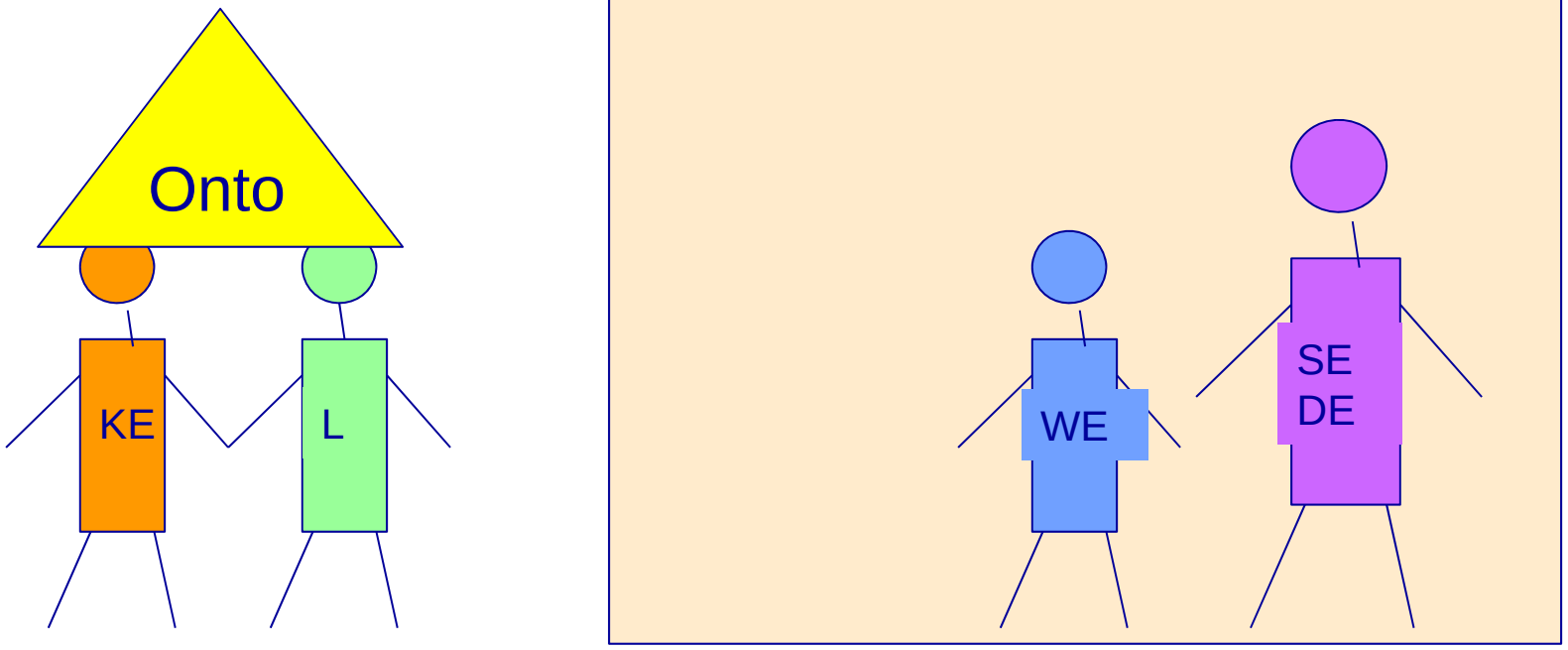

Semantic web as dancing party

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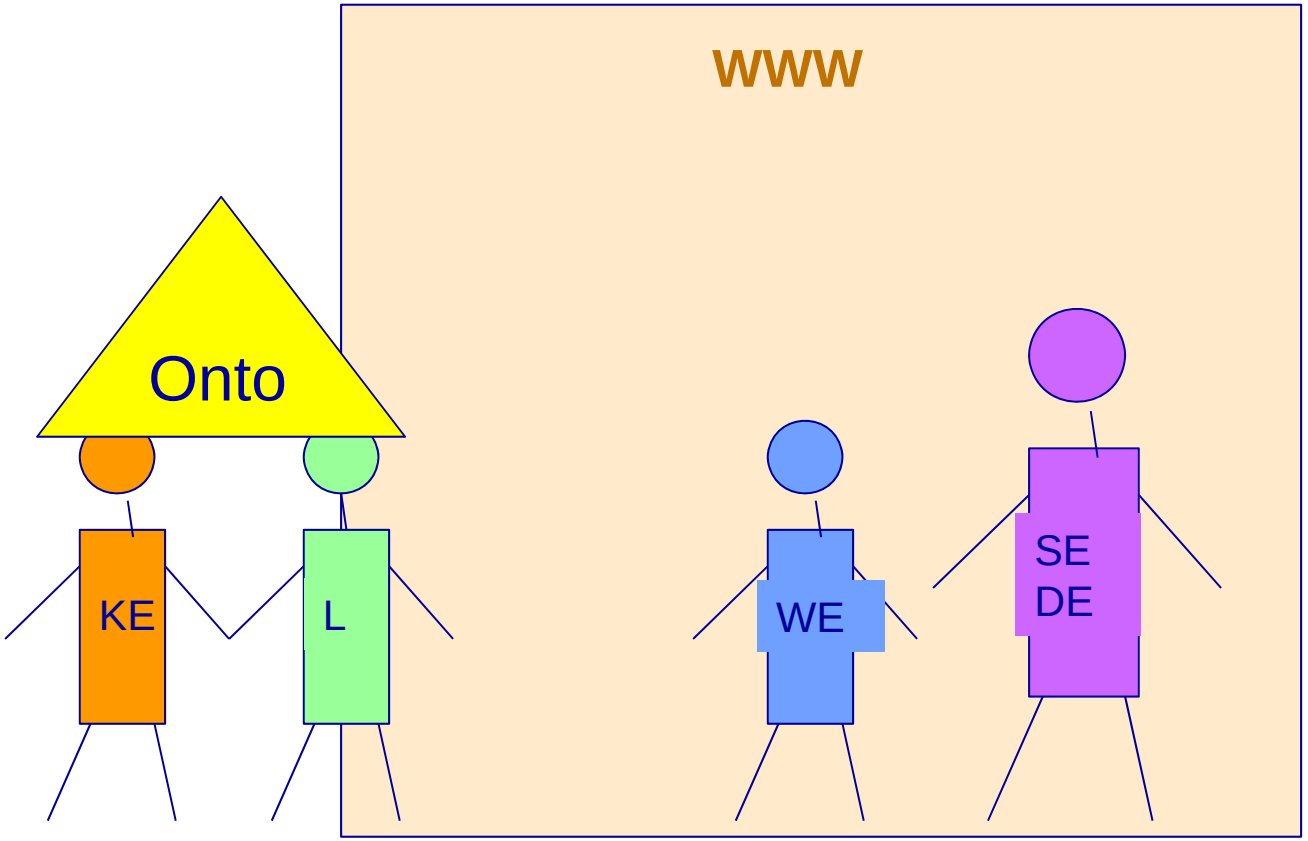

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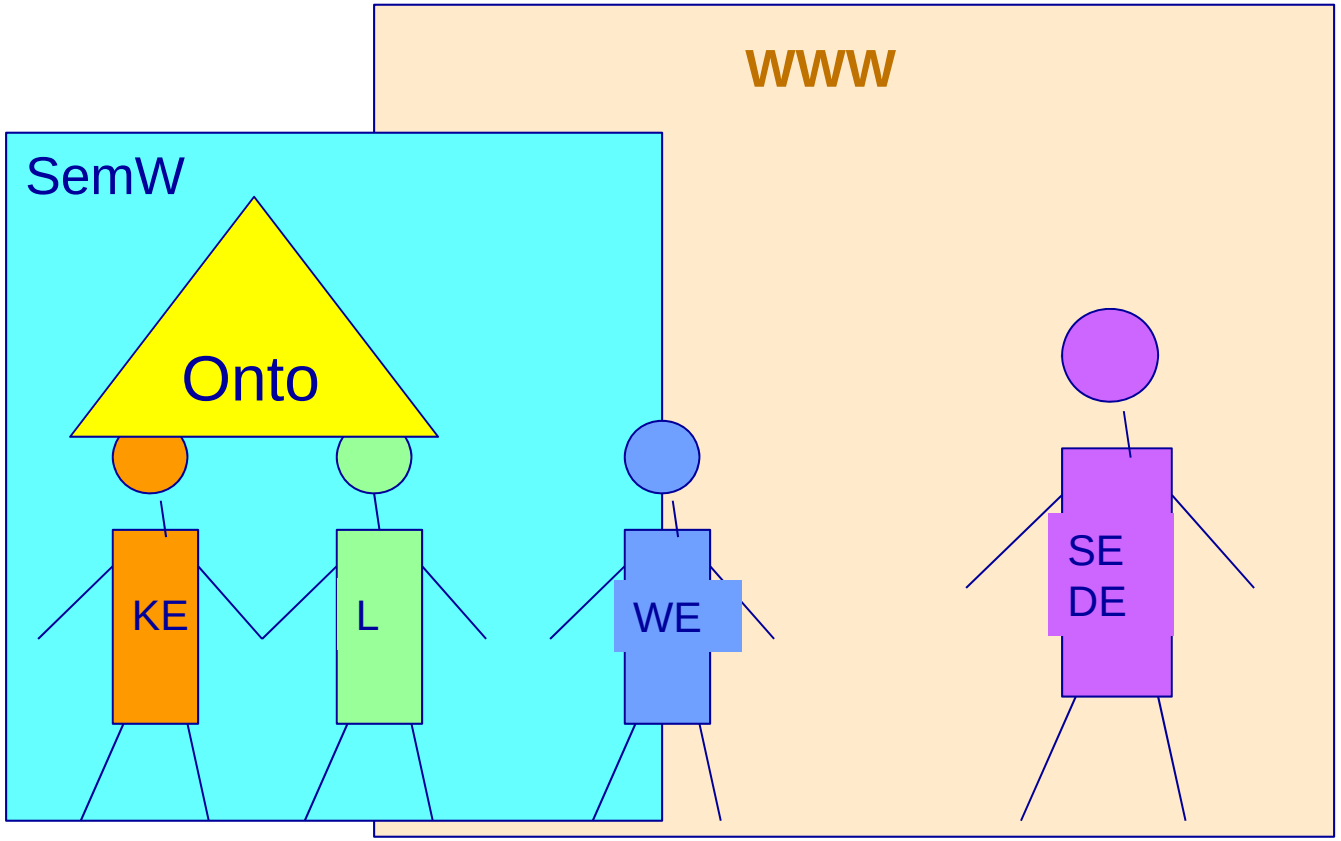

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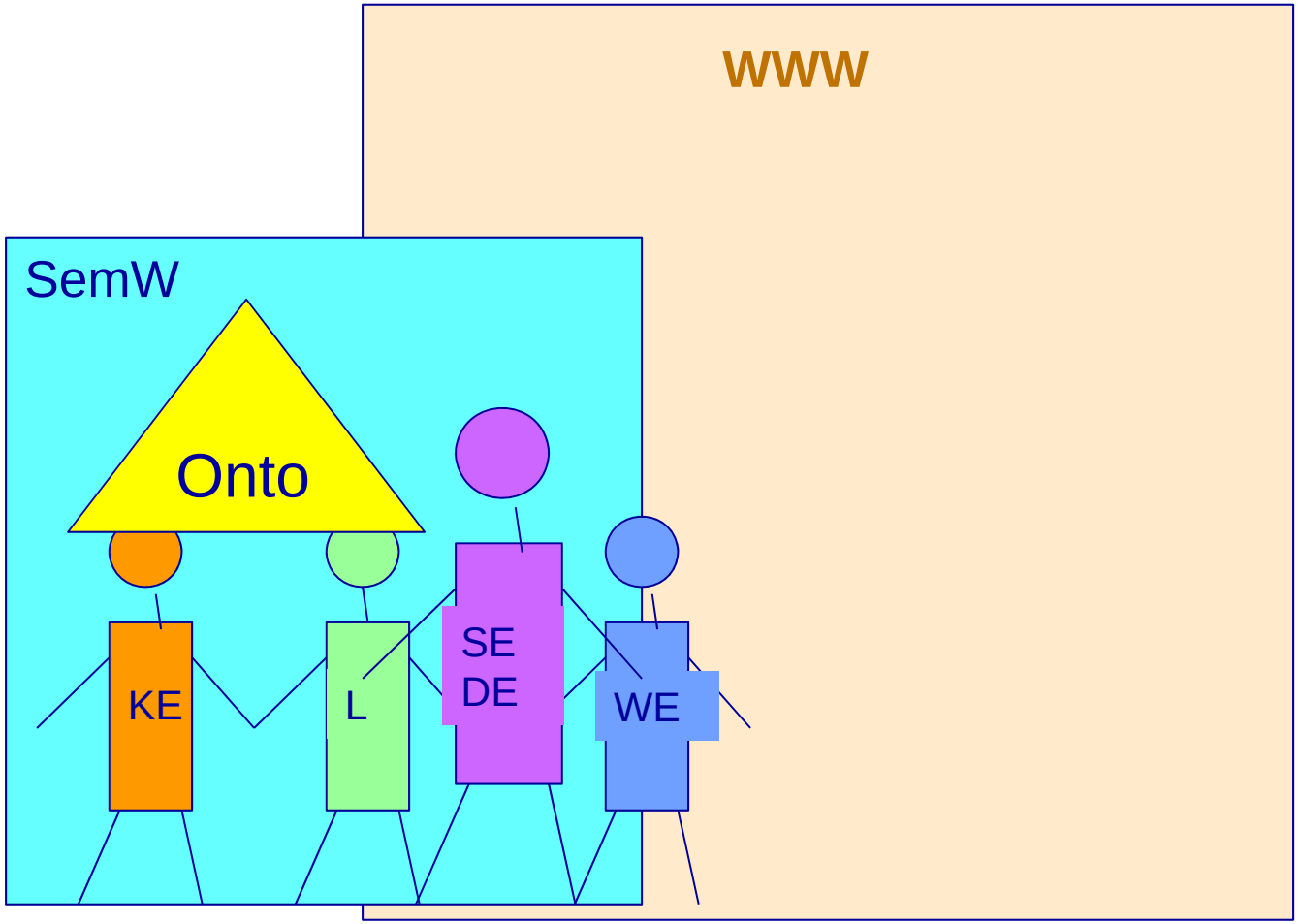
- 2005



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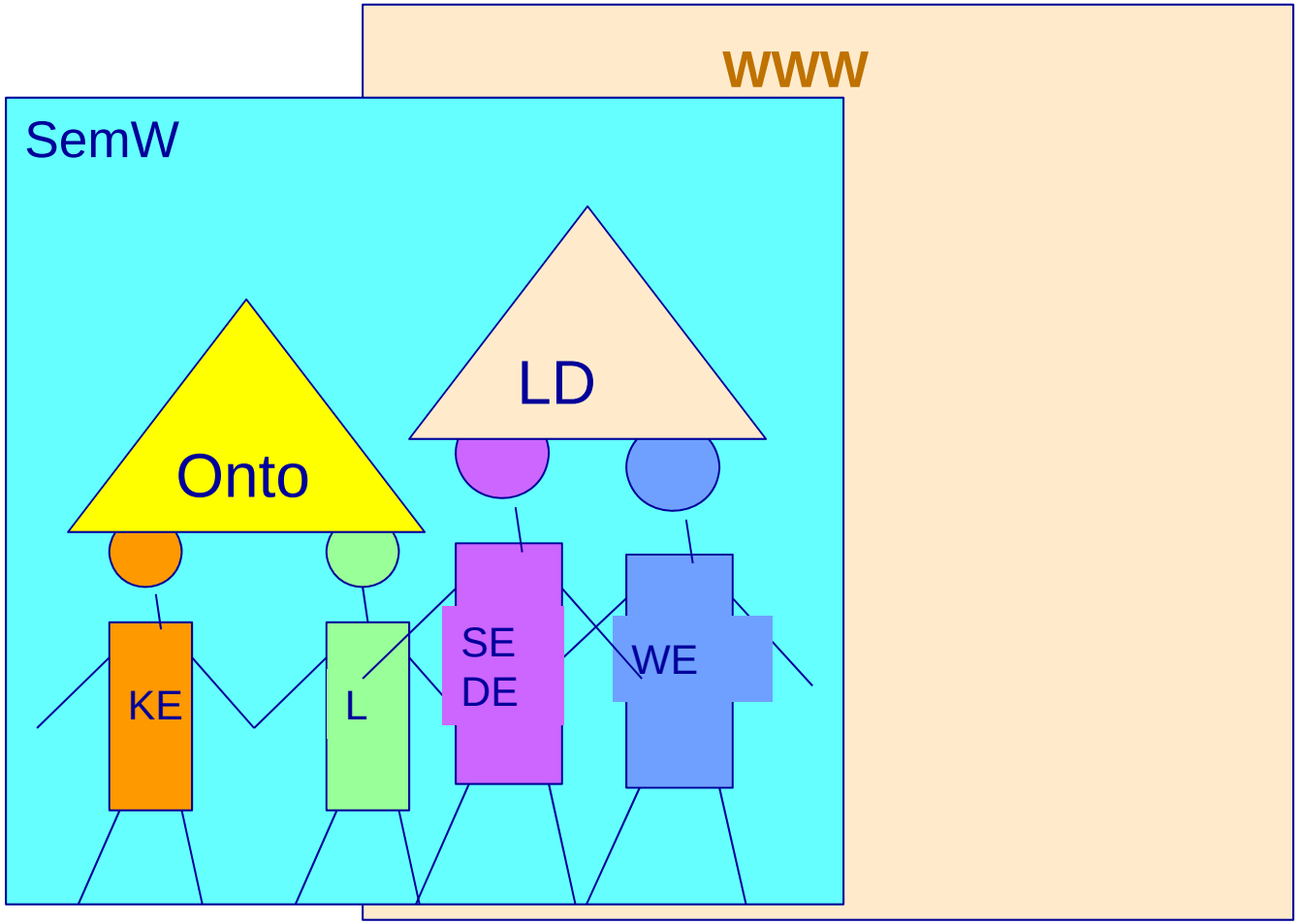
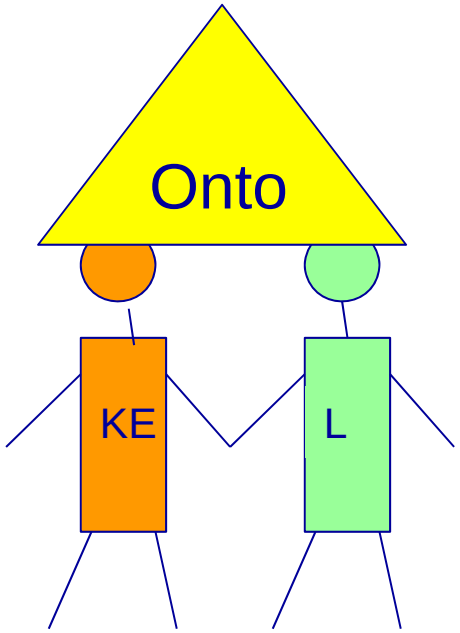
- 2007



Semantic web as dancing party

- Is ontological research still a respected dancer?
- Or is it only at the party because there is no porter to kick away those who cannot dance the styles prescribed by the dancing order?

? ? ?



Block I

LINKED DATA AND ONTOLOGIES

Linked Data and ontologies: agenda

- What is/isn't an ontology
- Typical settings for ontologies on the semweb (and nearby)
- Brief recap of the OWL language
- Why Linked Data engineers shouldn't forget about ontological engineers

What is an ontology and what isn't?

- In philosophy
  - discipline (dealing with 'being' as such)
  - system of categories of 'beings' in the world

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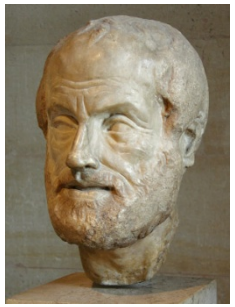

Aristotle: Definitio
per genus proximum
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A PhD student is a student
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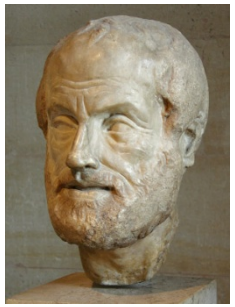

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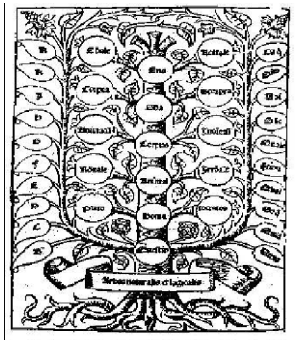
Porphyrian tree:
thinking vs. extended
animate vs. inanim.
rational vs. rrational
etc.



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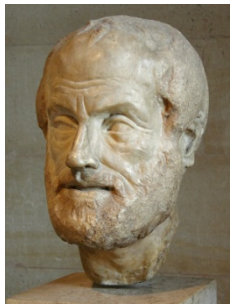

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Modular system of interlinked definitions

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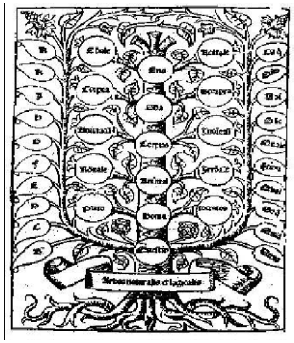

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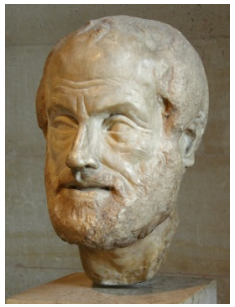

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Systematic taxonomy

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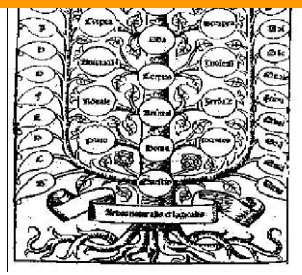

What is an ontology and what isn't?

- In computer science (and related fields)
  - information artifact
  - …(mostly) conceptualizing a certain part of reality
  - …in a shared manner
  - …explicitly (not just in the minds),
  - … in a formal way (concepts rigorously defined)
  - and/or is centered around a hierarchy of terms
- Elements of an ontology can provide semantics to other information elements – vocabulary aspect

Loosely according to Gruber (1993), Borst (1997) and others

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- Is the following an ontology?

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  - A Linked Data vocabulary consisting of a set of properties for characterizing a movie

What is an ontology and what isn't?

- Is the following an ontology?
  - MyOntology.owl, which you create in Protégé or similar tool — **No**
  - Hierarchical chart, made by a panel of medica experts, which categorizes known forms of a — **Depends on view**
  - A set of description logics formulae, set up to illustrate an interesting phenomenon in tableau reasoning — **No**
  - A Linked Data vocabulary consisting of a set properties for characterizing a movie — **Depends on view**

What you typically fall upon

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- Structured, NL-centered, hierarchical terminology
  - *Terminological ontology*
  - Primarily for improvement of text search

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- (An advanced form of) schema for data
  - *Information ontology*
  - Primarily for data integration and structured search
- Knowledge base containing compositional definitions of concepts
  - *Knowledge ontology*
  - Primarily for inferential tasks in logics

Dichotomy from Presutti et al. (ESWC'09 tutorial)

- Coverage-oriented ontologies
  - Cover the terminology in a whole domain
  - Typically used for non-inferential tasks, often in relation to unstructured resources (annotation, retrieval...)
- Task-oriented ontologies
  - Provide semantics to structured facts / KBs
  - Typically used for querying and reasoning
  - Design guided by competence questions

Ontology languages (schema / logical)

- There is a plethora of...
- OWL (and its sublanguages incl. RDFS)
  - Description Logics (DL) semantics
  - standardized by W3C
- Other

  (most seek some interoperability with OWL)
  - Common Logic (ISO Standard), CycL
  - Frame-based (F-Logic etc.)
  - *GOL*
  - *Topic Maps (ISO Standard)*

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OntoLeipzig

(Pre-)history of OWL

- Early KR systems based on DL, such as KL-ONE (1985), distinguished from frame systems
- SHOE (1998) – first 'web ontology' language, HTML-based
- DAML-ONT, OIL (2000)
  - more frame aspects (back) to DL; use of RDF
- DAML+OIL (2002) – combination of both
  - E.g. RDF-based instances (x OIL)
  - E.g. local restrictions on properties (x DAML-ONT)
- OWL became W3C Recommendation in 2004
- Current version, OWL 2, became W3C Recommendation in 2009
  - http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-overview/

Basic representational features of OWL

- As for any DL language, an OWL knowledge base ('ontology', theory) consists of logical formulae, called axioms
- Axioms express statements regarding entities
  - Individuals (instances, objects, …)
  - Classes (concepts, types, …)
  - Properties (roles, predicates, binary relations, …)

Annotations

- Besides the ‘logical’ aspect, OWL also allows to express `extra-logical’ meta-information via annotations
  - about the ontology as whole
    - ✓e.g. version
  - about entities declared in the ontology
    - ✓e.g. human-readable name of a class
  - about whole formulae (axioms)
    - ✓e.g. creation date

T-box, R-box and A-box

- A knowledge base may have three parts
  - T-box (terminological box)
  - R-box (role box)
  - A-box (assertional box)

T-box, R-box and A-box

- A knowledge base may have three parts
  - T-box (terminological box) ‘definitions’
  - R-box (role box)
  - A-box (assertional box) ‘facts’

T-box, R-box and A-box axioms

- A T-box axiom relates two class expressions
  - via equivalence (owl:equivalentClass) or subsumption (rdfs:subClassOf)
- An R-box axiom relates two property expressions
  - via equivalence (owl:equivalent...Properties) or subsumption (rdfs:subObjectPropertyOf)

- An A-box axiom
  - either assigns a class expression to an individual (rdf:type)
  - or relates two individuals by a property expression

Class and property expressions

- A class expression refers to a set of individuals
- It can be either
  - a named class as (atomic) entity
  - a complex class expression, e.g.
    - ✓ 'C1 and C2' (conjunction)
      'Book and ThingWrittenByBeneluxAuthor'
    - ✓ 'P some C' (existential restriction)
      'writtenBy some BeneluxWriter'
    - ✓ '{i1, i2, i3}' (enumeration)
      {Belgium,Netherlands,Luxembourg}
- Expressions can be further composed
  - *Book and (writtenBy some (Person and livesIn {Belgium,Netherlands,Luxembourg}))*

Class and property expressions

- A property expression refers to a set of ordered pairs of individuals
- It can be either a
  - named property as (atomic) entity
  - complex property expression
    - ✓e.g. ‘inverse of X’
- Property expressions can also be composed

A-box axioms

- Class expression instantiations

  MaigretAfraid a Book

  MaigretAfraid a (Book and (writtenBy some (Person and livesIn {Belgium,Netherlands,Luxembourg}))

- Property instantiations ('normal facts')

  MaigretAfraid writtenBy Simenon

(Official) Sublanguages of OWL

- OWL 2 EL
  - existential but not universal quantification
  - conjunction but not disjunction
  - suitable for consistency checking, subsumption and instance checking, even in large T-boxes
- OWL 2 QL
  - no quantification nor disjunction
  - suitable for querying large A-boxes
- OWL 2 RL
  - does not allow inference of anonymous individuals
  - suitable for inference by rule systems

Most important OWL syntaxes

- Functional syntax
  - Directly follows from structural specification of the language
- RDF/XML
  - Mandatory for any tool
  - Assures compliance to RDF processing
- Turtle
- OWL/XML
  - Assures compliance to XML processing
- Manchester syntax
  - Easy to read and write class expressions

Examples (from OWL 2 Primer)

- Class instantiation
  - Mary is a parent
- Object property assertion
  - Mary is John's wife
- Equivalence axiom with existential restriction over a property
  - Some 'thing' is a parent if and only if 'it' has at least one child that is a person

Mary is a parent

- **Functional-Style Syntax**

  ClassAssertion(:Parent :Mary)
- **RDF/XML Syntax**

  < Parent rdf:about="Mary"/>
- **Turtle Syntax**

  :Mary rdf:type : Parent .
- **Manchester Syntax**

  Individual: Mary Types: Parent
- **OWL/XML Syntax**

  <ClassAssertion>
  <Class IRI=" Parent "/> <NamedIndividual IRI="Mary"/>
  </ClassAssertion>

Mary is John's wife

- **Functional-Style Syntax**

```
ObjectPropertyAssertion( :hasWife :John :Mary )
```

- **RDF/XML Syntax**

```
<rdf:Description rdf:about="John"> <hasWife
   rdf:resource="Mary"/> </rdf:Description>
```

- **Turtle Syntax**

```
 :John :hasWife :Mary .
```

- **Manchester Syntax**

```
Individual: John Facts: hasWife Mary
```

- **OWL/XML Syntax**

```
<ObjectPropertyAssertion> <ObjectProperty IRI="hasWife"/>
   <NamedIndividual IRI="John"/>
   <NamedIndividual IRI="Mary"/>
   </ObjectPropertyAssertion>
```

Some ‘thing’ is a parent if and only if ‘it’ has at least one child that is a person

- **Functional-Style Syntax**

```
EquivalentClasses(  :Parent
   ObjectSomeValuesFrom( :hasChild :Person ) )
```

- **RDF/XML Syntax**

```
<owl:Class rdf:about="Parent">
   <owl:equivalentClass>
   <owl:Restriction>
   <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="hasChild"/>
   <owl:someValuesFrom rdf:resource="Person"/>
   </owl:Restriction>
   </owl:equivalentClass>
   </owl:Class>
```

Some ‘thing’ is a parent if and only if ‘it’ has at least one child that is a person

- **Turtle Syntax**

```
:Parent owl:equivalentClass
   [ rdf:type owl:Restriction ; owl:onProperty  :hasChild ;
   owl:someValuesFrom  :Person ] .
```

- **Manchester Syntax**

```
Class: Parent EquivalentTo: hasChild some Person
```

- **OWL/XML Syntax**

```
<EquivalentClasses>
   <Class IRI="Parent"/>
   <ObjectSomeValuesFrom>
   <ObjectProperty IRI="hasChild"/> <Class IRI="Person"/>
   </ObjectSomeValuesFrom>
   </EquivalentClasses>
```

OWL spread of use

- First-choice for ontologies designed under the influence of academia
- By http://pingthesemanticweb.com to date:
  - 549K documents use the OWL namespace
    - ✓cf. FOAF: 1.3M
  - Presumably often due to owl:sameAs?

Linked Data view

- Semantics is defined by RDFS vocabularies
  - Mostly consensual to some degree
    - ✓Research project consortia, VoCamps, …
  - Structure influenced by ‘what is in data’
  - Usually small, flat, and adopted piecewise

- ‘Ontology-like’ classifications are sometimes modeled at the level of instances
  - E.g. through SKOS vocabulary
  - Usually not referred to as ontologies… but often could be viewed as *terminological* ontologies

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~ Task-oriented ontologies?

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~ Coverage-oriented ontologies?

Linked Data view

- Ontologies are complex vocabularies
  - Hierarchical, axiomatized, … beyond RDFS
  - Hardly pay off unless inference desired
- (Rare) example: GoodRelations

  - http://www.heppnetz.de/projects/goodrelations/
  - Used by over 10K businesses to describe their company and product data
  - Pragmatically evolves towards a simple vocabulary
  - Yet toughly competes with even simpler approaches such as http://schema.org/
    - ✓Joint initiative by MS, Yahoo!, Google
    - ✓Microdata syntax, ignores RDF etc.

Where are the ‘true’ ontologies?

- Decent ‘knowledge ontologies’ now in medicine
  - Concepts in human anatomy, physiology etc. evolve slowly → there is accumulated experience
  - Very high degree of reuse → investments to careful modeling pay off
  - Very high numbers of mutually related concepts even in a single domain → manual maintenance of taxonomies is hard → room for logical inference
  - DL applications (T-box) have been tested in this domain from the beginning
    - ✓GALEN project (1990s)
  - SNOMED-OWL (400K concepts in 2007)

Examples (SNOMED)

- Concept defined based on other concepts
  - `Appendicectomy equivalentTo Surgical_Procedure and (method some Excision) and (procedure-site some Appendix_structure)`
- Unnamed concept
  - `Excision and (procedure-site some (kidney and (laterality some left)))`

Inferencing in the current Web of Data?

- Classical deductive inference often inadequate
- Some non-standard inference methods under investigation: LARKC project http://www.larkc.eu
  - Tackles some real problems of web data (vagueness, incompleteness…)
  - However, adds further complexity to current reasoners (which are already tough for non-experts)

Inferencing in the current Web of Data?

- If simple A-box inference needed, it can be implemented as ‘inference on demand’
  - SPARQL CONSTRUCT
- Integrity constraints checking
  - ‘repair’ in ORE system (Lehmann et al.)
  - SPIN language proposal by TopQuadrant?
- Inductive inferencing
  - ‘analytical’ rather than ‘transactional’ level of LD
  - ‘enrichment’ in ORE
- In any case, inferencing should be applied selectively, with care, in order not to destroy the scalability and transparency of LD infrastructure

Now comes a quizz, to relax

- A ‘real world problem’ is presented
- Task 1: Suggest a solution for the problem

  (… there might be more solutions – for the next step let’s consider the solution endorsed by me)
- Task 2: Try to decode the problem and its solution as a metaphor in the semweb/LD context

Problem I: Heal the famine using silos

- Problem description:
  - You are a leader of a tribe
  - You got a permission from the king to get grain for your people

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- Problem description:
  - You are a leader of a tribe
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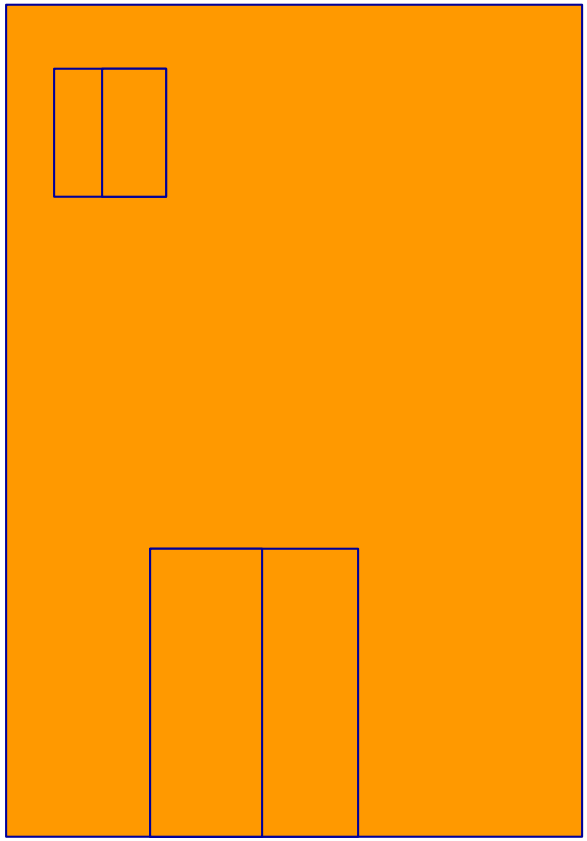
  - The granary master is willing to give you grain, but the entrance to the granary is rusted



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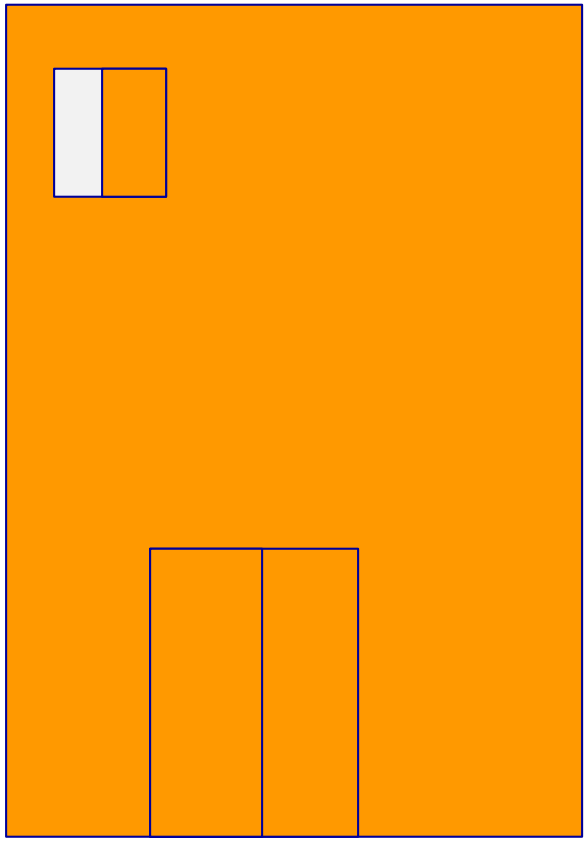

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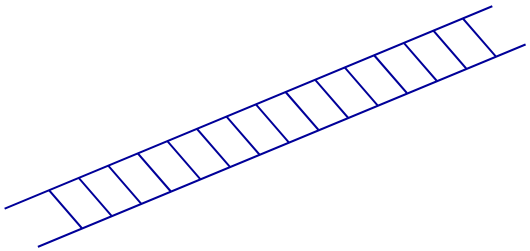
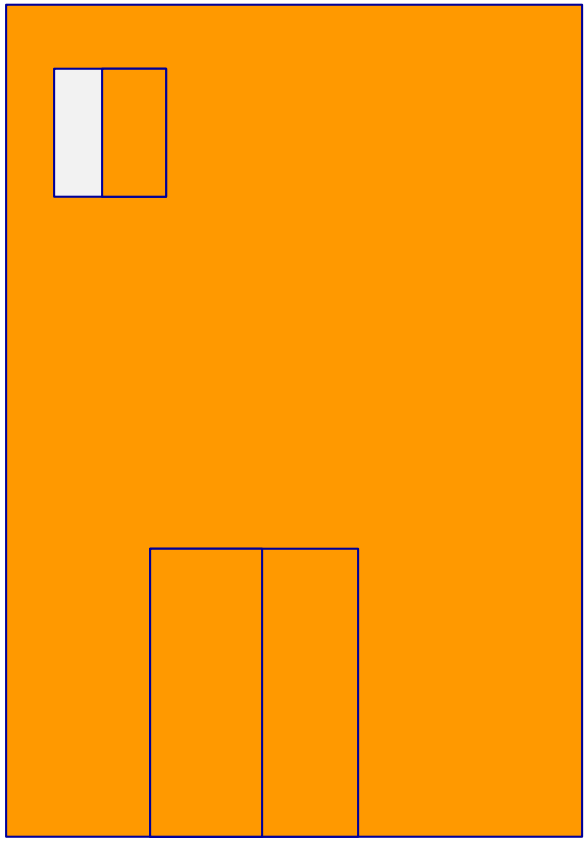
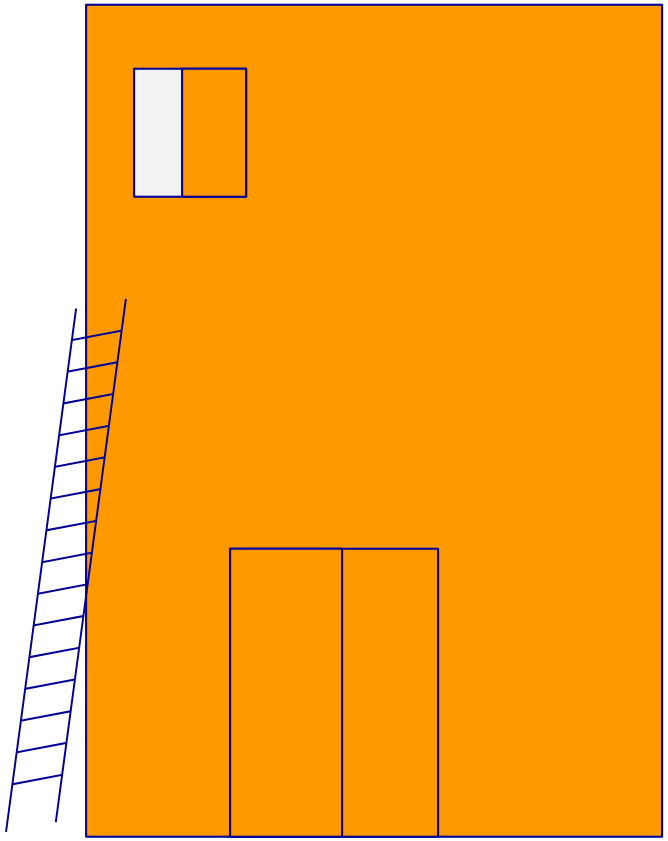




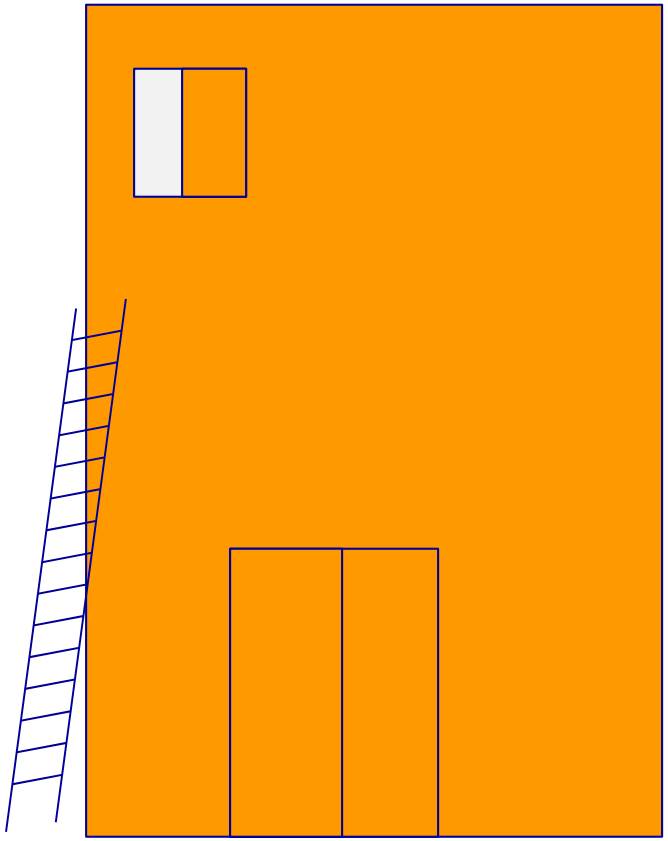
Problem I: Heal the famine using silos

- Problem description:
  - You are a leader of a tribe
  - You got a permission from the king to get grain for your people
  - The granary master is willing to give you grain, but the entrance to the granary is rusted
  - *When enough grain is taken away, the entrance could be open from inside*



Problem I: Heal the famine using silos

- Metaphor for:
  - ‘Raw data first’ principle
  - Initially large effort from consumer/mediator needed
  - Real use of data encourages further data opening / publisher-side enhancement



Problem II: Elephant in zoo

- You are a zoo director
- You managed to build the elephant pavilion, and introduced the first elephant

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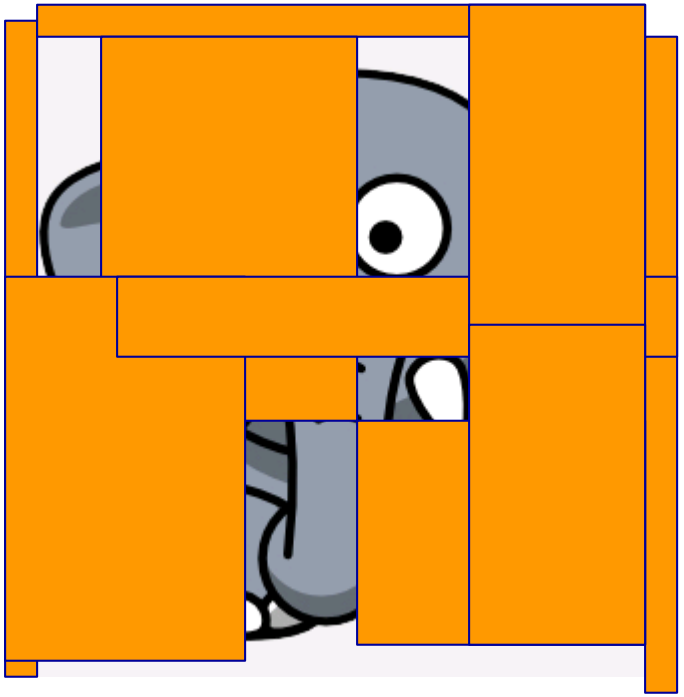
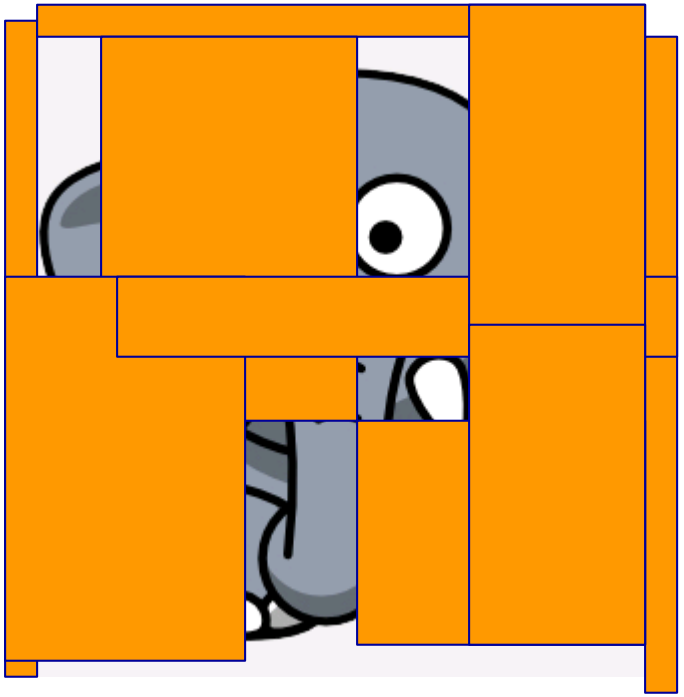
- You are a zoo director
- You managed to build the elephant pavilion, and introduced the first elephant
- Children are afraid of approaching, as there was a ‘Furious elephant’ movie on the TV
- *When the initial worry dissolves, they will want to see it whole*



Problem II: Elephant in zoo

- Metaphor for:
  - Web application developers ignore LD resources, as they perceive RDF/SPARQL as too complex and hard to learn
  - REST APIs on top of LD provide 'RDF-free' access to fragments of resources' content
  - This encourages to later explore advanced access options



Problem III: Cupboards and drill bits

- You need to hang bookshelves of various size on the wall
- You picked up a drill bit that would make holes for heavy-duty screws, capable of carrying any shelf you think of

Problem III: Cupboards and drill bits

- You need to hang bookshelves of various size on the wall
- You picked up a thick drill bit that would make holes for heavy-duty screws, capable of carrying any shelf you think of
- However, the drill only made shallow dents into the plaster
- Nothing but empty shelves can be hung

Problem III: Cupboards and drill bits

- You need to hang bookshelves of various size on the wall
- You picked up a thick drill bit that would make holes for heavy-duty screws, capable of carrying any shelf you think of
- However, the drill only made shallow dents into the plaster
- Nothing but empty shelves can be hung
- *Use a narrow bit first, to get deeper*
  - *You hang at least small shelves*
  - *Heavy-duty bit (if ready in toolbox!) can thrust easier into an existing, narrow hole*

Problem III: Cupboards and drill bits

- Metaphor for:
  - Starting the semantic web with complex schemata didn't work much
  - Simple LD schemata allow to develop useful though lightweight applications
  - More sophisticated ontologies should only be widely applied after the simple schemata sufficiently proved to work
  - Such ontologies should be developed and maintained already now (by an effort from academia); they cannot be instantly built when eventually needed!

OE: thick drill bit handy in the tool box

- Schemas are adopted based on their popularity and simplicity
- Cost: often conceptually simplified (if not wrong)
- This may lead to problems when already established communities open and interact
  - see the FOAF study in Block III
- Ontological engineering may help
  - Not (necessarily) by rebuilding the schemas proper
  - Rather as an additional, optional layer
- 'Reactive' rather than 'proactive' attitude of ontological engineering needed now to advance the semantic web

What do the quizz and lecture have in common?

- Object-level relationship: Problem III was mapped on the role of ontological engineering on the semantic web
- Meta-level relationship: The use of metaphors as such is analogous to the LD practice
  - Terms such as ‘bull’ and ‘bear’ for stock-exchange market trends are efficient and mnemotechnic
    - ✓vs. “market with increasing investor confidence” etc.
  - However, when an outsider steps in, some explanation is necessary
  - Just as solid ontological modeling on top of popular schemata may show useful when moving beyond original communities of ‘tacit consensus’

Block II

ONTOLOGY PATTERNS

Ontology patterns: agenda

- Ontological engineering context
- Overview of pattern types
- Ontology content patterns and the XD approach
- Logical/structural patterns in OWL
- Naming patterns

Inventory of an ontological engineer

- *Set of requirements on the specific ontology*
- Elementary logical constructs (e.g. OWL)
- Existing ontologies / vocabularies (e.g. FOAF)
- Non-formalized schemata
- Conventions and practices
- Software tools (editors, reasoners…)

Adapted from Presutti and al., ESWC'09 tutorial

Ontology design patterns

- Reusable successful solutions to a recurrent modeling problem
- Cf. patterns in software engineering (SE) – typically consist of
  - Problem description
  - Suggested solution
  - Implementation guidelines
  - Discussion on consequences of using the pattern

Design vs. empirical patterns

- Design patterns
  - used intentionally
- Empirical patterns
  - discovered in artifacts
  - may result from design patterns
  - may produce design patterns (even if appeared spontaneously)
- Due to low maturity of ontological engineering, design patterns mostly considered so far
- With growing amount of ontologies available, empirical patterns gain on importance
  - Šváb-Zamazal (2008), Mikroyannidi (2011)

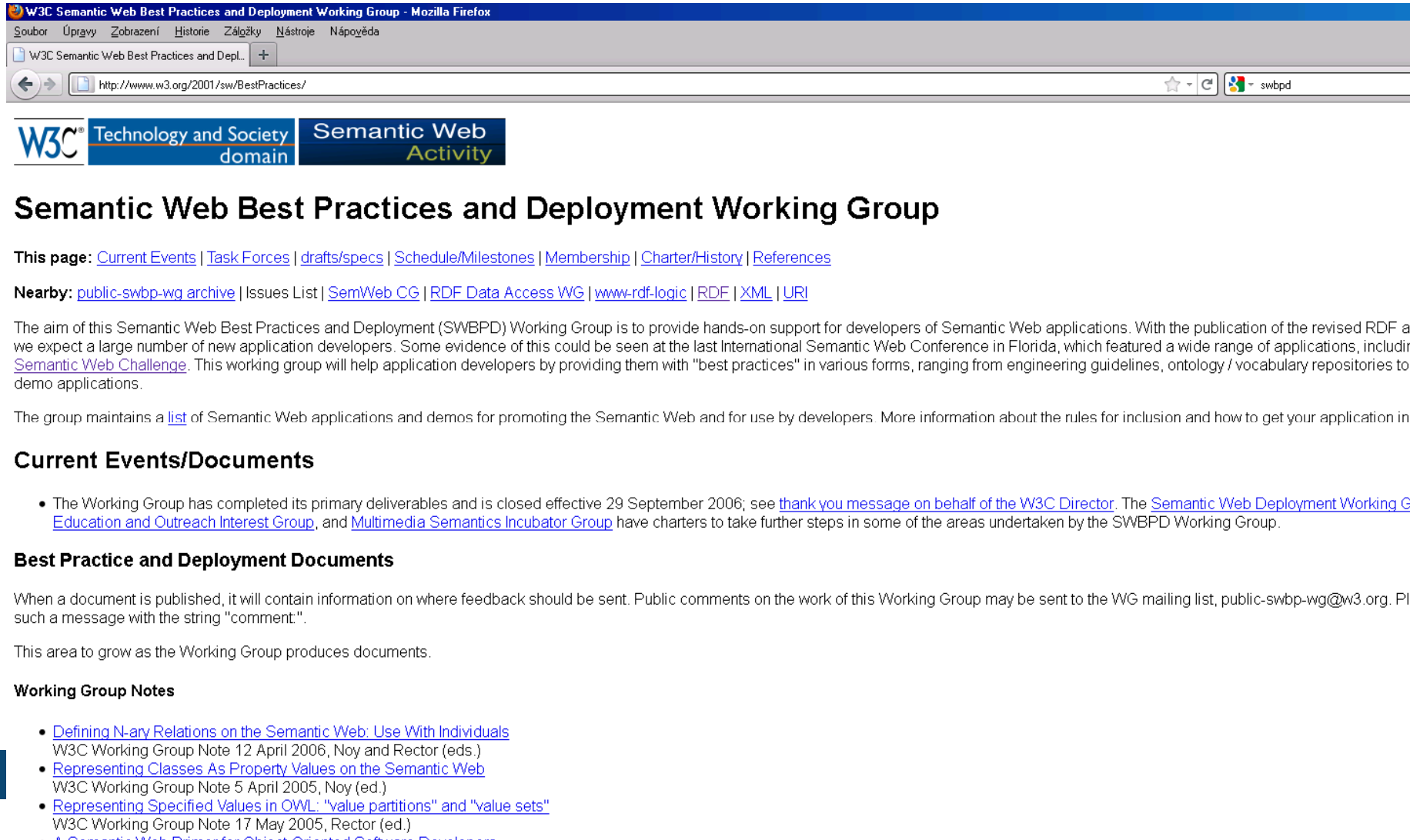
Pre-cursor: Clark's knowledge patterns (1997)

- An ontology is not just a list of axioms, but a collection of abstract, modular theories and associated modeling decisions
- Examples:
  - a 'distribution network' pattern can be used to model electric circuits or
  - a 'container' pattern can be used to model bank accounts or computers
- Mapping of the elements (signature) of the pattern to elements of a concrete setting is specified
- Similarly to SE patterns helps avoid repeated writing of same-structured axioms

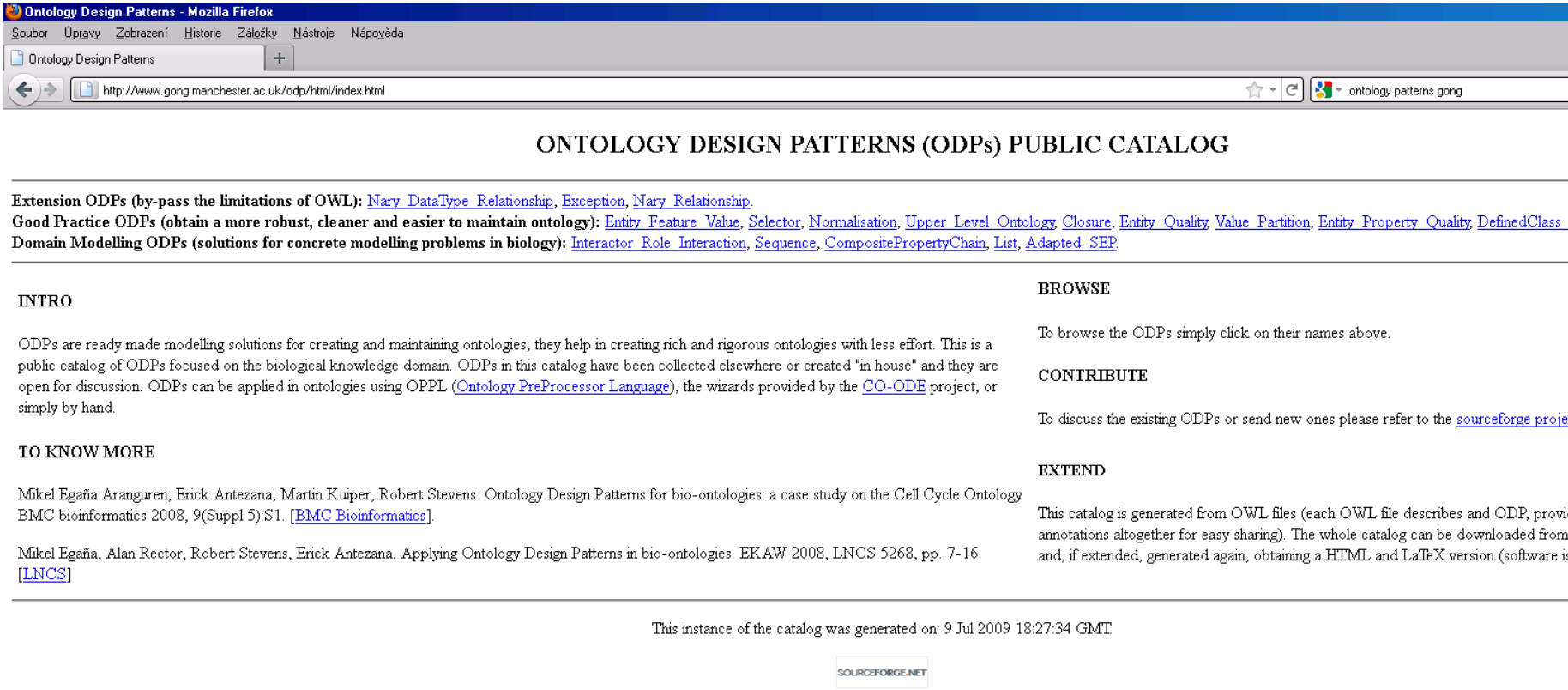
Traditional streams (after 2000)

- Logical ontology design patterns
  - Address some limitation of a modelling language
  - For OWL: primarily by
    - ✓W3C notes by the SWBPD – OEP group
    - ✓Univ. Manchester (web catalogue)
- Ontology content design patterns
  - Reusable building blocks
  - Often derived from foundational ontologies (esp. DOLCE), originally language-independent
  - To be imported to new / reengineered ontologies (as whole - unlike current vocabularies)
  - Primarily by ISTC/CNR Rome

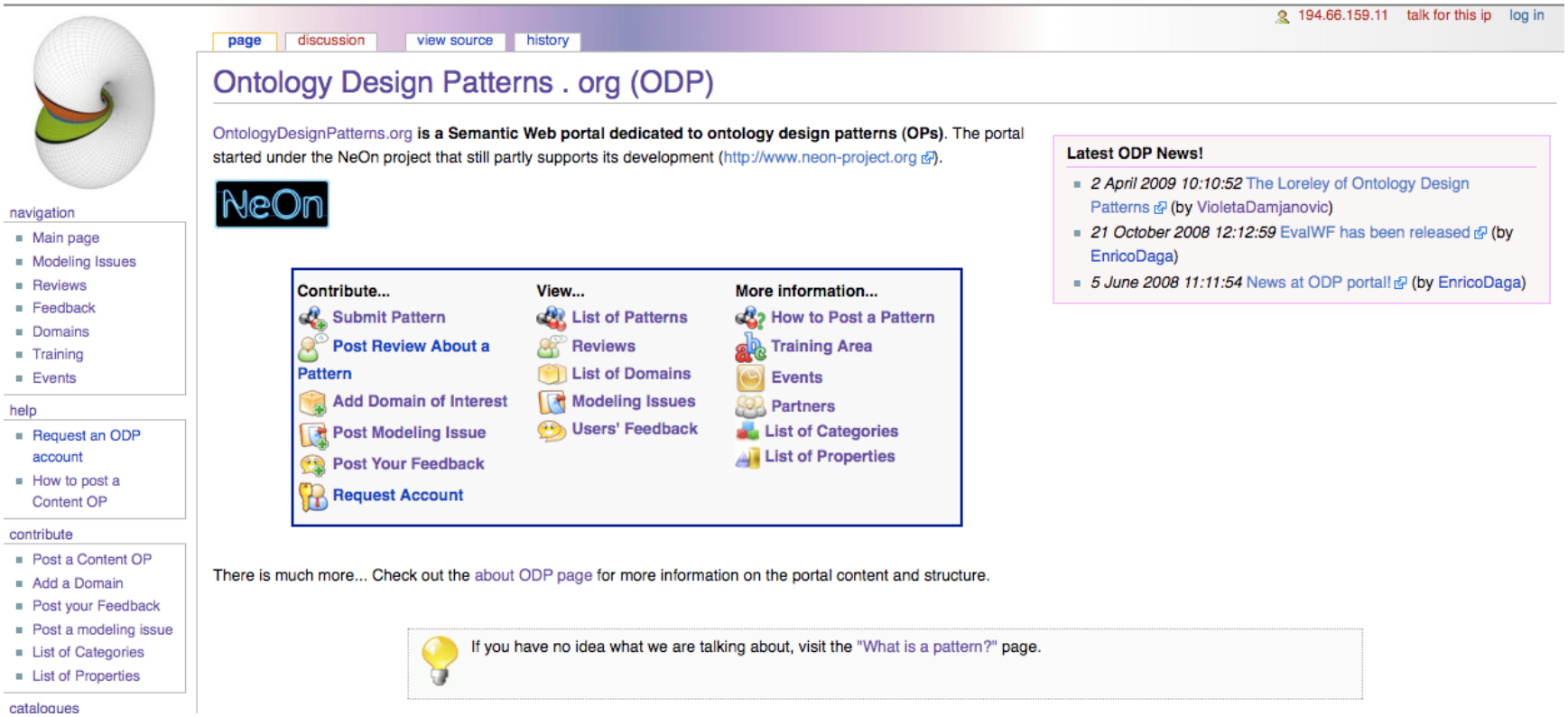
W3C SWBPD WG OEP TF



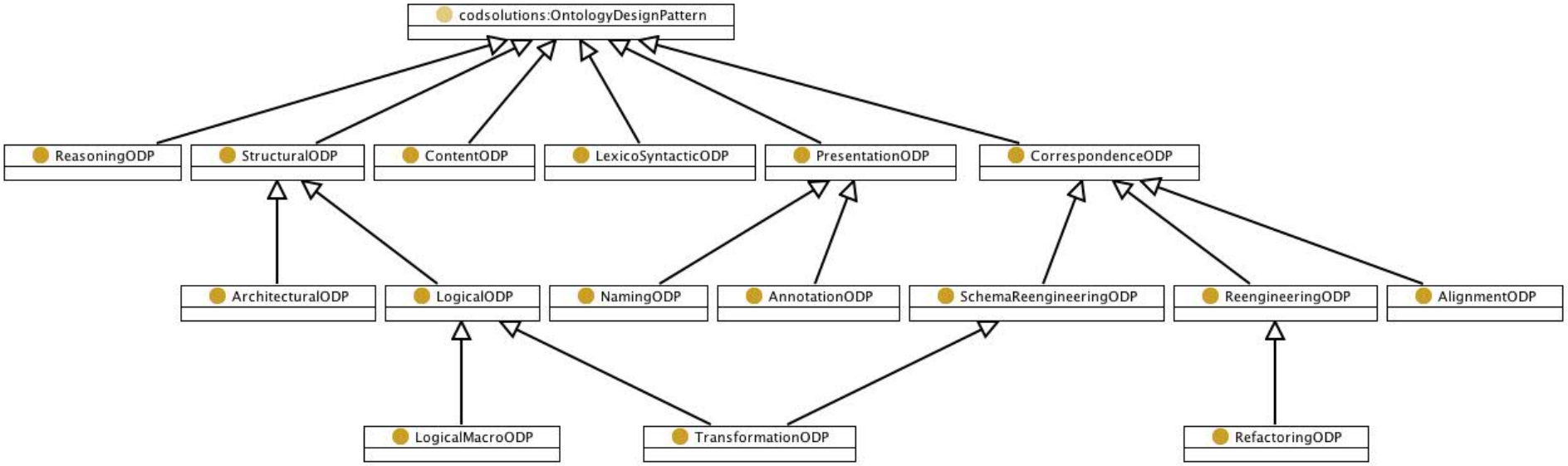
Manchester (bioinformatics-oriented) catalogue



The *ontologydesignpatterns.org* catalogue



Current taxonomy of ontology design patterns



From http://ontologydesignpatterns.org

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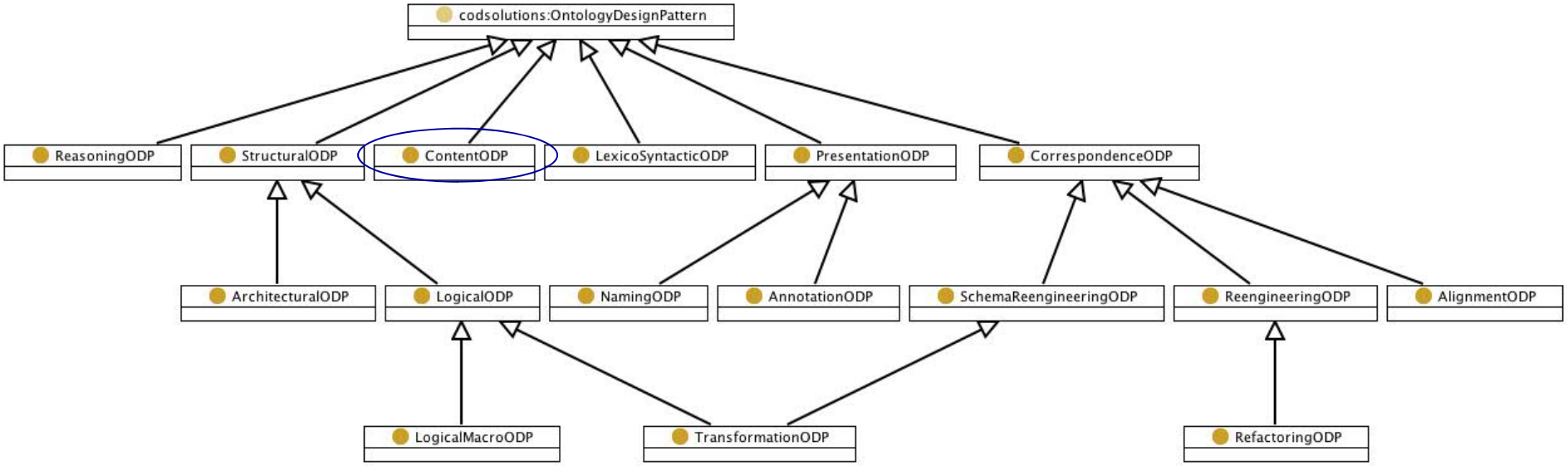


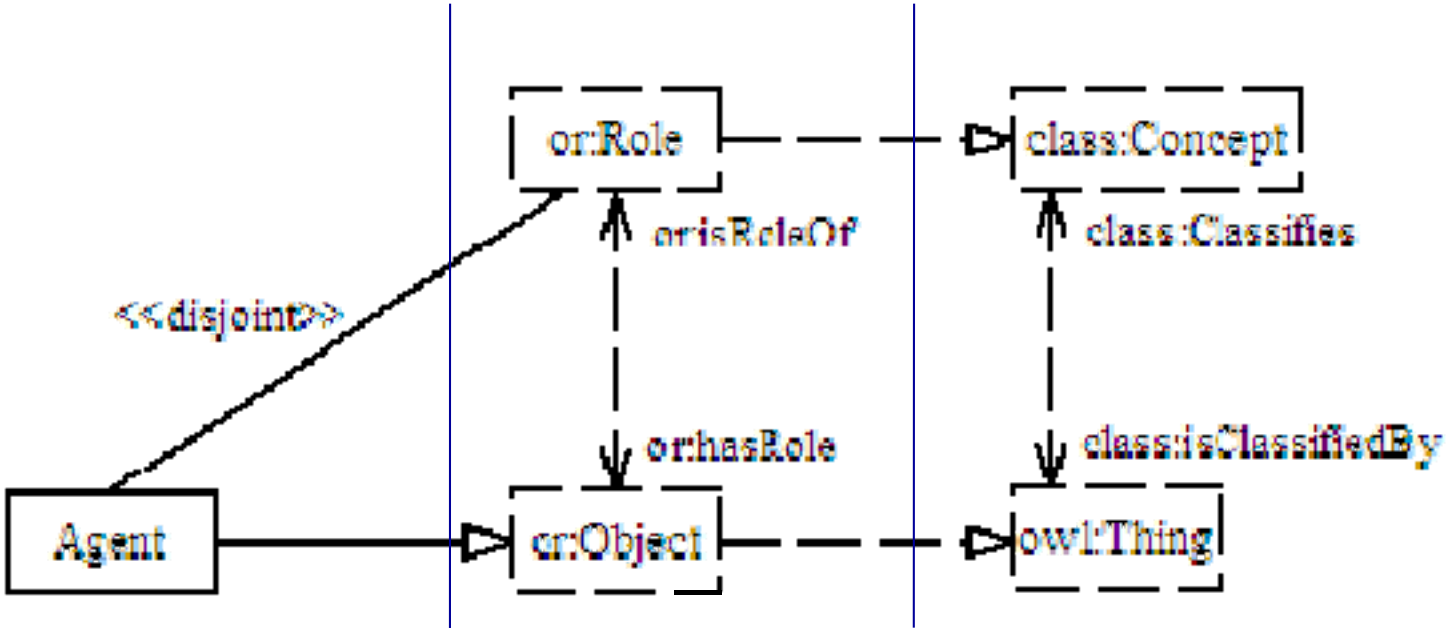
From http://ontologydesignpatterns.org

Ontology content design patterns (CPs)

- Originally conceptual models to be adapted for any particular language
- Currently small ‘micro-ontologies’ in OWL
  - Assumed to be used in the root part of a domain ontology
  - Accompanied with examples, entity lists, links to other (esp. reused)CPs

Example of pattern import+specialization

AgentRole CP ⟸ ObjectRole CP ⟸ Classification CP



Multi-CP modelling example

- Arnold Schwarzenegger is Shylock in the play of "Merchant of Venice”, that is given at the theater “Roma” during September and October 2009

Borrowed from V. Presutti, ESWC’09 tutorial

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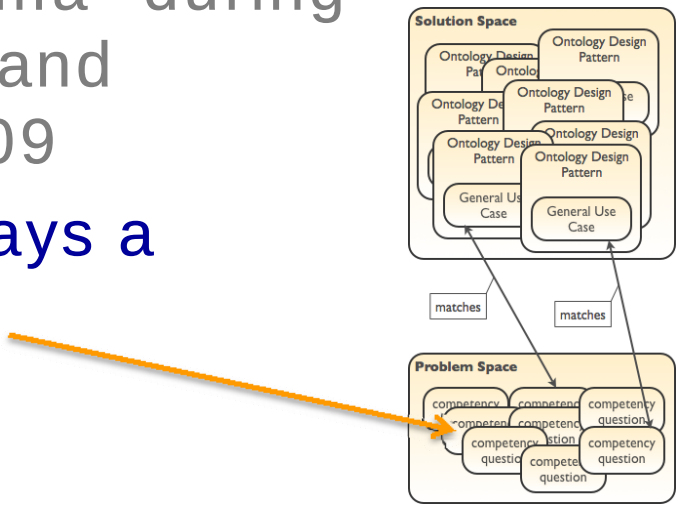

Multi-CP modelling example

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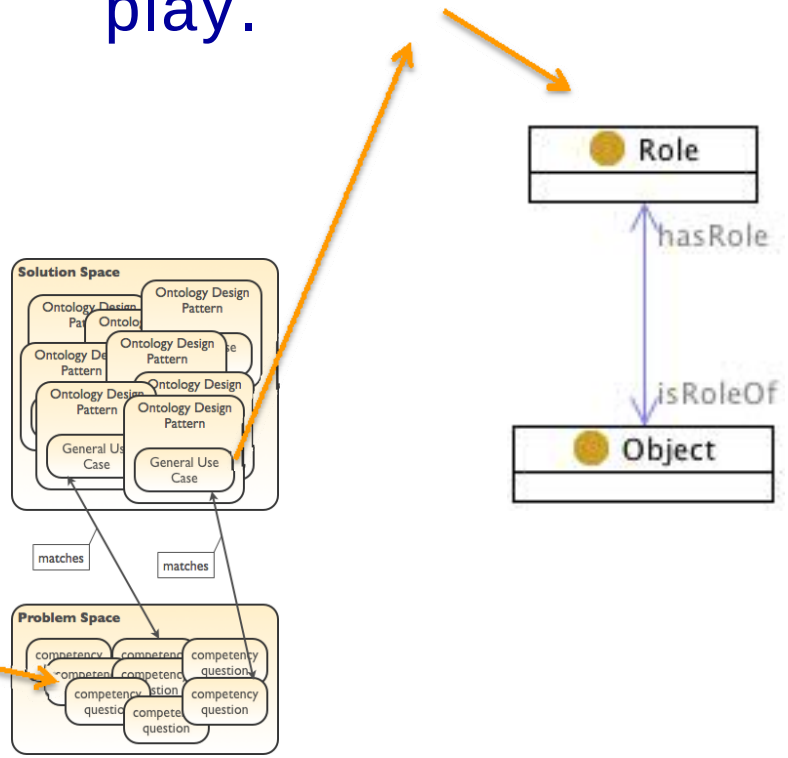
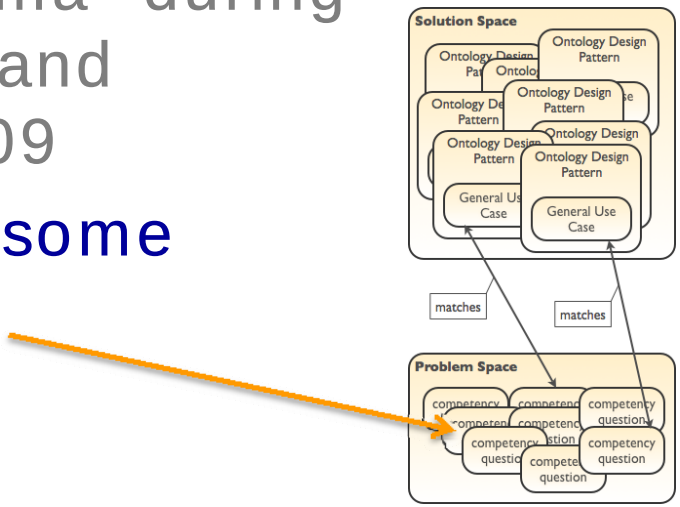
- To represents objects and the roles they play.



Multi-CP modelling example

- Arnold Schwarzenegger is Shylock in the play of "Merchant of Venice", that is given at the theater “Roma” during September and October 2009
- The play of some drama



Multi-CP modelling example

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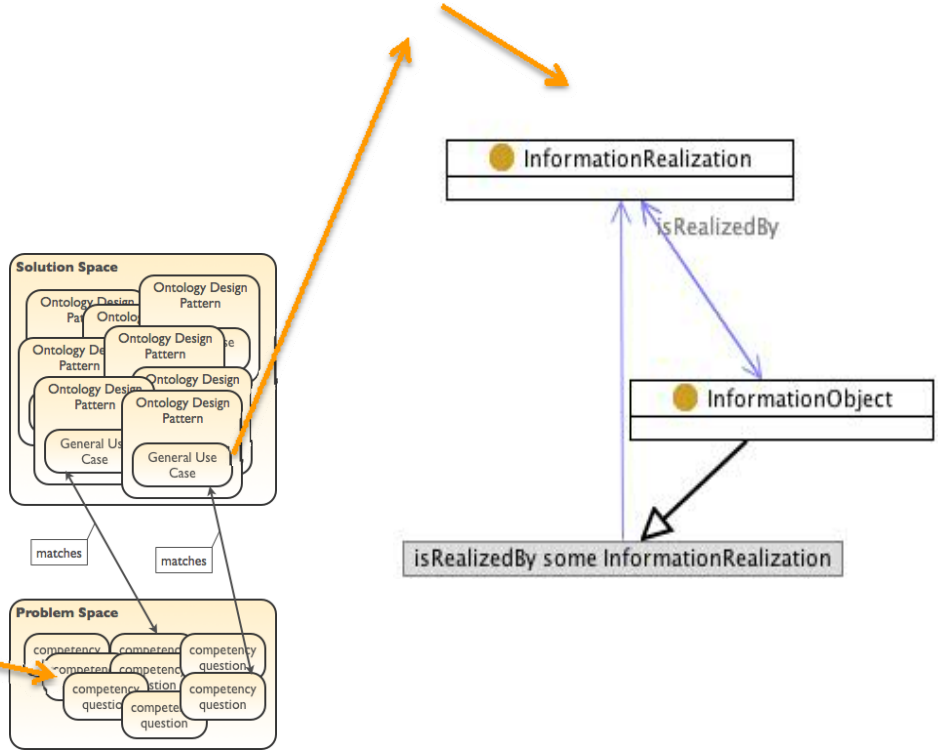
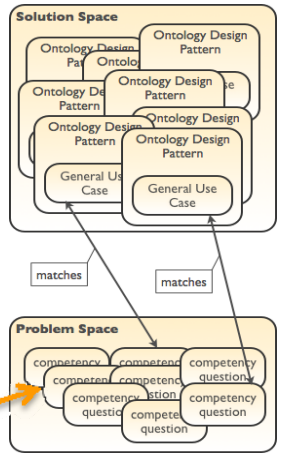
- To distinguish information objects from their concrete realizations.



Multi-CP modelling example

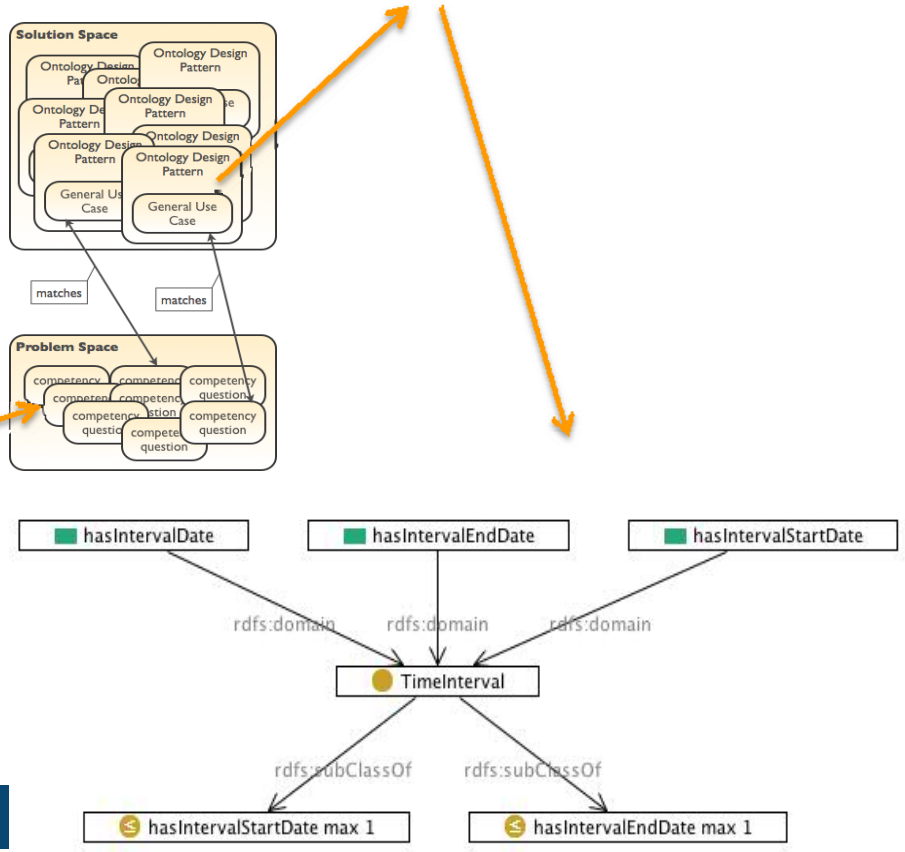
- Arnold Schwarzenegger is Shylock in the play of "Merchant of Venice", that is given at the theater “Roma” during September and October 2009
- A time period



Multi-CP modelling example

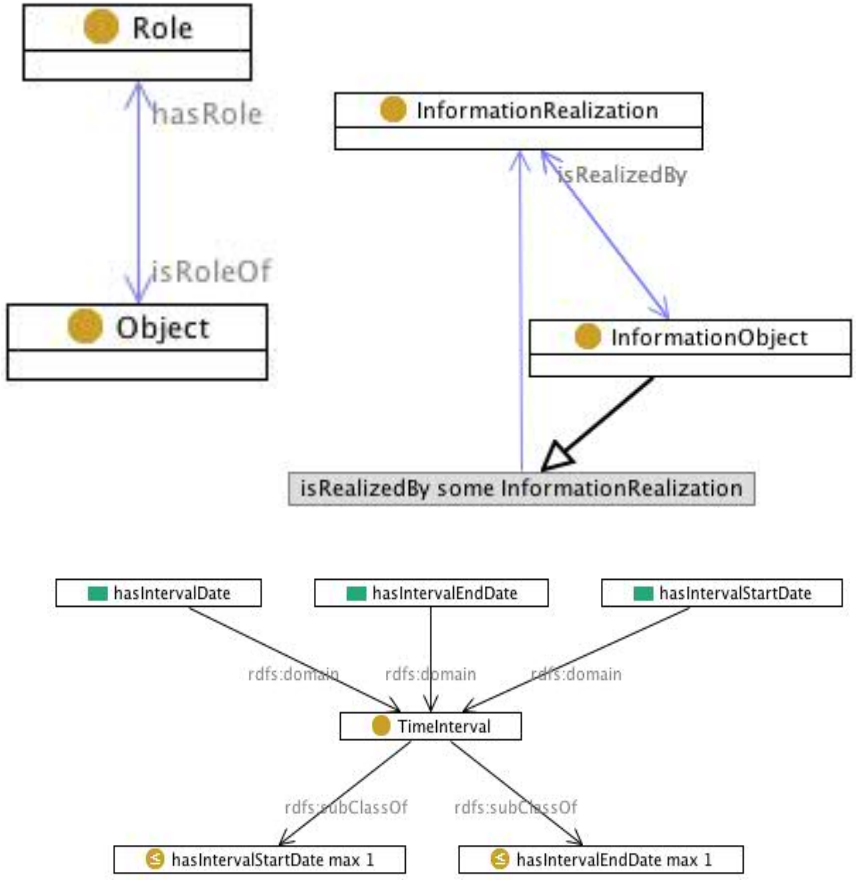
- Arnold Schwarzenegger is Shylock in the play of "Merchant of Venice", that is given at the theater "Roma" during September and October 2009
- A time period

- To represent time intervals, their start/end dates, and any dates falling into the period



Multi-CP modelling example

- Arnold Schwarzenegger is Shylock in the play of "Merchant of Venice", that is given at the theater "Roma" during September and October 2009
- A person plays a character in a play of a drama, given at a theater during a time period
- How can we relate them together?



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- Arnold Schwarzenegger is Shylock in the play of "Merchant of Venice", that is given at the theater "Roma" during September and October 2009
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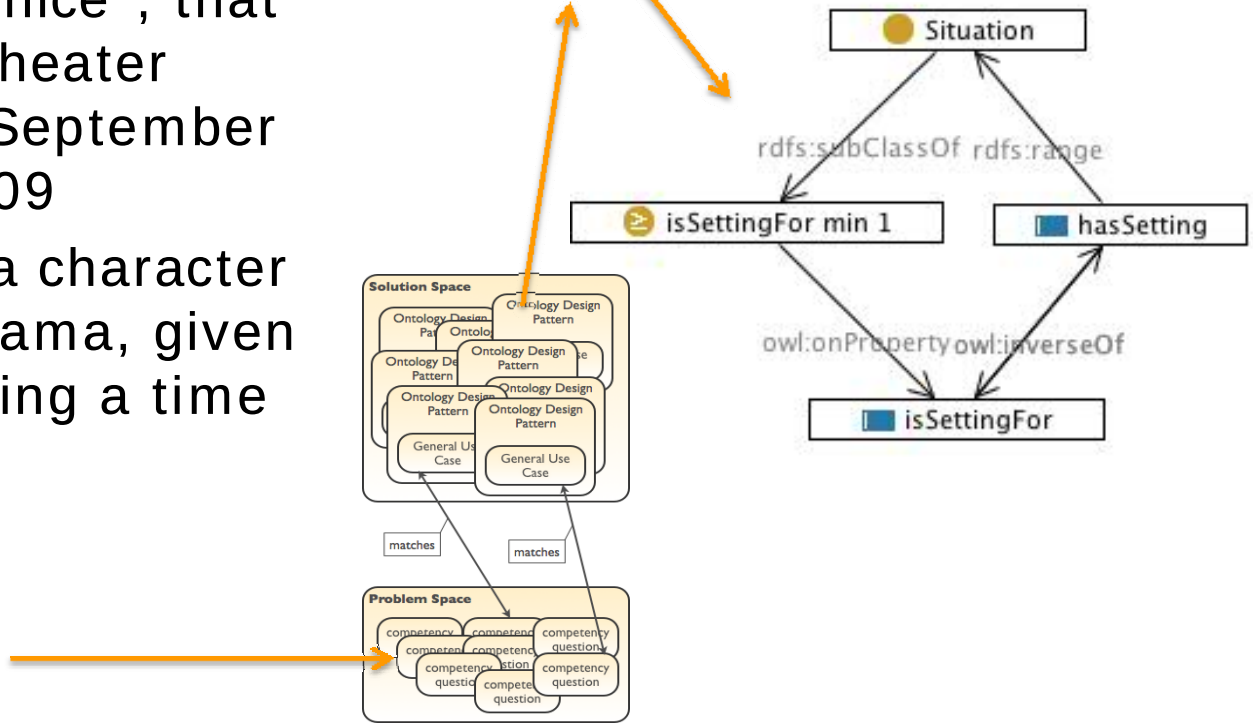
- A situation, a set of circumstances in a defined setting



Creation of CPs

- Reengineering from patterns expressed in other data models
- Data model patterns, Lexical Frames, Workflow patterns, Knowledge discovery patterns, etc.
- Specialization/Generalization/Composition of other CPs
- Extraction from reference ontologies (by cloning)
- Mix of these

XD methodology / tools

- Developed at ISTC-CNR, Rome
  - See Presutti et al., 2009 (WOP workshop)
- Tailored for the design of small, compact task-oriented ontologies
  - Increase the development speed
  - Allow for better quality control
  - Increase the reuse potential

eXtreme ontology Design (XD)

- Inspired by eXtreme Programming basic rules
  - e.g., pair programming, test-oriented, continued integration, etc.
- Main principles
  - divide & conquer
    - understand the task and express it by means of competency questions
  - reuse ontology design patterns
  - evaluate the result against the task

XD Methodology in nutshell

- Step 1 – Get into the project context.
- Step 2 – Collect requirement stories.
- Step 3 – Select a story that hasn't been treated yet.
- Step 4 – Transform the story into CQs.
- Step 5 - Select a coherent set of CQs.
- Step 6 - Match the CQs to available CPs.
- Step 7 - Select CPs to use.
- Step 8 - Reuse (import, specialize) and integrate (compose, extend) selected CPs.
- Step 9 - Unit tests, through SPARQL queries, and fix.
- Step 10 – Release the module.
- Step 11 – Integrate, test and fix.
- Step 12 – Release new version of ontology.

XDTools

- Plugin to Eclipse and to NeOn Toolkit
  - http://stlab.istc.cnr.it/stlab/XDTools
- Access to patterns in a repository
  - Browsing
  - Keyword search
- Pattern manipulation
  - Such as specialization
- Pattern annotation
- Pattern-based analysis of ontology
  - Check if best practices were followed
    - ✓ detects e.g. missing labels and comments, isolated entities, unused imported ontologies

Logical / structural ontology patterns

- Do not contain any content vocabulary
- Dependent on language (here, OWL)
- Typically several patterns clustered as different solutions for the same (or similar) modeling problem
- Cannot be directly represented in the target language, only in terms of
  - Verbal descriptions
  - Examples
  - Structures with placeholders (variables)
  - Transformations between different solutions

Examples of popular LPs

- Classes as property values (W3C)
- Normalization (Manchester)

Classes as property values

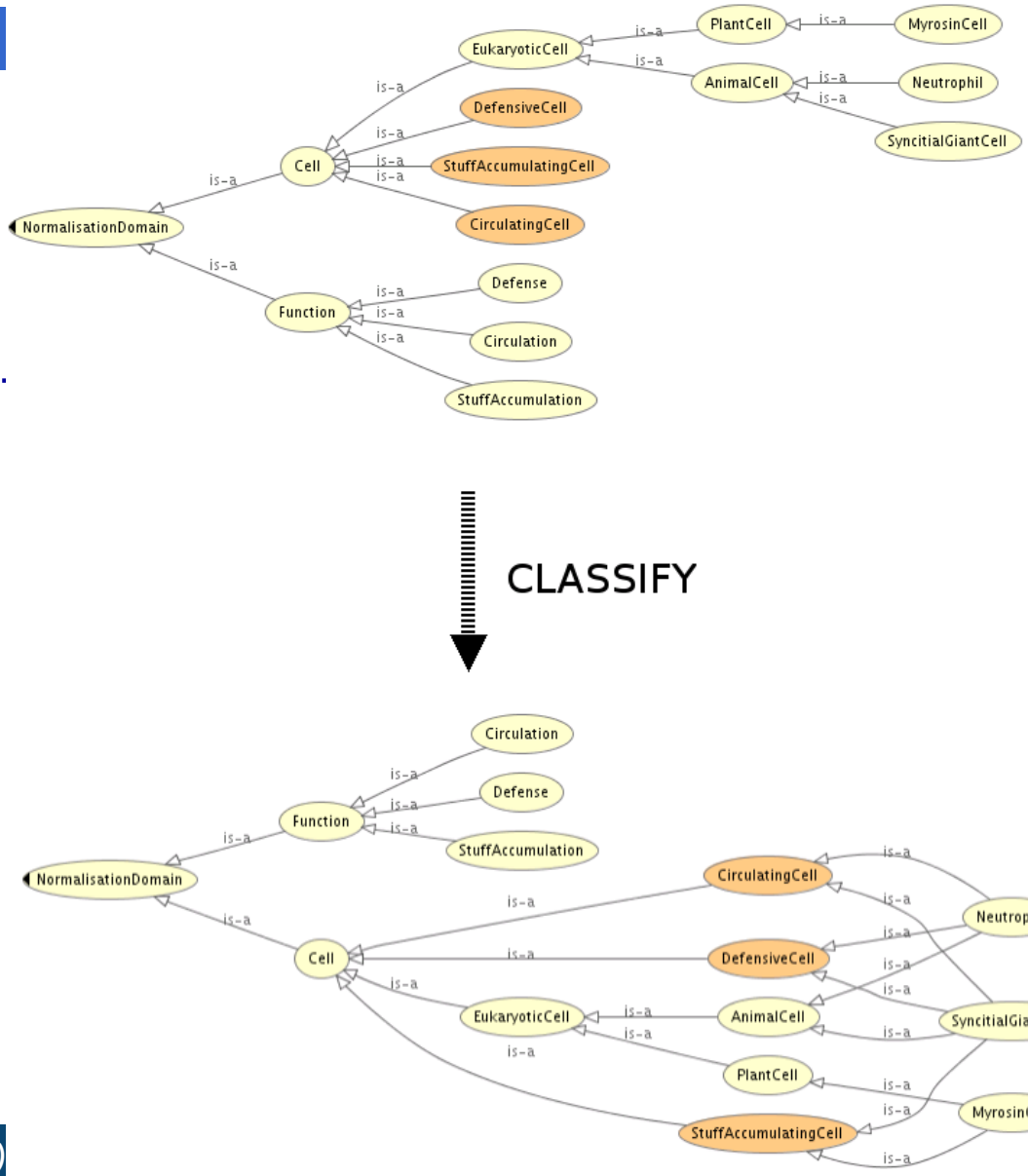
- Problem (arising from modeling heterogeneity)
  - A taxonomy is modeled in terms of classes
  - Individuals have to refer to these classes

```
AfricanLion rdfs:subclassOf Lion
LionsLifeInThePride rdf:type Book
LionsLifeInThePride dc:subject AfricanLion
```

- Solutions within OWL DL
  - Class/individual melting (OWL Full / OWL 2 punning)
  - Represent each class by its (dummy) instance
  - Represent each class by another individual
  - Use ‘subject’ as annotation property
  - Refer to an anonymous individual of a class

Normalization pattern

- T-box oriented
- Untangling polyhierarchies by replacing explici subclass links by existential definitions
- Polyhierarchy is only constructed at reasoning-time



OPPL – Ontology Pre-Processor Language

- University of Manchester
  - http://oppl2.sourceforge.net
- Tool for manipulation with OWL structures
- Pattern-based in version 2
  - Logical patterns
- Typically meant for refactoring of an ontology prior to reasoning
- Example: „Finds subclasses of NamedPizza and make them subclasses of Thing“
  - ?x:CLASS
    SELECT ?x SubClassOf NamedPizza
    BEGIN ADD ?x SubClassOf Thing END;

Naming patterns

- Consider entity names (expressed by URIs and labels) in ontologies as natural language terms
- Both design and analysis aspects are important
- Both users and applications benefit from the use of `best-practice' naming patterns
- Naming patterns can be considered
  - at the level of indiviual entities (general naming conventions)
  - across multiple interconnected entities (cross-entity patterns leveraging on logical patterns)
- See: Svátek (2009), Schober (2009)

Naming patterns: for human user

- User-focused initiatives in ontological engineering, such as the introduction of Manchester syntax for OWL, aim to improve the readability at the level of meta-model constructions
- Naming patterns could play an analogous role of at the level of model entities

Example: T-box axiom in Manchester syntax

- Careless of naming patterns
  - `StateOwned Director only (nomination some ministry)`
- Same axiom, same syntax, but careful naming
  - `StateOwnedCompany hasDirector only (nominatedBy some Ministry)`

- What made the difference?
  - Explicitly present head noun (‘company’)
  - Avoiding plain nouns as object property names (‘director’, ‘nomination’)
  - Consistent capitalisation for same entity type

Benefits for applications

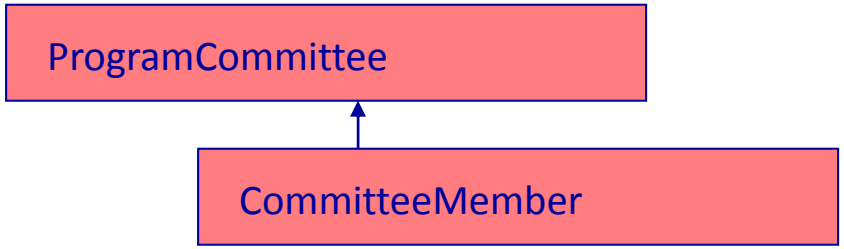
- Aside pure (deductive) logical reasoning, automated semantic processing of ontology content is needed e.g. for
  - Detection (and even suggestion of repair) of possible conceptual mismatches
  - Automated alignment and (modular) importing
  - Model transformation, e.g.
    - ✓ For better alignment
    - ✓ For better tractability by a reasoner
- Such heuristic processing typically require human assistence in selecting among alternative operations
- To reduce the number of alternatives offered to a human (or rank such alternatives), even not-too-reliable evidence, incl. entity naming, should be exploited

Benefits for applications

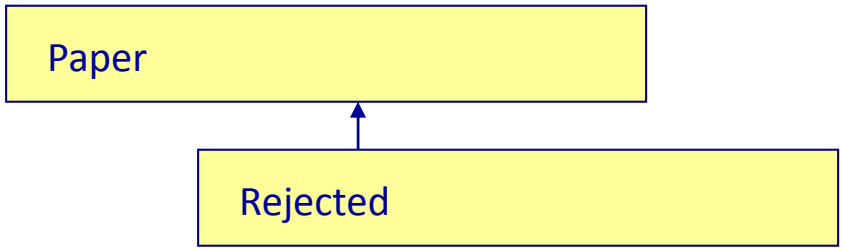
- Many conceptualisation errors are not manifested at the level of logical consistency
- Naming analysis can reveal problems that are either conceptualisation errors or awkward naming
- Example (Šváb-Zamazal, 2008): detection of lexical head incompatibility in a taxonomy
  - 40-70% precision (detection indeed pointing to a probable conceptualisation issue)
  - depends on reliable detection of thesaurus correspondence
  - seems to work best on narrow-focused ontologies with lots of (compound) technical terms

Lexical head incompatibility

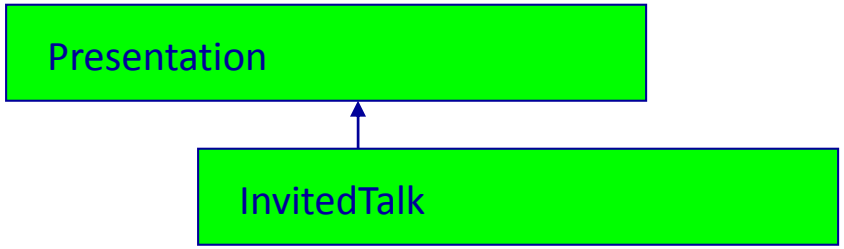
- Set-theoretic problem



- Bad naming policy
  - Would have been detected by other means



- Synonymy/Hyperonymy



Block III

PATTERN-BASED ONTOLOGY TRANSFORMATION

Agenda

- Context and motivations
- (Ontology) Transformation patterns
  - Structure and (abstract) use
- Use cases
  - Ontology matching
  - Content pattern import
  - Special use case: FOAF ‘knows’
- Transformation workflow and implementation
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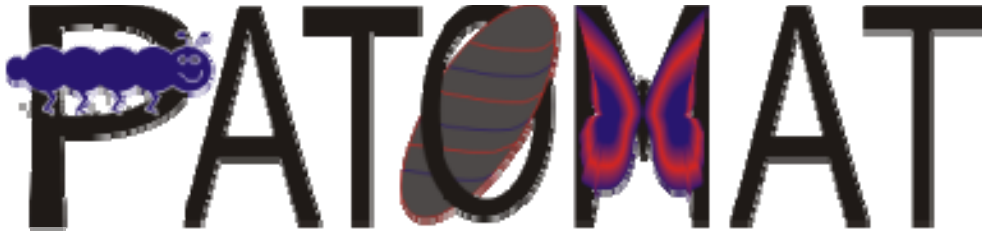

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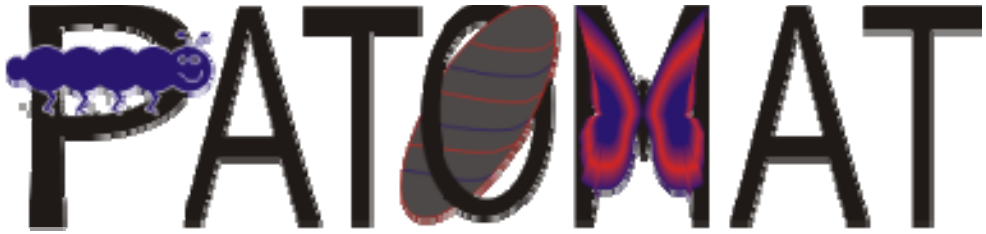

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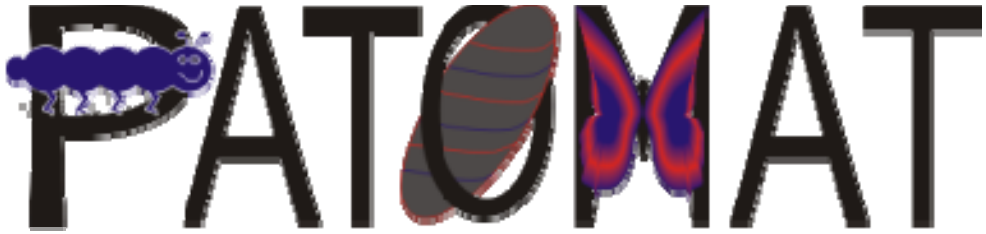

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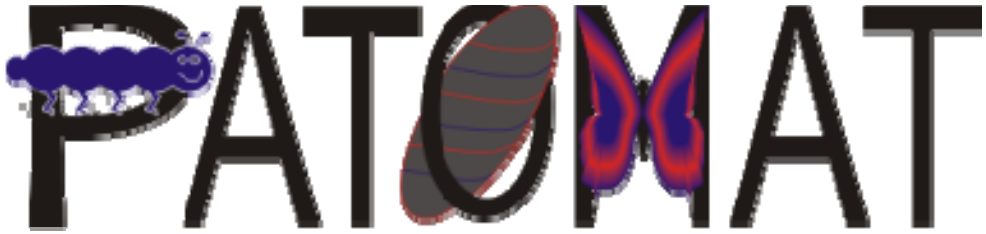

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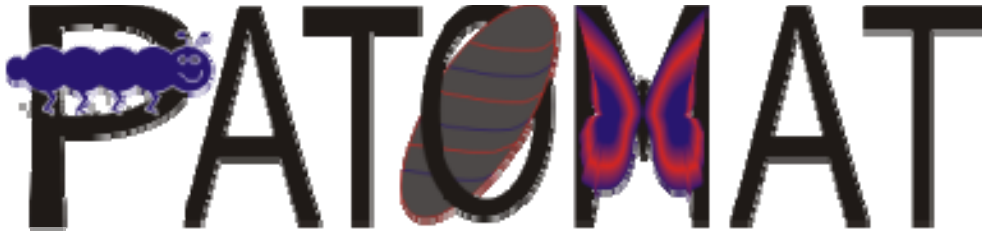

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- Similar setting but slightly more higher-level than (SPARQL-based) EvoPat or R2R are meant for?

PatOMat and patterns

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- Alternative modelling styles are captured via (logical/structural) ontology patterns: OWL structures (mostly) containing placeholders instead of real entities
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- Both ontology patterns and transformation patterns may contain naming patterns with linguistic grounding
  - naming detection patterns
  - naming transformation patterns

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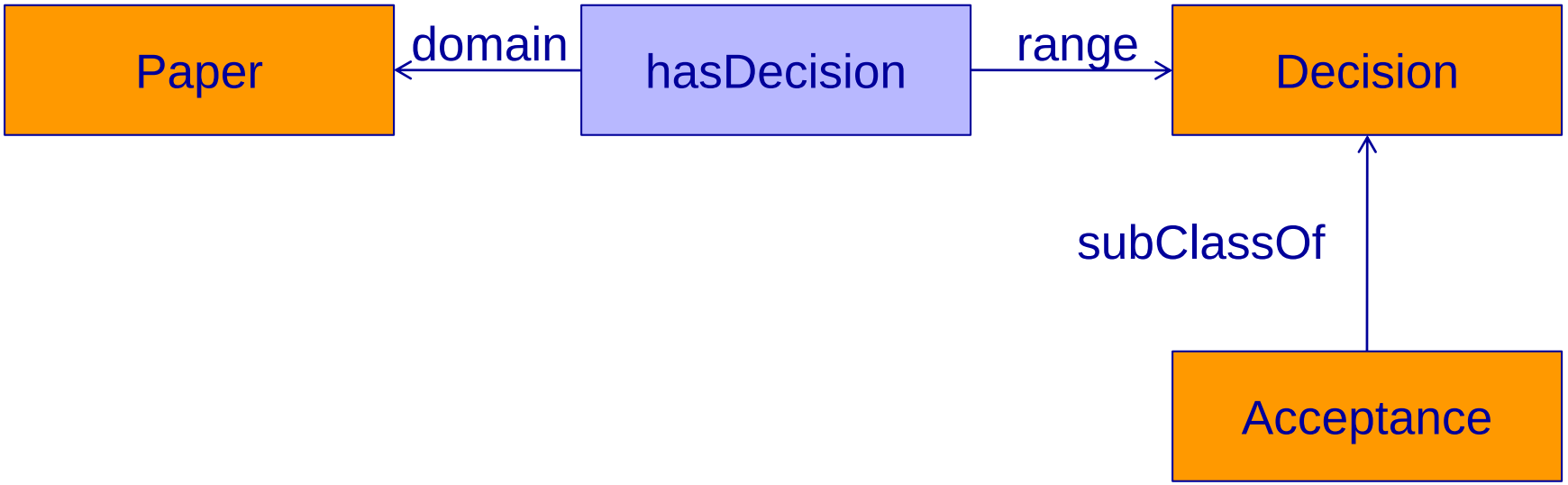

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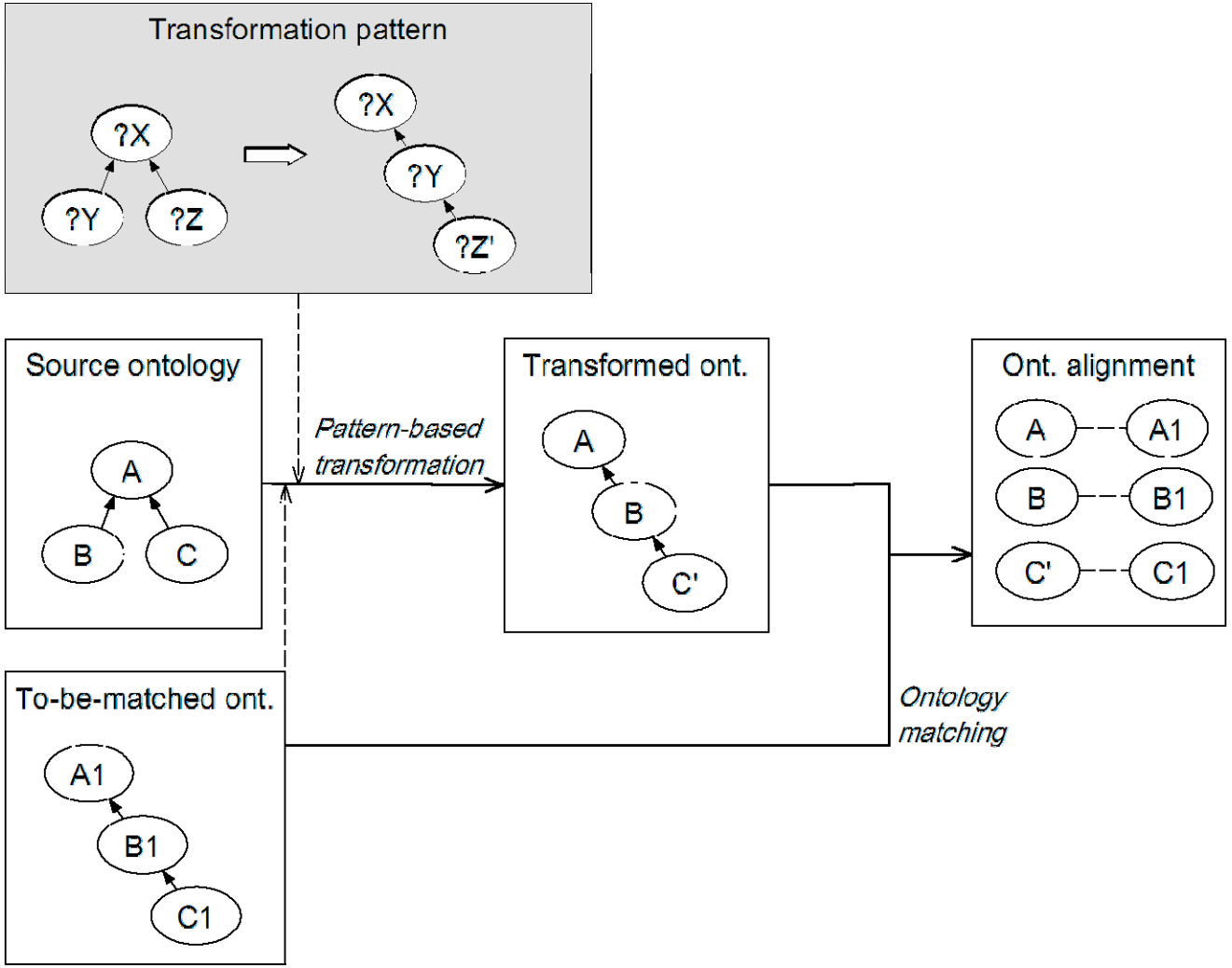
- Canonically reducing complexity for reasoners by `transforming away’ less palatable constructs

“Transformation for Matching” Scenario



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7. Mediate (query/merge) instances over two-tiered links
   - ✓ Links between O_1 and O_1' built according to TP
   - ✓ Correspondences from OA

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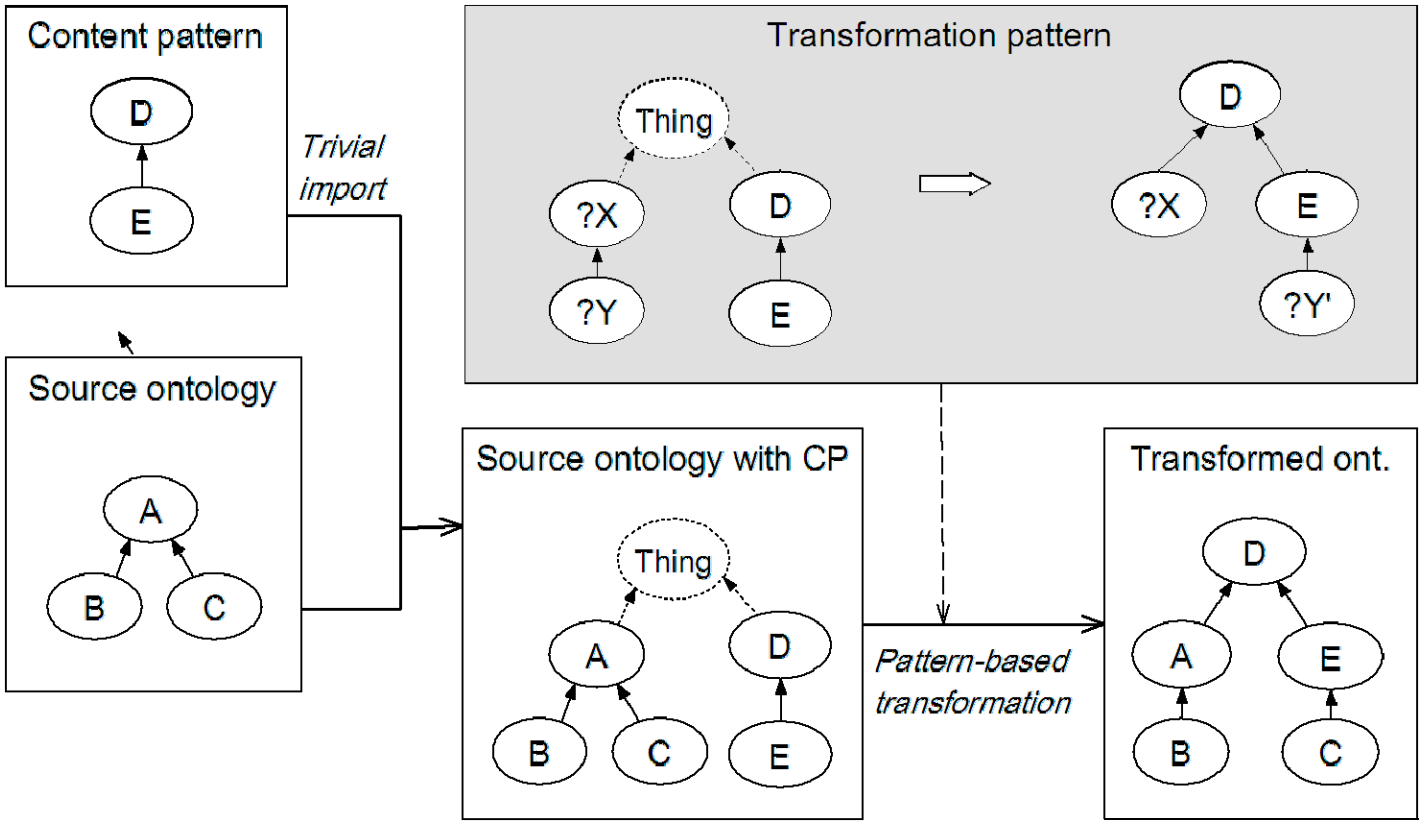
„Content pattern importing“ scenario



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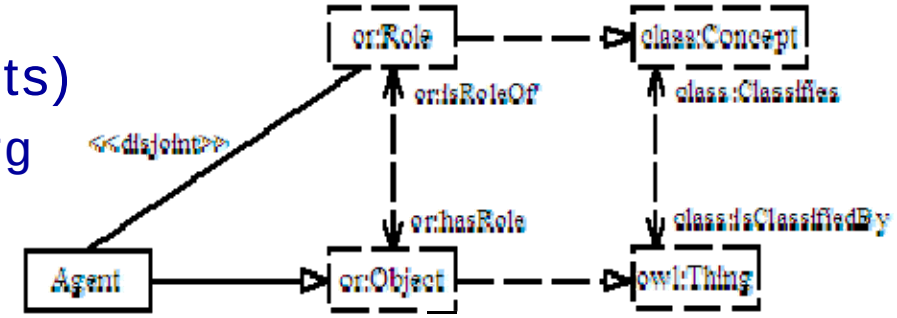

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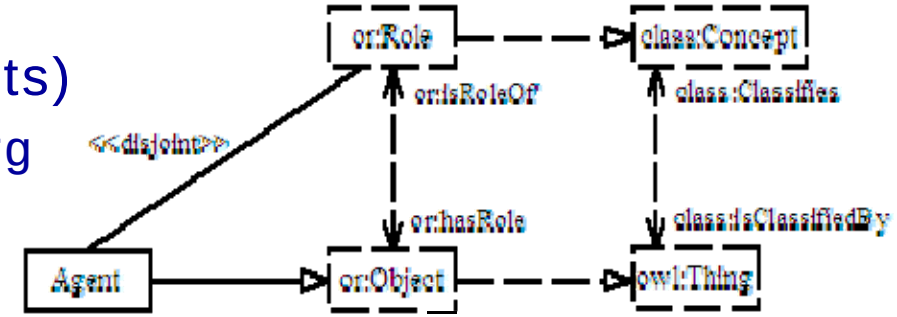

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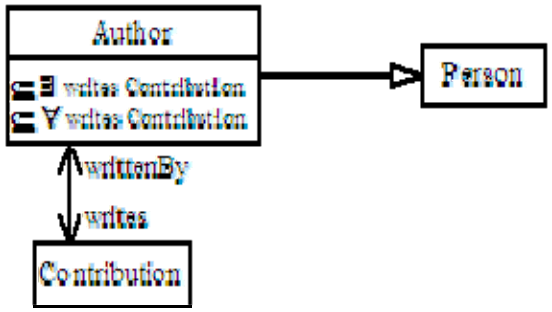

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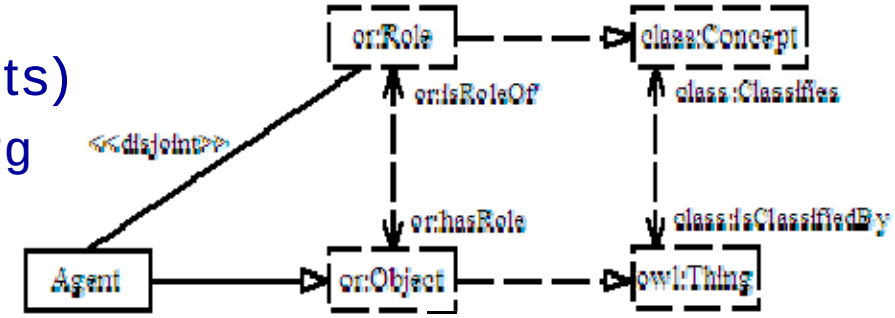

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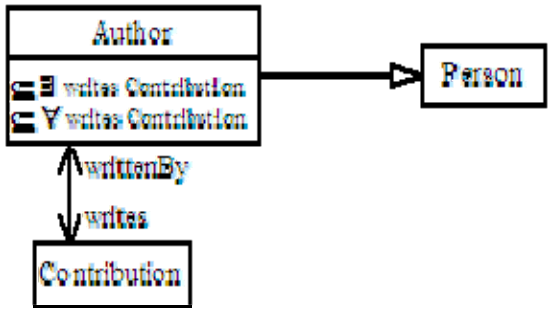

- Need for adaptation: we should be able to say that a person has the role of author (rather than just 'is author')

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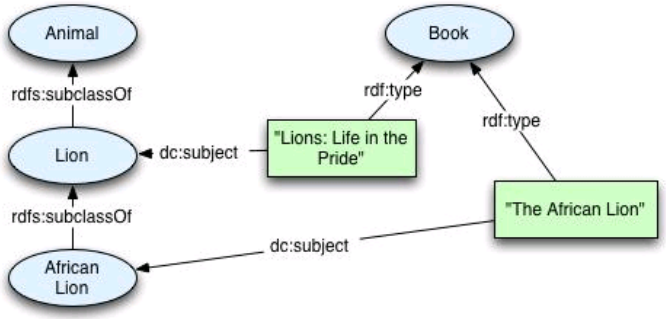
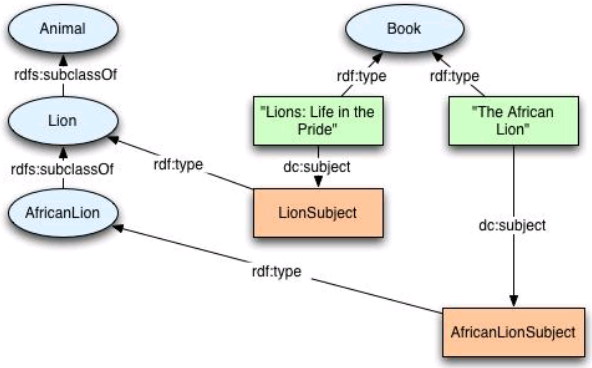
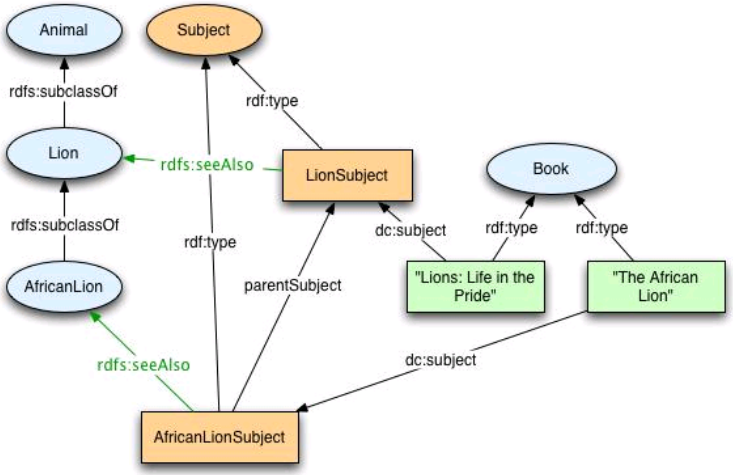
- Additional axioms referring to to-be-affected entities from the source pattern
  - e.g. local and global restrictions over the ‘writes’ property
- Target logical pattern
  - only partly constrained by the content pattern
  - alternatives may well map on the ‘approaches’ in the notes published by the W3C SWBPD group
  - In the example, as we have to transform the subclassOf relationship (Author-Person) to a property relationship between instances of a natural class (Person) and a ‘role’ class, Classes as Property Values pattern is relevant

‘Approaches’ for ‘Classes as Property Values’







CPW pattern applied for AgentRole import

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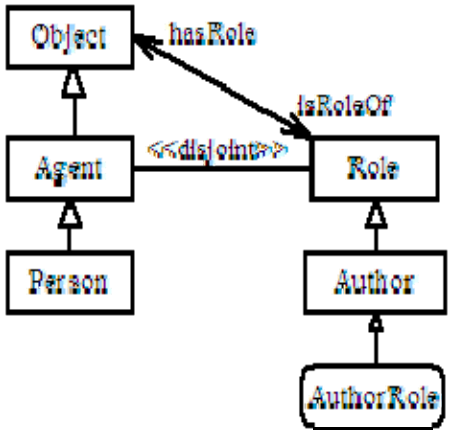
- Approach 2: Create special instances of the class to be used as property values



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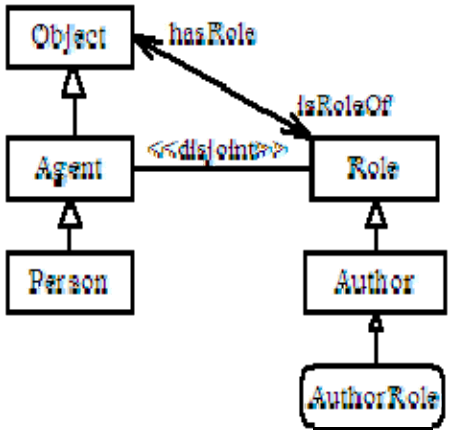
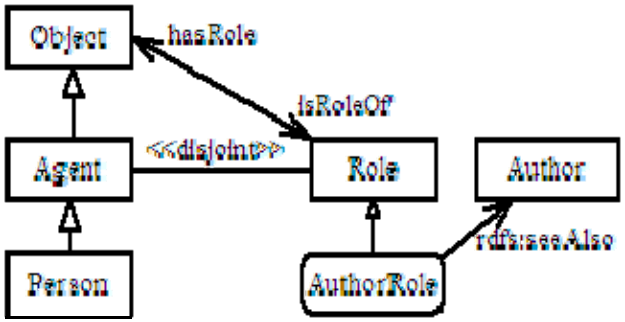


- Approach 3: Create a parallel hierarchy of instances as property values



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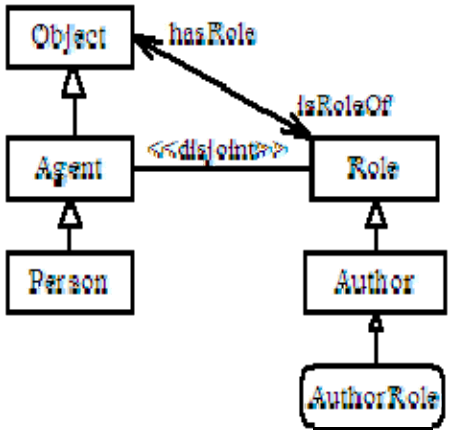

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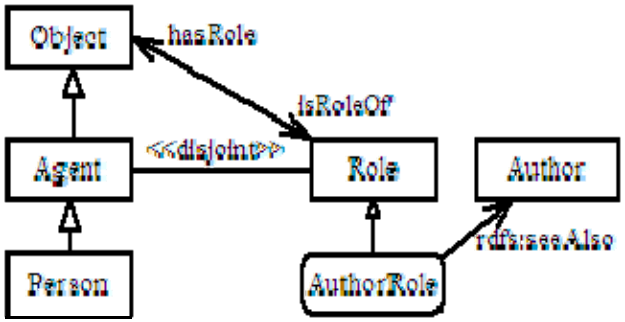

- and other…

Agenda

- Context and motivations
- (Ontology) Transformation patterns
  - Structure and (abstract) use
- Use cases
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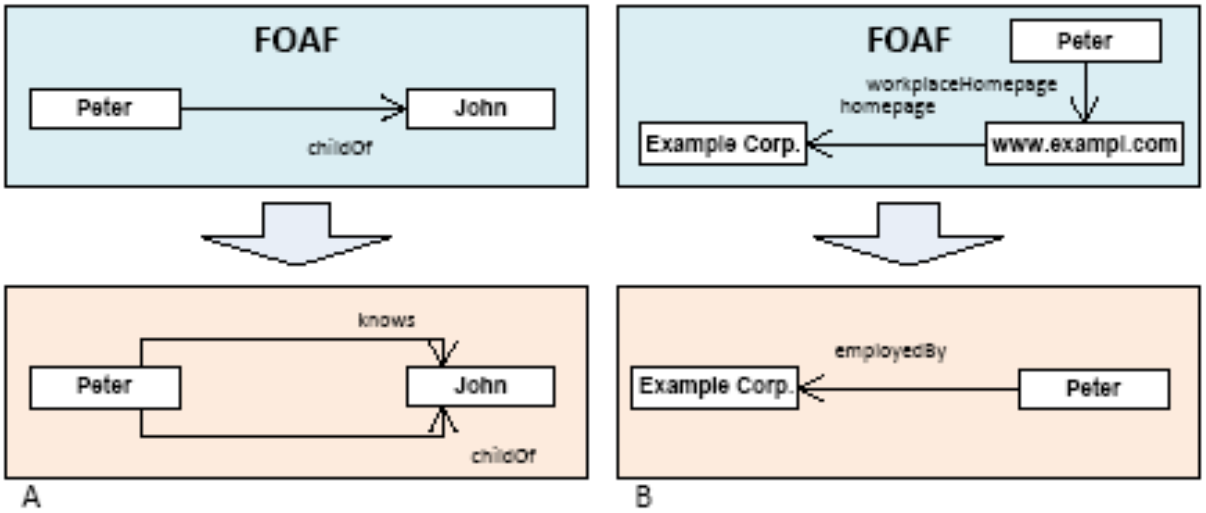
  - Special use case: FOAF ‘knows’
- Transformation workflow and implementation
- Ongoing and future work

FOAF ‘knows’ use case for pattern transformation

- Initial study from ‘foundational’ perspective
- foaf:knows is probably the most prominent representative of object property on the Web of Data
- Object properties are most interesting as bridges to substantial conceptual (ontological) modelling
- Analysis (Vacura, 2010) of
  - Adding implicit relationships
  - Relation expansion

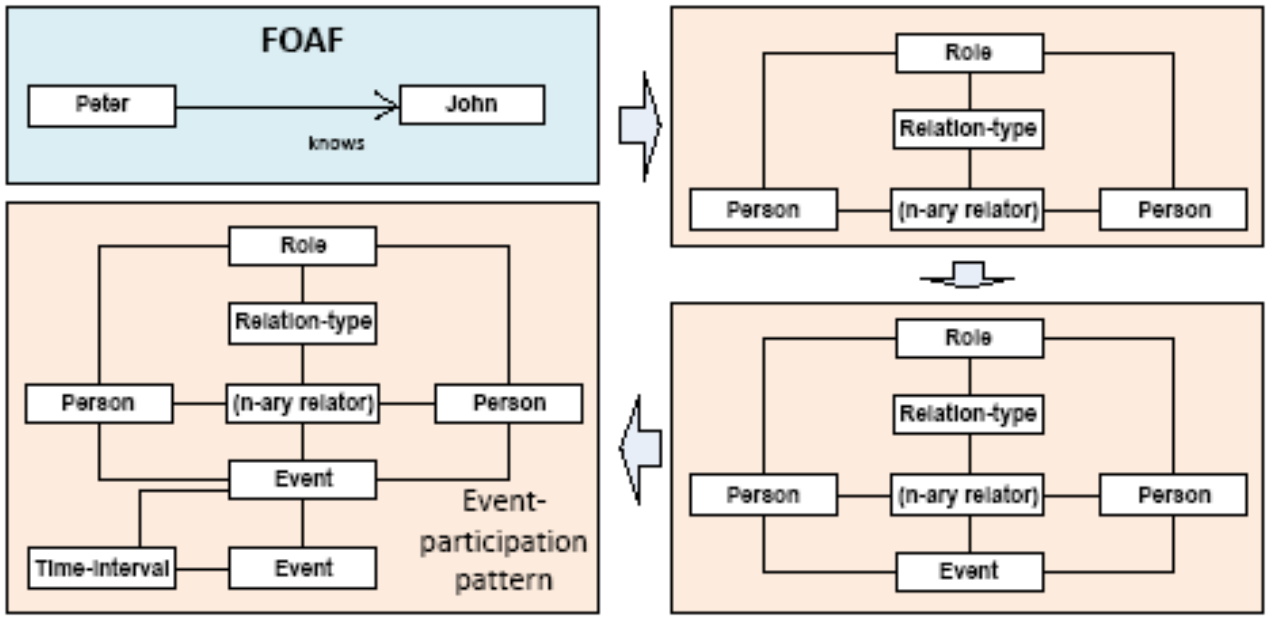
Adding implicit relationships

- May be needed to guarantee integration into other ontologies that do not share the same assumptions



Relation expansion (‘unfolding’) paths

- May be used to disambiguate the specific semantic of an entity as conventionally used by a LD source



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- Three-phase transformation

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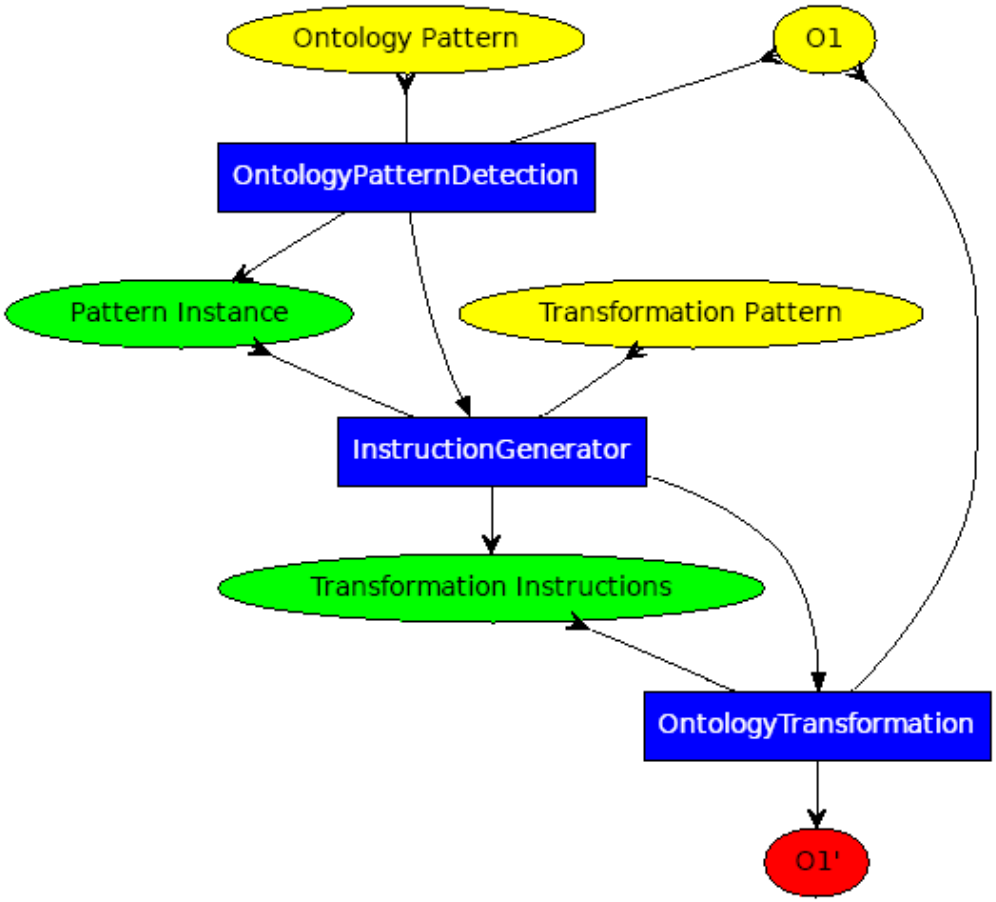
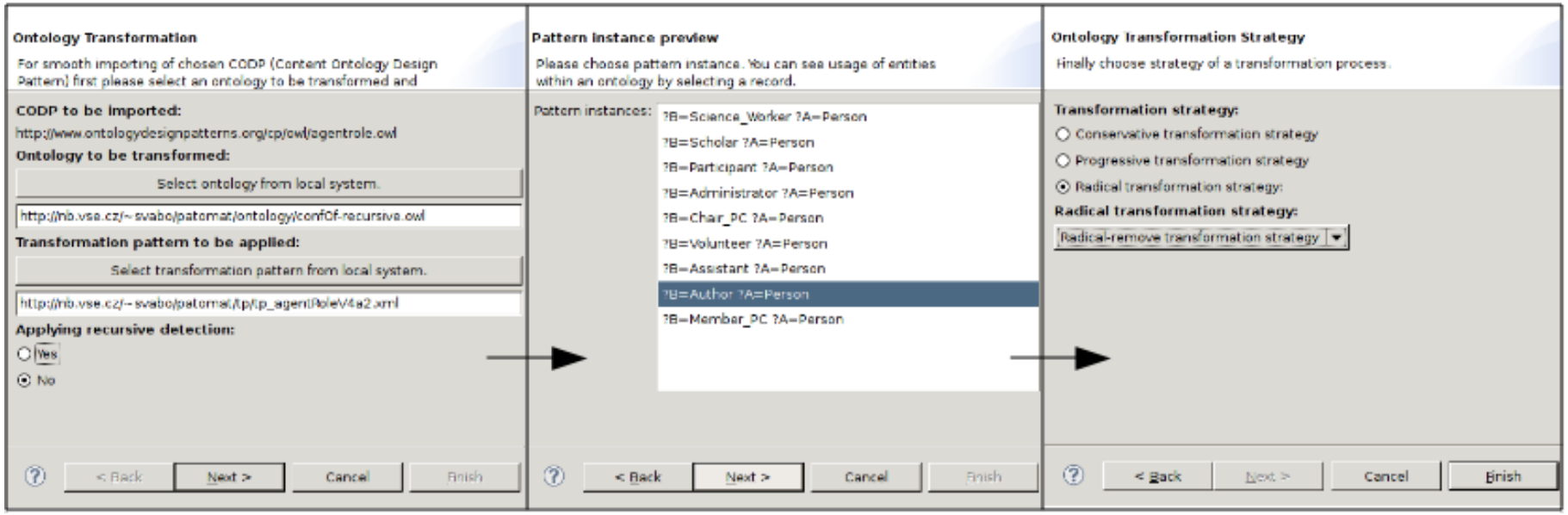
- *Tutorial, including technical details and sample codes, available* http://owl.vse.cz:8080/tutorial/

Pipeline of RESTful Services



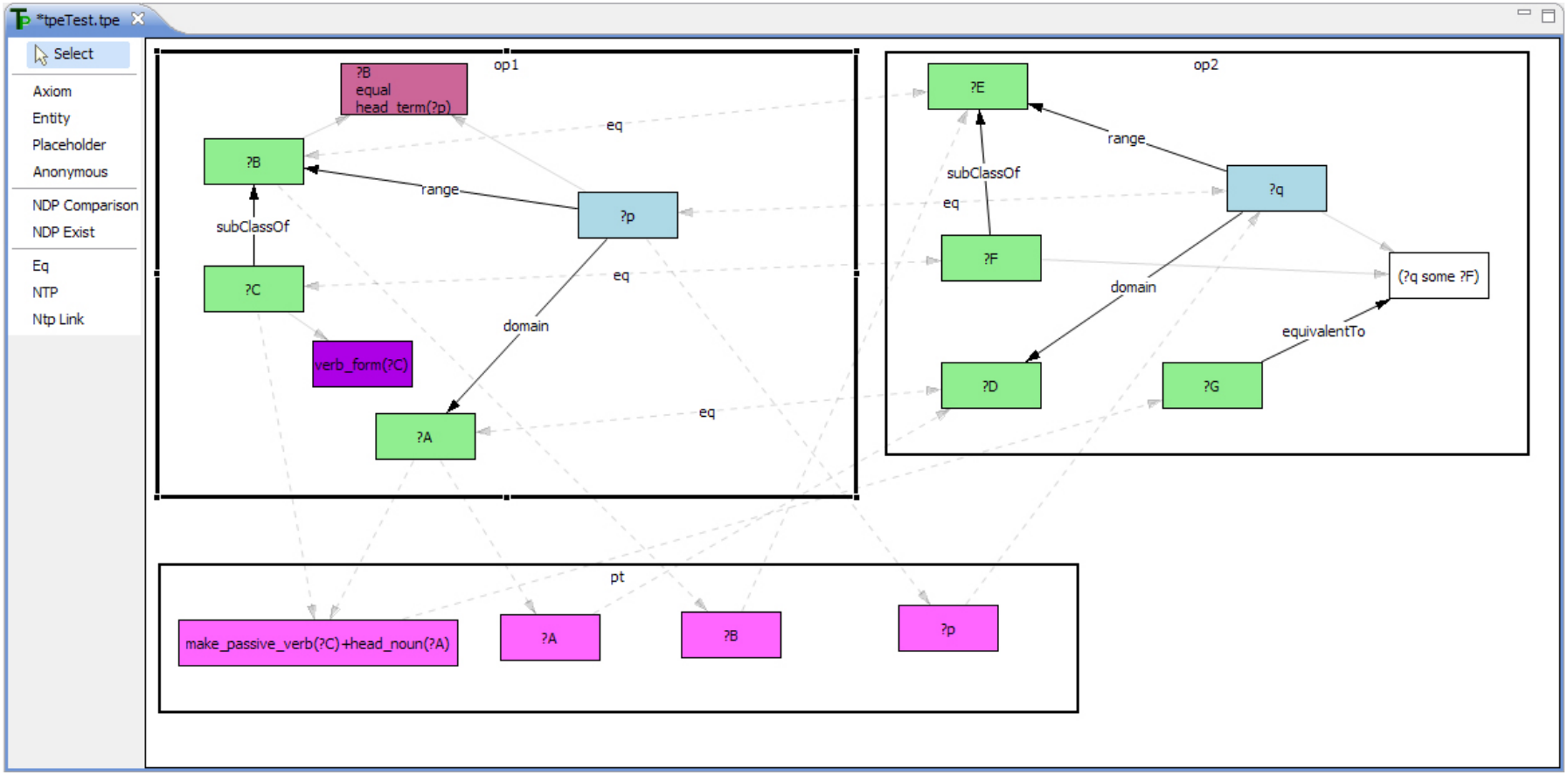
Alternative implementation – Java library

- Used by the XDTools ontology engineering environment (ISTC/CNR, Rome)
- Wizard-based user interface



Support for transformation pattern authoring

- TPE – Transformation Pattern Editor



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Ongoing and future work

- Comprehensive library of naming patterns relevant for ontology style transformation
  - Implementation on top of existing lexical sources
- Canonical methods for swapping info between logical and annotation spaces while transforming
- Ontologies of logical/structural patterns
  - Patterns structure; categorisation facets
  - Patterns usage, esp. matching to modelling issues
- Elaborate more use cases
  - other CPs; matching settings; reasoning settings
- More advanced detection techniques

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

References

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