

Technologies du Web Sémantique

Claudine Métral

Gilles Falquet

Organisation

Mercredi 10h15-11h50 cours, 12h20-14h séminaire

Moodle

- <https://moodle.unige.ch/course/view.php?id=9007>

Evaluation

- 3 projets
- test écrit

Introduction to the Semantic Web

G. Falquet

Semantic Web Technologies

Main ideas (2001)

A web

readable/understandable by software agents

- pages on the web would be meaningful to programs

encompassing not just documents but every kind of data one could imagine

- interconnecting data (stored in different servers)



A use case

[...] His sister, Lucy, was on the line from the doctor's office: "Mom needs to see a specialist and then has to have a series of physical therapy sessions. Biweekly or something. I'm going to have my agent set up the appointments."
[...] At the doctor's office, Lucy instructed her Semantic Web agent through her handheld Web browser. The agent promptly retrieved the information about Mom's prescribed treatment within a 20-mile radius of her home and with a rating of excellent or very good on trusted rating services. It then began trying to find a match between available appointment times (supplied by the agents of individual providers through their Web sites) and Pete's and Lucy's busy schedules.

Berners-Lee, Tim, James Hendler, and Ora Lassila. "The Semantic Web." *Scientific American*, May 2001,

Required technologies

knowledge representation

formally represent the information/knowledge content of a web site

data representation

data representation framework for semi-structured data

interconnection

global/shared object identification technique (for cross-server links)

shared 'vocabularies' and concept description

reasoning/computing services

logical inferences; computation (spatial, temporal, ...); decision making; ...

decentralized web services

Machine readable web \Rightarrow Knowledge representation

a typical web page

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"limitation" - Vendredi 18 septembre



Exposition «Figures de la peur en
Grèce antique» - Dès le 21 septembre

Human understanding of text (and layout)

event descriptions

event place

presenter

presenter's attribute

special announcement

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Machine understanding

text

text text text text text

text

text text text

text text text

text

text

text

text text

text

text text

text

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towards a solution

- The first significant change required for this to happen is that **data on the web [...] must be available in a machine-readable form** with **defined semantics**. [...] general purpose languages could be defined in which assertions could be made, within which axiomatic concepts could be defined from time to time in human readable documents.
- In this case, the power of the language to combine concepts originating from different areas could lead to a very much more powerful system on which one could base **machine reasoning systems**.
- **Knowledge Representation (KR) languages** are something which, while interesting academically, have not had a wide impact on applications of computer. But then, the same was true of hypertext before the Web gave it global scope.

<https://www.w3.org/People/Berners-Lee/1996/ppf.html>

Example: A representation in first order logic

Event(c1)

Conference(c1)

title(c1, "Exoplanètes ...")

speaker(c1, dq)

...

Person(dq)

name(dq, "Didier Queloz")

...

Event(bav)

title(bav, "Bourse aux vélos")

Requires some background knowledge



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Academic conference

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"Symposium (academic)" redirects here. For other uses of symposium, see [Symposium \(disambiguation\)](#).



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An **academic conference** or **scientific conference** (also **symposium**, **workshop**, or **meeting**) is an **event** for [researchers](#) (not necessarily [academics](#)) to present and discuss their work. Together with [academic](#) or [scientific journals](#) and [Eprint](#) archives such as [arXiv](#), conferences provide an important channel for exchange of information between researchers.

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Conference on [medicam](#) assisted rehabilitation in

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Conferences usually encompass various [presentations](#). They tend to be short and concise, with a time span of about 10 to 30 minutes; [presentations](#) are usually followed by a [discussion](#). The work may be bundled in written form as [academic papers](#) and [published](#) as the



Formalized in FOL

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x \text{ Conference}(x) \rightarrow \\ & \text{Event}(x) \wedge \\ & \exists t \text{ String}(t) \wedge \text{title}(x, t) \wedge \\ & \exists s \text{ Person}(s) \wedge \text{speaker}(x, s) \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \forall x \text{ Person}(x) \rightarrow \\ & \text{HumanBeing}(x) \wedge \\ & \exists p \text{ Place}(p) \wedge \text{birthplace}(x, p) \wedge \\ & \forall e \text{ employer}(x, e) \rightarrow (\text{Organization}(e) \vee \text{Person}(p)) \end{aligned}$$

or in Description logics

Conference

- \sqsubseteq Event
- \sqsubseteq title some String
- \sqsubseteq speaker min 1 Person

Person

- \sqsubseteq HumanBeing
- \sqsubseteq birthPlace some Place
- \sqsubseteq employer only (Organization or Person)

Data representation

"A Web ... encompassing not just documents but every kind of data one could imagine"

→ Data models for

- structured data
- texts (no structure)
- **semi-structured data**

Data representation \Rightarrow Semi-structured Data

“Roughly speaking and emphasize its main aspects semi-structured data is data that is neither raw data nor very strictly typed as in conventional database systems” (Abiteboul 1997)

Exemples

- Web pages about restaurants
- BibTeX files
- ...

Serge Abiteboul, “Querying Semi-structured data,” in *International Conference on Data Base Theory (ICDT)*, pp. 1 – 18, Delphi, Greece, 1997.

<http://dbpubs.stanford.edu:8090/pub/1996-19>.

Example: A BibTeX file

```
@article{miller1995wordnet,  
  Author = {Miller, George A},  
  Journal = {Communications of the ACM},  
  Number = {11},  
  Pages = {39--41},  
  Publisher = {ACM},  
  Title = {WordNet: a lexical database for English},  
  Volume = {38},  
  Year = {1995}}
```

```
@techreport{masolo2003wonderweb,  
  Author = {Masolo, Claudio and Borgo, Stefano and Gangemi, Aldo and Guarino, Nicola and Oltramari, Alessandro},  
  Institution = {LOA-ISTC-CNR},  
  Title = {The WonderWeb library of foundational ontologies and the DOLCE ontology. WonderWeb (EU IST project 2001-33052) deliverable D18},  
  Year = {2003}}
```

```
@inproceedings{niles2001towards,  
  Author = {Niles, Ian and Pease, Adam},  
  Booktitle = {Proceedings of the international conference on Formal Ontology in Information Systems-Volume 2001},  
  Organization = {ACM},  
  Pages = {2--9},  
  Title = {Towards a standard upper ontology},  
  Year = {2001}}
```

Main aspects

Irregular structure

heterogeneous, incomplete elements

Implicit structure

structure in textual parts => parsing

Partial structure

unstructured parts: plain text, images, external data

Indicative structure vs. constraining structure

schema adds information

Main aspects

A-posteriori schema/data guide

created to structure existing data (from the data)

Large schema

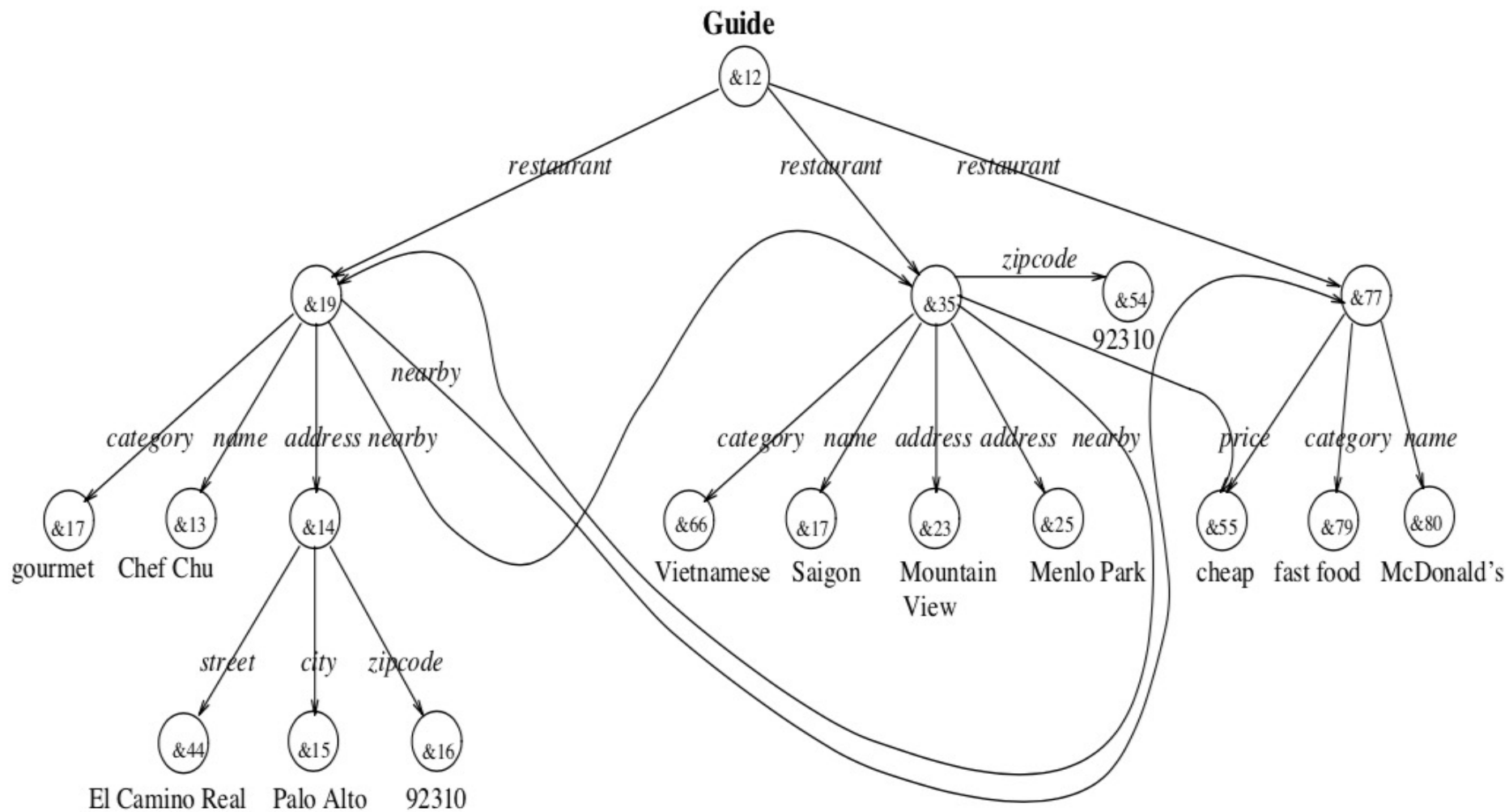
e.g., Wikidata has 3'000'000 classes

Schema ignored

in discovery/navigation queries the schema must be ignored

Rapidly evolving schema

e.g. in scientific databases (new techniques/knowledge)



Hierarchical Solutions

- XML
 - + XML Schema, XSL transformations, XML APIs
- JSON
 - + JSON APIs, JSON Schemas

in XML

```
<restaurant id="r19">
  <category>gourmet</category>
  <name>Chef Chu</name>
  <address>
    <street>El Camino Real</street>
    <city>Palo Alto</city>
    <zip>92310</zip>
  </address>
  <nearby ref="r35"/><nearby ref="r77"/>
</restaurant>
<restaurant id="r35">
  ...
</restaurant>
<restaurant id="r44">
  ...
</restaurant>
<restaurant id="r77">
  ...
</restaurant>
```

XML

- hierarchical model (+ references)
 - only one type of relation between elements: E1 sub-element of E2
- either no schema or a constraining schema
 - but XML schemas may have variants (optional elements)
- ...

in JSON

```
[{"type": "restaurant", "id": "r19"  
  "category": "gourmet", "name": "Chef Chu",  
  "address":  
    {"street": "El Camino Real", "city": "Palo Alto", "zip": 92310},  
  "nearby": ["r35", "r77"]  
},  
{"type": "restaurant", "id": "r35",  
...},  
{"type": "restaurant", "id": "r44",  
...},  
{"type": "restaurant", "id": "r77",  
...}  
]
```


Data Interconnection

Problems with databases

- no standard way to refer to entities across databases
- different databases may use different names for the same entity
- the same name may have different meanings in different databases
- ...

Interconnection

Problem: different databases use different identifiers for the same entity

Part	Origin	Color	Supplier
Motor	DE	White	
Windows	FR	--	
Wheels	USA	Orange	IBM
...			

in Database 1

Company	Headquarters	...
IBM corp.	Unites States	
Telefónica	Spain	
Orange	France	
...		

in Database 2

The Linked-data Solution

1. Use URIs as names for things.
2. Use HTTP URIs so people can look up those names.
3. When someone looks up a URI, provide useful information using the standards.
4. Include links to other things, so people can discover more.

A resource is the main information building block

Anything that can be named is a resource.

Information resources entities that convey information and can be completely represented in binary code:

- documents, images, video, software ...

Non-information resources cannot be represented as bits:

- people, phenomena, concepts, ideas ...

Web resources are conceptual relations uniquely identified by HTTP URLs

- An HTTP URL points to at most one resource.
- If it is an information resource, HTTP allows clients to retrieve a representation of it.
 - The **concept** pointed to by an URL shouldn't change.
 - The **value** and **representations** retrieved when looking up an URL might change over time.

Using HTTP URIs ensures that anybody can look up the resource

**An HTTP URI of a resource can be dereferenced:
use an HTTP client to retrieve a representation.**

- Information resources result in a representation.
- Non-information resources result in a 303 redirect.
- Relies on the double role of an HTTP URI as identifier and locator.
- Principle: If you don't know something, look it up. Follow your nose.

Dereferencing a URI should lead to useful information about that resource

“Useful” means the information is available using standard technologies.
(RDF and SPARQL)

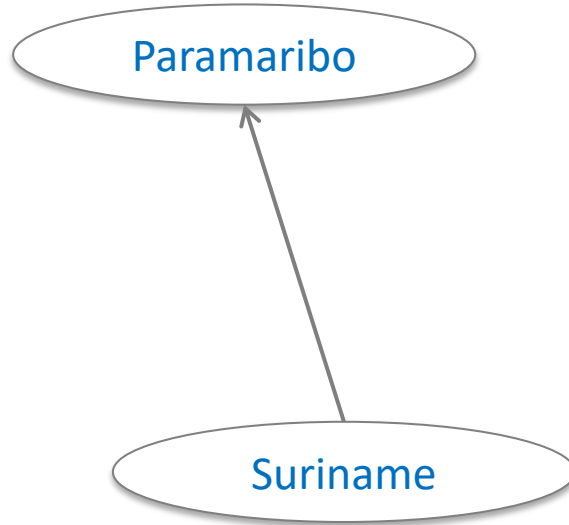
“Useful” also means the information provides explanations and/or context for the resource

Define the resource in terms of concepts the client already knows or can look up.

By including links to other resources, we create a Web of Data

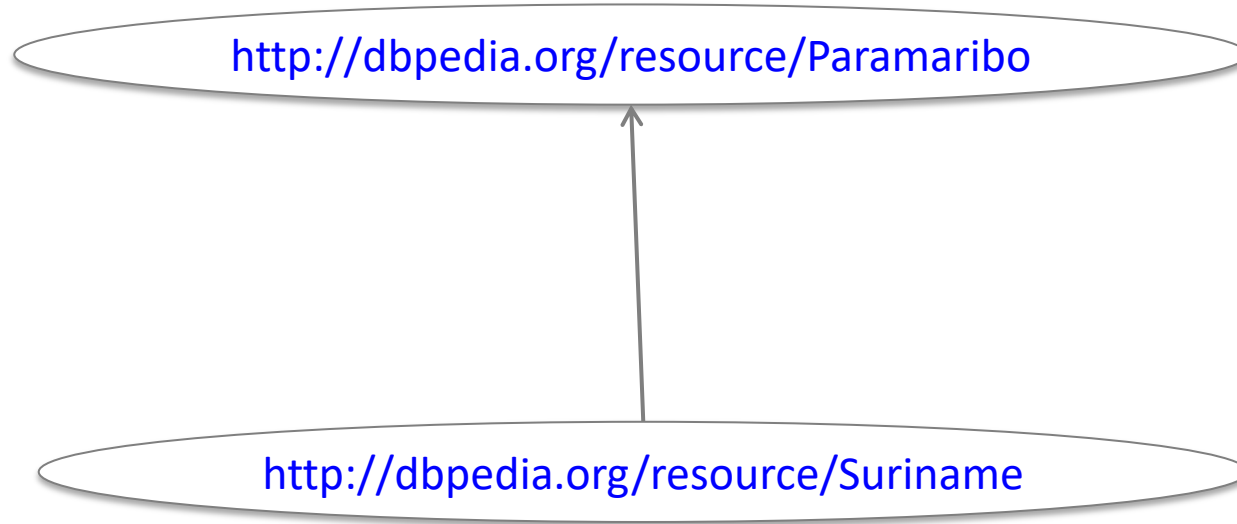
- Links connect a resource to known concepts.
 - Alberto is a researcher at U. of Toronto
- Links give meaning to data.
 - These temperatures are measured in degrees Celsius.
- Links allow exploration of related data.
 - Find more by the same author.

Basic information unit: the link

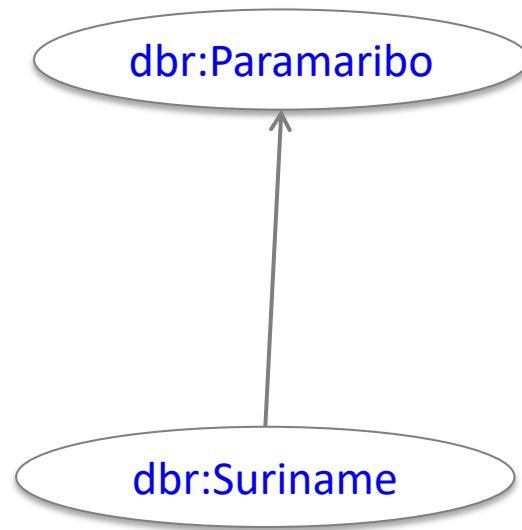


A link connects two resources

The resources are identified by URIs

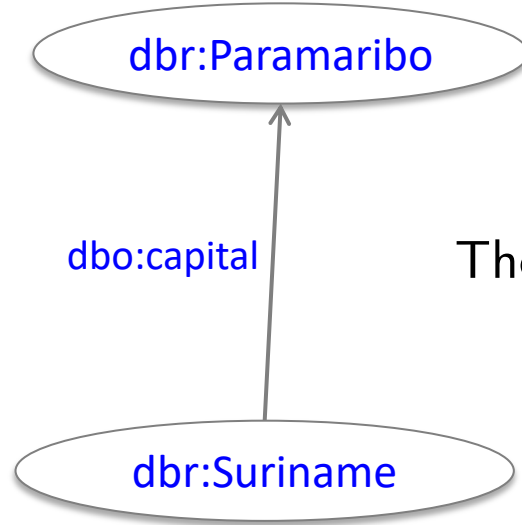


Using prefixes to abbreviate the URIs



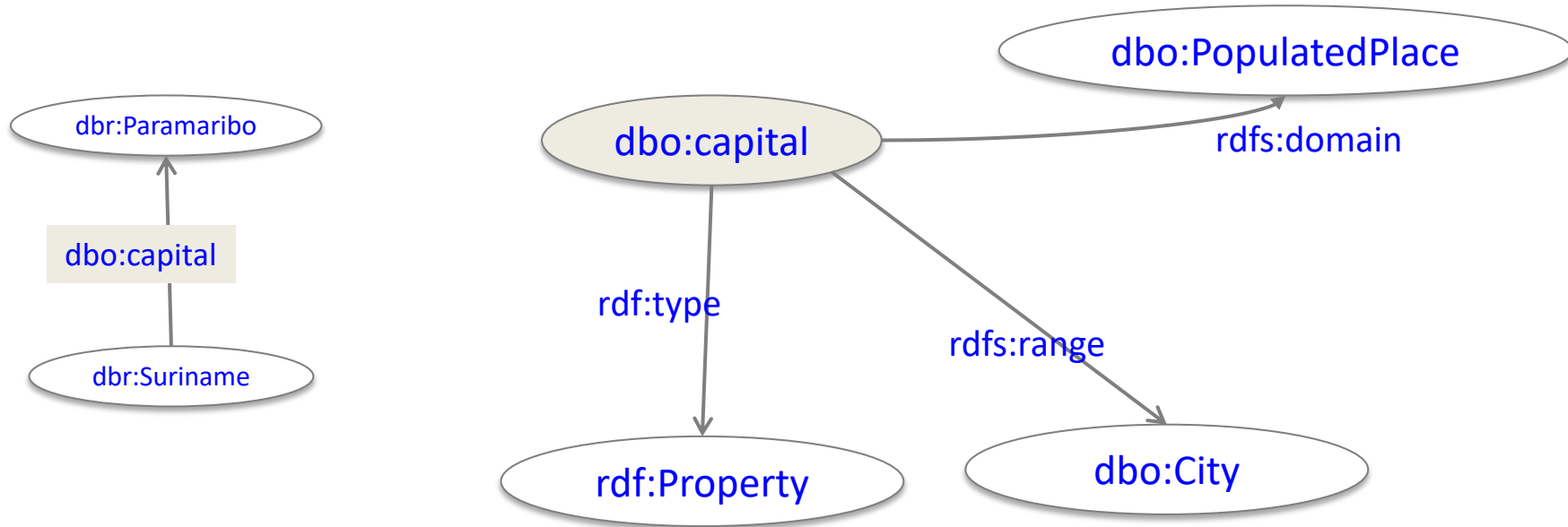
`dbr = http://dbpedia.org/resource/`

The links are typed (unlike Web links)



The link type is also identified by a URI

... so the link type can be described



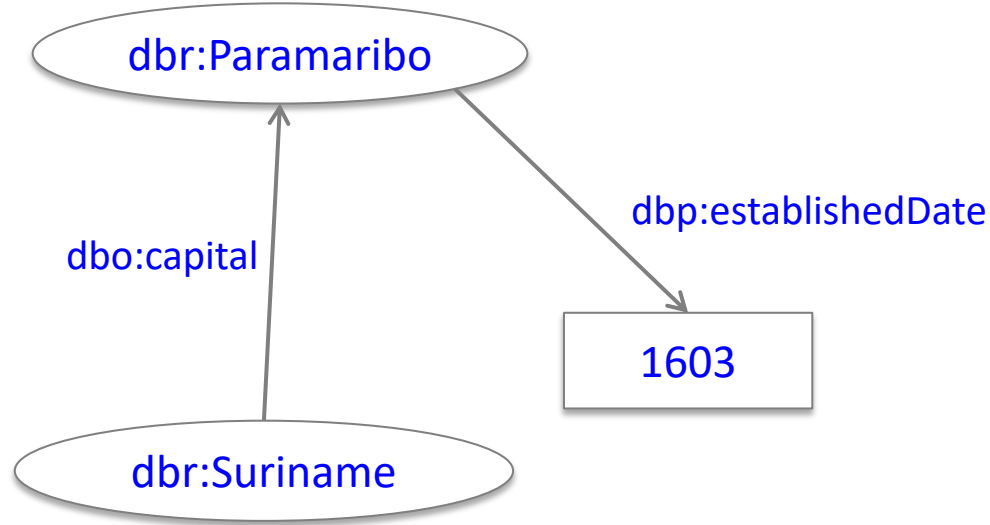
dbr = <http://dbpedia.org/resource/>

dbo = <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/>

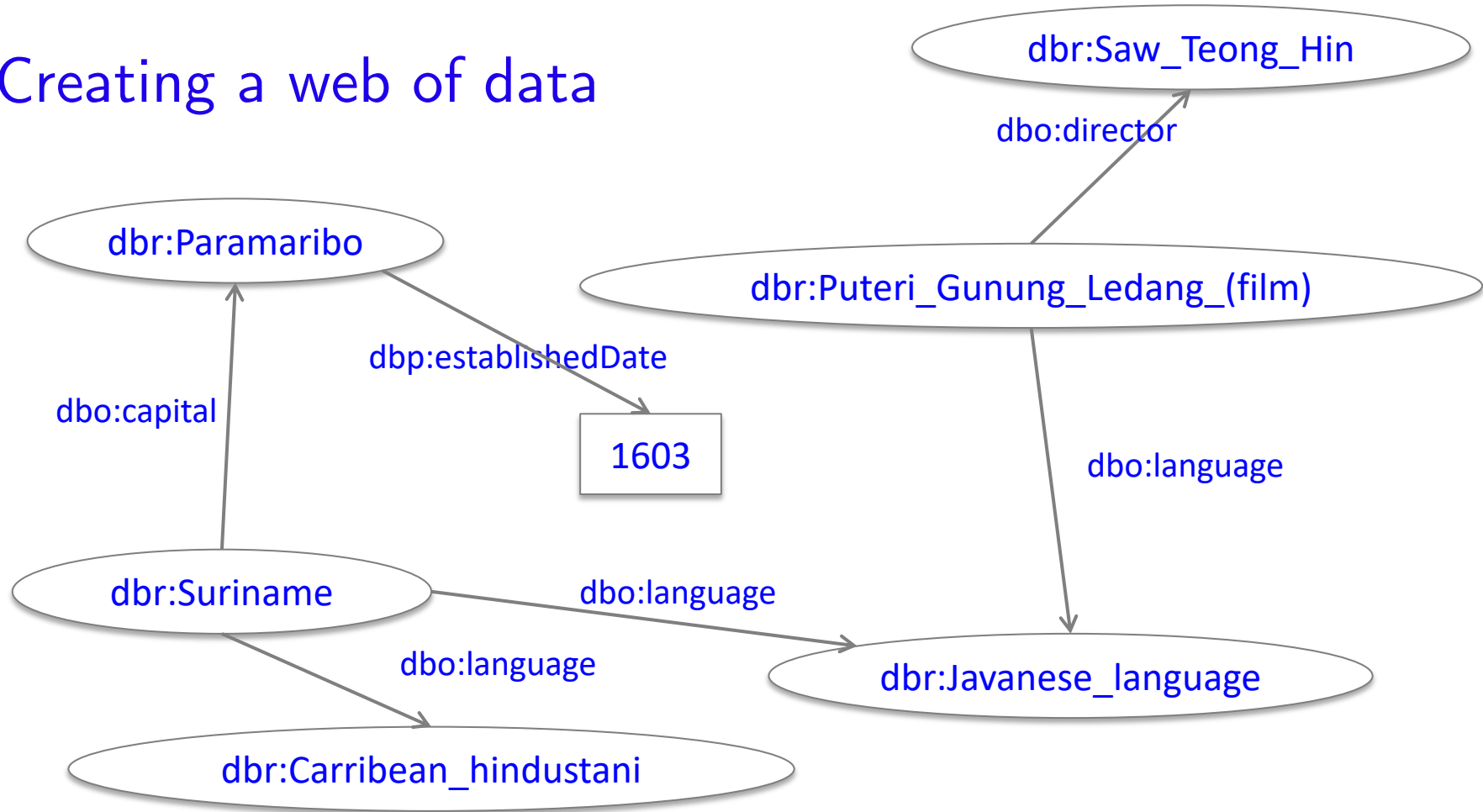
rdf = <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>

rdfs = <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>

Links can point to typed literal values



Creating a web of data



In a machine-readable form

```
@prefix dbr: <http://dbpedia.org/resource/>  
@prefix dbo: <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/>  
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>  
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>
```

```
dbr:Suriname dbo:language dbr:Carribean_hindustani.  
dbr:Suriname dbo:language dbr:Javanese_language.  
dbr:Suriname dbo:capital dbr:Parmaribo.
```

```
dbr:Parmaribo dbp:establishedDate 1603.
```

```
dbr:Puteri_Gunung_Ledang_(film) dbo:director dbr:Saw_Teons_Hin.  
dbr:Puteri_Gunung_Ledang_(film) dbo:language dbr:Javanese_language.
```


Compared to relational databases

No constraining database schema

- DB: putting data in predefined boxes (tables, rows, columns)
- SW: linking data

Open world

- DB: what is not in the database is *true*, what is absent is *false*, (closed world)
- SW: what is described is *true*, what is absent is *unknown*
 - but we may have negative descriptions

Global vocabulary (identifiers)

- the resource and property names (URIs) are globally visible

Interconnection: semantic heterogeneity problem

Problem: the same term may have different meaning in different databases

Ontology solution: shared concept descriptions

1. use common (standard) concept description languages (RDFS, OWL, ...)
2. make the descriptions available
schema.org, Linked open vocabularies, BioPortal, ...

Reasoning

- Make logical inferences
 - find the logical consequences of facts and rules
 - test the consistency of a set of logical formulae

State of the SW

- the Semantic Web does not exist
 - not as imagined by TBL et al.
 - big companies have created their SW (e.g. Apple Siri, Google services, ...)
- Many SW technologies are operational
 - Resource description framework, Ontology languages
 - Querying and reasoning software
 - Semi-structured databases (RDF triple stores, graph databases, ...)
 - Knowledge graphs

Content of the course

- semi-structured data models and processing
- resource description and interconnection with RDF graphs
- querying and logical inference on graphs
- ontologies and logical reasoning for description logic and logic programming
- representing time and space
- interoperability
- knowledge graphs

Projects

1. RDF(S), linked data, sparql
 - data mapping (CSV, Relational, ...) to RDF
 - linking to dbpedia
 - query demonstrator (generate documents)
2. OWL (and SWRL)
 - OWLizing a db schema, with consistency checking
 - populating and showing instance level inferences (OWL-RL + SWRL)
3. Knowledge graph
 - Representing highly contextual data (historical facts in books)
 - inference or induction