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Short notes about OWL 2

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Most examples are borrowed or adapted from the references cited in the slides

OWL 2



- OWL 2 superseded OWL I at the end of December
 2012
- Relationship to OWL I [I]
 - Backward compatibility with OWL I is, to all intents and purposes, complete all OWL I Ontologies remain valid OWL 2 Ontologies, with identical inferences in all practical cases
 - New features [2]: some are syntactic sugar, while others increase the expressiveness of the language
- [1] http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-overview/#Relationship_to_OWL_1
- [2] http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-new-features/



SYNTACTIC SUGAR

Syntactic sugar: DisjointUnion (1/2)



```
A: CarDoor door is exclusively either a: Front Door, a: RearDoor or a
:TrunkDoor
In OWL I:
:CarDoor rdf:type owl:Class ;
    owl:equivalentClass [ a owl:Class ;
         owl:unionOf ( :FrontDoor :RearDoor :TrunkDoor )
:FrontDoor a owl:Class; owl:disjointWith :RearDoor, :TrunkDoor .
:RearDoor a owl:Class; owl:disjointWith:FrontDoor,:TrunkDoor.
:TrunkDoor a owl:Class; owl:disjointWith:FrontDoor, :RearDoor.
```

Syntactic sugar: DisjointUnion (2/2)



```
A:CarDoor door is exclusively either a:FrontDoor, a:RearDoor or a
:TrunkDoor

In OWL 2:
:CarDoor rdf:type owl:Class;
owl:disjointUnionOf (:FrontDoor :RearDoor :TrunkDoor)
```

Syntactic sugar: DisjointClasses



OWL I had owl: AllDifferent as a shorthand for asserting that more than two individuals were pairwise different.

OWL 2 introduces owl: AllDisjointClasses as a shorthand for asserting that more than two classes are pairwise disjoint.

Syntactic sugar: NegativePropertyAssertion (1/2)



OWL 2 allows to assert explicitly that a given individual (w) is not connected to a given individual (z) by a certain object property (y). [negative object property assertion]

```
_:x rdf:type owl:NegativePropertyAssertion .
```

```
:x owl:sourceIndividual w .
```

```
\_:x owl:assertionProperty y .
```

$$:$$
x owl:targetIndividual z .

Syntactic sugar: NegativePropertyAssertion (2/2)



OWL 2 allows to assert explicitly that a given individual (w) does not have a given value (z) for a given data property (y). [negative data property assertion]

```
_:x rdf:type owl:NegativePropertyAssertion .
_:x owl:sourceIndividual w .
_:x owl:assertionProperty y .
```



EXPRESSIVENESS IMPROVEMENTS

Additions for Properties: Self-restriction



OWL 2 allows to describe the (anonymous) class of things that are related to themselves through a certain property.

Such classes can then be used in class axioms for named classes such as the following:

Additions for Properties: Property Qualified Cardinality Restrictions



In OWL 2, a qualified cardinality restriction allows to express the class of things having for a given property at least, at most or exactly a certain number of values belonging to the given class (or data range).

```
[a owl:Restriction ;
owl:onProperty some object property expression ;
owl:{min|max|}QualifiedCardinality "some n"^^xsd:nonNegativeInteger ;
owl:onClass a class ]

The 'q' is lowercase if neither
[a owl:Restriction ; "min" nor "max" are used
owl:onProperty some data property expression ;
owl:{min|max|}QualifiedCardinality "some n"^^xsd:nonNegativeInteger ;
owl:onDataRange a data range] .
```

Additions for Properties: Disjoint Properties



In OWL I it is possible to assert the disjointness of classes.

OWL 2 also allows to assert the disjointness of properties.

Start time must be different from end time

```
:startTime owl:propertyDisjointWith :endTime .
```

If there are more than two properties, it is possible to use the following syntax:

```
_:x rdf:type owl:AllDisjointProperties . 
 _:x owl:members ((data or object) property expr_1---expr_N).
```

Additions for Properties: Reflexive, Irreflexive, and Asymmetric Object Properties



Every x is a part of itself

:part_of rdf:type owl:ReflexiveProperty

No x can be a proper part of itself

:proper_part_of rdf:type owl:IrreflexiveProperty .

If x is a proper part of y, then y cannot be a proper part of x

:proper_part_of rdf:type owl:AsymmetricProperty

Additions for Properties: (Object) Property Chain Inclusion (1/3)



In OWL 2 it is possible to define a property as the composition of other properties.

If x has parent y and y has parent z then x has grandparent z

```
:hasGrandparent owl:propertyChainAxiom (
```

```
:hasParent :hasParent ) .
```

If x is located in y and y is part of z then x is located in z

```
:locatedIn owl:propertyChainAxiom (
```

```
:locatedIn :partOf ) .
```

Additions for Properties: (Object) Property Chain Inclusion (2/3)



Allowed forms of property chain inclusion axioms:

Allows us to express symmetry
■
R ⊑ R

$$S_1 \circ \dots \circ S_n \sqsubseteq R$$

$$R \circ S_1 \circ ... \circ S_n \sqsubseteq R$$

 $R \circ R \sqsubseteq R$ (transitivity)

$$S_1 \circ \dots \circ S_n \circ R \sqsubseteq R$$

For all i, it should be that $S_i < R$, where '<' is a strict partial order between properties (irreflexive, transitive and asymmetric).

The rationale is to avoid recursion with some exceptions in order to avoid undecidability.

Additions for Properties: (Object) Property Chain Inclusion (3/3)



A simple role cannot be inferred (directly or indirectly) from a property chain.

R is <u>non simple</u> if:

$$S_1 \circ ... \circ S_n \sqsubseteq R$$
 with $n > 1$
 $S \sqsubseteq R$ where S is non simple
 the inverse of R is non simple

In the following cases only simple roles are allowed:

- cardinality restrictions (both qualified and unqualified) and self-restrictions
- functional, inverse functional, irreflexive, asymmetric and disjoint object properties

Additions for Properties: Keys



In OWL 2 it is possible to associate a class with a set of (either object or data) properties that uniquely identifies its instances.

Students are uniquely identified by their student identification number

```
:Student a owl:Class;

owl:hasKey (:studentIdentificationNumber).
```

Extended datatype support



- Additional supported datatypes
- Possibility to define new datatypes by constraining an existing datatype through various facets (e.g. integers lower than 1024)
- A new construct to define datatypes
- Combine data ranges via intersection, union and negation

Simple metamodeling



Punning: relaxing the strict separation of names that was mandated by OWL I DL

Extended annotations



- Annotations on axioms, ontologies as well as ontology elements
- Domains and ranges of annotation properties
- Hierarchies of annotation properties

Other innovations



- owl:topObjectProperty, owl:topDataProperty
- owl:bottomObjectProperty, owl:bottomDataProperty
- owl:Nothing
- Versioning and imports. An ontology has:
 - an ontology IRI (common to different versions of the ontology)
 - version IRI (identifying a particular version of the ontology)
- In OWL 2 property expressions can be in class expressions, thus it is possible to use the inverse of a property without giving it a name:

Useful References



- OWL 2 Web Ontology Language
 - New Features and Rationale (https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-new-features/)
 - Document Overview (https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-overview/)
 - Structural Specification and Functional-Style Syntax
 (https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-syntax/) [just below the table of contents, it is possible to clic on a button to show RDF in the examples]
 - Primer (https://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-primer/) [at the end of section 1.2, it is possible to clic on a button to show RDF in the examples]
- Knowledge Representation for the Semantic Web Part I: OWL 2 (http://semantic-web-book.org/w/images/b/b0/KI09-OWL-Rules-I.pdf)