

# Business Semantics as an Interface between Enterprise Information Management and the Web of Data: A Case Study in the Flemish Public Administration

Christophe Debruyne and Pieter De Leenheer  
eBISS, July 2012



# Goals of this presentation

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- Give an understanding of Enterprise Information Management for Semantic Interoperability (by means of a case)
- Understand the role of conceptual modeling and the tension field between
  - Reusability and usefulness of models
  - Types of semantic interoperability
- Identify requirements for methods for EIM
- Present a method (and tool) for EIM: Business Semantics Management

# Introduction

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- Christophe Debruyne
  - Vrije Universiteit Brussel, STARLab
    - Method, Tools and Application of Ontologies
  - MSc in Computer Science @ VUB in 2009
  
- Dr. Pieter De Leenheer
  - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Business, Web & Media
    - Service science
  - Collibra NV/SA (<http://www.collibra.com/>)
  - MSc and PhD in Computer Science @ VUB in 2004 and 2009 resp.

# Outline

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- Context - FRIS and CERIF
  - The need for enterprise information management and/for semantic interoperability
- Terminology and pinpointing the challenges
  - Requirements for tackling those challenges
- Business Semantics Management
  - Framework and Collaborative Method
- Hands-on BSM

# Part I: Context

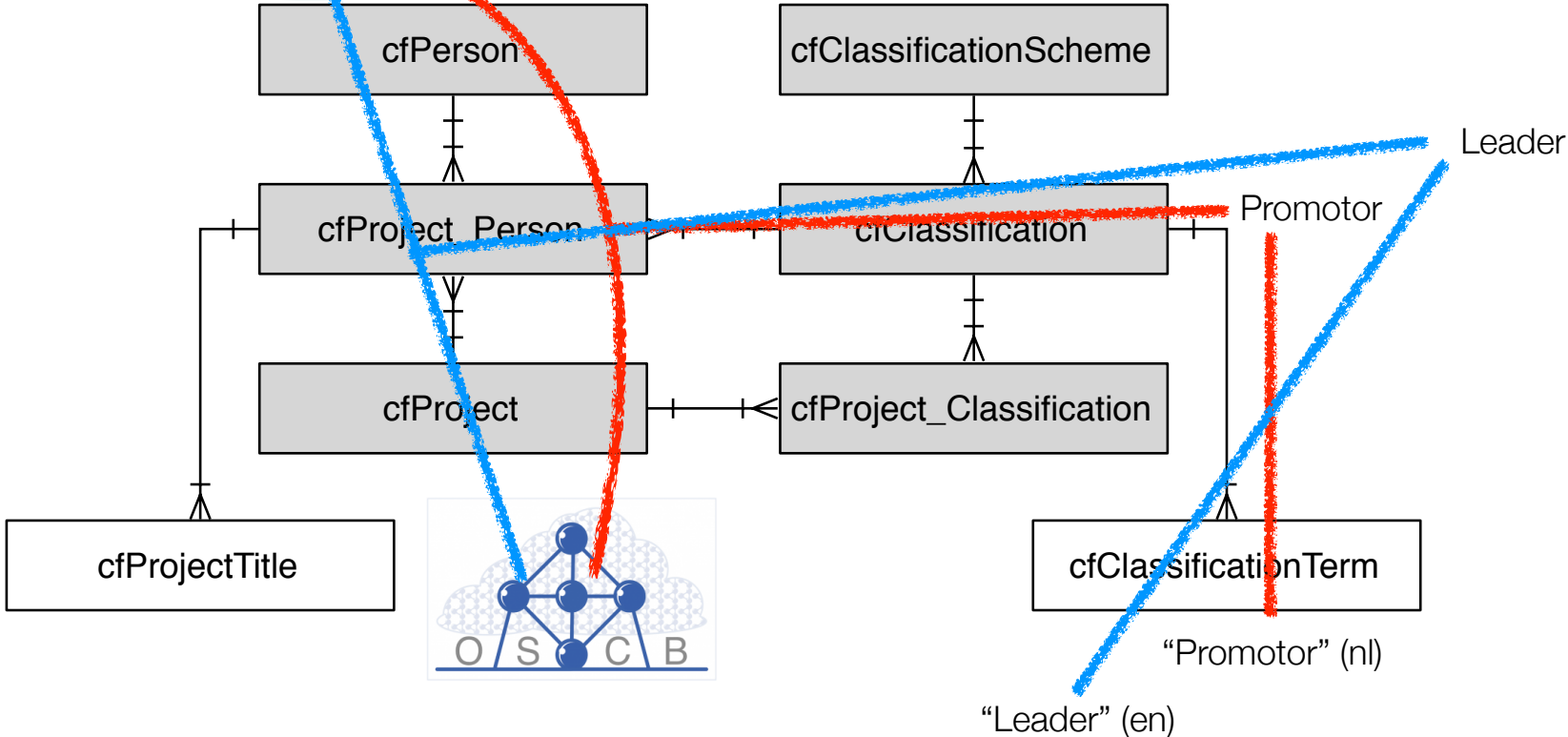
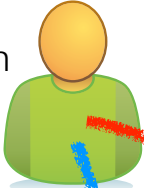
# CERIF

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- Common European Research Information Format (CERIF)
- Recommendation to EU-members for the storage and exchange of current research information.
- Aim: greatly facilitate the **reporting** process
- Created by euroCRIS by means of Entity-Relationship diagrams
  - To cope with multiple languages
  - For flexibility
- Core concept: Researcher, Research Project, Research Group, Equipment, Publication, etc.

# CERIF

Prof. Dr. Robert Meersman



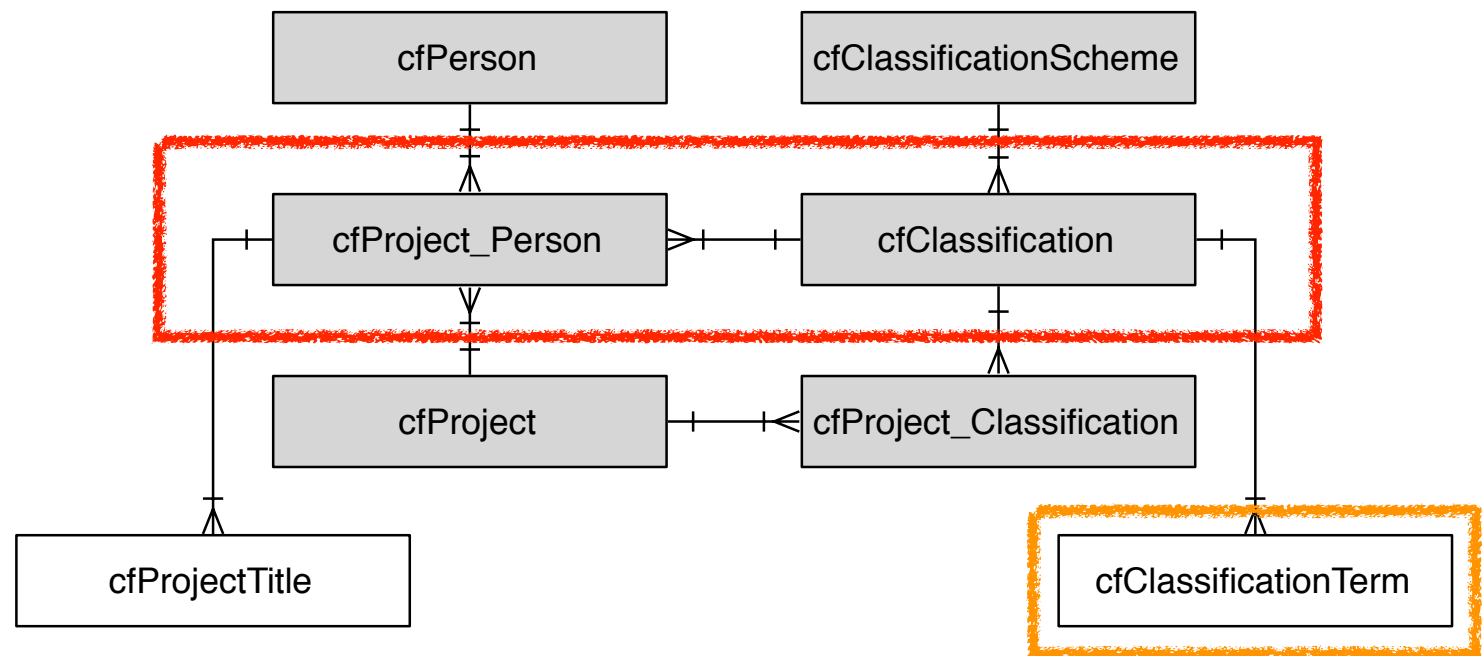
# CERIF

- Mismatches at different levels:

- Terms

- Relations

- (Business rules)





# Flanders Research Information Space

<http://www.researchportal.be/>

- Boost innovation through
  - aggregating data and make it publicly available
    - 19683 projects
    - 1976 organizations
    - 13982 researchers
    - ...
  - multiple parties deliver
- Enterprise Information Management
- Linked Data Approaches

The screenshot shows the FRIS research portal interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Research projects', 'Organisations', 'Researchers', 'Funding programmes', and 'Equipment'. The main content area is titled 'Large Hadron Collider' and includes a description of the LHC and a map of Europe with pins for various locations. The map shows pins for London, Den Haag, Rotterdam, België, Reims, Luxembourg, Mannheim, Stuttgart, Zürich, Bern, Schweiz, Svizzera, Svizzera, Torino, Milano, Lyon, Nantes, Angers, Le Mans, Rennes, Guernsey, Jersey, Swindon, and London. The right sidebar contains sections for 'Persons', 'Organisations', and 'Research projects'.

Help Contact About the Portal News

Research projects Organisations Researchers Funding programmes Equipment

Large Hadron Collider  
C.E.R.N. European Organization for Nuclear Research  
The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is a gigantic scientific instrument near Geneva, where it spans the border between Switzerland and France about 100 m underground. It is a particle accelerator used by physicists to study the smallest known particles – the fundamental building blocks of all things. It will revolutionise our understanding, from the minuscule world deep within atoms to the id: ABC\_00003378

Information Collaboration Map

Zoom to fit Focus Satellite Map Terrain

Content

Persons  Who has used "Large Hadron Collider"...

- Keuresch ABBASPOUR TEHRANI   
Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Ahmed ABDELHAMID   
Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- AHMED ABDELKHALEK   
Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Ademola ABIJOYE   
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Organisations  Where "Large Hadron Collider" has been used...

- Elementary Particle Physics   
Vrije Universiteit Brussel  
Tervuursevest 101, 3001 Heverlee, BE
- Elementary Particle Physics   
Vrije Universiteit Brussel  
Tervuursevest 101, 3001 Heverlee, BE
- Elementary Particle Physics   
Vrije Universiteit Brussel  
Tervuursevest 101, 3001 Heverlee, BE

Research projects  That has used "Large Hadron Collider"...

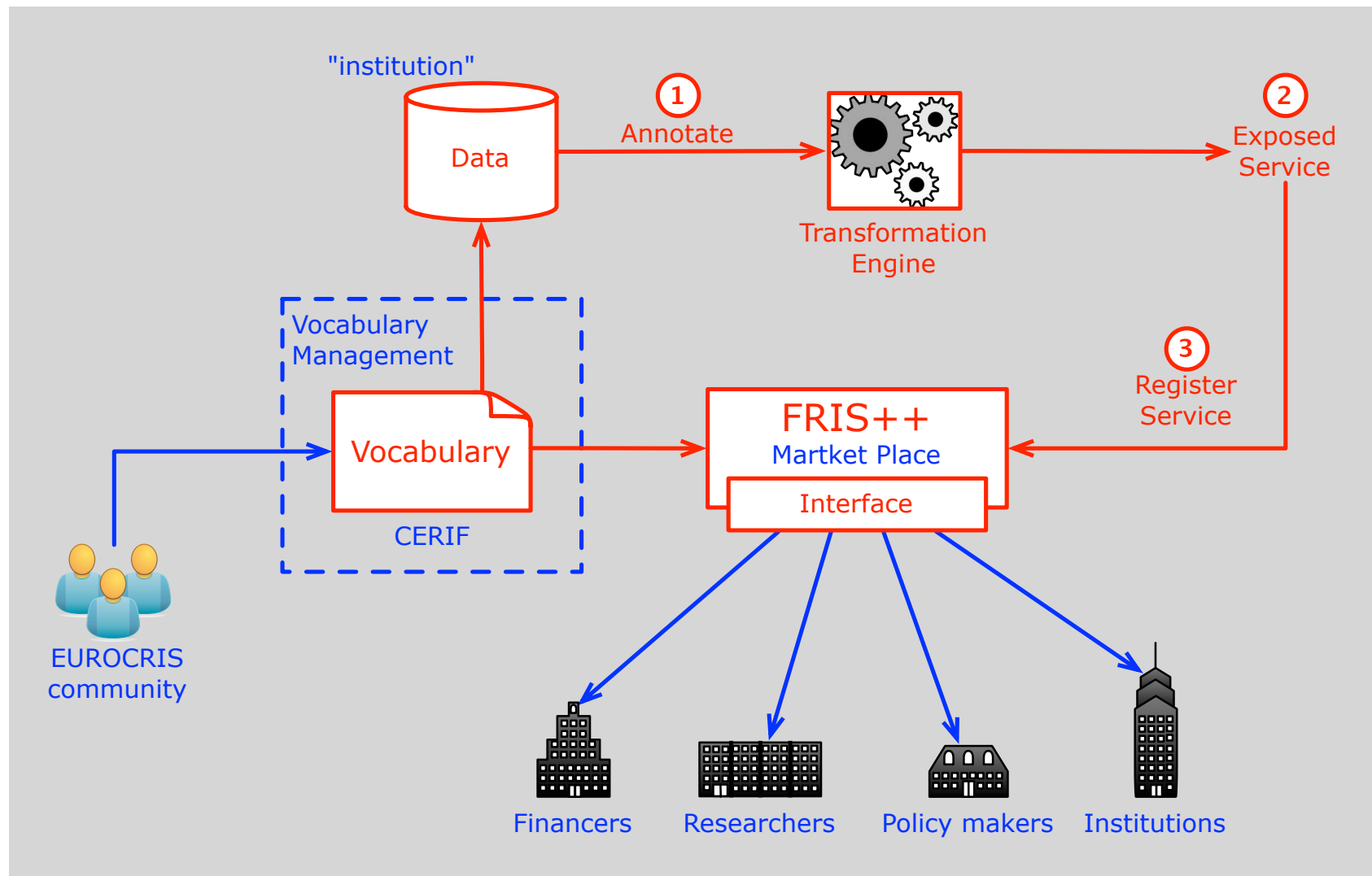
- Analysis of the top quark properties at the LHC accelerator   
2 Jan 2008 - 31 Dec 2011
- Experimental study of diffractive inter...   
1 Jan 2007 - 31 Dec 2011

## FRIS Business Drivers

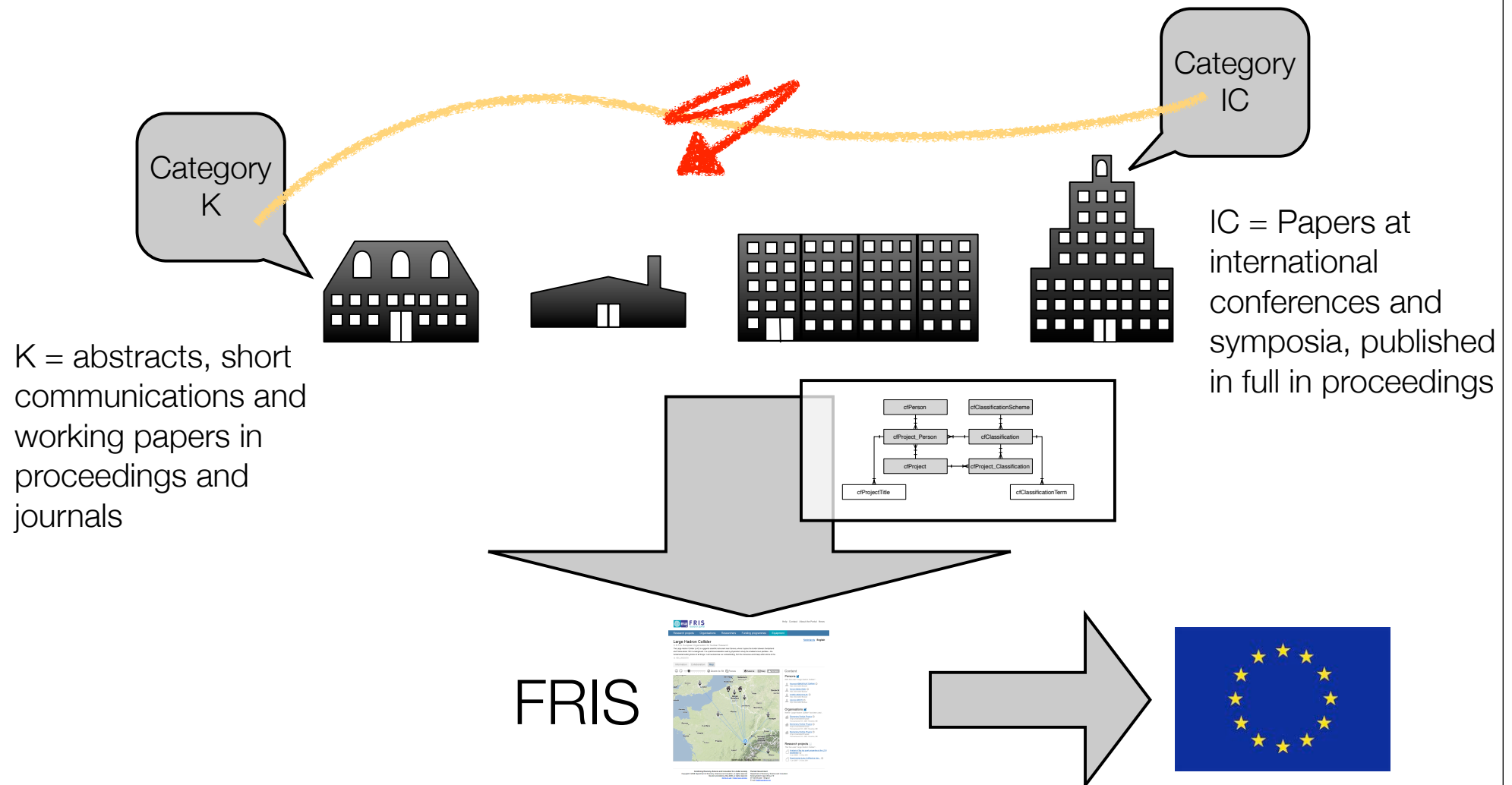
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- **Research institutions:** a standard semantic framework for reporting on research activities and results.
- **Policy makers:** accurate and timely overview of research activities and results to improve innovation.
- **Funding agencies:** identify challenges in research or opportunities for exploitation.
- **Researchers:** avoid wasting valuable time collecting the same data over and over.

# FRIS



- How can we achieve consensus on terminology used?
  - Example: classifying workshop papers.



# Linked Data and FRIS

dblp.uni-trier.de Computer Science Bibliography

SCHLOSS DAGSTUHL Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik

Universität Trier

## Robert Meersman

List of publications from the DBLP Bibliography Server - FAQ

Facets and more with CompleteSearch

Ask others: ACM DL/Guide - CSB - MetaPress - Google - Bing - Yahoo

author:robert.meersman

Year	Publication
2011	Robert Meersman, Tharam S. Dillon, Pilar Herrero, Akhil Kumar, Manfred Reichert, Li Qing, Beng Chin Ooi, Ernesto Damiani, Douglas C. Schmidt, Jules White, Manfred Hauswirth, Pascal Hitzler, Mukesh K. Mohania: On the Move to Meaningful Internet Systems: OTM 2011 - Confederated International Conferences: CoopIS, DOA-SVI, and ODBASE 2011, Hersonissos, Crete, Greece, October 17-21, 2011, Proceedings, Part I Springer 2011
2011	Robert Meersman, Tharam S. Dillon, Pilar Herrero, Akhil Kumar, Manfred Reichert, Li Qing, Beng Chin Ooi, Ernesto Damiani, Douglas C. Schmidt, Jules White, Manfred Hauswirth, Pascal Hitzler, Mukesh K. Mohania: On the Move to Meaningful Internet Systems: OTM 2011 - Confederated International Conferences: CoopIS, DOA-SVI, and ODBASE 2011, Hersonissos, Crete, Greece, October 17-21, 2011, Proceedings, Part II Springer 2011
2011	Robert Meersman, Tharam S. Dillon, Pilar Herrero: On the Move to Meaningful Internet Systems: OTM 2011 Workshops - Confederated International Workshops and Posters: EI2N+NSF ICE, ICSP+INBAST, ISDE, ORM, OTMA, SWWS+MONET-SeDeS, and VADER 2011, Hersonissos, Crete, Greece, October 17-21, 2011, Proceedings Springer 2011
2011	Christophe Debruyne, Robert Meersman: Semantic Interoperation of Information Systems by Evolving Ontologies through Formalized Social Processes. ADBIS 2011: 444-459
2011	Ioana Ciuciu, Gang Zhao, Jutta A. Müller, Silvia von Stackelberg, Cristián Vásquez, Thorsten Haberecht, Robert Meersman, Klemens Böhm: Semantic Support for Security-Annotated Business Process Models. BMMDS/EMMSAD 2011: 284-298

Refine by AUTHOR

- Robert Meersman (117)
- Zahir Tari (23)
- Pilar Herrero (15)
- Yan Tang (14)
- [top 4] [top 50] [all 123]

Refine by VENUE

- OTM Workshops (28)
- OTM Conferences (20)
- CoopIS/DOA/ODBASE (8)
- RuleML (3)
- [top 4] [top 50] [all 50]

Refine by YEAR

- 2011 (9)
- 2010 (7)
- 2009 (9)
- 2008 (9)
- [top 4] [all 25]

hide facet boxes

NCBI Resources How To

NCBI National Center for Biotechnology Information

All Databases Search

### NCBI Home

Site Map (A-Z)

- All Resources
- Chemicals & Bioassays
- Data & Software
- DNA & RNA
- Domains & Structures
- Genes & Expression
- Genetics & Medicine
- Genomes & Maps
- Homology
- Literature
- Proteins
- Sequence Analysis

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The National Center for Biotechnology Information advances science and health by providing access to biomedical and genomic information.

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- How-To's: Learn how to accomplish specific tasks at NCBI
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NCBI Facebook page

Find out the latest news about NCBI resources and participate in community

Popular Resources

- BLAST
- Bookshelf
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- Genome
- Nucleotide
- OMIM
- Protein
- PubChem
- PubMed
- PubMed Central
- SNP

NCBI News

New NCBI Newsletter

osist

cordis.rkbexplorer.com

search query crs contact

Just search: robert meersman [Literal/text search] [Submit]

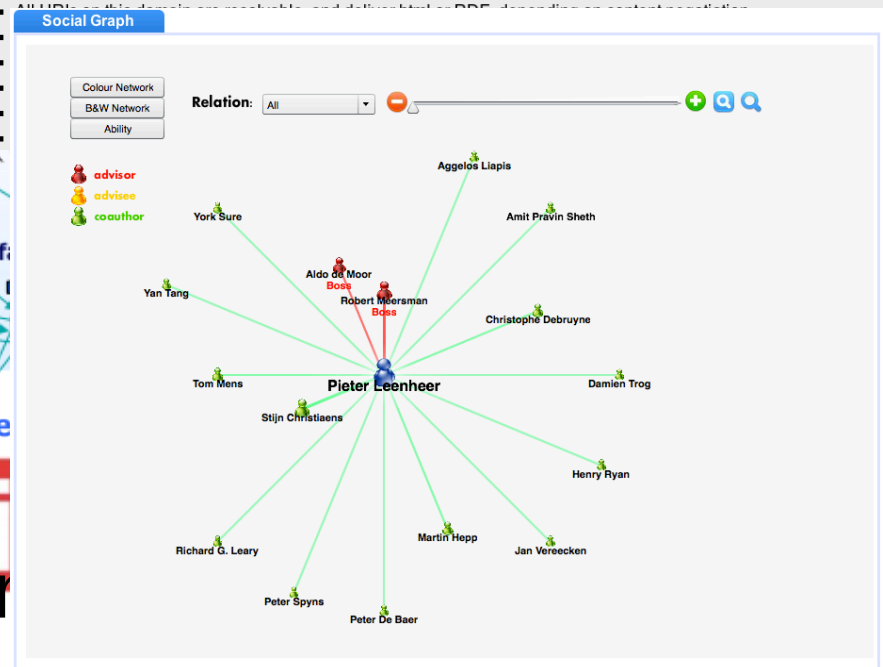
This is one of several semantic repositories that contains and publishes RDF linked data and co-reference information, forming the underlying distributed storage model behind the RKB Explorer initiative.

This repository contains data supplied by CORDIS.

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Neither the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, nor any person acting on its behalf, is responsible for the use, which might be made of the attached information. The attached information is drawn from the Community R&D Information Service (CORDIS). The CORDIS services are carried on the CORDIS Host in Luxembourg - <http://cordis.europa.eu>. Access to CORDIS is currently available free-of-charge.

Services offered —



# Linked Data Web is another Story

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- Many communities - heterogenous goals
- Open Innovation paradigm: boost change through sharing
- First unlock data, then think about possible applications
  - Lightweight loosely coupled vocabularies
  - Generative technologies such as RDF, HTTP, SPARQL

# Resource Description Framework

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- RDF is not a language, but a model
- RDF is a W3C recommendation
- RDF is designed to be read by computers
- RDF is for describing resources on the Web
- RDF uses URIs to identify and reference resources on the Web

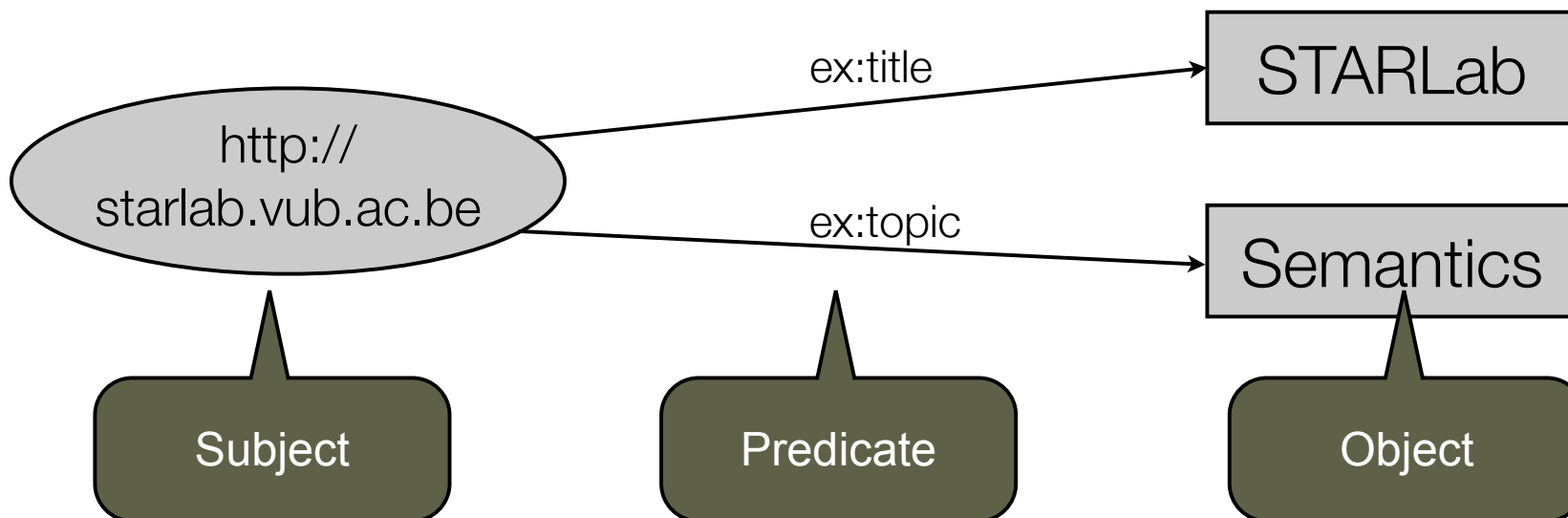
# Example of RDF

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
  xmlns:ex="http://starlab.vub.ac.be/example#">

  <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://starlab.vub.ac.be">
    <ex:title>STARLab</ex:title>
    <ex:topic>Semantics</ex:topic>
  </rdf:Description>

</rdf:RDF>
```

RDF Namespace



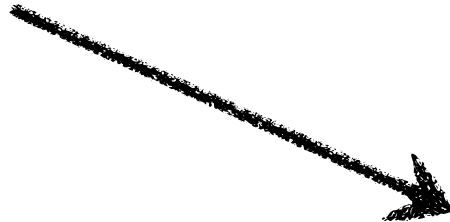


# SPARQL

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- SPARQL Protocol and RDF Query Language
  - is an RDF query language

```
PREFIX ex: < http://starlab.vub.ac.be/example# >  
SELECT ?title  
WHERE {  
  ?thingy ex:title ?title.  
}
```



<b>?title</b>
STARLab

# FRIS

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- To populate the FRIS portal with all information provided by the delivered CERIF files and other heterogeneous sources, needed are:
  - Consensus amongst the involved parties on a common conceptual model for CERIF and the different classifications (inside that semantic layer);
  - An easy, repeatable process for validating and integrating the data from those sources;
  - Make available the information in a generic way on the Web on which third parties can develop services as demonstrated by other Linked Data initiatives.

## Part II: Some terminology & identification of challenges

# Enterprise Information Management and the Web of Data

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- Knowledge management and conceptual modeling are important activities for both Enterprise Information Management (EIM) and the Web of Data.
- EIM (Top-down)
  - Satisfying IT needs emerging from organization's requirements
- The Web of Data (Bottom-up)
  - Provide structured data for (third party) services

Remember, FRIS aims at both!

# Semantic Interoperability

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- Semantic interoperability is defined as “the ability of two or more *autonomously* developed and maintained information systems (IS) to communicate data and to interpret the information in the data that has been communicated in a meaningful manner”
- When a need for semantic interoperability rises, the *community* of stakeholders formulates these in *semantic interoperability requirements*.

# Closed vs. Open Systems

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- Closed = developed within, and for, 1 organization

*Semantic Interoperability NOT required*

- Open = developed for deployment on internet

*Semantic Interoperability ENABLED by a shared ontology:*

*Collaborative Ontology Engineering >*

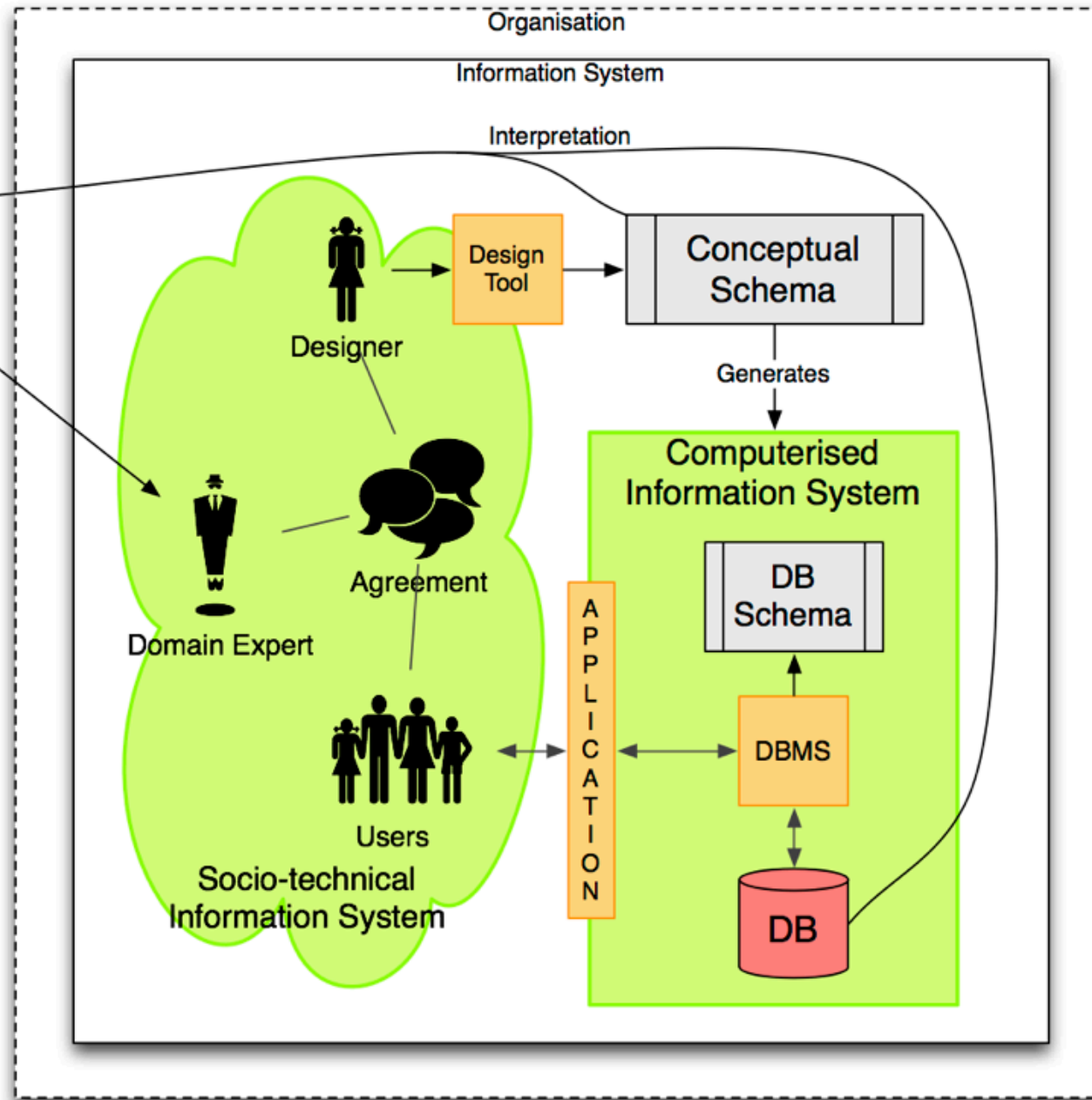
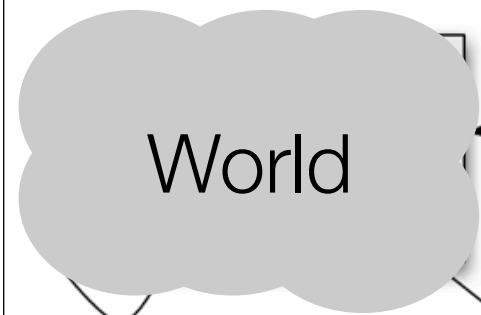
*COMMUNITY!*

# Ontologies

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- The formal semantics of a (computer-based) system is the correspondence between this system and some real world as perceived by humans and usually given by a formal mapping of the system's symbols.
- As the real world is not accessible inside a computer, the world needs to be replaced by an agreed conceptualization if we want to store and reason about semantics. Semantics are often stored in the shape of a formal (mathematical) construct. The resulting artifact is what we call an ontology.

Other definition of ontology: a computer-based, shared, agreed formal conceptualization is known as an ontology.





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The study of the categories of *things* that exist or may exist in some domain.



What concepts do exist ?

How are concepts related to each other ?

How are concepts subdivided according to differences and similarities ?

# Ontologies in Computer Science

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- In summary: Semantics = Agreed Meaning
  - Links symbols in autonomously developed systems to shared reality
  - Agreed among humans as cognitive agents
  - Stored in ontologies
    - key technology for interoperability (SemWeb)
    - ontologies  $\neq$  data models, but provide annotations for them
    - support both human- and system-based reasoning

# Ontologies in Computer Science

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- The problem is not so much what ontologies in computer science are, but how ontologies come to be.
- An ontology is the result of a series of interaction leading to agreements to a better approximation of a community's perceived reality, often for a specific goal.
- This goal is defined by the community's semantic interoperability requirements

## Challenges

## Reusability vs. usability

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- Ontologies contain references to the instances used in the application or application domain, and domain rules.
  - Domain rules typically contain constraints of identity, cardinality, mandatoriness, etc. and thus restrict the semantics (i.e. interpretation) in a specific conceptualization of a particular application domain.
  - Depending on the semantic interoperability requirements, domain rules can be crucial. E.g., conceptual reference structures.
  - Providing more rules, however, also reduces the generality of these ontologies.

## Challenges

## Context of application

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- Tension field Web of Data >< Enterprise Information Management (EIM)
- Describing existing (legacy) data can be done with lightweight ontologies.
- However, as more business rules are needed to ensure proper business within the community of stakeholders, EIM will be applied to capture the requirements on how and under what conditions data will be exchanged.

## Challenges

## Context of application

---

- The Web of Data and EIM are thus residing in two different business domains and have different business drivers.
- Bottom-up (Web Of Data) vs. Top-down (EIM)
- For EIM: vocabulary management is central

# Requirements for a Method

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- **Community** involvement
- Learn from database modeling methods and techniques:
  - **Technology matures**
  - **Analyzing natural language discourse**
  - **Employing legacy data, output reports, interviews, etc.**
  - **Lift data models into ontologies, remove application-specific context**

# Part III: Business Semantics Management



# Six principles of BSM

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- **ICT Democracy:** ontology should be defined by its community
- **Emergence:** semantic interoperability requirements emerge autonomously from community evolution processes
- **Co-evolution:** ontology evolution processes are driven by the changing semantic interoperability requirements
- **Perspective Rendering:** ontology evolution processes must reflect the different stakeholder perspectives
- **Perspective Unification:** relevant parts of the various stakeholder perspectives serve as input for the unified perspective
- **Validation:** validating ontology against these perspectives

## A Brief History ...

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- 1995. VUB STARLab was founded
- 1999. DOGMA Ontology Engineering *Framework*
- 2006. DOGMA-MESS
  - Meaning Evolution Support System
  - A method built on top of DOGMA
- 2008. Business Semantics Management (BSM)  
(DOGMA-MESS revisited)
- 2008. Collibra was founded
- 2010. *Research in social processes in OE*

# Developing Ontology Guided Methods and Applications

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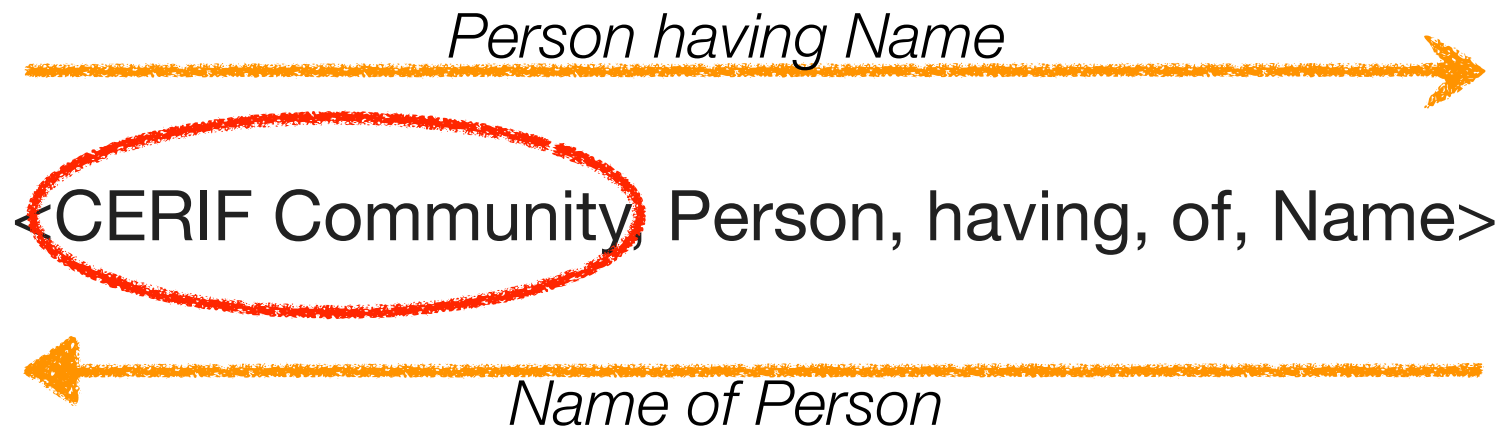
- Fact-oriented. Communication of elementary fact-types by analyzing natural language discourse. Fact-types are “generalizations” of facts.
  - [Person] knows [Person] is a fact-type. [Christophe] knows [Pieter] a fact. Different from frame-oriented approaches!
  - Elementary means fact-types can not be broken down (atomic)
- Lexon Base. A vast base of **plausible** binary fact-types called lexons.

# Developing Ontology Guided Methods and Applications

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- Lexons

Plausible in domain!

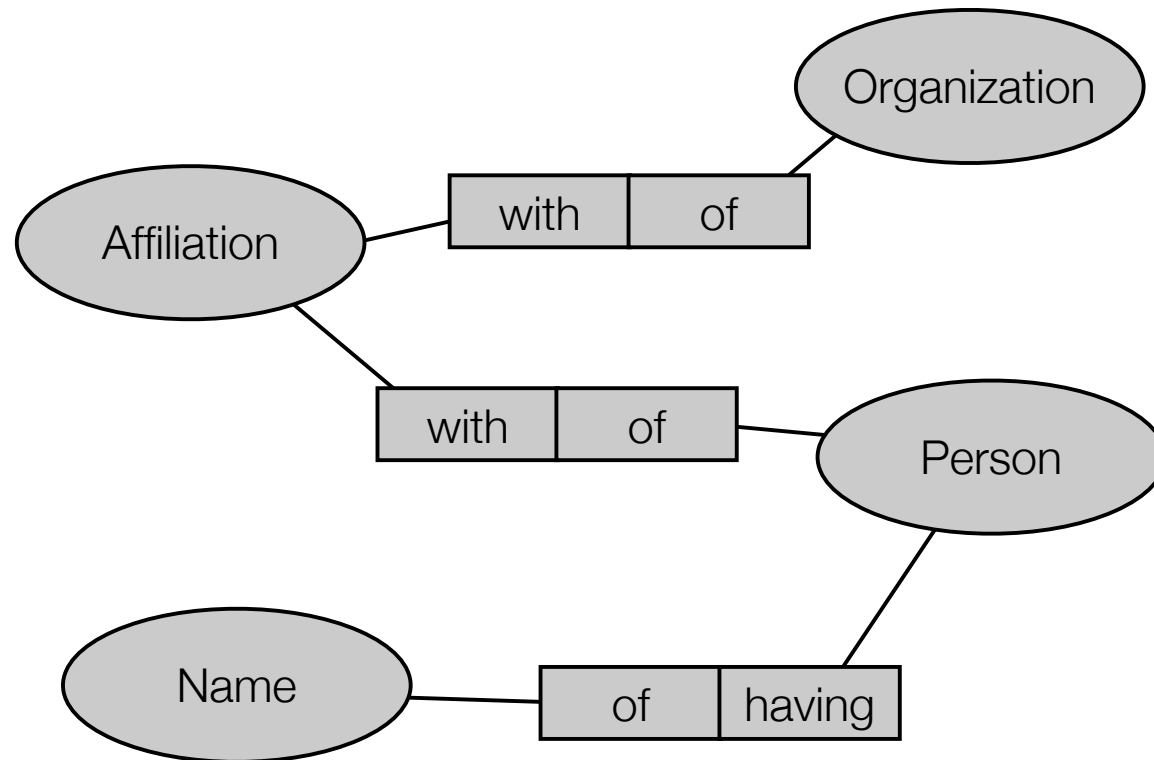


Holding within a  
community!

# Developing Ontology Guided Methods and Applications

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- Lexon paths



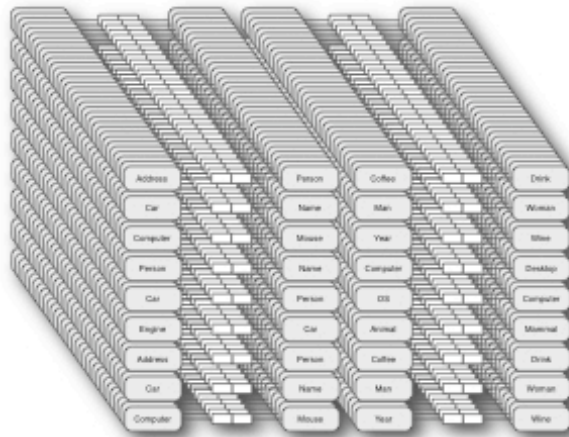
# Developing Ontology Guided Methods and Applications

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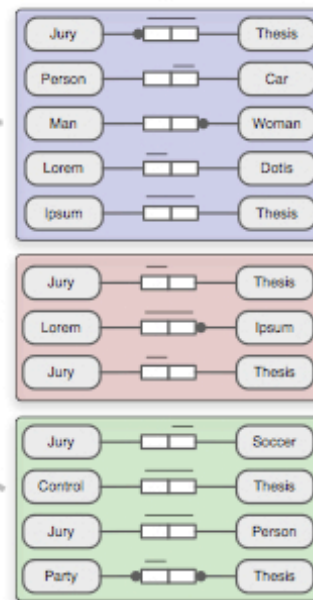
- Commitments are selections of the lexon base with constraints to represent the domain
  - *Community commitments* contain the selection of lexons and constraints the community is supposed to commit to. He or she engages in - at least - adhering to those agreed upon facts and constraints.
    - Represents the ontology!
  - *Application commitments* furthermore contain annotations of the application symbols

# Developing Ontology Guided Methods and Applications

Lexon Base



Commitment Layer



Applications



“Double articulation principle”

# Developing Ontology Guided Methods and Applications

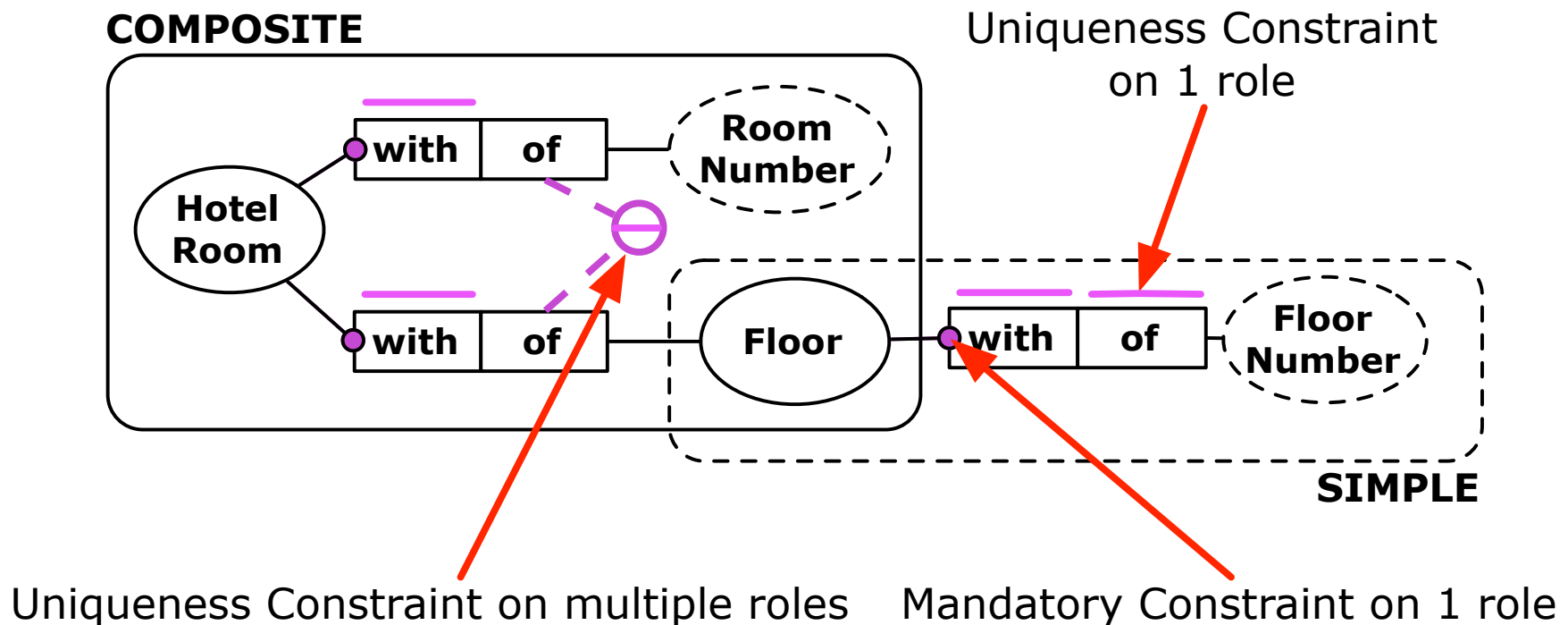
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# Developing Ontology Guided Methods and Applications

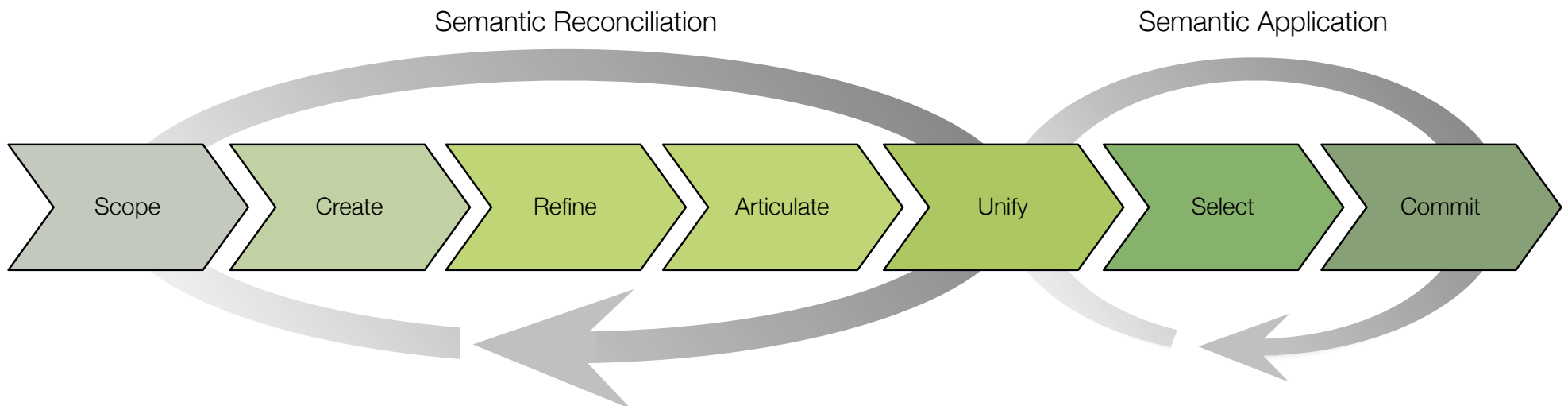
- Importance of domain rules.
- E.g., identification. Unique, total, and identifying set of attributes



# Business Semantics Management

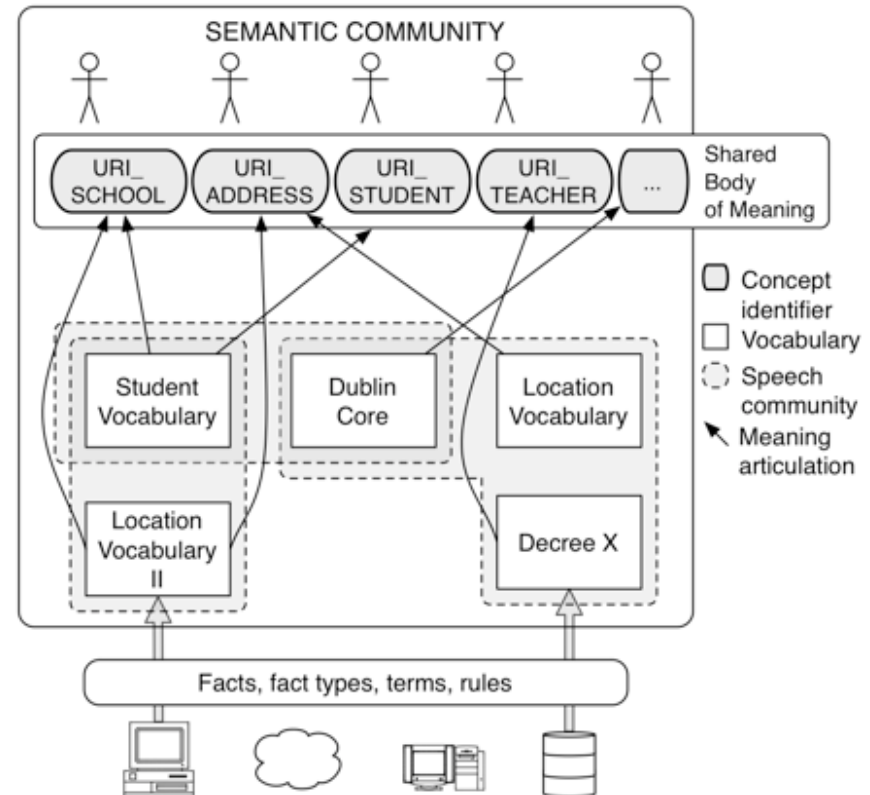
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- DOGMA provided the framework
- What is lacking is a method



# Modeling communities in BSM

- Semantic communities
- Body of shared meaning
- Speech communities
- Vocabularies

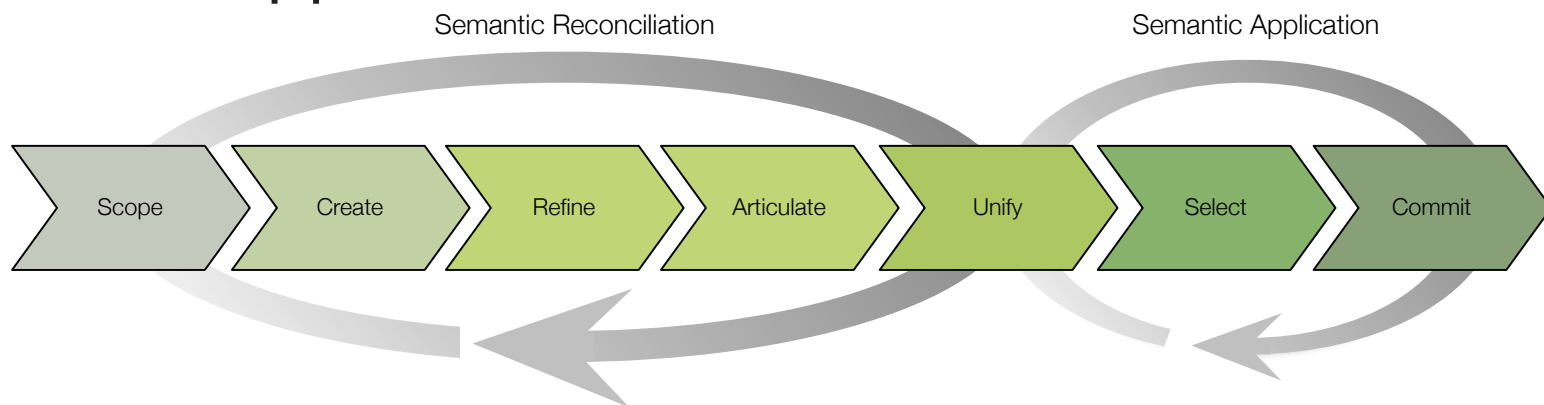


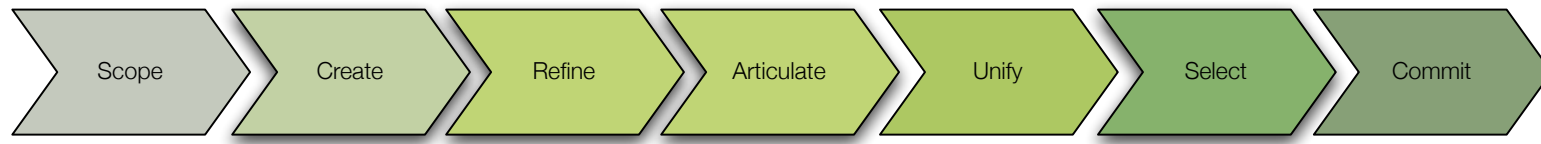
- Vocabularies are part of Speech Communities. Speech communities are part of Semantic communities.
- All information (formal and informal) stored in this system is called a *glossary*.

# Semantic Reconciliation

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- Semantic Reconciliation. Business semantics are modeled by extracting, refining, articulating and consolidating fact-types from existing sources.
  - Results in a number of consolidated language-neutral semantic patterns (community commitments) that are articulated with informal meaning descriptions
  - These patterns are reusable for constructing various semantic applications.





# Scope

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- Scope sets out the scoped terms that are actually needed to establish semantic interoperability
  - Distinction between an IT- or IS-context and a business context. They imply different kinds of threats
  - Involve the relevant stakeholders in this process and assign them with appropriate roles and responsibilities.



Research institutions



Policy makers



Funding agencies



Researchers



Show Column Navigation

- Bank and Insurance
  - B&I Architecture
  - B&I Data Governance Council
  - B&I Finance
  - B&I Legal
    - ISDA Interest Rate and Currency Exchange
  - B&I Risk Management
  - B&I Sales
- Financial Services Industry
  - Basel III
  - CFTC
  - ISO
    - ISO Country Codes
    - ISO Currency Codes

1

Select an enterprise community.

2

Select a business community

3

Select a vocabulary.

At-most-n Quantification

Semantic Formulation

Set Projection Scope Formulation

More

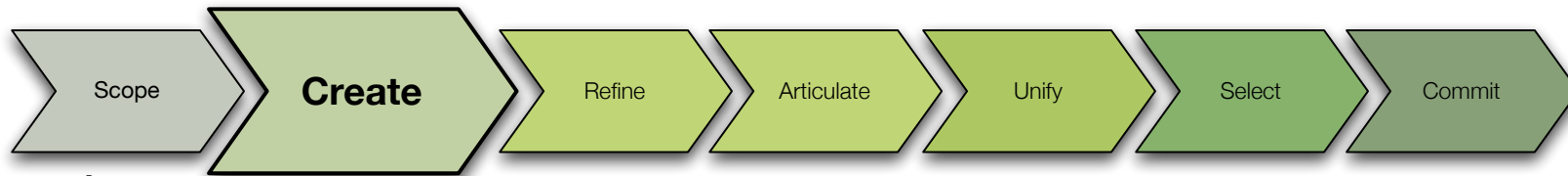


ISO Language Codes was created.

6 minutes ago



General Rule Set was created.

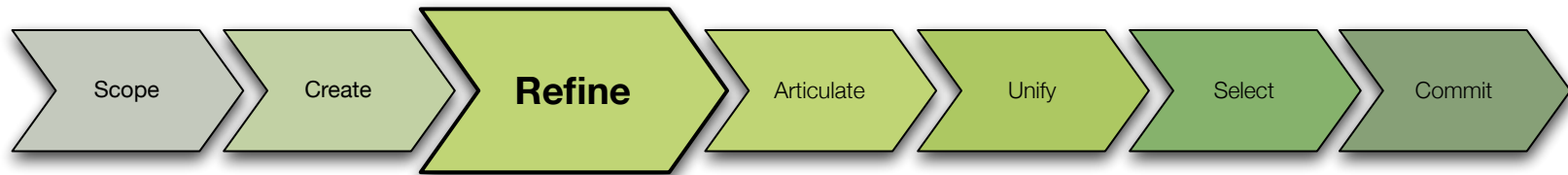


## Create

---

- During this activity, every scoped term is syntactically defined.
  - In the CERIF Project Community
    - CFProject executed by / executes CFOrganiza
    - CFPerson having / of Person\_Name
    - CFPerson having / of CFPersonAddress
    - CFPersonAddress of / used in CFAAddress
    - EACH CFPerson having EXACTLY ONE Person\_Name
    - ...



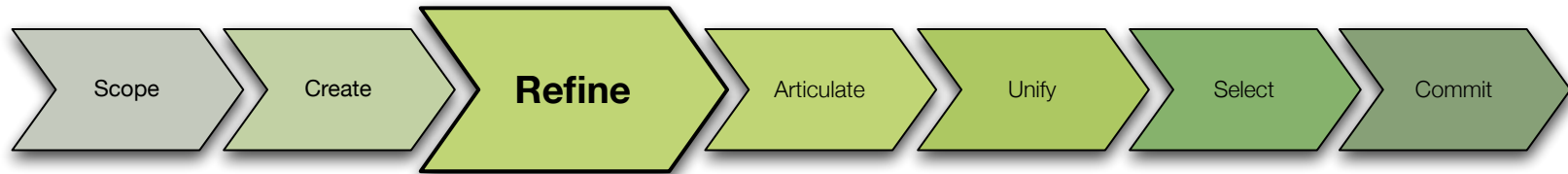


## Refine

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- During this activity, fact types that were created during the Create activity are refined so they are understandable to both business and technology
- CURE: Correct, Useful, Reusable, Elegant
- Objectification
- Capture missing link





## Refine

---

- In the CERIF Project Community
  - Project executed by / executes Organization
  - Person having / of Person\_Name
  - Person located at / locates Address
  - ...
  - EACH Person having EXACTLY 1 Person\_Name
  - ...

# Business Semantics Glossary

The screenshot displays the Collibra Business Semantics Glossary interface. At the top, the Collibra logo and 'Business Semantics Glossary' text are visible. The user is logged in as 'Administrator'. The main navigation bar includes 'Roles', 'Tasks', 'Tools', and 'Workflows'. The current page is titled 'Project' and is part of the 'Flanders Research Information Space > CERIF > Project' hierarchy. The page is divided into several sections: 'Definitions', 'Examples', 'Fact Types', and 'General Rule Set'. On the right side, there are panels for 'Information', 'Attributes', 'Relations', 'Taxonomy', and 'Stakeholders'. The 'Information' panel shows the status as 'Candidate', concept type as 'Object Type', and steward as 'Pieter De Leenheer'. A large '37.5%' is displayed with the label 'articulated'. The 'Attributes' panel has a dropdown menu for selecting an attribute and an 'Add Attribute' button. The 'Taxonomy' panel shows a tree structure with 'Project' as a child of 'Thing', and further sub-categories like 'Large Academic Project', 'Small Industrial Project', and 'Specialized Term'. The 'Stakeholders' panel lists 'Felix Van De Maele', 'Administrator', and 'Geert Van Grootel'.

**Collibra**  
Business Semantics Glossary

Administrator

Dashboard | Glossary | Settings

Navigator | Search...

Roles | Tasks | Tools | Workflows | Contextual Actions

## Project

Flanders Research Information Space > CERIF > Project

Attributes | Names | Categorization Scheme

**Definitions**

Planned set of interrelated tasks to be executed over a fixed period and within certain cost and other limitations.

**Examples**

Large Hadron Collider

**Fact Types**

Project has Title	(Candidate)	🔍	✖
Project funded by Funding Programme	(Candidate)	🔍	✖
Project executed by Organisation	(Candidate)	🔍	✖
Project has Budget	(Candidate)	🔍	✖
Project has Duration	(Candidate)	🔍	✖
Project ends on Date	(Candidate)	🔍	✖
Project starts on Date	(Candidate)	🔍	✖
Project described by Discipline Code	(Candidate)	🔍	✖

**General Rule Set**

- Project described by at most 3 Discipline Code.
- Project executed by at least 1 Organisation.
- Project ends on exactly 1 Date.
- Project has at least 1 Title.
- Project starts on exactly 1 Date.

**Information**

Status: Candidate  
Concept Type: Object Type  
Steward: Pieter De Leenheer

**37.5%**  
articulated

**Attributes**

Select an attribute...  
Add Attribute

**Relations**

**Taxonomy**

- Thing
  - Project
    - Large Academic Project
    - Small Industrial Project
    - Specialized Term

**Stakeholders**

- Felix Van De Maele
- Administrator
- Geert Van Grootel



## Articulate




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- Create informal meaning descriptions as extra documentation.
- Include definitions and examples.
- serve as anchoring points when stakeholders have used different terms for the same concepts (i.e., detecting synonyms).
- Where available, descriptions already existing can be used (e.g., the euroCRIS website on CERIF) to speed up the process and facilitate reuse.







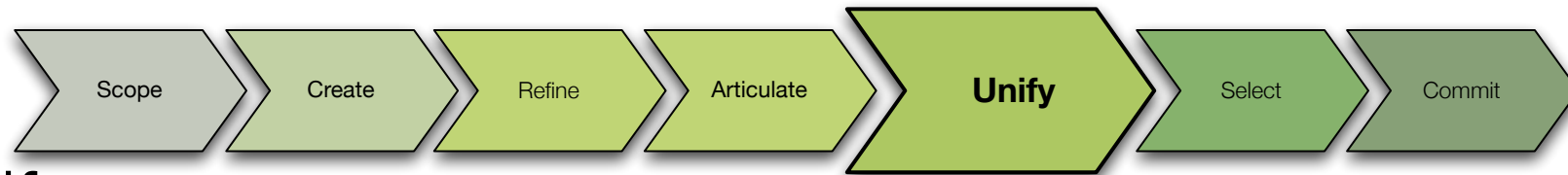
# Articulate

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 **Project**    
Flanders Research Information Space > CERIF > Project

**Attributes** | Names | Categorization Scheme

<b>Definitions</b>	Planned set of interrelated <b>tasks</b> to be <b>executed</b> over a fixed <b>period</b> and within certain <b>cost</b> and other <b>limitations</b> .	 
<b>Examples</b>	Large Hadron Collider	 



## Unify

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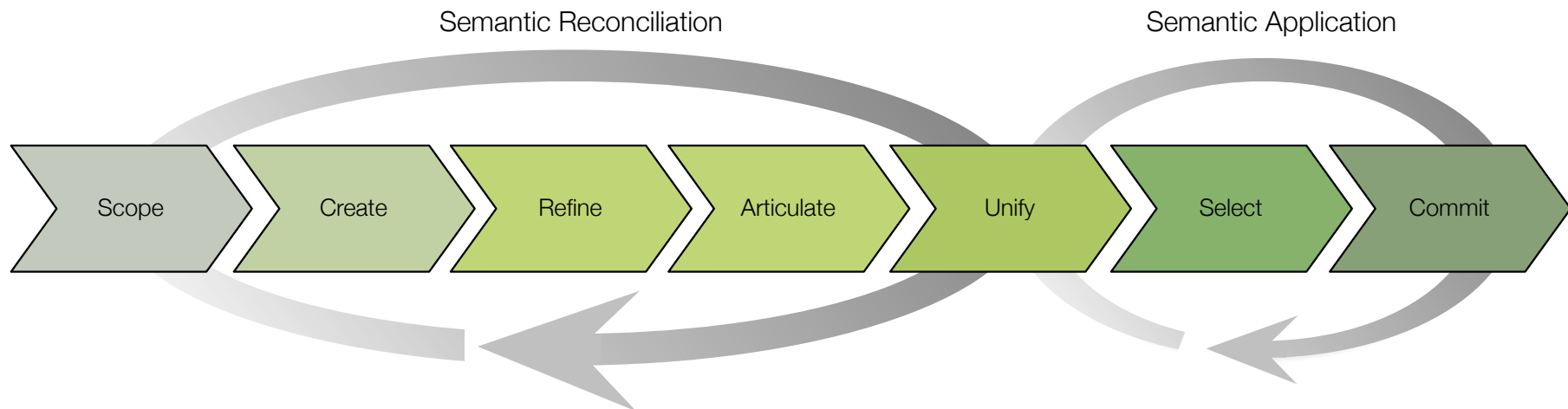
- A new version of the glossary is generated, which is a “flattened” version of the community commitment that is generated in a timely manner.
- The glossary is the product of semantic reconciliation and serves as a uniform technical specification to implement semantic applications.
- This glossary can be represented in many formats, such as UML, OWL, or XSD, serving a wide variety of applications.\*

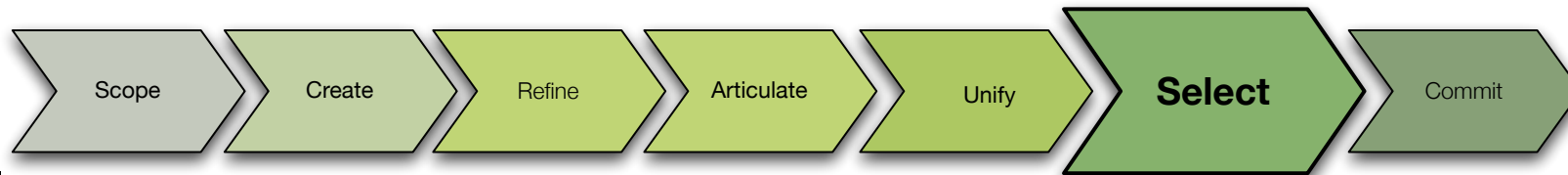
\* The how is out of the scope of this lecture. However, feel free to contact us after the lecture for more information.

# Semantic Application

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- Semantic Application. Existing information sources and services are committed to a selection of semantic patterns.
  - I.e., creating application commitments
  - The existing data itself is not moved nor touched!

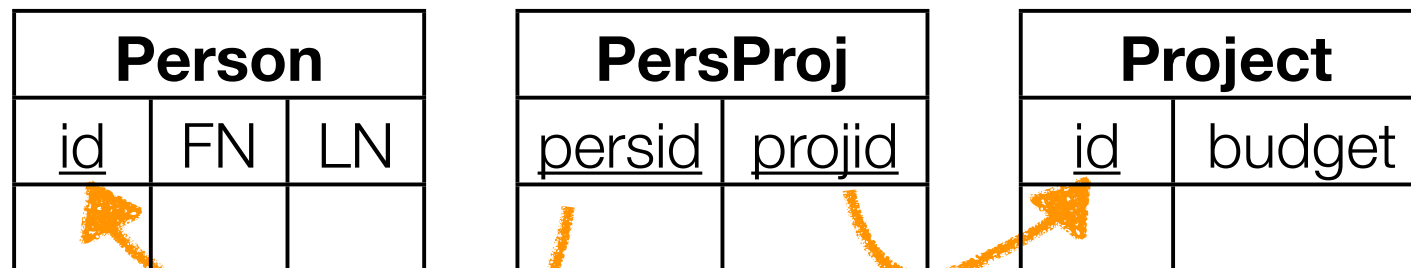


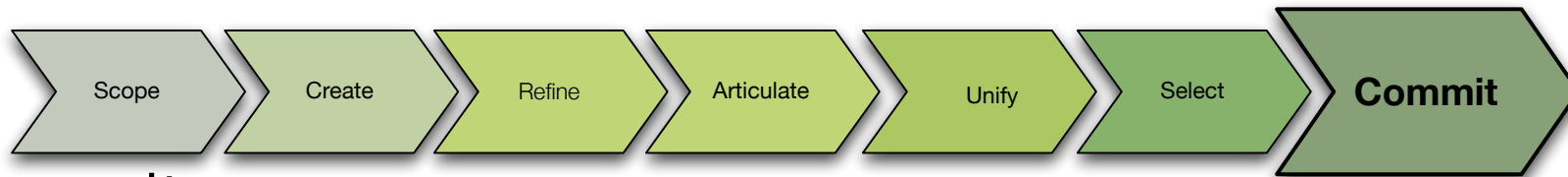


## Select

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- Given an application context (such as a workflow or business artifact), relevant concepts are selected from the EIM for a particular application. It may be required to add additional application-specific concepts and constraints that could not be agreed upon on the community level.
- Anyone an idea of an example of application specific concepts and constraints?





## Commit

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- Information systems are improved using the selected concepts. Depending on the application context, this can be implemented in different ways.
- Concretely, this boils down to data transformation, validation, and governance services. For example:
  - Integrating two or more XML structures by defining XSLT transformations to a shared XSD-formatted EIM.
  - The EIM may also be used to convert relational databases into RDF triple stores.



# Reporting Requirements - Finance

Bank and Insurance > B&I Finance

## Terms

Add Filter

term Includes

Filter table Clear filter Save filter

Show 50

Showing 1 to 6 of 6 entries (filtered from 14 total entries)

Term	Definition
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer	a party ( person or organization ) that placed at least one order for at least one product with Bank and Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Markets Customer	A value of CUSTOMER CATEGORY TYPE. Identifies a Customer that is active in Financial Markets.
<input type="checkbox"/> Normal Customer	A value of CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP VALUATION TYPE. Identifies an ordinary Customer.
<input type="checkbox"/> Performing Customer	A Value of CUSTOMER PERFORMANCE STATUS Identifies an IP Is Customer Of IP Relationship in which the subject Involved Party (the customer) has no problems with handling Finance Service Arrangements.
<input type="checkbox"/> Potential Non Performing Customer	A Value of CUSTOMER PERFORMANCE STATUS Identifies an IP Is Customer Of IP Relationship in which the subject Involved Party (the customer) may have problems with handling Finance Service Arrangements.
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Customer	A value of SPECIAL TREATMENT CUSTOMER TYPE. Identifies a Strategic Customer.

### Vocabulary Exporter

Choose a File Format

Please choose a file format to export the vocabulary to.



### Information

URI:  
<http://athens.colibra.com/bsg300rc6/bin/view/ReportingRequirements/>

### Actions

Edit  
Delete

### Import

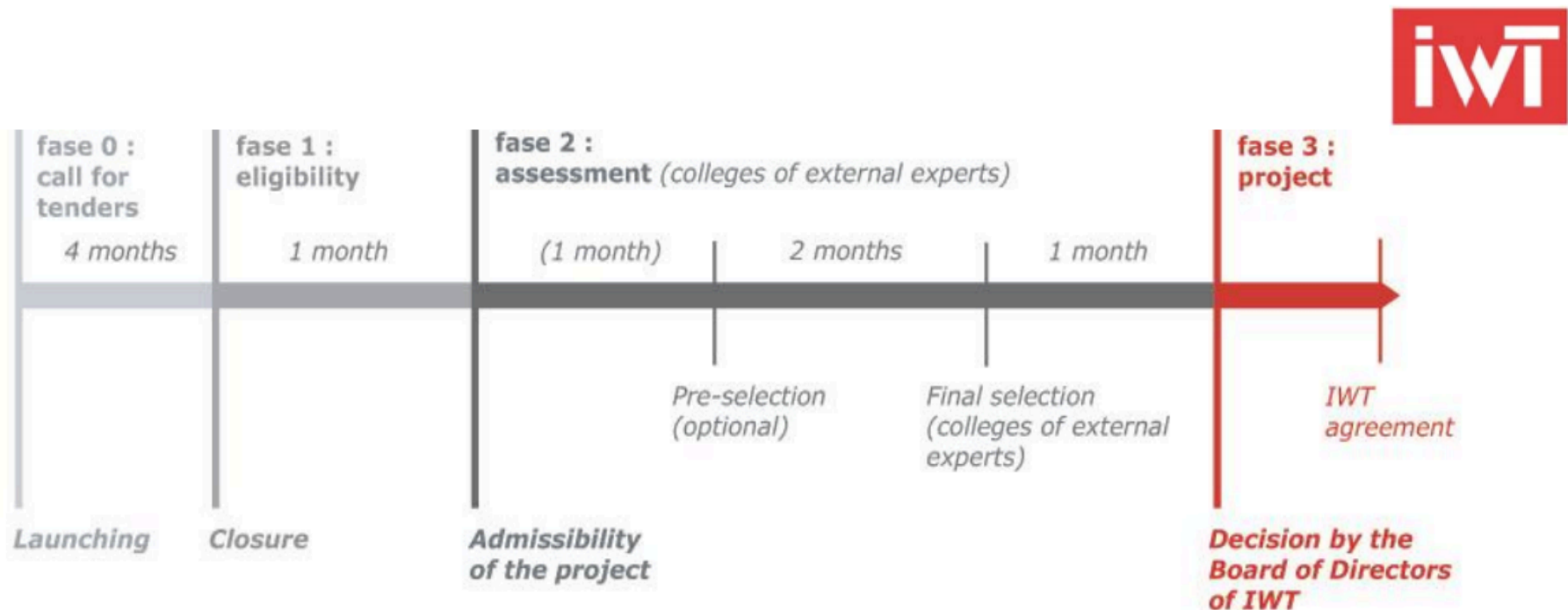
### Export

### Advanced Actions

Incorporate vocabulary

# Semantic Interoperability Between Actors

- FRIS Ecosystem. Funding agencies wish to form appropriate review boards.
- IWT: “bottleneck lies in defining varying review boards with no conflict of interest”



# Optimize Review Cycle by Automating Error-prone Tasks

Experts who are a **party concerned** in one of the project proposals are excluded from participating in the colleges of experts. Next to this, experts who are not party concerned, but have an affiliation with a division/service/department identical to that of one of the applicants, **may not take part** in the assessment of the corresponding projects.

The screenshot shows the FRIS Onderzoeksporaal website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Onderzoeksprojecten', 'Publicaties', 'Organisaties', and 'Onderzoekers'. Below this, the profile of Robert Meersman is displayed, including his contact information and a list of his collaborations. The collaborations are shown as a network graph with Robert Meersman at the center, connected to various other researchers like Olga de Troyer, Jans Pierson, and others.

[http://researchportal.be/person/robert-meersman-\(VUB\\_1576\)/collaboration.html#tabs](http://researchportal.be/person/robert-meersman-(VUB_1576)/collaboration.html#tabs)

The screenshot shows the Social Graph interface. It features a central node for Pieter Leenheer, surrounded by other researchers like Aggelos Liapis, Amit Pravin Sheth, and others. The interface includes a 'Relation' dropdown menu and a legend for different types of relationships like 'advisor', 'advisee', and 'coauthor'.

<http://arnetminer.org/person/-680689.html>

in collaboration with P. Malarme (Collibra)

# Towards Linked Data for FRIS

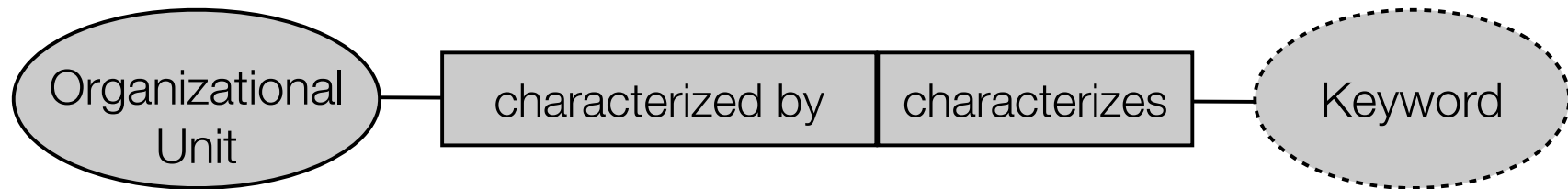
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- Modeling ontologies have several advantages
  - Fact-types and constraints are easily verbalized
  - No distinction between entities and relations (fact-oriented, rather than frame-oriented)
  - Grounded in natural language
- Disadvantages?
  - Based on FOL --> Decidability
  - No everything can be modeled (e.g., procedures).

# Towards Linked Data for FRIS

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- Translating community commitments into OWL DL is fairly straightforward.

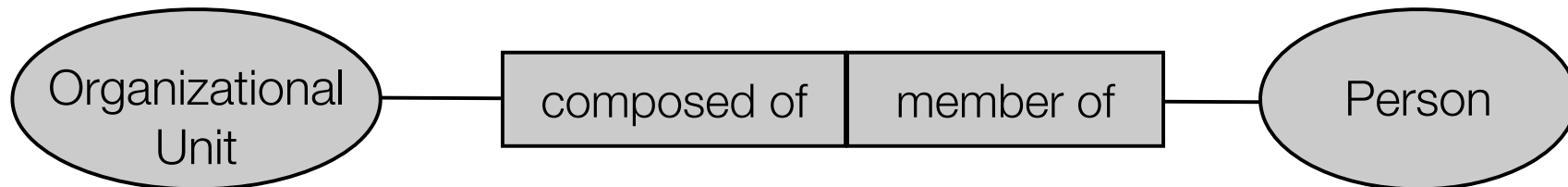


```
<owl:DatatypeProperty
rdf:about="#Organizational_Unit_characterised_by_Keyword">
  <rdfs:label>characterised by Keyword</rdfs:label>
  <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Organizational_Unit"/>
  <rdfs:range
    rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#Literal"/>
```

# Towards Linked Data for FRIS

---

- Translating community commitments into OWL DL is fairly straightforward.



```
<owl:ObjectProperty
  rdf:about="#Organizational_Unit_composed_of_Person">
  <rdfs:label>composed of Person</rdfs:label>
  <rdfs:domain rdf:resource="#Organizational_Unit"/>
  <rdfs:range rdf:resource="#Person"/>
  <owl:inverseOf
    rdf:resource="#Person_member_of_Organizational_Unit"/>
</owl:ObjectProperty>
```

# Towards Linked Data for FRIS

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- Datasources are annotated with the ontology
- By means of of-the-shelve solutions for “triplifying” relational databases to RDF triples (cfr. RDB2RDF community)

## SPARQL:

```
PREFIX db: <http://starpc14.vub.ac.be:2020/resource/>
PREFIX person: <http://starpc14.vub.ac.be/ontologies/person.owl#>
PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
PREFIX orgunit: <http://starpc14.vub.ac.be/ontologies/organization.owl#>
PREFIX v: <http://www.w3.org/2006/vcard/ns#>
PREFIX rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>
PREFIX project: <http://starpc14.vub.ac.be/ontologies/project.owl#>
PREFIX d2r: <http://sites.wiwiss.fu-berlin.de/suhl/bizer/d2r-server/config.rdf#>
PREFIX map: <file:/usr/local/d2r-server-0.7/vub.starlab.gospl.glosses.ewicase/ewi.n3#>
PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
PREFIX owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#>
PREFIX rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
PREFIX vocab: <http://starpc14.vub.ac.be:2020/vocab/resource/>
```

```
SELECT DISTINCT ?first_name ?last_name WHERE {
?person person:Person_having_First_Name ?first_name.
?person person:Person_having_Last_Name ?last_name.
?affiliation orgunit:Affiliation_of_Person ?person.
?affiliation orgunit:Affiliation_of_Organizational_Unit ?org.
?org orgunit:Organizational_Unit_has_Name "Informatica en Toegepaste Informatica"@nl.}
LIMIT 10
```

Results:

## SPARQL results:

first_name	last_name
"JEROEN"	"HOPPENBROUWERS"
"Sara"	"JANSSENS"
"Nina"	"LANDAU"
"FENG"	"LIU"
"Leen"	"RYMENANS"
"Eric"	"TANTER"
"Damien"	"TROG"
"ANTONIO"	"VALLEJOS VARGAS JORGE"
"Tom"	"VAN CUTSEM"
"SVEN"	"VAN SEGBROECK"



But that's not all ...

# Business Semantics Management

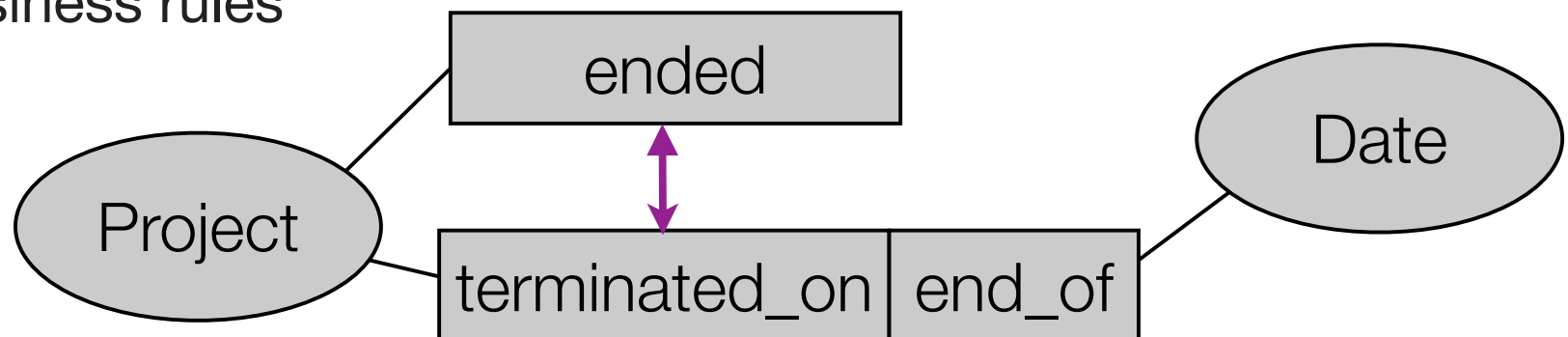
---

- From a high-level perspective, three different kinds of data exchange exist within large organizations:
  - Exchange of knowledge between people;
  - Exchange of understanding between people and information systems;
  - Exchange of data between disparate information systems.
- We presented the application of BSM for Semantic Interoperability

# Business Semantics Management

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- In the context of this lecture, we limited ourselves to binary fact-types in the example
- BSM, however, adopted SBVR. SBVR is an OMG standard providing - amongst others - means for:
  - Including “named” instances
  - Modeling n-ary fact-types
    - Unary fact-types: [Proposal] is accepted, [Project] is running
    - Unary fact-types are useful for describing “dynamic” business rules



# Conclusions

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- Presented an application of BSM the EIM method within the Flemish Government for Semantic Interoperability and Linked Data
- The role of conceptual modeling and some tension fields
- A notion of fact-orientation

