

Sustainable Linked Data Generation

The case of DBpedia



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Erik Mannens, Sebastian Hellman



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[@wmaroy](https://twitter.com/wmaroy)



DBpedia

DBpedia describes

38.8

million

entities

DBpedia contains

> 3

billion

triples

DBpedia keeps growing,
but there are **quality issues**

There are 2 types of quality issues

✘ Schema-level

✘ Data-level

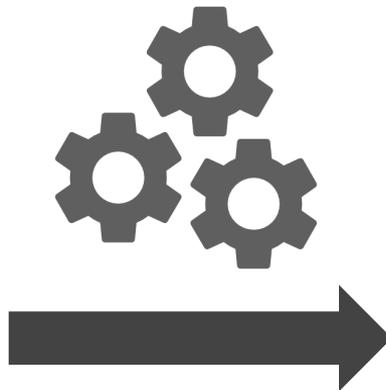
What are the causes?

Bill Gates

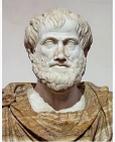
Albert Einstein

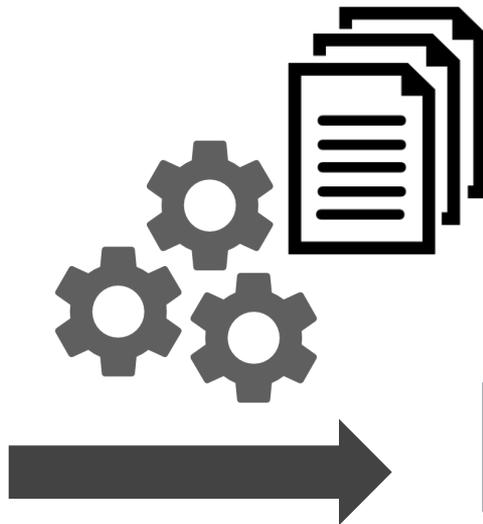
Aristotle

<div> <div><div> <div><div><div></div><div>Bill Gates</div></div></div> <div></div> </div></div> </div>
Born
Pronunc
Born
Residen
Alma ma
Years ac
Net wor
Residen
Title
Citizen
Born
Died
Residen
Era
Region
School
Main interests

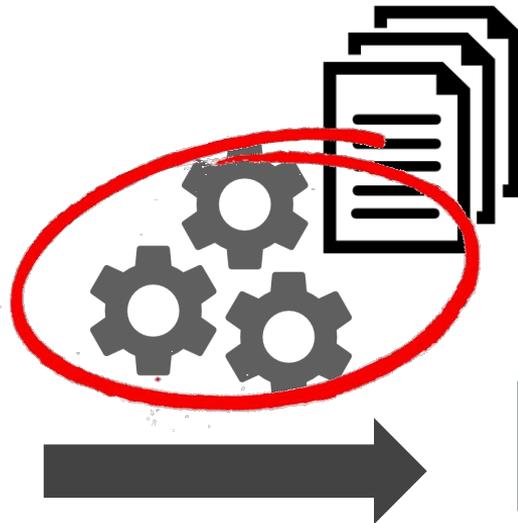
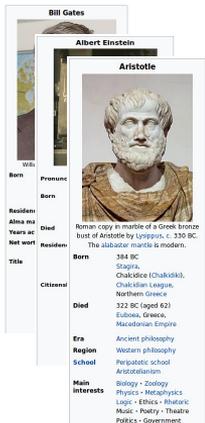


DBpedia's **Extraction Framework**
extracts Wikipedia's infoboxes

Bill Gates
Albert Einstein
Aristotle

Wiki
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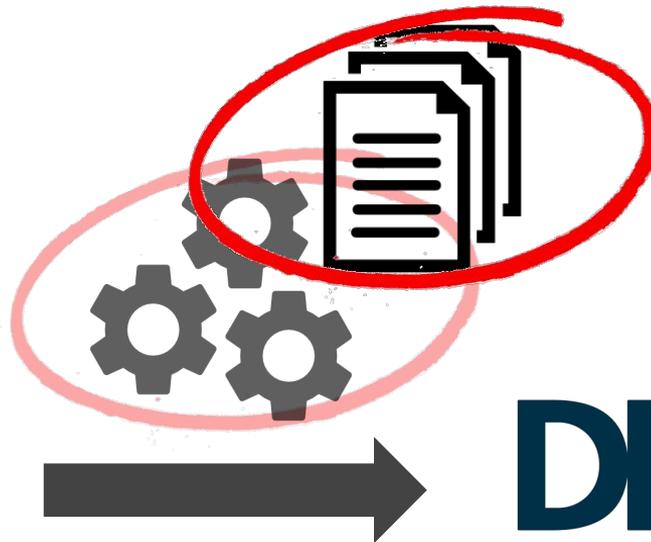
The community created **mapping rules** from infobox properties to a schema



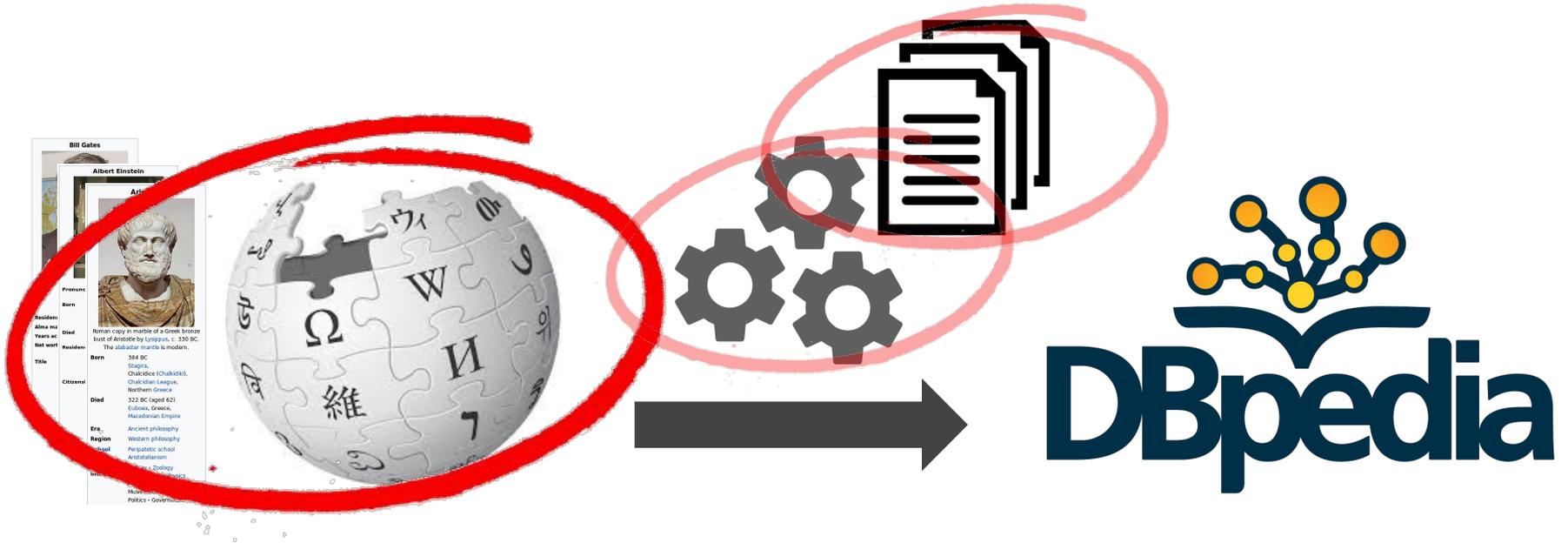
Causes for the issues can be found in the
Extraction Framework (EF)

Bill Gates	
Albert Einstein	
Aristotle	

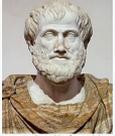
Bill Gates	<p>Born</p> <p>Pronunc</p> <p>Residen</p> <p>Alma ma</p> <p>Years ac</p> <p>Net wort</p> <p>Title</p>
Albert Einstein	<p>Born</p> <p>Promunc</p> <p>Residen</p> <p>Alma ma</p> <p>Years ac</p> <p>Net wort</p> <p>Title</p>
Aristotle	<p>Born</p> <p>Promunc</p> <p>Residen</p> <p>Alma ma</p> <p>Years ac</p> <p>Net wort</p> <p>Title</p>

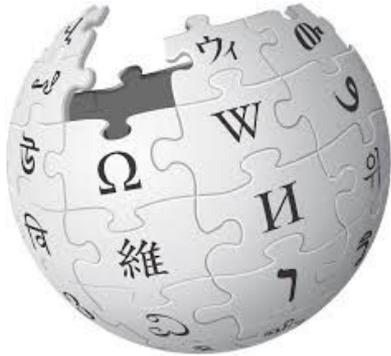


Causes for the issues can be found in the
mapping rules (MR)



Causes for the issues can be found in
Wikipedia itself

Bill Gates
Albert Einstein
Aristotle

Wiki
Born
Pronunc
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Main interests



DBpedia

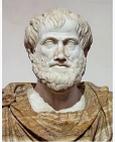
Our goal is to adjust the **EF & the MR** to provide a more sustainable framework

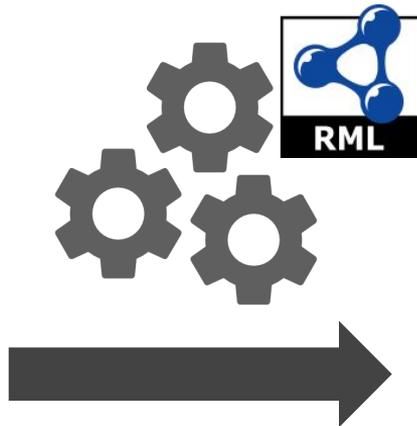
We **integrated** a generic,
modular, and **sustainable**
mapping language.

RML.io

RDF mapping language



Bill Gates
Albert Einstein
Aristotle

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The result is a framework that enables **sustainable Linked Data generation**

DBpedia is making the switch!



Sustainable Linked Data Generation

The case of DBpedia

Before

After

Progress

Limitations of the EF

- ✗ **Hard-coded mapping rules**
- ✗ No machine-interpretable mapping rules
- ✗ No other ontology
- ✗ No schema-validation on mapping rules

Hard-coded mapping rules

Subject

Predicate

Object

Mapping rules define triple generation

✘ Hard-coded mapping rules

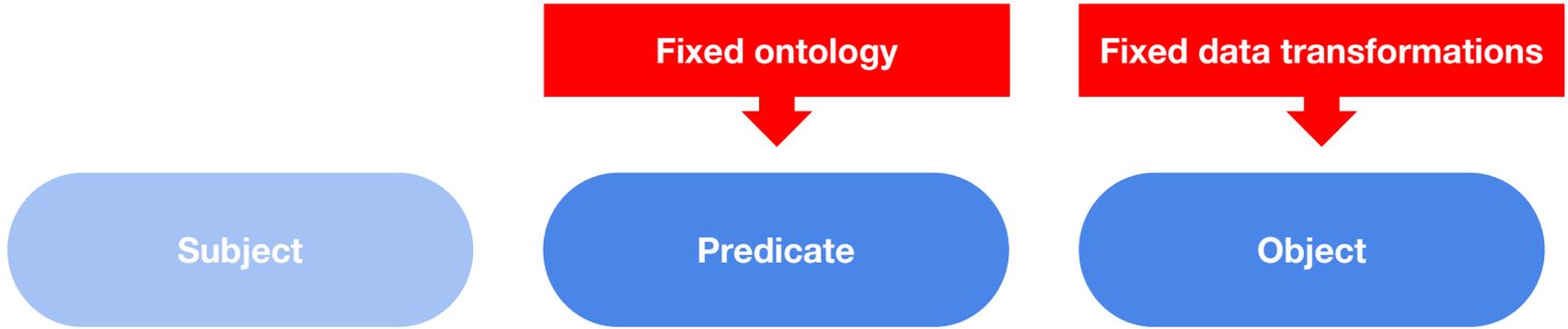
Subject

Predicate

Object

Mapping rules only influence the predicate and object due to ***implementation coupling***

✘ Hard-coded mapping rules



This also limits defining the predicate and object

Limitations of the EF

- ✗ Hard-coded mapping rules
- ✗ **No machine-interpretable mapping rules**
- ✗ No other ontology
- ✗ No schema-validation on mapping rules

No machine-interpretable MR

Mapping rules are in **Wikitext format**

The same format that is used for defining Wikipedia articles

No machine-interpretable MR

Mapping rules are in **Wikitext format**

This format cannot be interpreted automatically

No machine-interpretable MR

Mapping rules are in **Wikitext format**

No querying

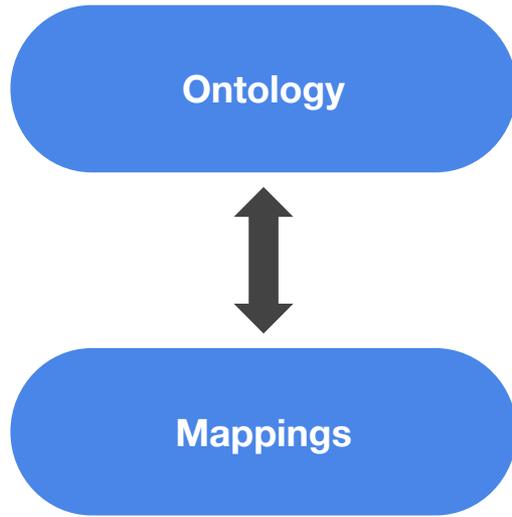
No
schema-validation

No generation

Limitations of the EF

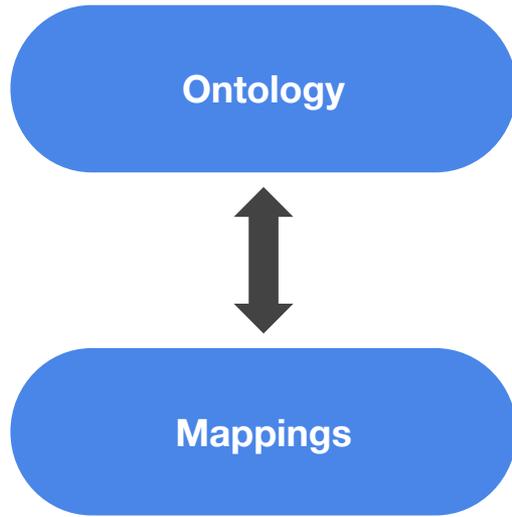
- ✗ Hard-coded mapping rules
- ✗ No machine-interpretable mapping rules
- ✗ **Restricted to the DBpedia ontology**
- ✗ No schema-validation on mapping rules

Restricted to the DBpedia ontology



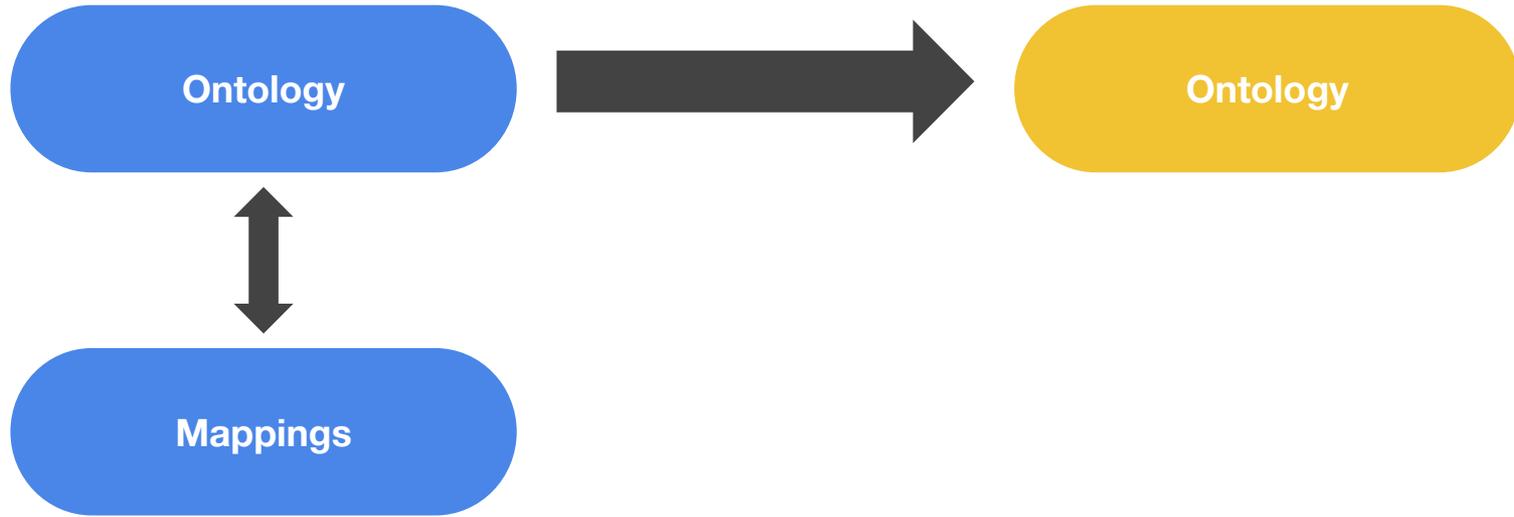
One ontology is used

✘ Restricted to the DBpedia ontology



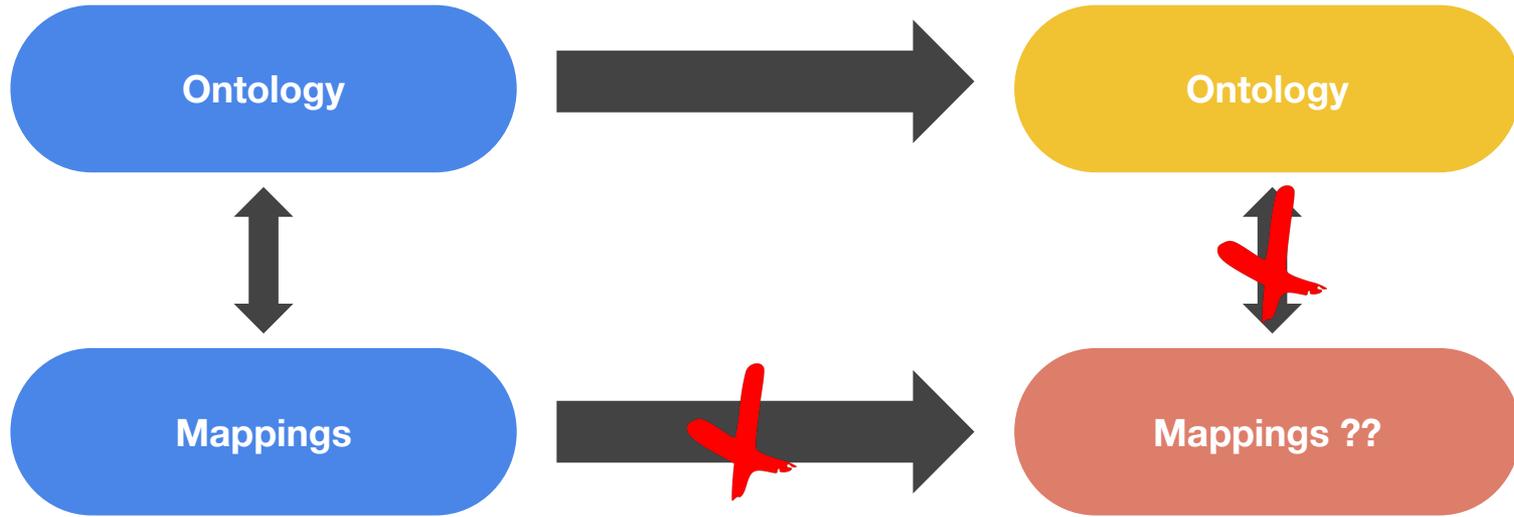
That is also coupled with its implementation

✖ Restricted to the DBpedia ontology



What if we want to change the ontology?

~~✗~~ Restricted to the DBpedia ontology



All mappings need to be changed manually

Limitations of the EF

- ✗ Hard-coded mapping rules
- ✗ No machine-interpretable mapping rules
- ✗ Restricted to the DBpedia ontology
- ✗ **No schema validation on mapping rules**

 No schema validation

Validating the dataset
requires **many resources**

There are other options...

> 3
billion
triples

```
{{Infobox person
| name      =
| image     =
| alt       =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```

An infobox template for defining
persons on Wikipedia

```

{{Infobox person
| name      =
| image     =
| alt      =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```

Bill Gates



William H. Gates III in June 2015

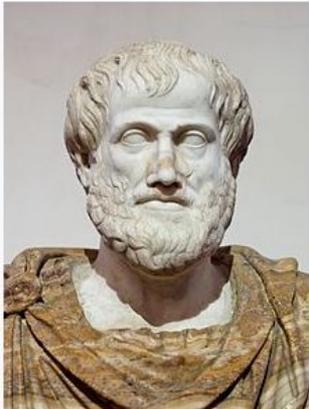
Born	William Henry Gates III October 28, 1955 (age 61) Seattle, Washington, US
Residence	Medina, Washington, US
Alma mater	Harvard University
Years active	1975–present
Net worth	US\$85.1 billion (September 2017) ^[1]
Title	Technology Advisor of Microsoft Co-Chairman of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation CEO of Cascade Investment Chairman of Branded Entertainment Network Chairman of TerraPower

```

{{Infobox person
| name      =
| image     =
| alt       =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```

Bill Gates

Aristotle



Roman copy in marble of a Greek bronze bust of Aristotle by Lysippos, c. 330 BC. The alabaster mantle is modern.

Bor	Born	384 BC Stagira ,
Res		Chalcidice (Chalkidiki) ,
Alm		Chalcidian League ,
Yea		Northern Greece
Net	Died	322 BC (aged 62) Euboea, Greece ,
		Macedonian Empire
Titl	Era	Ancient philosophy
	Region	Western philosophy
	School	Peripatetic school Aristotelianism
	Main interests	Biology · Zoology Physics · Metaphysics Logic · Ethics · Rhetoric Music · Poetry · Theatre Politics · Government

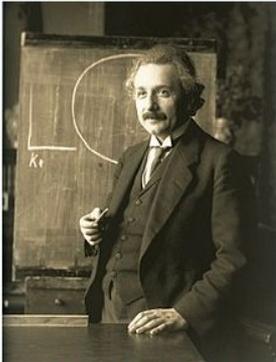
```

{{Infobox person
| name      =
| image     =
| alt      =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```

Bill Gates

Aristotle

Albert Einstein



Albert Einstein in 1921

Ro bu Bo Res Alm Yea Net Tith Era Re Sci Ma int	<p>Pronunciation ^{[}l^{]} German: [ˈalbɛtˈaɪnʃtaɪn] (ⓘ) listen)</p> <p>Born 14 March 1879 Ulm, Kingdom of Württemberg, German Empire</p> <p>Died 18 April 1955 (aged 76) Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.</p> <p>Residence Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Austria (present-day Czech Republic), Belgium, United States</p> <p>Citizenship Subject of the Kingdom of Württemberg during the German Empire (1879–1896)^{[note 1]} Stateless (1896–1901) Citizen of Switzerland (1901–1955) Austrian subject of the Austro-Hungarian Empire (1911–1912)</p>
--	---

```

{{Infobox person
| name      =
| image     =
| alt       =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```

Bill Gates

Aristotle

Albert Einstein

Marie Skłodowska Curie



c. 1920

Born	Born	Maria Salomea Skłodowska 7 November 1867 Warsaw, Kingdom of Poland , then part of Russian Empire ^[1]
Res	Died	4 July 1934 (aged 66) Passy, Haute-Savoie, France
Alm	Cause of death	Aplastic anemia
Yea	Residence	Poland, France
Net	Citizenship	Poland (by birth) France (by marriage)
Titl	Alma mater	University of Paris

```
{{Infobox person
| name      =
| image     =
| alt       =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```

> **253 000** pages

use the “person” infobox template

```
{{Infobox person
| name      =
| image     =
| alt       =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```

Only **one** mapping
is responsible for extraction

```
{{Infobox person
| name
| image      =
| alt       =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```



dbo:name



Changes at least
250 000 times

dbo:givenName

```
{{Infobox person
| name      =
| image     =
| alt       =
| caption   =
| birth_name =
| birth_date =
| death_date =
| death_place =
| nationality =
| other_names =
| occupation =
| years_active =
| known_for =
| notable_works =
...
}}
```

dbo:productionStartYear

Wrong at least
250 000 times



No schema validation



Validating mappings is
more **feasible**,
more **efficient** &
sustainable

DBpedia mappings quality assessment

Anastasia Dimou, Dimitris Kontokostas, Markus Freudenberg, Ruben Verborgh, Jens Lehmann, Erik Mannens, Sebastian Hellman and Rik Van de Walle

✘ No schema validation



But there is no validation for the current mapping rules!

Sustainable Linked Data Generation

The case of DBpedia

Before

After

Progress

A sustainable framework is needed that provides



- ✓ Declarative mapping rules
- ✓ Machine-interpretable format
- ✓ Schema validation
- ✓ Usage of other ontologies



Our solution

The **RDF Mapping language (RML)**

A generic scalable mapping language defined to express rules that map data in heterogeneous structures and serializations to the **RDF** data model

Our solution



The **RDF Mapping language (RML)**

Mapping rules in **RML** are **RDF**

A sustainable framework is needed that provides



- ✓ **Declarative mapping rules**
- ✓ Machine-interpretable format
- ✓ Schema validation
- ✓ Allows alternative ontology



✓ Declarative mapping rules

Subject

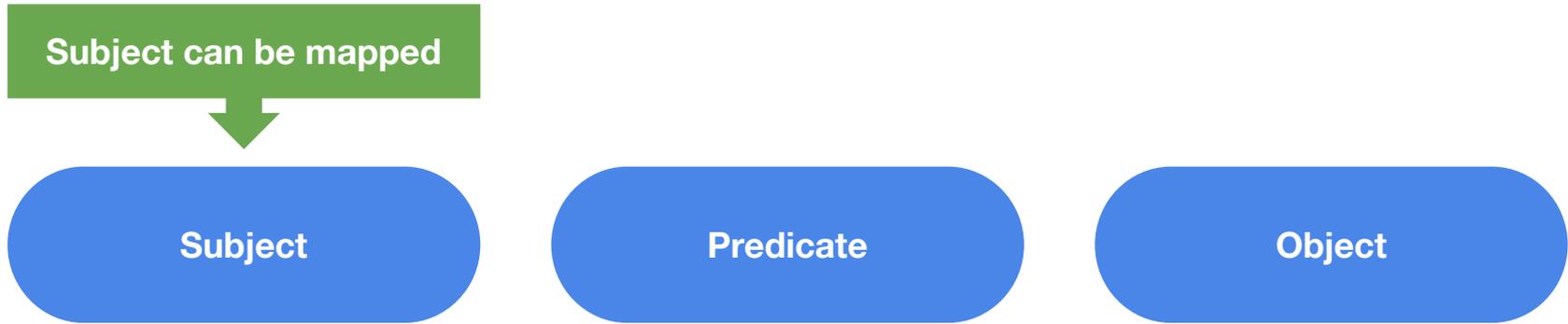
Predicate

Object

Mapping rules are decoupled from their implementation



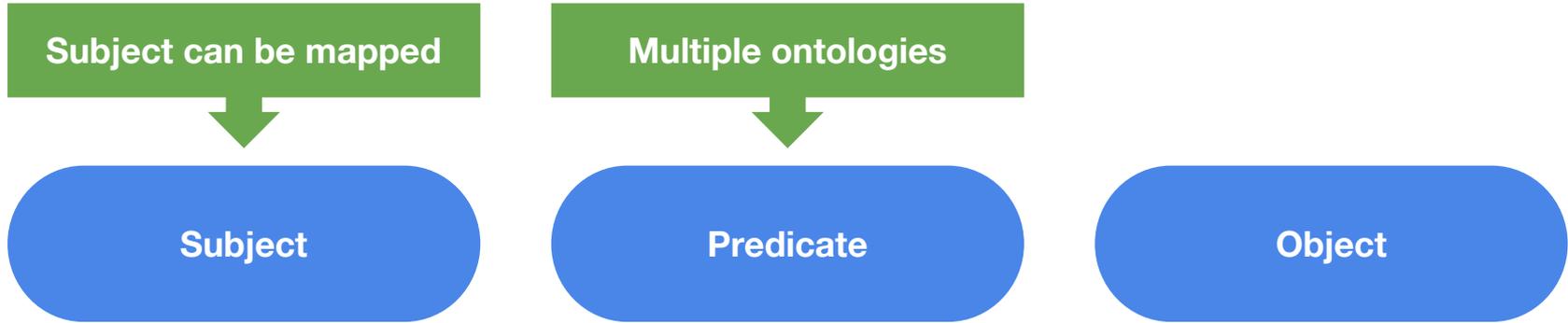
✓ Declarative mapping rules



Subject can be defined



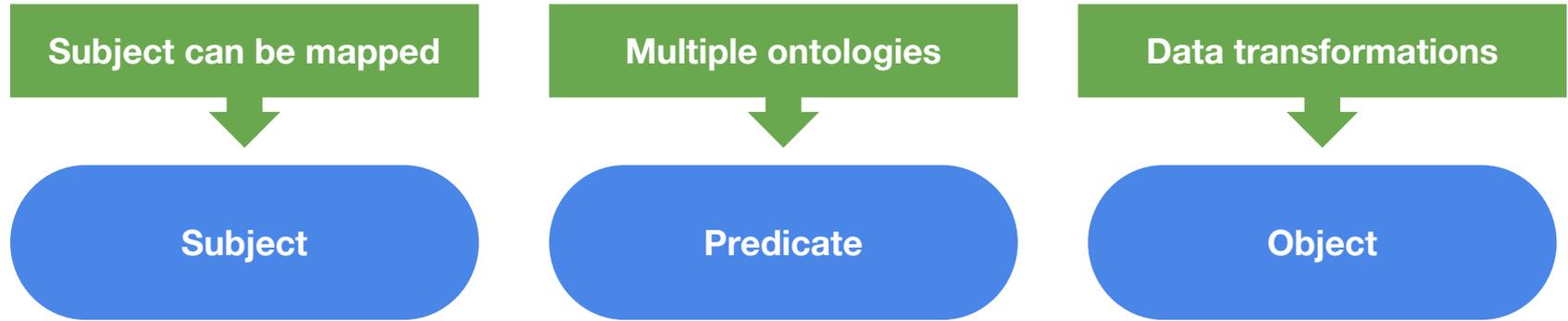
✓ Declarative mapping rules



Other ontologies can be defined



✓ Declarative mapping rules



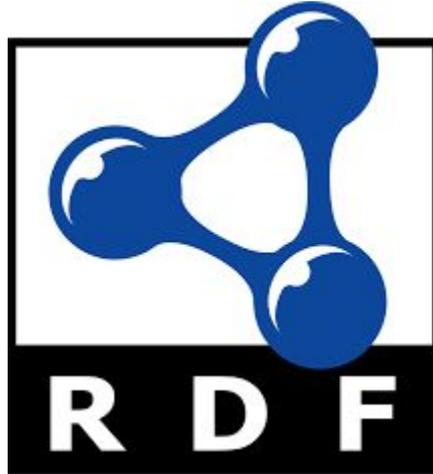
Data transformations can be defined

A sustainable framework is needed that provides



- ✓ Declarative mapping rules
- ✓ **Machine-interpretable format**
- ✓ Schema validation
- ✓ Usage of other ontologies

✓ Machine-interpretable format



✓ Machine-interpretable format



Querying

Schema validation

Generating

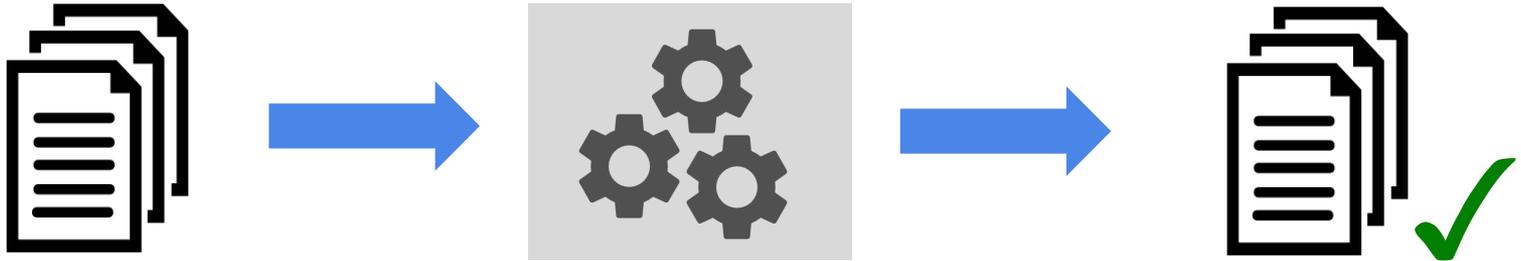
Automated processing with RDF tools

A sustainable framework is needed that provides



- ✓ Declarative mapping rules
- ✓ Machine-interpretable format
- ✓ **Schema validation**
- ✓ Usage of other ontologies

✓ Schema validation



RDFUnit

Test-driven Evaluation of Linked Data Quality

Dimitris Kontokostas, Patrick Westphal, Sören Auer, Sebastian Hellmann, Jens Lehmann, Roland Cornelissen

<http://rdfunit.aksw.org/>

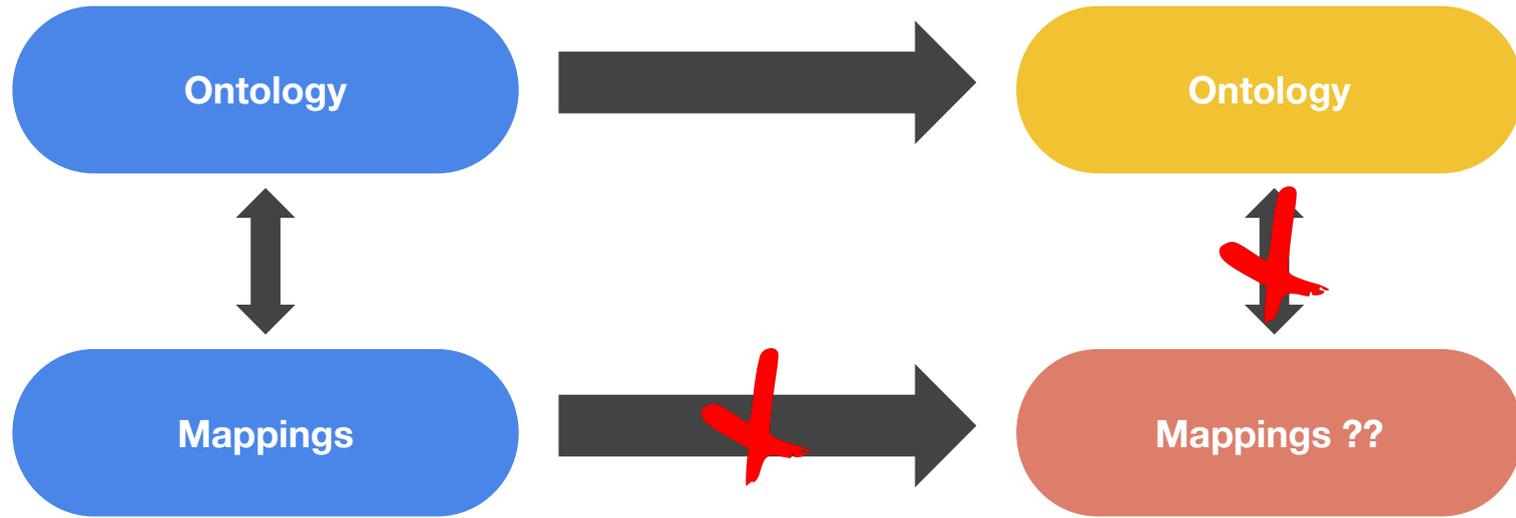
A sustainable framework is needed that provides



- ✓ Declarative mapping rules
- ✓ Machine-interpretable format
- ✓ Schema validation
- ✓ **Usage of other ontologies**



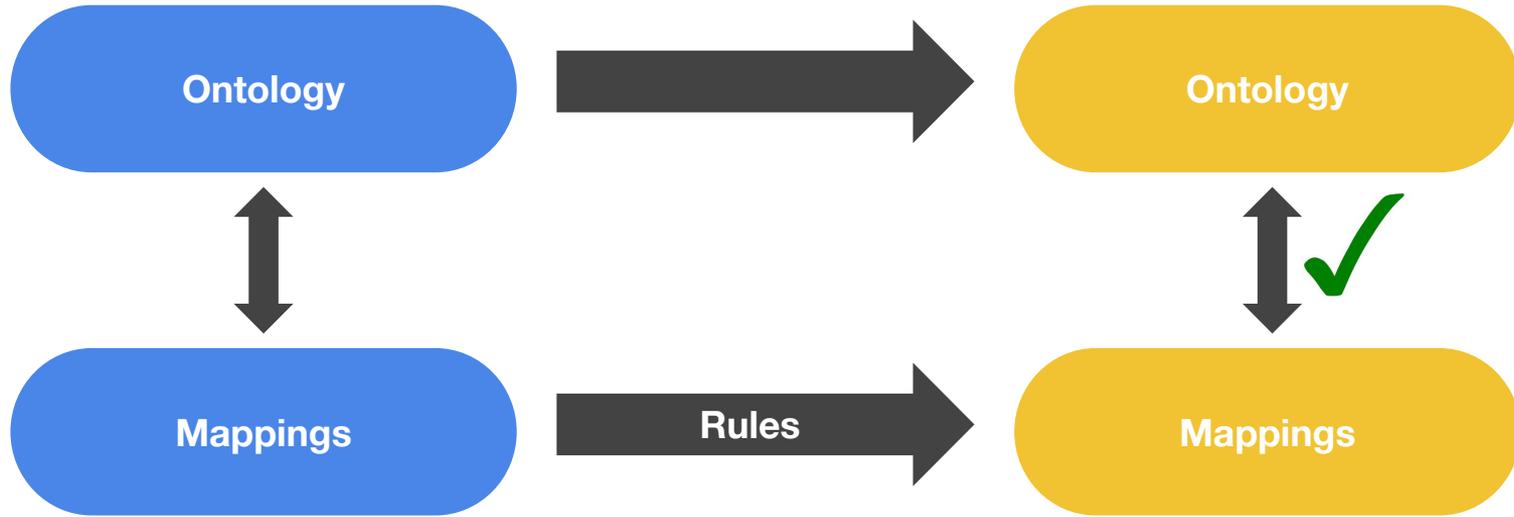
✓ Usage of other ontologies



Mappings don't work for other ontologies



✓ Usage of other ontologies



Mappings can be changed automatically!

Sustainable Linked Data Generation

The case of DBpedia

Before

After

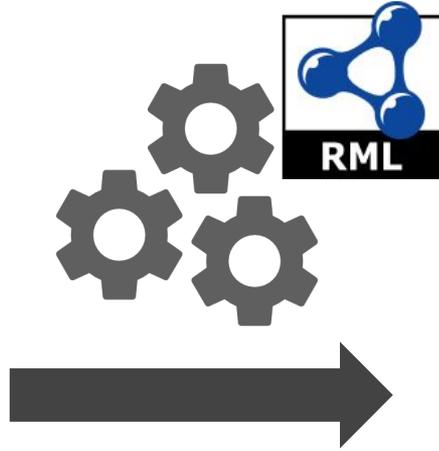
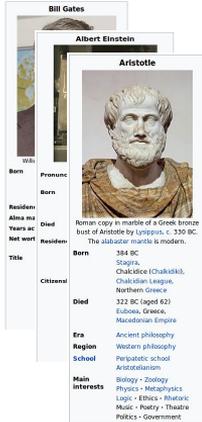
Progress

Switching to RML



Translating all DBpedia mappings to RML documents

Switching to RML



The Extraction Framework needed to process RML documents

Evaluation: coverage

Complete extraction was done on the English Wikipedia with **98% coverage** in comparison with the original dataset

Evaluation: performance

The framework offers *more sustainable mapping rules* at a performance cost of 35%

Next step is optimizing!

Evaluation: flexibility

Mapping rules in RDF can be (automatically) updated

Other datasets can be generated from Wikipedia because of the ontology independency

Evaluation: flexibility

We extracted a ***dataset of all persons*** on Wikipedia with the ***schema.org*** vocabulary by only changing mapping rules

A sustainable framework that has



- ✓ Declarative mapping rules
- ✓ Machine-interpretable format
- ✓ Schema validation
- ✓ Usage of other ontologies

The future is bright!



Sustainable Linked Data Generation

The case of DBpedia



Wouter Maroy, Anastasia Dimou, Dimitris Kontokostas,
Ben De Meester, Ruben Verborgh, Jens Lehmann,
Erik Mannens, Sebastian Hellman



wouter.maroy@ugent.be



[@wmaroy](https://twitter.com/wmaroy)

Made possible by



Google
Summer of Code



IDLab
INTERNET & DATA LAB

umec