Combining Public and Proprietary Data

(with semantic web technology)

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Washington DC Semantic Web Meetup March 26, 2010





Introductions

- Presentation and all its URLs: http://www.snee.com/semwebmeetup/march26
- Me: SGML and XML at Moody's, LexisNexis, Innodata Isogen, TopQuadrant
- Weblog: http://www.snee.com/bobdc.blog

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Outline

- Demo app: what
- The Semantic Web, RDF, and Linked Data
- Demo app
 - overall architecture
 - how, with open source software
 - how, with Top Quadrant products
- A little more about TopQuadrant
- Questions

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Demo Application

Goal: enhance (fake) analyst buy/sell/hold recommendations with other data about companies to make a more informative, attractive report.

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Data sources

- analystRecs.xls: analyst recommendations
- finance.yahoo.com: current trading info
- Wikipedia: company summary information
- (SQL database of customer holdings)

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The Semantic Web

A set of standards and best practices for sharing data and the semantics of that data over the web for use by applications.

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The Semantic Web

A **set of standards** and best practices for sharing data and the semantics of that data over the web for use by applications.

- RDF
- (OWL, RDFS)
- SPARQL

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RDF

- Resource Description Framework
- Store data about anything, but especially metadata about resources
- Stored where?
- Very easily aggregated



An RDF "statement": the triple

- (Subject, predicate, object)
- "index.html has the title 'My Home Page'."
- Easily stores (resource ID, propertyName, propertyValue) assertions



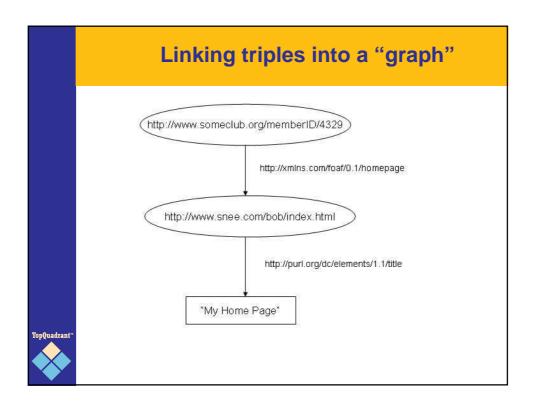
Triples

```
# rdf1.nt: sample RDF file in n-triples format.
```

<http://www.snee.com/bob/index.html> <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/title> "My Home Page".

<http://www.someclub.org/memberID/4329>
<http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/homepage>
<http://www.snee.com/bob/index.html>.





SPARQL

- SPARQL Protocol and RDF Query Language
- Became W3C standard January 2008



SPARQL query 1

SPARQL query 2





Is SPARQL Difficult?

"Consider, for instance, SPARQL, a query language. To find, say, music artists associated with the producer Timbaland, you'd have to type a long piece of convoluted code that most of us wouldn't bother to do."

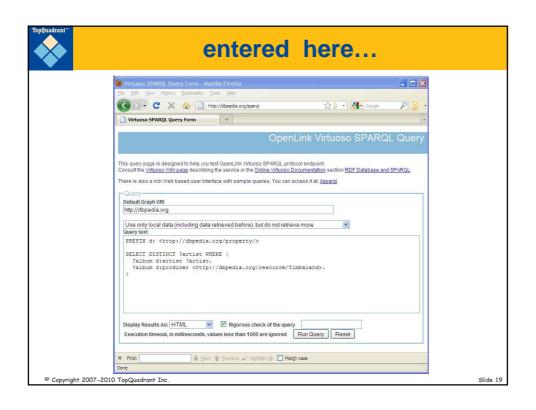
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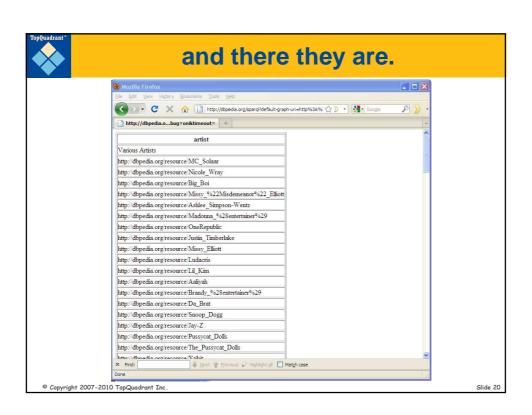
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This query...

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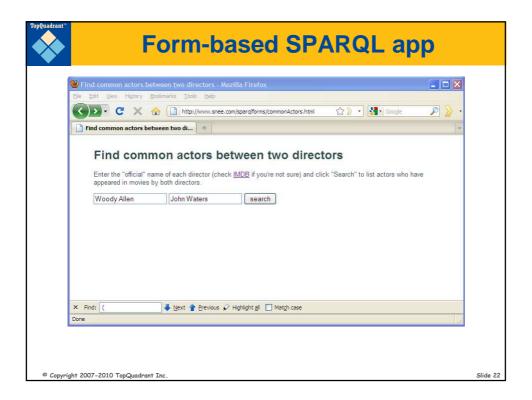


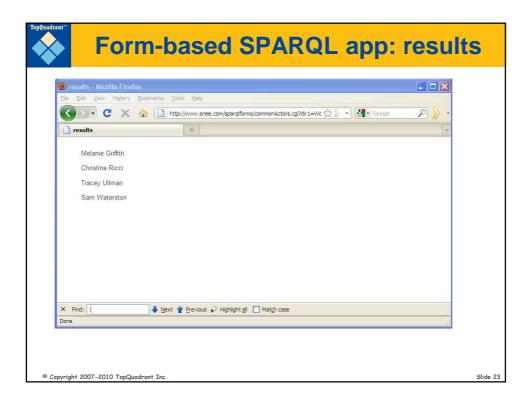


On the other hand...

Some JavaScript from a View Source of that same CNN page:

```
if(cnnWinExtraRegExp.test(cnnWinExtra)){var cnnOmniExtra =
 cnnWinExtraRegExp.split(cnnWinExtra);cnnWinLoc = cnnWinLoc +
 cnnOmniExtra[0];} else {cnnWinLoc = cnnWinLoc +
 cnnWinExtra;}} if (typeof(cnnPageName) != "undefined")
 {s.pageName = cnnPageName;s.eVar1 = cnnPageName;} else
 {s.pageName = cnnWinLoc;s.eVar1 = cnnWinLoc;} if
 (typeof(cnnSectionName) != "undefined")
 {s.channel=cnnSectionName;s.eVar2=cnnSectionName;} else
 {s.channel="Nonlabeled";s.eVar2="Nonlabeled";} if
 (typeof(cnnSubSectionName) != "undefined")
 {s.server=cnnSubSectionName;s.eVar3=cnnSubSectionName;} else
 {s.server="";s.eVar3="";} if (typeof(cnnSectionFront) !=
 "undefined") {s.prop1=cnnSectionFront;} if
 (typeof(cnnContentType) != "undefined")
 {s.prop4=cnnContentType;s.prop6=s.pageName;}
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```







SPARQL's role in today's message

- SPARQL lets you query a set of triples
- Data from different public and private sources in different formats can be treated as triples
- Different sets of triples can be easily combined
- So SPARQL lets you mix and match and query data from different sources

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The Semantic Web

A set of standards and **best practices** for sharing data and the semantics of that data over the web **for use by applications**.

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Linked Data

W3C wiki: "LinkedData is to spreadsheets and databases what the Web of hypertext documents is to word processor files."

Jim Hendler: "My document can point at your document on the Web, but my database can't point at something in your database without writing special purpose code. The Semantic Web aims at fixing that."

Kingsley Idehen: "It's a deliverable from the "Semantic Web Project". It adds reference & access granularity to existing #web."

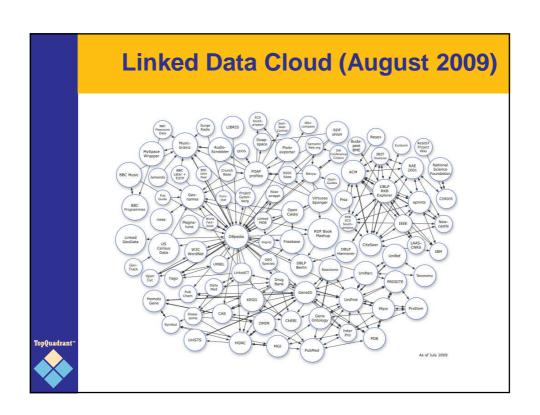


Me: The semantic web without the semantics.

Tim Berners-Lee's Four Linked Data Principles

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







Accessing data as RDF

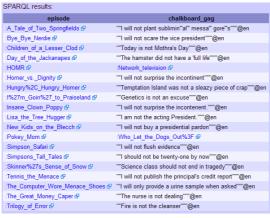
- How do we get RDF out of these data sources so that we can use SPARQL to manipulate that data?
 - Wikipedia
 - analystRecs.xls
 - finance.yahoo.com
 - (SQL database: D2RQ)

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SELECT ?episode,?chalkboard_gag
WHERE { ?episode skos:subject
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Category:The_Simpsons_episodes%2C_season_12>.
?episode dbpedia2:blackboard ?chalkboard_gag }







Retrieving DBpedia data

A query like this

CONSTRUCT { <http://dbpedia.org/resource/IBM> ?p ?o }
WHERE { <http://dbpedia.org/resource/IBM> ?p ?o }

Can be stored in a URL like this:

http://dbpedia.org/sparql?default-graphuri=http%3A%2F%2Fdbpedia.org&query=CONSTRUCT%20%7B%20 %3Chttp%3A%2F%2Fdbpedia.org%2Fresource%2FGoogle%3E%20 %3Fp%20%3Fo%20%7D%20WHERE%20%7B%20%3Chttp%3A%2F%2Fdbp edia.org%2Fresource%2FGoogle%3E%20%3Fp%20%3Fo%20%7D

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Accessing spreadsheets as RDF

- RDF123
- XLWrap (server-based; doc includes list of others, including TopBraid Composer)
- My own Perl script

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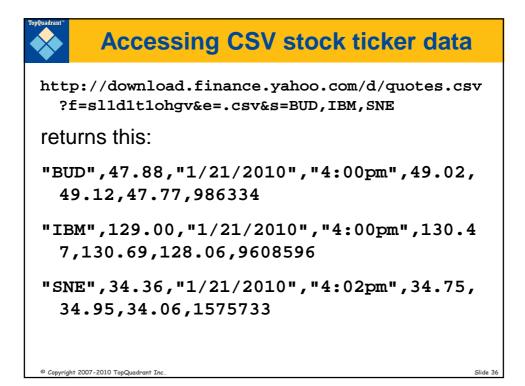


Spreadsheet as CSV (1st 4 lines)

analyst,Ticker Symbol,Wikipedia
 ID,recommendation,date-time,description
Nick Perkins,GOOG,Google,SELL,2009-12 14T13:36:00,"Google has had ...
Liz Ford,VOD,Vodafone,BUY,2009-12 15T18:24:00,"Vodafone has had ...
Betty Bailey,SNE,Sony,HOLD,2009-12 16T17:21:00,"Sony has had ...

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Accessing RDF stock ticker data

http://www.rdfdata.org/cgi/stockquotes.cgi
?symbols=BUD,IBM,SNE

returns this...

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Accessing RDF stock ticker data

```
<rdf:RDF
```

xmlns:sq='http://www.rdfdata.org/2009/12/stockquotes#'
xmlns:rdf='http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#'>

<sq:Quote rdf:about='#BUD2010-01-21T16:00:00'>

<sq:tickerSymbol>BUD</sq:tickerSymbol>

<sq:lastPrice>47.88</sq:lastPrice>

<sq:dateTime>2010-01-21T16:00:00</sq:dateTime>

<sq:openingPrice>49.02</sq:openingPrice>

<sq:dayHigh>49.12</sq:dayHigh>

<sq:dayLow>47.77</sq:dayLow>

<sq:volume>986334</sq:volume>

</sq:Quote>

<!-- etc.for IBM and Sony -->

</rdf:RDF>

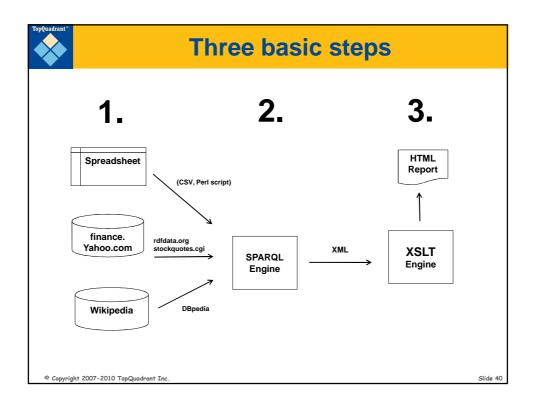
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Three basic steps

- Combine RDF of analyst recommendations + ticker info + DBpedia company info (+ customer holdings)
- Use SPARQL to mix and match and connect and sort, output XML of result
- Use XSLT to create HTML of report(s)

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Jena

- Open source semantic web "framework"
- Java code and utilities
- Supports OWL
- Many useful extensions to SPARQL
- TopBraid products built on it
- Began at Hewlett Packard

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Tools used by build file

- ARQ: Jena command-line SPARQL tool
- xsltproc: libxml XSLT processor
- Rapper: Redlands utility to convert n3 to RDF/XML
- curl (e.g. curl http://www.google.com > g.txt)
- Perl

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Running it (part 1 of 2)

REM set up classpath for arq call %ARQROOT%\bat\make_classpath.bat %ARQROOT%

REM Extract spreadsheet data as RDF to analystRecs.rdf. perl csv2rdf.pl analystRecs.csv > analystRecs.rdf

REM Read analystRecs.rdf, create a one-line script
REM to retrieve RDF of quote data.

xsltproc -o getTickerInfo.bat MakeGetTickerInfo.xsl analystRecs.rdf

REM Get the quote data and put output into quoteData.rdf. call getTickerInfo

REM Read analystRecs.rdf, create the script to
REM retrieve data from DBpedia
xsltproc -o getDbpediaData.bat MakeGetDbpediaData.xsl analystRecs.rdf

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Running it (part 2 of 2)

REM run that script, put output in dbpedia.n3 call getDbpediaData

REM convert DBpedia data from n3 to RDF/XML format rapper -q -i n3 -o rdfxml dbpedia.n3 > dbpedia.rdf

REM extract report data from the combination of the REM three files with SPARQL query

java -cp %CP% arq.arq --results=XML --query=PickDataForReport.spq -data=analystRecs.rdf --data=quoteData.rdf --data=dbpedia.rdf >
reportData.xml

REM Create HTML report from report data xsltproc SPARQLXML2HTML.xsl reportData.xml

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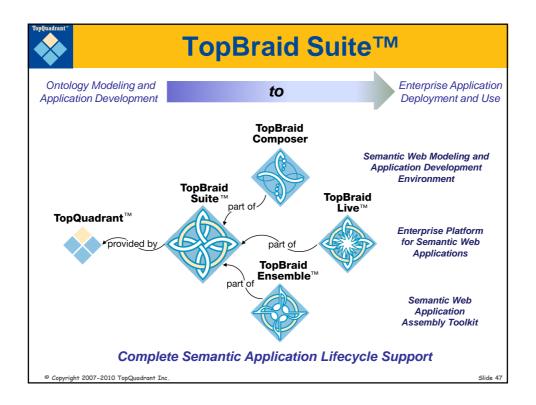
Picking the data we need (pt. 1 of 2) PREFIX fn: http://www.w3.org/2005/xpath-functions">http://www.w3.org/2005/xpath-functions PREFIX ar: <file:///Bob%20sandbox/demo/financial/analystRecs.xls#> SELECT ?tickerSymbol ?coName ?analyst ?description ?recommendation ?recDateTime ?lastPrice ?quoteDateTime ?dayHigh ?dayLow ?openingPrice ?volume ?logo ?revenue ?netIncome ?abstract ?thumbnail WHERE { ?analystData ar:analyst ?analyst; ar:description ?description ; ar:tickerSymbol ?tickerSymbol; ar:wikipediaID ?wikipediaID ; ar:recommendation ?recommendation ; ar:dateTime ?recDateTime . LET (?coName := ?wikipediaID) .

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Picking the data we need (pt. 2 of 2)

```
?quoteData sq:tickerSymbol ?tickerSymbol ;
                  sq:lastPrice ?lastPrice ;
                  sq:dateTime ?quoteDateTime ;
                  sq:dayHigh ?dayHigh ;
                  sq:dayLow ?dayLow ;
                  sq:lastPrice ?lastPrice ;
                  sq:openingPrice ?openingPrice ;
                  sq:volume ?volume .
     ?dbpURI <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/revenue> ?revenue .
    OPTIONAL {?dbpURI <a href="http://dbpedia.org/property/companyLogo">http://dbpedia.org/property/companyLogo> ?logo . "] .
    OPTIONAL {?dbpURI <a href="http://dbpedia.org/ontology/netIncome">http://dbpedia.org/ontology/netIncome</a> ?netIncome .} .
    OPTIONAL {
         \verb|?dbpURI| < \verb|http://dbpedia.org/property/abstract>| ?abstract|.\\
         FILTER (lang(?abstract) = "en") .
    OPTIONAL {?dbpURI <a href="http://dbpedia.org/ontology/thumbnail">http://dbpedia.org/ontology/thumbnail</a> ?thumbnail . } .
    FILTER regex(fn:substring(xs:string(?dbpURI), 29), ?wikipediaID)
```





TopBraid SPARQLMotion

- Visual scripting environment
- Define inputs, processing (typically using SPARQL, with extensions), and outputs
- Develop in TopBraid Composer
- Deploy with TopBraid Live

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TopQuadrant

- Formed in 2001
 - Privately held
 - First Semantic Web Consulting Firm in the U.S.
- Products: TopBraid Suite
 - Semantic Web Application Development Platform
- Solution Services
 - Jumpstarts to Large Implementations
 - Envisioning Workshop
- Semantic Web Training
 - 600+ people Trained
 - On-site and Public Training
- Locations
 - Alexandria, Virginia
 - Mountain View, California
 - TopQuadrant Korea Seoul, S. Korea
- Strategic Partnerships
 - Oracle, Franz, CTG





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Trying the Software

- 30-day evaluation copy lets you do everything, including all SPARQLMotion application development
- Free version limited to ontology and data editing, never expires
- Both available for Windows, Mac, and Linux

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Summary

- RDF makes data easier to combine
- Tools exist to treat many kinds of data formats as RDF, whether stored privately or not
- More and more public data is available as RDF
- After combining, SPARQL is a great way to combine, mix and match data
- You can do this all with free software, but it's a lot easier with TopQuadrant's TopBraid Suite

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