

# RDF dataset anonymization robust to data interlinking

**Marie-Christine Rousset**

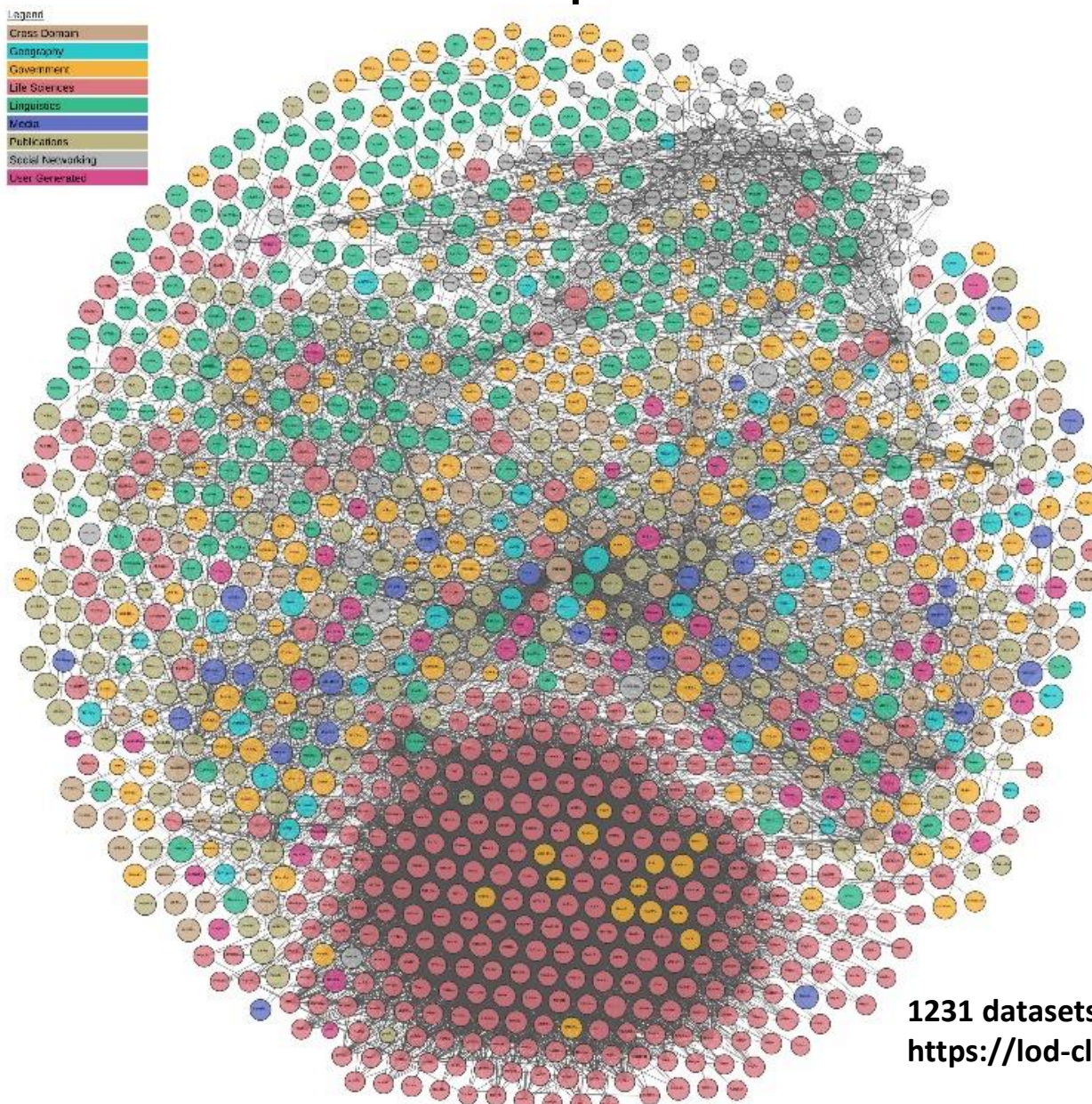
Université Grenoble Alpes & Institut Universitaire de France

**Joint work with**

Rémy Delanaux, Angela Bonifati and Romuald Thion (Univ. Lyon1-LIRIS)



# Linked Open Data



# The standards underlying Linked Open Data

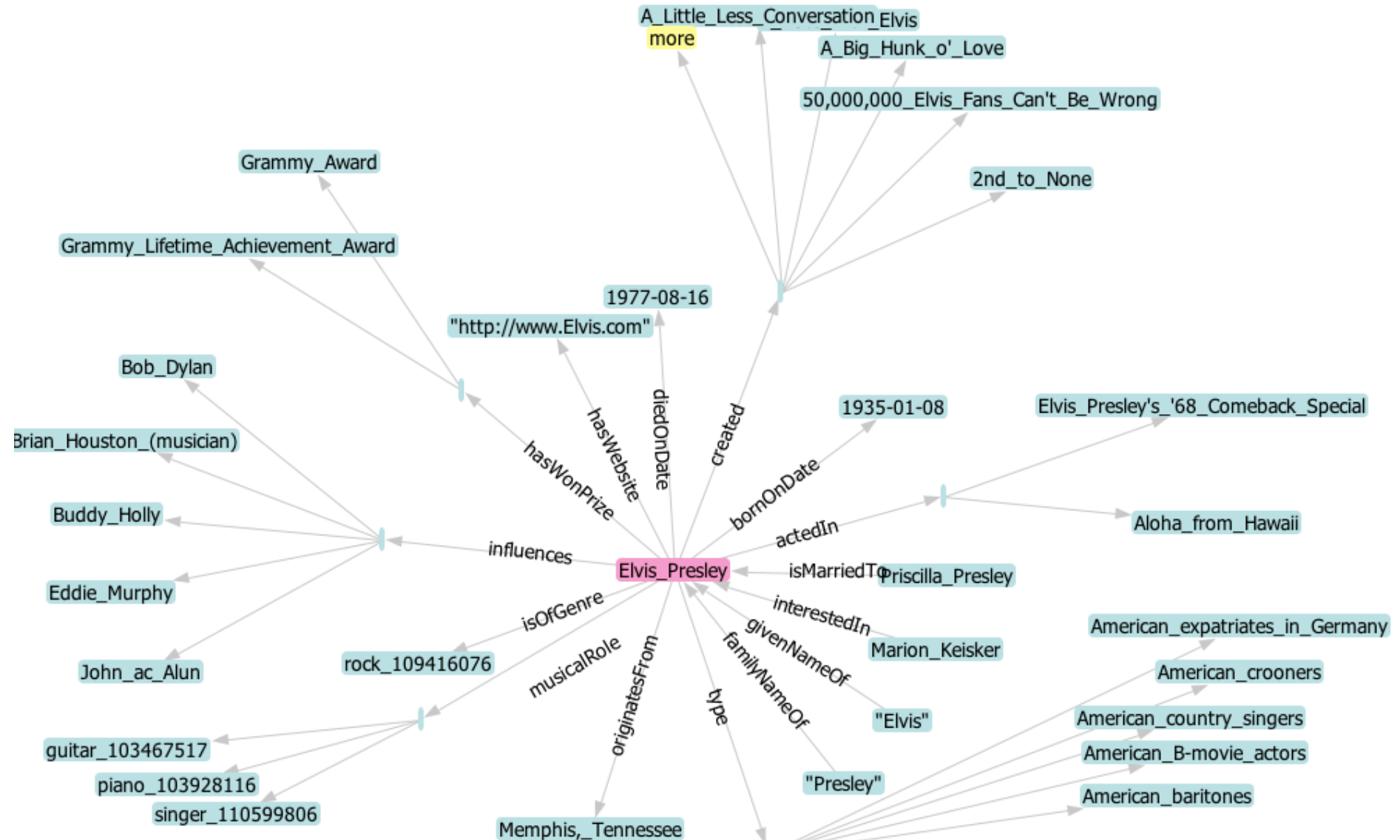
- http, URIs and namespaces
  - For identifying and naming entities without ambiguity
    - URIs: Uniform Resource Identifiers
    - Namespace:
      - A name in a namespace consists of a namespace identifier and a local name.
      - No homonym within a given namespace
- RDF (Resource Description Framework)
  - For declaring facts on entities as triples  
<subject, relation/property, object/value>
- RDFS (RDF Schema) and OWL
  - For grouping entities into classes structured in class hierarchies
  - For providing semantics to the relations and properties
- SPARQL
  - For asking queries to endpoints accessible through web services
    - <http://rdf.insee.fr/sparql>

# RDF : a graph model

- The RDF data model allows writing labeled graph using triples
  - A triple has three components
    - A **subject**: URI or a blank node (unnamed URI)
    - A **property** or predicate: URI
    - An **object**: URI, blank node or literal (string)
  - A triple is written: **subject property object**.
- An RDF graph is a set of triples
  - Its **nodes** are (labeled with) the subjects and objects of the triples: one node per URI
  - Its **edges** are (labeled with) the properties of the triples



# Example (from Yago )



# Endpoint SPARQL DBpedia

<http://fr.dbpedia.org/sparql>

- Municipalities of Ile de France region with more than 100.000 inhabitants with their mayor?

```
SELECT ?commune ?maire
```

```
WHERE {
```

```
?commune <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/region>
```

```
<http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Île-de-France> .
```

```
?commune rdf:type dbpedia-owl:PopulatedPlace .
```

```
?commune dbpedia-owl:populationTotal ?population .
```

```
?commune prop-fr:maire ?maire
```

```
FILTER (?population > 100000) }
```

commune	maire
<a href="http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Paris">http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Paris</a>	"Anne Hidalgo"@fr
<a href="http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Boulogne-Billancourt">http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Boulogne-Billancourt</a>	"Pierre-Christophe Baguet"@fr
<a href="http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Montreuil_(Seine-Saint-Denis)">http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Montreuil_(Seine-Saint-Denis)</a>	"Patrice Bessac"@fr
<a href="http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Saint-Denis_(Seine-Saint-Denis)">http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Saint-Denis_(Seine-Saint-Denis)</a>	"Didier Paillard"@fr
<a href="http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Val-de-Marne">http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Val-de-Marne</a>	<a href="http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Laurent_Cathala">http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Laurent_Cathala</a>
<a href="http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Argenteuil_(Val-d'Oise)">http://fr.dbpedia.org/resource/Argenteuil_(Val-d'Oise)</a>	"Georges Mothron"@fr

# SPARQL queries based on Basic Graph Patterns (BGPs)

- **Conjunctive queries:**

SELECT ?v1 ?v2 ...?vk

WHERE {TP1. TP2. ....TPn}

- Each TP<sub>i</sub> is a triple with variables and without blank nodes(triple pattern)
- A variable can appear in any position of a triple pattern
- A join variable is a variable occurring in several triple patterns  
=> TP1, TP2, ..., TPn is thus a graph pattern

- **The evaluation of a conjunctive query over an RDF dataset DS is based on the existence of mappings  $\mu$  from the variables in the query to URIs, blank nodes or literals appearing in DS such that for every  $i$ ,  $\mu(TP_i) \in DS$**

- $\mu(TP)$  is the triple obtained by replacing every occurrence of each variable ?x by  $\mu(?x)$
- $\mu$  is an application:
- **The answer set** is the set of mappings  $\mu$  such that for every  $i$ ,  $\mu(TP_i) \in DS$ , projected on the distinguished variables, **represented as a table**
  - One column per distinguished variable
  - One row per mapping, with the corresponding values of the distinguished variables

# Example

Q1: SELECT \* WHERE {?x vCard:N ?y. ?y vCard:Family "Smith". ?y vCard:Given ?givenName}

Q2: SELECT ?x ?givenName WHERE {?x vCard:N ?y. ?y vCard:Family "Smith". ?y vCard:Given ?givenName}

## Dataset DS

```
@prefix vCard: <http://www.w3.org/2001/vcard-rdf/3.0#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .

<http://somewhere/MattJones/> vCard:FN "Matt Jones" .
<http://somewhere/MattJones/> vCard:N _:b0 .
_:b0 vCard:Family "Jones" .
_:b0 vCard:Given "Matthew" .

<http://somewhere/RebeccaSmith/> vCard:FN "Becky Smith" .
<http://somewhere/RebeccaSmith/> vCard:N _:b1 .
_:b1 vCard:Family "Smith" .
_:b1 vCard:Given "Rebecca" .

<http://somewhere/JohnSmith/> vCard:FN "John Smith" .
<http://somewhere/JohnSmith/> vCard:N _:b2 .
_:b2 vCard:Family "Smith" .
_:b2 vCard:Given "John" .

<http://somewhere/SarahJones/> vCard:FN "Sarah Jones" .
<http://somewhere/SarahJones/> vCard:N _:b3 .
_:b3 vCard:Family "Jones" .
_:b3 vCard:Given "Sarah" .
```

## Answers returned by Q1 against DS

x	y	givenName
<http://somewhere/RebeccaSmith>	_:b1	"Rebecca"
<http://somewhere/JohnSmith>	_:b2	"John"

## Answers returned by Q2 against DS

x		givenName
<http://somewhere/RebeccaSmith>		"Rebecca"
<http://somewhere/JohnSmith>		"John"



# Counting queries

- COUNT (Q) where Q is a conjunctive query

$$\text{Answer}(\text{Count}(Q), \text{DS}) = | \text{Answer}(Q, \text{DS}) |$$

Q3: SELECT ?x WHERE {?x vCard:N ?y. ?y vCard:Family "Smith". }

$$\text{Answer}(\text{Count}(Q3), \text{DS}) = 2$$

- SPARQL syntax:

SELECT (COUNT ?x) WHERE {?x vCard:N ?y. ?y vCard:Family "Smith". }

# SPARQL Update queries

```
# UPDATE outline syntax : general form:  
MODIFY [ <uri> ]*  
DELETE { template }  
INSERT { template }  
[ WHERE { pattern } ]
```

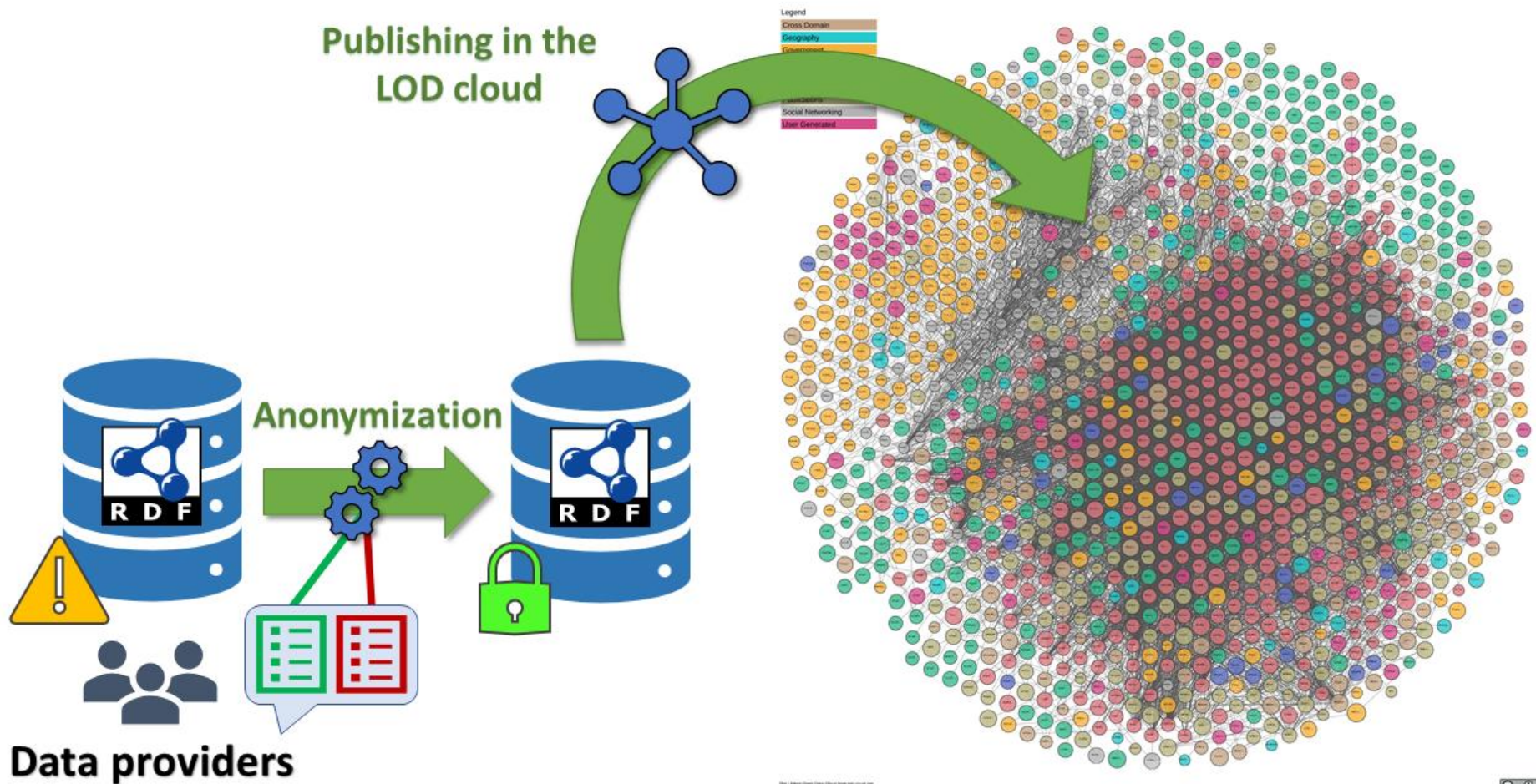
- *template*
  - An extension of a BGP **with possible blank nodes**
- *pattern* is a BGP
- *pattern* is evaluated as in the SPARQL query
  - SELECT \* WHERE {*pattern*}
  - all the values of the variables are used in the INSERT and DELETE *templates* for defining the triples to be inserted or deleted
- The deletion of triples happens before the insertion
- DELETE (respectively INSERT) queries: particular case with an empty INSERT *template* (respectively an empty DELETE *template*)

# Example

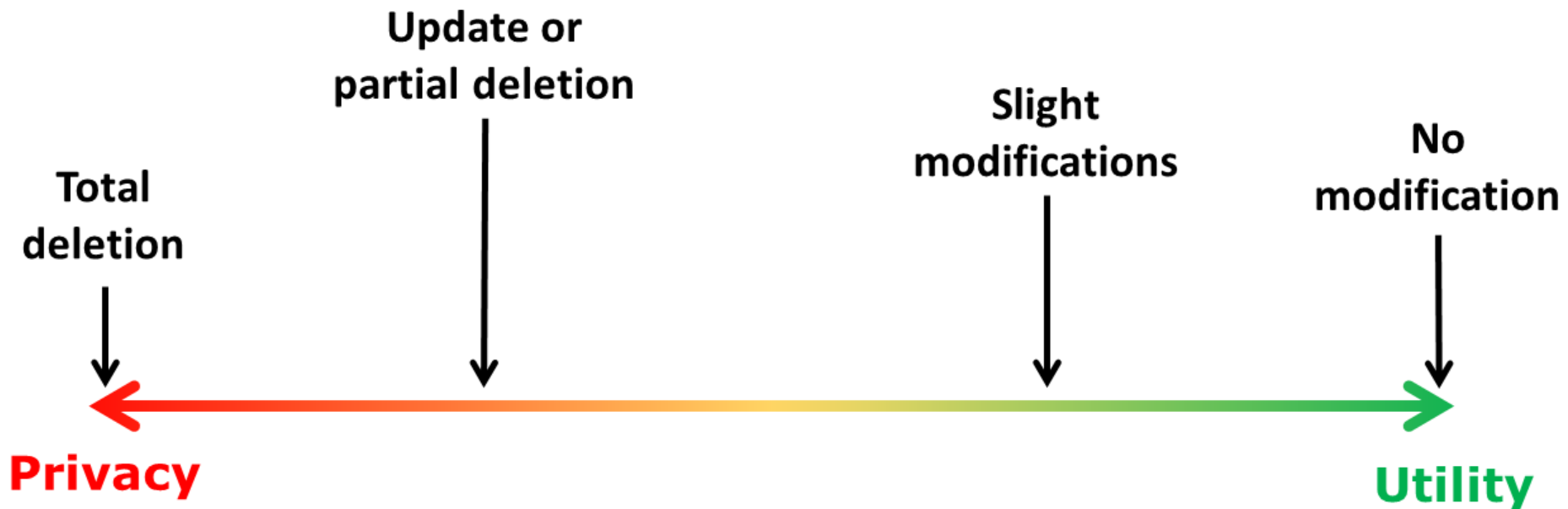
```
DELETE { ?c tcl:user ?u. }
INSERT { ?c tcl:user []. }
WHERE { ?c a tcl:Journey.
        ?c tcl:user ?u.
        ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
        ?c geo:longitude ?long. }
```

# Linked Data anonymization

Linked Open Data cloud (as of 2018)



# which tradeoff between privacy and utility?





# Different existing approaches

- Add noise in the data
  - Differential privacy [1,2]
    - strong mathematical guarantees of non-disclosure of any individual information
    - maximise the accuracy of statistical queries
    - low utility of answers returned by precise queries
- Suppress or generalize information
  - K-anonymity [3,4,5]
    - at least k records with indistinguishable values over quasi-identifiers of sensitive information
    - measure the resulting loss of information
- Apply access control policies [6,7]
  - Data is unchanged but permissions are required to query it
    - distinguish users with different privileges
    - define authentication rules to control whether a given user is allowed to issue a given query
  - Not particularly adapted to Linked Open Data setting

# Our approach

- Declarative specification of privacy and utility policies as a set of SPARQL conjunctive and/or counting queries
- Sound and data-independent algorithms for computing anonymizations operations as SPARQL update queries
  - with the guarantee that the resulting datasets satisfy both the privacy and utility policies
  - even when linking the anonymized dataset with any external RDF dataset

# Specification of privacy and utility policies

- **Privacy** / **Utility** policies: a set of queries
- An anonymized dataset **Anonym(DS)** satisfies:
  - a privacy policy if **for each privacy query  $p$** , the evaluation of  **$p$**  on **Anonym(DS)** does not return any tuple of constants: **no answer** or **tuples of blank nodes**
  - an utility policy if **for each utility query  $u$** , the evaluation of  **$u$**  returns the **same results** on **Anonym(DS)** and on **DS**

## Privacy policy

```
SELECT ?ad
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.
}

SELECT ?u ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c tcl:user ?u.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

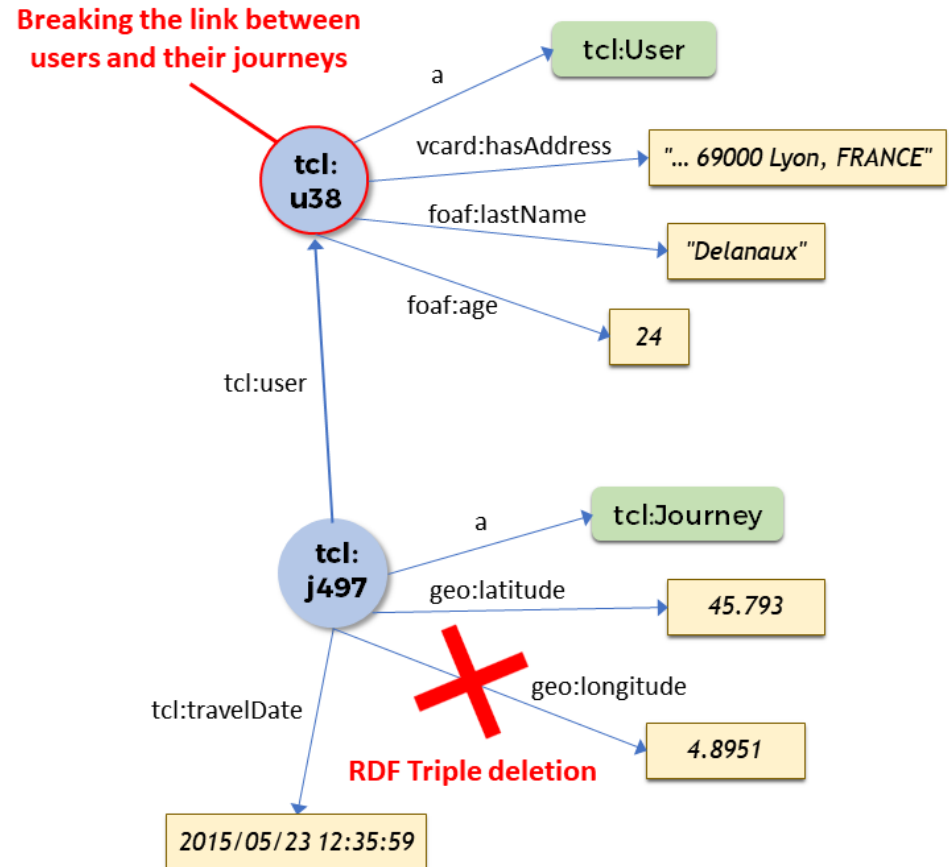
## Utility policy

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}

SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Query-based anonymization operators

- SPARQL update queries
  - delete triples
  - replace URIs by blank nodes



# Delete queries for triple deletion

## Deletion query

- Particular case of update queries, with no replacement value
- $\text{DELETE } D(\bar{x}) \text{ WHERE } W(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$

- Example:
  - delete all the triples corresponding to the property hasAddress of users

```
DELETE { ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad. }  
WHERE { ?u a tcl:User.  
        ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad. }
```



# Update queries for replacement of Uris by blank nodes

## Update query

■  $\text{DELETE } D(\bar{x}) \text{ INSERT } I(\bar{y}) \text{ WHERE } W(\bar{x}, \bar{z})$

- Example:
  - Replace with blank nodes the URIs of users for which the location of their journeys is known

```
DELETE { ?c tcl:user ?u. }
INSERT { ?c tcl:user []. }
WHERE { ?c a tcl:Journey.
        ?c tcl:user ?u.
        ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
        ?c geo:longitude ?long. }
```

# Problem 1

Compatibility checking between privacy  
and utility policies

# Problem 1: a decision problem

- Compatibility checking between two given privacy and utility policies:
  - for any dataset DS that violates a **privacy query p**, there exists a sequence O of operations such that O(DS) satisfies both policies
- **Incompatibility** if there exists an **utility query u** contained into the privacy query p
  - $u$  is contained in  $p \Leftrightarrow$  for any DB,  $\text{Answer}(u, \text{DB}) \subseteq \text{Answer}(p, \text{DB})$
  - Let DS the dataset obtained from body( $u$ ) by replacing each variable by distinct URIs, and let  $\underline{a}$  the tuple of the URIs corresponding to the result variables:
    - By construction,  $\underline{a} \in \text{Answer}(u, \text{DS})$ , and since  $u$  is contained in  $p$ :  $\underline{a} \in \text{Answer}(p, \text{DS})$
  - Therefore DS violates the privacy query  $p$
  - Suppose there exists O such that O(DS) satisfies both policies:
    - $\underline{a} \in \text{Answer}(u, O(\text{DS}))$  (since  $\text{Answer}(u, O(\text{DS})) = \text{Answer}(u, \text{DS})$ )
    - and, by query containment,  $\underline{a} \in \text{Answer}(p, O(\text{DS}))$

$\Rightarrow$  Contradiction (the privacy policy is not satisfied)

# Query containment problem

- Extensively studied in database theory
  - Many results of complexity and algorithms
  - NP-complete for conjunctive queries [8]

Algorithm:  $q1$  contained in  $q2$  ?

- $\text{body}(q1)$  seen as a database by freezing its variables
- Evaluate  $q2$  over this database
  - If the answer set is not empty, return YES, Otherwise return NO
- Illustration:
  - $q1(X): R(X,Y), R(Y,Z), R(Z,Z)$
  - $q2(X): R(X,Y), R(Y,Z1), R(Y,Z2)$
  - Freezing the variables in  $q1$ :  $X \rightarrow a1, Y \rightarrow a2, Z \rightarrow a3$
  - $\text{Answer}(q2, \text{DB}(q1)) = \{a1, a2\}$
  - $\Rightarrow q1$  is contained in  $q2$**

# Back to SPARQL

p: SELECT ?ad WHERE

{?u a tcl:User. ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad}

u: SELECT ?ad WHERE

{?u a tcl:User. ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.  
?ad :professionalAddress true. }

- u is contained in p
- Incompatible privacy and utility policies



## Back to SPARQL (continued)

p: SELECT ?ad WHERE  
    {?u a tcl:User. ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.  
      ?ad :professionalAddress false.}

u: SELECT ?ad WHERE  
    {?u a tcl:User. ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.  
      ?ad :professionalAddress true. }

- u is not contained in p
- Compatible privacy and utility policies

## Back to SPARQL (continued)

p: SELECT ?ad WHERE  
    {?u a tcl:User. ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad}

u: SELECT ?ad WHERE  
    {?u a tcl:User.  
      ?u vcard:hasProfessionalAddress ?ad}

- u is not contained in p
- compatible privacy and utility policies ?
  - What if we have the following knowledge K  
vcard:hasProfessionalAddress rdfs:subPropertyOf vcard:hasAddress

# Back to query containment

- Extend the definition:
    - q1 is contained in q2 modulo K
    - if for every  $\underline{a}$ :  $q1(\underline{a}), K \models q2(\underline{a})$
  - Adapt the algorithms accordingly:
    - Rewrite the q2 query using K or complete the q1 query using K
- Rewriting( $p, K$ ): { $p, p'$ }
- $p'$ : `SELECT ?ad WHERE`  
`{?u a tcl:User. ?u vcard:hasProfessionalAddress ?ad}`
- $\Rightarrow$  add  $p'$  as a privacy query in the privacy policy
- Completed( $u, K$ ): `SELECT ?ad WHERE`  
`{?u a tcl:User. ?u vcard:hasProfessionalAddress ?ad.`  
`?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad}`
- $\Rightarrow$  check query containment of Completed( $u, K$ ) with the privacy policies

# Refinement of incompatible policies

- Either by constraining the the privacy queries

```
p: SELECT ?ad WHERE  
      {?u a tcl:User. ?u vcard:hasPersonalAddress ?ad}
```

- Or by generalizing the utility queries

```
u: SELECT ?ad WHERE  
      { ?ad :professionalAddress true. }
```

⇒ to be done and/or validated by the data provider

## Problem 2

Build anonymization operations  
to satisfy compatible privacy and utility policies  
when applied to a **given dataset** or **to any dataset**



## Problem 2: a construction problem

- Given two **compatible** privacy and utility policies, **build candidate sequences of anonymization operations** such that their application **to any dataset DS** satisfy both privacy and utility policies
- Our contribution
  - a two-step algorithm that builds a **set of update queries**
    - **Step1:** for each privacy query  $p_i$  consider in isolation each triple pattern and if it can be mapped with a triple pattern in an utility query, build the set  $O(p_i)$  of all the possible update queries (Delete or IR replacement)
    - **Step2:** compute the cartesian product  $\Omega: O(p_1) \times \dots \times O(p_i) \times \dots \times O(p_n)$
  - Soundness property:
    - For every  $i$ , if  $O(p_i)$  is non empty, every  $o \in O(p_i)$  satisfies the **single privacy policy made of  $p_i$**  and the global utility policy made of **all the utility queries**
    - If  $\Omega$  is not empty, for any set  $S \in \Omega$ , for any dataset DS, for any ordering  $O$  of the operations in  $S$ ,  **$O(DS)$  satisfies both privacy and utility policies**

# Illustration by example: Step1.1

Privacy query #1:

```
SELECT ?ad
WHERE {
    ?u a tcl:User.
    ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
    ?u a tcl:User.
    ?u foaf:age ?age.
}
```

```
SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
    ?c a tcl:Journey.
    ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
    ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: Step 1.1

Privacy query #1:

```
SELECT ?ad
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}
```

```
SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: Step 1.1

Privacy query #1:

```
SELECT ?ad
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
```

```
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}
```

```
SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
```

```
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: Step 1.1

Privacy query #1:

```
SELECT ?ad
WHERE {
    ?u a tcl:User.
    ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
    ?u a tcl:User.
    ?u foaf:age ?age.
}

SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
    ?c a tcl:Journey.
    ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
    ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: Step 1.1

Privacy query #1:

```
SELECT ?ad
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u vcard:hasAddress ?ad.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}

SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: result of Step1.1

## Output for P1:

$O_1 = \{ \text{DELETE } \{ ?u \text{ vcard:hasAddress } ?ad. \} \quad (op_1)$   
WHERE  $\{ ?u \text{ a tcl:User. } ?u \text{ vcard:hasAddress } ?ad. \},$   
 $\text{DELETE } \{ ?u \text{ vcard:hasAddress } ?ad. \} \quad (op_2)$   
INSERT  $\{ [] \text{ vcard:hasAddress } ?ad. \}$   
WHERE  $\{ ?u \text{ a tcl:User. } ?u \text{ vcard:hasAddress } ?ad. \},$   
 $\text{DELETE } \{ ?u \text{ vcard:hasAddress } ?ad. \} \quad (op_3)$   
INSERT  $\{ ?u \text{ vcard:hasAddress } []. \}$   
WHERE  $\{ ?u \text{ a tcl:User. } ?u \text{ vcard:hasAddress } ?ad. \} \}$



## Illustration by example: Step1.2

Privacy query #2:

```
SELECT ?u ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c tcl:user ?u.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}

SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: Step1.2

Privacy query #2:

```
SELECT ?u ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c tcl:user ?u.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}
```

```
SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

## Illustration by example: Step1.2

Privacy query #2:

```
SELECT ?u ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c tcl:user ?u.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}
```

```
SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: Step1.2

Privacy query #2:

```
SELECT ?u ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c tcl:user ?u.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}
```

```
SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: Step1.2

Privacy query #2:

```
SELECT ?u ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c tcl:user ?u.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

Utility queries:

```
SELECT ?u ?age
WHERE {
  ?u a tcl:User.
  ?u foaf:age ?age.
}
```

```
SELECT ?c ?lat ?long
WHERE {
  ?c a tcl:Journey.
  ?c geo:latitude ?lat.
  ?c geo:longitude ?long.
}
```

# Illustration by example: result of Step1.2

## Output for P2:

$O_2 = \{ \text{DELETE } \{ ?c \text{ tcl:User } ?u. \} \quad (op_4)$   
WHERE  $\{ ?c \text{ a tcl:Journey. } \dots \},$   
DELETE  $\{ ?c \text{ tcl:User } ?u. \} \quad (op_5)$   
INSERT  $\{ [] \text{ tcl:User } ?u. \}$   
WHERE  $\{ ?c \text{ a tcl:Journey. } \dots \},$   
DELETE  $\{ ?c \text{ tcl:User } ?u. \} \quad (op_6)$   
INSERT  $\{ ?c \text{ tcl:User } []. \}$   
WHERE  $\{ ?c \text{ a tcl:Journey. } \dots \} \}$

## Illustration by example: result of Step2

We have  $O_1 = \{op_1, op_2, op_3\}$  and  $O_2 = \{op_4, op_5, op_6\}$

Which gives 9 possible sets of operations:

$$Ops = \left\{ \begin{aligned} &\{op_1, op_4\}, \{op_1, op_6\}, \{op_1, op_6\}, \\ &\{op_2, op_4\}, \{op_2, op_5\}, \{op_2, op_6\}, \\ &\{op_3, op_4\}, \{op_3, op_5\}, \{op_3, op_6\} \end{aligned} \right\}$$



# Properties of the algorithms

- Soundness
  - If the output is not empty, the input privacy and utility policies are compatible, and
  - the application to any input DS of every set of update queries returned by the algorithm leads to a dataset that satisfies the input privacy and utility policies
- Complexity
  - Step 1:
    - polynomial in time (  $O(\text{size}(P) \times \text{size}(U))$ )
    - output size:  $O(\text{size}(P))$
  - Step 2 : exponential in the number  $n$  of privacy queries
    - cartesian product of  $n$  sets of size in  $O(\text{size}(P))$
  - Constant data complexity:
    - Data-independent algorithms
- Runtime efficiency in practice:
  - 0.84s on average for policies of 10 queries each

# Limitations of the approach

- Deleting triples may guarantee **privacy** but not **safety**
- A **safe** anonymization instance  $(DS, O, P)$  preserves privacy for the union of  $O(DS)$  with external data

**Definition** (generalization of the safety definition introduced in [10]):

**for any external dataset  $G$ , for every privacy query  $p \in P$ ,**

**for any tuple of constants  $\underline{c}$ ,**

**if  $\underline{c} \in \text{Answer}(p, O(DS) \cup G)$  then  $\underline{c} \in \text{Answer}(p, G)$**

# Example

## Privacy query

**P:** SELECT ?x WHERE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y :member ?z. ?z :hasDept :oncology.}

URIs of people seen by a member of a service in a hospital having an oncology department should not be disclosed.

## Dataset DS to anonymize

:bob :seenBy :mary. :mary :member :service1.

:ann :seenBy :mary. :service1 :hasDept :oncology.

## Anonymization operation

O1: DELETE {?x :seenBy ?y} WHERE {?x :seenBy ?y}

### O1(DS)

:mary :member :service1. :service1 :hasDept :oncology.

## External dataset G

:bob :seenBy :mary,

- Empty answer set for the privacy query P evaluated on O1(DS) and on G
- but
- :bob is returned as answer of the privacy query P evaluated on O1(DS) U G

⇒ The problem for safety comes from a possible join between an internal and external URI (:mary in our example)

⇒ **Solution:** identify such critical URIs and replace them by blank nodes.

# Critical terms of a query

- Result variables
- Join variables, URIs, literals
  - several occurrences in the query body

- Example: Query Q

```
SELECT ?x ?y WHERE { ?x :seenBy ?z. ?z :specialistOf ?y.  
                    ?v a :VIP. ?v :isHospitalized true }
```

- Critical terms: ?x, ?y, ?z, ?v
  - Q has two connected components,
    - $G1 = \{ ?x :seenBy ?z. ?z :specialistOf ?y. \}$
    - $G2 = \{ ?v a :VIP. ?v :isHospitalized true. \}$
- G2 does not contain any result variable  
=> expresses a boolean condition for Q to be satisfied

# A sufficient condition for safety of an anonymization instance (DS, O, P)

For every connected component  $G_c$  of all the privacy queries in  $P$

1. **for all critical variable or URI  $x$  in  $G_c$ , for all triple  $t$  in  $G_c$  where  $x$  appears and for each mapping  $\mu$  such that  $\mu(t) \in O(DS)$ ,  $\mu(x)$  is a blank node**
2. **each triple  $(s \ p \ v)$  in  $G_c$  such that  $v$  is a join literal and  $s$  is neither a join variable nor a join URI has no image in  $O(DS)$  by a mapping**
3. **if  $G_c$  does not contain any result variable, then there exists a triple pattern in  $G_c$  without any image in  $O(DS)$  by a mapping**

# Problem 3

Check /build safe anonymization operations

# Problem 3: data-independent safety problem

- Build anonymizations that are guaranteed to be safe when applied to any input dataset.
- Our contribution (under submission)
  - **Algorithm 1:** build a sequence  $O1$  of update queries that makes the sufficient condition for safety satisfied **on any updated dataset**
    - Preserves joins between blank nodes and thus some utility counting queries
    - Requires to build as many update queries as subsets of each connected component

⇒ worst-case exponential complexity in the size of the privacy queries
  - **Algorithm 2: a polynomial approximation of Algorithm 1**
    - construct a sequence  $O2$  of update queries that replace, in each triple pattern, every critical term (variable or IRI) with a fresh blank node.
  - **Property: for any dataset  $DS$** 
    - $O1$  and  $O2$  are safe anonymizations
    - $DS \models O1(DS) \models O2(DS)$

# Algorithm1

---

**Algorithm 1:** Find update operations to ensure safety

---

**Input** : a privacy policy  $\mathcal{P}$  of queries  $P_i = \langle \bar{x}_i, G_i \rangle$

**Output** : a sequence of operations  $O$  which is safe for  $\mathcal{P}$

```
1 function find-safe-ops( $\mathcal{P}$ ):
2   Let  $O = \langle \rangle$ ;
3   for  $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$  do
4     forall the connected components  $G_c \subseteq G_i$  do
5       Let  $I_V := []$  and  $I_L := []$ ;
6       forall the  $(s, p, o) \in G_c$  do
7         if  $s \in \mathbf{V} \vee s \in \mathbf{I}$  then  $I_V[s] = I_V[s] + 1$ ;
8         if  $o \in \mathbf{V} \vee o \in \mathbf{I}$  then  $I_V[o] = I_V[o] + 1$ ;
9         if  $o \in \mathbf{L}$  then  $I_L[o] := I_L[o] \cup \{(s, p, o)\}$ ;
10      Let  $V_{crit} := \{v \mid I_V[v] > 1\} \cup \{v \mid v \in \bar{x}_i \wedge \exists \tau \in G_c \text{ s.t. } v \in \tau\}$ ;
11      Let  $SG_c = \{X \mid X \subseteq G_c \wedge X \neq \emptyset\}$  ordered by decreasing size;
12      forall the  $X \in SG_c$  do
13        Let  $X' := X$  and  $\bar{x}' = \{v \mid v \in V_{crit} \wedge \exists \tau \in X \text{ s.t. } v \in \tau\}$ ;
14        forall the  $x \in \bar{x}'$  do
15          Let  $b \in \mathbf{B}$  be a fresh blank node;
16           $X' := X'[x \leftarrow b]$ ;
17         $O := O + \langle \text{DELETE } X \text{ INSERT } X' \text{ WHERE } X \text{ isNotBlank}(\bar{x}') \rangle$ ;
18      Let  $L_{crit} := \{l \mid |I_L[l]| > 1\}$ ;
19      forall the  $l \in L_{crit}$  do
20        Let  $G' := \{(t, p, l) \mid (t, p, l) \in I_L[l] \wedge t \notin V_{crit} \wedge p \notin V_{crit}\}$ ;
21        forall the  $\tau \in G'$  do
22           $O := O + \langle \text{DELETE } \tau \text{ WHERE } \tau \rangle$ ;
23      if  $\bar{x}_i = \emptyset$  then
24        Let  $\tau \in G_c$  // non-deterministic choice
25         $O := O + \langle \text{DELETE } \tau \text{ WHERE } G_c \rangle$ ;
26  return  $O$ ;
```

---



# Illustration by example

## Privacy query

**P:** `SELECT ?x WHERE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y :member ?z. ?z :hasDept :oncology.}`

URIs of people seen by a member of a service in a hospital having an oncology department should not be disclosed.

## First update query computed by Algorithm1:

O2: `DELETE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y :member ?z. ?z :hasDept :oncology}`  
`INSERT {_:b1 :seenBy _:b2. _:b2 :member _:b3. _:b3 :hasDept :oncology}`  
`WHERE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y :member ?z. ?z :hasDept :oncology}`

## Resulting anonymization of DS:

`:bob :seenBy :mary. :mary :member :service1.`

`:ann :seenBy :mary. :service1 :hasDept :oncology.`

### **O2(DS):**

`_:1 :seenBy _:2 . _:2 :member _:3. _:3 :hasDept :oncology.`

`_:4 :seenBy _:5 . _:5 :member _:6. _:6 :hasDept :oncology.`

## Update query returned by Algorithm2:

O3: `DELETE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y' :member ?z. ?z' :hasDept :oncology}`  
`INSERT {_:b1 :seenBy _:b2. _:b3 :member _:b4. _:b5 :hasDept :oncology}`  
`WHERE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y' :member ?z. ?z' :hasDept :oncology}`

**O3(DS):** `_:1 :seenBy _:2 . _:3 :member _:4. _:5 :hasDept :oncology.`  
`_:6 :seenBy _:7 . _:8 :member _:9. _:10 :hasDept :oncology.`

# Counting utility queries preserved

- Given  $P$  with a single connected component, at least one result variable and no join literal, let  $O$  the result of Algorithm1 applied to  $\{P\}$ : for every dataset  $DS$

$$\text{Answer}(\text{Count}(P), O(DS)) = \text{Answer}(\text{Count}(P), DS).$$

$P$ : `SELECT ?x WHERE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y :member ?z. ?z :hasDept :oncology.}`

No disclosure of URIs of people seen by a member of a service in a hospital having an oncology department

`Count (P)`

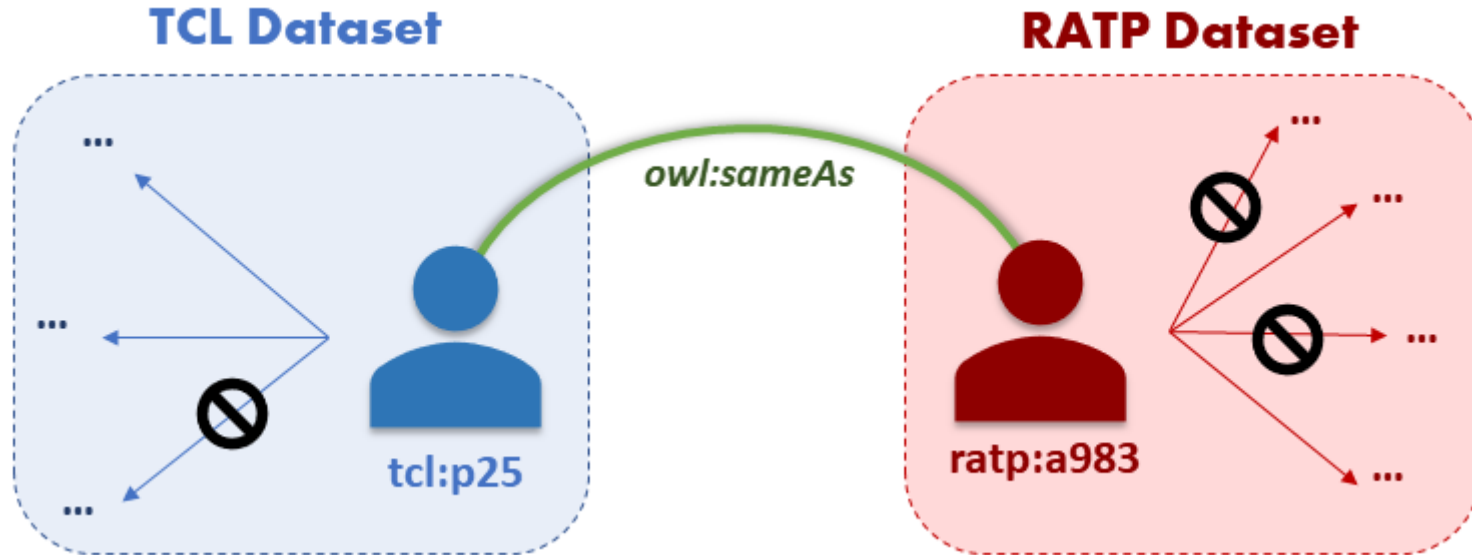
While preserving the number of people seen by a member of a service in a hospital having an oncology department

**O2 guarantees it**

```
DELETE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y :member ?z. ?z :hasDept :oncology}
INSERT {_:b1 :seenBy _:b2. _:b2 :member _:b3. _:b3 :hasDept :oncology}
WHERE {?x :seenBy ?y. ?y :member ?z. ?z :hasDept :oncology}
```

**but O3 does not**

# Safety modulo sameAs links



- sameAs links interpreted as equality between entities
- Semantics of answering queries modulo sameAs:  
**a is an answer of Q over DS modulo a set sameAS of owl:sameAs links** if there exists  **$o_1$  owl:sameAs  $o'_1, \dots, o_k$  owl:sameAs  $o'_k$**  in  $\text{closure}(\text{sameAs})$  such that **a is an answer of Q over DS'** where DS' is obtained from DS **by replacing each  $o_i$  by  $o'_i$**

**Theorem:** Algorithm1 ensures safety modulo a set of **explicit** sameAs links between entities (including blank nodes)

# Safety modulo sameAs links inferred by knowledge (e.g., OWL constraints)

- Functional or inverse functional properties
  - **inverse functionality of *bossOf*** expresses that every person has only one boss.

⇒ may lead to re-identifying blank nodes

$DS = \{ :bob :seenBy :mary. :bob :bossOf \_ :b1. \_ :b1 :bossOf :ann. \}$

$O(DS) = \{ \_ :b :seenBy :mary. \_ :b :bossOf \_ :b1. \_ :b1 :bossOf :ann. \}$

$G = \{ :bob :bossOf :jim. :jim :bossOf :ann. \}$

- From  $O(DS) \cup G$  and the inverse functionality of `:bossOf`, it can be inferred

- `:jim :sameAs \_ :b1`

- `:bob :sameAs \_ :b`

⇒ `\_ :b` is re-identified as `:bob`, which is returned as answer of `P` over  $O(DS) \cup G$  modulo `sameAs`, and

⇒ the anonymization operation `O` is not safe anymore

# A possible solution

- add a privacy query for each functional property p

SELECT ?x WHERE {?x p ?y.}

- and for each inverse functional property q

SELECT ?x WHERE {?y q ?x.}

⇒ the update queries returned by our algorithms will replace

- each URI in subject position of a functional property by a fresh blank node,
- and each URI in an object position of an inverse functional property by a fresh blank node.

⇒ in the previous example, :ann in ( :b1:bossOf:ann) would be replaced by a fresh blank node.

# Safety modulo completeness of a property

- Closure of a property available as an external source
  - suppose that the closure of the property :seenBy is known as being stored in G':  
:bob :seenBy :mary. :alice :seenBy :mary.  
:john :seenBy :ann. :tim :seenBy :ann.
  - knowing that G' is the complete extension of :seenBy allows to infer \_:b :sameAs :bob and thus to re-identify the blank node \_:b.
- Possible solution:
  - add a privacy query `SELECT ?x ?y WHERE {?x p ?y }` for each property p for which we suspect that a closure could occur in the LOD.

# Conclusion

- A query-based approach for specifying privacy and utility policies
- Algorithms for building anonymization operations as update queries
  - Soundness and complexity
  - Data-independent
- Future directions:
  - Measure the loss of information of anonymization operations
  - Study the robustness to additional knowledge
  - Consider the data-dependent version of the safety problem to see if it could lead to more specific anonymization operations while guaranteeing safety.
  - Combine our logical approach with other approaches

# Bibliography

- [1] Dwork, C.: Differential privacy. In: ICALP 2006
- [2] Machanavajjhala, A., He, X., Hay, M.: Differential privacy in the wild: A tutorial on current practices & open challenges. PVLDB 9(13), (2016)
- [3] Sweeney, L.: k-anonymity: A model for protecting privacy. International Journal of Uncertainty, Fuzziness and Knowledge-Based Systems 10(5), 2002
- [4] Machanavajjhala, A., Kifer, D., Gehrke, J., Venkitasubramaniam, M.: L-diversity: Privacy beyond k-anonymity. TKDD 1(1), 3 (2007)
- [5] Heitmann, B., Hermesen, F., Decker, S.: k - rdf-neighbourhood anonymity: Combining structural and attribute-based anonymisation for linked data. In: PrivOn@ISWC. CEUR Workshop Proceedings, vol. 1951. 2017
- [6] Kirrane, S., Mileo, A., Decker, S.: Access control and the resource description framework: A survey. Semantic Web 8(2), 2017
- [7] Villata, S., Delaforge, N., Gandon, F., Gyrard, A.: An access control model for linked data. In: OTM Workshops. LNCS, vol. 7046, 2011
- [8] T. Millstein, A. Levy, M. Friedman, Query Containment for Data Integration Systems. Proceedings PODS 2000
- [9] Delanaux, R., Bonifati, A., Rousset, M., Thion, R.: Query-based linked data anonymization. In: ISWC 2018,
- [10] Grau, B.C., Kostylev, E.V.: Logical foundations of privacy-preserving publishing of linked data. In: AAI 2016