

Swiss Institute of  
Bioinformatics

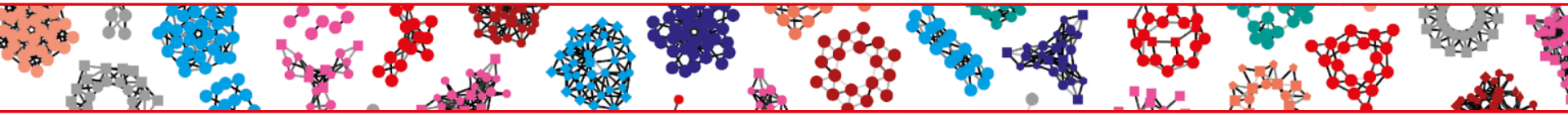
# SIB a FAIR connected institute

Jerven Bolleman  
SIB Employees and Members



[www.sib.swiss](http://www.sib.swiss)

# Overview



01

• SIB

02

• RDF

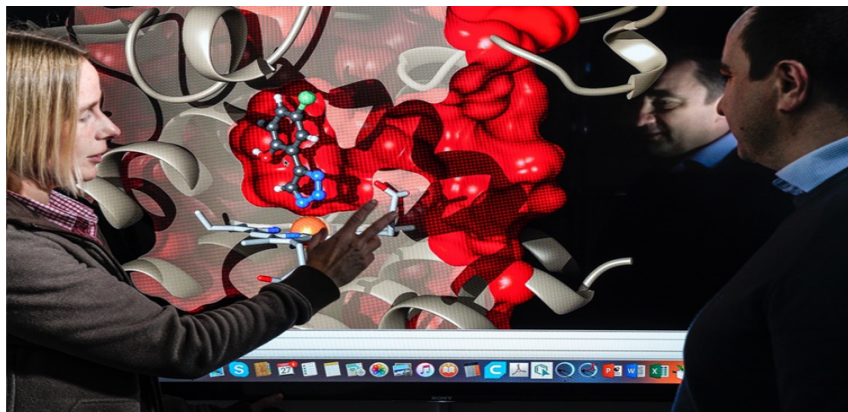
03

• SPARQL

04

• Federation

# The five pillars of SIB's activities



Databases &  
Software  
Tools

Core  
Facilities &  
Competence  
Centres

Personalized  
Health

01 Infrastructure



Scientific  
Collaboration

Training

02 Community

# (Con)Federation

**FMI**  
Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research

**ETH**  
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

**Agroscope**

**SI AF**

**University of Basel**

**University of Zurich**

**zhaw**  
Zürich University of Applied Sciences

**Swiss TPH**

**HEIG-VD**  
HAUTE ÉCOLE D'INGÉNÉRIE ET DE GESTION DU CANTON DE VAUD  
www.heig-vd.ch

**UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE**

**HUG** Hôpitaux Universitaires Genève

**espeRare**

**h e g**  
Haute école de gestion de Genève  
Geneva School of Business Administration



**EPFL**  
*Unil*  
UNIL | Université de Lausanne

**UNI FR**  
UNIVERSITÉ DE Fribourg  
UNIVERSITÄT FRIEBURG

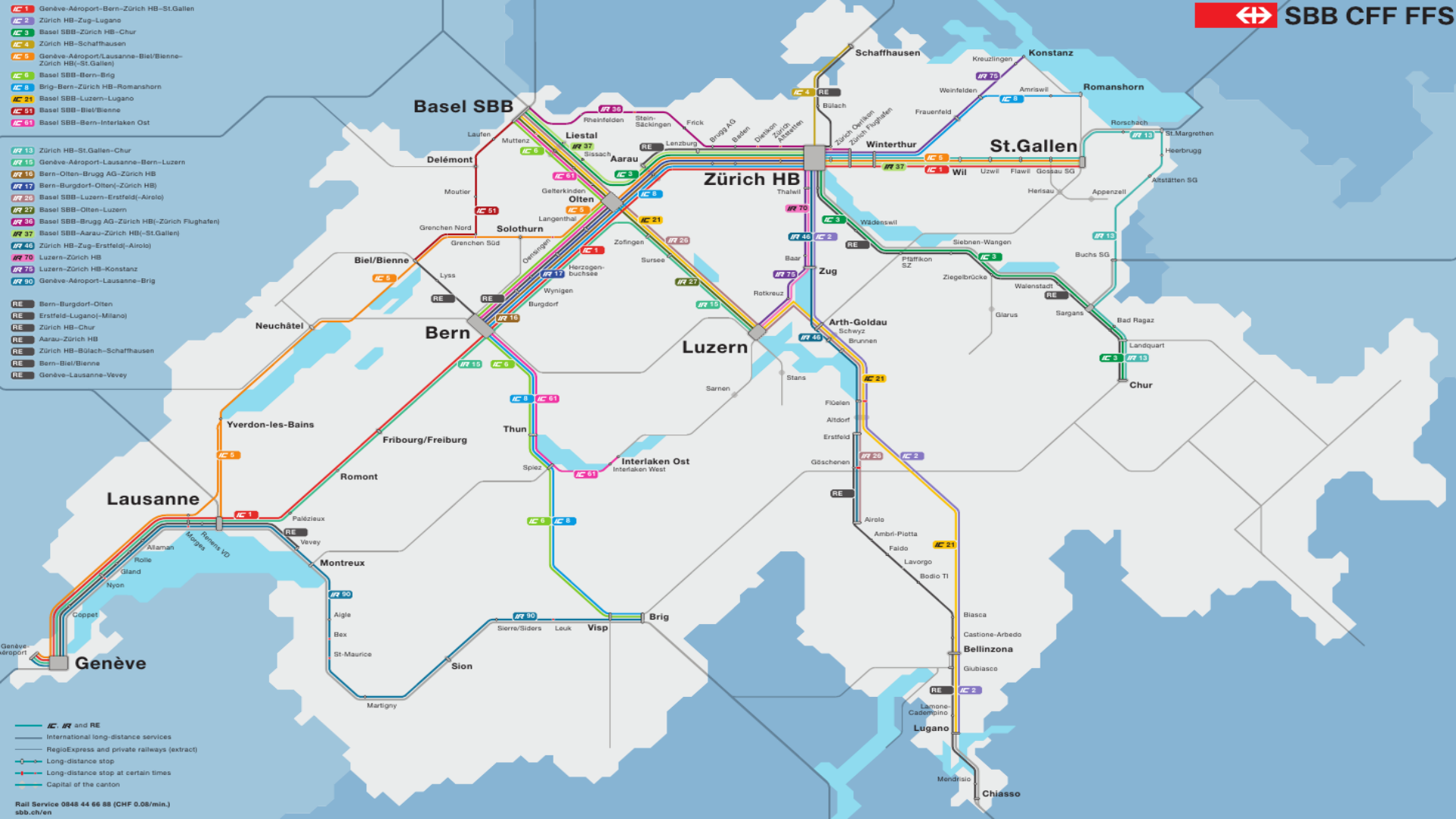
*u<sup>b</sup>*  
UNIVERSITÄT BERN

**U<sup>s</sup>**  
Università della Svizzera italiana

**IOR**  
Institute of Oncology Research

**LUDWIG  
CANCER  
RESEARCH**



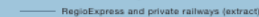
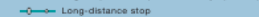
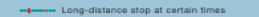
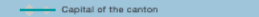
20 institutional partners all over Switzerland



-  IC 2 Zürich Aéroport–Bern–Zürich HB–St.Gallen
-  IC 3 Basel SBB–Zürich HB–Chur
-  IC 4 Zürich HB–Schaffhausen
-  IC 5 Genève Aéroport/Lausanne–Biel/Bienne–Zürich HB(–St.Gallen)
-  IC 6 Basel SBB–Bern–Brig
-  IC 8 Brig–Bern–Zürich HB–Romanshorn
-  IC 21 Basel SBB–Luzern–Lugano
-  IC 51 Basel SBB–Biel/Bienne
-  IC 61 Basel SBB–Bern–Interlaken Ost

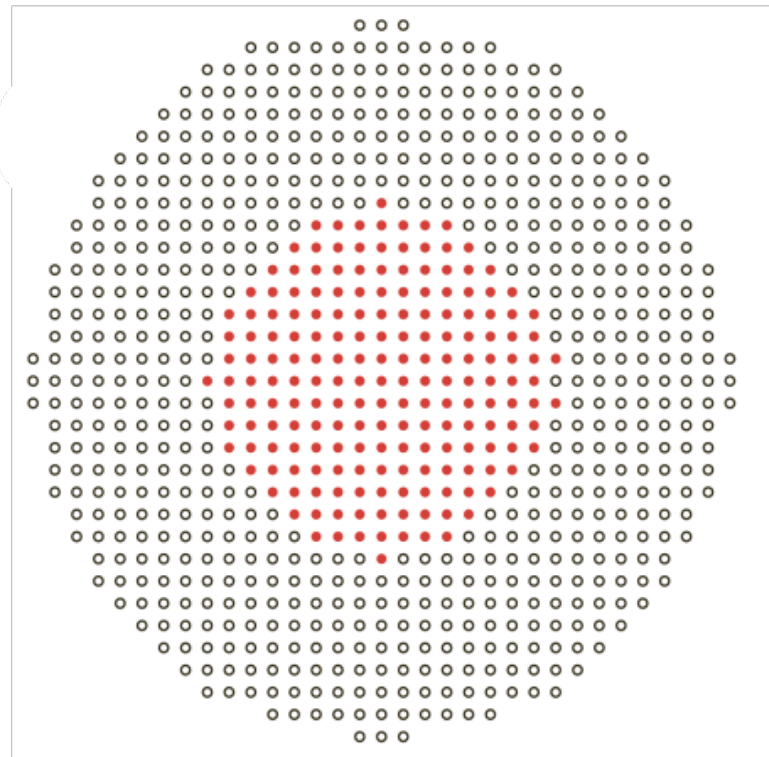
-  IR 13 Zürich HB–St.Gallen–Chur
-  IR 15 Genève Aéroport–Lausanne–Bern–Luzern
-  IR 16 Bern–Olten–Brugg AG–Zürich HB
-  IR 17 Bern–Burgdorf–Olten(–Zürich HB)
-  IR 26 Basel SBB–Luzern–Erstfeld(–Airolo)
-  IR 27 Basel SBB–Olten–Luzern
-  IR 36 Basel SBB–Brugg AG–Zürich HB(–Zürich Flughafen)
-  IR 37 Basel SBB–Aarau–Zürich HB(–St.Gallen)
-  IR 46 Zürich HB–Zug–Erstfeld(–Airolo)
-  IR 70 Luzern–Zürich HB
-  IR 75 Luzern–Zürich HB–Konstanz
-  IR 90 Genève Aéroport–Lausanne–Brig

-  RE Bern–Burgdorf–Olten
-  RE Erstfeld–Lugano(–Milano)
-  RE Zürich HB–Chur
-  RE Aarau–Zürich HB
-  RE Zürich HB–Bläsch–Schaffhausen
-  RE Bern–Biel/Bienne
-  RE Genève–Lausanne–Vevey

-  IC, IR and RE
-  International long-distance services
-  RegioExpress and private railways (extract)
-  Long-distance stop
-  Long-distance stop at certain times
-  Capital of the canton

# A national community of bioinformaticians

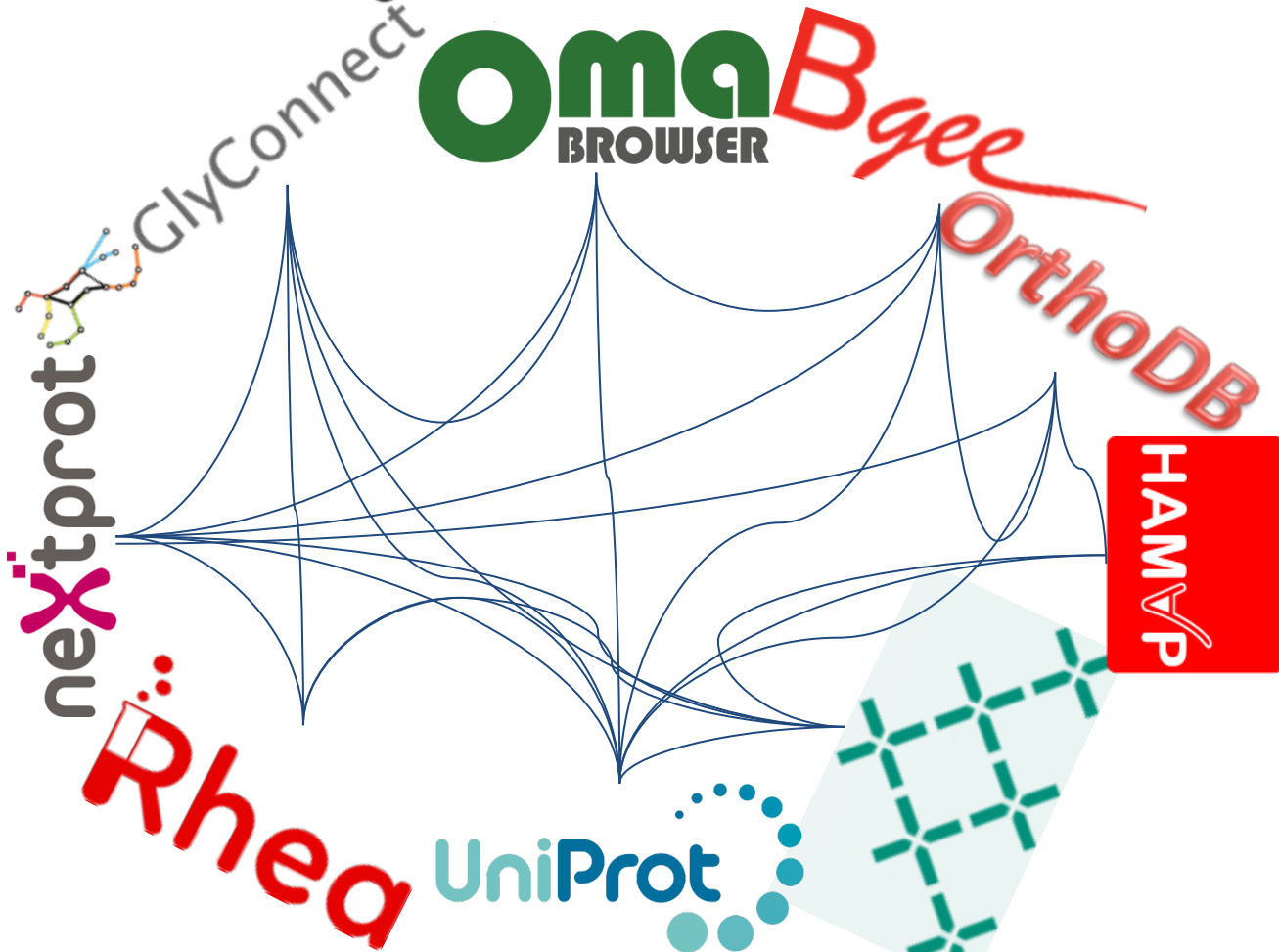
SIB has 620 affiliated members  
and 190 employees







Fostering scientific collaboration



nextprot

GlyConnect

OMA  
BROWSER

Bgee

OrthoDB

HAMAP

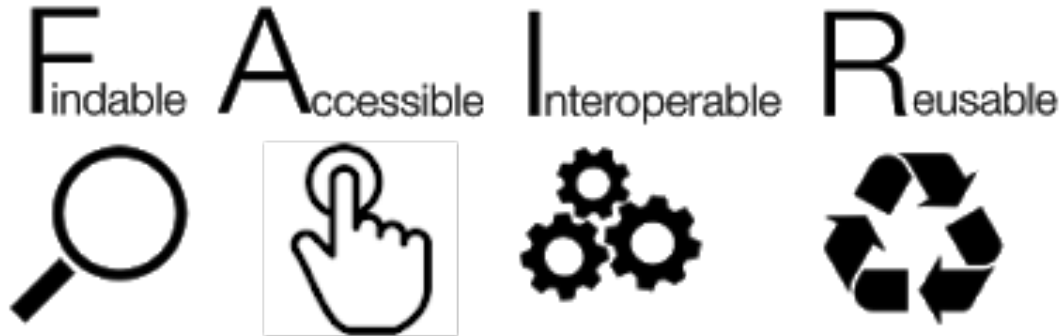
UniProt

Rheaq



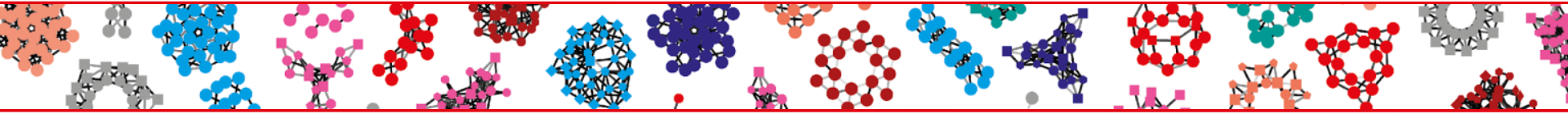
# The FAIRRest format of them all

---



Hell is other people's data

# Overview



01

• SIB

02

• **RDF**

03

• SPARQL

04

• Federation

Handwritten Chinese characters arranged in a circular pattern, likely a signature or a decorative element. The characters are highly stylized and difficult to read precisely, but they appear to be a personal name or a specific phrase.

(聯合的蛋白) 是一个全面的, 高质量的, 免费使用的 蛋白质序列与功能信息数据库, 许多内容来自 基因组计划, 它还包含了大量来自研究文献的关于蛋白的生物学功能信息

يونيبروت بالإنجليزية هي قاعدة  
بيانات شاملة ذات جودة عالية مجانية  
لتسلسل البروتين والمعلومات  
الوظيفية، استمدت الكثير من  
المدخلات من مشاريع الجينوم  
تحتوي قاعدة البيانات على كمية  
كبيرة من المعلومات المستخلصة من



# Resource Description Framework

---

- **Statement**

Also known as triples, subject → predicate → object

- **IRI**

Also known as URI often an URL (IRI allows 噴, URL locates and identifies)

- **Literal**

“Strings”, “chaîne”@fr, true, 1, 1.000001

“2001”^^xsd:gYear, “2001-10-11”^^xsd:date, “2001-10-11T09:30:10”^^xsd:dateTime

- **Bnode**

Placeholder identifiers (something exists but you don't know what)

# RDF statements: from triples to graphs

## Triples:

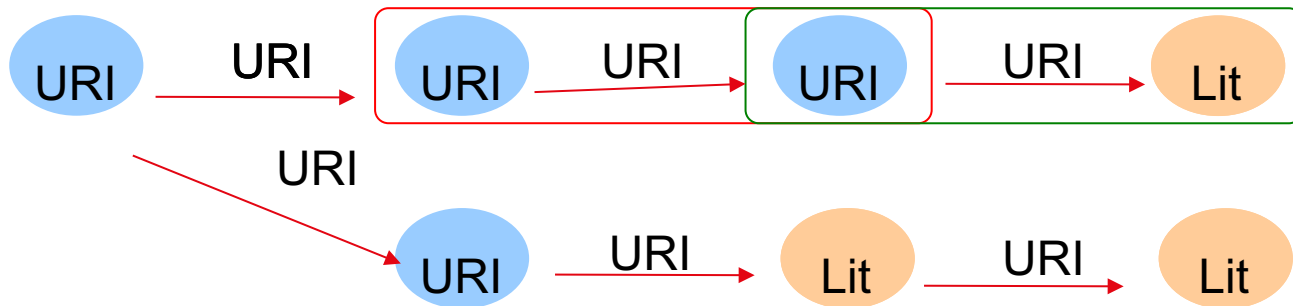
Subject 1 + Predicate 1 + Object 1



Subject 2 + Predicate 2 + Object 2



## Graph:



# RDF statements: from triples to graphs

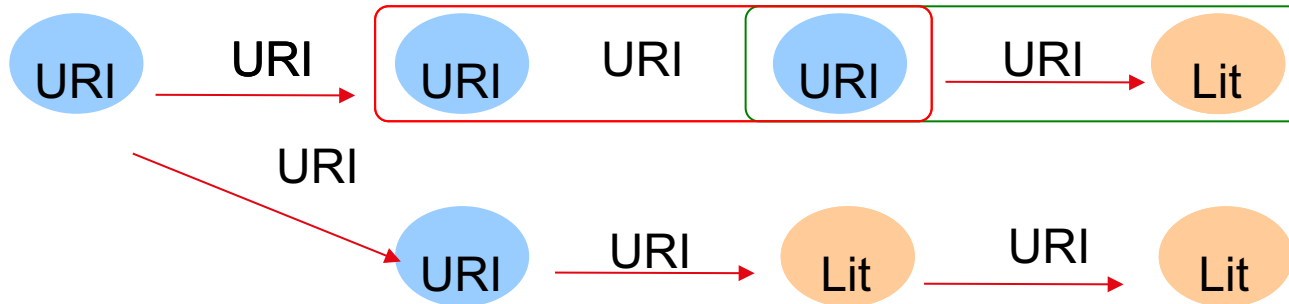
## Triples:

Subject 1 + Predicate 1 + Object 1

Subject 2 + Predicate 2 + Object 2

Global identifiers – semantic standards – make data integration on the fly possible.

## Graph:



# Example (format ntriples)

---

<<http://purl.uniprot.org/uniprot/P05067>> <<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/reviewed>> true .

<<http://purl.uniprot.org/uniprot/P05067>> <<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type>> ↴

<<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/Protein>> .

<<http://purl.uniprot.org/uniprot/P05067>> <<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/created>> ↴

"1987-08-13"^^ <<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#date>> .

<<http://purl.uniprot.org/uniprot/P05067>> <<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/created>> ↴

\_:1

# Example (turtle)

---

base <http://purl.uniprot.org/uniprot/>

prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>

prefix up: <http://purl.uniprot.org/core/>

prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>

<P05067> rdf:type up:Protein ;

up:reviewed true ;

up:created "1987-08-13"^^xsd:date ;

# Other formats

---

- RDF/XML
  - Oldest standard
- JSON-LD
  - Can be used to map from JSON
- RDFa
  - For embedding in HTML
- HDT
  - Compressed but still queryable



# SIB RDF

---

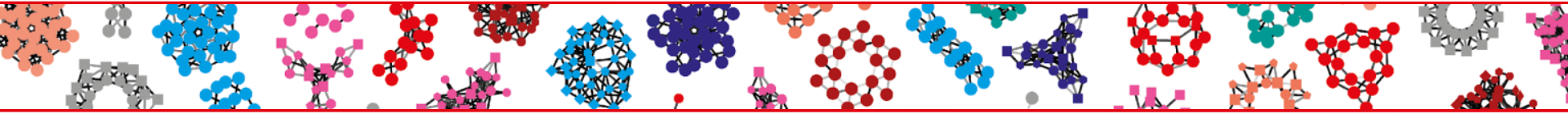
- **Since 2004**
  - **With UniProt**
  - **Bottom up take up by other resources**
- **Linking is key !**
  - **200+ Cross-References to other database**
- **Identify all the things**

# Your RDF

---

- **Key**
  - **IRI per resource**
  - **One thing one identifier**
- **Format not so important**
- **Reuse ontologies,**
  - **after understanding your own data**

# Overview



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# Lots of implementations



MERCK



Virtuoso



MarkLogic®

Openlinksw



AllegroGraph



# SPARQL basics

---

- Remember Turtle?
  - Since 1.1 looks like SPARQL

```
1 SELECT
2   *
3 WHERE
4 {
5   ?s ?p ?o .
6 }
```

## Take our turtle example

---

```
1 base <http://purl.uniprot.org/uniprot/>
2 prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
3 prefix up: <http://purl.uniprot.org/core/>
4 prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
5
6 <P05067> rdf:type up:Protein ;
7   up:reviewed true ;
8   up:created "1987-08-13"^^xsd:date ;
9
```



## Introduce a variable

---

```
1 base <http://purl.uniprot.org/uniprot/>
2 prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
3 prefix up: <http://purl.uniprot.org/core/>
4 prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
5
6 ?protein rdf:type up:Protein ;
7   up:reviewed true ;
8   up:created "1987-08-13"^^xsd:date ;
9
```

## Add a SELECT and a WHERE

```
1 PREFIX up:<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/>
2 PREFIX rdf:<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
3 PREFIX xsd:<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
4
5 SELECT
6   ?protein
7 WHERE {
8   ?protein rdf:type up:Protein ;
9   up:reviewed true ;
10  up:created "1987-08-13"^^xsd:date .
11 }
```

# Four query kinds

---

- SELECT
  - Gives a TABLE
- CONSTRUCT
  - Gives more RDF
- ASK
  - True or False
  
- DESCRIBE
  - Some RDF about the node you asked for
  - Not used in programs
  - For data discovery as human only

# ASK

---

```
1 PREFIX up:<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/>
2 PREFIX rdf:<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
3 PREFIX xsd:<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
4
5 ASK {
6     ?protein rdf:type up:Protein ;
7     up:reviewed true ;
8     up:created "1987-08-13"^^xsd:date .
9 }
```

# CONSTRUCT

```
1 PREFIX up:<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/>
2 PREFIX rdf:<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
3 PREFIX xsd:<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
4
5 CONSTRUCT {
6   ?protein rdf:type <http://example.org/MY_FAV>
7 }
8 WHERE
9 {
10  ?protein rdf:type up:Protein ;
11    up:reviewed true ;
12    up:created "1987-08-13"^^xsd:date .
13 }
```

# DESCRIBE

---

Only to discover datasets

```
1 BASE <http://purl.uniprot.org/uniprot/>  
2  
3  
4 DESCRIBE <P05067>
```

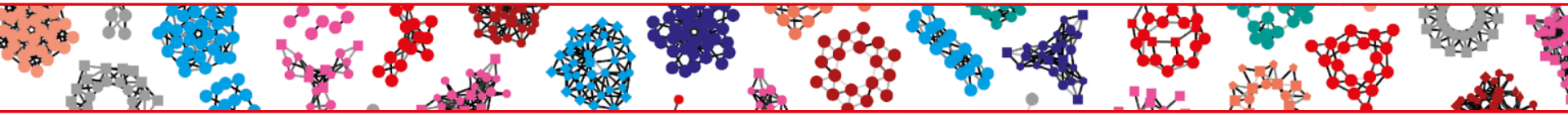


# Download formats

---

- SELECT + ASK
  - application/sparql-results+json
  - application/sparql-results+xml
  - Often
    - CSV
    - TSV
    - HTML
- Construct + Describe
  - Ntriples (nt)
  - RDF/XML (rdf)
  - Turtle (ttl)
  - Often
    - RDFa

# Federation



01

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• **Federation**

# Ask DB 2 to be part of the solution

---

```
1 PREFIX up:<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/>
2 PREFIX rdf:<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
3 PREFIX xsd:<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
4
5 SELECT
6   ?protein ?other
7 WHERE {
8   ?protein rdf:type up:Protein ;
9   up:reviewed true ;
10  up:created "1987-08-13"^^xsd:date .
11 SERVICE <https://www.ebi.ac.uk/rdf/services/sparql>{
12   ?other ?x ?protein
13 }
14 }
```

# Ask DB 2 to be part of the solution

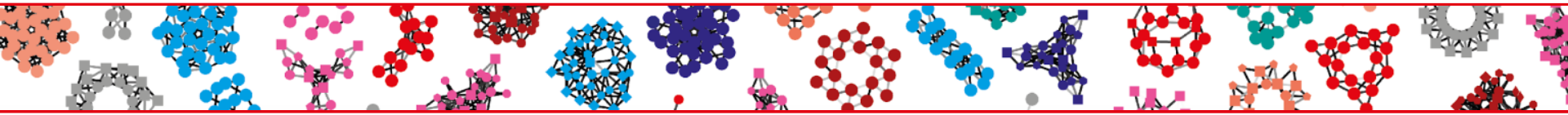
---

```
1 PREFIX up:<http://purl.uniprot.org/core/>
2 PREFIX rdf:<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
3 PREFIX xsd:<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
4
5 SELECT
6   ?protein ?other
7 WHERE {
8   ?protein rdf:type up:Protein ;
9   up:reviewed true ;
10  up:created "1987-08-13"^^xsd:date .
11 SERVICE <https://www.ebi.ac.uk/rdf/services/sparql>{
12   SELECT
13     ?other
14   WHERE {
15     ?other ?x ?protein
16   } LIMIT 10
17 }
18 }
```

# Issue when federating

---

- Bugs add up
  - SPARQL 1.1 compliance
  - Downtime
- Optimizers are blind
  - Order
  - Distance
  - Endpoints change
    - Number and kind of triples
    - Implementation



Thank you for part one