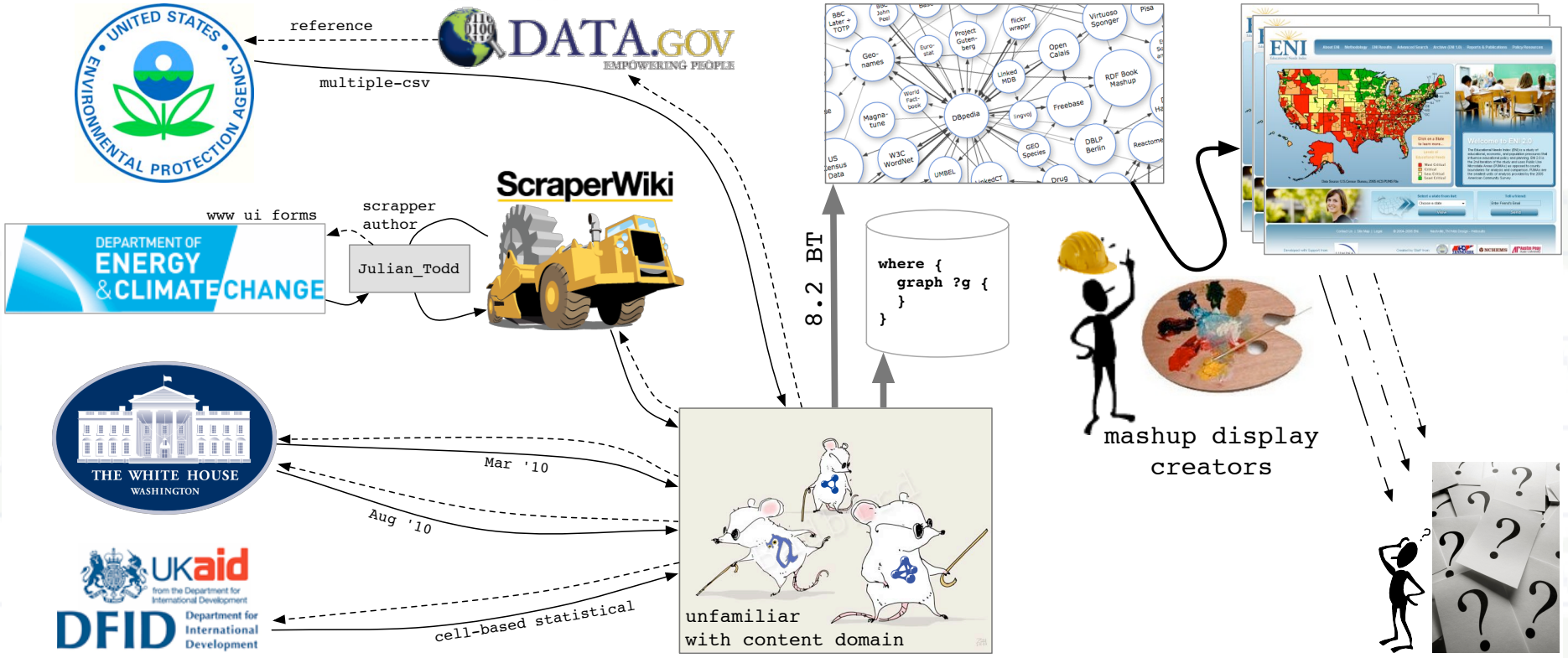
# Developing Trust in Aggregated Government Data

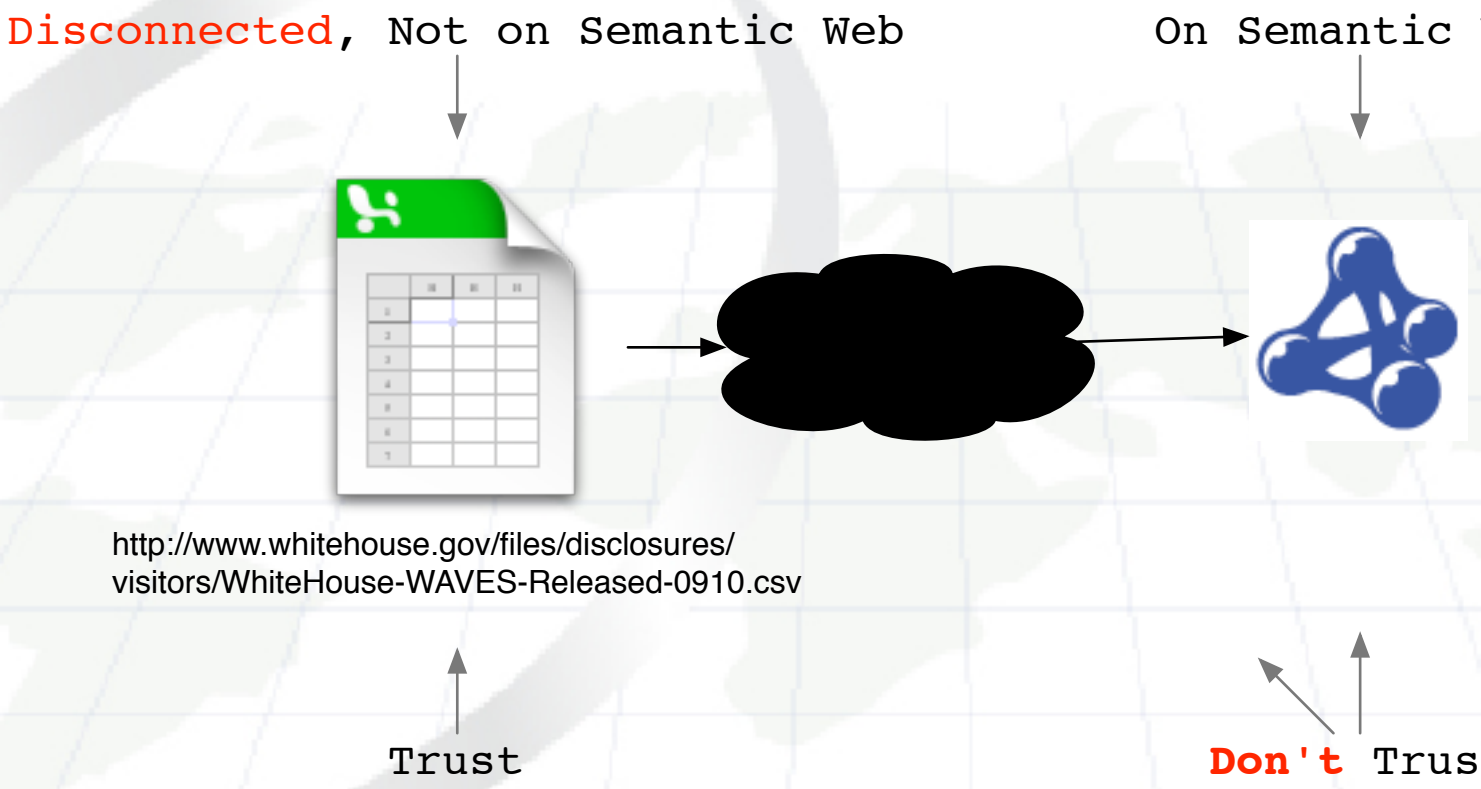
*Provenance,*
*Interpretation Knowledge*
*and URI Design*
*for*
*Incremental Enhancement of Tabular Data*


Timothy Lebo and Gregory Todd Williams
Tetherless World Constellation
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

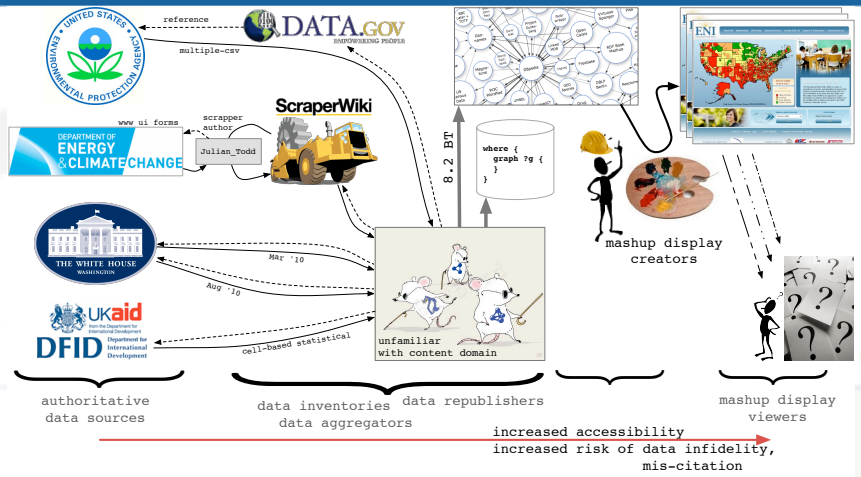
# Challenges for Data Aggregators



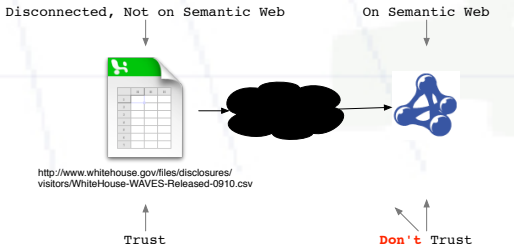
# Challenges for Data Aggregators



# Assumptions



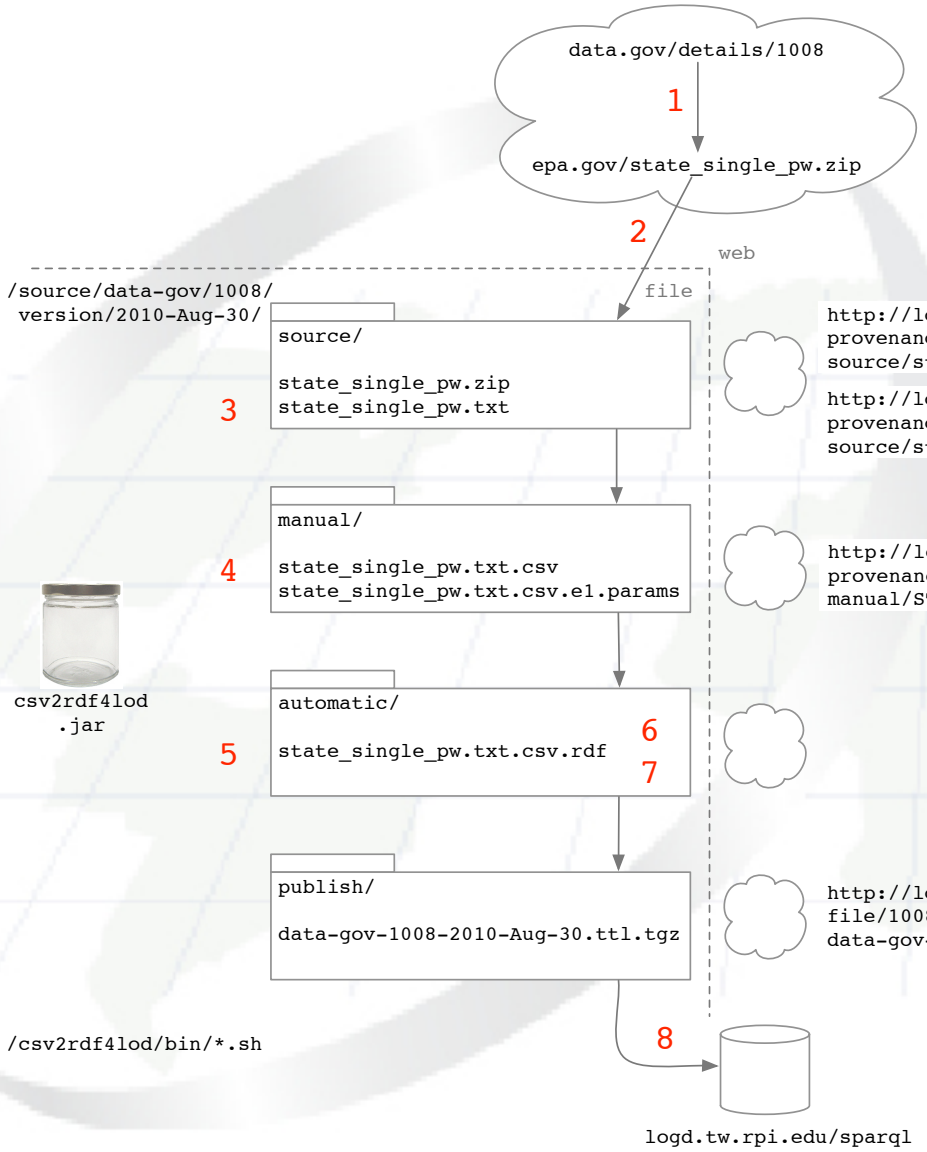

- Most data are from third-party sources
- Data are updated regularly and irregularly
- Complete interpretation is not immediately possible
- Subsequent interpretations should be backward-compatible
- Provenance is essential
  - Distinguishing among sources
  - Minimizing manual modifications during conversion
  - Tracing to source data
  - Attribution



# Outline

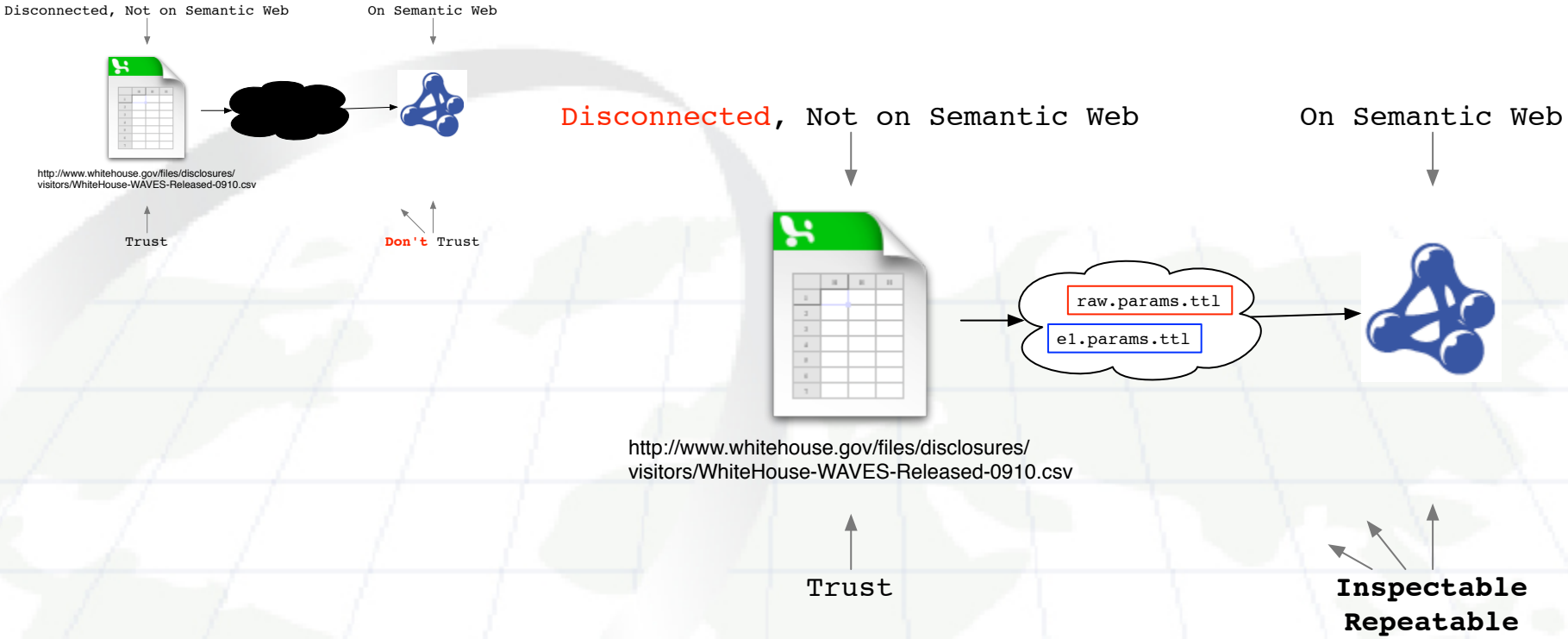
- Challenges for Data Aggregators
- Trust in aggregated product
  - Provenance capture
  - Parameterized interpretations
  - Intuitively-structured RDF
- Interpretation knowledge vocabulary
  - Naming a Dataset
  - Naïve CSV conversion
  - Specifying an enhancement
  - A few simple examples
- URIs designed for dataset maintenance
  - Predicate Layering
  - Subject Versioning
  - VoID subset Hierarchy
  - Hierarchical Integration

# Capturing Conversion Provenance




1 – Following redirects
2 – Retrieving data file
3 – Unzipping
4 – Manual tweaks
5 – Converter invocation
6 – Predicate lineage
7 – Tracing triple to cell
8 – Populating endpoint

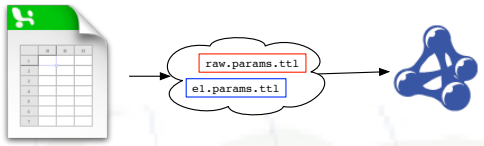
# Parameterized Interpretations




- Citing original data location
- Exposing intermediate steps
- Parameterized interpretations w/o modifying original dataset
- Consumer chooses the interpretation layer that they trust
- Producing intuitively-structured RDF

# Outline

- Challenges for Data Aggregators
- Trust in aggregated product
  - Provenance capture
  - Parameterized interpretations
  - Intuitively-structured RDF
- Interpretation knowledge vocabulary
  - Naming a Dataset
  - Naïve CSV conversion
  - Specifying an enhancement
  - A few simple examples
- URIs designed for dataset maintenance
  - Predicate Layering
  - Subject Versioning
  - VoID subset Hierarchy
  - Hierarchical Integration



# Naming a Dataset

<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV>

| | Name Component | Naming Convention | e.g. |
|---|---|---|---|
| "Who?" | source | organization's dns | "nci-nih-gov" |
| | | | "census-gov" |
| | | | "nber-org" |
| "What?" | dataset | ID from organization | "353" |
| | | | "tus-cps" |
| | | | "stack-heights" |
| "Which?" | version | broad classification | "1st-anniversary" |
| | | official release date | "2010-Jan-15" |
| | | HTTP last_mod date | "2008-Jul-03" |

**Dataset's URI:**

http://logd.tw.rpi.edu /source/ census-gov /dataset/ tus-cps /version/ 2008-Jul-03

# Dataset's Name

```
@prefix void: <http://rdfs.org/ns/void#> .

< http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV >
   rdf:type void:Dataset;

   conversion:source_identifier   "SSS" ;
   conversion:dataset_identifier  "DDD" ;
   conversion:version_identifier  "VVV" ;
.
```

# Naïve CSV Conversion

CSV table

"Raw" RDF

| | first | last | affil | state | grdyr | x_coord | y_coord |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Tim | Lebo | RPI | NY | 2014 | -73.1 | 41.2 |

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
    raw:first       "Tim";
    raw:last        "Lebo";
    raw:affil       "RPI";
    raw:state       "NY";
    raw:grdyr       "2014";
    raw:x_coord     "-73.1";
    raw:y_coord     "41.2";
    ov:csvRow        2;
    dc:isReferencedBy <http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV> .
```

- Dataset URI re-purposes as subject namespace
- All subjects point to dataset
- Position in original table preserved
- All values are untyped literals
- Rows are rarely conceptually normalized
- Columns may not express a binary relationship

# Problem: The Real World is Messy

## whitehouse-gov's visitor-records

| NAMELAST | NAMEFIRST | NAMEMID | UIN | BDGNBR | ACCESS_TYPE | TOA | POA | TOD | POD | APPT_MADE_DATE | APPT_START_DATE | APPT_END_DATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CRUMBLY | ANGELIQUE | | U07467 | | VA | | | | | 5/18/10 9:15 | 5/18/10 9:10 | 5/18/10 23:59 |
| ABRAHAM | ABEBE | | U08781 | | VA | | | | | 5/21/10 10:05 | 5/21/10 14:15 | 5/21/10 23:59 |
| ABRAHAM | ABEBE | | U07781 | 79975 | VA | 5/21/10 14:00 | A0101 | 5/21/10 14:49 | A1 | 5/18/10 17:00 | 5/21/10 14:15 | 5/21/10 23:59 |
| ABRAHAM | AZENEGASH | | U08781 | | VA | | | | | 5/21/10 10:05 | 5/21/10 14:15 | 5/21/10 23:59 |
| ABRAHAM | AZENEGASH | | U07781 | 79125 | VA | 5/21/10 14:00 | A0101 | 5/21/10 14:49 | A1 | 5/18/10 17:00 | 5/21/10 14:15 | 5/21/10 23:59 |
| ABRAHAM | JIITU | | U08781 | | VA | | | | | 5/21/10 10:05 | 5/21/10 14:15 | 5/21/10 23:59 |
| ABRAHAM | JIITU | | U07781 | 79959 | VA | 5/21/10 14:01 | A0101 | | | 5/18/10 17:00 | 5/21/10 14:15 | 5/21/10 23:59 |
| BECK | MIRIAM | | U05979 | 0 | VA | 5/15/10 13:58 | B0402 | | | 5/12/10 12:41 | 5/15/10 14:00 | 5/15/10 23:59 |
| BECK | ROBERT | | U05979 | 0 | VA | 5/15/10 13:58 | B0402 | | | 5/12/10 12:41 | 5/15/10 14:00 | 5/15/10 23:59 |

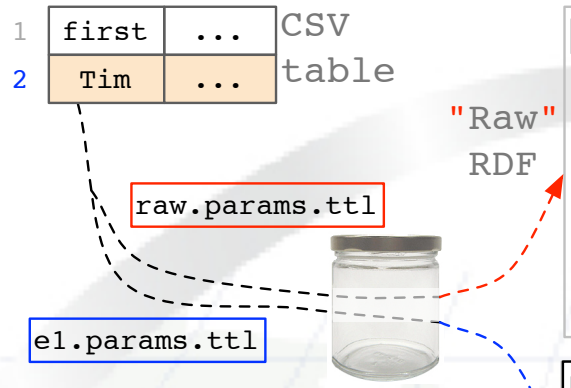
## data-gov's 1554

| country_name | program_name | FY1946 | FY1947 | FY1948 | FY1949 | FY1950 | FY1951 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Afghanistan | Child Survival and Health | | | | | | |
| Afghanistan | Department of Defense Security Assistance | | | | | | |
| Afghanistan | Development Assistance | | | | | | |
| Afghanistan | Economic Support Fund/Security Support Assistance | | | | | | |
| Afghanistan | Food For Education | | | | | | |
| Afghanistan | Global Health and Child Survival | | | | | | |
| Afghanistan | Inactive Programs | | | | | 1000 | 100000 |

## dfid-gov-uk's statistics-on-international-

| | | Education | Health | Social Services | Water Supply & Sanitation | Government & Civil Society | Economic | Environment Protection |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Africa: North of Sahara** | | | | | | | | |
| Algeria | 2004/05 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 2005/06 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 2006/07 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 2007/08 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 2008/09 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Egypt | 2004/05 | 725 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 029 |
| | 2005/06 | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | 72 |

# Solution: Interpretation Parameters




"Raw" RDF

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
    raw:first     "Tim";
    raw:last      "Lebo";
    raw:affil     "RPI";
    raw:state     "NY";
    raw:grdyr     "2014";
    raw:x_coord   "-73.1";
    raw:y_coord   "41.2";
.
```

"Enhanced" RDF

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /graduation_2>
    a z:Graduation;
    e1:student              x:student_2;
    e1:institution          y:RPI;
    e1:completion_year      "2014"^^xsd:gYear
.

x:student_2
    a z:Student, foaf:Person;
    foaf:firstName      "Tim";
    foaf:family_name    "Lebo";
.

y:RPI
    a z:Institution, foaf:Organization;
    dc:identifier           "RPI";
    wgs:lat                  41.2;   wgs:long -73.1;
    geonames:parentFeature  s:NY;
    owl:sameAs               dbp:Rensselaer_Polytechnic_Institute;
.

s:NY
    a z:State, wgs:SpatialThing;
    dc:identifier   "NY";
    owl:sameAs      <http://www.rfabout.com/rdf/usgov/geo/us/NY>,
                    <http://sws.geonames.org/5128638/>,
                    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/New_York>;
.
```

# Specifying Dataset Enhancements

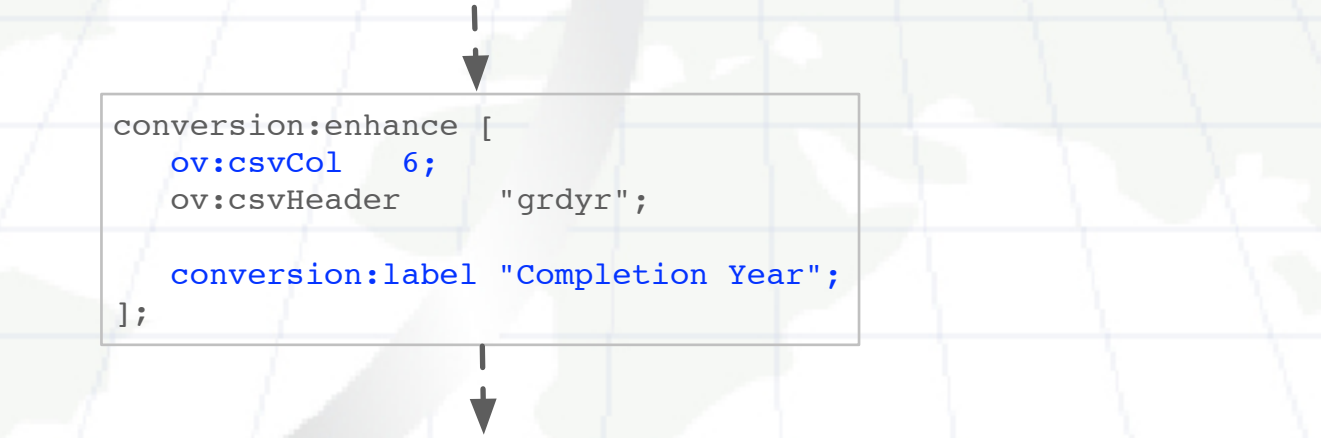
```
@prefix void: <http://rdfs.org/ns/void#> .

<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV>
   rdf:type void:Dataset;
.
```

```
@prefix conversion: <http://purl.org/twc/vocab/conversion/> .

:dataset a void:Dataset;
   conversion:base_uri            "http://base.edu"^^xsd:anyURI;
   conversion:source_identifier   "SSS";
   conversion:dataset_identifier  "DDD";
   conversion:dataset_version     "VVV";
   conversion:conversion_process [
      a conversion:ConversionProcess;
      conversion:enhancement_identifier "1";
      conversion:enhance [
         ...
      ];
      conversion:enhance [
      ];
      ...
   ];
.
```

# Renaming a Property

| 1 | first | last | affil | state | grdyr | x_coord | y_coord |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Tim | Lebo | RPI | NY | 2014 | -73.1 | 41.2 |

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
        raw:grdyr  "2014" .
```




```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
        e1:completion_year  "2014" .
```

# Typing a Property's Domain

| 1 | first | last | affil | state | grdyr | x_coord | y_coord |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Tim | Lebo | RPI | NY | 2014 | -73.1 | 41.2 |

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
        raw:grdyr  "2014" .
```

```
conversion:enhance [
   ov:csvCol   6;
   ov:csvHeader     "grdyr";
   conversion:label "Completion Year";
   conversion:range  xsd:gYear;
];
```

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
        e1:completion_year  "2014"^^xsd:gYear .
```

# Typing with Patterns

```
raw:appt_made_date  "1/5/2010 14:49" .
```

```
conversion:enhance [
   ov:csvCol   6;
   ov:csvHeader     "appt_made_date";

   conversion:range                xsd:dateTime;
   conversion:datetime_pattern "M/d/yy HH:mm";
   conversion:datetime_timezone_offset  -300;
];
```

```
e1:appt_made_date  "2010-01-05T14:49:00-05:00"^^xsd:dateTime .
```



http://logd.tw.rpi.edu/source/whitehouse-gov/dataset/visitor-records/version/0510

# Promoting a value to a Resource

| | first | last | affil | state | grdyr | x_coord | y_coord |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Tim | Lebo | RPI | NY | 2014 | -73.1 | 41.2 |

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
                    raw:affl   "RPI" .
```

```
conversion:enhance [
   ov:csvCol    3;
   ov:csvHeader      "affil";

   conversion:range   rdfs:Resource;
];
```

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
          e1:affil
          <http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /value-of/affil/RPI> .
```

# Domain and Range Templates

| 1 | first | last | affil | state | grdyr | x_coord | y_coord |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Tim | Lebo | RPI | NY | 2014 | -73.1 | 41.2 |

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
        raw:affl  "RPI" .
```

```
conversion:enhance [
   ov:csvCol   3;
   ov:csvHeader     "affil";

   conversion:range  rdfs:Resource;
   conversion:range_template "[.] [#4]";
];
```

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
        e1:affil
        <http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV / value-of/affil/RPI_NY> .
```

# Template Variables

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | first | last | affil | state | grdyr | x_coord | y_coord |
| 2 | Tim | Lebo | RPI | NY | 2014 | -73.1 | 41.2 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| current value | [.] | RPI |
| row number | [r] | 2 |
| column number | [c] | 3 |
| value of column | [#4] | NY |
| value of property | [@state] | NY |
| property name | [@] | affil |
| property domain | [D] | Graduation |
| property range | [R] | Institution |
| enhancement layer | [e] | 1 |
| versioned dataset namespace | [/sdv] | http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV / |
| dataset namespace | [/sd] | http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD / |
| source namespace | [/s] | http://base.edu /source/ SSS / |
| base namespace | [/] | http://base.edu / |

# Linking to LOD

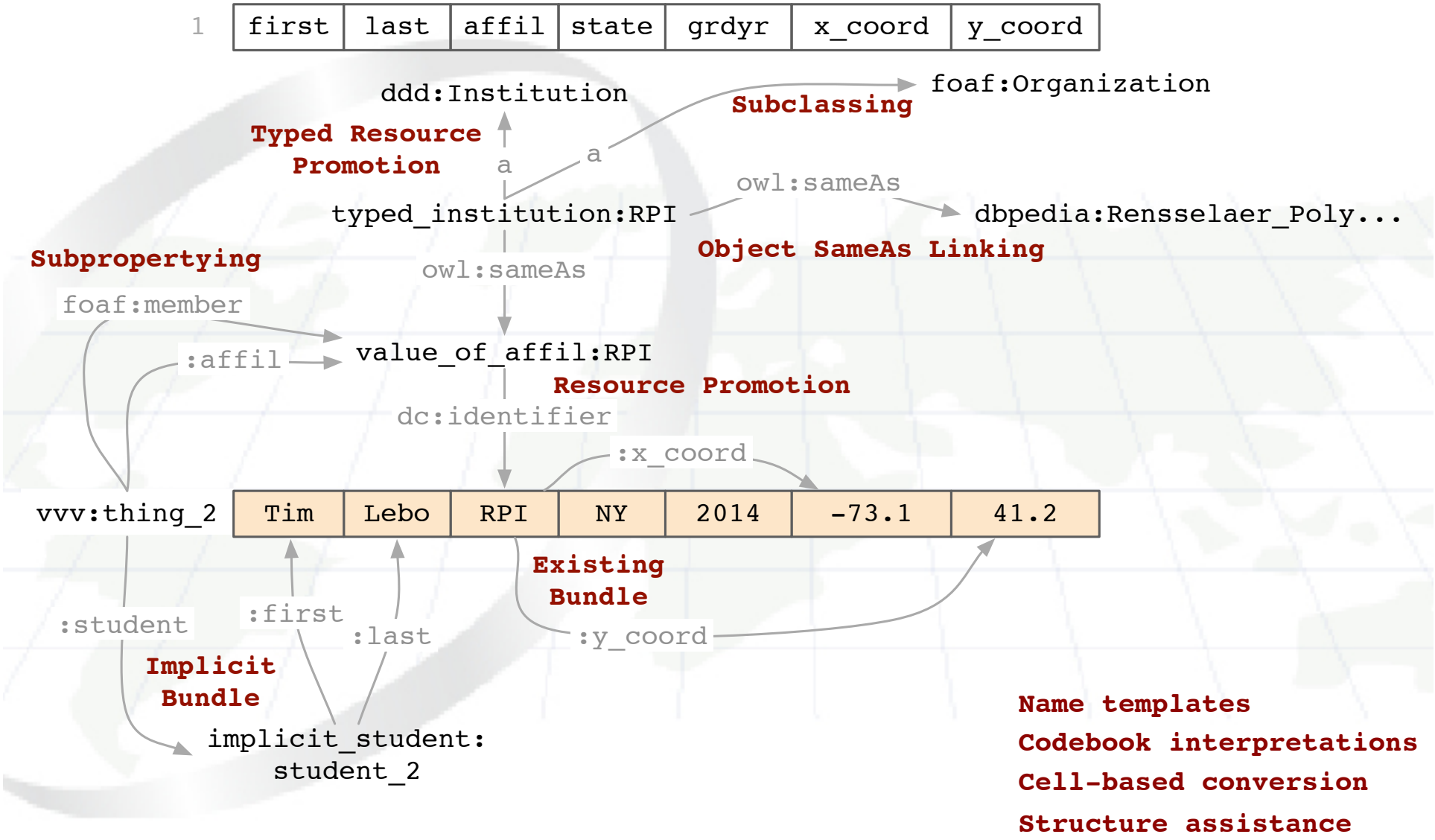
| 1 | first | last | affil | state | grdyr | x_coord | y_coord |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Tim | Lebo | RPI | NY | 2014 | -73.1 | 41.2 |

```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
                    raw:affl   "RPI" .
```

```
conversion:enhance [
   ov:csvCol    3;
   ov:csvHeader      "affil";
   conversion:range  rdfs:Resource;
   conversion:links_via  <http://www.rpi.edu/~lebot/lod-links/universities.ttl>;
   conversion:subject_of dcterms:identifier;
];
```

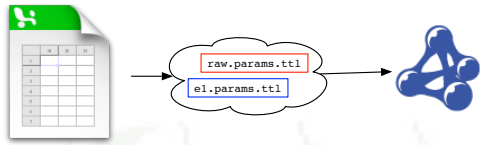
```
<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>
          e1:affil
          <http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /value-of/affil/RPI> .

<http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /value-of/affil/RPI>
          owl:sameAs <http://www.dbpedia.org/resource/Rensselaer_Polytechnic_Institute> .
```

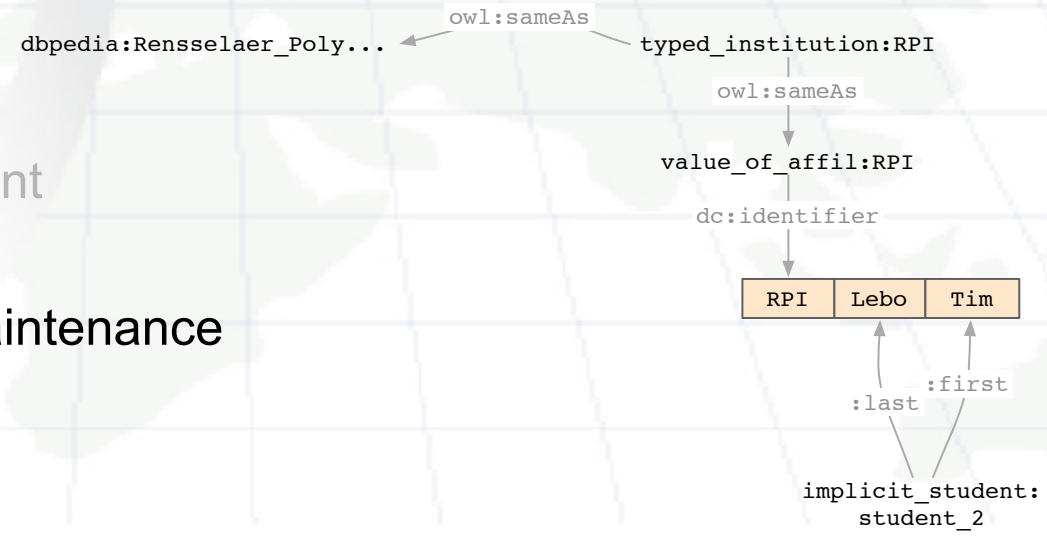
# A Few More Enhancements…



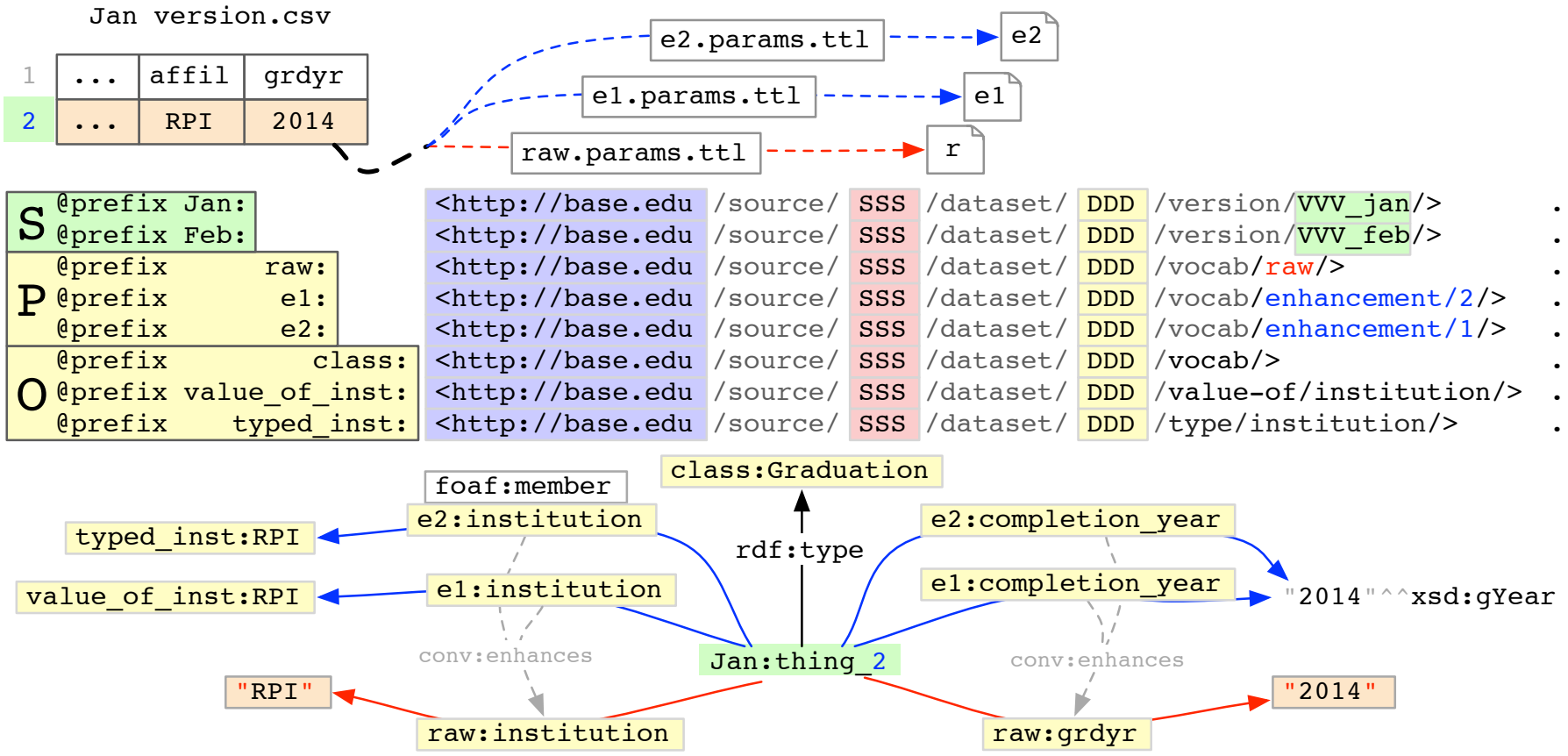
# Outline

- Assumptions and Design Objectives
- Trust in aggregated product
  - Provenance capture
  - Parameterized interpretations
  - Intuitively-structured RDF
- Interpretation knowledge vocabulary
  - Naming a Dataset
  - Naïve CSV conversion
  - Specifying an enhancement
  - A few simple examples
- URIs designed for dataset maintenance
  - Predicate Layering
  - Subject Versioning
  - VoID subset Hierarchy
  - Hierarchical Integration

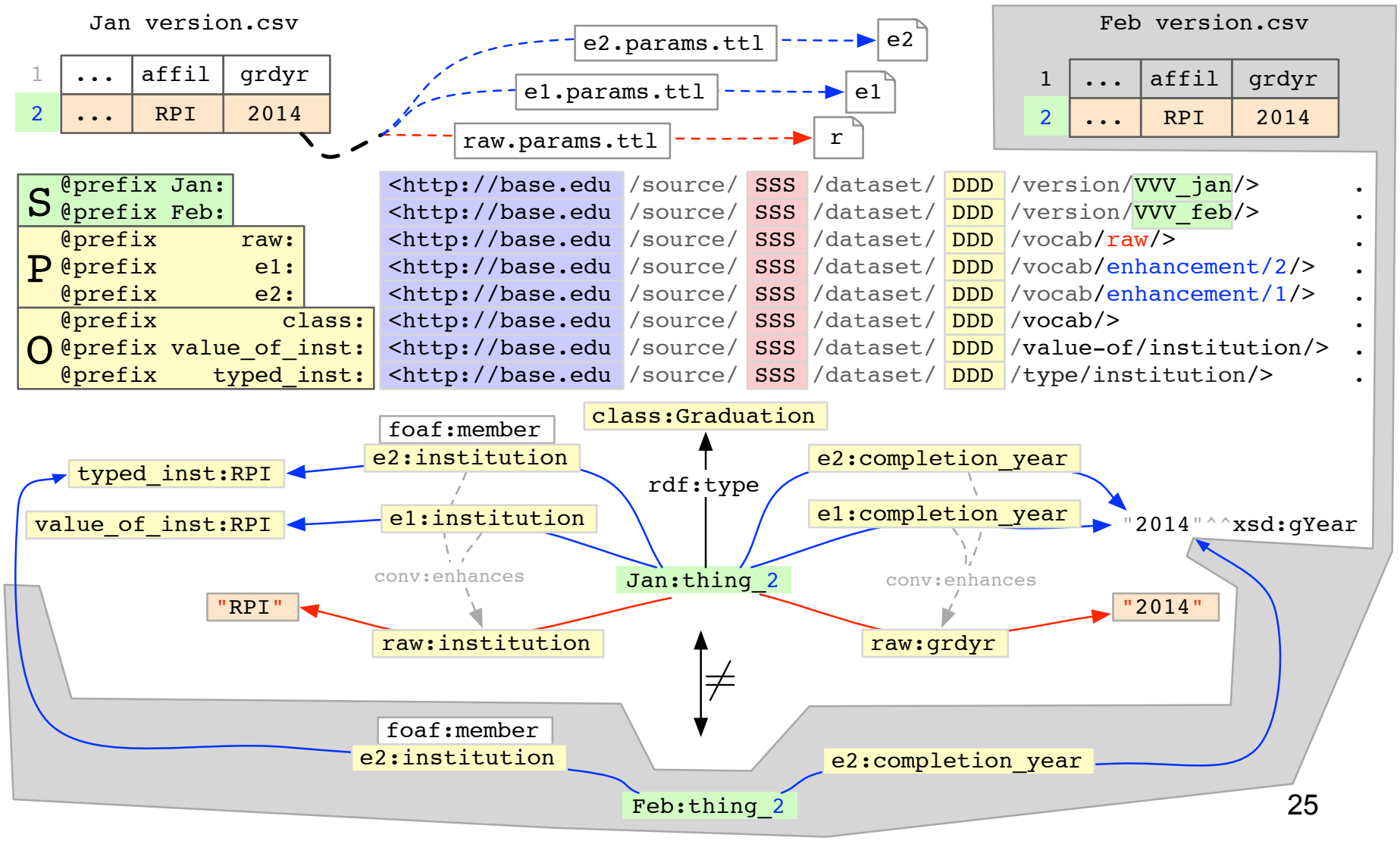


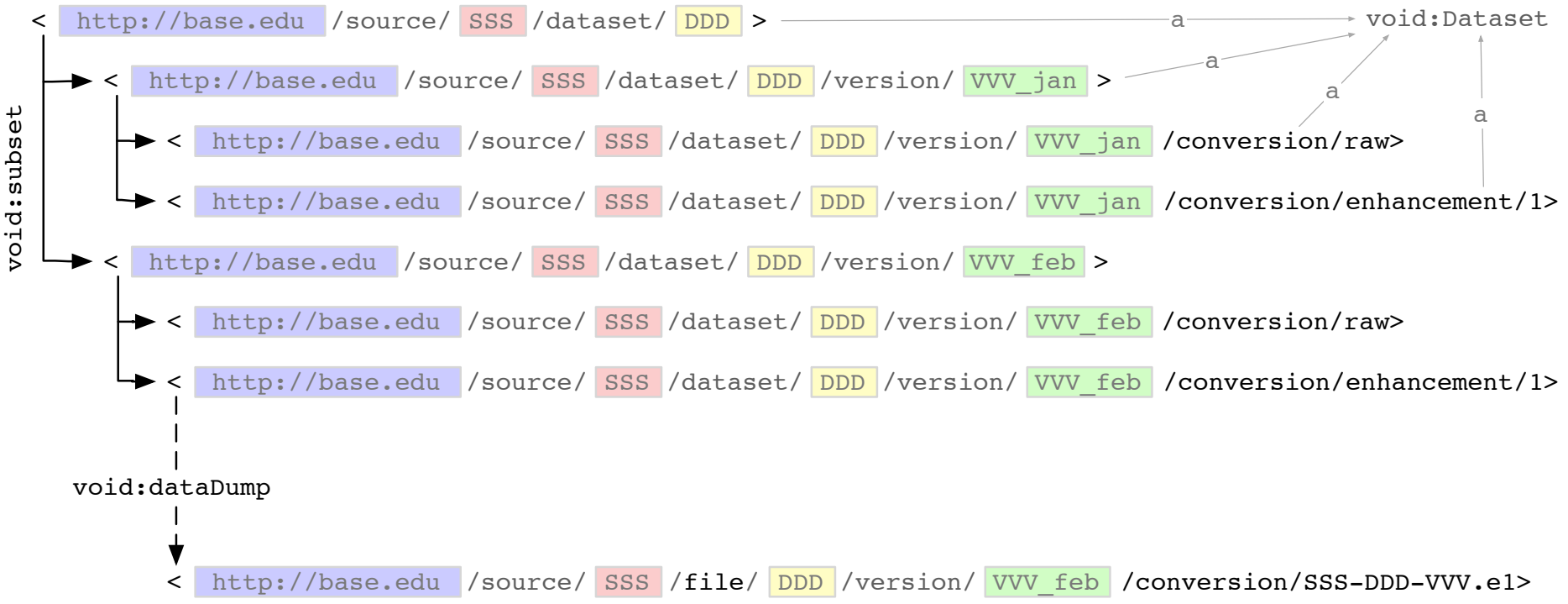
# Predicate Layering



# Subject Versioning



# void:Dataset subset hierarchy with void:dataDumps



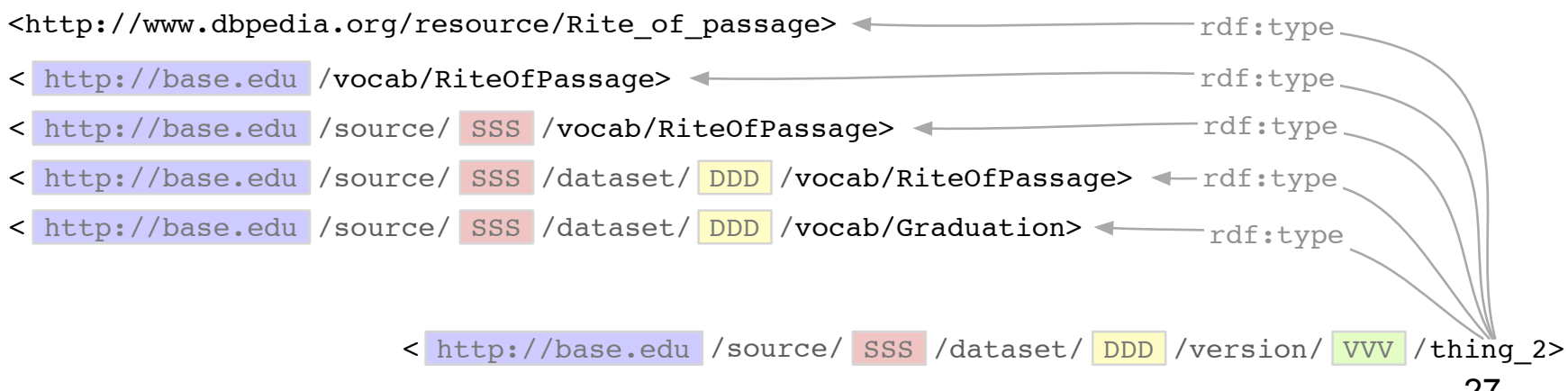
# URI hierarchy integration – Plenty of [name]space for integration

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | first | last | affil | state | grdyr | x_coord | y_coord |
| 2 | Tim | Lebo | RPI | NY | 2014 | -73.1 | 41.2 |

```
http://base.edu /source/ SSS /dataset/ DDD /version/ VVV /thing_2>  raw:affil "RPI" .
```

```
conversion:enhance [
   ov:csvCol                3;
   ov:csvHeader             "affil";
   conversion:domain_name   "Graduation";
   conversion:range         rdfs:Resource;
];
```

```
conversion:enhance [
   conversion:class_name "Graduation";
   conversion:subclass_of
      "[/sd]vocab/RiteOfPassage";
       "[/s]vocab/RiteOfPassage";
        "[/]vocab/RiteOfPassage";
      <http://www.dbpedia.org/resource/Rite_of_passage>;
];
```



# Summary

- Challenges for Data Aggregators
- Trust in aggregated product
  - Provenance capture
  - Parameterized interpretations
  - Intuitively-structured RDF
- Interpretation knowledge vocabulary
  - Naming a Dataset
  - Naïve CSV conversion
  - Specifying an enhancement
  - A few simple examples
- URIs designed for dataset maintenance
  - Predicate Layering
  - Subject Versioning
  - VoID subset Hierarchy
  - Hierarchical Integration