

Guide to the Set of Slides on RDF/XML

These slides address the RDF/XML serialization and contain the following sections.

6. Introduction to RDF/XML
7. Property Attributes
8. Blank Nodes (Bnodes)
9. Typed Literals
10. XML Entities to Abbreviate URIrefs in Attribute Values
11. Abbreviating and Organizing RDF URIrefs
12. Typed Nodes

Section 6 covers the basics on expressing RDF triples in XML and the basic ways to abbreviate the RDF/XML syntax. This section also covers the W3C's RDF Validator, which, given RDF/XML code, shows the corresponding triples and draws the RDF graph. You should use this Validator extensively to help understand the RDF/XML notation. Section 7 covers a specific abbreviation, one applicable when a property's value (object) is a literal. Section 8 shows how to represent bnodes in RDF/XML and presents various abbreviations of the basic syntax. Section 9 shows how to handle typed literals (used as property values) in RDF/XML. Section 10 shows how to use a certain XML feature to abbreviate XML attribute values. This section includes a long digression (needed to provide context) on XML document type declarations as well as entity definitions and references. Section 11 shows how to exploit what comes into play in resolving URIrefs in an XML document to abbreviate and to organize URIrefs. This includes exploiting fragment identifiers grouped in documents and using base addresses to control the URI. Finally, section 12 shows how to abbreviate nodes that have a `rdf:type` property.

Much of the material presented here relates to ways to make an RDF/XML document shorter and (to the trained eye anyway) more perspicuous. For a novice, there is a tradeoff between, on the one hand, slugging it through with the basic techniques and, on the other hand, exploiting abbreviations to come up quickly with a parsimonious document.