



Ontology-based Metadata of Thai Culture: Heet Sib Song (Twelve Months Festival)

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Outline

- Background
- Problem statements
- Research methodology
- Preliminary result
- Conclusion and future work

Background

- Local Wisdom in Thailand
- Variety data sources
- Different academies
- Semantic search

Problem statements

- Information access system
- The metadata criteria in a research setting for Thai culture
- Mistakes cause contradictions and incompleteness

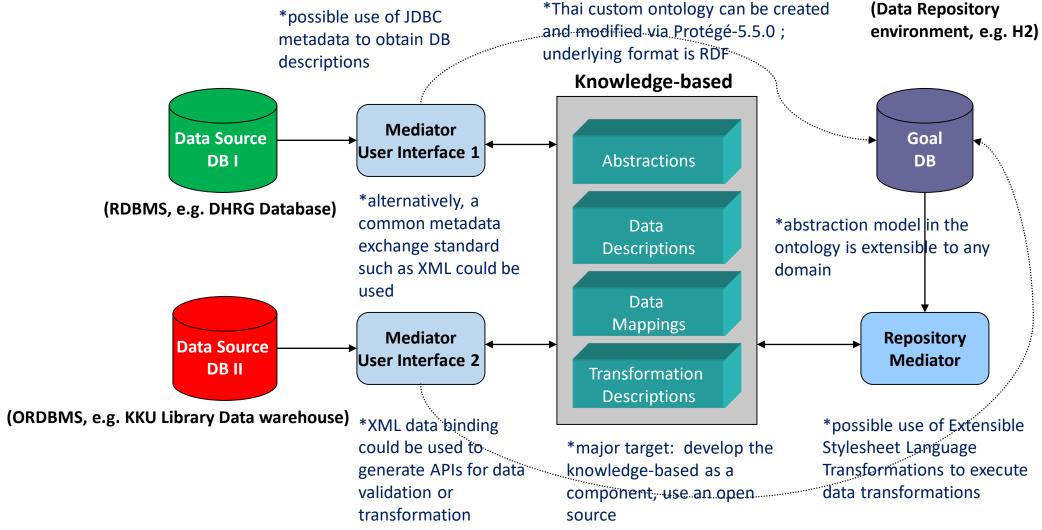
Integrating Various Data Sources

- The main challenge in integrating data from various sources is in resolving schema and data conflicts
- Approaches to this problem include using a federated database architecture, or providing a multi-database interface. These approaches are geared more towards providing query access to the data sources than towards supporting analysis
- Types of data integration:
 - Physical integration convert records from various data sources into a common format (e.g. 'XML')
 - Logical integration relate all data to a common process model
 - Semantic integration allow cross-reference and possibly inferencing of data with regards to a common metadata standard or ontology

Research methodology

- In this study, we attempted to develop an extensible and adaptable architecture to perform the integration of various data sources into a data repository environment using an ontology-based data mediator approach
- The components of this architecture include:
 - Knowledge-based stores the ontology; consists of:
 - The abstraction model domain level concepts
 - The database description model metadata record of data sources
 - The mappings model how data elements relate to attributes in the abstraction model
 - The transformations model metadata of available methods to transform data elements from one data source to another
 - Data mediators provides each data source an interface to the repository and resolving data conflicts between any different representations; necessary classes generated from the Thai custom ontology
 - Data repository provides access to integrated data for analysis and decision-making

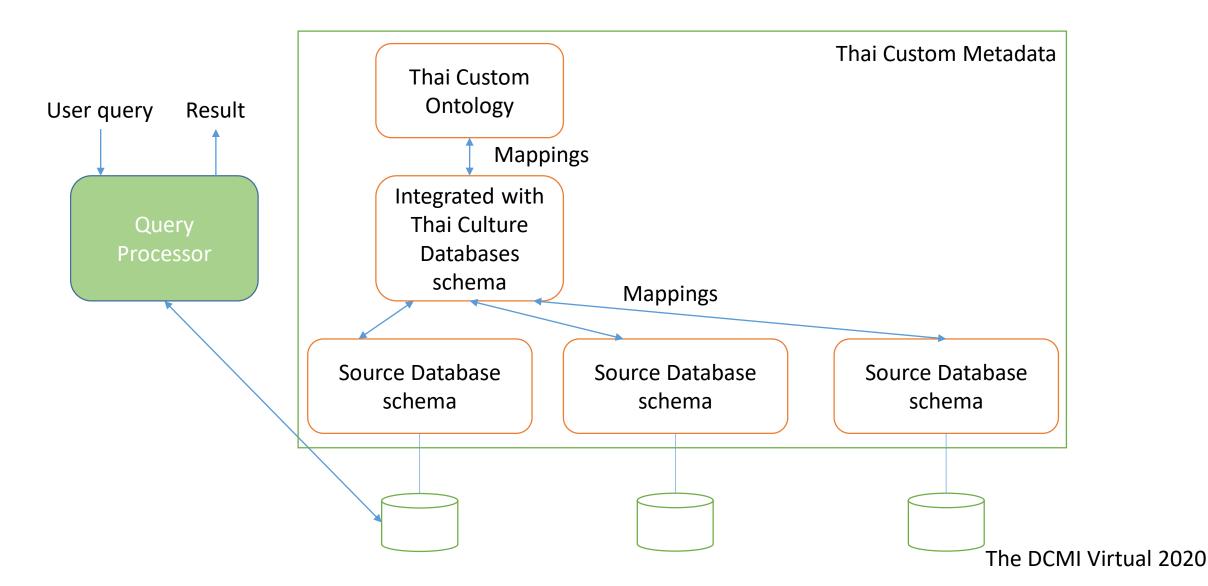
A Thai Culture Prototype Architecture



Challenges of various data integration

- Increasingly large volumes of data are being made available
- Data sources are often developed by different people with differing requirements for differing purposes
- Data sources may therefore be various in terms of their:
 - Data model
 - Query interfaces
 - Query processing capabilities
 - Database schema or data exchange format
 - Data types used
 - Terminology adopted
- Integrating data sources to meet the needs of new users or new applications requires reconciliation of such heterogeneities

Thai Custom Ontology-based access to an Integrated Virtual Database Resources



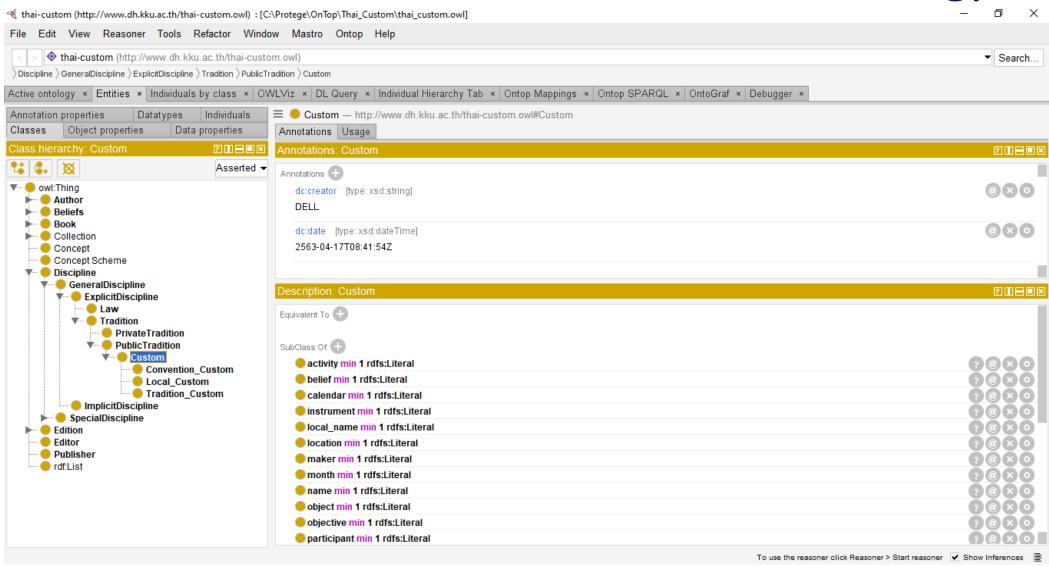
Preliminary result

- Thai Custom Metadata
- Thai Custom Ontology
 - Classes and subclasses of Thai Custom Ontology
 - Object properties of Thai Custom Ontology
 - Data properties of Thai Custom Ontology
 - Instances (Individuals) of Thai Custom Ontology

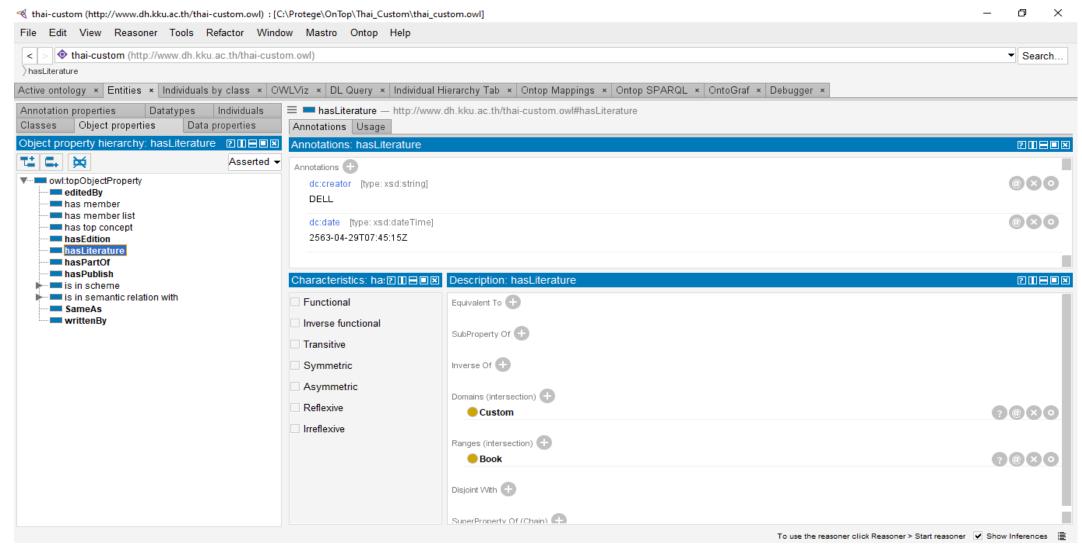
Thai Custom Metadata

| No. | Elements | Description |
|-----|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Tradition name | The name used for the tradition |
| 2 | Local tradition name | Other names used to refer to that custom |
| 3 | Organized month | International calendar month names for tradition organizing |
| 4 | Time according to the lunar calendar | The time period specified according to the format in the Thai lunar calendar |
| 5 | Objective | What the organizers want to appear according to expectations in organizing traditions |
| 6 | Activity | The model of the method of performing expression the skits |
| 7 | Ritual | Model of practice patterns with objects things, words, and chants or text used in the performing |
| 8 | Literature | Stories, fairy tale, fables, jataka, allegory, books, prose works, poetry or writing |
| 9 | Belief | A strong faith in supernatural powers that control human destiny, comments that are consistent with what is involved in any subject |
| 10 | Place | An area or area used for holding a tradition |
| 11 | Ceremony | A person who performs the primary duty of a leader in the ceremony |
| 12 | Participant | People who take part in the ceremony |
| 13 | Equipment | Objects or things used to organize a tradition |
| 14 | Buildings | Something built for the tradition or that occurred after the tradition was held The DCM |

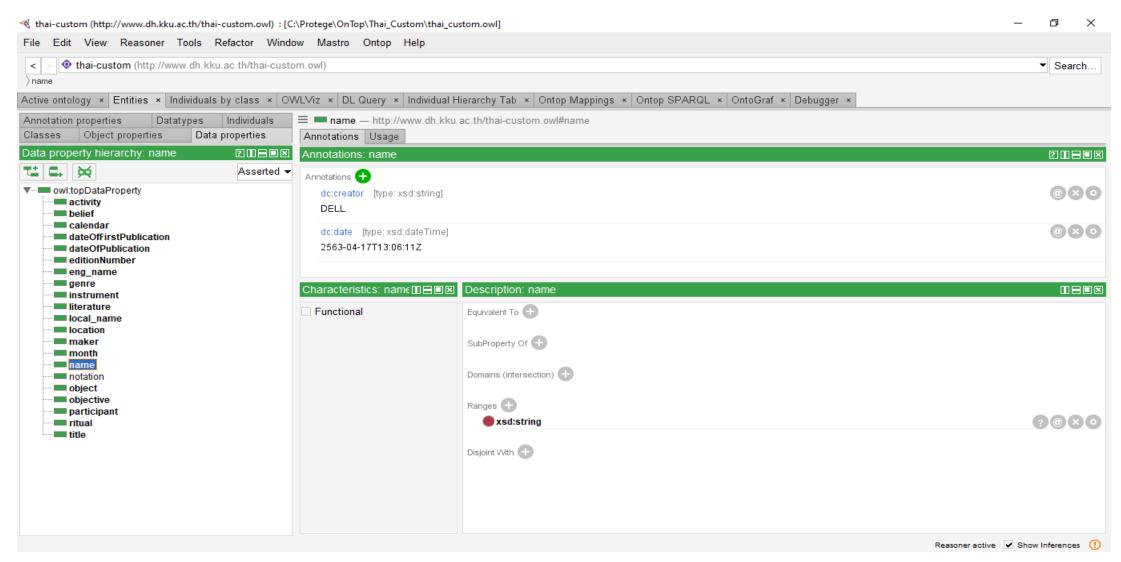
Classes and subclasses of Thai Custom Ontology



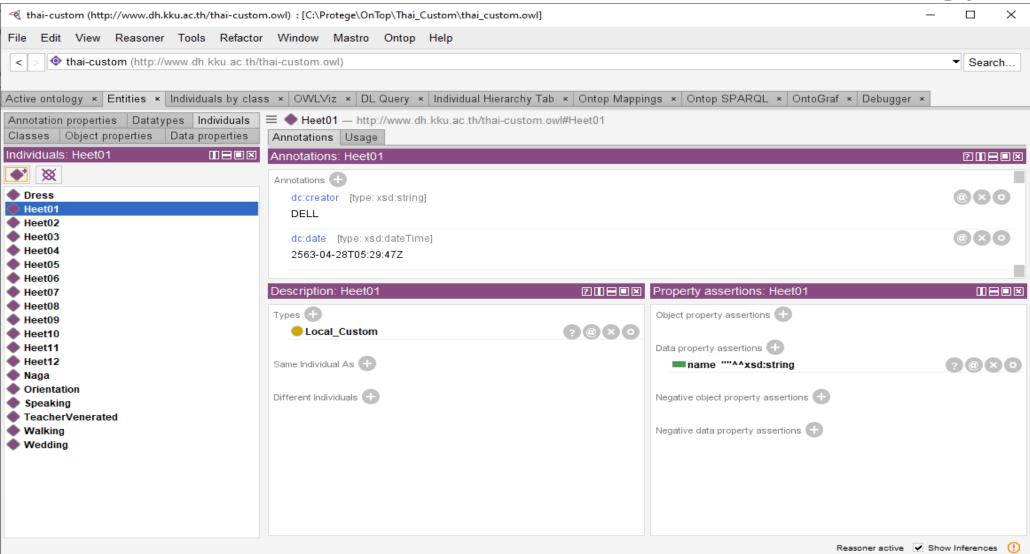
Object properties of Thai Custom Ontology



Data properties of Thai Custom Ontology



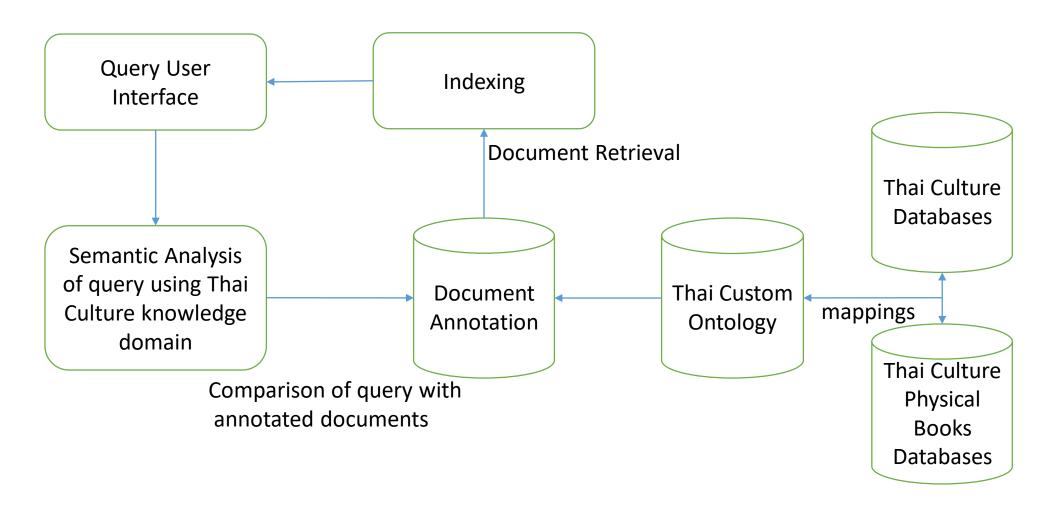
Instances (Individuals) of Thai Custom Ontology



Conclusion: Metadata model for databases integration

- The metadata model here contains the information needed for the data integration process
- The database description model contains language independent class definitions that closely mirror the physical layout of a source database. In our prototype model, the database description is simply a class containing a set of database entries. A model is provided for two distinct entry-types: *field-entries* (from flat-file data sources) and *column-entries* (from relational data sources). Entries are essentially instances of the *attribute* class
- Modeling the database metadata as an ontology provides flexibility when trying to describe heterogeneous data sources. For instance, the model can be easily extended to describe Native XML databases
- How the models are used in data integration:
 - The source *database* attributes are mapped to the appropriate *abstraction* characteristic through *mappings*. When an abstraction defines multiple representations for the same characteristic attribute, *transformation* functions are defined to convert between them

Future work: Thai Culture Information Retrieval on the Semantic Web







Thank you for your attention

Question & Answer

The DCMI Virtual 2020