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# Multi-Edge support and Future-Proofing



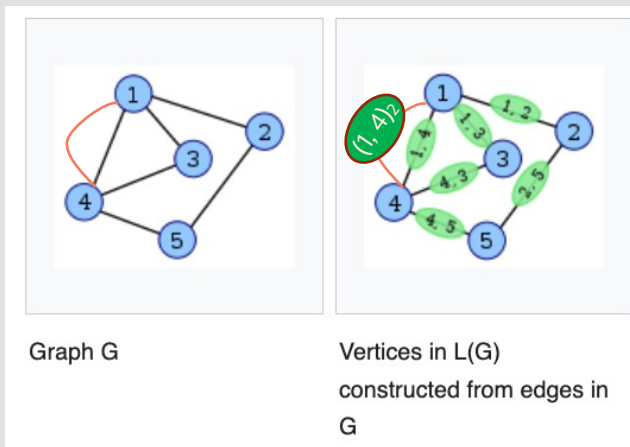
Souripriya Das, Ph.D.

Architect, Spatial and Graph,  
Oracle America Inc.

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## Background: Edges as Vertices, Multigraph, Multi-Edge (or Parallel Edges)

- A Line Graph (LG) converts edges to vertices and then eliminates the original vertices and ...



What if G is a  
multigraph?

Two parallel edges  
between vertices 1 and 4.

Both edges cannot be named (1, 4). A  
custom name, e. g.,  $(1, 4)_2$ , may be used.

- RDF-star**, keeps, and allows unrestricted use of, both edge-vertices and the original vertices, as vertices.
- Property Graph (PG)** supports it too, but limits edge-vertices to only connect to scalar values.

## Labeled Multidigraphs are Not Uncommon in Practice

### Examples:

- :servedAs :POTUS” (Cleveland Grover did two non-consecutive terms)
- :deposit :myBankAccount (multiple transactions by same person to same account)
- :called :mySister (call data records: multiple calls by same person to his/her sister)
- :hasManager :myManager (multiple stints)
- :won :Wimbledon (same person wins multiple times)
- :won :SoccerWorldCup (same country wins multiple times)
- etc.

# Modeling Multi-Edge and Handling Transition of a Property to Multi-Edge

## Data

x	y	color	type
A	B	red	--
B	C	blue	—
B	D	blue	—
C	D	green	—
<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	blue	--

## Column Names

1. name → implicit or explicit
2. iid → implicit id
3. oid → occurrence id
4. x → subject of triple
5. y → object of triple

## RDF-star Property Tables: :occurrenceOf as needed

:knows	iid	x	y	:occurrenceOf	oid	iid	:color	oid	color	:dtype	oid	dtype	
	akb	A	B						akb		red	akb	--
	bkc	B	C						bkc		blue	bkc	—
	bkd	B	D						bkd		blue	bkd	—
	ckd	C	D		cd1	ckd		cd1	green		cd1	—	
			cd2	ckd	cd2	blue	cd2	--					

## RDF<sub>n</sub> Property Tables: no :occurrenceOf

:knows	name	x	y	:color	name	color	:dtype	name	dtype
	akb	A	B		akb	red		akb	--
	bkc	B	C		bkc	blue		bkc	—
	bkd	B	D		bkd	blue		bkd	—
	ckd	C	D		ckd	green		ckd	—
	<b>cd2</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>cd2</b>	blue	<b>cd2</b>	--		

## RDF-star Property Tables: :occurrenceOf ALWAYS

:knows	iid	x	y	:occurrenceOf	oid	iid	:color	oid	color	:dtype	oid	dtype
	akb	A	B		ab1	akb		ab1	red		ab1	--
	bkc	B	C		bc1	bkc		bc1	blue		bc1	—
	bkd	B	D		bd1	bkd		bd1	blue		bd1	—
	ckd	C	D		cd1	ckd		cd1	green		cd1	—
			cd2	ckd	cd2	blue	cd2	--				

# RDFn Named Triples: Data Size, Burden on Creator, Query Complexity/Efficiency, **Future-Proof?**

## Data

x	y	color	type
A	B	red	--
B	C	blue	—
B	D	blue	—
C	D	green	—
<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>blue</b>	<b>--</b>

## Key Measures

- # of core triples: 4 + 1 = 5
- # of custom IRIs: 1
- Qry Complexity: **Simple**.
- # of triple-patterns: 1
- Is **future-proof?** **YES**

:A :knows :B .  
 :B :knows :C .  
 :B :knows :D .  
 :C :knows :D .  
 :C :knows :D | :cd2 .

Data: Core triples only

## RDFn Property Tables: **no** :occurrenceOf

**:knows**

name	x	y
akb	A	B
bkc	B	C
bkd	B	D
ckd	C	D
<b>cd2</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>

**:color**

name	color
akb	red
bkc	blue
bkd	blue
ckd	green
<b>cd2</b>	<b>blue</b>

**:dtype**

name	dtype
akb	--
bkc	—
bkd	—
ckd	—
<b>cd2</b>	<b>--</b>

Query: Count occurrences of (asserted) :knows edges.

```
SELECT (count(*) as ?cnt) {
  ?x :knows :?y
}
```

**BEFORE** multi-edge

**AFTER** multi-edge

... same as BEFORE ...

# RDF-star with :occurrenceOf for extra edges in multi-edges: Data Size, Burden on Creator, Query Complexity/Efficiency, **Future-Proof?**

Data

x	y	color	type
A	B	red	--
B	C	blue	—
B	D	blue	—
C	D	green	—
<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	blue	--

Key Measures

1. # of core triples: 4 + 1 = 5
2. # of custom IRIs: 1
3. Qry Complexity: **UNION**.
4. # of triple-patterns: 2.
5. Is **future-proof?** **NO**

RDF-star Property Tables: :occurrenceOf as needed

		:knows		:occurrenceOf		:color		:dtype	
	iid	x	y	oid	iid	oid	color	oid	dtype
	akb	A	B			akb	red	akb	--
	bkc	B	C			bkc	blue	bkc	—
	bkd	B	D			bkd	blue	bkd	—
	ckd	C	D			ckd	green	ckd	—
				cd2	ckd	cd2	blue	cd2	--

:A :knows :B .      Data: Core triples only  
 :B :knows :C .  
 :B :knows :D .  
 :C :knows :D .

:cd2 :occurrenceOf << :C :knows :D >> .

Query: Count occurrences of (asserted) :knows edges.

```
SELECT (count(*) as ?cnt) {
  ?x :knows :?y
}
```

BEFORE multi-edge

AFTER multi-edge

```
SELECT (count(*) as ?cnt) {
  { ?x :knows :?y }
  UNION { ?occ :occurrenceOf << ?x :knows ?y >> }
}
```

# RDF-star with :occurrenceOf for all edges in multi-edges: Data Size, Burden on Creator, Query Complexity/Efficiency, **Future-Proof?**

## Data

x	y	color	type
A	B	red	--
B	C	blue	—
B	D	blue	—
C	D	green	—
C	D	blue	--

## Key Measures

1. # of core triples:  $4 + 2 * 1 = 6$
2. # of custom IRIs:  $2 * 1 = 2$
3. Qry Complexity: **OPTIONAL**.
4. # of triple-patterns: **2**.
5. Is **future-proof?** **NO**

## RDF-star Property Tables: :occurrenceOf as needed

		:knows		:occurrenceOf		:color		:dtype	
	iid	x	y	oid	iid	oid	color	oid	dtype
	akb	A	B			akb	red	akb	--
	bkc	B	C			bkc	blue	bkc	—
	bkd	B	D			bkd	blue	bkd	—
	ckd	C	D	cd1	ckd	cd1	green	cd1	—
				cd2	ckd	cd2	blue	cd2	--

:A :knows :B .      Data: Core triples only

:B :knows :C .

:B :knows :D .

:C :knows :D .

:cd1 :occurrenceOf << :C :knows :D >> .

:cd2 :occurrenceOf << :C :knows :D >> .

Query: Count occurrences of (asserted) :knows edges.

```
SELECT (count(*) as ?cnt) {
  ?x :knows :?y
}
```

**BEFORE** multi-edge

**AFTER** multi-edge

```
SELECT (count(*) as ?cnt) {
  ?x :knows :?y
  OPTIONAL { ?occ :occurrenceOf << ?x :knows ?y >> }
}
```

# RDF-star with :occurrenceOf ALWAYS (for all edges): Data Size, Burden on Creator, Query Complexity/Efficiency, Future-Proof?

## Data

x	y	color	type
A	B	red	--
B	C	blue	—
B	D	blue	—
C	D	green	—
<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>blue</b>	<b>--</b>

## Key Measures

1. # of core triples:  $4 * 2 + 1 = 9$
2. # of custom IRIs:  $4 + 1 = 5$
3. Qry Complexity: **Simple**.
4. # of triple-patterns: **2**.
5. Is future-proof? **YES**

Query: Count occurrences of (asserted) :knows edges.

```
SELECT (count(*) as ?cnt) {
  ?x :knows :?y . ?occ :occurrenceOf << ?x :knows ?y >>
}
```

**BEFORE** multi-edge

**AFTER** multi-edge

... same as BEFORE ...

## Data: Core triples only

```
:A :knows :B . :ab1 :occurrenceOf << :A :knows :B >> .
:B :knows :C . :bc1 :occurrenceOf << :B :knows :C >> .
:B :knows :D . :bd1 :occurrenceOf << :B :knows :D >> .
:C :knows :D . :cd1 :occurrenceOf << :C :knows :D >> .
```

---

```
:cd2 :occurrenceOf << :C :knows :D >> .
```

## RDF-star Property Tables: :occurrenceOf ALWAYS

	:knows		:occurrenceOf		:color		:dtype	
	iid	x y	oid	iid	oid	color	oid	dtype
	akb	A B	ab1	akb	ab1	red	ab1	--
	bkc	B C	bc1	bkc	bc1	blue	bc1	—
	bkd	B D	bd1	bkd	bd1	blue	bd1	—
	ckd	C D	cd1	ckd	cd1	green	cd1	—
			<b>cd2</b>	<b>ckd</b>	<b>cd2</b>	<b>blue</b>	<b>cd2</b>	<b>--</b>



# Comparison of Key Measures: RDFn Named Triples vs. RDF-star Alternatives

## Data Size, Burden on Creator, Query Complexity/Efficiency, **Future-Proof?**

Key Measures	RDFn Named Triples	:occurrenceOf, for extra edges in multi-edges	:occurrenceOf, for all edges in multi-edges	:occurrenceOf, for all edges
1. # of core triples	5 = 4+1	5 = 4+1	6 = 4 + 2*1	9 = 2*4 + 1
2. # of custom IRIs	1	1	2	5
3. Query Complexity	Simple	UNION	OPTIONAL	Simple
4. # of triple-patterns	1	2	2	2
5. Is future-proof?	YES	NO	NO	YES

RDF-star Property Tables: :occurrenceOf as needed

	:knows		:occurrenceOf		:color		:dtype	
	iid	x y	oid	iid	oid	color	oid	dtype
	akb	A B			akb	red	akb	--
	bkc	B C			bkc	blue	bkc	_
	bkd	B D			bkd	blue	bkd	_
	ckd	C D	cd1	ckd	cd1	green	cd1	_
			cd2	ckd	cd2	blue	cd2	--

RDFn Property Tables: no :occurrenceOf

	:knows		:color		:dtype	
	name	x y	name	color	name	dtype
	akb	A B	akb	red	akb	--
	bkc	B C	bkc	blue	bkc	_
	bkd	B D	bkd	blue	bkd	_
	ckd	C D	ckd	green	ckd	_
	cd2	C D	cd2	blue	cd2	--

RDF-star Property Tables: :occurrenceOf ALWAYS

	:knows		:occurrenceOf		:color		:dtype	
	iid	x y	oid	iid	oid	color	oid	dtype
	akb	A B	ab1	akb	ab1	red	ab1	--
	bkc	B C	bc1	bkc	bc1	blue	bc1	_
	bkd	B D	bd1	bkd	bd1	blue	bd1	_
	ckd	C D	cd1	ckd	cd1	green	cd1	_
			cd2	ckd	cd2	blue	cd2	--



# Multi-Edge Handling Costs: RDFn Named Triples vs. RDF-star Alternatives

## Data Size, Burden on Creator, Query Complexity/Efficiency, Future-Proof?

When a **single property** occurring in **N** triples transitions to multi-edge(s) adding **m** extra triples ...

<b>N</b> ← #distinct triples using given property <b>m</b> ← #extra triples for the multi-edge(s) • <b>N</b> can be high, <b>m</b> usually small	RDFn Named Triples	<b>:occurrenceOf,</b> <b>for extra edges</b> <b>in multi-edges</b>	<b>:occurrenceOf,</b> <b>for all edges</b> <b>in multi-edges</b>	<b>:occurrenceOf,</b> <b>for all edges</b>
<b>Data Size:</b> # core triples (not counting “statement about statement” triples)	N + m	N + m	(N + m + 1) to (N + 2*m)	2*N + m
<b>Burden (on data creator):</b> # custom IRIs that the data creator has to provide	(Data Size – N)			
<b>COUNT Query Complexity/Efficiency:</b> #patterns / Simple, UNION, OPTIONAL?	1/Simple	2/UNION	2/OPTIONAL	2/Simple
<b>Future-Proof?:</b> Pre-transition COUNT query still works?	YES	NO	NO	YES

... and the overhead increases (additively) when **multiple properties** transition to multi-edges!





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