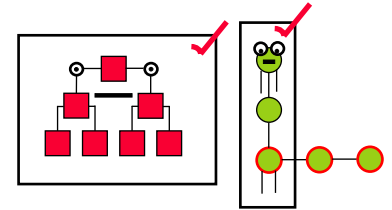


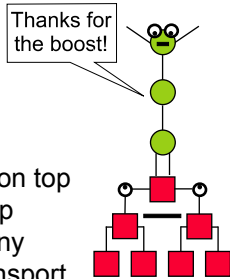
3 Without RDF order matters
 Using XML without RDF, the order in which you list your data is very important to your application. If you order your nodes differently, the parser will not be able to work with the document. Using RDF models, however, the order in which you list your "facts" does not affect the ability of the application to process the data.



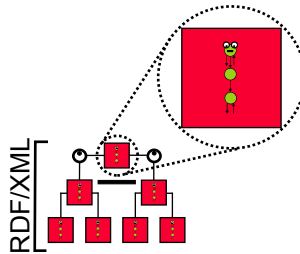
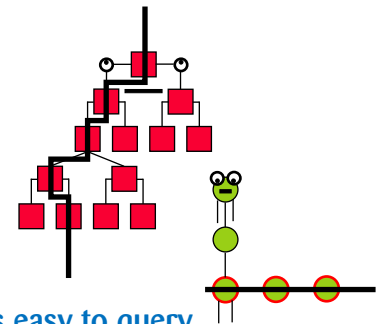
4 Without RDF you must have complete understanding
 In order to use any of your XML data, you must understand the complete Schema. With an abstract RDF model, you can use what little you understand and disregard the rest.



1 RDF models can be built on top of XML
 RDF or the Resource Description Framework is actually an abstract layer on top of XML (Extensible Markup Language). There are many ways you may store or transport RDF, one of which is XML. It is important to note that XML syntax is only one possible syntax for RDF.

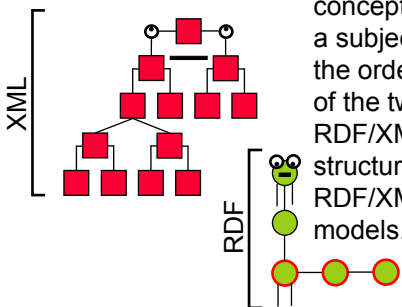


XML and RDF are two complimentary technologies being used to build an internet that is more intelligent. As a developer, you must decide which combinations of standards to use for your application. **XML** is widely adopted, and has many tools and examples to reference, but the addition of **RDF** gives your computer more knowledge about what your data actually means.

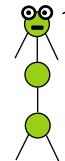


5 A RDF model is easy to query
 Querying XML is much more complex than querying an abstract RDF model. As XML utilizes more complex structures (RDF is all triples), the act of parsing and searching is more difficult.

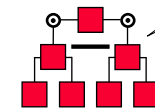
2 XML is a tree, RDF models are sets of triples
 The structure of an XML document is that of a tree. Each document has exactly one tree. A RDF model is made up conceptually of a variable number of triples. Each triple contains a subject, predicate and object. Triples exist independently and the order in which they occur is not important. The combination of the two - RDF models represented as XML - is called RDF/XML. RDF/XML consists of RDF triples within the XML tree structure. When many people speak of RDF, they are thinking of RDF/XML as it is the most popular way of representing RDF models.



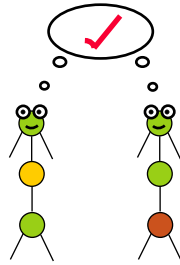
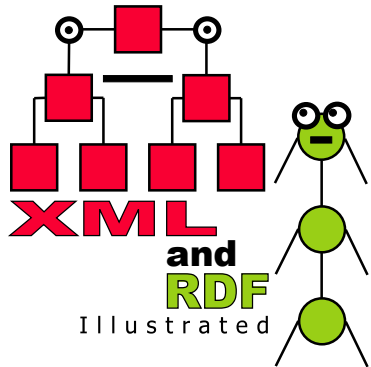
Now we are all talking the same language!



6 XML is syntax, RDF is semantics
 XML focuses on being a data-format standard. RDF takes this one step further and attempts to bring meaning, or semantics, to the data.

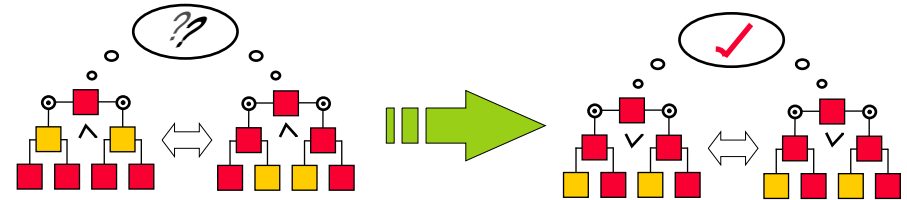


Now we are all using the same alphabet!



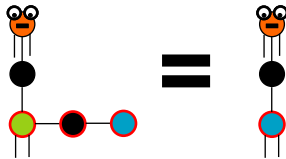
9 Getting two applications to talk requires different approaches

Using XML without RDF, if two parties want to communicate they must first agree on a common syntax for their documents. After re-engineering their documents with the new syntax, the exchange can happen. Using RDF models, two parties may communicate with different syntax using the concept of equivalencies. For example, where I say "car" it means the same as where you say "automobile".



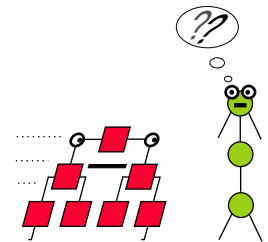
7 RDF models allows the computer to infer or deduce

Intelligent applications can be built where the computer is able to create new "facts" from existing ones. Using vocabularies, RDF models allows computers to connect "java" with "coffee" and "programming". XML alone has no facilities for describing these vocabularies.



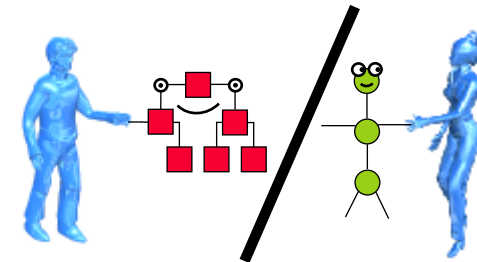
10 RDF requires more thought

Because RDF requires that the developer consider how they want to model their knowledge, it often requires more research and planning. XML alone may be generated in a more ad hoc fashion for rapid prototyping and development.



11 Not every project is well suited for using RDF

RDF adds complexity to a project, which may not be necessary to reach your development goals. In some cases XML alone is appropriate. Others would be best served by RDF without XML. Lastly, for certain projects the usage of RDF and XML together spells success.



8 RDF models and ontologies together provide meaning

When describing data using a RDF model, you may use a pre-existing vocabulary or create your own. Your vocabulary can be defined using ontologies. This combination of a RDF model and their associated ontologies gives the computer enough information to discover the meaning of the data.

