Querying the Semantic Web with SWRL

Martin O'Connor, Samson Tu, Csongor Nyulas, Amar Das, Mark Musen

Stanford Medical Informatics, Stanford University

Protégé-OWL

- Widely-used development environment for working with OWL ontologies
- Popular, open source, active mailing list, frequent new releases
- Extensible: many third party plugins developed for it

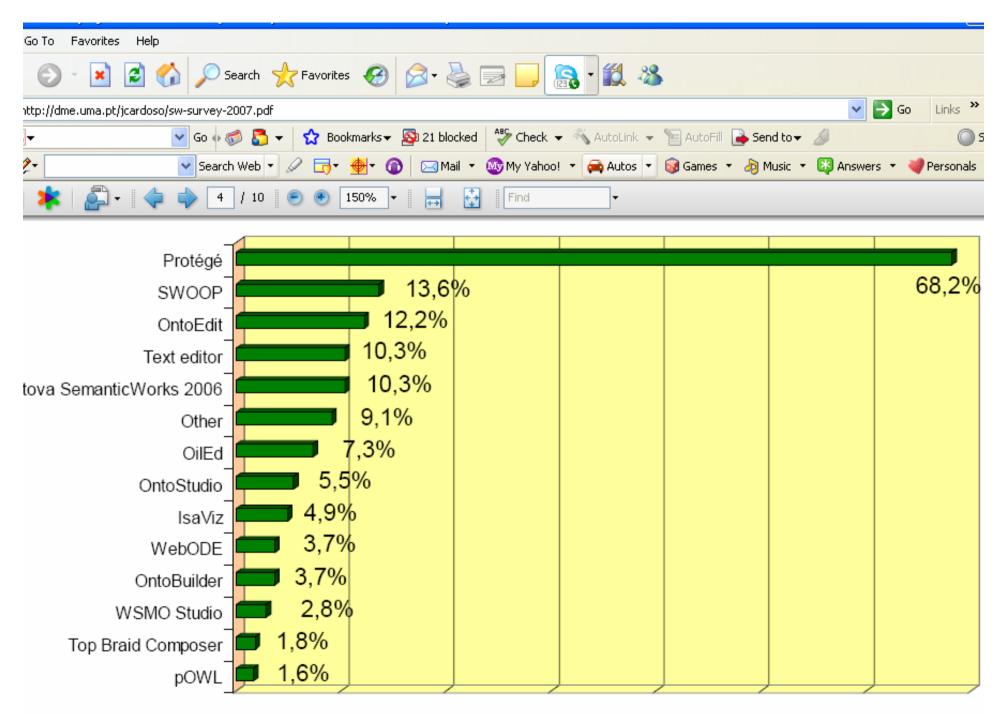
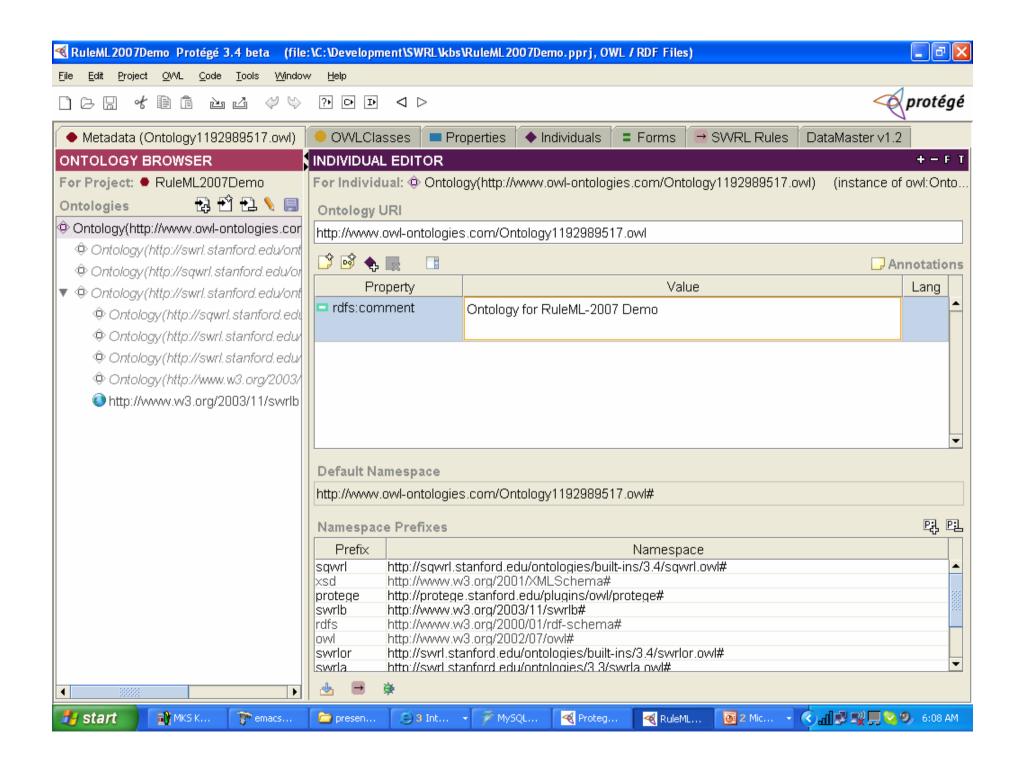


Figure 4. Respondents' use of ontology editors



What is SWRL?

- SWRL is an acronym for Semantic Web Rule Language.
- SWRL is intended to be the rule language of the Semantic Web.
- SWRL includes a high-level abstract syntax for Horn-like rules.
- All rules are expressed in terms of OWL concepts (classes, properties, individuals).

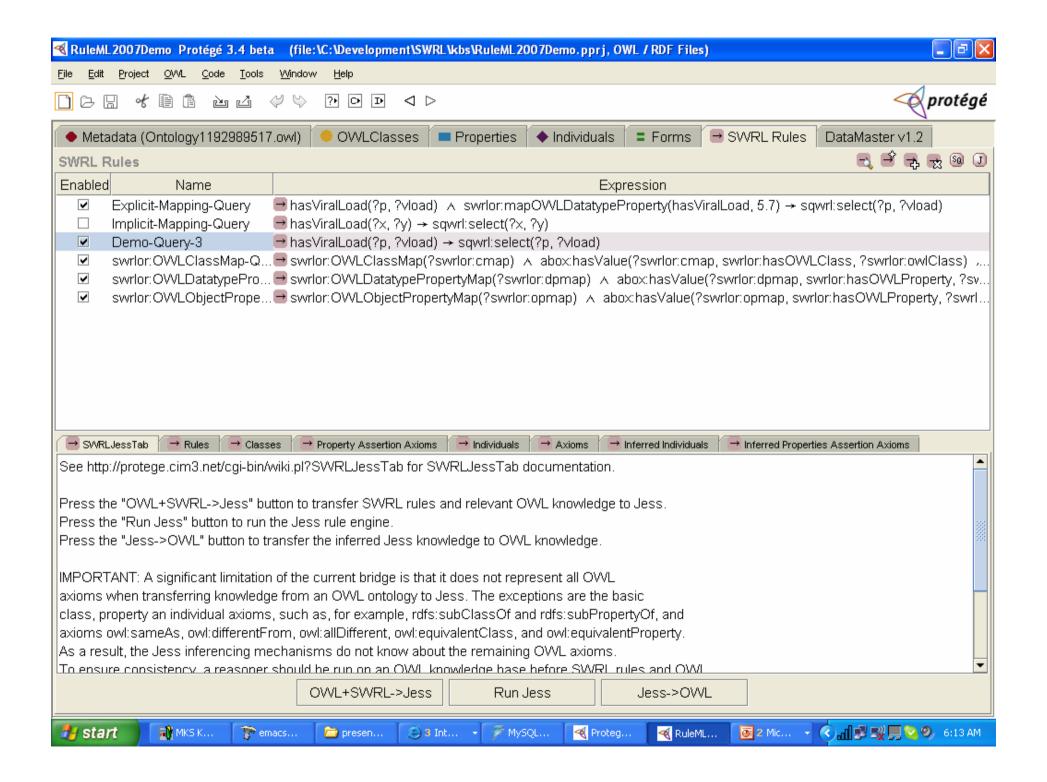
Example SWRL Rule: is adult?

```
Person(?p) ^ hasAge(?p,?age) ^
swrlb:greaterThan(?age,17)

→ Adult(?p)
```

SWRLTab

- A Protégé-OWL development environment for working with SWRL rules
- Supports editing and execution of rules
- Extension mechanisms to work with thirdparty rule engines
- Mechanisms for users to define built-in method libraries
- Supports querying of ontologies

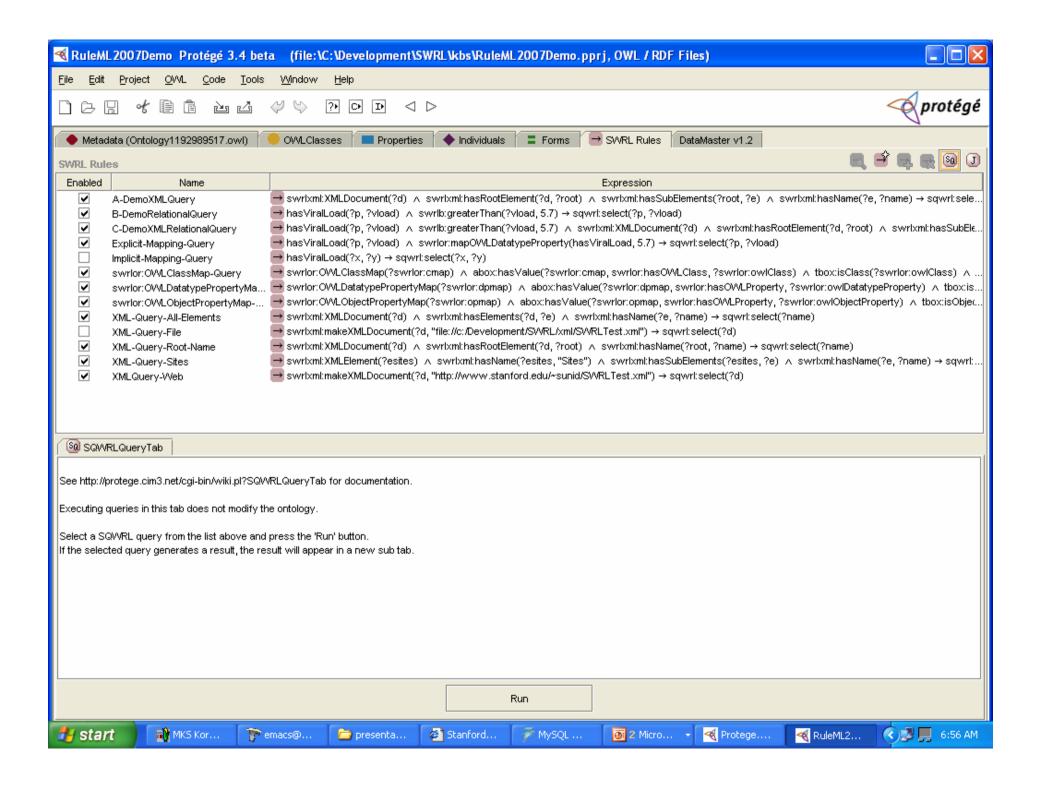


SWRL and Querying: SQWRL

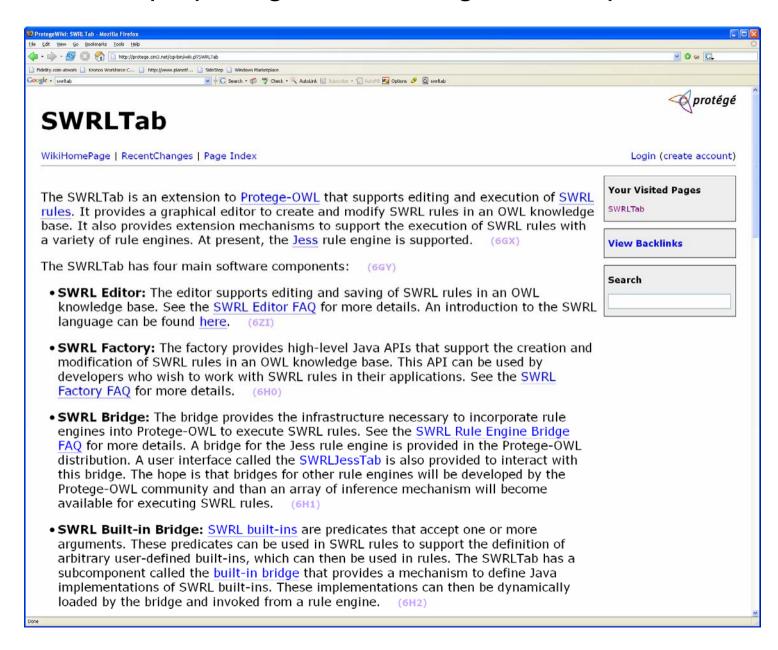
- SWRL is a rule language, not a query language
- However, a rule antecedent can be viewed as a pattern matching specification, i.e., a query
- With built-ins, language compliant query extensions are possible.
- We have developed a SWRL-based query language called SQWRL

A SQWRL Query

Return all adults in an ontology ordered by age:

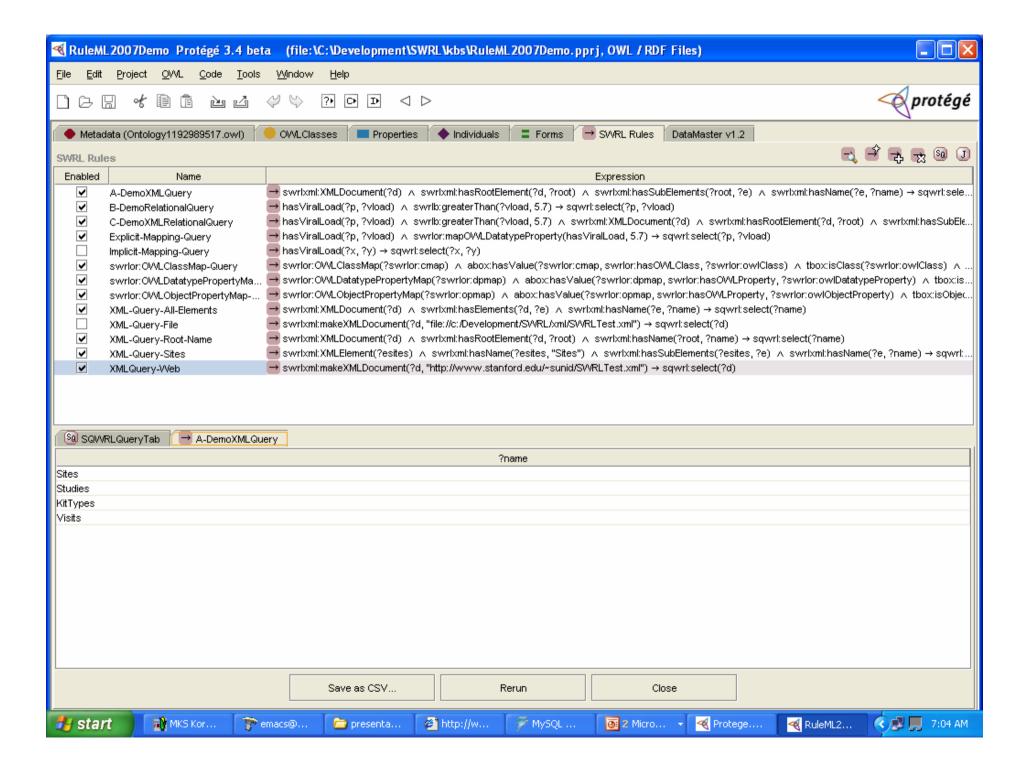


SWRLTab: http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SWRLTab



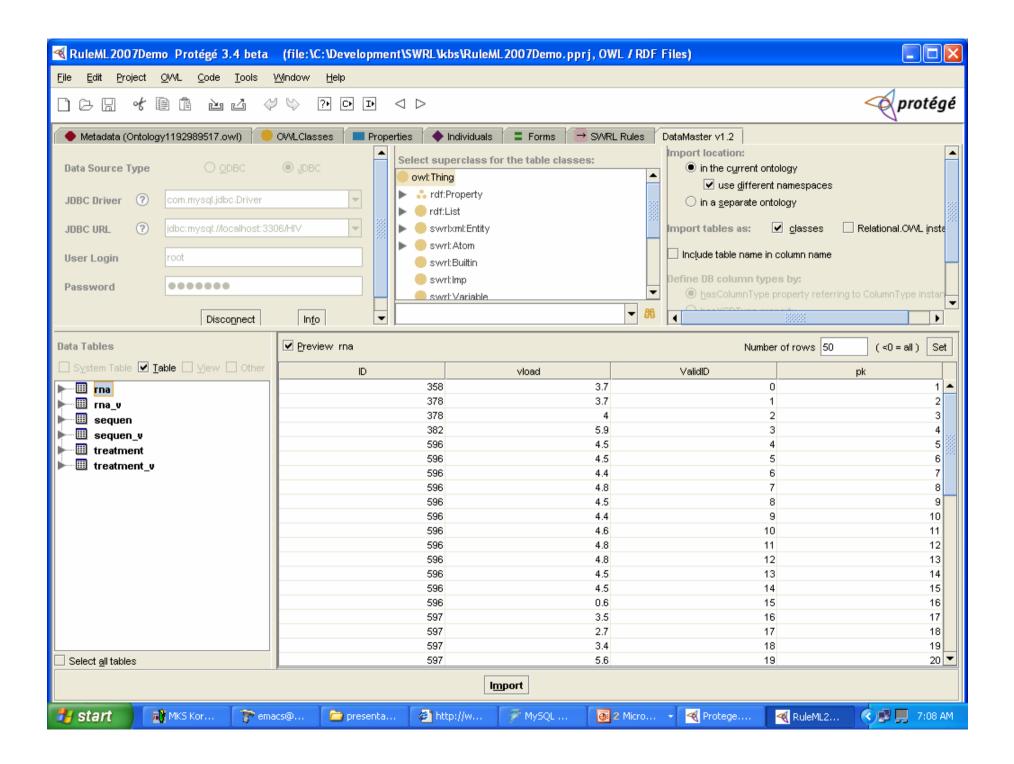
Querying XML

- XML built-in library:
 http://protege.cim3.net/cgibin/wiki.pl?SWRLTabXMLBuiltIns
- Example built-in URL specification: swrlxml:makeXMLDocument(?d, "http://www.stanford.edu/~sunid/SWRLTest.xml")
- Can query web and file based XML documents using SQWRL



DataMaster

- Imports schema or content of relational databases into Protégé-OWL
- Uses JDBC/ODBC so supports: MySQL, SQL Server, Oracle etc.



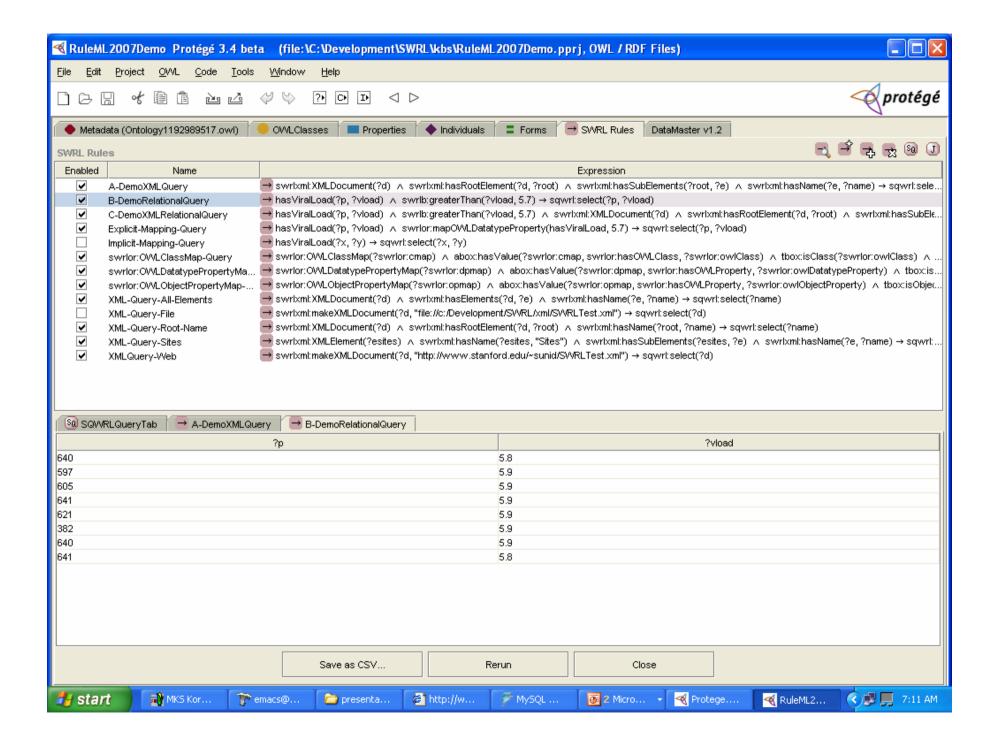
SWRLTab and Relational Data

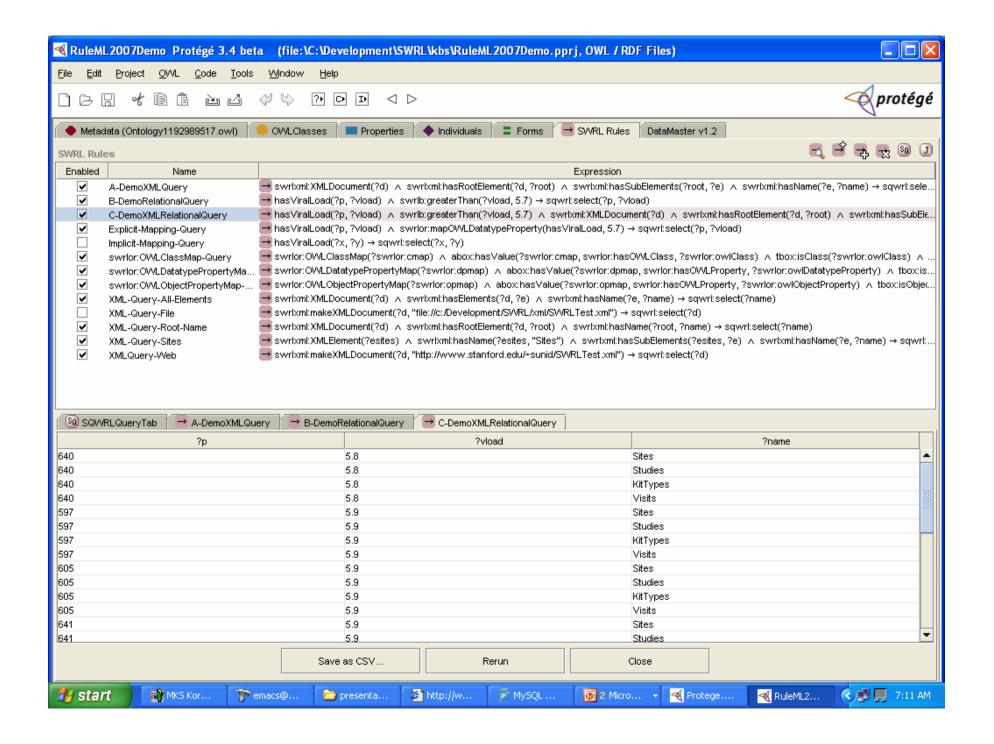
Can query data imported by DataMaster

Dynamic querying also supported...

One-the-fly querying of relational data

Mapping ontology specifies link





Software Availability

- Free, open source; download at: protégé.stanford.edu
- SWRLTab, Datamaster: v3.31
- SQWRL, XML querying: V3.4 beta
- Dynamic relational querying: 1 month
- Extensive documentation: http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SWRLTab