SWRL
Semantic Web Rule Language

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Overview

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What is SWRL?

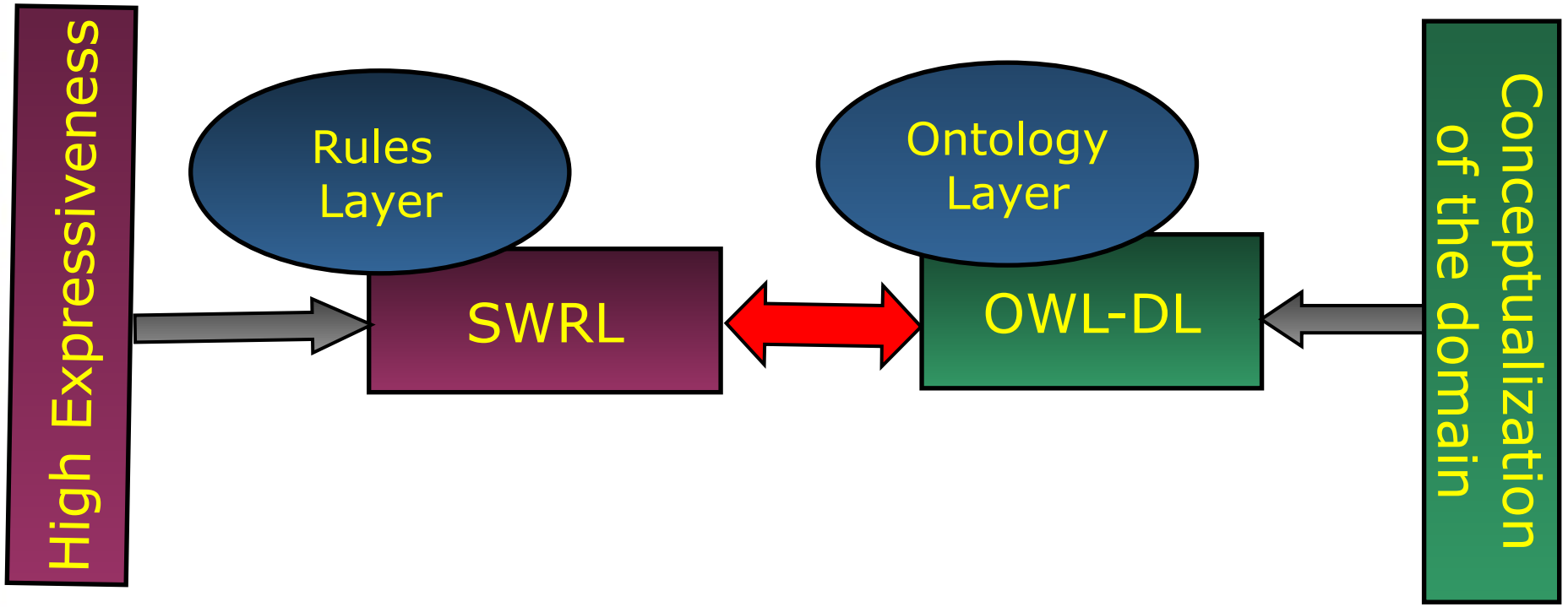
- SWRL is an acronym for Semantic Web Rule Language.

- SWRL is intended to be the rule language of the Semantic Web.

- All rules are expressed in terms of OWL concepts (classes, properties, individuals).

What is SWRL?

- Ontology languages do not offer the expressiveness we want → Rules do it well.



What is Jess?

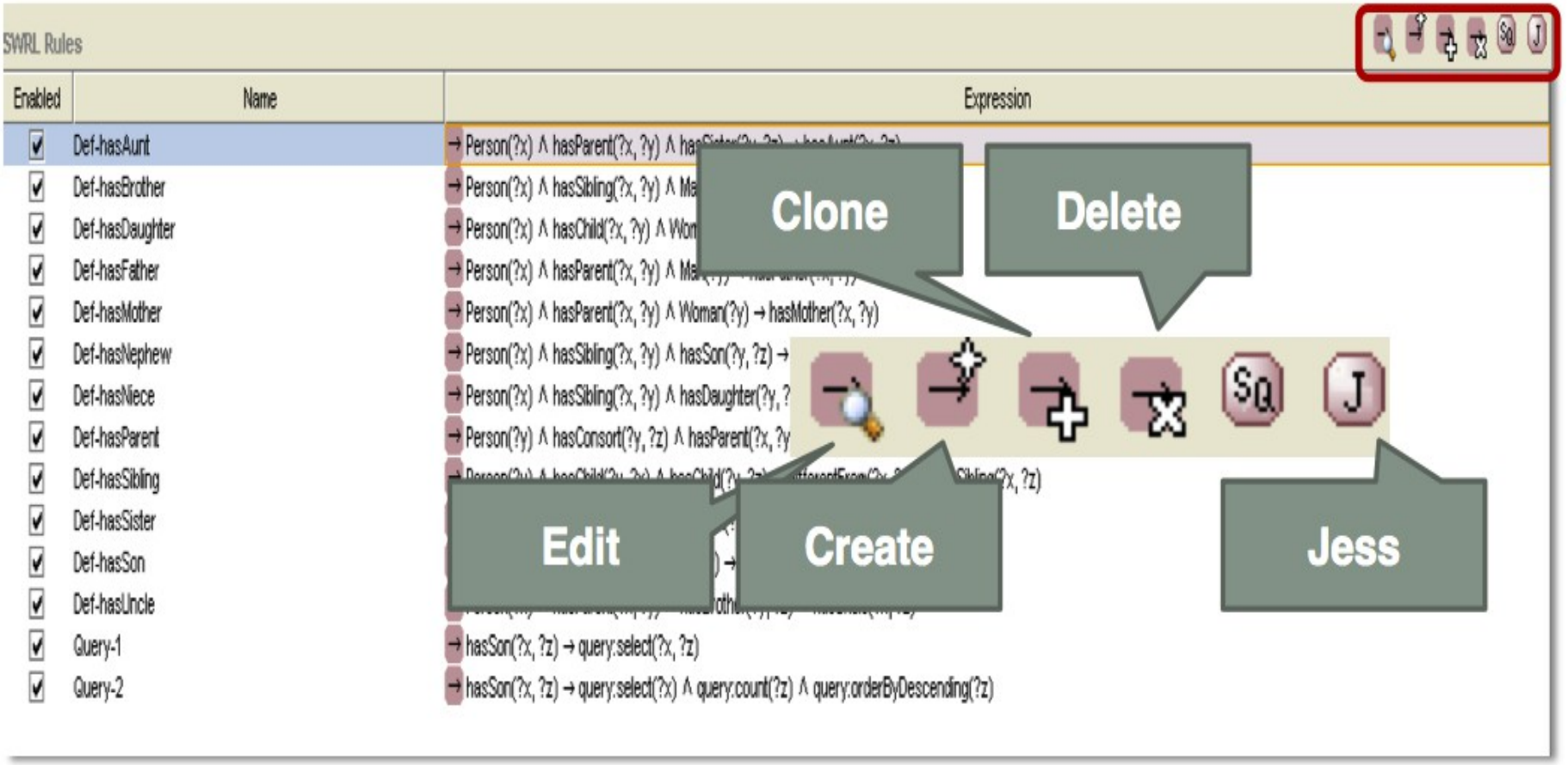
- Jess system consists of a rule base, fact base, and an execution engine.
- Available free to academic users, for a small fee to non-academic users.
- Has been used in Protégé-based tools, e.g., SWRLJessTab, SweetJess, JessTab.

Install Jess

- JESS Download: http://herzberg.ca.sandia.gov/

- SWRL Tab Activation:
  - Unzip Jess70p2.zip
  - Copy Jess70p2\Jess70p2\lib\jess.jar to
  - [Protégé install Folder]/plugins/edu.stanford.smi.protegex.owl/

Creating Rules



SWRL Rule

- Contains an antecedent part(*body)*, and a consequent (*head)*.

- The body and head consist of positive conjunctions of *atoms*:

Atom ^ Atom … → Atom ^ Atom ….

SWRL Rule

An atom is an expression of the form: ***P(arg1 arg2,...)***

- **P** is a predicate symbol (classes, properties...)
- Arguments of the expression: ***arg1, arg2,…*** (individuals, data values or variables)

Example SWRL Rule:

Person(?p) ^ hasSibling(?p,?s) ^ Man(?s) → hasBrother(?p,?s)

antecedent **consequent**

Atom Types

SWRL provides seven types of atoms:

- Class Atoms ***owl:Class***
- Individual Property atoms ***owl:ObjectProperty***
- Data Valued Property atoms ***owl:DatatypeProperty***
- Different Individuals atoms
- Same Individual atoms
- Built-in atoms

Class Atom

- Consists of an **OWL named class** or **class expression** and a single argument representing an OWL individual:

Person(?p)

Person (Fred)

- **Person** - OWL named class
- **?p** - variable representing an OWL individual
- **Fred** - name of an OWL individual.

Class Atom Example

- All individual of type Man are also a type of Person:

Man(?p) -> Person(?p)

- Of course, this statement can also be made directly in OWL.

Individual Property Atom

- Consists of an **OWL object property** and two arguments representing OWL individuals:

  hasBrother(?x, ?y)

  hasSibling(Fred, ?y)

- **hasBrother, hasSibling** - OWL object properties
- **?x and ?y** - variables representing OWL individuals
- **Fred** -name of an OWL individual.

Individual Property Atom Example

- Person with a male sibling has a brother:

Person(?p) ^ hasSibling(?p,?s) ^ Man(?s) -> hasBrother(?p,?s)

- Person and male can be mapped to OWL class called Person with a subclass Man
- The sibling and brother relationships can be expressed using OWL object properties hasSibling and hasBrother with a domain and range of Person.

Data Valued Property Atom

- A data valued property atom consists of an **OWL data property** and two arguments (OWL individual , data value)

hasAge(?x, ?age)

hasHeight(Fred, ?h)

hasAge(?x, 232)

Data Valued Property Atom Example

- All persons that own a car should be classified as drivers

  Person(?p) ^ hasCar(?p, true) -> Driver(?p)

  - This rule classifies all car-owner individuals of type Person to also be members of the class Driver.

- Named individuals can be referred directly:

Person(Fred) ^ hasCar(Fred, true) -> Driver(Fred)

  - This rule works with a known individual called Fred in an ontology, and new individual can not be created using this rule.

Different & Same Individuals Atom

- SWRL supports sameAs and differentFrom atoms to determine if individuals refer to the same underlying individual or are distinct, and can use **owl:sameAs**, **owl:allDifferents:**

differentFrom(?x, ?y)

differentFrom(Fred, Joe)

sameAs(?x, ?y)

sameAs(Fred, Freddy)

Different & Same Individuals Atom Example

- If two OWL individuals of type Author cooperate on the same publication that they are collaborators:

Publication(?a) ^ hasAuthor(?x, ?y) ^ hasAuthor(?x, ?z) ^ differentFrom(?y, ?z) -> cooperatedWith(?y, ?z)

Built-In Atom

- A built-in is a predicate that takes one or more arguments and evaluates to true if the arguments satisfy the predicate.
- Core SWRL built-ins are preceded by the namespace qualifier **swrlb**.
- SWRL allows new libraries of built-ins to be defined and used in rules.

Built-In Atom Example

- Person with an age of greater than 17 is an adult:

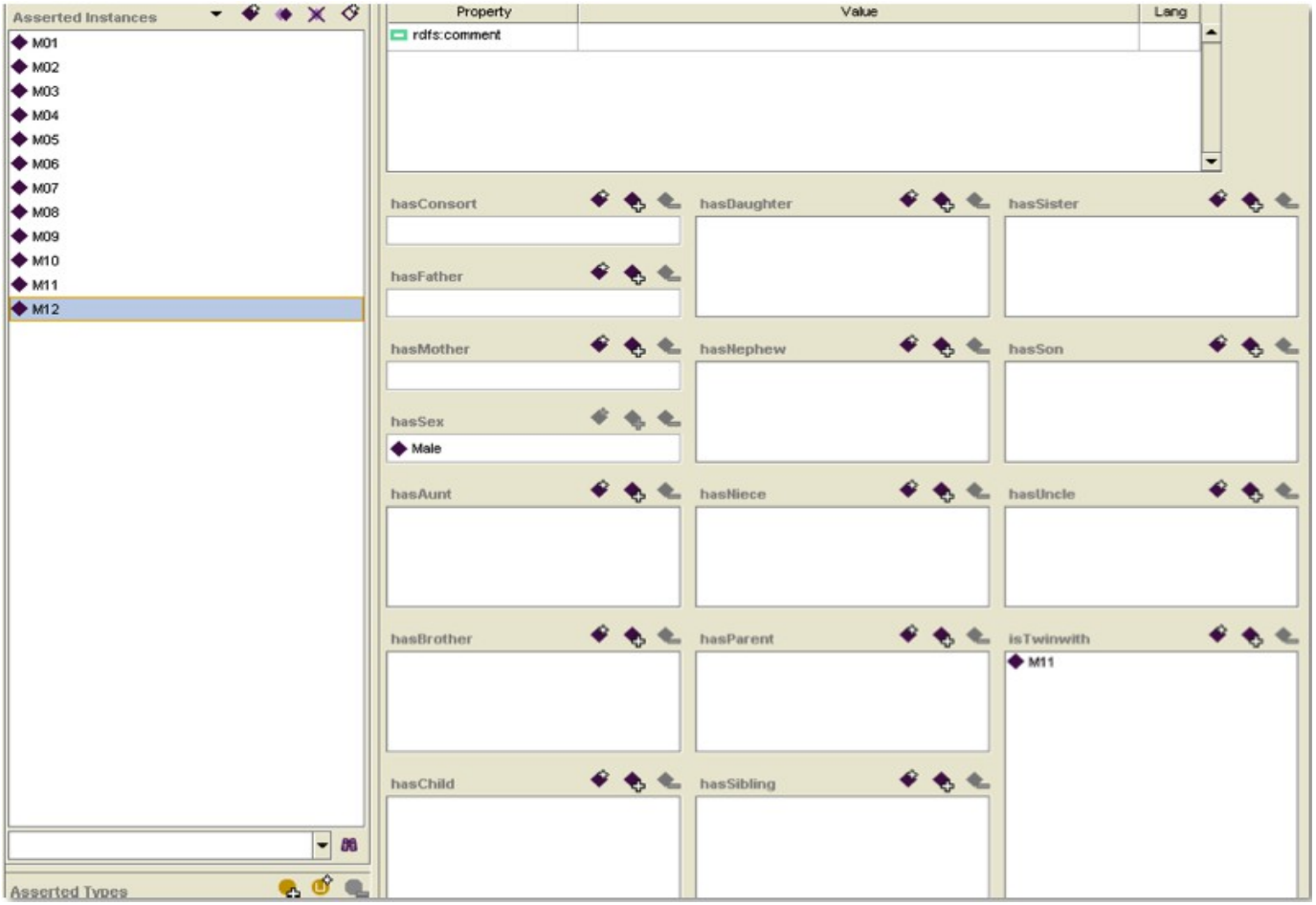
Person(?p) ^ hasAge(?p, ?age) ^
swrlb:greaterThan(?age, 17) -> Adult(?p)

- Person's telephone number starts with the international access code "+":

Person(?p)^hasNumber(?p, ?number) ^
swrlb:startsWith(?number, "+") ->
hasInternationalNumber(?p,true)

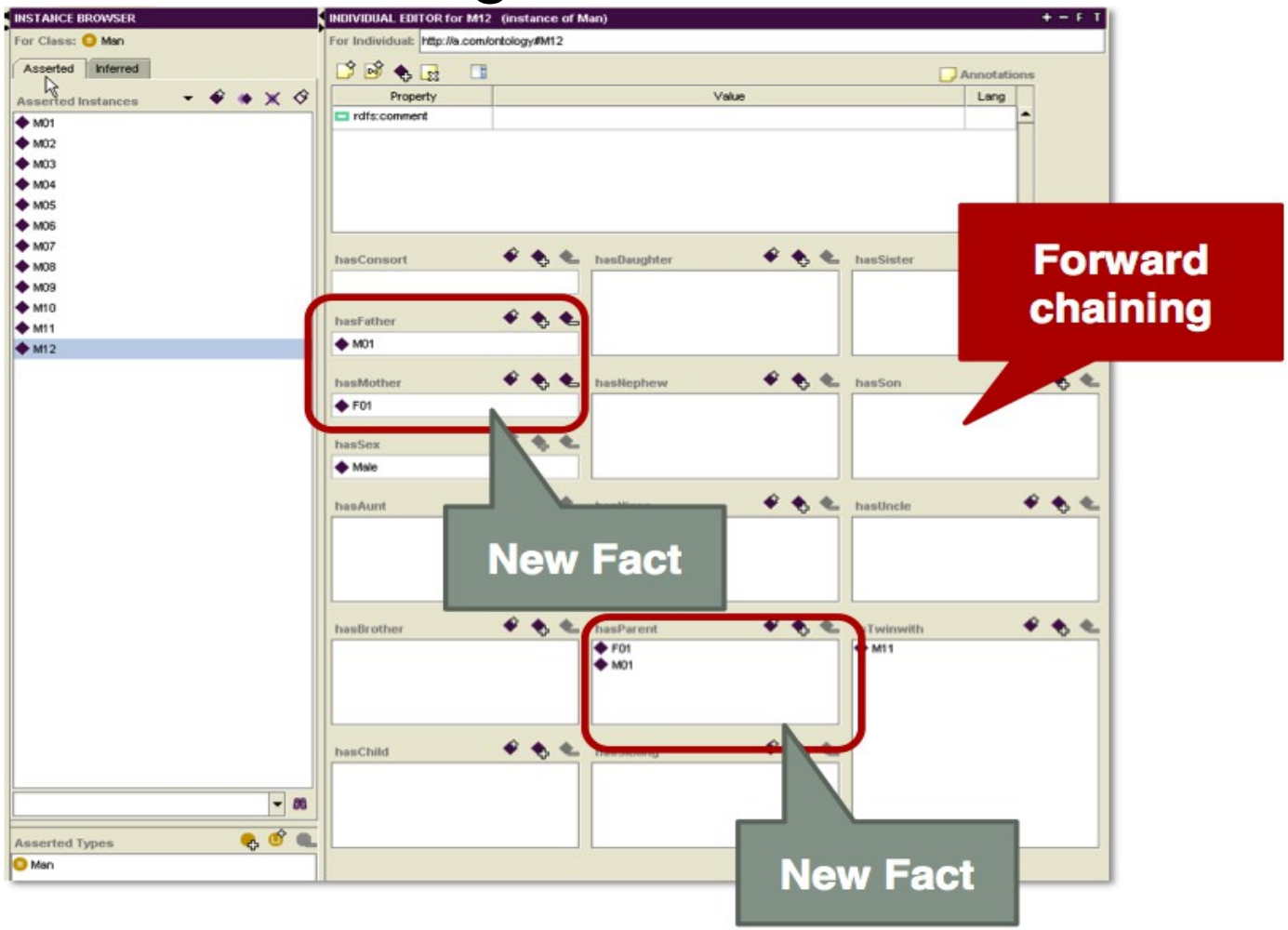
SWRLTab: Displaying Results

Before Jess Reasoning:



SWRLTab: Displaying Results

- After Jess Reasoning

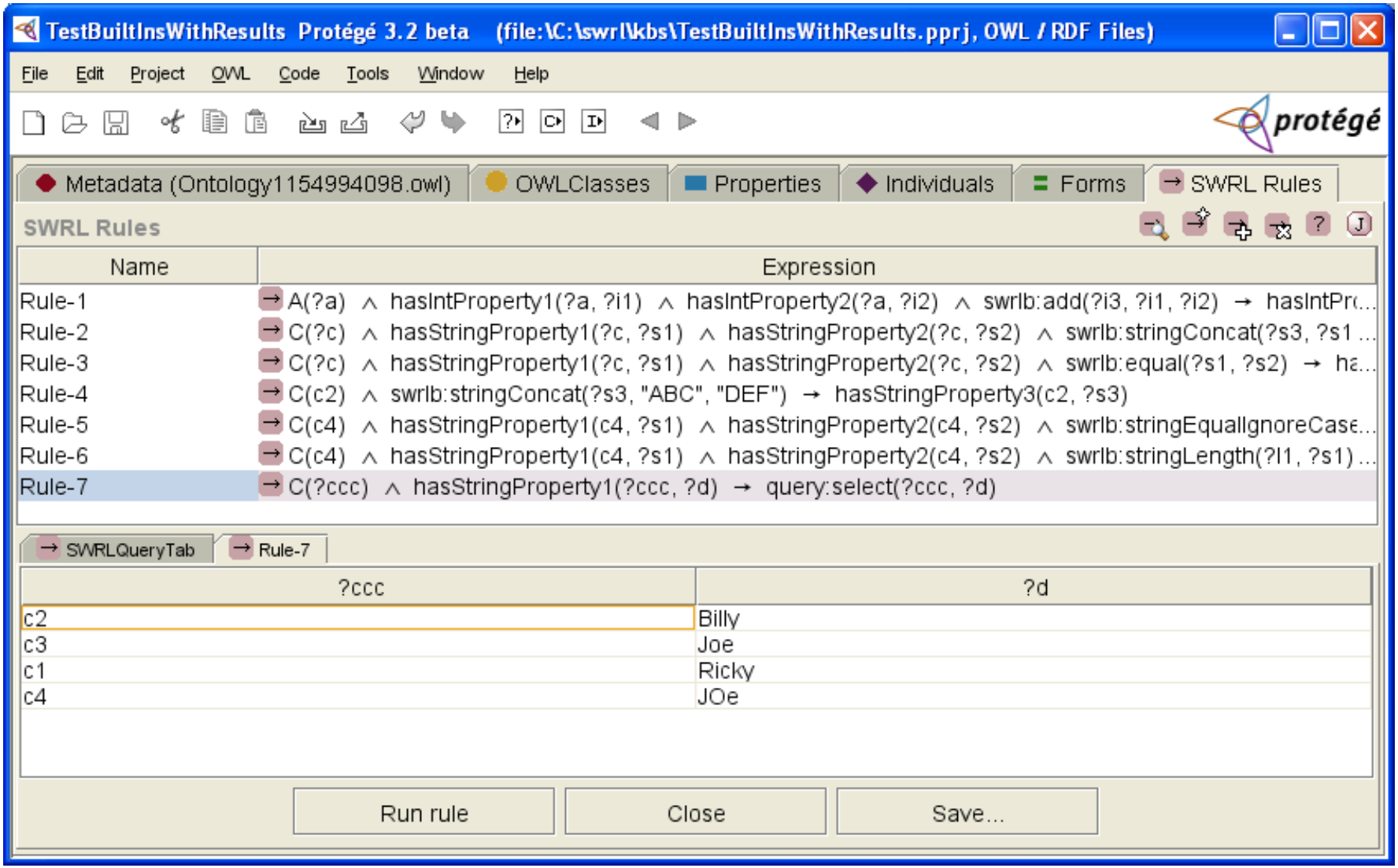


SQWRL

- A rule antecedent can be viewed as a pattern matching specification, i.e., a query
- With built-ins, language compliant query extensions are possible.

Person(?p) ^ hasAge(?p, ?age) ^ swrlb:greaterThan(?age, 17) -> swrlq:select(?p) ^ swrlq:orderBy(?age)

SWRLQueryTab: Displaying Results



SWRL Resources

- SWRL Language:
  - Specification: http://www.daml.org/2003/11/swrl/
- SWRL Tab:
  - http://protege.stanford.edu/plugins/owl/swrl/index.html
- SWRL API:
  - http://protege.stanford.edu/plugins/owl/swrl/SWRLFactory.html