

# Can we learn how to "Repair" Knowledge Graphs using constraints?

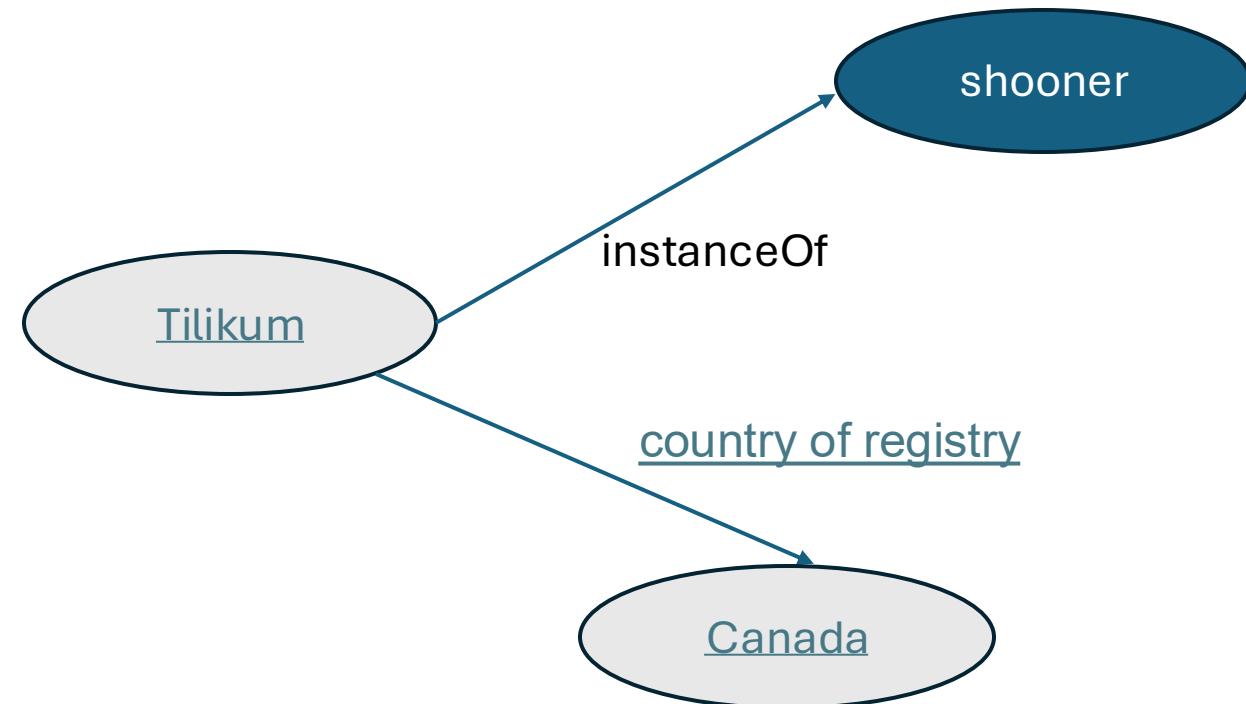
Axel Polleres, WU Vienna

# Starting points/Base materials:

- <https://ww101.ai.wu.ac.at/>
- Tutorial: **Wikidata Wizardry 101: From Query Spells to Data Charms (ISWC2024)**
  - Includes many Jupyter/GoogleColab notebooks about Wikidata and constraints in Wikidata
- <https://github.com/nicolasferranti/wikidata-constraints-formalization>
  - Formalization of Wikidata constraints in SPARQL and SHACL
  - Accompanying paper: <https://www.semantic-web-journal.net/content/formalizing-and-validating-wikidatas-property-constraints-using-shacl-and-sparql-0>
- <https://colab.tuwien.ac.at/spaces/PBA/pages/339183111/Lecture+Series>
  - My talk “Querying Knowledge Graphs, Graph Learning and LLMs” on 22.05.2025
- Great talk by Miguel 03.07.2025 about “Knowledge Graphs and learning”, and various tasks e.g.
  - Link prediction
  - Node classification...We will talk about a slightly different task here: Graph repairs wrt Constraints!

# Knowledge Graphs

- Simple (directed, labelled graph):

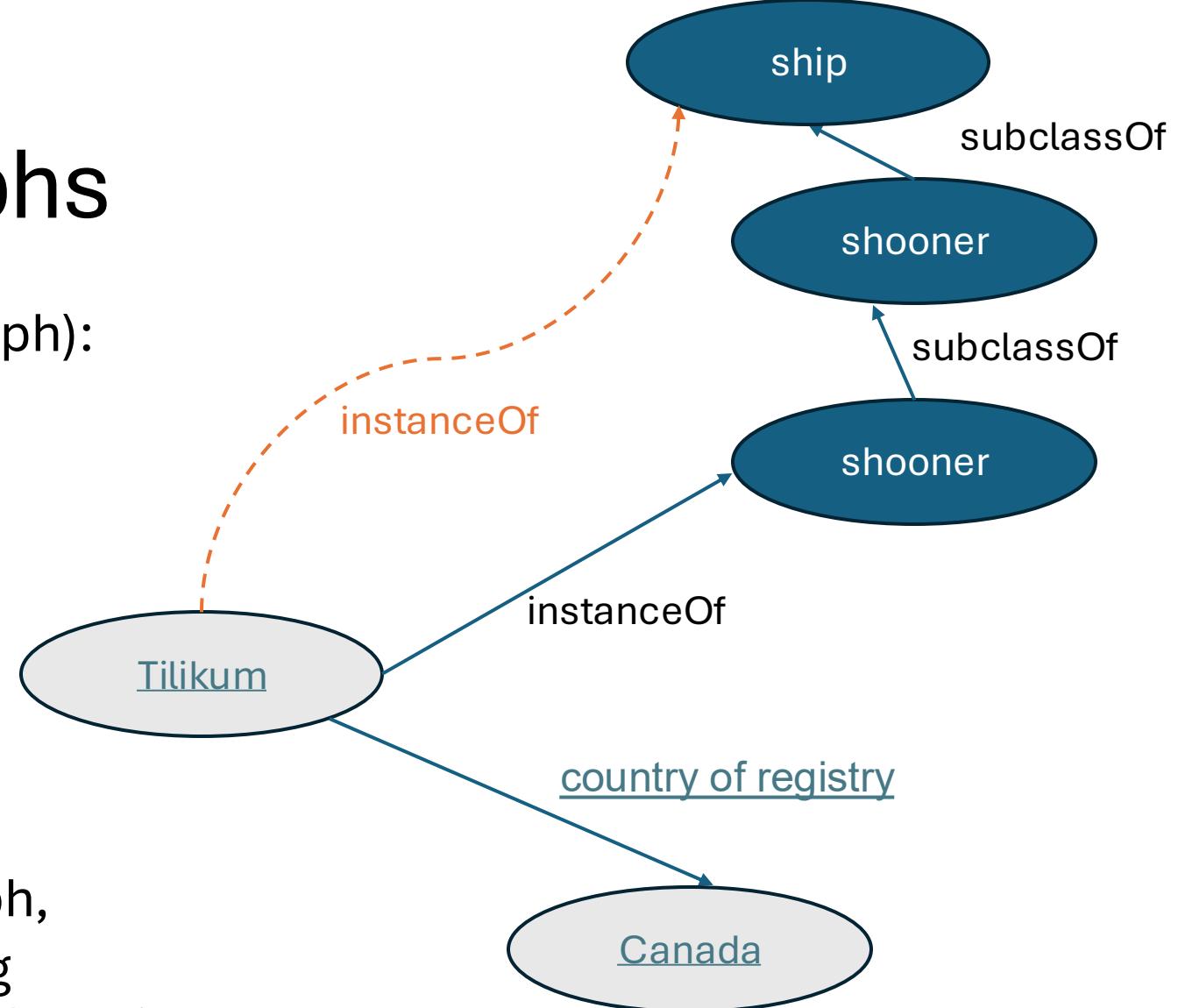


# Knowledge Graphs

- Simple (directed, labelled graph):



“Ontology” is part of the graph,  
• typically “deductive” meaning  
• i.e., allows to infer additional information



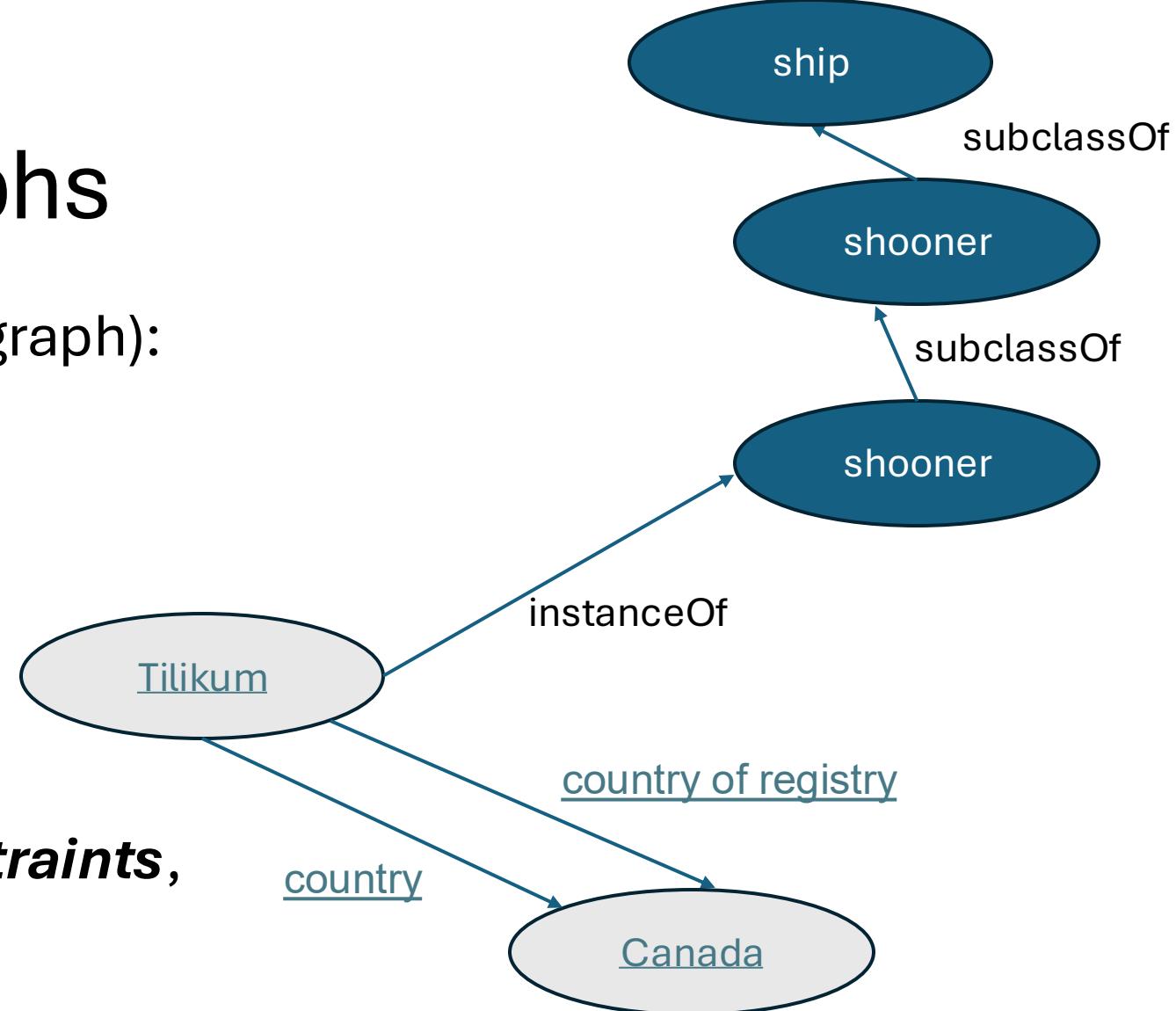
# Knowledge Graphs

- Simple (directed, labelled graph):



- Could have ***property constraints***, such as:

- “*country conflicts-with country of registry*”
  - “i.e., an entity should not have both a “country” and a “country of registry”

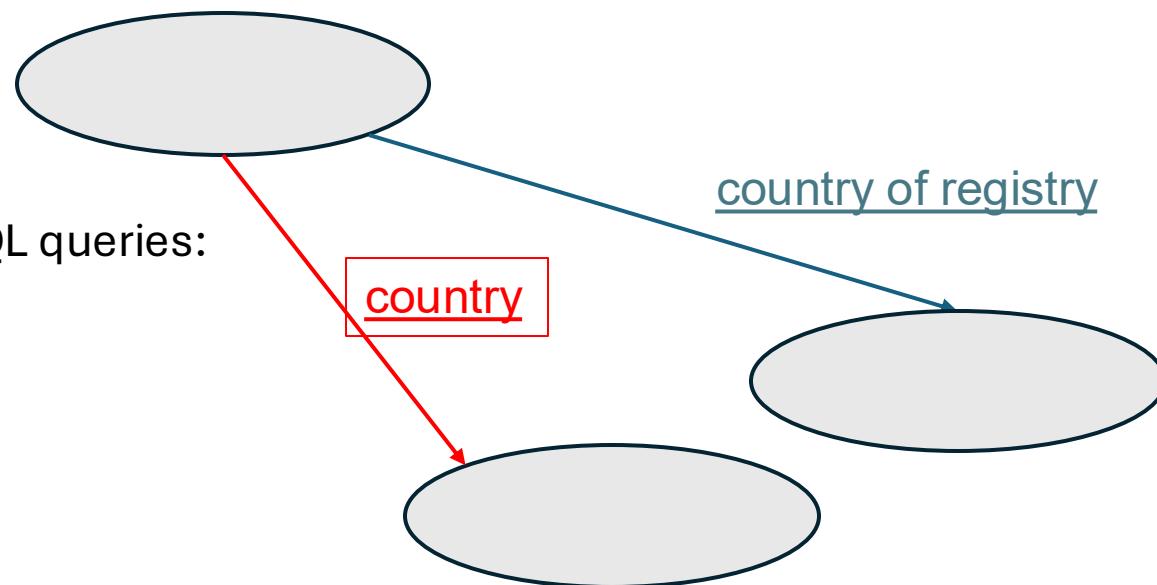


# Checking constraints

- Check Constraints on Graphs by looking for “graph patterns”

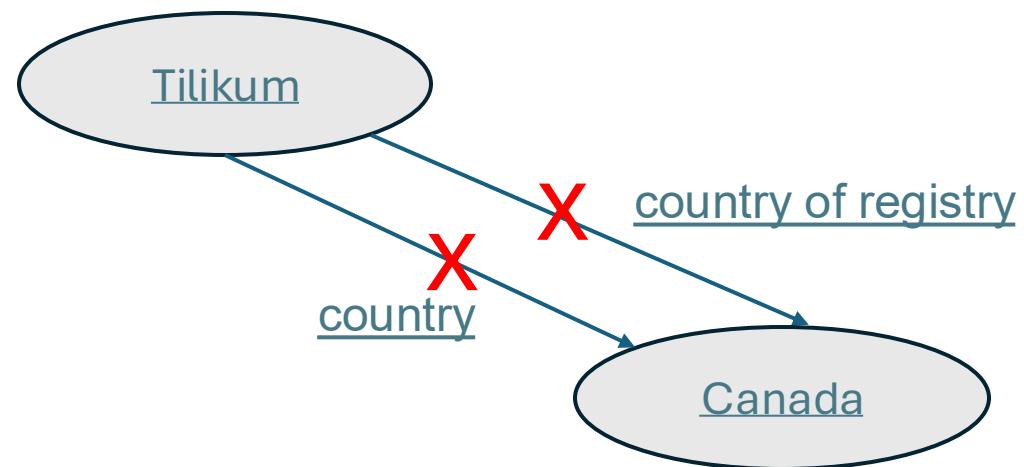
Graph patterns can be checked by SPARQL queries:

```
SELECT * {  
?P1 conflicts-with ?P2 .  
?S ?P1 ?X.  
?S ?P2 ?Y.  
}
```



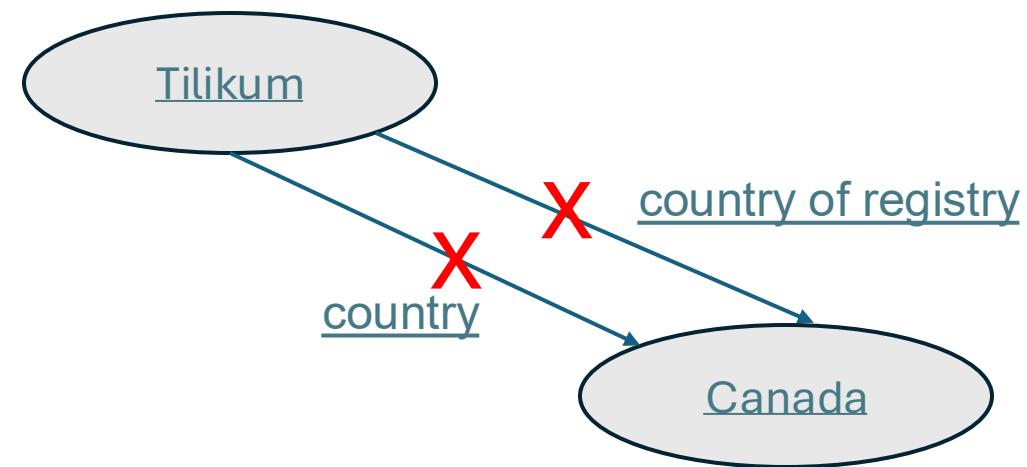
**ATTENTION:** This is a simplification, cf. <https://github.com/nicolasferranti/wikidata-constraints-formalization/>  
<https://github.com/nicolasferranti/wikidata-constraints-formalization/blob/main/constraints-formalization/conflicts-with%20/conflicts-with.rq>

# Knowledge Graphs



# Constraint Repairs

- Additions or deletions of missing information.
- For conflicts-with, e.g. deletion of either:



# Constraint Repairs

- Additions or deletions of missing information.
- For *item-required-statement constraint*, or *value-type-constraint*, e.g. deletion or **addition**:



native language

Mexico !

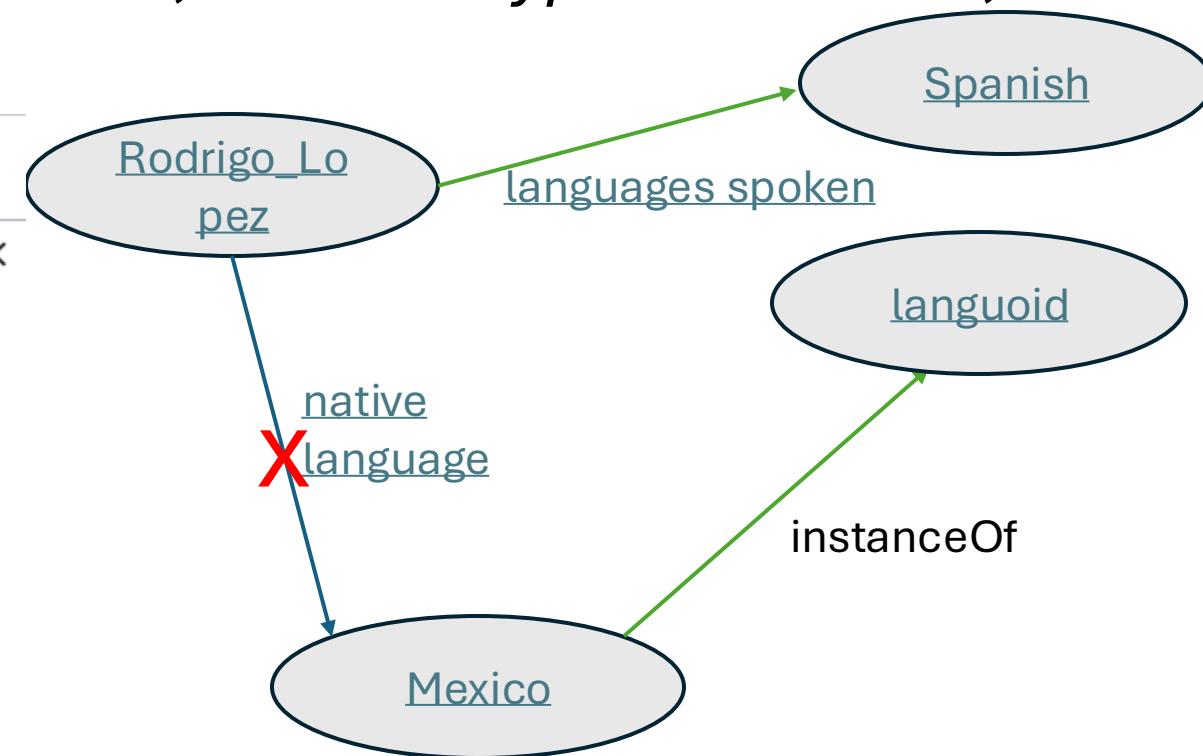
Potential issues

**item-requires-statement constraint** Help Discuss

An entity with native language should also have a statement languages spoken, written or signed.

**value-type constraint** Help Discuss

Values of native language statements should be instances of languoid (or of a subclass of it), but Mexico currently isn't.



Question: can we learn how to repair a graph by GNNs?

# Group Task:

- Understand the training data
- Try to implement a GNN that learns such repairs, e.g. start with something small, e.g.
  - conflicts with,
  - item-requires-statement,
  - type, Value-type,
  - (single-value)  
constraints
- Try to understand what it can (and can't?) learn

# Good thing: We have training data!

<https://hal.science/hal-03325101v1/>



## Neural Knowledge Base Repairs

Thomas Pellissier Tanon, Fabian M. Suchanek

### ► To cite this version:

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TODO: some slides or notebook to explain  
how the training data looks like...

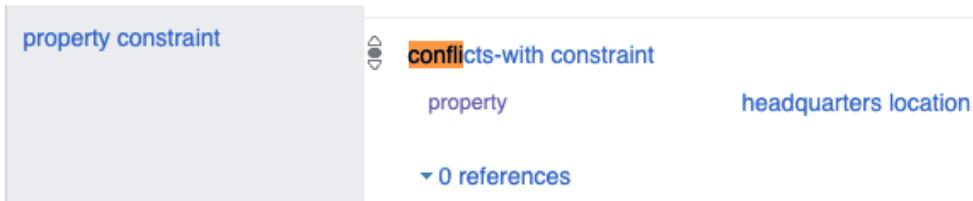
# Challenge 1: Does an ML approach using this data learn the “right” repairs?

- E.g. some constraints have a “replacement” property “suggestion” or “rule” in case of violations”
- <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Property:P17>

property constraint	conflicts-with constraint
	item of property constraint
	property
	replacement property
	human
	instance of
	country of citizenship
	place of birth
	residence
	place of death
	ancestral home
	work location

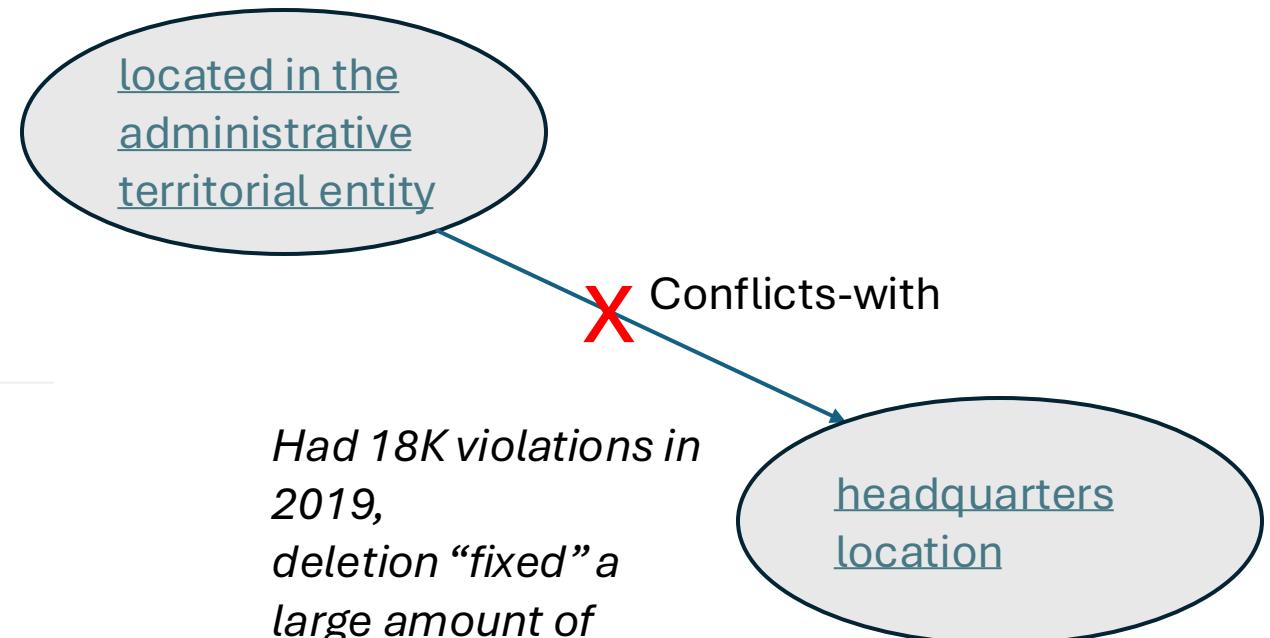
# Challenge 2: In KGs, the constraints can also be graphs!

- What if the constraint is changed?
- Can we learn (when it's better to do) constraint repairs?
- What if the constraint is changed?
- We have data also for that! E.g.:
- <https://www.wikidata.org/w/index.php?title=Property:P131&oldid=824983023>



- BUT:
  - constraint repairs are probably sparse
  - Constraint changes may “trigger” new violations.

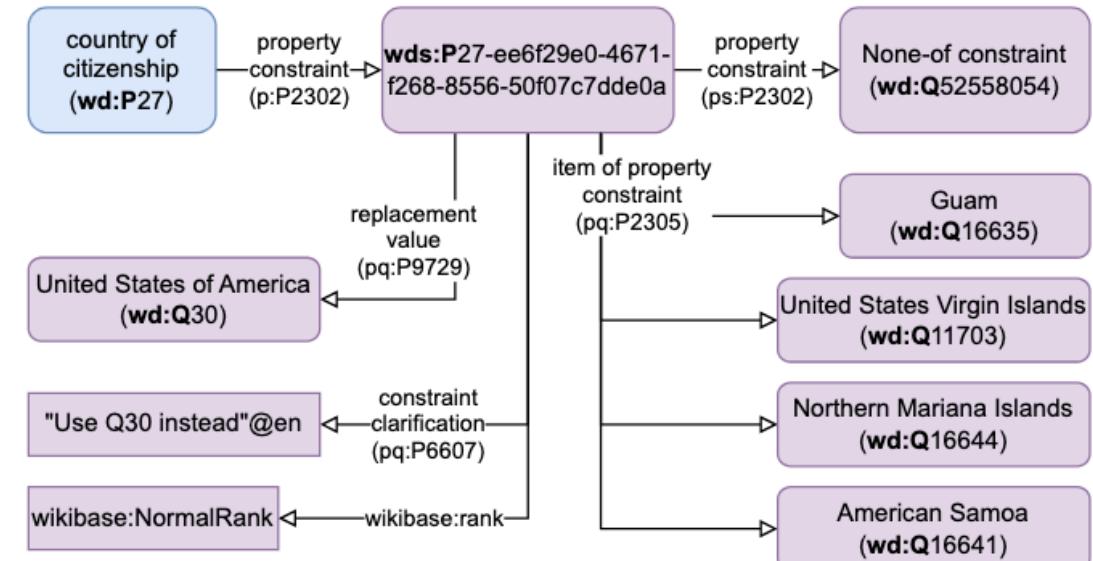
2019:



# Challenge 3: Property Graphs: Qualifiers and contextual information – add complexity to repairs

Both instance data and constraints have additional qualifiers, such as ranks, temporal context, etc.:

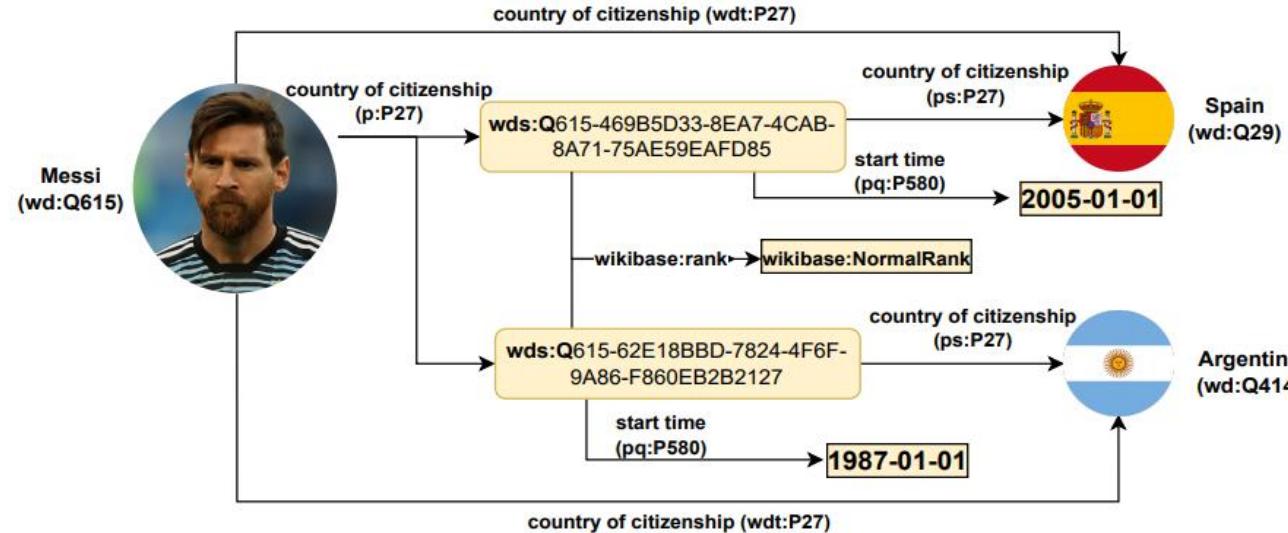
- When should a repair be marked a deprecation?
- When should a qualifier be added/removed?
- Can we extend our approach to cover that?



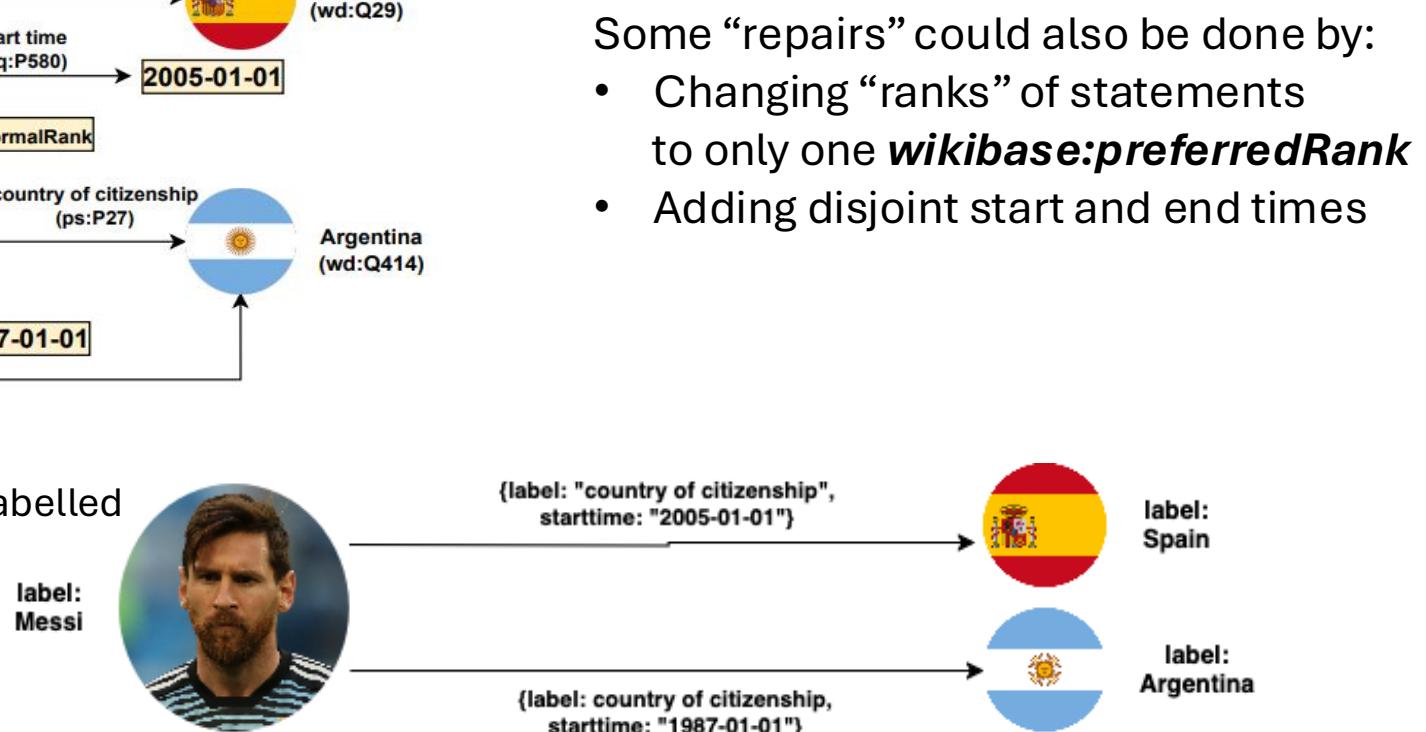
# Challenge 3: Property Graphs: Qualifiers and contextual information – add complexity to violation checking and repairs

*Example: contextual information in Wikidata instance data:*

- this is just an ugly “reified” form in RDF...



- ... of what people often call a Labelled Property Graph (LPG)\*:

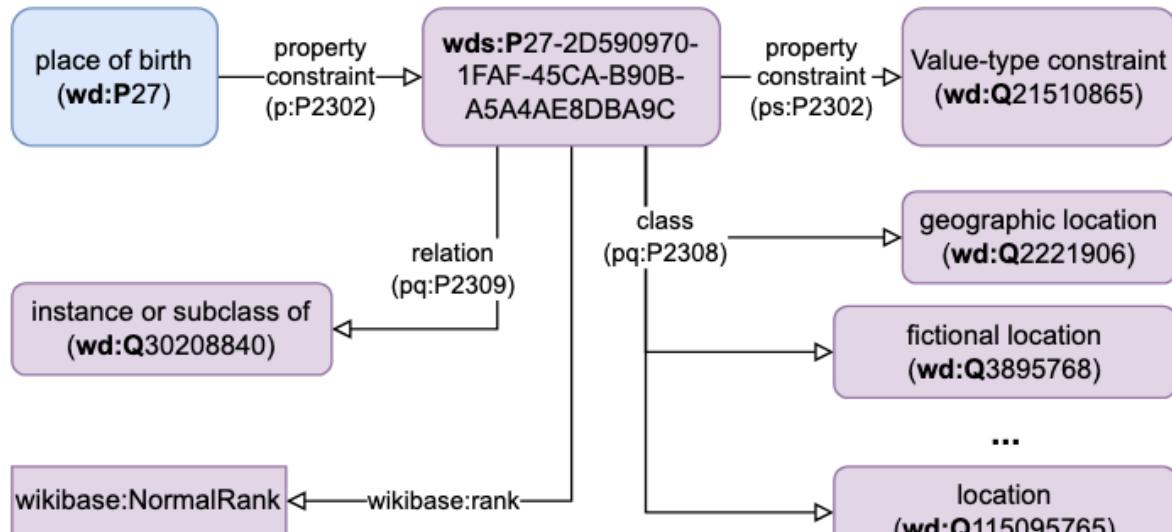


Some “repairs” could also be done by:

- Changing “ranks” of statements to only one **wikibase:preferredRank**
- Adding disjoint start and end times

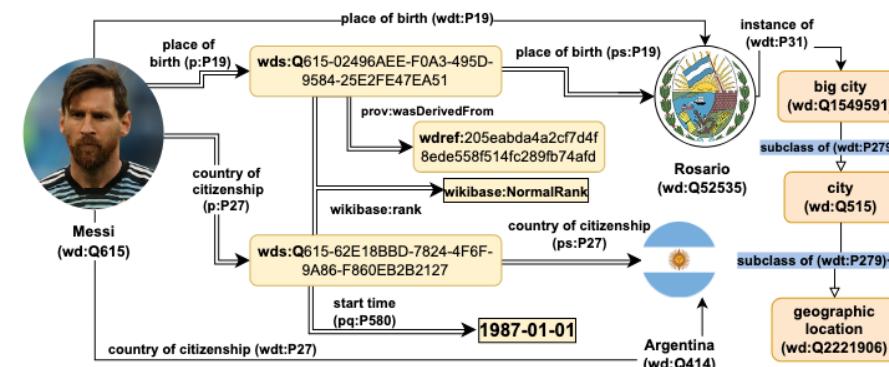
# Challenge 3: Property Graphs: Qualifiers and contextual information – add complexity to repairs

*Example: contextual information in Wikidata constraint definitions:*



Some “repairs” could also be done by:

- Adding “exceptions” to constraints
- Changing the subclassOf hierarchy!



# Challenge 4: How could “repairs” interact?

- Can a (constraint) repairs or changes cause new violations?
- Theoretically, yes!
- Does that happen? Yes!

## *Empirical Observation:*

- *the addition of the language of work or name (P407) qualifier to the existing Required-qualifier constraints for official website (P856) and described at URL (P973) properties after 2019 led to over 1.8 million new violations.*

# Summary:



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**Neural Knowledge Base Repairs**  
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- We will try to learn repairs from looking at historical repairs!
- ... Extending an existing approach to GNNs
- ... We have training data
- Time allowed: we can think about additional challenges, (such as constraint changes)

# Group Task:

- Understand the training data
- Try to implement a GNN that learns such repairs, e.g. start with something small, e.g.
  - conflicts with,
  - item-requires-statement,
  - type, Value-type,
  - (single-value) constraints
- Try to understand what it can (and can't?) learn
- ***Compare baseline approach to Tanon et al.***
- ***Think about how to tackle Challenges 1-4***