

## **Oracle® Database**

Semantic Technologies Developer's Guide

11g Release 1 (11.1)

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Provides usage and reference information about Oracle Database support for semantic technologies, including storage, inference, and query capabilities for data and ontologies based on Resource Description Framework (RDF), RDF Schema (RDFS), and Web Ontology Language (OWL).

Oracle Database Semantic Technologies Developer's Guide, 11g Release 1 (11.1)

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# Preface

*Oracle Database Semantic Technologies Developer's Guide* provides usage and reference information about Oracle Database support for semantic technologies, including storage, inference, and query capabilities for data and ontologies based on Resource Description Framework (RDF), RDF Schema (RDFS), and Web Ontology Language (OWL).

## Audience

This guide is intended for those who need to use semantic technology to store, manage, and query semantic data in the database.

You should be familiar with at least the main concepts and techniques for the Resource Description Framework (RDF) and the Web Ontology Language (OWL).

## Documentation Accessibility

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## Related Documents

For information about logical networks and the network data model, see *Oracle Spatial Topology and Network Data Models Developer's Guide*.

## Conventions

The following text conventions are used in this document:

Convention	Meaning
<b>boldface</b>	Boldface type indicates graphical user interface elements associated with an action, or terms defined in text or the glossary.
<i>italic</i>	Italic type indicates book titles, emphasis, or placeholder variables for which you supply particular values.
monospace	Monospace type indicates commands within a paragraph, URLs, code in examples, text that appears on the screen, or text that you enter.

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# What's New in Semantic Technologies?

For Oracle Database release 11.1, the focus of this manual expands to include Oracle Database semantic technologies, which include Resource Description Framework (RDF), which was supported in Release 10.2, and a subset of the Web Ontology Language (OWL), support for which is new in the current release.

In addition to expanded capabilities, some naming conventions associated with the API may change. For example, names that include "SDO\_RDF" may be changed for data types, function names, and PL/SQL package names. However, all applications created in the previous release using supported names for that release will continue to run.

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**Note:** These changes are only partially reflected in the content of this draft; however, the organization and the content of this draft will be periodically updated to reflect the new capabilities and names

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## Storage Model Enhancements and Migration

The storage model has been enhanced to support OWL inferencing: some internal data structures and indexes have been changed, added, and removed. These changes also result in enhanced performance.

Because of the extent of these changes, if you have semantic data that you used with the previous release, you must upgrade that data to migrate it to the new format before you can use any new features for this release. Semantic data is upgraded as part of the required procedure described in [Section 1.10](#).

## Support for OWL Inferencing

Support has been added to support storing, validating, and querying Web Ontology Language (OWL)-based ontologies. Support is provided for a subset of the OWL DL language.

To query ontology data, you can use table functions and operators that examine semantic relationships, such as SEM\_MATCH, SEM\_RELATED, and SEM\_DISTANCE.

## New Bulk Loading Interface for Improved Performance

You can improve performance for bulk loading of semantic data in bulk using a staging table and calling the [SEM\\_APIS.BULK\\_LOAD\\_FROM\\_STAGING\\_TABLE](#) procedure. For more information, see [Section 1.7.1](#).

## Ontology-Assisted Querying of Relational Data

You can go beyond syntactic matching to perform semantic relatedness-based querying of relational data, by associating an ontology with the data and using the new SEM\_RELATED operator (and optionally its SEM\_DISTANCE ancillary operator). The new SEM\_INDEXTYPE index type improves performance for semantic queries.

## Required Procedure for Using Semantic Technology Support

Before you can use any types, synonyms, or PL/SQL packages related to Oracle semantic technologies support, you must run the \$ORACLE\_HOME/md/admin/catsem10i.sql or \$ORACLE\_HOME/md/admin/catsem11i.sql script, as explained in [Section 1.10](#). This procedure installs Release 11.1 support for semantic technologies support, and it migrates any existing Release 10.2 RDF data to the Release 11.1 format.

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# Oracle Semantic Technologies Overview

This chapter describes the support for semantic technologies, specifically Resource Description Framework (RDF) and a subset of the Web Ontology Language (OWL). It assumes that you are familiar with the major concepts associated with RDF and OWL, such as {subject, predicate, object} triples, URIs, blank nodes, plain and typed literals, and ontologies. This chapter does not explain these concepts in detail, but focuses instead on how the concepts are implemented in Oracle.

- For an excellent explanation of RDF concepts, see the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) *RDF Primer* at <http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-primer/>.
- For information about OWL, see the *OWL Web Ontology Language Reference* at <http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-ref/>.

The PL/SQL subprograms for working with semantic data are in the SEM\_APIS package, which is documented in [Chapter 3](#).

This chapter contains the following major sections:

- [Section 1.1, "Introduction to Oracle Semantic Technologies"](#)
- [Section 1.2, "Semantic Data Modeling"](#)
- [Section 1.3, "Semantic Data in the Database"](#)
- [Section 1.4, "Semantic Metadata Tables and Views"](#)
- [Section 1.5, "Semantic Data Types, Constructors, and Methods"](#)
- [Section 1.6, "Using the SEM\\_MATCH Table Function to Query Semantic Data"](#)
- [Section 1.7, "Loading and Exporting Semantic Data"](#)
- [Section 1.8, "Quick Start for Using Semantic Data"](#)
- [Section 1.9, "Semantic Data Examples"](#)
- [Section 1.10, "Required Procedure for Semantic Technologies Support"](#)
- [Section 1.11, "Downgrading to the Previous Oracle Database Release"](#)
- [Section 1.12, "Software Naming Changes for Semantic Technologies"](#)

For information about OWL concepts and the Oracle Database support for OWL capabilities, see [Chapter 2](#).

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**Note:** Before performing any operations described in this guide, you must run the `$ORACLE_HOME/md/admin/catsem10i.sql` or `$ORACLE_HOME/md/admin/catsem11i.sql` script, as explained in [Section 1.10](#).

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**Note:** Effective with Oracle Database Release 11.1, the names of many software objects (PL/SQL packages, functions and procedures, system tables and views, and so on) have been changed. In most cases, the change involves replacing the string *RDF* with *SEM*. However, existing applications using valid names from a previous release will continue to work. For more information, see [Section 1.12](#).

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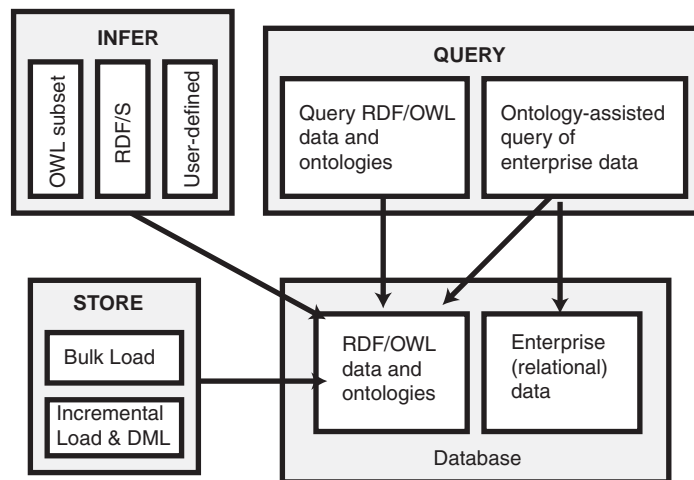


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## 1.1 Introduction to Oracle Semantic Technologies

Oracle Database enables you to store semantic data and ontologies, to query semantic data and to perform ontology-assisted query of enterprise relational data, and to use supplied or user-defined inferencing to expand the power of querying on semantic data. [Figure 1–1](#) shows how these capabilities interact.

**Figure 1–1 Oracle Semantic Capabilities**



As shown in [Figure 1–1](#), the database contains semantic data and ontologies (RDF/OWL models), as well as traditional relational data. To load semantic data, bulk loading is the most efficient approach, although you can load data incrementally using transactional INSERT statements.

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**Note:** If you want to use existing semantic data from a release before Oracle Database 11.1, the data must be upgraded as described in [Section 1.10](#).

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You can query semantic data and ontologies, and you can also perform ontology-assisted queries of semantic and traditional relational data to find semantic relationships. To perform ontology-assisted queries, use the SEM\_RELATED operator, which is described in [Section 2.3](#).

You can expand the power of queries on semantic data by using inferencing, which uses rules in rulebases. Inferencing enables you to make logical deductions based on the data and the rules. For information about using rules and rulebases for inferencing, see [Section 1.3.6](#).

## 1.2 Semantic Data Modeling

In addition to its formal semantics, semantic data has a simple data structure that is effectively modeled using a directed graph. The metadata statements are represented as triples: nodes are used to represent two parts of the triple, and the third part is represented by a directed link that describes the relationship between the nodes. The triples are stored in a semantic data network. In addition, information is maintained about specific semantic data models created by database users. A user-created **model** has a model name, and refers to triples stored in a specified table column.

Statements are expressed in triples: {subject or resource, predicate or property, object or value}. In this manual, {subject, property, object} is used to describe a triple, and the terms *statement* and *triple* may sometimes be used interchangeably. Each triple is a complete and unique fact about a specific domain, and can be represented by a link in a directed graph.

## 1.3 Semantic Data in the Database

There is one universe for all semantic data stored in the database. All triples are parsed and stored in the system as entries in tables under the MDSYS schema. A triple {subject, property, object} is treated as one database object. As a result, a single document containing multiple triples results in multiple database objects.

All the subjects and objects of triples are mapped to nodes in a semantic data network, and properties are mapped to network links that have their start node and end node as subject and object, respectively. The possible node types are blank nodes, URIs, plain literals, and typed literals.

The following requirements apply to the specifications of URIs and the storage of semantic data in the database:

- A subject must be a URI or a blank node.
- A property must be a URI.
- An object can be any type, such as a URI, a blank node, or a literal. (However, null values and null strings are not supported.)

### 1.3.1 Metadata for Models

The MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view contains information about all models defined in the database. When you create a model using the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_SEM\\_MODEL](#) procedure, you specify a name for the model, as well as a table and column to hold references to the semantic data, and the system automatically generates a model ID.

Oracle maintains the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view automatically when you create and drop models. Users should never modify this view directly. For example, do not use SQL INSERT, UPDATE, or DELETE statements with this view.

The MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view contains the columns shown in [Table 1-1](#).

**Table 1-1 MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ View Columns**

Column Name	Data Type	Description
OWNER	VARCHAR2(30)	Schema of the owner of the model.
MODEL_ID	NUMBER	Unique model ID number, automatically generated by Spatial.
MODEL_NAME	VARCHAR2(25)	Name of the model.

**Table 1–1 (Cont.) MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ View Columns**

Column Name	Data Type	Description
TABLE_NAME	VARCHAR2(30)	Name of the table to hold references to semantic data for the model.
COLUMN_NAME	VARCHAR2(30)	Name of the column of type SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S in the table to hold references to semantic data for the model.
MODEL_TABLESPACE_NAME	VARCHAR2(30)	Name of the tablespace to be used for storing the triples for this model.

When you create a model, a view for the triples associated with the model is also created under the MDSYS schema. This view has a name in the format `RDFM_model-name`, and it is visible only to the owner of the model and to users with suitable privileges. Each `MDSYS.SEMM_model-name` view contains a row for each triple (stored as a link in a network), and it has the columns shown in [Table 1–2](#).

**Table 1–2 MDSYS.SEMM\_model-name View Columns**

Column Name	Data Type	Description
P_VALUE_ID	NUMBER	The VALUE_ID for the text value of the predicate of the triple. Part of the primary key.
START_NODE_ID	NUMBER	The VALUE_ID for the text value of the subject of the triple. Also part of the primary key.
CANON_END_NODE_ID	NUMBER	The VALUE_ID for the text value of the canonical form of the object of the triple. Also part of the primary key.
END_NODE_ID	NUMBER	The VALUE_ID for the text value of the object of the triple
MODEL_ID	NUMBER	The ID for the RDF graph to which the triple belongs. It logically partitions the table by RDF graphs.
COST	NUMBER	(Reserved for future use)
CTXT1	NUMBER	(Reserved for future use)
CTXT2	VARCHAR2(4000)	(Reserved for future use)
DISTANCE	NUMBER	(Reserved for future use)
EXPLAIN	VARCHAR2(4000)	(Reserved for future use)
PATH	VARCHAR2(4000)	(Reserved for future use)
LINK_ID	VARCHAR2(71)	Unique triple identifier value. (It is currently a computed column, and its definition may change in a future release.)

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**Note:** In [Table 1–2](#), for columns P\_VALUE\_ID, START\_NODE\_ID, END\_NODE\_ID, and CANON\_END\_NODE\_ID, the actual ID values are computed from the corresponding lexical values. However, a lexical value may not always map to the same ID value.

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## 1.3.2 Statements

The `MDSYS.RDF_VALUE$` table contains information about the subjects, properties, and objects used to represent RDF statements. It uniquely stores the text values (URIs or literals) for these three pieces of information, using a separate row for each part of each triple.

Oracle maintains the `MDSYS.RDF_VALUE$` table automatically. Users should never modify this view directly. For example, do not use `SQL INSERT`, `UPDATE`, or `DELETE` statements with this view.

The `RDF_VALUE$` table contains the columns shown in [Table 1-3](#).

**Table 1-3** *MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ Table Columns*

Column Name	Data Type	Description
<code>VALUE_ID</code>	<code>NUMBER</code>	Unique value ID number, automatically generated by Spatial.
<code>VALUE_TYPE</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(10)</code>	The type of text information stored in the <code>VALUE_NAME</code> column. Possible values: <code>UR</code> for URI, <code>BN</code> for blank node, <code>PL</code> for plain literal, <code>PL@</code> for plain literal with a language tag, <code>PLL</code> for plain long literal, <code>PLL@</code> for plain long literal with a language tag, <code>TL</code> for typed literal, or <code>TLL</code> for typed long literal. A long literal is a literal with more than 4000 bytes.
<code>VNAME_PREFIX</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(4000)</code>	If the length of the lexical value is 4000 bytes or less, this column stores a prefix of a portion of the lexical value. The <a href="#">SEM_API.VALUE_NAME_PREFIX</a> function can be used for prefix computation. For example, the prefix for the portion of the lexical value <code>&lt;http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type&gt;</code> without the angle brackets is <code>http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#</code> .
<code>VNAME_SUFFIX</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(512)</code>	If the length of the lexical value is 4000 bytes or less, this column stores a suffix of a portion of the lexical value. The <a href="#">SEM_API.VALUE_NAME_SUFFIX</a> function can be used for suffix computation. For the lexical value mentioned in the description of the <code>VNAME_PREFIX</code> column, the suffix is <code>type</code> .
<code>LITERAL_TYPE</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(4000)</code>	For typed literals, the type information; otherwise, null. For example, for a row representing a creation date of <code>1999-08-16</code> , the <code>VALUE_TYPE</code> column can contain <code>TL</code> , and the <code>LITERAL_TYPE</code> column can contain <code>http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#date</code> .
<code>LANGUAGE_TYPE</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(80)</code>	Language tag (for example, <code>fr</code> for French) for a literal with a language tag (that is, if <code>VALUE_TYPE</code> is <code>PL@</code> or <code>PLL@</code> ). Otherwise, this column has a null value.
<code>CANON_ID</code>	<code>NUMBER</code>	The ID for the canonical lexical value for the current lexical value. (The use of this column may change in a future release.)
<code>COLLISION_EXT</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(64)</code>	Used for collision handling for the lexical value. (The use of this column may change in a future release.)
<code>CANON_COLLISION_EXT</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(64)</code>	Used for collision handling for the canonical lexical value. (The use of this column may change in a future release.)

**Table 1–3 (Cont.) MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ Table Columns**

Column Name	Data Type	Description
LONG_VALUE	CLOB	The character string if the length of the lexical value is greater than 4000 bytes. Otherwise, this column has a null value.
VALUE_NAME	VARCHAR2(4000)	This is a computed column. If length of the lexical value is 4000 bytes or less, the value of this column is the concatenation of the values of VNAME_PREFIX column and the VNAME_SUFFIX column.

### 1.3.2.1 Triple Uniqueness and Data Types for Literals

Duplicate triples are not stored in the database. To check if a triple is a duplicate of an existing triple, the subject, property, and object of the incoming triple are checked against triple values in the specified model. If the incoming subject, property, and object are all URIs, an exact match of their values determines a duplicate. However, if the object of incoming triple is a literal, an exact match of the subject and property, and a value (canonical) match of the object, determine a duplicate. For example, the following two triples are duplicates:

```
<eg:a> <eg:b> "123"^^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#int
<eg:a> <eg:b> "123"^^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#unsignedByte
```

The second triple is treated as a duplicate of the first, because "123"^^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#int has an equivalent value (is canonically equivalent) to "123"^^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#unsignedByte. Two entities are canonically equivalent if they can be reduced to the same value.

To use a non-RDF example,  $A * (B - C)$ ,  $A * B - C * A$ ,  $(B - C) * A$ , and  $-A * C + A * B$  all convert into the same canonical form.

Value-based matching of lexical forms is supported for the following data types:

- **STRING:** plain literal, xsd:string and some of its XML Schema subtypes
- **NUMERIC:** xsd:decimal and its XML Schema subtypes, xsd:float, and xsd:double. (Support is not provided for float/double INF, -INF, and NaN values.)
- **DATETIME:** xsd:datetime, with support for time zone. (Without time zone there are still multiple representations for a single value, for example, "2004-02-18T15:12:54" and "2004-02-18T15:12:54.0000".)
- **DATE:** xsd:date, with or without time zone
- **OTHER:** Everything else. (No attempt is made to match different representations).

Canonicalization is performed when the time zone is present for literals of type xsd:time and xsd:dateTime.

The following namespace definition is used:

```
xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
```

The first occurrence of a literal in the RDF\_VALUE\$ table is taken as the canonical form and given the VALUE\_TYPE value of CPL, CPL@, CTL, CPLL, CPLL@, or CTLL as appropriate; that is, a C for canonical is prefixed to the actual value type. If a literal with the same canonical form (but a different lexical representation) as a previously inserted literal is inserted into the RDF\_VALUE\$ table, the VALUE\_TYPE value assigned to the new insert is PL, PL@, TL, PLL, PLL@, or TLL as appropriate.

Canonically equivalent text values having different lexical representations are thus stored in the `RDF_VALUE$` table; however, canonically equivalent triples are not stored in the database.

### 1.3.3 Subjects and Objects

RDF subjects and objects are mapped to nodes in a semantic data network. Subject nodes are the start nodes of links, and object nodes are the end nodes of links. Non-literal nodes (that is, URIs and blank nodes) can be used as both subject and object nodes. Literals can be used only as object nodes.

### 1.3.4 Blank Nodes

Blank nodes can be used as subject and object nodes in the semantic network. Blank node identifiers are different from URIs in that they are scoped within a semantic model. Thus, although multiple occurrences of the same blank node identifier within a single semantic model necessarily refer to the same resource, occurrences of the same blank node identifier in two different semantic models do not refer to the same resource.

In an Oracle semantic network, this behavior is modeled by requiring that blank nodes are always reused (that is, are used to represent the same resource if the same blank node identifier is used) within a semantic model, and never reused between two different models. Thus, when inserting triples involving blank nodes into a model, you must use the `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` constructor that supports reuse of blank nodes.

### 1.3.5 Properties

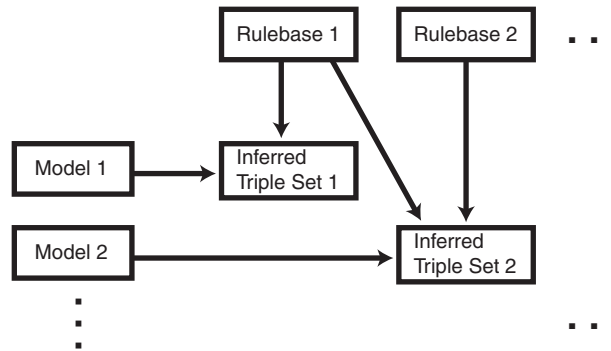
Properties are mapped to links that have their start node and end node as subjects and objects, respectively. Therefore, a link represents a complete triple.

When a triple is inserted into a model, the subject, property, and object text values are checked to see if they already exist in the database. If they already exist (due to previous statements in other models), no new entries are made; if they do not exist, three new rows are inserted into the `RDF_VALUE$` table (described in [Section 1.3.2](#)).

### 1.3.6 Inferencing: Rules and Rulebases

Inferencing is the ability to make logical deductions based on rules. Inferencing enables you to construct queries that perform semantic matching based on meaningful relationships among pieces of data, as opposed to just syntactic matching based on string or other values. Inferencing involves the use of rules, either supplied by Oracle or user-defined, placed in rulebases.

[Figure 1–2](#) shows triple sets being inferred from model data and the application of rules in one or more rulebases. In this illustration, the database can have any number of semantic models, rulebases, and inferred triple sets, and an inferred triple set can be derived using rules in one or more rulebases.

**Figure 1–2 Inferencing**

A **rule** is an object that can be applied to draw inferences from semantic data. A rule is identified by a name and consists of:

- An IF side pattern for the antecedents
- An optional filter condition that further restricts the subgraphs matched by the IF side pattern
- A THEN side pattern for the consequents

For example, the rule that *a chairperson of a conference is also a reviewer of the conference* could be represented as follows:

```

('chairpersonRule', -- rule name
 '(?r :ChairPersonOf ?c)', -- IF side pattern
 NULL, -- filter condition
 '(?r :ReviewerOf ?c)', -- THEN side pattern
 SEM_ALIASES (SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://some.org/test/'))
)

```

In this case, the rule does not have a filter condition, so that component of the representation is NULL. Note that a THEN side pattern with more than one triple can be used to infer multiple triples for each IF side match.

A **rulebase** is an object that contains rules. The following Oracle-supplied rulebases are provided:

- RDFS
- RDF (a subset of RDFS)
- OWLSIF (empty)
- RDFS++ (empty)
- OWLPRIME (empty)

The RDFS and RDF rulebases are created when you call the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_SEM\\_NETWORK](#) procedure to add RDF support to the database. The RDFS rulebase implements the RDFS entailment rules, as described in the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) *RDF Semantics* document at <http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-mt/>. The RDF rulebase represents the RDF entailment rules, which are a subset of the RDFS entailment rules. You can see the contents of these rulebases by examining the MDSYS.SEMR\_RDFS and MDSYS.SEMR\_RDF views.

You can also create user-defined rulebases using the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_RULEBASE](#) procedure. User-defined rulebases enable you to provide additional specialized inferencing capabilities.

For each rulebase, a system table is created to hold rules in the rulebase, along with a system view with a name in the format `MDSYS.SEMR_rulebase-name` (for example, `MDSYS.SEMR_FAMILY_RB` for a rulebase named `FAMILY_RB`). You must use this view to insert, delete, and modify rules in the rulebase. Each `MDSYS.SEMR_rulebase-name` view has the columns shown in [Table 1-4](#).

**Table 1-4 MDSYS.SEMR\_rulebase-name View Columns**

Column Name	Data Type	Description
<code>RULE_NAME</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(30)</code>	Name of the rule
<code>ANTECEDENTS</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(4000)</code>	IF side pattern for the antecedents
<code>FILTER</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(4000)</code>	Filter condition that further restricts the subgraphs matched by the IF side pattern. Null indicates no filter condition is to be applied
<code>CONSEQUENTS</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(4000)</code>	THEN side pattern for the consequents
<code>ALIASES</code>	<code>SEM_ALIASES</code>	One or more namespaces to be used. (The <code>SEM_ALIASES</code> data type is described in <a href="#">Section 1.6</a> .)

Information about all rulebases is maintained in the `MDSYS.SEM_RULEBASE_INFO` view, which has the columns shown in [Table 1-5](#) and one row for each rulebase.

**Table 1-5 MDSYS.SEM\_RULEBASE\_INFO View Columns**

Column Name	Data Type	Description
<code>OWNER</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(30)</code>	Owner of the rulebase
<code>RULEBASE_NAME</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(25)</code>	Name of the rulebase
<code>RULEBASE_VIEW_NAME</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(30)</code>	Name of the view that you must use for any SQL statements that insert, delete, or modify rules in the rulebase
<code>STATUS</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(30)</code>	Contains <code>VALID</code> if the rulebase is valid, <code>INPROGRESS</code> if the rulebase is being created, or <code>FAILED</code> if a system failure occurred during the creation of the rulebase.

[Example 1-1](#) creates a rulebase named `family_rb`, and then inserts a rule named `grandparent_rule` into the `family_rb` rulebase. This rule says that if a person is the parent of a child who is the parent of a child, that person is a grandparent of (that is, has the `grandParentOf` relationship with respect to) his or her child's child. It also specifies a namespace to be used. (This example is an excerpt from [Example 1-10](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

**Example 1-1 Inserting a Rule into a Rulebase**

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULEBASE('family_rb');

INSERT INTO mdsys.semr_family_rb VALUES(
  'grandparent_rule',
  '(?x :parentOf ?y) (?y :parentOf ?z)',
  NULL,
  '(?x :grandParentOf ?z)',
  SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/')));
```

You can specify one or more rulebases when calling the `SEM_MATCH` table function (described in [Section 1.6](#)), to control the behavior of queries against semantic data.

**Example 1–2** refers to the `family_rb` rulebase and to the `grandParentOf` relationship created in **Example 1–1**, to find all grandfathers (grandparents who are male) and their grandchildren. (This example is an excerpt from **Example 1–10** in **Section 1.9.2**.)

**Example 1–2 Using Rulebases for Inferencing**

```
-- Select all grandfathers and their grandchildren from the family model.
-- Use inferencing from both the RDFS and family_rb rulebases.
SELECT x, y
FROM TABLE(SEM_MATCH(
  '(?x :grandParentOf ?y) (?x rdf:type :Male)',
  SEM_Models('family'),
  SEM_Rulebases('RDFS', 'family_rb'),
  SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/')),
  null));
```

For information about support for native OWL inferencing, see **Section 2.2**.

### 1.3.7 Rules Indexes

A **rules index** is an object containing precomputed triples that can be inferred from applying a specified set of rulebases to a specified set of models. If an `SEM_MATCH` query refers to any rulebases, a rules index must exist for each rulebase-model combination in the query.

To create a rules index, use the `SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULES_INDEX` procedure. To drop (delete) a rules index, use the `SEM_APIS.DROP_RULES_INDEX` procedure.

When you create a rules index, a view for the triples associated with the rules index is also created under the `MDSYS` schema. This view has a name in the format `SEMI_rules-index-name`, and it is visible only to the owner of the rules index and to users with suitable privileges. Each `MDSYS.SEMI_rules-index-name` view contains a row for each triple (stored as a link in a network), and it has the same columns as the `SEMM_model-name` view, which is described in **Table 1–2** in **Section 1.3.1**.

Information about all rules indexes is maintained in the `MDSYS.SEM_RULES_INDEX_INFO` view, which has the columns shown in **Table 1–6** and one row for each rules index.

**Table 1–6 MDSYS.SEM\_RULES\_INDEX\_INFO View Columns**

Column Name	Data Type	Description
OWNER	VARCHAR2(30)	Owner of the rules index
INDEX_NAME	VARCHAR2(25)	Name of the rules index
INDEX_VIEW_NAME	VARCHAR2(30)	Name of the view that you must use for any SQL statements that insert, delete, or modify rules in the rules index
STATUS	VARCHAR2(30)	Contains <code>VALID</code> if the rules index is valid, <code>INVALID</code> if the rules index is not valid, <code>INCOMPLETE</code> if the rules index is incomplete (similar to <code>INVALID</code> but requiring less time to re-create), <code>INPROGRESS</code> if the rules index is being created, or <code>FAILED</code> if a system failure occurred during the creation of the rules index.
MODEL_COUNT	NUMBER	Number of models included in the rules index
RULEBASE_COUNT	NUMBER	Number of rulebases included in the rules index

Information about all database objects, such as models and rulebases, related to rules indexes is maintained in the `MDSYS.SEM_RULES_INDEX_DATASETS` view. This view has the columns shown in [Table 1-7](#) and one row for each unique combination of values of all the columns.

**Table 1-7 MDSYS.SEM\_RULES\_INDEX\_DATASETS View Columns**

Column Name	Data Type	Description
<code>INDEX_NAME</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(25)</code>	Name of the rules index
<code>DATA_TYPE</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(8)</code>	Type of data included in the rules index. Examples: <code>MODEL</code> and <code>RULEBASE</code>
<code>DATA_NAME</code>	<code>VARCHAR2(25)</code>	Name of the object of the type in the <code>DATA_TYPE</code> column

[Example 1-3](#) creates a rules index named `family_rb_rix_family`, using the `family` model and the `RDFS` and `family_rb` rulebases. (This example is an excerpt from [Example 1-10](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

**Example 1-3 Creating a Rules Index**

```
BEGIN
  SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULES_INDEX(
    'rdfs_rix_family',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    SEM_Rulebases('RDFS','family_rb'));
END;
/
```

### 1.3.8 Semantic Data Security Considerations

The following database security considerations apply to the use of semantic data:

- When a model or rules index is created, the owner gets the `SELECT` privilege with the `GRANT` option on the associated view. Users that have the `SELECT` privilege on these views can perform `SEM_MATCH` queries against the associated model or rules index.
- When a rulebase is created, the owner gets the `SELECT`, `INSERT`, `UPDATE`, and `DELETE` privileges on the rulebase, with the `GRANT` option. Users that have the `SELECT` privilege on a rulebase can create a rules index that includes the rulebase. The `INSERT`, `UPDATE`, and `DELETE` privileges control which users can modify the rulebase and how they can modify it.
- To perform data manipulation language (DML) operations on a model, a user must have DML privileges for the corresponding base table.
- The creator of the base table corresponding to a model can grant privileges to other users.
- To perform data manipulation language (DML) operations on a rulebase, a user must have the appropriate privileges on the corresponding database view.
- The creator of a model can grant `SELECT` privileges on the corresponding database view to other users.
- A user can query only those models for which that user has `SELECT` privileges to the corresponding database views.
- Only the creator of a model or a rulebase can drop it.

## 1.4 Semantic Metadata Tables and Views

Oracle Database maintains several tables and views in the MDSYS schema to hold metadata related to semantic data. (Some of these tables and views are created by the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_SEM\\_NETWORK](#) procedure, as explained in [Section 1.8](#), and some are created only as needed.) [Table 1–8](#) lists the tables and views in alphabetical order. (In addition, several tables and views are created for Oracle internal use, and these are accessible only by users with DBA privileges.)

**Table 1–8 Semantic Metadata Tables and Views**

Name	Contains Information About	Described In
SEM_MODEL\$	All models defined in the database	<a href="#">Section 1.3.1</a>
SEMM_ <i>model-name</i>	Triples in the specified model	<a href="#">Section 1.3.1</a>
SEM_RULEBASE_ INFO	Rulebases	<a href="#">Section 1.3.6</a>
SEM_RULES_INDEX_ DATASETS	Database objects used in rules indexes	<a href="#">Section 1.3.7</a>
SEM_RULES_INDEX_ INFO	Rules indexes	<a href="#">Section 1.3.7</a>
RDF_VALUE\$	Subjects, properties, and objects used to represent statements	<a href="#">Section 1.3.2</a>
SEMR_ <i>rulebase-name</i>	Rules in the specified rulebase	<a href="#">Section 1.3.6</a>
SEMI_ <i>rules-index-name</i>	Triples in the specified rules index	<a href="#">Section 1.3.7</a>

## 1.5 Semantic Data Types, Constructors, and Methods

The SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE object type represents semantic data in triple format, and the SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE\_S object type (the *\_S* for storage) stores persistent semantic data in the database. The SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE\_S type has references to the data, because the actual semantic data is stored only in the central RDF schema. This type has methods to retrieve the entire triple or part of the triple.

---

**Note:** Blank nodes are always reused within an RDF model and cannot be reused across models

---

The SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE type is used to display triples, whereas the SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE\_S type is used to store the triples in database tables.

The SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE object type has the following attributes:

```
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE (
  subject VARCHAR2(4000),
  property VARCHAR2(4000),
  object VARCHAR2(10000))
```

The SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE\_S object type has the following attributes:

```
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S (
  RDF_C_ID NUMBER, -- Canonical object value ID
  SEM_M_ID NUMBER, -- Model ID
  RDF_S_ID NUMBER, -- Subject value ID
  RDF_P_ID NUMBER, -- Property value ID
  RDF_O_ID NUMBER) -- Object value ID
```



The `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` type has the following methods that retrieve a triple or a part (subject, property, or object) of a triple:

```
GET_TRIPLE() RETURNS SDO_RDF_TRIPLE
GET_SUBJECT() RETURNS VARCHAR2
GET_PROPERTY() RETURNS VARCHAR2
GET_OBJECT() RETURNS CLOB
```

[Example 1–4](#) shows the `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` methods.

#### **Example 1–4 SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE\_S Methods**

```
SELECT a.triple.GET_TRIPLE() AS triple
   FROM articles_rdf_data a WHERE a.id = 1;

TRIPLE(SUBJECT, PROPERTY, OBJECT)
-----
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE('http://www.nature.com/nature/Article1', 'http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/title', 'All about XYZ')

SELECT a.triple.GET_SUBJECT() AS subject
   FROM articles_rdf_data a WHERE a.id = 1;

SUBJECT
-----
http://www.nature.com/nature/Article1

SELECT a.triple.GET_PROPERTY() AS property
   FROM articles_rdf_data a WHERE a.id = 1;

PROPERTY
-----
http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/title

SELECT a.triple.GET_OBJECT() AS object
   FROM articles_rdf_data a WHERE a.id = 1;

OBJECT
-----
All about XYZ
```

### 1.5.1 Constructors for Inserting Triples Without Any Blank Nodes

The following constructor formats are available for inserting triples into a model table. The only difference is that in the second format the data type for the object is `CLOB`, to accommodate very long literals.

```
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S (
  model_name VARCHAR2, -- Model name
  subject    VARCHAR2, -- Subject
  property   VARCHAR2, -- Property
  object     VARCHAR2) -- Object
RETURN      SELF;

SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S (
  model_name VARCHAR2, -- Model name
  subject    VARCHAR2, -- Subject
  property   VARCHAR2, -- Property
  object     CLOB) -- Object
```

```

RETURN SELF;

GET_OBJ_VALUE() RETURN VARCHAR2;

```

[Example 1–5](#) uses the first constructor format to insert a triple.

**Example 1–5 SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE\_S Constructor to Insert a Triple**

```

INSERT INTO articles_rdf_data VALUES (2,
  SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S ('articles', '<http://www.nature.com/nature/Article1>',
    '<http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/creator>',
    'Jane Smith'));

```

## 1.5.2 Constructors for Inserting Triples With or Without Any Blank Nodes

The following constructor formats are available for inserting triples referring to blank nodes into a model table. The only difference is that in the second format the data type for the fourth attribute is CLOB, to accommodate very long literals.

```

SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S (
  model_name VARCHAR2, -- Model name
  sub_or_bn  VARCHAR2, -- Subject or blank node
  property   VARCHAR2, -- Property
  obj_or_bn  VARCHAR2, -- Object or blank node
  bn_m_id    NUMBER) -- ID of the model from which to reuse the blank node
RETURN SELF;

SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S (
  model_name VARCHAR2, -- Model name
  sub_or_bn  VARCHAR2, -- Subject or blank node
  property   VARCHAR2, -- Property
  object     CLOB, -- Object
  bn_m_id    NUMBER) -- ID of the model from which to reuse the blank node
RETURN SELF;

```

If the value of `bn_m_id` is positive, it must be the same as the model ID of the target model.

[Example 1–6](#) uses the first constructor format to insert a triple that reuses a blank node for the subject.

**Example 1–6 SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE\_S Constructor to Reusing a Blank Node**

```

INSERT INTO nsu_data VALUES (SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S(
  'nsu',
  '_:BNSEQN1001A',
  '<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type>',
  '<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Seq>',
  4));

```

## 1.6 Using the SEM\_MATCH Table Function to Query Semantic Data

To query semantic data, use the SEM\_MATCH table function. This function has the following attributes:

```

SEM_MATCH(
  query VARCHAR2,
  models SEM_MODELS,
  rulebases SEM_RULEBASES,
  aliases SEM_ALIASES,

```

```

filter VARCHAR2,
index_status VARCHAR2
) RETURN ANYDATASET;

```

The `query` attribute is required. The other attributes are optional (that is, each can be a null value).

The `query` attribute is a string literal (or concatenation of string literals) with one or more triple patterns, usually containing variables. (The `query` attribute cannot be a bind variable or an expression involving a bind variable.) A triple pattern is a triple of atoms enclosed in parentheses. Each atom can be a variable (for example, `?x`), a qualified name (for example, `rdf:type`) that is expanded based on the default namespaces and the value of the `aliases` attribute, or a full URI (for example, `<http://www.example.org/family/Male>`). In addition, the third atom can be a numeric literal (for example, `3.14`), a plain literal (for example, `"Herman"`), a language-tagged plain literal (for example, `"Herman"@en`), or a typed literal (for example, `"123"^^xsd:int`).

For example, the following `query` attribute specifies three triple patterns to find grandfathers (that is, grandparents who are also male) and the height of each of their grandchildren:

```
'(?x :grandParentOf ?y) (?x rdf:type :Male) (?y :height ?h)'
```

The `models` attribute identifies the model or models to use. Its data type is `SEM_MODELS`, which has the following definition: `TABLE OF VARCHAR2(25)`

The `rulebases` attribute identifies one or more rulebases whose rules are to be applied to the query. Its data type is `SDO_RDF_RULEBASES`, which has the following definition: `TABLE OF VARCHAR2(25)`

The `aliases` attribute identifies one or more namespaces, in addition to the default namespaces, to be used for expansion of qualified names in the query pattern. Its data type is `SEM_ALIASES`, which has the following definition: `TABLE OF SEM_ALIAS`, where each `SEM_ALIAS` element identifies a namespace ID and namespace value. The `SEM_ALIAS` data type has the following definition: `(namespace_id VARCHAR2(30), namespace_val VARCHAR2(4000))`

The following default namespaces (`namespace_id` and `namespace_val` attributes) are used by the `SEM_MATCH` table function:

```

('rdf', 'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#')
('rdfs', 'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#')
('xsd', 'http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#')

```

You can override any of these defaults by specifying the `namespace_id` value and a different `namespace_val` value in the `aliases` attribute.

The `filter` attribute identifies any additional selection criteria. If this attribute is not null, it should be a string in the form of a `WHERE` clause without the `WHERE` keyword. For example: `'(h >= 6)'` to limit the result to cases where the height of the grandfather's grandchild is 6 or greater (using the example of triple patterns earlier in this section).

The `index_status` attribute lets you query semantic data even when the relevant rules index does not have a valid status. If this attribute is null, the query returns an error if the rules index does not have a valid status. If this attribute is not null, it must be the string `INCOMPLETE` or `INVALID`. For an explanation of query behavior with different `index_status` values, see [Section 1.6.1](#).

The SEM\_MATCH table function returns an object of type ANYDATASET, with elements that depend on the input variables. In the following explanations, *var* represents the name of a variable used in the query:

- For each variable *var* that may be a literal (that is, for each variable that appears only in the object position in the query pattern), the result elements have five attributes: *var*, *var*\$RDFVTYP, *var*\$RDFCLOB, *var*\$RDFLTYP, and *var*\$RDFLANG.
- For each variable *var* that cannot take a literal value, the result elements have two attributes: *var* and *var*\$RDFVTYP.

In both cases, *var* has the lexical value bound to the variable, *var*\$RDFVTYP indicates the type of value bound to the variable (URI, LIT [literal], or BLN [blank node]), *var*\$RDFCLOB has the lexical value bound to the variable if the value is a long literal, *var*\$RDFLTYP indicates the type of literal bound if a literal is bound, and *var*\$RDFLANG has the language tag of the bound literal if a literal with language tag is bound. *var*\$RDFCLOB is of type CLOB, while all other attributes are of type VARCHAR2.

**Example 1–7** selects all grandfathers (grandparents who are male) and their grandchildren from the family model, using inferencing from both the RDFS and family\_rb rulebases. (This example is an excerpt from [Example 1–10](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

#### **Example 1–7 SEM\_MATCH Table Function**

```
SELECT x, y
FROM TABLE (SEM_MATCH (
  '(?x :grandParentOf ?y) (?x rdf:type :Male)',
  SEM_Models('family'),
  SEM_Rulebases('RDFS', 'family_rb'),
  SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/')),
  null));
```

**Example 1–8** uses the Pathway/Genome BioPax ontology to get all chemical compound types that belong to both Proteins and Complexes:

#### **Example 1–8 SEM\_MATCH Table Function**

```
SELECT t.r
FROM TABLE (SEM_MATCH (
  '(?r rdfs:subClassOf Proteins)
  (?r rdfs:subClassOf Complexes)',
  RDFModels ('BioPax'),
  RDFRules ('rdfs'), NULL)) t;
```

As shown in [Example 1–8](#), the search pattern for the SEM\_MATCH table function is specified using SPARQL-like syntax where the variable starts with the question-mark character (?). In this example, the variable ?r must match to the same term, and thus it must be a subclass of both Proteins and Complexes.

To use the SEM\_RELATED operator to query an OWL ontology, see [Section 2.3](#).

### 1.6.1 Performing Queries with Incomplete or Invalid Rules Indexes

You can query semantic data even when the relevant rules index does not have a valid status if you specify the string value INCOMPLETE or INVALID for the index\_status attribute of the SEM\_MATCH table function. (The rules index status is stored in the STATUS column of the MDSYS.SEM\_RULES\_INDEX\_INFO view, which is described in [Section 1.3.7](#). The SEM\_MATCH table function is described in [Section 1.6](#).)

The `index_status` attribute value affects the query behavior as follows:

- If the rules index has a valid status, the query behavior is not affected by the value of the `index_status` attribute.
- If you provide no value or specify a null value for `index_status`, the query returns an error if the rules index does not have a valid status.
- If you specify the string `INCOMPLETE` for the `index_status` attribute, the query is performed if the status of the rules index is incomplete or valid.
- If you specify the string `INVALID` for the `index_status` attribute, the query is performed regardless of the actual status of the rules index (invalid, incomplete, or valid).

However, the following considerations apply if the status of the rules index is incomplete or invalid:

- If the status is incomplete, the content of a rules index may be approximate, because some triples that are inferable (due to the recent insertions into the underlying models) may not actually be present in the rules index, and therefore results returned by the query may be inaccurate.
- If the status is invalid, the content of the rules index may be approximate, because some triples that are no longer inferable (due to recent modifications to the underlying models or rulebases, or both) may still be present in the rules index, and this may affect the accuracy of the result returned by the query. In addition to possible presence of triples that are no longer inferable, some inferable rows may not actually be present in the rules index.

## 1.7 Loading and Exporting Semantic Data

To load semantic data into a model, use one or more of the following options:

- Bulk load using a SQL\*Loader direct-path load to get data from an N-Triple format into a staging table and then use a PL/SQL procedure to load or append data into the semantic data store, as explained in [Section 1.7.1](#).

This is the fastest option for loading large amounts of data; however, it cannot handle triples containing object values with more than 4000 bytes.

- Batch load using a Java client interface to load or append data from an N-Triple format file into the semantic data store (see [Section 1.7.2](#)).

This option is slower than bulk loading, but it handles triples containing object values with more than 4000 bytes.

- Load into tables using SQL `INSERT` statements that call the `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` constructor, as explained in [Section 1.7.3](#).

To export semantic data, use the Java API, as described in [Section 1.7.4](#).

### 1.7.1 Bulk Loading Semantic Data Using a Staging Table

You can load semantic data (and optionally associated non-semantic data) in bulk using a staging table. The data must first be parsed to check for syntax correctness and then loaded into the staging table. Then, you can call the [SEM\\_APIS.BULK\\_LOAD\\_FROM\\_STAGING\\_TABLE](#) procedure (described in [Chapter 3](#)).

The following example shows the format for the staging table, including all required columns and the required names for these columns:

```
CREATE TABLE stage_table (  
    RDF$STC_sub varchar2(4000) not null,  
    RDF$STC_pred varchar2(4000) not null,  
    RDF$STC_obj varchar2(4000) not null,  
    RDF$STC_sub_ext varchar2(64),  
    RDF$STC_pred_ext varchar2(64),  
    RDF$STC_obj_ext varchar2(64),  
    RDF$STC_canon_ext varchar2(64)  
);
```

If you also want to load non-semantic data, specify additional columns for the non-semantic data in the CREATE TABLE statement. The non-semantic column names must be different from the names of the required columns. The following example creates the staging table with two additional columns (SOURCE and ID) for non-semantic attributes.

```
CREATE TABLE stage_table_with_extra_cols (  
    source VARCHAR2(4000),  
    id NUMBER,  
    RDF$STC_sub varchar2(4000) not null,  
    RDF$STC_pred varchar2(4000) not null,  
    RDF$STC_obj varchar2(4000) not null,  
    RDF$STC_sub_ext varchar2(64),  
    RDF$STC_pred_ext varchar2(64),  
    RDF$STC_obj_ext varchar2(64),  
    RDF$STC_canon_ext varchar2(64)  
);
```

---

---

**Note:** For either form of the CREATE TABLE statement, you may want to add the COMPRESS clause to use table compression, which will reduce the disk space requirements and may improve bulk-load performance.

---

---

You must grant SELECT privilege and UPDATE privilege on the last four required columns (with names ending with `_collision_ext`) in the staging table to user MDSYS. You must also grant INSERT privilege on the application table to user MDSYS.

You can use the SQL\*Loader utility to parse and load semantic data into a staging table. (If you installed the demo files from the Oracle Database Examples media, a sample control file is available at `$ORACLE_HOME/md/demo/network/rd_f_demos/bulkload.ct1`. You can modify and use this file.)

Objects longer than 4000 bytes cannot be loaded. If you use the sample SQL\*Loader control file, triples (rows) containing such long values will be automatically rejected and stored in a SQL\*Loader "bad" file.

However, triples containing object values longer than 4000 bytes can be loaded using the following approach:

1. Use the [SEM\\_APIS.BULK\\_LOAD\\_FROM\\_STAGING\\_TABLE](#) procedure to load all rows that can be stored in the staging table.
2. Load the remaining rows (that is, the rejected rows when using SQL\*Loader with the sample control file) from an N-Triple format file, as described in [Section 1.7.2](#).

## 1.7.2 Batch Loading Semantic Data Using the Java API

You can perform a batch load operation using the Java class `oracle.spatial.rdf.client.BatchLoader`, which is packaged in `<ORACLE_HOME>/md/jlib/sdordf.jar`. Before performing a batch load operation, ensure that the following are true:

- The semantic data is in N-Triple format. (Several tools are available for converting RDF/XML to N-Triple format; see the Oracle Technology Network or perform a Web search for information about RDF/XML to N-Triple conversion.)
- Oracle Database Release 11, with Oracle Spatial, is installed.
- A semantic technologies network, an application table, and its corresponding semantic model have been created in the database.
- The CLASSPATH definition includes `ojdbc5.jar`.
- You are using JDK version 1.5 or later. (You can use the Java version packaged under `<ORACLE_HOME>/jdk/bin`.)

To run the `oracle.spatial.rdf.client.BatchLoader` class, use a command (on a single command line) in the following general form (replacing the sample example database connection information with your own connection information).

- Linux systems:

```
java -Ddb.user=scott -Ddb.password=password -Ddb.host=127.0.0.1 -Ddb.port=1522
-Ddb.sid=orcl -classpath ${ORACLE_HOME}/md/jlib/sdordf.jar:${ORACLE_
HOME}/jdbc/lib/ojdbc5.jar oracle.spatial.rdf.client.BatchLoader <N-TripleFile>
<tablename> <tablespaceName> <modelName>
```

- Windows systems:

```
java -Ddb.user=scott -Ddb.password=password -Ddb.host=127.0.0.1 -Ddb.port=1522
-Ddb.sid=orcl -classpath %ORACLE_HOME%\md\jlib\sdordf.jar;%ORACLE_
HOME%\jdbc\lib\ojdbc5.jar oracle.spatial.rdf.client.BatchLoader <N-TripleFile>
<tablename> <tablespaceName> <modelName>
```

By default, `BatchLoader` assumes there are at least two columns, a column named `ID` of type `NUMBER` and a column named `TRIPLE` of type `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S`, in the user's application table. However, you can override the default names by using the JVM properties `-DidColumn=<idColumnName>` and `-DtripleColumn=<tripleColumnName>`. Note that the `ID` column is not required; and to prevent `BatchLoader` from generating a sequence-like identifier in the `ID` column for each triple inserted, specify the JVM property `-DjustTriple=true`.

If the application table is not empty and if you want the batch loading to be done in append mode, specify an additional JVM property: `-Dappend=true`. Moreover, in append mode you might want to choose a different starting value for `ID` column in user's application table, and to accomplish this you can add the JVM property `-DstartID=<startingIntegerValue>` to the command line. By default, the `ID` column starts at 1 and is increased sequentially as new triples are inserted into the application table.

To skip the first  $n$  triples in `<N-TripleFile>`, add the JVM property `-Dskip=<numberOfTriplesSkipped>` to the command line.

To load an N-Triple file with a character set different from the default, specify the JVM property `-Dcharset=<charsetName>`. For example, `-Dcharset="UTF-8"` will recognize UTF-8 encoding. However, for UTF-8 characters to be stored properly in the

N-Triple file, the Oracle database must be configured to use a corresponding universal character set, such as AL32UTF8.

The `BatchLoader` class supports loading an N-Triple file in compressed format. If the `<N-TripleFile>` has a file extension of `.zip` or `.jar`, the file will be uncompressed and loaded at the same time.

### 1.7.2.1 When to Choose Batch Loading

Batch loading is faster than loading semantic data using INSERT statements (described in [Section 1.7.3](#)). However, bulk loading (described in [Section 1.7.1](#)) is much faster than batch loading for large amounts of data. Batch loading is typically a good option when the following conditions are true:

- The data to be loaded is less than a few million triples.
- The data contains a significant amount long literals (longer than 4000 bytes).

## 1.7.3 Loading Semantic Data Using INSERT Statements

To load semantic data using INSERT statements, the data should be encoded using `<` `>` (angle brackets) for URIs, `_:` (underscore colon) for blank nodes, and `" "` (quotation marks) for literals. Spaces are not allowed in URIs or blank nodes. Use the `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` constructor to insert the data, as described in [Section 1.5.1](#).

---

**Note:** If URIs are not encoded with `<` `>` and literals with `" "`, statements will still be processed. However, the statements will take longer to load, since they will have to be further processed to determine their `VALUE_TYPE` values.

---

The following example includes statements with URIs, a blank node (the `model_id` for `nsu` is 4), a literal, a literal with a language tag, and a typed literal:

```
INSERT INTO nsu_data VALUES (SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('nsu', '<http://www.nature.com/nsu/rss.rdf>',
  '<http://purl.org/rss/1.0/title>', '"Nature''s Science Update"'));
INSERT INTO nsu_data VALUES (SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('nsu', '_:BNSEQN1001A',
  '<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type>',
  '<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Seq>', 4));
INSERT INTO nsu_data VALUES (SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('nsu',
  '<http://www.nature.com/cgi-taf/dynapage.taf?file=/nature/journal/v428/n6978/index.html>',
  '<http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/language>', '"English"@en-GB'));
INSERT INTO nature VALUES (SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('nsu', '<http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/428004b>',
  '<http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/date>', '"2004-03-04"^^xsd:date'));
```

To convert semantic XML data to INSERT statements, you can edit the sample `rss2insert.xsl` XSLT file to convert all the features in the semantic data XML file. The blank node constructor is used to insert statements with blank nodes. After editing the XSLT, download the Xalan XSLT processor (<http://xml.apache.org/xalan>) and follow the installation instructions. To convert a semantic data XML file to INSERT statements using your edited version of the `rss2insert.xsl` file, use a command in the following format:

```
java org.apache.xalan.xslt.Process -in input.rdf -xsl rss2insert.xsl -out
output.nt
```



## 1.7.4 Exporting Semantic Data

To output semantic data to a file in N-Triple format, use the `NTripleConverter` Java class. The `NDM2NTriple(String, int)` method exports all the triples stored for the specified model.

For information about using the `NTripleConverter` class, see the `README.txt` file in the `sdordf_converter.zip` file, which you can download from the Oracle Technology Network.

## 1.8 Quick Start for Using Semantic Data

To work with semantic data in an Oracle database, follow these general steps:

1. Create a tablespace for the system tables. You must be connected as a user with appropriate privileges to create the tablespace. The following example creates a tablespace named `RDF_TBLSPACE`:

```
CREATE TABLESPACE rdf_tblspace
  DATAFILE '/oradata/orcl/rdf_tblspace.dat' SIZE 1024M REUSE
  AUTOEXTEND ON NEXT 256M MAXSIZE UNLIMITED
  SEGMENT SPACE MANAGEMENT AUTO;
```

2. Create a semantic data network.

Creating a semantic data network adds semantic data support to an Oracle database. You must create a semantic data network as a user with DBA privileges, specifying a valid tablespace with adequate space. Create the network only once for an Oracle database.

The following example creates a semantic data network using a tablespace named `RDF_TBLSPACE` (which must already exist):

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CREATE_SEM_NETWORK('rdf_tblspace');
```

3. Connect as the database user under whose schema you will store your semantic data; do not perform the following steps while connected as `SYS`, `SYSTEM`, or `MDSYS`.
4. Create a table to store references to the semantic data. (You do not need to be connected as a user with DBA privileges for this step and the remaining steps.)

This table must contain a column of type `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S`, which will contain references to all data associated with a single model.

The following example creates a table named `ARTICLES_RDF_DATA`:

```
CREATE TABLE articles_rdf_data (id NUMBER, triple SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S);
```

5. Create a model.

When you create a model, you specify the model name, the table to hold references to semantic data for the model, and the column of type `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` in that table.

The following command creates a model named `ARTICLES`, which will use the table created in the preceding step.

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CREATE_SEM_MODEL('articles', 'articles_rdf_data', 'triple');
```

6. Where possible, create Oracle database indexes on conditions that will be specified in the `WHERE` clause of `SELECT` statements, to provide better performance for direct queries against the application table's `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` column. (These

indexes are not relevant if the SEM\_MATCH table function is being used.) The following example creates such indexes:

```
-- Create indexes on the subjects, properties, and objects
-- in the FAMILY_RDF_DATA table.
CREATE INDEX family_sub_idx ON family_rdf_data (triple.GET_SUBJECT());
CREATE INDEX family_prop_idx ON family_rdf_data (triple.GET_PROPERTY());
CREATE INDEX family_obj_idx ON family_rdf_data (TO_CHAR(triple.GET_OBJECT()));
```

After you create the model, you can insert triples into the table, as shown in the examples in [Section 1.9](#).

## 1.9 Semantic Data Examples

This section contains the following PL/SQL examples:

- [Section 1.9.1, "Example: Journal Article Information"](#)
- [Section 1.9.2, "Example: Family Information"](#)

### 1.9.1 Example: Journal Article Information

This section presents a simplified PL/SQL example of model for statements about journal articles. [Example 1–9](#) contains descriptive comments, refer to concepts that are explained in this chapter, and uses functions and procedures documented in [Chapter 3](#).

#### **Example 1–9 Using a Model for Journal Article Information**

```
-- Basic steps:
-- After you have connected as a privileged user and called
-- SEM_APIS.CREATE_RDF_NETWORK to add RDF support,
-- connect as a regular database user and do the following.
-- 1. For each desired model, create a table to hold its data.
-- 2. For each model, create a model (SEM_APIS.CREATE_RDF_MODEL).
-- 3. For each table to hold semantic data, insert data into the table.
-- 4. Use various subprograms and constructors.

-- Create the table to hold data for the model.
CREATE TABLE articles_rdf_data (id NUMBER, triple SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S);

-- Create the model.
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CREATE_RDF_MODEL('articles', 'articles_rdf_data', 'triple');

-- Information to be stored about some fictitious articles:
-- Article1, titled "All about XYZ" and written by Jane Smith, refers
-- to Article2 and Article3.
-- Article2, titled "A review of ABC" and written by Joe Bloggs,
-- refers to Article3.
-- Seven SQL statements to store the information. In each statement:
-- Each article is referred to by its complete URI The URIs in
-- this example are fictitious, although they are in the general
-- domain of the journal Nature (http://www.nature.com/nature/).
-- Each property is referred to by the URL for its definition, as
-- created by the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative.

-- Insert rows into the table.

-- Article1 has the title "All about XYZ".
INSERT INTO articles_rdf_data VALUES (1,
```

```

SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S ('articles', 'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article1',
  'http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/title', 'All about XYZ'));

-- Article1 was created (written) by Jane Smith.
INSERT INTO articles_rdf_data VALUES (2,
  SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S ('articles', 'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article1',
    'http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/creator',
    'Jane Smith'));

-- Article1 references (refers to) Article2.
INSERT INTO articles_rdf_data VALUES (3,
  SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S ('articles',
    'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article1',
    'http://purl.org/dc/terms/references',
    'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article2'));

-- Article1 references (refers to) Article3.
INSERT INTO articles_rdf_data VALUES (4,
  SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S ('articles',
    'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article1',
    'http://purl.org/dc/terms/references',
    'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article3'));

-- Article2 has the title "A review of ABC".
INSERT INTO articles_rdf_data VALUES (5,
  SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S ('articles',
    'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article2',
    'http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/title',
    'A review of ABC'));

-- Article2 was created (written) by Joe Bloggs.
INSERT INTO articles_rdf_data VALUES (6,
  SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S ('articles',
    'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article2',
    'http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/creator',
    'Joe Bloggs'));

-- Article2 references (refers to) Article3.
INSERT INTO articles_rdf_data VALUES (7,
  SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S ('articles',
    'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article2',
    'http://purl.org/dc/terms/references',
    'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article3'));

COMMIT;

-- Query semantic data.

SELECT SEM_APIS.GET_MODEL_ID('articles') AS model_id FROM DUAL;

SELECT SEM_APIS.GET_TRIPLE_ID(
  'articles',
  'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article2',
  'http://purl.org/dc/terms/references',
  'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article3') AS RDF_triple_id FROM DUAL;

SELECT SEM_APIS.IS_TRIPLE(
  'articles',
  'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article2',
  'http://purl.org/dc/terms/references',

```

```

'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article3') AS is_triple FROM DUAL;

-- Use SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S member functions in queries.

SELECT a.triple.GET_TRIPLE() AS triple
  FROM articles_rdf_data a WHERE a.id = 1;
SELECT a.triple.GET_SUBJECT() AS subject
  FROM articles_rdf_data a WHERE a.id = 1;
SELECT a.triple.GET_PROPERTY() AS property
  FROM articles_rdf_data a WHERE a.id = 1;
SELECT a.triple.GET_OBJECT() AS object
  FROM articles_rdf_data a WHERE a.id = 1;

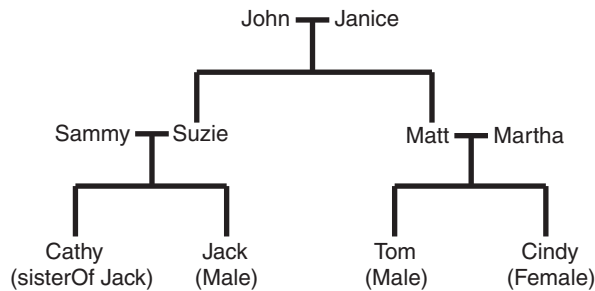
```

## 1.9.2 Example: Family Information

This section presents a simplified PL/SQL example of a model for statements about family tree (genealogy) information. [Example 1–9](#) contains descriptive comments, refer to concepts that are explained in this chapter, and uses functions and procedures documented in [Chapter 3](#).

The family relationships in this example reflect the family tree shown in [Figure 1–3](#). This figure also shows some of the information directly stated in the example: Cathy is the sister of Jack, Jack and Tom are male, and Cindy is female.

**Figure 1–3 Family Tree for RDF Example**



### **Example 1–10 Using a Model for Family Information**

```

-- Basic steps:
-- After you have connected as a privileged user and called
-- SEM_APIS.CREATE_RDF_NETWORK to enable RDF support,
-- connect as a regular database user and do the following.
-- 1. For each desired model, create a table to hold its data.
-- 2. For each model, create a model (SEM_APIS.CREATE_RDF_MODEL).
-- 3. For each table to hold semantic data, insert data into the table.
-- 4. Use various subprograms and constructors.

-- Create the table to hold data for the model.
CREATE TABLE family_rdf_data (id NUMBER, triple SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S);

-- Create the model.
execute SEM_APIS.create_rdf_model('family', 'family_rdf_data', 'triple');

-- Insert rows into the table. These express the following information:
-----
-- John and Janice have two children, Suzie and Matt.
-- Matt married Martha, and they have two children:
-- Tom (male, height 5.75) and Cindy (female, height 06.00).

```

```
-- Suzie married Sammy, and they have two children:
--   Cathy (height 5.8) and Jack (male, height 6).

-- Person is a class that has two subclasses: Male and Female.
-- parentOf is a property that has two subproperties: fatherOf and motherOf.
-- siblingOf is a property that has two subproperties: brotherOf and sisterOf.
-- The domain of the fatherOf and brotherOf properties is Male.
-- The domain of the motherOf and sisterOf properties is Female.
-----

-- John is the father of Suzie.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (1,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/John',
'http://www.example.org/family/fatherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Suzie'));

-- John is the father of Matt.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (2,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/John',
'http://www.example.org/family/fatherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Matt'));

-- Janice is the mother of Suzie.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (3,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Janice',
'http://www.example.org/family/motherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Suzie'));

-- Janice is the mother of Matt.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (4,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Janice',
'http://www.example.org/family/motherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Matt'));

-- Sammy is the father of Cathy.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (5,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Sammy',
'http://www.example.org/family/fatherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Cathy'));

-- Sammy is the father of Jack.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (6,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Sammy',
'http://www.example.org/family/fatherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Jack'));

-- Suzie is the mother of Cathy.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (7,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Suzie',
'http://www.example.org/family/motherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Cathy'));

-- Suzie is the mother of Jack.
```

```
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (8,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Suzie',
'http://www.example.org/family/motherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Jack'));

-- Matt is the father of Tom.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (9,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Matt',
'http://www.example.org/family/fatherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Tom'));

-- Matt is the father of Cindy
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (10,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Matt',
'http://www.example.org/family/fatherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Cindy'));

-- Martha is the mother of Tom.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (11,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Martha',
'http://www.example.org/family/motherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Tom'));

-- Martha is the mother of Cindy.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (12,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Martha',
'http://www.example.org/family/motherOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Cindy'));

-- Cathy is the sister of Jack.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (13,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Cathy',
'http://www.example.org/family/sisterOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Jack'));

-- Jack is male.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (14,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Jack',
'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type',
'http://www.example.org/family/Male'));

-- Tom is male.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (15,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Tom',
'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type',
'http://www.example.org/family/Male'));

-- Cindy is female.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (16,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Cindy',
'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type',
```

```
'http://www.example.org/family/Female'));

-- Person is a class.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (17,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Person',
'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#Class'));

-- Male is a subclass of Person.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (18,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Male',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Person'));

-- Female is a subclass of Person.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (19,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Female',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/Person'));

-- siblingOf is a property.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (20,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/siblingOf',
'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type',
'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Property'));

-- parentOf is a property.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (21,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/parentOf',
'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type',
'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Property'));

-- brotherOf is a subproperty of siblingOf.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (22,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/brotherOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subPropertyOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/siblingOf'));

-- sisterOf is a subproperty of siblingOf.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (23,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/sisterOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subPropertyOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/siblingOf'));

-- A brother is male.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (24,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/brotherOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#domain',
'http://www.example.org/family/Male'));

-- A sister is female.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (25,
```

```
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/sisterOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#domain',
'http://www.example.org/family/Female'));

-- fatherOf is a subproperty of parentOf.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (26,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/fatherOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subPropertyOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/parentOf'));

-- motherOf is a subproperty of parentOf.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (27,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/motherOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subPropertyOf',
'http://www.example.org/family/parentOf'));

-- A father is male.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (28,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/fatherOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#domain',
'http://www.example.org/family/Male'));

-- A mother is female.
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (29,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/motherOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#domain',
'http://www.example.org/family/Female'));

-- Use SET ESCAPE OFF to prevent the caret (^) from being
-- interpreted as an escape character. Two carets (^) are
-- used to represent typed literals.
SET ESCAPE OFF;

-- Cathy's height is 5.8 (decimal).
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (30,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Cathy',
'http://www.example.org/family/height',
'"5.8"^^xsd:decimal'));

-- Jack's height is 6 (integer).
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (31,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Jack',
'http://www.example.org/family/height',
'"6"^^xsd:integer'));

-- Tom's height is 05.75 (decimal).
INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (32,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Tom',
'http://www.example.org/family/height',
'"05.75"^^xsd:decimal'));

-- Cindy's height is 06.00 (decimal).
```



```

INSERT INTO family_rdf_data VALUES (33,
SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S('family',
'http://www.example.org/family/Cindy',
'http://www.example.org/family/height',
"06.00"^^xsd:decimal));

COMMIT;

-- RDFS inferencing in the family model
BEGIN
  SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULES_INDEX(
    'rdfs_rix_family',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    SEM_Rulebases('RDFS'));
END;
/

-- Select all males from the family model, without inferencing.
SELECT m
  FROM TABLE(SEM_MATCH(
    '(?m rdf:type :Male)',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    null,
    SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/'),
    null));

-- Select all males from the family model, with RDFS inferencing.
SELECT m
  FROM TABLE(SEM_MATCH(
    '(?m rdf:type :Male)',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    SDO_RDF_Rulebases('RDFS'),
    SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/'),
    null));

-- General inferencing in the family model

EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULEBASE('family_rb');

INSERT INTO mdsys.sem_r_family_rb VALUES(
  'grandparent_rule',
  '(?x :parentOf ?y) (?y :parentOf ?z)',
  NULL,
  '(?x :grandParentOf ?z)',
  SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/')));

COMMIT;

-- Because a new rulebase has been created, and it will be used in the
-- rules index, drop the preceding rules index and then re-create it.
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.DROP_RULES_INDEX ('rdfs_rix_family');

-- Re-create the rules index.
BEGIN
  SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULES_INDEX(
    'rdfs_rix_family',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    SEM_Rulebases('RDFS', 'family_rb'));
END;
/

```

```

-- Select all grandfathers and their grandchildren from the family model,
-- without inferencing. (With no inferencing, no results are returned.)
SELECT x grandfather, y grandchild
  FROM TABLE(SEM_MATCH(
    '?x :grandParentOf ?y' (?x rdf:type :Male)',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    null,
    SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/')),
    null));

-- Select all grandfathers and their grandchildren from the family model.
-- Use inferencing from both the RDFS and family_rb rulebases.
SELECT x grandfather, y grandchild
  FROM TABLE(SEM_MATCH(
    '?x :grandParentOf ?y' (?x rdf:type :Male)',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    SEM_Rulebases('RDFS', 'family_rb'),
    SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/')),
    null));

-- Set up to find grandfathers of tall (>= 6) grandchildren
-- from the family model, with RDFS inferencing and
-- inferencing using the "family_rb" rulebase.

UPDATE mdsys.semr_family_rb SET
  antecedents = '?x :parentOf ?y' (?y :parentOf ?z) (?z :height ?h)',
  filter = '(h >= 6)',
  aliases = SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/'))
WHERE rule_name = 'GRANDPARENT_RULE';

-- Because the rulebase has been updated, drop the preceding rules index,
-- and then re-create it.
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.DROP_RULES_INDEX ('rdfs_rix_family');

-- Re-create the rules index.
BEGIN
  SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULES_INDEX(
    'rdfs_rix_family',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    SEM_Rulebases('RDFS', 'family_rb'));
END;
/

-- Find the rules index that was just created (that is, the
-- one based on the specified model and rulebases).
SELECT SEM_APIS.LOOKUP_RULES_INDEX(SEM_MODELS('family'),
  SEM_RULEBASES('RDFS', 'family_rb')) AS lookup_rules_index FROM DUAL;

-- Select grandfathers of tall (>= 6) grandchildren, and their
-- tall grandchildren.
SELECT x grandfather, y grandchild
  FROM TABLE(SEM_MATCH(
    '?x :grandParentOf ?y' (?x rdf:type :Male)',
    SEM_Models('family'),
    SEM_Rulebases('RDFS', 'family_rb'),
    SEM_ALIASES(SEM_ALIAS('', 'http://www.example.org/family/')),
    null));

```

## 1.10 Required Procedure for Semantic Technologies Support

Before you can use any types, synonyms, or PL/SQL packages related to Oracle semantic technologies support, you must connect to the database as a user with DBA privileges, start SQL\*Plus, and execute one of the following scripts, depending on your needs:

- Upgrade with data migration: `$ORACLE_HOME/md/admin/catsem10i.sql`
- New installation: `$ORACLE_HOME/md/admin/catsem11i.sql`

---

**Note:** If you are upgrading from Oracle Database Release 10.2 and have any Release 10.2 RDF data, and if you do *not* want the RDF data to be migrated, you must do the following *before* running the `catsem10i.sql` script:

- Drop the RDF network.
  - Drop all columns of types `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` and `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE` in user tables.
- 

The `catsem10i.sql` script is comprehensive and handles both installation and (if necessary) any RDF data migration from Release 10.2 to Release 11 format. This script is required if you have an existing Release 10.2 RDF network; however, it may take a long time to run if the existing Release 10.2 RDF network contains large amount of RDF data.

The `catsem11i.sql` script is sufficient if you have a new Release 11.1 installation or if you are upgrading from Release 10.2 but do not have any existing RDF network and any columns of types `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` or `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE` in user tables.

If a Release 10.2 RDF network exists or if dependencies exist on the Release 10.2 RDF types `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S` or `SDO_RDF_TRIPLE`, the `catsem11i.sql` script will exit with an error. In that case, you can continue using Release 10.2 RDF support and run the `catsem10i.sql` script later, when you are ready to upgrade.

## 1.11 Downgrading to the Previous Oracle Database Release

If you need to downgrade to Oracle Database Release 10.2, and if you used Oracle Database Release 11 RDF or OWL features and want to preserve existing semantic data and rulebases, you must execute a statement to prepare for the downgrade, perform the downgrade, and execute another statement to restore the semantic data.

However, the following considerations apply:

- Entailed graph data will not be preserved, because the same information can be regenerated using the Oracle Database Release 10.2 RDF inference API.
- No rulebases or rules indexes related to OWL are preserved, because Oracle Database Release 10.2 did not support the OWL vocabulary.

Perform the following steps:

1. Before the database downgrade, connect to the Release 11 database as the SYS user with SYSDBA privileges (`SYS AS SYSDBA`, and enter the SYS account password when prompted).
2. Start SQL\*Plus and enter the following statement:

```
EXECUTE SDO_SEM_DOWNGRADE.PREPARE_DOWNGRADE_FROM_11;
```

When this statement executes successfully, all existing semantic data and rulebases are saved. You will restore the semantic data after the database downgrade.

3. Perform the database downgrade.
4. Download the following file from the Semantic Technologies page of the Oracle Technology Network site: `sdosem.dgu.plb`
5. If (and only if) your Oracle Database Release 10.2 release number is 10.2.0.1, click the Software link, and download and install the RDF-specific patch. (This patch is needed because Release 10.2.0.1 did not have the batch loading feature, which is used to restore the semantic data.)
6. Connect to the Release 10.2 database as the SYS user with SYSDBA privileges.
7. Start SQL\*Plus and enter a statement in the following statement:

```
EXECUTE SDO_SEM_DOWNGRADE_UTL.PREPARE_DOWNGRADE_TO_102('<tablespace-name>');
```

Where *<tablespace-name>* is the name of the tablespace in which the RDF network will be created.

When this statement executes successfully, all semantic data that had been saved before the downgrade is restored and ready to use.

## 1.12 Software Naming Changes for Semantic Technologies

Because the support for semantic data has been expanded beyond the original focus on RDF, the names of many software objects (PL/SQL packages, functions and procedures, system tables and views, and so on) have been changed as of Oracle Database Release 11.1. In most cases, the change is to replace the string *RDF* with *SEM*, although in some cases it may be to replace *SDO\_RDF* with *SEM*.

*All valid code that used the pre-Release 11.1 names will continue to work; your existing applications will not be broken.* However, it is suggested that you change old applications to use new object names, and you should use the new names for any new applications. This manual will document only the new names.

Table 1–9 lists the old and new names for some objects related to support for semantic technologies, in alphabetical order by old name.

**Table 1–9 Semantic Technology Software Objects: Old and New Names**

Old Name	New Name
RDF_ALIAS data type	SEM_ALIAS
RDF_MODEL\$ view	SEM_MODEL\$
RDF_RULEBASE_INFO view	SEM_RULEBASE_INFO
RDF_RULES_INDEX_DATASETS view	SEM_RULES_INDEX_DATASETS
RDF_RULES_INDEX_INFO view	SEM_RULES_INDEX_INFO
RDFI_rules-index-name view	SEMI_rules-index-name
RDFM_model-name view	SEMM_model-name
RDFR_rulebase-name view	SEMR_rulebase-name
SDO_RDF package	SEM_APIS
SDO_RDF_INFERENCE package	SEM_APIS
SDO_RDF_MATCH table function	SEM_MATCH

**Table 1–9 (Cont.) Semantic Technology Software Objects: Old and New Names**

<b>Old Name</b>	<b>New Name</b>
SDO_RDF_MODELS data type	SEM_MODELS
SDO_RDF_RULEBASES data type	SEM_RULEBASES



---

---

# OWL Concepts

This chapter describes concepts related to the support for a subset of the Web Ontology Language (OWL). It builds on the information in [Chapter 1](#), and it assumes that you are familiar with the major concepts associated with OWL, such as ontologies, properties, and relationships. For detailed information about OWL, see the *OWL Web Ontology Language Reference* at <http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-ref/>.

## 2.1 Ontologies

An **ontology** is a shared conceptualization of knowledge in a particular domain. It consists of a collection of classes, properties, and optionally instances. Classes are typically related by class hierarchy (subclass/ superclass relationship). Similarly, the properties can be related by property hierarchy (subproperty/ superproperty relationship). Properties can be symmetric or transitive, or both. Properties can also have domain, ranges, and cardinality constraints specified for them.

RDFS-based ontologies only allow specification of class hierarchies, property hierarchies, `instanceOf` relationships, and a domain and a range for properties.

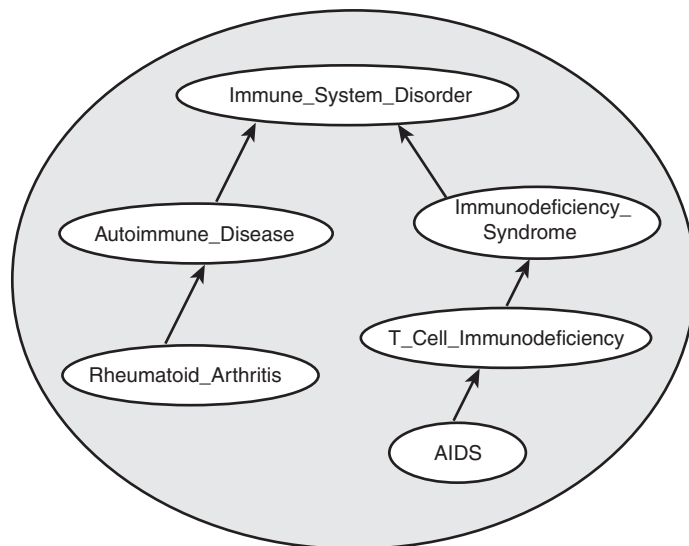
OWL ontologies build on RDFS-based ontologies by additionally allowing specification of property characteristics. OWL ontologies can be further classified as OWL-Lite, OWL-DL, and OWL Full. OWL-Lite restricts the cardinality minimum and maximum values to 0 or 1. OWL-DL relaxes this restriction by allowing arbitrary values for minimum and maximum values. OWL Full allows instances to be also defined as a class, which is not allowed in OWL-DL and OWL-Lite ontologies.

[Section 2.1.2](#) describes OWL capabilities that are supported and not supported with semantic data.

### 2.1.1 Example: Cancer Ontology

[Figure 2-1](#) shows part of a cancer ontology, which describes the classes and properties related to cancer. One requirement is to have a PATIENTS data table with a column named DIAGNOSIS, which must contain a value from the `Diseases_and_Disorders` class hierarchy.

**Figure 2–1 Cancer Ontology Example**



In the cancer ontology shown in [Figure 2–1](#), the diagnosis `Immune_System_Disorder` includes two subclasses, `Autoimmune_Disease` and `Immunodeficiency_Syndrome`. The `Autoimmune_Disease` diagnosis includes the subclass `Rheumatoid_Arthritis`; and the `Immunodeficiency_Syndrome` diagnosis includes the subclass `T_Cell_Immunodeficiency`, which includes the subclass `AIDS`.

The data in the PATIENTS table might include the PATIENT\_ID and DIAGNOSIS column values shown in [Table 2–1](#).

**Table 2–1 PATIENTS Table Example Data**

PATIENT_ID	DIAGNOSIS
1234	Rheumatoid_Arthritis
2345	Immunodeficiency_Syndrome
3456	AIDS

To query ontologies, you can use the SEM\_MATCH table function (described in [Section 1.6](#)) or the SEM\_RELATED operator and its ancillary operators (described in [Section 2.3](#)).

### 2.1.2 Supported OWL Subsets

This section describes OWL vocabulary subsets that are supported.

Oracle Database supports the RDFS++, OWLSIF, and OWLPrime vocabularies, which have increasing expressivity. Each supported vocabulary has a corresponding rulebase; however, these rulebases do not need to be populated because the underlying entailment rules of these three vocabularies are internally implemented. The supported vocabularies are as follows:

- RDFS++: A minimal extension to RDFS; which is RDFS plus `owl:sameAs` and `owl:InverseFunctionalProperty`.
- OWLSIF: OWL with IF Semantic, with the vocabulary and semantics proposed for pD\* semantics in *Completeness, decidability and complexity of entailment for RDF*



*Schema and a semantic extension involving the OWL vocabulary*, by H.J. Horst, Journal of Web Semantics 3, 2 (2005), 79–115.

- OWLPrime: The following OWL capabilities:
  - Basics: class, subclass, property, subproperty, domain, range, type
  - Property characteristics: transitive, symmetric, functional, inverse functional, inverse
  - Class comparisons: equivalence, disjointness
  - Property comparisons: equivalence
  - Individual comparisons: same, different
  - Class expressions: complement
  - Property restrictions: `hasValue`, `someValuesFrom`, `allValuesFrom`  
As with `pD*`, the supported semantics for these value restrictions are only intensional (IF semantics).

The following OWL capabilities are not yet supported in any Oracle-supported OWL subset:

- Property restrictions: cardinality
- Class expressions: set operations (union, intersection), enumeration

## 2.2 Using OWL Inferencing

You can use entailment rules to perform native OWL inferencing. This section creates a simple ontology, performs native inferencing, and illustrates some more advanced features.

### 2.2.1 Creating a Simple OWL Ontology

[Example 2–1](#) creates a simple OWL ontology, inserts one statement that two URIs refer to the same entity, and performs a query using the `SEM_MATCH` table function

#### **Example 2–1** *Creating a Simple OWL Ontology*

```
SQL> CREATE TABLE owlst(id number, triple sdo_rdf_triple_s);
Table created.

SQL> EXECUTE sem_apis.create_sem_model('owlst','owlst','triple');
PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

SQL> INSERT INTO owlst VALUES (1, sdo_rdf_triple_s('owlst',
           'http://foo.com/name/John', 'http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#sameAs',
           'http://foo.com/name/JohnQ'));
1 row created.

SQL> commit;

SQL> -- Use SEM_MATCH to perform a simple query.
SQL> select s,p,o from table(SEM_MATCH('(s ?p ?o)', SEM_Models('OWLST'),
           null, null, null ));
```

## 2.2.2 Performing Native OWL inferencing

[Example 2-2](#) calls the `SEM_APIS.CREATE_ENTAILMENT` procedure. You do not need to create the rulebase and add rules to it, because the OWL rules are already built into the Oracle semantic technologies inferencing engine.

### **Example 2-2 Performing Native OWL Inferencing**

```
SQL> -- Invoke the following command to run native OWL inferencing that
SQL> -- understands the vocabulary defined in the preceding section.
SQL>
SQL> EXECUTE sem_apis.create_entailment('owlstst_idx', sem_models('owlstst'), sem_
rulebases('OWLPRIME'));
PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

SQL> -- The following view is generated to represent the entailed graph (rules
index).
SQL> desc mdsys.semi_owlstst_idx;

SQL> -- Run the preceding query with an additional rulebase parameter to list
SQL> -- the original graph plus the inferred triples.
SQL> SELECT s,p,o FROM table(SEM_MATCH('(?s ?p ?o)', SEM_MODELS('OWLSTST'),
SEM_RULEBASES('OWLPRIME'), null, null ));
```

## 2.2.3 Performing OWL and User-Defined Rules inferencing

[Example 2-3](#) creates a user-defined rulebase, inserts a deliberately oversimplified `uncleOf` rule (stating that the brother of one's father is one's uncle), and calls the `SEM_APIS.CREATE_ENTAILMENT` procedure.

### **Example 2-3 Performing OWL and User-Defined Rules Inferencing**

```
SQL> -- First, insert the following assertions.

SQL> INSERT INTO owlstst VALUES (1, sdo_rdf_triple_s('owlstst',
'http://foo.com/name/John', 'http://foo.com/rel/fatherOf',
'http://foo.com/name/Mary'));

SQL> INSERT INTO owlstst VALUES (1, sdo_rdf_triple_s('owlstst',
'http://foo.com/name/Jack', 'http://foo.com/rel/botherOf',
'http://foo.com/name/John'));

SQL> -- Create a user-defined rulebase.

SQL> EXECUTE sem_apis.create_rulebase('user_rulebase');

SQL> -- Insert a simple "uncle" rule.

SQL> INSERT INTO mdsys.semr_user_rulebase VALUES ('uncle_rule',
'(?x <http://foo.com/rel/botherOf> ?y)(?y <http://foo.com/rel/fatherOf> ?z)',
NULL, '(?x <http://foo.com/rel/uncleOf> ?z)', null);

SQL> -- In the following statement, 'USER_RULES=T' is required, to
SQL> -- include the original graph plus the inferred triples.
SQL> EXECUTE sem_apis.create_entailment('owlstst2_idx', sem_models('owlstst'),
sem_rulebases('OWLPRIME', 'USER_RULEBASE'),
SEM_APIS.REACH_CLOSURE, null, 'USER_RULES=T');

SQL> -- In the result of the following query, :Jack :uncleOf :Mary is inferred.
```

```
SQL> SELECT s,p,o FROM table(SEM_MATCH('( ?s ?p ?o)',
    SEM_MODELS('OWLTST'),
    SEM_RULEBASES('OWLPRIME','USER_RULEBASE'), null, null ));
```

## 2.2.4 Generating OWL inferencing Proofs

OWL inferencing can be complex, depending on the size of the ontology, the actual vocabulary (set of language constructs) used, and the interactions among those language constructs. The question arises, how can we trust inferred results? The answer involves using proof generation during inference. (Proof generation does require additional CPU time and disk resources.)

To generate the information required for proof, specify `PROOF=T` in the call to the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_ENTAILMENT](#) procedure, as shown in the following example:

```
EXECUTE sem_apis.create_entailment('owlstst_idx', sem_models('owlstst'), sem_
rulebases('owlprime'), SEM_APIS.REACH_CLOSURE, 'SAM', 'PROOF=T');
```

Specifying `PROOF=T` causes a view to be created containing proof for each inferred triple. The view name is the entailment name prefixed by `MDSYS.SEMI_`. Two relevant columns in this view are `LINK_ID` and `EXPLAIN` (the proof). The following example displays the `LINK_ID` value and proof of each generated triple (with `LINK_ID` values shortened for simplicity):

```
SELECT link_id || ' generated by ' || explain as
       triple_and_its_proof FROM mdsys.semi_owlstst_idx;
```

```
TRIPLE_AND_ITS_PROOF
```

```
-----
8_5_5_4 generated by 4_D_5_5 : SYMM_SAMH_SYMM
8_4_5_4 generated by 8_5_5_4 4_D_5_5 : SAM_SAMH
. . .
```

A proof consists of one or more triple (link) ID values and the name of the rule that is applied on those triples:

```
link-id1 [link-id2 ... link-idn]: rule-name
```

To get the full subject, predicate, and object URIs for proofs, you can query the model view and the entailment (rules index) view. [Example 2-4](#) displays the `LINK_ID` value and associated triple contents using the model view `MDSYS.SEMM_OWLTST` and the entailment view `MDSYS.SEMI_OWLTST_IDX`.

### Example 2-4 Displaying Proof Information

```
SELECT to_char(x.triple.rdf_m_id, 'FMXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX') || '-' ||
       to_char(x.triple.rdf_s_id, 'FMXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX') || '-' ||
       to_char(x.triple.rdf_p_id, 'FMXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX') || '-' ||
       to_char(x.triple.rdf_c_id, 'FMXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX'),
       x.triple.get_triple()
FROM (
  SELECT sdo_rdf_triple_s(
    t.canon_end_node_id,
    t.model_id,
    t.start_node_id,
    t.p_value_id,
    t.end_node_id) triple
  FROM (select * from mdsys.semm_owlstst union all
        select * from mdsys.semi_owlstst_idx
       ) t
 WHERE t.link_id IN ('4_D_5_5','8_5_5_4')
```

```

) x;

LINK_ID X.TRIPLE.GET_TRIPLE() (SUBJECT, PROPERTY, OBJECT)
-----
4_D_5_5 SDO_RDF_TRIPLE('<http://foo.com/name/John>',
'<http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#sameAs>', '<http://foo.com/name/JohnQ>')
8_5_5_4 SDO_RDF_TRIPLE('<http://foo.com/name/JohnQ>',
'<http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#sameAs>', '<http://foo.com/name/John>')

```

In [Example 2-4](#), for the proof entry 8\_5\_5\_4 generated by 4\_D\_5\_5 : SYMM\_SAMH\_SYMM for the triple with LINK\_ID = 8\_5\_5\_4, it is inferred from the triple with 4\_D\_5\_5 using the symmetry of owl : sameAs.

## 2.2.5 Validating OWL Models and Entailments

An OWL ontology may contain errors, such as unsatisfiable classes, instances belonging to unsatisfiable classes, and two individuals asserted to be same and different at the same time. You can use the [SEM\\_APIS.VALIDATE\\_MODEL](#) and [SEM\\_APIS.VALIDATE\\_ENTAILMENT](#) functions to detect inconsistencies in the original data model and in the entailment, respectively.

[Example 2-5](#) shows uses the [SEM\\_APIS.VALIDATE\\_ENTAILMENT](#) function, which returns a null value if no errors are detected or a VARRAY of strings if any errors are detected.

### Example 2-5 Validating an Entailment

```

SQL> -- Insert an offending triple.
SQL> insert into owlst values (1, sdo_rdf_triple_s('owlstst',
'urn:C1', 'http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf',
'http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#Nothing'));

SQL> -- Drop entailment first.
SQL> exec sem_apis.drop_entailment('owlstst_idx');
PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

SQL> -- Perform OWL inferencing.
SQL> exec sem_apis.create_entailment('owlstst_idx', sem_models('OWLSTST'), sem_
rulebases('OWLPRIME'));
PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

SQL > set serveroutput on;
SQL > -- Now invoke validation API: sem_apis.validate_entailment
SQL >
declare
  lva mdsys.rdf_longVarcharArray;
  idx int;
begin
  lva := sem_apis.validate_entailment(sem_models('OWLSTST'), sem_
rulebases('OWLPRIME')) ;

  if (lva is null) then
    dbms_output.put_line('No errors found. ');
  else
    for idx in 1..lva.count loop
      dbms_output.put_line('Offending entry := ' || lva(idx)) ;
    end loop ;
  end if;
end ;
/

```

```
SQL> -- NOTE: The LINK_ID value and the numbers in the following
SQL> -- line are shortened for simplicity in this example. --
```

```
Offending entry := 1 10001 (4_2_4_8 2 4 8) Unsatisfiable class.
```

Each item in the validation report array includes the following information:

- Number of triples that cause this error (1 in [Example 2-5](#))
- Error code (10001 [Example 2-5](#))
- One or more triples (shown in parentheses in the output; (4\_2\_4\_8 2 4 8) in [Example 2-5](#)).

These numbers are the LINK\_ID value and the ID values of the subject, predicate, and object.

- Descriptive error message (`Unsatisfiable class.` in [Example 2-5](#))

The output in [Example 2-5](#) indicates that the error is caused by one triple that asserts that a class is a subclass of an empty class `owl:Nothing`.

## 2.2.6 Using SEM\_APIS.CREATE\_ENTAILMENT for RDFS Inference

In addition to accepting OWL vocabularies, the `SEM_APIS.CREATE_ENTAILMENT` procedure accepts RDFS rulebases. The following example shows RDFS inference (all standard RDFS rules are defined in <http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-mt/>):

```
EXECUTE sem_apis.create_entailment('rdfstst_idx', sem_models('my_model'), sem_
rulebases('RDFS'));
```

Because rules RDFS4A, RDFS4B, RDFS6, RDFS8, RDFS10, RDFS13 may not generate meaningful inference for your applications, you can deselect those components for faster inference. The following example deselects these rules.

```
EXECUTE sem_apis.create_entailment('rdfstst_idx', sem_models('my_model'), sem_
rulebases('RDFS'), SEM_APIS.REACH_CLOSURE, 'RDFS4A-', RDFS4B-, RDFS6-, RDFS8-,
RDFS10-, RDFS13-');
```

## 2.2.7 Enhancing Inference Performance

This section describes suggestions for improving the performance of inference operations.

- Collect statistics before inferencing. After you load a large RDF/OWL data model, you should execute the `SEM_PERF.GATHER_STATS` procedure. See the Usage Notes for that procedure (in [Chapter 4](#)) for important usage information.
- Allocate sufficient temporary tablespace for inference operations. OWL inference support in Oracle relies heavily on table joins, and therefore uses significant temporary tablespace.
- You can try the following statement before running the `SEM_APIS.CREATE_ENTAILMENT` procedure, to avoid sort merge joins that might affect inference performance:

```
ALTER SESSION SET "_optimizer_sortmerge_join_enabled" = false;
```

If you do this, be sure to reset the value to `true` after calling the `SEM_APIS.CREATE_ENTAILMENT` procedure.

- To improve inference performance with user defined rules, enter the following statement:

```
ALTER SESSION SET "_with_subquery"=INLINE;
```

This setting instructs the optimizer to inline a WITH subquery instead of materializing it.

## 2.2.8 Performing Selective Inferencing (Advanced Information)

Selective inferencing is component-based inferencing, in which you limit the inferencing to specific OWL components that you are interested in. To perform selective inferencing, use the `inf_components_in` parameter to the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_ENTAILMENT](#) procedure to specify a comma-delimited list of components. The final inferencing is determined by the *union* of rulebases specified and the components specified.

**Example 2–6** limits the inferencing to the class hierarchy from subclass (SCOH) relationship and the property hierarchy from subproperty (SPOH) relationship. This example creates an empty rulebase and then specifies the two components ('SCOH, SPOH') in the call to the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_ENTAILMENT](#) procedure.

### Example 2–6 Performing Selective Inferencing

```
EXECUTE sem_apis.create_rulebase('my_rulebase');
```

```
EXECUTE sem_apis.create_entailment('owlstst_idx', sem_models('owlstst'), sem_
rulebases('my_rulebase'), SEM_APIS.REACH_CLOSURE, 'SCOH,SPOH');
```

The following component codes are available: SCOH, COMPH, DISJH, SYMMH, INVH, SPIH, MBRH, SPOH, DOMH, RANH, EQCH, EQPH, FPH, IFPH, DOM, RAN, SCO, DISJ, COMP, INV, SPO, FP, IFP, SYMM, TRANS, DIF, SAM, RDFP1, RDFP2, RDFP3, RDFP4, RDFP6, RDFP7, RDFP8AX, RDFP8BX, RDFP9, RDFP10, RDFP11, RDFP12A, RDFP12B, RDFP12C, RDFP13A, RDFP13B, RDFP13C, RDFP14A, RDFP14BX, RDFP15, RDFP16, RDFS2, RDFS3, RDFS4a, RDFS4b, RDFS5, RDFS6, RDFS7, RDFS8, RDFS9, RDFS10, RDFS11, RDFS12, RDFS13

The rules corresponding to components with a prefix of *RDFP* can be found in *Completeness, decidability and complexity of entailment for RDF Schema and a semantic extension involving the OWL vocabulary*, by H.J. Horst.

The syntax for deselecting a component is *component\_name* followed by a minus (-) sign. For example, the following statement performs OWLPrime inference without calculating the `subClassOf` hierarchy:

```
EXECUTE sem_apis.create_entailment('owlstst_idx', sem_models('owlstst'), sem_
rulebases('OWLPRIME'), SEM_APIS.REACH_CLOSURE, 'SCOH-');
```

By default, the OWLPrime rulebase implements the transitive semantics of `owl:sameAs`. OWLPrime does not include the following rules (semantics):

```
U owl:sameAs V .
U p X .          ==> V p X .

U owl:sameAs V .
X p U .          ==> X p V .
```

The reason for not including these rules is that they tend to generate many assertions. If you need to include these assertions, you can include the `SAM` component code in the call to the `SEM_APIS.CREATE_ENTAILMENT` procedure.

## 2.3 Using Semantic Operators to Query Relational Data

You can use semantic operators to query relational data in an ontology-assisted manner, based on the semantic relationship between the data in a table column and terms in an ontology. The `SEM_RELATED` semantic operator retrieves rows based on semantic relatedness. The `SEM_DISTANCE` semantic operator returns distance measures for the semantic relatedness, so that rows returned by the `SEM_RELATED` operator can be ordered or restricted using the distance measure. The index type `MDSYS.SEM_INDEXTYPE` allows efficient execution of such queries, enabling scalable performance over large data sets.

### 2.3.1 Using the `SEM_RELATED` Operator

Referring to the cancer ontology example in [Section 2.1.1](#), consider the following query that requires semantic matching: *Find all patients whose diagnosis is of the type 'Immune\_System\_Disorder'*. A typical database query of the `PATIENTS` table (described in [Section 2.1.1](#)) involving syntactic match will not return any rows, because no rows have a `DIAGNOSIS` column containing the exact value `Immune_System_Disorder`. For example the following query will not return any rows:

```
SELECT diagnosis FROM patients WHERE diagnosis = 'Immune_System_Disorder';
```

However, many rows in the patient data table are relevant, because their diagnoses fall under this class. [Example 2–7](#) uses the `SEM_RELATED` operator (instead of lexical equality) to retrieve all the relevant rows from the patient data table. (In this example, the term `Immune_System_Disorder` is prefixed with a namespace, and the default assumption is that the values in the table column also have a namespace prefix. However, that might not always be the case, as explained in [Section 2.3.5](#).)

#### **Example 2–7** `SEM_RELATED` Operator

```
SELECT diagnosis FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED (diagnosis,
  '<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf>',
  '<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
  sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime')) = 1;
```

The `SEM_RELATED` operator has the following attributes:

```
SEM_RELATED(
  sub VARCHAR2,
  predExpr VARCHAR2,
  obj VARCHAR2,
  ontologyName SEM_MODELS,
  ruleBases SEM_RULEBASES,
  index_status VARCHAR2,
  lower_bound INTEGER,
  upper_bound INTEGER
) RETURN INTEGER;
```

The `sub` attribute is the name of table column that is being searched. The terms in the table column are typically the subject in a <subject, predicate, object> triple pattern.

The `predExpr` attribute represents the predicate that can appear as a label of the edge on the path from the subject node to the object node.

The `obj` attribute represents the term in the ontology for which related terms (related by the `predExpr` attribute) have to be found in the table (in the column specified by the `sub` attribute). This term is typically the object in a <subject, predicate, object> triple pattern. (In a query with the equality operator, this would be the query term.)

The `ontologyName` attribute is the name of the ontology that contains the relationships between terms.

The `rulebases` attribute identifies one or more rulebases whose rules have been applied to the ontology to infer new relationships. The query will be answered based both on relationships from the ontology and the inferred new relationships when this attribute is specified.

The `index_status` optional attribute lets you query the data even when the relevant rules `index` (created when the specified rulebase was applied to the ontology) does not have a valid status. If this attribute is null, the query returns an error if the rules `index` does not have a valid status. If this attribute is not null, it must be the string `VALID`, `INCOMPLETE`, or `INVALID`, to specify the minimum status of the rules `index` for the query to succeed. Because OWL does not guarantee monotonicity, the value `INCOMPLETE` should not be used when an OWL Rulebase is specified.

The `lower_bound` and `upper_bound` optional attributes let you specify a bound on the distance measure of the relationship between terms that are related. See [Section 2.3.2](#) for the description of the distance measure.

The `SEM_RELATED` operator returns 1 if the two input terms are related with respect to the specified `predExpr` relationship within the ontology, and it returns 0 if the two input terms are not related. If the lower and upper bounds are specified, it returns 1 if the two input terms are related with a distance measure that is greater than or equal to `lower_bound` and less than or equal to `upper_bound`.

## 2.3.2 Using the SEM\_DISTANCE Ancillary Operator

The `SEM_DISTANCE` ancillary operator computes the distance measure for the rows filtered using the `SEM_RELATED` operator. The `SEM_DISTANCE` operator has the following format:

```
SEM_DISTANCE (number) RETURN NUMBER;
```

The `number` attribute can be any number, as long as it matches the number that is the last attribute specified in the call to the `SEM_RELATED` operator (see [Example 2-8](#)). The number is used to match the invocation of the ancillary operator `SEM_DISTANCE` with a specific `SEM_RELATED` (primary operator) invocation, because a query can have multiple invocations of primary and ancillary operators.

[Example 2-8](#) expands [Example 2-7](#) to show several statements that include the `SEM_DISTANCE` ancillary operator, which gives a measure of how closely the two terms (here, a patient's diagnosis and the term `Immune_System_Disorder`) are related by measuring the distance between the terms. Using the cancer ontology described in [Section 2.1.1](#), the distance between `AIDS` and `Immune_System_Disorder` is 3.

### Example 2-8 SEM\_DISTANCE Ancillary Operator

```
SELECT diagnosis, SEM_DISTANCE(123) FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED (diagnosis,
  '<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf>',
  '<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
```



```

sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime'), 123) = 1;

SELECT diagnosis FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED (diagnosis,
  '<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf>',
  '<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
  sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime'), 123) = 1
ORDER BY SEM_DISTANCE(123);

SELECT diagnosis, SEM_DISTANCE(123) FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED (diagnosis,
  '<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf>',
  '<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
  sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime'), 123) = 1
WHERE SEM_DISTANCE(123) <= 3;

```

**Example 2-9** uses distance information to restrict the number of rows returned by the primary operator. All rows with a term related to the object attribute specified in the SEM\_RELATED invocation, but with a distance of greater than or equal to 2 and less than or equal to 4, are retrieved.

**Example 2-9 Using SEM\_DISTANCE to Restrict the Number of Rows Returned**

```

SELECT diagnosis FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED (diagnosis,
  '<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf>',
  '<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
  sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime'), 2, 4) = 1;

```

In **Example 2-9**, the lower and upper bounds are specified using the lower\_bound and upper\_bound parameters in the SEM\_RELATED operator instead of using the SEM\_DISTANCE operator. The SEM\_DISTANCE operator can be also be used for restricting the rows returned, as shown in the last SELECT statement in **Example 2-8**.

### 2.3.2.1 Computation of Distance Information

Distances are generated for the following properties during inference (entailment): OWL properties defined as transitive properties, and RDFS subClassOf and RDFS subPropertyOf properties. The distance between two terms linked through these properties is computed as the shortest distance between them in a hierarchical class structure. Distances of two terms linked through other properties are undefined and therefore set to null.

Each transitive property link in the original model (viewed as a hierarchical class structure) has a distance of 1, and the distance of an inferred triple is generated according to the number of links between the two terms. Consider the following hypothetical sample scenarios:

- If the original graph contains C1 rdfs:subClassOf C2 and C2 rdfs:subClassOf C3, then C1 rdfs:subClassOf of C3 will be derived. In this case:
  - C1 rdfs:subClassOf C2: distance = 1, because it exists in the model.
  - C2 rdfs:subClassOf C3: distance = 1, because it exists in the model.
  - C1 rdfs:subClassOf C3: distance = 2, because it is generated during inference.

- If the original graph contains `P1 rdfs:subPropertyOf P2` and `P2 rdfs:subPropertyOf P3`, then `P1 rdfs:subPropertyOf P3` will be derived. In this case:
  - `P1 rdfs:subPropertyOf P2`: distance = 1, because it exists in the model.
  - `P2 rdfs:subPropertyOf P3`: distance = 1, because it exists in the model.
  - `P1 rdfs:subPropertyOf P3`: distance = 2, because it is generated during inference.
- If the original graph contains `C1 owl:equivalentClass C2` and `C2 owl:equivalentClass C3`, then `C1 owl:equivalentClass C3` will be derived. In this case:
  - `C1 owl:equivalentClass C2`: distance = 1, because it exists in the model.
  - `C2 owl:equivalentClass C3`: distance = 1, because it exists in the model.
  - `C1 owl:equivalentClass C3`: distance = 2, because it is generated during inference.

The SEM\_RELATED operator works with user-defined rulebases. However, using the SEM\_DISTANCE operator with a user-defined rulebase is not yet supported, and will raise an error.

### 2.3.3 Creating a Semantic Index of Type MDSYS.SEM\_INDEXTYPE

When using the SEM\_RELATED operator, you can create a semantic index of type MDSYS.SEM\_INDEXTYPE on the column that contains the ontology terms. Creating such an index will result in more efficient execution of the queries. The CREATE INDEX statement must contain the INDEXTYPE IS MDSYS.SEM\_INDEXTYPE clause, to specify the type of index being created.

[Example 2–10](#) creates a semantic index named DIAGNOSIS\_SEM\_IDX on the DIAGNOSIS column of the PATIENTS table using the Cancer\_Ontology ontology.

#### **Example 2–10 Creating a Semantic Index**

```
CREATE INDEX diagnosis_sem_idx
  ON patients (diagnosis)
  INDEXTYPE IS MDSYS.SEM_INDEXTYPE;
```

The column on which the index is built (DIAGNOSIS in [Example 2–10](#)) must be the first parameter to the SEM\_RELATED operator, in order for the index to be used. If it not the first parameter, the index is not used during the execution of the query.

To improve the performance of certain semantic queries, you can cause statistical information to be generated for the semantic index by specifying one or more models and rulebases when you create the index. [Example 2–11](#) creates an index that will also generate statistics information for the specified model and rulebase. The index can be used with other models and rulebases during query, but the statistical information will be used only if the model and rulebase specified during the creation of the index are the same model and rulebase specified in the query.

#### **Example 2–11 Creating a Semantic Index Specifying a Model and Rulebase**

```
CREATE INDEX diagnosis_sem_idx
  ON patients (diagnosis)
  INDEXTYPE IS MDSYS.SEM_INDEXTYPE('ONTOLOGY_MODEL(medical_ontology),
  RULEBASE(OWLPrime)');
```

The statistical information is useful for queries that return top-k results sorted by semantic distance. [Example 2–12](#) shows such a query.

**Example 2–12 Query Benefitting from Generation of Statistical Information**

```
SELECT /*+ FIRST_ROWS */ diagnosis FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED (diagnosis,
  '<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf>',
  '<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
  sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime'), 123) = 1
ORDER BY SEM_DISTANCE(123);
```

### 2.3.4 Using SEM\_RELATED and SEM\_DISTANCE When the Indexed Column Is Not the First Parameter

If an index of type MDSYS.SEM\_INDEXTYPE has been created on a table column that is the first parameter to the SEM\_RELATED operator, the index will be used. For example, the following query retrieves all rows that have a value in the DIAGNOSIS column that is a subclass of (rdfs:subClassOf) Immune\_System\_Disorder.

```
SELECT diagnosis FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED (diagnosis,
  '<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf>',
  '<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
  sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime')) = 1;
```

Assume, however, that this query instead needs to retrieve all rows that have a value in the DIAGNOSIS column for which Immune\_System\_Disorder is a subclass. You could rewrite the query as follows:

```
SELECT diagnosis FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED
  ('<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
  '<http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf>',
  diagnosis,
  sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime')) = 1;
```

However, in this case a semantic index on the DIAGNOSIS column will not be used, because it is not the first parameter to the SEM\_RELATED operator. To cause the index to be used, you can change the preceding query to use the inverseOf keyword, as follows:

```
SELECT diagnosis FROM patients
WHERE SEM_RELATED (diagnosis,
  'inverseOf(http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#subClassOf)',
  '<http://www.example.org/medical_terms/Immune_System_Disorder>',
  sem_models('medical_ontology'), sem_rulebases('owlprime')) = 1;
```

This form causes the table column (on which the index is built) to be the first parameter to the SEM\_RELATED operator, and it retrieves all rows that have a value in the DIAGNOSIS column for which Immune\_System\_Disorder is a subclass.

### 2.3.5 Using URIPREFIX When Values Are Not Stored as URIs

By default, the semantic operator support assumes that the values stored in the table are URIs. These URIs can be from different namespaces. However, if the values in the table do not have URIs, you can use the URIPREFIX keyword to specify a URI when you create the semantic index. In this case, the specified URI is prefixed to the value in

the table and stored in the index structure. (One implication is that multiple URIs cannot be used).

[Example 2-13](#) creates a semantic index that uses a URI prefix.

**Example 2-13 Specifying a URI Prefix During Semantic Index Creation**

```
CREATE INDEX diagnosis_sem_idx
  ON patients (diagnosis)
  INDEXTYPE IS MDSYS.SEM_INDEXTYPE
  PARAMETERS ('URIPREFIX(<http://www.example.org/medical/>');
```

Note that the slash (/) character at the end of the URI is important, because the URI is prefixed to the table value (in the index structure) without any parsing.

---

---

## SEM\_APIS Package Subprograms

The SEM\_APIS package contains subprograms (functions and procedures) for working with the Resource Description Framework (RDF) and Web Ontology Language (OWL) in an Oracle database. To use the subprograms in this chapter, you must understand the conceptual and usage information in [Chapter 1, "Oracle Semantic Technologies Overview"](#) and [Chapter 2, "OWL Concepts"](#).

This chapter provides reference information about the subprograms, listed in alphabetical order.

## SEM\_APIS.BULK\_LOAD\_FROM\_STAGING\_TABLE

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.BULK_LOAD_FROM_STAGING_TABLE(  
    model_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    table_owner IN VARCHAR2,  
    table_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    flags      IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    debug     IN BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT NULL);
```

### Description

Loads semantic data from a staging table.

### Parameters

**model\_name**

Name of the model.

**table\_owner**

Name of the schema that owns the staging table that holds semantic data to be loaded.

**table\_name**

Name of the staging table that holds semantic data to be loaded.

**flags**

An optional quoted string with the following keyword: `PARALLEL_CREATE_INDEX` allows internal indexes to be created in parallel, which may improve the performance of the bulk load processing.

**debug**

(Reserved for future use)

### Usage Notes

You must first load semantic data into a staging table before calling this procedure. See [Section 1.7.1](#) for more information.

### Examples

The following example loads semantic data stored in the staging table named `STAGE_TABLE` in schema `SCOTT` into the semantic model named `family`.

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.BULK_LOAD_FROM_STAGING_TABLE('family', 'scott', 'stage_table');
```

---

## SEM\_APIS.CLEANUP\_FAILED

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.CLEANUP_FAILED(  
    rdf_object_type IN VARCHAR2,  
    rdf_object_name IN VARCHAR2);
```

### Description

Drops (deletes) a specified rulebase or rules index if it is in a failed state.

### Parameters

**rdf\_object\_type**

Type of the RDF object: RULEBASE for a rulebase or RULES\_INDEX for a rules index.

**rdf\_object\_name**

Name of the RDF object of type `rdf_object_type`.

### Usage Notes

This procedure checks to see if the specified RDF object is in a failed state; and if the object is in a failed state, the procedure deletes the object.

A rulebase or rules index is in a failed state if a system failure occurred during the creation of that object. You can check if a rulebase or rules index is in a failed state by checking to see if the value of the STATUS column is FAILED in the SDO\_RULEBASE\_INFO view (described in [Section 1.3.6](#)) or the SDO\_RULES\_INDEX\_INFO view (described in [Section 1.3.7](#)), respectively.

If the rulebase or rules index is not in a failed state, this procedure performs no action and returns a successful status.

An exception is generated if the RDF object is currently being used.

### Examples

The following example deletes the rulebase named `family_rb` if (and only if) that rulebase is in a failed state.

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CLEANUP_FAILED('RULEBASE', 'family_rb');
```

## SEM\_APIS.CREATE\_ENTAILMENT

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.CREATE_ENTAILMENT(  
    index_name_in    IN VARCHAR2,  
    models_in        IN SEM_MODELS,  
    rulebases_in     IN SEM_RULEBASES,  
    passes            IN NUMBER DEFAULT SEM_APIS.REACH_CLOSURE,  
    inf_components_in IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    options           IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL);
```

### Description

Creates a rules index (entailment) that can be used to perform OWL or RDFS inferencing, and optionally use user-defined rules.

### Parameters

**index\_name\_in**

Name of the rules index (entailment) to be created.

**models\_in**

One or more model names. Its data type is SEM\_MODELS, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25)

**rulebases\_in**

One or more rulebase names. Its data type is SEM\_RULEBASES, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25). Rules and rulebases are explained in [Section 1.3.6](#).

**passes**

The number of rounds that the inference engine should run. The default value is SEM\_APIS.REACH\_CLOSURE, which means the inference engine will run till a closure is reached. If the number of rounds specified is less than the number of actual rounds needed to reach a closure, the status of the rules index will then be set to INCOMPLETE.

**inf\_components\_in**

A comma-delimited string of keywords representing inference components, for performing selective or component-based inferencing. If this parameter is null, the default set of inference components is used. See the Usage Notes for more information about inference components.

**options**

A comma-delimited string of options to control the inference process by overriding the default inference behavior. To enable an option, specify *option-name=T*; to disable an option, you can specify *option-name=F* (the default). The available option-name values are PROOF, DISTANCE, ENTAIL\_ANYWAY, and USER\_RULES. See the Usage Notes for explanations of each value.



## Usage Notes

For the `inf_components_in` parameter, you can specify any combination of the following keywords: SCOH, COMPH, DISJH, SYMMH, INVH, SPIH, SPOH, DOMH, RANH, EQCH, EQPH, FPH, IFPH, SAMH, DOM, RAN, SCO, DISJ, INV, SPO, FP, IFP, SYMM, TRANS, DIF, SAM, RDFS2, RDFS3, RDFS4a, RDFS4b, RDFS5, RDFS6, RDFS7, RDFS8, RDFS9, RDFS10, RDFS11, RDFS12, RDFS13, RDFP1, RDFP2, RDFP3, RDFP4, RDFP6, RDFP7, RDFP8AX, RDFP8BX, RDFP9, RDFP10, RDFP11, RDFP12A, RDFP12B, RDFP12C, RDFP13A, RDFP13B, RDFP13C, RDFP14A, RDFP14BX, RDFP15, RDFP16. For an explanation of the meaning of these keywords, see [Table 3–1](#), where the keywords are listed in alphabetical order.

The default set of inference components for the OWLPRIME vocabulary includes the following: SCOH, COMPH, DISJH, SYMMH, INVH, SPIH, SPOH, DOMH, RANH, EQCH, EQPH, FPH, IFPH, SAMH, DOM, RAN, SCO, DISJ, COMP, INV, SPO, FP, IFP, SYMM, TRANS, DIF, RDFP14A, RDFP14BX, RDFP15, RDFP16. Note that component SAM is not in this default list, because it tends to generate many new triples for some ontologies.

**Table 3–1 Inference Keywords for `inf_components_in` Parameter**

Keyword	Explanation
COMPH	Performs inference based on owl:complementOf assertions and the interaction of owl:complementOf with other language constructs.
DIF	Generates owl:differentFrom assertions based on the symmetry of owl:differentFrom.
DISJ	Infers owl:differentFrom relationships at instance level using owl:disjointWith assertions.
DISJH	Performs inference based on owl:disjointWith assertions and their interactions with other language constructs.
DOM	Performs inference based on RDFS2.
DOMH	Performs inference based on rdfs:domain assertions and their interactions with other language constructs.
EQCH	Performs inference that are relevant to owl:equivalentClass.
EQPH	Performs inference that are relevant to owl:equivalentProperty.
FP	Performs instance-level inference using instances of owl:FunctionalProperty.
FPH	Performs inference using instances of owl:FunctionalProperty.
IFP	Performs instance-level inference using instances of owl:InverseFunctionalProperty.
IFPH	Performs inference using instances of owl:InverseFunctionalProperty.
INV	Performs instance-level inference using owl:inverseOf assertions.
INVH	Performs inference based on owl:inverseOf assertions and their interactions with other language constructs.
RANH	Performs inference based on rdfs:range assertions and their interactions with other language constructs.
RDFP*	(The rules corresponding to components with a prefix of <i>RDFP</i> can be found in <i>Completeness, decidability and complexity of entailment for RDF Schema and a semantic extension involving the OWL vocabulary</i> , by H.J. Horst.)

**Table 3–1 (Cont.) Inferencing Keywords for `inf_components_in` Parameter**

Keyword	Explanation
RDFS2, ... RDFS13	RDFS2, RDFS3, RDFS4a, RDFS4b, RDFS5, RDFS6, RDFS7, RDFS8, RDFS9, RDFS10, RDFS11, RDFS12, and RDFS13 are described in Section 7.3 of <i>RDF Semantics</i> ( <a href="http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-mt/">http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-mt/</a> ). Note that many of the RDFS components are not relevant for OWL inference.
SAM	Performs inference about individuals based on existing assertions for those individuals and <code>owl:sameAs</code> .
SAMH	Infers <code>owl:sameAs</code> assertions using transitivity and symmetry of <code>owl:sameAs</code> .
SCO	Performs inference based on RDFS9.
SCOH	Generates the <code>subClassOf</code> hierarchy based on existing <code>rdfs:subClassOf</code> assertions. Basically, <code>C1 rdfs:subClassOf C2</code> and <code>C2 rdfs:subClassOf C3</code> will infer <code>C1 rdfs:subClassOf C3</code> based on transitivity. SCOH is also an alias of RDFS11.
SPIH	Performs inference based on interactions between <code>rdfs:subPropertyOf</code> and <code>owl:inverseOf</code> assertions.
SPO	Performs inference based on RDFS7.
SPOH	Generates <code>rdfs:subPropertyOf</code> hierarchy based on transitivity of <code>rdfs:subPropertyOf</code> . It is an alias of RDFS5.
SYMM	Performs instance-level inference using instances of <code>owl:SymmetricProperty</code> .
SYMH	Performs inference for properties of type <code>owl:SymmetricProperty</code> .
TRANS	Calculates transitive closure for instances of <code>owl:TransitiveProperty</code> .

To deselect a component, use the component name followed by a minus (-) sign. For example, `SCOH-` deselects inference of the `subClassOf` hierarchy.

For the `options` parameter, you can enable the following options to override the default inferencing behavior:

- `PROOF=T` generates proof for inferred triples. Do not specify this option unless you need to; it slows inference performance because it causes more data to be generated.
- `DISTANCE=T` generates ancillary distance information that is useful for semantic operators.
- `ENTAIL_ANYWAY=T` forces OWL inferencing to proceed and reuse existing inferred data (rules index) when the rules index has a valid status. By default, `SEM_APIS.CREATE_ENTAILMENT` quits immediately if there is already a valid rules index for the combination of models and rulebases.
- `USER_RULES=T` causes any user-defined rules to be applied. If you specify this option, you cannot specify `PROOF=T` or `DISTANCE=T`, and you must accept the default value for the `passes` parameter.

## Examples

The following example creates a rules index named `OWL_TST_IDX` using the `OWLPRIME` rulebase, and it causes proof to be generated for inferred triples.

```
EXECUTE sem_apis.create_entailment('owl_tst_idx', sem_models('owl_tst'), sem_
rulebases('OWLPRIME'), SEM_APIS.REACH_CLOSURE, null, 'PROOF=T');
```

## SEM\_APIS.CREATE\_RULEBASE

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULEBASE(  
    rulebase_name IN VARCHAR2);
```

### Description

Creates a rulebase.

### Parameters

**rulebase\_name**  
Name of the rulebase.

### Usage Notes

This procedure creates a user-defined rulebase. After creating the rulebase, you can add rules to it. To cause the rules in the rulebase to be applied in a query of RDF data, you can specify the rulebase in the call to the SEM\_MATCH table function.

Rules and rulebases are explained in [Section 1.3.6](#). The SEM\_MATCH table function is described in [Section 1.6](#),

### Examples

The following example creates a rulebase named family\_rb. (It is an excerpt from [Example 1–10](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULEBASE('family_rb');
```

## SEM\_APIS.CREATE\_RULES\_INDEX

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULES_INDEX(  
    index_name_in IN VARCHAR2,  
    models_in IN SEM_MODELS,  
    rulebases_in IN SEM_RULEBASES);
```

### Description

Creates a rules index based on data in one or more models and one or more rulebases.

### Parameters

**index\_name\_in**

Name of the rules index.

**models\_in**

One or more model names. Its data type is SEM\_MODELS, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25)

**rulebases\_in**

One or more rulebase names. Its data type is SEM\_RULEBASES, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25). Rules and rulebases are explained in [Section 1.3.6](#).

### Usage Notes

This procedure creates a rules index. For information about rules indexes, see [Section 1.3.7](#).

### Examples

The following example creates a rules index named `family_rb_rix_family`, using the `family` model and the `RDFS` and `family_rb` rulebases. (This example is an excerpt from [Example 1–10](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

```
BEGIN  
    SEM_APIS.CREATE_RULES_INDEX(  
        'rdfs_rix_family',  
        SEM_Models('family'),  
        SEM_Rulebases('RDFS', 'family_rb'));  
END;  
/
```

---

## SEM\_APIS.CREATE\_SEM\_MODEL

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.CREATE_SEM_MODEL(  
    model_name     IN VARCHAR2,  
    table_name     IN VARCHAR2,  
    column_name    IN VARCHAR2);  
    model_tablespace IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL);
```

### Description

Creates a semantic technology model.

### Parameters

**model\_name**

Name of the model.

**table\_name**

Name of the table to hold references to semantic technology data for this model.

**column\_name**

Name of the column of type SDO\_RDF\_TRIPLE\_S in `table_name`.

**model\_tablespace**

Name of the tablespace for the tables and other database objects used by Oracle to support this model. The default value is the tablespace that was specified in the call to the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_SEM\\_NETWORK](#) procedure.

### Usage Notes

You must create the table to hold references to semantic technology data before calling this procedure to create the semantic technology model. For more information, see [Section 1.8](#).

This procedure adds the model to the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view, which is described in [Section 1.3.1](#).

This procedure is the only supported way to create a model. Do not use SQL INSERT statements with the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view.

To delete a model, use the [SEM\\_APIS.DROP\\_SEM\\_MODEL](#) procedure.

### Examples

The following example creates a semantic technology model named `articles`. References to the triple data for the model will be stored in the TRIPLE column of the ARTICLES\_RDF\_DATA table. (This example is an excerpt from [Example 1-9](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CREATE_SEM_MODEL('articles', 'articles_rdf_data', 'triple');
```

The definition of the ARTICLES\_RDF\_DATA table is as follows:

```
CREATE TABLE articles_rdf_data (id NUMBER, triple SDO_RDF_TRIPLE_S);
```

## SEM\_APIS.CREATE\_SEM\_NETWORK

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.CREATE_SEM_NETWORK(  
    tablespace_name IN VARCHAR2
```

### Description

Adds semantic technology support to the database.

### Parameters

**tablespace\_name**

Name of the tablespace to be used for tables created by this procedure. This tablespace will be the default for all models that you create, although you can override the default when you create a model by specifying the `model_tablespace` parameter in the call to the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_SEM\\_MODEL](#) procedure.

### Usage Notes

This procedure creates system tables and other database objects used for semantic technology support.

You should create a tablespace for the semantic technology system tables and specify the tablespace name in the call to this procedure. (You should *not* specify the `SYSTEM` tablespace.) The size needed for the tablespace that you create will depend on the amount of semantic technology data you plan to store.

You must connect to the database as a user with DBA privileges in order to call this procedure, and you should call the procedure only once for the database.

To remove semantic technology support from the database, you must connect as a user with DBA privileges and call the [SEM\\_APIS.DROP\\_SEM\\_NETWORK](#) procedure.

### Examples

The following example creates a tablespace for semantic technology system tables and adds semantic technology support to the database.

```
CREATE TABLESPACE rdf_tblspace  
    DATAFILE '/oradata/orcl/rdf_tblspace.dat' SIZE 1024M REUSE  
    AUTOEXTEND ON NEXT 256M MAXSIZE UNLIMITED  
    SEGMENT SPACE MANAGEMENT AUTO;  
.  
.  
.  
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.CREATE_SEM_NETWORK('rdf_tblspace');
```

## SEM\_APIS.DROP\_ENTAILMENT

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.DROP_ENTAILMENT(  
    index_name_in    IN VARCHAR2);
```

### Description

Drops (deletes) a rules index (entailment).

### Parameters

**index\_name\_in**

Name of the rules index (entailment) to be deleted.

### Usage Notes

You can use this procedure to delete an entailment that you created using the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_ENTAILMENT](#) procedure.

### Examples

The following example deletes a rules index named OWLTST\_IDX.

```
EXECUTE sem_apis.drop_entailment('owlstst_idx');
```

## SEM\_APIS.DROP\_RULEBASE

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.DROP_RULEBASE(  
    rulebase_name IN VARCHAR2);
```

### Description

Deletes a rulebase.

### Parameters

**rulebase\_name**  
Name of the rulebase.

### Usage Notes

This procedure deletes the specified rulebase, making it no longer available for use in calls to the SEM\_MATCH table function. For information about rulebases, see [Section 1.3.6](#).

Only the creator of a rulebase can delete the rulebase.

### Examples

The following example drops the rulebase named `family_rb`.

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.DROP_RULEBASE('family_rb');
```



## SEM\_APIS.DROP\_RULES\_INDEX

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.DROP_RULES_INDEX(  
    index_name IN VARCHAR2);
```

### Description

Deletes a rules index.

### Parameters

**index\_name**  
Name of the rules index.

### Usage Notes

This procedure deletes the specified rules index, making it no longer available for use with queries against RDF data. For information about rules indexes, see [Section 1.3.7](#).

Only the owner of a rulebase can call this procedure to drop the rules index. However, a rules index can be dropped implicitly if an authorized user drops any model or rulebase on which the rules index is based; in such a case, the rules index is dropped automatically.

### Examples

The following example drops the rules index named `rdfs_rix_family`.

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.DROP_RULES_INDEX ('rdfs_rix_family');
```

## SEM\_APIS.DROP\_SEM\_MODEL

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.DROP_SEM_MODEL(  
    model_name IN VARCHAR2);
```

### Description

Drops (deletes) a semantic technology model.

### Parameters

**model\_name**  
Name of the model.

### Usage Notes

This procedure deletes the model from the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view, which is described in [Section 1.3.1](#).

This procedure is the only supported way to delete a model. Do not use SQL DELETE statements with the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view.

Only the creator of a model can delete the model.

### Examples

The following example drops the semantic technology model named `articles`.

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.DROP_SEM_MODEL('articles');
```

## SEM\_APIS.DROP\_SEM\_NETWORK

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.DROP_SEM_NETWORK();
```

### Description

Removes semantic technology support from the database.

### Parameters

None.

### Usage Notes

To remove semantic technology support from the database, you must connect as a user with DBA privileges and call this procedure.

Before you call this procedure, be sure to delete all semantic technology models and rulebases.

### Examples

The following example removes semantic technology support from the database.

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.DROP_SEM_NETWORK;
```

## SEM\_APIS.DROP\_USER\_INFERENCE\_OBJS

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.DROP_USER_INFERENCE_OBJS(  
    uname IN VARCHAR2);
```

### Description

Drops (deletes) all rulebases and rules index owned by a specified database user.

### Parameters

**uname**

Name of a database user. (This value is case-sensitive; for example, HERMAN and herman are considered different users.)

### Usage Notes

You must have sufficient privileges to delete rules and rulebases for the specified user.

This procedure does not delete the database user. It deletes only RDF rulebases and rules indexes owned by that user.

### Examples

The following example deletes all rulebases and rules indexes owned by user SCOTT.

```
EXECUTE SEM_APIS.DROP_USER_INFERENCE_OBJS('SCOTT');
```

PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

---

## SEM\_APIS.GET\_MODEL\_ID

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.GET_MODEL_ID(  
    model_name IN VARCHAR2  
    ) RETURN NUMBER;
```

### Description

Returns the model ID number of a semantic technology model.

### Parameters

**model\_name**  
Name of the semantic technology model.

### Usage Notes

The `model_name` value must match a value in the `MODEL_NAME` column in the `MDSYS.SEM_MODEL$` view, which is described in [Section 1.3.1](#).

### Examples

The following example returns the model ID number for the model named `articles`. (This example is an excerpt from [Example 1-9](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

```
SELECT SEM_APIS.GET_MODEL_ID('articles') AS model_id FROM DUAL;
```

```
MODEL_ID  
-----  
1
```

## SEM\_APIS.GET\_MODEL\_NAME

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.GET_MODEL_NAME(  
    model_id IN NUMBER  
    ) RETURN VARCHAR2;
```

### Description

Returns the model name of a semantic technology model.

### Parameters

**model\_id**  
ID number of the semantic technology model.

### Usage Notes

The `model_id` value must match a value in the `MODEL_ID` column in the `MDSYS.SEM_MODEL$` view, which is described in [Section 1.3.1](#).

### Examples

The following example returns the model ID number for the model with the ID value of 1. This example is an excerpt from [Example 1–9](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).

```
SQL> SELECT SEM_APIS.GET_MODEL_NAME(1) AS model_name FROM DUAL;
```

```
MODEL_NAME
```

```
-----  
ARTICLES
```

---

## SEM\_APIS.GET\_TRIPLE\_ID

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.GET_TRIPLE_ID(  
    model_id IN NUMBER,  
    subject  IN VARCHAR2,  
    property IN VARCHAR2,  
    object   IN VARCHAR2  
    ) RETURN VARCHAR2;
```

or

```
SEM_APIS.GET_TRIPLE_ID(  
    model_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    subject    IN VARCHAR2,  
    property   IN VARCHAR2,  
    object     IN VARCHAR2  
    ) RETURN VARCHAR2;
```

### Description

Returns the ID of a triple in the specified semantic technology model, or a null value if the triple does not exist.

### Parameters

**model\_id**

ID number of the semantic technology model. Must match a value in the MODEL\_ID column of the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view, which is described in [Section 1.3.1](#).

**model\_name**

Name of the semantic technology model. Must match a value in the MODEL\_NAME column of the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view, which is described in [Section 1.3.1](#).

**subject**

Subject. Must match a value in the VALUE\_NAME column of the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

**property**

Property. Must match a value in the VALUE\_NAME column of the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

**object**

Object. Must match a value in the VALUE\_NAME column of the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

### Usage Notes

This function has two formats, enabling you to specify the semantic technology model by its model number or its name.

## Examples

The following example returns the ID number of a triple. (This example is an excerpt from [Example 1–9](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

```
SELECT SEM_APIS.GET_TRIPLE_ID(  
  'articles',  
  'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article2',  
  'http://purl.org/dc/terms/references',  
  'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article3') AS RDF_triple_id FROM DUAL;
```

```
RDF_TRIPLE_ID
```

```
-----  
2_9F2BFF05DA0672E_90D25A8B08C653A_46854582F25E8AC5
```



---

## SEM\_APIS.IS\_TRIPLE

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.IS_TRIPLE(
    model_id IN NUMBER,
    subject  IN VARCHAR2,
    property IN VARCHAR2,
    object   IN VARCHAR2) RETURN VARCHAR2;
```

or

```
SEM_APIS.IS_TRIPLE(
    model_name IN VARCHAR2,
    subject    IN VARCHAR2,
    property   IN VARCHAR2,
    object     IN VARCHAR2) RETURN VARCHAR2;
```

### Description

Checks if a statement is an existing triple in the specified model in the database.

### Parameters

#### **model\_id**

ID number of the semantic technology model. Must match a value in the MODEL\_ID column of the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view, which is described in [Section 1.3.1](#).

#### **model\_name**

Name of the semantic technology model. Must match a value in the MODEL\_NAME column of the MDSYS.SEM\_MODEL\$ view, which is described in [Section 1.3.1](#).

#### **subject**

Subject. Must match a value in the VALUE\_NAME column of the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

#### **property**

Property. Must match a value in the VALUE\_NAME column of the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

#### **object**

Object. Must match a value in the VALUE\_NAME column of the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

### Usage Notes

This function returns the string value FALSE, TRUE, or TRUE (EXACT):

- FALSE means that the statement is not a triple in the specified model the database.
- TRUE means that the statement matches the value of a triple or is the canonical representation of the value of a triple in the specified model the database.

- TRUE (EXACT) means that the specified subject, property, and object values have exact matches in a triple in the specified model in the database.

## Examples

The following checks if a statement is a triple in the database. In this case, there is an exact match. (This example is an excerpt from [Example 1–9](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

```
SELECT SEM_APIS.IS_TRIPLE(  
  'articles',  
  'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article2',  
  'http://purl.org/dc/terms/references',  
  'http://www.nature.com/nature/Article3') AS is_triple FROM DUAL;
```

```
IS_TRIPLE
```

```
-----  
TRUE (EXACT)
```

---

## SEM\_APIS.LOOKUP\_RULES\_INDEX

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.LOOKUP_RULES_INDEX (
    models    IN SEM_MODELS,
    rulebases IN SEM_RULEBASES
) RETURN VARCHAR2;
```

### Description

Returns the name of the rules index based on the specified models and rulebases.

### Parameters

#### **models**

One or more model names. Its data type is SEM\_MODELS, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25)

#### **rulebases**

One or more rulebase names. Its data type is SEM\_RULEBASES, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25) Rules and rulebases are explained in [Section 1.3.6](#).

### Usage Notes

For a rulebase index to be returned, it must be based on all specified models and rulebases.

### Examples

The following example finds the rules index that is based on the `family` model and the `RDFS` and `family_rb` rulebases. (It is an excerpt from [Example 1–10](#) in [Section 1.9.2](#).)

```
SELECT SEM_APIS.LOOKUP_RULES_INDEX(SEM_MODELS('family'),
    SEM_RULEBASES('RDFS','family_rb')) AS lookup_rules_index FROM DUAL;
```

```
LOOKUP_RULES_INDEX
```

```
-----
RDFS_RIX_FAMILY
```

## SEM\_APIS.VALIDATE\_ENTAILMENT

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.VALIDATE_ENTAILMENT(  
    models_in      IN SEM_MODELS,  
    rulebases_in   IN SEM_RULEBASES,  
    criteria_in     IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    max_conflict   IN NUMBER DEFAULT 100,  
    options        IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL  
) RETURN RDF_LONGVARCHARARRAY;
```

### Description

Validates rules indexes (entailment) that can be used to perform OWL or RDFS inferencing for one or more models.

### Parameters

#### **models\_in**

One or more model names. Its data type is SEM\_MODELS, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25)

#### **rulebases\_in**

One or more rulebase names. Its data type is SEM\_RULEBASES, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25) . Rules and rulebases are explained in [Section 1.3.6](#).

#### **criteria\_in**

A comma-delimited string of validation checks to run. If you do not specify this parameter, by default all of the following checks are run:

- UNSAT: Find unsatisfiable classes.
- EMPTY: Find instances belong to unsatisfiable classes
- SYNTAX\_S: Find triples whose subject is neither URI nor blank node.
- SYNTAX\_P: Find triples whose predicate is not URI.
- SELF\_DIF: Find individuals that are different from themselves.
- INST: Find individuals that simultaneously belong to two disjoint classes.
- SAM\_DIF: Find pairs of individuals that are same (owl:sameAs) and different (owl:differentFrom) at the same time.

To specify fewer checks, specify a string with only the checks to be performed. For example, `criteria_in => 'UNSAT'` causes the validation process to search only for unsatisfiable classes.

#### **max\_conflict**

The maximum number of conflicts to find before the validation process stops. The default value is 100.

**options**

(Not currently used. Reserved for Oracle use.).

**Usage Notes**

This procedure can be used to detect inconsistencies in the original entailment. For more information, see [Section 2.2.5](#).

This procedure returns a null value if no errors are detected or (if errors are detected) an object of type RDF\_LONGVARCHARARRAY, which has the following definition:  
VARRAY(32767) OF VARCHAR2(4000)

To create an entailment, use the [SEM\\_APIS.CREATE\\_ENTAILMENT](#) procedure.

**Examples**

For an example of this procedure, see [Example 2-5](#) in [Section 2.2.5](#).

## SEM\_APIS.VALIDATE\_MODEL

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.VALIDATE_MODEL(  
    models_in      IN SEM_MODELS,  
    criteria_in    IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    max_conflict   IN NUMBER DEFAULT 100,  
    options        IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL  
    ) RETURN RDF_LONGVARCHARARRAY;
```

### Description

Validates one or more models.

### Parameters

#### **models\_in**

One or more model names. Its data type is SEM\_MODELS, which has the following definition: TABLE OF VARCHAR2 (25)

#### **criteria\_in**

A comma-delimited string of validation checks to run. If you do not specify this parameter, by default all of the following checks are run:

- UNSAT: Find unsatisfiable classes.
- EMPTY: Find instances belong to unsatisfiable classes
- SYNTAX\_S: Find triples whose subject is neither URI nor blank node.
- SYNTAX\_P: Find triples whose predicate is not URI.
- SELF\_DIF: Find individuals that are different from themselves.
- INST: Find individuals that simultaneously belong to two disjoint classes.
- SAM\_DIF: Find pairs of individuals that are same (owl:sameAs) and different (owl:differentFrom) at the same time.

To specify fewer checks, specify a string with only the checks to be performed. For example, `criteria_in => 'UNSAT'` causes the validation process to search only for unsatisfiable classes.

#### **max\_conflict**

The maximum number of conflicts to find before the validation process stops. The default value is 100.

#### **options**

(Not currently used. Reserved for Oracle use.).

### Usage Notes

This procedure can be used to detect inconsistencies in the original data model. For more information, see [Section 2.2.5](#).

This procedure returns a null value if no errors are detected or (if errors are detected) an object of type `RDF_LONGVARCHARARRAY`, which has the following definition:  
`VARRAY(32767) OF VARCHAR2(4000)`

## Examples

The following example validates the model named `family`.

```
SELECT SEM_APIS.VALIDATE_MODEL(SEM_MODELS('family')) FROM DUAL;
```

## SEM\_APIS.VALUE\_NAME\_PREFIX

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.VALUE_NAME_PREFIX (  
    value_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    value_type  IN VARCHAR2  
) RETURN VARCHAR2;
```

### Description

Returns the value in the VNAME\_PREFIX column for the specified value name and value type pair in the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table.

### Parameters

**value\_name**

Value name. Must match a value in the VALUE\_NAME column in the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

**value\_type**

Value type. Must match a value in the VALUE\_TYPE column in the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

### Usage Notes

This function usually causes an index on the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table to be used for processing a lookup for values, and thus can make a query run faster.

### Examples

The following query returns value name portions of all the lexical values in MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table with a prefix value same as that returned by the VALUE\_NAME\_PREFIX function. This query uses an index on the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, thereby providing efficient lookup.

```
SELECT value_name FROM MDSYS.RDF_VALUE$  
    WHERE vname_prefix = SEM_APIS.VALUE_NAME_PREFIX(  
        'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type', 'UR');
```

VALUE\_NAME

```
-----  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Alt  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Bag  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#List  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Property  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Seq  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Statement  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#XMLLiteral  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#first  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#nil  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#object  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#predicate  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#rest  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#subject  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type
```



`http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#value`

15 rows selected.

## SEM\_APIS.VALUE\_NAME\_SUFFIX

### Format

```
SEM_APIS.VALUE_NAME_SUFFIX (  
    value_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    value_type  IN VARCHAR2  
    ) RETURN VARCHAR2;
```

### Description

Returns the value in the VNAME\_SUFFIX column for the specified value name and value type pair in the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table.

### Parameters

**value\_name**

Value name. Must match a value in the VALUE\_NAME column in the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

**value\_type**

Value type. Must match a value in the VALUE\_TYPE column in the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, which is described in [Section 1.3.2](#).

### Usage Notes

This function usually causes an index on the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table to be used for processing a lookup for values, and thus can make a query run faster.

### Examples

The following query returns value name portions of all the lexical values in MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table with a suffix value same as that returned by the VALUE\_NAME\_SUFFIX function. This query uses an index on the MDSYS.RDF\_VALUE\$ table, thereby providing efficient lookup.

```
SELECT value_name FROM MDSYS.RDF_VALUE$  
    WHERE vname_suffix = SEM_APIS.VALUE_NAME_SUFFIX(  
        'http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type', 'UR');
```

```
VALUE_NAME
```

```
-----  
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type
```

---

---

## SEM\_PERF Package Subprograms

The SEM\_PERF package contains subprograms for examining and enhancing the performance of the Resource Description Framework (RDF) and Web Ontology Language (OWL) support in an Oracle database. To use the subprograms in this chapter, you must understand the conceptual and usage information in [Chapter 1, "Oracle Semantic Technologies Overview"](#) and [Chapter 2, "OWL Concepts"](#).

This chapter provides reference information about the subprograms, listed in alphabetical order.

## SEM\_PERF.GATHER\_STATS

### Format

```
SEM_PERF.GATHER_STATS();
```

### Description

Gathers statistics about RDF and OWL tables and their indexes.

### Parameters

None.

### Usage Notes

To use this procedure, you must connect as a user with permission to execute it. By default, when Spatial is installed as part of Oracle Database, only the MDSYS user can execute this procedure; however execution permission on this procedure can be granted to users as needed.

This procedure collects statistical information that can help you to improve inferencing performance, as explained in [Section 2.2.7](#). This procedure internally calls the DBMS\_STATS.GATHER\_TABLE\_STATS procedure to collect statistics on RDF- and OWL-related tables and their indexes, and stores the statistics in the Oracle Database data dictionary. For information about using the DBMS\_STATS package, see *Oracle Database PL/SQL Packages and Types Reference*.

Gathering statistics uses significant system resources, so execute this procedure when it cannot adversely affect essential applications and operations.

### Examples

The following example gathers statistics about RDF and OWL related tables and their indexes.

```
EXECUTE SEM_PERF.GATHER_STATS;
```

---

---

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