

Ontology Pre-Processor Language (OPPL)

<http://oppl.sourceforge.net/>

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Introduction to OPPL

“Macro” language for manipulating content of OWL ontologies

Motivation: authors’ needs when creating/maintaining bio-ontologies (Use cases)

Nearly API-level functionality with minimum programming/OWL knowledge

Manchester OWL Syntax + **SELECT**, **ADD**, **REMOVE**

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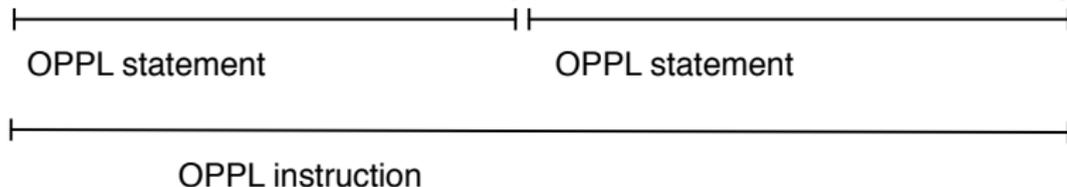
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Manchester OWL Syntax + **SELECT**, **ADD**, **REMOVE**

OPPL instruction

```
SELECT Class: admin;ADD label "office admin";
```



OPPL instruction examples

```
ADD Class: undergraduate;
```

```
REMOVE Class: undergraduate;
```

```
SELECT equivalentTo participates_in only  
(intellectual_dinner and party);  
ADD label "professor";  
REMOVE subclassOf lives_on only (not campus);
```

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OPPL instruction examples

```
SELECT subClassOf MoleOfSalt;  
ADD subClassOf hasDensity value 0.0;
```

```
SELECT inverse participates_in;  
ADD range student;
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ADD Class: professor;  
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OPPL instruction examples

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disjointWith, differentFrom, sameAs, type,  
descendantOf, ancestorOf, subPropertyOf, ...
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http://oppl.sourceforge.net/test.oppl
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OPPL extra instructions

```
SELECT_PRIMITIVE descendantOf student;
```

```
SELECT_DEFINED descendantOf student;
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```
SELECT descendantOf person;  
ADD disjointWithSiblings;
```

```
SELECT assertedSubClassOf participates_in some  
sport;
```

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OPPL software

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http://oppl.sourceforge.net/
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```
OPPLInstructionManager
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Java library for processing OPPL instructions (LGPL)
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```
OWL API, Pellet, FaCT++, DIG
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OPPL reference implementation: OPPL instructions in flat file
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Use case 1: Bio-ontology axiomatic enrichment

Gene Ontology Next Generation

<http://www.gong.manchester.ac.uk/>

```
alanine:sodium symporter activity
```

— Axiomatic enrichment based in rdfs:label —

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EquivalentTo: symporter activity  
and transports only (alanine or sodium)
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— Axiomatic enrichment based in `rdfs:label` —

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Use case 1: Bio-ontology axiomatic enrichment

```
rdfs:label: alanine:sodium symporter activity  
rdfs:label: glycine:potassium symporter activity  
rdfs:label: valine:sodium symporter activity  
...
```

```
SELECT label "(.+):(.+) (symporter activity)";  
ADD equivalentTo symporter_activity and  
transports only (<1> or <2>);
```

Use case 2: Cell Cycle Ontology

`http://www.cellcycleontology.org/`

Gather knowledge about the cell cycle in 5 ontologies

Ontologies created anew each pipeline execution

Impossible to add new axioms by hand to 5 ontologies:

- Axioms overwritten each time the pipeline is executed
- Many axioms in different places
- Ontologies too big

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Add axioms automatically each time the pipeline is executed

Explicit development

Querying capabilities

Flexible development

Ontology Design Patterns

<http://odps.sourceforge.net>

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Use case 2: Cell Cycle Ontology

```
# Create object property immediately_precedes

ADD ObjectProperty: immediately_precedes;ADD functional;
ADD subPropertyOf precedes;ADD inverse immediately_preceded_by;ADD domain
CCO_U0000002;ADD range CCO_U0000002;

# Meiotic cell cycle: G1 -> S -> G2 -> M

SELECT Class: CCO_P0000327;ADD subClassOf immediately_preceded_by some
CCO_P0000325;ADD subClassOf immediately_precedes some CCO_P0000326;

# Query 1: Proteins acting in the mitotic S phase (At)

ADD Class: query_1;ADD subClassOf query;REMOVE subClassOf Thing;
ADD comment "Proteins acting in the mitotic S phase";

SELECT subClassOf participates_in some (CCO_P0000014 or (part_of some
CCO_P0000014));ADD subClassOf query_1;
```

Future of OPPL

Syntax closer to OWL?

```
ADD Class: professor
```

```
ADD professor subClassOf Thing
```

Loops, conditional control, subroutines, ...

Variables?

```
SELECT subClassOf part_of some ?x;
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ADD equivalentTo part_of only ?x;
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```
SET professor label "new label";
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Formal grammar

Protégé plugin (autocomplete, syntax validation, logs, ...)

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Acknowledgements

Mikel Egaña: University of Manchester and EPSRC

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