

Reasoning based on property propagation on CIDOC-CRM and CRMdig based repositories

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Practical Experiences with CIDOC CRM and its Extensions



Outline

- The problem
- Related work
- Our approach
- Examples
- Conclusion



The problem

Semantic repositories follow the “Open World Assumption”

- *incomplete* knowledge
- metadata may be created by *different people* who state *different facts* about the *same artifact*
- use the schema in *different albeit correct* ways
- users cannot know precisely *what has been documented and how.*

Semantic repositories contain *implicit knowledge*:

- characteristics of artifacts that have been recorded somewhere in the semantic network but are *not directly* associated to the object of interest
- characteristics that have *multiple modeling alternatives.*
- characteristics that are *generalizations* of sets of more specific properties.



Related work on data provenance

Main areas of research:

- *Workflow systems – coarse-grained provenance*
- *Database systems – fine-grained provenance*

deal mainly with:

- *Data quality & reliability*
- *Audit trail*
- *Replication recipes*
- *Attribution*



Workflow systems

Provenance of a workflow: *the entire history of the derivation of the process result*

- different versions of the software and the hardware used
- the agents that were involved in the workflow chain (processes, human agents)
- the “things” (e.g. data) employed by the processes.

Workflow provenance models:

- ✚ *Querying allows to explore and better understand results and enables knowledge re-use*
- *computational processes only on digital artifacts*

OPM, Provenir Ontology

- *no notion of **acquisition** (measurement, observation), **place***
- ***Confuse** agentive **role** with **substance** of actors, machines, S/W, context*
- *No notion of temporal indeterminacy*

W3C Recommendation Provenance Ontology (PROV-O)

- *precondition: No use of a larger reference ontology*



Database systems

Data provenance provides a detailed trace of how a piece of data has been obtained from a transformation process (i.e. query)

Data provenance may indicate:

- the tuples involved in the computation of a result tuple (**why-provenance**)
- where these tuples reside (**where-provenance**)
- the query operators used to obtain the result tuple (**how-provenance**)

+ extensively studied for relational databases

– only recently for Linked Data



Our approach

Need of a mechanism to reason upon complex structured metadata

British Museum website:

the object “Horsemen from the west frieze of the Parthenon” is part of the Parthenon

Acropolis Museum: *Parthenon was created by Pheidias.*

Integrated metadata described in CIDOC-CRM:

- *“Horsemen from the west frieze of the Parthenon” **crm: forms part of** “Parthenon”*
- *“Parthenon” **crm: was produced by** “Construction of Parthenon” **crm: carried out by** “Pheidias”*
- *There is a **likelihood** that Pheidias was involved in the making of the Horsemen*
- *Inferences will increase **recall** and reduce **precision***
- *Combined with application dependent **relevance** criteria can improve query results*



Our approach

The Idea:

Exploit the transitive part-of and derivation chains and reason combining metadata of real world objects with metadata of digital objects and data acquisition/measurement processes

- *Generalization and inferring of metadata from related objects by using the **propagation** of some object properties along the **transitive part-of** and **derivation chains** of information.*
- ***Simple** yet **powerful** reasoning mechanism based on **inference** and **completion** of metadata.*

In order to:

- *help scientists query a semantic repository in order to trace and understand the source of their results*
- *reproduce results*
- *ease quality control of results and processes*



Application environment

Semantic repository based on:

- CIDOC CRM v5.0.4
<http://www.cidoc-crm.org/rdfs/cidoc-crm>
- CRMdig 3.0
extension of CIDOC CRM appropriate for representing provenance
<http://www.ics.forth.gr/isl/CRMext/CRMdig.rdfs>

Used platform:

OpenRDF-Sesame <http://www.openrdf.org/>

Ontotext BigOWLIM reasoner (now OWLIM-SE <http://www.ontotext.com/owlim/editions>)



Application environment

Applied in 3D-COFORM (IP FP7/2007-2013, no 231809, <http://www.3d-coform.eu/>)

The semantic repository (1M RDF triples) includes:

- metadata describing the **digital provenance** for empirical 3D **modeling** and **digitization processes**
- metadata about the **physical objects**
- metadata about the **digitized objects**
- **deep chains** of events connected by input-output
- up to tens of thousands of **intermediary products** that “inherit” many properties along the processing chains

The Research Space project has also implemented this approach following our model.



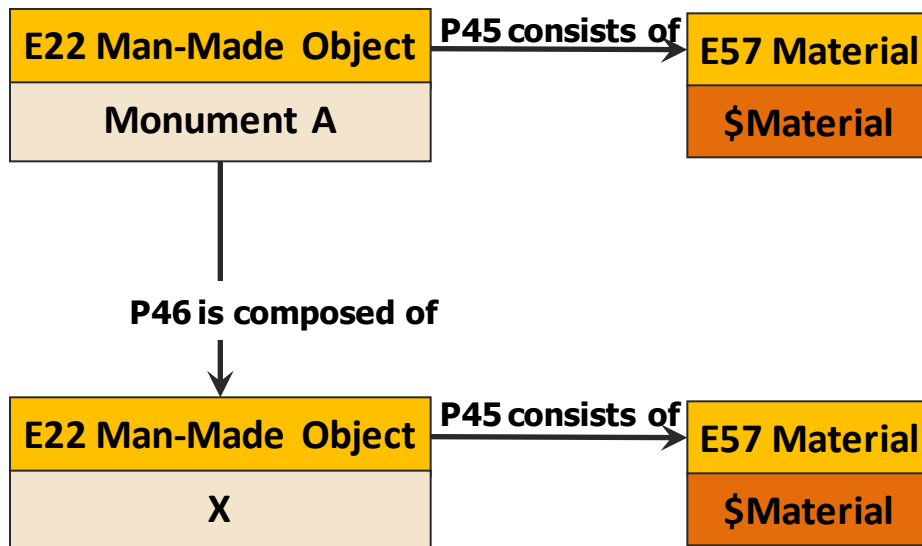
Part-of chain

Rule 1

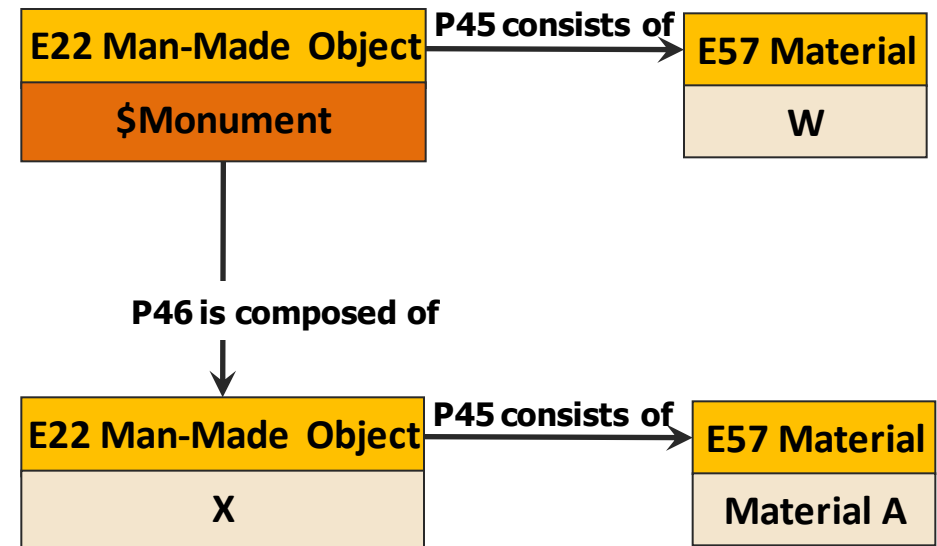
The property of an object is the aggregation of the explicitly defined property in the object itself and the respective properties of all its subparts.



Part-of chain



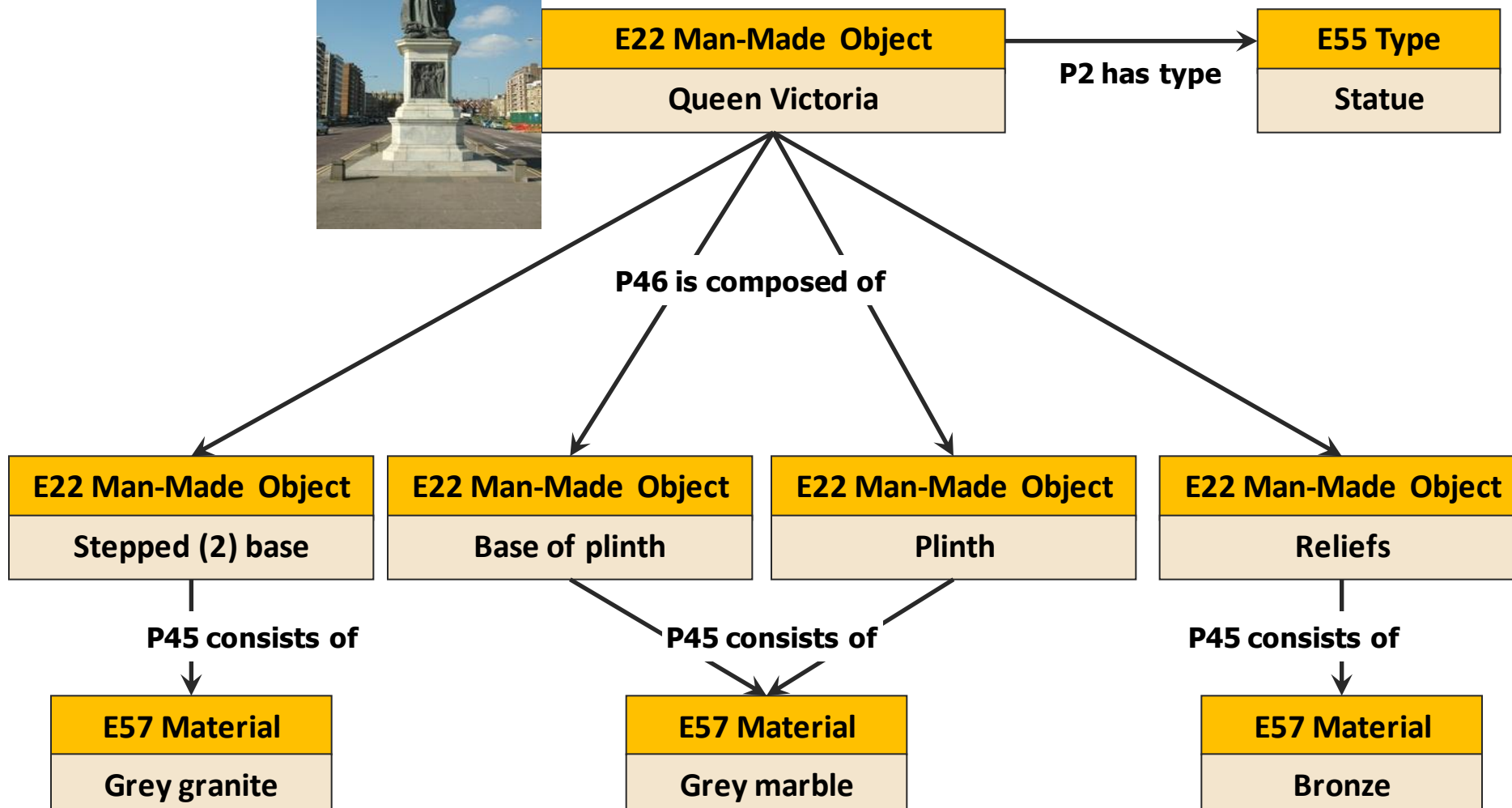
1. Forward traversal of the part of chain: Find the Material of Monument A



2. Backwards traversal of the part of chain: Find Monuments constructed from Material A



Queen Victoria Example





Queen Victoria Example

Forward traversal query:

Find the material(s) from which the Queen Victoria Statue is made of

Answer set:

Grey granite, Grey marble, Bronze

Backward traversal query:

Find statues made of Bronze

Answer set:

Queen Victoria



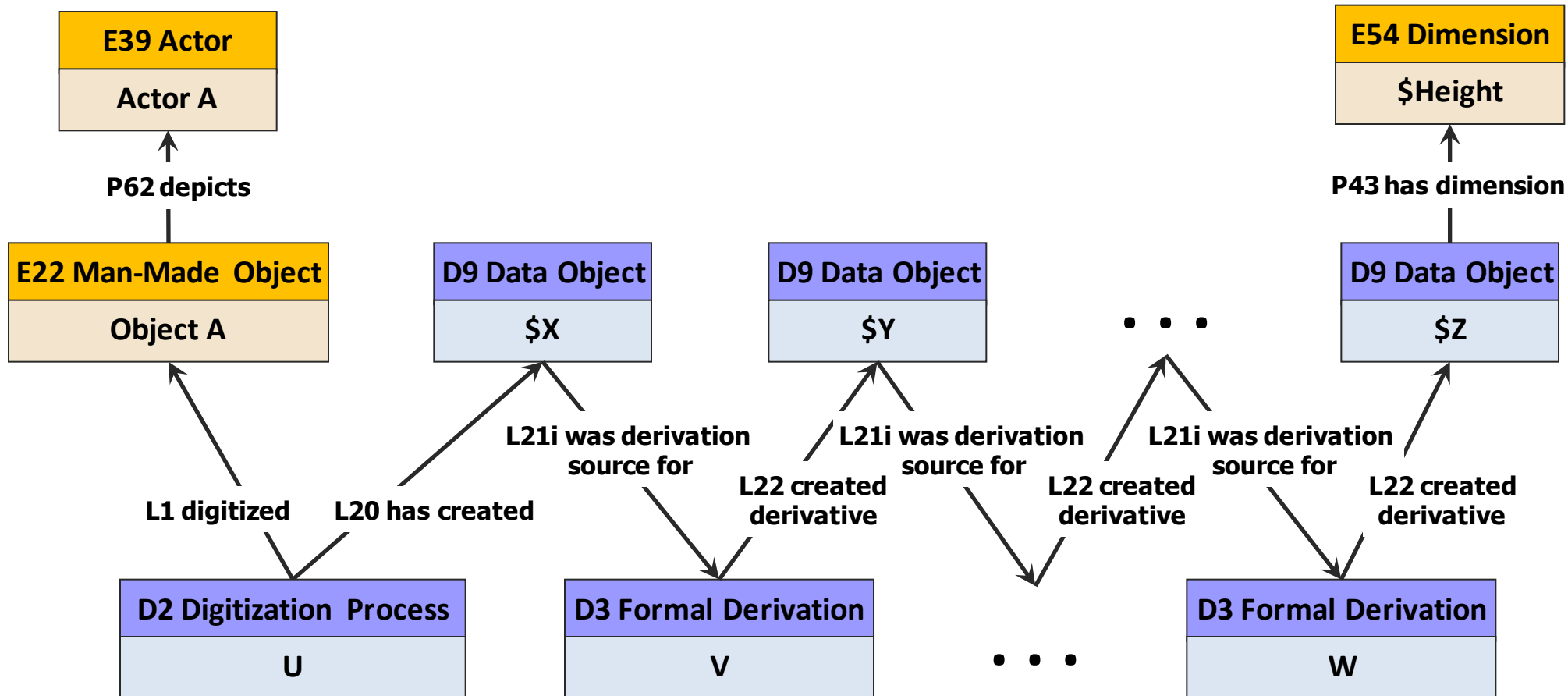
Derivation chain

Rule 2

Physical objects may share properties with their digital representations and their derivatives.

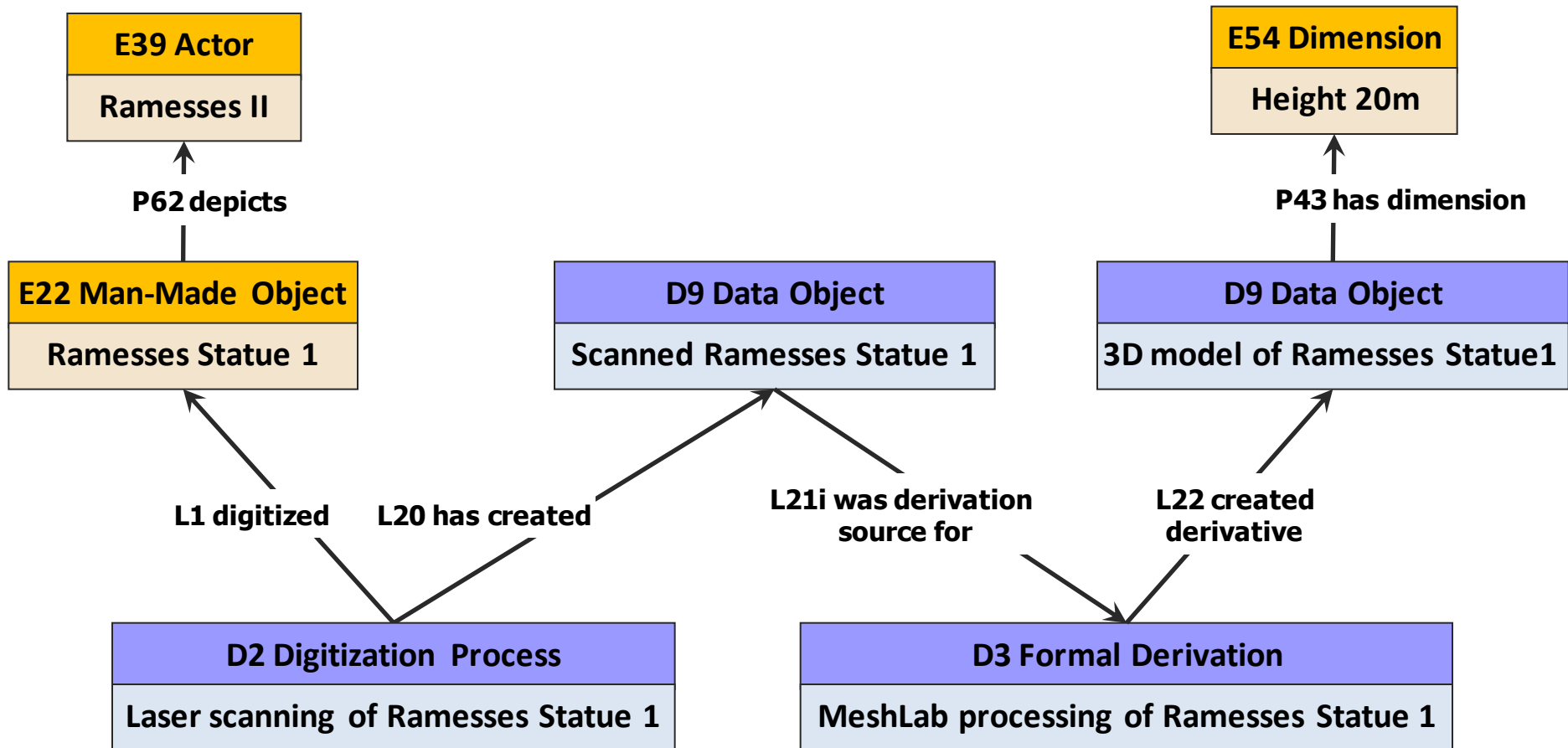


Derivation chain





Ramesses Statue Example





Ramesses Statue Example

Forward traversal query:

Find objects that depict Ramesses II

Answer set:

Ramesses Statue 1, Scanned Ramesses Statue 1, 3D model of Ramesses Statue1

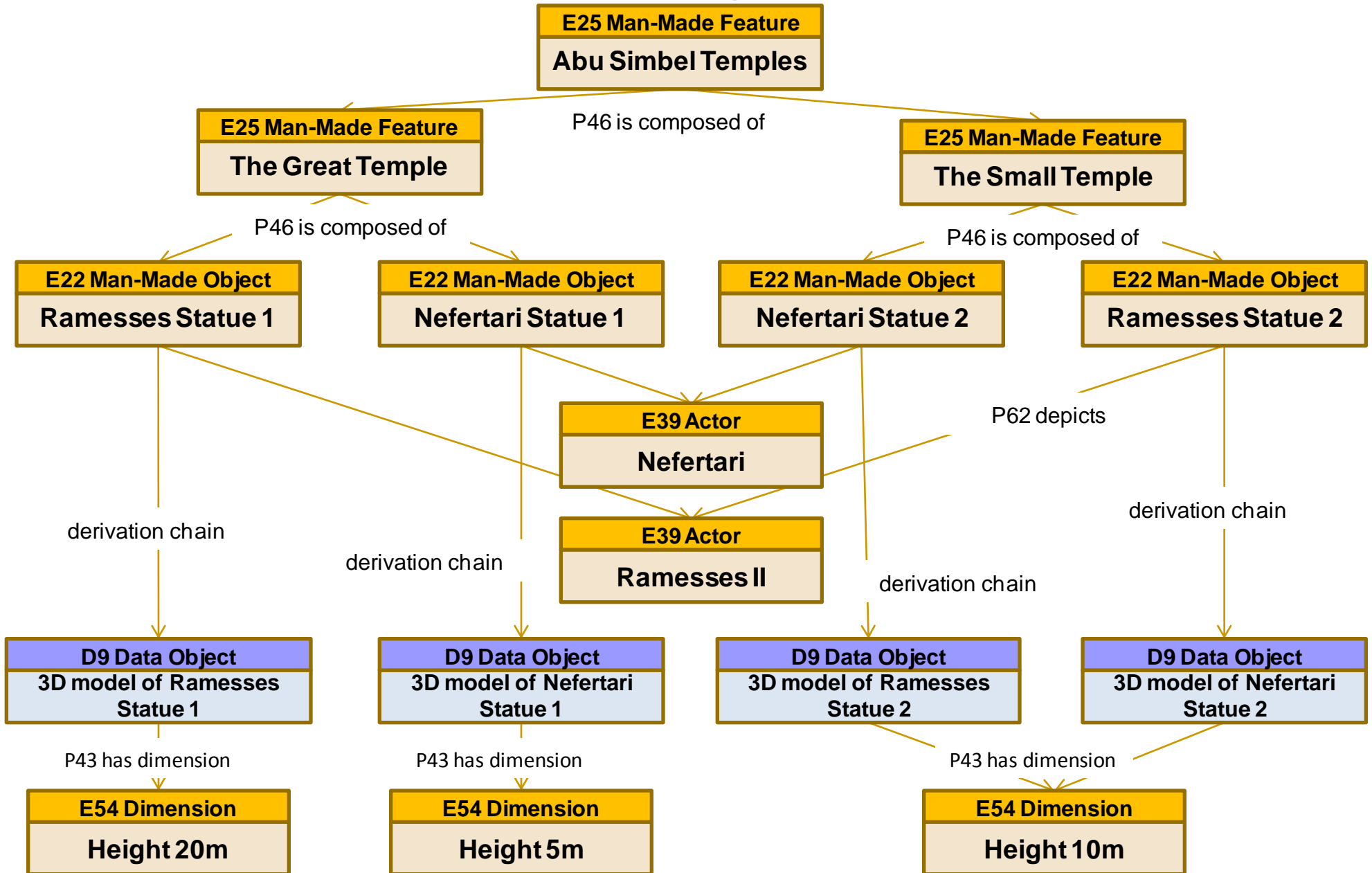
Backward traversal query:

Find the size of the Ramesses Statue 1 object

Answer set:

Height 20m

Combining Part-of & Derivation chains





Abu Simbel Example

Query:

Find Temples where Ramesses II and his wife Nefertari are represented with same size statues

Answer set:

Abu Simbel Temples, The Small Temple



Example use cases

- *maintenance of repositories* of digitization products
- *garbage collection* on reproducible intermediate files
- *trace dependencies of products on tools and algorithms that should not become obsolete for long time preservation*
- *(re)production* of valid, complete metadata at a loss of intermediate files
- *completion of metadata* by implicit knowledge, when production chains comprise thousands of intermediates and dozens of final products without need to manage this redundancy in the repository explicitly.



Conclusions

Exploiting property propagation along transitive derivation and part-of chains helps:

- *to combine metadata of physical objects with metadata of digital objects*
- *to complete metadata*
- *to derive useful inferences*
- *to improve query recall*

Simple yet powerful

Open issue: Precision

- *resolve relevance issues with additional application specific constraints*



Thank you!