

Taxonomy of Semantics

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Overview

The taxonomy of semantics identifies where meaning appears in DIDO Solutions work. The taxonomy supports analysis, discussion, [traceability](#), and governance. It does not require every project to create a separate artifact for every kind of [semantics](#).

The taxonomy helps architects identify which semantic concerns apply to a given project, which artifacts express those concerns, and which source governs the intended meaning.

DIDO Solutions uses this taxonomy to prevent the common collapse of [semantics](#) into [ontology](#), [RDF](#), or [OWL](#). Those artifacts and technologies play important roles, but they represent only some forms of semantic content.

The taxonomy provides a classification scheme for discussing, tracing, governing, and implementing meaning across DIDO Solutions efforts. It does not define separate project phases or mandatory deliverables.

Semantic Overlap

Semantic concerns often overlap. A single artifact expresses several kinds of semantics at the same time. For example, a [JSON Schema](#) for an FX trade message expresses schema semantics through field structure, datatype semantics through date and decimal constraints, type semantics through domain-specific identifiers, and rule semantics through validation constraints.

Examples of overlap include:

- A terminology record expresses terminological semantics and supports vocabulary semantics
- A [conceptual model](#) expresses conceptual semantics and provides [traceability](#) for ontological semantics
- An [RDF graph](#) expresses graph semantics and represents selected ontological semantics
- An [OWL ontology](#) expresses OWL semantics and selected ontological semantics
- A [schema](#) expresses schema semantics, datatype semantics, and selected type semantics
- A [report](#) expresses report semantics and includes schema, datatype, rule, and policy semantics
- A conformance test expresses conformance semantics and validates rule, lifecycle, schema, or report semantics
- Implementation logic expresses implementation semantics when it preserves [traceability](#) to governed semantic sources

A project selects the semantic concerns that matter for its scope, risk, stakeholders, and implementation context. A small demonstration often uses terminology, conceptual semantics, schema semantics, and implementation semantics. A governed financial reporting system often uses report semantics, policy semantics, rule semantics, conformance semantics, lifecycle semantics, type

semantics, datatype semantics, and traceability to [FIBO](#), [SBRM](#), or other authoritative sources.

The taxonomy, therefore, provides a map of semantic concerns, not a required work breakdown structure.

Taxonomy Details

The following semantic categories occur under this taxonomy.

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