



ODRL in 2001

- Based on the INDECS model (use & re-use)
- XML and dedicated semantics
- Tight to copyright and rights labelling
- Competition with MPG21
- 2002 ODRL Submission



ODRL in 2018

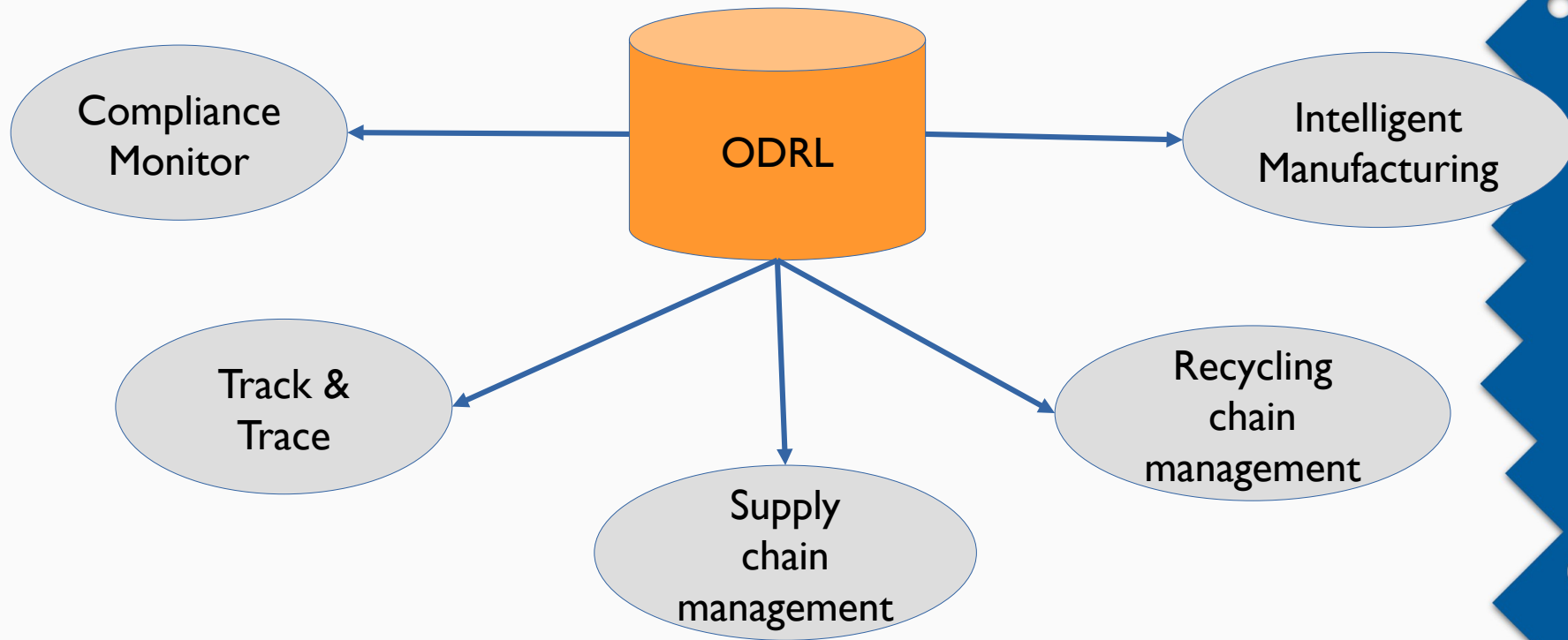
- Wide interest
- Finally a W3C Recommendation
- Attention in the regulatory environment
- Attention in the area of Privacy & Usage control



ODRL in 2026

- Challenges on Linked data access & usage control
- Constraint management in Data Spaces
- Constraint management in the area of Privacy (Solid, but not only)
- Increased attention in the regulatory environment
- Combination with Web of Things & Smart cities
- Constraint management in the circular economy

All Data flows need guidance



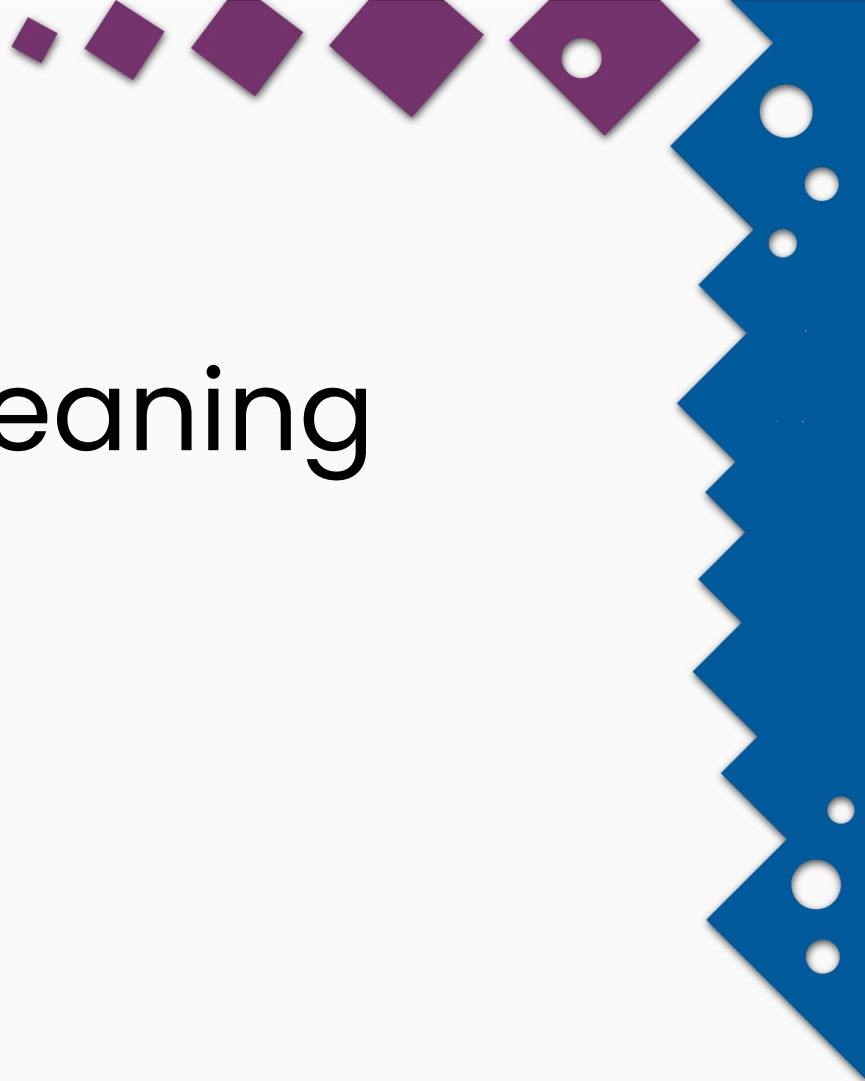


Risk of Fragmentation

- Ignoring the “about principle”
- Hardcoded context for ODRL expressions
- Unclear relations to other vocabularies
- **Ambiguities on meaning and on reasoning**



The legal meaning of **ODRL**





The legal meaning

- Law is made of sentences
- Sentences have the form of S.P.O (subject, predicate, object)
- RDF can express a sentence
- Sentences can be combined
- With ODRL semantics, RDF can express legal meaning



Securing the legal meaning

- Relation of ODRL and Verifiable Credentials
 - VC profile for ODRL?
- Clear definition of Object necessary
 - e.g. The pen-123 is mine (SPO) is a legal statement
 - In the absence of a clear definition of pen-123, the meaning of that legal sentence is meaningless.
- Problem of categories and legal meaning (all of) versus instances.



ODRL and other Linked Data standards





Verifiable Credentials

- <https://www.w3.org/groups/wg/vc/>
- Establishing **trust** in
 - State of the world
 - Policy evaluation outcome
 - Policies themselves?



Controlled/Decentralized IDs

- <https://www.w3.org/groups/wg/did/>
- Identifying parties
- Identifying resources
 - Sticky policy?



JSON-LD

- <https://www.w3.org/groups/wg/json-ld/>
- YAML-LD
 - User-friendly representation (poor man's wizard?)
- CBOR-LD
 - Compressed binary representation



Dataset Exchange

- <https://www.w3.org/groups/wg/dx/>
- DCAT maintenance
- Vocabulary for Variable Description (VVD)
- (among others)



Linked Web Storage

- <https://www.w3.org/groups/wg/lws/>
- Standardization / evolution of the SOLID protocol (<https://solidproject.org/>)
- Planning to use a profile of ODRL for access requests and access grants



TPAC 2026

- <https://www.w3.org/news-events/tpac/2026/>
- Mini-workshop on
“Data governance and
ownership”
(working title)

