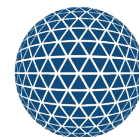


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DBpedia and the Custody of Linked Open Data

Sebastian Hellmann

<http://dbpedia.org>



InfAI®

Institut für Angewandte Informatik

Outline

DBpedia History and Challenges

- The beginning phase (2007 - 2011)
- The manifestation phase (2011 - 2016)
- Glass ceiling phase (2016 - 2019)
- Lessons learned

The future brings solutions

- Skyrocketing phase (2020 - 2025)
 - Databus
 - Knowledge Library
 - FlexiFusion

Beginning Phase of DBpedia 2007-2011

2007 - First Extraction of Wikipedia's Infoboxes

```
{{Infobox website
|name           = National Digital Library of India (NDLI)
|num_users      = {{increase}} 2,000,000+ (January 2019)
|current_status = Active
|location_city  = [[Kharagpur]]
|location_country = [[India]]
|num_employees  = >150 (January 2019)
|website        = {{URL|https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in}}
|logo           =
|type           = [[Education]]
|screenshot     =
|registration    = Free
|language_count = 10
|commercial     = No
}}
```

National Digital Library of India (NDLI)

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Type of site | Education |
| Available in | 10 languages |
| Headquarters | Kharagpur, India |
| Employees | >150 (January 2019) |
| Website | ndl.iitkgp.ac.in |
| Commercial | No |
| Registration | Free |
| Users | ▲ 2,000,000+ (January 2019) |
| Current status | Active |

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Digital_Library_of_India
- (en) https://dbpedia.org/resource/National_Digital_Library_of_India
- (global) https://global.dbpedia.org/?s=https%3A%2F%2Fen.wikipedia.org%2Fwiki%2FNational_Digital_Library_of_India
- (global) <https://global.dbpedia.org/id/3FdBE>

Beginning Phase of DBpedia 2007-2011

2007 - First Extraction of Wikipedia's Infoboxes

Query Wikipedia Like a Database:

soccer players, who are born in a country with more than 10 million inhabitants, who played as goalkeeper for a club that has a stadium with more than 30.000 seats and the club country is different from the birth country

Starting members:  **OPENLINK**[®]
SOFTWARE  **UNIVERSITÄT**
MANNHEIM  **InfAI**[®]
Institute for Applied Informatics  **TIB** LEIBNIZ-INFORMATIONSZENTRUM
TECHNIK UND NATURWISSENSCHAFTEN
UNIVERSITÄTSBIBLIOTHEK

- Uni Leipzig, Open Link Software, FU Berlin (affiliation change of key persons)

Beginning Phase of DBpedia 2007-2011

Exceptional boost of research and industrial innovation

- DBpedia Dataset became the foundation for around 25000 scientific papers
- High industry adoption: BBC, New York Times, Yahoo, Watson (Jeopardy)
- Emergence of semantic technologies:
 - Knowledge Extraction
 - Entity Linking (Databases)
 - Entity Linking (Natural Language Processing) - DBpedia Spotlight
 - Graph Databases

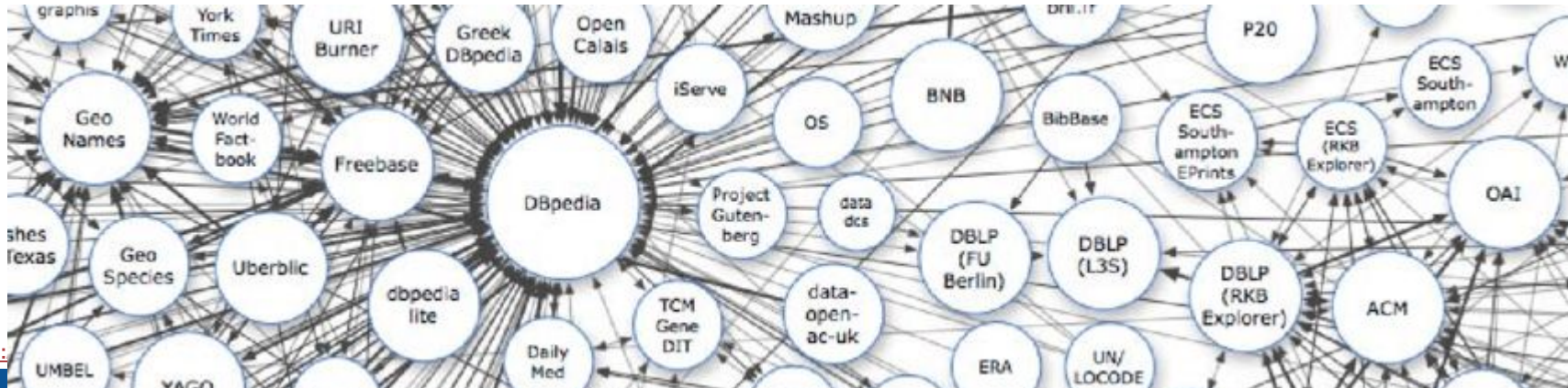
Beginning Phase of DBpedia 2007-2011

Linked Data Best Practices

<https://www.google.com/search?q=lod+cloud>

https://slidewiki.org/presentation/661/_/661/5475-3/#/slide-5475-3

1. Use URIs as names for things
2. Use HTTP URIs so that people can look up those names.
3. When someone looks up a URI, provide useful information, using the standards (RDF*, SPARQL)
4. Include links to other URIs. so that they can discover more things. [Identifier Linking Paradigm]



Manifestation phase 2011-2016

Growth phase

- Internationalization
 - Covering all 140 Wikipedia languages
 - 22 language chapters, worldwide DBpedia embassies and institutional collaborators
- <http://mappings.dbpedia.org>
 - ~300 editors
 - DBpedia Ontology incl. links to other ontologies
 - Data cleaning rules
- Data extensions such as Wikimedia Commons, Wikidata, NIF
 - 14 Billion statements
- Ontology contributions YAGO, SUMO, Umbel, LHD, DBTax
 - 8 taxonomies to query DBpedia

Manifestation phase 2011-2015

Foundation of the DBpedia Association in 2014:

- Reliable core of organisational supporters for sustainability and network multiplication
- A network around a non-profit coordinator (DBpedia Association, Primus inter pares)



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SPRINGER NATURE



Glass ceiling phase 2016 - 2019

Glass ceiling is a term from gender inequality

Appropriate metaphor:

- Women have to work harder than men for their career
- Pushing harder yields less and less results



https://wiki.ubc.ca/Glass_Ceiling

Glass ceiling phase 2016 - 2019

Glass ceiling is a term from gender inequality

Appropriate metaphor:

- Women have to work harder than men for their career
- Pushing harder yields less and less results

Totally applies to **all** data projects



https://wiki.ubc.ca/Glass_Ceiling

Glass ceiling phase 2016 - 2019

What happened in the world?

- Fierce competition over editorial workforce
 - Orcid
 - Wikidata
 - Microsoft Academic
 - Google
 - Thousands more
- Identifier wars (Identifier Linking Paradigm)
 - everybody wants you to include their IDs in order to gain attention and workforce
- Plethora of data graveyards (project end, running out of funding)

What did DBpedia do?

- We formed a think tank with our members and community (engineers and technology leaders) and discussed and re-designed

Results:

- Open data needs a **scalable** business model
- Identified problems of decentralization and innovated to provide solutions to boost decentralized approaches (LOD)

Only **coordinated decentralisation** is able to break the glass ceiling

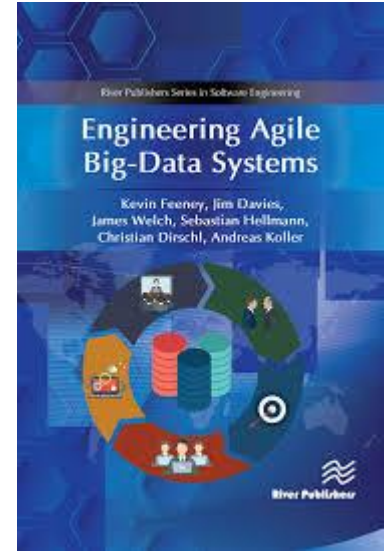
Foundations

ALIGNED: Aligning Software & Data Engineering 2015 - 2018

<http://aligned-project.eu>

Engineering Agile Big-Data Systems
defines three dimensions to evaluate systems:

- productivity
- quality
- agility



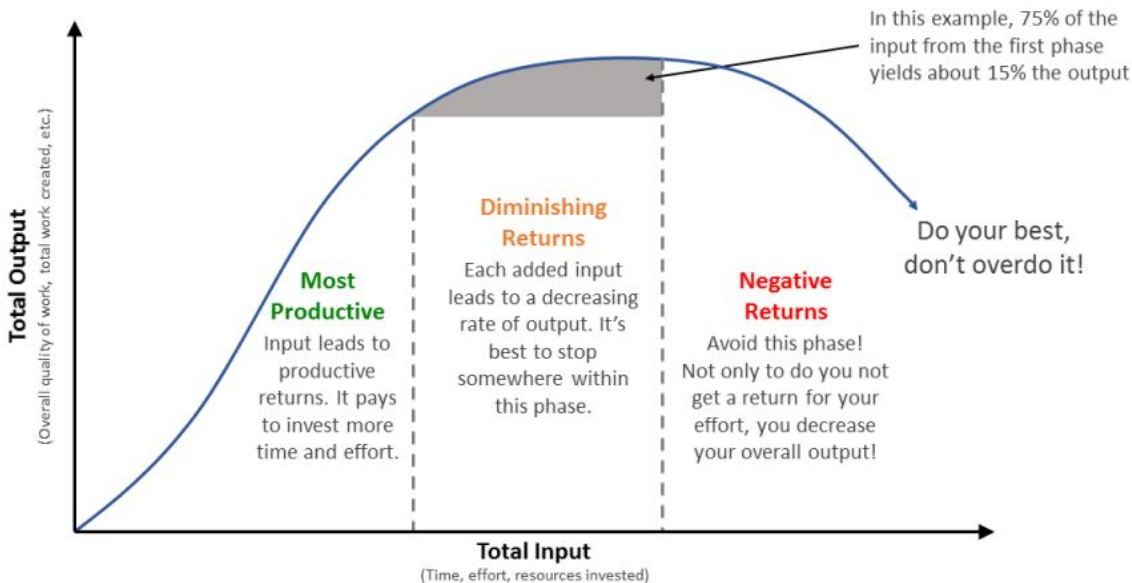
https://www.riverpublishers.com/book_details.php?book_id=659

4 riders of the datacalypse

1. Law of Diminishing Returns
 - > intrinsic to data quality, the glass ceiling
2. Copying data
 - > Duplication of effort by copy
3. Non-collaboration of data publishers
 - > Multiplication of effort by individual non-synced data sets
4. Network Disaster of Linking / Mapping
 - > Multiplication of effort at consumer side

Law of Diminishing Returns

The Law of Diminishing Returns



Data Quality is pareto-efficient
20/80 rule

Law totally applies

-> No exception to manual curation or
AI-generated datasets

More data (coverage) means lower
quality

More quality means remaining errors
are harder to fix

Update is more difficult than **Create**

Law of Diminishing Returns

Online communities aka users are great

-> they are easy to motivate by the “greater good”, “better data”

-> they work for free, i.e. zero or low cost on the budget

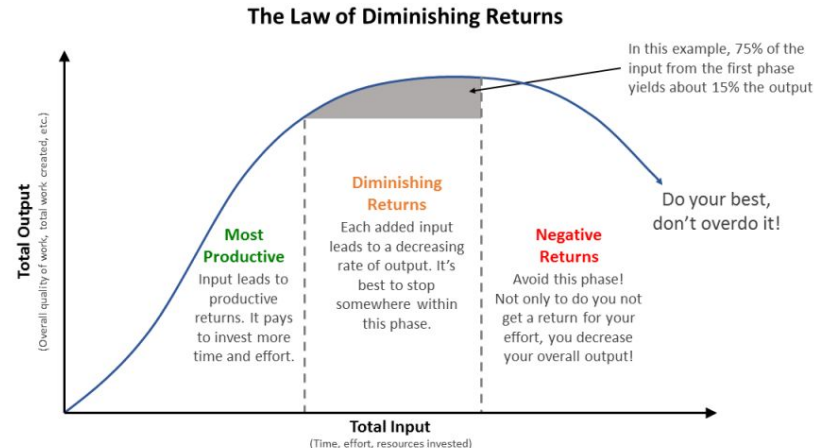
If you are already in the “Diminishing Returns” phase, what happens if you double community activity (workforce)?

Twice as much data?

-> No, maybe 25% more

Better overall quality?

-> Maybe not, if you increase data size



Law of Diminishing Returns

No exceptions.

Test-driven Evaluation of Linked Data Quality by Dimitris Kontokostas et al. (2014, WWW) in a joint project with Dutch Libraries (Enno Meijers)

Dimitris Kontokostas was the former CTO of DBpedia and editor of the W3C standard **Shapes Constraint Language (SHACL)** in 2017, implemented as OS in RDFUnit



Test-driven data engineering follows the 20/80 rule

Small set of initial test cases is efficient, then you hit the glass ceiling

Rider no. 2: Copying data

- 10,000 downloads of a dataset dump
 - > If one unparseable line needs 15 minutes to find and fix, we are talking about 104 days of work
- publishers are struggling with data quality, but their consumers have invested 50-5000 times their effort in cleaning
- The ~600k yearly file downloads and 20 million API hits daily of DBpedia re-incarnate as local data quality problems

Step 1: Download data

Step 2: Clean and integrate

If we could just capture consumer-invested time ...

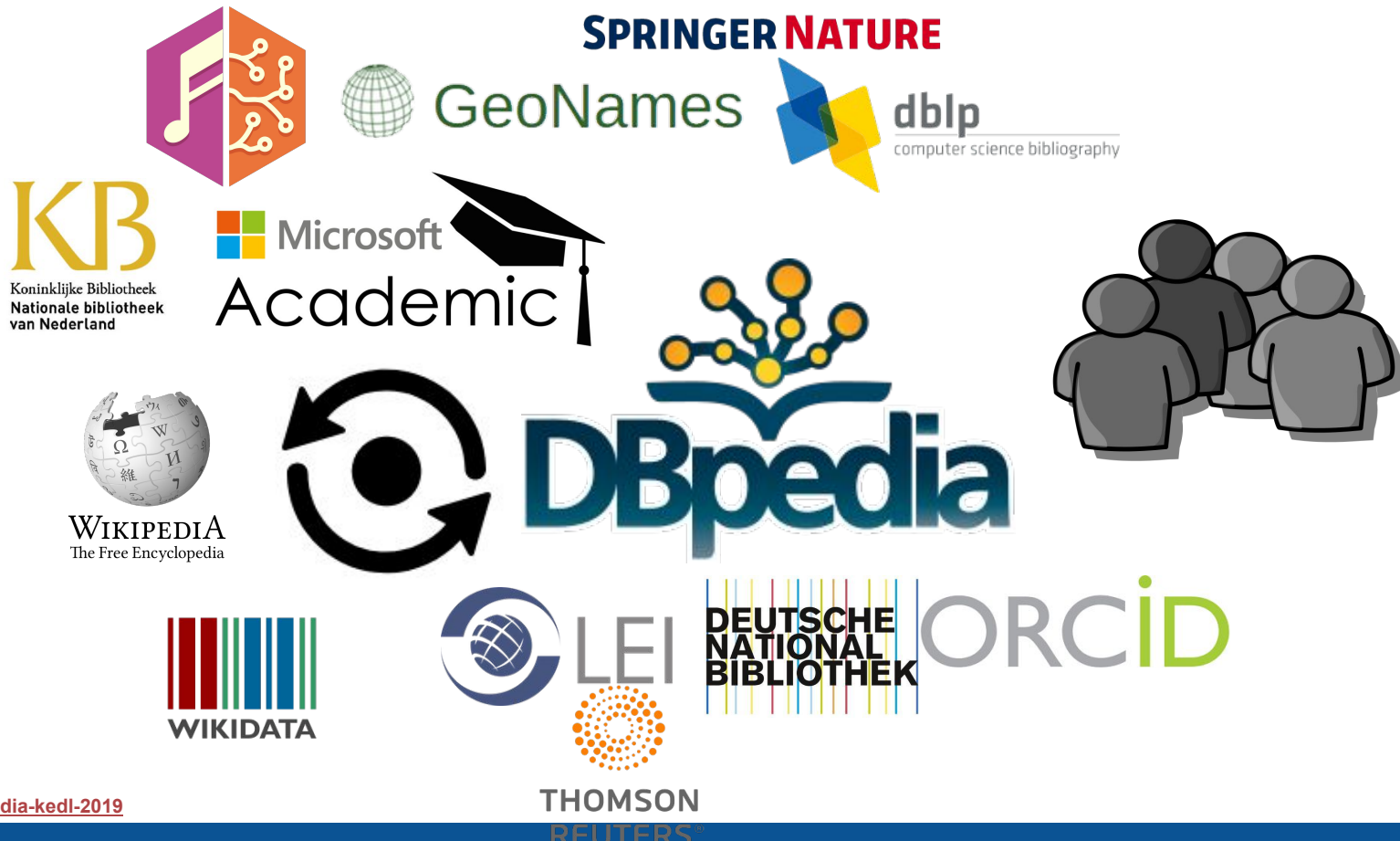
Rider no. 3: Non-collaboration

What have the following organisations in common (could be thousands more)?

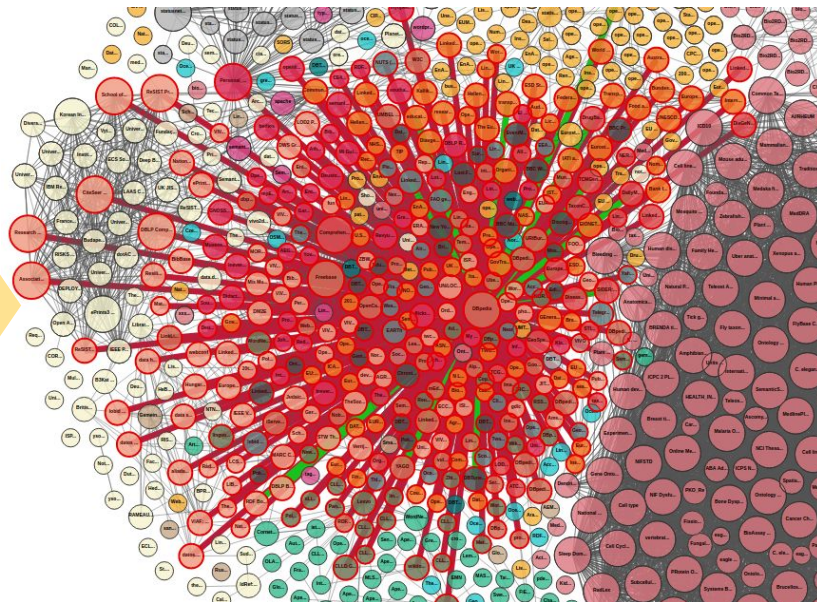
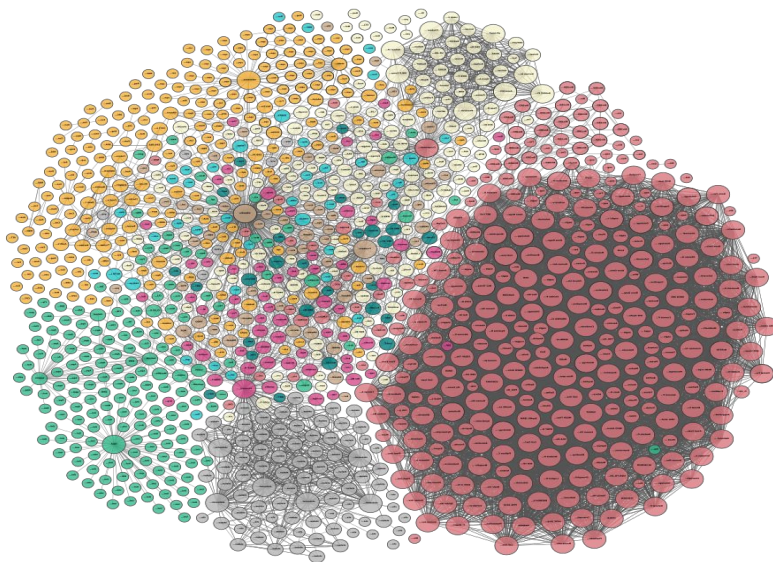


- Overlapping dataspace
- Open licenses (compatible)
- Each organisation/project pushes against their own glass ceiling
- Wikipedia/Wikidata create yet another glass ceiling, since they aggregate from above sources

Rider no. 2 & 3: Syncing upstream solves it



Rider no. 4: Network Disaster of Linking / Mapping



$O(n^2/2) \rightarrow O(n)$ with identifier linking paradigm, but actually
 $O(n) + \text{Client-side created links} + \text{work for crawling (no standards)}$
Solved by Re-use via DBpedia Knowledge Library



Less work, more benefits

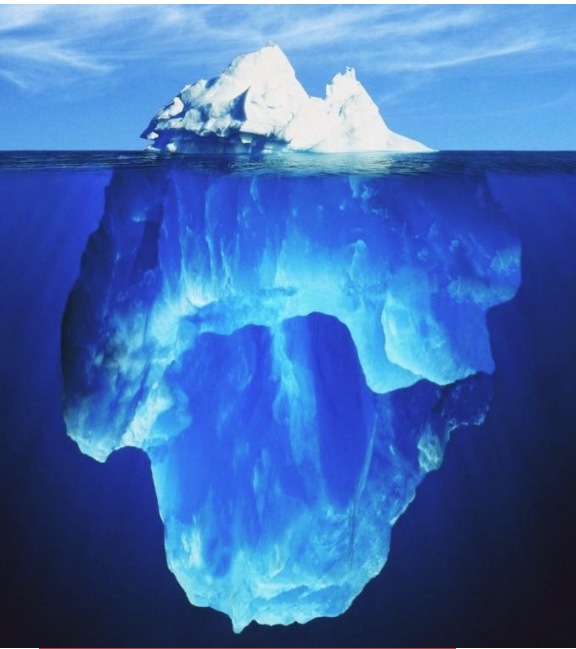
“Open Data” is too altruistic
(for others)

Benefits aka Incentive Models

- Effective Third-Party contributions
- Open Data business models
- Attention / attribution

Less work by innovation

- Reusability / Deduplication of effort
- AI assistance (human in the loop)
- Off-the-shelf apps
- Power tools



DBpedia Strategy Overview

Global DBpedia Platform

- Communication & collaboration
- Share efforts and results
- Maximise societal value



take DBpedia to a global level

Starting point

DBpedia is the most successful open knowledge graph (OKG), established 2008

Medium term goals

- 200 orgs share value via platform
- 10% of public IT projects curate data
- 1 million user, high contribution rate
- thousands of new businesses and initiatives around the platform

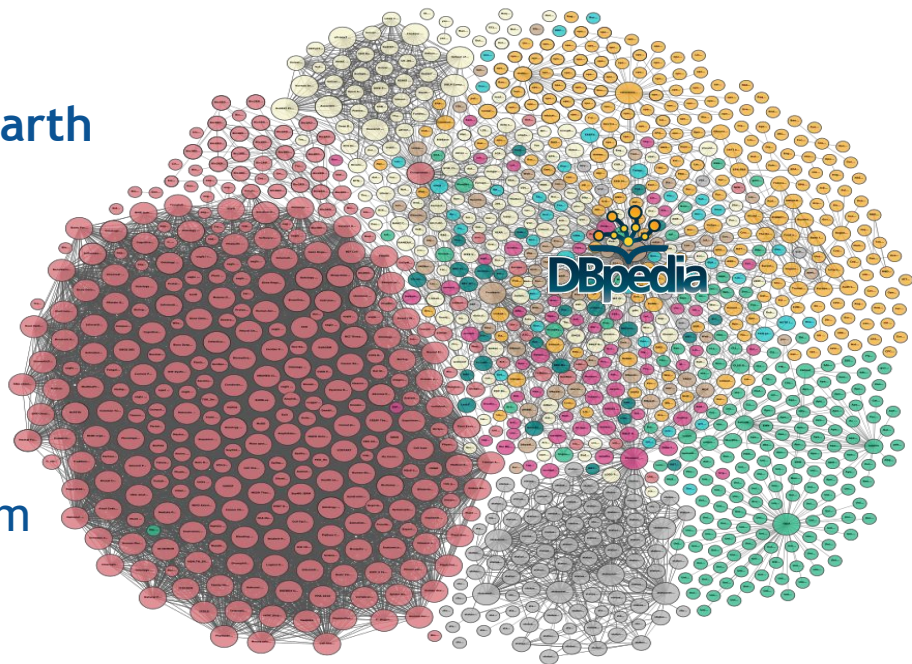
DBpedia Strategy Overview

DBpedia bootstrapped Linked Open Data

LOD is the largest knowledge graph on earth

Migration from P2P to an efficient platform

- lower entry barriers
- improved discovery and cooperation

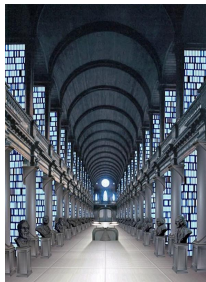


DBpedia LOD Custody

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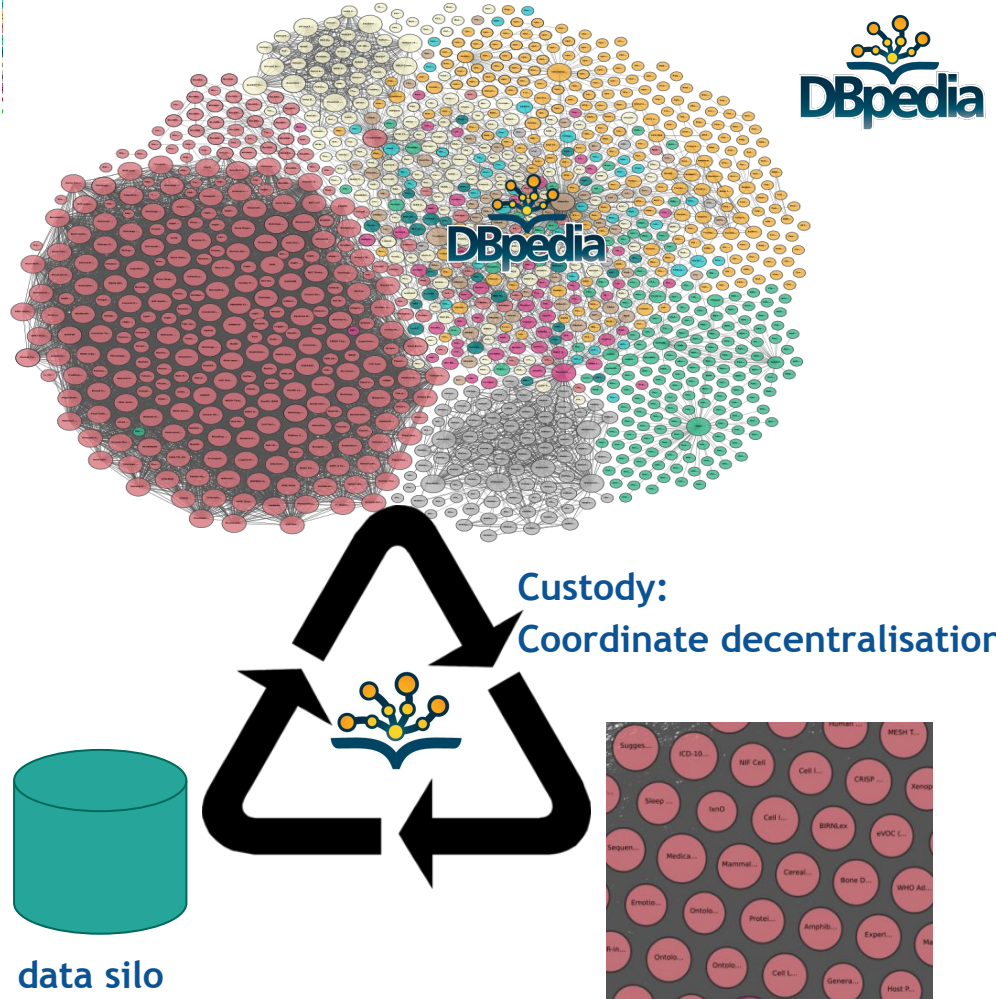
Open Decentral Platform

- file access and processing in network
- FAIR principles and W3C standards (DCAT)
- agile data engineering (Gitflow)
- high degree of automation (Maven)



Knowledge Library

- Semantic layer on data
- Semantic interoperability
- AI assistance



```
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```

Digital Factory Platform

<https://databus.dbpedia.org/>

<https://databus.dbpedia.org/repo/sparql>

<https://databus.dbpedia.org/yasgui>

Inspired by

MVNREPOSITORY



STEAM®



GitHub

Registry of files on the Web

- Virtual file warehouse
- Decentralised file storage
- Storage is cheap
- Downloadable
- File format doesn't matter
 - RDF
 - CSV, XML
 - PDF or PDF collection



Databus - Digital Factory Platform

... but very strict metadata

- Provenance (who? - you!)
- Machine-readable licenses
- Private key signature, X509 (Trust)
- Dataset identity
- Versioning

Minimal metadata core

Everybody can add more metadata systematically (no user tagging)

Rejected



Approved



Databus - Digital Factory Platform

Time versioned: 2018.04.10

Build automation tool based on Maven

- Dataset Identity (ArtifactId)
 - Variance in content/format/compression
- Optimized for re-releasing the same files
 - ~ 3 days to learn and setup the tool (once)
 - 10 minutes to publish an update

<https://github.com/dbpedia/databus-maven-plugin>



Databus Demo

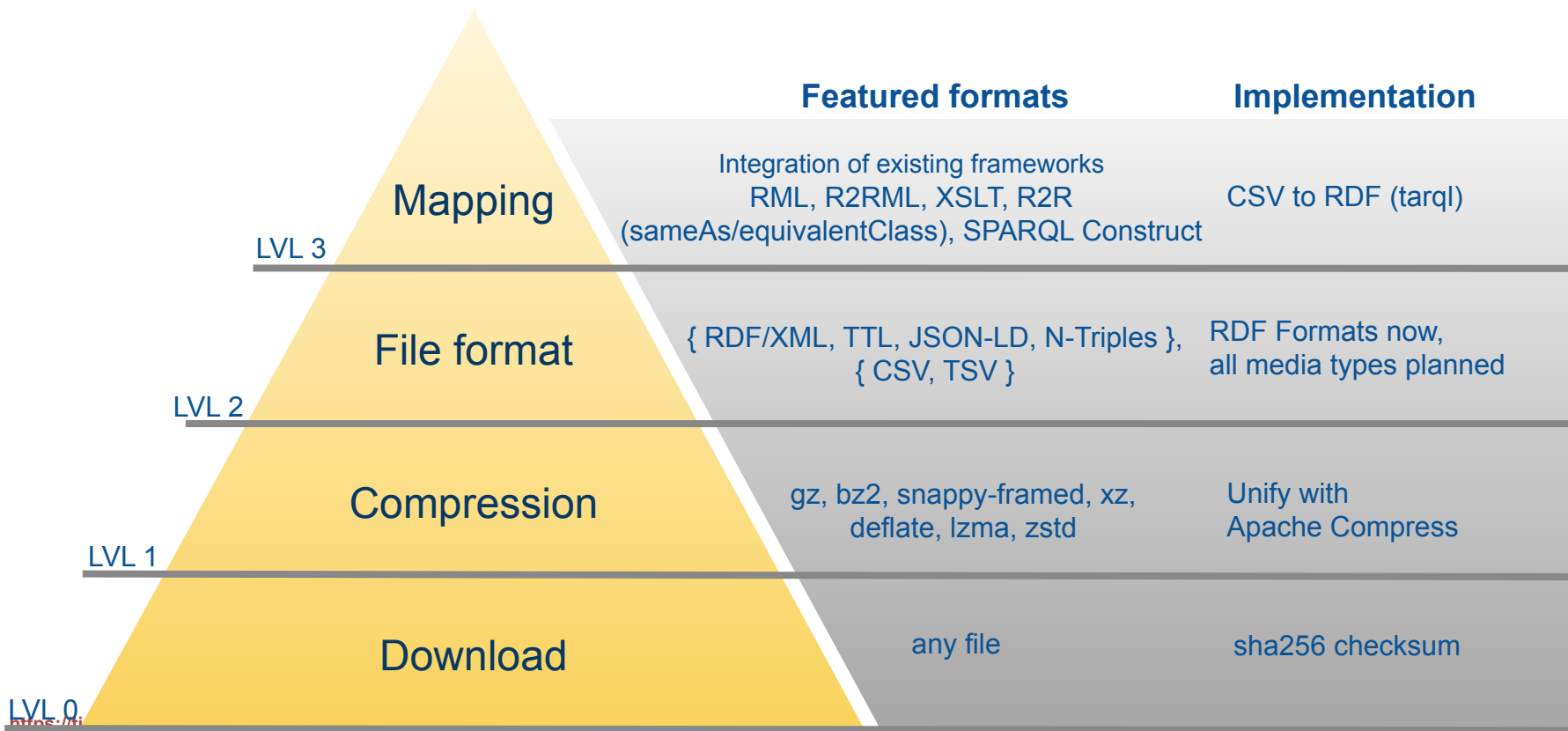
[Download all data on the bus](#)

Stable Ids for collections with fixed or dynamic versions:

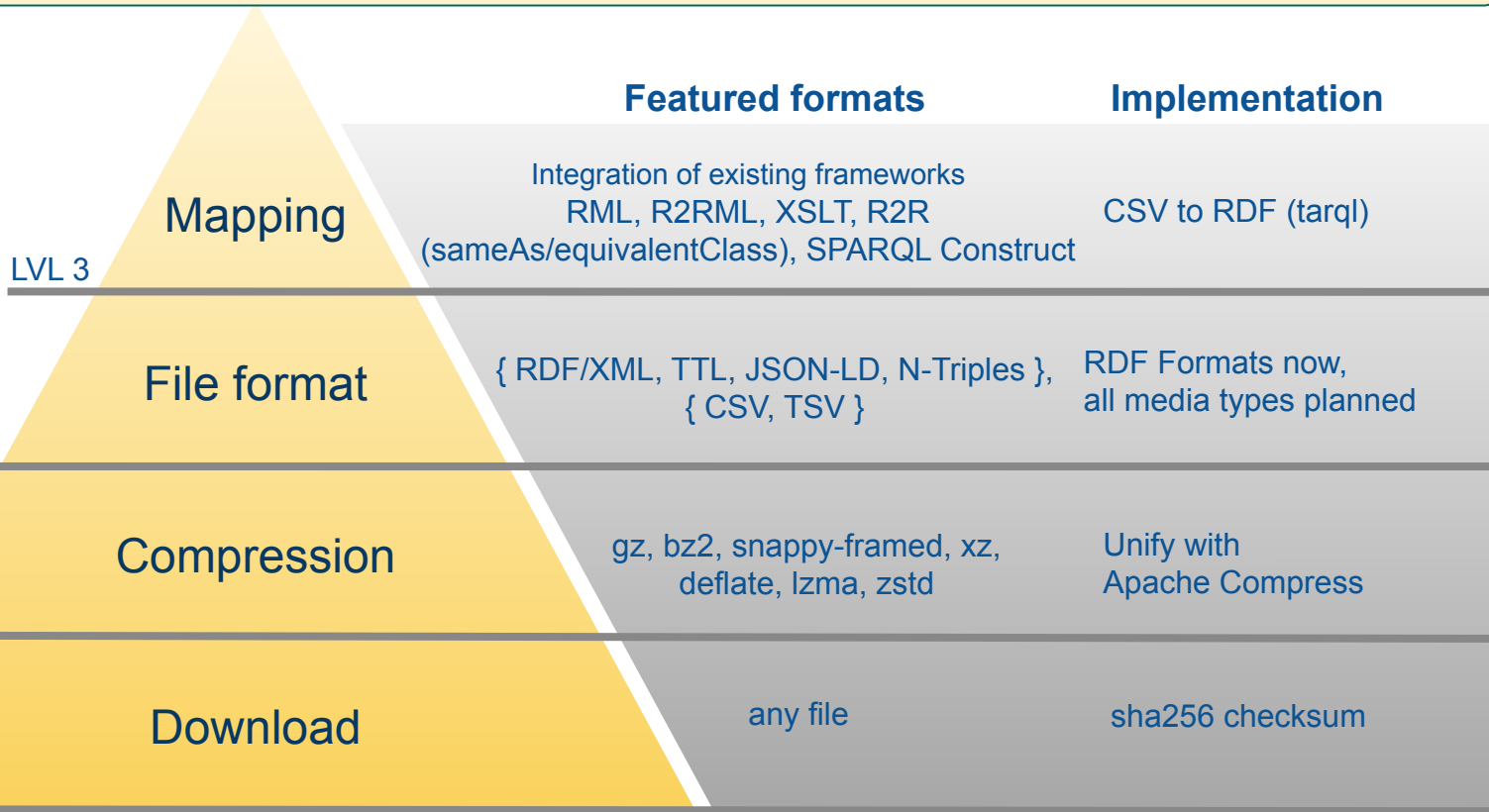
<https://databus.dbpedia.org/dbpedia/collections/pre-release-2019-08-30>

Dynamic versions:

- Latest
- Passed test suite x
- Most popular / other criteria



Application Replication and Deployment Layer (load data into software or databases automatically)

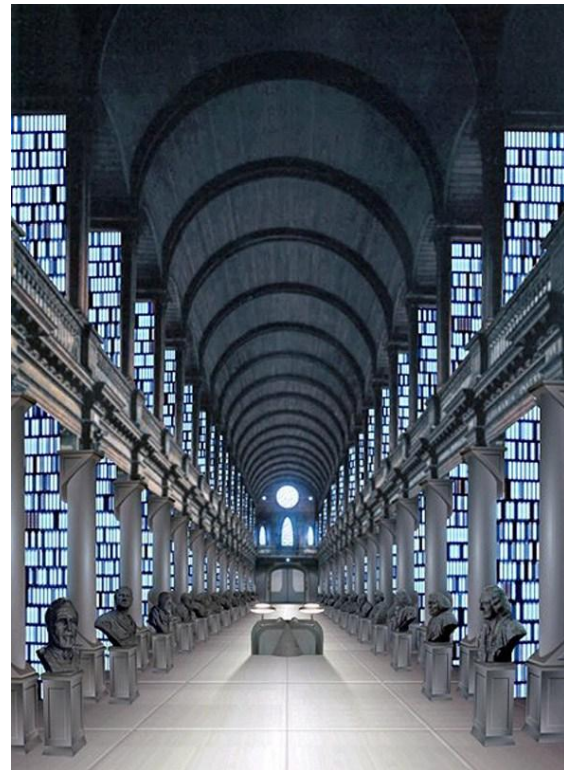




DBpedia Knowledge Library

Mission is to improve external data

- Caches the core fraction of digital data (master records)
 - Aggregated from external data
 - Centrally indexed, linked and structured
- Curative focus
 - Ontologies → yes, all ontologies
 - Mappings → manage connection between all schema
 - Links → global view on entities
- AI assistance
 - Guides effective curation (Symbolic ILP & active learning)
 - Mitigates the gap between stability and evolution
 - Powerful discovery



Disambiguation of Master Records

Tangible Entities (clear identification):

Persons, Video games, Power Plants,
Bibliographic References

Tangible Facts:

Height of Basketball Players

Barack Obama was the 44th president of the
United States from 2009 to 2017

Excellent cost/benefit ratio
Useful for 90% of use cases

Elusive Entities (vague Identification)

Books, Songs, Products, Events

Elusive Facts:

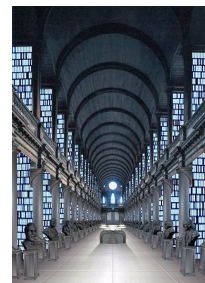
Leipzig has 600,000 citizens

Trump is the current US president

Burn thousands of hours of discussion
with minimal results

OntoGrate Methodology will produce global and ultimate lists for tangible entities and facts

Use Cases - Flexi Fusion



Third Party effort by
DBpedia Data Wranglers & Users

Frey et al. (ISWC 2019):
DBpedia FlexiFusion the Best of Wikipedia > Wikidata > Your Data

| <u>PreFusion</u> | <u>Fusion</u> | <u>Source Enrichment</u> | <u>Export</u> |
|--|---|--|---|
| Aggregation, incl. Provenance Comparison of Data | “Best of” Like DBpedia KG, just bigger & better | Improve sources (sync) Lower curation effort | <u>Custom fusion for use cases and applications</u> Applications |

Demo of Fusion Result

<https://databus.dbpedia.org/vehnem/flexifusion/fusion/2019.11.15>

3.8 Million birthdates

Three targets at the moment:

- Ultimate lists of European authors (French, German, Dutch, Swiss library data)
- Power plants and energy sector
- Company data

Scalable global id management will allow growth into the second largest open knowledge graph

Summary and outlook

- 4 riders of datacalypse
 - rethink data processes
- Databus as a technical platform to version, access and process files in an automated manner
 - own file server required
- Knowledge library as a central tool of the integration platform
 - Third-party consumers
- FlexiFusion - PreFusion
 - Synchronisation and comparison of tangible data records
- FlexiFusion - Fusion
 - Second largest open knowledge graph

Next steps

We are looking for two female (or other) PhD students to help us build AI-Assistance

We are looking for strong partners to help us set up national data infrastructure that sync with the global DBpedia infrastructure

Stay informed via <http://forum.dbpedia.org> and <http://blog.dbpedia.org>



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UNIVERSITÄT
MANNHEIM

SPRINGER NATURE



SOUND AND VISION



SEMANTIC WEB COMPANY
linking data to knowledge



diffbot



OPEN KNOWLEDGE
INTERNATIONAL



ontotext



imec



Linked Open Data Initiative
LinkedOpenData.jp ★★★★★