Linked Data for Libraries: Great Progress but what is the benefit?

Richard Wallis
Technology Evangelist
OCLC
@rjw
The OCLC cooperative: a nonprofit, membership organization

Further access to the world’s information
Reduce the rate of rise of library costs

72,035 libraries in 170 countries

OCLC serves libraries
Representing the collective collection in WorldCat Local and WorldCat.org

- Bibliographic information in WorldCat
  - 300+ million bibliographic records
  - 2+ billion holdings

- Licensed digital content/articles in library collections
  - 980 million records

- Digitized local library content
  - 38 million items (Institutional repositories, Google, HathiTrust, OAIster)

As of 11 June 2013
Multilingual WorldCat

Percentage of records for non-English materials

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Records</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>4.7 m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dutch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>3.5 m</td>
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</table>

30 June 2012
Linked Data for Libraries: Great Progress but what is the benefit? For library users

Richard Wallis
Technology Evangelist

OCLC
@rjw
The world's libraries. Connected.

…but things are happening

Library Linked Data

on the Web

Yes

A Web of Data?

Not quite yet…

…but things are happening
An issue for libraries?

Where are our users?
Where our users are!
First, changes in general use, since people can now find BnF’s resources directly on the Web.
- Mailing address: lots of mail, « new publics »
- Use statistic: 80%+ users from search engines
- R and D: Improvements to integrate in main catalogues and archives
The problem with access to library collections:

People aren’t using the library catalog?

(No... that’s just a fact.)

The *real* problem is that we don’t expose our collections very well on the web.
Library data:

stored as records

- author
- edition
- holding
- classification
- publisher
- date of publication
- location
- title
- source
- ISBN

OCLC® The world’s libraries. Connected.
library data:

stored as records

- person
- place
- object
- concept
- organization
- work

- author
- location
- edition
- title
- holding
- source
- classification
- publisher
- ISBN
- date of publication

OCLC - The world’s libraries. Connected.
library data stored as entities

- person
- place
- author
- concept
- object
- work
- subject
- organization
- item
  - availability
library data stored as entities

library knowledge graph
Günter Grass

Born: 16 October 1927
Gdańsk, Poland
German novelist, poet, playwright, illustrator, graphic artist, sculptor and recipient of the 1999 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Works

Subjects

Germany | German literature | Historical fiction
War stories | Black humor | Fantasy

Quotes

“Even bad books are books and therefore sacred.” — The Tin Drum

Find Günter Grass works at:
Libraries near me | Online Retailers
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Library data stored as entities

the library knowledge graph

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library data stored as entities

Field in a record vs. entity in knowledge graph

object

place

person

work

organization

concept

expression

library

this copy of “The Tin Drum”

Grass

Germany

Historical Fiction

“The Tin Drum”
We are moving from cataloguing to catalinking
The world's libraries. Connected.
Tell them about our resources...
...using their language and methods
WorldCat Linked Data

Linked Data

- 300+ million data resources
- Schema.org
- Embedded RDFa
- Links to Dewey, LCSH, LCNAF, DOI, VIAF, FAST
- ODC-BY license
- June 2012
- Continuing development:
  - Vocabulary, Content-negotiation, Links, Works, ...
Example:

<http://www.worldcat.org/entity/work/id/312333333>
Public attitude toward political parties in Hong Kong
OCLC Heads-up

Works Linked Data

<http://www.worldcat.org/entity/work/id/312333333>

Current project state:

• Experimental pre-release
• Only RDF/XML
• Vocabulary changes coming
• No lookup service yet
WorldCat Linked Data

Linked Data

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The world's libraries. Connected.
# Part of the Web of Data

## Wikipedia pages linked to this item (19 entries)

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</tbody>
</table>
Part of the Web of Data
Part of the Web of Data
The world's libraries. Connected.
is

schema.org

good enough?

For library data exchange? No
For sharing library resources with the web? Almost
http://www.w3.org/community/schemabibex

- Short lived group
- Libraries, Publishers, Consumers, System Vendors, Linked Data, Standards Bodies
- Library is only one focus
BIBFRAME

Bibliographic Framework as a Web of Data: It is the foundation for the future of bibliographic description that happens on, in, and as part of the web and the networked world we live in.

http://www.bibframe.org
bibliographic description as part of the web

http://www.flickr.com/photos/54136840@N00/4921290518/
Be Visible on the Web of Data

Lighting the way to your resources ...

.... registered in the network

http://wallpapersfor.me/storm-beacon/
A Future Role for Discovery Interfaces?

When part of the Web of Data

• Destinations for external discovery
• Linked Data publishing hubs
• Specialized local discovery
Building a Web of Data
Building a Web of Data
Linking to all and all their resources
We all need to participate
Happening in a hurry?

The web will stop to
progress with us

OCLC® The world’s libraries. Connected.
Opportunity to connect users with our resources
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http://slideshare.net/rjw