

LIBRIS - Linked Open Library Data

Anders Söderbäck
National Library of Sweden



What is LIBRIS?

- Swedish union catalog
- Library directory
- Library infrastructure
- Search interface / OPAC

What is LIBRIS?

- Existence since 1970
- Online public access (for humans) since 1997
- Open (or semi-open...) bibliographic records since 1997
- Marc21 since 2001
- Linked Open Data since 2008

LIBRIS Union Catalogue

- 175 libraries
- 6 million bib records
- 20 million holdings
- 250k authority records
- National bibliography

LIBRIS Library Directory

- Roughly 2000 libraries
- ILL information
- Administrative information
- Technical information
- Geographic locations

LIBRIS as Infrastructure



LIBRIS as Infrastructure

- Human Cataloging
- Automated imports of data
- Automated exports of data
- Open APIs
- LIBRIS-ID master identifier for bibliographic data in Sweden

Why Linked Data?


New LIBRIS web interface

- Project 2006-2007
- Launch dec 2007
- "Next-Gen OPAC"

LIBRIS


[http://libris.kb.se/](#)

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LIBRIS 

LIBRIS SEARCH FACILITIES | [HELP](#) | [PÅ SVENSKA](#) | [PREFERENCES](#) | [CLEAR HISTORY](#)


[Start](#)
[Extended search](#)
[Index A-Ö](#)
[Boolean](#)
[Subdatabases](#)
[Search history](#)



Explore

You can find books, theses, journals, music, e-books etc.


[We guide you through LIBRIS](#)



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A LIBRIS as you like it – favourite library, contrast







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What is LIBRIS?

The Swedish university and research libraries search service

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About LIBRIS	Help	On your site	Customize	Search facilities
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National Library of Sweden

Extended search

Index A–Ö

Boolean

Subdatabases

Search history

Search

Did you mean: [strindberg](#)?

Search: stridberg

Result 1-9 of 9

Sort by: relevancy

Group by: none

Hits per page: 10

1 library

1 library

1 library

2 libraries

10 libraries

▼ Refine your search

Author

- Nilsson, Lars (1)
- Sörlin, Sverker, 195 ... (1)
- Gravier, Maurice (1)
- Kardell, Lars, 1936- (1)
- Kipling, Rudyard, 18 ... (1)
- Andersson, Lena Sofi ... (1)
- show more...

Type

- [book](#) (9)
- [e-resource](#)
- [theses](#)

Language

- Swedish (5)
- English (1)
- French (1)
- Danish (1)
- Undefined language (1)

Year

- 2009 (1)
- 2007 (1)
- 1988 (1)
- 1986 (1)
- 1973 (1)
- 1953 (1)
- [show more...](#)

Subject (SAB)

- Literary History (2)
- Books and Libraries (3)

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1.  Holzer, Rudolf (author)
[August Strindberg.](#)
????
 Book

1 library

2.  [Skogshistoriskt symposium på Kungl. Skogs- och Lantbruksakademien den 17 november 1987 : föredrag av Jörgen Björklund, Lars Kardell, Lars Nilsson, Göran Rosander, Einar Stridberg & Sverker Sörlin](#)
1988
 [Book Meeting](#)

1 library

3. Stridberg, verksam 1925 (author)
[En jobbares visa.](#)
1925
 **Book**

1 library

4. Sandberg, Inger, 1930– (author)
[Fred Strid krymper. Dansk]
[Frede Stridberg krymper / Inger Sandberg ; tegninger af Lasse Sandberg ;
overs. af Viggo Nørgaard Jepsen](#)
1973
 Book Juvenile

2 libraries

5.  Bellquist, John Eric (author)
[Strindberg as a modern poet : a critical and comparative study / by John Eric Bellquist](#)
1986
 Book

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LIBRIS – search: stridberg

http://libris.kb.se/hitlist?d=libris&q=stridberg&f=simp&spell=true&hist=true&p=1

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LIBRIS - The difference engine /

http://libris.kb.se/bib/5060570

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difference engine

Search

Search: [difference engine](#) > The difference engi...

2 of 6

Previous record

Next record


To hitlist

Overview

Details

The difference engine / William Gibson and Bruce Sterling

Gibson, William, 1948- (author)
Sterling, Bruce, 1954- (author)
ISBN 0-575-60029-2 (pbk)
London : Vista, 1996
English 383 s.
Book



Abstract

Subject headings

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EMAIL

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Folkbiblioteken i Lund (Ld)

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Local library catalogue

Shelf mark: (Skönlitteratur. Annan uppl. kan finnas vid biblioteket)

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Wikipedia about the author:
• William Gibson

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OAlster

Wikipedia about the author:

William Gibson

BIBLIOTEKET

National Library of Sweden

New LIBRIS web interface

- Lots of effort in design
- Lots of user testing, interviews, user centered design...
- Lots of input from mixed reference group

What does the world want from us?

- Good, usable interface
- Data
- APIs...

What doesn't the world want from us?

- Library specific protocols
- Neither z39.50 nor ISO2709

Design a thing by considering it in its next largest context - a chair in a room, a room in a house, a house in an environment, environment in a city plan.

- *Eliel Saarinen*

A library catalog must
be designed by
considering its context
of the Web.

The trouble with APIs...

- We have made quite a few of them...
- Bigger demand for APIs than we could meet.
- APIs tend to limit use to what was intended by the creator of the API
- Context specific
- "What if there was a good way to provide *all* the data..? And *all* the relations..?"

What is the Web?

- An infrastructure
- An environment
- The Web is social
- The Web is made of links
- The Web is a network
- The Web is an open system

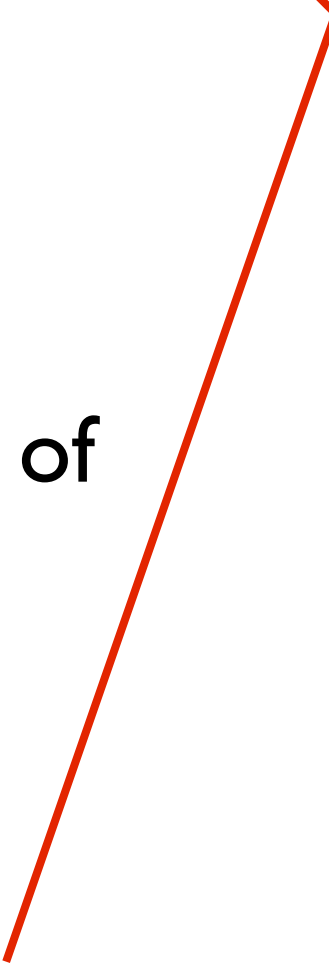
Catalogs in Web context

- Need to be open
- Need to be linkable
- Need to provide links
- Need to be part of the network
- Can not be an end in itself
- Must allow for hackability

Catalog/Web as Network

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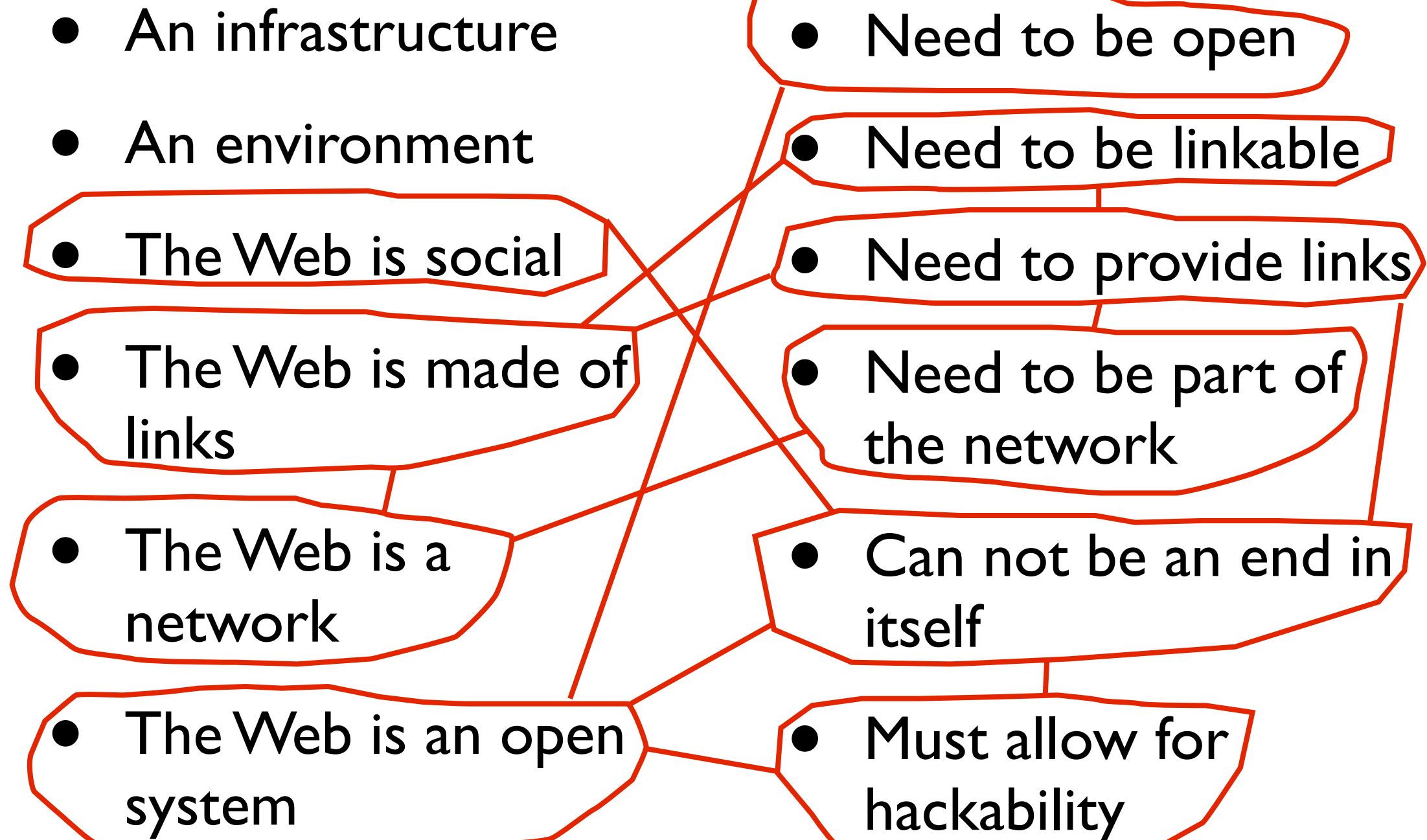
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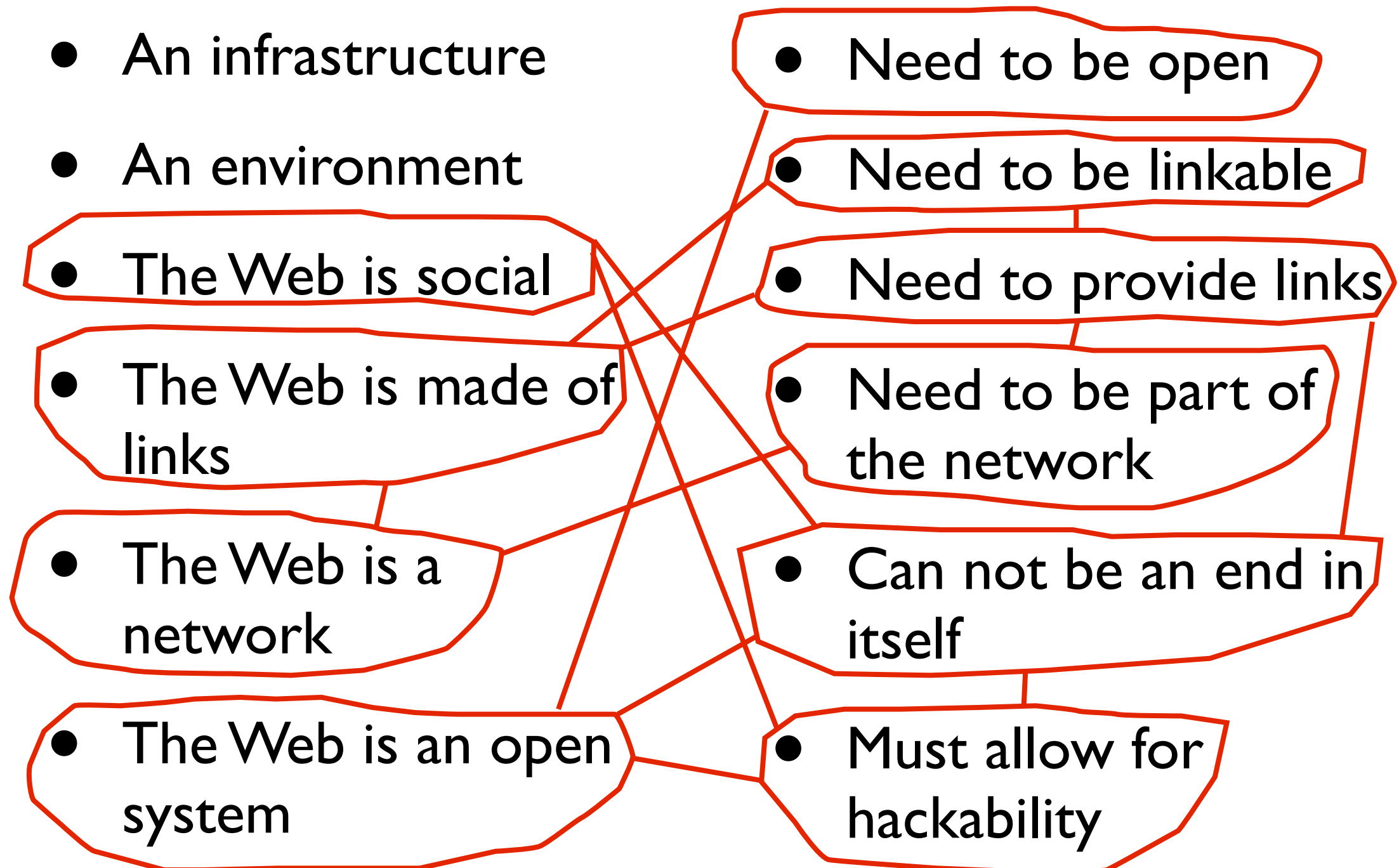
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**What infrastructure
can support this?**

Linked Open Data

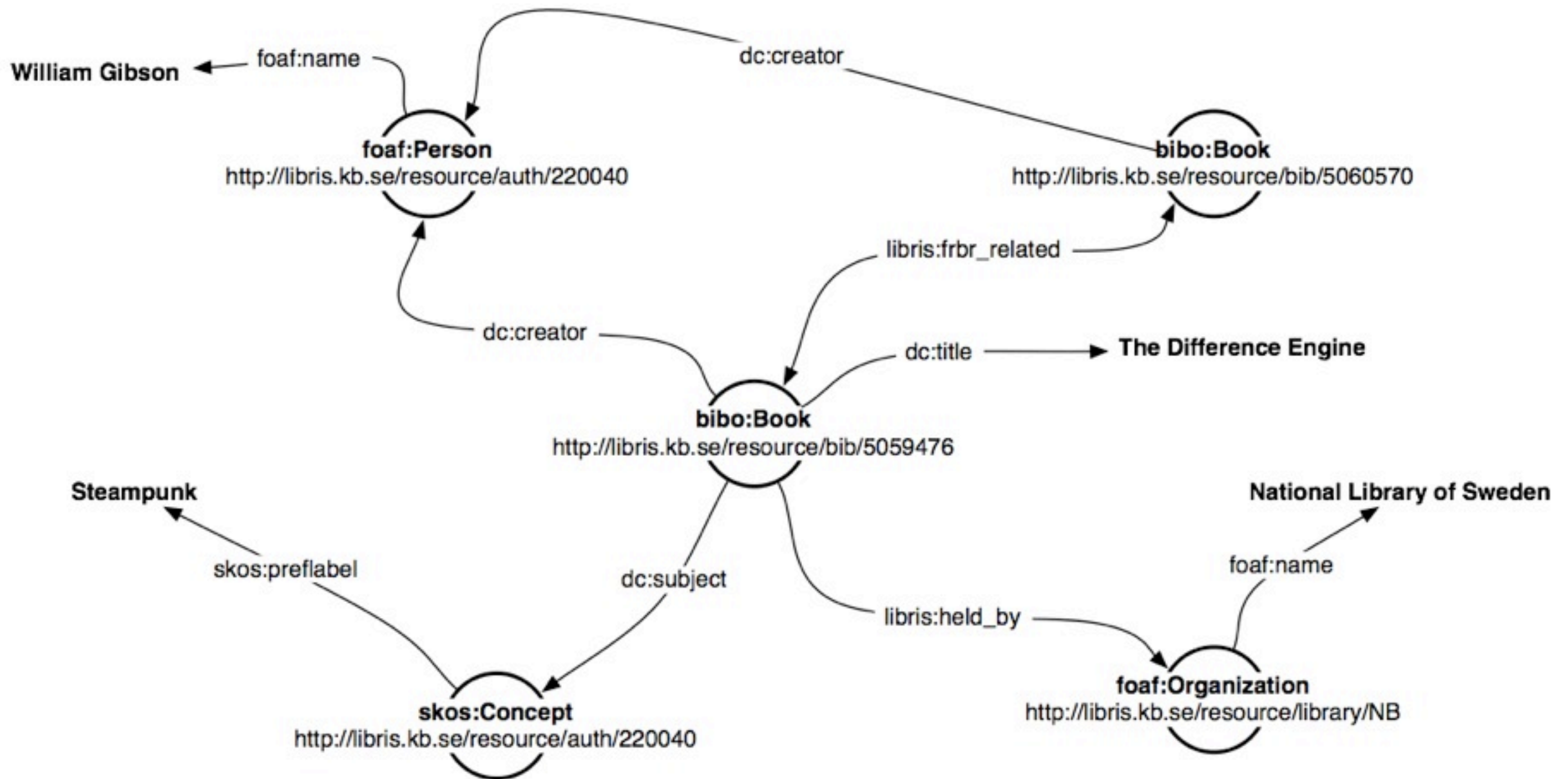
Linked Open Data turns the Web into an API.

- *Corey A. Harper, at code4lib preconf 2009*

Linked Data at LIBRIS

- Exposes name and subject authorities as foaf:Person, skos:Concept
- Bibliographic records as bibo:Book, bibo:Article, etc.
- dc:creator, dc:subjects, etc.

Linked Data at LIBRIS



Linked Data at LIBRIS

HTTP URI for every resource, e.g.

<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476>

<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040>

<http://libris.kb.se/resource/library/S>

Linked Data at LIBRIS

```
Terminal — bash — 110x31
Last login: Tue Feb 24 02:37:56 on ttys000
Anders:~ bcd$ curl -L -H accept:text/rdf+n3 http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
@prefix owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix libris: <http://libris.kb.se/vocabulary/experimental#> .
@prefix bibo: <http://purl.org/ontology/bibo/> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> rdfs:isDefinedBy <http://libris.kb.se/data/bib/5059476> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> rdf:type bibo:Book .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:title "The difference engine"@en .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:creator "Gibson, William, 1948-" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:creator "William Gibson" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:creator "Sterling, Bruce, 1954-" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:creator "Bruce Sterling" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:type "text" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:publisher "Gollancz" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:date "1990" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:subject "Steampunk" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:identifier <JRN:ISBN:0575047623> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> bibo:isbn10 "0575047623" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/307779> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> dc:subject <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/308073> .
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<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> libris:held_by <http://libris.kb.se/resource/library/Sk> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> libris:held_by <http://libris.kb.se/resource/library/Vvt> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5059476> libris:frbr_related <http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5060570> .
Anders:~ bcd$
```

Linked Data at LIBRIS

```
Terminal — bash — 106x31
Last login: Tue Feb 24 02:50:30 on ttys000
Anders:~ bcd$ curl -L -H accept:text/rdf+n3 http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040
@prefix owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/> .
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix dbpedia: <http://dbpedia.org/property/> .
@prefix skos: <http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#> .
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix libris: <http://libris.kb.se/vocabulary/experimental#> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> rdfs:isDefinedBy <http://libris.kb.se/data/auth/220040> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> owl:sameAs <http://dbpedia.org/data/William_Gibson> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> rdf:type <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/Person> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> foaf:name "Gibson, William, 1948-" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> libris:key "Gibson, William, 1948-" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> foaf:name "William Gibson" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> dbpedia:birthYear "1948" .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> rdf:seeAlso <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Gibson> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/2716178> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/2793076> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/4465470> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/4574314> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/4897748> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/4898022> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
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<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5044419> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
<http://libris.kb.se/resource/bib/5045207> dc:creator <http://libris.kb.se/resource/auth/220040> .
```

Linked Data at LIBRIS

- Links to dbpedia.org
- Links to id.loc.gov
- Links to lcssubjects.org

LIBRIS Linked Data Strategies

- Data first
- Represent ILS state
- Use existing vocabularies when possible (DC, SKOS, FOAF, Bibo, Geo, ...)
- Make up vocabularies if needed
- Learn by doing





So, what about the future?



The future is a work-in-progress...

Links, links, links...

- DbPedia
- MusicBrainz
- id.loc.gov
- VIAF
- Open Library
- ...

Ontologies

- Use of existing ontologies will be improved
- More information will be added
- ...

Problems

- Current library systems are not adapted for linked data
- Current legal system is not adapted for linked data
- Current bibliographic thinking is not adapted for linked data
- All this will change...

Library data in the Age of Biology

It is likely that biotechnology will dominate our lives and our economic activities during the second half of the twenty-first century, just as computer technology dominated our lives and our economy during the second half of the twentieth.

- *Freeman Dyson*

Principles of Organization

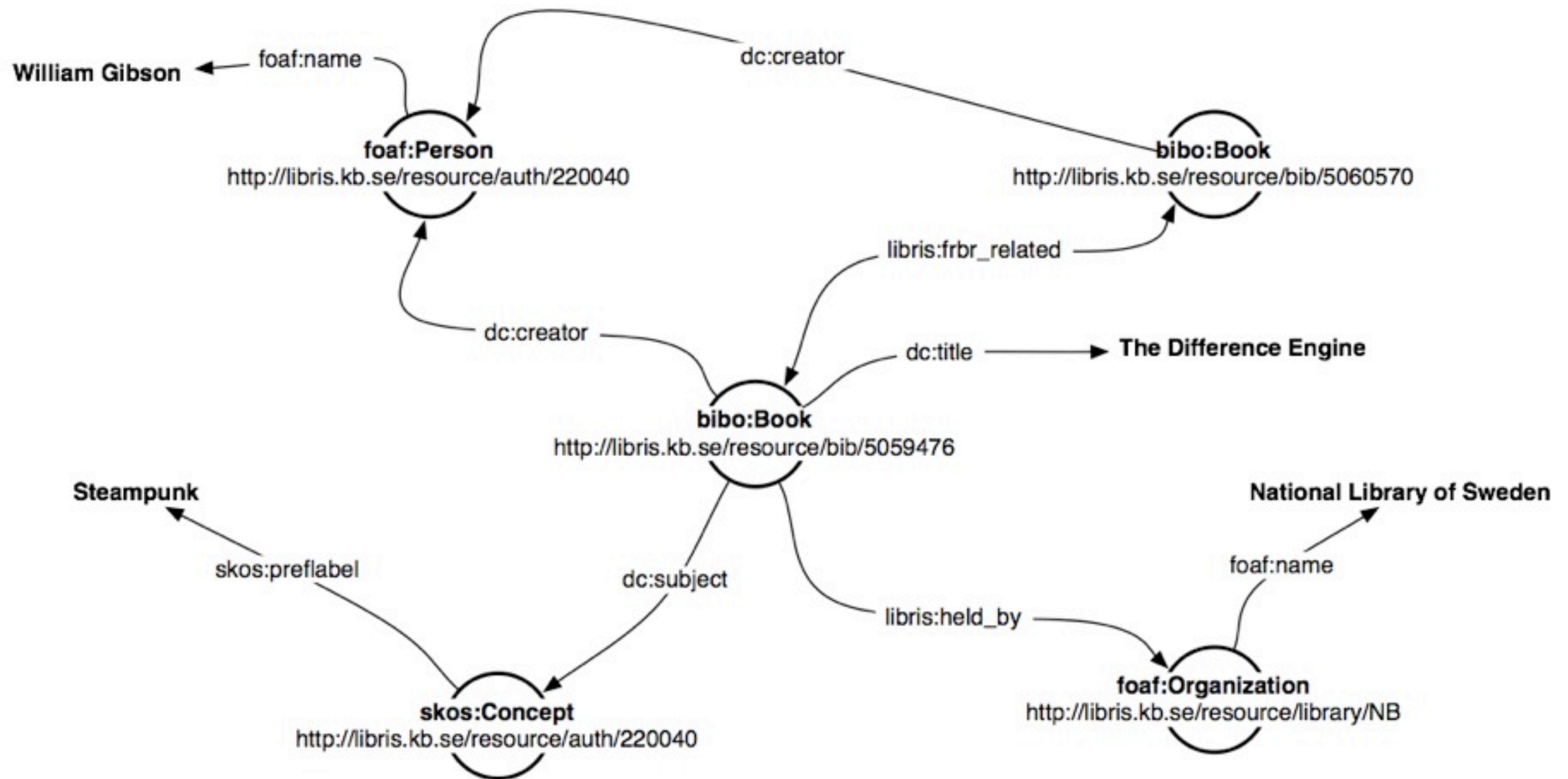
Principles of Organization

<i>Economic era</i>	<i>Mechanical-object</i>	<i>Organic-system</i>
<i>Paradigm author</i>	Industrial age	Information age
<i>Metaphor</i>	Newton	Darwin
<i>Values</i>	Clock-works	Ecologies
	Seek simplicity	Embrace complexity
<i>Control</i>	Top-down	Bottom-up
<i>Development</i>	From outside	From inside
	Externally-assembled	Self-organizing
	Made	Grown
<i>Designer as</i>	Author	Facilitator
<i>Designer's role</i>	Deciding	Building agreement
<i>Client as</i>	Owner	Steward
<i>Relationship</i>	Request for proposal	Conversation
<i>Stopping condition</i>	Almost perfect	Good enough for now
<i>Result</i>	More deterministic	Less predictable
<i>End-state</i>	Completed	Adapting or evolving
<i>Tempo</i>	Editions	Continuous updating

—adapted from Hugh Dubberly and Paul Pangaro [5]

From Hugh Dubberly, *Design in the Age of Biology*
<http://www.use8.net/magazine.php?ArticleId=101>

Viewing the catalog as a network...



...raises a lot of questions!

- What is a record?
- When is a record?
- What kind of network is the library catalog?

Network effects arise when the act of participation makes the entire network more useful for everyone.

- *Ian Davis, Talis*

Things to remember

- Open networks outpaces walled gardens
- Strong networks require more than only one hub
- Systems built for delivery of records on magnetic tape (i.e. MARC, LIBRIS in the 70's) need to change
- 'Good enough' beats perfection

For what the ~~body~~ catalog can do noone has hitherto determined, that is to say, experience has thought no one hitherto, what the ~~body~~ catalog, without being determined by the ~~mind~~ library, can do...

- *adapted from Spinoza, Ethics*

Thanks!

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