

Target Vocabulary Maps

An Unreasonable Application of OWL

Niklas Lindström



Wait...

Before we begin...

How Long Is The Coast Of Britain?

Unit = 200 km,
length = 2400 km

Unit = 50 km,
length = 3400 km

How Far is Sweden

From the Semantic Web?

Libris XL: the core of a new generation of Libris systems

In June 2018, XL went into production at the National Library Of Sweden, replacing the old MARC21 system with one based on **Linked Data**, and building upon BIBFRAME.

<https://libris.kb.se/find.jsonld>

Two Perspectives: Logical

Everything is **RDF**.

Interlinked entities with structured (bnode) or literal property values.

The Vocabulary (Ontology) is core:

- Type and Property Hierarchies
- Domains and Ranges
- Restrictions

Two Perspectives: Technical

Everything is **JSON-LD** internally.

Used as “just JSON” in code, storage and for indexing. In all layers alike.

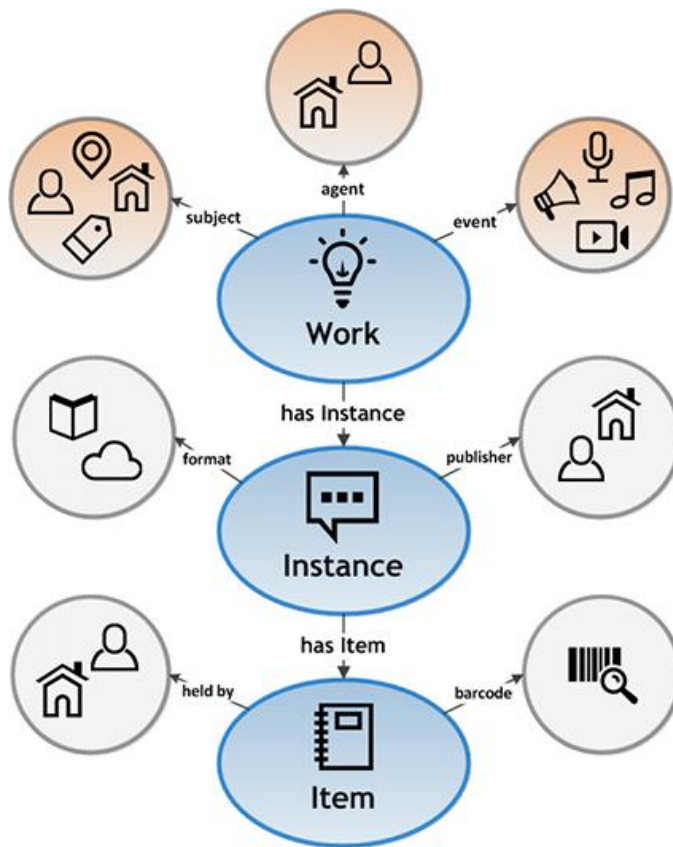
Conforming to the semantics.

All public features (editing, searching, displaying) *comply with the logical perspective.*

BIBFRAME 2.0

The model created by LC to replace MARC21.

We formally decided to **align** our model with BF2 in 2017.



Not Just* BIBFRAME 2

KBV: Our local **Application Vocabulary**, for our specific needs.

It has a core of **BIBFRAME 2** *equivalencies* (+ some of RDA, SKOS/MADS, Schema.org where needed).

* = Not *actually*? This depends on how someone reads/*interprets* our data...



HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:
(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)



First Mapping Attempt: JSON-LD Contexts

Currently deployed.

<https://github.com/libris/lxlttools/blob/0.8.1/lxlttools/contextmaker.py>

Generate a JSON-LD context from our internal application vocabulary; **using its RDFS and OWL assertions**.

<https://libris.kb.se/context.jsonld>

Maps “our” terms to “public” terms.

Shortcomings:

- Only ONE target (a potpourri of prefixes)!
- Only works on the exact same level of granularity!

Various Shapes of Usable

BF2:

```
</instance/a>  
  bf:identifiedBy [ a bf:Isbn ;  
                    rdf:value "12-3456-789-0" ] ;  
  bf:provisionActivity [ a bf:Publication ;  
                          bf:agent </org/a> ;  
                          bf:date "2017" ] .
```

Schema.org:

```
</instance/a>  
  schema:isbn "12-3456-789-0" ;  
  schema:publisher </org/a> ;  
  schema:datePublished "2017" .
```

From Ridgid & Fragile to Robust & Flexible

Currently

We only accept data conforming to our internal shape.

“Just JSON”. By being JSON-LD, it *is* RDF. We just don't use all the flexibility yet.

Goal

Use our RDF vocabulary mappings to enable a richer I/O system.

On the vocabulary, data granularity and identity matching levels alike.

What Links Enable

Open World Assumption =
There's More To Know

Case: Enriching from Wikidata


Locally: cooperate nationally with
libraries, agencies etc. *using* LD.

Globally: LoC, DNB, BnF, ORCID, ISSN...

Requires:

- Shapes & Mappings

Geografiskt ämnesord • Hedeby (övergiven stad) • Övergivna städer

FÖREDRAGEN BENÄMNING	Hedeby (övergiven stad)
BREDARE	› Geografiskt ämnesord: Övergivna städer
VARIANT	› Geografiskt ämnesord: Haithabu (Extinct city) › Geografiskt ämnesord: Hedeby
MARC:HASADDEDENTRYGE OGRAPHICNAME	› Marc:AddedEntryGeographicName: {Namnlös}
SAMMA SAK SOM	resource/auth/345651
EXAKT MATCH [WIKIDATA]	https://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q165414
ALTERNATIVNAMN [WIKIDATA]	Гаддеби (ru) Слисторп (ru) Хэдебю (ru) Haithabu (es)
BESKRIVNING [WIKIDATA]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ ciudad de Dinamarca (es)◦ bedeutende Siedlung dänischer Wikinger bzw. schwedischer Waräger (de)◦ city (en)◦ stad in Duitsland (nl)◦ פּוֹרְד בְּגֵרְמַנְיָה (he)◦ ドイツの都市 (ja)◦ qytet në Gjermani (sq)
KOORDINATER [WIKIDATA]	Point(9.5652777777778 54.4911111111111)
BILD [WIKIDATA]	

Different Data Shapes? ETL or ...?

How to do RDF(!) Alignments in Production?

- A. Code them as needed? Extract, transform and load, using SPARQL Constructs (or XSLT, or GraphQL, or AWK/Perl/Python...)

How to specify selection of vocabulary terms? Handling granularities?

- B. Declare them! Make Vocabulary Maps, just using RDFS and OWL?

Then, that can be used by generic code. Though Inference mightn't be the One Solution™!

Meanwhile

On The “Semantic” Web

No Reason In Sight

The myth of OWL inferencing...

Schema.org (some assertions, yes); but consumption by Google? NO!

DCAT-AP? NO!

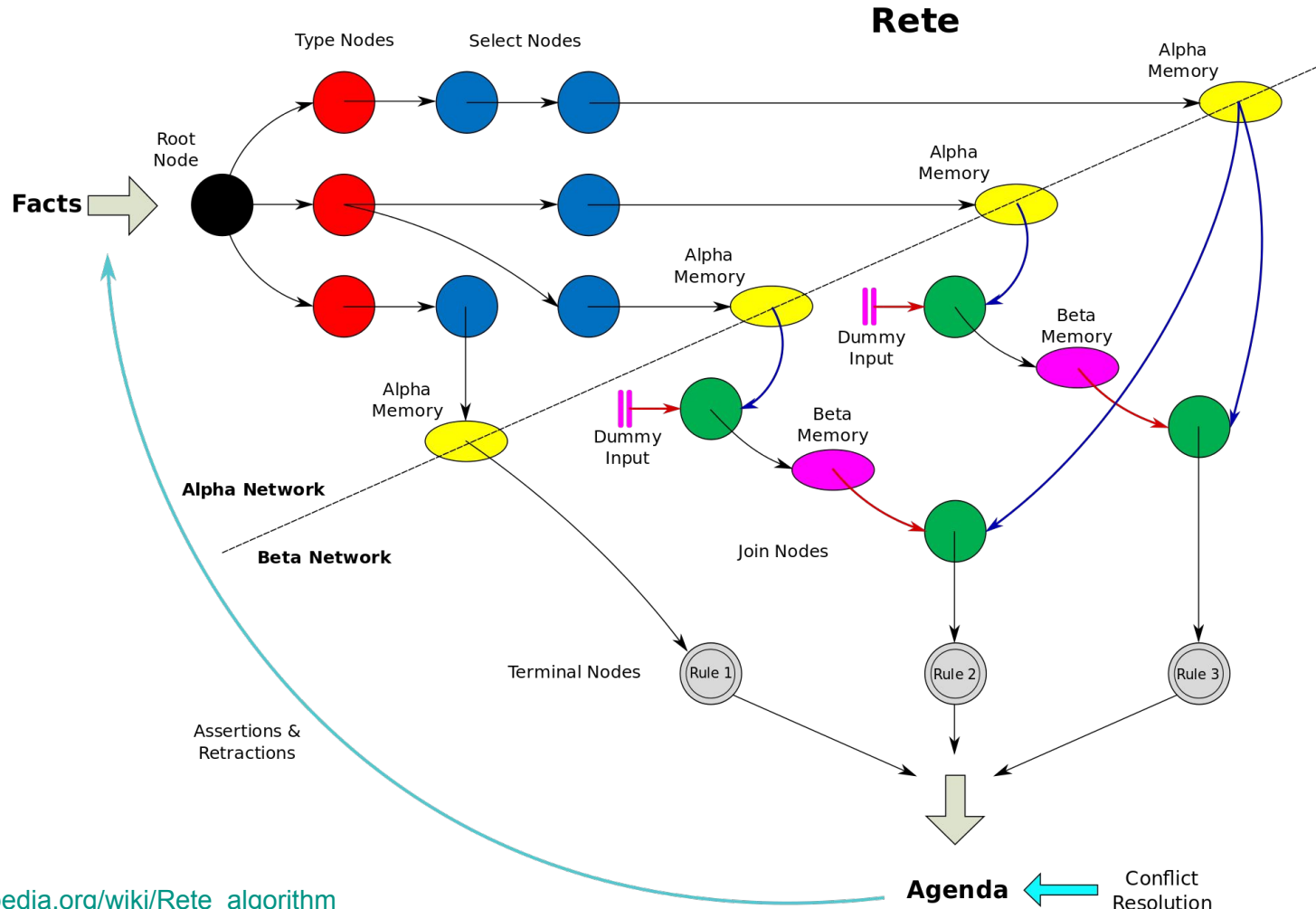
LC:s BIBFRAME 2? NO!

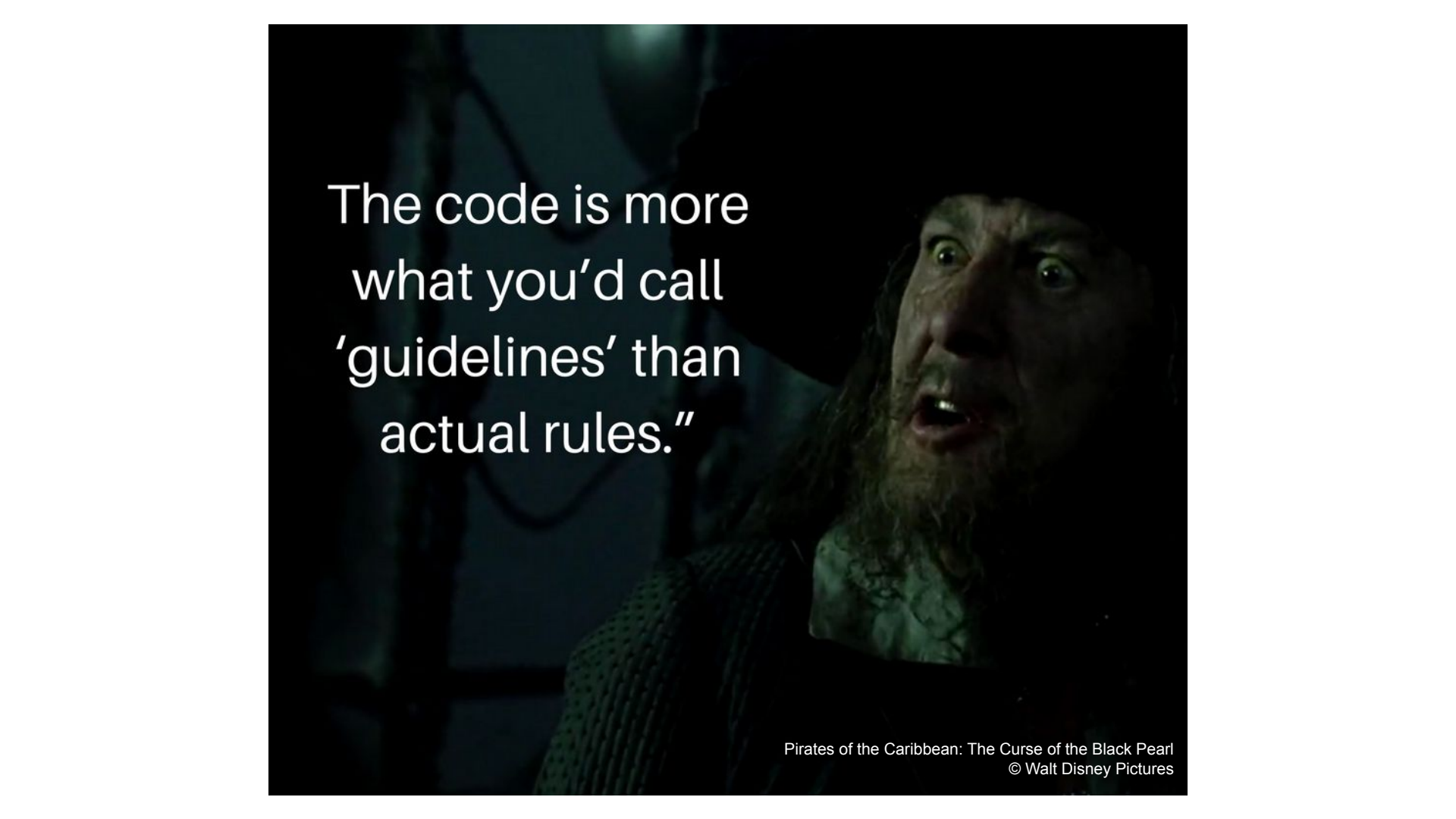
Linked Data regularly means using RDF as a “raw” data format. For better and worse.

WHY?

Nobody follows the rules?







The code is more
what you'd call
'guidelines' than
actual rules."

RDFS & OWL as Mapping Tools

`rdfs:subPropertyOf`

`rdfs:subClassOf`

`owl:equivalentProperty`

`owl:equivalentClass`

`owl:propertyChainAxiom`

`rdfs:domain`

`rdfs:range`

`rdf:Statement`

Target Vocabulary Maps



Proof Of Concept

For every term in the **target vocabulary, or selection of terms**, find all possible paths from all known vocabularies to that term, by following the RDFS and OWL mapping assertions.

- Paths include property chain axioms with range-restricted subproperties.
- Statement-like entities can provide direct predicates from e.g. qualified events.

This is stored as a **structured lookup table**, used by a very *simple* algorithm to map from source type or predicate(s) to target type or predicate(s).

Code: <https://github.com/niklasl/ldtvm/> (< 300 LOC including curlies)

Mapping Targets

Source

```
prefix : <http://id.loc.gov/ontologies/bibframe/>

</work/a> a :Print ;
  :carrier lccarrier:nc ;
  :instanceOf </abstract/a> ;
  :identifiedBy [ a :Isbn ;
                  rdf:value "12-3456-789-0" ] ;
  :provisionActivity [ a :Publication ;
                       :agent </org/a> ;
                       :date "2017" ] .

</abstract/a> a :Text ;
  :content :Text ;
  :title [ :mainTitle "A" ] ;
  :contribution [ :agent </person/a> ;
                  :role lcrel:ill ] .
```

Target A

```
prefix : <http://purl.org/dc/terms/>

</work/a> a :BibliographicResource ;
  :format bf:Print ;
  :isFormatOf <f/abstract/a> ;
  :identifier "12-3456-789-0" ;
  :issued "2017" ;
  :publisher <f/org/a> .

</abstract/a> a :BibliographicResource ;
  :contributor </person/a> ;
  :title "A" .
```

Target B

```
prefix : <http://schema.org/>

</work/a> a :Book,
  :Product ;
  :exampleOfWork <f/abstract/a> ;
  :isbn "12-3456-789-0" ;
  :datePublished "2017" ;
  :publisher <f/org/a> .

</abstract/a> a :Book ;
  :illustrator </person/a> ;
  :name "A" .
```


Basic Mappings

Map term X to term Y

Given:

```
<> a foaf:Document ;  
    dc:title "A" .
```

Target: RDFS

Expect:

```
<> a rdfs:Resource ;  
    rdfs:label "A" .
```

Assuming:

```
foaf:Document rdfs:subClassOf rdfs:Resource .  
dc:title rdfs:subPropertyOf rdfs:label .
```

Varying Granularities

Structured Values and Shorthand Properties

Given:

```
</instance/a>  
  bf:identifiedBy [ a bf:Isbn ;  
    rdf:value "12-3456-789-0" ] .
```

Target: [Schema.org](https://schema.org)

Expect:

```
</instance/a>  
  schema:isbn "12-3456-789-0" .
```

Assuming:

```
schema:isbn  
  owl:propertyChainAxiom (  
    [ rdfs:subPropertyOf bf:identifiedBy ;  
      rdfs:range bf:Isbn ]  
    rdf:value  
  ) .
```

Flattening Events

Given:

```
</instance/a>  
  bf:provisionActivity [ a bf:Publication ;  
    bf:agent </org/a> ;  
    bf:date "2017" ] .
```

Target: Schema.org

Expect:

```
</instance/a>  
  schema:publisher </org/a> ;  
  schema:datePublished "2017" .
```

Assuming:

```
schema:datePublished  
  owl:propertyChainAxiom (  
    [ rdfs:subPropertyOf bf:provisionActivity ;  
      rdfs:range bf:Publication ]  
    bf:date  
  ) .  
  
schema:publisher  
  owl:propertyChainAxiom (  
    [ rdfs:subPropertyOf bf:provisionActivity ;  
      rdfs:range bf:Publication ]  
    bf:agent  
  ) .
```

Beyond OWL: Qualified Relation as Reification

Given:

```
</work>
  bf:contribution [ a bf:Contribution ;
    bf:agent </person/a> ;
    bf:role lcrel:aut
  ] .
```

Target: [DC Terms](#)

Expect:

```
</work>
  dc:creator </person/a> .
```

Assuming:

```
bf:Contribution
  rdfs:subClassOf rdf:Statement .

bf:contribution rdfs:range bf:Contribution ;
  rdfs:subPropertyOf
    [ owl:inverseOf rdf:subject ] .

bf:role rdfs:domain bf:Contribution ;
  rdfs:subPropertyOf rdf:predicate .

bf:agent rdfs:domain bf:Contribution ;
  rdfs:subPropertyOf rdf:object .

lcrel:aut
  rdfs:subPropertyOf dc:creator .
```

Limitations

What To Leave Out?

Normalization?

Concept Scheme Mappings? Complementary?

Error Correction?

Bad Literals.

String Idiosyncrasies (structure versus presentation):

Forms of Names, microsyntaxes, “authorized access points”.

“**Creative**” semantics, misinterpretations, **philosophical traps** (platonism, perdurantism, nominalism).

“Punning?” (c.f. Jeni Tennison, 2012)

But isn't OWL Dangerous?

Open Worlds Collide!

The TVM approach doesn't assume a fully flat open world. (More like linkable layers of worlds.)

An Application Vocabulary is a data wrapper (for semantic encapsulation).

It supports “follow your nose” from your data! Your *specific notion* of “title” gets a URI. (Cf. Application Profiles.)

(Also, *never* consume owl:sameAs undiluted!)



Next Steps

Data Ingestion & Profile Negotiation

Using Target Vocabulary Maps in production.

Reworking ETL pipelines, accessing linked data described in BF, Schema.org, SKOS, DC etc., using our Application Vocabulary mappings.

Internally:

- Normalize on selected Concept Schemes.
- Cleaning up poor literals (e.g. dates).

Publishing:

- Supporting Profile Negotiation (to provide “just BF”, “just DC”, “just SKOS” views, and some combinations (APs)).
- Simple Schema.org snippets (for SEO).

Just Raw Data & ETL while
Waiting for the Semantic Web?

Raise the Bar Just a Bit!
Map your Target Vocabularies!