

Logilab at IFLA 2014

nicolas.chauvat@logilab.fr

founder and CEO of Logilab

Where do you come from?

culture = computer science + free software + The Web + agility

no previous knowledge about large libraries and librarians but willing to
continue building the web

Why are you here?

- CubicWeb development started in 2001
- Linked Open Data for a group of museums in 2006
- Met BnF at a conference in 2007
- Won call for tenders in 2010
- First public version in 2011
- SPIRL and ESWC in 2013 - IFLA in 2014

Why was it a good fit?

People at BnF already knew the good practices about databases and data exchange:

- models everywhere
- permanent identifiers (ark)
- interoperability of catalogs

they only needed the right technology and someone to tailor it to their needs on the go and address a very large audience

What is the web?

Called the Web because of links

Network of documents (hypertext) and data (hyperdata)

Worldwide distributed and inconsistent database where identifiers are URIs that is browsed with HTTP (and queried with SPARQL)

Why does the web scale?

Links are good because work becomes collaborative and can scale.

Creating URIs scales because it is decentralized thanks to the delegation principle at the core of the Domain Name System.

Global inconsistency / "open world" means document/data production can scale.

Not to be confused

"semantic" web

making sense for a program **NOT** natural language processing

RDF and vocabularies

standardizing data exchange **NOT** modeling and storage

Only one Web

one protocol (HTTP), many standards for data exchange (HTML, RDF, OWL, JSON, DC, FOAF, SKOS, etc.)

Free software and LLD

CubicWeb is free software used by data.bnf

OpenCat is free software (OPAC that reuses data from data.bnf)

Difficult to cluster and align data? Use Nazca!

Would BnF accept to release parts of data.bnf as free software to seed a community?