Introduction to linked data

Linked data principles



Lets start with a question

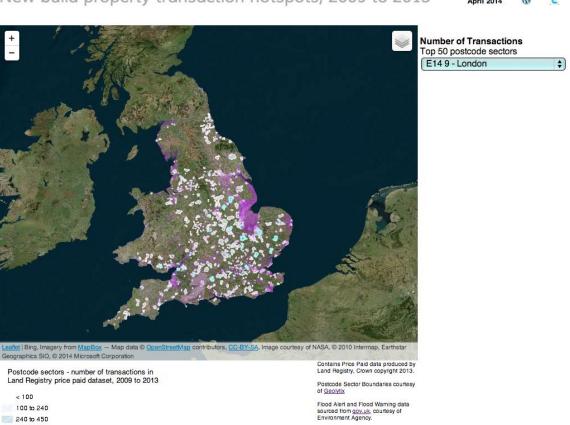
- Are we still building new houses on flood plains?
 - Recent UK concern over builders building new homes that were liable to flood
- How might we go about answering that question?
- Look at the available data
 - Land Registry publish data about house sales
 - Environment Agency publish data about flood risks
 - Ordnance Survey publish data about postcodes



Steve Peters built this app

https://openviz.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/faw_home.png

Flood alert and warning areas and New build property transaction hotspots, 2009 to 2013



OPEN DATA COMMUNITIES (cc) BY-NC-SA



Data Reuse

- None of the data publishers envisaged this use of the data
 - Land Registry data is used by the housing market
 - Environment Agency warning the public of floods
 - Ordnance Survey publishing key reference data
- Reusable data is valuable
- Reusable data is a rich economic resource
- Inside the enterprise and in public
- That value is reduced by "information friction"



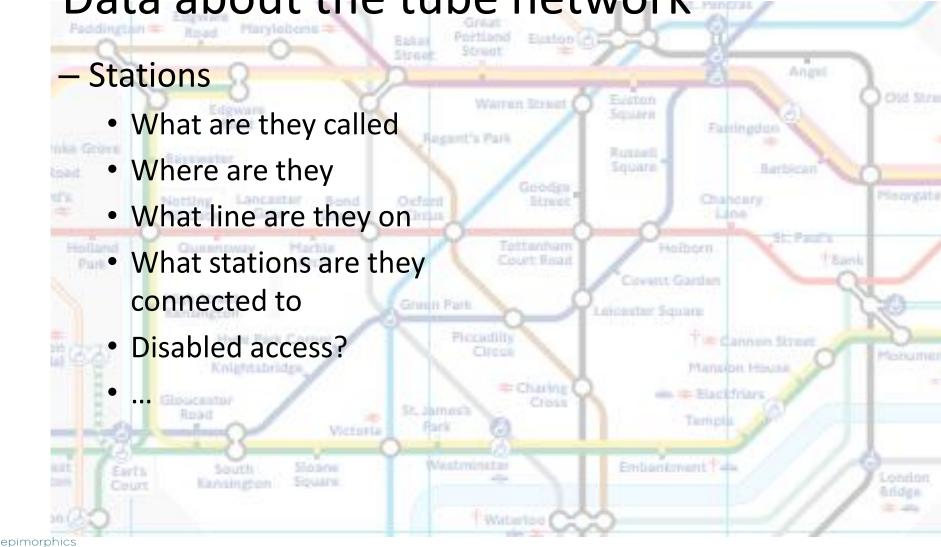
Information Friction

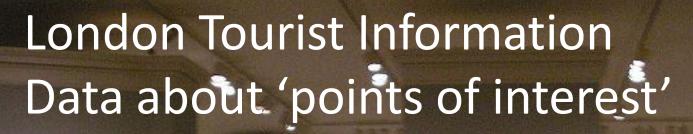
- Anything that gets in the way of using data to answer a question
- Examples of friction
 - finding data (knowing it exists)
 - accessing data
 - knowing what the data actually means
 - integrating data from different sources
 - the data structures don't join up
 - they don't use the same identifiers

— ...



London Transport Data about the tube network





Point of interest

name

What type

Description

Location

Current exhibitions

Opening times

How to get there

Disabled access

• ..

Inside the National Gallery, London

5 Minute Exercise

- Find a partner to work with
- For each of London Transport and London Tourist infomation
 - Sketch a single page spreadsheet with some data they might publish
 - data that app developers might find useful
 - single page so can share as CSV file
- You could choose to:
 - work on one each
 - work independently
 - see how well the data would join up



Solutions



How was that?

Issues / Problems / Observations

do the two CSV files connect?



Two I prepared Earlier

Station	Line	Dir	Next	Line	Dir	Next	•••	Lat/long	Disabled
Oxford Circus	Central	East	Tottenham Court Road	Central	West	Bond Street			

POI	Туре	Description (English)	Description (French)	 Opening Times	Map Ref	Tube	••
National Gallery	Art Gallery	The national gallery	La Gallerie Nationale	 Daily 10am – 6pm, Friday 10am – 9pm Closed		Charing Cross	

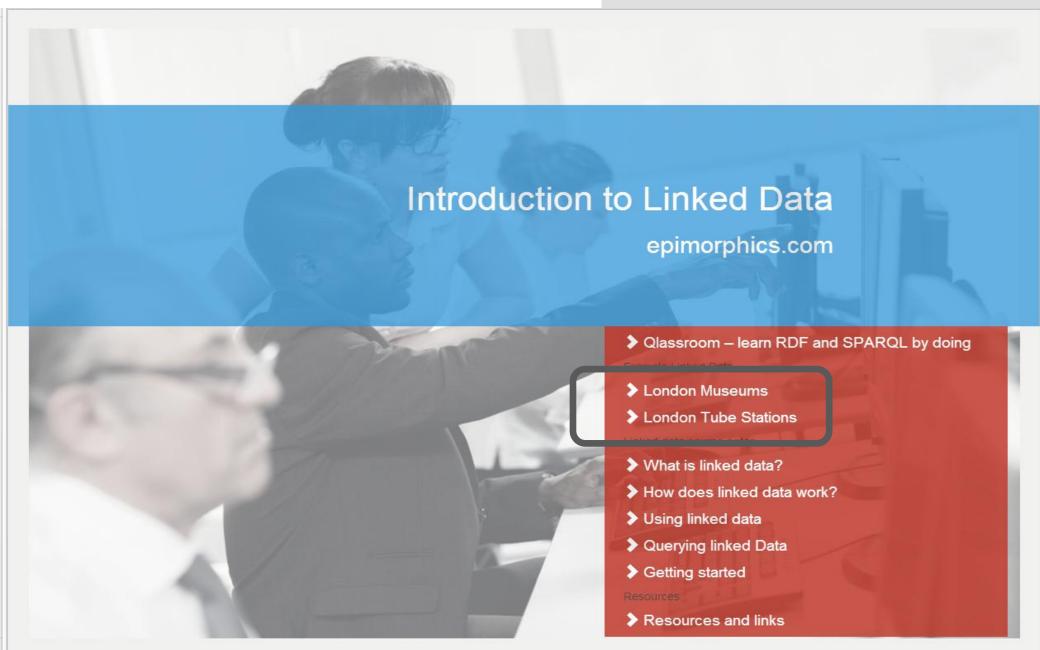


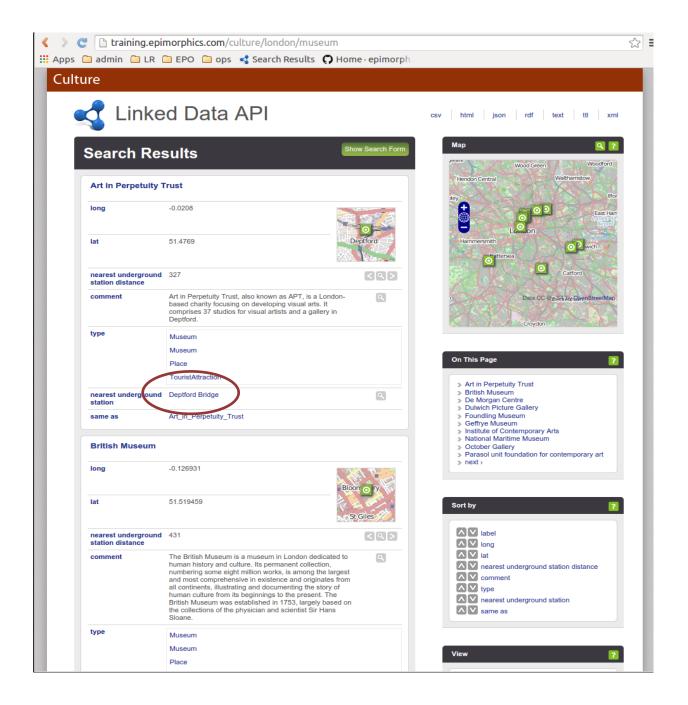
Issues / Problems / Observations

- Repeated variable number of columns for connections, descriptions etc
- Opening times a bit tricky need a human to read those
- Irregular data current exhibitions makes sense for a gallery but for a park?
 - Different map coordinate systems in different datasets
 - Not sure if the data would join up
- depends on spelling of station names

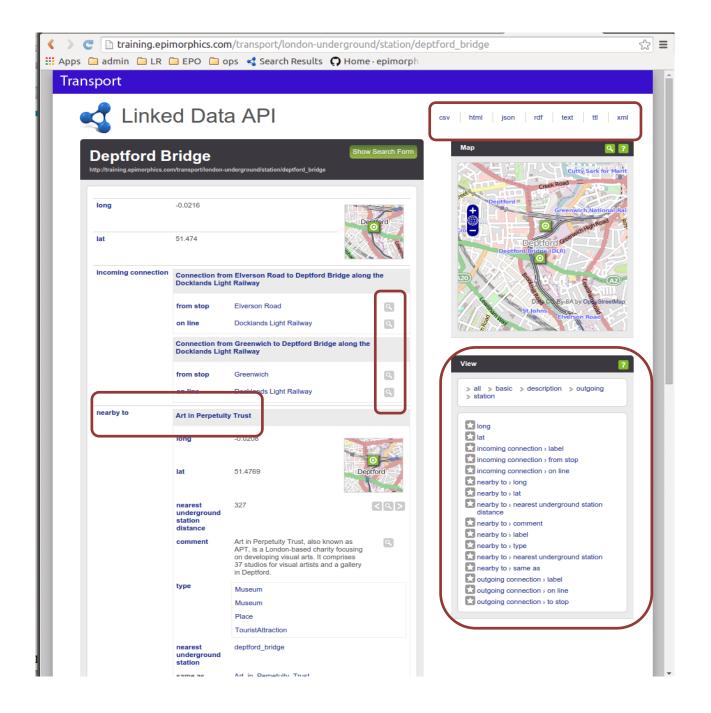
http://training.epimorphics.com













Observations

- All the interesting things have a web address
 - http://training.epimorphics.com/transport/londonunderground/station/paddington
- Get data back from those web addresses as
 - A web page (html)
 - Or RDF (web standard data format)
 - Or JSON, XML, CSV, Text
- That data uses web addresses to link to data about other things
 - POI data links to Tube data
- Those links let you go hopping from one dataset to another
- Creating a Web of data



Linked Data 'Manifesto'...

http://www.w3.org/DesignIssues/LinkedData.html

- 1. "Use URIs as names for things"
 - [ie. use web addresses to name all manner of things.]
- 2. "Use HTTP URIs so that people can look up those names."
- 3. When someone looks up a URI, provide useful information, using standards (RDF)
 - [ie. put information behind the name]
- 4. "Include links to other URIs. so that they can discover more things."





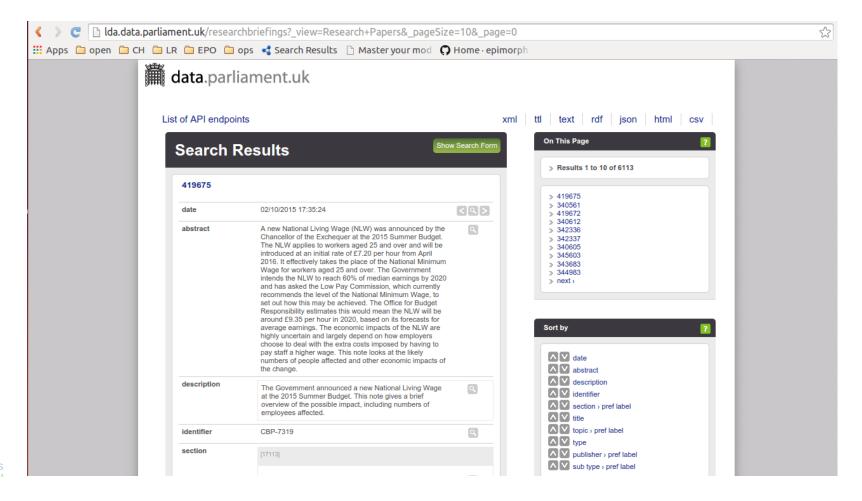
Linked Data's Strengths

- data integration
- reuse of data
- structural flexibility
- extensibility
- accessibility



http://explore.data.parliament.uk/

Under the hood you will find





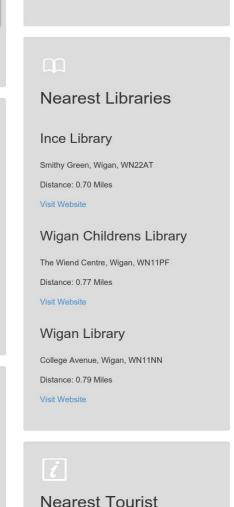
http://www.streetlist.co.uk

http://www.streetlist.co.uk/stree ts/Sole-Street-Wigan-WN1-3YE#.VPRM581tPUY







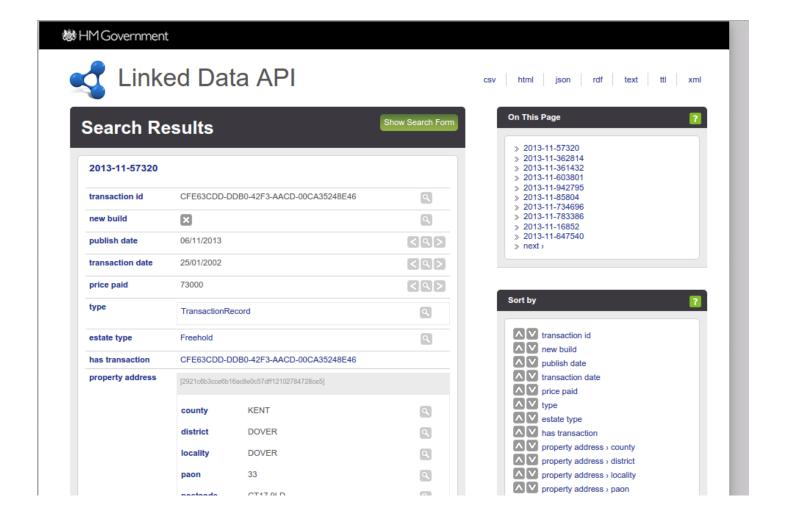


Attractions



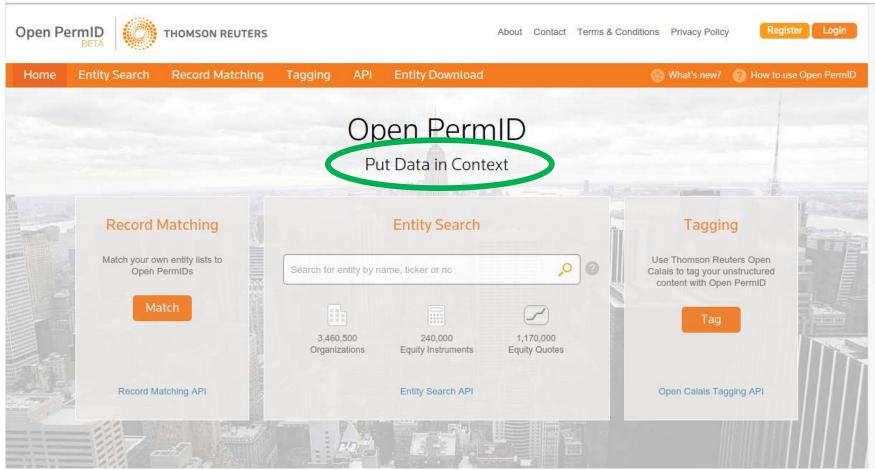


http://landregistry.data.gov.uk





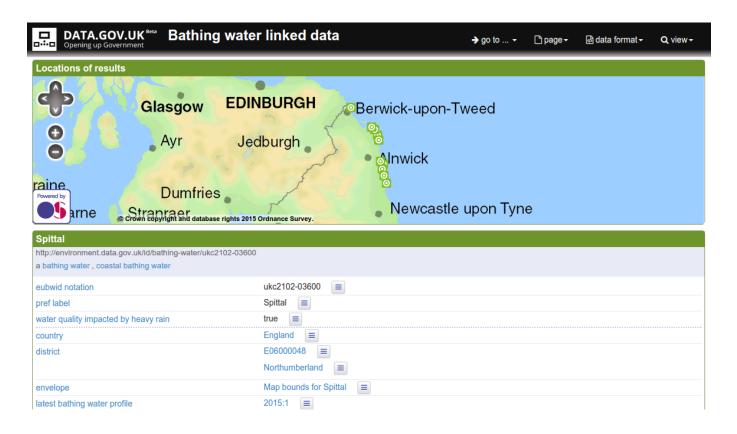
https://permid.org/





UK Environment Agency

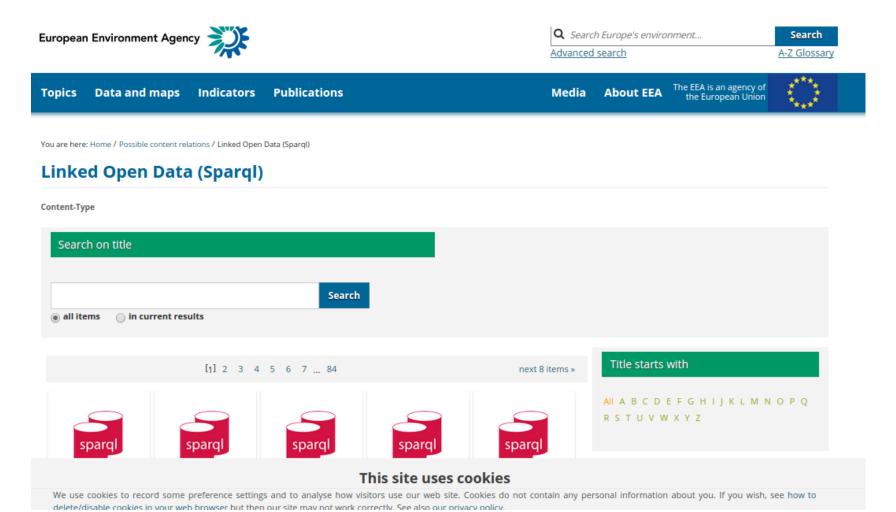
http://environment.data.gov.uk/id/bathing-water





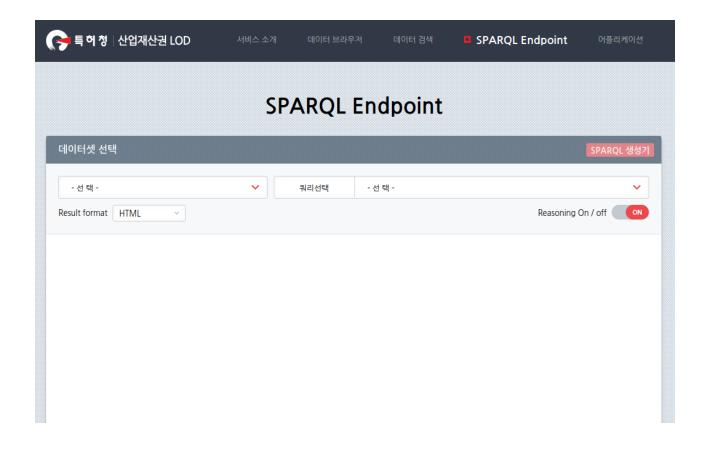
European Environment Agency

http://www.eea.europa.eu/portal_relations/linked-open-data-sparql#c1=all&c3=8&b_start=0





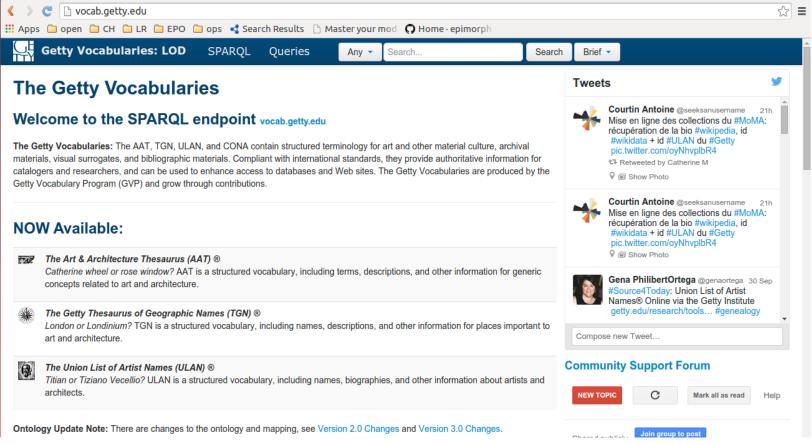
Korean Intellectual Property Office http://lod.kipo.kr/data/sparql





Getty Vocabularies

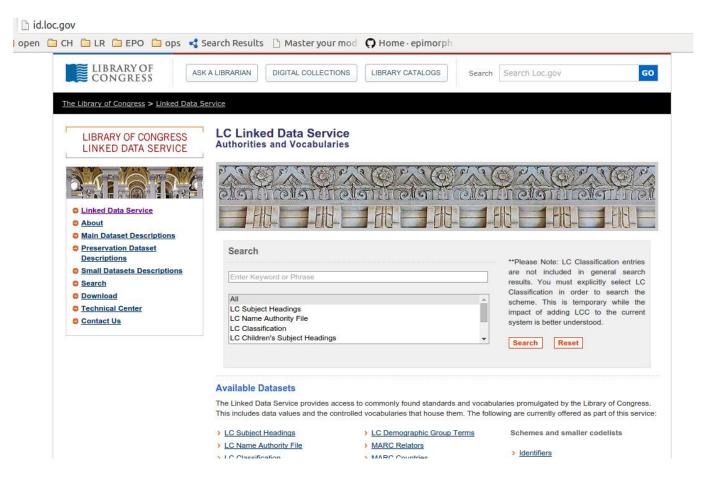
http://vocab.getty.edu/





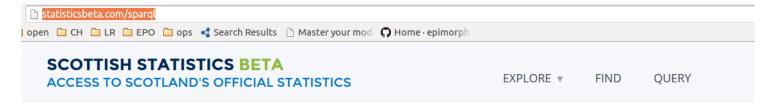
US Library of Congress

http://id.loc.gov/





Scottish Statistics Office http://statisticsbeta.com/sparql



SPARQL 1.1 endpoint

```
PREFIX dcterms: <http://purl.org/dc/terms/>
PREFIX owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#>
PREFIX qb: <http://purl.org/linked-data/cube#>
PREFIX rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
PREFIX rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>
PREFIX skos: <http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#>
PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>

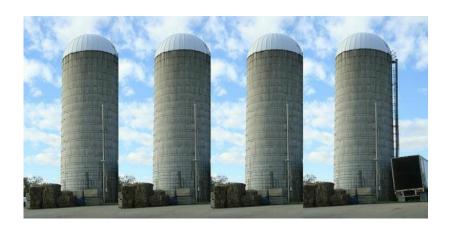
SELECT *
WHERE {
1     ?s ?p ?o
12 }
```

Run Query



Two views of data

Data is owned by an application



- optimised for the application
- tends only to be of use to a specific application

 Data is a collection of 'facts'



- context free
- reusable
- can be combined with other 'facts' from other sources



Questions?



