LINKED OPEN VOCABULARIES

LOV at a glance

• History
  • Started 2011-Q1
    • Initially a deliverable of Datalift project: http://datalift.org
    • First hosted at Mondeca Labs: http://labs.mondeca.com/
  • 2012: Growing interest beyond the initial scope
    • Migration to OKFN since July 2012: http://lov.okfn.org
    • Open code since 2013-Q1: https://github.com/pyvandenbussche/

• Status as of september 2013
  • 360+ vocabularies, and counting
  • Continuous feedback from the community
  • Small management team: 5 curators, 1 technical manager
A vocabulary in LOV

http://lov.okfn.org/dataset/lov/details/vocabulary_org.html

Rich metadata

Usage in linked data

NEW

Relations with other vocabularies

Versions and timeline
LOV interfaces

- LOV Home: [http://lov.okfn.org](http://lov.okfn.org)
- LOV-Search: [http://lov.okfn.org/dataset/lov/search/](http://lov.okfn.org/dataset/lov/search/)
- LOV-Suggest: [http://lov.okfn.org/dataset/lov/suggest/](http://lov.okfn.org/dataset/lov/suggest/)
- LOV-Bot: Daily or on-demand scan of vocabularies
- LOV-Edit: Administration and curation back-office
- SPARQL endpoint(s)
  - Vocab metadata [http://lov.okfn.org/endpoint/lov](http://lov.okfn.org/endpoint/lov)
  - Vocab content [http://lov.okfn.org/endpoint/lov_aggregator](http://lov.okfn.org/endpoint/lov_aggregator)
• Vocabularies in LOV are less than 13 years old
  • Oldest were published in 2000, but ...

• Tracing history is a pain
  • Finding versions
  • Finding documentation
  • Finding responsible contacts

• Publication practices are a pain
  • Variety of RDF formats
  • Variety of URI, namespace and content negotiation policies
  • URIs change without notice ...
Cool URIs never change 😊

Referenced by some vocabularies using its former URI http://www.loa-cnr.it/ontologies/DUL.owl#. This URI is still online but stuck at version 3.22.
Every vocabulary is a Ship of Theseus

Every bit and piece of a vocabulary is likely to change:
Content, URI, namespace, publisher, creator ...

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theseus%27s_Ship_paradox
Given that
  - Vocabularies keep changing
  - Creators and publishers have loose policies
  - Linked data need stable URIs and definitions

Who’s going to care?
  - Librarians, maybe?
  - Librarians are useful to track history, but can’t care for the mess created by obsolete URIs.
  - We need a **collaborative and sustainable governance**
  - Involving publishers, users, standard bodies, libraries ...