

# Aim for the Stars!

The Importance of Semantic Technologies in Electronic  
Lexicography and Language Technology

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# Context

# Context



Society for Danish Language and Literature (DSL)

# Context

*Ordbog over det danske Sprog*  
(ODS) (Dictionary of the Danish  
Language)

- Historical dictionary  
(1700-1955)
- 27 volumes
- 220,000 lemmas
- Richly-described entries
- *Manually* retrodigitized!



# Context

- *Afstand /'au̯sdan'/ ‘distance’*

Can this information be found on the Web? → **Findability**

**Afstand**, en. ['au̯sdan'] flt. -e ['au̯sdaŋə] (efter ty. abstand (jf. lat. distansia); Møth(S740) har ordet som vbs. til **aftaa**: "fravigelse. Recessus"; ellers bruges det først ved midten af 18. aarh.; i stedet findes udtr. som Afligghed, Distance, Fraligghed, Frastand ofl.)

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# Context

- *Afstand /'au̯sdan'/ ‘distance’*

Is the data accessible by identifiers using an open, free and universally implemented protocol? → **Accessibility**

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Danish National Dictionary (ordnet.dk) in English. The main search bar at the top contains the word "afstand". Below the search bar, the page title is "ORDBOG OVER DET DANSKE SPROG HISTORISK ORDBOG 1700-1950". The navigation menu includes "Home", "The Danish Dictionary", "Dictionary of the Danish Language", and "KorpusDK". On the left, there's a sidebar with "ODS" and "Seg I:", followed by "Dictionary" and "Om ODS". Below that is a "Related queries" section with links to "The Danish Dictionary", "afstand", "Concordance", "afstand", "Collocations", and "afstand". The main content area displays the search results for "afstand". The first result is a definition of "Afstand" (distance) from the 1700-1950 historical dictionary. It includes several examples from Old Danish texts, such as "Moth(S740) har ordet som vbs. til afstan: "fravigelse. Recessus"; ellers bruges det først ved midten af 18. aarh.; i stedet findes udtr. som Afliggenhed, Distance, Fraliggenhed, Frastand ofl.". To the right of the search results, there's a sidebar with "Søgeresultat" and "Alfabets liste" buttons, and a list of related words like "Afstands-", "Planteafstand", etc.

# Context

## • *Afstand /'au̯sdan'/ 'distance'*

Is the data described using formal, accessible, and standard data models to be shared? → **Interoperability**

**Afstand**, en. [au̯sdaŋ] flt. -e [au̯-sðaŋa] (efter ty. afstand (fl. lat. distans); *Moth.S740*) har ordet som vbs. til *afstan*: "fravigelse. Recessus"; ellers bruges de først ved midten af 18. aarh.; i stedet findes udtr. som Afliggheden, Distance, Fraliggheden, Frastand ofl.)

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*Ploug.VV.II.13*. Afstanden fra Kærholm til Bustrup Præstegård var fem-seks Kilometer. *Pont.LP. VII.65*. (sj.): har vandt Afstand (dvs.: kom længere og længere bort) fra (de angribende vilde heste). *Rist.FT.28*. 1 | spec. om regelmæssige mellemmål mellem (afdelinger af) soldater, som stoar bag ved hinanden. *Sol.IX.531*. Jf.: Der er Gæsene .. med Retning og Afstand som en Trup Soldater. *Bogan.I.127*; det er daarrig ridning; her er ikke spor af afstand (dvs.: der er ulige stor afstand mellem de enkelte rytttere) 1 | efter prop. 1. Alt, hvad Naturen .. i maallos Afstand fra hinanden spredrer. *Bogges.L. I.156*. Munkene .. holder sig i en berodig Afstand. *Oeh.JV.161*.

Medens vi talte, saa jeg i lang Afstand en Dame komme. *Goldschm.VI.274*. 1 **afstand** (ell. † i en afstand. *Gyb.III.215*. IV.280.331. VIII.223), (sj.)

ikke tæt ved ill. paa nært hold; (temmelig) lang borte. (nu oftere paa afstand). "Jeg vendte om, og som en yndig Slave | I Afstand troe jeg fulgte

Deres Vel. *Heib. Poet.VI.272*. Vandet saa klart ud nar ved, men seet i Afstand, sort som Blæk. *HCAnd.VI.300*. Jeg elsker Franskemandene – i Afstand. *Goldschm.I.354*. De dreebte ham i Afstand med Pike. *smtst.III. 197*.

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<Sendel SemID="29014340"><Semet BetNo="1" SemenID="29401382" odsID="Afstand\_1"><dotPlus id="2666"/><SemIndhold><dotBetNo>1</dotBetNo><dotSpaced>fjernhed;</dotSpaced> langdelen af <dotSpaced>mellerummet</dotSpaced><dotLn col="0293" lin="25" orig="mellerum-met"/>(mat.: af en ret linie) mellem to punkter.</dotLn> <dotLn col="0293" lin="26"/>udflidte Solens Afstand fra Jorden. <i>Heimt. <dotLn col="0293" lin="27"/>Physisk.67. (jf. Steners. Crit.Bet.29 og Marg. <dotLn col="0293" lin="28"/>klopstock.Breve.(1760).40).</i> Sofarende .. <dotLn col="0293" lin="29"/>have ofte stor Færdighed i at bedømme <dotLn col="0293" lin="30"/>afstanden. <i>Heib.Pros.II.369.</i> <dotRaised><dotRaised>Seer jeg <dotLn col="0293" lin="31"/>.. en Hatfield sydet Damp | Tidens Maal, <dotLn col="0293" lin="32"/>Rummts Afstande flytte. <i>Ploug.VV.II.13.</i> .. en <dotLn col="0293" lin="33"/>Afstanden fra Kærholm til Bustrup Præstegård<dotLn col="0293" lin="34" orig="Præste-gaard"/>var fem-seks Kilometer. <i>Pont.LP. <dotLn col="0293" lin="35"/>VII.65. (sj.): han vandt Afstand <i>en dvs.: kom <dotLn col="0293" lin="36"/>langere og længere bort!</i> fra <i>en dvs.: angribende <dotLn col="0293" lin="37"/>vilde heste). *Rist.FT.28*.</i> <img alt="Cartoon of two people talking" data-bbox="384 322 974 936"/> <dotLn col="0293" lin="38" orig="regtel-messige"/>mellerum mellem (afdelinger af) <dotLn col="0293" lin="39" orig="soldater, som staar bag ved hinanden. Sal. <dotLn col="0293" lin="40"/>Tidens Maal, jf.etc> Der er Gæsene .. med Retning<dotLn col="0293" lin="41" orig="Ret-ning"/>og Afstand som en Trup Soldater. <dotLn col="0293" lin="42"/><i>Bogan.I.127.</i> <dotLn col="0293" lin="43"/>er ikke spor af afstand <i>en dvs.: der er ulige stor <dotLn col="0293" lin="44"/>afstand mellem de enkelte rytttere!</i> <img alt="Cartoon of a person holding a sword" data-bbox="384 322 974 936"/> <dotRaised><dotRaised>Alt, hvad Naturen .. i maallos <dotLn col="0293" lin="45"/>afstand fra hinanden spredrer. <i>Bagges.L. <dotLn col="0293" lin="47"/>I.156.</i> Munken .. holder sig i en armodig <dotLn col="0293" lin="48"/>afstand fra en Dame komme. <i>Goldschm.VI.274</i>. <dotLn col="0293" lin="49"/>Jeg i lang Afstand en Dame komme. <i>Oeh.IV.161.</i> Medens vi talte, saa <dotLn col="0293" lin="50" orig="Goldschm.VI.274."/><dotLn col="0293" lin="51"/>Gylb.III.215. IV.288.331. VIII.223), (sj.).<dotLn col="0293" lin="52"/><dotPlus col="293" id="2668"/><dotSpaced>ikke tæt ved</dotSpaced><dotLn col="0293" lin="53"/>nu oftere</dotLn> paa afstand<dotLn col="0293" lin="54"/> vendte om, og som en ydmyg Slave | I <dotLn col="0293" lin="55"/>Afstand, sort som Blæk. <dotLn col="0293" lin="56"/>Franskmandene/> i Afstand med Pike. <dotLn col="0293" lin="57"/>smtst.III. <dotLn col="0293" lin="58"/>kontr. <dotPlus id="2669"/><dotPlus id="2670"/>kontr. <dotLn col="0293" lin="59"/>afstand paa. \*Ei en af paa. <dotRaised><dotRaised>Vaaben | Paa mange <dotLn col="0293" lin="63" orig="64"/>skydes <i>dvs.: ved en duel!</i> paa. <dotLn col="0293" lin="64"/>Jakknu.A.211.</i> <dotLn col="0294" lin="65"/>paa afstand, <dotLn col="0294" lin="66"/>noget Godt <dotLn col="0294" lin="67"/>sinde <dotLn col="0294" lin="68"/>Schand.BS.118.</i> Aftenklokken .. lad sad <dotLn col="0294" lin="69"/>Enhver <dotLn col="0294" lin="70"/>orig="71"/>borde holde sig paa Afstand fra Børnene. <dotLn col="0294" lin="71"/>

# Context

## • *Afstand /'au̯sdan'/ 'distance'*

Are the attributes accurate and relevant? What are the data usage terms and conditions? → **Re-usability**

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**afstand**



**Danish** [edit]

**Etymology** [edit]

Equivalent to *af* ("off") + *stand* ("standing"), calque of German *Abstand* ("distance, interval"), which is in turn a calque of Latin *distantia*

**Pronunciation** [edit]

• IPA(key): /avstan?/, ['ow̯sðan?']

**Noun** [edit]

**afstand c** (singular definite **afstanden**, plural indefinite **afstænde**)

**Decension** [edit]

**Decension of afstand** [show ▾]

**Synonyms** [edit]

- **distance**

**References** [edit]

- “**afstand**” in *Den Danske Ordbog*
- **afstand** on the Danish Wikipedia.

# FAIR Principles

## FAIR Principles (Wilkinson et al. (2016))

- **Findability**
- **Accessibility**
- **Interoperability**
- **Re-usability**

# Language Resources

# Language Resources: Conceptualization

## 1 Lexical-semantic resources

- Dictionaries & lexica
- Network-based resources

WordNet

FrameNet

- Explanatory Combinatorial Dictionary

≡ WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia



...

≡ *Syringa*

5A 65 languages ▾

Tools ▾

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

(Redirected from [Lilac](#))

"*Lilac*" redirects here. For other uses, see [Lilac \(disambiguation\)](#).  
For other uses, see [Syringa \(disambiguation\)](#).

*Syringa* is a genus of 12 currently recognized species of [flowering woody plants](#) in the olive family or [Oleaceae](#)<sup>[1]</sup> called [lilacs](#). These lilacs are native to woodland and scrub from southeastern [Europe](#) to eastern [Asia](#), and widely and commonly cultivated in [temperate areas](#) elsewhere.<sup>[2][3][4][5]</sup>

The genus is most closely related to [Ligustrum](#) (privet), classified with it in Oleaceae tribus Oleae subtribus Ligustrinae.<sup>[6]</sup>

Lilacs are used as food plants by the [larvae](#) of



## 2 Terminologies & Thesauri

## 3 Encyclopedic resources

## 4 Corpora

## 5 Language descriptions

## 6 Many more...

# Language Resources: Structure

- *lilac* (noun)

## **lilac** noun

li-lac (lī-läk) -lak, -lek

Merriam-Webster

- 1 **a** : a widely cultivated European shrub (*Syringa vulgaris*) of the olive family that has cordate ovate leaves and large panicles of fragrant pinkish-purple or white flowers
- b** : a tree or shrub congeneric with the lilac
- 2 : a variable color averaging a moderate purple



## **li-lac** /'lailək/ noun

1 [countable] a small tree with pale purple or white flowers

2 [uncountable] a pale purple colour

**SYN** mauve

## —**lilac** adjective

a lilac dress

 **LONGMAN**

# Knowledge Representation



A Disney Cartoon character

A Roman God

A song by Björk

A dwarf planet

HMS Pluto: A ship



# Knowledge Representation

- **Problem 1:** web documents do not distinguish between information content and presentation
  - XML!
  - But what if the same meanings are represented using different tags?
  - Costly XSLT transformation
- **Problem 2:** different web documents may represent in different ways semantically related pieces of information
  - annotate pieces of information to express the “meaning” of such a piece of information
  - the meaning of such tags is shared → *shared semantics* tags?

# Heterogeneity



# Linguistic Linked Data

# Semantic Web

## Semantic Web

A web of data that are structured and linked together using a set of standards and technologies

- An extension of the World Wide Web (proposed in 1994, described in 2001) (Berners-Lee, Hendler, and Lassila, 2001)
- From *text* to *meaning* → explicit semantics
- Publishing structured data to be interlinked and become more useful through semantic queries
- “better enable computers and people to work in cooperation”
- Semantic Web: **Data, Logic, Query**

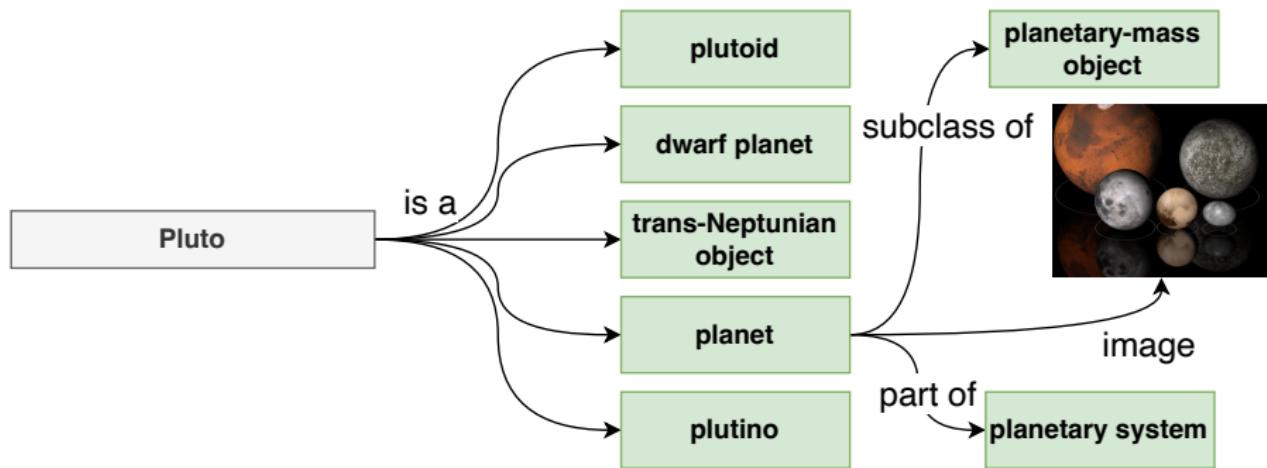
# Linked Data

## Linked Data

- Semantic web is the theoretical framework and technologies for achieving this goal
- A set of best practices for publishing and interlinking structured data on the web.
- Four principles:
  - ① Use URIs as names for things → name things!
  - ② Use HTTP URIs so that people can look up those names
  - ③ When someone looks up a URI, provide useful information → human-readable descriptions
  - ④ Include links to other URIs so that they can discover more things.

# Linked Data

The semantics is expressed with the help of knowledge representations → Ontologies



A graph composed of triples (subject, predicate, object) → Resource Description Framework (RDF) graph

# Linked Data is Everywhere

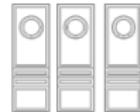
Museums



Galleries



Archives



Libraries

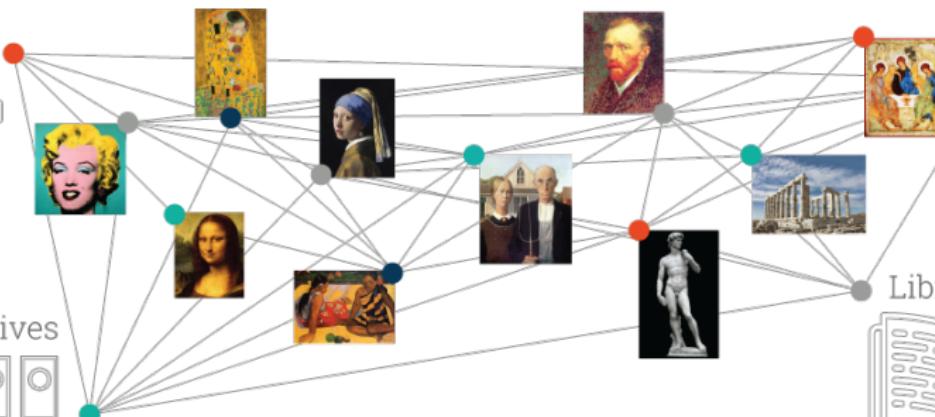
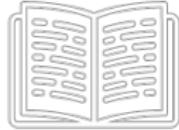


Image source: <https://www.ontotext.com/knowledgehub/webinars/build-narratives-connect-artifacts-cultural-heritage/>

Semantic Web compatible data available via endpoints.

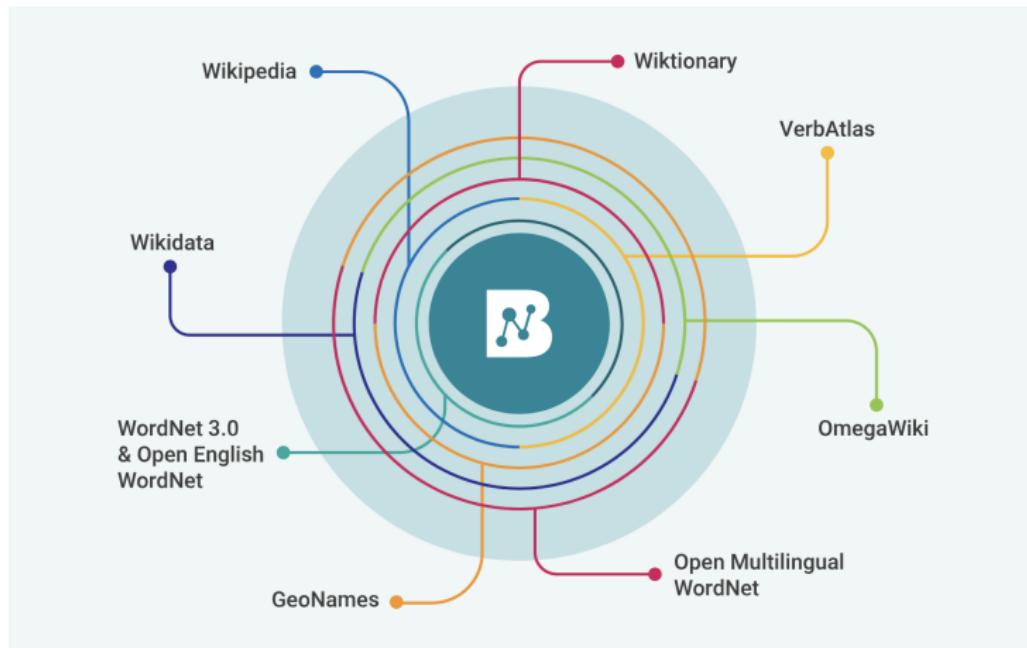
# Linguistic Linked Data

## Linguistic Linked Data

Linked Data for linguistic data! (Cimiano et al., 2020)

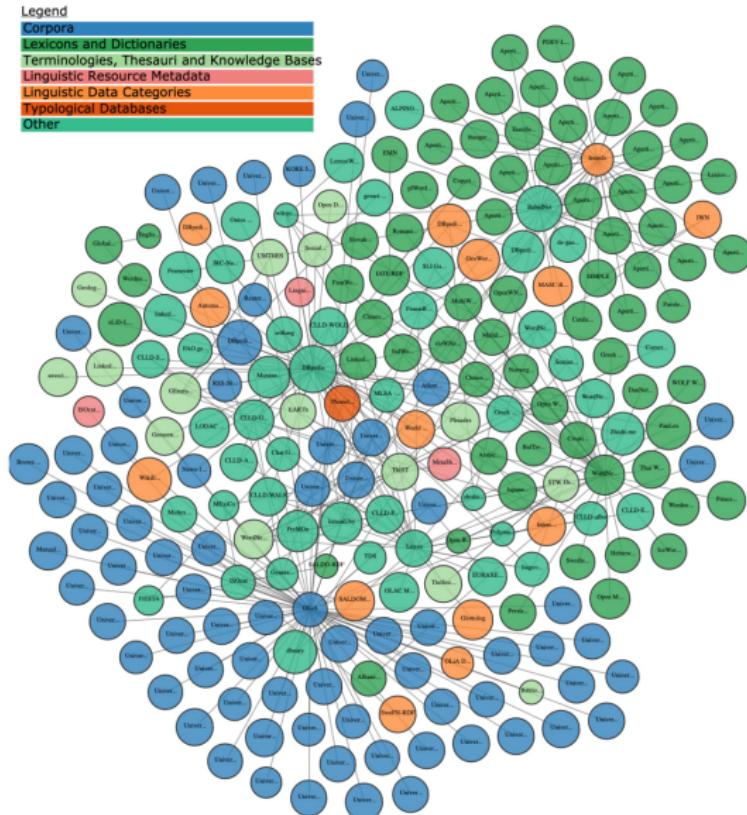
- Aggregation and integration of linguistic resources (RDF)
- Resources are explicitly linked
- Data exposed in a standardized way (SPARQL)
- Improved discovery of dataset and services
- Use of common vocabularies for representing language content and metadata
- FAIR principles ✓

# Linguistic Linked Data: Alignment



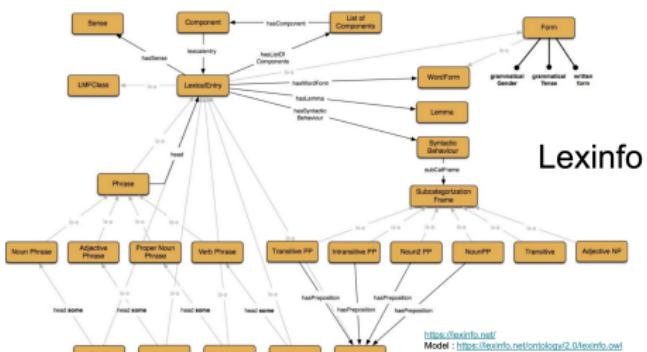
BabelNet (<https://babelnet.org>) covering 520 languages!

# LOD Cloud

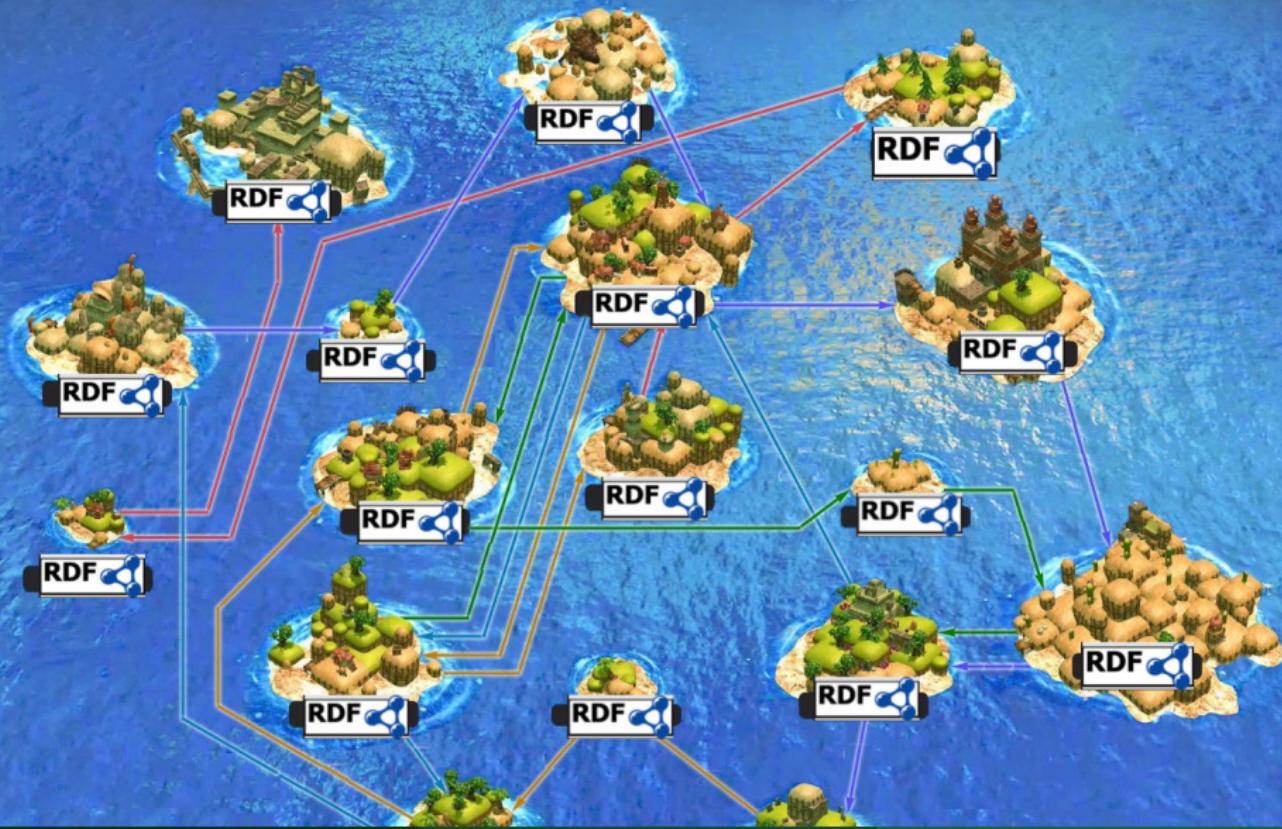


# Common ontologies and vocabularies

- Lexicons and Dictionaries:
  - *OntoLex-Lemon*
  - *lexicog*
- Linguistic data description: *lexinfo*, *frac*
- Metadata:
  - Basic Metadata: *Dublin Core*, *foaf*, *dcterms*, *Prov-O*
  - Linguistic Metadata: *lime*, *METASHARE*
- Terminology and Thesauri: *SKOS*
- Corpora and Annotation: *OLIA*, *NIF*, *Web Annotation*



# Linguistic Linked Data: Success!



An Example in MPCD: *sar* ‘head’ (noun)

# An Example in MPCD: *sar* ‘head’ (noun)

```
-<?xml-model
  href="J./MPCD-relating/dictionary.rmc" type="application/xml"
?>
<dictionary taxonomy="default">
  <entry entryId="ID002" crossRef="ID003" stage="inprogress" DOI="mpcd.edu">
    <lemma>sar</lemma>
    <headword/>
    <language>pal</language>
    <morphology compositionType="simplex">
      <pos>NOUNADV</pos>
    </morphology>
    <timeline century="4" freq="4170"/>
    <relativeFrequency>98.294</relativeFrequency>
    <types>
      <type>
        <transcription>sar</transcription>
        <frequency>711</frequency>
        <occurrences>
          <occurrence tokenId="AWN_8299" uncertain="0">t̄ sar wāz_girişin̄ kirdan </occurrence>
        </occurrences>
      </type>
    </types>
    <orthographicVariants>
      <orthographicVariant>
        <transliteration>s</transliteration>
        <frequency>401</frequency>
      </orthographicVariant>
      <orthographicVariant>
        <transliteration>L YŞH</transliteration>
        <frequency>310</frequency>
      </orthographicVariant>
    </orthographicVariants>
    <occurrences>
      <occurrence tokenId="AWN_11953" uncertain="0">u =ş mēx İahanēn andar sar zad
    </occurrences>
    <occurrences>
    <hierarchizedSenses>
      <semantic serialId="001">
        <node serialId="001">
          <label>head</label>
        </node>
        <semanticCore>
          <sense>
            head (of the body): of human beings, of animals (cow, snake), of a deity
          </sense>
        </semanticCore>
      </semantic>
    </hierarchizedSenses>
  </entry>
</dictionary>
```

# An Example in MPCD: *sar* in OntoLex

```
:lex_sar a ontolex:LexicalEntry, ontolex:Word ;
  dct:language <www.lexvo.org/page/iso639-3/pal> ;
  rdfs:label "sar"@pal-latn, "sl"@pal-latn, "L'YŠH"@pal-latn ;
  ontolex:canonicalForm [
    ontolex:writtenRep "sar"@pal-latn
  ] ;
  lexinfo:partOfSpeech lexinfo:noun ;
  ontolex:canonicalForm :form_sar_3_1, :form_sar_3_2 ;
  ontolex:sense :lex_sar_sense_3_1, :lex_sar_sense_3_2, :lex_sar_sense_3_3 .

:form_sar_3_1 a ontolex:Form ;
  ontolex:writtenRep "sar"@pal-latn, "sl"@pal-latn, "L'YŠH"@pal-latn ;
  lexinfo:number lexinfo:singular ;
  frac:attestation :att_GBd_284093 .

:form_sar_3_2 a ontolex:Form ;
  ontolex:writtenRep "sarān"@pal-latn, "L'YŠH'n'"@pal-latn;
  lexinfo:number lexinfo:plural .

:lex_sar_sense_3_1 a ontolex:LexicalSense;
  skos:definition "head (of the body): of human beings, of animals (cow, snake), of a deity"@en ;
  ontolex:denotes <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q23640> ;
  ontolex:denotes <https://dbpedia.org/page/Head> .

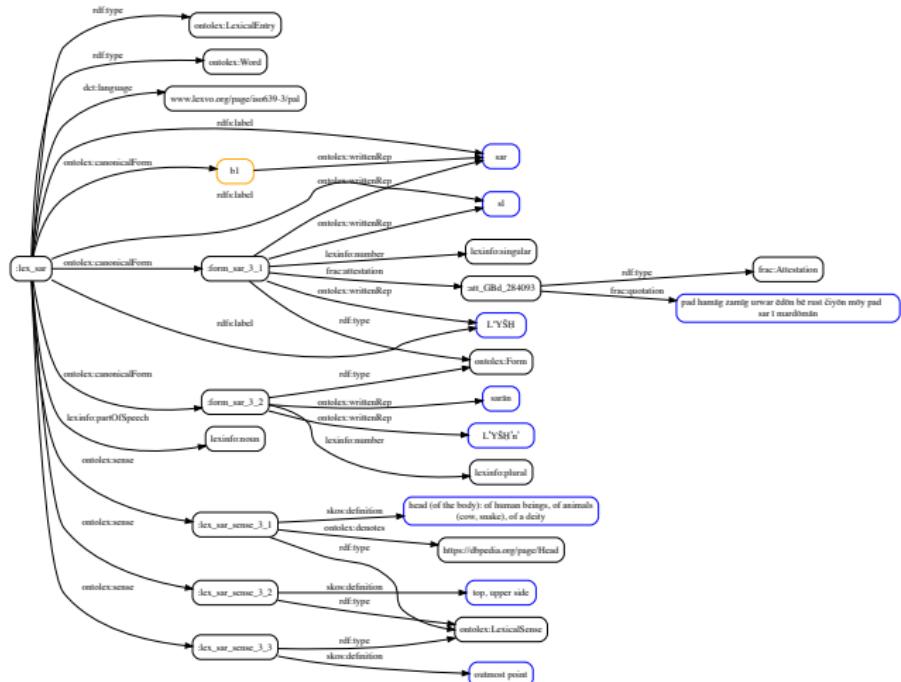
:lex_sar_sense_3_2 a ontolex:LexicalSense;
  skos:definition " top, upper side"@en.

:lex_sar_sense_3_3 a ontolex:LexicalSense;
  skos:definition "outmost point"@en.

:att_GBd_284093 a frac:Attestation ;
  frac:quotation "pad hamāg zamīg urwar ēdōn bē rust čiyōn mōy pad sar ī mardōmān" .
```

# An Example in MPCD: *sar* ‘head’ (noun)

- Entry
- Forms
- Senses
- Attestation
- Denotation
  - DBpedia
  - Wikidata
- And much more!

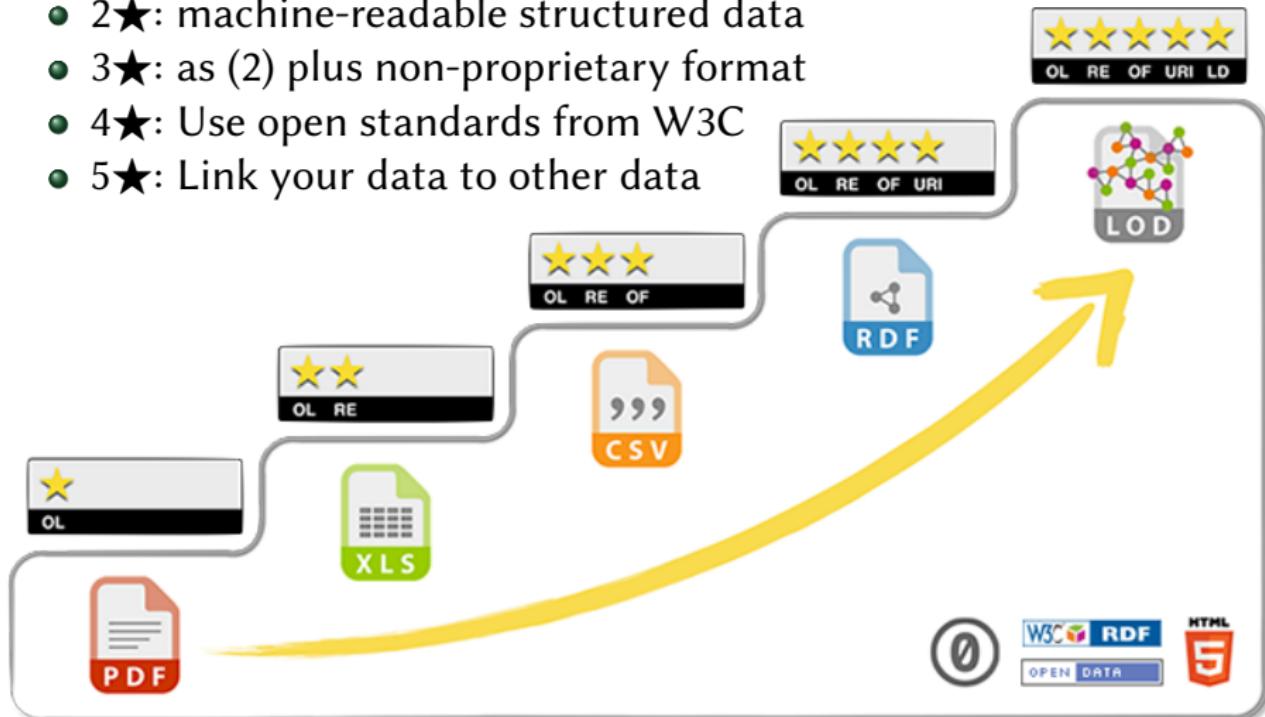


Aim for the stars!

# Linguistic Linked Data: 5 stars

## Aim for the stars! (Berners-Lee, 2006)

- 1★: on the web but with **open** license
- 2★: machine-readable structured data
- 3★: as (2) plus non-proprietary format
- 4★: Use open standards from W3C
- 5★: Link your data to other data



# Demo

# Demo: Wikidata

Wikidata SPARQL endpoint: <https://query.wikidata.org>

The screenshot shows the Wikidata Query Service interface. On the left, there is a vertical sidebar with several icons: a blue vertical bar icon, a blue info icon, a blue cross icon, a blue dropdown arrow icon, a blue diamond icon, a blue folder icon, a blue circular arrow icon, a blue trash bin icon, a blue circular arrow with a dot icon, and a large blue play button icon at the bottom. To the right of the sidebar is a large input field labeled "1 (Input a SPARQL query or choose a query example)". Above the input field are several buttons: "Examples", "Help", "More tools", and "Query Builder". The background of the main area is light gray.

# Demo: ChatGPT

W

Parse "frahangān frahang dēn māzdēsn , " in Zoroastrian Middle Persian



Here's the parse of the phrase "frahangān frahang dēn māzdēsn" (frahangān frahang dēn māzdēsn):

- "frahangān" (frahangān): This is a plural noun that means "scholars" or "experts". It is derived from the root word "frahang" which means "knowledge" or "learning".
- "frahang" (frahang): This is a singular noun that means "knowledge" or "learning". It is the root word from which "frahangān" is derived.
- "dēn" (dēn): This is a noun that means "religion" or "faith". In this context, it refers to the Zoroastrian religion.
- "māzdēsn" (māzdēsn): This is an adjective that means "Zoroastrian". It is derived from the name of the god Ahura Mazda, who is the central deity in the Zoroastrian religion.

So, the full phrase "frahangān frahang dēn māzdēsn" can be translated as "Zoroastrian scholars of knowledge and faith".

# ChatGPT

Use knowledge graphs to enrich and assess large language models  
(Mountantonakis and Tzitzikas, 2023).

GPT+LODS

Annotated ChatGPT Response with links to Hundreds of Knowledge Graphs

User Prompt: Which is the birth place of **Aristotle**

**ChatGPT Annotated Response:**

**Aristotle** was born in **Stagira, Greece.**

All Entities Information

Find and Check Related Facts

Export as HTML+RDFa

Ask ChatGPT Again

# Key Takeaways

- ➊ Make your data compatible with linked data principles
- ➋ Aim for the stars!
- ➌ Take AI seriously but not too much.
- ➍ Join the linguistic linked data communities:  
[www.w3.org/  
community/ld4lt/  
wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.w3.org/community/ld4lt/wiki/Main_Page)



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