

Optimising Linked Open Data for maximised reuse

Ghent University - MMLab - iMinds
Open Knowledge Foundation Belgium
@pietercolpaert



Open Knowledge
Foundation

The gray area of the Web

Legal for reuse

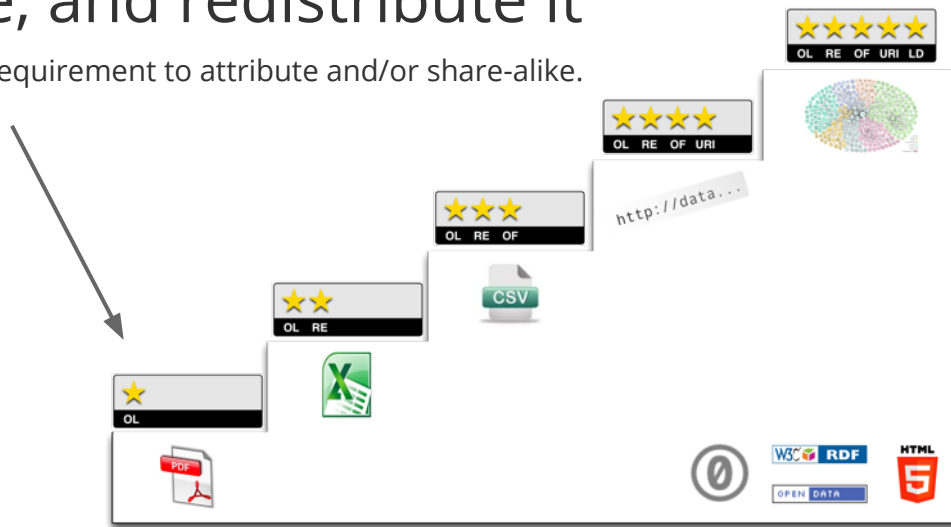


Put your data in the white area

Open Definition.org

A dataset is open if anyone is free to use,
reuse, and redistribute it

— subject only, at most, to the requirement to attribute and/or share-alike.



Why would data owners do that?

Be the authoritative source

Free apps

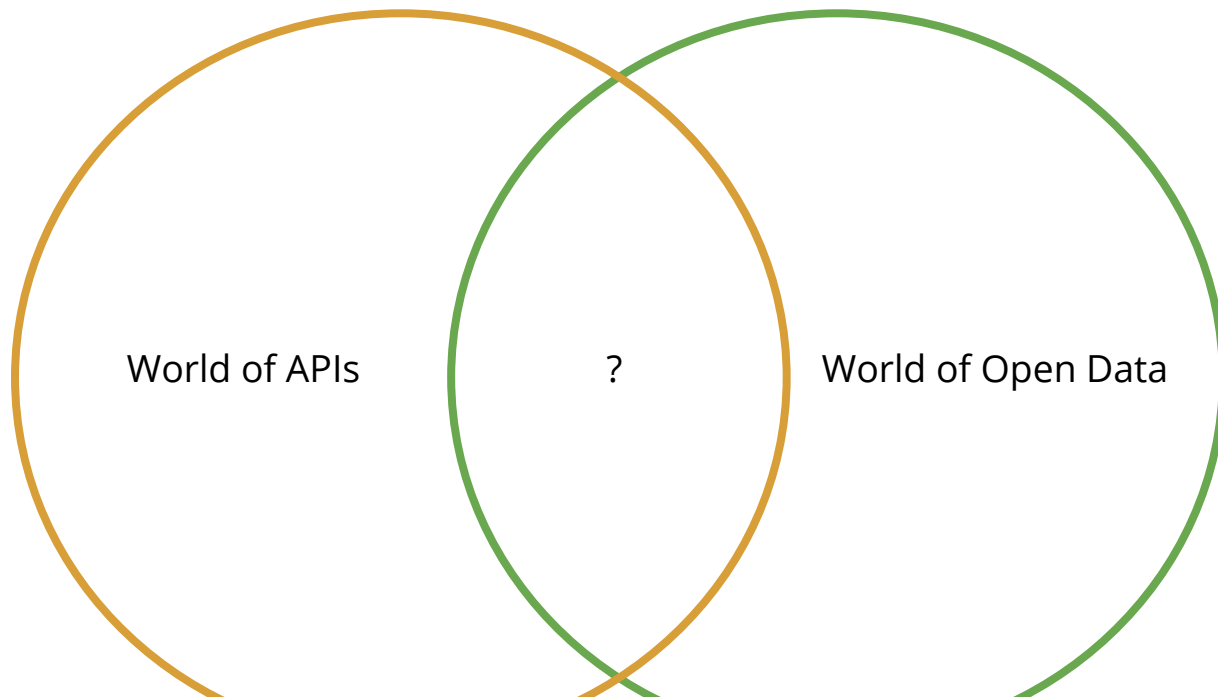
Because they have to

Feedback → data quality ↑

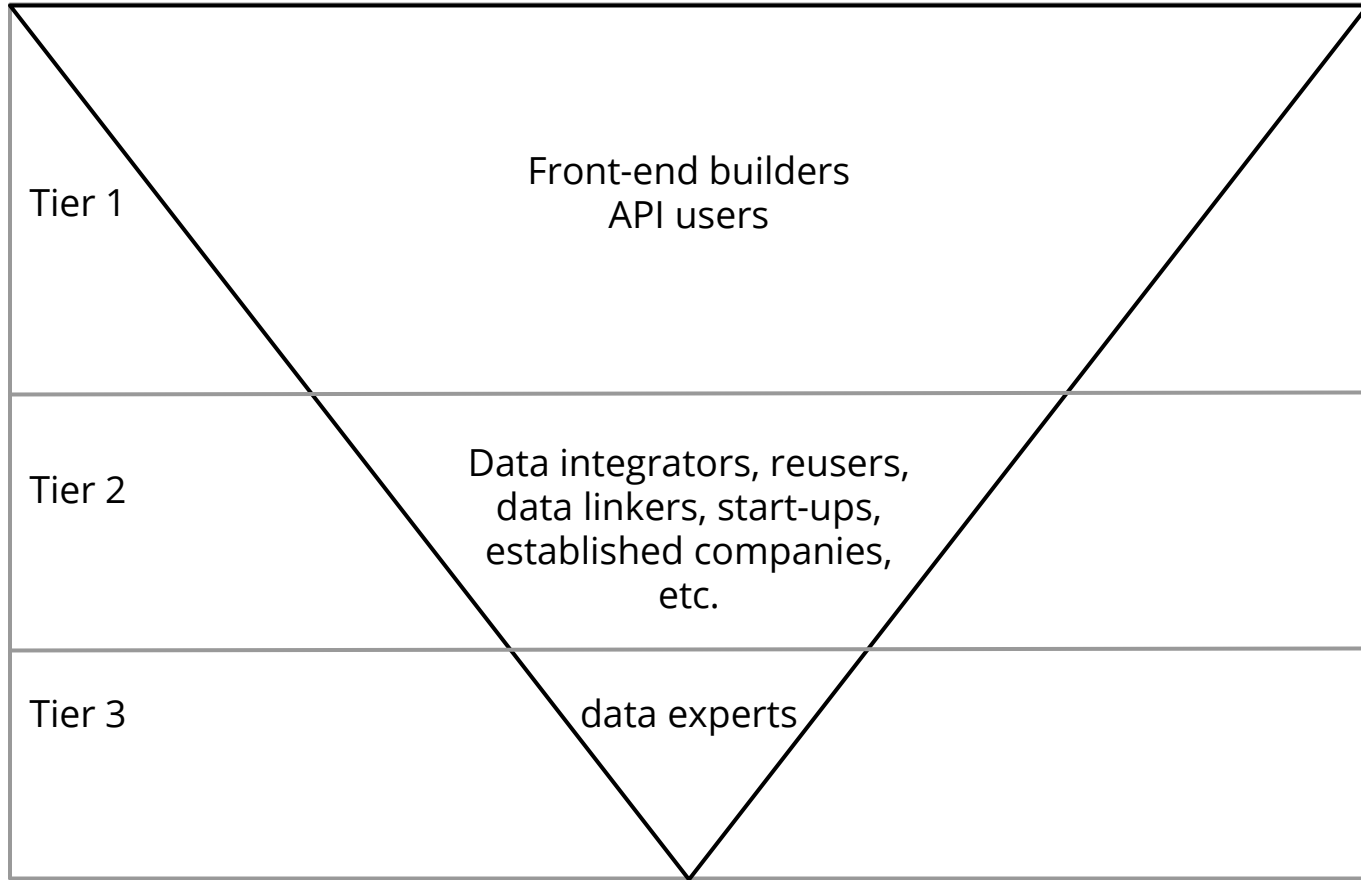
...

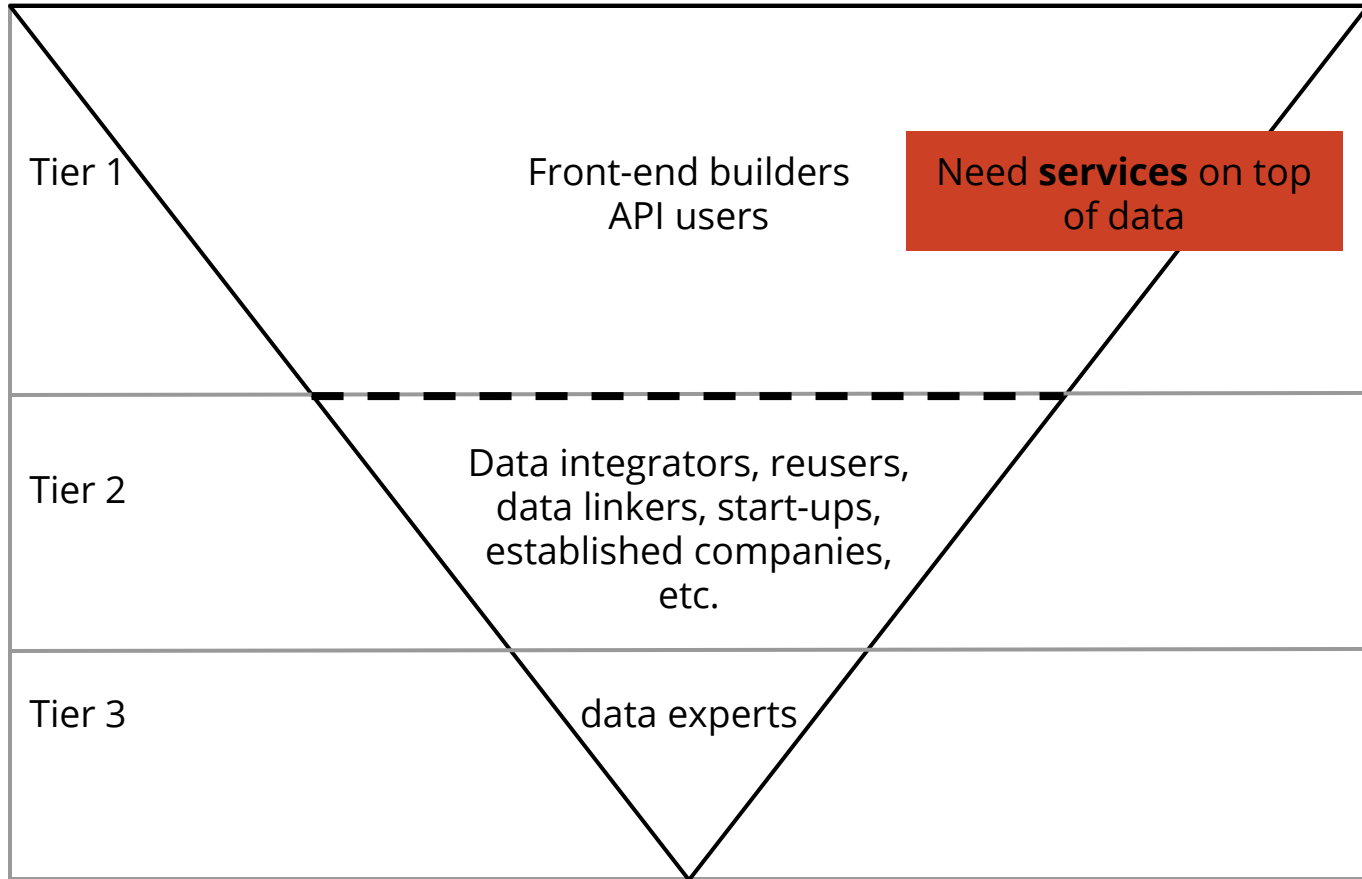
Why would data owners do that?

Data owners are confused



Create an API or publish Open Data?





COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

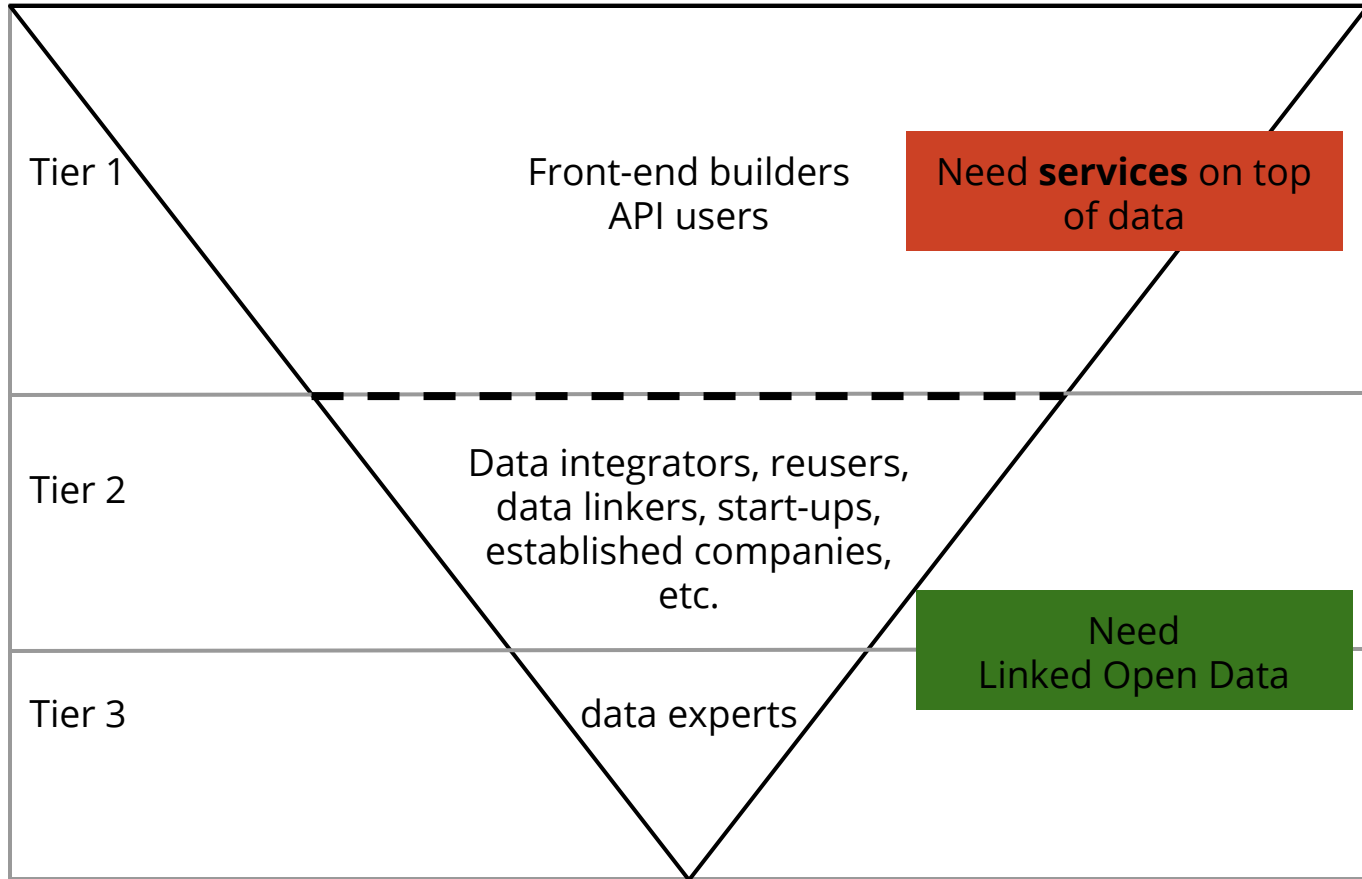
How Language Shapes Thought

The languages we speak affect our perceptions of the world

By Lera Boroditsky

Lera Boroditsky is an assistant professor of cognitive psychology at Stanford University and editor in chief of *Frontiers in Cultural Psychology*. Her lab conducts research around the world, focusing on mental representation and the effects of language on cognition.

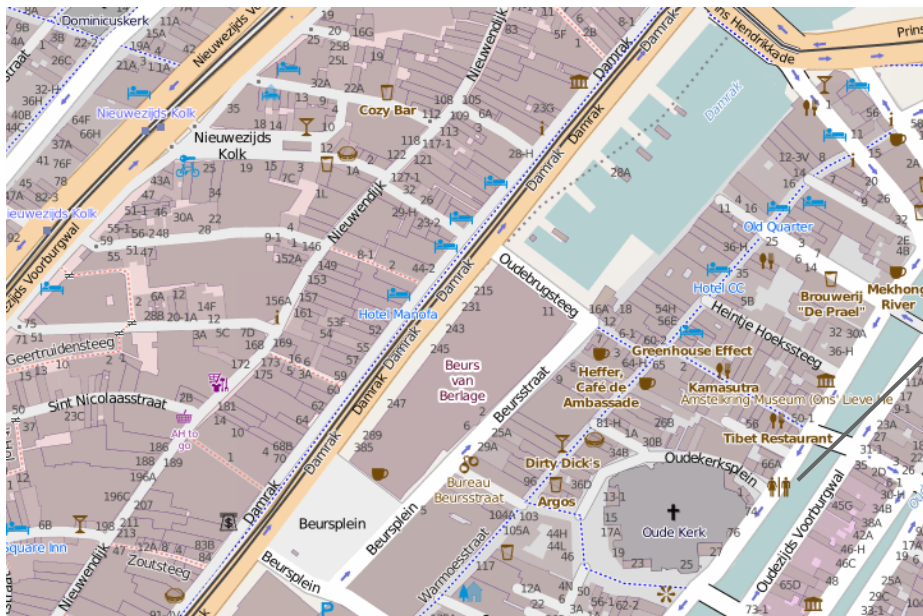




**You don't need an API to
publish data**

*You need an API to enable **services** on top of your Open Data...*

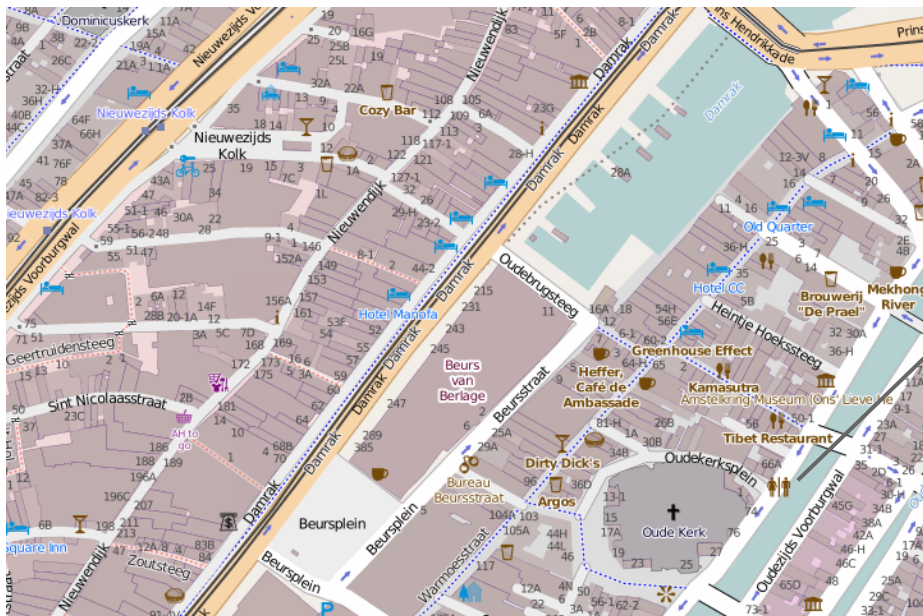
You use APIs to... gather feedback



This toilet has been removed

Openly licensed data dump at: <http://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Planet.osm>

You use APIs to... gather feedback



Openly licensed data dump at: <http://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Planet.osm>

This toilet needs cleaning

Open311
GeoReport v2

You use APIs to... provide updates

Gent-Sint-Pieters			
4	IR	Oostende	12:08 +5'
2	IC	Oostende	12:16 +5'
8	IR	Antwerpen-Centraal	12:16
3	IC	Antwerpen-Centraal	12:16
6	IR	Brussel-Nat-Luchthaven	12:20



[https://data.irail.be/NMBS/Liveboard/
Ghent%20Sint%20Pieters/
2014/03/27/14/20
.json](https://data.irail.be/NMBS/Liveboard/Ghent%20Sint%20Pieters/2014/03/27/14/20.json)

Raw data at: [http://datahub.
io/dataset/timetables-for-the-belgian-
railway-company](http://datahub.io/dataset/timetables-for-the-belgian-railway-company)

Sliding windows of data

You use APIs to... provide services

Full text search, autocompletion API,
querying interfaces (public SQL endpoints?)...

Services vs. data

Data publishing

Data services

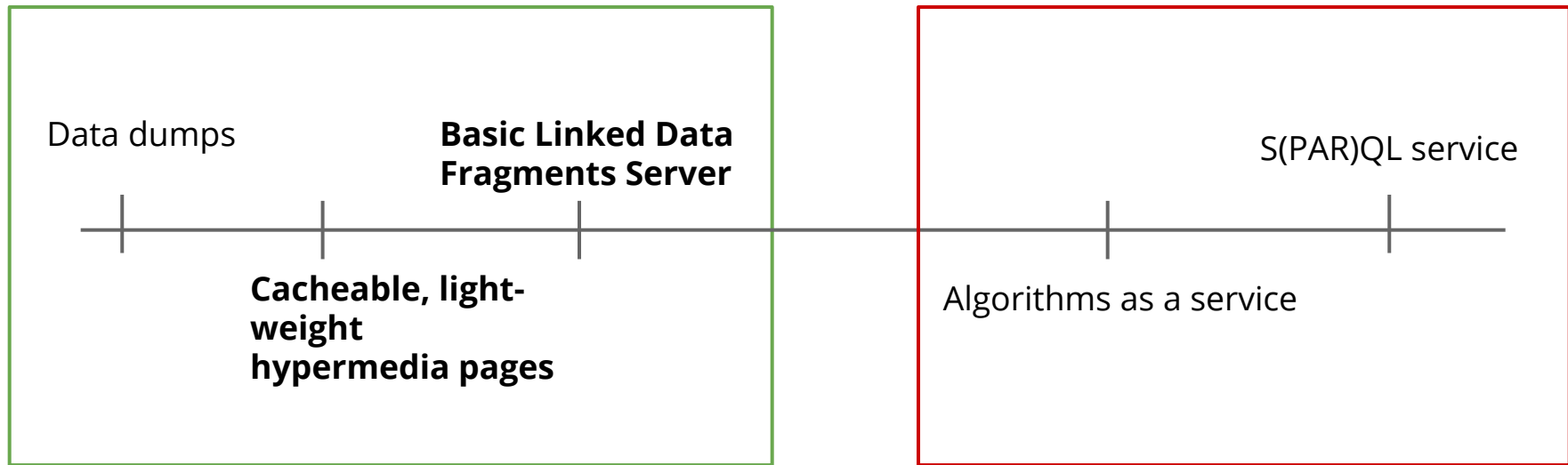
Data dumps

**Basic Linked Data
Fragments Server**

S(PAR)QL service

**Cacheable, light-
weight
hypermedia pages**

Algorithms as a service



What can we do?

Ask for **openly licensed** data

Ask for **data dumps**, not services

When in a 5-star data project, set up light-weight data publishing software

Pieter Colpaert (pieter.colpaert@ugent.be)

@pietercolpaert

<http://semweb.mmlab.be>

<http://pieter.pm>

Discussion