Wikidata as authority linking hub

Joachim Neubert (ZBW) Jakob Voß (VZG)

Introduction

Authority files

Consistently refer to entities

- Via identifier ("things, not strings")
- GND, MeSH, STW, ISIL, RePEc-Authors...

Linking hubs

Connect identifiers among authority files

- owl:sameAs, skos:exactMatch, skos:closeMatch...
- VIAF, sameAs.org, Wikidata...

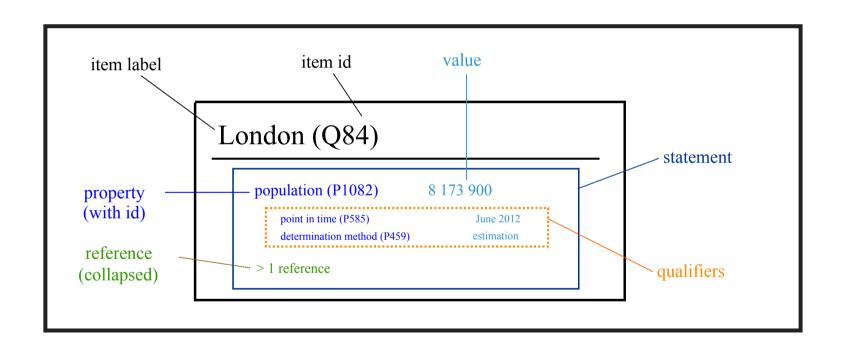
Wikidata

- Knowledge base of Wikimedia projects
- All kinds of entities
 - concepts, places, people, works...

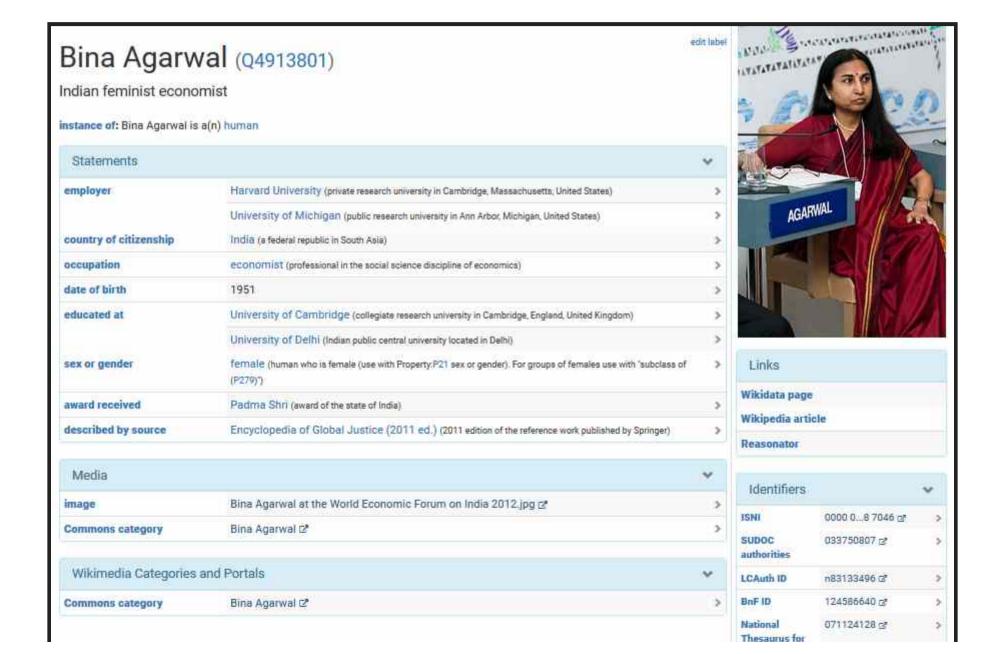
Wikidata Usage

- Editable by anyone
 - via Website and API
 - via apps that use the API
- Data available
 - http://query.wikidata.org/ (SPARQL)
 - JSON API & database dumps

Wikidata Statements



Wikidata item example



Author Names ID		
GND ID	113900171 급*	>
VIAF ID	69026738 ⊡*	3
ORCID ID	0000-06-6877 ₫	>

Authority file identifiers in Wikipedia

More than half of all Wikidata properties

- Datatype external identifier (~1,750)
- Properties for authority control (~1,500)
- Properties with corresponding KOS (~220)

Wikidata—ISIL (organizations)

Example:

Neuschwanstein Castle (Q4152)

ISIL (P791): *DE-MUS-051612*

Current state:

- lobid.org: ~30,000 ISIL (DACH only)
- Wikidata: ~6,500 ISIL

Tool: Mix'n'match

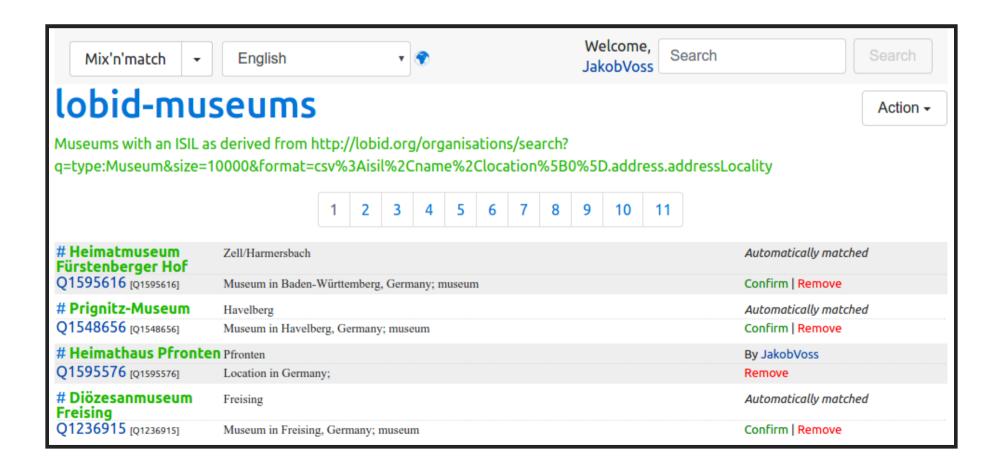
- Web application mapping tool
- Helps to add 1-to-1-mappings

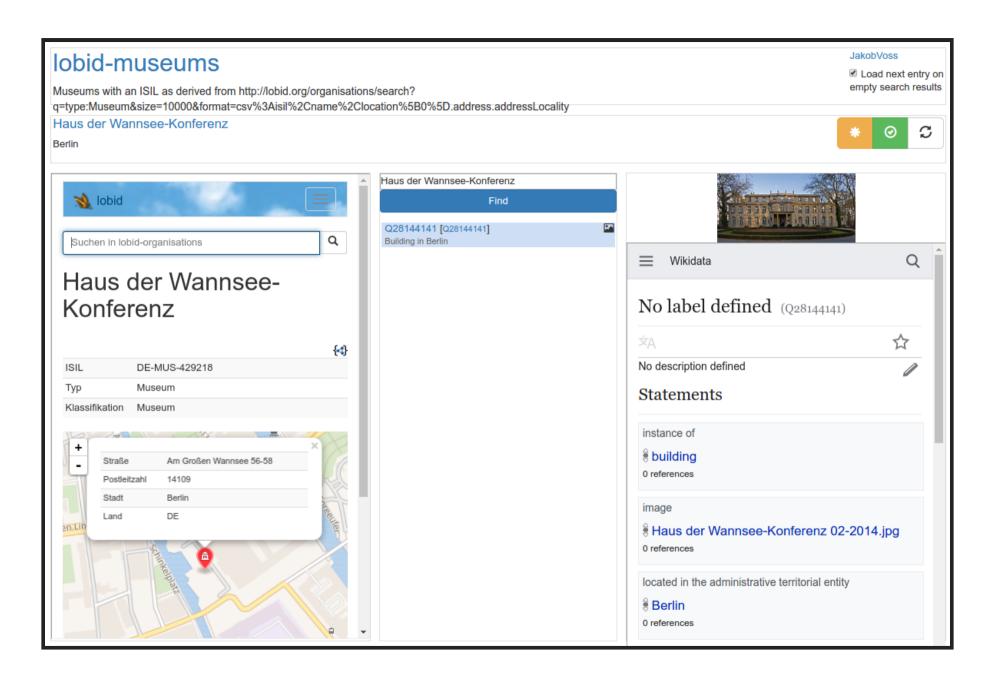
https://tools.wmflabs.org/mix-n-match/

Step 1: Upload ISIL list with names

Catalog name	lobid-museums	A short name for your catalog (like "VIAF")
Catalog description	Museums with an ISIL as	A brief description of your catalog
Catalog URL	https://lobid.org/organisa	The URL (main page) of your catalog
Wikidata property	P791	The Wikidata property for this catalog; optional
Main language	de	Which Wikipedia to search for this catalog (language code)
URL pattern	http://lobid.org/organisati	A URL pattern to get to entries from their \$id (e.g "http://dummy.org/\$id"); optional
Default type	Q7075	The default type of the entries (e.g "person"); optional If you use a Q-ID (e.g. Q11424) here, automatches will be limited to items linking to this item and it subclasses, resulting in fewer matches of higher quality

Step 2: Confirm match candidates





GND—RePEc Authors

- In EconBiz economics search portal authors are identified differently:
 - by GND ID in data from ZBW's Econis catalog (and from others)
 - by RePEc Author ID in data from Research Papers for Economics
- Large volumes: 450,000 vs. 50,000 distinct persons
- ~3,000 pairs of IDs discovered in a previous project

Utilizing Wikidata as Linking Hub

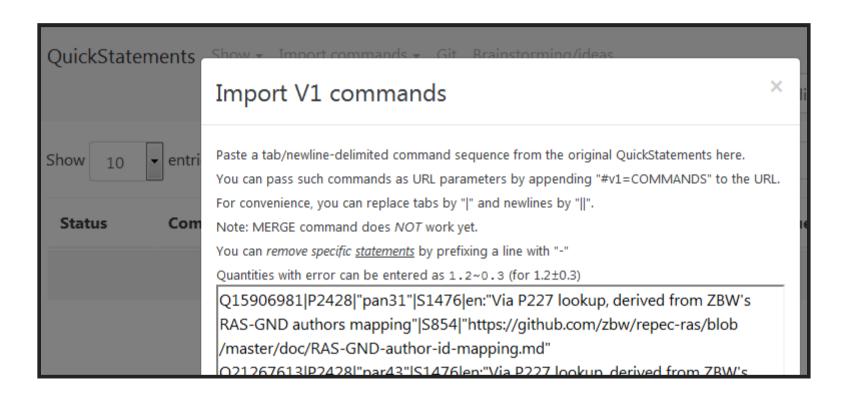
- Wikidata-Properties for both identifier systems
 - GND ID (P227): ~375,000 items which are humans
 - RePEc Short-ID (P2428): ~2,200 items
- Since every identifier should identify exactly one person, we can derive
 - GND ID → Wikidata ID → RePEc ID
 - RePEc ID → Wikidata ID → GND ID

where both properties have values (~760 items)

Step 1: Supplement WD items with RePEc Short-IDs

- 77 WD items with GND ID without RePEc Short-ID
- Transform to quickstatements input file (SPARQL query, script)
- Copy & paste to QuickStatements2

Bulk editing with Quickstatements2



Further simplification with upcoming release of wdmapper command line tool

Step 2: Supplement WD items with GND IDs

- 384 WD items with RePEc Short-ID without GND ID
- same process as other direction

Step 3: Add "most important" authors with RePEc identifiers

- Scraped from ranking pages (Top 10% economists, Top 10% female economists)
- Transform and load into Mix'n'match
- same process as ISIL use case
 - Confirm match candidates (1,600 of 4,600)

Step 4: Add "most important" authors with GND identifiers

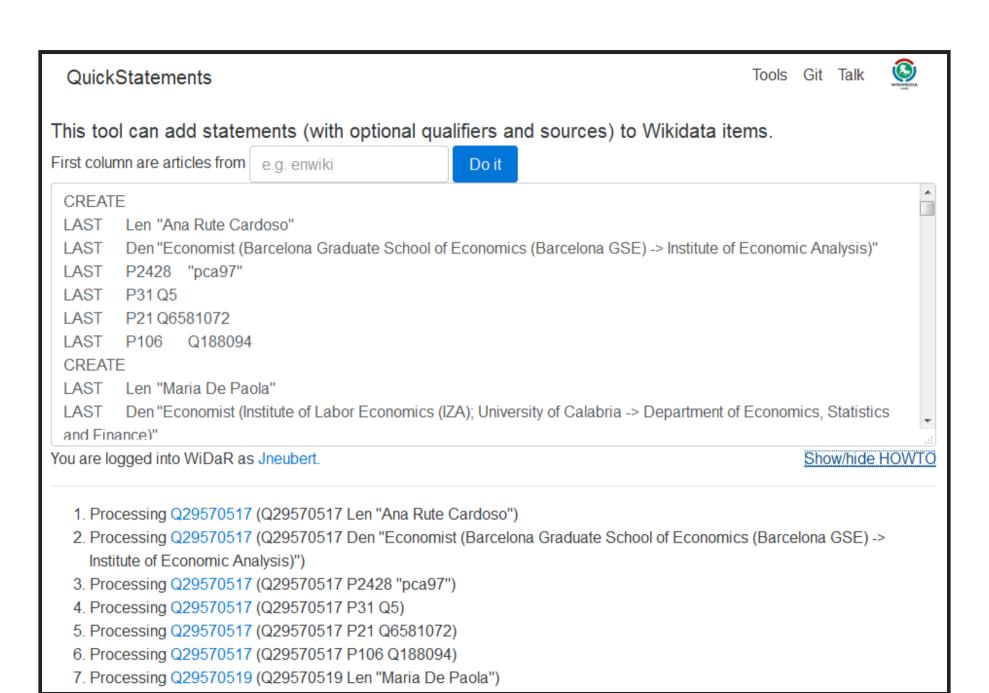
- 18,000 authors with >30 publications in EconBiz
- loaded as Mix'n'match set GND economists (de)
- order by publication count (descending)
- 25% matched automatically with Wikidata items
- ⇒ Work to do

Step 5: Rinse and repeat

- Repeat Mix'n'match "sync" operation before starting to work manually
 - often, people are adding data at fast rate!
- Repeat bulk adding of missing identifiers to make use of identifiers added meanwhile

Step 6: Add missing Wikidata items

- Verify missing authors indeed are not in Wikidata
- Generate Wikidata items from from existing mappings or lists, e.g. top female economists



Result

The mapping, currently (2017-05-02) consisting of

- 1233 matching GND RePEc short IDs
 - 769 matches from ZBW's mapping
 - 464 matches contributed by non-ZBW staff
- Finally all 3,000 pairs from ZBW's mapping

Further Results

- Identifiers and items added by individual Wikidata contributors add up continuously
- Mapping steps can be repeated with additional input data (e.g., top economists from Latin America, "all authors affiliated to Leibniz institutions in economics"...
- Further identifiers (VIAF, ORCID, ...) provide more opportunities for indirect matching

Results from every step in the mapping process and all indiviual efforts immediately available and preserved

Tools

- Mix'n'match (intellectual matching)
- QuickStatements2 (addition of generated properties and items)
- wdmapper (harvest, diff & add mappings)
 - Support of indirect mappings (e.g., GND-WD-RePEc) in one step
 - Work in progress (no adding by now)
 - Daily harvested mappings in multiple formats: http://coli-conc.gbv.de/concordances/wikidata/

Limitations

- Mapping algorithms to find mapping candidates
- Limitation to easy-1-1-relationships
 - part-whole
 - often new Wikidata items required
 - depends on the use case
- Large sets of mappings and results
- Regular review required for maintainance

Benefits

- Outsourced interface, storage, and operation
- Crowdsourced mapping maintenance
- Wikidata has policies and tools for data quality
- Open Data for multiple and unknown uses
- Additional benefits:
 - multilingual Wikipedia links
 - lots of (formatted) data
 - links to multiple other vocabularies
 - nice pictures ...