

# Mayank Kejriwal

University of Southern California

Linked Data

# Linked Data Principles

# What Is Linked Data?

A method of publishing structured data  
so that it can be interlinked  
and become more useful.

Builds upon standard Web technologies  
such as HTTP and URIs  
to share information  
in a way that can be read automatically by computers.

[from Wikipedia](#)

# Ingredients

- HTTP & URIs
- RDF
- Vocabularies (RDF Schema, OWL)
- You

# Linked Data Principles

[http://youtu.be/OM6XlIcm\\_qo](http://youtu.be/OM6XlIcm_qo)

- Use URIs as names for things
- Use HTTP URIs so that people can look up those names
- When someone looks up a URI, provide useful information, using the standards (RDF\*, SPARQL)
- Include links to other URIs so that they can discover more things



Tim Berners-Lee  
<http://www.w3.org/DesignIssues/LinkedData.html>

Principle 1:  
Use URIs as names for things

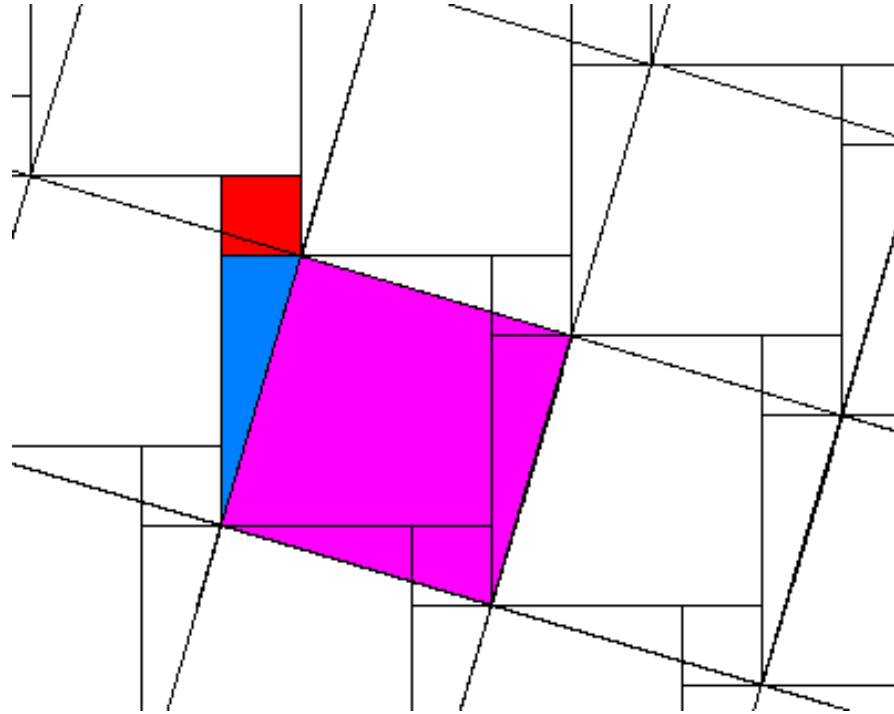
Principle 2:  
Use HTTP URIs so that people can look up  
those names

# Can USC Have a URI?



[http://dbpedia.org/page/University\\_of\\_Southern\\_California](http://dbpedia.org/page/University_of_Southern_California)

# Can the Pythagoras Theorem Have a URI?



[http://www.freebase.com/view/en/pythagorean\\_theorem](http://www.freebase.com/view/en/pythagorean_theorem)



### Principle 3:

When someone looks up a URI, provide useful information, using the standards (RDF\*, SPARQL)

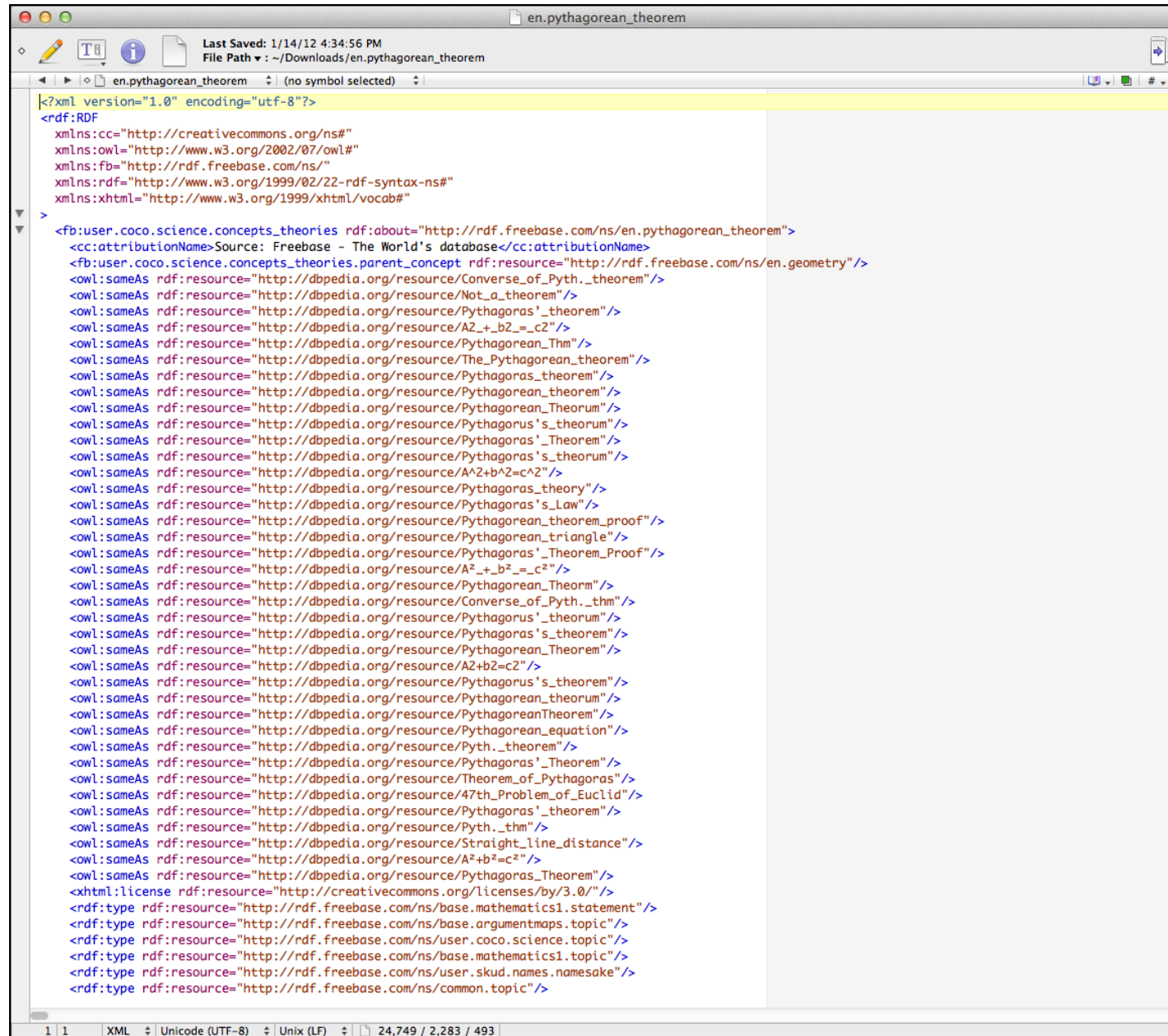
An Entity of Type : [Private university](#), from Named Graph : <http://dbpedia.org>, within Data Space : <dbpedia.org>

[illegible]

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dbpedia-owl:athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dbpedia:National_Collegiate_Athletic_Association</li> </ul>
dbpedia-owl:campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dbpedia:Urban_area</li> </ul>
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dbpedia-owl:facultySize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4735 (xsd:integer)</li> </ul>
dbpedia-owl:mascot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traveler</li> </ul>
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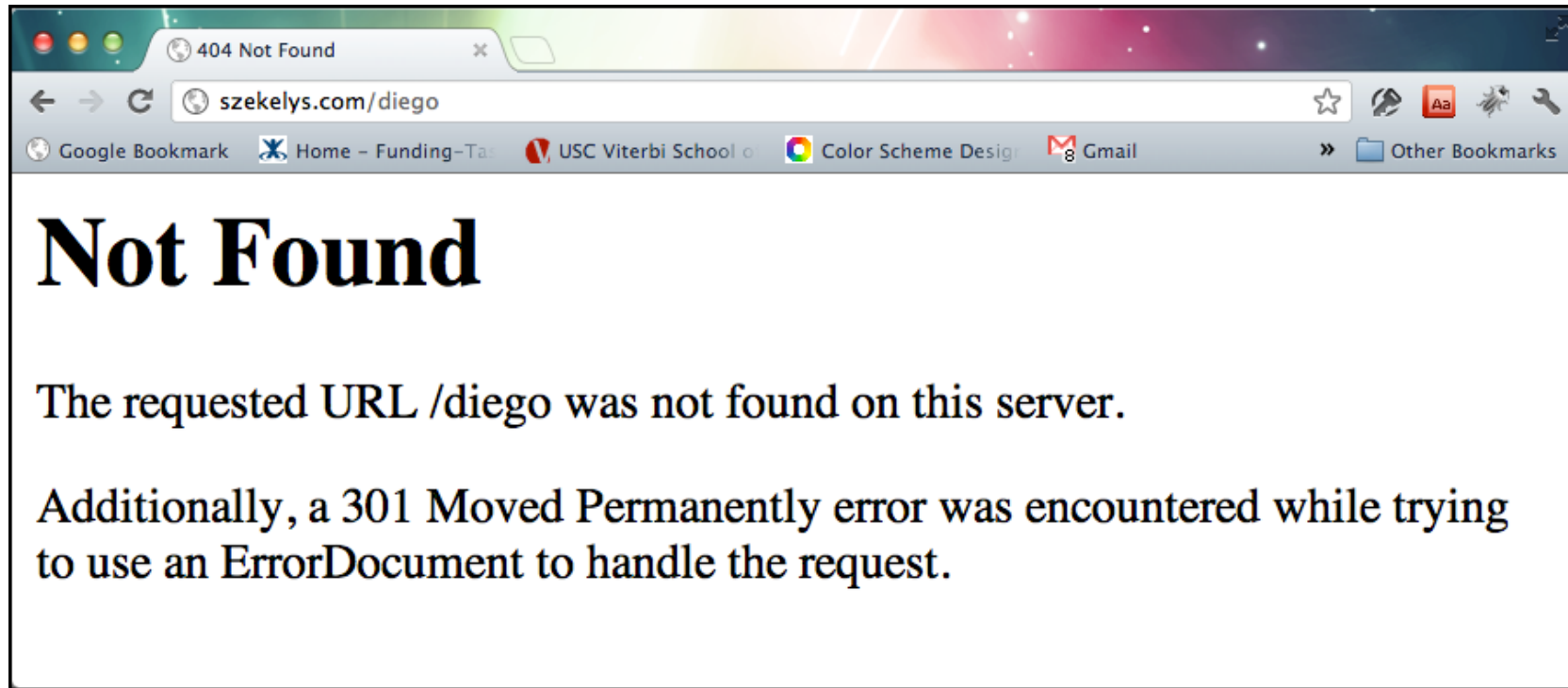
slide by Pedro Sz

[http://www.freebase.com/view/en/pythagorean\\_theorem](http://www.freebase.com/view/en/pythagorean_theorem)



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  xmlns:xhtml="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml/vocab#"
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  <fb:user.coco.science.concepts_theories rdf:about="http://rdf.freebase.com/ns/en.pythagorean_theorem">
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</rdf:RDF>
```

<http://szekelys.com/diego>



Principle 3:

When someone looks up a URI, provide  
useful information, using the standards  
(RDF\*, SPARQL)

Principle 4:

Include links to other URIs so that they can discover more things

Now we know what linked data is

# What can go wrong?

# Different URIs For the Same Thing

<http://data.nytimes.com/N13611972026987463463>

[http://dbpedia.org/resource/Muhammad\\_Ali](http://dbpedia.org/resource/Muhammad_Ali)

[http://mpii.de/yago/resource/Muhammad Ali](http://mpii.de/yago/resource/Muhammad_Ali)



# Linked Data Challenges

- Different URIs for the same thing
  - ... makes it harder to link the data
- Timeliness
  - ... not up to date
- Provenance
  - ... not only a linked data problem
- Tools
  - ... slow performance compared to traditional data
  - ... search engines not yet mature
  - ... many RDF formats, not supported by all tools