

BioHackathon for interpreting biological knowledge  
with Semantic Web technologies

# Opening Remarks

Database Center for  
Life Science

*Prof. Takagi  
Director of DBCLS*



**BioHackathon**  
8-12 Feb. 2010  
DBCLS / AIST Tokyo Japan



# BioHackathon 2010 Symposium



>80 participants!  
32 invited  
33 domestic  
15 organizers

# Hackathon Basics

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## BioHackathon

= bio + hack + marathon  
= bioinformatics coding camp!

- ▶ One unique style of the international workshop
  - ▶ Face-to-face meeting of the geeks
  - ▶ Addressing issues by intensive software development
  - ▶ Originated from free software culture
- ▶ History
  - ▶ Open Bio\* Hackathon (2002, 2003)
  - ▶ Phyloinformatics Hackathon (2006-)
  - ▶ Systems Biology Super Hackathon (2008)
  - ▶ DBCLS Hackathon (2008-)

# Evolution of DBCLS BioHackathons

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## Mission of the DBCLS

= integration of life science resources  
(standardization / interoperability)

### *The 1st DBCLS BioHackathon (2008)*

Towards interoperable web services in  
life science with Open Bio \* libraries



### *The 2nd DBCLS BioHackathon (2009)*

Integration of web services in  
bioinformatics applications



### *The 3rd DBCLS BioHackathon (2010)*

Interpretation of biological knowledge  
with Semantic Web technologies



# Goals of the BioHackathon 2010

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Learn the Semantic Web technology

*What is the RDF, OWL, SPARQL, ... #@&\*%\$ ?!*

*Is it promising?*

*Will it give better answer than existing systems?*

Survey the current status and develop some software

*Linked Data*

*What kind of biological data is currently available?*

*Triple Stores*

*Which implementation to use? pros/cons? Scalability?*

*Semantic Web Tools in Open Bio\**

*Generic tools to manipulate RDF graph*

*Interface to access SPARQL endpoints*



# BH10 schedule: Day I

Session	Time	Presented by / Participants
Talk	10:10	Erick Antezana
Talk	10:40	Matthias Samwald
Talk	11:00	Thomas Kappler and Jerven Bolleman
Talk	11:20	François Belleau
Talk	11:40	Heiko Horn
Lunch	12:00	
Talk	13:30	Tetsuro Toyoda
Talk	13:50	Mark Wilkinson
Talk	14:10	Andrea Splendiani
Talk	14:30	Mitsuteru Nakao and Toshiaki Katayama
Poster	15:00	Invited participants + $\alpha$
Open space	16:30	All participants
Banquet	18:00	Registered participants

# BH10 schedule: Day 2-5

Day	Session	Time	Participants / Activities
2/9	Hack	9:00 - 18:00	Invited & domestic participants
2/10	Hack	9:00 - 18:00	Invited & domestic participants
2/11	Hack	9:00 - 18:00	Invited & domestic participants
2/12	Hack	9:00 - 16:00	Invited & domestic participants
2/12	Talk	16:00 - 18:00	Summary session
2/12	Drink	18:00 - 21:00	Farewell party :-)
2/13-15	Write	10:00 - 18:00	Writing a meeting report with volunteers

10:10-10:40

Belgium



# Erick Antezana



## AFFILIATION

Genomics Data Platform  
BioInformation Management  
Bayer CropScience

## PROJECTS

Semantic Systems Biology  
<http://www.semantic-systems-biology.org>

Cell Cycle Ontology  
<http://www.cellcycleontology.org>

Towards a Semantic Systems Biology:  
Biological Knowledge Management Using  
Semantic Web Technologies

10:45-11:05

Austria



# Matthias Samwald



## AFFILIATION

DERI Galway (Ireland) and  
the Konrad Lorenz Institute (Austria)

## PROJECTS

Concept Web Alliance  
<http://conceptweblog.wordpress.com/>

< a > Tag  
<http://hcls.deri.org/atag/generator/>

High-level knowledge representation on the Semantic Web:  
the Concept Web Alliance and related efforts

11:05-11:25

Switzerland



# Thomas Kappler / Jerven Bolleman



## AFFILIATION

UniProt in RDF

UniProt Consortium  
Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics

<http://uniprot.org>

11:25-11:45

Canada



# François Belleau



## AFFILIATION

Laval University

## PROJECTS

Bio2RDF

<http://www.bio2rdf.org>

Semantic web atlas of  
postgenomic knowledge

Bio2RDF cognoscope : A killer app for the life science

11:50-12:10

Denmark



# Heiko Horn



## AFFILIATION

NNF Center for Protein Research  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
University of Copenhagen

## PROJECTS

Reflect  
<http://www.reflect.ws>  
NetworKIN  
<http://networkin.info>

Reflect - text mining in Semantic Web

13:35-14:05

Japan



# Tetsuro Toyoda



## AFFILIATION

Bioinformatics and Systems  
Engineering division,  
RIKEN

## PROJECTS

SciNeS

<http://omicspace.riken.jp/base/index.html#6>

RIKEN SciNeS

14:05-14:25

Canada



# Mark Wilkinson



## AFFILIATION

Dept. of Medical Genetics,  
University of British Columbia,  
Heart + Lung Institute at  
St. Paul's Hospital



## PROJECTS

BioMoby

<http://www.biomoby.org>

SADI

<http://sadiframework.org>

Cardio SHARE

<http://biordf.net/cardioSHARE>

SADI - semantic web service

14:25-14:45



# Andrea Splendiani



Visualization and analysis of biological networks on the Semantic Web

## AFFILIATION

Centre for Mathematical and Computational Biology  
Rothamsted Research

## PROJECTS

### RDFscape

<http://bioinformatics.org/rdfscape>

### Ondex

<http://www.ondex.org>

### BioPAX

<http://www.biopax.org>

### Beat

<http://beat.sourceforge.net>

### SWAT4LS

<http://www.swat4ls.org>

# Extending TogoWS and Open Bio\* libraries for Linked Data

Mitsuteru Nakao (DBCLS)  
Toshiaki Katayama (HGC, Univ. of Tokyo)

Personal Semantic Web  
--- If you have data, export it as Linked Data ---

# BH10 Preliminary Objectives

## Queries

Targeted biological queries to be resolved by the Semantic Web technologies.

## Datasets

List currently available and/or still missing datasets (as Linked Data / RDF) to resolve the queries.

Develop our own or survey existing extensible storage systems for RDF triples and functional query interfaces.

Develop common APIs among Open Bio\* projects for RDF stores and SPARQL endpoints.

## Stores

## Tools

# Current efforts in DBCLS

Queries

Text search:  
Allie  
inMeXes

Datasets

Original data:  
Life Science DBs  
in Japan

Sandbox:  
4store  
Virtuoso  
Sesame

TogoDB

TogoWS

Open Bio\*

Stores

Tools

# SemWeb for everybody

## TogoDB

deploy your DB in 5min



upload

A screenshot of a web-based application titled "Import" for TogoDB. It shows a file selection dialog with a list of files from a local drive, including "toge" and "toge2". Below the dialog is a summary table with columns "tablename" and "files". A large grey arrow points from the "Your data in CSV" icon towards this interface.

configure



A screenshot of the TogoDB Database Browser showing a "Database Browser" window for "Kaftom". It displays a tree view of tables like "institute\_dictionary" and "katoma", and a detailed table view for the "Kaftom" table with columns like "seqID", "Frame", "ORF", "Length", "TargetID", "Ain", "Length", "E-value", "Score", and "Accession". A large grey arrow points from the "configure" icon towards this interface.

## TogoWS

integrated REST/SOAP services

A screenshot of the TogoWS web interface. It features a header with "TogoWS", "Home", "REST", "SOAP", and "Status". The main content area has sections for "Integration of the bioinformatics web services" (with a URL: [http://togows.dbcls.jp/entry/obase/entry\\_id/entry\\_id2.../field/format](http://togows.dbcls.jp/entry/obase/entry_id/entry_id2.../field/format)) and "Related resources" (listing DDBJ, NCBI, PDBJ, and EMBL-EBI). A large grey speech bubble contains the text "Can be accessed with REST API as Linked Data". A grey arrow points from the "endpoint" icon towards this interface.

endpoint

A screenshot of a REST API endpoint for TogoWS, showing a table of results for a search query. The columns include "seqID", "Frame", "ORF", "Length", "TargetID", "Ain", "Length", "E-value", "Score", and "Accession". One row is highlighted with a blue border. A large grey arrow points from the "TogoWS" icon towards this interface.

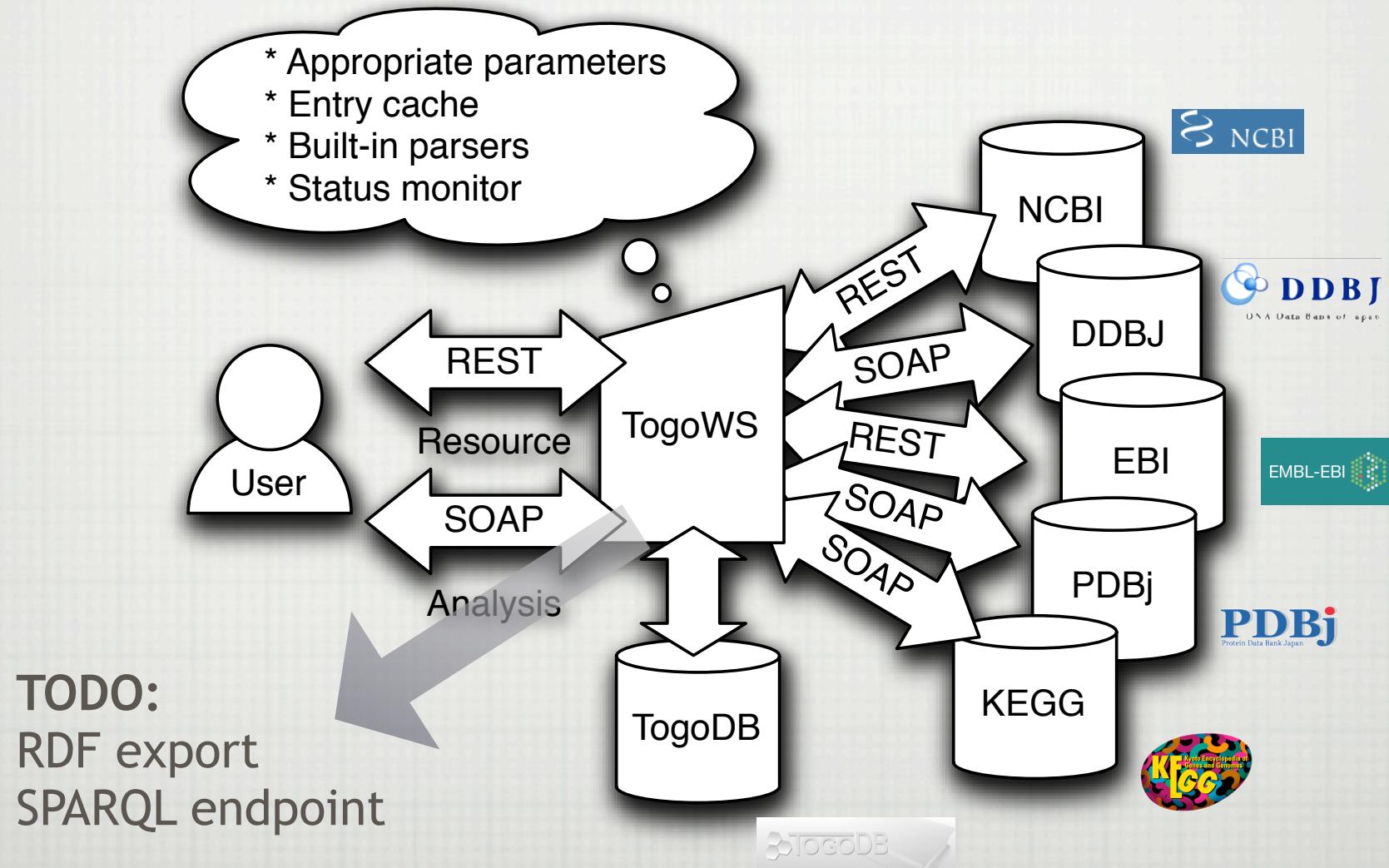
deploy

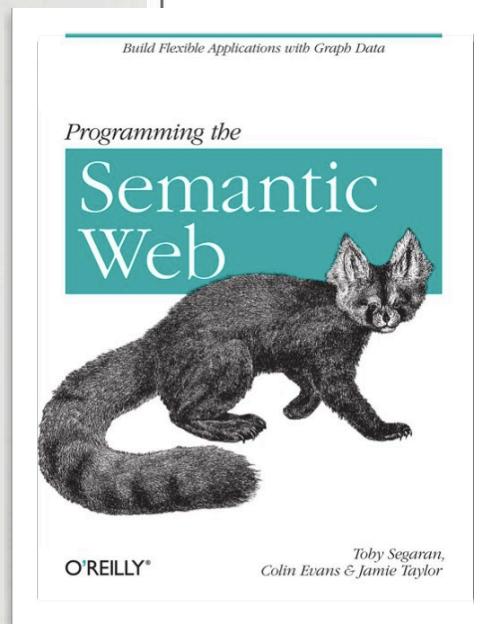
Any database record by the user

<http://togows.dbcls.jp/entry/togodb-foobardb/123.rdf>

<http://togodb.dbcls.jp/foobardb/show/123>

# As a RDF/SPARQL provider





## User interface and applications

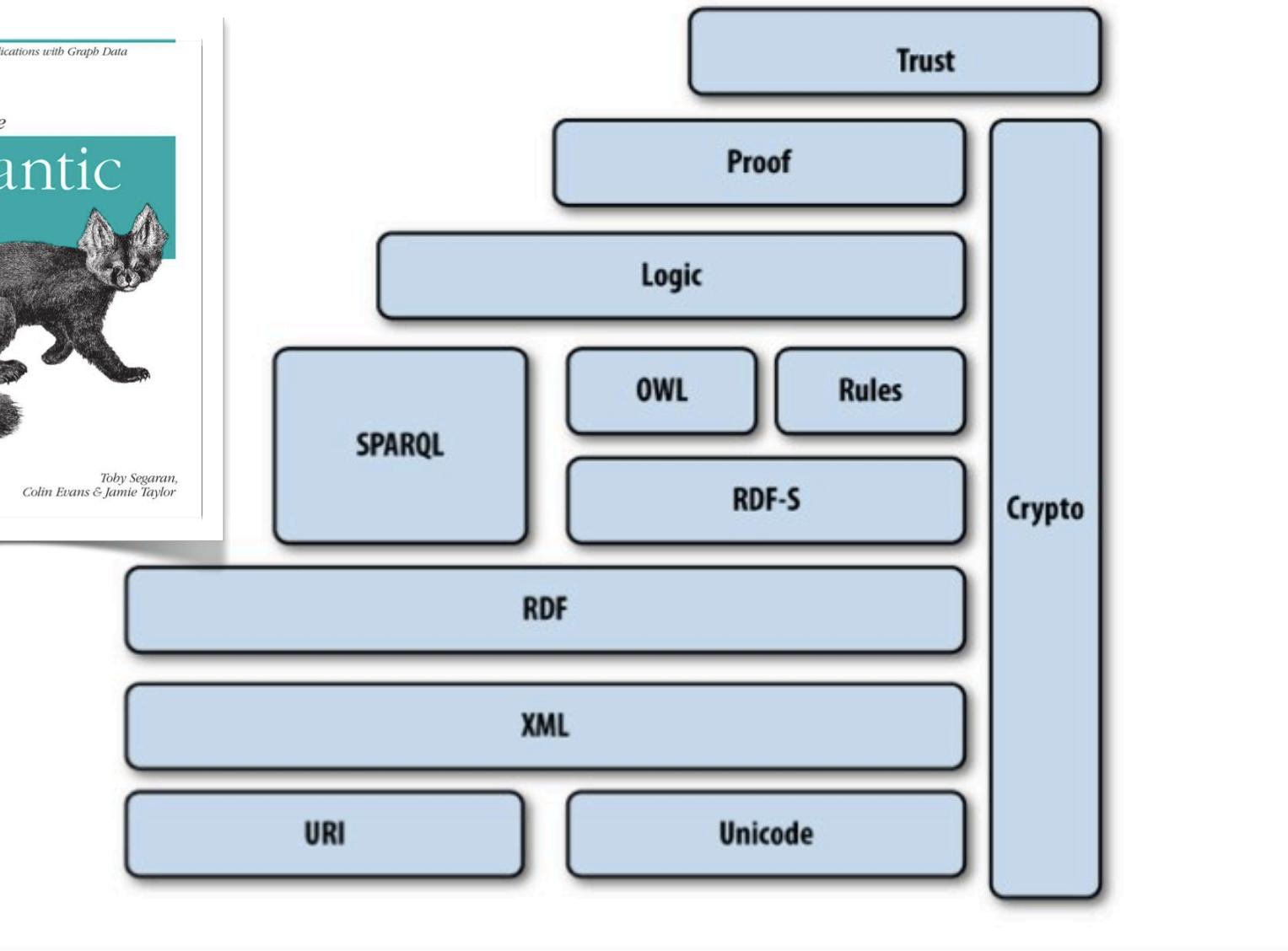


Figure 11-1. W3C semantic web technology stack

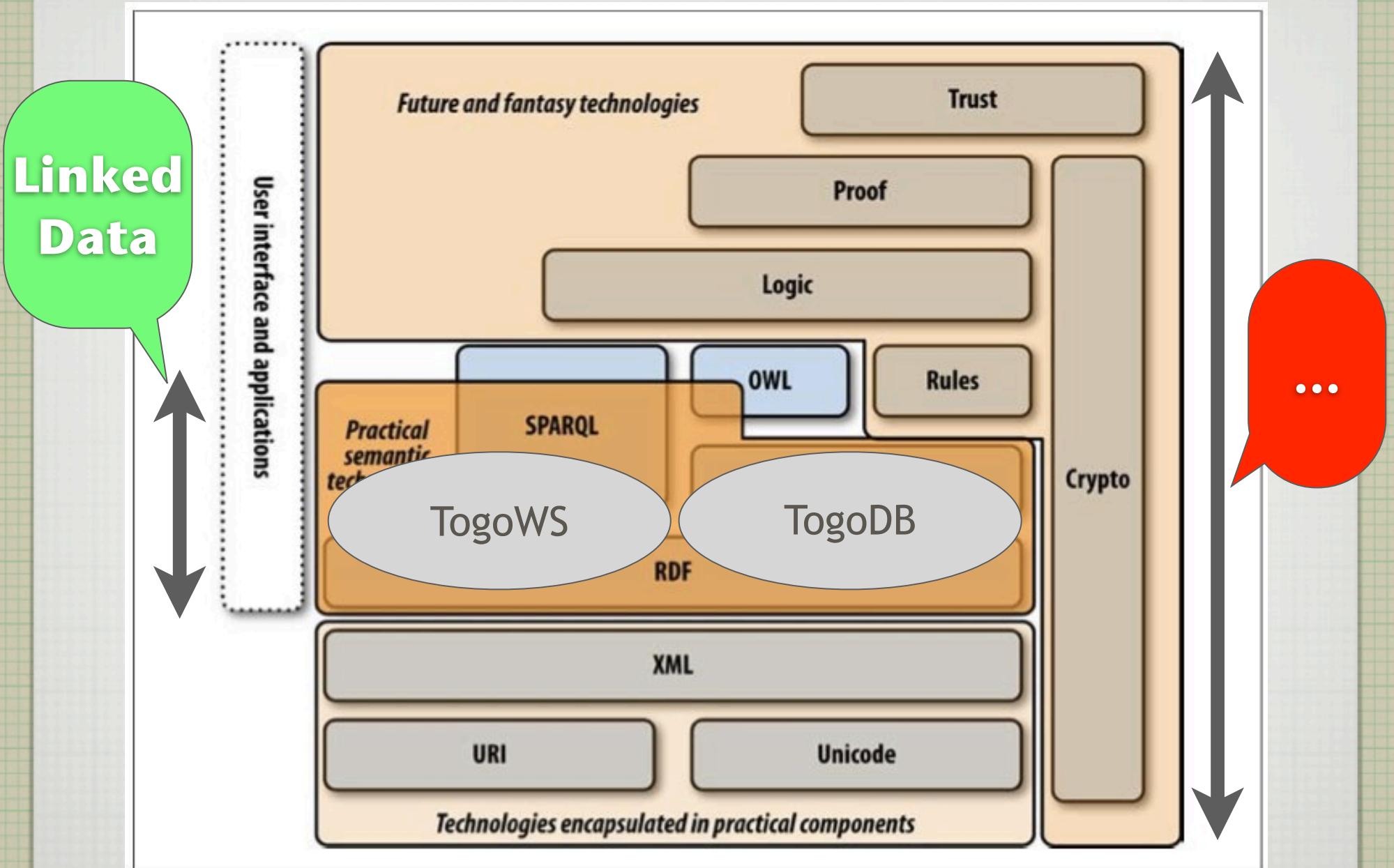


Figure 11-2. A practical view of the semantic stack

# Biological knowledge management: the emerging role of the Semantic Web technologies

Erick Antezana, Martin Kuiper and Vladimir Mironov

Submitted: 5th January 2009; Received (in revised form): 17th April 2009



**Table I:** Projects using Semantic Web technologies within the life science domain

Project	Keywords	Technologies	Web site	Reference
Bio2RDF	Mashup, linked data, global warehouse, complex queries	RDF, SPARQL	<a href="http://bio2rdf.org/">http://bio2rdf.org/</a>	[165]
BioDash	Disease, compounds, therapeutic model, pathway	RDF, OWL	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2005/04/swls/BioDash/Demo/">http://www.w3.org/2005/04/swls/BioDash/Demo/</a>	[166]
BioGateway	Semantic systems biology, hypothesis generation	RDF, SPARQL	<a href="http://www.semantic-systems-biology.org/biogateway/">http://www.semantic-systems-biology.org/biogateway/</a>	[167]
CardioSHARE	Collaborative, distributed knowledgebase, reasoning, web services	RDF, SPARQL	<a href="http://cardioshare.icapture.ubc.ca/">http://cardioshare.icapture.ubc.ca/</a>	[120]
Cell-Cycle Ontology (CCO)	Cell cycle, protein–protein interactions, reasoning, ontology patterns	RDF, OWL, SPARQL	<a href="http://www.cellcycleontology.org/">http://www.cellcycleontology.org/</a>	[168]
CVIT	Cancer, tumor, gene–protein interaction networks	RDF	<a href="https://www.cvit.org/">https://www.cvit.org/</a>	[135]
FungalWeb	Fungal species, enzyme substrates, enzyme modifications, enzyme retail	OWL		[169]
GenoQuery	Genomic warehouse, mixed query, tuberculosis	RDF, SPARQL	<a href="http://www.lri.fr/~lemoine/GenoQuery/">http://www.lri.fr/~lemoine/GenoQuery/</a>	[170]
HCLS W3C	Knowledge base, life sciences, prototype	RDF, OWL, SPARQL	<a href="http://www.w3.org/TR/hcls-kb/">http://www.w3.org/TR/hcls-kb/</a>	[171]
Kno.e.sis	Nicotine dependence, biological pathway	RDF, SPARQL, OWL	<a href="http://knoesis.wright.edu/research/semsci/application.domain/semLifeSci/bio/research/">http://knoesis.wright.edu/research/semsci/application.domain/semLifeSci/bio/research/</a>	[172]
Linked Life Data	Pathways, interactions	OWL	<a href="http://www.linkedlifedata.com">http://www.linkedlifedata.com</a>	[173]
LinkHub	Document ranking, text categorization, query corpus	RDF	<a href="http://hub.gersteinlab.org/">http://hub.gersteinlab.org/</a>	[174]
Lipid bibliosphere	Lipids, metabolites, reasoning	OWL		[128]
Neurocommons	Uniform access, package-based distribution	RDF, SPARQL	<a href="http://neurocommons.org/">http://neurocommons.org/</a>	[175]
RDFScape	Systems biology, cytoscape, reasoning	RDF, SPARQL	<a href="http://www.bioinformatics.org/rdfscape">http://www.bioinformatics.org/rdfscape</a>	[132]
S3DB	Lung cancer, omics	RDF	<a href="http://www.s3db.org/">http://www.s3db.org/</a>	[176]
SWAN - AlzPharm	Neuromedicine, alzheimer, neurodegenerative disorders	RDF, OWL	<a href="http://swan.mindinformatics.org">http://swan.mindinformatics.org</a>	[177, 178]
SEMMAS	Web services, intelligent agents	OWL	<a href="http://semmas.inf.um.es/prototypes/bioinformatics.html">http://semmas.inf.um.es/prototypes/bioinformatics.html</a>	[179]
SOMWeb	Distributed medical communities	RDF, OWL	<a href="http://www.cs.chalmers.se/proj/medview/somweb/">http://www.cs.chalmers.se/proj/medview/somweb/</a>	[129]
Thea-online	Protein interactions, annotations, pathways	RDF, SPARQL	<a href="http://bioinfo.unice.fr:8080/thea-online/">http://bioinfo.unice.fr:8080/thea-online/</a>	[180]
yOWL	Yeast, phenotypes, interactions	OWL	<a href="http://ontology.dumontierlab.com/yowl-hcls">http://ontology.dumontierlab.com/yowl-hcls</a>	[181]



## The Life Scientists: Attila Csordas

Bioinformaticians: which is the bioinformatics project ( on the web) which embodies best 'the semantic web' as we think of it today?

July 8, 2008 - [Comment](#) - [Share](#)

>You, Nakao M., Konrad Förstner and 3 other people liked this ([Un-like](#))

bio2rdf <http://www.bio2rdf.org/> ? - Pierre Lindenbaum

UniProt is one of the first life sciences databases to distribute all of their data in RDF format (both via FTP and the Web, ~1B triples) – that ought to count for something :-) - [Eric Jain](#)

Semantic web (as defined by the W3C) != speaking toasters. It's "just" data (RDF/OWL) that is accessible on the Web. Bonus: Provide a SPARQL endpoint so people can query the data rather than just retrieve it by URI. Challenges: Data modeling, scalability (if you have a lot of data), and creating generic-yet-useful end user tools that work directly with the RDF graph data model (I have yet to see any of these)... - [Eric Jain](#)

RDF, OWL, OBO, SPARQL endpoints WHATEVER, doesn't really matter. One of the most important things is agreeing on defining and sharing vocabularies. Easy to say, much harder

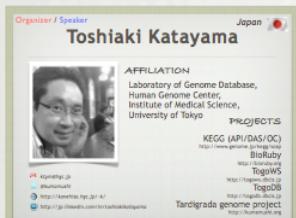
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# Poster session | 5:00-

## Poster presentation



← Organizers will pin up the cover sheet on the wall



← Please hang your slides under the cover sheet



Self-introduction  
Look around freely  
Talk to each other  
Find your collaborators for BH10



*If you forget to bring your printed poster,  
ask organizers nearby. We have printers.*

# Open space session | 6:30-

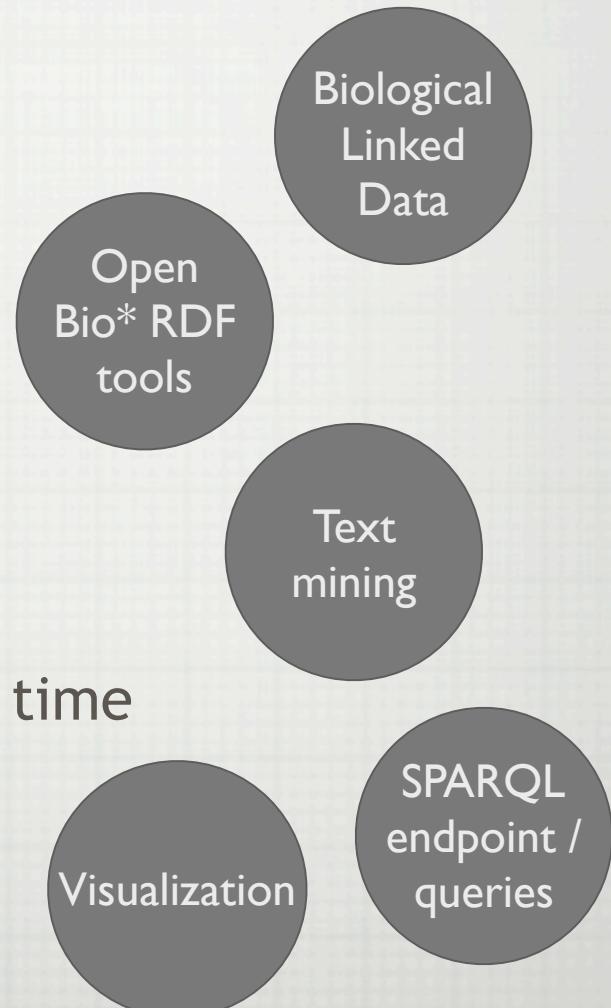
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## Open space discussion

= Sort of brainstorming  
in self-organized discussion groups

## Procedure / Rules

1. Raise candidate discussion topics
2. Select some discussion groups
3. Start discussion in group
4. Look around some discussions
5. You can switch group at any time
6. You can create additional group at any time
7. Finally join at least one group
8. Sort out issues
9. What will you challenge during BH10?



# Open space session | 6:30-

16:50-17:20

Arakawa

UseCases!

Network / interaction

Visualization

Andrea

Kawaji

NextGen Seq

Alberto

Text mining

Rutger

Implementation bootcamp

Jerven

How to properly use OWL

Katayama

Open Bio\*  
RDF tools  
Ruby/Python

17:25-17:55

Francois

Biological Linked Data

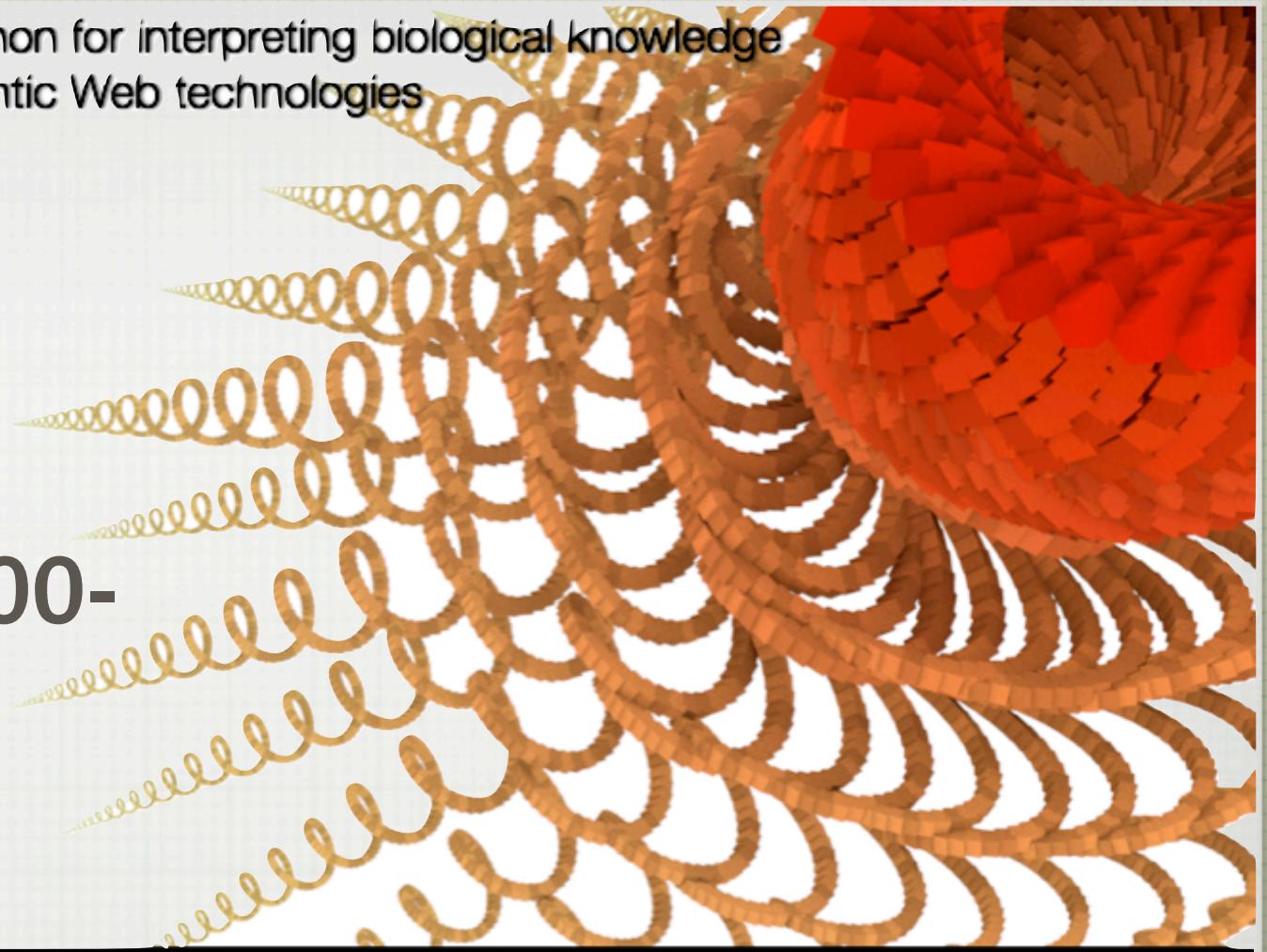
SPARQL endpoint / queries

DB provider: versioning  
LSID?

BioHackathon for interpreting biological knowledge  
with Semantic Web technologies

# BH2010 Summary Session

12 Feb 16:00-



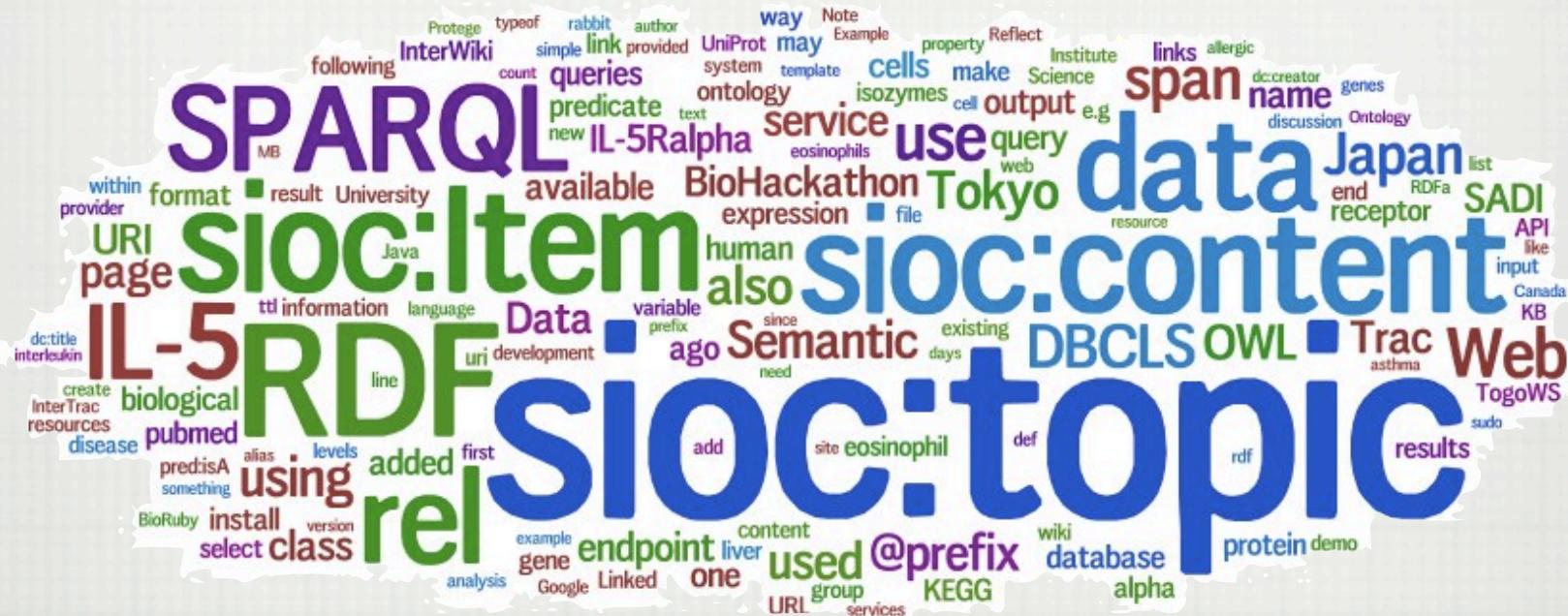
**BioHackathon**  
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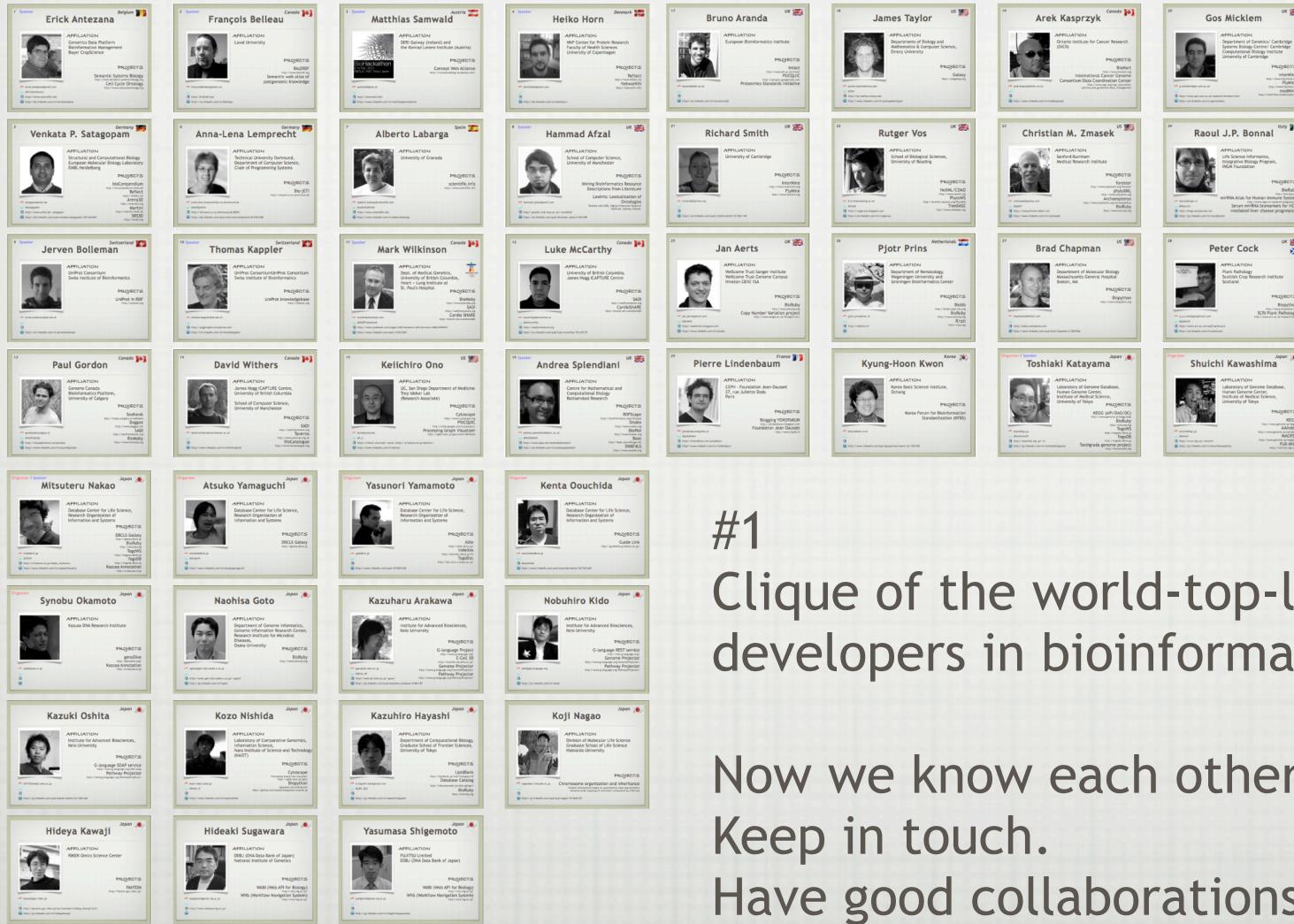
# After BH10

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Now we have brain-washed with RDF and SPARQL! :-(  
Geek++

# What we made/learned actually?

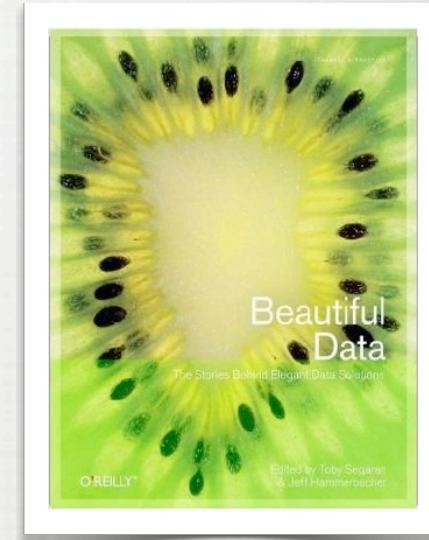
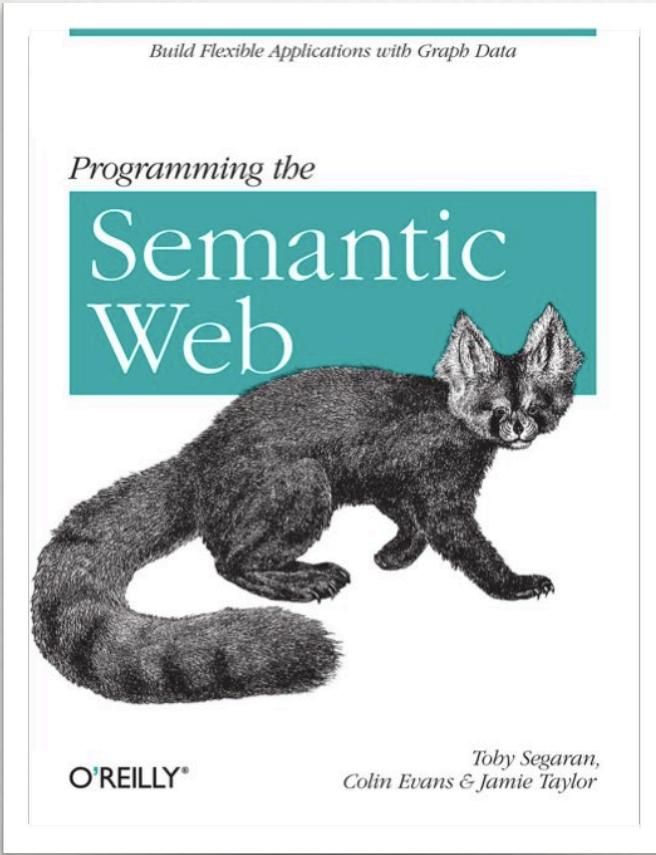


#1  
Clique of the world-top-level  
developers in bioinformatics.

Now we know each other.  
Keep in touch.  
Have good collaborations.

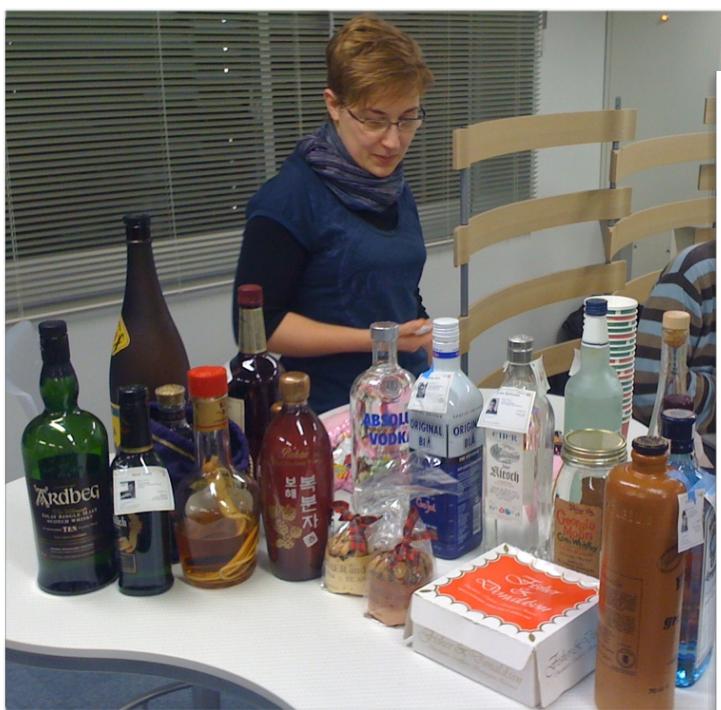
# What we made/learned actually?

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#2  
Database providers now understand potential of SemWeb (RDF/SPARQL) technologies

# What we made/learned actually?



#3  
Different tastes

# SemWeb for everybody

## TogoDB

deploy your DB in 5min



upload

A screenshot of a web-based application titled "Import" for TogoDB. It shows a file selection dialog with a list of files from a local drive, including "toge" and "toge2". Below the dialog is a summary table with columns "tablename" and "files". A large grey arrow points from the "Your data in CSV" icon towards this interface.

configure



A screenshot of the TogoDB Database Browser showing a "Settings for /katmom" page. It displays a tree view of database structures like "institute\_dictionary" and "katmom", and a detailed table of column options for the "katmom" table. A large grey arrow points from the "configure" text towards this interface.

## TogoWS

integrated REST/SOAP services

A screenshot of the TogoWS web interface. It features a main dashboard with a green and blue design, displaying the message "Integration of the bioinformatics web services". Below the dashboard, there's a "Related resources" section listing various bioinformatics databases and services. A large grey speech bubble contains the text "Can be accessed with REST API as Linked Data". A grey arrow points from the "endpoint" text towards this interface.

endpoint

A screenshot of a REST API endpoint for TogoWS, showing a table of search results for the query "Kaftom". The table includes columns for SEQID, Frame, ORF, Length, TargetID, AIn, Length, E-value, Score, and Accession. Below the table, there's a detailed view of a specific record with tabs for "HTML", "FASTA", and "Blast". A large grey speech bubble contains the text "Any database record by the user". A grey arrow points from the "deploy" text towards this interface.

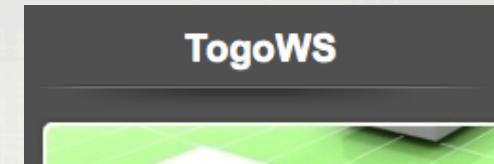
deploy

<http://togows.dbcls.jp/entry/togodb-foobardb/123.rdf>

<http://togodb.dbcls.jp/foobardb/show/123>



# DEMO



Expose user's data to  
the Semantic Web world

<http://togodb.dbcls.jp/dbname/show/1>



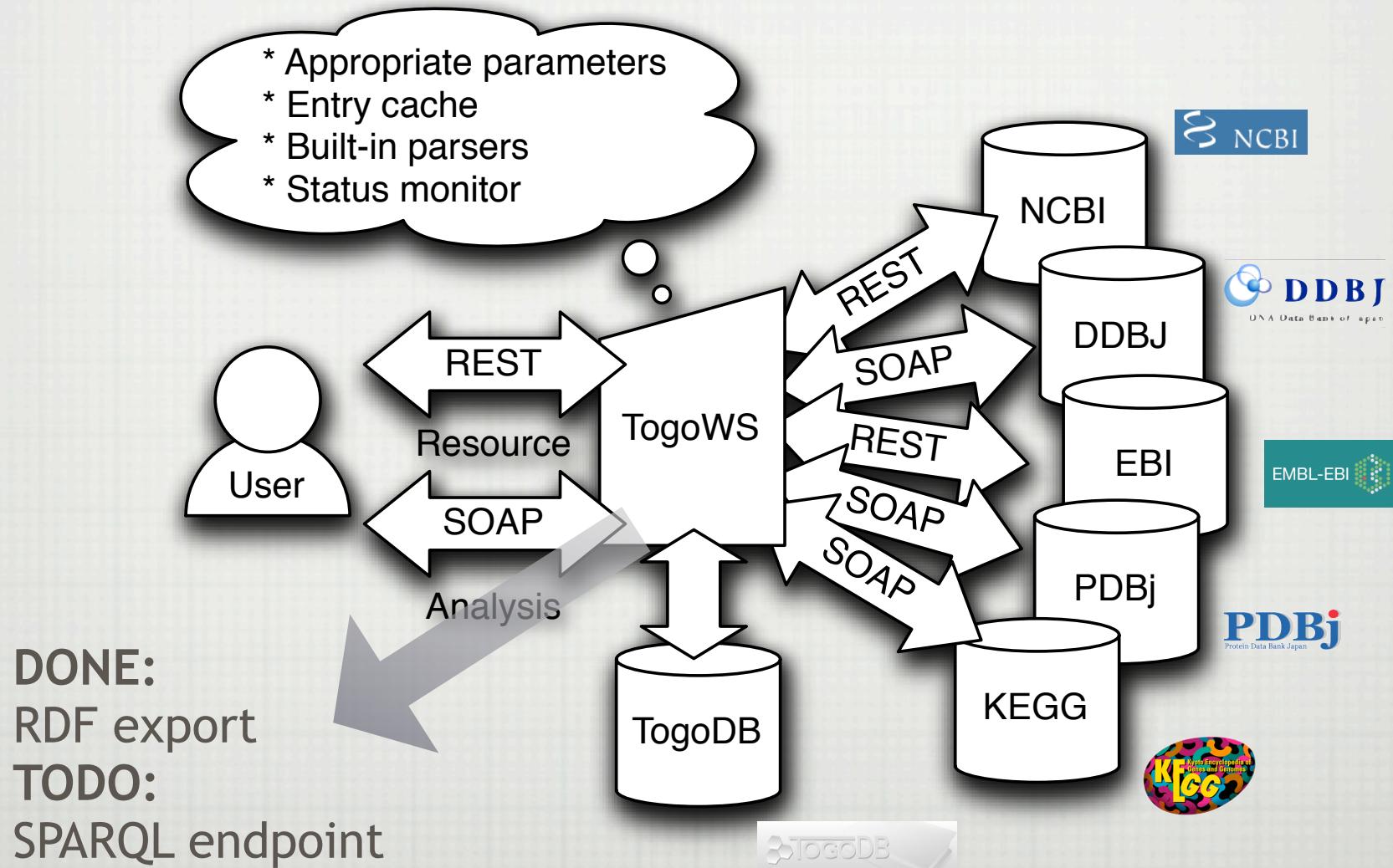
<http://togows.dbcls.jp/entry/togodb-dbname/1.xml>



<http://togows.dbcls.jp/entry/togodb-dbname/1.ttl>

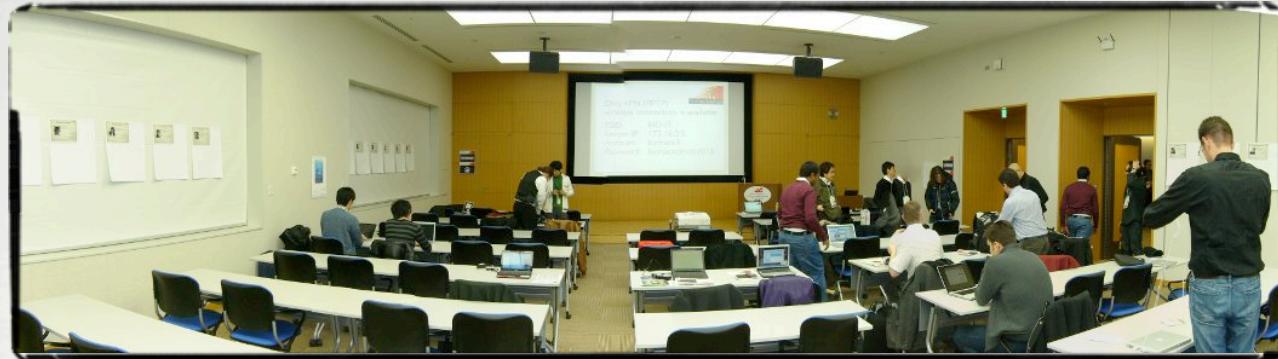
image	name	description	age	nation	percentage	brought_by	
	Century Reserve	Canadian Rye Whisky	-	Canada	40.0	Paul Gordon	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Show</a>
	Crown Royal	Blended Canadian Whisky	-	Canada	40.0	Luke McCarthy	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Show</a>
	Fillers	oude raanjeneve	-	Belgium	38.0	Erick Antezana	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Show</a>

# As a RDF/SPARQL provider





BIOHACKATHON 2010 GROUP PHOTO





TSUKIJI FISH MARKET TOUR



ASAKUSA TOUR

# Special Thanks to

---

- Keiko Sakuma, Eiji Ueda, Toshihisa Takagi and DBCLS staff
- Keiko Nemoto, Kiyoshi Asai and CBRC staff
- Alan Ruttenberg (NeuroCommons) through ML discussions
- Organizers
  - Mitsuteru Nakao, Shuichi Kawashima,  
Shinobu Okamoto, Shin Kawano  
Yasunori Yamamoto, Atsuko Yamaguchi