Cleaning and enriching data with OpenRefine

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Outline

- OpenRefine and its core functions
- Cleaning data with OpenRefine
- Enriching data with OpenRefine
- Demonstration/walkthrough
- Additional resources

OpenRefine

- "a Java-based power tool that allows you to load data, understand it, clean it up, reconcile it, and augment it with data coming from the web" (OpenRefine)
- Free and open source software

January 2010

Released as Freebase Gridworks by Metaweb Technologies



July 2010

Renamed to Google Refine after Metaweb was acquired by Google



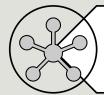
October 2012

Transitioned to a community-driven project and renamed again to OpenRefine

OpenRefine's Functionality



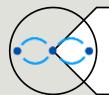
Faceting



Clustering and editing

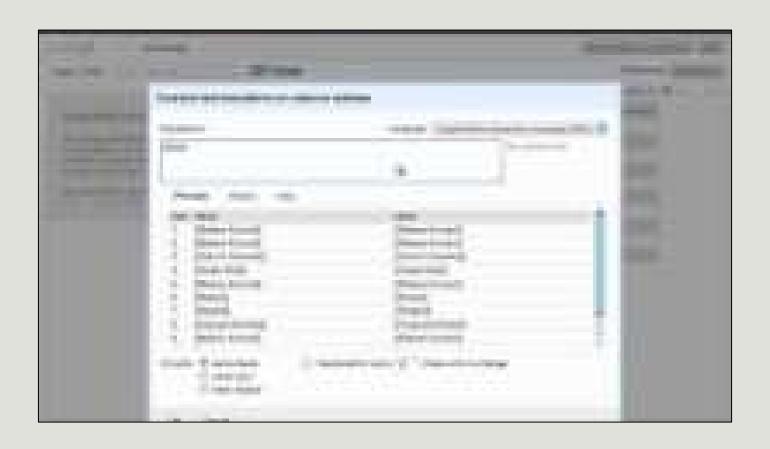


Reconciling



History

Cleaning data



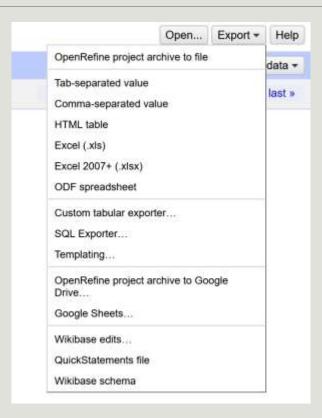
Enriching data (data augmentation)



Running OpenRefine for the first time

- Requires a browser but an Internet connection is not required for most actions
 - Open any web browser (e.g., Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome)
 - Navigate to http://localhost:3333)
 - Create a project by importing data
 - Supported: TSV, CSV, and other delimited files, Excel files, JSON, XML
 - Sources: Local computer, web address, clipboard, relational database (SQLite, PostgreSQL, MySQL/MariaDB), Google Sheets (public spreadsheet or authenticated account)

Exporting or backing up work



Select "Export" in the upper-right corner and choose an option

Additional Resources

- Data Carpentry
 - OpenRefine for Social Science Data
 - Data Cleaning with Open Refine for Ecologists
- OpenRefine user manual

Microsoft Excel

- Data
 - Get & Transform Data
 - Get Data From Other Sources



Microsoft Excel

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