Linked data
a primer
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“An item of metadata is a relationship that someone claims to exist between two entities.”
Title: The fire engine that disappeared
Author: Maj Sjöwall
ISBN: 978-0-00-723283-3
Pub date: 07-08-2006

Title: The man on the balcony
Author: Maj Sjöwall
ISBN: 978-0-00-723283-3
Pub date: 07-08-2006

Title: Roseanna
Author: Maj Sjöwall
ISBN: 978-0-00-723283-3
Pub date: 07-08-2006
<Contributor>
  <SequenceNumber>1</SequenceNumber>
  <ContributorRole>A01</ContributorRole>
  <NameIdentifier>
    <NameIDType>16</NameIDType>
    <IDValue>0000000121479135</IDValue>
  </NameIdentifier>
  <PersonName>Maj Sjöwall</PersonName>
</Contributor>
Contributor

"Maj Sjöwall"

has role

Ao1 from List 17

has name

"0000000121479135"

of type 01 from List 18

has name identifier

of type 16 from List 44
Linked data

- expresses metadata as a collection of triples
- uses URIs to represent relations and things
- prefers persistent HTTP URIs so they can be ‘looked up’ to get further details
- the data can be ‘self-describing’
- is flexible because it’s ‘schemaless’
  - anyone can express a new relationship and link your triples to new things
- is not necessarily Linked Open Data
| genid:A96837 | http://ns.editeur.org/onix/3.0/reference/NameIdentifier | "0000000121479135" of type http://ns.editeur.org/onix/codelist/44#16 |
| genid:A96837 | http://ns.editeur.org/onix/3.0/reference/PersonName | "Maj Sjöwall" of type http://ns.editeur.org/onix/codelist/18#01 |

http://harpercollins.co.uk/40366
Linked data

- just another way of expressing the same data
- ‘But where’s my record gone?’
  - the ‘record’ is emergent from the global graph
- some practitioners have a loose view of semantics, not best suited to supply chain
  - need to be selective about data sources, based around trust and expectations of persistence
- need for common entities, shared vocabularies and standard identifiers to avoid conflict between competing assertions