

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

---

## 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

---

## Mission of the DBCLS

= integration of life science resources  
(standardization / interoperability)

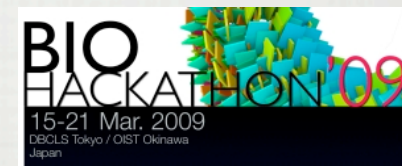
## *The 1st DBCLS BioHackathon (2008)*

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

---

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 1

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

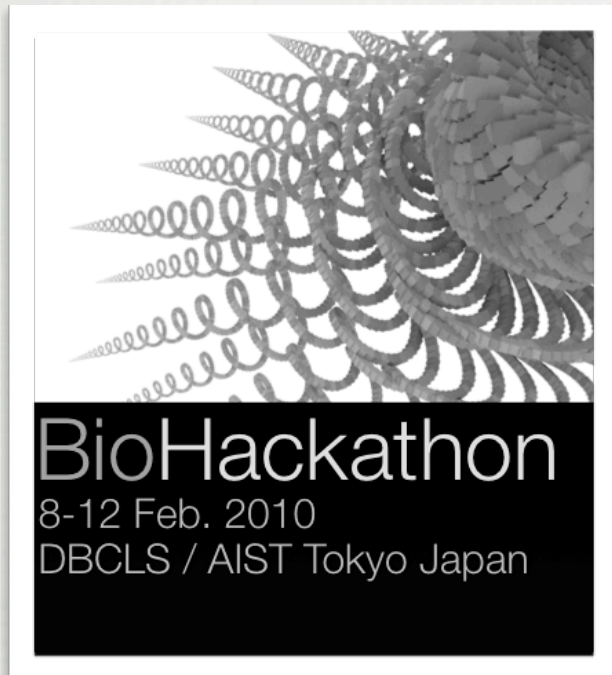


10:45-11:05

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



UniProt in RDF



AFFILIATION

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>

NetworkKIN

<http://networkin.info>

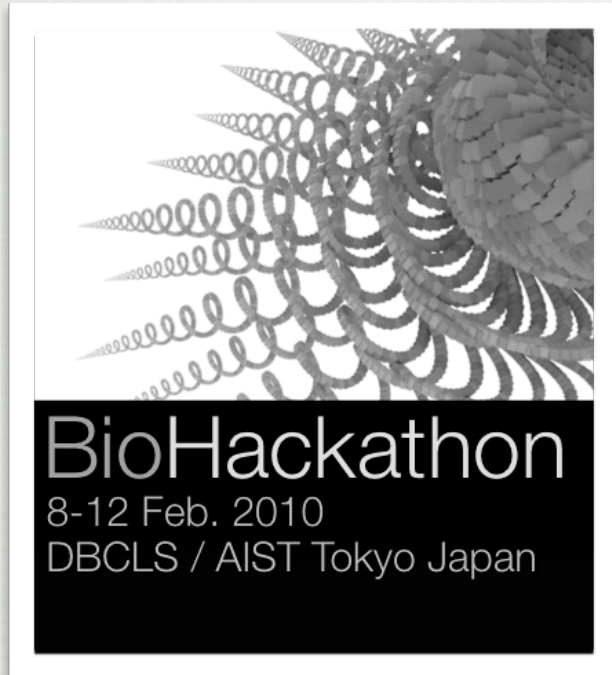
Reflect - text mining in Semantic Web

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



## 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>

Visualization and analysis of biological  
networks on the Semantic Web

# 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.

## Stores

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

## 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

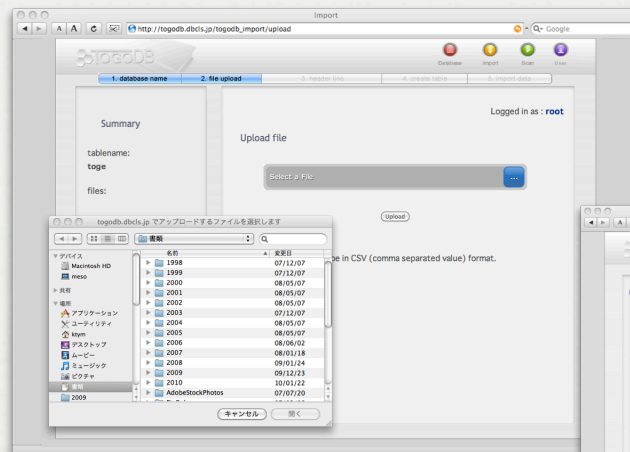
# SemWeb for everybody

## TogoDB

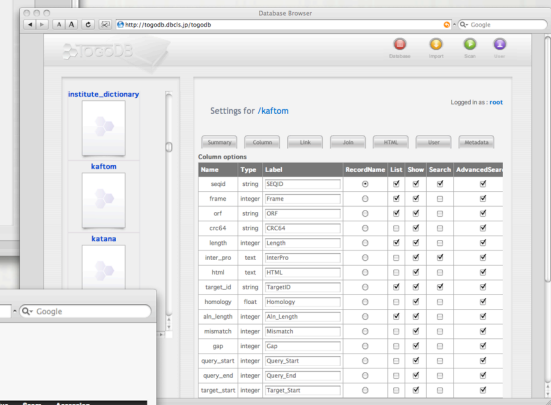
deploy your DB in 5min



upload

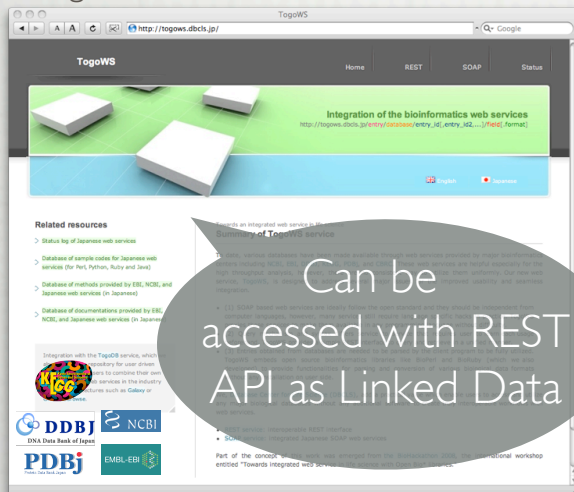


configure



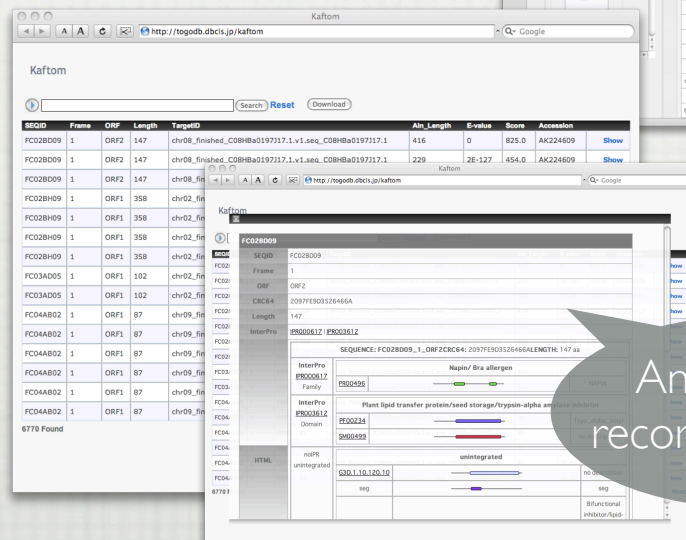
## TogoWS

integrated REST/SOAP services



endpoint

Can be accessed with REST API as Linked Data



deploy

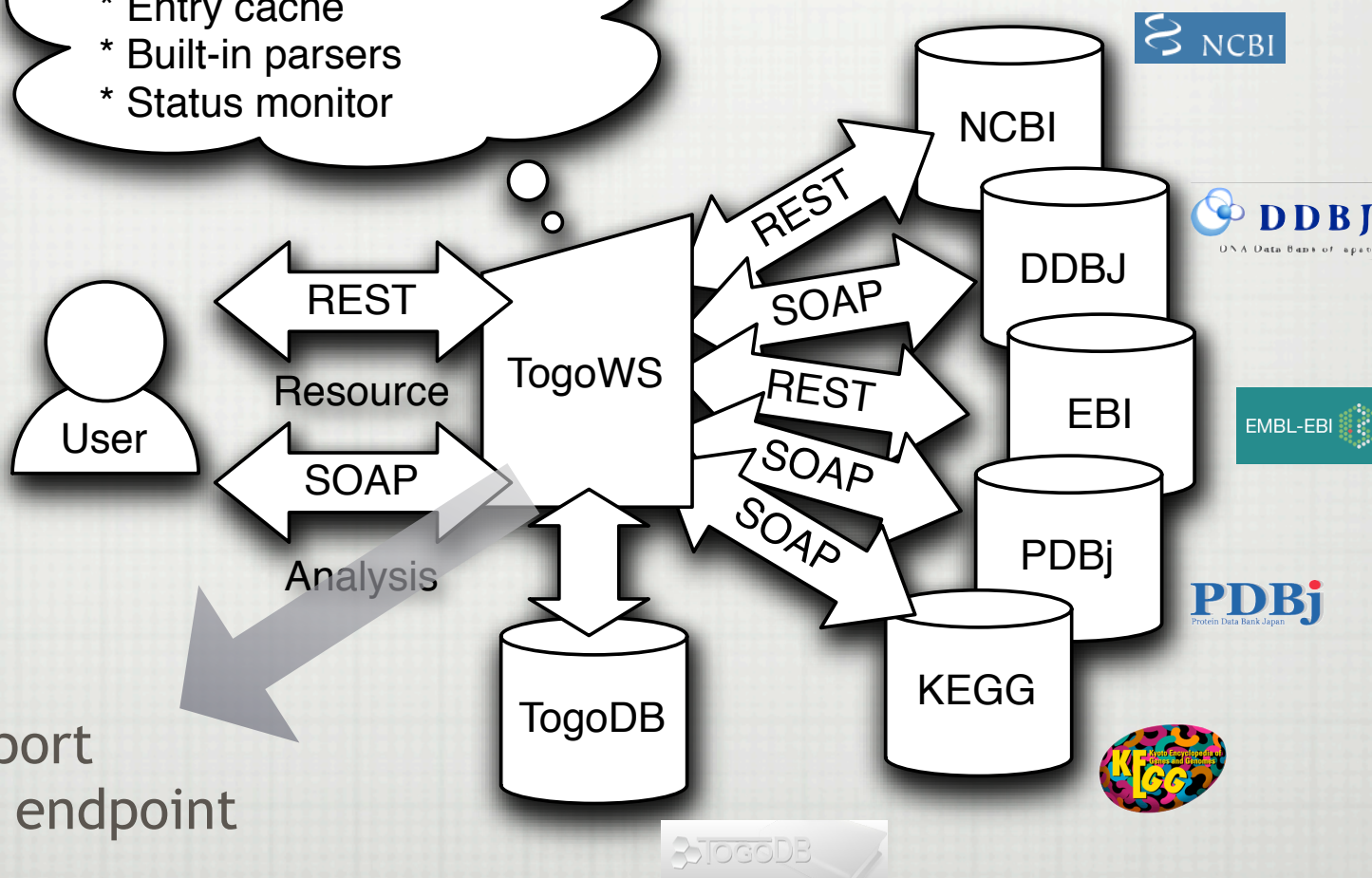
Any database record by the user

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

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

# As a RDF/SPARQL provider

- \* Appropriate parameters
- \* Entry cache
- \* Built-in parsers
- \* Status monitor



**TODO:**  
RDF export  
SPARQL endpoint

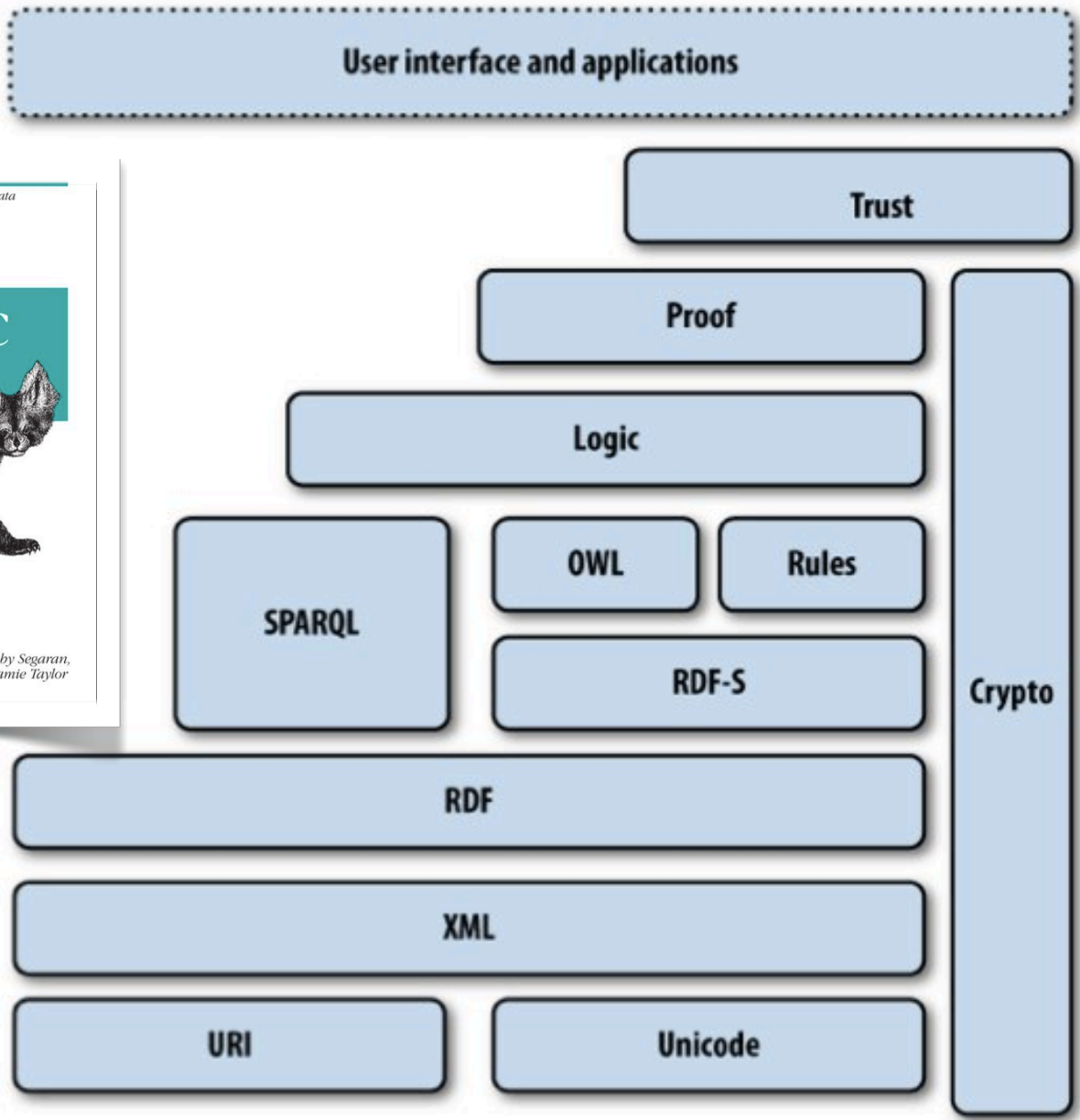
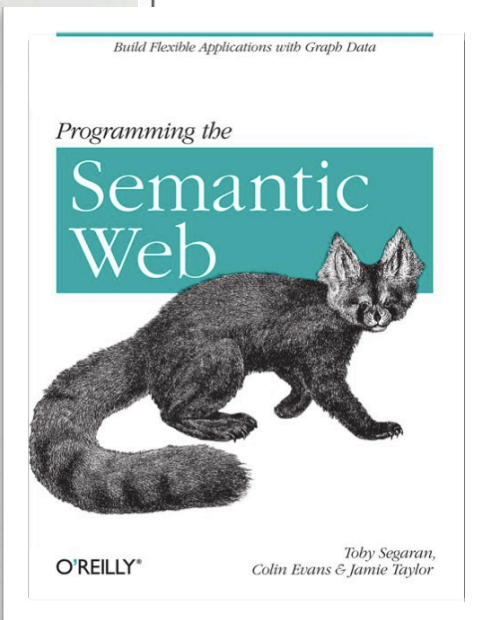
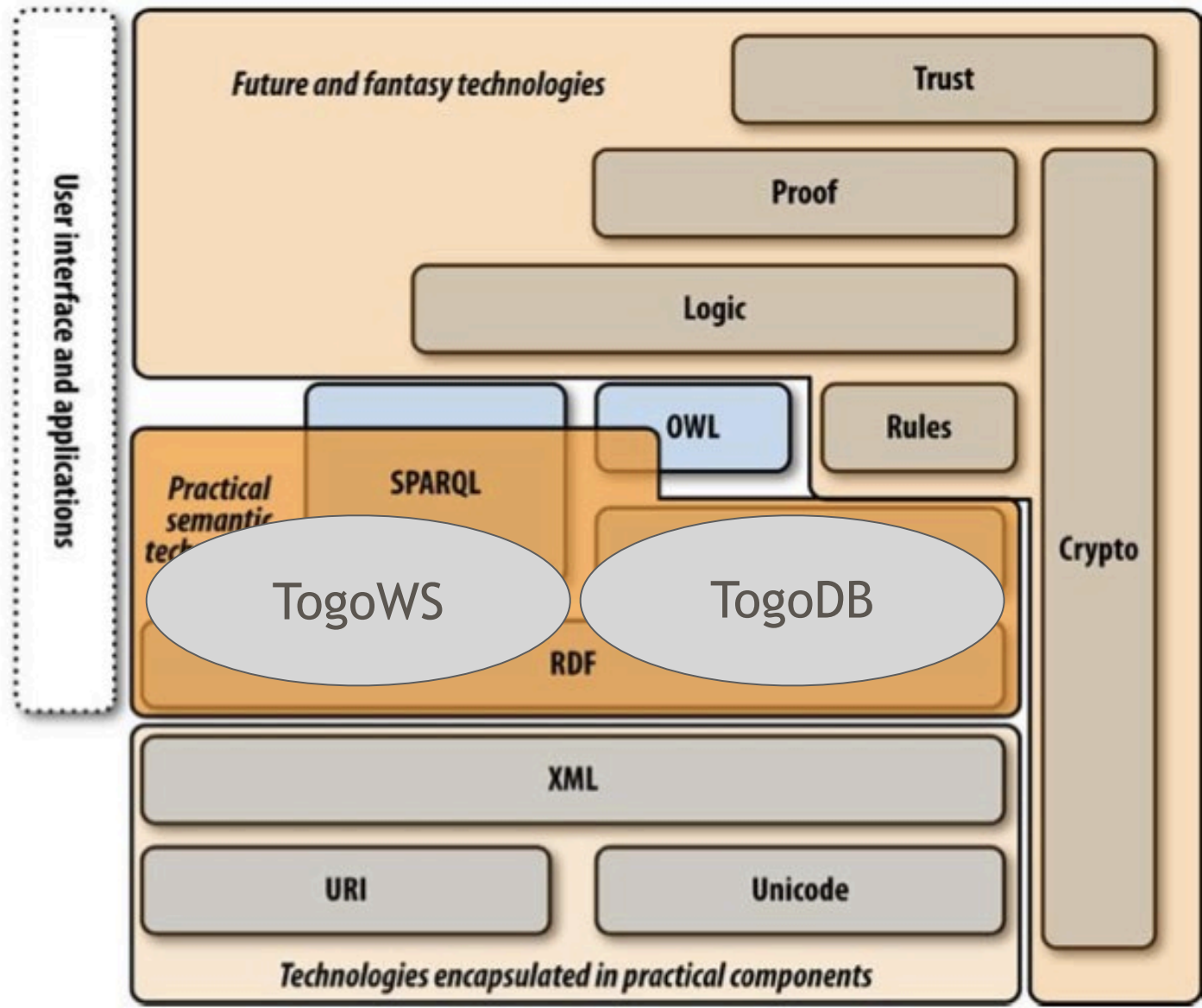


Figure 11-1. W3C semantic web technology stack

**Linked  
Data**



...

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 1:** 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/sem.life.sci/bio/research/">http://knoesis.wright.edu/research/semsci/application.domain/sem.life.sci/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-usable end user tools that work directly with the RDF graph data model (I have yet to see any of these)... - Eric Jain

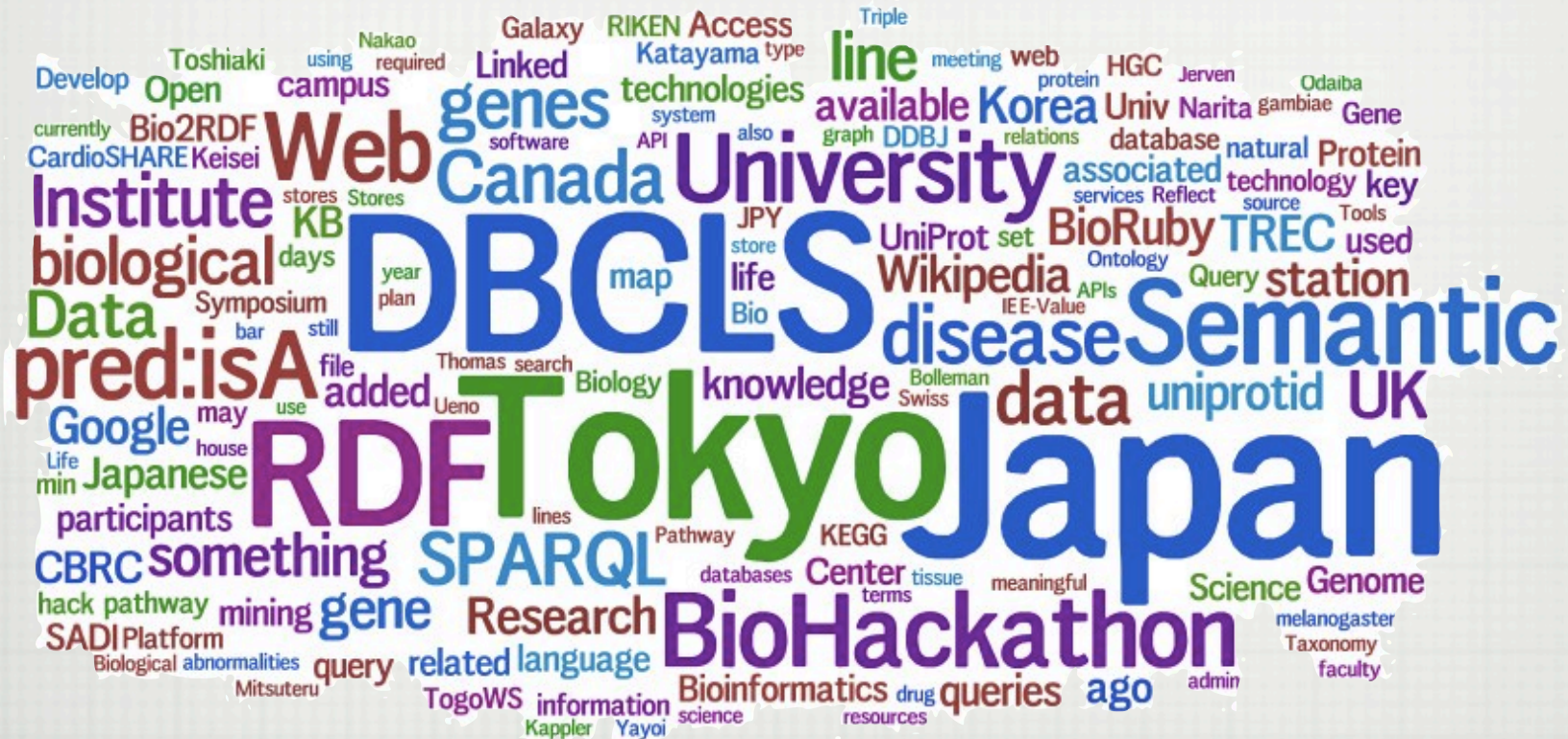
💬 RDF, OWL, OBO, SPARQL endpoints WHATEVER, doesn't really matter. One of the most important things is agreeing on defining and sharing vocabularies. Easy to say, much harder



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-usable end user tools** that work directly with the RDF graph data model (I have yet to see any of these)... - Eric Jain



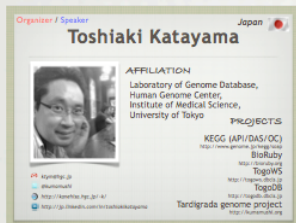
# What's come out?



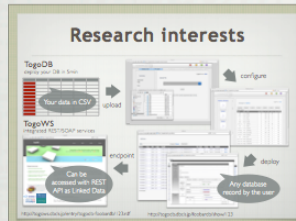
What kind of achievements will emerge from the cloud?  
*Nobody knows. Let's look again after one week. :-)*

# Poster session 15:00-

## Poster presentation



← Organizers will pin up the cover sheet on the wall



← Please hang your slides under the cover sheet

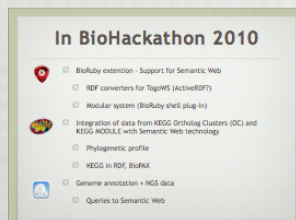


Self-introduction

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-

---

## 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  
Bio\* RDF  
tools

Biological  
Linked  
Data

Text  
mining

Visualization

SPARQL  
endpoint /  
queries

# Open space session | 6:30-

16:50-17:20

UseCases!

Arakawa

Network  
/ interaction

Kawaji

NextGen  
Seq

Visualization

Andrea

Alberto

Text  
mining

17:25-17:55

Implementation  
bootcamp

Rutger

Francois

Biological  
Linked  
Data

Jerven

How to  
properly use  
OWL

SPARQL  
endpoint /  
queries

Katayama

Open Bio\*  
RDF tools  
Ruby/Python

DB provider: versioning  
LSID?

BioHackathon for interpreting biological knowledge  
with Semantic Web technologies

**BH2010**  
**Summary**  
**Session**  
**12 Feb 16:00-**

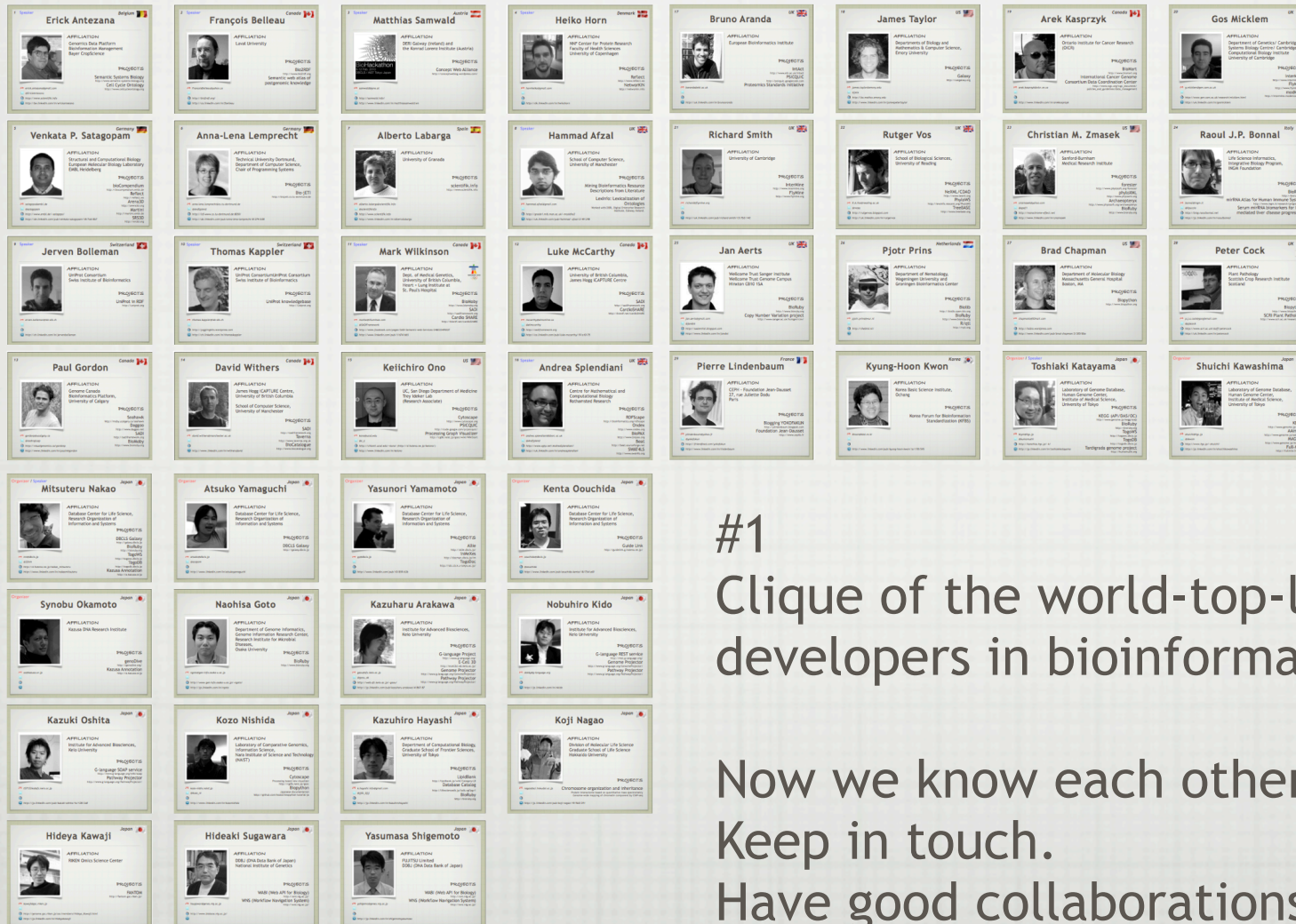
**BioHackathon**  
8-12 Feb. 2010  
DBCLS / AIST Tokyo Japan







# What we made/learned actually?



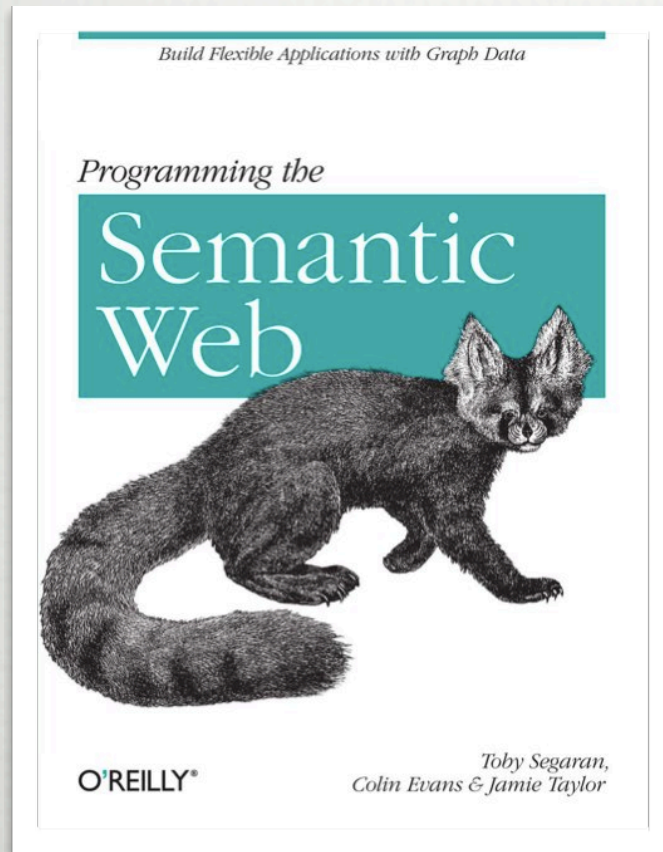
#1  
Clique of the world-top-level  
developers in bioinformatics.

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



# What we made/learned actually?

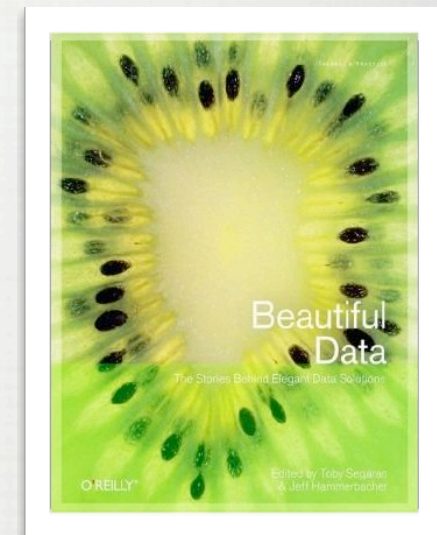
---



Name space

Tools

Hosting



#2

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

# What we made/learned actually?

---



#3  
Different tastes

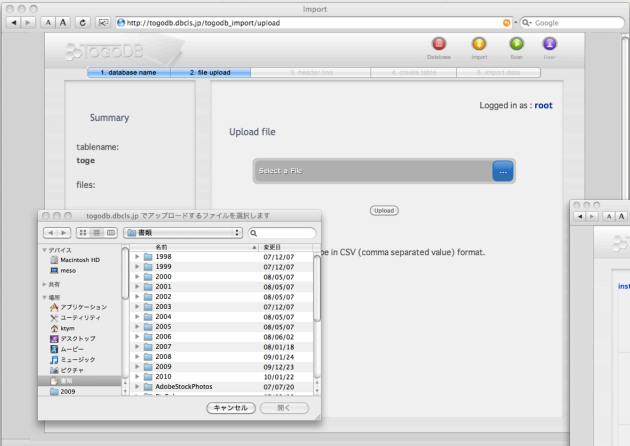
# SemWeb for everybody

## TogoDB

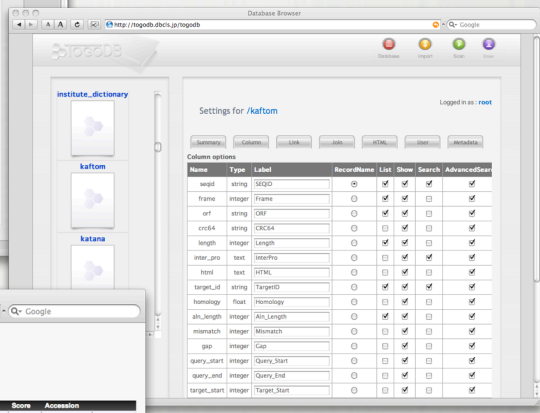
deploy your DB in 5min



upload

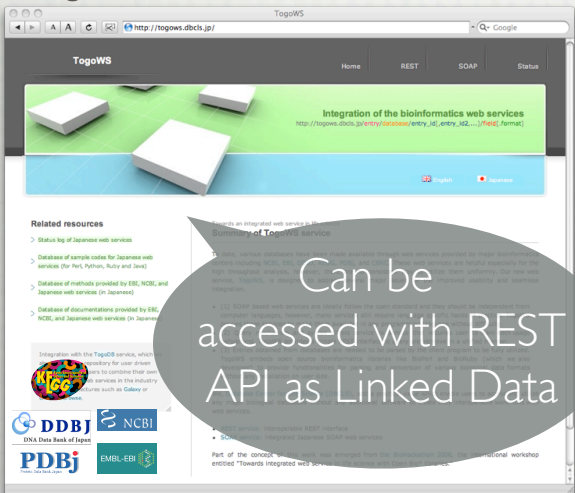


configure



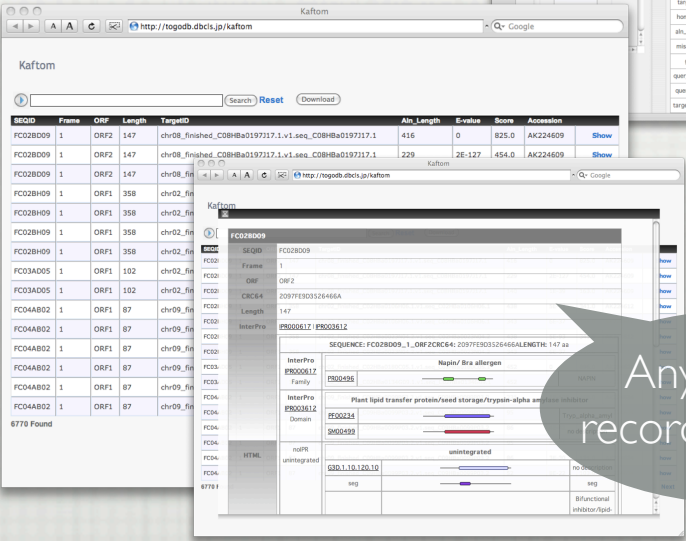
## TogoWS

integrated REST/SOAP services



Can be accessed with REST API as Linked Data

endpoint



deploy

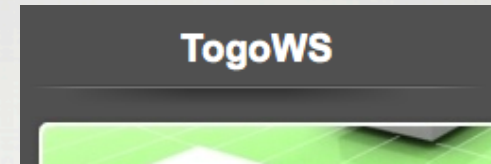
Any database record by the user

<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-database/1.xml>

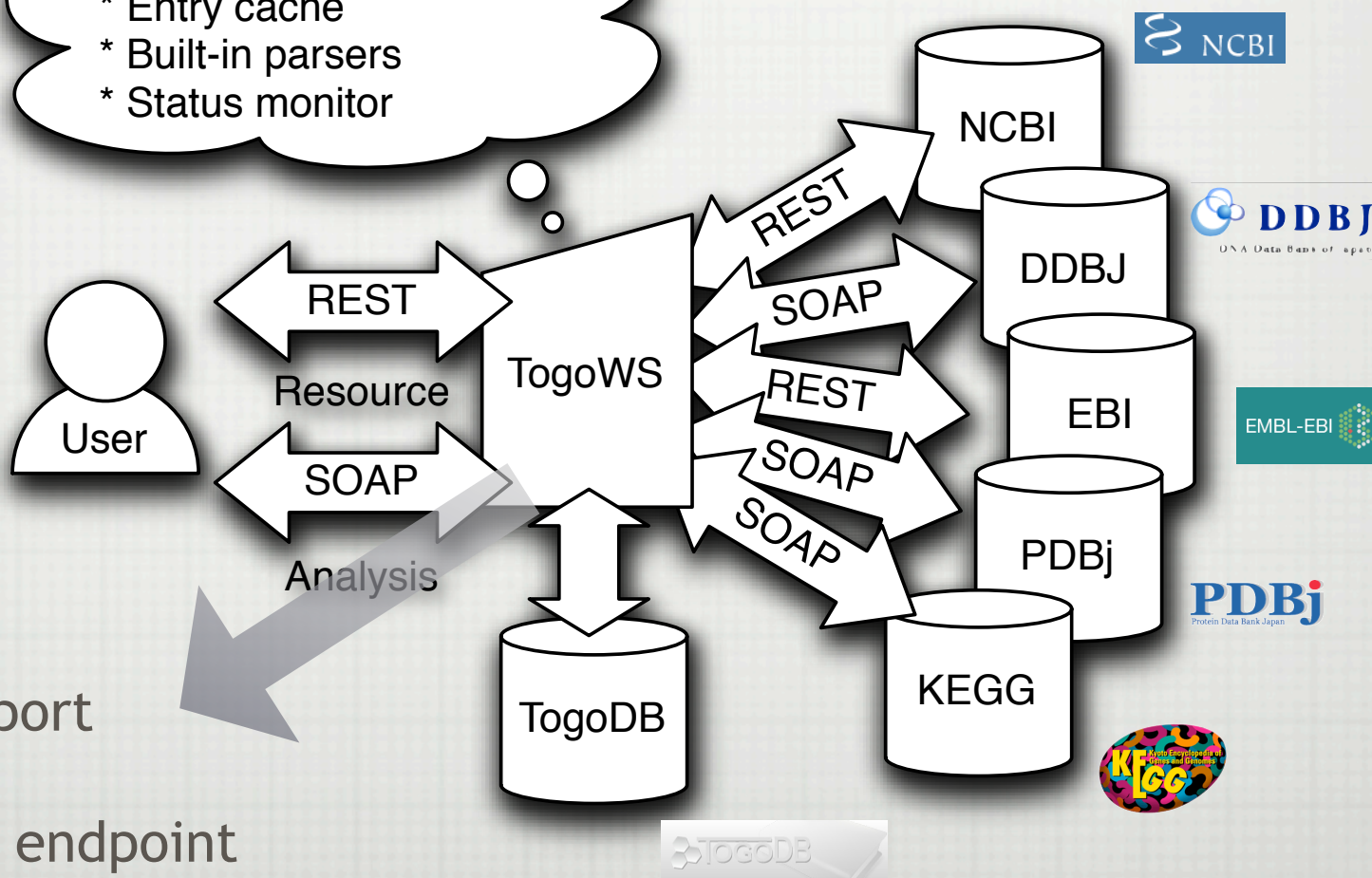


<http://togows.dbcls.jp/entry/togodb-database/1.ttl>

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>
	Filliers	oude raajenew	-	Belgium	38.0	Erick Antezana	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Show</a>

# As a RDF/SPARQL provider

- \* Appropriate parameters
- \* Entry cache
- \* Built-in parsers
- \* Status monitor



**DONE:**  
RDF export

**TODO:**  
SPARQL endpoint



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