

Extending the digital catalog – a laboratory approach

SILF 2008

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The Library Lab

www.biblab.no



Tanker & nyheter Allmenning Om oss For utvikling av bibliotekdata og sosial teknologi

Nyhetsstrømmer

- Lokasjonsbevissthet
- Hathi Hatches the Egg
- Hathi Hatches the Egg
- The Art and Science of Analyzing Web Statistics
- The Art and Science of Analyzing Web Statistics
- Books as History
- The Berkeley Accord
- djatoka, OpenURL and ODMRef-J
- ne.code4lib.org
- Where Goals Belong

Velkommen til laboratoriet!

Tanker & nyheter:

Mashup i praksis: Pensumhjelpen

av [Tor Arne Dahl](#) @ 27.06.2008 [[Samarbeid/datadeling](#)] [[Bibliotek 2.0](#)] 13:46 CET

En gruppe masterbibliotekarstudenter fra Høgskolen i Oslo klekket ut en smart idé for en mashup på Biblioteklaboratoriets **workshop i Bergen** høsten 2007. Tanken var at mashup-løsningen skulle hjelpe lærere til å sette opp studentvennlige pensumlister. Pensumhjelpen ble **dokumentert på Allmenningen**, og der beskrives webapplikasjonen på denne måten:

Vi har avdekket et sterkt behov for hjelp til å lokalisere pensumlitteratur for studenter ved universiteter og høyskoler i Norge. I dag inneholder pensumlistene både bøker, artikler og nettressurser, og studentene bruker mye unødig tid på å lete fram disse i bibliotek og bokhandler. Mange gir kanskje opp når det er noe de ikke finner, og vi ønsker derfor å legge en løsning som kan gjøre automatiske søk

Søk

Kategorier

- [Alle poster](#)
- [Bibliotek 2.0](#)
- [Digitalisering](#)
- [Generelt](#)
- [OPAC](#)
- [Samarbeid/datadeling](#)

Arkiv

- [Juli 2008 \[1\]](#)
- [Juni 2008 \[1\]](#)
- [Mai 2008 \[2\]](#)

Facts

- ▶ a Norwegian collaborative project
- ▶ financed by the Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority
- ▶ administrated by the Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science at OUC...
- ▶ ...and a dedicated working group with people from the Norwegian library community

Aim

“to create a network of persons interested in libraries and technology with a view to encourage ideas and protoypes leading to improved access to library data”

Nils Pharo, project manager

Shànghǎi Metro Network 2020

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Means

the laboratory approach

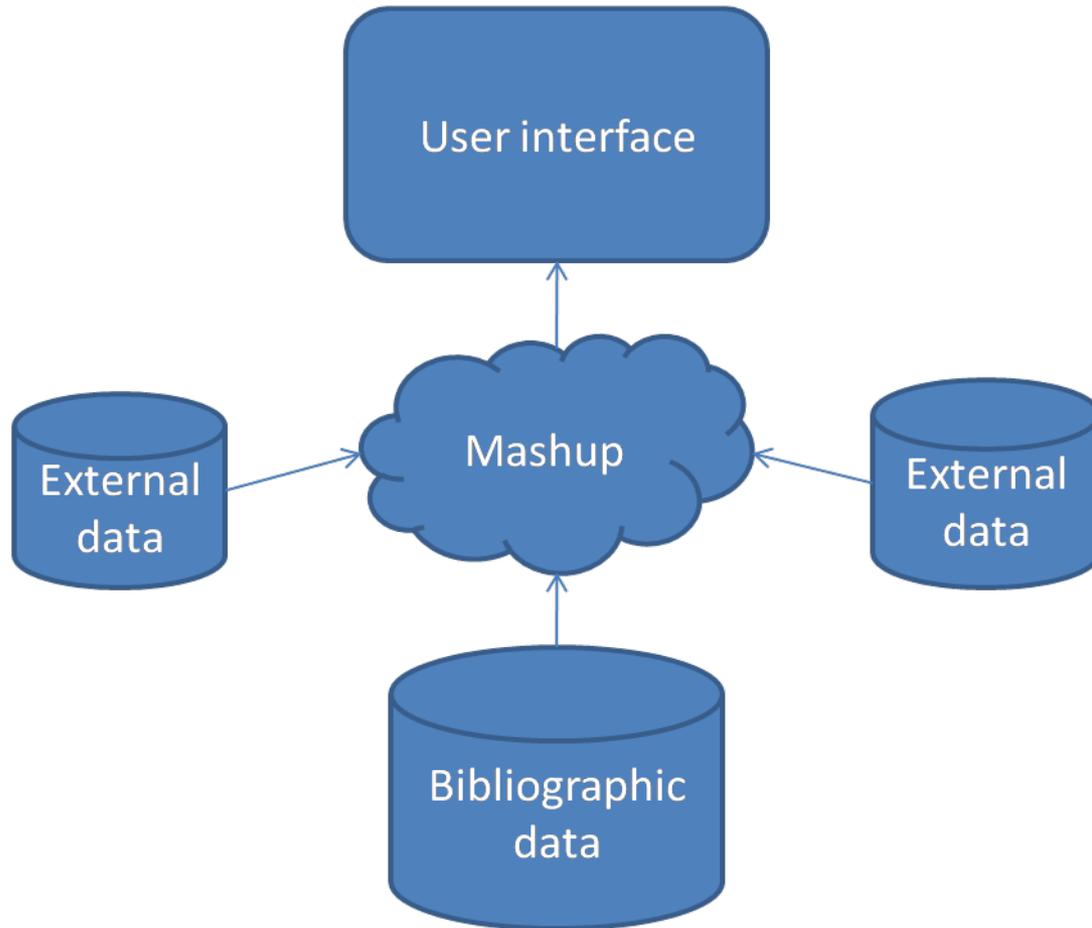
- ▶ net-based meeting places
 - blog
 - wiki
- ▶ physical meetings
 - workshops
- ▶ projects / prototype development
 - guidance
 - "micro financing"
- ▶ competitions
- ▶ transparency / open source

Case: Mashup project

extending the catalog

- ▶ starting point: contribution to a Library Lab competition
- ▶ Library Lab: reference group/advisors
- ▶ administrated by a working group based at Oslo Public Library
- ▶ name: "Pode"
 - in english: "Graft", parts of two plants that are joined together to form one plant
- ▶ mashup definitions from WWW:
 - applications that combine content from multiple services into some integrated user experience blog.pint.com/2007/06/19/a-web-20-glossary-part-1-of-2/
 - a mashup is a web application that combines data from more than one source into a single integrated tool [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashup_\(web_application_hybrid\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashup_(web_application_hybrid))

Mashup architecture



Aim

- ▶ Extending the library catalog with data from external providers:
 - offers catalog users more relevant data (quantitative perspective)
 - lets the user more easily carry through a transaction, from basic information needs to direct access e.g. to a moviestream (qualitative perspective)
 - offers the user a recognisable WWW environment
 - lets librarians and users utilise modern WWW possibilities

Project progress

- ▶ workshop: investigating external data sources and possible interface solutions
- ▶ establish sandbox model for testing and development
- ▶ making deals with data providers (copyright etc.)
- ▶ in the end: release source code of (system independent) mashup technology
- ▶ → open source

Open source

from WWW:

- ▶ a program in which the source code is available to the general public for use and/or modification from its original design
www.calgary-ecommerce-services.com/glossary.html
- ▶ open source is a development methodology, which offers practical accessibility to a product's source
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_source
- ▶ a movement in the programming community for making source code (program instructions) free and freely available to anyone interested in using or working with it
<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc751329.aspx>

Open source

- ▶ so is it a (computer) program with certain characteristics (the *source code* is “freely” available)...
- ▶ ...and a development methodology ...
- ▶ ...and the name of a movement?



In other words: a (many-headed) movement which develops programs based on certain principles that establishes a methodology

Open source

the principles

A user of a software must be granted certain freedoms:

- ▶ The freedom to run the program, for any purpose
- ▶ The freedom to study how the program works, and adapt it to your needs. Access to the source code is a precondition for this
- ▶ The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help your neighbour
- ▶ The freedom to improve the program, and release your improvements to the public, so that the whole community benefits. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.

(Stallman, R. (2002). Free software definition. I: Joshua Gay (ed.), *Free software, free society, selected essays of Richard Stallman*, (31–40) Boston, Mass.: GNU Press)

Open source in the laboratory

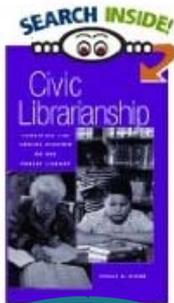
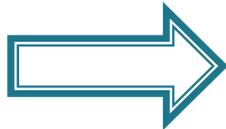
- ▶ the open source methodology:
 - (basic) gives the project source code to experiment with
 - offers an opportunity to
 - share source code for others to experiment with
 - experiment with others (open source) work (effect: utilises different kinds of competence)
 - invites people from outside the project to participate in the development
 - people from the library community
 - people from outside the library community: e.g. library users
 - *making your work accessible* for use

The open source catalog – KOHA

examples of extensions

www.koha.org

 Search
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Civic librarianship : renewing the social mission of the public library /

Normal View MARC View ISBD View

by [McCabe, Ronald B.](#)

Published by : [Scarecrow Press](#), (Lanham, Md. :)

Physical details: 173 p.:

ISBN: 0810839059

Subject(s): [Libraries and community --United States](#) | [Public Libraries --Social aspects --United States](#) | [Public Libraries --Aims and objectives --United States](#)

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The educational role

two perspectives

- ▶ the (extended) catalog
 - an extended catalog works better!
 - implements the librarian role as a digital guide to qualitative information
 - lets the users communicate with the catalog/library
- ▶ the laboratory approach/open source methodology



The educational role

Quote: "[...] free software offers a deeper benefit for education: the knowledge in free software is public, not secret. The sealed black box of proprietary software system is designed to keep people in the dark. With free software students [or librarians and users] can study the software they use, to learn how it works. They can write improvements to the software and thus learn the craft of software development"

▶ Richard Stallman