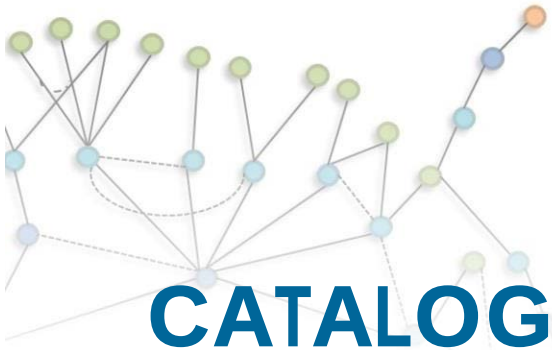
FSR, Rome, 27th February 2014



CATALOGUING FOR THE USERS: from catalogue objectives to bibliographic data

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Maja ŽUMER

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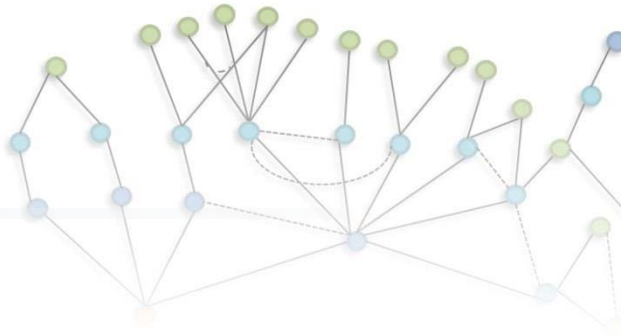
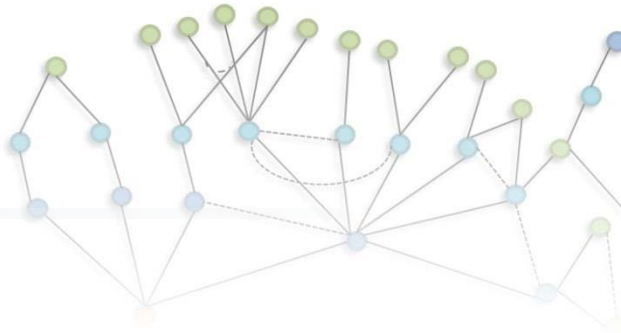
Transition



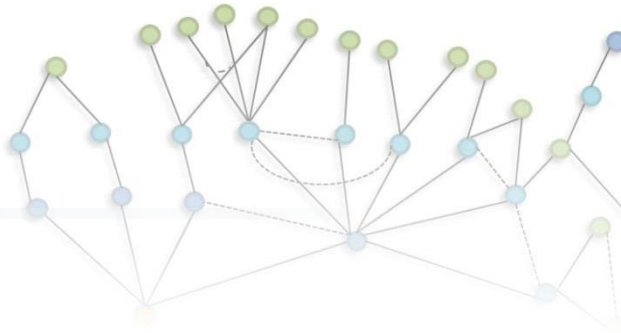
- new initiatives → an opportunity to set up a framework and infrastructure that could
  - ↳ enable more powerful retrieval and semantics
  - ↳ create more functional, informative, useful, technologically advanced catalogues
  - ↳ better meet users‘ needs

Transition



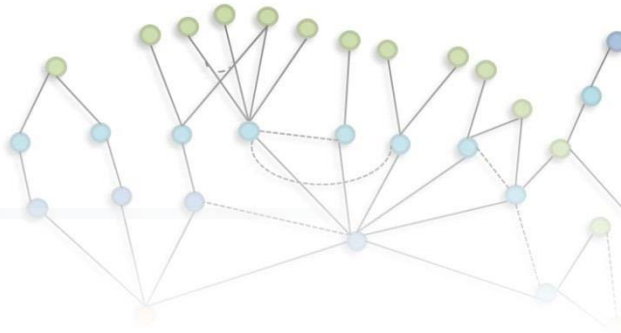
- important to understand the limitations and potential of the current format, cataloguing rules & practices
- derive from
  - … the objectives of the library catalogue
  - … the vision of user‘s interaction

Catalogue objectives



- help users find a known item
- give an overview of the library collection & support exploration and selection
  - editions of a work
  - works by an author, topic, or type of literature

Catalogue objectives

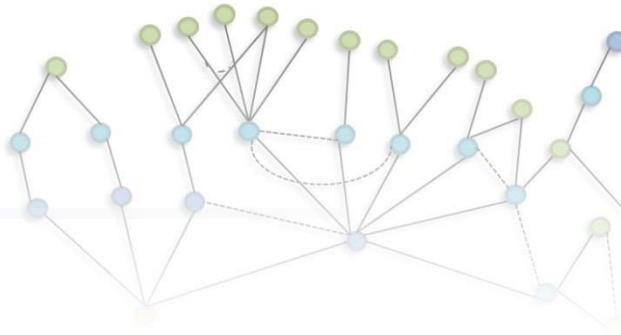


How well does it answer user‘s questions?

What questions should a catalogue be able to answer?

What kind of information and seeking behaviour should it support?

Catalogue boundaries



What works by Charles Dickens does the library hold?

Which is the most recent work (not edition) by Haruki Murakami?

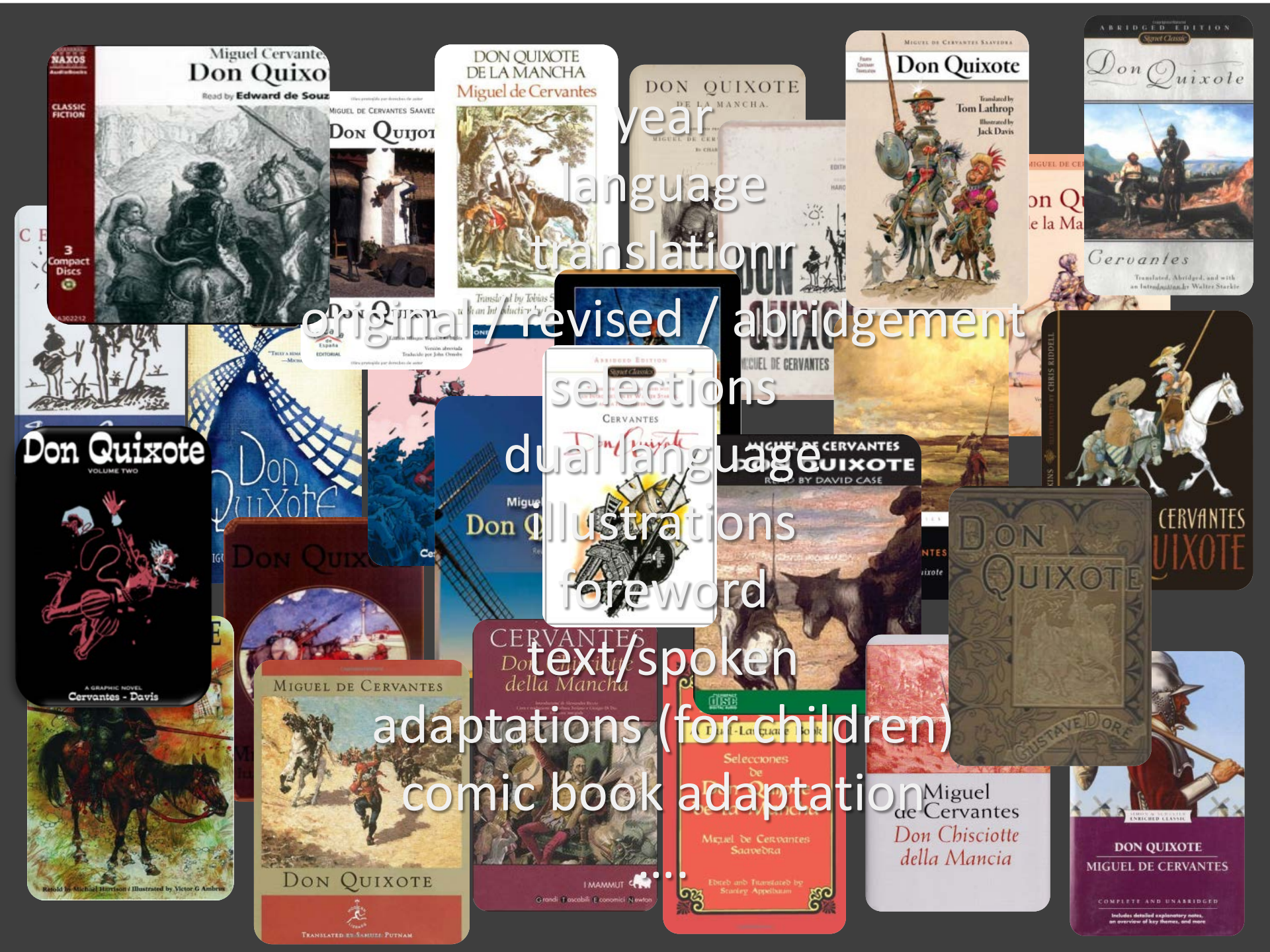
Which works in the library collection have been performed by and which composed by Vladimir Horowitz?

Which English translations of Iliad can I choose from?

Borrowing Pinocchio, whose illustrations can I choose from?

What novels have been written based on Pride and prejudice?

Which adaptations based on Don Quixote does the library hold?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adaptations (for children)
comic book adaptation
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Keyword search results for... search

don quixote cervantes

Sort by Relevance

Save Search

Available now...

available at any location (75)

More locations...

Format

- Books
- Audiobooks
- Movies & TV
- Music & Sound
- Journals and Magazines
- Accessible Formats

Date Acquired

Titles I can...

Content

Audience

Form/Genre

Topic

Region

Language

Published Date

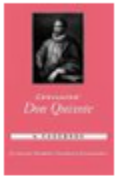
Rating

Tag - Genre

Author

Found 89 items 10 per page

Broaden your search »

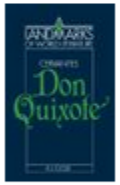


Cervantes' Don Quixote
A Casebook
(Book - 2005)
863 C41dZG6c
All copies in use. Availability details

Place a Hold
Add to My Shelves

Cervantes' Don Quixote
A Reference Guide
By Mancing, Howard
(Book - 2006)
863 C41dZM2c
Available in some locations

Place a Hold
Add to My Shelves



Miguel De Cervantes, Don Quixote
By Close, A. J.
(Book - 1990)
863 C41dZC6m
Available in some locations

Place a Hold
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Approaches to Teaching Cervantes' Don Quixote
(Book - 1984)
863 C41dZB62a
Available in some locations

Place a Hold
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The History and Adventures of the Renowned Don Quixote De La Mancha / Miguel De Cervantes ; Translated by Tobias Smollett ; Introduction

Place a Hold
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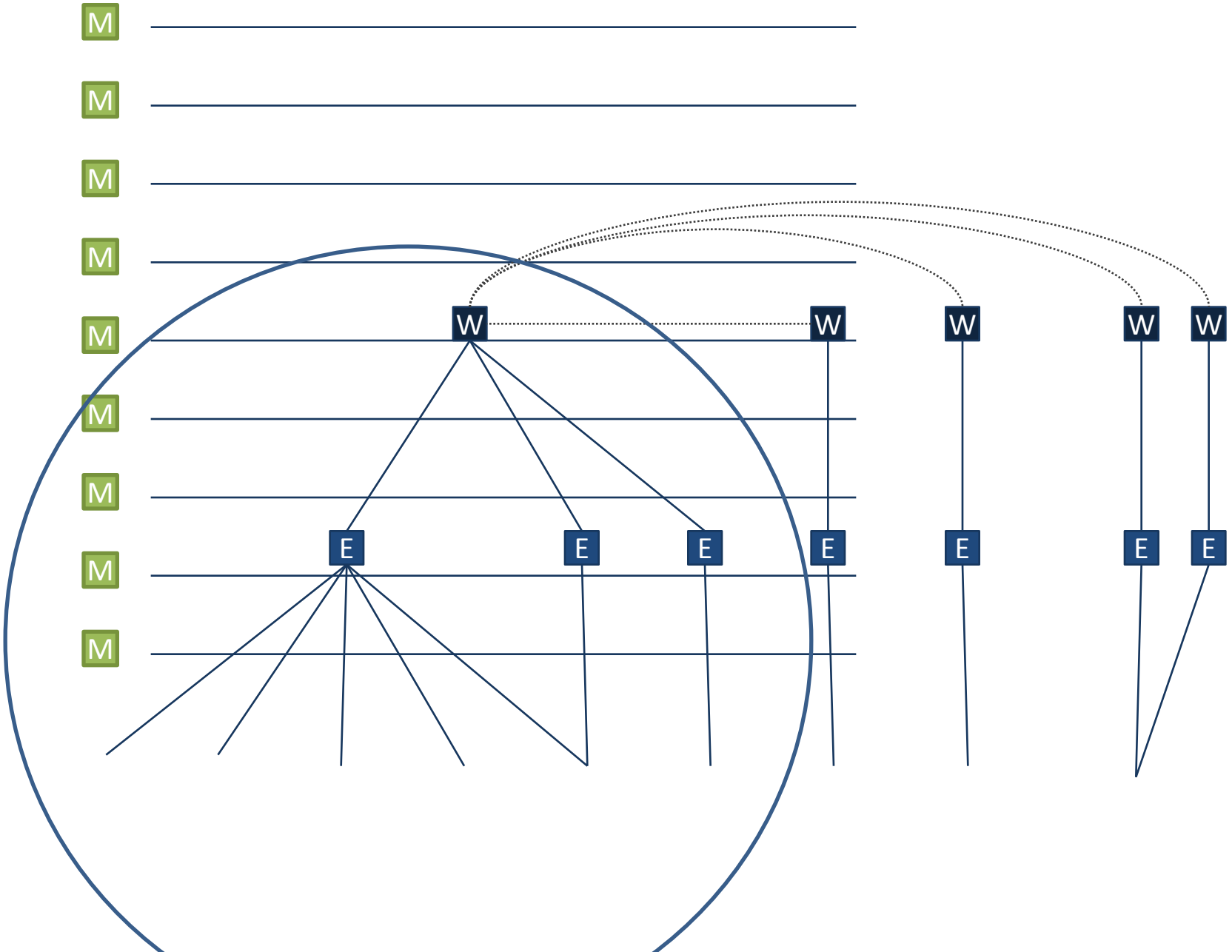
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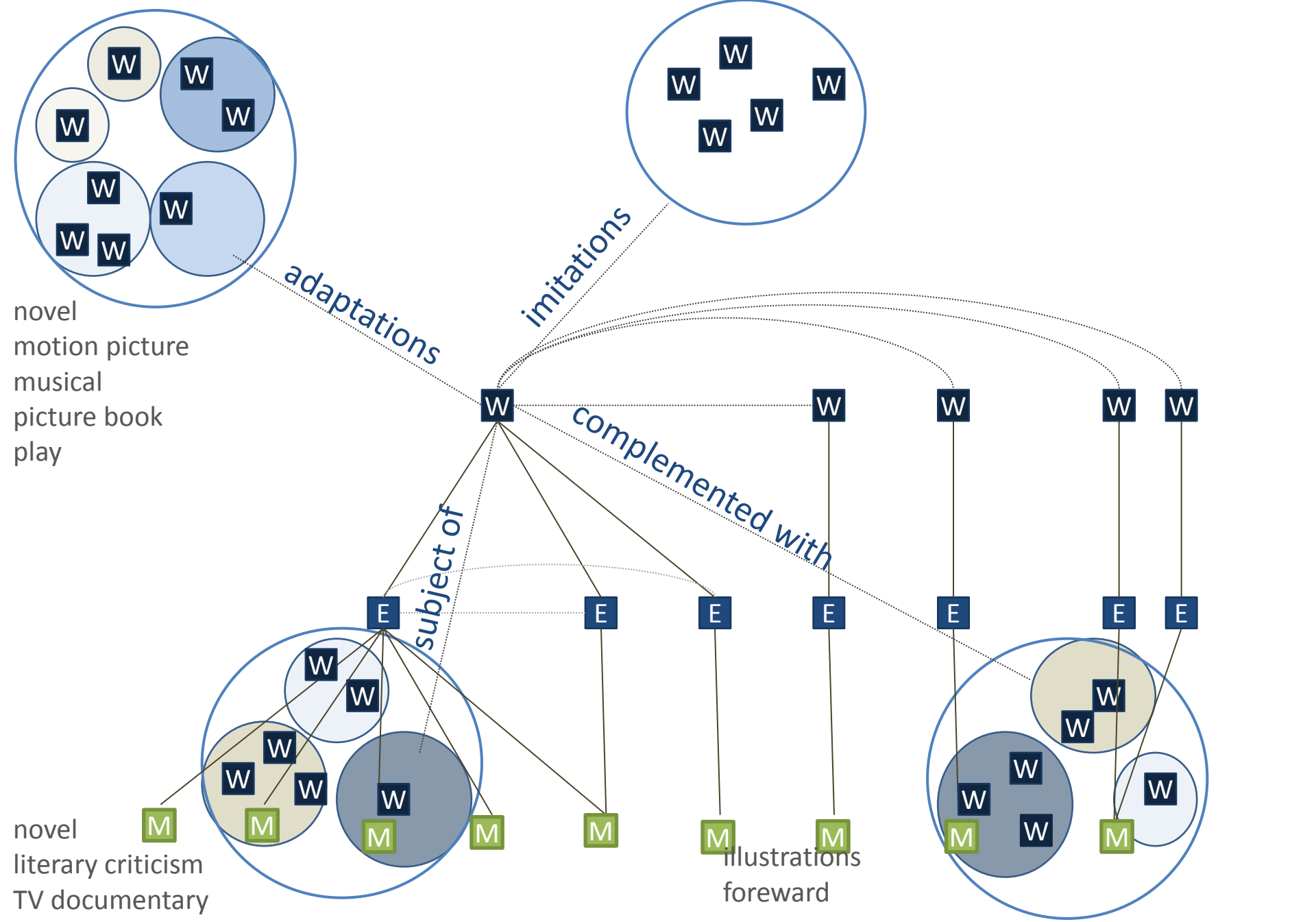
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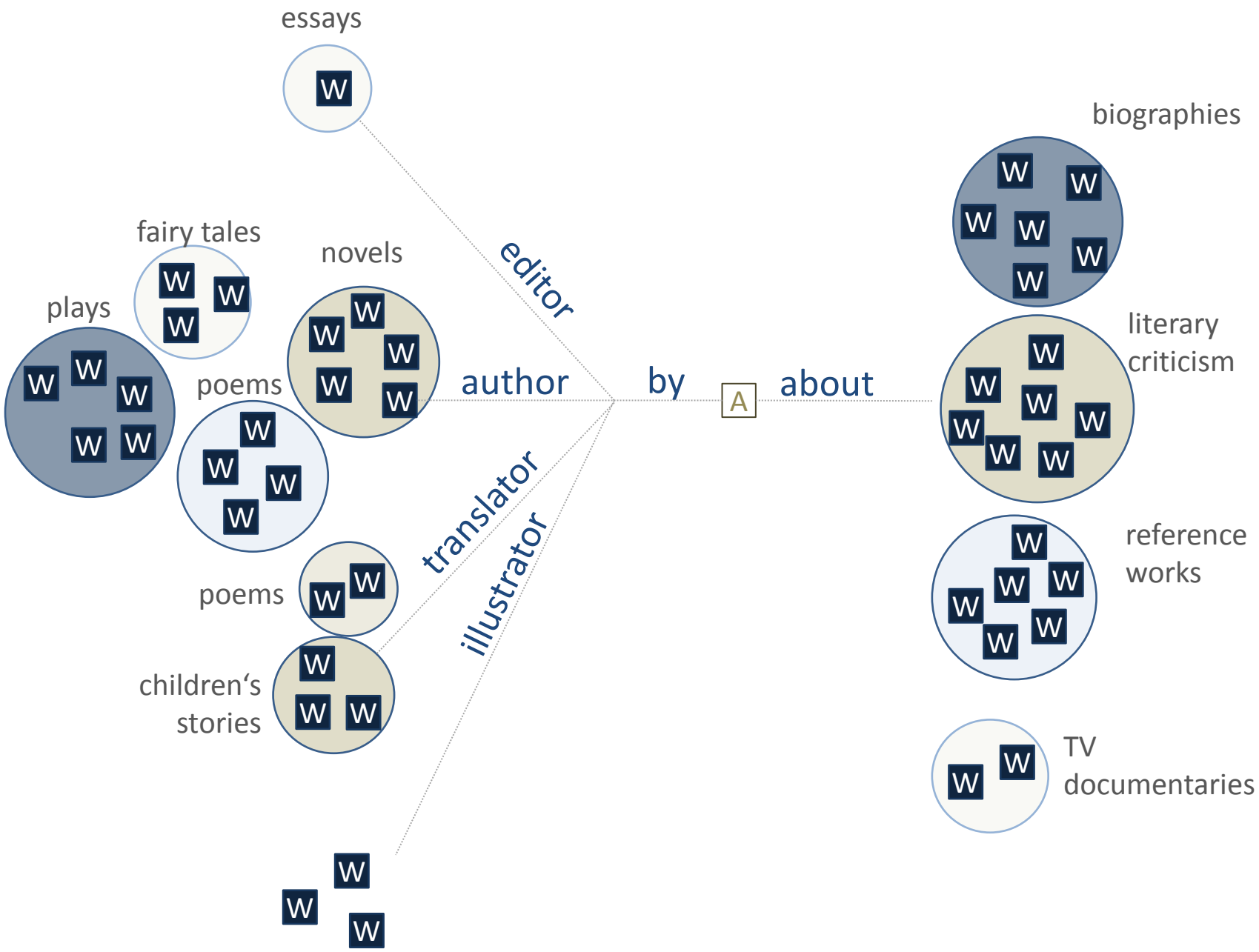
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reference works
illustrator
children's stories
TV documentaries

Catalogue boundaries

- users
  - … frustrated by the functionality of library catalogues
  - … shaped their expectations based on existing systems
  - … do not expect such questions to be answered by a catalogue
- Wikipedia as the resource for many of these questions

Is it not the role of the library to provide answers to such questions?

The user interface

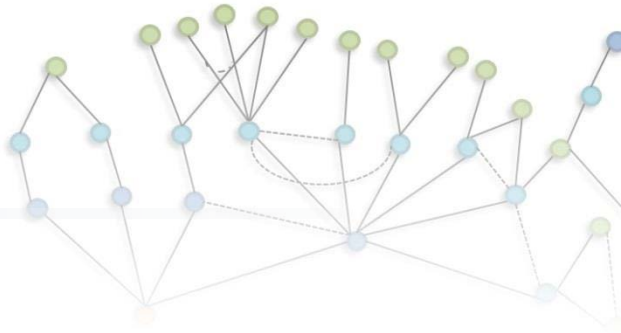
FRBR *(Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records)*

… framework that could enable users to get the answers

but

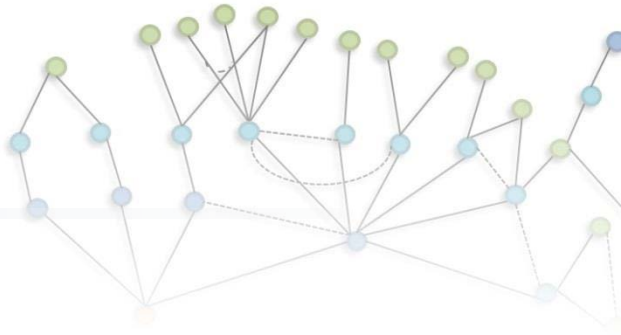
How to fully implement these concepts in a user interface?

The user interface



- forgotten (put aside) in the last decade
- divide between the ideas and the limitations of bibliographic data
- solutions to catalogue displays lie in changing the cataloguing practice

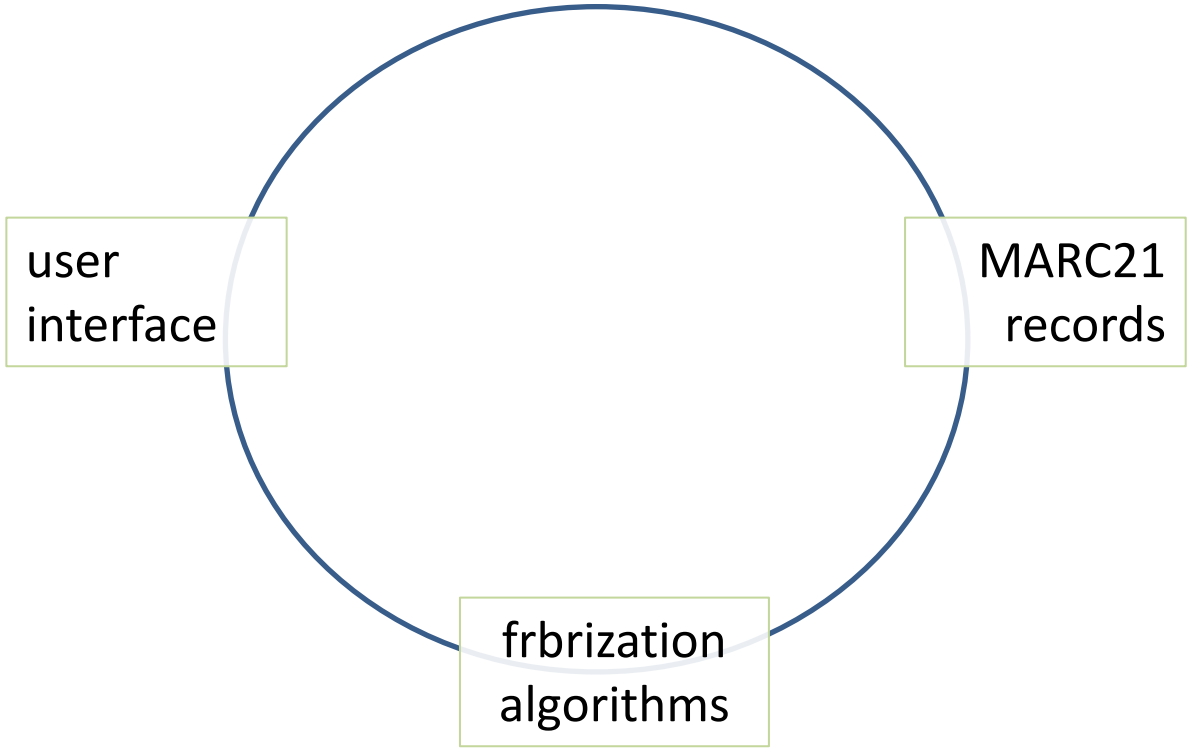
Experiment: FrbrVis prototype



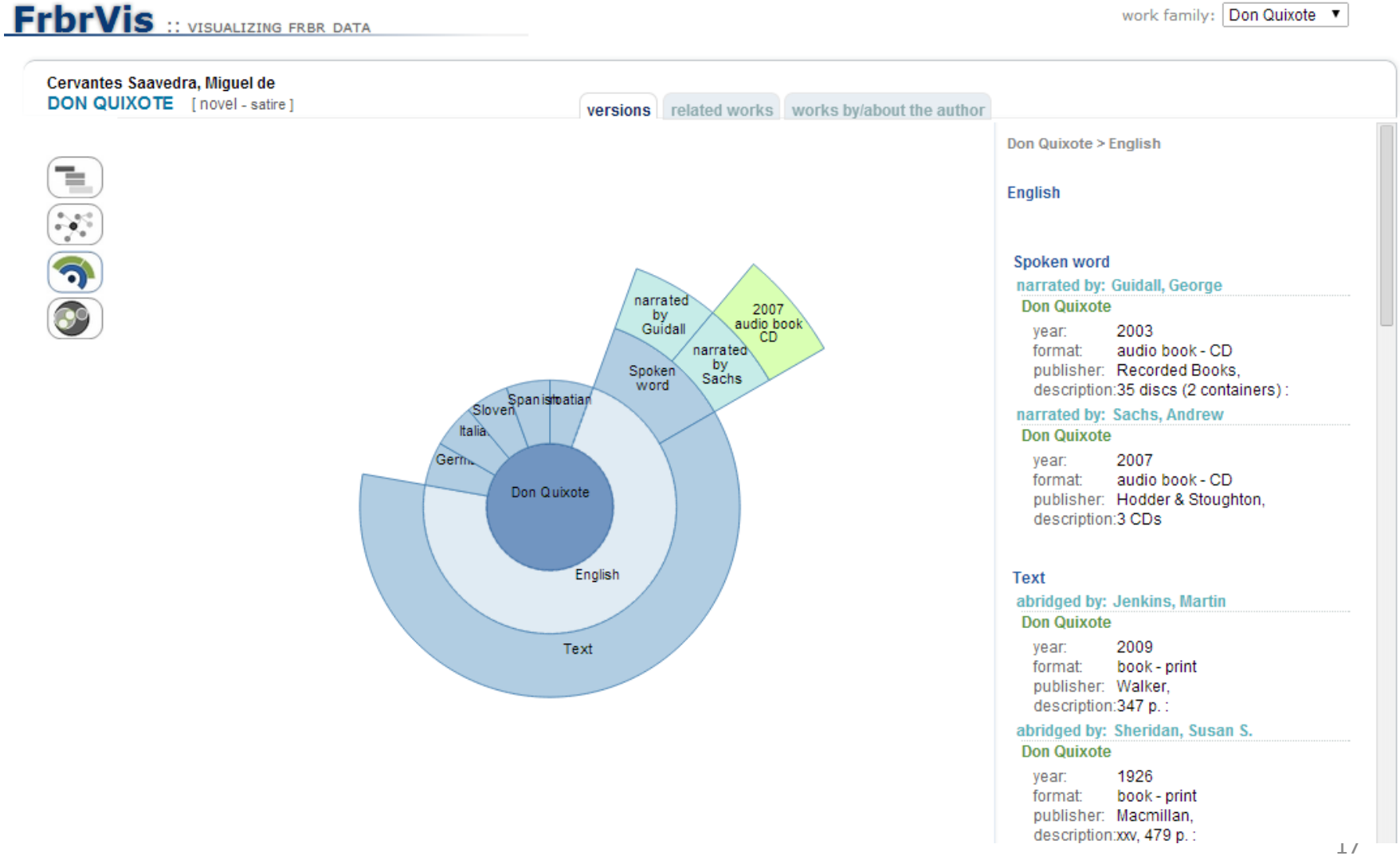
objective:

- bring together different versions and editions of a work
- display relationships within a broader work family
- provide a good overview of what is available, navigational infrastructure for exploration & information needed to distinguish between individual entities and relationships

FrbrVis prototype



FrbrVis prototype



FrbrVis prototype

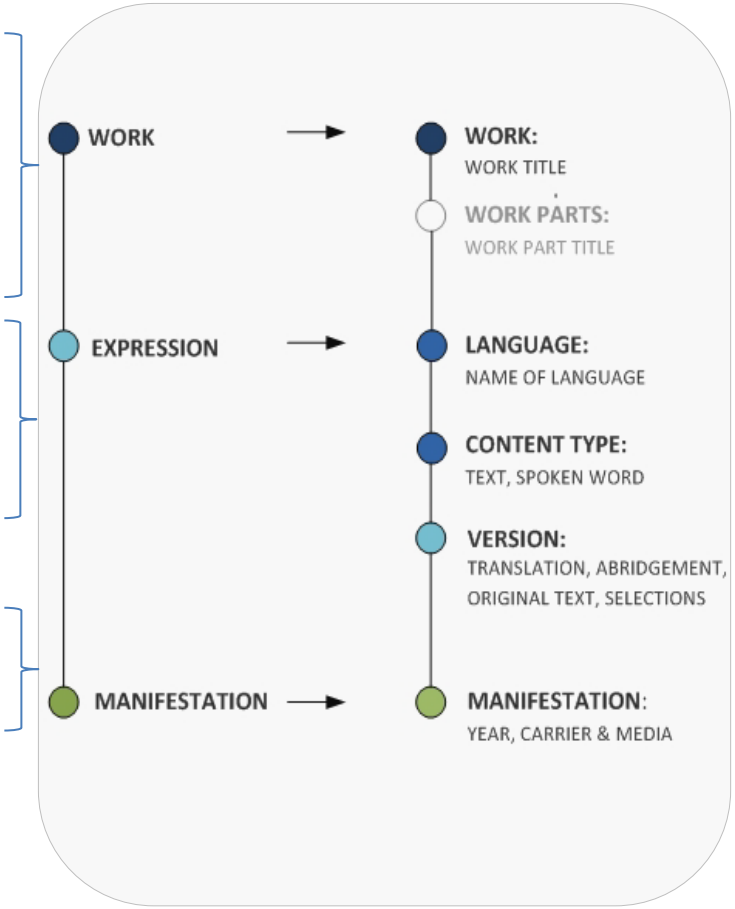
a) versions and editions of a work

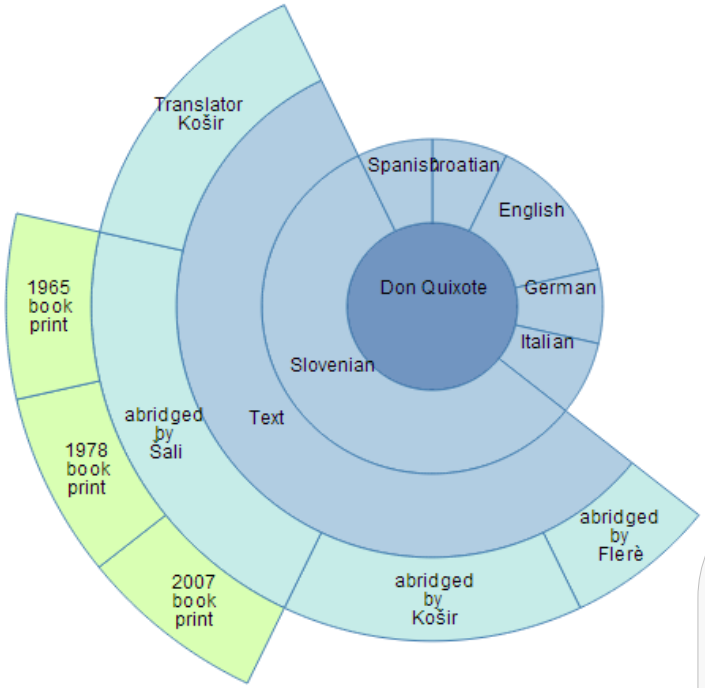
author relator code
preferred title
original language
form of work
genre

language of expression
content type
contrib. relator code

carrier type
media type

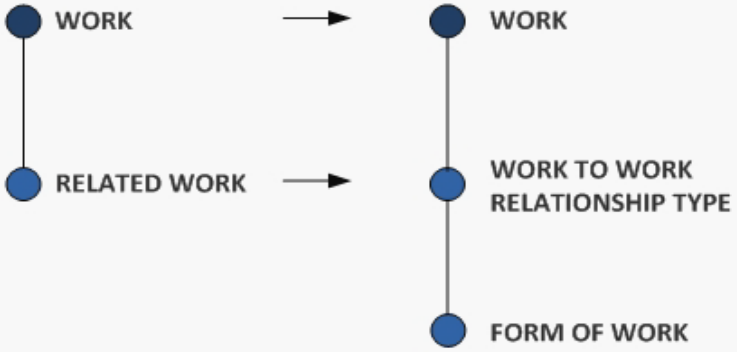
linking field

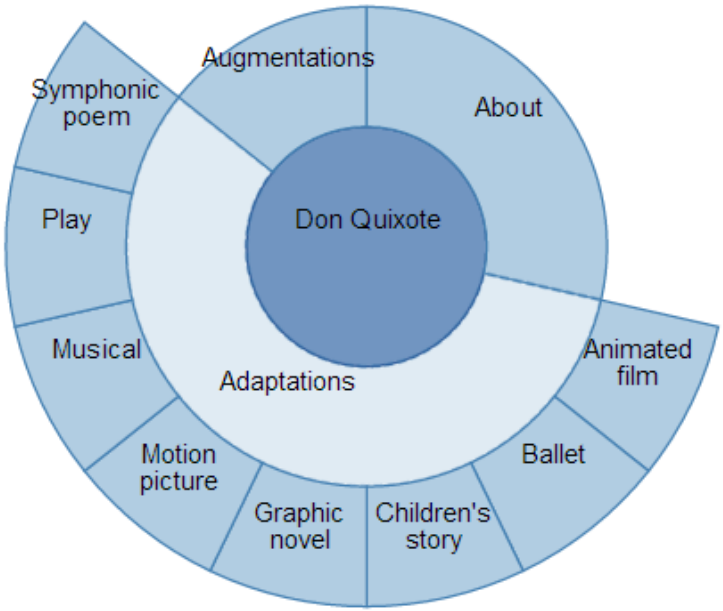




FrbrVis prototype

b) related works

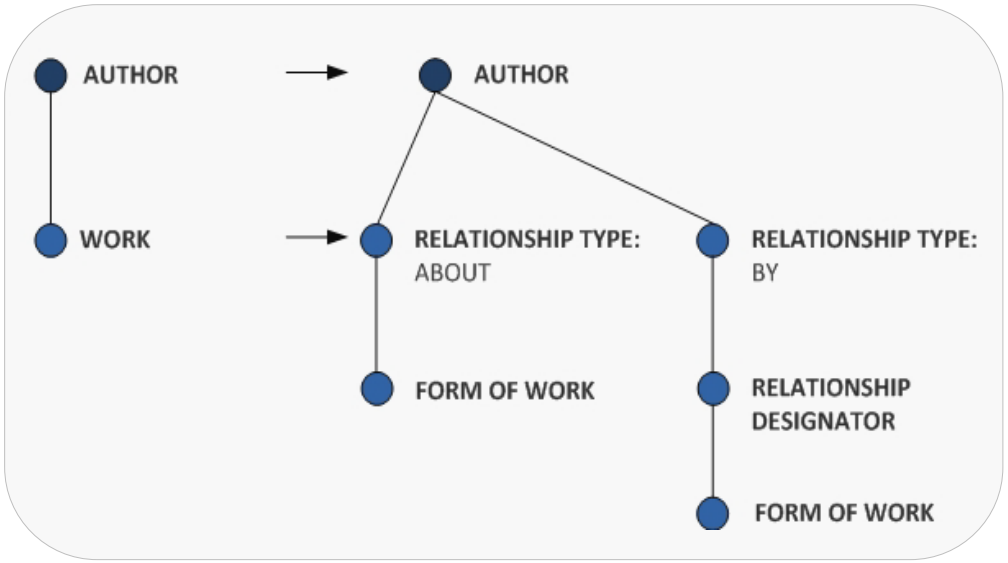




- analytical authorized access point
  rel. designator, creator, title, form of work
- subject added entry

FrbrVis prototype

c) works by/about the author



- clear identification of works
  preferred title, form of work, creator
- consistent use of relator codes

MARC & bibliographic records

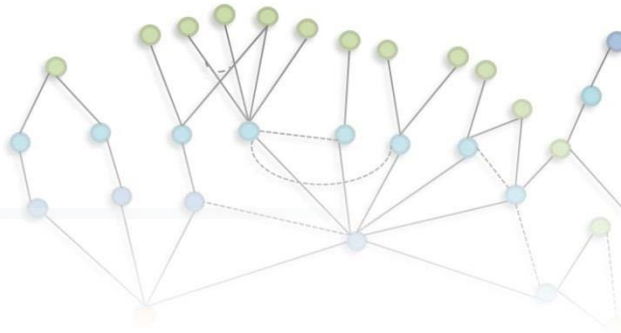
our experiment

… substantial amount of editing required

… not easy to transform current records to achieve the desired presentation due to missing & inconsistent data

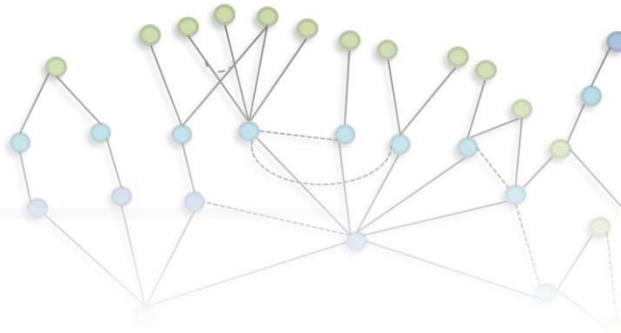
… needed: better specification of obligatory elements & vocabularies created with final output in mind

MARC & bibliographic records



- MARC will (eventually) be replaced
- a new format will not necessarily bring the needed changes
- important to understand which elements should be included in records to create the desired output

Future library catalogues



OBJECTIVES

What kind of questions need to be answered?
What should be offered to match/surpass other information sources?

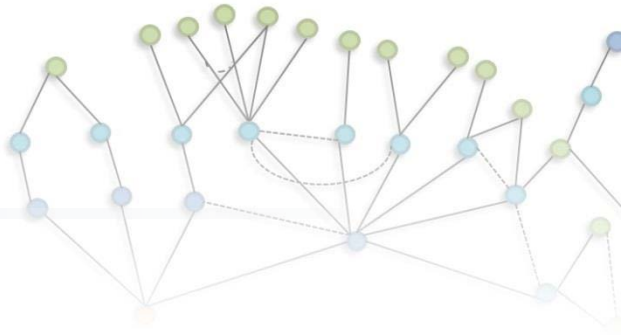
INTERFACE

How should the interface look like?
What functions/interaction should be supported?

DATA

What data is needed?
How should the data be encoded?

Future library catalogues



… MORE SPECIFIC

How will functions and data depend on the type of material?

How should entities be clustered?

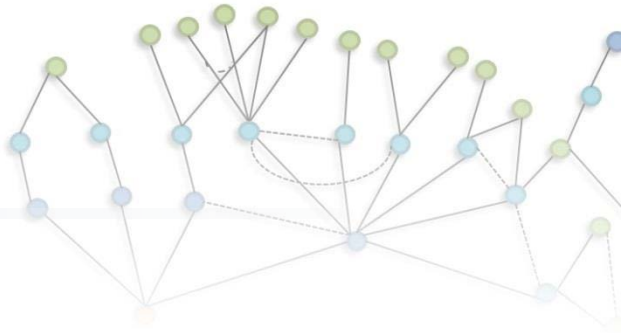
How do we deal with the varying complexity of works and authors?

Is there a one-size-fits-all solution?

What will be presented to the user at each point in their search?

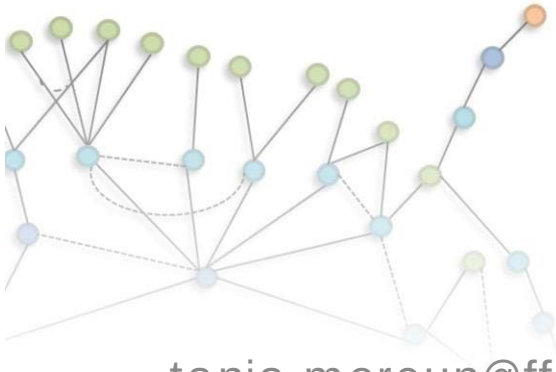
What kind of links-paths for exploration should be enabled at a particular point in the catalogue?

Future library catalogues



Cutter's advice (1876):

> "the best catalogue answers the most questions with the least amount of trouble to the asker"



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thank you