

# Opening up the BBC's data to the Web

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**We have tried this before..**

# Why has open data been hard for the BBC so far?

BBC Backstage:  
2005 – 2010


*“The problem is the data  
wasn’t ours...”*

Ian Forrester

[http://cubicgarden.com/  
2013/03/09/why-i-shut-  
down-bbc-backstage/](http://cubicgarden.com/2013/03/09/why-i-shut-down-bbc-backstage/)

## Backstage

Open Data and Resources from the BBC



### Backstage Retrospective

#### Hacking the BBC

BBC Backstage was a five year initiative to radically open up the BBC, publishing information and data feeds, connecting people both inside and outside the organisation, and building a developer community. The call was to "use our stuff to make your stuff" and people did, to the tune of over 500 prototypes.

This ebook is a snapshot of some of the projects and events that Backstage was involved with, and of the legacy that it leaves behind...

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### Continuing Projects

# Consuming open data



<http://musicbrainz.org/artist/859d0860-d480-4efd-970c-c05d5f1776b8>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/music/artists/859d0860-d480-4efd-970c-c05d5f1776b8>

A screenshot of the BBC Music website. At the top is the BBC logo and navigation links for "Sign in", "News", "Sport", "Weather", and "iPlayer". Below this is a "MUSIC" header with sub-links for "HOME", "SHOWCASE", and "GENRES". The main content area features the name "Beyoncé" in large white text, followed by her birth date "Born 4 September 1981." and her full name "Beyoncé Knowles-Carter". Below the text is a video player showing Beyoncé performing on stage in a gold sequined outfit. The video player includes a "BBC RADIO 6" logo in the top left and a play button in the bottom left.

# Consuming open data



The screenshot shows the BBC Weather website for Shoreditch. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the BBC logo, a 'Sign in' button, and links for 'News', 'Sport', and 'Weather'. Below this, the main heading reads 'WEATHER SHOREDITCH' with a sub-heading 'Last updated 11:40'. The weather forecast is presented in four columns for the days Tuesday through Friday. Each column includes a weather icon, the day's name, the high and low temperatures, and a circular icon with a number and an arrow indicating the number of hours of daylight.

Day	Weather	High	Low	Daylight
Tue	Partly Sunny	18°C	11°C	8h
Wed	Cloudy	19°C	10°C	11h
Thu	Cloudy	18°C	7°C	8h
Fri	Partly Sunny	12°C	5°C	7h



[www.geonames.org/2637918](http://www.geonames.org/2637918)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/2637918>



# “Trust is the foundation of the BBC”

**BBC** Sign in News Sport Weather iPlayer TV Radio More...

## NATURE WILDLIFE

Home | News | Features | Video collections | **Wildlife** | Prehistoric life | Places | Contact

Life > Animals > Mammals > Stoat

### Stoat

Stoats are completely white in winter, except for the black tips of their tails. Those that inhabit northern Britain are more likely to turn completely white than their southern counterparts.

Stoats are skilful **predators**, typically feeding on **rabbits** and small **rodents**. They hunt in a zigzag pattern, making use of features such as walls and hedgerows to provide cover, and to help them avoid detection by **owls**, larger **carnivores** and **hawks**.

With so many predators themselves, the average stoat lives a short life of just 1.5 years.

Scientific name: *Mustela erminea*  
Rank: **Species**



# Next Steps

**BBC** Sign in News Sport Weather iPlayer TV Radio More... Search

## SPORT FOOTBALL

Home Football Formula 1 Cricket Rugby U Rugby L Tennis Golf More Sport

All Teams Liverpool Results Fixtures Live Scores All Teams Leagues & Competitions

### Liverpool

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#### Headlines

- Suarez to stay despite bite fine
- Suarez apologises for Ivanovic bite
- Liverpool 2-2 Chelsea
- Rodgers welcomes Cardiff promotion
- Benitez focused for Anfield return
- Carrick on Player of the Year list
- Hillsborough justice campaigner dies
- New rules 'could end Carroll deal'
- Carroll open to staying at West Ham
- Rodgers hails 'integrated' McCarthy

#### Latest Football

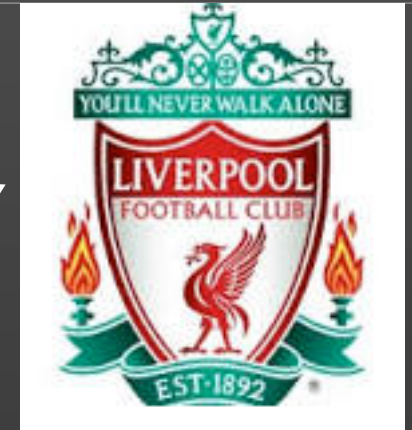
PREVIOUS RESULTS	UPCOMING FIXTURES
SAT 27 APR 2013 - PREMIER LEAGUE <b>Newcastle</b> v <b>Liverpool</b> 17:30	SUN 5 MAY 2013 - PREMIER LEAGUE <b>Liverpool</b> v <b>Everton</b> 13:30
SUN 12 MAY 2013 - PREMIER LEAGUE <b>Fulham</b> v <b>Liverpool</b> 15:00	SUN 19 MAY 2013 - PREMIER LEAGUE <b>Liverpool</b> v <b>QPR</b> 16:00
All times UK	<a href="#">View all fixtures</a>

#### Last Match

Sun 21 April 2013  
PREMIER LEAGUE

#### Next Match

Sat 27 April 2013  
PREMIER LEAGUE



:about

a sport:SportingOrganisation

:officialHomepage

<<http://www.liverpoolfc.tv/>>



# Linking our content together

NEWS

Sections

THIS PAGE IS DRIVEN BY LINKED DATA [FIND OUT MORE](#)

## Birmingham & Black Country

### Arrest in pirate radio station raid

6 hours ago



A man is arrested in a raid on the base of a pirate radio station in Wolverhampton.



### Strike over sacked college lecturers

9 hours ago

A one-day strike is being held at a college for 16-18 year olds over the sacking of four lecturers.



### 'No one else sought' over deaths

13 February 2013

Officers are not looking for anyone else in connection with the deaths of a 95-year-old woman and her daughter in Birmingham.



### Man jailed over M5 fatal coach crash



### Schools closed following snowfall

11 February 2013

Several schools across Birmingham and the Black Country close on Monday with ice forecast overnight.

## Sport



### WBA youngster joins Colchester

1 hour ago

Colchester United sign Premier League West Brom's 18-year-old defender Bradley Garmston on a one-month youth loan.



### Paladini still keen on Blues deal

4 hours ago

Gianni Paladini says he is 'still interested' in buying Birmingham City, despite reports his consortium have pulled out.



### Approach made for Birmingham City

5 hours ago

Birmingham are approached by a sports management company representing a consortium interested in buying the club.

Sections



# Publishing stories

The screenshot shows the top of a BBC News page. The navigation bar includes 'BBC', 'Sign In', and categories like 'News', 'Sport', 'Weather', 'iPlayer', 'TV', and 'Radio'. Below this, the main navigation bar lists 'NEWS BUSINESS' and various regional and topic-based links. The article's date is '22 April 2013' and it was last updated at '10:21'. The main headline is 'Google boss defends UK tax record to BBC'. The sub-headline reads: 'Google's executive chairman, Eric Schmidt, has defended his company paying just £6m in UK corporation tax.' The article text continues: 'His comments came after a committee of MPs last year denounced multinationals - including Google - who pay little tax on their UK earnings, as "immoral". In an interview to be broadcast on The World at One on BBC Radio 4, Mr Schmidt said his firm invested heavily in the UK and its services boost the economy.' A photo of Eric Schmidt is shown with a caption: 'Mr Schmidt said that Google's behaviour in the UK was no different than many British firms' in the US'. A 'Related Stories' section is partially visible at the bottom.



:about

a news:Person  
:prefLabel "Eric Schmidt"  
:sameAs <wikidataID>



:about

a news:Organisation  
:prefLabel "Google"  
:sameAs <wikidataID>



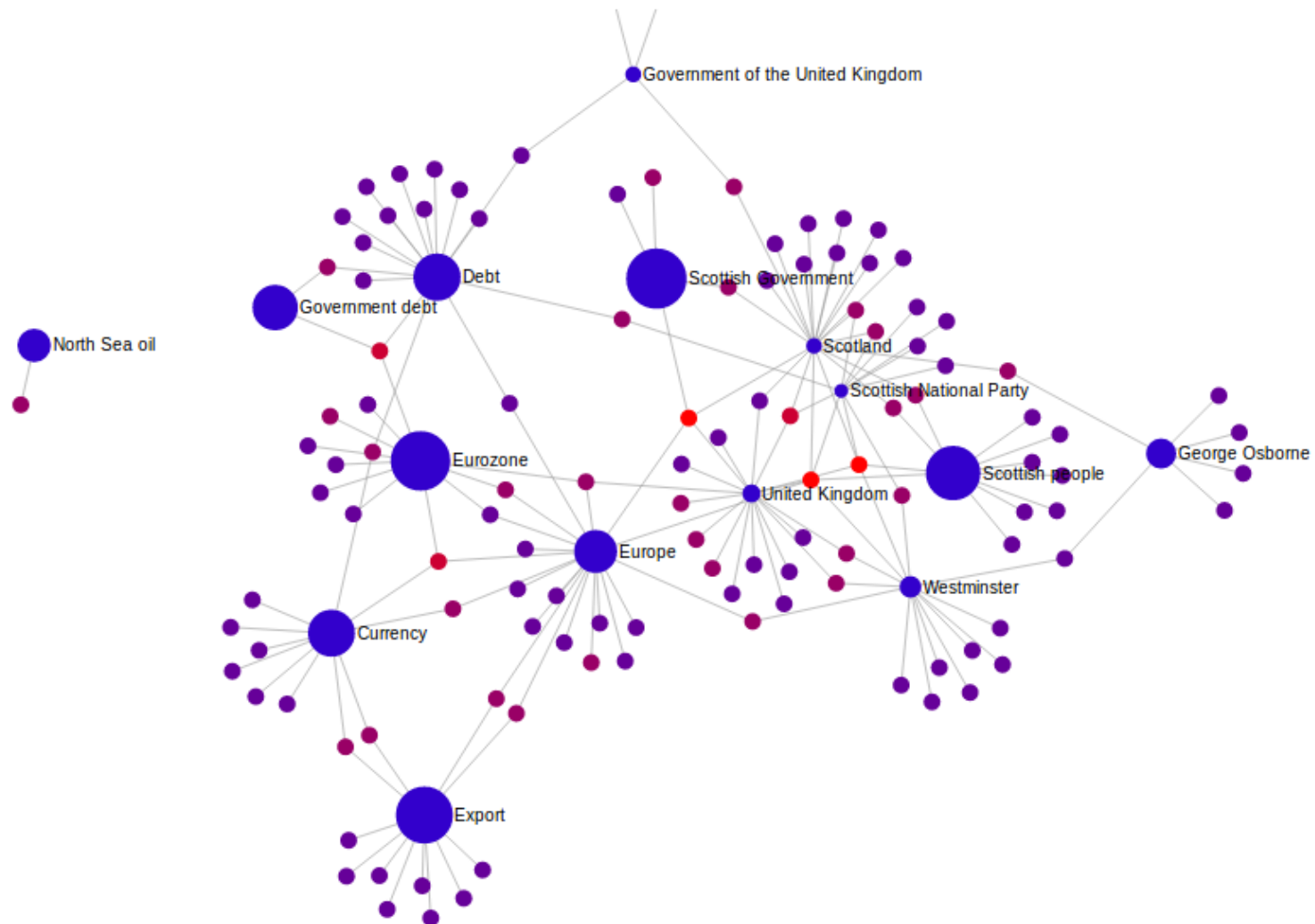
:about

# WORLD SERVICE RADIO ARCHIVE PROTOTYPE

Search e.g. From Our Own Correspondent



[About](#) | [Feedback](#)



# Challenges

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We have the responsibility of opening up our linked data

1. What are the drivers for opening up our linked datasets?
2. How do we select good quality datasets?
3. How do we measure the success?

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# Thank you

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