



**ifis**

Institut für Informationssysteme  
Technische Universität Braunschweig

# **Are Qualifiers Enough? Context-Compatible Information Fusion for Wikimedia Data**

@WikiWorkshop2023

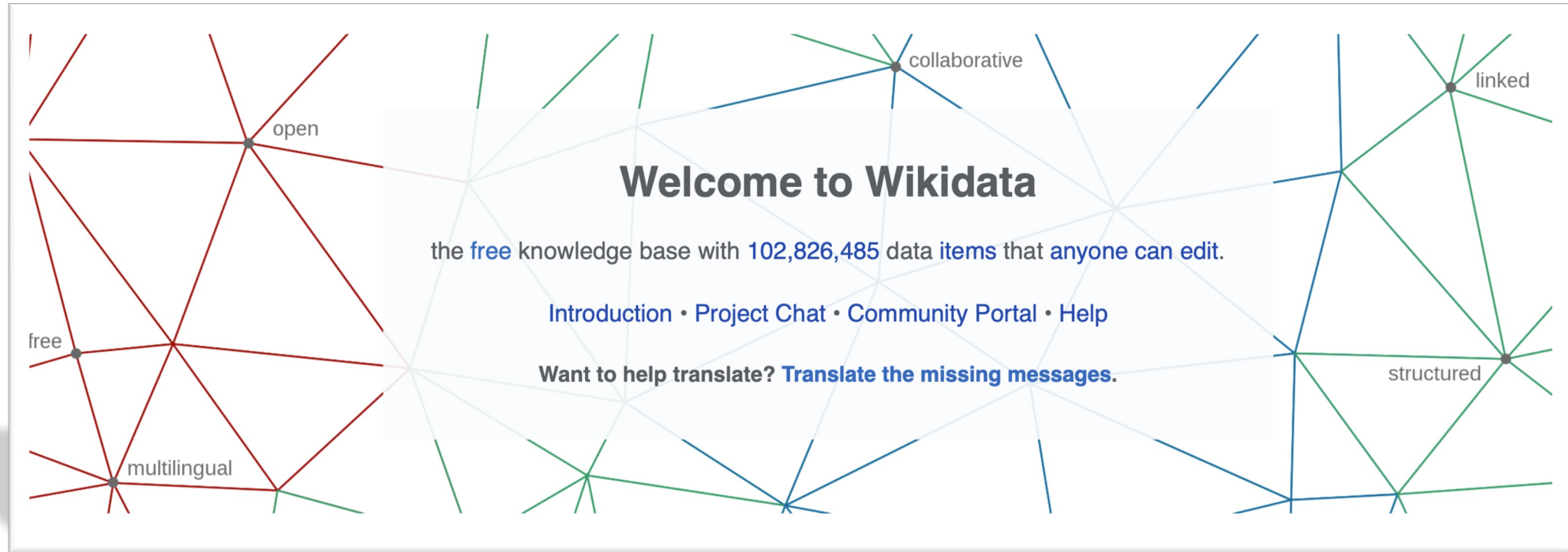
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Institute for Information Systems  
TU Braunschweig, Germany





# Wikidata



## Knowledge Base

free

linked

open

collaborative

structured

multilingual





# Wikidata Items

## Earth (Q2)

third planet from the Sun in the Solar System

Planet Earth | the Earth | World | the World | Gaia | Terra | the globe | Sol III

▼ In more languages

[Configure](#)

Language	Label	Description	Also known as
English	Earth	third planet from the Sun in the Solar System	Planet Earth the Earth World the World

## Statements

instance of



terrestrial planet

▼ 0 references



inner planet of the Solar System

▼ 0 references



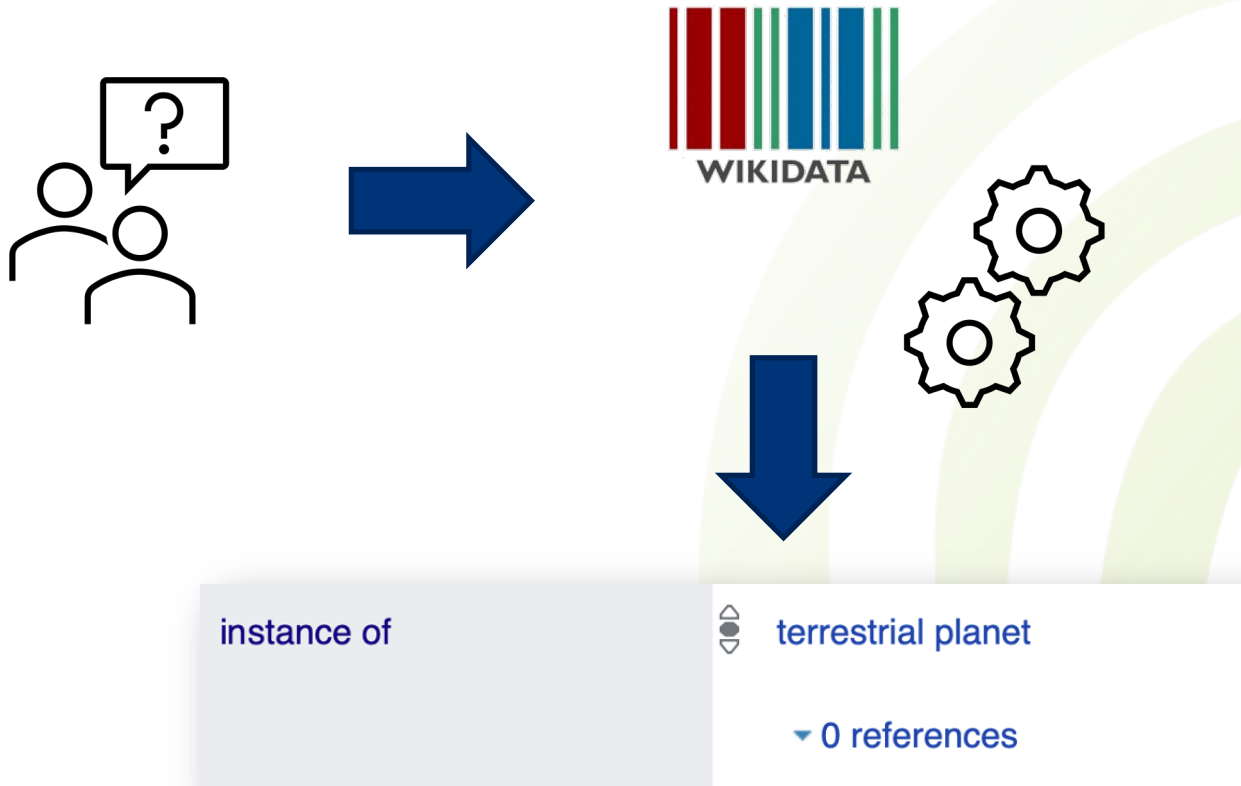
geographic region

▼ 0 references



# Automatic Usage of Wikidata

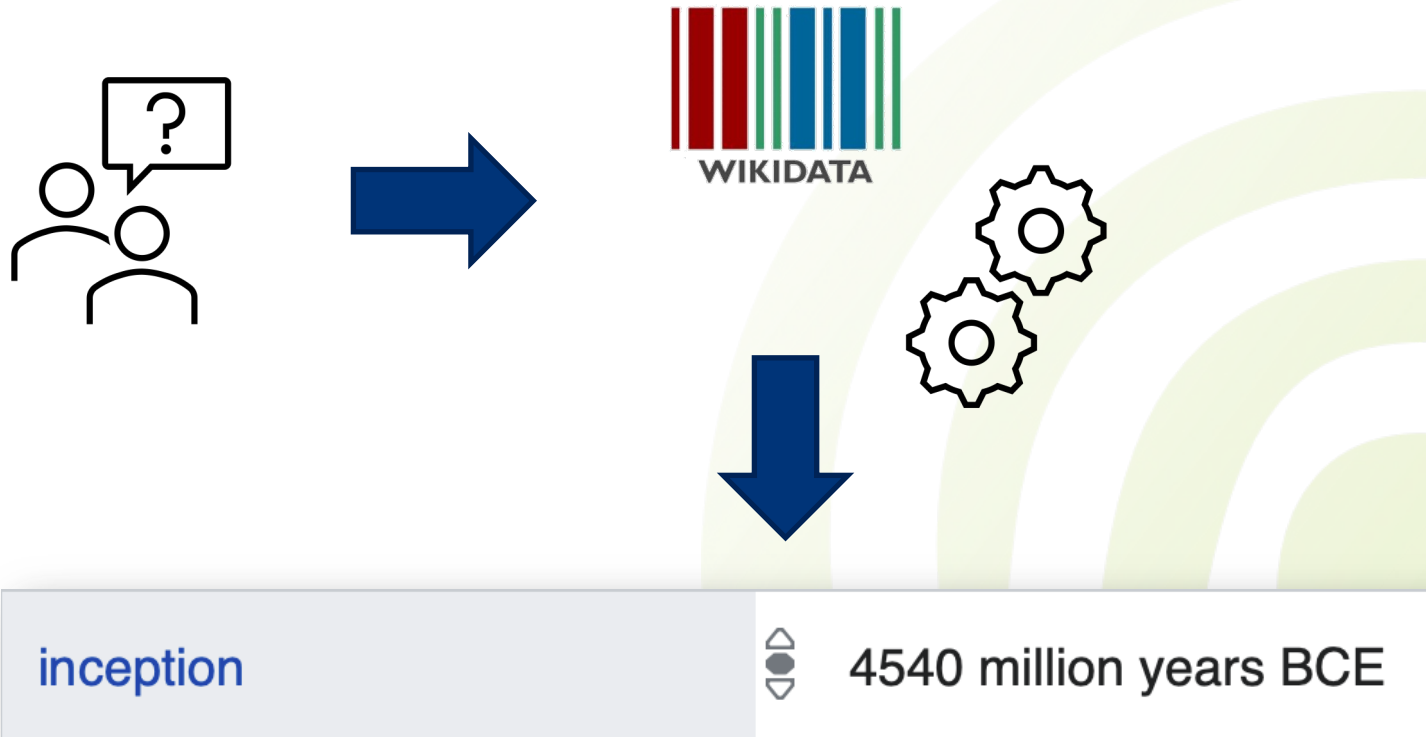
- We may ask questions through **SPARQL**
  - Hey Wikidata, what is the earth?





# Automatic Usage of Wikidata

- We may ask questions through **SPARQL**
  - Hey Wikidata, how old is the earth?





# Qualifiers

inception



4540 million years BCE



inception



4540 million years BCE

determination method

statement is subject of

statement disputed by

lead-lead dating

age of the Earth

Young Earth creationism

▼ 1 reference

stated in

The age of the Earth in the  
twentieth century: a problem  
(mostly) solved



# Automatic Usage of Wikidata

- What was the population of Leningrad?

**Saint Petersburg** (Q656)

federal city in and former capital of Russia  
St. Petersburg | Petrograd | Leningrad | Petersburg | Sankt-Peterburg | St Petersburg

[In more languages](#)  
Configure

Language	Label	Description
English	Saint Petersburg	federal city in and former capital of Russia



**official name**

Leningrad (German)

[start time](#) 26 January 1924 *Gregorian*

[end time](#) 5 September 1991

[0 references](#)

**population**

960,000±1,000 [point in time](#) 1922

[0 references](#)

1,093,000±1,000 [point in time](#) 1923

[0 references](#)

1,221,000±1,000 [point in time](#) 1924

[0 references](#)





# Context-Compatible Information Fusion

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1,093,000

[point in time](#) 1923

[0 references](#)

1,221,000 ± 1,000

[point in time](#) 1924

[0 references](#)







# Context-Compatible Information Fusion

- Every **statement** is only valid in its **context**
  - **Some** statements might be **valid in general** (e.g., birth dates)
- **Context-compatible** information fusion combines only statements that are **valid in compatible contexts**

official name	
	Leningrad (German)
start time	26 January 1924 <i>Gregorian</i>
end time	5 September 1991
	▼ 0 references



population	
	960,000±1,000
point in time	1922
	▼ 0 references
	1,093,000±1,000
point in time	1923
	▼ 0 references
	1,221,000±1,000
point in time	1924
	▼ 0 references





# Explicit and Implicit Contexts

- **Explicit context** model every relevant condition:

- Qualifiers like point in time, location, determination method, etc.
- But we require **rules** to **automatically** utilize them

population	960,000±1,000	1922
	point in time	
	▼ 0 references	
	1,093,000±1,000	1923
	point in time	
	▼ 0 references	
	1,221,000±1,000	1924
	point in time	
	▼ 0 references	

- We introduced **implicit contexts**

- A written narrative (e.g., scientific article) usually includes all relevant context conditions





# Conclusion

- Are **qualifiers** in Wikidata **enough** for a reliable **context-compatible** information fusion?
- The answer is open...
  - Geo-spatial/temporal contexts might work with qualifiers
  - However, what about **viewpoints, assertions, beliefs and negations**?





# Thank You!



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