

Data Journalism in RAI

Authors

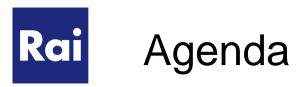
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RAI – Radiotelevisione Italiana Centre for Research and Technological Innovation RAI Digital

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- Definitions
- Best practises
- Our approach
- The data team
- Tools & architectures
- Some preliminary results
- Development ideas
- Conclusions



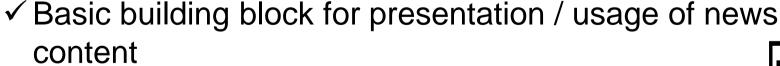


Role of Data in Journalism

- ✓ as origin of the news and of related content
 - ✓ (data driven journalism)



- ✓ <u>as accurate and verifiable description</u> of inherent semantic aspects
 - √ (precision journalism)



√ (visual journalism)





- Extracting sense out of data to create newsworthy stories
- This implies
 - Having data
 - Analysing data
 - Identifying "sense", or "sense the news"
 - Presenting data





Data Driven Journalism some insight



Data Harvesting

Which data?
Which formats?
Which time window?



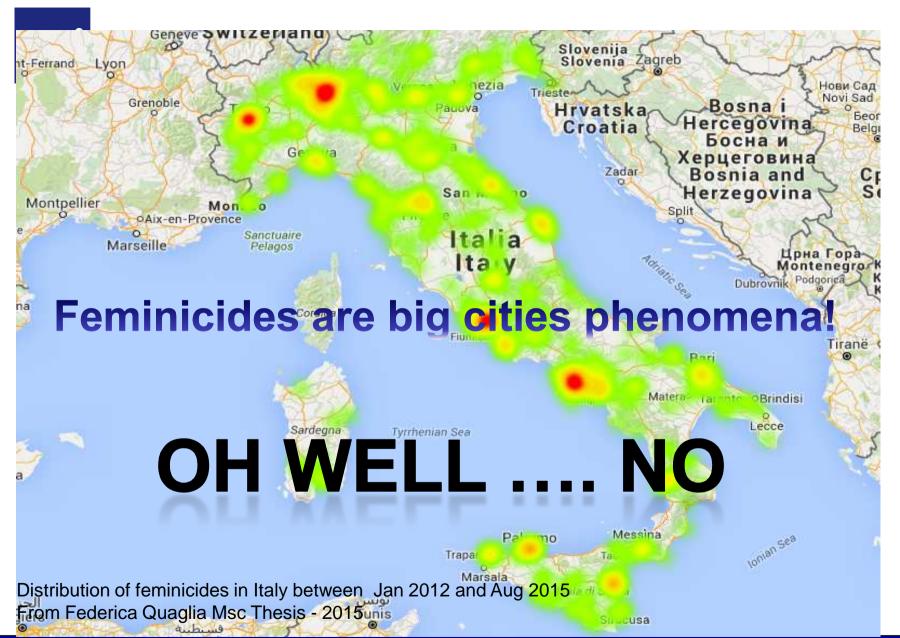
Data Analysis: Content Analysis Semantic Analysis Statistic Analysis

Data Classification:
Ontologies
Automated categorisation

Team Collaboration

Editorial Process

Detecting the Story Modelling the Story Developing the Story Platform Adaptation Second Screen Interactivity





Best practises



The New York Times





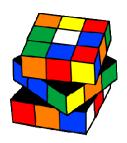




Editorial objectives	Production & org. approach
Wanting a 100% digital product	Huge investments in integrated tech. resources
Data Journalism as a public service	Visual Journalism and ad hoc apps
Continuous improvement of product quality	Perfectly integratesd desks (journalists & techies)
Data as source for narration	Notable technical competence of journalists
Open Source and Open Data Journalism	Crowdsourcing as a resource
Investigative Journalism through data	International collaborations for data exchange
Expanding scope from local to international	Experimental editorial techniques



Our Approach



- RAI wants to foster an approach at Data Journalism orientated to
 - Increase information trustworthiness, based on harvested, analysed and verifiable data
 - Improve user experience through visual presentation of data
 - Obtain more and more "full digital" products exploitable on a variety of platforms
- Use a combination of the main features from the best practise



Objectives

 Identify the most appropriate practises and approaches at Data Journalism among the many available





 Define a workflow model for the editorial staffs, identifying organisational impacts

Design and implement a toolbox and an integrated platform supporting the workflow





Architectural Overview

«Data Team»









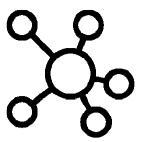
The Data Team



- A group of people with multidisciplinary skills
 - Journalistic skills
 - Technology skills
- Agile interaction towards the objectives
 - Technical members support journalists in finding / harvesting /processing data
 - Journalists set the editorial line, develop the story, assess data relevance
- Result is that
 - Efficiency is increased due to sinergy and delegation
 - Cross-semination gives birth to unexpected explorations



Modelling the Story

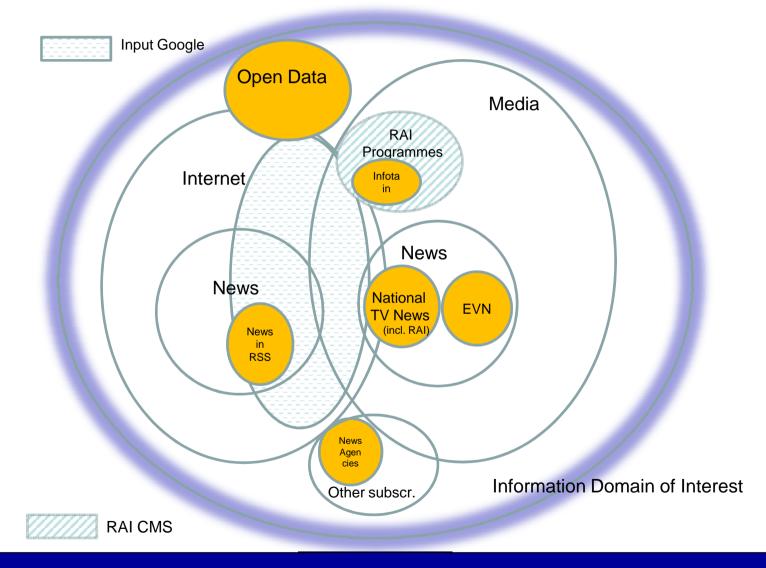


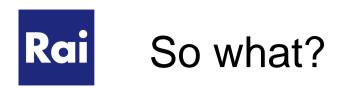


https://webbrain.com/brainpage/brain/434E72FE-3EED-7B13-2F44-561D8F294F28



Which Information Sources?



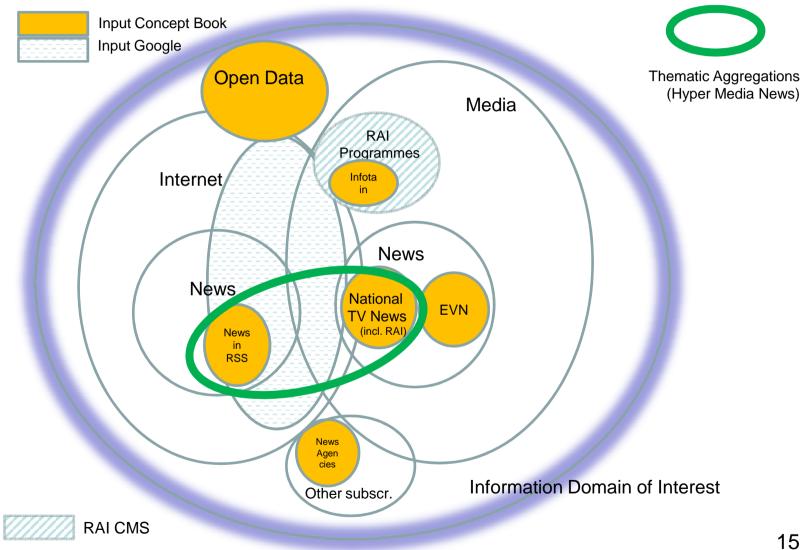


- No one alone covers everything is needed for data journalism
 - Neither Google
- We need a wider approach than simply "search on the web"
- Solution:
 - Integrated and flexible search and analysis of heterogeneous sources at enterprise level

= RAI Concept Book



Which Information Sources?

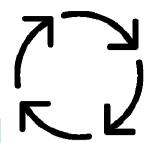




- Rai Concept Book is a portal for professional information services that addresses DDJ tasks with a uniform and holistic approach
- Artificial intelligence and advanced statistical tools are used to automate tasks such as information extraction and multimedia content analysis
- The system allows to define customized search profiles that are automatically and dynamically updated with the relevant contents found in the monitored information sources



Processing Pipeline



1. Ingest

- RSS feeds
- Blogs
- DTT streams
- EBU Eurovision News
- Rai Archives
- News Agencies
- Open Data

2. Process

- Speech to Text
- Natural Language Processing
- Document Classification
- Named Entity Recognition

3. Understand

- News aggregation
- Topic identification
- Data warehousing

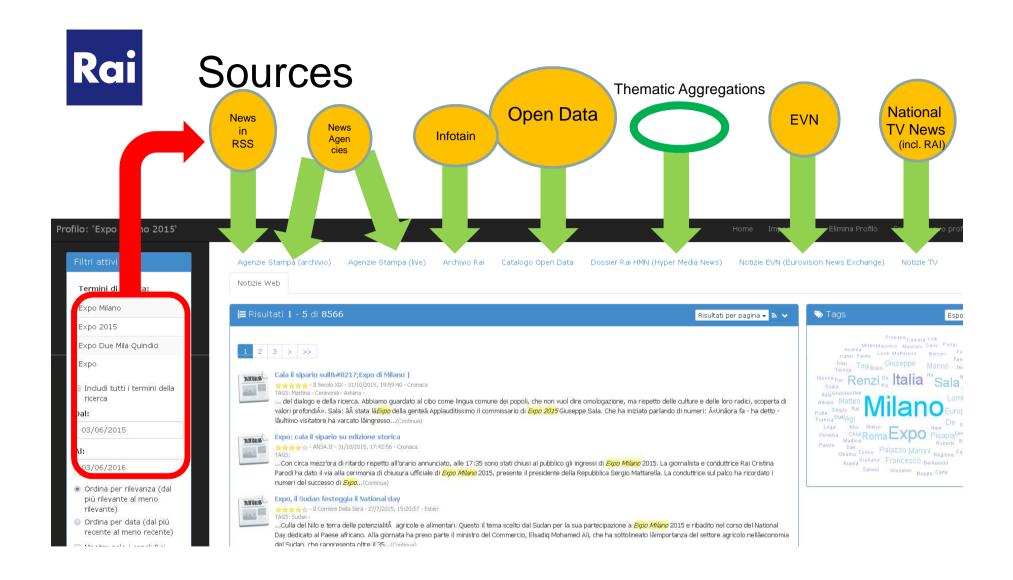
4. Archive & Access

- Indexing
- Search & Retrieval
- Browsing & filtering
- Recommendation
- Exportation



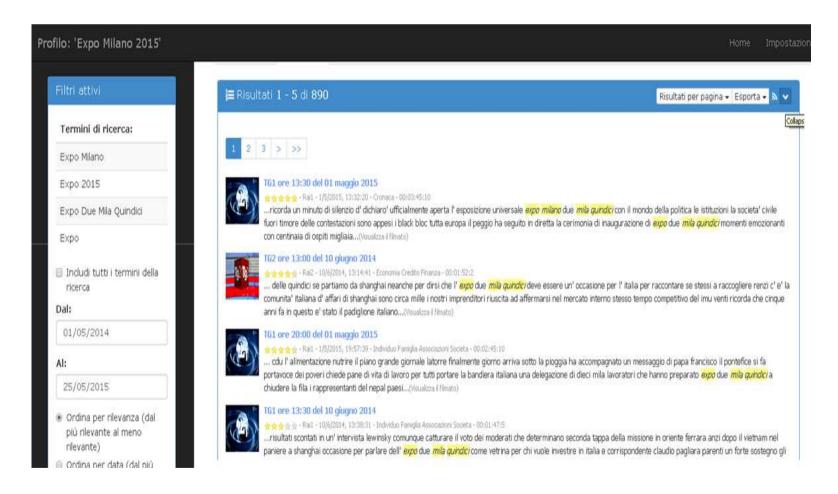
Personalised Dashboard

Registra un nuovo profilo di ricerca Titolo del profilo Es.: Expo Milano 2015 Termini di ricerca Es.: expo,expo milano,expo 2015 New profile registration Separare i termini di ricarca con una virgola Invia Seleziona un profilo tra quelli disponibili Expo Milano 2015 Berlusconi Assolto Crisi M.o. Ebola Educational **Available** profiles Papa Francesco Patto Del Nazareno Sanremo 2015 Istituzioni Piemonte Spread Terrorismo Internazionale Turismo Tutti I Contenuti **Centro Ricerche** S∨iluppato da Rai





Demo ...





Interactive charts of semantic entities

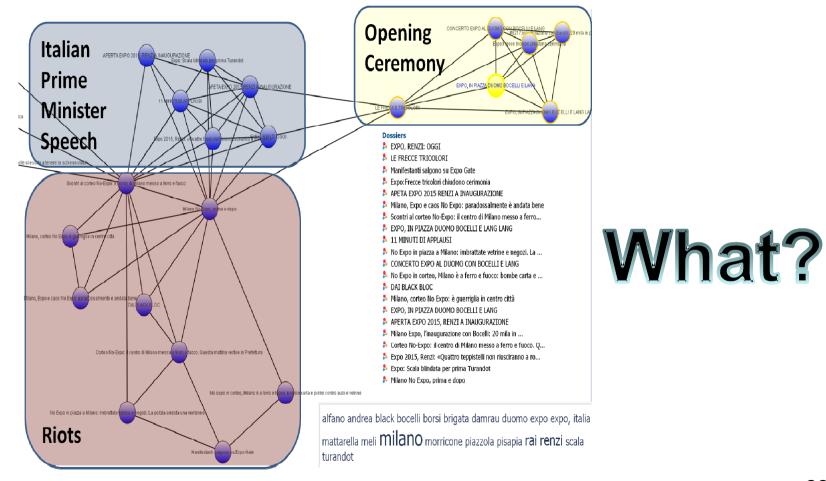








Exploring facts





Localising in space

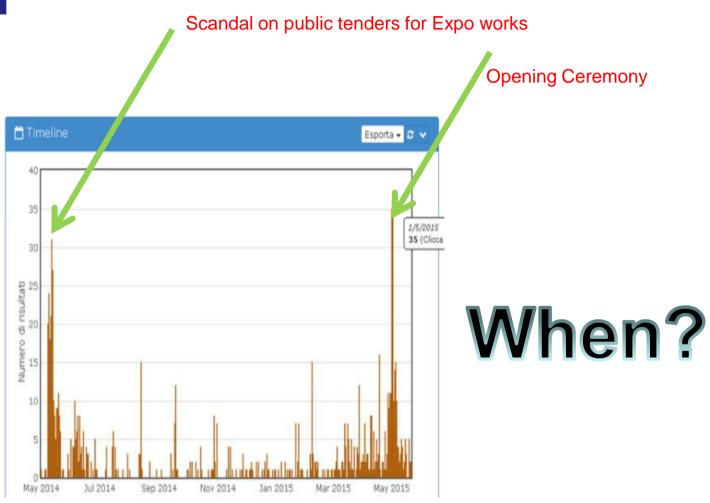




Where?



... and time

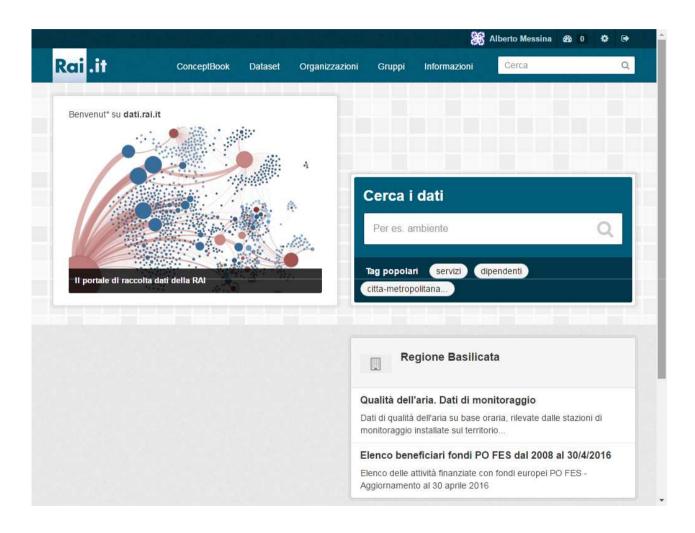




A platform for the Data Value Chain

- Comprehensive Knowledge Archive Network (CKAN)
- Open Source used by many organisations as a platform for open data publication
- Used in the project as a platform for data journalism production
 - \blacksquare Editorial staffs $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ CKAN organisations
- Easy integration with other CKAN-based open data repositories
 - Provides updates of data automatically
- Extensible via plugins







- Many many options available
- Default choice for Datawrapper in this phase of the project

Rai it Datamapper

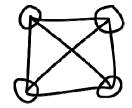
- Open Source
- Many graphics & many options
- Extensible via plugins



40 Login / Sign Up



Integration

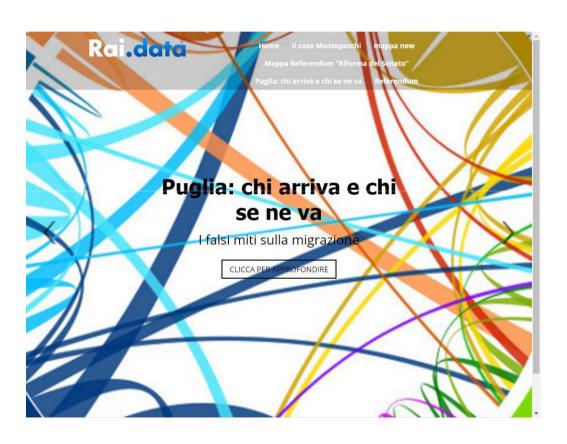


- Source data selected from the RAI Concept Book become datasets in CKAN
- Datasets harvested by CKAN are classified and analysed by RAI Concept Book toolbox
- Integration between CKAN datasets and Datawrapper
- SSO between CKAN and Concept Book



Some initial products







- Finding the "right" approach at Data Journalism taking into account RAI's peculiarities
- Multidisciplinarity is key
- Integration of proprietary and SotA tools works
- Still much work to do at all levels
 - Integration
 - Workflow
 - Processes and skills
- Very good feedback from RAI top level mgmt



(some) Future R&I activity

- Tighter integration with Semantic Data
 - Open data in RDF
- Developing new automatic classification technologies
 - On more relevant taxonomies than those currently used
- Improve model for "concepts"
 - Evoluting towards more semantic structuring
- Does Visual Search play a role in Data Journalism?
- Second screen & data journalism
 - You'll have a look at this in a few minutes







Thank You!

Contact me at

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