

# Adapting the BIBFRAME data model to our needs: challenges encountered, and lessons learned

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BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe 2023

# Linked Library Data Project

- Preparing the adoption of linked data for bibliographic cataloguing for the National Library and in part for the whole Finnish library sector
  - BIBFRAME data model
  - Deep integration with RDA
- 2022-2024
- A companion project for the platform change for our union catalogue Melinda

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  - `rdfs:seeAlso` is not a very satisfying way to link things between different data models
  - SKOS has a good suite of linking options but they are for SKOS concepts
    - `exactMatch`, `closeMatch`, `narrowMatch`, `broadMatch`

# Fitting RDA to BIBFRAME – our experiences

- We have been building our mapping from Official RDA to BIBFRAME
- Aim in making sure that all the key RDA elements can be used in cataloguing
  - Interoperability is key
- Building on the work done by the University of Washington Libraries and others

# Fitting RDA to BIBFRAME – our experiences

- Most obvious point of contention has been bf:Work into RDA Work and RDA Expression
  - Results in mostly broadMatches from RDA to BIBFRAME
- We have been building our mapping from Official RDA to BIBFRAME
  - However, BIBFRAME is more fine-grained in some respects
    - Some properties are tied to specific subclasses of Work or Instance while Official RDA has been moving towards more generalized relationships
  - Mapping should ideally be considered from both directions

# Fitting RDA to BIBFRAME – our experiences

- RDA metadata work (and expression and manifestation) vs bf:AdminMetadata
  - A point in favour of BIBFRAME
- We have a metadata vocabulary that contains terms and expressions for RDA cataloguing
  - We mapped some RDA elements to bf:note with specific typing coming from the metadata vocabulary
    - For example, RDA medium of performance of choreographic content of representative expression

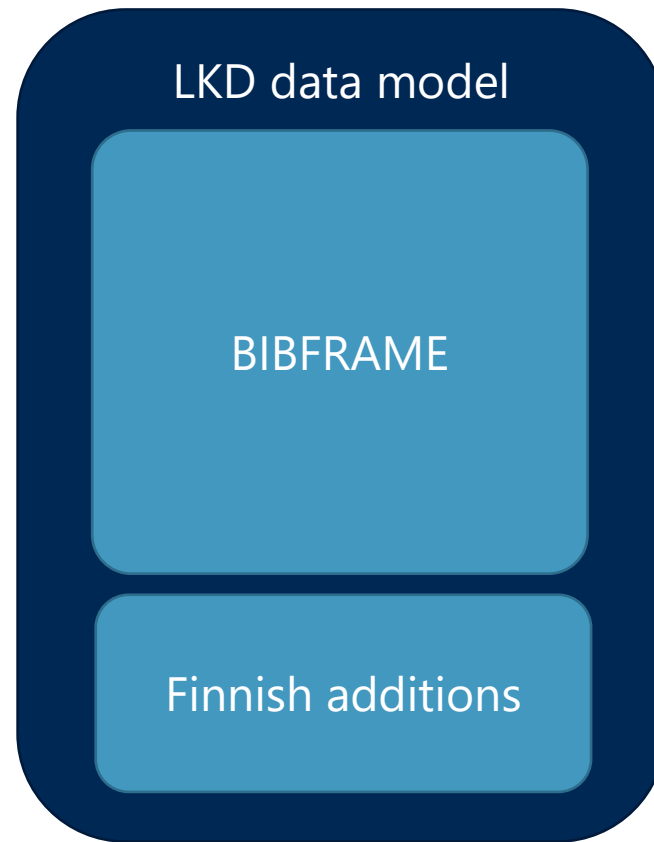


# Identifiers and URN:META

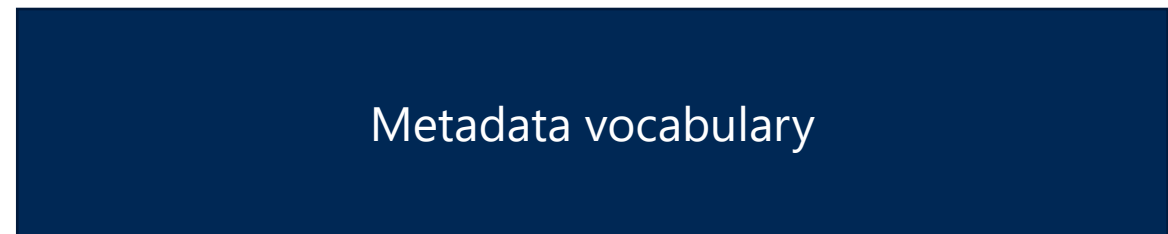
- Dereferenceable identifiers for any new additions are required
  - Strive to re-use existing resources
  - Even then it can be useful to have your own identifiers
- Uniform Resource Name (URN)
- URN:META
  - “Provide a uniform basis and a tool for identification of elements in metadata formats.”
  - “Provide functional improvements to the current URL-based identifiers of metadata elements.”

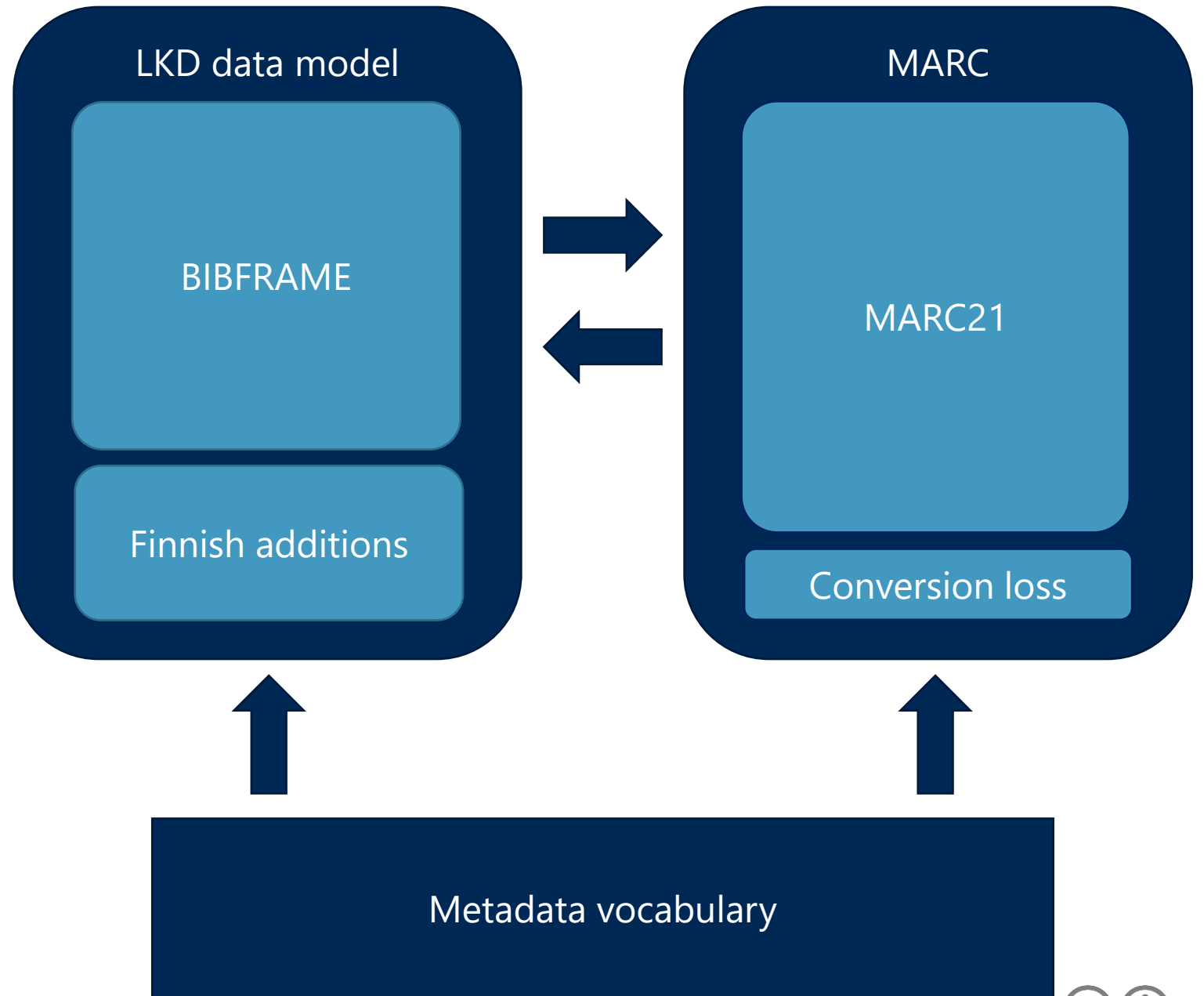
# Converting from MARC to BIBFRAME

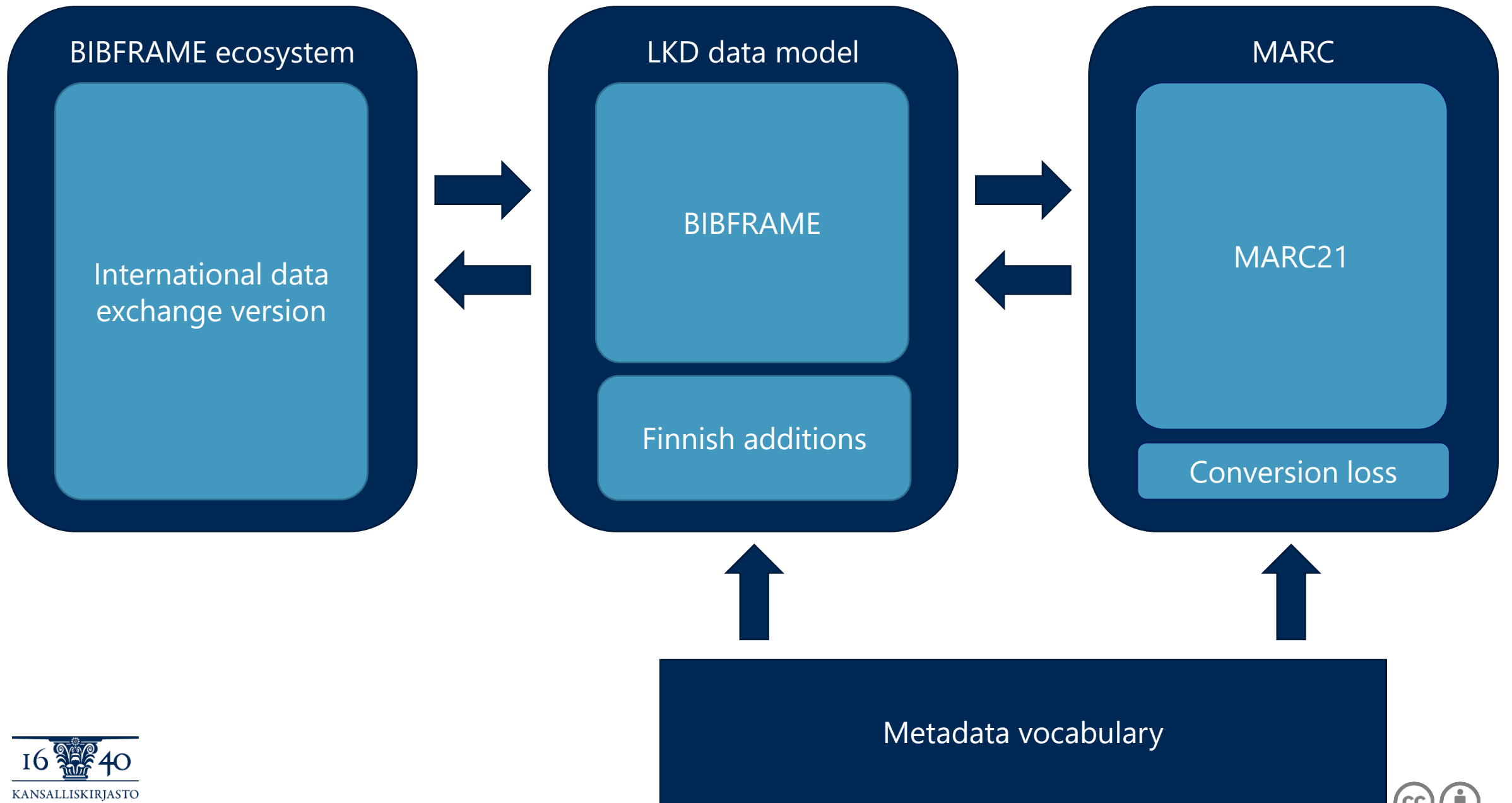
- MARC 21 will be around for quite a while still
- Roundtrip conversions between MARC 21 and BIBFRAME are far from trivial



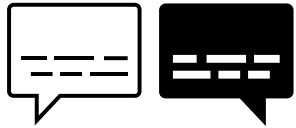
Metadata  
vocabulary – terms  
and expressions for  
RDA cataloguing





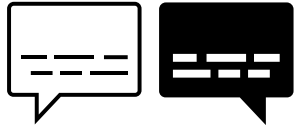


# Checklist for implementing BIBFRAME



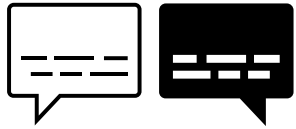
- Translations
  - Does one already exist?
  - What do you need translated?
    - How much do cataloguers interact with BIBFRAME directly?
    - Is the data model visible to the customers?

# Checklist for implementing BIBFRAME



- Additions to BIBFRAME
  - Does BIBFRAME contain all you need in the way you need it?
  - If you need more
    - Can you re-use something that already exists?
    - Do you need to make your own additions?
- Namespace
  - If pulling from several sources, do you put them in your own namespace?

# Checklist for implementing BIBFRAME



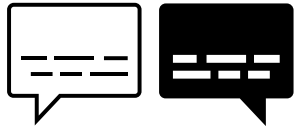
## ■ Conversions

- How will you convert your existing data?
- Do you need to go back?
- What is acceptable conversion loss?
- Converting to and from interlingua
- Extraction and clustering of works



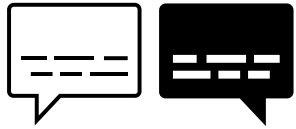


# Checklist for implementing BIBFRAME



- Controlled vocabularies
  - Things not strings
  - Vocabularies of LC or your own?
  - Do you need new ones?

# Checklist for implementing BIBFRAME



- Persons, places, etc. ("authorities")
  - How do you handle authorities when in BIBFRAME?
  - Do you use some common repositories (e.g., GeoNames, Wikidata)

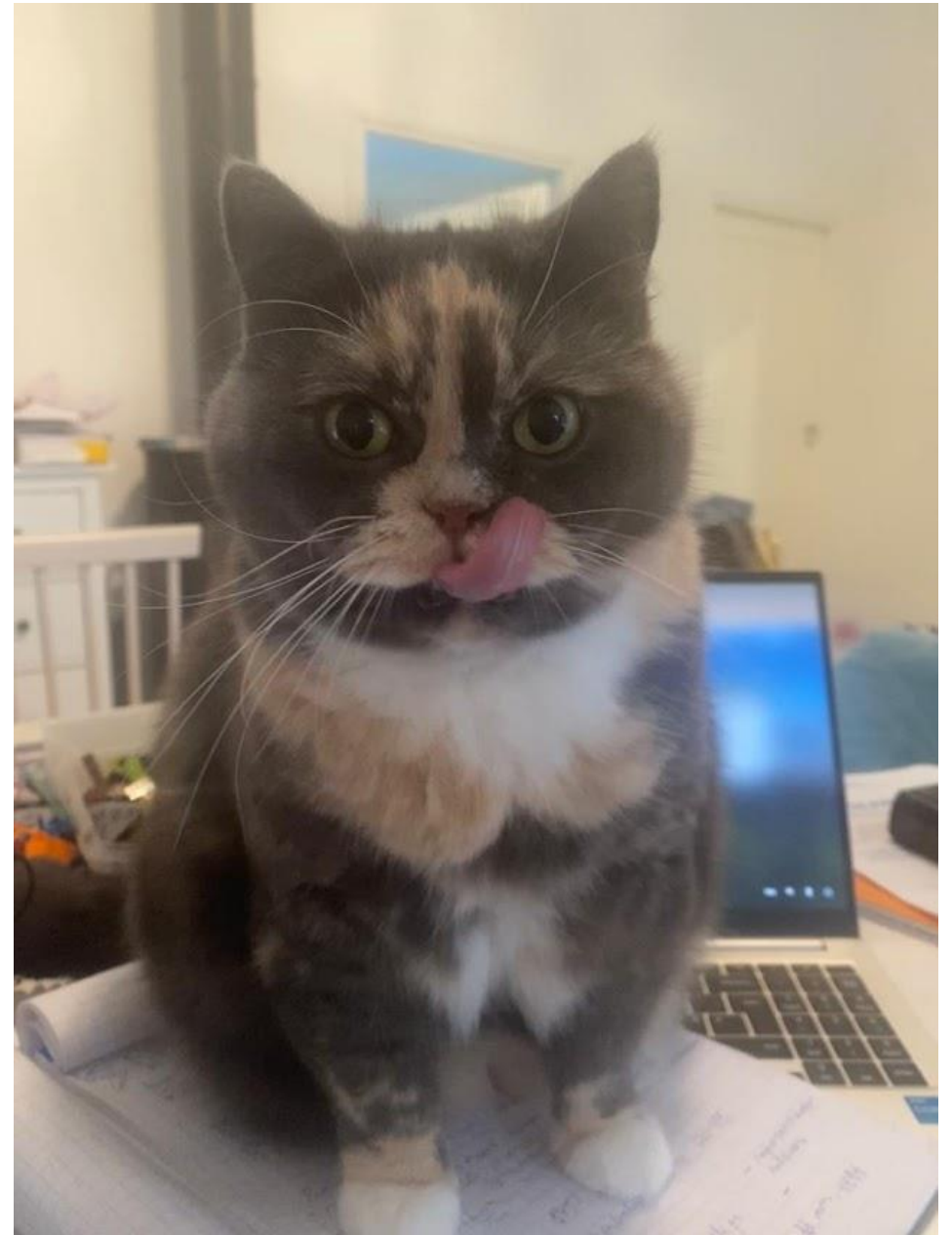
# Checklist for implementing BIBFRAME



- Library system and customers
  - From theory to practice
  - Searching in the linked data environment
    - New avenues of approaching information
    - Link surfing
    - Connections outside of the library world

# Help us with our checklist!

- Are there any topics missing?
- Did we hit most of the important considerations regarding each topic?





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