

Koha, History



Who I am

- Paul Poulain, French (Marseille)
- Open source fan since 1997
- Involved in Koha since early 2002
- Former Koha Release Manager[v 2.0, 2.2, 3.8, 3.10]
- Founder of BibLibre, Open Source for libraries
- Paul.poulain@biblibre.com, twitter : paul_poulain



2 additional informations:

Yes: I'm tall (1.94m)

No: I don't play basket ball



Some kiwis and a y2k bug

- HLT Horowhenua Library Trust, in New Zealand
 - has a system with a y2k bug
 - Need low prices
 - Need to work on a dialup line
 - Easy to use for volunteers

What Koha means ?

- Gift, contribution, Maori term
(reference : <http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/1638>)

Katipo, (a « web company »)

- start working on a full web ILS
- Work start on sep, 99
- Limited functional requirements (no serials, no acq, ...)
- Not full web in fact : circ was a vt100 app
- Agile development before Agile methods exists !
- Team leader : Chris Cormack

st

1 version delivered on time

→ H_{st}T goes live with koha 1.0.0 on 2000, january 2nd

→ 1 full-web ILS

Katipo is not a product vendor company

→ Releasing Koha as OpenSource

st

1 public release after :

- Some sleep for the developers
- Some bugfixes for the software
- Some work on the web for the rest of the world
www.koha.org Website, Project created on SourceForge

New developers :

- Glen Stewart (1st patch not from Katipo)
- Steve Tonnesen (web based circulation)

st

1 non english developer

→ Pawel Skuza (Poland)

st → Probably 1 non “english” library

1 French developer & user:

→ Paul Poulain (jan 2002) for the Dombes Abbey

- Koha 1.2 released
- Wiki launched
- Bugzilla launched
- 2 major problems to fix
 - Translating Koha : Move to HTML::Template decided
 - MARC standards : Adding MARC support decided (1st sponsoring outside from HLT -Nelsonville Public Library-)
- 17 committer at the end of the year

International software,

→ hacked « 24/7 », by ppl all around the world. It's time to add some organization !

First elected team

- Kaitiaki : our Guardian : Pat Eyler
- Release Manager: for next version 2.0 : Paul Poulain
- Release Maintainer : for current v1.2 : Chris Cormack
- QA manager : Ingrid, then no-one
- Doc manager : Nicolas Rosasco

New functionalities like

- MARC support (incl authorities)
- Serials
- Stats
- Advanced OPAC
- Bulkimport

Team elected in 2003 :

- Kaitiaki : Rachel Hamilton
- Release Manager 2.4/3.0 : Joshua Ferraro
- Release Maintainer 2.2 : Paul Poulain
- QA manager : Pierrick Le Gall, then no-one
- Doc manager : Stephen Hedges

The SQL MARC structure is limited, and can't deal efficiently with large size catalogues (+300k items)

→ Deciding to adopt a search engine (zebra)

**First KohaCon in France
(KohaCon06)**

→ 3 days user conference (more than 120 attendees, in Paris)

→ 5 days hackfest (15 developers from 4 countries, in Marseille)

Changing tools :

- Moving from sourceforge/CVS to savannah/CVS then git
- Mailing lists on lists.koha.org
- French website (www.koha-fr.org)

In 2008-2009, Koha faced a trouble. In a few words :

- In 2007, LibLime bought Katipo Koha activity & domain name
- A company called PTFS does some business in US around Koha. LibLime cries for danger
- Something happens at LibLime and they don't share any more

2008-9: Open Source Is stronger

- A lot of LibLime developers resign
- LibLime announces « LibLime Enterprise Koha », hosted only, source-code is not shared, the community no longer has access to Koha.org domain & tools
- PTFS buy LibLime. It's now PTFS/LibLime (early 2010)

Open Source is better (for users):

- No-one can « steal » the software. It's a « common good » That's a huge guarantee for libraries/users !
- The software evolution doesn't depend on a single company success or decision !

Consequences of this crisis :

- For users (libraries) : nothing (a delay in releases)
- For developers : we spent a lot of time dealing with those problems. But we have learnt a lot of things.

End of the crisis

- Decision to move to koha-community.org, with all our tools (Jan 2010)
- ptfs-liblime and community ignore each other
- At least 90 libraries have switched from Koha, support by PTFS to Koha, support by someone else in 2011

IPONZ decision in 2013

- Liblime/PTFS trademark application rejected
- Costs awarded to Te Horowhenua Trust and Catalyst
- Trademark awarded to Te Horowhenua Trust

2010 and 2011 workflow changes

- Monthly IRC meeting
- Well defined patch workflow
- QA manager position filled !
- Many new contributors

It's time for a new start :

- the team is highly motivated,
- there are exciting things to do,
- there are more and more users that uses Koha

KohaCon every year

- KohaCon09 USA (Plano, TX),
- KohaCon10 NZ (Wellington),
- KohaCon11 India (Pune),
- KohaCon12 UK (Edinburgh),
- KohaCon13 USA (Reno, NV),
- KohaCon14 Argentina (Cordoba),
- KohaCon15 Nigeria (Ibadan),
- KohaCon16 Greece (Thessaloniki),
- KohaCon17 Philippines (Manila)

Koha 3.4 was the 1st “time based release” (april 2011, Chris RM)

- Normarc support
- Fast add biblio
- Switch from H::T::P to T::T for template (presentation)
- Item removed from bibliographic MARC record

Koha 3.6 (oct 2011, Chris RM)

- Easier analytics record
- 365 bugfixes & improvement from 3.4

Koha 3.8 (april 2012, Paul RM)

- Hourly loans
- Firefox offline circulation module (KOCT)
- New staff interface
- 130 enhancements (+ fixes)
- 71 different developers

Koha 3.10st (nov 2012, Paul RM)

- Plack (1st steps)
- Responsive design OPAC
- 160 enhancements & new features, 433 fixes (since 3.8.0)
- Enhancement description document is 43 pages

Koha 3.12 (may 2013, Jared RM)

- Patron self-registration
- Link between subscription & acquisition
- Branch-limited authorized values

Koha 3.14 (Nov 2013, Galen RM)

- Course Reserves
- Bootstrap theme for OPAC
- New offline circulation module

Koha 3.16 (may 2014, Galen RM)

- Different templates for notice types
- Experimental Plack support for OPAC

Koha 3.18 (Nov 2014, Tomás RM)

- Indexing in GRS deprecated in favor of DOM
- OPAC fully responsive
- Shibboleth
- Rotating collections & on-site checkouts

Koha 3.20 (May 2015, Tomás RM)

- Discharge management
- Batch modification for biblios
- On the fly conversion of biblio during import

Koha 3.22 (Nov 2015, Tomás RM)

- Plack out-of-the-box
- Webservices (Restul API)
- Digital library: attaching files to records
- Sitemap for search engines indexing
- Batch checkout

No version 3.24 !!!

**Numbering change: introducing
16.05**

- Year-Month schema
- Solve the question “when do we update the 1st digit”
(Koha 3.22 is not like 3.0 !!!)

Koha 16.05 and 16.11 (Brendan & Kyle RM)

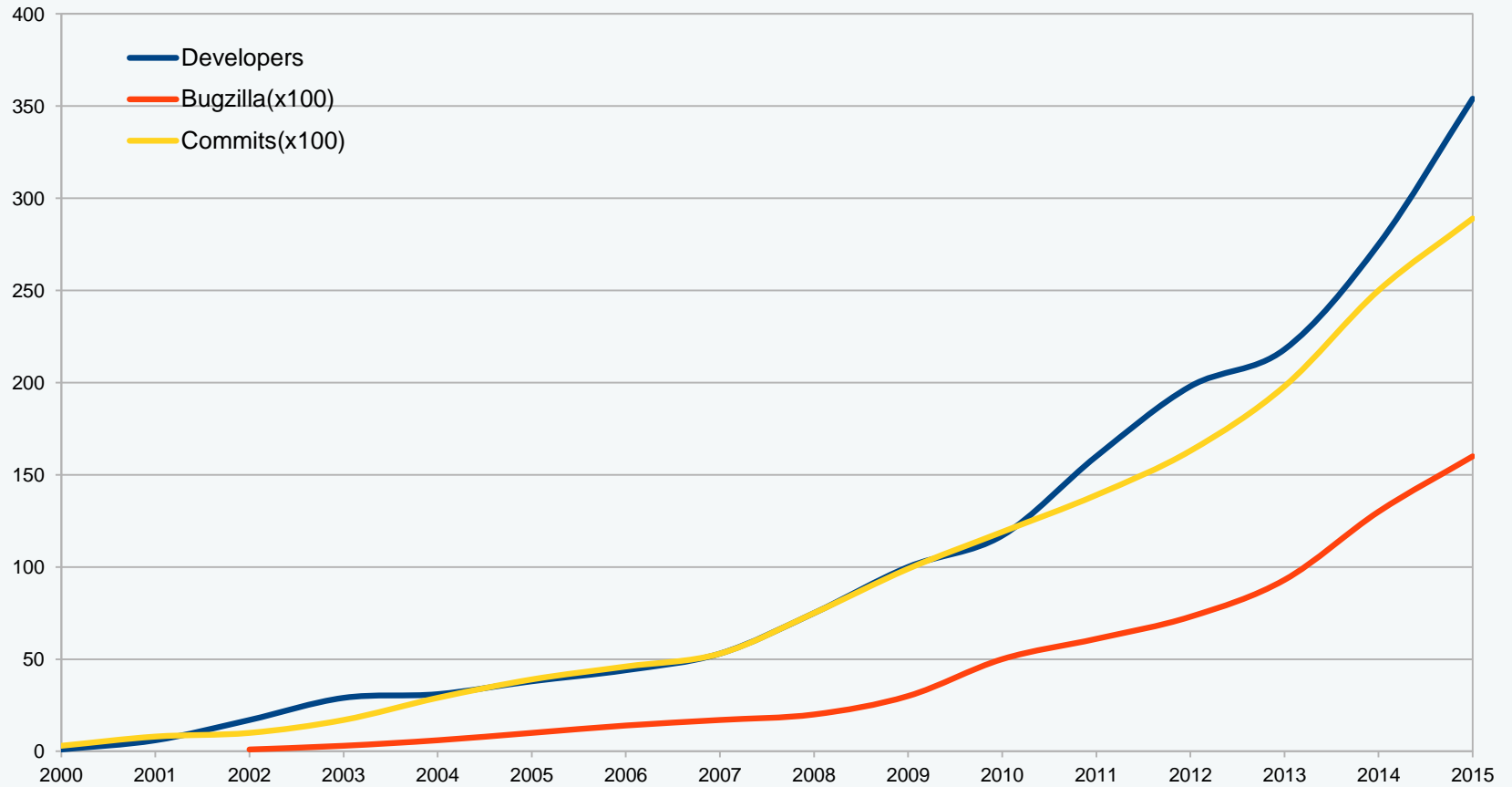
- Plumbing (a lot, 120+)
- Features
 - EDIFACT for acquisition
 - OpenID login
 - Automatic item modification by age
 - Pay fine via paypal
 - Elastic Search
 - Multiple reservation
 - Housebound

Koha 17.05 (Kyle and Brendan RM)

- Release in the next days...
- Plumbing (x00+), Elastic Search, Performance
- 205 enhancements, 253 bugfixes
- New feature
 - Article request

Koha 17.11 (Jonathan RM)

- A Belgian, who now lives in Argentina (and used to live in south of France)



Koha in 2017

- The most used ILS in the world
- Probably 20 000 libraries using it
 - 1000+ public libraries in Argentina
 - 1000+ public libraries in Turkey
 - 7 national libraries
- Almost 100 different contributors every year
- Some major support Companies
 - BibLibre (France), ByWaterSolutions (USA), Catalyst (NZ), PTFS-Europe (UK), Theke (Argentina)
- 1 developer full-time (Jonathan Druart), funded by BibLibre/ByWaterSolutions/PTFS-Europe

Koha is a community where everyone ~~can~~ should do something

- Many things possible even if you're not a developer (translating, documenting, testing patches, cleaning the wiki, submitting bugs, ...)
- Regular events: KohaCon and hackfest in Marseille (2:20 hours direct flight from Lisbon with TAP)
- Give back. Every penny help build the house

Let's talk about Koha future now

First of all:

- This is my opinion, feeling, I'm trying to convince the rest of the Koha community, you may disagree
- The future of Koha ... is not Koha
- The future of Koha is not Koha, but we will build it over Koha. Let me explain

Public libraries

- Physical material
- Digital collections (local history: pictures, paintings, maps, digitised oldies)
- Public interface (OPAC, portal)
- Ebook lending

Academic libraries

- Physical material
- Electronic subscriptions / serials
- Local digital collections (thesis, historical collection)
- Ebook lending
- Public interface (OPAC, discovery, portal)

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Koha

What do we do for other features ?

We have 2 options:

- Add those features to Koha
- Find an Open Source software doing that

Write it:

- A big job, for sure
- We wrote an ILS, we are fool enough to write an ERM, a discovery, a portal !

Find it:

- The Unix philosophy: a tool do one thing, he do it greatly and efficiently
- Is there something already ?

Public libraries

- Physical **Koha**
- Digital collections (local history; pictures,

Omeka & Dspace,
(theses, articles)

- Public interface (**OPAC**,
portal) **Drupal & Bokeh**
- **Ebook lending**

Academic libraries

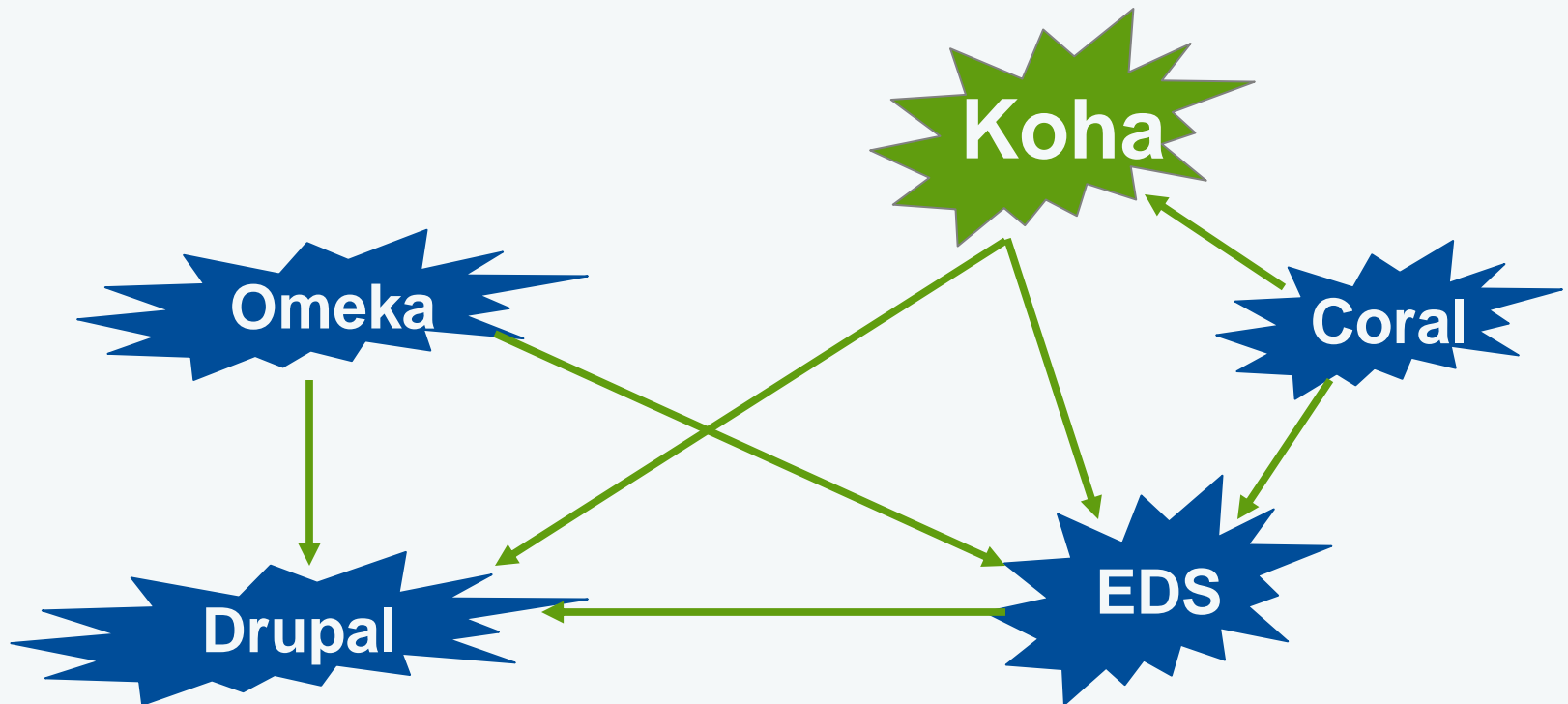
- Physical material **Koha**
- Electronic **Coral**

- subscriptions / serials
- Local **Omeka & Dspace**
(thesis, local collection)

- **Ebook lending**
- Public interface
(**OPAC**,
portal)

EDS

**A collection of separate tools.
We must “glue” them**



How to glue them

- They all are web-based applications
- Use standards (OAI-PMH, Restful, ...)
- Use webservice

It's a big effort

- Each tool must remain independent
- Convince both communities
- Be involved in both communities
- Find the best technical way
- Code, test, validate, integrate

A little bit more...

Data sharing

- Libraries have common data. For example, cataloguing informations. But also:
 - Serials informations
 - Reports & stats
 - Specific tuning, setup & hints

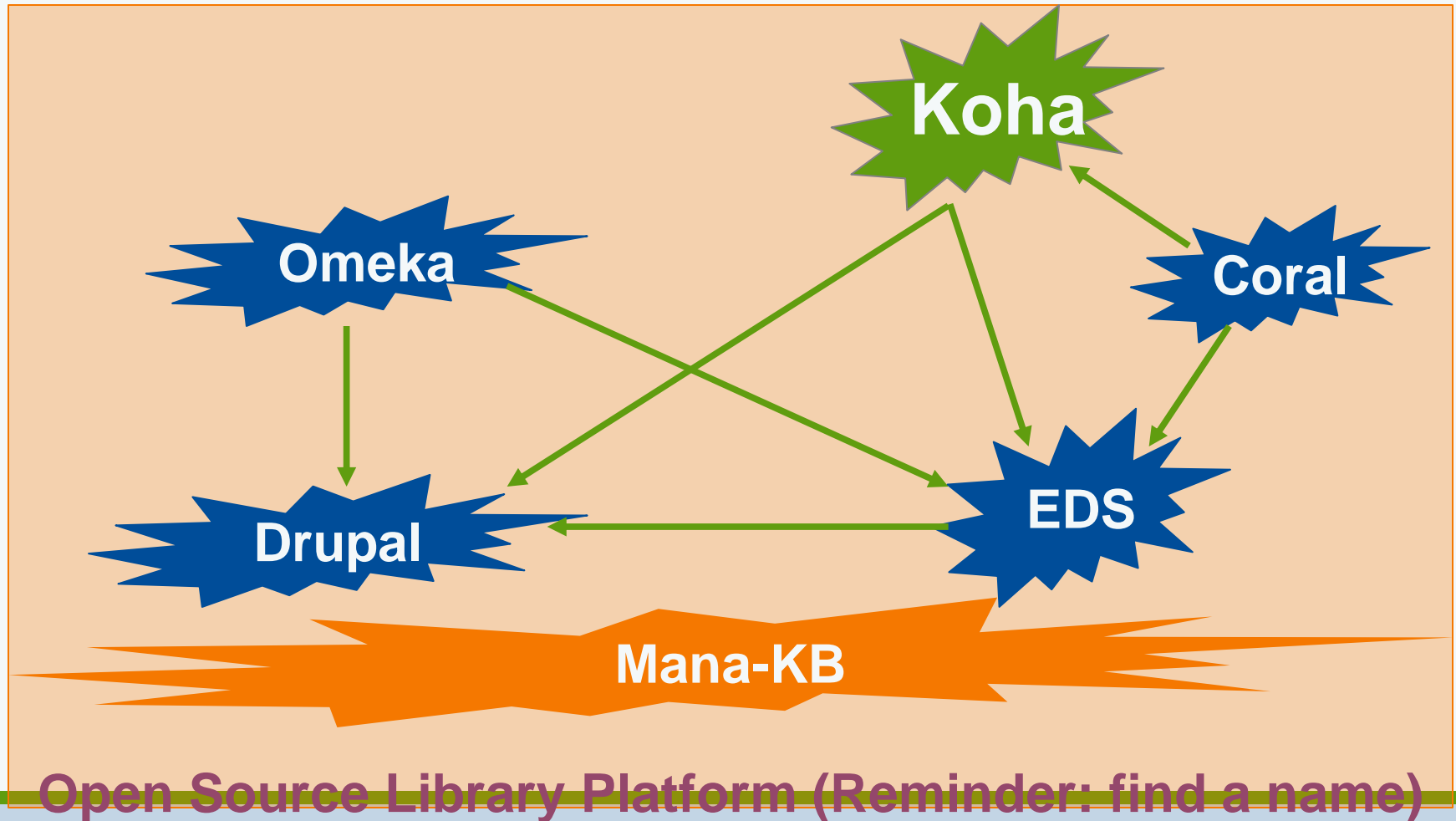
Introducing Mana-kb

- A project launched by BibLibre
- <https://mana-kb.koha-community.org/> (nothing to see for now)
- World-wide knowledge base to build world-wide resources useful for libraries.
- Already available:
 - (printed) serials pattern
 - SQL reports
 - Reading pairs (“reader who read this also read that”)

Available in the future:

- XSLT & some other Koha parameters interesting to share (like cataloguing frameworks)
- E-resource files (kbart, ONIX)
- ...

Final goal



Thank you !

