

# Designing & Building a Reusable Framework for Multipurpose, Multifunction, Multi-institutional

**Repository-Powered Solutions** 

**Open Repositories 2009** 

18 – 21 May

Tom Cramer, Richard Green, Bess Sadler

## In the beginning...

Two JISC-funded projects at Hull both using Fedora

- RepoMMan (2005-2007)
  - Using a repository as part of a personal workflow
- REMAP (2007-2009)
  - 'Intelligent' objects: records management and preservation



#### **Brief encounters at OR08**

- Presentation at the OR08 Fedora days in Southampton about RepoMMan and REMAP
- Hurried conversation afterwards with Thornton Staples (Fedora Commons) that "we need to talk!"
- Slightly longer conversation about the need for a dissertation repository at the University of Virginia and the idea of using some of the RepoMMan/REMAP work.

# A project is born

- Meeting in Charlottesville, VA September '08
  - Fedora Commons
  - Stanford University
  - University of Hull
  - University of Virginia
- Agreement to work together to produce an end-toend, flexible, extensible, Fedora application kit
  - a 'Lego' set of services and templates
- Hydra: autumn 2008 summer 2011
  - a reusable framework for multipurpose, multifunction, multi-institutional repository-powered solutions



# Why Hydra?

- Clear business need for a flexible, reusable application framework
  - Rapid development of multiple systems tailored to distinct needs (multiple 'heads')
  - One underlying repository
- Common need at all three participating universities

- Multiple repositories already in use with the Hydra partners
- Identified needs for more 12+ use cases and content types
- Hydra specification based on full range of use cases and content across the partners

- Digital Library use cases
  - Accessioning, management and delivery of variety of electronic content, in multiple formats, complex workflows
- Institutional Repository use cases
  - Including deposit, management and dissemination of scholarly materials

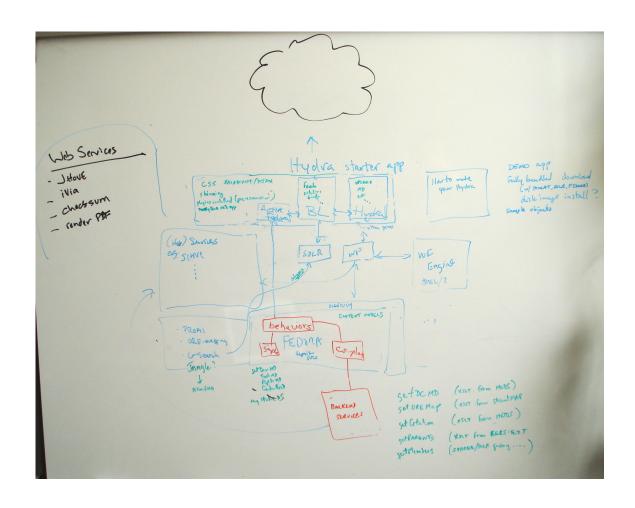
- Personal Repository use cases
  - Workspace for scholars to help manage their individual or group research through its complete lifecycle
- Integration with other systems
  - e.g. learning management systems and digital asset discovery and delivery applications

- Generic templates for common solutions which can be locally tailored for specifics
- Critical if Hydra is to support across institutions
  - Different classes of users
  - Differences in workflows
  - Different content types

#### **Design Principles**

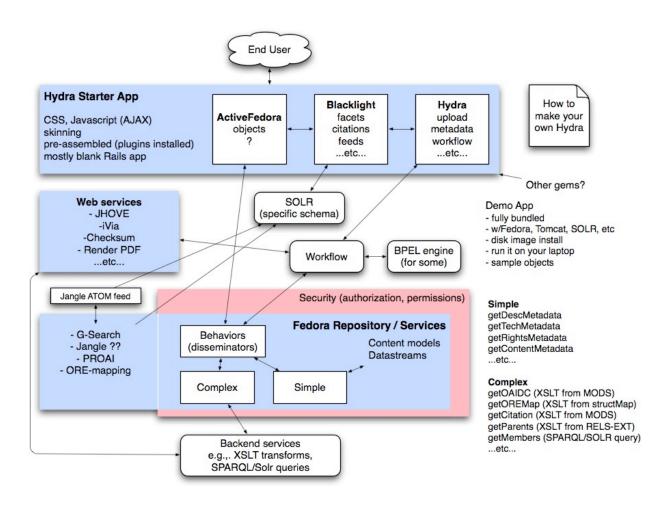
- Reuse & rapid development
- Reusable "Lego bricks"
- Flexible content models
- Simple disseminators
- Easily skinned UI
- Reusable user interaction widgets

# **Technology Stack**



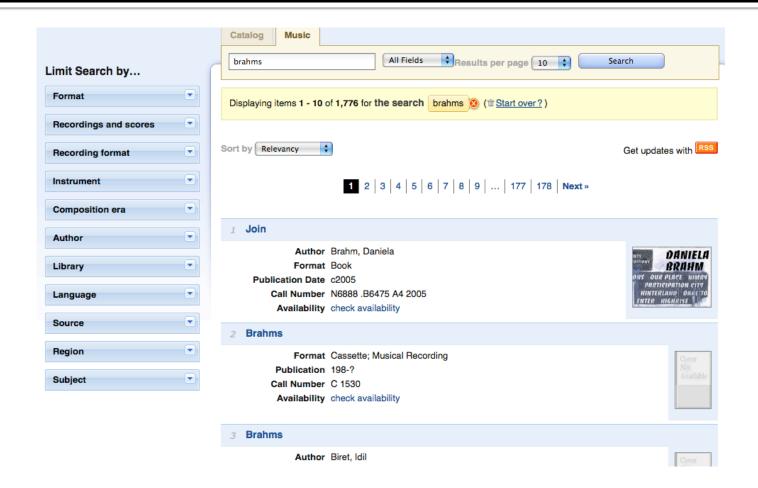


## **Technology Stack**





# Blacklight





#### Multifunction

- Deposit
- Manage
  - Edit Objects
  - Set Access
- Search
- Browse
- Deliver

#### Plus

- Authentication
- Authorization
- Workflow

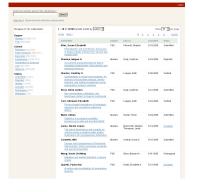
## Multifunction



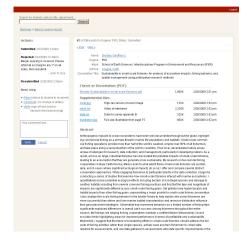
Deposit



Manage



Search & Browse



Deliver



#### Velocity

- Install & Build Fedora 3.1 2 weeks
- Learn Ruby on Rails (x2)1 week
- Adopt ActiveFedora 2 weeks
- Create Upload UI2 weeks
- Integrate Blacklight 4 hours
- Create Manage UI 2 weeks?

#### Multi-Institutional: Core Team

- Thorny Staples, Fedora Commons
- Tom Cramer, Stanford University
- Lynn McRae, Stanford University
- Willy Mene, Stanford University
- Chris Awre, University of Hull
- Richard Green, University of Hull
- Bess Sadler, University of Virginia
- Tim Sigmon, University of Virginia
- Ross Wayland, University of Virginia



#### **Multi-Institutional**

- 9 core team members
- 21 active contributors
- across 3 institutions
  - with executive-level recognition & support
- partnership with Fedora Commons
- close collaboration with MediaShelf
- complementary strengths & expertise

#### What's next

- Finish Y1
  - Build production Hydra apps at all three sites
  - Authentication (integration with campus LDAPs)
  - Authorization (with FeSL)
  - Workflow support (x3)
- Y2 & Y3
  - More content types
  - Build in more flexibility & reconfigurability
  - Phased public release



#### **Contacts and links**



r.green@hull.ac.uk



bess@virginia.edu



tcramer@stanford.edu



tstaples@fedora-commons.org



r.green@hull.ac.uk https://fedora-commons.org/confluence/display/hydra/





