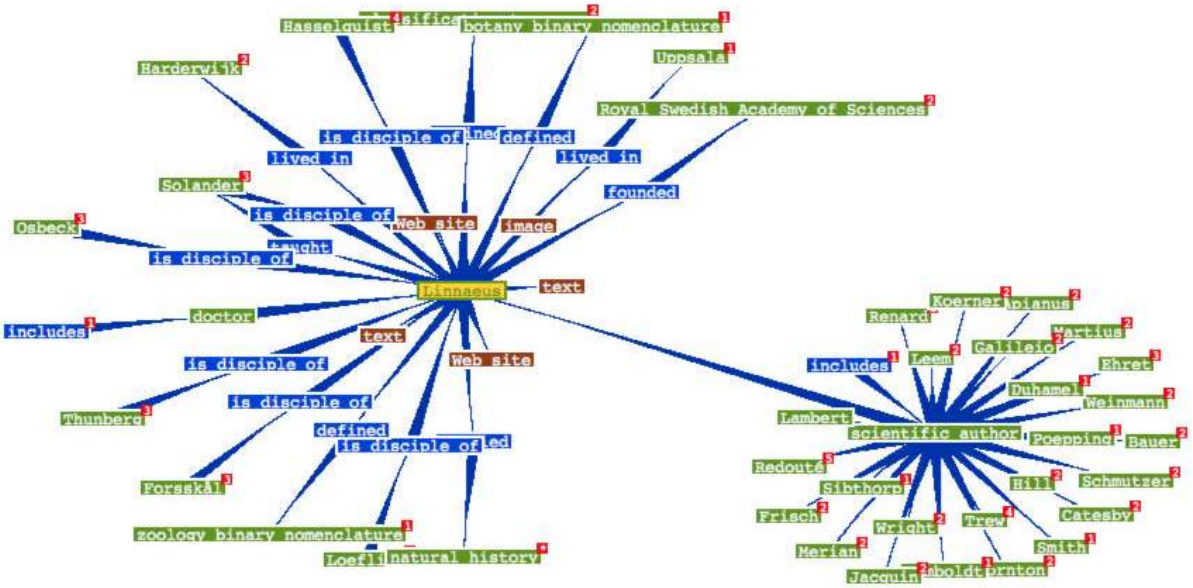
Content Case II: Topic Map SUL/KVA

The concept of a topic map was chosen to illustrate and guide the user of the REGNET system. A theme was chosen that could illustrate the possibilities of connecting several sources of information, as well as having several of the REGNET partners participating in the theme. The Linnaeus theme was chosen for this purpose.
Although the theme “Linnaeus and the Linnaean Tradition” in the REGNET project is centered around the famous Swedish natural historian Carl Linnaeus, the theme should be understood in a broader European (scientific) context, enabling other content providers to take part in this theme and contribute with their texts, objects and images. Thus, the theme has incorporated objects relating to scientists and scientific activities all around Europe from the 16th century until today within the Natural sciences , Botany and Zoology.
The theme “Linnaeus and the Linnaean Tradition” has been led jointly by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA) and Stockholm University Library (SUL). Other contributors to the Linnaean theme are The Austrian National Library, the Museon in Haag. The theme structure features thematic texts on Natural history, Scientific Societies, Scientific travels, about Linnaeus, Classification/Taxonomy, Botany, Zoology. All these texts were originally produced for the REGNET project. To illustrate these themes the participating organizations have chosen and digitized images from books and manuscripts in their collections. Ca 150 images have been digitized and several hundred records in English, Swedish, German and French have been produced as fragments and descriptions on images and books. The records have been registered according to Dublin Core standard and linked to the thematic texts.
The thematic texts, Dublin Core records and images have resulted in a topic map around Linnaeus. Approximately 310 occurrences were produced for the Linnean topic map. We believe that the topic map concept gives an immediate and clear overview on the Linnean theme.