Open Ontology Repository

The Future of Ontology Metadata?

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Michael Grüninger: The Future of Ontology Metadata?,

OMV – Ontiology Metadata Vocabulary

- OMV is an OWL ontology that provides a vocabulary of terms and definitions for describing ontologies.
- Scope
 - Structural metadata
 - Descriptive metadata
 - Administrative metadata

Extensions to OMV?

- Current users of OMV are happy with the current OMV and there are no plans for significant extensions.
- OMV was designed to support ontology reusability and sharability following use cases in
 - E. Paslaru Bontas, M. Mochol, and R. Tolksdorf. Case Studies on Ontology Reuse. In Proceedings of the IKNOW05 International Conference on Knowledge Management, 2005.
 - T. Russ, A. Valente, R. MacGregor, and W. Swartout. Practical Experiences in Trading Off Ontology Usability and Reusability. In Proc. of the Knowledge Acquisition Workshop (KAW99), 1999.
 - M. Uschold, M. Healy, K. Williamson, P. Clark, and S. Woods. Ontology Reuse and Application. In Proc. of the Int. Conf. on Formal Ontology and Information Systems FOIS98, 1998.

and OMV has been able to support these use cases.

Questions for OOR

Why do we believe that extensions to OOR are needed?

- What use cases do we have in OOR to motivate such extensions?
- Has anyone in OOR used OMV? If so, what issues have they encountered?

COLORE

The emphasis in COLORE is on the metatheoretic *relationships* between ontologies within the repository.

- Conservative extension
- Nonconservative extension
- Relative interpretation
- Faithful interpretation
- Definable equivalence
- Reducibility

Modularity

How can we specify that an ontology is composed of a set of modules within the repository?

• In COLORE, we have the notion of a hierarchy, in which theories are ordered by nonconservative extension, and the notion of repository, in which hierarchies are ordered by reducibility.

Ontology Types

- OMV supports the following types of ontologies:
 - Upper level
 - Core
 - Domain
 - Task
 - Application
- Are these sufficient for OOR?
- Do we need more formal foundations for the distinctions between these types?

Summary

- OOR needs to provide use cases that motivate specific proposals to extend OMV.
- Further exploration:
 - Ontology merging / alignment
 - Versioning