

Semantic Wiki mini-series

program planning session

Thu 2008.09.18

Li Ding (RPI Tetherless World Constellation),
Harold Solbrig (Mayo Clinic),
Sebastian Schaffert (Salzburg Research, Austria),
Max Völkel (AIFB-Karlsruhe) &
Peter Yim (Ontolog)

V 1.0

see: http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?ConferenceCall_2008_09_18

Wiki

- First developed by Ward Cunningham as an add-on to the Portland Pattern Repository on 1995.03.25
- Named after the Wiki Wiki shuttle bus at the Honolulu International Airport (where “Wiki” is the Hawaiian word for “fast”)
- Characteristics
 - a Read & Write web page -- contrast with “read only” html pages on the www; all users can edit (almost) any page
 - Links between pages are easy to create
 - full version history and attribution
 - openness
- Facet of Web 2.0 paradigm
- Classic example: wikipedia
- Thousands of instances installed and running both publicly and inside institutional firewalls

Wikis are ...

- simple to use (low technological barrier)
- flexible: from a short notice over documentation to collaborative authoring of documents
- do not impose a predefined workflow (no dictate of the system)
- adjust to the necessities of users
- **Wikis: like a piece of paper**
 - workflows only by “social convention”
 - there are rules, but it is possible to deviate from them if necessary (new situations, better solutions, ...)
- **but:** Wikis are rather like an **empty** piece of paper
 - well suited for creative and/or well-known tasks
 - with growing amount of content it becomes also increasingly difficult to find the necessary information

Semantic Wiki - *Wiki meets Semantic Web*

- Semantic Wikis try to combine the strengths of Semantic Web (machine processable, data integration, complex queries) and Wiki (easy to use and contribute, strongly interconnected, collaborativeness) technologies.
- a semantic wiki interest group was started at ISWC 2005; Max Völkel & Sebastian Schaffert submitted their SemWiki workshop proposal; the community [swikig] mailing list was first launched in Nov. 2005 .
- the community had its first workshop on June, 12th 2006: “Semantic Wikis: From Wiki to Semantics” [SemWiki2006] as a full-day workshop at the 3rd Annual European Semantic Web Conference (ESWC 2006) in Budva, Montenregio, with 50~60 attendees.

Semantic Wiki - *Some Questions ...*

What is the state-of-the-art and who are the players in this space?

What types of applications are best tackled by semantic wikis?

Can we harvest existing categories and links into some sort of formal system?

Can we augment categories and links w/ more detailed semantics?


Can we incorporate existing “ontologies” into semantic content?

Can we browse / edit / curate ontological content via Wiki mechanism?

What are the major challenges being faced?

House of Social Webtop

App. Layer




RPI Map & Events



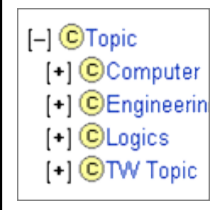
Wine Wiki Social Rec.



Group Info Management



Task & Issue Tracking



Ontology Repository

Still many not yet mentioned ...

Concept Modeling: RDF, Relational Modeling, Rules

Wiki Layer

Parser Function

Semantic Query

Semantic Template ...

Semantic Forms

Halo Annotation Extension

(Semantic) Wiki Scripting (PHP, Javascript) Wiki Extensions

Data Layer

Wiki DB

Triple Store

Online data

A Partial List of Candidate Topics

- **Semantic Wiki Technologies**
 - Semantic Wiki Engines: Semantic MediaWiki; IkeWiki, AceWiki; ...
 - Semantic Wiki User Interaction: Halo Extension; Semantic Forms
- **Semantic Wiki in Use**
 - Semantic Wiki and ontology repository/engineering
 - Semantic Wiki and e-science
 - Semantic Wiki and mashup
- **Semantic Wiki and Outreach**
 - Semantic Wiki and Database
 - Semantic Wiki and Knowledge Management: Kiwi Project
- **Semantic Wiki Challenges**
 - Scalability (both storage and query processing)
 - Concept modeling and reasoning: supporting what OWL features?
 - Automated semantic content generation/import
 - Provenance, privacy and security
 - Knowledge convergence, user interaction, and best practices

What we need to achieve at today's program planning session ...

- Identify Community and Objectives
 - Community: End users; Application developers; Researchers; Engine/extension developers
 - Objectives: TBD
- Plan activities
 - “Semantic Wiki Mini-series” virtual panel sessions at Ontolog,
 - total number, schedule
 - each panel: topic and panelists
 - Face-to-face meeting at the AAI Spring Symposium “Social Semantic Web: Where Web 2.0 Meets Web 3.0 ”, March 23-25, 2009 at Stanford, California, USA. <http://tw.rpi.edu/sss09>
 - Dialog and discussion over the archived [swikig] listserv
 - Explore other meaningful collaborative activities we can do as a community
- Plan Topics, Sessions & Schedule

How we will go about it today...

- Everyone: log into the chat session at
 - http://webconf.soaphub.org/conf/room/ontolog_20080918
- Everyone: please enter the top 3 items on your wish-list that you would want to see from this mini-series
- Semantic Wiki developers and application administrators (who will present on their work) please enter: *name, topic/title, url-of-your-work*
- Recommend others (who couldn't join us today) by entering: *name, email, topic/title, url-of-their-work*
- We'll then cluster the topics, put together a program, and schedule the sessions