

Making the Semantic Data Web Easily Writeable with RDFauthor

Sebastian Trapp, Norman Heino, Sören Auer, and Philipp Frischmuth

Universität Leipzig, Institut für Informatik, AKSW,
Postfach 100920, D-04009 Leipzig, Germany
lastname@informatik.uni-leipzig.de
<http://aksw.org>

Abstract. In this demo we present RDFauthor, an approach for authoring information that adheres to the RDF data model. RDFauthor completely hides syntax as well as RDF and ontology data model difficulties from end users and allows to edit information on arbitrary RDFa-annotated web pages. RDFauthor is based on extracting RDF triples from RDFa-annotated Web pages and transforming the RDFa-annotated HTML view into an editable form by using a set of authoring widgets. As a result, every RDFa-annotated web page can be made writeable, even if information originates from different sources.

1 Introduction

To a large extent the overwhelming success of the World Wide Web was based on the ability of ordinary users to author content easily. In order to publish content on the WWW, users had to do little more than to annotate text files with few, easy-to-learn HTML tags. Unfortunately, on the semantic data web the situation is slightly more complicated. Users do not only have to learn a new syntax (such as N3, RDF/XML or RDFa), but also have to get acquainted with the RDF data model, ontology languages (such as RDF-S, OWL) and a growing collection of connected RDF vocabularies for different use cases (such as FOAF, SKOS and SIOC).

Previously, many applications were developed to ease the syntax side of semantic authoring [4,2]. The *RDFauthor* approach¹ is based on the idea of making arbitrary XHTML views with integrated RDFa annotations editable. *RDFa* [1] is the W3C Recommendation, which allows to combine human and machine-readable representations within a single XHTML document. RDFauthor builds on RDFa by preserving provenance information in RDFa representations following the named-graph paradigm and by establishing a mapping from RDFa view representations to authoring widgets. On configurable events (such as the clicking of a button or moving over a certain information fragment with the mouse) the widgets will be activated and allow the editing of all RDFa-annotated information on the Web page. While editing, the widgets can access background information sources on the Data Web in order to facilitate the reuse of identifiers or to encourage the interlinking of

¹ <http://aksw.org/Projects/RDFauthor>