Viewing FOAF
Development of a Metadata Explorer

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Outline

• Brief introduction into the RDF and its XML notation
• FOAF in the nutshell
• Advanced FOAF Explorer beta 1 – a small demo
• What’s wrong with 1st beta version
Brief introduction into the RDF and its XML notation
Introduction into RDF

- Data are represented as a graph of triples
- Triples consist of subject, predicate and object
  - subject and predicate are URIs
  - object is an URI or a literal
- URI - an resource identifier (Uniform Resource Name)
<rdf:RDF
    xmlns:ex=http://example.org/
    xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#">
  <rdf:Resource rdf:about="http://subject.uri.org/">
    <ex:Property>Value</ex:Property>
  </rdf:Resource>
</rdf:RDF>

• http://subject.uri.org/ - subject of all statements
• ex:Property - predicate, according to the XML namespaces specification will be translated into URIref http://example.org/Property
• "Value" - object of the triple
FOAF in the nutshell
FOAF Basics (in RDF graph)

_b:FOAF

Is a

„RDF Schema“

Has specification at

http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/

Defines properties for

• „Description of People“
• „Contact information“
• „Work: papers, projects Web sites“
• „Job & school information“
FOAF Basics (human-readable form)

- Is a RDF Schema
- Has specification at http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/
- Defines properties for:
  - Description of person
  - Contact information
  - Work: papers, projects Web sites
  - Job & school information
Advanced Features

- May describe organisations and interest groups
- Allows extending by “modules” - independent schemas
- Relation among people
Advanced FOAF Explorer
beta 1
A small demo
Digest for
http://sanka.zapisky.info/profile-foaf.rdf

Jan Petrák
Nick(s): Sanka Coffee
Gender: male
E-mail addresses
  * sanka.coffee@gmail.com
Jabber accounts
  * Sanka@rju-netlab.cz
ICQ accounts
  * 212010999
User’s account(s)
  Chat Account
    * Account name: Sanka
    * Service: http://shadownet.cz/
Sibling of
  * Josef Petrák

Josef Petrák
See also
  * http://perli.org/petrrak/profile-foaf [Parse it]
Sibling of
  * Jan Petrák
What's wrong with the 1st beta version
Bad approaches

- No concept in system architecture
- No resistance against errors
- Non-full support of FOAF
- Almost no support of modules
- And output page would be more descriptive
The 2\textsuperscript{nd} version will improve it.
New features

- RDF graph transformed into objects representing classes (Person, Project, Document, etc.)
- MVC architecture
- History of viewed files
- Internationalisation
Any questions?
Thank you for your attention