

Preface

Welcome to the first workshop on Personal Semantic Data (PSD2010), part of the 17th International Conference on Knowledge Engineering and Knowledge Management (EKAW2010)!

Personal information management (PIM) is an active area of interest for research and industry alike. While our time and energy resources remain constant, the amount of information that needs our attention grows exponentially with the advances in communications and information sharing tools.

The tools that we use to manage our personal information have evolved over time from the pen and paper day planners to their numerous digital replacements. The desktop used to be at the centre of the users' PIM universe, containing their contacts, emails, events, appointments, and to-do lists. However, as the amount of stored information and the number of applications available to handle it grew, desktop data became harder and harder to manage, as it was locked-in by applications and stored in application-specific formats. The Semantic Desktop is the result of applying Semantic Web technologies to the desktop, to better interlink personal data and make it easier to search, browse and organise. It lifted the data from the application silos and non-standard formats to a standard RDF-based representation, described using commonly agreed-upon ontologies.

Nowadays, the transition is made more and more towards mobile devices, the majority of which have Internet connectivity. This has led to an increasing share of information, like calendar and email, being stored on users' various devices or in the cloud, because of hardware limitations like storage and processing power. Also, applications such as Chrome OS, Google Documents, or MS Office Live enable users to store personal documents in the Cloud, while many social relations are managed through social Web sites like Facebook, MySpace or Bebo. In parallel, the Semantic Web has gained considerable momentum, especially through initiatives like Linking Open Data, that have generated a vast amount of structured data available on the Web. Furthermore, projects like FOAF and SIOC have enabled the publication of machine-readable information about people and their social interactions.

As more online services and applications become available to users and gain popularity, the boundaries between the desktop and the Web become less discernible. The desktop is no longer the single access point to personal information, but one of many personal information sources. Consequently, personal information is becoming more fragmented across multiple devices, requiring extra effort to synchronize, duplicate, search and browse. We believe that semantic technologies can improve significantly the user's experience and relieve some of the stress associated with managing disparate information.

Personal semantic data is scattered over several media, and while semantic technologies are already successfully deployed on the Web as well as on the

desktop, data integration is not always straightforward. The transition from the desktop to a distributed system for PIM raises new challenges, which represent the subject of this workshop. Related research is being conducted in several disciplines like human-computer interaction, privacy and security, information extraction and matching. Through this workshop we would like to enable cross-domain collaborations to further advance the use of technologies from the Semantic Web and the Web of Data for Personal Information Management, and to explore and discuss approaches for improving PIM through the use of vast amounts of (semantic) information available online. In turn, this workshop is of interest to researchers in the areas of PIM, Linked Data, Web Sciences, Social Collaboration, and more.

We wish to thank all the authors of submitted papers and to the members of the program committee.

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The organizers

Organization Committee

Laura Drăgan :

Affiliation: Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), National University of Ireland, Galway

Email: laura.dragan@deri.org

Web page: http://www.deri.ie/about/team/member/laura_dragan/

Bernhard Schandl :

Affiliation: Department of Distributed and Multimedia Systems, University of Vienna, Austria

Email: bernhard.schandl@univie.ac.at

Web page: <http://www.cs.univie.ac.at/bernhard.schandl>

Charlie Abela :

Affiliation: Department of Intelligent Computer Systems (ICS), University of Malta, Malta

Email: charlie.abela@um.edu.mt

Web page: <http://staff.um.edu.mt/cabe2/>

Tudor Groza :

Affiliation: Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), National University of Ireland, Galway

Email: tudor.groza@deri.org

Web page: <http://www.tudorgroza.org>

Gunnar Aastrand Grimnes :

Affiliation: DFKI GmbH, Germany

Email: gunnar.grimnes@dfki.de

Web page: <http://www.dfki.uni-kl.de/~grimnes/>

Prof. Stefan Decker :

Affiliation: Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), National University of Ireland, Galway

Email: stefan.decker@deri.org

Web page: <http://www.stefandecker.org>

Program Committee

Diego Berrueta, *CTIC Foundation, Gijon, Spain*
Dan Brickley, *FOAF Project, UK*
François Bry, *Ludwig-Maximilian University Munich, Germany*
Jerome Euzenat, *INRIA Grenoble Rhone-Alpes, France*
Fabien Gandon, *INRIA Sophia-Antipolis, France*
Harry Halpin, *University of Edinburgh, UK*
Nicola Henze, *Leibniz University Hannover, Germany*
Robert Jaeschke, *University of Kassel, Germany*
William Jones, *The Information School, University of Washington, USA*
Malte Kiesel, *DFKI GmbH, Germany*
Stéphane Laurière, *Mandriva, France*
Knud Möller, *Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), Galway, Ireland*
Paola Monachesi, *Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands*
Daniel Olmedilla, *Telefonica R & D, Spain*
Gerald Reif, *University of Zurich, Department of Informatics, Switzerland*
Leo Sauermann, *gnowsis.com, Vienna, Austria*
Sven Schwarz, *DFKI GmbH, Germany*
Chris Staff, *Department of Intelligent Computer Systems, University of Malta*
Diman Todorov, *Knowledge Engineering Systems Group, Cardiff University, UK*
Mischa Tuffield, *Garlik, UK*
Claudia Wagner, *TU Graz, Austria*
Stefan Zander, *Department of Distributed and Multimedia Systems, University of Vienna, Austria*

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Table of Contents

Keynote

Making Sense of Users' Web Activity	1
<i>Mathieu D'Aquin</i>	

Full Papers

Managing Personal Information by Automatic Titling of E-mails	2
<i>Cédric Lopez, Violaine Prince, Mathieu Roche</i>	
SemChat: Extracting Personal Information from Chat Conversations	14
<i>Keith Cortis, Charlie Abela</i>	
Ad-hoc File Sharing Using Linked Data Technologies	26
<i>Niko Popitsch, Bernhard Schandl</i>	
Towards a Simple Textual Trace Based Personal Exo-Memory	38
<i>Pierre Deransart</i>	

Short Paper

LinksTo - A Web2.0 System that Utilises Linked Data Principles to Link Related Resources Together	50
<i>Owen Sacco, Matthew Montebello</i>	