

Enhancing MediaWiki Talk pages with Semantics for Better Coordination

A Proposal

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SemWiki2010 @ ESWC2010
31st of May 2010, Heraklion, Crete

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Talk pages need semantics



■ Lots of conversations

□ Viégas [11]: “the fastest growing areas of Wikipedia are devoted to coordination and organization”

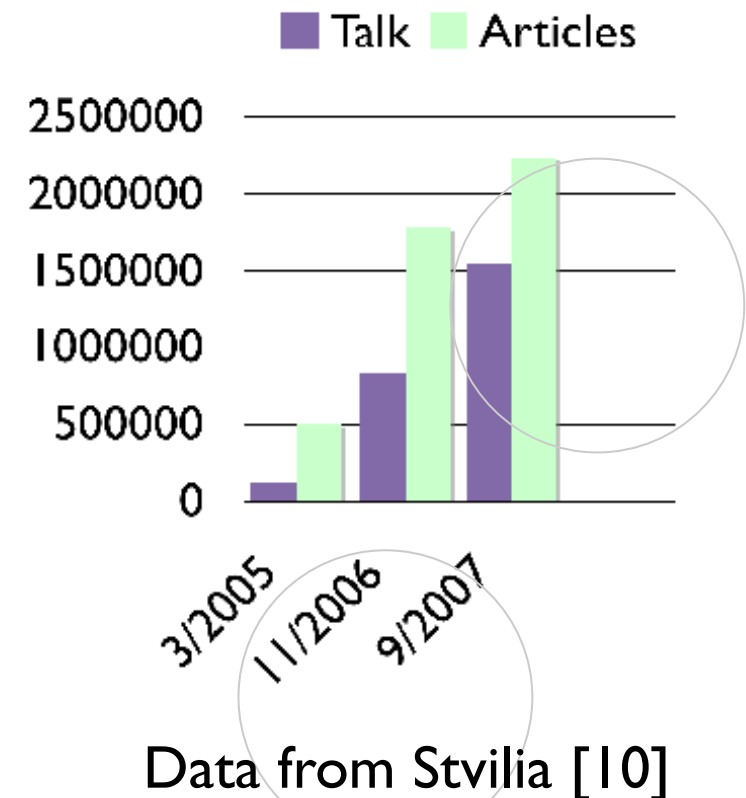
■ When are people agreeing/disagreeing?

□ Not well understood!

■ Very little study of Talk pages

□ Largest study: 60 pages, 2 types.
Discovered: Featured Articles have 10x discussion!

■ Immense variation between pages





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Talk:Semantic Web

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[Internet portal](#)

Start

This article has been rated as **Start-Class** on the project's [quality scale](#).

High

This article has been rated as **High-importance** on the project's [importance scale](#).

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link error?

[\[edit\]](#)

not sure, but does the link below link back to the parent page. The link can be found in the section on Linking Open Data (think it was)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semantic_Web#Triplify 

[avaiki](#) (talk) 09:36, 28 March 2009 (UTC)

Yes. Look for '#Triplify' in that section.

Since there is no heading of that name in the article it will link back to the top.

(No idea what to do about this!)

[Hymek](#) (talk) 11:04, 30 March 2009 (UTC)

This refers to the Triplify project at <http://triplify.org> . It may have been present in earlier versions of the article (did not check). I cannot say or do more than that due to [WP:COI](#). [Jens Lehmann](#) (talk) 10:32, 16 November 2009 (UTC)

Opening sentence

[\[edit\]](#)

Could somebody please put examples of 'semantic web' immediately after the opening sentence? Otherwise it just sounds a bit waffly and, more importantly, the intelligent lay reader is lost. Thanks. [86.42.96.251](#) (talk) 10:38, 30 March 2009 (UTC)

Merges

[\[edit\]](#)

Rule Interchange Format

[\[edit\]](#)

I'd support having [Rule Interchange Format](#) merged into this article (or removed altogether?). DBpedia is significant enough to have an article on it's own. [Nloth](#) (talk) 04:32, 16 November 2009 (UTC)

If you oppose, please just state so rather than removing the tags. RIF certainly should be merged or redirected. The DBpedia issue is currently in AFD, which will likely decide its merge fate as well. -- [Collectonian](#) (talk · [contribs](#)) 04:48, 16 November 2009 (UTC)



[Archives](#)
Archive 1

■ Classified into 15 types:

□ 11 based on Viégas [11]

- References to (1) vandalism, (2) wiki guidelines & policies, (3) internal wiki resources
- Requests for (1) editing coordination, (2) information, (3) peer-review
- Off-topic-remarks
- Polls
- Info boxes
- Images
- Other

□ 4 new comment types

- Based on a manual analysis of 100 Wikipedia talk pages

Our 4 New Comment Types



Classification	Example
Reference to...	
Sources outside the wiki	... Not sure where to put it but I'll leave it here as somebody might find it useful
Reverts, removed material, or controversial edits	I noticed some people edit the page into what it will be in 10 minutes but someone is reverting it...just let it be
Edits the discussant made	Added the About.com review since the review was part of the reception section.
Requests for...	
Help with another article, portal, etc.	This is just to invite attention to the page Facebook statistics just created...

■ Reusing existing models (FOAF/SIOC)

- Article: `sioc:WikiArticle`
- Link to the Talk page: `sioc:has_discussion`
- Discussions: `sioc:Thread`
- Individual comments: `sioc:Post`
- Commenter: `foaf:Person` / `sioc:UserAccount`

■ New elements from the previous categorization

- <http://rdfs.org/sioc/wikitalk>
- Focus on references and requests:
 - Difficult to imagine people marking their own comment as off-topic; however, labeling “request for help” is plausible
 - Relevant for querying and retrieving information

■ Referenceltem

- ReferenceToEdit
- ReferenceToGuidelinesOrPolicies
- ReferenceToRevertsOrControversialOrRemovedMaterial
- ReferenceToSources
- ReferenceToVandalism

■ RequestItem

- RequestEditingCoordination
- RequestHelpElsewhere
- RequestInfo
- RequestPeer-review



sioc:Article

sioc:Wiki

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sioc:Thread


sioc:Thread

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siocwt:RequestInfo

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sioc:UserAccount

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siocwt:Other

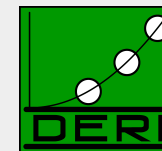
sioc:UserAccount

siocwt:ReferenceToSources, siocwt:ReferenceToGuidelinesOrPolicies

sioc:UserAccount

sioc:ip_address

Example RDFa markup



```
<div xmlns:sioc="http://rdfs.org/sioc/ns#" xmlns:siocwt="http://rdfs.org/sioc/wikitalk#" xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" about="#Opening_sentence" typeof="sioc:Thread" rel="sioc:has_container" href="/w/index.php?title=Talk:Semantic_Web">
<h2>
<span class="editsection">[<a href="/w/index.php?title=Talk:Semantic_Web&amp;action=edit&amp;section=2" title="Edit section: Opening_sentence">edit</a>]</span>
<span class="mw-headline" id="Opening_sentence">Opening sentence</span>
</h2>
<p about="#post_1" id="#post_1" typeof="siocwt:RequestEditingCoordination" rel="sioc:has_container" href="#Opening_sentence" property="content:encoded">Could somebody please put examples of 'semantic_web' immediately after the opening sentence? Otherwise it just sounds a bit waffly and, more importantly, the intelligent lay reader is lost. Thanks.
<a href="/wiki/Special:Contributions/86.42.96.251" title="Special:Contributions/86.42.96.251">86.42.96.251</a> (<a href="/wiki/User_talk:86.42.96.251" title="User talk:86.42.96.251">talk</a>) 10:38, 30 March 2009 (UTC)
</p>
</div>
```

- Hand markup of Wikipedia Talk pages with RDFa
- Developing a JavaScript RDFa Highlight plugin
 - Show comment types meeting specified criteria, e.g. RequestEditingCoordination or ReferenceToVandalism
- User evaluation (in progress)
 - Browsing talk pages with & without highlight plugins to identify particular comments
 - First results show that users say they're willing to specify the comment type when they add a comment in Talk pages
 - Further tests planned with MediaWiki / Wikipedia editors

■ Annotation plugin

- Collect comment types, automatically generate RDFa markup in Talk pages

■ Enhance highlight plugin, based on user feedback

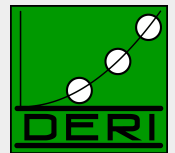
■ SPARQL queries to get ‘views’ of the data

- “Find all references to vandalism posted in the last 2 days”
- “Find all comments mentioning a source outside Wikipedia”

■ Automatically collate comments

- e.g. Transclude requests for information to the Wikipedia Reference Desk for a topic

Thank you !



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- Twitter: [@jschneider](https://twitter.com/jschneider)