The challenge of the Semantic Web, therefore, is to provide a language that expresses both data and rules for reasoning about the data and that allows rules from any existing knowledge representation system to be exported onto the Web.

T. Berners-Lee, J. Hendler, O. Lassila
Semantic Web, 2001
Motivating Scenarios

A person asking his web-agent:

- Book the ticket for the movie “The Lives of Others” in the nearest cinema that shows it today evening.
- Find a suitable wine for every item in this menu. If possible, choose French.
- Microwave, please, go to the website of the dish manufacturer and download the optimal parameters for cooking.

Naïve Plan

- Develop a MEGA-language that is powerful enough to describe all human knowledge and is machine understandable at the same time.
- Force all web publishers translate their websites to this language.
- Write programs that can search in and reason about all the information in the web.

There is a more practical solution for the first step.

Timeline

- **1994**: Foundation of W3C. They develop standards such as: HTML, URL, XML, HTTP, PNG, SVG, CSS.
- **1998**: Tim Berners-Lee published “Semantic Web Road Map”.
- **1999**: W3C launched groups for designing Semantic Web foundations, the first version of RDF is published.
- **2000**: American defence research institution started investigations for ontology descriptions (DAML+OIL project).
- **2004**: New version of RDF, ontology description language OWL.
- **2006**: Candidate recommendation of SPARQL, a query language for Semantic Web.

RDF and OWL

Tim Berners-Lee suggested to separate development of syntax and semantic of this MEGA-language.

Resource Description Framework (RDF) is a syntax for documents of Semantic Web. It uses links to ontologies.

Ontology Web Language (OWL) is a language for ontology description.

Ontology describes classes of objects, their properties and relationships in some domain, e.g. toy shops.
Semantic Web Step-by-Step

- Syntax for knowledge representation (done: RDF)
- Ontology description language (done: OWL)
- Web-services description language (started: OWL-S)
- Tools for reading/publishing Semantic Web documents (started: Jena, Haystack, Protege)
- Query language for data represented by RDF (started: SPARQL)
- Logic reasoning about RDF statements (to be done)
- Semantic search and semantic agents (to be done)

Concept of Semantic Search

**What is semantic search?**

- Assistance to classical web search
- Question answering systems
- Queries that returns concepts (nodes in XML documents), not documents themselves
- Query is a complex concept (small XML tree), semantic search returns the most similar object
- SQL-like queries to database of RDF statements
- Automated logical inference for RDF statements

Cake of Tim Berners-Lee

Part III
Three Algorithms for Semantic Search

Finding the most specific answer

Concept matching

Identifying related nodes in XML documents
X R A N K :  M o d e l

Database is a set of **XML documents**
There are **hyperlinks** between nodes
Every node contain some **text**
Query is a short list of keywords

A **complete** answer is a node that together with its descendants contain all query terms

M i n i m a l  A n s w e r s

A node $v$ is called to be a **minimal answer** if

$$\forall k \in Q :$$

- $[v \text{ contains } k]$  
- OR  
- $[\exists u \text{ son of } v \text{ s.t. } u \text{ contains }^* k \text{ AND } u \text{ is not complete answer}]$

**Search task:** find all minimal answers and rank them accordingly to the link/containment popularity

D e w e y  C o d e

Nodes in database have Dewey codes $n_1.n_2.\ldots .n_h$

For example, Dewey code 7.2.12 denotes the 12th left son of the 2nd left son of the root of the 7th document in our collection.

For every keyword **Dewey inverted index** store a list of Dewey codes of nodes (DIL) that directly contain this keyword

I l l u s t r a t i o n  f r o m  X R A N K  p a p e r
Minimal Answers Problem

Given Dewey inverted lists for all query terms to return a list of Dewey codes of all minimal answers.

Algorithm for Minimal Answers (1/2)

Single pass: every time read a next code in union of DILs

Keep an auxiliary data structure Dewey stack for the last scanned read node \( v \):

- for every predecessor of \( v \) keep a set of keywords that are contained* prior-or-equal to \( v \)
- ignoring complete nodes

Algorithm for Minimal Answers (2/2)

Update for Dewey stack from \( v \) to \( u \):

1. find a lowest common predecessor \( w \) for \( v \) and \( u \)
2. Sequentially consider ancestors of \( u \) from bottom to top, add keywords of \( u \) to their set in Dewey stack
3. Stop at root, or with identical set update or on the first complete node
4. In latter case output this node to the list of minimal answers

Conceptual Graph Matching

Query is a tree with labelled edges and nodes

Database is a family of trees

Domain information: similarity between edge/node labels

Task: to find a tree in DB with maximal similarity to query tree
### Illustration from Conceptual Matching Paper

![Illustration](image.png)

### Similarity Formula

\[
TreeSim(Q, R) = NodeSim(q_0, r_0) + \\
+ \max_{\text{children matching } \pi} \left( \sum_i \text{EdgeSim}(q_0q_i, r_0r_{\pi_i}) \cdot TreeSim(Q|q_i, R|r_{\pi_i}) \right)
\]

### Recursive Algorithm for Graph Matching

1. Compute \textit{TreeSim} for every pair of \(Q\) and \(R\) roots' children
2. Find the best matching by applying Bellman-Ford algorithm

Complexity for \(l\)-branch trees of depth \(d\):

\[
C(d + 1) = l^2 C(d) + l^4 + \text{const} \\
C(d) = O(l^{2d+2}) = O(n^2 l^2)
\]

In general, time complexity is \(O(n^4)\)

### XSEarch Model

**Database:** huge XML tree with labels on internal nodes and keywords on leaves

**Query terms:** “label:keyword”, “label:”, “:keyword”

**Answer:** a set of \textit{interconnected} nodes that together satisfy all query terms
Interconnection

Nodes $u$ and $v$ are interconnected iff on the shortest path between them only labels of $u$ and $v$ can coincide.

Properties of Interconnection

For $u$ being ancestor of $v$:

$$
InCon[u, v] = InCon[u, parent(v)] \& (\text{label}(u) \neq \text{label}(parent(v))) \& InCon[son_v(u), v] \& (\text{label}(son_v(u)) \neq \text{label}(v))
$$

Otherwise:

$$
InCon[u, v] = InCon[u, parent(v)] \& (\text{label}(u) \neq \text{label}(parent(v))) \& InCon[parent(u), v] \& (\text{label}(parent(u)) \neq \text{label}(v))
$$

Using these formulas we can compute $InCon$ for all pairs in $O(|T|)$ for all pairs by dynamic programming.

Directions for Further Research

- Algorithms for online conceptual graph matching
- Queries using arithmetic: “what is the most popular movie (according to IMDB) I have not seen yet?”
- Automated inference for RDF statements?
  Semantic search for the case when the answer is not in the DB, but can be derived from it.
Call for participation

Know a relevant reference? Have an idea? Find a mistake? Solved one of these problems?

- Knock to my office 1.156
- Write to me yura@logic.pdmi.ras.ru
- Join our informal discussions
- Participate in writing a follow-up paper

Highlights

- XRank: merging Dewey inverted lists by a single pass
- Concept matching: finding the most similar tree to the query tree
- XSearch: computing interconnection by dynamic programming

Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!

Fragen?

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