

Topincs Wiki

Collaborative Topicmapping

Outline

- Motivation
- Architecture
- Demo
- Outlook

Motivation

»What for?«

Last years TMRA 2006

- Topincs: a RESTful web service interface
- Topincs Server: an implementation of the interface
- Topincs Editor: a web based Topic Maps Editor
- Knowledge logging during the conference
- First exposure of Topincs in multi-user-environment
- User interface was the Topincs Editor

Learnings

- More user-friendly interface necessary
- Allow faster editing (less actions)
- Hide Topic Maps paradigm
- Loose less information in natural language occurrences

Topincs Wiki

- Semantic Wiki
- AJAX pages, using browser infrastructure (navigation, bookmarks)
- Editing occurrences, names: only value
- Editing associations: only players
- Create new statements where a prototype exists
- Currently in beta stadium
- **Passed »the wife test«**

Motivation

» *What for?* «

- A user-friendly, collaborative topic map editor

Architecture

»How does it work?«

Stores

- A Store is set of topic maps that people work upon in collaboration
- Every subject is represented by one topic within a store
- A store has a URL
- Example: **<http://www.topincs.com/tmra/2007>**
- Editor: [Store URL]/editor/
- Wiki: [Store URL]/wiki/

Articles

- Every article is a topic map about a subject
- Contains **all statements** that the store has on the subject
- The topic representing the subject with occurrences and names
- **All** associations where the subject plays a role
- **All** referenced topics and their names in the current scope

Addressing

- [Store URL]/wiki/id:system_id
- [Store URL]/wiki/si:some_subject_identifier
- [Store URL]/wiki/sl:some_subject_locator
- [Store URL]/wiki/ii:some_item_identifier
- Current version contains a bug:
- <http://www.topincs.com/issues/wiki/id:117>

Ontological reflection

- Very simple: No abstract model, but prototypes
- If there exists a person with an telephone number, suggest telephone number for topics of type person.
- The interface offers a reflection mechanism to query what types of statements topics of certain type have
- Has limitations, but allows guidance

Architecture

»*How does it work?*«

- Small topic maps about one subject (similar to an article)
- Statements about a subject (occurrences, names, and associations)
- Addressable at a URL
- Ontological reflection

Demo

»Show me!«

Outlook

»*What comes next?*«

Next features and actions

- Disussion (easy)
- Versioning (not easy)
- How-to clips on youtube
- <http://www.topincs.com/manual/wiki/>
- Merging in the web browser
- **Topincs has the potential to allow people that speak different languages to create content collaborativly!**

Vision of Topincs

Outlook

» *What comes next?* «

- More wikiness in the Wiki
- Better documentation
- Merging in web browser