10. Documents and Data Models... and Modeling

INFO 202 - 1 October 2008

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Plan for INFO Lecture #10

Modeling across the "Document Type Spectrum"

Document models {and,or,vs} data models

"Berkeley Event Calendar Network" case study

How much modeling is necessary?

Documents vs. Data

Many people have contrasted "documents" and "data" and concluded that documents and data cannot be understood and handled with the same terminology, techniques, and tools.

This document vs. data distinction is embedded and reinforced in courses, textbooks, technology, and product marketing

And it doesn't help

Mixing Data and Documents



Catalog: Data (Document)

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| 6x9 | 1000 | 88403LU | 39.15 | 88433LU | 59.90 | 89979LU | 8 x 2100 | 78.64 | 89940LU | |
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Reference Book: Document (Data)



Contrasting Methodologies for Documents and Data

Documents and data have had two different disciplines or methods of analysis that have had little intersection

Document-centric analysis

Data-centric analysis

Document Analysis

Documents are *Artifacts* or *Renditions* that combine content, structure and appearance

The goal of document analysis is a model of a document's content and structure that is separate from its presentational characteristics

The optimal prescriptive schema for a set of documents is one that best satisfies the requirements of current and prospective users for carrying out specific tasks with new instances

Finally, one or more stylesheets can be used to assign formatting or rendering characteristics in a consistent manner to any valid document

Data-Centric Analysis

Goal is to understand and describe the properties and relationships between information components or objects.

This understanding is represented in conceptual models that organize the components efficiently to support a broad range of contexts or applications.

The conceptual model is also typically called a schema, but this is generally meant to be a "database schema" rather than a "document schema"

The Document Type Spectrum



The Document Type Spectrum – "Narrative Publications"

Authored by people

Highly designed, with rich presentational characteristics correlated with semantics and structure

Heterogeneous in structure and content

Weakly datatyped - "just text"

The Document Type Spectrum – "Transactional Documents"

Created mechanically

Few and somewhat arbitrary presentational characteristics

Homogeneous in structure and content

Strongly datatyped

It's Obviously A Continuum

There is systematic and continuous variation in document instances and types and there is no clear boundary between documents and data

But the traditional tools, terminology, and techniques for analyzing documents and data have made it into a chasm

Crossing the Chasm with "Document Engineering" Methods

Document Engineering harmonizes the terminology and emphasizes what they have in common rather than highlighting their differences:

Identifying the presentational, content, and structural components

Eliminating synonymy and homonymy

Identifying and organizing the "good" content components

Assembling hierarchical document models to organize components to meet requirements for a specific context for information exchange

Harvesting and Consolidation

HARVESTING: Create a set of candidate content components by extracting them from the information sources while removing presentation and structure

• For each component, record its properties (or metadata or attributes or behaviors) that enable us to understand and distinguish it

CONSOLIDATION: (Identify synonyms and homonyms among the candidate content components, assigning a unique name to each unique meaning as part of a controlled vocabulary

• Names might follow precise rules to ensure that they can be reliably stored and located in a data dictionary (e.g., a la ISO 11179 part 5)

"Good Models and "Better Models"...

Definitions

Definitions in a controlled vocabulary

Data types

Metadata

Metamodels

Formal assertions

Ontologies and thesauri

The Simplest Component Model

The simplest or minimal information component model is a GLOSSARY – a list of the words used to describe or name the "things of significance" and what they mean

This simple data model is augmented as attributes or characteristics of the significant things are identified and recorded

The model is further developed as relationships or associations or links between the "significant things" are identified and recorded

Component Metadata

What attributes about each type of content might we record in our analysis?

- Names/synonyms/homonyms (what it is called)
- Definition (what it "means")
- Identifiers
- Cardinality/Optionality (occurrence rules)
- Restricted values, code sets, defaults
- Data Type (text, numbers, date, video)
- Relationships/Associations (participation in structures and "ontology")

Modeling "Events" for The Berkeley Calendar Network

The first published Document Engineering case study whose "snapshots" illustrate the analysis, modeling, and schema encoding approach

The problem - scores of calendars on berkeley.edu with overlapping coverage and audiences but incompatible data models

No automated reuse of information; you need to submit events to multiple calendars or copy events from them

Each calendar has a different event submission form and a different model of an event

The UC Berkeley Event Calendar, 2004

| NewsCenter Today's news & events | It's all happening at Berkeley Search Results |
|--|---|
| Calendar home Search events | Results: 15 event(s) found. Exhibits are listed last. |
| ► Today's events ► Add an event | Thursday, January 8, 2004 - Thursday, May 27, 2004 |
| Browse events by day using the monthly calendars below, or click " <u>Search Events</u> " to find events by date, event type, keyword, sponsor or speaker. | Workshop • Elder Care Support Group (CARE Services) 12:00-1:30 pm Wednesday, May 12, 2004 |
| May 2004 S M T W Th F S | Special Event/Other |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ | <u>Peace Corps on Sproul</u> (Cal Corps Public Service Center/OSL) 10:00AM |
| 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 | <u>Peace Corps Office Hours</u> (Cal Corps Public Service Center/OSL) 1:00PM |

The UC Berkeley Event Calendar, 2008 WUC Berkeley Events Calendar - Mozilla Firefox - 🗆 🗙 File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help 🐗 - 🏟 - 🥑 💿 🏠 📓 http://events.berkeley.edu/ - D Google <u>s</u> 🔩 🔯 Latest Headlines **UCBerkeleyEvents** It's all happening at Berkele Submit or edit an event > Advanced search > Event search Go CRITIC'S CHOICE ALL EVENTS ACADEMIC LECTURES SPORTS PERFORMING ARTS FILMS EXHIBITS OTHER April 2008 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 • ➡ 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Contraction of the ➡ 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 Get a peek at spring '08 coming attractions > ✤ 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 ➡ 27 28 29 30 This week Tuesday 4/15 Lecture: Spiritualizing the secular-the origins of the Jewish pati Performance: 'One World, One Dream, An Olympic Spectacular Wednesday 4/16 Gala: Richard Blum and Chitra Divakaruni honored at International House Interactive talk: 'Feel Dead Brains' Noon concert: Jared Redmond, piano OTHER CALENDARS Other campus calendars through 4/30 Lecture series: 'The Emerging Narrative of China Presidential election: 'Obama Phenome Story Hour: Novelist Melanie Abrams Academic calendar Thursday 4/17 Cal Day 2008 Dance: Berkeley Dance Project 2008 Conference: The law and business of online advertising Friday 4/18 ABOUT THE CALENDAR Submit or edit an event Event submission guidelines Saturday 4/19 Symposium: Buddhism and culture in middle-period China Performance: 'Echoes of Africa' About the calendar network Coming soon Monday 4/21 Symposium: Fifth Annual UC Berkeley Sustainability Summit **Typical Incompatibility of Event Models** U.C. Berkeley Gateway Site Admission: Registration Required Ticket Required Phone to order: Cost: Open to: V Public V Campus V Alumni ✓ Students ✓ Faculty ✓ Staff Haas School of Rusiness

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| | | E-mail: |

Event Calendar Network: Conceptual Architecture



Information Sources

User Interviews (18)

Event specifications/standards (iCalendar [IETF RFC 2445], SKICal)

Existing Calendars (23)

Event Calendars: Analysis Strategy

What can we learn from a specific calendar instance?

What can we learn from an "add new event" forms?

But you also have to look at instances and forms in combination

Kept analyzing new calendars until "law of diminishing returns" kicked in

Event Calendars: Harvesting and Consolidating Components

Synonyms:

- Start Date
- Commencement

Homonyms:

- Contact (person submitting an event)
- Contact (person to contact about an event)
- Category / Type (disjoint domains: events, attendees)

Harvesting took on average 2 hours per calendar

Event Calendars Harvest of Candidate Components

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| 2 | BAMFA | Location | Location | Sara | Core | EventLocation | FALSE | T |
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Event Calendars Component Consolidation (Simplified)

| Name | Semantic Description | Source 1 | Source 2 | Source 3 |
|---------------|---|----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Title | The title of the event | x | x | |
| Start Date | The date of the event, or the first date of a recurring event | x | | |
| End Date | The last date of the event | х | | |
| Location | The location of the event | x | X (merge d wita synonym. Venve) | x |
| Speaker | Name(s) of the person(s) speaking at the event | | x | х |
| Description | The description of the event | | x | х |
| Speaker Title | The title of the speaker | | | X (renamed hornonym Title) |

Event Calendars: The Conceptual Model

When we've analyzed all of the candidate components for dependencies, we've created a conceptual model for event calendars

From this model we can assemble any of a set of related document types for different varieties of event calendars

The Complete Conceptual Model



A Simplified Conceptual Model



Document Models {and,or,vs} Data Models

A relational model (a set of tables in our example) simultaneously describes all of the associations among the components; put another way, it doesn't highlight any particular association

But when we exchange information, we do so to satisfy the requirements in some context

If there are multiple ways to interpret the content we will not achieve interoperability

So we impose a contextual interpretation when we create a hierarchy on a relational model

Multiple Paths in the Component Network



Document Model Assembly

Document model assembly is the process of creating a model of a document type – hierarchical and nested – by drawing on the "pool" or library of content and structural components

Assembly involves designing (or selecting a pattern for) the top level structure as an entry point and then navigating through the relationships in the conceptual model to order components to satisfy requirements

Assembly order can differ whenever there is a bi-directional relationship between components



The Time-Based Calendar Model



The Modeling Debate [1]

Some problems and some domains are inherently complex and a careful, rigorous modeling approach is required

• This "heavyweight" position argues that there are no modeling shortcuts

But some people argue that modeling "involves a substantial amount of work that is often political, tedious, and unpleasant" that should be avoided whenever possible

• Some domains and use cases might be simple enough ("Microformats") that less "heavyweight" modeling approaches could suffice

The Modeling Debate [2]

You should always look to see if someone has already modeled your problem domain (Cover Pages and OASIS)

If the underlying conceptual model of an existing vocabulary doesn't fit your requirements and you must develop your own, you have many choices to make about scope, abstraction, and granularity

Modeling "Professor Stories"

Bob Glushko is an Adjunct Full Professor at UC Berkeley's School of Information, located in South Hall. He teaches Information Organization and Retrieval (INFO 202), Document Engineering (INFO 243), and other courses. He has a B.A. from Stanford University (California) and a Ph.D. from UC San Diego.

Coye Cheshire is an Assistant Professor at the School of Information. He recently received his Ph.D. from Stanford University. He teaches Computer Mediation Communication, Social and Organizational Aspects of Computing, and other courses.

Modeling as "Text Blobs"

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"Content Nuggets" in the Text (aka "Mixed Content")

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A More Structured Professor Story



Facts in Tabular Format

| NAME | RANK | AFFILIATION | COURSES | DEGREES |
|----------|-----------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Bob | Adjunct | UC Berkeley, School of | Info Org & Retrieval | BA, Stanford |
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| | | | 243) | |
| Coye | Assistant | UC Berkeley, School of | Computer-Mediated | Ph.D, Stanford |
| Cheshire | Professor | Information | Communication; | |
| | | | Social & | |
| | | | Organizational | |
| | | | Aspects of Computing | |

Problems with this Organization of the Facts

It may seem that this way of organizing the facts is useful, but there are some problems with it

This is a "spreadsheet" style of data organization, with rows and columns defining cells that are just "data buckets" buckets into which we can put almost anything

Some of the "buckets" contain repeating items rather than "atomic" information components

Some of the "buckets" contain values that are not of the same type

What relationships describe how different columns go together?

Normalized Tables

| | PROFESSORS | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| NAME RANK AFFILIATION | | | | | |
| Bob Glushko | Adjunct Full | UC Berkeley, School of Information | | | |
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| Bob Glushko | Info Org & Retrieval | INFO 202 | | |
| Bob Glushko | Document Engineering | INFO 242 | | |
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Readings for INFO Lecture #11

Robert J. Glushko and Tim McGrath, Document Engineering, Chapter 6, "When Models Don't Match: The Interoperability Challenge"

Michael Stonebraker and Joseph Hellerstein, "Content Integration for E-Business"