Humans and the Web of Data

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Triple-I Keynote, 5 September 2008
Structure

1. Assumptions
2. Browsing the Web of Data
3. Interaction Widgets for the Web of Data
4. Social Networks, Recommendations and Trust
5. Closing Remarks
My Assumptions about the Semantic Web

1. It's a Web of Data
   · nothing more, nothing less (for now)
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Graz Tourism
Tags:
Graz Tourismus ... Graz Region ... Weekend packages - What's up this weekend? How about taking a break in Graz? Weekend specials ...
http://www.graztourism.at/cache.yahoo

Graz Austria
Tags: Technical College Academy of Music Prince Honor Ulrich
Plan your next vacation to Graz, Austria using our comprehensive travel guide. ... Graz was of some consequence in trading under the Traungau family and later ...

Graz Online - Stadtportal der Landes ...
Tags: icomedia.com
Graz Online - Stadtportal der Landeshauptstadt Graz ... The 17 Districts of Graz. Graz Personalities. Sister Cities. Honoring. Cultural Venues ...
http://www.graz.at/EN[cache.yahoo]
My Assumptions about the Semantic Web

1. It's a Web of Data
   • nothing more, nothing less (for now)
"Linked Data is the Semantic Web done right, and the Web done right" – Tim Berners-Lee
My Assumptions about the Semantic Web

2. It's not fiction, but fact
The Linking Open Data "Cloud" – May 2007
<owl:Thing rdf:about="things/shoulder-of-mutton-calverton-milton-keynes-accommodation">
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Humans and the Web of Data
Brandenburg Gate - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
The Brandenburg Gate (German: Brandenburger Tor) is a former city gate and one of the main symbols of Berlin and Germany. It is located west of the city.

Berlin: The Brandenburg Gate
The Brandenburg Gate was commissioned by Friedrich Wilhelm II to represent peace.

Monuments in Berlin / Senate Department for Urban Development in ...
The Brandenburg Gate is crowned with a quadriga depicting the goddess of ... The Brandenburg Gate is not only a symbol of division and reunification ...

Brandenburg Gate * Berlin
(The article about the history of the Brandenburg Gate is soon available, German page) ...

Brandenburg Gate around 1850, view from West to East Berlin [2] ...

Brandenburg Gate - Google Books Result
by Henry Porter - 2006 - Fiction - 448 pages
Brandenburg Gate shows Henry Porter at the top of his game.

Ben Smith's Blog: Brandenburg Gate gate - Politico.com
While the Brandenburg gate is a great location, at best speaking there would ... Presidents Kennedy and Reagan were statesmen who spoke at Brandenburg Gate ...

Sightseeing: Brandenburger Tor
Picture 1: Brandenburg Gate at night, viewed from Pariser Platz ... Pariser Platz forms the link between the Brandenburg Gate and the magnificent Unter ...
The Brandenburg Gate (German: Brandenburger Tor) is a former city gate and one of the main symbols of Berlin and Germany. It is located west of the city center at the intersection of Unter den Linden and Ebertstraße, immediately west of the Pariser Platz. It is the only remaining gate of a series through which one formerly entered Berlin. One block to its north lies the Reichstag. The gate is the monumental entry to Unter den Linden, the renowned boulevard of linden trees which formerly led directly to the city palace of the Prussian monarchs. It was commissioned by King Frederick William I of Prussia as a sign of peace and built by Carl Gotthard Langhans from 1788 to 1791. Today, it is considered one of Europe’s most famous landmarks.

Design and history

The Brandenburg Gate consists of twelve Doric columns, six to each side, forming five passageways. Citizens originally were allowed to use only the outermost two. On top of the gate is the Quadriga, the chariot drawn by four horses driven by Victoria, the Roman goddess of victory. As in 1793, when it was originally installed, the Quadriga faces east.

The Gate’s design is based upon the Propylea, the gateway to the Acropolis in Athens, Greece and is consistent with Berlin’s history of architectural classicism (first, Baroque and then neo-Palladian). The Gate was the first “Athens on the River Spree” by architect Carl Gotthard von Langhans. The capital Quadriga was sculpted by Johann Gottfried Schadow.

The Brandenburg Gate’s design has remained essentially unchanged since its completion even as it has played different political roles in German history. After the 1806 Prussian defeat at the Battle of Jena-Auerstedt, Napoleon took the Quadriga to Paris. After Napoleon's defeat in 1814 and the Prussian occupation of Paris by General Ernst von Fibel, the Quadriga was restored to Berlin and Victoria's wreath of oak leaves was supplemented with a new symbol of Prussian power, the Iron Cross.

When the Nazis ascended to power they used the Gate as their symbol. The Gate survived World War II and was one of the few structures standing in the Pariser Platz ruins in 1945 (another being the Academy of Fine Arts). Following Germany's surrender and the end of the second World war, the governments of East Berlin and West Berlin restored it in a joint effort. Vehicles and pedestrians could again travel freely through the gate, until August 1961 when the Berlin Wall was erected. The wall and its fortified death strip ran just west of the gate.
The Brandenburg Gate
Unter den Linden/Strasse des 17 Juni
Berlin
View Map

The Brandenburg Gate was commissioned by Friedrich Wilhelm II to represent peace. The Gate was designed by Karl Gotthard Langhans, the Court Superintendent of Buildings, and the main architectural design of this landmark hasn’t changed since it was first constructed in 1791. Ironically the gate was incorporated into the Berlin wall during the years of Communist government. The Brandenburg gate is probably the most well-known landmark in Berlin, it now stands as a symbol of the reunification of the two sides of this great city.

- More Landmarks in this district
- Hotels in the Tiergarten district

Picture supplied by the Berlin Tourist Board

Copyright, terms and conditions  Send a Comment
Brandenburg Gate (Brandenburger Tor), Pariser Platz (Paris Square), Mitte; 1788-91 by Carl Gotthard Langhans, sculptures by Johann Gottfried Schadow

The Brandenburg Gate is the trademark of Berlin. The main entrance to the city, surrounded by the wall for thirty years, was known throughout the world as a symbol for the division of the city and for the division of the world into two power blocs. Today's international visitors to Pariser Platz come to re-experience this first gateway to the city, and to enjoy the long-denied freedom to walk through this magnificent work of art and look at it up close.

It was built as the grandest of a series of city gates constituting the passages through the customs wall encircling the city at the end of the eighteenth century. It is the only gate which survived, because it constitutes the monumental termination of Unter den Linden, the renowned boulevard of linden trees which laid directly to the residence of the Prussian kings until the destruction of the city castle. The entire construction and ornamentation of the gate reflect the extraordinary importance it was granted by its builders. The architect selected as the model for his design the Propylaea in Athens, the monumental entry hall of the Acropolis. Just as the Propylaea led to a shrine of the Ancient world, this gate was to represent the access to the most important city of the Prussian kingdom. This reference to Antiquity made it the structure which founded the Classic age of architecture in Berlin, an epoch which brought the city its sobriquet "Spreestadt" ("Athens of the Spree"). The most important sculptor in Berlin during this period carried out the accompanying agenda of visual explanation. The Brandenburg Gate is crowned with a quadriga depicting the goddess of victory, "who brings peace", marching into the city. The relief on the pedestal portrays her again with her attendants. Personifications of virtues like friendship and statesmanship are represented, along with symbols of arts and sciences, because they make a city like Berlin bloom in times of peace. Reliefs with the exploits of Hercules in the passages allude to the time of the wars and the subsequent period of reconstruction, during which Friedrich II made Prussia into a European power and laid the foundation for flourishing trade and crafts. The gate thus is also a memorial for the king who died a few years before its construction.
We found 14,813 results matching brandenburg and gate.

Brandenburg Gate, Berlin
by Tobi_2008
81 comments ★ 14 faves
Tagged with city, berlin, germany, deutschland...
Taken on May 10, 2008, uploaded May 26, 2008
Taken in Tiergarten, Berlin, BE, Germany (map)
See more of Tobi_2008's photos, or visit his profile.

The Brandenburg Gate
by [martin]
7 comments ★ 8 faves
Tagged with light, berlin, festival, night...
Taken on August 9, 2006, uploaded March 6, 2006
Taken in Mitte, Berlin, BE, Germany (map)
See more of [martin]'s photos, or visit his profile.

Brandenburg Gate
by Wolfgang Staudt
166 comments ★ 49 faves
Tagged with berlin, germany, brandenburggate, superhot...
Taken on June 17, 2007, uploaded June 18, 2007
See more of Wolfgang Staudt's photos, or visit his profile.
Photographs Brandenburg Gate

Displaying 1 to 20 (of 55 photographs)

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The Brandenburg Gate (German: Brandenburger Tor) is a prime city gate and one of the main symbols of Berlin and Germany. It is located next to the city center and is the intersection of Unter den Linden and Gendarmenmarkt. It was originally built in the 1700s and is considered one of the finest examples of baroque architecture in Europe. The gate was heavily damaged during World War II but was later restored. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is a popular tourist attraction.
What does it mean to "Browse" the Web of Data?
Not Document Browsers, but *Thing Browsers*
http://dbpedia.org/resource/Brandenburg_Gate
Brandenburg Gate

http://www.params.org/params.html

52.518313.3777

Brandenburg Gate is a symbol of Berlin. It was built to guard the eastern entrance to the city. The gate was constructed in 1788 to protect the city from French invasions. The gate has been restored several times and is now a popular tourist attraction.

Abstract

La Puerta de Brandenburgo es un arco de triunfo, situado en el parque de la ciudad. La construcción fue ordenada por Carlos Ludwig, hermano del emperador Frederico II de Prusia. La Puerta fue inaugurada en 1788, después de varias modificaciones. La Puerta de Brandenburgo es un símbolo importante de la ciudad de Berlín, y es un monumento arquitectónico importante.
Browsing in Multiple Dimensions
Interaction Widgets for Browsing the Web of Data
Research

I'm currently a Researcher in the Platform Division at Talis, working in the field of recommender systems and collective intelligence in a Linked Data/Semantic Web context. Before joining Talis I studied for my PhD at the Knowledge Media Institute of The Open University in the UK.

My PhD research was focused on using the Semantic Web to support recommendation-seeking in social networks. Specifically the aim was to understand how people choose word of mouth information sources from among members of their social networks, and the factors that affect these source-selection decisions; model these processes as computational algorithms so they can be replicated in an online environment; build Semantic Web-based systems that support people in information seeking through their trusted social networks. See Research for a few more details.

Recent Publications (see all Publications)


From Elsewhere on the Web

Tom's latest reviews on Revyu.com

- Brandenburg Gate
- Man on Wire
- The Grant Institute
- Alison May - Food Stylist and Writer
- Kwick-Fit Tyres and Car Servicing, Cheltenham Road, Bristol
- The Lamb, Stoke Goldington, Milton Keynes
- New Street Station, Birmingham
- Tim Berners-Lee's Keynote at Linked Data Planet, New York, 17 June 2008
- Cats Abbey, Sherborne, Gloucestershire
- Harmony Guesthouse, Pingyao, Shanxi Province, China

Talis Project Xiphos - About
SPARQL Implementation Survey
Linked Data Blog aggregator
Linked Movie Data Base | Start Page
Das Know-Center holt die international anerkanntesten Spitzenforscher zur I-KNOW nach Graz
LSL - Learning Societies Lab Homepage
Semantic Web Austin
Job Mart - ESW Wiki
Semantic Search Arrives at the Web
Yahoo Researcher Seeks to Combine Semantic Search Methods (SearchEngineWatch)
RDF/XML with ARC2
The 7th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC 2008) | How to Publish Linked Data on the Web
monarty - Google Code
WhatIsVoCamp - VoCamp
Tom Heath's Displacement Activities

What's with the images in Cuil?
Monday, 4 August 2008 16:19:30
TOM HEATH, Cuil, PICTURES, TALKS ...

I've just been having a play with Cuil. In general I really like it, particularly the richer layout. What is very weird (aka rubbish) though is the algorithm they're using to select images for display next to each result. A quick search for Talls shows some relatively sensible accompanying images, although I'm not sure who the young guy with the beard is.

A bit of vanity searching though throws up all sorts of weirdness. This time who is the old dude with the beard known as 3J2? See Other? He looks kind of familiar, but there's no way it's me. And who's the other young guy with the whispy chin hair, and why is he squatting on my publications page? I like the juxtaposition of Linked Data and the Killer App image, but why? There seem to be far too many false positives, so come on, Cuil, up the confidence threshold slightly.

VoCamp - Tackling the Vocabulary Bottleneck
Wednesday, 30 July 2008 07:47:16
EVENT, VOCABULARY, SEMANTIC WEB, VOCCAMP ...

The last 18 months have seen amazing progress in the world of Linked Data, but we now face a new challenge: availability of vocabularies to describe this data. OK, so it's not really a new challenge at all, but this time it's real, and urgent. Anyone stumbling across a tasty open data set on the Web is generally faced with the decision of whether to create the necessary vocabulary with which to describe the data, or walk away and find something to do that is more immediately gratifying. There just isn't a critical mass of existing vocabularies with which to describe the data that is already out there on the Web.

Out of the desire to do something about this issue, and spurred on by discussions with a number of people in the community, Richard Cyganiak and I have set a ball rolling called VoCamp - lightweight, informal hackfests, where motivated people can get together and spend some dedicated time creating vocabularies/ontologies in any area that interests them. Thanks to the generous efforts of David Shotton and Jun Zhao, the first VoCamp will take place in Oxford in late September.
Tom Heath


Publications

- Recipes for Semantic Web Dog Food - The ESWC and ISWC Metadata Projects
- Revyu.com: A Reviewing and Rating Site for the Web of Data

FOAF Knows Relationships

- Denny Vrandecic
- Chris Bizer

See also: FOAF
Reviews by tom (202)

Brandenburg Gate
★★★★☆ on 10 Aug 2008
The Brandenburg Gate makes a pretty impressive and imposing monument as you approach down Unter den Linden. For many people the gate will be imprinted on the brain from images of the day the Berlin wall fell, and the history bound up in this place is tangible. Just being able to walk through it freely is a fairly mind-blowing experience. Not to be missed if you're in Berlin.

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Brilliant. This account of Philippe Petit's high-wire walk between the two towers of the World Trade Center is mind-blowing, moving and hilariously funny in almost equal measures.

The documentary plus reconstruction format works pretty well, and while some of Petit's present day performances for the camera are over the top the film never lacks credibility. In fact the interview segments have a degree of clarity that really brings the story alive. They're somewhat reminiscent of similar features in Touching the Void, except the range of protagonists with distinct characters gives this an added dimension.

Great direction, coupled with a powerful soundtrack and poignant archive footage of the Twin Towers under construction make this an unmissable film.

The Grant Institute
★★★★★ on 04 Aug 2008
I've got no idea what these guys actually do, but if my email inbox is anything to go by they're too busy sending spam email to actually do any real work. It seems to be something to do with workshops about writing grant proposals, but I can't imagine who would want to take a course with these guys given their marketing techniques. I'm not going to provide a link to their web site, as I don't want them to gain any Google karma from this review.

Alison May - Food Stylist and Writer
★★★★★ on 04 Aug 2008
Not being in the kind of business that needs food stylists or food writers, I haven't ever booked Alison for a job. However, I have been lucky enough to act as a guinea pig while she's been perfecting recipes for clients, and it's impressive stuff, always impeccably presented.

Kwik-Fit Tyres and Car Servicing, Cheltenham Road, Bristol
★★★★☆ on 31 Jul 2008
I've had bad experiences with this branch of Kwik-Fit on Cheltenham Road before, but always gone back as the guys seemed decent but just sketchy and disorganised due to stress. I was willing to give them the benefit of the doubt, but today's experience really takes the biscuit.

Having got some quotes for tyres over the phone earlier this week I phoned Kwik-Fit to see if they could match the best quote. This said they could, and would order the tyres in for fitting later in the week. They were due to be fitted today, but on taking the car in it turned out the specific tyres had not been ordered as agreed. To make matters worse the manager appeared and refused to honour the telephone quote for those specific tyres or even some cheaper alternatives. At this point I walked away, and will now have to make an additional trip elsewhere.

If you're thinking of chance-ing it and using this Kwik-Fit, my word of advice is to always phone back and double-check that they've done what they said they were going to do before you turn up. All in all though, my opinion is that giving this place a wide berth is by far the best strategy.
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|                   | • Revu |
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|                   | • Ionathly |
| **title**         | • Mr  |
| **firstName**     | • Tom  |
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| **login ID**      | • t.heath@open.ac.uk@buddy/space.org  |
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**Tom Heath**

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shared
innovation
Social Networks, Recommendations and Trust
- Who knows what?
- Who is the best person to ask?
- How to find out?
Hey, Dunno if you've gone to Berlin yet, but the TV tower by Alexanderplatz is awesome; go to the top just before dusk. Go to Checkpoint Charlie to see the "You are now entering..." sign and stand on the spot where American and Soviet tanks faced each other down just yards apart. Don't bother with the "Haus am Checkpoint Charlie" though - expensive and not that great. If you want something heavy then go to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp north of the city in Oranienburg - take the S-Bahn and walk the last mile. If you wanna just hang out then Prenzlauer Berg and Kreuzberg are good places for cafes in bars n just chilling. Hope that helps :)
Find Out Who Knows About a Topic

Find Out Who Knows About: ________________________

Submit

example queries:  film  restaurant milton-keynes
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Reviews by tom (202)

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Alison May - Food Stylist and Writer
★★★★★ on 04 Aug 2008
Not being in the kind of business that needs food stylists or food writers, I haven’t ever booked Alison for a job. However, I have been lucky enough to act as a guinea pig while she’s been perfecting recipes for clients, and it’s impressive stuff, always impeccably presented.

Kwik-Fit Tyres and Car Servicing, Cheltenham Road, Bristol
★★★★☆ on 31 Jul 2008
I’ve had bad experiences with this branch of Kwik-Fit on Cheltenham Road before, but always gone back as the guys seemed decent but just sketchy and disorganised due to stress. I was willing to give them the benefit of the doubt, but today’s experience really takes the biscuit.

Having got some quotes for tyres over the phone earlier this week I phoned Kwik-Fit to see if they could match the best quote. They said they could, and would order the tyres in for fitting later in the week. They were due to be fitted today, but on taking the car in it turned out the specific tyres had not been ordered as agreed. To make matters worse the manager appeared and refused to honour the telephone quote for those specific tyres or even some cheaper alternatives. At this point I walked away, and will now have to make an additional trip elsewhere.

If you’re thinking of changing it and using this Kwik-Fit, my word of advice is to always phone back and double-check that they’ve done what they said they were going to do before you turn up. All in all though, my opinion is that giving this place a wide berth is by far the best strategy.
Who Knows About restaurant or milton-keynes?

Weight Results by: Experience | Expertise | Affinity |

[1] 1.759 Tom Heath - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[2] 0.255 sofia - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[3] 0.232 mqaved - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[4] 0.195 Rui - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[5] 0.134 magicrebirth - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[6] 0.121 Stefania - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[7] 0.121 Dnyanesh - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[8] 0.121 AlexLittle - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[9] 0.097 Aneta - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[10] 0.097 AdamRae - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[11] 0.097 Sanyukta - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[12] 0.097 xcv - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[13] 0.097 hockeyshooter - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[14] 0.093 teddypolar - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
[15] 0.084 al - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
Who Knows About restaurant or milton-keynes?

Limit Results to: Friends (55) + Friends of Friends + Friends of Friends of Friends + Everyone

Weight Results by: Experience | Expertise | Affinity |
Trust Factors in Recommendation Seeking

- Experience
- Expertise
- Impartiality
- Affinity
- Track Record
Who Knows About restaurant or milton-keynes?

Limit Results to: Friends (55) + Friends of Friends + Friends of Friends of Friends + Everyone

Weight Results by: Experience | Expertise | Affinity |

1. 1.223 Crash - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
2. 1.197 hockeyshooter - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
3. 1.147 drewp - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
4. 0.823 iccq - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
5. 0.534 magicrebirth - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
6. 0.423 castagna - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
7. 0.423 Fin - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
8. 0.137 domenico79 - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
9. 0.121 Dnyanesh - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
10. 0.097 xcv - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
11. 0.047 AdrianStevenson - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
12. 0.023 Leo Sauermann - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
13. 0.023 gromgull - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
14. 0.023 kasei - what do they know about restaurant or milton-keynes?
Conclusions
Take-home Message

A Web of machine-readable data is even more interesting from a human than a machine perspective.
Take-home Thought 1

Search and Browse are great for Documents – but what other kinds of tasks can we enable with a Web of Data?
Take-home Thought 2

There's nothing special about the Social Web!
Thank you

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• Further reading
  – Sept/Oct 2008 issue of IEEE Internet Computing
  – http://linkeddata.org/

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