

Social Networks and the Semantic Web

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Abstract:

This presentation takes an interdisciplinary look at how the network analysis field of Social Science and the Semantic Web field of AI can benefit from each other's models and methods. In the first part of the presentation, we present a study that uses semantic technology for integrating and reasoning with large-scale information sources containing evidence about the social connectivity of individuals. In the second part of the presentation, we look at extending the current model of ontologies with the social dimension, i.e. accounting for the socially-constructed nature of semantics. We show how this new model and the methods of network analysis can be used to extract higher-level semantics from simpler structures such as folksonomies. This latter work has received a Best Paper Award at the International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC) in November, 2005.

References:

Peter Mika. Flink: Using Semantic Web Technology for the Presentation and Analysis of Online Social Networks. *Journal of Web Semantics* 3(2), Elsevier, 2005.

Peter Mika. Ontologies are us: A unified model of social networks and semantics. *Proceedings of the 4th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC 2005)*, LNCS 3729, Springer-Verlag, 2005.