Activity Charter

Title

VISUALISATION & ANALYSIS

Summary

The purpose of the Visualisation & Analysis Activity is to support the conceptualisation and development of methods and tools (including prototypes) that:
- help visualise partners' semantic annotation datasets;
- demonstrate applications of the semantic search of annotation data;
- showcase domain-specific examples of the analysis of semantically linked data.

Activity Coordinator(s)

1. Elton Barker
2. Gethin Rees

Context & Vision

The Visualisation & Analysis Activity is a response to the Pelagios community's demand for user interfaces that enable semantically annotated resources to be consumed and made visible. Annotations are fragmentary by nature, while RDF-based data formats are not supported by a large developer community or tool-base, and do not immediately lend themselves to simple overview. For their value to be appreciated and exploited, it is essential for both developers and end-users to see the practical applications and benefits that they provide.

There are three primary features that the Activity will support: *visualisation*, such as showing the geographic scope of a dataset, or representing relational and spatial networks; *discovery*, including the search and retrieval of data from across the collective of Partners, using filters that include period, data type, geographic location and source; and *analysis*, for developing with Partners specific use cases that showcase the use of linked data in research and teaching. The Activity is dedicated to experimenting with and implementing these functions, and to enabling a broad range of data providers, such as GLAMs (Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums), to display and represent their data through such interfaces. The Activity supports the development of interfaces that are free to access and use.

Scope

This Activity is specifically concerned with developing useful and usable graphical interfaces for visualising, discovering and analysing Pelagios-compliant linked geodata, as well as producing best practices for workflows entailed by the publication of Linked Data into visual

interfaces. It does not guarantee the hosting, publication or registration of that data or the longevity of demonstrator systems defined as such.

Actions

This Activity will:
- develop tools and methods for consuming semantic geo-annotations across a variety of different document types, and appropriate to a range of different periods and geographic regions;
- explore the potential for conceptual or code re-use from the Peripleo demonstrator;
- promote dialogue within the semantic data visualisation community and in relation to related technological and domain communities;
- advocate for semantic annotation as means for discovering, utilising and repurposing historical and cultural documents.

Participants & Stakeholders

Activity Coordinators have overall responsibility for coordinating and documenting activities.

Software developers design and implement tools for the consumption of semantic geo-annotations according to agreed technical specifications.

End Users exploit semantic annotation directly or indirectly through use of digital and services that allow them to visualise, discover, and analyse digital resources and their semantic annotations.

Dependencies & Liaisons

The SEMANTIC ANNOTATION Activity will produce annotations and define the set of resources that can be exploited by this Activity

The REGISTRY Activity will facilitate the discovery of annotation data by demonstrator applications.

DOCUMENTATION & PEDAGOGY Activity will produce documentation of software tutorials, workflows and pipelines, FAQs, Use Cases and related Open Educational Resources.

The COLLABORATION & RESOURCING Activity will develop partnerships to support future development work, staff time for technical and user support and hosting of demonstrator applications.

The GAZETTEER Activity will provide alignments supporting the discovery of resources annotated across different gazetteers.

Communication

The experimental approach of the Visualisation & Analysis Activity requires that the Association maintains good communication with the community, in order to allow us to respond with agility to requests and incorporate new technologies (such as IIIF) into the various interfaces.

Communication will be through email-enabled mailing lists that offer a Web-based interface for posting and searching the archive. It will be accessible via the Pelagios Association website. Other online services, such a new Peripleo Users Forum on GitHub and the Pelagios social media accounts will be used to gather feedback.

Financial Considerations

Visualization and Analysis services may require hosting on a permanently available server and a registered Internet domain. The Pelagios Network currently maintains a physical machine hosted at AIT but this is likely to offer temporary hosting for demonstrator services only and may restrict user load in order to maintain core applications such as Recogito.

Legal & Ethical Considerations

All code developed for the Visualization & Analysis Activity should be under an open source license such as GPL or LGPL. Corresponding documentation should be offered under open creative licenses such as CC0 or CC-BY. Visualization services must abide by any licensing conditions associated with third party content, and where appropriate convey information about these conditions to End Users.

Visualization services should produce and maintain a clearly visible and accessible statement about the conditions and terms of use for the service and any third party content it relies upon. Visualization services providers should consider any legal implications of directly loading and visualizing third party content.

Document Changes

Second draft, 5 April - Leif and Elton

Accepted by Council Date