

# Design and Evaluation of Overview Components for Effective Semantic Data Exploration

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# Agenda

1. Introduction and Motivation
2. Approach
3. Overview Components
4. Evaluation
5. Conclusions and Future Work



# Introduction

- The Semantic Web proposed in 2001...  
...but **not popular** until recently
- **Linked / Open Data initiatives**
  - Publish Open Data in reusable formats
  - **Enormous potential**
- **But what about end users?**









# Fine for computers... but people?



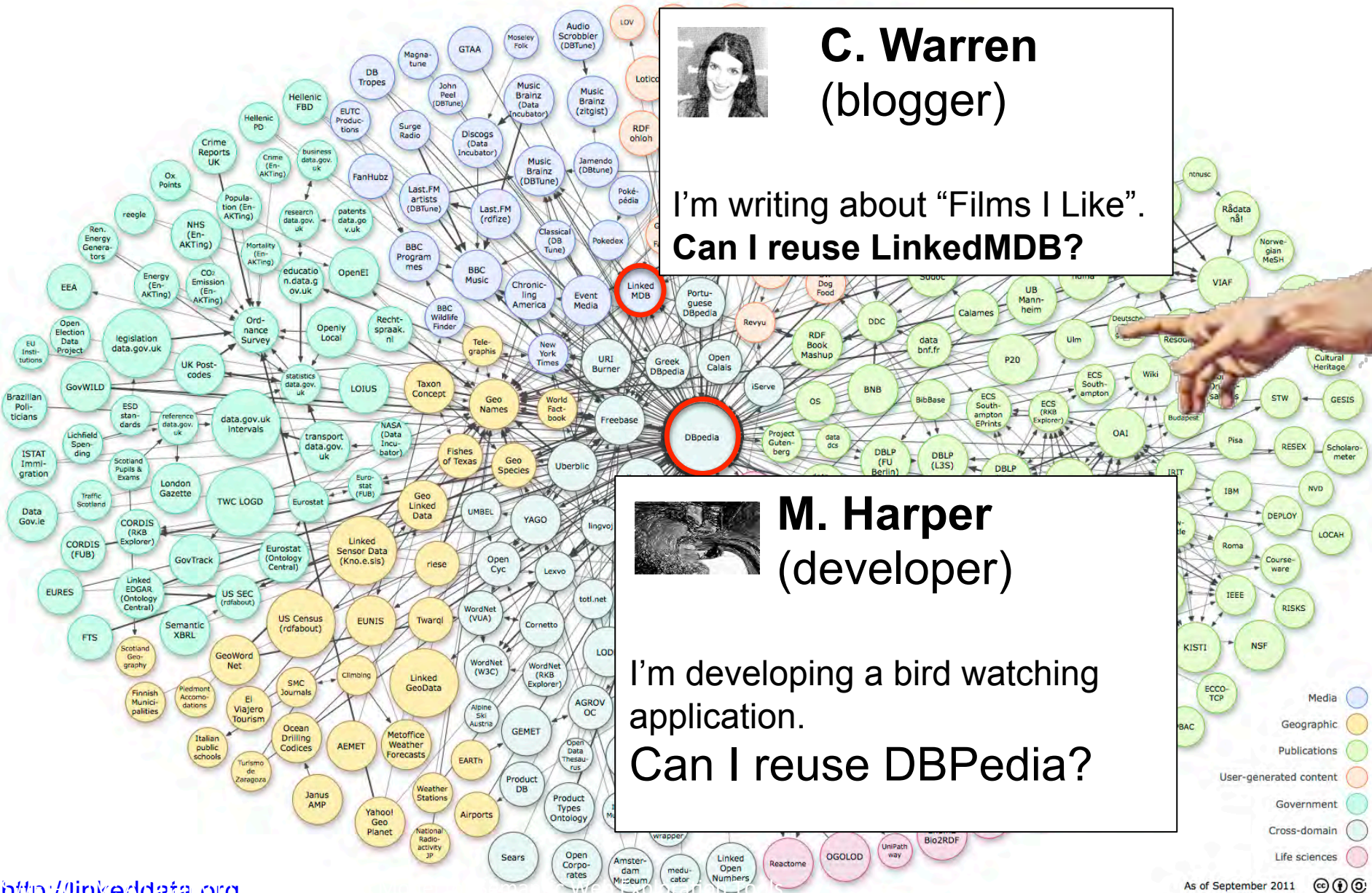
**C. Warren**  
(blogger)

I'm writing about "Films I Like".  
**Can I reuse LinkedMDB?**



**M. Harper**  
(developer)

I'm developing a bird watching application.  
**Can I reuse DBPedia?**



# Example scenario

## What to do with **DBPedia**?

- 3.5 million things described
- Ontology: 257 classes and 1276 properties

## Typical questions:

- Where do I start?
- Where do I go now?
- What is the data about?



## Information Overload

# URI lookup



Text Search

Entity Label Lookup

**Entity URI Lookup**

[Featured](#) | [Demo Queries](#) | [About](#)

## Precision Search & Find

URI

Describe

Hint: You can [add this engine](#) in search bar of an OpenSearch - capable browser

Faceted Search & Find service v1.11.15



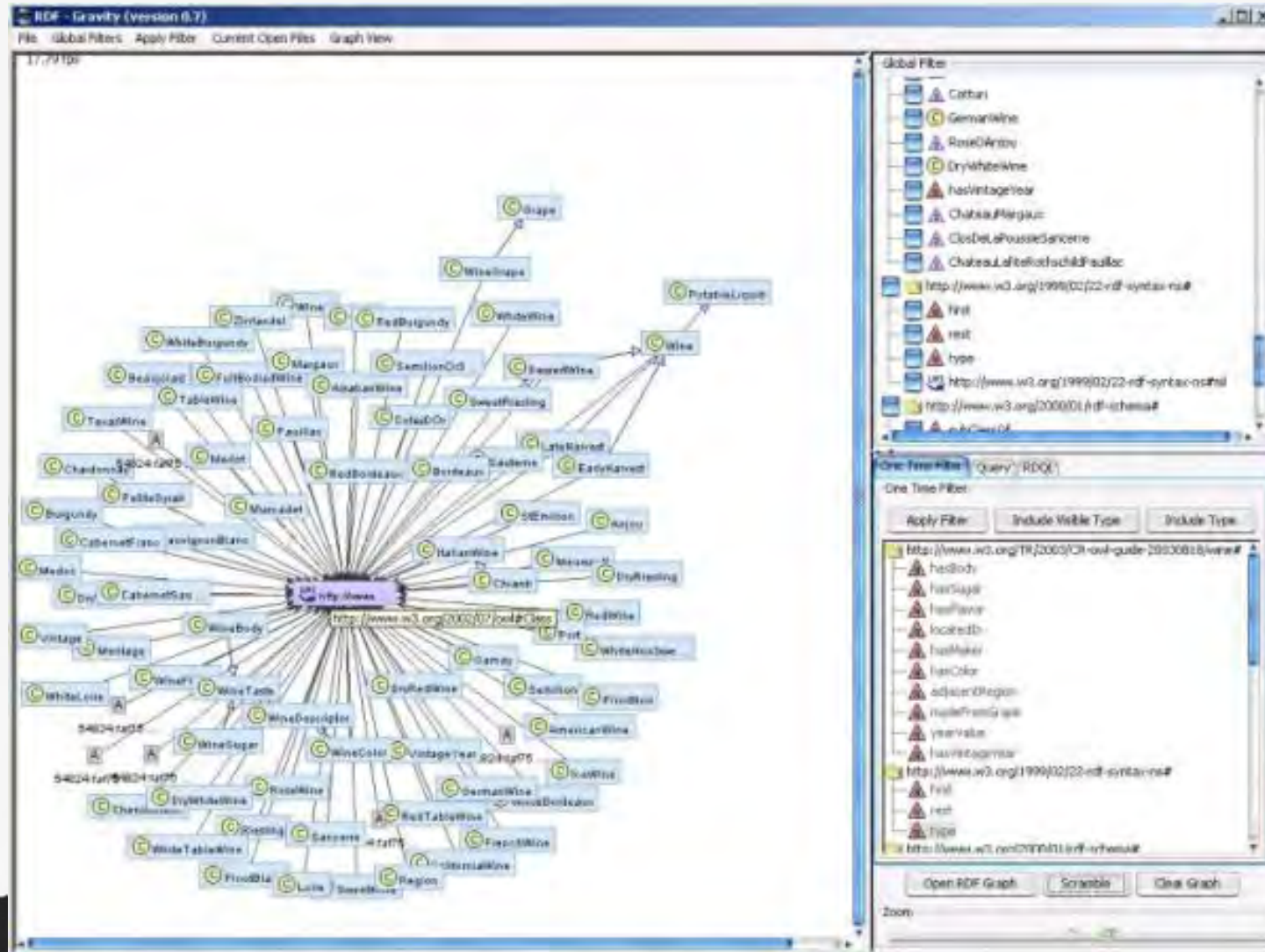
OpenLink Virtuoso version 07.00.3203, on Linux (i686-generic-linux-glibc212-64), Standard Edition

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Virtuoso Faceted Browser Copyright © 2009-2012 OpenLink Software



# Graph Visualization





# SPARQL

**Virtuoso SPARQL Query Editor**

[About](#) | [Namespace Prefixes](#) | [Inference rules](#) | [iSPARQL](#)

Default Data Set Name (Graph IRI)

Query Text  

```
select distinct ?Concept where {[] a ?Concept} LIMIT 100
```

*(Security restrictions of this server do not allow you to retrieve remote RDF data, see [details](#).)*

Results Format:  (The CXML output is disabled, see [details](#))

Execution timeout:  milliseconds (values less than 1000 are ignored)

Options:  Strict checking of void variables

*(The result can only be sent back to browser, not saved on the server, see [details](#).)*

# Keyword search



## Sindice - Data Web Services

Millions of websites mark up their content using RDF, Microformats, Microdata, Schema.org, RDFa, Opengraph and more. Sindice helps you find, understand and integrate with their content.

[Start here](#) →

Search

Sparql

Submit

Inspector Tool

Analytics

Search:  term  property  advanced  SIGMA

Type one or more keywords or URI

SEARCH

Examples: [tim berners lee](#) (by [URI](#)), [michele](#), [deri](#)

Searching on about 708.19 million documents.

### LATEST DATA

- 2013/Apr/07 19:36:09 [25 triples](#) <http://wwwpsilicosisblogspotcom.blog.../>
- 2013/Apr/07 19:21:08 [7 triples](#) <http://www.futebolbahiano.com...ova.html>
- 2013/Apr/07 19:06:10 [7 triples](#) <http://www.tokoseksi.com...-capsule.html>
- 2013/Apr/07 18:51:27 [5 triples](#) <http://suzzycue.hubpages.com...ome-Index>

### SINDICE TWEET

[Follow us](#)

**Jun02,2013 at 08:24AM** See how <http://t.co/P2OlwXUqyQ> derived technologies have now evolved to address Enterprise use cases at <http://t.co/m4QXHb3TfM>

# Human Semantic Web Interaction

- **Semantic Web HCI Challenges:**
  - Lot of data but... available as RDF data dumps, semantic query services, etc
  - Text search, type URI, SPARQL query,...  
...but they do not answer **end-users needs**
  - It requires **Semantic Web expertise**
  - Existing tools **hardly usable** for **lay users**
  - **No overview**



# Approach

- **Visual Information-Seeking Mantra** for data analysis [Shneidermann]

**“Overview first,  
zoom and filter,  
then details-on-demand”**



# Approach

- **Overview Task:**
  - **First step** to explore a dataset
  - Appreciation of the **size** and **extent** of the data
    - What is the data about? What is **not** the data about?
  - Serves as a **starting point for navigation**
- **Overview in SW data:**
  - **Main classes** and number of instances
  - Class **hierarchy**



# Proposal

- Adapt existing **Information Architecture components** to Semantic Data scenarios to provide this **Overview**:
  - Navigation menus
  - Site map
  - Site index
  - Treemap (visualization technique)
- **Automatically generated** from the dataset structure and ontologies





# Navigation Menus

- Overview of the **main classes**
- **Consistent navigation**: present in every page
- Automatic generation:
  - Parameters:
    - Flatten to desired **number of levels**
    - **Elements per level**
  - Algorithm:
    - When there is room → **divide class** with most instances
    - When too many options → **group classes** with less instances

# Navigation Menu



The screenshot displays a web application interface. At the top right, there are links for "Site map", "Site index", and "Tree". Below this is a horizontal navigation menu with the following items: "Agent (2652224)", "Mean of transportation (139932)", "Person function (90488)", "Place (2010705)", "Species (402250)", "Work (738684)", and "Other (222635)". A dropdown menu is open on the left side, listing various categories with their respective counts: "Artist (116355)", "Athlete (371886)", "Cleric (14570)", "Fictional character (14892)", "Military person (21755)", "Office holder (32373)", "Organisation (475799)", "Organisation member (554952)", "Politician (38491)", and "Other Person (54675)". The main content area features a heading "Media through Rhizomer" and a paragraph explaining that the interface looks like a semantic data publishing tool. It mentions "Architecture components: navigation bars and facets" and describes how users can explore resources using automatically generated navigation menus and facets. A list of user tasks is provided, including "Overview first", "Zoom and Filter", and "Details on demand". At the bottom, there is a logo for "Rhizomik" and the text "Powered by Rhizomik".

Site map – Site index – Tree

[Agent \(2652224\)](#) [Mean of transportation \(139932\)](#) [Person function \(90488\)](#) [Place \(2010705\)](#) [Species \(402250\)](#) [Work \(738684\)](#) [Other \(222635\)](#)

Artist (116355)  
Athlete (371886)  
Cleric (14570)  
Fictional character (14892)  
Military person (21755)  
Office holder (32373)  
Organisation (475799)  
Organisation member (554952)  
Politician (38491)  
Other Person (54675)

[edit | delete]

## Media through Rhizomer

Media looks when published through Rhizomer. Rhizomer is a tool for semantic data publishing that facilitates awareness of the structure of the data. Architecture components: navigation bars and facets.

Explore the kind of resources in the dataset using automatically generated navigation menus. The top menu is for the classes of things in the dataset. When a class is selected, it is possible to see the main properties and values of instances of that class using the automatically generated facets, that can be used to filter down to the specific resources the user is interested in.

Overall, Rhizomer gives support in the context of Semantic Web data to the user tasks in Shneiderman's "Visual Information Seeking Mantra":

- **Overview first:** the overview of the dataset is provided by the navigation bars.
- **Zoom and Filter:** once users zoom in a particular class, they can filter the set of resources using facets (while also getting an overview of all the main properties and values).
- **Details on demand:** when a particular resource of interest is found (or a set of them), it is possible to get full details, all metadata, rendered as HTML+RDFa and interactive (edit, map, show in timeline,...).

Powered by Rhizomik

# Site Map

- **Overview** of the content at a **single glance**
- Main classes organized **hierarchically**
- Two versions:
  1. **Summarized version** related with Navigation Menus (only two levels)
  2. **Full version** related with the original hierarchy





# Summarized Site Map

## SITE MAP

Summarized | [Full](#)

- **Agent (2652224)**  
Artist (116355), Athlete (371886), Cleric (14570), Fictional character (14892), Military person (21755), Office holder (32373), Organisation (475799), Organisation member (554952), Politician (38491), Ambassador (369), Architect (1186), Astronaut (621), College coach (5271), Criminal (1426), Journalist (10), Judge (1536), Model (1257), Monarch (2165), Philosopher (1198), Playboy Playmate (935), Poker player (615), Royalty (13126), Scientist (12842), Soccer manager (12118),
- **Mean of transportation (139932)**  
Aircraft (8329), Automobile (7486), Locomotive (2655), Rocket (233), Ship (51128), Space shuttle (20), Space station (34), Spacecraft (81),
- **Person function (90488)**
- **Place (2010705)**  
Architectural structure (343197), Historic place (6426), Monument (4), Natural place (158363), Populated place (920759), Protected area (6878), Site of Special Scientific Interest (461), Ski area (524), Wine region (321), World Heritage Site (1044),
- **Species (402250)**  
Archaea (171), Bacteria (328), Bird (12401), Fish (14291), Fungus (8244), Insect (62436), Mammal (8598), Mollusca (26282), Plant (49658), Amphibian (6892), Arachnid (2983), Crustacean (2212), Reptile (5415),
- **Work (738684)**  
Album (112249), Film (71715), Musical (1146), Single (41774), Software (46291), Song (6139), Television episode (7290), Television show (23480), Website (2605), Written work (92725),
- **Other (222635)**  
Anatomical structure (6638), Biomolecule (24111), Celestial body (24040), Chemical substance (15708), Device (50946), Disease (5521), Event (54764), Language (6860), Sales (5213), Activity (2856), Award (1506), Colour (690), Currency (333), Database (580), Drug (5195), Ethnic group (3731), Food (2273), GeneLocation (14), Holiday (524), Legal Case (4666), Music genre (714), Name (4404), Olympic result (744), Programming language (470), Project (32), Snooker world ranking (102),

# Full Site Map

## SITE MAP

[Summarized](#) | [Full](#)

[Collapse All](#) | [Expand All](#)

- Activity (1428)
- Agent (956476)
  - Organisation (192832)
  - Person (763644)
- Anatomical structure (4211)
- Award (1506)
- Biomolecule (12051)
- Celestial body (12020)
- Chemical substance (7854)
- Colour (690)
- Currency (333)
- Database (290)
- Device (25876)
  - Automobile engine (20527)
  - Weapon (4543)
- Disease (5521)
- Drug (5195)
- Ethnic group (3731)
- Event (24747)
- Food (1619)
- GeneLocation (7)

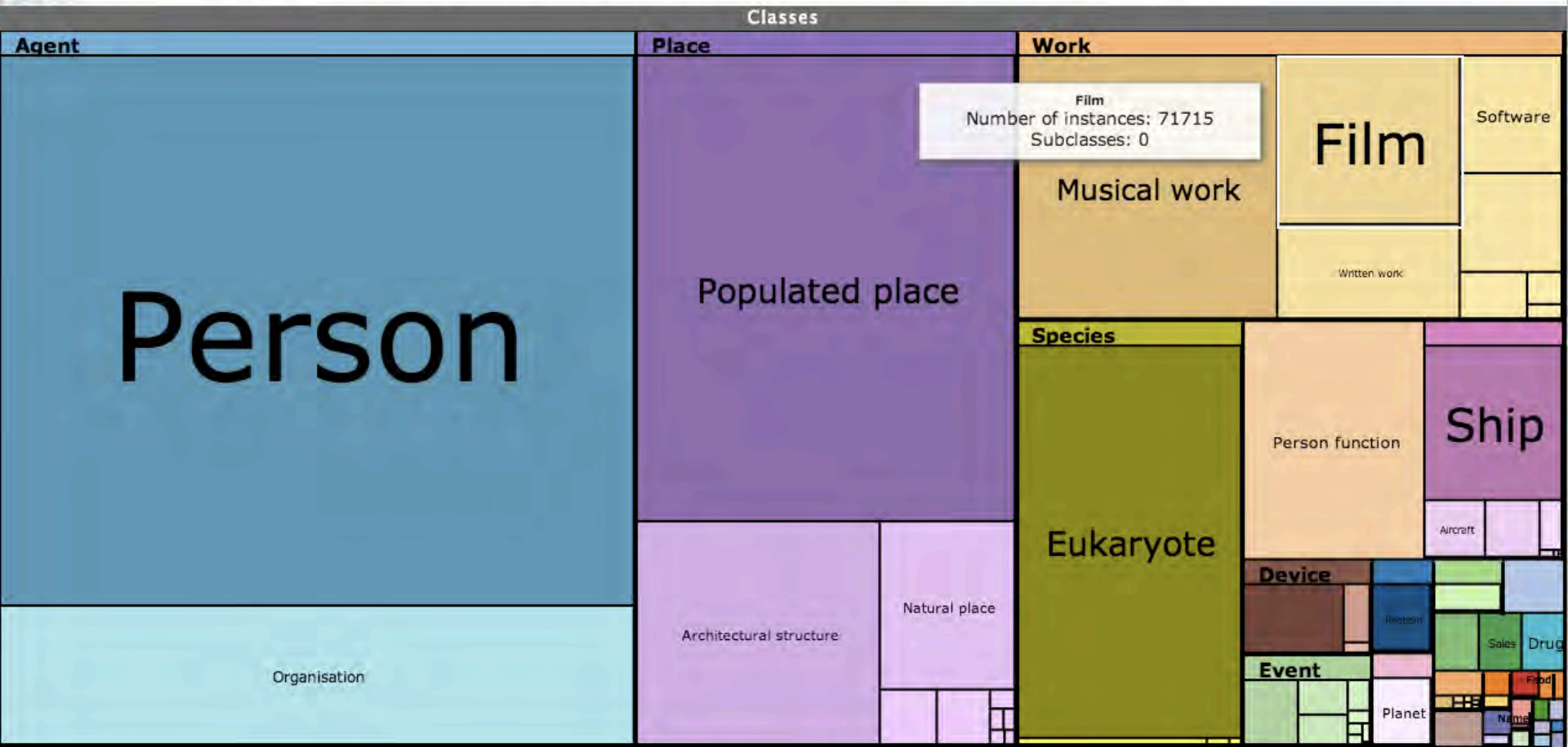


# Treemap

- Visualization technique for **displaying hierarchical data**
- **Design:**
  - **Different colors** to group subclasses
  - Label **size proportional**
  - Show **two levels** + zoom in

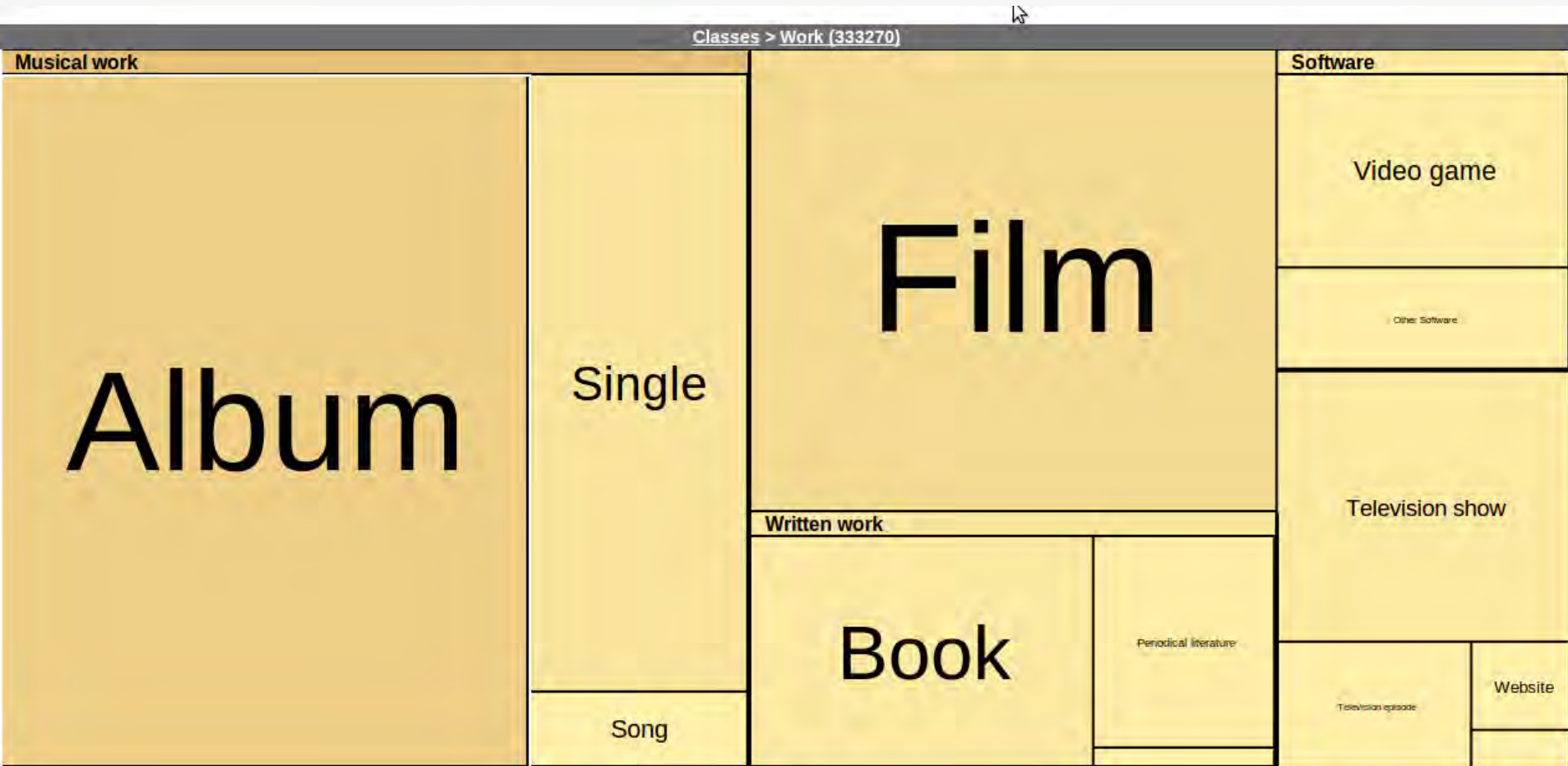
# Treemap

About Agent (956476) Mean of transportation (69966) Person function (90488) Place (572728) Species (202339) Work (333270) Other (126257) Contact





# Treemap



# Site index

- List all pages/categories **alphabetically**
- Access to **particular content**
- Useful to search for a **specific page**



# Site index

## SITE INDEX

A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | Ñ | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |

### A

- [Academic journal \(4636\)](#)
- [Activity \(2856\)](#)
- [Actor \(4019\)](#)
- [Administrative region \(32733\)](#)
- [Adult \(pornographic\) actor \(1588\)](#)
- [Agent \(3415868\)](#)
- [Aircraft \(8329\)](#)
- [Airline \(2984\)](#)
- [Airport \(11533\)](#)
- [Album \(112249\)](#)
- [Ambassador \(369\)](#)
- [American football league \(69\)](#)
- [American football player \(11297\)](#)
- [American football team \(3\)](#)
- [Amphibian \(6892\)](#)
- [Anatomical structure \(6638\)](#)
- [Animal \(287419\)](#)
- [Arachnid \(2983\)](#)

# Evaluation

- Tests conducted at the **UsabiliLAB**:
  - Morae Recorder + Morae Observer
- **10 participants** (6 males, 4 females)
  - good IT knowledge
  - no SW expertise
  - never used Dbpedia before





# Evaluation

- **Metrics:**
  - Effectiveness:
    - Completed
    - Partially completed
    - Not completed
  - Task time
  - User satisfaction



# Evaluation - Tasks

- Tasks for the **common information needs**:
  - Known-item seeking:
  - Exhaustive research
  - Re-finding



# Evaluation - Tasks

- **Known-item seeking.**

Find **concrete classes** for different levels in the hierarchy

- Task 1: find 1st level class – Work, Place, Event...
- Task 2: find 2nd level class – Monument, Insect...
- Task 3: find 3rd level class – Reptile, Sports team...

- **Components:**

1. Navigation menus
2. Site map
3. Treemap
4. Site index

# Evaluation - Tasks

- **Exhaustive research:**
  - Task 4: comparing node size.  
Arrange from bigger to smaller:
    - Place, Agent and Species (1)
    - Work, Place, Mean of transportation (2)
    - Eukaryote, Person, Musical Work (3)
- **Components:**
  1. Navigation menus
  2. Site map
  3. Treemap





# Evaluation - Tasks

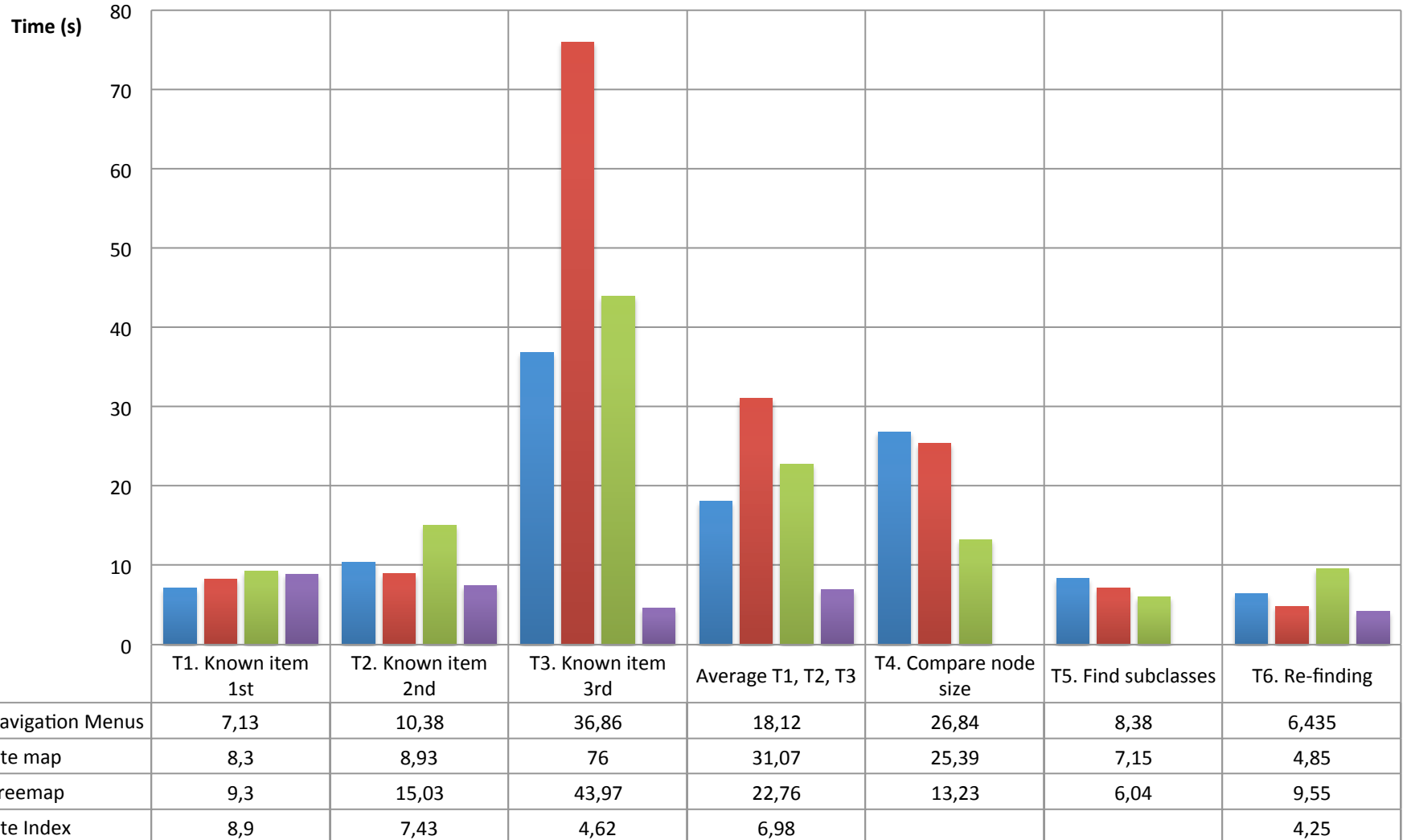
- **Exhaustive research:**
  - Task 5: topology understanding.  
Find subclasses of:
    - Mean of transportation (1)
    - Species (2)
    - Work (3)
- **Components:**
  1. Navigation menus
  2. Site map
  3. Treemap

# Evaluation - Tasks

- **Re-finding.**
  - Task 6: Find previously visited classes
    - Monument (1)
    - Insect (2)
    - Aircraft (3)
    - Film festival (4)
- **Components:**
  1. Navigation menus
  2. Site map
  3. Treemap
  4. Site index



# Evaluation - Results



# Evaluation - Satisfaction

| Question (rate from 1 to 7)   | NM          | SM   | TR          | SI   |
|---|-------------|------|-------------|------|
| Q1. The information showed on this component is helpful                         | 6.2         | 6.2  | 5.7         | 6.4  |
| Q2. This component is easy to use   | 6.4         | 6.2  | 5.7         | 6.6  |
| Q3. Using this component, it was easy to find the information I was looking for | 6.3         | 5.3  | 5.5         | 7    |
| Q4. From this component, I understand the structure of the website              | 6.3         | 6.6  | 5.4         | 4.6  |
| Q5. From this component, I understand what content is available on the website  | 6.2         | 6.3  | 4.9         | 5.8  |
| <b>Average</b>  | <b>6.28</b> | 6.12 | <b>5.44</b> | 6.08 |



# Conclusions

- Summary:
  - **4 components** to get an overview
  - **Automatically** generated
  - **Scalable**
- Make published semantic data more **usable** and **accessible** (no extra tools required, just browser)



# Conclusions

- **Navigation menus:**
  - ✔ useful to find the **main important classes**
  - ✘ **limit number** of options
  
- **Site map**
  - ✔ general overall top-down view
  - ✘ **need to understand** the structure to find classes



# Conclusions

- **Treemap:**
  - ✔ compare node sizes, identify groups by colors
  - ✘ **difficult** to find small nodes
  
- **Site index**
  - ✔ easy access to particular content
  - ✘ **no information** about structure



# Future Work

- Improve components and usability
- Develop **keyword search**
- Evaluate with other datasets:
  - Different sizes
  - Different structures
- Overview for datasets **without schema**
  - **Clustering**



# Thanks for your attention

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