DCMF: DC & microformats, a good marriage

Eva Méndez
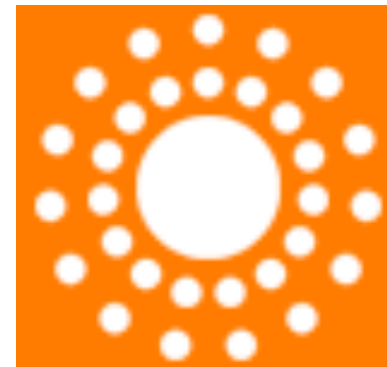Leandro M. López
Arnau Siches
Alejandro G. Bravo

What are we going to speak about…

Semantic Web

Microformats

Dublin Core

…and of course about what we call DCMF

**Dublin Core
MicroFormats**

Semantic Web

- Aim: to create a more useful Web **for people**

- Premise: to create content **easy to process by "machine" (machine-readable)**

- Those ideas were in Tim Berners-Lee's mind from the beginning of the WWW

Microformats

- Aim: to make recognizable **particular data items** (events, contact information, etc.)

- Premise: designed for **humans first**, and **machines** second.

- Some people call it "lower case Semantic Web" since microformats are used for particular problems

Microformats: How?

[X]HTML

Using specific list of terms for the values of the attributes **"rel"** and **"rev"** (elements **"<a>"** and **"<link>"**)

... And specially, the attributes **"class"** and **"id"** in a lot of [X]HTML elements.
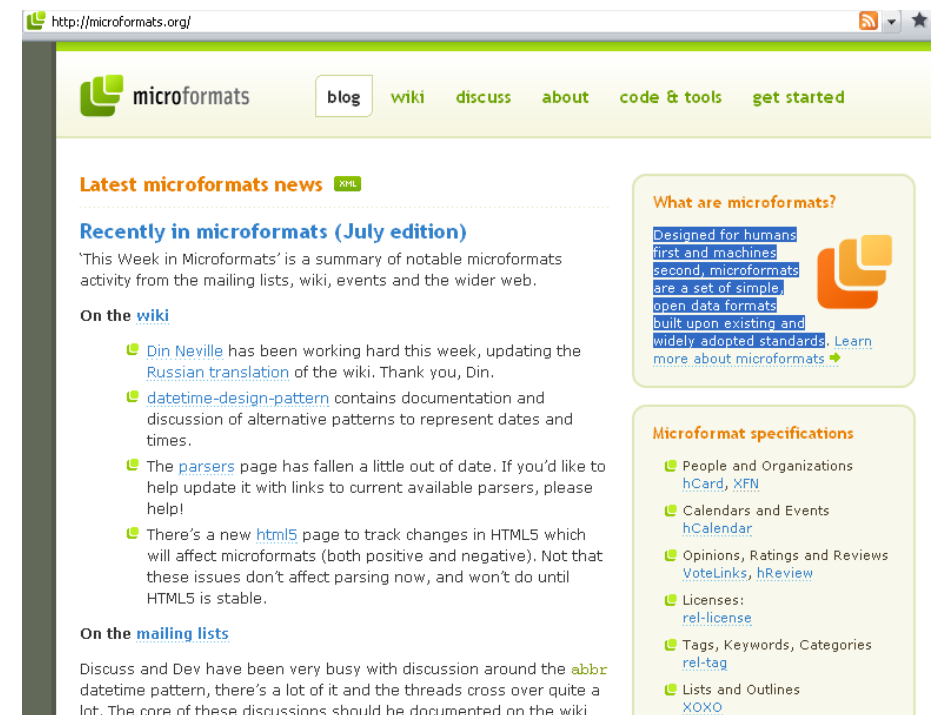
Microformats: Which ones?

- **hCard**: for business cards information

- **hCalendar**: events

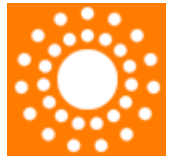- **rel-tag**: keywords

- **XFN**: personal relationships

- …And more at… http://microformats.org

Microformats Community

- **Very active** Community

- They have written several **specifications**

- There are some **applications** to create microformats

- Integrated in **Wordpress** (XFN)

- **Users-creators** publish their microformats.

- **Cool people**… They have t-shirts, stickers, parties, etc.

Dublin Core

- It was created in 1995, Dublin, OH…

- ISO 15836…

- …

OK, you all know all about DC!!!

DCMF: Dublin Core MicroFormats

DCMF: Why?

- 2005, people with different backgrounds, freelancers and freaks (now, some students are interested)

- If microformats are a set of simple, open data formats built upon existing and **widely adopted standards**…

- … what would happen if we mix microformats with Dublin Core?

- … Why not?

DCMF: How to create them?

Dublin Core Metadata Gen: application to create DC metadata:

- "`meta`" tags in [X]HTML
- RDF/XML
- microformats

Originally in [X]HML and Javascript, now in PHP

DCMF: Example

```
<dl class="dublincore">
   <dt> Título: </dt>
   <dd class="title"> Siete paradas en
el país de las sombras </dd>
   <dt> Autora: </dt>
   <dd class="creator"> Pilar Gómez
Rodríguez </dd>
   <dt> ISBN: </dt>
   <dd class="identifier"> 844141694X </
dd>
   <dt> Publicado: </dt>
   <dd class="issued">2005-10-01</dd>
</dl>
```

DCMF: elements

```
<dl class="dublincore">
    <dt> Título: </dt>
    <dd class="title"> Siete paradas en
el país de las sombras </dd>
    <dt> Autora: </dt>
    <dd class="creator"> Pilar Gómez
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    <dd class="identifier"> 844141694X </
dd>
    <dt> Publicado: </dt>
    <dd class="issued">2005-10-01</dd>
</dl>
```

DCMF: What the machine sees

```
<dl class="dublincore">
   <dt> Título: </dt>
   <dd class="title"> Siete paradas en
el país de las sombras </dd>
   <dt> Autora: </dt>
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Rodríguez </dd>
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   <dd class="identifier"> 844141694X </
dd>
   <dt> Publicado: </dt>
   <dd class="issued">2005-10-01</dd>
</dl>
```

DCMF: What humans see

```
<dl class="dublincore">
    <dt>    Título: </dt>
    <dd class="title"> Siete paradas en
el país de las sombras </dd>
    <dt> Autora: </dt>
    <dd class="creator"> Pilar Gómez
Rodríguez </dd>
    <dt> ISBN: </dt>
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dd>

    <dt> Publicado: </dt>
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</dl>
```
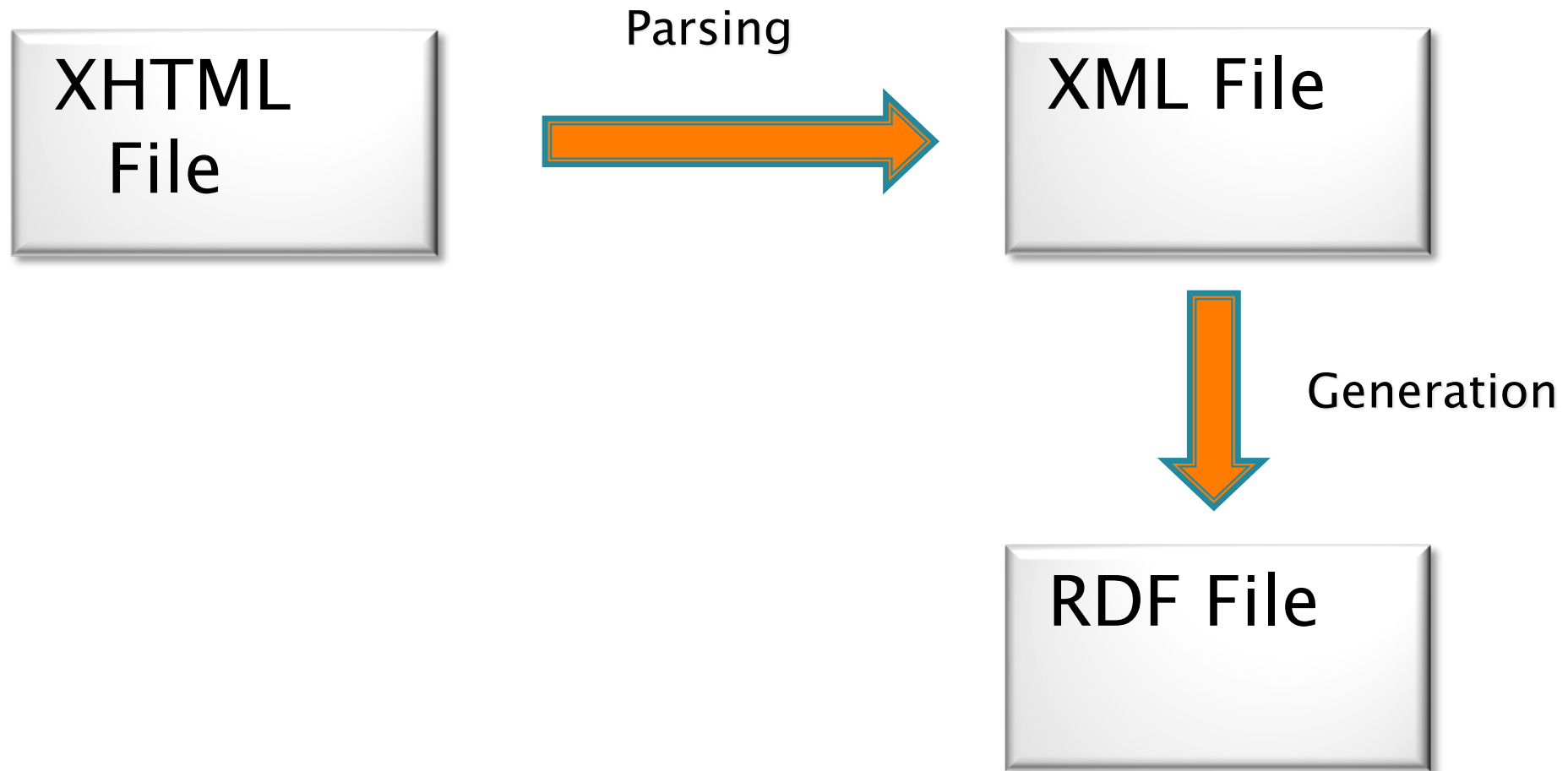
DCMF: How to see them

DCMF Viewer

Conclusions

- Microformats have achieved some of the main objectives of the SW, but in concrete context and… they work!!

- Stu Weibel (2006):*"The flexibility that microformats afford is an essential feature of the hyper-innovation that characterizes Web 2.0"*

- DC fits in the philosophy of microformats and the result is DCMF

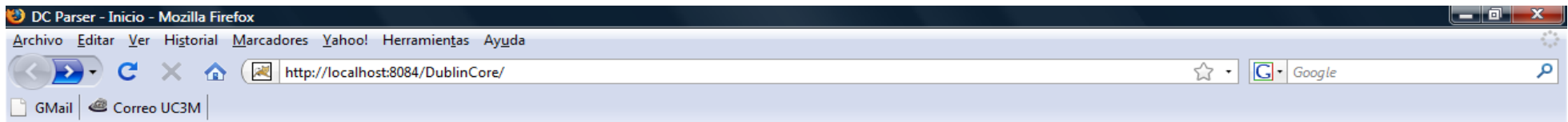- DC & microformats are a good couple both simple, adaptable and "easy going".

Future work

- Create some more documentation in English (currently mostly Spanish)

- Study the uses of DCMF and its potential in other contexts for example digital repositories and scientific information)

- Consider de work of other communities (Data portability, Microformats, etc.)

- Improve the current tools: Dublin Core Metadata Gen,

- To create an application not only to recognize DCMF and display them, but also extracts and converts DCMF in XML, RDF specially RDFa, GRDDL.

- Ex. **RDF Gen experiments** →

DCMF Parser prototype

XHTML File

Parsing →

XML File

Generation ↓

RDF File

DCMF Parser prototype

DCMF Parser prototype

Thank you!!

Berlin, 23 September 2008