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SLR Toolkit

Informal Documentation

Tasks: Metadata and LaTeX export

Outline

1. Essentials and tasks
2. Metadata Plugin
3. LaTeX Export Plugin
4. Possible Enhancements
5. Development – general pointers and getting started
6. Contact

Essentials and Tasks

Essentials and Tasks

- SLR Toolkit - A Toolkit for Systematic Literature Reviews (<https://github.com/sebastiangötz/slr-toolkit/>)
- Developed as an Eclipse RCP Application
- Tasks
 - ✓ *“Provide a way to add metadata to an SLR project”*
 - ✓ *“Provide a view with key statistics of the project”*
 - ✓ *“Enable the export of half-filled Latex Papers”*

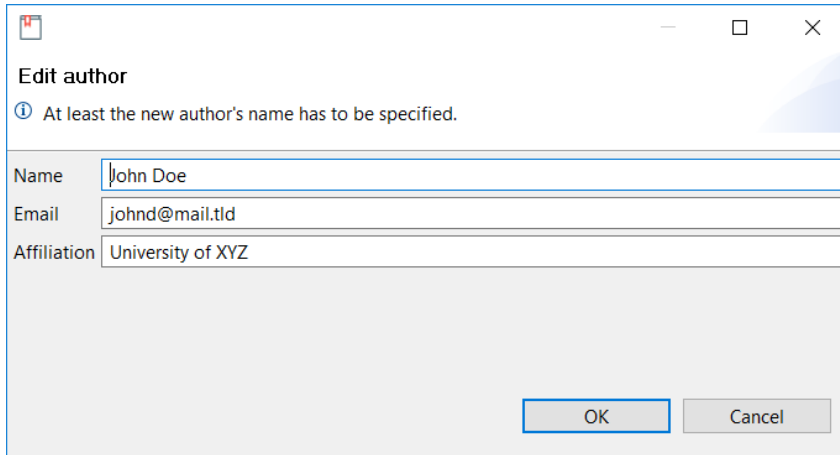
Metadata Plugin

Metadata Plugin

The screenshot displays the SLR Toolkit application with the Metadata Plugin active. The interface is divided into several panels:

- Top Left:** A menu bar with 'File', 'Search', 'Window', 'LaTeX Export', and 'Mendeley'. Below it is a 'Project Explorer' showing a tree structure with 'Projekt' and a sub-item 'type filter text'.
- Bottom Left:** A 'Problems' and 'Properties' panel showing '0 items'.
- Center:** The main 'meta.slrproject' editor. It contains fields for 'File' (C:\Uni\Dev\Bachelorarbeit_Kevin_Horst\meta.slrproject), 'Title' (Title of the systematic literature review), and 'Keywords' (keyword1, keyword2, keyword3, keyword4, keyword5, keyword6, keyword7, keyword8, keyword9). Below these are 'Key statistics' (Number of main dimensions: 8, Number of dimensions: 128, Number of documents: 58) and an 'Authors' section with a text area containing 'John Doe; johnd@mail.tld; University of XYZ' and buttons for 'Add', 'Edit', and 'Delete'.
- Right:** A 'Taxonomy' panel with a list of categories: 'Zielgruppe (0)', 'Veröffentlichungsland (0)', 'Veröffentlichungsort (0)', 'Art (0)', 'Thema (0)', 'Anwendungsfeld (0)', 'Ergebnis (0)', and 'Methodik (0)'. Each category has a checkbox.
- Bottom Right:** A 'ChartView' panel showing a message: 'There is no Data to display at the moment. Try clicking a Term with subclasses.'

Metadata Plugin



Dialog box titled "Edit author". It contains a message icon and the text "At least the new author's name has to be specified." Below this are three input fields: "Name" with the value "John Doe", "Email" with the value "johnd@mail.tld", and "Affiliation" with the value "University of XYZ". At the bottom right are "OK" and "Cancel" buttons.

Edit author

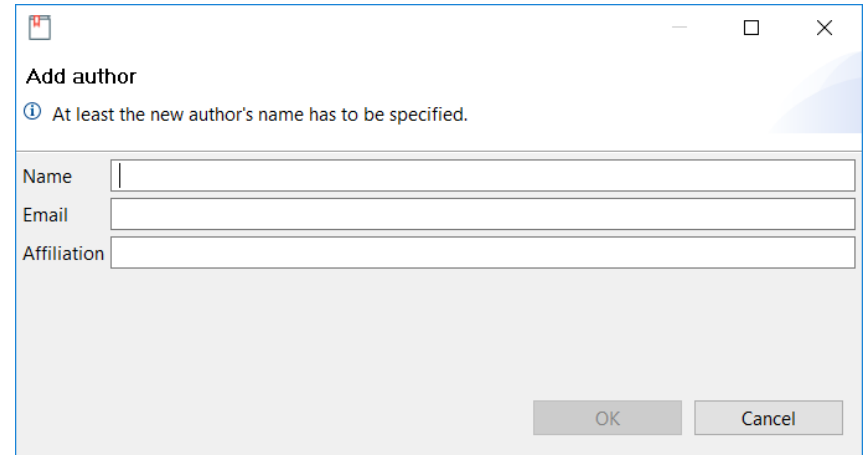
ⓘ At least the new author's name has to be specified.

Name

Email

Affiliation

OK Cancel



Dialog box titled "Add author". It contains a message icon and the text "At least the new author's name has to be specified." Below this are three empty input fields: "Name", "Email", and "Affiliation". At the bottom right are "OK" and "Cancel" buttons.

Add author

ⓘ At least the new author's name has to be specified.

Name

Email

Affiliation

OK Cancel

Metadata Plugin

- *“Provide a way to add metadata to an SLR project”*
 - Relevant metadata are **title** of the project, the **authors** and **keywords**, an **abstract** and a **description of the taxonomy**
 - Derived tasks
 - Representation of the metadata
 - Persistency and storage
 - Viewing and editing
- *“Provide a view with key statistics of the project”*
 - Key statistics are the number of dimensions and documents
 - Derived tasks
 - Get current key statistics
 - Keep the view in sync with the key statistics
- Developed plugin: **de.tudresden.slr.metainformation**

Metadata Plugin

General workflow

- **MetainformationEditor** view instantiation is triggered through opening of an .slrproject file
- Since the taxonomy and documents are needed for the key statistics, the project's files containing these have to be initialized in the editing domain, see *init()* and *initializeWholeProject()*
- The view has a **DataProvider**, which encapsulates information for the key statistics
- Adding and editing an author trigger **NewAndEditAuthorDialog** instantiation, see *addListeners()* in *MetainformationEditor*
- Editing data in the view marks the editor as dirty, saving stores the current data in the file which is the source of the metainformation, see *doSave()*
- Case: multiple projects are „opened“
 - Editing domain can hold the information of only one project
 - Setting focus to the metainformation view triggers unload and reinitialization of the whole project, see *setFocus()*

Metadata Plugin

Representation of the metadata / Persistency and storage

- Package *de.tudresden.slr.metainformation.data*
 - Both classes **SlrProjectMetainformation** and **Author** are POJOS representing the project's metadata and a list of the authors
- Data is stored in an XML file in the project
 - Realized through JAXB, annotated POJO classes
 - Unmarshalling in class **MetainformationUtil**, marshalling and writing to file in **MetainformationEditor** in method *doSave()*

Metadata Plugin

Viewing and editing

- Package `de.tudresden.slr.metainformation.editors`
- **MetainformationEditor** is the view which shows the metadata and provides a way in form of a form to manipulate the data
- The slide about the general workflow already contains most of the relevant information, have a look at `init()` and `createPartControl()` to see how the view is initialized and the GUI is created
- There is a **ControlListener** which listens to resize events to ensure that the scrollbars are working correctly

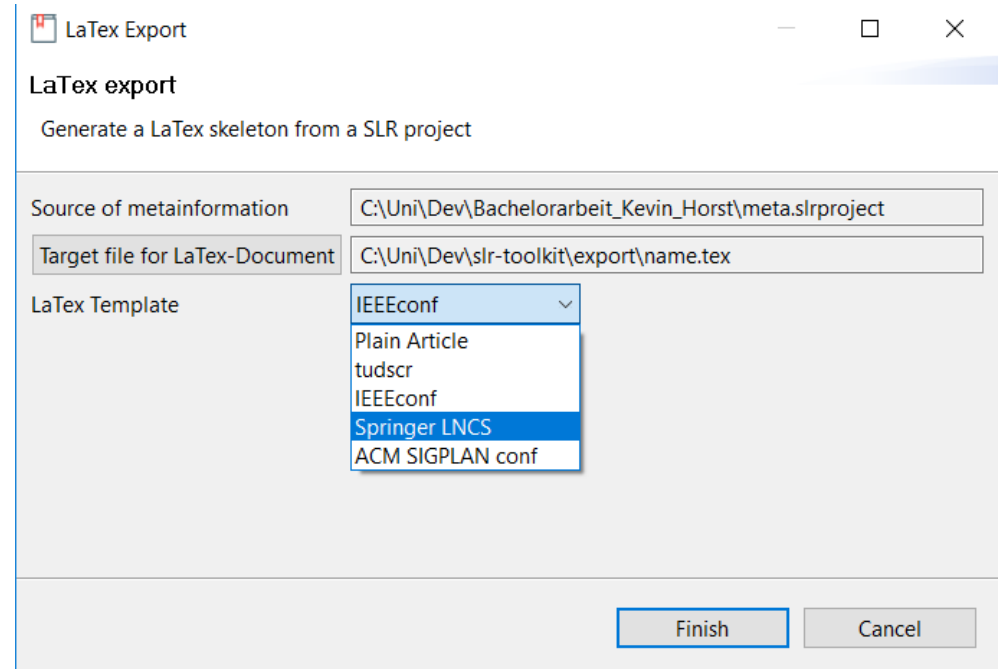
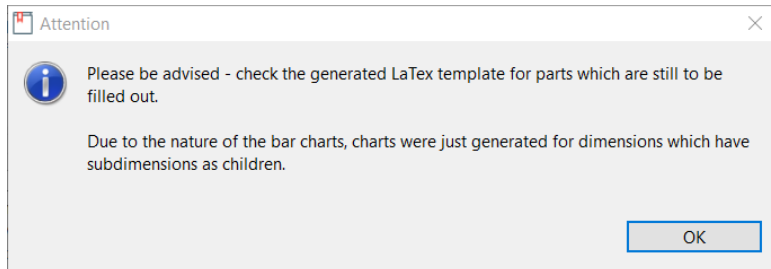
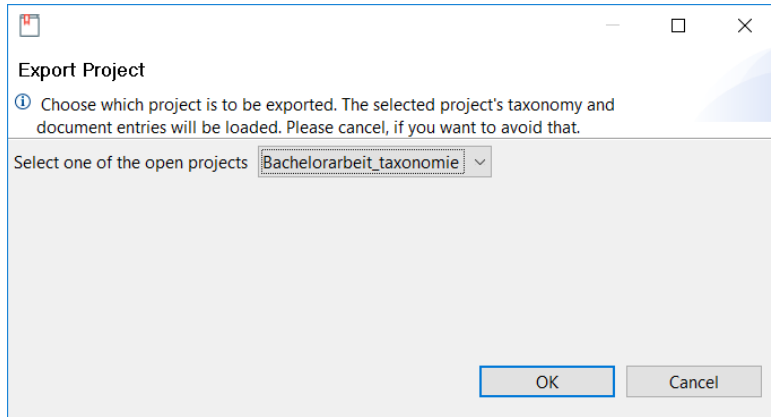
Metadata Plugin

Get current key statistics / keep the view in sync with them

- **DataProvider** feeds the current key statistics
- There is a refresh button to get the current key statistics
- The actual objective was to implement a listener, which signals that either the taxonomy or the documents have changed and to let that trigger a refresh of the key statistics
- Due to permission issues in Eclipse RCP (Listeners to views from SWT elements) and the implementation of both data sources this was not possible, that is why there is a workaround via a button

LaTeX Export Plugin

LaTeX Export Plugin



LaTeX Export Plugin

- *“Enable the export of half-filled Latex papers”*
 - Derived tasks
 - Collection of data – solved through **DataProvider** and **SlrProjectMetainformation** classes from the metainformation plugin
 - Different templates and filling of papers
 - Export of charts
- Developed plugin: **de.tudresden.slr.latexexport**

LaTeX Export Plugin

General workflow

- **exportHandler** is called via menu bar
- If less than two projects are in the workspace, the selection of the project to be exported is trivial, otherwise a **ExportProjectChooser** dialog opens and prompts the selection of a project, see *tryLoadingProjectFiles()* in exportHandler
 - for the only available or selected project, the documents, taxonomy and metadata are initialized in the editing domain and metainformation plugin
- A **LatexExportWizard** is opened, asking to specify a path to the export document and for a selection of a template
- Export generation is triggered by *performExport()* in LatexExportWizard
 - Therefore, a **SirLatexGenerator** is generated which specifies the template and the content
- Charts are generated and exported to an „images“ folder in the export path
- The document template is filled and exported

LaTeX Export Plugin

Different templates and filling of papers

- Every template has an own class, see package *de.tudresden.slr.latexexport.latexgeneration.documentclasses*
- The .tex templates (with slots for the input, slot names are in class **SlrLatexTemplate**) and auxiliary files are located in the „resources“ folder of the plugin
- SlrLatexTemplate is the abstract superclass for all templates
 - Concrete templates have to specify URLs to the resources (hardcoded in constructor)
 - Due to differences in displaying the author, abstract,... certain generator functions can or have to be overridden, e.g. *generateAuthorSection()*, *fillDocument()*
 - *fillDocument()* is kind of an template method for the insertion of content
- The content of the template in the resources folder is read into a String (*getResourceContentAsString()* in **SlrLatexGenerator**), the slots from the template are filled using the **StrSubstitutor** from Apache Commons and paths to the images (Mapping from Term to path as String) are inserted
- The resulting String is written to a .tex file

LaTeX Export Plugin

Adding a new template (1/2)

- To add a new template, information has to be hardcoded into the plugin
- In class **SlrLatexTemplate**:
 - Add a static final string containing the name of the template, this name will be displayed in the export wizard
 - Add this string to the array *documentTypes*
- add the new file of the template in a new folder in the path *resources/latexTemplates/*
 - at least one .tex file has to be added, auxiliary files are optional
- Generate a new class for the template in package *de.tudresden.slr.latexexport.latexgeneration.documentclasses* extending **SlrLatexTemplate**
 - The constructor has to specify the path to the template (templatePath), URLs to every resource and an array containing all resources

```
public TemplateIEEEconf() throws MalformedURLException {
    URL resource0 = new URL(resourcePrefix + "latexTemplates/ieee/IEEEtran.cls");

    this.filesToCopy = new URL[] { resource0 };
    this.name = "IEEEconf";
    this.templatePath = new URL(resourcePrefix + "latexTemplates/ieee/ieee-template.tex");
}
```

LaTeX Export Plugin

Adding a new template (2/2)

- In the constructor of **SlrLatexGenerator**, add an if-statement to check whether the selection matches an existing template. If so, set *concreteDocumentTemplate* to an instance of the new document class

```
if (templateName.equals(SlrLatexTemplate.TEMPLATE_PLAIN))
    concreteDocumentTemplate = new TemplatePlainArticle();
if (templateName.equals(SlrLatexTemplate.TEMPLATE_ACM))
    concreteDocumentTemplate = new TemplateACMSigplanConf();
if (templateName.equals(SlrLatexTemplate.TEMPLATE_IEEE))
    concreteDocumentTemplate = new TemplateIEEEconf();
if (templateName.equals(SlrLatexTemplate.TEMPLATE_SPRINGER_LNCS))
    concreteDocumentTemplate = new TemplateSpringerLnCS();
if (templateName.equals(SlrLatexTemplate.TEMPLATE_TUDSCR))
    concreteDocumentTemplate = new TemplateTUDSCR();
```

- That's it!

LaTeX Export Plugin

Export of charts

- In class **LatexExportGenerator**, the charts for the main dimensions are generated, using the Eclipse BIRT charting engine
- In the only method of the class, a mapping is returned which maps a Term to a String, which represents a path where the chart is put. The path is defined relatively, e.g. Term „a“ is mapped to „images/a.JPG“
- The charts are then located in the defined output folder for the export in an images folder
- Originally, the format of the output should be in svg- or pdf-format, but due to unfixed bugs in BIRT, it's just possible to export to JPG or other non-vector graphics formats

Possible Enhancements

Possible Enhancements

- Replace BIRT with another charting engine that supports vector graphics output
- Refactor template system to minimize hardcoded information for the templates
- Refactor the metainformation view
- Find a way to sync key statistics and the view without having to push the refresh button

Development

Development

The very beginning

- The learning curve for the SLR Toolkit and Eclipse RCP in general is very steep, at some point, there will probably be frustration, but it's worth to keep digging
- Some very fine tutorials can be found at <http://www.vogella.com/tutorials/eclipse.html>

Development

SLR Toolkit, practical hints for the beginning

- Either use the **DataProvider** from the metainformation plugin to get the **current** dimensions and documents
- Or get it via
 - `SearchUtils.getDocumentList()`
 - `ModelRegistryPlugin.getModelRegistry().getActiveTaxonomy()`
- when developing via Eclipse, try to keep your dependencies and required/imported packages correct to ensure that when trying to build via Maven there are not that many errors

Contact

- Feel free to contact me any time if there are questions: andreas@andhub.de