AHMAD ASSAF

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EDUCATION

05-2012 – 12-2015 Télécom ParisTech / Institut Eurécom, France

PhD, Semantic Web & Information Retrieval with highest honours (summa cum laude)

Research Proposal: Enabling Self-Service Data Provisioning through Semantic Enrichment of Data

09 2010 - 09 2011 University St. Andrews, United Kingdom

MSc Advanced Software Engineering

Main Modules: Advanced Artificial Intelligence, Advanced Networks and Distributed Systems, Advanced Software Engineering, Critical Systems Engineering, Software Architecture and Mobile and Multimedia Systems.

WORKING EXPERIENCE

09-2015 - Currently Senior Software Engineer, Beamery, London, UK

05-2015 – 10-2014 Research Engineer, EURECOM, France.

05-2012 – 05-2015 Associate Researcher, Business Intelligence Practice, SAP Labs SA, France.

10-2011 – 04-2012 Software Engineer (Intern), Business Intelligence Practice, SAP Labs SA, France.

06 2009 – 05-2010 Web Developer (Intern), TATA Consultancy Services, Mumbai, India

PAPERS

- An Objective Assessment Framework & Tool for Linked Data Quality International Journal on Semantic Web and Information Systems IJSWIS, 2015
- 3cixty@Expo Milano 2015 enabling visitors to explore a smart city ISWC 2015, 14th International Semantic Web Conference, Semantic Web Challenge, Pennsylvania, USA, 2015
- The 3cixty Knowledge Base for Expo Milano 2015: Enabling Visitors to Explore the City K-CAP'15, 8th International Conference on Knowledge Capture, New York, USA, 2015
- What's up LOD Cloud Observing The State of Linked Open Data Cloud Metadata 2nd Workshop on Linked Data Quality (LDQ2015), ESWC15, Portoroz, Slovenia, 2015
- HDL Towards A Harmonized Dataset Model for Open Data Portals, PROFILES'15 2nd International Workshop on Dataset PROFIling & fEderated Search for Linked Data, ESWC15, Portoroz, Slovenia, 2015
- An Extensible Framework to Validate and Build Dataset Profiles, PROFILES'15 2nd International Workshop
 on Dataset PROFIling & fEderated Search for Linked Data, ESWC15, Portoroz, Slovenia, 2015
 - ➤ Best paper Award at PROFILES'15
- Roomba Automatic Validation, Correction and Generation of Dataset Metadata, International World Wide Web Conference (Demo Track) WWW15, Florence – Italy, 2015
- What are the Important Properties of an Entity? Comparing Users and Knowledge Graph Point of View, European Semantic Web Conference (Demo & Poster Track) ESWC 2014, Crete – Greece, 2014
- SNARC An Approach for Aggregating and Recommending Contextualized Social Content, 10th International Conference, ESWC 2013, Montpellier France, 2013
- RUBIX, A Framework for Improving Data Integration with Linked Data, WOD '12 Proceedings of the First International Workshop on Open Data, Nantes France, 2012
- Data Quality Principles in the Semantic Web, International Workshop on Data Quality Management and Semantic Technologies, Palermo Italy, 2012

NOTABLE PROJECTS

Roomba - Automatic Validation, Correction and Generation of Dataset Profiles

A scalable automatic approach for extracting, validating and generating descriptive linked dataset profiles. Roomba applies several techniques to check the validity of the attached dataset metadata as well as providing descriptive and statistical information of a certain dataset as well as a whole data portal.

Business Intelligence Graph (BIG)

The Business Intelligence Graph is a set of foundation services for BI applications such as SAP Lumira to simplify the experience of Decision Makers and Analysts. With the BI Knowledge Graph (BIG), we harvest BI artefacts, BI usage and user profiles and store them in the HANA Graph Engine. We provide query, recommendation and ranking services as XS endpoints.

Semantic Enrichment of Enterprise Data (SEED)

A project that aims at enriching data at the instance level with Semantic meta information extracted from open knowledge bases like DBpedia. SEED implements entity ranking algorithms that take into account string similarity using HANA text search and the popularity in the DBpedia dataset via the number of incoming associations. Furthermore the algorithms are used to determine the most appropriate types for an entity, improve data integration by providing data cleansing functionalities and automatic domain detection for Linked Open datasets.

SNARC - A Semantic Social News Aggregator (http://snarcapp.com)

A service that semantically annotates web documents, queries social endpoints and reconciles results in order to provide rich and up-to-date contextual information.

- Creates a "Semantic Document" model that contains a set of annotations (Keywords, Concepts, Categories and Entities) extracted from the textual content of the web resource.
- Federates Queries to the various related social networks. Afterwards it combines various social results and unifies them in a common social model.

Remix

remix is a business intelligence solution that helps business users intuitively and quickly build insightful reports. It enables the composition of existing BI artefacts with new data from the enterprise and from external sources. It is a self-service BI tool targeted at business users. It recommends the best course of action by leveraging content and interaction traces.

AWARDS & HONOURS

- First place at the Semantic Web Challenge at the 14th International Semantic Web Conference
- Best poster award at K-CAP 2015, the 8th International Conference on Knowledge Capture
- Best paper award at LDQ'15, the 2nd Workshop on Linked Data Quality
- Best paper award at PROFILES'15, the 2nd International Workshop on Dataset PROFIling & fEderated Search for Linked Data
- Finalist at HackZurich'14
- First place at the AI Mashup Challenge at the European Semantic Web Conference ESWC 2013
- Finalist in the European Innovation Academy 2014

Programming Languages: Node.js, Java, PHP, JavaScript (SAP UI5), CSS, HTML, RDF, RDFS, OWL

Database Technologies: In-memory(SAP HANA, SAP XS-Engine), Relational(MySQL, Oracle, SQLite),

Document(MongoDB), Graph(Neo4J - Cypher, Triple Stores – SPARQL, Cayley)

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Semantic Web and Linked Data
- Data analysis, mining and visualization
- Collective Intelligence and Machine Learning

LANGUAGES

Arabic (Native Language), English (Bilingual proficiency), French (Fluent)