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**THE MANCHESTER SUSHI FINDER**

**Progress Report**

**COMP60990 Research Methods and Professional Skills**

**(Date)**

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# ABSTRACT:

# INTRODUCTION:

As the trend nowadays to try making machines more intelligent, sharing knowledge of information instead of sharing the raw information in the web is becoming more desirable. Ontologies are considered the main pillar of the semantic web [1]. Semantic web is all about sharing knowledge ,that is understandable for machines, on the web [1]. Creating ontologies is a way to capture our knowledge of the world [1].

Computers do not understand information stored on the web as xml and html. They are just codes to the machine and they display it to users regardless of what knowledge needed. So, ontologies came along for machines to make sense of information. Ontologies is a way to represent knowledge and make inferences from that knowledge using machines computational capabilities and some description logic.

An intelligent way of representing knowledge needs an intelligent way of browsing it. There are a lot of intelligent browsers that is ontology driven user interfaces. Browsing and constructing queries through such user interfaces would be easy and save time. This is because that the user interface guides the user to construct the wanted query with no worries about previous knowledge of the domain. Ideas like manuals and the help in the menu bar of a user interface would same absolute comparing to the self-guided user interface.

Additional technique to make the user interface smart is to use faceted browsing. The idea behind faceted browsing is to personalize the search and get more specific results by suggesting some filters. Faceted browsing is very related to ontology driven interface since both provide some information about the query while been constructed [2].

There are systems, that are ontology driven user interface, exist such as Transparent Access to Multiple Bioinformatics Information Sources (TAMBIS) and SEmantic Webs and AgentS in Integrated Economies (SEWASIE). TAMBIS is system that gather and analysis bioinformatics information from different sources through one interactive user interface [3]. While SEWASIE meant to access multiple sources of data and help user through constructing exact query needed [4].

The idea of ontology driven interface is not new. In this project, will try to build an application that has some functionalities of interactive interface.

## Project Aims And Objectives:

The aim of this project is to investigate and demonstrate the benefits of using OWL ontologies within ontology driven interface [5]. This will be shown be implementing a configurable and flexible application, so that most configuration will lay in the ontology file itself and could browse other ontologies that contain some specific configuration [5].

To achieve this aim, project was divided into number of objectives. The objectives of this project are:

1. Research ontology driven interfaces.
2. Research faceted browsing.
3. Research OWL API.
4. Look at existing applications that are similar in the basic functionalities.
5. Gather project requirements.
6. Develop a project plan.
7. Design user stories and tests evaluations.
8. Determine the tools that will be used in the project.
9. Start implementing and divide and add functionalities one at a time.

## Project Scope:

This project is going to demonstrate the use of ontologies using an interactive user interface. The functionalities that will be included in the interface are:

1. The user interface will be built using java.
2. User interface will be configurable for generic use.
3. Flexible query building.
4. Preferences of the user will be saved as configuration for reusability.
5. The sushi finder will be a desktop application.
6. The sushi finder should work for any ontology with standard annotations defined  in them (Configuration will be stored in the ontology).
7. User can load ontologies one at a time.
8. User can decides which thing to query about (Sushi-Sushi dishes).
9. User can query for specific sushi or sushi dish type based on wanted or unwanted  ingredients.

## Report Structure:

# BACKGROUND:

## OWL API:

Application Programming Interface (API) is a set of protocols that make sure the software components interact with each other in the right way [6]. The job of OWL API is to communicate between the Web Ontology Language (OWL) and any other program.

### OWL

OWL is a semantic web language to represent things about the world, group of things, and the relations between them [7]. It is a way to represent knowledge such that it is a representation of the world and our knowledge of it and it is accessible to programs and can be used [8]. OWL is a W3C recommendation since 2004, and then OWL 2 was published in 2009, followed with a second edition in 2012 [7, 9]. OWL 2 is just an extension and revision of the original OWL publish in 2004 [7]. OWL has several defined syntaxes including Functional Syntax, RDF/XML, OWL/XML and the Manchester OWL Syntax [7, 9].

OWL documents are called ontologies [7]. These ontologies can be put into the web or into a local computer depending on the need. The advantage of ontologies in the web is that they can be referenced from or reference to other ontologies [7]. Ontologies station in a local computer used local in the same level of the local machine.

### OWL API

OWL API is an Application Programming Interface for the purpose of specifying how to interact with OWL Ontologies [9]. OWL ontologies can be created, manipulated, and reasoned over using OWL API [9]. It has been available since almost the same time of OWL [9]. OWL API went through several revisions following the development of OWL [9]. OWL API has the ability to parse and serialize OWL ontologies to different syntaxes such as Functional Syntax, RDF/XML, OWL/XML and the Manchester OWL Syntax [9].

OWL API comes with free java implementation that takes out the burden of parsing and serializing OWL ontologies from the developers back [9]. OWL API comes also with loading and saving ontologies capabilities [9].

OWL ontologies being accessed using OWL API only through OntologyManager interface [9]. OntologyManager interface manage all changes in ontology as seen in Figure 1 below [9].

Figure 2.1.2-1: UML diagram showing the management of ontologies using OWL API [9]

Inference is applied on the OWL ontologies using OWLReasoner interface [9]. This interface provides some useful check like consistency, checking computation of class and axiom entailments [9]. Since the reasoning functionality is separate, developers either can use the available or can provide their own implementation [9]. There are some exist implementations of reasoners such as FaCT++, HermiT, and Pellet [9].

As for Query using OWL API, it does not offer any query mechanism [9]. However, it provides some sort of basic querying which is based on entailment checking functionality [9].

## Ontology Driven User Interface

## Information Retrieval Methods

Information retrieval is the method in which some information is retrieved from a source contains data. Every retrieval system needs some mechanisms to retrieval relevant needed information. Based on different things some techniques have been implemented. Two of them are keyword or text based and ontology based methods. Keyword based is considered an old method while ontology based is more recent one.

### Keyword Based Search

Keyword-based search method would be the default and usual choice, since it has been used over long time. However, keyword-based search method suffers from some issues [10]. One of these issues would be the lack of accuracy and recall because of synonyms and homonyms and they are based on memorizing terms rather than concepts [10]. The other issue is that using keyword-based search add more ambiguity if the user want just to browse around to find out what is there or the user does not know the right term used in specific content [10].

According to [10], there are solutions for both issues. Ontology-based information retrieval method would solve the problem with the lack of precision and recall [10]. The growth in the ambiguity issue, would be solve be using multi-faceted search method which would guide the user during constructing the search query [10].

View-based search

Ontogator is a system that combines the two methods ontology and multi-faceted based search [10].

### Faceted Based Search

Faceted search is an intelligent and efficient retrieval mechanism that allows the users to filter a collections of information based on some dimensions which called Facets [11, 12]. This information ordered based on multiple taxonomies, which are called faceted classification [11, 13].

This technique can be applied in two ways, either unidirectional or bidirectional. In unidirectional way, either applies it beforehand on a collection of selection that is browsed to construct the query or on the result of a query so it can be refined more. In the bidirectional way, it is to apply it both beforehand and afterward. Both serve the same purpose which is to personalized the search and make it easy to suit the user’s needs.

## Ontology Visual Querying

Ontology Visual Querying is the use of the user interface and ontologies to guide for interactive query building and provide meaningful queries in intelligent way [2, 4]. In addition, the user interface help in constructing valid and exact queries [2, 4].

Visual querying is not new. It has been there since almost the beginning of textual query languages [2]. Almost all visual querying languages have two features in common [2]. The two features are: (1) a model to represent the stated query and (2) a way to of constructing the query [2]. Since visual querying languages invented to query from a data structure, it is only natural for its evolution to follow the development of data structure [2, 14]. A simple example of visual querying would in Microsoft Access.

A major benefit from ontology visual querying is user does not have to remember or know the vocabulary, since user can survey the domain [2, 4]. As a result, forming queries for naïve users becomes easier [2]. In ontologies, new concept can be defined either directly like defining class or indirectly like making inference of something. Therefore, creating query is the same as creating new concept such as the TAMBIS system and SEWASIE system [2-4]. Another advantage would be helping users, who not experienced with the system, to create satisfiable queries according to the constraints [2].

# RESEARCH METHODS:

## Project Plan:

## Project Deliverables:

## Project Evaluation Plan:

## Project Tools:

# PROGRESS:

## Users Stories:

## Acceptance Tests:

## Prototype:

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