**Introduction to the VLO Faceted Browser.**

**The modules.**

This document describes in short the workings of the Faceted Browser that is part of the VLO (Virtual Language Observatory).

The vlo faceted browser consists of three parts: VLO importer, Solr server, VLO webapp.

**VLO importer**: Batch process: responsible for parsing cmdi metadata, creating SolrDocuments and feeding it to the Solr server. Build in Java, using VTD-xml (http://vtd-xml.sourceforge.net/) to parse all the data.

**Solr Server**: http://lucene.apache.org/solr/, a web application containing solrdocuments (key-value pairs). Responsible for indexing the documents and providing a RESTfull interface that can be queried to create a faceted browser.

**VLO webapp**: The faceted browser: responsible for all interaction with the user and the data inside the solr server. Build using wicket.

The source code is split up in two parts one directory for the SOLR server (vlo\_solr) and one for the VLO webapp/importer (vlo\_webapp). See pom.xml and readme's of the respective dirs for more information on how to build/install them.

**Configuration.**

The solr server acts as a "database" for the importer and faceted browser.

We don't have to code anything for the solr server, just maintain some configuration. The main configuration file is <SOLR\_DIR>/solr/conf/schema.xml. In that file there is a <fields> tag that describes which fields are being indexed. These are the fields that the importer needs to extract and the webapp can query. Trying to extract fields that are not in this list results in errors.

This list of fields is used in two other places:

* vlo\_webapp/src/main/resources/facetConcepts.xml

Mapping of facets and conceptlinks.

* vlo\_webapp/src/main/resources/applicationContext.xml

List of facets that will be shown as columns in the browser.

So basically adding facets means you have to edit two/three places depending on whether or not you want to show the facet as a column.