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Taxon Web service

What is Taxon?

Taxon is an Open Source project to automatically classify a text according to a given taxonomy.

The resulting metadata can be used as tags on a web page, as metadata in a record management system, as keys in a mail distribution system and many other places.

Taxon web service

You can make your own interface to the Taxon system. You can also use the Taxon web service.

The Taxon web service serves as an interface to the Taxon system.

The Open Source project

Taxon is an Open Source project. It is licensed under GPL 3.

Strategy for version numbers

The version number of the Taxon web service follows the version number of the Taxon system.

Major version number 1.x

The general idea is to let the major version number reflect the version of the API, so that all versions within 1.x have the same API and should be able to communicate as well as using the taxonomies.

Subversion number x.0

The subversion number reflects minor updates, bugs fixes, speed improvement etc. of Taxon.

Current version

As of 2/4-2013 the version is 2.1.

Installing the Taxon web service

Usually you want to use Taxon as a web service.

Copy the file taxon-web-service-X.y.tar.gz (X.y is the version) to the same directory as Taxon-X.y.tar.gz, usually taxon/.

Unpack the file with

```
tar -zxvf taxon-web-service-X.y.tar.gz
```

Now there is a directory called web-service/.

Setup your web server to point to the web-service/ directory.

Test the Taxon web service

To test the web service is working, go to the directory of the web-service/ directory and enter

```
php test_web_service.php
```

When it asks, use './taxonomies/test_lookup.json' for the taxonomy and 'Denmark' for the text. For the url of the Taxon web service enter the correct URL, e.g. http://<YOUR-URL-LOCATION>/taxon-ws.php.

You should get a result like this:

```
stdClass Object

(
[01] => stdClass Object

(
[title] => EU countries

[exclusive] => 0

[hidden] => 0

[thresholdWeight] => 5

[thresholdCount] => 1
```

```
[thresholdCountUnique] => 1
  [terms] => stdClass Object
     (
       [denmark] => stdClass Object
            [weight] => 5
            [count] => 1
            [firstpos] => 1
            [hits] => stdClass Object
               (
                 [denmark] => 1
               )
          [requireTerm] =>
            [excludeOnTerm] =>
            [requireClass] =>
            [excludeOnClass] =>
            [required] => 0
            [hidden] => 0
    )
 [scoreCount] => 1
  [scoreWeight] => 5
  [scorePosition] => 1
  [scoreFirstPosition] => 1
  [classificationMethod] => Full classification
)
```

If the result is some HTML with error codes in, check the setup of the web server. That's it! Enjoy Taxon.

preprocessText and postprocessResult

The files preprocessText and postprocessResult are located in the includes/ directory of the web service.

Use these files with care – you have been warned :-)

preprocessText

is used for altering the text before it is sent to Taxon. NOTE that any changes made to the text should be reflected in the taxonomy.

postprocessResult

is used to alter the result from Taxon. NOTE that if you told Taxon to return short results you get very limited information to work with in postprocessResult.