DYNAMIC WHITEBOARD REGIONS

BACKGROUND

[0001]   Whiteboard applications enable users to place content on a canvas in a free-form manner. For example, users participating in a whiteboard sharing session might be permitted to draw freely on a canvas using digital ink. However, although such applications provide a great deal of freedom for creating and sharing content using a free-form digital canvas, these applications also suffer from a number of drawbacks.

[0002]   One drawback of current whiteboard applications stems from the unstructured nature of a whiteboard canvas. In particular, because a whiteboard canvas is free-form, it can be difficult for users to create context and draw meaning from content on such a whiteboard. For example, users in a whiteboard sharing session might write a list of to-do items on a whiteboard canvas using digital ink. Digital ink on a whiteboard canvas does not, however, have any semantic context and, therefore, cannot be operated on such as, for example, by sorting or grouping the to-do items. In order to add semantic context to the to-do items, a user typically has to transcribe the digital ink and manually create to-do items from the transcribed text, which can take time, be error prone, and consume significant computing resources.

[0003]   Some whiteboard applications attempt to add context to whiteboard content by presenting static images that can be used as guidelines for creating and managing content. Static images, however, only provide visual cues and do not provide any semantic context. As a result, users still might have to transcribe digital ink and create to-do items, or other types of contextual items, from the transcribed text which, as mentioned above, can take time, be error prone, and consume significant computing resources.

[0004]   It is with respect to these and other technical challenges that the disclosure made herein is presented.

SUMMARY

[0005]   Technologies are disclosed herein for providing dynamic whiteboard templates and regions. Through implementations of the disclosed technologies in conjunction with a whiteboard application, semantic context can be quickly and easily associated with heterogenous digital objects ("objects"), such as digital ink. Moreover, once the semantic context has been associated with the digital objects, the objects can be sorted, filtered, arranged, projected, and otherwise operated on based upon the semantic context. As a result, users no longer have to manually generate semantic context for digital