

BioCatalogue annotation jamboree report

Date: 27 November 2009

Place: Atlas1 Kilburn building University of Manchester

Attending: Jon Ison, Nick Juty, Mahmut Uludag, Marco Roos, Anika Joecker, Pieter Neerincx, Iga ikorneta, Jerzy Orlowski, Neil Swainston, Archit Puri, Peter Li, Jiten Bhagat, Jonathan Foster, Ravinder Singh, Mannie Tags, Franck Tanoh

Introduction slides:

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/1449587/JamboreeIntroduction.ppt>

Annotation guidelines:

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/1449587/Best%20practice%20web%20service%20annotation.pdf>

List of services: <http://dl.dropbox.com/u/1449587/services.pdf>

Embrace Ontology for Data and Methods (EDAM):

<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/~jison/edam.html>

Some pictures: <http://dl.dropbox.com/u/1449587/Jamboree%20pics.zip>

Some statistics

1- Annotation

Annotation can be descriptions, tags and example values

Service Component	No of Annotations
Service	61
Service Operation	136
Service Input	144
Service Output	137
Total	478

2- Other

Item	Count
New users on Jamboree day	4
New Services on Jamboree day	7
New Services since Jamboree	17

Report from the breakout session

Two topics were discussed during the break out:

1-Ways to encourage providers and users to annotate Web Services

- Members who properly annotate their services should have some kind of rewards. For example the BioCatalogue can find some mechanism to facilitate paper publication.
- Test service directly in the BioCatalogue
- Ability to update other people's annotations (keeping the history of changes)
- Possibility to mark deprecated services
- Harvest BioMoby annotations automatically
- Possibility to filter annotations by submitter?
- Reporting "cleanup the annotations" to curators
- Make it clear how many example data members can add in the one box
- Possibility to just use the example data to run services as part of testing
- Possibility to clone annotations made to other services?
- When members run the service (soap servlet), it will be useful if they can store that as an annotation, OR have the option to add it as an annotation directly.

2-How should Web Services be annotated (best practice)?

- There are different types of annotation depending on who the target audience is (human vs computer).
- Each type of annotation is done differently. Semantic annotation mainly for computer.
- BioCatalogue should use ontology but hide their complexity to users. For example terms from the ontology found by auto completion.
- Help users to do structure annotation e.g. use the existing categorisation
- Annotation by example, for example many services have very similar sets of annotations!
- Show services that have the same type of annotation, e.g. user who are using this service also using this one. This is an immediate reward for annotators
- Encourage mashup e.g. export annotation from workflow environment such as Taverna

Other feedback

- Can test scripts monitor how long they take to execute?
- How long do services take to run?
- Mention in the UI that we are using an external provider such as - RPXnow -to do the OpenID, Discuss for comments etc...
- Better support for multiple deployments of services?
- Possibility to filter services by Curator only annotation
- There is a bug in tag suggestion dropdown -jumps up and down a lot when you scroll up and down using the arrow keys. Need to improve this as part of the default stylesheet for annotation
- Allow tables in annotation values

Actions

- Attendee to join the BioCatalogue friend list:
<http://listserv.manchester.ac.uk/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=biocatalogue-friends&A=1>

Remarks

Overall the annotation jamboree was a success.

For future annotation jamboree, it will be useful to consider organising it over 2 days so that attendees have more time for annotations and discussions that follow.