Ontologies and thesauri - similarities and differences

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Ontologies are a popular buzzword, but it is barely clear, what ontologies are and how they differ from "traditional" knowledge organization systems such as thesauri or classification schemes. Particularly the context of the Semantic Web standards often create the impression that ontologies are all about the technicality of a more formal description (format). This presentation will put its focus on "content" of ontologies and provide an overview of how they differ from KOS in this aspect. Differences that are elaborated include the way of defining concepts, structural differences, the discrimination of hierarchical and other relationships or the role of high-level categories. These differences will be discussed in the light of their intended applications.