1.5   Summary

- The Semantic Web is an initiative that aims at improving the current state of the World Wide Web.

- The key idea is the use of machine-processable web information.

- Key technologies include data publication with explicit metadata, ontologies, logic, and inferencing.

- The development of the Semantic Web proceeds in layers.

Suggested Reading

An excellent introductory article on the Semantic Web vision is

- T. Berners-Lee, J. Hendler, and O. Lassila. The Semantic Web. *Scientific American* 284 (May 2001): 34–43.

An inspirational book about the history (and the future) of the web is

- T. Berners-Lee, with M. Fischetti. *Weaving the Web*. San Francisco: Harper, 1999.

A number of websites maintain up-to-date information about the Semantic Web and related topics:

- www.semanticweb.org/.

- www.w3.org/2001/sw/.

There is a good selection of research papers providing technical information on issues relating to the Semantic Web: