Enabling HATEOAS Through HTTP OPTIONS, Link Headers, And The HTTP Vocabulary In RDF

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ABSTRACT

Categories and Subject Descriptors

H.3 [Information Storage and Retrieval]: On-line Information Services

General Terms

Experimentation

Keywords

RDF, LOD, Linked Data, Semantic Web, NLP, Video

1. INTRODUCTION

In one of his more famous rants¹ Roy T. Fielding complains about the common practice to call about any HTTP-based interface a REST API. He names a concrete example and writes that it actually "screams RPC" [sic]. Fielding continues that REST APIs must be hypertext driven. He defines hypertext (and positions it to the term hypermedia) as follows:

When I say hypertext, I mean the simultaneous presentation of information and controls such that the information becomes the affordance through which the user (or automaton) obtains choices and selects actions. Hypermedia is just an expansion on what text means to include temporal anchors within a media stream; most researchers have dropped the distinction.

Hypertext does not need to be HTML on a browser. Machines can follow links when they understand the data format and relationship types.

For REST purists Hypermedia As the Engine Of Application State (HATEOAS) is the last and the hardest step towards the full glory of REST.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows:

2. CONCLUSION

3. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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4. REFERENCES

[1] T. Steiner. Semwebvid - making video a first class semantic web citizen and a first class web bourgeois. In 9th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC2010), November 2010.

http://roy.gbiv.com/untangled/2008/rest-apismust-be-hypertext-driven

²http://roy.gbiv.com/untangled/2008/rest-apis-must-be-hypertext-driven#comment-718