Linked Data Explorer

Administrator guide for the European Linked Data Contest

1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Linked Data Explorer is a search and browse tool for Linked Data with rich customization capabilities baked in. The application features an innovative two-level customization approach offering customization options to both expert and non-expert users to alter the display of the browsed data resources.

The basic building blocks of the browser are miniapplications - small widgets responsible to display arbitrary information about a resource. The simplest form of a miniapplication is a custom template that defines how to display a particular resource property. In addition, the project enables users to define custom SPARQL queries and define conditions and priorities when and in what order to present defined miniapplications.

When browsing a resource, a collection of miniapplications describing the resource is presented to the user. The user can then alter the default behavior by creating a custom view - a definition of a page layout and order of miniapplications. Furthermore, the user can specify a class of resources to apply the custom view to. For example, a single custom view can be applied to all data entities of a particular type.

Custom views are created in a What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG) manner - the user can rearrange the layout of miniapplications by drag and drop operations with immediate visual feedback. Thus, the user can perform this task without any expert knowledge.

2 Administrator access

The demo application is located on the following URL:

http://linked-data-browser.herokuapp.com

To access administration section, do the following:

- 1. Click the "LOGIN" button in the top right corner
- 2. Insert username "admin@admin.com" and password "admin" and click the "LOGIN" button
- 3. To access the administration, click the "admin@admin.com" menu on the top right corner and select "Administration"

In the administration section, you can alter the application settings. In the administration section, you can manage users, available SPARQL endpoints (NOTE: only Virtuoso endpoints are available for now, details are described in the attached master thesis), available languages and defined custom views.

3 CREATING A CUSTOM VIEW

To create a custom view, you need to be logged in with the administrator account. First, navigate to a resource you would like to alter. On the top right corner there are three buttons "FORMATTED",

"RAW" and "EDIT" that denotes how the data is handled. The Formatted view is the default view for Linked Data browsing. The Raw view is similar to the default view, except it displays the data in a raw manner, no custom views are applied; in addition, it is possible to select which datasets or graphs to include in the result, if applicable.

Finally, the Edit view serves as a configurator for custom view. The view is divided into two parts – setup of the properties and setup of the layout of the custom view. The properties section enables the user to define matching rules, description and other features, whereas the layout section provides a visual interface to manupulate the layout and miniapplications in a drag and drop manner.

The most important part when defining a custom view is the "matching rules" settings – those rules define a class of resources that the custom view is applied to, that is, a resource must match all defined rules in order that the custom view is applied.