RDF123 and Spotter

Tools for generating OWL and RDF for biodiversity data in spreadsheets and unstructured text

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http://spire.umbc.edu/

OWL, RDF, and the **Semantic Web**

OWL (Web Ontology Language) and the related RDF (Resource Description Framework) are XMLstyle languages designed represent the semantics of data.

documents in such formats Semantic software should be able to interpret the meaning of data in documents, enabling better discovery and easier integration.

The problem

Though OWL and RDF might solve data discovery and integration issues in biodiversity science, adoption of these formats has so far been limited to computer scientists, database administrators, and highly trained ontologists

Our solution

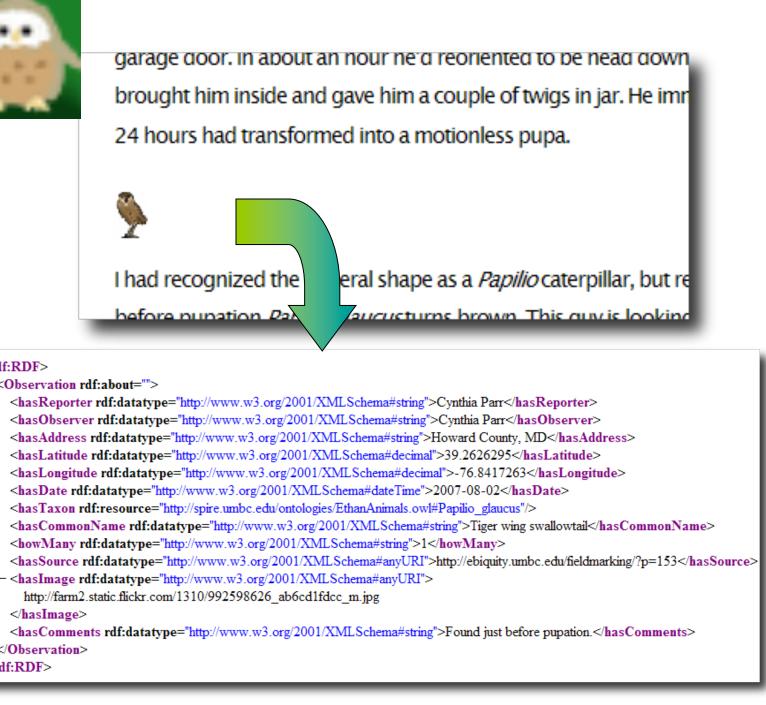
We developed two tools that aim to easier for scientists and citizens to convert their information to RDF and OWL. We report on tests of these tools using biodiversity data. For example, of 1200 Blogger BioBlitz observations, 47 of them were of species defined as "of concern" by USFWS.

Spotter Firefox extension for adding observation data in RDF to blogs

Write a blog entry or post a photo

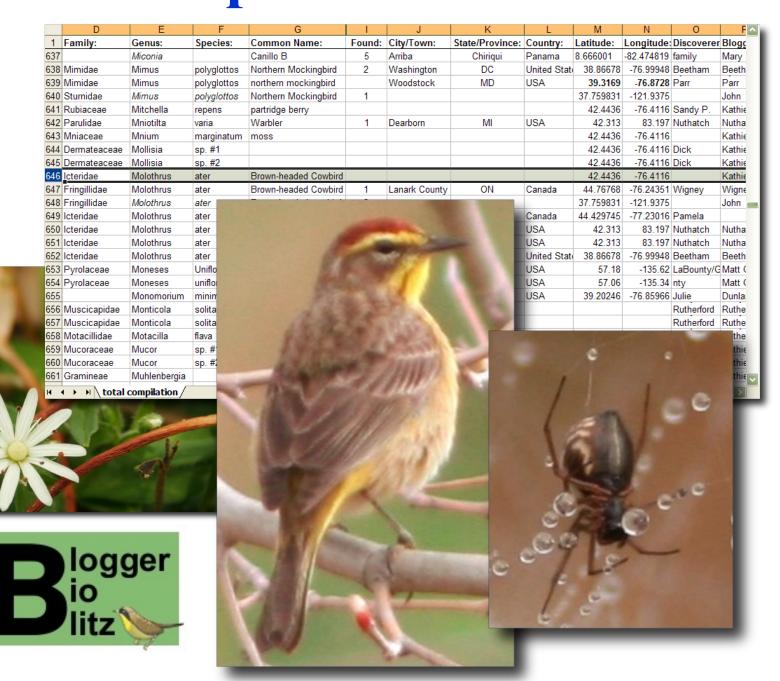


Fill out Spotter form Link to the RDF

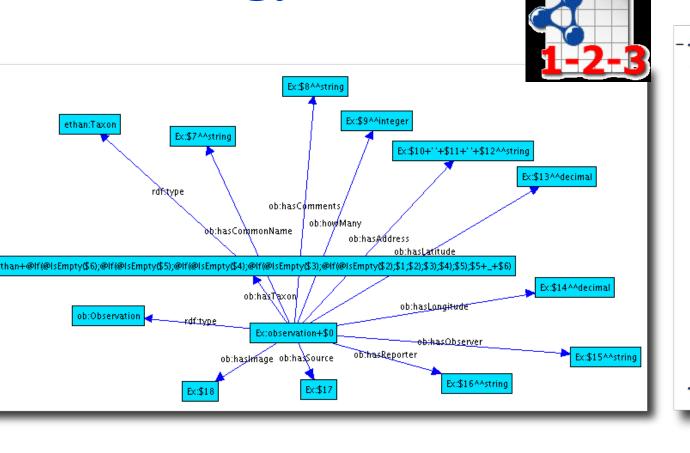


RDF123 Publishing spreadsheet data in RDF Create or link to a

Make spreadsheet



map file (to ontology terms)



Kathie Hodge</hasReporter> <hasObserver rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string"/> <hasAddress rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string"/> 42.4436000/hasLatitude> -76.4116000/hasLongitude> <hasDate rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#dateTime">2007-04-28</hasDate> <hasCommonName rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">Brown-headed Cowbird</hasCommonName> <howMany rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">0</howMany> http://hosts.cce.cornell.edu/mushroom_blog/?p=401/hasSource <hasImage rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#anyURI"/>

PREFIX rdf: http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns# PREFIX rdfs: rdfs: rdf-schema PREFIX ethan: ">http://spire.umbc.edu/ontologies/EthanAnimals.owl#>"> PREFIX ob: http://spire.umbc.edu/ontologies/Observation.owl# PREFIX inv: http://spire.umbc.edu/ontologies/InvasivesOntology.owl#> SELECT DISTINCT ?taxon ?observer ?address ?observation rdf:type ob:Observation

?observation ob:hasTaxon ?taxon ?observation ob:hasObserver ?observer OPTIONAL {?observation ob:hasAddress ?address} ?taxon rdfs:subClassOf inv:ThingOfConcern

Generate RDF

RDF documents now available for Semantic Web Search and Querying



For intelligent agents **ETHAN** Evolutionary **Trees and Natural History**

Web Ontologies

For online databases about the natural history of species and higher taxonomic levels. Moderate expressiveness using OWL.

Species of Concern

For representing species lists that are maintained by agencies and other bodies. Used to assert that specific ETHAN entities are considered invasive, endangered, etc..

Observations

Lightweight assertions with taxon, location, and observer infor-mation. Observations can be grouped into surveys.

SpireEcoConcepts

Food web concepts, confirmed trophic links, and results of our Food Web Constructor.