

# Semantic Annotation with Browser-based Annotation Tool Saha

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**Abstract.** We present a prototype of semantic browser-based annotation tool Saha, that eases the process of creating ontological descriptions of documents e.g. for semantic portals. Saha supports collaborative creation of metadata by centrally storing annotations, which can be viewed and edited by different annotators. Concepts defined in external ontologies can be used in annotations by connecting Saha to ontology servers. The tool is being tested in practical semantic portal projects.

## 1 Introduction

Provision of rich ontology-based metadata is one of the major challenges in developing the Semantic Web. Various annotation systems have been developed to face this challenge [2]. There is, however, a lack of a system that 1) can be easily used by an annotator unfamiliar with technical side of the Semantic Web, and that 2) is able to support the distributed creation of semantic metadata based on complex metadata annotation schemas (ontologies). This paper presents a tool, Saha<sup>1</sup> [3], aiming to satisfy these needs. Saha is browser-based in order to support wide and distributed usage. It has a simple user interface, which hides complexity of ontologies from annotators, and adapts automatically to different metadata schemas, and can utilize external ontology services for sharing URIs.

## 2 User-interface

The annotation-editing view of Saha is depicted in figure 1. Properties of a selected annotation-class are viewed in a simple form, which can be used to submit values for them. In case of an object property, annotator can query

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.seco.tkk.fi/applications/saha/>

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existing instances, create a new one, or use ONKI service [1] to find a suitable concept defined in an external ontology. In order to make the annotation process as simple as possible, technical concepts, such as URIs, are hidden from the user. Ontology-editing features, such as defining new properties are excluded as well.

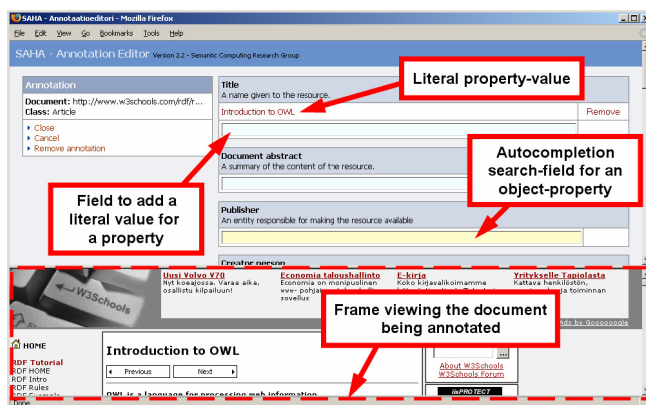


Fig. 1. Saha's user interface

## 3 Discussion

Saha is a working prototype. It is in trial use for the distributed content creation of the semantic eHealth portal Terveasuomi.fi<sup>2</sup>. Our research is a part of the FinnONTO-project<sup>3</sup> funded mainly by the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation (Tekes).

## References

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- [2] Uren, V., Cimiano, P., Iria, J., Handschuh, S., Vargas-Vera, M., Motta, E., and Ciravegna, F. Semantic annotation for knowledge management: Requirements and a survey of the state of the art. *Journal of Web Semantics*, 4(1):14–28, January 2006.
- [3] Valkeapää, O. and Hyvönen, E. A Browser-based Semantic Annotation Tool for Distributed Content Creation. Poster paper, 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Semantic Web Conference (ASWC), Beijing, China, September 2006.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.seco.tkk.fi/applications/terveysuomi/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.seco.tkk.fi/projects/finnonto/>