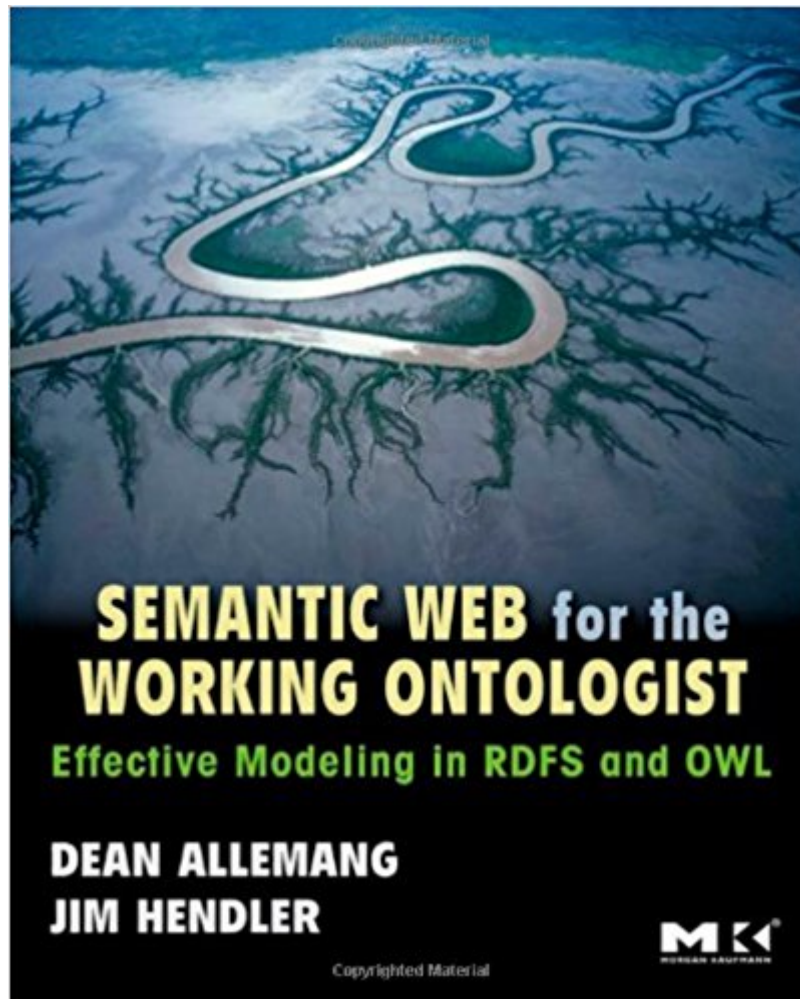


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Semantic Web For The Working Ontologist: Effective Modeling In RDFS And OWL



Synopsis

The promise of the Semantic Web to provide a universal medium to exchange data information and knowledge has been well publicized. There are many sources too for basic information on the extensions to the WWW that permit content to be expressed in natural language yet used by software agents to easily find, share and integrate information. Until now individuals engaged in creating ontologies-- formal descriptions of the concepts, terms, and relationships within a given knowledge domain-- have had no sources beyond the technical standards documents. Semantic Web for the Working Ontologist transforms this information into the practical knowledge that programmers and subject domain experts need. Authors Allemang and Hendler begin with solutions to the basic problems, but don't stop there: they demonstrate how to develop your own solutions to problems of increasing complexity and ensure that your skills will keep pace with the continued evolution of the Semantic Web. • Provides practical information for all programmers and subject matter experts engaged in modeling data to fit the requirements of the Semantic Web. • De-emphasizes algorithms and proofs, focusing instead on real-world problems, creative solutions, and highly illustrative examples. • Presents detailed, ready-to-apply "recipes" for use in many specific situations. • Shows how to create new recipes from RDF, RDFS, and OWL constructs.

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Customer Reviews

I picked up this book at SemTech 2008 where it had its launch, but only got around to reading it this

winter. I wish I had read it earlier as it is tremendously helpful. I have learned what I know of the semantic web by reading the W3C application and building things, primarily using Protégé and the Semantic MediaWiki with Halo. I have also been part of semantic web study groups in Vancouver BC and Cambridge MA. These have all been useful but I like to include books in my learning programs and until the Semantic Web for the Working Ontologist I had not found anything that really helped. John Sowa's wonderful book on Knowledge Representation (is this out of print?) helped with the intellectual foundations, and got me reading Frege, but I needed something that talked in RDF, RDFS and OWL. This book does. One reason this is such a good book is that the authors have practical experience teaching semantic web modeling (I think I want to take a course) and this teaching experience informs the book. Another strength is that they relate semantic web modeling to object oriented programming and call out the differences. Some books on the semantic web enter from a relational database frame of reference. This can also be useful, especially if one comes from the relational world and actually understands the relational model, but my own background is from OO and I find the relational approach to the semantic web irritating (this reflects my own prejudices, if you come from the relational camp you may want a book that can relate semantic web to the relational model). Dean Allemang and Jim Hendler's book reinforces the key design rules of the semantic web, and two of them are worth repeating here (and anytime one has a chance). 1.

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