Collaborative Project

GeoKnow - Making the Web an Exploratory place for Geospatial Knowledge

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Project Fact Sheet and Press Release

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Abstract: In this deliverable the first dissemination material is reported: the project fact sheet and a press release.

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History

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First version	19/12/2012	Alejandra Garcia Rojas M.
Peer review	20/12/2012	Jens Lehmann
Submit final restructured version	31/12/2012	Jens Lehmann

Executive Summary

As part of the dissemination activities in GeoKow project, we have crated a brochure to distribute in all events where GeoKnow partners will participate in. This brochure is available on the project's website http://geoknow.eu/Dissemination.html. Hard copies of this brochure are going to be distrubuted to all partners at the kick off meeting (16th-17th January 2012). This fact sheet is going to be updated according to the project's achievements.

This deliverable also reports the first press release to announce the GeoKnow project launch. This press release has been distributed to each partner in order that each one can distribute it to their organisations. Press releases are going to be produced for the project duration.

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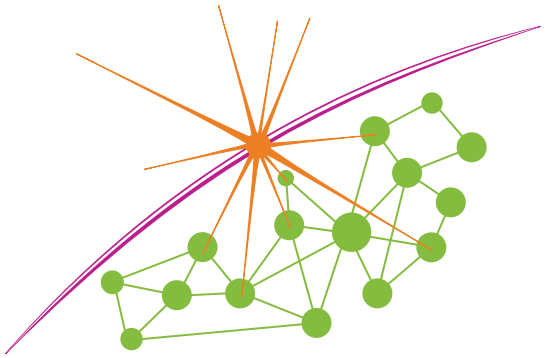

Geospatial Data and the Semantic Web

Geospatial data or geographic information is the data that identifies a geographic location of natural or constructed features and boundaries on the Earth (e.g. oceans, buildings, countries, rivers, etc). Geographical knowledge bases are among the largest in existence and have high importance in a variety of everyday applications.

The data can be mapped and often manipulated with Geographic Information Systems (GIS), however the integration of external data sets into these systems is time-consuming and complex. GeoKnow will provide the necessary tools and methods to easily integrate and process data across a wide range of data sources on the web of data.

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SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Collaborative Project **2012 - 2015**
in Information and Communication Technologies

Making the web an **exploratory place** for geospatial data

Develop tools for exploring, searching, authoring and curating the **Spatial Data Web**

Integrate **linked geospatial data** with large-scale, existing applications and services

Derive a testbed and bootstrapping network of high-quality **spatial knowledge bases**

http://geoknow.eu

Project Summary

An important problem with linking data is that of relating geospatial data with data from other domains, since spatial dimensions of information have high relevance for everyday problems. A typical example is that of knowing the locations of the closest stores which have a specific product in stock and are currently open. This geographic dimension of information is normally available, but dispersed among a multiplicity of information sources such as isolated GIS, enterprise warehouses, proprietary data formats such as Excel sheets or simple web pages.

The aim of the GeoKnow project is to make information seeking easier by allowing exploration, editing and interlinking of heterogeneous information sources with a spatial dimension by:

- The creation and maintenance of qualitative geospatial information from existing unstructured data such as OpenStreetMap, Geonames and Wikipedia. Developing quality assessment methods which anticipate geospatial search capability and the acquisition and aggregation of information resources.

- The reuse and exploitation of unforeseen discoveries found in geospatial data. Providing methods to acquire, analyse and categorise data that is rapidly evolving, immense, incomplete and potentially conflicting.

GeoKnow will produce enterprise-ready tools and methodologies for exposing structured geospatial information on the Web. This includes intelligent querying of spatial information from multiples sources, geospatial-aware query optimisation, parallelised queries and optimisation of data intensive operations (e.g. route planning) performed close to the data.

These contributions are integrated in the open source GeoKnow Generator framework providing a comprehensive toolset of easy to use applications covering a range of possible usage scenarios (e.g. mobility/traffic, energy/water, culture, etc) .

The GeoKnow Consortium

Institute for Applied Informatics
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OpenLink Software
United Kingdom

Unister
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Greece

Brox
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Ontos
Switzerland

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Use Cases

The GeoKnow project foresees two application scenarios:

e-Commerce Use Case

Large amounts of internal organisational data about travel and tourism companies originates from information distributors, Customer Relationship Management (CRM) and business partners based on geographical information. GeoKnow will add geospatial dimensions to customer profiling and tourism data, for example, information about business partners, regional information, travel agency products, POIs, logging, flights ratings, etc. The interesting value for SMEs and large corporations is to be able to open parts of their data in a high quality manner, and therefore benefit from expected network effects, such as increasing customer attention.
Improvements to e-commerce management could enable more accurate answers to specific questions. For example: what is the best geographical region that is suitable for that special event? Or what kind of new products is my customer likely to buy?

Supply Chain Use Case

Logistics companies face big-data challenges when dealing with supply chain information from multiple suppliers in complex international tiered structures. Yet this information integration is critical for effective enterprise processes.

Utilizing geospatial linked data may help to derive a unified collaborative spatial view on important parts of a logistic process. Linked data applications make different private supply chain data points available and connect these layers with intelligent & secure APIs. As a result the flow of information (e.g. materials, products or other supply chain assets) may be observed and analyzed in close to real time. This enables an enterprise to improve its supply chain performance. We also expect to integrate additional supply chain partners and information layers quickly and in a flexible way.

Use cases scenarios will evaluate and showcase the GeoKnow Generator Framework, with the potential of changing the way we handle spatial information on the web.

2 Press Release

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Press Release December 2012

GeoKnow consortium works on making the Web an exploratory place for geospatial data

EU, researcher and industry partners working together adding spatial dimensions to the Web in order to improve search, reuse and interlinking of data.

Leipzig, December 17, 2012: GeoKnow, an EU FP7 funded project, recently started according to schedule in December 2012. Its goal is to research geospatial data, in particular, the integration and linking of such data from different domains, scalable reasoning over billions of geographic features within the Linked Data Web and the efficient crowd-sourcing and collaborative authoring of geographic information. Nowadays, many applications have a geographic dimension. Map services such as Google Maps, Yahoo Maps and Microsoft Live Maps display locations of shops and reviews of customers. Yet, it is not possible to link geographic locations to data sets with semantic information such as the offered type of products in the shops. Hence, the type of queries in those services is very limited as it is, for example, not possible to ask for nearby shops offering a certain type of product with opening hours after working time. The information required to answer such queries is available, however, dispersed among a multiplicity of information sources like isolated Geographic Information Systems, enterprise warehouses, proprietary data formats such as Excel sheets or simple web pages. GeoKnow's aim is to simplify information seeking by allowing exploration, editing and interlinking of heterogeneous sources with spatial dimensions. The research project will develop open source tools which will help users, companies and government organizations to expose and utilize structured geospatial information on the Web. Thus, the project addresses various stakeholders who will benefit from the research project. Use cases from supply chain management and e-commerce (travel industry) will supplement the research. One exemplary aim within the supply chain use case is to provide a unified spatial view on parts of a logistic process. To achieve this target, information with geographical reference points will be connected to the Data Web, allowing for a better observation of the information flow to provide better analytics and to improve decision making processes. In the e-commerce use case, travel industry users will benefit from more background information, enriched content and sophisticated spatial search functionalities.

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The GeoKnow consortium is going to meet for the kick-off meeting in Leipzig on January 16th and 17th and is planning to inform the community about the results using actual channels such as LinkedIn, Google+, Facebook, Twitter and the GeoKnow web page.

GeoKnow in a nutshell

What	Bring geospatial knowledge integration to the Linked Data Web Billion-triple geospatial reasoning and data provenance Qualitative interlinking and fusing of geospatial and semantic information Adaptive geospatial exploration, authoring and curation
Why	Unlock isolated islands of geographic information 80% of all data has some spatial dimension, most of it is not processable today Geographic data authoring with millions of users requires powerful tools
For whom	Added value for the companies and the Linked Data Web community Cost-effective data integration for SMEs Enterprises can add value to their data with volunteered geographic information Users from travel industry will benefit from more background information

The GeoKnow consortium. Working towards the achievement of the ambitious project goal in the consortium are six partners representing four different countries. The consortium assembled leaders from industry and research that will work in the next three years on the EU funded project. The project coordinator is InfAI (Institut für Angewandte Informatik) from the University of Leipzig (Germany), Athena Research and Innovation Center (Greece), OpenLink Software (United Kingdom), Unister (Germany), Brox (Germany) and Ontos (Switzerland).

Background.

<< idea is that every company can place in this section a short profile describing the company, skills and references >>

More information

About the project: http://geoknow.eu
Blog: http://blog.geoknow.eu
InfAI: http://infai.org
LinkedIn: http://linkd.in/TqrI58
Google+: https://plus.google.com/113838869687778043247
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/geoknow

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