First International Workshop on Semantic Metadata Management and Applications (SeMMA)

Metadata is, and will increasingly be playing a central role in the provisioning of semantic web functionalities, e.g., in easing the discovery, interoperability and integration of a variety of data and service resources. For example, applications and databases in the life sciences rely heavily on metadata for describing and curating data products. To effectively exploit the true potential of metadata, however, methods and tools to facilitate its management are required. Metadata management certainly includes traditional issues such as modelling, specification, generation, curation, storage and retrieval, that are typical of any data management system. Additional properties that are specific to metadata, however, have an impact on its management. As a form of resource annotation, for example, metadata has a recognizable lifecycle, that is determined by the evolution of the underlying resources and should be managed accordingly. Also, the use of *semantic metadata*, i.e., metadata that is defined using shared conceptualisations (ontologies) or controlled vocabularies, is increasingly popular in a number of application areas. Managing semantic metadata provides both new challenges and opportunities.

The first international workshop on semantic metadata management brought together researchers and practitioners to discuss issues related to metadata management, with particular emphasis on the management of semantic metadata. The workshop received 14 submissions of which 8 papers were accepted. Accepted papers shed lights on problems relevant to the management of semantic metadata and prepared the ground for useful discussions among the participants.

Workshop Chairs

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