Applied Ontology

An Interdisciplinary Journal on Ontological Analysis and Conceptual Modeling

www.applied-ontology.org

Aims and Scope

Applied Ontology is a new journal whose focus is on information *content* in its broadest sense. As the subtitle makes clear, two broad kinds of content-based research activities are envisioned: *ontological analysis* and *conceptual modeling*. The former includes any attempt to investigate the nature and structure of a domain of interest using rigorous philosophical or logical tools; the latter concerns the cognitive and linguistic structures we use to model the world, as well as the various analysis tools and methodologies we adopt for producing useful computational models, such as information systems schemes or knowledge structures.

Applied Ontology is the first journal with explicit and exclusive focus on ontological analysis and conceptual modeling under an interdisciplinary view. It aims to establish a unique niche in the realm of scientific journals by carefully avoiding unnecessary duplication with discipline-oriented journals. For this reason, authors will be encouraged to use language that will be intelligible also to those outside their specific sector of expertise, and the review process will be tailored to this end. For example, authors of theoretical contributions will be encouraged to show the relevance of their theory for applications, while authors of more technological papers will be encouraged to show the relevance of a well-founded theoretical perspective. Moreover, the journal will publish papers focusing on representation languages or algorithms only where these address relevant content issues, whether at the level of practical application or of theoretical understanding. Similarly, it will publish descriptions of tools or implemented systems only where a contribution to the practice of ontological analysis and conceptual modeling is clearly established.

Call for Papers

Authors are requested to submit their article electronically via the website www.applied-ontology.org.

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Topics

Applied Ontology aims at being a major publication forum for theoretical and applied research in a variety of topics, tentatively grouped together in research areas, examples of which are indicated in the list below.

Foundational issues
- Ontological categories: particulars vs. universals, continuants vs. occurrents, abstracta vs. concreta, dependent vs. independent, natural vs. artificial.
- Ontological relations: parthood, identity, connection, dependence, constitution, causality, subsumption, instantiation.

Domain ontologies
- Ontology of physical reality (matter, space, time, motion, ...)
- Ontology of biomedical reality (genes, proteins, cells, biological processes, species, organisms, diseases, procedures, symptoms, ...)
- Ontology of mental reality and agency (beliefs, intentions and other mental attitudes, emotions, actions, ...)
- Ontology of social reality (institutions, organizations, social interaction, social relationships, ...)
- Ontology of the information society (information, communication, meaning negotiation, ...)
- Ontology of geospatial reality (regions, territories, features, boundaries, …)
- Ontology of business and e-commerce (transactions, services, catalogs, workflow, ...)
- Ontology of law (norms, cases, evidence, responsibility, argumentation, ...)
- Ontology of culture (works of art, styles, designs, cultural heritage records, ...)

Ontology development and ontology-driven conceptual modeling
- Methodologies for ontology development
- Impact of ontological analysis on current practices in information systems design, requirements engineering, software engineering
- Best-practice examples and case studies

Ontology management
- Cooperative tools for ontology development, analysis and comparison
- Formal comparison and evaluation of ontologies
- Ontology management, maintenance, and versioning
- Methodologies for ontology merging, alignment, and integration
- Ontology learning techniques and their evaluation

Ontology and language
- Ontology and natural-language semantics
- Ontology and lexical resources
- Ontology and technical terminology
- Role of ontology in information extraction and query answering

Ontology, cognition, perception
- Conceptual schemas, perceptual invariances and ontological categorization
- Psychological experiments evaluating the cognitive adequacy of ontological categories

Ontology and philosophy
- Statements and critical reviews of specific ontological positions
- Philosophical foundations of ontology
- Ontology-based analysis and critique of the foundations of computer and information science

Ontology and content standards in
- Library classification
- Knowledge organization
- Museums and cultural repositories
- Multimedia content
- Product descriptions
- Process and service descriptions
- Biomedical and other scientific terminologies

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