

## **RDF and Collections**

### **CNI Presentation**

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## **Collections**

- Collections will be increasingly important for effective access to electronic resources
- The “Web” encourages the decomposition of resources we previously would have thought were atomic (e.g. documents) making documents less useful as a unit of retrieval
- Collections are a mechanism for aggregating these objects

## **Defining Collections**

- Identifying the context of resources, and how it relates to other resources, is important for access
  - | e.g. Subject Classification
  - | Yahoo is most popular search service
- Context can be defined in multiple ways
- Resources can have multiple contexts
  - | e.g. can be in more than one collection at one time

## **Collection Tools**

- Recognizing this, new tools are required to support the
  - | Description...
  - | Navigation...
  - | Discovery...
  - | Retrieval...
  - | Management...
  - | And analysis of these collections

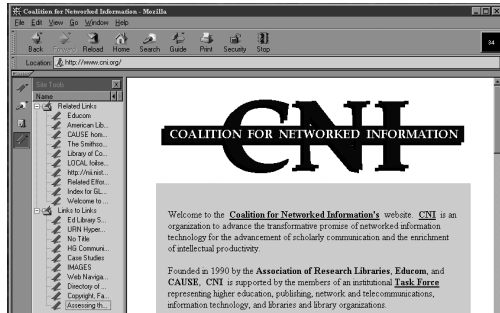
## **Bookmarks as Collections**

- Fine example of an “ad-hoc” collection
- Would like to say some additional “things” about the intellectual content of this collection
- More time spent on maintaining bookmarks than on describing web resources
- Next Generation: More structure, sharable, template for discovery of other things “like it”, etc.

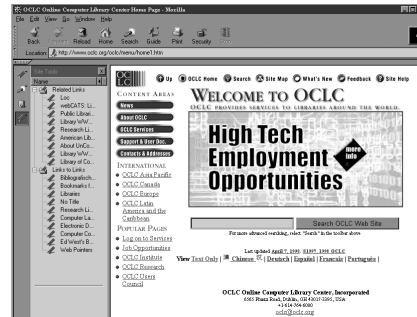
## **Inadvertent Collections**

- Collections that are discovered
  - | Search results (by subject)
    - | e.g. Yahoo
  - | Search results (by relation)
    - | e.g. Alexa
  - | Search results (by explicit query)
    - | e.g. AltaVista

## Relations as Collections



## Relations as Collections



## RDF for Describing Resources

- Web enables distributed publishing
- Uniform syntax, structure and semantics significantly improves interoperability and reuse of web resources
- RDF (Resource Description Framework) is a W3C initiative designed to support the description of web resources
- Collections are Web Resources

## RDF Overview

- W3C Initiative
- RDF is a metadata architecture
  - Uses XML (eXtensible Markup Language) as a transfer syntax
  - Allows for semantics to be defined by individual resource description communities
- Enables interoperability between applications that exchange metadata
- Targeted for many resource descriptive application areas (e.g.collection level description)

## RDF for Collections

- RDF provides a sound basis for associating properties with resources
- RDF provides a sound basis for defining the relationships between resources
- RDF can be used to define collections
  - Proposed for "site-maps"
  - Proposed for bookmarks

## Bookmark Collection in RDF

```
<RDF-RDF>
<RDF:Description id="root" BM:Name = "Bookmarks for Eric Miller">
  <RDF:Description id="888586062RDF.rdf" BM:Name="RDF">
    <BM:Child RDF:HREF="http://www.dstc.edu.au/dc-in-rdf-ex.txt"
      BM:Name="DC in RDF examples"/>
    <BM:Child RDF:HREF="http://www.w3.org/XML/ns-sched.htm"
      BM:Name="Namespace schedule"/>
  </RDF:Description>
  <RDF:Description id="888585984WWW7.rdf" BM:Name="WWW7">
    <BM:Child RDF:HREF="http://www.dstc.edu.au/dday-tracks.html"
      BM:Name="WWW7 Developers Day - Draft Program"/>
    <BM:Child RDF:HREF="http://www7.conf.au/tutorialday.html"
      BM:Name="WWW7 Tutorials Day"/>
  </RDF:Description>
</RDF:Description>
</RDF-RDF>
```

