Herbert van de Sompel



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Abstract:

Title: Perseverance on Persistence

Ever since I devised the Memento "Time Travel for the Web" protocol with colleagues Michael Nelson and Robert Sanderson, I have found myself unable to stop reflecting about what it would take to be able to persistently, precisely, and seamlessly revisit the web of the past. Understanding that attempting to achieve this for the entire web was probably unrealistic, and motivated by scholarly communication use cases, I eventually tossed the notion of Pockets of Persistence: distributed content collections managed by communities of practice within which accurate time travel would be possible. A range of projects in which I have been involved have explored forces that work against persistence as well as approaches aimed at counterbalancing those forces. In this talk, I will provide an overview of insights gained thus far.

Bio:

Herbert Van de Sompel is an Information Scientist at the Los Alamos National Laboratory and, for 15 years, has led the Prototyping Team. The Team does research regarding various aspects of scholarly communication in the digital age, including information infrastructure, interoperability, and digital preservation. Herbert has played a major role in creating the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting, the Open Archives Initiative

Object Reuse & Exchange specifications, the OpenURL Framework for Context-Sensitive Services, the SFX linking server, the bX scholarly recommender service, info URI, Web Annotation, ResourceSync, Memento "time travel for the Web", Robust Links, and Signposting the Scholarly Web. He graduated in Mathematics and Computer Science at Ghent University, Belgium, and holds a Ph.D. in Communication Science from the same university.