

Preface

The role of formal ontology in Conceptual Modeling (CM) and Information Systems Engineering (ISE) is increasingly being recognized as fundamental by both the research and practitioner communities. The importance of formal ontology to these interrelated areas has been the theme of two workshops series held over the past years, namely the Workshop on Ontologies and Conceptual Modeling (Onto.Com) and the Workshop on Ontology-Driven Information Systems Engineering (ODISE). Given the strong relationship between the two fields as well as the synergies between the workshops, Onto.Com and ODISE have merged at FOIS 2014.

Formal ontology, whose theoretical underpinnings are grounded in disciplines such as Philosophy, Cognitive Sciences and Linguistics, has led to the development of theoretical foundations for conceptual modeling. In particular, a number of ontological theories such as BORO, BWW, DOLCE, GFO and UFO have been successfully applied to the evaluation of conceptual modeling languages, frameworks and standards (e.g., UML, ORM, ER, REA, TROPOS, ARIS, BPMN, RM-ODP, Archimate, OWL and ISO 15926), and to the development of information systems engineering tools (e.g., methodological guidelines, modeling profiles, design patterns) that contribute to the theory and practice of conceptual modeling and ISE.

Additionally, there has been an increasing interest in the use of empirical studies to assess the impact of the application of these theoretical foundations to the design of conceptual modeling grammars and tools and their application in the development, integration and evolution of information systems.

The objective of the 1st Joint Onto.Com/ODISE Workshop is to provide an international forum for exchanging ideas on the latest developments in the emerging area of Ontology-Driven Conceptual Modeling and Information Systems Engineering and to address specific questions of relevance to the body of knowledge of this emerging discipline.

The workshop received 14 submissions, from which the Program Committee selected 8 high quality papers. The workshop was organized into one keynote talk and four sessions. The keynote talk, titled ‘An Algebra of Lightweight Ontologies’, was given by Prof. Marco A. Casanova from the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro. Specific modeling issues were discussed in the four sessions. These included relations, roles, reuse and measurement.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Program Committee members for their qualified work in reviewing papers, the authors for considering Onto.Com/ODISE as a forum to publish their research, and the FOIS 2014 organizers for all their support.

September 2014

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