Strategies for Realizing the Semantic Web

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Current status of the Semantic Web:
Industry, Public Organizations, Research Community

• Research community alive and well
  – Easily-recognized opportunities, challenges
• Don’t see much evidence of industry uptake
• Probably will happen more incrementally than the Web
• Piggyback on Web services
  – Data/knowledge management efforts?
Strategies

• **A tough challenge**: Designing for machines; seeking massive uptake by humans

• **Think about the user**
  – Developer-user
  – End-user

• **Think about near-term (relatively simple) deployment opportunities**
  – Less attention to the ideal (full automation)
  – Explore the middle ground (human-in-loop)
    • Service construction & composition
    • EAI
Strategies (2)

- Make the language easy to “read”
  - Skeptical about visualization
  - Get clear about the “surface language” story, and put it in the forefront

- Make it easy to think about
  - Get on to rules
    - Avoid more convoluted DL-based ways of expressing things
  - Don’t ignore special-purpose processing
Strategies (3)

• Make it easy to work (& play) with
  – Tools!
  – User interfaces!
  – Don’t forget about query languages / interfaces
Research

• User interfaces
• Enlarge the conversation about the practical implications of tractability results
• Clearer statements about the types of reasoning that are really needed, in the context of use cases