Reducing the Complexity of Semantic Data Translation

Owen Gilson University of Wales Swansea, UK

www.cs.swan.ac.uk/~csowen

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Semantically Rich Data

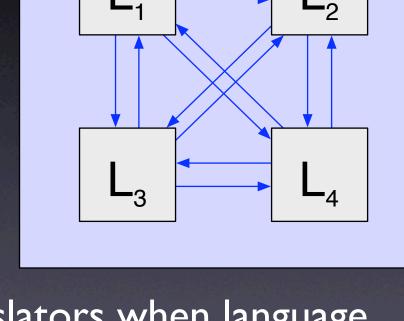
- Variety of formats emerging
- Many different domain areas

- What happens when we want to translate between formats?
 - I. Direct translation
 - 2. Intermediate translation

Direct translation

- Pros
 - Accurate

- Cons
 - Expensive



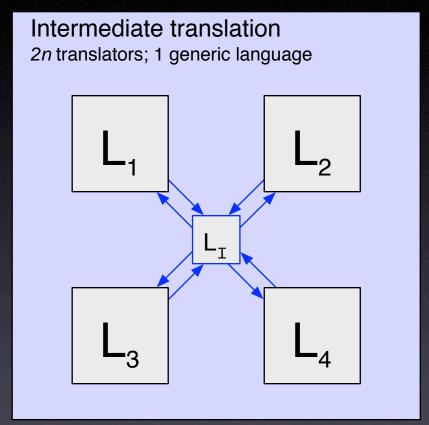
Direct translation

n(n-1) translators

 2(n-1) new translators when language added

Intermediate translation

- Pros
 - Only 2 new translators when language added



- Cons
 - Keeping intermediate language up to date
 - All translators affected (potentially) by language addition

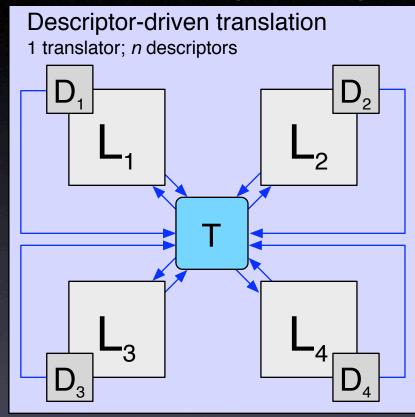
Evaluation

- Expensive
- Not suited to a semantically rich web
- Growing prominence and number of formats...

- Need an alternative method:
 - Descriptor Driven Translation (DDT)

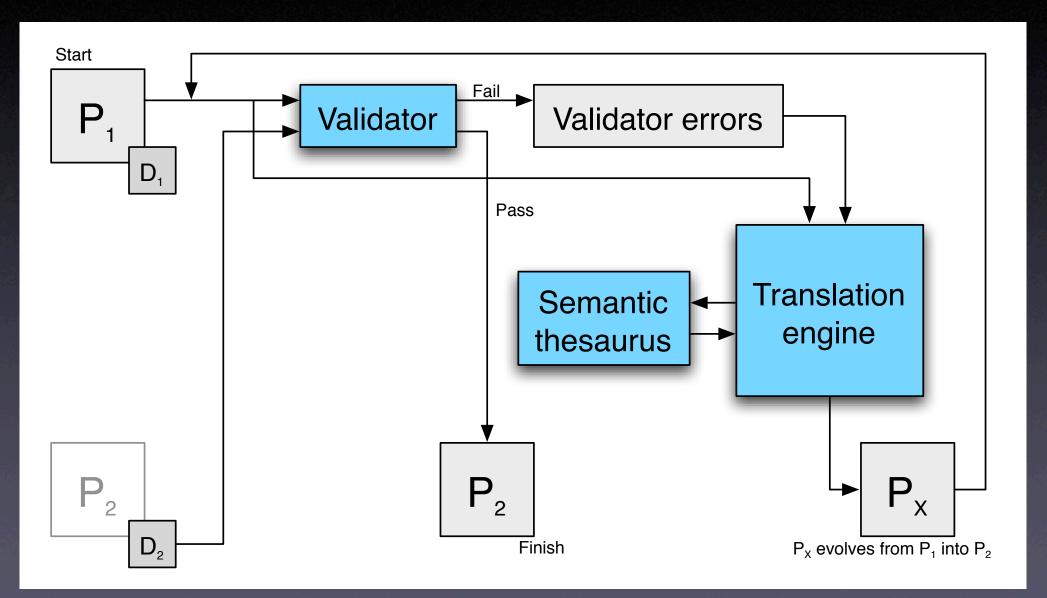
Descriptor Driven Translation (DDT)

- Pros
 - No new translators, just a descriptor
 - Additional languages added independently of others



- Cons
 - Reduced accuracy Semantic Approximation

DDT: Using a Schema Validator



What will this research achieve?

- Develop techniques for:
 - extracting semantic information
 - generating mappings between semantic elements
- Exploit Semantic Web technologies

Demonstrating the goal: Studies required

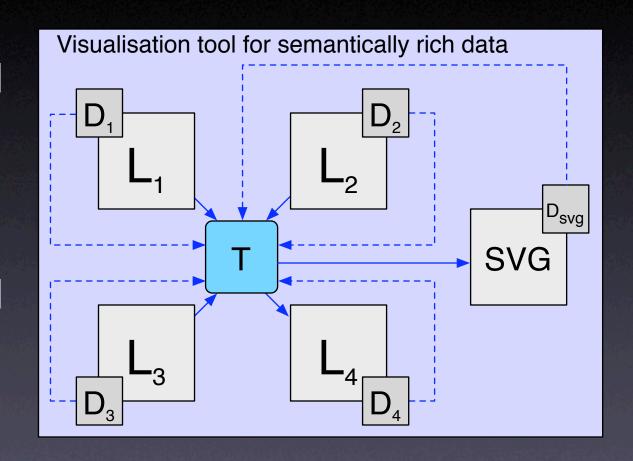
- Gather a set of example data in different formats
- Rationalise transformation types
- Improve the Schema Validator technique
- Develop further techniques
 - Structural analysis

Metrics of success

- Compare translation accuracy with other methods
- Add a new language to the system and see how well it translates to/from existing languages

Alternatively...

- A visualisation tool and editor for semantically rich data
- Separate structural aspects of the data from the syntax



Summary

- Semantically rich formats = new challenges
- New translation method:
 - Descriptor Driven Translation
- First technique developed:
 - Schema Validation
- Proof of Concept produced
- Further work required beyond simplest examples

Thank you