Shared and Integrated Ontologies
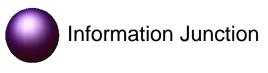
Why should we care?

Matthew West

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My Current Assessment

- Ontology development is at the Craft stage
  - Everyone rolls their own
  - There is very little reuse vs reinvention
  - There are no widely used standard ontologies
- There is little understanding of
  - How different ontologies for the same thing relate to each other
  - How to map between different ontologies
  - How to construct ontologies from components

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Some Critical Success Factors

- We need to be able to understand how different ontologies based on different commitments relate to each other

- We need to be able to decompose and reconstruct theories so that
  - We can see the components that ontologies use,
  - reuse and extension can be deliberate and integrated rather than copy and change

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Why the SIO initiative

- The Lattice of Theories that John Sowa has talked about has the potential to address many of the problems

- COLORE seems to be at least a step down the path of taking this approach

- I have not seen an alternative that is capable of addressing the issues at hand

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