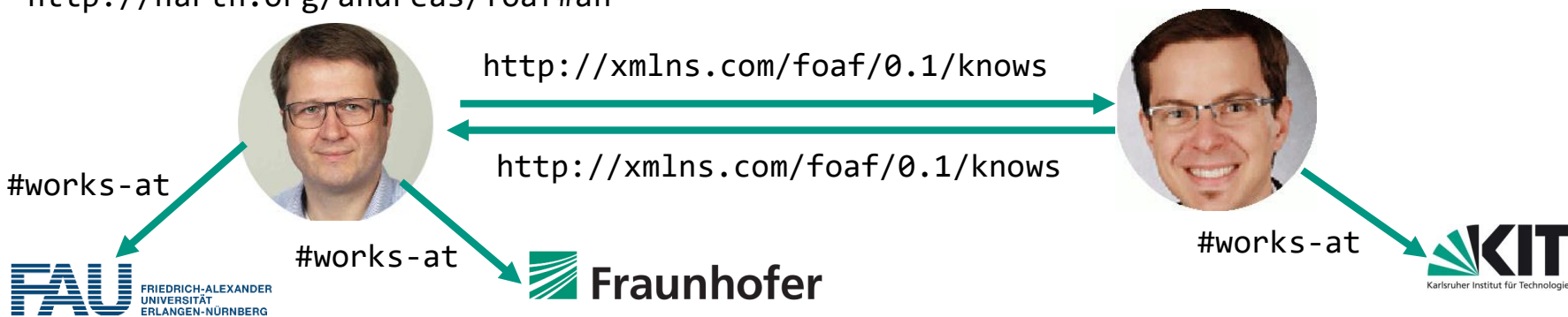


Tutorial on Distributed Knowledge Graphs on the Web of Things, Part II: Read-Write Linked Data

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<http://harth.org/andreas/foaf#ah>



To use REST to Read + Write to IoT Devices is New Since 2000

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Tim Berners-Lee

Date: 2009-16-08, last change: \$Date: 2013-08-16 18:45:00 \$

Status: personal view only. Editing status: Not finished at all @@

[Up to Design Issues](#)

Read-Write Linked Data

There is an architecture in which a few existing or Web protocols are gathered together with some glue to make a world wide system in which applications (desktop or Web Application) can work on top of a layer of commodity read-write storage. The result is that storage becomes a commodity, independent of the application running on it.

Introduction

The [Linked Data article](#) gave simple rules for putting data on the web so that it is linked. This article follows on from that to discuss allowing applications to write as well as read data.

Architectures

File write-back

The model is that all data is stored in a document (virtual or actual file) named with a URI.

One way of changing the data is to overwrite the whole file with an HTTP PUT operation.

Whereas typical Apache servers are not configured out of the box to accept PUT, when they are configured for WebDAV (The Web Distributed Authoring and Versioning specs) then they do accept PUT. *The problem is that the standard PUT with HTTP

The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) [RFC7230]

- Selected Properties of HTTP
 - Stateless
 - Request/response messages
 - Interaction with resources
 - Message: the current state of a resource
- Focus: requests that implement CRUD
 - Create, Read, Update, Delete, the basic operations of persistent storage [1]
 - POST
 - Append-to-collection vs. RPC
 - OPTIONS
 - Describe communication options
- NB: No events → polling

| CRUD Operation | HTTP Method |
|----------------|-------------|
| Read | GET |
| Update | PUT |
| Create | POST / PUT |
| Delete | DELETE |

CRUD – HTTP Correspondence

| HTTP Method | Safe? | Idempotent? |
|-------------|-------|-------------|
| GET | ✓ | ✓ |
| PUT | | ✓ |
| POST | | |
| DELETE | | ✓ |

Properties of HTTP Requests

[1] James Martin: Managing the Data-Base Environment, Pearson (1983)

When Resource State is (Not) Sent/Received?

– HTTP Message Semantics [RFC7231]

| HTTP Request Method | HTTP Request or Response Code | HTTP Message Semantics: The HTTP Message Body Contains... |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| GET | Request | Nothing |
| PUT | Request | State of the resource |
| POST | Request | Arbitrary data or state of resource |
| DELETE | Request | Nothing |
| any | Non-2xx | State of the request |
| GET | 2xx | State of the resource |
| PUT | 2xx | State of the resource or empty |
| POST | 2xx | State of the request (referring to new resource) |
| DELETE | 2xx | State of the request or empty |



Linked Data Platform 1.0

W3C Recommendation 26 February 2015

Abstract

Linked Data Platform (LDP) defines a set of rules for HTTP operations on web resources, some based on RDF, to provide an architecture for read-write Linked Data on the web.

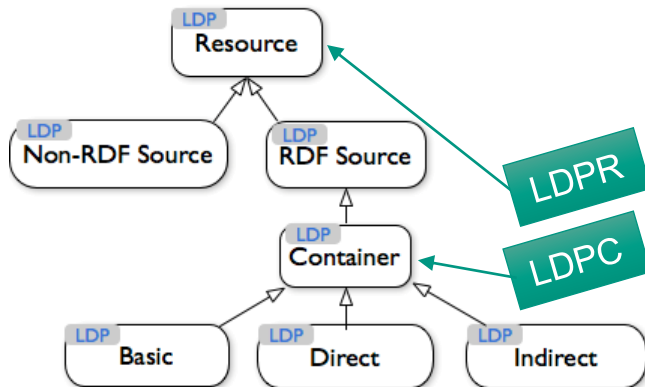
1. Introduction

This section is non-normative.

This specification describes the use of HTTP for accessing, updating, creating and deleting resources from servers that expose their resources as Linked Data. It provides clarifications and extensions of the rules of Linked Data [LINKED-DATA]:

Linked Data Platform [1]

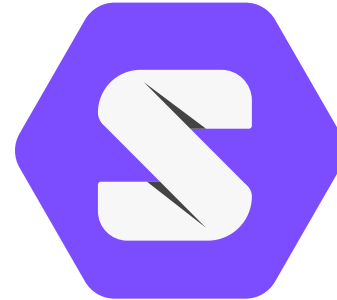
- Classification of resources →
- Clarifications for the use of the combination HTTP + RDF, eg.:
 - 4.2.8 HTTP OPTIONS and **LDPR**
 - 4.2.8.1 LDP servers **MUST** support the HTTP OPTIONS method.
 - 4.2.8.2 LDP servers **MUST** indicate their support for HTTP Methods by responding to a HTTP OPTIONS request on the LDPR's URL with the **HTTP Method tokens in the HTTP response header Allow.**
 - 5.2.3 HTTP POST and **LDPC**
 - 5.2.3.1 LDP clients **SHOULD** create member resources by submitting a representation as the entity body of the HTTP POST to a known LDPC. If the resource was created successfully, LDP servers **MUST** respond with status code 201 (Created) and the Location header set to the new resource's URL. **Clients shall not expect any representation in the response entity body on a 201 (Created) response.**
- Cf. ATOM publishing protocol [RFC5023]: interactions with collections



[1] Speicher, Arwe, Malhotra: "Linked Data Platform 1.0" W3C Recommendation (2015)

SoLiD – Social Linked Data

- A Decentralised Social Network
- Built on Read-Write Linked Data
- Adds libraries for Access Control and User Interfaces for Read-Write Linked Data
- Everybody maintains their own data pod
- To put you in control over your own personal data
- <http://solid.mit.edu/>
<http://inrupt.com/>



Controlling an IoT Device using Read-Write Linked Data [1]

- Tessel2: a circuit board with Wi-Fi + Ethernet →
- Modules, eg.:
 - Ambient Module: Light and sound sensor
 - Relay Module: 2 relays for 230V
- Programmable using JavaScript

- Approach:
 - ExpressJS + RDF-EXT.js
 - GET for all
 - PUT for relays, LEDs
 - <http://github.com/kaefer3000/t2-rest-leds>



```
> GET /relay/1 HTTP/1.0
< HTTP/1.0 200 OK
< Content-type: application/ld+json
{ "@id" : "#actuator",
  "http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/isPrimaryTopicOf" : "",
  "@type" : "http://purl.oclc.org/NET/UNIS/fiware/iot-lite#ActuatingDevice",
  "http://example.org/isSwitchedOn" : true }
```

Sample request from the user agent and response about one relay

[1] Bader, Käfer, Heling, Manke, Harth: “Exposing Internet of Things Devices via REST and Linked Data Interfaces”. Proceedings of the 2nd Workshop on Semantic Web Technologies for the Internet of Things at the 16th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC), 2017.