ONTOLOGY AS AN INTERPRETER

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Abstract

Ontologies represent slightly problematic term for many users of geospatial technologies. On the one hand, they be occurring in many articles, lectures and essays very often. On the other hand, it is very difficult to find really beneficial users of ontologies. Are ontologies only a buzzword or have their implementations in the world of geospatial technologies any sense and meaning? To try to answer this question is the purpose of this paper. As the topic "ontology" is very large and the theory of ontologies has been processed in the past quite often, it is appropriate to show benefits of ontologies in a specific example. As the application of ontologies there were chosen classification systems used for spatial data focused on land cover. This type of spatial data is required by many users, such as experts on nature conservation or spatial planning. The main problem of using these data sets is given by their heterogeneity, especially in the terminology and classification hierarchies. In the whole world there are many different classification systems, such as CORINE Land Cover, LUCAS or FAO Land Cover Classification System. Ontologies are able to describe relations between concepts of different systems and thus help to increase the level of data interoperability. This paper "Ontology is the role of interpreter" is divided into three main parts. The first part is focused on theoretical aspects of ontologies, especially on the methodology and process of deriving new information. The next section presents selected classification systems on land cover. The following last part (except the final conclusion) describes the developed ontology and its results.

Autor nedodal plný text příspěvku.

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