# **SEMANCO**

# **Environments for collaborative ontology mapping**

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#### **ENVIRONMENT FOR COLLABORATIVE ONTOLOGY MAPPING**

An environment has been developed to be used in the semantic integration processes which will lead to the creation of the **Semantic Energy Information Framework** (SEIF).

It consists of two tools: 1. an **OWL mapping extractor** and 2. an **Ontology mapping collaborative web environment**.

These tools will help different users –domain experts, data owners, and ontology engineers – to integrate data in a collaborative way using standard semantic technologies. The tools also automate parts of the semantic integration process.

In particular, with these tools it is possible:

- 1. To generate an OWL ontology from a schema database (almost all data sources exist as databases).
- 2. To translate relational data stored in tables and columns to RDF format according the local ontology previously generated.
- 3. To provide an environment where users can easily map a local ontology to a global ontology according to their knowledge.

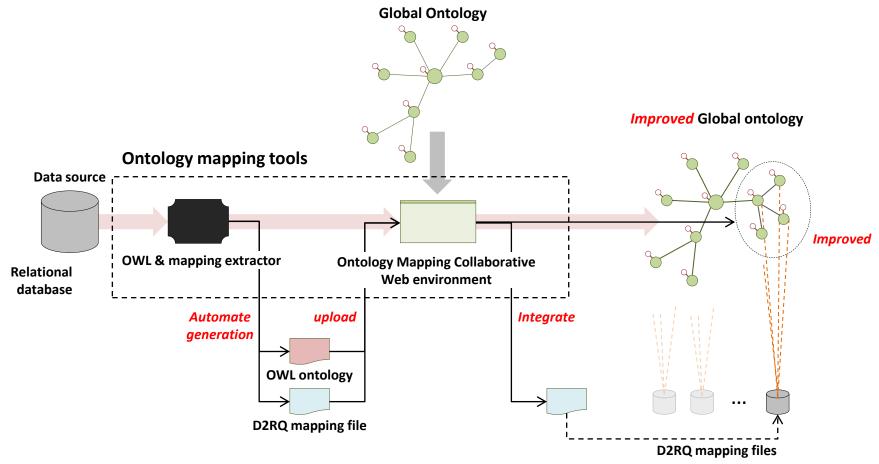
The tools are being validated through their application in the ontology building process leading to the SEIF. However, the tools are generic enough to be applied to other projects dealing with building ontologies. The tools will be made available to the scientific and academic communities after being validated through their application in the SEMANCO project.

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#### **SEMANTIC INTEGRATION PROCESS**

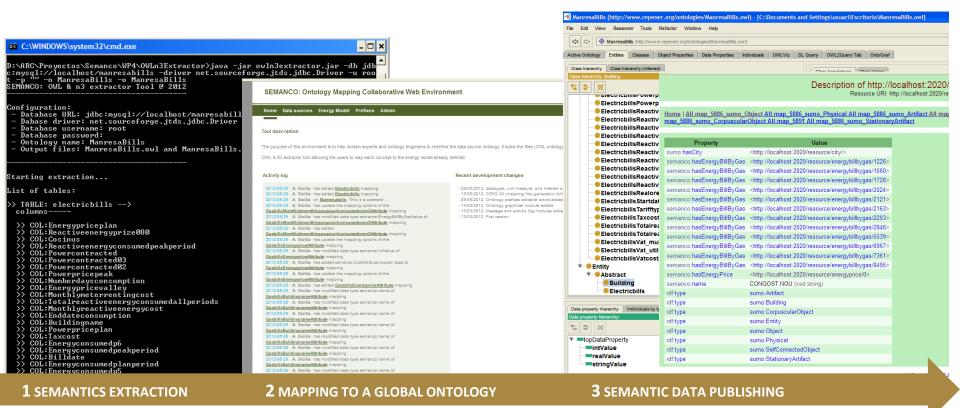
In the SEMANCO project, a semantic integration process will be carried out to incorporate data sources into SEIF which contains a global ontology embracing all the terms which the tools need to interact with the SEIF. The set of ontology mapping tools we have developed enable users to follow the steps of the integration process.

The process starts by generating a local ontology based on the structure of the data source using the OWL & mapping extractor tool. Then, the users –domain experts, data owners, and ontology engineers– map the local ontology to the global ontology already defined in the SEIF using the ontology mapping collaborative web environment. Finally, the data is published by the D2RQ platform with a mapping file which is generated by the web mapping environment.



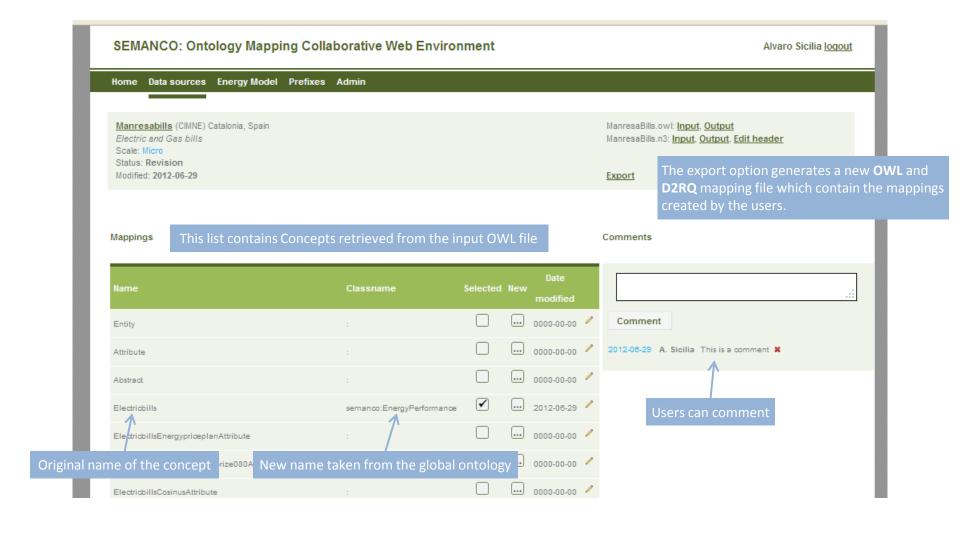


#### **ONTOLOGY MAPPING TOOLS**



The tools developed in the SEMANCO project help non-technician users to carry out a data integration process applying semantic techniques.

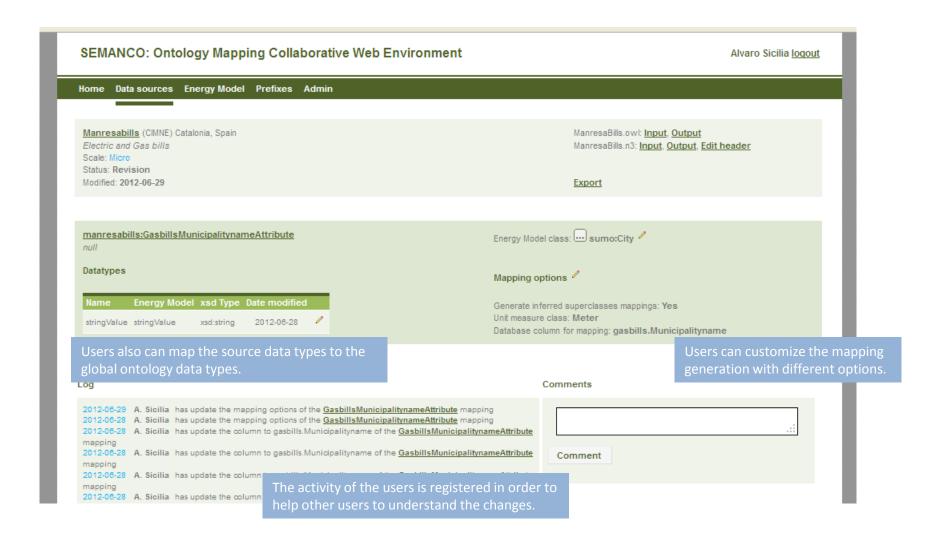
#### **ONTOLOGY MAPPING COLLABORATIVE WEB ENVIRONMENT**



The purpose of this environment is to help domain experts and ontology engineers to redefine the data source ontology. Users register a data source in the environment by uploading the files generated by the extractor tool. Afterwards, they can view a list of mappings. Users can also comment their actions. When the user exports the mappings the environment generates an ontology in *OWL DL lite*<sub>A</sub> format and a mapping file valid for D2RQ platform.



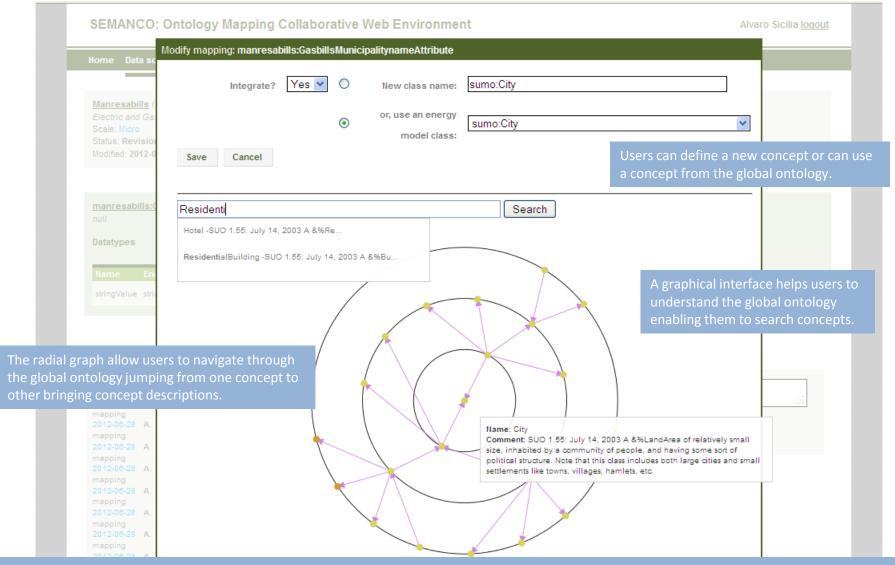
#### **ONTOLOGY MAPPING COLLABORATIVE WEB ENVIRONMENT**



Each concept extracted from the structure of a database can be mapped to a concept from a global ontology. If the source concept cannot be mapped to any concept from the global ontology, then a new concept can be created, and should be connected to the global ontology by defining its super-concepts. Also, the user can map the source data types (columns) to a global ontology data type.



#### **ONTOLOGY MAPPING COLLABORATIVE WEB ENVIRONMENT**



In order to enhance the interface usability, a graphical ontology representation has been implemented. It is based on radial graph visualization where the central node is an ontology class. The edges between nodes are relations between ontology classes. Each circle hosts the ontology classes which are related to the root class. This kind of representation enables users to explore the classes and properties of a local ontology as well as the global ontology which implements the energy model.



#### REFERENCES

"OWL & mapping extractor" tool has been developed in JAVA. With the appropriate driver can read any data base provider. It has been tested with MySQL and SQLServer.

"Collaborative ontology mapping web environment" has been developed in PHP using the framework Code Igniter. The graphical ontology representation has been implement using the JavaScript InfoVis toolkit and ARC to parse RDF files. The ontology generated is written in OWL DL-Lite<sub>A</sub> formalism and the mapping file is written in the D2RQ Mapping Language.

- CodeIgniter, Open source PHP web application framework <a href="http://codeigniter.com">http://codeigniter.com</a>
- JavaScript InfoVis Toolkit, Create Interactive Data Visualizations for the Web <a href="http://thejit.org">http://thejit.org</a>
- ARC, Appmosphere RDF classes <a href="https://github.com/semsol/arc2/wiki">https://github.com/semsol/arc2/wiki</a>
- D2RQ platform, Accessing Relational Databases as Virtual RDF Graphs <a href="http://d2rq.org">http://d2rq.org</a>

## **SEMANCO** web site:

www.semanco-project.eu

# **Lead partner:**

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