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Subject: Position Paper for the W3C Workshop on Web Standardization for Graph Data
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To: group-data-ws-pc@w3.org



Thank you for the opportunity to submit a position paper for the W3C Workshop on Web Standardization for Graph Data. My submission is below:

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Personal Graph

Some days it feels like computers mostly hamper my ability to understand the world around me, rather than aid in my exploration. Mostly, that seems due to a lack of adequate systems for knowledge collection.

It's not that I can't "keep" things. It's that the things I keep the knowledge in are...limited.

My browser and I wander the Web for hours ever day. It has a browsing history it barely shares with me. I can save *copies* of Web pages to my hard drive, but loose the provenance of by the page and my experience with it...not to mention most of its formatting, functionality, and often even its contents.

My mind (unlike my browser or my hard drive) works like a giant Linked Data, hypermedia enabled database. Each *Thing* seems connected to other *Things* by endless numbers of relationships which are contextually constructed, contextually retrieved and frequently contextually rewritten into new Webs of understanding, expression, or even humor.

What if the computer I were sitting at actually helped me get to an experience like that? What would that change about my day? about my research? about my future?

What I'd like to explore in this session is the opportunities for "small" graph-data or graph-based data "wrapped" around an individual for that individuals sole benefit: a personal graph.

To accomplish this end, I am working on augmenting my personal experience of Web browsing (the graph-y-ist of all personal technologies) in order to gather, store, and sort knowledge from my browsing history into systems available to me while browsing that augment my experiences, choices, and capabilities. Additionally, I would like to present the related technologies I and others are building to enable this vision for more people on an everyday, practical level.

The result: an egocentric architecture built from small data to create personal graphs.

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Thank you!
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