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A Methodological Approach for Web Sites Reengineering

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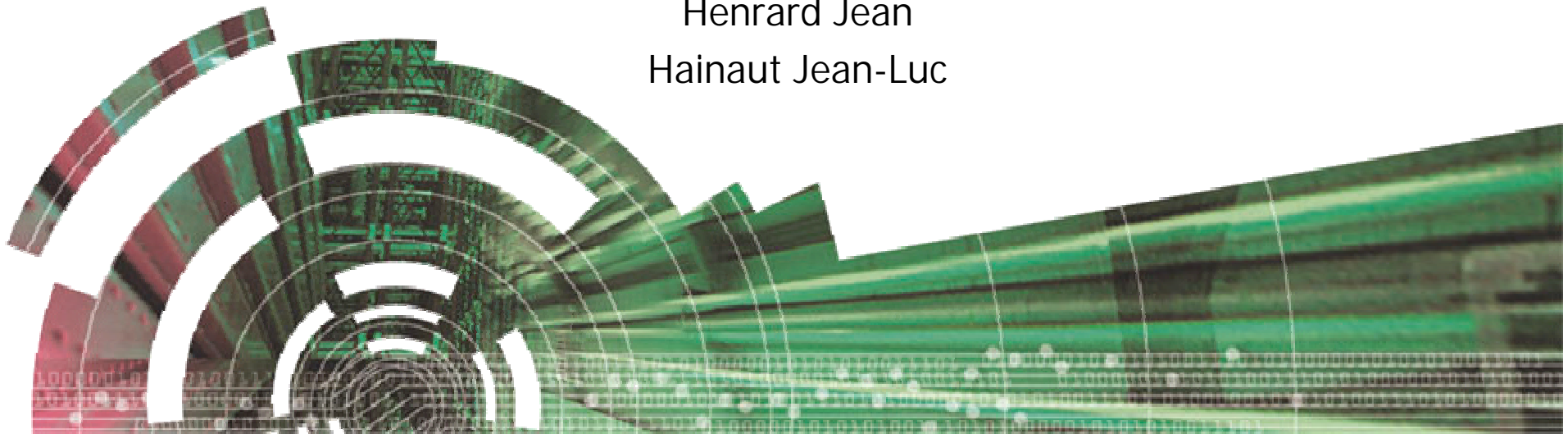
A Methodological Approach for Web Sites Reengineering

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François Aurore

Henrard Jean

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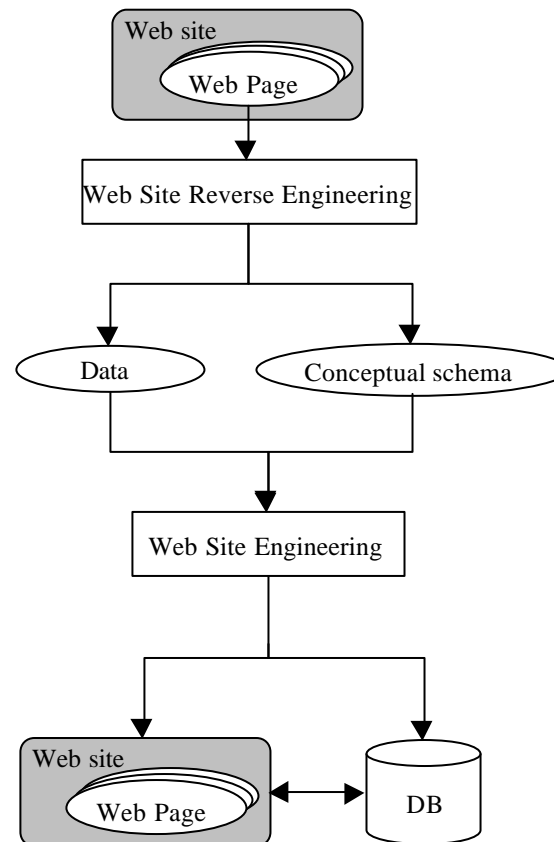
Context

- Still many static web sites...
 - Advantage
 - easy to create
 - → for small web sites
 - Drawbacks
 - data and layout are mixed up
 - maintenance problems
 - → out-of-date or redundant information
 - → non-homogeneous design
 - Solution
 - DBMS + scripts (php, Perl,...)

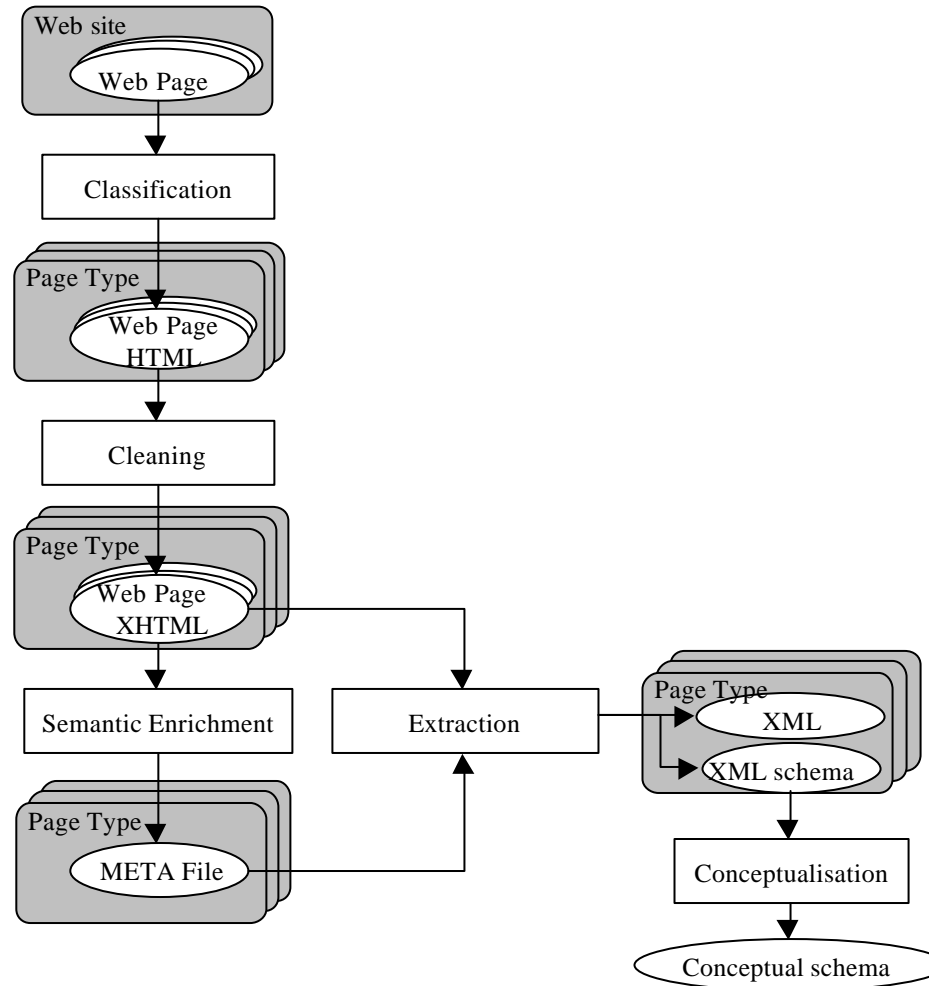


Goals

- To provide methods and tools for web sites reengineering :

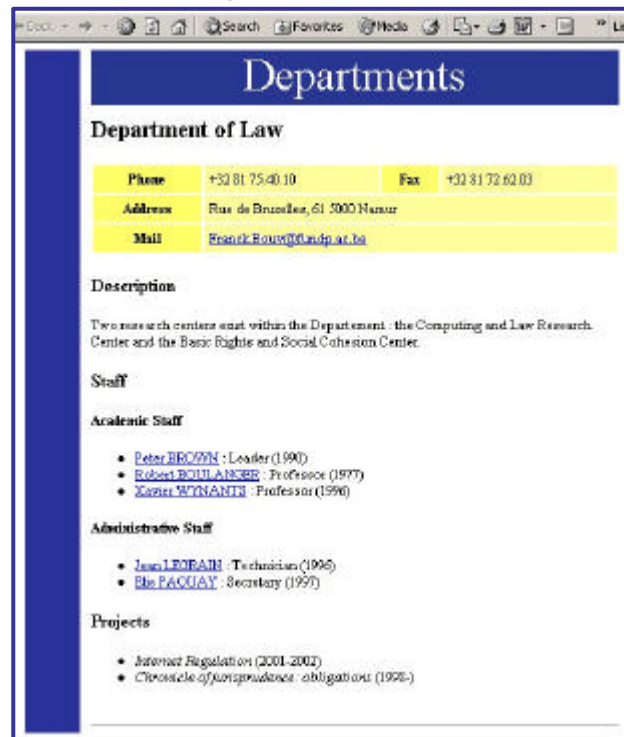


Method : overview



Method : step 1

- Pages classification
 - « Page type » = a set of pages relative to the same concept, that display very similar information in a very similar layout



Departments

Department of Law

Phone	+32 81 75 40 10	Fax	+32 81 72 62 03
Address	Rue de Bruxelles, 61 5000 Namur		
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Description

Two research centers exist within the Department: the Computing and Law Research Center and the Basic Rights and Social Cohesion Center.

Staff

Academic Staff

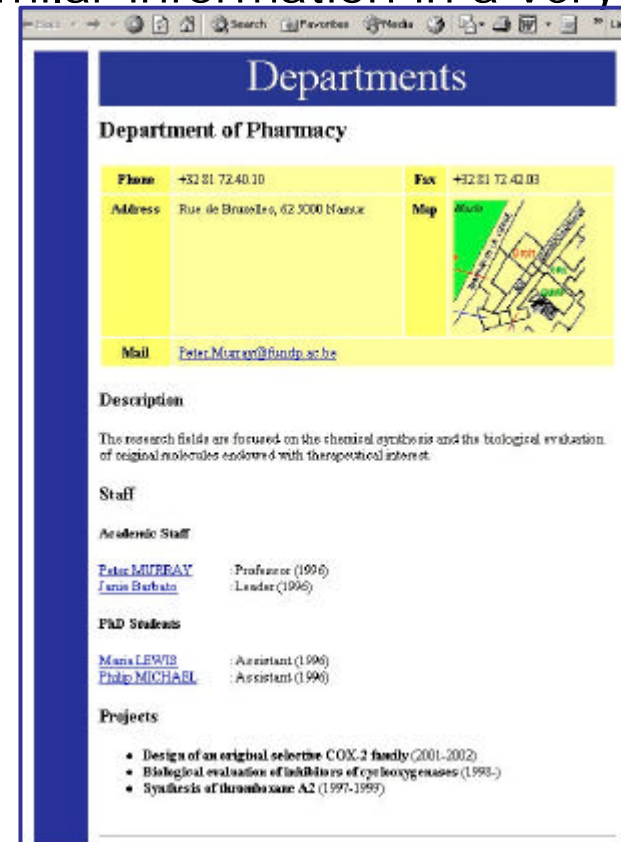
- [Peter BROWN](#) : Lecturer (1990)
- [Robert BOULANGER](#) : Professeur (1977)
- [Xavier WYNANTS](#) : Professor (1996)

Administrative Staff

- [Jean LEBLANC](#) : Technician (1996)
- [Elio PACQUAY](#) : Secretary (1997)


Projects

- Internet Regulation (2001-2002)
- Chronicle of jurisprudence: obligations (1998-)



Departments

Department of Pharmacy

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Map			
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Description

The research fields are focused on the chemical synthesis and the biological evaluation of original molecules endowed with therapeutic interest.

Staff

Academic Staff

Peter MURRAY	: Professor (1996)
Janis Barbato	: Lecturer (1996)

PhD Students

Marie LEVITE	: Assistant (1996)
Philippe MICHAEL	: Assistant (1996)

Projects

- Design of an original selective COX-2 family (2001-2002)
- Biological evaluation of inhibitors of cyclooxygenases (1998-)
- Synthesis of thromboxane A2 (1997-1999)



Method : steps 2 and 3.1

- HTML cleaning
- Semantic enrichment
 - For each page type
 - Concepts identification and description on a sample page
 - « Concept » = a part of the HTML tree describing the layout, the structure and possibly the value of a certain reality
 - Ex : the concept « Phone Number »


```
<tr>
  <td align="middle" bgcolor="#FFFF66">
    <b>Phone :</b>
  </td >
  <td bgcolor="#FFFF99">+32 71 72.23.49</td>
</tr>
```
 - Ex : the concept « Address » composed of « Street » and « City »


```
<table width="100%">
  <tr><td><b>Address :</b></td></tr>
  <tr><td>Quality Street, 25</td></tr>
  <tr><td>London</td></tr>
</table>
```



Method : the META file

```

<HTMLDescription xmlns:meta="http://www.cetic.be/FR/CRAQ-DB.htm">
  <meta:element name="Department">
    <html>
      <head>...</head>
      <body>
        <table>
          <meta:element ref="DeptName"/>
          <meta:element ref="PhoneNumber"/>
          <meta:element ref="Address"/>
        </table>
      </body>
    </html>
  </meta:element>
  <meta:element name="PhoneNumber">
    <tr>
      <td align="middle" bgcolor="#FFFF66"><b>Phone :</b></td>
      <td bgcolor="#FFFF99"><meta:value/></td>
    </tr>
  </meta:element>
  ...
</HTMLDescription>

```



Method : step 3.2

- Application to other pages of the same type
 - there may be layout and structure differences between pages of the same type → a same concept may have several descriptions
 - **Example** : a layout difference

```
<tr>
  <td><b>Name :</b></td>
</tr>
```

```
<tr>
  <td><i>Name :</i></td>
</tr>
```

- **Example** : a structure difference

```
<table width="100%">
  <tr><td>Address :</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Quality Street, 25</td></tr>
  <tr><td>London</td></tr>
</table>
```

```
<table width="100%">
  <tr><td>Address :</td></tr>
  <tr><td>New York</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Main Street, 110</td></tr>
</table>
```





Your connection to
ICT research

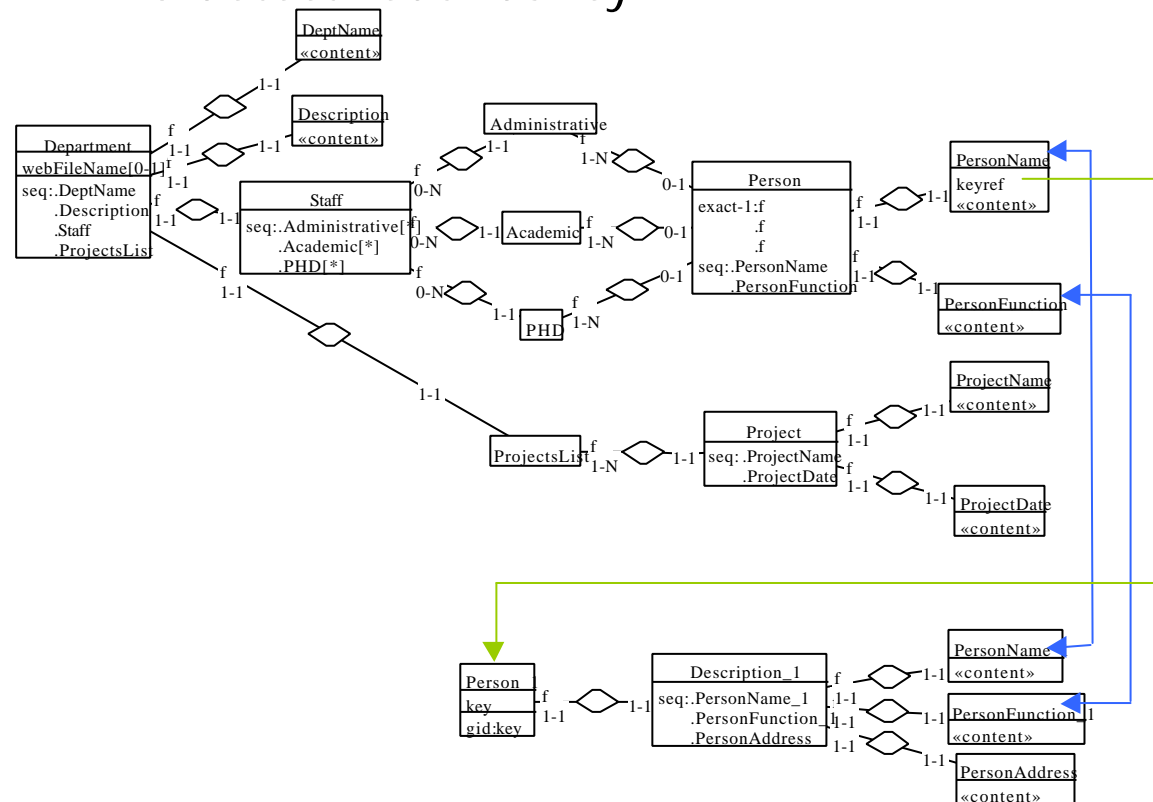
Method : step 4

- Data and schema extraction
 - Data extraction
 - Web pages + META file → XML document
 - Data structure extraction
 - META file → XML schema



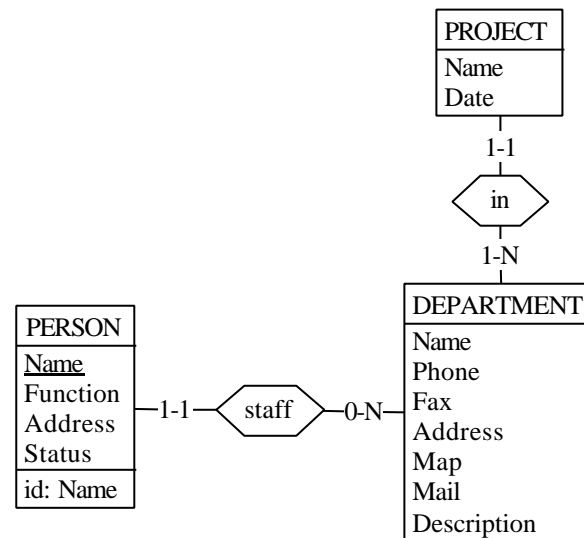
Method : step 5.1

- Schema integration
 - To discover relationships between concepts
 - To detect redundancy



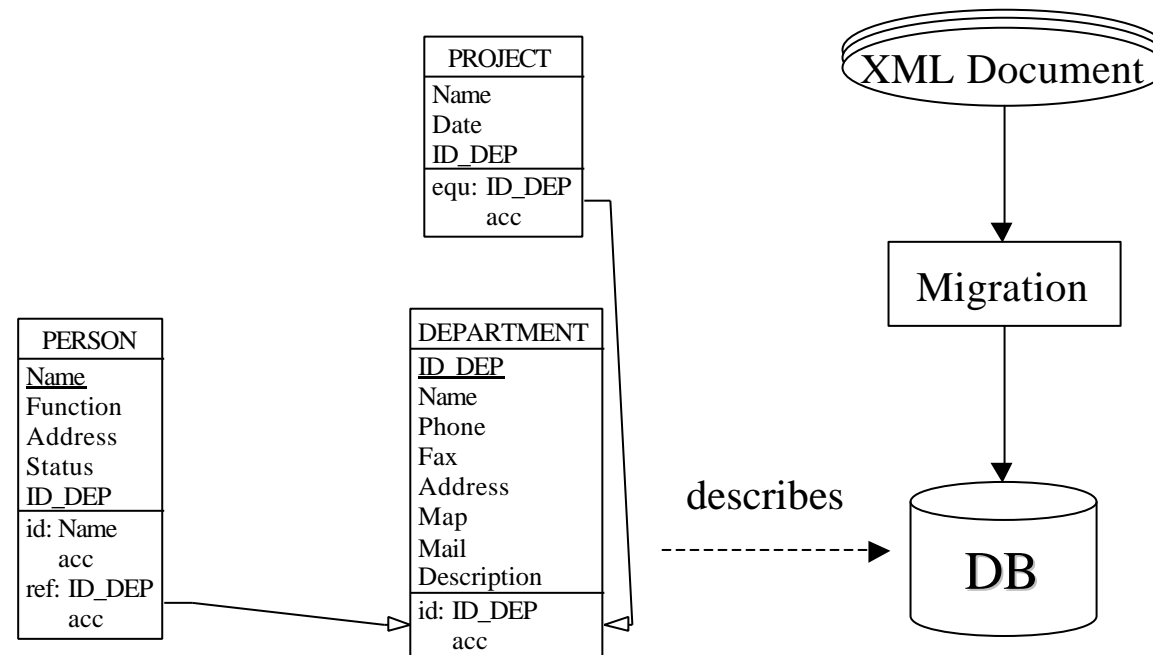
Method : step 5.2

- Schema conceptualisation



Web Site Engineering

- Database engineering + Data migration



Tools

- HTML cleaning
 - Tidy
- Semantic enrichment
 - XML editor or the semantic browser (based on Mozilla) to edit/generate the META file
- Data and schema extraction
 - XML parsers (Java DOM)
 - `pageType.extractSchema(METAfile) → XMLSchema`
 - `pageType.extractData(HTML*, METAfile) → XML`
- Schemas integration/conceptualisation and database engineering
 - CASE tool DB-Main





Your connection to
ICT research

Conclusion and future work

- A method and tools to extract from a web site data and their structure
- Difficulty : enormous diversity of web pages structures and layouts to represent the same reality
- Future work
 - test on real-size web sites
 - refine the semantic enrichment step
 - improve GUI
 - automation/assistance based on heuristics

