

The Education Framework (or: What's going on in the education area)

Jörg Diederich (L3S)



Berlin meeting, 2007

Content

- EASE: Foundation (almost) complete
- REASE: Usage and evaluation
- Educational events
- Shared master: Experimental year
- ASPL: Preparing for version 2

The European Association for Semantic Web Education

- EASE foundation: Formally done in Budva
- Non-profit status acknowledged by the tax office in November
- Certification of signatures ongoing
- Hopefully to be completed in January (missing one from New-Zealand :)

Plans for 2007 after having completed the formal stuff: Start advertising EASE, invite new members, let organizations join, create the web page, help to run the summer school (of Kweb + REWERSE), ...

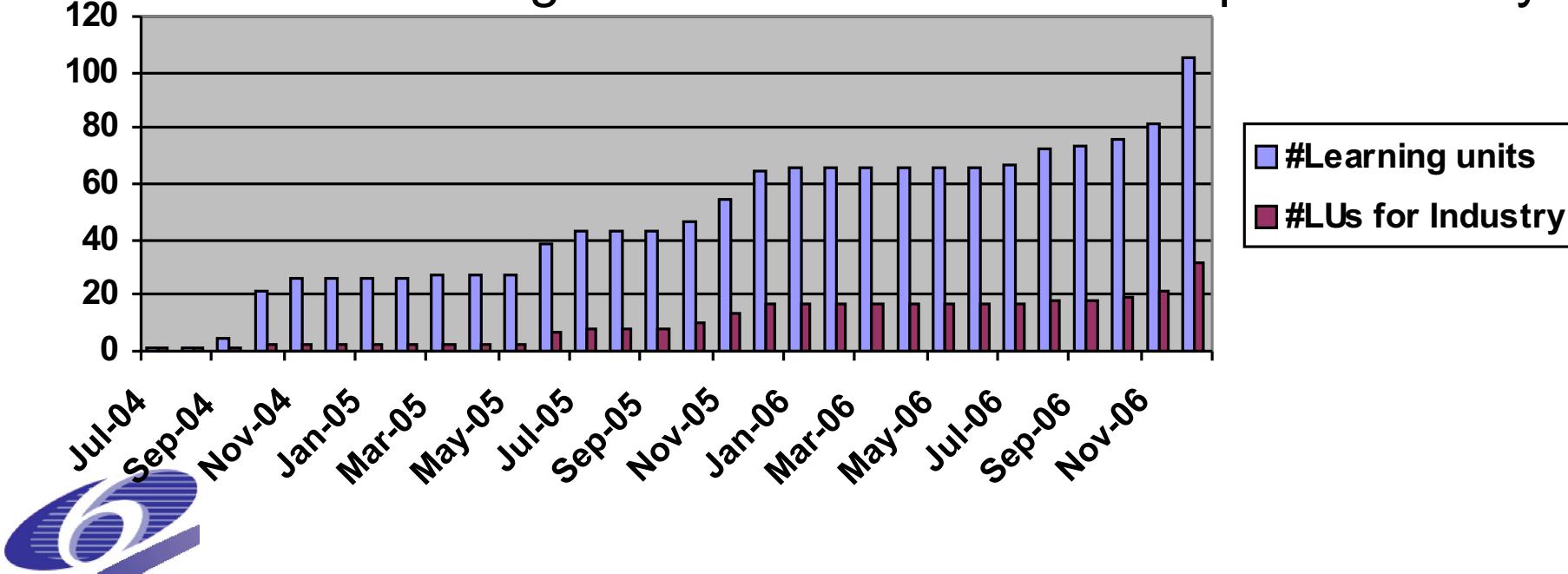
- Specifically: Hold the first general assembly in the first half of the year (by videocon / telecon, I guess)

→ Fill EASE with life

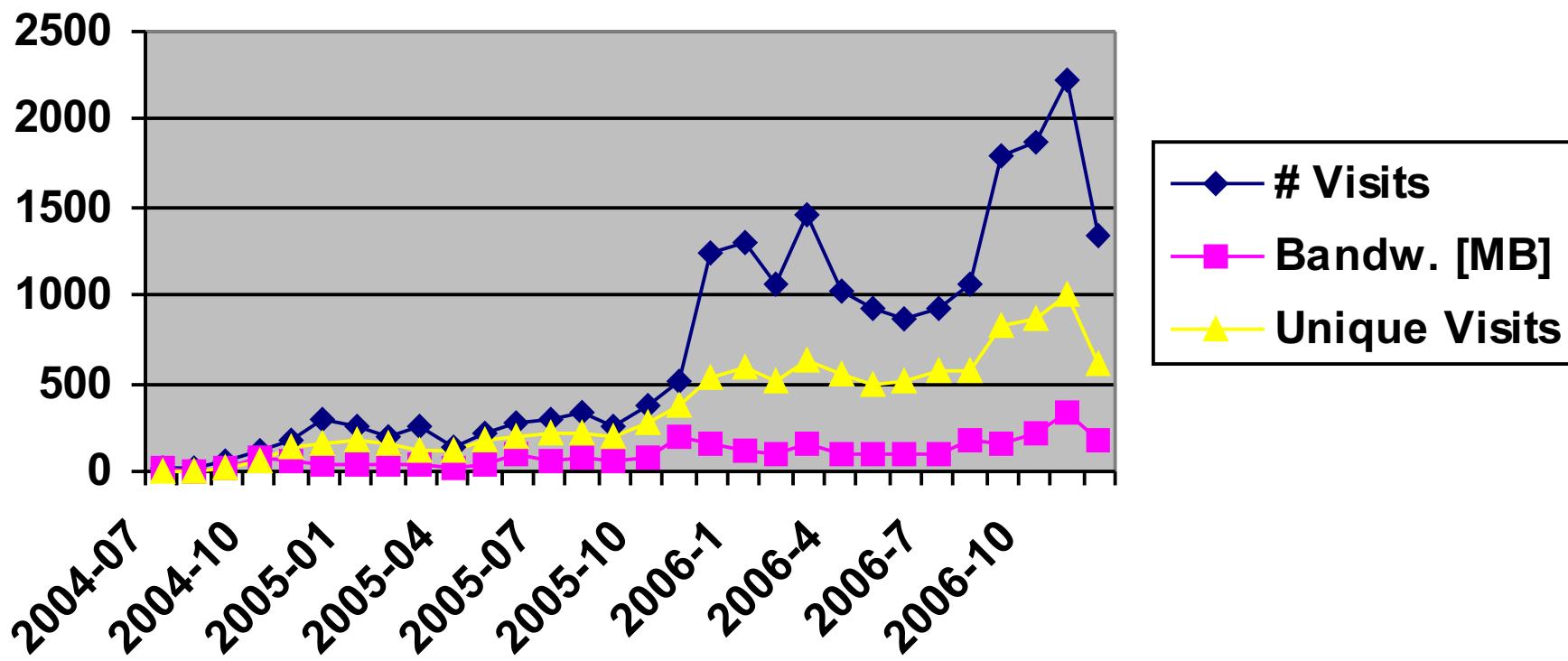


REASE

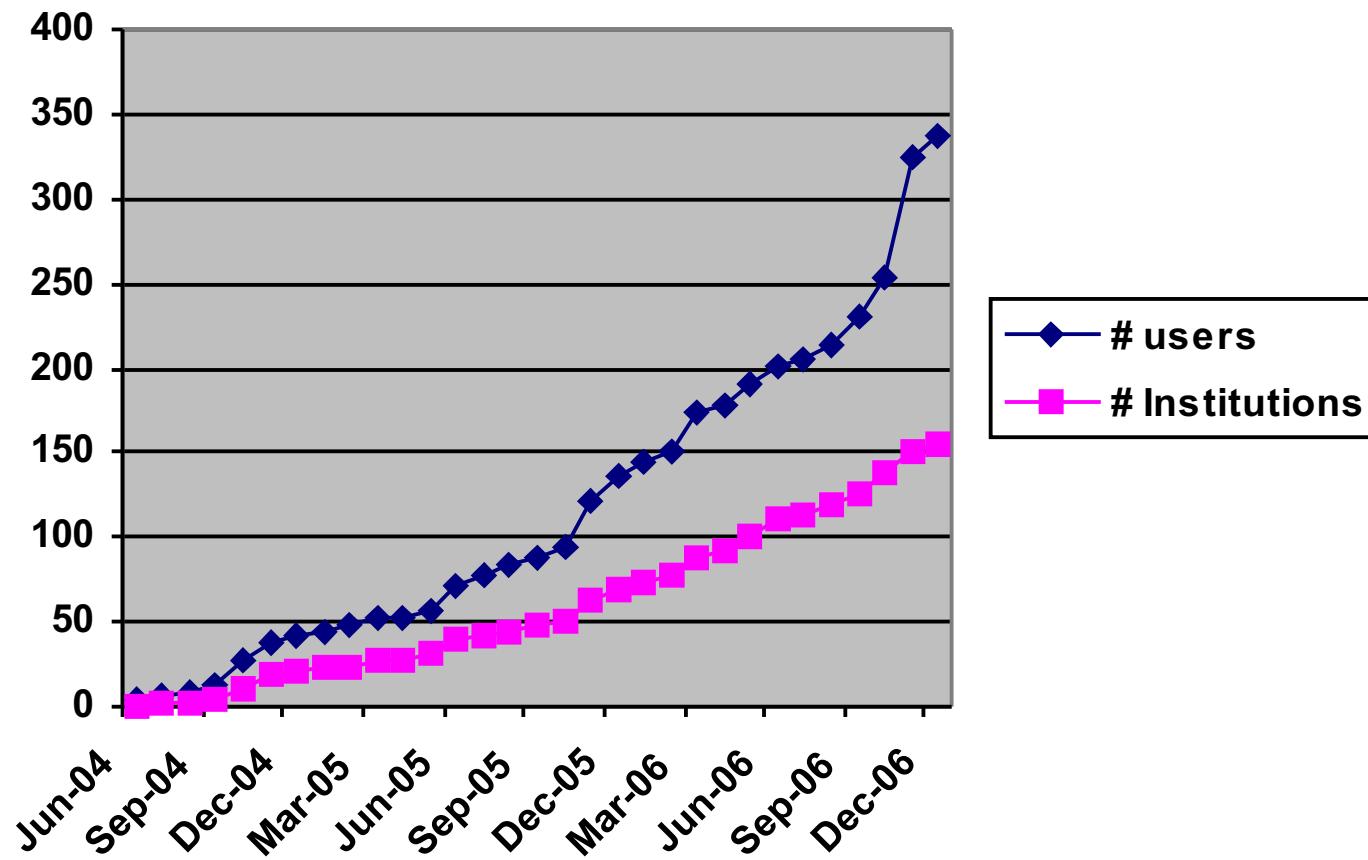
- The major visible outcome of the education area (in terms of enduring visibility in the web)
- More resources available (>100, ~80 from Kweb):
 - Some more for industry (e.g., from ESWC industry day) (now ~30)
 - Also summer school videos of 2005
- Increased coverage on the Semantic Web Topic Hierarchy



Visits on REASE



REASE popularity: Registrations



REASE Evaluation: Questionnaire

Questionnaire sent to actual REASE users

- High feedback rate (30%) (short questionnaire)

Score	5	4	3	2	1	Total
Usability	85	147	124	28	0	384
Information Finding	53	55	57	19	3	187
Information Providing	14	29	31	11	1	86

- Improved the user interface as a response
 - Better filtering according to industrial resources, using catalogue identifiers, ... (plus all the minor issues mentioned at the review like the overly complex license stuff when trying to access a resource)

REASE Evaluation: User Study

- Asked 'volunteers' at UniTN, OU, L3S, UPC
- 45 minutes to fulfill 4 tasks in retrieving data
 - Using keyword search, advanced search, and browsing the catalogue (+ random combination)
- Result:
 - Quite some unforeseeable problems
 - Firewalls, platform crashes because of parallel users, users not knowing anything about Semantic Web, popup blockers, IE7...
 - Keyword search ok, advanced search basically ok, browsing the catalogue also fine (but users tried to be 'clever' in finding alternatives), one task failed
 - But: Many useful free text comments



To implement improvents in REASE in 2007

Evaluation of the Semantic Web Topic Hierarchy

Work 2006:

- V1.1 of the topic hierarchy, available on a Semantic Wiki:
http://wiki.ontoworld.org/index.php/Semantic_Web_Topic_Hierarchy
- Evaluation:
 1. By comparing with most popular keywords associated with research papers in the Semantic Web domain
 - 2 add. Application areas: ‘information retrieval / search’ + ‘machine learning’
 2. By comparing to an automatically generated topic hierarchy
 - Relations basically confirmed, manually created structure contains more
 - ‘document classification’ as another application area
 3. By manual inspection of an expert within KnowledgeWeb (Mustafa) who was not yet involved in the creation of the topic hierarchy
 - Some re-organisations recommended

http://wiki.ontoworld.org/index.php/Semantic_Web_Topic_Hierarchy_v2

➔ To be discussed in 2007

Educational Events

- Past:
 - Summer school 2006
 - KnowledgeWeb PhD symposium 2006 (Budva)
- 2007:
 - Summer school (already announced, again Cercedilla)
- KnowledgeWeb PhD symposium 2007
 - Integral part of ESWC 2007
- Tutorial at some industry events
 - STE 2007 (Alain, Lyndon)

Shared Master

- 2006: Experimental year already running
 - Based on existing agreements
 - Very few students only (3 AFAIK)
- New partners: Lisbon (REWERSE), Innsbruck
- 2007: Finish preparations for the first 'real year' in 2007/2008.

ASPL

- 2006:
 - Analysis of implications from the evaluation study
 - Implementation of changes according to the outcome of the evaluation of 2005
 - Improve pedagogy behind (some) services
 - More variety of interacting with information about publications in DBLP
 - New services piloted (QBLs, FacetedDBLP++)
 - Work on ontology acquisition (model)

ASPL

- 2007:
 - Decide on the set of educational services that are going to make up the final ASPL demonstrator
 - Better integration of educational services
 - Rather than adding new, try to link them to existing
 - Consider pedagogic necessity and/or added value
 - Finalization of ASPL ‘public face’
 - Server reliability, service persistence, etc.
 - Consideration of non-plugin appearance (added value?)

ASPL

- 2007 – focus:
 - Preparing a useful evaluation strategy
 - What precisely we want to assess, why, how,...
 - Comparison with competitors (who are these?)
 - We want to make this a bit more generic → methodological work
 - Most of evaluation so far done w.r.t. user friendliness and/or usability (important but...)
 - We should be interested in tool effectiveness → how well we achieve [educational/pedagogic] benefits