Building Ontologies With Basic Formal Ontology (MIT Press)

BUILDING ONTOLOGIES WITH
BASIC FORMAL ONTOLOGY

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Synopsis

In the era of "big data," science is increasingly information driven, and the potential for computers to store, manage, and integrate massive amounts of data has given rise to such new disciplinary fields as biomedical informatics. Applied ontology offers a strategy for the organization of scientific information in computer-tractable form, drawing on concepts not only from computer and information science but also from linguistics, logic, and philosophy. This book provides an introduction to the field of applied ontology that is of particular relevance to biomedicine, covering theoretical components of ontologies, best practices for ontology design, and examples of biomedical ontologies in use.After defining an ontology as a representation of the types of entities in a given domain, the book distinguishes between different kinds of ontologies and taxonomies, and shows how applied ontology draws on more traditional ideas from metaphysics. It presents the core features of the Basic Formal Ontology (BFO), now used by over one hundred ontology projects around the world, and offers examples of domain ontologies that utilize BFO. The book also describes Web Ontology Language (OWL), a common framework for Semantic Web technologies. Throughout, the book provides concrete recommendations for the design and construction of domain ontologies.

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Customer Reviews

A superb monograph that collects material previously available only from journal articles and expository videos. Tremendously helpful on a project of mine. I had access to a version through a university library, but I purchased the Kindle edition here because the formatting is much better for an eReader. Like other "mathy" books, there were some issues with the Kindle display of figures and tables, but this wasn't severe enough to affect my ability to understand the material. The best single reference I am aware of for anyone interested in the BFO approach to computational ontologies.

Complete. Easy to read. Consolidated well.

Excellent BFO introduction.

fine

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