Abstract. We present the MathHub.info system, a development environment for active mathematical documents and an archive for flexiformal mathematics. It offers a rich interface for reading, writing, and interacting with mathematical documents and knowledge. The core of the MathHub.info system is an archive for flexiformal mathematical documents and libraries in the OMDoc/MMT format. Content can be authored or archived in the source format of the respective system, is versioned in GIT repositories, and transformed into OMDoc/MMT for machine-support and further into HTML5 for reading and interaction.

1 Introduction

As the field of Mathematical Knowledge Management (MKM) and Digital Mathematical Libraries (DML) mature, we need to shift attention from experimenting with semantic services on small and practice data sets to supporting management of large corpora of mathematical knowledge and documents. In the past, MKM and DML have latched onto existing corpora/libraries ranging from digitized mathematical articles (e.g. EuDML [EUD]) over semi-structured representations generated from \LaTeX sources [Sta+10] to fully formal theorem prover libraries, e.g. the Mizar Mathematical Library [MizLib]. But so far management support for and semantic services deployed on such libraries have been essentially insular, existing cross-library methods remain experiments, and have not been implemented into usable systems.

This insularity also applies to the work in the KWARC group. For instance, we have i) designed a cross-library representation language: OMDoc (Open Mathematical Documents) [Koh06], ii) developed a meta-logical framework MMT (A Module System for Mathematical Theories) [RK13; Cod+11] that allows to represent the logical languages underlying the theorem prover libraries, and relate them to each other by logic morphisms, iii) built libraries of formalized mathematics in OMDoc/MMT either by manually creating content (e.g. LATIN [Cod+11]) or by implementing transformations from existing theorem prover libraries (e.g. Mizar Mathematical Library [Ian+13]), and iv) have used OMDoc as the basis for active mathematical documents in the Planetary system [Koh12]. But we have not integrated all of these or made them available to mathematicians in one comprehensive environment.

To change this situation – and to provide a realistic base for our own cross-library research and development efforts – we have started work to realize a universal archiving solution for formal and informal mathematical corpora/libraries.
We present the MathHub.info system and its design goals in this paper. MathHub.info must satisfy two conflicting goals: On the one hand, it must be so generic that it is open to all logics and implementations; on the other hand, it must be aware of the semantics of the formalized content so that it can offer meaningful services. These services must be independent of both the formal system and the implementation used to produce the library and offer a uniform high-level interface for both users and machines to access the combined library.

We claim that MathHub.info will resolve two major bottlenecks in the current state of the art. It will provide a permanent archiving solution that not all systems and user communities can afford to maintain separately. And it will establish a standardized and open library format that serves as a catalyst for comparison and thus evolution of systems.

Concretely, we see three ways the formal methods and mathematical knowledge management communities can benefit from MathHub.info: i) users can view formerly disparate developments in a common, neutral framework and compare them, ii) system developers can import libraries from other logical systems to extend the reach of formalizations and avoid duplicate development, iii) the existence of a library management system (and importable content) can lower the entry hurdle for developing new logic-based systems. In the next section we present the current system architecture and realization, and Section 3 concludes the paper.

2 System Architecture and Realization

MathHub.info is realized as an instance of the Planetary System [Koh12], which we have substantially extended in the course of the work reported here.

The system architecture has three main components: i) a versioned data store holding the source documents ii) a semantic service provider that imports the source documents and provides services for them iii) and a frontend that makes the sources and the semantic services available to users. Specifically, we use the GitLab repository manager [GL] as the data store, the MMT API as the semantic service provider and Drupal as the frontend.

Figure 1 shows the detailed architecture.

Fig. 1. The MathHub.info Architecture
In this setup, Drupal serves as a container management system that supplies uniform theming, user management, discussion forums, etc. GitLab on the other hand, provides versioned storage of the content documents, and organizes them into repositories owned by users and groups. The advantage of this setup is that we can combine two methods for accessing the contents of MathHub.info: i) an online, web-based editing/interaction workflow for the casual user, in the spirit of the Planetary system and ii) (new) an offline editing/authoring workflow based on a GIT working copy. The latter is important for power authors and for bulk editing jobs. A user can fork or pull the relevant repositories from GitLab, edit them and submit them back to MathHub either via a pull request to the repository masters or a direct commit/push. As the content is usually highly networked and distributed across multiple GIT repositories, we have developed a command line tool lmh (local MathHub) that manages working copies across repository borders.

In the web-based system, semantic services (notation-based, presentation, definition lookup, relational navigation, dependency management, etc.) are provided by MMT and are made available to the user, primarily by dedicated JOBAD [GLR09] modules. Note that even though the active document functionalities and semantic editing support in MathHub.info are based on OMDoc/MMT representation of the content, the authors interact with the content in the source format. Both of these representations are versioned in GitLab and are converted into OMDoc/MMT by custom transformers. lmh also supports running these transformers locally and previewing HTML5 renderings of the generated OMDoc/MMT.

In order to deal with flexiformal mathematical content in OMDoc, we have also extended the MMT API, which was previously restricted to fully formal content. In the extended MMT API, each MMT service works whenever it is theoretically applicable (e.g. type checking when there exists type information, change management when there is dependency information, etc.).

3 Conclusion

MathHub.info is deployed at [http://mathhub.info](http://mathhub.info) and has reached a state, where it can be used for initial experiments and resources, but has not been scaled much beyond 10,000 documents and a couple of dozens or users and repositories yet.

Specifically, we are currently hosting a test set of formal and informal mathematical content to develop and evaluate system functionality; concretely: i) the SMGloM termbase with ca. 1500 small \TeX files containing definitions of mathematical terminology and notation definitions. ii) ca. 6500 files with \TeX-encoded teaching materials (slides, course notes, problems, and solutions) in Computer Science, iii) the LATIN logic atlas with ca. 1000 meta-theories and logic morphisms, iv) the Mizar Mathematical Library of ca. 1000 articles with ca. 50,000

1 Drupal and similar systems self-describe as content management systems, but they actually only manage the documents without changing their internal structure.
theorems, definitions, and proofs, and ii) a part of the HOL Light Library with 22 theories and over 2800 declarations. Already now, it is unique in its class in that it gives a unified interface to multiple theorem prover libraries together with linguistic and educational resources. Now that the groundwork has been laid, we anticipate the rapid integration of new semantic services, editing support and new content.

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References


