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# Hybrid Multi-agent System For Automatic Object Learning Classification

## Authors

Ana B. Gil González  
Fernando de la Prieta Pintado  
Vivian F. López Batista

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# 1. Introduction

- The learning technology standardization process is one of the key research activities in computer-based education
  
- The objective is to allow the **reuse** of learning resources and to offer **interoperability** among heterogeneous e-learning systems
  - ▣ The prolific fields of the learning technology standardization and the actual context of e-learning
  - ▣ How these data models are applied by actual software systems to facilitate the location of learning resources
  - ▣ Educational brokerage

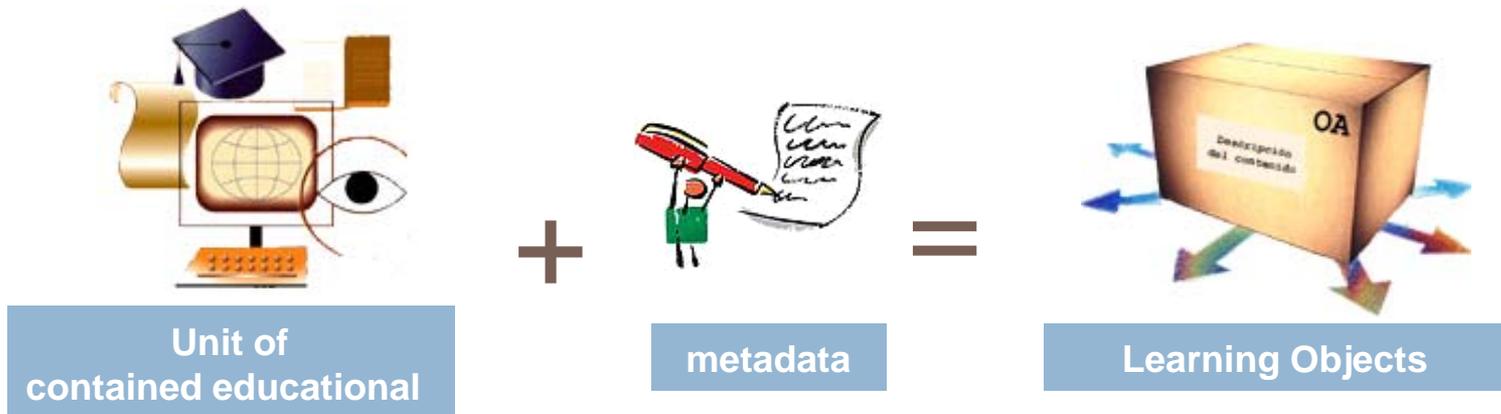


# 1. Introduction. Learning Objects

- Standardization applied to learning technologies will enable reuse and interoperation among heterogeneous software systems.
  - Consensus is needed on architectures, services, protocols, data models and open interfaces
  - Learning Technology Standards Committee (LTSC) for the IEEE
- learning object is a digital, self-contained and reusable entity with a clearly instructional content, containing at least
  - Three internal and editable components: content, learning activities, and elements of context.
  - Additionally, learning objects should have an external information structure, the **metadata**, which can facilitate its identification, storage and retrieval.



# 1. Introduction. Learning Objects



## □ Characteristics:

- **REUSABILITY** Usable in different learning situations
- **INTEROPERABILITY** Independent of the platforms
- **SEMANTIC LABELING** The metadata allow the enhancement of Learning Objects (LO) as educational resources so that they can be automatically managed.

# 1. Introduction. Learning Objects

- External information structure, metadata, which can facilitate its identification, storage and retrieval.
- Standards and specifications about learning objects focus on facilitating the search, evaluation, acquisition, and reutilisation
  - Dublin Core
  - MPEG-7
  - Learning Object Metadata, LOM → IEEE LOM

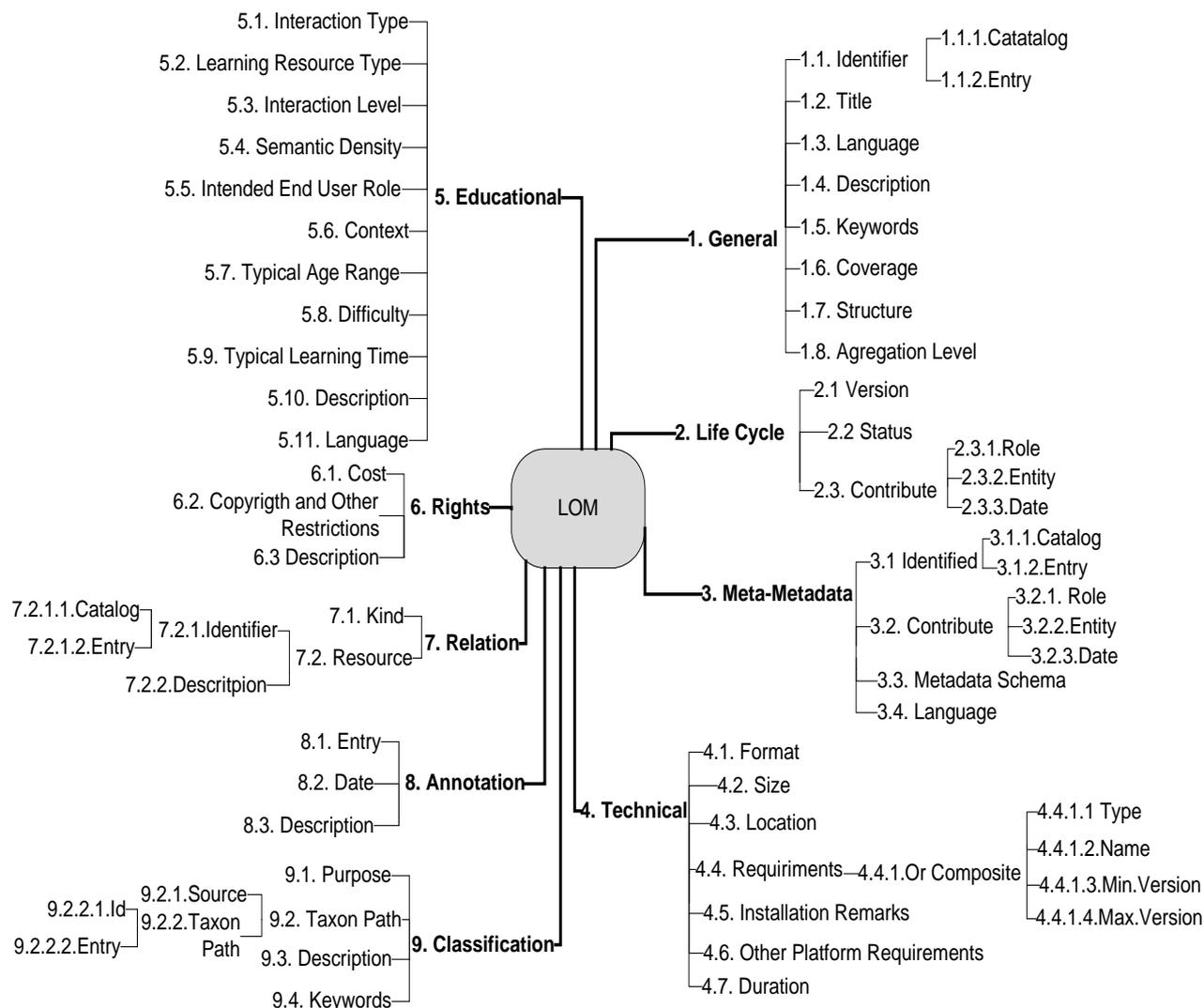


# 1. Introduction. Learning Objects

- Since 2002, the IEEE LOM has been the standard for specifying the syntax and semantics of learning object metadata
  - ▣ Uses a hierarchical structure
  - ▣ Coded in XML
  - ▣ Includes element names, definitions, data types, taxonomies, vocabularies, and field lengths.
  
- LOM is focused on the minimal set of attributes needed to allow these learning objects to be managed, located and evaluated
  
- LOM metadata descriptions support:
  - ▣ Version management and maintenance
  - ▣ Resource storage and recovery (searching, location, instantiation, packaging, editing, etc.)
  - ▣ and resource sharing.

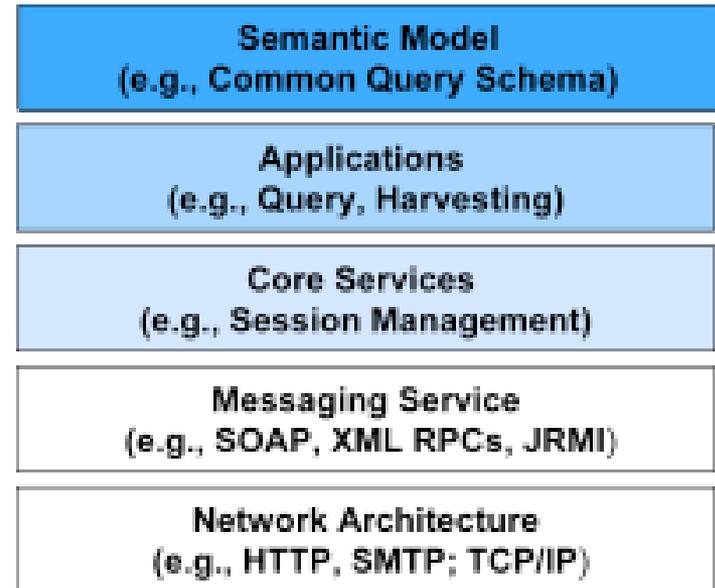


# 1.Introduction. Learning Objects



# 1. Introduction. Learning Objects Repositories

- Learning Objects Repositories (LOR) are software systems in the form of digital catalogues that either store educational resources and their metadata, or only the latter
  - different storage system
  - different access to objects
  - different query methods
- Most LOR belong to educational institutions
  - MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching)
  - CAREO (Campus Alberta Repository of Education Objects)
  - CLOE (Co-operative Learning Object Exchange).
- Highly heterogeneous



# 1. Introduction. Presenting The Problem

- Existence of distributed Learning objects
  - ▣ Heterogeneous labelling of educational resources
  - ▣ Several standards of interfaces for LORs
- A new economy has appeared in the **management, interchange and creation** of Learning Objects
- The need has arisen for **an intermediation system** that would allow all the data referring to LOs to be
  - ▣ Collected and stored by Solving the problem of heterogeneity in the contents
  - ▣ To allows inferences to be made about them



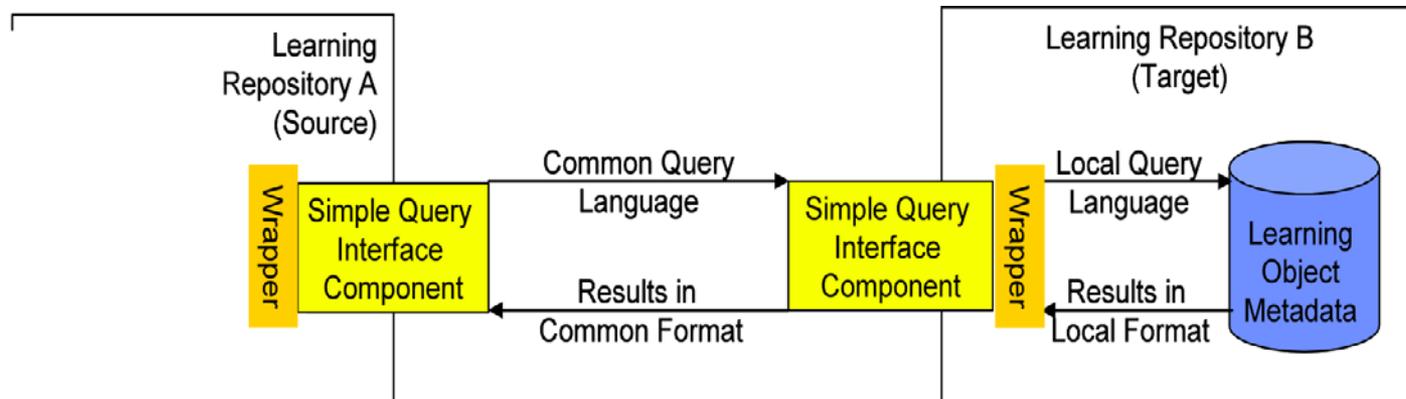
## 2. Technologies adopted

- To encapsulate the internal logic and facilitate searches LOR
  - Abstraction layer which encapsulates intrinsic characteristics and therefore eases querying by client applications → SQL (*Simple Query Interface*) standard
  - Query language:
    - Very Simple Query Language (VSQL)
    - Prolean Query Language (PLSQL)
  - The results are returned in LOM standard
  - Federated search for Learning objects in Repositories



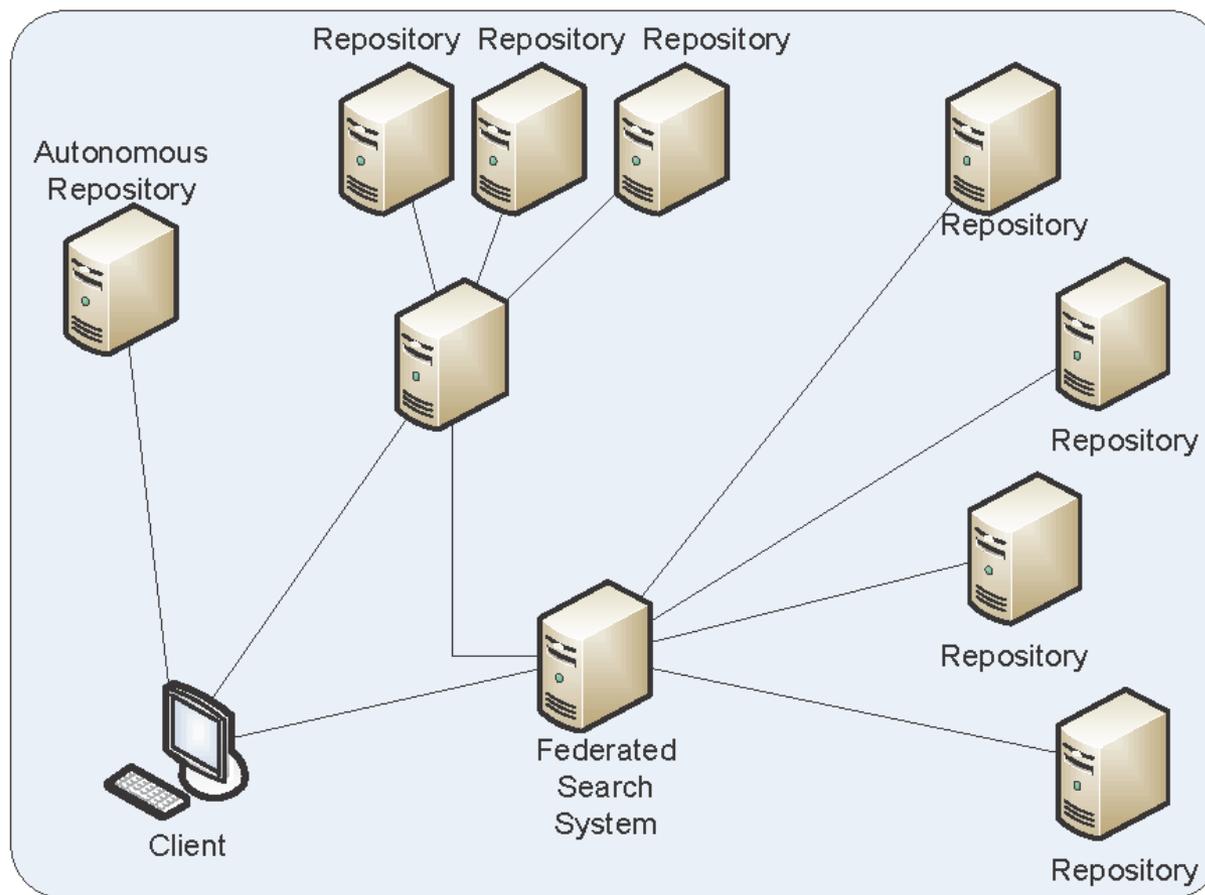
# 2. Technologies adopted

- S<sub>Q</sub>I (*Simple Query Interface*) standard
  - ▣ It was normalized by CEN in 2005
  - ▣ Based on Web Services
  - ▣ It is defined through tree APIs.
    - Learning Objects Interoperability Framework
    - Authentication and Session Management
    - Simple Query Interface



# 2. Technologies adopted

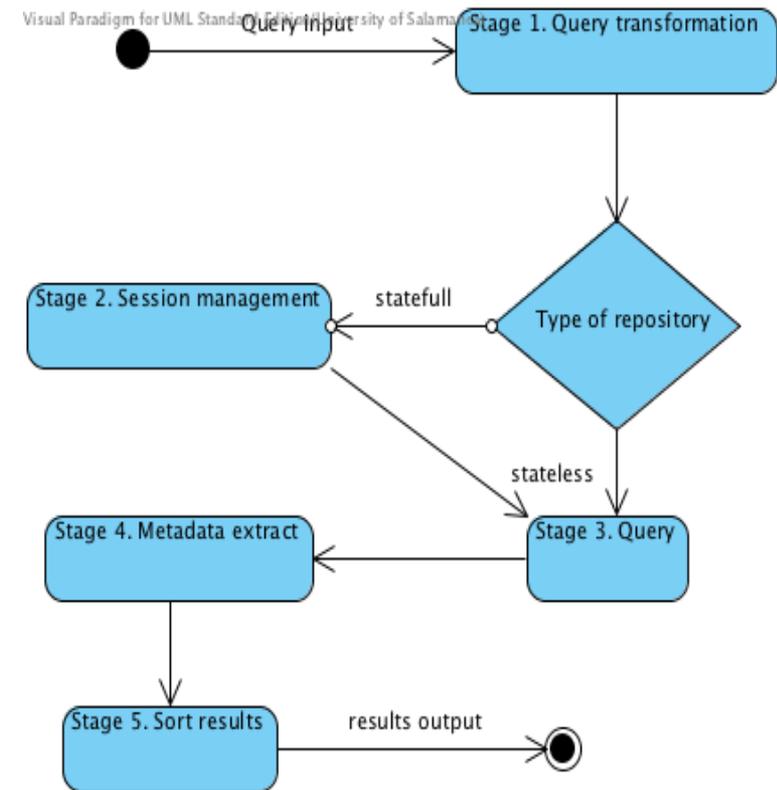
## □ Topology of Learning Objects search systems



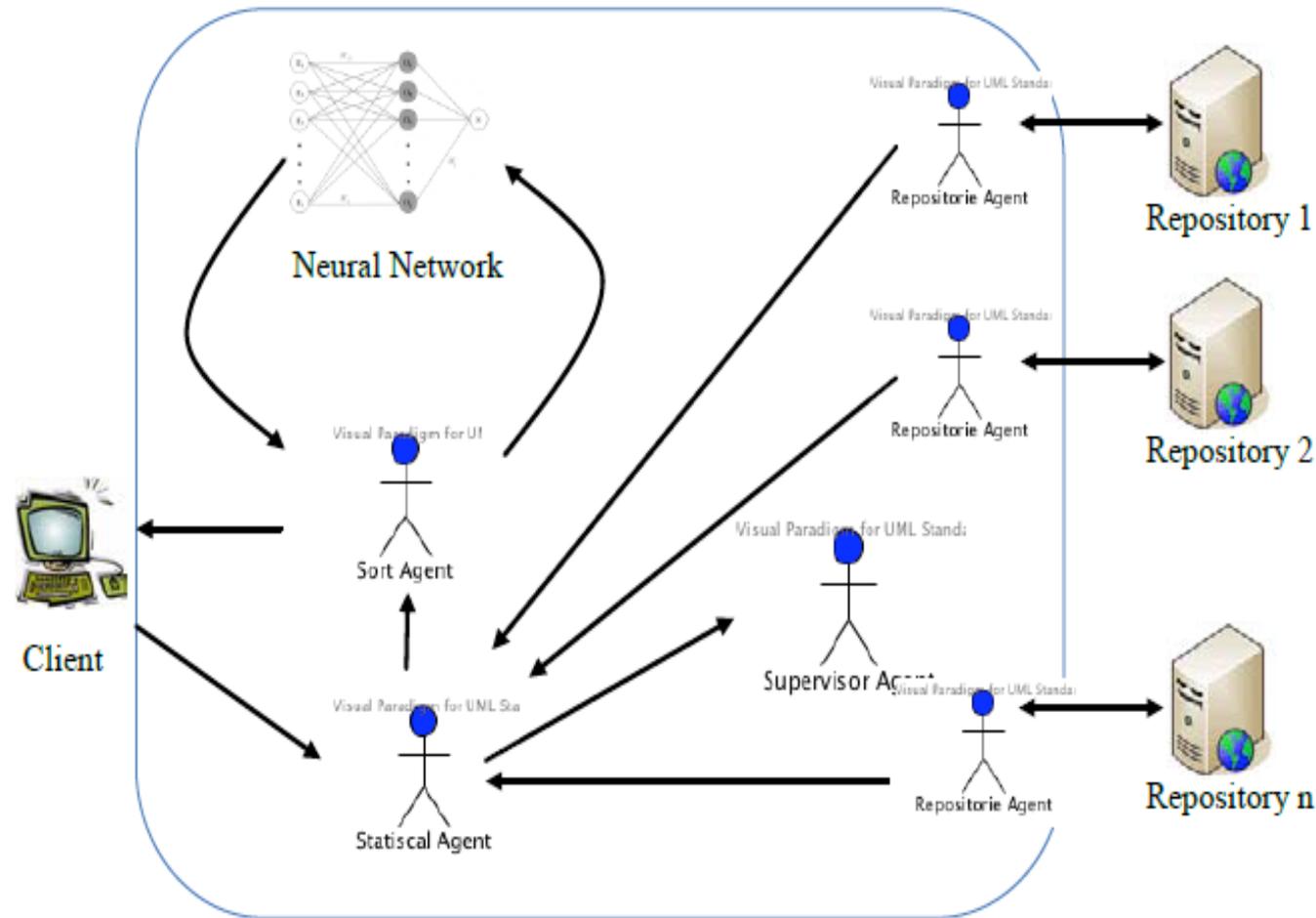
# 3. Hybrid Multiagent-system for automatic Classification

An agent-based architecture has been designed and developed which is especially focused on resolving the problem of the **federated search**

1. **Query Transformation.** Query Transformation in natural language and VSQL.
2. **Session Management.** Obtaining the session identifier
3. **Query.** Carrying out the query through Web services
4. **Metadata Extraction.** Extraction of information contained in the metadata
5. **Sort Results.** Once the learning objects are available, an organisation of the results is carried out



# 3. Hybrid Multiagent-system for automatic Classification. **BRENHET Architecture**



# 3. Hybrid Multiagent-system for automatic Classification. **BRENHET Architecture**

## □ **Repository agent.**

- Performs searches with the various repositories,
- Extracts metadata
- Quality control for the LO received, and optimizing the search system
- One agent for each of the LOR → multiple searches can be performed simultaneously

## □ **Sort agent**

- Responsible for verifying, controlling and coordinating the results from the neural network
- Classify and catalogue the results

# 3. Hybrid Multiagent-system for automatic Classification. **BRENHET Architecture**

## □ **Statistical agent.**

- ▣ Responsible for gathering the statistical data from the repositories and the interaction between the users and the search tool
- ▣ Provides the supervisor agent with the appropriate statistical data needed to effectively coordinate the tasks.

## □ **Supervisor agent.**

- ▣ Responsible for supervising the other agents, and for coordinating tasks.
- ▣ It obtains data from the statistical agent and adapts the tasks to the system according to different variables
  - such as the state of communication
  - the system load, etc.



# 3. Hybrid Multiagent-system for automatic Classification. Overview

- A prototype of a federated search system has been constructed called BRENHET
- Main Characteristics:
  - Web Application
  - Learning Objects Search
    - SQL Client Implementation.
    - Carrying out queries through VSQL.
    - Object extraction in LOM standard and packaging through SCORM.
  - Cataloguing (Filtering) of Learning Objects
  - Management of Users
  - Search History
  - Statistical System
  - Advanced management of repositories

**BRENHET**  
Búsqueda de Recursos orientados a la Educación en eEntornos HETerogéneo

Welcome anonymous user

Home A+ | A- | Normal

### Welcome to BRENHET

**Search**

Query:

Advanced search

The search may take a few seconds

**Search**

Through this finder you can find the information you need in repositories that store learning objects.  
Remember that if you register you will have access to more features, such as:

- More precise queries.
- Custom configuration options.
- Check the history of searches performed..

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Computer Engineering  
Year Project

Department of Informática y Automática

#### 1. Assertiviteit

01 - **Votar**

Ver más

- **Lenguaje:**
- **Tipo:**
- **Descripción:** Dit trainingspakket behandelt onder meer volgende onderwerpen: (1) feedback ontvangen-toepassing ondersteunend; (2) subassertief, manipulatief of agressief?; (3) feedback ontvangen-toepassing corrigerend; (4) feedback geven-toepassing ondersteunend; [...]

Descargar LOM

Enlace roto

[http://www.cs.kuleuven.be/~nik/vdab/assertiviteit\\_05032008.zip](http://www.cs.kuleuven.be/~nik/vdab/assertiviteit_05032008.zip)

# 4. Conclusions and Work in Progress

- We have presented an architecture currently being worked on that is based on a multiagent system for LO retrieval from repositories distributed around the Internet and their cataloguing to satisfy user needs
- **BRENHET an intermediation system** that allow all the data referring to LOs to be
  - ▣ Collected and stored by Solving the problem of heterogeneity in the contents
    - Evaluate Quality LO
    - Evaluate LOR query results, query duration, etc
  - ▣ To allows inferences to be made about them
  - ▣ Reduce the response time for final results
  - ▣ N-top method for LO recommendation



# 4. Conclusions and Work in Progress

- Taking into account the results obtained from the construction of the BRENHET application, it is possible to conclude that agent-based architecture is ideal for resolving the problem of federated searches in heterogeneous repositories
- We also outline the particular point our work is currently focused on:
  - the design and implementation of an more intelligent LO recommendation system that can be integrated into that architecture
    - Implementing Social recommendation
    - By adding web usage mining and web content mining
    - Etc.





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Thanks!



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