

Align SIOC & schema.org

PUBLIC DRAFT

Authors: John Breslin, Maciej Dabrowski, Bahareh Heravi (firstname.lastname@deri.org)
Contact [@johnbreslin](https://www.skype.com/user/johnbreslin) (Skype, Twitter, Facebook)

[Overview](#)

[Goal](#)

[Aligning Classes and Properties](#)

[Adding New Classes and Properties](#)

[Suggested new class: Forum](#)

[Suggested new class: Thread](#)

[Suggested new class: Post](#)

Overview

The aim of this is to align terms from SIOC which are suitable for describing internet discussions (e.g. forums, discussion groups) with schema.org which lacks these terms at present.

Goal (/ht to GR)

- **Maximize the amount and granularity of structured forum and discussion data** on the Web.
- **Minimize** Webmaster **confusion** about the choice between SIOC and Microdata.
- **Preserve the expressive power** of SIOC without raising the entrance barriers for adopters.
- Recognise the **differences between forums and other discussion methods like blogs and microblogs while appreciating their similarities**:
 - In **forums**, starter **forum posts** have much the same structure as reply posts and are all contained in **threads** that together define the topic under discussion. While the starter post kicks off the discussion, reply posts can have equal or greater significance depending on their content. `discussionUrl` for a forum thread does not really exist like it does for the comments section of a blog page.
 - In blogs, blog posts normally have the most content and hold the greatest weight in the discussion, followed by shorter comments with less content.

- **Preserve backward-compatibility** as much as possible, i.e. avoid major renaming of widely-used, existing SIOC elements (as GoodRelations endeavoured to do). In principle, however, it is possible to have a limited amount of naming differences between the schema.org version and the original version of the same SIOC element, so that we can maintain consistent naming conventions in both schema.org and SIOC.
 - The next update for SIOC is also proposing some new terms, please see <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xdoKtjx9g-izDJE4pHFnRy9pEjodgTmuZcvDlyQ7xY8/edit>
- **Avoid future divergence.**

Aligning Classes and Properties

SIOC Class or Property	Schema.org Class or Property
sioc:Weblog	Blog
container_of	blogPost
container_of	blogPosts
	UserComments
has_reply	comment
follows	follows
Community	
Container	
sioc:AddressBook	
sioc:AnnotationSet	
sioc:AudioChannel	
sioc:BookmarkFolder	
sioc:Briefcase	
sioc:EventCalendar	
sioc:ImageGallery	ImageGallery
sioc:ProjectDirectory	
sioc:ResumeBank	

sioc:ReviewArea	
sioc:SubscriptionList	
sioc:SurveyCollection	
sioc:VideoChannel	VideoGallery
sioc:Wiki	
Forum	
sioc:ArgumentativeDiscussion	
sioc:ChatChannel	
sioc:MailingList	
sioc:MessageBoard	
sioc:Microblog	
sioc:Weblog	Blog
Item	Article
sioc:Poll	
Post	
sioc:BlogPost	BlogPosting
sioc:BoardPost	
sioc:Comment	Comment
sioc:InstantMessage	
sioc:MailMessage	
sioc:MicroblogPost	
sioc:WikiArticle	
Role	
Site	
Space	
Thread	

UserAccount	
UserGroup	

Adding New Classes and Properties

<http://schema.org/Forum>

Subtype of <http://schema.org/CreativeWork>

New Properties

thread -> Thread

Reuse Existing Properties

name

description

url

interactionCount -> UserThreads **new**

interactionCount -> UserPosts **new**

<http://schema.org/Thread>

Subtype of <http://schema.org/CreativeWork>

New Properties

post -> Post

Reuse Existing Properties

headline

dateCreated

dateModified

interactionCount -> UserComments¹

<http://schema.org/Post>

¹ In the Discussion proposal, postCount was cited as a potential property. I have used interactionCount linking to UserComments. For a Thread, UserPosts = UserComments + 1. Many forum sites use the number of replies for threads (UserComments), and total number of posts for forums (UserPosts). But if a site specifies a post count for a discussion thread, this could reuse UserPosts.

Subtype of <http://schema.org/Article>

New Properties

attachment

postType -> Question, Answer, BestAnswer

Reuse Existing Properties

headline

url

dateCreated

description

articleBody

References

- Discussion proposal for schema.org from Charlie Jiang, Bing
http://www.w3.org/wiki/images/2/29/Schema.org_Discussion_v2.7.pdf
- Wiki page on Discussion in schema.org on W3C wiki
<http://www.w3.org/wiki/WebSchemas/DiscussionSchema>
- Proposal for new terms in SIOC version 1.36
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xdoKtjx9g-izDJE4pHFnRy9pEjodgTmuZcvDlyQ7xY8/edit>
- Current version 1.35 of the SIOC ontology <http://rdfs.org/sioc/spec>
- Aligning GR and schema.org Public Draft
<https://docs.google.com/document/pub?id=1Kx63gW9DBky1j97Jpwl3dU9k0pKPSgCT3EntTVvGjX4>
- Description of SIOC Types module <http://www.w3.org/TR/hcls-sioc/>
- Full set of schema.org terms <http://schema.org/docs/full.html>
- Previous mappings between SIOC and schema.org
<https://github.com/mhausenblas/schema-org-rdf/blob/master/mappings/sioc.ttl>
- Hypothes.is <http://hypothes.is/>