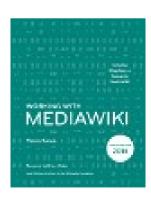
Recent changes to Semantic Forms (and Cargo)

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EMWCon Spring 2016
May 24, 2016
New York City

About me

- Enterprise MediaWiki developer, consultant and author
- Live in New York City
- My company: WikiWorks (wikiworks.com)
- My book: Working with MediaWiki (workingwithmediawiki.com)



Semantic Forms

My first, and still most popular, extension.

https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/

Extension:Semantic_Forms

Change #1: Added "display=spreadsheet"

```
{{for template|Performance|multiple|
label=Performances|display=spreadsheet}}}
{{field|Location}}} ← no wikitext!
{{field|Date}}}
{{field|Outdoors|input type=checkbox|
label=Outdoors?}}
{{field|Cost|values=Free,<$20,$20-
$50,>$50}}
{{end template}}
```

SF spreadsheet editing

Uses the jsGrid JS library (http://js-grid.com)

Demo:

http://discoursedb.org/wiki/Form:Musician

SF spreadsheet editing

Especially useful for pages that will have few columns, many rows.

The new "display=" parameter

This also opens the possibility for other "display=" options, where formatting of fields is done automatically.

Would mean less work for admins, better HTML like | <a href="https://doi.org/10.

Change #2: input types move

"datepicker", "regexp" inputs moved from the Semantic Forms Inputs extension to Semantic Forms.

SFI is now (mostly) unnecessary - its remaining inputs (like "menuselect", "two listboxes") are rarely used.

Input types move

This continues a process that started in 2014, when SF gained its own map inputs ("googlemaps", "openlayers") - Semantic Maps no longer required

Why do this?

- Fewer extensions => less work for admins, less work for developers
- The number of form input types seems to have stabilized at ~20
 - very little demand for more types

In the last two years, Semantic Forms has weakened its ties to Semantic MediaWiki, Semantic Forms Inputs and Semantic Maps!

Semantic Forms before: Semantic Forms now:





Change #3: removed params

Several long-deprecated parameters were removed:

- autocomplete on category, autocomplete on namespace, etc.
- no autocomplete
- remote autocompletion

(These are all done now by setting the input type, and using "values ..." parameters)

Future changes

Speaking of input types and removal...

I also want to remove the "text with autocomplete" and "textarea with autocomplete" input types.

This will require improving the "combobox" and "tokens" input types.

I'm also thinking about renaming Semantic Forms!

The name makes everyone think it's part of Semantic MediaWiki, though it is now independent.

Plus, "Semantic Forms" has a few other meanings:

- Web forms that use "semantic HTML"
- A concept in linguistics

Some possible new names

- Template Forms
- Instant Forms
- Smart Forms (keep the initials)

Any other ideas?

Recent changes to Cargo

(https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Extension:Cargo)

Change #1: Storage of page data

Every page gets its data stored in the table "_pageData".

Stored data: Date last modified, page creator, etc.

With this addition, Cargo now (basically) matches Semantic MediaWiki's functionality.

Change #2: Full text search

You can do a text search within a Cargo query!

See here:

http://discoursedb.org/wiki/Search_demo

Change #3: Lua interface

You can query and display Cargo data from within Scribunto/Lua.