Ivan Voras, FER (FER Web team): A WebDAV View of FER's Content Management System (CMS)

A natural way of representing textual data in an already hierarchical system (like the URI scheme for referencing web resources) is a filesystem. An easy and standard way for setting up filesystems by the means of the WebDAV (Web Distributed Authoring and Versioning) protocol.

In majority of cases, users are familiar with the Microsoft Windows operating system and office productivity applications such as Microsoft Office from which the most frequently used component is the Microsoft Word text processor. Windows Explorer and all MS Office applications can natively access WebDAV resources.

The result of this work is a WebDAV server application that is the interface between data stored in a relational database and its filesystem-like representation, written in Python programming language.

Since one page (a resource identified by a unique URI) can be composed of several types of data (text, images, documents and assorted data intended for download), each page is in fact represented by a folder in the filesystem and each data type as its subfolder. Individual data items are represented as files inside the data-type subfolders.

The presentation will show how this WebDAV interface is used at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing (FER), University of Zagreb, for easy management of various types of content stored within FER's content management system.