

# Implementing ArguBlogging

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we present ArguBlogging, a simple tool that allows blog users to directly respond to text on a web page, publishing the response to their blog while simultaneously capturing the argumentative structure in the Argument Web.

**Keywords.** Argument, blogging, online, argument web

## 1. Introduction

The current structure of tools supporting comment and discussion allows for simple dialogue and argument structures: if someone wishes to reply to an opinion presented somewhere on the web such as on a news website or a blog, they can provide a simple hyperlink to the article in which this opinion is expressed. The resulting structure of supporting and competing opinions is then easily lost. Furthermore, because each new claim is expressed on its own page (i.e. someone's blog page), there is no overview of the dialogue between the various authors and bloggers.

In this paper, we present *ArguBlogging*, a simple tool that allows blog users to directly respond to text on a web page, publishing the response to their blog while simultaneously capturing the argumentative structure in the Argument Web.

## 2. The ArguBlogging widget

To help improve rational debate online, we have built *ArguBlogging*<sup>1</sup>, an online tool which allows opinions in blogs and other web pages to be easily linked using the underlying infrastructure of the Argument Web [1].

The tool exists as a Bookmarklet<sup>2</sup>. If a user wishes to respond to an opinion on a web page, they simply highlight the relevant piece of text and click the bookmarklet. The ArguBlogging widget is then rendered on the page, providing options with which to respond, as shown in Figure 1. The widget also contains the ability to connect to two popular blogging platforms, Blogger<sup>3</sup> and tumblr<sup>4</sup>, with connections managed using the OAuth 2.0 protocol.

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<sup>1</sup><http://argublogging.com>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.bookmarklets.com/about/>

<sup>3</sup><http://blogger.com>

<sup>4</sup><http://tumblr.com>



Figure 1. ArguBlogging widget rendered on a web page

### 3. Argument Interchange Format

The Argument Web is underpinned by The Argument Interchange Format (AIF), a semantically-rich mechanism for exchanging argument resources between tools. ArguBlogging contains full support for AIF, including dialogical extensions [2]. When a user submits a response via the widget, as well as sending the text to their chosen blog(s), the argumentative structure is also captured (Figure 2).

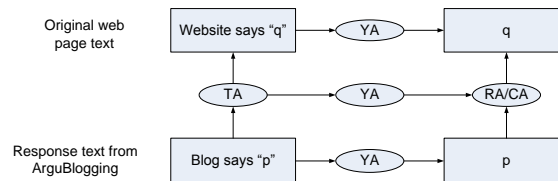


Figure 2. AIF structure generated by ArguBlogging

Both the original text and the user's response are captured as Information (I-) nodes, connected by a Rule Application (RA-) node if the response agrees with the original text, or a Conflict Application (CA-) node if it does not. Also connected to the I-nodes are Locution (L-) nodes, which see the publisher of the original text and the respondent represented as participants in the argument web. If another *ArguBlogging* user subsequently responds to either the original text or the initial response, their reply is added to the same structure. Should this process continue, a large conversation stemming from the original topic will be built, with the AIF representation allowing subsequent analysis and interaction.

### References

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