



The Web as a Semantic Source

Ricardo Baeza-Yates

VP, Yahoo! Research

and Applications

Outline

- Internet moved from a curiosity to a substrate for life activity
- Content growing, changing, diversifying, fragmenting
- Semantics of content unlock the value of the data ecosystem
- Explicit and implicit semantic sources
- Applications
- A virtuous feedback cycle for enhancing semantics



Content Growth and Trends

Content trends

Content type	Amount of content produced per day
Published content	3-4 GB
Professional web content	~ 2 GB
User generated content	8-10 GB
Private text content	~ 3 TB (300x more)
Upper bound on typed content	~700 TB (~200x more)

Metadata trends

Metadata type	Amount of metadata produced per day
Anchortext	100 MB
Tags	40 MB
Pageviews	180 GB
Reviews	Around 10 MB

[Ramakrishnan and Tomkins 2007]

- 10 -

Content ownership

- Content consumption is fragmenting – nobody owns more than 10% of the Web page views
- No single place will own all the content
- Best of breed processing will operate on the web version (?)
- Value transitions to ecosystem

Content Consumption is fragmenting

1 to 3 | 0.5 | treats, catnips, daddy, mommy, purring, mice,

del.icio.us / tag / jsr168

All items tagged **jsr168** (create tag description) → view **popular**

« earlier | later »

By topic

[ONJava.com -- JSR168 portlet example](#) [save this](#)
by kwangomango to portlet jsr168 ... [saved by 22 other people](#) ... 4 hours ago

[Introducing Java Portlet Specifications: JSR 168 and JSR 286](#) [save this](#)
Portlets are Web-based components managed by portlet containers that supply dynamic content. Portals employ portlets as pluggable Portlet Specification achieves interoper
by pedavison to Portal Portlet portlets j2ee java jsr168 programming development ... [saved by 71 other people](#) ... 1 day ago

[portlet-container: OpenPortal Portlet Container Project supporting JSR 168 and JSR 286 portlets](#) [save this](#)
by johnalewis to java opensource portal portlet jsr168 ... [saved by 36 other people](#) ... 1 day ago

[FitzBlog : WSRP and JSR168 Are Two Completely Different Things...](#) [save this](#)
by bonifax to WSRP JSR168 portal SharePoint Microsoft portlet ... [saved by 22 other people](#) ... 1 day ago

[JSR 168 programming](#) [save this](#)
by nitingr to portlet tech jsr168 portlets ... [saved by 1 other person](#) ... 1 day ago

[Marina Sum's Blog: Weather Portlet in Portlet Repository](#) [save this](#)
by odalet to java portal portlet jsr168 ... [saved by 1 other person](#) ... 2 days ago

[Best Practices for Applying Ajax to JSR 168 Portlets](#) [save this](#)
by emconne to ajax jsr168 portlets portal portlet ... [saved by 94 other people](#) ... 2 days ago

[light: Project Home Page](#) [save this](#)
by lhotari to portlet portal jsr168 ... [saved by 75 other people](#) ... 3 days ago

- 12 -

Content access is fragmenting

facebook Profile edit Friends Networks Inbox (2) home account privacy logout

Search

Applications edit

- Photos
- Groups
- Events
- Marketplace
- Many Eyes Visualizer

more

Privacy Settings for Search

You will show up in search results if anyone searches for "**andrew tomkins**" or any part of your name. Even though anyone can search for you, only your friends and everyone from Yahoo, MIT, Carnegie Mellon and Silicon Valley, CA, can see your profile. In addition, people in college networks, high school networks, company networks, regional networks and no networks can see you in search results. People who can't see your profile can see your profile picture, poke you, message you and send you a friend request from your search listing.

Back to Privacy Overview without saving changes.

Who Can Find Me in Search and See My Public Search Results

You can allow **everyone** on Facebook to find you in search results or select **restricted** settings to allow only certain people from inside your networks to find you in search results. Your friends can always find you in search results.

MIT

Network Info	
Members	22,504
Friends	11
Type	College
Location	Cambridge, MA

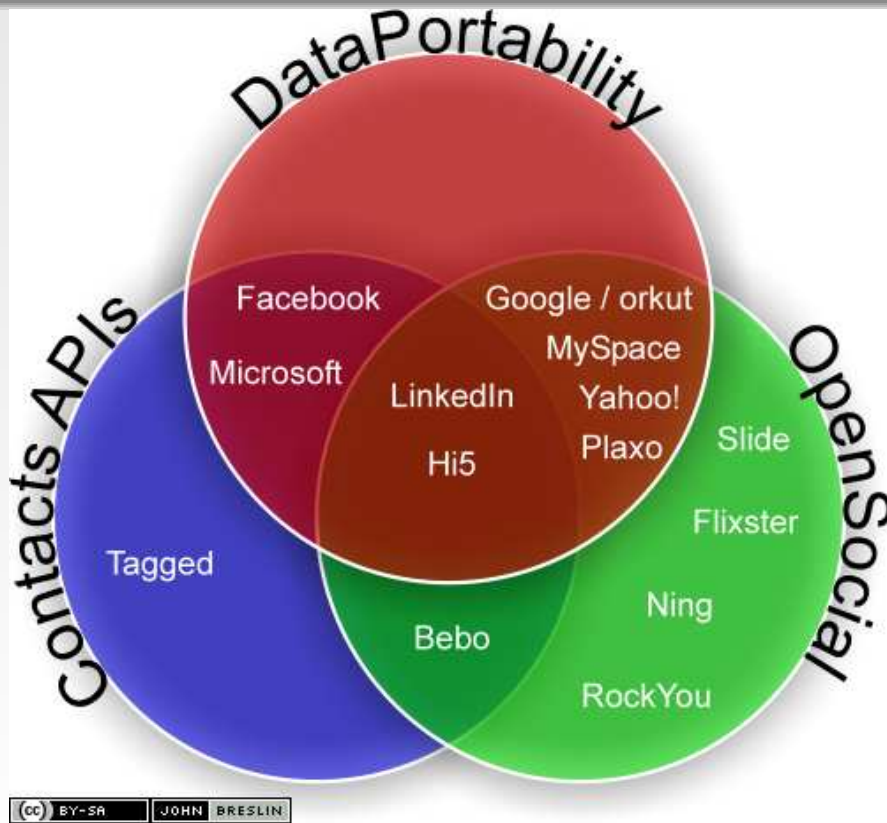
members list, or you can to find you in search

Which Facebook users can find me in search?

Some of my networks and all my friends

- ☒ Yahoo
- ☒ MIT
- ☒ Carnegie Mellon
- ☒ Silicon Valley, CA

Time of Openness



- 16 -



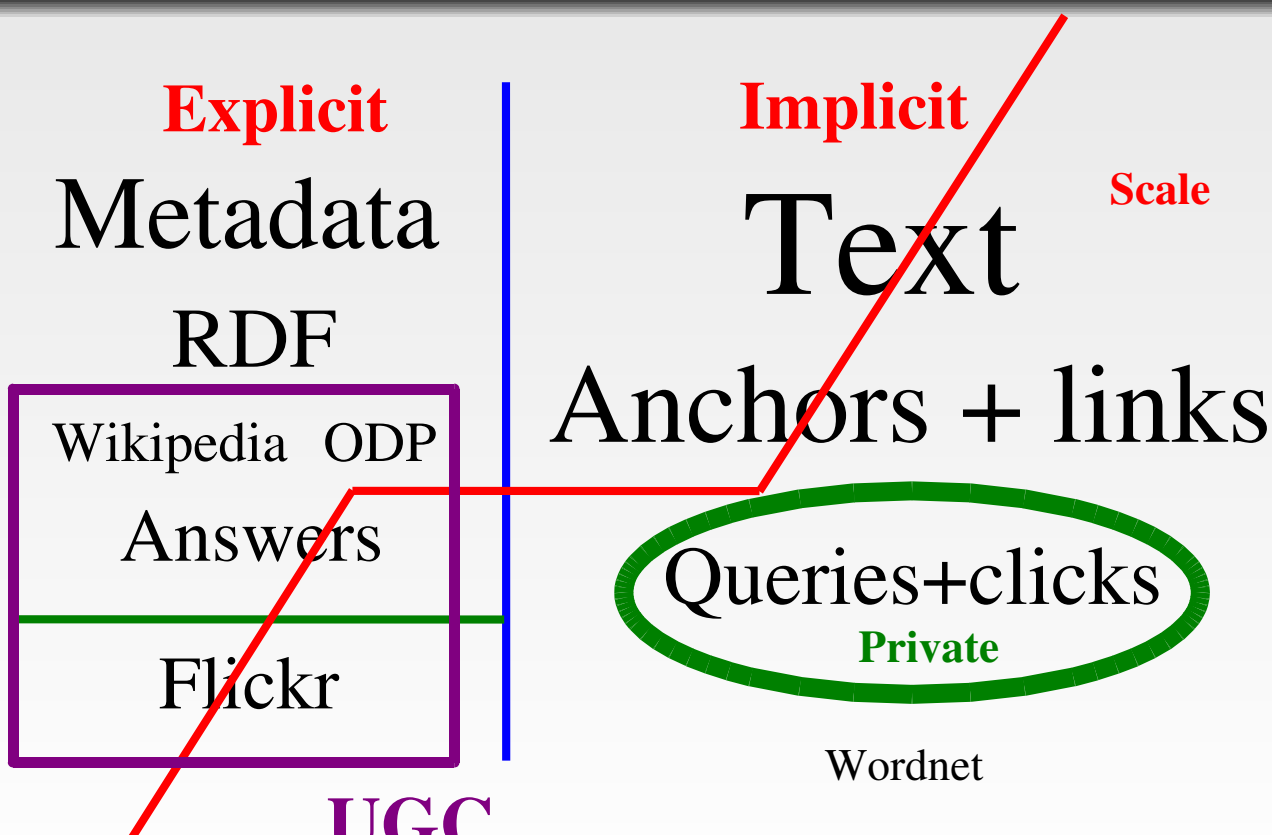
Semantic Sources

Semantic Sources in the Web

- Intrinsically Collaborative
- Explicit or Implicit
- Taxonomies vs. Folksonomies
- Different Size and Growth
- Diversity of Quality
- Public or Private

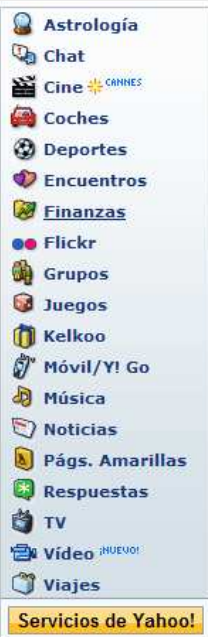
- 19 -

Examples



User Generated Content at Yahoo!

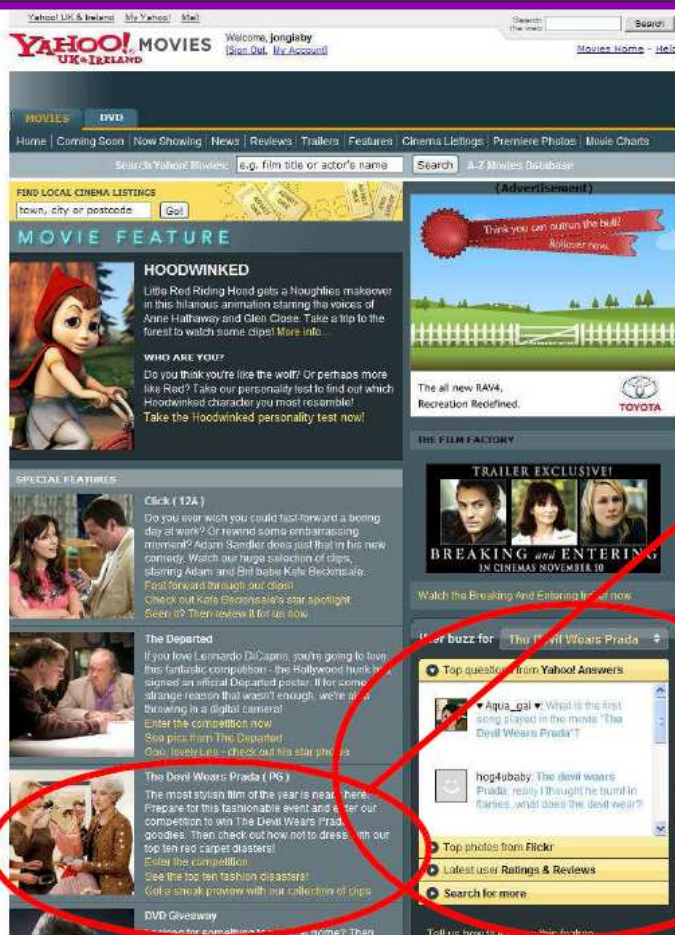
Social properties had 115M unique visitors worldwide, 56M “under 35”.



- **Yahoo! Grups** 8 million groups, 1 in 10 Internet users
- **Del.icio.us** 2 million users
- **Flickr** 1 million photos uploaded daily
- **Yahoo! Answers** 90M unique users, 250M answers
- **Messenger** 85M unique users

(2007 data)

- 21 -



Yahoo! Research

“One-way” Content

Film Clips
Competition
Critics
Picture Gallery

Community Content

User's photos
User's reviews
User knowledge

The Wisdom of Crowds

- James Surowiecki, a ***New Yorker*** columnist, published this book in 2004
 - “Under the **right** circumstances, groups are remarkably intelligent”
- Importance of diversity, independence and decentralization

Aggregating data

“large groups of people are smarter than an elite few, no matter how brilliant—they are better at solving problems, fostering innovation, coming to wise decisions, even predicting the future”.

- 23 -

Tags / jaguar / clusters

SEARCH

(Or, try an [advanced search](#).)



[car](#), [cars](#), [auto](#), [ettype](#), [automobile](#), [classic](#),
[vintage](#), [autoshow](#), [red](#), [show](#)

→ [See more in this cluster...](#)



[zoo](#), [animal](#), [cat](#), [animals](#), [bigcat](#), [seattle](#),
[woodlandparkzoo](#), [sleep](#), [edinburgh](#), [caged](#)

→ [See more in this cluster...](#)



[guitar](#), [fender](#)

→ [See more in this cluster...](#)



[aircraft](#), [raf](#)

→ [See more in this cluster...](#)

These are the *most recent* photos tagged with [jaguar](#): [See more...](#)



The Wisdom of Crowds

- Crucial for Search Ranking
- Text: Web Writers & Editors
 - not only for the Web!
- Links: Web Publishers
- Tags: Web Taggers
- Queries: All Web Users!
 - Queries and actions (or no action!)

- 27 -



Metadata: Microformats

Microformats

- microformats.org
- Originated by Tantek Celik and others
- Agreements on the way to encode certain kinds metadata in HTML
 - Reuse of semantic-bearing HTML elements
 - Based on existing standards
 - Community process
 - Persons, events, listings etc. but also syntactic metadata: licenses, tags
- Microformats have no shared syntax
 - Each microformat has a separate syntax tailored to the vocabulary
- Microformats are not ontologies
 - No formal descriptions of schema, only text
 - Limited reuse, extensibility of schemas
 - No datatypes
- No namespaces, unique identifiers (URIs)
 - no interlinking
 - mapping between instances is required
- Relationship to page context is unclear
- Widely used in millions of documents
 - User-generated as well as automatically generated

- 31 -

Example: tags and machine tags

flickr © 2007


Signed in as [pmika](#) | [Help](#) | [Sign Out](#)

[Home](#) [You](#) [Organize](#) [Contacts](#) [Groups](#) [Explore](#)

Search everyone's photos [Search](#)

James Morrison - (El Rey Theatre, 14th June 2007)

[ADD TO FAVORITES](#) [BLOG THIS](#)



Uploaded on June 15, 2007 by [eudaemonia](#)

eudaemonia's photostream

1,649 photos

[browse](#)

This photo also belongs to:

James Morrison, Charlotte Sometimes - (El Rey Theatre, 14th June 2007) (Set)

22 photos

Part of: [Concerts & Gigs](#) and [James Morrison](#)

[browse](#)

Tags

- James Morrison
- live music
- concert
- Los Angeles
- The El Rey
- [Hide machine tags \(1\)](#)
- [upcoming:event=189351](#)

Tags

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Tags

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- [Hide machine tags \(1\)](#)
- [upcoming:event=189351](#)

Additional Information

© All rights reserved

[Taken at James Morrison, Charlotte Sometimes](#)

- [Taken in Los Angeles, California \(map\)](#)
- [Taken on June 14, 2007](#)
- [Viewed once](#)

Metadata is out there

- Question:
 - Just how much data is out there?
 - What is the quality?
- Idea: bring metadata to the surface of search
- How does it work?
 - User enters query
 - Metadata is extracted dynamically
 - Entity reconciliation
 - Metadata is used to display
 - rich abstracts,
 - related pages
 - spatial, temporal visualization
- Microsearch prototype
 - Play at <http://www.yr-bcn.es/demos/microsearch/>

- 36 -

Example: ivan herman

The screenshot shows a Yahoo! Search Results page for the query 'ivan herman'. The page is annotated with several red boxes and arrows pointing to specific features:

- Geolocation:** A red box points to a map on the right side of the page, which shows a location in Amsterdam, Netherlands, labeled 'Herman / Ivan / Herman'.
- Rich abstract:** A red box points to the first search result, 'Ivan's blog', which includes a rich abstract.
- Related pages based on metadata:** A red box points to the 'Related pages' section, which lists several related pages based on the metadata of the search results.
- Events from personal calendar, Conferences, and bio from LinkedIn:** A red box points to a calendar view at the bottom of the page, which displays events from a personal calendar, conferences, and bio from LinkedIn.

Example: peter site:flickr.com

Search Results

Persons: 74 Events: 0 Unfinished: 909 | 1 - 10 of about 48209 for peter site:flickr.com - 10 sec. (About this page)

- Flickr peter-noster**
Name: Peter Schneider
Address: MAnster, Germany
Note: love the movies - I mean I really love them. Film collection: dvd peter-noster.de/
Flickr is almost certainly the best online photo management and sharing ... Testimonials:
peter-noster doesn't have any testimonials yet. You ...
<http://www.flickr.com/people/peter-noster/> - 24k - Cached
- Flickr peter bowers**
Name: Peter Bowers
Address: Toronto, Canada
Note: you can see a picture of me here:
www.flickr.com/photos/pmorgan/5043046/in/photostream/ and here:
www.flickr.com/photos/pmorgan/44711679/ Nikon D200 Sigma 10-20 mm (this is the wide-angle lens that I take most of my landscape shots with) Nikon Lenses: 20mm f/2.8 50mm f/1.8 85mm f/1.8 35-70mm f/2.8 80-200 f/2.8 Tamron 90mm f/2.8 Macro
Flickr is almost certainly the best online photo management and sharing ...
www.flickr.com/photos/pmorgan/44711679/ Nikon D200 ...
http://www.flickr.com/people/mr_fabulous/ - 33k - Cached
- Flickr Photos from Peter Ellis**
Name: Peter Ellis
Flickr is almost certainly the best online photo management and sharing ... Explore Page Last 7 Days Interesting Calendar A Year Ago Today World Map Camera ...
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/pellis/> - 25k - Cached
- Flickr Peter Kaminski**
Name: Peter Kaminski
Address: San Francisco, California, USA
Note: I'm a friendly and helpful entrepreneur and technologist who lives between San Francisco and Silicon Valley. You may use my photos and images for just about anything, as long as you credit me for the original. The fancy way to say that is that it's licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution license. If you can give me credit for the photo somehow, you don't even have to ask permission, just go ahead and use it. I do love to hear where my photos get to, though; if you can, drop me a line here, or at kaminski@istori.com, or to: Peter Kaminski 655 High Street Palo Alto, California 94301 USA
Flickr is almost certainly the best online photo management and sharing ... Peter Kaminski: 655 High Street Palo Alto, California 94301 USA
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/pkaminski/> - 33k - Cached

Find: native Next Previous Highlight all Match case

Flickr users named "Peter" by geography

Example: san francisco conference

Search Results

Persons: 20 Events: 135 Unfinished: 1031 | 1 - 10 of about 2725643 for san francisco conference - 10 sec. (About this page)

- San Francisco Conference -- Encyclopaedia Britannica**
Name: Robert McHenry
San Francisco Conference: (April 25-June 26, 1945), international meeting that ... Stalin selected San Francisco as the site of a conference to take place ...
<http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-9065303/San-Francisco-Conference> - 57k - Cached
- Oracle OpenWorld - San Francisco**
OpenWorld is the premier Oracle event for business decision-makers, IT ... | Worldwide PRODUCTS AND SERVICES INDUSTRIES SUPPORT PARTNERS COMMUNITIES ABOUT ...
<http://www.oracle.com/openworld/sanfrancisco/conference/index.html> - 36k - Cached
- adtech Interactive Media Conference at San Francisco**
adtech Interactive Media Conference hosted in San Francisco ... Conference: Expo Hall: Tuesday, April 15, Wednesday, April 16, Thursday, April 17 ...
<http://www.ad-tech.com/st/> - 14k - Cached
- Only In San Francisco - The Official Visitors Site for San Francisco**
Only in San Francisco is The Official Visitors Site for San Francisco ... through the square, and you'll see San Francisco in all its melting-pot glory ...
<http://onlysf.visitor.org/> - 53k - Cached
- Gilbane San Francisco 2008**
Gilbane Content Management Technologies conference at the Palace Hotel San Francisco, June 18 - 20, 2008 information ... Conference Events: Gilbane San ...
<http://gilbanesf.com/> - 12k - Cached
- South San Francisco Conference Center**
Choice for your next product launch, conference, convention, trade show, seminar, reception or banquet.
<http://www.ssfconf.com/> - 14k - Cached
- 5th Annual Conference on Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology**
Hilton San Francisco, San Francisco, CA Conference Dates: May ...

Conferences in San Francisco by date

Example: greater st. peter

The screenshot shows a Yahoo! Search Results page for the query 'greater st. peter'. The top result is 'Greater St. Peter @ River's Edge'. The metadata displayed includes: Name: Senior Pastor: Isaiah J. Waddy, M. DIV., Address: 9540 Fayetteville Road, Jonesboro, GA, and Phone: tel:+1-770-210-4100. There are links to 'Add to your AddressBook', 'Get details on Greater', and 'user reviews & editorial'. Annotations with red boxes and arrows point to these elements: 'Call phone number' points to the phone number, 'Save to address book' points to the 'Add to your AddressBook' link, and '(other actions)' points to the 'Get details on Greater' link. The page also shows a map of the United States with a red pin in the Southeast.

- 40 -

Lessons

- More metadata than we expected
 - 53% of unique queries have at least one metadata-enabled page in top 10 (n=7848)
- Performance is poor
 - Metadata needs to come from the index for performance
- Metacrap does exist
 - Users have to see metadata to spot mistakes in their markup, warn others
- RDF templating is hard
 - Adds extra complexity
- Scalability



Exploting Metadata: SearchMonkey

SearchMonkey



- Creating an ecosystem of publishers, developers and end-users
 - Motivating and helping publishers to implement semantic annotation
 - Providing tools for developers to create compelling applications
 - Focusing on end-user experience
- Rich abstracts as a first application
- Addressing the long tail of query and content production
- Standard Semantic Web technology
 - dataRSS = Atom + RDFa
 - Industry standard vocabularies

What is SearchMonkey?

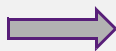


an open platform for using structured data to build more useful and relevant search results

Before

Topics for **Getting Pregnant** - BabyCenter

Find out how to boost your chances of **getting pregnant**, what you can do if you're having a problem conceiving, and more. ... do before you try to **get pregnant** ...
www.babycenter.com/getting-pregnant - 91k - [Cached](#)



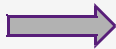
After

Topics for **Getting Pregnant** - BabyCenter


 **Tools**
Before you Try
Active Trying
Having Trouble
BabyCenter's getting pregnant tools and information can boost your chances of conception by helping you chart your cycle, read your cervical mucus, and pinpoint ovulation.
www.babycenter.com/getting-pregnant - 76k - [Cached](#)

WebMD **Allergies** Health Center - Find allergy information and latest ...

Information and articles on the diagnosis, symptoms, treatment, and the prevention of **allergies**.
www.webmd.com/diseases_and_conditions/allergies.htm - 132k - [Cached](#)



WebMD **Allergies** Health Center - Find allergy information and latest ...

 **Overview**
Symptoms
Diagnosis
Treatment
Allergies are an abnormal response of the immune system. People who have allergies have an immune system that reacts to a usually harmless substance in the environment. This substance (pollen, mold, dander, etc.) is called an allergen.
www.webmd.com/allergies - 111k - [Cached](#)

Italy Travel Guide and Travel Information - Lonely Planet

Lonely Planet **Italy** includes information on events, attractions, activities, and transportation for the independent traveler.
www.lonelyplanet.com/worldguide/destinations/europe/italy - 57k - [Cached](#)



Italy Travel Guide: Overview - Lonely Planet WorldGuide

 **Overview**
Money & Costs
Itineraries
Sights
When to go **Italy** is at its best in spring (April-May) and autumn (October-November). During these seasons, the scenery is beautiful, the temperatures are pleasant and are relatively few crowds.
www.lonelyplanet.com/worldguide/destinations/europe/italy - 46k - [Cached](#)

- 44 -

Enhanced Result



Web | [Images](#) | [Video](#) | [Local](#) | [Shopping](#) | [more](#) ▼


art of pizza chicago [Options](#) ▼

YAHOO!

1,000,000 for art of pizza chicago (About this page) - 0.23 sec.

SPONSOR RESULTS

The Art of Pizza - Lakeview - Chicago, IL 60657

 [Reviews](#)
[Photos](#)
[Send to a friend](#)
[Send to Phone](#)

Ratings: ★★★★★ (173)
Address: 3033 N Ashland Ave, Chicago, IL
Phone: (773) 327-5600
Price Range: \$

www.acmreviews.com/biz/the-art-of-pizza-chicago - 145k - [Cached](#)

deep
links

image

name/value
pairs or
abstract



[Web](#) | [Images](#) | [Video](#) | [Local](#) | [Shopping](#) | [more](#) ▼


[Dr. Seuss Horton Hears a Who Movie](#) **Search** [Options](#) ▼

[Yahoo!](#) | [My Yahoo!](#) | [Mail](#) | Welcome, [Guest](#) | [Sign In](#) | [Help](#)

1 - 10 of about 17,800,000 for [Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who Movie](#) ([About this page](#)) - 0.33 sec.

[Reviews](#) ★★★★★ (77) | [Cast & Crew](#) | [Netflix](#)

Horton Hears a Who! (2008) - Netflix



Add

★★☆☆☆

Dr Seuss's beloved story about an elephant that discovers a tiny society existing on a spot of dust springs to life in this vibrant animated adaptation from Academy Award-winning animator Chuck Jones. Agreeing to protect **Who**-ville from harm, **Horton** the elephant inspires the **Whos** to make their presence known among all the inhabitants of the jungle and champion the idea that "a person is a person, no matter how small."

Enjoyed By Members Who Enjoyed

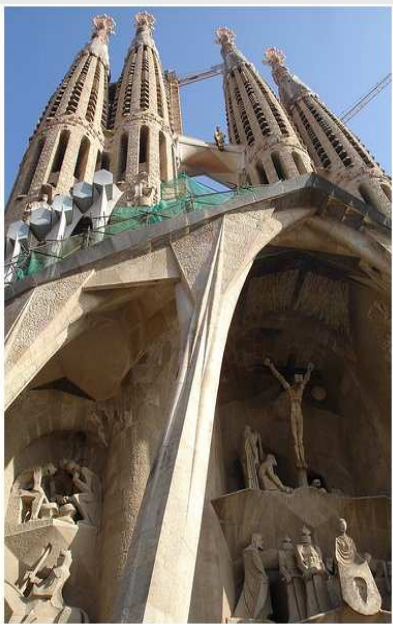
- [The Muppet Show: Season 2 \(4-Disc Series\)](#)
- [101 Dalmatians \(Animated\)](#)
- [It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown](#)



UGC: Exploiting Flickr Tags

- Objective:
 - Deploy collective knowledge that exists within Social Media services (Flickr and Delicious)
- Approach:
 1. Use tag co-occurrence statistics for media annotation and retrieval
 2. Semantic analysis of large tag-spaces

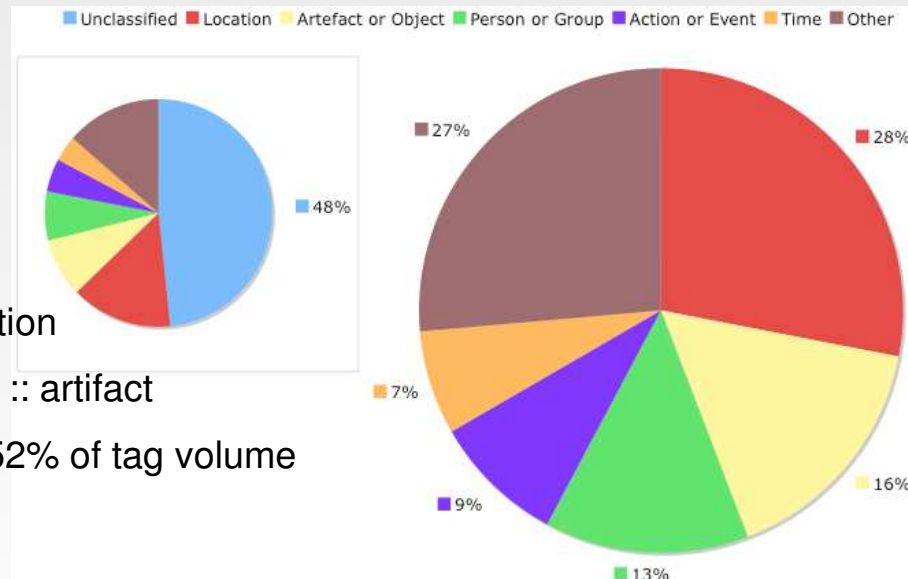
Tag Mining - Collective Knowledge



- Many users annotate photos of “La Sagrada Familia”:
 - Sagrada Familia, Barcelona
 - Sagrada Familia, Gaudi, architecture, church
 - church, Sagrada Familia
 - Sagrada Familia, Barcelona, Spain
- Derived collective knowledge:
 - Barcelona, Gaudi, church, architecture

Tag Mining - Semantics

- Assign tag semantics using WordNet broad categories



- Paris :: location
- Eiffel Tower :: artifact
- Coverage: 52% of tag volume

- 51 -

Tag Mining - Semantics

- Extend this mapping using patterns found in Wikipedia
 - Upperbound for coverage: 78.6% of the tag volume
 - Based on SVM approach
 - Features: Wikipedia templates and categories
 - Training data: Wikipedia entries found in WordNet
 - Extended coverage: 68% of the tag volume
 - Mapping from Wikipedia pages to tags
 - Reduces ambiguity in the classification

Understanding tags

London Eye



London Eye and Golden Jubilee Bridge seen from Westminister Bridge.

Tag list

london eye, thames,

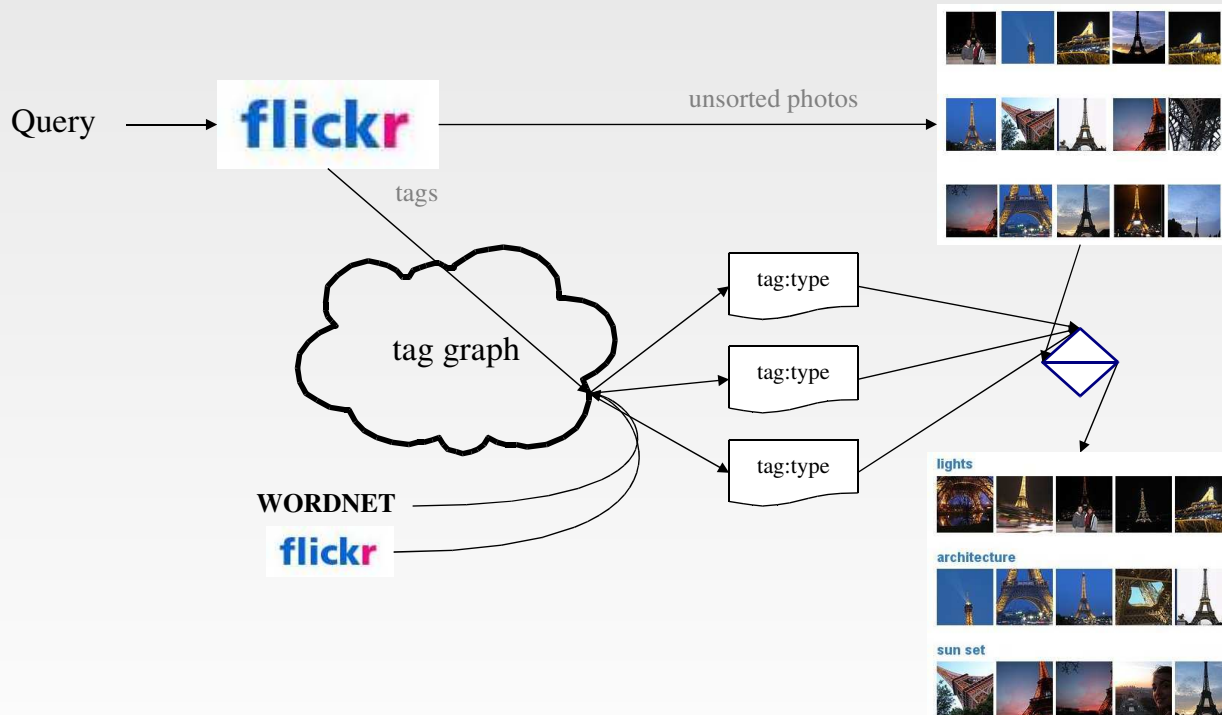
Suggested tags

- ☒ london
- ☒ england
- ☒ uk
- ☒ river
- ☐ eye
- ☒ south bank
- ☐ big ben
- ☐ night
- ☒ bridge
- ☐ 2006

Update annotation

- 61 -

Semantic Photo Search



YAHOO! REFERENCE

emergency landing

Search

emergency landing

emergency landing

[Overview](#) [Names](#) [Places](#) [Concepts](#) [Events](#) [Photos](#) [Queries](#) [News](#) [Answers](#) [Sites](#) [All related](#)

Photos related to "emergency landing"

What: [airplane](#) [fire](#) [aircraft](#) [helicopter](#) [sky](#) [crash](#) [accident](#) [flight](#) [aviation](#)Where: [california](#)When: [travel](#)

flickr

What

airplane



fire



aircraft



helicopter



Proxy: None 3

Media Search - Demo

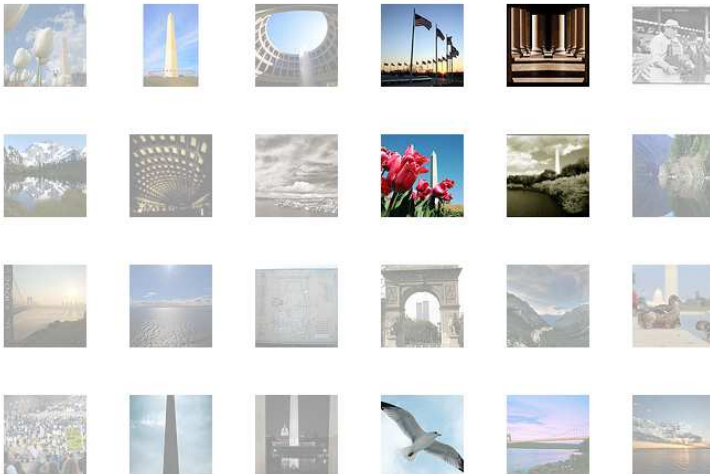
Search

photosearch

Showing results for [washington](#) . 36 results found. 1.24 seconds.[Tag Explorer](#) [Feedback](#) [Ambiguity](#)

Search assist has detected that you have provided an ambiguous query: washington.
You can disambiguate the results for this query by extending your search with: [dc](#) - or - [seattle](#)

Add the term 'dc' to the query



Title: Tulips in Washington



Tags: [flowers](#) [color](#) [monument](#) [tag3](#) [taggedout](#) [mall](#) [dc](#) [kiss](#) [tag2](#)
[tag1](#) [tulips](#) [washingtonmonument](#) [1on1](#) [toshio](#) [washingtondc](#)

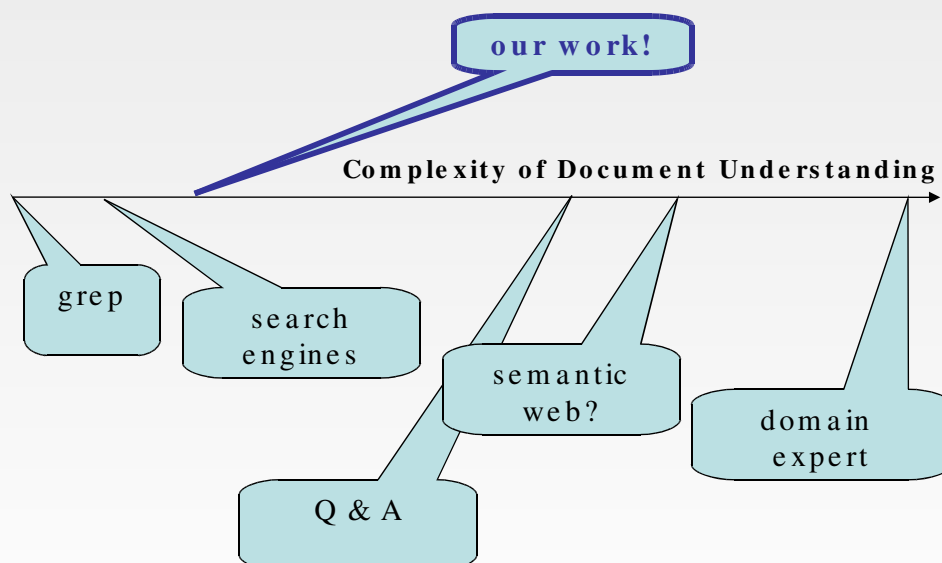
By * Toshio * on Flickr





Understanding Text

Document Understanding Cartoon



Extending metadata

Pablo Picasso was born in Málaga, Spain.

PER

LOC

LOC

E:PERSON

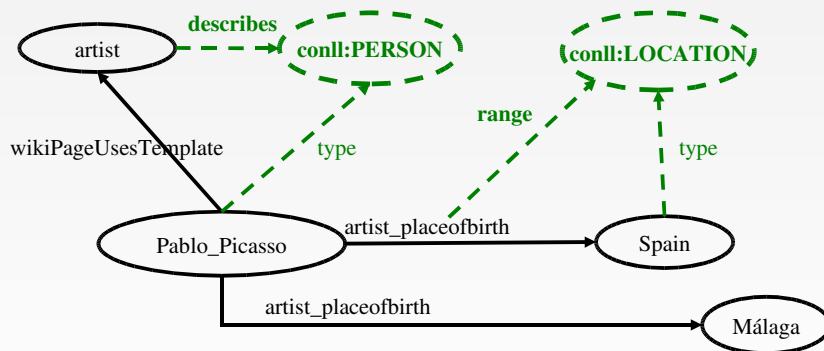
GPE:CITY GPE:COUNTRY

artist:name

artist:placeofbirth artist:placeofbirth

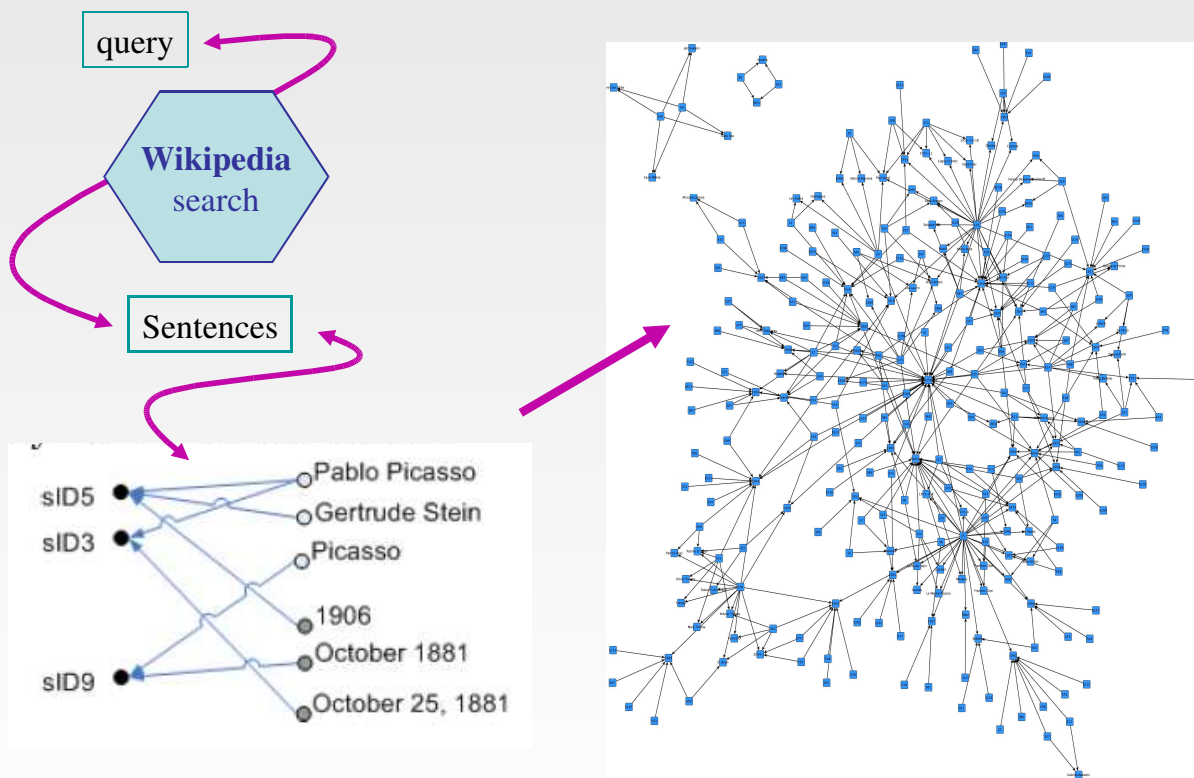


If most artists are persons, then let's assume all artists are persons.
If most places of birth are locations, then let's assume all are.

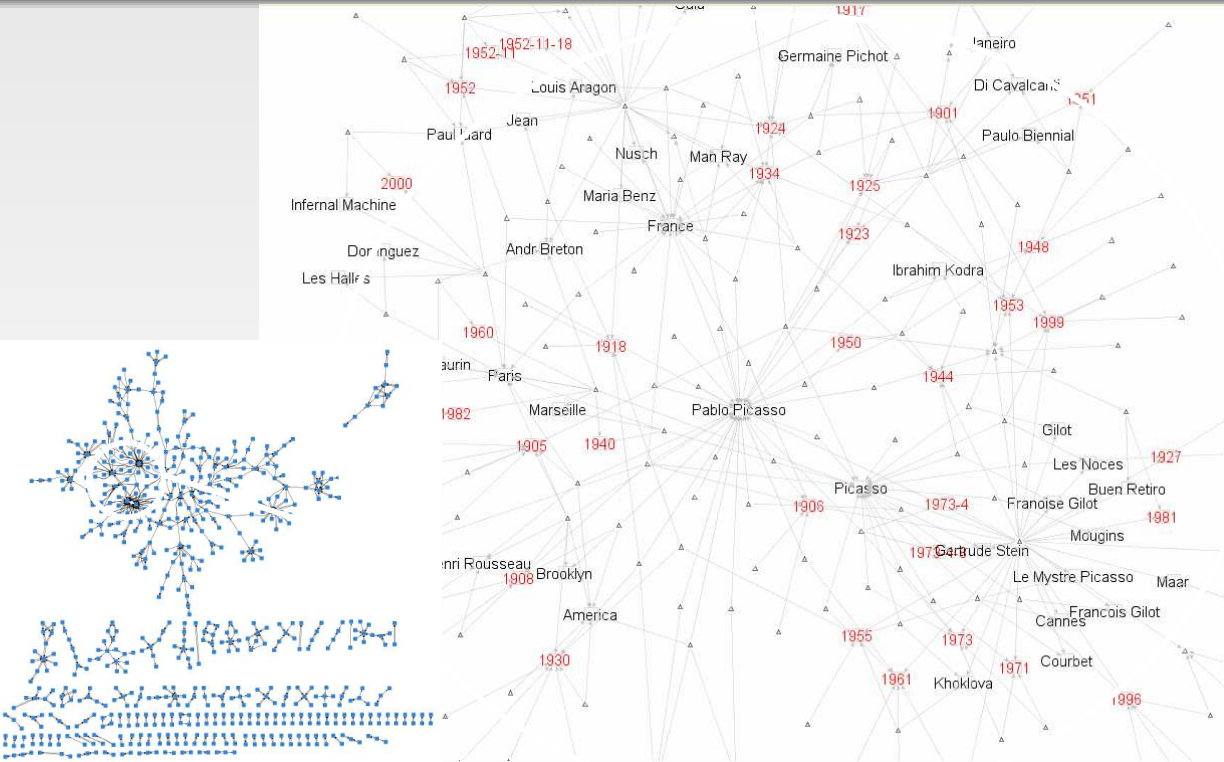


- 78 -

Entity Containment Graph



Example: Picasso



- 80 -

emergency landing

Overview Names Places Concepts Events Photos Queries News Answers Sites All related

Events related to "emergency landing"

Timeline

- January 31, 2000: Alaska Airlines Flight 261 plunged into the
- August 24 2001: Flight TS 236 took off from Toronto at 8.52 p.m. {
- 2006: On February 5, 2006 Nok Air 737-400 made an emergency
- June 12, 2006: A Boeing 777-200 en route London Heathrow-New

Events in the timeline

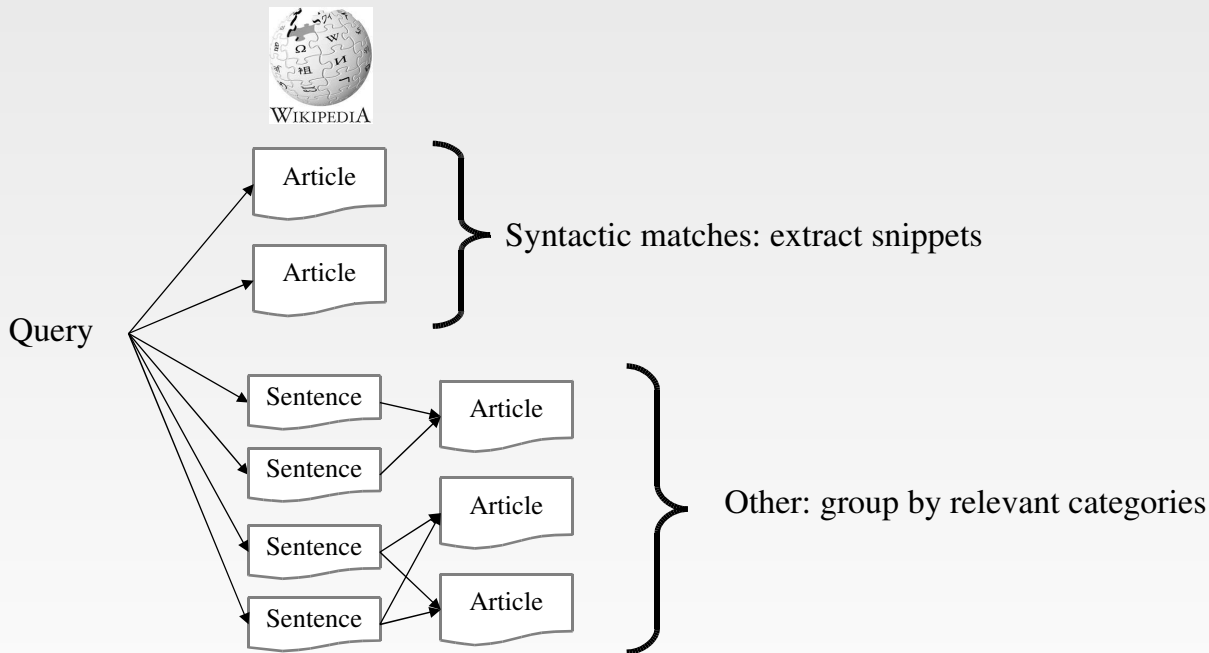
1943

- (From WRAF_Woodbridge) ""The airfield was constructed as an Emergency Landing Ground and was operational from 1943 . "
- (From WFort_Hertz) "In 1943 and 1944 the primary purpose of Fort Hertz was to gather intelligence and to cover an airstrip which served as an emergency landing ground for planes flying from India to China over the eastern end of the Himalayan Mountains . "
- (From WRAF_Foulsham) "Many aircraft made emergency landings at Foulsham , including USAAF B17 F `` Ruthie II '' , which made an emergency landing there in 1943 after an epic return flight for which co-pilot John C. Morgan was awarded the highest U.S. medal , the Medal of Honor . "

June 2, 1983

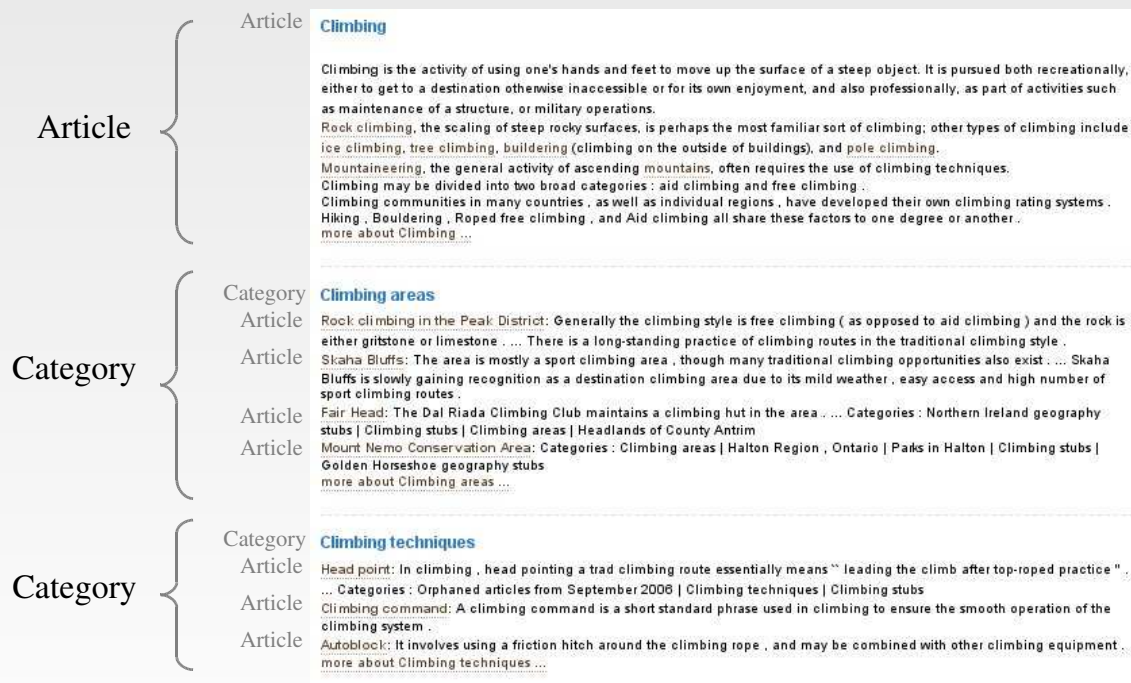
- (From WCincinnati/Northern_Kentucky_International_Airport) "On June 2, 1983 , Air Canada Flight 797 , DC-9 flying on Houston-Dallas-Toronto route , made an emergency landing at Cincinnati due to cabin fire . "
- (From WAir_Canada) "June 2, 1983 : Flight 797 McDonnell Douglas DC-9 had an electrical fire in the aft lavatory during flight , resulting in an emergency landing at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport . "
- (From WDallas-Fort_Worth_International_Airport) "On June 2, 1983 , Air Canada Flight 797 , which was flying on Houston-Dallas/Fort

Synthetic Document

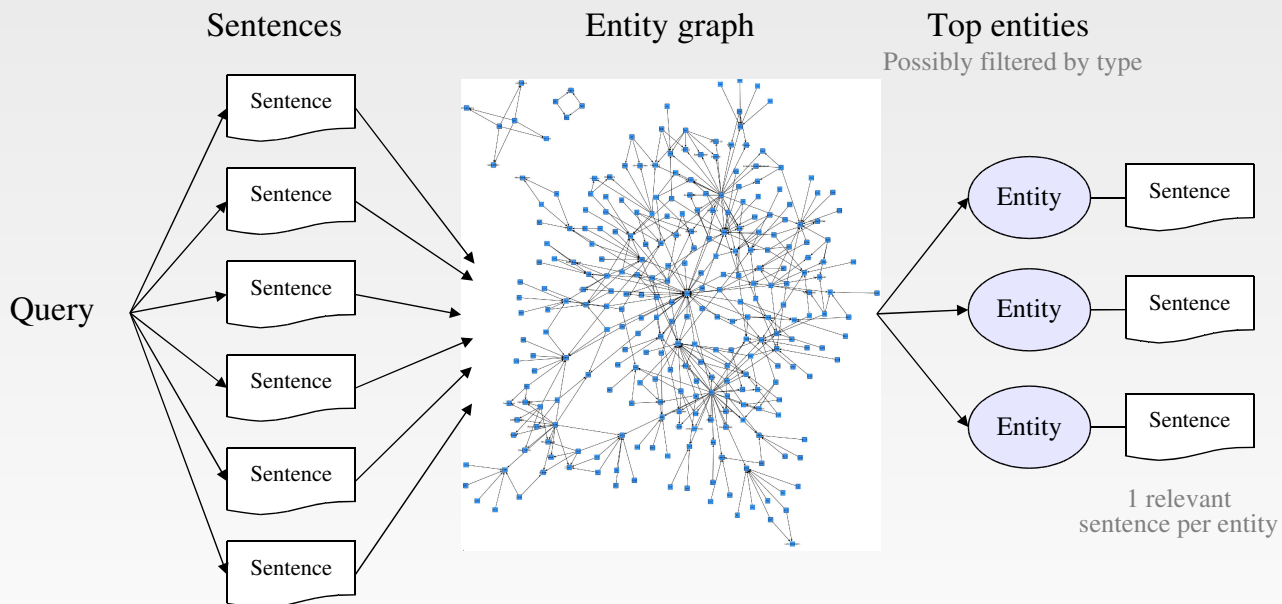


- 83 -

Synthetic Document



Related Entities Search



- 85 -

Screenshot of a web application interface for "emergency landing".

The interface includes a navigation bar with tabs: Overview, Names, Places, Concepts, Events, Photos, Queries, News, Answers, Sites, All related.

The main content area displays "Locations related to 'emergency landing'" with a map showing various locations. A purple box highlights the text "emergency landing" on the map.

Below the map, there are sections for "Town", "Country", and "Island", each with a list of related locations:

- Town**: Okinawa, Baghdad, Goose Bay, Los Angeles
- Country**: Cuba
- Island**: Hainan Island

On the right side, there is a list of related queries:

- (From W/Narita_International_Airport) "The airliner was able to make an emergency landing in Okinawa ."
- (From W/Philippine_Airlines_Flight_434) "The Boeing 747-283B , tail number EI-BWF , made an emergency landing in Naha Airport , Okinawa , one hour after the bomb exploded ."
- (From W/Oplan_Bojinka) "The Boeing 747-200 safely made an emergency landing in Naha , Okinawa ."

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Syntactic/Semantic Tagging

- Goals: Identify multiword expressions and entities, support generalization, coarse disambiguation
- Tagger: Average perceptron HMM (Collins, 2002) general purpose tagger: efficient (millions of features, hundreds of classes), fast (thousands of sentences/sec)
- State of the art: 3rd NIST Automatic Content Extraction Evaluation (ACE) 2007 (Surdeanu & Ciaramita, 2007)
- Tasks: PoS Tagging, supersense tagging (Ciaramita & Altun, 2006), named entity detection (CoNLL, BBN-WSJ, ACE, etc.)
- Research problems: robustness on Web data (domain adaptation), learning/evaluating from user-generated data (Mika et al., forthcoming)

- 87 -

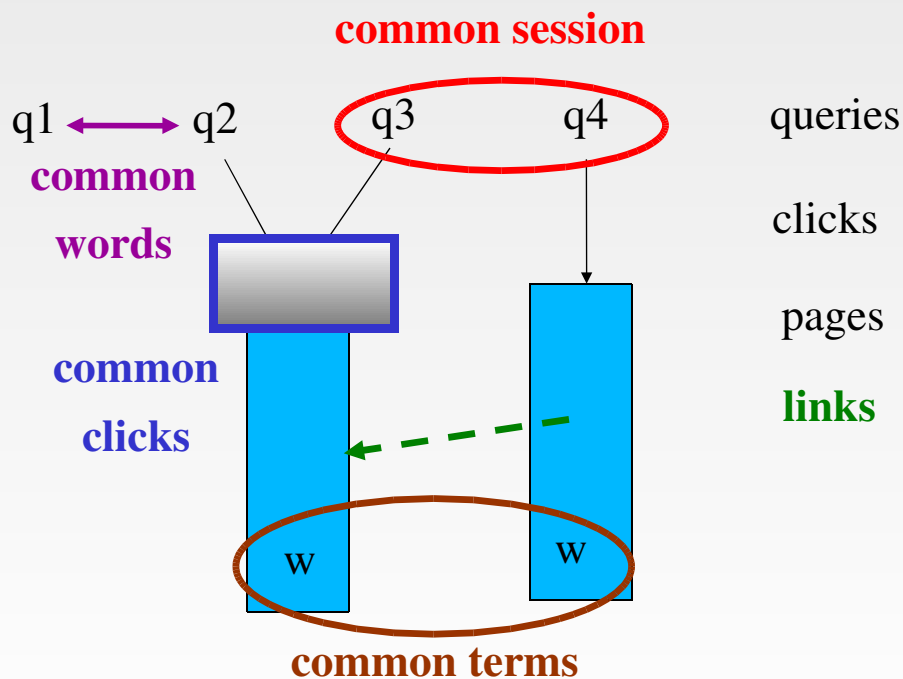
Parsing/SRL

- Goal: extract structured information at sentence level (beyond the bag of words/document-centric models)
- Dependency parsing:
 - Parser: Fast discriminative multilingual Shift/Reduce parsing (hundreds of sentences/sec) (Attardi, 2006); 2nd in Adaptation Task of CoNLL 2007 (Attardi et al., 2007)
- Semantic role labeling:
 - Joint parsing and SRL: 3rd best system at CoNLL 2008 (Forthcoming)
- Research problems: how can structured linguistic representations be used to improve search/ranking problems? (Surdeanu, Ciaramita & Zaragoza, ACL 2008)



Web Usage: Extracting Semantics from Queries

Relating Queries (Baeza-Yates, 2007)

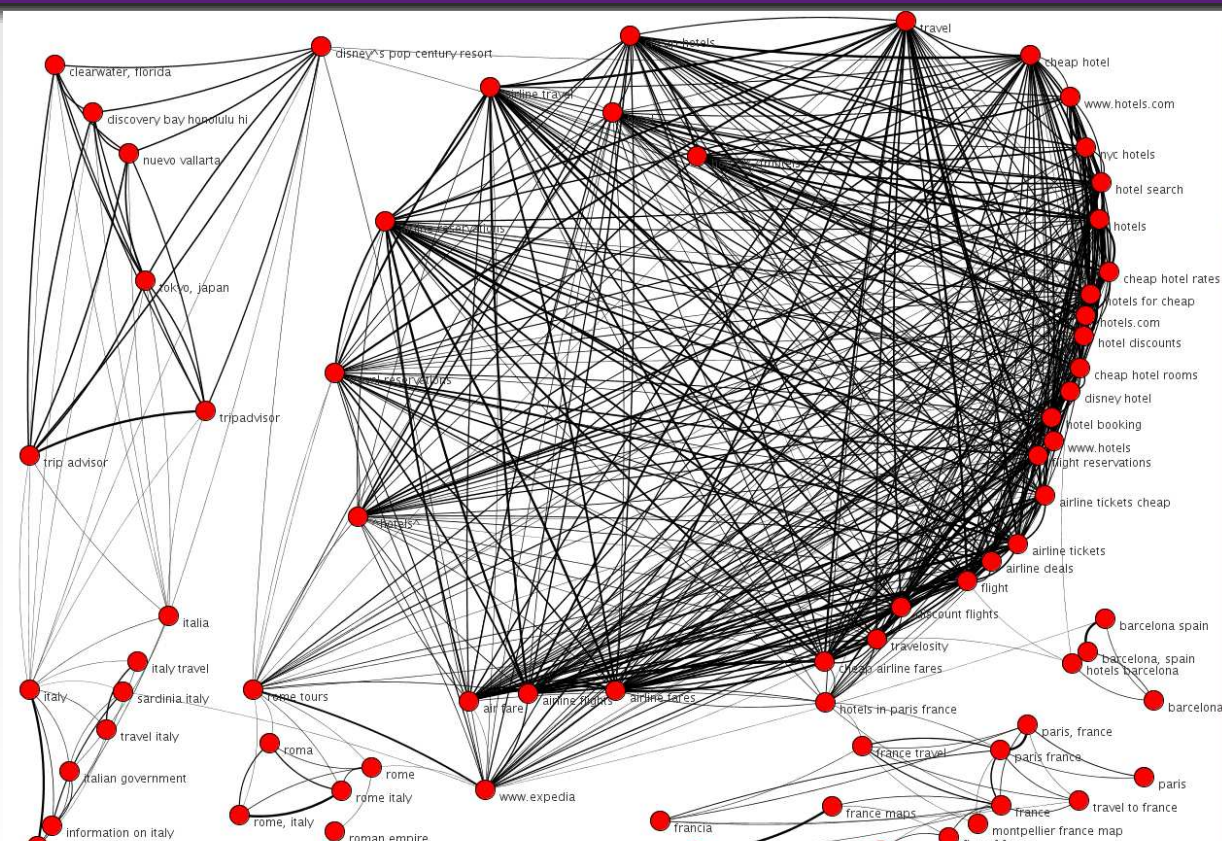


Qualitative Analysis

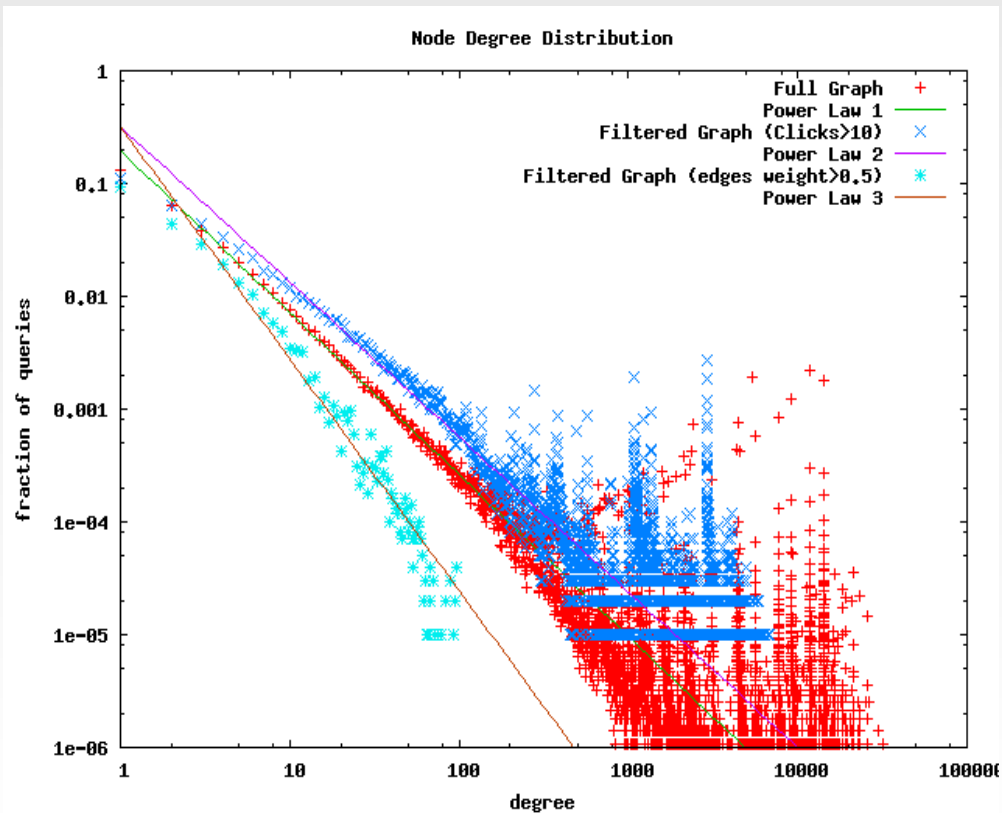
Graph	Strength	Sparsity	Noise
Word	Medium	High	Polysemy
Session	Medium	High	Physical sessions
Click	High	Medium	Multitopic pages Click spam
Link	Weak	Medium	Link spam
Term	Medium	Low	Term spam

- 108 -

Click Graph

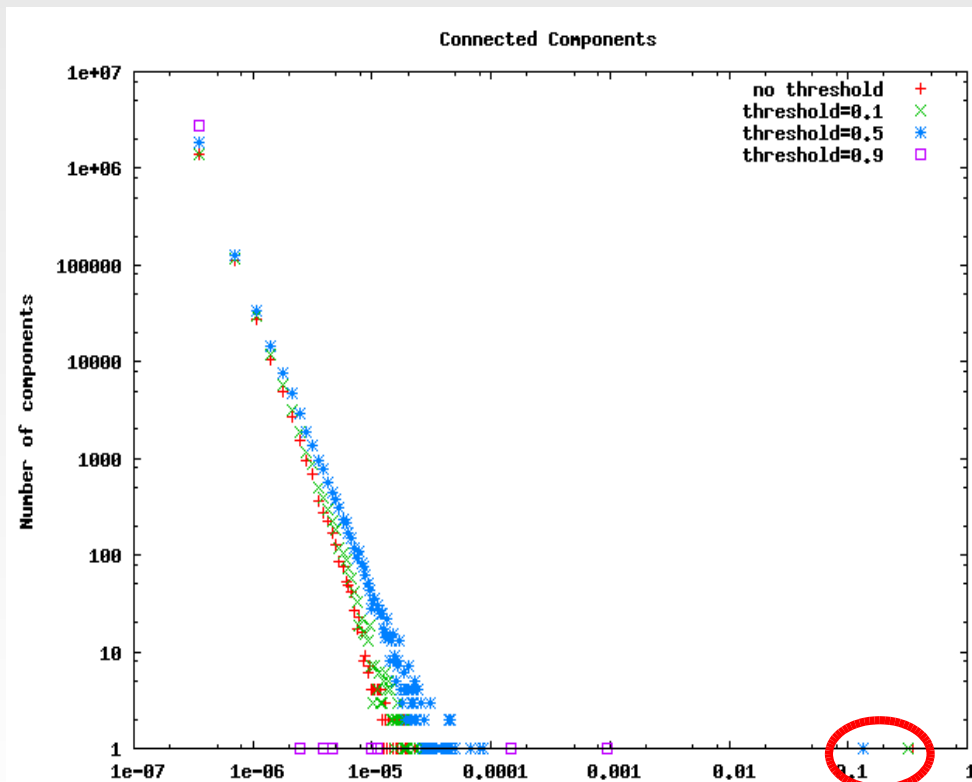


Node Degree Distribution

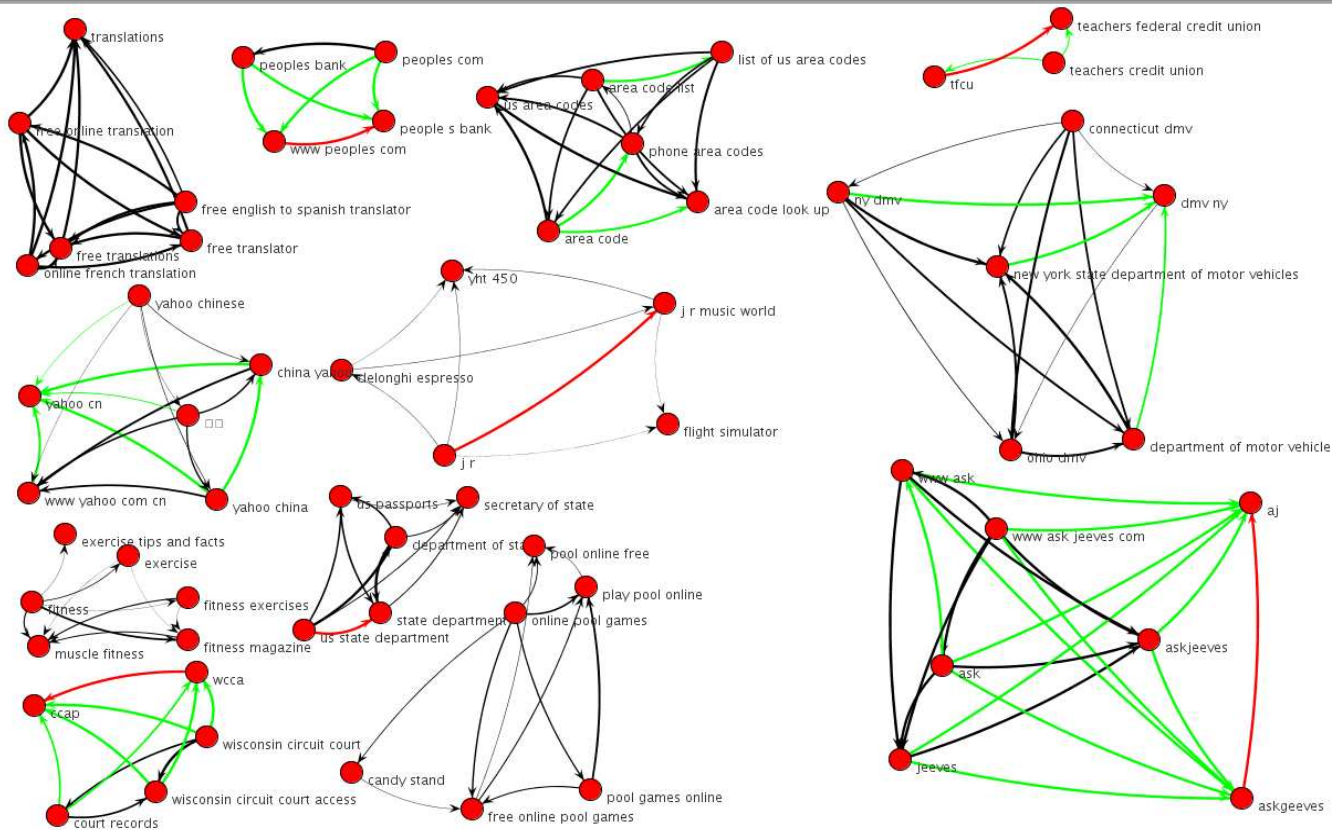


- 113 -

Connected Components



Implicit Knowledge? Webslang!



Evaluation: ODP Similarity

- A simple measure of similarity among queries using ODP categories
 - Define the similarity between two categories as the length of the longest shared path over the length of the longest path
 - Let c_1, \dots, c_k and c'_1, \dots, c'_k be the top k categories for two queries. Define the similarity ($@k$) between the two queries as $\max\{sim(c_i, c'_j) \mid i, j = 1, \dots, K\}$

ODP Similarity

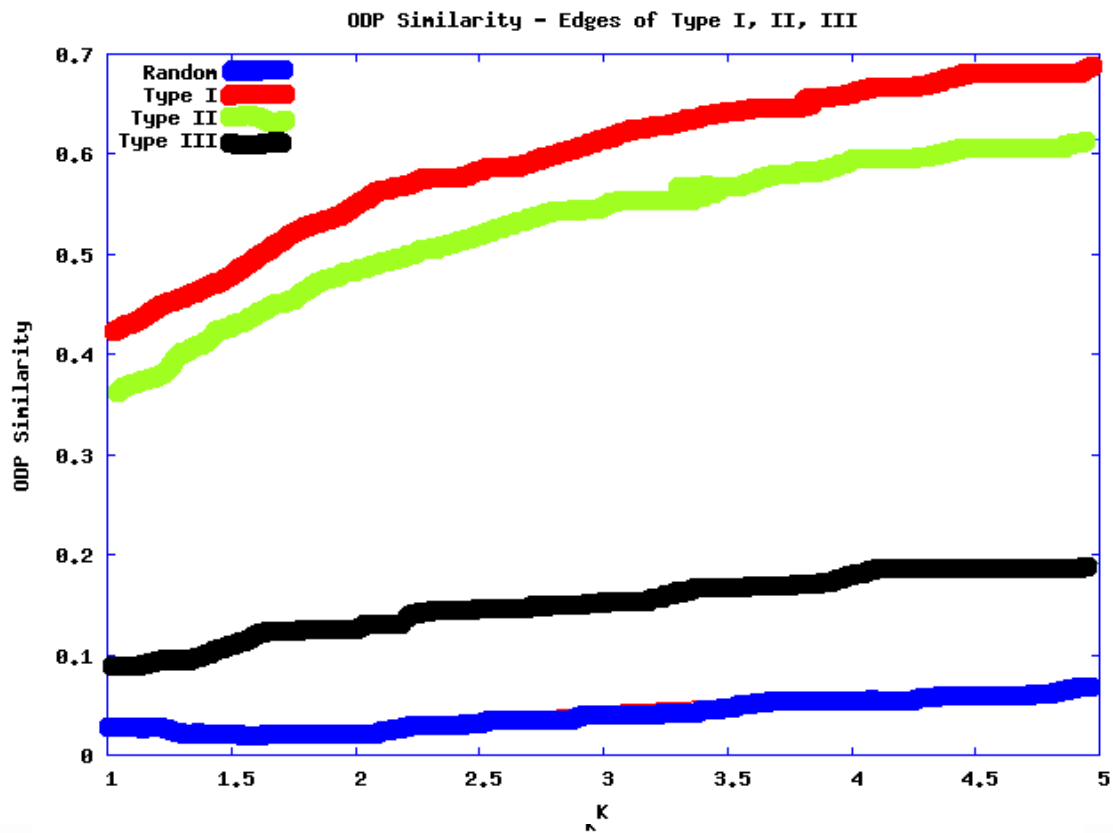
- Suppose you submit the queries “*Spain*” and “*Barcelona*” to ODP.
- The first category matches you get are:
 - Regional/ Europe/ Spain
 - Regional/ Europe/ Spain/ Autonomous Communities/ Catalonia/ Barcelona
- Similarity @1 is 1/2 because the longest shared path is “Regional/ Europe/ Spain” and the length of the longest is 6

- 119 -

Experimental Evaluation

- We evaluated a sample of 1,000 thousand edges for each kind of relation
- We also evaluated a sample of 1,000 random pairs of not adjacent queries (baseline)
- We studied the similarity as a function of k (the number of categories used)

Experimental Evaluation



- 121 -



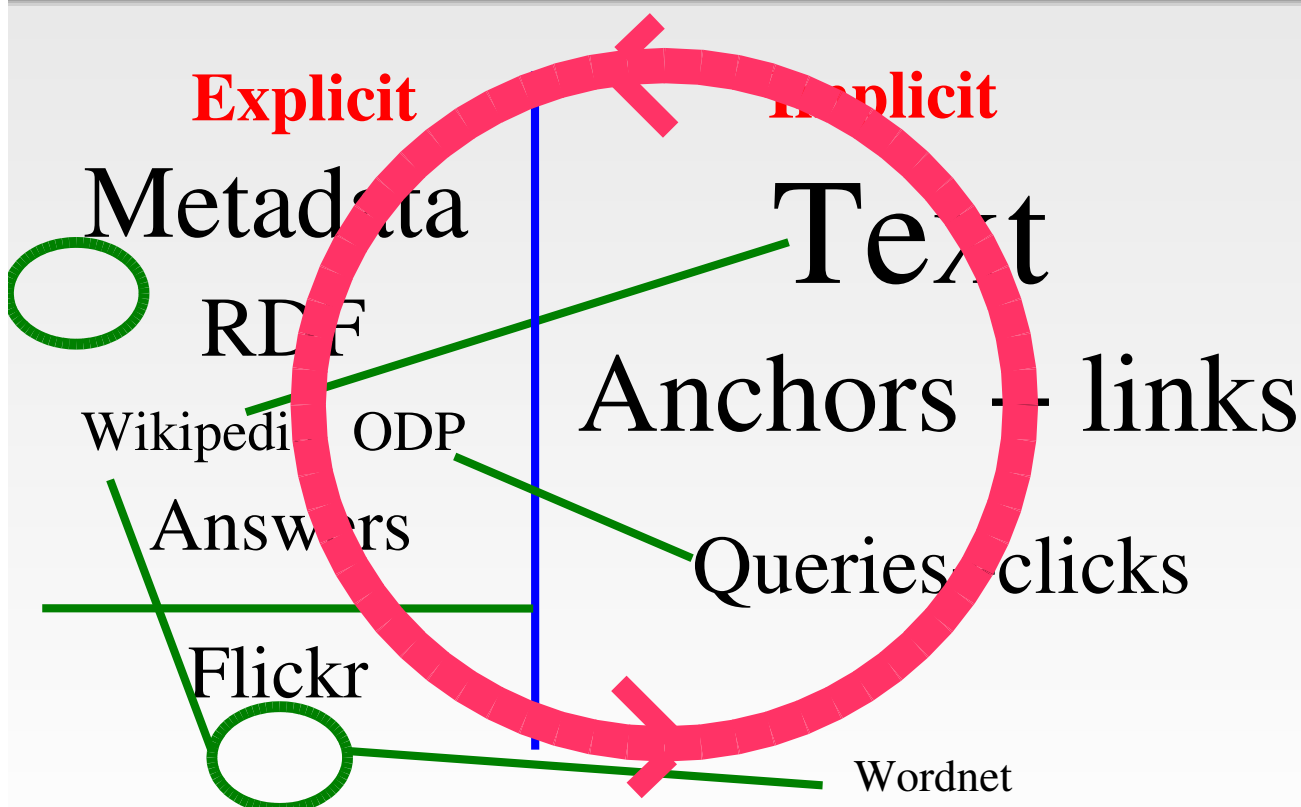
Final Remarks

Open Issues

- Explicit vs. implicit social networks
 - Any fundamental similarities?
- How to evaluate with (small) partial knowledge?
 - Data volume amplifies the problem
- User aggregation vs. personalization
 - Optimize common tasks
 - Move away from privacy issues

- 123 -

The Virtuous Cycle



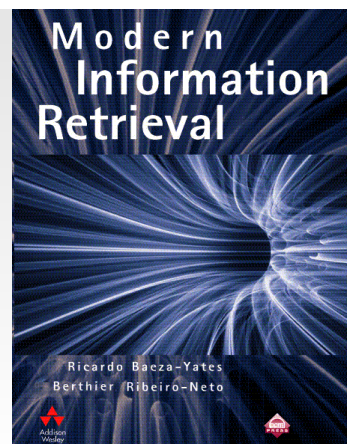
The Future: Web 3.0?

- We are at Web 2.0 beta
- People wants to get tasks done
 - Where I do go for a original holiday with 1,000 US\$?
- Take in account the context of the task



- 125 -

**Second edition
coming soon**



No Questions?
Contact: rbaeza@acm.org

Thanks to Massi Ciaramita, Peter Mika, Borkur Sigurbjornsson, Mihai Surdeanu, Andrew Tomkins, Roelof van Zwol, Hugo Zaragoza