



# Web Mining

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## Agenda

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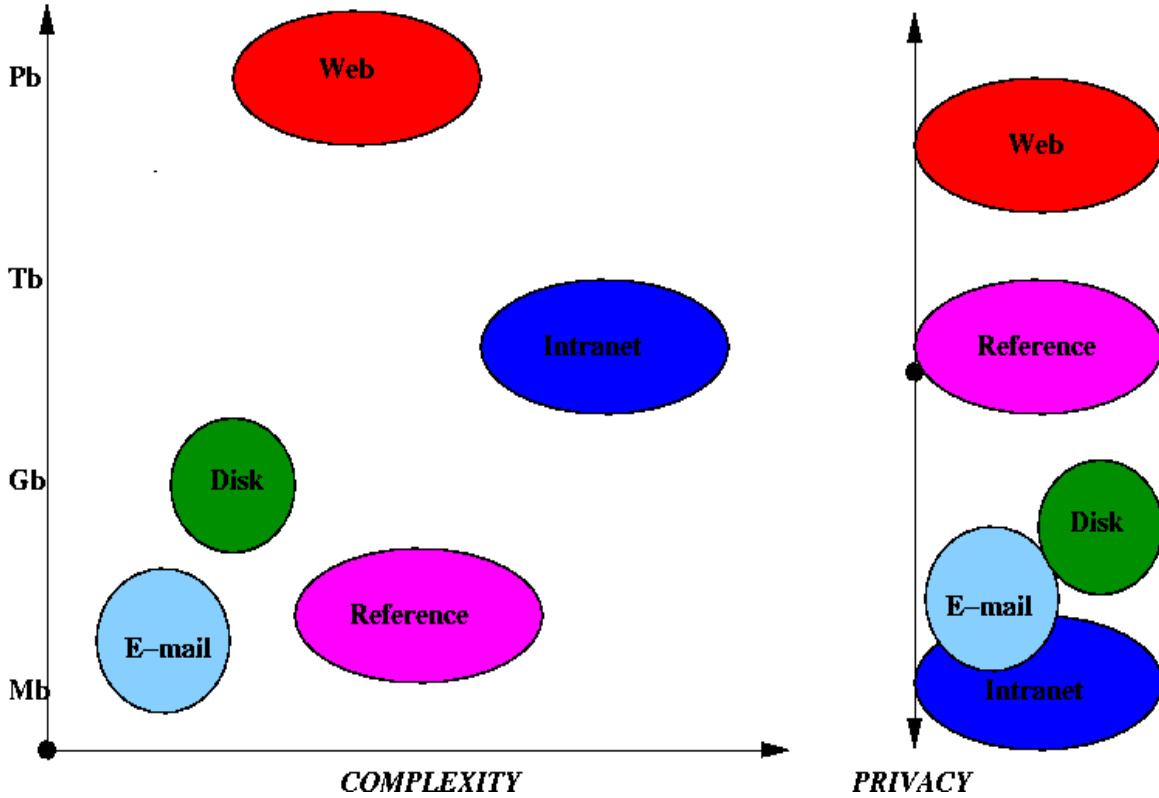
- Introduction
- Web Information Retrieval (Web IR)
- Web Mining
- Case Study: Query Mining
- Concluding Remarks



# Different Views on Data

VOLUME

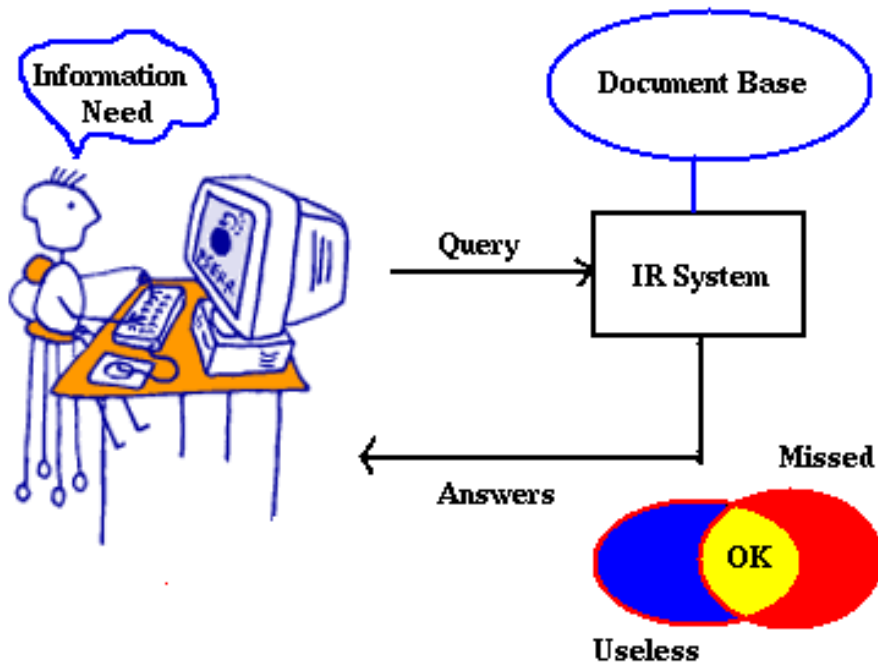
ADVERSARIAL



3



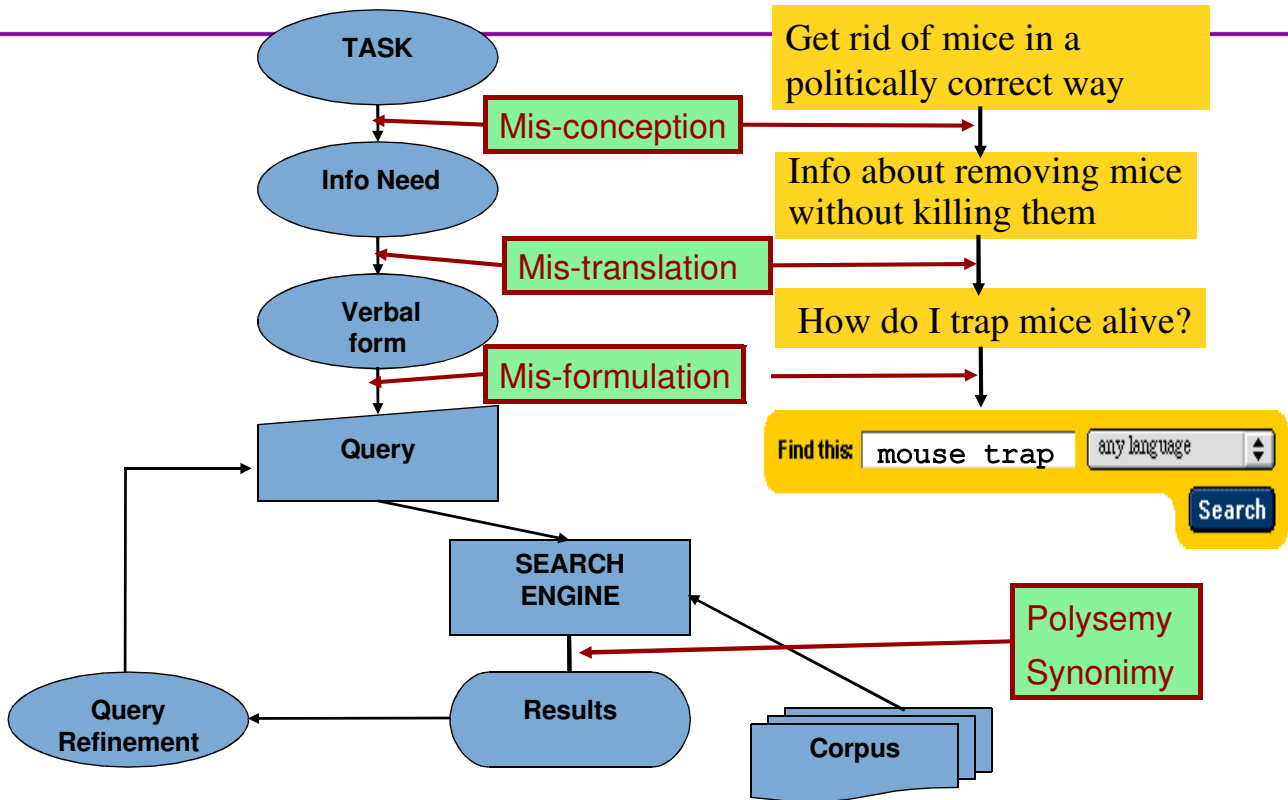
# The IR Problem



4



# The classic search model



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# Classic IR Goal

## – Classic relevance

- For each query  $Q$  and stored document  $D$  in a given corpus assume there exists relevance  $\text{Score}(Q, D)$ 
  - Score is average over users  $U$  and contexts  $C$
- Optimize  $\text{Score}(Q, D)$  as opposed to  $\text{Score}(Q, D, U, C)$
- That is, usually:
  - Context ignored
  - Individuals ignored
  - Corpus predetermined

Bad assumptions  
in the web context

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# The Notion of Relevance

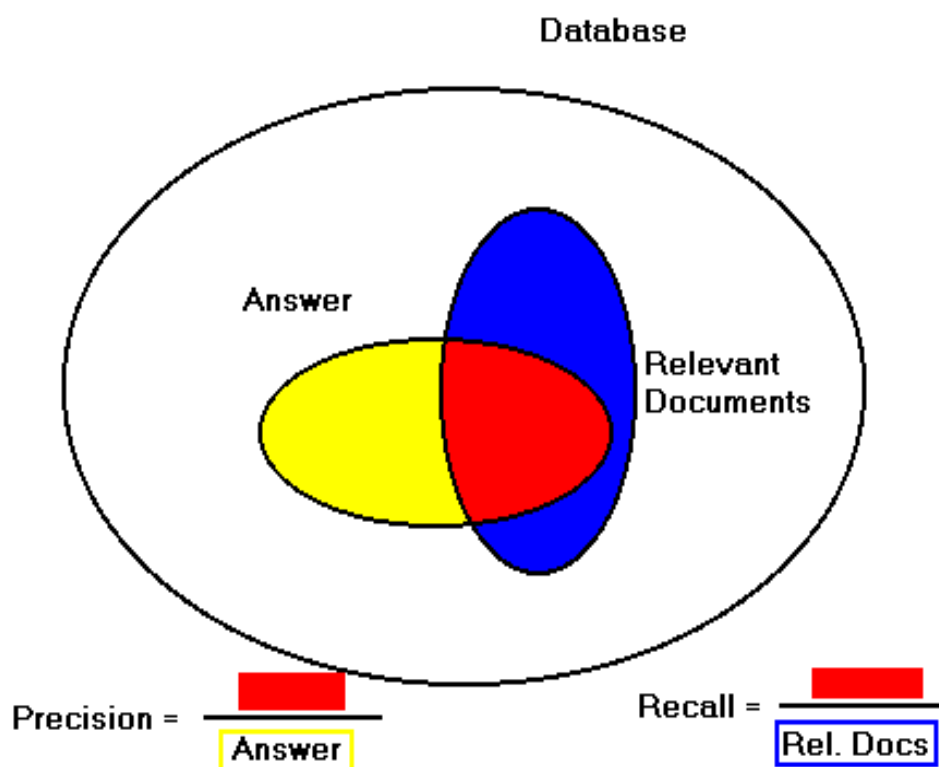
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- Data retrieval: semantics tied to syntax
- Information retrieval: ambiguous semantics
- Relevance:
  - Depends on the user
  - Depends on the context (task, time, etc)
  - Corollary: The Perfect IR System  
**does not exist**



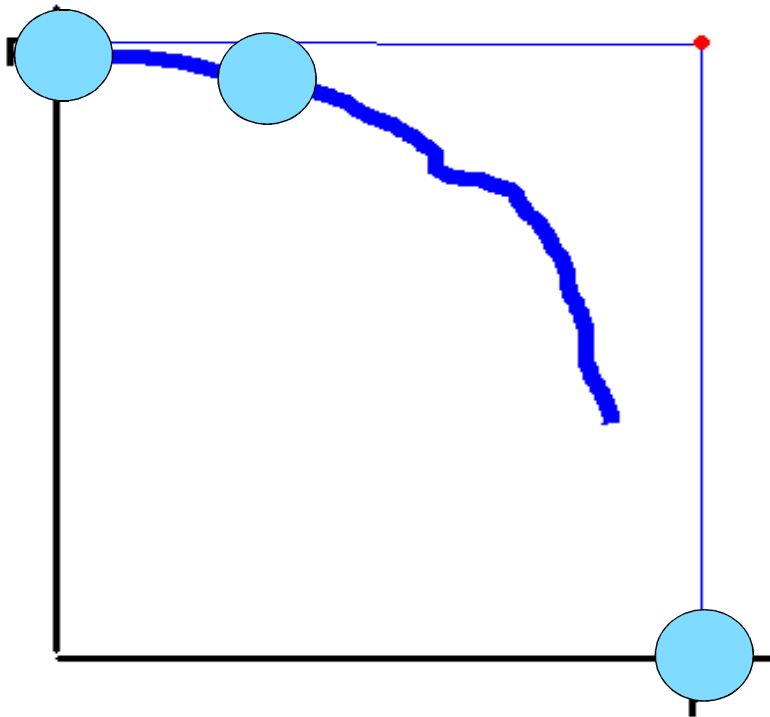
## Evaluation: First Quality, next Efficiency

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# Evaluation: Comparing Systems



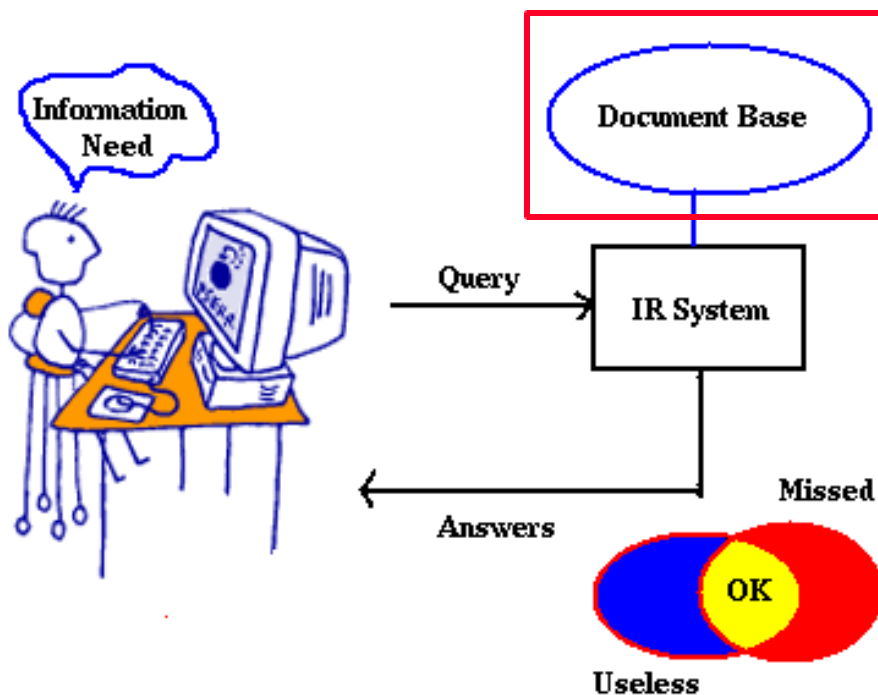
p-r normalized graph  
(11 recall levels)

**TREC:**

Collection  
+  
Queries  
+  
Answers



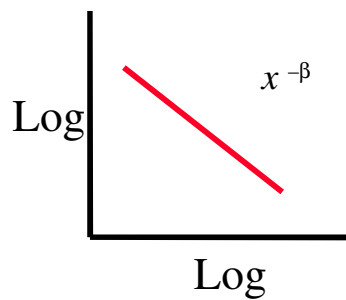
# Challenges in Current IR Systems





## Document Base: Web

- Largest public repository of data (more than 20 billion static pages?)
- Today, there are more than 120 million Web servers
- Well connected graph with out-link and in-link power law distributions

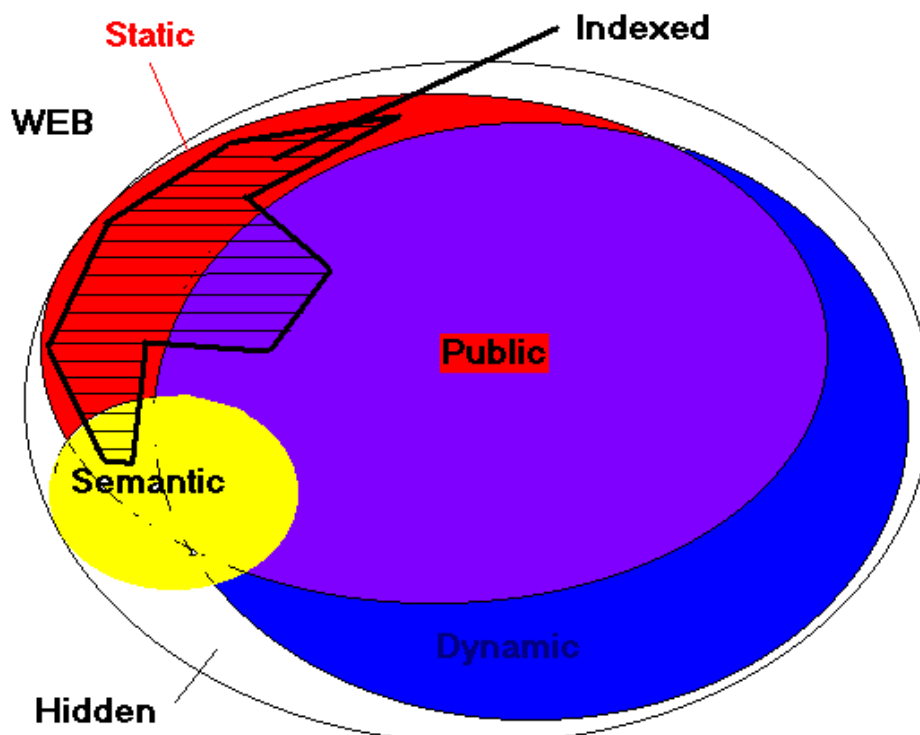


Self-similar &  
Self-organizing

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## The Different Facets of the Web

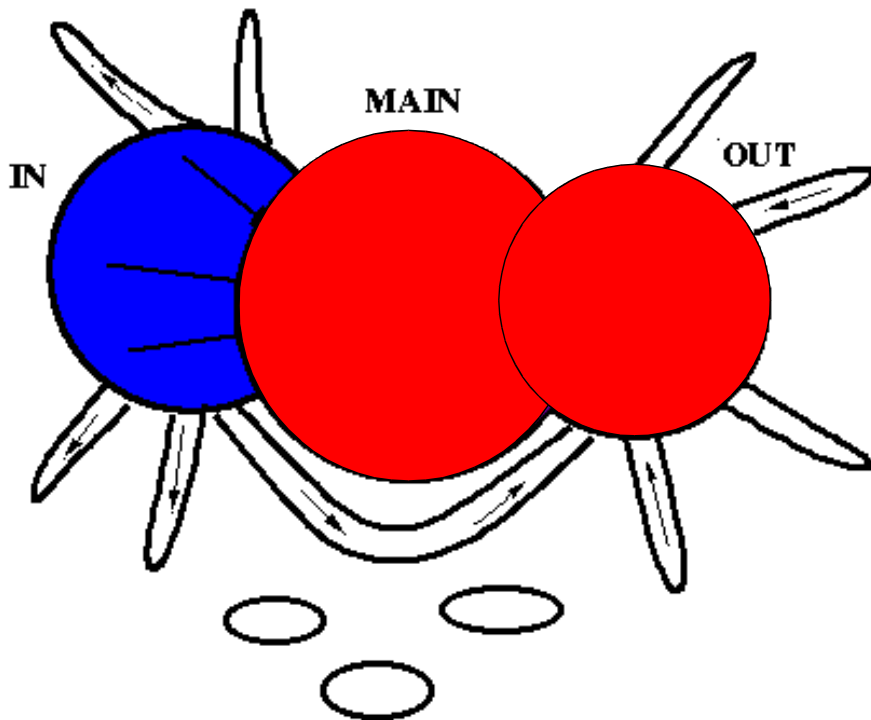


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## The Structure of the Web

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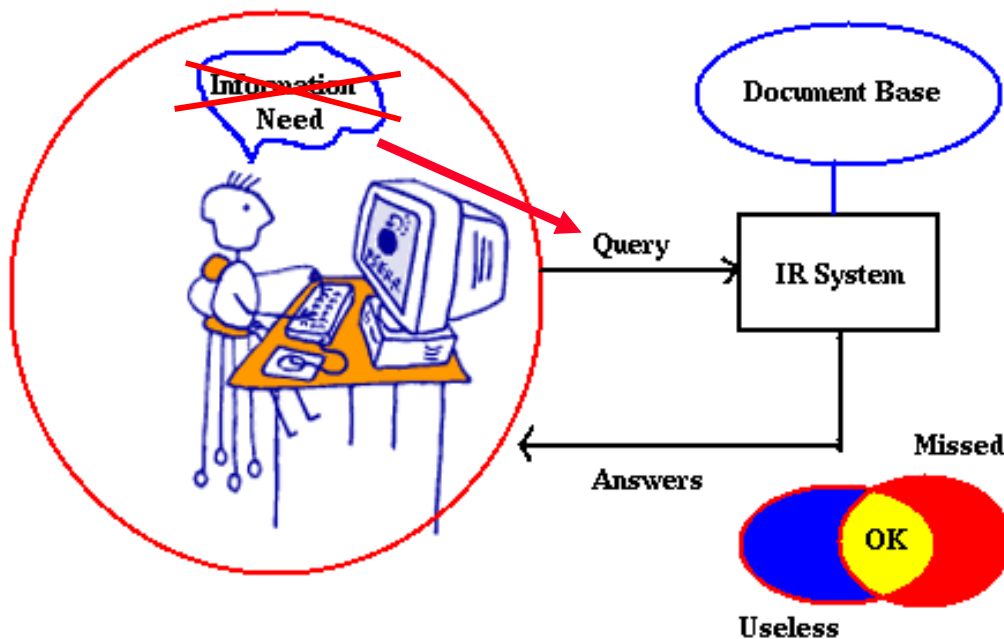
## Challenges posed by the data

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- Integration of autonomous data sources
  - Data/information integration
- Supporting heterogeneous data
  - How to do effective querying in the presence of structured and text data
  - How to support IR-style querying on DBs
    - Because now users seem to know IR/keyword style querying more, even though structure is good because it supports structured querying!
  - How to support imprecise queries

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# The User Behind the Query



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# Web Search Queries

- Cultural and educational diversity
- Short queries & impatient interaction
  - few queries posed & few answers seen
- Smaller & different vocabulary
- Different **user goals** (Broder, 2000):
  - Information need
  - Navigational need
  - Transactional need
- Refined by Rose & Levinson, WWW 2004

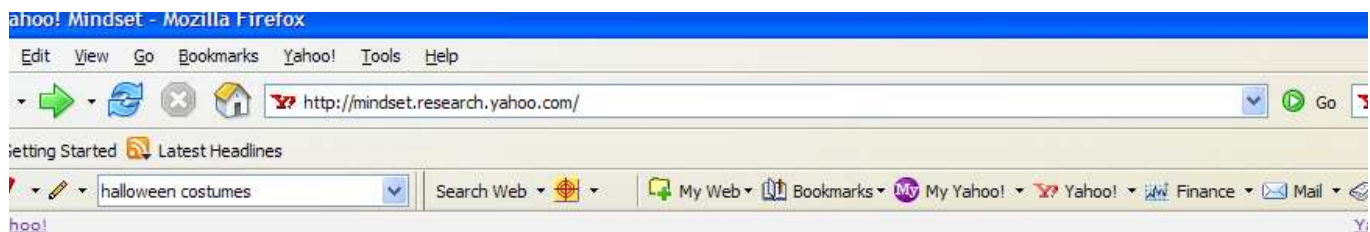
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# Y! User Needs

- Need (Broder 2002)
  - **Informational** – want to learn about something (~40% / 65%)
    - Low hemoglobin
  - **Navigational** – want to go to that page (~25% / 15%)
    - United Airlines
  - **Transactional** – want to do something (web-mediated) (~35% / 20%)
    - Access a service
      - Edinburgh weather
    - Downloads
      - Mars surface images
    - Shop
      - Canon S410
  - Gray areas
    - Find a good hub
      - Car rental Brasil
    - Exploratory search “see what’s there”

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## YAHOO! MINDSET <sup>BETA</sup>

### Mindset: Intent-driven Search

- Find the results you like.
- Sort the way you need.

A [Yahoo! Research](#) demo that applies a new twist on search that uses machine learning technology to give you a choice: View Yahoo! Search results sorted according to whether they are more commercial or more informational (i.e., from academic, non-commercial, or research-oriented sources).

[Click here](#) to learn more about this demo.

Help us improve Yahoo! Mindset.  
[Tell us what you think.](#)

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## SPONSOR RESULTS

- [Your Halloween HQ - OrientalTrading.com](#) OrientalTrading.com is your Halloween headquarters for all the creepy, the spooky and the altogether kooky stuff you need, costumes, treats, d飯 and more.  
[www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com)
- [Halloween Costumes at Costume Universe](#) Thousands of Halloween costumes. From sexy to science fiction - thousands of unique costumes.  
[www.costumeuniverse.com](http://www.costumeuniverse.com)
- [Halloween Costumes for Less](#) Adult and kids costumes for all occasions, school play costumes, theatrical costumes, sexy costumes and more.  
[www.halloweenfantasy.com](http://www.halloweenfantasy.com)

1. (44) [HalloweenOnly.com](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
Costumes, masks, props, and special effects equipment for **Halloween**.  
[www.halloweenonly.com](http://www.halloweenonly.com)
2. (56) [Amazon.com: Halloween Costumes \(Singer Sewing Reference Library\): Books: The Editors of Creative Publishing ...](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
... **Halloween Costumes** (Singer Sewing Reference Library) (Paperback ... Illegally Easy **Halloween Costumes** for Kids by Leila Peltosaari ...  
[www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0865733171?v=glance](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0865733171?v=glance)
3. (33) [e- Halloween Costumes : Costumes for all ages!](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
Costumes for the young, the old, the cute, the sexy, and the scary! Why shop with E-**Halloween Costumes**? The answer is quite simple. E-**Halloween Costumes** is your one-stop costume and costume accessories store! ... **costumes**, and much more. We also carry a wide variety of costume accessories, costume wigs, costume makeup, **Halloween** masks, **Halloween** decor, **Halloween** ...  
[www.e-halloweencostumes.com](http://www.e-halloweencostumes.com)
4. (8) [BuyCostumes.com](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
Carries a selection of **Halloween costumes** for men, women, kids, infants, and pets, plus wigs, makeup, props, decorations, mascot outfits, and accessories.  
[www.buycostumes.com](http://www.buycostumes.com)
5. (57) [Amazon.com: Halloween Costumes \(Singer Sewing Reference Library\): Books: Cowles Creative Publishing](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
... **Halloween Costumes** (Singer Sewing Reference Library) (Hardcover ... Illegally Easy **Halloween Costumes** for Kids by Leila Peltosaari ...  
[www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0865733163?v=glance](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0865733163?v=glance)
6. (16) [Halloween Mart](#)<sup>FB</sup>

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## SPONSOR RESULTS

## SPONSOR RI

- [Your Halloween HQ - OrientalTrading.com](#) OrientalTrading.com is your Halloween headquarters for all the creepy, the spooky and the altogether kooky stuff you need, costumes, treats, d飯 and more.  
[www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com)
- [Halloween Costumes at Costume Universe](#) Thousands of Halloween costumes. From sexy to science fiction - thousands of unique costumes.  
[www.costumeuniverse.com](http://www.costumeuniverse.com)
- [Halloween Costumes for Less](#) Adult and kids costumes for all occasions, school play costumes, theatrical costumes, sexy costumes and more.  
[www.halloweenfantasy.com](http://www.halloweenfantasy.com)

[Find Costu](#)  
[Halloween I](#)  
At AnytimeCo  
an exclusive s  
quality costur  
theatrical mak  
beards, props  
decorations.  
[www.anytin](http://www.anytin)

1. (84) [Halloween costumes - A to Z Teacher Stuff Forums](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
**Halloween costumes** Preschool ... It's the first year we aren't having the kids wear their **halloween costumes** ... going to suggest got to <http://familyfun.com> for some **halloween costumes** that are easy to make ...  
[forums.atozteacherstuff.com/showthread.php?threadid=14133](http://forums.atozteacherstuff.com/showthread.php?threadid=14133)
2. (49) [Halloween - Wikipedia](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
Hyperlinked history of the holiday and its traditions. Also includes information about **Halloween** symbols, cultural history, and religious viewpoints.  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halloween](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halloween)
3. (82) [Halloween](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
... **Halloween** Holiday. **halloween costumes halloween masks halloween decorations halloween recipes halloween crafts halloween ideas. Halloween &gt;&gt; halloween costumes, halloween ... ideas, halloween crafts ...**  
[halloween.xuyase.com](http://halloween.xuyase.com)
4. (65) [Halloween Costumes Go Upscale - CBS News](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
Gone are the days of cheap, homemade or discount store garb. Today's trick-or-treaters or adult party-goers want to look, well, just like the people they're impersonating. Dressing up as Spiderman, for example, can cost from \$17 to \$70.  
[www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/1...ent/main647447.shtml](http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/1...ent/main647447.shtml)
5. (74) [Halloween Costumes - Space related Halloween Costumes](#)<sup>FB</sup>  
... will be plenty of **Halloween** parties this year, with everyone wearing **Halloween costumes**. Be the hit of the ... with one of our Top 10 Space Related **Halloween Costumes** for Adults ...  
[space.about.com/b/a/206745.htm](http://space.about.com/b/a/206745.htm)

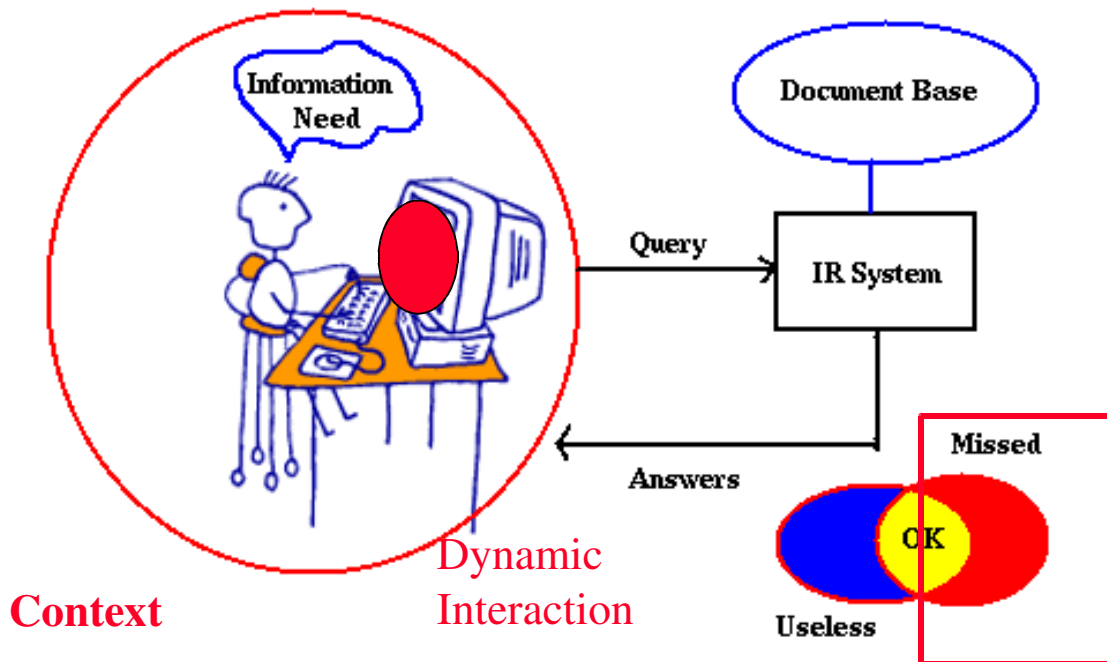
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[BuyCostur](#)  
BuyCostumes.  
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and fast shipp  
costumes at B  
[buycostum](#)

[Costumes :](#)  
Costumes, Ha  
costume wigs,  
costume eyes!  
[www.bestw](http://www.bestw)

[Halloween I](#)  
[More](#)  
Starcostumes.  
extensive line  
costumes and  
for adults and  
wigs, masks, p  
Buy online or  
[www.starcc](http://www.starcc)

[Buy a Hall](#)  
Huge selectio  
costumes - ew  
heros, movie i  
accessories, pi  
[halloweenrr](#)

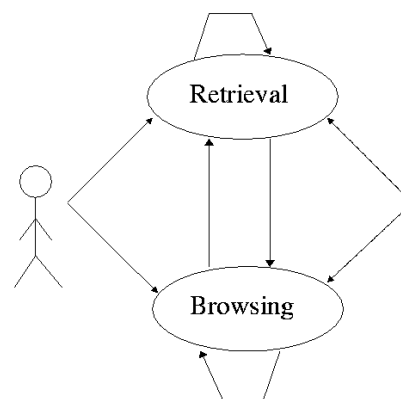
# Y! Challenges in Current IR Systems



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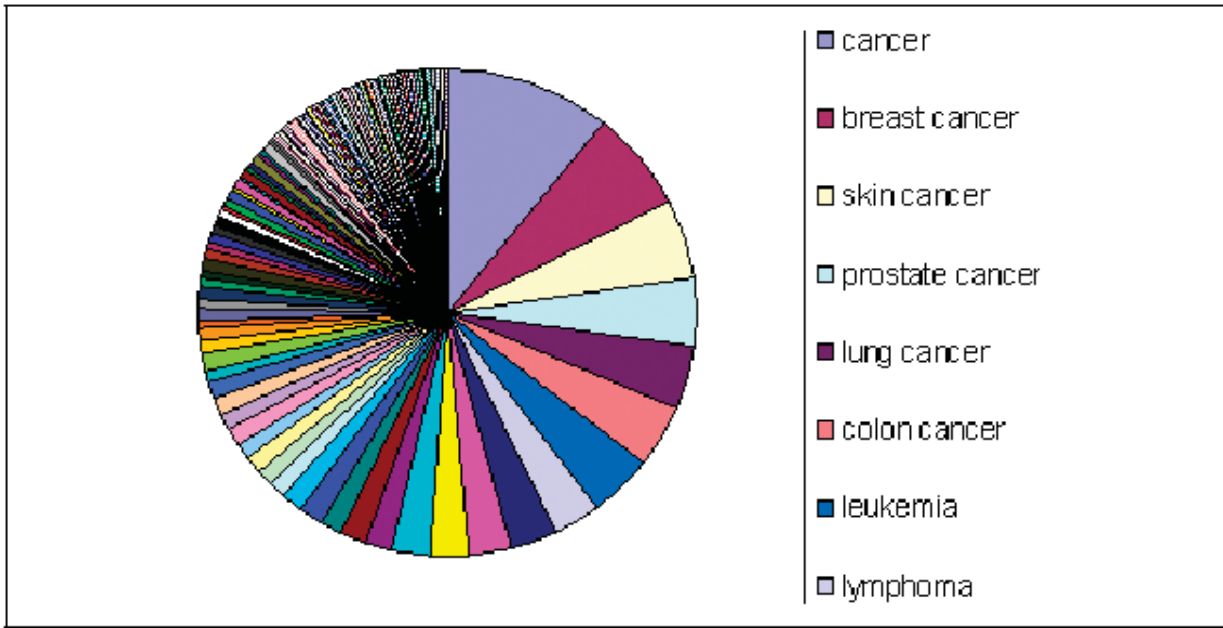
## Y! Interaction

- Inexperienced users
- Dynamic information needs
- Varying task: querying, browsing
- No content overview
- Poor query language, no help
- Poor preview, no visualization
- Missing answers: partial Web coverage, invisible Web, different words or media, ...
- Useless answers





## Query Distribution

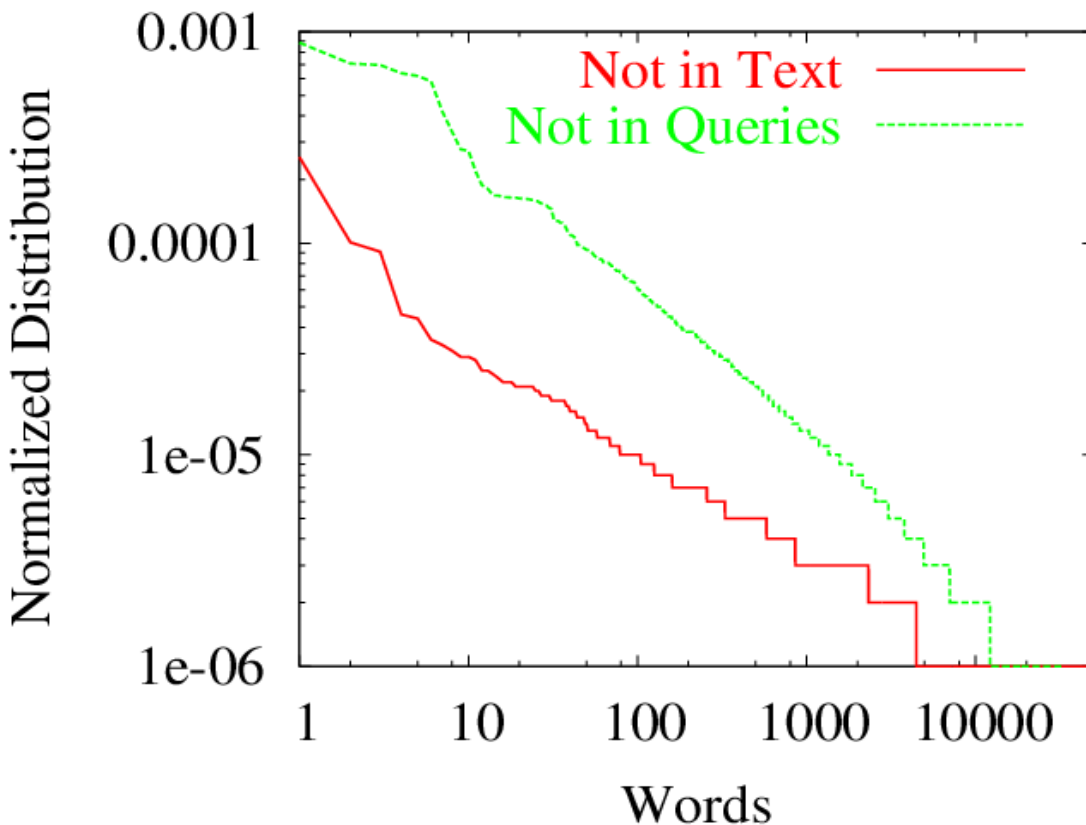


**Power law: few popular broad queries,  
many rare specific queries**

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## Queries and Text

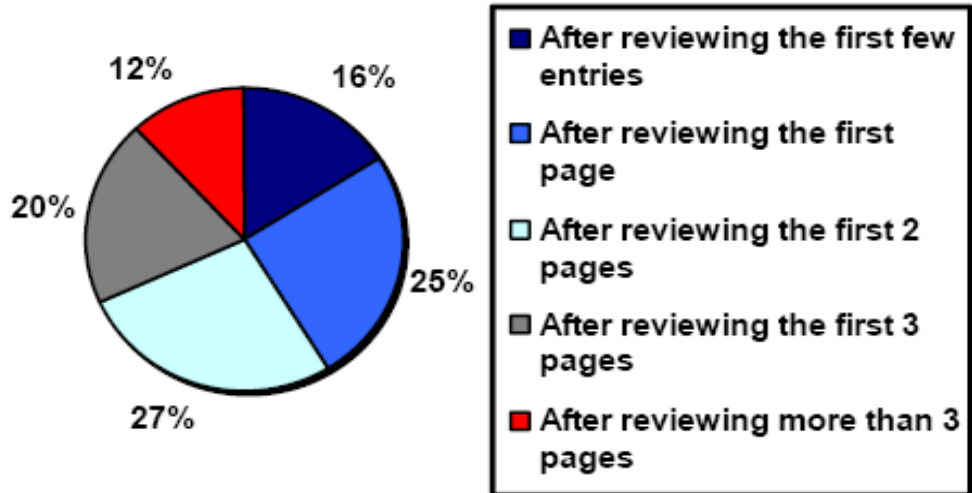


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## How far do people look for results?

“When you perform a search on a search engine and don't find what you are looking for, at what point do you typically either revise your search, or move on to another search engine? (Select one)”



(Source: [iprospect.com WhitePaper\\_2006\\_SearchEngineUserBehavior.pdf](http://iprospect.com/WhitePaper_2006_SearchEngineUserBehavior.pdf))

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## Typical Session

- Two queries of
- .. two words, looking at...
- .. two answer pages, doing
- .. two clicks per page
  
- What is the goal?

**MP3**

**games**

**cars**

**britney spears**

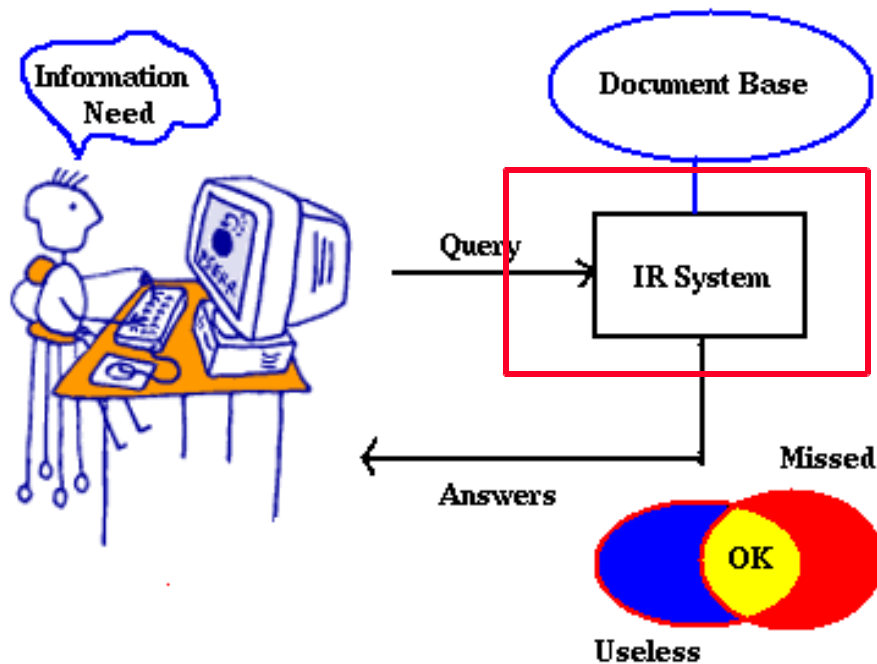
**pictures**

**ski**

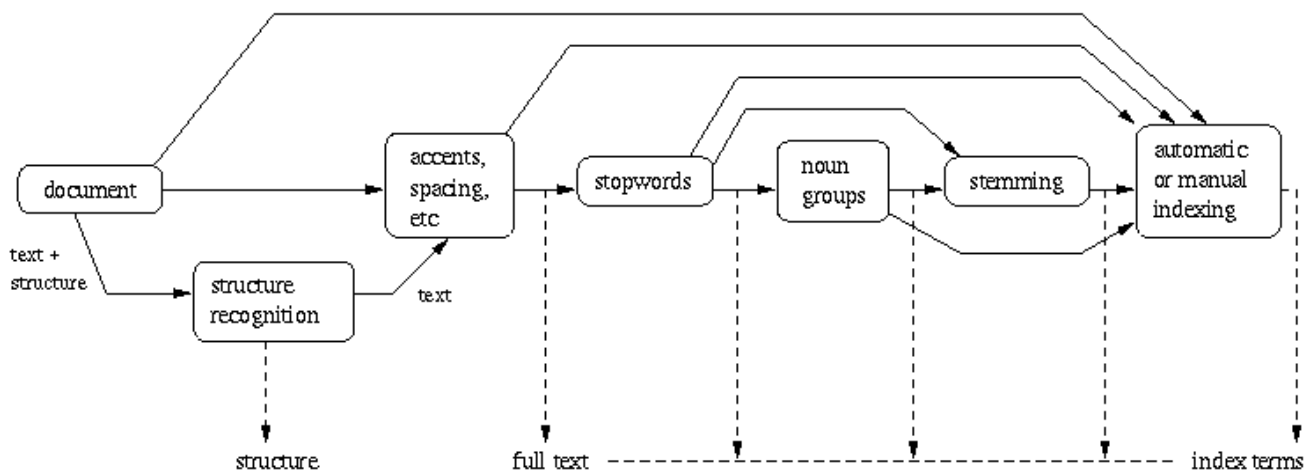
**U de Chile**



# Y! Challenges in Current IR Systems



# Y! Bag-of-Words Representation



Full-text continuum:  
ambiguity vs. completeness trade-off

# Y! Text Similarity Models

## Vector model:

- words are dimensions
- *tf-idf* is used for weights
- stopwords vs. rare words

## • Set Models:

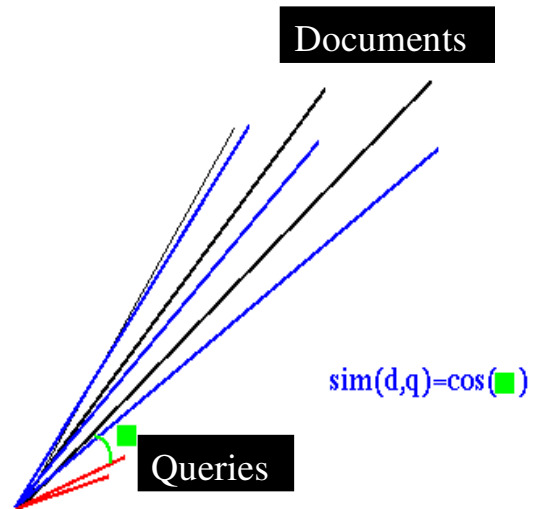
- Boolean, Fuzzy sets, ...

## • Algebraic Models:

- Vector, LSI, etc.

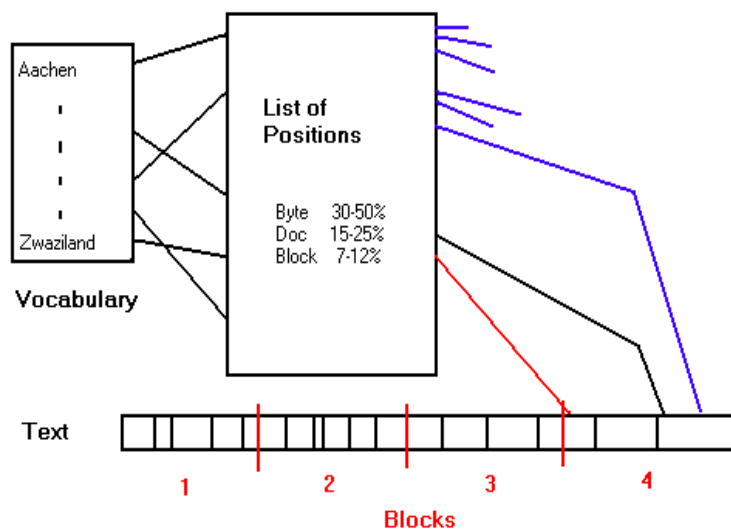
## • Probabilistic Models:

- Probabilistic, Inference & belief networks



# Y! Index

- Inverted index
- Lists sorted by weight
  - global (e.g. Pagerank)
  - local (e.g. word weights)
- Hashing + set operations
- Compressed
- Incremental updates





## Web Retrieval

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- Centralized Software Architecture
- Hypertext Structure
  - Allows to include link ranking
- On-line Quality Evaluation
- Distributed Data
  - Crawling
- Locally Distributed Index
  - Parallel Indexing
  - Parallel Query Processing
- Advertising Business Model
  - Word based and pay-per-click



## Web Retrieval

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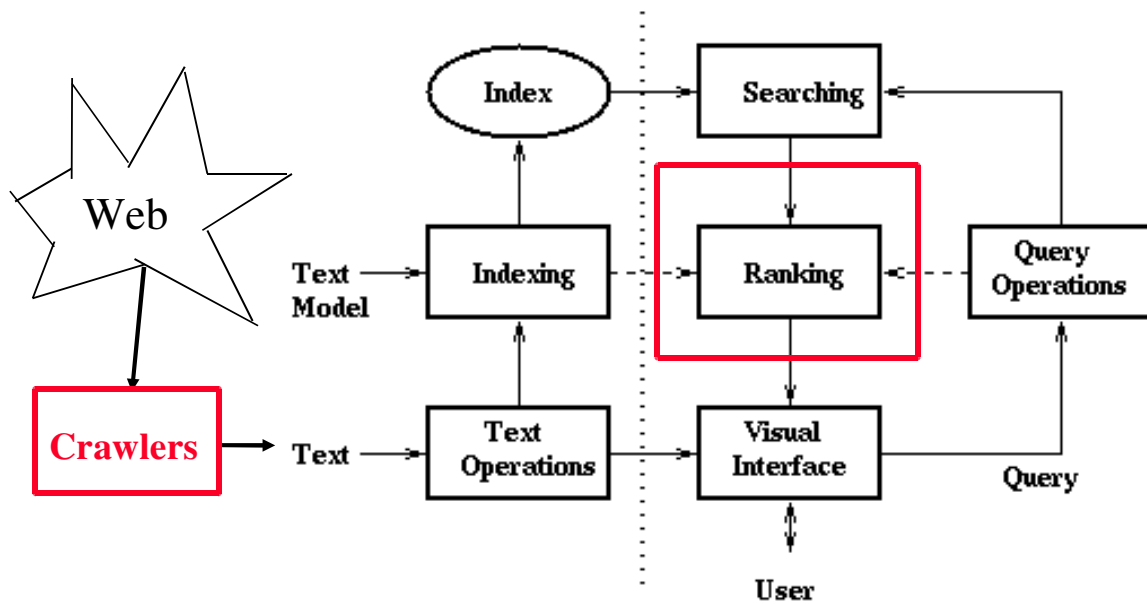
- Problems:
  - volume
  - fast rate of change and growth
  - dynamic content
  - redundancy
  - organization and data quality
  - diversity
  - .....
- Deal with data overload





# Web Retrieval Architecture

- Centralized parallel architecture



# Algorithmic Challenges

- Crawling:
  - Quantity
  - Freshness
  - Quality
  - Politeness vs. Usage of Resources

**Conflict**

## Adversarial IR

- Ranking
  - Words, links, usage logs, ... , metadata
  - Spamming of all kinds of data
  - Good precision, unknown recall



## Link Ranking

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- Incoming links count & variations  
(Li /Marchiori / Carriere *et al.* 1997; Joo & Myaeng, 1998)
- HITS (Kleinberg, 1998)
  - Authorities: good pages      - Hubs: good links
- PageRank (Page & Brin, 1998)
  - Random walk + random teleportation if “bored”
- Many variations of these ideas
- Good to find communities, spam, etc.
- Application to other problems
- Today: just a component of a  
search engine ranking



## Fight Spam

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- Adversarial Web Retrieval
- Text Spam (e.g. Cloaking)
- Link Spam (e.g. Link Farms)
- Metadata spam
- Ad spam (e.g. Clicks, Bids)



## The Big Challenge

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Meet the diverse user needs  
given  
their poorly made queries  
and  
the size and heterogeneity of the Web corpus

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## Web Mining

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- **Content:** text & multimedia mining
- **Structure:** link analysis, graph mining
- **Usage:** log analysis, query mining
- **Relate all of the above**
  - Web characterization
  - Particular applications

**Dynamic**

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# Motivations for Web Mining

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- The Dream of the Semantic Web
  - Hypothesis: Explicit Semantic Information
  - Obstacle: Us
- User Actions: Implicit Semantic Information
  - It's free!
  - Large volume!
  - It's unbiased!
  - Can we capture it?
  - Hypothesis: Queries are the best source

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# Data Recollection

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- Content and structure: Crawling
- Usage: Logs
  - Web Server logs
  - Specific Application logs

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# Crawling

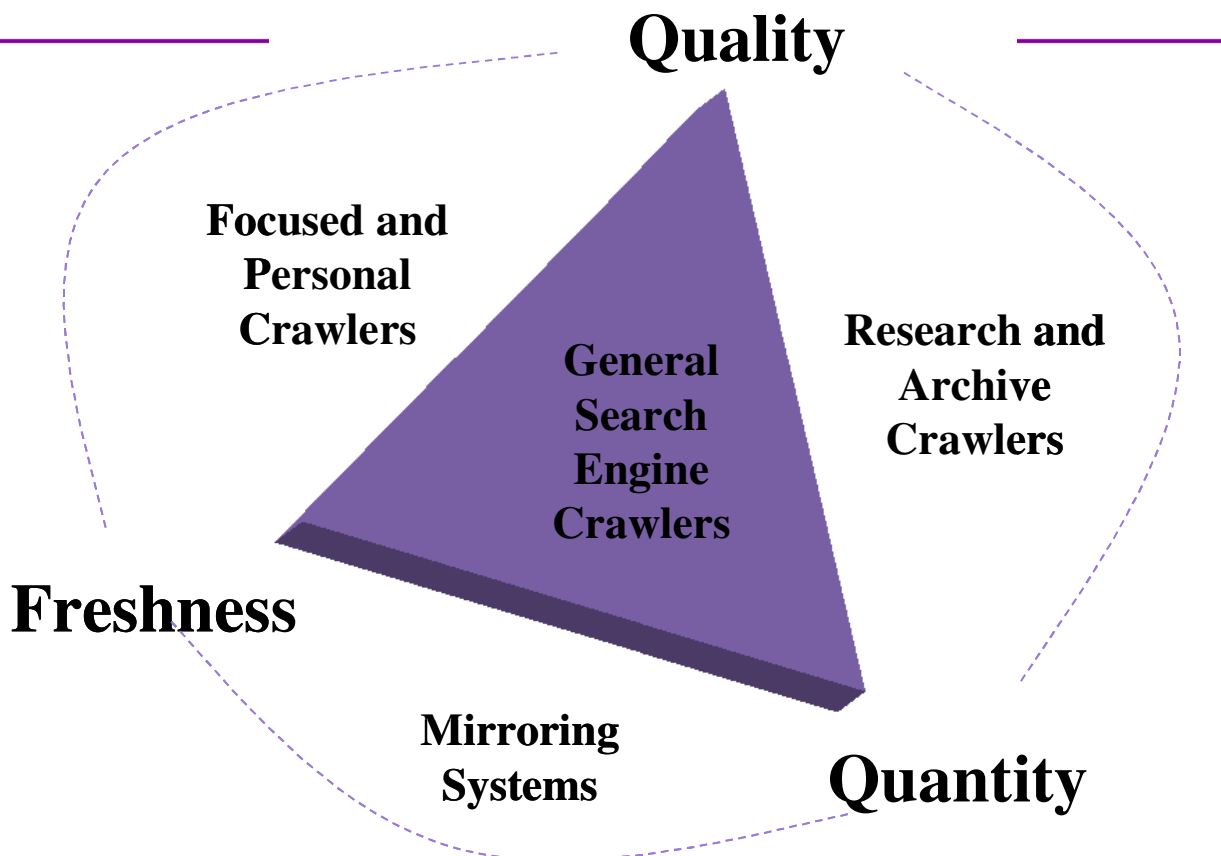
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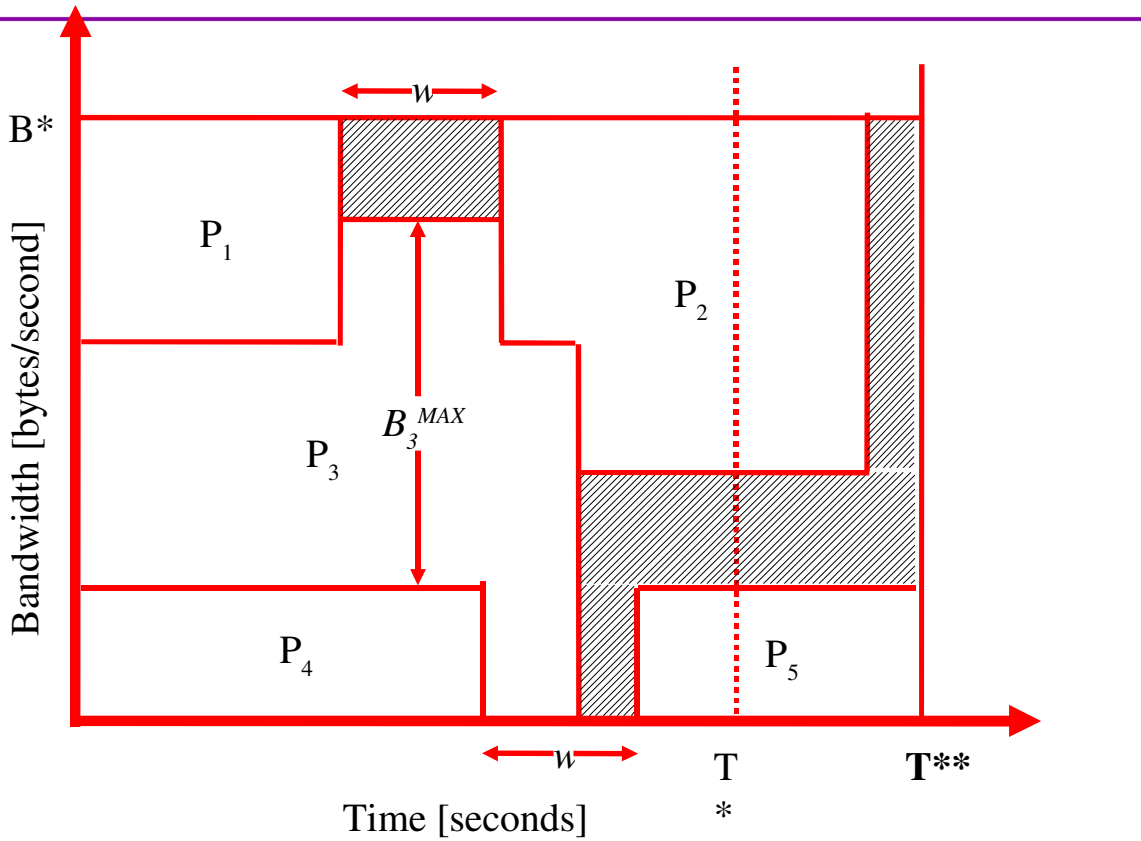
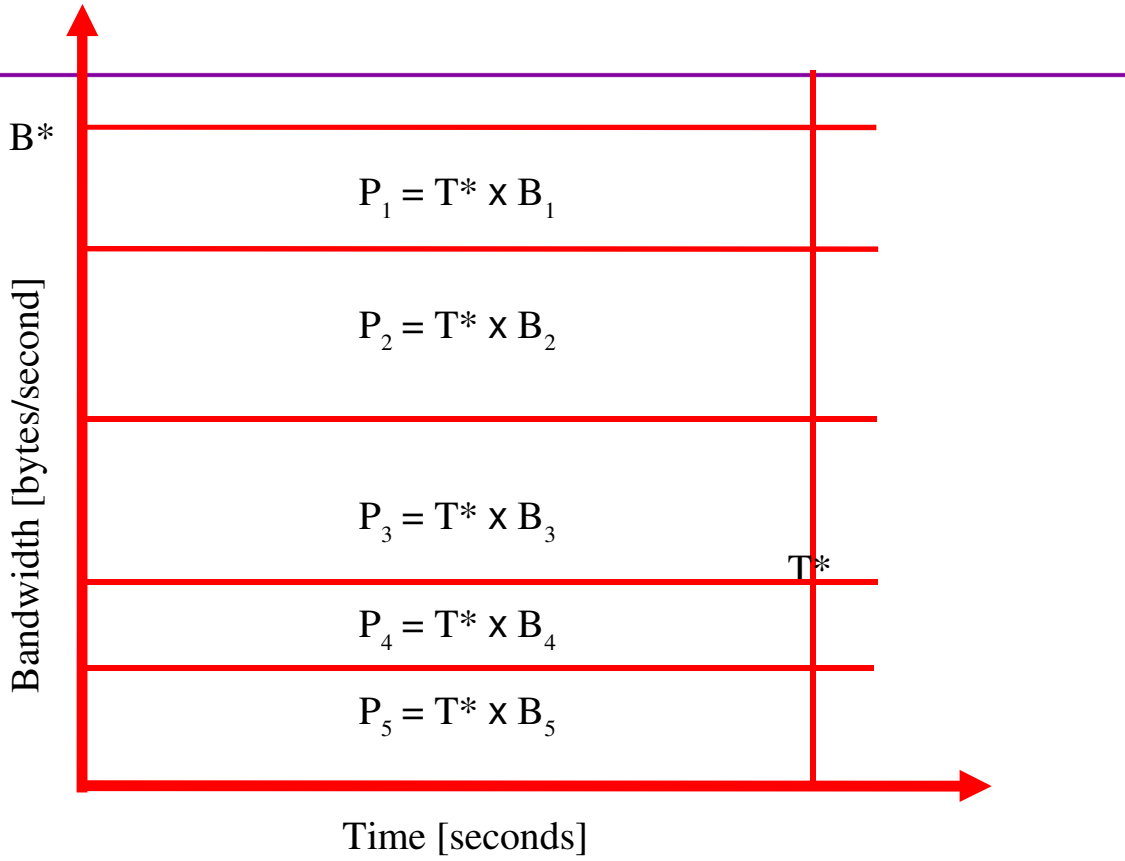
- NP-Hard Scheduling Problem
- Different goals
- Many Restrictions
- Difficult to define optimality
- No standard benchmark



# Crawling Goals

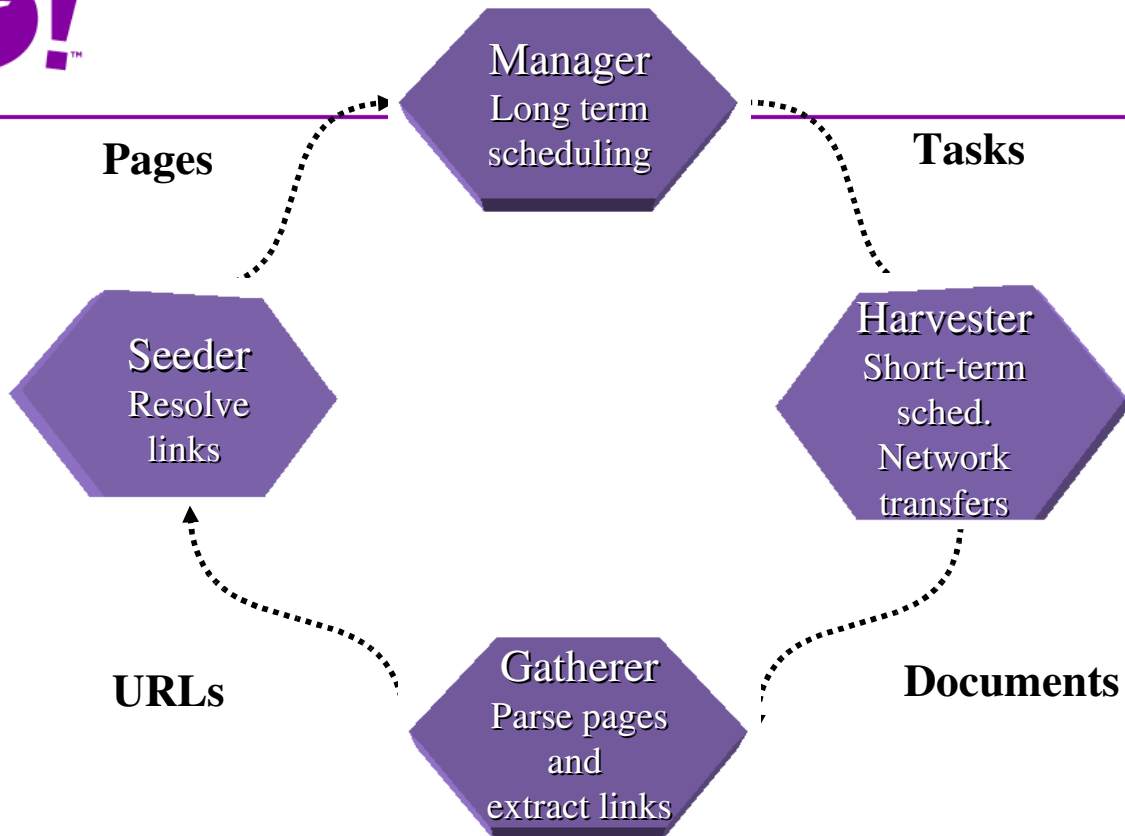
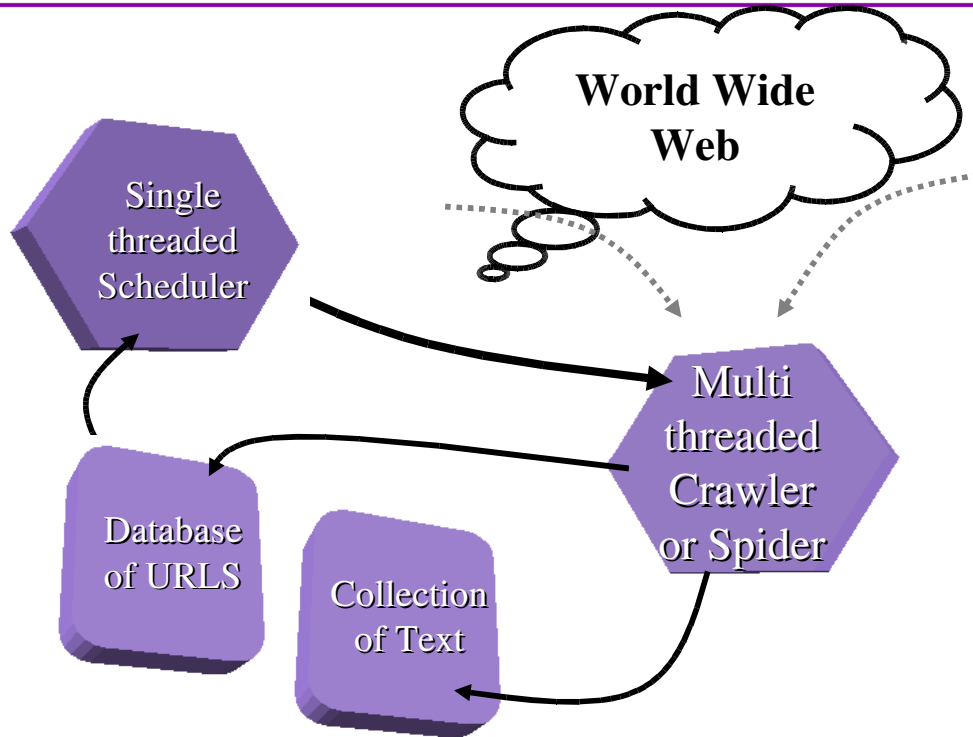
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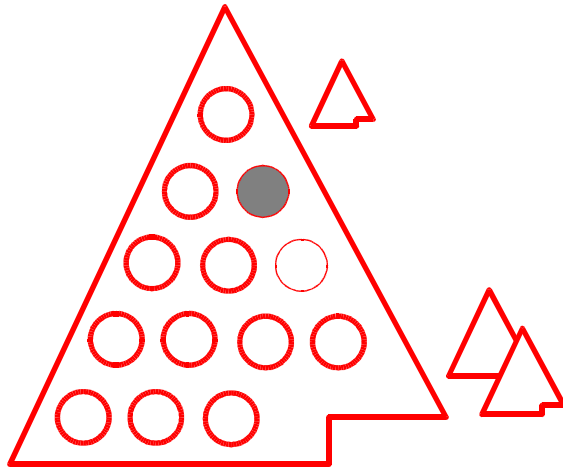




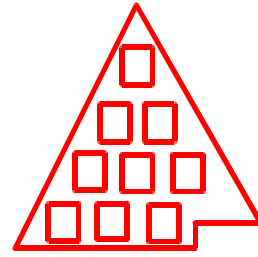


# Software Architecture





Queue of Web sites  
(*long-term scheduling*)



Queue of Web pages  
for each site  
(*short-term scheduling*)



## Formal Problem

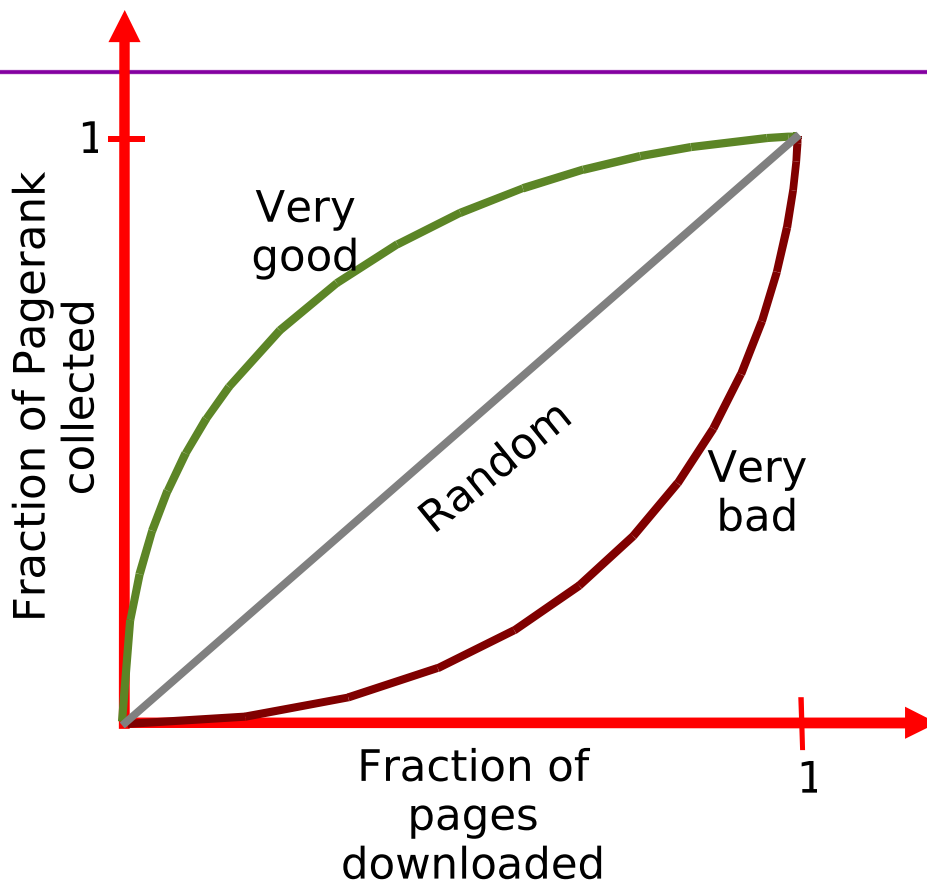
- Find a sequence of page requests  $(p, t)$  that:
  - Optimizes a function of the volume, quality and freshness of the pages
  - Has a bounded crawling time
  - Fulfills politeness
  - Maximizes the use of local bandwidth
- Must be on-line: how much knowledge?





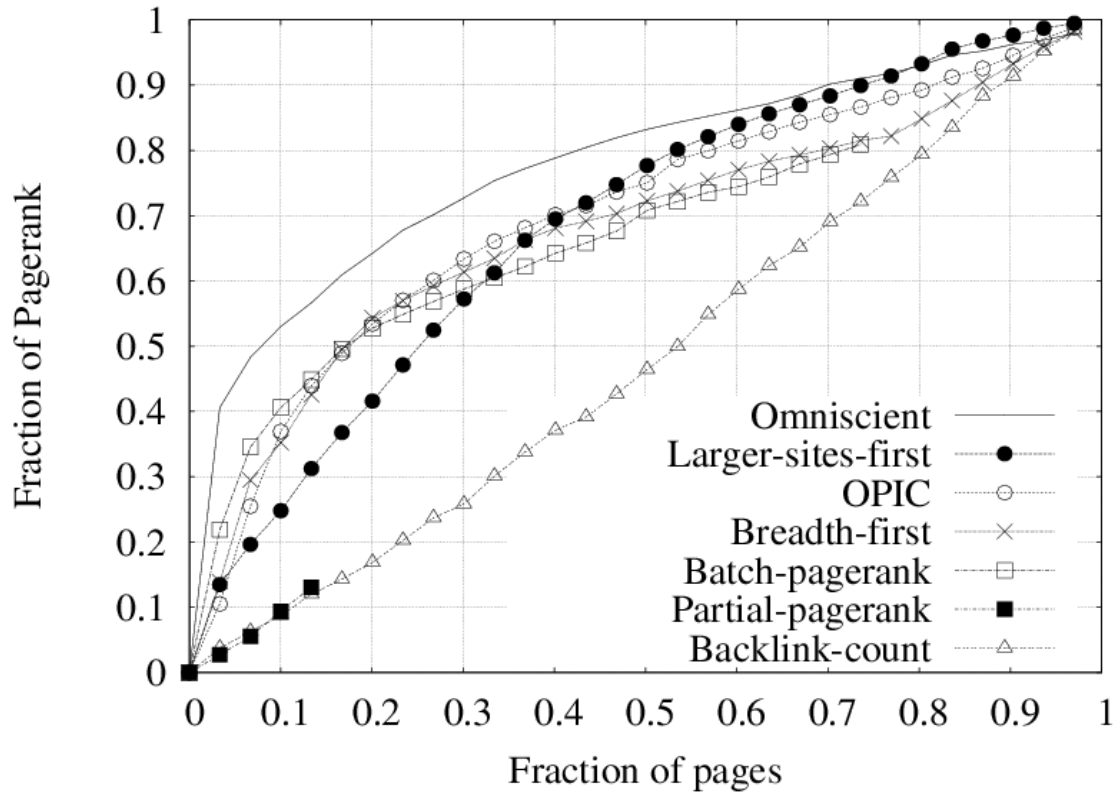
# Crawling Heuristics

- Breadth-first
- Ranking-ordering
  - PageRank
- Largest Site-first
- Use of:
  - Partial information
  - Historical information
- No Benchmark for Evaluation





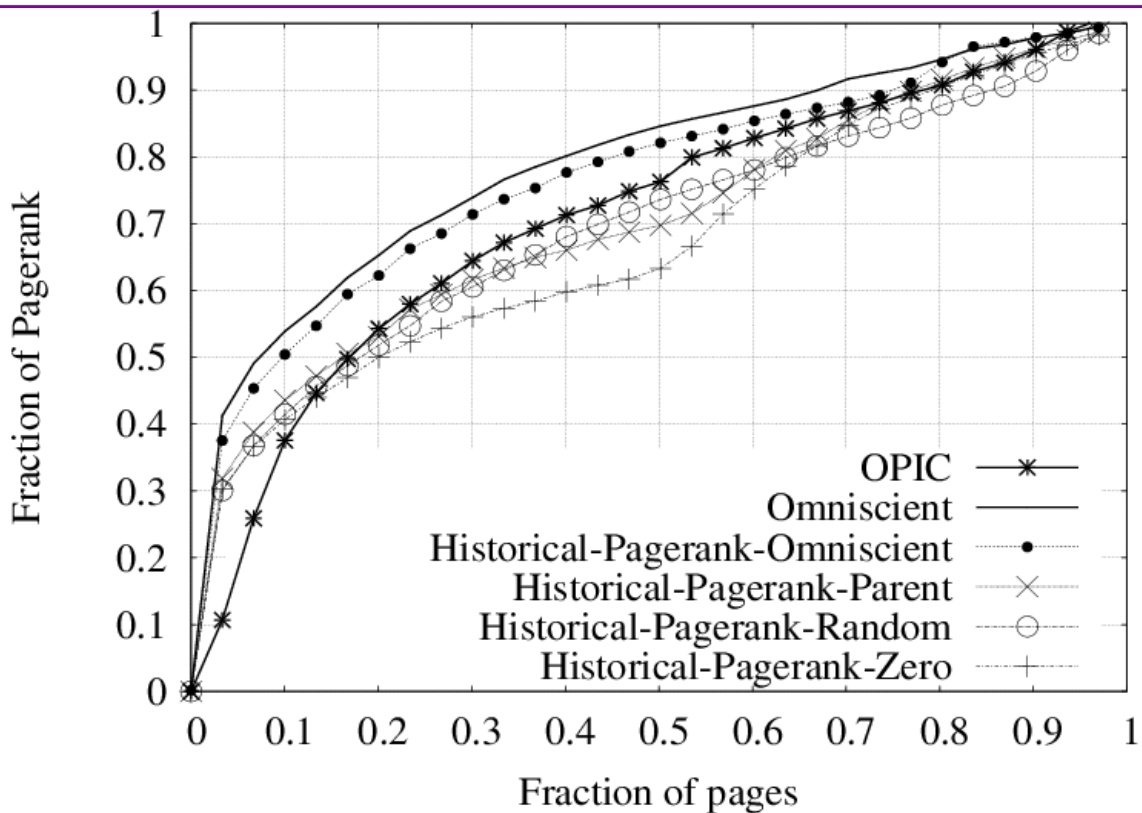
## No Historical Information



Baeza-Yates, Castillo, Marin & Rodriguez, WWW2005

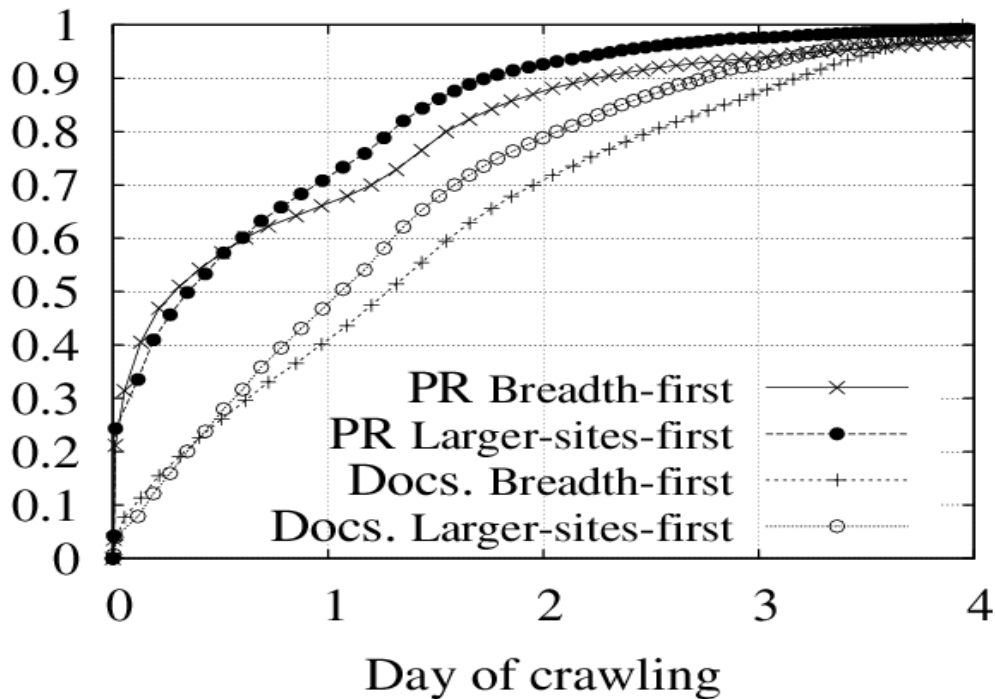


## Historical Information





## Validation in the Greek domain



## Data Cleaning

- Problem Dependent
- Content: Duplicate and spam detection
- Links: Spam detection
- Logs: Spam detection
  - Robots vs. persons

## Data Processing

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- Structure: content, links and logs
  - XML, relational database, etc.
- Usage mining:
  - Anonymize if needed
  - Define sessions

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## Data Characteristics

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- Yahoo! as a Case Study
  - Data Volume
  - Data Types

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## Yahoo! World

- Search
  - Yahoo! Image,
  - Yahoo! Video,
  - Yahoo! Local,
  - Yahoo! News,
  - Yahoo! Shopping Search,
- Communication
  - Yahoo! Mail,
  - Yahoo! Messenger,
  - My Web,
  - Yahoo! Personals,
  - Yahoo! 360°,
  - Yahoo! Photos,
  - Flickr, Delicious,
  - Yahoo! Answers
- Content:
  - Yahoo! Sports,
  - Yahoo! Finance,
  - Yahoo! Music,
  - Yahoo! Movies,
  - Yahoo! News,
  - Yahoo! Games.
  - My Yahoo!
- Mobile:
  - Yahoo! Mobile
- Commerce:
  - Yahoo! Shopping,
  - Yahoo! Autos,
  - Yahoo! Auctions,
  - Yahoo! Travel,
- Small Business:
  - Yahoo! Small Business
  - Yahoo! Domains,
  - Yahoo! Web Hosting,
  - Yahoo! Merchant Solutions,
  - Yahoo! Business Email,
  - HotJobs
- Advertising:
  - Yahoo! Search Marketing
  - Yahoo! Publisher Network.

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## Yahoo! Numbers

(April '06, Oct'06)

24 languages, 20 countries

- > 4 billion page views per day (largest in the world)
- > 500 million unique users each month (half the Internet users!)
- > 250 million mail users (1 million new accounts a day)
- 95 million groups members
- 7 million moderators
- 4 billion music videos streamed in 2005
  
- 20 Pb of storage (20M Gb)
  - US Library of congress every day (28M books, 20TB)
- 12 Tb of data processed per day
- 7 billion song ratings
- 2 billion photos stored
- 2 billion Mail+Messenger sent per day

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## Crawled Data

- WWW
  - Web Pages & Links
  - Blogs
  - Dynamic Sites

heterogeneous,  
large,  
dangerous
- Sales Providers (Push)
  - Advertising
  - Items for sale: Shopping, Travel, etc.

very high quality  
& structure,  
expensive,  
sparse,  
safe
- News Index
  - RSS Feeds
  - Contracted information

high quality,  
sparse,  
redundant

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## Produced data

- Yahoo's Web
  - Ygroups
  - YCars, YHealth, Ytravel

homogeneous,  
high quality,  
safer,  
highly structured
- Produced Content
  - Edited (news)
  - Purchased (news)

Trusted,  
high quality,  
sparse
- Direct Interaction:
  - Tagged Content
    - Object tagging (photos, pages, ?)
    - Social links
  - Question Answering

Ambiguous  
semantics?  
trust?  
quality?  
"Information Games"  
(e.g. [www.espgame.org](http://www.espgame.org))

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## Observed Data

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- Query Logs
  - spelling, synonyms, phrases (named entities), substitutions → good quality, sparse, power law
- Click-Thru
  - relevance, intent, wording → good quality, sparse, mostly safe
- Advertising
  - relevance, value, terminology → Trusted, high quality, homogeneous, structured
- Social
  - links, communities, dialogues... → trust? quality?

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## Web Characterization

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- Different scopes: global, country, etc.
- Different levels: pages, sites, domains
- Different content: text, images, etc.
- Different technologies: software, OS, etc.

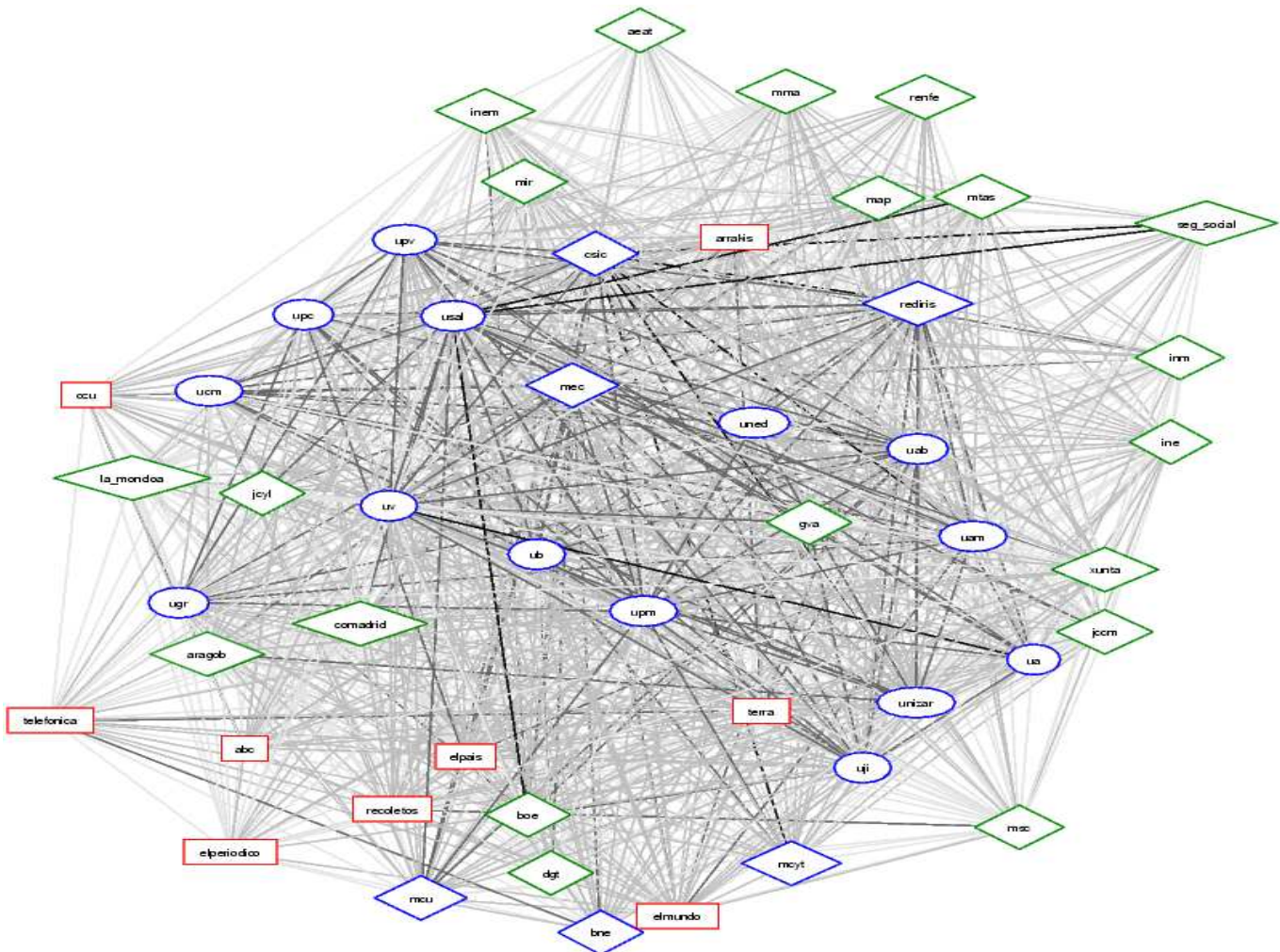
62



# A Few Examples

- Web Characterization of Spain
- Link Analysis
- Log Analysis
- Web Dynamics

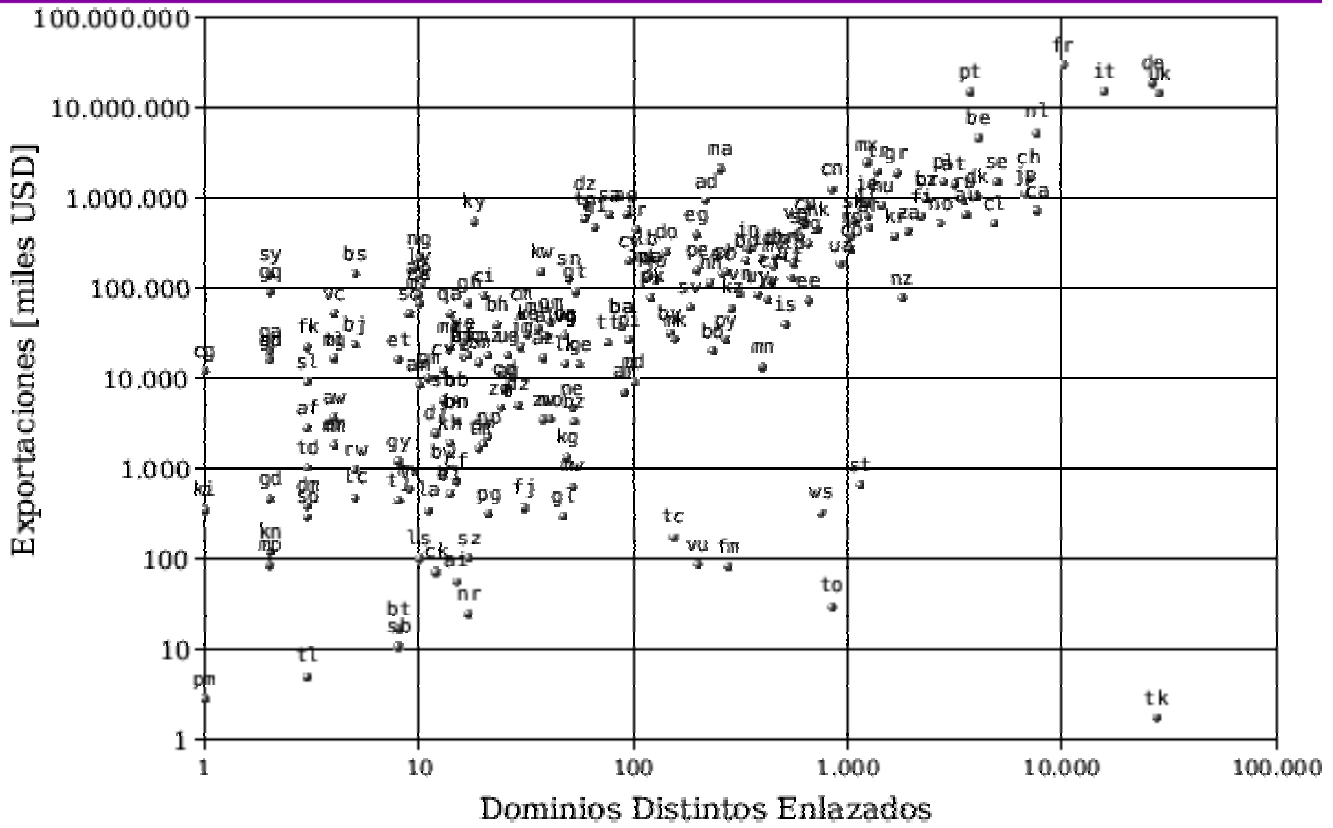
63



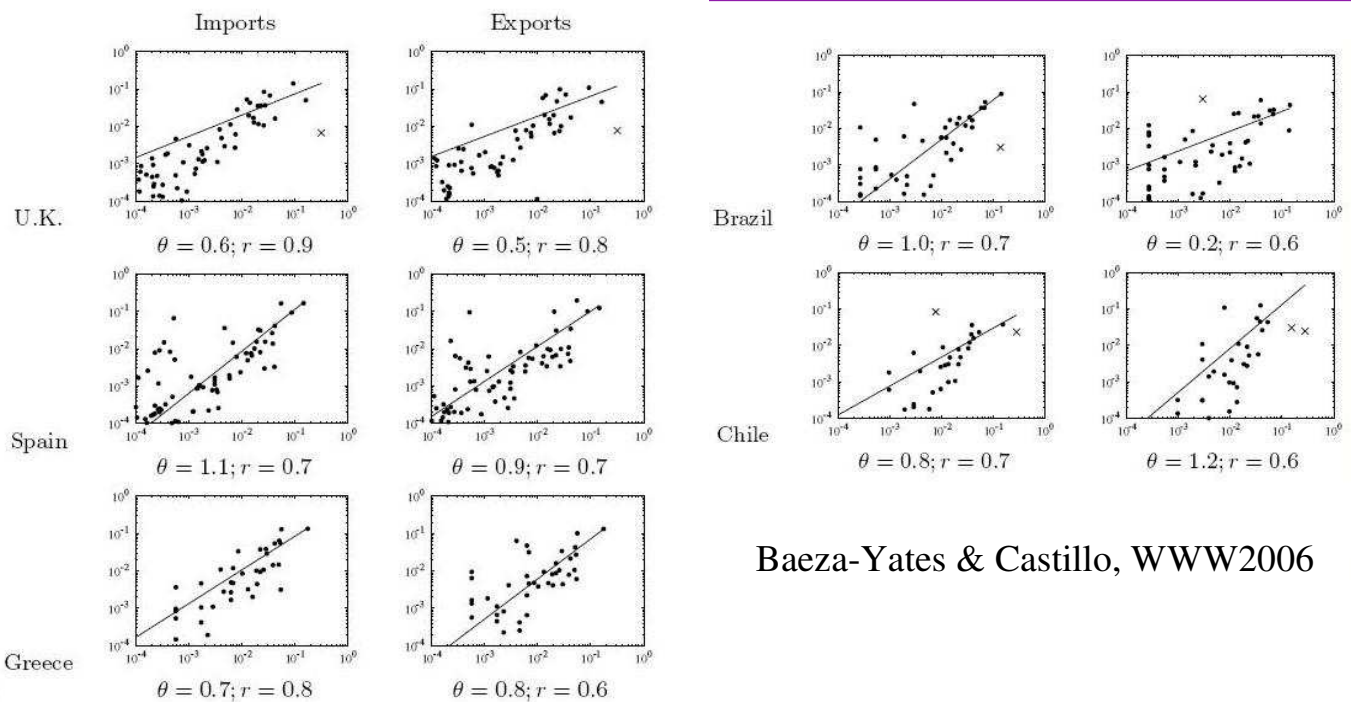




# Mirror of the Society



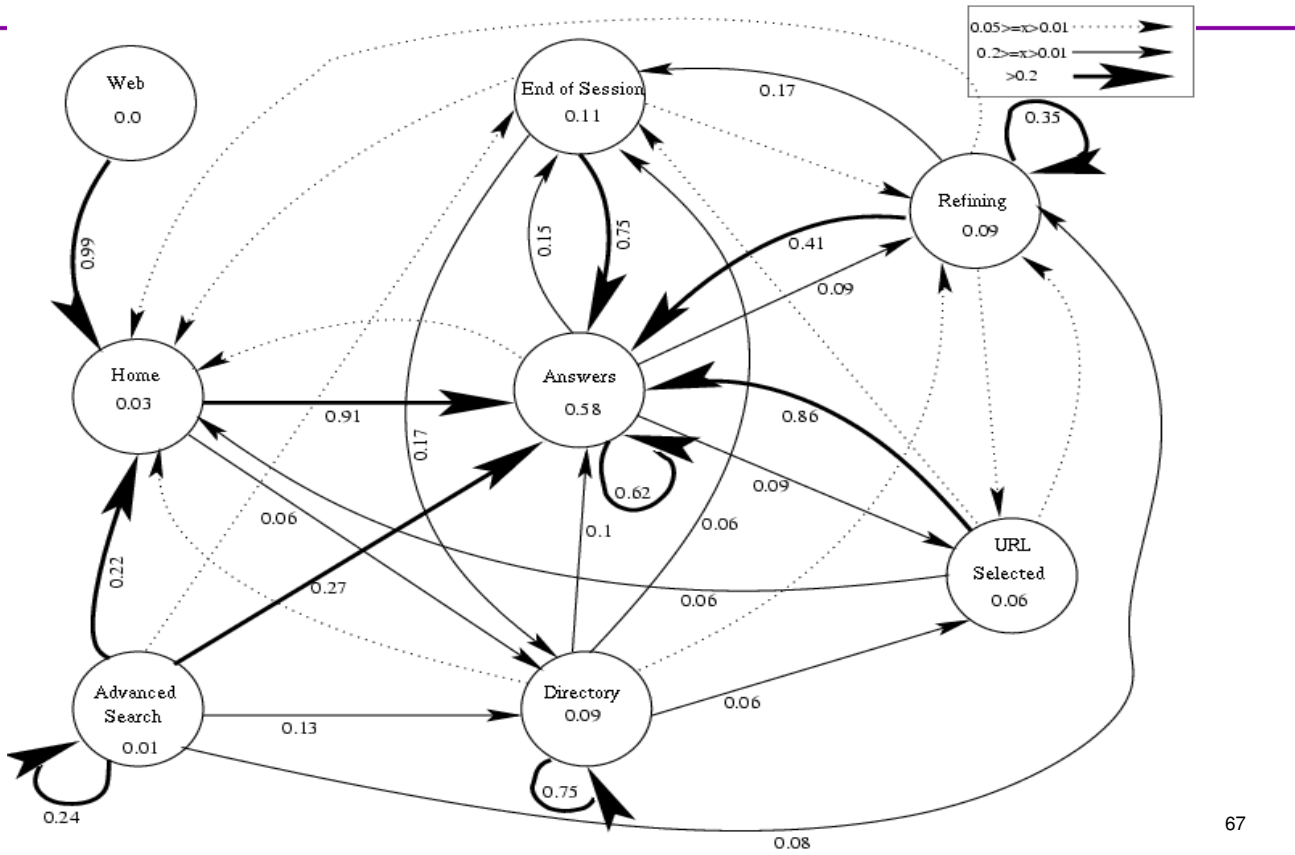
# Exports/Imports vs. Domain Links



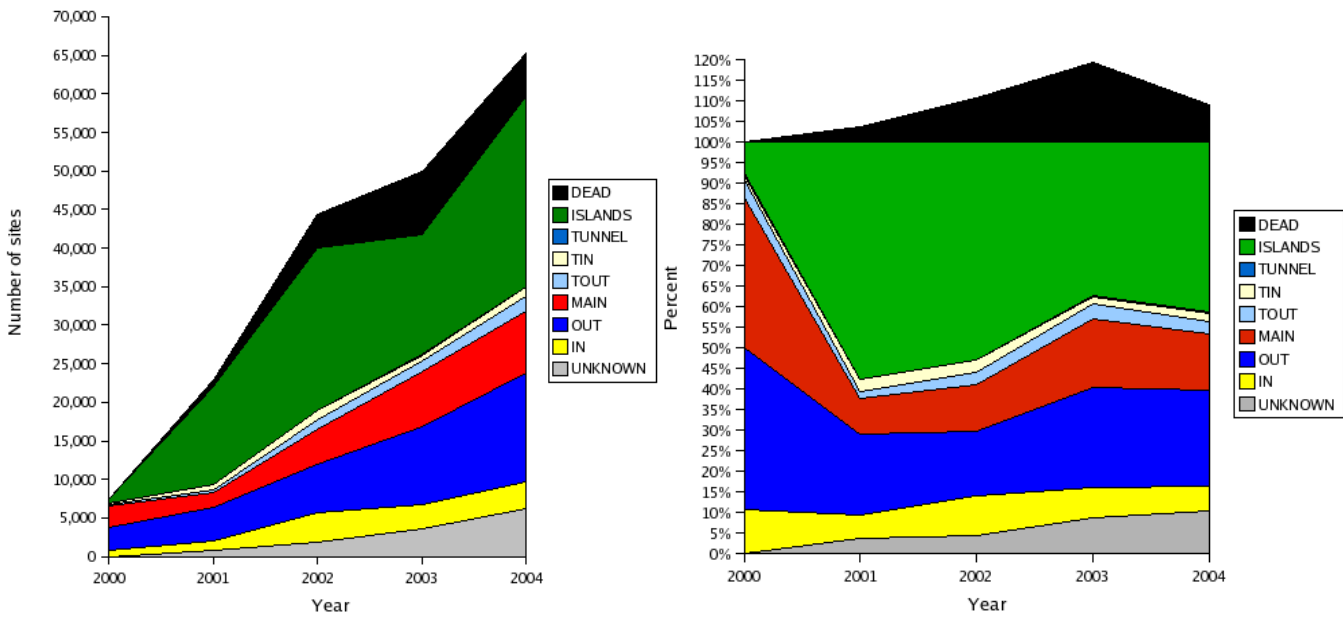
Baeza-Yates & Castillo, WWW2006



# User Modeling

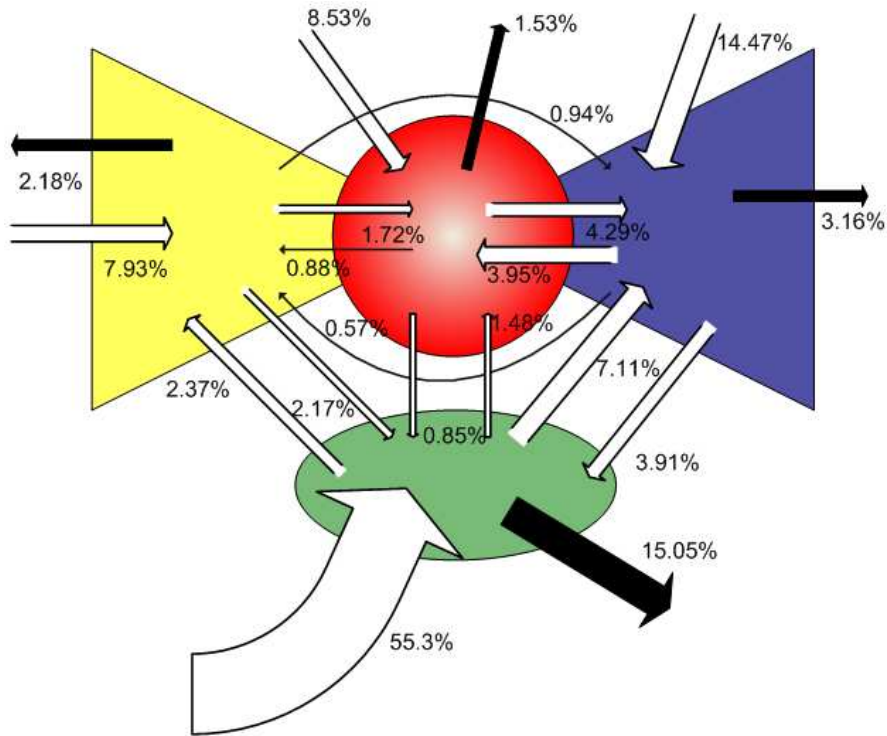


# Size Evolution





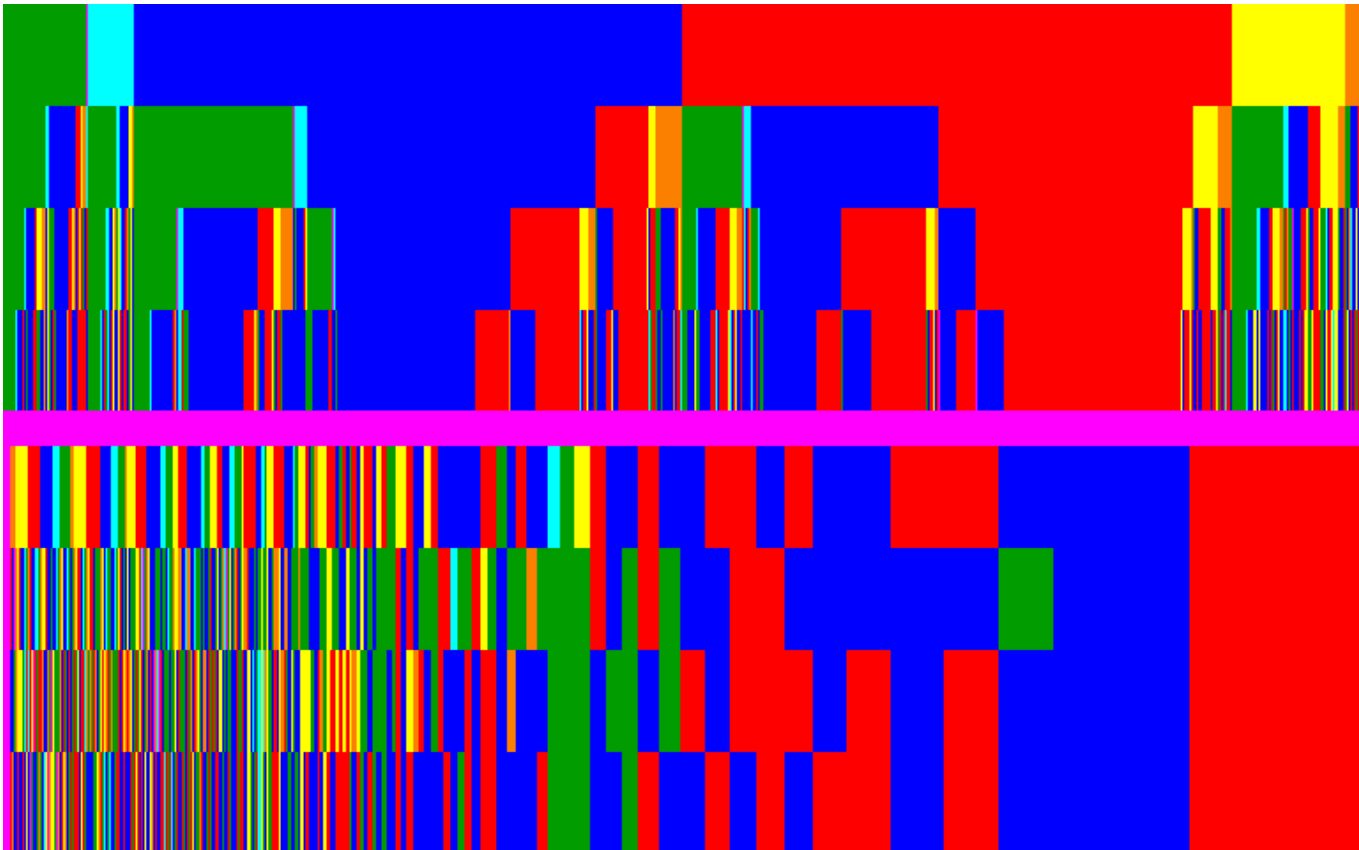
# Structure Macro Dynamics



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# Structure Micro Dynamics



## Tags / jaguar / clusters

SEARCH

(Or, try an [advanced search](#).)[car](#), [cars](#), [auto](#), [etype](#), [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 Power of Social Media

- Flickr – community phenomenon
- Millions of users share and tag each others' photographs (why???)
- The *wisdom of the crowds* can be used to search
- The principle is not new – anchor text used in “standard” search
- What about to generate pseudo-semantic resources?



## The Wisdom of Crowds

---

- James Surowiecki, a *New Yorker* columnist, published this book in 2004
- Bottom line:
  - “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”.*

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## 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!)

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# Mining Queries for ...

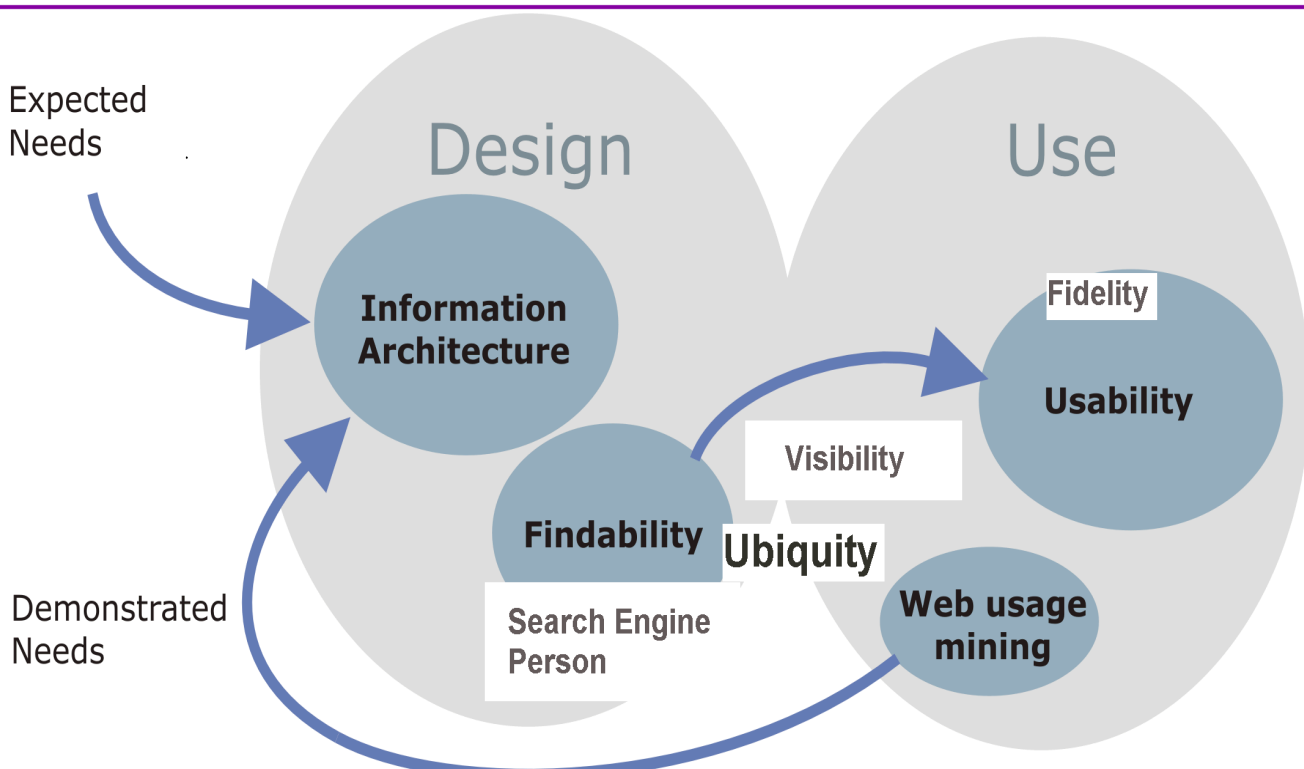
---

- Improved Web Search: index layout, ranking
- User Driven Design
  - Information Scent
  - The Web Site that the Users Want
  - The Web Site that You should Have
  - Improve content & structure
- Bootstrap of pseudo-semantic resources

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# Web Design

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- *User-driven design*
  - Best example: Yahoo!
- Navigational log analysis
  - Site reorganization
- Query log analysis
  - Information Scent
  - Content that is missing: market niches



The screenshot shows the Yahoo! homepage with a search bar at the top and a large navigation menu. The menu is organized into several categories:

- Shop:** Auctions, Autos, Classifieds, Real Estate, Shopping, Travel
- Connect:** Chat, GeoCities, Shopping Groups, Clubs, Mail, Members, Messenger, Mobile, Personal, People Search, Photos
- Personal:** Address Book, Bookmarks, Calendar, My Yahoo!, PayDirect, Fun Games, Horoscopes, Kids, Movies, Music, TV, more...

Below the navigation menu, there are several sections:

- hotJobs:** A job search section with a search bar and links for job seekers and employers.
- In the News:** A section with news headlines, such as "Two planes collide over Germany, 71 killed" and "U.S. says sarin bomb did not kill al-Qaeda".
- Marketplace:** A section with links for loan centers, auto loans, mortgages, credit reports, and Yahoo! Travel.
- Broadcast Events:** A section with links to watch top 100 music videos and other events.
- Local Yahoo's:** A section with links to local Yahoo! pages for various countries and cities.



The screenshot shows the Yahoo! homepage with a simplified navigation menu and search bar. The menu is organized into several categories:

- Shop:** Auctions, Autos, Classifieds, Real Estate, Shopping, Travel
- Connect:** Chat, GeoCities, Shopping Groups, Clubs, Mail, Messenger, Mobile
- Organize:** Address Book, Calendar, My Yahoo!, PayDirect, Photos
- Fun:** Games, Horoscopes, Kids, Movies, Music, TV
- Info:** Finance, News, Sports, Weather

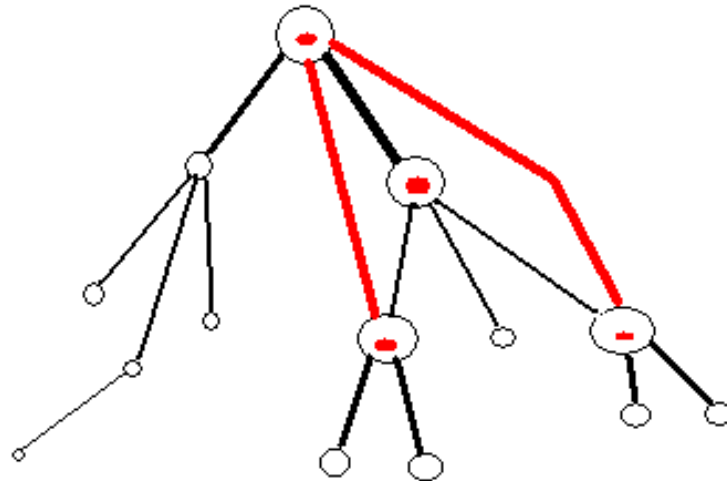
Below the navigation menu, there are several sections:

- hotJobs:** A job search section with a search bar and links for job seekers and employers.
- Web Site Directory:** A section with links to various web sites, organized by subject.
- Business & Economy:** A section with links to regional business news and market data.
- Computers & Internet:** A section with links to various computer and internet related topics.
- News & Media:** A section with links to various news and media related topics.
- Entertainment:** A section with links to various entertainment related topics.
- Recreation & Sports:** A section with links to various recreation and sports related topics.
- Health:** A section with links to various health related topics.
- Government:** A section with links to various government related topics.
- Local Yahoo's:** A section with links to local Yahoo! pages for various countries and cities.
- More Yahoo!:** A section with links to various other Yahoo! services and products.



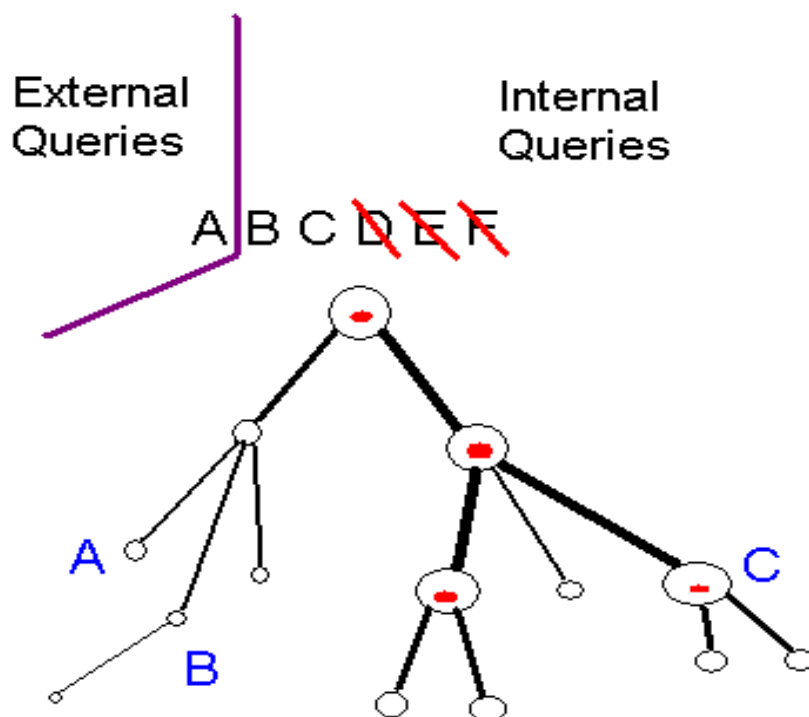
## Navigation Mining

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## Web Site Query Mining

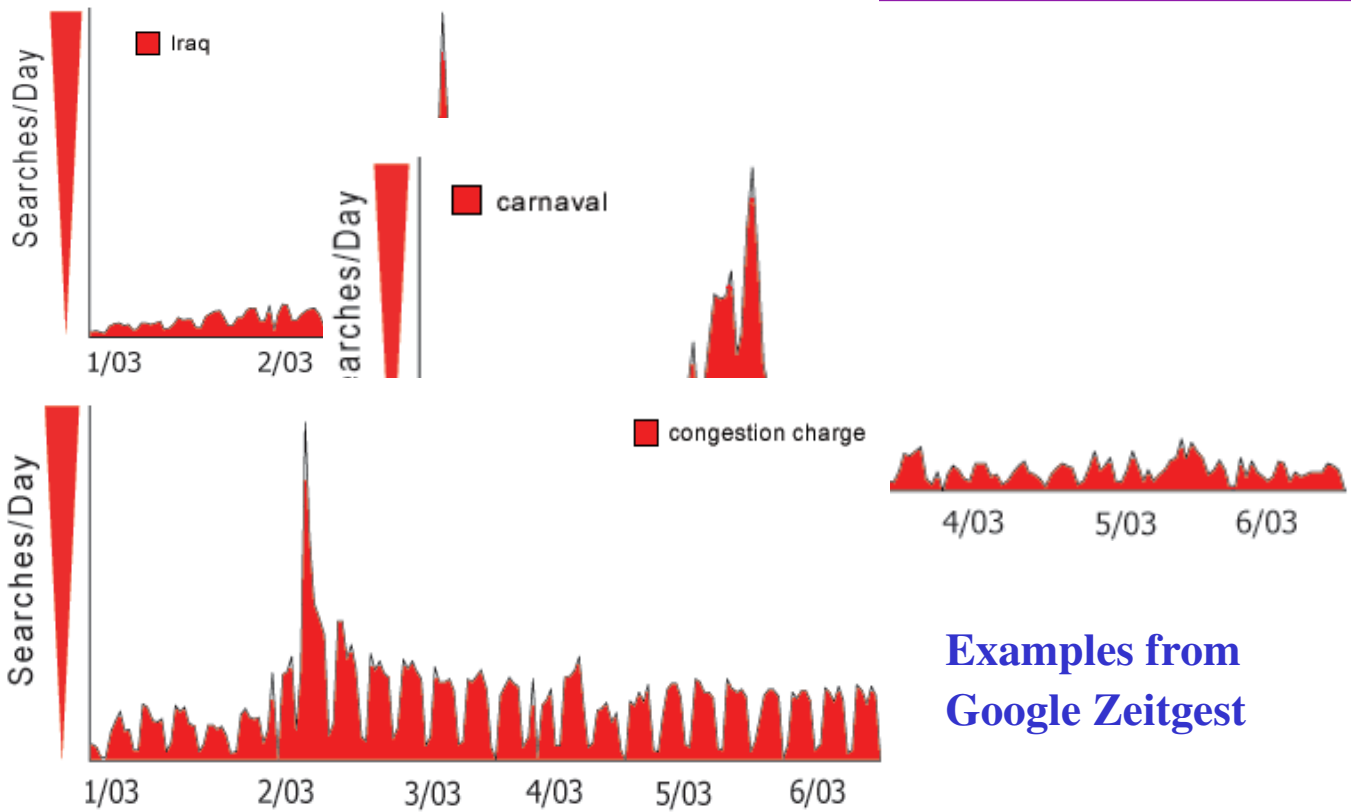
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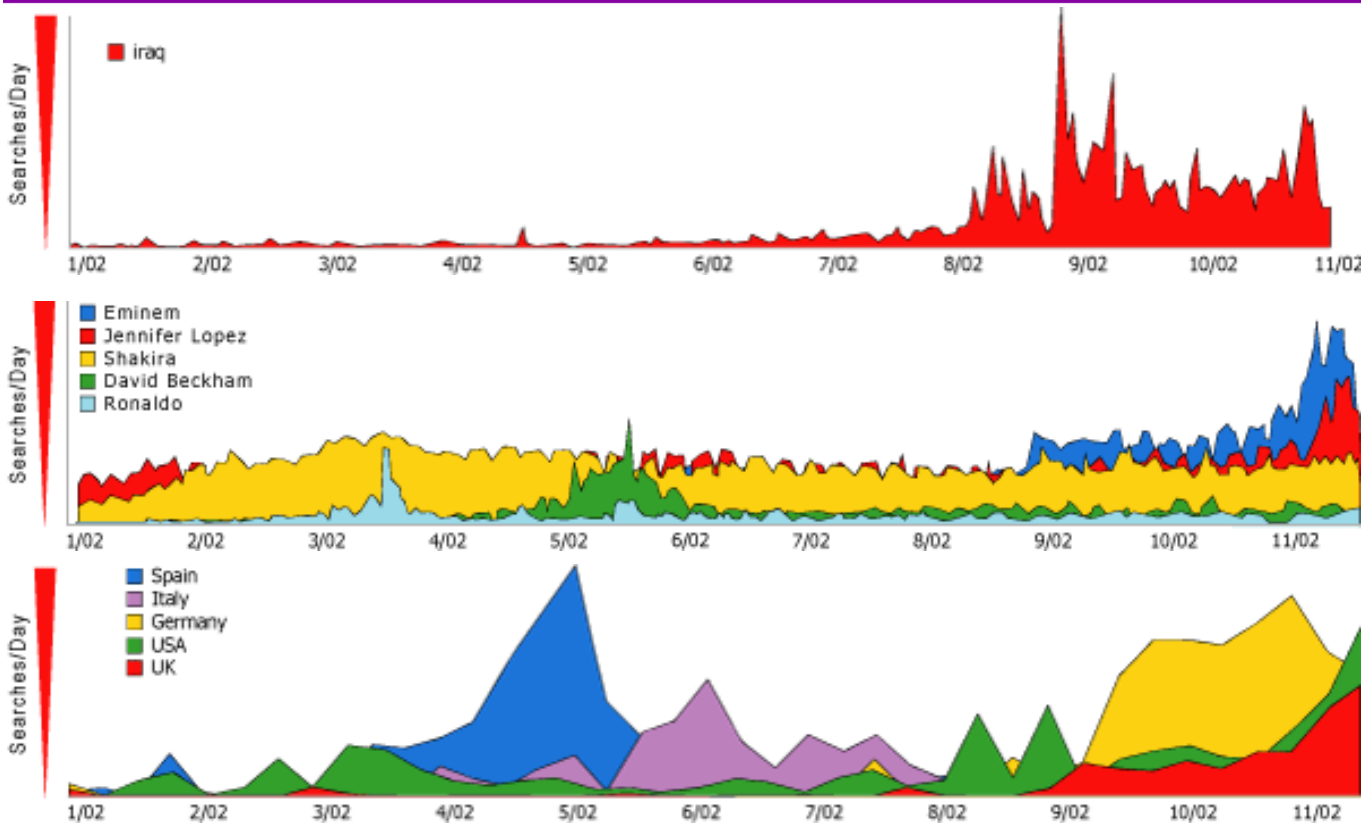
## Social Mining (2003)



Examples from Google Zeitgeist



## Social Mining (2002)





# Relevance of the Context

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- There is no information without context
- Context and hence, content, will be implicit
- Balancing act: information vs. form
- Brown & Digid: *The social life of information* (2000)
  - Current trend: less information, more context
- News highlights are similar to Web queries
  - E.g.: *Spell Unchecked* (*Indian Express*, July 24, 2005)

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# Context

---

- *Who you are*: age, gender, profession, etc.
- *Where you are and when*: time, location, speed and direction, etc.
- *What you are doing*: interaction history, task in hand, searching device, etc.
  
- *Issues*: privacy, intrusion, will to do it, etc.
- *Other sources*: Web, CV, usage logs, computing environment, ...
- *Goals*: personalization, localization, better ranking in general, etc.

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## Using the Context

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Example: *I want information about Santiago*

- **Context**

- Family in Chile
- Catholic
- Travelling to Cuba
- Lives in Argentina
- Located in Santo Domingo
- Architect
- Spanish movies fan
- Baseball fan

- **Probable Answer**

- *Santiago de Chile*
- *Santiago de Compostela*
- *Santiago de Cuba*
- *Santiago del Estero*
- *Santiago de los Caballeros*
- *Santiago Calatrava*
- *Santiago Segura*
- *Santiago Benito*

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## Context in Web Queries

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- *Session: (  $q$ , ( $URL$ ,  $t$ )<sup>\*</sup> )<sup>+</sup>*
- *Who you are: age, gender, profession (IP), etc.*
- *Where you are and when: time, location (IP), speed and direction, etc.*
- *What you are doing: interaction history, task in hand, etc.*
- *What you are using: searching device (operating system, browser, ...)*

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SEARCH GOAL	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES
<b>1. Navigational</b>	My goal is to go to specific known website that I already have in mind. The only reason I'm searching is that it's more convenient than typing the URL, or perhaps I don't know the URL.	aloha airlines duke university hospital kelly blue book
<b>2. Informational</b>	My goal is to learn something by reading or viewing web pages	<b>Home page</b>
2.1 Directed	I want to learn something in particular about my topic	
2.1.1 Closed	I want to get an answer to a question that has a single, unambiguous answer.	what is a supercharger 2004 election dates
2.1.2 Open	I want to get an answer to an open-ended question, or one with unconstrained depth.	baseball death and injury why are metals shiny
2.2 Undirected	I want to learn anything/everything about my topic. A query for topic X might be interpreted as "tell me about X."	color blindness jfk jr
2.3 Advice	I want to get advice, ideas, suggestions, or instructions.	help quitting smoking walking with weights
2.4 Locate	My goal is to find out whether/where some real world service or product can be obtained	pella windows phone card
2.5 List	My goal is to get a list of plausible suggested web sites (i.e. the search result list itself), each of which might be candidates for helping me achieve some underlying, unspecified goal	travel amsterdam universities florida newspapers
<b>3. Resource</b>	My goal is to obtain a resource (not information) available on web pages	<b>Hub page</b>
3.1 Download	My goal is to download a resource that must be on my computer or other device to be useful.	kazaa lite mame roms
3.2 Entertainment	My goal is to be entertained simply by viewing items available on the result page	xxx porno movie free live camera in l.a.
3.3 Interact	My goal is to interact with a resource using another program/service available on the web site I find	weather measure converter
3.4 Obtain	My goal is to obtain a resource that does not require a computer to use. I may print it out, but I can also just look at it on the screen. I'm not obtaining it to learn some information, but because I want to use the resource itself.	free jack o lantern patterns ellis island lesson plans house document no. 587

Rose & Levinson 2004

## Kang & Kim, SIGIR 2003

### Features:

- Anchor usage rate
- Query term distribution in home pages
- Term dependence

● Not effective: 60%

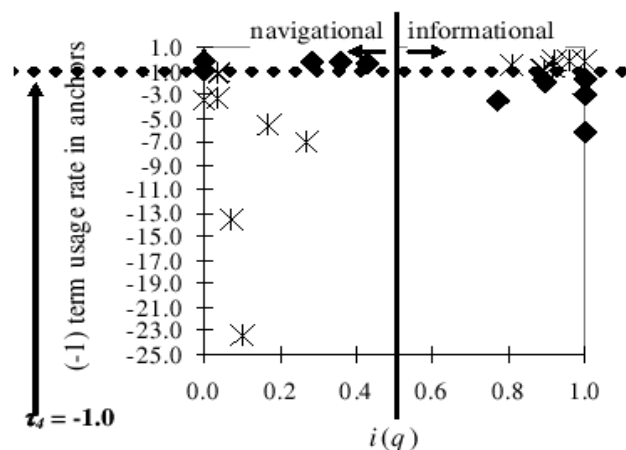


Figure 15: Anchor usage rate

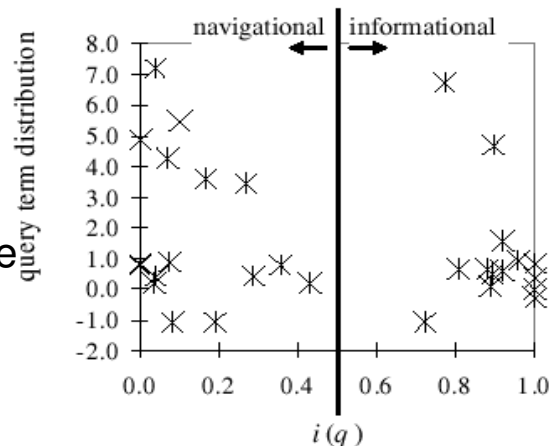


Figure 16: Query term distribution

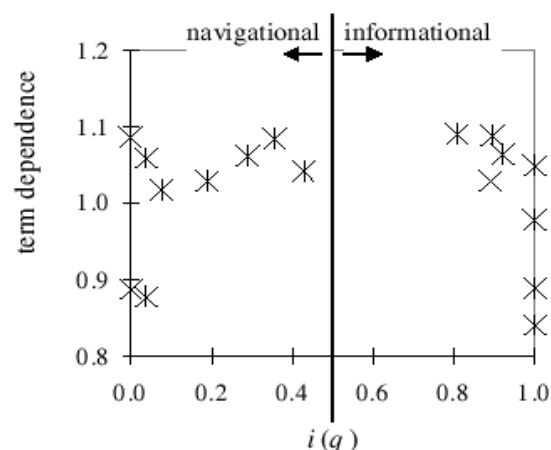


Figure 17: Term dependence

# Y! User Goals

- Liu, Lee & Cho, WWW 2005
- Top 50 CS queries
- Manual Query Classification: 28 people
- Informational goal  $i(q)$
- Remove software & person-names
- 30 queries left

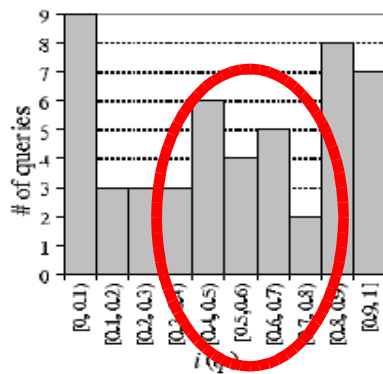


Figure 1: Query distribution along the  $i(q)$  axis

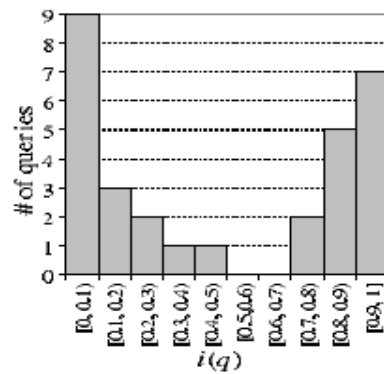


Figure 2: After removing software and person-name queries

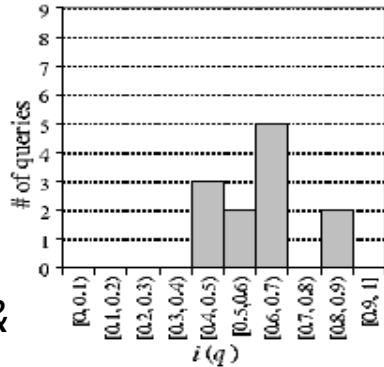


Figure 3: Distribution of the 12 software queries

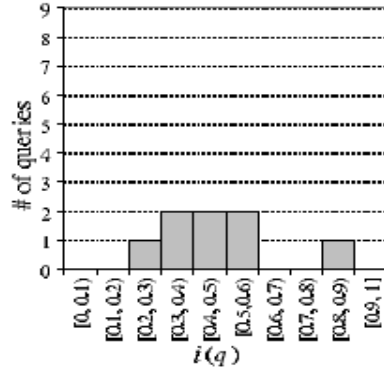


Figure 4: Distribution of the 8 person-name queries

# Y! Features

## • Click & anchor text distribution

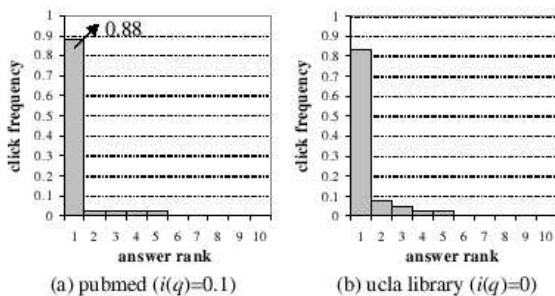


Figure 5: Click distributions for sample navigational queries

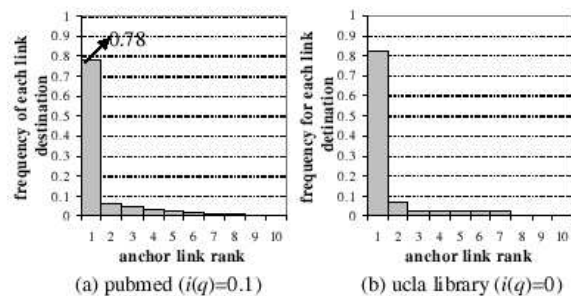


Figure 7: Anchor-link distributions for sample navigational queries

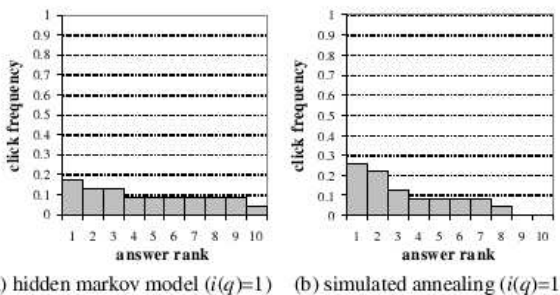


Figure 6: Click distributions for sample informational queries

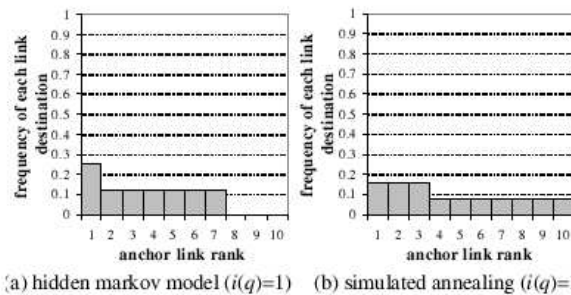


Figure 8: Anchor-link distributions for sample informational queries

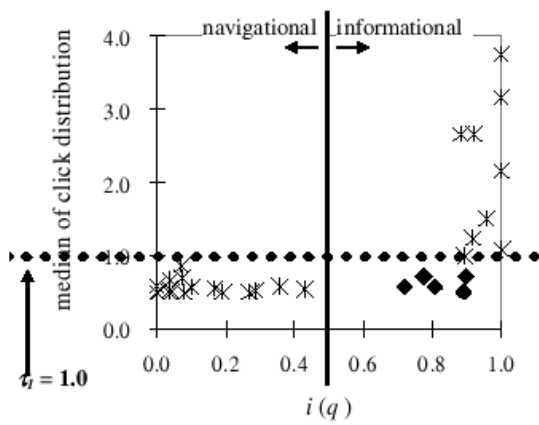


Figure 11: Median of click distribution

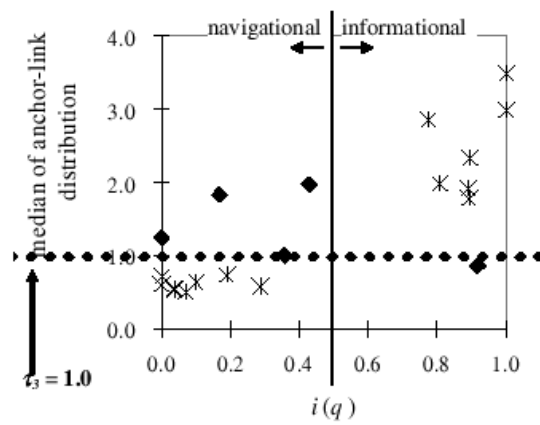


Figure 13: Median of anchor-link distribution

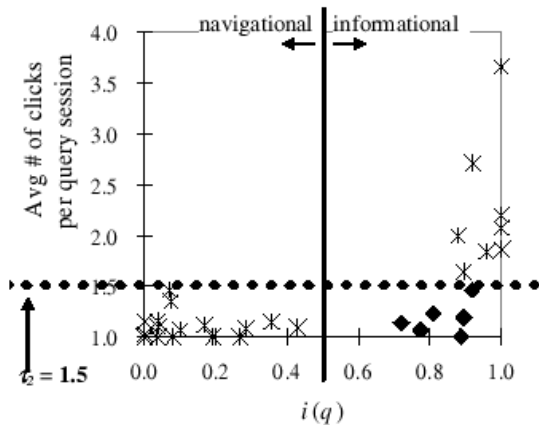


Figure 12: Avg # of clicks per query

### Prediction power:

- Single features: 80%
- Mixed features: 90%
- Drawbacks: Small evaluation, a posteriori feature

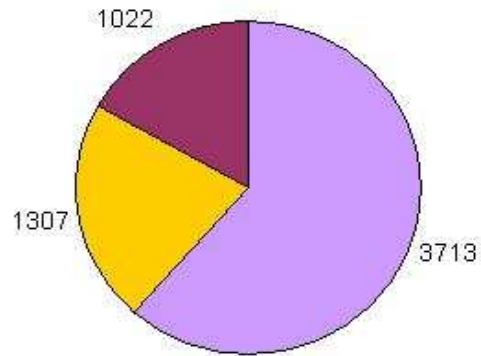
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## User Intention

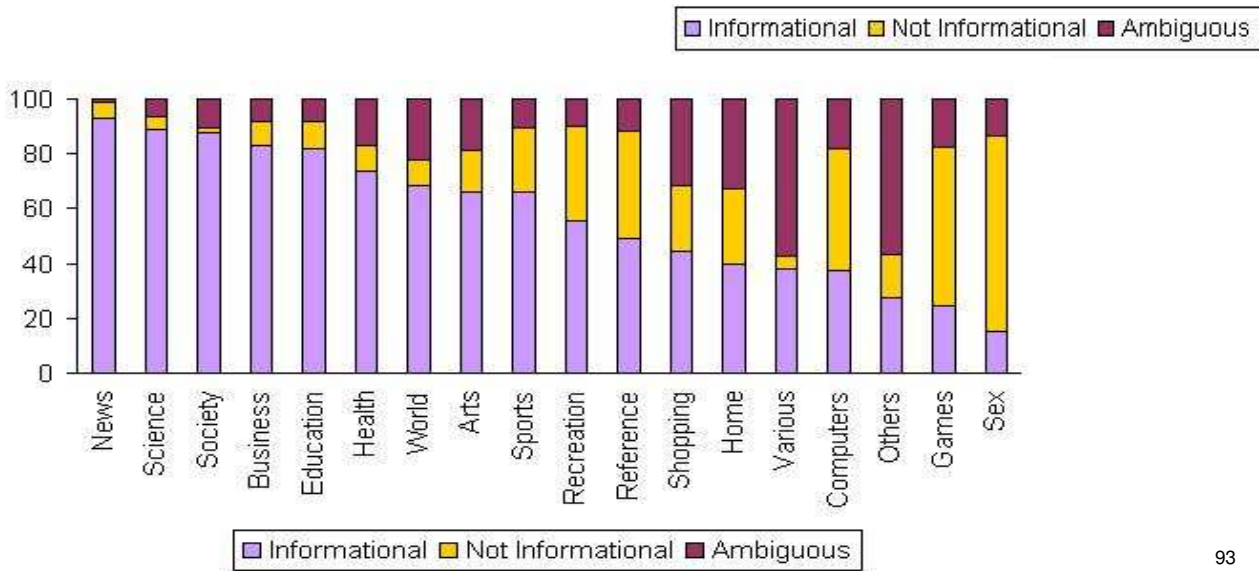
- Manual classification of more than 6,000 popular queries
- Query Intention & topic
- Classification & Clustering
- Machine Learning on all the available attributes
- Baeza-Yates, Calderon & Gonzalez (SPIRE 2006)

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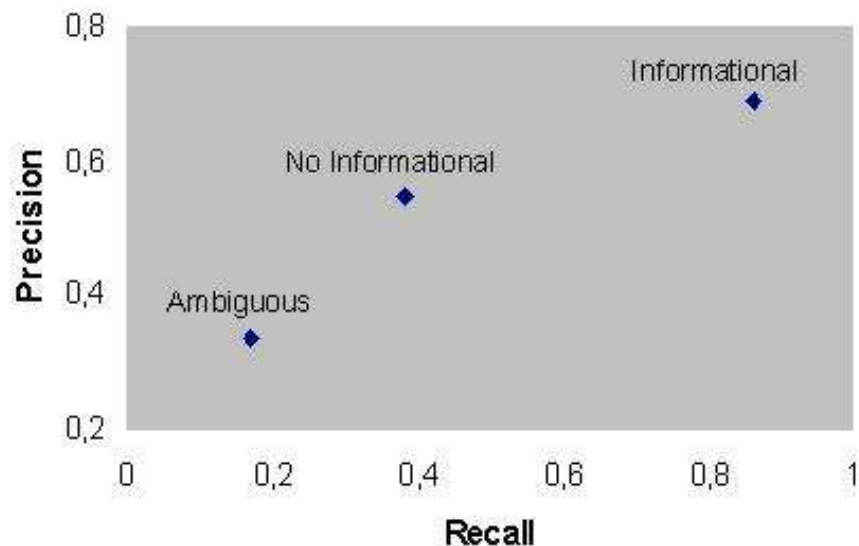
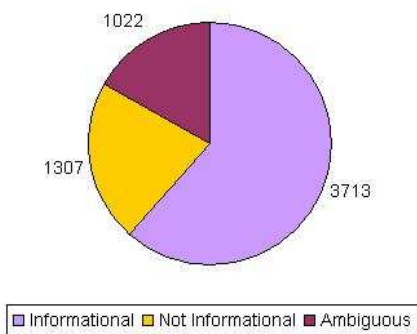
## Classified Queries



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## Results: User Intention

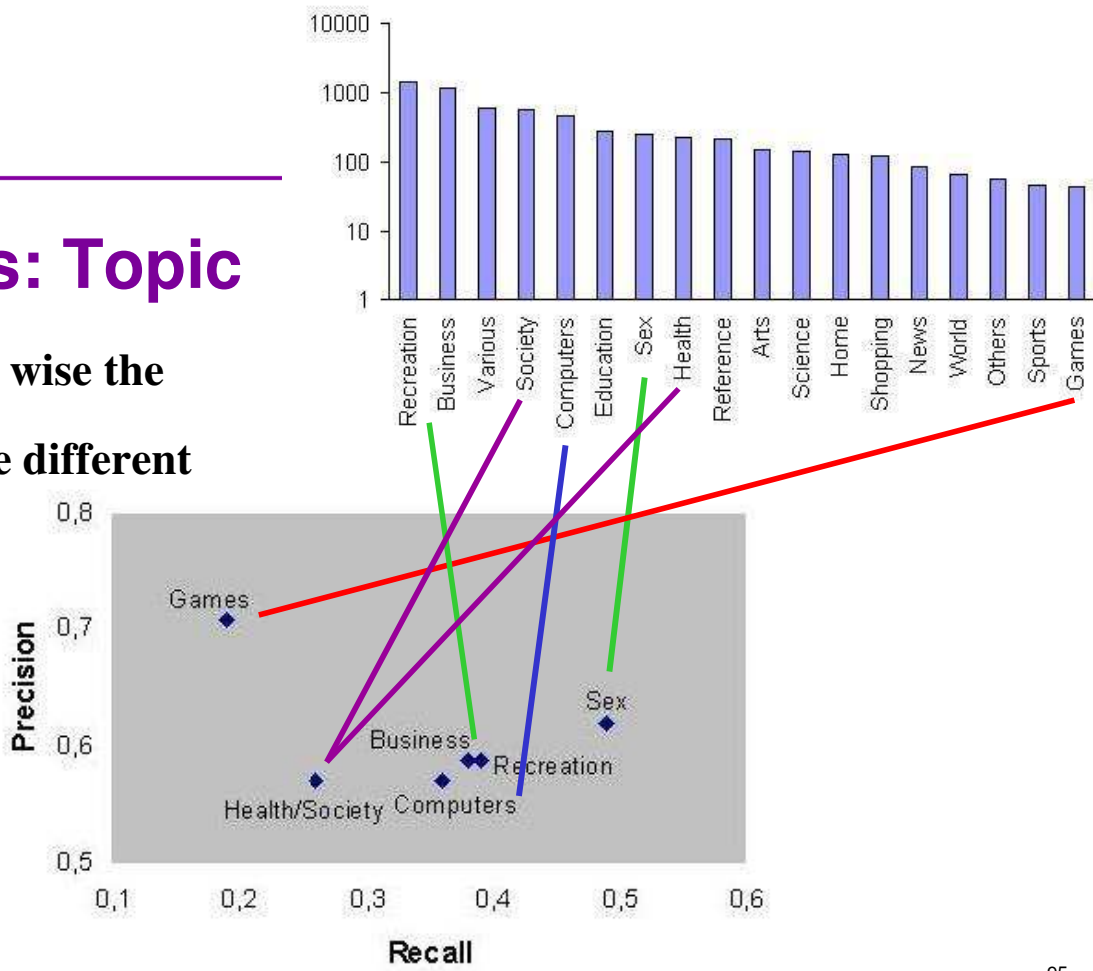


94

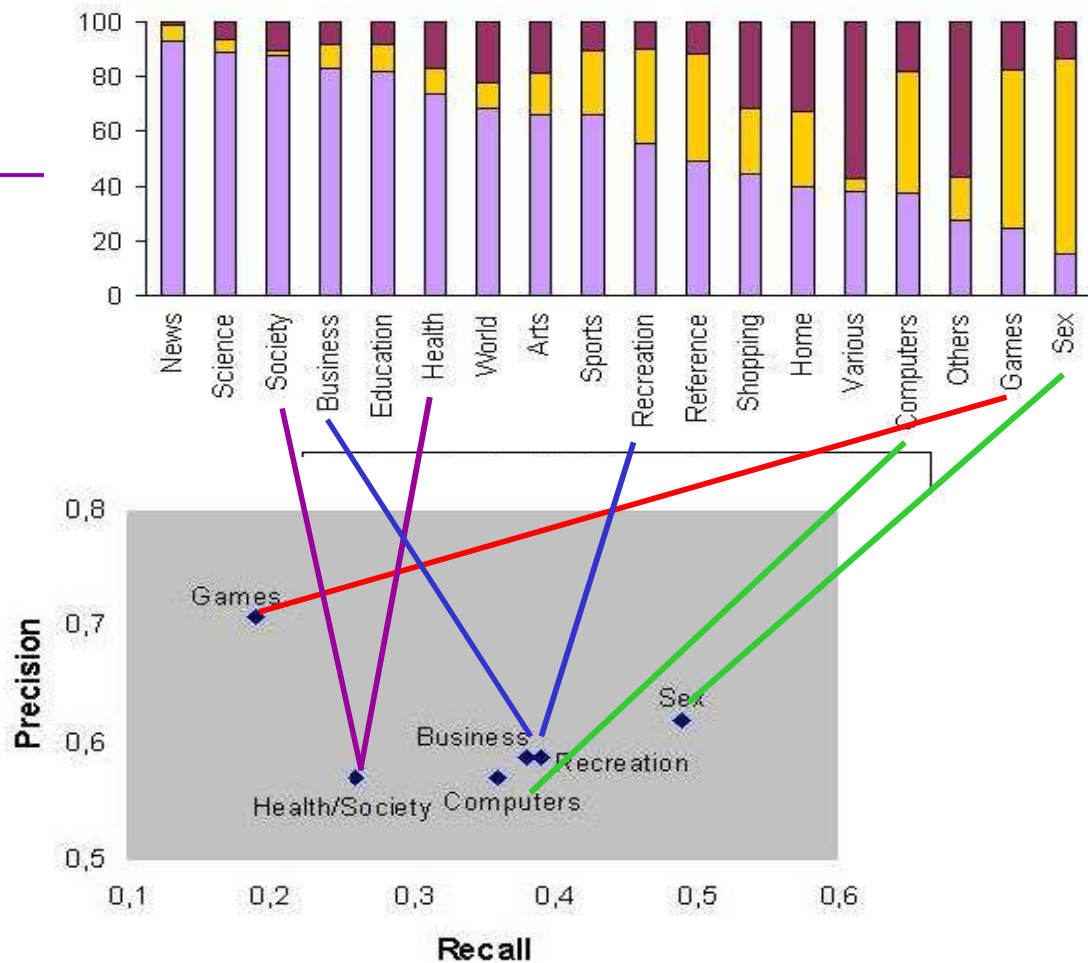


## Results: Topic

- Volume wise the results are different



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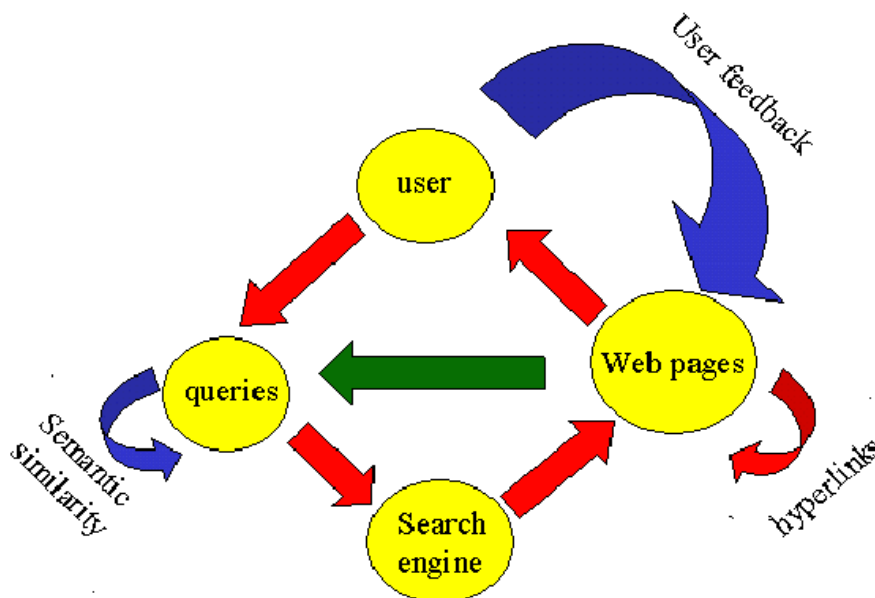
# Y! Clustering Queries

- Define relations among queries
  - Common words: sparse set
  - Common clicked URLs: better
  - Natural clusters
- Define distance function among queries
  - Content of clicked URLs  
(Baeza-Yates, Hurtado & Mendoza, 2004)
  - Summary of query answers (Sahami, 2006)

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# Y! Goals

- Can we cluster queries well?
- Can we assign user goals to clusters?



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- Cluster text of clicked pages
  - Infer query clusters using a vector model

$$q[i] = \sum_{URLu} \frac{\text{Pop}(q, u) \times \text{Tf}(t_i, u)}{\max_t \text{Tf}(t, u)}$$

- Pseudo-taxonomies for queries
  - Real language (slang?) of the Web
  - Can be used for classification purposes

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## Clusters Examples

Q	Cluster Rank	ISim	ESim	Queries in Cluster	Descriptive keywords
$q_1$	252	0,447	0,007	car sales, cars Iquique, cars used, diesel, new cars,	cars (49, 4%), used (14, 2%), stock (3, 8%), pickup truck (3, 7%), jeep (1, 6%)
$q_2$	497	0,313	0,009	stamp, serigraph inputs, ink reload, cartridge	print (11, 4%), ink (7, 3%), stamping (3, 8%), inkjet (3, 6%)
$q_3$	84	0,697	0,015	office rental, rentals in Santiago, real state, apartment rental	office (11, 6%), building (7, 5%), real state (5, 9%), real state agents (4, 2%)



# Using the Clusters

- Improved ranking **Baeza-Yates, Hurtado & Mendoza**  
**Journal of ASIST 2007**
- Word classification
  - Synonyms & related terms are in the same cluster
  - Homonyms (polysemy) are in different clusters
- Query recommendation (ranking queries!)
  - Real queries, not query expansion

$$\text{Rank}(q) = \gamma \times \text{Sup}(q, q_{ini}) + (1 - \gamma) \times \text{Clos}(q)$$

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# Query Recommendation

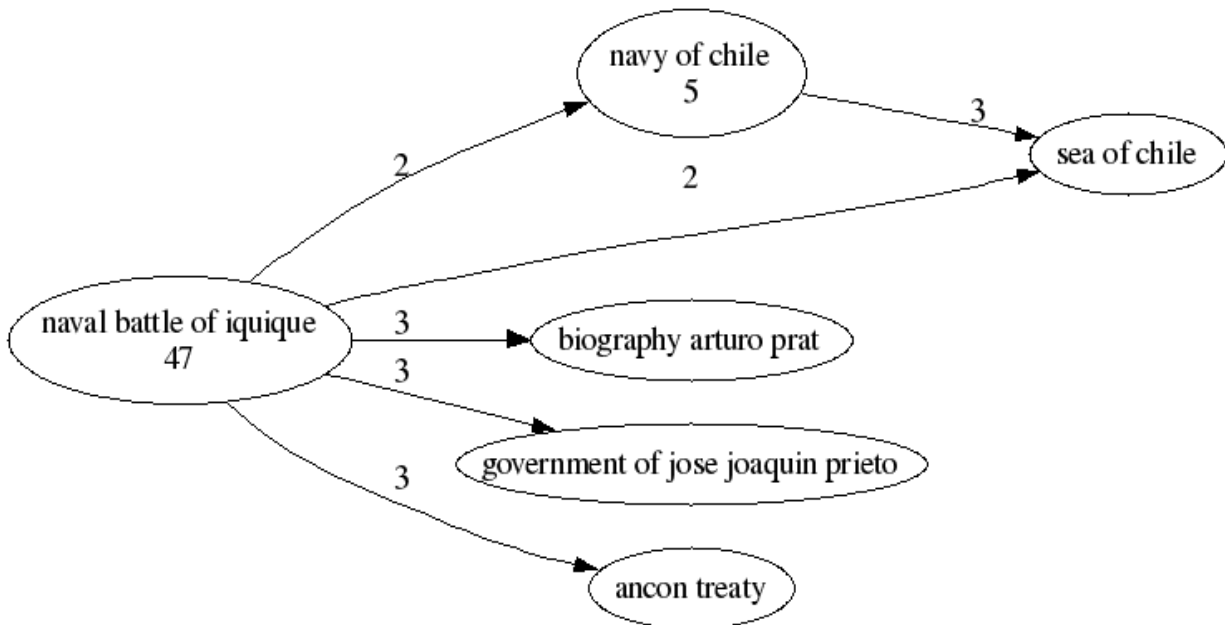
Query	Popularity	Support	Closedness	Rank
rentals apartments viña del mar owners	2	0,133	0,403	0,268
rentals apartments viña del mar	10	0,2	0,259	0,229
viel properties	4	0,1	0,315	0,207
rental house viña del mar	2	0,166	0,121	0,143
house leasing rancagua	8	0,166	0,0385	0,102
quintero	2	0,166	0,024	0,095
rentals apartments cheap vina del mar	3	0,033	0,153	0,093
subsidize renovation urban	5	0,133	0,001	0,067
houses being sold in pucon	10	0	0,114	0,057
apartments selling pucon villarrica	2	0,066	0,015	0,040
portal sell properties	3	0,033	0,023	0,028
sell house	2	0,033	0,017	0,025
sell lots pirque	2	0,033	0,0014	0,017
canete hotels	1	0	0,011	0,005

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# Simple Related Terms

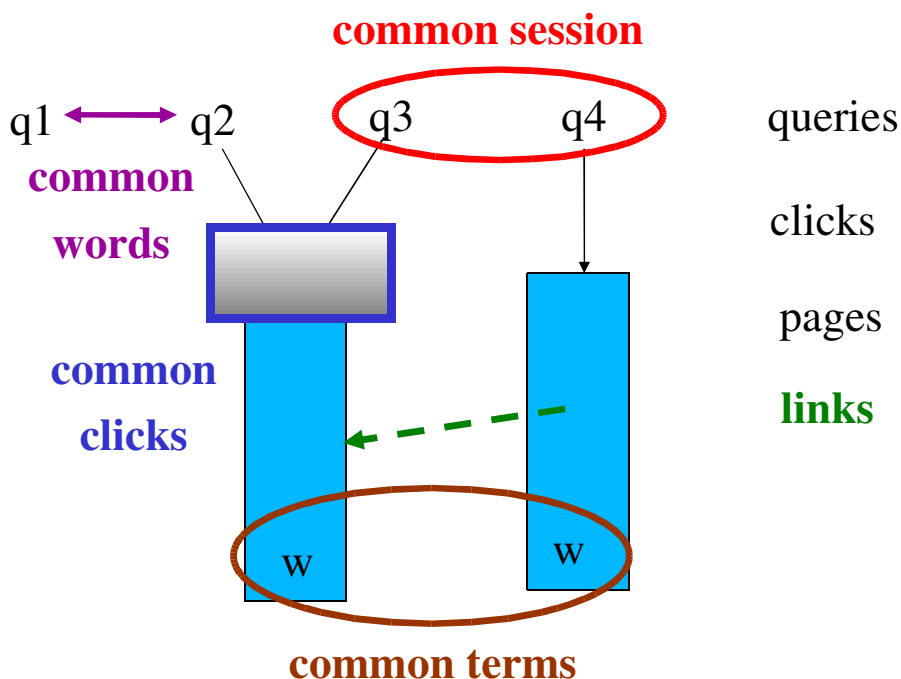
- Query dominance based on clicked pages



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# Relating Queries (Baeza-Yates, 2007)



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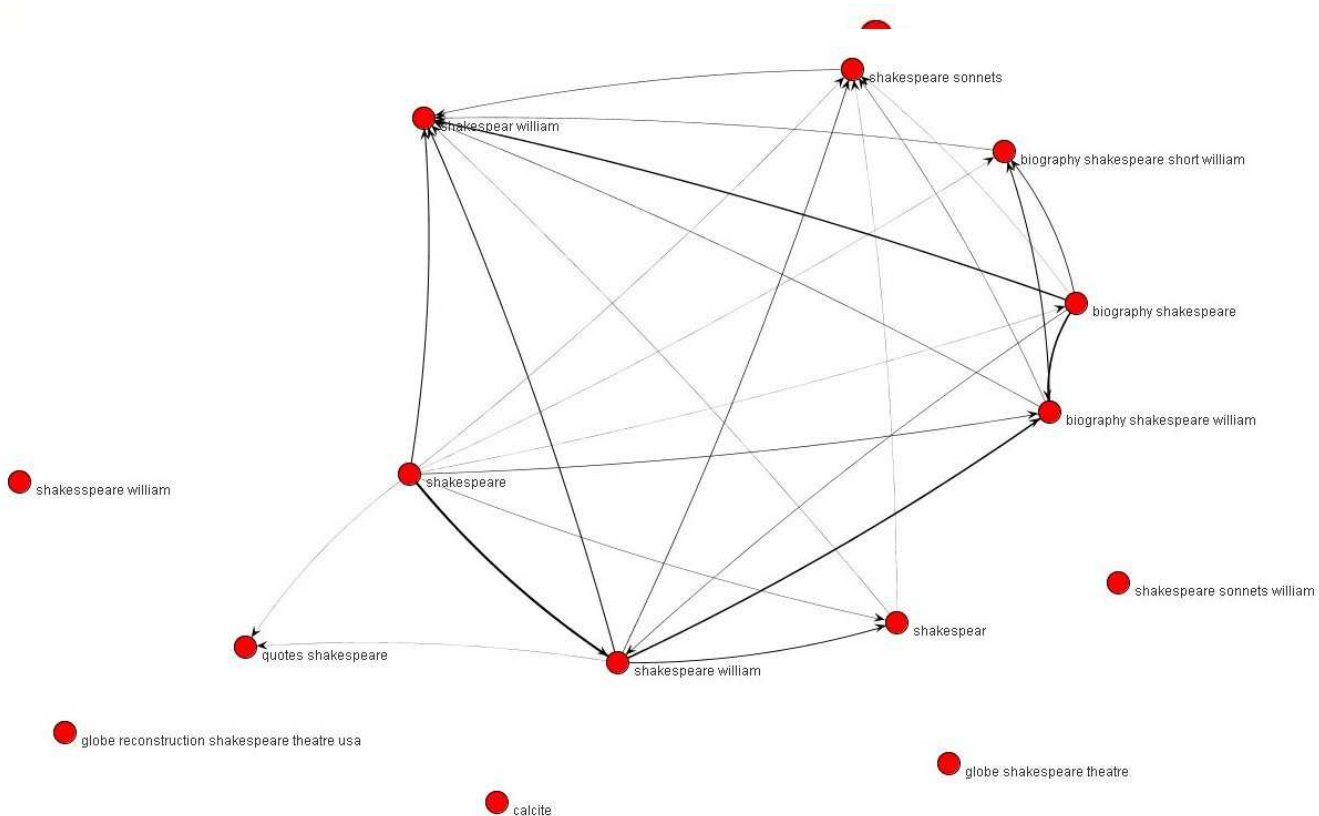
# Qualitative Analysis

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

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# Words, Sessions and Clicks







## Formal Definition

- There is an edge between two queries  $q$  and  $q'$  if:
  - There is at least one URL clicked by both
- Edges can be weighted (for filtering)
  - We used the cosine similarity in a vector space defined by URL clicks

$$W(e) = \frac{\bar{q} \cdot \bar{q}'}{|\bar{q}| |\bar{q}'|} = \frac{\sum_{i \leq D} q(i) \cdot q'(i)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i \leq D} q(i)^2} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_{i \leq D} q'(i)^2}}$$



## URL based Vector Space

- Consider the query “*complex networks*”
- Suppose for that query the clicks are:

– [www.ams.org/featurecolumn/archive/networks1.html](http://www.ams.org/featurecolumn/archive/networks1.html) (3 clicks)

– [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Complex\\_network](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Complex_network) (1 click)



“Complex networks”





## Building the Graph

---

- The graph can be built efficiently:
  - Consider the tuples (query, clicked url)
  - Sort by the second component
  - Each block with the same URL  $u$  gives the edges induced by  $u$
  - Complexity:  $O(\max \{M^*/|E|, n \log n\})$  where  $M$  is the maximum number of URLs between two queries, and  $n$  is the number of nodes



## Anatomy of a Click Graph

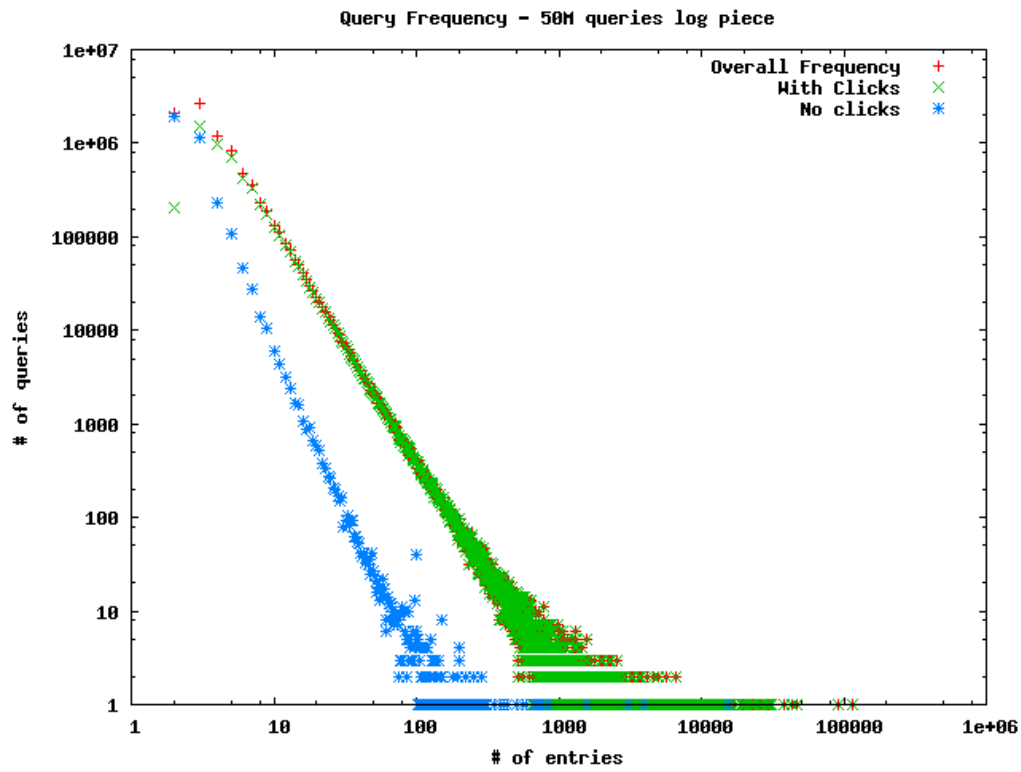
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- We built graphs using logs with up to 50 millions queries
  - For all the graphs we studied our findings are qualitatively the same (*scale-free network?*)
- Here we present the results for the following graph
  - 20M query occurrences
  - 2.8M distinct queries (nodes)
  - 5M distinct URLs
  - 361M edges

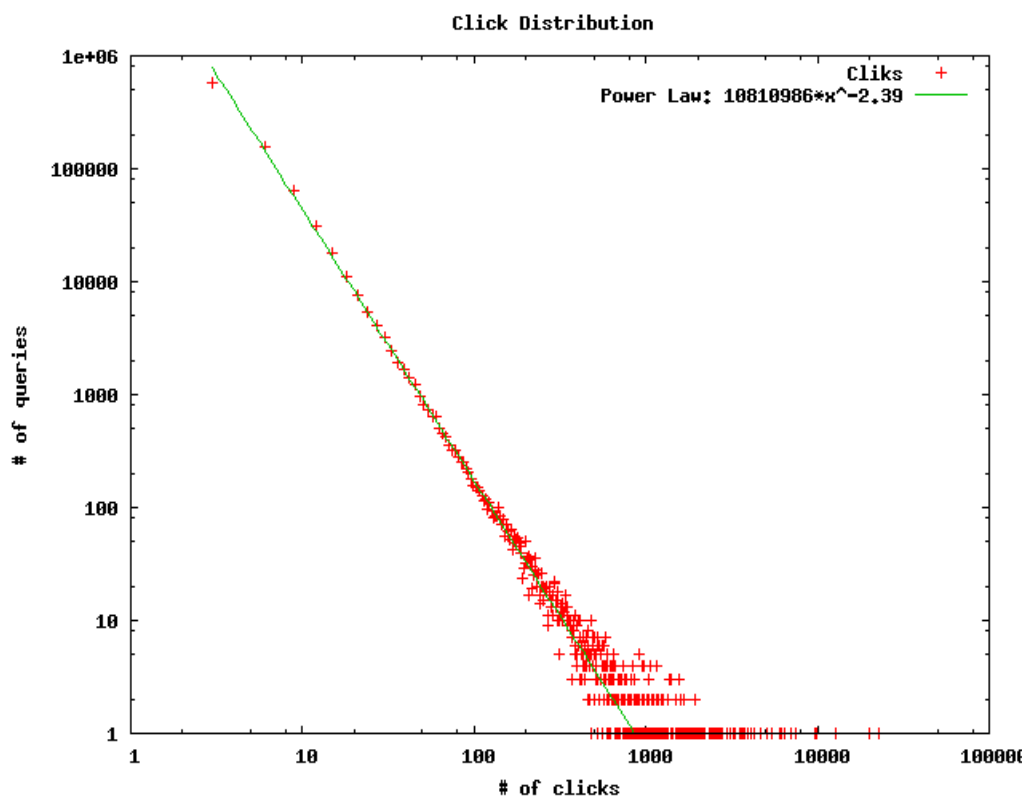




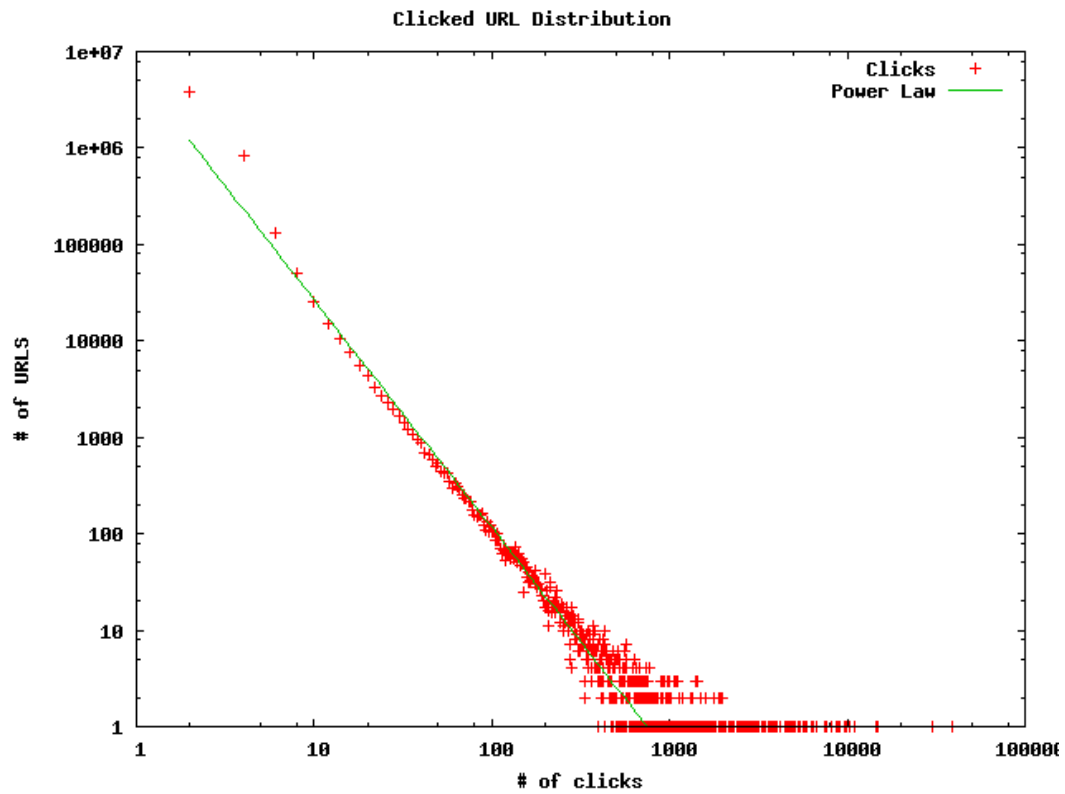
# Query Frequency



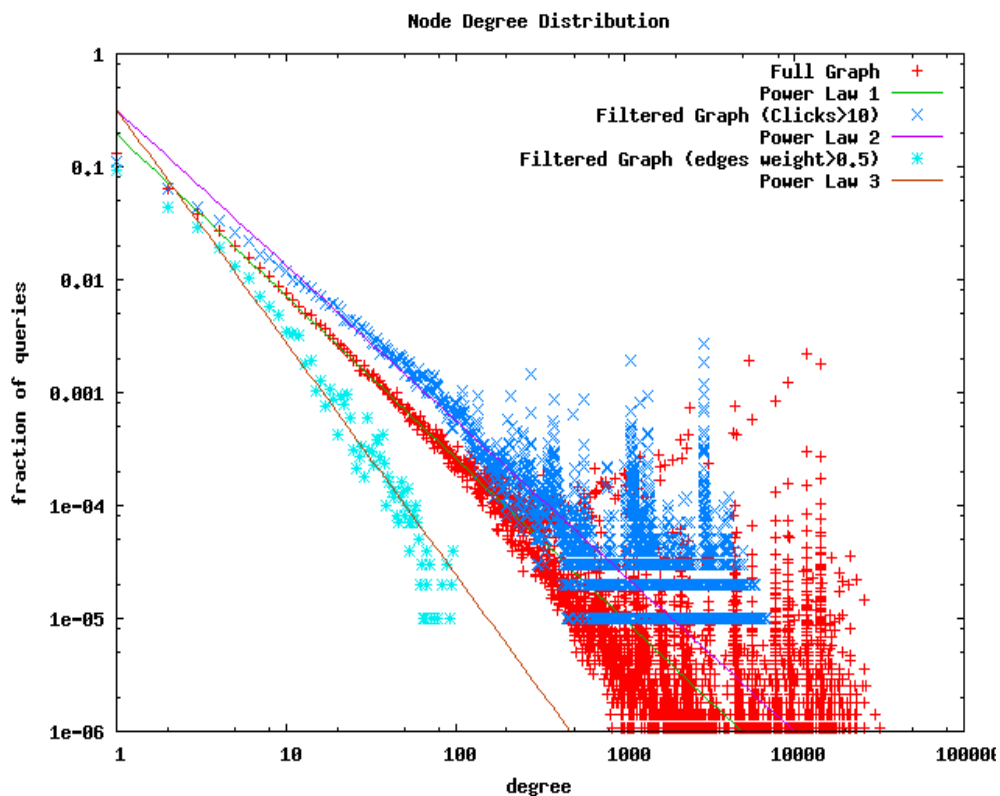
# Click Distribution



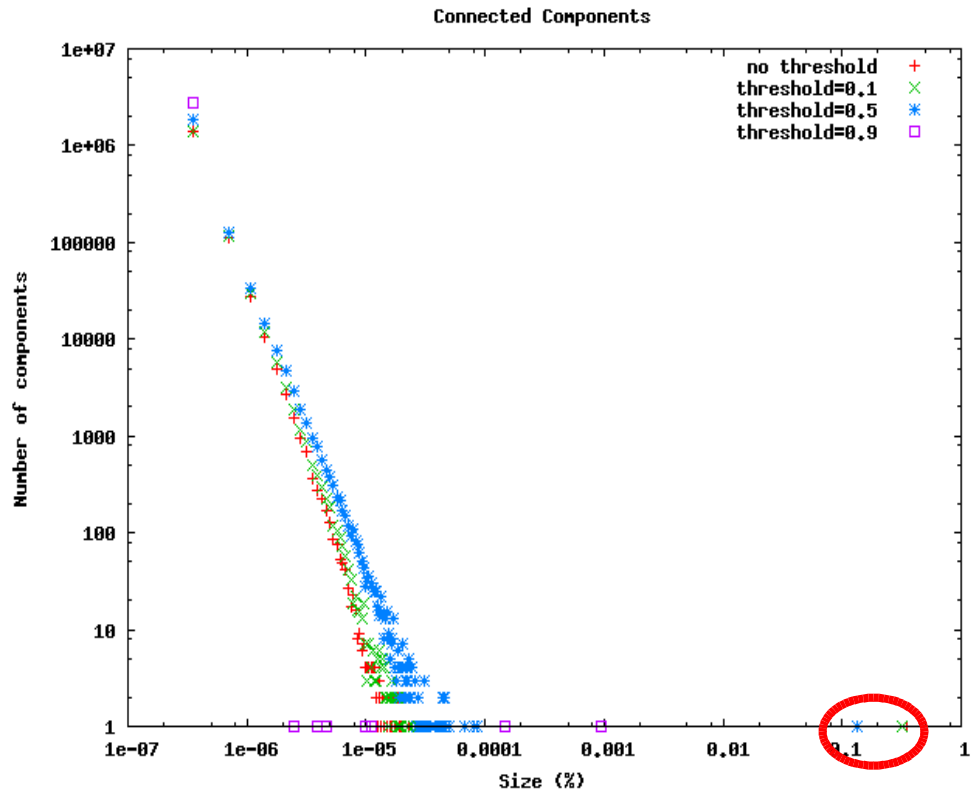
# Y! Clicked URL Distribution



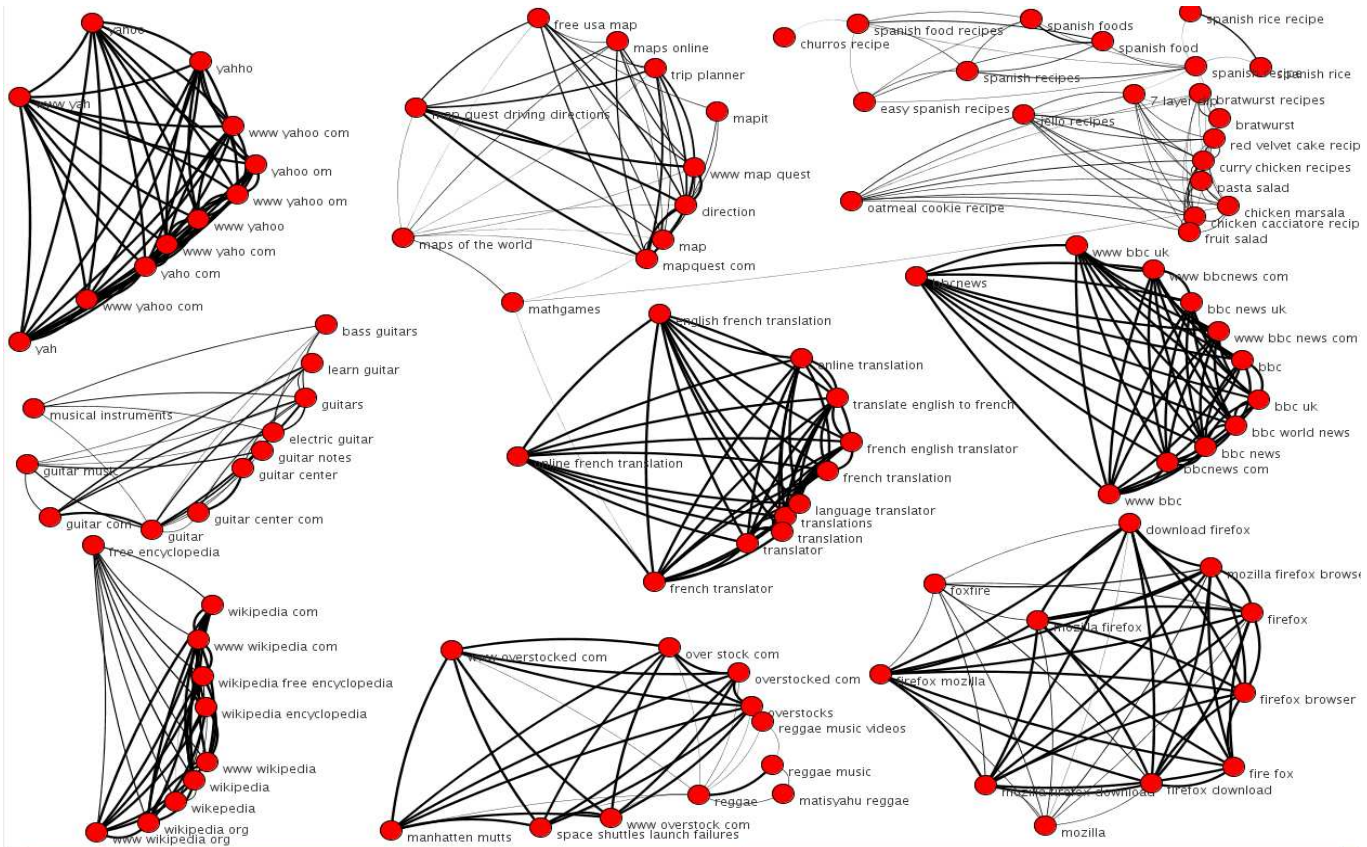
# Y! Node Degree Distribution



# Y! Connected Components



# Y! Implicit Folksonomy?





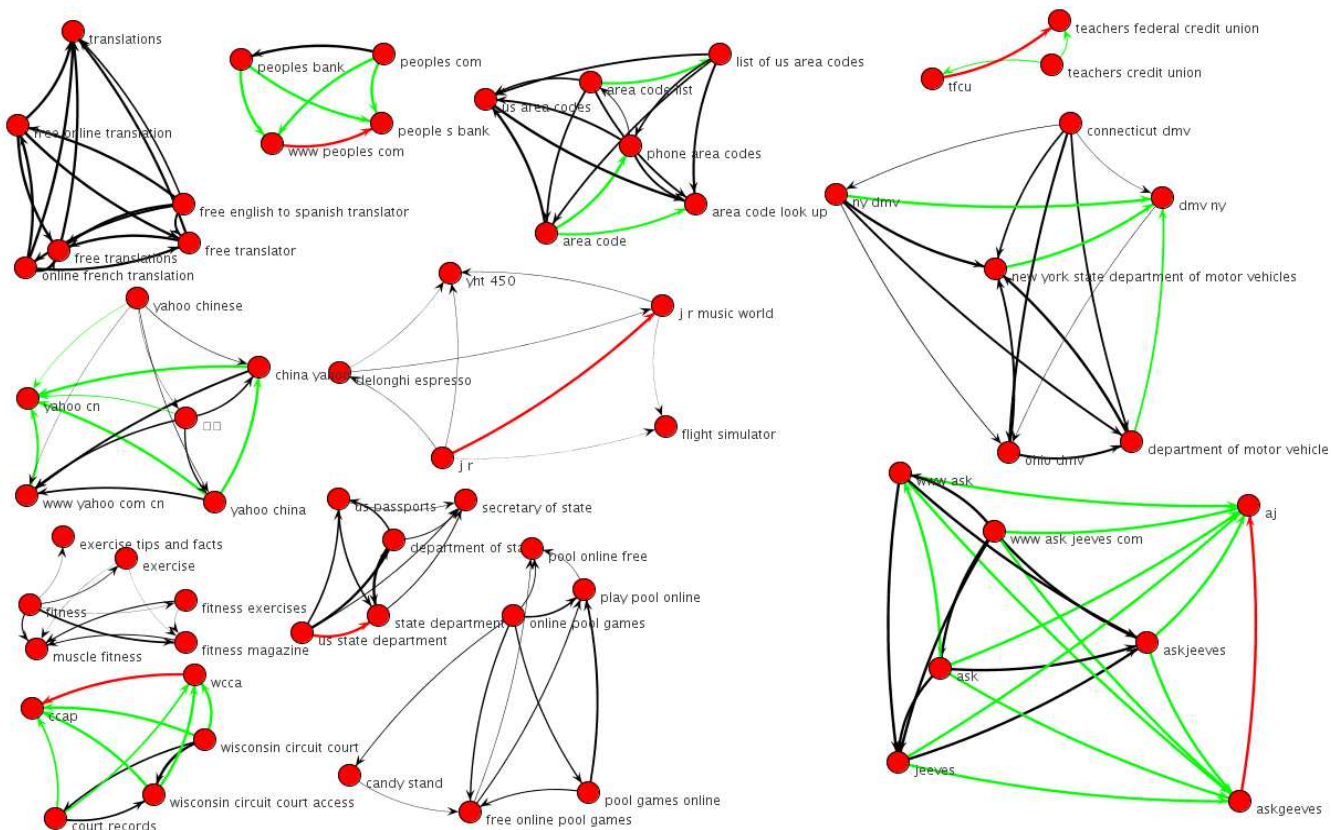
# Set Relations and Graph Mining

- Identical sets: **equivalence**
- Subsets: **specificity** **Baeza-Yates & Tiberi**  
**ACM KDD 2007**
  - directed edges
- Non empty intersections (with threshold)
  - degree of relation
- Dual graph: URLs related by queries
  - High degree: multi-topical URLs

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# Implicit Knowledge? Webslang!





## Evaluation: ODP Similarity

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- 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

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- 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



## Experimental Evaluation

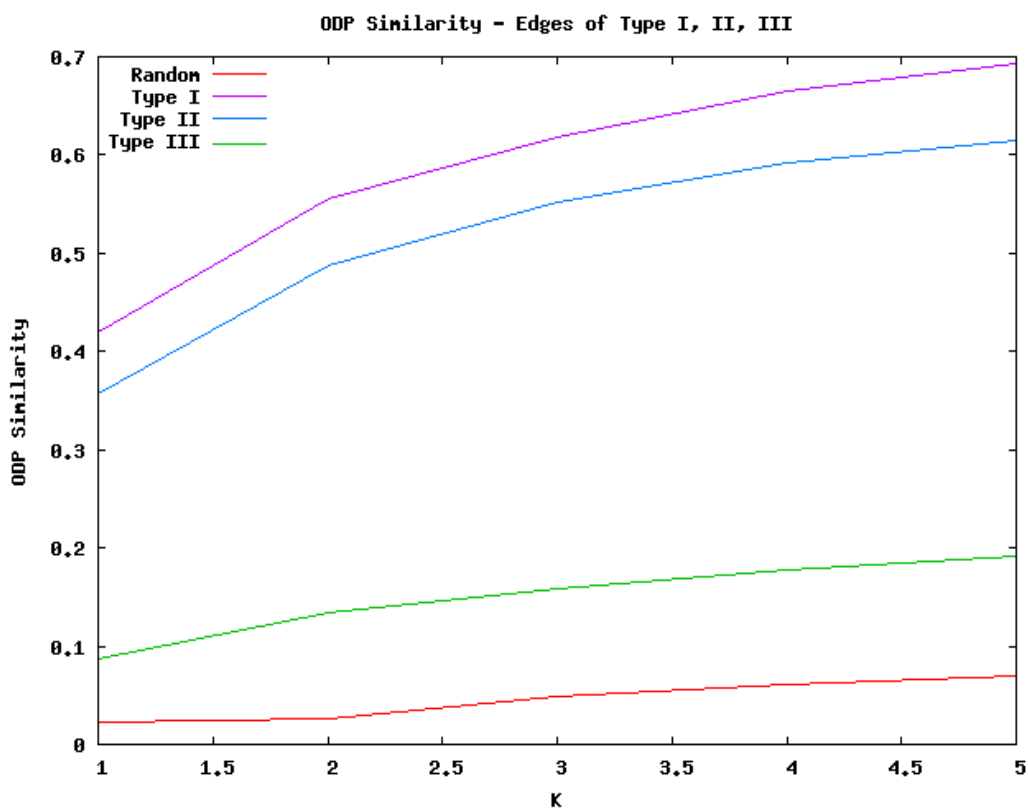
---

- We evaluated a 1000 thousand edges sample for each kind of relation
- We also evaluated a sample of random pairs of not adjacent queries (baseline)
- We studied the similarity as a function of  $k$  (the number of categories used)



## Experimental Evaluation

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## Open Issues

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- Implicit social network
  - Any fundamental similarities?
- How to evaluate with partial knowledge?
  - Data volume amplifies the problem
- User aggregation vs. personalization
  - Optimize common tasks
  - Move away from privacy issues



## Conclusions

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- Web Mining: Potential for many different goals
- A fast prototyping platform is needed to explore
- Plenty of open problems:
  - Predict user goal + query recommendation
  - Take in account other query attributes
  - Generate topical metadata for documents based in queries that select that documents
  - Generate topical metadata for sites based on the above
  - Adaptive maintenance of the above





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