Improving Search with Semantic Technologies:

Current Research Directions

Hugo Zaragoza Yahoo! Research (Barcelona)

Yahoo! by numbers (April, 2007)

- **500 million users** of Yahoo! branded services (**1/2 users** online).
- Most visited site online
 - most visits (nearly 4 billion visits)
 - largets online time share: 12% in America and 8% worldwide.
 - #1 Web mail provider in the world (243 million users)
 - #1 online news destination
 - (leads all competitors in audience reach, frequency and engagement)
- Social media properties:

(Flickr, delicious, Answers, 360, Video, MyBlogLog, Jumpcut and Bix)

- 115 million unique visitors worldwide.
- Flickr: more than 450 million photo, 1 million uploaded daily.
- Yahoo! Answers: 250 million answers worldwide.
- Nearly 1 in 10 Internet users is a member of a Yahoo! Groups.

(comScore WorldMetrix Feb.07 & Yahoo! Internal Data)

Hugo Zaragoza, ESTC 2008. (2)

Yahoo! Research

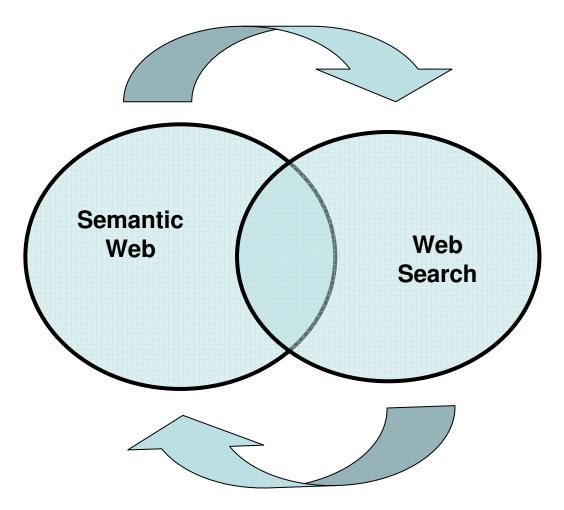


The mission of Yahoo! Research is to develop the world-class science that will deliver the next generation of businesses to the company.

Natural Language Retrieval group



Why should you care about search?



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Plan

• Search Monkey

(today)

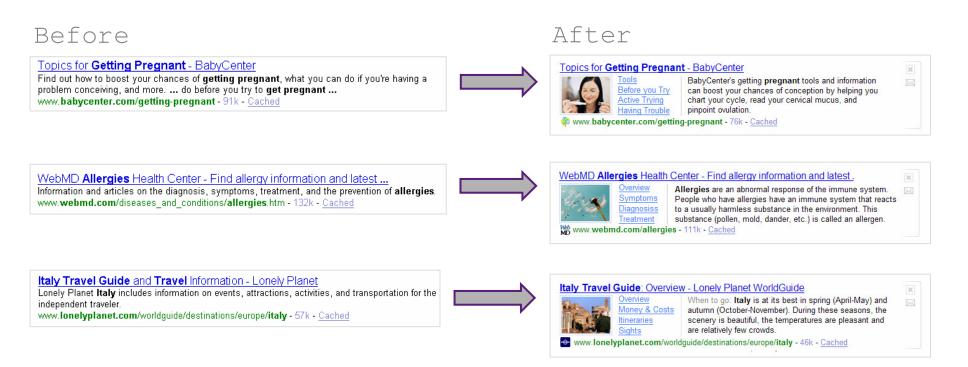
- Web Search: where are we going? (tomorrow)
- Current Research Directions (*the future...*)

what is it?





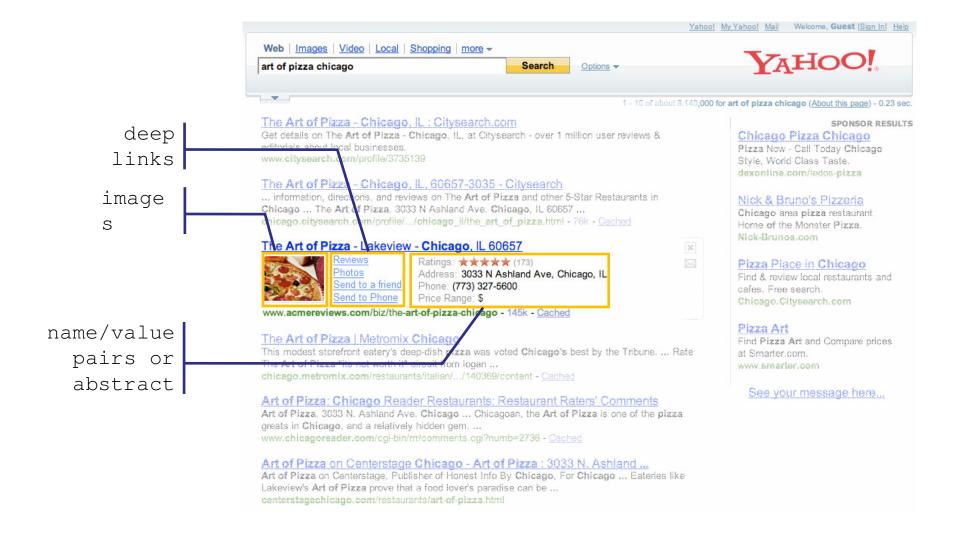
an open platform for using structured data to build more useful and relevant search results







Enhanced Result: what might a developer but





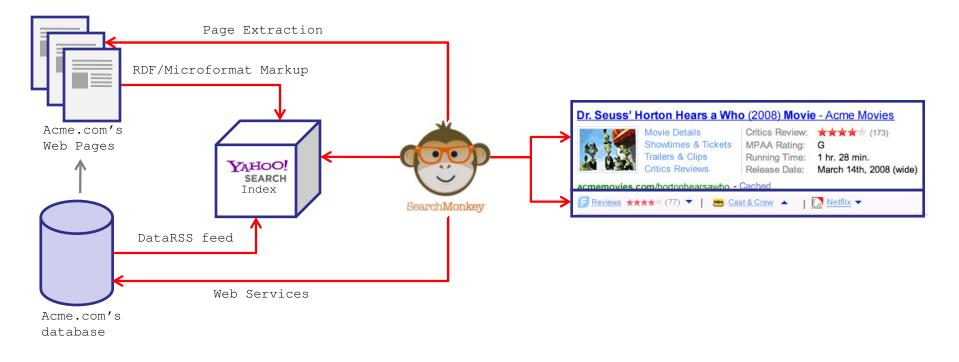
How does it work?



) site owners/publishers share structured data with Yahoo!.

site owners & third-party developers build SearchMonkey apps.

consumers customize their search experience with Enhanced Results or Infobars





Infobar: what might a developer bui







Infobar: what might a developer bui

Yahoo! My Yahoo! Mail Welcome, Guest [Sign In] Help

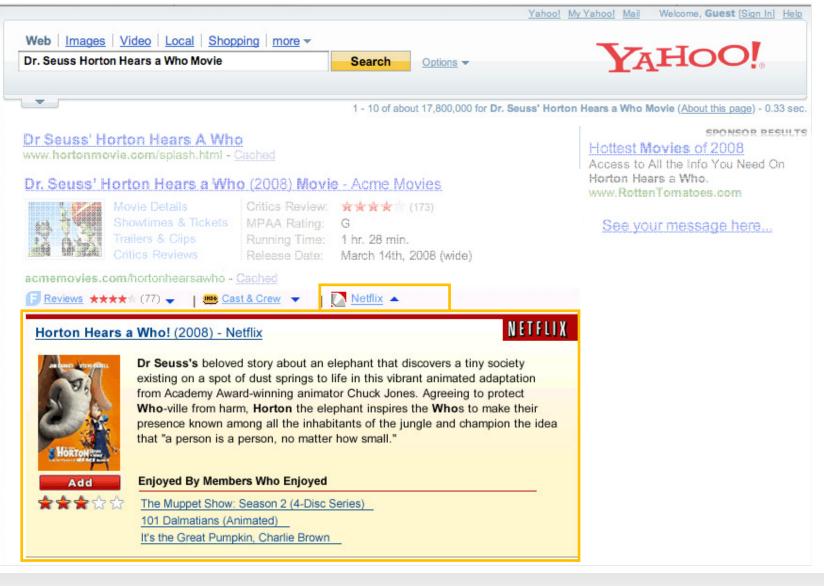
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🖥 <u>Reviews</u> ***** (77) 🔻 📔 🖲	📴 Cast & Crew 🔺 🚺 Netflix 👻	
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Cast & Crew: Horton Hears	a Who! (2008) - Internet Movie Database	Avie Database
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Steve Carell	<u>The Mayor of Whoville</u> (voice)	
Carol Burnett	Kangaroo (voice)	Open canvas for
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Isla Fisher	Dr. Mary Lou Larue (voice)	~
)r. Seuss' Horton Hears a	Who! Movie Times	



Infobar: what might a developer bui









Everything SearchMonkey: developer.yahoo.com/searchmonkey

mailing lists

- searchmonkey-developers@yahoogroups.com
- searchmonkey-siteowners@yahoogroups.com

forums

- http://suggestions.yahoo.com/searchmonkey
- http://suggestions.yahoo.com/datarss

data/partners



Search Monkey | 12 | http://developer.yahoo.com/searchmonkey



Plan

• Search Monkey

(today)

• Web Search: where are we going?

(tomorrow)

• Current Research Directions

(the future...)

Hugo Zaragoza, ESTC 2008. (13)

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33 17 10 km 5 mi © 2008 N/√/TEQ	1. Papa John's Pizza ª (408) 370-7272 1824 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, CA 1.62 mi	★★★★★ Rate it: ☆☆☆☆☆
<u>view larger map</u> Category: <u>Pizza</u> (5) Restaurants (5)	Map <u>Directions</u> <u>Send to Phone</u> <u>Save to Collection</u> near the Burrito Factory about 3 blocks away, their pizza is much better. Papa <u>more</u> See all: <u>Carry Out & Take Out</u> - <u>Pizza</u> - <u>Restaurants</u> <u>pizzabizinc.com/</u>	
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3 Stars and above (3) 2 Stars and above (3) 1 Star and above (4)	 Papa John's [™] (408) 615-7272 1998 Homestead Rd, Santa Clara, CA 5.34 mi Map Directions Send to Phone [™] Save to Collection Papa Johns is a take out and delivery restaurant with a red and white counter. 	Be the first to rate! රිරිරිරිරි

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FoRK Archive: Re: Oh, the trials of LaMacchia

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ESPN.com - MLB - Box Score - Twins at Royals

MLB Scoreboard - April 25, 2006. - American League -. BOS, 8, F ... Batters faced: S Elarton 25; L Hudson 3; A Sisco 3; A Burgos 4 ... sports.espn.go.com/mlb/boxscore?gameld=260425107 - 130k - Cached - Similar pages - Note this

ESPN.com - MLB - Box Score - Devil Rays at Yankees

MLB Scoreboard - April 25, 2006. - American League -. BOS, 8, F. CLE, 6. TAM, 1. NYY, 9, F. BAL, 3 ... STL, 6, F. ARI, 7, F. SDG, 0. NYM, 4, F. SFO, 1 ...

Beyond traditional "Web Search"

- We move from a web of pages to a web of objects
- Objects are people, places, business, flights... and their relationships.
- User Intents are satisfied by juxtapositions of objects

Beyond traditional "Web Search"

- Search is no longer about finding documents – It is an interface for web-mediated goals
- Old battles
 - Precision of navigational queries (solved)
 - Document crawling and spam
 - Indexing and retrieval
 - Result relevance

(!) (!) (!)

Hard problems to be solved

- How do you model intent?
 - What is the right abstraction?
 - What is the right granularity?
 - What are the top intents?
- How do you measure user happiness?
 - Transaction?
 - User studies? Interviews?

Hard problems to be solved

- What is the right data model for the web of objects?
- What is the automated framework for relevance?
- What are the ranking models that can attain it?

Plan

• Search Monkey

(today)

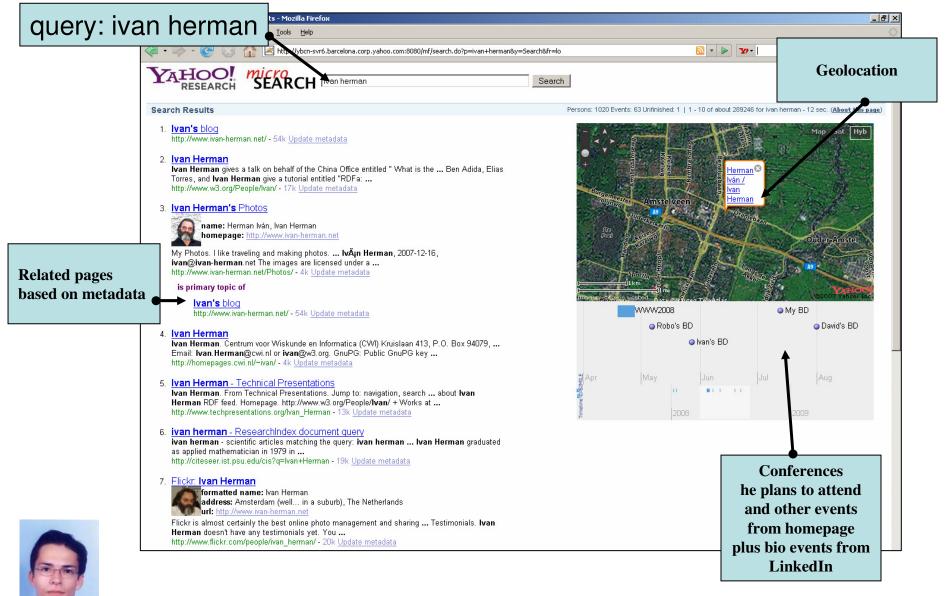
- Web Search: where are we going? (tomorrow)
- Current Research Directions

(the future...)

- MicroSearch
- Learning tags
- Searching Objects

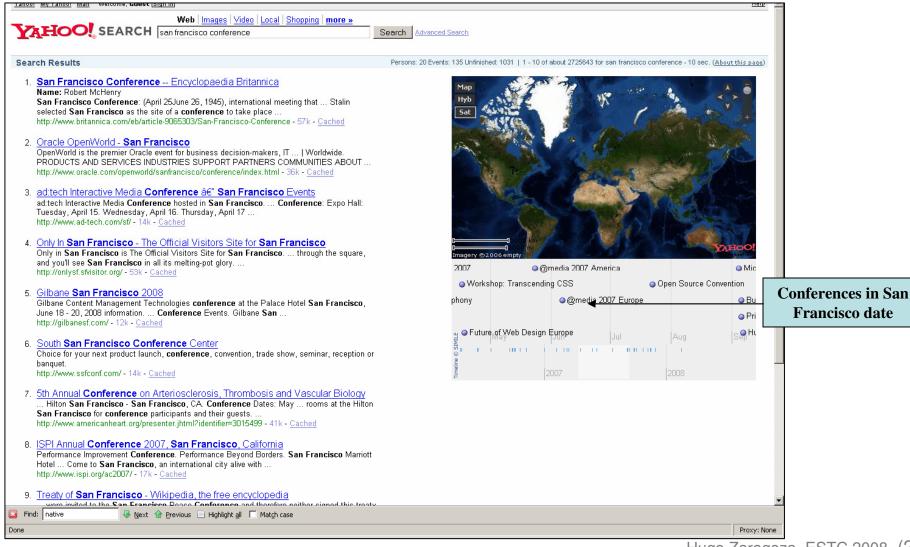
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Micro Search, example: ivan herman



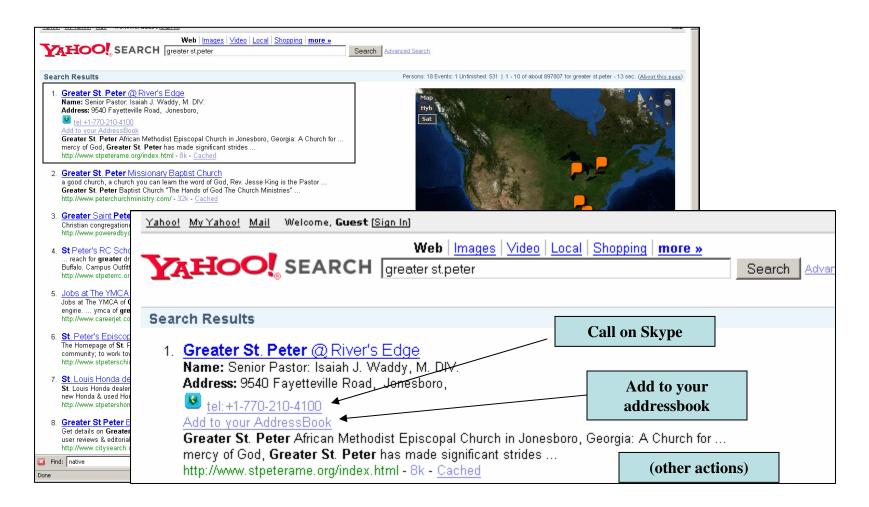
Peter Mika. http://www.yr-bcn.es/demos/microsearch

MicroSearch, example: <u>san francisco conference</u>

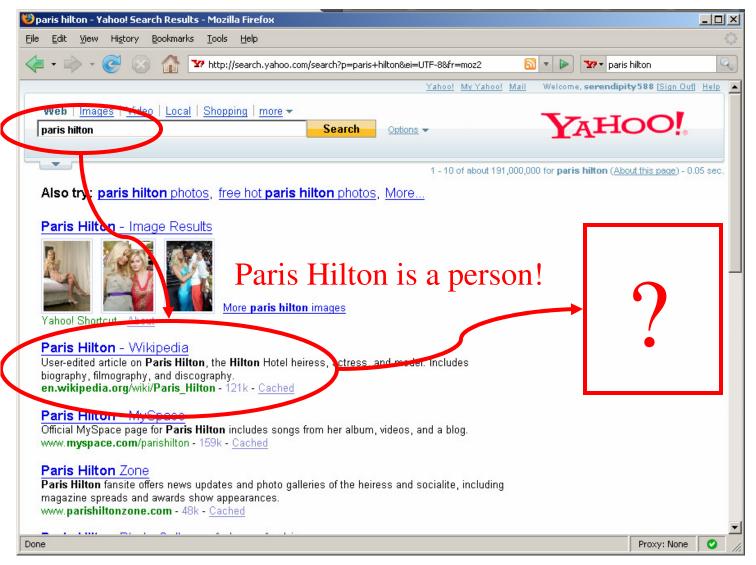


Hugo Zaragoza, ESTC 2008. (23)

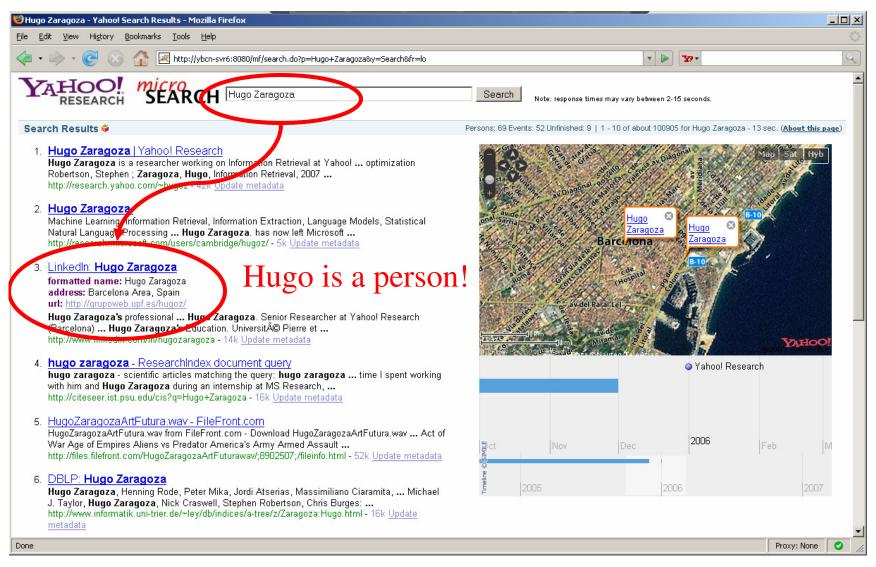
MicroSearch, example: greater st. peter



MicroSearch, towards intent: paris hilton



MicroSearch, towards intent: <u>hugo zaragoza</u>



Plan

• Search Monkey

(today)

- Web Search: where are we going? (tomorrow)
- Current Research Directions

(the future...)

- MicroSearch
- *Learning to tag, tagging to learn.*

– *Ranking Objects*

Example



- Community portal
- Recent changes
- Contact Wikipedia
- Donate to Wikipedia
- Help



Go	Search

- toolbox
- What links here
- Related changes
- Upload file
- Special pages
- Printable version
- Permanent link
- Cite this article

languages

- Afrikaans
- العربية ،
- = বাংলা
- Bân-lâm-gú
- Bosanski
- Brezhoneg
- Български
- Català
- Česky
- Cymraeg
- Dansk

Pablo Ruiz Picasso (October 25, 1881 – April 8, 1973), often referred to simply as Picasso, was a Spanish painter and sculptor. His full name is Pablo Diego José Francisco de Paula Juan Nepomuceno María de los Remedios Cipriano de la Santísima Trinidad Clito Ruiz y Picasso.^[1] One of the most recognized figures in 20th

century art, he is best known as the co-founder, along with Georges Braque, of cubism.

Contents [show]

Biography

[edit]

Pablo Picasso was born in Málaga, Spain the first child of José Ruiz y Blasco and Maria Picasso y López. He was christened with the names Pablo, Diego, José, Francisco de Paula, Juan Nepomuceno, Maria de los Remedios, and Cipriano de la Santísima Trinidad.^[2] Picasso's father was a painter whose specialty was the naturalistic depiction of birds and who for most of his life was also a professor of art at the School of Crafts and a curator of a local museum. The young Picasso showed a passion and a skill for drawing from an early age; according to his mother,^[3] his first word was "piz," a shortening of *lápiz*, the Spanish word for pencil.^[4] It was from his father that Picasso had his first formal academic art training, such as figure drawing and painting in oil. Although Picasso attended art schools throughout his childhood, often those where his father taught, he never finished his college-level course of study at the Academy of Arts

Pablo Picasso



Picasso (January 1962)

Birth name Pablo Diego José Francisco de Paula Juan Nepomuceno María de los Remedios Cipriano de la Santísima Trinidad Martyr Patricio Clito Ruiz y Picasso

> Born October 25, 1881 Málaga, Spain Died April 8, 1973 (aged 91) Mougins, France

> > Hugo Zaragoza, ESTC 2008. (28)

Statistical Taggers @ Y!Research Barcelona

• Name Entity Recogniser



– SuperSense Tagger.

Massimiliano Ciaramita

- Dependency Parsing
 - 2nd best at CONL 2007

Giuseppe Attardi (U. Pisa)



- Semantic Role Labeling
 - 2nd best at CONL 2008

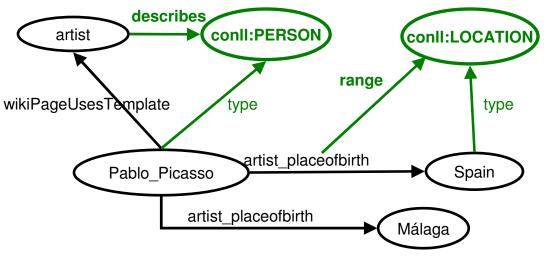
Mihai Surdeanu.



Extending annotations



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

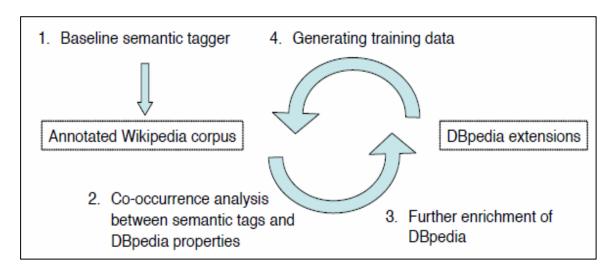


[Mika, Zaragoza, Ciaramita, Atserias. IEEE AI 2008]

Hugo Zaragoza, ESTC 2008. (30)

Adaptation and improved tagging

- Generate training data based on what is learned
 i.e. if Paris is also a place of birth, it is also a place
- Dealing with sparse data <u>Paris is the capital city of</u> France.
- Improvement
 - On news: +6.1%
 - On Wikipedia: +5.5%

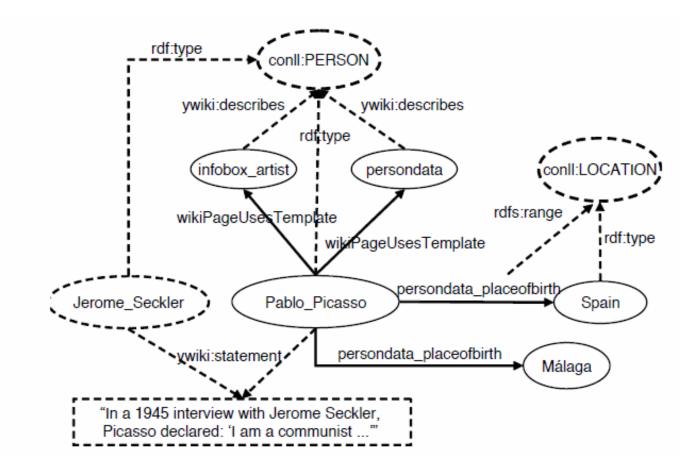


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(property typing examples)

Wikipedia property	CONL L	Examples of property values
infoboxNbaPlayer_name	PER	Alex Groza, Elgin Baylor, Jerry West, David Thompson, Glen Rice, Christian Laettner, Richard Hamilton, Juan Dixon, Sean May, Joakim Noah,
infoboxSerialKiller_alias	ORG	Gray Man, the Werewolf of Wysteria, Brooklyn Vampire, Sister, Brian Stewart, Bloody Benders, The Prostishooter, The Rest Stop Killer, The Truck Stop Killer, The Sunset Strip Killer, Cincinnati Strangler, Son of Sam, Plainfield Ghoul, Ed " Psycho" Gein, The Co-ed Killer,
highlanderCharacter_born	LOC	Unknown, unknown, 1659, 1945, 802, 1887, 1950, , Glenfinnan, Scotland, (original birth date unknown) ("Highlander II"), 896 BC, Ancient Egypt (original birth date unknown) ("Highlander II"), California,
infoboxSuperbowl_stadium	LOC	Sun Devil Stadium, Georgia Dome, Miami Orange Bowl, Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome, Dolphin Stadium, Raymond James Stadium, Louisiana Superdome, Joe Robbie Stadium, Ford Field, Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum,
infoboxWeapon_usedBy	LOC	USA, None, One, none, Italy, United States, Mexico, UK, Russia, Under development,
minorLeagueTeam_league	MISC	Eastern League (1923-37, 1940-63, 1967-68, 1992-), Pacific Coast League, Arizona League, Texas League, South Atlantic League, California League, Midwest League, Northwest League, International League, Carolina League,
infoboxTea_teaOrigin	LOC	Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka near Adam's Peak between 2200 - 2500 metres, Japan, India, Vietnam, Taiwan, Turkey, China, Anhui, Guangdong, Jiangxi,
infoboxPrimeMinister_name	PER	Abdallah El-Yafi, Umar al-Muntasir, Dr. Abdellatif Filali, Abderrahmane Youssoufi, Abdessalam Jalloud, Abdul Ati al-Obeidi, Abdul Hamid al- Bakkoush, Abdul Majid Kubar, Abdul Majid al-Qaud, Abd al-Qadir al-Badri,

Beyond annotations, into text



Plan

• Search Monkey

(today)

- Web Search: where are we going? (tomorrow)
- Current Research Directions

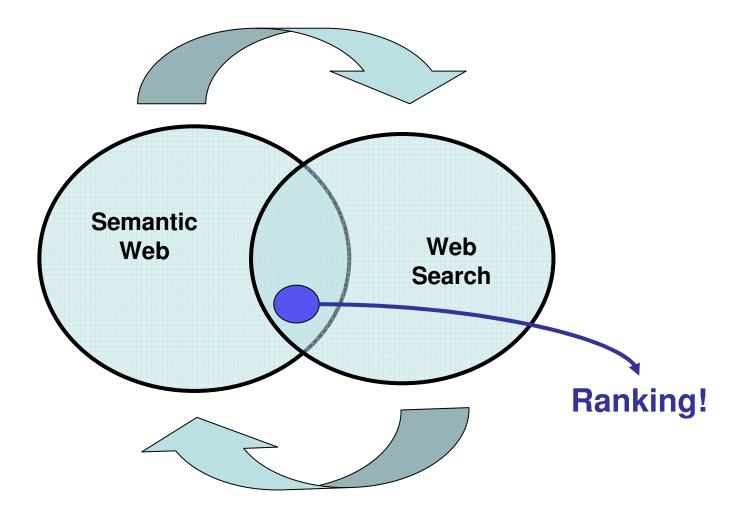
(the future...)

- MicroSearch
- *Learning to tag, tagging to learn.*

– Ranking Objects

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Why should you care about search?



Why is it hard?

- Information needs are intrinsically vague & ambiguous.
- People like to search in natural language.
- Search (Information Retrieval) technology greatly surpassed Boolean querying in the 80s.
- Attemps to improve search technology with semantic knowledge have repeatedly failed since.
 - (except in very narrow domains).
- Effective query expansion is **very diffucult**.

But new directions arise...

- Entity Ranking (sort entities by relevance to a query)
 - Expert Finding
 - Temporal Search
 - Geo-search, ...
- Example:
 - "Effect of sub-prime crisis in Italy",
 - "Pablo Picasso and the Second World War"
 - Find relevant dates
 - Find relevant people & organisations
 - Find relevant geo-locations

Colored (Typed) Indices

Doc #3: The last time Peter exercised was in the XXth century.

Doc #5: Hope claims that in 1994 she run to Peter Town.

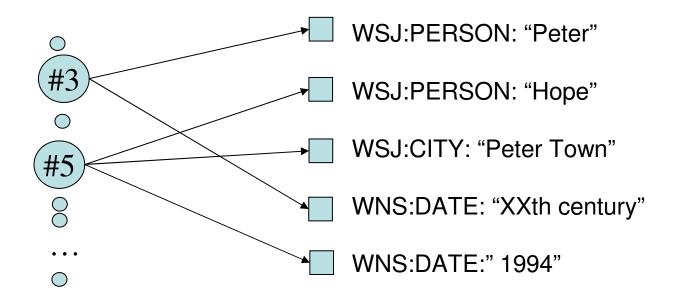
Peter Town Hope 1994 	 → D3:1, D5:9 → D5:10 → D5:1 → D5:5
WSJ:PERSON WSJ:CITY WNS:V_DATE	 → D3:1, D5:1 → D5:9 → D5:5

Possible Queries: "Peter ^ run" "Peter ^ WNS:N_DATE" "(WSJ:CITY:*) ^ run" "(WSJ:PERSON:Hope) ^ run"

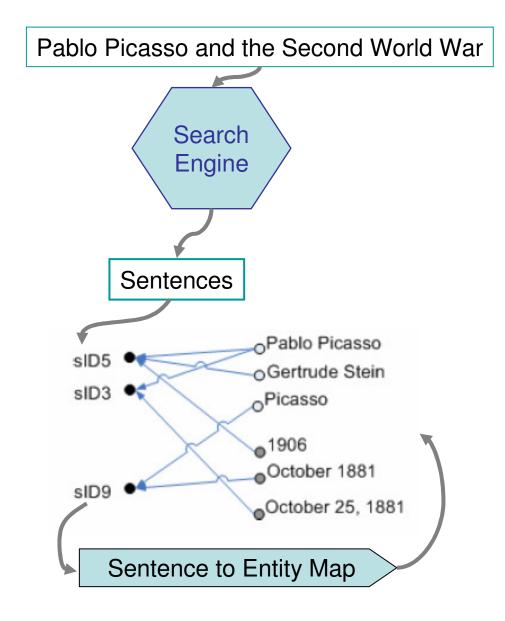
(Bracketing can also be dealt with)

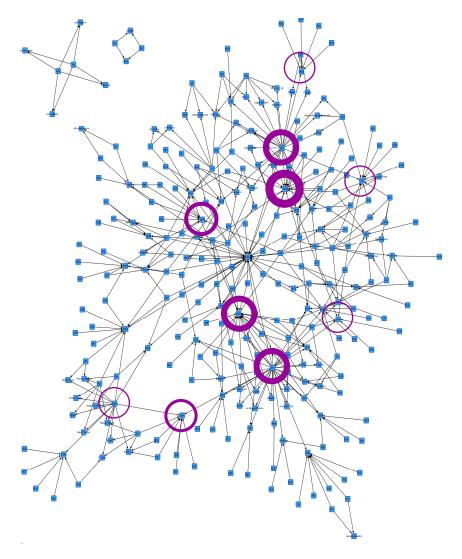
Entity containment graphs

Doc #3: The last time Peter exercised was in the XXth century. Doc #5: Hope claims that in 1994 she run to Peter Town.



Entity Conatinment Graph





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(Correlator demo)

Conclusion

- Web Search is moving chaing from Query→Page to: Information Need → Information Objects
- A virtuous cycle needs to emerge between Web Search and Semantic Web technologies.
- Difficult scientific problems remain to be solved before we can effectively search Resources:
 - Level of Representation
 - Automatic Extraction and Adaptation
 - Ranking
 - User Interaction