



# Seek and Ye shall Find

The continuum of computer “intelligence”

COS 116: 2/22/2007

Adam Finkelstein

# Recap: Binary Representation



Powers of 2

$2^0$	$2^1$	$2^2$	$2^3$	$2^4$	$2^5$	$2^6$	$2^7$	$2^8$	$2^9$	$2^{10}$
1	2	4	8	16	32	64	128	256	512	1024

$$2^{10} = 1024 \approx 10^3$$


**Fact:** Every integer can be uniquely represented as a sum of powers of 2.

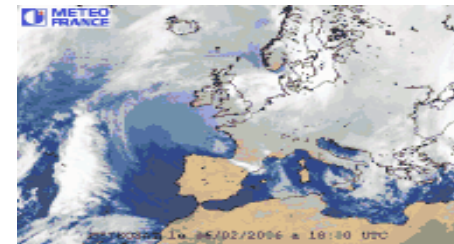
**Ex:**  $25 = 16 + 8 + 1$   
 $= 1 \times 2^4 + 1 \times 2^3 + 0 \times 2^2 + 0 \times 2^1 + 1 \times 2^0$   
 $[25]_2 = 11001$

# Misconceptions about Computers

Just a calculator  
on steroids



Weather Forecast



Just maintains large  
amount of data



Airline Reservation System



Just does what the  
programmer tells it



Yes, but ...



# Various meanings of SEARCH

- Look up “Shirley Tilghman” in online phonebook.
- In consumer database, find “credit-worthy” consumers.
- Find web pages relevant to “computer music.”
- Among all cell phone conversations originating in Country X, identify suspicious ones.
- Search all religion and philosophy books of the world for meaning of life.



These are major scientific problems with many components



Engineering

Algorithms

Linguistics

Ethics, Policy,  
Society

Statistical  
Modeling

# Electronic Phonebook

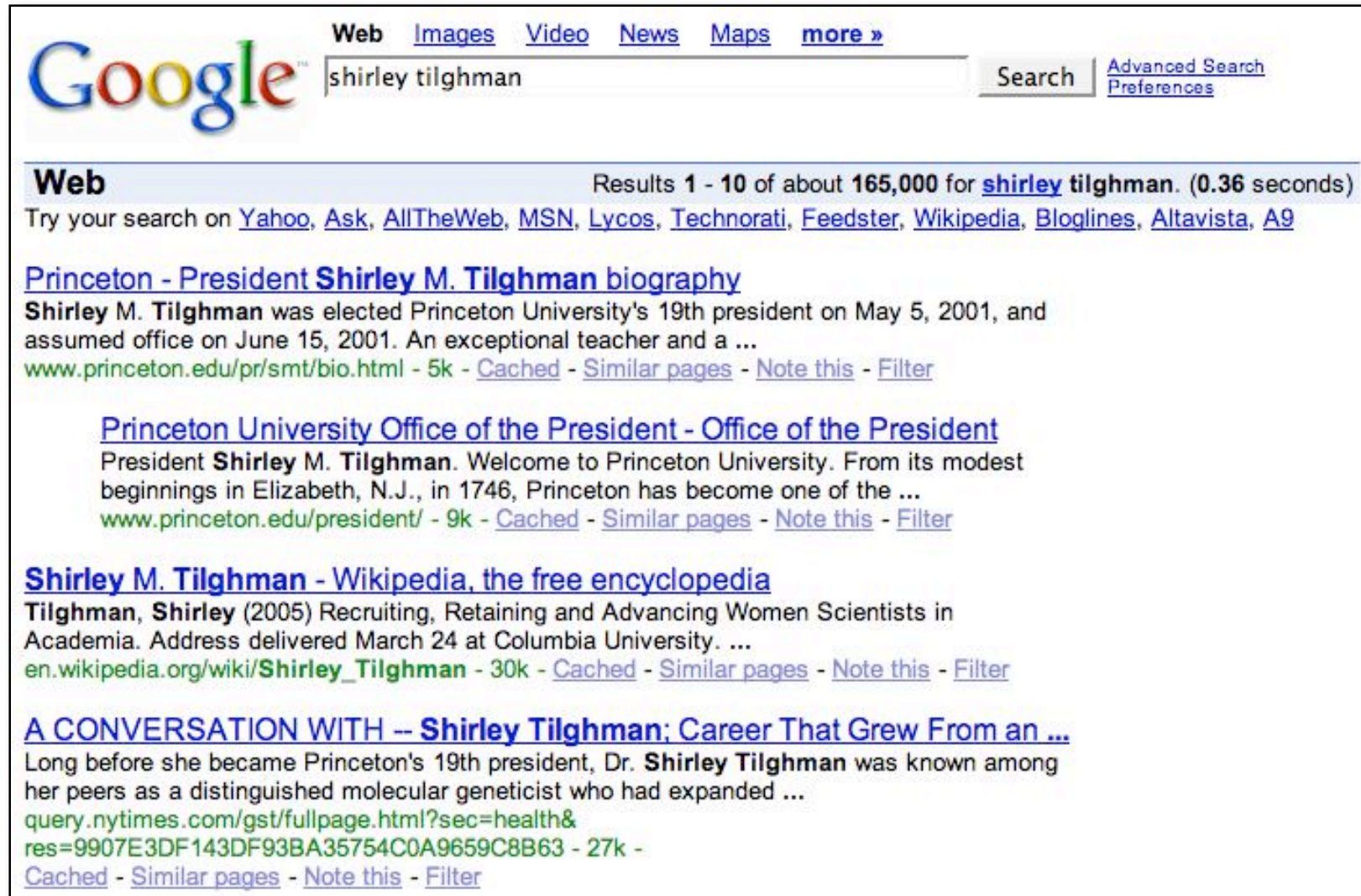
- **ASCII:** Agreed-upon convention for representing letters with numbers
- Example:

T	i	l	g	h	m	a	n	,	2	5	8	-	6	1	0	0
84	105	108	103	104	109	97	110	44	50	53	56	45	54	49	48	48

- Sorted Phonebook  
= sorted array of numbers
- Use binary search

33 !	65 A	97 a
34 "	66 B	98 b
35 #	67 C	99 c
36 \$	68 D	100 d
37 %	69 E	101 e
38 &	70 F	102 f
39 '	71 G	103 g
40 (	72 H	104 h
41 )	73 I	105 i
42 *	74 J	106 j
43 +	75 K	107 k
44 ,	76 L	108 l
45 -	77 M	109 m
46 .	78 N	110 n
47 /	79 O	111 o
48 0	80 P	112 p
49 1	81 Q	113 q
50 2	82 R	114 r
51 3	83 S	115 s
52 4	84 T	116 t
53 5	85 U	117 u
54 6	86 V	118 v
55 7	87 W	119 w
56 8	88 X	120 x
57 9	89 Y	121 y
58 :	90 Z	122 z
59 ;	91 [	123 {
60 <	92 \	124
61 =	93 ]	125 }
62 >	94 ^	126 ~
63 ?	95 _	127 □
64 @	96 `	128 €

# Rest of the lecture: Web Search



The image shows a screenshot of a Google search results page. At the top left is the Google logo. To its right is a search bar containing the text 'shirley tilghman'. Above the search bar are links for 'Web', 'Images', 'Video', 'News', 'Maps', and 'more'. To the right of the search bar is a 'Search' button and links for 'Advanced Search' and 'Preferences'. Below the search bar, the results are categorized under 'Web'. The first result is titled 'Princeton - President Shirley M. Tilghman biography' and includes a snippet of text about her election as Princeton University's 19th president. The second result is titled 'Princeton University Office of the President - Office of the President' and includes a snippet of text welcoming visitors to Princeton University. The third result is titled 'Shirley M. Tilghman - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia' and includes a snippet of text about her recruitment and retention of women scientists. The fourth result is titled 'A CONVERSATION WITH -- Shirley Tilghman: Career That Grew From an ...' and includes a snippet of text about her career as a molecular geneticist. Each result includes a URL, a word count, and links for 'Cached', 'Similar pages', 'Note this', and 'Filter'.

Web Images Video News Maps more »

Google™ shirley tilghman Search Advanced Search Preferences

**Web** Results 1 - 10 of about 165,000 for **shirley tilghman**. (0.36 seconds)  
Try your search on [Yahoo](#), [Ask](#), [AllTheWeb](#), [MSN](#), [Lycos](#), [Technorati](#), [Feedster](#), [Wikipedia](#), [Bloglines](#), [Altavista](#), [A9](#)

[Princeton - President Shirley M. Tilghman biography](#)  
**Shirley M. Tilghman** was elected Princeton University's 19th president on May 5, 2001, and assumed office on June 15, 2001. An exceptional teacher and a ...  
[www.princeton.edu/pr/smt/bio.html](http://www.princeton.edu/pr/smt/bio.html) - 5k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#) - [Filter](#)

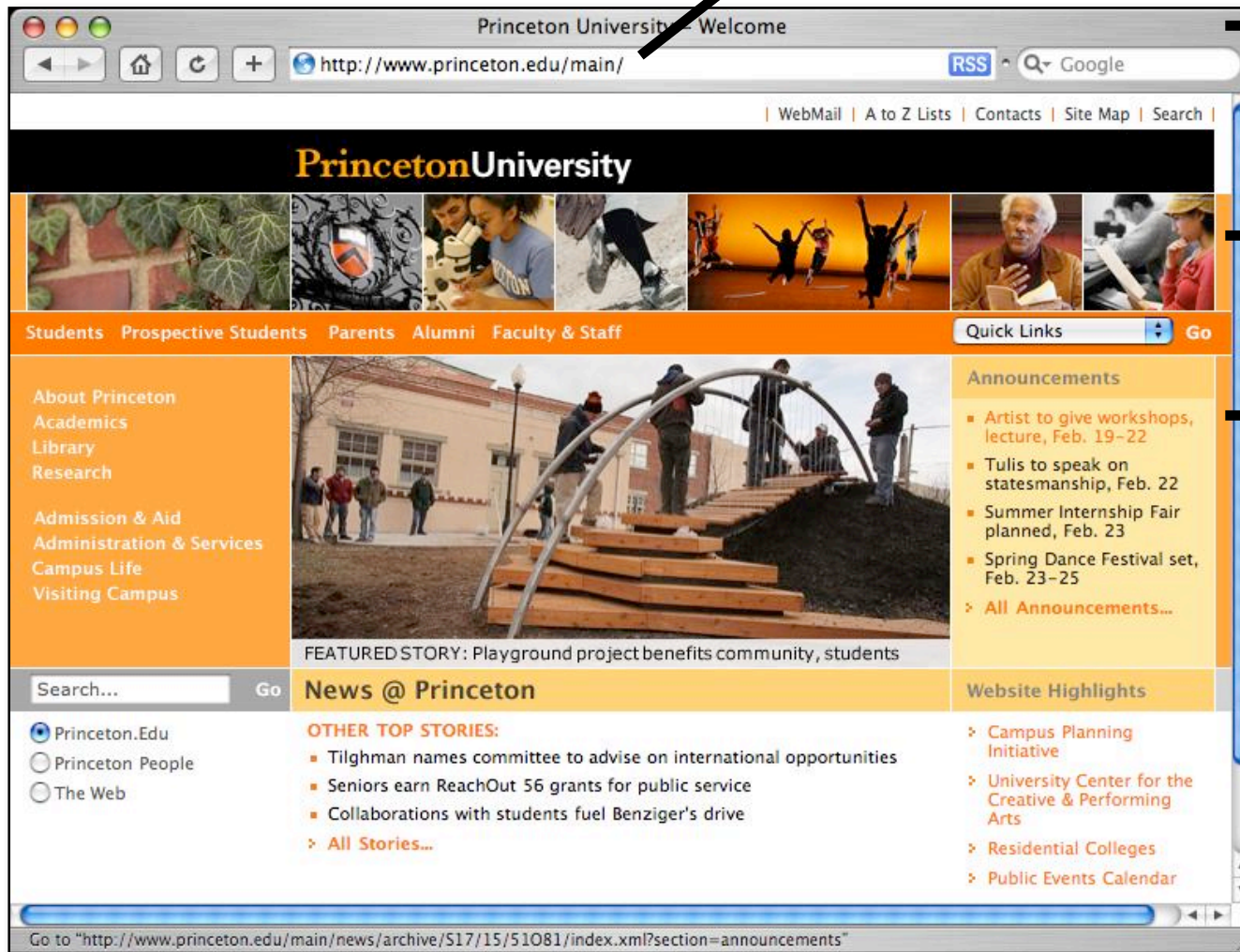
[Princeton University Office of the President - Office of the President](#)  
President **Shirley M. Tilghman**. Welcome to Princeton University. From its modest beginnings in Elizabeth, N.J., in 1746, Princeton has become one of the ...  
[www.princeton.edu/president/](http://www.princeton.edu/president/) - 9k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#) - [Filter](#)

[Shirley M. Tilghman - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)  
**Tilghman, Shirley** (2005) Recruiting, Retaining and Advancing Women Scientists in Academia. Address delivered March 24 at Columbia University. ...  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley\\_Tilghman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley_Tilghman) - 30k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#) - [Filter](#)

[A CONVERSATION WITH -- Shirley Tilghman: Career That Grew From an ...](#)  
Long before she became Princeton's 19th president, Dr. **Shirley Tilghman** was known among her peers as a distinguished molecular geneticist who had expanded ...  
[query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?sec=health&res=9907E3DF143DF93BA35754C0A9659C8B63](http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?sec=health&res=9907E3DF143DF93BA35754C0A9659C8B63) - 27k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#) - [Filter](#)

# World Wide Web (simplified view)

URL: Unique address for each document



Browser

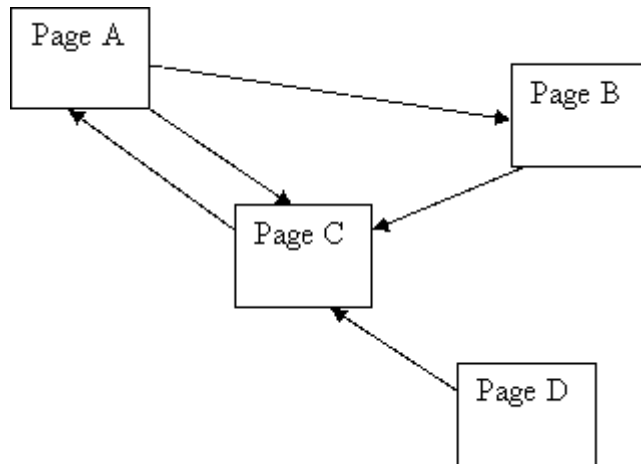
Web Page

Hyperlink





# Logical Structure of the Web

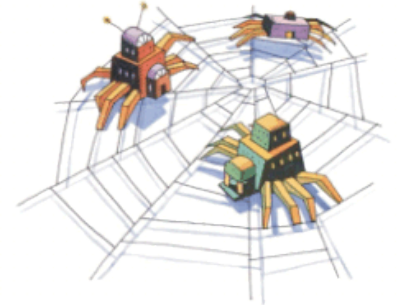


“Directed graph”

“edges” = link from one node to another

- **Important:** This logical structure is created by independent actions of 100s of millions of users

# 1st step for search engines: create snapshot of the web



## ■ **Webcrawler:** “browser on autopilot”

- Maintains array of web pages it has seen
- 2 types of pages: “visited”, “fully explored”
- Do forever

{

Pick any webpage marked “visited” from array.

Mark it “fully explored.”

Open all its linked pages in browser.

Save them in array and mark them “visited.”

}

↖ Better: just the pages not “fully explored” yet.

# First Web Crawler

From: bp@cs.washington.edu (Brian Pinkerton)  
Newsgroups: comp.infosystems.announce  
Subject: The WebCrawler Index: A content-based Web index  
Date: 11 June 1994 21:33:42 GMT  
Organization: University of Washington

The WebCrawler Index is now available for searching! The index is broad: it contains information from as many different servers as possible. It's a great tool for locating several different starting points for exploring by hand. The current index is based on the contents of documents located on nearly 4000 servers, world-wide.

Check it out at:

<http://www.biotech.washington.edu/WebCrawler/WebQuery.html>

Other information is available from there, including a description of the WebCrawler (the robot itself), and a list of the 25 most frequently referenced sites on the Web.

Brian Pinkerton  
Dept of Computer Science and Engineering  
University of Washington



## WebCrawler Timeline



**January 27, 1994** [Brian Pinkerton](#), a [CSE student](#) at the [University of Washington](#), starts WebCrawler in his spare time. At first, WebCrawler was a desktop application, not a Web service as it is today. WebCrawler spat out its first [Top 25 list](#) on March 15, 1994.



**April 20, 1994** WebCrawler goes live on the Web with a database containing pages from just over 4000 different Web sites. [Here's the announcement](#) to the UW seminar that was discussing the Web. About a month and a half later, [I announced WebCrawler](#) on [comp.infosystems.announce](#), the Usenet group where new Web sites were announced.

1,000,000

**November 14th, 1994** WebCrawler serves its 1 millionth query (for better or worse): [NUCLEAR WEAPONS DESIGN AND RESEARCH](#).



**December 1, 1994** WebCrawler acquires two sponsors, [DealerNet](#) and [Starwave](#). Both companies provided money to help keep WebCrawler operating. WebCrawler was fully supported by advertising on October 3, 1995 but maintained a strict separation between the advertising and the search results.




**June 1, 1995** America Online acquires WebCrawler. At the time of the acquisition, AOL had fewer than 1 million users, and no capability to access the Web. It was believed that AOL's resources could help make

[<http://thinkpink.com/bp/WebCrawler/History.html>]

# Still Feasible Today?

- About 15 billion web pages today.
- Say 10 kb (10,000 bytes) of data per page
- $15 \times 10^{13}$  bytes to store the web
- $\approx 150,000$  Gb
- $\approx 500$  hard disks
- $\approx \$50,000$  in '07

[Best Buy](#) > [Hard Drives & Storage](#) > [Hard Drives](#) > [Internal](#) > Product Info



**Western Digital 320GB Internal Parallel ATA Hard Drive**  
Model: WD3200JBRTL

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# Princeton Shape Search Engine

**Text & 2D Sketch**


Search

Keywords:

View 1 


Undo

Clear

View 2 

Undo

Clear

View 3 













Undo

**Princeton Shape Retrieval and Analysis Group**  
**3D Model Search Engine**

[Text & 2D Sketch](#) [Text & 3D Sketch](#) [File Compare](#) [Research](#) [Contact Us](#) [Links](#) [FAQ](#) [Main](#)

Search results in database [all], 36000 models (click on a thumbnail for more information on that model)

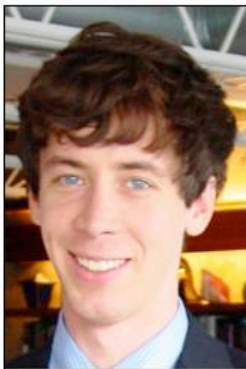
[Next page \(17 - 32\)](#) search type: [text and 2D sketch], results: 100

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1. <b>vp41562 (vp)</b> <a href="#">Find similar shape</a>	2. <b>vp7513 (vp)</b> <a href="#">Find similar shape</a>	3. <b>vp41425 (vp)</b> <a href="#">Find similar shape</a>	4. <b>vp24269 (vp)</b> <a href="#">Find similar shape</a>
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5. <b>vp13077 (vp)</b> <a href="#">Find similar shape</a>	6. <b>vp41625 (vp)</b> <a href="#">Find similar shape</a>	7. <b>vp41632 (vp)</b> <a href="#">Find similar shape</a>	8. <b>chair (3ds)(www)</b> <a href="#">Find similar shape</a>
			

[<http://shape.cs.princeton.edu/search.html>]

# Finding Forrester

## How does Google find Forrester Cole...?



### Forrester Cole

fcole@cs.<this school>.edu

Department of Computer Science  
35 Olden St.  
Princeton NJ 08544

I am a third year Ph.D. candidate in the [computer graphics group](#) at [Princeton](#). My advisor is [Adam Finkelstein](#).

Prior to coming to Princeton I was a programmer with [Pandemic Studios](#) in Los Angeles, where I worked on [Mercenaries](#).

### Teaching

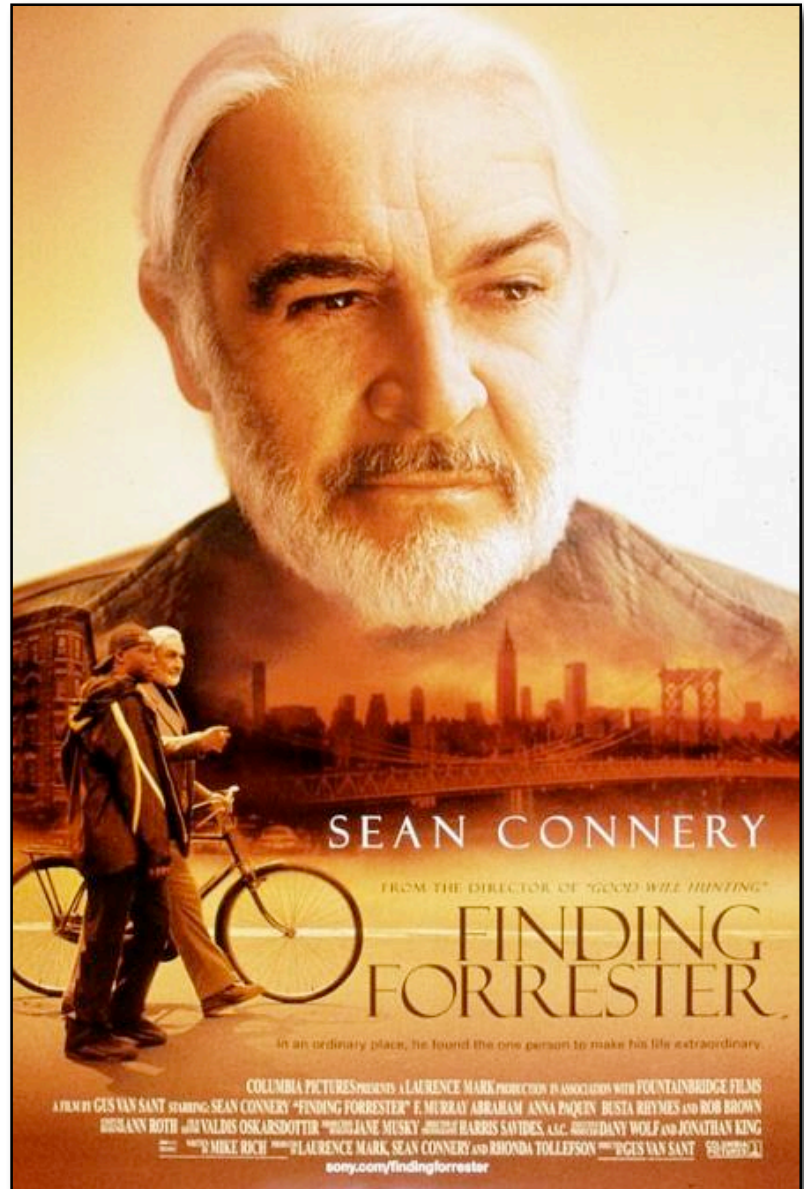
I am a teaching assistant for [COS116: The Computational Universe](#) for spring 2007.

Lab Hours: TBA

Office Hours (CS413): TBA

### Research

My current research investigates how artists select lines for line





# Searching for “computer music”

Ideas?

- Identify all pages that contain “computer music”.
- Sort according to number of occurrences of “computer music” in the page.
- Human staff computes answers to all possible questions.





# Some pitfalls

- “Spamming” by unscrupulous websites
- Synonymy (car, auto, vehicle ...)
- Polysemy (jaguar: car or cat?)

# Solution



IBM's CLEVER – 1996



Google's PAGERANK – 1997



**Take advantage of the link structure of the web**

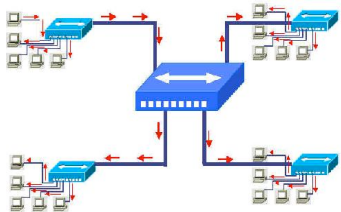
**Web link confers “approval”**

# CLEVER



**Authorities**: Sites that are viewed “with respect” by many

- New York Times
- International Computer Music Association



**Hubs**: Clearinghouses of information

- “My favorite computer music links”

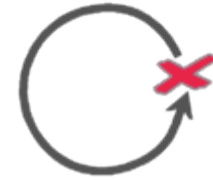
**Typically** Authorities point to hubs and hubs point to authorities

## Circular Definition?



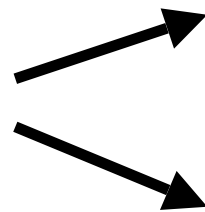
Circular Definition – see Definition, Circular

# Breaking Circularity



- Iterative algorithm

- Start with



Pages containing “Computer music”

All pages they point to

- At every step each page has:

- “Hub Score”

- “Authority Score”

} Initially all 1

# Score Calculation

- Do forever

{

Next Hub Score for page



Sum of current Authority  
Scores of pages that link  
to it.

Next Authority Score for page



Sum of current Hub  
Scores of pages that link  
to it.

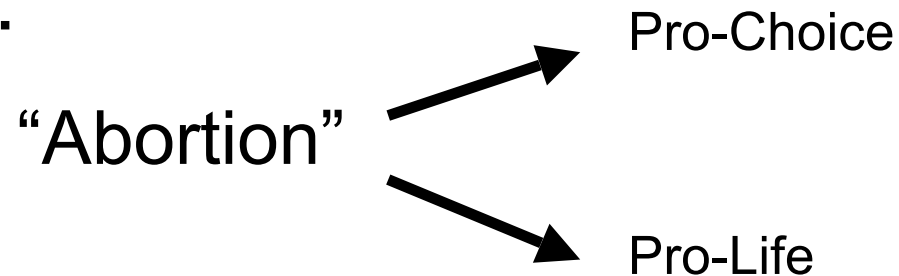
}

Fact The scores converge.

(Proof uses Linear Algebra, Eigenvalues)

- By Product – Algorithm reveals **clusters**

Example:



- **Data Mining** – Process of finding answers that are not in the data and must be inferred.

Example: “How is a person who shops at  
Whole Foods & REI likely to vote?”

# Concerns



## From **users**:

- Privacy
- Privacy
- Privacy

## From **Computer scientists**:

- Formalize privacy
- How to safeguard privacy  
while allowing legitimate computations



# Next Time...

Digital Audio / Music (Perry Cook)