

Closing remarks

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Where we started

“Google’s mission is to organize the world’s information and make it universally accessible and useful”
[Google’s mission statement, ~ 1998.](#)

World Wide Web invented by Tim Berners-Lee 1989

“A memex is a device in which an individual stores all his books, records, and communications, and which is mechanized so that it may be consulted with exceeding speed and flexibility. It is an enlarged intimate supplement to his memory.” [Vannevar Bush, As we may think, Atlantic Monthly, July 1945.](#)

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Where we have been: major themes

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1. Mathematical models fundamental

- how model information
 - Capture structure within?
- **vector** models + linear algebra
- **graph** models
 - links and paths
- **probabilistic** models
 - Markov models
- applications: text, Web, other media

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2. Algorithms & data structures

- indexing
- graph traversal
- random walks
- eigenvector computation
- clustering
- sampling

Algorithms meet BIG practice

- distributed computation

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3. Costs: what optimizing?

- **Quality** of solutions
 - Almost always approx’ions or heuristics
 - Humans add information
 - users: characteristics & feedback
 - authors: semi-structured content
- **Performance**
 - Disk I/O
 - Drives times of algorithms
 - Drives main memory needs
 - buffers, caches
 - Network latency
 - highest time and \$ cost

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4. Evaluation

- Must have **quantified**
 - Not just “see how well works”
- May need more than one measure
- Quantifying does not preclude **human perception**

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Where are “we” going?

1. **new modes** of search
 - **location-based** search
 - **real-time** search
 - **non-text based input**
 - spoken requests
 - content-based input
 - **concise output**
 - text versus non-text
 - summarizing
 - single source
 - multiples sources

handhelds
drive
much of

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Where are “we” going?

2. search **everything**
 - **multi-media**
 - obvious: image, music, video,
 - maps
 - other ?
 - **data**
 - Deep Web
 - **social networks**
 - Influence in many ways
 - **cloud computing**

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Where are “we” going?

3. real **semantic-based** search

“ ... It is an enlarged *intimate* supplement to his memory.”

Vannevar Bush

- question answering
- understanding user intent
- **personalization**

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Where are “we” going?

1 + 2 + 3 + ? → **Semantic Web ?**

A bedtime story by
Berners-Lee, Hendler and Lassila
Scientific America, May 2001

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The agent promptly **retrieved information** about Mom's prescribed treatment from the **doctor's agent**, **looked up** several lists of **providers**, and **checked** for the ones **in-plan** for Mom's insurance **within a 20-mile radius** of her home and with a **rating of** excellent or very good on **trusted rating services**. It then began trying to find a match between available appointment times (supplied by the agents of individual providers through their Web sites) and Pete's and Lucy's busy schedules. In a few minutes the agent presented them with a plan.

...

Lucy's agent, having **complete trust** in Pete's agent in the context of the present task, automatically assisted by **supplying access certificates and shortcuts** to the data it had already sorted through.

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Semantic Web

- **structured** data
 - information?
- **interoperability**
 - unrelated sites
- **functionality**
 - **active agents** vs passive retrievers

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W3C Semantic Web Activity Statement

<http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/Activity>

Excerpt:

"The goal of the Semantic Web initiative is as broad as that of the Web: to create a universal medium for the **exchange of data**. It is envisaged to **smoothly interconnect** personal information management, enterprise application integration, and the **global sharing** of commercial, scientific and cultural data." ¹⁴

Semantic Web Overview

- Initiative of W3C: WWW Consortium
 - academic, government and industry
 - begun 1994 by Tim Berners-Lee
- **common frameworks** for data specification
- frameworks allow **sophisticated functionality**
 - automated **understanding** and **use** of **information**
- open specifications, open source
 - Allow **independently written** tools **interoperate**

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Frameworks and Methods

- **publishing and linking** data
 - Resource Description Framework (RDF)
- **define structure**
 - Web Ontology Language (OWL)
- **linking** "knowledge organization systems"
 - Simple Knowledge Organization System Reference (SKOL)
- **query** language
 - SPARQL for RDF
- **inference**
 - Rule Interchange Format (RIF)

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RDF

- Graph model to represent *resources* and relationships between them
 - Documents and other resources
- Formal semantics
- XML syntax
- URIs for naming –Uniform Resources Identifiers
 - Generalization of URLs
- Most recent standard update Feb 2004

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RDF representation

- Represents "Web resources"
 - Documents on Web
 - Generalizes to "objects" identifiable but not directly retrievable, e.g. shopping facility
- Represents **metadata** for resources
 - Title, author, copyright of document
 - Price, shipping date of an item for sale

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RDF Graph Model

- Nodes: resources and property values
- Edges: labeled with property identifiers (i.e. attribute names)

Example from <http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-primer/>
"there is a Person identified by <http://www.w3.org/People/EM/contact#me>, whose name is Eric Miller, whose email address is em@w3.org, and whose title is Dr."

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Nodes

1. <http://www.w3.org/People/EM/contact#me>
2. <http://www.w3.org/2000/10/swap/pim/contact#Person>
3. Eric Miller
4. <mailto:em@w3.org>
5. Dr.

Edges

- 1 -> 2 labeled <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type>
- 1 -> 3 labeled <http://www.w3.org/2000/10/swap/pim/contact#fullName>
- 1 -> 4 labeled <http://www.w3.org/2000/10/swap/pim/contact#mailbox>
- 1 -> 5 labeled <http://www.w3.org/2000/10/swap/pim/contact#personTitle>

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OWL

- Advanced support for
 - software agents
 - Programs that “understand” and can plan and act
 - knowledge management
 - Finding and exploiting complex interactions of information across sources
- Builds on RDF
- Represents *ontologies*
- OWL 2 standard published Oct. 27, 2009

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OWL expressiveness

- Ontology: “representation of terms and interrelationships”
 - very general
 - not just trees
- Has formal semantics
- Can represent relationships between classes

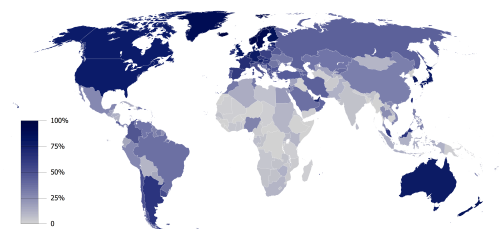
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Major concerns going forward

- Data explosion?
- Universal access?
 - Resource limitations
 - developing nations
- Security!
- Privacy!

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Internet Penetration



Wikipedia file *Internet Penetration.png*; provided by *World Internet Users and Population Stats*, June 2009

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