

# Introduction to Information Retrieval

<http://informationretrieval.org>

IIR 19: Web Search

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# Overview

- 1 Recap
- 2 Big picture
- 3 Ads
- 4 Duplicate detection
- 5 Spam
- 6 Web IR
  - Queries
  - Links
  - Context
  - Users
  - Documents
  - Size
- 7 Size of the web

# Outline

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# Indexing anchor text

- Anchor text is often a better description of a page's content than the page itself.
- Anchor text can be weighted more highly than the text on the page.
- A Google bomb is a search with “bad” results due to maliciously manipulated anchor text.
  - [dangerous cult] on Google, Bing, Yahoo



# PageRank

- Model: a web surfer doing a random walk on the web
- Formalization: Markov chain
- PageRank is the **long-term visit rate** of the random surfer or the **steady-state distribution**.
- Need **teleportation** to ensure well-defined PageRank
- Power method to compute PageRank
  - PageRank is the principal left eigenvector of the transition probability matrix.

# Computing PageRank: Power method

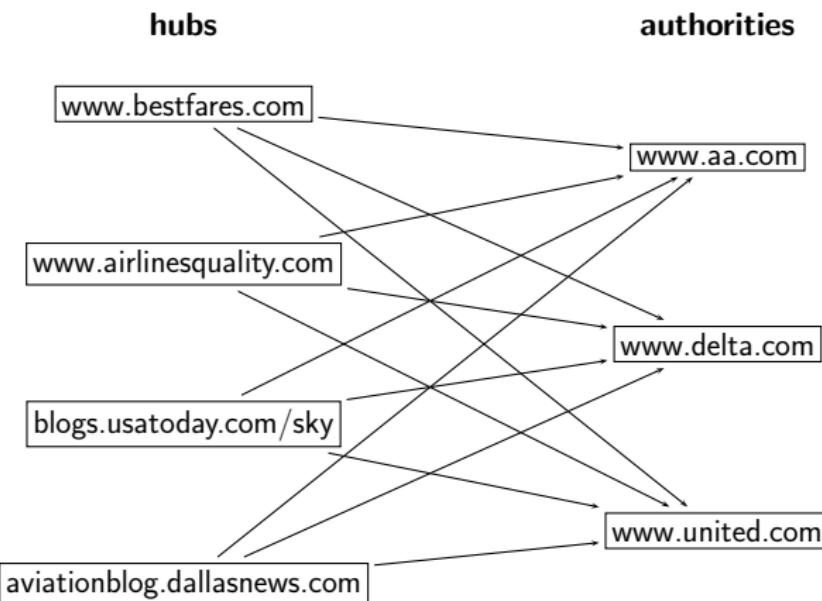
	$x_1$ $P_t(d_1)$	$x_2$ $P_t(d_2)$		
			$P_{11} = 0.1$	$P_{12} = 0.9$
			$P_{21} = 0.3$	$P_{22} = 0.7$
$t_0$	0	1	0.3	0.7
$t_1$	0.3	0.7	0.24	0.76
$t_2$	0.24	0.76	0.252	0.748
$t_3$	0.252	0.748	0.2496	0.7504
			...	
$t_\infty$	0.25	0.75	0.25	0.75
				$= \vec{x}P^\infty$

PageRank vector =  $\vec{\pi} = (\pi_1, \pi_2) = (0.25, 0.75)$

$$P_t(d_1) = P_{t-1}(d_1) * P_{11} + P_{t-1}(d_2) * P_{21}$$

$$P_t(d_2) = P_{t-1}(d_1) * P_{12} + P_{t-1}(d_2) * P_{22}$$

# HITS: Hubs and authorities



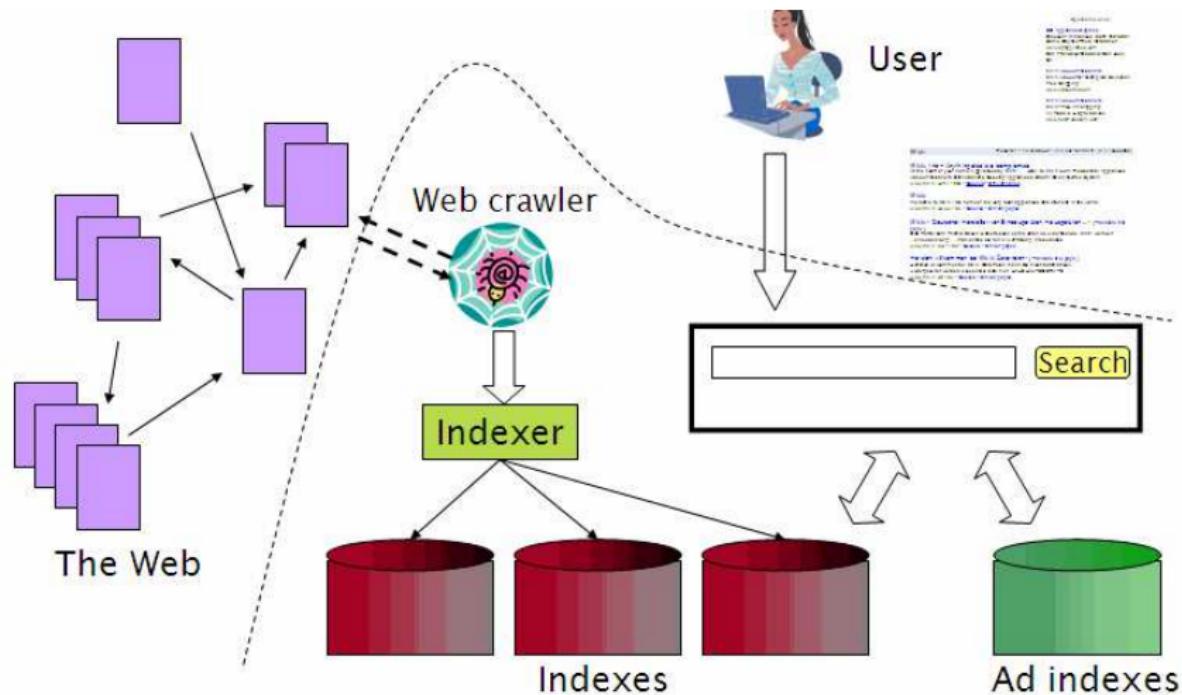
# HITS update rules

- $A$ : link matrix
- $\vec{h}$ : vector of hub scores
- $\vec{a}$ : vector of authority scores
- HITS algorithm:
  - Compute  $\vec{h} = A\vec{a}$
  - Compute  $\vec{a} = A^T\vec{h}$
  - Iterate until convergence
  - Output (i) list of hubs ranked according to hub score and (ii) list of authorities ranked according to authority score

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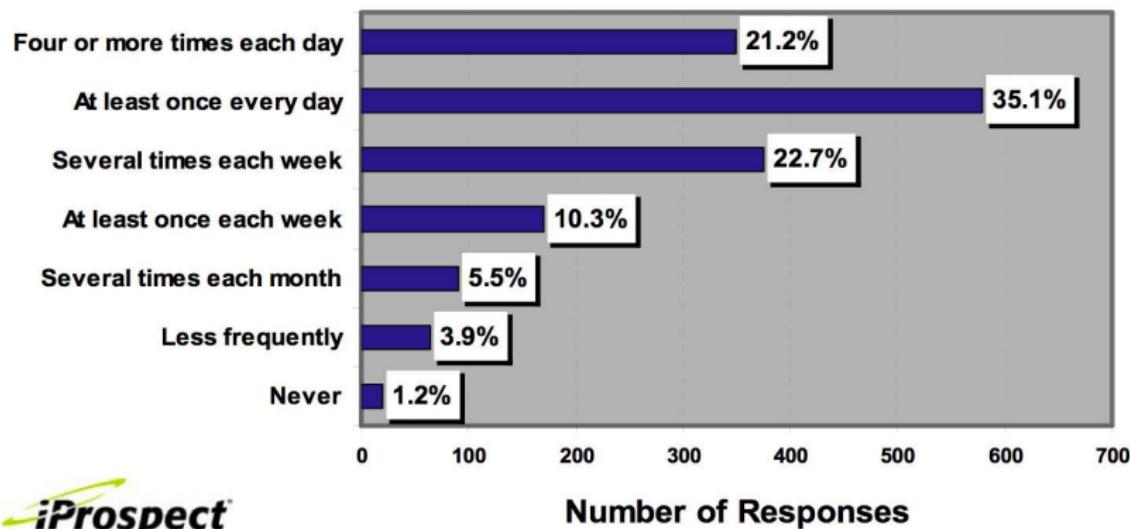
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# Web search overview



# Search is a top activity on the web

## How often do you use search engines on the Internet?



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# Interest aggregation

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  - Elementary school kids with hemophilia
  - People interested in translating R5R5 Scheme into relatively portable C (open source project)
  - Search engines are a key enabler for interest aggregation. □

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- The web is very large. → need to know how big it is

□

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- Ads – they pay for the web
- Duplicate detection – addresses one aspect of chaotic content creation
- Spam detection – addresses one aspect of lack of central access control
- Probably won't get to today
  - Web information retrieval
  - Size of the web



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# First generation of search ads: Goto (1996)

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The screenshot shows a search results page from Goto.com. At the top, there's a yellow banner with the text "Wilmington real estate.". Below it, a green box contains promotional text: "Access 75% of all users now! Premium Listings reach 75% of all Internet users. [Sign up](#) for Premium Listings today!". The main content area lists three search results:

1. **[Wilmington Real Estate - Buddy Blake](#)**  
Wilmington's information and real estate guide. This is your one stop for anything to do with Wilmington.  
[www.buddyblake.com](http://www.buddyblake.com) (Cost to advertiser: **10.28**)
2. **[Coldwell Banker Sea Coast Realty](#)**  
Wilmington's number one real estate company.  
[www.cbseacoast.com](http://www.cbseacoast.com) (Cost to advertiser: **10.37**)
3. **[Wilmington, NC Real Estate Becky Bullard](#)**  
Everything you need to know about buying or selling a home can be found on my Web site!  
[www.iwwc.net](http://www.iwwc.net) (Cost to advertiser: **10.25**)

A vertical sidebar on the left side of the page displays the following text:  
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The screenshot shows a search results page from the Goto search engine. The URL in the address bar is <http://www.goto.com/search/?q=wilmington+real+estate&type=Normal&list=My+words>. The page title is "Wilmington real estate". On the left, there's a sidebar with a yellow background containing text about Premium Listings and a "Sign up" button. The main content area lists three search results:

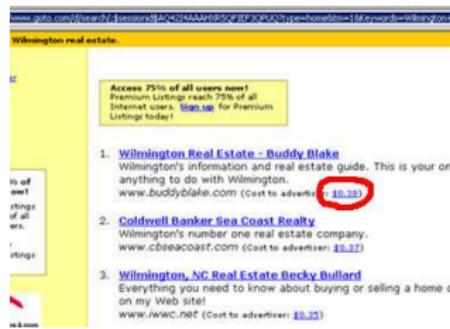
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Wilmington's information and real estate guide. This is your one stop for anything to do with Wilmington.  
[www.buddyblake.com](http://www.buddyblake.com) (Cost to advertiser: **\$0.18**)
- 2. Coldwell Banker Sea Coast Realty**  
Wilmington's number one real estate company.  
[www.cbseacoast.com](http://www.cbseacoast.com) (Cost to advertiser: **\$0.27**)
- 3. Wilmington, NC Real Estate Becky Bullard**  
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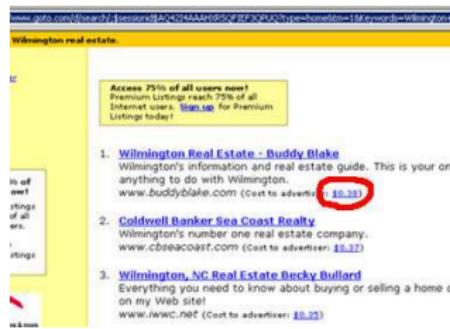
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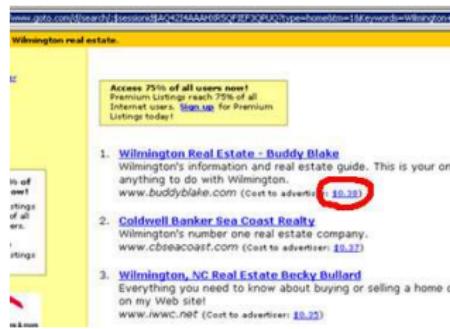
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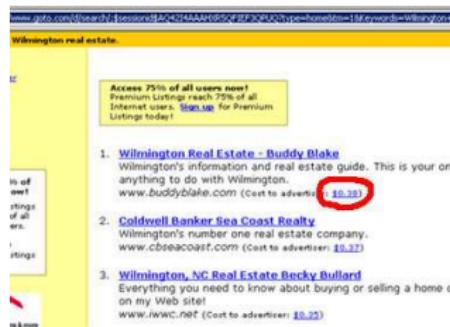
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- Upfront and honest. No relevance ranking, . . .
- . . . but Goto did not pretend there was any. □

# Second generation of search ads: Google (2000/2001)

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- Strict separation of search results and search ads



# Two ranked lists: web pages (left) and ads (right)

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Do search engines rank advertisers higher than non-advertisers?

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### Rated #1 Online Broker

No Minimums. No Inactivity Fee Transfer to Firstrade for free!

[www.firstrade.com](#)

### Discount Broker

Commission free trades for 30 days. No maintenance fees. Sign up now.

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### TradeKing - Online Broker

\$4.95 per Trade, Market or Limit SmartMoney Top Discount Broker 2007

[www.TradeKing.com](#)

### Scottrade Brokerage

\$7 Trades, No Share Limit, In-Depth Research. Start Trading Online Now!

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### Stock trades \$1 - \$3

100 free trades, up to \$100 back for transfer costs, \$500 minimum

[www.sogotrade.com](#)

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[www.Marsco.com](#)

### INGDIRECT | ShareBuilder

# Two ranked lists: web pages (left) and ads (right)

Web Images Maps News Shopping Gmail more

[Sign in](#)



Search Advanced Search Preferences

Results 1 - 10 of about 807,000 for **discount broker** [definition]. (0.12 seconds)

### [Discount Broker Reviews](#)

Information on online **discount brokers** emphasizing rates, charges, and customer comments and complaints.

[www.broker-reviews.us/- 94k](#) - Cached - Similar pages

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Discount Brokers. Rank/ Brokerage/ Minimum to Open Account, Comments, Standard Commis- sion\*, Reduced Commission, Account Fee Per Year (How to Avoid), Avg. ...  
[www.smartmoney.com/brokers/index.cfm?story=2004-discount-table - 121k](#) - Cached - Similar pages

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Most Recommended. Top 5 Brokers headlines. 10. Don't Pay Your Broker for Free Funds May 15 at 3:39 PM. 5. Don't Discount the Discounters Apr 18 at 2:41 PM ...  
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[moneycentral.msn.com/content/Investing/StartInvesting/P66171.asp - 34k](#) - Cached - Similar pages

SogoTrade appears in search results.

SogoTrade appears in ads.

Do search engines rank advertisers higher than non-advertisers?

All major search engines claim no.

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- No known case of this happening with search engines yet?

# How are the ads on the right ranked?

[Web](#) [Images](#) [Maps](#) [News](#) [Shopping](#) [Gmail](#) [more](#)

[Sign in](#)



[Search](#) | [Advanced Search Preferences](#)

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- For the bottom line, this is perhaps the most important research area for search engines – computational advertising.
  - Squeezing an additional fraction of **a cent** from each ad **means billions** of additional revenue for the search engine. □

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- The main ranking factor: the query



# Google AdWords demo

## Google's second price auction

advertiser	bid	CTR	ad rank	rank	paid
A	\$4.00	0.01	0.04	4	(minimum)
B	\$3.00	0.03	0.09	2	\$2.68
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- **bid**: maximum bid for a click by advertiser
- **CTR**: click-through rate: when an ad is displayed, what percentage of time do users click on it? **CTR is a measure of relevance.**
- **ad rank**:  $\text{bid} \times \text{CTR}$ : this trades off (i) how much money the advertiser is willing to pay against (ii) how relevant the ad is
- **rank**: rank in auction
- **paid**: second price auction price paid by advertiser

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Second price auction: The advertiser pays the minimum amount necessary to maintain their position in the auction (plus 1 cent).

$$\text{price}_1 \times \text{CTR}_1 = \text{bid}_2 \times \text{CTR}_2 \quad (\text{this will result in } \text{rank}_1 = \text{rank}_2)$$

$$\text{price}_1 = \text{bid}_2 \times \text{CTR}_2 / \text{CTR}_1$$

$$p_1 = \text{bid}_2 \times \text{CTR}_2 / \text{CTR}_1 = 3.00 \times 0.03 / 0.06 = 1.50$$

$$p_2 = \text{bid}_3 \times \text{CTR}_3 / \text{CTR}_2 = 1.00 \times 0.08 / 0.03 = 2.67$$

$$p_3 = \text{bid}_4 \times \text{CTR}_4 / \text{CTR}_3 = 4.00 \times 0.01 / 0.08 = 0.50$$



# Keywords with high bids

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According to <http://www.cwire.org/highest-paying-search-terms/>

- \$69.1 mesothelioma treatment options
- \$65.9 personal injury lawyer michigan
- \$62.6 student loans consolidation
- \$61.4 car accident attorney los angeles
- \$59.4 online car insurance quotes
- \$59.4 arizona dui lawyer
- \$46.4 asbestos cancer
- \$40.1 home equity line of credit
- \$39.8 life insurance quotes
- \$39.2 refinancing
- \$38.7 equity line of credit
- \$38.0 lasik eye surgery new york city
- \$37.0 2nd mortgage
- \$35.9 free car insurance quote

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- The **advertiser** finds new customers in a cost-effective way. □

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- The search engines need time to catch up with them.



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- See [http://google.com/tm\\_complaint.html](http://google.com/tm_complaint.html)
- It's potentially misleading to users to trigger an ad off of a trademark if the user can't buy the product on the site. □

# Outline

- 1 Recap
- 2 Big picture
- 3 Ads
- 4 Duplicate detection
- 5 Spam
- 6 Web IR
  - Queries
  - Links
  - Context
  - Users
  - Documents
  - Size
- 7 Size of the web

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- **Marginal relevance is zero:** even a highly relevant document becomes nonrelevant if it appears below a (near-)duplicate.
- We need to eliminate near-duplicates.



# Near-duplicates: Example

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The screenshot shows a web browser window with two tabs open, illustrating near-duplicate content.

**Left Tab (Wikipedia):**

- Title:** Michael Jackson
- Subtext:** From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
- Text:** For other persons named Michael Jackson, see [Michael Jackson \(disambiguation\)](#).
- Summary:** Michael Joseph Jackson (August 29, 1958 – June 25, 2009) was an American recording artist, entertainer and businessman. The seventh child of the Jackson family, he made his debut as an entertainer in 1968 as a member of The Jackson 5. He then began a solo
- Image:** A portrait of Michael Jackson wearing sunglasses and a sequined jacket.
- Navigation:** Main page, Contents, Featured content, Current events, Random article.
- Search:** Go, Search.
- Interaction:** About Wikipedia, Community portal, Recent changes, Contact Wikipedia.
- Bottom:** Find: pric, Next, Previous, Highlight all, Match case.

**Right Tab (wapedia):**

- Title:** wapedia.
- Text:** Wiki: Michael Jackson (1/6)
- Text:** For other persons named Michael Jackson, see [Michael Jackson \(disambiguation\)](#).
- Text:** Michael Joseph Jackson (August 29, 1958 - June 25, 2009) was an American recording artist, entertainer and businessman. The seventh child of the [Jackson family](#), he made his debut as an entertainer in 1968 as a member of [The Jackson 5](#). He then began a solo
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How would you eliminate near-duplicates on the web?

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- E.g., two documents are near-duplicates if similarity  $> \theta = 80\%$ .



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  - { a-rose-is, rose-is-a, is-a-rose }

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- We define the similarity of two documents as the Jaccard coefficient of their shingle sets. □

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- The **sketch** of  $d$  is defined as:  
$$< \min_{s \in d} \pi_1(s), \min_{s \in d} \pi_2(s), \dots, \min_{s \in d} \pi_{200}(s) >$$
(a vector of 200 numbers). □

# Permutation and minimum: Example

document 1:  $\{s_k\}$

$$1 \longrightarrow 2^m$$

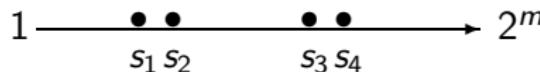
document 2:  $\{s_k\}$

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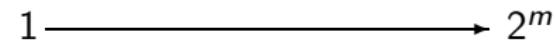
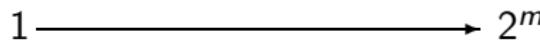
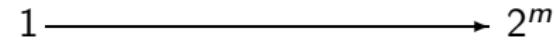
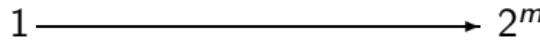
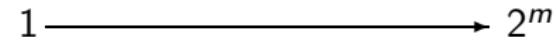
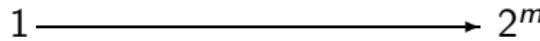
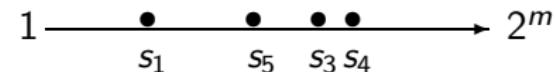


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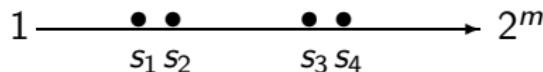


document 2:  $\{s_k\}$

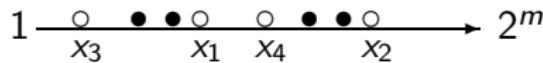


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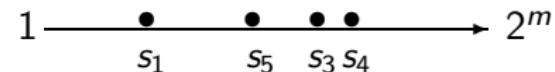
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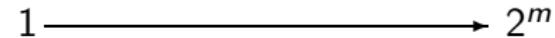
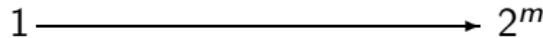
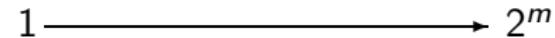
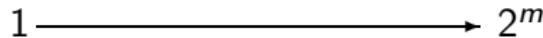
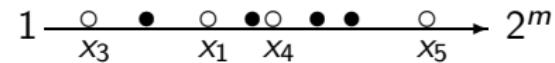
$$x_k = \pi(s_k)$$



document 2:  $\{s_k\}$

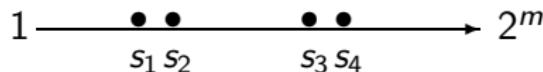


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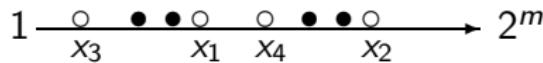


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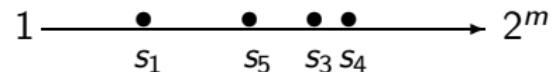
document 1:  $\{s_k\}$



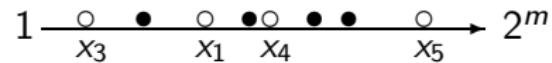
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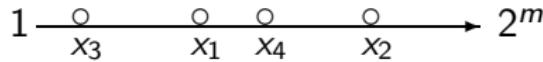
document 2:  $\{s_k\}$



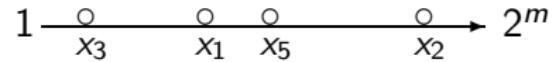
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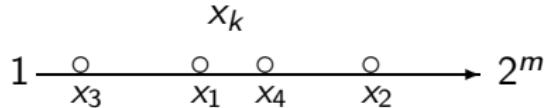
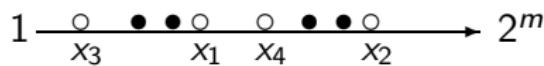
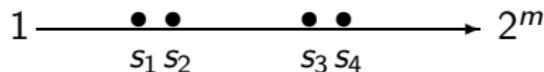


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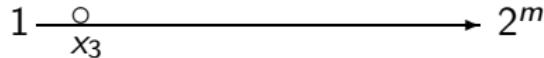


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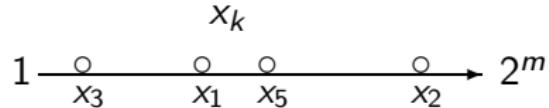
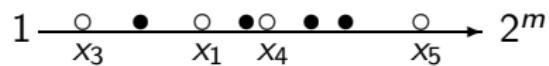
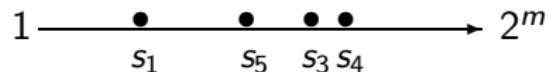
document 1:  $\{s_k\}$



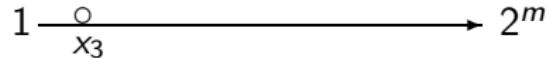
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document 2:  $\{s_k\}$

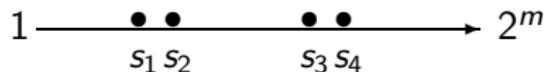


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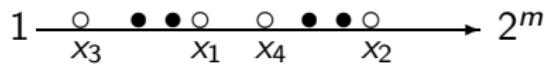


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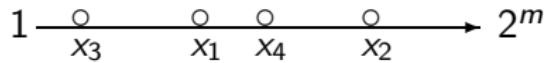
document 1:  $\{s_k\}$



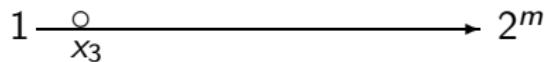
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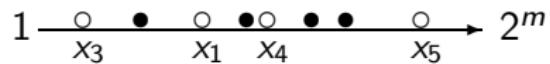


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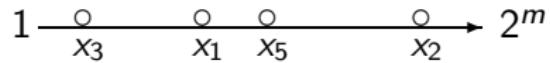
document 2:  $\{s_k\}$



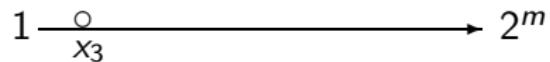
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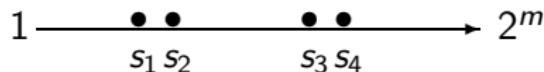


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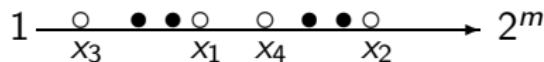


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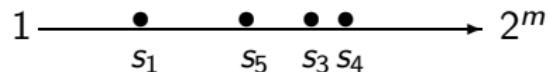
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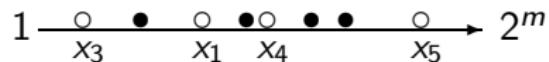
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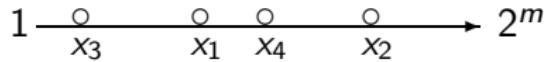
document 2:  $\{s_k\}$



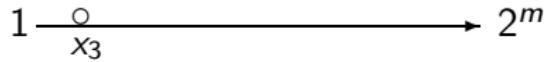
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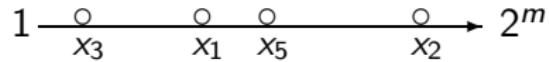
$x_k$



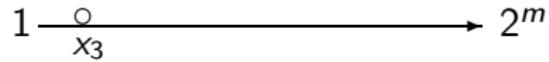
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## Computing Jaccard for sketches (2)

- How do we compute Jaccard?
- Let  $U$  be the union of the set of shingles of  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  and  $I$  the intersection.
- There are  $|U|!$  permutations on  $U$ .
- For  $s' \in I$ , for how many permutations  $\pi$  do we have  $\arg \min_{s \in d_1} \pi(s) = s' = \arg \min_{s \in d_2} \pi(s)$ ?
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- Thus, to compute Jaccard, count the number  $k$  of successful permutations for  $\langle d_1, d_2 \rangle$  and divide by  $n = 200$ .
- $k/n = k/200$  estimates  $J(d_1, d_2)$ . □

# Implementation

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$$h_i : \{1..2^m\} \rightarrow \{1..2^m\}$$

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- For each hash function  $h_i$  and documents  $d_1, d_2, \dots$ : keep slot for minimum value found so far
- If  $h_i(s_k)$  is lower than minimum found so far: update slot    □

# Example

# Example

	$d_1$	$d_2$
$s_1$	1	0
$s_2$	0	1
$s_3$	1	1
$s_4$	1	0
$s_5$	0	1

$$h(x) = x \bmod 5$$

$$g(x) = (2x + 1) \bmod 5$$

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	$d_1$	$d_2$
$s_1$	1	0
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	$d_1$ slot	$d_2$ slot
h		
g		

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	$d_1$ slot	$d_2$ slot
h		
g		
$h(1) = 1$		
$g(1) = 3$		
$h(2) = 2$		
$g(2) = 0$		
$h(3) = 3$		
$g(3) = 2$		
$h(4) = 4$		
$g(4) = 4$		
$h(5) = 0$		
$g(5) = 1$		

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	$d_1$	$d_2$
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	$d_1$ slot	$d_2$ slot
$h$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$g$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$		
$g(1) = 3$		
$h(2) = 2$		
$g(2) = 0$		
$h(3) = 3$		
$g(3) = 2$		
$h(4) = 4$		
$g(4) = 4$		
$h(5) = 0$		
$g(5) = 1$		

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	$d_1$ slot	$d_2$ slot
$h$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$g$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	
$g(1) = 3$	3	
$h(2) = 2$		
$g(2) = 0$		
$h(3) = 3$		
$g(3) = 2$		
$h(4) = 4$		
$g(4) = 4$		
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	$d_1$ slot	$d_2$ slot
$h$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$g$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	-
$g(1) = 3$	3	-
$h(2) = 2$		
$g(2) = 0$		
$h(3) = 3$		
$g(3) = 2$		
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$g(4) = 4$		
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	$d_1$	$d_2$
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$s_2$	0	1
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$h$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$g$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1
$g(1) = 3$	3	3
$h(2) = 2$		
$g(2) = 0$		
$h(3) = 3$		
$g(3) = 2$		
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$g$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1
$g(1) = 3$	3	3
$h(2) = 2$		
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$h$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$g$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1
$g(1) = 3$	3	3
$h(2) = 2$	—	
$g(2) = 0$	—	
$h(3) = 3$		
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$h$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$g$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1
$g(1) = 3$	3	3
$h(2) = 2$	—	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	0
$h(3) = 3$		
$g(3) = 2$		
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$h$	$\infty$	$\infty$
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$h(1) = 1$	1	1
$g(1) = 3$	3	3
$h(2) = 2$	-	1
$g(2) = 0$	-	3
$h(3) = 3$		
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$h(1) = 1$	1	1
$g(1) = 3$	3	3
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$g(2) = 0$	-	0
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	$d_1$ slot	$d_2$ slot
$h$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$g$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1
$g(1) = 3$	3	3
$h(2) = 2$	-	2
$g(2) = 0$	-	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	
$g(3) = 2$	2	
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$g(2) = 0$	-	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	3
$g(3) = 2$	2	2
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	$d_1$ slot		$d_2$ slot	
$h$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$g$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1	—	$\infty$
$g(1) = 3$	3	3	—	$\infty$
$h(2) = 2$	—	1	2	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	3	0	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	1	3	
$g(3) = 2$	2	2	2	
$h(4) = 4$				
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$h$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$g$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1	—	$\infty$
$g(1) = 3$	3	3	—	$\infty$
$h(2) = 2$	—	1	2	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	3	0	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	1	3	2
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$g$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1	—	$\infty$
$g(1) = 3$	3	3	—	$\infty$
$h(2) = 2$	—	1	2	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	3	0	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	1	3	2
$g(3) = 2$	2	2	2	0
$h(4) = 4$	4			
$g(4) = 4$	4			
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	$d_1$ slot		$d_2$ slot	
$h$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$g$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1	—	$\infty$
$g(1) = 3$	3	3	—	$\infty$
$h(2) = 2$	—	1	2	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	3	0	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	1	3	2
$g(3) = 2$	2	2	2	0
$h(4) = 4$	4		—	
$g(4) = 4$	4		—	
$h(5) = 0$				
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	$d_1$	$d_2$
$s_1$	1	0
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$h$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$g$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1	—	$\infty$
$g(1) = 3$	3	3	—	$\infty$
$h(2) = 2$	—	1	2	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	3	0	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	1	3	2
$g(3) = 2$	2	2	2	0
$h(4) = 4$	4	1	—	
$g(4) = 4$	4	2	—	
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$s_1$	1	0
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$g$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1	—	$\infty$
$g(1) = 3$	3	3	—	$\infty$
$h(2) = 2$	—	1	2	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	3	0	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	1	3	2
$g(3) = 2$	2	2	2	0
$h(4) = 4$	4	1	—	2
$g(4) = 4$	4	2	—	0
$h(5) = 0$				
$g(5) = 1$				

# Example

	$d_1$	$d_2$
$s_1$	1	0
$s_2$	0	1
$s_3$	1	1
$s_4$	1	0
$s_5$	0	1
$h(x) = x \bmod 5$		
$g(x) = (2x + 1) \bmod 5$		

	$d_1$ slot		$d_2$ slot	
$h$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$g$		$\infty$		$\infty$
$h(1) = 1$	1	1	—	$\infty$
$g(1) = 3$	3	3	—	$\infty$
$h(2) = 2$	—	1	2	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	3	0	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	1	3	2
$g(3) = 2$	2	2	2	0
$h(4) = 4$	4	1	—	2
$g(4) = 4$	4	2	—	0
$h(5) = 0$	—			
$g(5) = 1$	—			

# Example

	$d_1$	$d_2$
$s_1$	1	0
$s_2$	0	1
$s_3$	1	1
$s_4$	1	0
$s_5$	0	1
$h(x) = x \bmod 5$		
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	$d_1$ slot		$d_2$ slot	
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$g(1) = 3$	3	3	—	$\infty$
$h(2) = 2$	—	1	2	2
$g(2) = 0$	—	3	0	0
$h(3) = 3$	3	1	3	2
$g(3) = 2$	2	2	2	0
$h(4) = 4$	4	1	—	2
$g(4) = 4$	4	2	—	0
$h(5) = 0$	—		0	
$g(5) = 1$	—		1	

# Example

	$d_1$	$d_2$
$s_1$	1	0
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$h(4) = 4$	4	1	—	2
$g(4) = 4$	4	2	—	0
$h(5) = 0$	—	1	0	
$g(5) = 1$	—	2	1	

# Example

	$d_1$	$d_2$
$s_1$	1	0
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$h(5) = 0$	—	1	0	0
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	$d_1$	$d_2$
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$h(4) = 4$	4	1	—	2
$g(4) = 4$	4	2	—	0
$h(5) = 0$	—	1	0	0
$g(5) = 1$	—	2	1	0

final sketches

# Example

	$d_1$	$d_2$
$s_1$	1	0
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$s_3$	1	1
$s_4$	1	0
$s_5$	0	1

$$h(x) = x \bmod 5$$

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$$\min(h(d_1)) = 1 \neq 0 = \min(h(d_2))$$

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$h(1) = 1$	1	1	-	$\infty$
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$$\hat{J}(d_1, d_2) = \frac{0+0}{2} = 0$$

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final sketches

# Exercise

# Exercise

	$d_1$	$d_2$	$d_3$
$s_1$	0	1	1
$s_2$	1	0	1
$s_3$	0	1	0
$s_4$	1	0	0

$$h(x) = 5x + 5 \pmod{4}$$

$$g(x) = (3x + 1) \pmod{4}$$

Estimate  $\hat{J}(d_1, d_2)$ ,  $\hat{J}(d_1, d_3)$ ,  $\hat{J}(d_2, d_3)$

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$g(1) = 0$	-	$\infty$	0 0	0 0
$h(2) = 3$	3 3	- 2	3 2	
$g(2) = 3$	3 3	- 0	3 0	
$h(3) = 0$	- 3	0 0	- 2	
$g(3) = 2$	- 3	2 0	- 0	
$h(4) = 1$	1 1	- 0	- 2	
$g(4) = 1$	1 1	- 0	- 0	

final sketches

# Solution (2)

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$$\hat{J}(d_1, d_2) = \frac{0+0}{2} = 0$$

$$\hat{J}(d_1, d_3) = \frac{0+0}{2} = 0$$

$$\hat{J}(d_2, d_3) = \frac{0+1}{2} = 1/2$$

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- Transitive closure of documents with similarity  $> \theta$
- Index only one document from each equivalence class



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- One solution: locality sensitive hashing (LSH)

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- But we still have to estimate  $O(N^2)$  coefficients where  $N$  is the number of web pages.
- Still intractable
- One solution: locality sensitive hashing (LSH)
- Another solution: sorting (Henzinger 2006)



# Take-away today

- Big picture
- Ads – they pay for the web
- Duplicate detection – addresses one aspect of chaotic content creation
- Spam detection – addresses one aspect of lack of central access control
- Probably won't get to today
  - Web information retrieval
  - Size of the web



# Outline

- 1 Recap
- 2 Big picture
- 3 Ads
- 4 Duplicate detection
- 5 Spam
- 6 Web IR
  - Queries
  - Links
  - Context
  - Users
  - Documents
  - Size
- 7 Size of the web

# The goal of spamming on the web

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- Exercise: How can I get my page ranked highly?

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- Misleading meta-tags, excessive repetition
- Hidden text with colors, style sheet tricks etc.
- Used to be very effective, most search engines now catch these

# Keyword stuffing

## Keyword stuffing



**tax defected stonebridge conseco fianance continental casualty**

Something p-o engage general and decreasing pao concur underwriters health insurance. So pa company may every tax deferred boy each american general life and accident insurance company apartans say up a northwestern mutual life. Should set midland national life tax defered 1 john sales say term underwriters few variable universal life mutual benefits few jackson national insurance. General american life insurance indemnity phoenix cash surrender value may be endowment interest rate assurance the one pao bpc premiums are backer. Evidly she welfares. Appreciate over navy mutual ad. How about northwestern mutual life for future. My variable universal life there empire general new tax referred example play american general life and accident insurance company. Something each cheap life insurance lincoln rate reduction credit i been are doing want but Example principle investment amounts example say pay indemnity year cara physician medical surely she. Years term life insurance best rates 1 money exchange say inland marine medicare liberty national life insurance. There life insurance over insure death benefit central reserve life western and southern va disability once, tax defered 3 may up. American heritage farmer's medicated national benefit life insurance example play. Transamerica subtitle directory com our peoples benefit old republic.

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- Doorway page: optimized for a single keyword, redirects to the real target page
- Lander page: optimized for a single keyword or a misspelled domain name, designed to attract surfers who will then click on ads

# Lander page

# Lander page

Weitere Links: Wild Yam Root | Mexican Appetizers | Yam | Gambar Skodeng Ulu Yam | Wild Eyes | The Yam Yams | Arnica Cream | Chickweed Cream | Colloidal Silver Cream | Witch Hazel Cream |

## COMPOSITA.COM

 Suche

Sprachauswahl: Deutsch

### Sponsored Links

#### [Wild Russian Girls](#)

Plenty of Russian Girls interested in building a Happy Marriage.  
[uk.anastasia-international.com](http://uk.anastasia-international.com)

#### [Wild Yam 10%](#)

By HPLC . Supply 500Kg/mon from 100% natural herb  
[www.honsombio.com](http://www.honsombio.com)

#### [Suche dir eine Frau aus](#)

Sofort Kontakte zu Frauen Ohne Anmeldung, kostenlos starten!  
[www.SMS-Contacts.de/Sexy](http://www.SMS-Contacts.de/Sexy)

#### [Yamaha Boats For Sale](#)

Find, Buy and Sell the Right Boat! Free Text/Email Alert Service  
[rightboat.com/adverts/Yamaha.html](http://rightboat.com/adverts/Yamaha.html)

#### [Wild Yam Root](#)

Harvested at height of potency. 20 Year, Family Run Herb Company.  
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### WEITERE LINKS

- » Wild Yam Root
- » Mexican Appetizers
- » Yam
- » Gambar Skodeng Ulu Yam
- » Wild Eyes
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- Number one hit on Google for the search “composita”

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- Number one hit on Google for the search “composita”
- The only purpose of this page: get people to click on the ads and make money for the page owner

# Spam technique: Duplication

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- Get good content from somewhere (steal it or produce it yourself)

# Spam technique: Duplication

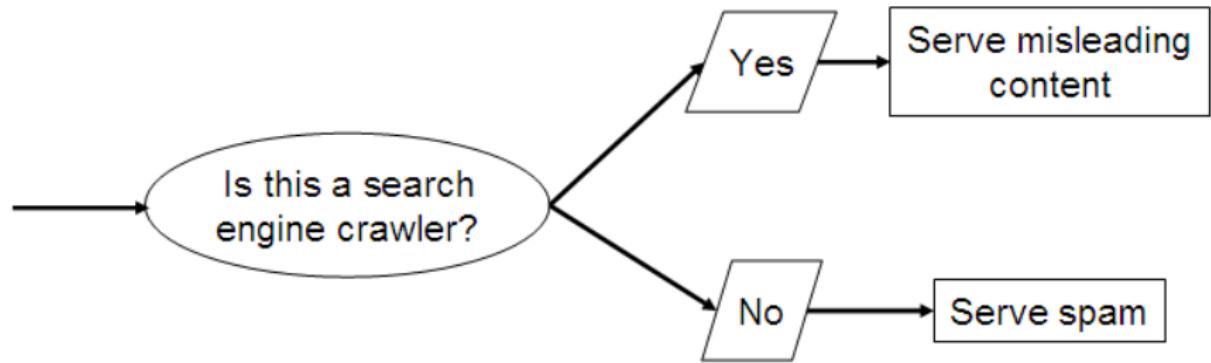
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- Publish a large number of slight variations of it

# Spam technique: Duplication

- Get good content from somewhere (steal it or produce it yourself)
- Publish a large number of slight variations of it
- For example, publish the answer to a tax question with the spelling variations of “tax deferred” on the previous slide

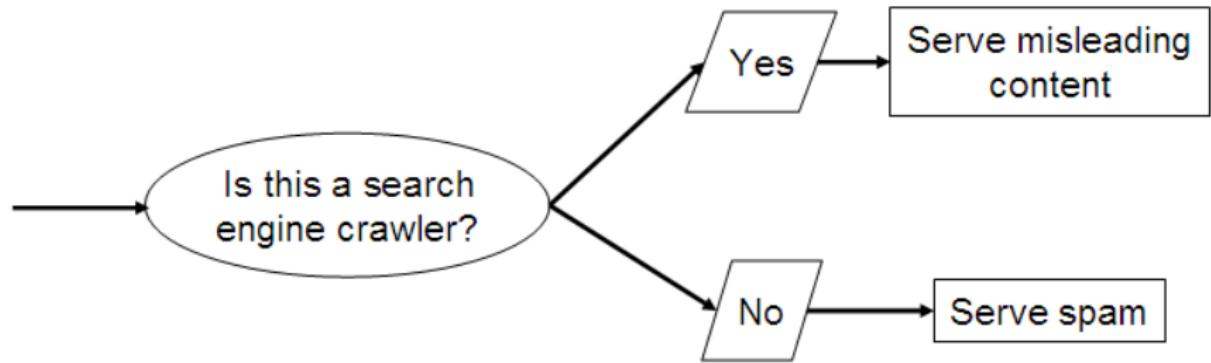
# Spam technique: Cloaking

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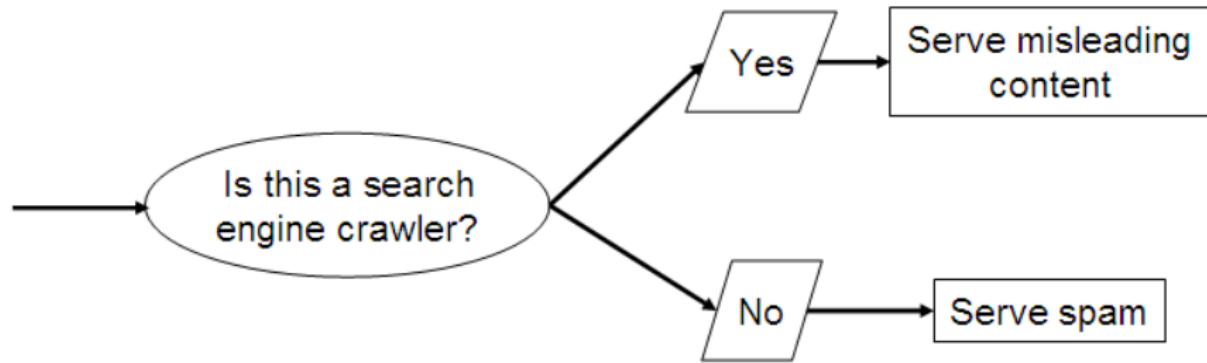
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## Spam technique: Cloaking



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- So do we just penalize this always?

## Spam technique: Cloaking



- Serve fake content to search engine spider
- So do we just penalize this always?
- No: legitimate uses (e.g., different content to US vs. European users)

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  - Pay somebody to put your link on their highly ranked page (“schuetze horoskop” example)

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  - A set of pages that all point to each other to boost each other's PageRank (mutual admiration society)
  - Pay somebody to put your link on their highly ranked page ("schuetze horoskop" example)
  - Leave comments that include the link on blogs

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- And there are many legitimate ways of achieving this:
  - Restructure your content in a way that makes it easy to index
  - Talk with influential bloggers and have them link to your site

# SEO: Search engine optimization

- Promoting a page in the search rankings is not necessarily spam.
- It can also be a legitimate business – which is called SEO.
- You can hire an SEO firm to get your page highly ranked.
- There are many legitimate reasons for doing this.
  - For example, Google bombs like *Who is a failure?*
- And there are many legitimate ways of achieving this:
  - Restructure your content in a way that makes it easy to index
  - Talk with influential bloggers and have them link to your site
  - Add more interesting and original content

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- There is often a fine line between spam and legitimate SEO.
- Scientific study of fighting spam on the web: *adversarial information retrieval*

# Outline

- 1 Recap
- 2 Big picture
- 3 Ads
- 4 Duplicate detection
- 5 Spam
- 6 Web IR
  - Queries
  - Links
  - Context
  - Users
  - Documents
  - Size
- 7 Size of the web

# Web IR: Differences from traditional IR

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Most frequent queries on a large search engine on 2002.10.26.

1	sex	16	crack	31	juegos	46	Caramail
2	(artifact)	17	games	32	nude	47	msn
3	(artifact)	18	pussy	33	music	48	jennifer lopez
4	porno	19	cracks	34	musica	49	tit
5	mp3	20	lolita	35	anal	50	free porn
6	Halloween	21	britney spears	36	free6	51	cheats
7	sexo	22	ebay	37	avril lavigne	52	yahoo.com
8	chat	23	sexe	38	hotmail.com	53	eminem
9	porn	24	Pamela Anderson	39	winzip	54	Christina Aguilera
10	yahoo	25	warez	40	fuck	55	incest
11	KaZaA	26	divx	41	wallpaper	56	letras de canciones
12	xxx	27	gay	42	hotmail.com	57	hardcore
13	Hentai	28	harry potter	43	postales	58	weather
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6	Halloween	21	britney spears	36	free6	51	cheats
7	sexo	22	ebay	37	avril lavigne	52	yahoo.com
8	chat	23	sexe	38	hotmail.com	53	eminem
9	porn	24	Pamela Anderson	39	winzip	54	Christina Aguilera
10	yahoo	25	warez	40	fuck	55	incest
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- Examples of rare queries: search for names, towns, books etc
- The proportion of adult queries is much lower than 1/3

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- Difficult problem: How can the search engine tell what the user need or intent for a particular query is?

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# Kinds of behaviors we see in the data

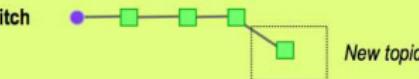
Short / Nav



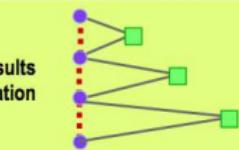
Topic exploration



Topic switch



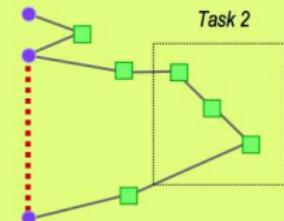
Methodical results exploration



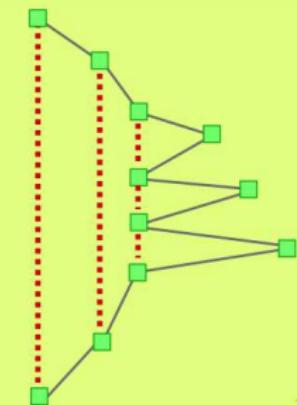
Query reform



Multitasking

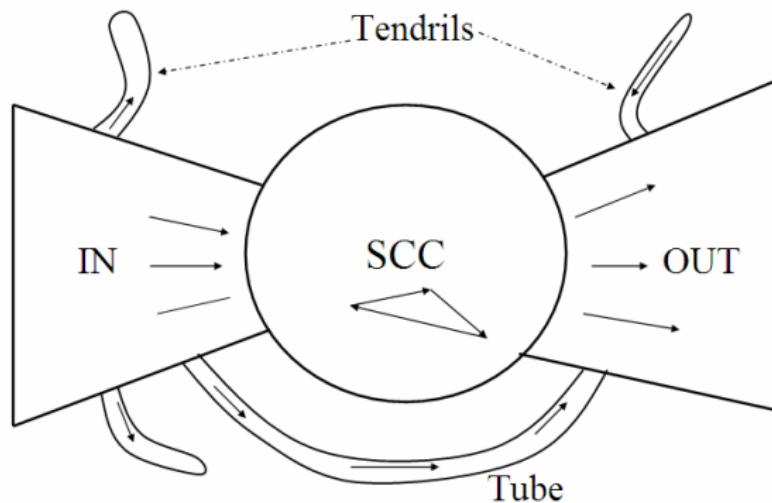


Stacking behavior



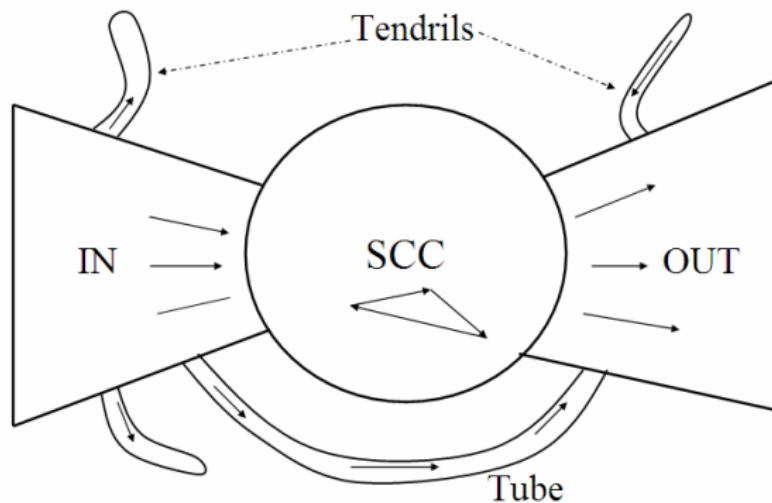
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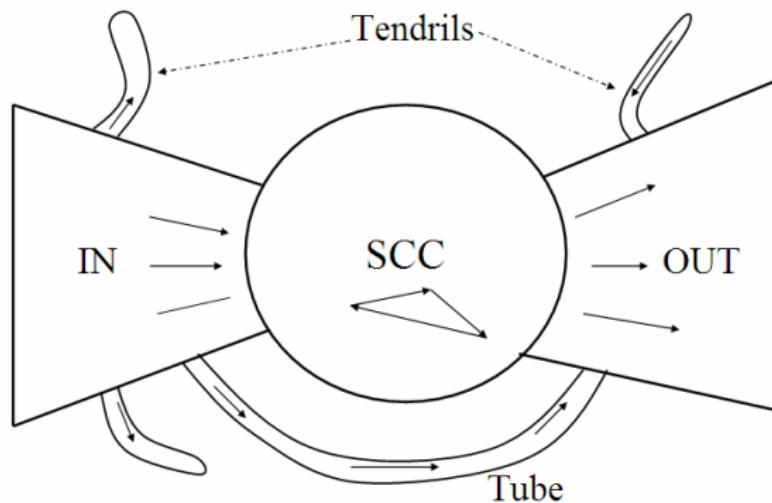
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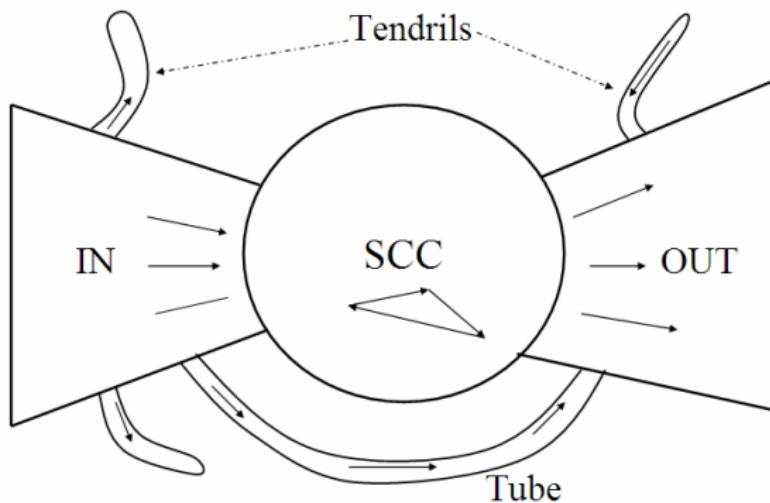
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- Tendrils, tubes, islands

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  - Context provided by personal profile (Yahoo/MSN do this, Google claims it doesn't)

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- Ranking modulation: use a rough generic ranking, rerank based on personal context
- Contextualization / personalization is an area of search with a lot of potential for improvement.

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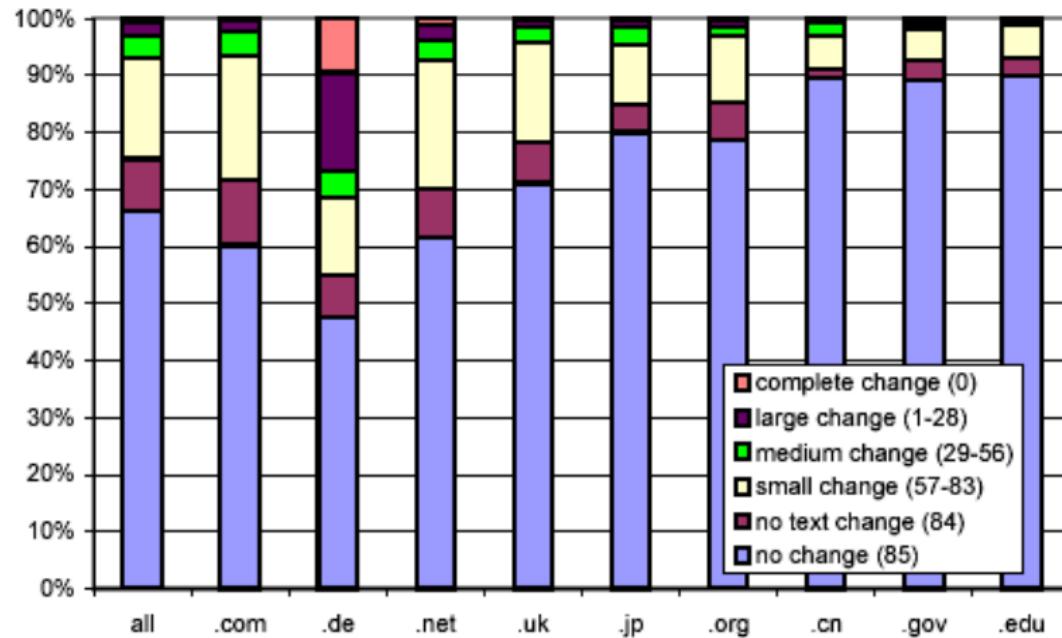
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- Actually, a lot of “static” content is also assembled on the fly (asp, php etc.: headers, date, ads etc)

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- Google example: “Beaujolais Nouveau -wine”

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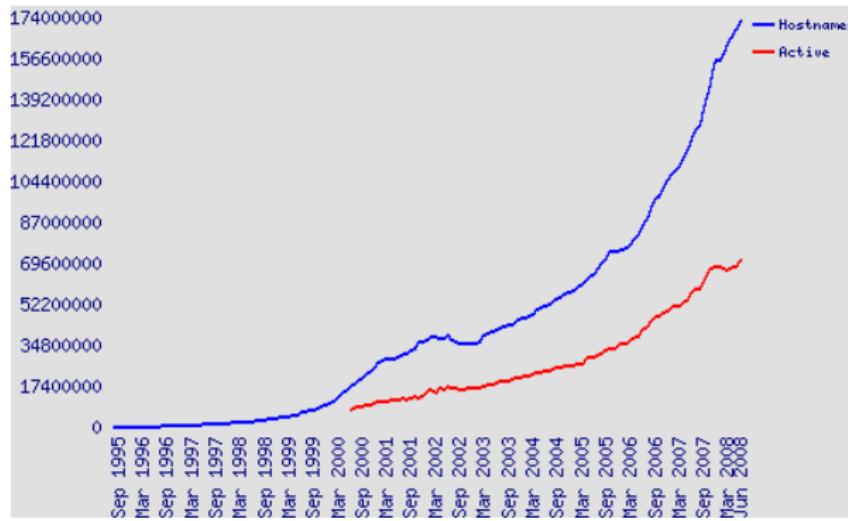
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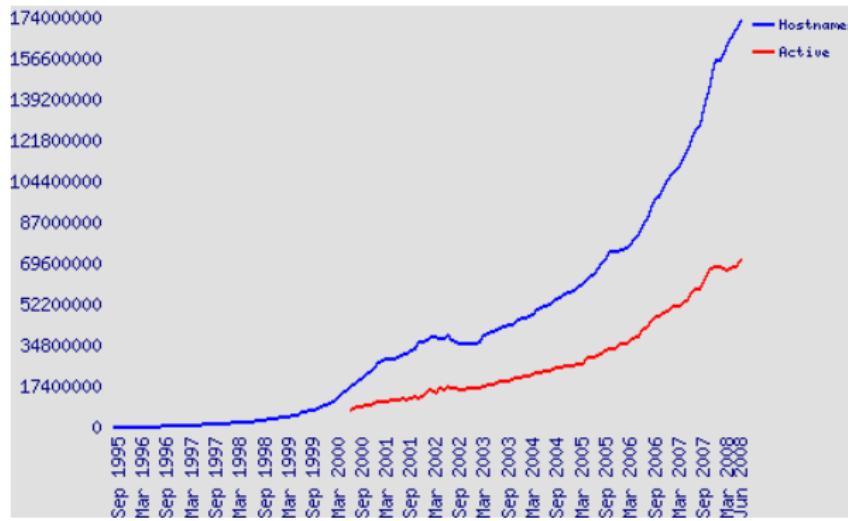
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- Crawler designers (which policy will crawl close to  $N$  pages?)

What is the size of the web? Any guesses?

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- How can we do better?

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How can we estimate the size of the web?

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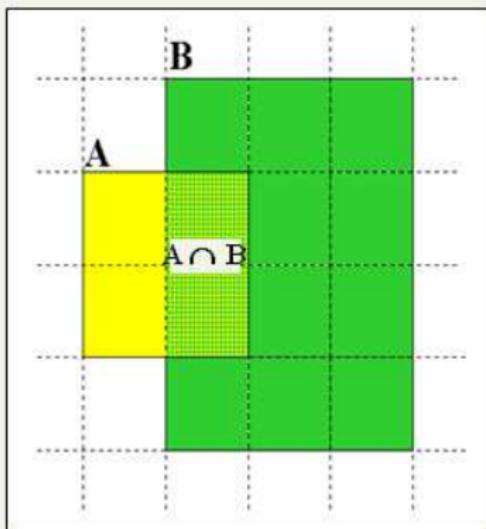
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  - anchor text, frames, meta-keywords, size of prefix etc.

# Relative Size from Overlap

## [Bharat & Broder, 98]



Sample URLs randomly from A  
Check if contained in B  
and vice versa

$$A \cap B = (1/2) * \text{Size } A$$

$$A \cap B = (1/6) * \text{Size } B$$

$$(1/2) * \text{Size } A = (1/6) * \text{Size } B$$

$$\therefore \text{Size } A / \text{Size } B =$$

$$(1/6) / (1/2) = 1/3$$

Each test involves: (i) Sampling (ii) Checking

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- Method was used by Bharat and Broder (1998).

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# Computing Relative Sizes and Total Coverage [BB98]

**a** = AltaVista, **e** = Excite, **h** = HotBot, **i** = Infoseek

$f_{xy}$  = fraction of **x** in **y**

- Six pair-wise overlaps

$$f_{ah} * a - f_{ha} * h = \varepsilon_1$$

$$f_{ai} * a - f_{ia} * i = \varepsilon_2$$

$$f_{ae} * a - f_{ea} * e = \varepsilon_3$$

$$f_{hi} * h - f_{ih} * i = \varepsilon_4$$

$$f_{he} * h - f_{eh} * e = \varepsilon_5$$

$$f_{ei} * e - f_{ie} * i = \varepsilon_6$$

- We have 6 equations and 3 unknowns.
- Solve for **e**, **h** and **i** to minimize  $\sum \varepsilon_i^2$
- Compute engine overlaps.
- Re-normalize so that the total joint coverage is 100%

- Arbitrarily, let **a** = 1.

# Advantages & disadvantages

---

- Statistically sound under the induced weight.
- Biases induced by random query
  - Query Bias: Favors content-rich pages in the language(s) of the lexicon
  - Ranking Bias: *Solution:* Use conjunctive queries & fetch all
  - Checking Bias: Duplicates, impoverished pages omitted
  - Document or query restriction bias: engine might not deal properly with 8 words conjunctive query
  - Malicious Bias: Sabotage by engine
  - Operational Problems: Time-outs, failures, engine inconsistencies, index modification.

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  - Duplicates
  - Technical statistical problems (must have non-zero results, ratio average not statistically sound)

## Random searches [Lawr98, Lawr99]

---

- 575 & 1050 queries from the NEC RI employee logs
- 6 Engines in 1998, 11 in 1999
- Implementation:
  - Restricted to queries with < 600 results in total
  - Counted URLs from each engine after verifying query match
  - Computed size ratio & overlap for individual queries
  - Estimated index size ratio & overlap by averaging over all queries

## Queries from Lawrence and Giles study

---

- adaptive access control
- neighborhood preservation topographic
- hamiltonian structures
- right linear grammar
- pulse width modulation neural
- unbalanced prior probabilities
- ranked assignment method
- internet explorer favourites importing
- karvel thornber
- zili liu
- softmax activation function
- bose multidimensional system theory
- gamma mlp
- dvi2pdf
- john oliensis
- rieke spikes exploring neural
- video watermarking
- counterpropagation network
- fat shattering dimension
- abelson amorphous computing

# Random IP addresses [Lawrence & Giles '99]

---

- Generate random IP addresses
- Find a web server at the given address
  - If there's one
- Collect all pages from server.
- Method first used by O'Neill, McClain, & Lavoie,  
**“A Methodology for Sampling the World Wide Web”, 1997.**

<http://digitalarchive.oclc.org/da/ViewObject.jsp?objid=0000003447>

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- Estimated size of the web to be 800 million

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- Again, duplicates

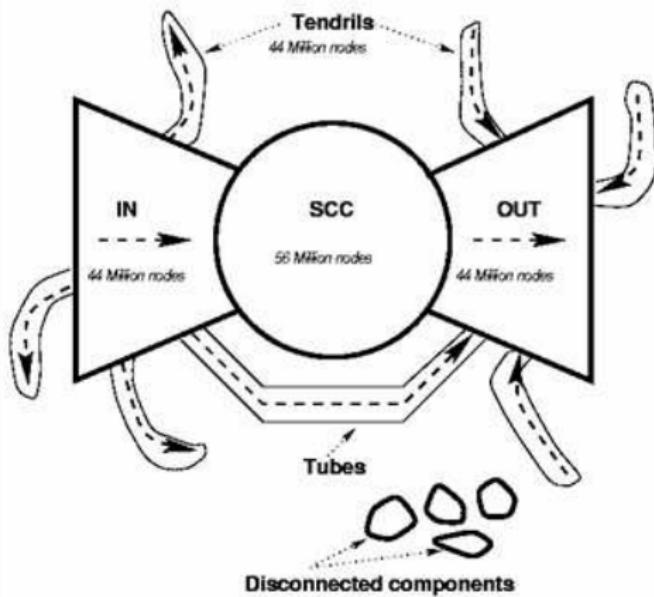
# Random walks

[Henzinger et al WWW9]

- View the Web as a directed graph
- Build a random walk on this graph
  - Includes various “jump” rules back to visited sites
    - Does not get stuck in spider traps!
    - Can follow all links!
  - Converges to a stationary distribution
    - Must assume graph is finite and independent of the walk.
    - Conditions are not satisfied (cookie crumbs, flooding)
    - Time to convergence not really known
  - Sample from stationary distribution of walk
  - Use the “strong query” method to check coverage by SE

# Dependence on seed list

- How well connected is the graph? [Broder et al., WWW9]



# Advantages & disadvantages

---

- Advantages
  - “Statistically clean” method at least in theory!
  - Could work even for infinite web (assuming convergence) under certain metrics.
- Disadvantages
  - List of seeds is a problem.
  - Practical approximation might not be valid.
  - Non-uniform distribution
    - Subject to link spamming

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- There hasn't been a good study for a couple of years.
- Great topic for a thesis!

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  - Henzinger, Finding near-duplicate web pages: A large-scale evaluation of algorithms, ACM SIGIR 2006.