

مبانی بازیابی اطلاعات و جستجوی وب

Web Search – ۱۱

Brief (non-technical) history

- Early keyword-based engines ca. 1995-1997
- Paid search ranking: Goto (→ Yahoo!)
 - Your search ranking depended on how much you paid
 - Auction for keywords

Brief (non-technical) history

- 1998+: Link-based ranking pioneered by Google
 - Great user experience
- Result: Google added paid search “ads” to the side, independent of search results
- 2005+: Google gains search share, dominating in Europe and very strong in North America

Without search engines, the web wouldn't work

- Without search, content is hard to find.
- → Without search, there is no incentive to create content.
- Somebody needs to pay for the web.
 - Servers, web infrastructure, content creation
 - A large part today is paid by search ads.
 - Search pays for the web.

IR on the web vs. IR in general

- On the web, search is not just a nice feature.
 - Search is a key enabler of the web: . . .

→ look at search ads

- The web is a chaotic und uncoordinated collection. → lots of duplicates – need to detect duplicates
- No control / restrictions on who can author content → lots of spam – need to detect spam
- The web is very large. → need to know how big it is

nigritude ultramarine - Google Search - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Yahoo! Tools Help

http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=nigritude+ultramarine&btnG=Google+Search

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nigritude ultramarine Search Advanced Search Preferences

Web Results 1 - 10 of about 185,000 for **nigritude ultramarine**. (0.35 seconds)

Anil Dash: Nigritude Ultramarine
Do me a favor: Link to this post with the phrase **Nigritude Ultramarine**. ... Just placed a link to your **Nigritude Ultramarine** article on my weblog. Cheers! ...
www.dashes.com/anil/2004/06/04/nigritude_ultra - 101k - Mar 1, 2006 -
[Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

Nigritude Ultramarine FAQ
Nigritude Ultramarine FAQ - frequently asked questions about **nigritude ultramarine** and the realted SEO contest.
www.nigritudeultramaries.com/ - 59k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

SEO contest - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
The **nigritude ultramarine** competition by SearchGuild is widely acclaimed as ...
Comparison of search results for **nigritude ultramarine** during and after the ...
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigritude_ultramarine - 37k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

Slashdot | How To Get Googled, By Hook Or By Crook
The current 3rd result showcases the "**Nigritude Ultramarine** Fighting Force" who ... When discussing **nigritude ultramarine** [slashdot.org] it is important to ...
slashdot.org/article.pl?sid=04/05/09/1840217 - 110k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

The Nigritude Ultramarine Search Engine Optimization Contest
It's sweeping the web -- or at least search engine optimizers -- a new contest to rank tops for the term **nigritude ultramarine** on Google.
searchenginewatch.com/sereport/article.php/3360231 - 57k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

Sponsored Links

Business Blogging Seminar
ing to L.A. March 16
Top bloggers reveal key techniques
www.blogbusinesssummit.com
Los Angeles, CA

Full-Time SEO & SEM Jobs
Find companies big & small hiring full-time SEO & SEM pros right now
CareerBuilder.com

SEO Contests
Information on SEO Contests like the **Nigritude Ultramarine** contest.
www.seo-contests.com/

The SEO Book
Nigritude Ultramarine & SEO secrets
Fun, free, raw, & different.
www.seobook.com

7 Overstock.com

Done

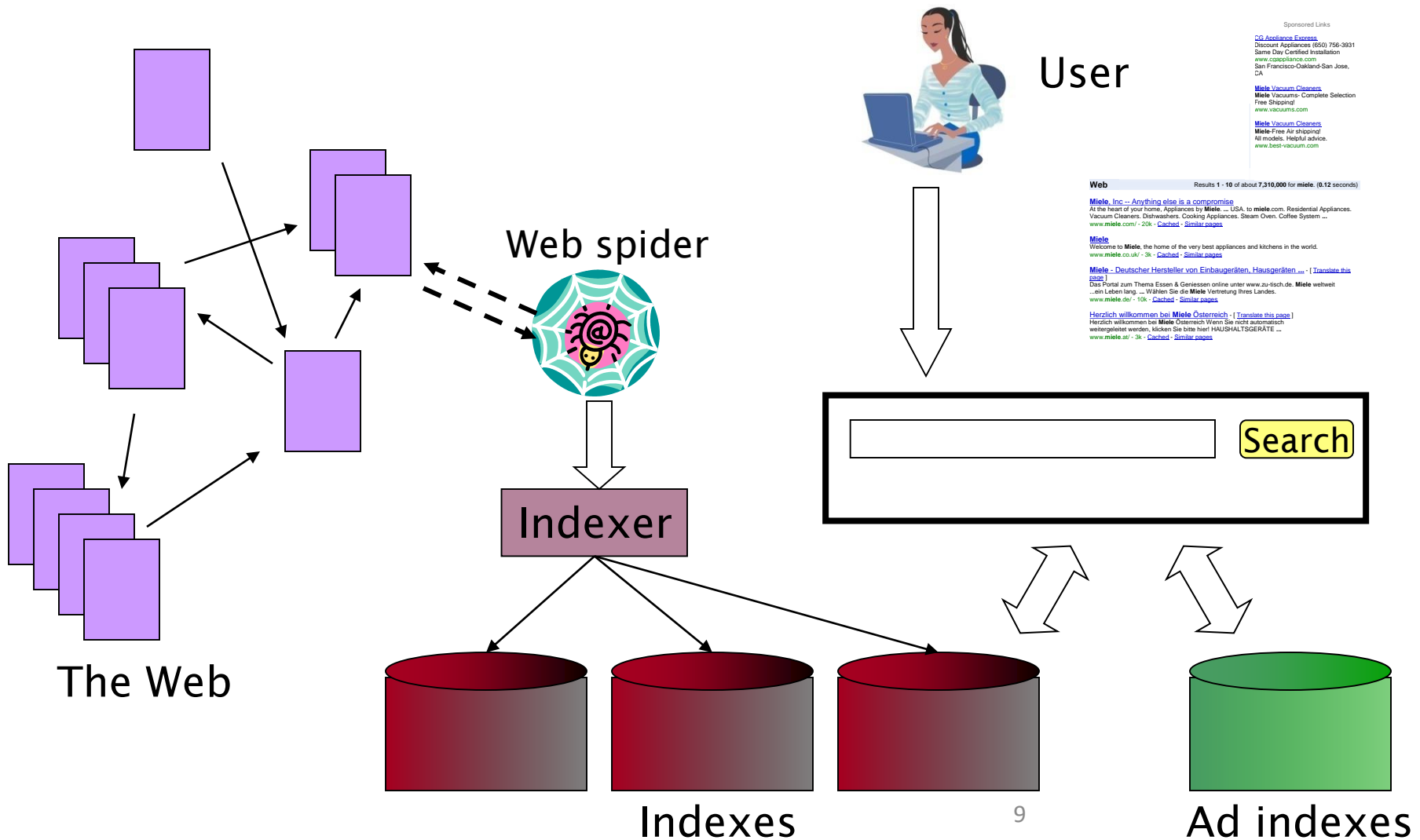
Paid Search Ads

Algorithmic results.

How are ads ranked?

- First cut: according to bid price
 - Bad idea: open to abuse
 - We don't want to show nonrelevant ads.
- Instead: rank based on bid price **and relevance**
- Key measure of ad relevance: clickthrough rate
 - $\text{clickthrough rate} = \text{CTR} = \frac{\text{clicks}}{\text{impressions}}$
- Result: A nonrelevant ad will be ranked low.
- Other ranking factors: location, time of day, quality and loading speed of landing page
- The main ranking factor: the query

Web search basics



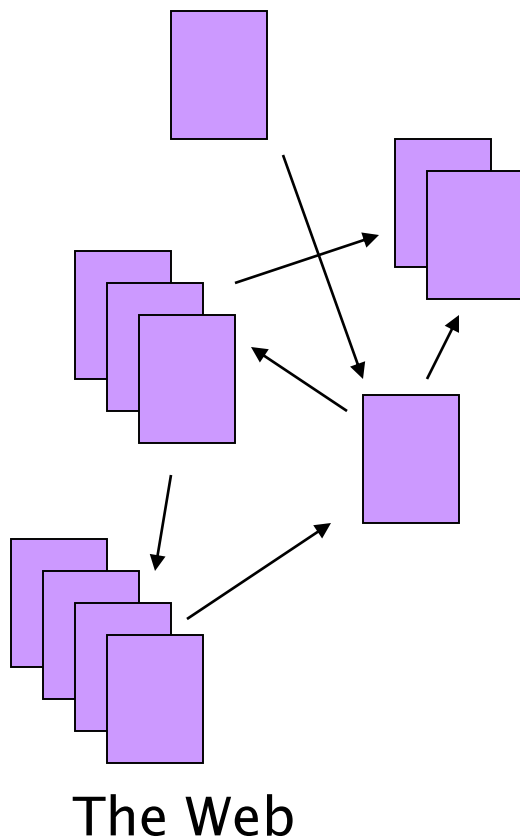
Users' empirical evaluation of results

- Quality of pages varies widely
 - Relevance is not enough
 - Other desirable qualities (non IR!!)
 - Content: Trustworthy, diverse, non-duplicated, well maintained
 - Web readability: display correctly & fast
 - No annoyances: pop-ups, etc.
- Precision vs. recall
 - On the web, recall seldom matters
- What matters
 - Precision at 1? Precision above the fold?
 - Comprehensiveness – must be able to deal with obscure queries
 - Recall matters when the number of matches is very small
- User perceptions may be unscientific, but are significant over a large aggregate

Users' empirical evaluation of engines

- Relevance and validity of results
- UI – Simple, no clutter, error tolerant
- Trust – Results are objective
- Coverage of topics for polysemic queries
- Pre/Post process tools provided
 - Mitigate user errors (auto spell check, search assist,...)
 - Explicit: Search within results, more like this, refine ...
 - Anticipative: related searches
- Deal with idiosyncrasies
 - Web specific vocabulary
 - Impact on stemming, spell-check, etc.
 - Web addresses typed in the search box

The Web document collection



- No design/co-ordination
- Distributed content creation, linking, democratization of publishing
- Content includes truth, lies, obsolete information, contradictions ...
- Unstructured (text, html, ...), semi-structured (XML, annotated photos), structured (Databases)...
- Scale much larger than previous text collections ... but corporate records are catching up
- Growth – slowed down from initial “volume doubling every few months” but still expanding
- Content can be *dynamically generated*

SPAM

(SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION)

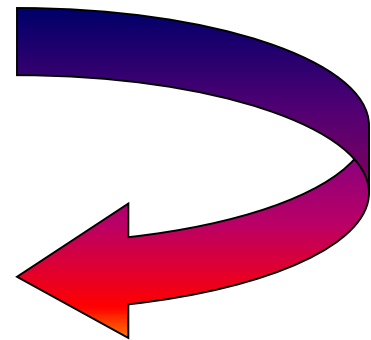
The trouble with paid search ads ...

- It costs money (CPM, CPC, etc.). What's the alternative?
- *Search Engine Optimization:*
 - “Tuning” your web page to rank highly in the algorithmic search results for select keywords
 - Alternative to paying for placement
 - Thus, intrinsically a marketing function
- Performed by companies, webmasters and consultants (“Search engine optimizers”) for their clients
- Some perfectly legitimate, some very shady

Simplest forms

- First generation engines relied heavily on *tf/idf*
 - The top-ranked pages for the query **Babolsar resort** were the ones containing the most **Babolsar**'s and **resort**'s
- SEOs responded with dense repetitions of chosen terms
 - e.g., **Babolsar resort Babolsar resort Babolsar resort**
 - Often, the repetitions would be in the same color as the background of the web page
 - Repeated terms got indexed by crawlers
 - But not visible to humans on browsers

Pure word density cannot
be trusted as an IR signal



Variants of keyword stuffing

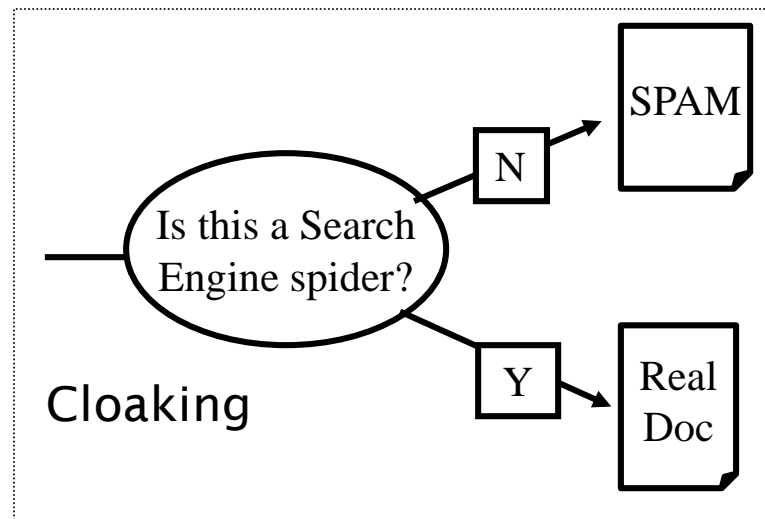
- Misleading meta-tags, excessive repetition
- Hidden text with colors, style sheet tricks, etc.

Meta-Tags =

"... London hotels, hotel, holiday inn, hilton, discount, booking, reservation, mp3, ..."

Cloaking

- Serve fake content to search engine spider



Optional: More spam techniques

- **Doorway pages**

- Pages optimized for a single keyword that re-direct to the real target page

- **Link spamming**

- *Domain flooding*: numerous domains that point or re-direct to a target page

- **Robots**

- Fake query stream – rank checking programs
 - Millions of submissions

The war against spam

- Quality signals - Prefer authoritative pages based on:
 - Votes from authors
 - Votes from users
- Policing of URL submissions
 - Anti robot test
- Limits on meta-keywords
- Robust link analysis
 - Ignore statistically implausible linkage (or text)
 - Use link analysis to detect spammers
- Spam recognition by machine learning
 - Training set based on known spam
- Family friendly filters
 - Linguistic analysis, general classification techniques, etc.
 - For images: source text analysis, etc.
- Editorial intervention
 - Blacklists
 - Top queries audited
 - Complaints addressed
 - Suspect pattern detection

SIZE OF THE WEB

What is the size of the web ?

- Issues

- The web is really infinite
 - Dynamic content, e.g., calendars
- Static web contains syntactic duplication, mostly due to mirroring (~30%)
- Some servers are seldom connected

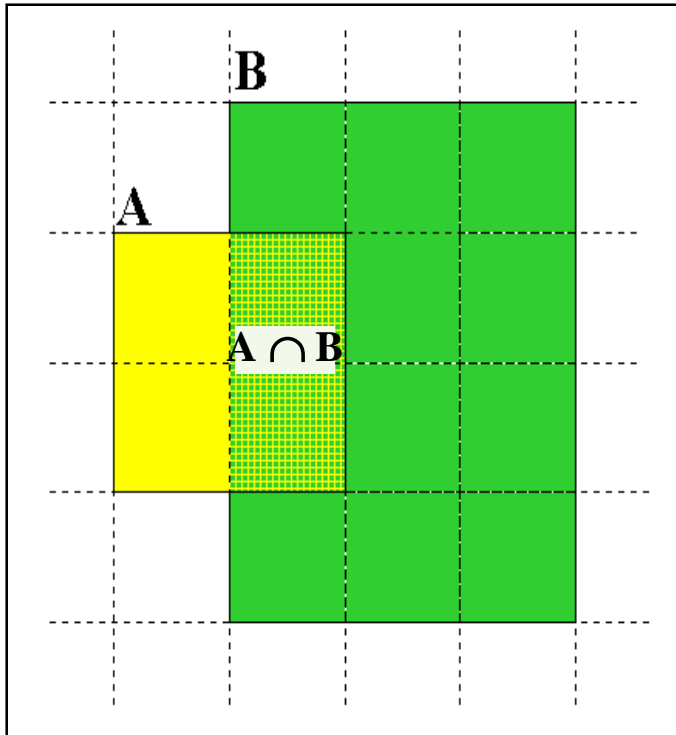
- Who cares?

- Media, and consequently the user
- Engine design
- Engine crawl policy. Impact on recall.

What can we attempt to measure?

- The relative sizes of search engines

Relative Size from Overlap
Given two engines A and B



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

Optional: Sampling URLs

- Ideal strategy: Generate a random URL and check for containment in each index.
- Problem: Random URLs are hard to find! Enough to generate a random URL contained in a given Engine.
- Approach 1: Generate a random URL contained in a given engine
 - Suffices for the estimation of relative size
- Approach 2: Random walks / IP addresses
 - In theory: might give us a true estimate of the size of the web (as opposed to just relative sizes of indexes)
- Random URLs from random queries

■ فصل نوزدهم کتاب An introduction to information retrieval