

FAMILY HISTORY TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

Joe Price

joe_price@byu.edu

rll.byu.edu





B R I G H A M Y O U N G U N I V E R S I T Y

Family History

TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

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The Future of Family History

Research talks, developer presentations and lightning talks. Handwriting recognition, automated record transcription, data modeling, machine learning, natural language processing, visualization, human interaction, user experience. Any technology that makes family history better.

Gathering the human family

- 107 billion people have lived on the earth.
- Each year we add 47 million people to the Family Tree.
- Each year about 55 million people die on earth.

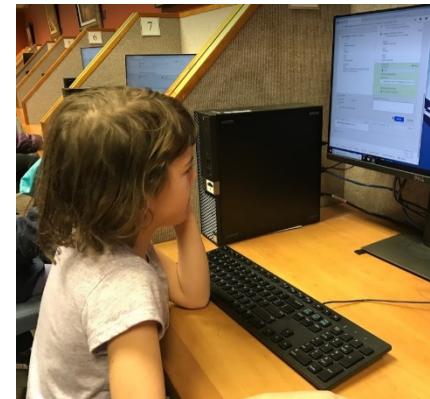
The power of 10X:

- If we can 10X twice, then we will be done in 25 years.
- Three ways the first 10X could happen.

First way 10X could happen

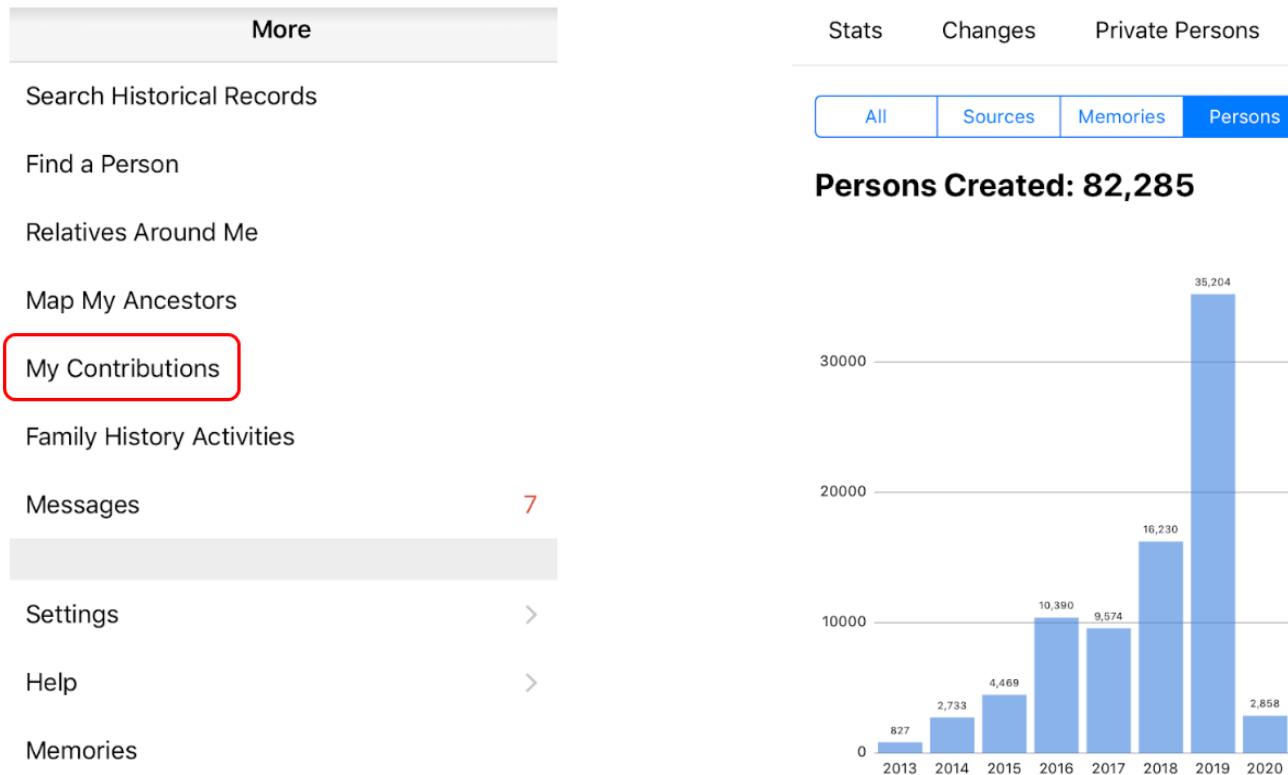
- 10 million users each add 50 new people each year
- Key role of tree-extending hints
- Molly (age 5) = 200 new people; Youth group = 2,384 new people

The screenshot shows a genealogy software interface. At the top, it displays "Mary Ford (Mother) 1840 -". Below this, there are sections for "Person of Record and Spouse Change" and "Selected Person and Spouse Change". Under "Person of Record and Spouse Change", it lists "William E Ford (Head) 1860 -" and "Lida Ford (Wife) 1871 -". Under "Selected Person and Spouse Change", it lists "William E Ford 1859-Deceased • 9VRK-4TS" and "Mrs Lydia Ford (Wife) 1870-Deceased • 9VRK-4T4". A "Marriage" section indicates a marriage in 1885 in Missouri, USA. Below these, there are sections for "Children on Record (6)" and "Children from Family Tree (5)". The "Children on Record" section lists "Maud Ford (Daughter) 1886-Deceased • 9VRK-4R8", "Madge Ford (Daughter) 1891 -", "Mabel Ford (Daughter) 1894 -", "Gail Ford (Daughter) 1895-Deceased • 9VRK-4R5", "Cecil Ford (Son) 1896 -", and "Hildred Ford (Son) 1898-Deceased • 9VRK-4R1". The "Children from Family Tree" section lists "Madge Ford (Daughter) 1892-Deceased • 9VRK-4RN", "Mabel Ford (Daughter) 1893-Deceased • 9VRK-4RV", and "Wilma Ford (Daughter) 1901 -". At the bottom right, there is a "Tips" button.



Second way 10X could happen

- 20,000 volunteers each add 25,000 people each year



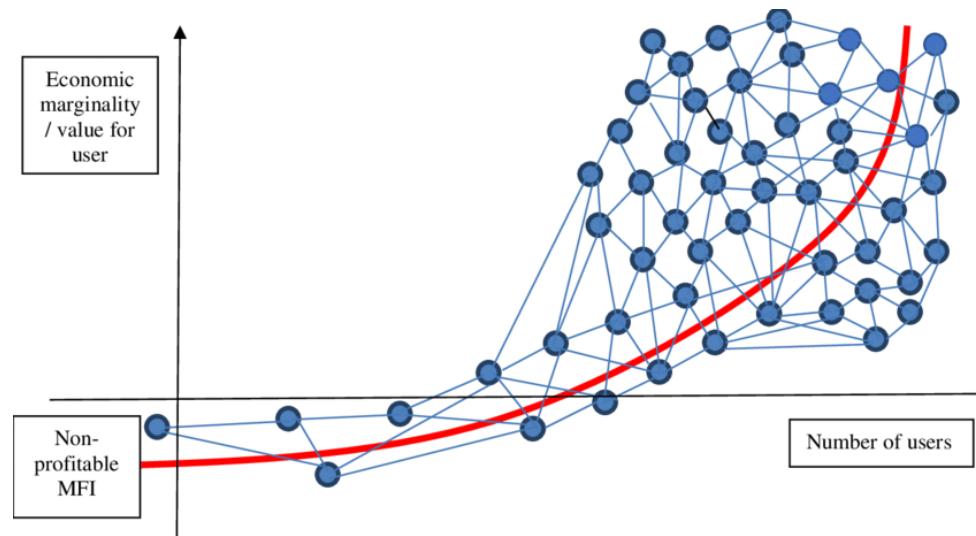
Third way 10X could happen

- Current users > twice as effective, twice as much time, invite one other person to do the same.
- Key roll of phones.



The SECOND 10X

- The second 10X will come through network externalities in which as the number of users grow on FamilySearch, Ancestry, and other platforms, the value of using these platforms will grow too. Everyone will want to use it.
- Metcalf's law = “the value of a network is proportional to the square of the number of connected users of the system”.





Record Linking^{LAB}



BYU Family History Technology Lab

HOME PEOPLE INFORMATION CONTACT DONATE

Research

- Relative Finder
- Virtual Pedigree
- Descendancy Explorer
- Tree Sweeper

Visualize

- Pedigree Pie
- One Page Genealogy
- Family Calendar
- Veteran Finder

Welcome to the Family History Technology Lab

Lowering the entry barrier into family history

Play

- Geneopardy
- Wheel of Family Fortune
- Ancestor Games
- Record Quest

NEW

- Geneogeography
- Reverse Indexing

In Development

- Memri
- Alexa App

