

CSCE-675 Digital Libraries: Daily Readings

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I. MYLIFEBITS: FULFILLING THE MEMEX VISION [1]

Details:

- Year: 2002
- Type: Proceedings of the tenth ACM international conference on Multimedia
- Affiliations: Microsoft Research, San Francisco, CA

Take-away points:

- MyLifeBits is a project to fulfill the Memex vision first posited by Vannevar Bush in 1945.
- It is a system for storing all of ones digital media, including documents, images, sounds, and videos.
- It is built on four principles: (1) collections and search must replace hierarchy for organization (2) many visualizations should be supported (3) annotations are critical to non-text media and must be made easy, and (4) authoring should be via transclusion.

II. MYLIFEBITS: A PERSONAL DATABASE FOR EVERYTHING [2]

Details:

- Year: 2006
- Type: MyLifeBits: a personal database for everything
- Affiliations: Microsoft Research in Redmond, WA

Take-away points:

- This paper describes the progress for the project whose goals included understanding the effort to digitize a lifetime of legacy content and the elimination of paper as a permanent storage medium.
- They base their project on memex.
- They observe that irrespective of their attempts, the amount of information a user stores increases as more and more things get digitized.

III. BUILDING A RESEARCH LIBRARY FOR THE HISTORY OF THE WEB [3]

Details:

- Year: 2006
- Type: Proceedings of the 6th ACM/IEEE-CS joint conference on Digital libraries
- Affiliations: Cornell University Ithaca, NY

Take-away points:

- This paper describes the building of a research library for studying the Web, especially research on how the structure and content of the Web change over time.
- The library is particularly aimed at supporting social scientists for whom the Web is both a fascinating social phenomenon and a mirror on society.
- The technical challenges that they observed fall into two categories: high-performance computing to transfer and manage the very large amounts of data, and human-computer interfaces that empower research by non-computer specialists.

REFERENCES

- [1] J. Gemmell, G. Bell, R. Lueder, S. Drucker, and C. Wong, “Mylifebits: fulfilling the memex vision,” in *Proceedings of the tenth ACM international conference on Multimedia*, ser. MULTIMEDIA '02. New York, NY, USA: ACM, 2002, pp. 235–238. [Online]. Available: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/641007.641053>
- [2] J. Gemmell, G. Bell, and R. Lueder, “Mylifebits: a personal database for everything,” *Commun. ACM*, vol. 49, pp. 88–95, January 2006. [Online]. Available: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/1107458.1107460>
- [3] W. Y. Arms, S. Aya, P. Dmitriev, B. J. Kot, R. Mitchell, and L. Walle, “Building a research library for the history of the web,” in *Proceedings of the 6th ACM/IEEE-CS joint conference on Digital libraries*, ser. JCDL '06. New York, NY, USA: ACM, 2006, pp. 95–102. [Online]. Available: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/1141753.1141771>