

Interactive Information Access (INS2)

Arjen P. de Vries



Information Science

"Search for the fundamental knowledge which will allow us to postulate and utilize the most efficient combination of [human and machine] resources"

 M.E. Senko. Information systems: records, relations, sets, entities, and things. *Information systems*, 1(1):3-13, 1975.



Key People

- Lynda Hardman (HCI)
- Jacco van Ossenbruggen (SemWeb)
- Lloyd Rutledge (left to Open Uni)
- Frank Nack (left to UvA)
- Arjen P. de Vries (joined 2009)



Key Projects

- Recent
 - K-Space NoE
 - Vitalas IP
 - MultimediaN: e-Culture, Semantic Search
- New
 - Fish4K STREP
 - LinkedTV IP
 - COMMIT: e-Culture, Entities
- Via university relations:
 - Delft: PuppyIR STREP, PetaMedia NoE
 - VU: Europeana



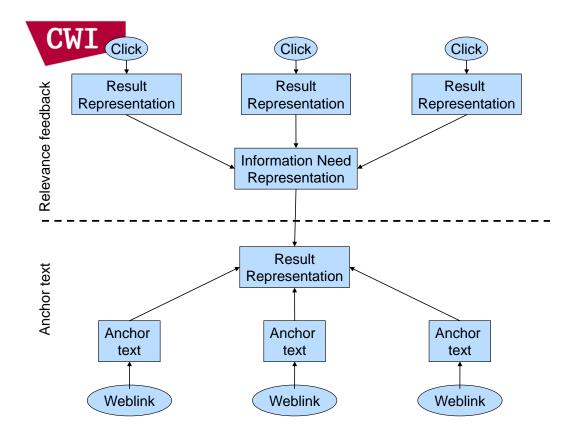
Core Questions

- How to represent information?
 - The information need and search requests
 - The objects to be shown in response to an information request
- How to match information representations
 - (Deductive) data retrieval, (inductive) information retrieval, or a mix?!



Interactive Information Access

1. Interaction improves information representation





Vitalas IP - Belga logs

- Training data for machine learning of multimedia 'detectors'
 - Theodora Tsikrika, Christos Diou, Arjen P. de Vries, Anastasios Delopoulos. Image annotation using clickthrough data. CIVR 2009
 - T. Tsikrika, C. Diou, Arjen P. de Vries, A. Delopoulos. Reliability and effectiveness of clickthrough data for automatic image annotation. International Journal on Multimedia Tools and Applications, 2010.



Vitalas IP - Belga logs

- Exploit 'semantic data' to address sparsity in usage logs
 - Vera Hollink, Theodora Tsikrika, Arjen P. de Vries, Semantic search log analysis: A method and a study on professional image search. JASIST 62(4): 691-713, 2011.



'Co-creation'

- Social Media:
 - Consumer becomes a co-creator
 - 'Data consumption' traces
- In essence: many new sources to play the role of anchor text
 - Tags and/or ratings
 - Tweets
 - Comments, reviews



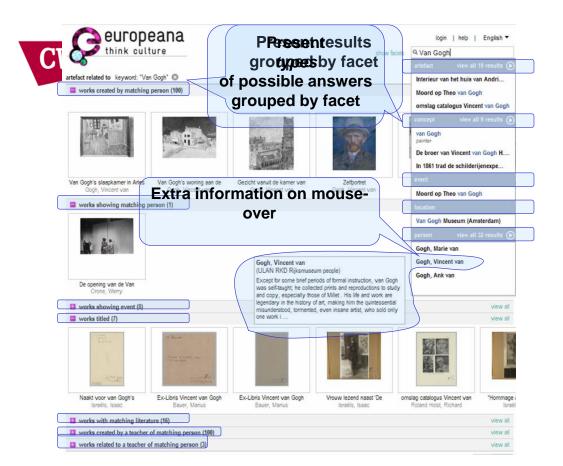
Tags & Ratings in Social Media

- M. Clements, Arjen P. de Vries, M.J.T. Reinders. The task-dependent effect of tags and ratings on social media access. ACM Transactions on Information Systems 28, 21, 1-42, 2010.
- J. Wang, Arjen P. de Vries, M.J.T. Reinders. Unified relevance models for rating prediction in collaborative filtering. ACM Transactions on Information Systems 26, 1-42, 2008.



Interactive Information Access

- 1. Interaction improves information representation
- 2. Interaction can let user take over where machine would fail





Science Results

- First prize @ the Semantic Web Challenge at ISWC in Athens GA, USA
- M. Hildebrand, Jacco van Ossenbruggen, Lynda Hardman, G. Jacobs. Supporting subject matter annotation using heterogeneous thesauri, a user study in Web data reuse. *International Journal of Human-Computer Studies 67*, 888–903, 2009.
- A.K. Amin, M. Hildebrand, Jacco van Ossenbruggen, Lynda Hardman. Designing a thesaurus-based comparison search interface for linked cultural heritage sources. *IUI 2010 (14)*, 249–258, 2010.



Interactive Information Access

- 1. Interaction improves information representation
- 2. Interaction can let user take over where machine would fail
- 3. Interaction can let user take over where system designer would fail





- Search by strategy
 - connecting
 - Each block that data
- CWI spin-
 - Started or
 - Follow-up





Search by Strategy

- Based on unique architecture developed in close collaboration with INS1, e.g.,
 - R. Cornacchia, S. Héman, M. Zukowski, Arjen P. de Vries, P.A. Boncz. Flexible and efficient IR using array databases. VLDB Journal 17, 151–168, 2008.
 - R. Cornacchia, Arjen P. de Vries. A parameterised search system. Advances in Information Retrieval, 29th European Conference on IR Research, ECIR 2007, 4– 15, 2007. Best Student Paper Award.



Strengths & Weaknesses

- Unique mix of expertise: Linked data + IR + UI/UX
- Excellent relations with humanities
- Limited success in acquisition of external funding



Opportunities & Threats

- Core research 'in vogue'
- Funding agencies preferring multidisciplinary projects
- Prof. Smeulders @ CWI strengthening multimedia expertise
- Viewed as engineers, not scientists
- Growing competition in core research area



Strategy

• Interactive: Value of User Actions

- Information Representation
 - How to exploit implicit (observed) and explicit (elicited) user effort?
- Design methods for UI/UX
 - How to measure benefits of including designers and/or media artists in interaction/interface design loop?
 - Can explicit representations of information and/or communication roles drive UI/UX?



Strategy

Dataspaces

- "Big data" data sets in science and humanities, collected by many researchers for diverse purposes
 - How to assess the quality of large and heterogenous data sets for specific research goals?
 - How to transparently expose the provenance of each data item and propagate the various confidence levels?
- The role of entities in exploratory search tasks?