Ordering of Search Engine Results google it!

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Spuyten Duyvil Undergraduate Mathematics Conference

April 25, 2009 - SDUMC, New Paltz NY

# Some Questions

Ordering of Search Engine Results: google it! Google Search | I'm Feeling Lucky |

- What's a Google bomb?
- How does Google order the results of your search?
- Does "mutual linking" improve a site's position?

### MATH: Use linear algebra to calculate importance scores

- Nice mini-web example
- Dangling node
- Disconnected web
- The Google matrix

# Search for french military victories I'm Feeling Lucky

#### http://www.albinoblacksheep.com/text/victories.html

Advanced Search     Preferences     Language Tools     Search Tips       Web     Images     Groups     Directory     News			
Did you mean: <u>french military <i>defeats</i></u>			
No standard web pages containing all your search terms were found.			
Your search - french military victories - did not match any documents.			
Suggestions:			
- Make sure all words are spelled correctly. - Try different keywords. - Try more general keywords. - Try fewer keywords.			
Also, you can try Google Answers for expert help with your search.			
Google Home - Advertise with Us - Search Solutions - Services & Tools - Jobs, Press, & Help			
Parody transcripted ©2003 Albino Blacksheep			

# Search for miserable failure

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www.wnitenouse.gov/president - Cached		
Political Google bombs in the 2004 U.S. Presidential election		
First political   First political   Impact   Google's response		
During the 2004 U.S. presidential election, Google bombs were used to further various political		
agendas. Two of the first were the "miserable failure" Google bomb linked to George W. Bush's White House biography and the "wafflee" Google bomb linked to John Korn/s		
en wikinedia org/wiki/Political Google hombs in the 2004 LLS Presi - Cached		
snopes.com: Miserable Failure		
Why is the phrase 'miserable failure' tied to President Bush's biography in Google? Google Halts		
'Miserable Failure' Link to President Bush." The New York Times		

www.snopes.com/politics/bush/google.asp

## Search for out of touch executives

		Yahoo! My Yahoo! Mail Welcome, GUEST [Sign In] Help
Web Images Video Local Shopping more -	Orthogo Outbooks	VAHOO
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Gizmodo - Letter from a Moto Insider: How Stupid E Motorola CEO Greg Brown about how a cabal of Inept, out- executives more worted about their golf score than gizmodo.com/372565/letter-from-a-moto-insider-how-stupid-ex	<u>eccs Ran Moto Into</u> of-touch cabal of Inept, out-of-touch xecs-ran 53k	

# "Link Bomb" is more descriptive

### Works off anchor text:

Click here to read about a <a href = "http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/georgewbush"> miserable failure</a>.

#### Creates this text on a web page:

Blah blah, and more blah. Click here to read about a <u>miserable failure</u>. And now for something completely different...

The phrase *miserable failure* is now associated with the bomb recipient's website.



- Crawl / Webspider
- Index the data the spider gathers
- **③** Search and Presentation of User Interface

### **Historical Perspective**

- $\rightarrow$  Exact IP address and file name/location
- 1990  $\rightarrow$  Archie: only searched titles on per-server basis
  - $\rightarrow$  Veronica: fancier version of Archie
  - $\rightarrow$  WebCrawler: full text search
- 1994  $\,\rightarrow$  Lycos: used anchor text to rate relevance
  - $\rightarrow$  Yahoo: directory, no search
- 1995  $\rightarrow$  AltaVista: indexed 10 million docs in 1995
  - $\rightarrow$  Excite: grouped pages by keyword
- 1996  $\rightarrow$  Google: BackRub+PageRank, later added full-text search

\* FACTOID: From 1993 through 1996 the WWW grew from 130 sites to > 600,000

### Importance Scores

### Idea behind *PageRank* algorithm: Each page lends part of its importance to the pages it links to.

$$\mathsf{R}(p_k) = \sum_{p_j \in \mathbb{B}_k} \frac{\mathsf{R}(p_j)}{n_j}$$

- $\mathbb{B}_k$  = all pages linking to  $p_k$  (aka *backlinks*)
  - $n_j$  = the number of links going OUT of page  $p_j$

### Example 1: Best Case



$$\mathsf{R}(p_k) = \sum_{p_j \in \mathbb{B}_k} \frac{\mathsf{R}(p_j)}{n_j}$$

 $\begin{aligned} & \mathsf{R}(p_1) = 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_1) + 1 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_2) + 1/2 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_3) + 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_4) \\ & \mathsf{R}(p_2) = 1/3 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_1) + 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_2) + 1/2 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_3) + 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_4) \\ & \mathsf{R}(p_3) = 1/3 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_1) + 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_2) + 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_3) + 1 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_4) \\ & \mathsf{R}(p_4) = 1/3 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_1) + 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_2) + 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_3) + 0 \cdot \mathsf{R}(p_4) \end{aligned}$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}(p_1) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_2) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_3) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_4) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}(p_1) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_2) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_3) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_4) \end{bmatrix}$$



### Ways to solve:

- Like a traditional eigenvector problem with eigenvalue  $\lambda\,=\,1$
- Or find a stationary vector so that P<sup>m</sup>R = R.



### Normalize column sum to 1:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}(p_1) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_2) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_3) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_4) \end{bmatrix} = c \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0.375 \\ 0.250 \\ 0.250 \\ 0.125 \end{bmatrix}$$

#### Page 1 has the highest importance score!

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# Example 2: Dangling Node



### Has no eigenvalue of 1!

 $\lambda \in \{0, 0.836, -0.418 \pm 0.156i\}$ 

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# Random Surfer to the rescue



When a page has no link OUT, treat it as if the page links everywhere. Replace **P** with

### Solution:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}(p_1) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_2) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_3) \\ \mathbf{R}(p_4) \end{bmatrix} = c \begin{bmatrix} 9/4 \\ 3/2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0.391 \\ 0.261 \\ 0.174 \\ 0.174 \end{bmatrix}$$

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# Example 3: Disconnected Web



# A little theory



### These had unique solutions

- No dangling nodes!
- Matrices were column stochastic

# The Google Matrix

#### Theorem

For a column stochastic matrix **G** with all positive entries, there exists a unique vector q with all positive entries which is also column stochastic so that  $\mathbf{G}q = q$ .

Consider an  $n \times n$  matrix

 $\mathbf{G} = (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{P} + \alpha \mathbf{N}$ 

where  $N_{ij} = \frac{1}{n}$  and **P** has no dangling nodes.

 $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{G}}$  guarantees we get a page ranking we can use.

\* FACTOID: In 2007 Google altered their search engine ranking system to counteract link bombs.

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# Mutual Linking

### You trade links in attempt to improve your rank...

You were tied for 2nd place. What happens to your ranking?



### You will move up! But this doesn't always happen. [Try it.]

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# Parting Words

Google's efficient and effective algorithm has changed our generation's ability to find info (and entertainment!) we seek.

### Still, Challenges Ahead -

- The web is still expanding and evolving at an enormous pace.
- The *type of content* is rapidly shifting away from text based content to flash, video, and other content.
- *Recommendation engines* are another wave of innovation based on powerful linear algebra and numerical analysis techniques.

# References

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Thank you for listening!

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