

# Online and Offline Evaluation of Search Engine Quality

Evangelos Kanoulas



UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

What are the  
current exhibitions  
at Prado Museum?

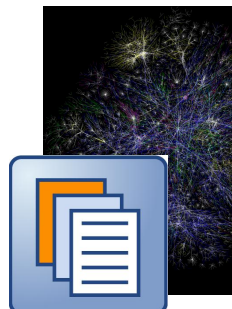
Search Engine

prado|  
prado museum  
prado  
pradosham  
paradox  
pradofloxacin  
pradofoto

User's Re



Collectio



MUSEO NACIONAL  
DEL PRADO

## THE COLLECTION

### EXHIBITIONS

Current  
Exhibitions

Upcoming  
Exhibitions

Past Exhibitions

### EDUCATION

### RESEARCH

© PRADOMEDIA

### THE INSTITUTION

### CORPORATE AREA

### PRESS

Supported by:

Telefónica

Home > Exhibitions > Current Exhibitions

## Current Exhibitions

### Exhibitions in the Museum



**The Plácido Arango donation**  
July 7  
October 04, 2015



**The invited work: The young Saint John the Baptist, Michelangelo**  
March 31  
September 20, 2015



**10 Picassos from the Kunstmuseum Basel**  
March 18  
September 14, 2015



**Touching the Prado**  
January 20  
October 18, 2015



**Monumental Views of Spanish Cities. The Romantic Painter Genaro Pérez Villaamil**  
December 17, 2014  
September 06, 2015

Español

SEARCH

### VISIT THE MUSEUM

Tu visita La teva visita

A tua visita Zure bisitaldia

Your visit La seua visita

Votre visite La vostra visita

Sua visita Dein Besuch

Ваш визит 参观

ご来館について زيارة المتحف



Online gallery

**BUY YOUR TICKET** and avoid queuing

**PRADO SHOP**

**BECOME A FRIEND**



### APPS



### SOCIAL



Change the search algorithm.

How can we know whether we made  
the users happier?

# HiPPO-driven Entrepreneurship

- Highest Paid Person's Opinion
  - Often wrong



# Data-driven Entrepreneurship

- Avinash Kaushik (author and entrepreneur)
  - “80% of the time we were wrong about what a customer wanted”
- QualPro (management consultancy)
  - tested 150,000 ideas over 22 years
  - 75% of important business decisions and business improvement ideas either have no impact on performance or actually hurt performance.
- Google
  - Google ran approximately 12,000 experiments in 2009, with [only] about 10% of these leading to business changes.
- Microsoft
  - At Microsoft only 1/3 of ideas were positive ideas and statistically significant

# MSN Real Estate

- “Find a house” widget variations

**A** was 8.5% better.

Find Your Dream Home or Apartment

City, State or ZIP

☒ Existing homes   ☐ New construction  
☐ Foreclosures   ☐ Rentals

Search listings ▶

A

Existing Homes   Foreclosures   New Construction   Rentals

Find Existing Homes for Sale

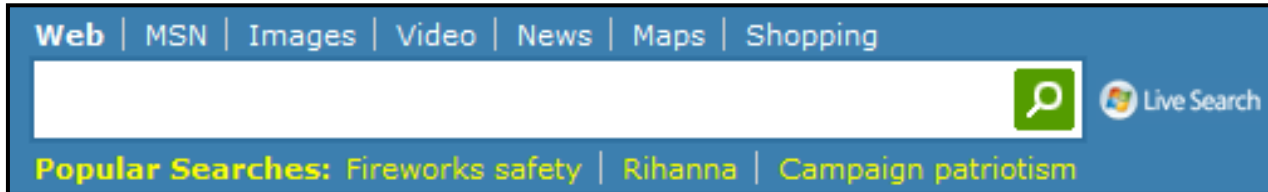
 Enter City   State ▼  
or  
Enter Zip

Find homes ▶


B

# MSN Home Page Search Box

A




Web | MSN | Images | Video | News | Maps | Shopping

 Live Search  
**Popular Searches:** [Fireworks safety](#) | [Rihanna](#) | [Campaign patriotism](#)

B



Web | MSN | Images | Video | News | Maps | Shopping

 Live Search  
[Fireworks safety](#) | [Rihanna](#) | [Campaign patriotism](#)

**No significant difference**

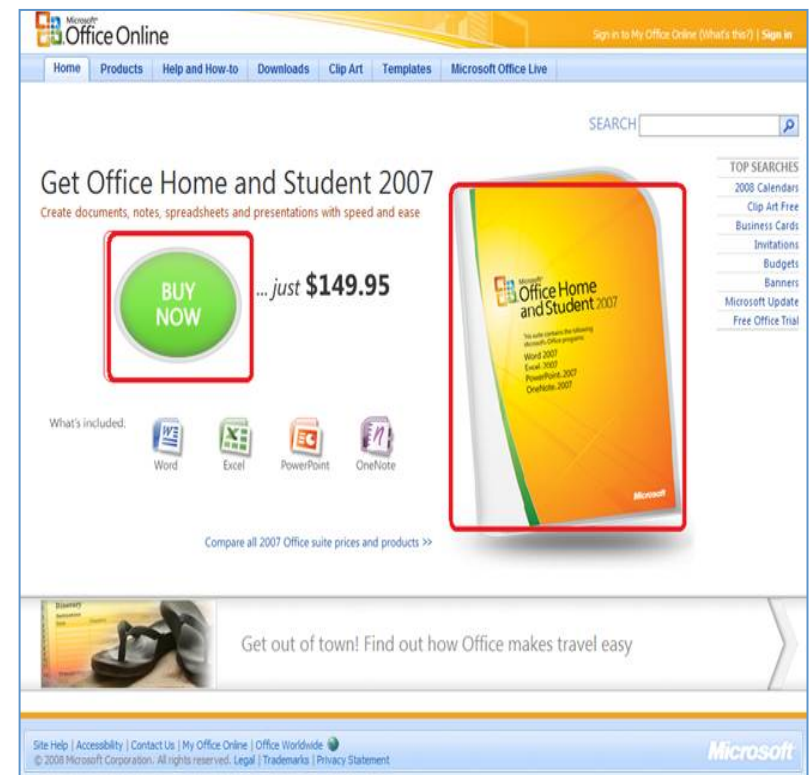
# Office Online

**A** was 64% better

**A**



**B**



Ronny Kohavi, Microsoft

# Key Lessons from Industry

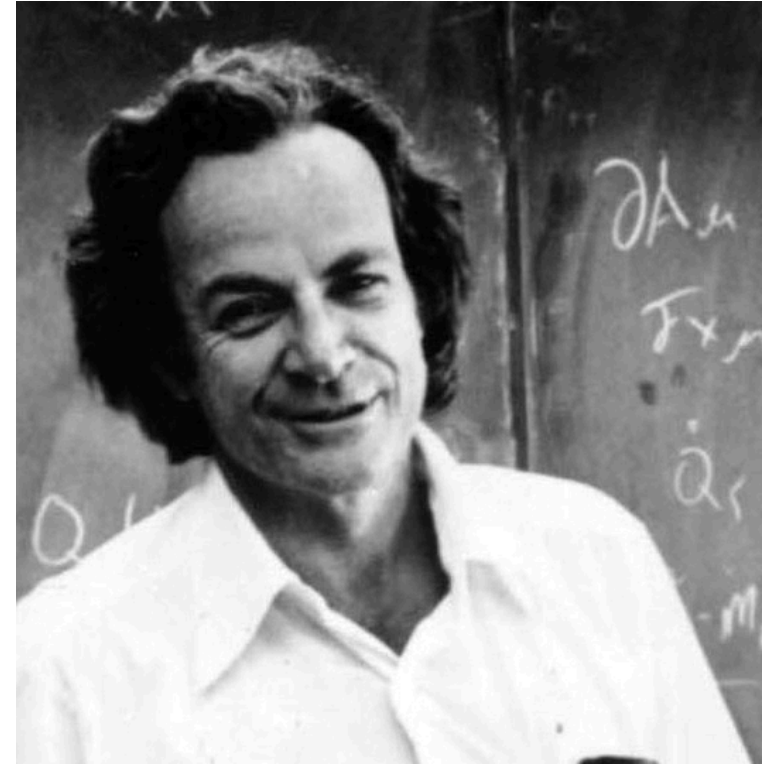
- Don't trust the HiPPO
- Experiment often
  - *To have a great idea, have a lot of them* -- Thomas Edison
- Avoid building optimal features without early testing
- Try radical ideas
  - *If you're not prepared to be wrong, you'll never come up with anything original* -- Sir Ken Robinson



# Scientific Method

Finding a new law:

1. We guess it.
2. We compute the consequences of the guess
3. We **compare** the result of the computation to observation
4. If it **disagrees** with **experiment** it is **wrong**.



**“What you can’t  
measure you can’t  
improve”**

Lord Kelvin



# Different approaches to evaluation

- User-studies
- Collection-based evaluation
- In-situ evaluation
  - A/B Testing
  - Interleaving

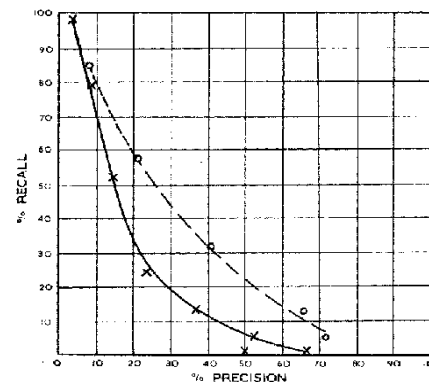
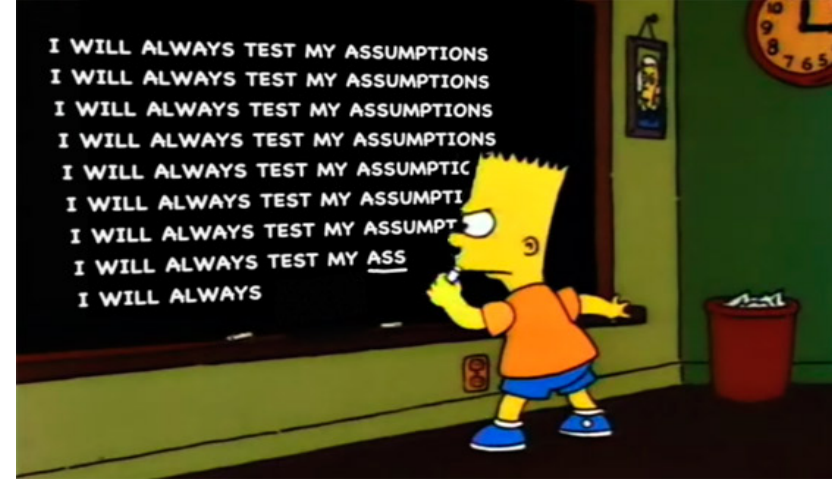


FIGURE 4.814P INDEX LANGUAGE III, 5, 8 SEARCH E  
200 DOCUMENTS  
(Index 2-language III, 1, 2 Broken line)



Cranfield  
UNIVERSITY

# Outline

## PART I

1. Collection-based Evaluation
2. Comparative Evaluation

## PART II

3. Observable User Behavior
4. A/B Testing
5. Interleaving
6. Comparative Studies

# 1. Collection-based Evaluation

# Happiness: elusive to measure

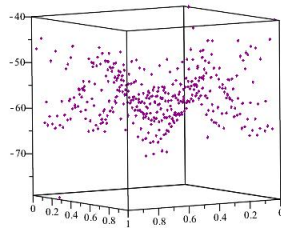
- Most common proxy:  
relevance of search results
  - But how do we test relevance?



# Static Test Collections

# Machine Learning

- Feature vectors



- Labels

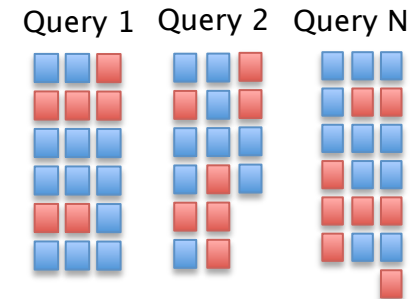
# Information Retrieval

- Documents
- Queries



- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus

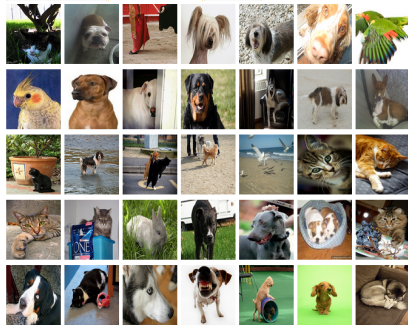
- Labels
  - relevance judgments



# Static Test Collections

## Computer Vision

- Images



- Labels



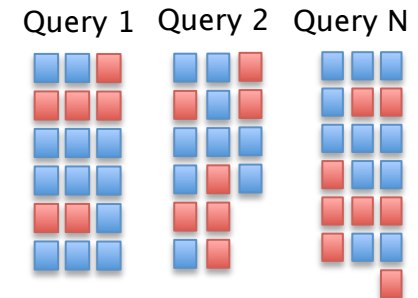
## Information Retrieval

- Documents
- Queries



◦ uses of alternative dispute resolution  
◦ job search vancouver washington  
◦ poem of arrival of columbus

- Labels
  - relevance judgments



# SE Evaluation/Optimization

Id	Query	Relevant Web Pages	Not Relevant Web Pages
1	prado	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.museodelprado.es">https://www.museodelprado.es</a></li> </ul>	
2	real madrid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.realmadrid.com/en">http://www.realmadrid.com/en</a></li> <li><a href="http://www.goal.com/en/teams/spain/real-madrid/2016">http://www.goal.com/en/teams/spain/real-madrid/2016</a></li> <li><a href="http://bleacherreport.com/real-madrid">http://bleacherreport.com/real-madrid</a></li> </ul>	
3	uned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://portal.uned.es/">http://portal.uned.es/</a></li> <li><a href="https://twitter.com/uned">https://twitter.com/uned</a></li> </ul>	
4	malasaña restaurants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.lonelyplanet.com/spain/madrid/malasana-chueca/restaurants">http://www.lonelyplanet.com/spain/madrid/malasana-chueca/restaurants</a></li> <li><a href="http://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g187514-d246519/Madrid:Spain:Malasana.html">http://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g187514-d246519/Madrid:Spain:Malasana.html</a></li> <li><a href="http://www.labarraca.es/">http://www.labarraca.es/</a></li> </ul>	
5	flamenco madrid or sevilla	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.fodors.com/is-it-better-to-see-flamenco-in-seville-or-madrid.cfm">http://www.fodors.com/is-it-better-to-see-flamenco-in-seville-or-madrid.cfm</a></li> <li><a href="http://www.tripadvisor.com/Best_Flamenco_Shows_Madrid_or_Seville-Spain.html">http://www.tripadvisor.com/Best_Flamenco_Shows_Madrid_or_Seville-Spain.html</a></li> </ul>	
	...	...	

## Results (Run)

<http://wikitravel.org/en/Seville>

[http://www.tripadvisor.com/Best\\_Flamenco\\_Shows\\_Madrid\\_or\\_Seville-Spain.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Best_Flamenco_Shows_Madrid_or_Seville-Spain.html)

<http://www.whatmadrid.com/flamenco-madrid.html>

[http://www.deflamenco.com/en\\_index.html](http://www.deflamenco.com/en_index.html)

YAHOO!  
ESPAÑA

flamenco madrid or sevilla



# Test Collection Construction

- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus

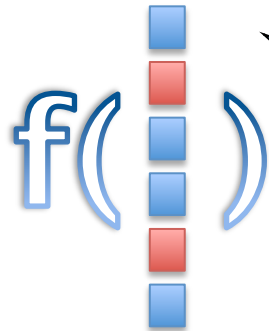


Results

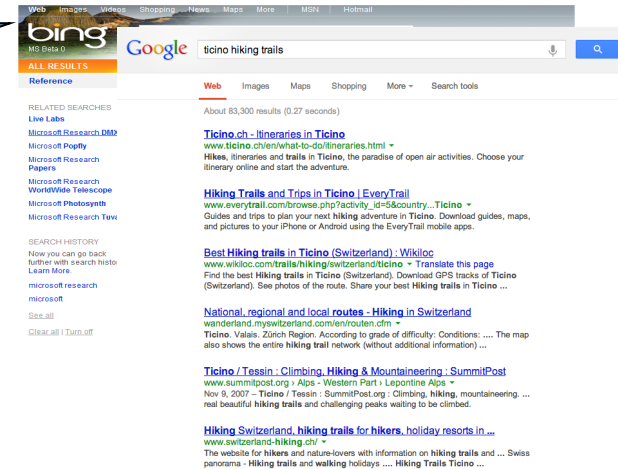
Search Algorithms



Skewed Data



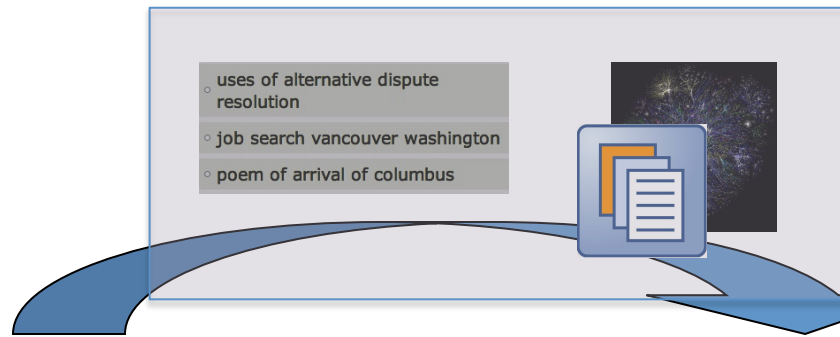
Judges



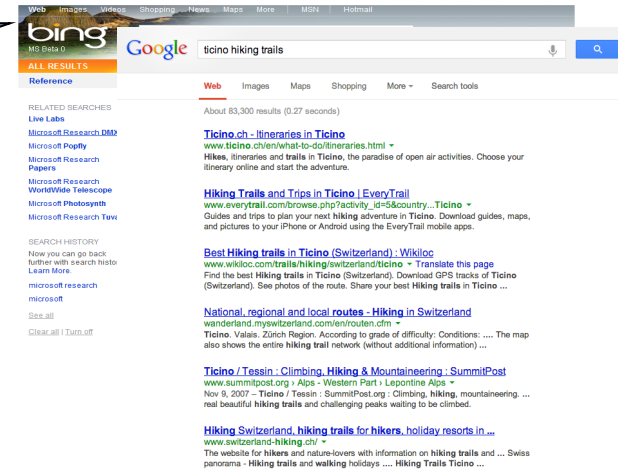
**QUERY:** job search vancouver washington

**DESCRIPTION:** I would like to find web page that aggregate job opportunities in the IT industry in Vancouver, Washington.

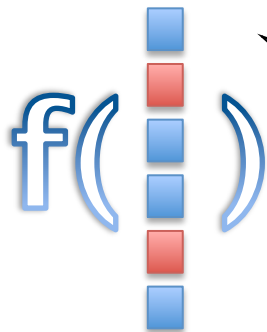
# Queries and Doc. Collection



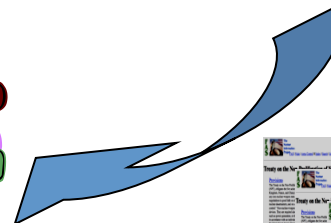
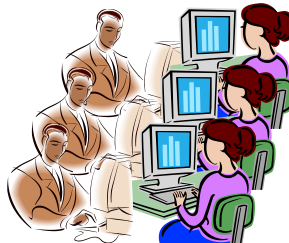
## Results



## Search Algorithms



## Judges



**QUERY:** job search vancouver washington

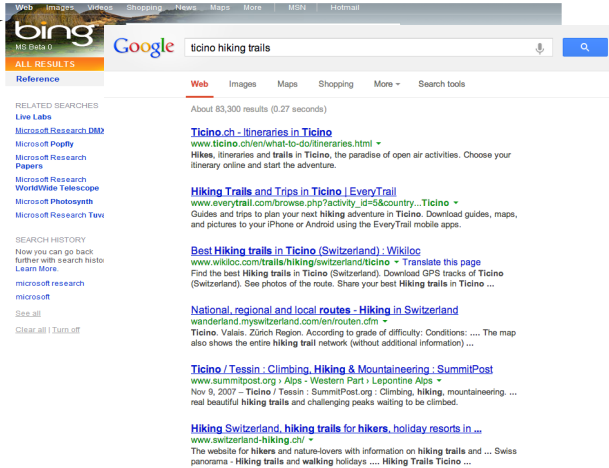
**DESCRIPTION:** I would like to find web page that aggregate job opportunities in the IT industry in Vancouver, Washington.

# Relevance Judgments

- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus



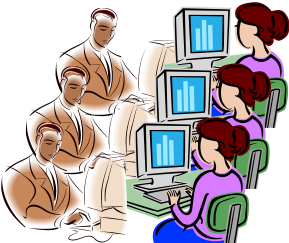
## Results



## Search Algorithms



## Judges



**QUERY:** job search vancouver washington

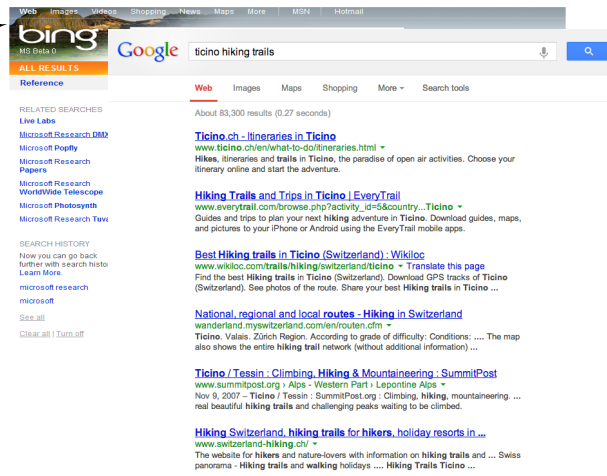
**DESCRIPTION:** I would like to find web page that aggregate job opportunities in the IT industry in Vancouver, Washington.

# Relevance

- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus



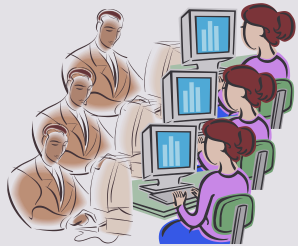
## Results



## Search Algorithms



## Judges



**QUERY:** job search vancouver washington

**DESCRIPTION:** I would like to find web page that aggregate job opportunities in the IT industry in Vancouver, Washington.

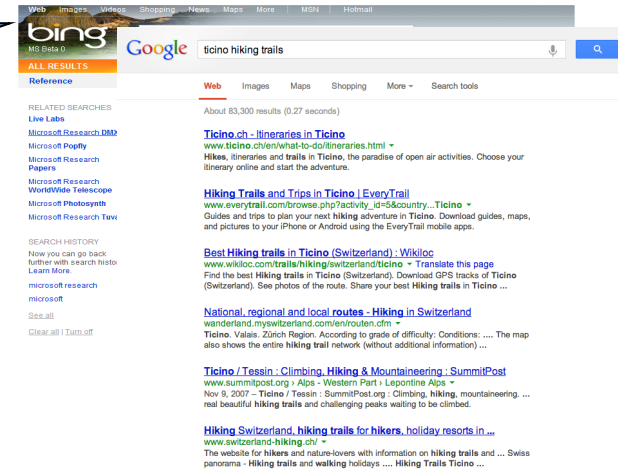
# Evaluation Measures

- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus



Results

Search Algorithms



Judges



**QUERY:** job search vancouver washington

**DESCRIPTION:** I would like to find web page that aggregate job opportunities in the IT industry in Vancouver, Washington.

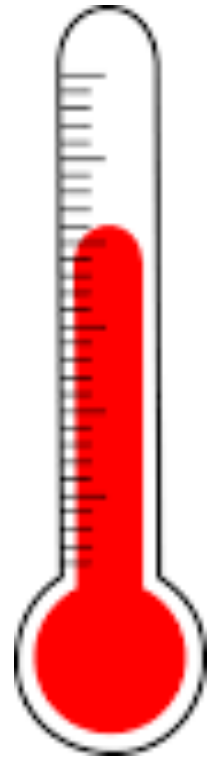
# Part 1: Evaluation Measures

- Evaluation measures
  1. Traditional evaluation measures
  2. Model-based measures
  3. Novelty and Diversity-based measures
  4. Session-based measures
- Evaluation of evaluation measures

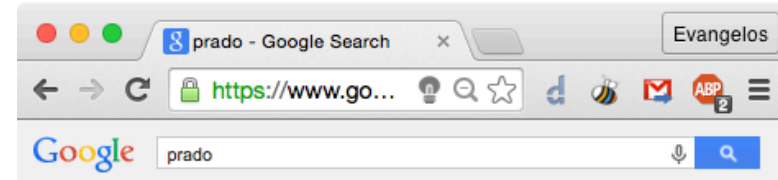
# What is temperature?

The measure **defines** the problem:

- An adequate measure is fundamental towards solving the problem
- An inadequate measure implies focusing on the **wrong problem**



# Precision and Recall



- **Precision (P)**: fraction of retrieved documents that are relevant
- **Recall (R)**: fraction of relevant documents that are retrieved

1	Rel
2	Rel
3	Non
4	Non
5	Rel
6	Non
7	Non
8	Non
9	Non
10	Non

# High precision vs. high recall retrieval

- There is usually a tradeoff between precision and recall
  - by returning more documents, recall increases (monotonically)
  - by returning fewer documents, often (not always) precision increases
- High precision search
  - (web search)
  - usually user only looks at very few top results : e.g. precision@3
  - repository is large, easy to find some relevant pages
  - imperfect recall is often tolerable
- High (total) recall search
  - (vanity, e-discovery, health, patent, legal)
  - total recall challenge: find documents that are not "obvious" matches
    - <http://plg.uwaterloo.ca/~gvcormac/total-recall/>

# Precision and Recall for rankings

- Precision/recall assume that:
  - We retrieve a fixed **set** of documents; and
  - The user examines all of them.
- However, more typically we return a **ranked list** (open-ended); and
- The user examines the top with higher probability than the bottom

# Average Precision

- **Average Precision (AP)** = Average of precisions at relevant documents

Rank	Rel.	Precision@k	Recall@k
1	R	1/1	1/10
2	N	1/2	1/10
3	R	2/3	2/10
4	R	3/4	3/10
5	N	...	...
6	R	4/6	4/10
7	N		
8	N	...	...
9	N		
10	R	5/10	5/10
...	...	...	...
∞	R	0	10/10

$$AP = \frac{\frac{1}{1} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{4}{6} + \frac{5}{10} + \dots}{10}$$

# Beyond Binary Relevance

- Discounted Cumulative Gain (DCG)
  - Used by many web search companies
    - Graded relevance judgments as opposed to binary
      - Emphasis on retrieving highly relevant documents
  - Two assumptions:
    - Graded relevance as a measure of the usefulness or gain from examining a document; hence the higher the better
    - The lower the ranked position of a document, the less useful it is for the user, since it is less likely to be examined

# Discounted Cumulative Gain (DCG)

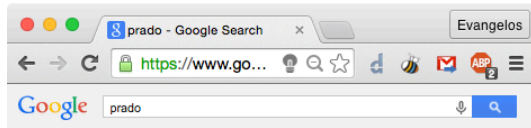
- DCG is the total gain accumulated at a particular rank  $k$ :

$$\text{DCG}@k = \sum_{\text{rank } r=1}^k \frac{2^{rel_r} - 1}{\log_2(1 + r)}$$

non-linear  
gain

discount

# Discounted Cumulative Gain



1	Nav= 5
2	Nav= 5
3	Non = 0
4	Non = 0
5	Rel = 1
6	Non = 0
7	Non = 0
8	Non = 0
9	Non = 0
10	Non = 0
...	...

## Gain

## Discounted Gain

***Gain by  
relevance***

$2^{rel}-1$

**Discount  
by rank**  
 $1/\log_2(r+1)$

DCG@10 = 50.94

# Normalized DCG

- Normalizes DCG against the best possible DCG result (the **perfect ranking**) for the query
  - $0 \leq \text{NDCG} \leq 1$
  - makes **averaging** easier for queries with different numbers of relevant documents

# Part 1: Evaluation Measures

- Evaluation measures
  1. Traditional evaluation measures
  2. Model-based measures
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  4. Session-based measures
- Evaluation of evaluation measures

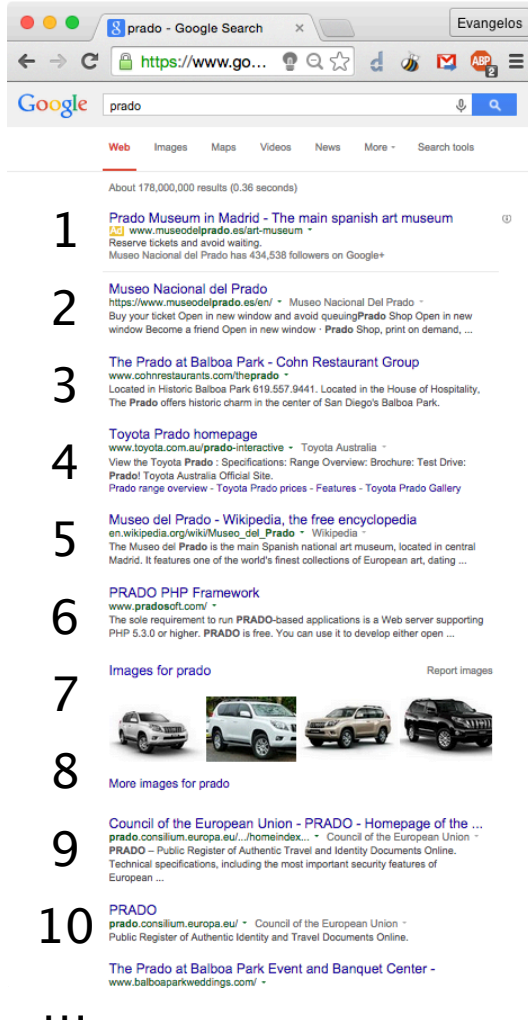
# Measures of Effectiveness

- Determine how good the system is at finding and ranking **relevant** documents
- A good effectiveness measure should **correlate** with the **user's experience**
- Thus interest in effectiveness measures based on **explicit models of user interaction**

# Model-based Measures

1. A **browsing model** that describes how a user interacts with results;
2. A **model of document utility**, describing how a user derives utility from individual relevant documents;
3. A **utility accumulation model** that describes how a user accumulates utility in the course of browsing

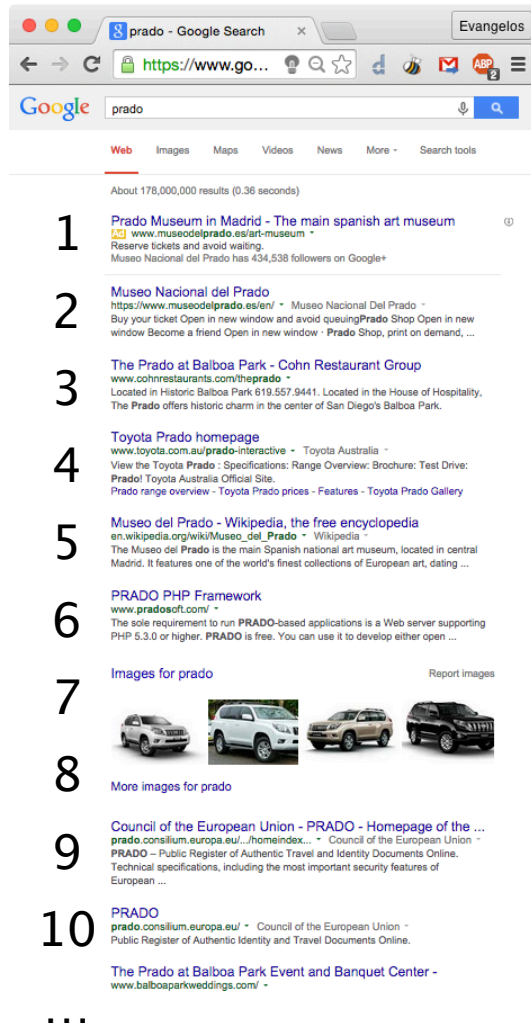
# Model Browsing Behavior



## 1 Position-based models

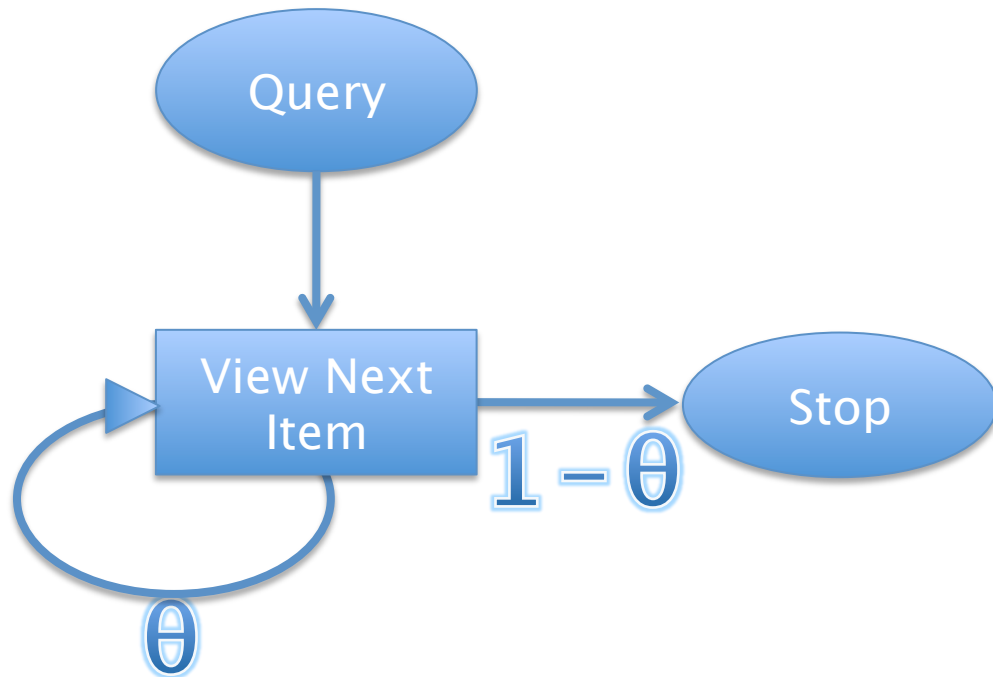
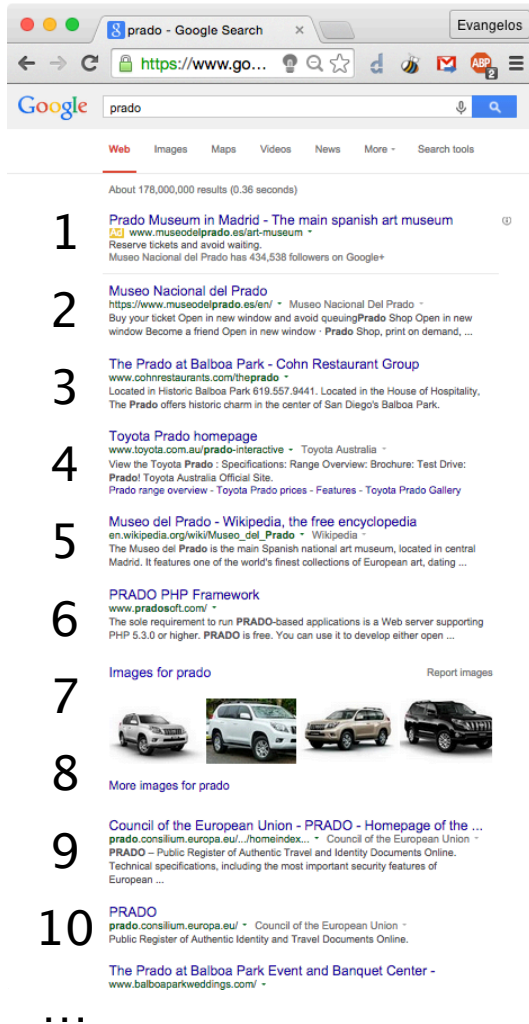
The chance of observing a document depends on the **position** of the document in the ranked list.

# Ranked Biased Precision Model

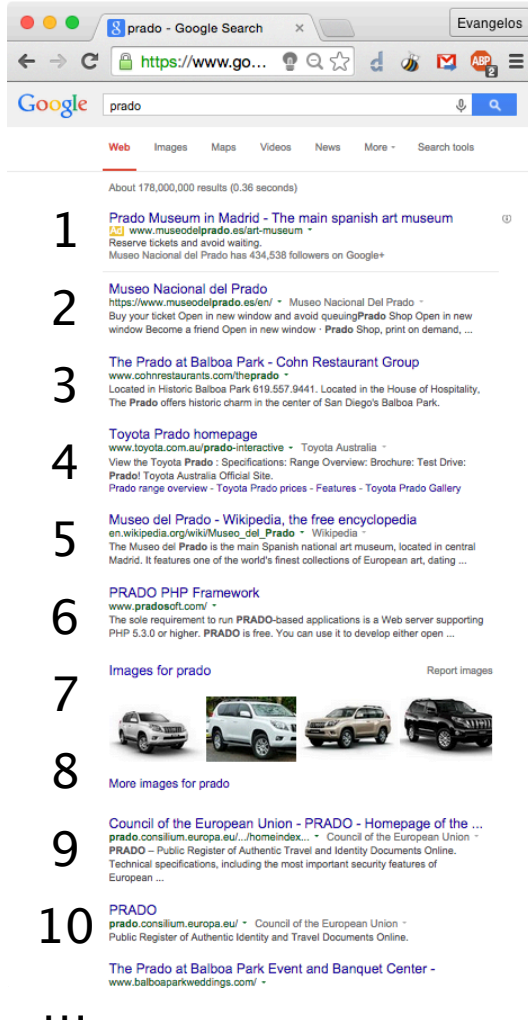


1. Toss a biased coin ( $\theta$ )
2. If HEADS, observe next document
3. IF TAILS, stop

# Ranked Biased Precision Model

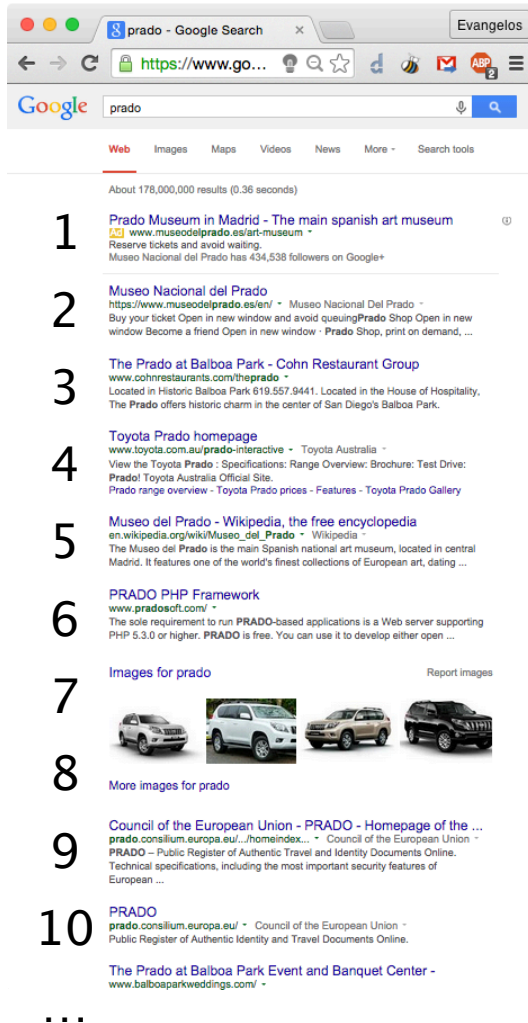


# RBP – Expected Utility at Stopping



$$\text{RBP} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \text{rel}_k \vartheta^{k-1} (1 - \vartheta)$$

# Model Browsing Behavior



## 2 Cascade-based models

---

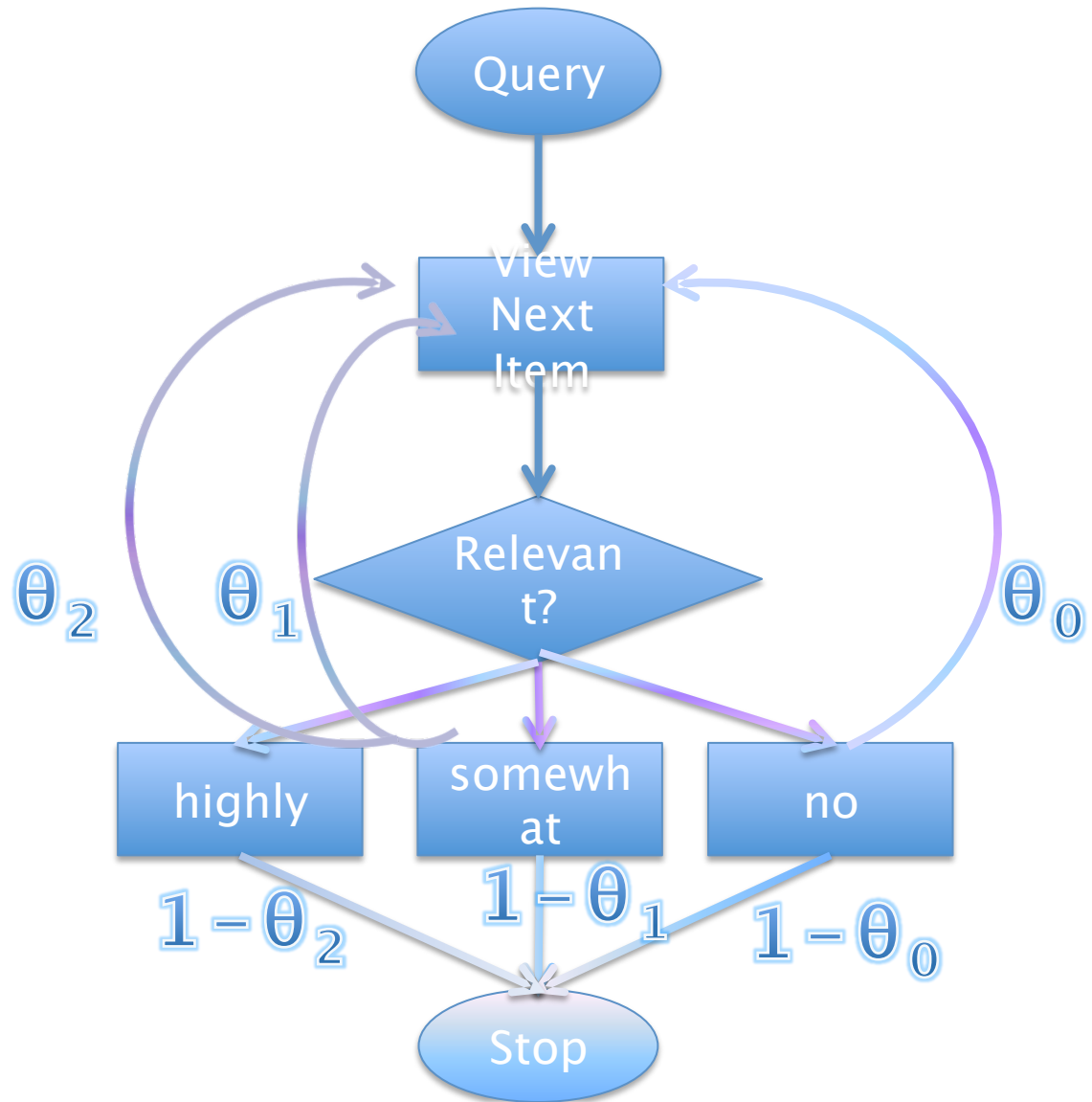
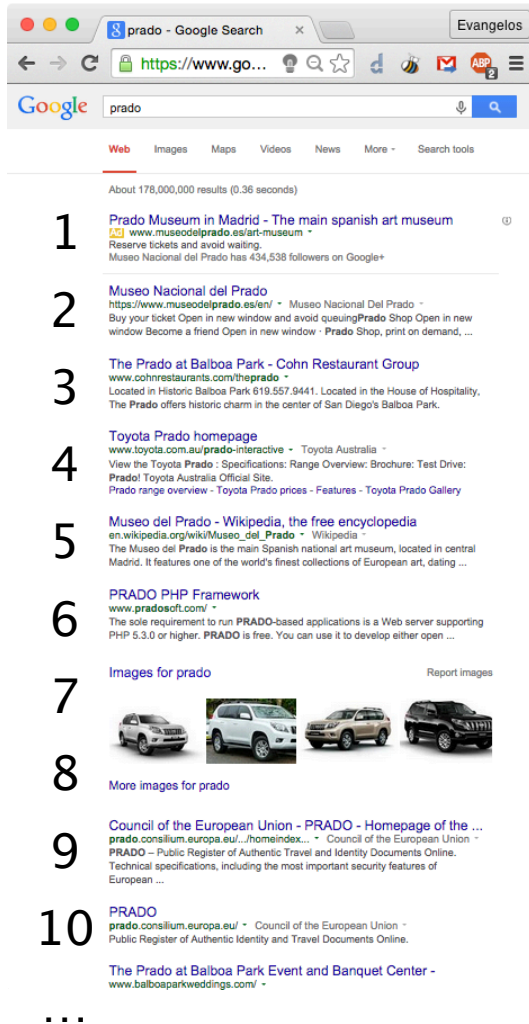
### Algorithm 1 The cascade user model

---

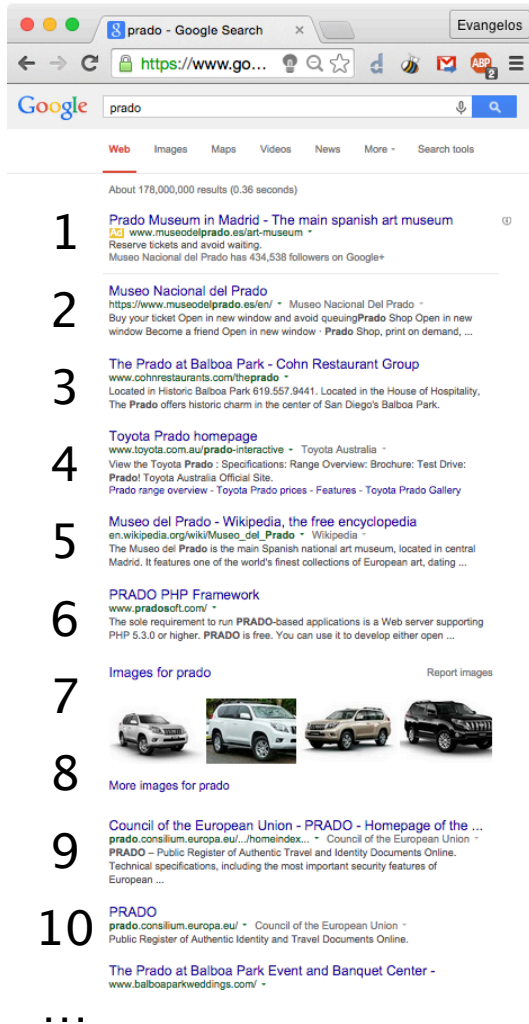
**Require:**  $R_1, \dots, R_{10}$  the *relevance* of the 10 URLs on the result page.

- 1:  $i = 1$
  - 2: User examines position  $i$ .
  - 3: **if**  $\text{random}(0,1) \leq R_i$  **then**
  - 4:   User is satisfied with the document in position  $i$  and stops.
  - 5: **else**
  - 6:    $i \leftarrow i + 1$ ; go to 2
  - 7: **end if**
-

# Expected Reciprocal Rank Model

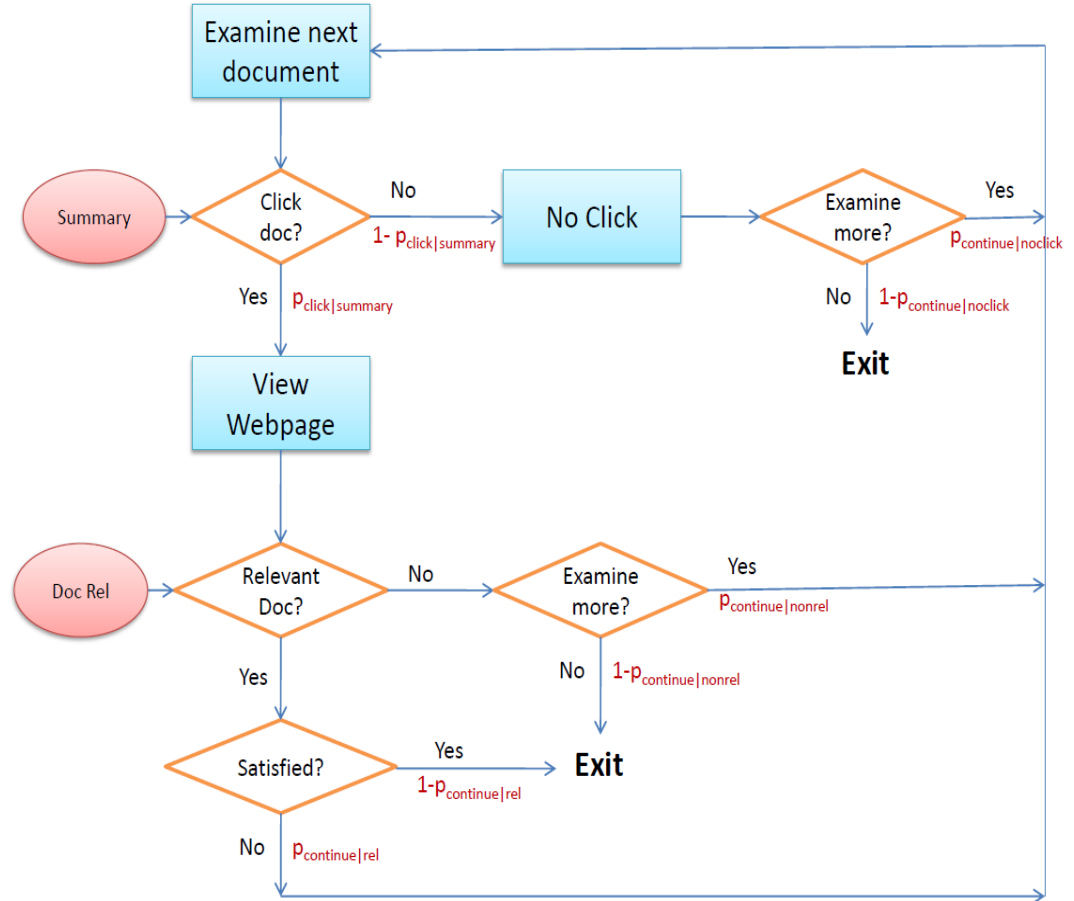
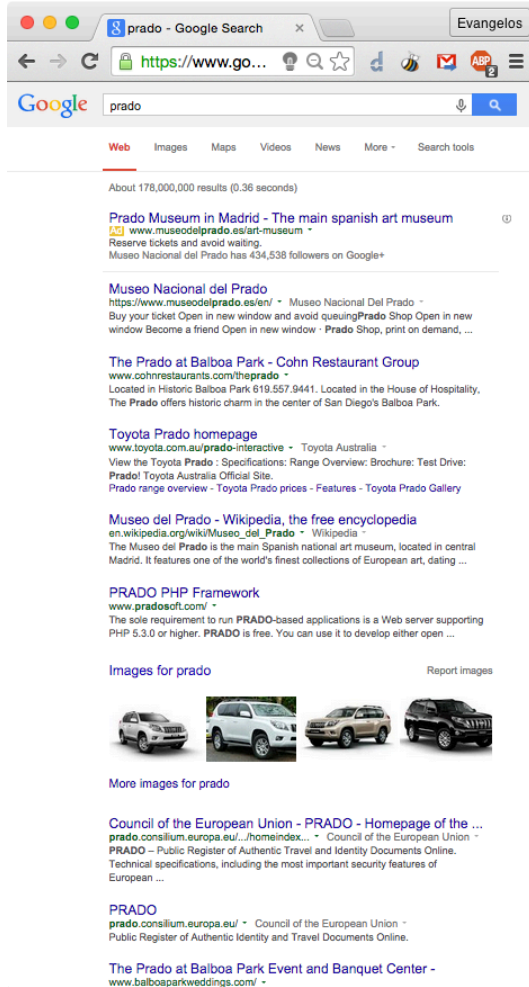


# ERR – Expected Effort



$$\text{ERR} = \sum_{r=1}^n \left( \prod_{i=1}^{r-1} (1 - \vartheta_i) \vartheta_r \right) \frac{1}{r}$$

# Expected Browsing Utility Model



# Click model-based Measures

## Click Model-Based Information Retrieval Metrics

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Pavel Serdyukov  
Yandex  
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Maarten de Rijke  
ISLA, University of Amsterdam  
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## Click Models for Web Search

Aleksandr Chuklin  
University of Amsterdam and Google Switzerland

Ilya Markov  
University of Amsterdam

Maarten de Rijke  
University of Amsterdam

# Time-based Measures

## **Time-Based Calibration of Effectiveness Measures**

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University of Waterloo, Canada  
claclark@plg.uwaterloo.ca

# Choosing Parameter Values

- All user models have parameters
  - Metrics evaluated at fixed parameter values
  - Evaluation w.r.t. an **average** user
- Different approaches:
  - **Predefine** parameters
    - ERR:  $\vartheta_g = \frac{2^g - 1}{2^{g_{\max}}}, \quad g \in \{0, \dots, g_{\max}\}$
  - Use **click log**; fit a model to gaps between clicks (Zhang et al., IRJ, 2010)
  - **Minimize variance** in evaluation (Kanoulas & Aslam, CIKM '09)

# Choosing Parameter Values

## Simulating Simple User Behavior for System Effectiveness Evaluation

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<sup>†</sup> Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK & Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

## Incorporating Variability in User Behavior into Systems Based Evaluation

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<sup>\*</sup> Department of Computer & Information Sciences, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

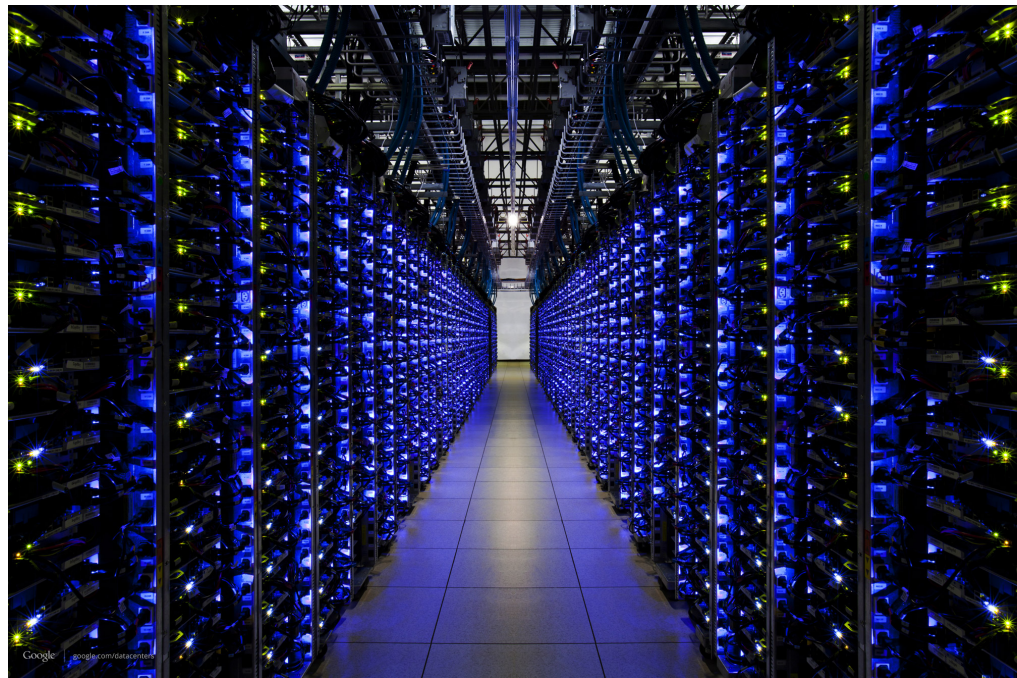
<sup>‡</sup> Information School, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

<sup>†</sup> Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK & Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

- Users behave very differently when they search
  - Distribution of parameters (users) need to be considered
- A different approach
  - Mine Web Query logs
  - Learn a distribution of the parameters
  - Use this distribution to evaluate the quality of systems

# Patience Distribution for RBP

- Goal: produce a posterior distribution for  $\theta$
- Start with a uniform distribution for  $\theta$
- Update it based on logged data



# Posterior Distribution of Patience $\theta$ for RBP

$$P(\theta | E) = P(\theta | c) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} P(\theta | r, c) P(r | c)$$

$$P(\theta | r, c) \propto P(c | \theta, r) P(\theta | r)$$

The probability that user skips  $r$  document

$$P(c | \theta, r) = NB(r, \theta)$$

$$P(\theta | r) = Beta(\alpha, \beta)$$

- Start with uniform prior ( $\alpha = \beta = 1$ )

Probability distribution of the number of successes in a sequence of Bernoulli trials before  $r$  failures occurs.

# Posterior Distribution of Patience $\theta$ for RBP

$$P(\theta | r, E) \propto P(E | \theta, r) P(\theta | r)$$


$$P(E | \theta, r) = NB(r, \theta)$$

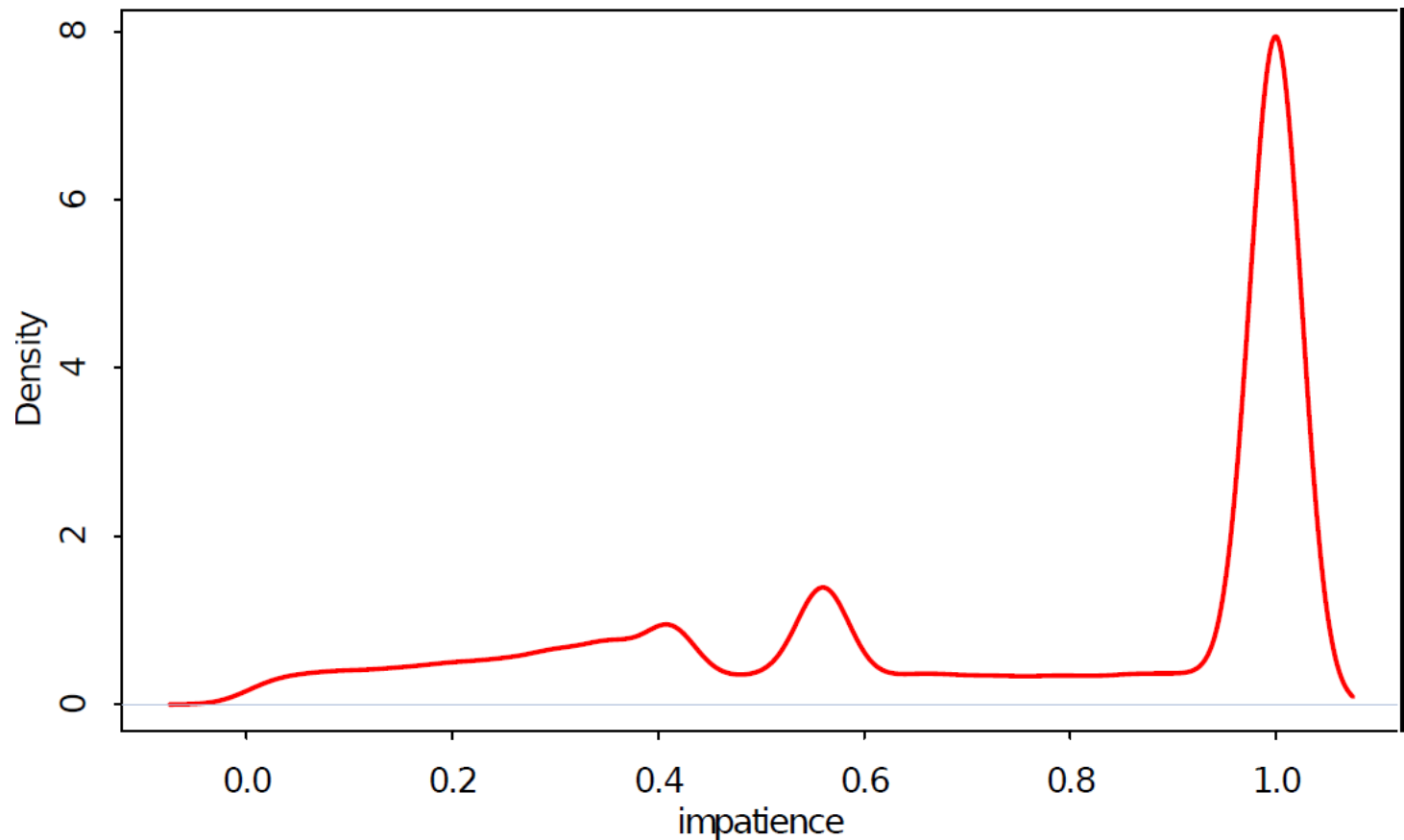
$$P(\theta | r) = Beta(\alpha, \beta)$$

- If there are  $m$  queries, with  $r$  number of failures, and  $c_i$  number of successes,  $i=1..m$

$$P(\theta | r, E) = Beta(\alpha + \sum_{i=1}^m c_i, \beta + mr)$$

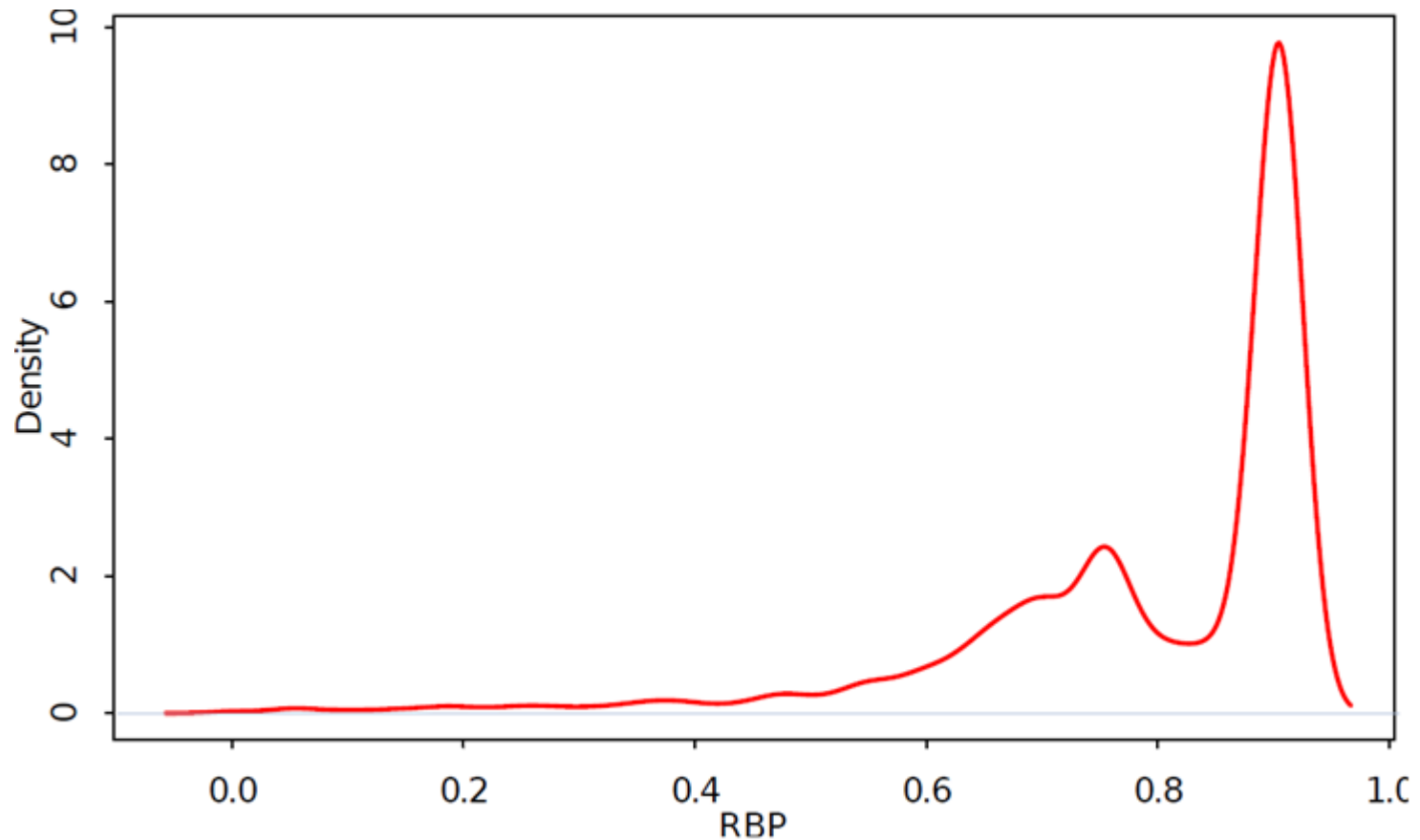
# Posterior Distribution for Impatience: RBP

- Using the AOL log



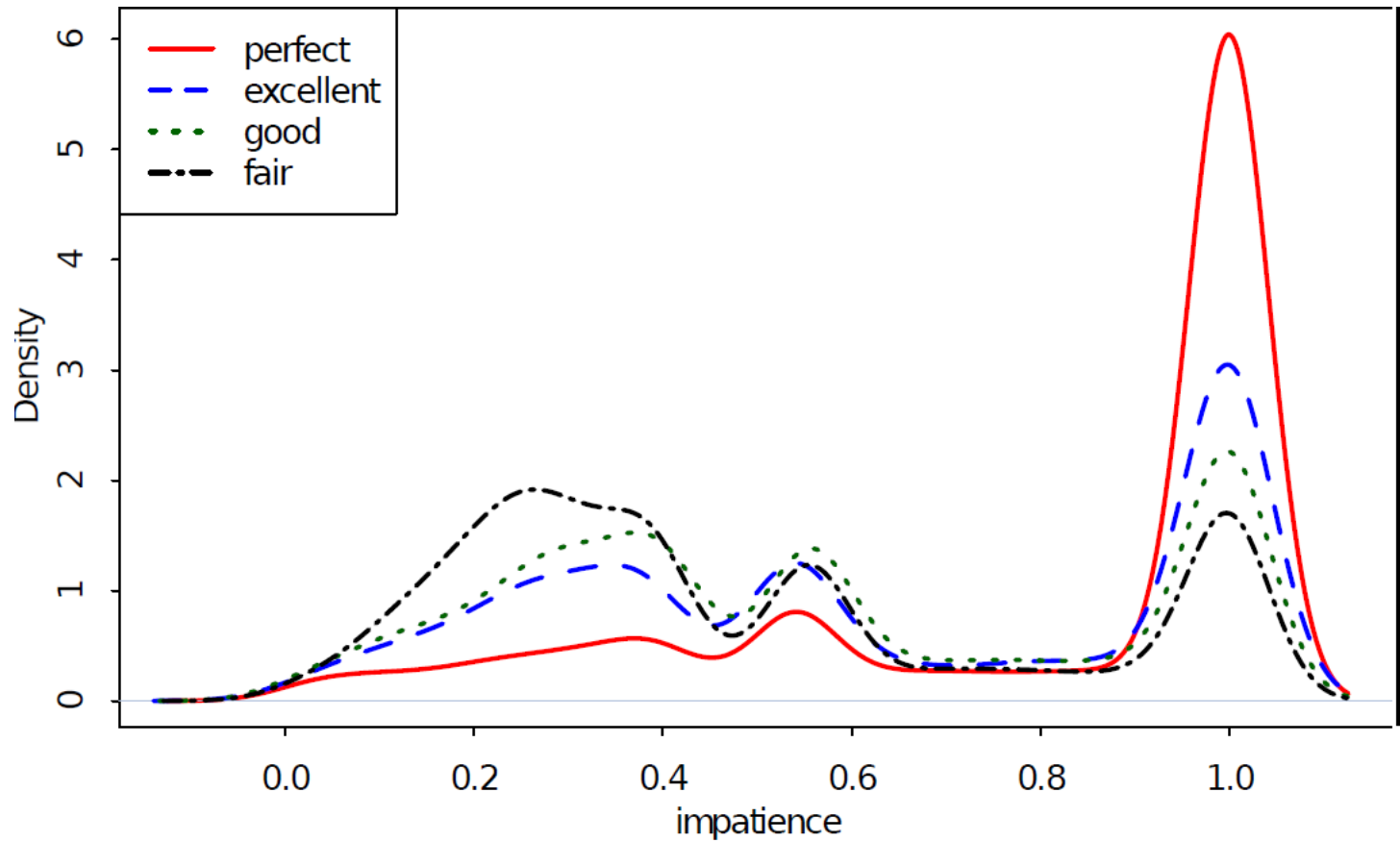
# Distribution of RBP

- For some TREC system



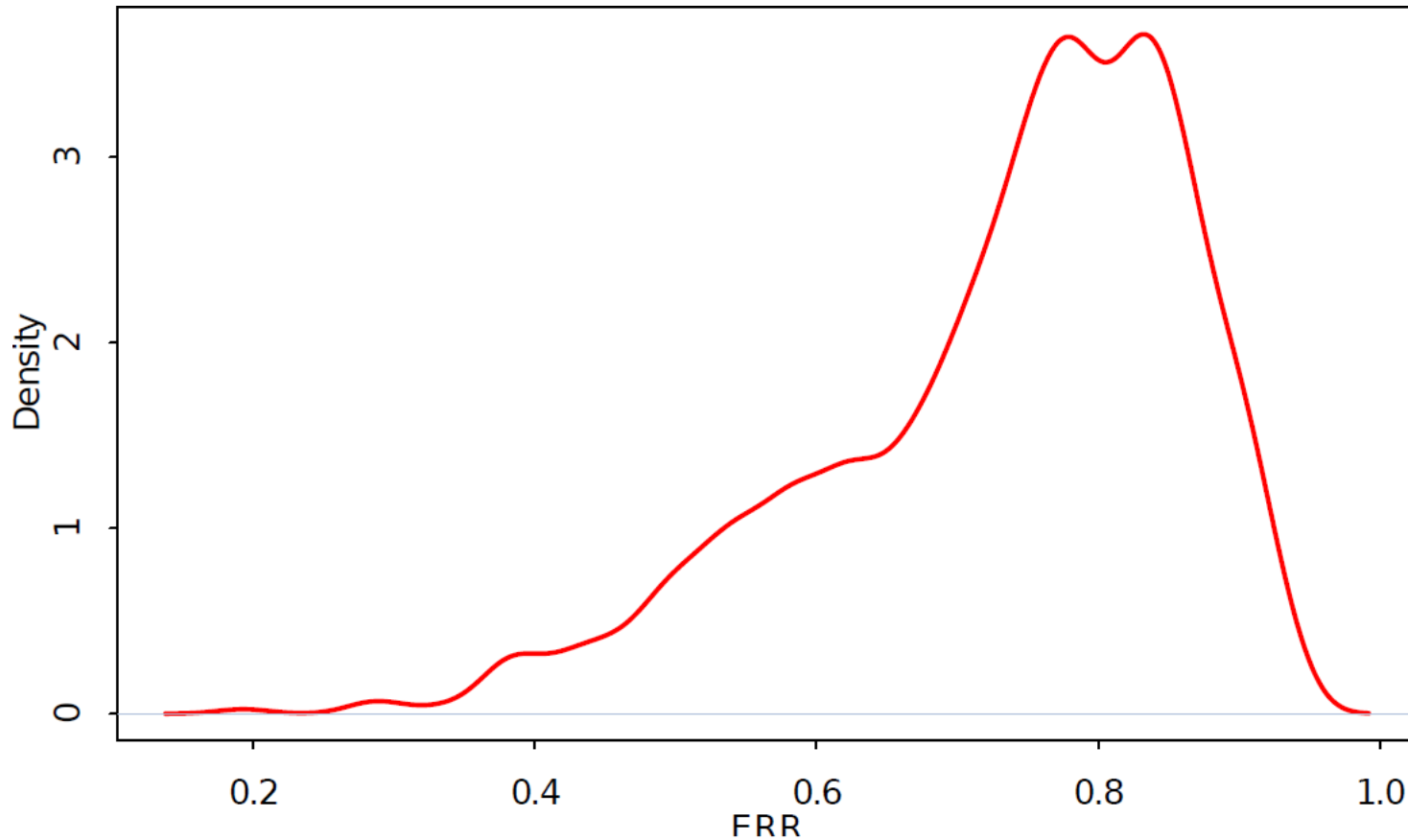
# Posterior Distribution for Impatience: ERR

- Using a Bing log



# Distribution of ERR

- For some TREC system



# Marginal Distribution Analysis

- Given two systems, over all choices of  $\theta$ 
  - What is  $P(M_1 > M_2)$ ?
  - What is  $P((M_1 - M_2) > t)$ ?

# Marginal Distribution Analysis

- Marginal distribution over values of a measure

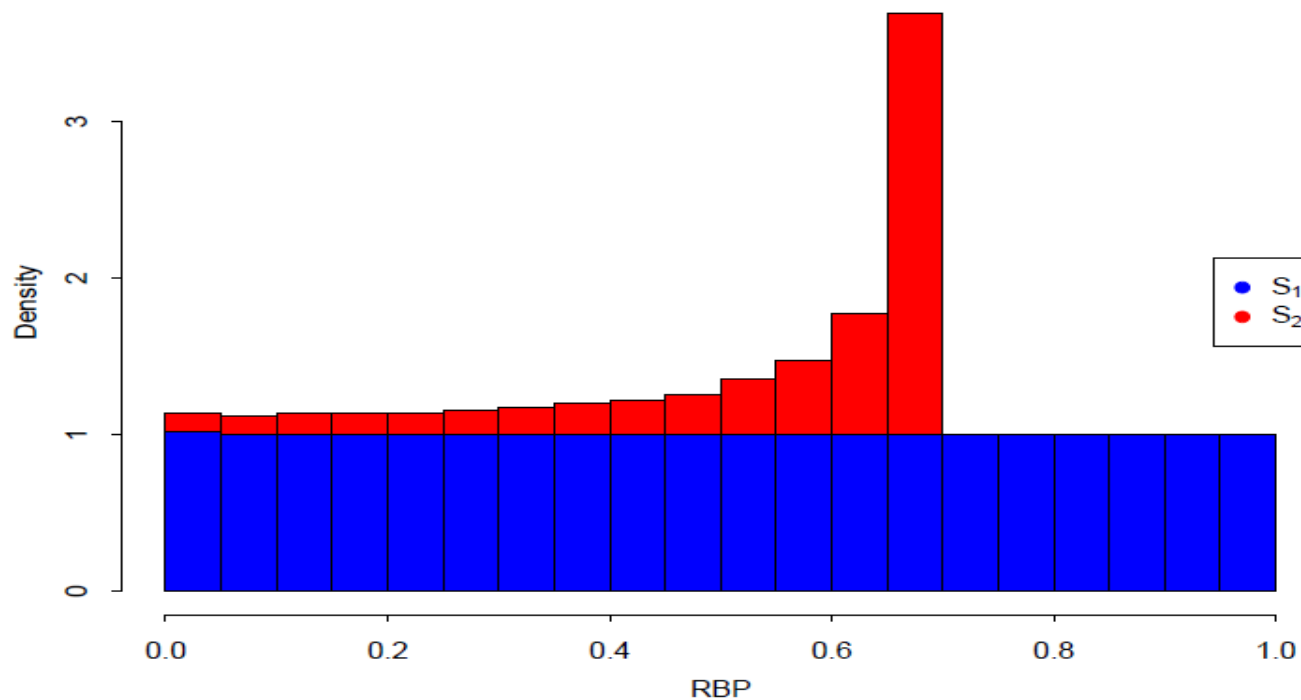
$$P(M = m) = \int P(M = m|\theta)P(\theta)d\theta$$

$$P(M = m|\theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } M = m \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

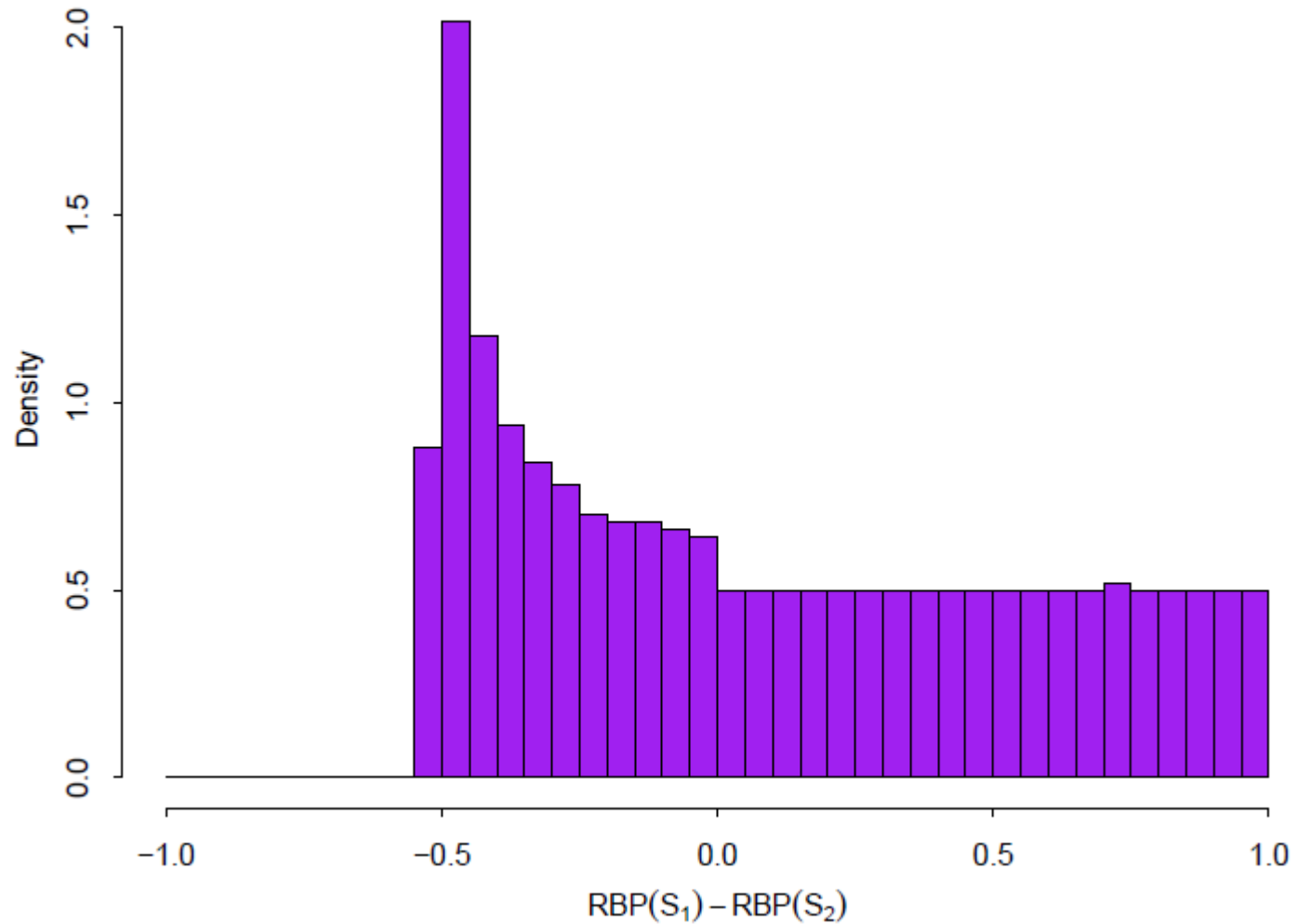
- Monte Carlo simulation to estimate the distribution
  - Sample values of  $\theta$ , calculate  $M$
  - Infer  $P(M)$  over many trials

# Marginal Distribution Analysis

- Patience uniformly distributed
- $S_1 = [R \ N \ N \ N \ N \ N \ N \ N \ N \ N \ N]$
- $S_2 = [N \ R \ R \ R \ R \ R \ R \ R \ R \ R \ R]$



# Marginal Distribution Analysis

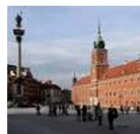


# Part 1: Evaluation Measures

- Evaluation measures
  1. Traditional evaluation measures
  2. Model-based measures
  3. Novelty and Diversity-based measures
  4. Session-based measures
- Evaluation of evaluation measures



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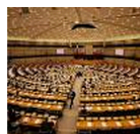
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 "Failure to agree on a path forward would create immediate hardship for Greece and broad uncertainties for **Europe** and the global **economy**," ...  
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 In short, the ECB bond-buying programme has transformed the ECB from a passive observer of the **euro crisis**, paralysed by the outdated legalistic constraints of the Maastricht Treaty, into a proper lender of last resort. With powers to monetise government ...



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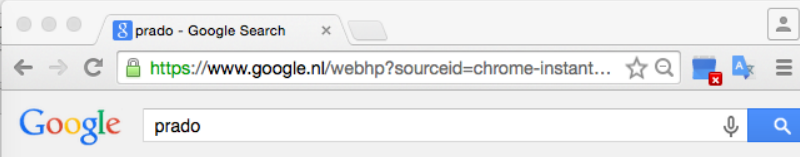
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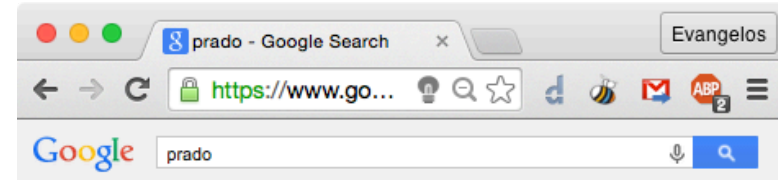
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Viewing a Velasquez or a Rembrandt in a place like Spain's Prado museum is a unique experience. Now you can use Google Earth technology to navigate ...

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[www.aviewoncities.com/madrid/pradomuseum.htm](http://www.aviewoncities.com/madrid/pradomuseum.htm)

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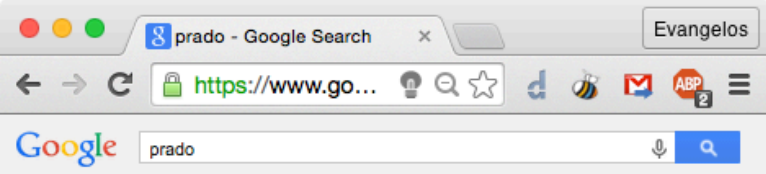
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[www.balboanparkweddings.com/](http://www.balboanparkweddings.com/)

# Intent-Aware Measures

- Assume there is a probability distribution  $P(i/Q)$  over **intents** for a query  $Q$ 
  - Probability that a randomly-sampled user means intent  $i$  when submitting query  $Q$
- The intent-aware version of a measure is its **weighted average** over this distribution



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$$P(\text{Prado Museum} | Q) = 0.35$$

$$P(\text{Prado Balboa} | Q) = 0.10$$

$$P(\text{Toyota Prado} | Q) = 0.45$$

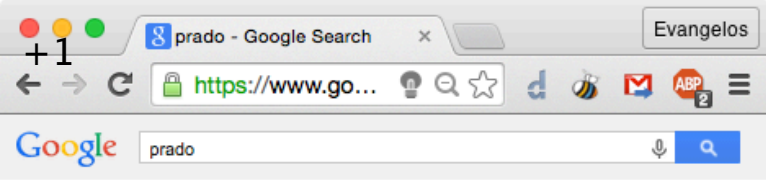
$$P(\text{Prado PHP} | Q) = 0.08$$

$$P(\text{Prado EU} | Q) = 0.02$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Precision@10-IA} &= 0.35 \cdot 0.3 + 0.10 \cdot 0.2 \\ &+ 0.45 \cdot 0.2 + 0.08 \cdot 0.1 + 0.02 \cdot 0.2 = 0.227 \end{aligned}$$

# $\alpha$ -nDCG

- $\alpha$ -nDCG is a generalization of nDCG that accounts for both **novelty** and **diversity**
- $\alpha$  is a geometric penalization for redundancy
  - Redefine the **gain** of a document:
    - +1 for each intent it is relevant to
    - $\times(1-\alpha)$  for each document higher in the ranking that intent already appeared in
- Discount is the same as usual



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$P(\text{Prado Museum} | Q)$

$P(\text{Prado Balboa} | Q)$

$P(\text{Toyota Prado} | Q)$

$P(\text{Prado PHP} | Q)$

$P(\text{Prado EU} | Q)$

# Finding intents and probabilities

## Inferring Query Intent from Reformulations and Clicks

Filip Radlinski  
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Cambridge, UK

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Martin Szummer  
Microsoft Research  
Cambridge, UK

szummer@microsoft.com

Nick Craswell  
Microsoft  
Redmond, WA, USA

nickcr@microsoft.com

AOL-user-ct-collection -- less -- 116x53				
710766	wwwpeoplesearch.comwww.reviewplace.sear	2006-05-30 22:10:13		
710766	wwwpeoplesearch.comwww.reviewplace.sear	2006-05-30 22:10:33		
711391	can not sleep with snoring husband	2006-03-01 01:24:00		
711391	cannot sleep with snoring husband	2006-03-01 01:24:07	9	http://www.wjla.com
711391	cannot sleep with snoring husband	2006-03-01 01:24:07	9	http://www.wjla.com
711391	cannot sleep with snoring husband	2006-03-01 01:33:06	1	http://www.epinions.com
711391	jackie zeaman nude	2006-03-01 15:26:27		
711391	jackie zeman nude	2006-03-01 15:26:38		
711391	strange cosmos	2006-03-01 16:07:15	1	http://www.strangecosmos.com
711391	mansfield first assembly	2006-03-01 16:09:20	1	http://www.mansfieldfirstassembly.org
711391	mansfield first assembly	2006-03-01 16:09:20	3	http://netministries.org
711391	reverend harry myers	2006-03-01 16:10:07		
711391	reverend harry myers	2006-03-01 16:10:30		
711391	national enquirer	2006-03-01 17:13:14		
711391	how to kill mockingbirds	2006-03-01 17:18:11	1	http://www.nationalenquirer.com
711391	how to kill mockingbirds	2006-03-01 17:18:33		
711391	how to kill annoying birds in your yards	2006-03-01 17:18:58		
711391	how to kill annoying birds in your yards	2006-03-01 17:19:53	2	http://www.sortprice.com
711391	how to rid your yard of noisy annoying birds	2006-03-01 17:23:08	3	http://shopping.msn.com
711391	how to rid your yard of noisy annoying birds	2006-03-01 17:23:08	10	http://www.bergen.org
711391	how to rid your yard of noisy annoying birds	2006-03-01 17:24:35	15	http://www.saferbrand.com
711391	how do i get mocking birds out of my yard	2006-03-01 17:27:17		
711391	how do i get mockingbirds out of my yard	2006-03-01 17:27:36	9	http://www.asri.org
711391	how do i get mockingbirds out of my yard	2006-03-01 17:30:14		
711391	how to get rid of noisy loud birds	2006-03-01 17:30:52	3	http://www.bird-x.com
711391	how to get rid of noisy loud birds	2006-03-01 17:30:52	1	http://forums2.gardenweb.com
711391	how to get rid of noisy loud birds	2006-03-01 17:30:52	10	http://www.birding.com
711391	mansfield first assembly	2006-03-01 18:31:36	3	http://netministries.org
711391	beth moore	2006-03-01 19:42:41	1	http://www.lproof.org
711391	judy baker ministries	2006-03-01 19:49:03	2	http://www.embracinggrace.com
711391	god will fulfill your hearts desires	2006-03-01 19:59:06	10	http://www.pureintimacy.org
711391	online friendships can be very special	2006-03-01 23:09:37		
711391	online friendships can be very special	2006-03-01 23:09:57		
711391	online friendships	2006-03-01 23:10:24		
711391	cypress fairbanks isd	2006-03-02 07:56:53	1	http://www.cfisd.net
711391	people are not always how they seem over the internet	2006-03-02 08:31:51		
711391	friends online can be different in person	2006-03-02 08:32:42		
711391	friends online can be different in person	2006-03-02 08:33:04	13	http://www.salon.com
711391	boston butts	2006-03-02 09:47:36		
711391	community christian church houston tx	2006-03-02 16:07:53		
711391	gay churches in houston tx	2006-03-02 16:08:23		
711391	community gospel church in houston tx	2006-03-02 16:08:45	2	http://www.communitygospel.org
711391	houston tx is one hot place	2006-03-02 18:04:44		
711391	houston tx is one hot place to live	2006-03-02 18:04:55	9	http://travel.yahoo.com
711391	houston tx is one hot place to live	2006-03-02 18:16:05	1	http://www.houston-texas-online.com
711391	texas hill country and sights around san antonio tx	2006-03-02 18:19:00	5	http://www.answers.c
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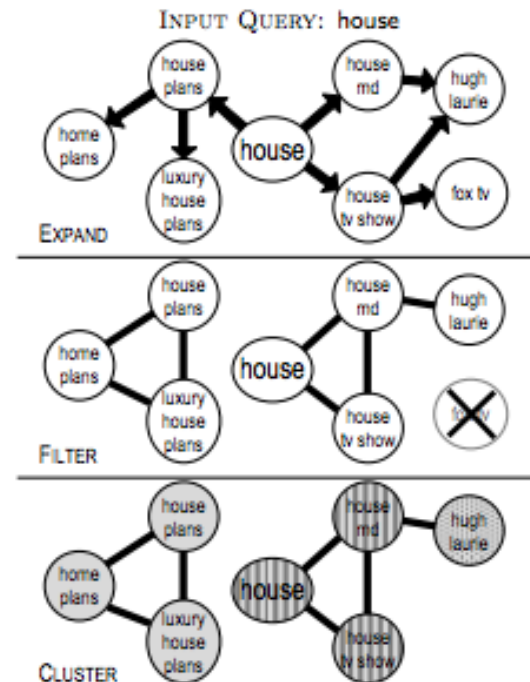


Figure 1: Three Steps of Intent Identification

# Finding intents and probabilities

## Random Walks on the Click Graph

Nick Craswell and Martin Szummer  
Microsoft Research Cambridge  
7 JJ Thomson Ave  
Cambridge, UK  
{nickcr,szummer}@microsoft.com

AOL-user-ct-collection — less — 116x53					
710766	wwwpeoplesearch.com	www.reviewplace.sear	2006-05-30 22:10:13		
710766	wwwpeoplesearch.com	www.reviewplace.sear	2006-05-30 22:10:33		
711391	can not sleep with snoring husband	2006-03-01 01:24:00			
711391	cannot sleep with snoring husband	2006-03-01 01:24:07	9	http://www.wjla.com	
711391	cannot sleep with snoring husband	2006-03-01 01:24:07	9	http://www.wjla.com	
711391	cannot sleep with snoring husband	2006-03-01 01:33:06	1	http://www.epinions.com	
711391	jackie zeaman nude	2006-03-01 15:26:27			
711391	jackie zeman nude	2006-03-01 15:26:38			
711391	strange cosmos	2006-03-01 16:07:15	1	http://www.strangecosmos.com	
711391	mansfield first assembly	2006-03-01 16:09:20	1	http://www.mansfieldfirstassembly.org	
711391	mansfield first assembly	2006-03-01 16:09:20	3	http://netministries.org	
711391	reverend harry myers	2006-03-01 16:10:07			
711391	reverend harry myers	2006-03-01 16:10:30			
711391	national enquirer	2006-03-01 17:13:14		http://www.nationalenquirer.com	
711391	how to kill mockingbirds	2006-03-01 17:18:11			
711391	how to kill mockingbirds	2006-03-01 17:18:33			
711391	how to kill annoying birds in your yards	2006-03-01 17:18:58			
711391	how to kill annoying birds in your yards	2006-03-01 17:19:53	2	http://www.sortprice.com	
711391	how to rid your yard of noisy annoying birds	2006-03-01 17:23:08	3	http://shopping.msn.com	
711391	how to rid your yard of noisy annoying birds	2006-03-01 17:23:08	10	http://www.bergen.org	
711391	how to rid your yard of noisy annoying birds	2006-03-01 17:24:35	15	http://www.saferbrand.com	
711391	how do i get mockingbirds out of my yard	2006-03-01 17:27:17			
711391	how do i get mockingbirds out of my yard	2006-03-01 17:27:36	9	http://www.asri.org	
711391	how do i get mockingbirds out of my yard	2006-03-01 17:30:14			
711391	how to get rid of noisy loud birds	2006-03-01 17:30:52	3	http://www.bird-x.com	
711391	how to get rid of noisy loud birds	2006-03-01 17:30:52	1	http://forums2.gardenweb.com	
711391	how to get rid of noisy loud birds	2006-03-01 17:30:52	10	http://www.birding.com	
711391	mansfield first assembly	2006-03-01 18:31:36	3	http://netministries.org	
711391	beth moore	2006-03-01 19:42:41	1	http://www.lproof.org	
711391	judy baker ministries	2006-03-01 19:49:03	2	http://www.embracinggrace.com	
711391	god will fulfill your hearts desires	2006-03-01 19:59:06			
711391	online friendships can be very special	2006-03-01 23:09:37			
711391	online friendships can be very special	2006-03-01 23:09:57			
711391	online friendships	2006-03-01 23:10:24			
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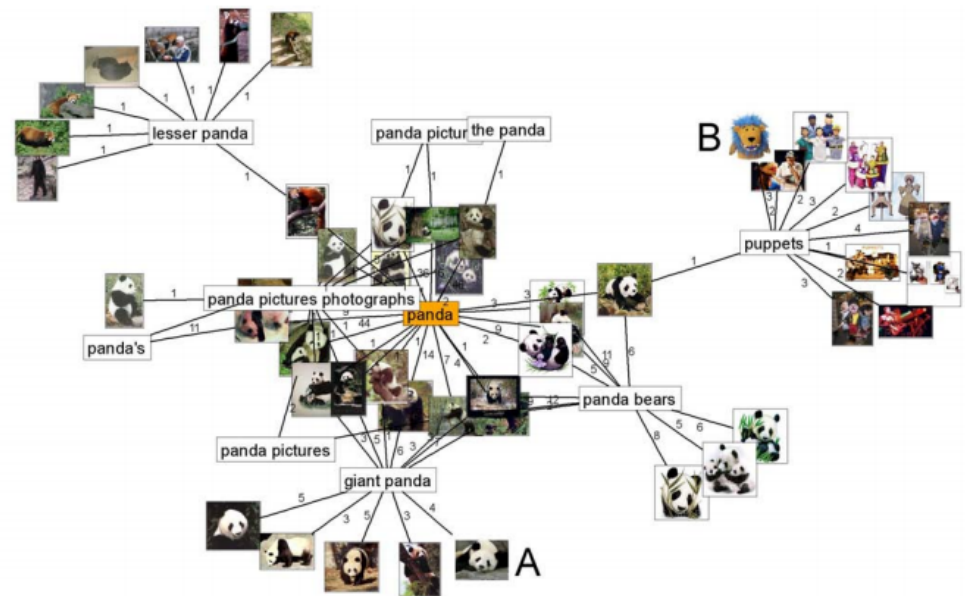


Figure 1: Click graph. Nodes are queries or images, edges indicate clicks. Images A and B are equidistant from the query 'panda' (distance=3), so retrieval based on a naïve shortest-path algorithm could not distinguish them. Our Markov random walk approach sums over paths, so image A benefits from having 7 distinct paths of length 3. In other words, nodes A and 'panda' are connected by a large "volume" of paths.

# Part 1: Evaluation Measures

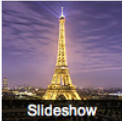
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  1. Traditional evaluation measures
  2. Model-based measures
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- Evaluation of evaluation measures

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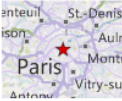
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- Focus on serving the best results for a **one-shot query**
- Users frequently **reformulate** their initial query
- Questions:
  - Can we measure the effectiveness of a retrieval system over **a sequence of reformulations (session)**?
  - Can we optimize systems to provide better results over a session?

# From single queries to sessions

- TREC Session Track 2010–2014
  - Goal:
    - Extend the evaluation framework from one query evaluation to **multi-query session** evaluation
    - Construct appropriate test collections
    - Establish new evaluation measures

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The Session track is running for a fifth time in 2014. The Session track has two primary goals: (1) to test whether systems can improve their performance for a given query by using previous user interactions with a retrieval system (including previous queries, clicks on ranked results, dwell times, etc.), and (2) to evaluate system performance over an entire query session instead of a single query.

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Construct appropriate test collections

Rethink of evaluation measures

Construct appropriate test collections

Rethink of evaluation measures

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(clueweb09-en0002-08-24287) [http://newman.baruch.cuny.edu/digital/2000/honors/white\\_1993.htm](http://newman.baruch.cuny.edu/digital/2000/honors/white_1993.htm)

Baruch Undergrad. Honors [1993]: White, J. Defense of Immanuel **Kant**'s... DEFENSE OF IMMANUEL KANT'S I REASON by JULIAN WHITE© DECEMBER 6, 1993 Submitted...that has been subjected to strong critiques which Alternatives to **Kant's theory** are problematic, however. Utilitarian philosophers, like David Hume, claim that moral st... [\[cached version\]](#)

### 5. [The Principles of Friesian Philosophy](#)

(clueweb09-en0008-53-11127) <http://www.friesian.com/friesian.htm>

...philosophy who forgets that philosophy is about wisdom may still be a real lover of **knowledge**, may still be a great c... a very good...Method. But while Nelson's theory of Socratic Method as "abstraction" is intuitionistic and inadequate, th... terms of Popper's **theory** of falsification, which winnows out inconsistent items. Popper's **theory** of scientific method, '... generated, may thus be coupled with the Socratic injunction, "Say what you believe," to recover what **Kant** called the... The theory of non-intuitive immediate knowledge frees the Kantian epistemology of synthetic a priori... [\[cached version\]](#)

Construct appropriate test collections

Rethink of evaluation measures

What is a good system?

How can we measure “goodness”?

# Measuring “goodness”

The **user steps down** a ranked list of documents, observes each one of them until a decision point and either

- a) **abandons** the search, or

- b) **reformulates**

While stepping down or sideways, the user accumulates utility

# Experiment

kant theory of knowledge

Web Images Maps Shopping More ▾ Search

About 654,000 results (0.29 seconds)

[Scholarly articles for kant theory of knowledge](#)

[Kant's theory of knowledge](#) - Prichard - Cited by 110

[Kant's theory of knowledge](#) - Hartnack - Cited by 35

[Knowledge and human Interests \(paperback\)](#) - Habermas - Cited by 10

[Immanuel Kant - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immanuel\\_Kant](#) ▾

Jump to [Theory of perception](#) - Immanuel Kant was a German philosopher who is widely considered to be a central figure of modern philosophy. [Critique of Pure Reason](#) - [Categorical imperative](#) - [The Metaphysics](#)

[Kant's Theory of Knowledge - Educational Philosophy](#)

[educationalphilosophy.blogspot.com/.../kants-theory-of-knowledge](#) - The relation of subject-object was a central question in philosophy. To simplify things, the mechanical materialists laid all the stress on the object.

[Kant, Immanuel - Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#)

[www.rep.routledge.com/article/DB047](#) ▾

Kant laid the foundations of his [theory of knowledge](#) in his [metaphysics of pure reason](#) (1781). He described the fundamental principle of knowledge as the [categorical imperative](#).

[PDF] [Kant's Theory of Knowledge](#) - Munseys

[www.munseys.com/disknine/kant.pdf](#)

by HA Prichard - Cited by 110 - Related articles

KANT'S THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE by. H. A. PRICHARD. First published by Oxford. Oxford At the Clarendon Press 1909. Henry Frowde, London.

[Kant, Immanuel: Metaphysics \[Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy\]](#)

[www.iep.utm.edu/kantmeta/](#) ▾

by M McCormick - 2005

Apr 17, 2001 - It is impossible, Kant argues, to extend knowledge beyond the limits of experience. Epistemological and metaphysical theories could not adequately explain the nature of reality.

[Epistemology: Kant and Truth](#)

[philosophyforums.com/.../does-existence-precede-essence](#)

kant's copernican revolution

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About 45,300 results (0.41 seconds)

[Kant: The "Copernican Revolution" in Philosophy](#)

[instruct.westvalley.edu/lafave/KANT.HTM](#) ▾

Jun 19, 2006 - The philosophy of Immanuel Kant (1724-1804) is often referred to as the "Copernican revolution of philosophy" to emphasize its novel approach to knowledge.

[Copernican Revolution \(metaphor\) - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Copernican\\_Revolution\\_\(metaphor\)](#) ▾

According to Tom Rockmore, Kant himself never used the "Copernican Revolution" phrase about himself, though it was "routinely" applied to others.

Characteristics of the metaphor - The "Copernican Revolution in philosophy"

[Immanuel Kant - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immanuel\\_Kant](#) ▾

Kant proposed a "Copernican Revolution-in-reverse", saying that has been assumed that all our cognition must conform to the objects of knowledge. ...

[Kant - Oregon State University](#)

[oregonstate.edu/instruct/phil201/modules/Philosophers/Kant/kant.htm](#) - A Copernican Revolution Kant's theory of mind radically revised the way we all think about human knowledge of the world. Really. You do not know anything until you have been taught.

[Kant - Copernican Revolution - Age of the Sage](#)

[www.age-of-the-sage.org > Philosophy Index](#) ▾

Kant and his Copernican Revolution representation through categorical frameworks of the mind.

[Can anyone explain Immanuel Kant's "Copernican Revolution"](#)

[answers.yahoo.com > All Categories > Arts & Humanities > Philosophy](#) Dec 9, 2007 - His was a reverse revolution: tricking the philosopher into believing him on faith. He invented "noumena" to explain what we cannot know.

[Explain Kant's Copernican Revolution?](#)

[Please Help Me With Philosophy?](#)

[Explain Kant's Copernican revolution of the mind as clearly and](#)

existence precedes essence

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[Existence precedes essence - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Existence\\_precedes\\_essence](#) ▾

The proposition that [existence precedes essence](#) (French: [l'existence précède l'essence](#)) is a central claim of existentialism, which reverses the traditional philosophical position that [essence precedes existence](#). Sartre's view - Heidegger's view - See also - Notes

[What does Sartre mean by "Existence precedes essence?"](#)

[yes.kitoba.com/2010/10/existence-precedes-essence/">yes.kitoba.com/2010/10/existence-precedes-essence/](#) ▾ Oct 5, 2010 - Essence in this case refers to the ancient philosophical concept closely associated with Plato) that all things have a predefined nature.

[Existence Precedes Essence: Jean-Paul Sartre's Existentialism](#)

[voices.yahoo.com/existence-precedes-essence-jean-paul-sartre/">voices.yahoo.com/existence-precedes-essence-jean-paul-sartre/](#) Mar 29, 2007 - In Jean-Paul Sartre's "Existentialism and Humanism" author discusses the philosophical concept that [existence precedes essence](#).

[Jean-Paul Sartre summary](#)

[www.sonoma.edu/people/daniels/sartre%20sum.html](#) ▾

EXISTENCE PRECEDES ESSENCE. "Freedom is existence, and essence follows." This means that what we do, how we act, defines who we are.

[Existence Precedes Essence: Themes and Ideas in Existentialism](#)

[atheism.about.com/od/existentialistthemes/a/existence.html](#) - Originated by Jean-Paul Sartre, the phrase 'existence precedes essence' has come to be a classic, even defining, formulation of the heart of existentialism.

[Does existence precede essence or does essence precede existence?](#)

[forums.philosophyforums.com/.../does-existence-precede-essence">forums.philosophyforums.com/.../does-existence-precede-essence](#) Oct 9, 2010 - 10 posts - 8 authors

If you use it interchangeably with purpose or meaning as I do, then [essence](#) could precede [existence](#) is if God created us.

[Essence Precedes Existence: Philosophy Forums](#)

Concerning the Notion that [Existence precedes Essence](#) ... Suggestions for Sartre question: [existence precedes essence](#) ... More results from forums.philosophyforums.com

**What are the challenges?**



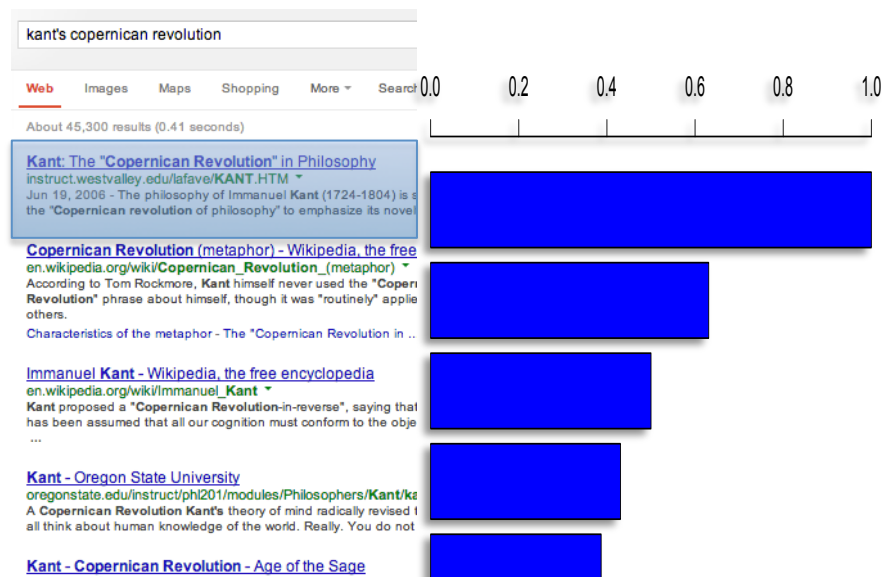
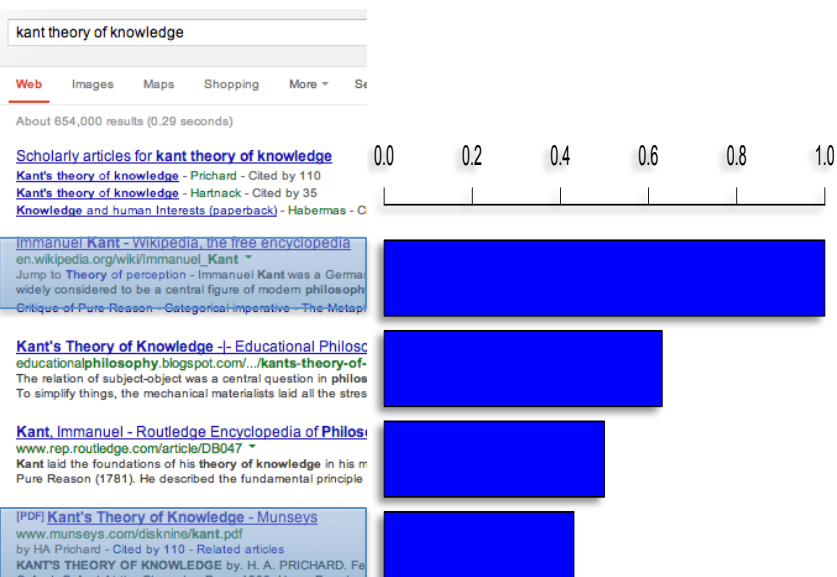
Kalervo Järvelin<sup>1</sup>, Susan L. Price<sup>2</sup>, Lois M.L. Delcambre<sup>2</sup>,  
and Marianne Lykke Nielsen<sup>3</sup>



# Session DCG

## Discounted Cumulated Gain Based Evaluation of Multiple-Query IR Sessions

Kalervo Järvelin<sup>1</sup>, Susan L. Price<sup>2</sup>, Lois M.L. Delcambre<sup>2</sup>,  
and Marianne Lykke Nielsen<sup>3</sup>



$$\frac{1}{\log_c(1+c-1)} DCG(RL1) + \frac{1}{\log_c(2+c-1)} \cdot DCG(RL2)$$

# Existing measures

- Session DCG [Järvelin et al ECIR 2008]  
The user steps down the ranked list until rank  $k$  and reformulates [**Deterministic; no early abandonment**]

# Model-based measures

Probabilistic space of users following different paths

- $\Omega$  is the space of all paths
- $P(\omega)$  is the prob of a user following a path  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$
- $U(\omega)$  is the utility of path  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$

$$esM = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} P(\omega)U(\omega)$$

# Expected Global Utility

## Modeling Expected Utility of Multi-session Information Distillation

Yiming Yang and Abhimanyu Lad

1. User steps down ranked results one-by-one
2. Stops browsing documents based on a stochastic process that defines a **stopping probability distribution** over ranks **and reformulates**
3. Gains something from relevant documents, accumulating utility

# Expected Global Utility

- The probability of a user following a path  $\omega$ :

$$P(\omega) = P(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_K)$$

$r_i$  is the stopping and reformulation point in list  $i$

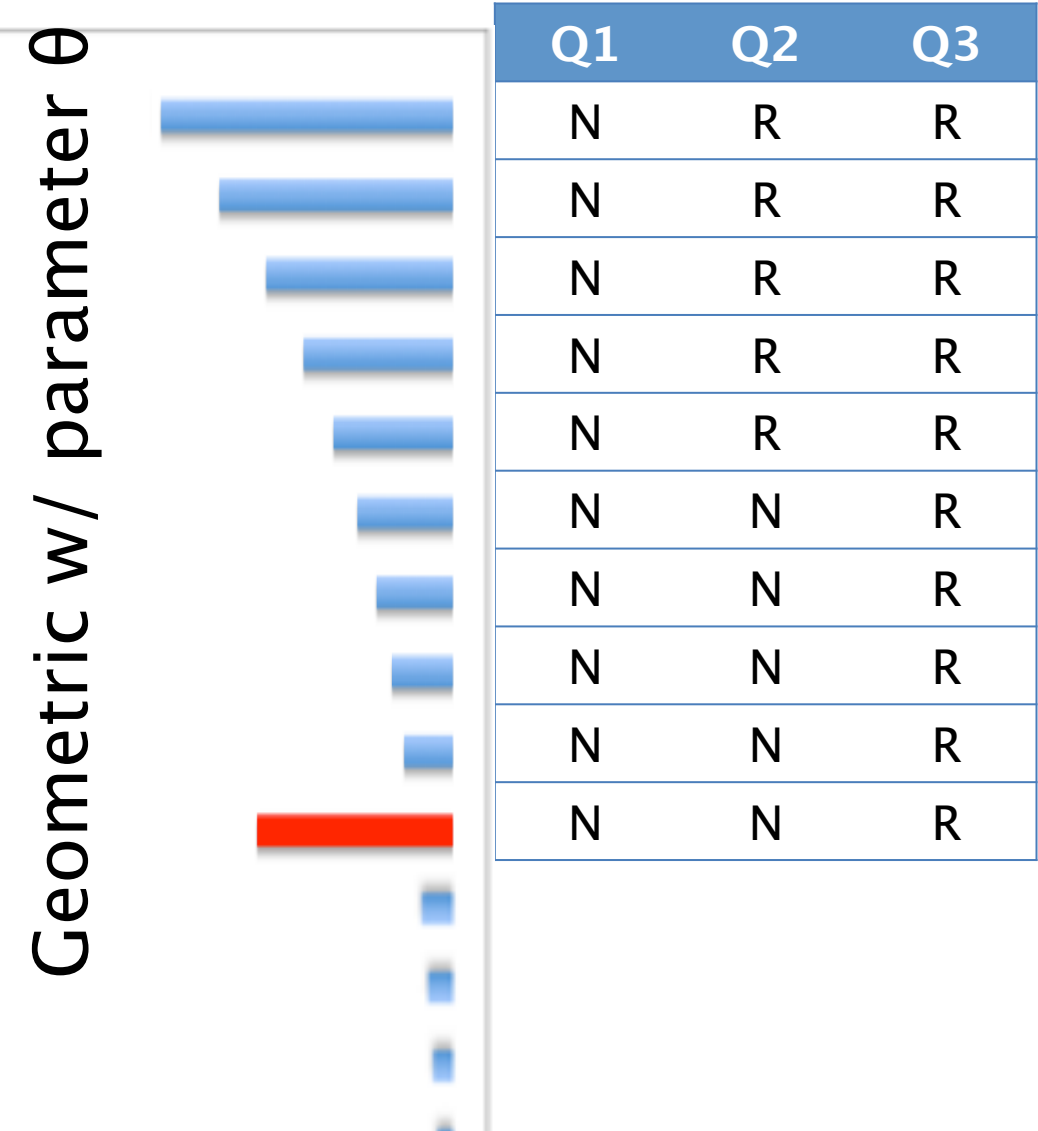
- Assumption: stopping positions in each list are independent

$$P(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_K) = P(r_1)P(r_2)\dots P(r_K)$$

- Use geometric distribution (RBP) to model the stopping and reformulation behavior

$$P(r_i = r) = (1 - \vartheta)\vartheta^{r-1}$$

# Expected Global Utility



# Existing measures

- Session DCG [Järvelin et al ECIR 2008]  
The user steps down the ranked list until rank  $k$  and reformulates [**Deterministic; no early abandonment**]
- Expected global utility [Yang and Lad ICTIR 2009]  
The user steps down a ranked list of documents until a decision point and reformulates [**Stochastic; no early abandonment**]

# Model-based measures

Probabilistic space of users following different paths

- $\Omega$  is the space of all paths
- $P(\omega)$  is the prob of a user following a path  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$
- $M_\omega$  is a measure over a path  $\omega$

$$\text{es}M = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} P(\omega) M_\omega$$

# Probability of a path

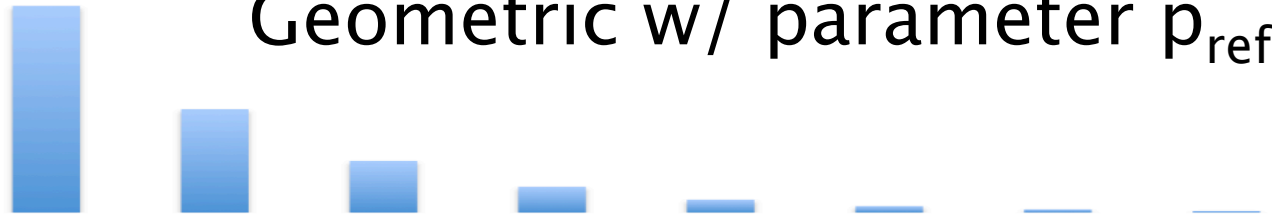
Q1	Q2	Q3
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
...	...	...

Probability of abandoning at  
reform 2

X

Probability of reformulating  
at rank 3

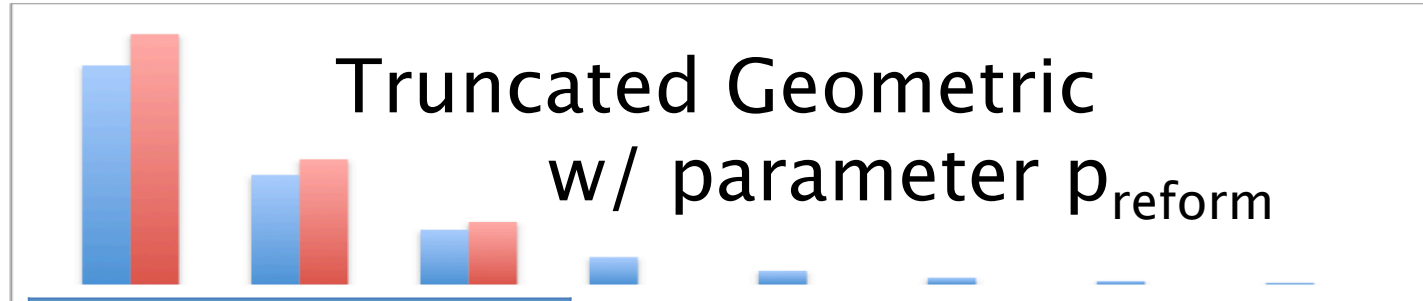
# Geometric w/ parameter $p_{\text{reform}}$



Q1	Q2	Q3
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
...	...	...

(1)

Probability  
of abandoning  
the session at  
reformulation  $i$

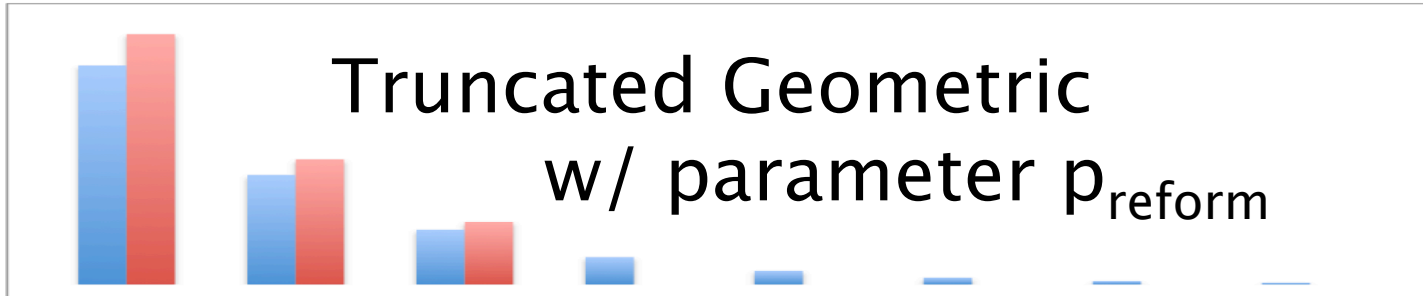


Q1	Q2	Q3
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
...	...	...

(1)

Probability  
of abandoning  
the session at  
reformulation  $i$

Geometric w/ parameter  $p_{\text{down}}$



Q1	Q2	Q3
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	R	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
N	N	R
...	...	...

(2) Probability  
of reformulating  
at rank  $j$

# Existing measures

- Session DCG [Järvelin et al ECIR 2008]  
The user steps down the ranked list until rank  $k$  and reformulates [**Deterministic; no early abandonment**]
- Expected global utility [Yang and Lad ICTIR 2009]  
The user steps down a ranked list of documents until a decision point and reformulates [**Stochastic; no early abandonment**]
- Expected session measures [Kanoulas et al. SIGIR 2011]  
The user steps down a ranked list of documents until a decision point and either abandons the query or reformulates [**Stochastic; allows early abandonment**]

# Part 1: Evaluation Measures

- Evaluation measures
  1. Traditional evaluation measures
  2. Model-based measures
  3. Novelty and Diversity-based measures
  4. Session-based measures
- Evaluation of evaluation measures

# Meta-evaluation

- Evaluate how good evaluation measures are
  1. Evaluate the models based on query logs
  2. Compare with side-by-side
  3. Compare their discriminative power
  4. Compare their informativeness

# 1. Query-log evaluation of models

## A Comparative Study of Click Models for Web Search

Artem Grotov, Aleksandr Chuklin\*, Ilya Markov  
Luka Stout, Finde Xumara, and Maarten de Rijke

- **Log-likelihood**
  - how well a model approximates observed data
- **Perplexity**
  - how surprised a model is to see a click at rank  $r$  in a session  $s$
- **Correlation with click-metrics**

# 1. Query-log evaluation of models

## Expected Reciprocal Rank for Graded Relevance

Olivier Chapelle  
Yahoo! Labs  
Santa Clara, CA  
chap@yahoo-inc.com

Ya Zhang  
Yahoo! Labs  
Sunnyvale, CA  
yazhang@yahoo-inc.com

Donald Metzler  
Yahoo! Labs  
Santa Clara, CA  
metzler@yahoo-inc.com

Pierre Grinspan  
Google Inc  
San Bruno, CA  
pgrinspan@gmail.com

**Table 2: Correlation between click and editorial metrics. Top row: market 1; bottom row: market 2. Left column: depth 10; right column: depth 5.**

	DCG	NDCG	AP	RR	ERR
UCTR	0.028	-0.009	0.016	0.156	<b>0.214</b>
max RR	0.125	0.046	0.109	0.304	<b>0.393</b>
mean RR	0.147	0.063	0.129	0.333	<b>0.428</b>
min RR	0.162	0.076	0.142	0.352	<b>0.451</b>
PLC	0.138	0.057	0.121	0.321	<b>0.413</b>
SS	0.236	0.156	0.165	0.329	<b>0.384</b>

	DCG	NDCG	AP	RR	ERR
UCTR	0.131	0.108	0.225	0.238	<b>0.307</b>
max RR	0.197	0.199	0.348	0.366	<b>0.449</b>
mean RR	0.220	0.217	0.376	0.395	<b>0.480</b>
min RR	0.235	0.230	0.394	0.414	<b>0.500</b>
PLC	0.210	0.209	0.364	0.382	<b>0.466</b>
SS	0.357	0.361	0.402	0.415	<b>0.482</b>

	DCG	NDCG	AP	RR	ERR
UCTR	0.374	0.268	0.435	0.592	<b>0.664</b>
max RR	0.389	0.348	0.473	0.626	<b>0.700</b>
mean RR	0.410	0.347	0.479	0.642	<b>0.710</b>
min RR	0.423	0.346	0.479	0.649	<b>0.712</b>
PLC	0.399	0.347	0.480	0.635	<b>0.708</b>
SS	0.461	0.309	0.249	0.467	<b>0.501</b>

	DCG	NDCG	AP	RR	ERR
UCTR	0.298	0.215	0.335	0.356	<b>0.435</b>
max RR	0.319	0.253	0.369	0.407	<b>0.493</b>
mean RR	0.347	0.268	0.395	0.434	<b>0.515</b>
min RR	0.362	0.275	0.408	0.447	<b>0.524</b>
PLC	0.334	0.261	0.386	0.424	<b>0.507</b>
SS	0.427	0.378	0.373	0.402	<b>0.465</b>

# 2. Side-by-side

## Do User Preferences and Evaluation Measures Line Up?

Mark Sanderson, Monica Lestari Paramita, Paul Clough, Evangelos Kanoulas  
Department of Information Studies, University of Sheffield  
Regent Court, 211 Portobello St, Sheffield, S1 4DP, UK  
+44 114 22 22648  
m.sanderson@shef.ac.uk

- Side-by-side
  - Predict choice

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Coogee Beach is a great place to eat, surf and swim. Visitors and locals enjoy the great hospitality and exciting night-life of the **Coogee Bay Hotel**, ...

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www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\_Review-g255060-d257492-Reviews-Coogee\_Beach-Sydney\_New\_South\_Wales.html - [Cached](#) - [Similar](#)

## 2. Side-by-side

Users	nDCG		P(10)		ERR	
Agree	160	65%	131	62%	164	66%
Rnk eql	21	9%	18	9%	21	9%
Disagree	66	27%	61	29%	62	25%
	<b>247</b>		<b>210</b>		<b>247</b>	

Users	$\alpha$ -nDCG		IA-PC	
Agree	50	64%	28	60%
Rnk eq	4	5%	1	2%
Disagree	24	31%	18	38%
	<b>78</b>		<b>47</b>	

# 3. Discriminative power

## **Evaluating Evaluation Metrics based on the Bootstrap**

Tetsuya Sakai  
Knowledge Media Laboratory, Toshiba Corporate R&D Center  
tetsuya.sakai@toshiba.co.jp

## **Evaluating Diversified Search Results Using Per-intent Graded Relevance**

Tetsuya Sakai  
Microsoft Research Asia, Beijing, P.R.C.  
tetsuyasakai@acm.org

Ruihua Song  
Microsoft Research Asia, Beijing, P.R.C.  
Song.Ruihua@microsoft.com

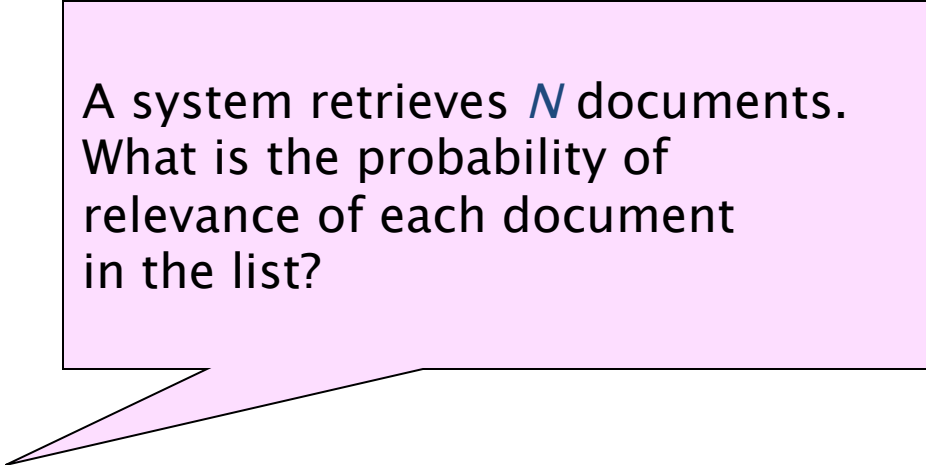
# 4. Informativeness

- A **ranked list of relevance** judgments defines a search engine performance
- How much does a **measure** reduce one's uncertainty in the underlying list of relevance?
  - Informative measures: large reduction in uncertainty
  - Non-informative measures: little or no reduction in uncertainty

## **The Maximum Entropy Method for Analyzing Retrieval Measures**

Javed A. Aslam\*, Emine Yilmaz, Virgiliu Pavlu  
College of Computer and Information Science  
Northeastern University  
360 Huntington Ave, #202 WWH  
Boston, MA 02115  
{jaa,emine,vip}@ccs.neu.edu

# Informativeness



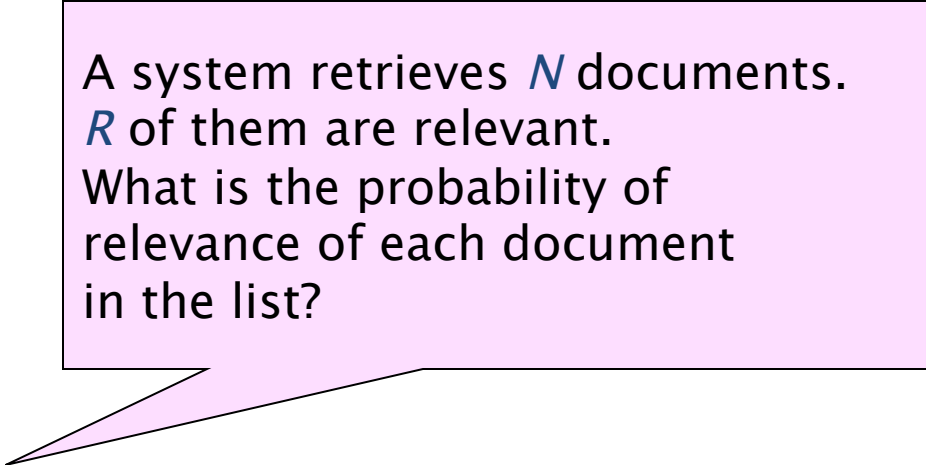
A system retrieves  $N$  documents.  
What is the probability of  
relevance of each document  
in the list?

# Informativeness

A system retrieves  $N$  documents.  
What is the probability of  
relevance of each document  
in the list?

No additional information.  
Most natural answer  $1/2$ .

# Informativeness



A system retrieves  $N$  documents.  
 $R$  of them are relevant.  
What is the probability of  
relevance of each document  
in the list?

# Informativeness

A system retrieves  $N$  documents.  
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What is the probability of  
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Most natural answer  $R/N$ .

# Informativeness

A system retrieves  $N$  documents.  
 $R$  of them are relevant.  
The average precision of the  
system is  $ap$ . What is the  
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# Informativeness

A system retrieves  $N$  documents.  
 $R$  of them are relevant.  
The average precision of the system is  $ap$ . What is the probability of relevance of each document in the list?

If  $ap$  is high, then top documents are more likely to be relevant. But how can we find the most reasonable distribution?

# The Maximum Entropy Method

- The most “reasonable” distribution satisfying the given constraints
- Principle of Maximal Ignorance
  - Pick distribution which is least predictable (**most random**) subject to **constraints**
- How to measure randomness? **Entropy**
- Thus, max entropy distribution subject to constraints

# Setup for AP Constraint

- Goal:
  - Given the average precision value (ap) of a list, infer probability of relevance of document at rank  $i$

- Maximum entropy setup:

- Maximize

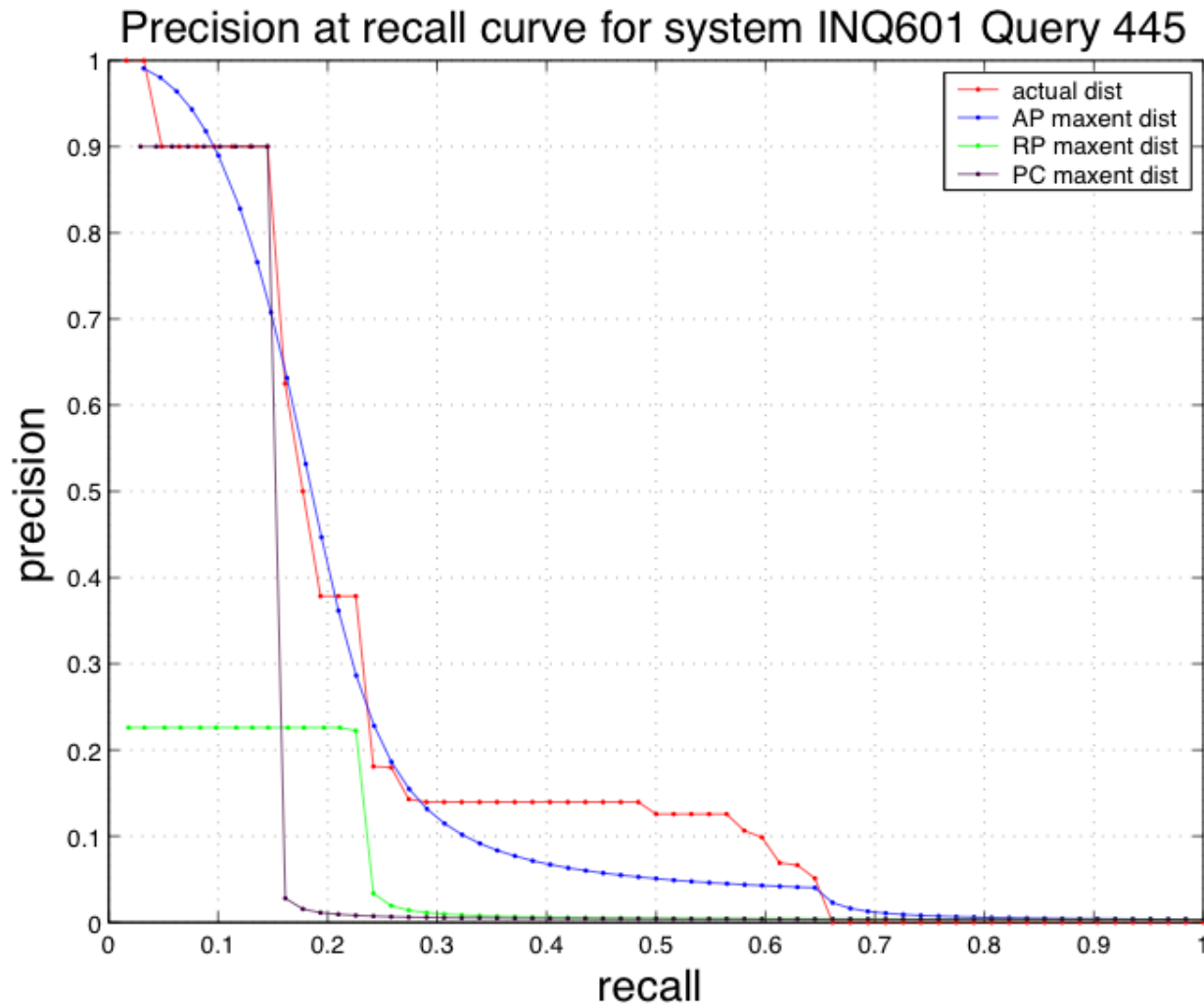
- $$\sum_{i=1}^N H(p_i)$$

- Subject to

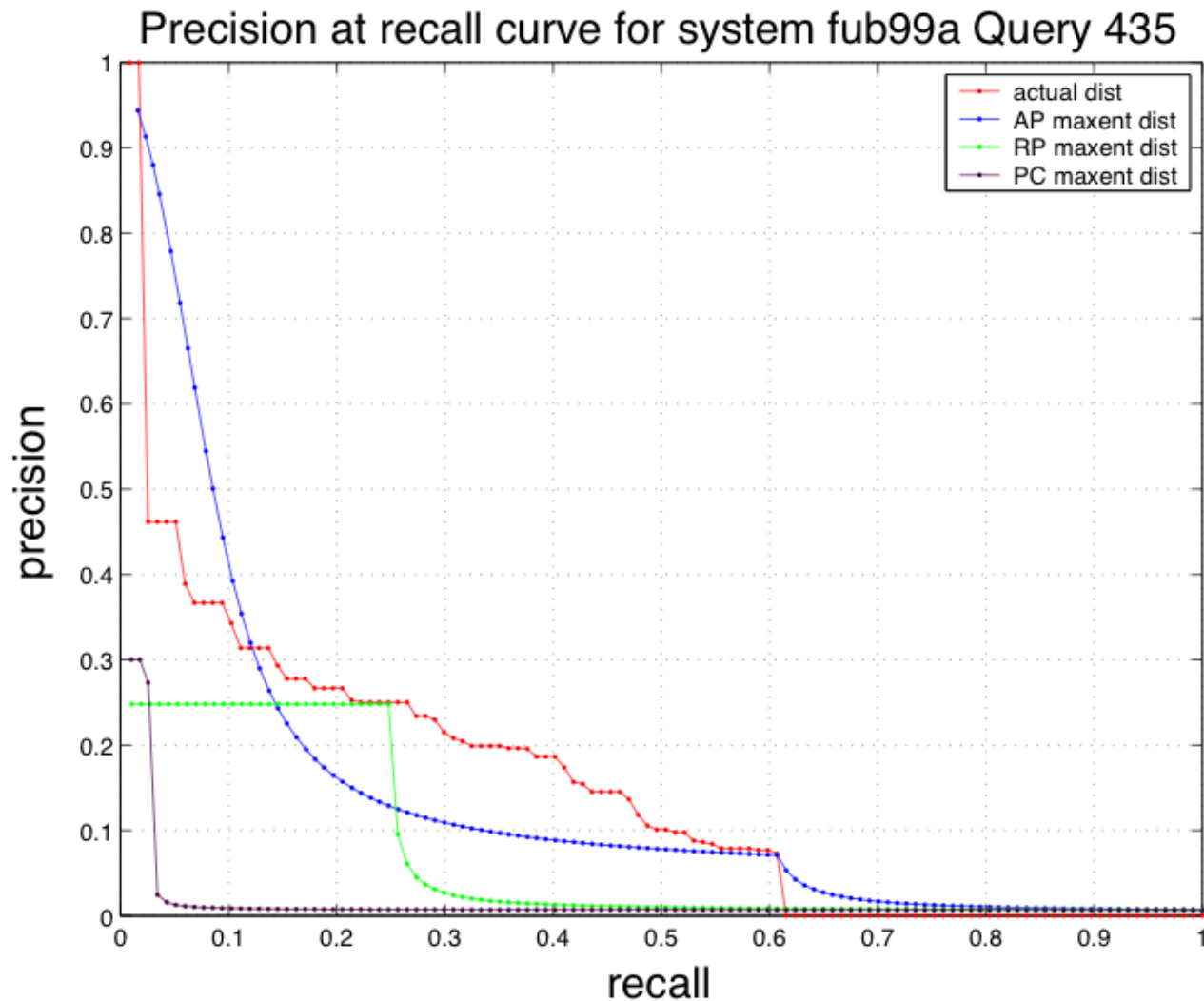
- $$E[AP] = \frac{1}{R} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{p_i}{i} \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \right) \right) = ap$$

- $$E[R] = \sum_{i=1}^N p_i = R$$

# Actual and Inferred P-R Curves



# Actual and Inferred P-R Curves



# Setup for Cascade and Intent-Aware Measures

		number of relevant documents					
		$r=0$	$r=1$	.	.	.	$r=N$
rank							
$i=1$		$T_{0,j}^1$	$T_{1,j}^1$	0	.	.	0
		$(p_j^2)$	$(1-p_j^2)$				
$i=2$		$T_{0,j}^2$	$T_{1,j}^2$	$T_{2,j}^2$	.	.	0
.		.	.	.	.	.	.
.		.	.	.	.	.	.
.		.	.	.	.	.	.
$i=N$		$T_{0,j}^N$	$T_{1,j}^N$	$T_{2,j}^N$	.	.	$T_{N,j}^N$

**Example :**

Given  $p_j^2$  is the probability of relevance value to the intent  $j$  for the document at rank  $i=2$ , the gain value from the previous rank would

increase by  $\dot{G}_j^2$  with a probability of  $p_j^2$ , or it would remain unchanged with a probability of  $1-p_j^2$ . These two alternatives affect the expected value of the measure at rank  $i=2$  as follows:

$$T_{1,j}^2 = p_j^2(T_{0,j}^1 + \dot{G}_j^2) + (1-p_j^2)T_{1,j}^1$$

Distribution of the expected value of the measure for the top  $N$  Documents

## On the Informativeness of Cascade and Intent-Aware Effectiveness Measures

# Setup for Cascade and Intent-Aware Measures

$$\text{Maximize } \sum_{i=1}^N H(P^i)$$

Subject to:

1.  $\sum_{i=1}^N p^i = R_{ret}$
2.  $T_r^i = p^i [T_{r-1}^{i-1} + \frac{(1-\alpha)^{r-1}}{i}] + (1-p^i)T_r^{i-1} = ERR_{ret}$   
 $T_r^i = 0 \quad \forall i < r$

(a) ERR

$$\text{Maximize } \sum_{i=1}^N H(P^i)$$

Subject to:

1.  $\sum_{i=1}^N p^i = R_{ret}$
2.  $T_r^i = p^i [T_{r-1}^{i-1} + (1-\alpha)^{r-1} \beta^{i-1}] + (1-p^i)T_r^{i-1} = RBP_{ret}$   
 $T_r^i = 0 \quad \forall i < r$

(b) RBP

$$\text{Maximize } \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^M H(p_j^i)$$

Subject to:

1.  $\forall 1 \leq j \leq M, \sum_{i=1}^N p_j^i = R_{ret}^j$
2.  $T_{r,j}^i = p_j^i [T_{r-1,j}^{i-1} + \frac{(1-\alpha)^{r-1}}{i}] + (1-p_j^i)T_{r,j}^{i-1}$   
 $T_{r,j}^i = 0 \quad \forall i < r$   
 $\frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M T_{R_{ret},j}^N = ERR\_IA_{ret}$

(a) ERR\_IA

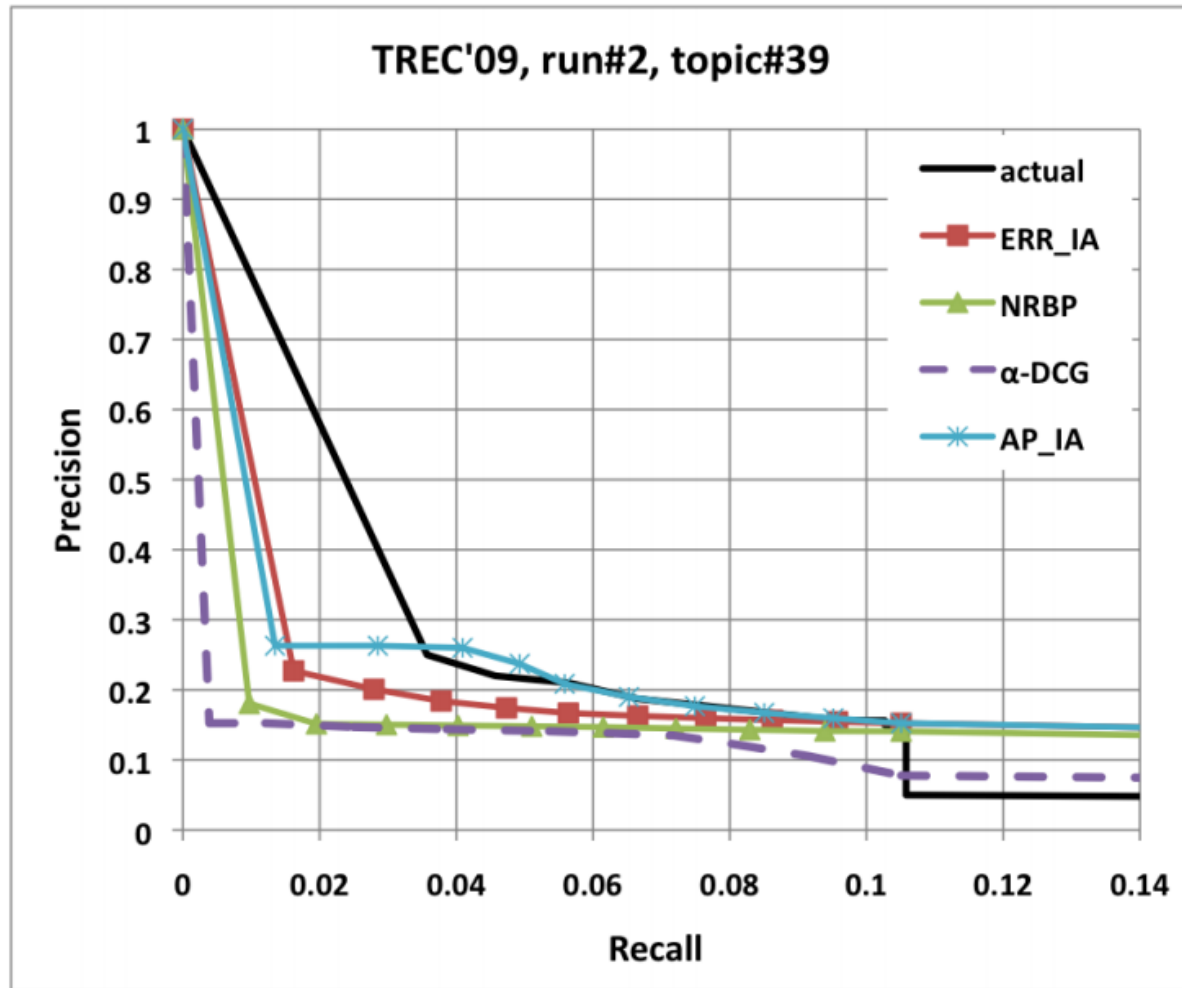
$$\text{Maximize } \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^M H(p_j^i)$$

Subject to:

1.  $\forall 1 \leq j \leq M, \sum_{i=1}^N p_j^i = R_{ret}^j$
2.  $T_{r,j}^i = p_j^i [T_{r-1,j}^{i-1} + \frac{(1-\alpha)^{r-1}}{\log_2 i}] + (1-p_j^i)T_{r,j}^{i-1}$   
 $T_{r,j}^i = 0 \quad \forall i < r$   
 $\frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M T_{R_{ret},j}^N = \alpha DCG_{ret}$

(c)  $\alpha$ -DCG

# Actual and Inferred P-R Curves



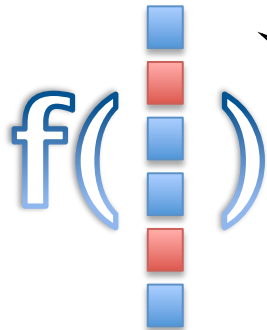
# Part 2. Relevance Judgments

- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus

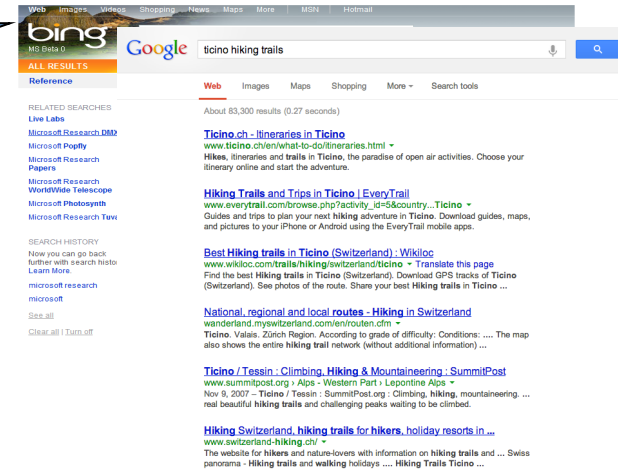


Results

Search Algorithms



Judges



**QUERY:** job search vancouver washington

**DESCRIPTION:** I would like to find web page that aggregate job opportunities in the IT industry in Vancouver, Washington.

# How many documents to judge?

- Many measures are based on
  - **Recall** : “*out of **all good** documents in the collection, how many did the algorithm find?*”
  - **all good documents** in the collection need to be identified

# Choosing Query–Document Pairs

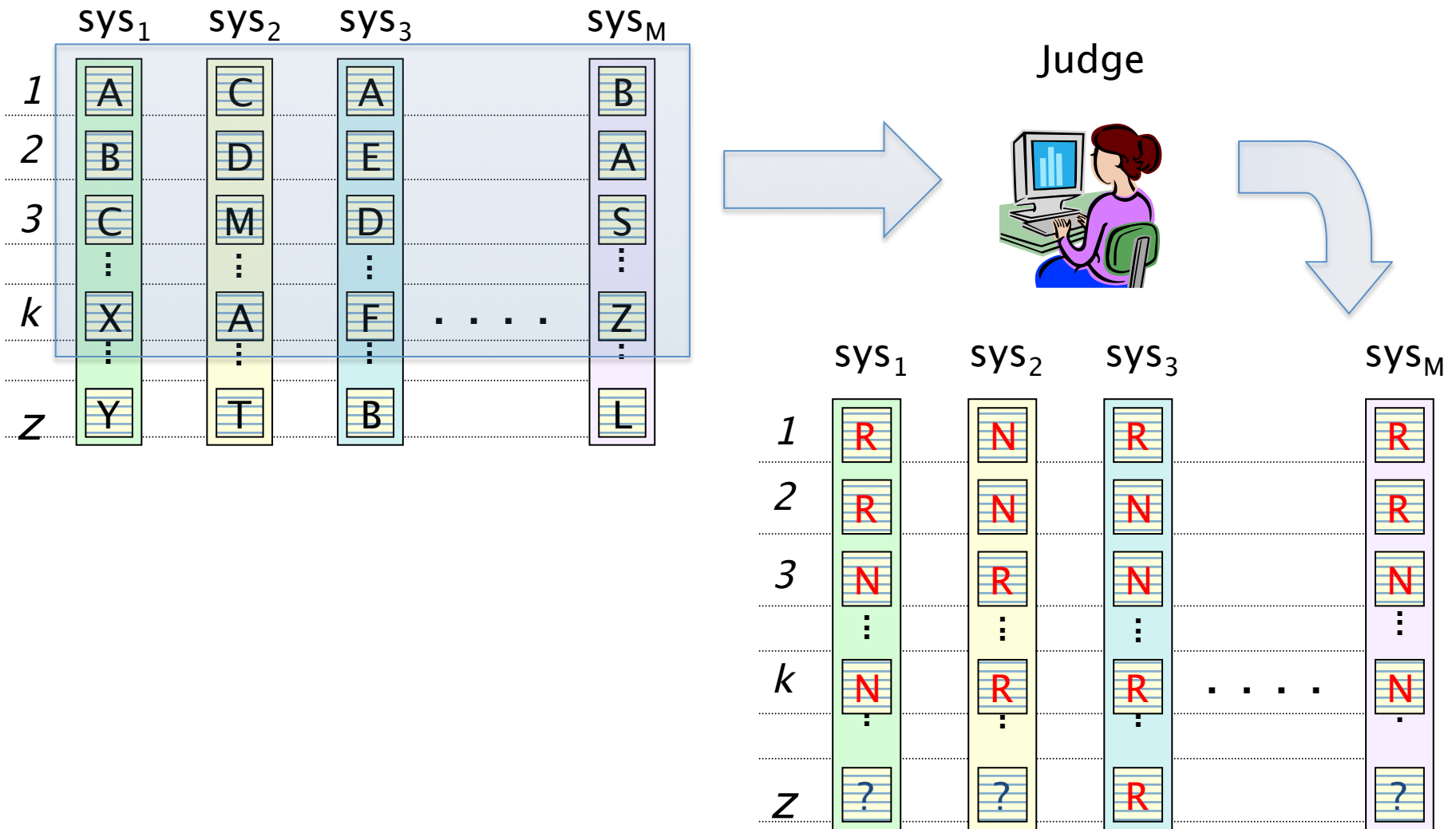
- Deterministic

1. Depth–k pooling (standard method)
2. Evaluating without judgments (automatic eval)
3. Finding relevance documents as quickly as possible
4. Nugget–based evaluation

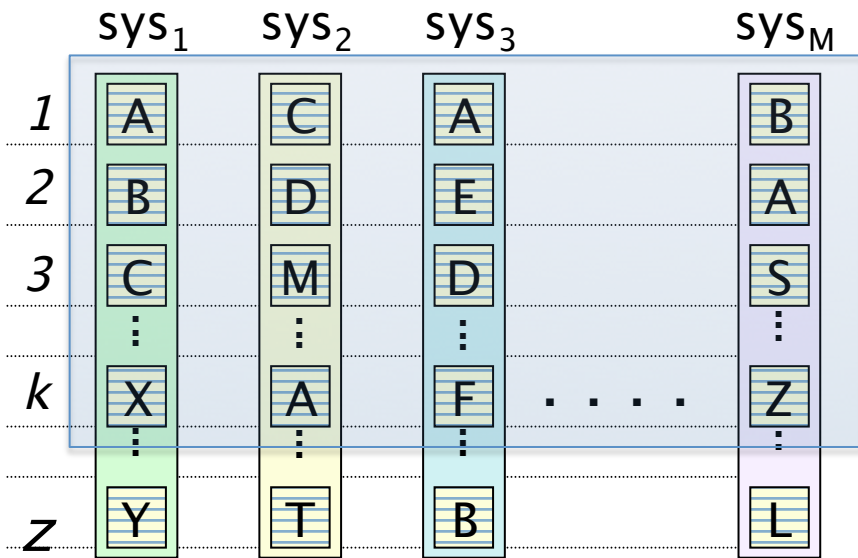
- Stochastic

5. Estimating measures
6. Inferring relevance judgments

# Depth-k pooling (TREC Standard Setup)

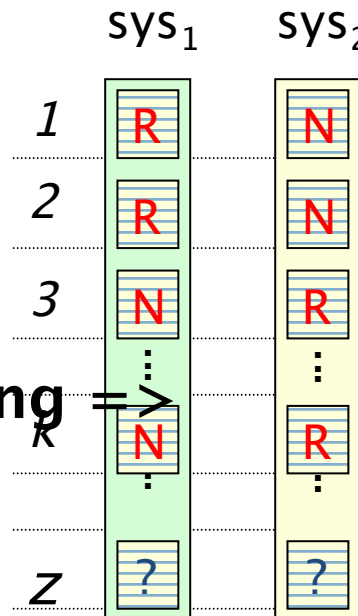


# Depth-k pooling (TREC Standard Setup)



## TREC 8 test collection

- 50 topics, depth-100 pooling => 86,830 judgments
- 30 sec per judgment => 724 hours => 18 weeks



Year	Total TREC Investment Costs (thousands \$2009)	
1991	-\$753	
1992	-\$713	
1993	-\$674	
1994	-\$1,522	
1995	-\$1,282	
1996	-\$2,129	
1997	-\$61	
1998	-\$1,739	
1999	-\$1,848	
2000	-\$1,844	
2001	-\$1,544	
2002	-\$2,173	
2003	-\$1,880	
2004	-\$1,634	
2005	-\$2,143	
2006	-\$1,788	
2007	-\$1,668	
2008	-\$1,982	
2009	-\$1,671	
Total	-\$29,046	

# Choosing Query–Document Pairs

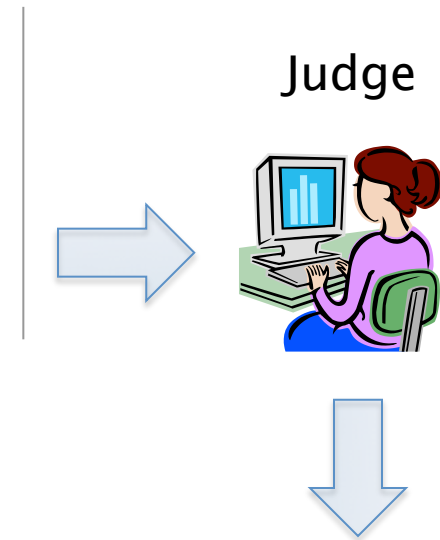
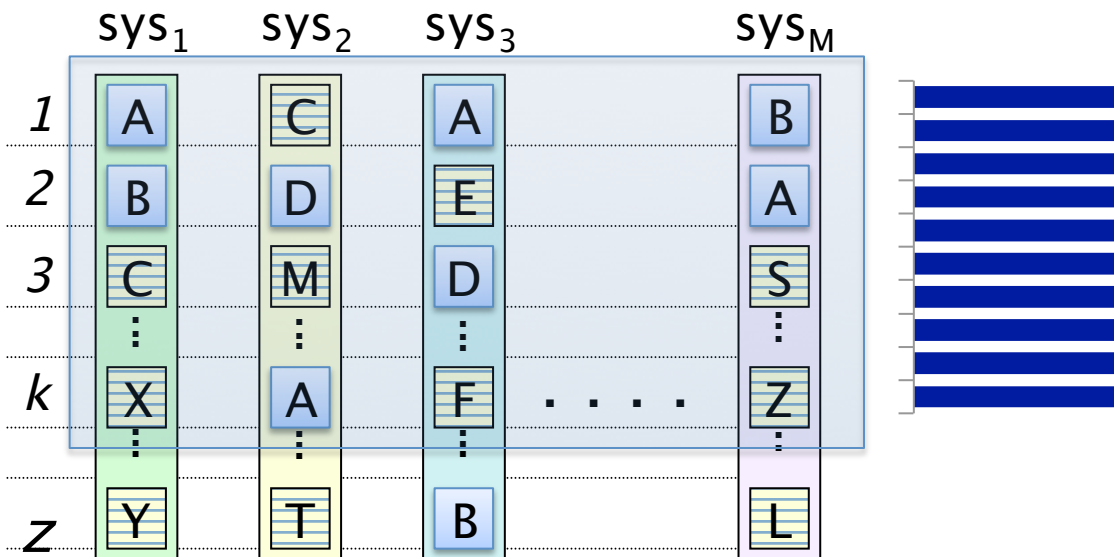
- Deterministic

1. Depth–k pooling (standard method)
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3. Finding relevance documents as quickly as possible
4. Nugget–based evaluation

- Stochastic

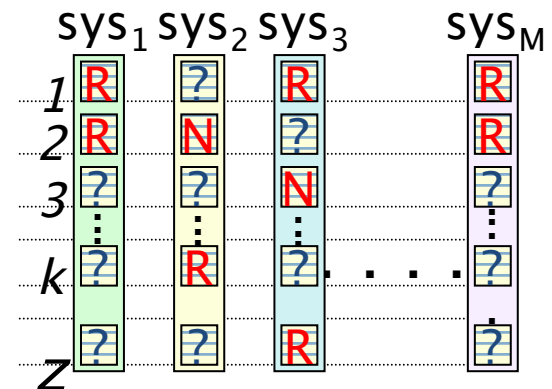
5. Sampling and Estimating measures
6. Sampling and Inferring relevance judgments

# Uniform random sampling



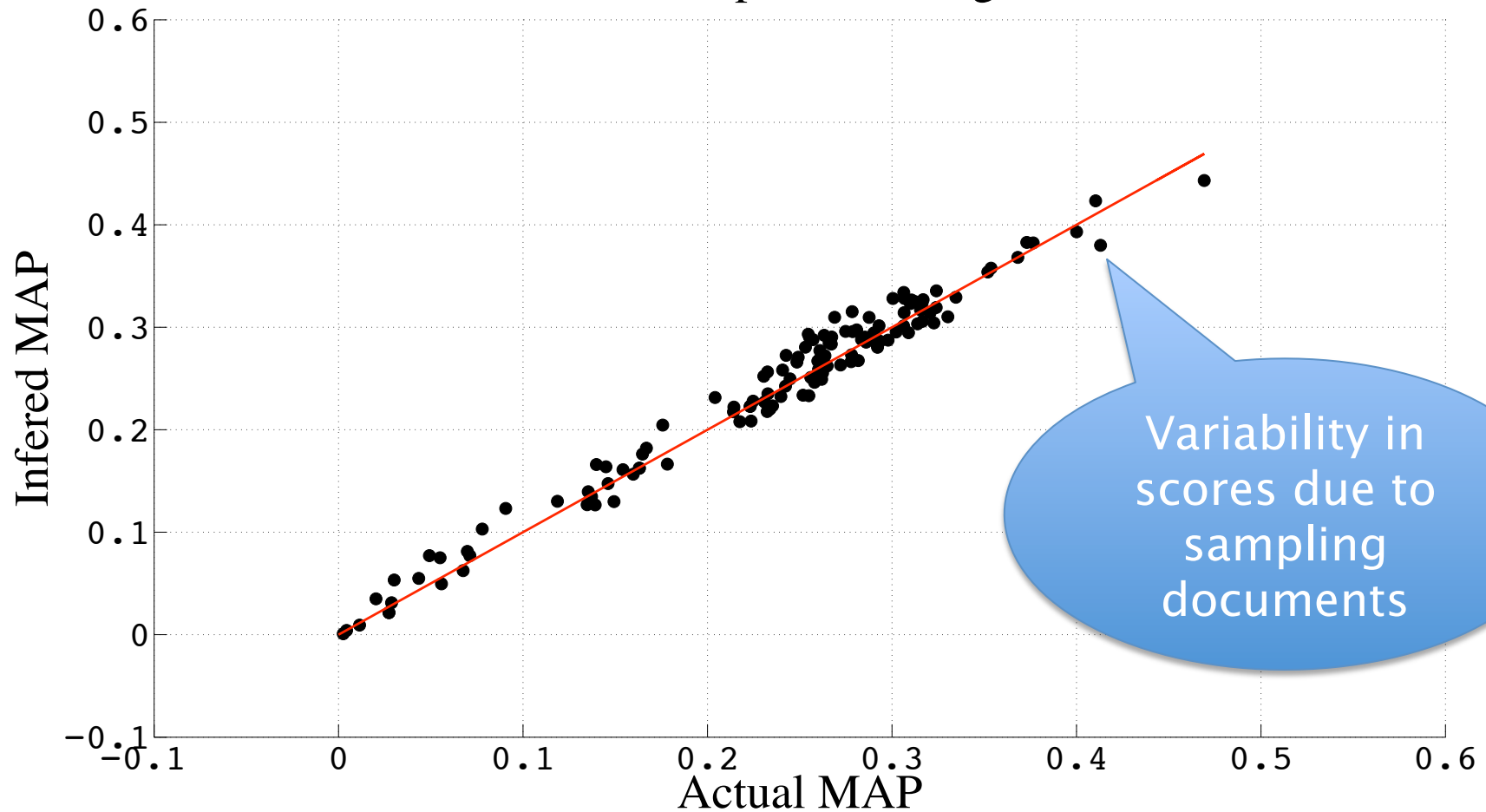
## Inferred AP : Estimating Average Precision with Incomplete Judgments

Emine Yilmaz, Javed A. Aslam\*  
 College of Computer and Information Science  
 Northeastern University  
 360 Huntington Ave, #202 WWH  
 Boston, MA 02115  
 {emine, jaa}@ccs.neu.edu



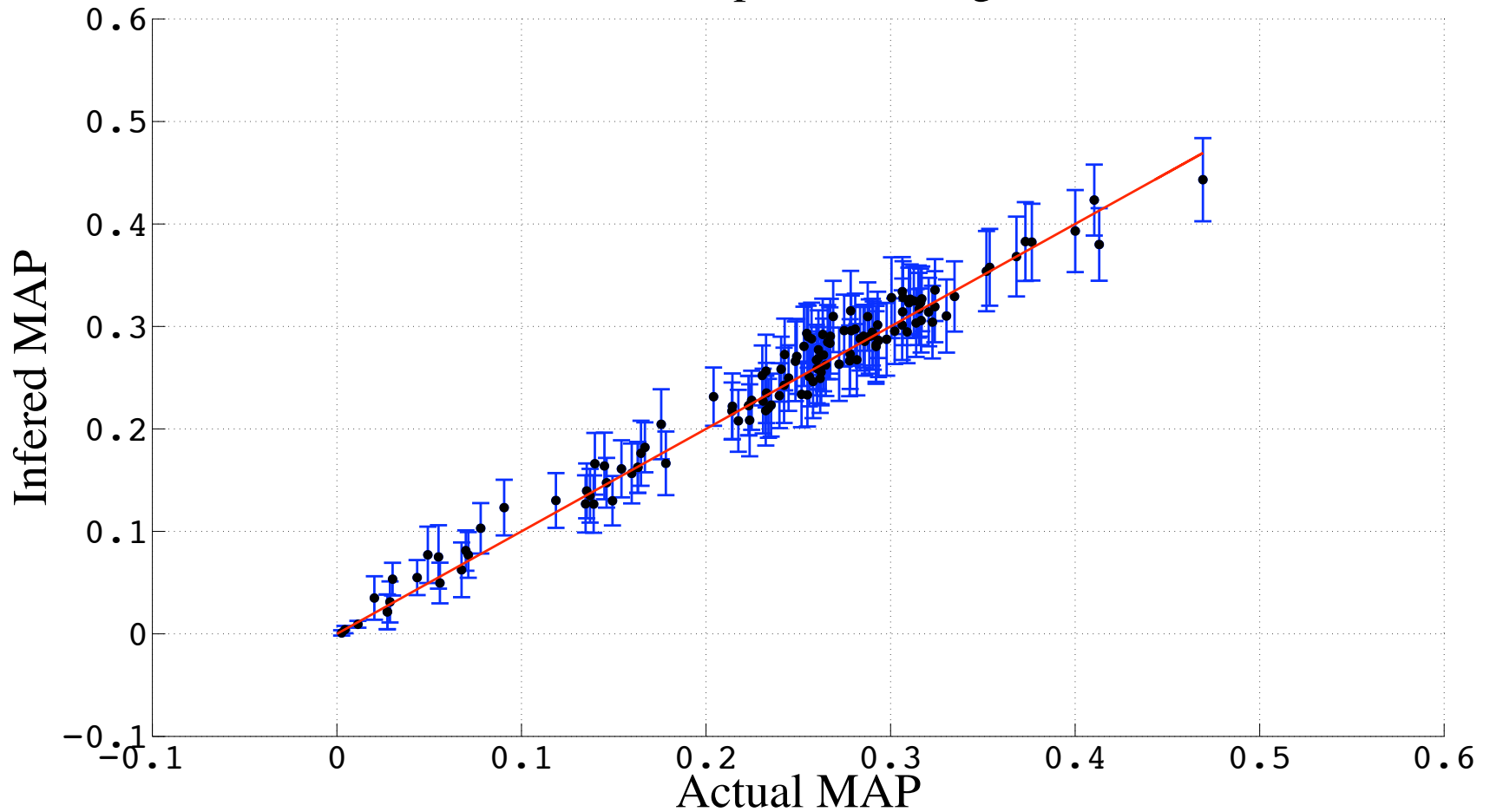
# Inferred Measures

TREC 8, Sample Percentage = 10%

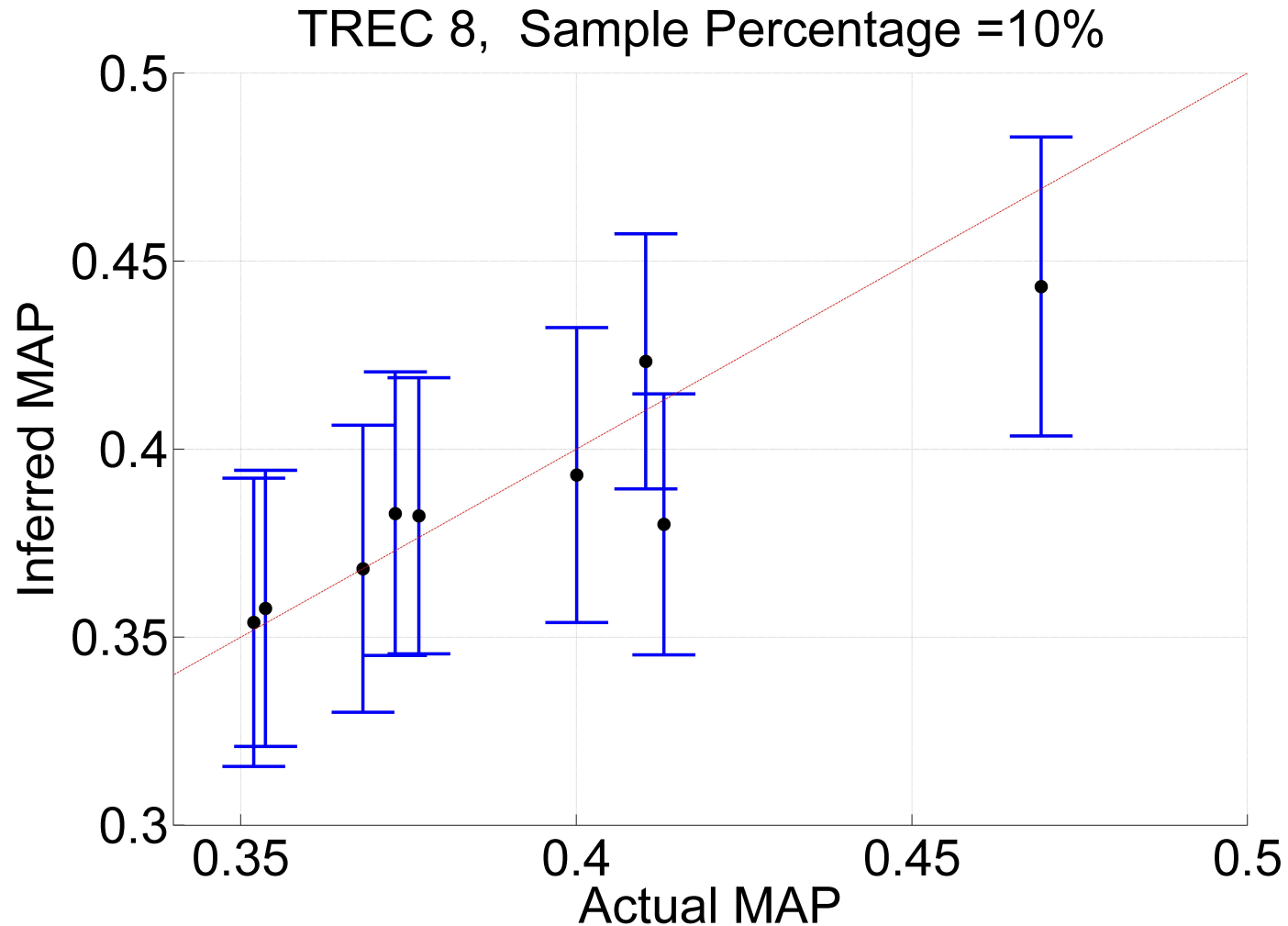


# Confidence Intervals for Inferred Measures

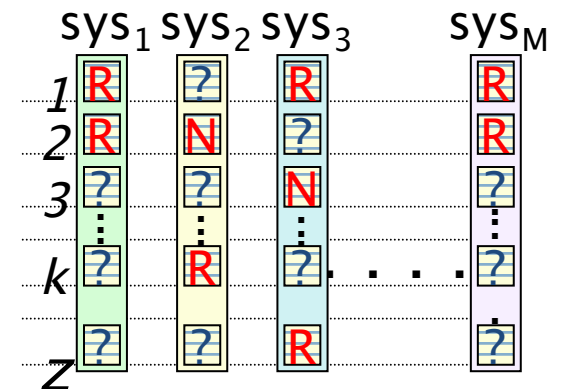
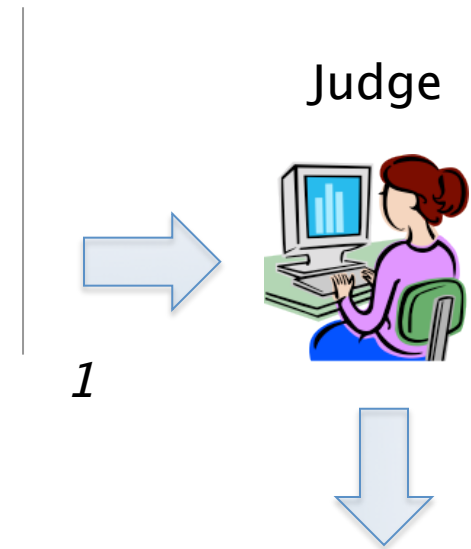
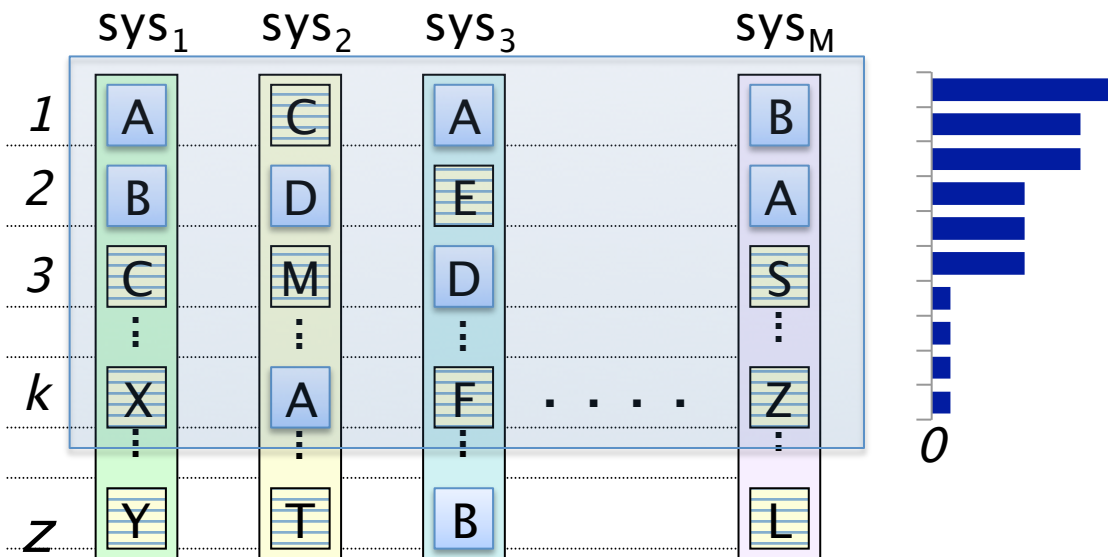
TREC 8, Sample Percentage = 10%



# Confidence Intervals for Inferred Measures



# Stratified Random Sampling



**A Simple and Efficient Sampling Method  
for Estimating AP and NDCG**

Emine Yilmaz\*  
eminey@microsoft.com

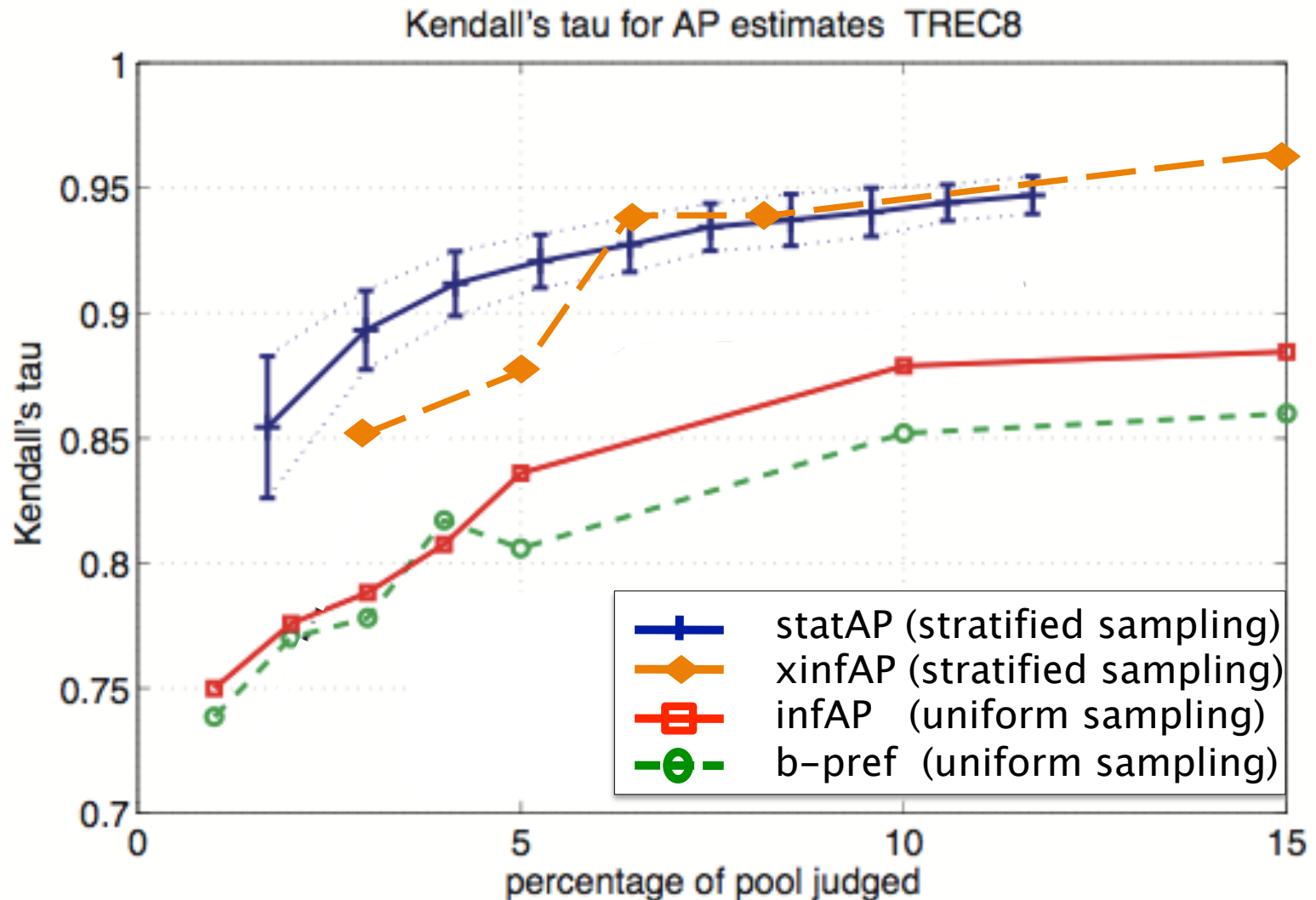
Evangelos Kanoulas†  
ekanou@ccs.neu.edu

Javed A. Aslam†\*  
jaa@ccs.neu.edu

\*Microsoft Research  
7 JJ Thomson Avenue  
Cambridge CB3 0FB, UK

†College of Computer and Information Science  
Northeastern University  
360 Huntington Ave, #202 WWH  
Boston, MA 02115

# Comparison of the measures: Kendall's Tau



# Choosing Query–Document Pairs

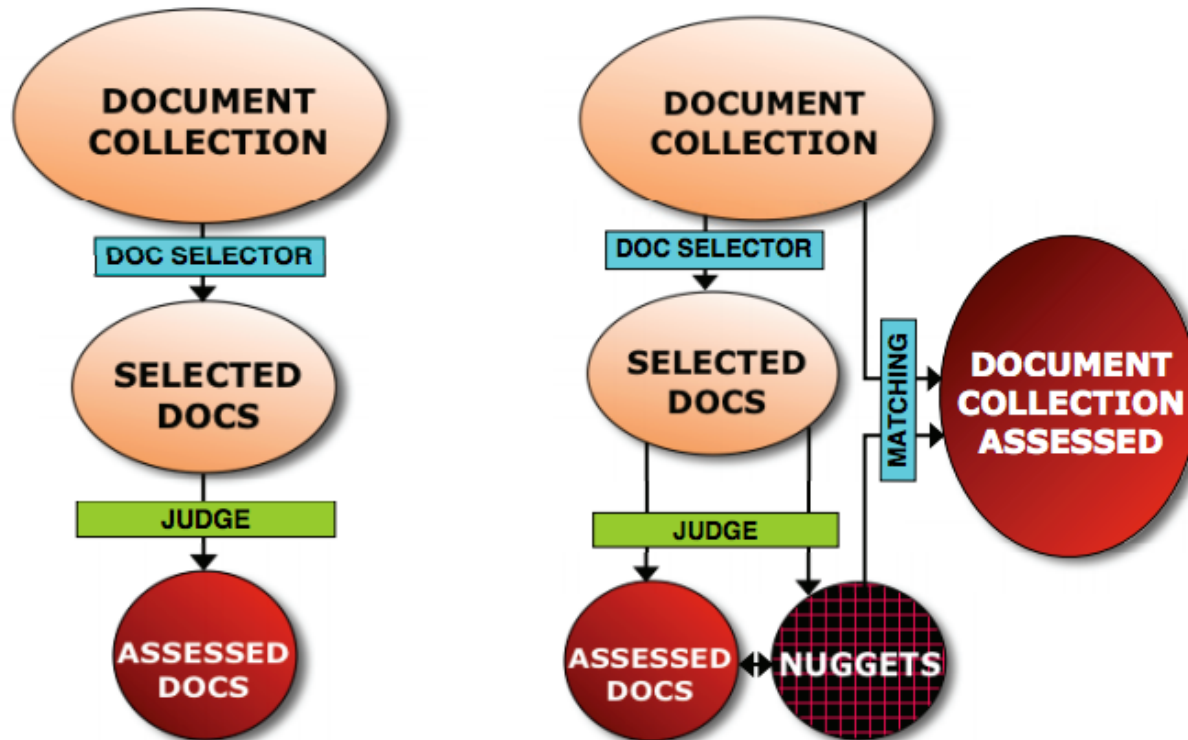
- Deterministic

1. Depth–k pooling (standard method)
2. Evaluating without judgments (automatic eval)
3. Finding relevance documents as quickly as possible
4. Nugget–based evaluation

- Stochastic

5. Sampling and Estimating measures
6. Sampling and Inferring relevance judgments

# Nugget-based Evaluation



## IR System Evaluation using Nugget-based Test Collections

Virgil Pavlu    Shahzad Rajput    Peter B. Golbus    Javed A. Aslam  
College of Computer and Information Science, Northeastern University  
{vip, rajput, pgolbus, jaa}@ccs.neu.edu\*

# Nugget-based Evaluation

Algorithm:

1. Sample documents (stratified sampling)
2. Extract **nuggets**
  - Smallest portion of text that constitutes relevant information
3. Infer relevance
  - Matching algorithm between nuggets and documents
  - Threshold on relevance

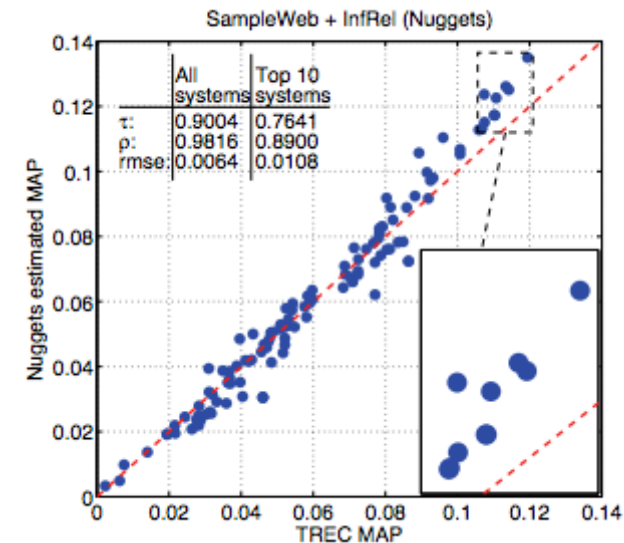
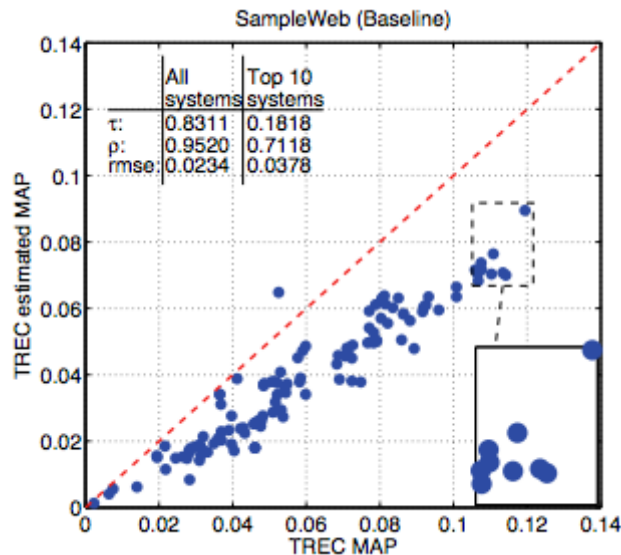
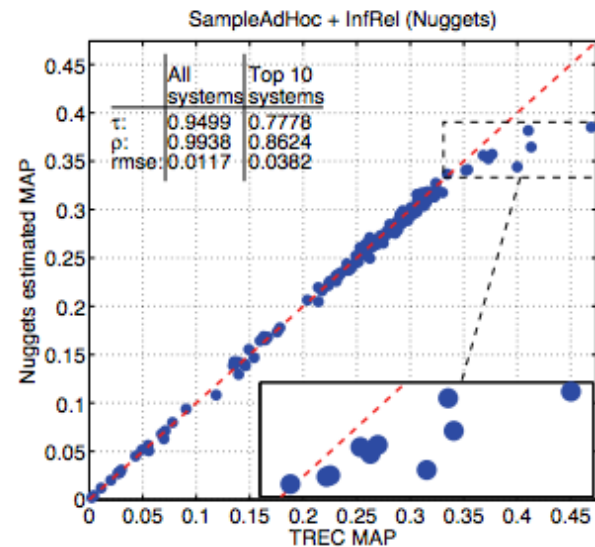
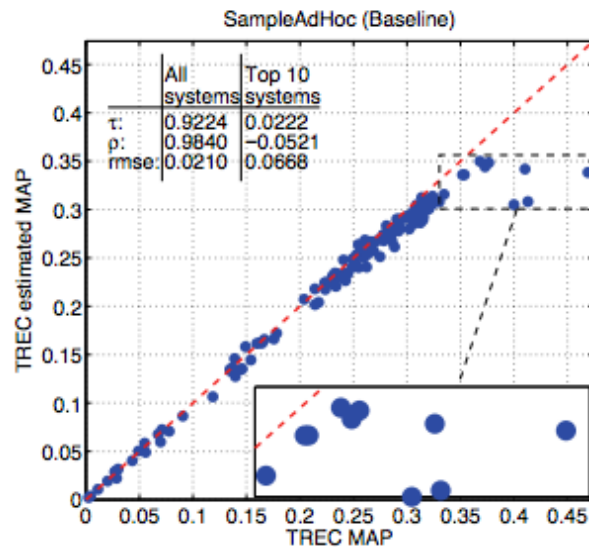


**TREC Temporal Summarization**

One Click Access

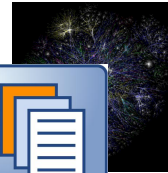
One Click Access evaluation at NTCIR

# Nugget-based Evaluation



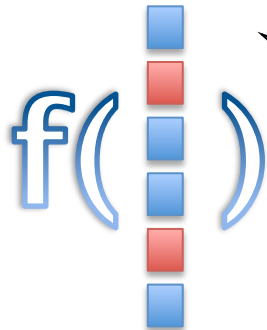
# Test Collection Construction

- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus

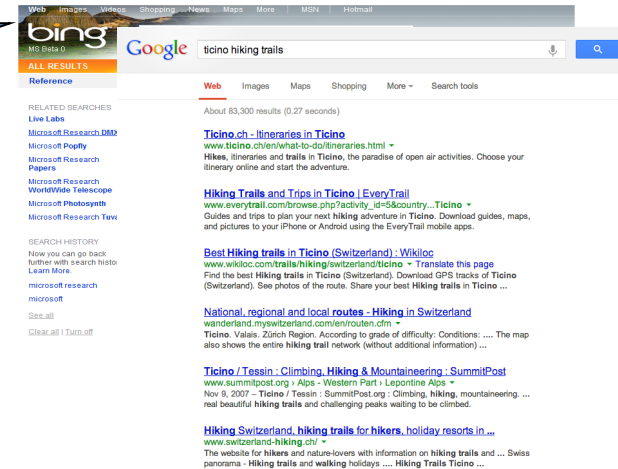


Results

Search Algorithms



Judges



**QUERY:** job search vancouver washington

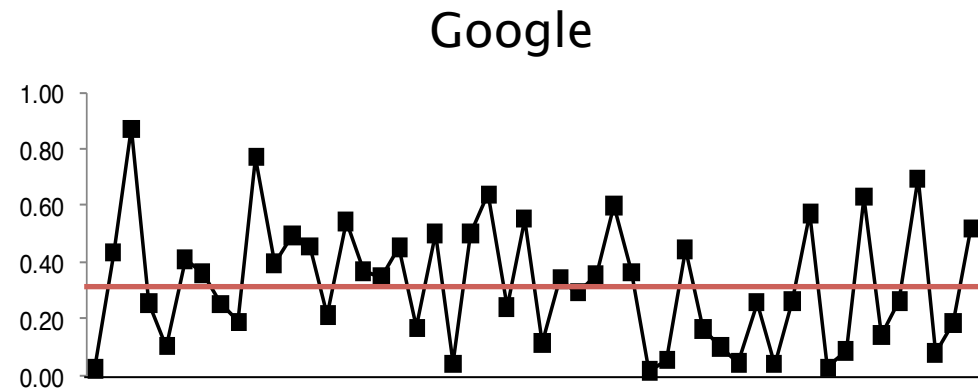
**DESCRIPTION:** I would like to find web page that aggregate job opportunities in the IT industry in Vancouver, Washington.

## 2. Comparative Evaluation

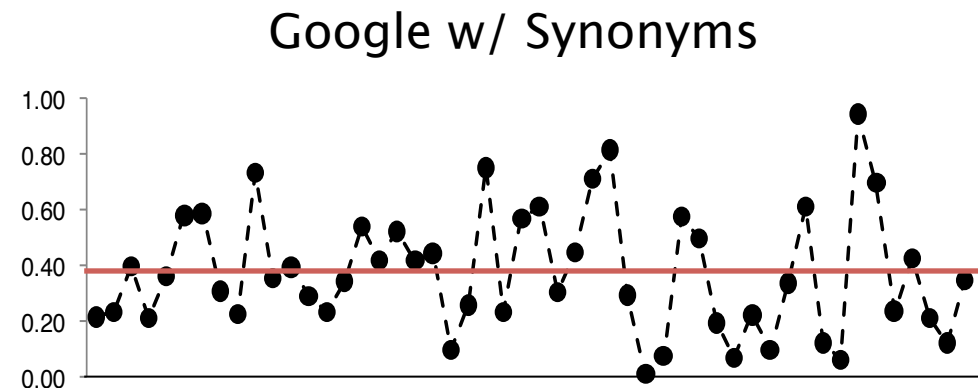
# Comparing Retrieval Systems

- **Hypothesis:** Expanding a short keyword query with synonyms will improve search engine effectiveness

- Google:
  - Mean NDCG = 0.324



- Google w/ Synonyms
  - Mean NDCG = 0.373

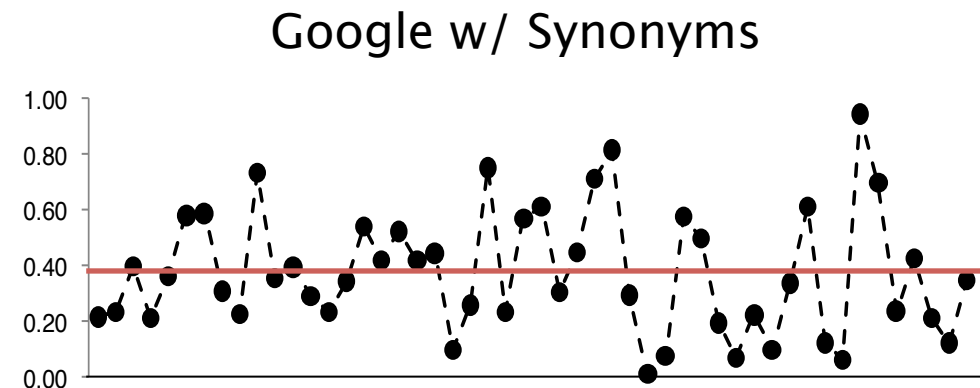
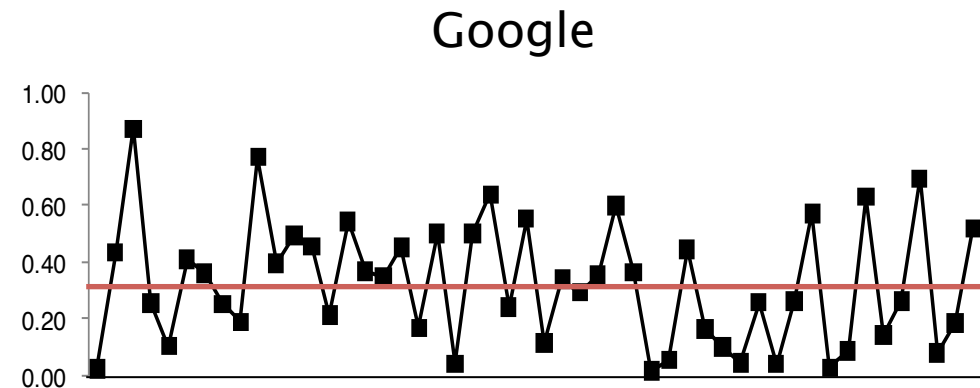


# So what?

- Do these results **support my hypothesis?**
- Is it possible that my results are just **random?**



statistical  
significance  
testing



# Hypotheses and Experiments

- Hypothesis:

- Using an SVM for classification will give better accuracy than using Naïve Bayes
- Expanding a short keyword query with synonyms will improve search engine effectiveness

- Experiment:

- Build a baseline system
- Modify it based on your hypothesis
- Try both systems on one or more data sets

# Statistical Significance Testing

- Two **hypotheses**, e.g.
  - $H_0: B-A = 0$
  - $H_a: B-A \neq 0$  or  $B-A > 0$
- System performance **measurements** over a sample of queries
- A **test statistic**  $T$  computed from those measurements
- The **distribution** of the test statistic under  $H_0$

# Statistical Significance Testing

- We want to prove the null hypothesis wrong
- A **p-value** is
  - the probability of sampling the test statistic  $T$  ...
  - ... from a distribution obtained by assuming  $H_0$  is true
    - If the p-value is low, conclude  $H_0$  is false

# What Are Tests Telling Us?

- Fisher: p-value is the likelihood of the data under  $H_0$ 
  - The p-value is a conclusion about this particular experiment only
  - Nothing more, nothing less
- Neyman–Pearson:  $p < 0.05$  means we can reject  $H_0$  as being unlikely to be true
  - p-values lead to inference about population
  - The p-value itself is not interesting; the inference is
  - Note that we do not accept that  $H_1$  is true!

# What Are Tests NOT Telling Us?

- NOT the probability of  $H_0$  is true
- NOT the probability that the results are due to chance
- NOT whether the experiment is reliable

# Commonly used tests

## A Comparison of Statistical Significance Tests for Information Retrieval Evaluation

Mark D. Smucker, James Allan, and Ben Carterette  
Center for Intelligent Information Retrieval  
Department of Computer Science  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
{smucker, allan, carteret}@cs.umass.edu

- Non-parametric
  - Sign test/binomial test
  - Wilcoxon signed rank test
- Parametric
  - Student's t-test
- Distribution-free
  - Randomization test
  - Bootstrap test

# Student's t-test

- Assumptions
  - follow normal distribution

- Statistic :  $t = \frac{\overline{B-A}}{\sigma_{B-A}} \cdot \sqrt{N}$

- t-test performs well even when the normality assumption is violated [Hull SIGIR93]



# Student's t-test

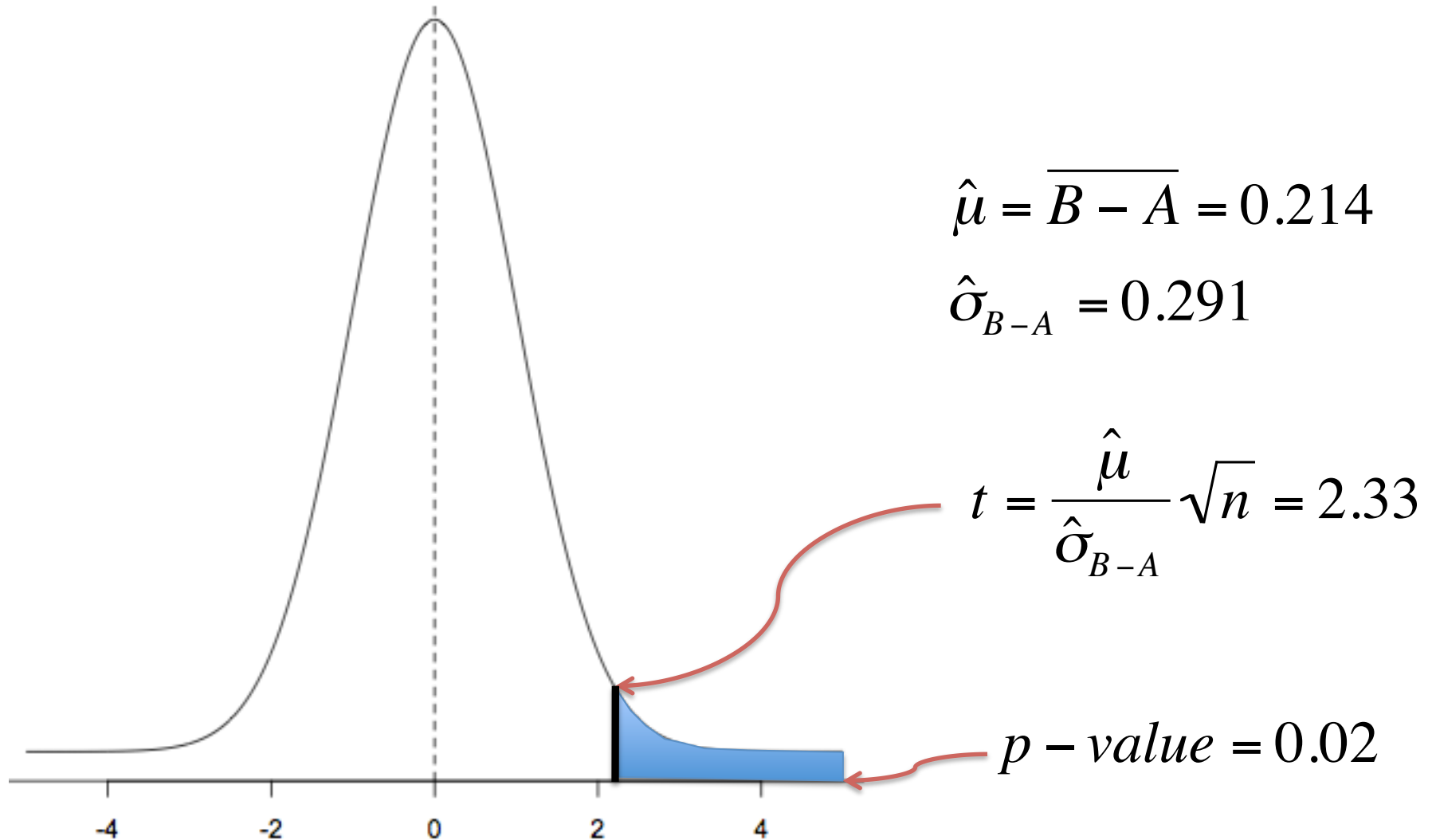
Query	A	B	B-A
1	.25	.35	+.10
2	.43	.84	+.41
3	.39	.15	-.24
4	.75	.75	0
5	.43	.68	+.25
6	.15	.85	+.70
7	.20	.80	+.60
8	.52	.50	-.02
9	.49	.58	+.09
10	.50	.75	+.25

$$\hat{\mu} = \overline{B - A} = 0.214$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{B-A} = 0.291$$

$$t = \frac{\hat{\mu}}{\hat{\sigma}_{B-A}} \sqrt{n} = 2.33$$

# Student's t-test



# Randomization test

- Loop for many times {
  - Load query scores for 2 systems
  - Randomly swap values per topic
  - Compute average for each system
  - Compute difference between averages
  - Add difference to array}
- Sort array
- If actual difference outside 95% differences in array
  - Two systems are significantly different

Query	A		B
1	.25		.35
2	.43	↔	.84
3	.39	↔	.15
4	.75	↔	.75
5	.43		.68
6	.15	↔	.85
7	.20	↔	.80
8	.52		.50
9	.49		.58
10	.50		.75

# Bootstrap test

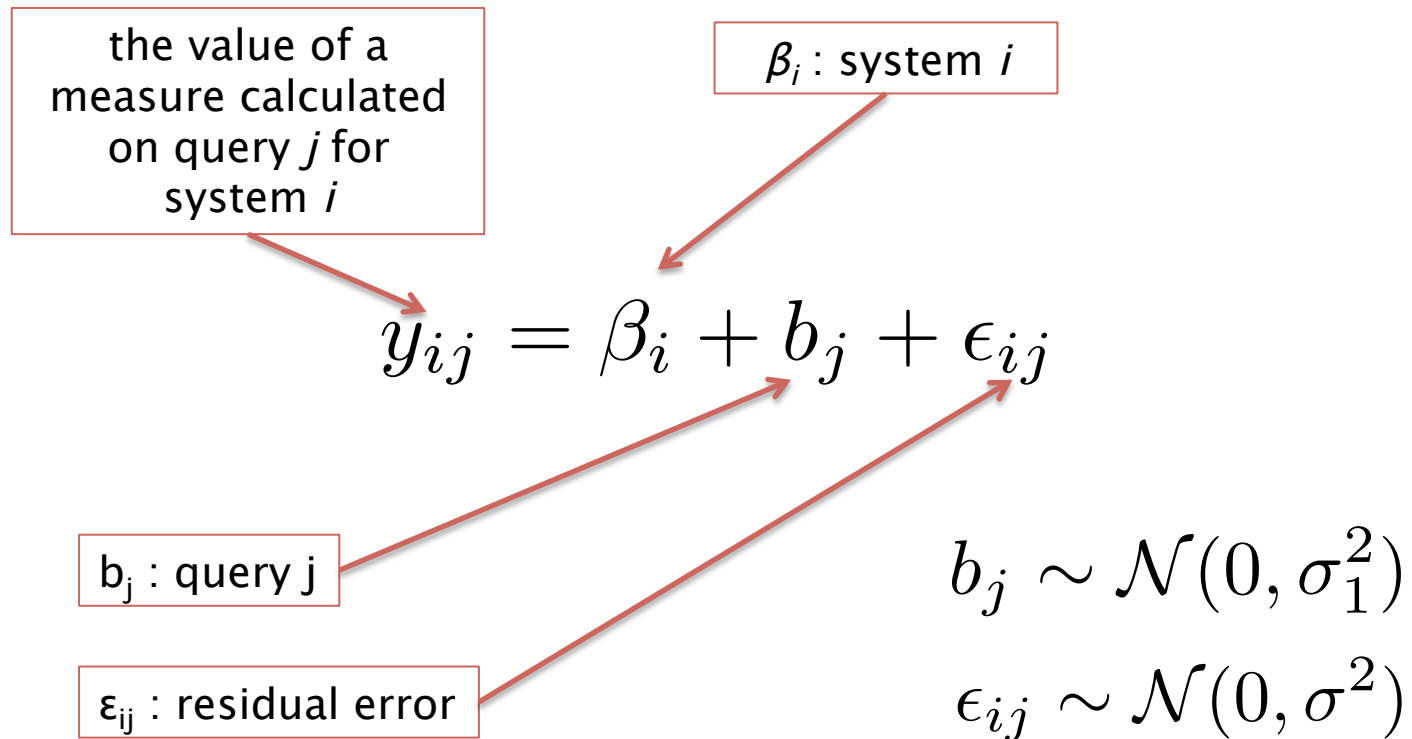
- Loop for many times {
  - Load topic scores for 2 systems
  - Randomly sample pair of scores w/ replacement
  - Compute average for each system
  - Compute difference between averages
  - Add difference to array}
- Sort array
- If actual difference outside 95% differences in array
  - Two systems are significantly different

# The Linear Model

- Statistical tests are classifier
  - Like classifiers, they are based on an underlying mode
  - Unlike classifiers, we cannot evaluate them directly
- The **t-test** is based on a **linear regression model**

# Mixed Effects Models

- T-test



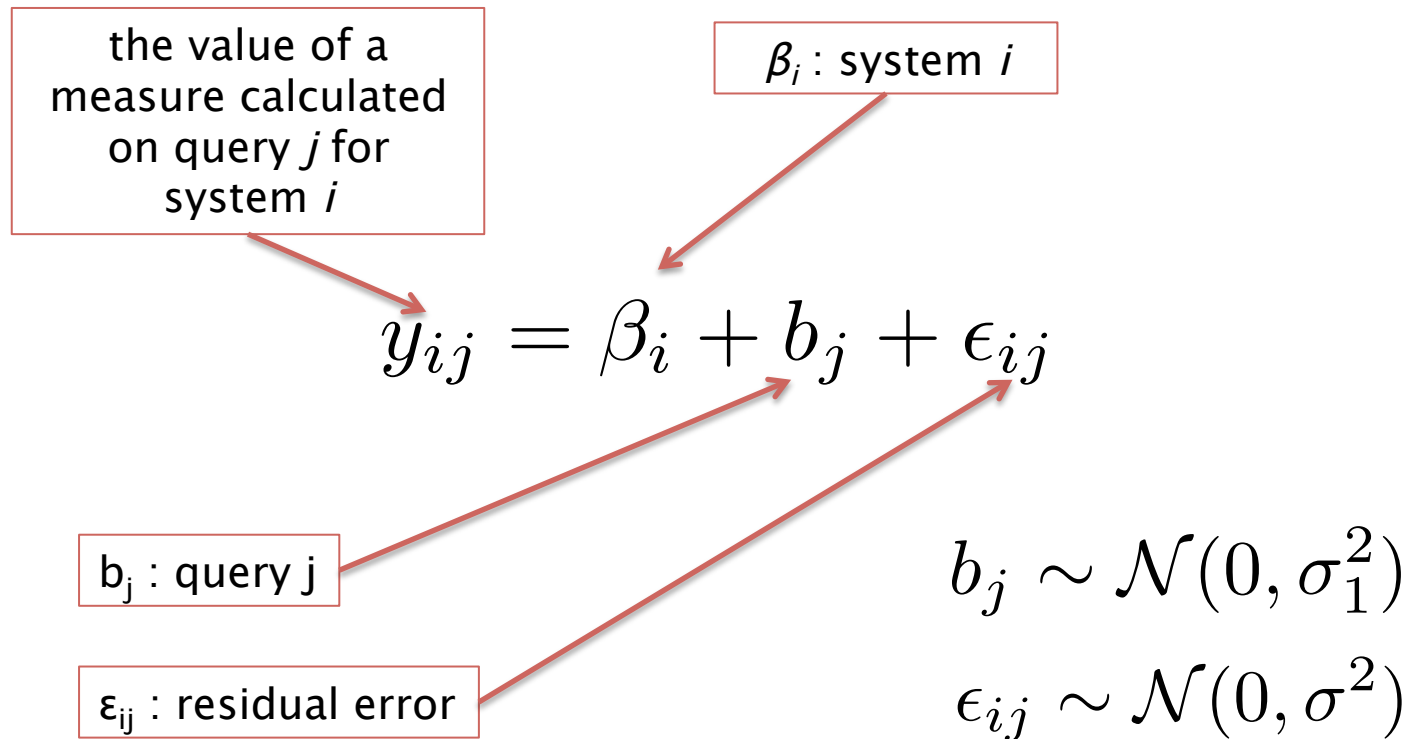
# Mixed Effects Models

- In the statistical programming environment **R**

```
lme(effectiveness ~ system, data=data, random=~1|query)
```

# Mixed Effects Models

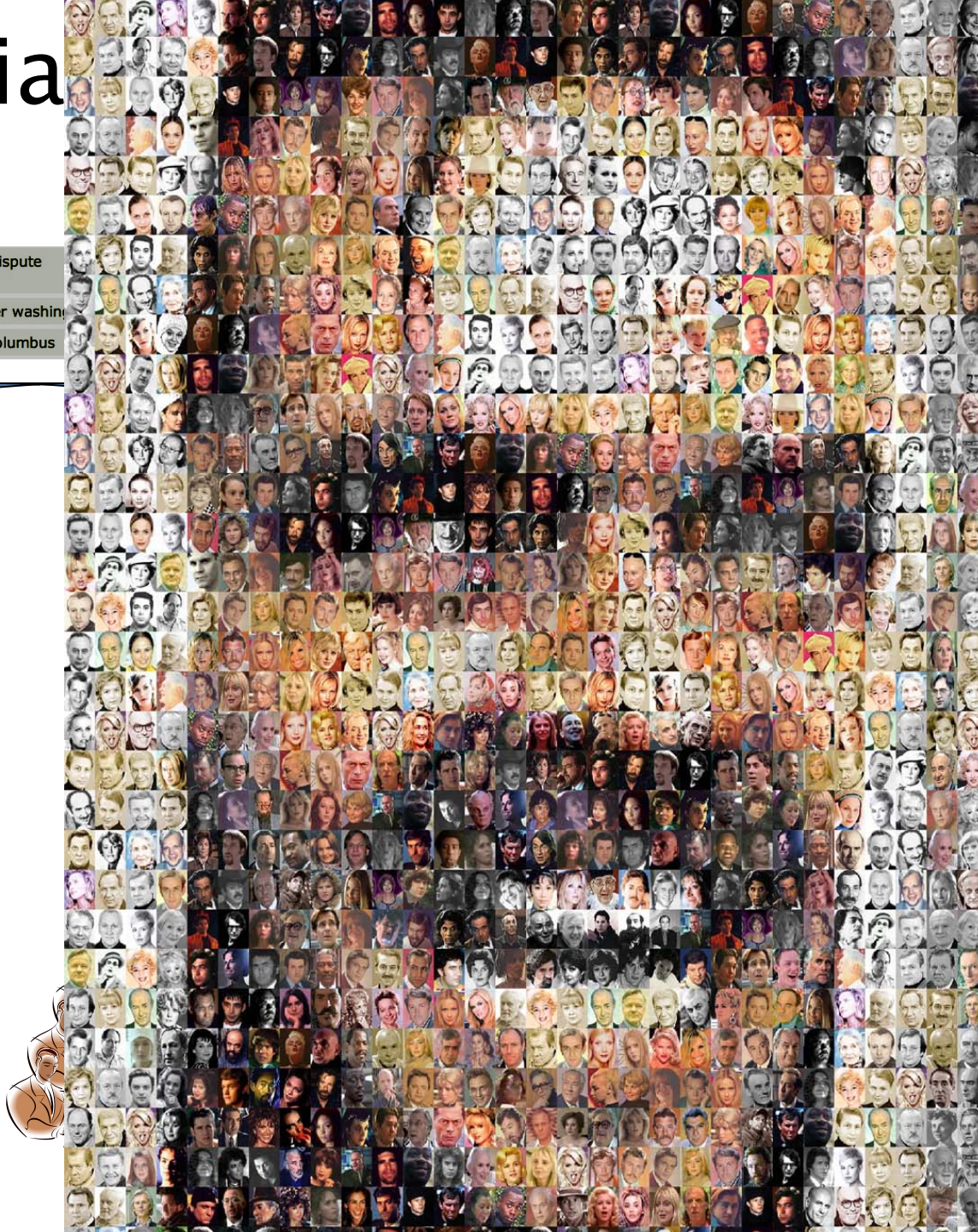
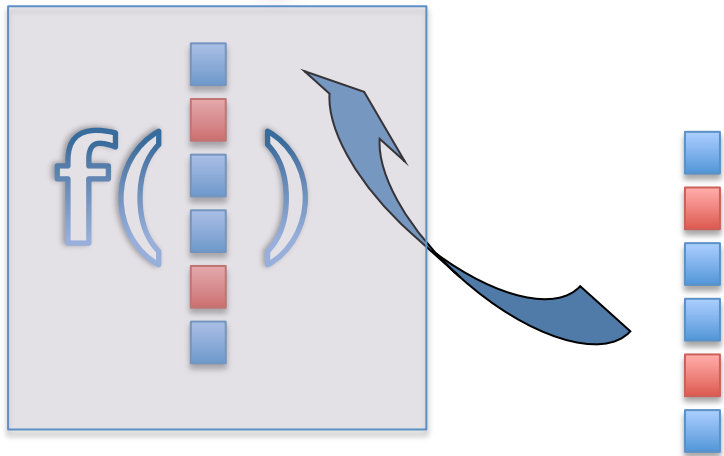
- T-test



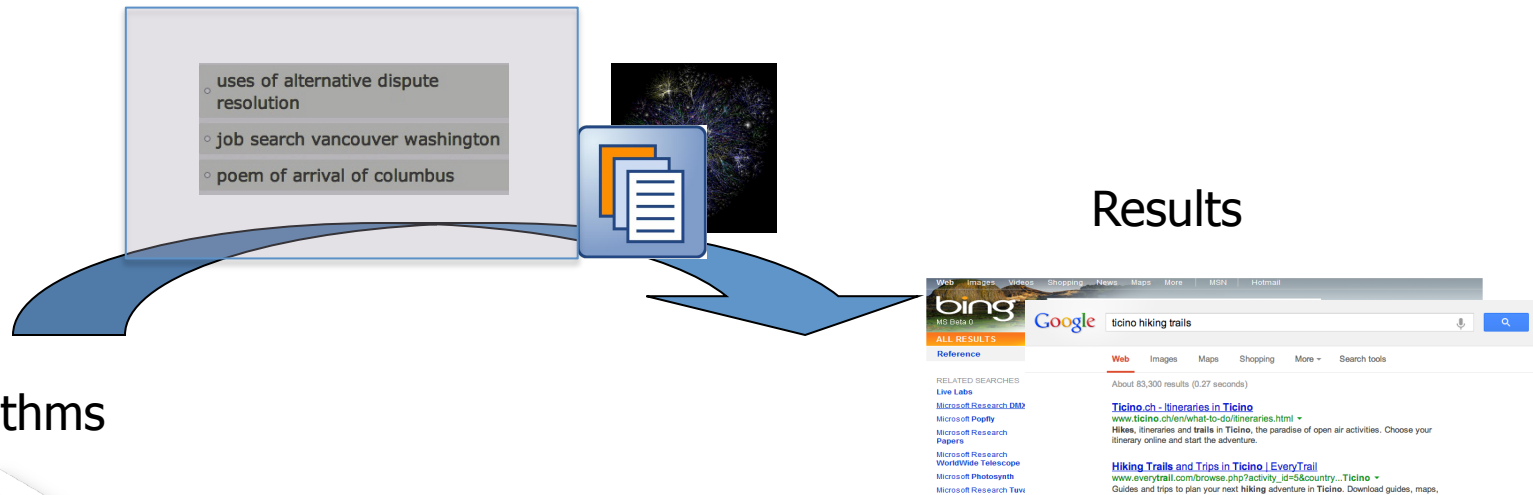
# Sources of Variation

- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus

Search Algorithms



# Sources of Variance in IR

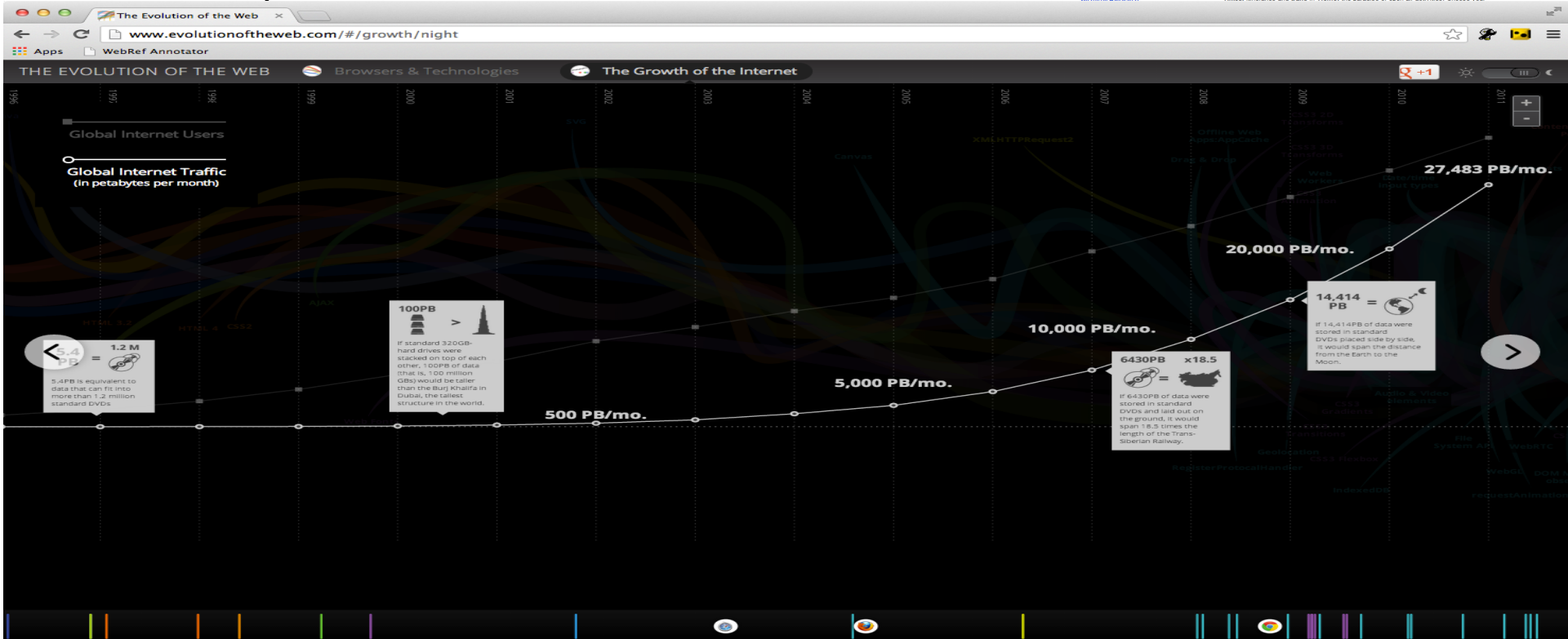


# Sources of Variance in IR

- uses of alternative dispute resolution
- job search vancouver washington
- poem of arrival of columbus

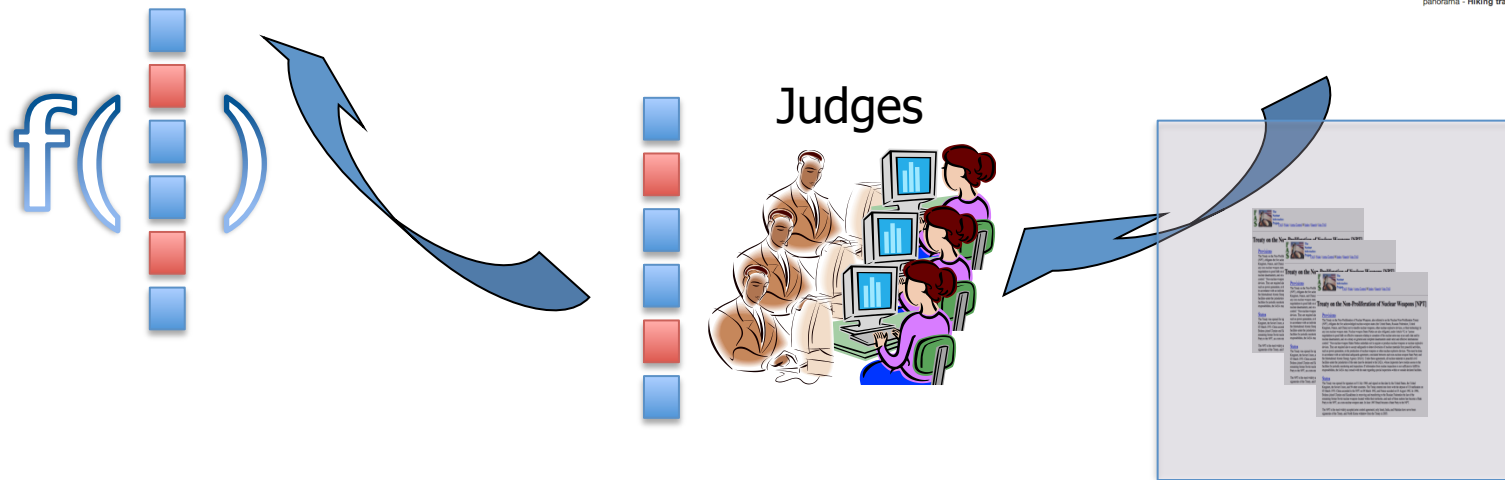
Results

## Search Algorithms





panorama - Hiking trails and walking holidays .... Hiking Trails Ticino ...



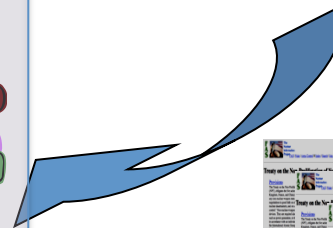
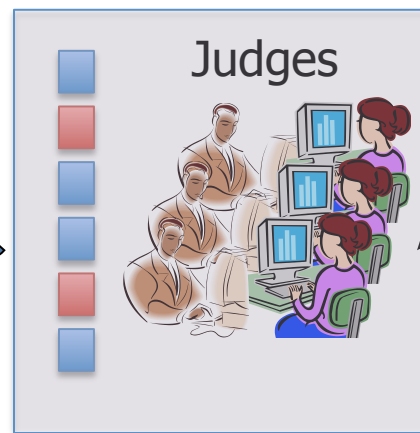
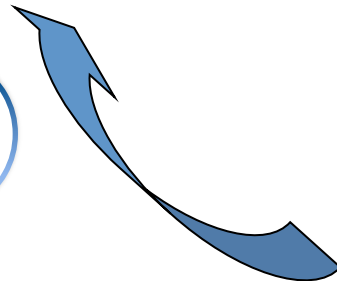
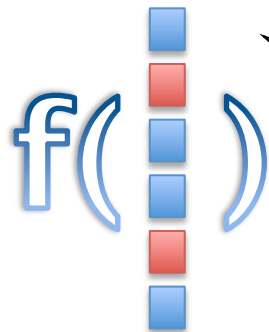


Click on a face to see more

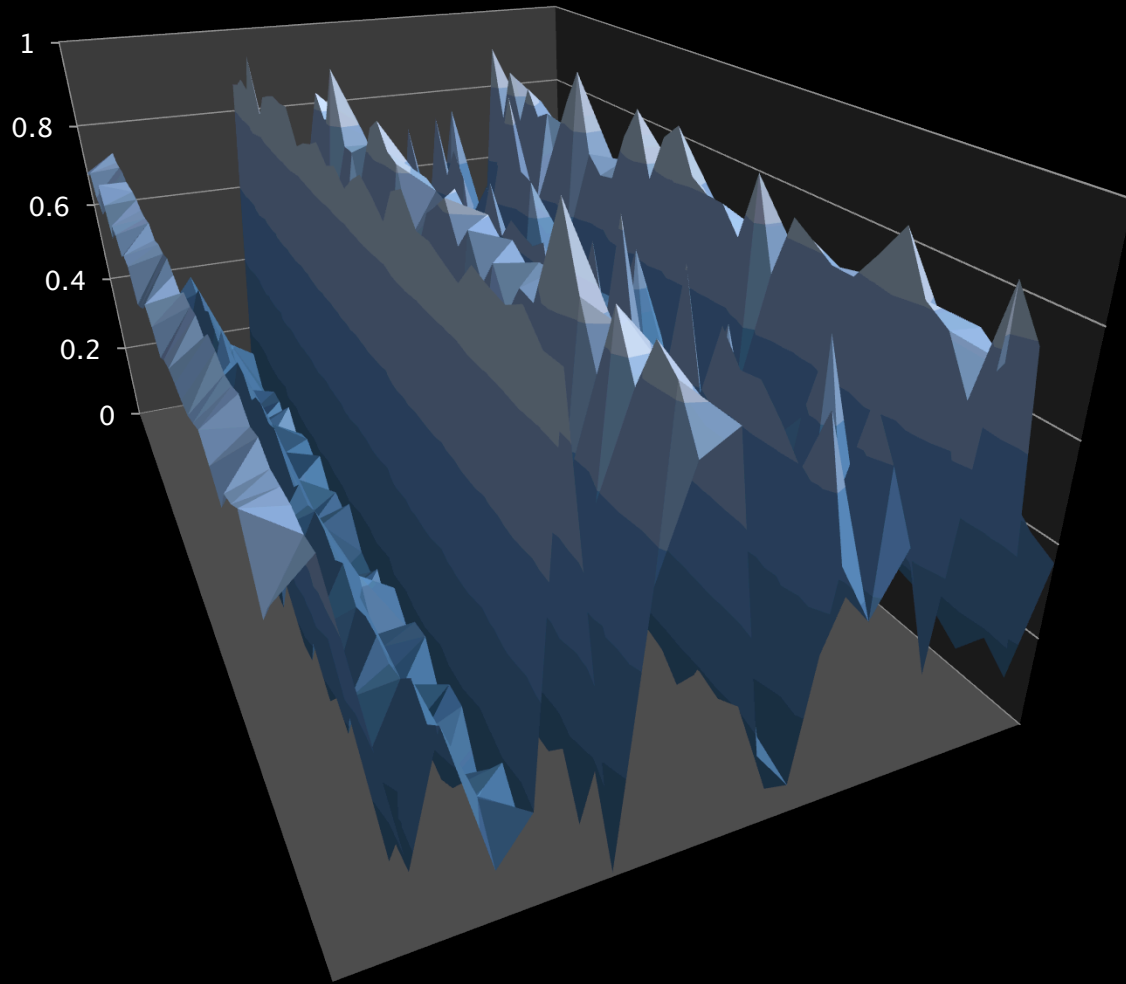
Ticino, Valais, Zurich Region. According to grade of difficulty. Conditions: .... The map also shows the entire hiking trail network (without additional information) ...

[Ticino / Tessin - Climbing, Hiking & Mountaineering - SummitPost](http://www.summitpost.org)  
[www.summitpost.org](http://www.summitpost.org) / Alps - Western Part / Lepontine Alps •  
 Nov 9, 2007 - Ticino / Tessin: SummitPost.org - Climbing, hiking, mountaineering ...  
 real beautiful hiking trails and challenging peaks waiting to be climbed.

[Hiking Switzerland, hiking trails for hikers, holiday resorts in...](http://www.switzerland-hiking.ch/)  
[www.switzerland-hiking.ch/](http://www.switzerland-hiking.ch/) •  
 The website for hikers and nature-lovers with information on hiking trails and ... Swiss  
 panorama - Hiking trails and walking holidays .... Hiking Trails Ticino ...



# Multiple Sources of Variance

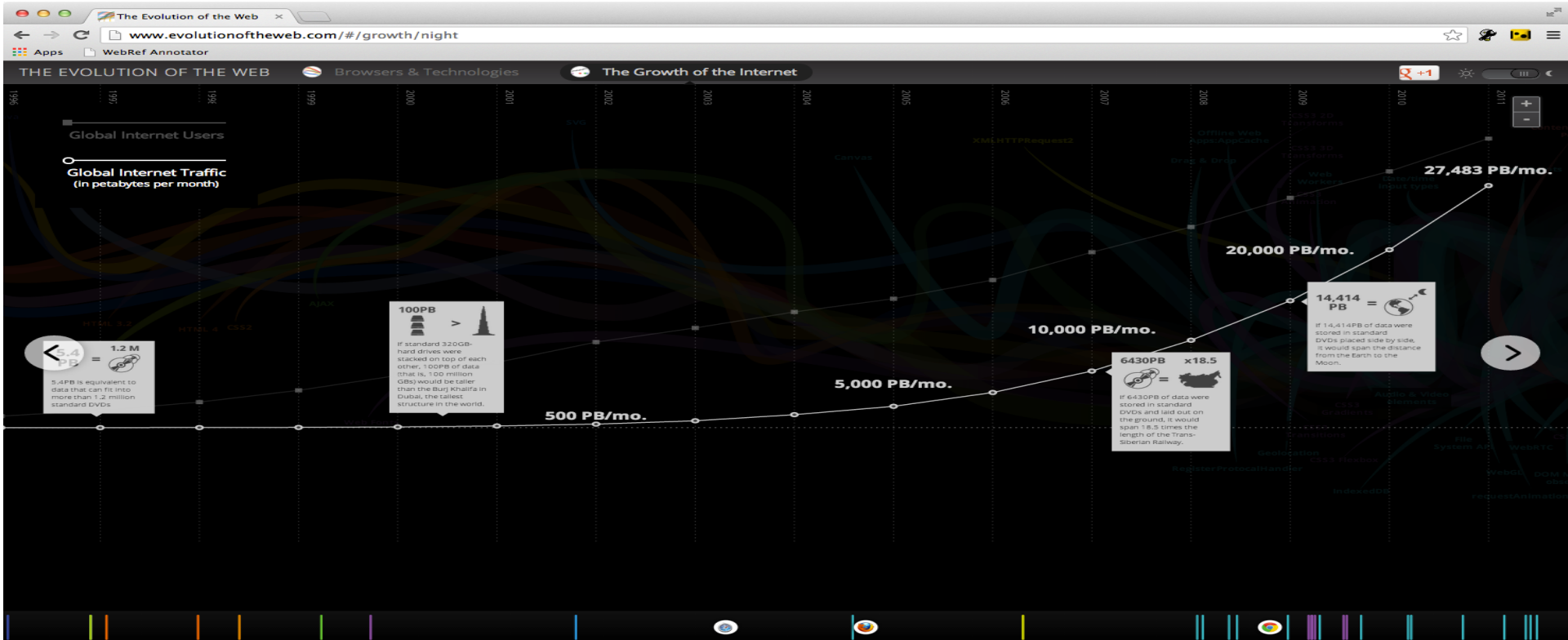


# Variance due to Document Collection

## On Per-topic Variance in IR Evaluation

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# Simulation of multiple collections

**Estonia Economy**

[Economy of Estonia - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)  
Estonia is a member of the European Union and a developed market economy. Before the Second World War Estonia's economy was based on agriculture, but there was a significant knowledge ...  
[Early history](#) · [Modernization and ...](#) · [The economy today](#)  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy\\_of\\_Estonia](#) · [Wikipedia on Bing](#)

[The Estonian Economic Miracle](#)  
After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Estonia took advantage of a narrow window of opportunity to radically reform its economy, and these reforms have yielded stunning results.  
[www.heritage.org/Research/WorldwideFreedom/bg2060.cfm](#) · [Cached page](#)

[Estonia Economy](#)  
Travel Document Systems; Passport and Visa Services. This is the site for the latest Travel Information and the most complete collection of on-line Visa Applications on the web.  
[www.traveldocs.com/ee/economy.htm](#) · [Cached page](#)

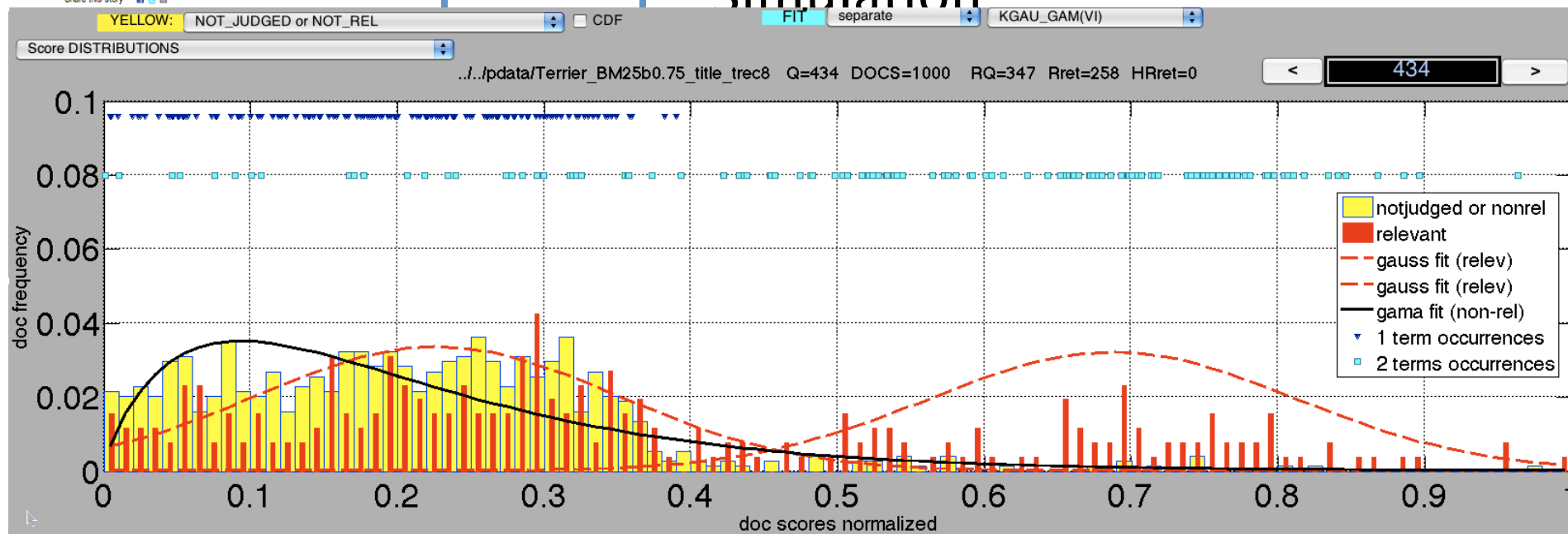
[News about Estonia Economy](#)  
Estonia's economy grows 2.6 pct in Q4  
TALLINN, Estonia— Estonia's economy grew by 2.6 percent during the fourth quarter, officials said... · [Boston Globe](#) 6 days ago  
Estonia economy slide bottoms out, S&P ups outlook · [The Guardian](#) 6 days ago  
Estonia's Economy 'Only' Contracts by 9.4% in Q4 · [Seekingalpha.com](#) 3 days ago  
[See today's top stories](#) · [Create news alert](#)  
Share this story

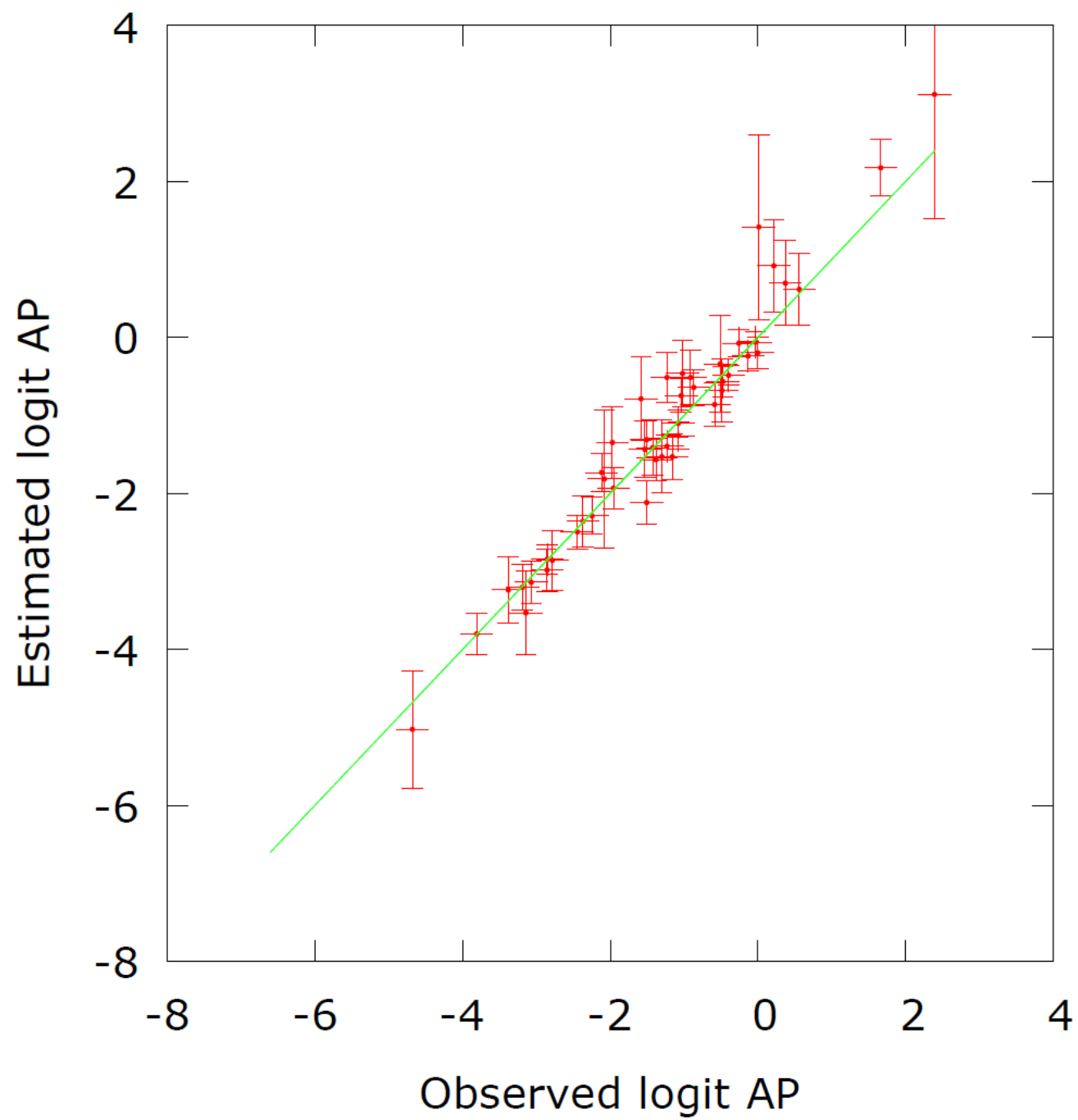
**9.6592**  
**9.5761**  
**9.4919**  
**9.4784**

Actual Experiment:

- Consider multiple corpora

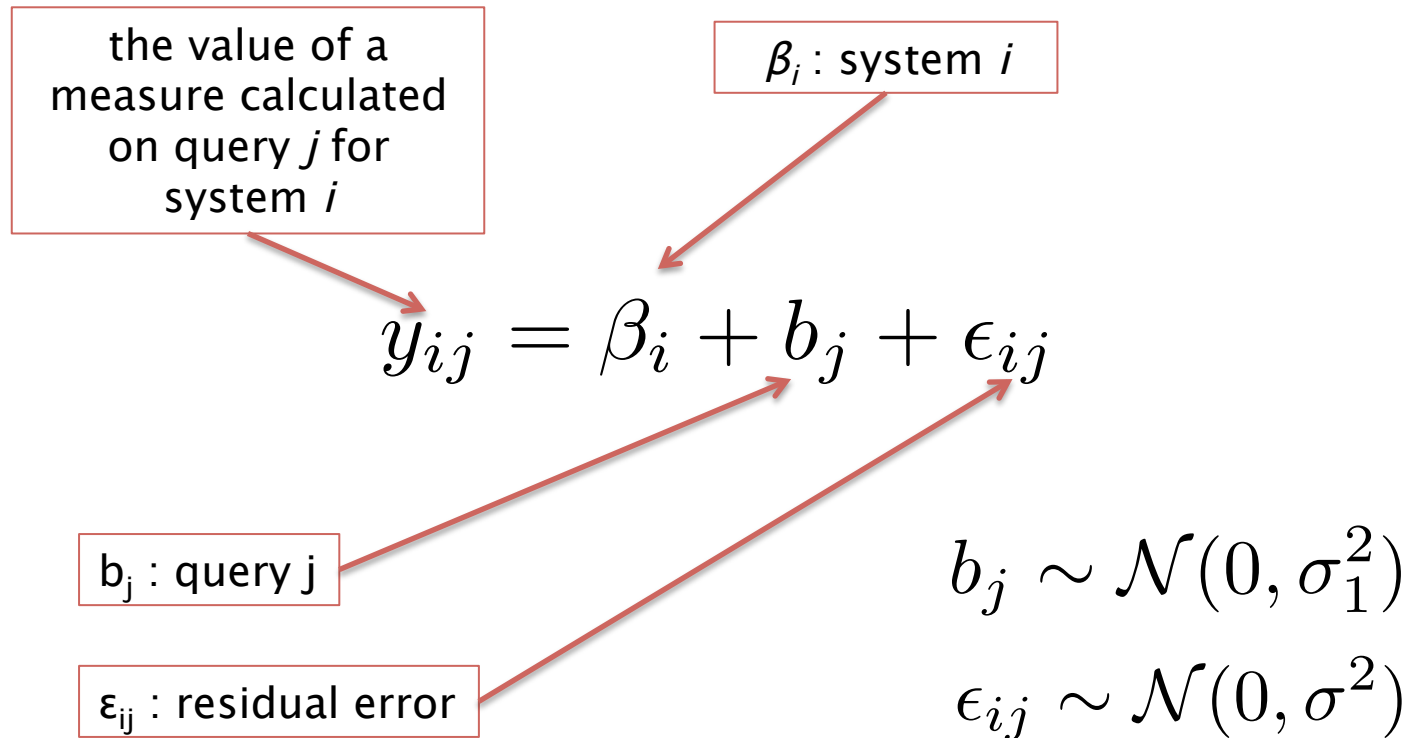
Simulation :





# Mixed Effects Models

- Single source of variance
  - Query effect



# Mixed Effects Models

- Two sources of variance
  - Query effect
  - Collection effect (within query variance)

$$y_{ijk} = \beta_i + b_j + c_{ij} + \epsilon_{ijk}$$

$$b_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_1^2) \quad c_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_2^2) \quad \epsilon_{ijk} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

# Mixed Effects Models

- In the statistical programming environment R

```
lme1 <- lme(effectiveness~system, data=df, random=~1|query/system)
```

```
summary(lme1)
```

Random effects:

Formula: ~1 | query  
(Intercept)

StdDev: 1.539644

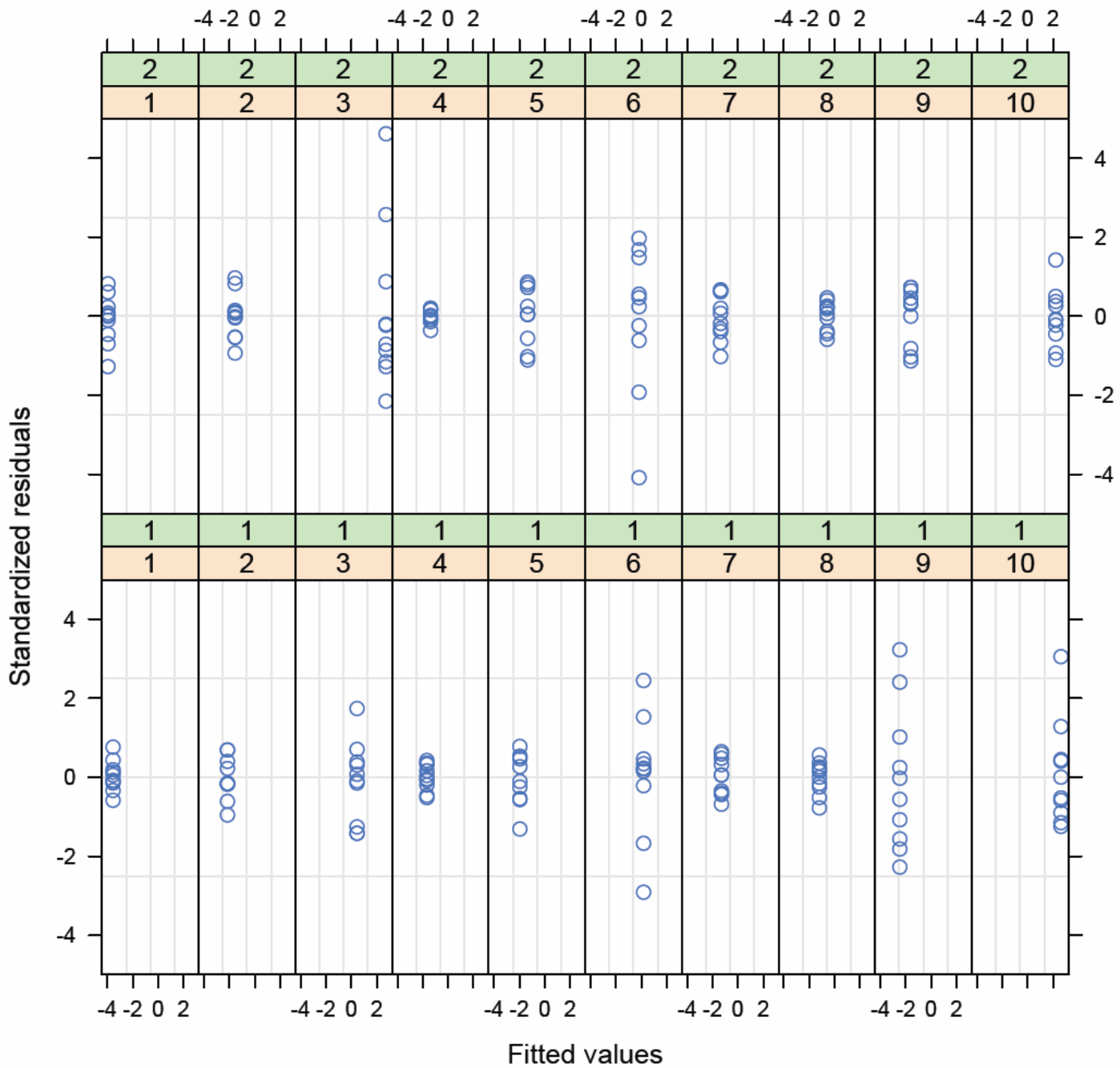
Formula: ~1 | system %in% query  
(Intercept) Residual

StdDev:  
0.6191864 0.6386645

Fixed effects: y ~ system

	Value	Std.Error	DF	t-value	p-value
(Intercept)	-1.3445	0.2438470	846	-5.514077	0.0000
system2	<b>0.0999</b>	0.1343512	46	0.744112	<b>0.4606</b>

# Mixed-effects Homoscedastic Model



# Mixed Effects Models

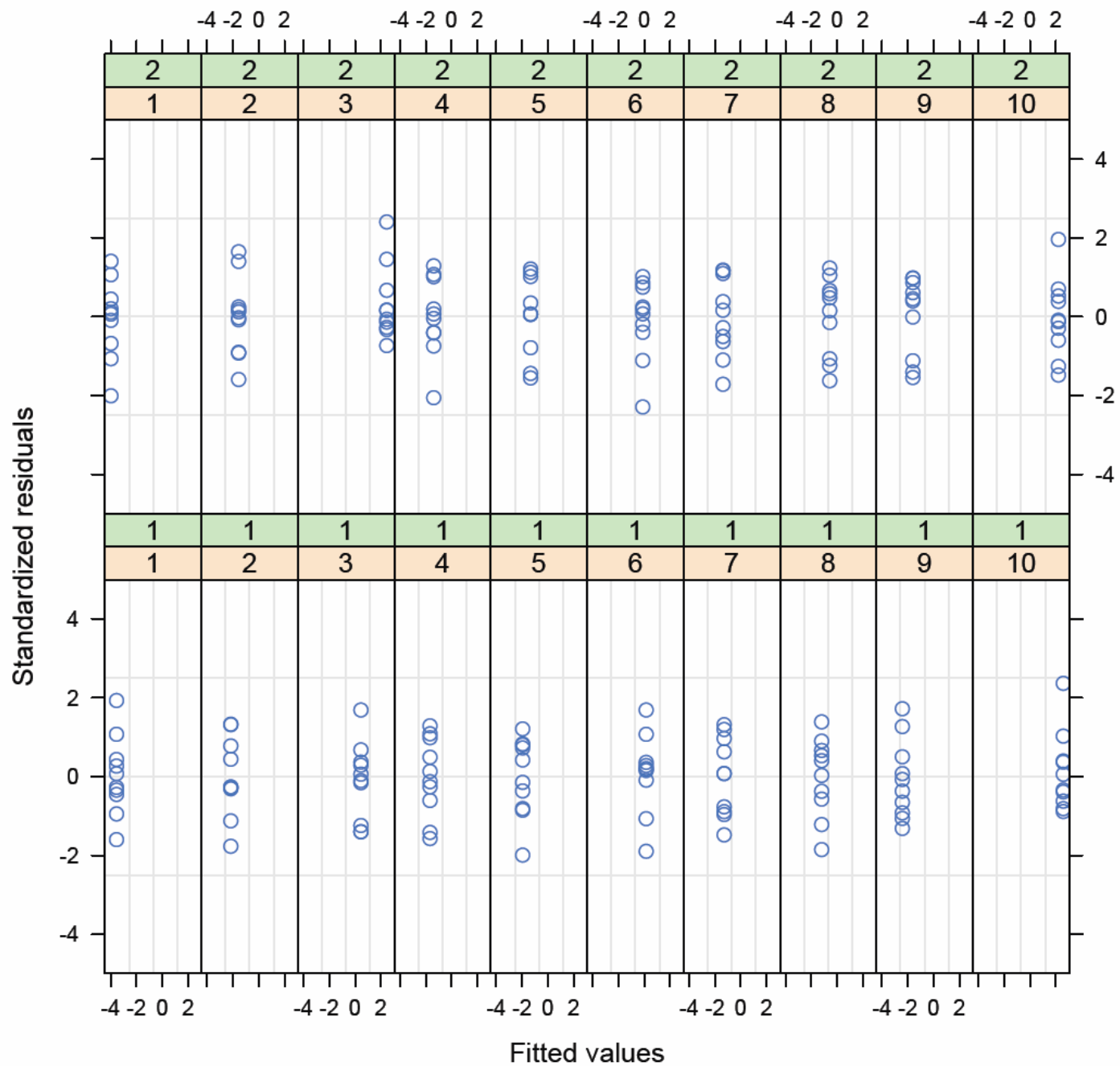
- Two sources of variance
  - Query effect
  - Collection effect (within query variance)

$$y_{ijk} = \beta_i + b_j + c_{ij} + \epsilon_{ijk}$$

$$b_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_1^2) \quad c_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_2^2) \quad \epsilon_{ijk} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{ij}^2)$$

Heteroscedastic Model

# Mixed-effects Heteroscedastic Model



# Mixed Effects Models

- In the statistical programming environment R

```
lme2 <- lme(effectiveness~system, data=df, random=~1|query/system,  
            weights=varIdent(form=~1|query*system))
```

Random effects:

Formula: ~1 | query  
(Intercept)  
StdDev: 1.447164

Formula: ~1 | system %in% query  
(Intercept) Residual  
StdDev: 0.4537618 0.186183

Variance function:

Structure: Different standard deviations per stratum

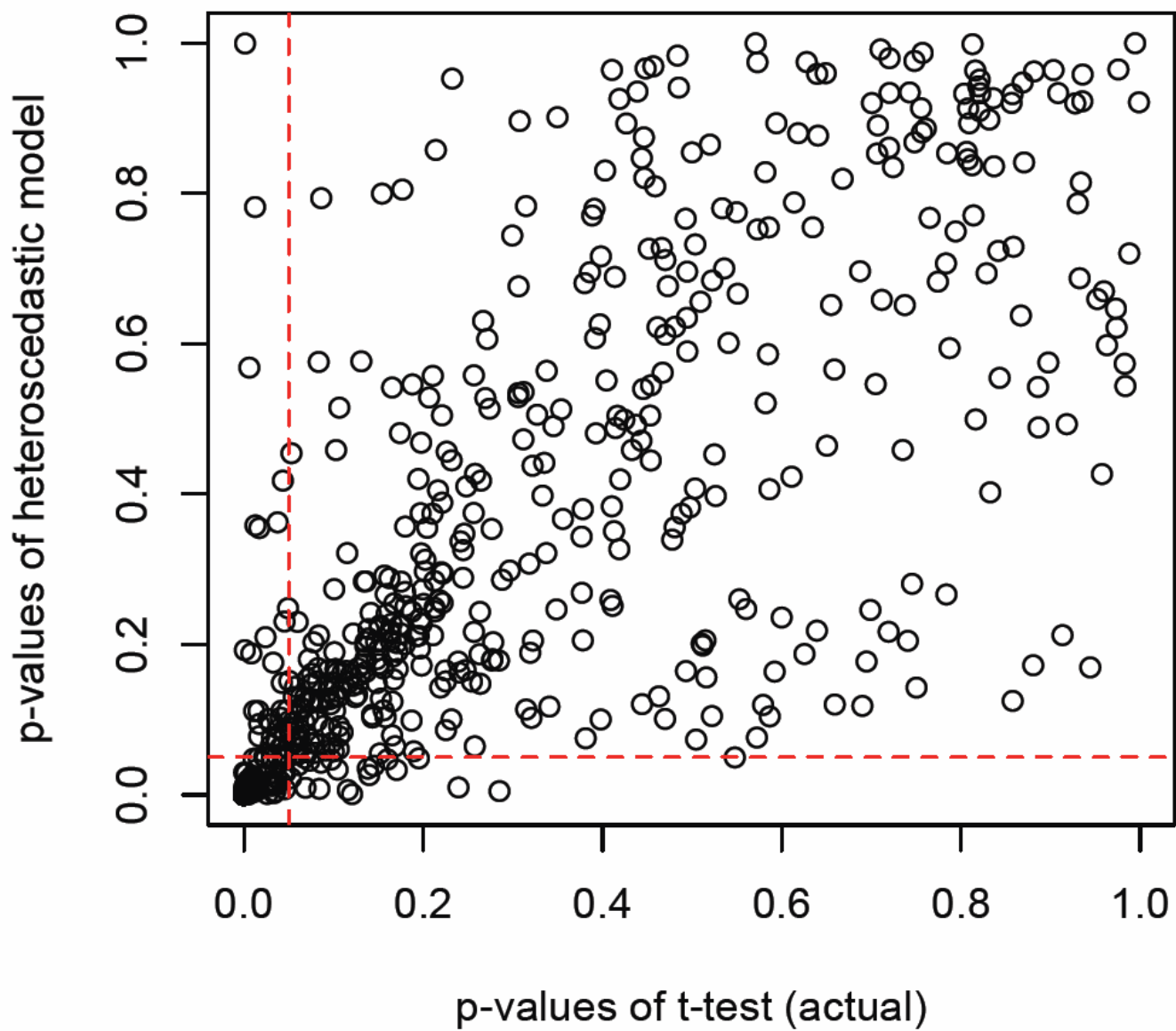
Formula: ~1 | query\* system

Parameter estimates:

1*1	1*2	2*1	2*2	...
1.0000000	1.6108387	1.3969085	1.5405710	...

Fixed effects: y ~ system

	Value	Std.Error	DF	t-value	p-value
(Intercept)	-1.4385	0.22266286	846	-6.460817	0.0000
system2	0.1834	0.09844907	46	1.863342	0.0688



# Variance due to Measure

## Simulating Simple User Behavior for System Effectiveness Evaluation

Ben Carterette\*, Evangelos Kanoulas†, Emine Yilmaz‡  
carteret@cis.udel.edu, e.kanoulas@shef.ac.uk, {eminey@microsoft.com, eyilmaz@ku.edu.tr}

\* Department of Computer & Information Sciences, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

‡ Information School, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

† Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK & Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

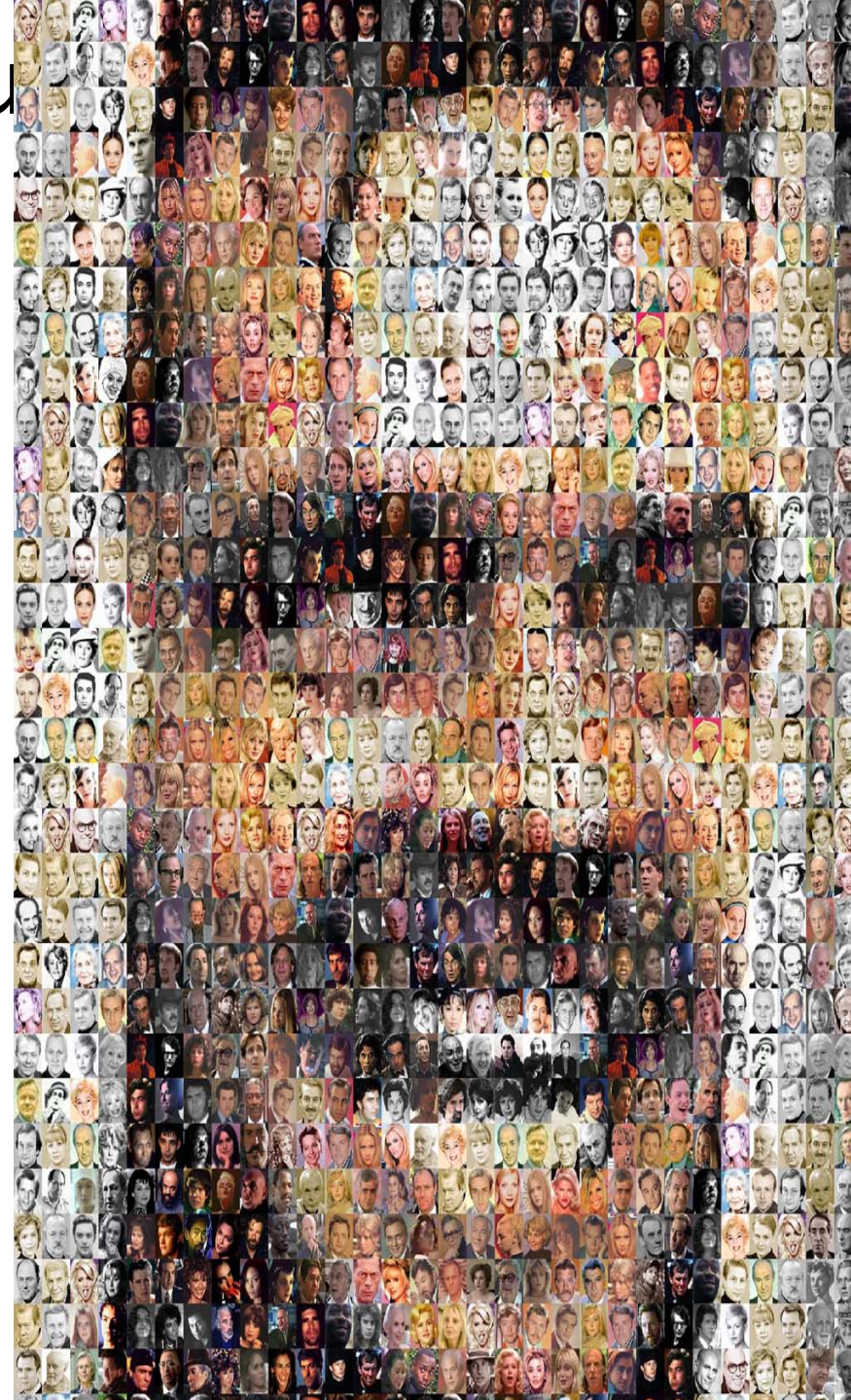
## Incorporating Variability in User Behavior into Systems Based Evaluation

Ben Carterette\*, Evangelos Kanoulas†, Emine Yilmaz‡  
carteret@cis.udel.edu, ekanoulas@gmail.com, {eminey@microsoft.com, eyilmaz@ku.edu.tr}

\* Department of Computer & Information Sciences, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

‡ Information School, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

† Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK & Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey



# Mixed Effects Models

$$y_{ijk} = \alpha_i + (\beta_j + \phi_j p_k) + (\kappa_{ij} + \gamma_{ij} p_k) + \epsilon_{ijk}$$

$y_{ijk}$ : value of a metric on topic  $j$  for system  $i$  with parameter  $p_k$

$\alpha_i$  : effect of system  $i$

$\beta_j$  : effect of topic  $j$

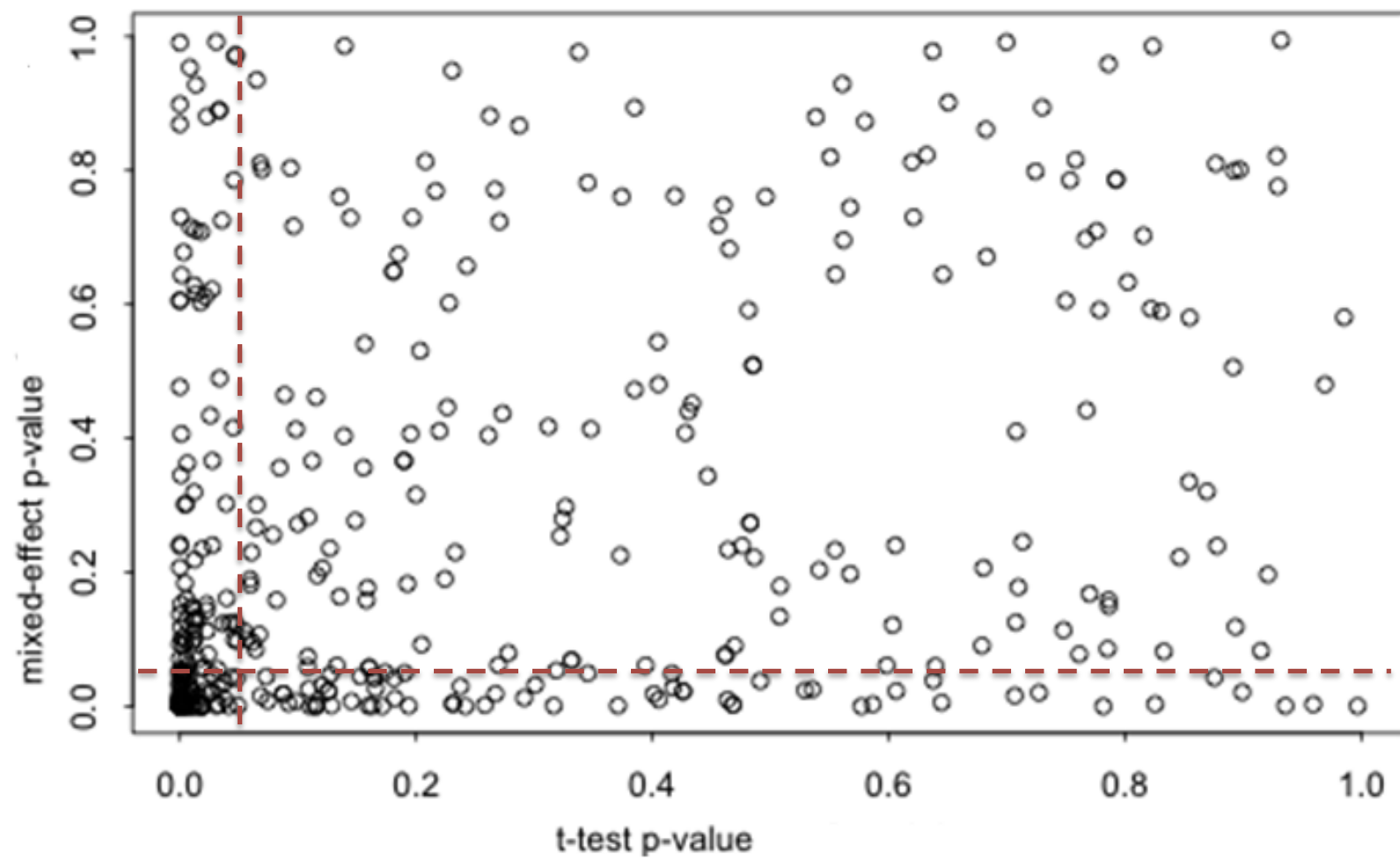
$\phi_j p_k$  : interaction of topic with RBP parameter

$\kappa_{ij}$  : system/topic interaction effect

$\gamma_{ij} p_k$  : interaction of system/topic with RBP parameter

$\epsilon_{ijk}$  : system/topic/parameter interaction effect

# TB06 NP



# Variance due to Query Intents

## **Effect of Intent Descriptions on Retrieval Evaluation**

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University College London  
e.yilmaz@cs.ucl.ac.uk

Evangelos Kanoulas  
Google  
ekanoulas@gmail.com

Nick Craswell  
Microsoft  
nickcr@microsoft.com

# Mixed Effects Models

- Two sources of variance
  - Queries
  - Intents (within queries)

$$y_{ijk} = \beta_i + b_j + c_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ijk}$$

Value of a metric for  
system  $i$  on query  $j$   
intent  $k$

Effect of  
system  $i$

Effect of  
query  $j$

Effect of  
sampling  
subtopics

Residual  
Error

$$b_j \sim N(0, \sigma_1^2), \quad c_{ij} \sim N(0, \sigma_2^2), \quad \varepsilon_{ijk} \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

# Summary of comparative evaluation

- Always do significance tests
  - Model all the effects
  - Check your assumptions
- Don't just report p-values or \* to indicate significance
  - Always report confidence intervals
- Always take results of tests with a grain of salt
  - Especially when the effect size is low
  - Build your intuition and use it

# Challenges in collection-based evaluation

- Do **users** and **judges** agree on relevance?
  - Particularly difficult for personalized search
  - Particularly difficult for specialized documents
- Do summary aggregate **scores** reflect users **satisfaction**?
  - Do real users agree with MAP@1000? NDCG@5?
- **Ambiguous** queries are particularly hard to judge realistically
  - Which **intent** is most popular? Which others are important?
  - Judges need to correctly appreciate uncertainty
- How do you identify when relevance **changes**?
  - Temporal changes: Document changes; Query intent changes
- It's **expensive** to collect new labels

# Different approaches to evaluation

- User-studies
- Collection-based evaluation
- In-situ evaluation
  - A/B Testing
  - Interleaving

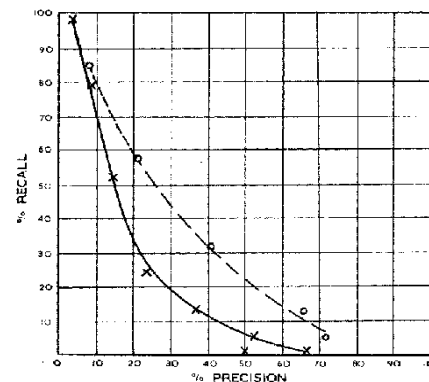
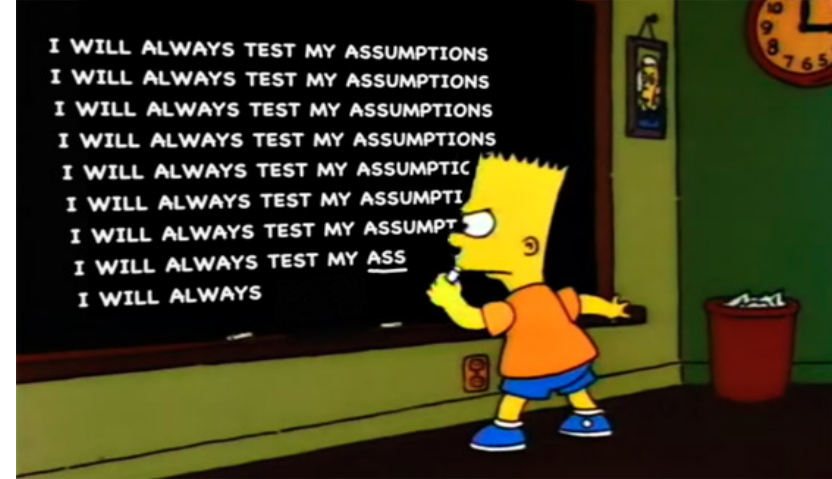


FIGURE 4.814P INDEX LANGUAGE III, 5, 8 SEARCH E  
200 DOCUMENTS  
(Index Language III, 1, 8 Broken line)



Cranfield  
UNIVERSITY