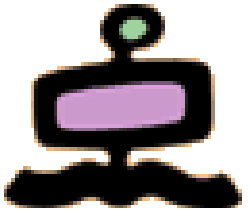
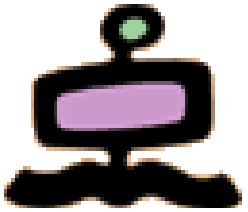
Corso di Biblioteche Digitali



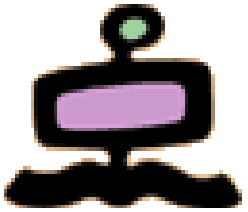
- Vittore Casarosa
  - Mail: casarosa@isti.cnr.it
  - Tel: 050 621 3115 (office) 348 397 2168 (mobile)
  - Skype: vittore1201
- “Ricevimento” at the end of the lessons or by appointment
- Final assessment
  - 70% oral examination
  - 30% project (development of a small digital library))
- Reference material:
  - Ian Witten, David Bainbridge, David Nichols, How to build a Digital Library, Morgan Kaufmann, 2010, ISBN 978-0-12-374857-7 (Second edition)
  - Material provided by the teacher
- **http://cloudone.isti.cnr.it/casarosa/BDG/**

Modules



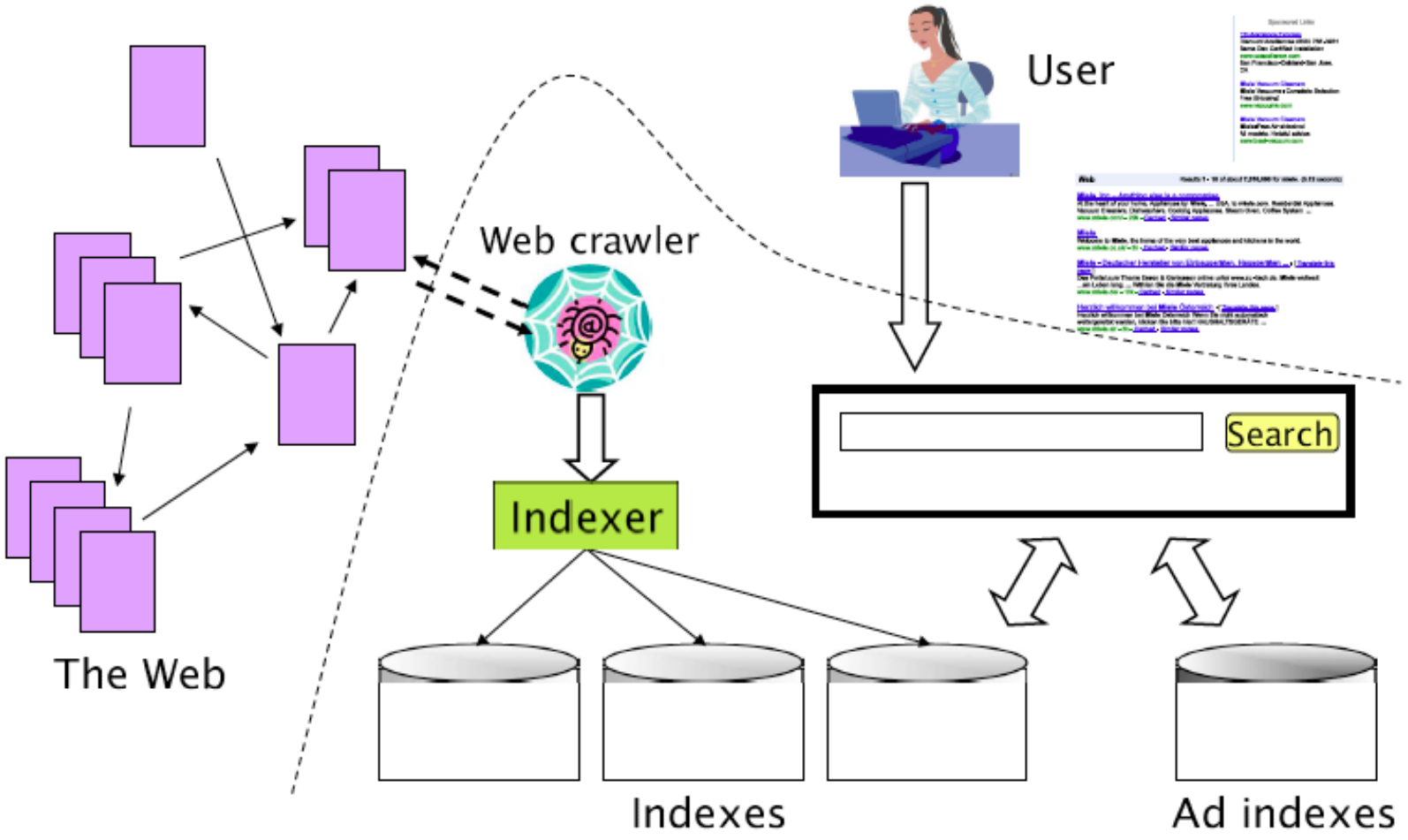
- Computer Fundamentals and Networking
- A conceptual model for Digital Libraries
- Bibliographic records and metadata
- Information Retrieval and Search Engines
- Knowledge representation
- Digital Libraries and the Web
- Hands-on laboratory: the Greenstone system

Information Retrieval

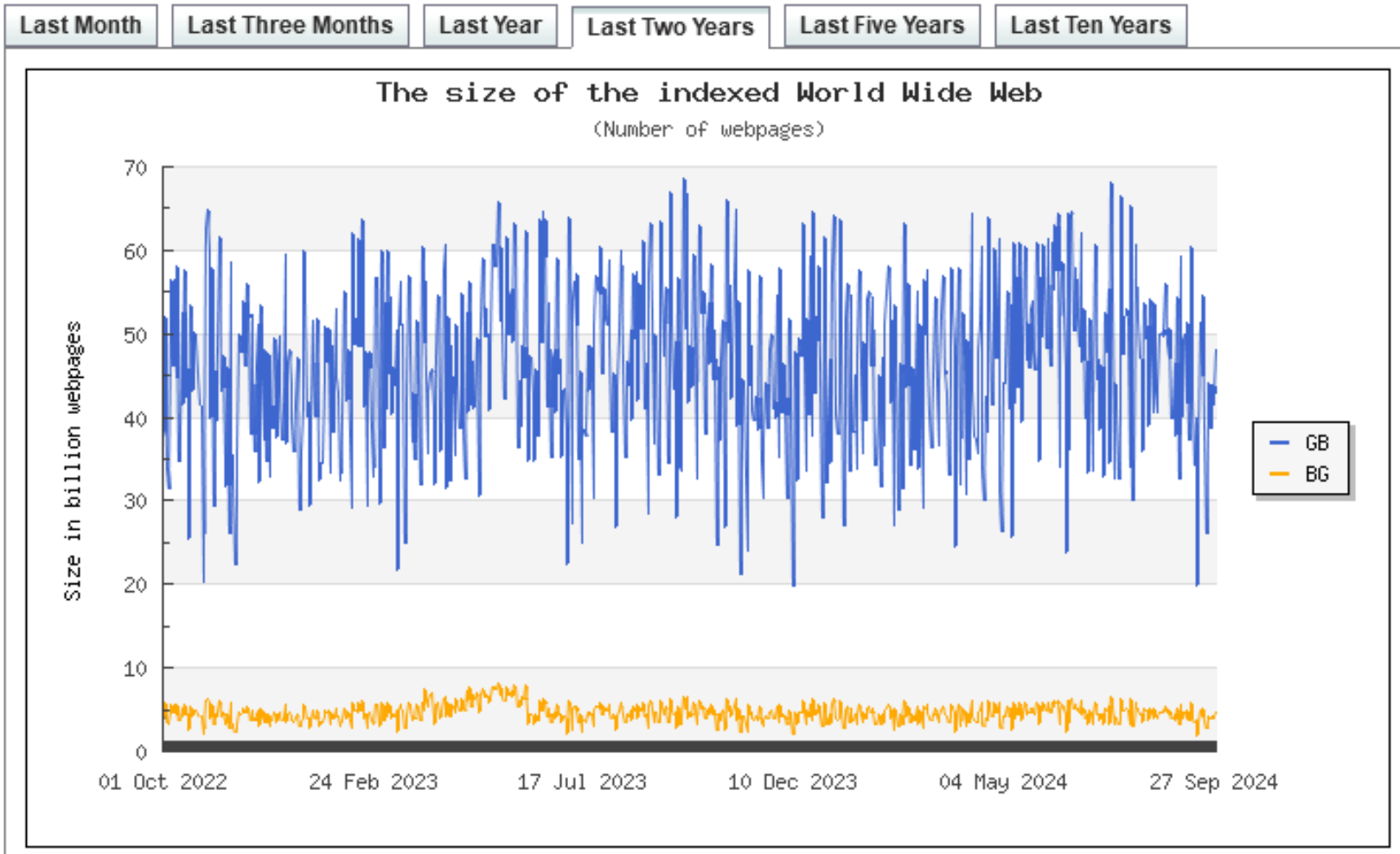


- Information Retrieval and Search Engines
  - Indexing a collection of documents
  - Ranking query results
  - Search engines in the Web
  - Ranking in Web search engines

Architecture of a Search Engine

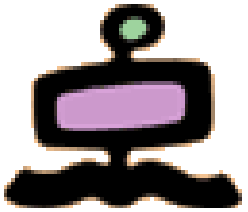


The size of the indexed Web



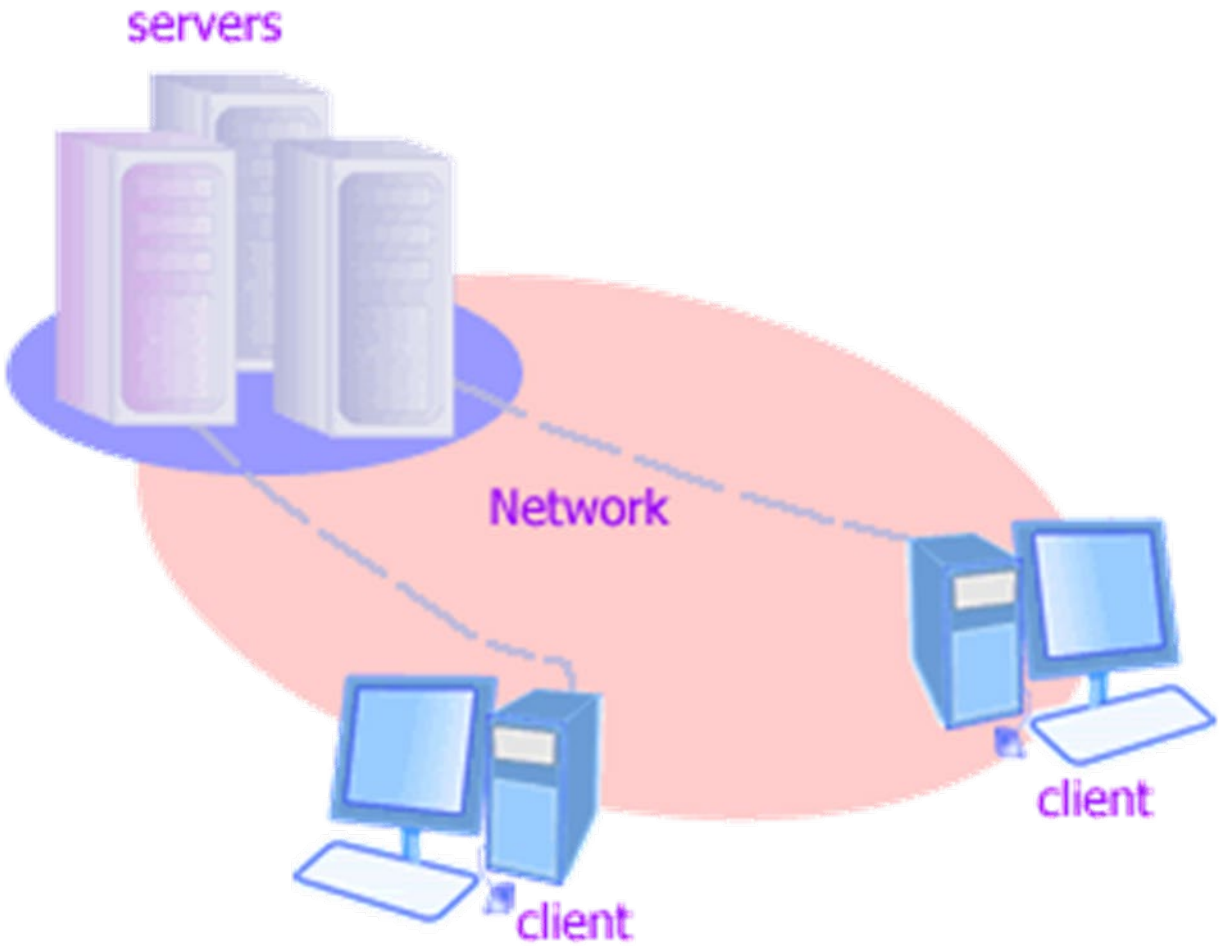
https://www.worldwidewebsize.com/

The Depth of the Web

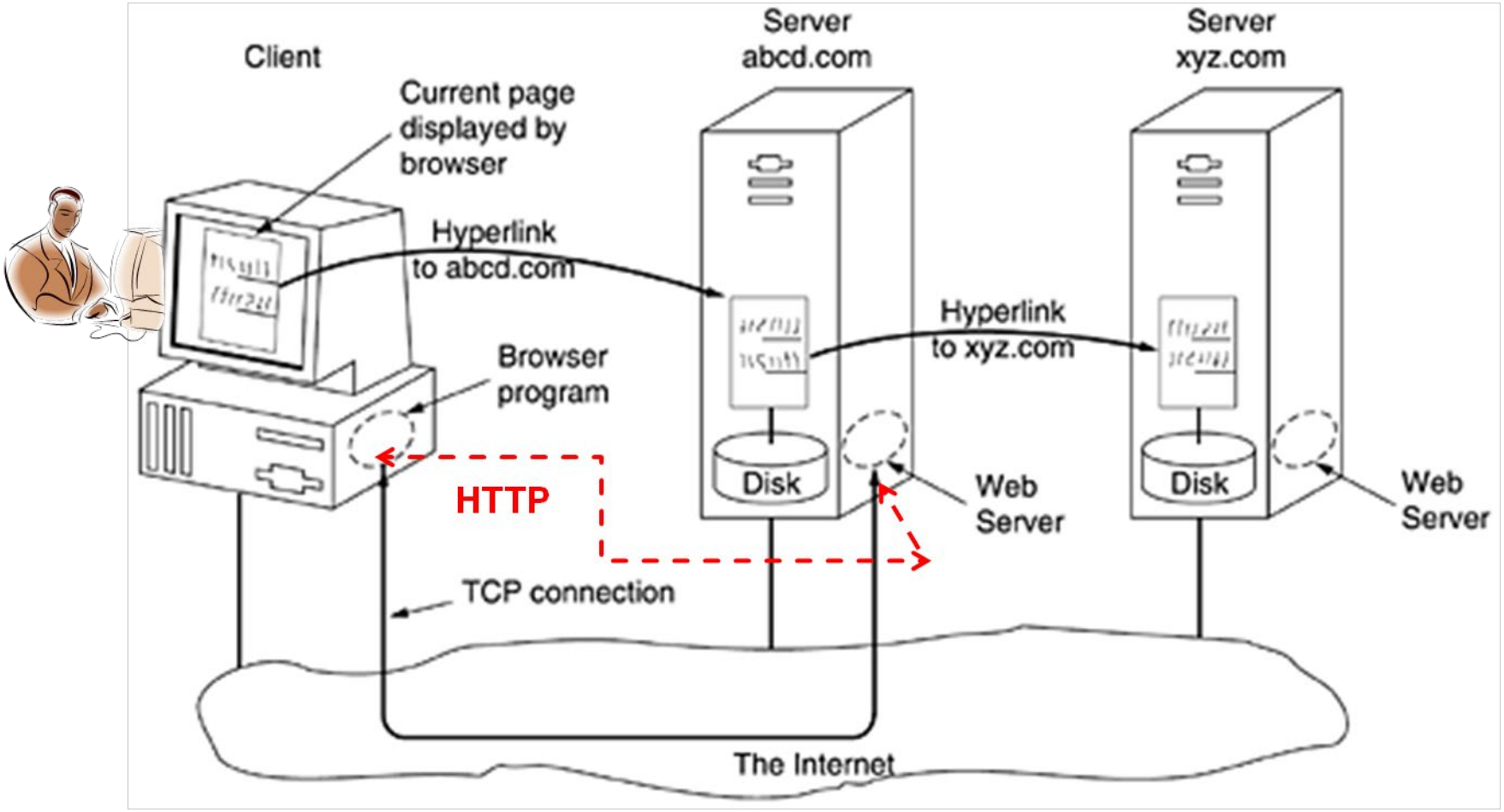


- A URL gives access to a web page.
- That page may have links to other pages (static pages). This is the surface web.
- Some pages (dynamic pages) are generated only when some information is provided to the web server.
- These pages cannot be discovered just by crawling. This is the deep web.
- The surface web is huge.
- The deep web is “unfathomable”.

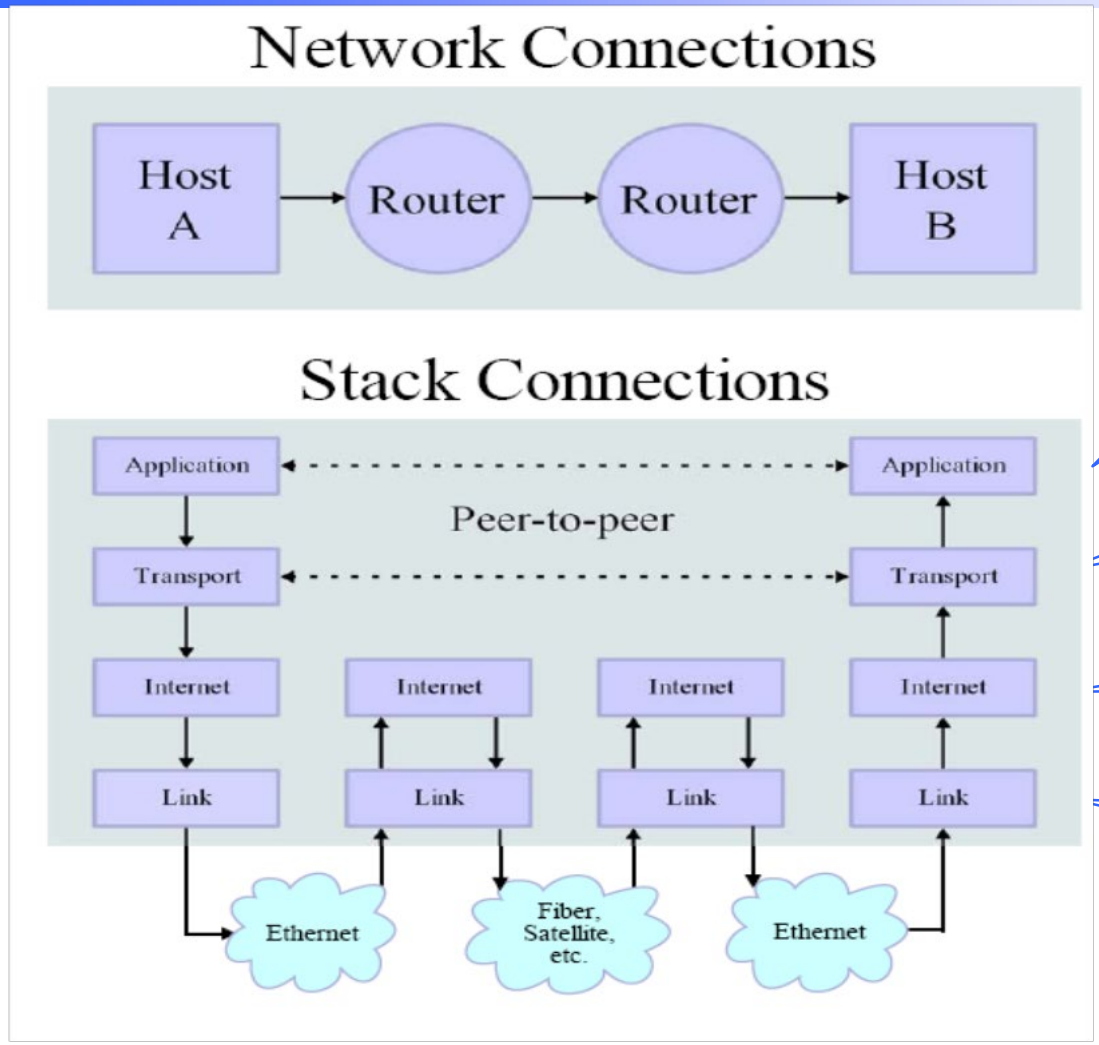
Client-server networks



The Web architecture



Internet protocols



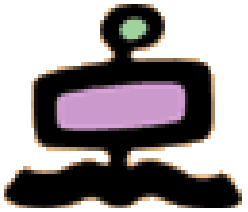
Application protocols e.g. HTTP

TCP/UDP

IP

ETHERNET

The Depth of the Web



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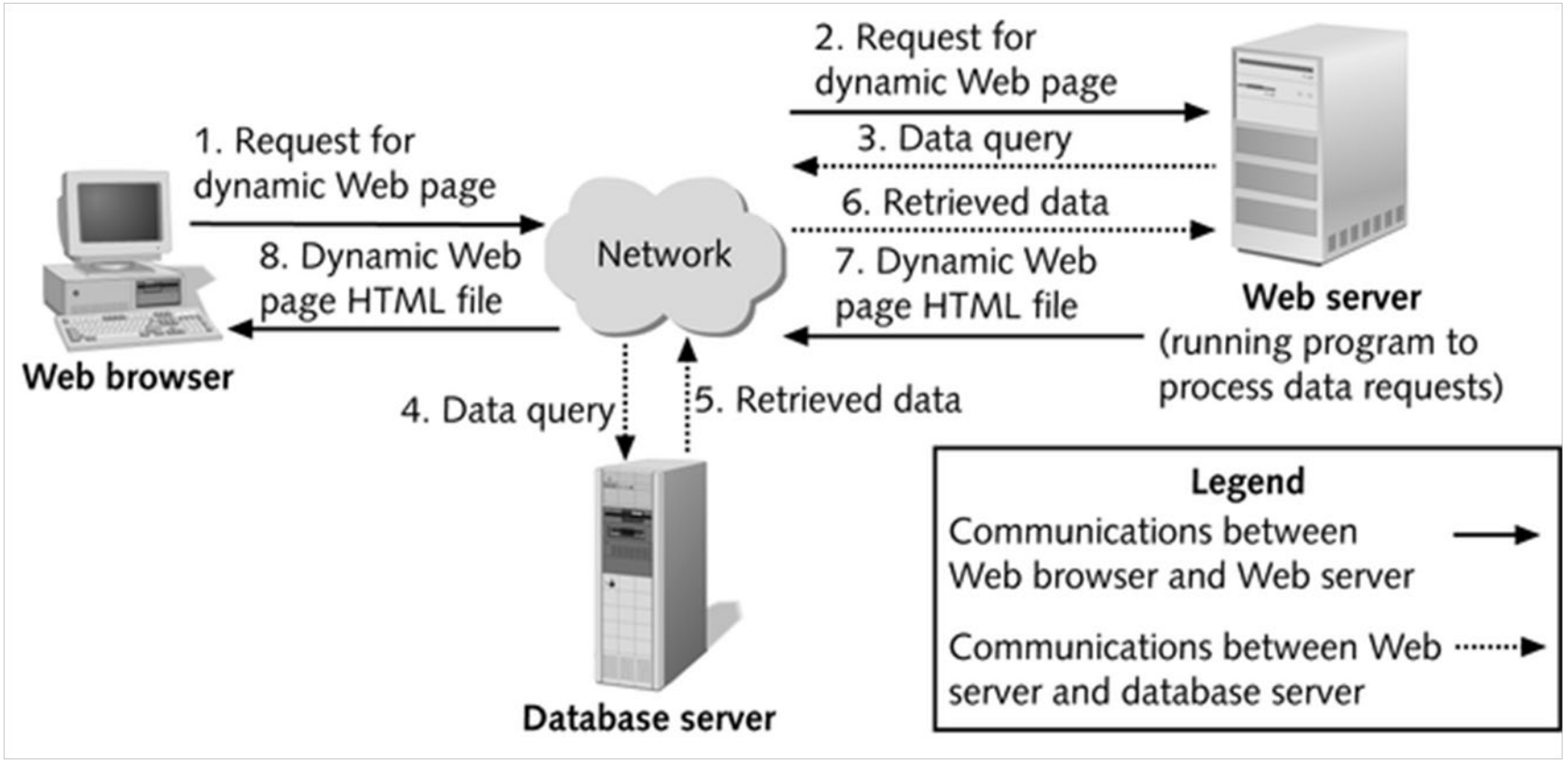
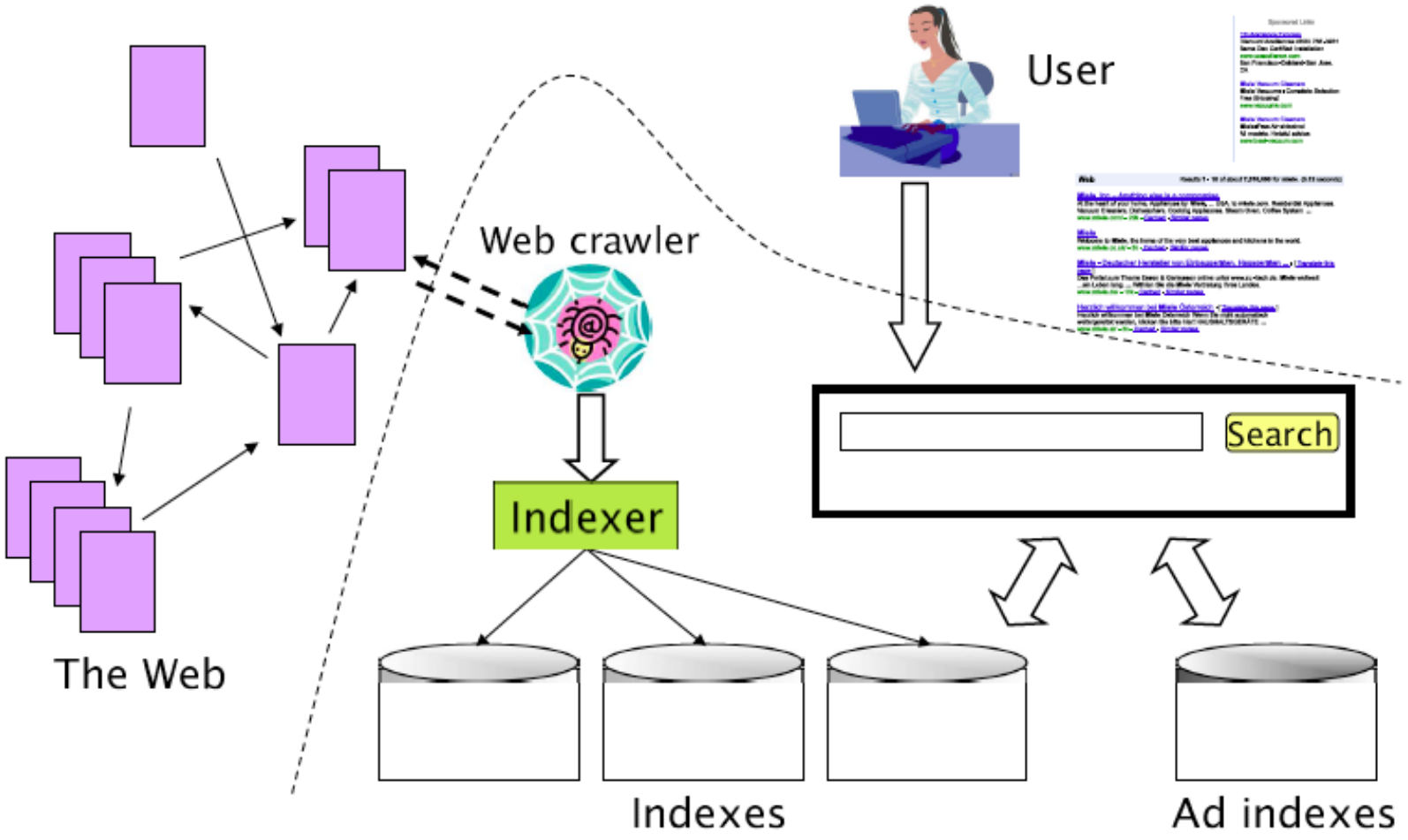
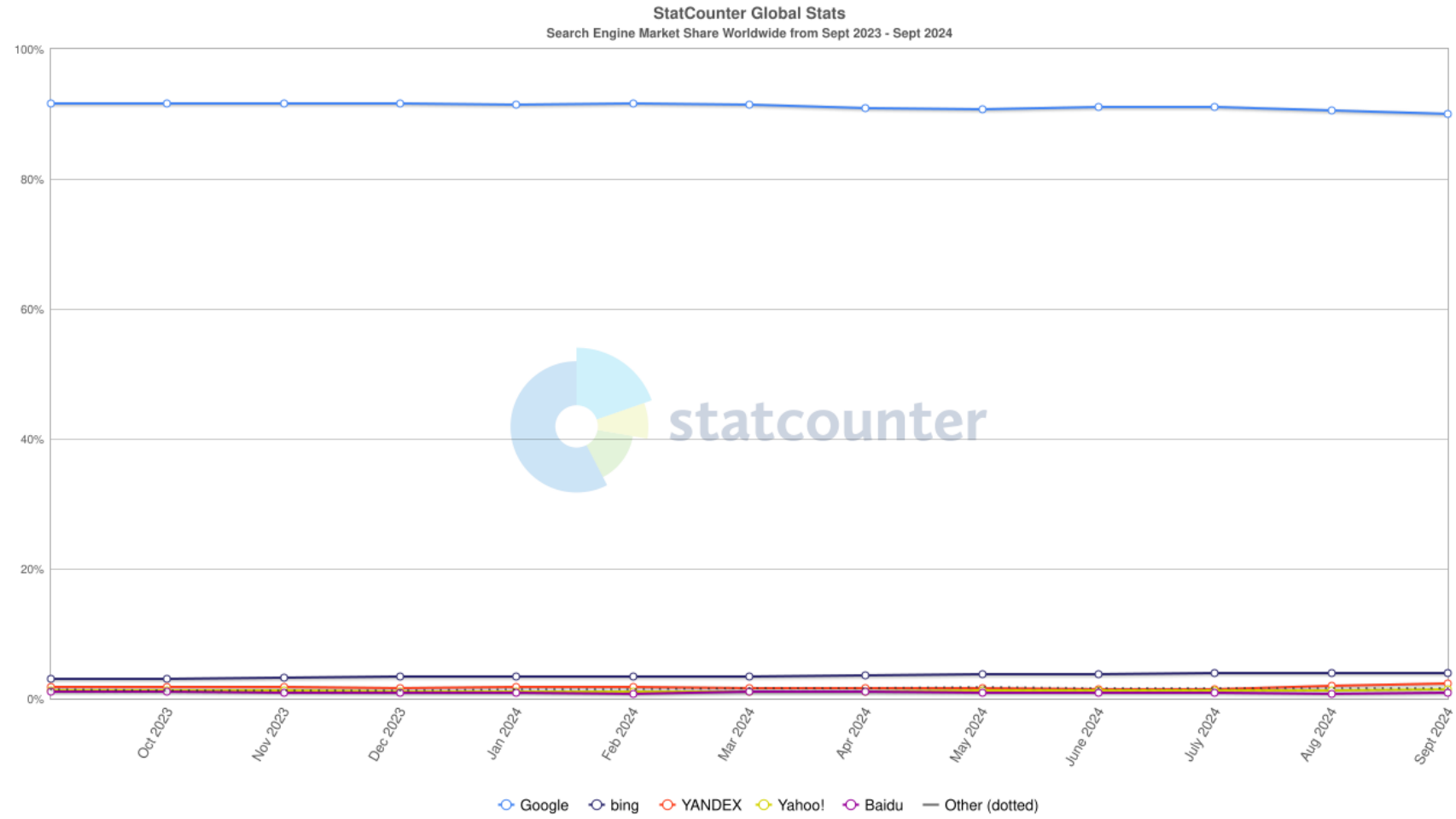
Dynamic web pages (data base driven)



Architecture of a Search Engine

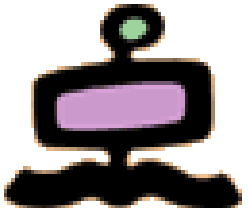


Worldwide queries to search engines (2024)



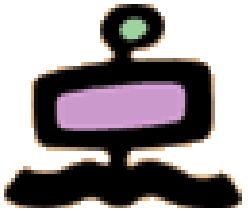
https://gs.statcounter.com/search-engine-market-share

Distribution of queries to Search Engines



Date	Google	bing	YANDEX	Yahoo!	Baidu	DuckDuckGo
2023-09	91.58	3.01	1.81	1.24	1,00	0.58
2023-10	91.56	3.10	1.84	1.2	1.02	0.54
2023-11	91.54	3.20	1.78	1.22	0.93	0.55
2023-12	91.62	3.37	1.65	1.12	0.96	0.51
2024-01	91.47	3.43	1.78	1.1	0.83	0.54
2024-02	91.61	3.32	1.83	1.08	0.77	0.53
2024-03	91.38	3.35	1.65	1.1	1,00	0.53
2024-04	90.91	3.64	1.61	1.13	1.15	0.55
2024-05	90.80	3.72	1.58	1.2	0.92	0.56
2024-06	91.06	3.72	1.45	1.26	0.87	0.60
2024-07	91.02	3.88	1.37	1.24	0.91	0.62
2024-08	90.50	3.91	1.95	1.32	0.79	0.64
2024-09	90.00	3.96	2.35	1.35	0.81	0.65

Google searches



GENERAL GOOGLE SEARCH STATISTICS

Google is the most visited website

92% of all search volume globally is from Google

There are at least **8.5 billion** Google searches per day

The Google Index has up to **40 to 60 billion** active web pages

https://fitsmallbusiness.com/google-search-statistics/

To google


© Original Artist
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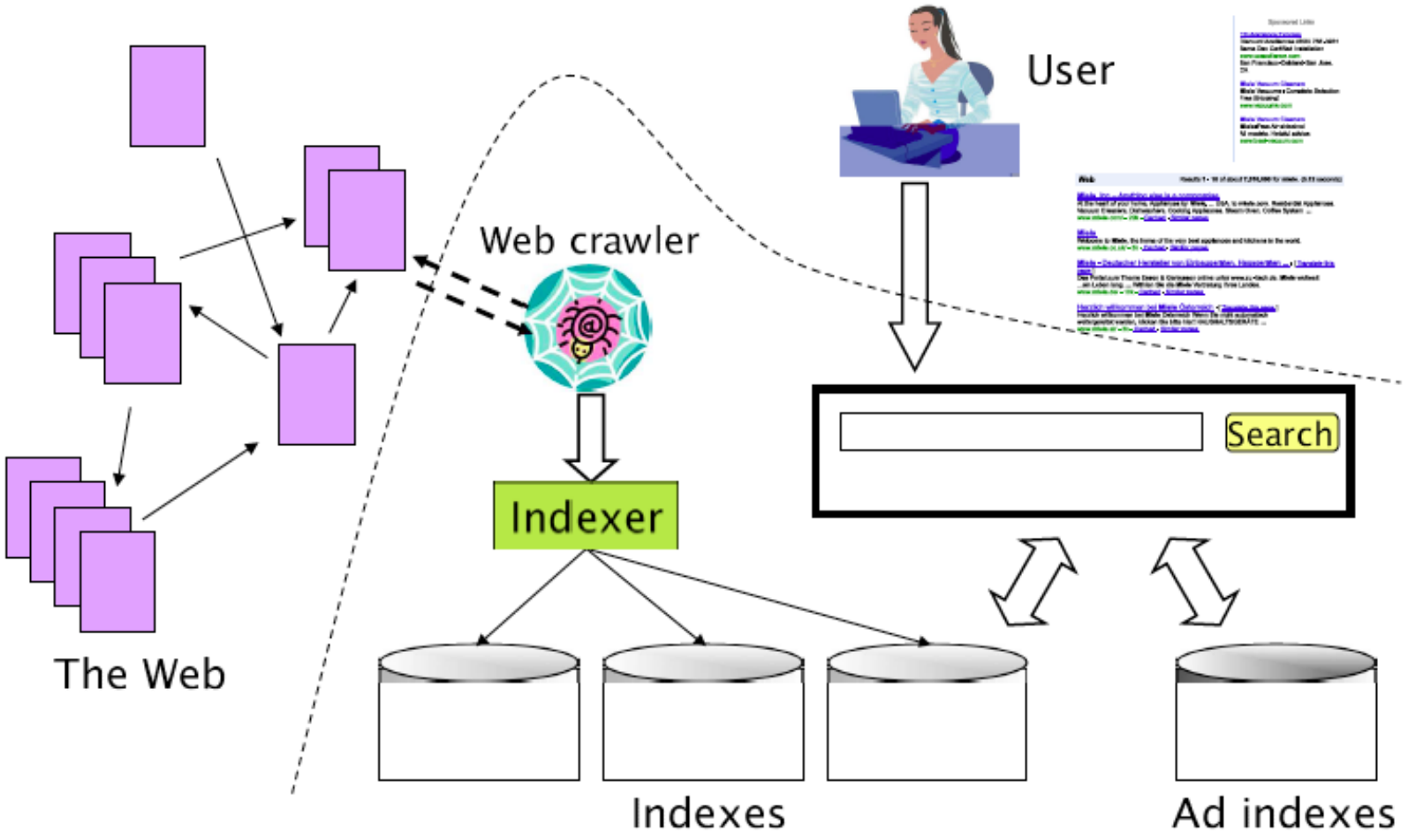
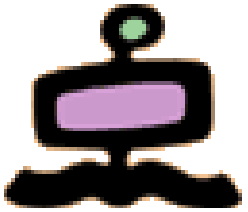
www.CartoonStock.com
"Did you Google me before I was born to see if I was going to be a boy or a girl?"

Architecture of a Search Engine



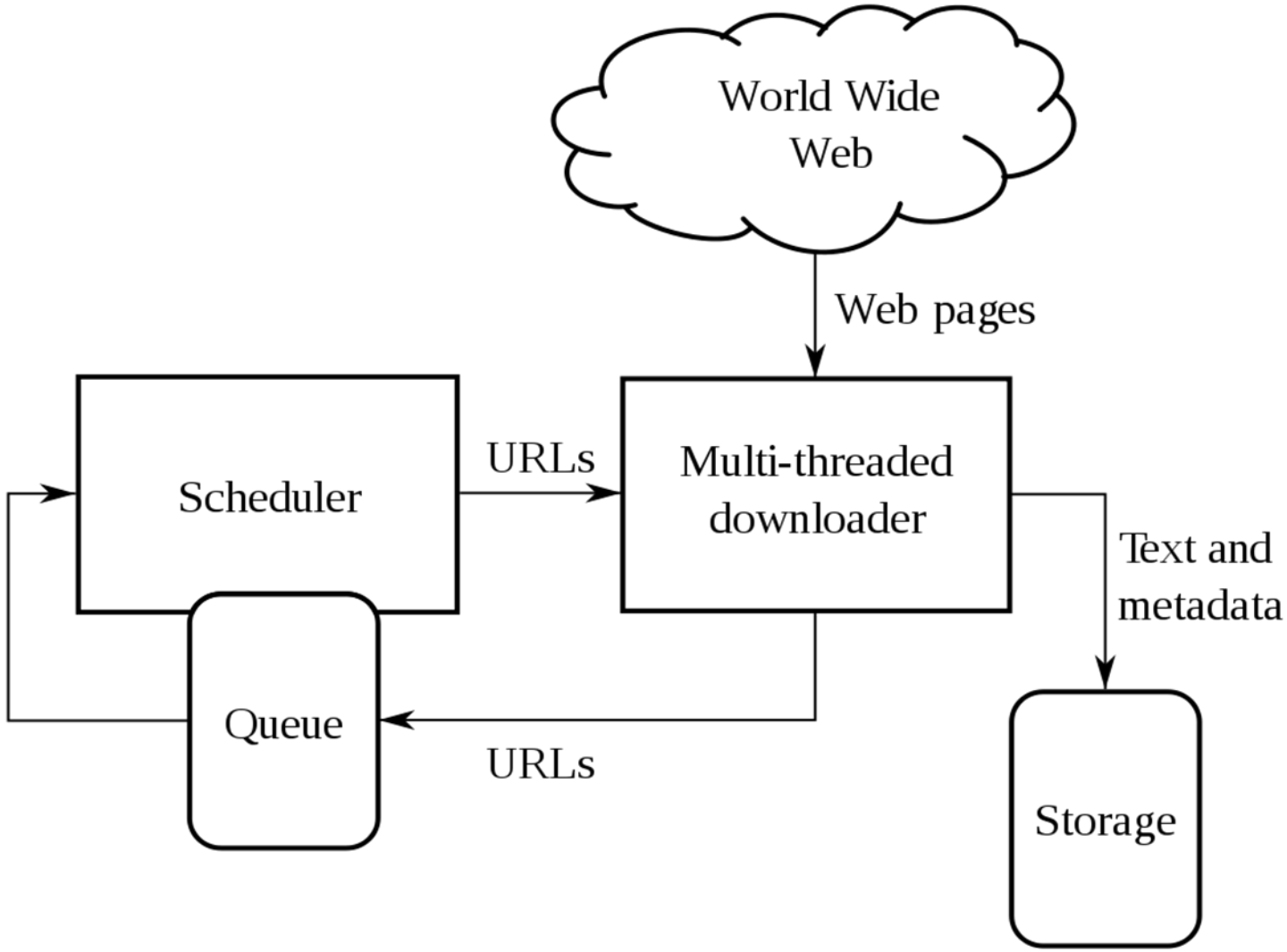
Main functions of a search engine



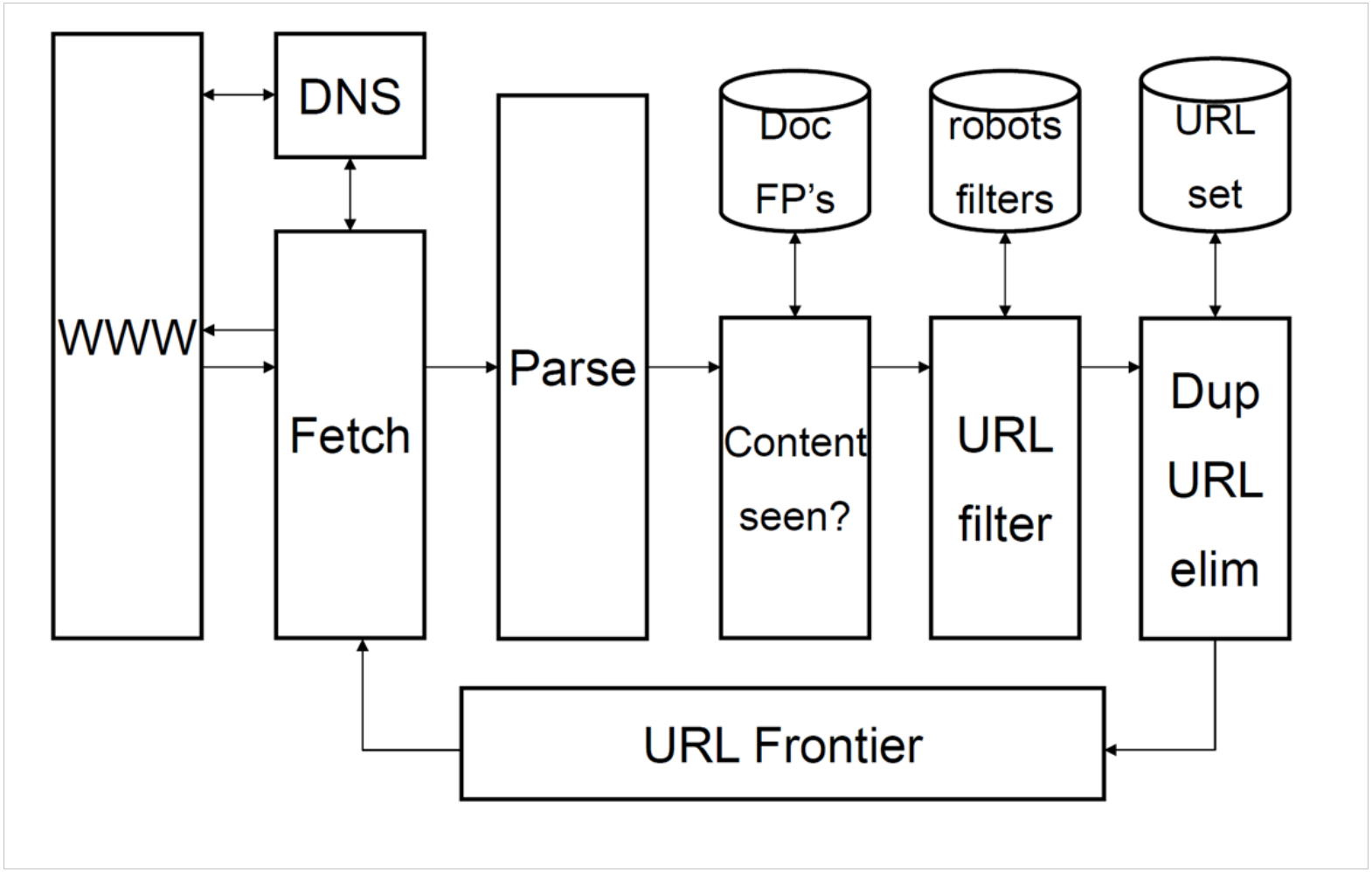
- Crawling 
- Indexing (in parallel with crawling)

- Ranking based on page content
- Ranking based on Web considerations
- Display of results

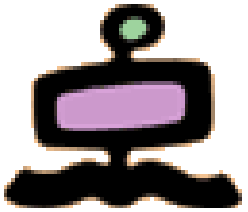
Basic architecture of a crawler (spider, bot)



Crawler architecture

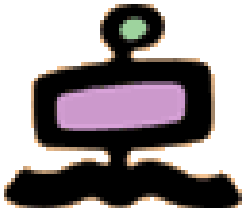


Crawling



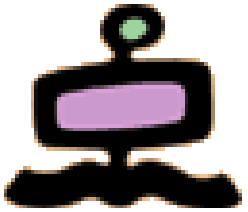
- A web crawler (aka a *spider* or a *bot*) is a program
  - Starts with one or more URL – the *seed*
    - Other URLs will be found in the pages pointed to by the seed URLs. They will be the starting point for further crawling
  - Uses the standard protocols (HTTP, FTP) for requesting a resource from a server
    - Requirements for respecting server policies
    - Politeness
  - Parses the resource obtained
    - Obtains additional URLs from the fetched page
    - Provides the fetched page to the indexer
  - Implements policies about content
    - Recognizes and eliminates duplicate or unwanted URLs
  - Adds the URLs found in the fetched page to the queue and continues requesting pages

What any crawler must do



- A crawler must be
  - Robust: Survive *spider traps*. Websites that fool a spider into fetching large or limitless numbers of pages within the domain.
    - Some deliberate; some errors in site design
  - Polite:: Crawlers can interfere with the normal operation of a web site. Servers have policies, both implicit and explicit, about the allowed frequency of visits by crawlers. Responsible crawlers obey these policies.

Politeness



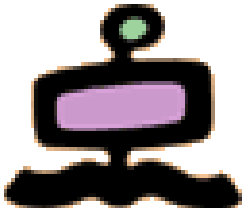
- Explicit
  - Specified by the web site owner
  - What portions of the site may be crawled and what portions may not be crawled
    - robots.txt file
- Implicit
  - If no restrictions are specified, still restrict how often you hit a single site.
  - You may have many URLs from the same site. Too much traffic can interfere with the site's operation. Crawler hits are much faster than ordinary traffic – could overtax the server. (Constitutes a denial of service attack) Good web crawlers do not fetch multiple pages from the same server at one time.

robots.txt example

- No robot should visit any URL starting with "/yoursite/temp/", except the robot called “searchengine":

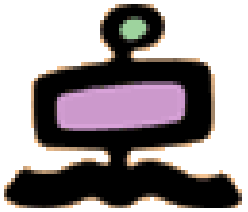
```
User-agent: *
Disallow: /yoursite/temp/

User-agent: searchengine
Disallow:
```

Scale of crawling



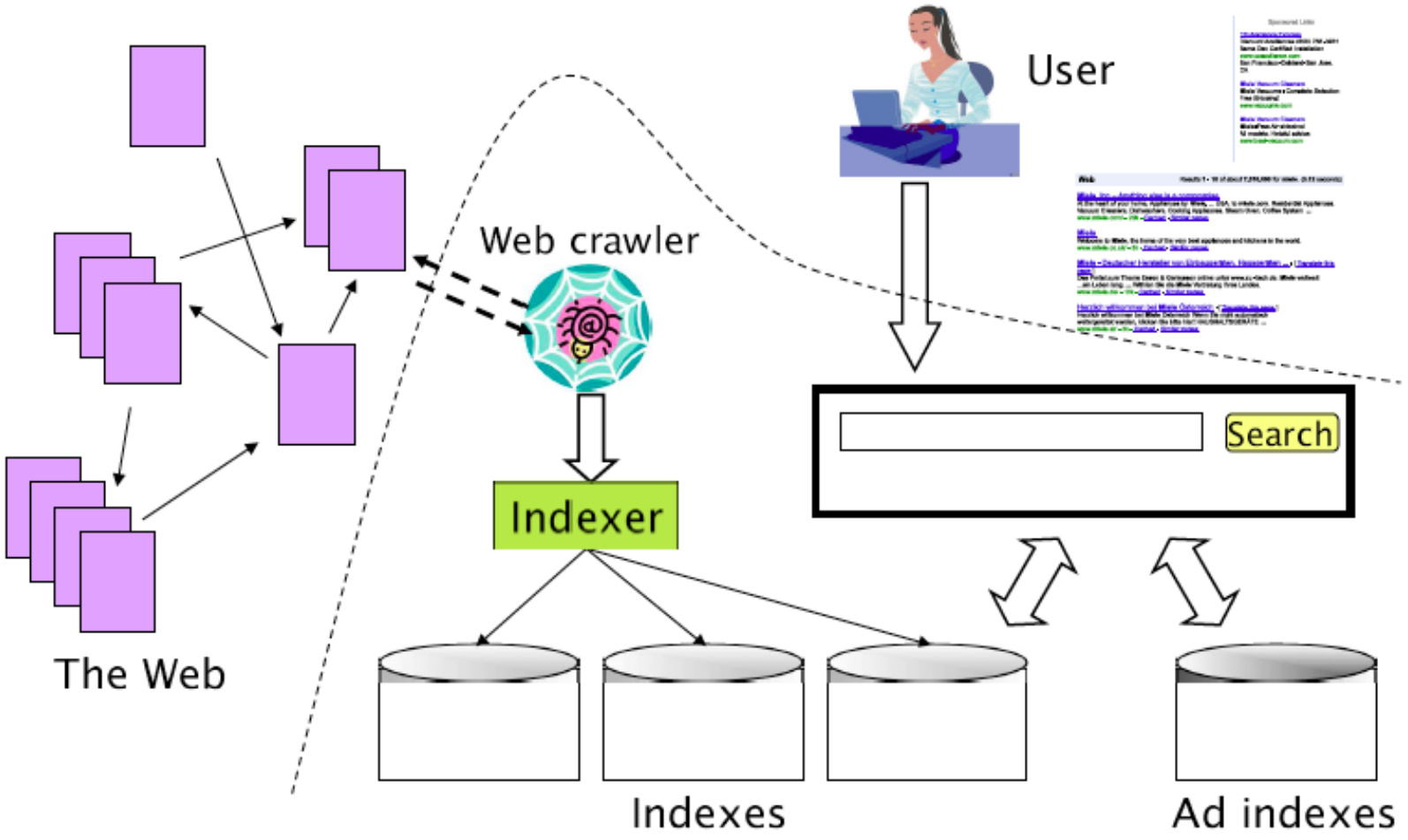
- A one month crawl of a billion pages requires fetching several hundred pages per second
- It is easy to lose sight of the numbers when dealing with data sources on the scale of the Web.
  - 30 days * 24 hours/day * 60 minutes/hour * 60 seconds/minute = 2,592,000 seconds
  - 1,000,000,000 pages/2,592,000 seconds **= 386** pages/second
- Note that those numbers assume that the crawling is continuous

Distributed crawler

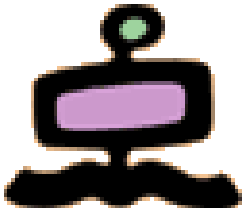


- For big crawls,
  - Many processes, each doing part of the job
    - Possibly on different nodes
    - Geographically distributed
  - How to distribute
    - Give each node a set of hosts to crawl
    - Use a hashing function to partition the set of hosts
  - How do these nodes communicate?
    - Need to have a common index

Architecture of a Search Engine



Main functions of a search engine



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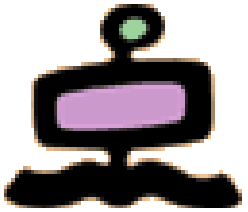
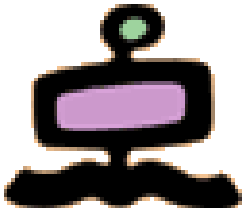
Indexing



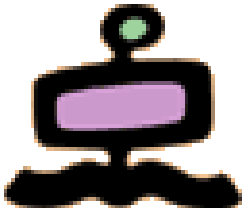
- Retrieved web page sent also to indexer to scan text (ignoring links)
- Build the index and the document (pages) representations (bag of words represented as vectors)
- Use of HTML information to improve the index and the “weight vectors”
- At query time, use the index and the weight vectors to get an initial ranking of relevant web pages, based on their content

Summary of retrieval and ranking



- Build a “term-document matrix”, assigning a weight to each term in a document (instead of just a binary value as in the simple approach)
  - Usually the weight is *tf.idf*, i.e. the product of the “term frequency” (number of occurrences of the term in the document) and the “inverse of the “term document frequency” (number of documents in which the term appears)
- Consider each document as a vector in n-space (n is the number of distinct terms, i.e. the size of the lexicon)
  - The non-zero components of the vector are the weights of the terms appearing in the document
  - Normalize each vector to “unit length” (divide each component by the modulus – the “length” – of the vector)
- Consider also the query as a vector in n-space
  - The non-zero components are just the terms appearing in the query (possibly with a weight)
  - Normalize also the query vector
- Define the similarity measure between the query and a document as the cosine of the “angle” beteen the two vectors
  - If both vectors are normalized, the computation is just the inner product of the two vectors

Final weight: tf x idf (or tf.idf)



- In conclusion, the weight of each term *i* in each document *d* ($w_{i,d}$) is usually given by the following formula (or very similar variations), called the *tf.idf* weight

$$w_{i,d} = tf_{i,d} \times \log(n / df_i)$$

$tf_{i,d} = \text{frequency of term } i \text{ in document } d$

$n = \text{total number of documents}$

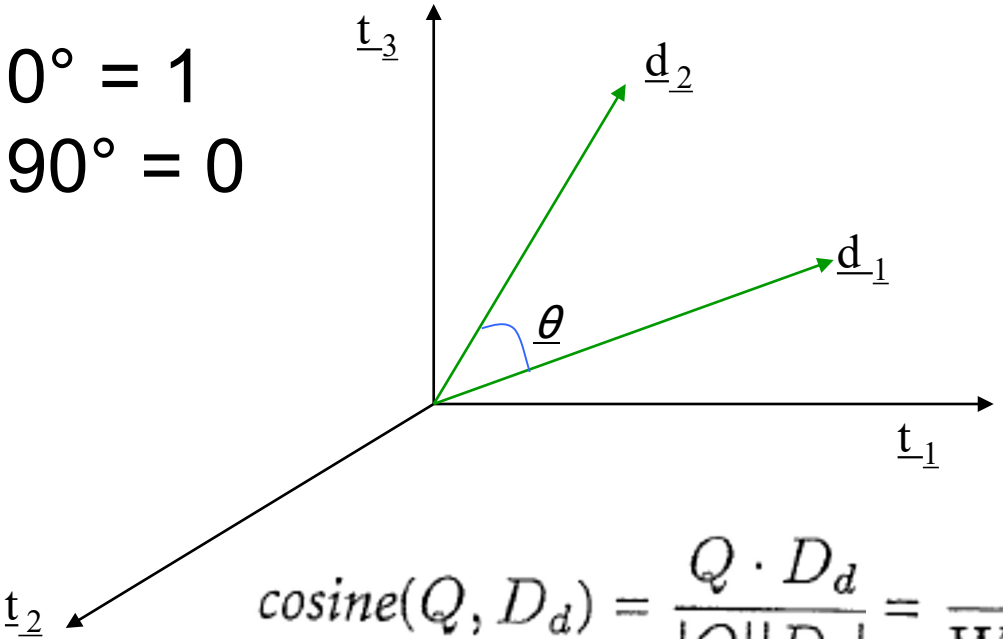
$df_i = \text{the number of documents that contain term } i$

- Increases with the number of occurrences *within* a doc
- Increases with the rarity of the term *across* the whole corpus

Similarity in vector space

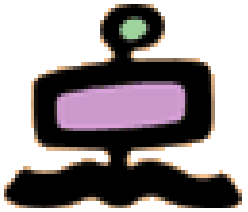
- Similarity between vectors d_1 and d_2 is *captured* by the **cosine** of the angle *x* between them.
- Note – this is *similarity*, not distance

cos 0° = 1
cos 90° = 0



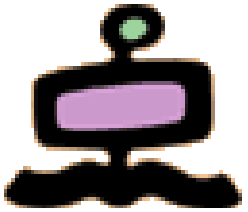
$$cosine(Q, D_d) = \frac{Q \cdot D_d}{|Q||D_d|} = \frac{1}{W_q W_d} \sum_{t=1}^{n} w_{q,t} \cdot w_{d,t}$$

“Boosting” of terms



- A term coming from an HTML page is “more important” if it is:
  - In the title tag
  - In the page URL
  - In an HTML heading
  - In capital letters
  - Larger font
  - Early on in the page
  - In an HTML metatag
  - in the anchor text of a link pointing to that page
- A set of query terms is more important if they appear in the page:
  - Close together
  - In the right order
  - As a phrase

Main functions of a search engine



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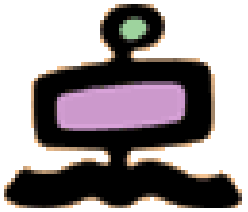
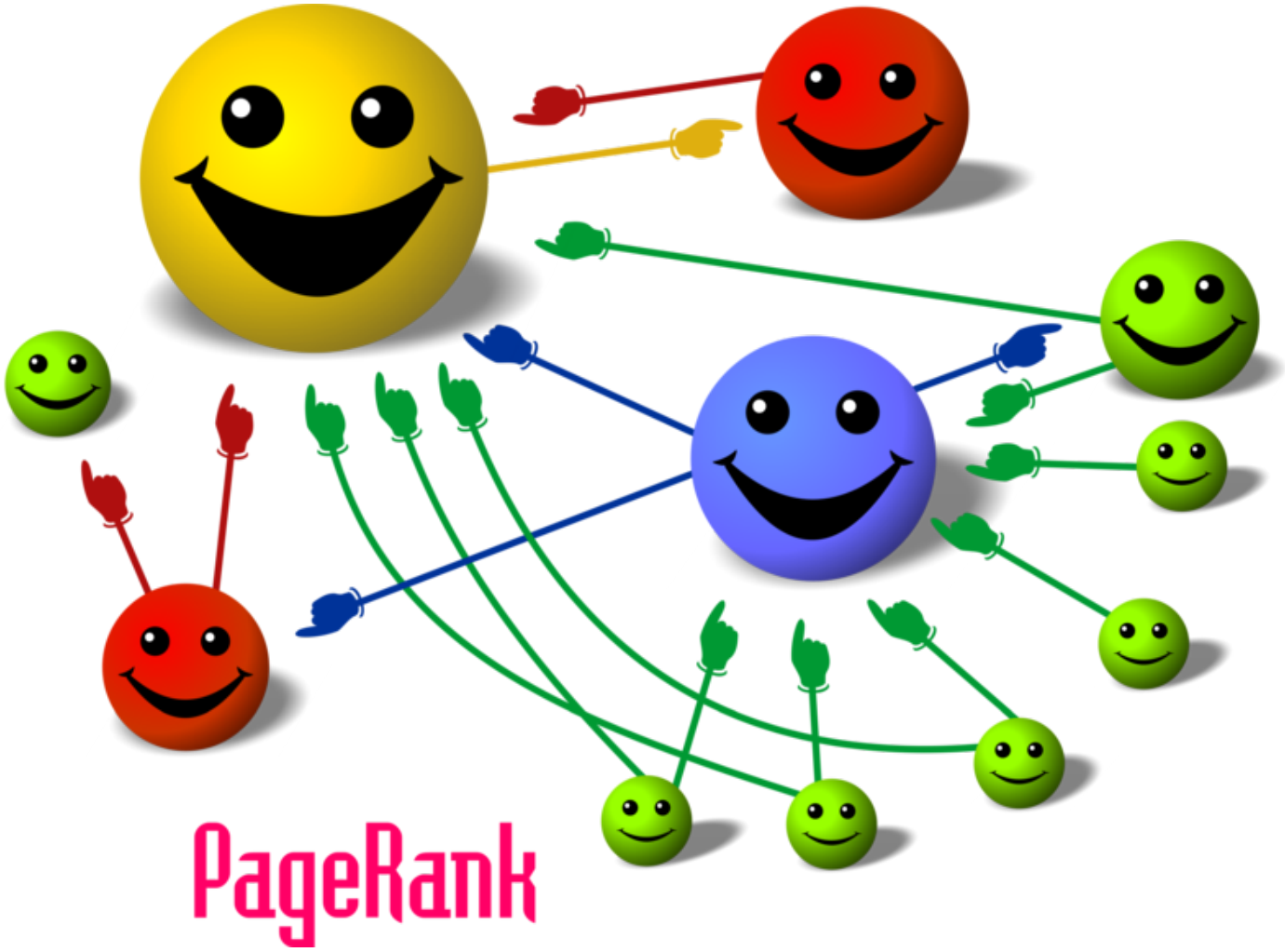
Ranking in the Web

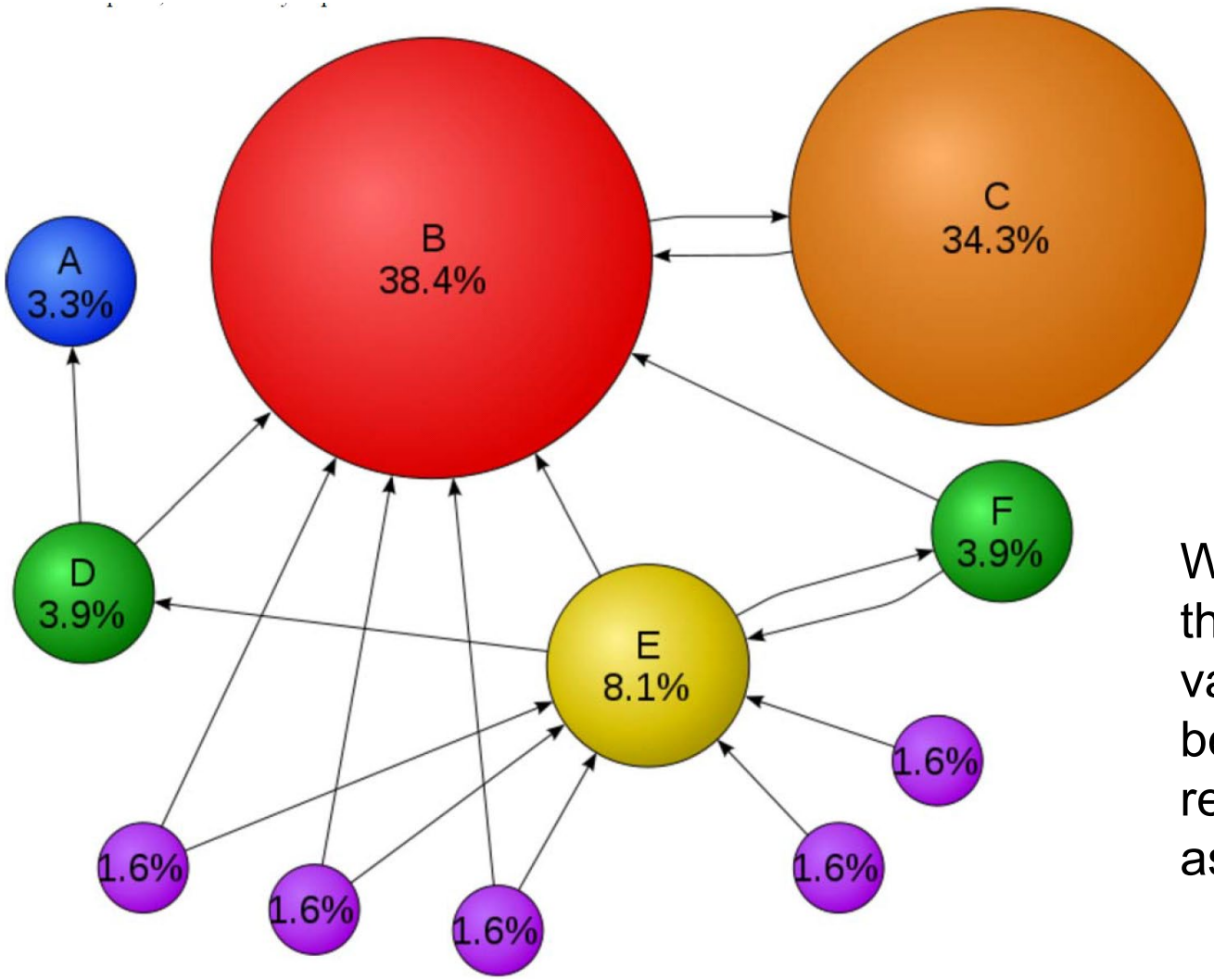


- Searching and ranking for “relevant documents” in a collection depends only on the content of the documents (free text search/retrieval, “bag of words” model)
- In the web, however, in addition to the page content there is the information provided by the hyperlinks from one web page to another
- The idea is therefore to rank the relevance of a web page based also on its “popularity” in the web, i.e. the number of links pointing to it from other web pages

The PageRank idea

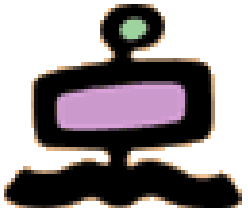


The PageRank values



We can consider the PageRank value as a number between 0 and 1, represented here as a percentage

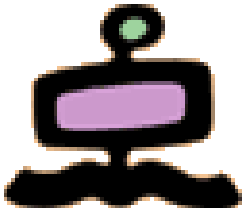
The PageRank algorithm



- The PageRank algorithm was published in 1996 by two students at Stanford University (Larry Page and Sergey Brin, the founders of Google)
  - the patent belongs to the University of Stanford and Google has the exclusive right to it
- The PageRank of a page is the sum of the values of the links pointing to it
- The value of an outgoing link is the PageRank of the page containing the link divided by the total number of outgoing links from that page
- Simple example for a “Web” of four pages, where pages B, C and D contain a link to page A:

$$PR(A) = \frac{PR(B)}{L(B)} + \frac{PR(C)}{L(C)} + \frac{PR(D)}{L(D)}.$$

The PageRank algorithm

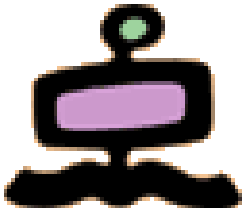


- More in general:

$$PR(u) = \sum_{v \in B_u} \frac{PR(v)}{L(v)}$$

- where B_u is the set of pages pointing to page *u* and *L(v)* is the number of outgoing links in page *v*
- In the mathematical model behind the PageRank algorithm, the rank of a page represents the probability that a **random surfer** sooner or later will land on that page
  - a random surfer starts navigation from random page of the web
  - clicks at random a link on that page
  - goes on “forever”
- The above is valid for a web completely connected
  - What if a page does not have outgoing links ?
  - What if a page does not have incoming links ?

Complete PageRank algorithm

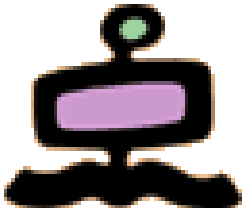


- To take into account “dangling pages”, the random surfer model is modified
  - At each page, the surfer can choose between clicking a link on that page, or jumping to a new page at random
  - The probability that the surfer clicks a link on that page is called the “damping factor”
- The final formula is (d is the damping factor, between 0 and 1, usually set at 0,85):

$$PR(p_i) = \frac{1-d}{N} + d \sum_{p_j \in M(p_i)} \frac{PR(p_j)}{L(p_j)}$$

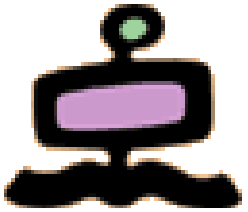
N is the total number of pages

Calculating the PageRank



- PageRank is a “normal” problem of linear algebra
  - a system of N equations in N unknowns
- For big (huge) systems, mathematicians have developed “iterative” ways to solve the system
  - all the pages are assigned an initial value (usually the same, 1/N)
  - the system is solved to get new values
  - the new values are assigned to the pages
  - the process is repeated until the difference with the previous step is negligible
- In the real Web, the number of iterations is in the order of 100, and the computation of the PageRank for all the pages may take several days

Search Engines considerations



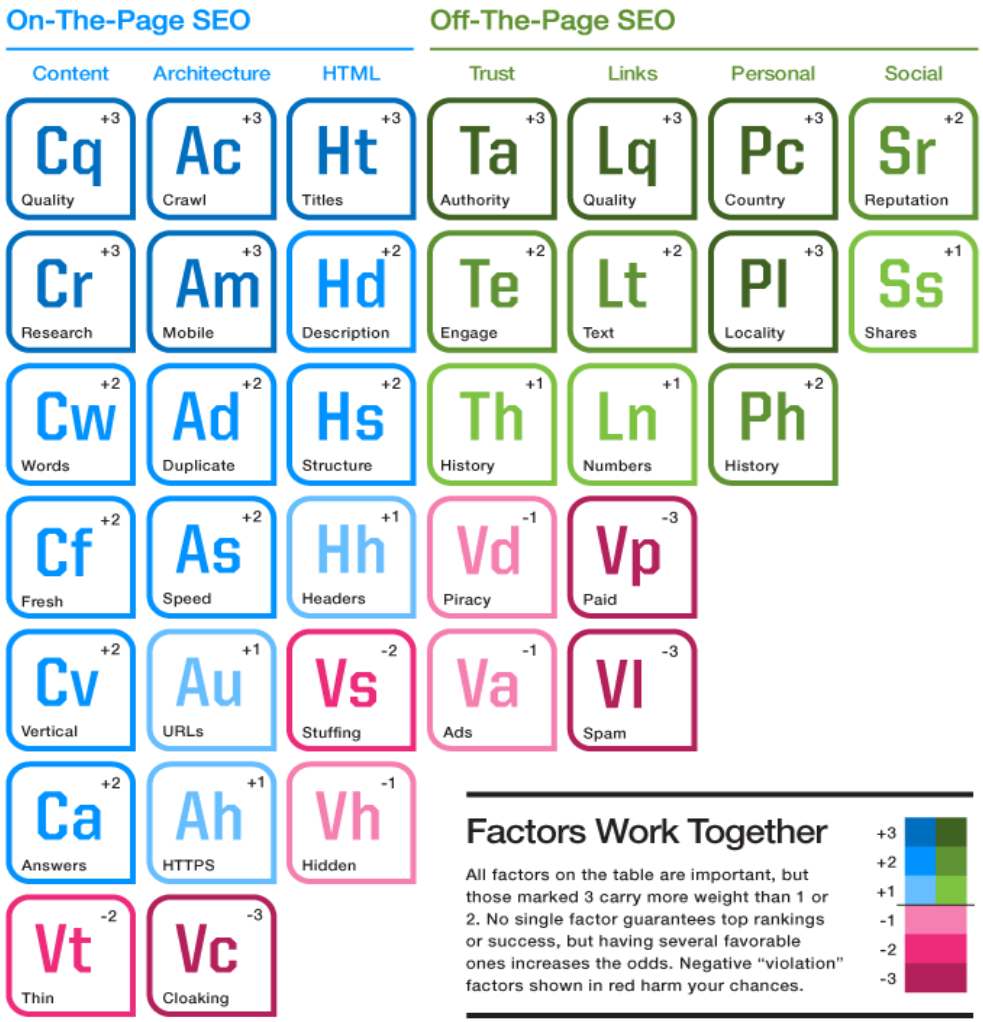
- Collection of query data (for statistics)
  - topics
  - time and location
  - number of clicks
- Search Engines Optimization (SEO)
  - objective is to increase the PageRank of a page
  - increase the PageRank of the pages pointing to it
  - divide a Web site into many pages
- Advertising on search engines
  - high volume of visitors
  - “knowledge” of web page content
  - targeted advertising

Just

0.63%

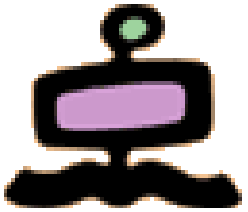
of people click on the second page of Google search results.

Table of SEO ranking factors



https://searchengineland.com/guide/seo

On-page SEO ranking factors

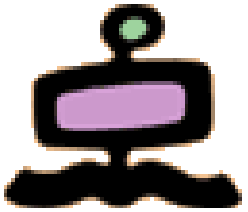


On-The-Page Factors

These elements are in the direct control of the publisher

Content		
Cq	QUALITY	Are pages well written & have substantial quality content?
Cr	RESEARCH	Have you researched the keywords people may use to find your content?
Cw	WORDS	Do pages use words & phrases you hope they'll be found for?
Cf	FRESH	Are pages fresh & about "hot" topics?
Cv	VERTICAL	Do you have image, local, news, video or other vertical content?
Ca	ANSWERS	Is your content turned into direct answers within search results?
Vt	THIN	Is content "thin" or "shallow" & lacking substance?

On-page SEO ranking factors

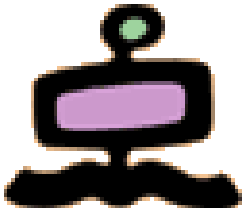


On-The-Page Factors

These elements are in the direct control of the publisher

Architecture		
Ac	CRAWL	Can search engines easily "crawl" pages on site?
Am	MOBILE	Does your site work well for mobile devices?
Ad	DUPLICATE	Does site manage duplicate content issues well?
As	SPEED	Does site load quickly?
Au	URLS	Do URLs contain meaningful keywords to page topics?
Ah	HTTPS	Does site use HTTPS to provide secure connection for visitors?
Vc	CLOAKING	Do you show search engines different pages than humans?

On-page SEO ranking factors

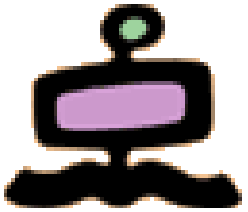


On-The-Page Factors

These elements are in the direct control of the publisher

HTML		
Ht	TITLES	Do HTML title tags contain keywords relevant to page topics?
Hd	DESCRIPTION	Do meta description tags describe what pages are about?
Hs	STRUCTURE	Do pages use structured data to enhance listings?
Hh	HEADERS	Do headlines & subheads use header tags with relevant keywords?
Vs	STUFFING	Do you excessively use words you want pages to be found for?
Vh	HIDDEN	Do colors or design "hide" words you want pages to be found for?

Off-page SEO ranking factors

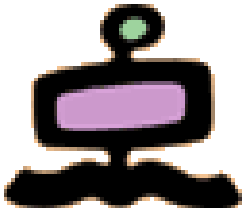


Off-The-Page Factors

Elements influenced by readers, visitors & other publishers

Trust		
Ta	AUTHORITY	Do links, shares & other factors make pages trusted authorities?
Te	ENGAGE	Do visitors spend time reading or "bounce" away quickly?
Th	HISTORY	Has site or its domain been around a long time, operating in same way?
Vd	PIRACY	Has site been flagged for hosting pirated content?
Va	ADS	Is content ad-heavy? Do you make use of intrusive interstitials?

Off-page SEO ranking factors

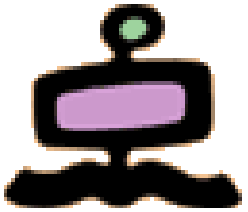


Off-The-Page Factors

Elements influenced by readers, visitors & other publishers

Links		
Lq	QUALITY	Are links from trusted, quality or respected web sites?
Lt	TEXT	Do links pointing at pages use words you hope they'll be found for?
Ln	NUMBER	Do many links point at your web pages?
Vp	PAID	Have you purchased links in hopes of better rankings?
Vl	SPAM	Have you created links by spamming blogs, forums or other places?

Off-page SEO ranking factors



Off-The-Page Factors

Elements influenced by readers, visitors & other publishers

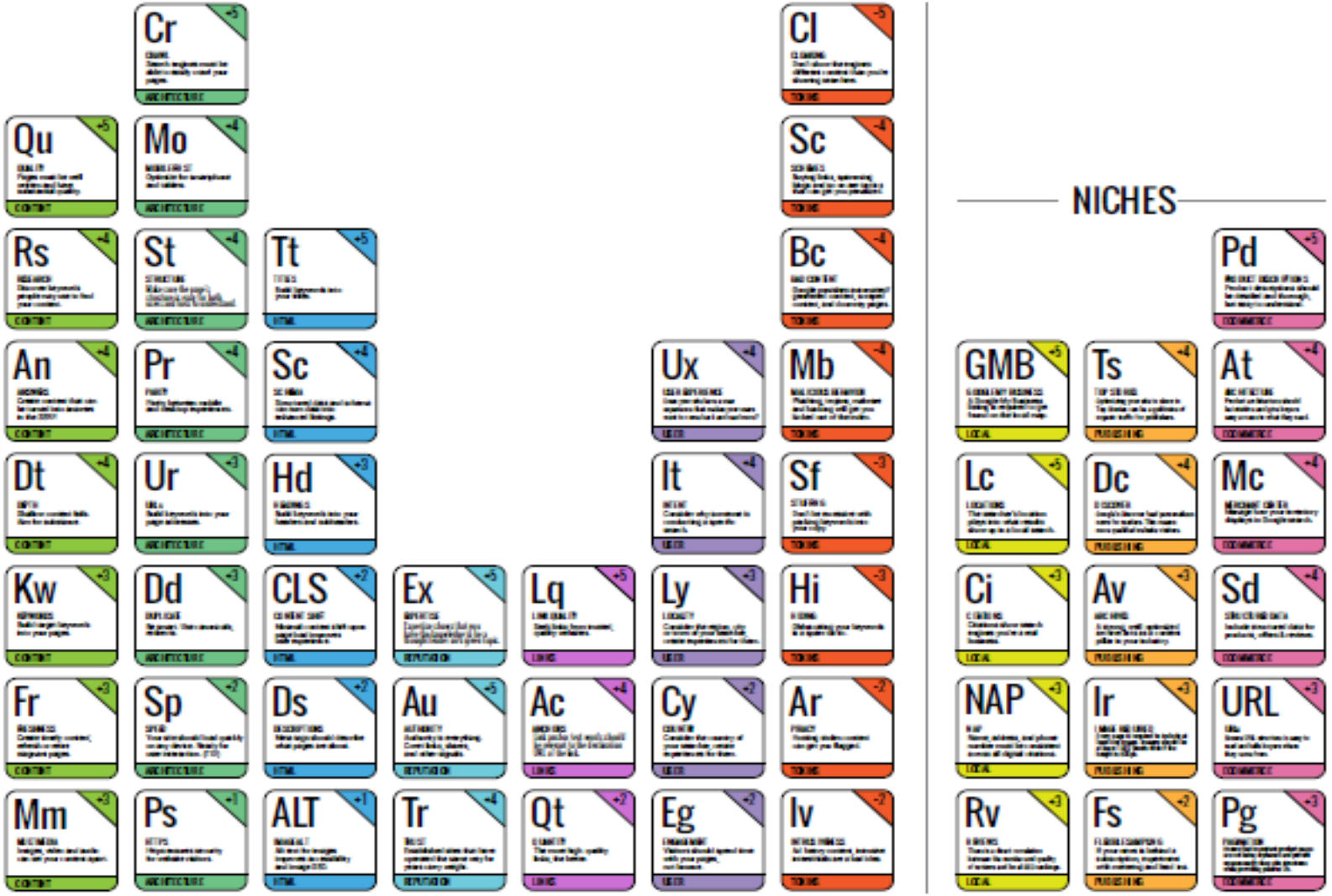
Personal

Pc	COUNTRY	What country is someone located in?
Pl	LOCALITY	What city or local area is someone located in?
Ph	HISTORY	Has someone regularly visited your site?

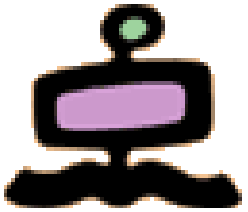
Social

Sr	REPUTATION	Do those respected on social networks share your content?
Ss	SHARES	Do many share your content on social networks?

Table of SEO ranking factors

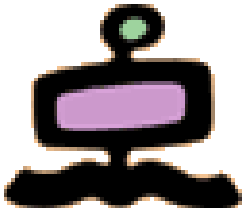


Violations



- Link spam
  - Link farms
  - Hidden links
  - Sybil attack
  - Page hijacking
  - Buying expired domains
  - Cookie stuffing
  - Using world-writable pages
  - Blog spam
  - Comment spam
  - Wiki spam
  - Referrer log spamming
- Content spam
  - Keyword stuffing
  - Hidden or invisible text
  - Meta-tag stuffing
  - Doorway pages
  - Scraper sites
  - Article spinning
- Other types
  - Mirror websites
  - URL redirection
  - Cloaking

Search Engines considerations



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  - number of clicks
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  - high volume of visitors
  - “knowledge” of web page content
  - targeted advertising

Advertizing on Google

- advertising is associated to “key words” (Google AdWords)
- ads are published on the result page of a query containing a keyword
- ads are paid “per click”
- ads may be published also on “partner sites” (Google AdSense)

Google advertising revenues