

We tell you what you already would know !

finding meaning, value and utility in the gigs of data

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Developer Workshop 2008

Outline

- 1 Introduction
 - Definitions
 - The information paradox
- 2 How to get a grip
 - Describing your information
 - Using contextual information
 - Deja Vu
- 3 Join the voyage
 - Departure
 - Crossing the border
 - Roundup

Definitions

Definition (Data)

Anything in a form suitable for use with a computer

Definition (Information)

A collection of data which possesses some degree of utility, meaning or value

The information paradox

- Do you really know exactly what information you collected and where you stored it ??

Storage

- Storage locations
 - Local Computer
 - Local Network
 - Websites
 - Portable Media players
 - Mobile phones
 - ...
- Low storage price, no need to
 - Clean up working areas
 - Maintain, and index information stored

The 3 degrees of information

- Value
 - Does the information you stored still have some value?
- Meaning
 - Can you tell from the file what it means to you?
- Utility
 - What is the use of the information stored?

The paradox

- After asking yourself these questions
 - The amount of information stored is huge
 - Meaning, value and utility can only be evaluated by looking at the information again
- Conclusion
 - The vast amount of information, renders it unstructured
 - Too much “information” is data

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Application view

- Look beyond the initial context of your applications
 - Think about storing, and describing contextual information
 - Investigate open standards for describing information
 - Dublin core
 - Use open standards for accessing this information
 - WSDL (Web Service Description Language)
 - Keep away from possible solutions

User view

- Attach the contextual information to your documents
 - On digital photographs
 - Where is it
 - Who is on there
 - On documents
 - What event is the document related to
 - Who are the reviewers
- Keep away from possible solutions

Using contextual information

- Define services which are attached to certain contextual data
 - Looking up locations with Google
 - Storing events in your agenda
 - Searching keywords on the web
 - Storing locations on your navigation tool
- Enterprise adaptation
 - Use web service meta data
 - Leverage contextual information added by employees to enrich company knowledge base

Is this really new ?

- Extended Attributes
 - Keywords
 - Application specific attributes
- Web based utilities
 - iGoogle
 - Operator

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What is happening now

- Current solutions
 - Web based information or local computer based information
 - Don't take moving data into account
 - Focused on finding data, not information
 - Context is missing on results
- Almost no crossover between web and desktop

Where do we want to go

- Using the web to find additional information on your local documents
- Generate information for local use based on web pages you use
- Find relations between data stored on your system
- Share contextual information through the enterprise
- Find new relations in existing enterprise data

What are the directions

- Proof of concept
 - NOM Based
 - Contextual cross boundary information collection
- Guerrilla tactics
 - WPS Class replacements
 - Windows Shell Extensions
 - Gnome Panels

Roundup

Questions or Remarks ???