Southampton



Richer Links

COMP3220 Web Infrastructure

Dr Nicholas Gibbins - nmg@ecs.soton.ac.uk







What is Spatial Hypermedia?

Tools for supporting emergent structure (implicit structure -> explicit relationships)

Visual/spatial metaphor allows people to express ambiguous or partial structures

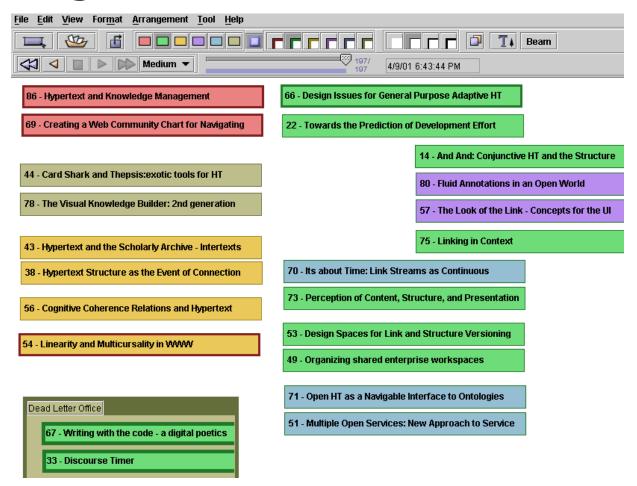
- Focus on creation of structure
- Focus on visual and spatial properties: position, colour, border, shape, font

Distinctive line of spatial hypermedia systems in the literature:

Notecards, glBIS, VNS, Aquanet, VIKI, VKB

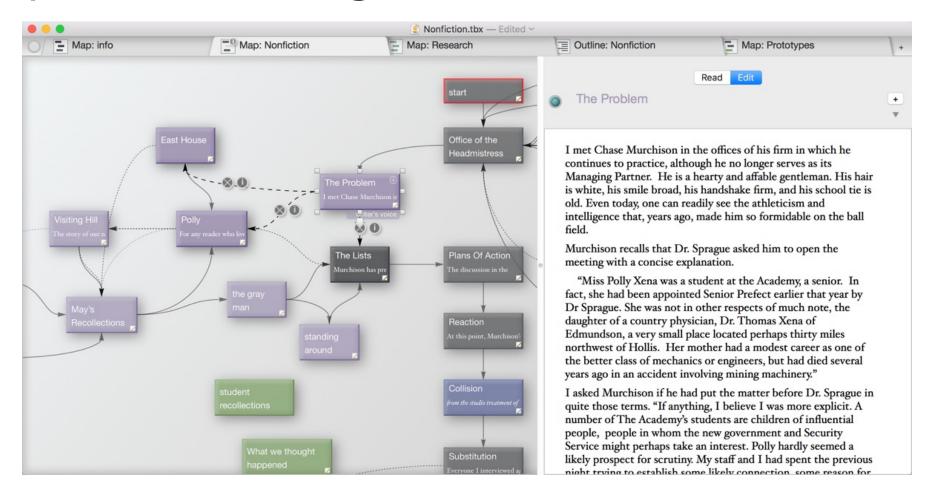


Visual Knowledge Builder





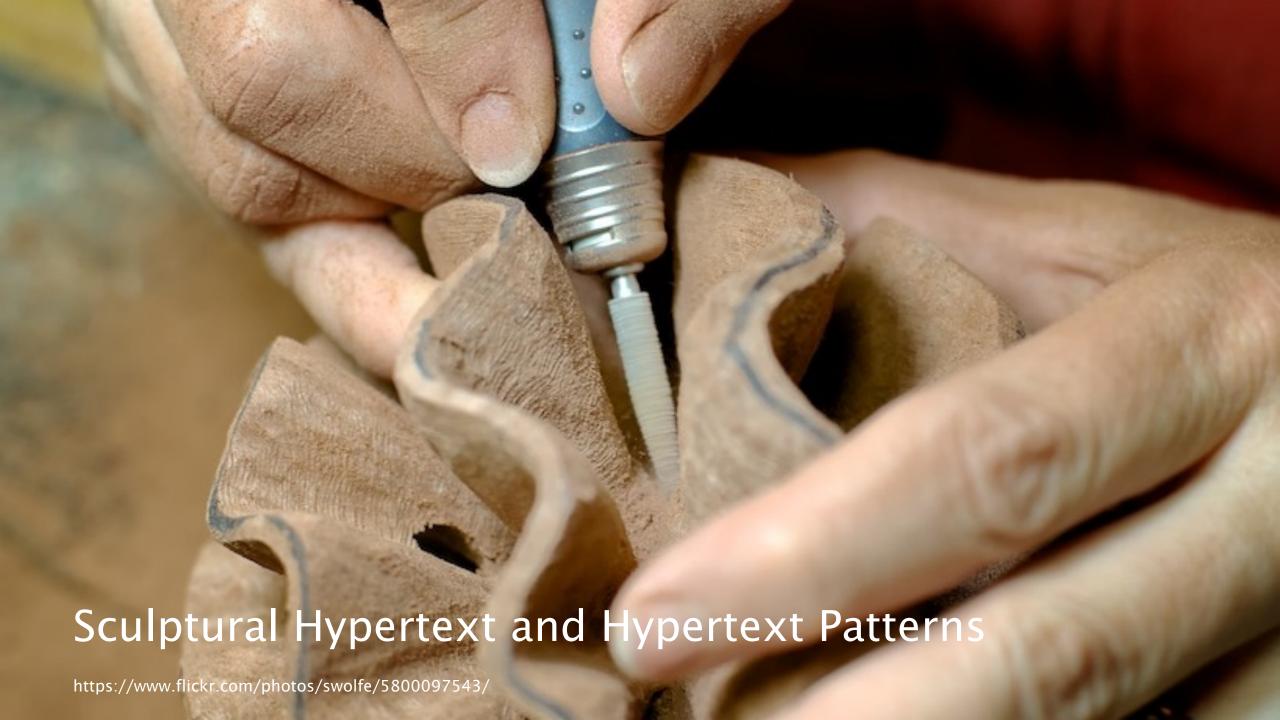
Storyspace (www.eastgate.com)





Tinderbox







Sculptural Hypertext

Considerations for the writing of hypertext:

- Conventional (calligraphic) hypertext adds links between nodes until the desired structure is achieved
- Sculptural hypertext assumes that all nodes are linked to each other, and removes links until the desired structure is achieved



Card Shark

A Card Shark node (or card) contains:

- A brief, focused passage of text
- Optional constraints on the context in which the card may be read

Reading is like playing a solitaire card game

- Reader dealt a hand of seven random cards
- Chooses a card to play (i.e. node to read) based on card constraints
- Deals a replacement card, repeats

Social Shark: collaborative, competitive reading

- Readers take it in turns to play cards
- Points awarded to readers for the playing of particular cards





Time-Based Hypertext

Linking into temporal and continuous media (sound, animations, video)

- Providing hypertext jumps to other contexts
- Annotation of the current item playing
- Synchronization of multiple media

Issue: embed the links or point from outside?

- If embedded, what media format does this?
- If linking by reference, how to describe the place the link is?

Issue: quality of Service

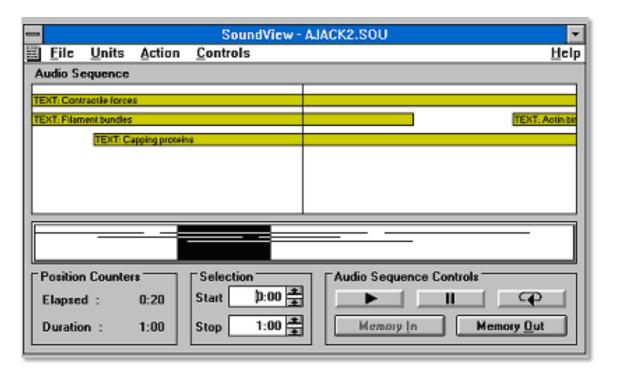
Will things happen when they should?



Microcosm Sound Viewer (1993)

Early innovative work on putting jump links into sound files

- Top window shows clickable links and bar is the "now point"
- Bottom window shows top window in context of whole file
- Links can be user activated or automatically invoked (decided by author)
- Link anchors described as start and finish times in seconds through file

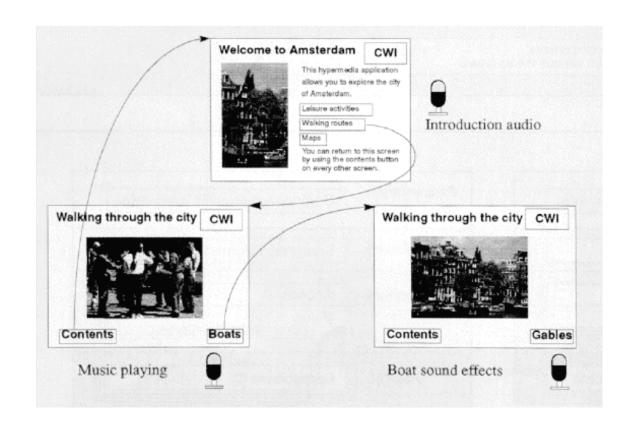




The Amsterdam Hypermedia Model (1994)

Concerned with provision of systems to author multimedia presentations and synchronise multiple data streams

- Parallel "channels"
- Offset links into temporal media
- Stationary hotspots in media
- Inspired SMIL





HyTime

Hypermedia/Time-based Structuring Language ISO/IEC 10744:1992 (and v2 in 1997)

- Added cross document links to SGML
- Contextual links (c.f. HTML a element) and independent links (c.f. XLink extended links)

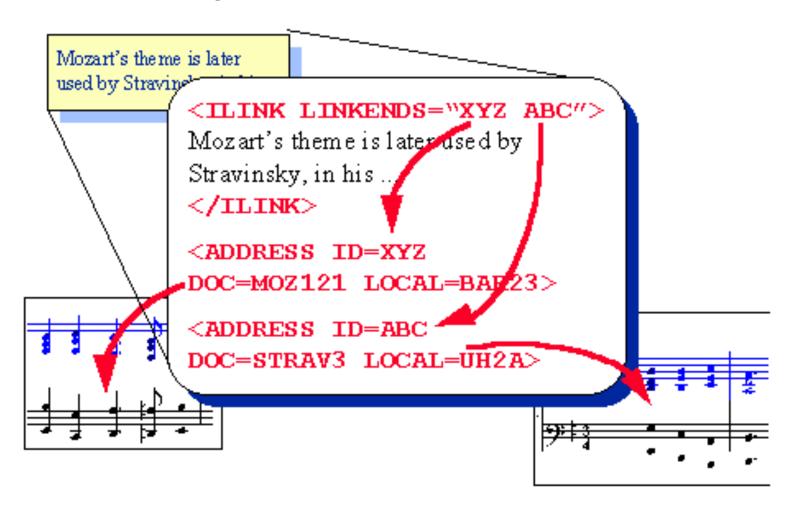
Multiple ways of addressing locations:

- Named elements (c.f. name/id attribute in HTML)
- Using document structure treeloc and dataloc (c.f. XPath/XPointer expressions)
- Using queries (HyQ query language, later supplanted by DSSSL c.f. Xquery/XPath)
- Indirectly via a series of steps nameloc

HyTime link mechanism inspired that of XLink/XPointer



HyTime ilink example





Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language (SMIL)

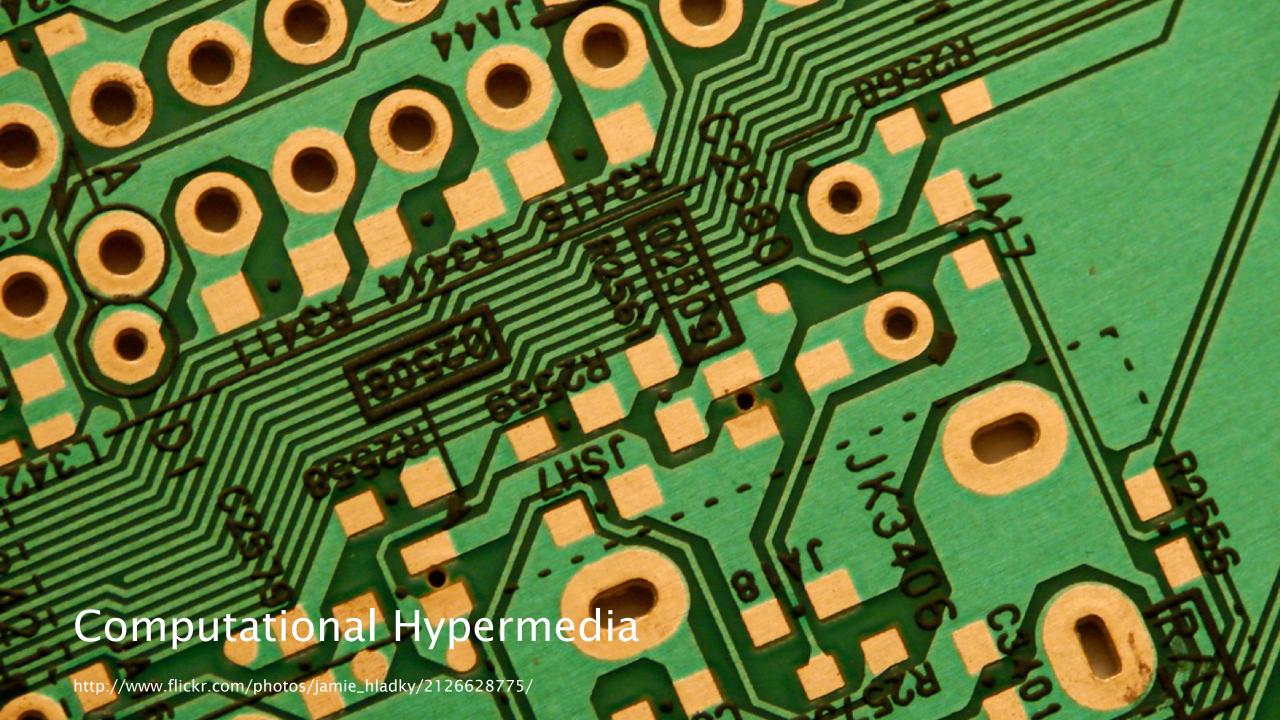
XML format for multimedia on the Web

- Timing, screen layout, interaction of media elements
- Nested parallel and sequence elements
- Switch element for alternative media (e.g. for different users or different displays)
- Uses CSS, XPointer and XLink

Now largely supplanted by HTML5 (but does things that HTML5 cannot) Still used for animating SVG



SMIL example media to be played alternative audio in parallel <?xml version="1.0"?> based on language <smil xmlns="http://www.w3.org/ns/SMIL"> <body> <par endsync="first"> <switch> <audio src="greeting-en.mp3" type="audio/mpeg" systemLanguage="en"/> <audio src="greeting-de.mp3" type="audio/mpeg" systemLanguage="de"/> </switch> <seq> <switch> media to <text src="greeting-en.txt" dur="2s" systemLanguage="en"/> be played <text src="greeting-de.txt" dur="2s" systemLanguage="de"/> sequentially </switch> <video src="titles.mp4" type="video/mp4"/> </sea> </par> </body> </smil>





Seven Issues

Issue 4: Computation in (over) hypermedia networks

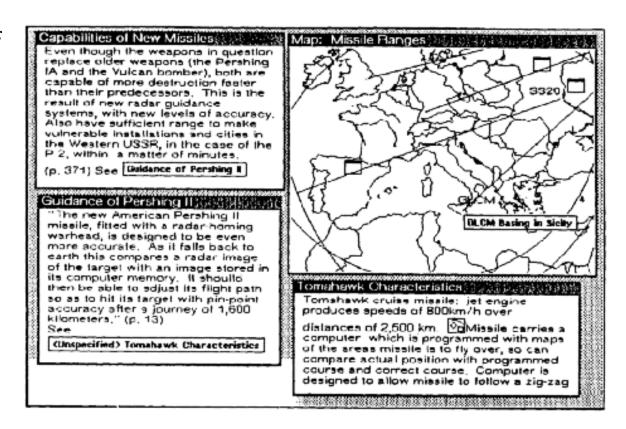
- The idea is to provide APIs to allow cards to be orchestrated and scripts to be executed when certain events occur
- Interactivity
- Adaptivity
- Generated nodes and links



NoteCards

Script cards that orchestrate the display of other cards

- Used to determine what material to show next
- Scripting engine separate from hypertext system





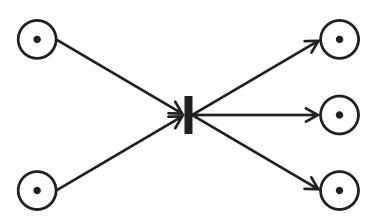
Trellis

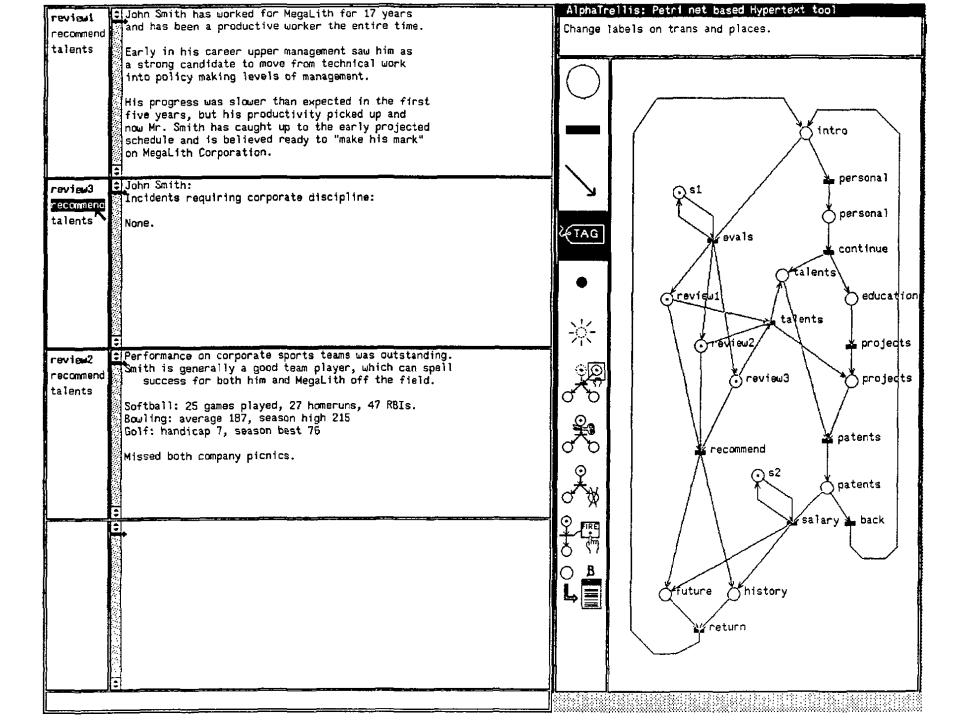
Petri Net-based hypertext

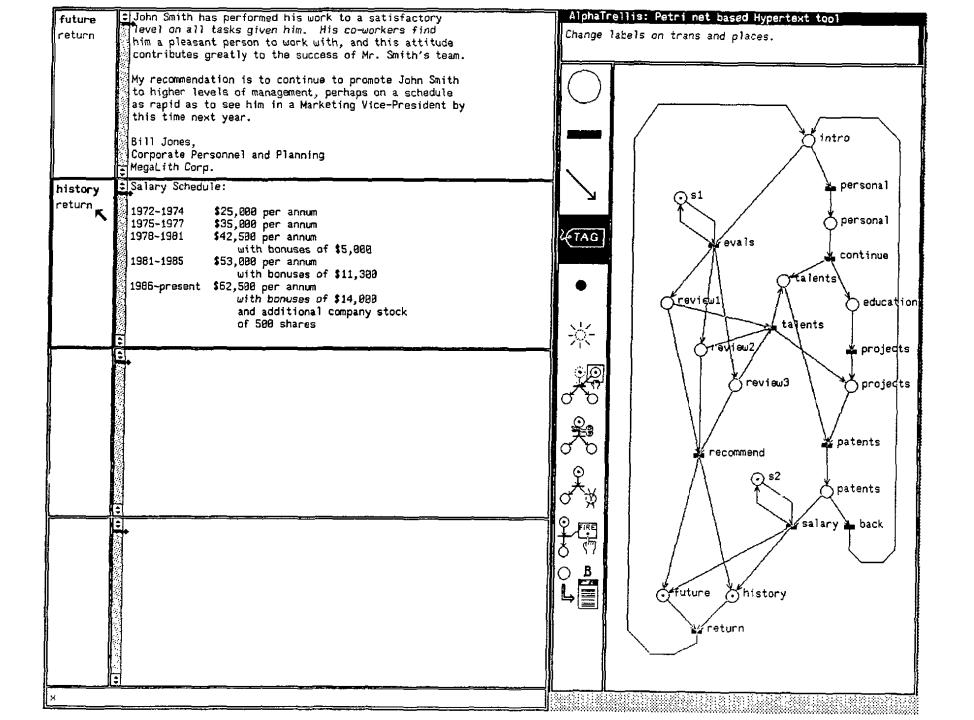
- Variant finite state automata
- Vertex types: places/transitions
- Places labelled with tokens
- Directed edges are either place->transition or transition->place
- Tokens follow edges from place to place through transitions
- Transition can only be activated if all predecessor places have tokens

Petri Nets as hypertext

- Places correspond to nodes
- Nodes with tokens are visible to reader
- Transitions correspond to (n-ary) links





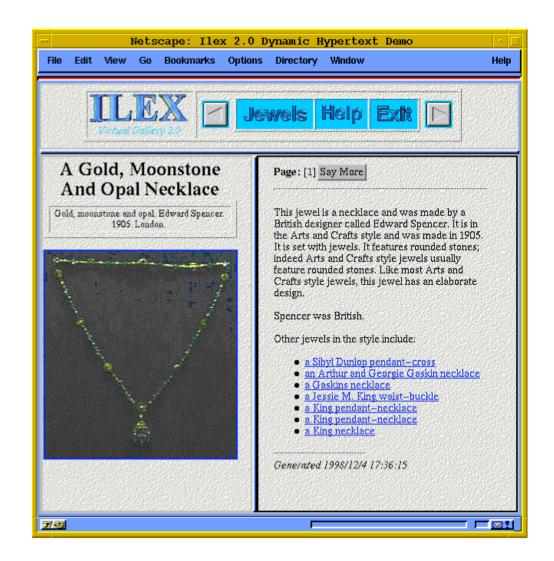




ILEX

Dynamic hypertext system that generates both nodes and links at run-time

- Text generation from structured knowledge
- Hypertext is history-aware

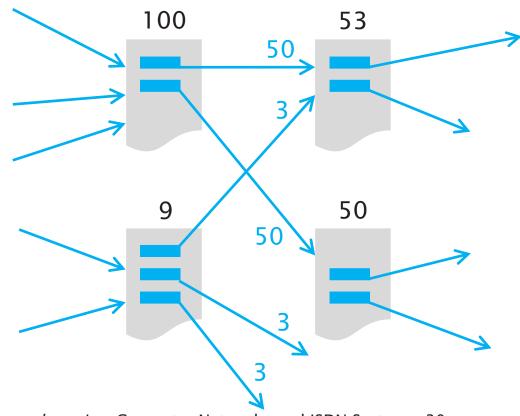




PageRank

Algorithm used by Google to rank search results

- Calculation performed over hypertext structure
- Pages 'vote' for each other by linking to each other
- Votes by highly-ranked pages are valued more highly than those by low-ranked pages



Brin, S. and Page, L. (1998). *The anatomy of a large-scale hypertextual Web search engine*. Computer Networks and ISDN Systems, 30, pp. 107–117.





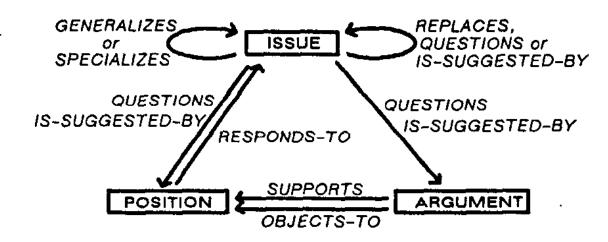
Origins: typed links

Early hypertext systems allowed links to be "typed"

- Links have meaning (semantics)
- We understand what we get by following a link

We may be able to infer further information

 If the semantics are well defined, then maybe a machine can infer information too





What is Conceptual Hypermedia?

Conceptual Hypermedia = Hypermedia + Ontologies

"An ontology is a specification of a conceptualisation"

- Specification: A formal description
- Conceptualisation: The objects, concepts, and other entities that are assumed to exist in some area of interest and the relationships that hold among them

Ontologies as engineered artifacts:

- A specific vocabulary used to describe a certain reality, plus
- · A set of explicit assumptions regarding the intended meaning of the vocabulary



What is Conceptual Hypermedia?

Hypertext is the study of what can be said using computer media, databases and links

Computer-mediated extensions to familiar textual communication

Things that exist have complex relationships with each other

- Complex structures are required for expressing and exploring these relationships
- Ontologies formalise these complex structures

Conceptual Hypermedia is the kind of hypertext whose structure and links are derived from the relationships between objects in the real world

Hypertext with an underlying ontological model



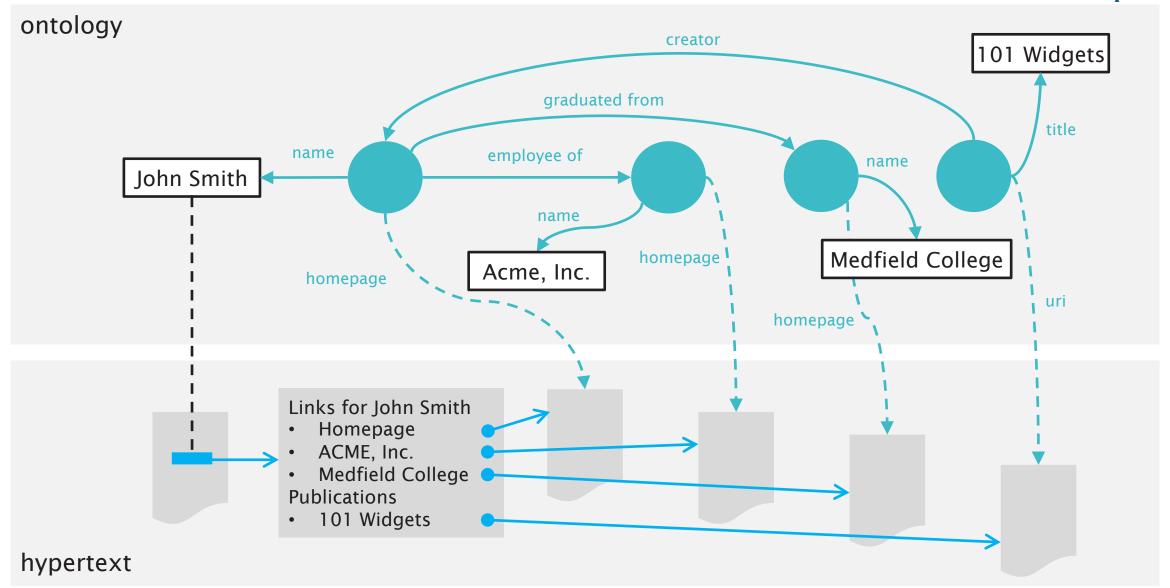
Conceptual Open Hypermedia

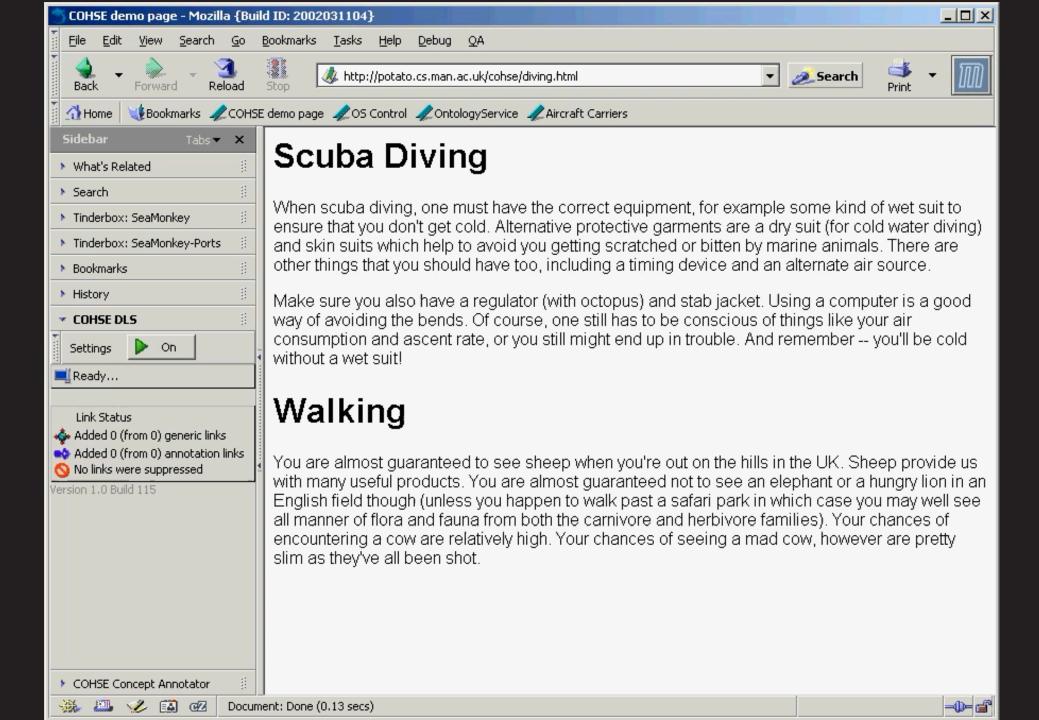
Hypermedia links can be viewed as navigable ontology relationships

Ontology used to improve linking

- Concepts used to disambiguate word sense of candidate link endpoints
- Links derived from ontology relations

Southampton Southampton







Pervasive Computing

HCI vision in which computers are integrated into everyday activities

- "Machines that fit the human environment"
- Computers in everything

What about links in everything?





Interactive Spaces

Embedding interactive media in physical environments



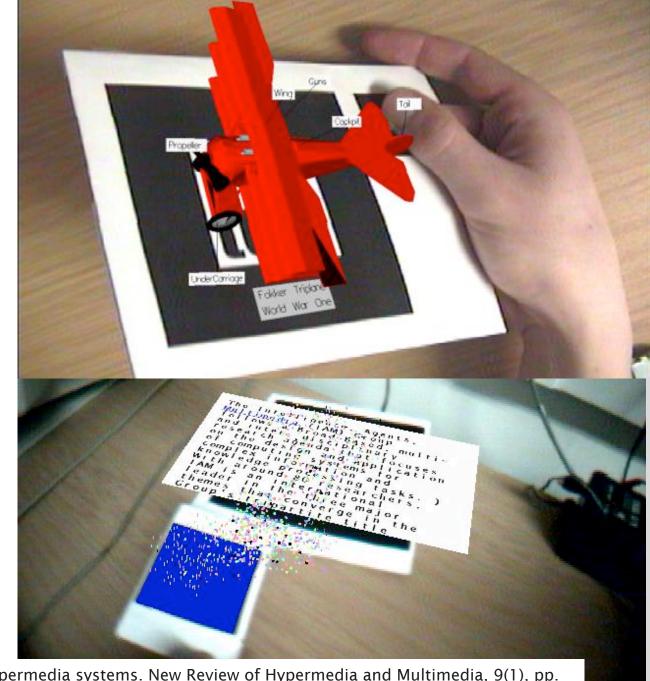
Halloran, J. et al (2006) The Literacy Fieldtrip: Using Ubicomp to Support Children's Creative Writing. Proceedings of the 5th International Conference for Interaction Design and Children, pp. 17-24.

Augmented Reality

Overlaying computer-generated imagery on the real world

Annotate live video with links

Fifteen years ago, a research curiosity...



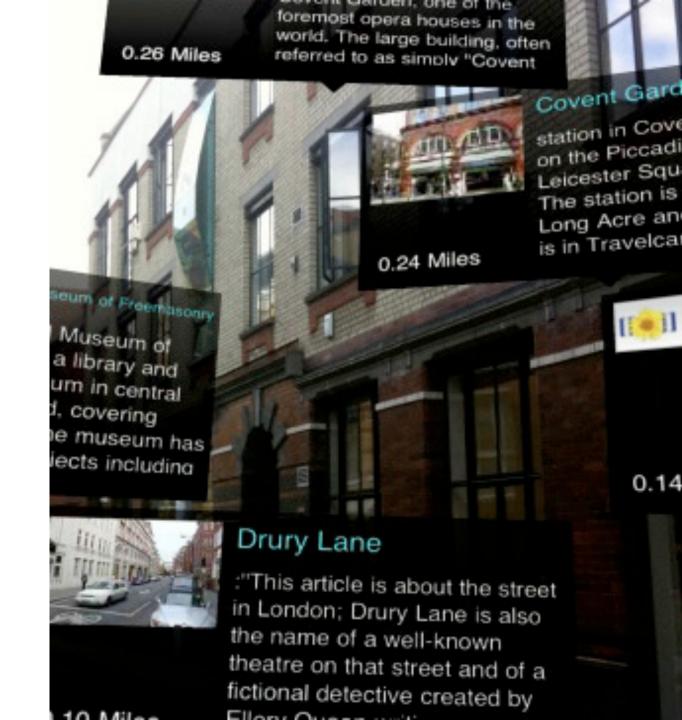
Sinclair, P. et al (2003) Augmented reality as an interface to adaptive hypermedia systems. New Review of Hypermedia and Multimedia, 9(1), pp. 117-136.

Augmented Reality

...today, a commonplace reality

- Smartphones with cameras and location/position sensors
- Conventions for embedding links in/on physical objects





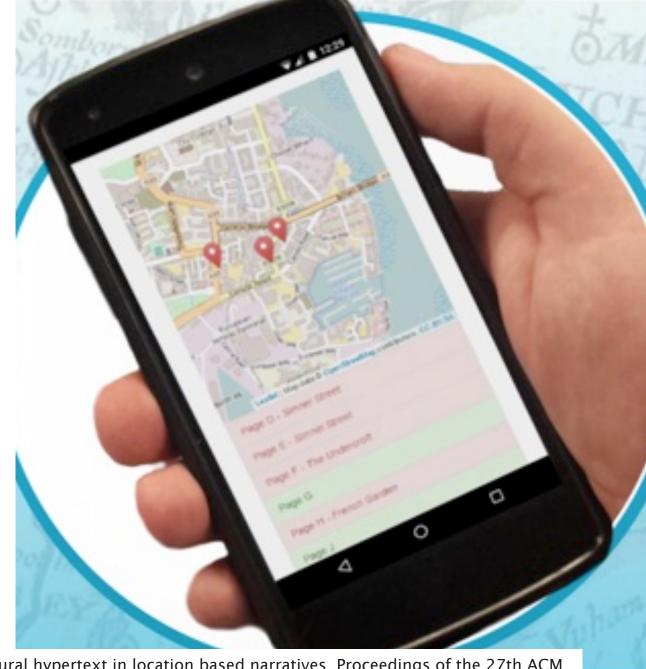
StoryPlaces

Sculptural hypertext system for locationbased narratives

Card constraints based on:

- Location
- Environmental factors (time, weather, etc)

Try it out - http://storyplaces.soton.ac.uk



Hargood, C., Hunt, V., Weal, M. and Millard, D. (2016) Patterns of sculptural hypertext in location based narratives. Proceedings of the 27th ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media.



Adaptive Hypermedia

http://www.flickr.com/photos/worldofoddy/102313059/

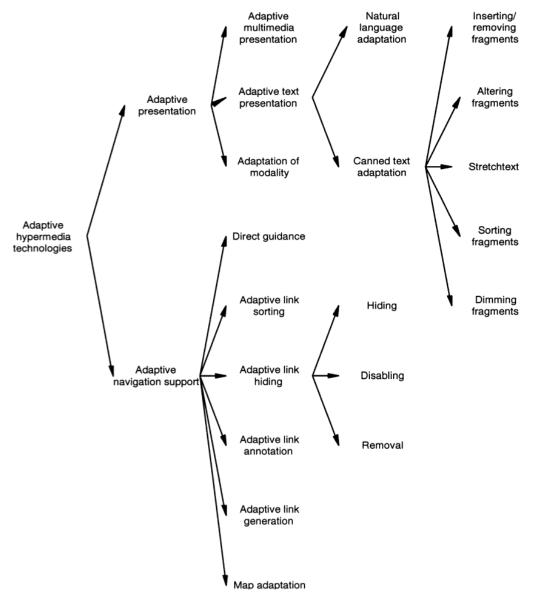


Adaptive Hypermedia

Hypertext systems which adapt:

- Links
- Nodes (content)
- Presentation of links or nodes

Adaptation based on some user model (static or dynamic)





Intelligent Tutoring Systems

Adaptive hypermedia often based on ideas of "intelligent tutoring systems" (see also: programmed instruction)

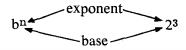
Limited uptake due to difficulty/cost of authoring (for both AH and ITS)

We have defined the symbol b^n as meaning "the product reached by using the number b as a factor n times." Thus, for example

$$2^3 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$$

 $3^3 = 3 \times 3 = 9$
 $b^2 = b \times b$

We have also learned that in an expression of the form b^n , the number b is called the base and the number n is called the exponent.



Finally, we have seen that a number expression such as 2³ is called "the 3rd power of 2" or "2 raised to the 3rd power," and so on. Now, here is a question on this review material. Pick an answer and turn to the page number given after the answer you choose. The question is: If the base of an expression is 2, and the exponent is 3, what is the expression equal to?

Answer	Pag
8	5
9	9
I have no idea	13



Adaptive Navigation

- Direct guidance (where should the reader go next?)
- Link sorting (in order of value to the reader)
- Link hiding (don't show links that aren't relevant to the reader)
- Link annotation (tell the reader about the links)
- Link generation (make new links for the reader)



Adaptive Presentation

- Stretchtext (text can be expanded or summarised using predetermined fragments)
- Natural language adaptation (generated text)
- Adaptive modality (video to audio, audio to text, etc)



Summary

Hypertext links aren't necessarily explicit, static and textual

- They may be derived from underlying relationships: spatial, conceptual, temporal
- They may be computed on the fly
- They may change depending on who is looking at them, or what they're trying to do
- They may point to physical objects, or be embedded in physical contexts

Southampton Southampton

Next Lecture: Telling Tales