

Turn off setresx
need 10 mins of setp for display issues
laptop on lag; ~~to~~ horseshoe
Lecture #4

project notes

(Asynchronous) ~~extra~~ discussion threads: some example formats and problems
Now going [↑] to move to a more direct form of social interaction: discussion threads.
focus on this, since the topic of all ~~the~~ ^{possible} conversations is ~~not~~ ^{out} beyond the way too big a topic.

Let's start w/
~~I want to show~~ a few examples to give you an idea of the range of formats such discussions can take.

You are all probably quite familiar with the ~~post; comment structure~~
~~The first example is you see on Facebook~~
the sequence of comments you see on many blogs ~~and~~ and news sites;
the post; comment structure that's on Facebook, which is a little more structured than one linear stream.

But there are other possibilities

Wikipedia: fascinating system
19M named accts; ~37k active users and ~3k highly active users. (~~wikipedia.wikipedia~~)
→ (wikipedia:wikipeidians)

Where ^{are} the conversations?
Article talk pages → talk pg. ~~sp~~ Changes/edits/ideas for the pg.
Sparse, but there are indented conversations

[for today not even talking about revision histories] which are another source of interaction even in text but comments, too.

wk beta-testing a visual-editing interface

→ edit interface
indentation is done manually

you can see that in the signatures, there's often a link to that user's talk page.

→ ~~Jens~~ ~~Joris~~ ~~S~~
b/c of the "just edit" interface, they've posted rules

discussions, ~~is~~ more or less consistent (but Administrative Evil seems to have incorrect indentation)

also note the, well, let's say cold tone @ the end.

unfortunately, things can be more unstructured \rightarrow Snow-Bliggord (aka Mark 91)

'Alternative Medicine edit' (near bottom)

probably to deal w/ notification msgs.

responses are on separate pages.

(so, a bit difficult to parse.)

- the wk dataset you have for your assignment is from user talk pages, and has been formatted for your convenience.

Then are other interesting discussions, also. F.

\rightarrow requests for adminship

people can be nominated and run for election as an admin, a position that entails extra power to do maintenance.

\rightarrow latest RFXs.

You can see some votes: people can support, oppose or be neutral.

\rightarrow there's a current election being held: (tally is high on PS)

- (self) nomination

- mandated Q:A

- user-contributed Q's

- the discussion: individual votes

people can refer to other people's reasons ('per ...')

under oppose: some are directed @ the candidate ('you')

- and some responses, including by the candidate

~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~

incredibly rich source of different types of conversations that are goal-oriented.

o survey posted to website about NLP problems, and a very short section on resources. (Firshte et al)

\rightarrow observations?

FB may be trying tree-based interface, w/ indicator that OP has re-entered

(Amazon Fix)

Let's move on to a much more explicitly structured site: Slashdot. (running since '97)
<score to be under-investigated>

It → slashdot page

stories are submitted and then posted by editors

• tags

• comments.

... all fairly conventional

It → for an individual story:

comment tree

• you can pick any comment you'd like to reply to

• you can get back to the parent of a comment you're looking@

• comments are annotated by moderators [this descr. from Wik]

default score: +1 for registered users,

0 for "anonymous cowards"

→ hard to click through a lot of the "It's not just China" threads comments to find a '0'

(can't see any nav b/c the filter is set to > 0)

+2 for "high karma" users,

-1 for "low karma".

• further moderation happens by moderators (not elected, just selected to get moderation points, which they use up.)

- can add/ subtract points from score by choosing descriptors

- scoring allows users to filter

• there's also a metamoderation system: are the descriptors "fair" or unfair.

- clearly lots of ~~predict~~ ^{research} potential problems: predicting score, predicting tag, predicting descriptor of individual comments.

- what about the 'nature' of the entire conversation?

- Gomez WWWW '08: figs 7 ("controversial")

fig 12 - stringy: "guestbook" vs. "interaction"?

predicting re-entry vs. comment volume.

→ WSDM '13 poster

(abstraction of an example in FB when essentially the same text prompted diff. threads).

project org:

- another so far, 2 pairs: (~~1, 2~~)

project org: ...