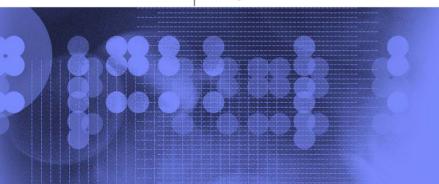




Semantic Search via XML Fragments: A High-Precision Approach to IR

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Joint work w/ John Prager, Krzysztof Czuba, David Ferrucci & Pablo Duboue

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Overview

- Why Semantic Search?
- Corpus Analysis for Semantic Search
- Using XML Fragments for Semantic Search
 - Three XML Fragments operators
 - Applied to address four query-time semantic needs
- Evaluation
- Pseudo demo
- Conclusions



Why Semantic Search?

- Plenty of people find what they need with keywords
 - Web search
 - Desktop search

These applications work well with keywords because

- Web search: corpus is huge
- Desktop search: looking for known item

Keyword search does not work quite so well for

- Enterprise search: limited-size corpus
- Exploratory research: user is researching a topic of interest and does not know what they are looking for
- Semantic search can help in the latter classes of applications

Semantic Search vs. Keyword Search

SEARCH: Going rate for leasing a billboard near Triborough Bridge



Top hits from popular search engines miss the mark...

Keywords may match BUT **WRONG** content returned And right content **MISSED**

SEARCH: Going rate for leasing a billboard near Triborough Bridge

Wired New York Forum - Long Island City Development "it's Right over The 59th Street Bridge." ... it's going to become our SoHo. The

Powerhouse is most likely **going** to become a performing Arts facility for ... www.wirednewyork.com/forum/ printthread.php?t=5160&pp=50 - 150k - Supplemental Result - Cached - Similar pages

Long Island City Development [Archive] - Wired New York Forum

... Creek to the **Triborough Bridge** - would become an attractive destination. ... Several Long Island City sites are now in play - Junger himself's **going** ... www.wirednewyork.com/forum/ archive/index.php/t-5160.html - 255k -<u>Cached</u> - <u>Similar pages</u> [More results from www.wirednewyork.com]

[PDF] Austin's Wireless Future

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - <u>View as HTML</u> In Section 2 we explore the **near**-term future of wireless-- ubiquitous mobile ... applications such as the **Triborough**. **Bridge** installation, wireless sensors ... www.ic2.org/publications/AustinsWirelessFuture.pdf - <u>Similar pages</u>

[PDF] Funding of the High-Speed Rail System

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - <u>View as HTML</u> **Triborough Bridge**, and Tunnel. Authority**. Oklahoma. Turnpike Authority ... management fees, reserves / on **going** TI's, and **leasing** commissions. ... www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/plan/pdf/Financial_Plan.pdf - <u>Similar pages</u>

The rail magazine for The computer age ...

Surprisingly, thanks to 9600 baud modems, lower **rates**, and automated access ... his previous positions included President, **Triborough Bridge** and tunnel ... www.railfan.net/railpix/text/ro_1_6.bt - Supplemental Result - <u>Similar pages</u>

Checklist 1989

Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority, selected procurement and contract ... Distribution of high school graduates and college-going rate, New York State. ... www.nysl.nysed.gov/edocs/education/check89.htm - 513k - <u>Cached</u> - <u>Similar pages</u>

[PDF] www.icc.utexas.edu/publications/AustinsWirelessFut...

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - <u>View as HTML</u> Supplemental Result - <u>Similar pages</u> "Going", "Bridge", "Rate", "Leasing", etc.

But All Misses

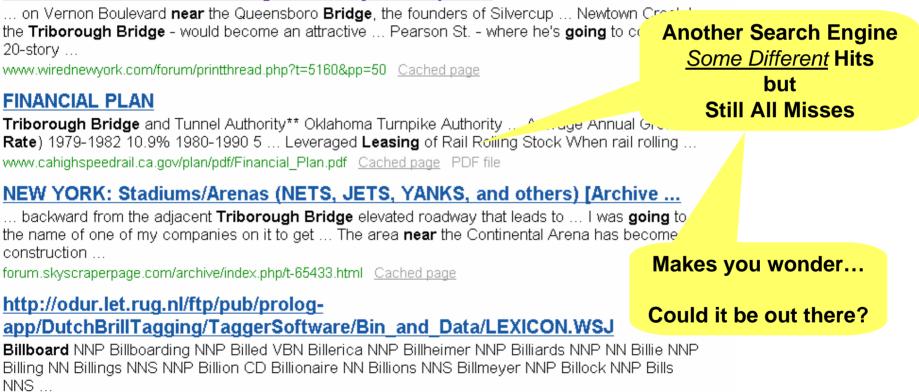
SEARCH: Going rate for leasing a billboard near Triborough Bridge

* Were you looking for <u>Going rate for leaving a billboard near Triborough</u> * <u>Bridge</u>

Web Results

Page 1 of 4 results containing Going rate for leasing a billboard near Triborough Bridge (0.70 seconds)

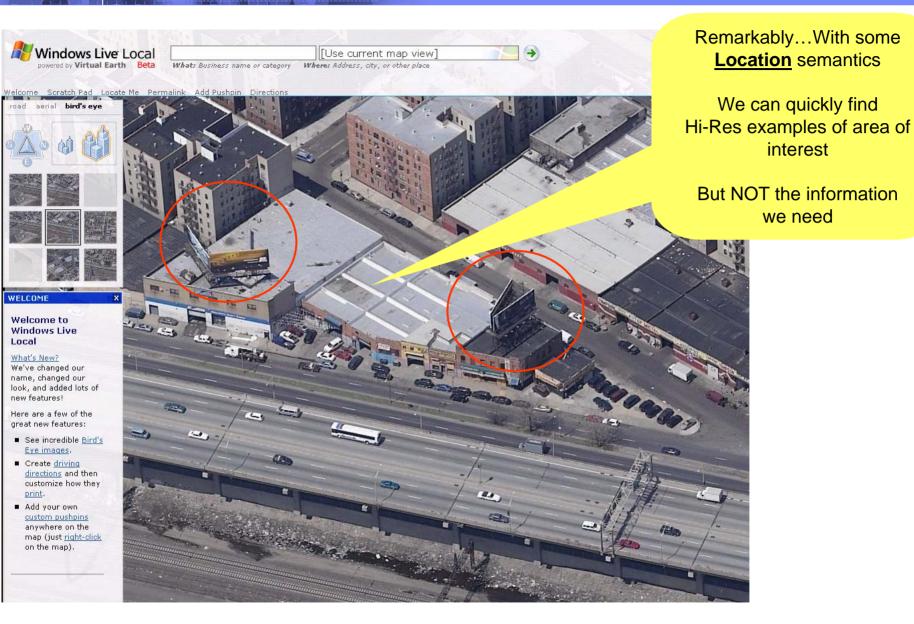
Wired New York Forum - Long Island City Development



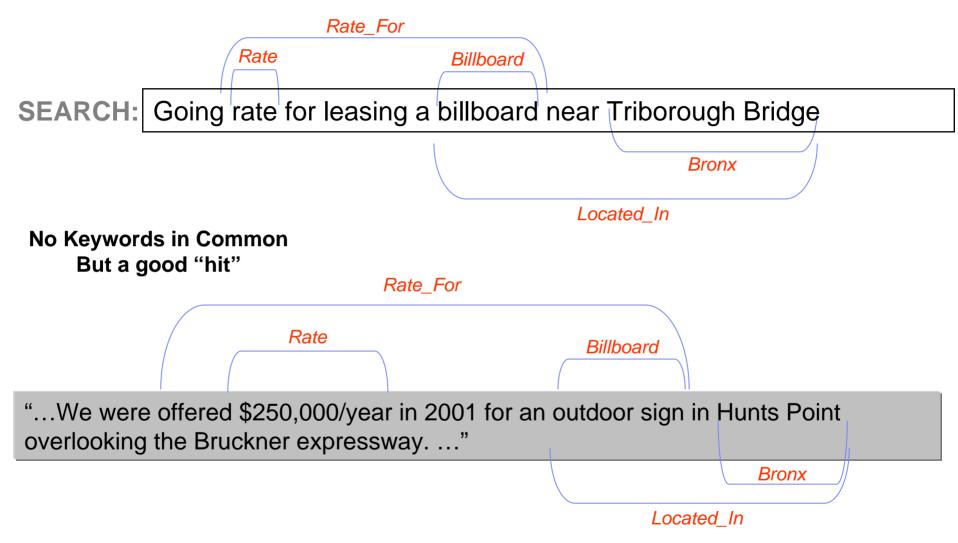
odur.let.rug.nl/ftp/pub/prolog-app/DutchBrillTagging/TaggerSoftware/Bin_and_Data/LEXICON.W... Cached page

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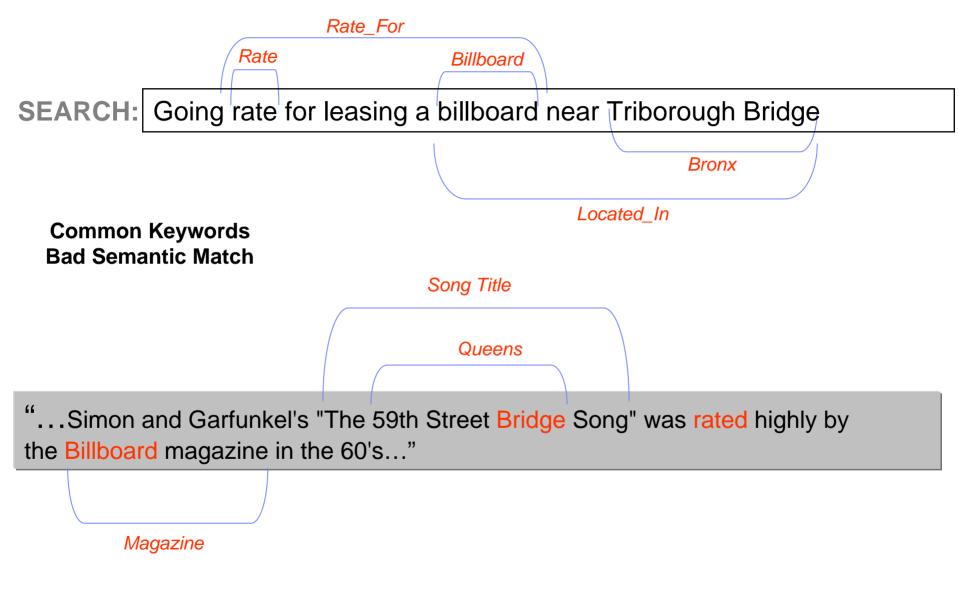




Semantic Search Can Improve Recall



Semantic Search Can Improve Precision



Semantic Search on Semantically-Encoded Corpora

- Corpus: XML documents
 - <Book>
 - <Title>My Life</Title>
 - <Author>
 - <FirstName>Bill</FirstName>
 - <LastName>Clinton</LastName> </Author>
 - <Publisher>Knopf</Publisher> <PubDate>2004</PubDate> </Book>
 - <Book>
 - <Title>The Survivor: Bill Clinton in the White House</Title>
 - <Author>
 - <FirstName>John</FirstName>
 - <LastName>Harris</LastName>
 - </Author>
 - <Publisher>Random House</Publisher>
 - <PubDate>2005</PubDate>
 - </Book>

- Semantics enables more precise queries
 - <Book>Bill Clinton</Book> retrieves both documents
 - <Book>

 <Author>Bill Clinton</Author>
 </Book>
 retrieves only the first document

XML document corpora

- Automatically generated from databases
- Manually marked up
- From the semantic web (vision)
- But... most existing electronic documents are unannotated or sparsely annotated

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Corpus Analysis for Semantic Search

- Apply semantic search to previously unannotated documents
 - Use existing text analysis techniques for document processing
 - Named entity recognition: PERSON, ORGANIZATION, DATE,...
 - Relationship extraction: ALIAS, OWNER, EXPORTSTO,...
 - Annotate and index documents with extracted semantic information
 - Leverage automatic annotations for semantic search

Example

<BirthPlaceOf> <BirthDateOf> <Alias> <Person> President Clinton </Person> was born <Person> William Jefferson Blythe IV </Person> </Alias> on <Date> August 19, 1946 </Date> </BirthDateOf>, in <City> Hope, Arkansas </City> </BirthPlaceOf>, three months after his father died in a traffic accident.

XML Fragments for Semantic Search

XML Fragments query language

- Keyword queries augmented with XML tags
 - <CeoOf> <Person> Center </Person> </CeoOf>
- Supports classic query operators
 - Phrase: applies to content within XML tags
 - <Person> "Thomas Ryan" </Person>
 - "+" and "-": apply to content within XML tags or XML fragments
 - <Organization> +Clinton Institute </Organization>
 - +<Organization> +Clinton Institute </Organization> -Hillary
- Query language specifies valid syntactic representations but are semanticless

JuruXML indexer and search engine

- Supports indexing of keywords and annotations
- Supports XML Fragments query language
- Developed at IBM Haifa Lab

Three XML Fragment Operators

Conceptualization

- Generalizes a lexical string to a concept represented by that string
- "animal" vs. "<Animal></Animal>"

Restriction

- Constrains the XML tags in which keywords in relevant documents can appear
- "bass" vs. "<Animal> bass </Animal>"

Relation

- Specifies relations between terms that appear in relevant documents
- Syntactic: "<SubjectVerb> Unabomber kill </SubjectVerb>"
- Semantic: "<Kill> Unabomber <Person></Person> </Kill>"
- Pragmatic: "<HasNegOpinion> Clinton war Iraq </HasNegOpinion>"

Application of XML Fragment Operators

XML Fragments operators

- Enhance the expressiveness of search queries
- Should lead to more relevant search results

Operators applied to address four query-time semantic needs

- Specify target information
- Disambiguate keywords
- Specify search term context
- Specify relations between search terms

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Target Information Specification

- Application of the conceptualization operator
- Uses XML tags to represent target information as concepts
- E.g., user wants to know the zip code of the White House
 - Keyword query: +"white house" +zip +code
 - Semantic query: +"white house" +<Zipcode></Zipcode><//>
 - Matches: "The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500."

Useful when

- Query consists primarily of low idf terms; and
- Target information does not frequently co-occur with other search terms

Adopted in PIQUANT factoid QA system to represent answer types

Search Term Disambiguation

- Application of the restriction operator
- Uses XML tags for disambiguation of keywords
- E.g., User wants to know George Washington's birthday
 - Query w/o disambiguation: +<Date></Date> bear +George +Washington
 - Retrieves: "A bear was spotted on the campus of George Washington University yesterday"
 - Query w/ disambiguation: +<Date></Date> bear +<Person> +George +Washington </Person>

Useful when

- Query term has multiple word senses in the corpus; and
- User is interested in minority word sense

Adopted in

- PIQUANT QA for automatic disambiguation
- SAW (Semantic Analysis Workbench) for interactive query refinement



Search Term Context Specification

- Application of the restriction operator
- Uses XML tags to specify the context in which query terms should appear
 - subject/object
 - agent/patient
 - request/suggest/opinion
- E.g., User wants to know what was the Pentagon panel's position was with respect to the dispute over the US Navy training range in the island of Vieques
 - Keyword query: +Pentagon panel +US +Navy training range island +Vieques
 - Query w/ context: +Pentagon panel +<Quotation> +US +Navy training range island +Vieques </Quotation>
- Adopted in AQUAINT 2005 opinion pilot



Relation Specification

- Application of the relation operator
- Uses XML tags to specify relations between query terms
- E.g., User wants to know what biological weapons Iraq possesses
 - Query w/o relation: +Iraq +<BiologicalWeapon></BiologicalWeapon> possess
 - Matches: "Iraq possesses the technology to produce smallpox."
 - Relation query: <Owner> +Iraq +<BiologicalWeapon></BiologicalWeapon></Owner>
 - Matches: "Iraq's anthrax stockpile is estimated to be at least 8500 liters."
- Adopted in SAW for automatic relation query generation and interactive query refinement

Evaluation

Corpora and corpora analysis

- AQUAINT corpus (3GB; 1M+ documents)
 - Annotated with ~100 named entity types
- CNS corpus (~38,000 documents)
 - Annotated with ~100 named entity types and ~15 relation types
- Standard test set and judgments used when possible

In all experimental setups

- Application of XML Fragments operator constrains baseline query
- Hypothesis: our applications of semantic search yield significant improvement in the precision of retrieved results

Evaluation metrics

- R-Prec: Precision at R (R is # of known relevant documents)
- MAP: Mean Average Precision
- Exact Precision



Target Information Specification Evaluation

Experimental setup:

- Test set: 50 factoid questions from TREC 2005 QA document task with relevant document judgments
- Baseline query: keywords extracted from question
 - +White +House zip code
- Query with target: keywords + answer type
 - +White +House zip code +<Zipcode></Zipcode>

Evaluation Results

	R-Prec	MAP	Exact Precision
Baseline Query	0.4219	0.4329	0.0817
Query w/ Target	0.4342	0.4505	0.1124

Search Term Disambiguation

Experimental setup:

- Test set: 50 factoid questions from TREC 2005 QA document task with relevant document judgments
- Baseline query:
 - +White +House zip code +<Zipcode></Zipcode>
- Query with disambiguation: select keywords disambiguated
 - +<Facility>+White +House</Facility> zip code +<Zipcode></Zipcode>

Evaluation Results

Only 2 questions resulted in different queries

	R-Prec	MAP	Exact Precision
Baseline Query	0.4464	0.4357	0.1443
Query w/ Disambiguation	0.4658	0.4409	0.1443



Search Term Context Specification

Experimental setup:

- Test set: 46 questions from the AQUAINT 2005 opinion pilot of the general form "What does A think about B?"
- Baseline query:
 - OpinionHolder + Opinion
- Query with context:
 - OpinionHolder + <Quotation> Opinion </Quotation>

Evaluation Results

	# Vital Nuggets	# Okay Nuggets
Baseline Query	14	4
Query w/ Context	28	5

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Relation Specification Evaluation

Experimental setup:

- Test set: 25 semantic queries constructed from 10 relations in the national intelligence domain
- Relation query: constrained semantic search query with relation
 - <ProducesWeapon>+Russia +<ChemicalWeapon></ChemicalWeapon></ProducesWeapon>
- Baseline query: relation substituted by keywords
 - +Russia +<ChemicalWeapon></ChemicalWeapon> produce

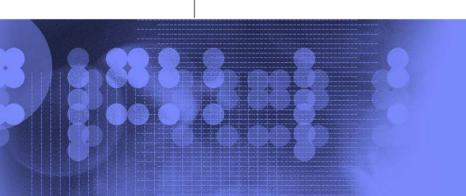
Evaluation Results

	R-Prec	MAP	Exact Precision	# docs/Q
Baseline Query	0.3895	0.4147	0.3530	9.72
Query w/ Relation	0.4139	0.4108	0.6108	6.32



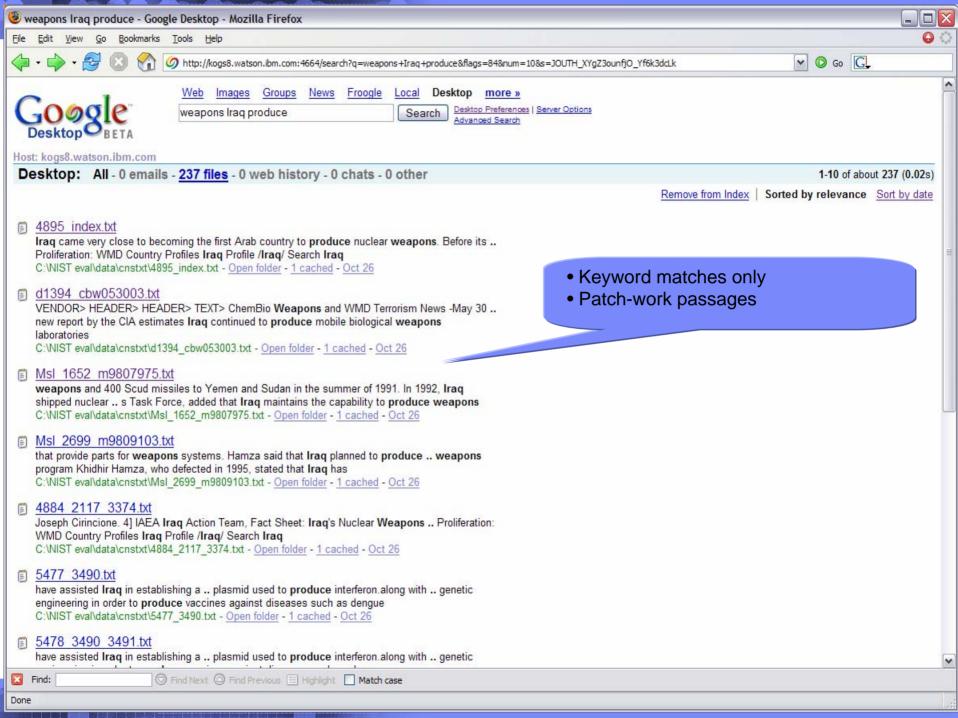


SAW: Semantic Analysis Workbench



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	What weapons does Iraq produce? • User can type keywords, phrases, or questions Interpret Query Fill Hit List
ProductionProcedure Quantity Religion Sport	Recall Precision ? [?produce + Weapon]
- SportsTeam - Timex - Tool - TravelReservation - URL	 + GPE +Iraq Produce +<weapon></weapon> +<gpe>Iraq</gpe> • Query Analysis generates Semantic Search Query
	Show JURU from SSQE
	Annotation View 📲 Hit List 🛛 500+ documents 500+ passages
- TopRelation - AgentArtifact - ArgumentOfEvent - Casualties	<u>SADDAM CLOSE TO NUCLEAR WEAPON</u> The defector claimed that Iraq produced its 40kg of weapons-grade uranium using the electromagne. Intelligent passage selection
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HasIntention HasProperty HasQuality	EVIDENCE REVEALS IRAQI NUCLEAR POTENTIAL He also confirmed that IAEA inspectors discovered 3 grams of plutonium that Iraq produced at its Tuwaitha reactor in violation of the NPT.
HasReservation HasWeaponCapability HoldsDuring MadePhoneCallTo	U.N. Envoy Says Arms Talks With Iraq Positive Abstract: On 22 February 1995, UNSCOM head Rolf Ekeus stated that his inspectors, with IAEA assistance, had concluded "that Iraq has no capability to produce a nuclear bomb." Ekeus added, "Iraq has no represented by the stated that his inspectors, with IAEA assistance, had concluded "that Iraq has no capability to produce a nuclear bomb." Ekeus added, "Iraq has no represented by the stated that his inspectors, with IAEA assistance, had concluded "that Iraq has no capability to produce a nuclear bomb." Ekeus added, "Iraq has no represented by the stated by the sta
Motivation + OrganizationalRelation:	Irag may still have the "talent" to produce nuclear weapons According to the report, there are no indications that Iraq achieved its goal of producing nuclear weapons.
 PersonalAndSocial PersonalOrOrganization Physical 	SAMs May Pose Most Direct Threat In Iraq's Arsenal British intelligence said that Iraq could produce mustard gas immediately, nerve gas soon, and 350 liters of weapons-grade anthrax per week without monitoring by the United Nations.
ReservationFor Residence RouteEnd	IRAQI CHEMICAL ARMS: DIFFICULT TARGET US analysts say Iraq could begin to produce nuclear weapons in three to five years, though practical devices mounted on missiles, for instance, would take a decade.
TemporalLink	Not Available There is no reliable information on whether Iran is production and etochniling chemical washone, or whether Iran has - or will - establish its chemical warfare agent production facilities ' said the Defence Intelling."



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Iraq came very close to becoming the first Arab country to produce nuclear weapons. Before its invasion of Kuwait, Iraq, a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Had Iraq not invaded Kuwait in 1991, it may have been able to build a weapon within a few years. With a bomb design progressing rapidly, Iraq lacked only the fissi: The Israeli "Threat"

Iraq maintained a very small civilian nuclear program that began during the Atoms for Peace program in the mid-1950s. In 1962, it acquired a 2 megawatt (MW) researe In 1974, an Iraqi delegation traveled to Paris to negotiate the purchase of a reactor similar to the French Osiris reactor. Then Vice-President Saddam Hussein would While Iraq attempted to maintain the faade that its purchase was for peaceful nuclear research, some of its other actions belied stated intentions. Prior to his tr: With the reactor deal complete, Iraq set out to build a radiochemical laboratory; it contracted the Italian firm SNIA-Techint in 1979 to build a pilot plutonium set This period also saw the return to Iran of Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini, the Shiite cleric, from his exile in Iraq. Shortly thereafter, Iran became an Islamic republ: The 10-year war with Iran played a role in Saddam's thinking vis--vis Iraq's nuclear weapon program. Saddam wanted the "ultimate equalizer" if faced with an overwhe Iraqi scientists calculated that the Osiraq reactor could produce between 5 and 25 kilograms (kg) of plutonium per year (the upper limit, however, would require the Israel Alters Iraq's Strategy

Iraq proceeded with building its nuclear infrastructure and plans to subvert IAEA inspections. However, before any significant progress could be made, the Osiraq re Since the Osiraq reactor was destroyed before it could produce any plutonium, Iraq had to seek another source of fissile material. Uranium enrichment became the pre As a secondary method, Iraq explored uranium enrichment through the gaseous diffusion process. The intention was to produce low enriched uranium as feedstock for El

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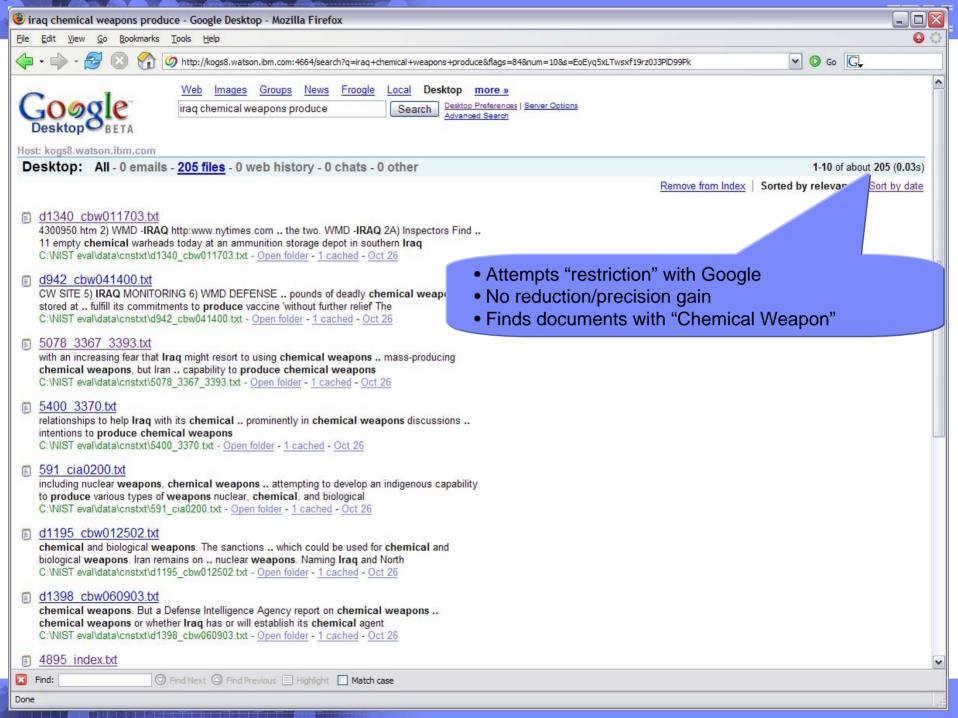
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MusicalInstrument	What weapons does Iraq produce?
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Plant	• 49 results (rather than 500+) using highly relevant relation
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URL	
	Show JURU from SSQE
WrdAgent	Annotation View 📲 Hit List 🛛 49 documents 88 passages
- TopRelation	Annotation View 📲 Hit List 🛛 49 documents 88 passages
AgentArtifact	S US BELIEVES IRAQ HAS BUILT MAGNETIC ISOTOPE ENRICHMENT PLANT
ArgumentOfEvent	The Iraqi defector claims that Iraq produced 40kg of weapons-grade uranium from its calutrons, but US officials believe that Iraq only produced 1 to 5kg.
Casualties Causes	BUSH ORDERED AID TO IRAQI MILITARY
DeliversWeapon	Cyber 910B-400 workstation - to Huteen General Establishment, which was listed by the CIA as a bad end-user and was shown by the IAEA to be a main nuclear weapons design plant in Irag.
DestructionPotential	
Discourse	POLITICIANS IN THE LABAND SCUTTLING AN EASY WAY TO STOP NUCLEAR PROLIFER
GpeAffiliation	An Iraqi defector told US officials that Iraq produced almost 90 pounds of weapons-grade uranium in a secret uranium enrichment plant.
HasIntention HasProperty	Does Irag Have The Bomb?
HasQuality	The IAEA identifies these and other tools as "relevant to the production of gas ultra centrifuges, which Iraq intended to use to enrich uranium to weapons grade." Al-Rabiya is an Iraqi weapons plant, which or
HasReservation	UN Inspectors Head For Baghdad
HasWeaponCapability	Abstract: On 27 September 1993, a UN weapons inspection team of more than 50 inspectors, the largest such team thus far, left for Irag to conduct inspections of Iragi weapons facilities and to provide inform
HoldsDuring MadePhoneCallTo	Abstract: On 27 September 1995, a ON weapons inspection team of more than 50 inspectors, the largest such team thus far, left for trad to conduct inspections of trad, weapons facilities and to provide infor
Motivation	UN AIDES SAY IRAQ MAY BE CONCEALING NUCLEAR MATERIAL
OrganizationalRelation:	Paul L. Leventhal, president of the Nuclear Control Institute, said that US Administration officials had told him that he Iraqi defector claimed that Iraq produced 40 kilograms of weapons-grade uranium using m
PersonalAndSocial	Germany Says It Seeks To Curb Its Arms Exporters
PersonalOrOrganization	It is also alleged that German companies built poison gas plants in Irag as well as sold sophisticated equipment such as precision timers to the Iragi military.
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RouteEnd	The Iraqis had over two decades to develop these weapons.
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HasQuality					ion facilities, a <mark>uranium</mark>		
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AgentArtifact	US BELIEVES IRAQ HAS BUILT MAGNETIC ISOTOPE ENRICHMENT PLANT	ChemicalWeaponi - Nuclear/Weapon	<u>^</u>
ArgumentOfEvent	The Iraqi defector claims that Iraq produced 40kg of weapons-grade uranium		
Casualties Causes	BUSH ORDERED AID TO IRAQI MILITARY		
DeliversWeapon	Cyber 910B-400 workstation - to Huteen General Establishment, which was lis		Irag.
DestructionPotential	POLITICIANS IN THE LABAND SCUTTLING AN EASY WAY TO STOP NUCL		
Discourse GpeAffiliation	An Iragi defector told US officials that Irag produced almost 90 pounds of weat	Einish Cancel	
HasIntention	· · · · ·		
HasProperty	Does Iraq Have The Bomb? The TARTA identifies the end of the tark of the sector is a sector in the sector in the sector is a sector in the sector in the sector is a sector in the sector in the sector is a sector in the sector in th		at management of the state of t
HasQuality HasReservation	The TAEA identifies these and other tools as relevant to the production of ga	s ultra centrifuges, which Iraq intended to use to enrich uranium to weapons grade. " Al-Rabiya is an Ira	di weapons plant, which of
HasWeaponCapability	UN Inspectors Head For Baghdad		
HoldsDuring	Abstract: On 27 September 1993, a UN weapons inspection team of more that	n 50 inspectors, the largest such team thus far, left for Iraq to conduct inspections of Iraqi weapons fac	ilities and to provide inform
MadePhoneCallTo Motivation	UN AIDES SAY IRAQ MAY BE CONCEALING NUCLEAR MATERIAL		
OrganizationalRelation:	Paul L. Leventhal, president of the Nuclear Control Institute, said that US Adn	ninistration officials had told him that he Iraqi defector claimed that Iraq produced 40 kilograms of weapo	ons-grade uranium using m
PersonalAndSocial	Germany Says It Seeks To Curb Its Arms Exporters		
PersonalOrOrganizatio Physical	It is also alleged that German companies built poison gas plants in Iraq as well	as sold sophisticated equipment such as precision timers to the Iraqi military.	
ReservationFor	Not Available		
Residence	The Iraqis had over two decades to develop these weapons.		
RouteEnd	Not Available		
		aliminate the 155mm munitions at the al-Muthanna State Fetablishment. 40 miles northwest of Ranhdad 1	Iraa's most important chan
	<u> </u>		>

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🕀 🕞 🙀 ype-name 🗄	Entity and Fact O Semantic, Natural-Language, and Keyword
GpeAdjective	What weapons does Iraq produce?
Language	What weapons does Iraq produce?
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🛨 Measurement	Interpret Query Fill Hit List
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Tool	Germany Says It Seeks To Curb Its Area Exporters
TravelReservation	It is also alleged that German companies built poison gas plants in Iraq as well as sold sophisticated equipment such as precision timers to the raqi military.
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Conclusions

- Semantic Search enables high precision IR
 - Identified three XML Fragments operators
 - Applied operators to address four query time semantic needs
 - Shown significant improvement in precision in most applications
- Semantic Search not intended as replacement for keyword search
 - Keyword search is successful in web and desktop search
 - Semantic search intended to improve performance for
 - Enterprise search
 - Information gathering for exploratory research