# Wrapping Millions of Documents Per Day

and How that's Just the Beginning













## Background: About me



Lecturer in Databases and Co-investigator VADA Fellow of Oxford Martin School & OMI



Co-founder and CTO



Senior Research Manager Meltwater







 $(\mathbf{O})$ 

#### **25** LOCATIONS FOUND NEAR YOU



BEACH HAVEN II

600 N. Bay Avenue, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 609-492-6300 Send Address To E-MailiMobile 8.22 miles

Get Driving Directions Gift Cards Sold, Gift Cards Accepted



#### BORGATA

1 Borgata Way, Atlantic City, NJ 08401 609-317-8206 Send Address To E-MailMobile 18.04 miles

Get Driving Directions Scoop Website

Catering, Gift Cards Sold, Gift Cards Accepted

#### 30TH STREET STATION

30TH STREET STATION, Amtrak - 30th Street Station Philadelphia, PA 19104 215-222-2996 Send Address To E-Mail/Mobile 48.70 miles Get Driving Directions

Scoop Website





 $\langle \mathbf{O} \rangle$ 



#### **25** LOCATIONS FOUND NEAR YOU



BEACH HAVEN II

600 N. Bay Avenue, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 609-492-6300 Send Address To E-MailiMobile 8.22 miles

Get Driving Directions Gift Cards Sold, Gift Cards Accepted



BORGATA 1 Borgata Way, Atlantic City, NJ 08401 609-317-8206 Send Address To E-MailMobile 18.04 miles

Get Driving Directions Scoop Website

Catering Gift Cards Sold, Gift Cards

Address or Postcode Bridge Rd, Little Egg Harbor Township, United States of America SEARCH Offer catering Offer ice cream cakes © OpenStreetMap contributors Massachusetts Springfield Binghamton Enfield Rhode Hartford Poughkeepsie, Island Connecticut Scranton

476

azleton

Yorktown.

New York

Allentown New Brunswick Wasabridge

Stamford

**AShelton** 

Brookhaven Reventead

Islip

Bridgeport

Worcester Our

Bro

100

Newport

NAME	STREET ADDRESS	LOCALITY	STATE	POSTCODE	PHONE
BEACH HAVEN II	600 N. Bay Avenue	Beach Haven	NJ	08008	609-492-6300
BORGATA	1 Borgata Way	Atlantic city	NJ	08401	609-317-8206
30TH STREET STATION	30TH STREET STATION	Philadelphia	PA	19104	215-222-2996



White House press secretary Sean Spicer speaks in the media briefing room in Washington, D.C., on Saturday. (Olivier Douliery/Abaca Press/TNS)

#### White House vows to fight media 'tooth and nail' over Trump coverage; says it presented 'alternative facts'

By Doina Chiacu and Jason Lange

Reuters NAN

AUTHOR NAME

WASHINGTON — The White House vowed on Sunday to fight the news media "tooth and nail" over what it sees as unfair attacks, with a top adviser saying the Trump administration had presented 'alternative facts" to counter low inauguration crowd estimates.

On his first full day as president, Trump said he had a "running war"

## change

Exclusive: The five-yearly assessment of what will happen to the UK as the world warms says one of an array of potential threats is the 'significant risk' to supplies of food

an Johnston, Tom Batchelor Environment Correspondent | 8 hours ago | 🖵 230 comments

Click to follow The Independent Online



nts that might interest you. Read our Privacy d Cookie Policies to find out more



n the report, the Government said high-risk issues that needed to be addressed included the damage expected to be daused by flooding

The Government has been accused of trying to bury a major report about the potential dangers of global warming to Britain - including the doubling of the deaths during heatwaves, a "significant risk" to supplies of food and the prospect of infrastructure damage from flooding. BODY INCLUDE

The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Report, which by law has to be produced every five years, was published





misleading errors alternative facts'. Is ripped apart by Twitter

The CIA aren't happy about Donald Trump's first speech at their

#### twater





# https://youtu.be/j\_0IZdNJ-aw

# World class crawling platform to largely automate outside content collection



Mission

## **Crawling Space & Volume**



Source: Xin Luna Dong (Google) - PVLDB '14

**Crawling Coverage** 

For many kinds of information one has to extract from thousands of sites in order to build a comprehensive database

<u>Source:</u> Nilesh Dalvi (Yahoo!) et al. – VLDB 2012

 $(\bullet)$ 



## Vertical 1 & 2:

# Real Estate & Used Cars, UK







Results



 $(\mathbf{O})$ 







## **92%** Effective wrappers

## (where we get all the data)









	wrapper				
	effective	wrong or missing data	no data		
UK real estate	<b>91%</b>	7%	2%		
Oxford real estate	90%	6%	4%		
ViNTs <sup>10</sup>	4%	5%	91%		
UK used cars	93%	4%	3%		
US real estate	90%	5%	5%		

 $\langle \mathbf{0} \rangle$ 



doc('http://www.wwagency.com/')//label[@for='sale\_type\_id']/following-sibling::select/{0 /}

//form/div[@class='formbtn-ctn'][last()]/button[@class='formbtn']/{click /}

/.:<data\_area>[?.//div[@class='pagenumlinks'][1]//span/text():<number\_results=.>]

/(//div[contains(@class,'proplist\_wrap')]/following-sibling::div//a[@class='pagenum'][last()]/<mark>{nextclick /</mark>})\*

//div[contains(@class,'proplist\_wrap')]:<record>[? .:<origin\_url=current-url()>]

- [? .//span[@class='prop\_price']/text():<price=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//span[.='Type:']/following-sibling::strong/text():<property\_type=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//div[@class='prop\_statuses']//text():<property\_status=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//span[.='Bathrooms:']/following-sibling::strong/text():<bathroom\_number=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//span[.='Bedrooms:']/following-sibling::strong/text():<bedroom\_number=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//strong[@class='orange']/preceding-sibling::text():<location\_raw=string(.)> ]
- [? .//strong[@class='orange']/text():<postcode=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//strong/preceding-sibling::strong/text():<street\_address=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//@src:<image=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//div[@class='prop\_statuses']/following-sibling::a/@href:<url=normalize-space(.)> ]
- [? .//div[@class='prop\_maininfo']:<description=normalize-space(.)> ]



## Vertical 3:

# **News Articles**





White House press secretary Sean Spicer speaks in the media briefing room in Washington, D.C., on Saturday. (Olivier Douliery/Abaca Press/TNS)

#### White House vows to fight media 'tooth and nail' over Trump coverage; says it presented 'alternative facts'

By Doina Chiacu and Jason Lange

WASHINGTON — The White House vowed on Sunday to fight the news media "tooth and nail" over what it sees as unfair attacks, with a top adviser saying the Trump administration had presented "alternative facts" to counter low inauguration crowd estimates.

On his first full day as president, Trump said he had a "running war"

## change

**Exclusive:** The five-yearly assessment of what will happen to the UK as the world warms says one of an array of potential threats is the 'significant risk' to supplies of food

an Johnston, Tom Batchelof Environment Correspondent | 8 hours ago | 📿 230 comments

Click to follow The Independent Online



ur visit to our site and to bring you advertisements that might interest you. Read our Privacy and Cookie Policies to find out more.



In the report, the Government said high-risk issues that needed to be addressed included the damage expected to be daused by flooding Getty

The Government has been accused of trying to bury a major report about the potential dangers of global warming to Britain – including the doubling of the deaths during heatwaves, a "significant risk" to supplies of food and the prospect of infrastructure damage from flooding.

1

The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Report, which by law has to be produced every five years, was published





Kellyarine Conway calls misleading errors 'alternative facts'. Is ripped apart by Twitter

The CIA aren't happy about Donald Trump's first speech at their









```
"site":{ 🖃
   "name": "The Guardian (U.S. edition)",
   "url": "http://www.theguardian.com/us",
   "socialHandlers":{
      "twitter": "@guardian"
},
"startUrls":[ 😑
   "http://www.theguardian.com/us"
],
"sectionTpls":[ 🕀 ],
"articleTpls":[ 🖃
   { 
      "urlPatterns":[ 😑
         "(?<wordset>([a-zA-Z]{1,}[:\\-./]{1,}){1,5}[a-zA-Z]{1,})/(?<numberset>([0-9]{1,}){1,1})/(?<wordset1>([a-zA-Z]{1,}){1,1})/(?<numberset1>([0-
      ],
      "canonicalUrlXpath": "wrty:normalize-url(//link[@rel='canonical']/@href)",
      "titleXpath":"wrty:normalize-space(//h1[contains(@class,'content_headline')])",
      "alternativeUrls":[ 🕀 ],
      "bylineXpath":"//span[@itemprop='name']",
      "datePublished":{ 🖃
         "datelineXpath": "//meta[@property='article:published time']/@content"
      },
      "ingressXpath": "wrty:normalize-space(//div[@class='hide-on-mobile']//p[1])",
      "keywordsXpath":"//head//@content",
      "contentXpath":{ 🖃
         "includeXpath": "wrty:normalize-space(wrty:string-join(//div[@class='content_article-body from-content-api js-article_body']//node()[self:
      },
      "engagementPatterns":[ =
         { ⊡ }
            "valueXpath":"//span[@class='commentcount2 value tone-colour js commentcount actualvalue']".
            "type": "comments"
         },
         { ⊕ }
```

# Why different wrapper format?

- **OXPath**: perfect for interactive, search engine style websites
- However: in **media intelligence freshness of data** is critical
  - 30min maximum between publishing and indexing time
  - (almost) every article has an indexable, unique URL
  - large variety of different article templates
- Decompose OXPath wrapper into single page segments
  - memorise set of section pages encountered in a run
  - recrawl stored section pages in next run
    - to find new article (& section) pages

## Vertical 4:

# **Company Extractors**





 $\langle \mathbf{0} \rangle$ 



## Company Extraction: Goals

- Given only a company website
  - Extract as much relevant information from structured sources
    - executive team, locations, subsidiaries, ...
  - Identify unstructured sources
    - press releases, financial reports, ...
- **Scale** to millions of companies in multiple languages

## Company Extraction: Results





# Results



## **Restaurant** locations

Don't believe us? You aren't the first – major US technology company

- Need: US restaurant locations (including chains) for check-ins
- **Problem:** existing location databases incomplete and full of errors
- Want: Get that data from the "authoritative" source, i.e.,
  - the restaurant (chain) websites
- They evaluated state-of-the-art most solutions to crude
  - Settled on scrapy, but: 2 months for top 20 US chains
  - Very worried about maintenance

#### **25** LOCATIONS FOUND NEAR YOU



BEACH HAVEN II

600 N. Bay Avenue, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 609-492-6300 Send Address To E-MailiMobile 8.22 miles

Get Driving Directions Gift Cards Sold, Gift Cards Accepted

Catering Gift Cards Sold, Gift Cards



BORGATA 1 Borgata Way, Atlantic City, NJ 08401 609-317-8206 Send Address To E-MailMobile 18.04 miles

Get Driving Directions Scoop Website

Address or Postcode Bridge Rd, Little Egg Harbor Township, United States of America SEARCH Offer catering Offer ice cream cakes © OpenStreetMap contributors Massachusetts Worcester Our Springfield Binghamton Enfield Rhode Hartford Poughkeepsie, Island Connecticut Scranton Yorktown. **AShelton** Stamford Bridgeport azleton

New York

Allentown New Brunswick

Bro

100

Newport

Brookhaven Roverhead

0

Islip

NAME	STREET ADDRESS	LOCALITY	STATE	POSTCODE	PHONE
BEACH HAVEN II	600 N. Bay Avenue	Beach Haven	NJ	08008	609-492-6300
BORGATA	1 Borgata Way	Atlantic city	NЈ	08401	609-317-8206
30TH STREET STATION	30TH STREET STATION	Philadelphia	PA	19104	215-222-2996

# Restaurant location: **Results**

- After **1** month applying Wrapidity technology:
  - over 300 US chains, over 100k websites
  - more than <u>3M</u> locations in total
  - fully automated maintenance for those sources



- But: they still didn't believe
  - hired Accenture to assess quality of the data
  - result: over 97% precision

## Restaurant location: Independent Evaluation

	Present	and <b>correct</b> data & extraction	but <b>wrong</b> extraction	but <b>wrong</b> data	but <b>raters</b> disagree
city	100%	99.3%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%
street	100%	<b>96.4</b> %	1.7%	1.9%	0.0%
postcode	99%	97.1%	0.1%	0.0%	2.8%
lationg	89%	<b>99.7%</b>	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
hours	47%	98.2%	0.0%	1.3%	0.5%
name	100%	<b>99.5</b> %	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
phone	86%	<b>98.7%</b>	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%
category	100%	98.9%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%
	90%	<b>98.5</b> %	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%

This evaluation is done by independent, external evaluators on a sample of 1000 locations.

 $\langle \mathbf{O} \rangle$ 





~<mark>50k</mark> sources, 30 min recrawl interval



90%

over 300 US chains, over 100k websites; more than <mark>3M locations</mark>





over 30 attributes, where present; 1M+ company's site crawl ongoing



 $\mathbf{O}$ 

# Approach

# **Web-Scale Wrapper Induction**

- We need to scale to the web
  - minimize supervision per source
- But: we can afford **prior knowledge** 
  - about entities and attributes
  - mostly in form of known labels & instances and "appearance"
    - expressed as Gazetteers or rules for local, textual information
    - higher-level rules or classifiers for complex structures

# **Web-Scale Wrapper Induction**

- **Problem:** application of prior knowledge is costly & noisy
  - wrapper induction to generalise to other pages of site
  - "template" hypothesis
  - Solution: Generate "wrapper" program from examples
    - then apply to all pages of a site
    - when to apply which extractor
  - Full site extraction needs to also deal with
    - Interactivity such as pagination & form filling (deep web)
    - Detecting complex structures such as lists, tables, ...



# **Exploration: Self-Adaptive**

- Self-adaptive, dynamic exploration plans
  - planers expressed as guarded FSTs
  - with Datalog rules as guards
  - 1000's of unique exploration plans







## NER for DOMs: Labels, structure, ...

Labels and instances, visible and invisible (HTML structure, Javascript values)









<div class="icon first"> <img src=".../bdes.jpg" alt="Bedrooms" title="Bedrooms"> <br>8 </div> <div class="icon"> <img src=".../bath.jpg" alt="Bathrooms" title="Bathrooms"> <br>4 </div>

# Form understanding



- Sub-problems: form labeling, form segmentation, classification
- Combines structural, textual, visual, and semantic clues
  - **structural** = structure of the DOM, e.g., distance
  - **visual** = rendering of the form, e.g., for alignment
  - **textual** = detectors for a vertical's types (e.g., "LHR")
  - **semantic** = class, id, ... with semantic labels (e.g. "finput\_dest")
  - Polynomial time labeling, grouping, and classification algorithm

ICQ dataset	<b>HA</b> [14]	<b>ExQ</b> [41]	StatParser [36]	DIADEM [17]
$\mathbf{F}_1$ for labeling	92%	96%	96%	98%

# **Pick a Path: Wrapper induction**

- Pick robust, "semantic" paths
  - less affected by changes
  - over time and within a template
- Suitable as "foundation" for
  - template discovery
  - E.g.: Select the director
    - Firebug ("canonical" XPath)

/html[1]/body[1]/ ... /div[4]/a[1]/span[1]

• Ours:

//div[starts-with(.,"Director:")]//span[(@class="itemprop")



## ICDE'16

## Wrapper Repair

				Street					
Postcode	Phone	Locality	State	Address	Postcode	Phone	Locality	State	Street Address
San Diego, CA 92101	619-234-1802	San Diego, CA 92101	<null></null>	471 Horton Plaza, near Westland park	92101	619-234-1802	San Diego	CA	471 Horton Plaza
Boise, ID 83702	208-342-1992	Boise, ID 83702	<null></null>	103 North 10th Street	83702	208-342-1992	Boise	ID	103 North 10th Street
Portland, OR 97209	503-796-3033	Portland, OR 97209	<null></null>	301 NW 10th Avenue, near the Fish Market	97209	503-796-3033	Portland	OR	301 NW 10th Avenue



# Wrapper Repair

## ICDE'16

- Joint repair of wrapper and output data (relation)
- Problem related to table segmentation problem
  - generally NP-complete
  - but we show that it's polynomial under atomic misplacement
  - Atomic misplacement: attribute value is either
    - entirely misplaced, or
    - its fragments are in adjacent fields

**ROSeAnn** (VLDB'14) Entity extraction from DOMs



OPAL (WWW'12, VLDBJ'13) Form understanding & filling **AMBER** (ICWE'11) Record identification for lists



6

6

- OXPath (VLDB'11, VLDBJ'13) Extraction language Robust XPaths (SIGMOD'16) Change-resistant wrappers
- **Oxtractor** (Coling'16) **Attribute** extraction

WaDaR (ICDE'16)

Joint wrapper & relation repair

**VADA** (EDBT'16)

Wrangling of extracted data (in progress)



World-first accurate, automatic full-site extraction system





## Meltwater: Who are we?



## Meltwater: Media Intelligence





## Meltwater: In Numbers

## ~200B indexed documents

- Crawlers fetch ~3.3M articles/day from 190k editorial sources
  - re-crawled every 30 minutes
- With the social fire hoses we go up to 30M docs/ day.

Name 🜩	Country \$	Language 💠	Documents 👻	1500
Notiradar	Mexico	Spanish	40700	125
福建东南新闻网	China	Chinese (simpl.)	23182	10
中工网	China	Chinese (simpl.)	20953	
매일경제	Korea, Republic Of	Korean	20191	
جستجوگر اخبار تي نيوز	Iran (islamic Republic Of)	Persian	18055	
Match 生活網	Taiwan	Chinese (trad.)	17512	
47NEWS	Japan	Japanese	16966	
Nambia Press Agency	Namibia	English	9521	
中金在线 - 外汇网	China	Chinese (simpl.)	7957	
Onet.pl	Poland	English	7127	

# Meltwater: Existing Technology Stack

Ingestion:

- Social media hoses (partnerships)
- Editorial/News (partnerships + web crawling)
- Broadcasts (views on the above)

## Enrichments (15 languages):

- Text categorization (topic, language)
- NERD (person, location, organization, ...)
- NED (<u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tim\_Cook</u>)
- Sentiment Analysis

Storage and search:

- 。 Elastic search 🛟
- Rabbit MQ (distributed queues)

• AWS 🚺

## Media Intelligence applications (Custom)

Ь

- Boolean queries (keywords / entities)
- Counters
- Aggregates
- Drill downs / pivoting



## Vision: Insight Building on Outside Data

Build a world class AI platform for a new software category

**Outside Insight** 



FAIRHAIR

# Fairhair: People & Community

## 5 Data Science Research offices



### 6 Data Science Hubs (co-working spaces)

- London
- San Francisco
- Singapore
- Sydney
- Berlin
- New York



### University collaborations



## (O) mest

## Meltwater Entrepreneurial School of Technology

- campuses in Ghana and Nigeria
- it's a school for African entrepreneurs
- it's an incubator (33 startups)
- it's a networking hub



# Fairhair's AI First Approach

Step 1: Outside Data acquisition & making it available in a form that's crunchable. Step 2: Make Data Science (data, algorithms, infrastructure, tools) power everything Step 3: We can't foresee all uses of data and insights  $\rightarrow$  Developer APIs & integrations

APIs & Services	Search, Alerting, Analytics, Reporting Building blocks to leverage the platform			
Context	Knowledge graph			
Building	Enable cognitive applications on top of our Data by connecting the dots			
Enrichments &	Data science platform			
Analysis	Enrich, Analyze & Build Insights by interoperating with all major players			
Data	Al driven crawling			
acquisition	Bring high quality Outside Data to our repository with minimal human effort			

 $\langle \mathbf{0} \rangle$ 

# Fairhair's AI Crawlers

Traditional scraping requires a huge human effort:

- Code wrappers for each source, e.g., in Scrapy or MW's source configurations
- Visually testing and support tool (ala Connotate, Mozenda, ...)
- Automatic scraping for small number of fixed data types (ala Diffbot), e.g., Microdata
- Meltwater (old): ~50 "source engineers" maintaining manual wrappers
  - sources failing at a rate of 100's per week, 1-2h to fix each source effectively

## 80-90% lower human **effort**

without loss in quality compared with state-of-the-art



and domains than existing automated solutions and affordable supervised one



## more sources

e.g., 100k+ restaurant websites, 300k+ news sources, 1M+ company websites

## Data and Content Lake

Factual information: wherefrom?

Need to restrict the domain: focus on the corporate domain, i.e., companies, people, products, ...



 $\mathbf{O}$ 

EC2 cluster with 2.8k vCPU, 21TB RAM, 630TB SSD

## Data and Content Lake

Linguistic enrichments to support semantic retrieval and fact extraction



# Fairhair

## Summary:

- Scalable and distributed dynamic enrichment workflows
- CRFs for NER, PageRank (variant) for NED, CNNs and LSTMs for Relation/Event extraction, sentiment analysis
- TensorFlow and GPUs for training infrastructure

## Enrichments

We can't foresee all uses of our data: Developer APIs to Integrate and orchestrate third party tools. Personalization is key in Data Science: A flexible data wrangling infrastructure is required.



- Interoperate with state-of-the-art external enrichments
- Chain multiple external enrichments
- Train your own models!

## **Connectors to Internal Systems**

Goal is to join Outside Insights with Internal Data and workflows

Data Ingestion & Insights Delivery by setting up simple schema mappers

Destinations Library



# Knowledge Graph

Wait... did you say PageRank, triples? So do you have a (Knowledge) Graph?

## Content:

- Companies
- Brands
- Products
- Key people
- Influencers

## Goals:

- Relate facts
- Data mining
- Cognitive applications (higher-order reasoning)

## Challenges:

- Data Cleaning
- Data deduplication / integration
- Truth Finding



# **Cognitive Applications**

## Infer high-level insights from a set of extracted events/facts.

- Competitor
- Customer
- Investment
- Lawsuit/Litigation
- Partnership

- Supplier
- Acquisition
- Out/under performance
- Expanding Operations
- Compliance

- Funding Developments
- Leadership Changes
- New Offerings
- Bankruptcy
- Restructuring, Cost Cutting

![](_page_63_Figure_17.jpeg)

## Insight discovery:

- Rule/Graph mining (data cleaning)
  - GPAR (VLDB '15)
  - RUDIK (internal, paper submitted)
- Link prediction (data enrichment, fact checking)
  - Path Ranking Algorithms (PRA)
  - Probabilistic Soft Logic (PSL)
  - Snorkel (Stanford Collaboration)

# Questions

![](_page_64_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Company Crawler

![](_page_67_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $\mathbf{O}$