

Needles, Haystacks, Linksphere

Hugo Mills
ACET Middleware Group

The Linksphere

- Social networking site for researchers
- Bringing together people with similar interests
- *Encouraging serendipity*

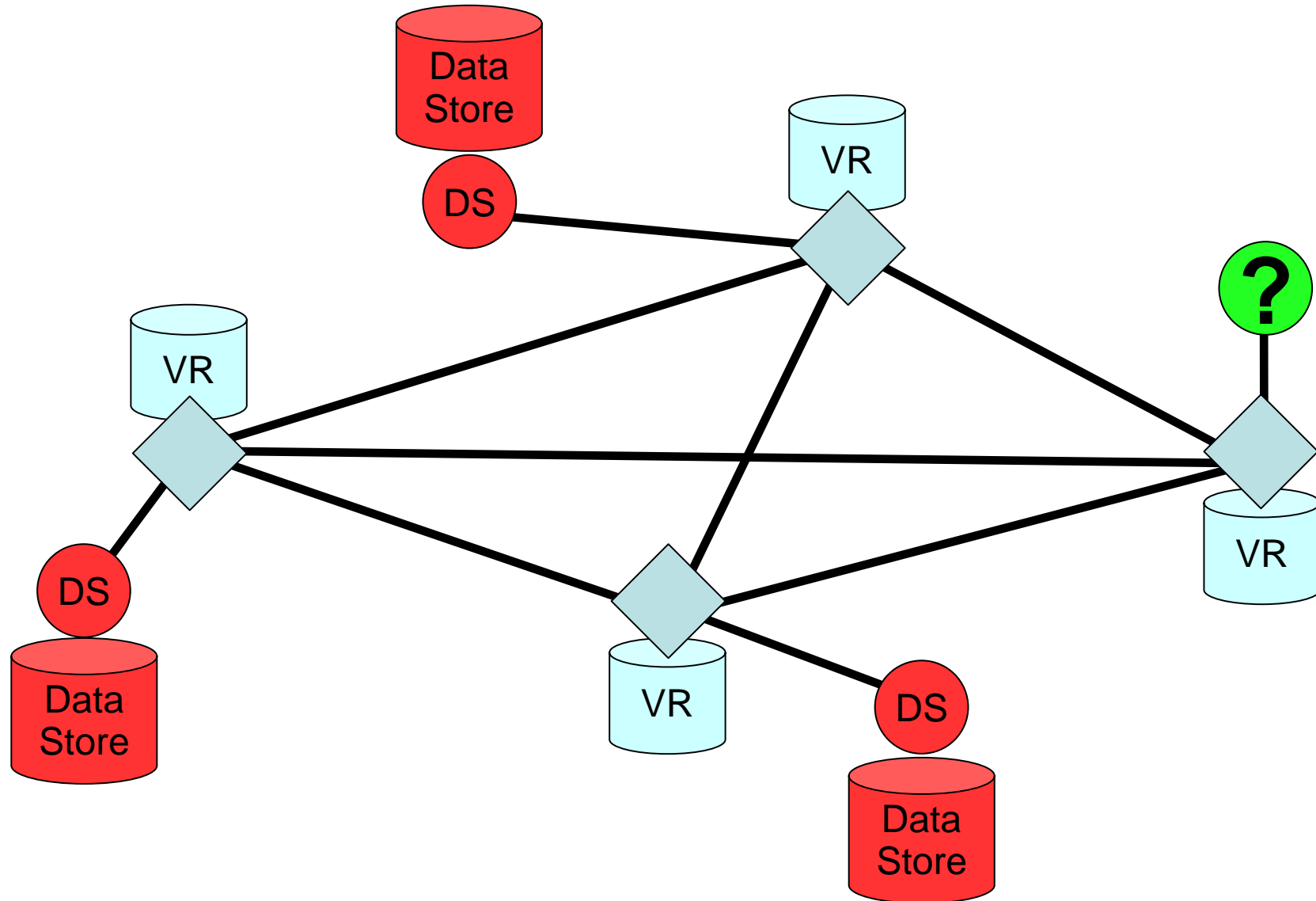
Reading University Archives & Datasets

- Museums Archives
 - Museum of English Rural Life
 - Ure Museum
- Silchester Excavation, IADB
- ePrints
- Library
- Beckett Collection
- Cole Museum of Zoology
- Film Collection
- Herbarium
- Typography Collection

Technology

- Tycho
 - Peer-to-peer framework
 - Robust
 - Lightweight
 - Fast

Cross-database search in Tycho



Tourism for Queries

- Where do I want to go?
 - What sights are there when I arrive?
 - Do I really want to see any of them?
- How do I get there?
- What language do they speak here?
- Is there a dictionary?
- How do I order a beer?

Vocabularies

- What keywords are found in this archive?
- Some systems already publish indices
 - Museums archive
 - ePrints: OAI-PMH

The “O-Word”

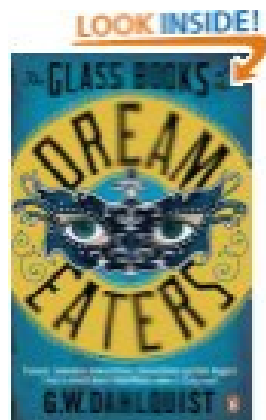
- Description of a field of knowledge
- Vocabulary, classes, relationships, entities, constraints
 - *[X] is a conference paper, which is a paper, which is a publication*
 - *Athens is part of Greece, which is part of Europe*
- Good for highly structured data

Term Mapping

- Synonyms
 - “This term is a better fit for finding that in the database”
- Broadening searches
 - “Other terms nearby in this area”
- Narrowing searches
 - “These words differentiate between your results”

Recommender Systems

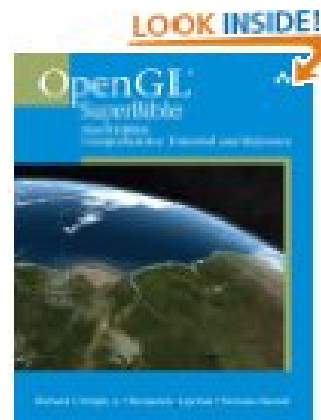
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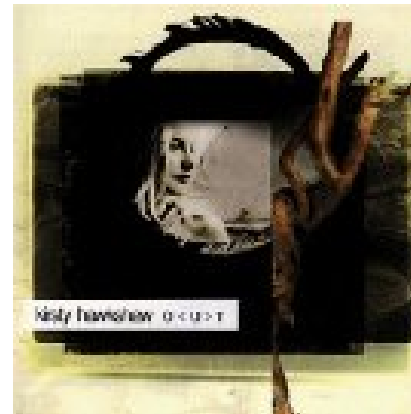
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red gloo

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[RedGloo](#)

This is **RedGloo**, a network for School of Systems Engineering members who want to meet other people on their course. Anybody from other Schools are welcome ...

<https://redgloo.sse.reading.ac.uk/> - [Cached](#) - [Similar](#)

[Shirley Williams :: Blog](#)

Since then we set up a **@RedGloo** twitter account and it followed all the sensible people who followed it (not the spammers). ...

redgloo.sse.reading.ac.uk/ssswills/weblog - [Cached](#) - [Similar](#)

Results for: **red gloo**

[She Gloo She Gloo Red Cherry](#)

Manufacturer: **Red** Cherry Vendor #: She **Gloo**. Amazing waterproof eyelash adhesive, goes on easy, dries invisibly, keeping lashes securely in place until you ...

What else?

- Direct feedback in searches
- Connect to the Linksphere site
 - “People who searched for *this* also found *this* useful”
 - “Build your own Ontology” – *Folksonomy*

More information

- <http://linksphere.org>
- People:
 - Prof. Mark Baker, Prof. Shirley Williams, Hugo Mills, Pat Parslow (Reading)
 - Melissa Terras, Claire Warwick, Claire Ross (UCL)