



David **Milne** | Ian H. **Witten**

# Knowledge-based Information Retrieval

with

## Wikipedia

- Koru
- Wikipedia Link-based Measure
- Wikification

The University of Waikato | **New Zealand**

# Limitations of search engines

- “Search is not solved”
- Current search engines
  - don't understand documents
  - don't understand queries



# Knowledge-based information retrieval

- Consult an external knowledge base
  - to find out what these characters mean
  - and proactively do stuff with them
- A fairly obvious, compelling idea
  - But one that hasn't worked out
- We haven't had the right knowledge base
  - Computers aren't accurate enough
  - Humans aren't quick enough

# Wikipedia | as a knowledge base

## ■ V Rugby union

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

■ T *For other uses, see [Rugby \(disambiguation\)](#).*

■ T **Rugby union** (short for **rugby union football** and often referred to as simply **rugby**, to a lesser extent **football**, or **union** in countries familiar with rugby union and [rugby league](#)), is an outdoor sport played by teams of 15 players with an [oval ball](#). It is one of the two main codes of rugby football, the other being [rugby league](#). There is also a quicker seven-a-side variation called [rugby sevens](#), which exists in both forms.

Contents [\[show\]](#)

### Overview

[\[edit\]](#)

*Main article: [Playing rugby union](#)*

An adult-level rugby union match lasts for 80 minutes, consisting of two halves of 40 minutes each



For current news on this topic, see [2007 Rugby World Cup](#)



A rugby union scrum.

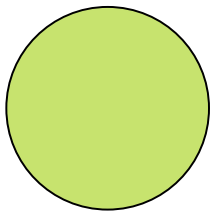
l sports

l rugby

Wall

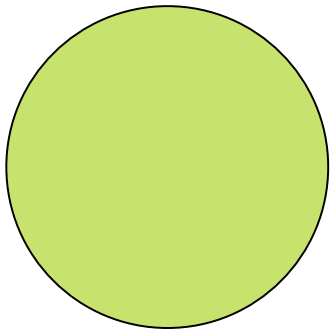
New Zealand national rugby team

# Wikipedia | as a knowledge base



## WordNet

118,000 synsets



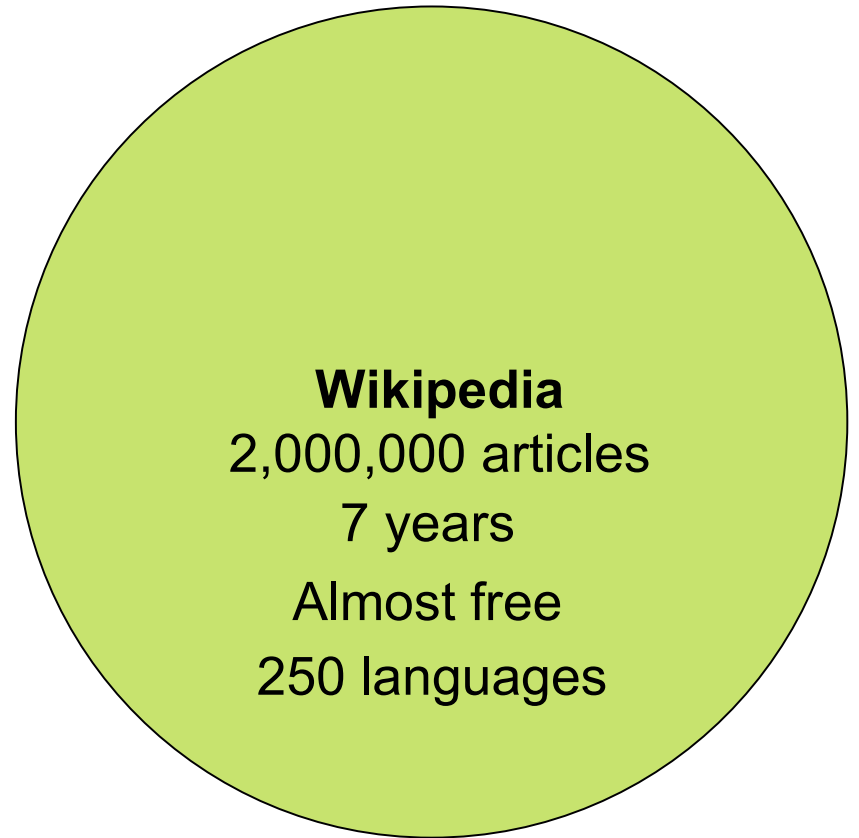
## ResearchCyc

300,000 concepts

20 years

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

1 language



## Wikipedia

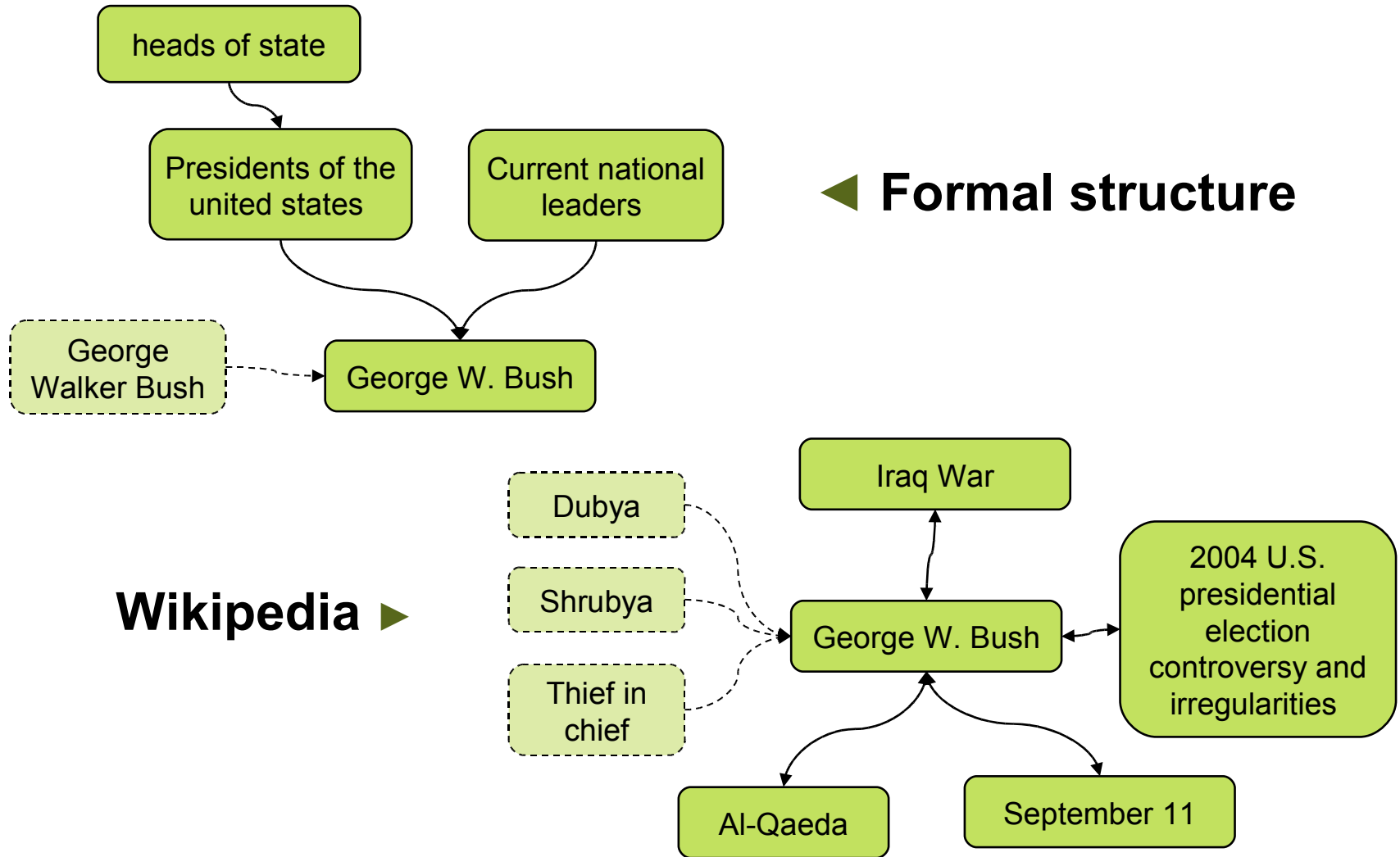
2,000,000 articles

7 years

Almost free

250 languages

# Wikipedia | as a knowledge base



# My research goals

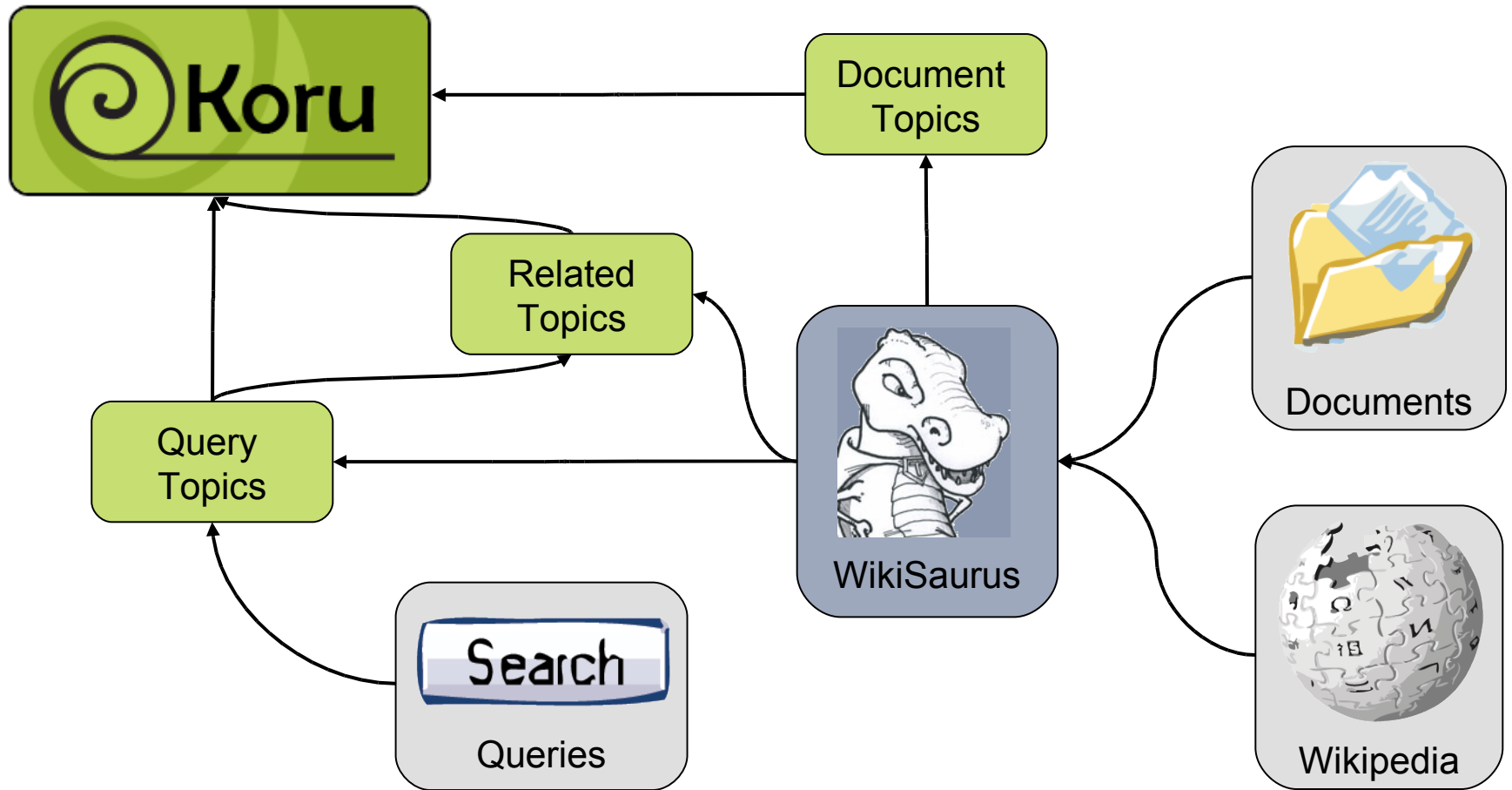
“Wikipedia will provide significantly improved retrieval, as it is”

- We don't need to make it “tidy”
- It's not a question of sophisticated NLP or AI
- It's more about HCI

So lets make a search engine that consults Wikipedia, and find out!



# Koru



# Koru | interface



The interface features a green header with the Koru logo (a spiral icon) and the text "Koru" on the left. On the right of the header, it says "Trec 2005 HARD track subset". Below the header is a search bar with a "Search" button. The main content area is divided into two panels: "Query Topics" on the left and "Query Results" on the right. A vertical scrollbar is located on the right side of the "Query Results" panel.



american airlines security

Search

Query Topics

[Empty content area for Query Topics]

Query Results

[Empty content area for Query Results]



## Query Topics

**American Airlines** in wikipedia

**Synonyms:** American Air Lines, Inc. American Airlines, Reno Air

**Security** in wikipedia

No synonyms found

**Security (finance)** in wikipedia

No synonyms found

**Airline** in wikipedia

**Synonyms:** Air carrier, Airline companies, Airline company, Airline industry, Airlines, Etihad Airlines, Flight company, Modern aviation, Passenger aeroplane, Passenger aircraft, Scheduled air carriers, Scheduled air transport, The Airline, airline companies, airline industry, airlines '

**Americas** in wikipedia

**Synonyms:** America, American, American continent, American supercontinent, Naming of America, The Americas, \_ American

## Query Results

Documents 1-8 of 8

1

### Fla. Mayor Defends Airport Security

... Mayor Defends Airport Security ... s mayor defended the security at Miami ... of dozens of American Airlines workers in a suspected cocaine ... criticized airport security and said airline workers had easily

### American Airlines Fined \$250,500

... h1> American Airlines Fined ... 000 civil penalty Thursday against American Airlines because ... their badges in high-security areas at Dallas ... that unless security ... security identification display area

### Airline Workers Held in Drug Probe

... - Security lapses at Miami International Airport and ... s managing director of security ... The drugs were put aboard American Airlines flights in Colombia ... agents in Puerto Rico arrested an American Airlines

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**Americas** in wikipedia

**Synonyms:** America, American, American continent, American supercontinent, Naming of America, The Americas, \_ American

## Query Results

Documents 1-10 of 69

### Iran condemns air strikes, urges Iraq to cooperate with UN

... N. **Security** Council to take immediate action to ... The **Security** Council will not lift economic sanctions imposed on

### Muslim Women Claim Discrimination

... discrimination complaint after being fired as airport **security** ... comply when a supervisor at Argenbright **Security** Inc

### O'Hare Closes Terminal for Security

... Hare Closes Terminal for **Security** ... authorities could search for a passenger who ran past a **security**

### O'Hare Closes Terminal for Security

... Hare Closes Terminal for **Security** ... authorities could search for a passenger who ran past a **security**

### Iran and Kuwait sign deal to expand security, drug cooperation

... Iran and Kuwait sign deal to expand **security** ... Wednesday to expand cooperation in **security**

airline security

Search

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**Americas** in wikipedia

**Synonyms:** America, American, American continent, American supercontinent, Naming of America, The Americas, \_ American

## Query Results

Documents 1-10 of 31

1 2 3

### Airplane ordered back because of security breach

... Airplane ordered back because of **security** breach ... a flight without going through **security** checks ... responsibility for that incident rests squarely with the **airline** ... Donnoley said **security** guards notified the control tower

### Calif. Airport Briefly Evacuated

... International Airport on Friday after a man in a business suit ran past a **security** checkpoint ... which contains Southwest Airlines ... checkpoint to the **airline** gates for about two hours so **security** officers could ... The man ignored a **security** officer

### Airports Lack Security at Bag Claim

... Airports Lack **Security** at Bag Claim ... perhaps more worrisome for **security** ... But **security** at the end of a trip ... said United Airlines spokesman Joe Hopkins

### Report: Jet carrying former U.S. president involved in security

... president involved in **security** ... President George Bush was involved in a **security** breach ... was aware of the **security** breach ... A Qantas spokesman said the **airline** had taken steps

americas airline security

Search

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American Airlines

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Security

No synonyms found

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Airline

Synonyms: Air carrier, Airline companies, Airline company, Airline industry, Airlines, Alitalia, Etihad Airlines, Flight company, Modern aviation, Passenger aeroplane, Passenger aircraft, Scheduled air transport, The airlines 'airlines'

Americas

Synonyms: America, American, American continent, American supercontinent, Naming of America, The Americas, \_ American

## Query Results

Documents 1-10 of 20

1 2

Israel increases security at airports following threats

... Israel is adding security personnel at its ... including airlines ...  
... since the American activity in Afghanistan and Sudan ... security ...  
... not alert security to every metal object

security

AND

*(air carrier OR airline company OR airline industry OR flight company OR modern aviation OR passenger aircraft....)*

AND

*(America OR American OR American continent...)*

Airport Security Tightened in Miami

... Airport Security Tightened in Miami ... The Miami airport is tightening security after two ... the airport a model of security ... checkpoints staffed by airport security personnel ... many of them American Airline

americas airline security

Search

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### Query Results

Documents 1-10 of 20

1 2

#### Israel increases security at airports following threats

... Israel is adding security personnel at its ... including airlines ... Since the American activity in Afghanistan and Sudan, security ... cannot alert security to every metal object

### Related Topics for Airline

United Airlines

Singapore Airlines

British Airways

American Airlines

Continental Airlines

Northwest Airlines

Qantas

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Inter

Air safety

America West Airlines

more related topics...

... or breaches ... 'Security is ... The airlines do report ... handlers at American

... vocate ... lax airport ... airlines and checked her ... West ... said the airline

... The Miami airport is ... a model of security ... personnel ... many of them



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## Query Results

Documents 1-10 of 20

1 2

### Israel increases security at airports following threats

... Israel is adding **security** personnel at its ... including **airlines** ... Since the **American** activity in Afghanistan and Sudan, **security** ... cannot alert **security** to every metal object

### Larceny Up at Busiest Airport

... Most airport **security** is focused on major breaches ... **Security** is through the Federal Aviation Administration ... The **airlines** do report mishandled baggage ... a group of baggage handlers at **American Airlines** in

### Feds Faulted in Airport Confusion

... diminish her role as an **airline** safety advocate ... lax airport **security** and disregard ... America West **Airlines** and checked her bag at noon ... spokeswoman for **America** West ... said the **airline** complied with FAA

### Airport Security Tightened in Miami

... Airport **Security** Tightened in Miami ... The Miami airport is tightening **security** after two ... the airport a model of **security** ... checkpoints staffed by airport **security** personnel ... many of them **American** Airline

americas airline security

Search

 Query Results

Documents 11-20 of 20

1 2

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 Documents Tray

Israel increases s ✕

24 September 1998

**Israel increases security at airports following threats**

LOD, Israel (AP)

Israel is adding security personnel at its international airport in response to threats by Islamic militants to attack Israeli and U.S. targets, including airlines, officials said Monday.

Threats against U.S. and Israeli targets emerged after last week's U.S. air strikes in Sudan and Afghanistan that were aimed at Osama bin Laden, a Saudi millionaire and Islamic militant linked to the bombings of two U.S. embassies in East Africa this month.

On Sunday, a leading Muslim activist close to bin Laden said Islamic militants are preparing to retaliate for the air strikes by targeting U.S. and Israeli strategic sites and airliners.

Pini Shis, a spokesman for Israel's Airport Authority, said more security workers had been added at Ben Gurion International Airport near Tel Aviv, and that security was also being tightened at airfields in Eilat and Tel Aviv.

americas airline security

Search

 Query Results

Documents 11-20 of 20

1 2

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 Documents Tray

Israel increases s ⌘ Feds Faulted in A ⌘

15 April 1999

**Feds Faulted in Airport Confusion****Unknown Location**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) -- A former U.S. Transportation Department official who became a top critic of government airline safety policy today blamed airport officials for turmoil that followed her attempt to put an unaccompanied suitcase on a plane.

Mary Schiavo said on NBC's "Today" show that she was sorry for any inconvenience caused when Port Columbus International Airport called the bomb squad and closed a runway for four hours Friday. "But it was done by the airport with the full knowledge of what was going on," she said.

WCMH-TV reported that it had told an airport official Friday morning that it was doing a story on airport security. The station said in a statement Sunday that Ms. Schiavo, working with the station, had checked in a bag for a flight as part of the story, and that airport officials were made aware of the existence of the piece of luggage at around the time the flight was to have taken off.

# Koru |



email internet computers abuse job cost

Search

## Query Topics

E-mail

**Synonyms:** E Mail, E mail, E-mail account, E-mails, EMAIL, EMail, Electronic Mail, Electronic mail, Electronic mail box, Email, Emails, HTML e-mail, HTML email, HTML mail,



Trec 2005 HARD track subset

[Settings](#)

[Help](#)

[Debug](#)

travel security

Search

## Query Topics

Travel

No synonyms found

Security (finance)

No synonyms found

## Query Results

Documents 1-10 of 23

1 2 3

### Salt Lake Games Get Safety Grant

... funds to help with security and public safety for the 2002 Winter ... coordinated plan to provide security when Salt ... And Utah officials will be able to travel to the 2000 Summer

### Lufthansa, German railway pledge closer cooperation

... Seeking to shift some domestic travel ... The goal is to make it easier to travel by train to Lufthansa ... resolve such problems as security checks on the luggage and making

### First Palestinian commercial flight to Amman makes round trip

... delayed due to Israeli security demands ... operated by the Palestinian Authority, security is jointly handled ... disputes between Israel and the Palestinians over security ... 600 Palestinian Muslims who wish to travel to Saudi Arabia in

**Synonyms:** Expenditure, Private cost

# What now

We need to improve how topics and the relations between them are extracted

- Semantic Relatedness
- Wikification

# Semantic Relatedness

Given any two terms, what is the strength of the semantic relation between them?

- Highly useful
  - AI, data mining, IR, NLP
- But subjective



Love	Sex	6.77
Tiger	Cat	7.35
Tiger	Tiger	10.00
Book	Paper	7.46
Computer	Keyboard	7.62
Computer	Internet	7.58
Plane	Car	5.77
Stock	Life	0.92
Television	Radio	6.77
...	...	...

# Semantic Relatedness | with Wikipedia

## Scale and structure

- GBs of text
- millions of articles
- hundreds of thousands of categories

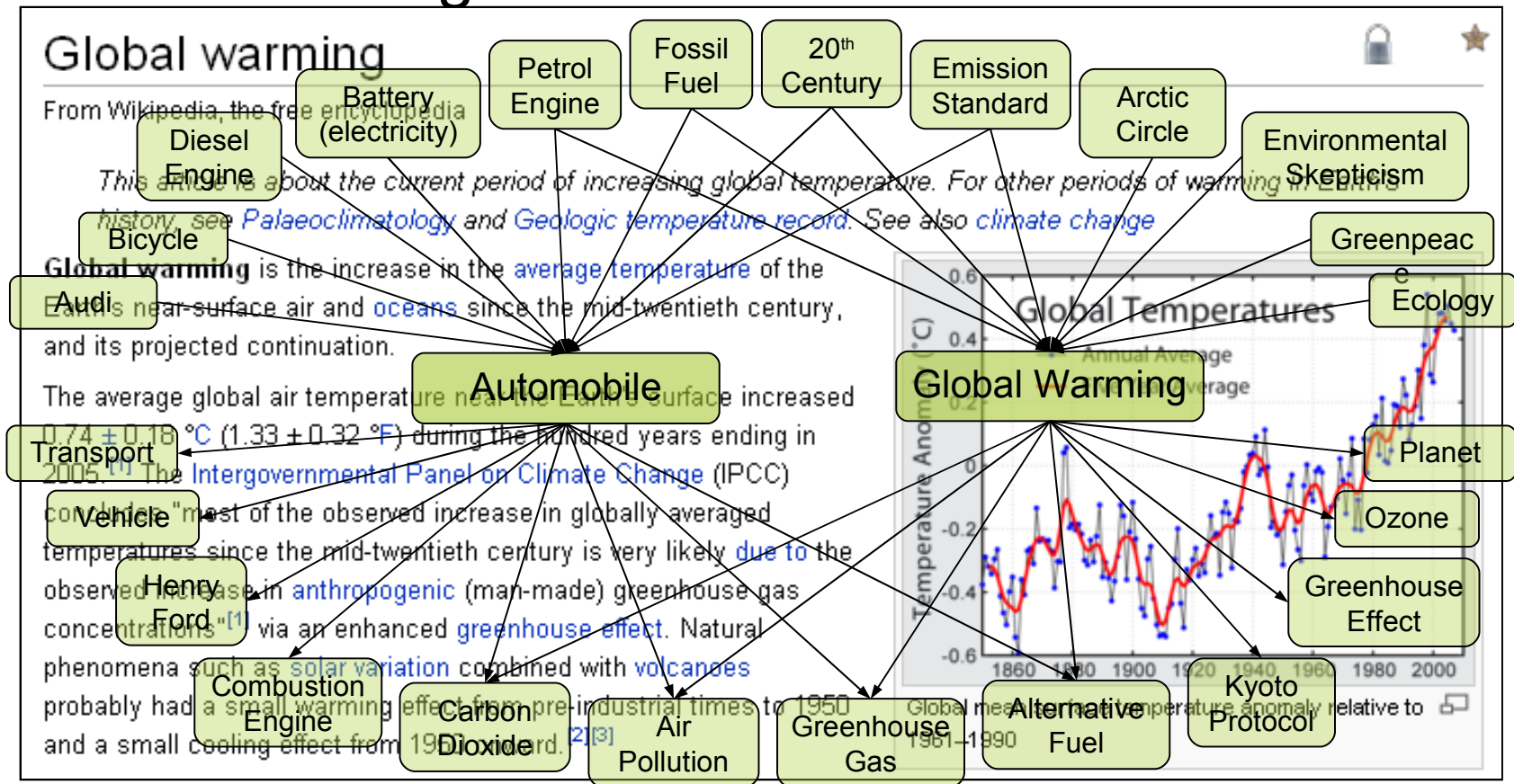


- Two techniques have been developed already

WikiRelate!	19% - 48%
Explicit Semantic Analysis	75%

# Semantic Relatedness | Wikipedia links

Wikipedia has an extremely rich hyperlink structure that has been ignored so far.





# Semantic Relatedness | evaluation

Dataset	WikiRelate	ESA	WLM
Miller & Charles	45%	73%	70%
Rubenstein & Goodenough	52%	82%	64%
WordSimilarity 353	49%	75%	69%

WikiRelate < WLM < ESA

# Wikification

- How do we accurately cross-reference documents with Wikipedia?

- ## Rugby union

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For other uses, see [Rugby \(disambiguation\)](#).*

**Rugby union** (short for **rugby union football** and often referred to as simply **rugby**, to a lesser extent **football**, or **union** in countries familiar with rugby union and [rugby league](#)), is an outdoor sport played by teams of 15 players with an [oval](#) ball. It is one of the two main codes of [rugby football](#), the other being [rugby league](#). There is also a quicker seven-a-side variation called [rugby sevens](#), which exists in both forms.

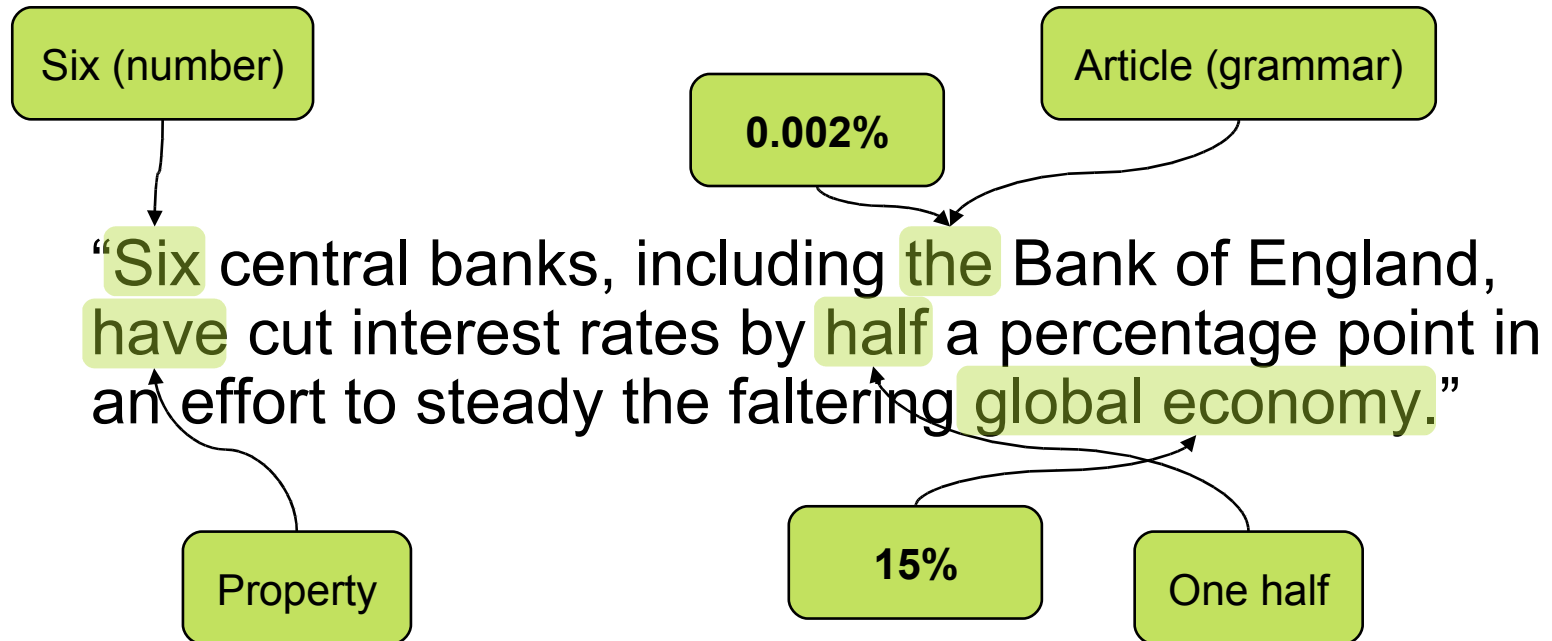


For current news on this topic, see [2007 Rugby World Cup](#)



# Wikification | identifying concept terms

- Wikipedia's links provide a huge vocabulary of which terms can resolve to which concepts



# Wikification | resolving ambiguity

- For every link in Wikipedia, a human author has manually chosen the correct destination.

“Six central **banks**, including the Bank of England, have cut interest rates by half a percentage point in an effort to steady the faltering global economy.”

Financial institution	07.0%
-----------------------	-------

“The story begins on the **banks** of the **Rio Negro** in the **Central Amazon**. A party of scientists is embarking on a **voyage** which they hope will provide answers to a five hundred year old mystery.”

recall **96%** | precision **98%**

# Wikification | selecting relevant concepts

- Wikipedians do not link to every single article
  - only ones that readers would want to investigate

“Six central banks, including the Bank of England, have cut interest rates by half a percentage point in an effort to steady the faltering global economy.”

“The story begins on the banks of the Rio Negro in the Central Amazon. A party of scientists is embarking on a voyage which they hope will provide answers to a five hundred year old mystery.”

recall **74%** | precision **74%**

# What next?

- Explore applications for Wikification
  - Topic Indexing
  - Document Clustering
  - Document Summarization
- Revisit Koru
  - Apply semantic relatedness and wikification to knowledge base generation, query expansion, and exploratory search
- Write up!

# References

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# Websites and Demos

[www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/~dnk2](http://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/~dnk2)

[www.nzdl.org/koru](http://www.nzdl.org/koru)

[wikipedia-miner.sourceforge.net](http://wikipedia-miner.sourceforge.net)

[www.nzdl.org/wikification](http://www.nzdl.org/wikification)

