

The "Long Tail" shopping search

#### **Shopping Search Evolution**

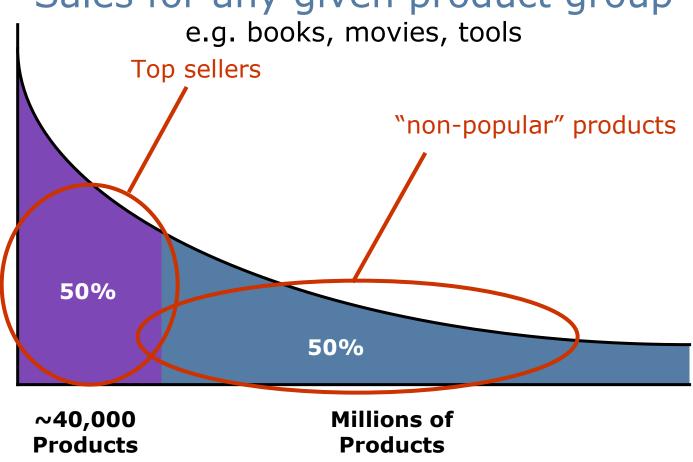


- Still no shopping solution for the entire Web
- Web search: too broad and delayed
  - Too many irrelevant results (90%)
  - No prices, PageRank doesn't work for shopping, etc.
  - Often obsolete data (6 weeks re-crawl cycle)
- 1<sup>st</sup> generation comparison shopping: too narrow
  - Limited choice of products and vendors
  - Typically only 20,000 out of ~1 million online stores
- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation: Dulance 1.0 and Froogle
  - All the web, but still delayed
- 3<sup>rd</sup> generation: Dulance 2.0 (RSS or WS)
  - All the web and "Search the Future"

# The "Long Tail"







Source: Wired Magazine, 12.10 October 2004, "The Long Tail", Chris Anderson



# **Dulance 1.0: Long Tail**

- Algorithmic approach to shopping search
- Scope: all online stores
  - Over 1 million stores in N. America
- Filter that recognizes online stores
  - Repository of all e-commerce pages on the web
- Extracts product name, price, used/new, etc.
- Doesn't require site-by-site screen scraping
- New page relevancy ranking algorithm
- Price cluster analysis



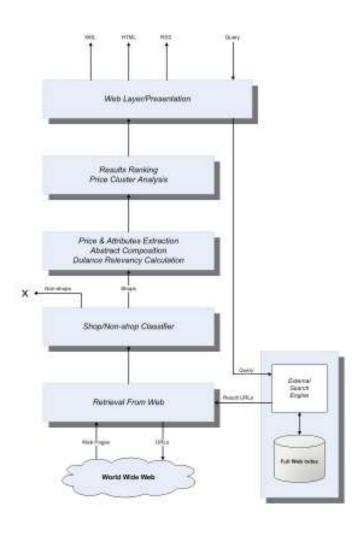


#### Number of product results found

Query	Dulance	Shopzilla
Fischer Worldcup RC	9	1
Fanatic Goya	7	0
Ezzy Wave 5.0	9	0
Z-coil Freedom 2000	6	0
Magma Kohntarkosz	20	1
Martin 000-28EC	30+	1
Fortigate 60	30+	1
185 Sullair air compressor	9	0
EH-76 vertical reciprocating conveyor	3	0
Keil PK51	4	:-)

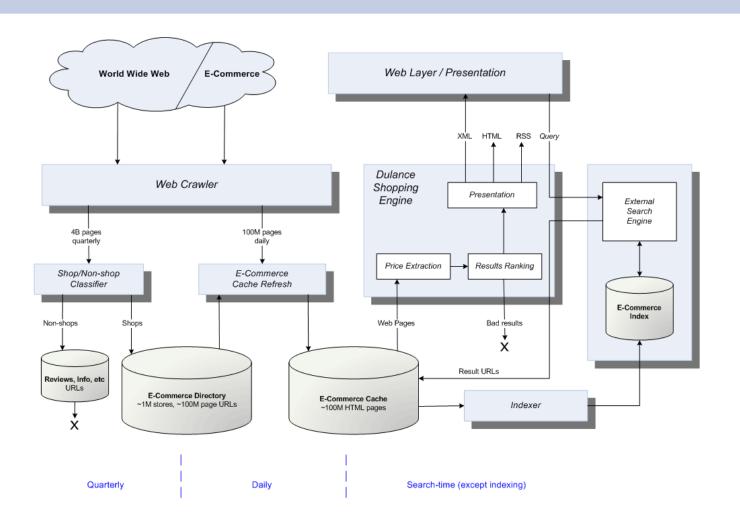


#### **No-Cache Architecture**









## **Page Classifiers**



- Flexible technologies with a range of applications
  - Shop/non-shop filter
  - Used/new filter (for eBay)
  - Can be applied to travel, jobs, people, restaurants, etc.
- Linear supervised statistical machine learning
  - Attribute reduction
  - Hand-picked and/or automatically selected attributes
  - Expert rules (synonyms) into attributes
- Optimized for webpages (HTML, JavaScript)
- Query-independent; crawl-time
- Unique value:
  - New approach to categorization
  - Work-years tuning the models

## Relevancy



- Optimized for product search / shopping
- Is the product sold here?
  - Boolean relevancy: Yes/No
- Query-dependent; search-time
  - No link analysis required
- HTML-aware proximity measure
  - Measure how dense query words are
  - Add premium/penalty for Title, H1, <b>, hyperlinks, etc.
  - Combine these to calculate relevancy
  - If >70% then true

#### **Attribute Extraction**



- On-the-fly extraction, no normalized product DB
  - Query-dependent; search-time
  - Pre-parsing for performance
- Probabilistic approach no expert rules
- Price, availability, etc.
  - HTML-aware (tags, CSS, tables, etc.)
  - Disqualify S/H, MSRP, "you save", ...
  - Disqualify accessories, related items, ...





- Price cluster analysis
- Accessories filter
- Affiliates, spam, etc. filters
- Address grabber
  - Finds "Contact us" webpages, grabs addresses

# **Additional Applications**



- RUsure Browser Toolbar
  - Automatically initiates price comparison when the user is at eBay, Amazon, etc.
  - https://addons.update.mozilla.org/extensions/moreinfo.php?id=652
- Local shopping
  - Find specific products sold in local stores
  - Requires much larger pool of merchants than Shopzillas have
- Blending shopping into web search
  - Enhance generic web search results with extracted prices and availability
  - No shopping tab required
- SpamFree: the Web without shops
- Contextual advertising
  - From product reviews to instant price quotes, in one click
  - http://dulance.com/tripleclick.html

#### **Search the Future**



- Shoppers register their wish-lists and receive notifications when prices drop
  - via RSS or e-mail
- Merchants publish time-sensitive offerings and promotions and have them delivered, nearly instantly, to the awaiting shoppers
  - Empower sellers to sell
  - Matching buyers' wish lists
  - Instant index update, no delays

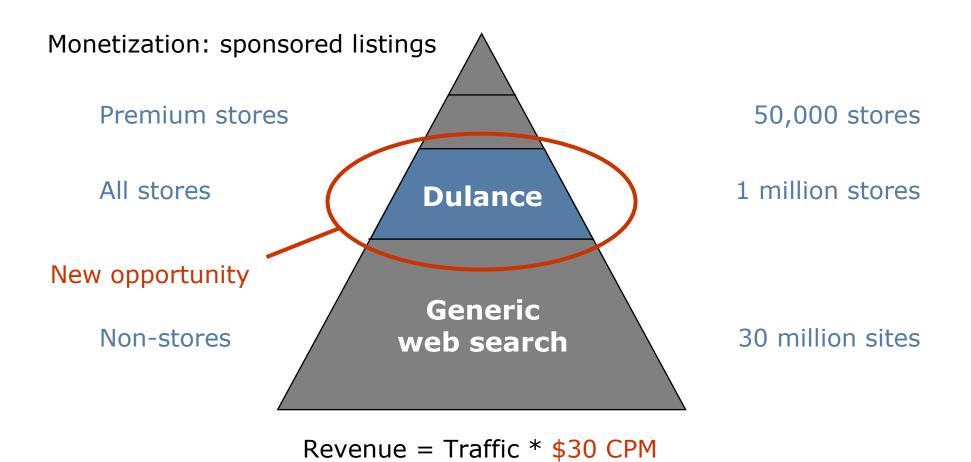
#### **Company Overview**



- Sergei Burkov, Ph.D. Founder & CEO
  - Serial entrepreneur: Bilbo Innovations, Invincible: data security company, sold to VASCO (NASDAQ: VDSI)
- Igor Gusak, Ph.D. –VP Business Development
  - VP of Sales and GM of Commtouch (NASDAQ: CTCH)
- 8 highly skilled mathematicians and software developers in Moscow, Russia
  - 2 Ph.D.s; 5 from Math Dept of Moscow Univ.; 2 of MIPT
- 2+ years of development and customer testing









## **Dulance Value Proposition**

- Value to consumers
  - Find any product, from any merchant, at lower prices
  - Shopping agent that watches for future sales and promotions
- Value to merchants
  - More qualified leads higher ROI
  - Push limited-time promotions to consumers