Emerging tools for email preservation

Preserving Email: Directions and Perspectives - July 2011

Tom Jackson Information Science Department www.drthomasjackson.com



Overview

- What are we trying to achieve?
- Email preservation considerations
- Current strategies
- Emerging strategies
- Useful links

What are we trying to achieve?

- Is it just Preservation?
- What about adding extra info?
 - Classification
 - Categorisation
 - Decision Capturing
 - Knowledge

 As well as preservation and archiving?

- Wider Context:
 - Beyond converting to a reusable format
 - Volume of Email
 - Employee Time
 - Employee Know-How
 - Structuring Data



- Preservation: Volume of Email
 Space Management
 - Average employee spends 40 minutes a day managing their inbox to alleviate space restrictions
 - Responses range from 0 minutes to > 3 hours!

"...63% reported that space restrictions did not help them manage their inbox more effectively..."



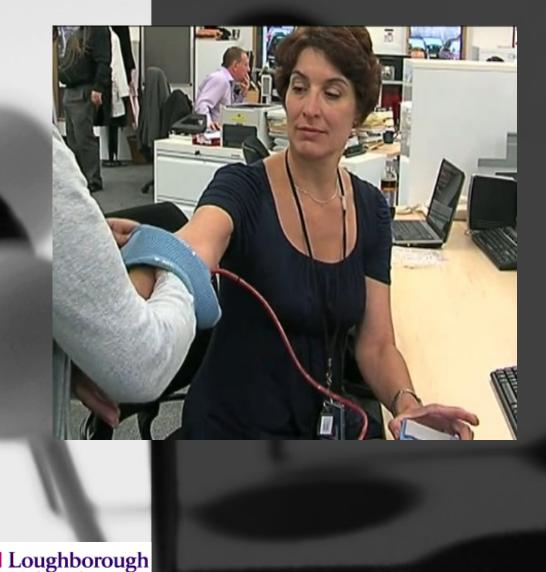
Preservation: Volume of Email

- 39% of email is information only (read only)
- 29% copied in unnecessarily (cc,reply-to-all)
- 17% irrelevant or untargeted (inc. SPAM)
- 15% action required

ughborough

 46% of email an employee receives does not require storing

– What about stress and email management?



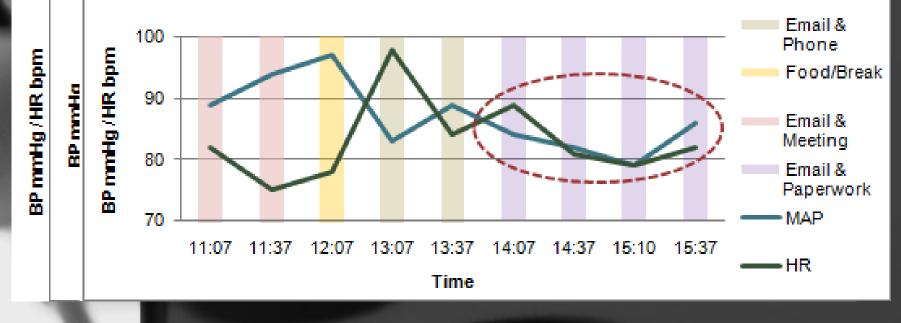
niversity

Data Collection

- Thirty invited volunteers
- Two monitoring periods: (1) Email Use (2) Email Free Time
- Distribute questionnaires
- ABP machine attach/remove
- Saliva samples & fridge stored (within 4 hours) & freezer stored (12 hours)
- Diary used to log events

Stress during Email and Other Activities

- Increased BP & HR during email and phone use
- Increased BP during email and face-to-face meeting
- Decreased BP & HR during email and paperwork.



Not filing email causes stress – Chris!

Loughborough

niversity

- Preservation: Volume of Email
- Push and pull storage
 - Deciding if to store on sending
 - Time saving if sent to large number of recipients
 - Recipient knows message has already been saved



Preservation: Employee Time

Overwhelmed by email

"...53% of employees receive more email than they can handle..."

– Time for work?

"...76% of employees feel they don't have sufficient time to do their work...."

Loughborough University Email Overload (Stephen)?
 "...87% suffer or have suffered email overload..."

oughborough

Preservation: Employee Know-How
 – Do they know what to store?
 – Where it should be stored?

 IM Capabilities of Employees

 Research at Leicestershire County Council into IM capabilities
 Employee IM assessment
 Identify training areas

oughborough

Preservation: Structuring Data
 Well known issue for preserving email

 Number of systems available to convert formats into reusable format e.g. CERP email parser

 Proactive approach: structure new emails (Outlook 2007 add-in, Outlook 2010 built-in).

forms)

oughborough Jniversity

- Preservation: Structuring Data
 - Need to structure to aid in processing
 - XML (<u>Digital Preservation Testbed</u> in the Netherlands)
 - Predefined forms Not moved much further from the 90s (Lotus Notes -

| 🛛 SMS: An ex | example of a short message - DanwoodSMS (Rich Text) | . 🗆 × |
|----------------|---|-------|
| Eile Edit View | ew Insert Tools Actions Help | |
| Send 📘 | 🛃 🐰 🖻 🖻 🛃 🔯 紀 🕴 🕴 🔻 🗟 Options 😰 🗸 | |
| То | SMSBrett.Johnson | |
| Short Message: | SMS: An example of a short message | |

Short Message Service for Danwood

Current Strategies



Current Strategies

Not involving Employees

 Preserving existing Email in vaults
 No real impact on employees

Categorising & Classify Email

High user involvement

oughborough

 – C&C when sending and receiving email

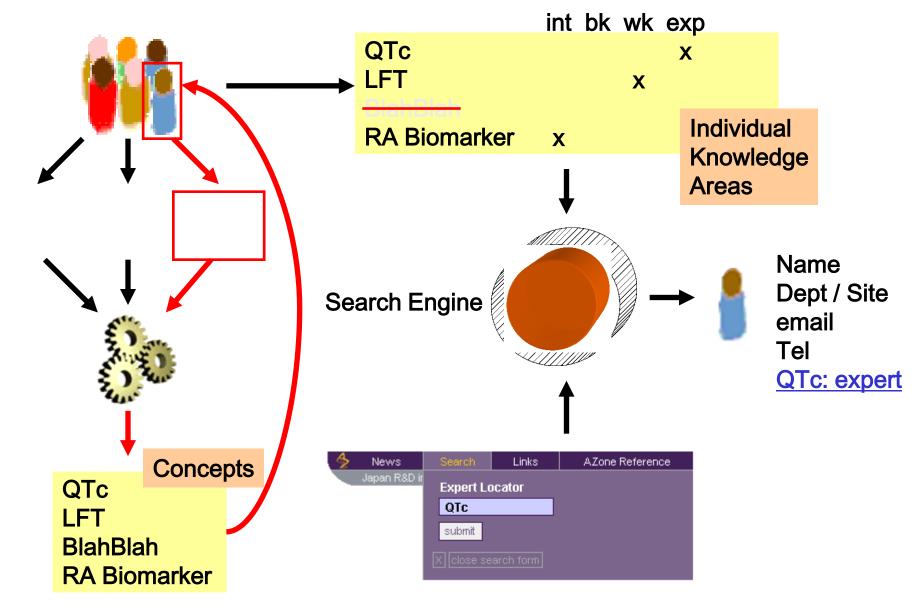
 The WAG – employees not having time or understanding how to do it



 Solutions have to be integrated into business processes to be successful

• Employees too busy....

Example - Email Knowledge
 Extraction



A working example of an email sent through the keyphrase extraction system

>>> Obtain email text

Mary & Mike, I spoke to John today who is working on trying to construct a simple version of the email trainer. Mike, it might be worth you mentioning to John the web site that re-writes text so it has a better structure. Thomas

>>> <u>Tokenise</u> the text

<mary>, <&>, <mike>, <,>, <i>, <spoke>, <to>, <john>, <today>, <who>, <is>, <working>, <on>, <trying>, <to>, <construct>, <a>, <simple>, <version>, <of>, <the>, <email>, <trainer>, <.> and so on....

>>> Apply POS Tagger

<mary/NN>, <&/cc-tl>, <mike/NN>, <,/,>, <i/nn>, <spoke/vbd>, <to/to>, <john/vb>, <today/nr>, <who/wps>, <is/bez>, <working/vbg>, <on/in>, <trying/vbg>, <to/to>, <construct/vb>, <a/at>, <simple/jj>, <version/nn>, <of/in>, <the/at>, <email/NN>, <trainer/NN>, </.> and so on....

>>> Pick Keyphrases from within each candidate phrase

S: < mary/NN > < &/cc-tl > < mike/NN > <,/, > < i/nn > < spoke/vbd > < to/to > < john/vb > < today/nr > < who/wps > < is/bez > < working/vbg > < on/in > < trying/vbg > < to/to > < construct/vb > < a/at > < simple/jj > < version/nn > < of/in > (Key phrase: < the/at > < email/NN > < trainer/NN >) </. > and so on....

>>>Apply linguistic filters (initially when wordNet was not used)

(<email/NN> <trainer/NN>), (<site/nn>)

>>>Apply linguistic filters (with wordNet used)

(<email/NN> <trainer/NN>)

For the complete set of tags used in the Brown corpus please refer to http://www.comp.leeds.ac.uk/amalgam/tagsets/brown.html

• Standard interface

Loughborough University

| 🖻 Pilot study - Biz (HTML) |
|---|
| Elle Edit View Insert Format Iools Actions Help |
| . In . In . A B Z U = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = |
| To <u>s.m.j.tedmori@lboro.ac.uk;</u> |
| <u>C</u> c |
| Subject: Pilot study |
| We will need to use compound D112 for drug bx34553 to ensure that is it a success on the pilot study. If we don't we might be liable and have to pay the costs of a re-trial. Tom |
| |

User asked to rank immediately

| 🖶 Form1 | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------|--|--|--|
| Please indicate your skill level in these areas. | | | | | | | |
| ⊂ pilot study —— | Basic Knowledge | Working Knowledge | Expert Knowledge | None | | | |
| | 🔘 ВК | ⊙ WK | ◯ EK | ○ N/A | | | |
| | | | | Submit | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | _ | | | | | |

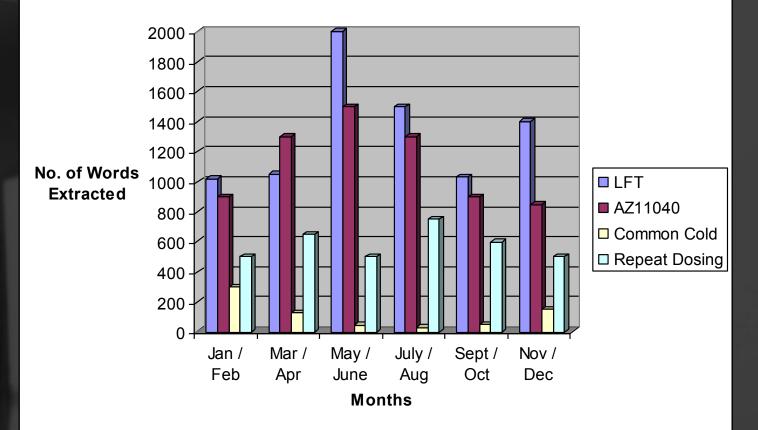
System learns from user

ullet

- User will not see keyphrase again
 - Best f-measure in the world

Organisational Knowledge





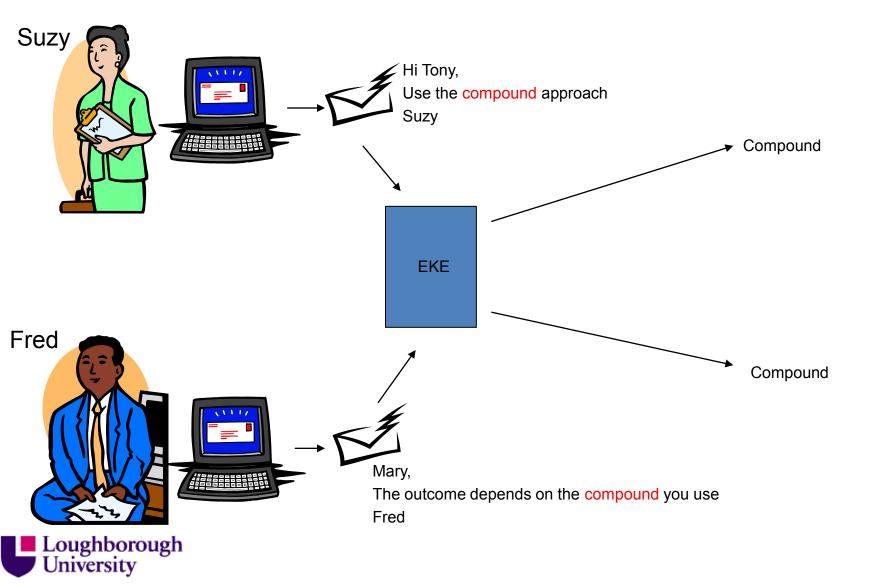
- Wish list requirements:
 - Convert to XML on sending
 - Categorise Email
 - Classify Email
 - To avoid distributing the end user too much
 - Remove duplication
 - Capture decisions

oughborough

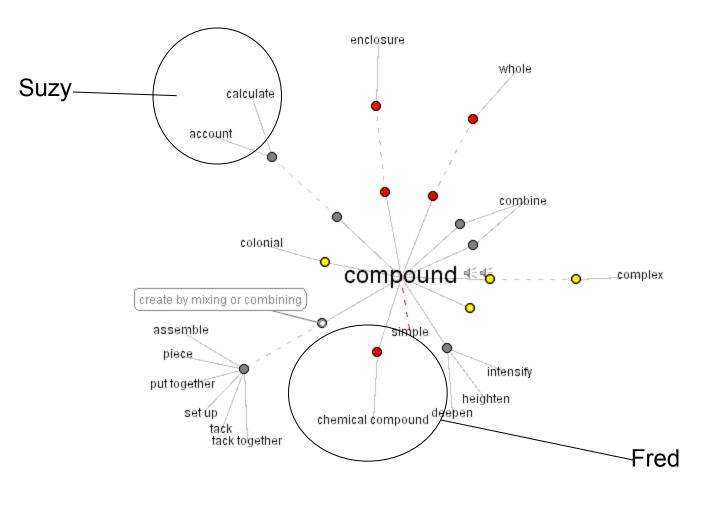
 New Research at TNA – Email Classification & Categorisation System

- Real-time vs Stored Email
- Real-time snap shot view?
- Stored email
 - News articles, other emails, organisational structure, retention policy, decision making
- Other Issues
 - Inconsistencies
 - Taxonomy, Ontology OntoFarm

The Right Context.....(inconsistencies)



Technical Issues





Semi-automated Ontology Creator OntoFarm

Concept Label and Description

test:Ruby_On_Rails

Harvest View

Ruby on Rails is an open source web application framework for the Ruby programming language. It is often referred to as "Rails" or "RoR".

Browse Concepts Destroy Export Namespace as Text Export Namespace as XML Export Namespace as OW

Properties

Harvester spider? ocation: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubv%20on%20rails Help us provide free content to the world by donating today! 2 Log in / create account article discussion edit this page history Ruby on Rails N From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia from Ruby on rails WIKIPEDIA Ruby on Rails Ruby on Bails is an open source web application framework for the Ruby programming language. It is often referred to as "Rails" or "RoR". It is Main page intended to be used with an Agile development Contents methodology, which is often utilized by web Featured content developers for its suitability for short, client-driven Welcome aboard Current events projects. Random article Contents [hide] 1 History 2 Technical overview Go Search 3 Framework structure 4 Philosophy and Design About Wikipedia 5 See also ajax application Order results by: frequency, occurance, name Lex edit framework Developed by Relation Rep frameworks free Lex hansson heinemeier Rails Core Team **Relation** Rep links page php Lex programming **ralls** Latest release Relation Rep retrieved ruby Lex server toolkit **Web** Written in Relation Rep Lex

| Subject of Relations | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Ruby_On_Rails relatedTo 💠 test: | Create | | | | | | | |
| Subject Predicate | Object | Delete | Delete | | | | | |
| Object of Relations | | | | | | | | |
| test: relatedTo Ruby_On_Rails Create | | | | | | | | |
| Subject | Predicate | Object | Delete | | | | | |
| test:Ruby Programming Language | coeprop:relatedTo | Ruby_On_Rails | Delete | | | | | |
| Lexical Representations | | | | | | | | |
| Create | | | | | | | | |
| Lexical Representation | | Delete | | | | | | |
| Ruby on rails | | Delete | | | | | | |

Lexical Representations

Conclusion

- How will we measure success?
- What is the business case?
 - Legal requirements

oughborough

- Value added extracting knowledge
- Value added ontology
- Time required to store and retrieve
- How far do we go big brother?
 Interpretation risk?

Useful Links

Archivematica (open source software) http://archivematica.org/wiki/index.php?title=Main_Page

Email Preservation Project

- Blogs and discussion
- Recommendations
- Resources
- Preservation of Electronic Mail Collaboration Initiative <u>http://www.records.ncdcr.gov/emailpreservation/technical_resources.htm</u>
- Digital Preservation Testbed in the Netherlands: "XML for Digital Preservation - XML Implementation Options for E-mails"
- Collaborative Electronic Records Project (CERP)
- Preserving Access to Digital Information (PADI) Email
- CERP Email Parser (open source) <u>http://siarchives.si.edu/cerp/index.htm</u>

