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- Problem domain
- Ontological user profiles
- Foxtrot approach
- Demonstration
- Future work



### Problem domain

Information overload on the WWW Too many sites and pages to browse Search engines need an explicit search query **Recommender systems** No need to specify explicit keywords Learns the type of things you want Automatically looks for them Recommends relevant things when they are found A real world problem domain On-line research paper recommendation for researchers University of Southampton staff and students



### Ontological user profiles

User profiles represented using an ontology Classes represent research topics Ontology contains is-a relationships between classes User profiles hold classes and current interest values Training set for each class

5-10 labelled examples per class

Examples shared between users

Profile inference

Is-a relationships used to infer interests not seen directly

Inference used to improve profile accuracy

Profile feedback

Profile visualization allows profile feedback Feedback used to improve profile accuracy





### Foxtrot approach

Unobtrusive monitoring Web proxy used to monitor web browsing Shared research paper database Database grows as users browse the internet Classifier Boosted k-Nearest Neighbour classifier Profiler Browsed papers and explicit feedback indicate interest Time-decay and inference used to find interests Recommender Pearson-r correlation finds similar people Recommended papers are those read by similar people



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### Future work

Improved ontology

More relationships than just is-a links
Projects, related areas, technology links...

Task profile

Task profiles would allow more than just a general profile
Task analysis is a hard problem however

Agent metaphor

A multi-agent-system could buy/sell ontological knowledge

A multi-agent-system could buy/sell ontological knowledge Agents could trade personal information

