

Information Architecture

CS 6755

Lecturer: Prof. Henneman

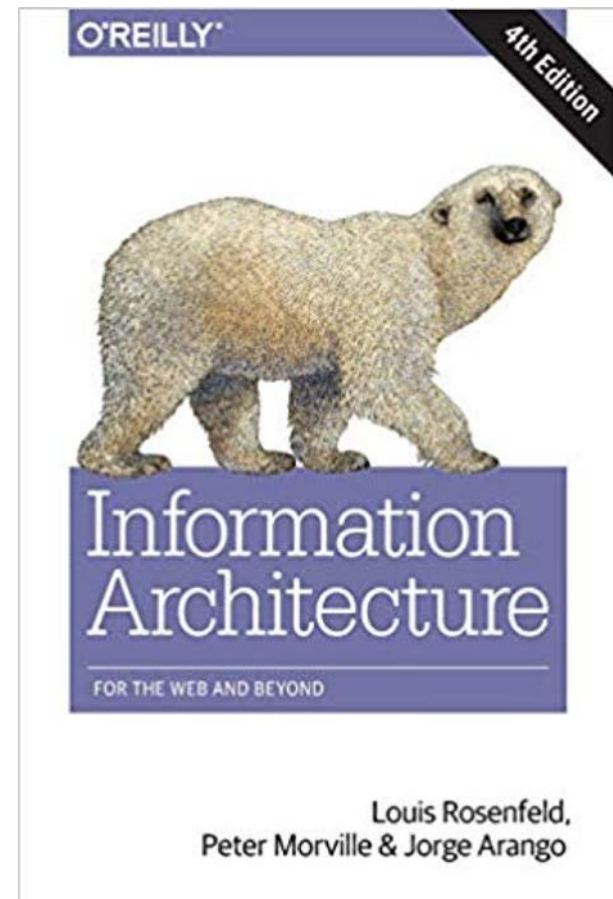
9.20.2019

Information Architecture (IA)

A design discipline focused on making information **findable** and **understandable**

1. The structural design of shared information environments
2. The synthesis of organization, labeling, search, and navigation systems within digital, physical, and cross-channel ecosystems
3. The art and science of shaping information products and experiences to support usability, findability, and understanding
4. An emerging discipline and community of practice focused on bringing principles of design and architecture to the digital landscape

You can find this on-line at the GT Library. Make sure it is the latest (4th) edition.



Today

What makes IA interesting/ challenging?

Aspects of IA

Organization

Labels

Navigation

Search

Research methods

Documentation

Special topic: Search and navigation of large data sets

What constitutes the IA?

Organization

Labeling

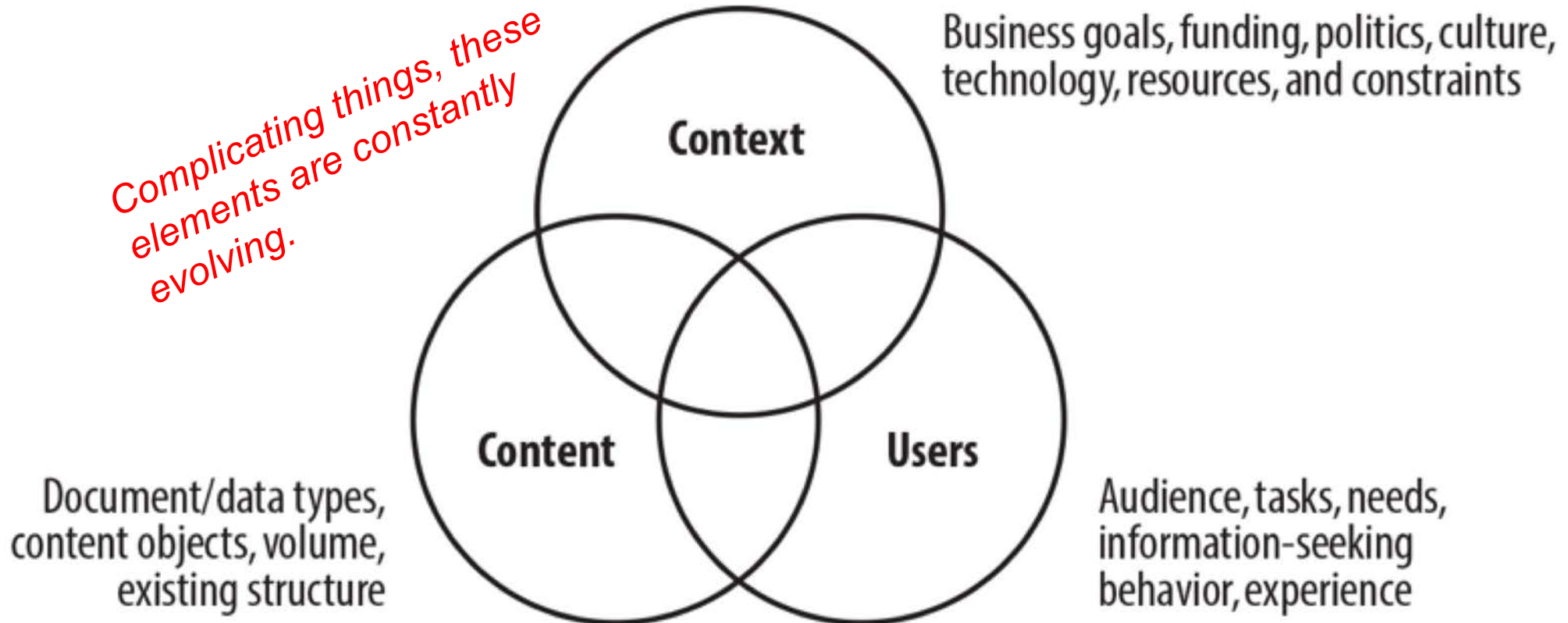
Navigation

Search

The screenshot displays the Delta Airlines website interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes the Delta logo, 'BOOK', 'CHECK-IN', 'MY TRIPS', 'FLIGHT STATUS', 'Travel Info', 'SkyMiles', and 'More'. A user profile for 'Richard' with 238,812 miles is visible in the top right. The main content area features a flight search form with 'ATL' as the origin and 'BWI' as the destination, set for a 'Round Trip'. Below the form are search options: 'Shop with Miles', 'Refundable Fares', and 'My dates are flexible'. A search dropdown menu is open on the right, showing a search input field and a list of 'POPULAR TOPICS' including 'Need Help?', 'Baggage', 'Receipts', 'Delta Vacations', 'Upgrade', 'SkyMiles Account', 'Choice Benefits', 'Lost and Found', and 'Gift Cards'. The footer is organized into four columns: 'ABOUT DELTA' (About Us, Careers, News Hub, Investor Relations, Business Travel, Travel Agents, Mobile App), 'CUSTOMER SERVICE' (Need Help?, Tweet Us, Comment/Complaint), 'SITE SUPPORT' (Login Help, Site Map, Browser Compatibility, Accessibility, Booking Information), and 'POLICIES' (Customer Commitment, Tarmac Delay Plan, Legal, Sustainability, Contract of Carriage, Cookies, Privacy & Security, Human Trafficking Statement). A 'Website Feedback' section is located at the bottom center, and the footer includes social media icons for Facebook and Twitter, a language selector for 'United States - English' and 'Español', and a link to 'Updated Bag & Travel Fees'.

Crafting the Information Architecture

Designing an information architecture lies at the intersection of three elements.

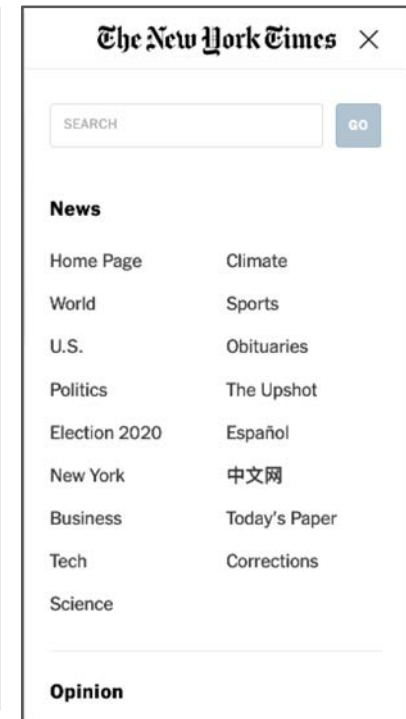


Importance of consistency

Internal consistency -- the Information Architecture serves the context it is designed for

External consistency -- the IA is preserved across different media, environments and uses

I.e., When using different channels, the users' experiences should be consistent and familiar.



Internal consistency

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Fox News website. It features the Fox News logo, a 'Login' button, and a 'Watch TV' button. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search foxnews.com' and a red 'Search' button. The main navigation menu is organized into several categories: U.S., World, Science, Tech, and Health. Each category lists specific sub-topics.

FOX NEWS Login Watch TV

Search foxnews.com Search

U.S.
Crime
Military
Education
Terror
Immigration
Economy
Personal Freedoms
Fox News Investigates

World
U.N.
Conflicts
Terrorism
Disasters
Global Economy
Environment
Religion
Scandals

Science
Archaeology
Air & Space
Planet Earth
Wild Nature
Natural Science
Dinosaurs

Tech
Security
Innovation
Drones
Computers
Video Games
Military Tech

Health
Healthy Living

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of The New York Times website. It features the New York Times logo and a close button. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text 'SEARCH' and a 'GO' button. The main navigation menu is organized into several categories: News, Opinion, Home Page, World, U.S., Politics, Election 2020, New York, Business, Tech, Science, Climate, Sports, Obituaries, The Upshot, Español, 中文网, Today's Paper, and Corrections.

The New York Times X

SEARCH GO

News
Home Page
World
U.S.
Politics
Election 2020
New York
Business
Tech
Science

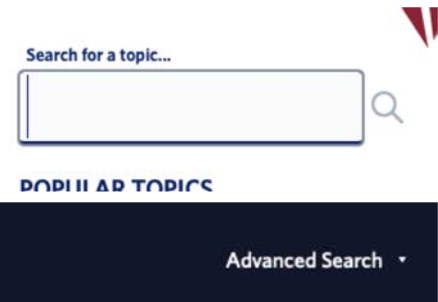
Climate
Sports
Obituaries
The Upshot
Español
中文网
Today's Paper
Corrections

Opinion

Challenges of Information Architecture

Ambiguity

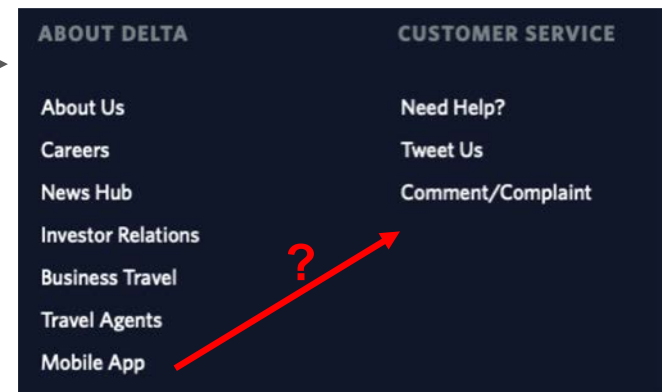
Words (labels) can have multiple meanings



Where should content be placed? →

Heterogeneity

Most digital environments contain many different types of information



User differences in perspective

Example: How I organize files vs. how you do it

Internal politics

Four elements of information architecture

Organization systems

- How we categorize information (e.g., by subject? Time? Geography?)

Labeling systems

- How we represent information (e.g., using specialized or generalized terminology)

Navigation systems

- How we browse or move through information

Searching systems

- How we search information

Organization scheme | “Objective” schemes

Well-defined and mutually exclusive | Easy to design and maintain | Easy to use when the user knows what she or he is looking for

Alphabetical

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for books. On the left is a vertical list of categories: Arts & Photography, Biographies & Memoirs, Business & Money, Calendars, Children's Books, Christian Books & Bibles, Comics & Graphic Novels, Computers & Technology, Cookbooks, Food & Wine, Crafts, Hobbies & Home, Education & Teaching, Engineering & Transportation, Health, Fitness & Dieting, History, Humor & Entertainment, Law, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Books, Literature & Fiction, Medical Books, Mystery, Thriller & Suspense, Parenting & Relationships, Politics & Social Sciences, Reference, Religion & Spirituality, Romance, Science & Math, Science Fiction & Fantasy, Self-Help, Sports & Outdoors, Teen & Young Adult, Test Preparation, and Travel. Below this list is a 'Refine by' section. The main content area features a book cover for 'The Last Widow: A Novel' by Karin Slaughter. The cover shows a woman's face and the title. Below the cover, the text reads: 'The Last Widow: A Novel (Will Trent Book 9) by Karin Slaughter, Kindle Edition, 213 reviews, \$13.99'. Below the book information is a section titled 'More from the Author' with a small image of a man in a suit and the text 'BEST BOOKS OF THE MONTH'. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'Best sellers in Books'.

Chronological

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for 'The New York Times'. The header includes the logo and a user profile icon. The main content is a list of corrections, organized chronologically. The first entry is 'Corrections: September 17, 2019', with a sub-header 'Corrections appearing in print on Tuesday, September 17, 2019.' and a timestamp '14h ago'. The second entry is 'Corrections: September 16, 2019', with a sub-header 'No corrections appeared in print on Monday, September 16, 2019.' and a timestamp '1d ago'. The third entry is 'Corrections: September 15, 2019', with a sub-header 'Corrections appearing in print on Sunday, September 15, 2019.' and a timestamp 'September 14, 2019'. The fourth entry is 'Corrections: September 14, 2019', with a sub-header 'Corrections appearing in print on Saturday, September 14, 2019.' and a timestamp 'September 13, 2019'.

Geographical

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for Tesla. The header includes the Tesla logo and a user profile icon. The main content is a map of North America, showing the locations of Tesla mobile service centers. The map is overlaid with numerous red location pins. A search bar at the top of the map area contains the text 'North America'. At the bottom of the map, there is a text box that reads 'Mobile Service is available in this area. Details'.

Organization scheme | **Ambiguous** schemes

Things are grouped in an intellectually meaningful way

Can be difficult to design and maintain

New items may require redesign

Subjective due to

Language

Organization

Human subjectivity

Why are these useful? Because we don't know what we are looking for

Right label

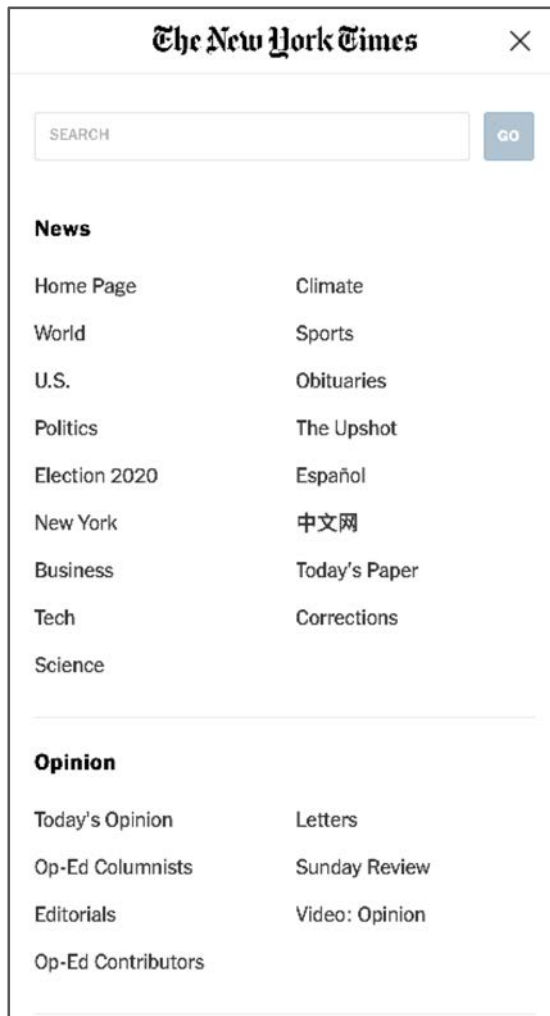
User has only vague info need that can't articulate

Political - someone has made the decision that stuff should be grouped together

Success depends on the quality of the scheme and the placement of items in the scheme

Organization scheme | **Ambiguous schemes**

Topic



The New York Times

SEARCH GO

News

- Home Page
- World
- U.S.
- Politics
- Election 2020
- New York
- Business
- Tech
- Science

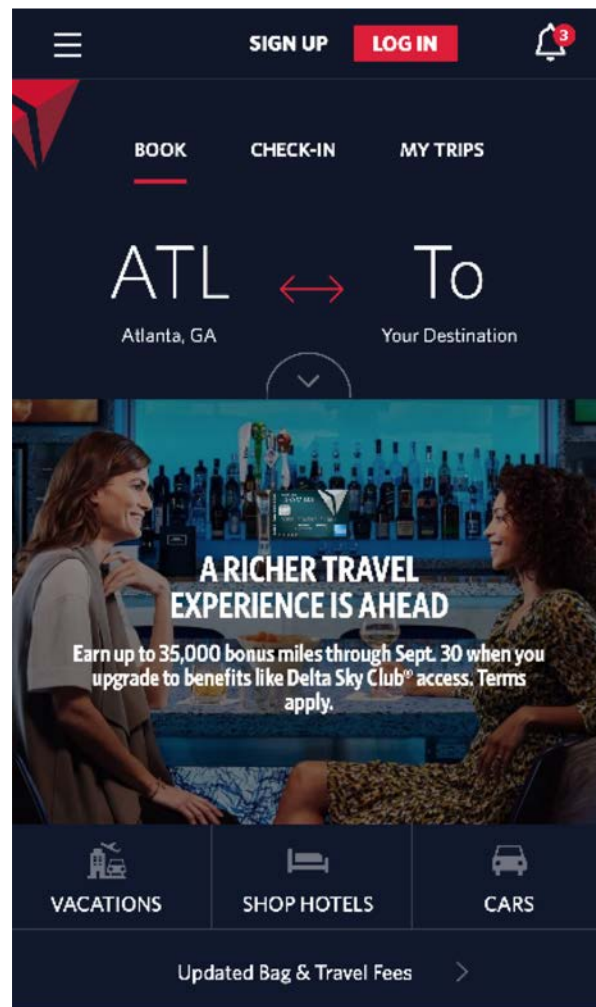
- Climate
- Sports
- Obituaries
- The Upshot
- Español
- 中文网
- Today's Paper
- Corrections

Opinion

- Today's Opinion
- Op-Ed Columnists
- Editorials
- Op-Ed Contributors

- Letters
- Sunday Review
- Video: Opinion

Task-Oriented



SIGN UP LOG IN

BOOK CHECK-IN MY TRIPS

ATL ↔ To
Atlanta, GA Your Destination

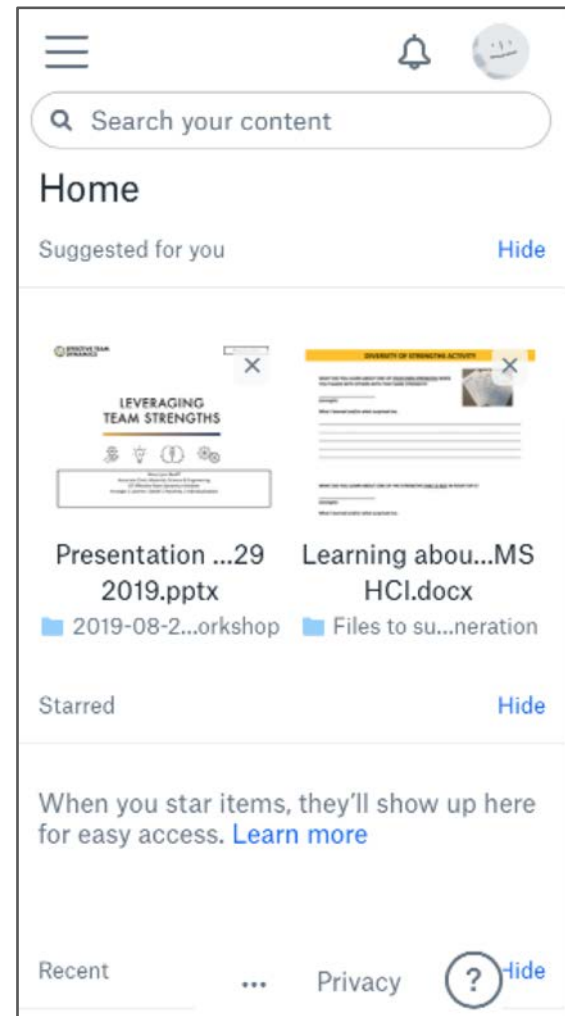
A RICHER TRAVEL EXPERIENCE IS AHEAD

Earn up to 35,000 bonus miles through Sept. 30 when you upgrade to benefits like Delta Sky Club® access. Terms apply.

VACATIONS SHOP HOTELS CARS

Updated Bag & Travel Fees

Metaphor



Search your content

Home

Suggested for you [Hide](#)

LEVERAGING TEAM STRENGTHS

Presentation ...29 2019.pptx

Learning about...MS HCI.docx

2019-08-2...orkshop Files to su...neration

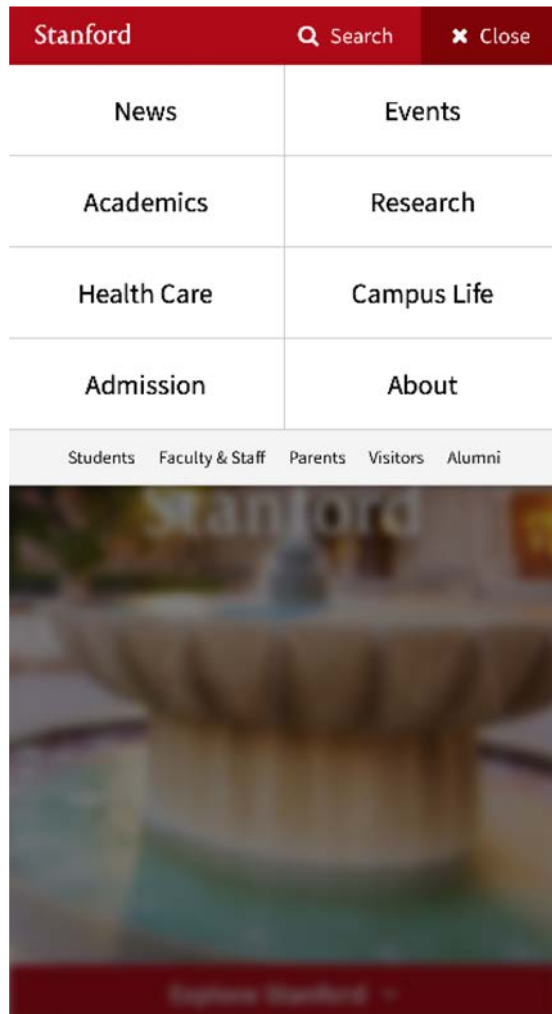
Starred [Hide](#)

When you star items, they'll show up here for easy access. [Learn more](#)

Recent ... Privacy ? [Hide](#)

Organization scheme | **Ambiguous** schemes

Hybrid



Organization Structure | Hierarchy

A **hierarchy** is the most common approach to organizing information

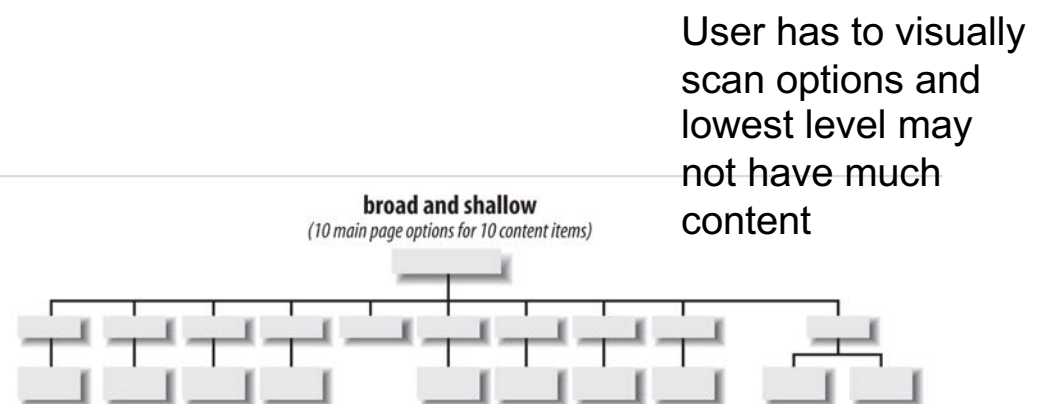
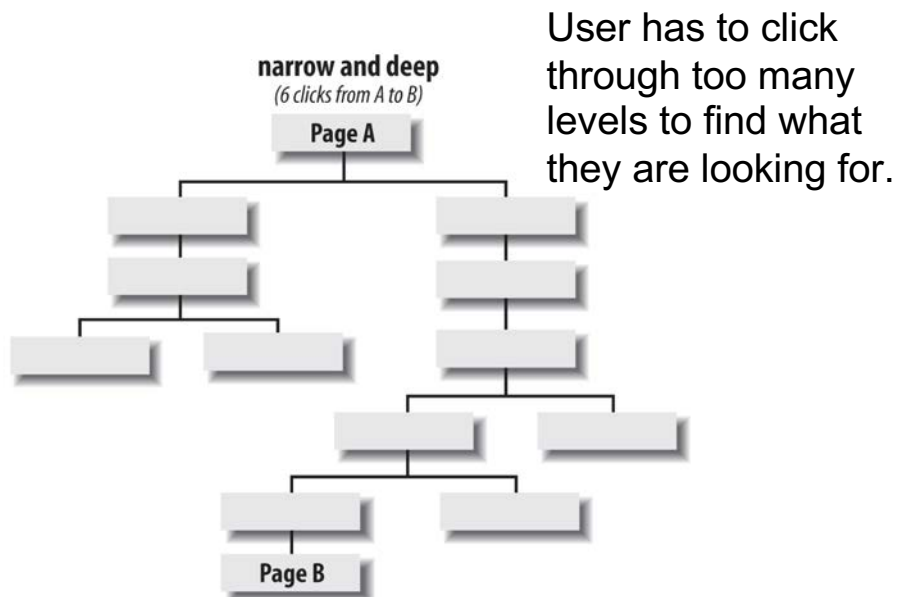
Mutually exclusive subdivisions and parent-child relationships

Usually a good place to start the information architecture process

Balance breadth and depth

If too narrow and deep, users have to take too many actions to what they are looking for

If too broad and shallow, user is faced with too many options and can be surprised by the lack of content once they select an option



Labeling Schemes

Goal: Design labels that speak the same language as our users while reflecting the system's content.

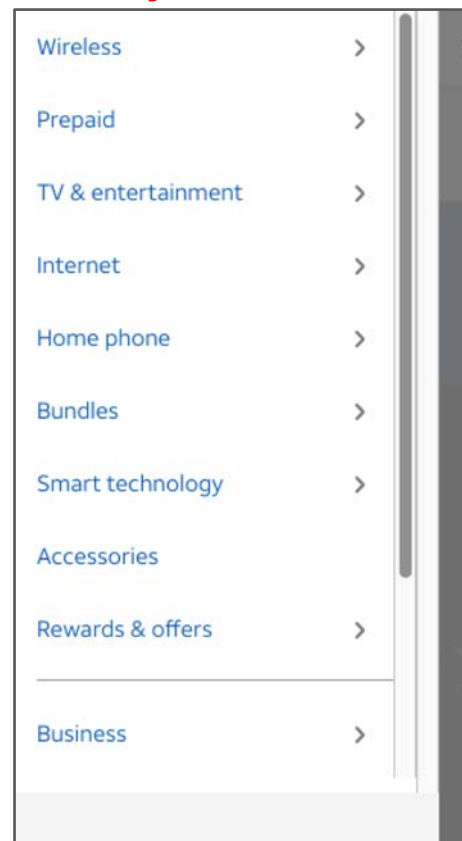
Contextual Links



Headings



Nav System Choices



Icons



Labeling Schemes | **Guidelines**

Narrow the scope whenever possible

Develop consistent labeling systems,
not labels

Style

Presentation

Syntax

Granularity'

Comprehensiveness

Audience

Sources of labels

- Your current information environment
- Good practice | *Create a table with label, destination identifier + <TITLE>. Are they consistent?*
- Comparable and competitive environments
- Thesauri, closed vocabularies

How to create labels? | Users!

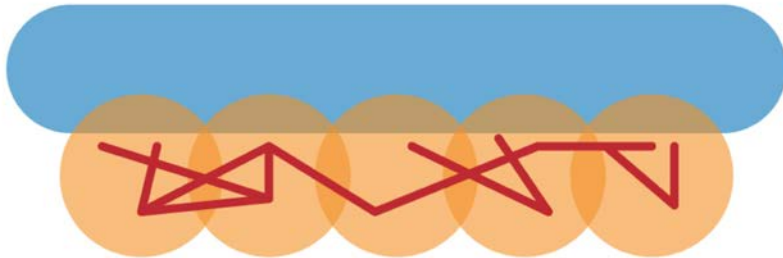
Navigation Systems

Context and comfort: We use **navigation systems** to chart course, determine position, and find our way back

The surface layer of navigation—what people interact with—is changing very fast - many new device form factors.

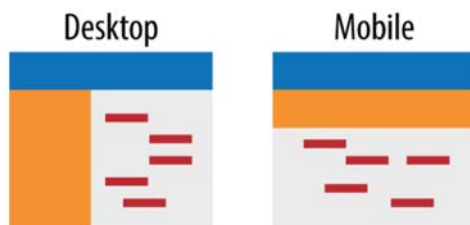
Common navigation subsystems:

Conceptual Map



Key

- Global Navigation
Where am I?
- Local Navigation
What's nearby?
- Contextual Navigation
What's related to what's here?



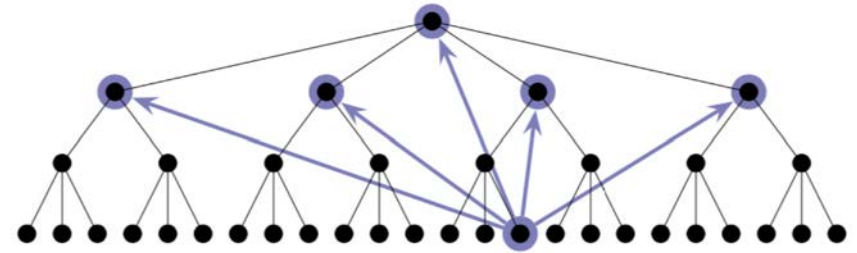
Building context—allowing users to locate their positions within the system—is a critical function of navigation systems.

- Testing suggestion: Put user in middle of site | Can you figure out where you are in relation to rest of site? Where the page will lead next? Etc.

Supplemental navigation systems can assist

- Sitemaps, indexes, guides

Global Navigation



Global navigation provides access to everything

Example: Navigation bar that links to all main sections of a site.

Home Page

World

U.S.

Politics

N.Y.

Business

Opinion

Tech

Science

Health

Sports

Arts

Books

Style

Food

Travel

Magazine

T Magazine

Real Estate

Obituaries

Video

The Upshot

Art & Design

Dance

Movies

Music

Pop Culture

Television

Theater

Watching

Search

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

World U.S. P

The Daily Listen to 'The Daily' The likelihood of in

IMMIGRATION

Emergency Aid for M

Congress is trying to rush s the border to help detained

Arts

Art & Design

Dance

Movies

Music

Pop Culture

Television

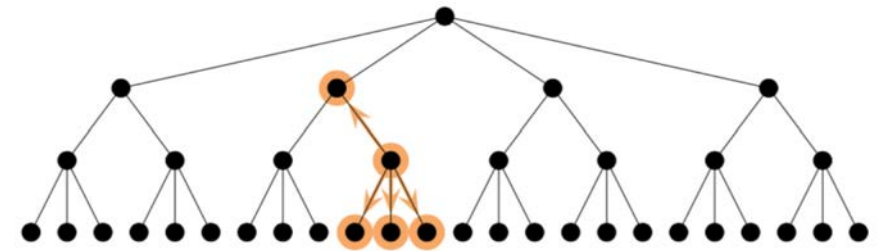
Theater

Watching

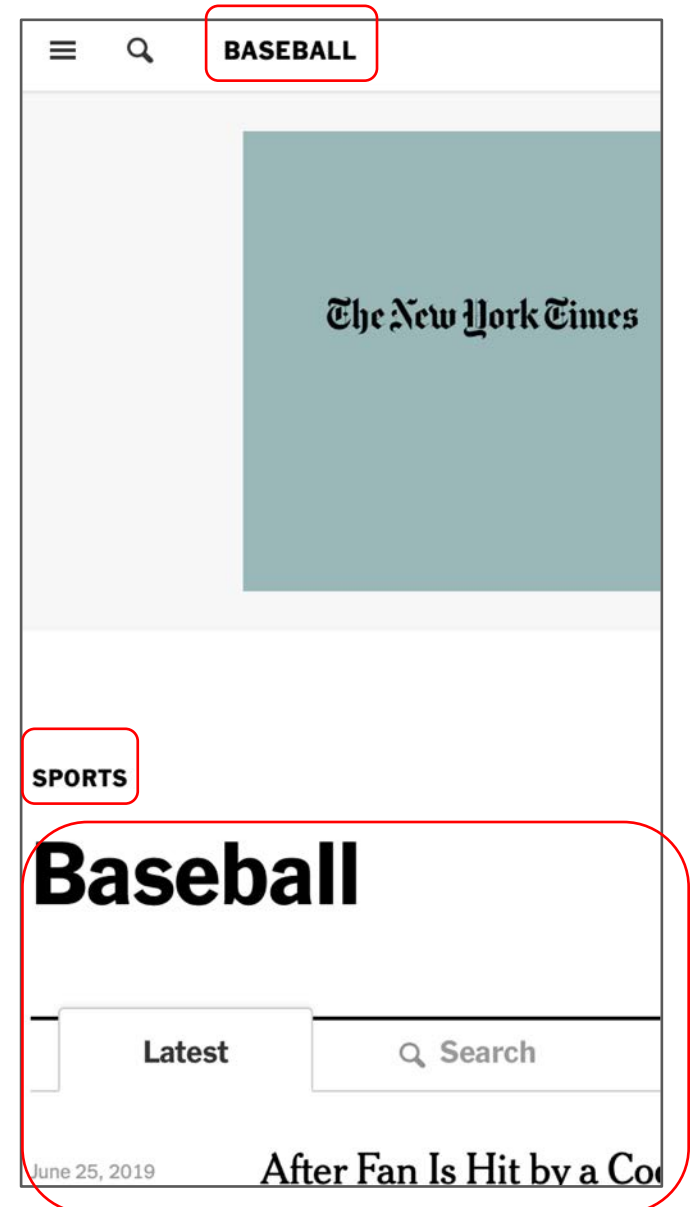
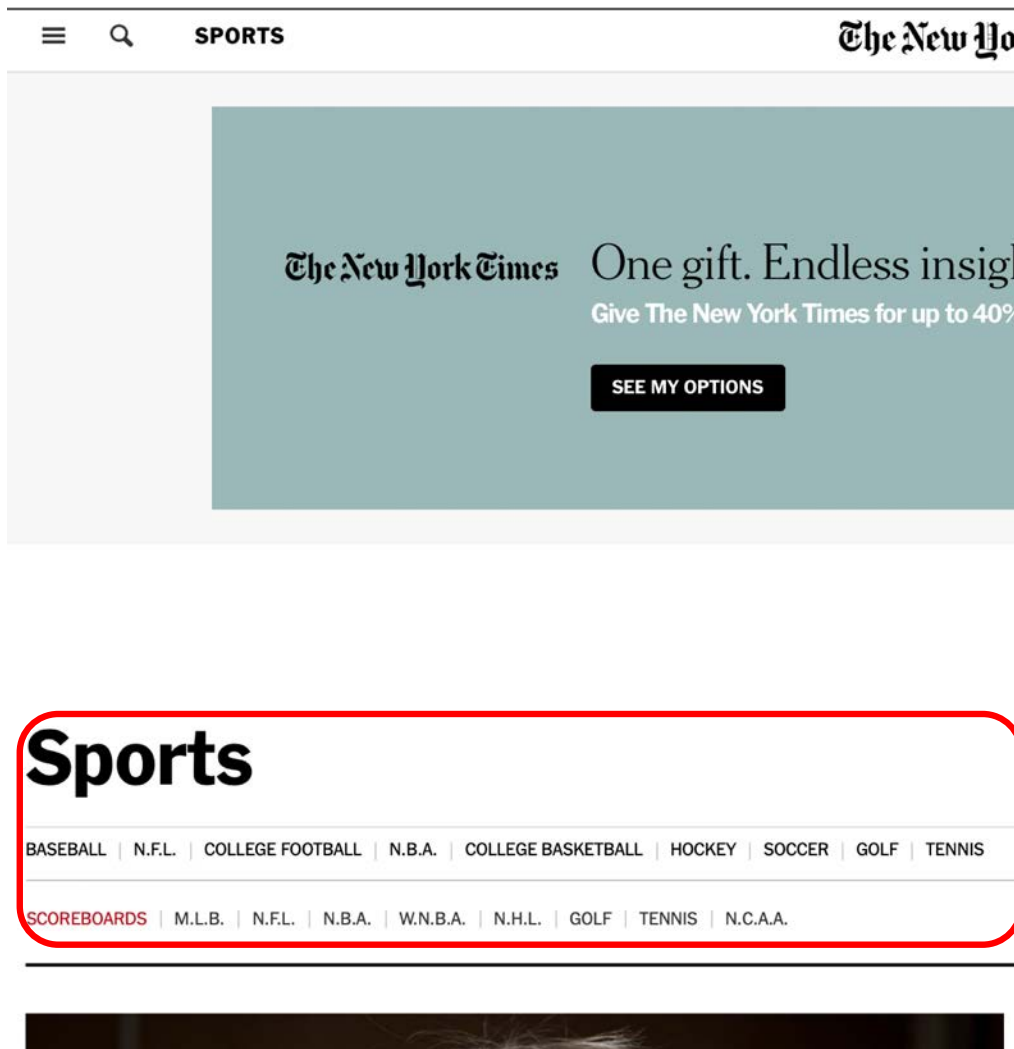
billionaire and President T

44m ago 128 comments

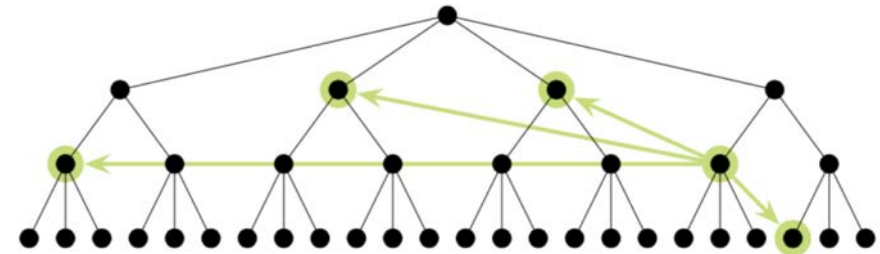
Local Navigation



Provides users with access to what's "nearby"



Supplementary Navigation



Provides shortcuts to related content that might not be readily accessible through the global or local navigation

...
st do something
nfair area of

tax.

to take out the
t. Some will say
a flight of fancy.

to the capitalist
in prosperity and
time for those of
ne inequality,
rate than

s without
able and equitable
... ..

Editors' Picks



How a Dallas Photojournalist Captured an Image of a Gunman Mid-Attack



How 'Fleabag' Seduces Us, Then Accuses Us

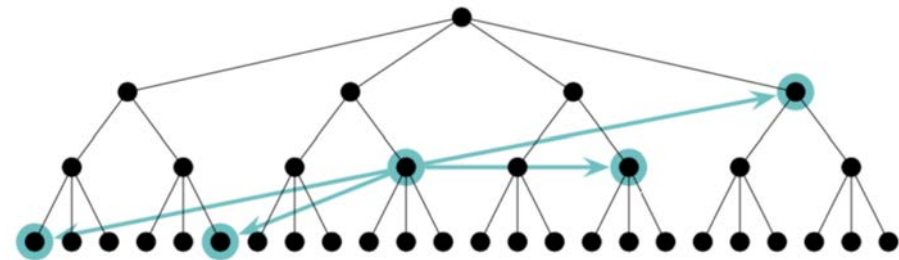


He's Your Destiny. Just Be Patient.



PAID POST: AUDEMARS PIGUET
A Japanese Artist Turns Data Into Art at the Venice Biennale

Contextual Navigation



- aka Inline Navigation
- Example: Link within a page
- Puts the additional information right where users may need it
- Can be misused

Climate change is now among the top three 2020 election issues cited by Florida Democrats, [according to a new statewide survey](#). Some 71 percent of Florida voters, including 85 percent of Democrats, support government action to address climate change, according to the survey by Climate Nexus in partnership with the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication and the George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication, which [polled 1,558 registered Florida voters](#) online this month.

“I don’t think the base is going to be satisfied with candidates simply saying, ‘I think climate change is happening; I think it’s

Personal | Small Business | Enterprise | About AT&T

My Linked Accounts | Find a store | Language

Hi Chris, welcome back (Logout) Austin (Change)

Shop My AT&T Support

Search (2)

Bill & Payments Wireless Television Internet Home Phone Messages & Email Profile Apps ATT.net My Orders

Accounts Overview

Last Login: 08/06/2010 | Valued customer since 2006

My Linked Accounts

- Wireless (1)**
Link another account
Wireless Support
Add a line for as low as \$9.99 >
- U-verse TV (1)**
Link another account
TV Support
Add HBO package to your plan >
- U-verse Internet (1)**
Link another account
Internet Support
Upgrade your connection speed >
- Home Phone (2)**
Link another account
Home Phone Support
Add Long Distance for just \$12.99 >

Usage Summary

Wireless | **Television**

Wireless Usage

View bill | View billed usage | View past data usage

Wireless | Account: XXXXXXXXXX | Johnson Family
Family Talk Nation 700 Rollover Minutes & Unlmted Nights/Weekends

My Bills

View all

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Wireless XXXXXXXXXX AutoPay to be applied Sept 10 2010 | \$89.45 |
| U-verse XXXXXXXXXX Due: Sept 19 2010 | \$102.11 |
| Home Phone XXXXXXXXXX Payment received Aug 29 2010 | \$0.00 |

Emma's Phone

Courtesy Navigation

Provides access to items that users don't need on a regular basis, but that are commonly provided as a convenience.

Example: In the physical world, a retail store will usually post its hours of operation at its entrance.

The New York Times

[Go to Home Page »](#)

NEWS

[Home Page](#)
[World](#)
[U.S.](#)
[Politics](#)
[Election 2020](#)
[New York](#)
[Business](#)
[Tech](#)
[Science](#)
[Sports](#)
[Obituaries](#)
[Today's Paper](#)
[Corrections](#)

OPINION

[Today's Opinion](#)
[Op-Ed Columnists](#)
[Editorials](#)
[Op-Ed Contributors](#)
[Letters](#)
[Sunday Review](#)
[Video: Opinion](#)

ARTS

[Today's Arts](#)
[Art & Design](#)
[Books](#)
[Dance](#)
[Movies](#)
[Music](#)
[Pop Culture](#)
[Television](#)
[Theater](#)
[Video: Arts](#)





LIVING

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[Crossword](#)
[Education](#)
[Food](#)
[Health](#)
[Jobs](#)
[Magazine](#)
[Parenting](#)
[Real Estate](#)
[Style](#)
[T Magazine](#)
[Travel](#)
[Love](#)

MORE

[Reader Center](#)
[Wirecutter](#)
[Live Events](#)
[The Learning Network](#)
[Tools & Services](#)
[N.Y.C. Events Guide](#)
[Multimedia](#)
[Photography](#)
[Video](#)
[Newsletters](#)
[NYT Store](#)
[Times Journeys](#)
[Manage My Account](#)

SUBSCRIBE

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 [Gift Subscriptions](#)
 [Crossword](#)
 [Cooking](#)
[Email Newsletters](#)
[Corporate Subscriptions](#)
[Education Rate](#)

[Mobile Applications](#)
[Replica Edition](#)

Search Systems

Does your system need search?

→ Amount of content | Focus on more useful navigation systems | Your users may expect it to be there.

Search systems are not simple -- there's a lot going on under the hood.

You don't have to index everything

The screenshot shows the Mayo Clinic website's search interface. At the top left is the Mayo Clinic logo. A search bar contains the text "Search Mayo Clinic". Below the search bar is a navigation menu with categories: "PATIENT CARE & HEALTH INFO", "DEPARTMENTS & CENTERS", "RESEARCH", "EDUCATION", and "FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS". On the left side, there is a "Narrow your Search" sidebar with a "Topic:" section and a "View All" link. Below this, there are several links for different topics: "Patient Care & Health Information (5875)", "Drugs & Supplements (4251)", "Medical Education (2887)", "News From Mayo Clinic (2480)", "Research (2146)", and "Doctors & Medical Staff (1201)". The main content area displays "Search Results 1-10 of 17398 for patient care" and a featured article titled "Five Ways Patients and Care Providers Can Improve Health Care – Mayo Clinic News Network". Below the article title, there is a short summary: "That's one of five simple steps Mayo Clinic suggests doctors and patients take to improve health care quality." At the bottom of the main content area, there is a link: "5 new ways health care providers can".

There are also various different ways of presenting results back to the user.

The image shows two screenshots of the Yelp mobile app. Both screenshots have a search bar at the top with the text "Breakfast & Brunch". The left screenshot shows a list view of search results. The results are numbered 1 through 5. Each result includes a restaurant name, a star rating, the number of reviews, the restaurant's cuisine and type, and its address. The results are: 1. Whiskey Bird (0.4 mi, 283 reviews, American (New), Tapas/Small Plates, Breakfast & Brunch, 1544 Piedmont Ave NE, Atlanta); 2. Atlanta Breakfast Club (3.1 mi, 2837 reviews, Breakfast & Brunch, American (Traditional), 249 Ivan Allen Jr Blvd, Atlanta); 3. Folk Art (1.5 mi, 866 reviews, American (Traditional), Breakfast & Brunch, Southern, Inman Park, 465 N Highland Ave NE, Atlanta); 4. Murphy's (0.5 mi, 1036 reviews, American (Traditional), Breakfast & Brunch, Virginia Highland, 997 Virginia Ave NE, Atlanta); 5. The Poncey Highland (1.1 mi). There is an "Order Takeout or Delivery" button below the second result. The right screenshot shows a map view of the same search results. The map displays the same five restaurants as red location pins, numbered 1 through 5, corresponding to the list view. The map includes street names, a search bar at the top, and a "Filters" button. At the bottom of the map view, there are buttons for "Redo Search in Map" and "View More Results".

What to search, what to retrieve, and how to present the results—come together in the search interface.

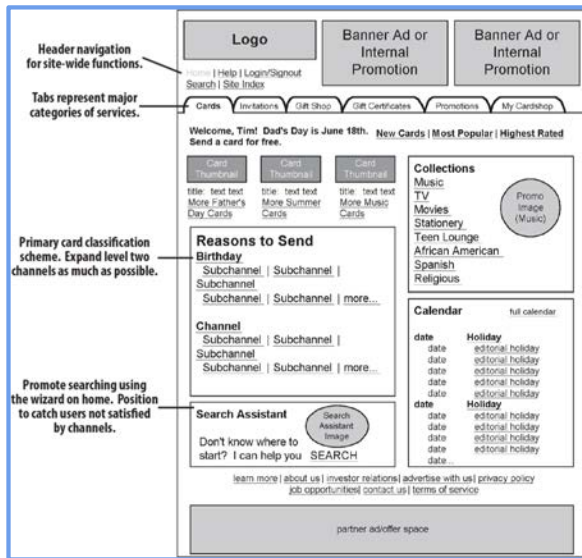
Research Methods

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Context | Background research | Presentations and meetings | Stakeholder interviews | Technology assessment |
| Content | Heuristic evaluation | Metadata and content analysis | Content mapping | Benchmarking |
| Users | Search log and clickstream analysis | Use cases and personas | Contextual inquiry | Card sorting! User interviews and user testing |

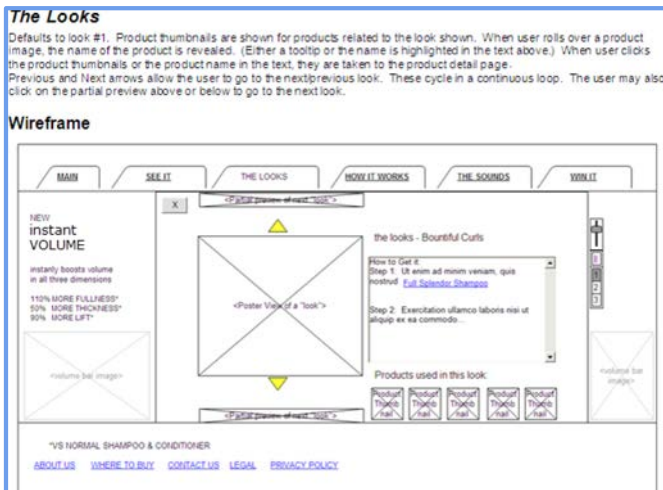
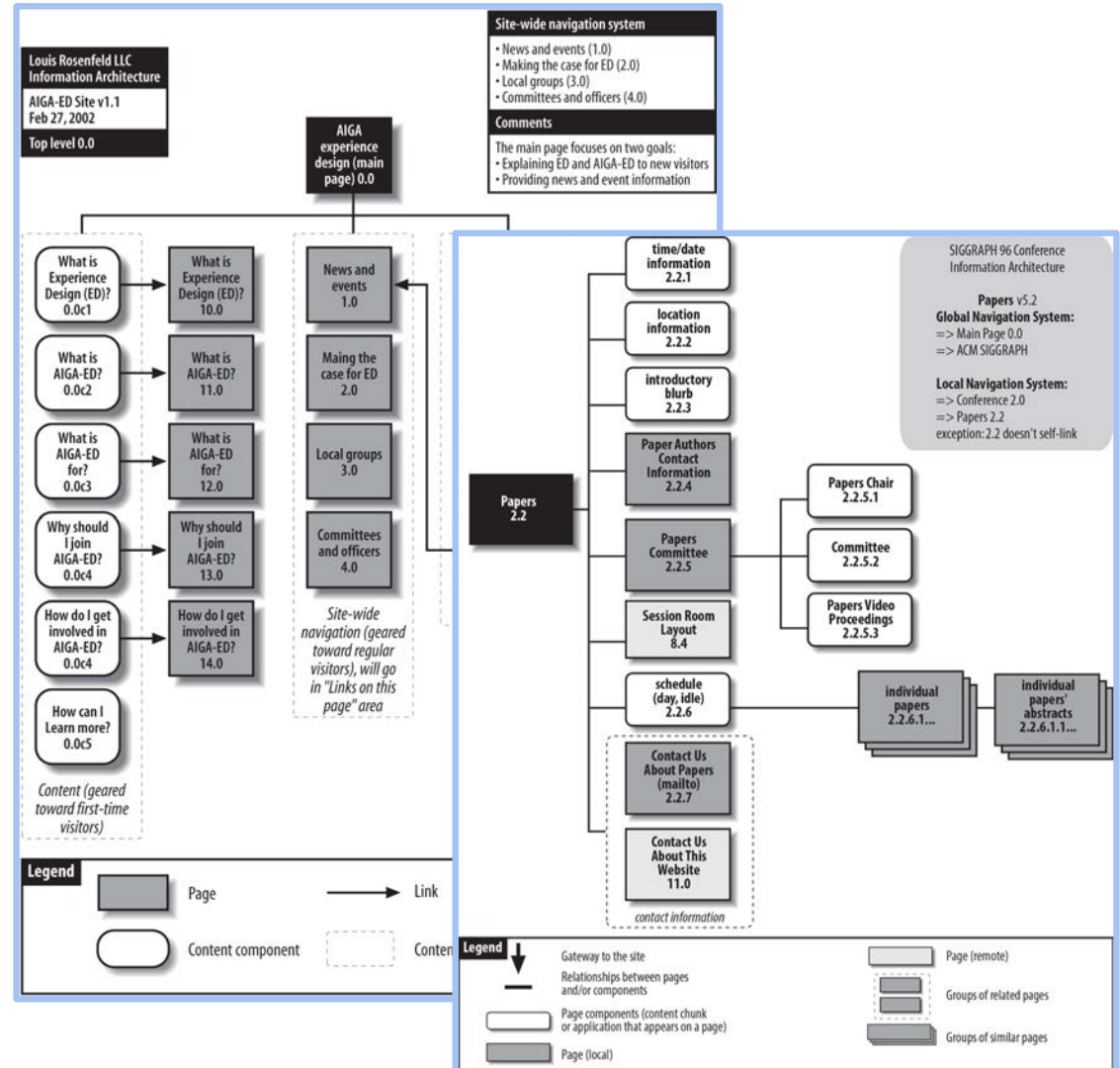
Deliverables + Documentation

There are approximately 1 bazillion variations on wireframes and sitemaps. Use the least complex option that communicates what you need to communicate.

Wireframes



Sitemaps



Recap

Aspects of IA

Organization

Labels

Navigation

Search

Some we didn't discuss: Thesauri, Controlled Vocabularies, and Metadata

Research methods - covered in Carrie's class

Bonus topic?: Search and navigation of large data sets

Men Brown Oxfords

16 items found

Sort By Best For You

Results are sorted based on your Preferences. [Turn off](#)

Narrow Choices

Your Preferences

Your Size (13-14)

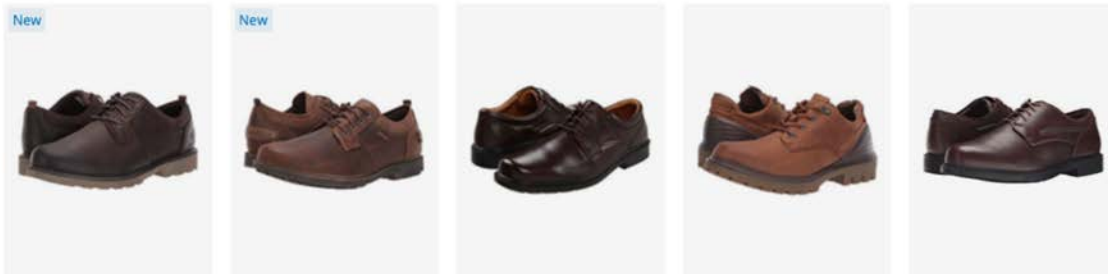
Men's Size

Search Men's Size

| | | | |
|----|------|----|------|
| 5 | 5.5 | 6 | 6.5 |
| 7 | 7.5 | 8 | 8.5 |
| 9 | 9.5 | 10 | 10.5 |
| 11 | 11.5 | 12 | 12.5 |

Your Selections

Do these items match what you were searching for? [YES](#) [NO](#)



Brand

- Dr. Martens (1)
- Dunham (6)
- ECCO (1)
- Hush Puppies (1)
- Johnston & Murphy (2)
- Rockport (2)
- Sperry (1)
- Timberland (1)
- Wolverine (1)

Price

- \$100.00 and Under (4)
- \$200.00 and Under (16)
- \$200.00 and Over (1)

Color

- Black (34)
- Brown (16)
- Tan (4)
- Neutral (1)
- Red (1)

Occasion

- Casual (12)
- Office & Career (4)
- Dress (3)
- Work & Duty (1)

Search and navigation of large data sets

Faceted Metadata-driven Navigation and Search

Integrate browsing and searching seamlessly

Support exploration and learning

Avoid dead-ends and getting lost

From "Faceted Metadata for Information Architecture and Search" (Marti Hearst, Preston Smalley, and Corey Chandler), tutorial given at Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, San Jose, CA, April 2007.



THE NOBEL PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENTS 7-14 OCTOBER 2019

2018 Nobel Prize in Physics

Nobel Prize Winners

1901 to 2004

Powered by Flamenco

Save Search

History and Settings

Return to Search

New Search

Logout

Username Password

[Create a New Account](#)

Show tooltip previews of subcategories

GENDER

[female](#) (33) [male](#) (698)

COUNTRY

[Argentina](#) (5) [China](#) (2)
[Australia](#) (6) [Colombia](#) (1)
[Austria](#) (12) [Costa Rica](#) (1)
[Belgium](#) (11) [Czechoslovakia](#) (2)
[Burma](#) (1) [Denmark](#) (13)
[Canada](#) (9) [more...](#)
[Chile](#) (2)

AFFILIATION

[Allied Reparation Commission](#) (1) [Brussels](#) (1)
[Argentina](#) (3) [Canada](#) (6)
[Australia](#) (2) [Committee for the Defense of
National Interests and International
Conciliation](#) (1)
[Austria](#) (6) [Conseil national économique](#) (1)
[Belgium](#) (7) [Costa Rica](#) (1)
[Berlin University](#) (1) [more...](#)
[Briand-Kellogg Pact](#) (3)

PRIZE

[chemistry](#) (138) [medicine](#) (182)
[economics](#) (55) [peace](#) (108)
[literature](#) (101) [physics](#) (166)

YEAR

[1900s](#) (57) [1960s](#) (79)
[1910s](#) (40) [1970s](#) (103)
[1920s](#) (54) [1980s](#) (97)
[1930s](#) (56) [1990s](#) (98)
[1940s](#) (43) [2000s](#) (56)
[1950s](#) (72)

<http://flamenco.berkeley.edu/index.html>

Main ideas

Flexible navigation

Previews of next steps

Results organized in a meaningful way

Search is easily expanded and refined

Facets

Facets are a way of labeling data

Facets v. Categories

- Items are placed INTO a category system

- Multiple facet labels are ASSIGNED TO items

Create INDEPENDENT categories (facets)

- Each facet has labels (sometimes arranged into a hierarchy)

Lots of examples

Zappos

Best Buy

Wine.com

Mayo Clinic

Using facets

- Multiple ways to get to each item

Preparation Method

Fry
Saute
Boil
Bake
Broil
Freeze

Desserts

Cakes
Cookies
Dairy
Ice Cream
Sorbet
Flan

Fruits

Cherries
Berries
Blueberries
Strawberries
Bananas
Pineapple

Fruit>Pineapple
Dessert>Cake
Preparation>Bake



Dessert>Dairy>Sorbet
Fruit>Berries>Strawber
ries
Preparation>Freeze

Advantage of facets

User can decide how to start, and how to explore and group.

MEDIA

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Book (309) | Objects (1689) |
| Ceramic (896) | Painting (115) |
| Drawing (1547) | Photograph (333) |
| Glass (403) | Print (18206) |
| Metalwork (134) | Sculpture (193) |

LOCATION

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Africa (101) | Middle East (60) |
| Asia (945) | North America (3634) |
| Australia (5) | Oceania (72) |
| Central America (57) | Roman Empire (4) |
| Europe (17758) | South America (158) |


OBJECTS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Clothing (6018) | Musical Instruments (634) |
| Containers (2632) | Timepieces (73) |
| Food and Meals (3580) | Vehicles (3457) |
| Fuel (453) | Weapons (1498) |
| Lighting (386) | Writing Tools (3636) |


MEDIA: Painting

Items 1 to 40 of 115 results
Group by: [Media](#)



1 41 81



[An Artist's Studio](#)
1843



[Among the Lilies](#)
1909



LOCATION: Middle East

60 items, grouped by LOCATION ([view all](#))

[Eastern Mediterranean](#) (2)



Advantage of facets

After refinement, categories that are not relevant to the current results disappear.

The image displays two screenshots of a search interface illustrating the advantage of facets. The first screenshot shows a search for 'Middle East' with 60 items, grouped by OBJECTS. The second screenshot shows the search refined to 'Ceramic' with 3 items, grouped by MEDIA. A callout bubble notes that other object categories have disappeared.

Initial Search:

- Search: search
- Filters: all items in current results
- Current search terms: LOCATION: Middle East
- 60 items, grouped by OBJECTS ([view ungrouped items](#))
- Refine your search within these categories:
- MEDIA (group results): [Ceramic](#) (3), [Glass](#) (8), [Objects](#) (51), [Photograph](#) (1), [Sculpture](#) (27)
- LOCATION: [all](#) > Middle East (group results): [Eastern Mediterranean](#) (2), [Iraq](#) (4), [Mesopotamia](#) (1), [Syria](#) (5), [Syria?](#) (1)
- OBJECTS: [Clothing](#) (10), [Containers](#) (10), [Food and Meals](#) (1), [Vehicles](#) (6), [Writing Tools](#) (2)

Refined Search:

- Search: search
- Filters: all items in current results
- Current search terms: LOCATION: Middle East, MEDIA: Ceramic
- 3 items, grouped by MEDIA ([view ungrouped items](#))
- Refine your search within these categories:
- MEDIA: [all](#) > Ceramic: [Earthenware](#) (2), [Terra Cotta](#) (1)
- LOCATION: [all](#) > Middle East
- OBJECTS (group results): [Containers](#) (2)

Note that other Object categories have disappeared.

Advantage of facets

Seamlessly integrates keyword search with the organizational structure.

The image shows a search interface with two overlapping screenshots. The top screenshot shows a search for "18th" with a "search" button and radio buttons for "all items" and "in current results". A facet for "LOCATION: North America" is active. Below the search bar, the text "These terms define your current search. Click" is visible. The results are "Items 1 to 40 of 3634 results" grouped by "Location". A pagination bar shows "1 41 81 121 161 201 241". A small image of a woman's head is visible.

The bottom screenshot shows the same search interface but with a zoomed-in view of the results. The search bar now contains "keyword '18th'" and the "LOCATION: North America" facet is still active. The results are "22 results" grouped by "Location". The facets are expanded to show more categories:

- MEDIA (group results)**
 - Photograph (1)
 - Print (21)
- LOCATION: all > North America (group results)**
 - Mexico (8)
 - United States (14)
- OBJECTS (group results)**
 - Clothing (12)
 - Containers (5)
 - Food and Meals (6)
 - Lighting (2)
 - Musical Instruments (2)
 - Vehicles (1)
 - Weapons (2)
 - Writing Tools (4)

Two images are shown with captions: "Lady Sheffield 19th - 20th century" and "Ulysses Simpson 19th century".

Advantage of facets

- Ease to expand out (Loosen constraints)
- Easy to build up complex queries

search

all items in current results

LOCATION: North America

OBJECTS: Musical Instruments

Refine your search within these categories:

134 items, grouped by OBJECTS ([view ungrouped](#))

MEDIA ([group results](#))

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ceramic (2) | Metalwork (3) |
| Drawing (7) | Objects (10) |
| Glass (11) | Print (111) |

[banjo](#) (2)

search

all items in current results

LOCATION: [all](#) > North America ([group results](#))

[Mexico](#) (7) [United States](#) (12)

OBJECTS: [all](#) > Musical Instruments

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| banjo (2) | harp (80) |
| cello (6) | lute (25) |
| drum (4) | lyre (3) |
| fiddle (3) | mandolin (1) |
| flute (16) | more... |
| guitar (4) | |

search

all items in current results

LOCATION: [all](#) > North America ([group results](#))

[Mexico](#) (263) [Northwest coast](#) (1)

[United States](#) (3366)

OBJECTS

Refine your search within these categories:

MEDIA ([group results](#))

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Book (67) | Objects (358) |
| Ceramic (36) | Painting (39) |
| Drawing (214) | Photograph (115) |
| Glass (280) | Print (2661) |
| Metalwork (52) | Sculpture (29) |



search

all items in current results

LOCATION: North America

3634 items, grouped by OBJECTS ([view ungrouped](#))

Clothing (798)

| | |
|---|--|
|  Portrait of Seate... 19th - 20th century |  Untitled (Landscape... ca. 1900 |
|---|--|

Advantages of facets

Can't end up with empty results sets (except w/ keyword search)

Helps avoid feelings of being lost

Easier to explore the collection

Helps users infer what kinds of things are in the collection

Evokes a feeling of “browsing the shelves”

Is preferred over standard search in usability studies (if interface is designed properly)