

Adventures in the Blogosphere

(Keynote Talk)

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Abstract. Blogs, social networks, wikis and microblogging are proliferating at unprecedented pace. The numbers reported quantifying user engagement are profound. In this talk, I will present BlogScope (www.blogscope.net) a system under development at the University of Toronto, that aims to collect, process and distill in real time the information in social media. I will present the system, its architecture the difficulties encountered and highlight the various research challenges in building the various components of the system. I will also present, Grapevine, BlogScope's sister project that aims to make sense in real time of the social media space. I will detail areas of research related to the scope of these projects and present challenges that could be addressed via the utilization of scientific and statistical database techniques. If time permits, I'll present demos.

About the Speaker. Nick Koudas is an associate professor at the University of Toronto. He was a principal member of technical staff at AT&T labs and an adjunct professor at Columbia University. He holds a PhD from the University of Toronto. His research interests are in data management, managing information at web scale, indexing, algorithms and information mining.