Information overload and underload: Friday morning
OVERLOAD

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Psychological challenge

- anxiety
- FOMO
- fatigue
- Wikipedia: infobesity or infoxication
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Filter continuum:

technology

socio-political

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@BryanAlexander Interesting challenge is not "filter failure" as in lack of filters, but "failure of filters" as in the filters lied to us

2:56 PM - 21 Apr 2016

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Filters can really fail
- cut out too much (leading to underload)
- warp information
- filter misbehavior
- filter bubble (Eli Pariser)
What is filter success?

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Discovery and curation
Discovery success
| curation success
and vice versa

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Tech solutions:
- intermediaries between people and information
- push (ex: overlay journal) and pull (search and beyond, discovery, mining) tools
- personal pull search tool (Google)
- increased use of open metadata
- enhanced metadata and standards
- more machine-readable data
Open metadata
-in aggregated collection
-for better discovery tools
Social technologies

- blogs
- RSS
- academic networks
Social solutions:
- teaching information literacy
- overlay journals
- scholarly societies
- libraries
- people making tools
- publishers

And collaborations...
- among stakeholders
- cross-domain
- cross-institutions

Personal solutions
- Information literacy
- Professional development
- Personal responsibility
Personal solutions

• Information literacy
• Professional development
• Personal responsibility

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Economic implications
- publishers build + sell intermediary tools
- ex: Primo, Summon
- a few libraries
and vice versa

Automation challenges

- Sometimes opaque
- Costs when used to address info overload
- Not enough machine-readable information
- Literacy limitations
- Increasingly picking up human roles
Challenges

- T+P
- new hierarchies
- institutional self-interest
- disciplinary ""
- bad knowledge management

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dialectic

UNDERLOAD

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UNDERLOAD

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What causes underload?
What blocks access?

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• Political factors
• Cost
• Geography
• Skill gaps
• Language
• Lack of options
• Accessibility
• Hardware limitations
• Bandwidth
• Format
• Legal regimes
• Writing quality
• Proprietary
• Information literacy
Who suffers from underload?
- developing nations
- emerging communities
- informationally underserved
- informationally underrepresented

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Underrepresented communities cannot produce new scholarship at the rates they need/want.
The information overloaded world suffers from underloading
  - incompletely informed
Solutions
- make global South journal content more present
- alt. metrics
- increase open access
- expand affordable bandwidth
Solutions
- aim for UN Sustainable Goals 2030
- more digitization for exposure + discovery
- use different legal + copyright models
- advocacy and social justice
- information access is a human right
Collaborations:
  - IFLA
  - Wikimedia Foundation
  - UNESCO
  - INASP
  - LIBER
  - ...
Credits
http://www.slideshare.net/TableauSoftware/social-data-day-data-sift-slides

https://www.flickr.com/photos/djou/960015579/

An awesome working group

Brave Twitter and ballroom interlocutors

Prezi link: http://tinyurl.com/OSI_overload2
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