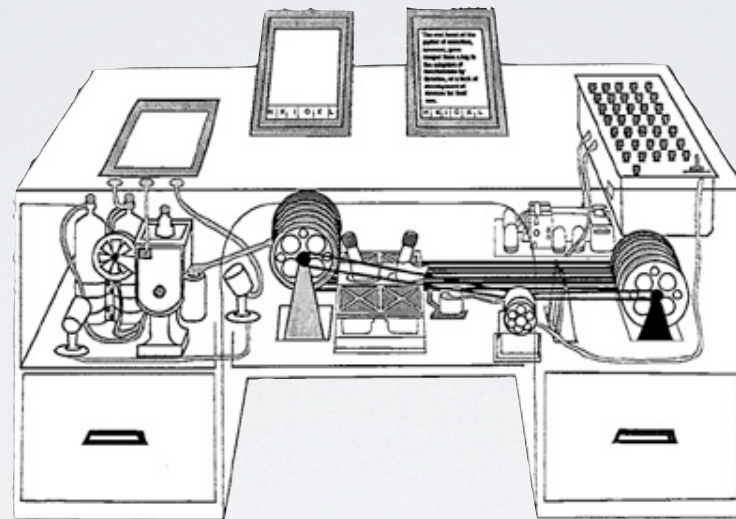


INFORMATION ORGANIZATION LAB

LAST TIME ON IO LAB



git



MEMEX

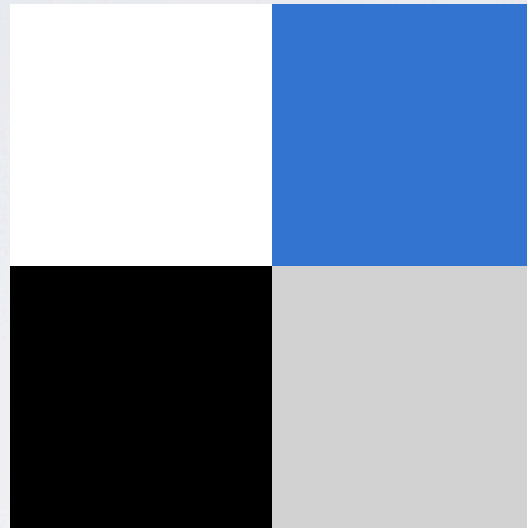
“AS WE MAY THINK”

The human mind does not work that way. It operates by association. With one item in its grasp, it snaps instantly to the next that is suggested by the association of thoughts, in accordance with some intricate web of trails carried by the cells of the brain.

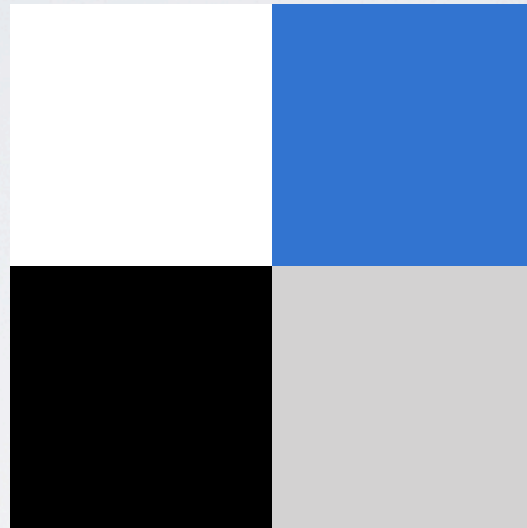
It affords an immediate step, however, to associative indexing, the basic idea of which is a provision whereby any item may be caused at will to select immediately and automatically another. This is the essential feature of the memex. The process of tying two items together is the important thing.

“AS WE MAY THINK”

The owner of the memex, let us say, is interested in the origin and properties of the bow and arrow. Specifically he is studying why the short Turkish bow was apparently superior to the English long bow in the skirmishes of the Crusades. He has dozens of possibly pertinent books and articles in his memex. First he runs through an encyclopedia, finds an interesting but sketchy article, leaves it projected. Next, in a history, he finds another pertinent item, and ties the two together. Thus he goes, building a trail of many items. Occasionally he inserts a comment of his own, either linking it into the main trail or joining it by a side trail to a particular item. When it becomes evident that the elastic properties of available materials had a great deal to do with the bow, he branches off on a side trail which takes him through textbooks on elasticity and tables of physical constants. He inserts a page of longhand analysis of his own. Thus he builds a trail of his interest through the maze of materials available to him.



DEL.ICIO.US



DELICIOUS TRAILMAKER

TRAIL SYNTAX

trail:history_of_bows

step:1

step:2

step:3

TRAILMAKER DEMO

PROJECT I

- Explore the idea of trails as a way of organizing information
- Groups of 3 (2 preferred over 4)
- Varied skillsets
- Required to work with different people for each project

FOR NEXT TIME

Start brainstorming about Project 1 with your team

Homework 2 assigned on Wednesday

You can find links to help with all of these on the course website at
<http://courses.ischool.berkeley.edu/290ta-iol/f12>