



# **DELOS WP2 - Task 10**

## **Modeling of User Preferences in Digital Libraries**

DELOS All Task Meeting  
Paris, January 30-31, 2006

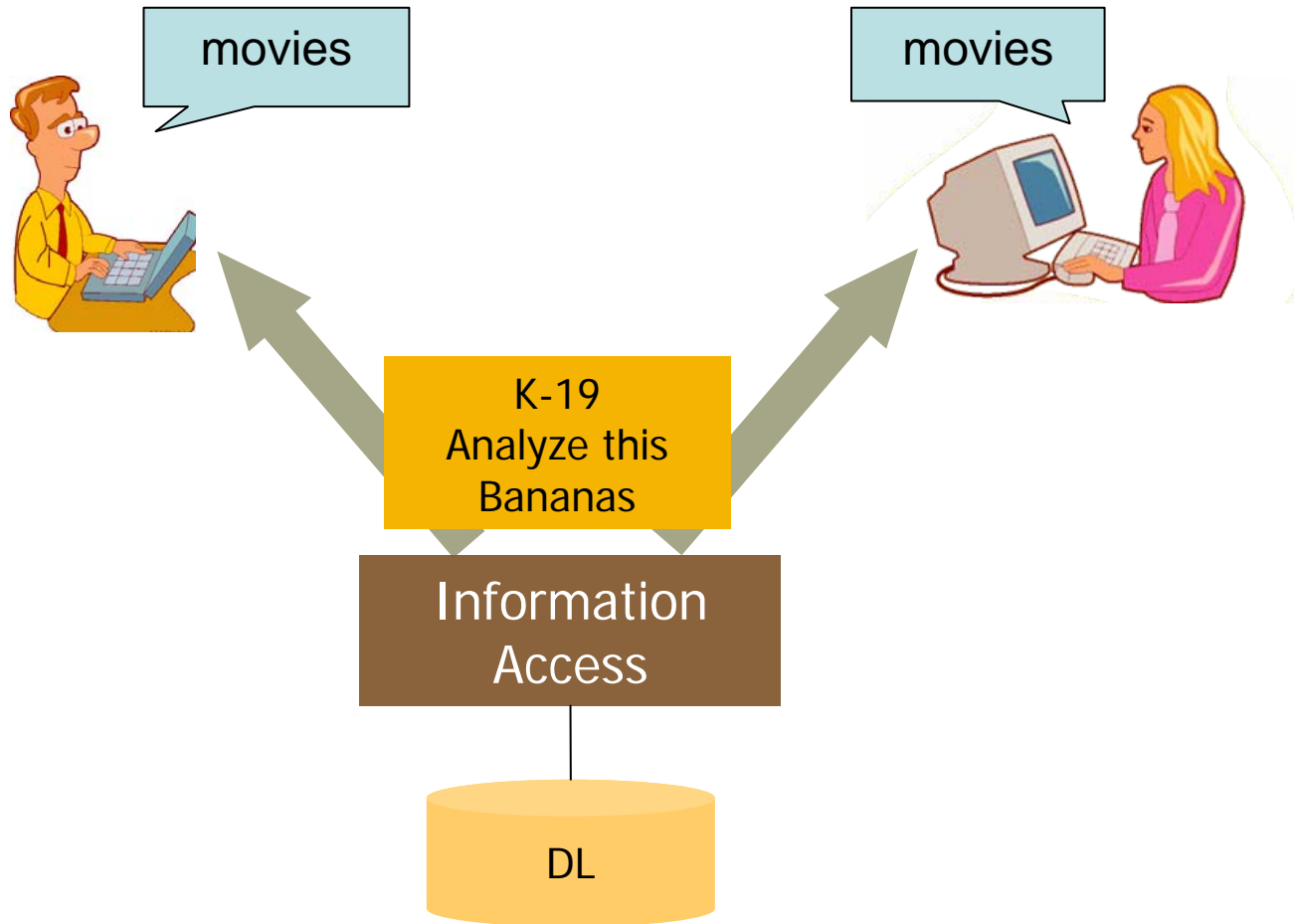


# Task members

- University of Paris (coordinator)
- University of Athens
- FORTH
- CNR ISTI

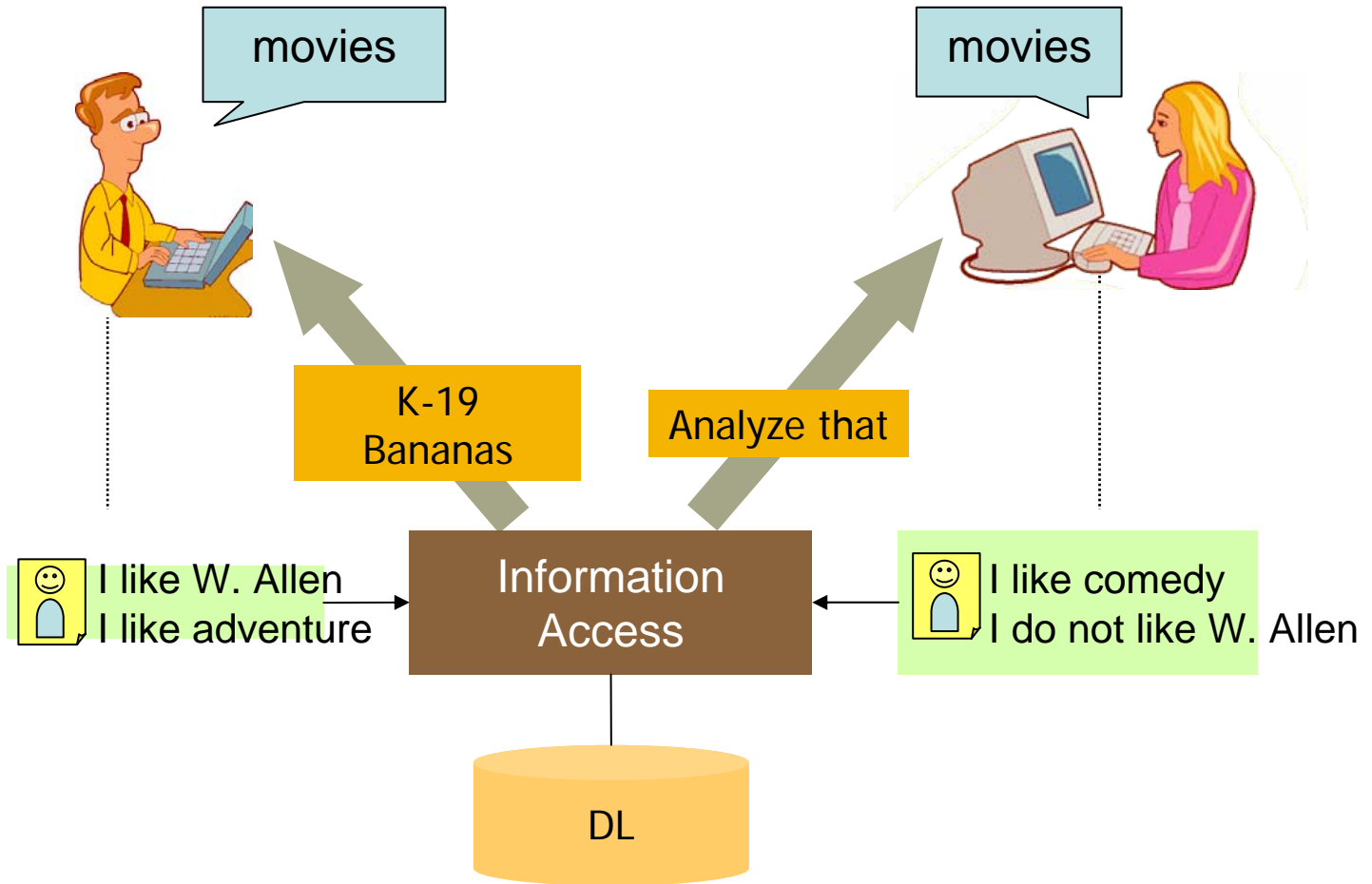


# Information Access in a DL



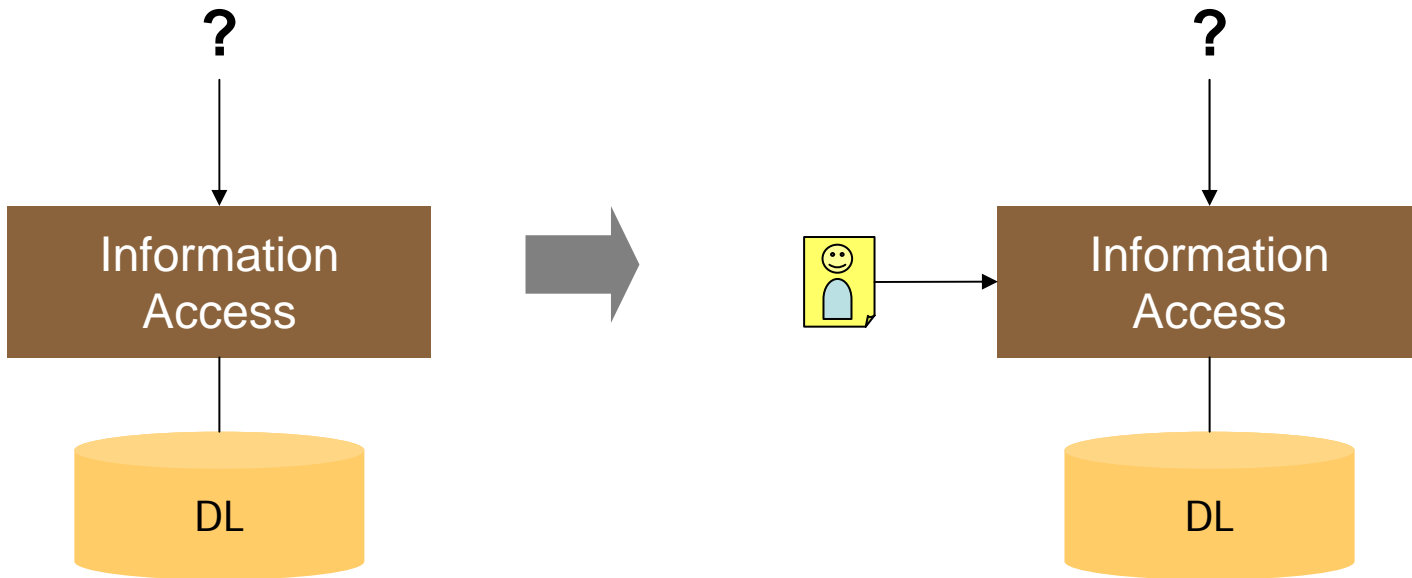


# Information Access in a DL





# Preferences in DLs





# Task Overview

## Task objectives

- study** a formal framework for specifying user preferences
- design** algorithms for supporting preferences
- enrich** the digital library services with preference capabilities

## Expected results

- formal **framework** for the definition of preferences
- demonstrator** toolkit



# Background on Preferences

## Qualitative approach



I **prefer** comedies **to** adventures

Preferences between objects are expressed using **preference relations**

I like A better than B



# Background on Preferences

## Quantitative approach



I like comedies very much  
I like adventures a little

Preference for an object is expressed using **scores**

I (do not) like A that much





# Progress

- **Quantitative** preference modeling (ICDE05)
- **Qualitative** preference modeling (HDMS05)
- **Query tuning** based on user preferences (FoIKS06)
- **Integration of query context factors** in query personalization with user preferences (SIGMOD05)



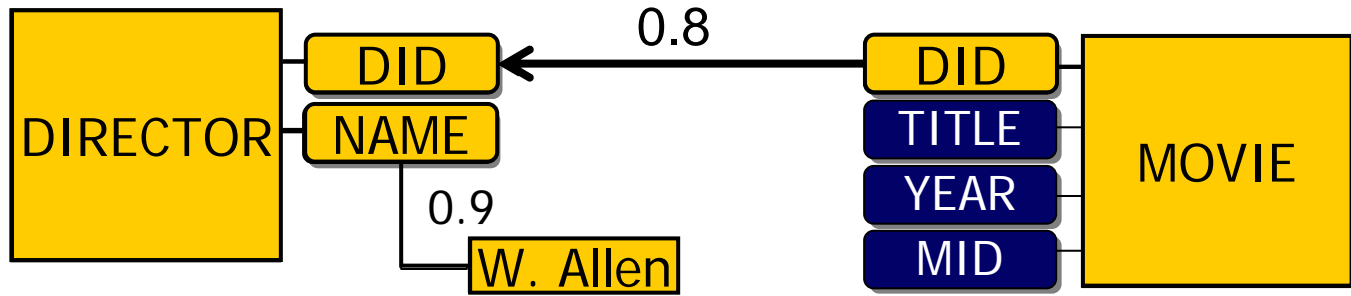


# Quantitative preference modeling

## Preference

$\langle q, d \rangle$  atomic condition  $q$

degree of interest  $d \in [0, 1]$



$\langle \text{MOVIE.did} = \text{DIRECTOR.did}, 0.8 \rangle$  Stored preferences  
 $\langle \text{DIRECTOR.name} = \text{'W.Allen'}, 0.9 \rangle$  preferences

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$\langle \text{MOVIE.did} = \text{DIRECTOR.did and DIRECTOR.name} = \text{'W.Allen'}, 0.9 * 0.8 \rangle$  Implicit preferences



# Qualitative preference modeling

- Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  be a collection of objects. For every object  $x_i$  and attribute (or relationship) **prop**, let  $\text{prop}(x_i) = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m\}$  be the set of its values (or its related objects) from some partial order  $(Y, \leq)$

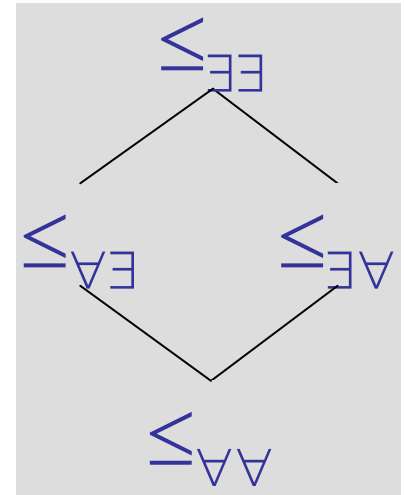
- 4 different relations may be defined on  $X$ :

$$x \leq_{\forall\exists} x' \text{ iff } \forall y \in \text{prop}(x) \exists y' \in \text{prop}(x') y \leq y'$$

$$x \leq_{\exists\forall} x' \text{ iff } \exists y \in \text{prop}(x) \forall y' \in \text{prop}(x') y \leq y'$$

$$x \leq_{\forall\forall} x' \text{ iff } \forall y \in \text{prop}(x) \forall y' \in \text{prop}(x') y \leq y'$$

$$x \leq_{\exists\exists} x' \text{ iff } \exists y \in \text{prop}(x) \exists y' \in \text{prop}(x') y \leq y'$$



- These relations can be used to define a **partial order** on equivalence classes



# Qualitative preference modeling

- A **preference-based query** over a data collection is a triple

$Q := (q, \leq, k)$ , where:

$q$ : a regular query providing filtering conditions,

$\leq$ : a partial preorder relation over the values of attributes (or relationships),

$k$ : a positive integer indicating a top-k answer request

- $q$  and  $\leq$  may refer to different attributes or relationships of the filtered data collection



# Query Personalization

dynamically enhancing a **query**  
with related preferences from a **user profile**  
for providing personalized answers

 “Overpersonalized” queries may

- be expensive
- produce empty results



# Integration of query context

## Objective

- provide most interesting results to the user  
take into account the current context

$$\text{Current context} = \text{response time} \\ + \\ \text{answer size}$$



# Integration of query context

## Example



- More expensive queries
- Extensive results



- Quicker answers
- Shorter result list



# Query tuning based on user preferences

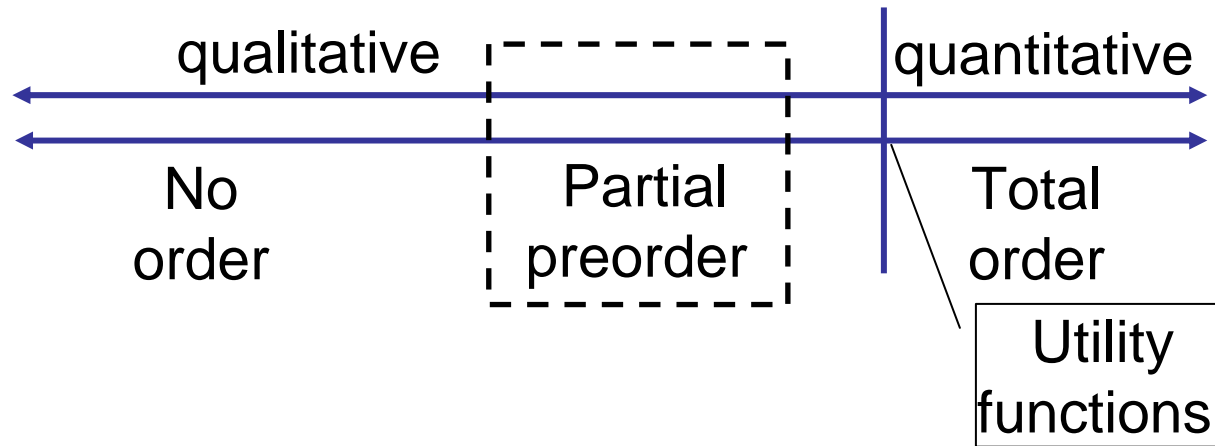
- query tuning







# Current plans



- Integration of results
  - Unifying foundations
- Implementation and testing of algorithms



# Future plans

- Preference Modeling (continuation)
  - Exploring new forms of preferences
  - Consensus ranking





# Future plans

- Interplay between qualitative & quantitative preferences
  - Commonalities and differences
  - User models combining both types
  - Query personalization using combined profiles
  - Incremental update of combined profiles





# Future plans

- Computational Model
  - Query-initiated (pull)
  - System-initiated (push)





# Future plans

- Integration with task 2.9: context modelling
  - context-dependent preferences
  - preferences as context

