

If I was Thinking of My Own PhD Project, What would I Go For?



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Myself

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 - Also: Industrial **Research Consultant**, several companies throughout my carrier
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- Current projects:
 - [SemData](#) (FP7 Marie Curie IRSES)
 - [ICTERI](#) Conference Series

Interests

- Broadly – in AI:
 - Dynamics, Change, Adaptability, Evolution – Evolving Knowledge
- Narrower – in Semantic Technologies
 - Ontology Engineering – refining ontologies to meet changing requirements
 - Ontology Learning – learning ontology (tokens) from data / texts
- Narrower – in Big Data / LOD Analytics
 - Using semantics / ontologies for improving quality and scalability of analytics
- Technologically – Distributed AI / Agents and MAS
 - Agent-based approaches to solve ST problems related to dynamics

Focal Problems of Interest

- Ontology Dynamics
- A Syndicated Ontology of Time ...
- Evolving Knowledge Ecosystems

Ontology Dynamics

vs

Ontology Change

(ST, Ontology Engineering)

Ermolayev, V.: The Law of Gravitation for Ontologies and Domains of Discourse. *Computer Science Journal of Moldova*, 23(2), 209 - 236, 2015 ([PDF](#))

What is Changed, not Why ...

- Is this one fit to go faster than 100 mph?



Ontology Change:

- Let's measure the distance passed in 1 hour
- If ≤ 100 mi, then NOT

Would be happy to have:

- Perhaps NOT, judging by its current shape
- Could be able however if thrown from there – up the cliff

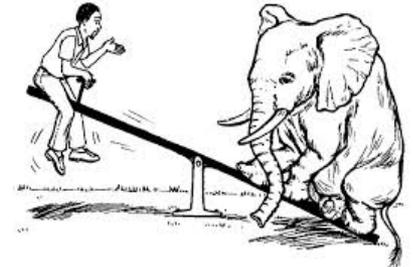
Open Issues?

- Ontology Change – studies the ways to change an ontology in response to a need
 - Assumed: Smb needs to **tell you** about the need
 - C.F.: **Kinematics** – studies the **motion** of objects without a reference to its causes
- Ontology Change:
 - In fact does Kinematics but misses the study of the causes that trigger the need
 - C.F.: **Dynamics** - is concerned with the study of **forces** and **torques** and their **effect on motion**
- **Ontology Change** misses **Ontology Dynamics**
 - What would be the force **causing** this going faster then 100 mph?



A Possible Way to Go ...

- What if:
 - You take insights (so far) from ... Newtonian **Mechanics**
 - E.g.: the Law of **Universal Gravitation** by Newton
- Differences (simplifications / complications):
 - Knowledge representations are discrete in their nature:
 - Continuous models -> **discrete models**
 - Objects are immaterial:
 - Masses -> **Fitnesses**
- Desired output:
 - **OntoGrav**: A framework and tool to measure and visualize Ontologies in a Gravitation Field of a Domain of Discourse



<http://goodpixgallery.com/>



Ermolayev, V.: Gravitation and Fitness in Ontology Dynamics. Inv. Talk at OEG, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid (ES), 11-Nov-2015, presentation slides ([PDF](#))

A Syndicated Ontology of Time (ST, Ontology Engineering)

Ermolayev, V., Batsakis, S., Keberle, N., Tatarintseva, O., Antoniou, G.: Ontologies of Time: Review and Trends. *Int. J. of Computer Science & Applications*. Vol. 11, Issue 3, 57–115, 2014 ([PDF](#))

Why Important?

- **Has been** in the focus of scientific thought from ancient times –
 - e.g. **Plato**: the revolution of the celestial spheres
- **Continues to be** an important subject of research for philosophers, physicists, mathematicians, logicians, computer scientists, and even biologists
- **One reason**: time is a fundamental aspect to understand and react to change in the World, including the broadest diversity of applications

Schema huius præmissæ diuisionis Sphærarum.



Geocentric celestial spheres;
Peter Apian's *Cosmographia*
(Antwerp, 1539)

Methodology - OntoElect

- **OntoElect** *: understanding requirements as **votes** of the Domain Knowledge Stakeholders regarding the Ontology
 - Ontology fitness (Φ) is understood as proportional to the **ratio** of positive and negative **votes** of the Stakeholders
 - Votes collected **indirectly** – using a statistically representative Document Collection:
 - Requirements Elicitation – Extract a **saturated** set of multi-word key terms
 - Conceptualization – Select the most **influential** key terms – Requirements
 - Evaluation – Transform the natural language definitions of the terms to formalized **structural contexts** – Ontology Change Tokens
 - Map the structural contexts to the ontology – positive and negative Votes
 - Compute the change in Φ – more or less positive Votes



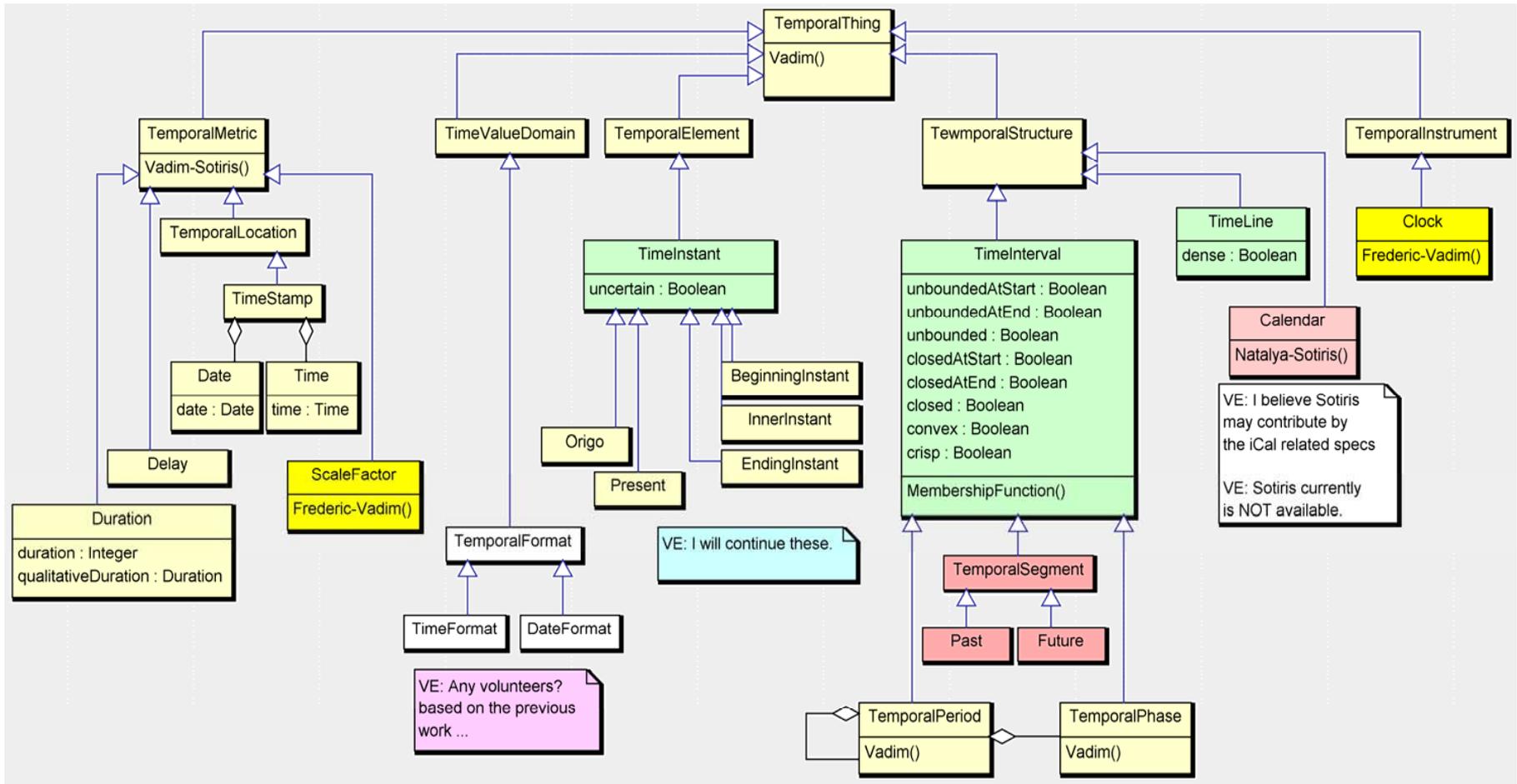
* Tatarintseva, O. et al. (2013) Quantifying Ontology Fitness in OntoElect Using Saturation- and Vote-Based Metrics. In: Ermolayev et al. (eds.) *ICT in Education, Research, and Industrial Applications. Revised Selected Papers of ICTERI 2013*, CCIS 412, pp. 136–162

Workflow

OntoElect **Conceptualization** Phase:

- Develop the **Backbone Taxonomy**
 - Based on the Requirements (**features**)
- Develop the **Seed**:
 - Focus on **Key Concepts** (Taxonomy)
 - E.g.: TimeLine, TimeInstant, TimeInterval, Clock
 - Develop/refine **theoretical descriptions**
 - Check if **implementable** using the available (W3C) languages
 - Harmonize – check **consistency**
 - Transform to Ontology (**Change Tokens**)
 - Visualize in a UML Class Diagram
 - Produce a **W3C compliant** code (OWL 2 DL + SWRL)
 - Document (**SOT-Wiki**)
 - Evaluate against required features (OntoElect: **Fitness**, Evaluation phase)
- **Expand**
 - Add concepts (Taxonomy)
 - Repeat the cycle until:
 - All the requirements are met (OntoElect: **Fitness**, Evaluation phase)
 - OR
 - The limits of expressive power are reached (W3C **compliance**)

Backbone Taxonomy



Ermolayev, V.: Toward a Syndicated Ontology of Time for the Semantic Web. AIFB Oberseminar, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (DE), 02-Feb-2016, presentation slides ([PDF](#))

A Collab. Effort (SemData+)

- **Vadim Ermolayev** (ZNU) – req. analysis, temporal theories, SOT theory, key concept models, SOT-wiki, PSI-ULO, PSI-Time
- **Sotiris Batsakis** (HUD) - temporal reasoning frameworks, ontologies, TimeInstant, TimeInterval models, SOWL
- **Frederic Mallet** (UN-SA) – SOT theory, Clock model, OMG Clock
- **Natalya Keberle** (ZNU) - temporal reasoning frameworks, OWL+SWRL compliance check, PSI-Time
- **Olga Tatarintseva** (ZNU) OntoElect, req. elicitation, PSI-ULO



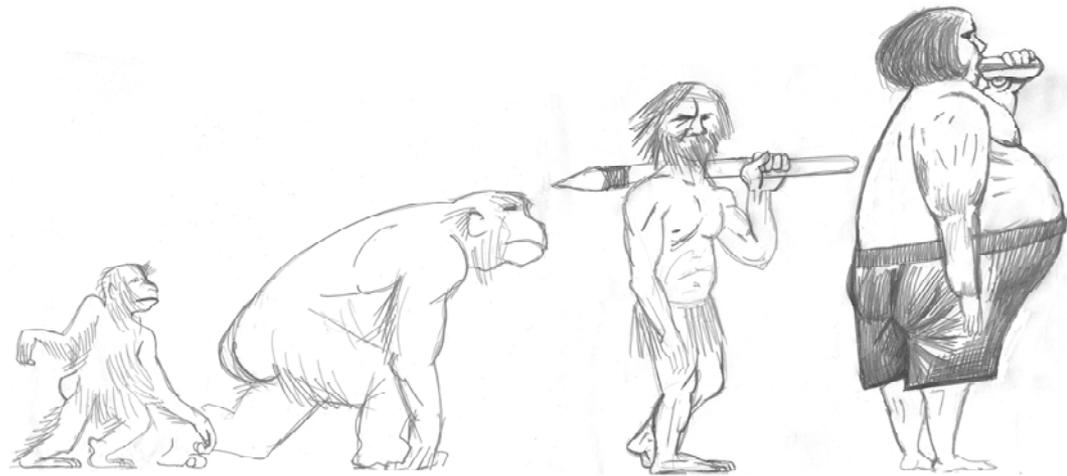
Oh, btw ...

- This is not **necessarily** about Temporal...
- There are many **OTHER** Domains where the approach of **OntoElect** could be used ...
- One possible:
 - **Springer Publications** – in discussion with Springer Verlag, Heidelberg

Evolving Knowledge Ecosystems (Big Data and Analytics)

Ermolayev, V., Akerkar, R., Terziyan, V., Cochez, M.: Toward Evolving Knowledge Ecosystems for Big Data Understanding. In: Akerkar, R. (ed.) Big Data Computing, pp. 3--56, Taylor & Francis, 2013, ISBN [978-1-46-657837-1](https://doi.org/10.1080/978-1-46-657837-1)

BIG is a Problem ...

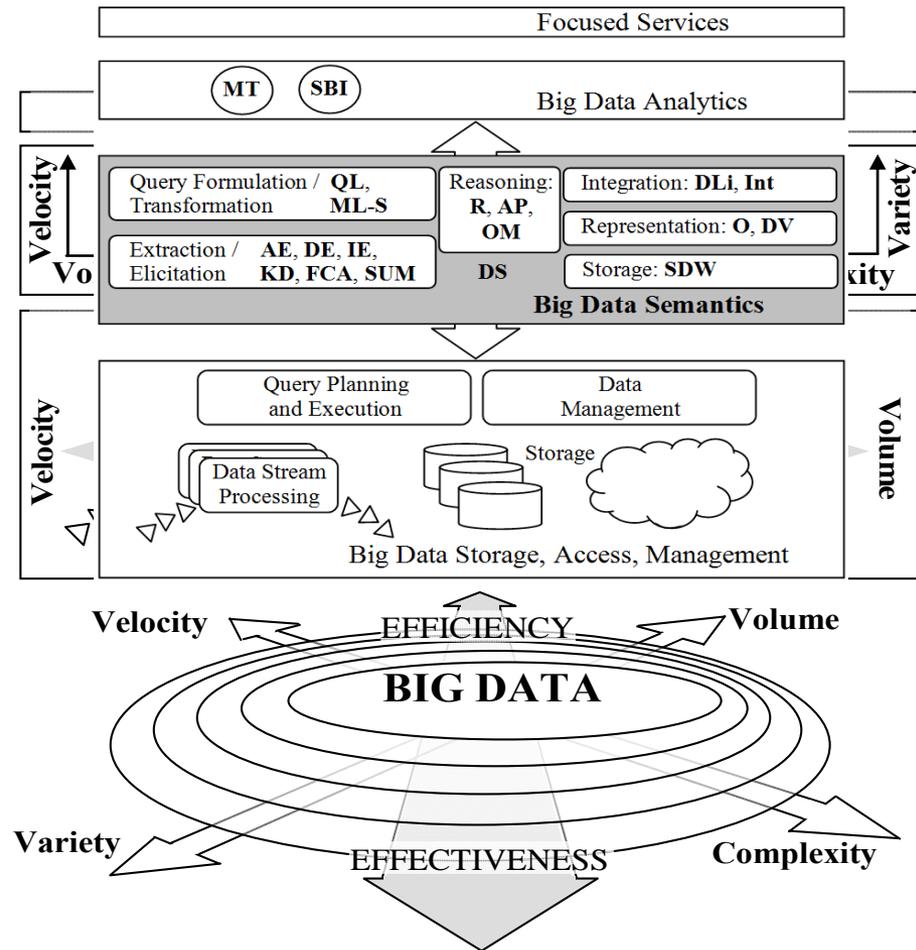


Courtesy of Vladimir Ermolayev

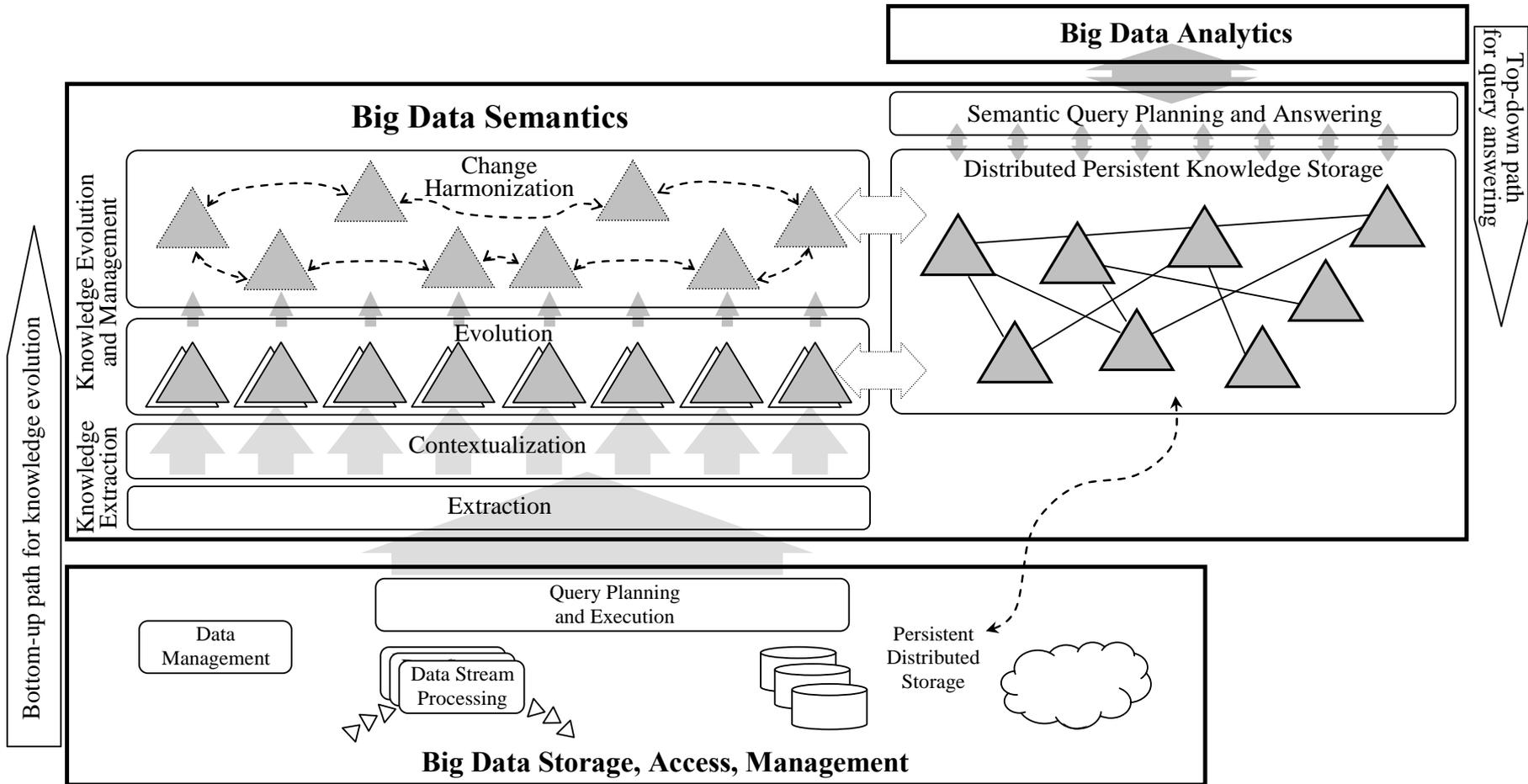
- Mined correlations (for Big Data analytics), though very useful, may hint about an answer to a “what” but not “why” kind of questions
- ◊ For example, if Big Data about Royal guards and their habits had been collected in the 1700s France one could mine today that all musketeers who used to have red Burgundy regularly for dinners have not survived till now. Pity, red Burgundy was only one of many and a very minor problem.

Efficiency vs Effectiveness

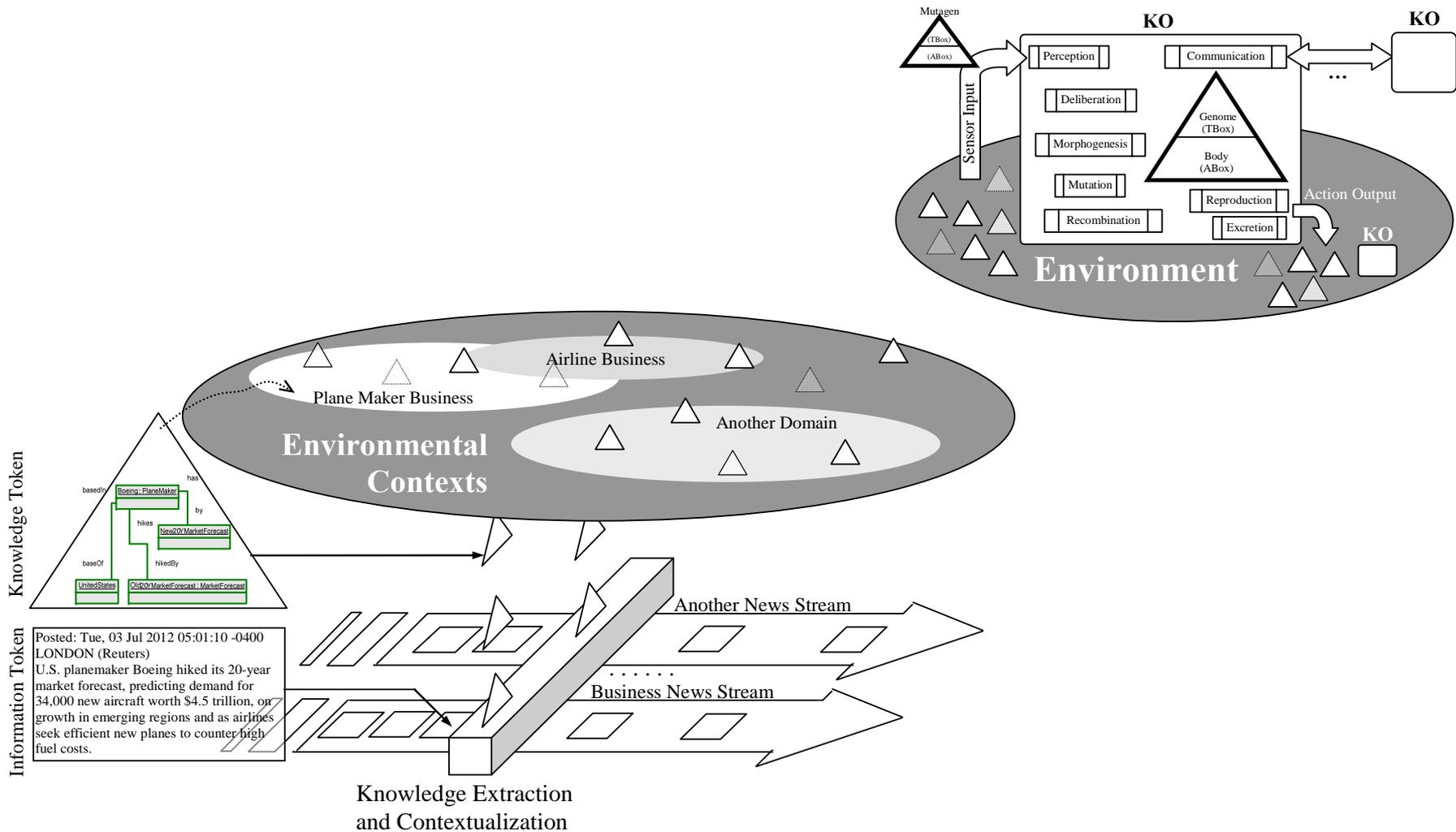
- A major conceptual complication for analytics is that efficiency is anti-correlated to effectiveness
- Should be balanced
- A **Big Data Semantics** layer needs to be introduced in the Processing Stack



Bottom-Up + Top-Down



Knowledge Ecosystems



Skills ... also to Develop ...

- **Ontology Dynamics**
 - Math, Java, UML, OWL, relevant tools, knowledge extraction from texts, NLP
- **A Syndicated Ontology of Time**
 - Math., Description Logics, OWL, SWRL, Java, UML, Graph processing
- **Evolving Knowledge Ecosystems**
 - Math., Agents, Java, JADE, OWL, UML, Graph models, Text stream processing
- **Communication: good command of English**

**Will be happy
to answer
your questions ...**

Will be also happy to continue discussions

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