Volunteered Geographic Information
Spatial Computing – University of Minnesota
Learning Objectives

1. Know the definition and historical context of volunteered geographic information (VGI)
2. Be able to produce VGI yourself!
3. Understand the socio-technical systems behind VGI.
4. Be qualified to assess the pros and cons of VGI for a given problem context.
5. **Technical Track:** Be able to use VGI in your apps, websites, and other systems
Wikipedia has revolutionized computing in **two** ways...

Hugely popular with **people**
Sixth most popular website in the world
[Alexa 4/2014]

WP > WordPress + Twitter + LinkedIn
[DoubleClick 2011]

#1 result for ~50% of searches
[Search Engine Watch 2012]
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**BRAINS** of modern computing
Resources related to Shilad's 2014 OpenSym talk:

- Talk slides
- WikiSym 2014 paper
- Source files: Quickstart.java, TranslateConcept.java, SimilarMovies.java, CountryPageViews.java, SimpleToblersEvaluator.java, CategoryViews.java

WikiBrain's busy thinking up its first public release. Please be patient while we fine tune our APIs and complete our documentation. Ask us questions at the WikiBrain google group!

http://wikibrainapi.org
WikiBrain is a collaboration between...

Macalester College

GroupLens
University of Minnesota
WikiBrain

Mission: Democratize access to Wikipedia data and state-of-the-art Wikipedia-based algorithms and technologies

Audience: Programmers with Java skills

Focus: Core data structures, artificial intelligence, natural language processing, spatial computing

Design goals: Fast, flexible, easy-to-use, extensible

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