



Quantify and Examined Of Video Distribution Sites For Appreciative Links

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ABSTRACT:

Videos are an integral part of current information technologies and the snare. The demand for efficient retrieval rises with the increasing number of videos, which is equally true for video annotation techniques as metadata is the primary source of most retrieval systems. - Recently, many video distribution sites provide external links so that their video or audio contents can be embedded into external snare sites. Online social networks (OSNs) have become popular destinations for connecting friends and distribution information. Recent statistics suggest that OSN users regularly share contents from video sites, and a significant amount of requests of the video sites are indeed from them nowadays. These behaviors have substantially changed the workload of on line video services. In this paper, we provide a comprehensive quantify study and examined source on these external links to answer these two questions. With the traces together from two major video distribution sites, YouTube and Youku of China, we show that the external links have various impacts on the popularity of the video distribution sites. The social video proposed system provides information that is directed and personalized for the user overriding the content rather than the point of view of the user posting the content. The tradeoff in our case being that users have to sacrifice privacy and have to trust the recommendation system provider with their private data.

1 Introduction:

Traditionally, users have discovered videos on the Web by browsing or searching [5]. Recently, word-of-mouth has emerged as a popular way of discovering the videos, particularly on social network sites such as Facebook and Twitter [11]. On these sites, users discover video contents by following their friends' shares. Such word-of-mouth based content discovery has become a major driver of

traffic to many video sharing sites. YouTube statistics [2] reported that as of January 2011 more than 500 tweets per minute containing a YouTube link, and over 150 years worth of YouTube video is watched on Facebook every day. Besides Facebook(Twitter)/YouTube, we have seen similar trends in other OSNs/VSSes, for example, between RenRen [3], the biggest Facebook-like OSN in China, and Youku [4], one of the most popular video sharing sites in China. Our measurement shows that, as of July 2011, more than 54 million unique RenRen users have participated in video viewing and 20 million participated in sharing, generating 12.4 million views, and 1.64 million shares every day. 80% of these videos are hosted by Youku. However, such characteristics have not yet been explored in real online social networks at large scales due to a number of challenges. First, privacy protection generally prevents crawling video viewing information as easily in OSNs (e.g., Facebook/RenRen) as in VSSes (e.g., YouTube/Youku); Second, unlike dedicated video sites, OSNs can rarely provide rich statistics about shared videos; Finally, given the wide distribution of OSN users, tracing traffic from a small set of network routers/switches can hardly reveal the geographic evolution of video sharing, not to mention the sheer volume of the mixed network traffic to be analyzed. For popularity distribution, we find that the plot of requests and video ranks exhibits perfect power-law feature (while previous study [9] showed that in VSSes, it exhibits a power-law waist with a long truncated tail). We also find the user requests are much more skewed across the videos in OSNs (top-0.5% videos account for 80% requests) than that in VSSes (10%-80%). To further understand these unique features, we design a model to simulate the user requests process in OSNs, and analyze whether

the OSN-based spreading mechanism can result in the observed distribution. For popularity evolution, we observe that the requests for the new published videos generally experience two or three days latency to reach the peak value, and then change dynamically with a series of unpredictable bursts (while in YouTube, videos reach the global peak immediately, and then the accesses generally decrease overtime, except possibly on some special days).

2. RELATED WORK

To our best knowledge, our work is the first one on characterizing the patterns of video requests from OSNs, by measurement and model. There are some pioneer data-driven analysis of information spreading in OSNs. Cha et al. [12] conducted a large-scale measurement study on Flickr network, one of the most popular photo sharing social networks. They found that even popular photos spread slowly through the network. By contrast, we found that the videos in an OSN spread much faster. Rorigues et al. [9] studied the propagation of URL links posted in Twitter, using large data gathered from Twitter. They presented the distribution of height, width, and size of propagation trees and found that Twitter yields propagation trees that are wider than they are deep. They did not separate the video links from their dataset to give them an individual analysis. Scellato et al. [6] pointed that given the increasing size of Twitter and other OSNs, they may generate millions of accesses to YouTube, accounting for a consistent fraction of the total number of daily requests. Instead of studying the video popularity characteristics, they focused on the geographic property of social cascades of videos by tracking social cascades of YouTube links over Twitter.

There are also plenty of works on the user access patterns from video sharing sites (e.g., YouTube) either by crawling the webpages or tracing traffic from a set of network routers/switches. Cha et al. [9] presented an in-depth study of the static popularity distribution, and dynamic popularity evolution of videos in two large-scale VSSes, YouTube and Daum. They found that the video popularity in YouTube shows a power-law waist with a long truncated tail for huge unpopular videos. Cheng et al. [10] also studied the distribution and evolution of videos in YouTube, and found similar results. They further presented other statistics of YouTube video files such the length, bitrate, and size. More recently, Figueiredo et al. [4] made an in-depth analysis on how the popularity of individual videos evolves since the video's upload time. They found that popularity growth pattern depends on the choice of the video

dataset. Besides those works that focused on the global nature of YouTube traffic by crawling YouTube webpages, and there are some complementary works by collecting YouTube traffic from local networks. Gill et al. [7] characterized the YouTube traffic collected at the University of Calgary campus network, comparing its properties with those previously reported for Web and streaming media workloads. They analyzed daily and weekly patterns as well as several videos characteristics such as duration, bitrate, age, ratings, and category. Another similar study [8] by Zink et al. also analyzed network traces for YouTube traffic at a campus network to understand the benefits of alternative content distribution strategies. Our work focuses on the distinguished features for videos shared in the RenRen OSN especially regarding video popularity distribution and evolution. And we demonstrate the word-of-mouth based social sharing can dramatically affect the pattern of user requests for videos.

3. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EXTERNAL LINKS

3.1 An Overview of External Links

We first show the impact of the external views on the videos in Fig. 2. We classify the videos according to their ages, i.e., the total duration since they have been uploaded to the VOD sites. Note that YouTube provides the upload date for each video, whereas Youku provides a rougher estimation of how many days or months or years a video has been uploaded. For example, the videos uploaded 13 months or 14 months ago in Youku will all be labeled as 'uploaded one year ago'. As such, the points 13-month and 25-month in our figures for Youku stand for the videos uploaded one year and 2 years ago. Note that our results are not affected as the points in our figures are the average (not accumulative) number of views. In Fig. 2 (a), we show the percentage of the views that come from external links. We see that for the videos in YouTube with an age of two months, 10% of the views come from the top-5 external links. For videos with an older age, the percentage of the views from external links gradually drops to around 2%. For Youku, the impact of external links is much higher. For most of the videos, more than 8% of views are from the exterior environment. For videos with an age of 24 months, views from external links can contribute as many as 15%. Even consider the top-5 external links, they contribute about 6% - 9% of total views, which is still more significant than YouTube.

To explain the situation more clearly, we show the specific number of the total views of the videos and the total views from external links as a function of the video ages. In Fig.2 (b) we show the total views, averaged per video, for different video age groups (this includes both views from internal links and external links). Clearly, YouTube attracts much more views than Youku. The total views increase steadily for both YouTube and Youku as the video ages increase. In Fig.2 (c), we show the total views from external links (averaged per video). We see that for YouTube, the total external views are comparatively stable among all video ages groups. The external views are concentrated by the first few months. This is likely because for the external links which referee the video, their exposure will also reduce when time passes and the exposure of their posts is superseded by more recent posts, making the views to the external linked videos drops very fast. As such, there is very moderate accumulation of the external views. For Youku, the total external view increases with the time and the discrepancy of views in external view groups is not that dramatic.

This component parses the proxy server logs and extracts the VID from YouTube video requests made by the clients. It scans through the entire log file line by line and checks for URLs with “youtube” in their hostname. The component uses the urlparse Python library to parse the URL into its subcomponents: scheme, path, params, query, port etc. We are only

PROPOSED SCHEME:

In this paper, we are interested in these external links. Compared with past studies on the interaction between users and videos within the video sharing sites, we are the first to concentrate on external links to videos of these sites. We have the following contributions in this paper: 1) we proposed to study the external links of the video sharing sites and we tried to quantify its impact. We believe this adds to the knowledge base, and could be useful for future comparison; 2) we showed that the impact from external links is non-trivial and we also found substantial differences on the impact of the external links on YouTube and Youku; 3) we conducted measurements on both external links and some important internal links and we studied their correlations; 4) we published the data sets of external

interested in the query component of the URL from which we extract the parameter ‘v’ which contains the value of VID. We also extract the date of viewing and client IP address from the logs for each such request. The system then calculates the frequency of this VID request across all HTTP requests for that day. After parsing the entire log file for the day, it stores all the VID requests into the proxy_log (see Figure 3) table of the database.

```
SELECT * FROM proxy_log
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dov	cip	vid	freq
07/11/11	128.112.92.72	FIHzAtKIRhI	1
07/11/11	128.112.92.72	bTE7rFifC-U	1
07/11/11	128.112.92.72	etyoVCt4fr8	2
08/11/11	128.112.93.48	hFgR0m-9FmM	1
08/11/11	128.112.93.48	GERkAnxuMrk	1
08/11/11	128.112.93.48	0u9JA6gFqM	1
08/11/11	128.112.93.48	2VX4Lpf-xdg	1
08/11/11	128.112.93.48	Xqghpm4gXf4	1
08/11/11	128.112.93.48	i_6TBTP-EJI	1
08/11/11	128.112.93.48	OHFYJ09v5Xg	1
08/11/11	128.112.93.48	hnewjEEUs1c	1
08/11/11	128.112.92.83	vN7HQrgakZU	1
08/11/11	128.112.139.238	lies_OIglLE	3
08/11/11	128.112.93.51	-B2yzG6Gj0A	4

Figure 2. This figure shows a snippet from the proxy_log table of the recommendation system database.

links we collected from YouTube and Youku for possible follow-up studies.

ADVANTAGES

We define the *internal links* as those maintaining a relationship within the web sites. These links include the user-to-video, user-to-user, video-to-video relationship. We define the *external links* as the links to the videos that are embedded in other web sites. These external links are important for improving the popularity of the videos; however, there is no rigid study to quantify the effectiveness of these external links. Therefore, we would like to know 1) the impact of the external links on videos, e.g., how many views are contributed by external links; 2) the relationship of external links and internal links; their differences, interactions and correlations.

5. MODEL ANALYSIS

Our measurement has shown distinctive popularity distribution pattern for video sharing in OSNs. To further testify whether the OSN-based spreading mechanism is the underlying reason for these features, we develop a simple yet effective model to make some preliminary analysis. However, the proxy server logs show that server usage was very low. Out of the 15 volunteers who agreed to use the proxy server, 5 volunteers watched less than 3 videos using the proxy server. The responses of these volunteers were not collected for the survey. The overall usage of the proxy server by the volunteers was very low in general. Out of the 10 volunteers whose survey response was recorded, 6 volunteers watched less than 11 videos using the proxy server. This means that watch history size of user was thus not large enough for content/collaborative filtering-based recommendations. The low volunteer group size was also not beneficial. As a result, most of the recommendations made by the recommendation algorithm were favorite category-based recommendations. Figure 6 and 7 show the response pie chart for the survey conducted across 10 volunteers. Almost all of the volunteers said they actively watched YouTube videos with the major source of these videos being videos posted by friends on social networking websites. Since, we cannot track these video accesses through the proxy server logs, our watch history size was further reduced. 80% the users responded that they used the proxy server only sometimes or rarely while watching YouTube videos. The reason for this can be concern for privacy and lack of incentive to use the proxy server. Another reason can be that the volunteers forgot to use the browser connected to the proxy server while watching the YouTube videos.

6 CONCLUSION:

In this paper we presented an extensive data-driven analysis on video sharing in the RenRen OSN. Our measurement showed that videos exhibit different popularity distribution pattern compared with that in VSSes. Particularly, it shows much more popularity skewness in the OSN. we studied in detail an important aspect of video sharing sites: the external links. The external links provide a unique way for the VOD sites to penetrate into other websites. We observed that the external links can play a non-trivial role both interms of the number of external links on a video, and the number of views contributed to the video. We also observed that the external links have

quite different impact on YouTube and Youku. We studied the external links for different video categories. We also discussed the correlations of the external links and the internal related video links. We showed that the number of internal related videolinks have less impact on the external links than the total views of the video. We believe that our work can provide the foundation for the VOD sites to make more targeted advertisement, customized user development, etc. We further developed a model to simulate the video spreading process in OSNs, and validated that the OSN-based spreading mechanism is the fundamental reason under such new video popularity distribution. We also made some preliminary measurement on the video popularity evolution in OSNs and revealed some distinctive features, such as the randomness, unpredictability, and multiple peaks.

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