



# VKB: Visual Knowledge Builder

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Download VKB from <http://www.csd.tamu.edu/VKB/>

## What is VKB?

### Spatial Hypertext

Spatial hypertext is a class of information workspace in which users express inter-document relations via spatial proximity and visual cues.

### Environment for Emergent Understanding

Supports knowledge intensive task such as *information triage*.

### Tool for Organizing Personal Digital Collections

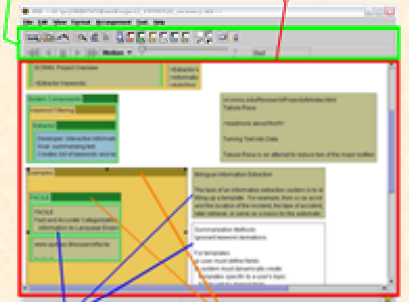
Create text, insert images, create internal and external hyperlinks, insert, organize and listen to audio files.

Tool Bar: for creating objects and collections, creating links, changing visual characteristics, searching the web, and navigating history.

Information Workspace

Visual cues for symbols and collections: background color, border color, border width, font, font size, font style, font color, symbol height, and symbol width.

Spatial cues: proximity and groupings such as lists and stacks.



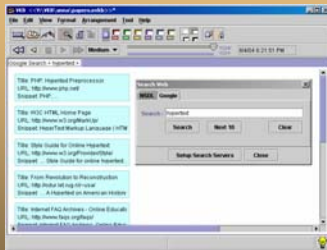
Information Objects

Collections

## New Features

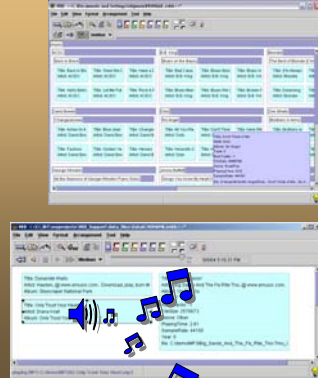
### Web & DL Search

On Google and on NSDL



### Drag-and-drop Folders & Metadata Peeling

The file hierarchy expands into collections and file attributes are attached as metadata



### Attribute Applicators

Allows the rapid addition of metadata to documents and aids the user in the extraction of existing metadata

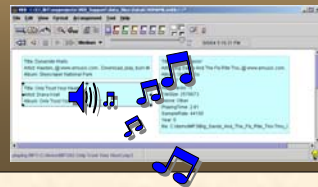


## Future Directions

- Loose/tight collaboration modes
- Integration with reading tools
- Expansion of history features
- Personal collection management
- Incremental formalization tools

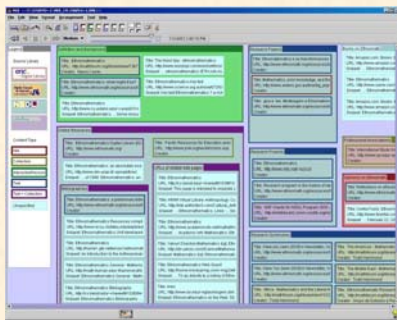
### MP3 Browsing

Hear the music when the mouse hovers over a MP3 file object

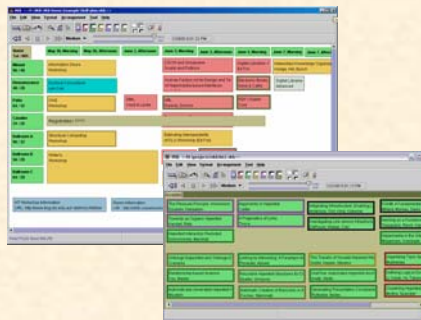


## Applications

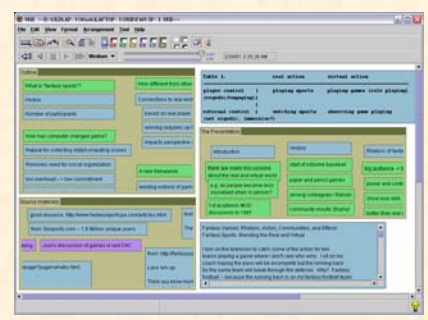
### Information Triage



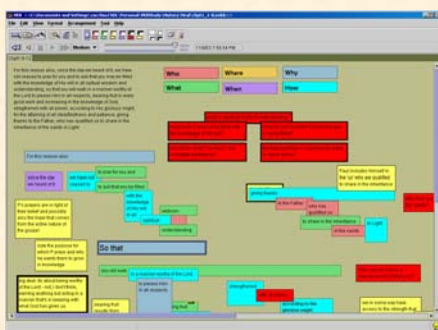
### Conference Planning



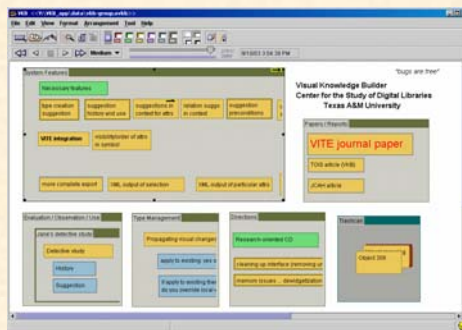
### Writing & Presentations



### Personal Interpretation



### Project Management



### References Organization

