SOCIAL NETWORK POWERED QUERY REFINEMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ABSTRACT

Embodiments of the present invention enhance the search experience of a user by looking at the search history of one or more buddies to provide search enhancements to the user. Examples of search enhancements include an annotation or graphic adjacent to a search result indicating the search result has been visited by one of the user's buddies. In another embodiment, the relevance score assigned to a search result is increased if the search result has been visited by a buddy. In another aspect, alternative queries from the buddies' search history may be suggested to the user during the search session.

FIG. 13.