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# The SINTEC Personalized, Knowledge-Based E-Learning Environment

**Ștefan Trăușan-Matu** <sup>1,2</sup>

**Valentin Cristea** <sup>1</sup>

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**Octavian Udrea** <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Computer Science Department,  
Bucharest "Politehnica" University,

<sup>2</sup>Romanian Academy Institute for Artificial Intelligence  
ROMANIA

<sup>3</sup>Maryland University, US

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# Knowledge-Based e-Learning

- Knowledge based systems
- Student modeling
- Reasoning for:
  - Student diagnosis
  - Explanations generation
  - Lesson planning
- Intelligent interfaces

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# Knowledge

Learning is a knowledge centered activity:

- One of the main goals of a learning process is the articulation in the learner's mind of a body of knowledge for the considered domain.
- The skeleton of this body is usually a semantic network of the main concepts involved in that domain - **ONTOLOGY**

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# Ontologies

"An ontology is a specification of a conceptualization....That is, an ontology is a description (like a formal specification of a program) of the concepts and relationships that can exist for an agent or a community of agents" (Gruber)

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# Ontologies used in e-Learning

- Domain
- Tutoring
- Human-computer interfacing
- Lexical
- Upper Level

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# Personalized texts for e-Learning

Are adapted to each users':

- ❑ knowledge - student model
- ❑ learning style
- ❑ psychological profile
- ❑ goals (e.g. lists of concepts to be learned)
- ❑ level (novice, expert)
- ❑ preferences (e.g. style of web pages)
- ❑ context of interaction

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# Student model

- Keeps track of the concepts known, unknown or wrongly known by the student (Dimitrova, Self, Brna, 2000)
- Inferred from results at tests or from interaction (visited web pages, topics searched etc.)
- Is usually defined in relation with the domain ontology (concept net, Bayesian net)

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# Intelligent e-Learning Projects at CS-Polytechnic University & ICIA

- MacPAIL
- ITS for programming
- WebGen
- LARFLAST
- SINTEC
- EU-NCIT
- COOPER



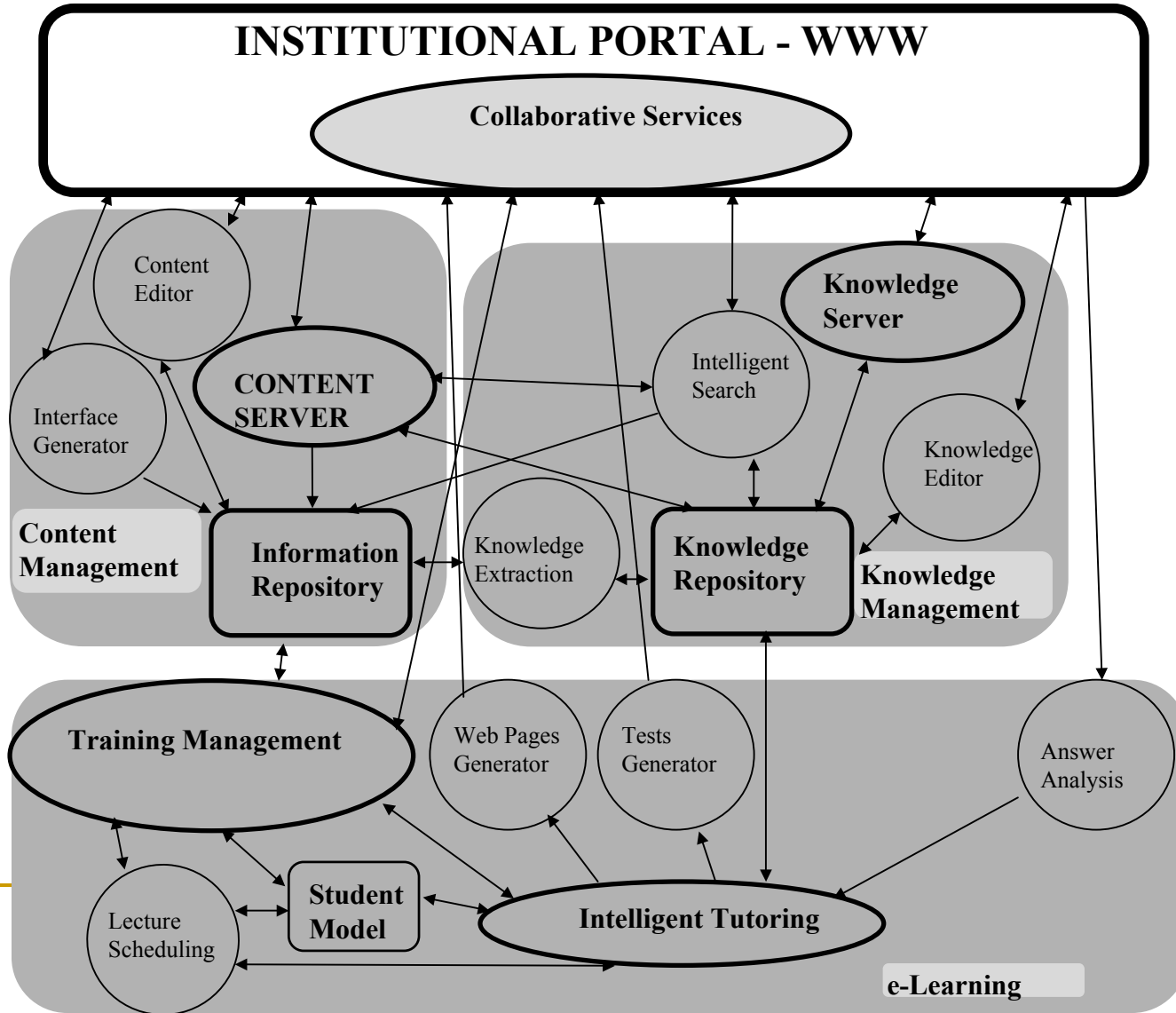
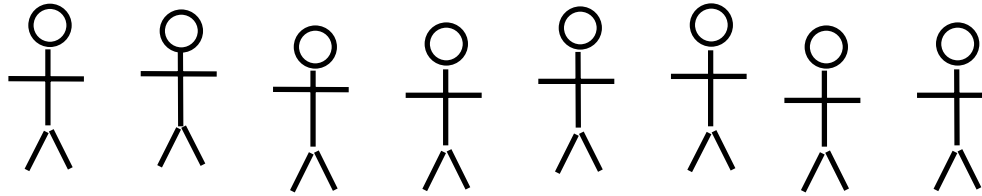
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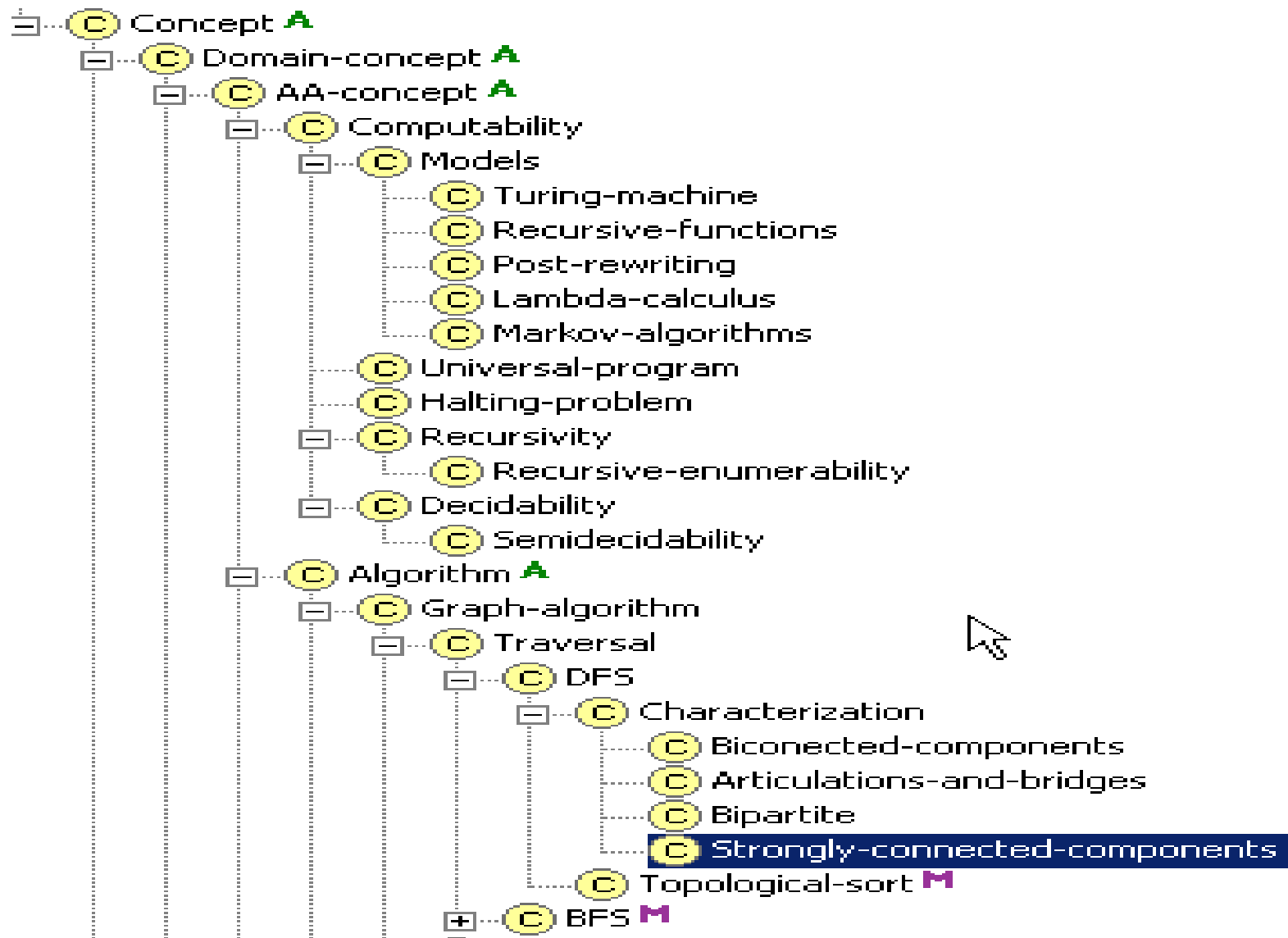
# SINTEC (2002-2003)

- INFOSOC- Funded Project
- Includes experience from ITS and LARFLAST
- Partners :
  - CS Dept., “Polytechnica” Univ. Bucharest
  - Romanian Academy Institute for AI
  - Romanian Academy Psychology Institute
  - SIVECO S.A. Romania
- Continued in FP6 SSA EU-NCIT

# SINTEC

- Collaborative tools for distance and distributed e-Learning
- Web services technology for distributed processing knowledge (ontologies) from the (Semantic) Web
- Content creation and reuse from the web, according to metadata standards for e-Learning like IMS, ARIADNE, SCORM, AICC
- ITS technology (student modelling and inference)
- Text Mining:
  - intelligent search of learning materials on the web
  - knowledge extraction
  - categorization
  - summarization





S	represented-as	Instance	single	classes={Data-structure} default
S	corect_proof	Class	multiple	parents={}
S	data_structure	Class	multiple	parents={Data-structure} value
S	complexity	Instance	single	classes={Complexity}
S	apply_prerequisite	String	multiple	
S	pseudocode	String	single	
S	schema	Class	single	parents={Algorithm-schema}
S	similar-to	Any	multiple	
S	property	Class	multiple	parents={Property}
S	references	Instance	multiple	classes={Document-concept}
S	text	String	single	
S	needed	Class	multiple	parents={Learning-task}
S	requires	Any	multiple	
S	inverse_of_requires	Any	multiple	
S	identifier	String	single	
S	created_by	String	single	default={Stefan Trausan-Matu}
S	romanian_name	String	multiple	


User survey - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Media Print Mail News RSS Options

Address http://localhost:9080/pages/poll.jsp?id=1&page=tra Go Links

Google Search Web Search Site Options

 **SINTEC**

User survey

### Learning-style inventory

Our platform can adapt to your learning style and abilities. Please complete the test below to help us create of profile. Rank a 4 for the sentence that describes you the *best* down to 1 for the one that describes you the *least*.

**1. When I learn:**

I like to deal with my feelings    I like to think about ideas    I like to be doing things    I like to watch and listen

**2. I learn best when:**

I listen and watch carefully    I rely on logical thinking    I trust my hunches and feelings    I work hard to get things done

**3. When I am learning:**

I tend to reason things out    I am responsible about things    I am quiet and reserved    I have strong feelings and reactions

**4. I learn by:**

feeling    doing    watching    thinking

Done Local intranet

Microsoft Internet Explorer window showing the SINTEC user interface. The address bar displays `http://localhost:7000/login/username.jsp`. The page features a navigation menu with items like "User main page", "What new?", "SINTEC", "Documentation", and "Links".

**learning SINTEC**

User main page | What new? | SINTEC | Documentation | Links

**Tips & hints**

Check your forums and news often. New messages are posted on a daily basis.

Difficulties navigating the SINTEC website? Consult our [manuals](#).

**Quick links**

- [My documents](#)

Welcome to SINTEC, Mr. Octavian Udrea. This is the main page of the application where you can access all resources made available by the SINTEC application. Please select an option from below.

**Communication central**

- [My messages](#)
- [My documents](#)
- [My classrooms](#)

**My interface**

- [My notes](#)
- [My documents](#)
- [My tasks](#)

**Account details**

You are currently logged as **Mr. Octavian Udrea**

Last login: 2003-12-09

[Edit profile](#) [Logout](#)

**News**

05/05/03 - The SINTEC platform is undergoing the final testing stages of WCET. Starting from December, it should ... [more](#)

05/05/03 - The deadline for the Ad. 21.8 Activity: Maps of topological sort in the Alps ... [more](#)

Course: Algorithm Analysis (#31) - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address http://localhost:9000/pages/course.jsp

Google Search Web Search Web Options



Course: Algorithm Analysis What now? SINTEC Documentation Links

**Tips & Hints**

Check your forums and news often. New messages are posted on a daily basis.

Difficulties navigating the SINTEC website? Consult our [manual](#)

**Quick links**

- [My documents](#)

You are enrolled in the **Algorithm Analysis (#31)** since *Sunday, November 2 2003*.

**Course details**

**Descriptions:** *Introduction to fundamental algorithms and computation issues. Direct application into graphs, trees, network flow algorithms.*

**Instructor:** [Prof. Stefan Trausan-Matu](#)

**Teaching Assistants:** [Rucandara Jbanu](#)

**Grading information:** Maximum grade is 10. Minimum passing grade is 5. Maximum points available: 120.

**Communication central**

[Forum: AA discussion list](#)

[Chatroom: AA chat](#)

Discussion transcript available for **AA chat** for **Thursday, December 4 2003**: [click here](#).

**Scheduled events**

Recitation scheduled for **Thursday, December 10 2003 at 11:00 GMT+2**.  
This event repeats for the following period: every week.

**My activity**

You have currently completed **34%** of the activities. You have currently **58** points out of **60**.

Your discussion participation details: **2** messages posted.

[Work on activities](#) - [Notes for this course](#)

**Account details**

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**News**

05/05/03 The SINTEC platform is undergoing the final testing stages at NCIT. Starting from December, it should ... [more](#)

05/05/03 The deadline for the AA 31 B Activity: Uses of topological sort in the Algo ... [more](#)

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This site is best viewed with Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Activities: Algorithm Analysis - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Activities: Algorithm Analysis What new? SINTEC Documentation Links

Tips & Hints

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Quick links

- [My documents](#)

You have currently completed 34% of the activities. You have currently 58 points out of 60.

My activity

Legend: ■ Completed ■ Available ■ Not yet available

Activity AA.31.4.1: Graph traversal

- Activity AA.31.4.1.1: Breadth traversal
- Activity AA.31.4.1.2: Depth traversal
- Activity AA.31.4.1.3: Topological sort

Activity AA.31.4: Optimization of Dijkstra's algorithm

- Activity AA.31.4.2: Strongly connected components
- Activity AA.31.4.3: Articulation points and bridges

Activity AA.31.B: Uses of topological sort

- Activity AA.31.C: Quiz test 1

Activity AA.31.4.4: Minimal paths

- Activity AA.31.4.4.1: Greedy algorithms
- Activity AA.31.4.4.2: Floyd-Warshall
- Activity AA.31.4.4.3: Bellman-Ford

Activity AA.31.D: Final quiz

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News

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05/05/00 The deadline for the AA.31.B Activity: Uses of topological sort in the Algo ... [more](#)

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Difficulties navigating the SINTEC website? Consult our [manuals](#)

**Quick links**

- [My documents](#)

**Transcript**

**Course: Database Fundamentals**

*Description: Familiarization of students with the basic principles of databases and some theoretical knowledge for better understanding DBMS systems. The course covers topics such as: basic database principles, data model planning (including E-R data model diagrams and the net data model), relations and operations for relations (joins, product, difference, projection, etc.), transactions and serializability, distributed databases issues.*

**Period: Wednesday, September 17 2003 - Monday, October 6 2003**

**Status: Completed**

**Final grade: 9.45**

**Percentile: 92%**

**Detailed grades:**

- Activity #213.A: From E-R to relational models (homework): **8 (2.4 credits)**
- Activity #213.B: Queries and subqueries (homework): **10 (2 credits)**
- Activity #213.C: DDL Statements (homework): **10 (2 credits)**
- Activity #213.D: Constraints (homework): **6 (1.45 credits)**
- Activity #213.E: Implementing in DB2 (project): **8 (1.6 credits)**

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**Course: Algorithm analysis**

*Description: Introduction to fundamental algorithms and computation issues. Direct application into graphs, trees, network flow algorithms.*

**Period: Sunday, November 2 2003 - ?**

**Status: In progress**

**Detailed grades:**

- Activity #31.A: Optimization of Dijkstra algorithm (homework): **10 (1.2 credits)**

**Mr. Octavian Udrea**

Last login: 2003-12-09

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**News**

05/05/00 The SINTEC platform is undergoing the final testing stages at NCIT. Starting from December, it should ... [more](#)

05/05/00 The deadline for the AA.31.B Activity: Uses of topological sort in the Algo ... [more](#)

Local intranet

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# Conclusions

- The approach was used for CS students at PUB
- Algernon is not reliable – in future JESS
- A lot of psychology work to be done
- Difficult to develop the ontology