

FAMILY HISTORY TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

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BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

Family History

TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

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The Future of Family History

Research talks, developer presentations and lightning talks. Handwriting recognition, automated record transcription, data modeling, machine learning, natural language processing, visualization, human interaction, user experience. Any technology that makes family history better.

Gathering the human family

- 107 billion people have lived on the earth.
- Each year we add 47 million people to the Family Tree.
- Each year about 55 million people die on earth.

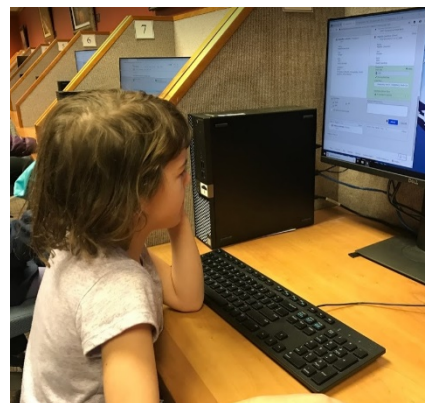
The power of 10X:

- If we can 10X twice, then we will be done in 25 years.
- Three ways the first 10X could happen.

First way 10X could happen

- 10 million users each add 50 new people each year
- Key roll of tree-extending hints
- Molly (age 5) = 200 new people; Youth group = 2,384 new people

The screenshot shows a family tree software interface. At the top, it displays 'Mary Ford (Mother)' with birth year 1840 and an 'Add' button. Below this, a 'Person of Record and Spouse Change' dropdown is set to 'Selected Person and Spouse'. The main record shows 'William E Ford (Head)' (1860-) and 'Lida Ford (Wife)' (1871-). To the right, a 'Mrs Lydia Ford (Wife)' (1870-Deceased) is listed with a marriage record from 1885 in Missouri, USA. Below the main record, there are two columns: 'Children on Record (6)' and 'Children from Family Tree (5)'. The children listed include Maud Ford (1886-Deceased), Madge Ford (1891-Deceased), Mabel Ford (1894-Deceased), Gail Ford (1895-Deceased), Cecil Ford (1896-), Hildred Ford (1898-Deceased), Wilma Ford (1901-), and Lida Ford (1906-). Each child entry has a 'Compare' button and a 'Details' link. A 'Tips' button is visible in the bottom right corner.



Second way 10X could happen

- 20,000 volunteers each add 25,000 people each year

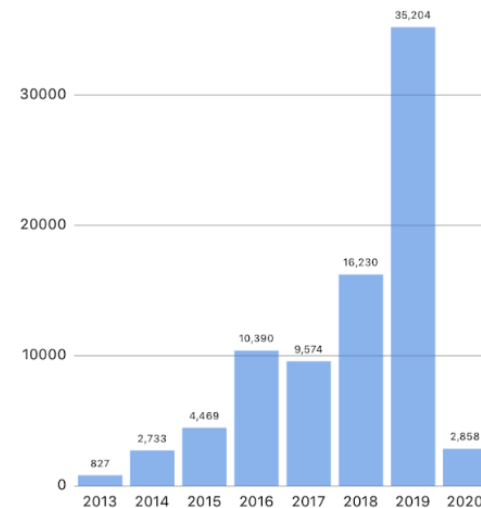
More

- Search Historical Records
- Find a Person
- Relatives Around Me
- Map My Ancestors
- My Contributions**
- Family History Activities
- Messages 7
- Settings >
- Help >
- Memories

Stats Changes Private Persons

All Sources Memories **Persons**

Persons Created: 82,285



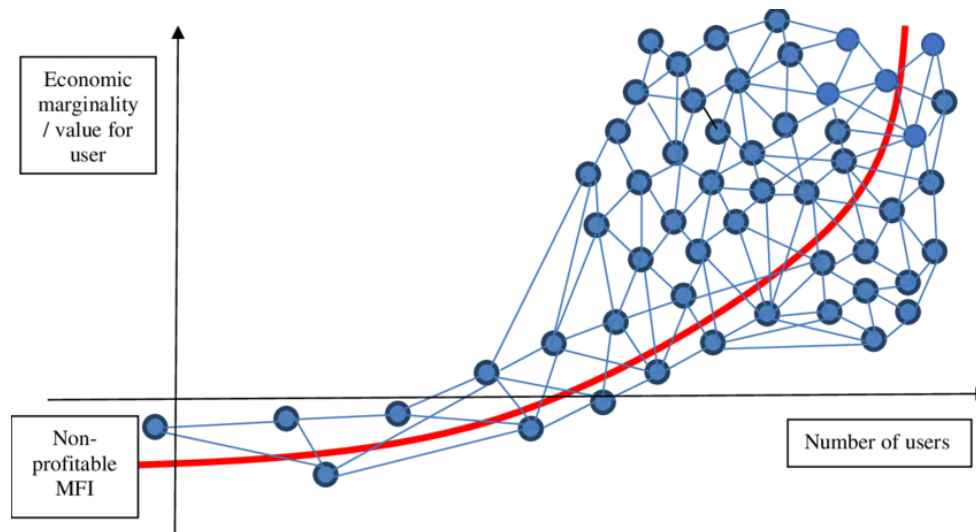
Third way 10X could happen

- Current users > twice as effective, twice as much time, invite one other person to do the same.
- Key roll of phones.



The SECOND 10X

- The second 10X will come through network externalities in which as the number of users grow on FamilySearch, Ancestry, and other platforms, the value of using these platforms will grow too. Everyone will want to use it.
- Metcalf's law = “the value of a network is proportional to the square of the number of connected users of the system”.





BYU Family History Technology Lab

HOME PEOPLE INFORMATION CONTACT DONATE

Research

- Relative Finder
- Virtual Pedigree
- Descendancy Explorer
- Tree Sweeper

Visualize

- Pedigree Pie
- One Page Genealogy
- Family Calendar
- Veteran Finder

Welcome to the Family History Technology Lab

Lowering the entry barrier into family history

Play

- Geneapardy
- Wheel of Family Fortune
- Ancestor Games
- Record Quest

NEW

- Geneagraphy
- Reverse Indexing

In Development

- Memri
- Alexa App

