

Visualizing Reasoning with Legal Evidence

Theory and Practice

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Introduction

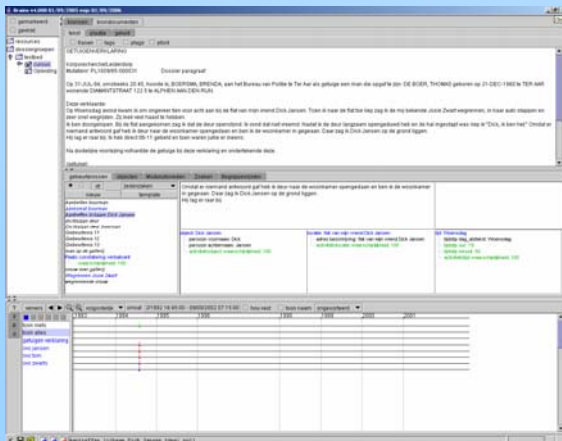
In large crime investigations, the police is faced with a mass of unstructured evidence.

- Focusing too much on one or two scenarios leads to “tunnel vision”
- People are fallible (memory, communication)

Current solutions

Brains: “evidence data modeling” software that consists of a structured database which keeps track of evidence, objects under investigation, and events.

- Possibility to make links between evidence, objects and events
- Visualize timelines

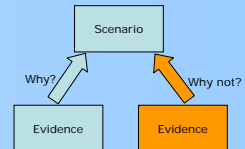


Problem solved?

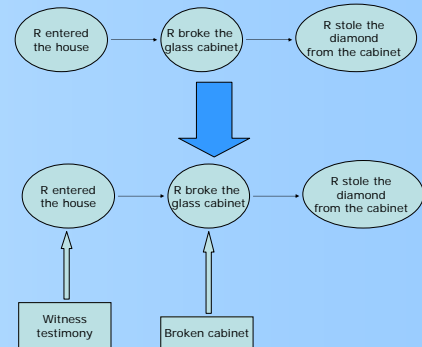
- The risk of making incorrect links is real, because no reason for a link has to be given
- Incorrect links can influence the investigation

Extended software tool

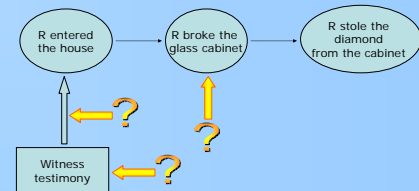
Build a tool that forces police investigators to give reasons for the links.



Supporting scenarios



Critical questions



Objective

Better quality of analysis by using prototype tool compared with Brains.

- Comparing different scenarios
- Seeing patterns
- Discovering new relations or inconsistencies
- Identifying missing evidence