How can AI research utilize the Web? My talk describes an ambitious effort to address AI's "Knowledge Acquisition Bottleneck" via self-supervised understanding of text. Instead of delving into short, complex texts, we scale shallow understanding to billions of sentences. This scale up has enabled us to investigate the "dark matter of the Web" – common sense knowledge that is implicit in the Web corpus. I will illustrate our progress with an LDA-based method for identifying the selectiveness preferences of relations at an unprecedented scale.

BIO: Oren Etzioni received his Ph.D. from Carnegie Mellon University in January 1991, and joined the University of Washington's faculty in February 1991, where he is now the Washington Research Foundation Entrepreneurship Professor of Computer Science. Etzioni received a National Young Investigator Award in 1993, and was selected as a AAAI Fellow a decade later. In 2007, he received the Robert S. Engelmore Memorial Award. He is the founder and director of the University of Washington's Turing Center. Etzioni is the founder of Farecast, Inc., which was sold to Microsoft in 2008, and became the foundation for Bing Travel.