

**Student Name**

Dipankar RoyChowdhury

**Anticipated Graduation:**

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**Research Title & Subtitle**

Enhancing Web Browsing on a Single Window Browser:  
A Design and Analysis of Web Site Cloning

**Thesis Proposal Abstract**

Popular web browsers provide efficient and effective Internet browsing by allowing the users to open different pages on different windows of the browser. But opening many windows makes it difficult to manage them and causes much confusion, because it breaks the trail of the back button so backtracking cannot access the page on the parent window. I propose a clone tool that captures a web site page as a thumbnail that is always visible at a corner, providing the context to the current page and easy access to other links. Now users do not have to go back each time they want to access a different link on the page. By marking the page, the user is relieved of the burden to remember to revisit a certain page and it's URL. Such a browser will be useful for a beginner and intermediate users who desire an unbroken history of their web activities. The design for such a system aims to integrate various tracking and cloning features to significantly extend and enhance the user's search experience, thereby off-loading memory and improving the usability of the web browser. See prototype figures below.

**Research Questions:**

1. Can new browser functionality increase the efficiency of web search without the use of multiple windows?
2. Does cloning a page better than opening pages in new windows?
  - a. Does marking pages provide easier access to important pages without having to back-track several pages or recalling its URL?
  - b. Can off-loading a user's web search history to a browser feature (such as the cloning feature) support user memory in extended searches?



Figure 1: The clone tool..

Dipankar RoyChowdhury

May 8, 2006

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Student Name                      Signature

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Anthony Faiola, PhD

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