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Lecture 4: Miscellaneous Techniques in IR

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### Outline



### 2 Crawler







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## Pagerank: the motivation (1)

- Retrieval results returned by basic IR system usually are not satisfactory
- There are many reasons behind this
  - 1 It is actually a very tough issue
  - 2 Nearly all IR systems face the scalability issue
  - **3** Users are not able to express what they want by keywords only
  - The same keyword for different people means different thing, e.g. "apple"
- It requires natural language understanding: artifical intellegence
- Hundreds of reranking approaches have proposed to optimize the search results
  - Share the story about SIGIR

### Pagerank: the motivation (2)

- Keywords are very few
- Too many pages share similar similarity score



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## Page hyper-links

- We are now going to consider
- how hyper-links help to improve the search guality

```
<html>
1
2
 <head>page head</head>
3
 <body>
4 HTML tutorials are available
5 <a href="http://www.w3schools.com">hyper-link1</a>
 XWWW standards are available
6
7 <a href="http://www.w3.org">hyper-link2</a>
|| < / body >
 </html>
9
```

### Pagerank: explained (1)

- Pagerank is one of the most successful reranking approaches
- It is a re-ranking approach
- It happens when we have the retrieval results
- Basica idea: make use of the hyperlinks between webpages
  - Pages being linked (pointed to) to by other pages should be important and ranked higher
- Start-up technology for Google

## Pagerank: explained (2)



- We are connected by Internet
- Webpages are connected by hyperlinks

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### Pagerank: explained (3)



- Higher weights (pagerank) are assigned to the pages that have many in-ward links
- Notice that out-ward links will not impact your own ranking

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### Pagerank: build the model



- Given 4 webpages, and the hyperlinks between them
- Calculate pagerank for each of them as following, PR(.) for all the pages are initialized to **0.25**

$$PR(A) = \frac{PR(B)}{L(B)} + \frac{PR(C)}{L(C)} + \frac{PR(D)}{L(D)},$$
(1)
where PR(.) is the current pagerank,
L(.) is num. of out-ward links

### Pagerank: build the model



$$PR(A) = \frac{0.25}{1} + \frac{0.25}{1} + \frac{0.25}{3},$$
$$PR(B) = \frac{0.25}{3},$$
$$PR(C) = \frac{0.25}{3},$$
$$PR(D) = 0$$

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### Pagerank: the damping factor



• Given **N** is the num. of webpages, **d** is the damping factor,

$$PR(A) = \left(\frac{0.25}{1} + \frac{0.25}{1} + \frac{0.25}{3}\right) \cdot d + \frac{1-d}{N},$$
$$PR(B) = \frac{0.25}{3} \cdot d + \frac{1-d}{N},$$
$$PR(C) = \frac{0.25}{3} \cdot d + \frac{1-d}{N},$$
$$PR(D) = 0 \cdot d + \frac{1-d}{N},$$

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### Pagerank: the procedure

- Produce Adjacent matrix by collecting all the webpage links
- 2 Initialize PR(.) to c

3 Do

- Galculate PR(.) for each webpage
- 5 Update PR(.) for each webpage
- 6 Until convergence



 $M = \left[ \begin{array}{rrrr} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$ 

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### Pagerank: tricks to promote your webpage

- Share the story about Google
  - What Google means
  - Pagerank is born in the right season
  - Turning point of Google
  - Do we need to reinvent the wheel?
- Ask some webpage (has higher pagerank) to link to your webpage
  - Pagerank can be found by install firefox Toolbar or from pagerank website
  - Google robot will ignore hyperlink shares the same color as the background
- Register to Google Webtool
  - Once Google robot visits your site
  - Try to search and click-in your website with Google from different places

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### Outline



### 2 Crawler

3 Evaluation on IR performance

### 4 Chat-GPT

5 Retrieval-Augmented Generation

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- We are able to retrieve documents on inverted files
  - Structure of inverted files
  - Static and dynamic inverted files
- We are able to evaluate the performance of IR system
  - Recall, Precision and F-measure
  - mean Average Precision

### Crawler

### Puzzle: distributed and centralized Internet

- Internet is the biggest distributed system in the world
  - No central coordinator for information or computing resources
  - Machines, resources, societies are loosely connected
  - The major interface is web browser



- Search engine comes to play a unique role
- Ironically, it is somehow a central coordinator
- Without search engine, we are in dark
- Search engine is the de-facto interface to *WWW*, however not to everything

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### Crawler

### Web crawler: the information collector

- In June 1993, Matthew Gray from MIT wrote a perl script
- It is able to collect URLs, and keeps tracking on them
- It is also able to identify new websites



- It is the first web robot but not the first search engine
- The idea inspired many programmers to follow-up, leads to the birth of search engine
- Note that only 130 websites in the world in June 1993

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### Web crawler: the general steps

- Other names: web robot and web spider
- Feed web robot with several URL seeds, the robot crawls websites into a database for archiving
- General steps:

Crawling (seed pages S)

- (1) URLQueue S
- (2) **do** {
- (3) p ◄-Select-URL(<u>URLQueue</u>)
- (4) content <- Download( p )
- (5) (text, links, structure, ...) ← Parse( content )
- (6) <u>URLQueue</u> Add-new-links(<u>URLQueue</u>, links)
- (7) } *until* ( terminate condition)

### Web crawler: the model



- It is a graph transverse problem
- Theoretically speaking, all nodes (pages) must be visited
- Either depth first or width first is fine
- The links between sites will be captivated later for ranking

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### Web crawler: the framework



### • Crawling is a time consuming task

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### Web crawler: duties

- Parsing DNS
  - DNS maintains the map between URL and IP
  - Frequent interaction with DNS causes overload
  - Caching DNS record is necessary
- 2 Normalize URL
  - · Same site might be written in different way
  - "yahoo.com.cn" and "yahoo.cn"
- 8 Parsing web pages
  - HTML mark-ups have no semantic meaning
  - However, they indicate the structure of the page
- 4 Exceptions handling: soft 404 Error page
- 6 Handling duplicate pages, partial duplicate rate: 29%; full duplicate rate: 22%

### Web crawler scheduling: an example

Example of 'sitemap.xml'

```
v<urlset xmlns="http://www.sitemaps.org/schemas/sitemap/0.9">
 v<url>
    <loc>http://cmmlab.xmu.edu.cn</loc>
    <lastmod>202-09-22</lastmod>
  </url>
 ▼<url>
    <loc>http://cmmlab.xmu.edu.cn/wlzhao.htm</loc>
    <lastmod>202-09-22</lastmod>
  </url>
 v<url>
    <loc>http://cmmlab.xmu.edu.cn/wlzhao cn.htm</loc>
    <lastmod>202-09-22</lastmod>
   </url>
 ▼<url>
    <loc>http://cmmlab.xmu.edu.cn/resc.html</loc>
    <lastmod>202-09-22</lastmod>
  </url>
 ▼<url>
    <loc>http://cmmlab.xmu.edu.cn/research.html</loc>
    <lastmod>202-09-22</lastmod>
  </url>
 ▼<url>
    <loc>http://cmmlab.xmu.edu.cn/pub.html</loc>
    <lastmod>202-09-22</lastmod>
  </url>
 ▼<url>
    <loc>http://cmmlab.xmu.edu.cn/members.html</loc>
    <lastmod>202-09-22</lastmod>
  </url>
 </urlset>
```

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### Web crawler: scheduling strategies (1)

- 1 Intuitively, hottest sites should be crawled frequently
  - For example, sohu.com should be crawled in every 30 minutes
- 2 Depth-first? or breadth-first?
- **3** Page quality should be considered
  - Allocate more computing resources to these high quality pages
  - These pages are more meaningful to users too

Crawler

### Web crawler: scheduling strategies (2)

### 1 An exemplar framework



- Scheduling takes place on two levels: server and URLs
- Server queue and URL queue have been built

### Crawler

### Web crawler: scheduling strategies (3)

- Three typical stategies
- Breadth-first scheduling
  - First-in-first-out principle
- 2 Performance based scheduling

$$R(s,i) = \frac{P(s,i)}{T(s,i)}$$

(2)

where P(s,i) is the numb. of pages from ith server T(s, i) is the time to download them

3 Quality based scheduling

prioritize high quality pages

### Outline

PageRank and HITS



### 3 Evaluation on IR performance



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### How the "research game" is played

• Loop for experiment-driven research

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• Evaluation on a certain benchmark plays key role in the loop



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### Recall, precision and F-measure

- True Positive (TP): the number of relevant documents retrieved
- False Negative (FN): the number of relevant documents missed
- False Positive (FP): the number of irrelevant documents retrieved
- True Negative (TN): the number of irrelevant documents not retrieved
- Given the documents we consider (top-K), and relevant document R

$$Recall = \frac{TP}{R}$$
(3)  
Precision =  $\frac{TP}{K}$ (4)

• F-measure is further defined as  $F-measure = \frac{2 \cdot Recall \cdot Precision}{Recall + Precision}$ (5)

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Evaluation on IR performance

### Recall and precision illustration



In classification task, the definition for 'Precision' changes

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Evaluation on IR performance

### Curve of Recall V.S. precision

**Recall-Precision curve** 



### Average Precision

- Rankings of relevant docs are explicitly considered
- In practice, users are more sensitive to precision
- In-born advantage for a search engine: users have no knowledge about recall
- Average Precision is such a measure fits in
- Average Precision (AP) is defined as

$$AP(i) = \frac{\sum_{1}^{i}(1)}{i} \tag{6}$$

• mean Average Precision (mAP) is defined as

$$mAP = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{K} AP(i)}{K}$$
(7)

### Exercise

• Given total num. of relevant docs is 10

Тор	Relevancy	
1	1	
2	0	
3	1	
4	0	
5	0	
6	0	
7	1	
8	1	
9	0	

• See Recall=?, Precision=? and mAP=?

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### Outline

1 PageRank and HITS

### 2 Crawler

3 Evaluation on IR performance



Retrieval-Augmented Generation

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### What is ChatGPT?

- ChatGPT is a conversational AI developed by OpenAI
- Based on the GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer) architecture
- Trained to understand and generate human-like text

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### Framework of ChatGPT



### Key Features

- Natural Language Understanding
- Contextual Awareness
- Versatile Applications (eg, support, content creation)

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### Chat-GPT

### How Does it Work?

- Utilizes deep learning techniques
  - Transformer and Reinforce learning
- Processes input text and generates responses

Jonh and his girl-friend are going to go to cinema to watch a <u>movie</u>.

- Learns from a diverse range of internet text
  - Books
  - 2 Websites
  - 3 Wikipedia
  - 4 Research Papers
  - 5 Forums and Community Discussions

### Applications

- Customer support automation
- Content generation and editing
- Personal assistants and chatbots

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### Challenges and Limitations



- May produce incorrect or nonsensical answers
- Sensitivity to input phrasing
- Ethical considerations and biases in AI
- The model of ChatGPT 3.5 takes at least 800G memory

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### Overview of GPT Training

- ChatGPT is based on the GPT architecture
- Trained using large corpora of text from the internet
- Focuses on predicting the next word in a sentence

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### Data Collection

- Utilizes diverse sources (books, articles, websites)
- Aims to cover a wide range of topics and language styles
- Ensures a broad understanding of human language

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### Preprocessing the Data

- Data is cleaned to remove low-quality content
- Tokenization: breaking text into manageable pieces (tokens)
- Transformation into a numerical format suitable for the model

### **Training Procedure**

- Uses a technique called unsupervised learning
- Model is trained on predicting the next token based on context
   Jonh and his girl-friend are going to go to cinema to watch a <u>movie</u>.
- Backpropagation algorithm optimizes model weights

- Model further refined on specific datasets for accuracy
- Involves supervised learning with human feedback
- Enhances performance on conversational tasks and context

### ChatGPT vs. Conventional IR

- ChatGPT compress/encode the huge amount of knowledge into a model
- 2 Conventional IR index the information
- **3** Conventional IR index can be easily updated
- 4 Conventional IR index provide both the information and its source
- **6** Conventional IR index is cheaper

### Outline

PageRank and HITS





### 5 Retrieval-Augmented Generation

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### What is Retrieval-Augmented Generation?

- Most of the deep-models are not online model
- A hybrid approach combining retrieval and generation
- Enhances the capabilities of generative models
- Utilizes external knowledge sources to improve responses

### How RAG Works

- Retrieves relevant documents based on user input
- Generates responses using both retrieved information and model knowledge
- Combines strengths of retrieval-based and generative methods

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## Key Components

- Retrieval Component: Searches for relevant documents
- Generative Component: Produces coherent and contextually relevant text
- Integration Layer: Merges information from both components

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### Benefits of RAG

- Access to up-to-date and specialized knowledge
- Improved accuracy and contextual relevance in responses
- Reduces the risk of generating incorrect information

## Applications of RAG

- Question answering systems
- Conversational agents and chatbots
- Content generation and summarization tasks

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### Challenges and Considerations

- Dependence on the quality of retrieved documents
- Potential for biases in both retrieval and generation
- Need for efficient retrieval mechanisms

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# Thanks for your attention!

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