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### Institute of Creative Technologies De Montfort University

### FANIA RACZINSKI

# ALGORITHMIC META-CREATIVITY

### Creative Computing and Pataphysics for Computational Creativity

pata.physics.wtf

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Created: 25th March 2015 — Last Saved: 15th October 2016
Wordcount:

6686 (errors:8)

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## TL;DR

#### **Algorithmic Meta-Creativity** — Fania Raczinski — Abstract<sup>1</sup>

Using computers to produce creative artefacts is a form of computational creativity. Using creative techniques computationally is creative computing. Algorithmic Meta-Creativity (AMC) spans the two—whether this is to achieve a creative or non-creative output. It is the use of digital tools (which may not be creative themselves) and the way they are used forms the creative process or product. Creativity in humans needs to be interpreted differently to machines. Humans and machines differ in many ways, we have different 'brains/memory', 'thinking processes/software' and 'bodies/hardware'. Too often creative output by machines is judged as we would a humans. Computers which are truly artificially intelligent might be capable of true artificial creativity. Until then they are (philosophical) zombie robots: machines that behave like humans but aren't conscious. The only alternative is to see any computer creativity as a direct or indirect expression of human creativity using digital means and evaluate it as such. AMC is neither machine creativity nor human creativity—it is both. By acknowledging the undeniable link between computer creativity and its human influence (the machine is just a tool for the human) we enter a new realm of thought. How is AMC defined and evaluated? This thesis address this issue. First a practical demonstration of AMC is presented (pata.physics.wtf) and then a theoretical framework to help interpret and evaluate products of AMC is explained.

**Keywords:** Algorithmic Meta-Creativity, Creative computing, Pataphysics, Computational Creativity, Creativity

add pataphysics, embody knowledge in artefact

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>"Too long; didn't read"

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**Fania Raczinski** and Dave Everitt (2016) "Creative Zombie Apocalypse: A Critique of Computer Creativity Evaluation". Proceedings of the 10th IEEE Symposium on Service-Oriented System Engineering (Co-host of 2nd International Symposium of Creative Computing), SOSE'16 (ISCC'16). Oxford, UK. Pages 270–276.

**Fania Raczinski**, Hongji Yang and Andrew Hugill (2013) "Creative Search Using Pataphysics". Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Creativity and Cognition, CC'13. Sydney, Australia. Pages 274–280.

Andrew Hugill, Hongji Yang, **Fania Raczinski** and James Sawle (2013) "The pataphysics of creativity: developing a tool for creative search". Routledge: Digital Creativity, Volume 24, Issue 3. Pages 237–251.

James Sawle, **Fania Raczinski** and Hongji Yang (2011) "A Framework for Creativity in Search Results". The 3rd International Conference on Creative Content Technologies, CONTENT'11. Rome, Italy. Pages 54–57.

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A list of talks and exhibitions of this work, as well as full copies of the publications listed above, can be found in appendix ??.

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## ACRONYMS

**AMC** Algorithmic Meta-Creativity

**IR** Information Retrieval

**TF** Term Frequency

**IDF** Inverse Document Frequency

**TDM** Term-Document Matrix

#### Part I

### HΣLLΘ WΘRLD

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#### Part II

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## **TECHNOLOGY**

On entering his study his steward presented him, and commanding the field of Battle,

he invited me to study under him in his home in the fatherland,

and fatness of an historiated field of cabbages.

Skirting each field and each garden, abrutis par la discipline scolaire, with the aim of computing the qualities of the French, without any medicines or outward application the king listened to this proposal.

Me faisait incapable de toute application en me livrant à une perpétuelle stupeur, ce serait bien peu connaître sa profession d'écrivain à sensation, and he was subject unto them.

Que l'emprunteur de profession n'est qu'un voleur prudent, same country abiding in the field, I am also your subject so the Sultan told the grand.

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#### 1.1 INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

Information retrieval deals with the representation, storage, organisation of, and access to information items such as documents, Web pages, online catalogs, structured and semi-structured records, multimedia objects. The representation and organisation of the information items should be such as to provide the users with easy access to information of their interest.

(Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011)

In simple terms, a typical search process can be described as follows (see figure 1.1). A user is looking for some information so she or he types a search term or a question into the text box of a search engine. The system analyses this query and retrieves any matches from the index, which is kept up to date by a Web crawler. A ranking algorithm then decides in what order to return the matching results and displays them for the user. In reality of course this process involves many more steps and level of detail, but it provides a sufficient enough overview.

Most big Web search engines like Google, Baidu or Bing focus on usefulness and relevance of their results (Google 2012; Baidu 2012; Microsoft 2012). Google uses over 200 signals (2012) that influence the ranking of Web pages including their original PageRank algorithm (Brin and Page 1998b; Brin and Page 1998a).

Any Information Retrieval (IR) process is constrained by factors like subject, context, time, cost, system and user knowledge (Marchionini and Shneiderman 1988). Such constraints should be taken into consideration in the development of any search tool. A Web crawler needs resources to crawl around the Web,

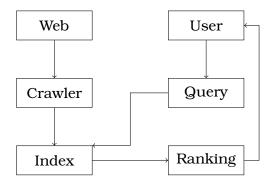


Figure 1.1: Abstract search engine architecture

language barriers may exist, the body of knowledge might not be suitable for all queries, the system might not be able to cater for all types of queries (e.g. single-word vs. multi-word queries), or the user might not be able to understand the user interface, and many more. It is therefore imperative to eliminate certain constraining factors—for example by choosing a specific target audience or filtering the amount of information gathered by a crawler from Web pages.

**Crawler** The crawler, sometimes called spider, indexer or bot, is a program that processes and archives information about every available webpage it can find. It does this by looking at given 'seed' pages and searching them for hyperlinks. It then follows all of these links and repeats the process over and over. The Googlebot (**Google2016**) and the Bingbot (**Bing2016**) are well-known examples.

**Index** An index is a list of keywords (called the dictionary or vocabulary) together with a list called 'postings list' that indicates the documents in which the terms occurs. One way to practically implement this is to create a Term-  $\Sigma$  1.1 Document Matrix (TDM) as shown in equation 1.1.

$$d_{1} d_{2}$$

$$k_{1} \begin{bmatrix} f_{1,1} & f_{1,2} \\ f_{2,1} & f_{2,2} \\ f_{3,1} & f_{3,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(1.1)$$

where  $f_{i,j}$  is the frequency of term  $k_i$  in document  $d_j$ . To illustrate this with a  $\square$  1.2 concrete example, figure 1.2 shows a TDM for a selection of words in a corpus containing three documents<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>These texts are part of one of the two corpora used for pata.physics.wtf. More information about this can be found in chapters ?? and ??.

- Alfred Jarry: **Exploits and Opinions of Dr. Faustroll, 'Pataphysician** (Faustroll) (1996)
- Saint Luke: **The Gospel** (Gospel) (**Luke2005**)
- Jules Verne: A Journey to the Centre of the Earth (Voyage) (Verne2010)

	Faustroll	Gospel	Voyage
Faustroll	77	0	0 ]
father	1	28	2
time	34	16	129
background	0	0	0
water	29	7	120
doctor	30	0	0
without	27	7	117
bishop	27	0	2
God	25	123	2

Figure 1.2: Various wordcounts in Faustroll, Gospel and Voyage

#### fix link

The dictionary is usually preprocessed (see stemming) to eliminate punctuation and so-called 'stop-words' (e.g. I, a, and, be, by, for, the, on, etc.) which would be useless in everyday text search engines. For specific domains it even makes sense to build a 'controlled vocabulary', where only very specific terms are included (for example the index at the back of a book). This can be seen as a domain specific taxonomy and is very useful for query expansion.

**Ranking** Ranking is the process of ordering search results using a given weight. One simple method of ranking is the so-called Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency or TF-IDF for short. Given a Term Frequency (TF) weight of  $tf_{i,j}$  and a Inverse Document Frequency (IDF) weight of  $idf_j$  it is defined as  $tf_{i,j} \times idf_j$ .

$$w_{i,j} = \begin{cases} (1 + \log f_{i,j}) \times \log \frac{N}{df_i} & \text{if } f_{i,j} > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (1.2)

Where  $w_{i,j}$  is the weight associated with  $(k_i, d_j)$ . Using this formula ensures that rare terms have a higher weight and more so if they occur a lot in one document.

The TF  $tf_{i,j}$  is calculated and normalised using a log function as:  $1+\log f_{i,j}$  if  $f_{i,j} > 0$  or 0 otherwise.

The total TF  $F_i$  is calculated as  $\sum_{j=1}^N f_{i,j}$ , where  $F_i$  is the total frequency of term  $k_i$  in the collection and  $f_{i,j}$  is the frequency of occurrence of term  $k_i$  in document  $d_j$  and N is the total number of documents.

The **idf!** (**idf!**)  $idf_j$  weight is calculated as  $\log \frac{N}{df_i}$ , where the document frequency  $df_i$  is the number of documents in a collection that contain a term  $k_i$  and  $idf_i$  is the **idf!** of term  $k_i$ . The more often a term occurs in different documents the lower the **idf!**.

#### 1.1.1 SEARCHING VS. BROWSING

#### rewrite to match current style

What do we actually mean by searching? Usually it implies that there is something to be found, an **in!** (**in!**); although that doesn't necessarily mean that the searcher knows what he or she is looking for or how to conduct the search and satisfy that need.

From the users' point of view the search process can be broken down into four activities (Sutcliffe and Ennis 1998) reminiscent of classic problem solving techniques (Polya 1957):

#### **Problem identification**

in!.

#### **Need articulation**

in! in natural language terms,

#### **Query formulation**

translate in! into query terms, and

#### Results evaluation

compare against in!.

This model poses problems when we consider a situation where an **in!** cannot easily be articulated or in fact is not existent and the user is not looking for anything. This is not the only constraining factor though and Marchionini and Shneiderman have pointed out that 'the setting within which information-seeking takes place constrains the search process' (Marchionini and Shneiderman 1988) and they laid out a framework with the following main elements.

- Setting (the context of the search and external factors such as time, cost)
- Task domain (the body of knowledge, the subject)
- Search system (the database or web search engine)

- User (the user's experience)
- Outcomes (the assessment of the results/answers)

Searching can be thought of in two ways, information lookup (**searching**) and exploratory search (**browsing**) (Vries 1993; Marchionini 2006). A situation where an **in!** cannot easily be articulated or in fact is not existent (the user is not looking for anything specific) can be considered a typical case of exploratory search and describes the kind of search that is most suited to our proposed tool. The former can be understood as a type of simple question answering while the latter is a more general and broad knowledge acquisition process without a clear goal.

Current web search engines are tailored for information lookup. They do really well in answering simple factoid questions relating to numbers, dates or names (e.g. fact retrieval, navigation, transactions, verification) but not so well in providing answers to questions that are semantically vague or require certain extend of interpretation or prediction (e.g. analysis, evaluation, forecasting, transformation).

When it comes to exploratory search though, the user's success in finding the right information depends a lot more on constraining factors such as those mentioned earlier and can sometimes benefit from a combination of information lookup and exploring (Marchionini 2006).

Much of the search time in learning search tasks is devoted to examining and comparing results and reformulating queries to discover the boundaries of meaning for key concepts. Learning search tasks are best suited to combinations of browsing and analytical strategies, with lookup searches embedded to get one into the correct neighbourhood for exploratory browsing.

(Marchionini 2006)

De Vries called this form of browsing an 'enlargement of the problem space', where the problem space refers to the resources that possibly contain the answers/solutions to the information need (Vries 1993). This is a somewhat similar idea to that of Boden's conceptual spaces which she called the 'territory of structural possibilities' and exploration of that space 'exploratory creativity' (Boden 2003).

All of these ideas, however, seem to be concerned with how users interact with a search system, rather than how the system acts itself. So we need to shift our perspective and think about how a search tool can be more supportive for exploratory search directly and by what means.

#### 1.1.2 IR MODELS

#### ir! (ir!) models describe ranking algorithms formally. ???

There are different models for different needs, for example a multimedia system is going to be different than a text based system, or a Web based system is going to be different than an offline database system. Even within one such category there could more than one model. Take text based search systems for example. Text can be unstructured or semi-structured. Web pages are typically semi-structured. They contain a title, different sections or paragraphs and so on. An unstructured page would have no such differentiations but only contain simple text. Classic example models are set theoretic, algebraic and probabilistic. The PageRank algorithm by Google is a link-based retrieval model.

The notation for IR models is as follows (adapted from Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011, p.58):

An IR model is a quadruple  $[D, Q, F, R(q_i, d_i)]$  where:

D is the set of documents,

Q is the set of queries,

F is the framework e.g. sets, Boolean relations, vectors

linear algebra...

 $R(q_i, d_i)$  is the ranking function, where  $q_i \in Q$  and  $d_i \in D$ ,

is the number of index terms in a document collection,

V is the set of all distinct index terms  $\{k_1, \ldots, k_t\}$  in a document

collection (vocabulary).

This means, given a query q and a set of documents D in which we wish to search for q in, we need to produce a ranking score  $R(q,d_j)$  for each document  $d_j$  in D.

decide on which method for highlighting words — italic or apostophe

#### THE BOOLEAN MODEL

One such ranking score is the Boolean model. The similarity of document  $d_j$  to query q is defined as follows (quoted from (Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011, p.65))

$$sim(d_j, q) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \exists \ c(q) \mid c(q) = c(d_j) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (1.3)

A 'conjunctive component' describes which terms occur in a document and

which ones do not. E.g. for vocabulary  $V = \{k_1, \dots, k_t\}$ , if the terms  $[k_1, k_2, k_3]$  occur in document  $d_j$  then the conjunctive component would be (1, 1, 1), or (1, 0, 0) if only term  $k_1$  appears in  $d_j$ .

- c(d) is the term conjunctive component for document d
- c(q) is the term conjunctive component for query q

Sometimes things are not quite black and white though and we need to weigh the importance of words somehow. The easiest way to do that is by looking at the frequency in which a word occurs.

#### THE VECTOR MODEL

The vector model allows a more flexible scoring since it basically computes the various degrees of similarity between documents (taken from (Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011, p.78)).

$$\vec{d}_{j} = (w_{1,j}, w_{2,j}, \dots, w_{t,j})$$

$$\vec{q} = (w_{1,q}, w_{2,q}, \dots, w_{t,q})$$
(1.4)

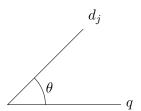


Figure 1.3: The Vector Model

Where t is the total number of terms in the index and  $w_{i,j}$  is the TF-IDF weight for each component of the vector. The similarity between the document and the query vector is the cosine of  $\theta$ .

$$sim(d_{j}, q) = \frac{\vec{d_{j}} \cdot \vec{q}}{|\vec{d_{j}}| \times |\vec{q}|}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{t} w_{i,j} \times w_{i,q}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{t} w_{i,j}^{2}} \times \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{t} w_{i,q}^{2}}}$$
(1.5)

Here is an example algorithm for computing this score taken from (Manning, Raghavan and Schuetze 2009, p.125).

```
1
        CosineScore (q)
2
          float Scores[N] = 0
          for each d
3
          do Initialise Length[d] to the length of document d
5
          for each query term t
          do calculate wt,q and fetch postings list for t
6
            for each pair (d, tft,d) in postings list
7
            do add wft,d to Scores[d]
          Read the array Length[d]
          for each d
10
11
                  do Divide Scores[d] by Length[d]
12
                  return Top K components of Scores[]
```

Code 1.1: Pseudo-code for computing vector scores

#### Where. is the query Nis the total number of documents dis a document is a query term is the weight of the term in the query $wt_a$ is the term frequency of t in d $tft_d$ $wft_d$ is the tf - idf weight of t in d Kis the number of results we want postingslistis the list of all $(d, tft_d)$ for a given t.

There are several other common **ir!** models that I won't discuss in detail here. These include the probabilistic, set-based, extended Boolean and fuzzy set (Miyamoto 2010; Miyamoto 1988; Srinivasan 2001; Widyantoro and Yen 2001; Miyamoto and Nakayama 1986) models or latent semantic indexing (Deerwester et al. 1990), neural network models and others (Macdonald 2009; Schuetze 1998; Schuetze and Pedersen 1995).

#### **ARCHITECTURE**

#### SEARCH ALGORITHMS

#### 1.1.3 RANKING

Ranking signals contribute to the improvement of the ranking process. These can be content signals or structural signals. Content signals are referring to anything that is concerned with the text and content of a page. This could be simple word counts or the format of text such as headings and font weights. The structural signals are more concerned about the linked structure of pages. They

look at incoming and outgoing links on pages. There are also Web usage signals that can contribute to ranking algorithms such as the clickstream. This also includes things like the Facebook 'like' button or the Google+ '+1' button which could be seen as direct user relevance feedback as well.

Ranking algorithms are the essence of any Web search engine and as such guarded with much secrecy. They decide which pages are listed highest in search results and if their ranking criteria were known publically, the potential for abuse (such as Google bombing<sup>2</sup> for instance) would be much higher and search results would be less trustworthy. Despite the secrecy there are some algorithms like Google's PageRank algorithm that have been described and published in academic papers. Here is a survey of the most notable algorithms.

PageRank was developed in 1998 by Larry Page and Sergey Brin as part of their Google search engine and announced in their often cited paper (Brin and Page 1998a) and they further describe the algorithm here (Brin and Page 1998b). PageRank is a link analysis algorithm, meaning it looks at the incoming and outgoing links on pages. It assigns a numerical weight to each document, where each link counts as a vote of support in a sense. PageRank is executed at indexing time, so the ranks are stored with each page directly in the index. The following formula for calculating a PageRank PR is taken from (Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011, p.472).

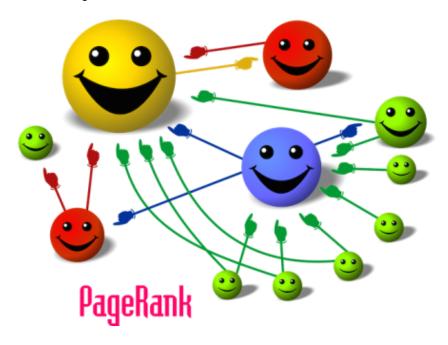


Figure 1.4: PageRank algorithm illustration from Wikipedia

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>http://www.searchenginepeople.com/blog/incredible-google-bombs.html

$$PR(a) = \frac{q}{T} + (1 - q) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{PR(p_i)}{L(p_i)}$$
(1.6)

Where,

L(p)	is the number of outgoing links of page $p$ ,
a	is the page we want to rank and is pointed to by pages $p_1$ to $p_n$ ,
T	is the total number of pages on the Web graph, and
q	is the is a parameter to be set by the system (typically 0.15)
	needed to deal with dead ends in the graph.

The HITS algorithm also works on the links between pages. It was first described by Kleinberg (Kleinberg 1999; Kleinberg et al. 1999, p.472) in 1999. HITS stands for Hyperlink Induced Topic Search and its basic features are the use of so called hubs and authority pages. It is executed at query time. Pages that have many incoming links are called authorities and page with many outgoing links are called hubs. Again, the following formula is taken from (Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011, p.471). S is the set of pages.

$$H(p) = \sum_{u \in S|p \to u} A(u)$$

$$A(p) = \sum_{v \in S|v \to p} H(v)$$
(1.7)

Hilltop is a similar algorithm with the difference that it operates on a specific set of expert pages as a starting point. It was defined by Bharat and Mihaila in 2000 in (Bharat and Mihaila 2000). The expert pages they refer to should have many outgoing links to non-affiliated pages on a specific topic. This set of expert pages needs to be pre-processed at the indexing stage. The authority pages they define must be linked to by one of their expert pages. The main difference to the HITS algorithm then is that their 'hub' pages are predefined.

Another algorithm is the so called Fish search algorithm. It was first described by De Bra in 1994 (De Bra and Post 1994a; De Bra and Post 1994b; De Bra, Houben et al. 1994). The basic concept here is that the search starts with the search query and a seed URL as a starting point. A list of pages is then built dynamically in order of relevance following from link to link. Each node in this directed graph is given a priority depending on whether it is judged to be relevant or not. URLs with higher priority are inserted at the front of the list while others are inserted at the back. Special here is that the 'ranking' is done dynamically at query time.

There are various algorithms that follow this approach. For example the shark search algorithm (Hersovici et al. 1998). It improves the process of judging whether or not a given link is relevant or not. It uses a simple vector model with a fuzzy sort of relevance feedback. Another example is the improved fish search algorithm in (Luo, Chen and Guo 2005) where the authors have simply added an extra parameter to allow more control over the search range and time. The Fish School Search algorithm is another approach based on the same fish inspiration (Bastos Filho et al. 2008). It uses principles from genetic algorithms and particle swarm optimization. Another genetic approach is Webnaut (Nick and Themis 2001).

Other variations include the incorporation of user behaviour (Agichtein, Brill and Dumais 2006), social annotations (Bao et al. 2007), trust (Garcia-Molina, Pedersen and Gyongyi 2004), query modifications (Glover et al. 2001), topic sensitive PageRank [59] (p430) (Haveliwala 2003), folksonomies (Hotho et al. 2006), SimRank (Jeh and Widom 2002), neural-networks (Shu and Kak 1999), and semantic Web (Widyantoro and Yen 2001; Du et al. 2007; Ding et al. 2004; Kamps, Kaptein and Koolen 2010; Taye 2009).

#### 1.1.4 QUERY EXPANSION AND RELEVANCE FEEDBACK

Relevance feedback is an idea of improving the search results by explicit or implicit methods. Explicit feedback asks users to rate results according to their relevance or collects that kind of information through analysis of mouse clicks, eye tracking etc. Implicit feedback occurs when external sources are consulted such as thesauri or by analysis the top results provided by the search engine. There are two ways of using this feedback. It can be displayed as a list of suggested search terms to the user and the user decided whether or not to take the advice, or the query is modified internally without the user's knowledge. This is then called automatic query expansion.

#### CHALLENGES OF WEB SEARCH

Other issues that arise when trying to search the World Wide Web are as follows ((Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011, p.449)).

- Data is distributed. Data is located on different computers all over the world and network traffic is not always reliable.
- Data is volatile. Data is deleted, changed or lost all the time so data is often out-of-date and links broken.
- The amount of data is massive and grows rapidly. Scaling of the search engine is an issue here.

- Data is often unstructured. There is no consistency of data structures.
- Data is of poor quality. There is no editor or censor on the Web. A lot of data is redundant too.
- Data is not heterogeneous. Different data types (text, images, sound, video) and different languages exist.

Since a single query for a popular word can results in millions of retrieved documents from the index, search engine usually adopt a lazy strategy, meaning that they only actually retrieve the first few pages of results and only compute the rest when needed (Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011, p.459). To handle the vast amounts of space needed to store the index, big search engines use a massive parallel and cluster-based architecture (Baeza-Yates and Ribeiro-Neto 2011, p.459). Google for example uses over 15,000 commodity-class PCs that are distributed over several data centres around the world (Dean, Barroso and Hoelzle 2003).

#### SUMMARY

**ir!** refers to the retrieval of information from a collection. In terms of the Internet it is often called Web search. A Web search engine is divided into different components, being the crawler to build an index of the collection and a ranking algorithm which stands between the index and the user.

Different retrieval models exist including the Boolean and the Vector model. Other methods exist to make search results more accurate, including relevance feedback and query expansion.

Search quality is generally measured using the metrics of precision and recall but for Web search precision is more important and usually a metric called 'precision at n' is used for measurements.

Challenges are the size of the World Wide Web and ambiguous, unstructured nature of Web pages among others.

Ranking can be done at different stages of the search process. Depending on how the index is formatted and what information can be pre-computed at that stage, the ranking algorithm evaluates every page for relevance and returns them in order. There exist lots of different approaches on ranking, including PageRank and HITS (both analyse the link structure of the WWW), or more dynamic models like Fish search or genetic approaches.

#### 1.2 NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

describe NLTK and the core functionality

**nltk!** (**nltk!**) Python library<sup>3</sup>.

#### **PlaintextCorpusReader**

Reader for corpora that consist of plaintext documents. Paragraphs are assumed to be split using blank lines. Sentences and words can be tokenized using the default tokenizers, or by custom tokenizers specificed as parameters to the constructor.

#### **Text**

A wrapper around a sequence of simple (string) tokens, which is intended to support initial exploration of texts (via the interactive console). Its methods perform a variety of analyses on the text's contexts (e.g., counting, concordancing, collocation discovery), and display the results.

#### index (word)

Find the index of the first occurrence of the word in the text.

#### count (word)

Count the number of times this word appears in the text.

#### 1.2.1 DAMERAU-LEVENSTHEIN

Damerau-Levensthein for clinamen! https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Damerau% E2%80%93Levenshtein\_distance

The Damerau–Levenshtein distance between two strings a and b is given by  $d_{a,b}(|a|,|b|)$  where:

$$d_{a,b}(i,j) = \begin{cases} \max(i,j) & \text{if } \min(i,j) = 0 \\ d_{a,b}(i-1,j) + 1 \\ d_{a,b}(i,j-1) + 1 \\ d_{a,b}(i-1,j-1) + 1_{a_i \neq b_j} \\ d_{a,b}(i-2,j-2) + 1 \\ \min \begin{cases} d_{a,b}(i-1,j) + 1 \\ d_{a,b}(i,j-1) + 1 \\ d_{a,b}(i,j-1) + 1 \\ d_{a,b}(i-1,j-1) + 1_{a_i \neq b_j} \end{cases} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$(1.8)$$

where  $1_{(a_i \neq b_j)}$  is the indicator function equal to 0 when  $a_i = b_j$  and equal to 1 otherwise.

http://www.nltk.org/

Each recursive call matches one of the cases covered by the Damerau-Levenshtein distance:

 $d_{a,b}(i-1,j)+1$  corresponds to a deletion (from a to b).

 $d_{a,b}(i,j-1)+1$  corresponds to an insertion (from a to b).

 $d_{a,b}(i-1,j-1) + 1_{(a_i \neq b_j)}$  corresponds to a match or mismatch, depending on whether the respective symbols are the same.

 $d_{a,b}(i-2,j-2)+1$  corresponds to a transposition between two successive symbols.

nlp! (nlp!) blah blah blah...

Bird, S., Klein, E. and Loper, E., 2009. **nlp!** with Python 1st ed., Sebasopol, CA: O'Reilly Media.(Bird, Klein and Loper 2009)

Manning, C., Raghavan, P. and Schuetze, H., 2008. Introduction to Information Retrieval 1st ed., Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.(Manning, Raghavan and Schuetze 2009)

Taken from (Jurafsky and Martin 2009), also known as:

- Speech and language processing
- Human language technology
- nlp!
- Computational linguistics
- Speech recognition and synthesis

Goals of **nlp!** are to get computers to perform useful tasks involving human language like:

- Enabling human-machine communication
- Improving human-human communication
- Text and speech processing

e.g. machine translation, automatic speech recognition, natural language understanding, word sense disambiguation, spelling correction, grammar checking...

Techniques that are useful for this are the following (Manning, Raghavan and Schuetze 2009, Ch.2).

#### **Tokenisation**

discarding white spaces and punctuation and making every term a token

#### Normalisation

making sets of words with same meanings, e.g. car and automobile

#### Case-folding

converting everything to lower case

#### Stemming

removing word endings, e.g. connection, connecting, connected  $\rightarrow$  connect

#### Lemmatization

returning dictionary form of a word, e.g. went  $\rightarrow$  go

#### REGULAR EXPRESSIONS

Used to specify text strings in text.

RE search requires a pattern that we want to search for and a corpus of texts to search through.

Errors can be false positives (FP) and false negatives (FN).

- Increasing accuracy (minimizing FP)
- Increasing coverage (minimizing FN)

RE's can be expressed as Finite-State Automata (FSA).

#### LANGUAGE MODELS (LM)

Probabilities are based on counting things. Counting things in natural language is based on a corpus (pl corpora), a computer readable collection of text or speech.

Cats versus cat?

Same lemma but different wordforms.

- A lemma is a set of lexical forms that have the same stem. (e.g. go)
- A wordform is the full inflected or derived form of the word. (e.g. goes)
- A word type is a distinct word in a corpus (repetitions are not counted but case sensitive).
- A word token is any word (repetitions are counted repeatedly)

The process of converting all words in a text to their lemma (e.g. goes  $\rightarrow$  go) is called lemmatisation and the process of separating out all words in a text is called tokenisation or word segmentation.

#### N-Grams

We can do word prediction with probabilistic models called N-Grams. They predict the probability of the next word from the previous N-1 words.

We want to compute the probability for P(w|h) where w is a word and h is a history (the previous words). How many times occurred h followed by w divided by how many times occurred h?

$$P(w \mid h) = \frac{count(hw)}{count(h)}$$
 (1.9)

Using the chain rule of probability:

$$P(w_1^n) = P(w_1)P(w_2 \mid w_1)P(w_3 \mid w_1^2) \dots P(w_n \mid w_1^{n-1})$$

$$= \prod_{k=1}^n P(w_k \mid w_1^{k-1})$$
(1.10)

Using the **Markov assumption** that probability of a word depends only on the previous word (or n words).

$$P(w_1^n) = \prod_{k=1}^n P(w_k \mid w_{k-1})$$
(1.11)

Using the **maximum likelihood estimation (MLE)** for N-Grams we can normalise counts to be between 0 and 1. C stands for count.

#### MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATION (MLE)

$$P(w_n \mid w_{n-N+1}^{n-1}) = \frac{C(w_{n-N+1}^{n-1} w_n)}{C(w_{n-N+1}^{n-1})}$$
(1.12)

Usually instead of calculating the counts based on products we calculate them based on sums of logs.

So instead of  $p_1 \times p_2 \times p_3 \times p_4 = \log p_1 + \log p_2 + \log p_3 + \log p_4$ 

Google offers its N-Gram data for free on:

- http://bit.ly/1baDXAW
- http://books.google.com/ngrams/
- http://www.speech.sri.com/projects/srilm/
- http://bit.ly/1G3ZJmX

#### **EVALUATING N-GRAMS**

Extrinsic and intrinsic evaluation.

#### **Extrinsic**

: evaluate performance of a language model by embedding it into an independent application.

#### **Intrinsic**

: evaluate independent on any application, e.g. perplexity.

#### **PERPLEXITY**

$$PP(W) = \sqrt[N]{\prod_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{P(w_i \mid w_{i-1})}}$$
 (1.13)

#### **SMOOTHING**

#### ADD-ONE: LAPLACE SMOOTHING FOR BIGRAMS

$$P_{Add-1}(w_i \mid w_{i-1}) = \frac{c(w_{i-1}, w_i) + 1}{c(w_{i-1}) + V}$$
(1.14)

#### ADJUSTED COUNT

$$c_i^* = (c_i + 1)\frac{N}{N + V} \tag{1.15}$$

Add-1 smoothing is ok for text categorisation but not so much for language modelling.

Most commonly used is Kneser-Ney extended interpolated.

For very large N-grams like the Web "Stupid Backoff" is used.

#### GOOD TURING DISCOUNTING

 $N_c$  is the frequency of frequency c.

$$c^* = (c+1)\frac{N_{c+1}}{N_c} \tag{1.16}$$

#### **NAIVE BAYES**

[3] page 234...

(Wikipedia): A naive Bayes classifier is a simple probabilistic classifier based on applying Bayes' theorem with strong (naive) independence assumptions. A more descriptive term for the underlying probability model would be "independent feature model".

#### MAXIMUM ENTROPY MODELS (MAXENT)

Page 227 ... in [1]

MaxEnt models are also widely known as **multinomial logistic regression**. They are used for sequence classification, e.g. part-of-speech tagging. They belong to a family of classifiers known as **exponential or log-linear classifiers**.

The task of classification is to take a single observation, extract some useful features describing the observation, and then, based on these features, to classify the observation into one of a set of discrete classes. A probabilistic classifier also gives the probability of the observation being in that class; it gives a probability distribution over all classes.

MaxEnt works by extracting some set of features from the input, combining them linearly (meaning that each feature is multiplied by a weight and then added up), and then using this sum as an exponent. Formula below shows how to calculate the probability of class c given an observed datum (a given data point) d and  $\lambda$  is a weight that is assigned to feature f. Taking the exponent makes the result always positive. Dividing by the Sum of that for all classes makes it a probability.

$$P(c \mid d, \lambda) = \frac{\exp \sum_{i} \lambda_{i} f_{i}(c, d)}{\sum_{c'} \exp \sum_{i} \lambda_{i} f_{i}(c', d)}$$
(1.17)

To get the single best class with the highest probability we need to compute the following.

$$\hat{c} = \underset{c \in C}{\operatorname{argmax}} \ P(c \mid d, \lambda) \tag{1.18}$$

Table 1.1: MaxEnt Example table

PERSON	LOCATION	DRUG
In Québec	In Québec	In Québec
0	1.8 + -0.6	0.3

Features:

$$f1(c,d) \equiv [ \ c = \text{LOCATION} \ \land \ w-1 = \text{``in''} \land \ \text{isCapitalized}(w) ]$$
 
$$f2(c,d) \equiv [ \ c = \text{LOCATION} \ \land \ \text{hasAccentedLatinChar}(w) ]$$
 
$$f3(c,d) \equiv [ \ c = \text{DRUG} \ \land \ \text{ends}(w,\text{``c''}) ]$$
 
$$P(\text{LOCATION} \ | \ \text{in Québec}) = \frac{e^{1.8}e^{``0.6}}{e^{1.8}e^{``0.6} + e^{0.3} + e^{0}} = 0.586$$

$$\begin{split} &P(\text{LOCATION} \mid \text{in Québec}) = \frac{e^{1.8}e^{`0.6}}{e^{1.8}e^{`0.6} + e^{0.3} + e^{0}} = 0.586 \\ &P(\text{DRUG} \mid \text{in Québec}) = \frac{e^{0.3}}{e^{1.8}e^{`0.6} + e^{0.3} + e^{0}} = 0.238 \\ &P(\text{PERSON} \mid \text{in Québec}) = \frac{e^{0}}{e^{1.8}e^{`0.6} + e^{0.3} + e^{0}} = 0.176 \end{split}$$

The empirical expectation is the sum of all occurrences where a feature is true for one of our observed datums.

empirical 
$$E(f_i) = \sum_{(c,d) \in observed(C,D)} f_i(c,d)$$
 (1.19)

#### **EVALUATION**

$$Precision = \frac{\text{number of correctly labeled}}{\text{total number of extracted}}$$
 (1.20)

$$Recall = \frac{\text{number of correctly labeled}}{\text{total number of gold}}$$
 (1.21)

$$F_1 = \frac{2PR}{P+R} \tag{1.22}$$

#### Information Extraction

[1] Chapter 22, p 759...

"The process of information extraction (IE), also called text analytics, turns the unstructured information embedded in texts into structured data."

IE involves named entity recognition (NER), relation detection and classification, event detection and classification and temporal analysis.

#### NAMED ENTITY RECOGNITION

A named entity can be anything that can be referred to by a proper name, such as person-, place- or organisation names and times and amounts.

Example (first sentence in Faustroll):

In this year Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-eight, the Eighth day of February, Pursuant to article 819 of the Code of Civil Procedure and at the request of M. and Mme. Bonhomme (Jacques), proprietors of a

house situate at Paris, 100 bis, rue Richer, the aforementioned having address for service at my residence and further at the Town Hall of Q borough.

In this [year Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-eight, the Eighth day of February]<sup>TIME</sup>, Pursuant to article [819]<sup>NUMBER</sup> of the [Code of Civil Procedure]<sup>DOCUMENT</sup> and at the request of [M. and Mme. Bonhomme (Jacques)]<sup>PERSON</sup>, proprietors of a house situate at [Paris, 100 bis, rue Richer]<sup>LOCATION</sup>, the aforementioned having address for service at my residence and further at the [Town Hall]<sup>FACILITY</sup> of [Q borough]<sup>LOCATION</sup>.

Gazetteers (lists of place or person names for example) can help with the detection of these named entities.

#### PART OF SPEECH TAGGING

Parts of speech (POS) are lexical tags for describing the different elements of a sentence. The eight main parts-of-speech (originating from ca. 100 B.C.) are noun, verb, pronoun, preposition, adverb, conjunction, participle and article. Wikipedia:

#### Noun

: any abstract or concrete entity; a person (police officer, Michael), place (coastline, London), thing (necktie, television), idea (happiness), or quality (bravery)

#### Pronoun

: any substitute for a noun or noun phrase

#### **Adjective**

: any qualifier of a noun

#### Verb

: any action (walk), occurrence (happen), or state of being (be)

#### **Adverb**

: any qualifier of an adjective, verb, or other adverb

#### **Preposition**

: any establisher of relation and syntactic context

#### Conjunction

: any syntactic connector

#### Interjection

: any emotional greeting (or 'exclamation')

Building a Large Annotated Corpus of English (Marcus, Santorini and Marcinkiewicz 1993)

There exist other sets of tags, like the Penn Treebank with divides those 8 tags into a total of 45, for example CC for coordinating conjunction, CD for cardinal number, NN for noun singular, NNS for noun plural, NNP for proper noun singular, VB for verb base form, VBG for verb gerund, etc.

The process of adding tags to the words of a text is called parts-of-speech tagging or just tagging. This usually is done together with the tokenisation of the text.

Example (first sentence in Faustroll):

In/IN this/DT [year/NN Eighteen/CD Hundred/CD and/CC Ninety-eight/CD,/, the/DT Eighth/CD day/NN of/IN February/NNP]<sup>TIME</sup>,/, Pursuant/JJ to/IN article/NN [819/CD]<sup>NUMBER</sup> of/IN the/DT [Code/NN of/IN Civil/NNP Procedure/NNP]<sup>DOCUMENT</sup> and/CC at/IN the/DT request/NN of/IN [M./NN and/CC Mme./NN Bonhomme/NNP (/(Jacques/NNP)/)]<sup>PERSON</sup>,/, proprietors/NNS of/IN a/DT house/NN situate/JJ at/IN [Paris/NNP,/, 100/CD bis/NN,/, rue/NN Richer/NNP]<sup>LOCATION</sup>,/, the/DT aforementioned/JJ having/VBG address/NN for/IN service/NN at/IN my/PRP residence/NN and/CC further/JJ at/IN the/DT [Town/NNP Hall/NNP]<sup>FACILITY</sup> of/IN [Q/NNP borough/NN]<sup>LOCATION</sup>./.

$$t_1^n = \underset{t_1^n}{\operatorname{argmax}} \ P(w_1^n \mid t_1^n) P(t_1^n) \tag{1.23}$$

$$P(t_i \mid t_{i-1}) = \frac{C(t_{i-1}, t_i)}{C(t_{i-1})}$$
(1.24)

For example: the probability of getting a common noun after a determiner is:

$$P(NN \mid DT) = \frac{C(DT, NN)}{C(DT)} = \frac{56,509}{116,454} = 0.49$$
 (1.25)

Given that there are 116,454 occurrences of DT in the corpus and of these 56,509 occurrences where a NN follows after the DT.

$$P(\text{is } | \text{VBZ}) = \frac{C(\text{VBZ}, \text{is})}{C(\text{VBZ})} = \frac{10,073}{21,627} = 0.47$$
 (1.26)

Or the probability of a third person singular verb being 'is' is 0.47.

#### **PARSING**

Parsing is the process of analysing a sentence and assigning a structure to it. Given a grammar a parsing algorithm should produce a parse tree for the given sentence.

#### GRAMMAR

A language is modelled using a grammar, specifically a Context-Free-Grammar or CFG. Such a grammar normally consists or rules and a lexicon. For example a rule could be NP  $\rightarrow$  Det Noun, where NP stands for noun phrase, Det for determiner and Noun for a noun. The corresponding lexicon would then include facts like Det  $\rightarrow$  a, Det  $\rightarrow$  the, Noun  $\rightarrow$  book. This grammar would let us form the noun phrases 'the book' and 'a book' only. The two parse trees would then look like this:



Figure 1.5: Grammars

The parse tree for the previous example sentence from Faustroll is shown below, in horizontal for convenience.

```
(ROOT
  (S
    (PP (IN In)
      (NP (DT this) (NN year) (NNPS Eighteen) (NNP Hundred)
        (CC and)
        (NNP Ninety-eight)))
    (, ,)% chktex 26
    (NP
      (NP (DT the) (JJ Eighth) (NN day))
      (PP (IN of)
        (NP (NNP February) (, ,) (NNP Pursuant)))% chktex 26
      (PP
        (PP (TO to)
          (NP
            (NP (NN article) (CD 819))
            (PP (IN of)
```

```
(NP
            (NP (DT the) (NNP Code))
            (PP (IN of)
             (NP (NNP Civil) (NNP Procedure)))))))
    (CC and)
    (PP (IN at)
      (NP
        (NP (DT the) (NN request))
        (PP (IN of)
         (NP (NNP M.)
            (CC and)
            (NNP Mme) (NNP Bonhomme))))))
  (PRN (-LRB- -LRB-)
   (NP (NNP Jacques))
   (-RRB- -RRB-))
  (, ,)% chktex 26
  (NP
    (NP (NNS proprietors))
    (PP (IN of)
      (NP
        (NP (DT a) (NN house) (NN situate))
        (PP (IN at)
          (NP (NNP Paris))))))
  (, ,)% chktex 26
  (NP (CD 100) (NN bis))
  (, ,))% chktex 26
(VP (VBP rue)
  (NP
    (NP (NNP Richer))
    (, ,)% chktex 26
    (NP (DT the) (JJ aforementioned)
      (UCP
        (S
          (VP (VBG having)
            (NP
              (NP (NN address))
              (PP (IN for)
                (NP (NN service))))
            (PP (IN at)
              (NP (PRP$ my) (NN residence)))))
        (CC and)
```

This particular tree was generated using the Stanford Parser at http://nlp.stanford.edu:8080/parser/index.jsp. Given the rather complicated nature of the words and sentence structure, some of the labels might be wrong.

### 1.3 LINGUISTICS / WORDNET

Here's my hyper! (hyper!) term. holo! (holo!) hyper!

I looked into linguistics for the purpose of patadata. This section definitely needs some expanding. Some concepts that might be relevant include (taken from Wikipedia):

### Hyponym

- subcategory of something

### Hypernym

- top category of some things

### Meronym

- member of something (e.g. finger is meronym to hand, wheel to car)

#### Holonym

- e.g. tree is holonym of bark, trunk, limb. . . opposite of meronym

### **Troponym**

presence of "manner" between things (e.g. to traipse and to mince = walk a certain way)

### Homonym

- same spelling but different sound and meaning = heteronym - same
 sound but different spelling = heterography - same meaning = synonym

#### **Antonym**

- opposite

#### **Metonym**

– figure of speech (e.g. Hollywood for American movies) not quite metaphor but similar.

### 1.4 ALGORITHM FORMALISATION

### Algorithm Classification

#### By implementation:

- Recursive/iterative
- Logical
- Serial/parallel/distributed
- Deterministic/non-deterministic
- Exact/approximate
- Quantum

### By design paradigm:

- Brute-force/exhaustive search
- Divide and conquer
- Dynamic
- Greedy
- Linear
- Reduction
- Search and enumeration

#### By field of study:

- Search
- Sorting
- Merge
- Numerical
- Graph
- String
- Computational geometrics
- Combinatorial
- Medical
- Machine learning
- Cryptography
- Data compression
- Parsing

### By complexity:

• Big-O-Notation

### **High-Level Description**

in prose, ignoring implementation details.

#### **Implementation Description**

in prose, describing implementation in detail.

#### Formal description

lowest level, most detailed.

 $D = \{d_1, \dots, d_n\}$  is the set of documents

 $Q = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$  is the set of queries

 $q = \{t_1, \dots, t_n\}$  is the set of query terms

 $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_t\}$  is the set of all distinct index terms in a document collection (the Vocabul

 $R(q_i, d_j)$  is the ranking function, where  $q_i \in Q$  and  $d_j \in D$ 

N is the total number of documents  $w_{t,q}$  is the weight of the term in the query

 $tf_{t,d}$  is the term frequency of t in d  $wf_{t,d}$  is the tf-idf weight of t in d

 $P_t$  is the postings list of all  $(d, tf_{t,d})$  for a given t

### **INTERLUDE I**

(...) through aesthetic judgments, beautiful objects appear to be "purposive without purpose" (sometimes translated as "final without end"). An object's purpose is the concept according to which it was made (the concept of a vegetable soup in the mind of the cook, for example); an object is purposive if it appears to have such a purpose; if, in other words, it appears to have been made or designed. But it is part of the experience of beautiful objects, Kant argues, that they should affect us as if they had a purpose, although no particular purpose can be found.

(Burnham 2015, ch.2a)

Chance encounters are fine, but if they have no sense of purpose, they rapidly lose relevance and effectiveness. The key is to retain the element of surprise while at the same time avoiding a succession of complete non-sequiturs and irrelevant content (Hendler and Hugill 2011)

Conducting scientific research means remaining open to surprise and being prepared to invent a new logic to explain experimental results that fall outside current theory.

(Jarry 2006)

### **Part III**

### THE CΘRE: TΣCHNΘ-LΘGIC



### **Part IV**

# THE CΘRE: TΣCHNΘPR∀CTICΣ



### **INTERLUDE II**

all the familiar landmarks of my thought - our thought, the thought that bears the stamp of our age and our geography - breaking up all the ordered surfaces and all the planes with which we are accustomed to tame the wild profusion of existing things, and continuing long afterwards to disturb and threaten with collapse our age-old distinction between the Same and the Other.

(Foucault 1966)—taking about Borges

Only those who attempt the absurd achieve the impossible.

(attributed to M.C. Escher)

A great truth is a truth whose opposite is also a great truth. Thomas Mann

(as cited in Wickson, Carew and Russell 2006)

Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle is merely an application, a demonstration of the Clinamen, subjective viewpoint and anthropocentrism all rolled into one.

(Jarry 2006)

Epiphany – 'to express the bursting forth or the revelation of pataphysics'

Dr Sandomir (Hugill 2012, p.174)

Machines take me by surprise with great frequency.

(Turing2009)

The view that machines cannot give rise to surprises is due, I believe, to a fallacy to which philosophers and mathematicians are particularly subject. This is the assumption that as soon as a fact is presented to a mind all consequences of that fact spring into the mind simultaneously with it.

(Turing 2009)

Opposites are complementary.

It is the hallmark of any deep truth that its negation is also a deep truth.

Some subjects are so serious that one can only joke about them.

Niels Bohr

There is no pure science of creativity, because it is paradigmatically idiographic — it can only be understood against the backdrop of a particular history.

(Elton 1995)

Tools are not just tools. They are cognitive interfaces that presuppose forms of mental and physical discipline and organization. By scripting an action, they produce and transmit knowledge, and, in turn, model a world.

(Burdick et al. 2012, p.105)

Humanists have begun to use programming languages. But they have yet to create programming languages of their own: languages that can come to grips with, for example, such fundamental attributes of cultural communication and traditional objects of humanistic scrutiny as nuance, inflection, undertone, irony, and ambivalence.

(Burdick et al. 2012, p.103)

### Part V

### MΣT∀-L⊖GIC∀LYSIS



### Part VI

## $\Sigma V \Sigma R \forall F T \Sigma R$



### INTERLUDE III

### **Part VII**

### **POST**©



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