

CP423 Final Project

Search engine program implemented in Python.

Overview: This program is a basic search engine implemented in Python. It includes different fundamental components we talked in class for building Indexing and Query Processing pipelines. The program starts from the command line using `python search_engine.py`. The user is prompted with the following message, and they can type the appropriate number in the console and press enter to select the option they want. The program will then prompt the user for the appropriate input and will perform the selected task. The program will continue to prompt the user for input until they select the option to exit the program.

```
Select an option:  
1- Collect new documents.  
2- Index documents.  
3- Search for a query.  
4- Train ML classifier.  
5- Predict a link.  
6- Your story!  
7- Exit
```

The program collects documents from websites under all of the three program topics of Astronomy, Economy, and Health. The list of source websites can be modified in `source.txt`.

Program Instructions

Install Dependencies

```
pip install -r requirements.txt
```

Run Program

```
python search_engine.py
```

Running the program displays a brief welcome message. After which, the user enters the option menu event loop, as shown below.

Option menu console output:

```
Select an option:  
1- Collect new documents.  
2- Index documents.
```

```
3- Search for a query.  
4- Train ML classifier.  
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```

1- Collect new documents

The program collects new documents for each of our topics in our search engine. We use the `source.txt` file to begin crawling the links for new pages on the website as our trusted source. This is done for the `TOPIC_DOCUMENT_LIMIT` constant in `constants.py`. The collected documents are then placed in the `data` directory in the appropriate subdirectory according to the topic. When a document is collected, we use its URL to generate a hash, which is then used as the filename for the text file containing the document. The hash is also saved to the URL map for each document. The crawler works by iterating over all the sources to collect documents from each of the trusted sources, with the aim of achieving a nicely distributed collection of documents.

Output:

```
Collecting new documents...  
Crawling Astronomy...  
Finished crawling Astronomy  
Crawling Economy...  
Finished crawling Economy  
Crawling Health...  
Finished crawling Health
```

After the task is complete, the program re-enters the option menu event loop.

2- Index documents

The program iterates over the `data` directory and all of the topic subdirectories, and after tokenizing, indexes all of the tokens. The program saves the hash of the document in a list within a dictionary, which maps back to the tokens in the inverted index. Since the actual hashes are very long a short form is used for each hash which can be found in `mapping.json` located in the `Index Data` directory. The program then saves the inverted index (`inverted_index.json`) and the mapping to the `Index Data` directory. After this, the program uses `crawler.log` to create a mapping of the hashes to the corresponding URLs, which are displayed when querying. The outline of the occurrences field in the inverted index includes all occurrences of the token within documents, as well as the frequency of the token in the document. The soundex code for each token is also stored in the inverted index, which can be used for spell correction during the querying process.

Output:

```
Indexing documents...  
Loading existing inverted index...
```

```
Inverted index saved to Index Data\inverted_index.json
Mapping saved to Index Data\mapping.json
Hash to url mapping saved to Index Data\hash_to_url.json
```

After the task is complete, the program re-enters the option menu event loop.

3- Search for a query

The program prompts the user to enter a search query. The users query will be spell corrected using soundex similarity, and edit distance and term frequency are used for fallback conditions. The program will then perform the term-at-a-time algorithm and use the inverted index to display the top 3 highest ranked documents (ranked using cosine similarity) that contain any of the spell corrected query terms. A link to the web page is given for each document, as well as a snippet of matching text blocks with query terms highlighted in unique colours.

Example output (screenshot):

```
Enter query: blk hole discovery
Spell corrected to: black hole discovery
Searching for query 'black hole discovery'...

Document: H49, Path: data\Astronomy\e89f459fa2c4ea561870d583d8c6e467a434b3ec42eaf006112818eddaf4199d.txt, URL: https://www.space.com/runaway-supermassive-black-hole-hubble-telescope
runaway supermassive black hole ejected galaxy , possibly tussle two black holes , trailed 200,000 light-year-long chain infant stars , new study reports .incredible sight , like not
otted , identified hubble space telescope happy accident .supermassive black hole , mass equivalent 20 million suns , traveling fast would cover distance earth moon 14 minutes .illust
ck hole ejected host galaxy followed trail infant stars .

dense regions gas like left wake rogue black hole collapse , new stars born .

supermassive black hole cruising clouds gas would normally feed , process called accretion .

runaway cosmic monster moving fast grab bite .result , rogue black hole actively creating corridor infant stars , forming tail tracks right back supermassive black hole 's galaxy orig
aid .

tail half bright galaxy , meaning must absolutely brimming stars .`` think 're seeing wake behind black hole gas cools able form stars .

, 're looking star formation trailing black hole , '' study lead author pieter van dokkum , yale university , said statement ( opens new tab ) .

like wake behind ship -- 're seeing wake behind black hole
```

After the task is complete, the program re-enters the option menu event loop.

4- Train ML classifier

We have chosen the KNN model for training as we found it to be the most effective in predicting and classifying new links into their respective topics. We based this decision on our evaluation metrics, including cross-validation and classification metrics. The program begins by collecting all the documents and placing them into a Pandas dataframe, which includes their text content. The text content is then preprocessed through tokenization and removal of stopwords. Afterward, the data is split into training and testing sets, with 80% used for training and 20% for testing. Next, the TFIDF vectorizer is fitted to the training data and used to vectorize both the training and test sets. The vectorizer is saved for future use in predictions. The KNN model is trained using a grid search to identify the best parameters, in this case the neighborhood size. Once this is done, the model is tested on the test set to make predictions and calculate the relevant metrics.

Output:

```
Training ML Classifier...
Training KNN Model
Best parameters: {'n_neighbors': 7}
Best Score: 0.9884472049689441
Test Metrics
           precision    recall  f1-score   support
```

0	0.97	1.00	0.98	31
1	1.00	0.92	0.96	25
2	0.97	1.00	0.98	31
accuracy			0.98	87
macro avg	0.98	0.97	0.98	87
weighted avg	0.98	0.98	0.98	87

After the task is complete, the program re-enters the option menu event loop.

5- Predict a link

The program prompts the user to input a link, which is then crawled to extract its textual content. The content is then vectorized using the same vectorizer that was utilized during classifier training. The program then loads the saved classifier and uses it to make a classification prediction, printing each of the three program topics along with a corresponding probability/confidence score indicating the likelihood of the link belonging to that topic.

Output:

```
Predicting a link...
Enter link: http://sten.astronomycafe.net/2023/03/
Predictions
Astronomy: 100.0%
Health: 0.0%
Economy: 0.0%
```

After the task is complete, the program re-enters the option menu event loop.

6- Your story!

The program displays a brief message containing general information about the search engine and details about how we have applied our knowledge from the course to build the various components of this system.

▼ Read our story

This search engine program is designed to provide users with the basic functionality for collecting, indexing, classifying, and searching for documents while leveraging our knowledge of search engine architecture and information retrieval gained from this course. We applied course concepts including web and document crawling, text processing, indexing, query processing, classification and retrieval models to develop its various components.

For instance, to collect new documents, we implemented a web crawler algorithm that uses BeautifulSoup to parse text, store documents and extract links from web pages. To index documents, we used an inverted index data structure that stores

the frequency of each term in the document to enable fast retrieval of search results. Additionally, we used the term-at-a-time algorithm to retrieve documents related to the query, and applied text processing techniques such as tokenization, stemming, stop-word removal, and spell correction to improve the accuracy of search engine results.

We applied our knowledge of supervised machine learning methods to train a classifier model capable of classifying documents into one of the three program topics. To train the model, we utilized a K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) classifier based on the text content of both labeled source pages and internal links found within them. This model is used to identify which documents are most relevant to the user's query. Additionally, the same classifier model is used for the link prediction feature to predict which of the three topics a given link belongs to.

Overall, this simple search engine program is the culmination of our in-depth understanding of search engine architecture and information retrieval techniques that we gained throughout this course. Our ability to effectively implement various algorithms and processes is reflected in the program's performance and utility.

Thank you for taking the time to explore our program,
- Herteg and Kelvin <3

After the task is complete, the program re-enters the option menu event loop.

7- Exit

The option menu event loop will conclude, exiting the program.

Output:

```
Exiting search engine...
```

Contributors

- [Herteg Kohar](#)
- [Kelvin Kellner](#)

That concludes our project!

Thank you for taking the time to read our project report. We hope you enjoyed it!