



# **WEB SEARCH Indexing:**

## *Weighting terms for Index*

**CT102**  
Information  
Systems

# PRE-PROCESSING SUMMARY

Indexing automatically scans the web page downloaded by the crawlers for the most important words and converts these to terms following a sequence of steps involving:

- case folding/change
- punctuation removal
- stop word removal
- stemming or lemmatisation
- These terms are then weighted and stored as the *representation of the web page in an index*

# CALCULATING THE WEIGHTS OF TERMS

The abstraction is: the *meaning* of a document is represented using terms (derived from words in the document) and a weight for each term where:

- A weight is a binary or real number
- If binary: then we are representing the presence/absence of the term in a document
- Generally, we want something more representative than this where a real number represents the weight such that the higher the weight the more important the term is in describing the *meaning* of the document. One approach to calculate this weight is called: tf-idf:

Term Frequency - Inverse Document Frequency

(tf) term frequency

(idf) inverse document frequency

- **tf:** If a term occurs very often in a document it is an important term describing the document (term frequency), e.g. the term **shakespeare** was the most frequent term in the sample Shakespeare text (after pre-processing).
- **df:** However, if the term occurs often across all documents which are being searched\* then it is not very useful at distinguishing one document from another (document frequency for term is high), e.g. if term **shakespeare** occurs in many of the documents

\* In the index

# (idf) inverse document frequency

If **df** is high we want to reduce the weight of the **tf** component by a small amount

If **df** is low we want to increase the weight of the **tf** component

To do this we “inverse” the **df** value and use logs to ensure multiplication is only be a “small amount”, i.e. the **df** will not have a very large effect on the **tf** weight

## NOTES:

- Stop words will have a high tf and df
- The weighting is performed on the terms remaining **after** stop word removal and stemming
- Thus if a term is not removed as a stop word, but it occurs frequently in most documents, it will get a low weight and not be considered important in determining the meaning of a web page/document (which is why we can use a small stop word list)

## Calculating term frequency (tf)

To not penalise short documents, **normalise** (compare like with like) by dividing the raw count of the number of times the term occurs by the number of total terms in a document:

Term frequency =

Number times a term  $t$  occurs in document  
divided by the number of terms in the  
document

This ensures longer documents do not get an “unfair” advantage ... essentially considering a ratio

Does this make sense? Why?

## ASIDE (If it's not making sense):

- For a term  $t$  the term frequency can be a raw count of the number of times the term occurs in a document
- However, this is not ideal as a term is likely to occur more often in longer documents, thus longer documents would have an unfair advantage over shorter documents
- Thus it is the ratio of a terms occurrence we would like, **not** the raw count



## EXAMPLE ...

Given the following information for the term “*shakespear*” in 3 documents of different lengths find the term frequency:

Doc ID	Frequency	Number of terms in doc	<i>tf</i> = ?
d1	10	20	
d2	10	200	
d3	100	2000	

## Calculating the inverse document frequency (idf)

For a term  $t$  and  $N$  documents in the index with  $t$  occurring in  $df_t$  documents the inverse document frequency of  $t$  is defined as:

$$idf_t = \log_{10} \left( 1 + \frac{N}{df_t} \right)$$

The  $idf$  of a rare term should be high, whereas the  $idf$  of a frequent term should be low.

To prevent multiplication by 0 the 1 is added

## NOTE: LOGS

A **logarithm** is the power to which a number must be raised in order to get some other number

e.g.,

If  $\log_{10}x = y$  then  $10^y = x$

$\log_{10}100 = ?$

On a calculator `log` is usually  $\log_{10}$

Scientific calculator online:

<https://web2.0calc.com/>

(Sometimes natural log might be used in the formula but we will use  $\log_{10}$ )

**EXAMPLE FOR TERM *shakespear***  
with  $N = 100$  and  $df = 40$

Note: idf  
stays the  
same for the  
same term

doc	tf	idf (with $\log_{10}$ )	tf*idf
d1	0.5	$\log_{10}(1+100/40) = 0.544$	0.272
d2	0.05	0.544	0.0272
d3	0.05	0.544	0.0272

What if we had the same **tf** but this time were told ...

$N = 100$  and  $df = 3$  (i.e. these are the only 3 documents that have the term)

<b>doc</b>	<b>tf</b>	<b>idf</b> (with $\log_{10}$ )	<b>tf*idf</b>
d1	0.5	$\log_{10}(1+100/3)$ $= 1.5357$	0.7679
d2	0.05	1.5357	0.07679
d3	0.05	1.5357	0.07679

Therefore,  $tf*idf$  for a term  $t$  a document  $d$ :

- has the highest weight when  $t$  occurs many times in  $d$  and occurs a small number of times in all documents (thus lending **high discriminating power** to those documents)
- has a lower weight when  $t$  occurs fewer times in  $d$ , or occurs in many documents
- has the lowest weight when  $t$  occurs in nearly all documents and does not occur frequently in  $d$

## You try it ...

Compute the tf-idf weights for the words:

- sql, databases, programming, computer

with corresponding terms:

sql, database, program, comput

for each of 3 documents using the following information:

\* Use precision to 3 decimal places

## Frequency of terms in docs

	d1 (length 90)	d2 (length 100)	d3 (length 50)
sql	12	4	7
database	3	13	0
program	0	13	2
comput	6	0	3



## Frequency of terms across 250 documents

<i>Term</i>	<i>Frequency in Collection (df)</i>
sql	81
database	67
program	192
comput	240

Fill in the tf-idf weights  $N = 250$

	sql	database	program	comput
d1				
d2				
d3				

	d1 (length 90)	d2 (length 100)	d3 (length 50)
sql	12	4	7
database	3	13	0
program	0	13	2
comput	6	0	3

<i>Term</i>	<i>(df)</i>
sql	81
database	67
program	192
comput	240

# Fill in the tf-idf weights ... (250 documents)

	sql	database	program	comput
d1	$\frac{12}{90}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1+250/81)$	$\frac{3}{90}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1 + 250/67)$	0	$\frac{6}{90}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1 + 250/240)$
d2	$\frac{4}{100}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1+250/81)$	$\frac{13}{100}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1 + 250/67)$	$\frac{13}{100}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1+250/192)$	0
d3	$\frac{7}{50}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1+250/81)$	0	$\frac{2}{50}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1+250/192)$	$\frac{3}{50}$ $\ast \log_{10}(1+250/240)$

	d1 (l=90)	d2 (l=100)	d3 (l=50)
sql	12	4	7
database	3	13	0
program	0	13	2
comput	6	0	3

<i>Term</i>	<i>df</i>
sql	81
database	67
program	192
comput	240

<b>tf</b>	<i>d1</i>	<i>d2</i>	<i>d3</i>
sql	0.13333	0.04	0.14
database	0.03333	0.13	0
program	0	0.13	0.04
comput	0.06667	0	0.06

<b>term</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>idf</b>
sql	81	0.611342975
database	67	0.67498446
program	197	0.355841297
comput	240	0.309984838
N = 250		

## ANSWERS (to 4 decimal places):

<b>tf*idf</b>	<b>d1</b>	<b>d2</b>	<b>d3</b>
sql	0.0815	0.0245	0.0856
database	0.0225	0.0877	0
program	0	0.0463	0.0142
comput	0.0207	0	0.0186

*AFTER THIS STAGE ....  
we have:*

For each web page ID (url) many:

`<term, weight>`

For each term in the collection (term) many:

`<doc, weight>`

So with this information **df** can be calculated (and stored)  
for any term

These are generally stored in a complex structure  
to aid *fast searching and matching* (with 0s not  
stored generally)

	sql	database	program	comput	...	...	...
d1	0.0815	0.0225	0	0.0207			
d2	0.0245	0.0877	0.0463	0			
d3	0.0856	0	0.0142	0.0186			
...							
....							
....							
df							

# CLASS WORK ....

<https://web2.0calc.com/>

s1: Python is a very powerful programming language.

s2: Python is often compared to the programming languages Perl, Ruby, Scheme and Java.

s3: Python, Perl, Ruby, Scheme, Java - what's the difference and is Python the best?

Step1. Find the representation (sentences) after the pre-processing steps of case folding, punctuation removal, stop word removal (using stopwords2.txt) and stemming (using Porter's) have been formed

Step 2. Calculate  $tf*idf$  of all the terms remaining in the sentences after pre-processing. You can assume that the full document collection is the 3 sentences (to calculate  $df$ )



# ANSWERS

## STEP 1:

S1: python power program languag

S2: python compar program languag perl rubi scheme java

S3: python perl rubi scheme java differenc python best

## ANSWERS: STEP 2 ...

## CALCULATING idf with $N = 3$

S1: python power program languag

S2: python compar program languag perl rubi scheme java

S3: python perl rubi scheme java differenc python best

term	df	idf	idf
python	3	$\log_{10}(1+3/3)$	0.301029996
power	1	$\log_{10}(1+3/1)$	0.602059991
program	2		0.397940009
languag	2		0.397940009
compar	1		0.602059991
perl	2		0.397940009
rubi	2		0.397940009
scheme	2		0.397940009
java	2		0.397940009
difference	1		0.602059991
best	1		0.602059991

## ANSWERS: STEP 2 ...

S1: python power program languag

S2: python compar program languag perl rubi scheme java

S3: python perl rubi scheme java differenc python best

Calculating  $tf \cdot idf$  with  $N = 3$   
for terms python and program  
(to 4 decimal places)

term = python	tf	tf*idf	tf*idf
s1	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4} * 0.301029996$	0.0753
s2	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8} * 0.301029996$	0.0376
s3	$\frac{2}{8}$	$\frac{2}{8} * 0.301029996$	0.0753

term = program	tf	tf*idf	tf*idf
s1	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4} * 0.397940009$	0.0995
s2	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8} * 0.397940009$	0.0497
s3	0		0

	s1	s2	s3
python	0.0753	0.0376	0.0753
power			
program	0.0995	0.0497	0
languag			
compar			
perl			
rubi			

# SUMMARY



- A web search index is built based on **term weights** which are calculated after pre-processing steps have been performed
- A commonly used weighting scheme is **tf-idf** (and variations)
  - For **tf** we must know the raw count of the term (frequency) and the total number of words in the document
  - For **idf** we must know the number of documents in the collection and the count of how many of these contain the term