

Rewriting Queries for Web Searches that Use Local Expressions

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Overview

- Search Queries
- Administrative Regions & Partitions of Regions
- Region Connection Calculus
- Additional Rule “close to”
- Knowledge Base
- Evaluation Methods & Results
- Conclusion & Outlook

Search queries

“Communities close to Zürich”

→ *meaning: all documents regarding the communities **close to Zürich***

- **vague natural language expression** for a spatial relation
- **reference point**; something is close to something else → providing a hint for scaling

“Close to” in google (p.ex.):

- some public buildings (hotels, offices)
- in cities
- different from meaning of query/ Input

Administrative regions and micro regions

- *Administrative regions*: administrative tasks, institutional structure of a country
 - Reflecting a part of humans perception of places and distances between them
-

- *Micro regions*: analysis of spatial mobility, behavior of commuters

- Micro regions in Switzerland: 106 units; a community only part of a single micro region

In Switzerland:

2551 Communities



147 Districts



26 Cantons



Partitions of regions

1. every region has **one** type of partition, e.g. “community” → mutually disjoint

2. Granularity of regions → partial order

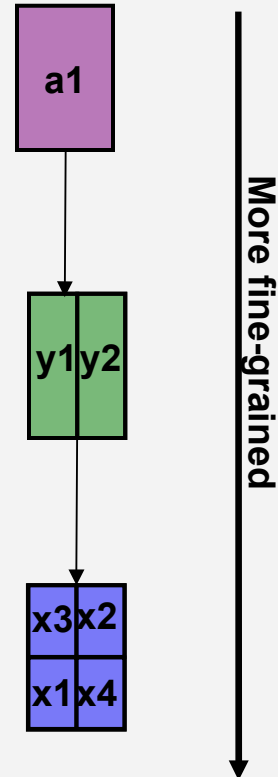
1. cantons
2. districts
3. Communities

$C(x)_{i \in I}$ more fine-grained than $D(y)_{k \in K}$ ($C(x)_{i \in I} \preceq D(y)_{k \in K}$) if:

- $(x)_{i \in I}, (y)_{k \in K}$ partitions of same region (of types C and D)
- each element of $D(y)_{k \in K}$ partitioned by elements of $C(x)_{i \in I}$

Example: $\text{Community}(x)_{i \in I}$ and $\text{District}(y)_{k \in K}$ both partitions of a **canton**

→ *reflexive, transitive and antisymmetric*



Minimal Partial Order

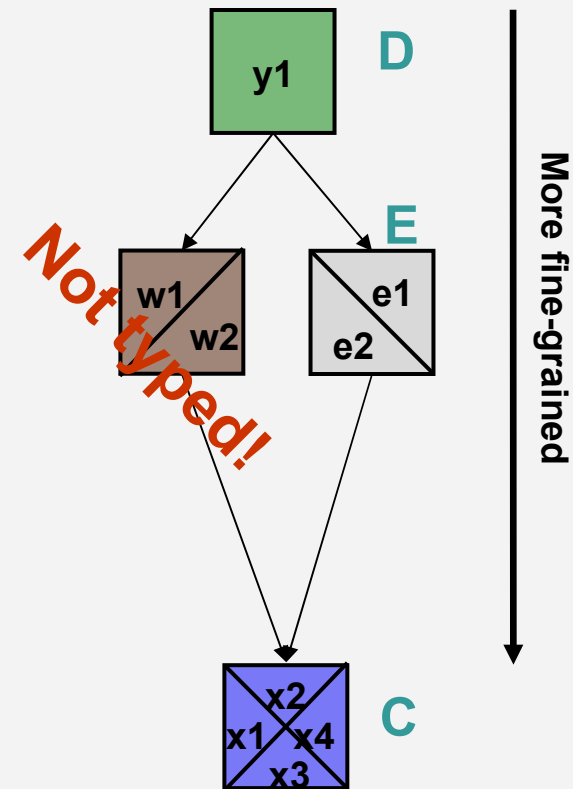
Regions always have to be typed

Minimal – excluding unwanted partitions

→ *Intransitive*

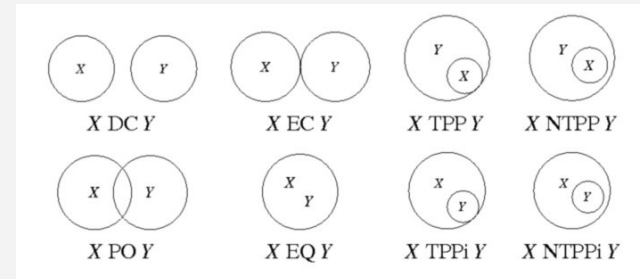
$$C(x) \preceq_{\min_{k \in K}} D(y) \text{ if no type for any } (w)_{j \in J}$$

such that $C(x) \preceq (w) \preceq D(y)$



Region Connection Calculus with 8 relations (RCC-8)

- Spatial concepts and relations in first order logic
- Spatial or temporal interpretation
- Also other Sets available (e.g. RCC-5)
- Jointly exhaustive and pairwise disjoint
- Formalisms work for few and many data (unlike fuzzy methods)
- Calculating RCC topologies from GIS layers/ spatial databases possible
(information of administrative regions freely available in many countries)



Additional RCC Relation CLOSE TO

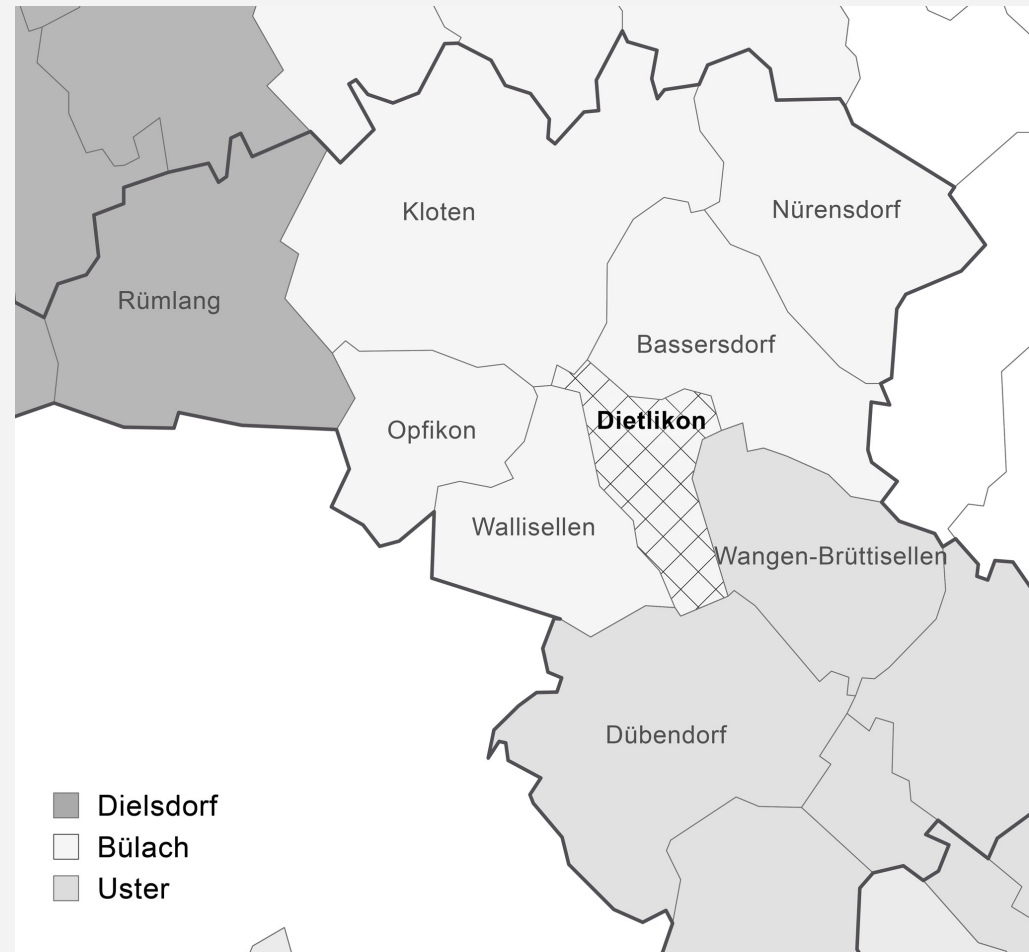
Rule Base: DL-safe SWRL-Rules

Newly added Composition rule:

$$\forall x_a \in (a)_{i \in I} \quad \forall y_a \in (a)_{i \in I} \quad \forall b \in (b)_{k \in K} \quad \forall w$$

$$[P(x_a, b) \wedge y_a \{P, EC\} b \wedge LOC(x_a, w) \wedge \\ LOC(y_a, w)]$$

$$\rightarrow CL_{ap}(y_a, x_a)]$$



Description Logic Knowledge Base

- TBox: partitions as enumerations of individual names (= nominals)
- Linking to types via axioms $C \sqsubseteq \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$; where concepts are mutually disjoint $C \sqsubseteq \neg D$
- ABox closed for nominals denoting administrative regions (partOf relations only asserted for partitions)
- $\{P, EC\}$ represented as auxiliary relation subsuming P and EC

Figures:

- 210 individuals, 21 roles, 12 concepts
- 603 concept assertions
- 29.003 role assertions, e.g.: partOf(Dietlikon, District_Bülach)
- KB grows by square of number of regions asserted; at the moment: canton of Zürich
- Pellet 2.0 as a reasoner

Evaluation – Searching with “GoForIt”

General Search and Directory Search

Query: “communities close to Dietlikon”; rewritten: “Nürensdorf OR Dübendorf OR Rümlang OR Wallisellen OR Kloten OR Wangen-Brüttisellen OR Bassersdorf”

- Number of found resources in relevant categories (→ e.g. category: *Nürensdorf*)
 - Recall: related to sum of total resources in same categories
 - Precision: related to all resources in result sets
- Number of communities resulting from rewriting: between 6 and 24
- 2-sided t-test:
 - Query rewriting significantly increases recall: $p < 0.01$

now: calculating in ≈ 6.3 ms



Results

→ Improvement with query rewriting



Query without rewriting:
*"communities close to
Dietlikon"*:

| | Total relevant | Total matches | Relevant matches | Recall | Precision |
|------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------|
| Mean | 191.39 | 14.65 | 0.10 | 0.00 | -- |
| Max | 381 | 750 | 1 | 0.01 | 1.00 |
| Min | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Rewritten query: *"Nürensdorf
OR Dübendorf OR Rümlang
OR Wallisellen OR Kloten
OR Wangen-Brüttisellen
OR Bassersdorf"* for 170
communities:

| | Total relevant | Total matches | Relevant matches | Recall | Precision |
|------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------|
| Mean | 191.39 | 8,843.50 | 154.35 | 0.81 | 0.07 |
| Max | 381 | 30,880 | 305 | 0.91 | 0.31 |
| Min | 20 | 520 | 17 | 0.69 | 0.00 |



Conclusion and Outlook

- Semantics of the relation “close to” may differ in other countries, maybe other formalisms have to be introduced there
- Possible optimizations:
 - Distribution of knowledge bases
 - Outsourcing individuals in database/triple store instead of in-memory storage
 - Move knowledge processing from run-time to design-time
- Using other background knowledge, e.g. travelling time

Additional RCC Relation CLOSE TO

z close to x

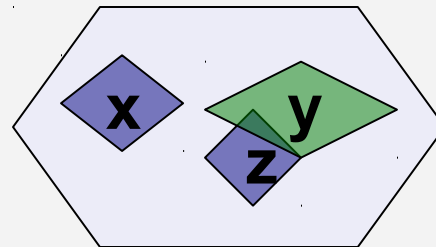
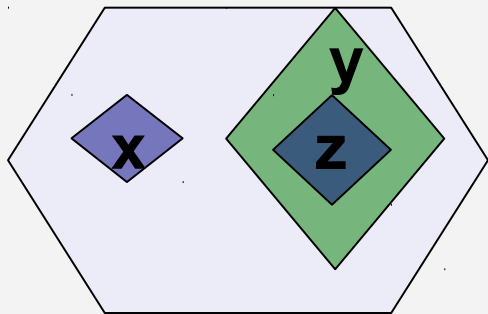
Same partition: symmetrical

x more fine-grained partition/ z non-administrative region: asymmetrical

→ irreflexive, intransitive (not transitive), not antisymmetric

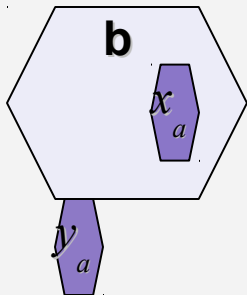
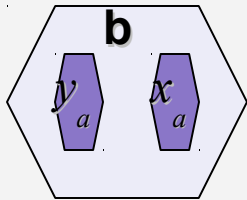
Composition rule 1: $\forall x \forall y \forall z [\text{CL}_{\text{ap}}(y, x) \wedge z \{P, PO\} y \rightarrow \text{CL}(z, x)]$

Composition rule 1': $\forall x \in (a) \forall y \in (a) \forall z [\text{CL}_{\text{ap}}(y, x) \wedge z \{P, PO\} y \rightarrow \text{CL}(z, x)]$



Additional RCC Relation CLOSE TO

Composition rule 2: $\forall x_a \in (a)_{i \in I} \forall y_a \in (a)_{i \in I} \forall b \in (b)_{k \in K} \forall w [P(x_a, b) \wedge y_a \{P, EC\} b \wedge LOC(x_a, w) \wedge LOC(y_a, w) \rightarrow CL_{ap}(y_a, x_a)]$

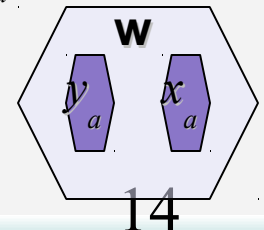


EC: externally connected to

region y_a a priori close to a region x_a , if (i) x_a and y_a same administrative partition $(a)_{i \in I}$ (e.g. both communities)

y_a part of or borders same region b of next upper level of administrative partitions $(b)_{k \in K}$ (e.g. a district) of which x_a is part

x_a and y_a located (LOC) in the same functional region w



CLOSE TO Algorithm

INPUT: Knowledge Base $\mathcal{KB} = \{\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}\}$,
Rule Base \mathcal{RB} , Concept Q , Individual a

OUTPUT: Set<Individual>

$U \leftarrow \emptyset, V \leftarrow \emptyset, W \leftarrow \emptyset, X \leftarrow \emptyset, Y \leftarrow \emptyset, Z$
 $\leftarrow \emptyset$

$\{b\} \leftarrow \{b \mid \mathcal{A} \models \text{partOf}(a, b)\}$

$U \leftarrow \{u_{i \in I} \mid \mathcal{A} \models$
 $\text{partOfOrExternallyConnectedTo}(u_p, b)\}$

$\{c\} \leftarrow \{c \mid \mathcal{A} \models \text{locatedIn}(a, c)\}$

$V \leftarrow \{v_{j \in I} \mid \mathcal{A} \models \text{locatedIn}(v_p, c)\}$

$Y \leftarrow U \cap V$

FOR $(y_k \in Y; Y \neq \emptyset;$
 $Y \setminus y_k) \{$

$X \leftarrow X \cup \{x_{m \in M} \mid \mathcal{A} \models$
 $\text{partOfOrPartiallyOverl}$
 $\text{aps}(x_m, y_k)\} \}$

$W \leftarrow \{w_{n \in N} \mid \mathcal{A} \models Q(w_n)\}$

$Z \leftarrow X \cap W$

OUTPUT Z

