KV Multimedia Search and Retrieval

Exercise 1 Group E

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, a rudimentary text-based retrieval system is being developed. Multiple different algorithms for computing the similarity between two songs are tested and compared with a random baseline. For calculating this similarity measure only text features are used. This paper compares the cos-sim-similarity based on the tf-idf and word2vec respectively. This is contrasted with a measure using the transformer-based BERT.

1 Introduction

The increasing availability of digital libraries has paved the way for a new generation of music recommender systems. Music recommendation systems play a pivotal role in helping users discover new tracks, artists, and genres and thus drive customer satisfaction in a significant way.

The purpose of this paper is to evaluate and compare 4 different approaches to music retrieval systems. Within the scope of this paper all features are going to be text-based.

Concretely, the effectiveness of cos-sim-similarity based on both tf-idf and word2vec are compared to BERT.

The resulting recommendations will be evaluated qualitatively according to the similarity to the queried song.

The data set used for testing the 4 retrieval systems is a subset of the Music4All-Onion dataset which was kindly provided by the university.

2 Methodology

For implementing the assignment, the programming language Python is used as it has the most support for data analysis and data science purposes. The coding environment used is Jupyter Notebook as it supports the programming language Python. We also used the libraries NumPy and pandas as well as Scikit-learn which provide us with different similarity functions. The code repository is hosted on the platform GitHub. The coordination and integration of code contributions of each team member is therefore ensured using Git.

To ensure that new functionality as well as new algorithms can easily be added the text-based music recommender system in the future a large focus is set on making the code modular.

The input of the system is the string which contains the name and the artist of the query track. The recommender system should output a list of songs with the title and the artist-

To be able to better analyze the results of the recommender system this output of the script is saved in a Python dictionary.

To keep the code modular and make it reusable we first implemented some basic functions in a separate Python file. First, we defined a function to get information about the artist and song name from the IDs. The function takes a list of ids as input and returns a list of tuples of strings containing the name and artist of tracks as the output. Then we implemented a function, which can be used for all text-based analysis. The function itself is also called text-based. It takes as input parameters “id”, the id of the query song, “repr” the string which represents the word embedding used in the data, for example, the tf-idf, “N”, the number of tracks retrieved as well as the similarity function for example cosine similarity or Euclidean similarity. These measures help increase the flexibility and reusability of the code. Then we imported the functions into the main file where they can be called with different input parameters.

2.1 The dataset

Music4All-Onion is a large-scale, multi-modal music data set, which expands the Music4All-dataset with additional features and meta-data. For this task, only text-based features are considered (i.e.: title, lyrics, artist, album name and ID).

The provided data is presented in four TSV files (Tab-Separated Values file) this type of file is similar to the famous CSV (Comma-Separated Values) data format, but it uses tabs to separate the parts where each line represents a row of data. To read these files we use the Pandas library that returns the data as dataframes.

The four files are:

* id\_information\_mmsr.tsv: contains the track IDs in the first column, the artist, song, and album name are contained in the remaining columns.
* id\_lyrics\_bert\_mmsr.tsv: presents the data using the BERT feature vectors with one column for the IDs.
* id\_lyrics\_tf-idf\_mmsr.tsv: presents the data using the Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency feature vectors with one column for the IDs.
* id\_lyrics\_word2vec\_mmsr.tsv: presents the data using the word2vec feature vectors with one column containing the IDs.

**BERT:** is a text-based model trained on a bunch of words and it is capable of capturing rich contextual information for words in a sentence in a word embedding manner that allows BERT to understand the meanings of words in a given phrase for example. This method is widely used in NLP tasks.

**TF-IDF:** this method is the mix of two components TF (Term Frequency) and IDF (Inverse Document Frequency), this combination yields a vector capturing the relevance of words in a document relative to a corpus.

TF calculates the occurrence of a word for a given document on the other hand IDF calculates a word's importance for a given collection of documents the product of IDF by TF yields the relative importance of a word to a document within the overall corpus.

**Word2vec:** is an embedding technique that uses vector space. Words with similar context or meaning have similar vector representations (close vectors in the vector space representation). This ensures capturing semantic relationships between words in the vector space. The method is based on training a neural network on a bunch of words to learn their continuous vector space and present each word as a feature vector.

2.2 Random baseline

For the random baseline, we first shuffled the songs according to a randomly generated order, so we get a different result each time the function is called. Then we excluded the query song from the data frame, so it does not appear in the result list. Afterwards, we retrieve the top N random songs and store them in the result list.

2.3 Cos-sim based on tf-idf

To calculate the cosine-similarity of the tf-idf representation of the lyrics, we created a wrapper function called “cos\_sim” that takes two Numpy-arrays as input and reshapes them to 2d arrays so they can be used in the cosine similarity function which is provided by the scikit-learn library. The result of the cos\_sim function is the similarity score of the two arrays. The similarity function cos\_sim is then passed to the “text\_based” function, as well as the query song-id and the dataset containing the tf-idf values. The first thing the test\_based function does is search for the query song in the tf-idf dataset and extract the row vector representing the queried song. Then we create an array which is called similarities to store the similarity scores.

Afterwards, the “text\_based” function iterates through all the rows in the tf-idf dataset. The similarities between the query-vector and track-vector are then calculated using the cos\_sim function. The song-id as well as the similarity-score are then saved in the similarities array. The similarity scores can range from -1 to 1, 1 corresponds to perfect similarity. Afterwards, we sort the list in decreasing order of the similarity score and retrieve the ids of the 10 most similar songs.

2.4 Cos-sim based on word2vec

The next retrieval system uses the word2vec-embedding with the cos-sim-similarity measure. Word2vec represents each word as a high-dimensional vector and uses a neural network to learn the optimal distance of these vectors in the embedding space. The flow of the code is the same as tf-idf. So only one parameter has to be changed when calling the function.

2.5 Cos-sim based on BERT

As the last retriever that we have implemented for this project, we have chosen cosine similarity as its similarity function and lyric representation generated by BERT. As mentioned above, we have adopted a modularized scheme when implementing the text-based function. Thus, for this step, we just set the repr parameter of the text\_base function to “bert”, and the sim\_func parameter to “cos-sim.” The flow of execution is the same as when using the other two representations.

3 Qualitative Analysis

For the qualitative analysis, we selected 3 tracks for each retrieval system and retrieved 10 tracks for each query track:

**3.1 Random baseline**

The random baseline function will generate a random set of tracks every time it is called, irrespective of the query track. It returns often songs of different genres that are unrelated to the query track.

**3.2 RS<Cos-sim, tf-idf>**

Query Track 1: Love me by the 1975:

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | Oh Yeah | Artist | Big Time Rush |
| Song | The Gospel | Artist | Alicia Keys |
| Song | Fire Starter | Artist | Demi Lovato |
| Song | Rat Fink | Artist | Misfits |
| Song | How Bad Do You Want It (Oh Yeah) | Artist | Sevyn Streeter |
| Song | Yeah! (feat. Lil Jon & Ludacris | Artist | Usher |
| Song | Regarde-moi | Artist | Céline Dion |
| Song | Miss Independent | Artist | Ne-Yo |
| Song | Euphoria | Artist | BTS |
| Song | Let There Be Love | Artist | Simple Minds |

In the result, there are songs of different genres like R&B, K-Pop, Pop, Indie-Rock, and Punk. The lyrics of the query song “Love me” contain many occurrences of the tokens “yeah” and “love”. By examining the lyrics of the retrieved songs, we also noticed a high number of occurrences of the token “Yeah”. The tracks “Let There Be Love” and “Miss Independent” also exhibit a high occurrence of the word “Love” respectively. Other than that, the query song and the retrieved songs do not have so much in common and come from different genres.

Query Track 2: One by U2

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | One | Artist | Mary J. Blige |
| Song | One Love (feat. Estelle) | Artist | David Guetta |
| Song | Love the One You're With | Artist | Stephen Stills |
| Song | One | Artist | Alanis Morissette |
| Song | No One | Artist | Alicia Keys |
| Song | One Tribe (Defqon.1 2019 Anthem) | Artist | Phuture Noize |
| Song | You Can Be the One | Artist | Late Night Alumni |
| Song | Rape Me | Artist | Nirvana |
| Song | Palavras No Corpo | Artist | Gal Costa |
| Song | No One in the World | Artist | Anita Baker |

For the second query track, we picked “One” by U2. The data also includes a cover version of it by Mary J. Blige, which appears first in the result set because of the identical lyrics. The result also displays a diversity in genre. The genre of the query track is best described as a rock ballad, whereas the genre of the retrieved songs ranges from the genres R&B, Grunge, EDM and Pop-Rock. There is also one Spanish song in the result.

Query Track 3: Every Christmas by Kelly Clarkson

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | Christmas Conga | Artist | Cyndi Lauper |
| Song | Three Ships | Artist | Cyndi Lauper |
| Song | Hellhound On My Trail | Artist | Robert Johnson |
| Song | St. Patrick's Day | Artist | John Mayer |
| Song | Last Christmas | Artist | Carly Rae Jepsen |
| Song | My Only Wish (This Year) | Artist | Britney Spears |
| Song | Christmas Vacation | Artist | Descendents |
| Song | Last Christmas - Studio Version | Artist | Jimmy Eat World |
| Song | The Christmas Song (Merry Christmas To You) | Artist | Nat King Cole |
| Song | I Shut Doors and Windows | Artist | September Malevolence |

For the third query, we analyzed a Christmas song because Christmas songs usually contain recurring tokens in the lyrics, for example, the tokens “year”, “wish” or “mistletoe”. As we can see in the result, we retrieved 9 Christmas songs and one song with a different theme. The song “I Shut Doors and Windows” by September Malevolence could not be described as a Christmas song but also contains one occurrence of the token “Christmas” in its lyrics. The result includes two tracks from the same artist “Cyndi Lauper”, which also happens to be from the same Christmas-themed album.

**3.3 RS<Cos-sim, word2vec>**

Query song 1: Love me by the 1975:

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | Miss Independent | Artist | Ne-Yo |
| Song | If Our Love Is Wrong | Artist | Calum Scott |
| Song | Looking For Clues | Artist | Robert Palmer |
| Song | Out on the Tiles | Artist | Led Zeppelin |
| Song | So Much Love | Artist | The Rocket Summer |
| Song | Let There Be Love | Artist | Simple Minds |
| Song | In the Evening | Artist | Led Zeppelin |
| Song | All You Got | Artist | Tegan and Sara |
| Song | Rosalyn | Artist | David Bowie |
| Song | How Bad Do You Want It (Oh Yeah) | Artist | Sevyn Streeter |

The result contains two different tracks by the same artist “Led Zeppelin”. It is noticed that the result set contains several tracks by British artists. The artist who made the query track is also a British Band. which leads us to the speculation that the cluster might be attributed to different language use between British English and American English. The genres of the retrieved tracks are Rock, Pop, R&B and Rap, when ranked in decreasing order.

Query Track 2: One by U2

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | One | Artist | Mary J. Blige |
| Song | One Love (feat. Estelle) | Artist | David Guetta |
| Song | Quien Eres Tu (Feat. Trey Songz) | Artist | María José |
| Song | Dance With The One That Brought You | Artist | Shania Twain |
| Song | Apocalyptic | Artist | Halestorm |
| Song | I Will Survive - Extended Version | Artist | Gloria Gaynor |
| Song | King For A Day | Artist | Thompson Twins |
| Song | Never Let Me Down | Artist | Kanye West |
| Song | Fica Mais um Pouco Amor | Artist | Emicida |
| Song | I Will Survive | Artist | Gloria Gaynor |

For the query track “One” by “U2”, the cover version by Mary J. Blige ranks the first in the result, just like we did with the tf-idf representation. We also retrieved one Spanish and one Portuguese song. The Genres of the retrieved track are Rock, Pop, Electronica, Country, Hip-Hop, Samba and Pagode, when rank in decreasing order of similarity.

Query Track 3: Every Christmas by Kelly Clarkson

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | St. Patrick's Day | Artist | John Mayer |
| Song | Junesong Provision | Artist | Coheed and Cambria |
| Song | My Only Wish (This Year) | Artist | Britney Spears |
| Song | PERFECT! | Artist | WJSN |
| Song | Si Tu Novio Te Deja Sola | Artist | J Balvin |
| Song | So Doggone Lonesome | Artist | Johnny Cash |
| Song | The Best Day | Artist | Taylor Swift |
| Song | Wait For You | Artist | Elliott Yamin |
| Song | Jesus Christ | Artist | Brand New |
| Song | Alone (feat. Big Sean & Stefflon Don) | Artist | Halsey |

For the third track, the result includes one Korean song and one song in Spanish. We retrieved all kinds of different genres like country, Rock, and Pop. The entropy of the genre is high. Not as many Christmas themed songs are included in the result as with the result obtained from other data.

**3.4 Cos-sim based on BERT**

Query song 1: “Love me” by “The 1975”

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | Dance Gavin Dance | Artist | Thug City |
| Song | Shine | Artist | Take That |
| Song | One, Two, Three, GO! | Artist | Belanova |
| Song | Right There | Artist | Ariana Grande |
| Song | Bing Bing | Artist | Crayon Pop |
| Song | Come Get It Bae | Artist | Pharrell Williams |
| Song | We Made You | Artist | Eminem |
| Song | Here I Am | Artist | Monica |
| Song | Wannabe | Artist | why mona |
| Song | Edge of the World | Artist | Faith No More |

For the result generated by the first query track with the BERT data, none of the ten retrieved tracks appears in the result from the other two datasets. In terms of genre, the result shows a similar pattern result to the other two datasets. The genres that appeared in the results including Pop, Indie Rock, R&B, Funk, Hip Hop and K-pop, showed no effects on the result.

Query song 2: “One” by “U2”

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | One | Artist | Mary J. Blige |
| Song | What About Love | Artist | Austin Mahone |
| Song | All of Your Glory | Artist | Broods |
| Song | La Tortura | Artist | Shakira |
| Song | Love One Another | Artist | Cher |
| Song | Black Lake | Artist | Björk |
| Song | El Triste | Artist | José José |
| Song | Love Makes the World Go Round | Artist | Ashlee Simpson |
| Song | Keep It Together | Artist | Madonna |
| Song | U Want Me 2 | Artist | Sarah McLachlan |

The result generated with the second query track and the BERT data, again, does not show similarity with the results obtained from the other two data with the sole exception being “One” by Mary J. Blige. As explained in the section above. It is a cover version of the query song. Therefore its lyrics is identical to that of the query song. In terms of genre, most tracks appeared in the result belong to the Pop genre, different from Rock, the genre of the query song

Query song 3: “Every Christmas” by “Kelly Clarkson”

Result list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Song | My Only Wish (This Year) | Artist | Britney Spears |
| Song | Christmas Conga | Artist | Cyndi Lauper |
| Song | Merry Christmas, Kiss My Ass | Artist | All Time Low |
| Song | St. Patrick's Day | Artist | John Mayer |
| Song | The Christmas Song (Merry Christmas To You) | Artist | Nat King Cole |
| Song | Last Christmas | Artist | Carly Rae Jepsen |
| Song | Next Year | Artist | Foo Fighters |
| Song | December's Boudoir | Artist | Laura Nyro |
| Song | Last Xmas | Artist | Allie X |
| Song | Santa Claus Is Coming To Town | Artist | The Jackson 5 |

In the result generated by the third query track with the BERT data, again, five of the retrieved tracks appear in the result from other datasets. Also, in terms of genre, most tracks appeared in the result belongs to the Pop genre, which could be attributed to the theme of the song, Christmas. Christmas music is known to be associated with the instrumental, Carol and Pop genre. It is also worth mentioning that the song “St. Patricks Day”, which appears in the results obtained from other datasets, is also included in the result. An examination of the lyrics reveals that, despite the title of the song being St Patricks Day, there are repeated references to words such as "cold", "snow", "December" and other words that might be found in other Christmas songs, as well as the phrase "Christmas times" itself appears three times.

4. REFERENCES

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