Retrieval

Retrieval is the centerpiece of our retrieval augmented generation (RAG) flow.

Let's get our vectorDB from before.

Vectorstore retrieval

```
In []: import os
   import openai
   import sys
   sys.path.append('../..')

   from dotenv import load_dotenv, find_dotenv
   _ = load_dotenv(find_dotenv()) # read local .env file
        openai.api_key = os.environ['OPENAI_API_KEY']
In []: #!pip install lark
```

Similarity Search

```
In [ ]: from langchain.vectorstores import Chroma
    from langchain.embeddings.openai import OpenAIEmbeddings
    persist_directory = 'docs/chroma/'

In [ ]: embedding = OpenAIEmbeddings()
    vectordb = Chroma(
        persist_directory=persist_directory,
        embedding_function=embedding
)

In [ ]: print(vectordb._collection.count())

In [ ]: texts = [
    """The Amanita phalloides has a large and imposing epigeous (aboveground
    """A mushroom with a large fruiting body is the Amanita phalloides. Some
    """A. phalloides, a.k.a Death Cap, is one of the most poisonous of all k
]

In [ ]: smalldb = Chroma.from_texts(texts, embedding=embedding)

In [ ]: question = "Tell me about all-white mushrooms with large fruiting bodies"
```

```
In [ ]: smalldb.similarity_search(question, k=2)
In [ ]: smalldb.max_marginal_relevance_search(question,k=2, fetch_k=3)
```

Addressing Diversity: Maximum marginal relevance

Last class we introduced one problem: how to enforce diversity in the search results.

Maximum marginal relevance strives to achieve both relevance to the query *and diversity* among the results.

Note the difference in results with MMR.

```
In [ ]: docs_mmr = vectordb.max_marginal_relevance_search(question,k=3)
In [ ]: docs_mmr[0].page_content[:100]
In [ ]: docs_mmr[1].page_content[:100]
```

Addressing Specificity: working with metadata

In last lecture, we showed that a question about the third lecture can include results from other lectures as well To address this, many vectorstores support operations on metadata.

metadata provides context for each embedded chunk.

```
In [ ]:
```

Addressing Specificity: working with metadata using self-query retriever

But we have an interesting challenge: we often want to infer the metadata from the query itself.

To address this, we can use SelfQueryRetriever, which uses an LLM to extract:

- 1. The query string to use for vector search
- 2. A metadata filter to pass in as well

Most vector databases support metadata filters, so this doesn't require any new databases or indexes.

```
In [ ]: | from langchain.llms import OpenAI
        from langchain.retrievers.self query.base import SelfQueryRetriever
        from langchain.chains.query constructor.base import AttributeInfo
In [ ]: |metadata_field_info = [
            AttributeInfo(
                 name="source",
                 description="The lecture the chunk is from, should be one of `docs/c
                 type="string",
             ),
            AttributeInfo(
                 name="page",
                 description="The page from the lecture",
                 type="integer",
             ),
        ]
In [ ]: | document content description = "Lecture notes"
        11m = OpenAI(temperature=0)
        retriever = SelfQueryRetriever.from llm(
            11m,
            vectordb,
            document_content_description,
            metadata field info,
            verbose=True
In [ ]: question = "what did they say about regression in the third lecture?"
```

You will receive a warning about predict_and_parse being deprecated the first time you executing the next line. This can be safely ignored.

```
In [ ]: docs = retriever.get_relevant_documents(question)
```

```
In [ ]: for d in docs:
    print(d.metadata)
```

Additional tricks: compression

Another approach for improving the quality of retrieved docs is compression.

Information most relevant to a query may be buried in a document with a lot of irrelevant text.

Passing that full document through your application can lead to more expensive LLM calls and poorer responses.

Contextual compression is meant to fix this.

Combining various techniques

Other types of retrieval

It's worth noting that vectordb as not the only kind of tool to retrieve documents.

The LangChain retriever abstraction includes other ways to retrieve documents, such as TF-IDF or SVM.

```
In [ ]: | from langchain.retrievers import SVMRetriever
        from langchain.retrievers import TFIDFRetriever
        from langchain.document loaders import PyPDFLoader
        from langchain.text splitter import RecursiveCharacterTextSplitter
In [ ]: # Load PDF
        loader = PyPDFLoader("docs/cs229_lectures/MachineLearning-Lecture01.pdf")
        pages = loader.load()
        all_page_text=[p.page_content for p in pages]
        joined_page_text=" ".join(all_page_text)
        # Split
        text splitter = RecursiveCharacterTextSplitter(chunk size = 1500,chunk overl
        splits = text_splitter.split_text(joined_page_text)
In [ ]: # Retrieve
        svm retriever = SVMRetriever.from texts(splits,embedding)
        tfidf_retriever = TFIDFRetriever.from_texts(splits)
In [ ]: question = "What are major topics for this class?"
        docs svm=svm retriever.get relevant documents(question)
        docs_svm[0]
        question = "what did they say about matlab?"
In [ ]:
        docs tfidf=tfidf retriever.get relevant documents(question)
        docs tfidf[0]
In [ ]:
```