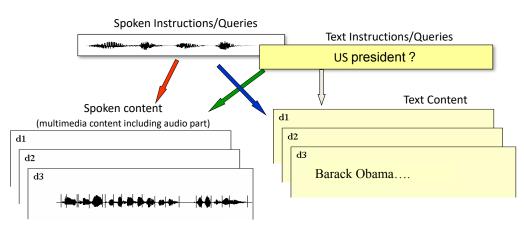
10.0 Speech-based Information Retrieval

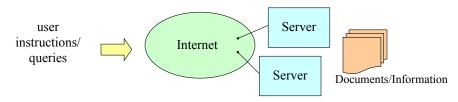
Speech-based Information Retrieval



- User instructions and/or network content can be in form of voice
 - text queries/spoken content : spoken document retrieval, spoken term detection
 - spoken queries/text content : voice search
 - spoken queries/spoken content : query by example spoken content

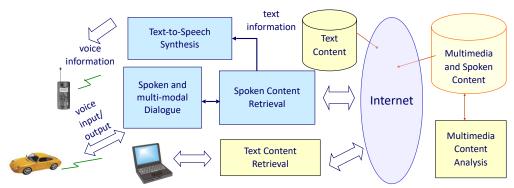
Text/Speech-based Information Retrieval

Text-based information retrieval extremely successful



- information desired by the users can be obtained very efficiently
- all users like it
- producing very successful industry
- All roles of texts can be accomplished by voice
 - spoken content or multimedia content with voice in audio part
 - voice instructions/queries via handheld devices
- · Speech-based information retrieval

Wireless and Multimedia Technologies are Creating An Environment for Speech-based Information Retrieval



- Many hand-held devices with multimedia functionalities available
- Unlimited quantities of multimedia content fast growing over the Internet
- User-content interaction necessary for retrieval can be accomplished by spoken and multi-modal dialogues
- Network access is primarily text-based today, but almost all roles of texts can be accomplished by voice

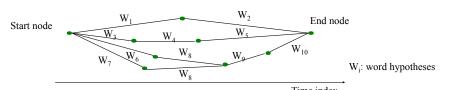
Basic Approach for Spoken Content Retrieval

Recognition Language Acoustic Lexicon Engine Models Model Spoken Content **Retrieval Results** (list of spoken Text-based documents/utterances) Search **Transcriptions** Query Q **Engine** (text or transcribed if in voice)

- Transcribe the spoken content
- Search over the transcriptions as they are texts
- Recognition errors cause serious performance degradation

Lattices for Spoken Content Retrieval

- Low recognition accuracies for spontaneous speech including Out-of-Vocabulary (OOV) words under adverse environment
 - considering lattices with multiple alternatives rather than 1-best output

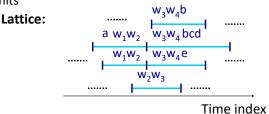


- > higher probability of including correct words, but also including more noisy words
- > correct words may still be excluded (OOV and others)
- ➤ huge memory and computation requirements

Other Approach Examples in addition to Lattices OOV or Rare Words Handled by Subword Units

- Confusion Matrices
 - use of confusion matrices to model recognition errors and expand the query/document, etc.
- Pronunciation Modeling
 - use of pronunciation models to expand the query, etc.
- Fuzzy Matching
 - query/content matching not necessarily exact

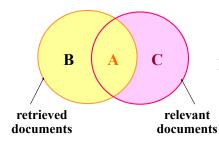
- OOV Word $W=w_1w_2w_3w_4$ can't be recognized and never appears in lattice
 - w_i: subword units: phonemes, syllables...
 - a, b, c, d, e : other subword units



- $W=w_1w_2w_3w_4$ hidden at subword level
 - can be matched at subword level without being recognized
- Frequently Used Subword Units
 - Linguistically motivated units: phonemes, syllables/characters, morphemes, etc.
 - Data-driven units: particles, word fragments, phone multigrams, morphs, etc.

Performance Measures (1/2)

• Recall and Precision Rates



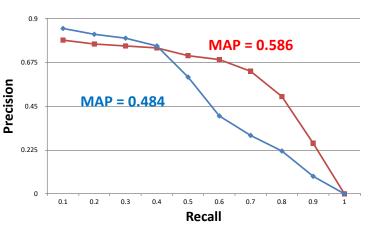
Precision rate =
$$\frac{A}{A+B}$$

Recall rate =
$$\frac{A}{A+C}$$

- recall rate may be difficult to evaluate, while precision rate is directly perceived by users
- recall-precision plot with varying thresholds

Performance Measures (2/2)

- MAP (mean average precision)
 - area under recall-precision curve
 - a performance measure frequently used for information retrieval



References

• General or basic Spoken Content Retrieval

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- Martha Larson and Gareth J. F. Jones (2012) "Spoken Content Retrieval: A Survey of Techniques and Technologies", Foundations and Trends in Information Retrieval: Vol. 5: No 4-5, pp 235-422
- "An Introduction to Voice Search", Signal Processing Magazine, IEEE, Vol. 25, 2008

• Text-based Information Retrieval

http://nlp.stanford.edu/IR-book/
 Christopher D. Manning, Prabhakar Raghavan, Hinrich Schütze,
 Introduction to Information Retrieval, Cambridge University Press. 2008.

Vector Space Model

• Vector Representations of query Q and document d

- for each type j of indexing feature (e.g. syllable, word, etc.) a vector is generated - each component in this vector is the weighted statistics z_{jt} of a specific indexing term t (e.g. syllable s_i)

$$z_{jt} = \underbrace{\left(1 + \ln[c_t]\right)}_{\text{Term Frequency}} \underbrace{\frac{\ln(N/N_t)}{\ln\text{verse Document Frequency}}_{\text{(IDF)}}$$

c_t: frequency counts for the indexing term t present in the query q or document d (for text), or sum of normalized recognition scores or confidence measures for the indexing term t (for speech)

N: total number of documents in the database

N_t: total number of documents in the database which include the indexing term t IDF: the significance (or importance) or indexing power for the indexing term t

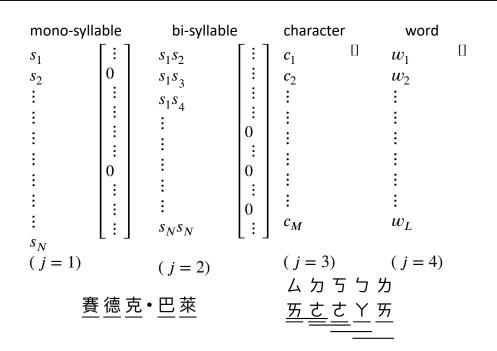
• The Overall Relevance Score is the Weighted Sum of the Relevance Scores for all Types of Indexing Features $R_{j}(Q_{j}, d_{j}) = Q_{j} \bullet d_{j} \qquad Q_{j} \parallel \cdot \parallel d_{j} \parallel$

 $\overrightarrow{q}_{j}, \overrightarrow{d}_{j}$: vector representations for query q and document d with type j of indexing feature $S(Q, d) = \sum w_{j} \cdot R_{j}(\overrightarrow{Q}_{j}, \overrightarrow{d}_{j})$

 w_i : weighting coefficients

10

Vector Space Model



Difficulties in Speech-based Information Retrieval for Chinese Language

- Even for Text-based Information Retrieval, Flexible Wording Structure Makes it Difficult to Search by Comparing the Character Strings Alone
 - 李登輝→李前總統登輝,李前主席登輝(President T.H Lee) -name/title
 - 北二高→北部第二高速公路(Second Northern Freeway) - arbitrary abbreviation
 - 華航→中華航空公司(China Airline)
 - 中華文化→中國文化(Chinese culture) - similar phrases
 - 巴塞隆那→巴瑟隆納(Barcelona) - translated terms
- Word Segmentation Ambiguity Even for Text-based Information Retrieval
 - 腦科(human brain studies) →電腦科學(computer science)
 - 土地公(God of earth) →土地公有政策(policy of public sharing of the land)
- Uncertainties in Speech Recognition
 - errors (deletion, substitution, insertion)
 - out of vocabulary (OOV) words, etc.
 - -very often the key phrases for retrieval are OOV

Syllable-Level Indexing Features for Chinese Language

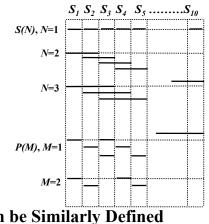
A Whole Class of Syllable-Level Indexing Features for Better **Discrimination**

- Overlapping syllable segments with length N

Syllable Segments	Examples
S(N), N=1	(s ₁) (s ₂)(s ₁₀)
S(N), N=2	(S ₁ S ₂) (S ₂ S ₃)(S ₉ S ₁₀)
S(N), N=3	(S ₁ S ₂ S ₃) (S ₂ S ₃ S ₄)(S ₈ S ₉ S ₁₀)
S(N), N=4	(S ₁ S ₂ S ₃ S ₄) (S ₂ S ₃ S ₄ S ₅)(S ₇ S ₈ S ₉ S ₁₀)
S(N), N=5	(S1 S2 S2 S4 S5) (S2 S2 S4 S5 S6)(S6 S7 S8 S0 S10)

- Syllable pairs separated by M syllables

	Syllable Pair Separated by M syllables	Examples
	P(M), M=1	(S ₁ S ₃) (S ₂ S ₄)(S ₈ S ₁₀)
	P(M), M=2	(S ₁ S ₄) (S ₂ S ₅)(S ₇ S ₁₀)
Cha	P(M), M=3 racter- or Word- P(M), M=4	(\$ ₁ \$ ₂) (\$ ₂ \$ ₂)(\$ ₆ \$ ₁₀) Level Features ca (\$ ₁ \$ ₆) (\$ ₂ \$ ₇)(\$ ₅ \$ ₁₀)



Syllable-Level Statistical Features

Single Syllables

- all words are composed by syllables, thus partially handle the OOV problem
- very often relevant words have some syllables in common
- each syllable usually shared by more than one characters with different meanings, thus causing ambiguity
- Overlapping Syllable Segments with Length N
 - capturing the information of polysyllabic words or phrases with flexible wording structures
 - majority of Chinese words are bi-syllabic
 - not too many polysyllabic words share the same pronunciation

• Syllable Pairs Separated by M Syllables

- tackling the problems arising from the flexible wording structure, abbreviations, and deletion, insertion, substitution errors in speech recognition

Improved Syllable-level Indexing Features

• Syllable-aligned Lattices and syllable-level utterance verification

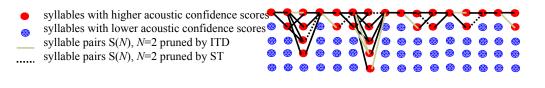
- Including multiple syllable hypothesis to construct syllable-aligned lattices for both query and documents
- Generating multiple syllable-level indexing features from syllable lattices
- filtering out indexing terms with lower acoustic confidence scores

• Infrequent term deletion (ITD)

 Syllable-level statistics trained with text corpus used to prune infrequent indexing terms

• Stop terms (ST)

- Indexing terms with the lowest IDF scores are taken as the stop terms



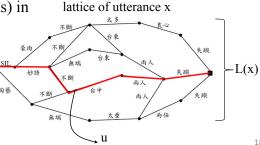
Expected Term Frequencies

• E(t,x): expected term frequency for term t in the lattice of an utterance x

$$E(t,x) = \sum_{u \in L(x)} N(t,u) P(u \mid x)$$

- u: a word sequence (path) in the lattice of an utterance x
- P(u|x): posterior probability of the word sequence u given x
- N(t,u): the occurrence count of term t in word sequence u

 L(x): all the word sequences (paths) in the lattice of an utterance x

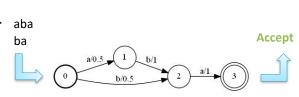


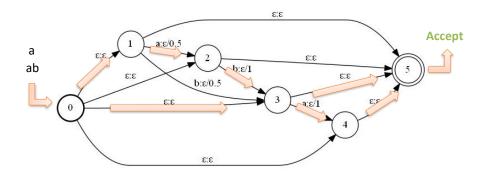
WFST for Retrieval (1/4)

Factor Automata

 The finite state machines accepting all substrings of the original machine

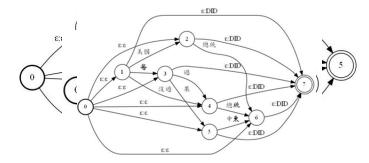
 retrieval is to have all substrings considered





WFST for Retrieval (2/4)

- The index transducer of text document
 - Every substring of the document is transduced to the corresponding document ID (e.g., 3014)
- For spoken documents, the index transducers are generated from lattices directly
- The index transducer of the whole corpus
 - Union of all transducers of all utterances

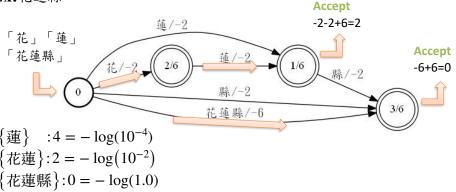


WFST for Retrieval (3/4)

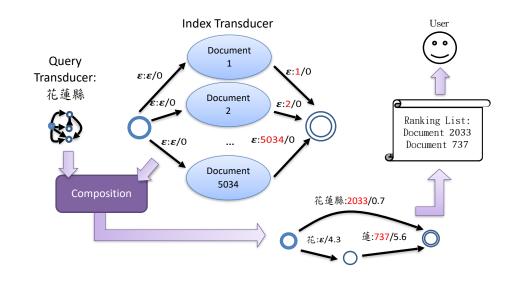
Query Transducer

- Split the guery string into words, characters, syllables, etc.
- Generate the query transducer
- Factorize the automaton
- Distribute weights over different transitions



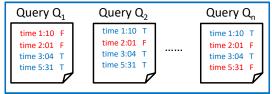


WFST for Retrieval (4/4)



Improved Retrieval by Training

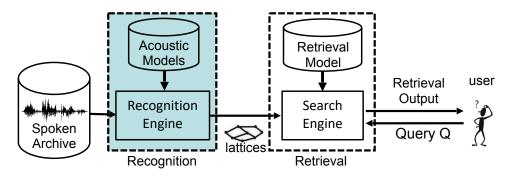
- Improve the retrieval with some training data
 - Training data: a set of queries and associated relevant/irrelevant utterances



- Can be collected from user data
 - > e.g. click-through data
- Improve text-based search engine
 - e.g. learn weights for different clues (such as different recognizers, different subword units ...)
- Optimize the recognition models for retrieval performance
 - Considering retrieval and recognition processes as a whole
 - Re-estimate HMM parameters

HMM Parameter Re-estimation

- Retrieval considered on top of recognition output in the past
 - recognition and retrieval as two cascaded stages
 - retrieval performance relying on recognition accuracy
- Considering retrieval and recognition processes as a whole
 - acoustic models re-estimated by optimizing retrieval performance
 - acoustic models better matched to each respective data set



HMM Parameter Re-estimation

• Objective Function for re-estimating HMM

$$\hat{\lambda} = \arg\max_{\lambda} \sum_{Q \in Q_{train}} \sum_{x_t, x_f} \left[S(Q, x_t \mid \lambda) - S(Q, x_f \mid \lambda) \right]$$

 λ : set of HMM parameters, $\hat{\lambda}$: re-estimated parameters for retrieval

 Q_{train} : training query set

 x_t , x_f : positive/negative examples for query Q

 $S(Q,x|\lambda)$: relevance score of utterance x given query Q and model parameters set λ (Since S(Q,x) is obtained from lattice, it depends on HMM parameters λ .)

Find new HMM parameters for recognition

such that the relevance scores of positive and negative examples are better separated.

References

WFST for Retrieval

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- D. Can and M. Saraclar, "Lattice indexing for spoken term detection," IEEE Transactions on Audio, Speech, and Language Processing, vol. 19, no. 8, pp. 2338–2347, 2011.

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 "Discriminating Capabilities of Syllable-based Features and Approaches of Utilizing Them for Voice Retrieval of Speech Information in Mandarin Chinese", IEEE Transactions on Speech and Audio Processing, Vol.10, No.5, July 2002, pp.303-314.

• Training Retrieval Systems

- Click-through data
 - Thorsten Joachims. 2002. Optimizing search engines using clickthrough data.
 In Proceedings of the eighth ACM SIGKDD international conference on Knowledge discovery and data mining (KDD '02)
- Improve text-based search engine
 - "Improved Lattice-based Spoken Document Retrieval by Directly Learning from the evaluation Measures", IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing, 2009
- Re-estimate HMM parameters
 - "Integrating Recognition and Retrieval With Relevance Feedback for Spoken Term Detection," *Audio, Speech, and Language Processing, IEEE Transactions on*, vol.20, no.7, pp.2095-2110, Sept. 2012

Pseudo-relevance Feedback (PRF) (1/3)

- Collecting training data can be expensive
- Pseudo-relevance feedback (PRF):
 - Generate training data automatically
 - Procedure:
 - Generate first-pass retrieval results
 - assume the top N objects on the first-pass retrieval results are relevant (pseudo relevant)
 - assume the bottom M objects on the first-pass retrieval results are irrelevant (pseudo irrelevant)
 - Re-ranking: scores of objects similar to the pseudo-relevant/irrelevant objects increased/decreased

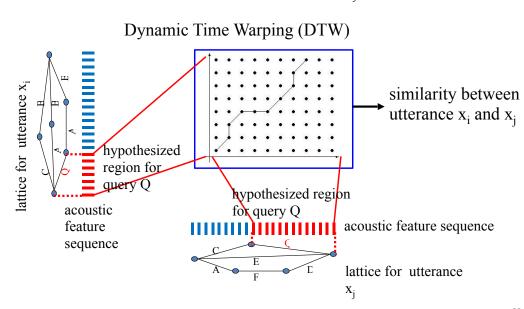
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Pseudo-relevance Feedback (PRF) (2/3)

Query Q Final Results Search Spoken Engine archive Top N "assumed" time 1:01 time 1:01 relevant time 2:16 Compute time 2:05 (pseudo-relevant) time 7:22 time 1:45 acoustic similarity **Bottom N** time 2:16 time 2:05 time 7:33 "assumed" time 1:45 time 9:91 time 9:01 irrelevant (pseudo-irrelevant) First-pass Re-rank Retrieval Results Re-rank: increase/decrease the score of utterances having higher **acoustic similarity** with pseudo-relevant/-irrelevant utterances

Pseudo-relevance Feedback (PRF) (3/3)

• Acoustic similarity between two utterances x_i and x_i

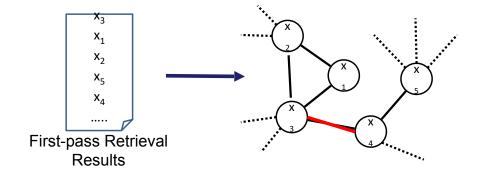


Improved PRF – Graph-based Approach (2/4)

- Graph-based approach
 - only the top N/bottom N utterances are taken as references in PRF

Improved PRF – Graph-based Approach (1/4)

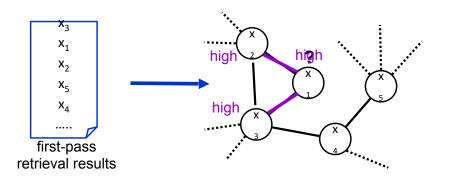
- not necessarily reliable
- considering the acoustic similarity structure of all utterances in the first-pass retrieval results globally using a graph
- Construct a graph for all utterances in the first-pass retrieval results
 - nodes : utterances
 - edge weights: acoustic similarities between utterances

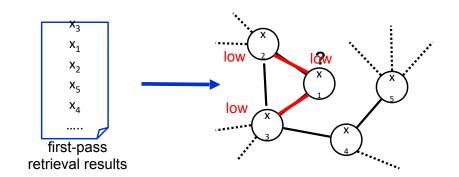


Improved PRF – Graph-based Approach (3/4)

Improved PRF – Graph-based Approach (3/4)

- high relevance scores should have relevance scores increased
- Utterances strongly connected to (similar to) utterances with Utterances strongly connected to (similar to) utterances with low relevance scores should have relevance scores reduced





Improved PRF – Graph-based Approach (4/4)

PageRank and Random Walk (1/2)

• Object ranking by their relations

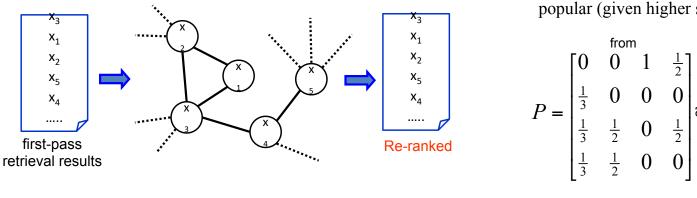
- Rank web pages for Google search

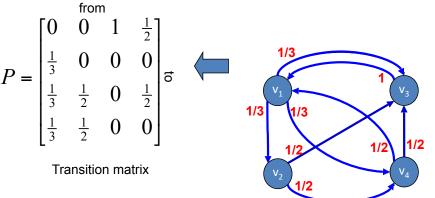
Relevance scores propagate on the graph

- relevance scores smoothed among strongly connected nodes

Basic Idea

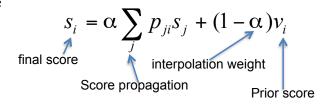
- Objects having high connectivity to other high-score objects are popular (given higher scores)





PageRank and Random Walk (2/2)

- The score of each object is related to the score of its neighbors and its prior score
- Final steady state



• In matrix form

$$\overrightarrow{s} = \alpha P \overrightarrow{s} + (1 - \alpha) \overrightarrow{v} = \alpha P \overrightarrow{s} = \{s(1 + s_2 \alpha) \overrightarrow{v} e^T \overrightarrow{s} \overrightarrow{v} = [v_1, v_2, \cdots]^T \\ = [\alpha P + (1 - \alpha) \overrightarrow{v} e^T] \overrightarrow{s} = P' \overrightarrow{s}, \\ e^T = [1, 1, 1, \cdots, 1], e^T \overrightarrow{s} = \sum_i s_i = 1 \\ - \overrightarrow{s} \text{ is the solution to the eigenvalue problem}$$

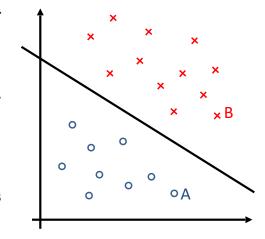
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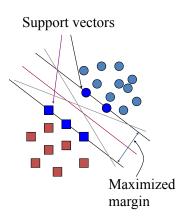
Support Vector Machine (SVM) (1/2)

- Problem definition
 - suppose there are two classes of objects (positive and negative)
 - goal: classify new objects given training examples
- Represent each object as an Ndimensional feature vector
 - o: positive example
 - x: negative example
- Find a hyperplane separating positive and negative examples
- Classify new objects by this hyperplane
 - point A is positive, point B is negative

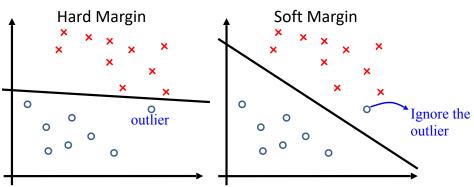


Support Vector Machine (SVM) (2/2)

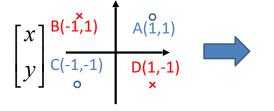
- Many hyperplanes can separate positive and negative examples
- Choose the one maximizing the "margin"
 - margin: the minimum distance between the examples and the hyperplane
- Some noise may change the feature vectors of the testing objects
 - large margin may minimize the chance of misclassification



SVM – Feature Mapping



- Original feature vectors (Non-separable)
- Map original feature vectors onto a higher-dimensional space



 $\begin{bmatrix} x^2 \\ y^2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{B(1,1,-1)} A(1,1,1)$ C(1,1,1) D(1,1,-1)(Can be separated by hyperplane z-xy=0)

- Hard Margin:
 - If some training examples are outliers, separating all positive/ negative examples may not be the best solution
- Soft Margin:
 - Tolerate some non-separable cases (outliers)

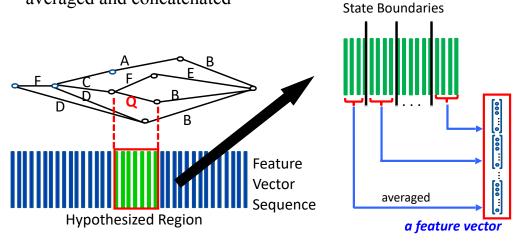
 If positive and negative examples are not linearly separable in the original feature vector form, map their feature vectors onto a higher-dimensional space where they may become separable

Improved PRF – SVM(1/3)

Query Q **Final Results** Search Spoken Engine archive Top N "assumed" **Positive examples** time 1:01 time 1:01 relevant Feature time 2:16 time 2:05 Extraction First-pass time 7:22 time 1:45 retrieval results time 2:05 time 2:16 time 7:33 time 1:45 SVM **Negative examples** ti<u>me 8:47</u> time 9:01 irrelevant Feature Re-ranking Extraction Train an SVM for each query

Improved PRF – SVM (2/3)

Representing each utterance by its hypothesized region segmented by HMM states, with feature vectors in each state averaged and concatenated

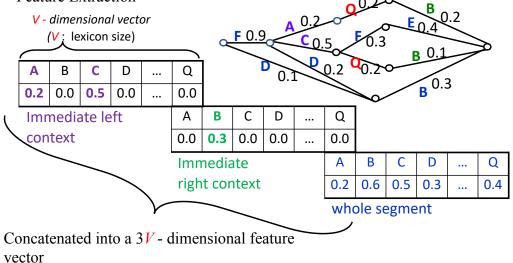


Improved PRF – SVM (3/3)

Context consistency

- the same term usually have similar context; while quite different context usually implies the terms are different

Feature Extraction



References

Pseudo-relevance Feedback (PRF)

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SVM-based Reranking

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- "Enhanced Spoken Term Detection Using Support Vector Machines and Weighted Pseudo Examples", IEEE Transactions on Audio, Speech and Language Processing, Vol. 21, No. 6, Jun 2013, pp. 1272-1284

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SVM

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- Bishop, C.M.
 - http://library.wur.nl/WebQuery/clc?achternaam==Bishop, "Pattern recognition and machine learning." Chapter 7.
- Nello Cristianini and John Shawe-Taylor. "An Introduction to Support Vector Machines: And Other Kernel-Based Learning Methods."

SVM Toolkit

- http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libsvm/ LibSVM
- http://svmlight.joachims.org/ **SVMlight**

Language Modeling Retrieval Approach (Text or Speech)

- Both query Q and spoken document d are represented as language models $\theta_{\rm Q}$ and θ_d (consider unigram only below, may be smoothed (or interpolated) by a background model θ_h)
- Given query Q, rank spoken documents d according to $S_{LM}(Q,d)$ $S_{IM}(Q,d) = -KL(\theta_Q \mid \theta_d)$
 - Inverse of KL divergence (KL distance) between θ_0 and θ_d
 - The documents with document models θ_d similar to query model θ_0 are more likely to be relevant

N(t, Q): Occurrence count or expected term frequency for term t in query Q Query model

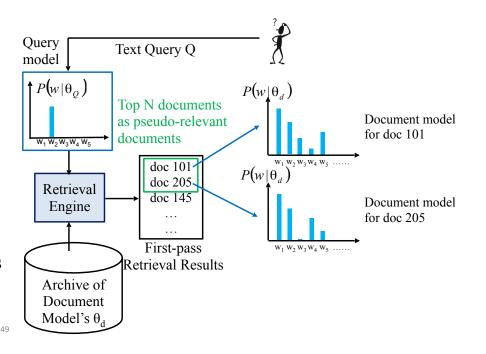
Document N(t, d): Occurrence count or expected term model frequency for term t in document d

 $N(t,d) = \sum_{x} E(t,x)$ E(t, x): Expected term frequency for term t in the lattice of utterance x (for speech)

Semantic Retrieval by Query Expansion

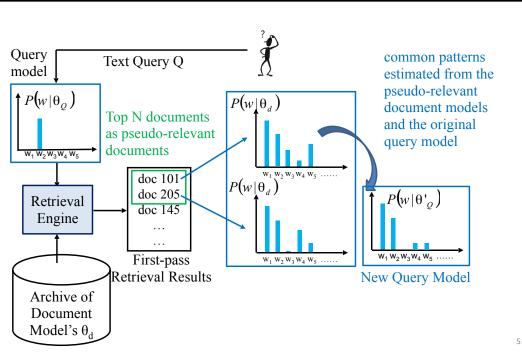
Semantic Retrieval by Query Expansion

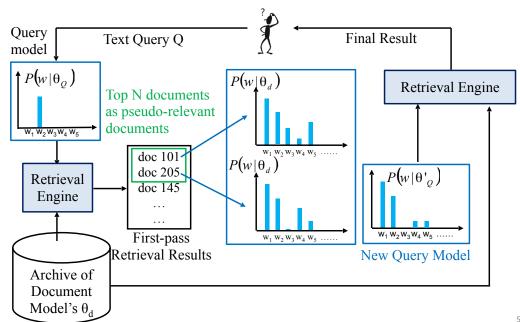
- Concept matching rather than Literal matching
- Returning utterances/documents semantically related to the query (e.g. Obama)
 - not necessarily containing the query (e.g. including US and White House, but not Obama)
- Expand the query (Obama) with semantically related terms (US and White House)
- Query expansion with language modeling retrieval approach
 - Realized by PRF
 - Find common term distribution in pseudo-relevant documents and use it to construct a new query for 2nd-phase retrieval



Semantic Retrieval by Query Expansion

Semantic Retrieval by Query Expansion





Semantic Retrieval by Document Expansion

- Document expansion
 - Consider a document only has terms US and White House
 - Add some semantically related terms (Obama) into the document model
- Document expansion for language modeling retrieval approach

$$P(t \mid \theta_d') = \alpha P(t \mid \theta_d) + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{i=1}^K P(t \mid T_i) P(T_i \mid d)$$

 $P(T_i|d)$: probability of observing topic T_i given document d $P(t|T_i)$: probability of observing term t given topic T_i

Obtained by latent topic analysis (e.g. PLSA)

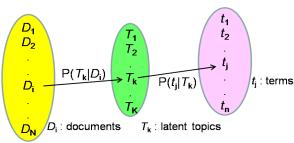
 θ_d : original document model

α: interpolation weight

 θ_d : expanded document model

Latent Topic Analysis

- An example: Probabilistic Latent Semantic Analysis (PLSA)
- Creating a set of latent topics between a set of terms and a set of documents



- modeling the relationships by probabilistic models trained with EM algorithm
- Other well-known approaches: Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA), Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF), Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)

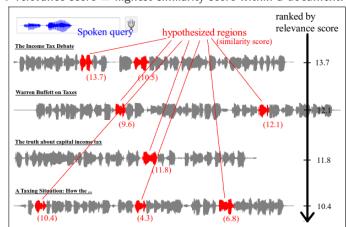
References

• Semantic Retrieval of Spoken Content

- "Improved Semantic Retrieval of Spoken Content by Language models Enhanced with Acoustic Similarity Graph", IEEE Workshop on Spoken Language Technology, 2012
- T. K. Chia, K. C. Sim, H. Li, and H. T. Ng, "Statistical lattice-based spoken document retrieval," ACM Trans. Inf. Syst., vol. 28, pp. 2:1–2:30, 2010.

Unsupervised Spoken Term Detection (STD) with Spoken Queries

- Search speech by speech no need to know which word is spoken
- No recognition, without annotated data, without knowledge about the language
- Bypass the difficulties of recognition: annotated data for the target domain, OOV words, recognition errors, noise conditions, etc.
 - \bullet relevance score \equiv highest similarity score within a document.



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Two major approaches for Unsupervised STD

• Template matching (signal-to-signal matching)

- Dynamic Time Warping (DTW) based, matching the signals directly
- Precise but less compatible to signal variations (by different speakers, different acoustic conditions, etc.) with higher computation requirements

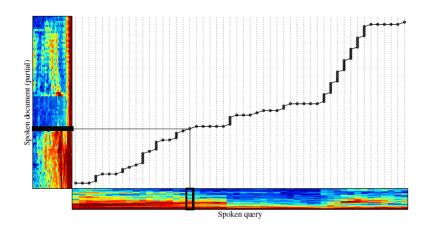
Model-based approach with automatically discovered patterns

- Representing signals by models and matching with these models
- Discovering acoustic patterns and training corresponding models without annotated data

Template Matching

• Dynamic time warping (DTW)

– Find possible speech regions that are similar to the query

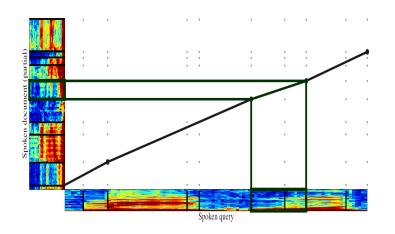


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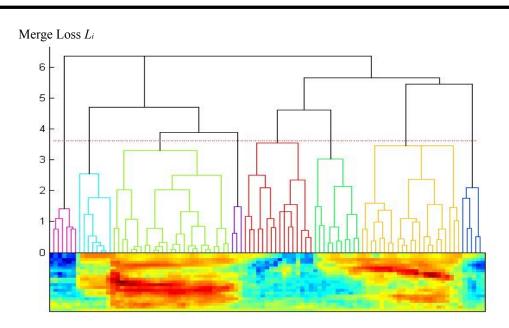
Template Matching

Segment-based DTW

- divide signals into segments of consecutive similar frames
- segment-by-segment matching rather than frame-by-frame
- Segment-based DTW (much faster but less precise) followed by frame-based DTW (slow but precise)



Hierarchical Agglomerative Clustering (HAC)



Hierarchical Agglomerative Clustering (HAC)

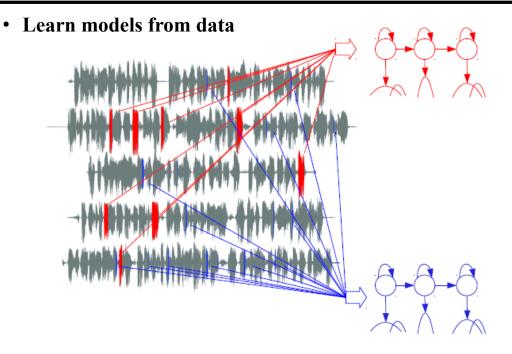
• Initial Condition

- Each frame of signal (i.e. a MFCC vector) is a segment

Merge

- calculate the distance between each pair of adjacent segments
- merge the pair with minimum distance into a single segment
- represent the merged segment by a vector (e.g. the mean)
- repeat

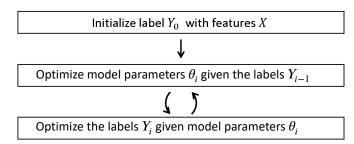
Model-based approach



Unsupervised Pattern Discovery

Unsupervised Discovery

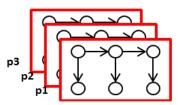
- without annotated data
- all patterns automatically learned from a set of corpora in unknown languages without linguistic knowledge



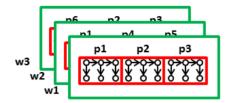
- Initializing Y_0
 - signal segmentation (based on waveform-level features) followed by segment clustering
- In each iteration i
 - train the best set of HMM models θ_i based on Y_{i-1} and then obtain a new set of labels Y_i based on θ_i

Unsupervised Automatic Discovery of Linguistic Structure

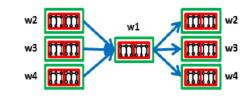
- Hierarchical Linguistic Structure Automatically Discovered
 - Subword-like pattern HMMs



Word-like pattern lexicon

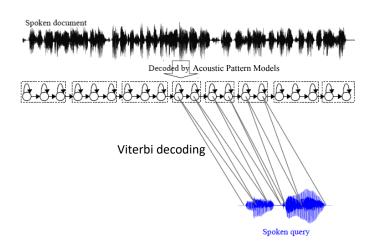


- Word-like pattern language model



Search Based on Model of Acoustic patterns

• Apply recognition-like approach with discovered models



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- "Speech and Multimodal Interaction in Mobile Search", IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, July 2011
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Overall

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- "Integrating Frame-Based and Segment-Based Dynamic Time Warping for Unsupervised Spoken Term Detection with Spoken Queries", International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing, Prague, Czech Republic, May 2011, pp. 5652-5655.
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HAC

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