Introduction

The Vector Space Model provides a way of searching relevant documents in a large database of documents and return a set of documents that match a query string of words.

Method:

- Represent the documents in a *term-document* matrix where the rows are the “dictionary terms” and columns are the “documents”.

- Represent the query as a vector of dictionary terms.

- Find the relevant documents by calculating the cosine of the angle between the “document vectors” and the “query vector” and selecting the set that has cosine values above a threshold.

Low Rank Approximation:

- Large number of entries in the term-document matrix effects queries and produces inaccurate results.

- So we need to find a low rank approximation of term-document matrix. Singular-Valued Decomposition is used to produce the low rank matrix.

- The query vector is also transformed to the low rank space.

S V D for Low Rank Approximation:

$A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$,is the term-document matrix

$$A = U\Sigma V^T$$

Where, Σ is the diagonal matrix with singular values $\sigma_1..\sigma_r$,

where r is the rank of the matrix

$$\mathbf{Rank}(A) = r$$

Get a low rank approximation A_k with $\mathbf{Rank}(A_k) = k$ for A

Set $\sigma_i = 0 \; for \; i > k$ such that it minimizes $||A - A_k||_F$

Now, we can express the SVD with the lower rank Σ_k, as

$$A_k = U^{m \times k} \Sigma_k^{k \times k} {V^T}^{k \times n}$$

Thus we have the low rank matrix as

$$A_k \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$$

If $A_{k(i,j)} = 0 \;\; \forall i > l \; and \; \forall j \in 1 \rightarrow n$, we can remove those rows from A_k and represent it as a $l \times n$ matrix

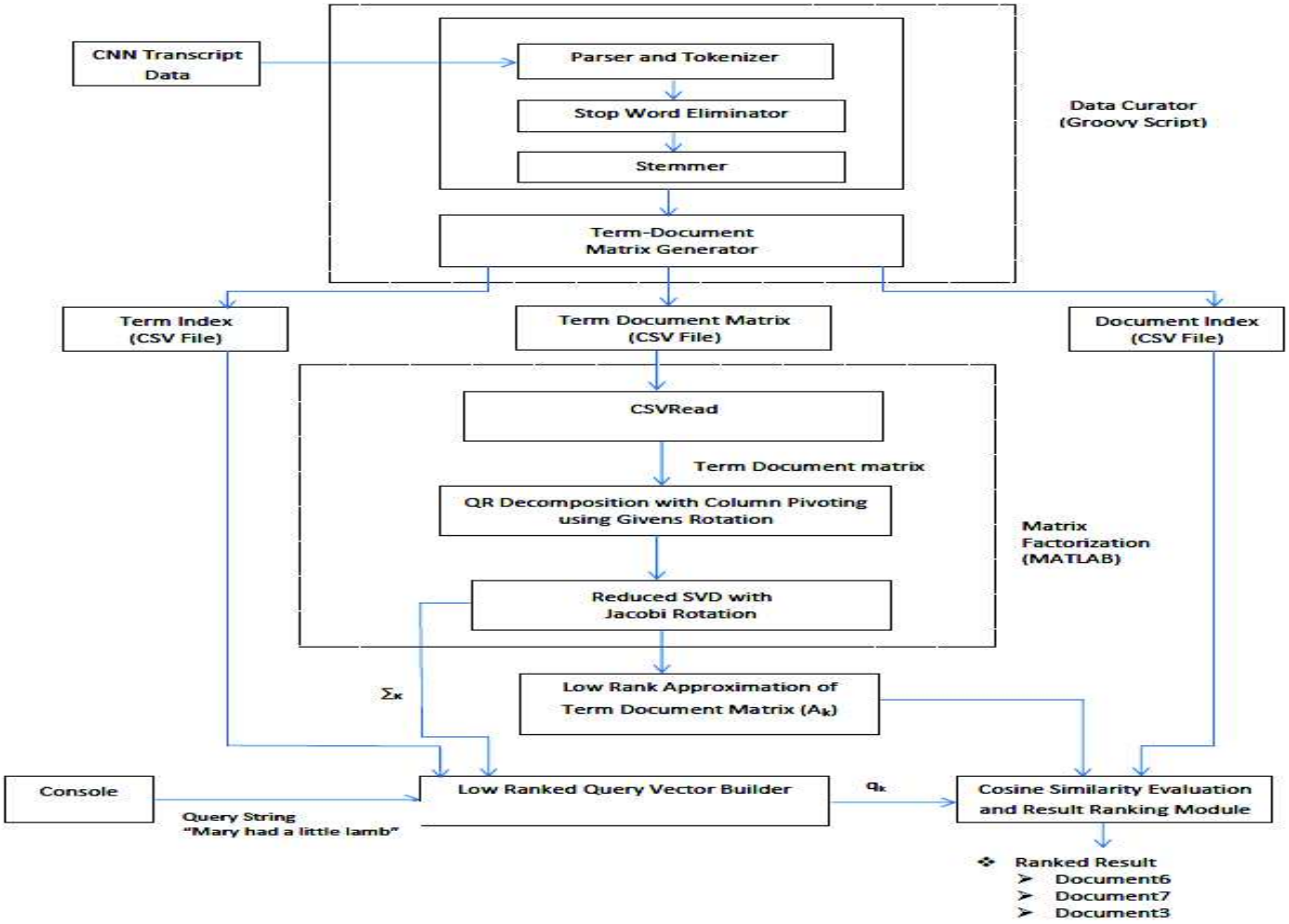
The query vector Q can be mapped to the new space using the following transformation

$$q_k = {\Sigma_k}^{-1} U_k^T Q$$

Then the proximity of the query to each of the document can be got from the $\cos\theta$ of the angle between them as

$$\cos\theta = \frac{q_k^T . A_{k(j)}}{||q_k^T|| ||A_{k(j)}||} \; where \; A_{k(j)} \text{ is each column vector in } A_k$$

Experimental Setup



Results:

- The document term matrix was rank deficient , and of rank 81
- 5 low rank approximations of the matrix of rank, 8,10,20,40,81 where saved to disk in different files
- The search query was executed against each of these saved matrices separately and results where compared

Results:

- The search results from the lower ranked matrices of 8,10,20 where generally more relevant and gave importance to the variation between the documents
- The search results from the higher ranked matrices of 40,80 where similar in most cases

Sample Results:

EDU>> vecquery

Enter the string to search (e.g. tripoli peopl hide gadhafi) :

georg zimmerman claim fire defenc

Searching documents fro query string georg zimmerman claim fire defenc

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Searching through term doc matrix with rank 8

Closest matching DocNo=93 _document509.txt

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Searching through term doc matrix with rank 10

Closest matching DocNo=93 _document509.txt

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Searching through term doc matrix with rank 20

Closest matching DocNo=93 _document509.txt

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Searching through term doc matrix with rank 41

Closest matching DocNo=93 _document509.txt

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Searching through term doc matrix with rank 82

Closest matching DocNo=93 _document509.txt