Duplicate recognition for restaurant dataset*

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Abstract—This document describes the analysis and removal of duplicates from the restaurants dataset. The aim is to remove as many duplicates as possible from the dataset and store the data without duplicates in a cloud hosted mongodb instance. A problem when finding duplicates of restaurants (or nearly any other dataset) is the format and the different writing of the entries in the data. This problem was already researched by several IEEE members (quelle). Within my research there were made different approaches to remove the duplicates which are described below. The accuracy of the results is measured with precision, recall and F-score. After removing the duplicates the cleared dataset is stored into a mongodb cluster so that it can be accessed any time. In this paper I will also describe some techniques which I haven't used in my project but are also very useful.

Index Terms—component, formatting, style, styling, insert

I. Introduction

In times where big data gets more and more attraction from the industry it is very important to learn how to deal with it. Especially when it comes to the structure and format of the data. When looking at big data, it is most of the time a problem that there are duplicates and unclean entries in a dataset. This gives inaccurate results when analyzing or working with this data. That happens because most of the time there isn't that much preprocessing happening and there aren't even checks for a standard data format. To learn how to deal with duplicate data, the restaurants dataset is used. This isn't actually big data, but to understand the importance of the preprocessing task it is pretty good because it's considered as a well researched dataset to play with and compare to the gold standard.

In my research I've looked into different approaches to detect duplicates and remove them from the dataset. The first approach was to just remove all duplicates that are in the data, this wasn't successful because most of the duplicates have different writings or completely different values in some of the fields. So I started to analyze the data and look for potential duplicates and how to prepare them so that the program can match them. The first step was to remove all special characters and some other unnecessary contents in the different columns. After that I investigated which columns are the most useful when it comes to duplicate detection.

After researching and removing potential duplicates, I calculated the count for true positives, false positives, true negatives and false negatives of my prediction with the help of the gold standard duplicate dataset which was evaluated by hand. With the help of these metrics I calculated the recall and precision

for my result to get a better understanding, how good my evaluations were. As a conclusion the values I got were:

- All entries in original dataset: 864
- Detected duplicates (all): 111
- Real duplicates (from gold standard): 112

True positives: 103
True negatives: 744
False positives: 8
False negatives: 9
Precision: 0.93
Recall: 0.92

After the methods are applied and the duplicates are removed it is necessary to store the new dataset somewhere. For this I have choosen mongodb because of it's great compatibility with many programming languages and the low expenses when you want to store data in it. Mongodb could also be used for many preprocessing tasks because of the great aggregation framework that it offers.

II. THE RESTAURANTS DATASET

The restaurants dataset which is researhed in this paper is a .tsv dataset which contains 864 rows of data with six columns. The columns of the dataset are:

- id: The unique id of each row
- name: The name of the restaurant
- address: The address where the restaurant is located
- city: The city of the restaurant
- phone: The phone number of the restaurant
- type: The kind of the restaurant (i.e. french or american)

In the data there are 122 duplicated restaurants. These duplicates were picked by hand from some researchers to define a gold standard which would be the best possible result after removing all duplicates. The duplicates that occur in the dataset have different deviations from each other. For example some duplicates have a different order of the words in their name field like "the palm" and "palm the". Others have different separators for the phone number like "310/659-9639" and "310-659-9639". Sometimes the city field of the duplicates is a district from a bigger city and sometimes it's the city name itself like "los angeles" and "hollywood". There are even more different deviations in the dataset as well whose solution to detect them will be discussed later in section III Methods used to detect duplicates section.

In my research I focused mostly on the columns name, city, address and phone because they have the most useful information when it comes to duplicate detection. The id column was left out because it's only a unique identifier which wouldn't bring a benefit for duplicate recognition. The type column was left out because there are to much restaurants with the same type which would result in an unclean target data record.

Besides of the plain restaurants dataset there is also a dataset given which contains all the duplicates in the data by id. In this duplicate set, there are only two columns, "id1" and "id2" which define the original id and the duplicate id. A dataset without all these duplicates is considered as gold standard. The reached results will be measured to this gold standard.

III. METHODS USED TO DETECT DUPLICATES IV. POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS V. OTHER GOOD METHODS TO DETECT DUPLICATES

VI. INTRODUCTION

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TABLE I TABLE TYPE STYLES

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^aSample of a Table footnote.



Fig. 1. Example of a figure caption.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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