



# reddit

## search engine

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spring 2022 - information retrieval

ALOYSIUS ARNO WIPUTRA  
ASHLEY VALDEZ  
ANDREW MOLINA  
DEVAAUM SHAH

1244139  
1257891  
1255187  
1310191

Chapter 1

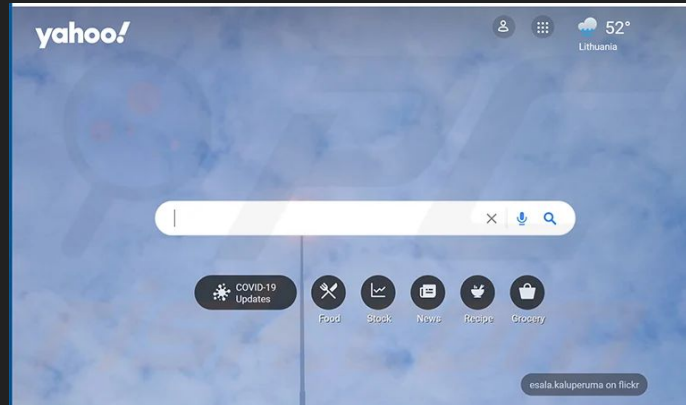
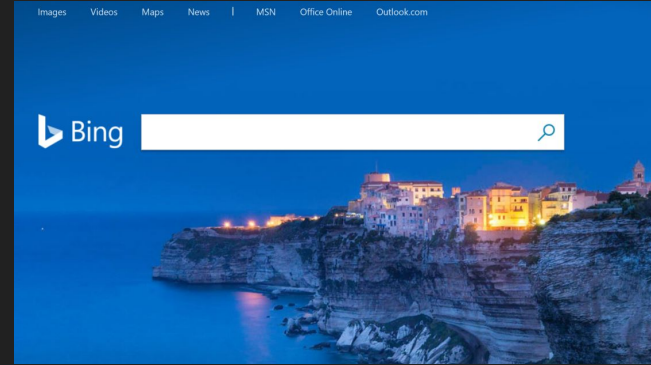
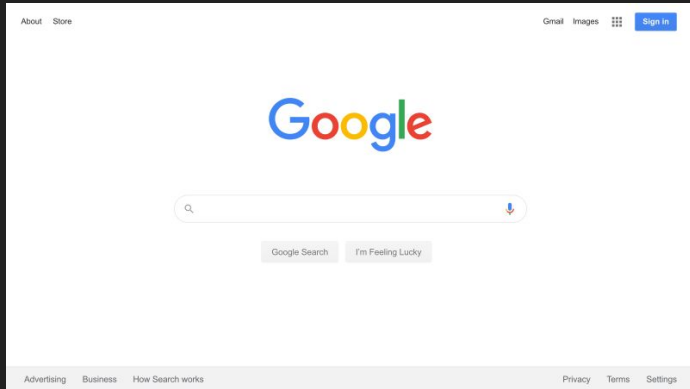
# project background

# Reddit Overview

- Collection of forums that are shared and searched
  - Text posts
  - News/information
  - Images/videos
- Users search for communities (subreddits) that interest them
  - ex: video games or sports
- Users can upvote or downvote on posts in the subreddit which makes that particular post more popular on that specific subreddit
  - allows interesting posts to be at the top of sorting list and uninteresting posts at the bottom

# Other Search Engines

1. Google ( Known as #1 search engine)
  2. Bing
  3. Yahoo
- Competitors - more on the same level



# Issues with Reddit Search Engine

- posts that you search just don't show up
  - people rely on google instead
    - Using parameter "site:reddit.com"

Why is the Reddit search engine so awful?

submitted 5 years ago \* (last edited 5 years ago) by JackRayleigh

I understand that people pick crappy titles for their threads like "Found this little gem" which tells you nothing.

But the search engine is freaking horrific. Try searching for "Out of the Loop" and you will never find the subreddit and instead will have 45 knock off ones talking about the real one. Yet if you go to Google and just type in "Reddit Out of the Loop" it brings it up right away. WTF?

I will see a front page post and then try to find it a few hours later and absolutely NO combination of search terms will be able to find it, even when searching to only show posts for the last 24 hours. Yet if you just go scroll through ten pages of posts on the Subreddit you will find it.

Is there some reason why the Reddit search is so bad that it can't even find major subreddits when you type their name in?

It also fails like 85% of the time for me and I have to refresh 2-5 times to even get it to stop crying about the servers being over loaded

ELI5: Why the Reddit search engine rarely works

(self.explainlikeimfive)

submitted 10 years ago by icedragincajun

146 comments source share save hide give award report crosspost hide all child comments

Why does reddit search suck so much?

submitted 3 years ago by weab00

16



The reddit search engine is BAD

submitted 6 years ago by Frigorifico

# The Problem

- Our problem was optimizing the result where we obtain useful information from reddit
- We tackled this problem by creating a search engine that helps locate useful information on reddit

# Methods

- Methods such as **lemmatization**, **stemming**, **tokenization**, and **stopword removal** are vital components to natural language processing and are key to the functioning of our search engine

# Definitions

- **Tokenization** is essentially splitting raw text into individual words or terms called tokens
- **Stemming** identifies the root form of a word
- **Lemmatization** groups different forms of the same word
- **Stopword removal** breaks down the size of the raw text by removing commonly used words



Chapter 2

# data description

# data description

# Description

- 1889 json files
- 91.8 MB

1,889 items selected



Date modified: 01-May-22 12:19 PM

Size: 91.8 MB

Date created: 01-May-22 01:59 AM

```
... Goruck Ballistic Trainers Durability Review Almost Perfect With One Glaring Flaw_tebady.json ...
{"title": "Goruck Ballistic Trainers Durability Review: Almost Perfect With One Glaring Flaw", "name": "t3_tebady", "url": "https://www.reddit.com/r/BuyItForLife/comments/tebady/goruck_ballistic_trainers_durability_review/", "selftext": "TL;DR: There is a lot of great durability-focused design in these sneakers, but the inside of the heel cup simply isn't abrasion-resistant enough, and wore through despite every other part of the shoe showing almost no wear. The wear that has happened has had a minimal effect on my ability to wear the shoes, though.\n\nI purchased them mid October, so they're nearly 5 months old. I had gotten mixed reviews in terms of durability when I picked them up, but I really liked the way they look, so I decided to pull the trigger and take the chance. I've been wearing them 3-5 times a week, for pretty much everything, including running on pavement, the gym, and the office. They've been my most-worn pair of shoes for most of the time I've owned them, but I do still rotate between a lot of different shoes.\n\nThe outsole has held up remarkably well. I've only just started nearing the bottom of the tread pattern in the hotspots, and I expect it will be quite a while before the outsole becomes anywhere near smooth enough to be slippery on wet smooth stone sidewalks (a legitimate safety concern in my area, and my benchmark for when an outsole is unusable), and / or wears through the outermost layer.\n\nThe upper as well shows almost no signs of wear, besides a bit of dirt I've been too lazy to clean off. The flex zones haven't started wearing out, and the upper is still firmly glued to the sole along its entire length. The laces have started to show some abrasion around the holes, but laces are consumable items as far as I'm concerned.\n\nInside the shoe it's a totally different story. While the feel of the shoes is unaffected, the sides of the heel cup have worn right down to the plastic counter. This is in spite of the fact that I like to lace up my shoes really tightly, which should minimize the amount that my heel has to slide against the inside of my shoes. I suspect that as the worn out areas expand, it will start to affect the comfort of the shoe. This is really disappointing because this area is an extremely well-known wear hotspot, with a very easy fix... cover the area with leather. It's particularly egregious here because these sneakers are already fairly heavy, and the plastic counter is not flexible or breathable at all. The only reason not to use leather (or some other abrasion-resistant material) as a counter cover here is to cut costs."
, "score": 1, "upvote ratio": 0.6, "permalink":
```

# data description

# Description

1889 entries, 18 columns

```
#show dataframe dimension  
redditDF.shape
```

```
(1889, 18)
```

```
[ ] #show top 3 data  
redditDF.head(3)
```

	title	name	url	selftext	score	upvote_ratio	permalink	id	author	link_flair_text	num_comments	over_18	spoiler	pinned	locked	distinguished	created_utc	comments
	Dad's Taitung rice cooker brought over from Ta...	t3_7lbn6o	https://i.redd.it/bd6w6gquzI201.jpg		2815	0.95	/r/BuyItForLife/comments/7lbn6o/dads_taitung_r...	7lbn6o	EatRx	None	110	False	False	False	False	None	1.512700e+09	[[{'author': 'Veezybaby', 'id': 'dqxq7ap', 'sco...
	I'm an EMT for our local EMS dept. We've had t...	t3_hz3paf	https://imgur.com/gJ5CkO4		2812	0.96	/r/BuyItForLife/comments/hz3paf/im_an_emt_for_...	hz3paf	ttotheodd	Appliances	107	False	False	False	False	None	1.595893e+09	[[{'author': 'cosmolinesandwich', 'id': 'tzgkgi...
	My 1945 Rolleiflex camera that still takes bea...	t3_epekzv	https://i.redd.it/i2caj3v3o2b41.jpg		2821	0.98	/r/BuyItForLife/comments/epekzv/my_1945_rollei...	epekzv	maximum-alooofness	None	99	False	False	False	False	None	1.579151e+09	[[{'author': 'maximum-alooofness', 'id': 'feype...

# data description

# Description

All the column types and description

title	: post name	link_flair_text	: categories
name	: identifier	num_comments	: reply count
url	: content link	over_18	: NSFW?
selftext	: body	spoiler	: spoilers?
score	: total points	pinned	: sticky
upvote_ratio	: upvote/downvote	locked	: no replies
permalink	: link to thread	distinguished	: mod highlight
id	: post identifier	created_utc	: time made
author	: user who posted	comments	: content

# data description Methodology



**Ali Parlakçı**

aliparlakci

Follow

I don't know what I would do if Computer Science didn't exist.

28 followers · 6 following

Sabancı University

## bdfrr 2.5.2

```
pip install bdfrr
```



### Project description

### Bulk Downloader for Reddit

pypi

v2.5.2

downloads

1.1k/month



Python Test

passing

This is a tool to download submissions or submission data from Reddit. It can be used to archive data or even crawl Reddit to gather research data. The BDFR is flexible and can be used in scripts if needed through an extensive command-line interface. [List of currently supported sources](#)

# Methodology

```
PS C:\Users\alloysius_w> python3 -m pip install bdfmr --upgrade
```

```
PS C:\Users\alloysius_w> python3 -m bdfmr archive "D:\Library\Documents\Programming Projects\BIFLscraping" --subreddit BuyItForLife --sort new --limit 5
[2022-04-30 18:45:42,931 - bdfmr.archiver - INFO] - Record for entry item uflj4o written to disk
[2022-04-30 18:45:43,034 - bdfmr.archiver - INFO] - Record for entry item ufi41e written to disk
[2022-04-30 18:45:43,286 - bdfmr.archiver - INFO] - Record for entry item ufh259 written to disk
[2022-04-30 18:45:43,424 - bdfmr.archiver - INFO] - Record for entry item uffvq7 written to disk
[2022-04-30 18:45:43,632 - bdfmr.archiver - INFO] - Record for entry item uff3nv written to disk
```

- install and run with powershell and python3
- with the following arguments
  - archive
    - other options are clone and download
  - --subreddit
  - --sort
    - by default, sorts by new

data description


























# Issues Encountered

- script ran for a few hours
- documentation said there are no time limits
- did not make a complete archive of the subreddit
  - ran multiple times with different arguments to get more data



# data description

# Sample

 _-_-_-Goruck Ballistic Trainers Durability Review Almost Perfect With One Glaring Flaw_tebady.json	01-May-22 12:19 PM	JSON File	6 KB
 __dead__Best leather belt for office wear dress pants_u0zzmw.json	01-May-22 12:11 PM	JSON File	9 KB
 _AtreyuB18C1_9 year old Iron Rangers from redwing_ucv8yg.json	01-May-22 12:05 PM	JSON File	56 KB
 _m3e_[Request] Something to compress all the dead space between my recyclables_tyrw2q.json	01-May-22 12:17 PM	JSON File	13 KB
 _Mechaloth_Pentel Graphgear 1000. This has gotten me through a year and a half of graduate studies with absolutely no i...	01-May-22 11:39 AM	JSON File	92 KB
 _Miki_What do you recommend for a good zero gravity chair for work_syxdp5.json	01-May-22 02:09 AM	JSON File	6 KB
 _Mr_Roboto_My Dads Casio watch. Approaching 40 years old. Hes worn it every day of his life since buying it, and it hasnt...	01-May-22 11:46 AM	JSON File	52 KB
 _passerine_BIFL Kettle recommendations_t0v5hd.json	01-May-22 02:08 AM	JSON File	6 KB
 _SGP_Is there a retractable washing line that does not sag!_u3eyuz.json	01-May-22 12:09 PM	JSON File	5 KB
 _t3n0r_My grandfathers Swiss army knife from 1976 that my dad used for fishing for nearly 20 years before giving it to me...	01-May-22 11:27 AM	JSON File	40 KB
 _ziggy_stardust_Stainless steel measuring cups and spoons from Lee Valley Tools. My parents have been using theirs for 25 ...	01-May-22 11:19 AM	JSON File	87 KB
 0Bradda_Car Sun Shade Request_u5h4ja.json	01-May-22 12:08 PM	JSON File	5 KB
 1point21_\$50 Weber on Craigslist! Great shape too, will probably just replace the grates and flavorizers_cuxnoy.json	01-May-22 11:46 AM	JSON File	44 KB
 2bagz_Never see one of these before and unfortunately it didnt come with the chairs, but for \$5 I couldnt pass. Old Colem...	01-May-22 11:47 AM	JSON File	22 KB
 2bagz_Stumbled upon this beauty at my local habitat for humanity store this afternoon. I couldnt pass it up for \$20. Cheers...	01-May-22 11:37 AM	JSON File	51 KB
 2bagz_This square has been drawing straight lines since 1966_sx7ow7.json	01-May-22 02:09 AM	JSON File	11 KB
 3beerz_Maybe not for life but I expect at least 20 years out of my Runner_ucbfj8.json	01-May-22 12:06 PM	JSON File	78 KB
 3llamasInATrenchCoat_BIFG (Buy It For Generations) My Viking Husqvarna 21a, from early 1960's. Belonged to my Grandm...	01-May-22 11:36 AM	JSON File	31 KB
 5avethePlanet_Is Herman Miller Worth The Money_tmrlpa.json	01-May-22 12:18 PM	JSON File	90 KB
 5avethePlanet_Why is the Aeron Chair So Popular (Quality + Design)_txqsdw.json	01-May-22 12:17 PM	JSON File	11 KB
 7bladesofgrass_Getting the Red Wings prepped for their fifth winter_qfxt1x.json	01-May-22 11:37 AM	JSON File	73 KB
 8jac0b88_Ive been restoring my grandfathers copper hammers and mallets. Left is what they all looked like before I starte...	01-May-22 11:47 AM	JSON File	45 KB
 13mxx_Easter Basket to use every Easter_tj06vw.json	01-May-22 12:18 PM	JSON File	9 KB
 19Chris96_This freaking Steelcase chair I found today at a Goodwill for \$1. ONE DOLLAR!!!! It TRUMPS my Herman Miller Eq...	01-May-22 11:46 AM	JSON File	59 KB
 43eyes_Strange request, going crazy trying to find one._ty3u5a.json	01-May-22 12:17 PM	JSON File	11 KB
69_queefs_per_sec_Inspired by another user in this sub I restored my 16 year old iPod nano_p4uaut.json	01-May-22 11:38 AM	JSON File	56 KB
99droopy_[Request] Alternatives to DarnTough_tk2nvz.json	01-May-22 12:18 PM	JSON File	35 KB
0621FIST_Truly bought for life quackenbush 22 youth rifle_t6t6bh.json	01-May-22 02:06 AM	JSON File	5 KB

```
{"title": "Goruck Ballistic Trainers Durability Review: Almost Perfect With One Glaring Flaw", "name": "t3_tebady", "url": "https://www.reddit.com/r/BuyItForLife/comments/tebady/goruck_ballistic_trainers_durability_review/", "selftext": "TL;DR: There is a lot of great durability-focused design in these sneakers, but the inside of the heel cup simply isn't abrasion-resistant enough, and wore through despite every other part of the shoe showing almost no wear. The wear that has happened has had a minimal effect on my ability to wear the shoes, though.\n\nI purchased them mid October, so they're nearly 5 months old. I had gotten mixed reviews in terms of durability when I picked them up, but I really liked the way they look, so I decided to pull the trigger and take the chance. I've been wearing them 3-5 times a week, for pretty much everything, including running on pavement, the gym, and the office. They've been my most-worn pair of shoes for most of the time I've owned them, but I do still rotate between a lot of different shoes.\n\nThe outsole has held up remarkably well. I've only just started nearing the bottom of the tread pattern in the hotspots, and I expect it will be quite a while before the outsole becomes anywhere near smooth enough to be slippery on wet smooth stone sidewalks (a legitimate safety concern in my area, and my benchmark for when an outsole is
```



# Chapter 3

## approach

our approach

# Table of Contents

## | Initial setup

Converting the raw data to a more useable format

Cleaning the data

Pre-processing the data - language processing

Pre-processing the data - decay rating

The search engine itself

- organized by categories

# our approach

# Initial Setup

## Initial setup

```
[1] #import dependencies
```

```
import glob
import os
import json
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
```

```
import nltk
from nltk import word_tokenize
nltk.download('punkt')
nltk.download('wordnet')
```

```
from nltk.corpus import stopwords
nltk.download('stopwords')
```

```
from datetime import datetime
import time
```

```
[nltk_data] Downloading package punkt to /root/nltk_data...
[nltk_data]   Unzipping tokenizers/punkt.zip.
[nltk_data] Downloading package wordnet to /root/nltk_data...
[nltk_data]   Unzipping corpora/wordnet.zip.
[nltk_data] Downloading package stopwords to /root/nltk_data...
[nltk_data]   Unzipping corpora/stopwords.zip.
```

```
[ ] #mount drive
```

```
from google.colab import drive
drive.mount('/content/drive')
```












- glob, os, json
  - data imports
- pandas, numpy
  - processing and calculation
- nltk
  - natural language processing
    - tokenization
    - stopword removal
    - lemmatization
- datetime
  - decay factor
- drive
  - data storage

# our approach

# Data Conversion

```
#list all files in directory
lls ~/content/drive/MyDrive/2022-1 Spring/CSCI 426 - Information Retrieval/Project/json raw"
```

```
0621f15T Truly bought for life quackenbush 22 youth rifle_t6t6bh.json'
08Radda_Car Sun Shade Request_ush4ja.json'
13mx_Easter Basket to use every Easter_tj06vw.json'
19Chris96_This freaking Steelcase chair I found today at a Goodwill for $1. ONE DOLLAR!!! It TRUMPS my Herman Miller Equa find._jt01ar.json'
1point21_$50 Weber on Craigslist! Great shape too, will probably just replace the grates and flavorizers_cuxnoy.json'
2bagz_Never see one of these before and unfortunately it didnt come with the chairs, but for $6 i couldnt pass. Old Coleman products are just so cool_slfncd.json'
2bagz_Stubbed upon this beauty at my local habitat for humanity store this afternoon. I couldnt pass it up for $20. Cheers to the next 30+ years my friends_o1z78.json'
2bagz_This square has been drawing straight lines since 1966_sx7ow7.json'
3beerz_Maybe not for life but I expect at least 20 years out of my Runner_ucbfj8.json'
3llamasInAfrenchCoat_8lFG (Buy it for Generations) My Viking Husqvarna 21a, from early 1968'\'. Belonged to my Grandma. My son is the 4th generation to use this machine... spendin_omucns.j
43eyes_Strange request, going crazy trying to find one_ty3u5a.json'
5avethePlanet_Is Herman Miller Worth The Money_tar1pa.json'
5avethePlanet_Why is the Aeron Chair So Popular (Quality + Design)_txqsdw.json'
69_queefs_per_sec_Inspired by another user in this sub I restored my 16 year old iPod nano_p4uaut.json'
7bladesofgrass_Getting the Red Wings prepped for their fifth winter_gfxtix.json'
83011_This Philips fan, that belonged to my grandparents, is cooling me right now_90e0tx.json'
9jac0808_Ive been restoring my grandfathers copper hammers and mallets. Left is what they all looked like before I started. Not finished yet but theyre not looking too bad for 70s_g2tn35.json
9000RPM_My Milwaukee utility knife since 2012. Daily warehouse use._jrg65a.json'
99droopy_[Request] Alternatives to DarnTough_tk2nvz.json'
A12851_The legendary 90s Toyota Land Cruiser. 24 years old and only needs routine maintenance._l3v2um.json'
baactuary_Will versus Leather for a duffel _weekender_bag_tpc9xe.json'
Abacabunker_My 1928 Ford Model A. It was my dads before he died and ive been keeping it running for him since. I will pass it down to my son someday_f4quz7.json'
aboldaz_My dad gifted this watch to my mom on their wedding day (Nov. 1983). She still wears it regularly_2venmu.json'
Abunchofrandomdorks_My father bought these two swan soft and supple garden hoses in 93. They never kink or leak and are very easy to work with-_sh7f19.json'
Acaleus_Backpack for large guys_tngs54.json'
Accuracy_where_My co workers thermos he bought in 1982_hodpgd.json'
acidaus_Got a kitchenaid (returned) to get my ass into gear and baked my first ever things today _Pizza and bread next _89yuxl.json'
acidaus_Stuff I have bought after reading this sub_846xod.json'
AddyTheWrath_Just bought a used Herman Miller Aeron chair for 160 bucks (CAD)!_jefv30.json'
admburns2020_The Queen Mothers fridge has outlasted her_tfcd9p.json'
admiral_clan_Someone didnt realize what they had and threw this Herman Miller Aeron to the curb this morning which I snatched up. Apart from a small tear in the upholstery its st_qm27e.json
admiral__jackbar_My dads 25+ year old eating hamon vs my new eating_fgzyi.json'
admrhds_Duvet insert on comfortor. Thick. Fluffy. No down_tv0lsm.json'
adragonhatsgay_Bought an iFixit toolkit when I started my career in tech in 2011. After 9 years I broke the screwdriver handle. Contacted the company and they sent me a brand ne_jvh0z8.json
ads4vivek_Leonard Refrigerator_t0v66g.json'
adulis203_Amazon basics enameled cast iron_u0lvho.json'
adventurelounge_1977-ish Sears Multi-Band Solid State Radio. I got the identical model from my folks for my 13th birthday (long ago lostwish I still had my original). But about _7qc1nl.json
AdventureousAccident7_Looking for an in-stock similar version of the Flint and Tinder 10-Year Pullover_t4pf3f.json'
Aeliascent_My grandma bought this carbon steel wok decades ago, escaped the Vietnam War with it, and brought it to America_glnapo.json'
aerowtf_Great grandmothers 1941 Hamilton Beach milkshake maker still going strong! This was a parting gift to her when she retired as a lunch lady and has been passed down to us _d309nw.json
AG2xKT_Looking for BIFL hardshell luggage_tg02h4.json'
Agentbacon_I see your 16-year-old Dremel MultiPro and your 20-year-old Dremel MultiPro and raise you my 40-year-old Dremel model 1_7liwia.json'
a handful of snails Found this on the curb. All accessories in the bowl. Works beautifully. t79gnq.json'
```

My Drive > ... > Project > json raw ▾		
Name ▾	Owner	Last modified
 zwade7270_BIFL Smaller Every Day Carry Backpack_tqieI0.json	me	May 1, 2022
 zuzoa_CorningwareCorelle Dishes - How to avoid low quality_t...	me	May 1, 2022
 zuriel2089_My Estwing hatchet from '98, freshly restored, and ...	me	May 1, 2022
 zulangewach_Restoring the wooden beams of my house and f...	me	May 1, 2022
 zucvoe_Anyone familiar with wood bath mats Teak or Hinoki_s...	me	May 1, 2022
 ZomWaffles13_Insulated Water Bottle with Hose and Bite Valv...	me	May 1, 2022
 zombienudist_HH Brown - Canadian Military Parade boots_tnx...	me	May 1, 2022
 zombienudist_1980s () Surplus Canadian Army Parade Boots,...	me	May 1, 2022
 zionistTot759_Can you recommend some stores which clothes...	me	May 1, 2022
 zimbabwe_gov_my old desk fan from the 50s i think, has two s...	me	May 1, 2022
 zimbabwe_gov_Mimar Model ST-28S I restored for my girlfriend...	me	May 1, 2022

# our approach

# Data Conversion

```
[ ] #define function to grab the files
def get_files(filepath):
    all_files = []
    for root, dirs, files in os.walk(filepath):
        files = glob.glob(os.path.join(root,'*.json')) #use json files
        for f in files :
            all_files.append(os.path.abspath(f))

    return all_files
```

```
[ ] #get files from drive
content = get_files("/content/drive/MyDrive/2022-1 Spring/CSCI 426 -
```

```
[ ] #create array
redditContent = []

#for all files, add to dataframe
for data in content:
    with open(data) as doc:
        exp = json.load(doc)
        redditContent.append(exp)
```

```
[ ] #test display
redditContent[1]
```

- function to get all the .json files in a folder
- fetch the raw files from drive
- append all files to an array

# our approach

# Data Conversion

```
[ ] #test display
redditContent[1]
```

```
{'author': 'ttotheodd',
 'comments': [{'author': 'cosmolinesandwich',
 'author_flair': None,
 'body': "My parents had this exact model dryer for
 'created_utc': 1595893854.0,
 'distinguished': None,
 'id': 'fzgkgy',
 'is_submitter': False,
 'parent_id': 't3_hz3paf',
 'replies': [{'author': 'ttotheodd',
 'author_flair': None,
 'body': "When we opened it I was surprised that e
 'created_utc': 1595894079.0,
 'distinguished': None,
 'id': 'fzgkvhp',
 'is_submitter': True,
 'parent_id': 't1_fzgkgy',
 'replies': [{'author': 'Milkshakes00',
 'author_flair': None,
 'body': "That's basically all dryers... You aln
 'created_utc': 1595938782.0,
 'distinguished': None,
 'id': 'fzi7n42',
 'is_submitter': False,
 'parent_id': 't1_fzgkvhp',
 'replies': [{'author': 'WarmOutOfTheDryer',
 'author_flair': None,
 'body': "Yup. Once I realized this, I got a s
 'created_utc': 1595943828.0,
 'distinguished': None,
 'id': 'fzifd8q',
 'is_submitter': False,
 'parent_id': 't1_fzi7n42',
 'replies': [],
 'score': 8,
 'stickied': False,
 'submission': 'hz3paf',
 'subreddit': 'BuyItForLife'},
 {'author': 'MadDogMcCree',
 'author_flair': None,
```

```
[ ] #convert to pandas dataframe
redditDF = pd.DataFrame(redditContent)
```

```
[ ] #show dataframe dimension
redditDF.shape
```

(1889, 18)

```
[ ] #show top 3 data
redditDF.head(3)
```

		title	name	url	selftext	score	upvote_ratio	permalink	id	aut
0		Dad's Taitung rice cooker brought over from Ta...	t3_7ibn6o	https://i.redd.it/bd6wg6gquzi201.jpg		2815	0.95	/r/BuyItForLife/comments/7ibn6o/dads_taitung_r...	7ibn6o	Ea
1		I'm an EMT for our local EMS dept. We've had t...	t3_hz3paf	https://imgur.com/gJ5CkO4		2812	0.96	/r/BuyItForLife/comments/hz3paf/im_an_emt_for_...	hz3paf	ttothe
2		My 1945 Rolleiflex camera that still takes bea...	t3_epekzv	https://i.redd.it/i2caj3v3o2b41.jpg		2821	0.98	/r/BuyItForLife/comments/epekzv/my_1945_rollei...	epekzv	maxim alooft

our approach

# Cleaning the Data

## Cleaning the data

```
▶ redditDF = pd.read_csv('/content/drive/MyDrive/2022-1 Spring/CSCI 426 - Information Retrieval/Project/Datasets/  
redditDF = redditDF.replace(np.nan, '', regex=True)
```

```
[ ] #remove redundant and unused columns  
redditDF = redditDF.drop(columns=['name', 'over_18', 'spoiler', 'pinned', 'locked', 'distinguished', 'comments'])
```

```
[ ] redditDF.head(3)
```

drop NAN entries, drop unused columns

# our approach

# Cleaning the Data

```
[ ] #Convert the time column into a readable format
redditDateAdjustedDF = redditDF.copy()
redditDateAdjustedDF['timestamp_utc'] = pd.to_datetime(redditDateAdjustedDF['created_utc'], unit='s', utc=True)
redditDateAdjustedDF = redditDateAdjustedDF.sort_values(by='created_utc', ascending=False)
```

created_utc	timestamp_utc
1.651419e+09	2022-05-01 15:26:31+00:00
1.651418e+09	2022-05-01 15:16:06+00:00
1.651383e+09	2022-05-01 05:30:39+00:00

- pandas function to convert unix timestamp to a general format



# our approach

# Cleaning the Data

```
[ ] #Get the unique flairs of the dataset
redditDateAdjustedDF.link_flair_text.unique()
```

```
array(['Official Discussion', 'Discussion', '[Request]', 'Repair',
      'Currently sold', 'Vintage', '[Request] Answered!', 'Review',
      'BIFL Skills', 'Meta', 'Warranty', '', "Men's Clothing", 'Kitchen',
      'Appliances', 'Office Supplies', 'Travel and Outdoors', 'Other',
      'Automotive', 'Electronics', 'Toys and Hobbies',
      'Tools & home Improvement', 'Jewelry or Accessories', 'Household',
      'Pet Equipment', 'Shoes', 'Bags and Luggage', 'Bathroom',
      'Furniture', 'Clothing', 'Possibly Incorrect', 'Grill',
      'Travel & Outdoors', 'Bags & Luggage', 'Work truck', '*Zojirushi',
      'Travel & Outdoors', 'Tools & home Improvement',
      'Toys & Hobbies', 'Mod approved', '/R/ALL',
      'Jewelry & Accessories', 'Show & Tell', 'r/all Show & Tell',
      'SHITPOST', 'Outdoors', 'Apparel', 'other', 'tools'], dtype=object)
```

```
[ ] #Drop entries with the irrelevant flairs
redditFlairAdjustedDF = redditDateAdjustedDF.copy()
redditFlairAdjustedDF.drop(redditFlairAdjustedDF.index[redditFlairAdjustedDF['link_flair_text'] == 'SHITPOST'], inplace=True);
redditFlairAdjustedDF.drop(redditFlairAdjustedDF.index[redditFlairAdjustedDF['link_flair_text'] == 'Meta'], inplace=True);
redditFlairAdjustedDF.drop(redditFlairAdjustedDF.index[redditFlairAdjustedDF['link_flair_text'] == 'Official Discussion'], inplace=True);
```

```
[ ] #Check that the flairs are not there anymore
redditFlairAdjustedDF.link_flair_text.unique()
```

```
array(['Discussion', '[Request]', 'Repair', 'Currently sold', 'Vintage',
      '[Request] Answered!', 'Review', 'BIFL Skills', 'Warranty', '',
      "Men's Clothing", 'Kitchen', 'Appliances', 'Office Supplies',
      'Travel and Outdoors', 'Other', 'Automotive', 'Electronics',
      'Toys and Hobbies', 'Tools & home Improvement',
      'Jewelry or Accessories', 'Household', 'Pet Equipment', 'Shoes',
      'Bags and Luggage', 'Bathroom', 'Furniture', 'Clothing',
      'Possibly Incorrect', 'Grill', 'Travel & Outdoors',
      'Bags & Luggage', 'Work truck', '*Zojirushi',
      'Travel & Outdoors', 'Tools & home Improvement',
      'Toys & Hobbies', 'Mod approved', '/R/ALL',
      'Jewelry & Accessories', 'Show & Tell', 'r/all Show & Tell',
      'Outdoors', 'Apparel', 'other', 'tools'], dtype=object)
```

- Removing irrelevant values based on flair
  - meme posts
  - meta posts
  - official discussions

our approach

# Language pre-processing

```
[ ] #Create keyword column with the combined title + content
redditDF['keywords'] = redditDF['title'] + redditDF['selftext']
redditDF['keywords'] = redditDF['keywords'].astype(str)

[ ] #Sets all the content in each entry to be lowercase
redditDF['keywords'] = [entry.lower() for entry in redditDF['keywords']]

[ ] #Lemmatize the entries
redditDF['keywords'] = [nltk.WordNetLemmatizer().lemmatize(entry) for entry in redditDF.keywords]

[ ] #Tokenize the keywords (separating each word into its own entry)
redditDF['keywords'] = [word_tokenize(entry) for entry in redditDF.keywords]
#redditDF['keywords'] = redditDF['keywords'].astype(str)

[ ] #Remove stop words
stop_words = set(stopwords.words('english'))
indCounter = 0
for entry in redditDF.keywords:
    filteredSentence = [w for w in entry if not w.lower() in stop_words]
    for w in entry:
        if w not in stop_words:
            w=w.replace("\{.",'')
            w=w.replace("'",'')
            w=w.replace(" ",'')
            w=w.replace("\.",'')
            filteredSentence.append(w)

    redditDF.at[indCounter,'keywords'] = filteredSentence
    indCounter += 1
```

- Create a new keyword column
  - use title + body
- Lowercase all values in the new column
- Stem entries
  - back to word root
- Tokenize
  - words in separate entries
- Remove stopwords

our approach

# Language pre-processing

```
#Convert to set remove duplicates
redditDF['keywords'] = [list(set(entry)) for entry in redditDF.keywords]

[ ] indCounter = 0
    for entry in redditDF.keywords:
        newValue="".join(entry)
        redditDF.at[indCounter,'keywords'] = newValue
        indCounter += 1

[ ] print(redditDF.loc[0,'keywords'])

(,case,looking,conclusion,seems,[,tried,think,hand,30,included,https,want,price,less,reviews,pillows,lot,know,many,anyone,shipping,average,eden,excluded,complaining,filling,),fixed,pillowhello,ca

[ ] redditDF.to_csv('/content/drive/MyDrive/2022-1 Spring/CSCI 426 - Information Retrieval/Project/Datasets/redditDataset-languageprocessed.csv', encoding='utf-8', index=False)
```

- Remove duplicate entries
  - use natural property of a set
- Create a function to combine words into something easier to parse
  - prevents later headache

our approach

# Decay factor

$$e^{-\alpha (\text{current time} - \text{rating time})}$$

e = rating

$\alpha$  = constant = 1/250000000000

```
[ ] #Establish today's date
    todayTime = datetime.now()

[ ] #Constant for decay factor formula
    alpha=1/250000000000

[ ] #Calculate the decay factor for each entry
    timeDifference = todayTime.timestamp()-redditDF['created_utc']
    decay=np.exp(-alpha*timeDifference)
```

our approach

# Decay factor

	created_utc	timestamp_utc	score	score_decayed
0	1.651418e+09	2022-05-01 15:16:06+00:00	2	1.999994
1	1.651383e+09	2022-05-01 05:30:39+00:00	1	0.999997
2	1.651380e+09	2022-05-01 04:35:44+00:00	226	225.999246
3	1.651372e+09	2022-05-01 02:32:14+00:00	2	1.999993
4	1.651367e+09	2022-05-01 01:03:07+00:00	2	1.999993
...	...	...	...	...
1860	1.449840e+09	2015-12-11 13:20:12+00:00	2643	2640.861375
1861	1.445287e+09	2015-10-19 20:42:53+00:00	4459	4455.310795
1862	1.427129e+09	2015-03-23 16:38:53+00:00	2318	2315.913954
1863	1.418744e+09	2014-12-16 15:27:30+00:00	2178	2175.966961
1864	1.414365e+09	2014-10-26 23:16:56+00:00	2442	2439.677806
1865 rows × 4 columns				

- Example result
  - the older the post, the more the rating gets adjusted

our approach

# The search engine itself

```
1 // ...
2 // ...
3 // ...
4 // ...
5 // ...
6 // ...
7 // ...
8 // ...
9 // ...
10 // ...
11 // ...
12 // ...
13 // ...
14 // ...
15 // ...
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87 // ...
88 // ...
89 // ...
90 // ...
91 // ...
92 // ...
93 // ...
94 // ...
95 // ...
96 // ...
97 // ...
98 // ...
99 // ...
100 // ...
```

```
> -help
Input your query in the the search box.
There are several search parameters to choose from,

'-decay' or '-d' : Sort from the highest score, adjusted by decay factor
'-recent' or '-r' : Sort by the newest data
'-oldest' or '-o' : Sort by the oldest data
'-lowest' or '-l' : Sort by the lowest scoring data
'-*' : Replace * with a numeric value and only show that amount of results
Default sorting method is the top highest scoring submissions

> book -3 -d
Query: book
Found results: 21
Displayed output: 3
Sorted by: Top, with decay rating

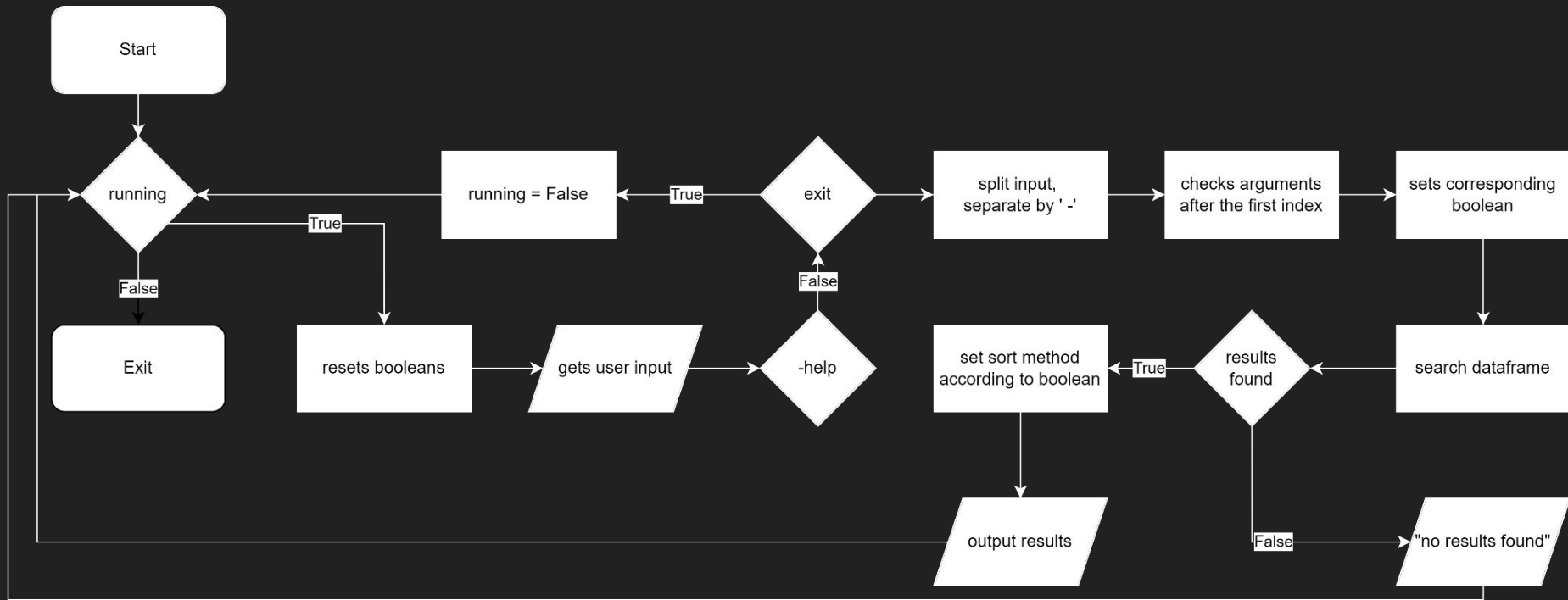
Flair: Bags & Luggage
Title:
Oxford bookbag from 1880 or so. My grandpa got it used when he started high school in 1951. It has since been used and enjoyed by my mom, uncle, aunt and myself and is still durable.
Submitted: 2018-08-06 13:37:01+00:00
Rating: 18817
Rating with Decayed Factor: 10811.869056668544
Upvote ratio: 0.95
No. of comments: 195
Link: https://i.redd.it/bzh6fxdi7hell.jpg
Keywords: aunt,durable,mom,grandpa,used,1880,got,school,oxford,still,,,,,enjoyed,1951,.uncle,started,since,bookbag,high

Flair: Vintage
Title:
In 2000, I was studying overseas & cringed as I forked over $10 for the plainest pencil I could find in the university bookstore. I had no idea it would become my forever favorite & I'd carry it everywhere for the next 22 years.
Submitted: 2022-03-25 16:22:54+00:00
Rating: 7553
Rating with Decayed Factor: 7552.880646765949
Upvote ratio: 0.97
No. of comments: 231
Link: https://i.redd.it/muuvjhejzj08l.jpg
Keywords: university,studying,overseas,2000,d,become,find,idea,forked,plainest,would,carry,10,years,'d,,.cringed,,,22,next,forever,favorite,everywhere,$,&,pencil,could,bookstore
```

- keyword search
  - most of the work goes into parsing

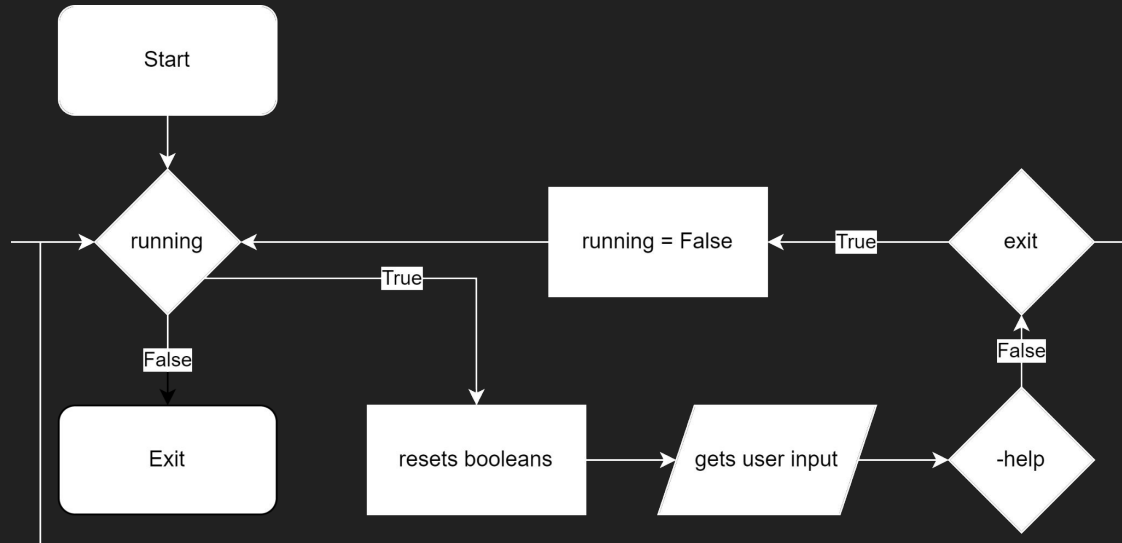
our approach

# The search engine itself



our approach

# The search engine itself



```
try:
    running = True
    while(running):
        #Variables to track the sorting arguments
        sortingMethod = "Default (top)"
        useDecayedRating = False
        useUnsortedList = False
        sortByRecent = False
        sortByOldest = False
        sortByLowest = False
        outputLimit = 10

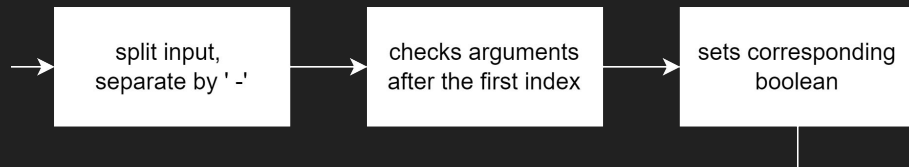
        #Accept user input
        termInput = input('> ')
        #Set input to lowercase
        parsedInput = termInput.lower()

        #Help argument
        if(parsedInput == '-help'):
            print("Input your query in the the search box.\nThen
            print("' -decay' or '-d' : Sort from the highest score
            #If input is not exit, continue with the program
            elif(parsedInput != 'exit'):
                #Parse the search input into the appropriate format
```



our approach

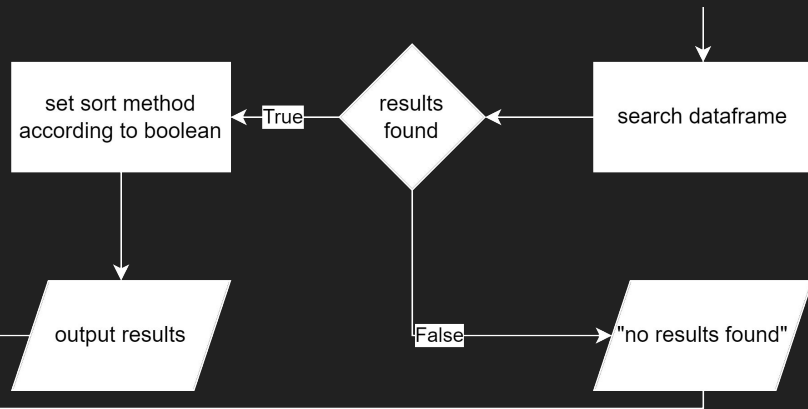
# The search engine itself



```
elif(parsedInput != 'exit'):  
    #Parse the input, extracting the parameters separated by " -" into a separate list  
    parsedInput = termInput.split(' -')  
    #Get query length  
    queryLength = len(parsedInput)  
    #print('Query length:', queryLength)  
    #If first query is True/not empty  
    if(parsedInput[0]):  
        queriedInput = parsedInput[0]  
        print('Query:', queriedInput)  
        if(queryLength > 1):  
            ind=0  
            #print(queryLength)  
            #Parse through the input list and updates boolean based on arguments  
            while(ind < queryLength):  
                optionValue = parsedInput[ind]  
                if(optionValue == 'decay' or optionValue == 'd'):  
                    useDecayedRating=True  
                    sortingMethod = "Top, with decay rating"  
                elif(optionValue == 'unsorted' or optionValue == 'u'):  
                    useUnsortedList=True  
                    sortingMethod = "Unsorted"  
                elif(optionValue == 'recent' or optionValue == 'r'):  
                    sortByRecent=True  
                    sortingMethod = "Most recent"  
                elif(optionValue == 'oldest' or optionValue == 'o'):  
                    sortByOldest=True  
                    sortingMethod = "Oldest"  
                elif(optionValue == 'lowest' or optionValue == 'l'):  
                    sortByLowest=True  
                    sortingMethod = "Lowest"  
                elif(optionValue.isnumeric()):  
                    outputLimit=optionValue  
            ind+=1
```

our approach

# The search engine itself

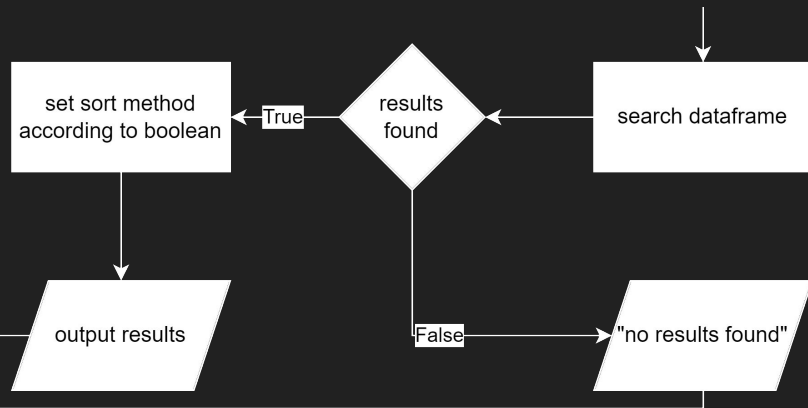


```
#Makes a dataframe based on the input
searchResultDF = redditDF[redditDF['keywords'].str.contains(queriedInput)]

#Check if there are any results
print('Found results:', len(searchResultDF))
if(len(searchResultDF) != 0):
    #If there are results, adjust according to the boolean
    if(useDecayedRating):
        searchResultDF = searchResultDF.sort_values('score_decayed', ascending=False)
    elif(useUnsortedList):
        searchResultDF
    elif(sortByRecent):
        searchResultDF = searchResultDF.sort_values('created_utc', ascending=False)
    elif(sortByOldest):
        searchResultDF = searchResultDF.sort_values('created_utc', ascending=True)
    elif(sortByLowest):
        searchResultDF = searchResultDF.sort_values('score', ascending=True)
    else:
        searchResultDF = searchResultDF.sort_values('score', ascending=False)
else:
    print("No results found.")
#print(searchResultDF.columns)
```

our approach

# The search engine itself



```
for idx in searchResultDF.iterrows():
    while(i < int(outputLimit) and i < len(searchResultDF)):

        valueFlair = searchResultDF.iloc[i,8]
        if(valueFlair != ""):
            print("Flair:",valueFlair)

        valueTitle = searchResultDF.iloc[i,0]
        print("Title:\n",valueTitle)

        valueTimestamp = searchResultDF.iloc[i,11]
        print("Submitted:",valueTimestamp)

        valueScore = searchResultDF.iloc[i,3]
        print("Rating:",valueScore)

        if(useDecayedRating):
            valueDecayed = searchResultDF.iloc[i,13]
            print("Rating with Decayed Factor:",valueDecayed)

        valueRatio = searchResultDF.iloc[i,4]
        print("Upvote ratio:",valueRatio)

        valueNumComments = searchResultDF.iloc[i,9]
        print("No. of comments:",valueNumComments)

        valueURL = searchResultDF.iloc[i,1]
        print("Link:",valueURL)

        valueKeywords = searchResultDF.iloc[i,12]
        print("Keywords:",valueKeywords)

        valueBody = searchResultDF.iloc[i,2]
        if(valueBody != ""):
            print("Body:\n",valueBody)
        print("\n")
        i+=1

    else:
        print('No input found.')
```

Flair: Bags & Luggage  
Title:  
Oxford bookbag from 1880 or so. My grandpa got it used  
Submitted: 2018-08-06 13:37:01+00:00  
Rating: 10817  
Rating with Decayed Factor: 10811.869056668544  
Upvote ratio: 0.95  
No. of comments: 195  
Link: <https://i.redd.it/bzh6fzdi7hell.jpg>  
Keywords: aunt,durable,mom,grandpa,used,1880,got,school,

Flair: Vintage  
Title:  
In 2000, I was studying overseas & cringed as I forked  
Submitted: 2022-03-25 16:22:54+00:00  
Rating: 7553  
Rating with Decayed Factor: 7552.880646765949  
Upvote ratio: 0.97  
No. of comments: 231  
Link: <https://i.redd.it/meuvjhpjzjp8l.jpg>  
Keywords: university,studying,overseas,2000,d,become,fi

Flair: Discussion  
Title:  
Found this on Facebook today\_ thought some of you might  
Submitted: 2022-03-20 18:19:46+00:00  
Rating: 7360  
Rating with Decayed Factor: 7359.871185132177  
Upvote ratio: 0.93  
No. of comments: 391  
Link: <https://i.redd.it/y9p2q891zko8l.jpg>  
Keywords: thought,facebook,enjoy,found,,might,today\_

Chapter 4

experiments and results

experiment and results

# Sample output

```
> -help
```

```
Input your query in the the search box.
```

```
There are several search parameters to choose from,
```

```
'-decay' or '-d' : Sort from the highest score, adjusted by decay factor
```

```
'-recent' or '-r' : Sort by the newest data
```

```
'-oldest' or '-o' : Sort by the oldest data
```

```
'-lowest' or '-l' : Sort by the lowest scoring data
```

```
'-*' : Replace * with a numeric value and only show that amount of results
```

```
Default sorting method is the top highest scoring submissions
```

# experiment and results

# Sample output

```
> book -3 -d
Query: book
Found results: 21
Displayed output: 3
Sorted by: Top, with decay rating
```

'book -3 -d'	book	: searches "book"
	-3	: outputs 3 results
	-d	: sort by top with decayed factor

```
Flair: Bags & Luggage
Title:
Oxford bookbag from 1880 or so. My grandpa got it used when he started high school in 1951. It has since been used and enjoyed by my mom, uncle, aunt and myself and is still durable.
Submitted: 2018-08-06 13:37:01+00:00
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Keywords: aunt,durable,mom,grandpa,used,1880,got,school,oxford,still,,,,,enjoyed,1951.,uncle,started,since,bookbag,high
```

```
Flair: Vintage
Title:
In 2000, I was studying overseas & cringed as I forked over $10 for the plainest pencil I could find in the university bookstore. I had no idea it would become my forever favorite & I'd carry it everywhere for the next 22 years.
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No. of comments: 231
Link: https://i.redd.it/meuvjhpjzjp81.jpg
Keywords: university,studying,overseas,2000,d,become,find,idea,forked,plainest,would,carry,10,years,'d,,cringed,,,22,next,forever,favorite,everywhere,$,&,pencil,could,bookstore
```

```
Flair: Discussion
Title:
Found this on Facebook today... thought some of you might enjoy it.
Submitted: 2022-03-20 18:19:46+00:00
Rating: 7360
Rating with Decayed Factor: 7359.871185132177
Upvote ratio: 0.93
No. of comments: 391
Link: https://i.redd.it/y9p2q091zko81.jpg
Keywords: thought,facebook,enjoy,found,,might,today...
```



# experiment and results

# Comparisons



My ex-wife started her junior year in high school (2000) with this **book** bag. I took it over as my work bag in 2003ish. Now it's my all-purpose carry stuff and occasional travel bag. It has been all over the world and has lasted longer than my marriage.

⬆ 2,392 points • 147 comments submitted 1 year ago by ElvisIsATimeLord ➡ to r/BuyItForLife

🔗 <https://imgur.com/gallery/rLJS2Qu> 📷+



**Clothing** Just picked up these Doc Martins for \$20 off of FaceBook Marketplace. The dude said that he bought them in '93. I'm super stoked.

⬆ 1,716 points • 261 comments submitted 2 years ago by Daxos157 ➡ to r/BuyItForLife

🔗 <https://i.imgur.com/ZOiyjsd.jpg> 📷+



**Discussion** Swiss Gear back bought for a **book** bag in 2010 for grade 7. Last year of uni now and it is also my cabin/ hunting/ travel/ school bag. No tears and all zippers are fine.

⬆ 1,479 points • 68 comments submitted 1 month ago by Gander709 ➡ to r/BuyItForLife

🔗 <https://i.redd.it/xkckheiuw5n81.jpg> 📷+

# experiment and results

# Comparisons

search

book



☒ limit my search to r/BuyItForLife

sorted by: **top** ▼

links from: **all time** ▼



My ex-wife started her junior year in high school (2000) with this **book** bag. I took it over as my work bag in 2003ish. Now it's my all-purpose carry stuff and occasional travel bag. It has been all over the world and has lasted longer than my marriage.

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Flair: Bags & Luggage

Title:

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Rating: 10817

Rating with Decayed Factor: 10811.869056668544

Upvote ratio: 0.95

No. of comments: 195

Link: <https://i.redd.it/bzh6fzdi7he11.jpg>

Keywords: aunt,durable,mom,grandpa,used,1880,got,school

Flair: Vintage

Title:

In 2000, I was studying overseas & cringed as I forked

Submitted: 2022-03-25 16:22:54+00:00

Rating: 7553

Rating with Decayed Factor: 7552.880646765949

Upvote ratio: 0.97

No. of comments: 231

Link: <https://i.redd.it/meuvjhpjzjp81.jpg>

Keywords: university,studying,overseas,2000,d,become,fi

Flair: Discussion

Title:

Found this on Facebook today... thought some of you might

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Upvote ratio: 0.93

No. of comments: 391

Link: <https://i.redd.it/y9p9q091zko81.jpg>

Keywords: thought,facebook,enjoy,found,.,might,today...



# experiment and results

# Comparisons

Flair: Bags & Luggage

Title:

Oxford bookbag from 1880 or so. My grandpa got it used when he started high school in 1951. It has since been used and enjoyed by my mom, uncle, aunt and myself and is still durable.

Submitted: 2018-08-06 13:37:01+00:00

Rating: 10817

Upvote ratio: 0.95

No. of comments: 195

Link: <https://i.redd.it/bzh6fzdi7he11.jpg>

Keywords: aunt,durable,mom,grandpa,used,1880,got,school,oxford,still,,,,,enjoyed,1951.,uncle,started,since,bookbag,high

↑  
10.9k  
↓



BAGS & LUGGAGE

Oxford bookbag from 1880 or so. My grandpa got it used when he started high school in 1951. It has since been used and enjoyed by my mom, uncle, aunt and myself and is still durable. (i.redd.it)

submitted 3 years ago by Bambuslover222

195 comments share save hide give award report crosspost hide all child comments



[https://www.reddit.com/r/BuyItForLife/comments/951ce6/oxford\\_bookbag\\_from\\_1880\\_or\\_so\\_my\\_grandpa\\_got\\_it/](https://www.reddit.com/r/BuyItForLife/comments/951ce6/oxford_bookbag_from_1880_or_so_my_grandpa_got_it/)

# Chapter 4

## demo



Chapter 5

conclusion

# Our thoughts

- Based on limited testing, our method to look at keywords gave possibly more accurate results based on supposed sorting
  - Top results from all time
- There are still many more improvements to be had
- Language processing is pretty powerful

# What did not work?

- Using advanced search methods
  - Couldn't figure it out in time
    - TF-IDF
    - Cosine similarity
- Front end implementation
  - Wanted to use Flask
    - Library to implement web apps

# Future Work

- Expand search parameters
  - filter certain dates
  - search comments
  - etc
- Give additional search methods
  - similarity and TF-IDF metrics
  - use additional values for weighing
- More robust input parser
  - tokenize and lemmatize input, multiple queries
- Live search instead of using archived data

fin

thank you