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School of Computer and Communication Sciences

Computer Science Section | Distributed Systems Laboratory (LSIR)

CERN Digital Library

 $5e^{x+y}$: A Math Aware Search Engine (for CDS)

MASTER THESIS PROJECT



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Chapter 1

Introduction

- 1.1 Context
- 1.1.1 Invenio
- 1.1.2 CDS
- 1.2 Goals

Chapter 2

Theoretical Background

Information Retrieval (IR) consists on the activity of identifying relevant documents from a collection based on some input parameters. Different models have been developed through the evolution of the field. In the subsequent sections, the most relevant to this work are presented.

2.1 Boolean Model

The Boolean model of Information Retrieval (BIR) was the first one to be developed and is currently one of the most used in the current implementation of IR systems because of its simplicity. It is based on the mathematical concepts of Boolean Logic and Set Theory. A formalization of this framework can be stated as follows:

Given a set of terms $T=t_1,t_2,...,t_n$ which are the terms that will be indexed (In a standard search engine this can be the set of words in a language after some normalization steps), a set of documents $D=d_1,d_2,...,d_n$ where $d_i \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ that the user will search for. A query element q is a Boolean expression over the index terms and the operators AND, OR and NOT. We define the predicate $Relevant(q,d_i)$ if a document d_i satisfies the query expression q. Finally the result for query over a collection of documents can now be written as $Result(q,D)=\{d|Relevant(q,d)\}$ The benefits of this model are its simplicity, both in its formalism and in its implementation. The main disadvantage of BIR are the fact that all terms are given the same importance which makes it difficult to rank results. Since all results have same importance, it is difficult also to limit the number of retrieved documents and therefore the output set can be difficult to process for the final user.

One of the key data structures for an efficient implementation of this

model is the inverted index where for a given term, the index stores which documents contain it. This structure is used to efficiently solve queries by only scanning document that contain at least one of the terms in the query. Scanning a document can be done by using a standard (Also called forward) index, where for a given document, the index stores the terms associated with it. Both indexes can be implemented using hash tables.

2.2 Vector Space Model

The vector space model[1] which was developed between the 1960s and 1970s alongside the SMART Information Retrieval System. In this model, documents (from a collection D) and queries are represented as vectors d and q in a vector space where each index term corresponds to a dimension. If a term t_i occurs in a given query or document, its i-th coordinate will have a non zero value. Index terms can be keywords or phrases in the context of textual search or any other type of feature that can be extracted from the elements in a given specific context. The scoring of a document for a given query is computed as the cosine of the angle between both vectors which can be expressed as:

$$score(d,q) = cos\theta(d,q) = \frac{d \cdot q}{\parallel d \parallel \parallel q \parallel} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} weight(d_{i},d) * weight(q_{i},q)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n} weight^{2}(d_{i},d)} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n} weight^{2}(q_{i},q)}}$$

Different weighting schemes can be employed, and the most standard one is called tf-idf (Term frequency - Inverse document frequency) where terms that appear less frequently in the corpus, are assigned higher values (Intuitively the term "the" will be less useful for identifying a relevant document than the term "Shakespeare" in the context of an English word based search engine). Therefore:

$$weight(t, d) = t f(t, d) i df(t)$$

There are several variations for each of the two components. Some approaches for tf include the raw frequency; Boolean frequency: tf(t,d) = 1 if t occurs in d or 0 if not; logarithmically scaled: $tf(t,d) = \log(frequency(t,d) + 1)$ and the augmented frequency: $tf(t,d) = 0.5 + \frac{0.5*frequency(t,d)}{\max\{frequency(t',d)|t'\in d\}}$. For computing the inverse document frequency the standard approach follows $idf = \log \frac{|D|}{1+\{d\in D: t\in d\}}$

The main drawbacks of this approach reside in the assumption that the terms are independent.

2.3 Probabilistic Relevance Model

The probabilistic relevance model was developed in 1976 by Robertson and Jones[2]. The similarity of a document d to a query q is given by the probability of d being relevant to q. It assumes there is a set R that is preferred to be the answer set for q. The model assumes that the document in R are relevant to q and the documents in R are not relevant. R then is the set that maximizes:

$$sim(d,q) = \frac{P(R|d)}{P(\bar{R}|d)}$$

The importance of this model is that it serves as a solid base for state of the art information retrieval models.

2.4 Okapi BM25

The Okapi BM25 ranking function is one of the current state-of-the-art models in information retrieval[3]. The actual scoring function is called BM25 and Okapi refers to the first system implementing this function in the 1980s. Given a query q as a vector of keywords $q_1, q_2, ..., q_n$ then the score for a document d is:

$$score(d, q) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} IDF(q_i) * \frac{frec(q_i, D)}{frec(q_i, D) + k_1 * ((1 - b) + b * \frac{|D|}{avqdl})}$$

and

$$IDF(q_i) = \log \frac{N - df(q_i) + 0.5}{df(q_i) + 0.5}$$

where $frec(q_i, D)$ is the number of occurrences of keyword q_i in D, avgdl is the average length (In keywords) of a document, and k_1 and b are free parameters. Usually $k_1 = 2$ and $b \in [0, 1]$ controls how important is the length normalization, being set normally to 0.75. N is the size of the collection, $df(q_i)$ is the number of documents that contain term q_i

A further variation that takes into account structure in the form of a document containing different fields and each of them having its own length and importance (boost) can be formulated as follows, known as BM25F can be expressed as follows:

$$score(d, q) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{weigth(q_i, d)}{k + weigth(q_i, d)} * IDF(q_i)$$

and

$$weight(q_i, d) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \frac{frec(q_i, D, field_j) * boost_j)}{((1 - b_j) + b_j * \frac{|l_j|}{avgfl_j})}$$

where m is the number of different fields, $boost_j$ is the relative importance for each field, b_j is analogous to the b constant in the BM25 group of equations, $|l_j|$ is the length of the $field_j$ and $avgfl_j$ is the average length of the $field_j$.

2.5 Latent Semantic Indexing

2.6 Tree Edit Distance

As it will be discussed, one of the most common formats to represent mathematical equations, MathML, is a XML based format, and whose structure represents a rooted tree. Because of this, it makes sense to consider some models to compare and analyse mathematical expressions taking into account their natural tree structure. The most natural way of addressing this, is through the well studied abstract problem of Tree Edit Distance problem, where the idea is to compute a distance between a pair of trees. It should be noted that the development of this problem is very similar to the String Edit Distance problem. The Tree Edit Distance problem can be formulated as follows: Let Σ be a finite alphabet and let $\lambda \notin \Sigma$ be a special empty symbol. Finally let $\Sigma_{\lambda} = \Sigma \cup \lambda$. Given two trees T_1 and T_2 that are labelled (That is, each node N in the tree has assigned a label $l(N) \in \Sigma$) and ordered (That is, we are provided an order between sibling nodes), we define the following operations $(l(N_1) \to l(N_2))$ where $(l(N_1), l(N_2)) \in ((\Sigma \cup \lambda) \times (\Sigma \cup \lambda) \setminus (\lambda, \lambda))$:

Relabelling: If $l(N_1) \neq \lambda \land l(N_2) \neq \lambda$. We change the label of a node in the tree T

Deletion: If $l(N_2) = \lambda$. The children of N_1 become the children of N_1 's parent $(N_1$ is not the root of the tree) and occupy its position in the sibling ordering.

Insertion: If $l(N_1) = \lambda$. This is the complement operation of deletion.

For each of this operations $\omega = (l(N_1) \to l(N_2))$, we assign a cost function $cost(\omega)$ and for a given sequence of this transformations $\Omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, ..., \omega_n)$ we assign a cost function $cost(\Omega) = \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} cost(\omega_i)$ We also assume that $cost(\omega)$ is a distance metric. With the previous definition, the distance between T_1 and T_2 can be expressed now as $dist(T_1, T_2) = min\{cost(\Omega)|\Omega \text{ is a sequence of operations that transform } T_1 \text{ into } T_2\}$

A recursive formulation of the problem can be defined in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} dist(T,T) &= 0 \\ dist(F_1,T) &= dist(F_1-v,T) + cost(v \to \lambda) \\ dist(T,F_2) &= dist(T,F_2-w) + cost(\lambda \to w) \\ dist(F_1,F_2) &= \begin{cases} dist(F_1-v,F_2) + cost(v \to \lambda) \\ dist(F_1,F_2-w) + cost(\lambda \to w) \\ dist(F_1(v),F_2(w)) + dist(F_1-T_1(v),F_2-T_2(w)) + cost(v \to w) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Where F is a forest, v and w nodes from a free, F - v the forest F with the deletion of the node v, T(v) the tree rooted at v and F - T(v) the forest obtained by removing all the nodes in T(v) from F

The presented set of equations give a simple way to compute the edit distance between a pair of trees, and the most known algorithms like Zhang and Shasha's[4] whose worst time case time bound is $O(|T_1|^2|T_2|^2)$, Klein's[5] that achieves a lower bound of $O(|T_1|^2|T_2|log|T_2|)$ or Demaine's[6], take into advantage the fact that the recursion relies in the solution of smaller subproblems, so by carefully choosing which of this sub-problems to solve.

Chapter 3

Technical Considerations

In the previos chapter we presented different abstract models which can be suitable in the building of a math based search system. In this section, we present different aspects that need to be considered when mapping from these theoretical models to a concrete implementation.

3.1 Digital Representations of Mathematics

When building any kind of information retrieval system, selecting the right representations of the data can affect the type of algorithms that one can use, the amount of storage, the quality of the data among other factors. Mathematical content is not an exception, and there are available different formats to encode a mathematical expression. One of the most common ways to represent mathematics in scientific documents, which suits CDS's domain, is LATEX.

Another important standard for the representation of mathematics is MathML, which was first proposed by the World Wide Web Consortium in 1998 as the recommended language to be used in web documents. One of the advantages of MathML over LaTeX, is the fact that it is an application of XML, which makes it very easy process algorithmically. There two different variations of MathML, presentation and content. The first one is oriented to the visual representation of the expression and the second one is more oriented to the semantics of the expression. Its main component is the <apply> tag which represents the function application .

OpenMath is yet another markup language to represent mathematics and can be used to compliment presentation MathML to add more semantic information. It is mainly used now for defining mathematical concepts into standard content dictionaries which can be imported. MathML is compatible with this dictionaries.

Table 3.1 presents a comparison on how different languages can express the quadratic equation $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

IAT _E X	Presentation MathML	$egin{array}{c} ext{Content} \ ext{MathML} + \ ext{Presentation} \ ext{Markups} \end{array}$	OpenMath
<pre>\$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac }}{2a} \$</pre>	$ x = ± b 4 2 ad/mn> ad/mn> 4 am>2 am>4 am>4 am>6 ami $	<pre><math> <apply> <eq></eq> <ci>x</ci> <csymbol> <mfrac> <apply> <minus></minus></apply></mfrac></csymbol></apply></math></pre>	<pre><0MOBJ> <0MA> <0MS cd = "relation1" name="eq"/> <0MV name="x"/> <0MA> <0MS cd="arith1" name="divide"/> <0MA> <0MS cd = "arith1" name="minus"/> <0MA> <0MS cd = "arith1" name="times"/> <0MA> <0MS cd = "arith1" name="times"/> <0MV</pre>

Table 3.1: Comparison of the different languages for expressing mathematical content

LATEXallows the most compact representations of the equations and it is the closest language to the community. However, its processing is not straightforward because a given equation can include multiple commands from different packages. Also there are several ways to represent the same set of symbols, either using its Unicode code-point or through embedded commands. Another difficulty are custom commands that users can define in the preamble of the document. In overall, the interpretation and processing of a mathematical expression in this language would require writing a complete compiler which is not the purpose of this work. MathML offers a better compromise between the length of the representation and the easiness to be

processed.

3.2 Math Extraction Tools

One of the main steps in any information retrieval task is the extraction of the searchable content from the collection of documents. At CDS the most common storage format for publications is PDF. A big part of the harvested documents in CDS comes from the ArXiv pre-prints service and from here, the source code ([ATeX]) of the submissions is available for download. Smaller portions of other documents are stored in other formats like Microsoft Word, OpenOffice Documents. In practice, the main options from where to do the extraction from, are PDFs and LATeXfiles. Also taking into account the previous discussion on the available format for representing mathematics, we focused our attention in tools that output MathML.

A conscious exploration of available software for extracting mathematical content from this two types of documents allowed us to identify different tools with different approaches. LaTeXfiles are easier to process and all of the tools implement their own compiler that XML + MathML outputs instead of the typical. Since the original math equation is provided in the document, there is relatively little ambiguity in the equation, and the major issues that the systems struggle with is in the coverage of all the possible commands and packages that are available.

For extracting equations from PDF files, the process turns into an Optical Character Recognition (OCR). The reconstruction of the equation has to infer the mathematical structure based on physical positioning and size of the symbols, the length of the lines and so on.

Table 3.2 presents the main features of the reviewed software.

Software	Type	Tested version	Input For- mat(s)	Output For- mat(s)	Licence Type	Latest Update
LaTeXML[7]	Standalone	0.7.9alpha	IATEX	XML +	Open	13 Feb
	Executable	0.7.9aipiia		MathML	Source	2014
TeX4ht[8]	Standalone	2009-01-	ĿŢĘX	XML +	Open	11 Jun
	Executable	31-07	ELEV	MathML	Source	2009
	Java		IATEX(Sma	all	Open	24 May
SnuggleTex[?]	Library	1.2.2	frag-	MathML	Source	2010
	Library		ments)		Source	2010

LaTeXmathML[Javascript Library	30- October- 2007	ĿŒX	XML + MathML	Open Source	30 Oct 2007
Maxtract[10][11]	Standalone Executable	v.1752	PDF	IAT _E X/ Anno- tated PDF	Free to download	15 Nov 2012
InftyReader[12][Standalone Executable (On Windows)	2.9.6.2	PDF, TIFF, BMP, GIF, PNG	IATEX, XML + MathML	Commercial	22 Dec 2013

Table 3.2: Comparison of available Mathematical extraction tools

For extraction from LaTeXfiles we concluded that the best option is LaTeXML. The tool is still in current development and has lot of support from the academic community. The performance on a small dataset also showed that the results are consistently better than from the other tools. A more thorough test[14] also confirms that LaTeXML provides the best results. For PDF files, the trial version of InftyReader worked very well giving better results and processing successfully more files than Maxtract. As said previously, a big portion of the documents stored in CDS, come from pre-printing services like ArXiV were fortunately the source code of an article is available and because of this reason, our base set for this work will consist on extracting equations from LaTeXfiles. For licensing reasons, for this project we will not integrate our system with InftyReader for the moment and will proceed with LaTeXML as our extraction tool.

3.3 Computer Algebra Systems

Computer Algebra Systems (CASs) are software packages that allow performing symbolic transformations on mathematical objects. They allow to manipulate, simplify and analyse mathematical equations and offer interesting functionalities for a mathematical based search engine. The most important functionalities that we are looking for in such system are simplification and normalization of mathematical expressions and pattern matching. As discussed previously, the language for representing expressions will be MathML, so we also require that such system is able to import this format.

Finally, we are also interested in integrating these functionalities in a bigger system, so integration trough APIs was also considered.

	Imports	ExpressionPattern		License	Supported
CAS	MathML	normal- ization	Match- ing	Type	APIs
Maple	Yes	Yes	Yes	Commerci	al C, Java, VB
MatLab (Symbolic Math Toolbox)	Experimenta	al Yes	Yes	Commerci	al C/C++, Fortran
Mathematic	a Yes	Yes	Yes	Commerci	al C, Java, .NET
Maxima	Experimenta	al Yes	Yes	Open Source	C++, Java (External Project)
SymPy	No	Yes	Yes	Open Source	Python

Table 3.3: Comparison of main CAS

Table 3.3 presents a comparison of the desired features in the main CASs. The systems that better fit our requirements are Maple and Mathematica. For licensing reasons, we will continue our project using Mathematica.

Chapter 4

Related Work

- 4.1 Status of MIR
- 4.1.1 TREC
- 4.1.2 TREC
- 4.1.3 CLEF
- 4.1.4 NTCIR

4.2 Mathematical based search projects

4.2.1 MIaS

MIaS[15] (Math Indexer and Searcher), currently, is one of the flagship projects in the indexing and searching of mathematical content. As most of the other projects, it processes documents in MathML format. It allows the user to include in the queries mathematical expressions and textual content. During indexing time, equations are transformed following a set of heuristics that include:

- Ordering of elements: Taking into account commutativity of certain operators (Addition, multiplication), elements are ordered such that 3 + a would be converted into a + 3 (Since the <mi>> tag comes first than the <mn>> tag)
- Unification of variables: This process takes into the account the structure of the equations in despite of the naming of the variables. Expres-

22 Related Work

sions like $a+b^a$ and $x+y^x$ would be converted into an expressions of the form $id_1+id_2^{id_1}$ which would match.

• Unification of constants: This step consists of replacing all occurrences of constants (<mn> tags) by a const symbol.

The extracted tokens from a given equation consist of all its valid sub-expressions. The original expression is given a weight value of 1, and following sub-expressions are given smaller weights depending on how general or specific they are. The system, also as most of the current projects, is developed by using the Apache Lucene framework. The system adapts the default scoring equation such that the given weight is taken into account.

4.2.2 EgoMath

EgoMath[16] and its new version EgoMath²[17], is a system oriented to index the mathematical content from the Wikipedia.org database. The processing steps before indexing are similar to the ones in MIaS (Rearranging of symbols, unification of constants). The extraction process started from a complete dump of the Wikipedia database and filtering only the math articles, which are identified by the "<math>" tag. This consists on around thirty thousand articles, from which 240.000 equations were identified. The processing step includes translating the equation from LaTeX into MathML format and then indexing both representation. Some additional effort is done into splitting large mathematical blocks like tables into single mathematical expressions.

4.2.3 DLMFSearch

The Digital Library for Mathematical Funtions [?] is a project launched by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, in 2010, as an online version of the Handbook of Mathematical Functions with Formulas, Graphs and Mathematical Tables[18]. DLMF's main goal is to compile the mathematical knowledge in the form of equations, functions, tables and make this information useful for researchers and public in general. The system contains a search functionality that allows to input a combination of full text and LaTeXsnippets. The system tries to perform an exact match, and if no results are found, it relaxes the query. DLMF also perfoms some normalization of the equation and some cleaning of some characters, but no further details are provided. The content indexed by this project is highly curated, which differentiates it from the other projects. In the report published in 2013 [19], it is reported to have indexed around 38000 equations.

4.2.4 MathWebSearch

MathWebSearch[20] (Currently on its 0.5 version) is a open-source search engine for mathematical equations. While most of the documentation relates on the architecture of the system and how they address scalability; the indexing technique is also very interesting. The system implements and idea proposed by Peter Graf in [21] called substitution tree indexing. This idea can be viewed as a generalization of the variable and constant unification. It represents the equations as a tree an recursively generalizes each sub-expression.

4.2.5 LaTEXSearch

LaTEXSearch http://latexsearch.com/ is a system developed by the scientific publisher Springer that allows to search over a database of around eight million latex snippets extracted from their publications. The system, unfortunately, is proprietary and no details are provided about the internals of the system.

4.3 Other related projects and initiatives

4.3.1 arXMLiv

Chapter 5

$$5e^{x+y}(\mathbf{CDS})$$

In this chapter we present our solution called $5e^{x+y}(CDS)$. We present the key points of our system, and how they are related to previous built systems.

5.1 Features Extraction

Our main goal is to develop a system that compliments the already available search capabilities in Invenio and in particular the CDS instance. Our system was developed on top of the the Apache Solr/Lucene framework. CDS already uses Solr as a search engine layer, so developing $5e^{x+y}(\text{CDS})$ using this technology supposed a reasonable choice. One of the main steps while building an IR tool, is understanding the data and what kind of features can be extracted from it: If the system is based on text, then tasks as stemming, handling of synonyms, misspelling and so on, such be taken into consideration; if the system being developed is based on images, then examples of features can be histograms of colors, geometrical features and so on. During the literature review, we discovered that most of the projects handled the notational aspects of the expressions, that is, the real naming of the terms in a given equation and each project developed its own set of heuristics to handle the structural component.

5.1.1 Notational Features

Notational features correspond to the elements that relate to the actual naming of the variables, constants and numeric quantities found in an equation. Here we extract tokens that represent single leaf nodes (E.g. <mi>, <mn>, <mo> tags), and simple constructs like subscript and superscript elements, fractions, roots. We also extract bi-grams and tri-grams as analogue to that

 $5e^{x+y}(CDS)$

is done for text indexing in current systems.

After examining a set of documents from our dataset, we identified some heuristics that could be applied to improve the recall of our system:

Unicode Normalizing

The first issue we discovered is that because of the big wide of different characters to represent the possible mathematical symbols, there is need for an automatic way to match different possible variations of a single character. An example of this situation is specification of an natural number, sometimes denoted by the letter N. In this case, at least three different common representations were identified: N=1 (Using character with unicode code point 0x004e), $\mathcal{N}=1$ (0xd835 0xdc41 or in latex expressed as \mathbel{N}) and $\mathbb{N}=1$ (0x2115 or in latex expressed as \mathbel{N}).

For addressing this situation, we rely on the Unicode equivalence framework. In the unicode specification, sometimes the same character have two or more different code-points because of backwards compatibility with other encoding standards or because the same character has different essential meanings. Another group of equal characters with different code-points are pre-combined characters such as the Latin letter \tilde{N} which has Unicode point 0x00D1 and also is the sequence of code-points 0x004E (Latin letter N) and 0x0303 (the combining character tilde). Taking this sample into account, Unicode defines the character composition and decomposition operations as replacing the decomposed representation with the pre-composed one and vice-versa. Finally, Unicode defines two types of equivalences between characters: Canonical and compatible. Canonical equivalent characters are assumed to have the same appearance and meaning. Compatible ones are allowed to have slightly different graphical representations but the same meaning in some contexts. One example of compatible equivalent characters is the Roman number 12 XII with code-point 0x216b and the sequence of characters XII with codepoints 0x0058 0x0049 0x0049. Taking into account the composition or decomposition of characters and the canonical or compatible equivalences, Unicode specifies 4 different forms of a given character:

- NFD: Normalization Form Canonical Decomposition
- NFC: Normalization Form Canonical Composition
- NFKD: Normalization Form Compatibility Decomposition
- NFKC: Normalization Form Compatibility Composition

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Table 5.1 presents a small list of troubling characters classes that were identified in our datasets.

 $5e^{x+y}(\text{CDS})$

Character Name	Visual Rendering	NFC	NFD	NFKC	NFKD
LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A	A	0x41	0x41	0x41	0x41
LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A WITH MACRON	Ā	0x100	0x41 0x304	0x100	$0x41 \\ 0x304$
LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A WITH RING ABOVE	Å	0xc5	0x41 0x30a	0xc5	0x41 0x30a
ANGSTROM SIGN (0x212b)	Å	0xc5	0x41 0x30a	0xc5	0x41 0x30a
LATIN CAPITAL LIGATURE IJ	IJ	0x132	0x132	0x49(I) 0x4a(J)	0x49 0x4a
CYRILLIC CAPITAL LIGATURE A IE	Æ	0x4d4	0x4d4	0x4d4	0x4d4
LATIN CAPITAL LETTER AE	Æ	0xc6	0xc6	0xc6	0xc6
DOUBLE-STRUCK CAPITAL N	N	0x2115	0x2115	0x2115	0x4e
LATIN CAPITAL LETTER N	N	0x4e	0x4e	0x4e	0x4e
MATHEMATICAL ITALIC CAPITAL N	\mathcal{N}	0xd835 0xdc41	0xd835 0xdc41	0x4e	0x4e
ROMAN NUMERAL TWELVE	XII	0x216b	0x216b	0x58 0x49 0x49	0x58 0x49 0x49
LATIN CAPITAL LETTER X - LATIN CAPITAL LETTER I - LATIN CAPITAL LETTER I	XII	0x58 0x49 0x49	0x58 0x49 0x49	0x58(X) 0x49(I) 0x49(I)	0x58 0x49 0x49
VULGAR FRAC- TION ONE QUAR- TER	1/4	0xbc	0xbc	$ \begin{array}{c c} 0x31(1) \\ 0x2044(/) \\ 0x34(4) \end{array} $	$0x31 \\ 0x2044 \\ 0x34$
DIGIT ONE - SOLIDUS - DIGIT 4	1/4	0x31 0x2f 0x34	0x31 0x2f 0x34	0x31 0x2f 0x34	0x31 0x2f 0x34

DIGIT ONE -		0x31	0x31	0x31	0x31
SOLIDUS - DIGIT 4	1/4	0x2f	0x2f	0x2f	0x2f
SOLIDOS - DIGIT 4		0x34	0x34	0x34	0x34
DIGIT ONE - FRAC-		0x31	0x31	0x31	0x31
TION SLASH -	1/4	0x2044	0x2044	0x2044	0x2044
DIGIT 4		0x34	0x34	0x34	0x34
THERE EXISTS	3	0x2203	0x2203	0x2203	0x2203
THERE DOES NOT	- h	0.0004	0x2203	0. 220.4	0x2203
EXIST	∄	0x2204	0x338	0x2204	0x338
LATIN CAPITAL					
LETTER OPEN E	3	0x190	0x190	0x190	0x190
EULER CONSTANT	3	0x2107	0x2107	0x190	0x190
PLANCK CON-	h	0x210e	0x210e	0x68	0x68
STANT	n	0x210e	0x210e	0x08	0.000
LATIN SMALL LET-	h	0x68	0x68	0x68	0x68
TER H	11	UX08	UXU8	0x08	0000
PLANCK CON-					
STANT OVER TWO	\hbar	0x210f	0x210f	0x127	0x127
PI					
LATIN SMALL					
LETTER H WITH	ħ	0x127	0x127	0x127	0x127
STROKE					
GREEK CAPITAL	0	0.2.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0
LETTER OMEGA	Ω	0x3a9	0x3a9	0x3a9	0x3a9
OHM SIGN	Ω	0x2126	0x2126	0x3a9	0x3a9
INTEGRAL	ſ	0x222b	0x222b	0x222b	0x222b
DOUBLE INTE-	cc	0.000	0. 222	0x222b	0x222b
GRAL	\iint	0x222c	0x222c	0x222b	0x222b
CONTOUR INTE-	ſ	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
GRAL	∮	0x222e	0x222e	0x222e	0x222e
NABLA	∇	0x2207	0x2207	0x2207	0x2207
WHITE DOWN-					
POINTING TRIAN-	∇	0x25bd	0x25bd	0x25bd	0x25bd
GLE					
		1	1	l .	1

Table 5.1: Characters with similar glyphs and/or semantics

Since our goal is to match as much as possible similar characters, our system employs the NFKD representation of a character. For a

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Synonym Expansion

Even though the Unicode normalization step work for a big part of the cases presented in table 5.1, there are still some groups of characters which would not be matched (Even partially), such as some types of integrals. For addressing these groups, a precomputed table was created for some general groups of characters which have some similar meaning. For each token that belongs to some of this predefined groups, a second token is For example the token $< mo > \phi < /mo >$ created identifying the group. $< mo > \phi < /mo > < mo > INTEGRALS < /mo >$ into is expanded $< mo > \int </mo >$ is token expanded similarly the token <mo><mo>INTEGRALS</mo> and then both will have a partial match in the INTEGRALS token. Unicode specification does not define a strict rule to group similar characters based on their semantics. For general operators, we used the grouping provided by Xah Lee in his website[22].

Numeric Approximation

Some equations relate specific numeric quantities. While most of the previously explorer systems, handled <mn> tags by only representing them as a constant identifier, this approach is not suitable. A lot of articles in CDS relate to specific experiments under certain conditions, and require a high level of precision in the measurements. However, different experiments of the same phenomenon, can result in different measurements and we wanted to include this variability in our system. To handle this, when a token with a certain numeric quantity is discovered, we apply iterative rounding and index all the different approximations in the same position as the original element. For example the token <mn>2.0135</mn> will produce the following sequence of tokens: <mn>2.0135</mn><mn>2.014</mn><mn>2.01</mn><mn>2.0</mn><mn>2.0</mn><mn>2.0</mn>

5.1.2 Structural Features

The structure of a mathematical equations is one of the most important features that can be extracted.

Algebraic structures

The first set of structures consist on purely algebraic relationships between the expressions. Inspired by predefined integral tables for different kinds of expressions, we decided to extract from a given equation, whether it has the occurrence of these kind of patterns. An example of this type of structures would be: $X_- * (X_- + A_-)$ where X_- and A_- can be any type of expression. Sample equations matching this pattern can be C(C+1) or $\frac{(\sin\theta\cos\theta)^2}{2a}(\frac{(\sin\theta\cos\theta)^2}{2a}+\tan\frac{\theta+\phi}{2})$. This structural analysis of equations is more powerful than the unification of variables and constants proposed in previously discussed projects because these patterns, as shown in the second example, can match an arbitrary complex expression. The drawback of our solution is the need to manually select representative and useful patterns. This selection was done based on standard based tables of integrals similar to the ones that CASs employ to compute them.

Subscript/Superscript variations

This set of structures represent common operations that cat appear in a given expression, but its identification is based on notation factors. A simple example of this can be the matrix decomposition $A = VDV^{-1}$ where the actual name of the variables A and V is not meaningful but the real importance is the fact that a given variable appears alongside its inverse in a matrix multiplication form. We would like to assign a partial match to any other kind of this decomposition say $B = MRM^{-1}$. these types of structures live inbetween the notational and structural categories but since we identify them using Mathematica, we encompass them as structural features. For this type of structures, we identify simple operations between an element and some possible variations of the same element with some subscript/superscript.

Specific domain structures

Additionally, we identified patterns that are relevant and frequent in specific domains of the high energy physics. Some patterns can be as general as a derivative over time (dx/dt), or more specific ones like a particle decaying process $(original Particle \rightarrow subparticle 1, subparticle 2, subparticle 3)$.

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5.1.3 Development with Lucene/Solr

This section explains how the described components were implemented in the Apache Solr/Lucene framework. One focus of our work was to develop a modular system that allowed easily to deploy new heuristics as they were identified.

Lucene framework defines some key concepts which ultimately are mapped into concrete classes. A Document is the minimum retrieval unit. For $5e^{x+y}$ we could either use a complete article as a document or a single equation. We choose the latter because it makes easier to focus on extracting features from a single equation. A document contains a set of fields which represent different types of information that it can store. Each field has different options such as whether it would be indexed and/or stored. A field can also indicate whether it will be a Term Vector. Our fields are as follow:

- math_notational_field: This field stores the notational features as a Term Vector.
- math_structural_field: This field stores the structural features as a Term Vector.
- math_normalized_notational_field: This field stores the notational features of the normalized expression as a Term Vector.
- filename: This is an auxiliary field which stores the CDS record / article name where the equation was found.
- number_occurrences: Another auxiliary field that is used to score final results.

Each field is associated to a particular Analyzer. An analyzer is a specific class that handles an element from a field and groups all the operations that are to be performed. For this purpose we wrote SolrNotational-Analyzer, SolrStructuralAnalyzer and SolrNormalizedNotationalAnalyzer. The Solr prefix is added to make clear the fact that the class extends a SolrAnalyzer which extends a normal lucene Analyzer.

An analyzer consists of a sequence of TokenStrem elements. Normally an analyzer contains one Tokenizer element (which extends a Token-Strem) that is in charge of creating the Terms that will be stored in the field, and one or more TokenFilter elements which perform operations on the single tokens that were created previously. For the specific cases of SolrNotationalAnalyzer and SolrNormalizedNotationalAnalyzer we created the following classes:

- MultiplePatternTokenizer: This class is in charge of applying a set of regular expressions over the given expression in order to extract the single elements that were presented. Lucene incorporates the class PatternTokenizer but it only accepts one regular expression.
- UnicodeNormalizingFilter: This class receives single tokens and verifies if the token is in Unicode NFKD. In negative case, it emits an additional token in the normalized form.
- SynonymExpandingFilter: This class verifies if the received token belongs to a predefined category of elements and emits an additional token with it.
- NumericalRoundingFilter: This class process <mn> tokens. When a number contains a decimal part, it applies the standard rounding mode iteratively and for each one, it emits a token for each step.

SolrStructuralAnalyzer is simpler in its workflow: It consits of a StructuralPatternsTokenizer that tries to find occurrences of the predefined patterns in the expression. For each match, it emits a token with the pattern that was found.

5.1.4 Integration with Mathematica

This section describes some aspects that had to be considered while implementing the integration with Mathematica. Our system uses the JLink library to create a connection with the underlying process MathKernel. The main class for communicating java code and Mathematica is KernelLink and the main used method was evaluateToOutput-Form(String expr, int pageWidth) where expr is the expression to be evaluated and pageWidth affects the formatting of the result.

Pattern Extraction

Recursive interpretation

Error handling

Sometimes, after certain time, the connection between KernelLink and Mathematica will be lost launch an exception and following invocations would fails as well. Also, re-instantiating a KernelLink will yield an Exception. For this scenario, killing the associated processes to Mathematica was

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necessary with killall -s 9 Mathematica; killall -s 9 Math-Kernel or taskkill /im Mathematica.exe; taskkill /im MathKernel.exe depending on the OS the system is running on.

With this, the next creation of a new KernelLink works properly and the subsequent invocations work as expected.

Timeout Handling

Unfortunately, checking the quality of a LaTeX document is a difficult job and users have a lot of freedom in the way they write their document since the only visible result is the rendered version. One example we found during our work is the following TeX snippet:

"\ \varphi\ are\ shown,\ as\ well\ as\ the\ weight\ and\ tension"

A human can easily identify that this corresponds to text "mbox" be inserted into a proper or In this case, the snippet produced the following MathML code: <math><mrow><mi>q</mi><mo></mo><mi>a</mi><mo></mo> <mi>r</mi><mo></mo><mi>e</mi></mrow><mo></mo><mi>s </mi><mo></mo></mo></mi><mo></mo></mi> w</mi><mo></mo><mi>n</mi></mo><mo>,</mo><mi>a</m i><mo></mo><mi>s</mi></mrow><mo></mo><mi>w</mi><mo ></mo><mi>e</mi><mo></mo><mi>1</mi><mo></mo><mi>1</mi></ mrow><mo></mo><mi>a</mi></mo><mi>s</mi></mrow> <mo></mo><mi>t</mi><mo></mo><mi>h</mi><mo></mo><mi >e</mi></mo></mo><mi>w</mi><mo></mo><mi>e</m i><mo></mo><mi>i</mi><mo></mo><mi>q</mi><mo></mo><mi>h</ mi><mo></mo><mi>t</mi></mrow><mo></mo><mi>a</mi><mi>a</mi> o></mo><mi>n</mi><mo></mo><mro w><mi>t</mi><mo></mo></mi><mo></mo></mi>n</mi></mo></ mo><mi>s</mi><mo></mo><mi>i</mi><mo></mo><mi>o</mi><mo>< /mo><mi>n</mi></mrow></mrow></math>

Mathematica took around 10 minutes to interpret it. In the ideal case we would be able to identify the malformed expressions and pass to Mathematica only well-formed equations to be processed but as this simple example shows, that is a very challenging task and may require more work. As a remedial situation, we used a fixed timeout to stop the processing of a given expression.

5.1.5 Integration with CDS

Currently the Invenio code-base is being under a deep refactoring and rewriting. CDS currently runs in the stable branch master while the new developments are preferred to be implemented in the new branch pu. A demo interface over the

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new branch was developed to showcase the system, however to have a complete integration with CDS, a more deep work is required. Our system is deployed as a standalone jar which should be incorporated into a Solr instance. Also, some extra configurations should be added. Details on this can be found in appendix ?? The communication between Solr and Invenio was through the library solrpy.

Chapter 6

Evaluation

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6.1 Dataset

Our dataset consists on 12234 latex documents fetched from ArXiV. This documents correspond to the latest records harvested for CDS. The documents were processed using LateXML as described in the extraction process. From the given dataset, the simpler equations were filtered out (The ones containing one or two elements).

6.2 Setup

The machine used for experiments has a Intel Core i7 processor running at 3.4Ghz with 4 cores. The available RAM is 8Gb, and the Java Virtual Machine used for running Solr was run with the -Xms2G - Xmx5G parameters. The complete specifications of the used software is presented in table 6.1

Software	Version	
Operative	Linux Mint 16 Petra	
System	(Ubuntu based)	
Linux Ker-	3.11.0-15	
nel	3.11.0-13	
Java Vir-		
tual Ma-	1.7.0 - 45	
chine		
Apache Solr	4.6	
Python	2.7.5+	

Table 6.1: Software used during evaluations

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6.3 Results quality

In this section we are interested in evaluating the quality of the results provided by our system. The type of queries that $5e^{x+y}$ was designed for, are typical equations that can be found in a physics scientific publication. Out main user case is that a user of CDS is interested in finding documents inside the collection whose equations are related to the one that is provided.

6.3.1 Equations

The evaluated queries were provided by physics experts working at CERN from their own research topics. The queries were provided in LATEX format as the users used them in their own publications. Table B.1 presents the set of queries that were evaluated, and a simple explanation about it. Each of the users evaluated the results only for the equations he/she provided. For each of the presented result, the user ranked it as "Strictly Relevant", "Partially Relevant" and "Completely Irrelevant". As all evaluations including human interaction, this scoring is at some level subjective.

We present results for three metrics: Partial precision (Document either partially relevant or completely relevant) strict precision and discounted cumulative gain.

6.4 Comparison against other systems

In this section we tried to compare our implementation of MASE(CDS) with the public available systems presented in the related work chapter. We judged if the fetched results of each system were relevant or not using the same criteria as for the previous section. The systems were tested using Firefox 26.0 Table 6.4 presents the results of our test.

The results are a little disappointing since from the eight evaluated instances, only MIaS and Symbolab seem to be working properly.

6.5 Querying Performance

6.6 Indexing Performance

For this set of evaluations, we were only interested in observing how the performance of the indexing stage is affected by the different types of features that are employed. We selected the first 100 records from our dataset and measured the total time it required to index all the elements in Solr using a python script and the solrpy library to do the communication. The default similarity in Solr was

			Number of Retrieved Results	Top10 Precission	Top20 Precission
System	MIaS	Eq1	0	N/A	N/A
Dataset	MREC	Eq2	15659	100	100
		Eq3	82	30	5
		Eq4	3022	100	100
Link	http://aura.fi.muni.cz:8085/webmias/ps?n=-1				
Input Formats	MatthML / LaTeX				
System	MIaS	Eq1	0	N/A	N/A
Dataset	NTCIR-files	Eq2	3609	100	65
		Eq3	32	10	5
		Eq4	698	40	0.35
Link	http://aura.fi.muni.cz:8085/webmias-ntcir/				
Input Formats	MatthML / LaTeX				
System	MathWebSearch	Eq1	0	N/A	N/A
Dataset	ArxivDemo	Eq2	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq3	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq4	0	N/A	N/A
Link	arxivdemo.mathweb.org/article/MWS		The system seems to be abandoned	·	·
Input Formats	-		•		
System	MathWebSearch	Eq1	0	N/A	N/A
Dataset	ArxivDemo	Eq2	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq3	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq4	0	N/A	N/A
Link	search.mathweb.org/sentido	Notes		,	
Input Formats	LaTeX + Others		The system seems to be abandone	d since most of the	links are broken
System	EgoMath	Eq1	0	N/A	N/A
Dataset	Wikipedia	Eq2	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq3	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq4	0	N/A	N/A
Link	http://egomath.projekty.ms.mff.cuni.cz/	-	All of the queries generated the fol		
Input Formats			exception - HTTP erro	•	
System	Latexsearch	Eq1	0	N/A	N/A
Dataset	Springer Publications	Eq2	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq3	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq4	0	N/A	N/A
Link	http://latexsearch.com/home.do	Notes	The system seems to be abandone		
Input Formats			•	any result	
System	(uni)quation	Eq1	0	N/A	N/A
Dataset	Documents from internet	Eq2	82	0	0
		Eq3	0	N/A	N/A
		Eq4	0	N/A	N/A
Link	http://uniquation.com/en/	Notes	<u>-</u>		4
Input Formats			Queries 1, 3, 4 g	ot a parsing error.	
Symbolab	Symbolab	Eq1	0	N/A	N/A
Dataset	Documents from internet	Eq2	980	30	15
		Eq3	321	20	10
		Eq4	901	0	0
Link	http://symbolab.com/	Notes		_	-
Input Formats			Query 4 was parsed incorrectly		

Figure 6.1: Results of comparison of available mathematical search systems

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used. We also measured the index size at the end of each experiment. Our four scenarios were organized as follows:

- N : Only notational features over the original expression were used
- N+S: Notational and structural features over the original expression
- N+S+NN: Notational and structural features over the original expression and notational features over the normalized string using Mathematica's Simplify function
- N+S+FN: Notational and structural features over the original expression and notational features over the normalized string using Mathematica's Full Simplify function

Table 6.2 summarizes the results of this set of experiments. The first result is the significant increase in processing time when using Mathematica. Going from the N scenario to N+S represent an increase of almost 15x in the indexing time. Adding standard normalization increases the indexing time by a factor near to 1.44x and full normalization by a factor of 1.55x.

With respect to storage size, we see a small footprint (Less than 5%)in the total size by going from N to N+S. Adding normalization represents an increase by a factor of 1.78x and the size of the fully normalized index represents a smaller increase (1.76x)

We can observe that there is a small trade-off between time and storage size depending on which normalization mode is employed.

Feature Set	Total time (sec)	Index	Size	Avg.	time	Avg.	size
		(kb)		per	equa-	of equ	ation
				tion		(kb)	
N	58	13926		0.005	24	1.237	
N+S	884	14438		0.078	5	1.282	
N+S+NN	1273	25780		0.113		2.345	
N+S+FN	1377	25548		0.122		2.269	

Table 6.2: Indexing performance

6.7 Alternative Metrics

According to some experimental evaluations presented in [23], Tree Edit Distance provides an interesting alternative metric to the standard vector space model using angular distance. In this work, authors present an improvement in the quality of retrieved results compared to the classic approach of indexing the single leaves of the tree and a subset of the possible sub-trees. For evaluating the feasibility

of this approach we compared a set of equations using both metrics: Tree edit distance (Using Zheng and Shasha's algorithm implemented in python [24].) and a standard angular distance that was not heavily optimized. We compared elapsed times for expressions of different length.

Expression Length (Number of leaf nodes)	Angular Distance Time (msec)	Tree Edit Distance Ti
3	0.01195	2.65
8	0.0142	9.97
7	0.0129	9.165
12	0.0194	15.15
18	0.0201	29.5
20	0.0245	27.75
22	0.0264	32.4
24	0.02502	32.1

Table 6.3: Distance computation using two different metrics

This result show that for shorter expressions, using tree edit distance represent an increase in time in more than 200x, and a factor of around 1200x for the longer expressions, making it impractical for implementing a system that needs to be responsive. Even though there are algorithms which provide a better asymptotic guarantees and better actual running times like RTED[25] with respect to Zheng ans Shasha's algorithm, the best improvements represent a decrease in processing time of 50% to 80% in trees with around 1000 nodes, while the standard tested equations which are representative of our dataset, contain less than 100 nodes.

Chapter 7
Conclusions

Chapter 8
Future work

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Appendix A

Configuration files

A.1 Solr Schema

The Solr schema file schema.xml indicates which are the fields that are going to be used in this instance, and what type of analyzer is going to be used for each one. One can also define field types in case different fields want to have the same behaviour but conceptually having different meanings.

The following snippet add the fields declarations:

```
<!-- Arthur Oviedo AO-->
<!-- Fields declaration using the field types declared below-->
<field name="math_notational_field"
  type="math_notational_type"/>
<field name="math_structural_field"
  type="math_structural_type"/>
<field name="math_normalized_notational_field"
  type="math_normalized_notational_type"/>
<field name="filename"
  type="string" indexed="true" stored="true"/>
<field name="number_occurrences"
  type="int" indexed="true" stored="true"/>
```

And the following one, defines the types and the configurations (Including the java class implementing the analyzer) for each one:

```
<fieldType name="math_normalized_notational_type"
class="solr.TextField"
positionIncrementGap="1"
indexed="true"
stored="true"
termVectors="true"</pre>
```

```
termPositions="true" >
<analyzer class="cern.ch.mathexplorer.lucene.analysis.analyzers.</pre>
SolrNormalizerNotationalAnalyzer"/>
</fieldType>
<!-- Field type for MathMl info
(Tokens that are extracted from the MathML representation)
over the normalized/simplified string using Full simplification-->
<fieldType name="math_full_normalized_notational_type"</pre>
class="solr.TextField"
positionIncrementGap="1"
indexed="true"
stored="true"
termVectors="true"
termPositions="true" >
<analyzer class="cern.ch.mathexplorer.lucene.analysis.analyzers."</pre>
SolrFullNormalizerNotationalAnalyzer"/>
</fieldType>
<!-- Field type for structural features extracted from the equation-->
<fieldType name="math_structural_type"</pre>
class="solr.TextField"
positionIncrementGap="1"
indexed="true"
stored="true"
termVectors="true"
termPositions="true" >
<analyzer class="cern.ch.mathexplorer.lucene.analysis.analyzers."</pre>
SolrStructuralAnalyzer"/>
</fieldType>
```

A.2 Solr configuration file

The solrconfig.xml file specifies additional configuration parameters of the instance, including what handlers to use for each different type of request. One specific type of handler is queryParser, and for using our specific query parser we include the following line of code:

```
<queryParser name="mathqueryparser"
class="cern.ch.mathexplorer.lucene.query.MathQueryParserPlugin" />
```

Appendix B

Test equations

Id	Description	MathML code	Visual Form
Eq1	Time-independent Schrödinger equation	<pre><math><mfenced close=")" open="("></mfenced></math></pre>	$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e}\nabla^2 + V(\mathbf{r})\right)\psi(\mathbf{r}) = E\psi(\mathbf{r})$
Eq2	Atomic mass in terms of number of proton and number of neutrons	<mi>A</mi> <mo>=</mo> <mi>Z</mi> <mo>+</mo> <mi>N</mi>	A = Z + N
Eq3	Radiation flux in term of the initial intensity, the absorption coefficient and the thickness of a substance	$ I = I 0 e - \mi>\mi> x - \mi>\mi>\mi> x $	$I = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$

Test equations

Eq4	Higgs Boson decaying process into W^+ and W^- bosons. This is not exactly a mathematical equation, but a physical process. However it is also expressed in LaTeX and to high energy physics experts, it makes sense to search them.	<mi>H</mi> <mo>→</mo> <msup> <mi>W</mi> <mo>+</mo> </msup> <msup> <mi>W</mi> <mo>-</mo> </msup>	$H \to W^+W^-$
Eq5	Einstein Field equation	<pre></pre>	$G_{\mu\nu} \equiv R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{\mu\nu}$
Eq6	Dirac Equation	<pre><math> <mfenced close=")" open="("> <mrow> <mi> </mi> <mi> <mi> <mi> <mi> <mi> <mi> <mi> <</mi></mi></mi></mi></mi></mi></mi></mrow></mfenced></math></pre>	$ \left(\beta mc^2 + c(\alpha_1 p_1 + \alpha_2 p_2 + \alpha_3 p_3)\right) \psi(x,t) = i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi(x,t)}{\partial t}$

Table B.1: Sample equations used during testing

Appendix C

Detailed system architecture diagrams

C.1 Analyzers

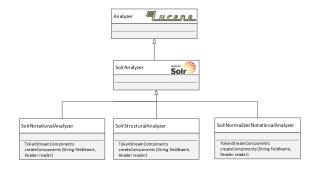


Figure C.1: Overview of cern.ch.mathexplorer.lucene.analysis.analyzers package

- C.2 Tokenizers
- C.3 Filters
- C.4 Query Parsers
- C.5 Packages Relations

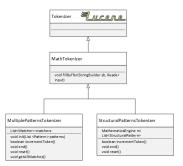


Figure C.2: Overview of cern.ch.mathexplorer.lucene.analysis.tokenizers package

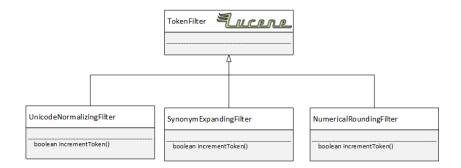


Figure C.3: Overview of cern.ch.mathexplorer.lucene.analysis.filters package

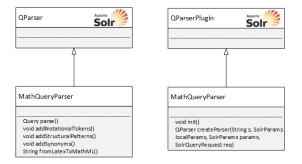


Figure C.4: Overview of cern.ch.mathexplorer.lucene.query package

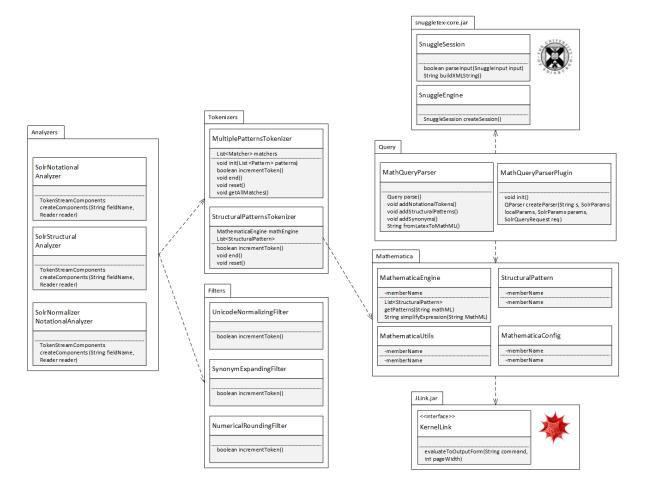


Figure C.5: Overview of the relations between the main packages