

Information Retrieval

WS 2018 / **2019**

Lecture 14, Tuesday February 5th, 2019
(Course Evaluation, Exam, Work at our Chair)

Prof. Dr. Hannah Bast
Chair of Algorithms and Data Structures
Department of Computer Science
University of Freiburg

Overview of this lecture

■ Organizational

- Your experiences with ES13
- Official evaluation
- Infos about the exam
- Work at our chair

NLP, POS-Tagging

results + discussion

when, where, how, tasks

how, projects, next courses

Experiences with ES13

■ Summary / excerpts

- Not too many people did this last exercise sheet

As usual, but it's nevertheless relevant for the exam

- "The exercise sheet was a really fun and informative way to understand the Viterbi algorithm and how the core of NLP and NER work"
- "It's a sad day today, because at this point I visited all of the lectures of the AD team and each lecture of these were the best lectures I heard by far"
- Let's look at a demo of the **master solution** (from Claudius)

■ Participants

- Registered for exam: **51** ... last year: 76
- Participated in the evaluation: **46** ... **great !**
27 x Bachelor, 16 x Master, 3 x Other
42 x Informatik, 4 x ESE, 0 x Other
- Nominations for teaching award: **40** ... **thanks a lot !**
- In the following, a summary of your feedback
- You find **all** the details [linked on the course Wiki](#)

Results Course Evaluation 2/7

- Style of the course ... numbers from last year in grey
 - **Learned** a lot: 74% fully agree, 20% agree, 6% ok
last year 67% 31% 2%
 - **Explained** well: 74% fully agree, 22% agree, 4% ok
last year 73% 27% 0%
 - **Activity** asked for: 80% fully agree, 13% agree, 4% ok
last year 76% 21% 4%
 - **Level** of contents: 58% appropriate, 42% high, 0% too high
last year 48% 51% 1%
 - **Quality** overall: 76% very good, 22% good, 2% ok
last year 73% 27% 1%
 - Criticism / suggestions: see slide 9

■ Student's effort

- Effort relative to ECTS ... 1 = very high, 5 = very low

11% x 1 46% x 2 41% x 3 2% x 4 0% x 5 this year

22% x 1 41% x 2 36% x 3 0% x 4 1% x 5 last year

12% x 1 31% x 2 51% x 3 5% x 4 1% x 5 department average

- Slightly more work than the average CS lecture

In previous years, the number were more skewed towards high effort, but we have worked hard over the years to make the exercise sheets **both realistic, motivating and interesting, yet not too much work**

(note that that is not easy at all)

■ Materials and Online Support / Tutors

- **Materials** helpful: 80% fully agree, 15% agree, 4% ok
last year 72% 22% 5%

- Consumed lecture by **presence or video recordings**:

2% pres, 81% rec, 0% both, 16% other this year

14% pres, 39% rec, 38% both, 10% other last year

34% pres, 15% rec, 19% both, 32% other dep average

- Video recordings: quality of the recordings much appreciated
Mixed comments about the "recording only mode" this semester:

About half of you said it didn't make a difference for them

The other half said they would have liked to see the professor live and be able to ask questions, at least from time to time

■ Assistant and Tutors

– **Assistant** (Claudius Korzen)

Claudius did a fantastic job running the course this year, based on the resources from last year (still a lot of work: forum, fixing errors, coordinating everything, ...)

Thank you very much!

– **Tutors** (Patrick Brosi, Niklas Schnelle, Daniel Bindemann):

Almost all of you were very happy with your tutors, in particular with their feedback, speed, friendliness, helpfulness

Several of you explicitly thanked the whole team of the course

A big thank you from my side to the team, too!

■ Criticism / Suggestions

- Most of the (not too many) negative comments were about the fact that there were **no live lectures** this time and no opportunity to ask questions live

Note that you could have met your tutor any time

- Besides that, there were the following suggestions:

Deep learning methods for information retrieval

A project at the end or as an extra course

More info on what is actually used in popular search engines

In some lectures, there was not enough time and some explanations had to be rushed in the end

■ Planned improvements **from two years ago**

- More theoretical sheets, in alternation with the (often more time-intensive) implementation sheet ✓
- Consider the many notes taking after each lecture ✓
- Clarify that test cases are mandatory, but also clarify that they do not have to be implemented 1-1 ✓
- Clarify in advance which programming languages are appropriate for which exercise sheet ✓
- Finish Python cheat sheet and make it available early ✓
- Offer live tutorials again, until nobody comes anymore (2 years ago: one live tutorial, with meagre attendance) ✗

The new IDs don't
have a photo anymore
(makes sense)

■ Where, when, what to bring

- Oral exams (Freiburg B.Sc. Computer Science students only):
February 13+19+25+26 and March 6, 30min in 51-02-28
 - Written exam (all other participants):
February 12 (Tuesday), 14:00 – 16:30 in 101-026 + 101-036
 - Please bring: student id, colored pens, brain
- student id:** make sure you look like your photo or vice versa
- colors:** greatly improves readability for examples / drawings
- brain:** greatly improves quality of answers in general

■ Type of exam

- The written exam is **open book**

That is, you can bring books, paper, etc ... but please be ecological when printing out slides + good for your karma

Electronic devices of any kind are obviously not allowed

- In the oral exam, ask us if you are missing some detail

But there is no time to start understanding things for the first time, during neither the oral nor the written exam

- There will be a sub-forum for questions about the exam

Answer speed will be slightly slower in the semester break

Don't ask all your questions in the night before the exam

■ Types of questions

- **Type 1:** Do algorithm (or variant thereof) by example, like we often did in the lecture see **colored pens**
- **Type 2:** Implement a small function (in Python, Java or C++) small indeed, at most 10 lines per task
- **Type 3:** Small calculations or proofs see **brain**
- In general: the emphasis is on **understanding**, not on learning things by heart
- Important: the contents + insights from the **exercises** are (very) relevant for the exam

■ Preparation

- To check whether you understood something:

Put away the material from the lecture and try to write it down / prove it **in your own words / formalism**

There is no point in learning the individual steps of a proof or argument by heart ... it doesn't work that way

- Once the basic stuff from the lecture is understood, the best preparation is to do all the exercise sheets

If you work your way through all the exercise sheets (yourself), there is no way you can fail the exam

- Also: work through the old exams (linked on the Wiki)

■ Task 1.1 from WS 15/16 exam

- Order the given documents according to the given query, and compute the AP for the given relevances

	D_1	D_2	D_3	D_4	D_5	Q
bla	1	1	2	2	3	1
eli	1	0	1	2	2	0
blu	0	1	1	0	1	1
	1	2	3	2	4	
Ranked:	^{REL} D_5	D_3	D_2	D_4	^{REL} D_1	
	1	0	0	0	1	

Dot-Product scores

$R = 2$ (#relevant docs)

$R_1 = 1$ (position of first rel. doc)

$R_2 = 5$ (position of sec. rel. doc)

$P@R_1 = P@1 = 100\%$

$P@R_2 = P@5 = 2/5 = 40\%$

$AP = \frac{100\% + 40\%}{2} = 70\%$

■ Task 1.2 from WS 15/16 exam

bit array from 1.1
e.g. **1 0 0 0 1**

- Write a function that computes the average precision given a bit vector as described for Task 1.1

```
def compute_ap (rels):  
    prec_sum = 0          # sum of the P@Ri  
    rel_num = 0           # number of rel docs  
    for i, rel in enumerate(rels):  
        if rel == 1:  
            rel_num += 1  
            prec = rel_num / (i + 1)  
            prec_sum += prec  
    return prec_sum / rel_num
```


$r = \# \text{relevant docs}$

■ Task 1.3 from WS 15/16 exam

- Prove that $AP = 100\%$ if and only if all the relevant docs are ranked before all the non-relevant documents

\Rightarrow " $AP = 100\% \Rightarrow P@R_r = 100\%$
 \Rightarrow The first r docs are all relevant
 \Leftarrow " The first r docs are all relevant $\left(\begin{matrix} R_1 & R_r \\ \text{"1...10...0"} \\ 1 & \dots & r \end{matrix} \right)$
 $\Rightarrow R_1 = 1, R_2 = 2, \dots, R_r = r$
 $\Rightarrow P@R_1 = 100\%, P@R_2 = 100\%, \dots, P@R_r = 100\%$
 $\Rightarrow AP = 100\%$



■ How we work

- We solve practically relevant (usually hard) problems

Route Planning, Transit Maps, Search As You Type,
Semantic Search, Question Answering, PDF extraction, ...

- We use theory as a (vital / essential) tool

All our work has a solid theoretical understanding, otherwise
solving complex problems remains hacking and guesswork

- We make our software + results available to the public

This requires an effort to write good software, good
documentation, nice user interfaces, and so on ...

All three aspects were clearly visible in this course, too !

■ Supervision

- Similarly as in the lecture:

Very good infrastructure + support, but apart from that you can (and are supposed to) work very independently

Team work is, of course, highly desirable and encouraged

Great for enthusiastic people who care about practical stuff and who want to get things done

■ Machine Learning

- We are building more and more on **machine learning** to solve our problems

Not because it's fashionable ... but because it's practical

It's quite obvious that learning is the future for problems like natural language understanding

- You have seen a few learning algorithms in this lecture:
k-means, Naive Bayes, LSI, Hidden Markov Models, ...

For a few years now, we also use **deep learning**

The complexity lies not so much in the algorithms, but in understanding how and why they work how well

■ Current projects and demos

- Route planning (part of Google Maps) [demo](#)
- World-wide public transit visualization (Travic) [demo](#)
- Finding the correct vehicle paths (Pfaedle) [demo](#)
- Automatic drawing of nice transit maps (Loom) [demo](#)
- Large-scale SPARQL+Text search (QLever) [demo](#)
- Search-as-you-type semantic search (Broccoli) [demo](#)
- Question Answering (Aqqu) [demo](#)
- Text extraction from PDF (Icecite) [paper](#)
- Super-easy availability via **Docker** [Wiki](#)

■ Upcoming courses

- **Algorithms and Data Structures** ... in the SS 2019

Basic course for B.Sc. Informatik+ESE students

- **Information Retrieval** ... in the WS 2019/2020

You know it ... become a tutor if you do a great exam !

- **Programming in C++** ... in the SS 2020

The programming course for the whole faculty

- **B.Sc. / M.Sc. projects or theses**

Offered all the time, read the instructions on our **Wiki**
and then just ask (if no response, ask again please)

It helps if you attended one my lectures, with a good grade