

Text-types and Genres: The Abstract

Textual genres refer to the form of texts. This means the way in which contents are organized into sections or stages. Genres are socially agreed and, thus, they fulfill a function in society. Genres are easily identified by users of a particular language in a particular culture. Examples of genres are recipes, letters, emails, webpages, manual of instructions, etc. Notice that, while text-types are a closed class, genres are an open class and new genres are created as long as new social needs arise. Abstracts are an example of textual genre.

The Abstract

An abstract is a short summary explaining the main points of an academic journal article. Abstracts are useful when researching a topic, as they indicate whether the academic article will be useful for your purposes. Abstracts can help you decide quickly whether it will be useful to read the whole article. They are often printed at the beginning of the article, and easily found using online databases.

The abstract is used to offer the main points concerning a longer text. It may normally precede articles and chapters. The contents of the abstract are organized into the following sections:

- (a) context or background,
- (b) objectives of research,
- (c) method of research,
- (d) results,
- (e) conclusions.

These are the main sections of a conventional abstract but it is true that not all abstracts show all these sections, and some abstracts may present different sections. The sections and the language used are as follows:

Section or stage	Function	Language expressions
Context or background	presentation of research	define, present, previous studies, in recent years
Objectives	purpose of research	present, describe, propose, in this paper, this paper, this study, demonstrate, the objective is...
Method	research method used: description, exemplification, prediction, description	describe, propose, develop, evaluate
Results and conclusions	justification for research, discussion, and generalization	validate, show, conclude, prove

1. Identify the sections in the abstracts below:

A. TOWARDS OPTIMAL JOINT NETWORK MANAGEMENT AND FLOW CONTROL

Ghulam Abbas

Abstract

This paper presents a State Estimation based Internet flow control and network management system where the objective is to maximize the aggregate bandwidth utility of network sources over their transmission rates. The network links and sources are viewed as processors of distributed computation and the control mechanism is based on estimation and optimization framework to solve the dual problem. The novelty of the proposed approach is that it allows network sources to estimate link bandwidth prices, based on the network state, rather than depending on the continuous price feedback from the network links. This is primarily to reduce the computational and communicational overhead of the routing process and to enable efficient resource allocation. The estimation framework also serves as a Network Management System to control hardware malfunctions, improves network monitoring and eliminates anomalies, such as measurement noise and other discrepancies between network system models that typically leads to poor network performance. The approach is validated using two scenarios in congestion and rate control which demonstrate favorable results in terms of enhanced data delivery with fewer packet losses and retransmissions.

B. RECOMMENDATION ALGORITHM OF THE APP STORE BY USING SEMANTIC RELATIONS BETWEEN APPS

Jognwoo Kim, Sanggil Kang, Yujin Lim, Hak-Man Kim

Abstract

In this paper, we propose a personalized recommendation system for mobile application software (app) to mobile user using semantic relations of apps consumed by users. To do that, we define semantic relations between apps consumed by a specific member and his/her social members using Ontology. Based on the relations, we identify the most similar social members from the reasoning process. The reasoning is explored from measuring the common attributes between apps consumed by the target member and his/her social members. The more attributes shared by them, the more similar is their preference for consuming apps. We also develop a prototype of our system using OWL (Ontology Web Language) by defining ontology-based semantic relations among 50 mobile apps. Using the prototype, we showed the feasibility of our algorithm that our recommendation algorithm can be practical in the real field and useful to analyze the preference of mobile user.

2. Put the sentences in this abstract in order. Then identify the different sections:

F: Participants demonstrated partial knowledge, and tended to overestimate the number of genetically modified foods.

A: Compared to their European counterparts, the American public has been characterized as relatively unknowledgeable and indifferent about genetically modified foods.

B: If these results are any indication, moral and ethical issues will dominate any discussion of foods derived from a mixture of animal and plant genes.

C: However, participants tended to be familiar with debates surrounding benefits, risks and moral issues associated with agricultural biotechnology applications.

E: Findings also showed that while participants were not overly concerned about combining genes between plants, they were concerned about inserting animal genes into plants.

D: To evaluate these claims, six focus groups were held in three Arkansas cities to: (1) determine the extent of knowledge the public possesses about genetically modified foods; (2) detail perceived benefits and risks associated with agricultural biotechnology applications; and (3) explore lay perceptions about the genetic modification process itself.