Text Summarization - LexRank

Pawan Goyal

CSE, IIT Kharagpur

Week 11, Lecture 1

Text Summarization

What is a summary?

A summary is a text that is produced from one or more texts, that contains a significant portion of the information in the original text(s), and that is no longer than half of the original text(s). (*Hovy, 2008*)

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Humans have an incredible capacity to condense information down to the critical bit.

> *"He said he is against it."*

Calvin Coolidge, on being asked what a clergyman preaching on sin said.

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To give an overview of the original document in a shorter period of time.

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Summarization Applications

- *outlines or abstracts* of any document, news article etc.
- *summaries* of email threads
- *action items* from a meeting
- *simplifying* text by compressing sentences

Application: Generating Snippets

Robert O'Neill taking credit for killing Osama bin Laden sparks debate

Hindustan Times - 1 hour ago

Some special operations service members and veterans are unhappy that one of their own has taken credit publicly for killing Osama bin Laden.

It's been special knock as wait has been long: Rayudu

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An elated Ambati Rayudu said Friday that his maiden hundred in international cricket will certainly be a "special one" as it took a long time to come.

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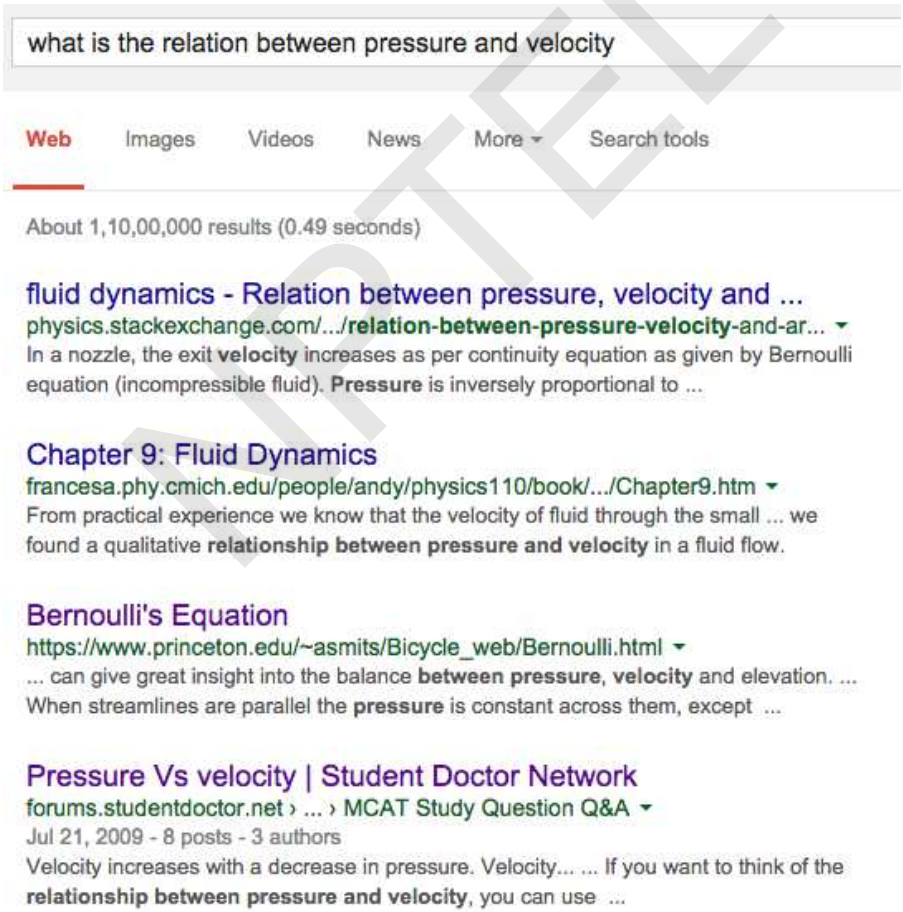

Automatic Text Summarization

Genres of Summary

- Extract vs. Abstract

  . . .lists fragments of text vs. re-phrases content coherently.

- Single document vs. Multi-document

  . . .based on one text vs. fuses together many texts.

- Generic vs. Query-focused

  . . .provides author's view vs. reflects user's interest.

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Query-focused summarization can be thought of as a complex question answering system

Summarization: Main stages

Content Selection

Choose sentences to extract from the document

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Information Ordering

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Simplify the sentences

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The most basic algorithm only does the first stage, *content selection*.

Unsupervised content selection; Luhn (1958)

Intuition

Choose sentences that have salient or informative words

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Choose sentences that have salient or informative words

Two approaches to define salient words

- *tf-idf:* weigh each word w_i in document j by tf-idf

$$weight(w_i) = tf_{ij} \times idf_i$$

- *Topic signatures:* choose a smaller set of salient words, specific to that domain

$$weight(w_i) = 1 \text{ if } w_i \text{ is a specific term (use mutual information)}$$

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Weighing a sentence

$$weight(s) = \frac{1}{|S|} \sum_{w \in S} weight(w)$$

LexRank: A Graph-based approach

Text Document

Computation is a process following a well defined model ...
A computation can be seen as a purely physical phenomena ...
...

processing

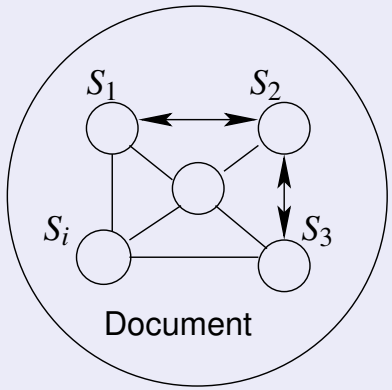
$S_1 \rightarrow \{(computation, 0.1), (process, 0.15), \ldots\}$
$S_2 \rightarrow \{(computation, 0.1), (seen, 0.05), \ldots\}$
$S_3 \rightarrow \ldots$

Machine-readable format

Document Representation

Underlying Hypothesis

Sentences that convey the theme of the document are more similar to each other



Finding the most salient sentences

Removing Redundant Sentences

Maximal Marginal Relevance

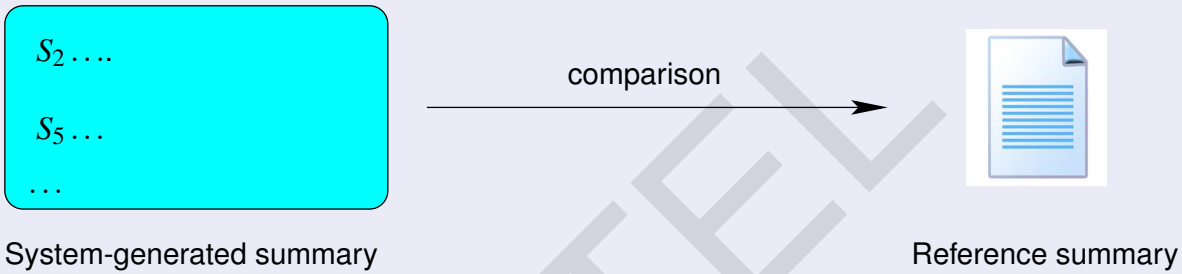
- An iterative method for content selection from a selected list of important sentences
- Iteratively choose the best sentence to insert in the summary that is minimally redundant with the summary so far (Sum)

$$Inf(s)_{MMR} = max_{s \in D}(Inf(s) - \lambda \cdot sim(s, Sum))$$

where $Inf(s)$ denotes the informativeness score of a sentence

System Evaluation

Evaluation Criteria



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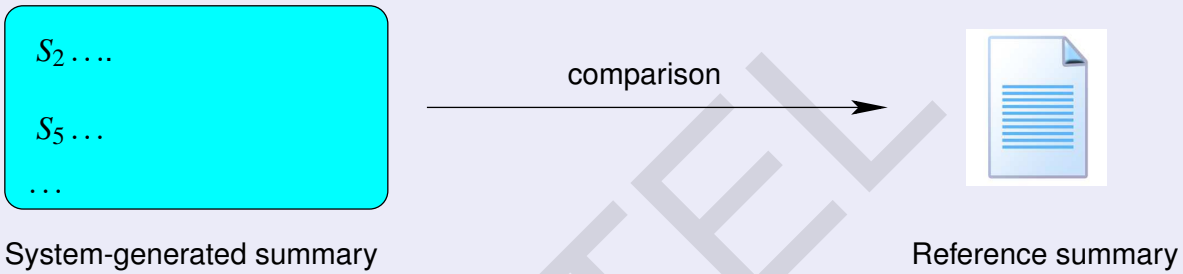

System Evaluation

ROUGE

Recall Oriented Understudy for Gisting Evaluation *Not as good as human evaluation but much more convenient*

Toolkit available for download.

ROUGE for evaluation

Given a document D, and an automatic summary X:

- Have N humans produce a set of reference summaries of D ($N \geq 1$)
- Run system, giving automatic summary X
- What percentage of the n-grams from the reference summaries appear in X?

$$ROUGE-2 = \frac{\sum_{S \in \{RefSums\}} \sum_{bi-gram \in S} Count_{match}(bi-gram)}{\sum_{S \in \{RefSums\}} \sum_{bi-gram \in S} Count(bi-gram)}$$

ROUGE Example

Reference Summaries

- **Human 1:** water spinach is a green leafy vegetable grown in the tropics.
- **Human 2:** water spinach is a semi-aquatic tropical plant grown as a vegetable.
- **Human 3:** water spinach is a commonly eaten leaf vegetable of Asia

System Summary

water spinach is a leaf vegetable commonly eaten in tropical areas of Asia.

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ROUGE-2

$$\frac{3+3+6}{10+10+9} = 12/29 = 0.413$$

Further Discussions

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- Multi-document summarization

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- Multi-document summarization
- Query-specific summarization

Further Discussions

- Multi-document summarization
- Query-specific summarization
- Abstractive summarization

Taxt Classification

- Assigning subject categories, topics, or genres
- Spam detection
- Authorship identification
- Age/gender identification
- Language identification
- Sentiment analysis
- ...