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Webcrawler Assignment

In a doc: (1) describe how you created your knowledge base, include screen shots of the knowledge base, and indicate your top 10 terms; (2) write up a sample dialog you would like to create with a chatbot based on your knowledge base

Topic: How shrimp (and other animals) absorb visual pigments

Starting Website: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00359-015-1063-y

(1) Our top 10 terms are: larvae, zooplanktonic, stomatopods, adult, overtly, persists, equator, sympatric, photoreceptor, reabsorbed

At first, it was difficult to find a link that was interesting and gave us at least 15 relevant websites, but we eventually settled on marine biology and were able to find some research sites that allowed us to scrape their scholarly sources on shrimp and their visual processors. Even after generating a substantial list of relevant urls, we still had to filter out certain links that generated an error as our program attempted to scrape them. For the sites that worked properly, we wrote our scraped contents to a file.

Despite being able to surpass those hurdles, we still had to filter out files that did not give enough relevant information besides the authors and references of the article or information about the website such as their policies. Only after filtering out irrelevant files did we process the text using NLTK and regular expressions so that we could glean relevant terms from the corpora with tf-idf. This equation showed us potential contenders for us to manually choose 10 terms from.

After we handpicked our top 10 terms, we decided to find all the sentences in the corpora that contained those terms and output them to the terminal. There were too many sentences per word for us to see all 10 words' sentences at once, so we limited the search to five sentences each with our most important words. From there, we further handpicked the most interesting and relevant sentences based on our domain knowledge and used those as our relevant knowledge base facts.

We decided to go with a python dictionary for our knowledge base because we felt that this was the easiest format for us to conceptualize, but in the future (for the chatbot assignment) we will look into other knowledge base formats.

(2)

Hello, I'm Shrimpy, a chatbot specializing in how marine animals see. What's your name?

Hi Shrimpy! I'm Crystal.

Hi Crystal! Do you like marine biology?

Yeah! Why are you named Shrimpy?

Why are you named Crystal? I'm named after the mantis shrimp, or stomatopod, which has the most complex color vision of any animal!

What does that mean?

That means stomatopods can see colors that people like us can't see. They can also see UV and polarized light.

That's really cool! Wait, are you human?

Moving on!