

Week 1: Introduction

Assignment 1: Group Formation

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Assignment 2: IR Introduction

a) In which aspects is Web search similar and different to information retrieval?

Similar:

- It's about finding unstructured documents to satisfy information needs from within large collections

Differences:

- Links between documents have to be taken into account
- Documents need to be crawled first
- Documents are added and changed all the time: Coverage and Updating
- Spam is an issue
- Scalability (there are continually new documents added)

b) What is an information need? And how does it differ from a database SQL statement?

An information need is a topic about the user desires to know more. It refers to an individual, hidden cognitive state of the user. It is only valid with respect to some user or group. It describes the user's ignorance and is ill-defined.

A database query is an attempt to communicate an information need to a computer. A query is formulated using a formal model, whereas an information need is a cognitive state.

c) How is the relevance notion defined in information retrieval? And what makes a document relevant or not relevant to a particular query?

A document is relevant with respect to some user's information need if the user perceives it as containing information of value with respect to this information need.

A document is relevant for a query if it can satisfy the information need. For ambiguous queries, if the information retrieval system returns the correct aspect.

Assignment 3: (Programming) Getting Ready

Alan Smithee 1

Actinium 3

Ang Lee 5

Anschluss (Soziologie) 7

Anschlussfähigkeit 8