



Article Presentation

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Document Expansion by Query Prediction  
From doc2query to docTTTTTquery

"Vocabulary mismatch" problem  
where users use query terms that differ from  
those used in relevant documents, is one of the  
central challenges in information retrieval  
(automobiliu x car)

Main concepts

doc2query  
A document expansion technique that mitigates the vocabulary  
mismatch problem. It uses a sequence-to-sequence model (trained  
using datasets consisting of pairs of query and relevant documents) to  
produce queries given a text from a corpus.. These queries for which  
that document might be relevant are concatenated to the document  
text.

In contrast to other decoding methods such as  
greedy or beam search, top-k sampling tends to  
generate more diverse texts, with diversity  
increasing with greater values of k [Holtzman et  
al., 2019]

top-k random sampling [Fan et al., 2018a]  
In this sampling-based decoding method, at each decoding step a  
token is sampled from the top-k tokens with the highest probability  
from the model. The decoding stops when a special "end-of-  
sequence" token is sampled. ([Livro](#))

Article contribution

New document expansion technique doc2query

First successful application of neural networks to document expansion

Document expansion with doc2query shifts computationally expensive inference with neural networks from query time to indexing time.

## Interesting/unexpected results

The gain from both types of terms together is greater than the sum of the gains from each individual contribution in isolation.

Document expansion presents system developers with more options in the effectiveness/efficiency tradeoff space

doc2query improves Recall@1k thus potentially improving end-to-end effectiveness in multi stager ranking architecture ([Livro](#))

Excluding stopwords, which corresponds to 51% of the predicted query terms, we find that 31% are new (expansion) while the rest (69%) are copied (term reweighting)

The effectiveness is substantially below monoBERT reranking, but it is about 50x faster (since it is still based on keyword search with inverted indexes). The modest increase in query latency is due to the fact that the expanded texts are longer. ([Livro](#))

It appears clear that pretraining makes the crucial difference (1b x 1c) as even the T5-small model, which has a similar number of parameters as the doc2query model, achieves 0.18 BLEU.

row (3) shows that doc2query is able to approach the effectiveness of non-BERT neural models (at the time the work was published) solely with document expansion.

Method		MS MARCO Passage		
		Development MRR@10	Recall@1k	Test MRR@10
(1a)	BM25	0.184	0.853	0.186
(1b)	w/ doc2query-base [Nogueira et al., 2019b]	0.218	0.891	0.215
(1c)	w/ doc2query-T5 [Nogueira and Lin, 2019]	0.277	0.947	0.272
(2a)	BM25 + RM3	0.156	0.861	-
(2b)	w/ doc2query-base	0.194	0.892	-
(2c)	w/ doc2query-T5	0.214	0.946	-
(3)	Best non-BERT [Hofstätter et al., 2019]	0.290	-	0.277
(4)	BM25 + monoBERT <sub>Large</sub> [Nogueira et al., 2019a]	0.372	0.853	0.365

Table 31: The effectiveness of doc2query on the MS MARCO passage ranking test collection.

- Basic doubts that may arise

What are the advantages of doc2query over query expansion?

Shorter response time for searches as expansion is done before indexing

"Documents are typically much longer than queries, and thus offer more context for a model to choose appropriate expansion terms." ([Livro](#))hiro

Does query expansion have any advantages?

Query expansion techniques lend themselves to much shorter experimental cycles and provide much more rapid feedback ([Livro](#))

Query expansion techniques are generally more flexible ([Livro](#))

Previous work has shown the potential advantages of post-retrieval approaches [Xu and Croft, 2000] ([Livro](#))

If the corpus is large (e.g., billions of documents), doc2query can be prohibitively expensive ([Livro](#))

Advanced topic to discuss

About text pre-processing (removing stop words, stemming, etc) that impact sparse search engines (bm25)

If we want to do some pre-processing, when we save document texts in an index of a textual base like elastic search, do we need to save the pre-processed text already?

Should the generated queries also be pre-processed before being concatenated?

Do we need to keep original document and query content for both the query generation and the reranker, as transformers, I think, understand more uncut sentences?



The predictions are appended to the original texts from the corpus without any special markup to distinguish the original text from the expanded text, forming the expanded document"

Why not doc2doc?

what would be the impact if we added "questions associated with this text" tags before the queries? Could this addition make it easier for Transformers to understand and make a difference in a later reranking step?

Observations

Table 1 (line 5) in the first article seems to bring incongruent values with Table 1 (line 2) in the second:

retrieval time BM25 + Doc2query: 90 ms x 61 ms  
MRR@10 no test e no dev: (21,8 21,5) x (21,5 21,8)

This metric values were resolved by the book that repeats the metrics of the second article: (21.5 21.8). But the book does not differentiates the retrieval time.