

Open Data Link

A dataset search engine for open data

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Outline

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System overview

Joinable table search

Unionable table search

Semantic keyword search

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Open Data Link

- ▶ Dataset search engine for open data.
- ▶ Search methods:
 - ▶ Semantic keyword search
 - ▶ Joinable table search
 - ▶ Unionable table search

Motivation

- ▶ Governments publish a lot of open data, but discovery is still difficult.
- ▶ Data scientists can identify ways to integrate datasets.
- ▶ Data publishers can see the wider context of their data.

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- ▶ Crawler downloads datasets and metadata from Socrata.
- ▶ Data sketches are created for the values of each column, and stored in an SQLite database.
- ▶ Server builds indices on metadata (for keyword search) and on column sketches (for joinable and unionable table search).

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Minhash

- ▶ Data sketch for estimating Jaccard similarity of sets.

$$J(S, T) = \frac{|S \cap T|}{|S \cup T|}$$

- ▶ A minhash signature is composed of the results of a number of minhashes.
- ▶ The probability that the minhashes for two sets are the same equals the Jaccard similarity of the sets¹.
- ▶ Minhash LSH hashes similar signatures to the same bucket.

¹Mining of Massive Datasets, Chapter 3.

LSH Ensemble²

- ▶ Set containment is a better measure for computing joinability.

$$C(Q, X) = \frac{|Q \cap X|}{|Q|}$$

- ▶ We can convert Jaccard similarity to containment, given the sizes of the domains.
- ▶ The size of the indexed domain is not constant, so domains are partitioned by cardinality.
- ▶ A minhash LSH index is constructed for each partition.

²Erkang Zhu, Fatemeh Nargesian, Ken Q. Pu, Renée J. Miller, “LSH Ensemble: Internet-Scale Domain Search”, VLDB 2016.

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Unionable table search

- ▶ The LSH Ensemble index is queried for each column of the query table.
- ▶ Candidate tables are those that appear in $\geq 40\%$ of the joinability queries.
- ▶ Candidates are ranked by alignment: the fraction of candidate columns that are unionable with a query column.

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Overview

- ▶ FastText: words \rightarrow vectors
- ▶ SimHash: vectors \rightarrow bit vectors
- ▶ LSH: similarity search on bit vectors

- ▶ Vectors represent the semantics of words
- ▶ Closer a pair of vectors, closer the semantics of the two words
- ▶ closeness or similarity of vectors $:=$ Cosine-Similarity

Simhash

- ▶ Vector of floats \rightarrow Vector of bits

hash := an array of length H For vector with dimension d : Compute whether it is above or below d hyperplanes H times

SimHash LSH

- ▶ L hash tables of bit vectors
- ▶ Query each L hash table for M candidates
- ▶ Compute cosine similarity of unhashed vectors to return top-M results

LSH Forest

- ▶ Prefix Tree of bit vectors
- ▶ Variable length hash in tree solves tunability problem
- ▶ Query L Prefix Trees (the LSH Forest) for M candidates
- ▶ Compute cosine similarity of unhashed vectors to return top-M results

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- ▶ Organizing datasets into a directory structure for navigation.
- ▶ Use semantic similarity of attribute names in unionable table search.
- ▶ Similar dataset search based on metadata similarity.
- ▶ Keyword search over data values.