Portrait of an Indexer—Computing Pointers Into Instructional Videos

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ABSTRACT

We examine algorithms for creating indexes into ordered series of instructional lecture video transcripts. The goal is for students and industry practitioners to use the indexes towards review or reference. Lecture videos differ from often-examined document collections such as newspaper articles in that the transcript ordering generally reflects pedagogical intent. One challenge is therefore to identify where a concept is *primarily* introduced, and where the resulting index should thus direct students. The typically applied TF-IDF approach gets tricked in this context by artifacts such as worked examples whose associated vocabulary may dominate a lecture, but should not be included in a good index. We contrast the TF-IDF approach with algorithms that consult Wikipedia documents to vouch for term importance. This method helps filter the harmful artifacts. We measure the algorithms against three human-created indexes over the 90 lecture videos of a popular database course. We found that *(i)* humans have low inter-rater reliability, whether they are experts in the field or not, and that *(ii)* one of the examined algorithms approaches the inter-rater reliability with humans.

1. INTRODUCTION

Offerings of massively open online courses (MOOCs) have been expanding over the past years. Companies are betting their existence on the continuation of this trend. Universities are experimenting to find their own approaches, either to teaching open classes, or to develop courses directed to their enrolled students. Thus, while the embrace of the 'massive,' and 'open' portions of MOOCs might vary, the 'online' aspect as a tool for teaching is gaining ground, and we focus on this aspect here. Best practices for the use of the Internet to teach are still evolving, and not all voices are enthusiastic [7]. Nonetheless, given the trend it is essential to develop technologies that take maximum advantage of the online medium.

Current course offerings expose many opportunities for such technologies. Peer assessment, forum use, guided tutoring, and interventions that address dropout rates all offer such possibilities for technological improvement [20, 2, 5, 1, 10, 26].

We focus here on opportunities arising when students need to review course material before approaching assessments. Other intended beneficiaries of this work are industrial practitioners wishing to learn parts of course material. Course reviews are historically offered by instructors to peers of students. In online settings, however, students may not arrive at courses on traditional term boundaries; so students' review time lines are not aligned as they would be among a fixed group of peers. In the extreme, *untended* courses may not have any active teaching staff. Without support, students fend for themselves when they don't understand a concept or need to review for a test.

One important source for students to review in today's online courses are lecture videos. Typical courses include 100 or more such presentations. While the sequential nature of video may make them suited for structured, linear pedagogy during concept introductions, their sequentiality is clumsy when videos are used as reference material during course review activities. For those occasions random access as afforded by the traditional index at the end of books is much more appropriate. We are not proposing a student-facing *interface* that mimics book indexes; we are rather referring to the *capabilities* of book indexes—however they can best manifest in online teaching.

The problem is that human indexing is very expensive. We therefore present comparisons of algorithms that can be applied towards the automatic production of indexes into instructional videos. We use as our raw material the closed caption files that are often available for educational video. Those files contain transcripts of the videoed instructor's words, paired with timing information at roughly sentence granularity.

The challenge in effective indexing is that keywords must not only reference the important elements of concepts, and must furthermore direct students to the video segments that contain the *primary* treatments of those concepts. Competent indexing into instructional videos can serve as the foundation to a number of higher-level facilities for students. In [1] we discussed how answers to forum post questions might be approached using video indexes. Other opportunities include automated advice for review when students struggle with particular assignments, and facilities that make courses suitable as reference resources for professionals after they complete a course.

Many keyword extraction systems are designed for use on large collections of loosely related documents, such as newspaper articles [24], or are directed at summarizing or indexing individual documents [18].

In contrast, the algorithms we study here are confronted with a series of video transcript files that introduce a number of related concepts in pedagogically thought-through order. Many keyword extraction algorithms leverage the fact that documents on very different topics will have mostly disjoint sets of words, which may not be the case in our setting where very few authors (i.e. instructors) produce all the documents.

Evaluation of an algorithm's success in building a 'good' index is particularly difficult because indexing from free text is a highly subjective process. We do not in this work operate with pre-defined keyword sets from which an algorithm would choose. Instead, the harder task we set for our algorithms is freely to choose words from the text that should be included in the index, subject possibly to a stemming process. The task thus holds many degrees of freedom that allow for a multitude of outcomes.

Given this lack of a natural ground truth, we decided to evaluate outcomes for our algorithms by comparing against decisions made by humans. We paid three humans to carefully index the video transcripts from a Stanford online database course. We examined how well the three resulting indexes compared to each other, and how outcomes of several algorithms compared to each of the human-generated results. We make the three reference indexes and the database course video caption files available to the public in hope of eliciting indexing approaches beyond those that we explored.

Figure 1 is a schematic of the task solved by the human and algorithmic indexers.

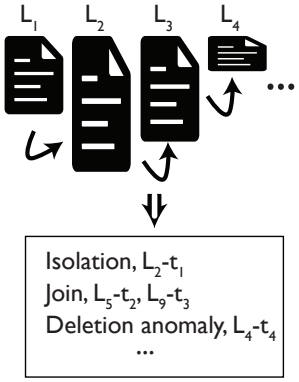

Figure 1: The task to be solved by the algorithms and human indexers. Construct an index into ordered video lecture transcripts such that index keywords and phrases reference the lecture portions where corresponding concepts are introduced.

The ordered lecture transcripts L_1–L_n contain lines of instructor speech, together with timing information. An index is to be constructed that maps concept-bearing words and phrases to lecture-time pairs. Note that index entries may map to multiple lectures, if the corresponding word or phrase is important in those lectures. Our current implementations set t_n to the first occurrence of the respective index term in the lecture. Note as well that we do not impose a controlled vocabulary for the index entries. All entries are taken from the transcript text. Any word or phrase is therefore a potential candidate for inclusion in the index.

Our first experiment took a traditional approach, selecting words for the index that appeared disproportionately often in certain lectures. We then incorporated lexical information, by only considering phrases that followed certain part-of-speech patterns. Finally, we introduced external knowledge from Wikipedia into an algorithm's indexing decisions. Note that none of the algorithms included supervised learning, as we do not assume the existence of a training set for all courses.

In Section 2 we review some of the related literature. Section 3 offers more detail on how we created our three human-generated reference indexes. Section 4 introduces the algorithms we explored. Section 5 offers some observations around the experimental results, and we conclude in a final section.

2. RELATED WORK

Much of the research on keyword extraction has focused on leveraging statistical properties of a corpus or single document. Term frequency-inverse document frequency (TF-IDF) is a widely used method that weights phrases in a document proportionally to the number of times they appear in that document, and inversely proportionally to the number of documents in which the phrases appear at least once [14]. Statistical methods that work on a single document have also been proposed, such as selecting keywords that co-occur in sentences with frequent words unevenly [15]. The TextRank system uses sentence co-occurrence data in a graph-based approach, by forming a node for each candidate phrase and an edge between two phrases if they appear together in a sentence. The system then runs PageRank over the induced graph to select keywords [16]. An approach that uses graphs for topic clustering was presented in [18]. Other methods have combined linguistic and statistical properties of the document by first filtering the set of possible keywords (e.g. only considering noun phrases or adjectives) and then applying frequency-based methods [22].

The approaches outlined so far all take an unsupervised approach to keyword extraction. There has also been work on supervised approaches, which classify each phrase by whether it should be a keyword or not. Turney trained a decision tree on different annotated corpora to choose keywords based on features such as the length of the phrase and whether it is a proper noun [25]. Hulth takes a related approach, and finds that adding part-of-speech tags as a feature leads to improved results [12]. The major downside of supervised learning is the expense associated with labeling data, as many types of documents will require a person with domain knowledge to choose keywords. As a result many of these supervised systems use academic journals with author-provided keywords as datasets. Supervised approaches are not an option in our use case.

Discerning important terms in the specific setting of instructional videos has also been investigated. This task differs

from keyword extraction from a large heterogeneous document collection because of the sequential nature of the videos, the fact that they will be about closely related topics, and the additional audio-visual component. Methods have been designed to combine the statistical properties of the lecture transcripts with cues from the lecture videos, such as the introduction of a new speaker, and evaluated on governmental instruction videos [19]. This work differs from the work presented here along several dimensions. The human raters were constrained to use keywords that were pre-selected by the authors' baseline keyword extraction algorithm. Furthermore, rather than introducing Wikipedia for extraction support the cited work relies on video features. The authors report percent-agreement between their algorithm and the gold set, which can be misleading compared to indicators such as Cohen's Kappa. Nonetheless [19] is very much in the spirit of our investigation.

Keyword extraction from Khan Academy lecture videos has been experimented with, using statistical properties of the lecture transcripts [13]. Their methods provided interesting insights, but our research goes beyond their work. Firstly, their system only extracts unigram keywords for five, 2-3 minute lecture videos, whereas we consider all multi-word keywords over our 92 lectures, with many lectures lasting longer than 10 minutes. While the larger scope of our problem makes it uniquely interesting, it is also necessary in order to index an entire MOOC. Incorporating Wikipedia's external knowledge for keyword extraction further distinguishes our approach, because we don't restrict our algorithms to course content.

Finally, there has been research into using Wikipedia's external knowledge for natural language processing tasks such as clustering documents [11] and computing semantic similarity between words [17].

3. PREPARATION OF GOLD INDEX

In order to evaluate our algorithms, we prepared a gold standard index of terms extracted from an introductory databases course by three paid human indexers. Each was presented with all 90 course closed caption video transcripts, and was asked to work through each file in the order the videos were presented in class. Videos were usually around 10 minutes long.

From each line in a file the indexers were asked to select as many keywords and phrases as they felt should appear in their index. Two of the indexers only used words or phrases that appeared in the text. One expert indexer added synonyms.

We used indexers' selected keywords and phrases in our investigation[1]. Additionally we asked indexers for two more pieces of information that we did not use, but which are included in our public copies of the indexers' results.

First, we asked indexers also to mark lines in which a particular phrase for the index appeared in the context of the primary introduction to the phrase's underlying concept. Second, for each lecture file, indexers ranked the top five most important phrases from that lecture. We allowed inclusion of fewer than five phrases.

One participant had taken the database course being indexed. A second indexer had taken at least one database course in another institution, and the third was a college-educated individual in a non-technical field.

On average indexers selected about 8 phrases per video. We evaluated agreement between the indexers' output using Fleiss' Kappa, which generalizes Cohen's Kappa to settings with more than two annotators [9]. The κ is a measure of inter-rater agreement, with range $[-1, 1]$, where 1 means the raters are in complete agreement, -1 complete disagreement, and 0 the agreement expected by chance.

For our algorithms we formulate the indexing problem as a binary classification task, where the two categories are *in-index* and *not-in-index*. The algorithms' task was to classify phrases in each lecture into these two buckets.

When not comparing against each of the three indexers individually, we combined the work of all three into a single index by computing the lecture-by-lecture three-way union. Several other approaches for combining the three ground truth examples can be formulated. We selected the union because it was the most licentious for the algorithms. However, when comparing algorithm results to individual indexers the respective indexer's actual work was used.

We computed a κ of 0.325 between the indexes produced by the three human raters. This κ is evidence of significant differences between the decisions of the three indexers. The non-expert was much more prolific in choosing *in-index* phrases than the two experts. But even the two experts frequently made different choices.

We consider this κ the upper bound on the performance we could reasonably expect from any indexing algorithm. The largest pairwise Cohen's κ between raters was 0.336 and the lowest was 0.309 (note that Fleiss' Kappa is not generally the average of the pairwise Cohen's Kappas).

4. EXPERIMENTS

We implemented several index term extraction algorithms and measured how closely they agreed with the gold index derived from the work of our human indexers.

For each experiment we applied the Porter stemming algorithm to each word in the document and each word in phrases destined for the index. Phrases therefore matched if all of the individual stemmed tokens matched. In experiments using n-grams as candidate phrases, stopwords were removed from the document before the n-grams were formed, using the stopword list of the SMART system [23].

The following subsections introduce the algorithm (families) we applied to the lecture transcripts.

4.1 Traditional Approach: TF-IDF

Our simplest algorithm used a straight term frequency-inverse document frequency (TF-IDF) approach to identifying index

[1]From here on we use the term 'phrase' to mean n-grams of any length, including one, unless the distinction is significant.

terms in a lecture. TF-IDF is defined for each phrase-lecture pair as the product of the number of times the phrase appears in the lecture, divided by the logarithm of the proportion of lectures in which the phrase appears. That is, we used the standard definition of TF-IDF, with each lecture taken as a document. We then ranked the phrases for each lecture by their TF-IDF score in that lecture. Any phrases above a chosen threshold were marked as *in-index*. All phrases lower in the list were marked *not-in-index*. We chose the average number of keywords that the human indexers included in their indexes as the threshold value. We limited the algorithms to a maximum phrase length of four.

4.2 Leveraging Linguistic Information

Considering all of the n-grams in the collection of lectures as candidate keywords has the potential of adding significant noise. By selecting only certain linguistic patterns for consideration as phrases, it is possible to reduce the size of the candidate set, while still covering most important phrases. We measured an algorithm that first runs a part-of-speech tagger over the lecture transcripts, and then selected only phrases that consist of an arbitrary number of adjectives followed by one or more nouns. For example, "equality condition" or "XML data" were both included in the candidate set. We then ran TF-IDF over this reduced set. After this process we proceeded as in Section 4.1.

4.3 Adding External Knowledge

Motivated by the intuition that phrases gain importance because of both their role in a document and their semantic meaning in the broader world, we experimented with multiple algorithms that incorporate outside knowledge. Each algorithm integrates Wikipedia as a knowledge source in different ways.

4.3.1 Boosting Documents

The first algorithm attaches to each lecture a closely related Wikipedia page, and then uses the previously described statistical and linguistic techniques to choose phrases from the combined document. Formally, the procedure is as follows. First, for each lecture, the algorithm takes the title of the lecture, removes stopwords, and uses the result as a query to Wikipedia. Then, the first page in the search results returned by Wikipedia is concatenated to the lecture transcript. After attaching a Wikipedia page to each transcript, we run the previously described procedures over the collection of concatenated lecture-Wikipedia pages.

For example, for the lecture titled "View Modifications Using Triggers", the first page in the Wikipedia search results is "Database trigger", which is then concatenated to the transcript of the lecture. Then, using either n-grams or adjective-noun phrases as candidate keywords, the algorithm chooses phrases with TF-IDF over the combined document for the index.

4.3.2 Boosting Phrases

This algorithm first creates a list of candidate index terms using adjective-noun phrases. Then the candidates are ranked by their TF-IDF score summed over all Wikipedia documents. That is, for a phrase p, we define its term frequency

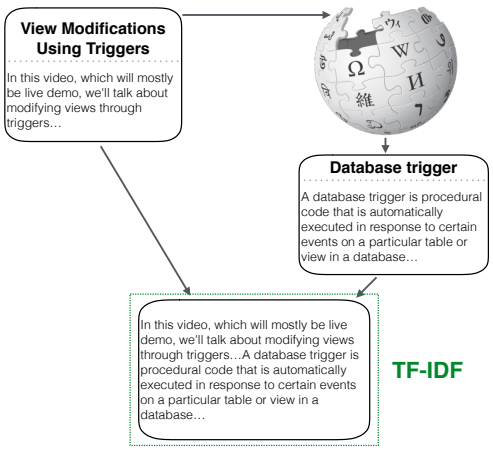

Figure 2: The Document Boosting algorithm searches for a Wikipedia page using the title of the lecture, concatenates the result to the lecture, and then runs TF-IDF over the combined document.

$TF_w(p)$ as

$$TF_w(p) \coloneqq \log(\text{number of times } p \text{ appears on Wikipedia})$$

and its inverse document frequency $IDF_w(p, W)$ for a phrase p and Wikipedia article collection W as

$$IDF_w(p, W) \coloneqq \log\left(\frac{|W|}{\text{number of documents in } W \text{ with } p} + 1\right)$$

and finally $TF\text{-}IDF_w(p, W)$ is defined as

$$TF\text{-}IDF_w(p, W) \coloneqq TF_w(p) \cdot IDF_w(p, W)$$

Next, this global candidate ranking is combined with the basic TF-IDF approach described in Section 4.1. First, we create a normalized Wikipedia candidate ranking

$$TF\text{-}IDF_{w-norm}(p, W) \coloneqq \frac{TF\text{-}IDF_w(p, W)}{\sum_{p'} TF\text{-}IDF_w(p', W)}$$

and normalized lecture collection ranking

$$TF\text{-}IDF_{norm}(p, l, L) \coloneqq \frac{TF\text{-}IDF(p, l, L)}{\sum_{p'} TF\text{-}IDF(p', l, L)}$$

Then, we combine the two normalized rankings to form a final score

$$TF\text{-}IDF_{combined}(p, l, L, W) \coloneqq \eta TF\text{-}IDF_{w-norm}(p, W) + TF\text{-}IDF_{norm}(p, l, L)$$

where η is used to determine the weight between Wikipedia scores and lecture scores. We found that a value of $\eta = 2$, meaning the Wikipedia ranking is weighted twice as much as the lecture ranking, works well in practice, and we report results of computations with that setting in place.

We also experimented with only boosting phrases of at least two words, based on the intution that longer phrases are often meaningful, but appear infrequently and are therefore given low scores by TF-IDF. We call this alternative "Phrase Boosting N-Grams" in Figure 6. The approach can

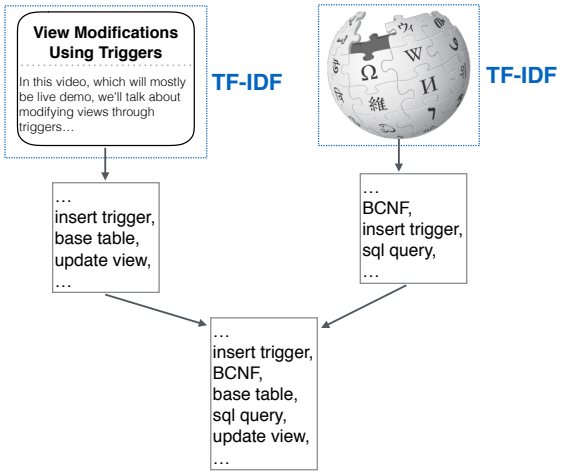

Figure 3: The Phrase Boosting algorithm runs TF-IDF over the entirety of Wikipedia and then combines the global ranking with a local ranking for a document.

be thought of as multiplying $TF_w(p)$ by 0 if p consists of fewer than two tokens:

$$TF_{w-ngram}(p) \coloneqq TF_w(p) \cdot \mathbf{1}\{p \text{ is at least two tokens}\}$$

A few subtleties deserve further description. First, in our simple TF-IDF approach, a score is calculated for each lecture l and phrase p, while in our Wikipedia calculation a score is only calculated for each p. That approach is chosen because in this algorithm we are not interested in keywords for every Wikipedia document, but only in obtaining a global sense of the importance of a phrase. The algorithm is equivalent to summing over all Wikipedia documents $d \in W$

$$TF_w(p) = \log\left(\sum_{d \in W} \text{number of times } p \text{ appears in } d\right)$$

Second, we take the logarithm of the phrase count in the Wikipedia ranking. This choice produces improved empirical results.

4.4 Results

As stated in Section 3, we computed agreement between humans using Fleiss' Kappa. We evaluated each algorithm by computing Cohen's Kappa agreement between the algorithm and the gold set unified from the three human indexes as described in Section 3: the union of the lecture-phrase pairs in the gold indexes. That is a lecture-phrase pair is classified as *in-index* if any human indexer classified it as *in-index*, and classified as *not-in-index* otherwise. When using a single metric for agreement, such as Cohen's Kappa, paradoxes can arise when one category is much more prevalent than another and the chance-correction term in the agreement metric overcompensates. This effect leads to inappropriately low values of κ for high inter-rater agreement [8].

This problem arises in our context because there are many more *not-in-index* phrases than phrases destined for the index. To help deconstruct the above-mentioned inappropriate κ values, we report three additional metrics: agreement on *in-index* decisions (P_{pos}), agreement on *not-in-index* decisions (P_{neg}) [4], and prevalence-adjusted bias-adjusted κ (PABAK) [3]. Because the algorithms produce a ranking of candidate phrases, we produce a binary classification by choosing a threshold above which candidates are labeled as *in-index*. In our reported results, we use the average number of keywords per lecture labeled by humans as the threshold.

These three metrics are defined in terms of a concordance table with two raters (the composite-human and the algorithm) and two categories (*in-index* and *not-in-index*), as shown in Figure 4 and Figure 5.

	in-index	*not-in-index*	Total
Keyword	a	b	f_1
Not Keyword	c	d	f_2
Total	g_1	g_2	N

Figure 4: The concordance table used to calculate P_{pos} and P_{neg}.

Positive agreement is the number of terms both indexers marked as *in-index* over the average number of terms marked as *in-index*, and negative agreement is the number of terms both indexers marked as *not in-index* over the average number of terms marked as *not in-index*:

$$P_{\text{pos}} \coloneqq \frac{a}{\frac{f_1+g_1}{2}} \qquad P_{\text{neg}} \coloneqq \frac{d}{\frac{f_2+g_2}{2}}$$

PABAK is defined as the Kappa on a modified concordance table where a and d are replaced with their average, and c and d are replaced with their average.

	in-index	*not-in-index*
in-index	$(a+d)/2$	$(b+c)/2$
not-in-index	$(b+c)/2$	$(a+d)/2$

Figure 5: The concordance table used to calculate PABAK. a, b, c, and d are as defined in Figure 4

An issue arises when evaluating the size of P_{neg} in the comparison between an algorithm and a human indexer. Consider the sentence "One of them is what's called the inner join on a condition." Say, the indexer classified the 2-gram *inner join* as belonging into the index, whereas the algorithm decided that nothing in this sentence should be included in the index. Do we now say that P_{neg} is computed from all the possible phrase-level parts of the sentence that both indexer and algorithm decided not to place in the index? This decision would mean that all of the following should count towards boosting P_{neg}: "One,", "One of," "One of them," "One of them is," and so on for n-grams of increasing n.

Clearly this approach would make P_{neg} meaningless. Instead we include in the set of candidates for consideration in the computation of P_{neg} only 1-grams, and any n-grams that were chosen to be in the index by at least one rater.

Kappa values do not have a universally agreed upon interpretation, but values in the range we observe (about 0.15 to 0.3) have been interpreted as indicating "slight" to "fair" agreement. The fact that agreement between humans is only 0.336, and the lowest pairwise Kappa between humans was 0.309 suggests that the phrase extraction task is inherently subjective, and there are multiple valid interpretations of what phrases are important enough to be included in the

index.

The metrics for all of the algorithms are shown in Figure 6. The Phrase Boosting N-Grams algorithm, which favors longer words, performed the best out of all algorithms, and had a Cohen's Kappa of 0.237 agreement with the gold index. This nears the lowest pairwise agreement between humans of 0.309, showing that the algorithm is close to the performance of a human.

The plain TF-IDF algorithm was also able to achieve reasonable performance with respect to the human annotators. Limiting the candidate set to adjective-noun chunks drastically hurt the performance of the algorithm, suggesting that many important phrases do not fit this linguistic pattern, and the restriction is too severe. However, Document Boosting with adjective-noun chunks seems to yield significant improvement. Document Boosting and Phrase Boosting, the two algorithms that incorporated external knowledge, were able to make improvements on the basic algorithm. Document Boosting, which appended a Wikipedia document to each lecture, was able to improve over TF-IDF, and boosting longer phrases (Phrase Boosting N-Grams) was able to improve further. We can see that negative agreement was high for all algorithms, suggesting that it is relatively easy to identify phrases that should not be indexed. Positive agreement was lower, implying it is indeed difficult to identify a small number of phrases to summarize the document, given that there are a large number of possible phrases, and there can be legitimate disagreement on what phrases are most important.

Interestingly, the algorithms seemed to be significantly closer to the indexer who took at least one database course in another institution. For example, the Document Boosting algorithm had a κ of 0.240 and a P_{pos} of 0.247 when compared to this indexer, while the κs compared to other indexers were 0.146 and 0.191, and the P_{pos} values were 0.147 and 0.147.

To give a more subjective view of our results, we also show the set of keywords extracted from a lecture on 'Materialized Views' by the Phrase Boosting with N-grams algorithm, in Figure 7 . Of the top 15 keywords marked by the algorithm, 11 were included in the gold index marked by humans (for this lecture there were 18 keywords in the gold set), and the algorithm produces a ranking that is similar to the humans. Of the keywords ranked highly by the algorithm that were not in the gold index, some ('materialized', 'insert command', 'multivalued dependency') are relevant to the course, but perhaps not essential to the specific lecture. The last two keywords, 'user' and 'user query' expose a weakness of the algorithm, where it is difficult to discern phrases that are used frequently, but not essential to the lecture concept.

5. DISCUSSION

In order to convey intuition for how the algorithms differ, we will examine the index phrases extracted from a few lectures in depth.

In general, Phrase Boosting can be thought of as imposing a prior distribution over what phrases should be considered important. This prior is then combined with the local knowledge in a specific lecture. In practice, TF-IDF tends to give longer phrases unfairly low scores, because they do not appear frequently, even though they may be quite important to the content. Phrase Boosting corrects this by raising the value of longer phrases. For example, in the lecture "DTDs IDs and IDREFs", the phrase "Document Type Descriptors" is clearly important, but only appears 5 times in the lecture, and is therefore ranked 36th if Phrase Boosting is not used. After incorporating the global Wikipedia ranking and the preference for longer phrases, the phrase is boosted to the 9th rank. There are similar occurences throughout the lecture collection of longer phrases that only appear a small number of times in the lecture but have a high $TF\text{-}IDF_w$ score on the Wikipedia ranking. In a lecture on "Multivalued Dependencies and Fourth Normal Form", the phrase "multivalued dependencies" appears only 3 times in the lecture transcript and is therefore not considered an index phrase by plain TF-IDF. The phrase appears 26 times on Wikipedia in 4 documents, and is tagged as a phrase to include in the index when the Wikipedia ranking is incorporated.

Observe the following convenient properties of Phrase Boosting from algorithmic and computational perspectives. First, one can modify the preference of the algorithm towards favoring local or external information using η, where $\eta > 1$ means the Wikipedia ranking is favored. If $\eta = 0$, all weight is given to $TF\text{-}IDF_{norm}$, and the algorithm would output the same rankings as TF-IDF, and as $\eta \to \infty$, all weight is given to $TF\text{-}IDF_{w-norm}$, and the algorithm would output the ranking extracted from Wikipedia. This principle applies more generally, and Phrase Boosting can incorporate any prior belief about index phrases. Second, although there are a large number of documents in Wikipedia (the algorithm was run on 5,027,125 documents, a total size of about 50GB), the runtime complexity is linear in the number of documents and therefore quite tractable on modern hardware.

The Document Boosting algorithm can be thought of as amplifying the index phrases for a lecture, and therefore decreasing the scores of phrases that happen to occur frequently in a lecture but are not meaningful. This effect often occurs if a lecture has worked examples that use words from the examples frequently, as can be seen in Figure 8. The table shows the top ranked phrases for the Document Boosting algorithm and plain TF-IDF for a lecture on "Isolation Levels". In TF-IDF's index phrases we can see that the lecture included an example involving students, and the token "GPA" appears frequently, even though it is not important to the core concept of the lecture. Similarly, the instructor used examples with transactions named "T1" and "T2", which appeared frequently in this lecture and not others, in effect tricking the TF-IDF metric.

When Document Boosting was run, the Wikipedia article "Isolation (database systems)" was selected, which was able to decrease the frequency of phrases that were part of specific examples, and augment the frequency of words that were related to the concept of isolation levels, such as "concurrency control", "repeat read", and "transaction commit". We can see that conceptually the algorithm is boosting phrases in the intersection of the Wikipedia article and lecture. This allows noise that only occurs frequently in the lecture to be identified and filtered.

Algorithm	κ	$\mathbf{P}_{\text{pos}}$	$\mathbf{P}_{\text{neg}}$	PABAK
TF-IDF	0.205	0.233	0.971	0.889
TF-IDF with Adjective-Noun Chunks	0.079	0.118	0.961	0.850
Document Boosting	0.209	0.234	0.973	0.895
Document Boosting with Adjective-Noun Chunks	0.142	0.173	0.968	0.876
Phrase Boosting	0.204	0.234	0.970	0.883
Phrase Boosting N-Grams	**0.237**	**0.262**	**0.974**	**0.899**

Figure 6

Rank	Phrase
1	**view**
2	**materialized view**
3	materialized
4	**query**
5	**view query**
6	**virtual view**
7	**modify**
8	user query
9	**base table**
10	**modify command**
11	**index**
12	insert command
13	multivalued dependency
14	**database design**
15	user

Figure 7: The top 15 keywords from 'Materialized Views' by Phrase Boosting with N-grams. Phrases that also appear in the gold index are marked in bold.

Document Boosting	TF-IDF
transaction	transaction
isolation level	read
read	isolation level
lock	t1
commit	t2
concurrent	commit
serialization	client
repeat read	dirty read
concurrency control	uncommit
dirty read	transaction isolation level
transaction commit	GPA

Figure 8

6. CONCLUSION

We have started to tackle the task of choosing the most important phrases from a collection of lectures, to construct a random-access index analogous to those in the back of books. Going forward we will use this capability to construct student support facilities such as automatically answering learner questions with references to relevant lecture clips, and recommendation tasks, such as finding the best study materials given a student's progress through a course. There has been little previous work on index extraction in the online education setting, and in lecture series videos in particular. We therefore began by evaluating the performance of term frequency-inverse document frequency, a well-known metric for gauging the importance of a phrase to a document. After evaluating the weaknesses of TF-IDF in this educational context, we designed algorithms that incorporated linguistic information, in the form of part-of-speech tags and chunking, and external information, with the entire Wikipedia document collection used as a knowledge source. The algorithms that incorporate Wikipedia information boost performance of TF-IDF, especially on longer phrases that do not have high raw frequencies in a lecture.

In the process of this work we paid three high-quality persons to index an internationally renowned database course. We used the three indexes to evaluate our algorithms. In an effort to allow our work to be reproduced at other institutions, and to foster additional work in this area we are making the three indexes and the course video transcripts publicly available.

In the future we will explore using the rich structure provided by the Wikipedia dataset to improve our keyword extraction algorithms further. For example, Wikipedia grants access to the link structure between its documents, and groups documents into collections, which are explored for different tasks in [11] and [17].

We are also interested in keyword extraction as a supervised learning task. As previously described, one of the main challenges is the cost of obtaining a large amount of labelled data, especially in the online education setting where annotators often need to be highly educated and devote a substantial amount of time to generate high quality indexing. One possible strategy is transfer learning, where a learning algorithm is trained on a different problem than the one on which it will make predictions. It is possible that there are features that differentiate important phrases in journal abstracts or newspapers that could also differentiate important phrases in lectures. Indeed, transfer learning for text classification has been explored previously [21], [6].

Good human-generated indexes sometimes include page references into books for terms that do not appear in the referenced page. This decision might be based on knowledge of synonymy, or even deeper domain knowledge. Inclusion of synonyms has been widely studied in the context of query expansion. But future work could reveal that indexing terms into lectures where the term does not appear might be feasible in automated index generators as well, based on the fact that lectures often build on each other. Since one of the indexers did include some synonyms such algorithms could be studied over that data.

Random access into lecture videos remains an important challenge. Those media contain expensive-to-produce content, and making that content as useful as possible will improve online learning and reference opportunities.

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