







INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

Techathon Data Science & Al

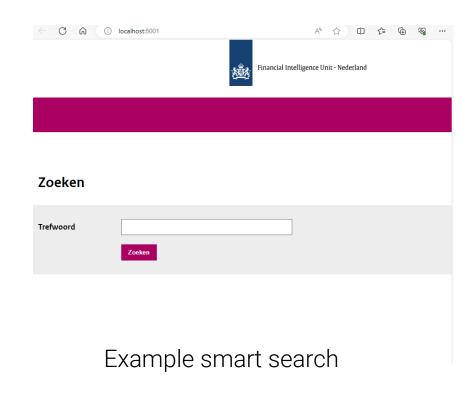
25/01/2024

Ordina-Group/hackathon-vectorsearchbenchmark: techathon Data Science & Al about vector search, embedding models and benchmarks (github.com)

By Pauline van Nies

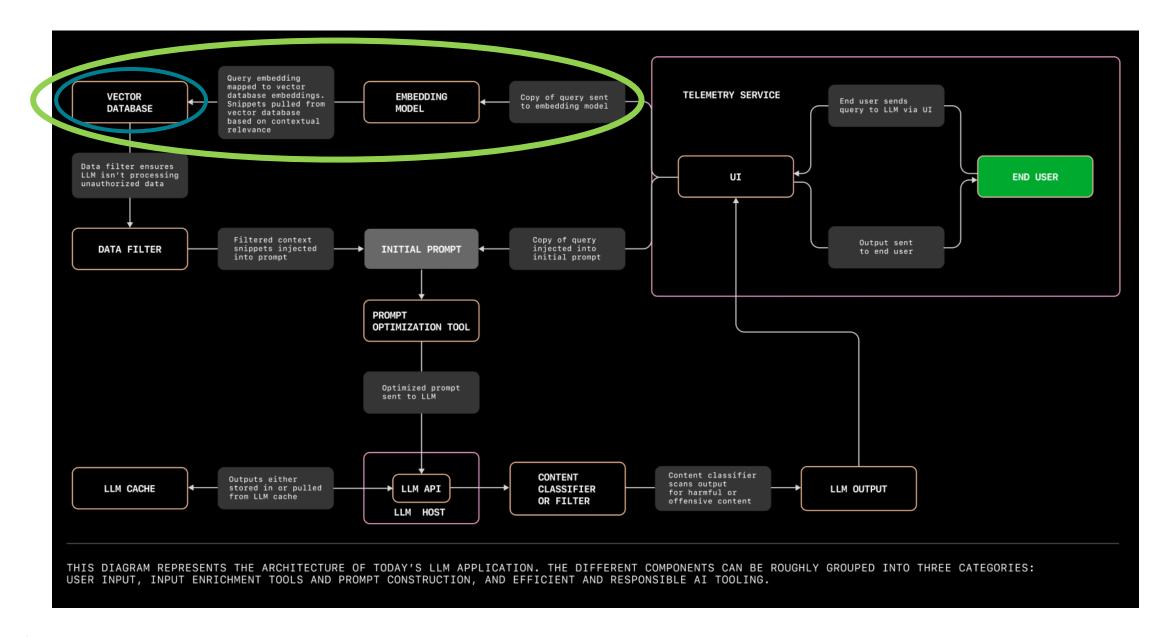
INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

finding documents of text that satisfies the information need from within a large collection.











The architecture of today's LLM applications - The GitHub Blog

GOAL OF THIS TECHATHON

Have a good understanding of the components and concepts







Embedding models
Data to embed

Information retrieval benchmarks

Vector database Search settings

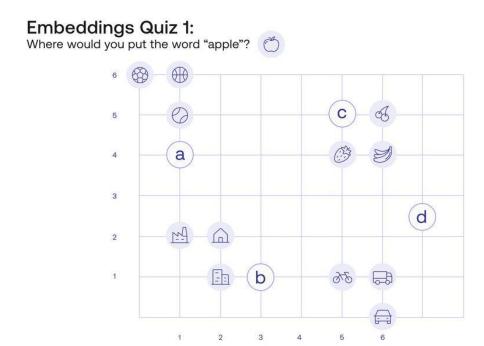
How?

- Working in groups investigating questions and being satisfied with the answers
- Check repo and run evaluation on benchmark dataset with model in weaviate



EMBEDDING MODEL

Text -> vector representation



Questions

- What is an embedding model?
- How is an embedding model trained?
- On what properties do the embedding models differ?
- Which embedding model would you like to test and why?

Resources

The internet

<u>Massive Text Embedding Benchmark Leaderboard</u>

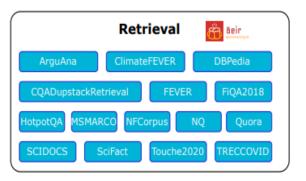
Eveline, Gijs, Paul, Thomas



COMPARISON OF EMBEDDING MODELS

Tasks, datasets, evaluation metrics, BEIR and MTEB







Questions

- On which tasks are embedding models compared?
- What is the difference between reranking and retrieval tasks?
- What are the different datasets used for the retrieval tasks, its different properties?
- What is the format of the datasets? Understand corpus, queries, grels.
- What are the evaluation metrics used for information retrieval in BEIR and in MTEB?
- Is there anything you find in the evaluation approach that stands out?
- Which dataset is interesting for your use case and why?

Resources

Massive Text Embedding Benchmark Leaderboard
BEIR colab for exploration and evaluation
BEIR Paper
MTEB Paper



VECTOR DATABASE

Weaviate

Questions

- What are alternatives to Weaviate and what are pros and cons?
- What does Weaviate embed in the vector?
- What can be changed in preprocessing and for different languages?
- What does hybrid search do?
- Which parameters are adjustable for hybrid search?
- What is the default distance metric for vector search?
- What are different ranking methods and how do they influence the vector search?
- Which parameters should be chosen in weaviate to reproduce a benchmark evaluation?

Resources

- Weaviate documentation
 - Hybrid search
 - text2vec-transformers
 - Collection schema
 - Getting started with Weaviate Python Library

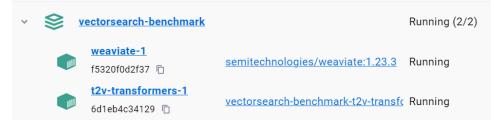


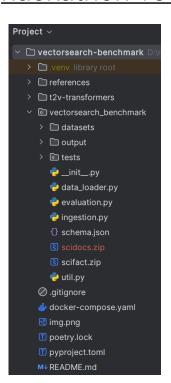
PERFORMING EVALUATION

Techathon repo

hackathon-vectorsearch-benchmark







You can run an evaluation using this mini application consisting of the weaviate vector database filled with a benchmark dataset.

- unzip scifact.zip to a folder in vectorsearch benchmark called datasets .
- perform the prerequisites as described above
- run ingestion.py e.g. by poetry run python ingestion.py in the vectorsearch_benchmark folder or using your
 IDE run configurations
- run evaluation.py

Note: Runs fine on my laptop but if you run into time out errors, try to reduce the BATCH SIZE in ingestion.py

Ideas

- Experiment with weaviate vector search parameters in evaluation.py
- Change the embedding model in the build args in the docker-compose.yaml
- · Investigate another dataset

Ouestions

- How does the evaluation metric compare to the benchmarks?
- If there is a discrepancy, do you have an idea where it might come from?

