Structural Relevance in XML Retrieval Evaluation

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Outline

- Motivation and Approach
- Structural Relevance
- · Results and Comparison
- Conclusions and Future Work

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Motivation and Approach

- Current approaches to evaluation in XML retrieval rely on ideal recall base
- How to evaluate without defining an ideal recall base?
- Our Approach: Differentiate between the relevance of a retrieval element in isolation and the relevance of a retrieval element as a member of a set (i.e. a ranked list) of non-disjoint elements using structure of elements in collection



Measuring Effectiveness





Proposal: Structural Relevance

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Relevance



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Allow binary, multigraded or continuous relevance scores *rel(e)*.

R[u] is the ranked list up to element *u*.

Expectation

Structural relevance (SR) is an expectation of the number of relevant elements in a ranked list.

$$E[n_R(u)] = \sum_{e \in R[u]} rel(e) \cdot p(e; R[u])$$

where

 $n_R(u)$ is the number of relevant elements up to element u.

p(e;R[u]) is the probability of encountering *e* first from the ranked list R[u], as opposed to, a different, overlapped element in the list. We call this the *isolation* of *e* in ranked list R[u].

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Expectation



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Substitute SR into a traditional measure for the number of relevant elements.

For precision we get, $SRP = E[n_R]/k$

Similarly, this can be done for precall (SRPL).

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Summary Model



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In the paper, we show how isolation p(e;R[u]) can be calculated in terms of steady-state probabilities π_i derived from a given summary model.



Incoming Summary for **INEX WIKIPEDIA Collection**



Summary Model of XML

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Comparison

- To compare the evaluation of SR precision (SRP) to extended cumulated gain (XCG)
- Used INEX Wikipedia 2006 topics
- Ad-hoc retrieval for the thorough task
- Compared systems using top-10 results





Comparing SRP and XCG Across All Topics



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Conclusion

- Structural relevance measures effectiveness without an ideal recall-base
 - Motivated by results that show sensitivity to ideal recall-base determination, Kazai (2007)
- SR measure applied to thorough task here, but it can be applied to other tasks (eg, focused task, tasks where overlap is allowed)
- SR can be used with other evaluation measures (eg, using incomplete assessments)

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Future Work

- Stability and Reliability tests
- Further comparison to other measures
- Investigating additional summary models

END OF PRESENTATION



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