

15-853: Algorithms in the Real World

Indexing and Searching I

- Introduction
- Inverted Indices

Outline for next few classes

Inverted Indices (used by all search engines)

- Compression
- The lexicon
- Merging terms (unions and intersections)

Vector Models

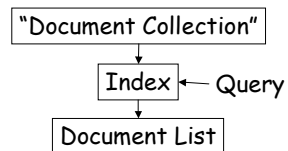
Latent Semantic Indexing

Link Analysis:

- PageRank (Google)
- HITS

Duplicate Removal

Basic Model

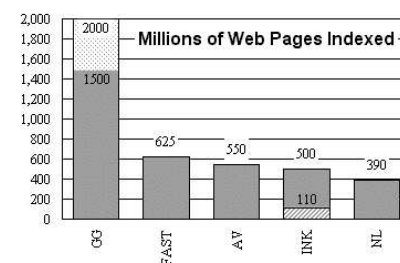


Applications:

- Web, mail and dictionary searches
- Law and patent searches
- Information filtering (e.g., NYT articles)

Goal: Speed, Space, Accuracy, Dynamic Updates

How big is an Index?



Dec 2001, self proclaimed sizes (gg = google)

Source: Search Engine Watch

Main Approaches

Full text searching

- e.g. grep, agrep (used by many mailers)

Inverted Indices

- good for short queries
- used by most search engines

Signature files

- good for longer queries with many terms

Vector Space Models

- good for better accuracy
- used in clustering, SVD, etc.

Queries

Types of queries on Multiple terms

- boolean (and, or, not, andnot)
- proximity (adj, within n)
- keyword sets
- in relation to other documents

And within each term

- prefix matches
- wildcards
- edit distance bounds

Technique used Across Methods

Case folding

London -> london

Stemming

compress = compression = compressed
(several off-the-shelf English Language stemmers are freely available)

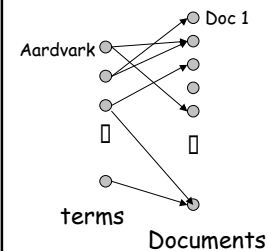
Stop words

to, the, it, be, or, etc.
how about "to be or not to be"

Thesaurus

fast -> rapid

Documents as Bipartite Graph



Called an Inverted File Index

Can be stored using adjacency lists, also called

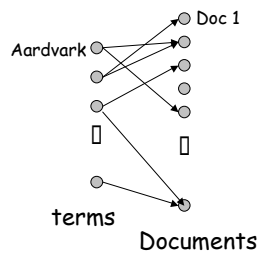
- posting lists (or files)
- inverted file entry

Example size of RDB

- 538 terms
- 102 documents
- 333,850 edges

For the web, multiply by 1000

Documents as Bipartite Graph



Implementation Issues:

- **Space for posting lists**
these take almost all the space
- **Access to lexicon**
 - btrees, tries, hashing
 - prefix and wildcard queries
- **Merging posting list**
 - multiple term queries

1. Space for Posting Lists

Posting lists can be as large as the document data
- saving space and the time to access the space is critical for performance

we can compress the lists,
but, we need to uncompress on the fly

Difference encoding:

Lets say the term elephant appears in documents:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

then the difference code is

1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1

Some Codes

Gamma code:

if most significant bit of n is in location k , then

$$\text{gamma}(n) = 0^{k-1} n \dots 0$$

$$2 \log(n) - 1 \text{ bits}$$

Delta code:

$$\text{gamma}(k) n \dots 0$$

$$2 \log(\log(n)) + \log(n) - 1 \text{ bits}$$

Frequency coded:

base on actual probabilities of each distance

Global vs. Local Probabilities

Global:

- Count of occurrences of each distance
- use Huffman or arithmetic code

Local:

generate counts for each list

elephant: 3, 2, 1, 2, 53, 1, 1

Problem: counts take too much space

Solution: batching

group into buckets by $\lfloor \log(\text{length}) \rfloor$

Performance

Global	bits/edge
Binary	1.0000
Gamma	0.9999
Delta	0.9998
Huffman	0.9997
Local	
Skewed Bernoulli	0.9996
Batched Huffman	0.9995

bits per edge based on the RCRC document collection

total size 1.000M 1.000 bytes 1.000Mbytes

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2. Accessing the Lexicon

- we all know how to store a dictionary, but
 - it is best if lexicon fits in memory---can we avoid storing all characters of all words
 - what about prefix or wildcard queries?

Some possible data structures

- Front Coding
- Tries
- Perfect Hashing
- B-trees

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Front Coding

word	Front coding
Dezebel	0,Dezebel
Dezer	1,r
Dezerit	5,2,it
Deziah	3,3,iah
Deziel	1,2,el
Deziah	3,1,iah

For large lexicons can save 10% space
but what about random access?

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Prefix and Wildcard Queries

- Prefix queries
 - Handled by all access methods except hashing
- Wildcard queries
 - n-gram
 - rotated lexicon

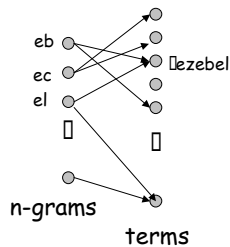
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n-gram

Consider every block of n characters in a term:
 e.g. 2-gram of lezebel -> \$j, je, ez, ze, eb, el, l\$



Break wildcard query into an n -grams and search.
 e.g. $j*el$ would

1. search for $\$j,el,l\$$ as if searching for documents
2. find all potential terms
3. filter matches for which the order does not match

Rotated Lexicon

Consider every rotation of a term:
 e.g. lezebel -> lezebel, l lezebe, el lezeb, bel leze

store lexicon of all rotations

Given a query find longest contiguous block (with rotation) and search for it:
 e.g. lel -> search for el in lexicon

Note that each lexicon entry corresponds to a single term
 e.g. ebel lez can only mean lezebel

3. Merging Posting Lists

Lets say queries are expressions over:
 - and, or, andnot

View the list of documents for a term as a set:
 then

- e_1 and e_2 -> S_1 intersect S_2
- e_1 or e_2 -> S_1 union S_2
- e_1 andnot e_2 -> S_1 diff S_2

Some notes:

- the sets ordered in the "posting lists"
- S_1 and S_2 can differ in size substantially
- might be good to keep intermediate results
- persistence is important

Union, Intersection, Merging

Given two sets of length n and m how long does it take for intersection, union and set difference?

Assume elements are taken from a total order (int)

Very similar to merging two sets A and B , how long does this take?

Lower bound:

- There are n elements of A and $n \times m$ positions in the output they could belong
- choose $(n \times m, n)$ possibilities
- assuming comparison based model, the decision tree has that many leaves and depth \log of that
- Assuming $m \leq n$ this give $\Omega(m \log((n \times m)/n))$

Merging: Upper bounds

Tarjan shows $O(m \log((n + m)/n))$ upper bounds using 2-3 trees with cross links and parent pointers. Very messy.

We will take different approach, and base on two operations: split and join

Split and Join

Split(S, v) : Split S into two sets $S_0 = \{s \in S \mid s \leq v\}$ and $S_1 = \{s \in S \mid s > v\}$. Also return a flag which is true if $v \in S$.

- Split($\{1, 2, 15, 18, 22\}, 18$) \rightarrow $\{1, 2, 15\}, \{22\}, \text{True}$

Join(S_0, S_1) : Assuming $\forall k_0 \in S_0, k_1 \in S_1 : k_0 < k_1$, it returns $S_0 \cup S_1$

- Join($\{1, 2, 15\}, \{22\}$) \rightarrow $\{1, 2, 15, 22\}$

Time for both:

- $O(m \log(\min(|S_0|, |S_1|)))$, can be shown

- $O(m \log |S|)$, will suffice for us (shown later)

Join with Split and Join

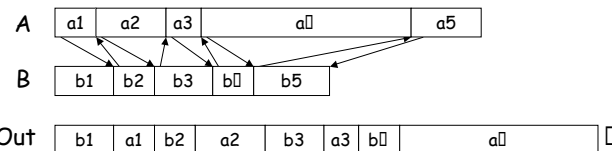
Join(S_1, S_2)

if isEmpty(S_1) then return S_2

else

(S_{20}, S_{21}, fl) = Split($S_2, \text{first}(S_1)$)

return Join($S_{20}, \text{Join}(S_{21}, S_1)$)



Runtime of Join

Out

o1	o2	o3	o4	o5	o6	o7	o8
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

$$T_{\text{union}} = O(\sum_i \log |o_i| + \sum_i \log |o_i|)$$

Splits Joins

Since the logarithm function is concave, this is maximized when blocks are as close as possible to equal size, therefore

$$T_{\text{union}} = O(\sum_{i=1}^m \log \lceil \frac{n+m}{2} \rceil) \\ = O(m \log ((n+m)/2))$$

Intersection with Split and Join

```

Intersect( $S_1, S_2$ )
  if isempty( $S_1$ ) then return  $\emptyset$ 
  else
    ( $S_{2l}, S_{2r}, \text{flag}$ ) = Split( $S_2, \text{first}(S_1)$ )
    if flag then
      return Join( $\text{first}(S_1), \text{Intersect}(S_{2l}, S_1)$ )
    else
      return Intersect( $S_{2l}, S_1$ )
  
```

Efficient Split and Join

Recall that the cost of split: $T = O(\log |S|)$

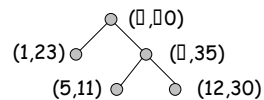
How do we implement this efficiently?

Treaps

Every key is given a random priority

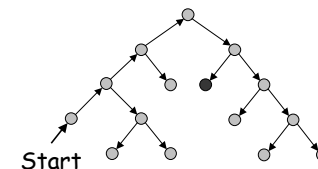
- keys are stored in-order
- priorities are stored in heap-order

e.g. (key, priority) : (1,23), (4,10), (5,11), (3,35), (12,30)



If the priorities are unique, the tree is unique.

Left Spinal Treap



Time to split is length of path from Start to split location

The result will show that this is $O(\log L)$ in the expected case, where L is the path length between Start and the split location

Time to join is the same

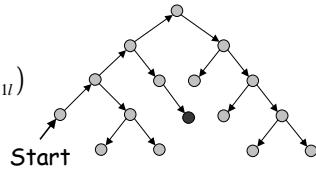
Analysis

$$P_i = \text{length of path from Start to } i \quad p_i = \text{Ex}[P_i]$$

$$A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & x_i \text{ ancestor of } x_j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad a_{ij} = \text{Ex}[A_{ij}]$$

$$C_{ilm} = \begin{cases} 1 & x_i \text{ common ancestor of } x_l \text{ and } x_m \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad c_{ilm} = \text{Ex}[C_{ilm}]$$

$$P_l = \sum_{i=1}^l A_{i1} + \sum_{i=1}^n (A_{il} - C_{i1l})$$



Analysis Continued

$$\text{Ex}[P_l] = p_l = \sum_{i=1}^l a_{i1} + \sum_{i=1}^n (a_{il} - c_{i1l})$$

Lemma: $a_{ij} = \frac{1}{|i-j|+1}$

Proof:

1. i is an ancestor of j iff i has a greater priority than all elements between i and j , inclusive.
2. there are $|i-j|+1$ such elements each with equal probability of having the highest priority.

Analysis Continued

$$\sum_{i=1}^l a_{i1} = \sum_{i=1}^l \frac{1}{|i-1|+1} = \sum_{i=1}^l \frac{1}{i} < 1 + \ln l \text{ (harmonic number } H_l)$$

Can similarly show that:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_{il} - c_{i1l}) = O(\log l)$$

Therefore the expected path length and runtime for split and join is $O(\log l)$.

Similar technique can be used for other properties of Treaps.

And back to Inverted Indices

As shown to take Unions and Intersections, but Treaps are not very space efficient

Idea: if priorities are in the range $[0, \alpha)$ then any node with priority p has α stored compressed

α represents fraction of uncompressed nodes

