Interactive information retrieval in XML documents

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Outline

- XML retrieval
- INEX
- INEX interactive track
- Recent study:
  - research questions
  - results
  - conclusion
XML retrieval

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<book class="H.3.3">
<author>John Smith</author>
<title>XML Retrieval</title>
<chapter>
<heading>Introduction</heading> This text explains all about XML and IR. </chapter>
<chapter>
<heading>XML Query Language XQL</heading>
<section> <heading>Examples</heading> </section>
<section> <heading>Syntax</heading> Now we describe the XQL syntax. </section>
</chapter>
</book>
XML-markuped documents

Facilitates

- possibilities to exploit weighting
- the retrieval of document parts
INEX – the Initiative for the Evaluation of XML Retrieval

- International community whose main goal is "to promote the evaluation of focused retrieval by providing large test collections of structured documents, uniform evaluation measures, and a forum for organizations to compare their results"
- Since 2002
- Partly financed by DELOS → 2007
- http://www.inex.otago.ac.nz/
INEX organization

- Test collection
  - Journal articles from IEEE (→2005)
  - Topics created by participants
  - Document assessed by topic creators
- 186 participating institutions (in 2008)
INEX tracks

- Ad Hoc
- Book
- Efficiency
- Entity Ranking
- Interactive (iTrack)
- Question Answering
- Link-the-Wiki
- XML-Mining
INEX Interactive track

- investigate end-users interaction with elements of XML documents
- develop approaches for element retrieval which are effective in user-based environments
Organisation of INEX iTrack

Distributed setup:

• a common subject recruiting procedure
• a common set of user tasks and data collection instruments such as interview guides and questionnaires
• a common logging procedure for user/system interaction
2008: two task categories

**Fact finding:** “In the recent Olympics there was a controversy over the age of some of the female gymnasts. You want to know the minimum age for Olympic competitors in gymnastics.”

**Research:** “Every year there are several ranking lists over the best universities in the world. These lists are seldom similar. You are writing an article discussing and comparing the different ranking systems and need information about the different lists and what criteria and factors they use in their ranking.”
Method

- The searchers perform simulated tasks
- Documents and elements can be relevance judged
- Questionnaires to collect background data such as; demographic data, search experience, topic knowledge
A friend has set you up for a blind date. The only thing you know about your date is, that (he/she) is from Manchester, and all you know about the city is that it is famous for its football team. You wish to find out more about Manchester in order to have something to talk to your date about, for instance the exact location, size of the city, primary employment and a little history on “Man United”, in case he/she is a football fan.
3.4 Popular music

For Mancunians, the popular musical heritage of the city has always been a source of great pride. The city’s eclectic mix of music has created the sense among its inhabitants that Manchester is the most important city in world music.

Local groups have included The Hollies, 10cc, Buzzcocks, Joy Division, New Order (both on local label Factory Records), The Smiths, The Fall, A Certain Ratio, M People, Oasis and the Manchester scene bands the Happy Mondays, The Inspiral Carpets, James and The Stone Roses.

Manchester’s main popular music venue is the Manchester Evening News Arena, which seats over 21,000, and is the largest arena of its type in Europe. It was voted International Arena Of The Year in 1999. It was also voted New York’s Madison Square Garden in the United States.

Other major venues include the Manchester Apollo and the Manchester Academy. The many smaller venues throughout the city, such as the Roadhouse and Night and Day Cafe, ensure that Manchester’s music scene is always vibrant and interesting.

3.5 Literature

Famous writers from the Manchester area include Elizabeth Gaskell and Anthony Burgess, the author of A Clockwork Orange. W. G. Sebald lived in Manchester when he first came to England, and the city features prominently in his novel The Emigrants. Jeff Noon, the author of Vertigo, writes novels which take place in Manchester. Charles Dickens was known to visit the city, and Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels are known to have found much to inspire their thoughts and writings when visiting the city during the Industrial Revolution.

Manchester is home to the Manchester Metropolitan University Writers School, one of the top
Example study

- Goal: identify searchers preferred level of granularity
- Compared two genre: journal articles (2005 data) and encyclopedic articles (2006 data)
- Log analysis using Excel
## Result list interaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granularity level</th>
<th>IEEE</th>
<th>Wikipedia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1/2 (article or metadata)</td>
<td>71 %</td>
<td>73.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3 (section)</td>
<td>14.5 %</td>
<td>15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4/5 (subsections)</td>
<td>14.5 %</td>
<td>11.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Within documents retrieval

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granularity level</th>
<th>IEEE</th>
<th>Wikipedia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1 (article)</td>
<td>8 %</td>
<td>9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 (metadata)</td>
<td>6.5 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3 (section)</td>
<td>55.5 %</td>
<td>49 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4/5 (subsections)</td>
<td>30 %</td>
<td>42 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Relevance assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granularity level</th>
<th>IEEE</th>
<th>Wikipedia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1 (article)</td>
<td>7 %</td>
<td>40 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>14 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>33.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4/5</td>
<td>29 %</td>
<td>26.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Two possible reasons for difference in relevance assessments

- The Size factor: Wikipedia articles are smaller than scientific articles
- The Genre factor: the structure of scientific articles and encyclopaedic articles differ
Conclusions

● searchers prefer to use article as initial entry point
● within documents searchers look at elements relatively proportional to their distribution
● genre has a strong influence on what items are assessed for relevance