Analysis of Effective Implicit Feedback Methods

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Introduction

- A one size fit's all information retrieval system is good for when you have a multitude of different user's
- However it is not as good as a system that is specifically made to fit one user's purpose
- What are the techniques involved in adjusting an information retrieval system to better serve the user



How I Became Interested

• I noticed that Google was slowly changing my search results to match my interests

Google	da	Q
U	datpiff	
	da rk horse	
	daily mail	
	dancing with the stars	
Google	da	٩
0	da tabase	
	database administrator	
	database design	
	database tutorial	



Location

• Googling Oriolos in the Baltimore area gives the expected results.

Google	orioles											२	Sign in		
0	orioles orioles schedule orioles tickets orioles opening day 2014 About 6,870,000 results (0.30 seconds)														٥
	Orioles™ Baseball Tickets - Official Site - mlb.com ① Ad orioles.mlb.com/Tickets ▼ 2014 Single Game Tickets starting at \$8. Buy Now! 2014 Schedule Orioles™ Ticket Info Seating & Pricing Map Promotions & Giveaways														
	Baltimore Orioles 17-14, 1st in AL Eastern Division American League Wednesday, May 7, 7:10 PM Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, Florida													Orioles.com	
	Baltimore Orioles (17-14)				4 - Fir	- 3 nal				Tam	npa Bay Rays (15-19		(a)*	The Baltimore Orioles are an American professional baseball team based in Baltimore, Maryland, that competes in Major League Baseball. They are a member of the East Division of the American League. Wikipedia	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	Н	Е	Arena/Stadium: Oriole Park at Camden Yards	
	Orioles	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	4	7	1	Location: Baltimore	
	Rays Recap - Box Score	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	7	1	Manager: Buck Showalter Division: American League East Mascot: The Oriole Bird	

Relevance Feedback

- Take the results that are initially returned from a given query
- Use that information about whether or not those results are relevant to perform a new query.
- Return those new results to the user and iterate the process





- The SMART (System for the Mechanical Analysis and Retrieval of Text) Information Retrieval System is an information retrieval system developed at Cornell University in the 1960s.
- Many important concepts in information retrieval were developed as part of research on the SMART system, including the vector space model and relevance feedback



3 Types of Feedback

• Blind Feedback

• Explicit Feedback

• Implicit Feedback



Explicit Feedback

- The user directly judges whether the results retrieved by the system are relevant or irrelevant
- Many different judging methods
 - Yes / no
 - 1-10 relevance ratings
- The user must be aware that they are judging the results



Implicit Feedback

- Implicit feedback is inferred from user behavior as they navigate the results of the query
- The retrieval system gathers data on how the user looks at the results
- They system makes a decision on what results are relevant or irrelevant



Advantages and Disadvantages

- Advantages
 - Less Burden on the User
 - Easier for the system to gather large amounts of observations
- Disadvantages
 - Prone to noise
 - Difficult to interpret



Implicit Feedback Sources

- Clickthrough Information
- Document viewing time
- Scroll and Navigation patterns

Google	Is Dr. Nicholas allergic to clowns?												
	Web Images News Shopping Videos More ▼ Search tools												
	About 1,320,000 results (0.45 seconds)												
	 Waylon Smithers, Jr Simpsons Wiki simpsons.wikia.com > > Lenny Leonard > Charlie > Blinky ▼ He is allergic to bee stings, which can kill him On one occasion he is seen in a "no questions asked" clinic run by Dr. Nick, the joke being that he put Fear Itself (The 4400) - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fear_Itself_(The_4400) ▼ Wikipedia ♥ Rob LaBelle - Dr. Nicholas Clayton scene quickly cuts to a man, Max Kopelow, running out of an office building being chased by a menacing-looking clown. List of Jimmy Neutron characters - Wikipedia, the free en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Jimmy_Neutron_characters ▼ Wikipedia ♥ Nick also has a mother who can speak Portuguese and English Mr. Giggles the Clown, the deadpan voiced clown (who ends up doing boring tricks if he 												
	Wonder Pets Wonder Pets Games, Videos Nick Jr. www.nickjr.com/wonder-pets/ Vick Jr. V												
	Meet the Characters Lalaloopsy Nick Jr. www.nickjr.com/shows//meet-lalaloopsy-characters_ap.html ▼ Nick Jr. ▼ Signature phrases: "Just clowning around! When your kids play with their Nick												

Possible Responses

- Modifying search queries
- Make new search decisions and then researching the document collection
- Restructuring or reordering already retrieved information.



Interpreting Implicit Feedback

- Machine Learning algorithms based on user actions and patterns
- Probabilistic models bases on query information gleaned from feedback



Validating Implicit Feedback Systems

- Comparing results gained through implicit feedback to results gained through explicit feedback
- Having user's take surveys on whether the results obtained were adequate for the query given
- Measuring the time it takes for user's to satisfy their queries using an implicit system.



Future Developments

- Implementing new methods of gathering implicit feedback such as eye tracking
- Developing more advanced algorithms to parse though information gained through implicit feedback in order to better serve the user's interests



Conclusion

- Clickthrough data is still the most effective means of implicit feedback
- Advanced learning systems for studying users behavior could be the net step of implicit feedback
- Implicit feedback systems are going to continue steadily to increase in effectiveness



Citations

- Query expansion using local and global document analysis http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=243202
- Evaluating the Accuracy of Implicit Feedback from Clicks and Query Reformulations in Web Search http://sing.stanford.edu/cs303-sp11/papers/joachims_etal_07a.pdf
- Context-sensitive information retrieval using implicit feedback http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=1076045
- Accurately interpreting clickthrough data as implicit feedback http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=1076063



Questions ?



