Phrase Mining from Massive Text and Its Applications

Synthesis Lectures on Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery

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Phrase Mining from Massive Text and Its Applications Jialu Liu, Jingbo Shang, and Jiawei Han

ISBN: 978-3-031-00782-8 paperback ISBN: 978-3-031-01910-4 ebook

DOI 10.1007/978-3-031-01910-4

A Publication in the Springer series

SYNTHESIS LECTURES ON DATA MINING AND KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY

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Series ISSN

Print 2151-0067 Electronic 2151-0075

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Jialu Liu Google

Jingbo Shang University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Jiawei Han University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

SYNTHESIS LECTURES ON DATA MINING AND KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY #13

ABSTRACT

A lot of digital ink has been spilled on "big data" over the past few years. Most of this surge owes its origin to the various types of unstructured data in the wild, among which the proliferation of text-heavy data is particularly overwhelming, attributed to the daily use of web documents, business reviews, news, social posts, etc., by so many people worldwide. A core challenge presents itself: How can one efficiently and effectively turn massive, unstructured text into structured representation so as to further lay the foundation for many other downstream text mining applications?

In this book, we investigated one promising paradigm for representing unstructured text, that is, through automatically identifying high-quality phrases from innumerable documents. In contrast to a list of frequent *n*-grams without proper filtering, users are often more interested in results based on variable-length phrases with certain semantics such as scientific concepts, organizations, slogans, and so on. We propose new principles and powerful methodologies to achieve this goal, from the scenario where a user can provide meaningful guidance to a fully automated setting through distant learning. This book also introduces applications enabled by the mined phrases and points out some promising research directions.

KEYWORDS

phrase mining, phrase quality, phrasal segmentation, distant supervision, text mining, real-world applications, efficient and scalable algorithms

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Acknowledgments

The authors would like to acknowledge Xiang Ren, Fangbo Tao, and Huan Gui for their contribution to Chapter 4.

The research was supported in part by the U.S. Army Research Lab. under Cooperative Agreement No. W911NF-09-2-0053 (NSCTA), National Science Foundation IIS-1320617, and IIS 16-18481, and grant 1U54GM114838 awarded by NIGMS through funds provided by the trans-NIH Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) initiative (www.bd2k.nih.gov). The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the author(s) and should not be interpreted as representing the official policies of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory or the U.S. Government. The U.S. Government is authorized to reproduce and distribute reprints for Government purposes notwithstanding any copyright notation hereon. The views and conclusions contained in our research publications are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing any funding agencies.

Jialu Liu, Jingbo Shang, and Jiawei Han February 2017