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Trend Mining on Patent Information for Sciences

Project cooperation between the FIZ Karlsruhe and the University of Hildesheim

Funded by the Leibniz Association





- Aim of the project
- Motivation
- Related Work
- Project outline





 Developing and testing semantic and statistic methods for (semi-) automatic trend detection in patent documents

 Development of an easy-to-use prototype, that supports scientists in planning their research activity.





- Results of technical sciences are often only published as patents (70-90% of the contents in patents is not published anywhere else (cf. The Thomson Corporation 2007: 5)
- Strong growth in patent filing: EPO reports new records for the third year in a row (cf. European Patent Office 2013)

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- Requirements Analysis
 - Get to know the working environment and the information behavior of the users (scientists and information professionals)
 - What do users regard as a trend?
 - What are the areas of interest when it comes to trend mining?
- Corpus Development
 - Based on EPFULL (3.2 million patents; 76% in English)
 - Identify important fields of the database
 - Determine size of the corpus





- Text Mining and Trend Analysis
 - Identification of relevant document subsets for given topics via state-of-the-art searches
 - Implementation of topic detection and tracking (TDT) methods in order to build topic clusters as basis for the trend analysis
 - Identification of patterns based on variable time lines that help detecting trends (e.g. regarding the appearance and development of new terms or term combinations)
 - Allow for three dimensional trend detection by incorporating geographic data
 - Development of an automatic and an interactive approach





- Development of the Prototype
 - Iterative development
 - user-centered design
 - Based on Solr/Lucene and UIMA
 - Web interface for user interaction containing various visualization approaches
- Evaluation (formative and summative)
 - Development of a benchmark in cooperation with scientists and information professionals to evaluate the efficiency of the system
 - User studies accompanied by interviews about the system's efficiency as well as expert interviews





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