Representing Genre-Specific Websites

Alexander Mehler and Rüdiger Gleim Bielefeld University

Web as Corpus Workshop at Corpus Linguistics 2005

Agenda

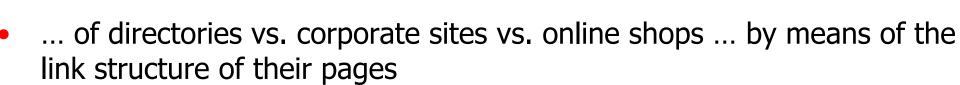
- 1. Motivation
- 2. Extracting Websites
- 3. Logical Hypertext Document Structure
- 4. Services
- 5. Conclusion

Web Structure Mining

graph topology (Adamic 1999)

small worlds





Categorizing web pages (Fürnkranz 1998):

HTML-Markup, meta-tags and link structure as additional input

Segmenting web pages (Mizuuchi und Tajima 1999; Rehm 2004):

identifying logical sections in single pages



Observation

- web documents with similar function / content tend to have similar structures
- → these structures are not directly addressed by segmentation and categorization of single web pages
- → this problem relates to any effort of utilizing web mining in order to extract and explore genre specific corpora of web documents

Call for Participation Submission Categories Conference Themes Conference Chairs Conference Submission Themes Categories Full Papers Theme 1 Theme 2 Short Papers Theme 3 Posters

Call for Participation

Submission Categories

- Full Papers
- Short Papers
- Posters
- •

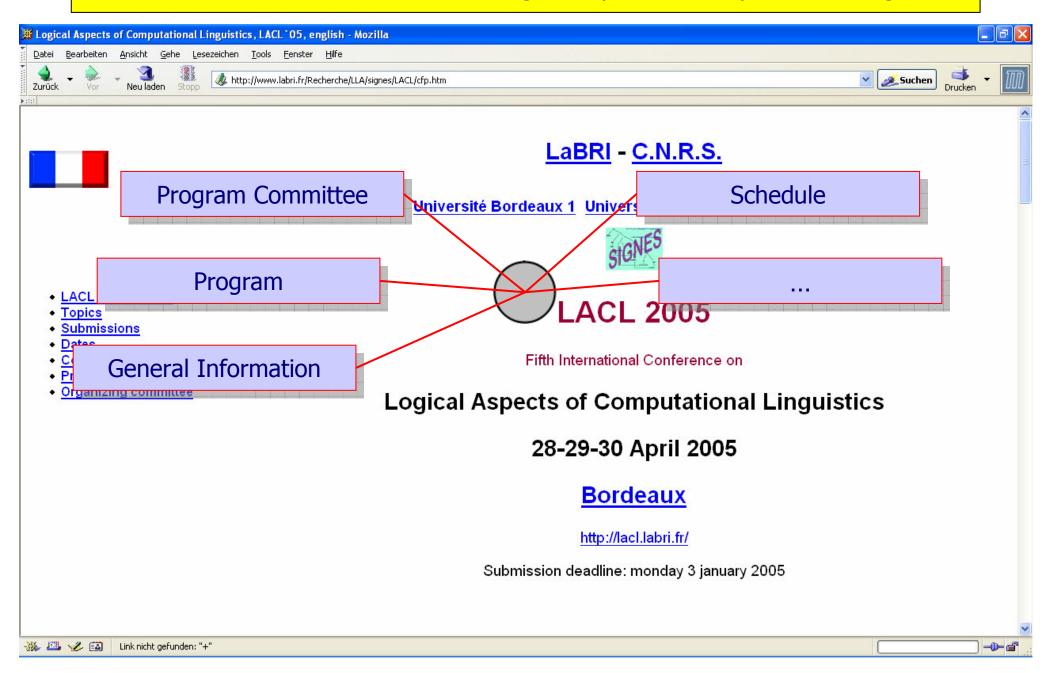
Conference Themes

- Theme 1
- Theme 2
- Theme 3
- ...

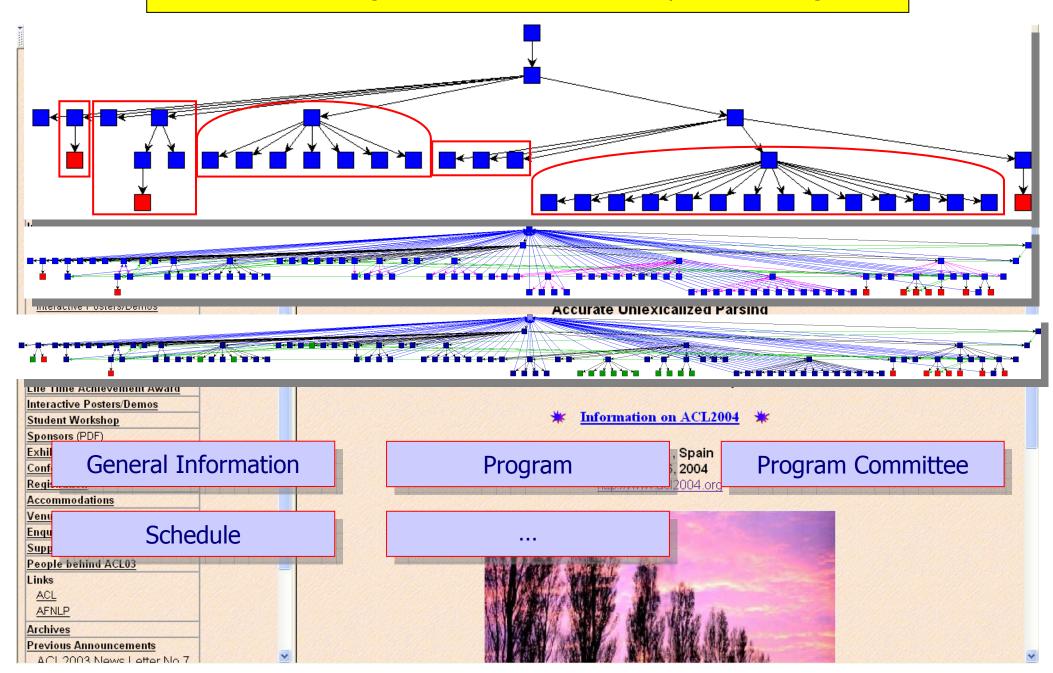
Conference Chairs

• ...

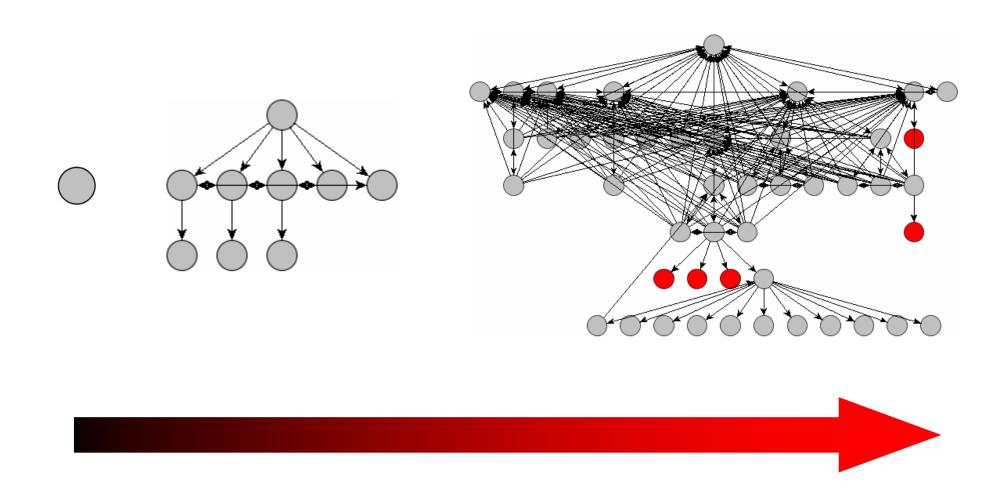
The Fifth International Conference on Logical Aspects of Computational Linguistics



41st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics



Variety of Tree-like and Graph Structures



Polymorphism

- The same expression unit manifests several categories.
- The same category is distributed over several units.
- n:m relation between manifest form and manifested structure

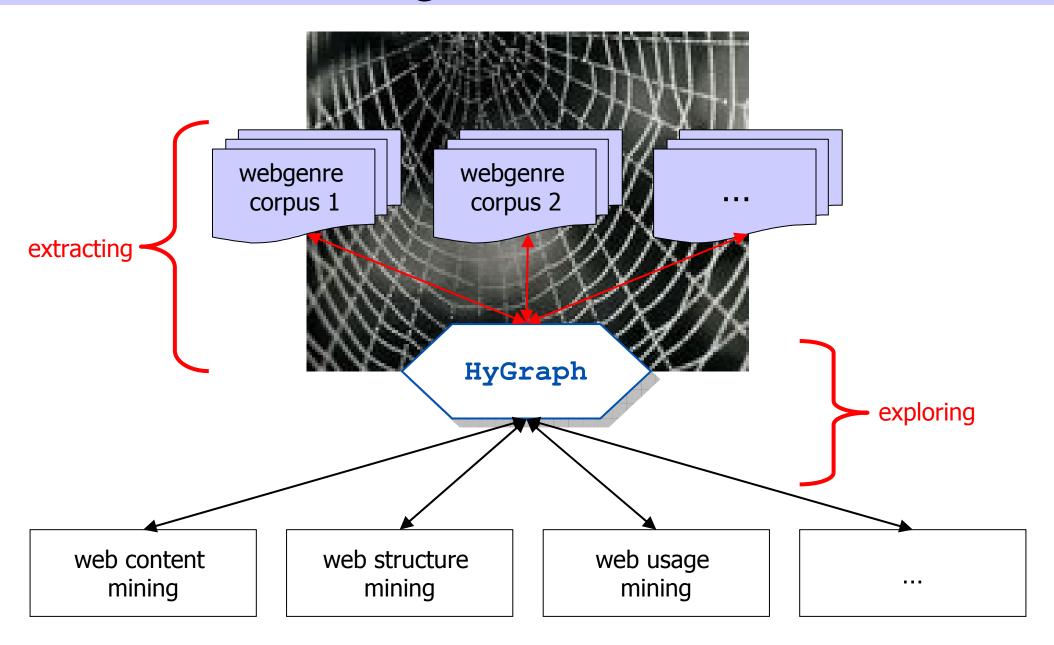
exploring genre specific web-corpora cannot be performed as function learning, but has to be performed as structure learning

Webgenres

- electronic encyclopaedia
- personal academic homepage
- conference website
- corporate site
- online shop
- ...

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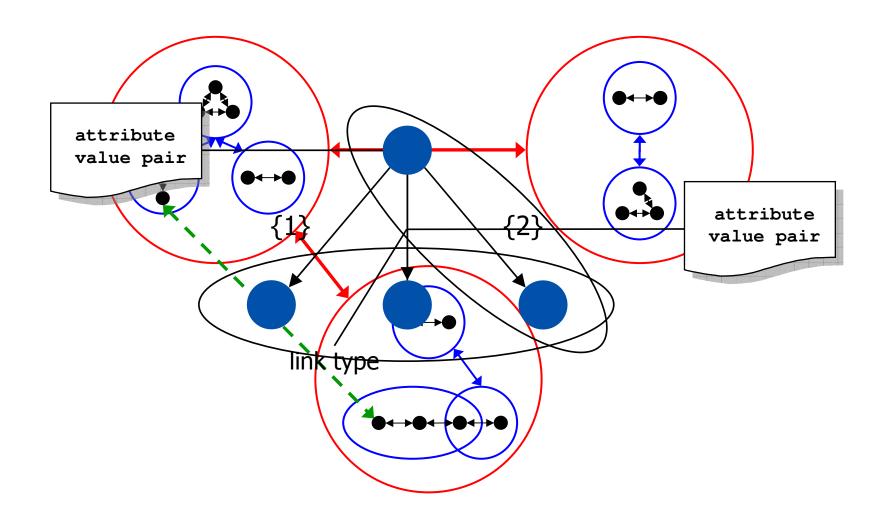
Tasks

- automatic extraction of corpora of websites of certain webgenres
- generic representation of web documents
- corpus management and maintenance
- visualization of document structures
- classification of hypertext graphs
- corpus conversion for machine learning tools (Weka, LibSVM, ...)
- → HyGraph as an interface of ML-related approaches to webgenres

Representing Graphs – Requirements

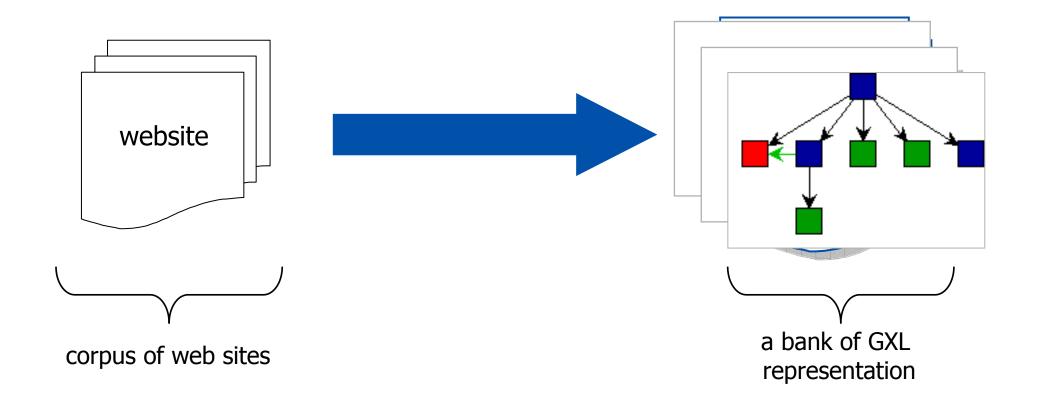
- expressive power for mapping graphs of varying types
- typing and attributing nodes and edges
- using flexible, extensible standards of information modelling
- → Graph eXchange Language (Winter et al. 2002)

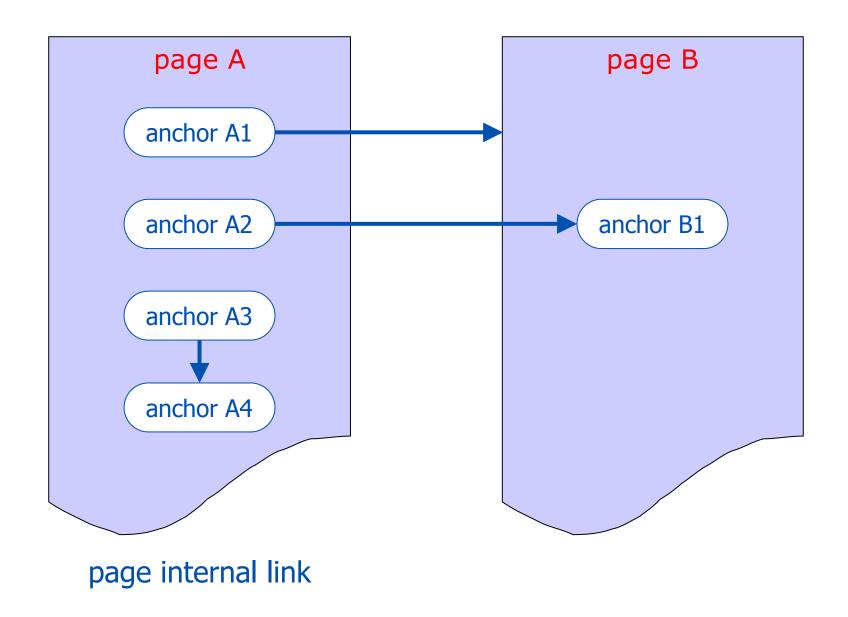
A Representation Format for Hypertext Graphs



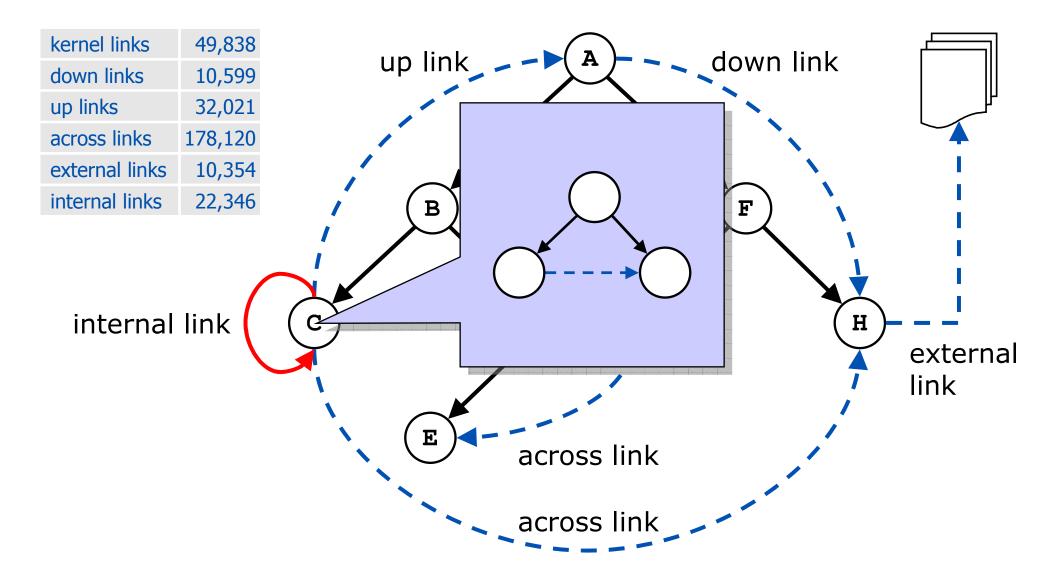
Using the GXL ...

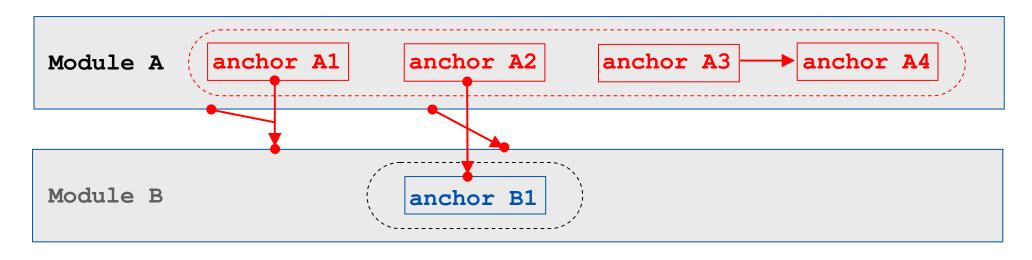
- for representing the document structure of instances of webgenres
- as a uniform representation format of ML algorithms on web-based data





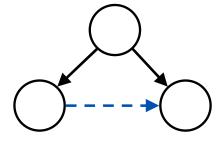
Hierarchical Kernel Structure

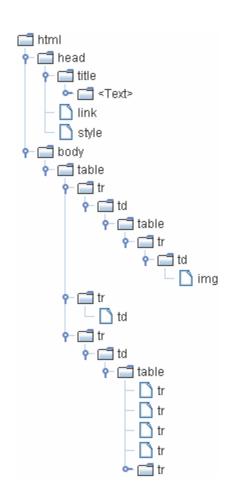


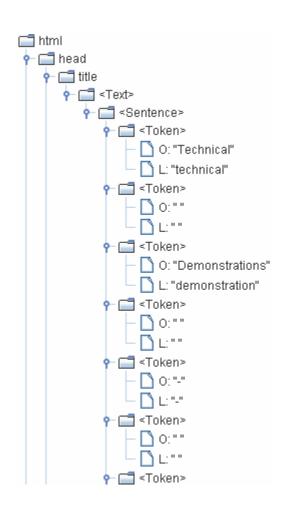


Hierarchical Hypergraphs

- Website structure
- DOM structure
- linguistic structure

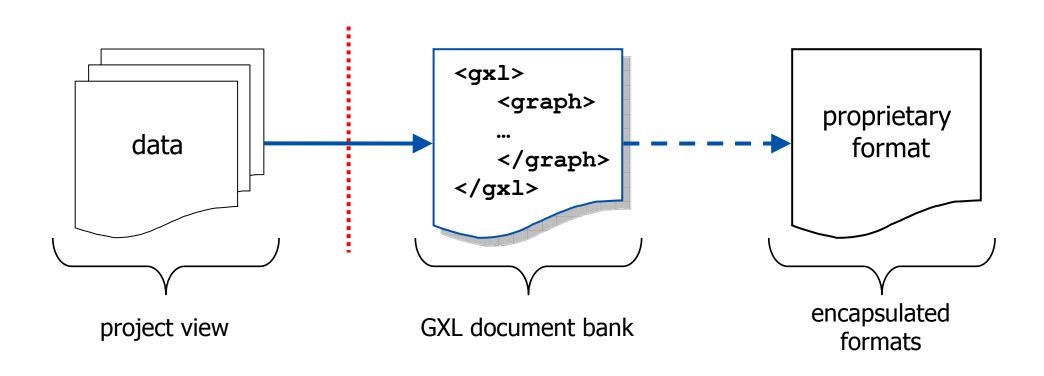






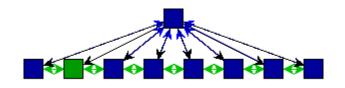
Corpus Conversion

Encapsulating the variety of data formats used in ML

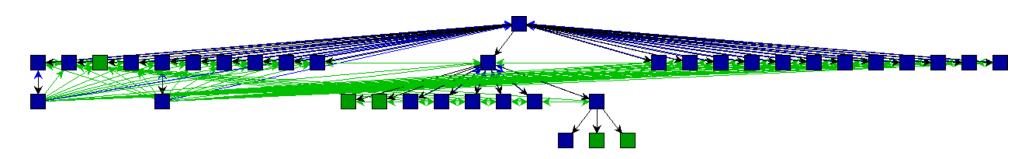


Temporal Variability

ACM Multimedia 2005, February 2, 2005



ACM Multimedia 2005, July 11, 2005



representing websites as families of hypertext graphs

Conference Websites

Source:

conference calendar of ACM, IEEE, and IFIP

Languages:

mainly English

Event Types:

 conferences, workshops, seminar, meeting, course, ...

Variable	Value
Number of Sites	1,096
Number of Pages	50,943
Number of Links	303,278
Maximum Depth	23
Maximum Width	1,035
Average Size	46
Average Width	38
Average Height	2

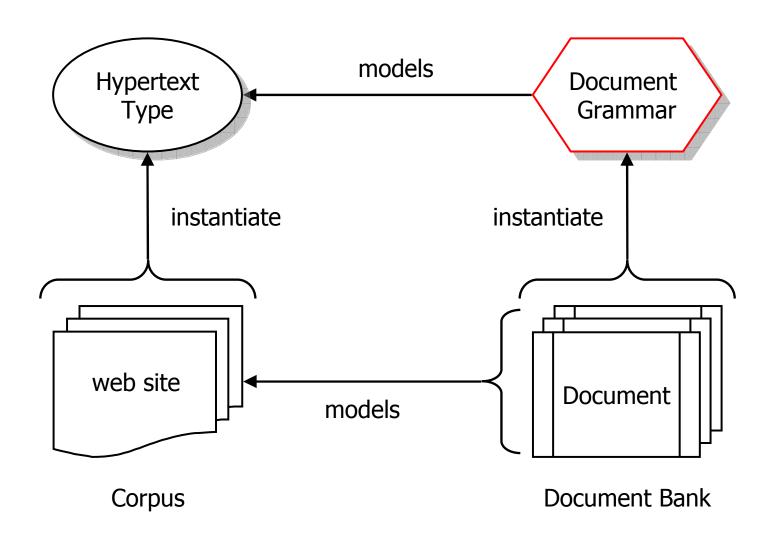
Size:

• 1,096 (English conference websites minus spam URLs)

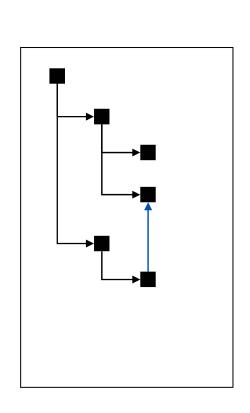
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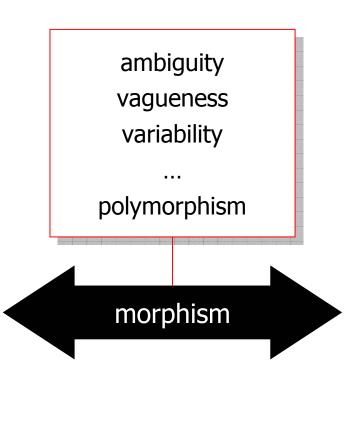
Logicai Hyperiexi Documeni Structure



Logicai Hyperiexi Documeni Structure



visible structure



hidden logical document structure

Logicai Hyperiexi Documeni Structure

Implications

- The visual structure of a web site is an informational uncertain manifestation of the underlying logical hypertext document structure.
- indispensable step of web structure mining: reconstruction of this logical document structure.

→ Aim:

Inducing a probabilistic document grammar which predicts the similarity of web sites of similar function, but differing form.

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Services

Building Reference Corpora of Certain Webgenres

- extracting websites using the GXL
- preprocessing linguistic structures
- providing an interface for performing corpus linguistic operations
- conference websites as a starting point

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Conclusion

- extracting genre specific corpora of web documents
- informational uncertainty
- structure learning instead of function learning
- building up of large reference corpora of webgenres
- → DFG funded research project

"induction of probabilistic web document grammars"

as part of the research group

"texttechnological information modelling"

Publication

```
@inproceedings{Mehler:Gleim:2005,
   author={Alexander Mehler and R{\"u}diger Gleim},
   title={Polymorphism in Generic Web Units. {A} corpus
        linguistic study},
   booktitle={Corpus Linguistics Conference Series},
   volume={1},
   number={1},
   issn={1747-9398}
   year={2005}
}
```