Information Retrieval Exercises

Introduction

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General structure

• We will build groups of two students each
  – Each group has to solve 4/5 exercises
  – All exercises must be solved by all groups!
  – To solve each exercise, you’ll get 2-3 weeks
  – Weeks in between are optional Q/A sessions

• “Solving” means: a Java implementation or some configuration / extension of Lucene
  – Assignments are implementation-heavy
  – No paper work!
General structure

- (Partial) Solutions are presented by groups in the form of 5-10 minutes talks
  - Each group has to present at least once during the course
  - You'll be able to pick when and what you'd like to present
  - If you don't decide yourself, you'll be assigned a presentation slot

- But: You should be able to explain your solution anyway
Tentative schedule

- Today: group formation; assignment 1
  - Crawl IMDB and implement a set of queries
- 14/16 May: presentation of solutions; assignment 2
  - Implement fast Boolean search in a 100 MB corpus
- 04/06 June: presentation of solutions, assignment 3
  - Use Lucene for Boolean information retrieval
- 25/27 June: presentation of solutions, assignment 4
  - Implement synonym expansion with Lucene
- 16/18 July: presentation of solutions, final ceremony
Competition (optional)

- Most assignments can be solved more or the less well
  - “Good” usually means: very fast

- The best groups in each assignment will get points
  - Best: 5 points, second: 3 points; third: 1 point
  - Extra points for creative solutions possible!

- The overall best group will get a little present at the end of the semester
Group formation

• Form groups of two students until the end of this week
  – You can choose a fancy group name 😊
  – Write me an email with the group partners + group name

• I provide a Google Sheet for group formation

• I don’t accept submissions by lonely individuals!
Additional information

- Information, slides and materials of the exercise [https://hu.berlin/ire18](https://hu.berlin/ire18)

- If you have questions about the assignments - contact me!
  - Come by or write me an email before you do something wrong!

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Questions?