

# Selective Labeling and Incomplete Label Mitigation for Low-Cost Evaluation

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# Background: IR Evaluation Pipeline





# **Expensive Cost of Evaluation**



### **Statistics of Labels from TREC Web Track**

Year	#Systems	<b>Pooling depth</b>	<b>#Total labeled doc</b>
2011	62	25	19,344
2012	48	20/30	16,036
2013	61	10/20	14,336
2014	42	25	14,429







# **Related Work**



Low-cost evaluation with fewer labels

### Select Subset of Documents

Different selection strategies:

- Sampling: uniformly sampling, statAP
- Pooling: incremental pooling
- Active selection: MTC, RTC

### Mitigate Missing Labels

Different mitigation methods:

- Regard missing labels as non-relevant or non-existing: default in TREC, indAP & condensed list
- Distinct labeled non-relevant documents: bpref
- As random variables: infAP, eMAP (MTC)
- Predict missing labels





# Framework:

# Selective Labeling & Label Prediction

### Observations

Cluster Hypothesis: relevant documents are clustered
Label Bias: there exist more non-relevant documents than relevant documents
Selective Labeling Strategies

**Cluster Hypothesis** —> representative documents

**Label Bias** —> documents are more likely to be relevant

### **General Framework**

Selective Labeling + Label Prediction

### **Label Prediction**

Standard text classification method: SVM with linear kernel



# max planck institut informatik MaxRep Example: Document Vector Space for A Given Query

**Relevant Documents** 

**Irrelevant Documents** 

Selected Documents



# MaxRep Method: Representative Documents

### **Representativeness of Document Subset**

- Document subset L with t documents from document collection D
- Representativeness of L is the aggregating maximum coverage of the remaining documents D

$$f(L) = \sum_{d_i \in D_q} \max_{d_j \in L} sim(d_i, d_j)$$



# MaxRep Method: Encode Document Relevance

### **Encode Document Relevance in Selection**

□ AP-Prior: documents ranked higher by rivaling systems are more likely to be relevant. n denotes length of ranking, r is the rank 1 n

$$P[r] \approx \frac{1}{2n} \log \frac{n}{r}$$

□ Allocate aggregated AP-Prior weight w to document

$$f(L) = \sum_{d_i \in D_q} \max_{d_j \in L} \mathbf{w}_i sim(d_i, d_j)$$

**Optimization Target:**  $L_k^* = \underset{L_k}{\operatorname{argmax}} f(L)$  s.t. |L| = k





# **Experimental Setting**

### Dataset

TREC Web Track 2011–2014 on ClueWeb 09 & 12, 64 k labeled documents, 200 queries

### Ground truth measure

Mean Average Precision (MAP)

### Benchmark

> Kendall's  $\tau$  correlation:

Approximation to the system ranking

Root Mean Square Error (RMSE):

Approximation to the MAP values



# **Methods in Comparison**





Percentage of Documents Selectively Labeled

# Summarization of Kendall's **T**

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### Conclusion

- □ Label prediction is a robust and viable strategy to mitigate incomplete labels, with at least 20% of documents as training data
- □ A novel strategy MaxRep is proposed, considering both ranking information and document contents and seeking to select a representative subset of documents to label
- Large scale experiments on TREC Web Track data confirmed MapRep outperforms other strategies when label prediction is used
- □ For future works, **novelty & diversity will be considered**, and corresponding measures, like ERR-IA, will be approximated



# Thanks!