## A Simple Approach Towards Visualizing and Evaluating Complexity of Textual Case Bases

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## Overview

- Motivation
- Case Base Visualisation

"Case Base as Image" Metaphor for Visualization

Algorithm for Case Base "Stacking"

• Image Compression to Evaluate Complexity

Unsupervised Tasks - GAME

Extension for Supervised Classification

• Experimental Results

## **Motivation**

Visualization is useful in the Textual CBR (TCBR) for:

- 1. Easing knowledge acquisition from human experts
- 2. Visually evaluating goodness of the underlying representation
- Aiding case base maintenance, by revealing redundant or noisy features and cases
- 4. Presenting and explaining retrieved results to end users

#### **Complexity -** alignment between problem & solution space

- Important for all offline tasks mentioned above, especially tasks 2 and 3
- Offers a quantitative as opposed to qualitative insight into the characteristics of the case base
- Shares similar goals to visualisation

## The Case Base as an Image

- c1: Human machine interface for Lab ABC computer applications
- c2: A survey of user opinion of computer system response time
- c3: The EPS user interface management system
- c4: System and human system engineering testing of EPS
- c5: Relation of user-perceived response time to error measurement
- m1: The generation of random, binary, unordered trees
- m2: The intersection graphs of paths in trees
- m3: Graph minors IV : Widths of trees and well-quasi-ordering
- m4: Graph minors: A survey





#### Is this picture useful ?

Yes and NO

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m1: The generation of random, binary, unordered *trees* m2: The intersection *graphs* of paths in *trees* m3: *Graph minors* IV : Widths of *trees* and well-quasi-ordering m4: *Graph minors*: A *survey* 

- Conveys little information about underlying patterns in terms of word or document clusters
- Sensitive to the ordering of words and documents in the matrix
- tells us little about the complexity of the underlying case base.





- The first case row in the original matrix is retained as it is
- Compute similarity of all other cases to the first case



Rows 2 and 4 are swapped since case 4 is more similar to case 1 than case 2

- The case most similar to the first case is stacked next to it, by swapping positions with the existing second row.
- If more than one case is found to be equally similar, one of them is chosen randomly.



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- The similarity of all non-stacked cases are calculated with respect to second case.
- The case that maximizes a weighted combination of similarities to the first and second case (higher weight assigned to the second case) is stacked next to the second row.



• The process is repeated till all rows are stacked.



• The Steps 1-4 process are repeated, this time over the columns of the row-stacked matrix generated by Step 4.



- Topics HCI and Graphs revealed as "chunks"
- Bridge terms shared by adjacent topics are easily identified
  Similarly bridge cases can be identified
- Redundant features and noisy cases may also be identified
- Clustering patterns
  - Not derived by considering cases & features in isolation
  - Rather they emerge from the inter-relationship between them

## Weighted Similarity Computation

- Basic Intuition: We want to ensure a gradual change in the way cases and features are grouped and displayed.
- Select the (*k*+1) row (case) that maximizes :

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k} w_i \, sim(c_i, c)$$

k = number of already stacked rows,

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c_i = i th stacked case,
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c = case being evaluated for (k+1) th position,

 $sim(c_i, c) = cosine similarity between cases c_i and c$ 

 $w_i$  = weight attached to  $sim(c_i, c)$ .

We used:  $w_i = 1/(k - i + 1)$ 

- Same approach applied for weighted similarity between columns
- Efficiency refinement:

•consider only the previous 10 stacked rows or columns

• weights associated with very distant cases are negligible

## Measuring Complexity

Complexity in the TCBR context can have two interpretations :

#### Collection Complexity :

- Measures clustering tendency of the case base
- Case base with well defined clusters has lower complexity
- Various approaches from Text Mining & IR (e.g. Vinay ECIR06)
- Distinction between problem and solution components is ignored

#### Alignment Complexity :

- Measures degree of alignment between problem & solution components
- "Do similar problems have similar solutions?"
  - Local measures
    - Each case is evaluated individually (e.g. Lamontagne TCBR06)
  - Global Measures

 Measures how well clusters derived from problem representation corresponds to clusters formed from solution representation

Global Alignment MEasure (GAME)





• Split representation to give separate problem and solution side case bases





Stack problem and solution case bases independently
 > obtain .bmp images - I<sub>P</sub> and I<sub>s</sub> respectively

## GAME : Step 3



- Create image I<sub>SMIN</sub> as worst layout of solution side
- Compress images I<sub>s</sub> and I<sub>SMIN</sub> by creating .png image

Let compression ratios be CR<sub>s</sub> and CR<sub>SMIN</sub>





- Impose problem side ordering on solution to obtain image I<sub>SP</sub>
  Compress I<sub>SP</sub> to give compression ratio CR<sub>SP</sub>
- Expect  $CR_{SMIN} \leq CR_{SP} \leq CR_{SP}$

### GAME : Step 5



$$GAME = \frac{CR_{S} - CR_{SMIN}}{CR_{S} - CR_{SP}}$$

- Comparing ordering of problem & solution side case bases
- High value for GAME indicates better alignment
- Low value for GAME indicates poor alignment

## Extending GAME to Classification

#### In Classification Datasets

- > each training case is associated with a class label
- > task is to predict the class label of an unlabelled test case
- Class labels regarded as solution vocabulary
- simpler string based compression replaces image compression
- > do neighbours in problem side ordering belong to same class?

#### Run Length Encoding

- compression algorithm that exploits contiguous blocks
- > does not consider repeating patterns
- Adopt Similar String Compression Measure
  > count number of *flips* in solution class for a given ordering

## An Example

- Binary classification problem -10 cases in the email domain
  - $\succ$  cases C<sub>1</sub> through C<sub>5</sub> belong to class S (for SPAM)
  - $\succ$  cases C<sub>6</sub> through C<sub>10</sub> belong to class L (for LEGITIMATE)
- Assume problem side ordering of cases after stacking is C<sub>1</sub>C<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>C<sub>4</sub>C<sub>5</sub>C<sub>7</sub>C<sub>3</sub>C<sub>9</sub>C<sub>10</sub>C<sub>8</sub>
- Replace each identifier with class label gives string SSLSSLSLLL
  - > most easily classifiable a string would be SSSSLLLLL
  - most complex string would be SLSLSLSLSL
- Using our string compression measure
  - > number of flips for problem side ordering, flips = 5
  - > min. number of flips, flips<sub>min</sub> = 1
  - > max. number of flips, flips<sub>max</sub> = 9

## $\mathsf{GAME}_{\mathsf{class}}$

$$\mathsf{GAME}_{\mathsf{class}} = \log\left(\frac{flips_{\max} - flips_{\min}}{flips - flips_{\min}}\right) = \log\left(\frac{(n-1) - (k-1)}{flips - (k-1)}\right) = \mathsf{log}((9-1)/(5-1)) = 0.3$$

- *k* = number of classes,
- n = number of cases (n > k),
- *flips* = number of class transitions in problem side ordering
- *flips*<sub>min</sub> = minimum number of *flips* possible (k-1)
- *flips*<sub>max</sub> = number of *flips* for most complex case base (n-1)

- High values to well aligned dataset
- Low value equates to complex dataset
- Log introduced to reduce range

## **Experimental Set-Up**

• Datasets were created from the 20 Newsgroups corpus

- 1000 messages from each of the 20 newsgroups were chosen at random and partitioned by the newsgroup name
- Four sub corpuses were formed:
  - SCIENCE which has 4 science related groups
  - REC which has 4 recreation related groups
  - HARDWARE which has 2 discussion groups on PC and MAC
  - RELPOL which has 2 groups on religion and politics
- Two datasets were used for evaluating spam filtering:
  - USREMAIL which contains 1000 emails of which 50% are spam
  - LINGSPAM which contains 2893 emails of which 83% are nonspam
- Equal sized disjoint training and test sets were created
  - Each set contains 20% of documents randomly selected from the original corpus
  - > 15 such training/test splits were formed for repeated trials.

#### **Experimental Results**



### **Experimental Results**

- Classifiers used: LSI, LSISPR, SVM, LogitBoost
- GAME<sub>class</sub> scores from six classification datasets
- Accuracy figures recorded by four classifiers

|                | HARDWARE | RELPOL | USREMAIL | LINGSPAM | REC    | SCIENCE |
|----------------|----------|--------|----------|----------|--------|---------|
| GAME measure   | 1.0028   | 2.0358 | 2.3728   | 3.2222   | 1.1629 | 1.0492  |
| LSI + kNN-3    | 66.30    | 91.17  | 94.67    | 97.37    | 79.32  | 72.55   |
| LSISPR + kNN-3 | 80.42    | 93.89  | 96.13    | 98.34    | 86.99  | 80.60   |
| SVM            | 78.82    | 91.86  | 95.83    | 95.63    |        |         |
| LogitBoost     | 77.99    | 79.67  | 92.67    | 95.80    | 87.15  | 73.77   |

Table 1. GAME dass and Accuracies obtained by different classifiers

Table 2. Correlation of GAME<sub>class</sub> with classifier accuracies over 4 binary classification problems

|   | LSI + kNN-3 | LSISPR + kNN-3 | SVM    | LogitBoost |
|---|-------------|----------------|--------|------------|
| ρ | 0.9176      | 0.9365         | 0.9023 | 0.8820     |

### **Multi-class Datasets**



SCIENCE

## **Comparing Datasets**



## **Conclusion & Future Work**

- Simple approach to visualising textual case bases
  Shows case and feature clusters in relation to one another
  - No abstraction helps in spotting redundant/noisy features or cases
  - Fast & simple to implement with no convergence issues and largely parameter-free
- GAME a global complexity measure for textual case bases
  Compares alignment of problem and solution space clusters
  GAME<sub>CLASS</sub> extends the approach to supervised problems
  Initial evaluation confirms correlation to test set accuracies
- Future Work
  - Evaluate GAME on unsupervised domains
  - Make the visualisation more interactive
  - Show word associations

# QUESTIONS