

全国软件与应用学术会议 (NASAC 2019)

分领域：新教师论坛

面向API文档的数据分析研究

张静宣

2019年11月24日



南京航空航天大学

Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics

自我介绍



南京航空航天大学
Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics

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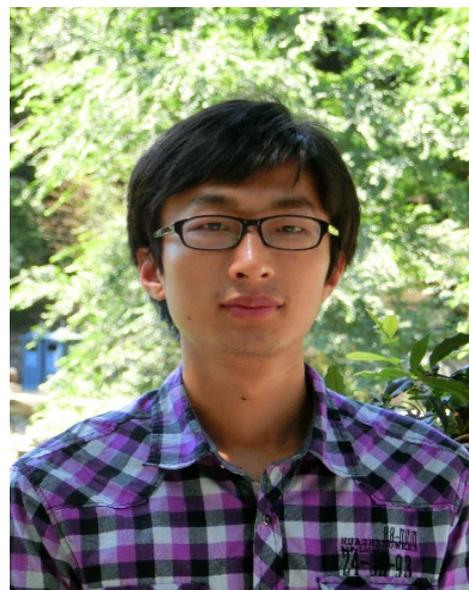
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研究方向：软件数据分析，软件仓库挖掘



时间	单位	经历	导师
2008.9-2012.6	大连理工大学	本科	--
2012.9-2018.6	大连理工大学	博士	江贺
2014.5-2014.8	新加坡管理大学	研究助理	David Lo
2018.7-现在	南京航空航天大学	助理教授	--



01 背景介绍



02 内容解析



03 信息增强

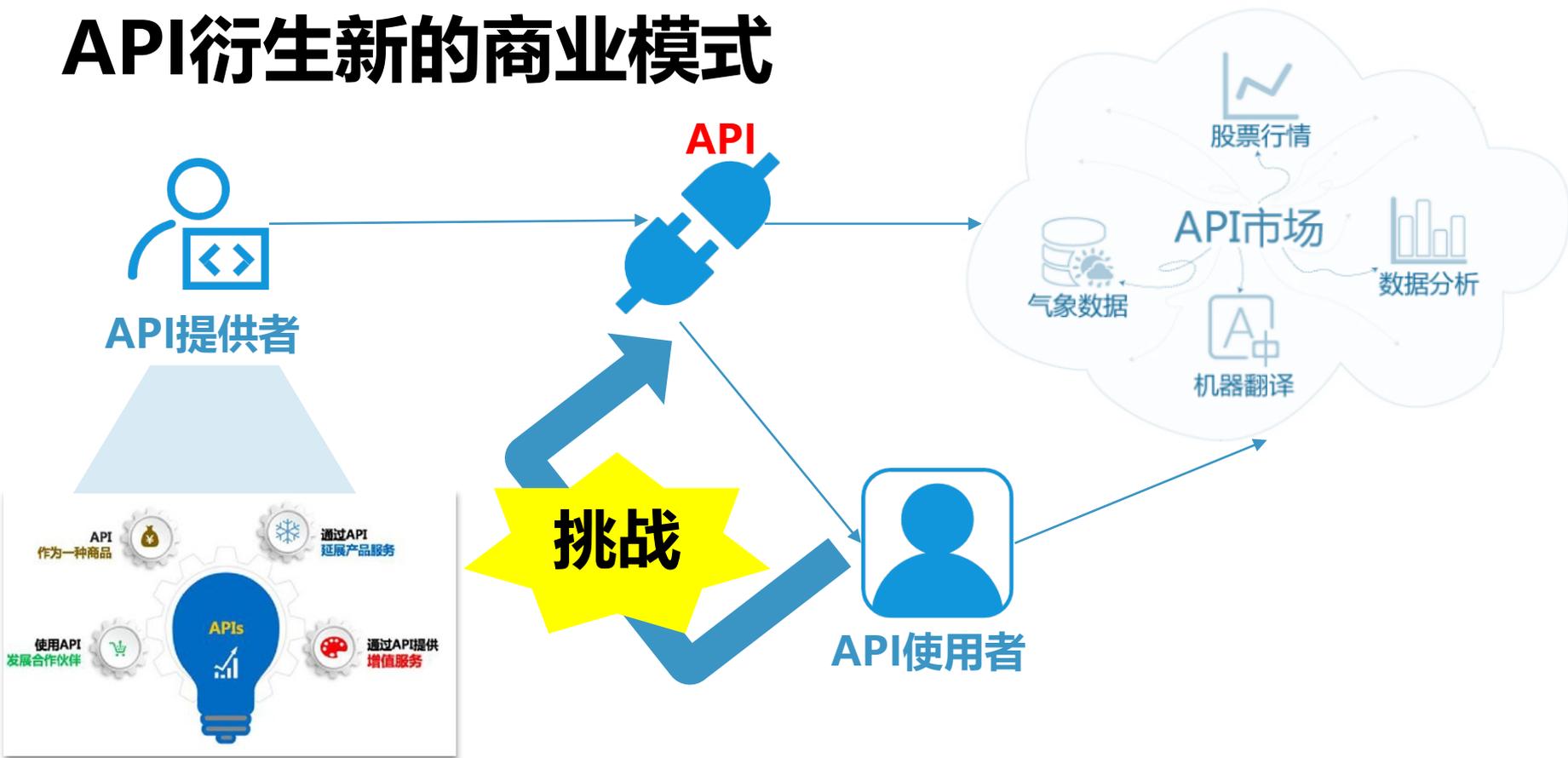


04 参考推荐



05 汇报总结

API衍生新的商业模式



API文档-帮助开发者学习API的正确使用

API文档的分类



Package	Description
java.applet	Provides the classes necessary to create an applet and the classes an applet uses to communicate with its applet context.
java.awt	Contains all of the classes for creating user interfaces and for painting graphics and images.
java.awt.color	Provides classes for color spaces.
java.awt.datatransfer	Provides interfaces and classes for transferring data between and within applications.

API
规范

API
教程

博客

论坛

The Java Tutorials are practical guides for programmers who want to use the Java programming language to create applications. They include hundreds of complete, working examples, and dozens of lessons. Groups of related lessons are organized into "trails".

The Java Tutorials primarily describe features in Java SE 8. For best results, download JDK 8.

What's New

The Java Tutorials are continuously updated to keep up with changes to the Java Platform and to incorporate feedback from our readers.

This release of the tutorial corresponds to the JDK 8u101 release.

This release includes a new lesson in the Deployment trail that describes how to use the Java packaging tools to generate self-contained applications. Self-contained applications are Java applications that are bundled with the JRE that is needed to run. These applications are installed on a user's local drive and launched in the same way as native applications. See [Deploying Self-Contained Applications](#) for more information.

Trails Covering the Basics

These trails are available in book form as The Java Tutorial, 8th Edition. To buy this book, refer to the box to the right.

Tutorial Contents

- Getting Started — An introduction to Java technology and lessons on installing Java development software and using it to create a simple program.
- Learning the Java Language — Lessons describing the essential concepts and features of the Java Programming Language.
- Essential Java Classes — Lessons on exceptions, basic input/output, concurrency, regular expressions, and the platform environment.
- Collections — Lessons on using and extending the Java Collections Framework.

Tutorial Resources

- View the Java Tutorial Online
- The Java Tutorial 8th Edition
- Download the Java SE 8 JRE

API文档的内容



既包含有**自然语言的描述**，又包含少量**代码样例**。同时自然语言的描述有可能也包含**代码元素**。

A `FilterAtomicReader` for updating facets ordinal references, based on an ordinal map. You should use this code in conjunction with merging taxonomies - after receive an `DirectoryTaxonomyWriter.OrdinalMap` which maps ones. You can use that map to re-map the payloads which contain the facets information (ordinals) either before or while merging the indexes.

Natural language sentence with code names

For re-mapping the ordinals during index merge, do the following:

Natural language sentence

```
// merge the old taxonomy with the new one.
OrdinalMap map = DirectoryTaxonomyWriter.addTaxonomies();
int[] ordmap = map.getMap();

// Add the index and re-map ordinals on the go
DirectoryReader reader = DirectoryReader.open(oldDir);
IndexWriterConfig conf = new IndexWriterConfig(VER, ANALYZER);
IndexWriter writer = new IndexWriter(newDir, conf);
List<AtomicReaderContext> leaves = reader.leaves();
AtomicReader wrappedLeaves[] = new AtomicReader[leaves.size()];
for (int i = 0; i < leaves.size(); i++) {
    wrappedLeaves[i] = new OrdinalMappingAtomicReader(leaves.get(i)
}
writer.addIndexes(new MultiReader(wrappedLeaves));
writer.commit();
```

Out-of-date code name

Code sample

API文档的质量



研究者对API文档的质量做了实证研究，调研API学习的障碍和API文档失效的原因。

Subcategories/descriptions		Associated respondents
Obstacles caused by inadequate or absent resources for learning the API (for example, documentation)		50
Examples	Insufficient or inadequate examples	20
General	Unspecified issues with the documentation	14
Content	A specific piece of content is missing or inadequately presented in the documentation (for example, information about all exceptions raised)	12
Task	No reference on how to use the API to accomplish a specific task	9
Format	Resources aren't available in the desired format	8
Design	Insufficient or inadequate documentation on the high-level aspects of the API such as design or rationale	8

Category	Problem	Description	E*	D*
Content	Incompleteness	The description of an API element or topic wasn't where it was expected to be.	20	20
	Ambiguity	The description of an API element was mostly complete but unclear.	16	15
	Unexplained examples	A code example was insufficiently explained.	10	8
	Obsolescence	The documentation on a topic referred to a previous version of the API.	6	6
	Inconsistency	The documentation of elements meant to be combined didn't agree.	5	4
	Incorrectness	Some information was incorrect.	4	4
Total			61	57
Presentation	Bloat	The description of an API element or topic was verbose or excessively extensive.	12	11
	Fragmentation	The information related to an element or topic was fragmented or scattered over too many pages or sections.	5	5
	Excess structural information	The description of an element contained redundant information about the element's syntax or structure, which could be easily obtained through modern IDEs.	4	3
	Tangled information	The description of an API element or topic was tangled with information the respondent didn't need.	4	3

质量问题

重要知识不凸显



自动识别并高亮重要知识

重要信息（代码）缺失



自动填充缺失的重要信息

信息冗长且碎片化



自动切分并推荐相关内容

API文档 内容解析

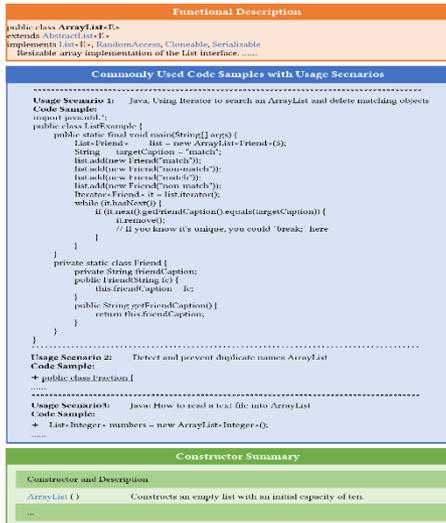
1
public final class [UnboundedFifoBuffer](#)
extends java.util.AbstractCollection
implements [Buffer](#)
[UnboundedFifoBuffer](#) is a very efficient buffer implementation. According to performance testing, it exhibits a constant access time, but it also outperforms [ArrayList](#) when used for the same purpose. The removal order of an [UnboundedFifoBuffer](#) is based on the insertion order; elements are removed in the same order in which they were added. The iteration order is the same as the removal order. The [remove\(\)](#) and [get\(\)](#) operations perform in constant time. The [add\(Object\)](#) operation performs in amortized constant time. All other operations perform in linear time or worse.
Note that this implementation is not synchronized. The following can be used to provide synchronized access to your [UnboundedFifo](#):
`Buffer fifo = BufferUtils.synchronizedBuffer(new UnboundedFifo());`
This buffer prevents null objects from being added.

2
public void [removeElementAt](#)(int index)
Deletes the component at the specified index. Each component in this vector with an index greater or equal to the specified index is shifted downward to have an index one smaller than the value it had previously. The size of this vector is decreased by 1.
The index must be a value greater than or equal to 0 and less than the current size of the vector.
This method is identical in functionality to the [remove\(int\)](#) method (which is part of the [List](#) interface). Note that the [remove](#) method returns the old value that was stored at the specified position.

3
protected [InformationControl](#) [InformationControl](#)
The information control.
This field should not be referenced by subclasses. It is protected for API compatibility reasons.

解决重要知识 不凸显的问题

API文档 信息增强



The screenshot shows the Java API documentation for `ArrayList`. It includes a 'Functional Description' section, 'Commonly Used Code Samples with Usage Scenarios', and a 'Constructor Summary' section. The code samples demonstrate various operations like searching, deleting, and detecting duplicate names.

解决重要信息 (代码) 缺失 的问题

API文档 参考推荐



The screenshot shows the Java API documentation for the `Collection` interface. It includes sections for 'Adding and Removing Elements', 'Checking if a Collection Contains a Certain Element', and 'Custom Collection Implementations'. It also provides links to wrapper implementations like `Set`, `List`, `Map`, `SortedSet`, and `SortedMap`.

解决信息冗长 且碎片化问题



01 背景介绍



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03 信息增强



04 参考推荐



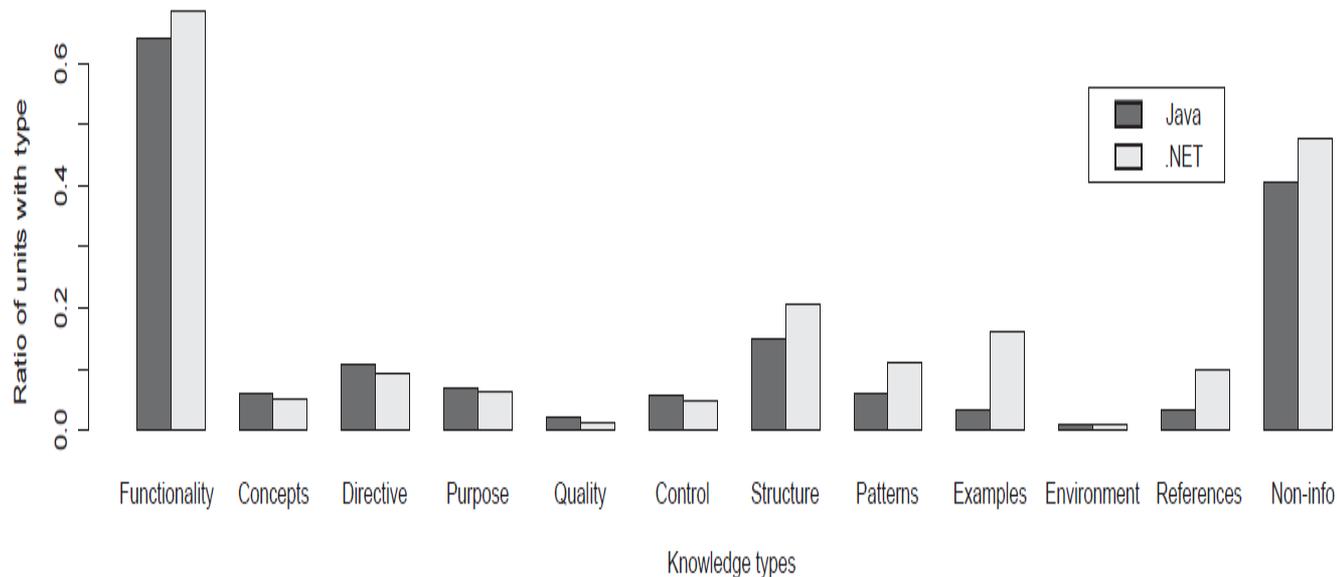
05 汇报总结

API文档内容解析



已有研究者对API文档包含的知识进行了分析，发现了12种知识类型以及他们的出现模式。

Knowledge Type	Description (Excerpt)
Functionality and Behavior	Describes what the API does (or does not do) in terms of functionality or features. Describes what happens when the API is used (a field value is set, or a method is called).
Concepts	Explains the meaning of terms used to name or describe an API element, or describes design or domain concepts used or implemented by the API.
Directives	Specifies what users are allowed / not allowed to do with the API element. Directives are clear contracts.
Purpose and Rationale	Explains the purpose of providing an element or the rationale of a certain design decision.



API文档内容解析



定义： API directive是正确调用API所必须遵守的约束和限制

目标： 自动的识别和高亮API文档中的directive，提醒开发者

1
public final class [UnboundedFifoBuffer](#)
extends java.util.AbstractCollection
implements [Buffer](#)
UnboundedFifoBuffer is a very efficient buffer implementation. According to performance testing, it exhibits a constant access time, but it also outperforms ArrayList when used for the same purpose. The removal order of an UnboundedFifoBuffer is based on the insertion order; elements are removed in the same order in which they were added. The iteration order is the same as the removal order. The [remove\(\)](#) and [get\(\)](#) operations perform in constant time. The [add\(Object\)](#) operation performs in amortized constant time. All other operations perform in linear time or worse.
Note that this implementation is not synchronized. The following can be used to provide synchronized access to your UnboundedFifo:
Buffer fifo = BufferUtils.synchronizedBuffer(new UnboundedFifo());
This buffer prevents null objects from being added.

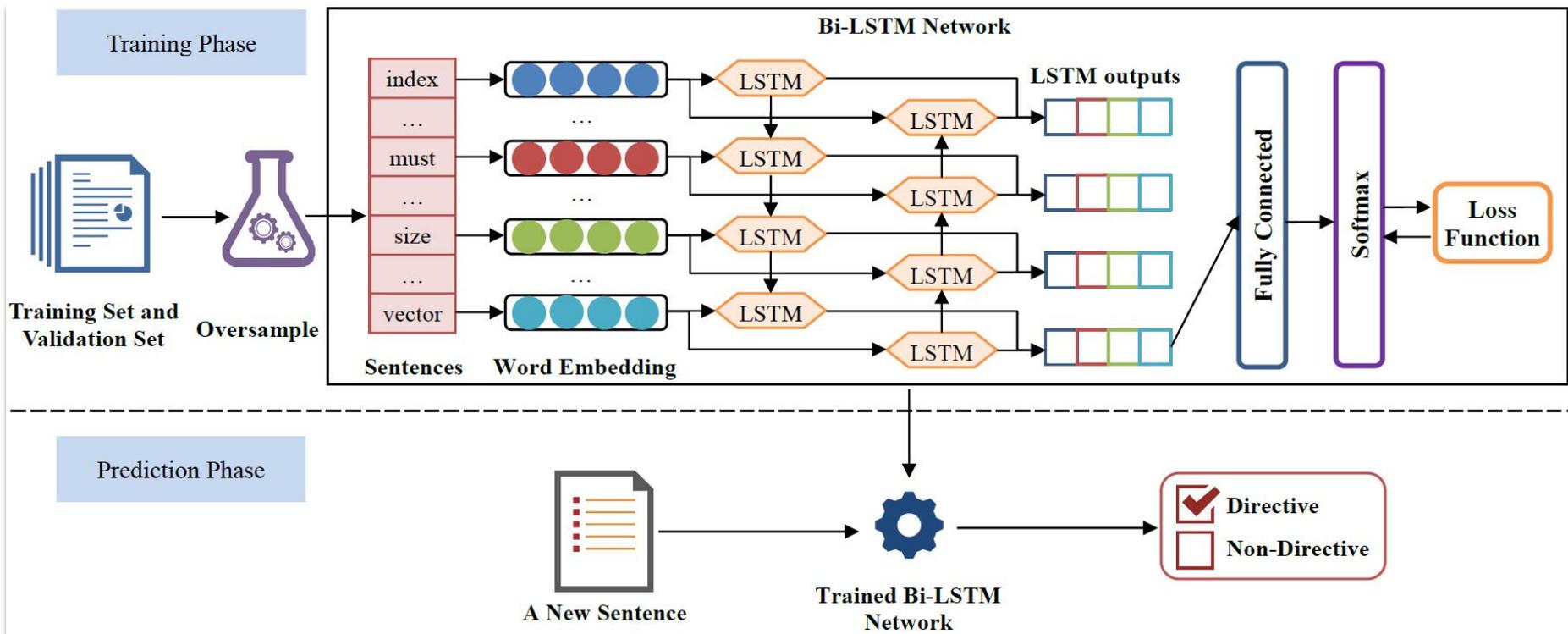
2
public void [removeElementAt](#)(int index)
Deletes the component at the specified index. Each component in this vector with an index greater or equal to the specified index is shifted downward to have an index one smaller than the value it had previously. The size of this vector is decreased by 1.
The index must be a value greater than or equal to 0 and less than the current size of the vector.
This method is identical in functionality to the [remove\(int\)](#) method (which is part of the [List](#) interface). Note that the remove method returns the old value that was stored at the specified position.

3
protected [InformationControl](#) [fInformationControl](#)
The information control.
This field should not be referenced by subclasses. It is protected for API compatibility reasons.

API文档内容解析



解决方案: 带采样的深度学习 (LSTM) 模型



API文档内容解析



1. 我们提出的方法是否超过对比方法?

API Specification	Precision			Recall			F-Measure		
	Baseline	DeepDir	Improv.	Baseline	DeepDir	Improv.	Baseline	DeepDir	Improv.
Java	15.18%	34.43%	+19.25%	73.81%	76.17%	+2.36%	25.18%	47.39%	+22.21%
JFace	28.75%	54.61%	+25.86%	78.40%	81.09%	+2.69%	42.07%	64.90%	+22.83%
commons.collections	49.37%	65.82%	+16.45%	67.41%	85.44%	+18.03%	57.00%	74.30%	+17.30%
Average	31.10%	51.62%	+20.52%	73.21%	80.90%	+7.69%	41.42%	62.20%	+20.78%

2. 自动的识别高亮directive是否对开发者有利?

Part	Q	Question	Answer Option	Percentage
Part 1	Q1	How often do you refer to API documentation when facing unfamiliar APIs?	Always	48%
			Often	46%
			Seldom	6%
Part 2	Q2	Have you ever pay attention to API directives in API documentation?	Never	0%
			Yes	91%
			No	9%
Part 2	Q3	Is it difficult to find out API directives from API documentation?	Very difficult	2%
			Difficult	19%
			Normal	64%
			Easy	13%
			Very easy	2%
Part 2	Q4	What factors prevent you to find out API directives from API documentation?	Too long explanation	52%
			Unstructured text without uniform style	68%
			Useless information embedded	40%
			Lack of focus in long text	61%
			Other (please specify)	16%
Part 2	Q5	Do you think automatically reminding and highlighting API directives is helpful to avoid bugs?	Very Helpful	46%
			A little helpful	48%
			helpless	6%
Part 2	Q6	Do you think API directive detection tools are helpful?	Yes	84%
			No	16%
Part 3	Q7	Which is important when detecting API directives?	Higher precision	33%
			Higher recall	18%
			Both higher precision and recall	49%
Part 3	Q8	What suggestions do you have for API directive detection tools?	Blank option	--

-  **01 背景介绍**
-  **02 内容解析**
-  **03 信息增强**
-  **04 参考推荐**
-  **05 汇报总结**

How do I remove repeated elements from ArrayList? Usage Scenario

▲ I have an `ArrayList` of `String` elements. I want to move repeated strings from it. How can I do this?

274

java list collections arraylist duplicates

share edit

★ User Score 89

Tag

edited Aug 29 '13 at 7:28

Jonik 38.6k 42 183 245

asked Oct 15 '08 at 8:05

user25778 1,422

Questioner

▲ If you don't want duplicates in a `Collection`, you should consider why you're using a `Collection` that allows duplicates. The easiest way to remove repeated elements is to add the contents to a `Set` (which will not allow duplicates) and then add the `Set` back to the `ArrayList`:

582

```
List<String> al = new ArrayList<>();
// add elements to al, including duplicates
Set<String> hs = new HashSet<>();
hs.addAll(al);
al.clear();
al.addAll(hs);
```

Code Sample

Of course, this destroys the ordering of the elements in the `ArrayList`.

Accepted Answer

share edit

edited Oct 25 at 14:15

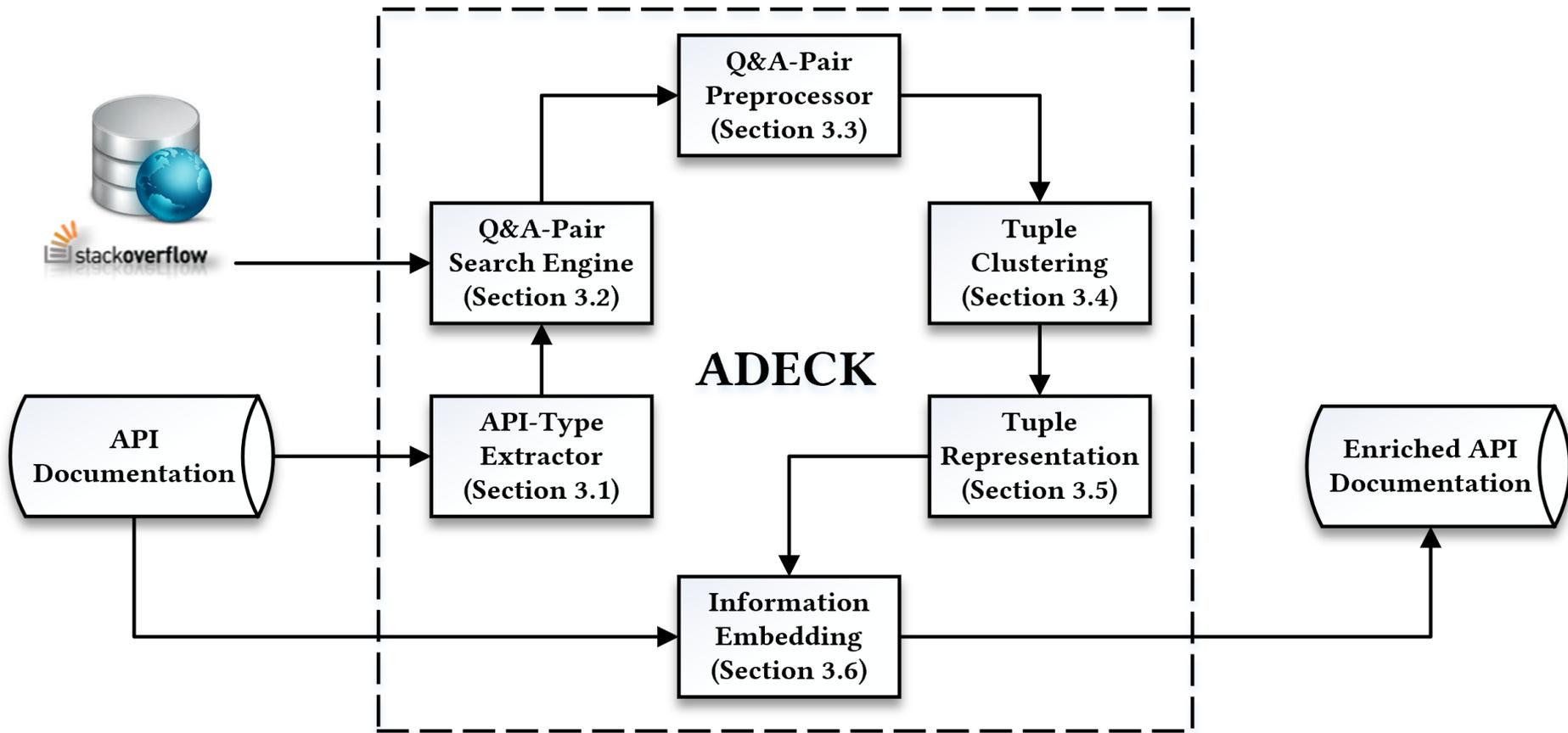
answered Oct 15 '08 at 8:11

Andrew Tobilko 8,376 3 15 38

jonathan-stafford 6,308

Answerer

解决方案: 基于群智的代码样例填充方法



API文档信息增强



我们方法增强的API文档能否提高开发者效率?

方法步骤:

1. 邀请21个参与者, 设计问卷调查调研他们的编程背景。根据他们的学习编

Id	Programming task	Related topic	Potentially Useful API	Test case		Level of difficulty
				Test input	Expected output	
1	Split a text based on a specified character	String processing	java.util.StringTokenizer	class1=1\nclass2=2\n\nclass3=3\n\nclass4=4\n\nclass1=5\n\nclass2=6\n\nclass3=7\n\nclass4=8\n\nclass1=9\n\nclass2=10\n\nclass3=11\n\nclass4=12	class1:1, 5, 9 class2:2, 6, 10 class3:3, 7, 11 class4:4, 8, 12	easy
2	Read and print the source code of a webpage	Network connection and interaction	java.net.URLConnection	http://global.bing.com/?FORM=HPCNE N&setmkt=en-us&setlang=en-us	The source code of bing search	moderate
3	List the first menu when press the ctrl key	GUI design and implementation	javax.swing.JMenuBar	Run the program and press the ctrl key	The menus in the first menu bar are shown	hard

1. 完成编程任务的数重
2. 完成编程任务的时间

我们方法增强的API文档能否提高开发者效率?

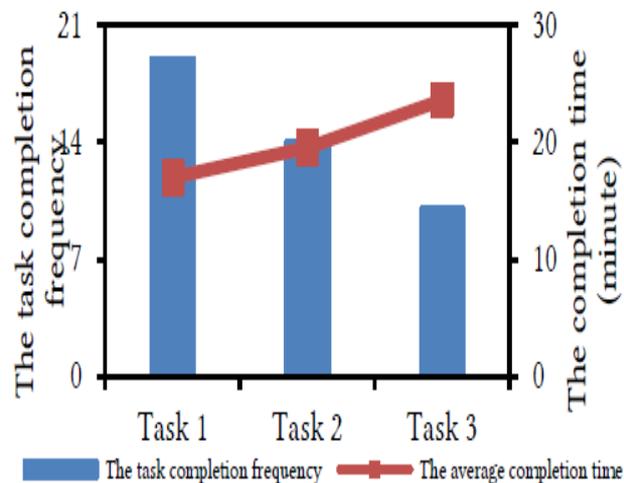


Fig. 8. Comparison between different tasks

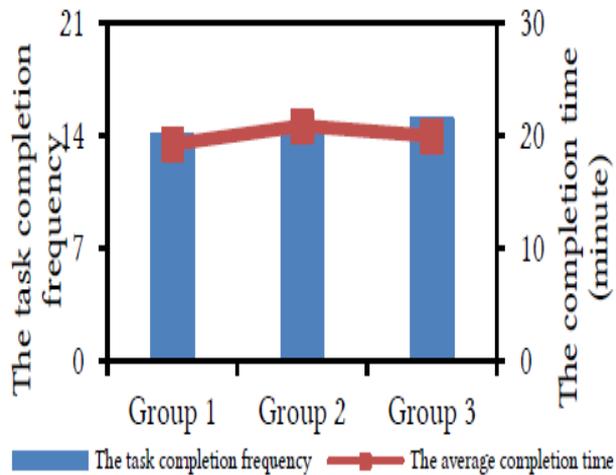


Fig. 9. Comparison between different groups

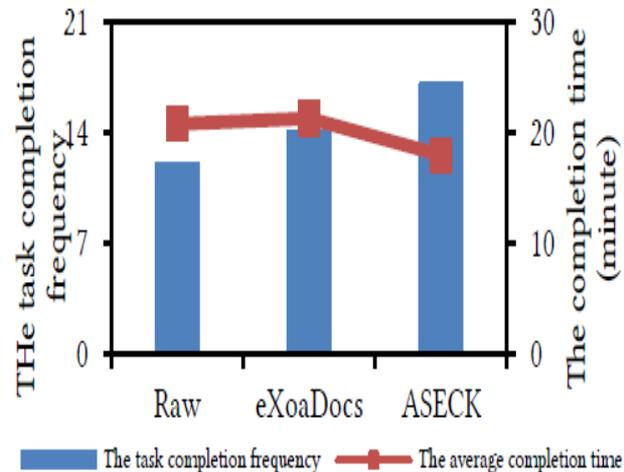


Fig. 10. Comparison between different API specifications

1. 编程问题设置的难易程度符合预期。
2. 我们的人员分组策略有效。
3. 利用我们方法增强的API文档，可以提高开发者的编程效率。



01 背景介绍



02 内容解析



03 信息增强



04 参考推荐



05 汇报总结

API文档参考推荐



问题:

- ✓ 单个API文档冗长，不能快速定位想要的内容。
- ✓ 解释某个API的文档片段分布在文档的各个部分。
- ✓ 并不是某个API出现，该文档就一定是解释这个API的。

(1)JodaTime is like an iceberg, 9/10ths of it is invisible to user-code. (2)Many, perhaps most, applications will never need to see what's below the surface. (3)This document provides an introduction to the JodaTime API for the average user, not for the would-be API developer. (4)The bulk of the text is devoted to code snippets that display the most common usage scenarios in which the library classes are used. (5)In particular, we cover the usage of the key **DateTime**, **Interval**, **Duration** and **Period** classes. (6)We finish with a look at the important topic of formatting and parsing and a few more advanced topics.

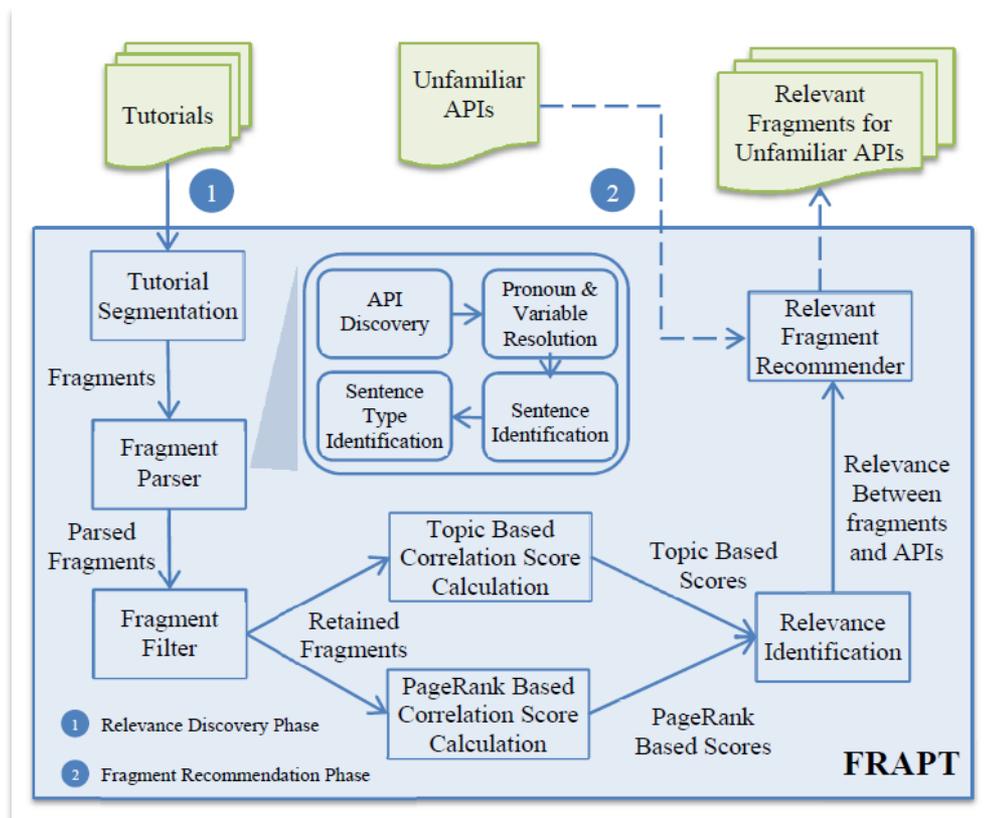
	IR	GMR	FITSEA
Input		Unfamiliar APIs	
Output	Relevant API tutorial fragments explaining unfamiliar APIs		
Method	Information Retrieval	Text Classification	Text Classification
Drawbacks	Precision is low	Different corpora require their corpus-specific annotated data. The effectiveness of supervised approaches depends on the features.	

API文档参考推荐



现有工作的不足： 监督模型需要大量人工标注构建训练集，预测效果依赖于提取的特征，在应用中并不准确。

目标： 提出一种无监督模型。



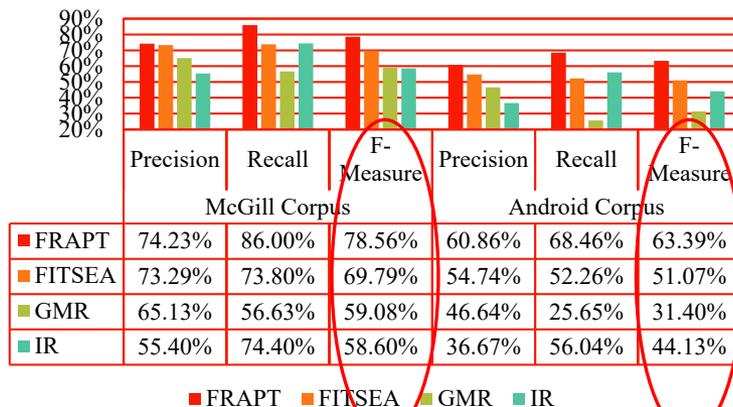
相关性识别阶段： 发现API与文档片段的相关性。

片段推荐阶段： 为用户输入的不熟悉的API推荐文档解释片段。

我们提出的无监督方法效果如何？

Corpus	Tutorial	Precision (%)				Recall (%)				F-Measure (%)			
		FRAPT	FITSEA	GMR	IR	FRAPT	FITSEA	GMR	IR	FRAPT	FITSEA	GMR	IR
McGill Corpus	JodaTime	85.19	69.00	58.82	73.00	76.67	74.17	50.00	73.00	80.70	70.24	54.05	73.00
	Math Library	84.78	67.89	52.00	67.00	73.58	72.70	49.06	65.00	78.79	61.53	50.49	66.00
	Col. Official	62.03	55.74	62.69	30.00	87.50	48.62	31.79	94.00	72.59	48.10	42.18	45.00
	Col. Jenkov	61.19	90.44	82.14	33.00	97.62	85.17	58.97	88.00	75.23	85.17	68.66	48.00
	Smack	77.94	83.38	70.00	74.00	94.64	88.33	93.33	52.00	85.48	83.90	80.00	61.00
Android Corpus	Graphics	49.21	50.42	45.60	35.80	75.61	42.52	44.50	67.44	59.62	43.73	45.04	46.77
	Resources	65.22	75.83	55.00	40.32	66.67	66.17	21.11	55.56	65.93	66.80	30.51	46.73
	Data	71.43	56.52	19.29	33.33	55.56	52.00	14.76	44.00	62.50	54.17	16.72	37.93
	Text	57.58	36.19	66.67	37.21	76.00	48.33	22.22	57.14	65.52	39.56	33.33	45.07

Approach Comparison



1. 作为一种无监督方法，我们提出的方法超过现有监督方法。
2. 考虑到无监督方法的优点，用我们提出的方法来发现解释API的文档片段是个很好的选择。



01 背景介绍



02 内容解析



03 信息增强



04 参考推荐



05 汇报总结

- ✓ 作为学习API的最重要的资源，API文档的质量并不理想。
- ✓ 对API文档进行分析，进而提高API文档的质量是当前研究热点问题。
- ✓ 我们分别介绍了API文档内容解析，信息增强和参考推荐方面的工作。
- ✓ 但这些研究还无法完全消除API文档的全部问题，还有很多研究问题。

**谢谢各位专家
敬请批评指正**

张静宣

南京航空航天大学

2019年11月24日