Interactive Information Extraction

Trausti Kristjansson, Aron Culotta, Paul Viola, Andrew M n

Microsoft Research

IBM Research

Introduction

In USA, 70 millions workers complete forms on a regular basis.

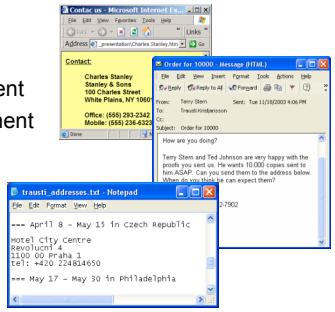
The goal of this work is to reduce the burden on the user to the largest extent possible, while ensuring the integrity of the data.

Main Points

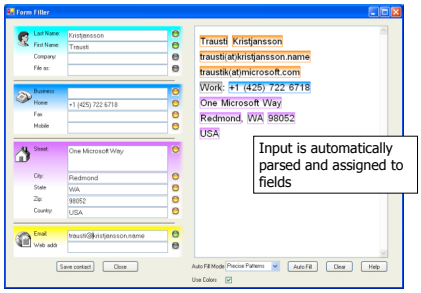
- Synergy of User Interface and Information Extraction Algorithm
- CRFs for information extraction
- Correction Propagation in CRFs
- Confidence Estimation in CRFs
- Expected Number of User Actions

Add Contacts to Address Book

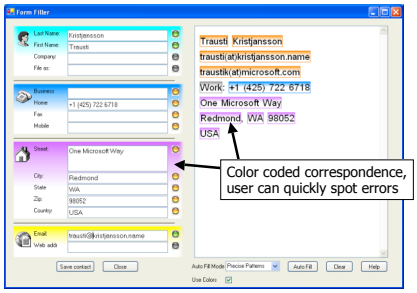
- Email
- Web
- Text document
- Word document
- Excel



Demo: Contact Assistant



Data Integrity – Fast Verification



Correction Propagation

- Show live demo

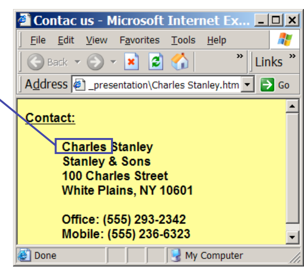
Interactive Information Extraction

- UI shows automatic field assignment results and allows for *fast verification and fast correction*
- IE algorithm takes corrections into account and *propagates correction* to other fields
- IE algorithm calculates *confidence scores*
- UI uses confidence scores to *alert user to possible errors*

Constrained Conditional Random Fields and Confidence Estimation

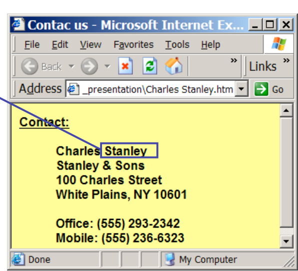
Classes – Database Fields

- Classes
  - First Name
  - Last Name
  - Title
  - Suffix
  - Company Name
  - Phone - Business
  - Phone – Home
  - Phone – Mobile
  - FAX
  - Address Line
  - City
  - State
  - Postal Code
  - Country
  - Email address
  - Webpage URL



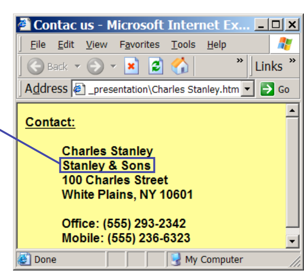
Classes – Database Fields

- Classes
  - First Name
  - Last Name
  - Title
  - Suffix
  - Company Name
  - Phone - Business
  - Phone – Home
  - Phone – Mobile
  - FAX
  - Address Line
  - City
  - State
  - Postal Code
  - Country
  - Email address
  - Webpage URL



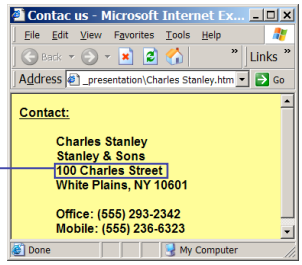
Classes – Database Fields

- Classes
  - First Name
  - Last Name
  - Title
  - Suffix
  - Company Name
  - Phone - Business
  - Phone – Home
  - Phone – Mobile
  - FAX
  - Address Line
  - City
  - State
  - Postal Code
  - Country
  - Email address
  - Webpage URL

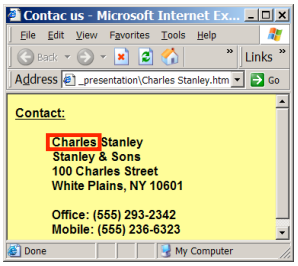


Classes – Database Fields

- Classes
  - First Name
  - Last Name
  - Title
  - Suffix
  - Company Name
  - Phone - Business
  - Phone – Home
  - Phone – Mobile
  - FAX
  - Address Line
  - City
  - State
  - Postal Code
  - Country
  - Email address
  - Webpage URL



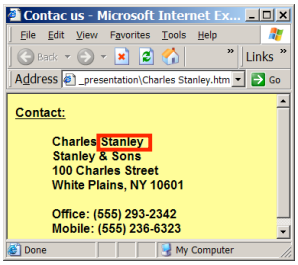
Token Features $f_k(\mathbf{y}, t)$



- Features
  - ☒ Capitalized
  - ☐ All Caps
  - ☒ In First Name Lexicon
  - ☒ In Last Name Lexicon
  - ☒ 1st Word on line
  - ☐ 2nd Word on line
  - ☐ 3rd Word on line
  - ☐ Previous Token in First Name lexicon
  - ☐ Contains Digits
  - ☐ Contains 5 Digits
  - ☐ Contains Hyphen
  - ☐ Enclosed in Brackets

… and 20000 more

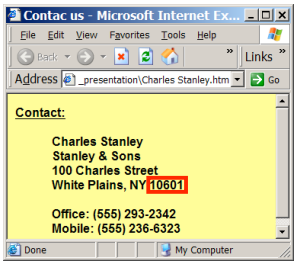
Token Features $f_k(\mathbf{y}, t)$



- Features
  - ☒ Capitalized
  - ☐ All Caps
  - ☒ In First Name Lexicon
  - ☒ In Last Name Lexicon
  - ☐ 1st Word on line
  - ☒ 2nd Word on line
  - ☐ 3rd Word on line
  - ☒ Previous Token in First Name lexicon
  - ☐ Contains Digits
  - ☐ Contains 5 Digits
  - ☐ Contains Hyphen
  - ☐ Enclosed in Brackets

… and 20000 more

Token Features $f_k(\mathbf{y}, t)$

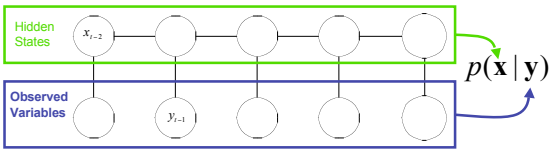


- Features
  - ☐ Capitalized
  - ☐ All Caps
  - ☐ In First Name Lexicon
  - ☐ In Last Name Lexicon
  - ☐ 1st Word on line
  - ☐ 2nd Word on line
  - ☐ 3rd Word on line
  - ☐ Previous Token in First Name lexicon
  - ☒ Contains Digits
  - ☒ Contains 5 Digits
  - ☐ Contains Hyphen
  - ☐ Enclosed in Brackets

… and 20000 more

Conditional Random Fields

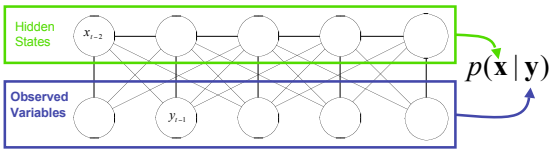
- Conditional Random Fields are *globally normalized* probability models, where hidden variables are *conditioned* on observed variables.



- Do not model the distribution over the observed variables, as generative models do.
- Advantage over generative models (e.g. HMMs) is that independence of observations not necessary

Conditional Random Fields

- Conditional Random Fields are *globally normalized* probability models, where hidden variables are *conditioned* on observed variables.



- Do not model the distribution over the observed variables, as generative models do (e.g. HMMs).
- Advantage over generative models is that independence of observations not necessary for tractability.

Conditional Random Fields

$g_k(\mathbf{x}, t)$ Relate adjacent hidden state variables

$g_k(x_t = \text{first name}, x_{t+1} = \text{postal code}) \rightarrow \text{small } \gamma_k$

$g_k(x_t = \text{first name}, x_{t+1} = \text{last name}) \rightarrow \text{large } \gamma_k$

Hidden States

Observed Variables

$f_k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t)$ relate hidden state variables to observed variables.

$f_k(x_t = \text{postal code}, y_t \text{ contains 5 digits}) \rightarrow \text{large } \lambda_k$

$$p(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{Z_0} \exp\left(\sum_{t=1}^{T} \sum_{k} \gamma_k g_k(\mathbf{x}, t) + \sum_{t=1}^{T} \sum_{k} \lambda_k f_k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) \right)$$

Normalizing factor, i.e. sum over all state sequences for given observation

Findin tate assignment

- Classes
  - First Name
  - Last Name
  - Title
  - Suffix
  - Company Name
  - Phone - Business
  - Phone – Home
  - Phone – Mobile
- Features
  - Capitalized
  - All Caps
  - In First Name Lexicon
  - In Last Name Lexicon
  - 1st Word on line
  - 2nd Word on line
  - 3rd Word on line
  - Previous Token in First Name lexicon
  - Contains Digits
  - Contains 5 Digits
  - Contains Hyphen
  - Enclosed in Brackets

Class Varia

Feature Var OBSERVED

y 100 Charles Street

Finding the best state assignment

$p(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{y}) = 0.93$

$p(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{y}) = 0.59 \cdot 10^{-36}$

$p(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{y}) = 0.19 \cdot 10^{-50}$

State Variables

Feature Variables OBSERVED (vectors of binary values)

Charles Stanley 100 Charles Street

Viterbi used to find best sequence

- Viterbi algorithm may return the sequence of states shown below

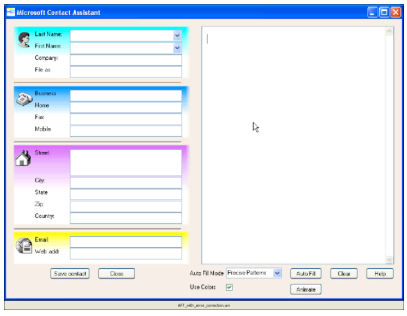
First Name

Last Name

Address Line

Charles Stanley 100 Charles Street

Correction Propagation



User Correction

- User Corrects a field, e.g. dragging `Stanley` to the `Last Name` field

First Name

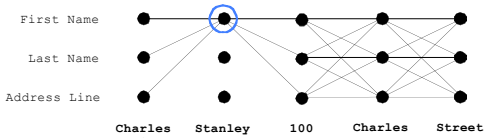
Last Name

Address Line

Charles Stanley 100 Charles Street

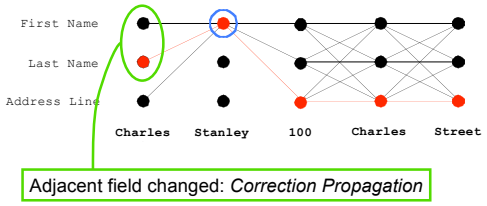
Remove Paths

- User Corrects a field, e.g. dragging `Stanley` to the `Last Name` field

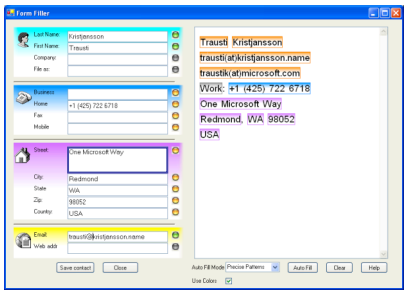


Constrained Viterbi

- Viterbi algorithm is constrained to pass through the designated state.



Indicate Low Confident



Confidence Estimation

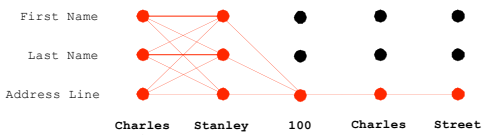
- Confidence in a classification
- Constrained Forward algorithm used to calculate sum of subset of paths that "agree" and "disagree" with a classification

$$CE = \frac{P(\text{Classification})}{P(\text{Any classification})}$$

$$= \frac{\text{Sum of all paths that } \textit{agree} \text{ with classification}}{\text{Sum of all paths}}$$

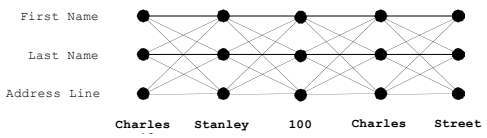
Sum of "agreeing" states sequences

- Paths that "agree" with classification



Sum of all state sequences

- All paths



Evaluation

Standard Metrics

- Standard information retrieval metrics:

	Token Acc.	F1	Precision	Recall
CRF	89.73	87.23	88.24	86.24
MaxEnt	88.43	84.84	85.05	84.95

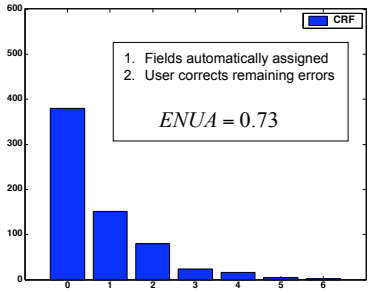
- These metrics don't relate well to the stated goals, e.g. how much does the system speed up data acquisition.

Expected Number of User Actions

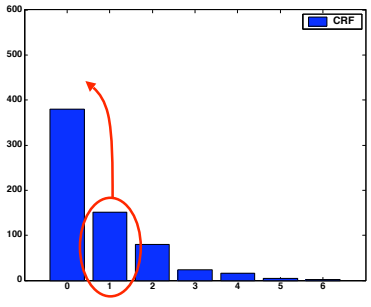
- UI designers often use the "Number of Clicks" as an objective metric.
- We would like a similar metric for measuring the effectiveness of Correction Propagation
- We can calculate the Expected Number of User Actions (ENUA) from statistics of the number of erroneous fields in each record processed by the system.

$$ENUA_{manual} = \frac{\text{Total fields}}{\text{Total Records}} = 6.31$$

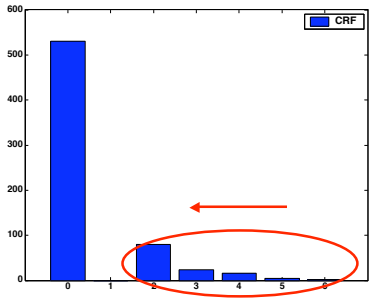
Number of Incorrect Fields



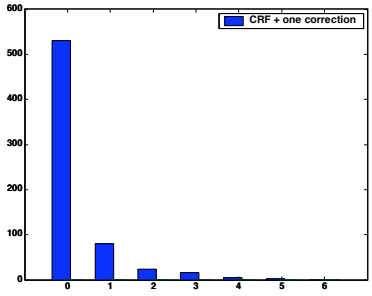
Correct one field



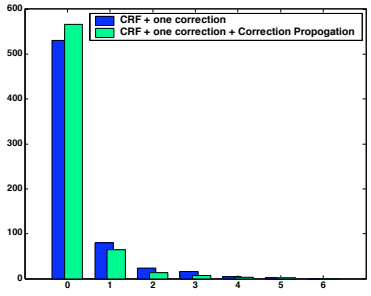
Correct one field



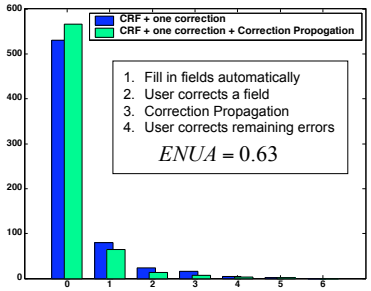
Correct one field



Run correction propagation



Run correction propagation



Expected Number of User Actions

Model/UI-Model	ENUA	Change
Manual – UIMm	6.31	Baseline
CRF – UIM 1	0.73	-88.4%
CCRF – UIM2	0.63	-93.1%

8.5x

10x

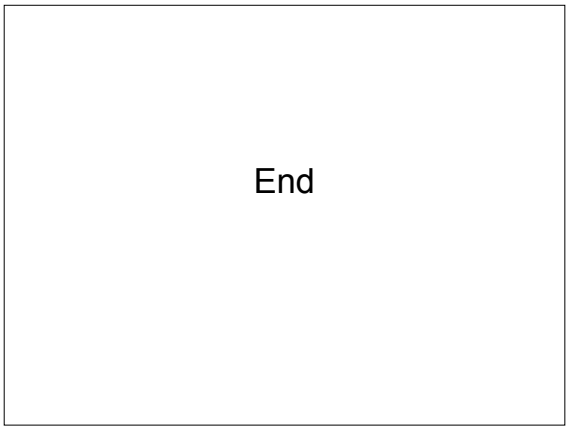
-13.9%

Confidence Estimation

- 276 records had one or more errors.
- If the least confident field highlighted in a record with one or more errors, an error will be identified 81.9% of the time.
- If field is chosen at random, an error will be identified 29.0% of the time.
- This illustrates the potential for using confidence to direct the users attention to an incorrect field.

Summary

- Synergy of User Interface and Information Extraction Algorithm ensuring confidence integrity of data
- Over 88% reduction of User Actions by Information Extraction alone
- Additional 13% reduction in User Actions due to Correction Propagation
- Confidence Scores effective at identifying incorrect fields.
- IIE in Microsoft Office 2007 ???


End