

# A FRAMEWORK AUTOMATING DOMAIN ONTOLOGY CONSTRUCTION

Yin-Fu Huang and Yu-Yu Huang

Graduate School of Computer Science and Information Engineering

National Yunlin University of Science and Technology, 123 University Road, Section 3, Touliu, Yunlin, Taiwan 640

**Keywords:** Ontology construction, ontology learning, *Is-A* and *Parts-of* relationships, word correlation, hierarchical clustering.

**Abstract:** This paper proposed a general framework that could automatically construct domain ontology on a collection of documents with the help of The Free Dictionary, *WordNet*, and *Wikipedia Categories*. Both explicit and implicit features of index terms in documents are used to evaluate word correlations and then to construct *Is-A* relationships in the framework. Thus, the built ontology would consist of 1) concepts, 2) *Is-A* and *Parts-of* relationships among concepts, and 3) word relationships. Besides, the built ontology could be further refined by learning from incremental documents periodically. To help users browse the built ontology, an ontology browsing system was implemented and provided different search modes and functionality to facilitate searching a variety of relationships.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

With high developments of digital media and networks, everyone can create and deliver electronic documents easily, rapidly, and unrestrictedly. More and more publications are created on digital media, but readers are troubled with such huge amounts of data. For this reason, developing ontology that can bring a conceptual schema of millions of documents to readers is necessary.

A general description about ontology is that ontology is a specification of an abstract, simplified view of the world that we wish to represent for some purpose, and it is increasingly important in many information systems and semantic web (Yan-Hwang, 2005). This description gives us a brief understanding about ontology, and some more definitions about ontology can be found in (Riichiro, 2003 and Thanh, 2006), which let us realize what these papers want to construct. Based on these descriptions or definitions, we conclude that three basic elements exist in ontology; i.e., concepts, relations among them, and axioms to formalize the definitions and relations. When it comes to relations, the primary ones are *Is-A* and *Parts-of* relationships. The framework of building ontology proposed in the paper would focus on this issue. However, constructing ontology is a time consuming and

tremendous work, even if it is built manually. For example, the most famous ontology in biology, Gene Ontology (<http://www.geneontology.org/>) was defined by professionals one by one. In summary, it is quite not easy to construct ontology automatically.

The paper developed a framework automatically constructing domain ontology with the help of The Free Dictionary (<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/>), *WordNet* (<http://wordnet.princeton.edu/>), and *Wikipedia Categories* (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:Categories>). Since there is still no famous ontology on the computer science domain and many open resources on the domain facilitate building the ontology, the paper aims to construct the computer science ontology as a case study. The built ontology would consist of 1) concepts, 2) *Is-A* and *Parts-of* relationships among concepts, and 3) word relationships.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 describes related preliminary work on ontology generation. In Section 3, the framework to construct ontology from a collection of documents is proposed. Then, the case study of computer science ontology construction and the ontology browsing system are discussed and presented in Section 4. Finally, we make conclusions in Section 5.

## 2 RELATED PRELIMINARY WORK

Although there have been some researches exploring on ontology, most of them focused on using specific ontology to assist their work, rather than on building ontology. On the other hand, other researches (Trent, 2002, Rowena, 2005, Dave 2001, Sin-Jae, 2001, Yan-Hwang, 2005, Alexander, 2000, Riichiro, 2003, Thanh Tho, 2006, Prieto-Diaz, 2003, Yuri A., 2003 and Ju-in Youn, 2004) addressed building ontology. They could be classified into two categories in building ontology (strictly speaking, some of them are just to propose a schema of object entities). The first one is to classify documents into their domain based on key terms which are organized by several words in documents (Florian, 2002, Dave, 2001, Weipeng, 2001, Yin-Fu, 2007, Thanh Tho, 2006 and Ju-in, 2004). The other one is to classify keywords to construct a taxonomy structure based on belonging documents, thesauri, or pre-built ontology (Trent, 2002, Rowena, 2005, Sin-Jae, 2001, Yan-Hwang, 2005, Alexander, 2000, Prieto-Diaz, 2003, Vaclav, 2005 and Yuri A., 2003).

Youn et al. (Ju-in Youn, 2004) first constructed the ontology by fuzzy function and relations, and then classifies documents based on this ontology. In fact, the ontology constructed here is just a word relation tree similar to that proposed (Yin-Fu Huang, 2007). Besides, two papers (Florian, 2002 and Yin-Fu, 2007) also provide schemas of documents, and the classification on documents has the same characteristics, since each cluster of documents (or each tree node in word relation tree) implies the same term feature. However, their methodologies are different where one is how to select term features to do clustering, and another is how to stretch the current level to the next one.

Since building ontology is so tremendous, it should be maintained incrementally, rather than building from scratch. Some learning techniques to refine the built ontology were proposed (P. Buitelaar, 2005, Asunción, 2003 and Alexander, 2001), and even general relationship learning (not focusing on *Is-A* or *Parts-of* relationships) has been discussed (M. Kavalec, 2004, David, 2006 and A. Schutz, 2005). In our framework, new incremental documents could be imported periodically, and then the learning process uses them to refine word relationships in the same way.

### 2.1 Key Terms for Generating Ontology

*Term-Document-Matrix (TDM)* records the frequency that each key term appears in documents, and it is also called weighted word histogram (Weipeng, 2001). Key terms and documents are two dimensions in *TDM*. If we take the dimension of documents as our classified target, key terms can be viewed as feature (Florian, 2002, Dave, 2001, Weipeng, 2001 and Teuvo, 2000), and vice versa. Usually, it is necessary to build ontology to present the overall context structure on web pages. Tijerino et al. developed an information-gathering engine, TANGO, to exploit *tables* and *filled-in forms* to generate domain-specific ontology (Yuri A., 2003). In our framework, *TDM* is treated as the implicit feature to evaluate word correlations.

FOLDOC (<http://foldoc.org/>) is an online computing dictionary, in which each keyword and its relatives are tagged to show their relationships. Apted and Kay followed its original relationships between words, and transferred the whole keywords in the dictionary into a clear relation graph of keywords (Trent Apted, 2002). Although it has stored about 14,000 computing terms till now, many computing terminologies are not yet stored inside.

### 2.2 Features of Key Terms

Besides the documents as the input source, additional dictionaries are required to build ontology (Sin-Jae, 2001 and Alexander, 2000). The features of key terms retrieved from documents and dictionaries help to build ontology, which could be generalized as three kinds; i.e., *document vectors*, *sememes*, and the meaning coming from dictionaries.

*Sememes* are defined as the smallest basic semantic unit in HowNet (K. W. Gan, 2002). Some papers (Yi, 2002 and Yan-Hwang, 2005) took *sememes* as feature roles to do further processing. However, many computing terms are special terminologies, the meanings of which could be different from their original words. Thus, viewing *sememes* in computing terms as features could not be feasible here. Finally, since FOLDOC does not have enough computing terms for our work, the instruction inside it is somewhat inadequate to provide further features. Therefore, we choose The Free Dictionary instead as the explicit feature provider.

### 2.3 Measuring the Correlations between Key Terms

Many kinds of methods can be used to measure the correlations between key terms. One of them is to evaluate the ratio of co-occurrences in *sememes* between key terms (Yi, 2002 and Yan-Hwang, 2005). Some are to apply similarity functions to compute the similarities between key terms based on document features, such as Cosine coefficient, Jaccard coefficient, and Dice coefficient (Jim Z. C., 2002). Among these similarity functions, Cosine coefficient is the most frequently used (Weipeng, 2001 and Latifur, 2002). The others are to apply fuzzy analyses to assign the similarities (Rowena, 2005, Weipeng, 2001, Thanh Tho, 2006 and Ju-in, 2004). In our framework, besides using Cosine coefficient, several rules are also defined to measure the correlations of key terms in Section 3.2.2.

### 2.4 Constructing the Relationships in Ontology

There are several methods to construct the relationships between concepts. The first method is to apply hierarchical clustering such as fuzzy hierarchical clustering (Rowena, 2005). Hierarchical clustering could be further classified into top-down and bottom-up approaches. Top-down approaches consist of HFTC (Florian, 2002), hierarchical SOM (Dave, 2001), and GH-SOM (Michael, 2000), whereas bottom-up ones include HAC (Latifur, 2002). The second method is to use the existing relations between concepts to identify the relation (Trent, 2002, Sin-Jae, 2001 and Vaclav, 2005). The last one is to build association networks of concepts based on fuzzy similarity (Thanh Tho, 2006 and Ju-in, 2004). National language processing (or morphological analysis) also joins force (Yan-Hwang, 2005). The other methods could be mixed ones such as combining SOM clustering with merging process (Weipeng, 2001) or with statistic methods (Richard C., 1996 and W. B., 1992), and so on.

Even if a few papers as mentioned built ontology, none of them explored to construct the relationships between concepts, such as *Is-A* or *Parts-of* relationships. *Is-A* refers to a relationship  $A \xrightarrow{\text{is a}} B$  where  $A$  is a kind of  $B$ , and inherits all the properties of  $B$ . On the other hand, *Parts-of* refers to a relationship  $C \xrightarrow{\text{parts of}} D$  where  $C$  is a part of  $D$  and has only partial properties of  $D$ .

In the paper, *Wikipedia Categories* and *WordNet* is considered as knowledge bases to assist in retrieving *Is-A* and *Parts-of* relationships from the dataset. *Wikipedia Categories* is a specific classification of keywords, and each keyword in *Wikipedia* at least belongs to one category. Thus, the structure of *Wikipedia Categories* is a directed graph, and can be used to retrieve *Is-A* relationships from the dataset.

*WordNet* is a large lexical database of English where nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs are grouped into sets of cognitive synonyms (*synsets*), each expressing a distinct concept. There are two types of *Parts-of* relationships in *WordNet*; i.e., *Meronym* and *Holonym*. *Meronym* denotes a constituent part of (or a member of) something. For example,  $X$  is *Meronym* of  $Y$  if  $X(s)$  are parts of  $Y(s)$ . But *Holonym* is opposite to *Meronym*. *Holonymy* defines the relationship between a term denoting the whole and a term denoting a part of the whole. For example,  $X$  is *Holonym* of  $Y$  if  $Y(s)$  are parts of  $X(s)$ . The type of a *Parts-of* relationship could be *part*, *member*, *substance*, so that there are totally six kinds of *Parts-of* relationships; i.e., *part-meronym*, *member-meronym*, *substance-meronym*, *part-holonym*, *member-holonym*, and *substance-holonym*. Since key terms investigated here are nouns, we would retrieve these six kinds of *Parts-of* relationships of nouns in *WordNet*.

## 3 SYSTEM FRAMEWORK

As shown in Fig. 1, the system framework of ontology construction consists of four components where the built ontology could be refined periodically. The explanations are as follows.

- (1) Relationship Summary Extractor: The relationship summary extractor extracts the computing terms from the documents archived in INSPEC (<http://www.iee.org/publish/inspec/>) to create *Term-Document-Matrix*, and also the related words such as synonyms, antonyms, etc from free dictionaries to create *Relative-Matrix*. Both matrices are stored in the local database for the next refinement.
- (2) Correlation Matrix Generator: The correlation matrix generator computes the correlations between the key terms.
- (3) Concept Hierarchy Constructor: The concept hierarchy constructor builds a concept hierarchy for further finding sophisticated relationships.
- (4) Sophisticated Relationship Extractor: The

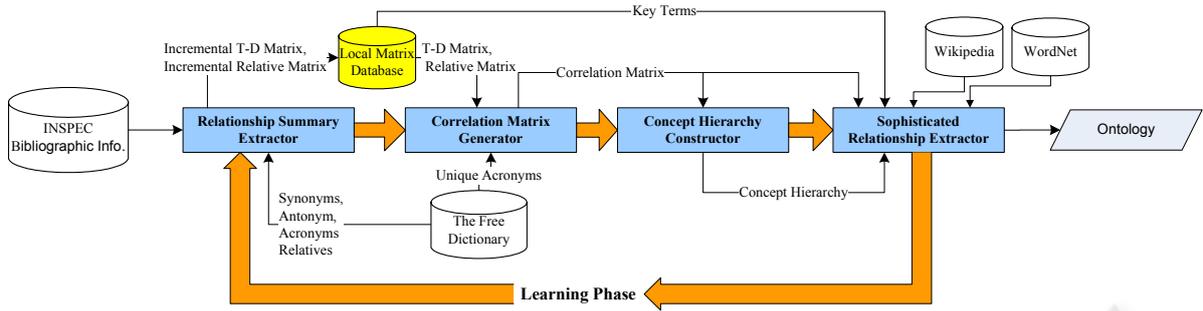


Figure 1: System framework.

Key Terms	Synonyms	Antonyms	Acronyms	Relatives
$KT_1$	$T_2, T_{15}, T_{16} \dots$	...	...	$T_3, T_4, T_6, T_8, T_{10}, T_{11}$
$KT_2$	$T_1, T_{14}, T_{15} \dots$	...	...	$T_4, T_5, T_7, T_9, T_{10}, T_{11}, T_{12}, T_{13}$
...	...	...	...	...

Figure 2: Relative-Matrix where  $KT$  and  $T$  represent terms, and  $KT_i$  is the same as  $T_i$ .

sophisticated relationship extractor retrieves the *Is-A* and *Parts-of* relationships from individual input and specific external knowledge bases (e.g., *Wikipedia* and *WordNet*).

The built ontology in the learning phase could be refined periodically where the whole processes would be executed again, given incremental documents as input.

### 3.1 Relationship Summary Extractor

The functionality of Relationship Summary Extractor is to extract vector spaces used to evaluate the correlations between key terms in the ontology. We have two kinds of data sources; i.e., *document vector* extracted from INSPEC bibliographic information, and *relative vector* retrieved from sub-dictionaries in The Free Dictionary.

For *document vector*, index terms (or keywords) in every document could be distinguished into two categories, *subject headings* and *key phrase identifiers* that are also called controlled and uncontrolled indexing respectively in IEL (<http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/Xplore/guesthome.jsp>). Only the index terms filtered through the filtering process would be the key terms in the ontology. According to the definition of indexing in INSPEC ([http://www.lib.nus.edu.sg/lion/slb/d/SD/inspec/insc\\_ont.html](http://www.lib.nus.edu.sg/lion/slb/d/SD/inspec/insc_ont.html)), since uncontrolled indexing contains free-language words or phrases assigned by INSPEC indexers, and has a wider range of terms, it has less

weighting than controlled one. Thus, the *Term-Document-Matrix* is defined as follows.

where  $w_{ij}$  is the weight of key term  $i$  in document  $j$ ,  $m$  is the no. of key terms,  $n$  is the no. of documents,  $KT$  is a key term,  $S$  is a set of key terms with *subject heading*, and  $K$  is the one of key terms with *key phrase identifier*.

For *relative vector*, the terms could be synonyms or relatives. There are ten sub-dictionaries in The Free Dictionary, but only four of them, called *Dictionary/thesaurus*, *Acronyms*, *Computing Dictionary*, and *Wikipedia Encyclopedia*, are used as references. Since we aim to construct computer science ontology, *Computing Dictionary* is chosen as the target. The synonyms and antonyms of terms are collected from *Dictionary/thesaurus*, the acronyms from *Acronyms*, and the relatives from *Dictionary/thesaurus*, *Computing Dictionary*, and *Wikipedia Encyclopedia*. The *Relative-Matrix* organized by *relative vectors* is shown in Fig. 2.

In summary, Relationship Summary Extractor extracts each individual vector for each key term, and finally produces *Term-Document-Matrix* and *Relative-Matrix*.

### 3.2 Correlation Matrix Generator

The next step is to combine two matrices produced in the last step into one matrix. However, since there are some duplicate terms in these two matrices, such as “database” and “databases”, a merging process should be done before combining the matrices.

$$\begin{pmatrix} w_{i1} & \dots & w_{ij} & \dots & w_{in} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \vdots \\ w_{i1} & & w_{ij} & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ w_{m1} & \dots & w_{mj} & \dots & w_{nm} \end{pmatrix} \begin{cases} w_{ij} = 3, & KT_i \in S \ \& \ KT_j \in K \text{ in } Doc_j \\ w_{ij} = 2, & KT_i \in S \text{ in } Doc_j \\ w_{ij} = 1, & KT_i \in K \text{ in } Doc_j \\ w_{ij} = 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**3.2.1 Merging Duplicated Terms**

Even if two index terms are individual, they could be the same thing or have the same meaning, so duplicates should be merged. For example, single/plural nouns and unique acronyms are the cases of duplicates. If there is more than one duplicate, this step would merge document and relative vectors of all duplicates. For single/plural nouns, *WordNet* or a stemming process could be used to solve this issue. For unique acronyms, we can find them only for exact one key term in the dataset. For example, acronym ‘‘SOM’’ can represent either ‘‘Self Organizing Map’’ or ‘‘Semantic Object Model’’, so ‘‘SOM’’ is not a unique acronym. However, acronym ‘‘RISC’’ plays the abbreviation role only for ‘‘Reduced Instruction Set Computing’’ in the dataset, so ‘‘RISC’’ is a unique acronym.

**3.2.2 Combining Term Document Matrix and Relative Matrix**

After merging *Term-Document-Matrix* and *Relative-Matrix* respectively, these two matrices would be combined into *Correlation-Matrix* showing the correlations between each term pairs. The correlations between each term pairs could be computed as

$$\begin{aligned} Correlation(KT_x, KT_y) &= \alpha \times Correlation_{RM}(KT_x, KT_y) \\ &+ (1 - \alpha) \times Correlation_{TDM}(KT_x, KT_y) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where  $0.5 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ .

Here, *Relative-Matrix* is considered as more important than *Term-Document-Matrix*, since the former implies more explicit correlations between terms than the latter.

As for  $Correlation_{RM}$  and  $Correlation_{TDM}$  in Equation (1), they can be computed as the following equations

$$\begin{aligned} Correlation_{RM}(KT_x, KT_y) &= \beta \times \underline{Closely\ Related\ Relation} \\ &+ (1 - \beta) \times \underline{Relative\ Relation} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where  $0.5 \leq \beta \leq 1$ .

$$Correlation_{TDM}(KT_x, KT_y) = \cos(KT_x, KT_y) = \frac{w_x \bullet w_y}{|w_x| \bullet |w_y|} = \frac{\sum_{d=1}^n w_{xd} w_{yd}}{\sqrt{\sum_{d=1}^n w_{xd}^2} \times \sqrt{\sum_{d=1}^n w_{yd}^2}} \quad (3)$$

where  $0 \leq \cos \leq 1$ .

Here again, *Closely Related Relation* is considered as more important than *Relative Relation*, since the former has stronger relationship than the latter. Besides, *Closely Related Relation* and *Relative Relation* can be assigned values according to the following rules.

- (1) Synonym relationship exists between  $KT_x$  and  $KT_y$

Case 1: If  $KT_x$  is the synonym of  $KT_y$ , or vice versa, then  $Correlation_{RM}(KT_x, KT_y) = 1$ . e.g.,  $T_2$  is the synonym of  $KT_1$ , and  $KT_2$  is the same as  $T_2$ .

Case 2: otherwise, If  $KT_x$  and  $KT_y$  have the same synonym, then  $\underline{Closely\ Related\ Relation} = 1$ . e.g.,  $KT_1$  and  $KT_2$  have the same synonym  $T_{15}$ .

Key Terms	Synonyms	...
$KT_1$	$T_2, T_{15}, T_{16}$	...
$KT_2$	$T_{14}, T_{15}$	...

- (2) Antonym relationship exists between  $KT_x$  and  $KT_y$

Case 1: If  $KT_x$  is the antonym of  $KT_y$ , or vice versa, then  $Correlation_{RM}(KT_x, KT_y) = 0.5$ . e.g.,  $T_3$  is the antonym of  $KT_4$ , and  $KT_3$  is the same as  $T_3$ .

Key Terms	...	Antonyms	...
$KT_3$	...	...	...
$KT_4$	...	$T_3, \dots$	...

Case 2: otherwise, If  $KT_x$  and  $KT_y$  have the same antonym, then  $\underline{Closely\ Related\ Relation} = 1$ . e.g.,  $KT_4$  and  $KT_5$  have the same antonym  $T_{15}$ .

Key Terms	...	Antonyms	...
$KT_4$	...	$T_{15} \dots$	...
$KT_5$	...	$\dots, T_{15}$	...

- (3) Relative relationship exists between  $KT_x$  and  $KT_y$

Case 1: If  $KT_x$  is the relative of  $KT_y$ , or vice versa, then  $\underline{Relative\ Relation} = 1$ . e.g.,  $T_6$  is the relative of  $KT_5$ , and  $KT_6$  is the same as  $T_6$ .

Key Terms	...	Relatives
$KT_5$	...	$\dots, T_6 \dots$
$KT_6$	...	...

Case 2: otherwise,  $\underline{Relative\ Relation} = \frac{|R_{Tx} \cap R_{Ty}|}{|R_{Tx} \cup R_{Ty}|}$

where  $R_{Tx}$  and  $R_{Ty}$  are the sets of relatives for  $KT_x$  and  $KT_y$ , respectively. e.g.,  $\underline{Relative\ Relation}$  for  $KT_6$  and  $KT_7$  as shown below is equal to 3/9.

Key Terms	...	Relatives
$KT_6$	...	$T_2, T_4, T_6, T_{10}, T_{11}$
$KT_7$	...	$T_4, T_5, T_7, T_{10}, T_{11}, T_{12}, T_{13}$

### 3.3 Concept Hierarchy Constructor

To generate a concept hierarchy, we first apply a hierarchical clustering technique to build a binary clustering tree, and then reorganize the tree into a taxonomy tree.

#### 3.3.1 Hierarchical Clustering

For the hierarchical clustering algorithm used to build the binary clustering tree, the clustering criterion is based on *Distance-Matrix* transferred from *Correlation-Matrix* according to Equation (4).

$$Distance(KT_i, KT_j) = 1 - Correlation(KT_i, KT_j), \quad (4)$$

where  $0 \leq Distance \leq 1$ .

#### 3.3.2 Reorganizing Binary Clustering Tree

Since each internal node in the binary clustering tree built using the hierarchical clustering algorithm contains exactly two children, we would reorganize the tree into a taxonomy tree to represent a concept hierarchy. Here, we also use the merging technique to further reduce the height of the tree where a threshold is defined as the merging condition. If the distance between parent and child nodes is less than the threshold, the child node would be merged into the parent node. For the example as shown in Fig. 3, child node  $N_1$  contains two leaf nodes *workflow modeling* and *workflow analysis*. For the threshold 0.005, since the distance (or gap) between node  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  is 0.002, less than the threshold,  $N_1$  would be merged into  $N_2$ . In other words, there is only one internal node  $N_2$  left, which contains three leaf nodes *workflow specification*, *workflow modeling*, and *workflow analysis*.

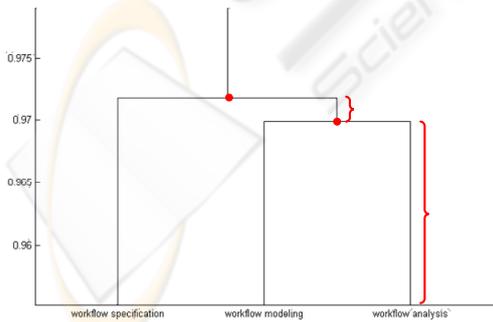


Figure 3: Enlarged binary clustering tree.

### 3.4 Sophisticated Relationship Extractor

Although both *Is-A* and *Parts-of* relationships between the key terms could be retrieved from *WordNet*, only a few words are for *Is-A* relationships in the computer science domain in *WordNet*, and therefore *Wikipedia Categories* covering more and wider words, instead of *WordNet*, is used to generate *Is-A* relationships.

For extracting *Is-A* relationships, we first label each key term (or leaf node) in the concept hierarchy generated beforehand, by finding the categories of each key term in *Wikipedia Categories*. As the example shown in Fig. 4, “Computer hardware stubs” and “Computer buses” are two categories for “CompactPCI” and four categories are for “ISA bus”. Then, each key term in the concept hierarchy can be labeled. Next, we try to label internal nodes in the concept hierarchy. Since each internal node (or cluster) consists of key terms or sub-clusters as its children, the label should be the least common categories to cover the children. Therefore, we use breadth-first search to find the nearest ones among the common categories in *Wikipedia Categories*. As shown in Fig. 4, finding from two categories for “CompactPCI” and four categories for “ISA bus”, their least common category would be “Computer buses”. In *Wikipedia Categories*, since each term could have multiple categories, the label for an internal node might be more than one. By the way, if the common categories cannot be found or the key terms do not exist in *Wikipedia*, some internal nodes might have no labels. For this case, these internal nodes are ignored and the process keeps on finding the least common categories till the root is reached.

For extracting *Parts-of* relationships, we can look up a word in *WordNet* where not only each sense of the word, but also the relevant domains, is indicated. Here, the six kinds of *Parts-of* relationships of all key terms in *WordNet*, as mentioned in Section 2.4, are retrieved as the *Parts-of* relationships. During the extraction, we also give the specified domain to increase the accuracy of collected *Parts-of* relationships.

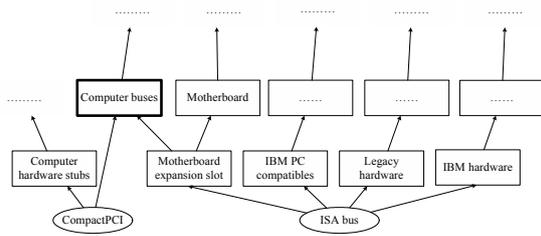


Figure 4: Common categories of “CompactPCI” and “ISA bus” in *Wikipedia Categories*.

### 3.5 Ontology Learning

After we construct the ontology for the first time, it could be gradually refined in the learning phase. The detailed process of each component in the learning phase is explained as follows.

- (1) Relationship Summary Extractor: The extractor would extract newly incremental documents as input, and the terms in the input could be two types (i.e., existing key terms produced in the previous phases and completely new index terms). Both existing key terms and new index terms are required to create incremental *Term-Document-Matrix*. However, only new index terms are used to create incremental *Relative Matrix*.
- (2) Correlation Matrix Generator: The generator re-computes the correlation between each term pair in different ways, but still using the same formulas in Section 3.2.2, and then generates the new correlation matrix. In the learning phase, both matrices  $Correlation_{TDM}$  and  $Correlation_{RM}$  have some differences from the ones in the first time computation.

For  $Correlation_{TDM}$ , it consists of the following correlations:

1. Existing key terms: they are computed from the whole vectors, including the former vectors and the incremental vectors.
2. New index terms: they are computed only from the incremental vectors extracted from incremental documents.
3. Existing key terms and new index terms: they are computed only from the incremental vectors.

For  $Correlation_{RM}$ , it consists of the following correlations:

1. Existing key terms: nothing to do.
2. New index terms: they are computed only from the incremental *relative vectors*.
3. Existing key terms and new index terms: the

*relative vectors* of existing key terms and the incremental *relative vectors* of new index terms are used to compute the correlation.

- (3) Concept Hierarchy Constructor: The constructor builds a new concept hierarchy using the new correlation matrix.
- (4) Sophisticated Relationship Extractor: The extractor retrieves the new *Is-A* and *Parts-of* relationships in the same way.

To maintain the built ontology up-to-date, the learning process should be executed periodically (e.g., every six months).

## 4 IMPLEMENTATIONS

Since there is still no famous ontology on the computer science domain, the computer science ontology is constructed as a case study in the implementation.

### 4.1 Computer Science Ontology Construction

In the Relationship Summary Extractor step, we select 500,000 computing documents with index terms from the INSPEC database, and 1,848,308 inbuilt index terms are also collected. However, most of them are not so important or belong to other domains, so the following filters are used to filter unsuitable ones.

Since most index terms appear infrequently in all the documents, only 22,116 index terms appearing not less than the average are selected as the sample. In the Correlation Matrix Generator step, 22,116 index terms are merged into 17,350 ones after stemming, and a correlation matrix is produced. Finally, for constructing the computer science ontology, only 10,933 index terms are selected as the key terms to appear in the ontology through the filtering process using computing dictionaries, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of index terms in each step.

Each step	Number of index terms
Within 500,000 computing documents	1,848,308
Appearing not less than the average	22,116
After the stemming process	17,350
In the computer science domain	10,933

As mentioned in Section 3.2.2, since *Relative-Matrix* implies more explicit correlations between terms than *Term-Document-Matrix*,  $\alpha$  value in Equation (1) is set as 0.67 (i.e., the former is double weighting than the latter). For the same reason,  $\beta$  value in Equation (2) is also set as 0.67. The statistics of the correlation matrix are presented in Table 2. Then, we can use the correlation matrix to construct the computer science ontology.

Table 2: Correlation distributions.

Correlation values	Number of correlations
=1.0	10,933
>0&<0.1	3,019,716
>=0.1&<0.2	1,058
>=0.2&<0.3	36,294
>=0.3&<0.4	5,702
>=0.4&<0.5	485
>=0.5&<0.6	4
>=0.6&<0.7	225
>=0.7&<0.8	11
>=0.8&<0.9	0
>=0.9&<1.0	0
Total	3,074,428

In the Concept Hierarchy Constructor step, we employ the software tool - Matlab to do hierarchical clustering on *Distance-Matrix* transferred from *Correlation-Matrix*. Furthermore, seven kinds of methods computing hierarchical clustering are tested, and then *cophenetic correlation coefficient* in Matlab is used to evaluate how well the generated clustering trees are. The *cophenetic correlation* for a clustering tree is defined as the linear correlation coefficient between the *cophenetic* distances obtained from generated clustering trees, and the original distances (or dissimilarities) used to construct the tree. In other words, it is a measure of how faithfully a tree represents the dissimilarities among observations. The *cophenetic correlation coefficient* for each generated clustering tree is shown in Table 3. For the last three methods, because of memory limitation, the hierarchical clustering algorithm cannot generate their corresponding trees. Finally, since the more the *cophenetic correlation coefficient* is and the better the clustering tree is, we choose the clustering tree constructed by method *unweighted average distance* as the results.

Table 3: Cophenetic correlation coefficients for generated clustering trees.

Methods	Cophenetic correlation
Shortest distance (default)	0.0984
Furthest distance	0.3993
Unweighted average distance	0.4965
Weighted average distance	0.4732
Centroid distance	No tree generated
Weighted center of mass distance	No tree generated
Inner squared distance	No tree generated

The gap distribution in the binary clustering tree is shown as Table 4. We take the threshold 0.005 as the merging condition, and finally 7,358 clusters are left to form the concept hierarchy.

Table 4: Gap distribution in the binary clustering tree.

Gap/height	Merged clusters	Clusters after reorganizing	Reduce ratios
<=0.01	5,381	5,551	0.49222
<=0.005	3,574	7,358	0.32693
<=0.002	2,053	8,879	0.1878
<=0.001	1,362	9,570	0.12459
<=0.0005	887	10,045	0.08114
<=0.0002	523	10,409	0.04784
<=0.0001	331	10,601	0.03028
=0	38	10,894	0.00348

In the Sophisticated Relationship Extractor step, 55 records of *Parts-of* relationships are extracted from *WordNet*, after specifying the computer science domain (if no specifying, we would have 657 records of *Parts-of* relationships). For *Is-A* relationships, we label each node of the concept hierarchy using collected categories from *Wikipedia Categories*. Finally, 180,681 categories are collected, and the partial concept hierarchy with *Is-A* relationships is shown in Fig. 5.

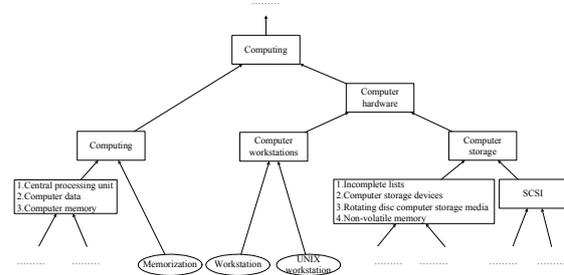


Figure 5: Partial concept hierarchy with *Is-A* relationships.

## 4.2 Ontology Web Browsing System

In page *Parts-of Relationship, Is-A Relationship, and Word Relationship* of our web browsing system, users can specify a term to search or browse its related information, and the results would guide users through the corresponding website for further information. As the example shown in Fig. 6, two different functions such as search and browsing are provided in page *Is-A Relationship*, and the next page lists the result records with hyperlinks guiding to Wikipedia.

Besides, the browsing system also provides different search modes to facilitate searching the built ontology. For example, in the fuzzy search mode as shown in the left picture of Fig. 6, not only the input term but also related terms judged by the correlation matrix are joined to expand the search scope.



Figure 6: *Is-A Relationship* page.

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, the proposed framework could be used to automatically construct domain ontology on a collection of documents. Although there are some methods for ontology construction, few of them could be applied to special documents, such as academic documents, since very few knowledge bases can provide features or relationships on the special terms in such documents. We think our framework can be used not only on general documents but also on special ones. Besides, new incremental documents could be imported to the framework periodically, and refine the built ontology in the same way.

Although *WordNet* can be used to retrieve *Parts-of* relationships, there are still not sufficient relationships for academic terms, especially in a specific domain such as the computing domain. In the future, we hope that there will be a thesaurus with plenty of domain terms and the relationships

between them, thereby improving the built ontology. Besides, we also hope to define axioms to formalize the definitions and relations on the built ontology.

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