# Ranking and Presenting Search Results in an RDB-based XML Search Engine

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**Abstract.** Conventional ranking methods for document search have considered content of documents to rank a search result. They have attained some positive results in the research area of document search; however, it has been said that content of not only documents but also queries should be utilized if users want to get a search result accurately. This fact applies to XML search engines. In this paper, therefore, we propose a ranking method for XML search considering content-and-structure conditions of both XML documents and queries. We also propose a method for presenting a search result for XML search, because it is very important for users to grasp and understand the entire search result, too. We implemented our ranking method on top of XRel, a relational database system for XML documents, and found that our proposal allows users to search XML fragments more accurately than previously proposed approaches for XML search.

# 1 Introduction

Extensible Markup Language (XML) [1] is becoming widely used as a standard document format in many application domains. In the near future, we believe that a greater number of documents will be produced in XML. Therefore, in a similar way to the development of Web search engines, XML search engines will become very important tools for users wishing to explore XML documents.

In the meantime, a search result of current Web search engines is usually a list of Web documents. That is, Web documents are sorted in descending order of their scores. The scores are calculated by content of Web documents, which are quantified based on the number of occurrences of terms extracted from Web documents like the *tf-idf* scoring [2]. In the case of XML search engines, it is said that XML queries combine conditions on both content and logical structure such as Narrowed-Extended XPath I (NEXI) [3] and XQuery Full-Text queries [4]. When such queries are issued to an XML search engine, the search result is usually a list of XML fragments<sup>6</sup> as opposed to that of entire documents in current Web search engines. As a result, several approaches have been proposed to extend the well-established content-based scoring in some retrieval with the ability to rank XML fragments.

Conventional approaches for XML search take into consideration both content and logical structure of XML documents in order to rank XML fragments which satisfy query conditions [5]. For example, in the context of *tf-idf* scoring, element scoring precomputes tf and *idf* factors for each distinct tag in input XML documents [6,7], while path scoring precomputes them for distinct paths [8,9]. These refined scoring approaches led to improvements in the retrieval accuracy of search results consist of scored XML fragments. However, these approaches tended to attach great importance to small XML fragments, so that they caused a problem returning small XML fragments partially satisfied with users' information need in some cases [10–12]. On the other hand, it is also said that it is important for XML search engines to handle overlapping parts of XML fragments. It means that when a user grasps and understand the content of an XML fragment, the user browses ancestor of the XML fragment unconsciously. In short, users can grasp and understand the content of search results if XML search engines can indicate a list of large size of XML fragments containing small ones. Considering this fact, Clarke proposed to control overlapping by re-ranking the descendant and ancestor of search results [13]. In Clarke's approach, however, users have to browse the overlapping parts of XML fragments more than once, so that it increases the burden on users.

In order to overcome two problems described above, we propose ranking and presenting methods of XML fragments as search results for XML search engines. In our ranking method, we advocate the use of two scoring algorithms for content-only (CO) and content-and-structure (CAS) queries. The former is based on the content condition of XML documents like conventional element or path scoring methods, and is utilize statistics extracted from XML documents effectively, though the latter is based on the content-and-structure conditions of both XML documents and queries. This is because the basic idea of our ranking method has been shown to improve retrieval accuracies of search results in the research area of traditional document search. At the same time, we also insist that we devise ways of effectively presenting search results to handle overlapping parts of answer XML fragments, because XML search engines just have to decide and present one XML fragment in one way or another if there is an ancestordescendant relationship among XML fragments in a search result. In order to verify the effectiveness of our proposals, we implemented two scoring methods on a relational database system for XML documents based on XRel [14]. Our

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> XML fragments are easily extracted from XML documents based on their markup. That is, they are subtrees in the XML trees.

experiments on the INEX test collection show that using content-and-structure conditions of both documents and queries improves the retrieval accuracies of XML search engines.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we describe how to calculate the scores of XML fragments based on content-and-structure conditions of both documents and queries and statistics of XML documents. In Section 3, we also describe how to present XML fragments with ancestordescendant relationships. We report our experimental results to verify our proposal in Section 4 and related work in Section 5. Finally, we conclude this paper in the last section.

# 2 Our Ranking Method based on Content-and-Structure Conditions

In Section 2.1 and 2.2, we describe our two types of scoring algorithms in detail. One is for CO queries and takes the content-and-structure condition of XML documents into consideration. The other is for CAS queries and considers that of both XML documents and queries. We also explain a method for integrating two scoring algorithms in Section 2.3.

### 2.1 Content-and-Structure Conditions of XML Documents

As we described in Section 1, conventional methods for calculating scores of XML fragments have already studied in recent years. One of the most famous methods for calculating scores of XML fragments is element-based or path-based scoring in the vector space model [15]; however we simply explain the path-based scoring here because it has proved to perform better than element scoring [7].

The path-based scorings like the tf-ipf scoring [9] are expanded the versatility of the tf-idf scoring [2], which has been proposed to quantify the importance of terms in documents. The concept of the tf-idf scoring is that a tf-idf score of a certain term in the document becomes large if the term appears in it many times and does not appear in others at the same time. The tf-ipf scoring behaves the same as the tf-idf scoring and has been used for XML search. XML fragments extracted from an original XML document are identified their XPath expressions [16], so that they are classified according to the abbreviated syntax of their XPath expressions. Assuming that the XML fragments with the same abbreviated XPath expression have the same properties, we can quantify the importance of terms in XML fragments with same properties as tf-ipf scores. That is to say, a tf-ipf score of a certain term in an XML fragment becomes large if the term appears in it many times and does not appear in others with the same abbreviated XPath expression at the same time.

In our scoring algorithm, we define a tf-ipf score calculated from contentand-structure conditions of XML documents. The score  $S_d$  is composed of two factors, "Term Frequency of XML fragment  $(tf_d)$ " and "Inverse Path Frequency of XML fragment  $(ipf_d)$ " as same as the tf-idf scoring. These factors are inspired from one of the path-based scorings proposed in [9]. In short, if T is the set of query terms and s is an answer XML fragment in a search result,  $tf_d(s t)$  is the number of occurrences of term  $t \in T$  in s and  $ipf_d(s t)$  is the natural logarithm of quotient of the number of XML fragments which have the same structure as s and the number of such answer XML fragments containing term t. We assume the independence between paths in original XML documents and combine  $ipf_d(s t)$  of individual paths. For example, given the query //article//sec[about(.,  $t_1 t_2$ )],  $tf_d(s t_i)$  and  $ipf_d(s t_i)(i = 1 2)$  are defined as follows:

$$tf_d(s \ t_i) = \frac{n(s \ t_i)}{l(s)} \qquad ipf_d(s \ t_i) = 1 + \log \frac{M(s)}{m(s \ t_i)}$$
(1)

where  $n(s \ t_i)$  is the number of occurrences of  $t_i$  in s, l(s) is the length of s (total number of terms in s), M(s) is the number of XML fragments in the original XML documents which satisfy s's structure, and  $m(s \ t_i)$  is the number of such fragments containing  $t_i$ . Therefore, a score considering content-and-structure condition of XML documents  $S_d$  is defined as the following equation:

$$S_d(s) = \sum_{t \in T} t f_d(s \ t) \quad ipf_d(s \ t) \tag{2}$$

In addition, we have already found two heuristics for calculating  $S_d(s)$  exactly. The first heuristic is that small XML fragments are not suitable for search results in XML search engines, especially keyword search. This is because the XML fragments in a search result are supposed to be semantically consolidated granules of original XML documents. In other words, such small XML fragments are not semantically consolidated granules, so that they should not be included in search results. We have already pointed this problem in [12], and proposed a method for deleting small XML fragments from search results using quantitative linguistics [11]. Applying this approach proposed in [11] to our XML search engine easily, we defined a threshold called the ratio of period to delate such small XML fragments from search results in [10]. The ratio of period is defined as follows:

$$r(s_e) = \frac{n_p(s_e)}{N_p(s_e)} \tag{3}$$

where  $N_p(s_e)$  denotes the number of XML fragments whose tag names is  $s_e^7$ , and  $n_p(s_e)$  is the number of XML fragments that end with the symbols like ., ?, or ! if the node with tag name  $s_e$  is a leaf node, or the number of XML fragments that have more than one document-centric leaf node if the node with tag name  $s_e$  is an internal node.

In contrast, the second heuristic is that  $tf_d(s t_i)$  has a negative effect for calculating  $S_d(s)$ . That is to say, the tf and idf factors in the tf-idf scoring are well-balanced; however, the tf and ipf factors in the tf-ipf scoring are not wellbalanced. For example,  $tf_d(s t_i)$  is more influence over  $S_d(s)$  than  $ipf_d(s t_i)$  in experiments of the INEX test collections (from 2002 to 2005), so that we believe

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>  $s_e$  is the tag name of an XML fragment s.

that  $ipf_d(s \ t_i)$  has an insignificant effect on  $S_d(s)$ . Liu et al. also found the same fact and proposed an well-balanced tf factors suitable for  $ipf_d(s \ t_i)$  based on statistics extracted from original XML documents, which were calculated by using the average number of terms of the XML fragments with the same abbreviated XPath expression  $l_{ave}(s)$  and a constant parameter c as follows:

$$tf_d(s \ t) = \frac{o\_tf(s \ t)}{n\_tf(s)} \tag{4}$$

$$o_{-t}f(s \ t) = 1 + \log\left(1 + \log\left(n(s \ t)\right)\right) \tag{5}$$

$$n_{t}tf(s) = 1 \quad \frac{l_{ave}(s) \quad l(s)}{l_{ave}(s)} \quad c \quad (1 + \log(l_{ave}(s))) \tag{6}$$

In this paper, we adapted their methods to original tf-ipf scoring and calculated  $tf_d(s \ t)$  defined in equation (4). We call this scoring method "ntf-ipf scoring", which is extended by using statistics of original XML documents. The constant parameter c in equation (6) was usually set to 0.2. Owing to limited space, we do not describe the details of their method (see [17]).

#### 2.2 Content-and-Structure Conditions of Queries

Using the path-based scorings, we can calculate scores of XML fragments related to queries before users issues them to XML search engines. Such precomputing scores solely rely on original XML documents and do not consider query conditions on both content and structure. As a result, only using the path-based scorings is unable to function to calculate scores of answer XML fragments exactly.

More concretely, let us consider the XML document given in Fig. 1. This example is extracted from the INEX 2007 document collection. If a NEXI query like //article//p[about(., "Gates")] is issued to this example, XML fragment *s*<sub>1</sub>: /article[1]/body[1]/p[1], *s*<sub>2</sub>: /article[1]/body[1]/section[1]/p[1], and s<sub>3</sub>: /article[1]/body[1]/section[1]/p[2] would return as a search result. In existing approaches, the scores of XML fragments  $s_1$  and  $s_{2,3}$  are different each other because their abbreviated XPath expressions are different from the standpoint of both content and logical structure of original XML documents. From the standpoint of query condition, however, they should be identified because these XML fragments are satisfied with both content and logical structure of the query. In short, we would like to give the same scores to the XML fragments satisfied with all condition of the query. Therefore, we can account for this by considering condition on content and structure in the input queries and defining scores as a function of those conditions as well as precomputed document-based scores described in Section 2.1. This idea is basically the same in traditional document search [2], and we believe that it helps to improve the retrieval accuracies of search results.

Now we define a query-based score  $S_q$ . Similarly to the document-based score  $S_d(s)$ ,  $S_q$  is composed of two factors, "Term Frequency of Query  $(tf_q)$ " and "Inverse Answer Document Frequency of Query  $(iaf_q)$ ", so that we call this scoring

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<article>
  <name id="3747">Bill Gates</name>
  <body>
   <emph3>William Henry Gates III</emph3> (born October 28, 1955),
     commonly known as <emph3>Bill Gates</emph3>, is the co-founder,
     chairman and chief software architect of Microsoft Corporation,
     the largest software company in the world. According to ...
   . . .
   <section>
     <title>Early life</title>
      Gates was born in Seattle, Washington, to William H. Gates,
       Sr., a prominent lawyer, and Mary Maxwell Gates. Gates was born
       with a million dollar trust fund set up by his grandfather, ...
     Gates, with an estimated I.Q. of 160, excelled in elementary
       school, particulary in mathematics and the sciences ...
     . . .
   </section>
    . . .
  </body>
</article>
```

Fig. 1. A Sample XML Document in the INEX 2007 Document Collection

the *tf-iaf* scoring.  $iaf_q$  is important for calculating the query-based score  $S_q$  and has only been explored once in isolation [7]. However, the cost of calculating  $iaf_q$ can be quite expensive. Therefore, we only focus on the effectiveness of XML search engines in this paper. In the same manner as a document-based score  $S_d(s)$ , given the query //article

//sec[about(.,  $t_1$   $t_2$ )],  $tf_q(t_i)$  and  $iaf_q(t_i)$  are defined as follows:

$$tf_q(t_i) = w(t_i)$$
  $iaf_q(t_i) = 1 + \log \frac{V(p)}{v(p \ t_i)}$  (7)

where  $w(t_i)$  is the number of occurrences of  $t_i$  in the query, V(p) is the number of XML fragments satisfying the query path p (in this case, //article//sec), and  $v(p \ t_i)$  is the number of XML fragments satisfying the query path p containing term  $t_i$ . In order to calculate  $iaf_q(t_i)$ , we also assume independence between paths in the query and combine  $iaf_q(t_i)$  of individual paths. Therefore, a query-

based score  $S_q$  is defined as the following equation:

$$S_q = \sum_{t \in T} t f_q(t) \quad iaf_q(t) \tag{8}$$

#### 2.3 Our Ranking Method

We finally define the combination of a document-based score  $S_d(s)$  and a querybased score  $S_q$ . This idea is inspired from the SMART retrieval system<sup>8</sup>, which has been considered the term weights of both documents and queries. In order to combine them, the SMART retrieval system calculates their product in the same spirit as document scores described in [2].

In our method, we apply the same idea to our XML search engine. Scores of an XML fragment s related to a query is thus defined as follows:

$$S(s) = \sum_{t \in T} S_d(s) \quad S_q = \sum_{t \in T} tf_d(s \ t) \quad ipf_d(s \ t) \quad tf_q(t) \quad iaf_q(t) \tag{9}$$

### 3 Search Result Presentation

As we described in Section 1, it is also important for improving the retrieval accuracy of XML search engines to propose a method for presenting search results. This is because XML search should consider the overlapping parts of answer XML fragments unlike document search. Considering this fact, Clarke has proposed to control overlapping by re-ranking the descendant and ancestor of search results [13]. Compared with his approach, we propose a concept of search result presentation which is a unit of answer XML fragments and use it in our XML search engine. We believe that our search result presentation helps for users to grasp and understand the entire search results effectively compared with conventional approaches.

#### 3.1 Search Result Presentation for XML Search

XML search engines extract XML fragments satisfied with a query from original XML documents. In other words, it remains possible that a large number of answer XML fragments are returned from XML search engines. Such answer XML fragments may be extracted from one XML fragment. For example, XML documents in the 2005 INEX document collection are scholarly articles, so that sections, subsections, paragraphs and so on are retrieved by XML search engines. Such retrieved XML fragments may overlap due to nesting structure of XML documents. This fact causes the problem to be difficult to grasp and understand the entire search results effectively.

Because of the above situation, the INEX project has demanded some kinds of search result presentations such as not *Thorough* strategy but *Focused*, *Relevant-In-Context* and *Best-In-Context* ones. While the XML search engines with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> ftp://ftp.cs.cornell.edu/pub/smart/.

Thorough strategy can retrieve overlapping XML fragments, ones with other strategies can retrieve non-overlapping document parts containing answer XML fragments or a single document part per an XML document. That is, they firstly extract XML fragments related with queries, and then decide answer parts from extracted ones. We think that, however, these strategies also contain the problem because the XML search engines with these strategies find non-overlapping document parts using scored XML fragments in an XML document regardless of their scores. The best way to attain the most effective XML search is to extract some XML fragments related with the queries from one XML document, to generate document parts based on a unit appropriate for users, and to rank them for presenting search results. Considering these demands, we believe that an XML search engine would be more useful if it has a user interface which can handle a basic unit for XML search and can provide answers constructed from the unit. This is because it is natural for users to show answers mapped on original XML documents, and the users avoid the need to see the document parts not related with queries. In short, our XML search engine provides thumbnail of original XML documents and indicates the answer parts of XML documents directly in its user interface; in consequence, users can intuitively grasp and understand the search results<sup>9</sup>.

In order to implement such user interface of our XML search engine, we propose a new concept called "Aggregation Granularity (AG)", which is a unit of search results determined from original XML documents. In next section, we describe our new concept in detail.

#### 3.2 Aggregation Granularity

In conventional XML search engines, answer XML fragments are showed in their user interfaces individually on the *Thorough* strategy, so that users tend to get messed up the relationship among the answer XML fragments. In the case of our XML search engine realizing the new concept, answer XML fragments are allocated on original XML documents in its user interface. Therefore, the problem described in previous section is not caused in our XML search engine.

In some case, however, we would be better off aggregating several answer XML fragments with large scores into one document part to show the search results to users, because it is easy for users to understand the content of a search result from the viewpoint for grasping the outline of original XML document even if the score of the document part, which is also XML fragment containing the answer XML fragments, is not large. For example, a query is issued by a user, conventional XML search engines return answer XML fragments whose root nodes are gray-color elements in Fig. 2. As a result, a large number of answer XML fragments are returned, so that users cannot grasp and understand the search result. In our XML search engine, however, answer XML fragments with a certain degree of scores whose root nodes are gray-color elements in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The difference between the *Focused* strategy and our proposal is to be able to highlight answer XML fragments with large scores.



Fig. 2. Answer XML Fragments in Existing XML-IR System

Fig. 3. Answer XML Fragments in Our XML-IR System

Fig. 3 are extracted from the search result, and then, some document parts enclosed by trajectory in Fig. 3 are constructed from them as basic units for XML search, AGs. As a result, users can grasp and understand the entire search results effectively compared with conventional XML search engines.

In this approach, the following two things become big problems. One is how to decide AGs, and the other is how to calculate the score of the document parts based on AG. To cope with the first problem, the AG can be defined if a certain standard like the threshold size, the location in original XML documents of answer XML fragments, and so on. In [18], for example, XML documents can be divided into multiple parts like physical pages, so that the AG is defined as individual pages of XML documents. Generally, XML fragments suitable for an AG tend to be located at the higher level of original XML documents, and their sizes tend to be relatively large. In short, it seems more likely that element 2, 9, and 15 in Fig. 3 would be first candidate of AG, and element 3, 6, 11, 16, and 21 would be second candidate. Alternatively, calculating scores of aggregated XML fragments varies in methodology. The easiest way to calculate their scores is the sum of the scores of answer XML fragments which constitute the document parts defined from AG. However, two problems above have a lot of things to be considered, so that now we are formulating the definition and score-calculation of AG. We would like to try every way possible to formulate and implement them in our XML search engine in the near future.

### 4 Experimental Evaluations

In this section, we conduct some experiments for the sake of the effectiveness of our proposals in our XML search engine. At the present time, an evaluation tool is not available, so that we show the experimental results using the 2005 INEX test collection<sup>10</sup>. This collection is composed of a document set marked up in XML, its relevance assessment, and evaluation measures. The document set contains 16,819 articles of the IEEE Computer Society's magazines and transactions published from 1995 to 2004. The size of the document set is 735MB,

 $<sup>^{10}</sup>$  We could not take part in INEX 2006.

an article contains 1,532 XML nodes on average, and the average depth of a node is 6.9. The relevance assessment has two graded dimensions to express relevance of XML fragments to XML queries, "exhaustivity" and "specificity". The concept of specificity is peculiar to XML search, because it provides a measure of the size of an XML fragment as it measures the ratio of relevant to nonrelevant content within the XML fragment. In order to identify relevant XML fragments to XML queries, INEX project provides two evaluation measures, recall-precision and eXtended Cumulated Gain (XCG) [19]. The recall-precision is used for evaluating the effectiveness of conventional information retrieval systems. The recall-precision in the INEX project maps the values of exhaustivity and specificity to a single scale using quantization functions [20]. On the other hand, the XCG was additionally proposed for evaluating effectiveness of XML search engines [21] because the recall-precision evaluation measure could not consider overlapping XML fragments. This problem is amply explained in [22] and can be summarized as the issue of avoiding to return both elements and their sub-elements as query results and recalculating scores on the fly when that happens. In that sense, the XCG measure accounts for both retrieval accuracy and users experience.

#### 4.1 Evaluation of Scoring based on Document Conditions

In this evaluation, we used the recall-precision and the XCG measures to evaluate our scoring algorithm for CO queries.



Fig. 4. Retrieval Accuracies based on Recall-Precision/nXCG

Fig. 4 shows the retrieval accuracies based on the recall-precision and the nXCG in the INEX evaluation measures. "tf-ipf" in Fig. 4 is the original tf-ipf scoring, "ntf-ipf" is the scoring method defined in equation (2) where  $tf_d(s t)$  is

redefined in equation  $(4)^{11}$ . Fig. 4 speaks that the *ntf-ipf* scoring could retrieve more relevant XML fragments than the *tf-ipf* one in the *Thorough* strategy. In short, we can verify the effectiveness of the *ntf-ipf* scoring for the CO queries. We also noticed that we have to formulate not only the *ipf* factor but also the *tf* factor for effective XML search, because the original *tf-ipf* scoring has never configured the *tf* factor in the *tf-idf* scoring for document search. As a result, it is important for effective XML search to use the statistics extracted from original XML documents and to formulate the scoring algorithm.

#### 4.2 Evaluation of Scoring based on Query Conditions

In this evaluation, we also used two evaluation measures to evaluate our scoring algorithm for CAS queries.



Fig. 5. Retrieval Accuracies based on Recall-Precision/nXCG

Fig. 5 shows the retrieval accuracies based on the recall-precision and the nXCG in the INEX evaluation measures. We found that our scoring algorithm (hereinafter called "tf-ipf+tf-iaf") could retrieve more relevant XML fragments than one where only document-base score is considered (hereinafter called "tf-ipf") in the *Thorough* strategy. In fact, we noticed that the relevant XML fragments tended to be higher on the list of each search result using tf-ipf+tf-iaf. This is because the XML fragments whose exhaustivity is large may be ranked lower than ones whose exhaustivity is small using only tf-ipf scoring. Using both tf-ipf and tf-iaf scorings, on the other hand, XML fragments whose exhaustivity in the search results. In short, introducing tf-iaf scoring reflects exhaustivity in the scores of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Finally,  $S_d(s)$  is weighted by the length of s. In short, the smaller the length of s is, the smaller  $S_d(s)$  is.

answer XML fragments, and helps to improve the retrieval accuracies of XML search engines.

In summary, we have verified the effectiveness of the *tf-iaf* scoring for CAS queries, because it can retrieve more relevant XML fragments compared with the *tf-ipf* scoring.

# 5 Related Work

The application of information retrieval techniques in searching XML documents has become an area of research in recent years. Especially, the participants in the INEX project have proposed a lot of scoring proposals for XML search [5]. Over the years, it has become clear that refining the level of granularity at which document structure is taken into account in pre-computing individual term weights either in the vector space model or the probabilistic model, has increased retrieval accuracy. However, document statistics query conditions have not been explored to the extent at which we are proposing in this paper.

Fuhr et al. proposed a method for propagating scores of XML fragments leaf-to-root along the XML document tree [23]. However, although XIRQL, their proposed language, enables queries with a mix of conditions on both structure and keywords, only keywords are scored using conditions on document structure. Other scoring methods also use conditions on document structure to apply length normalization between query paths and data paths [8], to compute term weights based on element tags or paths [6, 9], or to account for overlapping elements [13]. It was reported that these methods were useful for searching XML fragments [19]; however, such methods did not use statistics of original XML documents and structural conditions of queries.

We believe that we have to utilize everything extracted from XML documents and queries for searching XML fragments accurately. In this paper, therefore, we showed that accounting for document statistics and query structure in addition to the existing methods, and combining them to improve retrieval accuracies of XML search engines. We can verify the effectiveness of our above proposals through the experimental evaluation in Section 4.

# 6 Conclusion

XML is emerging as the standard format for presenting data and documents on the Internet, and XML search engines are becoming necessary. Existing XML search engines can consider the content and the structure of XML documents to rank answer XML fragments to the XML queries. However, XML queries combine conditions on content and structure of both document and queries. That is, depending on the types of XML queries, we have to use the *tf-ipf* and the *tfiaf* scorings. Based on this consideration, we proposed a method of content- and structure-based scorings in the vector space model considering both document and query conditions. Our method integrates document- and structure-based term-weighting strategies for XML search. Using our method, we found that we could retrieve more relevant XML fragments with higher retrieval accuracy than using conventional scoring methods. We also proposed the displaying method to improve the retrieval accuracies of XML search engines. Unfortunately, we could not verify the effectiveness of this approach in this paper; however, we think that displaying search results is closely related to improving retrieval accuracies of XML search engines from the standpoint of users. This fact has already noticed in human interface research area, so that we have to implement our approach to our XML search engine as early as possible.

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