



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

Text Technologies for Data Science

INFR11145

Introduction

Instructor:
Youssef Al Hariri

Lecture Objectives

- Know about the course:
 - Topic
 - Objectives
 - Requirements
 - Format
 - Logistics

- Note:
 - No much technical content today
 - Don't assume next lectures would be the same!

Text Technologies for Data Science

= documents, words, terms, ...

≠ images, videos, music (*with no text*)

Information Retrieval

Text Classification

Text Analytics

Search Engines Technologies



What is Information Retrieval (IR)?

IR is **NOT** just

Google

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

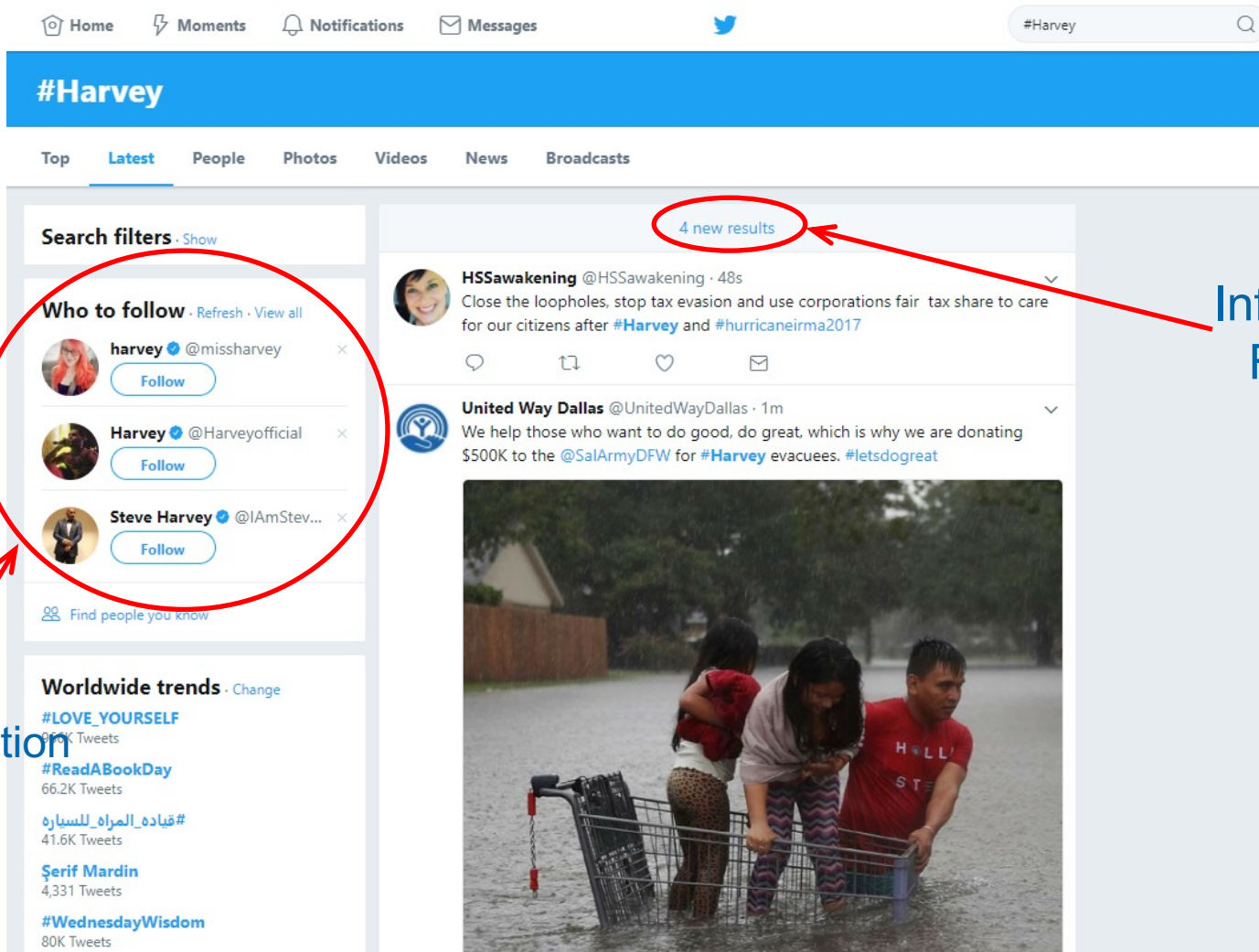
Web search

What is IR?



Speech - QA

What is IR?

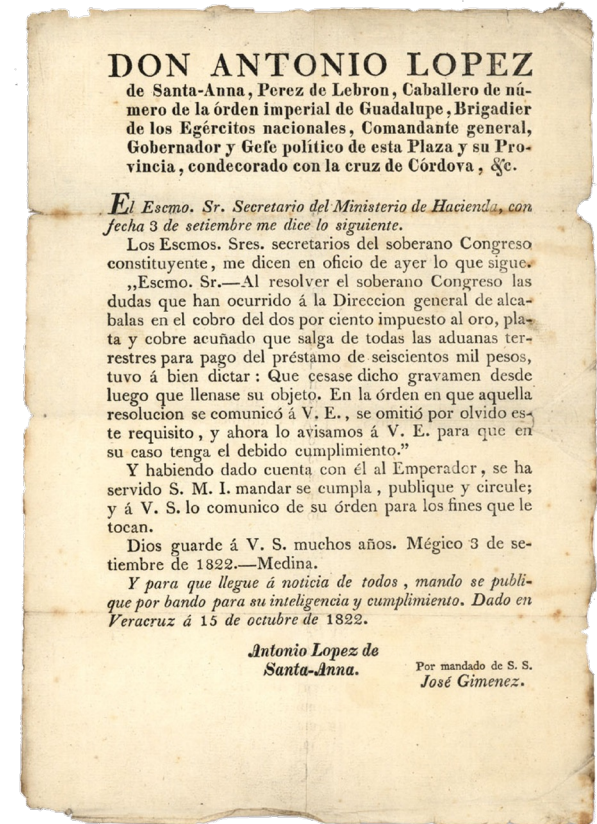


Information Filtering

Recommendation

Social search

What is IR?



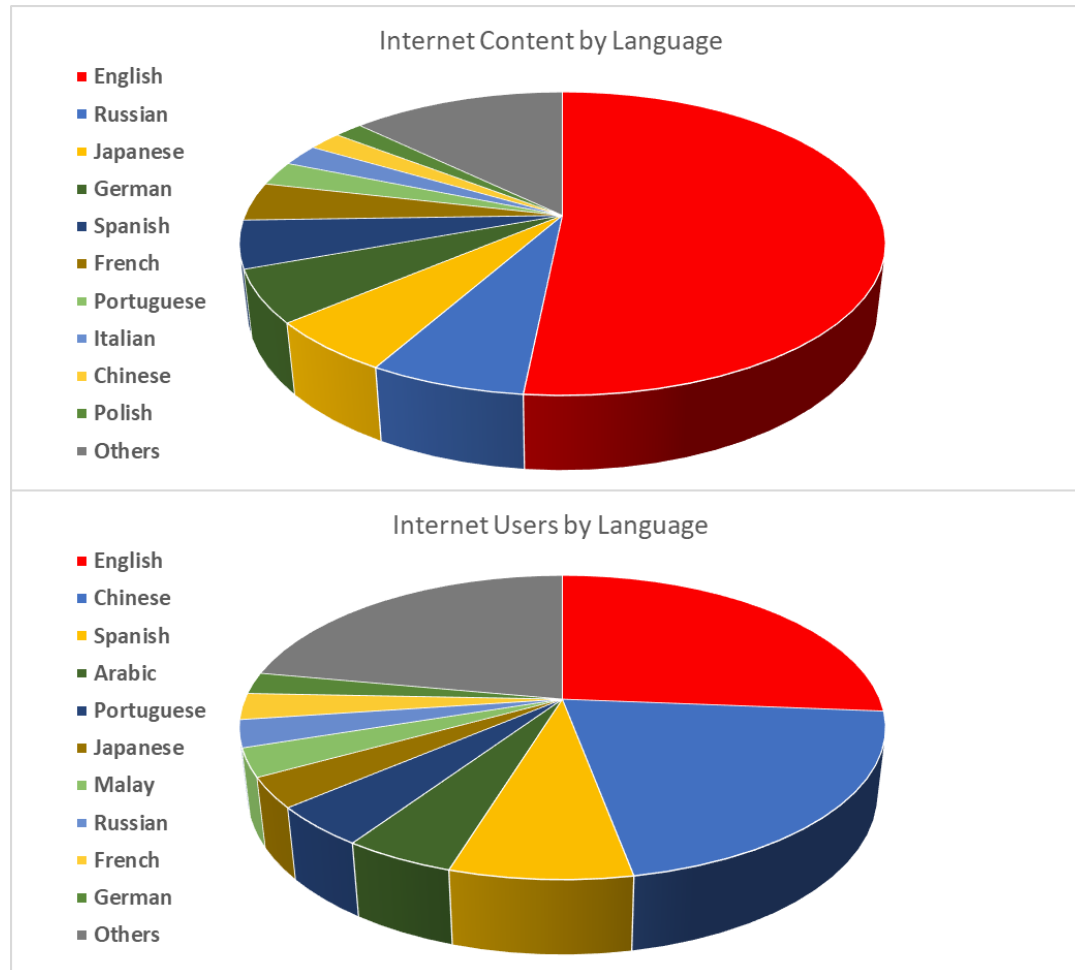
Library (book) search 1950's

What is IR?



Legal search

What is IR?



Cross-Language search

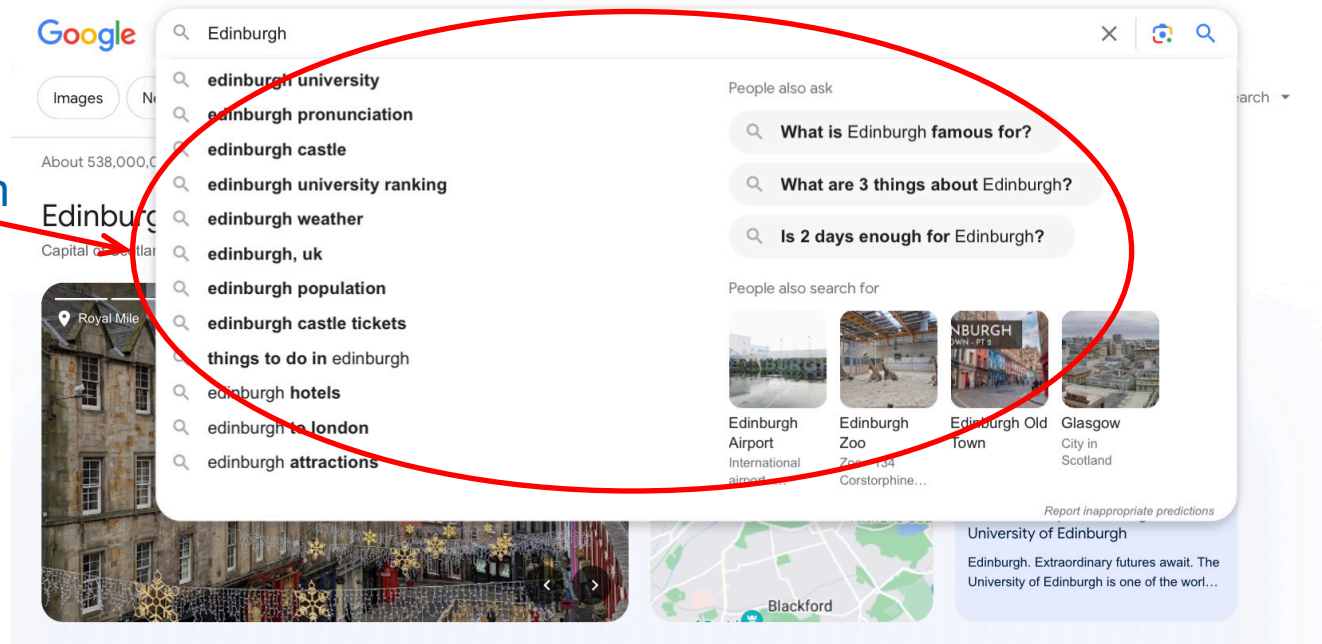
What is IR?



Content-based music search

What is IR?

Query suggestion / correction



Things to do



Edinburgh Castle
4.6 ★ (87K)
Castle
£22.00



National Museum of Scotland
4.8 ★ (42K)
National museum
Free



Palace of Holyroodhouse
4.6 ★ (17K)
Castle
£18.00

More things to do →

About

Edinburgh is Scotland's compact, hilly capital. It has a medieval Old Town and elegant Georgian New Town with gardens and neoclassical buildings. Looming over the city is Edinburgh Castle, home to Scotland's crown jewels and the Stone of Destiny, used in the coronation of Scottish rulers. Arthur's Seat is an imposing peak in Holyrood Park with sweeping views, and Calton Hill is topped with monuments and memorials. — Google

Weather: 18°C, Wind SW at 17 mph (27 km/h), 75% Humidity [More on weather.com](#)

Area code: 0131

Elevation: 154 ft (47 m)

What is IR?

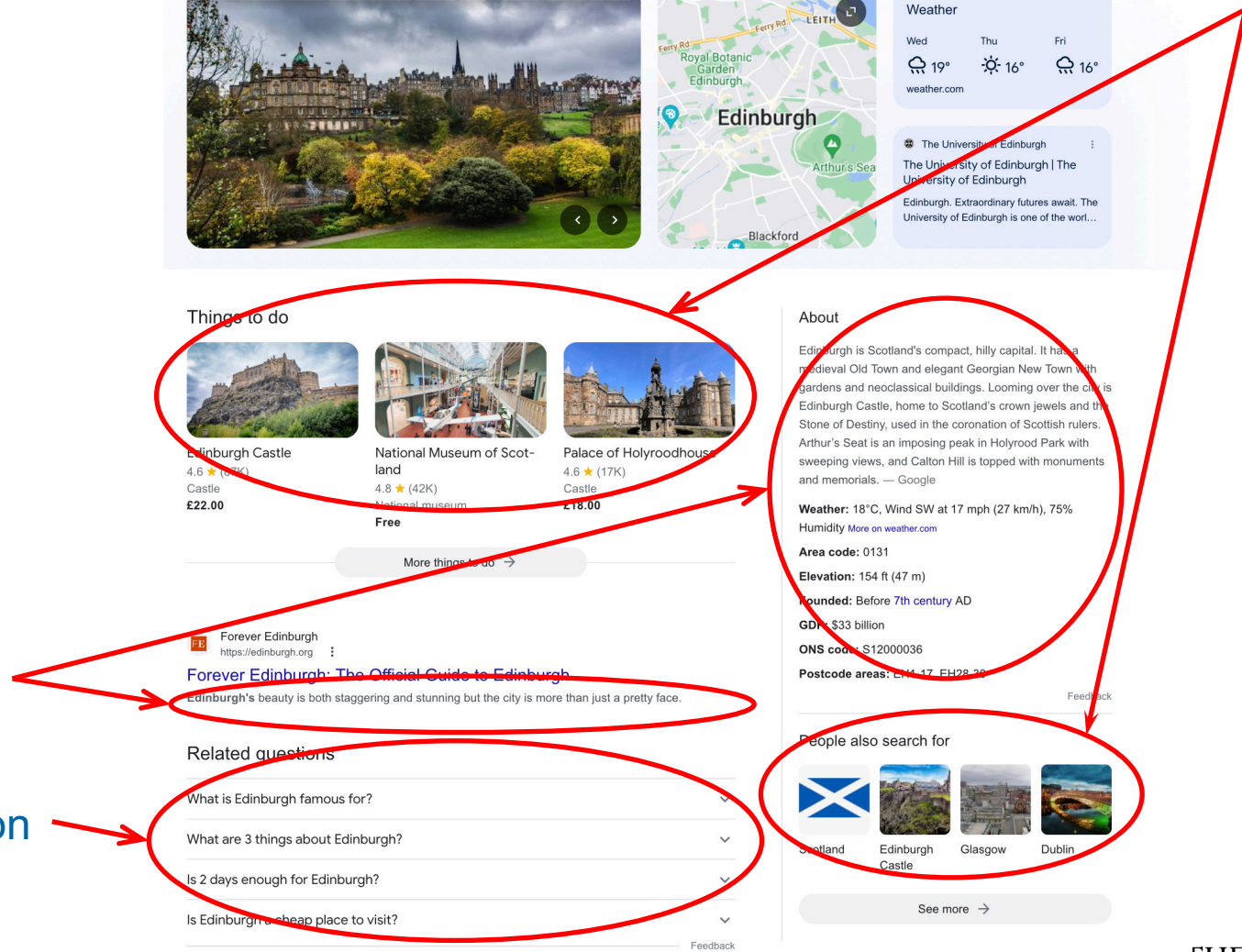
The screenshot shows a Google search for 'Edinburgh'. At the top, there are navigation tabs for Images, News, Attractions, Maps, University, Weather, Videos, Pronunciation, and University Ranking. Below the search bar, it indicates 'About 538,000,000 results (0.46 seconds)'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Edinburgh**: Capital of Scotland. Includes a large image of the city, a map, and weather information (19° on Wed, 16° on Thu and Fri).
- Things to do**: A carousel of three items: Edinburgh Castle (4.6 stars, £22.00), National Museum of Scotland (4.8 stars, Free), and Palace of Holyroodhouse (4.6 stars, £18.00).
- About**: A text block describing Edinburgh as Scotland's compact, hilly capital, mentioning the Old Town, New Town, and Edinburgh Castle. It also includes weather (18°C), area code (0131), elevation (154 ft), and founding date (Before 7th century AD).
- Forever Edinburgh**: A snippet from 'Forever Edinburgh: The Official Guide to Edinburgh' with the text 'Edinburgh's beauty is both staggering and stunning but the city is more than just a pretty face.'
- Related questions**: A list of questions such as 'What is Edinburgh famous for?', 'What are 3 things about Edinburgh?', 'Is 2 days enough for Edinburgh?', and 'Is Edinburgh a cheap place to visit?'
- People also search for**: A carousel of related search terms: Scotland, Edinburgh Castle, Glasgow, and Dublin.

Categorisation (search verticals)

Snippet selection / summarisation

Query suggestion



What is IR?








Smartphones

All Shopping News Images Videos More Tools

About 3,360,000,000 results (0.55 seconds)

Sponsored



Products Comparison Sites

 Pixel 7, Obsidian, 128GB... £549.00 Google Store ★★★★★ (3k+) 128 GB · Single SIM · ... By Google	 Apple iPhone 14 Pro Max 512GB Deep... £150.00 min. 24 x £82/m. EE Shop 512 GB · 48 MP Rear... By HeroCom...	 Fairphone 4 (8GB, 256GB) Speckled... £499.00 Fairphone ★★★★★ (1k+) 20 hours talk time · 256 G... By Google	 Samsung Galaxy A34 5G Smartphone,... £399.00 John Lewis & P. ★★★★★ (971) 36 hours talk time · 256 G... By Kelkoo	 Samsung Galaxy Z Fold4 256GB... £150.00 min. 24 x £10... EE Shop 256 GB · 50 MP Rear... By HeroCom...
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Advertising



See results about

-  **Smartphone**
Computing platform >
-  **Mobile Phone**
A mobile phone is a portable telephone that can make and ... >

Top stories

ixchina
These are the easiest smartphones to repair right now
1 day ago



Trusted Reviews
Pixel 8 Pro leaks show we've hit peak smartphone
3 days ago



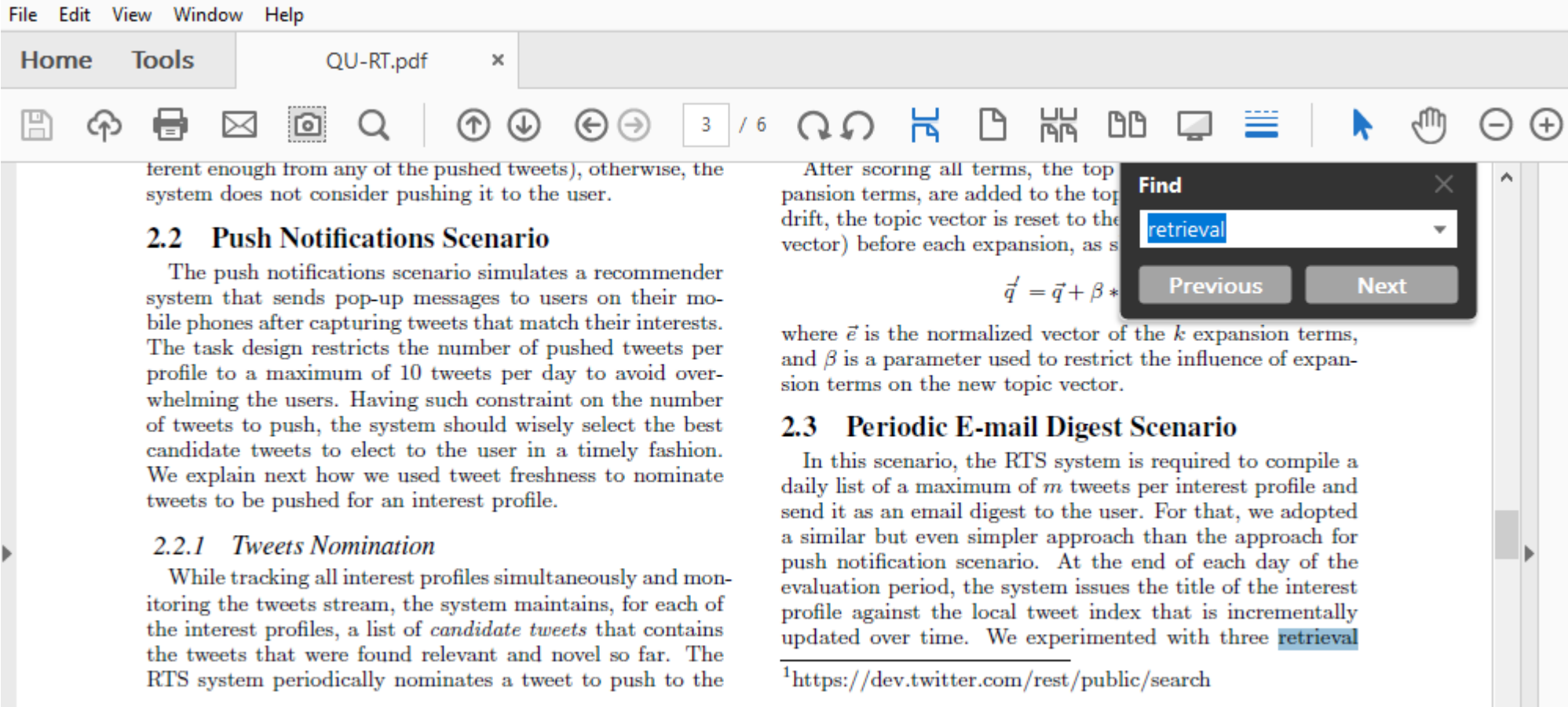
GSMarena
Gree shuts down smartphone division - GSMarena.com news
20 hours ago



The Verge
How to set volume limits for audio on your smartphone
20 hours ago



What is IR? Find?



The screenshot shows a PDF viewer interface with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Window, Help) and a toolbar. The document title is 'QU-RT.pdf'. The main content area displays text from a paper, with a search overlay box on the right. The search box contains the word 'retrieval' and has 'Previous' and 'Next' buttons. The document text includes sections on push notifications and periodic e-mail digests.

ferent enough from any of the pushed tweets), otherwise, the system does not consider pushing it to the user.

2.2 Push Notifications Scenario

The push notifications scenario simulates a recommender system that sends pop-up messages to users on their mobile phones after capturing tweets that match their interests. The task design restricts the number of pushed tweets per profile to a maximum of 10 tweets per day to avoid overwhelming the users. Having such constraint on the number of tweets to push, the system should wisely select the best candidate tweets to elect to the user in a timely fashion. We explain next how we used tweet freshness to nominate tweets to be pushed for an interest profile.

2.2.1 Tweets Nomination

While tracking all interest profiles simultaneously and monitoring the tweets stream, the system maintains, for each of the interest profiles, a list of *candidate tweets* that contains the tweets that were found relevant and novel so far. The RTS system periodically nominates a tweet to push to the

After scoring all terms, the top expansion terms, are added to the topic vector (before each expansion, as s

$$\vec{q}' = \vec{q} + \beta * \vec{e}$$

where \vec{e} is the normalized vector of the k expansion terms, and β is a parameter used to restrict the influence of expansion terms on the new topic vector.

2.3 Periodic E-mail Digest Scenario

In this scenario, the RTS system is required to compile a daily list of a maximum of m tweets per interest profile and send it as an email digest to the user. For that, we adopted a similar but even simpler approach than the approach for push notification scenario. At the end of each day of the evaluation period, the system issues the title of the interest profile against the local tweet index that is incrementally updated over time. We experimented with three **retrieval**

¹<https://dev.twitter.com/rest/public/search>

IR \neq Find

- Sequential
- Exact match

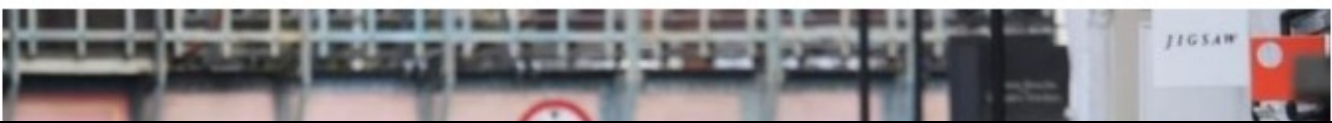
What is IR?

- **IR** is finding material of an unstructured nature that satisfies an information need from within large collections
- Find → Task
- Unstructured → Nature
- Information need → Target
- Satisfies → Evaluation

Text classification

NEWS

Second man held



Text classification

☐ ▾ ↻ More ▾ 1-21 of 21 < > ⚙ ▾

Primary Social **1 new** Google+ Promotions **2 new** Google Offers, Zagat Updates **1 new** Google Play +

- ☆ James, me (2) **Hiking** Hiking trip on Saturday - Yay - so glad you can join. We should leave from l 3:14 pm
- ☆ Hannah Cho **Thank you** - Keri - so good that you and Steve were able to come over. Thank you : 3:05 pm
- ☆ Jay Birdson **School** Upcoming school conference dates. Hello everyone. A few people have



Text classification



US008881191B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Magdy et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,881,191 B2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 4, 2014**

(54) **PERSONALIZED EVENT NOTIFICATION
USING REAL-TIME VIDEO ANALYSIS**

(75) Inventors: **Walid Magdy**, Giza (EG); **Motaz
El-Saban**, Giza (EG)

(73) Assignee: **Microsoft Corporation**, Redmond, WA
(US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer. the term of this

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H04H 60/65 (2008.01)
H04H 60/48 (2008.01)
G06F 17/30 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC *H04H 60/48* (2013.01); *H04H 60/65*
(2013.01); *G06F 17/30787* (2013.01); *G06F*
17/30831 (2013.01)
USPC *725/32*; *725/43*; *725/52*; *382/181*;
348/460

What is text classification?

- **Text classification** is the process of classifying documents into predefined categories based on their content.
 - Input: Text (document, article, sentence)
 - Task: Classify into one/multiple categories
 - Categories:
 - Binary: relevant/irrelevant, spam .. etc.
 - Few: sports/politics/comedy/technology
 - Hierarchical: patents

In this course, we will learn to

- How to build a search engine
 - which search results to rank at the top
 - how to do it fast and on a massive scale
- How to evaluate a search algorithm
 - is system A really better than system B
- How to work with text
 - two tweets talk about the same topic?
 - handle misspellings, morphology, synonyms
- How to classify text
 - into categories (sports, news, comedy, ...)
 - features to use
 - evaluate classification quality
- Apply text analytics
 - Find what makes a set of document different from others

How this course is different from others?

- ANLP, FNLP
 - Some text processing
 - Text laws
 - No NLP (word/phrase level vs document level)
- ML practical
 - Text classification
 - No ML (using off-the-shelf ML tool)
- It does not overlap with others on:
 - Search engines
 - IR methods/models
 - IR evaluation
 - Text analysis
 - Processing large amount of textual data

Some terms you will learn about

- Inverted index
- Vector space model
- Retrieval models: TFIDF, BM25, LM
- Page rank
- Learning to rank (L2R)
- MAP, MRR, nDCG
- Mutual information, information gain, Chi-square
- binary/multiclass classification, ranking, regression

This Course is Highly Practical

- 70% of the mark is on practical work
- You will implement 50+% of what you learn
- By W5, you should have developed a basic working Search Engine from scratch
- Practical Lab every week
- Two coursework, mostly coding
- A course group project to develop a full system

Pre-requests (1/3)

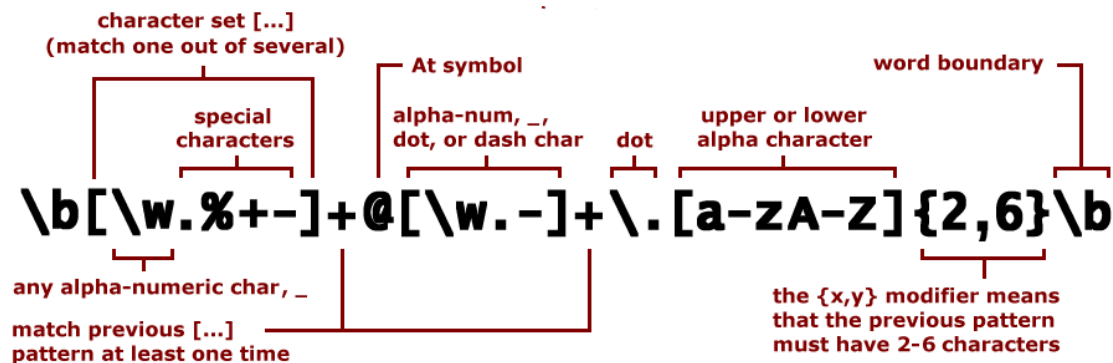
- Maths requirements:
 - Linear algebra: vectors/matrices (addition, multiplication, inverse, projections ... etc).
 - Probability theory: Discrete and continuous univariate random variables. Bayes rule. Expectation, variance. Univariate Gaussian distribution.
 - Calculus: Functions of several variables. Partial differentiation. Multivariate maxima and minima.
 - Special functions: Log, Exp, Ln.

$$\text{BM25}(D, Q) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log \frac{N - n(q_i) + 0.5}{n(q_i) + 0.5} \cdot \left[\frac{f(q_i, D) \cdot (k_1 + 1)}{f(q_i, D) + k_1 \cdot \left(1 - b + b \cdot \frac{|D|}{\text{avgl}}\right)} + \delta \right]$$

Pre-requests (2/3)



- Programming requirements:
 - Python
 - Knowledge in regular expressions
 - Shell commands (cat, sort, grep, uniq, sed, ...)
 - Data structures and software engineering for course project.
- We **DO NOT** teach coding skills in this course!
We assume you can code!



Parse: username@domain.TLD (top level domain)

Pre-requests (3/3)

- Team-work requirement:
 - Final course project would be in groups of 5-6 students.
 - Working in a team for the project is a requirement.
 - No exceptions will be allowed!



Skills to be gained !!!

- Working with large text collections
- Few shell commands
- Some Python programming
- Software engineering skills
- Build text classifier in few mins
- TEAM WORK
 - Project management
 - Time management
 - Task assignment + system integration

Course Structure

- 20 Lectures:
 - 2 lectures → Introduction (today)
 - 14 lectures → IR (50% practical lectures)
 - 4 lectures → Text Analytics/Classification
- 8-10 Labs:
 - Practice what you learn
- No Tutorials
- Some self-reading
- Lots of system implementation
- Few online videos

Course Instructors



Youssef Al Hariri
Lecturer
(15 lectures)?



Bjorn Ross
Lecturer
(4 lectures)

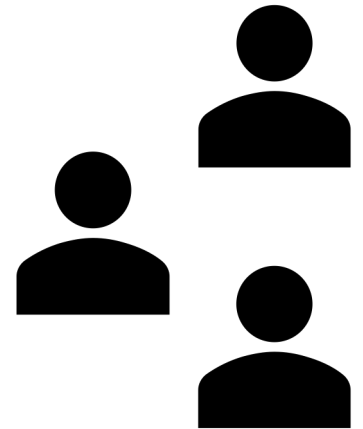
+ 1 guest lecture

Lecture Format

- 2 Lectures at a time
- Questions are allowed any time. Feel free to interrupt
- 5-10 mins break after L1
 - Feel free to go out and come back
 - Discuss 1st lecture with friends
 - Questions on L1 are allowed before starting L2
- Some lectures are interactive. Please participate
- Some lectures will include demos (running code)

Labs

- How it works:
 - Relevant lab will be announced with each lecture on Wednesday
 - You should implement lab directly after lecture
 - Any issues → ask on Piazza (tag question by lab number)
 - Produced output → Share on Piazza (publicly)
 - Demonstrators → answer questions + validate your output
 - TA → answer questions about the course
 - DO NOT ask a question before checking if it was asked before
 - Tuesdays → Optional in-person labs for those still require support
- Optional in-person labs:
 - Location: AT 6.06 (TBC)
 - Times: Tuesday, 10:00, 11:00, 13:00 (TBC)
- Demonstrators:
TBA



Lab Zero (Lab 0)

- Please check Lab 0 before next week lectures
- Lab 0 is designed for one purpose:
Help you decide to take TTDS or not
- Lab content:
 - Read a text file word by word, lower-case letters, print
 - Count the number of occurrence of few words
- If Lab 0 challenging →
 - Probably, TTDS would be very challenging to you
 - You will need much extra effort to implement labs and CW
 - Think wisely before you decide to take the course

Assessments

- Coursework 1: **10%**
The same as labs 1-3 → Build your first search engine
- Coursework 2: **20%**
IR Evaluation, Text classification/analytics
- Group project: **40%**
A full running search engine supported by text technologies
- Final Exam: **30%**

Group Project

- The largest weight: 40% of the total mark
- Teamwork → Group 5-6 (you select your own group)
- Design a full end-to-end search engine that searches a large collection of documents with many functionalities.
- $\text{Mark} = \text{Mark}_{\text{project}} \times \text{weight}_{\text{individual}}$
 - $\text{Mark}_{\text{project}}$ → the same for all team members
 - How complete/effective/fast/nice is your search engine?
 - $\text{weight}_{\text{individual}}$ → weight for individual contribution.
 - ranges from 0 to 1. It should be 1.0 by default but can be different for each member according to their contribution.
- Project prize → a prize will be awarded to best project

Example: BetterReads

The screenshot displays the BetterReads website interface. At the top, the search bar contains the query "laugh out loud funny". A "Filters" sidebar on the left allows users to refine their search by Rating (0-5), Year of Release (1950-2021), and Weighting. The main content area shows three book recommendations, each with a ranking number, a book cover, title, author, a user review snippet, and a review rating.

BetterReads

Sort by: Relevance

← laugh out loud funny

Filters


Change the filters to refine your search.

Rating 0 - 5

Year of Release 1950 - 2021


Weighting

BetterReads
Version 1.0.5

- 1**


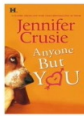
Cowsex
2017, Lesley Jones

Review Rating ★★★★★
Book Rating 4.34/5 (142,645 reviews)

I love Lesley Jones!! This book is by far my favorite Lesley Jones book ever! Gracie is an Essex girl who comes to the states for a holiday. With plans to rent a cabin in Colorado, her adventures begin as soon as she arrives! Koa happens to ow...
- 2**


The Idiot Girls' Action-Adventure Club
2002, Laurie Notora

Review Rating ★★★★★
Book Rating 4.03/5 (86,946 reviews)

I love Laurie Notoro!! I read this book about 6 years ago and LOVED it! I need to make sure I read her other books, too! Truly laugh out loud funny!!
- 3**


Anyone But You
1996, Jennifer Crusie

Review Rating ★★★★★
Book Rating 4.3/5 (80,485 reviews)

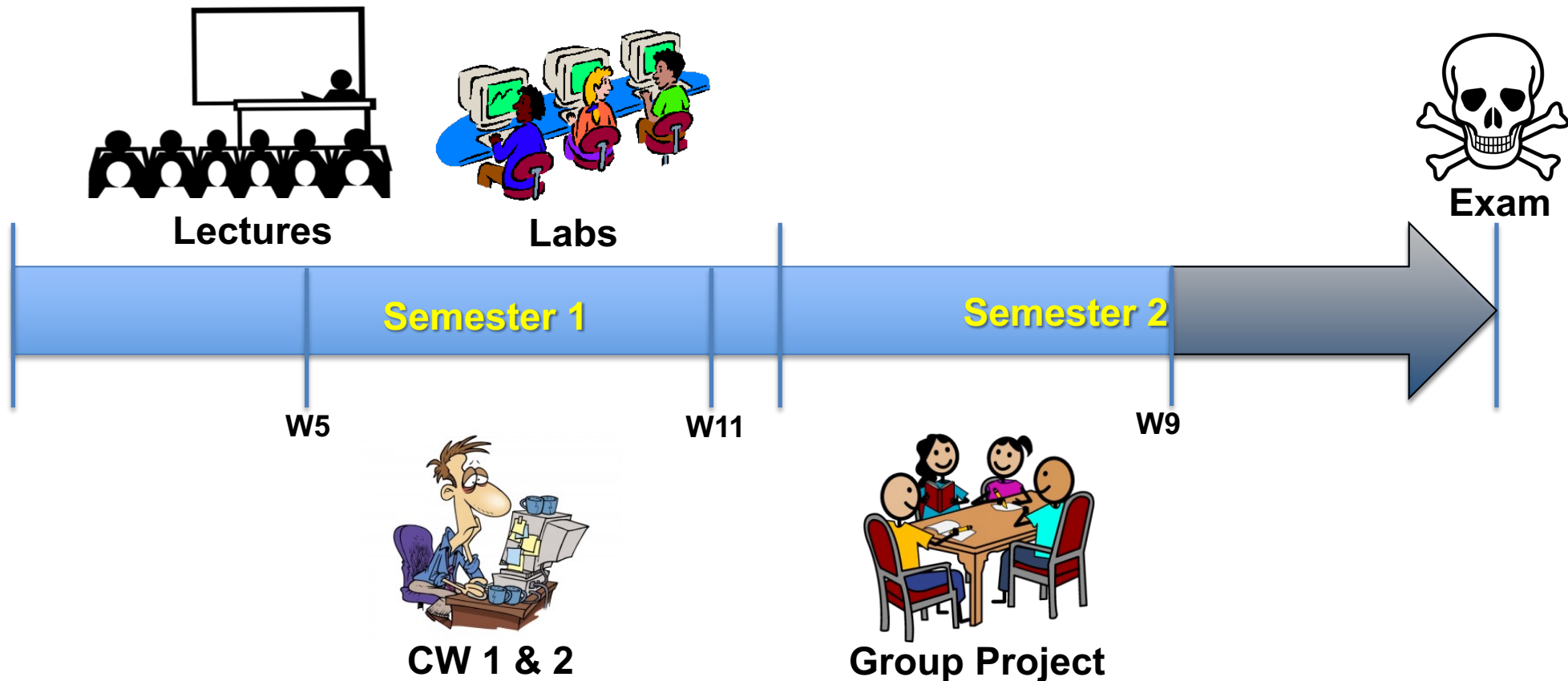
This is a wonderful story! I laughed out loud so many times! I also kept catching my self just smiling while reading it!

Example: BetterReads

- 11.5M Book reviews from Good reads
- Average query time: 1 secs
- New reviews are crawled and indexed automatically every day
- Ranking: Relevance + Sentiment
- Engine hosted on Google cloud compute
- *Note: we will provide credit to Google cloud to host your engine*

Timeline

- 2 Semesters (or one?)



Logistics

- Lectures:
 - Two lectures on Wednesdays, 15.00-17.00
 - Recording will be available
 - Handouts to be posted on the day of the lecture
- Course webpage:
 - Link: <https://opencourse.inf.ed.ac.uk/ttds/>
 - Handouts, Labs, CW details
- Learn:
 - Lecture recordings
 - Deadlines
- Note: all course materials are made public, including recordings. Feel free to share with anyone interested.

Piazza

- All communication will be there
- Questions about lectures/labs/CW are there
- Feel free to answer each other questions
- Lab support will be mainly there
- Please share your lab answers there
- Tag each question/post by its relevant topic (lab, CW ... etc)

- Join NOW: [link](#)

FAQ

- How the project would be managed? What if one member does not work?
- I am not that solid in programming, should I take this course?
- Can I audit the course?
- Anything else?

Next Lecture

- Definitions of IR main concepts
(more introduction)

Credits

- These slides are originally created by previous lecturers Walid Magdy and Bjorn Ross.