

TECHNOLOGY

Method Enabling Non-Programmers to Develop Weighted Edit-Distance Error Models for Error-Tolerant Dictionary Lookup

OVERVIEW

Currently dictionary look-up tools return query results in a variety of ways. Some show only exact matches while others show exact matches with words similar to the query. However, these methods are not well-suited for non-native speakers.

Researchers at the University of Maryland have developed the Did You Mean Toolkit (DYMTK), a program that allows for easier dictionary look-up for non-native speakers. The DYMTK uses search tools that identify spelling errors or mishearings in search queries. It then maps the queries to words that appear in the dictionary. DYMTK can be used in two ways: as a web-based dictionary look-up system or as a software service called by another program.

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EXTERNAL RESOURCES

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