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Learning to Search for Datasets

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CCS CONCEPTS

• **Information systems** → *Content analysis and feature selection; Learning to rank; Specialized information retrieval;*

KEYWORDS

Dataset search

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Over the years, search engines have developed to return a broad range of retrievable items, from documents to answers, people, locations, and products. Research datasets are increasingly being turned in retrievable items too. This raises a number of interesting challenges. Starting from the user end (“What do users want from datasets?”) to increasing the retrievability of datasets (“What kind of contextual information is available to enrich datasets so as to make the more easily retrieval?”) to optimizing rankers for datasets in the absence of large volumes of interaction data (“How can we train learning to rank datasets algorithms in weakly supervised ways?”).

There are interesting recent developments concerning each of these three areas. For instance, there are a number of recent studies on understanding dataset retrieval practices [3, 7]. We are also getting a better handle on contextual information for dataset search [5, 6]. And advances in supervised and weakly supervised learning to rank [1, 2] and in training neural networks using logged bandit feedback [4] hold great promise for dataset search. In the talk I will survey recent progress in these three areas and identify important open problems.

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