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Mapping Bibliographic Records with Bibliographic Hash Keys

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Abstract

This poster presents a hash key for bibliographic records called bibkey. It is shown how bibkey can be used to detect duplicates and to map similar bibliographic records among distributed databases.

1 Introduction

To manually seek a specific publication, one can start with known metadata fields (title, author, ...) and use experience and background knowledge until you localize it. In the same way – despite the vast heterogeneity of citation styles and metadata formats – it is relatively easy to find out whether two citations or bibliographic records refer to the same publication. But computer programs need unique identifiers or intelligent heuristics to point to a publication or to detect whether two records are duplicates. Normal publication identifers are assigned centralized either by publishers (ISBN, DOI, ...) or by bibliographing institutions (OCLC number, LCCN number, …). Bibkey is a simple approach to create a hash key for bibliographic records that can be calculated by anyone who knows the author (or editor), title, and year of a publication. The goal is to support the search process by pointing the user to similar references.

2 Specification and Implementation

The bibliographic hash key is calculated based on four metadata fields: title, author (or editor if there is no author), and year. The fields are normalized and concatenated in a defined way to form *bibkey level 0*:[1]

1. Fields are normalized by Unicode case folding to NFKC lowercase.
2. All characters but digits (year), and Unicode letters (title), and dot or whitespace (author) are removed, whitespaces become one space.
3. The author field is split into names by the string `'and'`.
4. Names are normalized, de-duplicated, sorted, and joined by `','`
5. The final string is: `'title [names] year'`.

Bibkey level 0 can be used for string comparisons and to form more elaborated keys. In particular *bibkey level 1* is generated by calculating the MD5 checksum and prepending the digit `'1'`. The hardest part of implementation turned out to be full Unicode support for NFKC lowercase, letters, spaces, and sorting. Reference implementations and test cases are available in Perl and Java as well as a public web form. The following example contains a bibliographic record and its bibkeys:

Author:	Trudi Bellardo Hahn and Charles P. Bourne
Title:	A History of Online Information Services, 1963-1976
Year:	2003
Level 0:	`ahistoryofonlineinformationservicesl9631976 [t.hahn,c.bourne] 2003`
Level 1:	`123d1561cl9c8546d292e4a9e1eafflfO`

3 Related Work

Bibliographic identifiers were discussed and developed especially in the late 1990s. Most identifiers cannot be derived from existing metadata. The Serial Item and Contribution Identifier (SICI) is a rarely used exception that relies on very clean metadata. The query string of an OpenURL can also be seen as a complex identifier to point to a specific publication. Many methods of du-

1 See details at http://www.gbv.de/wikis/cls/Bibliographic_Hash_Key.

plicate detection calculate keys, signatures, or fingerprints for each record to reduce the number of comparisons. Such keys are also used in digital libraries to detect duplicates and in several implementations of FRBR work detection (OCLC, VCOB, Virtua, ...). Bibkey is created similarly ad-hoc from basic metadata (title, author, year). Without having to refer to any authority or a complicated data format it maps each unique record to one simple hash.

4 Usage, Status, and Outlook

Bibkey level 1 was first used as *interhash* by the social cataloging application BibSonomy [1] to detect if the same publications have been entered by different users.[2] Other applications (for instance the Kölner Universitäts-Gesamtkatalog, KUG) can quickly look up via Bibkey whether a publication already exists in BibSonomy. Currently Bibkey is formalized as standard and analyzed in strength and limitations. Thereby two kinds of error exist: first, same publications could be mapped to different keys and second, different publications could be mapped to one key. It turned out that the first error depends on the quality of the metadata and the definition of “same publication” and the second error only occurs in special cases like anonymous works or works without known year and articles with standard titles like “Introduction”, “Book Reviews” or “News”. Further development of bibkey will aim on reducing errors of the first kind by removing diacritics and using only part of a title and on testing the benefit of bibkey for FRBR work detection.

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2 http://bibsonomy.blogspot.com/2007/11/detecting-duplicates-in-bibsonomy.html

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Bibliographic Hash Keys

Mapping Bibliographic Records

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This poster presents a set of hash keys for bibliographic records called bibkeys. Unlike other methods of duplicate detection, bibkeys can directly be calculated from a set of basic metadata fields (title, authors/editors, year). It is shown how bibkeys are specified and used to map similar bibliographic records in BibSonomy, among distributed library catalogs, and other d stributed databases.

Motivation

To check whether two citations or bibliographic records refer to the same publication, either manual work or unique ident fiers or good heuristics of duplicate detection are needed. Central-ized identifiers (ISBN, DOI, LCCN etc.) cannot be derived from other metadata fields but must be looked up. Other systems like OpenURL [1] and SICI [2] require detailed and c ean metadata which you rarely find in normal citat ons. Methods of duplicate detection are common n d gital libraries but they mostly build on direct comparisons of full records or multiple comparisons of minimal distances of multip e signatures [3]. Methods or FRBR work detection use similar methods or they are bound to specific b bl ographic record formats or authority files [4]. In Contrast b bkeys can be applied by anyone who knows the authors (or editors), title, and year of a publicat on. An important feature of bibkey is that records are matched without hav ng to directly compare them. Instead a bibkey is calculated by a s mp e method for each record and can directly be matched .

Examples

Given the book with authors "Trudi Bellardo Hahn and Charles P. Bourne", title „"A History of Online nformation Services, 1963-1976", published in 2003, these metadata fields are joined to a string (bibkey level 0) and its checksum to bibkey level 1:

bibkey level 0: ahistoryofonlineinformat onservices19631976 [t.hahn,c.bourne] 2003

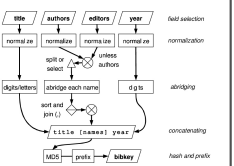
bibkey level 1: t 4ed10075d4458cf6b272bdbc2d1e7

Author names are abbreviated by splitting the names into tokens at white spaces. If the f rst and the last token are equal, this is returned once as surname. Otherwise the the first character of the f rst token (given name) followed by a dot is pref xed to the last token (surname). Some examples of both cases:

"knuth knuth"	"knuth"
"knuth"	"knuth"
"donald e. knuth"	"d.knuth"
"d.e. knuth"	"d.knuth"
"donald knuth"	"d.knuth"

Specification

A general bibkey is based on four metadata fields: title, authors, editors, and year. The editors fie d is only used f no authors are given. First a l f elds are normalized. The authors/editors field is either split into single names or the first author is selected. Names are abridged, sorted and joined to a comma-separated list. Year and tit e are reduced to digits or digits and letters. Finally the fields are concatenated as title + " [" + names + "] " + year. E ther this string s used or the MD5 Message-Digest Algorithm checksum [5] of its UTF-8 representation p us a prefix makes a hashed bibkey.



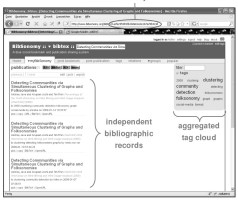
For a specific bibkey version, normalization, abridging, sorting, concatenating, and the prefix need to be defined. Bibkey level 1 uses Unicode Norma ization Form Compatibility Composit on (NFKC) [6], case fold ng to lower case, and replacement of white spaces with one space, except at the beg nning and and of a string as normalizat on. All author names are used and the abridging method is shown in the examples-sect on above. The reduction to letters and digits in the title respects al Unicode letter. The prefix that is added to a MD5 checksum is "1", so in tota a bibkey has 33 characters from a z, 0 9. The latest specification is available onl ne as well as reference implementations in Java and Perl.

Specificat on
http://www.gbv.de/w kis/cis/Bibliographic_Hash_Key

Reference implementat ons
http://ws.gbv.de/bibkey/
http://www.bibsonomy.org/help/doc/inside.html

Usage

Bibkey version level 1 is used as "interhash" by the social bookmarking application BibSonomy [7] to detect if the same publication has been entered by different users.



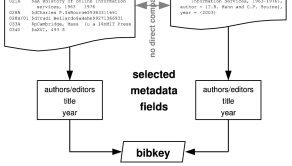
The bag-model of socia tagging allows each user to manage its own bib iographic records that then can be aggregated. Other applicat ons can quickly look up by bibkey. whether a given publ - cation has already been entered in BibSonomy. For this purpose BibSonomy provides a JSON API and VZG provides a wrapper to the SeeAlso Linkserver protocol [8]. The Kölner Universitäts Gesamtkatalog (KUG) indexes its records with bibkey and uses t to link BibSonomy. Lookup of records via bibkey in other library catalogs and in the Wikipedia project is planned.

Usage of BibSonomy JSON API
http://www.bibsonomy.org/help/addons/integration

SeeA so Serv ces at VZG
http://ws.gbv.de/seealso/services/

Use of bibkey in OpenBib/KUG
http://blog.openbib.org/2008/07/15/neue-version-von-kug-und-openbib/

Planned bibliographic record store for Wikipedia using bibkeys
http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benutzer:Duesentrieb/Biblio



Evaluation and Outlook

Each bibkey method defines a binary classifier for duplicate detection of bibliographic records. Thereby two kinds of error exist: first, same publications could be mapped to different keys (false negative) and second, different publications could be mapped to one key (false positive). It turned out that the first error highly depends on quality of the metadata and the definition of "same publication". Sensitivity can further be increased by improvement of the normalization step and by selecting only the first author/editor. A next version of bibkey should for instance normalize by removing all diacritics. Improvement in the abridging step can also help, especially with organizations as authors. Abridging could also include usage of authority files but this would limit the ease of bibkey usage. The second error only occurs in special cases like anonymous works, works without known year and for articles with standard titles like "Introduction", "Book Reviews" or "News" which are frequently found in journals. Further development of bibkeys will aim on testing its benefit for FRBR work detection by removing the year field and on usage of bibkeys as link targets on the Semantic Web.

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