Language changes!
Want to use computer science to find out how?

Languages are evolving over time triggered by various factors like new technologies or high-impact events. Knowing about the evolution of a term can significantly decrease time needed for searching for information. Imagine making a search for St. Petersburg and not knowing that from 1914-1924 it was named Petrograd and then Leningrad. First in 1991 it changed back to Saint Petersburg. The typical user will not be aware of this complex development and thus doesn’t know why there are no documents returned for an 80 year period mentioning the city name.

M.Sc /Diploma thesis: Search with a time dimension

L3S Research Center, under supervision of Prof. Dr. Nejdl offers a M.Sc. or Diploma thesis in the scope of the LiWA project (http://www.liwa-project.eu/). The aim of the project is to develop methods for tracking evolution in terminology and using it for search. The aim of the thesis will be to figure out that it is only necessary to search for Petrograd between 1914 and 1924 as well as to find and implement search technologies that take time dimensions into consideration. The work in this thesis requires independent thinking and innovative skills.

Are You interested in working with data mining and search technologies? Want to be part of a research team working with a new exciting research topic and get a good start for a future career?

The tasks:

I. Translate word sense evolution to term evolution. St. Petersburg -> Petrograd -> …
II. Create search technology using these query reformulations. (St. Petersburg -> Petrograd)²

You should have:
- Programming skills in Java
- Knowledge about search interfaces and workings of search engines.
- Independent thinking and willingness to learn

Are you interested or have questions? Contact us:
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