

Total Recall Track – TREC 2015

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Total Recall Task: Input

Corpus of [up to 1 million] documents

TREC-style topic description

Web interface to uncover document relevance

[robotic Vanna White]



Total Recall Task: Objective

Find documents containing nearly all relevant information

for some definition of *nearly all*

for some definition of *relevant information*

While uncovering [relatively] few documents

fewest necessary to find nearly all of the relevant information

Total Recall Task: Participation

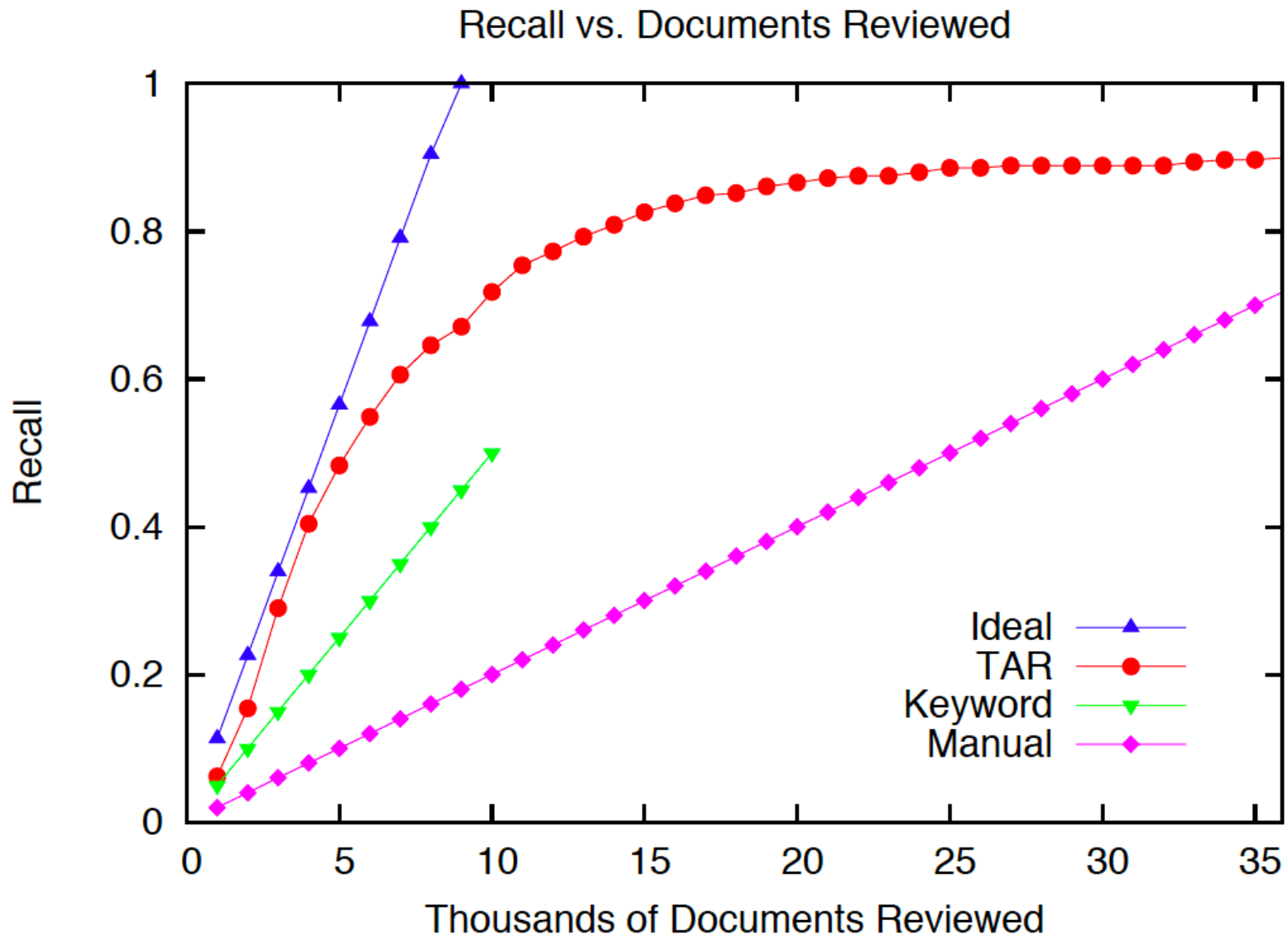
Play in sandbox

submit virtual appliance that plays the game
isolated from *internet*
download corpus, topic from *intranet*
“uncover” documents one at a time via intranet
official qrel returned for each uncovered document
continue indefinitely

Play at home

same rules of play, but via internet
no holds barred – human/robot/cyborg
some corpora may be unavailable or
accessible only with usage agreement

Total Recall Task: Evaluation



Total Recall Task: Applications

Find everything about **X**

Exhaustive research

X = me, my PhD topic, ebola

Investigation

X = somebody or something or some activity

Systematic review

X = studies measuring a particular effect

Patent search

X = prior art

Creating reusable test collections

X = any information need

Total Recall Task: Strategies

Extreme relevance feedback

continue indefinitely

Supervised learning

uncover training set; rank

Active learning

uncover “most informative” documents
and/or “most likely relevant” documents

[. . .]

Baseline implementations will be supplied

but participants can use any method

Total Recall Task: Legacy

Efficient methods for exhaustive search

Evaluation methods for exhaustive search

Privacy-preserving evaluation framework

- no exposure of sensitive data to participants

- submissions deployed as black box

Reusable collections

- reasonably complete qrels

- submissions can be used to bootstrap completeness

- sandbox usage preserves blinding of qrels

- play-at-home participants agree to discard qrels