## Recovering Traceability Links in Software Artifact Management System using Information Retrieval Methods

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# Introduction(1/2)



- Software artifact traceability
  - Definition linking between the artifacts that are dependable each other
  - Importance
    - Giving essential support in understanding the relationships existing within and across software requirements, design, and implementation





# Introduction(2/2)



- Software artifact traceability(Cont'd)
  - Problem
    - Support for traceability and tool is not satisfactory
      - Expensive activity of manual detection and maintenance
- Research goal
  - Provide a tool to support traceability recovery using Latent Semantic Method(LSI)
    - Discover emerging traceability links during software evolution and to monitor previously traced links



## Background(1/5)



- Latent Semantic Indexing(LSI)
  - Documents represented by index terms
  - Query by extracting information about the occurrences of terms within them
    - Vector Space Model(VSM)
      - Represent similarity between documents as cosine product of the vectors
    - Singular Value Decomposition(SVD)
      - Overcome the synonymy and polysemy problem, which occur with the VSM Model



## Background(2/5)



- Vector Space Model(VSM)
  - Document and queries are represented as vectors of terms that occur within documents
    - Term-by-document matrix A
      - m by n matrix (m terms with n documents)

```
a_{i,j} = L(i, j) \cdot G(i)
```

```
where 1 < i < m, 1 < j < n
```

a<sub>i,j</sub>: weight of the i<sup>th</sup> term in j<sup>th</sup> document

- L(i, j): frequency of the terms in the documents
- G(i): global weight decrease with the wide spread of

the ith term in entire document space



# Background(3/5)

### Example of VSM





## Background(4/5)



- Singular Value Decomposition
  - Decompose the term-by-document matrix into the product of three other matrices
    - Overcome the synonymy and polysemy problem



T: m by r matrix of the terms(orthogonal)

S: r by r diagonal matrix of singular values

D: r by n matrix of the documents(orthogonal)



# Background(5/5)



- Singular Value Decomposition(Cont'd)
  - S D
    - Cluster related terms with respect to documents
    - Reduce the space and time to compute the weight
      - 20% of numbers of original document is proper



Cosine of angle between two vector is a measure of similarity



# Assessing LSI(1/4)



Adjust parameters to use LSI as traceability recovery tool(150 documents, 865 terms)

Categorize according to a type of the artifacts



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# Assessing LSI(2/4)



## Choose a method to cut the ranked lists

- Candidate link has the similarity value over threshold
  - Variable threshold specify the minimum and maximum similarity values
  - Variable cut point specify the percentage of the links
  - Scale threshold percentage of the best similarity value between two artifacts





# Assessing LSI(3/4)



### Assessing to extract the traceability links

	Source category	Target category	Possible links	Correct links	
	Use case	Use case	870	86	
	Use case	600	26		
_	Use case	Test case	1890	63	_
	Use case	Code class	1110	93	   J
_	Interaction Diagram	Interaction Diagram	380	35	
	Interaction Diagram	Test case	1260	83	l
	Interaction Diagram	Code class	740	69	
	Test case	Test case	3906	289	
_	Test case	Code class	2331	204	
1	Code class	1332	57	l	
	Total nui	mber of correct links		1005	



# Assessing LSI(4/4)



Accessing to extract the traceability links(Cont'd)





# **ADAMS(1/4)**



- Advanced Artifact Management System(ADAMS)
  - Artifact-based process support system
  - Latent Semantic Indexing(LSI) method is used
    - Useful to the identification of traceability links
    - Helpful in the identification of quality problems in the text description of software artifacts
  - Modules
    - Indexer, LSI, Query



# ADAMS(2/4)



## Indexer

- Build a hash table containing the number of occurrences of the different terms in the artifact
  - When an artifact is checked-in
- LSI (Latent Semantic Indexing)
  - Compute VSM and SVD periodically and whenever an artifact is checked-in
- Query
  - Software engineer chooses the subsets of source and target artifacts for traceability recovery

# **ADAMS(3/4)**



## Functionality

- Software engineer combines manual tracing activity with the tool support
  - retrieved the set of links retrieved by the tool
  - traced the set of links traced by the software engineer



• As # of artifacts increase, S/W engineer can not trace all the correct link



# ADAMS(4/4)

- Functionality(Cont'd)
  - Suggested link





- Trace link tool is right and link should be traced
- False positive tool is wrong and it should be discarded
- Warning link
  - Trace link(False negative) tool is wrong and link should be traced
    - It can be due to a poor description of the artifacts or quality problem of the tool
  - Discard link- tool is right and it should be discarded
- Discarded links is considered at next iterations only when the similarity of their links has increased





# **Exper**ience and Evaluation(1/2)



## Environment of experiment

### 17 projects with 150 students

	1 <sup>st</sup> period		2 <sup>nd</sup> perio	d	3 <sup>rd</sup> period			
	# of Artifact	# of Artifact	Added Artifact	Modified Artifact	# of Artifact	Added Artifact	Modified Artifact	
RAD	760	1122	431	407	1198	161	674	
Code	23	39	23	11	156	117	21	

\*RAD: Requirement Analysis Document (requirement, scenarios, use cases, sequence diagrams)

2 TA – project manager, quality manager



# **Experience and Evaluation(2/2)**

## Analysis of Suggested links

- Emerging link # of suggested links that increased their similarity as a consequence of changes on the documents
- New link # of suggested links arising as a consequence of new artifacts

Suggested

retrieved

MTL

Links

	1 <sup>st</sup> period			2 <sup>nd</sup> period						3rc	<sup>I</sup> peri	od				
	MT L	Sugg		Suggeste		geste		Suggested links					Suggested links			
		МТ	d li	nks	МТ	MT Eme		New		MT En		erge	New			
		TL	FP	L	TL	FP	TL	FP	L	TL	FP	TL	FP			
RAD vs RAD	275	441	1108	296	48	184	447	1207	53	36	255	121	597			
UC vs Code	0	62	187	10	15	15	66	130	10	8	12	200	333			
*RAD: Requirement Analysis Document MTL: Manually Traced Links TL: Traced Links 19/21 TL: Traced Links 19/21 FP: False Positives																

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## **Conclusion**



## Contribution

- Provides an assessment of LSI as a traceability recovery technique
- Develop a tool to support a traceability recovery
  - Discover emerging traceability links during software evolution and to monitor previously traced links
  - Help software engineers to improve their recovery performance
    - Based on the correct link not traced by tool, the quality managers ask for improving a poor description of the artifacts

# **Discussion**



## Critique

- Lack of the experiment related to code artifacts
- LSI depends on the quality of the description
- Merit
  - Experiment for parameters is well performed
    - Various parameters for LSI method is decided through the experiments

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# Vector Space Model(VSM)



Weight of the element in a matrix

 $L(i,j) = \log (tf_{ij} + 1)$   $G(i) = 1 \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{p_{ij} \log (p_{ij})}{\log(n)}$   $p_{ij} = \frac{tf_{ij}}{\sum_{k=1}^{n} tf_{ik}}$ 

It increases as much as the i<sup>th</sup> term is spread across the documents

Ex) a, the, is and etc

 $tf_{i,j}$ : frequency of of the i<sup>th</sup> term in j<sup>th</sup> document  $p_{i,j}$ :sum of frequency of of the i<sup>th</sup> term in all document





AD.A.M.S. ADvanced Artefact Management System

**User: Rocco Oliveto** 

General Logout		SOURCE		TARGET
Refresh Home Administration Search	Artefact Types	Data Dictionary Item Deployment Diagram Design Goal Document Section Functional Requirement JSP		Statechart Diagram System Decomposition Test Case Test Execution Document Test Incident Test Plan
ToDo List All Projects My Projects My Artefacts		Management Report Meeting Agenda Meeting Minute Node	<b>&gt;</b>	UC Diagram UI Navigational Path UI Screen Mockup Use Case
Project	Artefact Filter	Contains 🖌 management		Contains 🖌
Artefacts Traceability Links			Apply	
Project Card		Source Artefacts (5)		Target Artefacts (30)
	16 16 16 17 17	<ul> <li>Patient management - Requirement (DRAFT)</li> <li>Medicine management - Requirement (DRAFT)</li> <li>Doctor management - Requirement (DRAFT)</li> <li>Visit management - Requirement (DRAFT)</li> <li>Management reports - Requirement (DRAFT)</li> <li>Management reports - Requirement (DRAFT)</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>193) Reserve visit - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>196) Insert medicine - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>197) Modify medicine - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>198) Delete medicine - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>200) Dispense medicine - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>201) Medicine restock - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>206) Insert patient - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>207) Modify patient - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>208) Delete patient - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>209) Show patients - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>210) Insert Doctor - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>211) Modify doctor - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>213) Show doctors - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>214) Allocate doctor - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>220) Schedule examination - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>221) Schedule day hospital - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>222) Schedule hospitalization - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> <li>225) Examination Report - Use Case (DRAFT)</li> </ul>
		Select all Invert selection		Select all Invert selection
			Confirm	







AD.A.M.S. ADvanced Artefact Management System

**User:** Rocco Oliveto

General	Recovering Functional R	equirement onto Use case traceability links		
Logout Refresh Home Administration	Threshold: < 90 % > 💈	Previous iteration statistics:	Threshold Suggested links Traced Links	95% 3 2
ToDo List				-

All Projects	Suggested Links								
My Projects			ID	Target Artefact	Similarity measure	Action			
Project	ID	Source Artefact				Trace link	Classify as False Positive		
Artefacts Traccability Links	169	Doctor management (Requirement)	212	Delete doctor (Use Case)	94.71	0	0		
Project Card	168	Medicine management (Requirement)	197	Modify medicine (Use Case)	94.27	0	0		
-	167	Patient management (Requirement)	209	Show patient (Use Case)	92.66	0	0		
Link analysis New analysis	alysis 168 Medicine manage	Medicine management (Requirement)	199	Show medicine (Use Case)	92.66	0	0		
analy of o	169	Doctor management (Requirement)	213	Show doctors (Use Case)	91.73	0	0		
	169	Doctor management (Requirement)	207	Modify patient(Use Case)	90.62	0	0		

False Positives										
	Source Artefact	ID	Tarnat Artafact	Similarity	Action					
10				measure	Trace link					
167	Patient management (Requirement)	211	Modify doctor (Use Case)	95.41	0					

Submit actions