

Neural IR

Challenges:

- Vocabulary mismatch

Q: How many *people* live in *Sydney*?

- *Sydney's population* is 4.9 million
[relevant, but missing 'people' and 'live']
- Hundreds of *people* queuing for *live* music in *Sydney*
[irrelevant, and matching 'people' and 'live']

- Need to interpret words based on context (e.g., temporal)

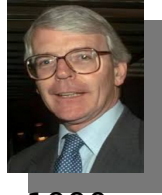
Q: *uk prime minister*



Today



Recent



1990s

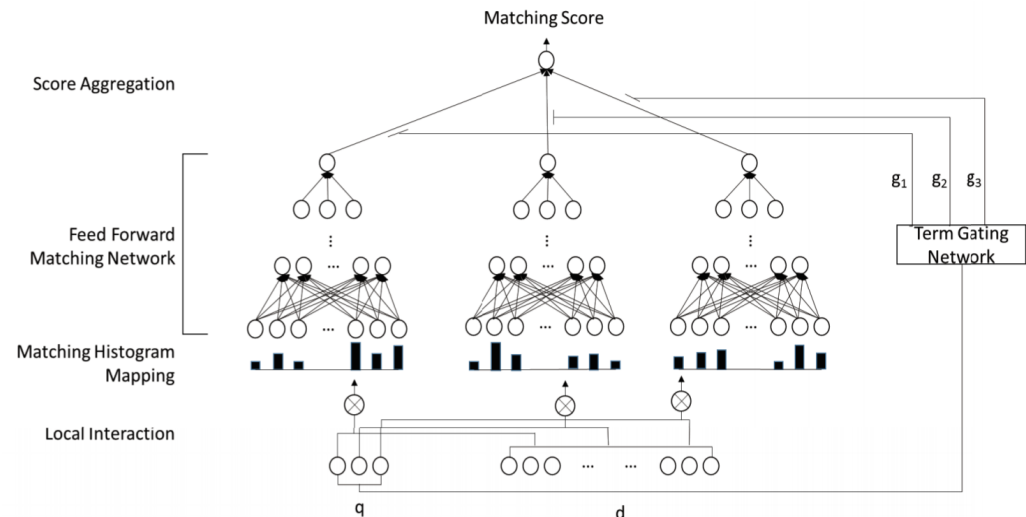
Techniques:

- Word embeddings for IR: expand query using embeddings, IR models that work in the embedding space...

global	local
cutting	tax
squeeze	deficit
reduce	vote
slash	budget
reduction	reduction
spend	house
lower	bill
halve	plan
soften	spend
freeze	billion

Terms similar to "cut" for a word2vec model trained on:
- global: a general news corpus
- local: documents related to "gasoline tax"

- Deep neural networks for IR:
to generate query representation,
to generate document representation,
estimate relevance



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