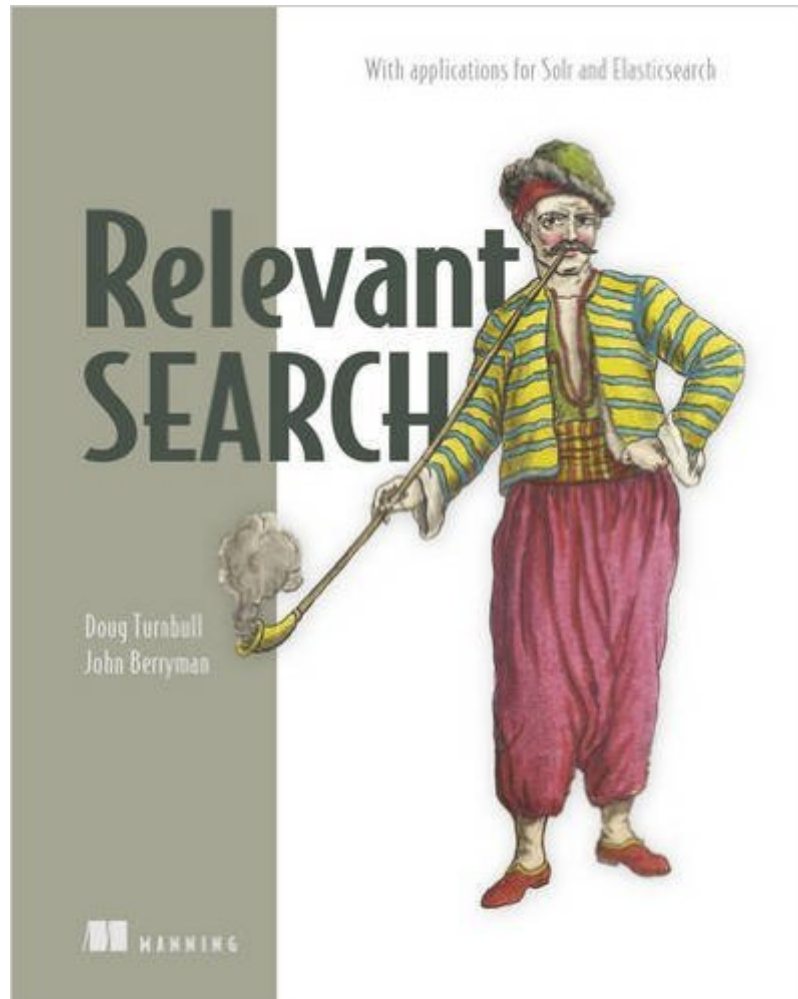# Relevant Search: With Applications For Solr And Elasticsearch

Synopsis

Summary Relevant Search demystifies relevance work. Using Elasticsearch, it teaches you how to return engaging search results to your users, helping you understand and leverage the internals of Lucene-based search engines. Purchase of the print book includes a free eBook in PDF, Kindle, and ePub formats from Manning Publications. About the Technology Users are accustomed to and expect instant, relevant search results. To achieve this, you must master the search engine. Yet for many developers, relevance ranking is mysterious or confusing. About the Book Relevant Search demystifies the subject and shows you that a search engine is a programmable relevance framework. You'll learn how to apply Elasticsearch or Solr to your business's unique ranking problems. The book demonstrates how to program relevance and how to incorporate secondary data sources, taxonomies, text analytics, and personalization. In practice, a relevance framework requires softer skills as well, such as collaborating with stakeholders to discover the right relevance requirements for your business. By the end, you'll be able to achieve a virtuous cycle of provable, measurable relevance improvements over a search product's lifetime. What's Inside Techniques for debugging relevance?Applying search engine features to real problems?Using the user interface to guide searchers?A systematic approach to relevance?A business culture focused on improving search About the Reader For developers trying to build smarter search with Elasticsearch or Solr. About the Authors Doug Turnbull is lead relevance consultant at OpenSource Connections, where he frequently speaks and blogs. John Berryman is a data engineer at Eventbrite, where he specializes in recommendations and search. Foreword author, Trey Grainger, is a director of engineering at CareerBuilder and author of Solr in Action.Table of ContentsThe search relevance problem Search under the hood Debugging your first relevance problem Taming tokens Basic multifield search Term-centric search Shaping the relevance function Providing relevance feedback Designing a relevance-focused search applicationThe relevance-centered enterprise Semantic and personalized search

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Customer Reviews

I found this book on the MEAP program (Manning Early Access Program) and avidly read it as the chapters were released. It was, for me, an incredibly timely and valuable book because I had just landed a job building SOLR search for the local branch of a large multinational corporation. Although I had SOLR experience in my previous position, it was unique in that the whole idea of "relevance" didn't really apply - but it applied in spades in my new gig.Relevant Search (the book) was the next step in my education about what search is "really" about - finding the relevant "things" the user really wants to see. NOT about matching certain words. The book made a huge, positive difference in the results I was able to produce for my new employer and if you're going to be playing around in the "Search" space, you owe it to yourself to get this book. Reading it and using the suggestions and approaches in the book made a huge difference in how I approached the work, as well as providing incredibly useful "patterns" for discussing the whole problem of Search and Relevancy with my Product Manager, my SME's and upper management. I received a number of compliments for my knowledge - much of which I owed to reading this book.This book is not about the nuts and bolts of installing and running SOLR or ElasticSearch -- it IS about the important concepts (and some useful tricks and traps) for building Relevancy into your search tools. You will learn how to build better searches (and there are some included examples of actual query syntax).Think of it this way:Search is really not what you are after in a search application. Relevancy IS what you want.

Relevant search is a really great read. This book initially wasnâ ™t on my radar for books to purchase this year, but wow, what a find this was. The key things about this book in my opinion are the problem it is trying to solve (relevancy), the tools it uses to solve this problem (ElasticSearch), and the concept that immerges through solving the problem.One of my favorite quotes from the book is;â œMaybe search is not the application you should be building. Maybe you should be building recommendations.â •We can all relate to this concept. Weâ ™ve all been to stores where

when we ask for information on an interested product, we get short answers with very little engagement. You can imagine search like that. While recommendations instead of just search come to you in more of a personalized form. Now imagine going to a place where everyone knows youâ™re name. Just like that TV show Cheers. Upon entering, the bartender already knows what kind of drink you want. In fact, he knows you so well, that he starts recommending some of the new beers that came in that you would be interested in, and begins recommending them.This is a very strong concept! Think about your favorite restaurant, there is one dish you absolutely love. In fact, you love it so much that when you think about that dish, that restaurant immediately comes to mind. However, on another night, when you think about another one of your favorite dishes a completely different restaurant pops into your head. What if the first restaurant had the same dish, or even something similar you never knew about this whole time? Both you and the restaurant are missing out. These concepts are what make and Google so viable in our daily lives. This concept is what is separating Relevant Search form the normal "search".

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