



Course analysis: DD2477, “Search Engines and Information Retrieval Systems”, spring semester 2025, course round 60198

Changes made since previous course offering

A Canvas quiz had replaced one of the theoretical problems in assignment 2.

Compilation of course evaluation results (required)

Judging from the course evaluation, the course was very well received. Overall, the students who filled in the questionnaire felt the course was well organized, had interesting content and that they learned useful skills and knowledge. Some students would have preferred in-class lectures, but several students preferred the current format.

Course coordinator's reflections on what has worked well and what can be developed in the course

Both some TAs and several students thought it was a problem that we didn't publish a standard version of the regular expressions file governing the tokenization process. As it is now, students can have problems recreating the exact results quoted in the assignment description due to small tokenization differences between their solution and our 'model' solution.

We were 5 teachers on the course, one more than last year when we had 80 students and problems coping with all the examinations. This year, however, there was a record number of students (114) taking the course, which led to the same scheduling problems. In general, the system employed by KTH which allows students to decide very late if they will be following the course or not is probably good for the students, but it makes planning very difficult for the course leaders.

Summary of changes to be introduced for the next course (required)

I'm going to improve some parts of the code skeleton, in particular the Pagerank part. I will also consider replacing the last part of assignment 2, which I feel is less relevant than the other parts of the assignments.

Brief comment on the result of examinations

Of the 114 students signed up for the course, almost all (113) completed the final project, and 110 students completed the programming assignments, which was satisfactory to see!