

À Propos: Pro-Active Personalization for Professional Document Writing

IliX Doctoral Forum abstract

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The goal of the À Propos project is to develop an IMA that supports users in the daily process of writing professional documents, such as scientific articles and technical or business reports. It aims to reduce the time spent searching for information by pro-actively searching for relevant, personalized, and trustworthy information.

À Propos focuses on developing methods for generating search profiles that enable effective, trustworthy, and high-precision information retrieval with regard to the user's current information need. This information need is influenced not only by the document the user is writing, but also by the context: personal characteristics and those of the user's workgroup.

Search profiles are generated on the basis of a collection of documents previously written by the user and his or her workgroup. The profiles must also be able to adapt to the information needs of individual users and of their workgroup. The À Propos agent integrates these search profiles with a parallel interface to public domain and proprietary internal search engines, as well as the user's own pool of documents. The final step is fusing and filtering the search results from all the different sources.