

Extracting metadata from grey literature using large language models

Osma Suominen

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Grey literature?

reports
working papers
government documents
white papers
preprints
theses
...

semi-formal non-commercial
PDFs published on the web
– lots of them!



Why extract metadata from grey literature PDFs?

1. help users of **digital repositories** who need to enter metadata when uploading PDFs
2. in **web archiving**, get more information about harvested PDF files
3. ease **cataloguing** of e.g. government reports and doctoral theses

Why is it **hard** to extract metadata from PDFs?

1. You can't rely on embedded PDF metadata (pdftinfo)

Title: Microsoft Word - Kurkela&RantanenMostFinal3.docx

Title: A9R122vgnv_1n6ctkf_ezs.tmp.pdf

- so you (also) have to look at document text

2. Diverse templates and creative ^{text} **LAYOUTS**

3. PDF text extraction is messy and unreliable

Early experiments

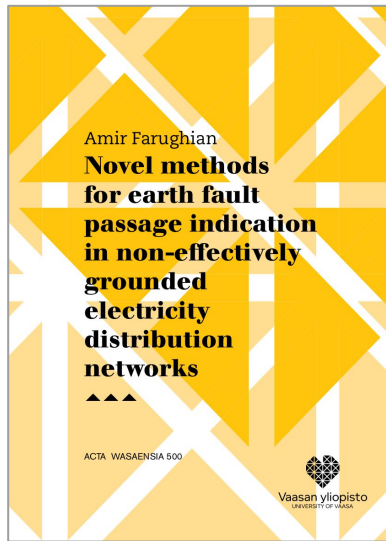
- 2019–2020: We tried GROBID. Didn't work with grey literature (intended for scholarly papers but not other document types)
- 2022: Lingsoft Inc. made a prototype for us (PDF text extraction and traditional machine learning)
- 2023: Experiment using OpenAI GPT-3 fine-tuning API <https://github.com/osma/llm-metadata-extraction/>



Lingsoft[®]



Predict metadata based on document text



First 5 pages of text from PDF

Fine-tuned
GPT
language model

title: Novel methods for earth fault passage indication in non-effectively grounded electricity distribution networks

contributor/faculty: fi=School of Technology and innovations|en=School of Technology and Innovations|

contributor/author: Farughian, Amir

contributor/organization: fi=Vaasan yliopisto|en=University of Vaasa|

publisher: Vaasan yliopisto

date/issued: 2022

relation/issn: 2323-9123

relation/issn: 0355-2667

relation/isbn: 978-952-395-054-2

relation/ispartofseries: Acta Wasaensia

relation/numberinseries: 500

Example of LLM extracted metadata

Diff view: human vs. LLM generated

University of Turku

```
https://www.utupub.fi/handle/10024/152860
---
-title: Essays on income inequality and financial incentives to work
+title: Esa: Income inequality and financial incentives to work
contributor/faculty: fi=Turun kauppakorkeakoulu|en=Turku School of Economics|
contributor/author: Ollonqvist, Joonas
publisher: fi=Turun yliopisto. Turun kauppakorkeakoulu|en=University of Turku, Turku School of Economics|
-date/issued: 2021
+date/issued: 2022
relation/issn: 2343-3167
relation/ispartofseries: Turun yliopiston julkaisuja - Annales Universitatis Turkuensis, Ser E: Oeconomica
relation/numberinseries: 82
---
```



What we found out

This LLM extraction thing could actually work!

...but we need more consistent "ground truth" metadata.

– and we probably don't want to rely only on OpenAI for this (proprietary LLM, vendor lock-in, copyright and privacy concerns, ethics...)

FinGreyLit data set

- PDFs and metadata collected from nine different DSpace repositories
 - academic libraries and government institutions
- ca. 700 documents curated by a summer intern & refined by us
- Dublin Core style metadata, ca. 30 fields in use
- Finnish, Swedish and English language documents
- JSON Lines file format for ease of use in experiments
- CC0 license
- available on GitHub, still work in progress

<https://github.com/NatLibFi/FinGreyLit>



FinGreyLit

This repository contains a data set of curated Dublin Core style metadata from a selection of Finnish "grey literature" publications, along with links to the PDF publications. The dataset is mainly intended to enable and facilitate the development of automated methods for metadata extraction from PDF files, including but not limited to the use of large language models (LLMs).

The publications have been sampled from various DSpace based open repository systems administered by the National Library of Finland. The dataset is trilingual, containing publications in Finnish, Swedish and English language.

All the publication PDF files are openly accessible from the original DSpace systems. Due to copyright concerns, this repository contains only the curated metadata and links to the original PDF files. The repository contains scripts for downloading the PDF publications from the original repositories and extracting the full text.

Metadata format and schema

The metadata is represented as JSONL files. See [metadata/README.md](#) for details about the file format and [schema.md](#) for information about the metadata schema.

For some statistics about the included documents and their metadata, see the automatically generated [statistics report](#).

About



Data set of Finnish grey literature, containing curated Dublin Core style metadata and links to original PDF publications

[metadata](#)[pdf](#)[dataset](#)[grey-literature](#)

Readme

Activity

0 stars

4 watching

0 forks

[Report repository](#)

Releases

No releases published

[Create a new release](#)

Languages

● Jupyter Notebook 100.0%



WIP: New experiments using FinGreyLit data set

- using the **Meteor** metadata extraction tool
 - just published as Open Source by the National Library of Norway
 - <https://github.com/NationalLibraryOfNorway/meteor>
 - extracts title, authors, language, publisher, year, ISBN, ISSN
- again using the **GPT-3 fine-tuning API**, but with better metadata
- fine-tuning a **LLaMA 2** language model (semi-open LLM by Meta) locally on a GPU using the resource-efficient QLoRA technique
- TODO: fine-tuning **Finnish GPT-3** models published by TurkuNLP group

Results

It's looking pretty good so far.

The **data set must still be improved.**

No results to publish yet, stay tuned!



Thank you!

Osma Suominen

osma.suominen@helsinki.fi

[@osma@sigmoid.social](#)