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PHOTO ANALYZER AND AUTO HASHTAG TAGGER

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PHOTO ANALYZER AND AUTO HASHTAG TAGGER

ABSTRACT

A photo identification application involving photo analysis and automatic hashtag generation is disclosed. The application analyzes the content of the uploaded photo and applies automatic hashtags corresponding to the themes identified in the analysis to the photo for identification purposes. Thus the application allows search for images corresponding to one or more themes and makes them more accessible.

BACKGROUND

Photos are uploaded in increasing numbers to the Cloud each day. It is an onerous task for a user to go back and find a specific photo among thousands or more. The desired photo may not be easily found, or the difficulty of this task may make the user abandon their search and effectively feel as though the photo no longer exists. Presently, the most common way that a user could find a photo is if he/she remembers the month and year in which the particular photo was taken or uploaded. Even then, the user needs to filter through all the photos of that date or month to arrive at their photo of interest. Since these uploaded photos are not usually tagged with textual data, there is no real way to further filter the photos other than through date. Photos could be captioned, but that again is a time consuming and tiresome task, keeping in mind the increasing number of photos getting uploaded.

Cloud applications have a photo analyzer feature which works by pulling up related and similar photos to the currently uploaded photo and identifying subject matter of the uploaded

photo. Other social media websites automatically add hashtags to status updates, for example, if a user posts a sentence, the web analyzes the words used in the sentence and extracts keywords from the status update and automatically applies related hashtags to make the status easier for other users to find. This disclosure combines both the above said features to leverage the photo identification process.

DESCRIPTION

The disclosure presents a method of photo identification through photo analysis and automatic hashtag generation. The method works by analyzing the content of the uploaded photo, identifying the theme of the photo according to the analysis, and applying automatic hashtags to the photo that correspond to the identified theme for the purpose of later identifying the photo.

More than one theme could be identified in a photo and correspondingly, multiple hashtags added to the photo. When searching through photos automatically hashtagged by theme, filters could use keywords corresponding to multiple themes for more effective filtering. Additional criteria including date could also be used to filter photos for easier identification.

For example, if a user uploads a photo of his/her friends and him/her taken in China on the Great Wall of China, then the application analyzes the photo and identifies that the user was in China on the Great Wall of China and automatically applies hashtags such as “asia”, “china”, and “greatwallofchina” etc., such that the user can perform a search later on to arrive at this photo. Years later when the user wants to make a collage of his trip to China, then the application would return all the photos tagged China easily and quickly. An alternative implementation

could include, for example, additional search parameters such as “is before: 3/14/15 AND after: 2/10/15” to more specifically locate a photo of interest.

This application does not require the user to remember the timeline of when photos were uploaded or taken and helps to organize large numbers of photos through automatic hashtagging by theme, making them more accessible.