Identifying Semantically Similar questions using NLP techniques and
Linked Data Principles

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In Community Question Answering (CQA) sites, despite active participation, a significant amount of
questions on such sites remain unanswered due to a lot of reasons such as the question being poorly
formed/worded, unavailability of any answerer or the increased inflow of questions in the same area
which disinterests an answerer to answer the same question or having to redirect them multiple times
to already answered questions. This research is an attempt to study if unstructured data is converted to
structured data using state-of-the art natural language processing (NLP) techniques and Linked Data
technologies, to what extent it could help a user in identifying semantically similar questions. One of
the most contested themes in Computer Science is the ability to automatically map natural language
semantics into programming languages. This research work is distinguished from other studies as
we approach the problem from an ontology centred view and the idea of knowledge reuse forms the
notion of this work. We evaluate our approach and open discussions on new ways to evaluate the
identification of semantically similar questions. The key findings of this research demonstrate that
using NLP techniques and Linked Data principles identification of semantically similar questions
is viable. The proposed approach has a small but significant impact which can be leveraged for
designing data models for the task of finding semantically similar questions.