

Language support and linguistics in Lucene, Solr and ElasticSearch and the eco-system

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atiliqa
applied search innovation

About me



- MSc. in computer science, University of Oslo, Norway
- Worked with search at FAST (now Microsoft) for 10 years
 - 5 years in R&D building FAST Enterprise Search Platform in Oslo, Norway
 - 5 years in Services doing solution delivery, technical sales, etc. in Tokyo, Japan
- Founded アティリカ株式会社 in October, 2009
 - We help companies innovate using new technologies and good ideas
 - We do information retrieval, natural language processing and big data
 - We are based in Tokyo, but we have clients everywhere
 - We are a small company, but our customers are typically very big companies
- Newbie Lucene & Solr Committer
 - Mostly been working on Japanese language support (Kuromoji) so far
 - Working on Korean support from a code donation (LUCENE-4956)
- Please write me on cm@atiliqa.com or cm@apache.org

About this talk

- Basic searching and matching
- Challenges with natural language
- Basic measurements for search quality
- Linguistics in Apache Lucene
- Linguistics in ElasticSearch (quick intro)
- Linguistics in Apache Solr
- Linguistics in the NLP eco-system
- Summary and practical advice

Hands-on demos

Hands-on 1: Working with Apache Lucene analyzers 

Hands-on 2: Multi-lingual search using ElasticSearch 

Hands-on 3: Multi-lingual search with Apache Solr 

Hands-on 4: Other text processing using OpenNLP 

What is a search engine?

Documents

1

1

Sushi is very tasty in Japan

2

Visiting the Tsukiji fish market is very fun

Two documents (1 & 2) with English text

Text segmentation

1

- 1 Sushi is very tasty in Japan
- 2 Visiting the Tsukiji fish market is very fun

Two documents (1 & 2) with English text

2

- 1 Sushi | is | very | tasty | in | Japan
- 2 Visiting | the | Tsukiji | fish | market | is | very | fun

Documents are turned into searchable terms (tokenization)

Text segmentation

1

1

Sushi is very tasty in Japan

2

Visiting the Tsukiji fish market is very fun

Two documents (1 & 2) with English text

2

1

Sushi is very tasty in Japan

2

Visiting the Tsukiji fish market is very fun

Documents are turned into searchable terms (tokenization)

3

1

sushi is very tasty in japan

2

visiting the tsukiji fish market is very fun

Terms/tokens are converted to lowercase form (normalization)

Document indexing

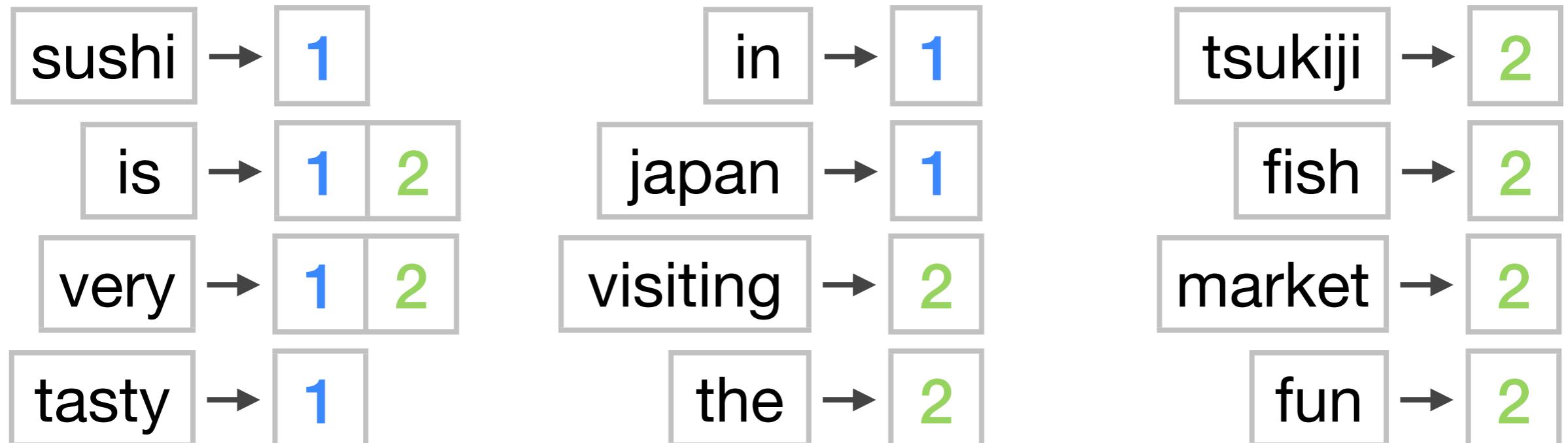
1	sushi	is	very	tasty	in	japan
2	visiting	the	tsukiji	fish	market	is very fun

Tokenized documents with normalized tokens

Document indexing

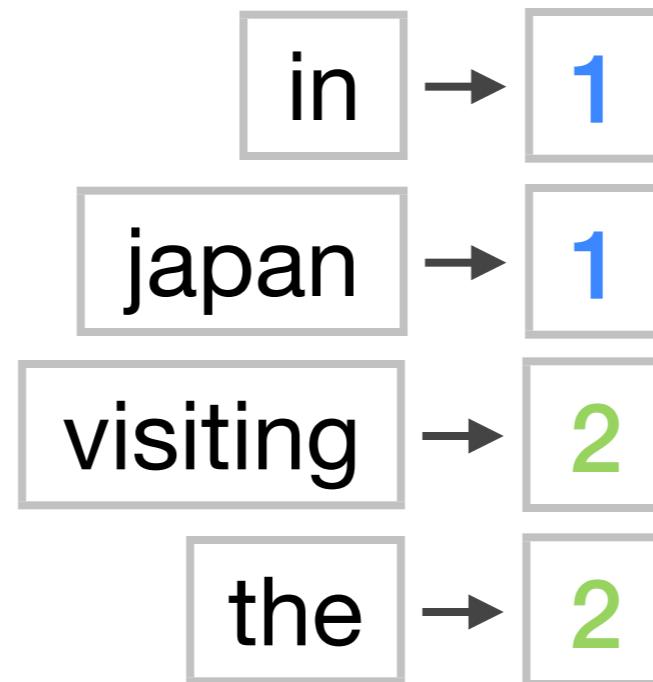
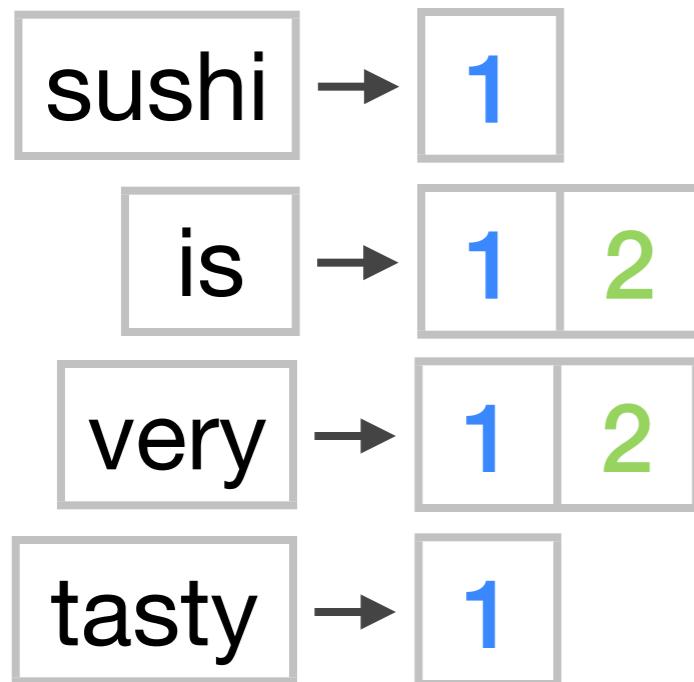
1	sushi	is	very	tasty	in	japan
2	visiting	the	tsukiji	fish	market	is very fun

Tokenized documents with normalized tokens



Inverted index - tokens are mapped to the document ids that contain them

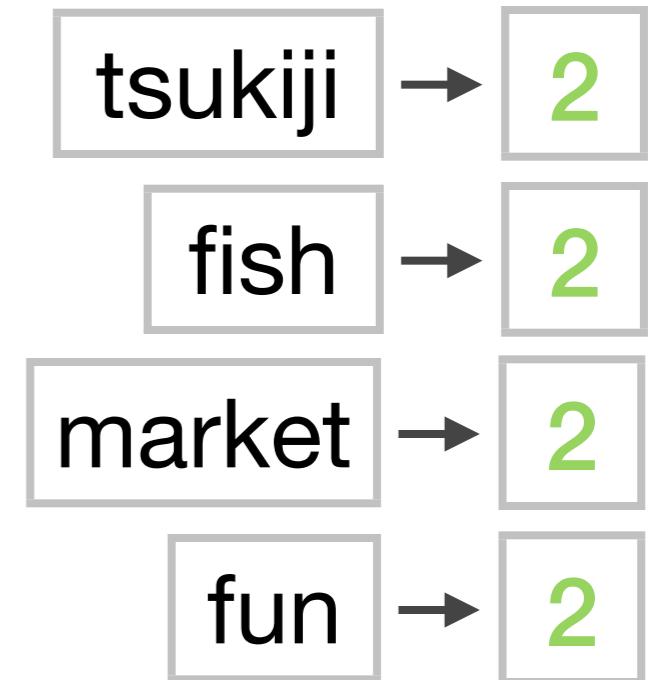
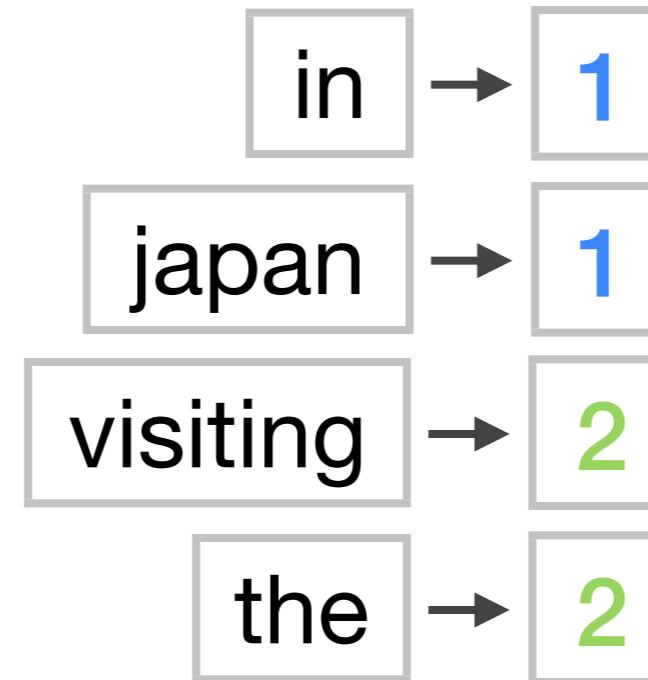
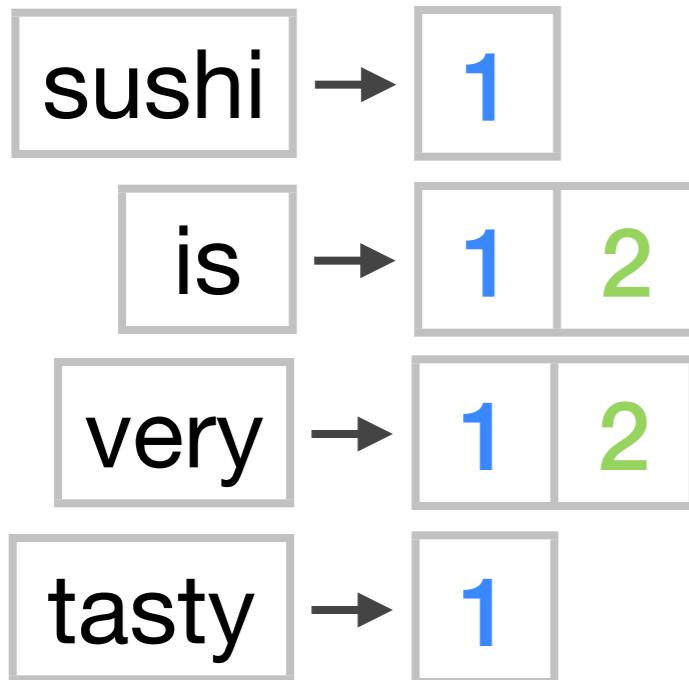
Searching



Searching

query

very tasty sushi

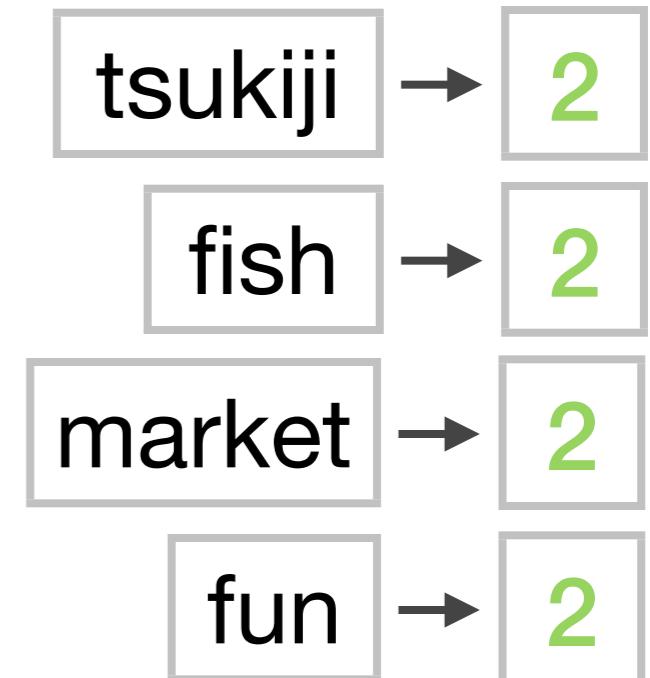
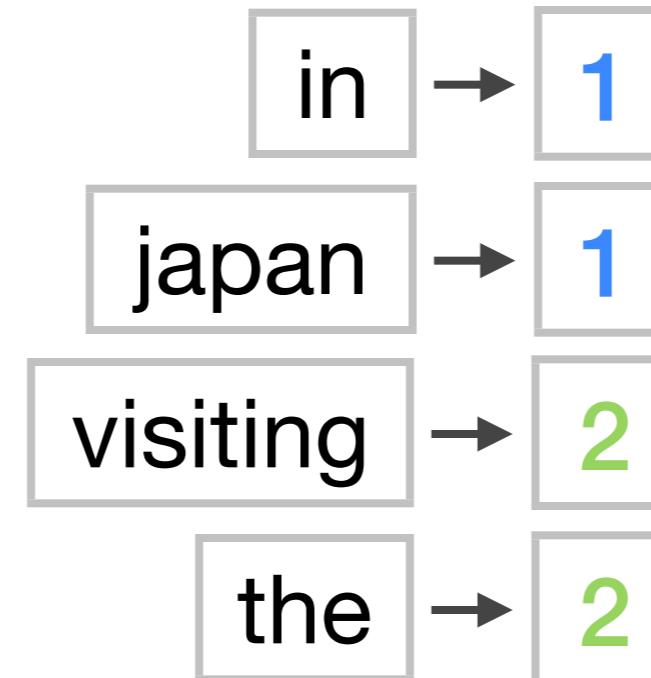
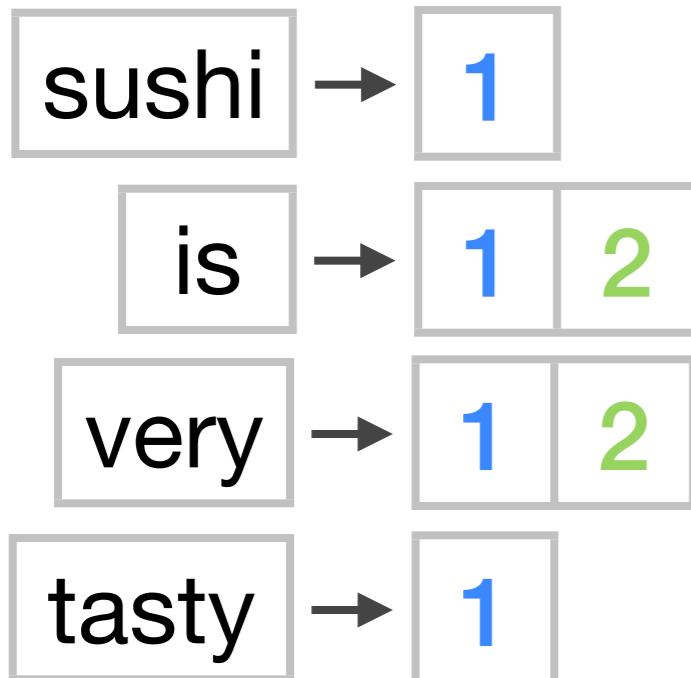


Searching

parsed query

very | tasty | sushi

AND

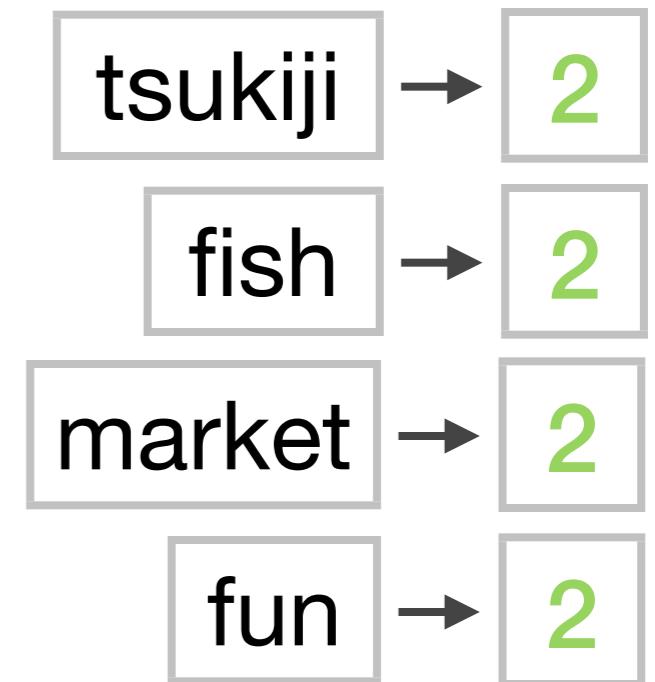
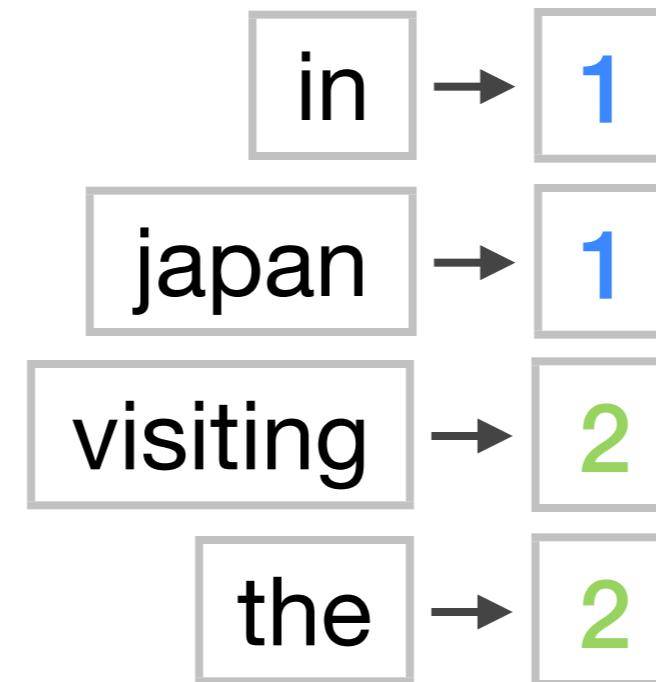


Searching

parsed query

very | tasty | sushi

AND

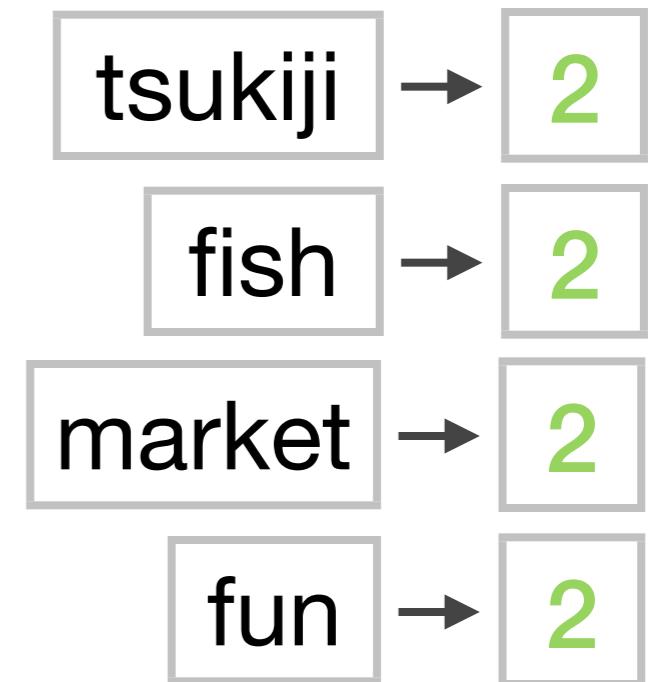
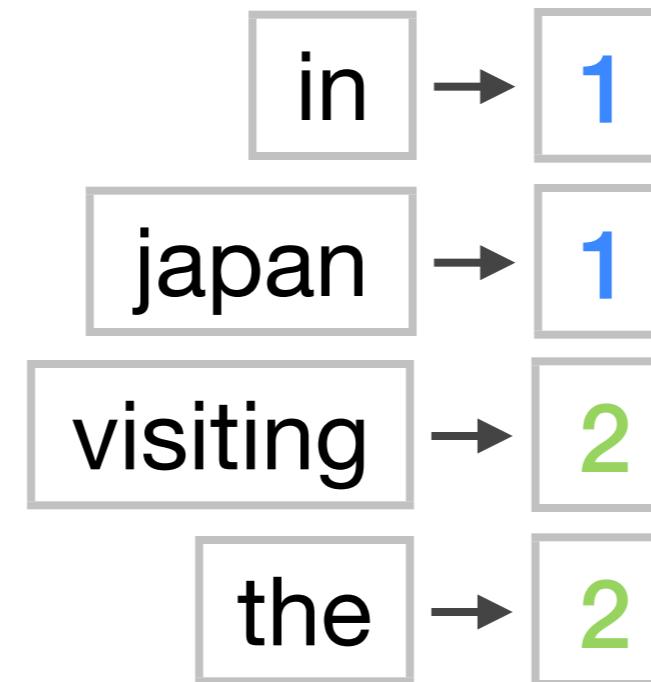
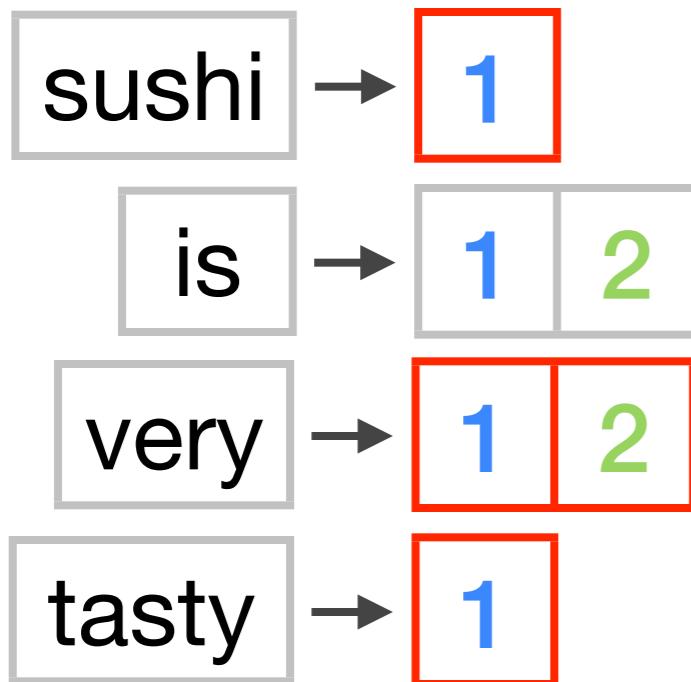


Searching

parsed query

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AND

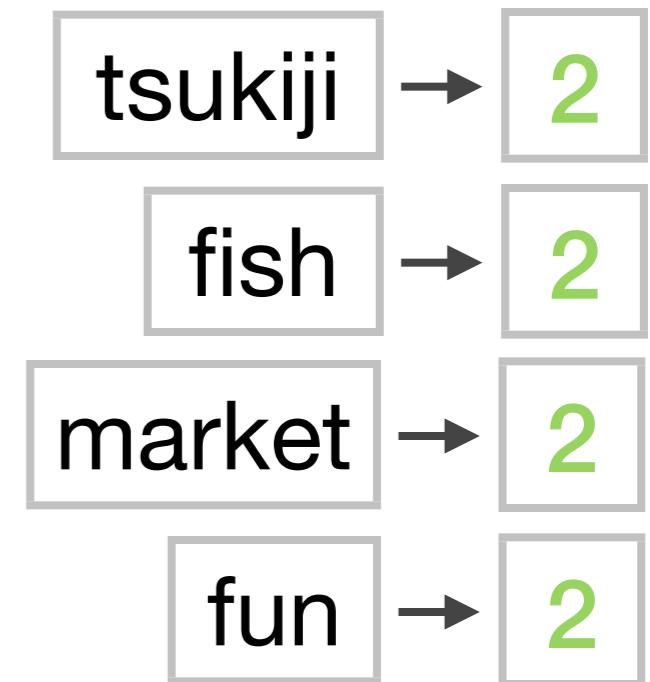
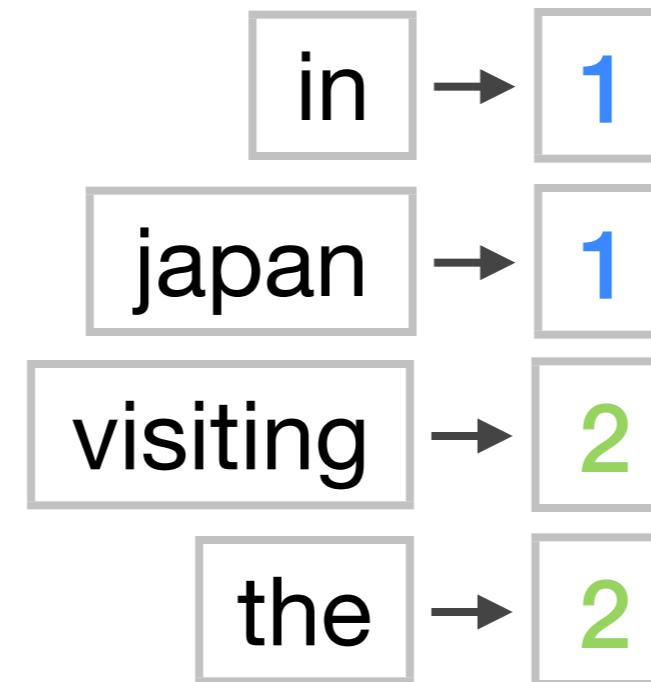
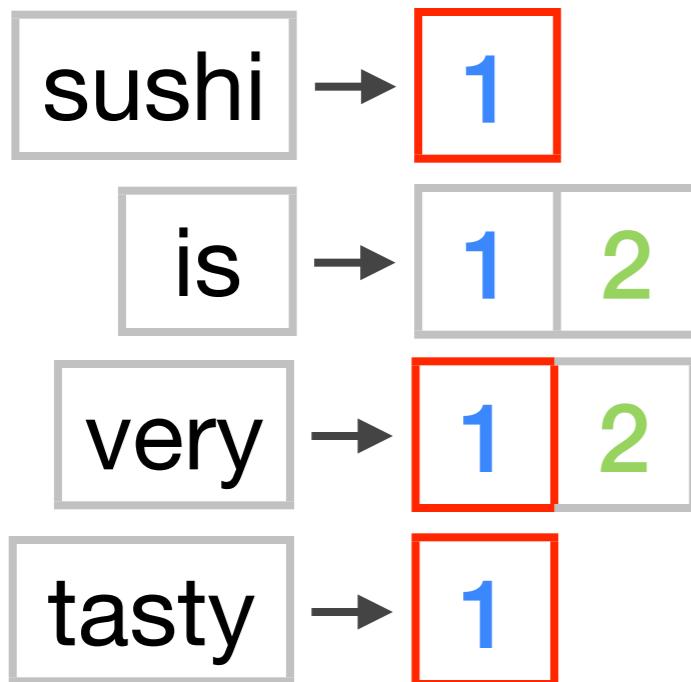


Searching

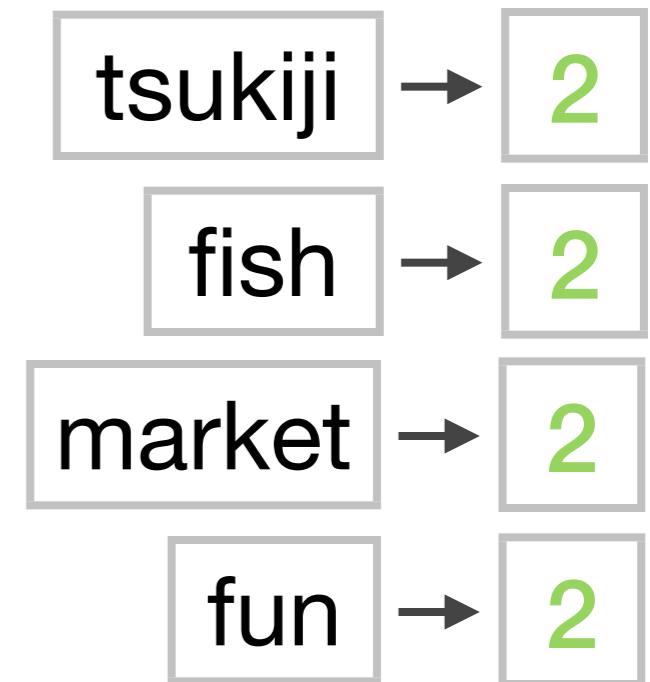
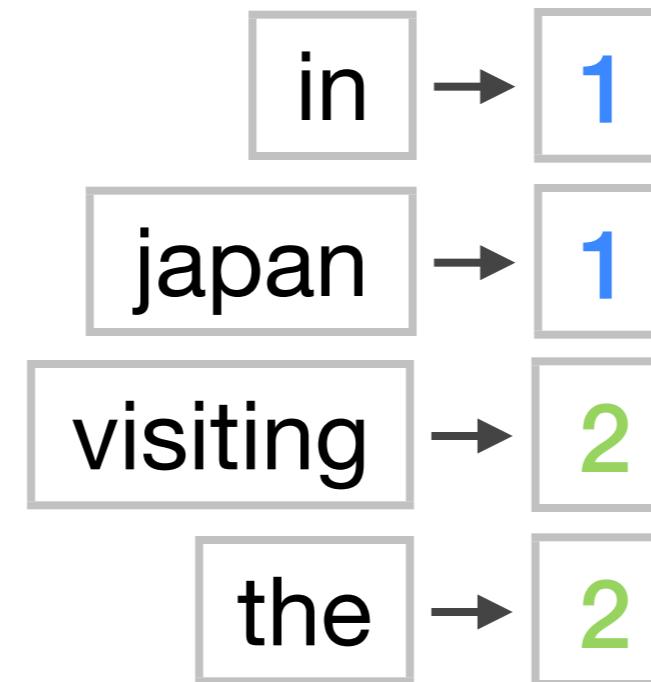
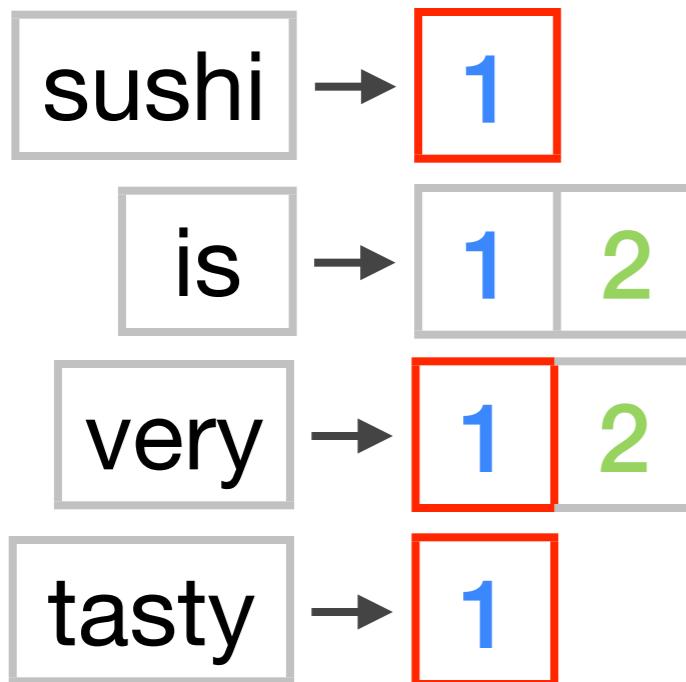
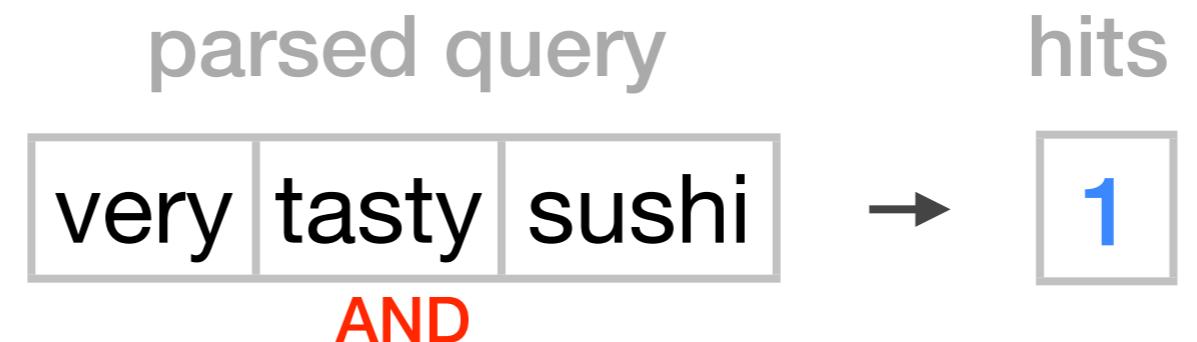
parsed query

very | tasty | sushi

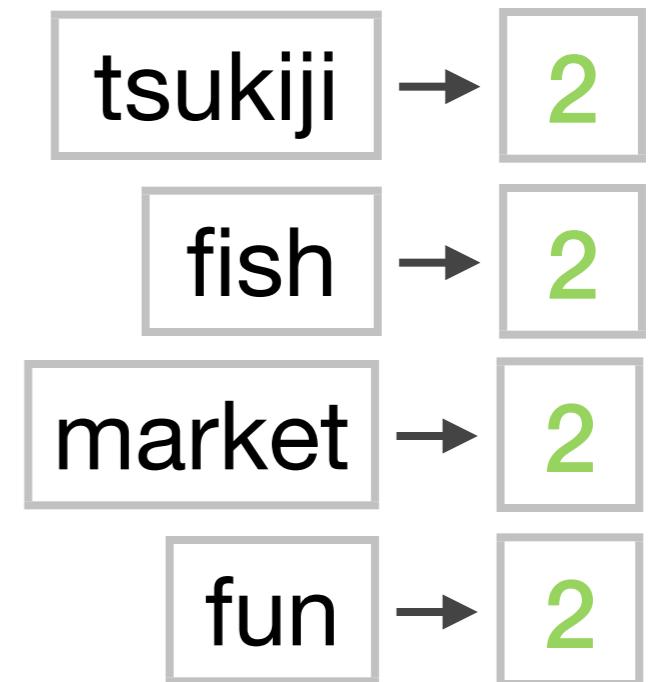
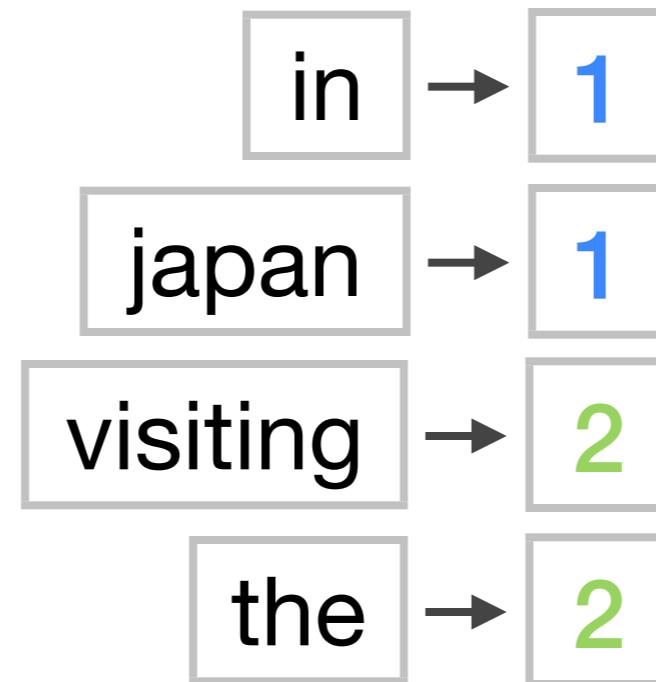
AND



Searching



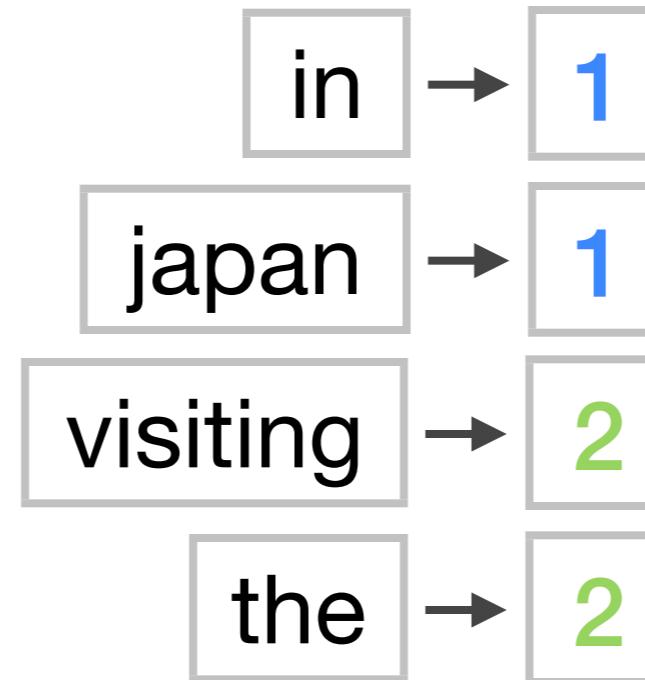
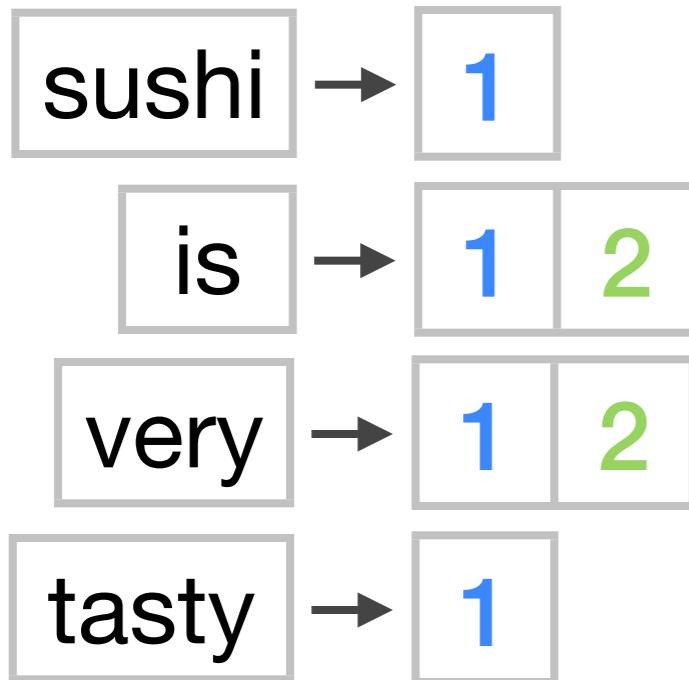
Searching



Searching

query

visit fun market

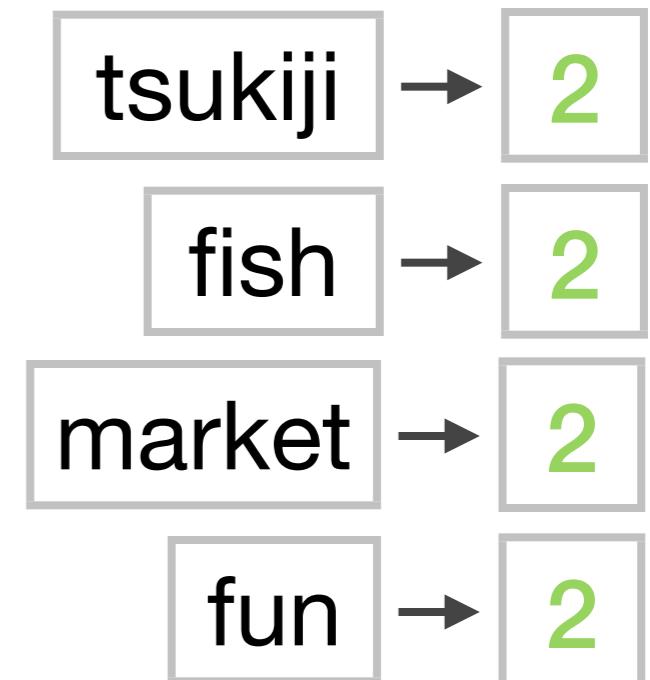
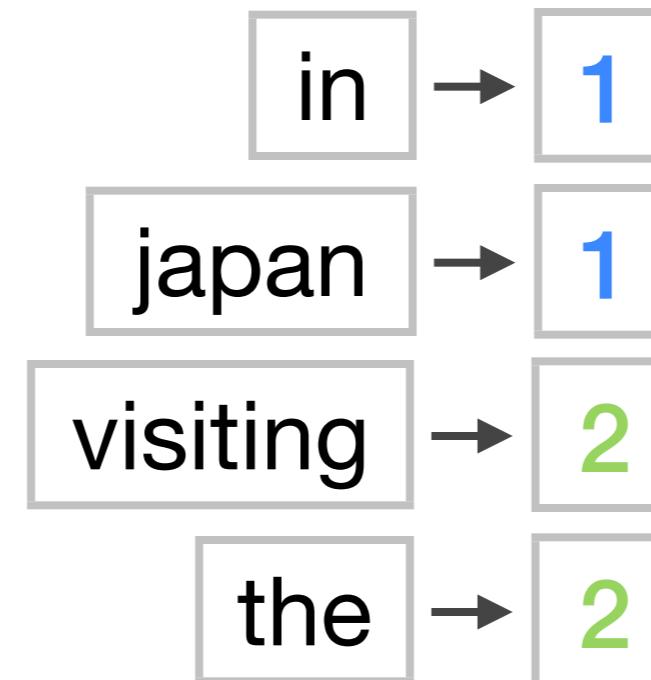
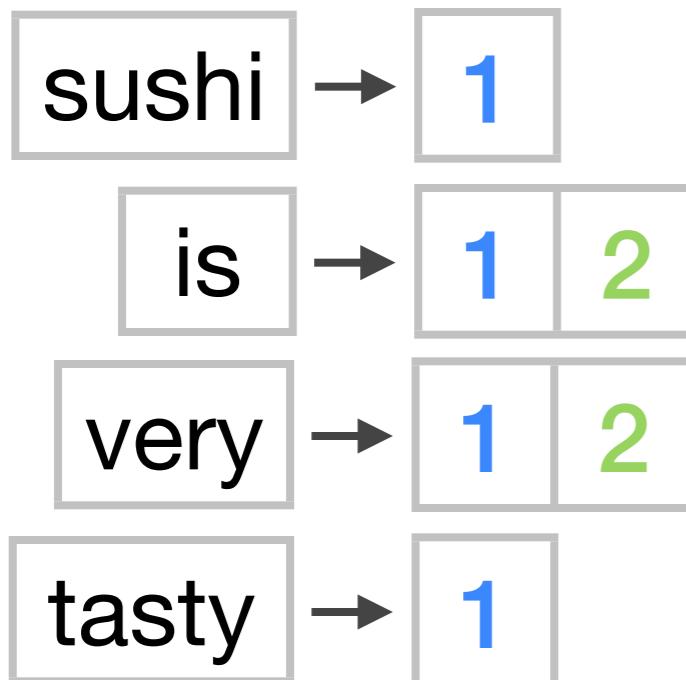


Searching

parsed query

visit fun market

AND



Searching



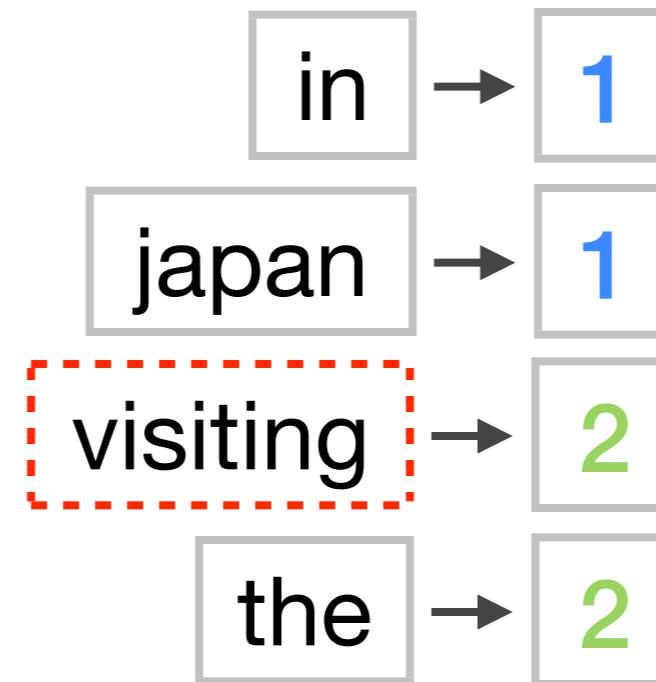
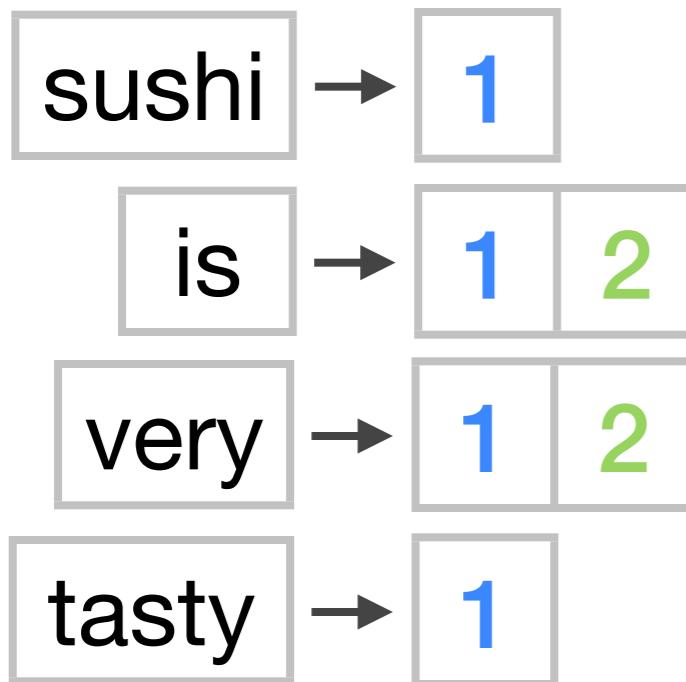
Searching

parsed query

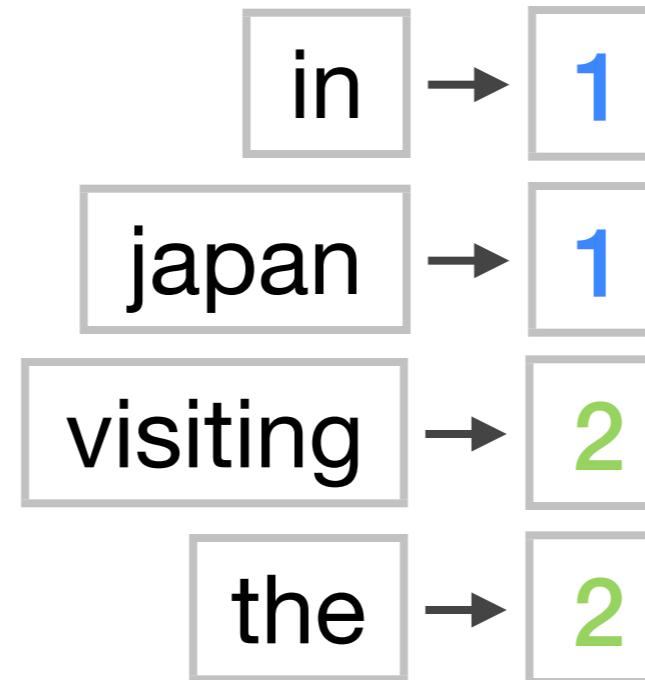
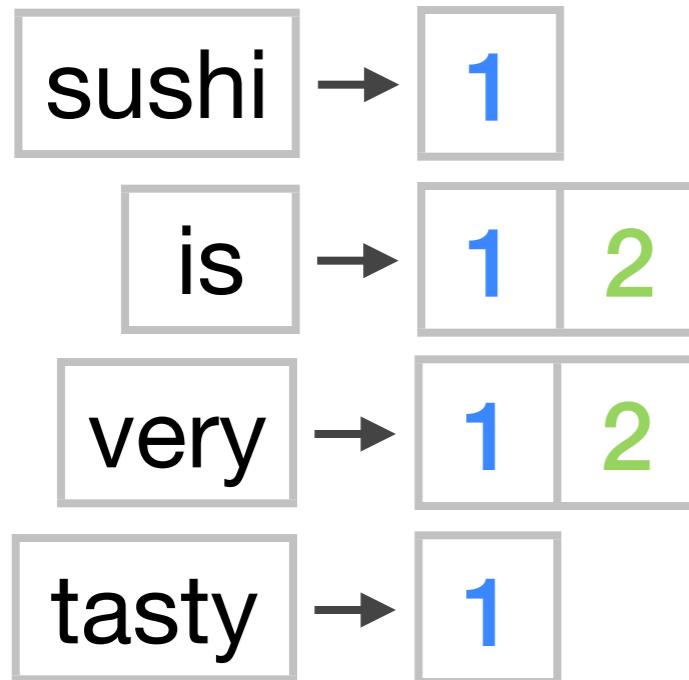
visit	fun	market
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AND

visit ≠ visiting



Searching



What's the problem?

- ! Search engines are not magical answering machines
- ! They match terms in queries against terms in documents, and order matches by rank

Key takeaways

- ! Text processing affects search quality in big way because it affects matching

Garbage in \Rightarrow Garbage out

- ! The “magic” of a search engine is often provided by high quality text processing

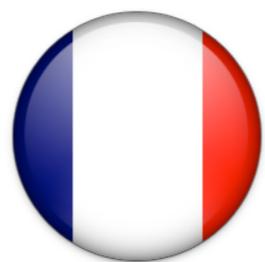
Natural language and search



English



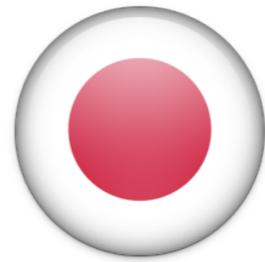
Deutsch



Français



العربية



日本語

English



Pale ale is a beer made through warm fermentation using pale malt and is one of the world's major beer styles.

English



Pale ale is a beer made through warm fermentation using pale malt and is one of the world's major beer styles.

? How do we want to index world's?

English



Pale ale is a beer made through warm fermentation using pale malt and is one of the world's major beer styles.

- ? How do we want to index **world's**?
- ? Should a search for **style** match **styles**?
And should **ferment** match **fermentation**?

German



Das Oktoberfest ist das größte Volksfest der Welt und es findet in der bayerischen Landeshauptstadt München.

German



Das Oktoberfest ist das größte Volksfest der Welt und es findet in der bayerischen Landeshauptstadt München.

The Oktoberfest is the world's largest festival and it takes place in the Bavarian capital Munich.

German



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The Oktoberfest is the world's largest festival and it takes place in the Bavarian capital Munich.

? How do we want to search ü, ö and ß?

German

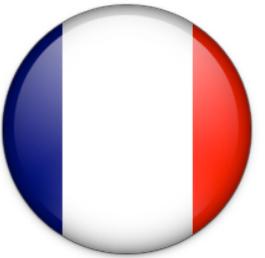


Das Oktoberfest ist das größte Volksfest der Welt und es findet in der bayerischen Landeshauptstadt München.

The Oktoberfest is the world's largest festival and it takes place in the Bavarian capital Munich.

- ? How do we want to search ü, ö and ß?
- ? Do we want a search for hauptstadt to match Landeshauptstadt?

French



Le champagne est un vin pétillant français protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.

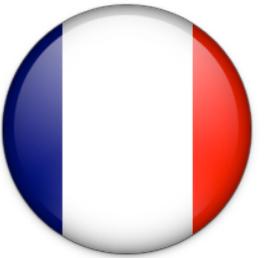
French



Le champagne est un vin pétillant français protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.

Champagne is a French sparkling wine with a protected designation of origin.

French

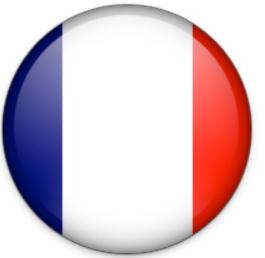


Le champagne est un vin pétillant français protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.

Champagne is a French sparkling wine with a protected designation of origin.

❓ How do we want to search é, ç and ô?

French



Le champagne est un vin pétillant français protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.

Champagne is a French sparkling wine with a protected designation of origin.

- ? How do we want to search é, ç and ô?
- ? Do we want a search for **aoc** to match appellation d'origine contrôlée?



Arabic

تُعْتَبَرِ الْقَهْوَةُ الْعَرَبِيَّةُ اَلْاصِيلَةُ رَمْزاً مِنْ رُمُوزِ الْكَرَمِ عِنْدِ
الْعَرَبِ فِي الْعَالَمِ الْعَرَبِيِّ.

Arabic



Reads from right to left

← تُعْتَبَرُ الْقَهْوَةُ الْعَرَبِيَّةُ الْأَصْلِيَّةُ رَمْزاً مِنْ رُمُوزِ الْكَرَمِ عِنْدِ
الْعَرَبِ فِي الْعَالَمِ الْعَرَبِيِّ.

Arabic



تُعتبر القهوة العربيّة الأصيلّة رمزاً من رموز الكرم عند العرب في العالم العربي.

Original Arabian coffee is considered a symbol of generosity among the Arabs in the Arab world.

Arabic



تُعتبر القهوة العربيّة الأصيلّة رمزاً من رموز الكرم عند العرب في العالم العربي.

Original Arabian coffee is considered a symbol of generosity among the Arabs in the Arab world.

? How do we want to search **الأصلية**؟



Arabic

تعتبر القهوة العربية الأصيلة رمزاً من رموز الكرم عند العرب في العالم العربي.

Original Arabian coffee is considered a symbol of generosity among the Arabs in the Arab world.

- ? How do we want to search الأصيلة?
- ? Do we want to normalize diacritics?



Arabic

Diacritics normalized (removed)

تعتبر القهوة العربية الأصـيـلة رمزا من رموز الكرم عند العرب في العالم العربي.

Original Arabian coffee is considered a symbol of generosity among the Arabs in the Arab world.

- ? How do we want to search الأصـيـلة ?
- ? Do we want to normalize diacritics?



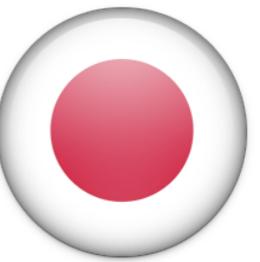
Arabic

تُعَتَّبَرُ الْقَهْوَةُ الْعَرَبِيَّةُ اَلْأَصْيَلَةُ رَمْزاً مِنْ رُمْوزِ الْكَرَمِ عِنْدِ
الْعَرَبِ فِي الْعَالَمِ الْعَرَبِيِّ.

Original Arabian coffee is considered a symbol of generosity among the Arabs in the Arab world.

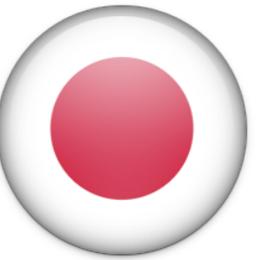
- ؟ How do we want to search الأصيلية؟
- ؟ Do we want to normalize diacritics?
- ؟ Do we want to correct the common spelling mistake for في and هـ؟

Japanese



J R 新宿駅の近くにビールを飲みに行こうか？

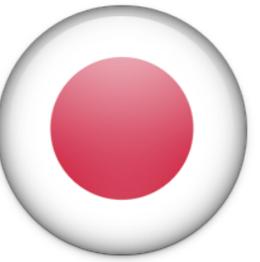
Japanese



JR新宿駅の近くにビールを飲みに行こうか？

Shall we go for a beer near JR Shinjuku station?

Japanese



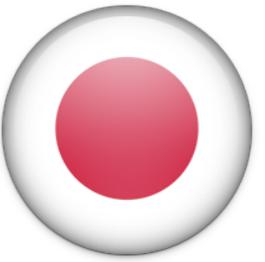
J R 新宿 駅 の 近く に ビール を 飲み に 行こ う か ?

Shall we go for a beer near JR Shinjuku station?

? What are the words in this sentence?

Which tokens do we index?

Japanese

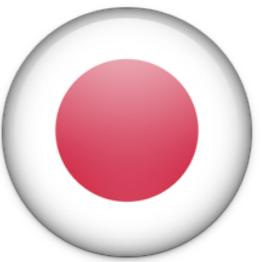


J R 新宿 駅 の 近く に ビール を 飲み に 行こ う か ?

Shall we go for a beer near JR Shinjuku station?

- ? What are the words in this sentence?
Which tokens do we index?
- ! Words are *implicit* in Japanese - there
is no white space that separates them

Japanese

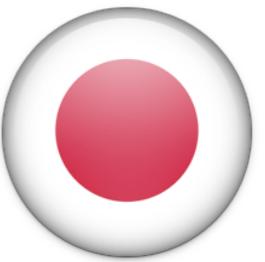


J R 新宿 駅 の 近く に ビール を 飲み に 行こ う か ?

Shall we go for a beer near JR Shinjuku station?

- ? What are the words in this sentence?
Which tokens do we index?
- ! Words are *implicit* in Japanese - there
is no white space that separates them
- ? But how do we find the tokens?

Japanese

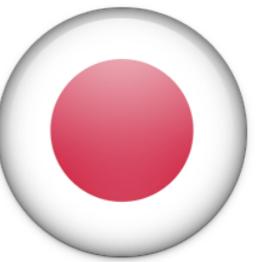


J R 新宿 駅 の 近く に ビール を 飲み 行こ う か ?

Shall we go for a beer near JR Shinjuku station?

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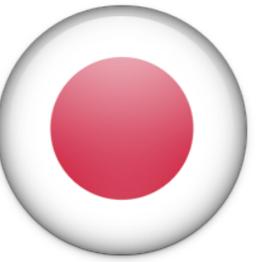


JR新宿駅の近くにビールを飲みに行こうか？

Shall we go for a beer near JR Shinjuku station?

? Do we want 飲む (to drink) to match 飲み?

Japanese



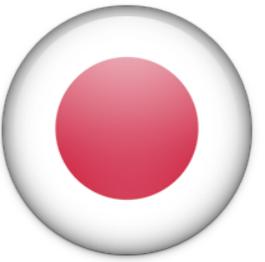
J R 新宿 駅 の 近く に ビール を 飲み に 行こ う か ?

Shall we go for a beer near JR Shinjuku station?

？ Do we want 飲む (to drink) to match 飲み?

？ Do we want ビール to match ビール?
Does half-width match full-width?

Japanese



J R 新宿駅の近くにビールを飲みに行こうか？

Shall we go for a beer near JR Shinjuku station?

- ? Do we want 飲む (to drink) to match 飲み?
- ? Do we want ビール to match ビール?
Does half-width match full-width?
- ? Do we want 🍺 (emoji) to match?

Common traits

- Segmenting source text into tokens
 - Dealing with non-space separated languages
 - Handling punctuation in space separated languages
 - Segmenting compounds into their parts
- Apply relevant linguistic normalizations
 - Character normalization
 - Morphological (or grammatical) normalizations
 - Spelling variations
 - Synonyms and stopwords

Key take-aways

- Natural language is very complex
 - Each language is different with its own set of complexities
 - We have had a high level look at languages



English



German



French



Arabic



Japanese

- But there is also...



Spanish



Greek



Hebrew



Russian



Thai



Korean



Chinese

...

and many more

- Search needs per-language processing
 - Many considerations to be made (often application-specific)

Basic search quality measurements

Precision

Fraction of retrieved
documents that are relevant

$$\text{precision} = \frac{|\{\text{relevant docs}\} \cap \{\text{retrieved docs}\}|}{|\{\text{retrieved docs}\}|}$$

Recall

Fraction of relevant
documents that are retrieved

$$\text{recall} = \frac{|\{\text{relevant docs}\} \cap \{\text{retrieved docs}\}|}{|\{\text{relevant docs}\}|}$$

Precision vs. Recall

- ? Should I optimize for precision or recall?

Precision vs. Recall

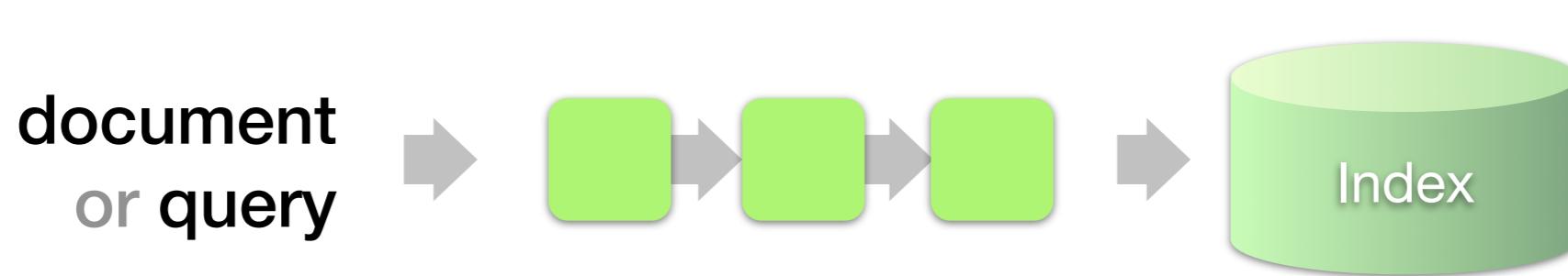
- ? Should I optimize for precision or recall?
- ! That depends on your application

Precision vs. Recall

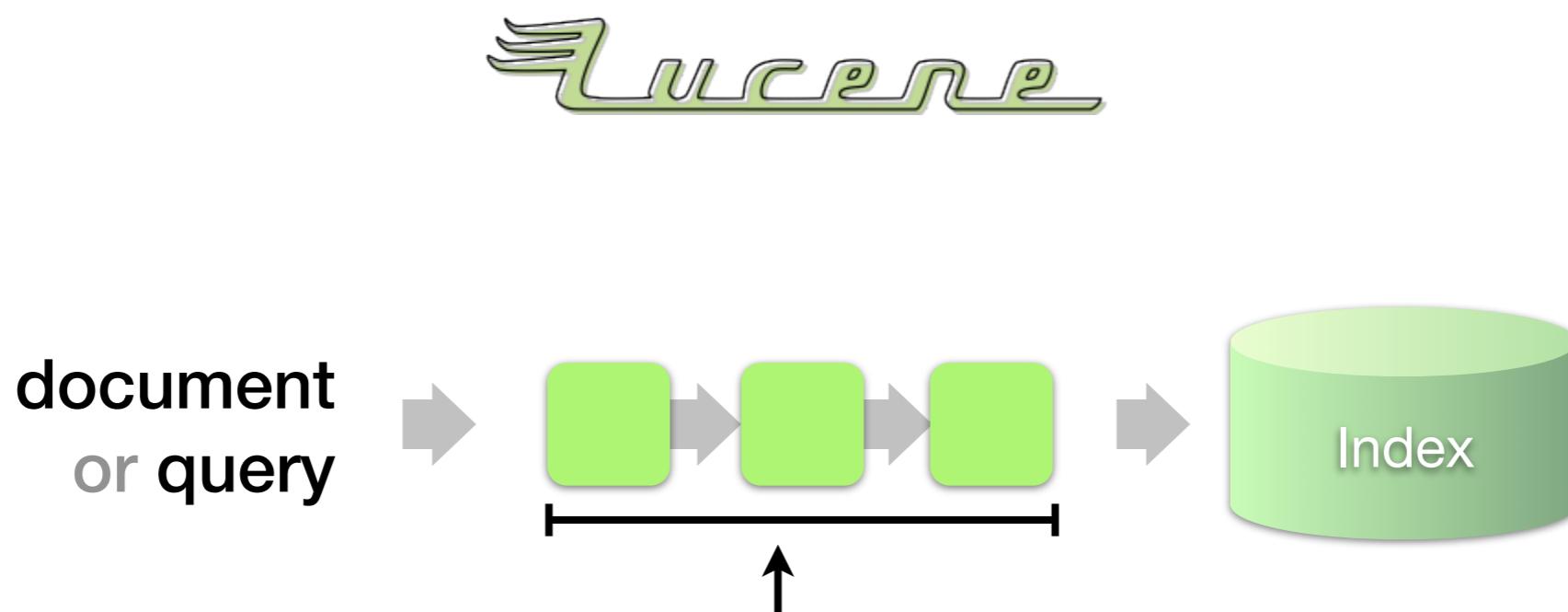
- ? Should I optimize for precision or recall?
- ! That depends on your application
- ! A lot of tuning work is in practice often about improving recall without hurting precision

Linguistics in Lucene

Simplified architecture



Simplified architecture



Lucene analysis chain / Analyzer

1. Analyzes queries or documents in a pipelined fashion before indexing or searching
2. Analysis itself is done by an **analyzer** on a per field basis
3. Key plug-in point for linguistics in Lucene

Analyzers

- ? What does an Analyzer do?

Analyzers

- ? What does an Analyzer do?
- ! Analyzers take text as its input and turns it into a stream of tokens

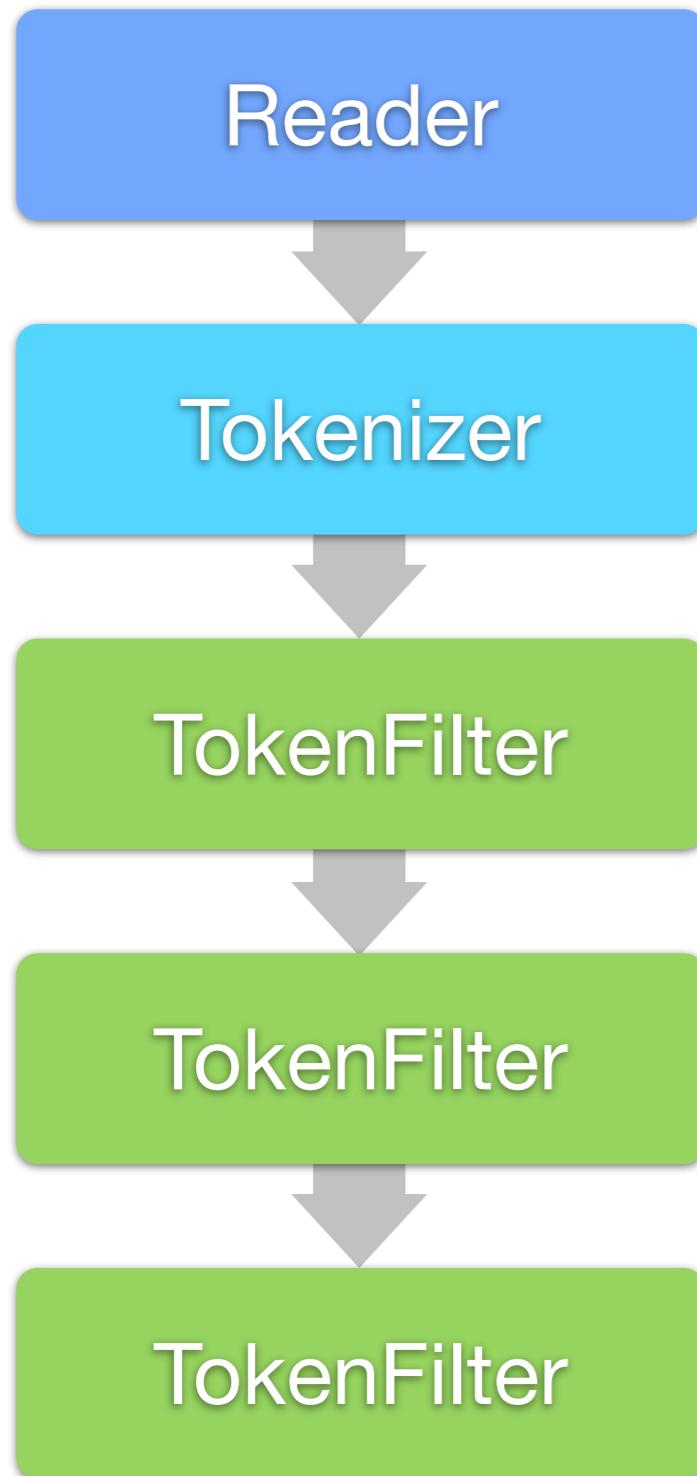
Analyzers

- ? What does an Analyzer do?
- ! Analyzers take text as its input and turns it into a stream of tokens
- ! Tokens are produced by a Tokenizer

Analyzers

- ? What does an Analyzer do?
- ! Analyzers take text as its input and turns it into a stream of tokens
- ! Tokens are produced by a Tokenizer
- ! Tokens can be processed further by a chain of TokenFilters downstream

Analyzer high-level concepts



Reader

- Stream to be analyzed is provided by a Reader (from java.io)
- Can have chain of associated CharFilters (not discussed)

Tokenizer

- Segments text provider by reader into tokens
- Most interesting things happen in incrementToken() method

TokenFilter

- Updates, mutates or enriches tokens
- Most interesting things happen in incrementToken() method

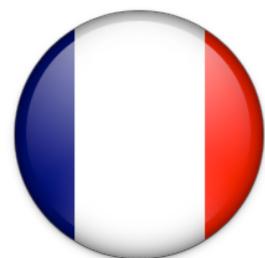
TokenFilter

...

TokenFilter

...

Lucene processing example



**Le champagne est protégé par une
appellation d'origine contrôlée.**

FrenchAnalyzer

Le champagne est protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.

FrenchAnalyzer

Le champagne est protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.



StandardTokenizer



FrenchAnalyzer

Le champagne est protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.



StandardTokenizer



Le | champagne | est | protégé | par | une | appellation | d'origine | contrôlée

FrenchAnalyzer

Le champagne est protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.

StandardTokenizer



Le | champagne | est | protégé | par | une | appellation | d'origine | contrôlée

ElisionFilter



FrenchAnalyzer

Le champagne est protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.

StandardTokenizer

```
Le|champagne|est|protégé|par|une|appellation|d'origine|contrôlée
```

ElisionFilter

```
Le|champagne|est|protégé|par|une|appellation|origine|contrôlée
```

FrenchAnalyzer

Le champagne est protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.

StandardTokenizer

```
Le|champagne|est|protégé|par|une|appellation|d'origine|contrôlée
```

ElisionFilter

```
Le|champagne|est|protégé|par|une|appellation|origine|contrôlée
```

LowerCaseFilter

LowerCaseFilter



Le champagne est protégé par une appellation origine contrôlée

Le

champagne

est

protégé

par

une

appellation

origine

contrôlée

LowerCaseFilter



le champagne est protégé par une appellation origine contrôlée

StopFilter



LowerCaseFilter



le	champagne	est	protégé	par	une	appellation	origine	contrôlée
----	-----------	-----	---------	-----	-----	-------------	---------	-----------

StopFilter



	champagne		protégé			appellation	origine	contrôlée
--	-----------	--	---------	--	--	-------------	---------	-----------

LowerCaseFilter



le	champagne	est	protégé	par	une	appellation	origine	contrôlée
----	-----------	-----	---------	-----	-----	-------------	---------	-----------

StopFilter



	champagne		protégé			appellation	origine	contrôlée
--	-----------	--	---------	--	--	-------------	---------	-----------

FrenchLightStemFilter



LowerCaseFilter



le	champagne	est	protégé	par	une	appellation	origine	contrôlée
----	-----------	-----	---------	-----	-----	-------------	---------	-----------

StopFilter



	champagne		protégé			appellation	origine	contrôle
--	-----------	--	---------	--	--	-------------	---------	----------

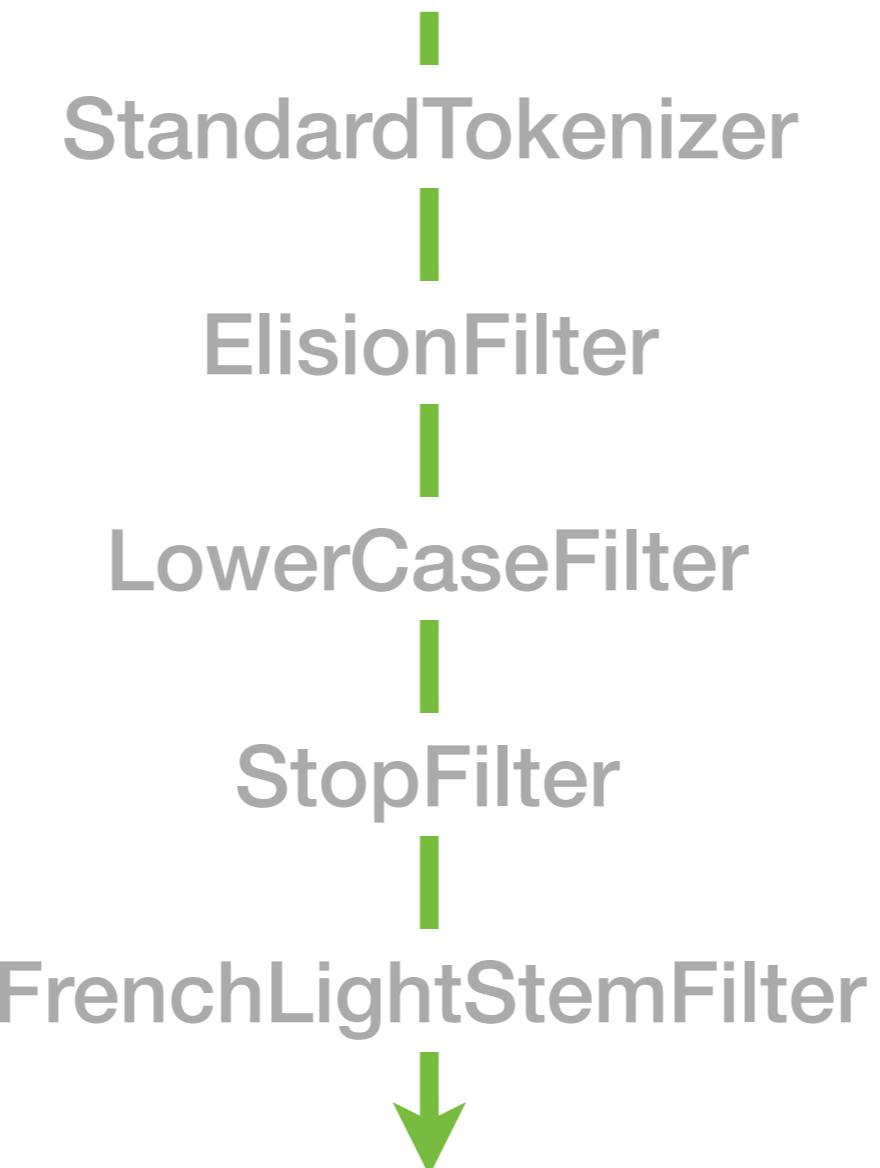
FrenchLightStemFilter



	champagn		proteg			apel	origin	control
--	----------	--	--------	--	--	------	--------	---------

FrenchAnalyzer

Le champagne est protégé par une appellation d'origine contrôlée.



	champagn	proteg			apel	origin	control
--	----------	--------	--	--	------	--------	---------

Analyzer processing model

- Analyzers provide a `TokenStream`
 - Retrieve it by calling `tokenStream(field, reader)`
 - `tokenStream()` bundles together tokenizers and any additional filters necessary for analysis
- Input is advanced by `incrementToken()`
 - Information about the token itself is provided by so-called `TokenAttributes` attached to the stream
 - Attribute for term text, offset, token type, etc.
 - `TokenAttributes` are updated on `incrementToken()`



Hands-on: Working with analyzers in code

Synonyms

Synonyms

- Synonyms are flexible and easy-to-use
 - Very powerful tools for improving recall
- Two types of synonyms
 - One way/mapping “sparkling wine => champagne”
 - Two way/equivalence “aoc, appellation d'origine contrôlée”
- Can be applied index-time or query-time
 - Apply synonyms on one side - not both
- Best practice is to apply synonyms query-side
 - Allows for updating synonyms without reindexing
 - Allows for turning synonyms on and off easily



Hands-on: French analysis with synonyms

Linguistics in ElasticSearch (quick intro)

ElasticSearch linguistics highlights

- Uses Lucene analyzers, tokenizers & filters
- Analyzers are made available through a provider interface
- Some analyzers available through plugins, i.e. kuromoji, smartcn, icu, etc.
- Analyzers can be set up in your mapping
- Analyzers can also be chosen based on a field in your document, i.e. a lang field

elasticsearch

Hands-on: Simple multi-language example

Linguistics in Solr

Linguistics in Solr

- Uses Lucene analyzers, tokenizers & filters
- Linguistic processing is defined by field types in schema.xml
- Different processing can be applied on indexing and querying side if desired
- A rich set of pre-defined and ready-to-use per-language field types are available
- Defaults can be used as starting points for further configuration or as they are

French in schema.xml

```
<!-- French -->
<field name="title" type="text_fr" indexed="true" stored="true"/>
<field name="body" type="text_fr" indexed="true" stored="true"/>

<dynamicField name="*_fr" type="text_fr" indexed="true" stored="true"/>

<!-- French -->
<fieldType name="text_fr" class="solr.TextField" positionIncrementGap="100">
  <analyzer>
    <tokenizer class="solr.StandardTokenizerFactory"/>
    <!-- removes l', etc -->
    <filter class="solr.ElisionFilterFactory" ignoreCase="true"
           articles="lang/contractions_fr.txt"/>
    <filter class="solr.LowerCaseFilterFactory"/>
    <filter class="solr.StopFilterFactory" ignoreCase="true"
           words="lang/stopwords_fr.txt" format="snowball"
           enablePositionIncrements="true"/>
    <filter class="solr.FrenchLightStemFilterFactory"/>
    <!-- less aggressive: <filter class="solr.FrenchMinimalStemFilterFactory"/> -->
    <!-- more aggressive: <filter class="solr.SnowballPorterFilterFactory"
        language="French"/> -->
  </analyzer>
</fieldType>
```

Arabic in schema.xml

```
<!-- Arabic -->
<field name="title" type="text_ar" indexed="true" stored="true"/>
<field name="body" type="text_ar" indexed="true" stored="true"/>

<dynamicField name="*_ar" type="text_ar" indexed="true" stored="true"/>

<!-- Arabic -->
<fieldType name="text_ar" class="solr.TextField" positionIncrementGap="100">
  <analyzer>
    <tokenizer class="solr.StandardTokenizerFactory"/>
    <!-- for any non-arabic -->
    <filter class="solr.LowerCaseFilterFactory"/>
    <filter class="solr.StopFilterFactory" ignoreCase="true"
           words="lang/stopwords_ar.txt" enablePositionIncrements="true"/>
    <!-- normalizes alef maksura to yeh, etc -->
    <filter class="solr.ArabicNormalizationFilterFactory"/>
    <filter class="solr.ArabicStemFilterFactory"/>
  </analyzer>
</fieldType>
```

Field types in schema.xml

- `text_ar` **Arabic**
- `text_bg` **Bulgarian**
- `text_ca` **Catalan**
- `text_cjk` **CJK**
- `text_cz` **Czech**
- `text_da` **Danish**
- `text_de` **German**
- `text_el` **Greek**
- `text_es` **Spanish**
- `text_eu` **Basque**
- `text_fa` **Farsi**
- `text_fi` **Finnish**
- `text_fr` **French**
- `text_ga` **Irish**
- `text_gl` **Galician**
- `text_hi` **Hindi**
- `text_hu` **Hungarian**
- `text_hy` **Armenian**
- `text_id` **Indonesian**
- `text_it` **Italian**
- `text_lv` **Latvian**
- `text_nl` **Dutch**
- `text_no` **Norwegian**
- `text_pt` **Portuguese**
- `text_ro` **Romanian**
- `text_ru` **Russian**
- `text_sv` **Swedish**
- `text_th` **Thai**
- `text_tr` **Turkish**

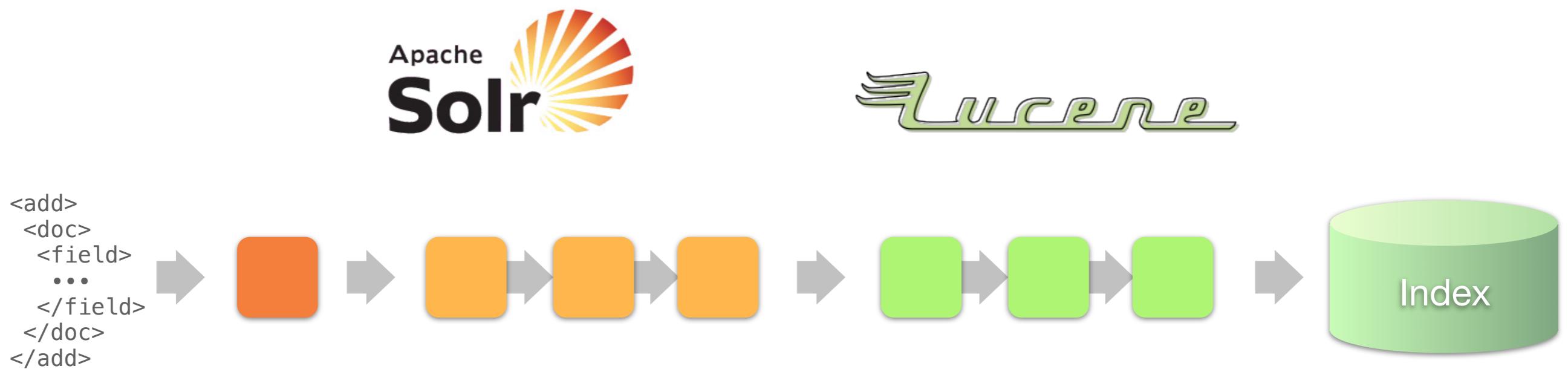
Field types in schema.xml

- `text_ar` **Arabic**
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- `text_ru` **Russian**
- `text_sv` **Swedish**
- `text_th` **Thai**
- `text_tr` **Turkish**
- `text_ko` **Korean**

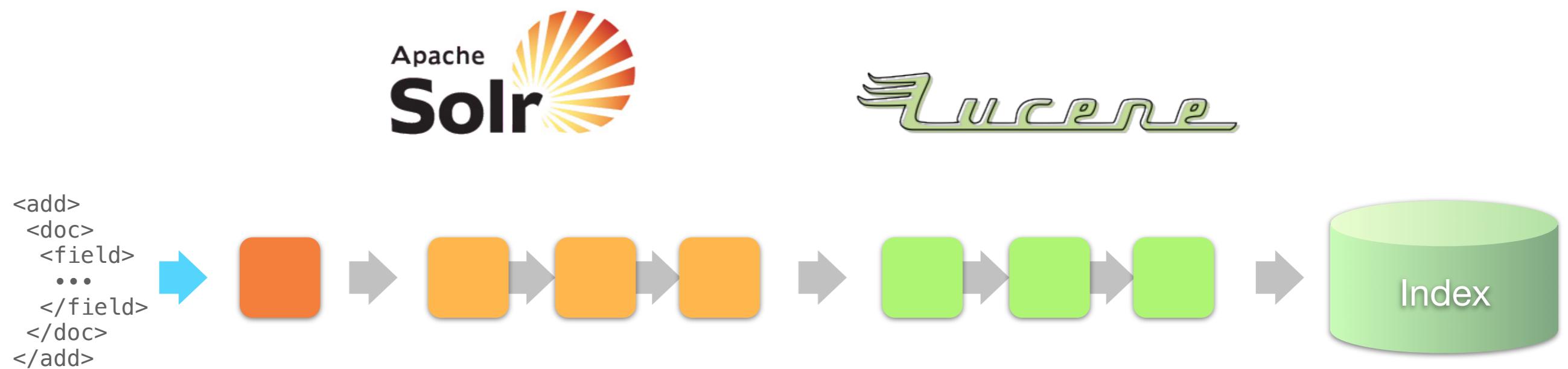
Coming soon!
LUCENE-4956

Solr processing

Adding document details



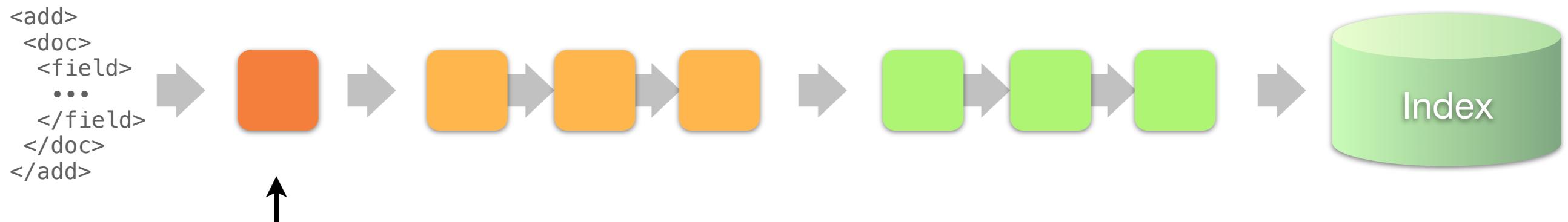
Adding document details



Adding document details



id	...
title	...
body	...



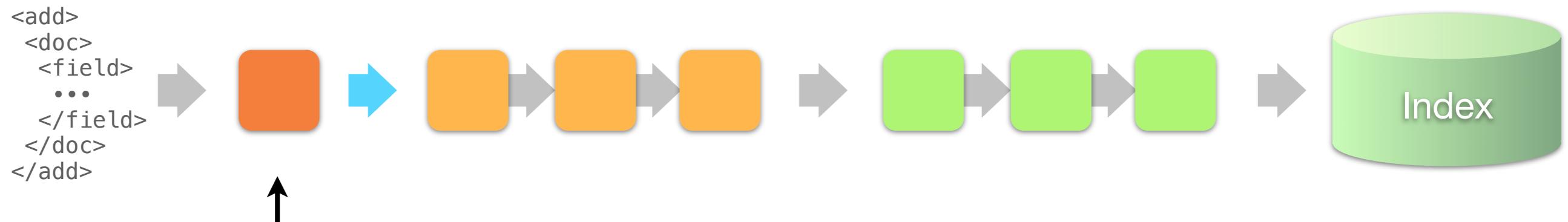
UpdateRequestHandler handles request

1. Receives a document via HTTP in XML (or JSON, CSV, ...)
2. Converts document to a SolrInputDocument
3. Activates the update chain

Adding document details



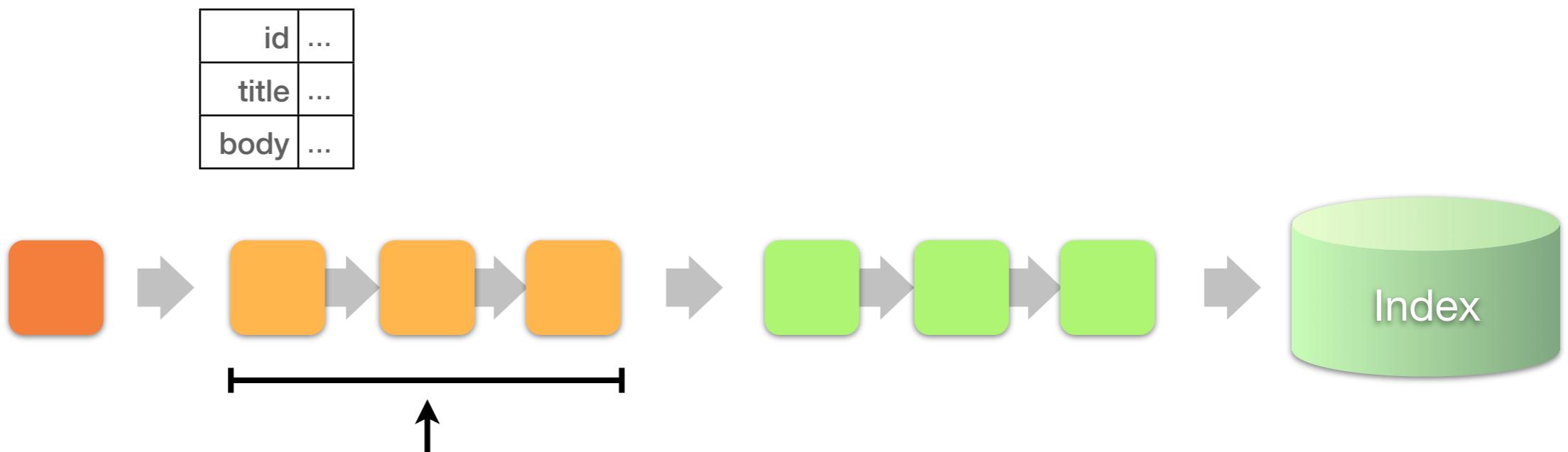
id	...
title	...
body	...



UpdateRequestHandler handles request

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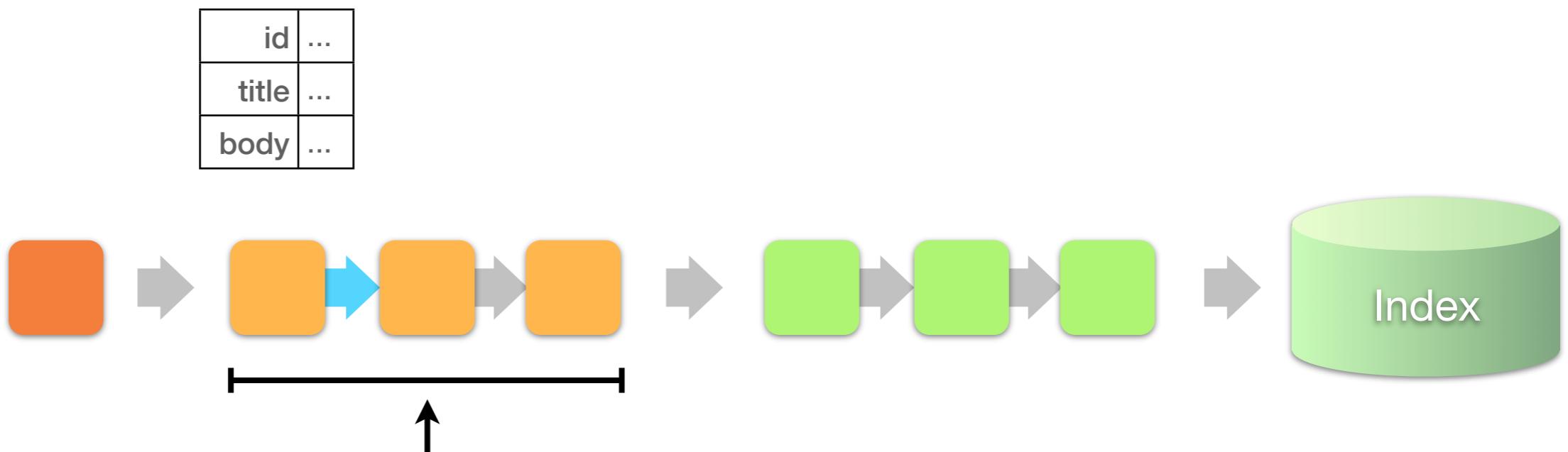
Adding document details



Update chain of `UpdateRequestProcessors`

1. Processes a document at a time with operation (add)
2. Plugin logic can mutate `SolrInputDocument`, i.e. add fields or do other processing as desired

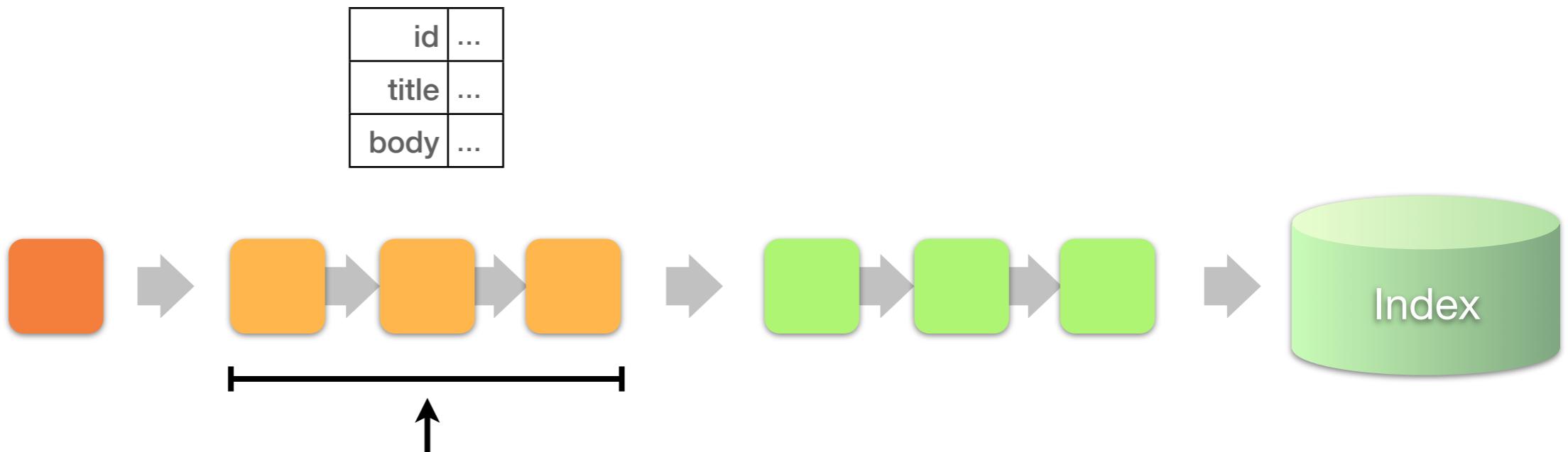
Adding document details



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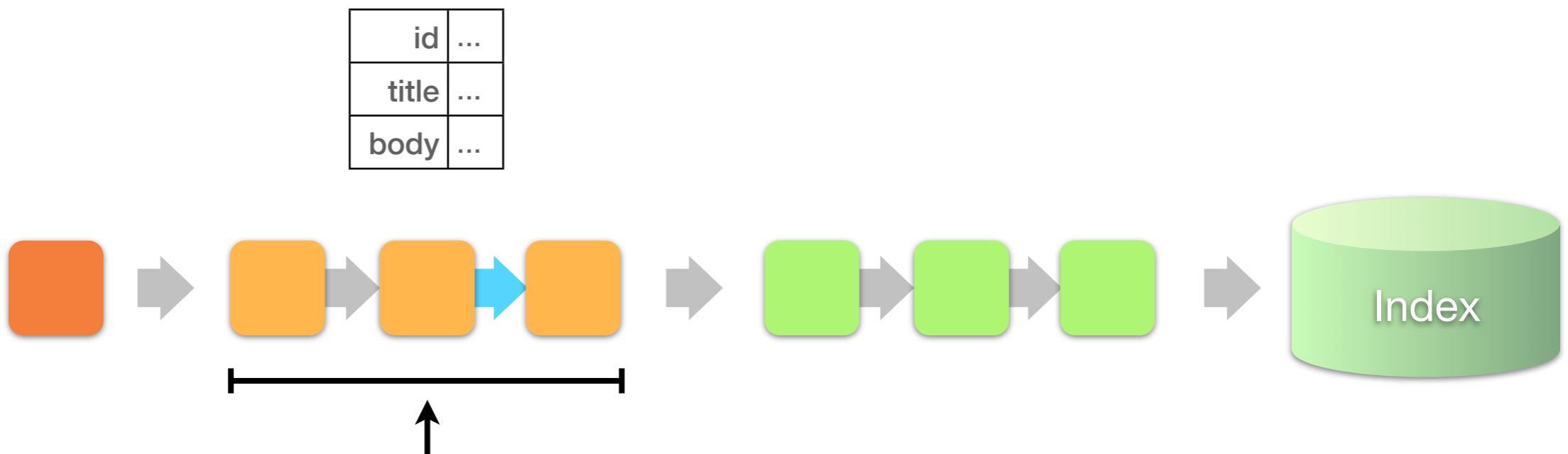
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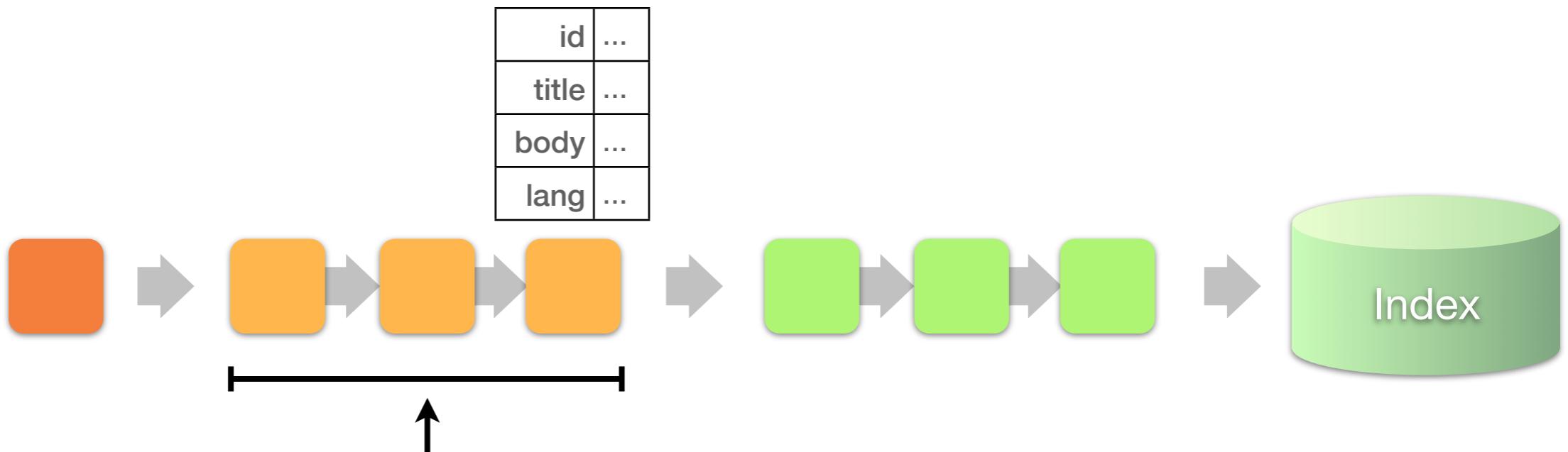
Adding document details



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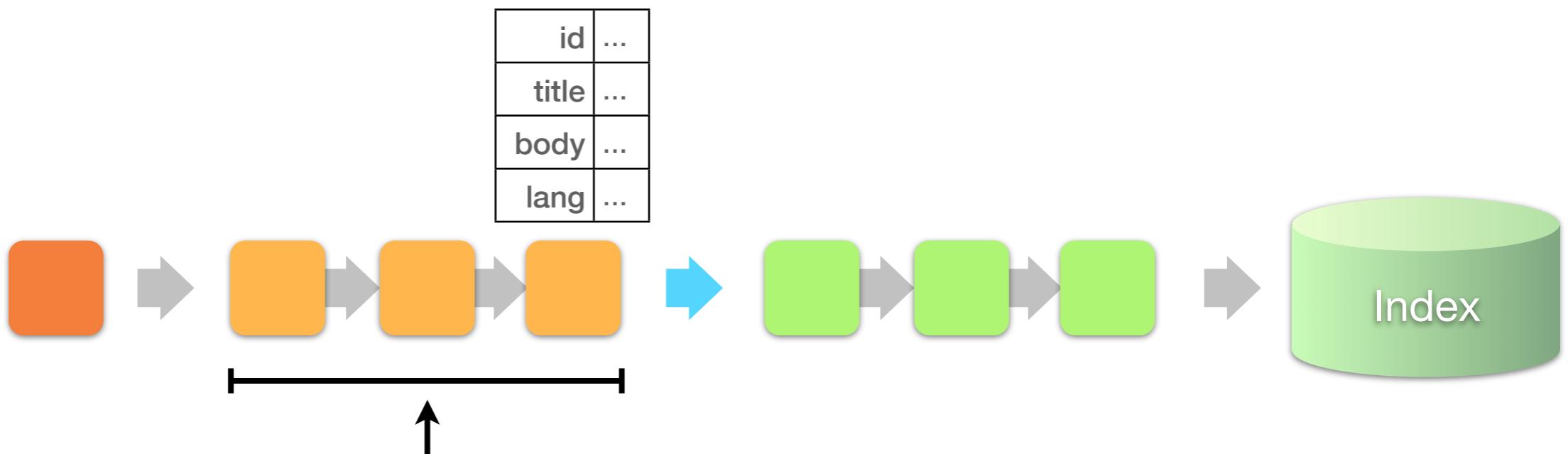
Adding document details



Update chain of `UpdateRequestProcessors`

1. Update processor added a `lang` field by analyzing `body`
2. Finish by calling `RunUpdateProcessor` (usually)

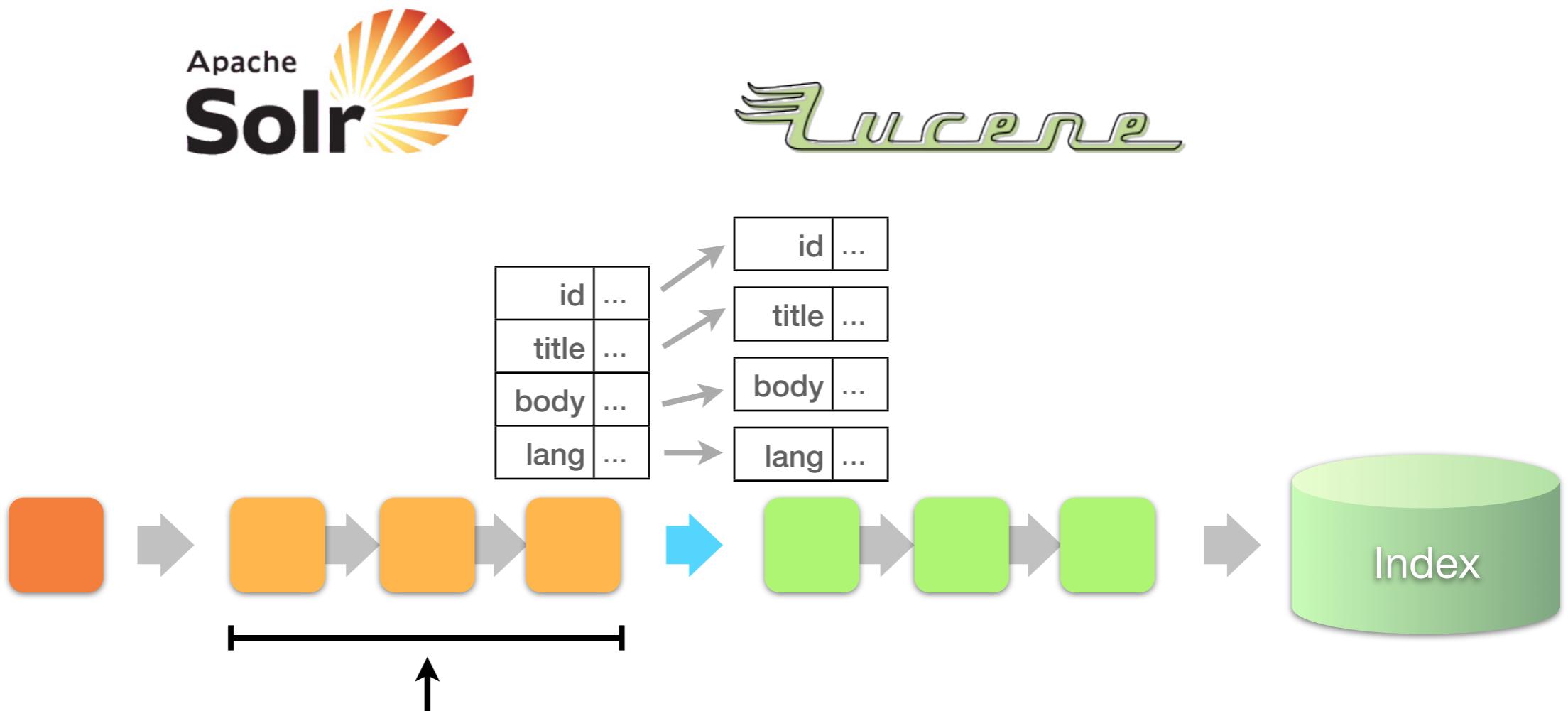
Adding document details



Update chain of `UpdateRequestProcessors`

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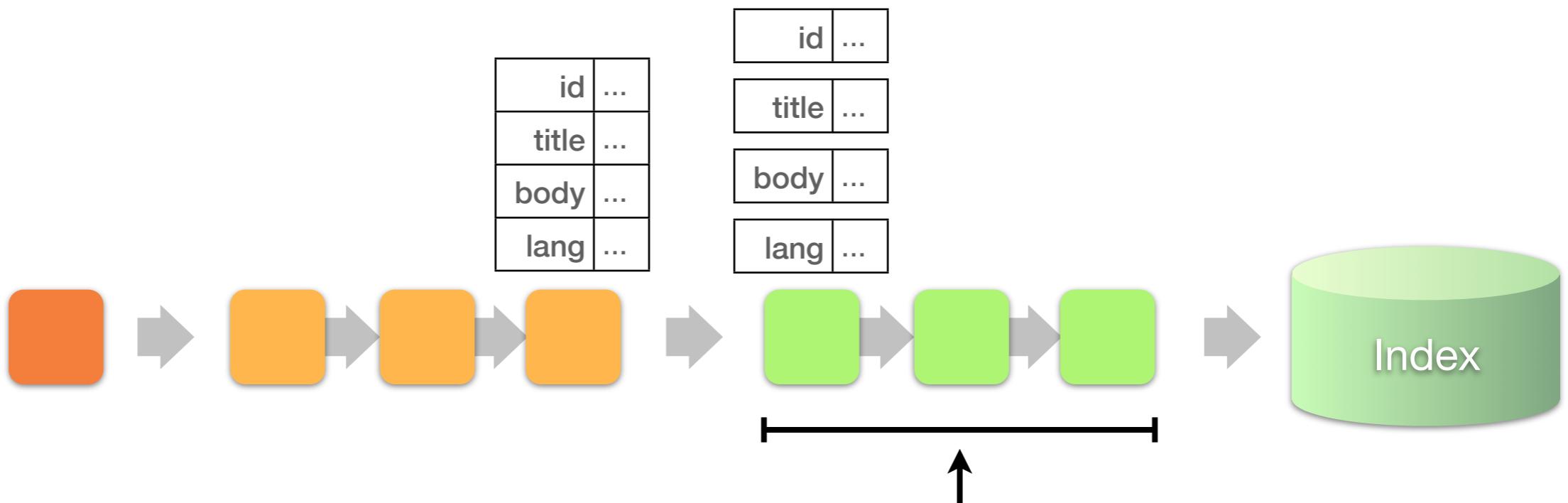
Adding document details



Update chain of **UpdateRequestProcessors**

1. Update processor added a lang field by analyzing body
2. Finish by calling **RunUpdateProcessor** (usually)

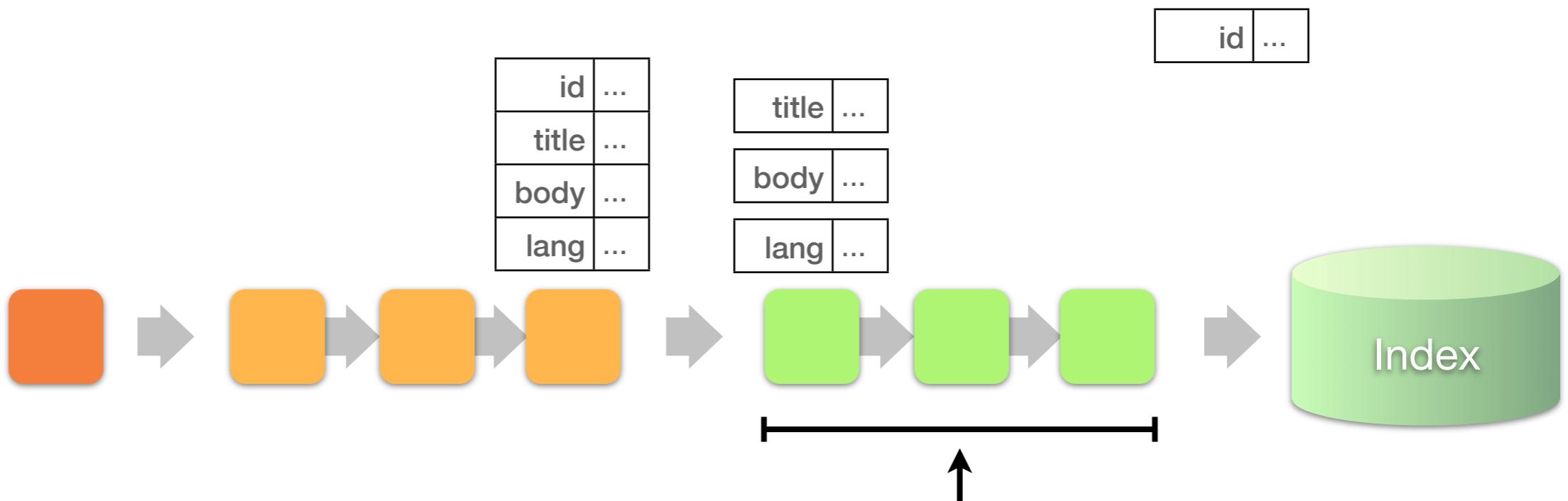
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

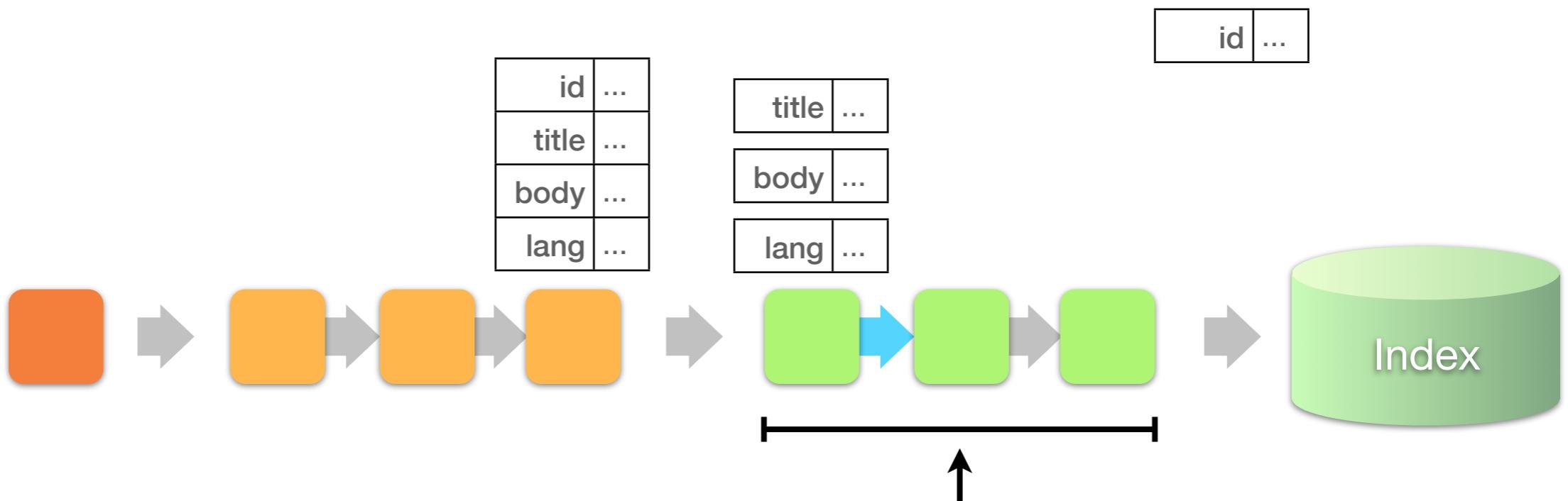
1. Fields are analyzed individually

Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain
1. No analysis on id

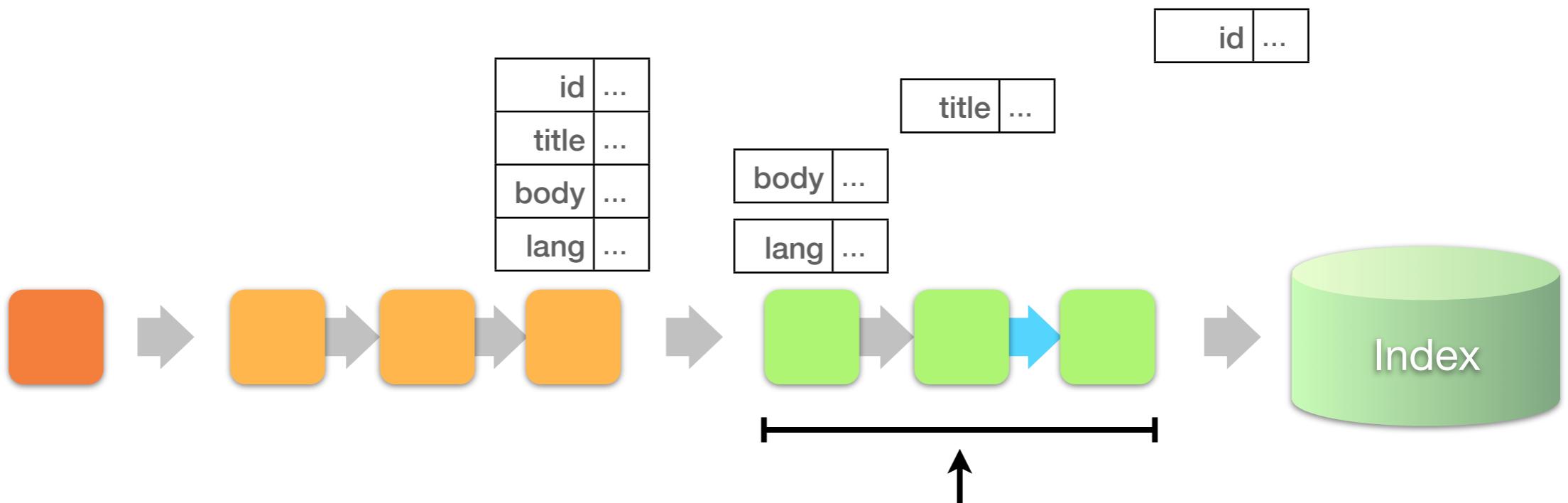
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field title being processed

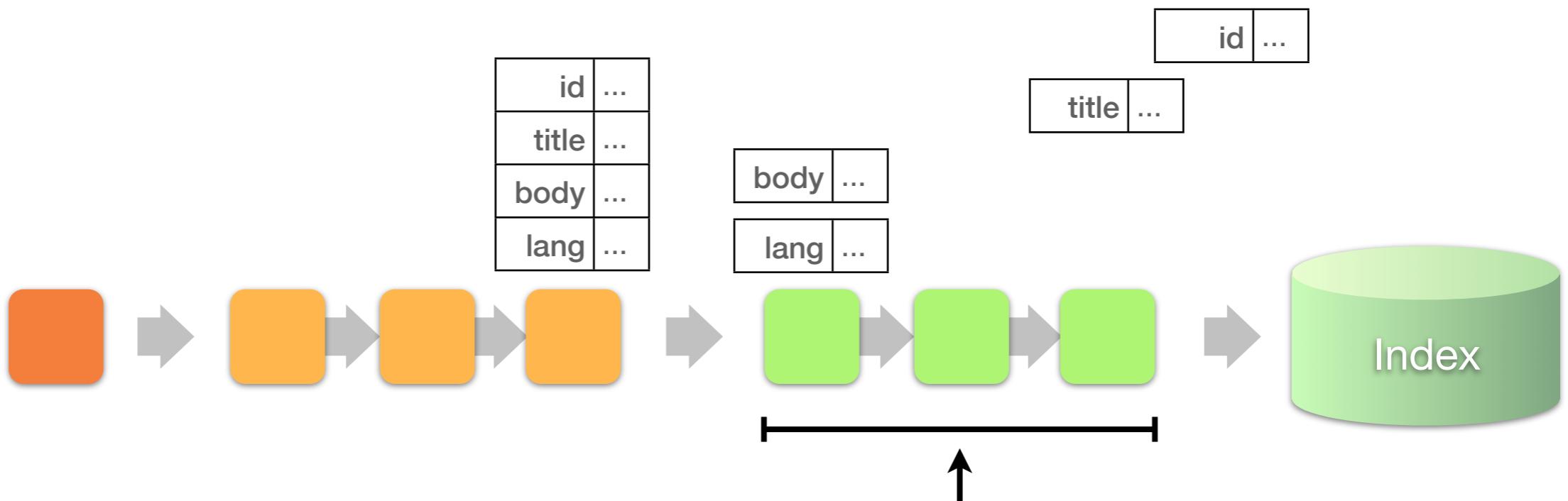
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field title being processed

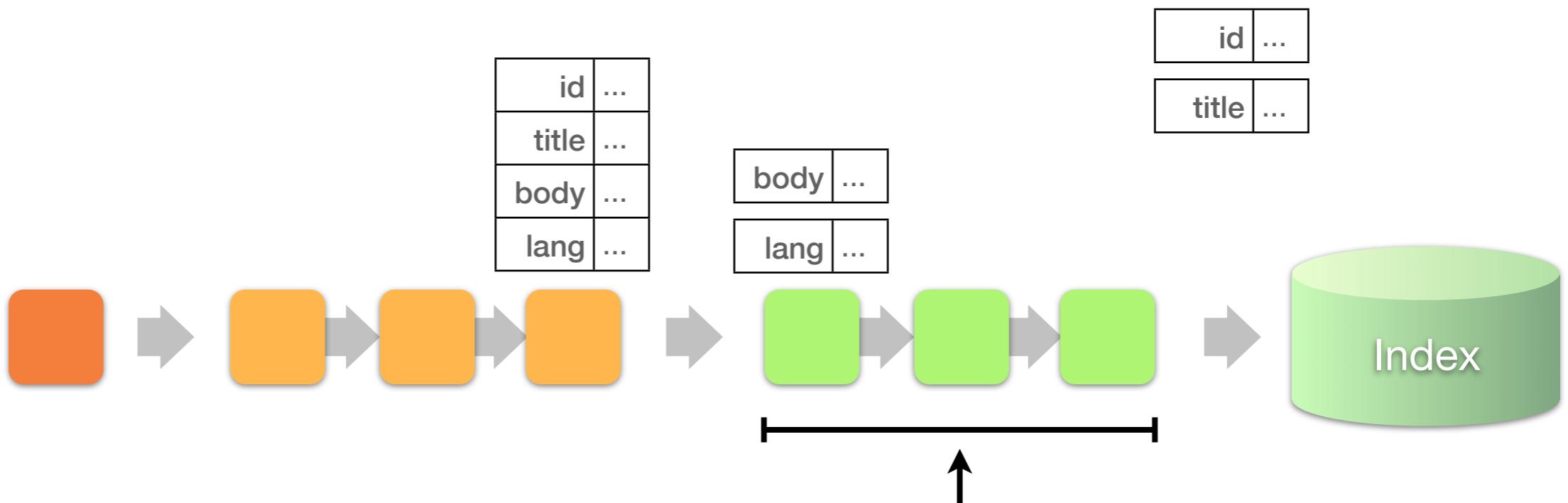
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field title being processed

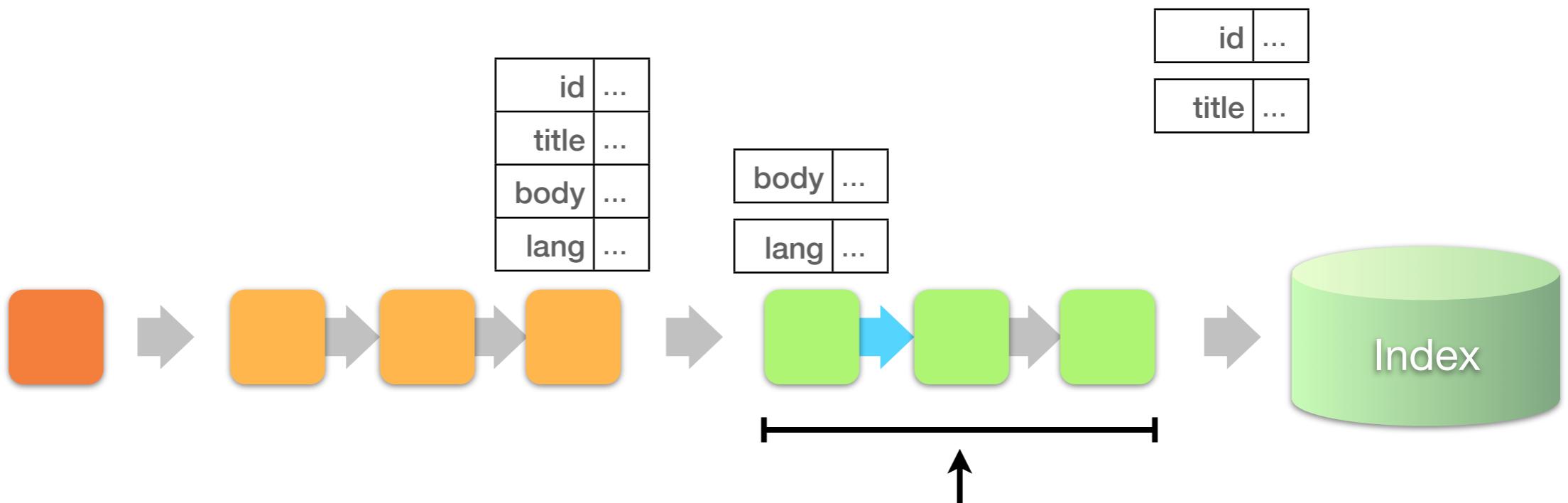
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field title being processed

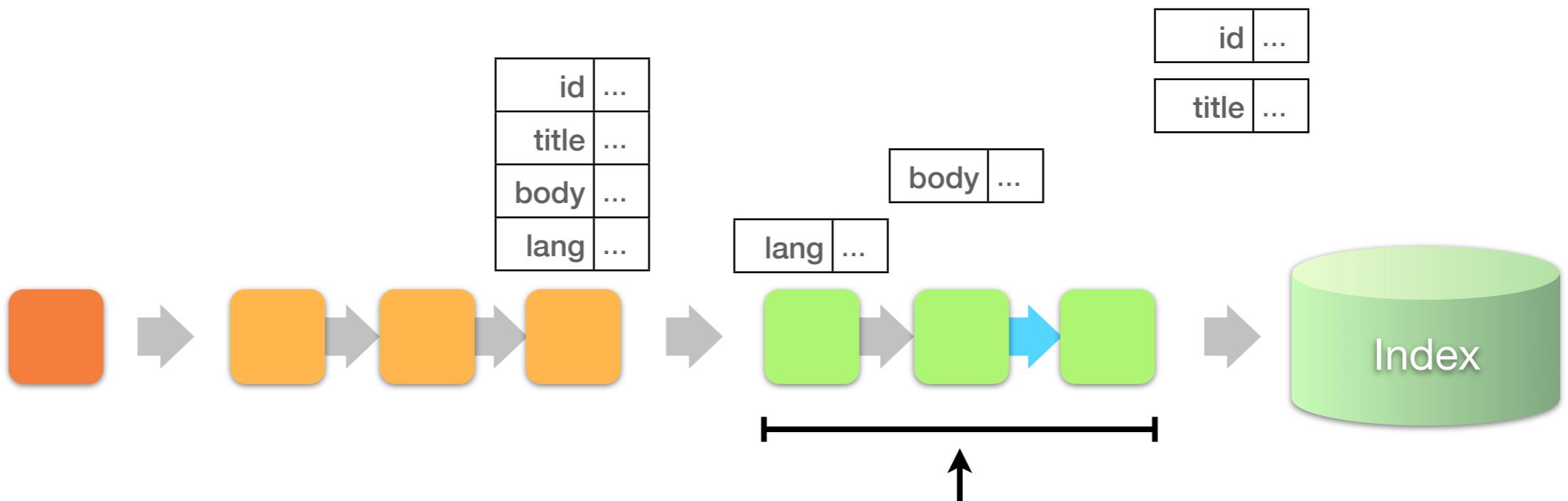
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field body being processed

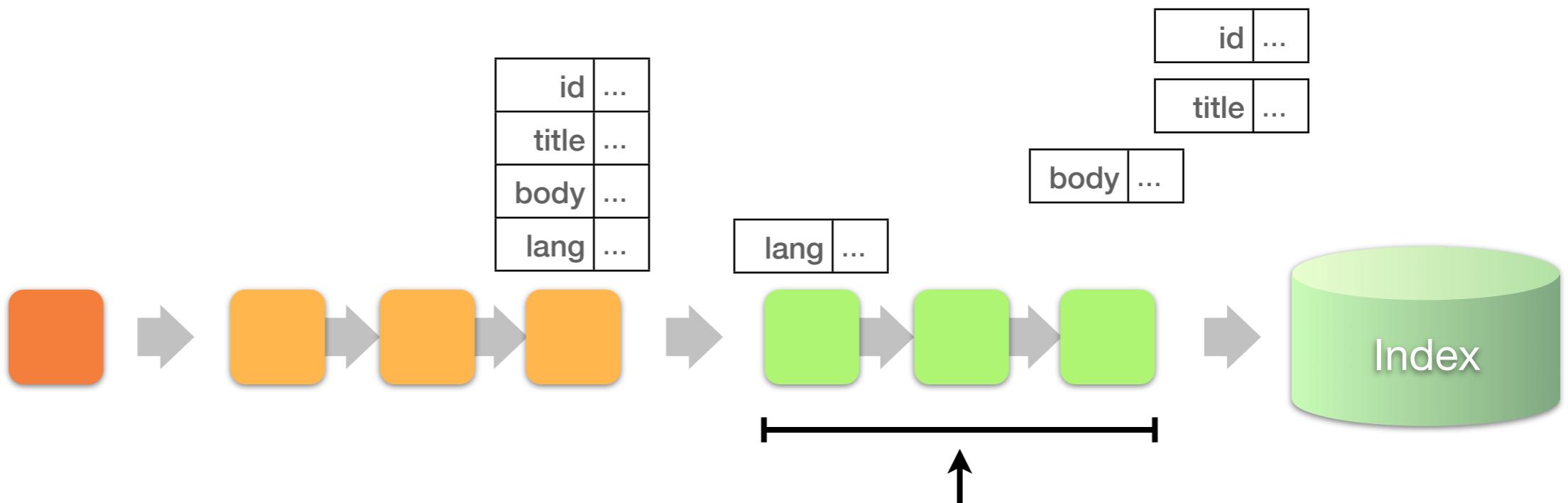
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field body being processed

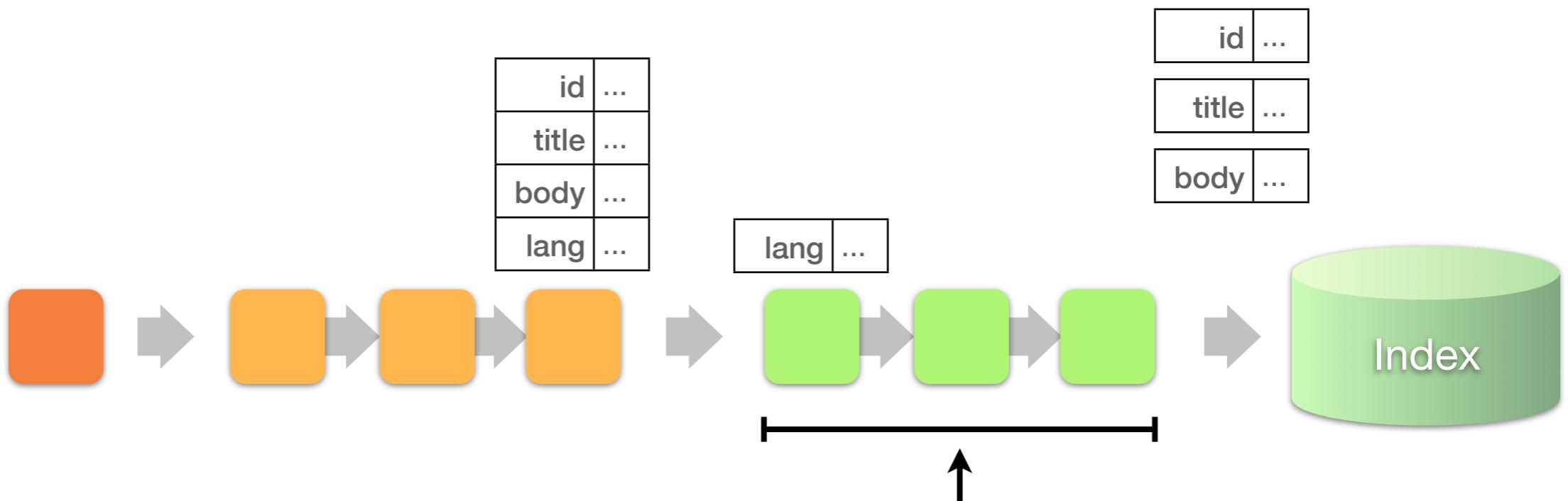
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field body being processed

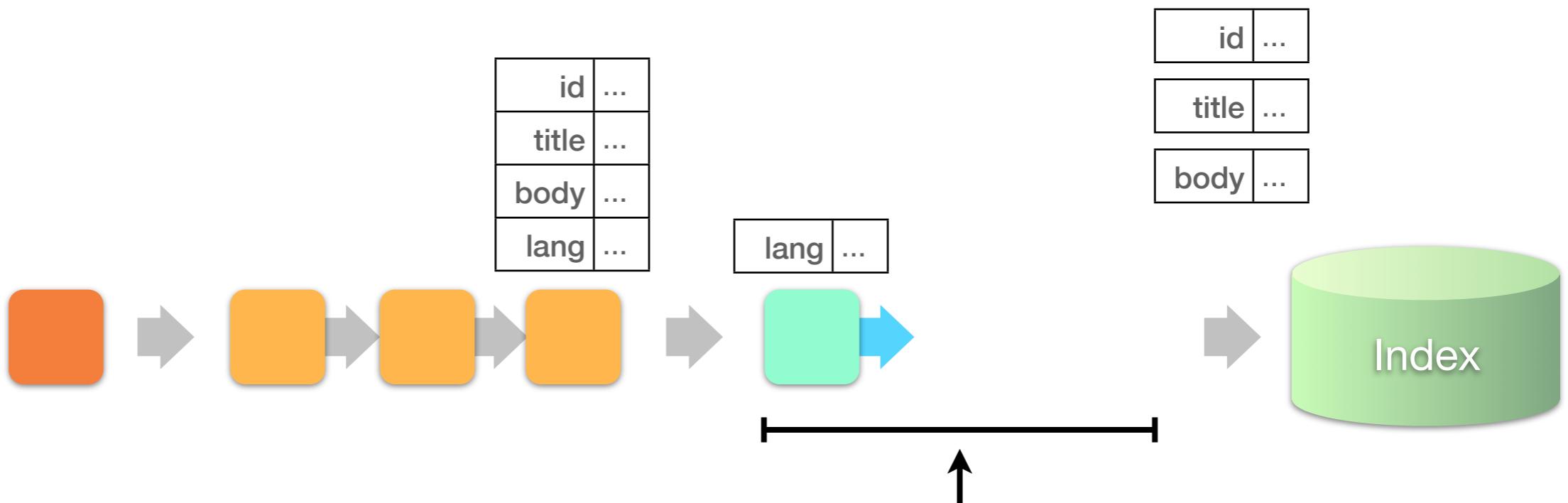
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field body being processed

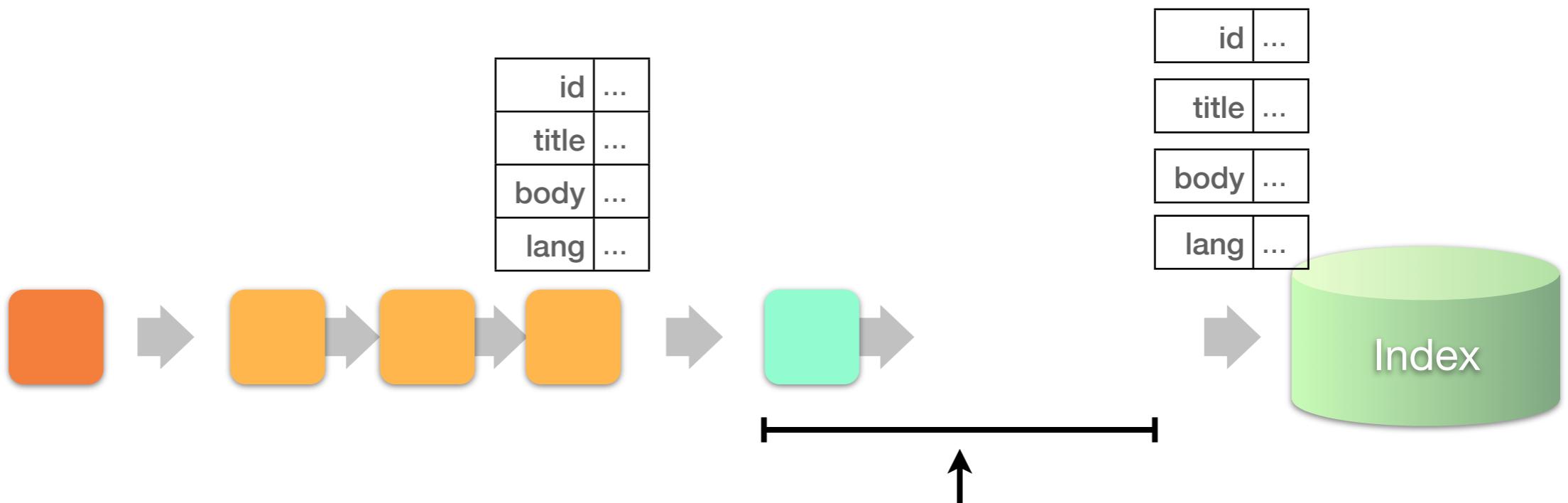
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field lang being processed
2. User a different analyzer chain

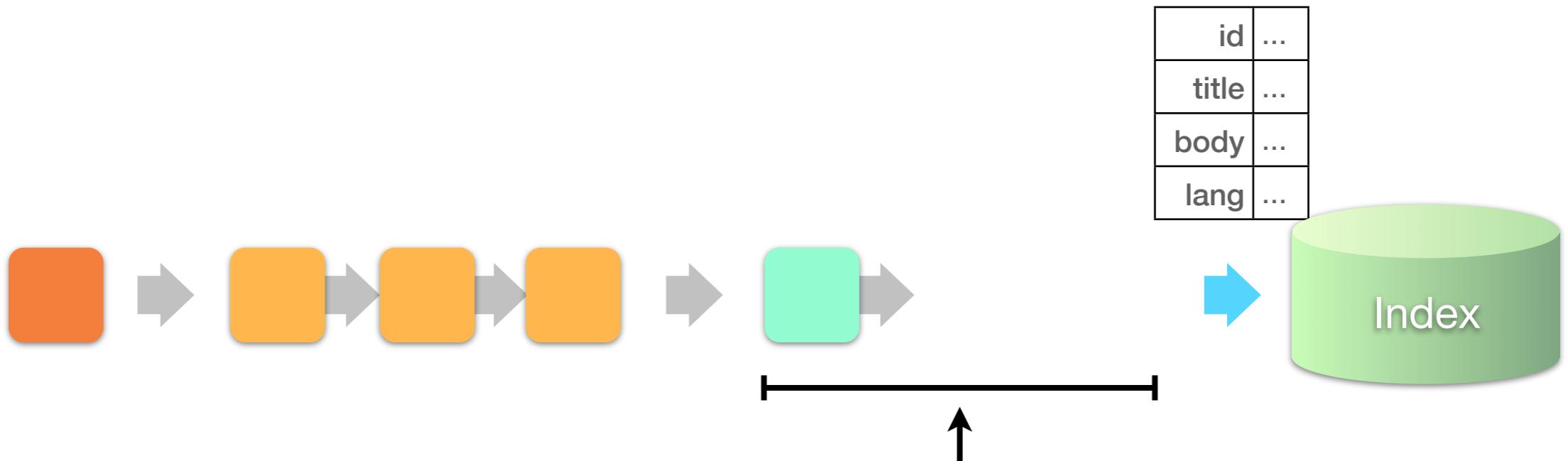
Adding document details



Lucene analyzer chain

1. Field lang being processed
2. User a different analyzer chain

Adding document details



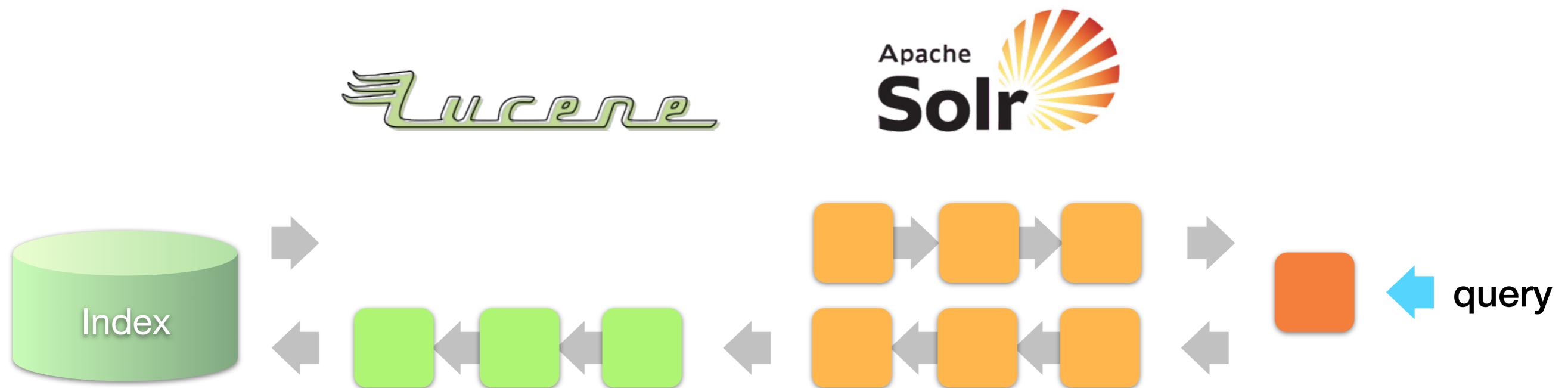
Lucene analyzer chain

1. All fields analyzed

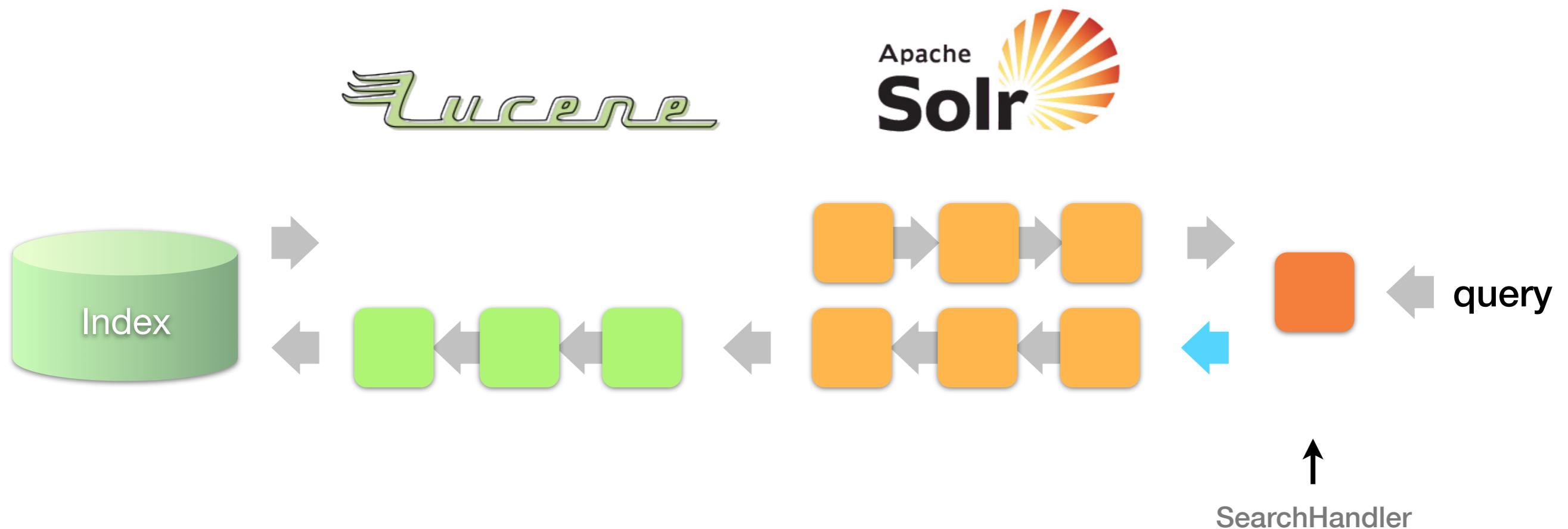
Adding document details



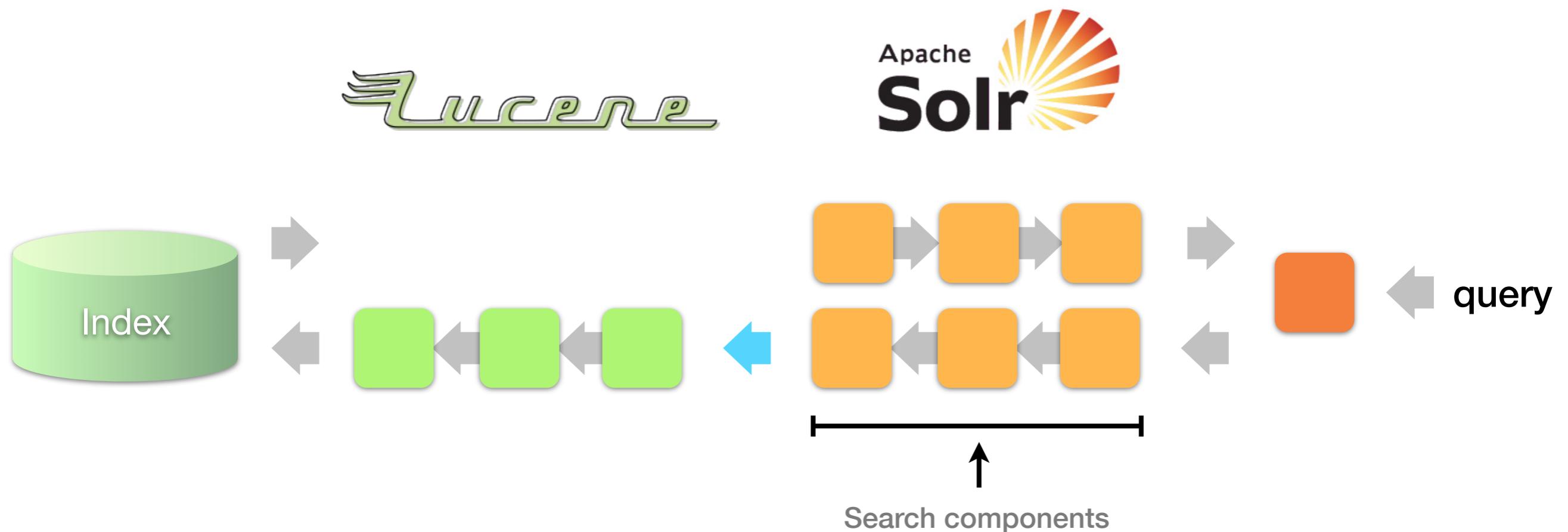
Search details



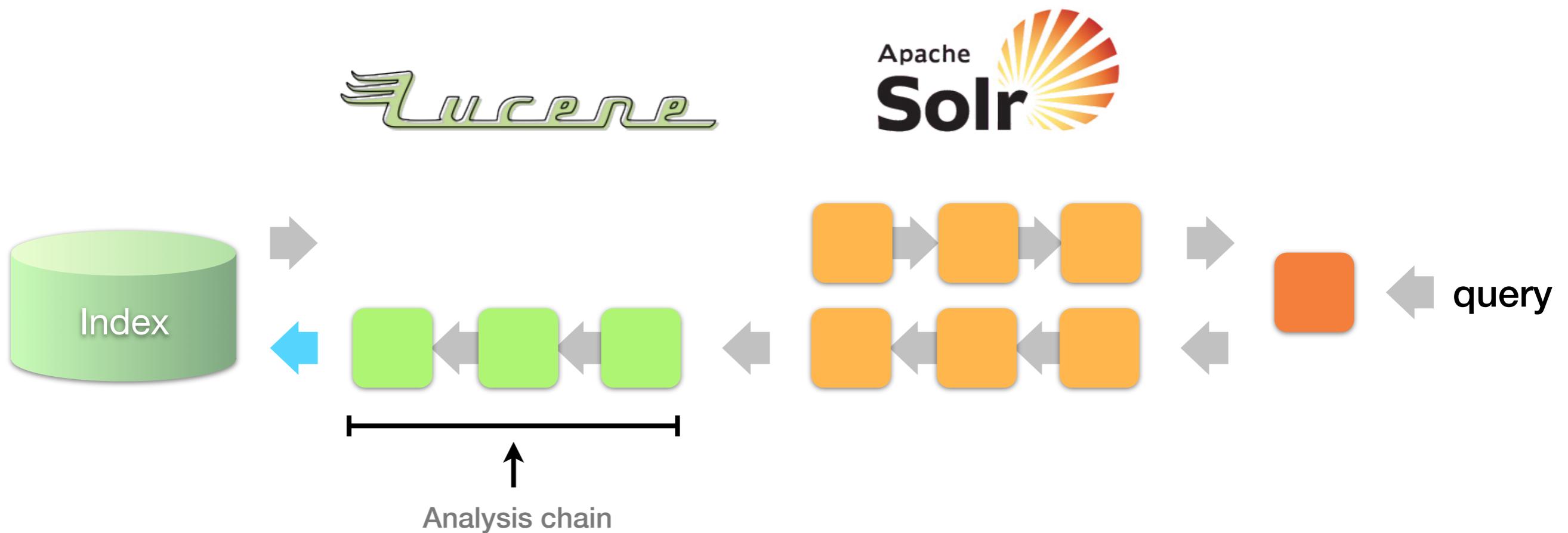
Search details



Search details



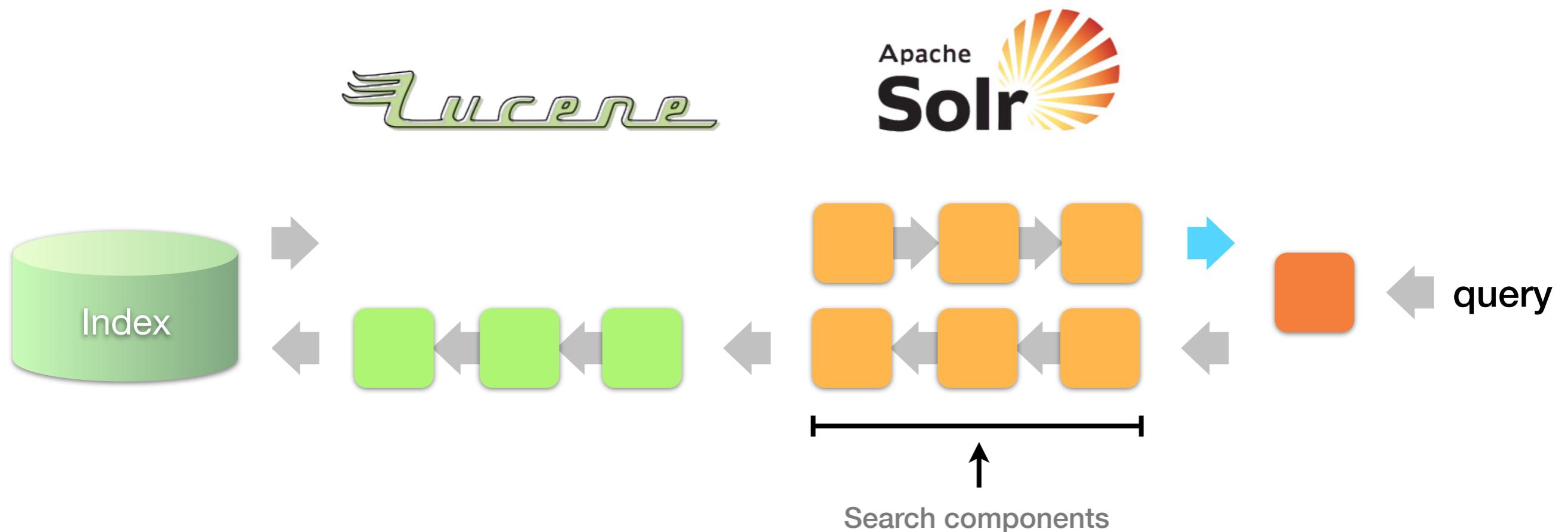
Search details



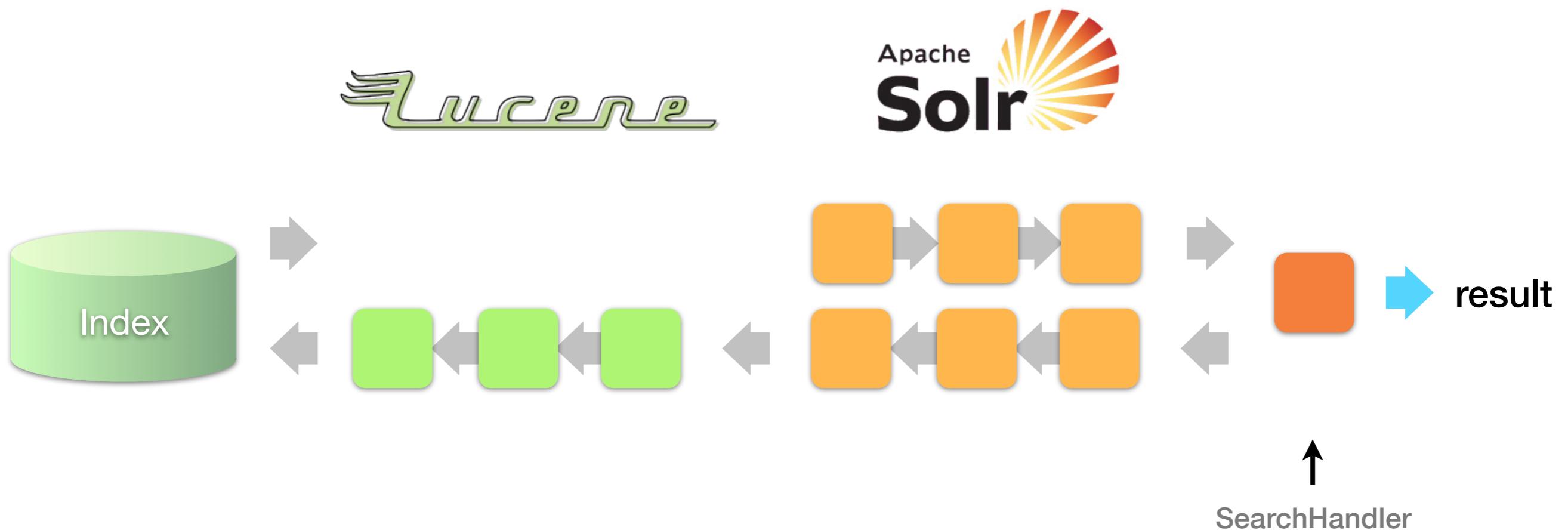
Search details



Search details



Search details





Hands-on: Multi-lingual search with Solr

Multi-language challenges

- How do we detect language accurately?
 - Indexing side is feasible (accuracy > 99.1%), but query side is hard because of ambiguity
- How to deal with language query side?
 - Supply language to use in the application (best if possible)
 - Search all relevant language variants (OR query)
 - Search a fallback field using n-gramming
 - Boost important language or content

Not knowing query term language will most likely impact negatively on overall rank

NLP eco-system

Basis Technology



- High-end provider of text analytics software
- Rosette Linguistics Platform (RLP) highlights
 - Language and encoding identification (55 languages and 45 encodings)
 - Segmentation for Chinese, Japanese and Korean
 - De-compounding for German, Dutch, Korean, etc.
 - Lemmatization for a range of languages
 - Part-of-speech tagging for a range of language
 - Sentence boundary detection
 - Named entity extraction
 - Name indexing, transliteration and matching
- Integrates well with Lucene/Solr

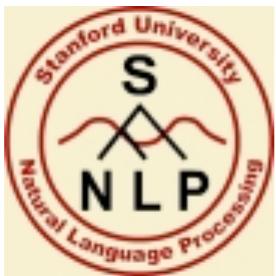
Apache OpenNLP

- Machine learning toolkit for NLP
 - Implements a range of common and best-practice algorithms
 - Very easy-to-use tools and APIs targeted towards NLP
- Features and applications
 - Tokenization
 - Sentence segmentation
 - Part-of-speech tagging
 - Named entity recognition
 - Chunking
- Licensing terms
 - Code itself has an Apache License 2.0
 - Some models are available, but licensing terms and F-scores are unclear...
- See LUCENE-2899 for OpenNLP a Lucene Analyzer (work-in-progress)



Hands-on: Basic text processing with OpenNLP

Other eco-system options



Summary

Summary

- Getting languages right is a hard problem
 - Linguistics helps improve search quality
- Linguistics in Lucene, ElasticSearch and Solr
 - A wide range of languages are supported out-of-the-box
 - Considerations to be made on indexing and query side
 - Lucene Analyzers work on a per-field level
 - Solr UpdateRequestProcessors work on the document level
 - Solr has functionality for automatically detecting language (available in ElasticSearch as a plugin)
- Linguistics options also available in the eco-system

Practical advice

Practical advice

- **Understand your content and your users' needs**
 - Understand your language and its issues
 - Understand what users want from search
- **Do you have issues with recall?**
 - Consider synonyms, stemming
 - Consider compound-segmentation for European languages
 - Consider WordDelimiterFilter, phonetic matching
- **Do you have issues with precision?**
 - Consider using ANDs instead of ORs for terms
 - Consider improving content quality? Search fewer fields?
- **Is some content more important than other?**
 - Consider boosting content with a boost query

Thanks you

Jan Høydahl www.cominvent.com

Thanks for some slide material

Bushra Zawaydeh

Thanks for fun Arabic language lessons

Gaute Lambertsen

Thanks for helping talk preparations

Example code

- Example code will be available on Github

<https://github.com/atilika/berlin-buzzwords-2013>

- Get started using

git clone git://github.com/atilika/berlin-buzzwords-2013.git

less berlin-buzzwords-2013/README.md

- Contact us if you have questions

hello@atilika.com

Thank you very much

Vielen Dank

Merci beaucoup

شكراً جزيلاً

ありがとうございました

