Open Source File Renamer Tools – An Analysis

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Abstract- *Enormous growth in the internet technology and the advanced developments in the hardware industry has created a new platform which helps the users to download and store large amount of information in the form of word documents, PDFs, text files, images, audio files, and so on. Generally, most of these downloaded file names are not giving any proper meaning. These file names may be a combination of numbers or numbers with special symbols or only alphabets with no meaning or alphabets with special symbols or combination of these. Later, the computer system contains many different categories of files, and the name of the files does not provide proper meaning. This situation has created a problem to the users; if they are searching for particular information or content from these files it is very difficult for them to get the exact file and this process has become tedious, time and memory consuming one. It is very difficult to the users for renaming the file names after reviewing the content of each and every file. For performing the file renaming process there are many open source tools are available. The main objective of this research work is to analyze the performance of eight open source file renamer tools. For this analysis we have taken File Renamer Basic, Flexible Renamer, Advanced Renamer, Batch Renamer, Bulk Rename Utility, Rename It, File Renamer, and Effective File Search.*

Keywords- Text Mining, File Renamer, open source tools

I. INTRODUCTION

Text mining often referred as text data mining or knowledge discovery from textual databases refers to the process of extracting interesting and non-trivial patterns or knowledge from text documents [1]. It makes use of methods from information retrieval, information extraction as well as natural language processing (NLP). Massive development in the internet technology and the advanced developments in the hardware industry has created a new platform which helps the users to download and store huge volume of information in the form of word documents, PDFs, text files, images, audio files, and so on.

Generally, most of these downloaded file names are not having any proper meaning. These file names is also a combination of numbers or numbers with special symbols or only alphabets with no meaning or alphabets with special symbols or combination of these. Later, the computer system contains many different categories of files, and the name of the

files does not provide proper meaning [2]. This situation has created a drawback to the users, if they are searching for particular information or content from these files it is very difficult for them to get. And this system has become tedious and time consuming. It is very difficult to the users for renaming the file names after reviewing the content of each and every file [3].

II. FILE RENAMER TOOLS

For renaming a file, many open source tools are available. Some of tools are listed as follows,

1. File Renamer Basic
2. Flexible Renamer
3. Advanced Renamer
4. Batch Renamer
5. Bulk Rename Utility
6. Rename It
7. File Renamer
8. Effective File Search

A. File Renamer Basic

File Renamer Basic is a simple and powerful software program to rename the files, folders and audio files. It was developed to quick and easily renames the multiple files at once. With the use of this tool, we can rename entire directories and subdirectories of files, images and photos. It is also useful for renaming the digital pictures. We can use the filename filter to easily narrow down the search for specific type of files [4]. This tool also provides the find and replaces techniques. The main drawback of this tool, it is not rename the file based on analyzing the content. Instead of that, it will automatically generate the file name based on the functions used in this tool. Figure 1 and 2 gives the output of file renamer basic tool.
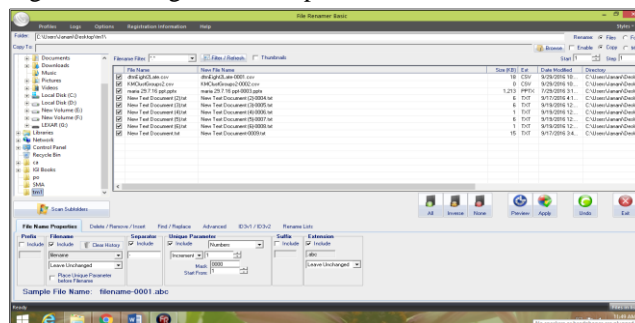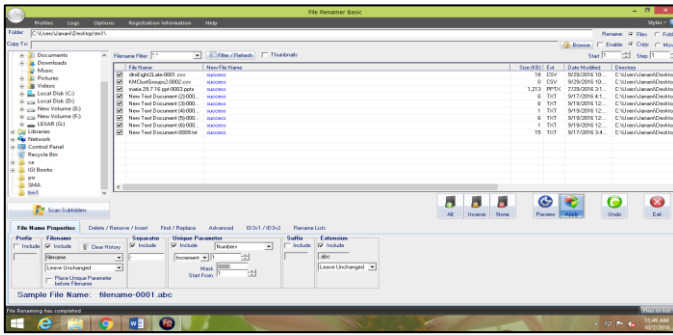

Fig 1: File Renamer Basic Output

Fig 2: File Renamer Basic Output

B. Flexible Renamer

Flexible Renamer is a free and easy to use tool for renaming files and folders. In this tool, we can rename the files and folders in single or in batches. It does not require any installation as it is a portable application. We can use its simple or advanced rename method to rename the files and folders. This tool also provides some other methods such as copy and rename, move and rename, move to recycle bin. It supports wildcards also when renaming [5]. This tool will rename the files based on the prefix, suffix numeric and alphanumeric methods. Figure 3 gives the output of flexible renamer tool.
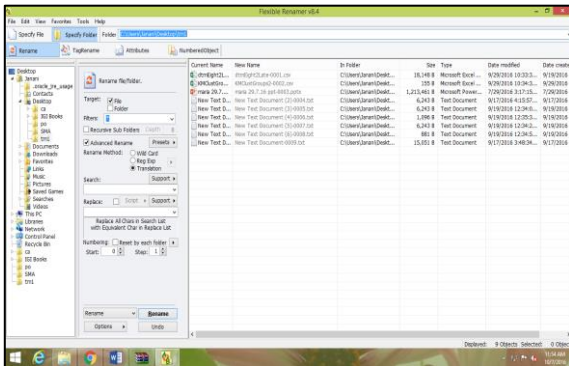

Fig 3: Flexible Renamer Output

C. Advanced Renamer

Advanced Renamer is an open source tool for renaming the files or folders. It uses various methods for creating the new names. It can create new file names by adding, removing, replacing, giving new name based upon the file information, or changing case [6]. It is also available in portable version. This tool provides 14 methods to change the file names, attributes and timestamp of files. The files can be copied or moved to new locations based on information in the files. It has support more than 10 languages. Figure 4 gives the output of this tool. Some of the renaming methods are as follows,

- Change the case of a filename to uppercase or lowercase, or change the case of the first letter in every word.

- Replace a part of a filename based on a search pattern.
- Change read only attribute of files.
- Add incrementing numbers with leading zeros to filenames.
- Change files extensions.
- Cleanup files names and remove spaces and underscores.
- Add a prefix or suffix to filenames.
- Copy or move files to other folders. New folder names can be constructed from file tags and patterns.
- Revert names to original names if renaming batch goes wrong.
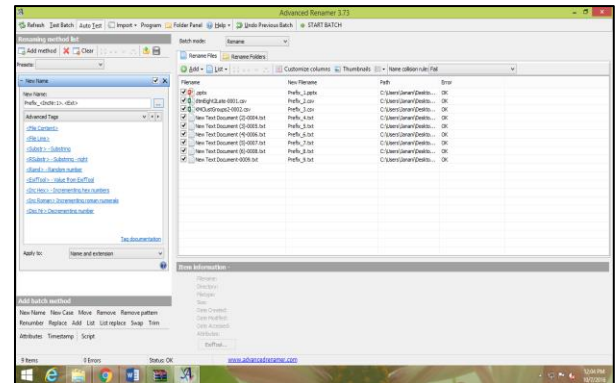- Organize music files based on ID3 tags.

Fig 4: Advanced Renamer Output

D. Batch Renamer

Batch Renamer is an open source files and folders renaming tool. It uses two steps to rename files and folders. In the first step user can add files and folders to rename and in second step user can set rules for renaming the files according to the user requirements. It has various predefined rules for various types of files [7]. It has some image editing features also, like change format, flip, rotate, resize, shrink etc. Figure 5 gives the output of batch renamer tool. Some of the main features of this tool as follows,

- Simplified renaming user interface, easier and clear for renaming process.
- More favorite renaming rules added.
- All new designed User Interface, with toolbar and multi-tab support, compatible with Windows 8.
- Support batch renaming using command line prompt.
- Renaming in different thread with progress bar and easy to control the process.
- All renaming methods support, renaming using MP3 Tags, EXIF, Office document's content, shell detail properties.
- Advanced shell menu feature, support rename files using favorite renaming rules on shell menu.
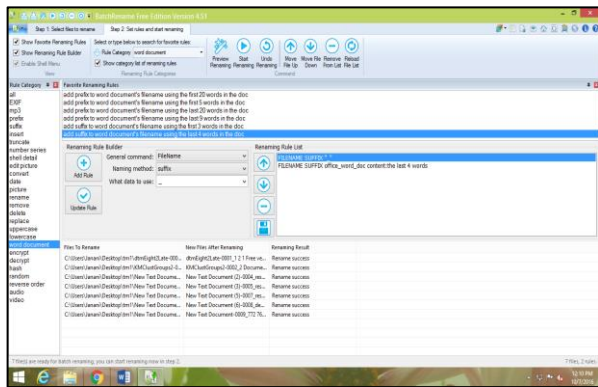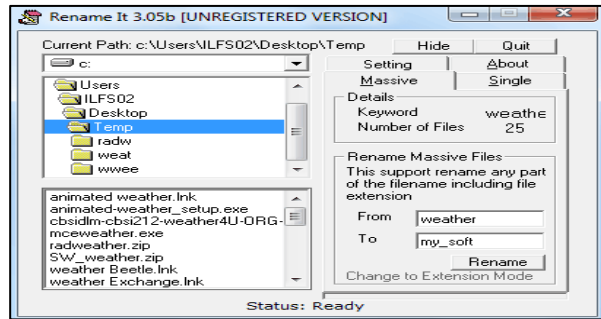- Encrypt/Decrypt file name using RC4, Base64.

Fig 5: Batch Renamer Output

E. Bulk Rename Utility

Bulk Rename Utility is a free utility and easy to use file rename program. Renaming the multiple files and multiple folders with flexible criteria. It has a small memory footprint so it can be left running all the time without consuming the particular system memory. It can process sub folders, search and replace, change the timestamp of the file. It offers 13 main functions to rename the files and folders [8]. Figure 6 describes the output of bulk rename utility tool. The features of this tool as follows,

- Rename multiple files quickly.
- Rename files in many ways.
- Check the detailed preview before renaming.
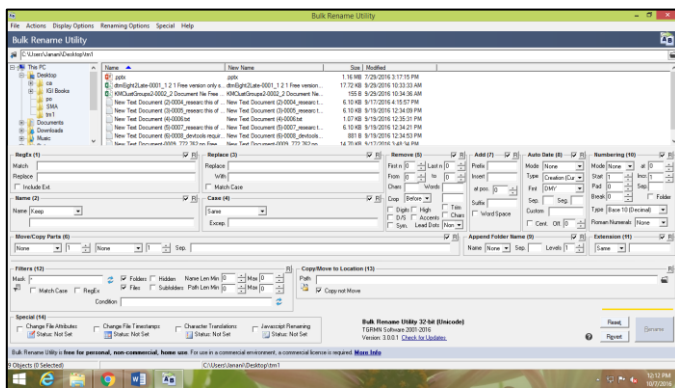- Rename photos.
- Rename MP3 files using ID3 tags.

Fig 6: Bulk Rename Utility Output

F. Rename It

Rename It is a simple file renaming utility specifically designed for new computer users. It lets the users to rename a file or a file extension easily. It has an option of massive rename which lets the users to rename multiple files or extensions easily. If there is a common text in the name of files, it can be easily renamed with the help of this renamer tool [9]. This tool

is not renamed based on the file contents. Figure 7 gives the output of this tool.

Fig 7: Rename It Output

G. Renamer

File Renamer is an open source and handy software to rename multiple files at once. This tool can provide the batch rename files, add or remove text strings from file names, can change file extensions, add numbers sequentially to file names, change to upper case or lowercase, trim characters etc. It also has an undo option for last rename process. Drag and drop all files and folders from explorer to its window, has full, 'infinite undo' function ; so the users will always be safe, and they can also create their own more elaborated scripts, adding every kind of available option together, for repetitive and more complex renaming actions [10]. It is used to rename the files based on numbers and alphabets by adding the prefix of the file name or suffix of the file name. This process has to done automatically. Figure 8 gives the output of renamer tool.
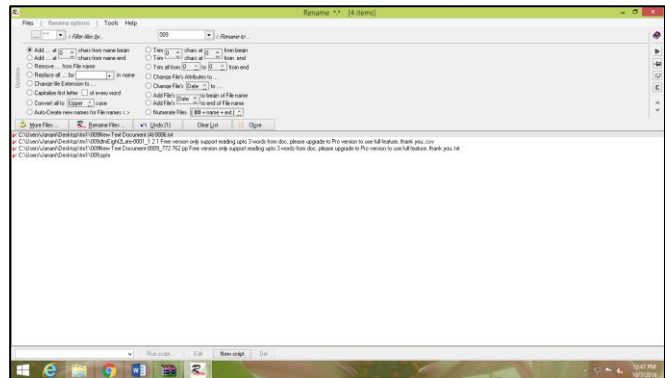

Fig 8: Renamer Output

H. Effective File Search

Effective File Search is actually a file searching utility and also has a function of renaming files. Users can use this tool to rename the filenames to either lowercase or uppercase only. To use it, first browse for a folder from which files have to be renamed by using its browse button. They can include sub directories also in the search. Now search for all files or for any particular format. Select the files from the results and select rename files options from the Actions menu. In this the searches can be done in only the personal computer or local networks

[11]. Figure 9 gives the output of effective file search tool. The main features of this tool as follows,

- Search of files in folders or search results (support of hidden files)
- Filtering by file date and size
- Search of files containing text or hex
- Support of regular expressions for advanced searches
- Support of all popular file formats (MS Office, Open Office, PDF, RTF, HTML and many other text and binary files)
- Actions with search results (copy, delete, rename etc.)
- Windows Explorer functionality (icons, context menus etc.)
- Advanced print, export and report functions for your business
- All results and parameters can be saved to file
- Administrative options, automation (script language) and other advanced functions.
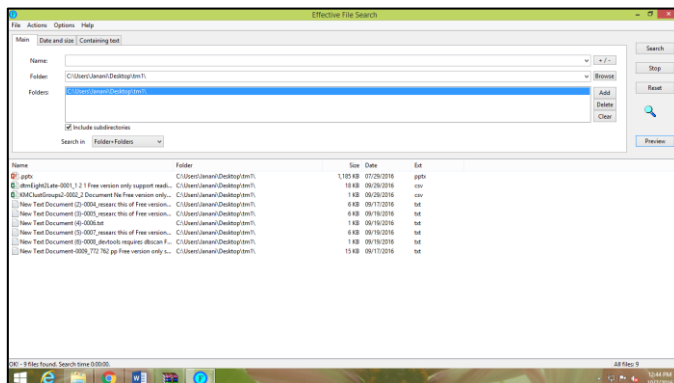

Fig 9: Effective File Search Output

III. CONCLUSION

The purpose of text mining is to process unstructured information, extract meaningful numeric indices from the text and thus make the information contained in the text accessible to the various data mining algorithms. There are various methods in text mining such as information retrieval, document similarity, information extraction, clustering, classification, and so on. This research work analyzes the performance of eight open source file renaming tools. From this analysis, we found that some tools will automatically rename the file by numbers and some tools can rename the files by using alpha numeric characters. But the main disadvantages of these tools are, they are not able to analyze the content and based on the content of the file they are not able to rename the file. This is the important research challenge in file renamer tool. Hence, there is a need to develop a file renamer tool which automatically assigns a meaningful filename after analyzing the content.

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