Building a Document-Oriented Warehouse Using NoSQL

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ABSTRACT

The traditional data warehousing approaches should adapt to take into consideration novel needs and data structures. In this context, NoSQL technology is progressively gaining a place in the research and industry domains. This paper proposes an approach for building a NoSQL document-oriented warehouse (DocW). This approach has two methods, namely 1) document warehouse builder and 2) NoSQL-Converter. The first method generates the DocW schema as a galaxy model whereas the second one translates the generated galaxy into a document-oriented NoSQL model. This relies on two types of rules: structure and hierarchical rules. Furthermore, in order to help understanding the textual results of analytical queries on the NoSQL-DocW, the authors define two semantic operators S-Drill-Up and S-Drill-Down to aggregate/expand the terms of query. The implementation of our proposals uses MangoDB and Talend. The experiment uses the medical collection Clef-2007 and two metrics called write request latency and read request latency to evaluate respectively the loading time and the response time to queries.

KEYWORDS

Document Warehouse, Galaxy Model, Hierarchical Rules, MangoDB, NoSQL, Semantic OLAP, Structure Rules, Transformation Rules

INTRODUCTION

Documents contain valued information and incarnate pertinent knowledge for decisional processes. Knowledge helps decision-makers interpret the results of business analyses (Inmon, 2002). In (McCabe et al., 2000; Sullivan, 2001), the authors advocate that documents should be warehoused; hence, the Document Warehouse (DocW) concept appears. A DocW is modeled as a Star schema (Tseng et al., 2006; Ben Mefteh et al., 2016), or as a Galaxy (Ben Messaoud et al., 2015; Feki et al., 2013; Pujolle et al., 2011) that is a variant of the Star schema. A DocW organizes textual data for OLAP (On-Line Analytical Analyses) analyses for successful business intelligence purposes (Tseng et al., 2006).

Over the past decade, several digital players (e.g., sensors, social networks) produce unlimited amounts of data so that the data volumes to analyze reach critical sizes (Jacobs, 2009). Nevertheless, current warehousing methodologies become obsolete to handle successfully the growing data volumes as stated in (Krish et al., 2013) and (Chevalier et al., 2015a). To overcome this drawback, NoSQL (Not-Only SQL) appear as a new technology to implement huge databases and, in particular, document warehouses. In fact, there are four types of NoSQL models: *key-value*, *column-oriented*,

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document-oriented and *graph-oriented* models. This paper is interested in the document-oriented NoSQL model that offers performance, horizontal scalability options and is convenient to handle complex data structures like nested objects. Furthermore, NoSQL is very suitable for data integration and schema migration (Hecht et al., 2011).

Our objective, in this paper, is to store, manage and query big volume of documents, and better serve decision-makers whose requirements in the analysis of document contents are beyond the classical needs of Data Warehouse (DW) users. More precisely, we aim to improve the performance of the DocW in terms of the response time of queries; as well as the semantic analysis. To do so, we suggest, an approach for the design and implementation of a NoSQL-DocW loaded from heterogeneous XML documents, along with semantic operators.

This approach has two methods called *Document Warehouse Builder* and *NoSQL-Converter*. The first accepts XML documents and produces a DocW as a galaxy (Feki et al., 2013; Ben Messaoud et al., 2015). The second method transforms the obtained galaxy into a *Document-oriented NoSQL* model. We develop two semantic OLAP operators *S-Drill-Up* and *S-Drill-Down* to query a NoSQL-DocW.

To implement our proposal, we use MongoDB as a document-oriented NoSQL system. We measure the performance in terms of two metrics, the *Write Request Latency* (WRL) assesses the data loading time, and the *Read Request Latency* (RRL) evaluates the querying time. We conduct experiments on the medical collection *Clef-2007*.

We organize this paper as follows: Section 2 presents the related works in NoSQL warehouses. Section 3 presents our approach for building a DocW modelled as a galaxy. Section 4 details our rules for transforming a galaxy model into a NoSQL-DocW. Section 5 suggests semantic operators for the NoSQL-DocW. Section 6 experiments and evaluates the results. Finally, Section 7 concludes the paper and addresses ongoing work.

RELATED WORKS

Warehousing allows big data management and analysis; NoSQL offers interesting features to implement Data/Document warehouses (Chevalier et al., 2015a). Next, we review relevant works related to NoSQL warehouses.

In (Li, 2010) the author proposed a two-phase approach to transforming a relational database (RDB) into the column-oriented NoSQL HBase. First, they transform the relational schema into HBase schema; secondly, they express the relationships between the source and target schemas by mappings. Nevertheless, this approach applies on the conceptual schema only.

Similarly, the authors of (Freitas et al., 2016) suggested the *R2NoSQL* approach, which defines conceptual mappings to convert the concepts of a RDB into NoSQL.

The authors of (Dehdouh et al., 2014) presented a benchmark for columnar NoSQL-DW but without formalizing the modelling process. Later, in (Dehdouh et al., 2015), they proposed three approaches to implement the DW using a column-oriented NoSQL model. The first approach NLA (Normalized Logical Approach) uses distinct tables to store facts and dimensions, and uses simple attribute to map measures and dimensional-attributes. The second approach DLA (Denormalized Logical Approach) stores the fact and dimensions together within one table, and uses a simple attribute to map measures and dimensional-attributes. Finally, the third approach DLA-CF (Denormalized Logical Approach by using Column Family) stores the fact and dimensions together within one table, a composite attribute maps measures and dimensional-attributes. However, the NLA approach is inefficient with regard to join-queries. The DLA-CF approach is better than the DLA when the query-attributes belong to the same dimension.

In the same context, the authors of (Chevalier et al., 2015a) translate the star model of the DW into two NoSQL models namely *Column-oriented* and *Document-oriented*. Later, in (Chevalier et al., 2015b), they improve their proposal using the concepts *table*, *column-family* and *column* of the column-oriented NoSQL model, to map the star model into a column-oriented NoSQL model. They

Table 1. Related works compared

Work	Criteria					
	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6
(Li, 2010)	✓	-	-	✓ (Column-oriented)	✓ (Simple)	-
(Freitas et al., 2016)	✓	-	-	✓ (Key-value, Column-oriented, Document-oriented, Graph-oriented)	✓ (Simple)	✓
(Dehdouh et al., 2014) (Dehdouh et al., 2015)	-	✓	-	✓ (Column-oriented)	✓ (Simple)	✓
(Chevalier et al., 2015a/b/c)	-	✓	-	✓ (Column-oriented, Document-oriented)	✓ (Simple)	✓
(Yangui et al., 2016)	-	✓	-	✓ (Column-oriented, Document-oriented)	✓ (Simple, Hierarchical)	✓
(Sellami et al., 2018)	-	✓	-	✓ (Graph-oriented)	✓ (Hierarchical)	-
(Ben Messaoud et al., 2017)	-	-	✓	✓ (Column-oriented)	✓ (Simple, Hierarchical)	✓
(Ben Messaoud et al., 2018)	-	-	✓	✓ (Document-oriented)	✓ (Simple, Hierarchical)	✓
Our proposed approach	-	-	✓	✓ (Document-oriented)	✓ (Structure, Hierarchical)	✓

transform the star as follows: one table where the fact is a column-family and each measure is a column; and every dimension becomes a column-family where each dimensional-attribute is a column.

In order to adapt the star model for a collection of documents, they use, in (Chevalier et al., 2015c), the concepts of the NoSQL document-oriented model; i.e., *document*, *composite attribute* and *simple attribute*. Indeed, the fact becomes a composite attribute and each measure a simple attribute. A dimension is transformed into a composite attribute (nested document) and each parameter and weak attribute becomes a simple attribute. Nevertheless, their rules neglect to convert the hierarchies of dimensions. This lack of hierarchy in the result NoSQL-DW is a real handicap because hierarchies are crucial for the drilling operators.

To alleviate this problem, the authors of (Yangui et al., 2016) propose two approaches: one for a column-oriented NoSQL-DW and one for a document-oriented NoSQL-DW. For each approach, they distinguish two types of transformations: *simple* and *hierarchical*. The simple transformation converts the Star model of the DW into a NoSQL model without hierarchies; it uses column-family/collection to store measures and dimensions. The hierarchical transformation treats the hierarchies in the NoSQL model by using the super-column/document concepts. Nevertheless, these two approaches are experimented on a small set of requirements, which does not help to assess the benefits/drawbacks seriously of the NoSQL-DW. Note that the authors do not suggest dedicated OLAP operators.

The authors of (Sellami et al., 2018) have taken into consideration the transformation of hierarchies into a graph-oriented NoSQL model by using the concepts of *node*, *relation*, *label* and *property*. The main lack is the authors experiment neither their transformation rules nor evaluate the implemented graph-oriented NoSQL-DW.

Regarding the DocW field, the authors of (Ben Messaoud et al., 2017) and (Ben Messaoud et al., 2018) propose an approach to implement a NoSQL-DocW. They transform the galaxy model of the DocW into a column-oriented and document-oriented NoSQL model. Once again, this work distinguishes two types of transformations *simple* and *hierarchical*.

Table 1 summarizes our literature review, based on the following six criteria.

C1: Transform a DB into NoSQL.

- C2: Transform a DW into NoSQL.
- C3: Transform the DocW into NoSQL.
- C4: Adopt NoSQL.
- C5: Propose transformation rules towards NoSQL.
- C6: Experiment/Evaluate the proposed rules.

So far, we have given an overview of pertinent work regarding NoSQL warehouses. These works convert the DW/DocW model into NoSQL. Note that major works bypass hierarchy that are crucial for the drilling operators. In addition, most existing approaches were interested in transforming the numeric DW into NoSQL against few works interested in transforming the DocW into NoSQL.

Section 3 suggests a novel approach that aims to build a NoSQL-DocW from XML documents while paying particular attention to the hierarchy concept that is fundamental for OLAPing.

APPROACH FOR BUILDING A DOCUMENT-ORIENTED NOSQL WAREHOUSE

DW methodologies are for numeric data (e.g., sales activity), they are inappropriate for new data structures and requirements. Indeed, they are inefficient for building/handling huge data volumes (Krish, et al., 2013; Chevalier et al., 2015a).

The advent of the new NoSQL technology, has allowed the DW community to store, manage and query big data, along with better performance and horizontal scalability features. In fact, horizontal scalability enables to increase the hardware resources by adding application server instances (Lemberger et al., 2015; Chandawni, 2016). Considering these advantages, we are interested in this technology for warehousing XML documents.

We present an approach for building a document-oriented NoSQL-DocW from a collection of XML documents. Figure 1 depicts the two methods of this approach called *Document Warehouse Builder*, and *NoSQL-Converter*.

The *Document Warehouse Builder* accepts a set of XML documents in the same domain with their structures (DTD and/or XSD) and then produces a galaxy model. Firstly, it generates a limited number of unified structures to be validated; it treats both acronym and synonym ambiguities of structures nodes, referring respectively to a dictionary of acronyms and the WordNet lexical resource.

The unified structures are then validated according to the analytical requirements. Secondly, we translate each unified structure into a galaxy model by using ten identification rules for dimensions, attributes, etc. Finally, the output galaxies are syntactically validated referring to eleven quality-design constraints dedicated to the multidimensional galaxy model. The *Document Warehouse Builder* is detailed in (Feki et al., 2013) and (Ben Messaoud et al., 2015) and illustrated with examples.

Figure 1. Approach for building a document-oriented NoSQL Warehouse

The *NoSQL-Converter*, the first contribution in this paper, converts each galaxy into a document-oriented NoSQL model as detailed in the following section.

NOSQL-CONVERTER

NoSQL-Converter produces a document-oriented NoSQL Warehouse by applying six rules (Section 4.3) on the galaxy resulting from the *Document Warehouse Builder*; the resulted NoSQL-DocW differs from the literature works by considering the hierarchies of dimensions.

For this conversion, we introduce the galaxy model of the DocW, and then the document-oriented NoSQL model. Thereafter, we define the transformation rules.

The Galaxy Model

In (Pujolle et al., 2011), the authors suggested the galaxy model for DocWs (Figure 3-a), it inherits the concepts of the multidimensional model (Inmon, 2002; Kimball et al., 2013) and pays special attention to the *dimension* concept. We formalize its concepts.

Galaxy Model: A *galaxy* model is a set of dimensions connected by one node or more. In a galaxy, the conventional *Fact* concept is voluntary hidden. Formally, a galaxy model G is defined by the triplet (G^{Na}, G^D, G^{No}) where:

- G^{Na} : name of the galaxy;
- $G^D = \{D_1, \dots, D_n\}$: set of n (n^2) dimensions;
- $G^{No} = \{N_1, \dots, N_m\}$: set of m (m^2) nodes.

Dimension: A *dimension* is composed of a set of attributes called parameters and organized into hierarchies. Every parameter may have labels as weak attribute(s) (i.e., descriptive attribute(s) like the Product-name associated with parameter Product-code). A dimension D is defined by the triplet (D^{Na}, D^P, D^H) where:

- D^{Na} : name of dimension D ;
- D^P : non-empty set of parameters and weak attributes of D ;
- D^H : non-empty set of hierarchies of D .

Hierarchy: A hierarchy arranges semantically its parameters in several levels from the finest to the highest granularity. Formally, it is defined by the triplet (H^{Na}, H^P, P^{WA}) where:

- H^{Na} : hierarchy name;
- $H^P = \{P_1, \dots, P_q\}$: set of q (q^2) parameters of hierarchy H^{Na} ;
- P^{WA} : function, associates each parameter with its weak attributes.

Node: A *node* links *compatible* dimensions, i.e., dimensions used together significantly within the same analytical query or set of queries. Formally, a *node* is a couple (N^{Na}, N^D) where:

- N^{Na} : node name;
- N^D : function, links each dimension to its nodes. Naturally, a dimension can participate in several nodes but nodes cannot be directly linked together. In other terms, given a galaxy G $(G^{Na}, G^D, G^{No}) \forall N_i \hat{\in} G^{No}$ and $N_j \hat{\in} G^{No}$ then $\exists$ a link (N_i, N_j) ($i \neq j$).

The galaxy in Figure 3-a models research articles with five dimensions (D -Article, D -Author...) connected via a single node, along with their hierarchies. For instance, the D -Conference dimension has one hierarchy with three parameters Id - D -Conference, P -Series (conference short name) and P -Audience (National or International). Id - D -Conference has three weak attributes (WA -Acceptance-rate, WA -Editor, and WA -Name).

The Document-Oriented NoSQL Model

The document-oriented NoSQL model stores collections of documents (Figure 2); its three basic concepts are *collection*, *document*, and *attribute* formalized hereafter.

Collection: A *collection* C is a set of stored data; it is defined by the couple (C^{Na}, C^D) where:

- C^{Na} : name of the collection C ;
- $C^D = \{D_p, \dots, D_n\}$: set of n documents.

Document: A *document* represents the main storage unit of the document-oriented NoSQL model.

It consists of a set of key/value pairs (*i.e.*, attributes). Formally, a document is defined by the couple (Doc^{Na}, Doc^{KV}) where:

- Doc^{Na} : document name;
- $Doc^{KV} = \{A_p, \dots, A_m\}$: set of attributes, *i.e.*, pairs of key/value.

Attribute: An *attribute* is the main component of a document. It can be *simple* when its value is atomic (*e.g.*, integer, string), or *composed* when it is a document. A *simple attribute* is defined by (SA^{Na}, SA^V) where:

- SA^{Na} : name of the simple attribute;
- SA^V : value of the simple attribute.

Whereas, a *composed attribute* is defined by (CA^{Na}, CA^V) :

- CA^{Na} : name of the composed attribute;
- $CA^V = \{D_p, \dots, D_k\}$: set of documents.

From Galaxy to NoSQL

In order to implement the NoSQL-DocW, we define two categories of transformation rules: *Structure transformation* rules (structure rules for short), and *Hierarchy transformation* rules (hierarchy rules for short).

The structure rules transform the conventional structure (*i.e.*, schema) into a document-oriented NoSQL model as a collection of documents.

The hierarchy rules stores data of the galaxy into a document-oriented NoSQL model, as an additional separated set of documents. Note that these rules take into consideration the hierarchies, as their presence in the result model is fundamental for analyses.

Structure Transformation Rules

For transforming the galaxy into a NoSQL-DocW (Document-oriented Warehouse), we define three *Structure transformation rules* on a Galaxy G .

Rule SR1: Transform the structure of G into a NoSQL-DocW as a collection of documents containing as many NoSQL documents as dimensions and nodes in G :

- The collection name is C^{Na} (same name as the galaxy G^{Na}), prefixed with “*Structure*” (*e.g.*, the structure of the galaxy model *Research-Paper* (Figure 3-a) is a collection named *Structure-Research-Paper* (Figure 3-b); and
- The documents of the collection are the nodes and the dimensions of G^{Na} .

Rule SR2: Transform each dimension D of G into a document Doc where:

- The document name Doc^{Na} is the dimension name D^{Na} ;
- The document identifier is a surrogate key¹;
- The document has many composed attributes so that:
 - Each hierarchy $(H \hat{I} D)$ becomes a composed attribute;

Figure 2. Basic concepts of the document-oriented NoSQL model

- Each parameter ($P \hat{I} H$) is described by three attributes: *Parameter-Name*, *Rank* in the hierarchy and *Weak-Attribute-Name*, where:

The value of the *Parameter-Name* attribute is the name of parameter P ;

The value of the *Rank* attribute is the position of P in its hierarchy H ;

If P has a weak attribute called WA , the value of *Weak-Attribute-Name* is WA ; otherwise, *Weak-Attribute-Name* is 'Null'.

Rule SR3: Transform each node N in G into a document Doc such as:

- The document name Doc^{Na} is the name of the node N^{Na} ;
- The identifier of Doc is a surrogate key;
- The attributes of Doc are the names of the dimensions linked to node N .

Figure 3-a illustrates the galaxy *Research-Paper* and Figure 3-b is its NoSQL-DocW result of applying rules *SR1* to *SR3*. The result is six documents: The document *Node1* describes the node of the galaxy, and the five documents *D-Article*, *D-Author*, *D-Date*, *D-Keyword* and *D-Conference* model the five dimensions. For instance, *D-Author* has two composed attributes (*H1-D-Author* and *H2-D-Author* representing the two hierarchies), each of these composed attributes defines the parameter and weak attribute of its hierarchy.

Hierarchy Transformation Rules

Hierarchy rules completes the NoSQL-DocW with the galaxy hierarchies by applying three rules *TR1* to *TR3* defined in (Ben Messaoud et al., 2018).

Rule TR1: Transform the galaxy G^{Na} into NoSQL document-oriented database as a collection of documents such as:

- The collection name is C^{Na} (same name as the galaxy G^{Na}); and
- The documents in the collection are the nodes and the dimensions of G^{Na} .

Obviously, the transformation process expands to the concepts *dimension* and *node*.

Figure 4-a results from applying rule TR1 on the galaxy (Figure 4, left) transformed into six documents: *D-Article*, *D-Author*.

Rule TR2: Transform each dimension D of the galaxy into a *Dimension-document* where:

- The name of the *Dimension-document* is denoted Doc^{Na} , it is the dimension name D^{Na} ;
- The identifier of the *Dimension-document* is the identifier of D ;
- The *Dimension-document* has as many composed attribute(s) as hierarchies in D , such as:
 - The name of each composed attribute is the name of its hierarchy, and its values are the parameters and weak attributes of its hierarchy.

Clearly, a collection is a set of documents and a document contains a set of simple and/or composed attributes. Moreover, a galaxy model is a set of dimensions described by parameters and weak attributes organized into hierarchies. Therefore, each dimension turns into a document where each hierarchy becomes a composed attribute.

Figure 4-b is the transformation of the *D-Author* dimension into a *Dimension-document*. The *Dimension-document D-Author* (Figure 4-b, right) depicts the transformation (rule TR2) of the two hierarchies *H1-D-Author* and *H2-D-Author*, each hierarchy becomes a composite attribute as for *H1-D-Author* transformed into one composite attribute having three simple attributes: *Id-D-Author*, *WA-Author-Name*, and *P-Affiliation*.

Rule TR3: Transform each node N in the galaxy G into a *Node-document* Doc :

- The name of the *Node-document* is Doc^{Na} ; it is the name of node N^{Na} ;
- The identifier of Doc is a surrogate key;
- The attributes of Doc are the identifiers of the dimensions linked by node N .

In a galaxy, each node links several dimensions. In the NoSQL-DocW, a collection contains a set of documents and a document is the principal concept of this model. Subsequently, each node in the galaxy turns into a *Node-document* which attributes are the identifiers of all dimensions linked to the node.

Figure 4-c depicts the result of TR3. *Node1* became a *Node-document* with six attributes (*Id-Node1*, *Id-D-Author*, *Id-D-Article*...).

The proposed rules allow transforming the DocW galaxy into a document-oriented NoSQL. In practice, we can implement the NoSQL-DocW as two collections of documents: structure and data collections.

Note that the resulting NoSQL-DocW is textual-data centric; therefore, the conventional numeric OLAP operators are no longer applicable in this context. This motivated us to identify an urgent need to define new OLAP operators appropriate for aggregating textual data. The next section introduces the second contribution of this paper; due to space limitation, it defines two OLAP operators only.

SEMANTIC OLAP OPERATORS FOR NOSQL-DOCW

Few OLAP operators have been studied in the NoSQL-DW context, and even less in NoSQL-DocW. In (Dehdouh, 2016), the authors propose the *MC-Cube* (MapReduce Columnar Cube) aggregation

Figure 3. (a) A galaxy and (b) its NoSQL transformation

Figure 4. (a) Example of application of rule TR1, (b) Transformation of three hierarchies of the D-Author dimension, and (c) Example of application of rule TR3

to compute OLAP cubes from NoSQL column-oriented DW. In (Gallinucci et al., 2018; Gallinucci et al., 2019), the researchers propose a four-stage approach to query a NoSQL-DocW.

In the context of graph-oriented NoSQL, the authors in (Castelltort et al., 2014) suggest an OLAP oriented data structure and introduced OLAP queries based on the *Cypher* declarative language. The majority of works were interested in OLAPing numeric data; nevertheless, textual data has not been sufficiently addressed although it hides meaningful information (Tseng et al., 2006).

Textual analysis in NoSQL environment needs specific OLAP operators completely different from those used in numeric DWs. As this represents a key issue, we suggest two semantic OLAP operators *S-Drill-Down* and *S-Drill-Up*, which de/aggregate textual terms in the cells of the result-table of an OLAP query, by referring to the business domain concepts modeled as a taxonomy; we exemplify these operators.

Example

Given the galaxy in Figure 4-a implemented as a NoSQL-DocW, we assume the decision-maker needs to find research areas of papers' authors by Year of publication. First, (s)he analyzes keywords per Author and Year. This uses two specific operators to the galaxy *FOCUS* and *LIST* (Ravat et al., 2007) described by the following syntaxes 1 and 2:

$$\text{FOCUS} (G^{\text{Na}}, DF^{\text{Na}}, D) \quad (1)$$

where:

- G^{Na} : name of the input galaxy;
- DF^{Na} : dimension to consider as a fact;
- $D = \{D_1 \dots D_n\}$: non-empty set of n dimensions.

$$\text{LIST} (T) \quad (2)$$

where:

- $T = \{T_1 \dots T_n\}$: non-empty set of n terms.

In this example, we use the *FOCUS* to select the analysis topic (*i.e.*, fact) *D-Keyword*, and two analysis axes *D-Author* and *D-Date*. *LIST* returns a list of keywords from the input set of terms. Expression 3 sets and prepares data for this requirement:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{FOCUS} (G^{\text{Research-Paper}} \\ &(\text{D-Keyword}, \text{H1-D-Keyword}, <\text{LIST}, \text{Id-D-Keyword} (\text{WA-Keyword})>) \\ &((\text{D-Date}, \text{H1-D-Date}, <\text{P-Year}>) \\ &(\text{D-Author}, \text{H1-D-Author}, <\text{Id-D-Author} (\text{WA-Author-Name})>))) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Table 2.A shows an extract of the multidimensional table obtained with expression 3. We voluntary reduce its content to four cells. Naturally, the complete table is difficult to examine efficiently and successfully.

Since cells in Table 2.A are crowded with keywords, their interpretation is complicated. We define the Semantic aggregation *S-Drill-Up* that summarizes the terms in each cell:

$$S\text{-Drill-Up}(MT, SR) = MT_R \quad (4)$$

where:

- MT: input multidimensional table;
- SR (Semantic Resource): domain taxonomy of concepts;
- MTR: result table, same structure as MT.

S-Drill-Up aggregates the set of terms in each cell of *MT* referring to *SR*. It navigates up the taxonomy to get term(s) that summarize the terms in the current cell.

S-Drill-Up (expression E2) applied on Table 2.A produces Table 2.B; it uses the IST-Taxonomy (Figure 5). Thus, the number of terms in cells C1, C2 in Table 2.A is reduced compared to their corresponding cells (C1', C2' in Table 2.B); cell C1' shows the most generic term for terms in C1. The decision-maker finds out easily the research areas. If no generic term is found then *S-Drill-Up* looks for the common ancestor of nodes in the taxonomy.

Inversely, to detail the content of cells, we define a semantic *S-Drill-Down* operator that receives a multidimensional table *MT*, a taxonomy and the level of detail to reach in the taxonomy; it expands the table cells contents:

$$S\text{-Drill-Down}(MT, SR, DL) = MT_R \quad (5)$$

where:

- MT: input multidimensional table
- SR: domain taxonomy
- MT_R : result table, same structure as *MT*
- DL: level of detail to reach in *SR*

Figure 5. Extract of an Information System taxonomy

Table 2. Keywords per Author and Year of publication after applying expressions E2 and E3

D-Keyword (WA-Keyword)		D-Date P-Year	
Id-D-Author (Wa-Author-Name)		2013	2018
D-Author	Auth-230 (Jamel FEKI)	Star, OOLAP, MOLAP, ROLAP, Data Warehouse, Logical design, Snowflake	DTD unification, unified tree, Multidimensional modeling, Galaxy model, similarity factor, XML document, NoSQL, Document Warehouse, Transformation rules, Big Data
	Auth-1000 (Ines BEN MESSAOUD)	Star, Galaxy, Data Warehouse, Document Warehouse	NoSQL, Big Data, Document Warehouse
	...	...	...

⚡ S-Drill-Up (A, IST-Taxonomy) = B (E2)

D-Keyword (WA-Keywords)		D-Date P-Year	
Id-D-Author (Wa-Author-Name)		2013	2018
D-Author	Auth-230 (Jamel FEKI)	Data Warehouse	Document warehouse, Transformation rules, Big Data
	Auth-1000 (Ines BEN MESSAOUD)	Storage	Big Data, Document Warehouse
	...	...	...

⚡ S-Drill-Down (B, IST-Taxonomy, 2) = C (E3)

D-Keyword (WA-Keyword)		D-Date P-Year	
Id-D-Author (Wa-Author-Name)		2013	2018
D-Author	Auth-230 (Jamel FEKI)	Logical design, Architecture design	DTD unification, Multidimensional modeling, XML document, Transformation rules, Big Data
	Auth-1000 (Ines BEN MESSAOUD)	Design, XML Document Warehouse	Big Data, Document Warehouse
	...	...	...

Using the IST-Taxonomy, Table 2.C displays the outcome of *S-Drill-Down* (expr. E3) on Table 2.B. The number of terms in cells increases giving more details about the research areas per year and author.

S-Drill-Up Algorithm

We present the *S-Drill-Up* algorithm; since *S-Drill-Down* is its reverse, we will not detail it. *S-Drill-Up* requires a domain taxonomy that is a hierarchical classification structure. For instance, it cascades from broad to specific or from parent to children as stated in (Inmon & Linstedt, 2014):

Taxonomy (Node₁, ..., Node_i, ..., Node_n) (6)

- A taxonomy is a hierarchy representing a non-empty set of distinct nodes (i.e., terms); each node has a level, one Father-node (except the root node) and may have n ($n^3 0$) descendant-nodes:

Node_i (Level, Father-node) (7)

- Level: number of arcs separating the root node and Node_i.
- Father-node: immediate Father-node (term) for Node_i.

To aggregate, *S-Drill-Up* needs for every term t in a cell, the distance d_t (number of arcs) separating node t and the root node in the taxonomy. We calculate this distance using a function called *Distance (Node N, Taxonomy T)* returning an integer. Afterward, *S-Drill-Up* compares the distance

d_j with each distance d_i of terms t_j and t_i in the same cell. If $d_j = d_i$ (i.e., the two nodes have the same depth in the taxonomy) and their corresponding nodes have the same father-node N_f , then N_f is their aggregate term. Else ($d_j \neq d_i$), if the father nodes of terms t_i and t_j are linked by a father-relationship then the father node between them is the aggregate term. Otherwise (fathers of t_i and t_j have no link), the two terms cannot be aggregated, subsequently, the algorithm retains the two terms. We use a function named *Father (Node N, Taxonomy T)* to determine the immediate father node of node N in T taxonomy. The *S-Drill-Up* function implements the S-Drill-Up operator.

Function S-Drill-Up (Table MT, Taxonomy T) Return Table

```

Input
MT: Multidimensional Table, each cell has  $n$  ( $n > 0$ ) terms
T: Taxonomy
Output
MTR: Multidimensional Table, same structure as MT
Begin MTR = New Table //Empty multidim. Table, same size as MT
For each Cell $i$  in MT do
  TermInput = {Terms  $\in$  Cell $i$ }
  TermOutput = {}
  For each Term $j$  in Cell $i$  do
    d1 = Distance (Term $j$ , T)
    // Distance returns the number of arcs separating
    // the node Term $j$  and the root node in taxonomy T.
    Aggregate-Term = ''
    //Aggregate-Term: stores the result of aggregation of two terms
    For each Term $k$  in TermInput do ( $k < j$ )
      //k=Number of elements in TermInput - 1 (i.e., {Term $j$ })
      d2 = Distance (Term $k$ , T)
      If (d1 = d2) then
        If (Father (Term $j$ , T) = Father (Term $k$ , T)) then
          //Father (Term $j$ , T) returns the immediate father
          // term of Term $i$  in the taxonomy
          Aggregate-Term = Father (Term $j$ , T)
        EndIf
      ElseIf (d1 > d2) then
        If (Father (Term $j$ , T) = Term $k$ ) then
          Aggregate-Term = Term $k$ 
        EndIf
      Else // (d1 < d2)
        If (Father (Term $k$ , T) = Term $j$ ) then
          Aggregate-Term = Term $j$ 
        EndIf
      EndIf
    If (Aggregate-Term = '') then
      TermOutput = TermOutput  $\cup$  {Term $i$ , Term $j$ }
    Else
      TermOutput = TermOutput  $\cup$  {Aggregate-Term}
    EndIf
  EndFor
EndFor
EndFor

```

Figure 6. Terms of cell C1 in Table 2 (yellow) and their aggregate term obtained with S-Drill-Up (green) (Cell C1' in Table 2.B)

MTR.Cell_i=Term_{Output}
EndFor

Return MTREnd Function

Let us explain how *S-Drill-Up* runs on the input set of terms {*Star*, *OOLAP*, *MOLAP*, *ROLAP*, *Data Warehouse*, *Logical Design*, *Snowflake*} in cell *C1* of Table 2.A.

First, the aggregation result (Term_{Output}) is empty (algorithm_Line 4). Referring to the taxonomy, *Star* and *Snowflake* have the same father node **Logical Design** which itself belongs to *C1*. Thus, this node represents the aggregate term for the three initial terms (Line 18). As far as, *OOLAP*, *MOLAP* and *ROLAP* have the father node *Architecture design* (Line 18). Note that **Design** is the father node of **Logical design** and **Architecture design** nodes. **Design** does not belong to *C1*. Since the father node, **Data Warehouse** of the node **Design** belongs to *C1* then **Data Warehouse** aggregates **Design** (Line 26). Figure 6 illustrates the outcome of *S-Drill-Up* on cell *C1* in Table 2.A.

Figure 7. Original term in cell C1' (Table 2.B, yellow) and result of S-Drill-Down (green) (C1'', Table 2.C)

Let us explain the *S-Drill-Down* throw an example; Figure 7 illustrates its application starting from *CI'* of Table 2.B to reach the second level of the IST-taxonomy. To do so, we go down two levels from the level of *Data warehouse* and then find three terms *Conceptual-design*, *Logical-design* and *Architecture-design*. As the terms of the original cell *CI* (Table 2.A) in level three (orange color) have the father nodes *Logical-design* and *Architecture-design*, we retain only this two terms.

EXPERIMENT AND EVALUATION

In order to validate our approach for building a NoSQL-DocW, we conducted experiments on the medical benchmark *Clef-2007*.

Benchmark Description

Due to the absence of a benchmark, we reuse our galaxy (Figure 8) (Ben Messaoud et al., 2015) generated from 3 DTDs and 1691 XML documents from *Clef-2007*. For simplicity, we ignore weak attributes.

Figure 8. Galaxy for Clef 2007 (Ben Messaoud et al., 2015)

Test Environment

To implement the galaxy NoSQL-DocW, we use *MangoDB*² and *Talend*³. We use MongoDB CRUD (Create, Read, Update, and Delete) commands for creating *collections*, *documents*, along with *simple* and *composed attributes*, and, Talend to load the NoSQL-DocW.

Evaluation and Discussion

The transformation rules produce a NoSQL-DocW having two collections of documents, one describing the galaxy structure, and one for data storage.

We measure the efficiency of the implemented NoSQL-DocW with two metrics: *Write-Request-Latency* (WRL) and *Read-Request-Latency* (RRL) (Niyizamwiyitira et al., 2017). WRL measures the loading time for a single write, and RRL measures the response time of a query. Furthermore, to assess the impact of hierarchies on performance, we conduct two tests; one on *DocW-1* implemented without hierarchies (Ben Messaoud et al., 2018) and one on *DocW-2* having hierarchies.

The *loading time WRL* of 22002 rows is 2.25s for DocW-1 and 8.54s for DocW-2 (Appendix 1). Naturally, DocW-2 is slower due to the parameters to populate.

Figure 9. Read Request Latency (RRL)

For the *response time* RRL of 35 queries (Appendix 2), *DocW-2* is more rapid than *DocW-1* (Figure 9). Appendix 3 depicts the RRL value of Q3 in the *DocW-2*.

From this experiment, we conclude that despite the significant loading time of *DocW-2*, compared to *DocW-1*, *DocW-2* still suitable because the execution time (several queries every day) prevails on the loading time (e.g., once per week or per month).

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORKS

DocWs still in an embryonic era since users are looking to explore the semantics in textual documents. This requires further efforts investigating appropriate techniques for data storage and processing (Agrawal et al., 2011), design methods, developing software tools relying on the promising NoSQL technology to manage and analyze deeply and efficiently the semantics.

In this context, the NoSQL technology is an effective solution that can support scalability. Convinced by the efficiency of NoSQL, we have explored it in documents warehouses. Accordingly,

the contributions in this paper summarizes as the proposal of an approach to build and manipulate a DocW developed in NoSQL environment. This approach articulates around two methods *Document Warehouse Builder* and *NoSQL-Converter*.

Firstly, *Document Warehouse Builder* receives a set of XML documents in the same domain, and then generates the DocW galaxy model.

Secondly, *NoSQL-Converter* uses six transformation rules that convert the galaxy components into a NoSQL-DocW more appropriate for the storage and management of large textual data. We illustrated the transformation on a *Research-Paper* galaxy.

Thirdly, we suggested two semantic operators; the *S-Drill-Up* performs an aggregation at one level to find the immediate common father for pairs of terms. Inversely, *S-Drill-Down* breaks up terms to provide more details about the analyzed topic.

Finally, to prove our proposals we conducted an experimental work using MongoDB and Talend respectively for the implementation and loading the NoSQL-DocW. We assessed the loading time and the querying time on the medical collection *Clef-2007*. The experiments taught that the response time of OLAP queries executed on the NoSQL-DocW containing hierarchies is less than the response time of the same queries performed on the NoSQL-DocW devoid of hierarchies; this is motivating because OLAP queries are much more frequent than the ETL process.

We envisage extending the implementation of the operators *S-Drill-Up* and *S-Drill-Down* for different aggregation levels. Adding new semantic operators for the NoSQL-DocW is a further research track.

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ENDNOTES

- ¹ The concept of surrogate key is a sequential value automatically generated for identifiers; it is widely used in ETL (Extract-Transform-Load) processes to standardize the identifiers when data come from heterogeneous sources.
- ² <https://www.mongodb.com/fr>
- ³ <https://fr.talend.com/>

APPENDIX 1

Write Request Latency: WRL (On Docw-2)

Figure 10.

APPENDIX 2

Queries Description

Table 3.

N°	Query	Dimension(s)	Attribute(s)	Condition(s)
Q1	// D-Casimage-Case/ @Id-D-Casimage-Case	D-Casimage-Case	Id-D-Casimage-Case	-
Q2	// D-Casimage-Case/ @Id-D-Casimage-Case=3315	D-Casimage-Case	Id-D-Casimage-Case	Id-D-Casimage-Case = 3315
Q3	// D-Casimage-Case/ @Id-D-Casimage-Case=2161	D-Casimage-Case	Id-D-Casimage-Case	Id-D-Casimage-Case = 2161
Q4	// D-Casimage-Case/ @Id-D-Casimage-Case=2233	D-Casimage-Case	Id-D-Casimage-Case	Id-D-Casimage-Case = 2233
Q5	// D-Casimage-Case/ @P-WEBLINK =google.tn	D-Casimage-Case	P-WEBLINK	P-WEBLINK = "google.tn"
Q6	// D-Casimage-Case/ @P-ClinicalPresentation =Patient tabagique 40 UPA/an, hospitalisé pour une hémoptysie	D-Casimage-Case	WA-ClinicalPresentation (Weak attribute)	WA-ClinicalPresentation = "Patient tabagique 40 UPA/an, hospitalisé pour une hémoptysie"
Q7	// D-Casimage-Case/ @WA-Department =Département de Radiologie	D-Casimage-Case	WA-Department (Weak attribute)	WA-Department = "Département de Radiologie"
Q8	// D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =N Dfouni	D-Author	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "N Dfouni"
Q9	// D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =Frank Kolo	D-Author	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "Frank Kolo"
Q10	// D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =TERRIER François	D-Author	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "TERRIER François"
Q11	// D-Reviewer / @Id-D-Reviewer =Rev1	D-Reviewer	Id-D-Reviewer	Id-D-Reviewer = "Rev1"
Q12	// D-Reviewer / @WA-KeyWords =Leucocytes	D-Reviewer	WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-KeyWords = "Leucocytes"
Q13	// D-Reviewer / @WA-KeyWords =globules blancs	D-Reviewer	WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-KeyWords = "globules blancs"
Q14	// D-Casimage-Case / @Id-D-Casimage-Case = 3315 and / @P-LINK =casimage	D-Casimage-Case	Id-D-Casimage-Case P-LINK	Id-D-Casimage-Case = 3315 P-LINK = "casimage"
Q15	// D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Hospital =HUG and / WA-Language =French	D-Casimage-Case	WA-Hospital (Weak attribute) WA-Language (Weak attribute)	WA-Hospital = "HUG" WA-Language = "French"
Q16	// [D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =F Terrier and / D-Casimage-Case/ @Id-D-Casimage-Case = 4512]	D-Reviewer D-Casimage-Case	WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) Id-D-Casimage-Case	WA-Reviewer-Name = "F Terrier" Id-D-Casimage-Case = 4512
Q17	// [D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =Howarth Nigel and / D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Title =AMC Techniques d'Urgence orThoraxNigel]	D-Reviewer D-Casimage-Case	WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Title (Weak attribute)	WA-Reviewer-Name = Howarth Nigel WA-Title = "AMC Techniques d'Urgence orThorax"
Q18	// [D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =F Terrier and / D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Age = 30]	D-Reviewer D-Casimage-Case	WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Age (Weak attribute)	WA-Reviewer-Name = "F Terrier" WA-Age = 30
Q19	// [D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =F Terrier and / D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Chapter =Traumatisme]	D-Reviewer D-Casimage-Case	WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Chapter (Weak attribute)	WA-Reviewer-Name = "F Terrier" WA-Chapter = "Traumatisme"
Q20	// [D-Reviewer / @WA-Author-Name =A. KELLER and / D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Chapter =Colon]	D-Author D-Casimage-Case	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Chapter (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "A. KELLER" WA-Chapter = "Colon"
Q21	// [D-Reviewer / @WA-Author-Name =MP Binachi and / D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Hospital =HUG]	D-Author D-Casimage-Case	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Chapter (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "MP Binachi" WA-Hospital = "HUG"
Q22	// [D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =A. KELLER and / D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =N.DFOUNI]	D-Author D-Reviewer	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "A. KELLER" WA-Reviewer-Name = "N.DFOUNI"
Q23	// [D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =MP Binachi and / D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =Natalia Dfouni]	D-Author D-Reviewer	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "MP Binachi" WA-Reviewer-Name = "Natalia Dfouni"
Q24	// [D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =DELAVALLE Jacqueline and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =Leucocytes]	D-Author D-KeyWords	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "DELAVALLE Jacqueline" WA-KeyWords = "Leucocytes"
Q25	// [D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =DELAVALLE Jacqueline and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =globules rouges]	D-Author D-KeyWords	WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-Author-Name = "DELAVALLE Jacqueline" WA-KeyWords = "globules rouges"
Q26	// [D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =NatalaDfouni and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =érythrocytes]	D-Reviewer D-KeyWords	WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-Reviewer-Name = "Natala Dfouni" WA-KeyWords = "érythrocytes"
Q27	// [D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =NatalaDfouni and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =globules blancs]	D-Reviewer D-KeyWords	WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-Reviewer-Name = "Natala Dfouni" WA-KeyWords = "globules blancs"
Q28	// [D-Casimage-Case / @Id-D-Casimage-Case = 4523 and / D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =Towarth Nigel and / D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =Martins Marina]	D-Casimage-Case D-Reviewer D-Author	Id-D-Casimage-Case WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute)	Id-D-Casimage-Case = "4523" WA-Reviewer-Name = "Martins Marina" WA-Author-Name = "Towarth Nigel"
Q29	// [D-Casimage-Case / @Id-D-Casimage-Case = 4523 and / D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =Natalia Dfouni and / D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =MP Binachi]	D-Casimage-Case D-Reviewer D-Author	WA-Chapter (Weak attribute) WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute)	WA-Chapter = "Fractures pathologiques" WA-Reviewer-Name = "MP Binachi" WA-Author-Name = "Natalia Dfouni"
Q30	// [D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Hospital =HUG and / D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =N Dfouni and / D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =J Delavelle]	D-Casimage-Case D-Reviewer D-Author	WA-Hospital (Weak attribute) WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute)	WA-Hospital = "HUG" WA-Reviewer-Name = "N Dfouni" WA-Author-Name = "J Delavelle"
Q31	// [D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Hospital =HUG and / D-Reviewer / @WA-Reviewer-Name =F Terrier and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =colon]	D-Casimage-Case D-Reviewer D-KeyWords	WA-Hospital (Weak attribute) WA-Reviewer-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-Hospital = "HUG" WA-Reviewer-Name = "F Terrier" WA-KeyWords = "colon"
Q32	// [D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Department =Hématologie and / D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =BERIS Photis and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =plaquettes]	D-Casimage-Case D-Author D-KeyWords	WA-Department (Weak attribute) WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-Department = "Hématologie" WA-Author-Name = "BERIS Photis" WA-KeyWords = "plaquettes"
Q33	// [D-Casimage-Case / @WA-Department =Département de Radiologie and / D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =Frank Kolo and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =cancer]	D-Casimage-Case D-Author D-KeyWords	WA-Department (Weak attribute) WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	WA-Department = "Département de Radiologie" WA-Author-Name = "Frank Kolo" WA-KeyWords = "cancer"
Q34	// [D-Casimage-Case / @Id-D-Casimage-Case = 2161 and / D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =A. KELLER and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =plaquettes]	D-Casimage-Case D-Author D-KeyWords	Id-D-Casimage-Case WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	Id-D-Casimage-Case = 2161 WA-Author-Name = "A. KELLER" WA-KeyWords = "plaquettes"
Q35	// [D-Casimage-Case / @Id-D-Casimage-Case = 4213 and / D-Author / @WA-Author-Name =Frank Kolo and / D-KeyWords / @WA-KeyWords =cancer]	D-Casimage-Case D-Author D-KeyWords	Id-D-Casimage-Case WA-Author-Name (Weak attribute) WA-KeyWords (Weak attribute)	Id-D-Casimage-Case = 4213 WA-Author-Name = "Frank Kolo" WA-KeyWords = "cancer"

APPENDIX 3

Read Request Latency: RRL Of Q3 (On DocW-2)

Figure 11.

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