Documentation for the Individual Project for ISY Course

"Version control of institutional data with MongoDB"

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1. Introduction to the Project

In the fourth Semester of the study of "Informatik – Intelligent Systems" the project Data Mining on Institutional Data was initiated by Cord Wiljes. The project was developed by Vineet Vikram Sharma.

There was an official description for the project at the beginning and according to this theoretical description different background work regarding the choice of technology and extraction and storage of data was carried out. Python and MongoDB was chosen to extract information from the available data.

The institutional data we used contains details of list of persons, data about individual persons and publication data. The total no of xml files were roughly around 10,000.

2. Technology Used

I decided to go with Python and MongoDB because I was keen to continue working on the same dataset and progress to find new results/findings from the data. So, MongoDB as it was a NOSQL database and was a good choice as the data was not completely structured. Being able to handle xml and json formats natively in a range of NoSQL databases lessened the amount of code we have to convert from the source data format to the format that needs storing.

Python gave the advantage to quickly integrate with MongoDB and parse the data in xml. For personal data, we parsed through each node but for publication data, we took data which were relevant and related to University knowledge base. Xml dom minidom and xpath were used for parsing.

3. Overview over the System

The data were extracted from the xml files from http://ekvv.uni-bielefeld.de/pers publ/ server and stored in the local database according to the different tags in the response xml file along with the timestamp when the request is sent to the server.

The following methods of backup were used in the dataset:

Full Backup: contains the whole dataset present in the current copy.

Incremental Backup: contains only the data subset that has changed since the preceding backup copy.

Differential Backup: saves the difference in the data since the last full backup.

The data were stored were archived and stored into following four tables:

Personal First Copy (personal first copy): It is the set of data when it was first extracted.

Personal (personal): It is a set of data which are created when a request is send to scan through the xml files from the server. It is the mirror of the datasets present in the latest version of the server.

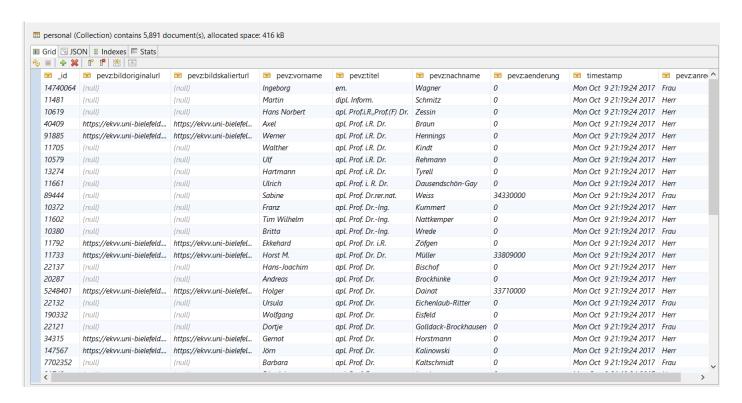
Personal Archive (personal_arcvive): It is the set of data which incremental backup of all the dataset scrapped during the server requests. It contains all the dataset that appeared previously and currently in the server along with the timestamp.

Personal Archive Differential (personal_arcvive_differential): It contains all the fields which are changed in the current copy in reference to the first copy along with the timestamp when the change was discovered.

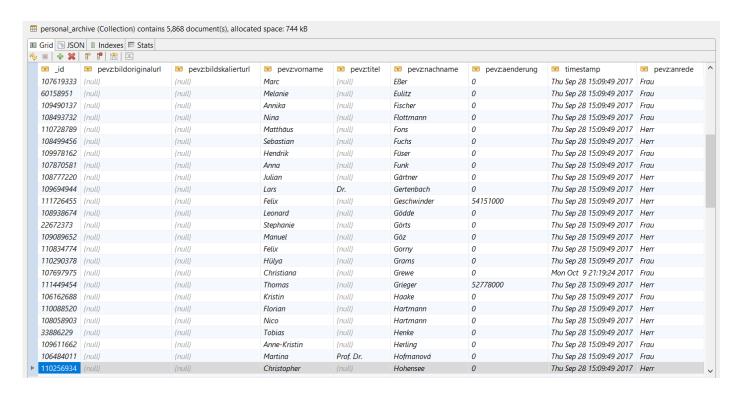
The format of the xml files used. (PersonDetailxx.xml)

```
1 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
 2020pevz:kontakte personid="42996633" xmlns:pevz="http://ekvv.uni-bielefeld.de/pers publ/">
     <pevz:kontakt id="42996634";</pre>
         <pevz:einrichtung id="2685608">
             <pevz:name>Fakultät für Biologie / Biologiedidaktik (Botanik und Zellbiologie)
 6
             </pevz:einrichtung>
8
         <pevz:funktion></pevz:funktion>
9
         <pevz:email>t.becker@uni-bielefeld.de</pevz:email>
10
         <pevz:email verschleiert>&amp;#116;.be&amp;#99;ker&amp;#64;uni&amp;#45;bie&amp;#108;efe&amp;#108;d
11
         <pevz:url></pevz:url>
         <pevz:telefon>5683</pevz:telefon>
12
13
         <pevz:fax></pevz:fax>
14
         <pevz:telefon sekretariat></pevz:telefon sekretariat>
15
         <pevz:raum>UHG W2-226</pevz:raum>
16
         <pevz:sprechzeiten></pevz:sprechzeiten>
17
         <pevz:profs>nein</pevz:profs>
18
     </pevz:kontakt>
19 </pevz:kontakte>
```

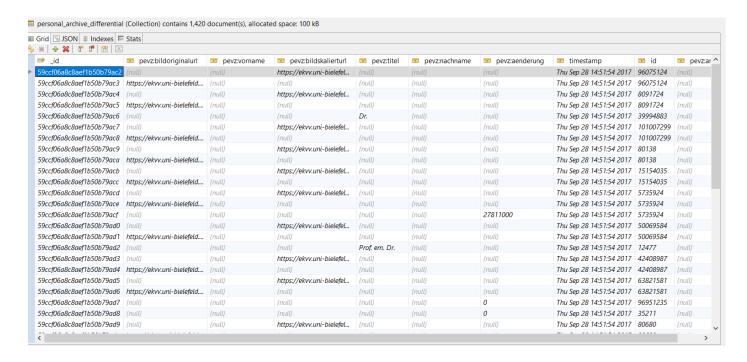
Structure of the personal table in MongoDB



Structure of the personal_archive in MongoDB



Structure of the personal archive differential in MongoDB



Tracking of data:

The system was designed keeping in mind that data which have been changed, are recently added and deleted can be tracked on both record and field level.

New Row Added: Taking the Rows from Personal Table as keys and checking for similar row in personal_archive table. For keys which do not have matches are new.

Rows Deleted: Taking the rows from personal_archive table as keys and checking for similar row in personal table. For keys which do not match are the ones deleted.

Field value updated or added: Taking the Rows from Personal Table as keys and checking for the similar id in personal_archive_differential reveals the number of times a record is changed along with the timestamp of changes.

Field value deleted: Taking the Rows from Personal Table as keys and checking for values with "null" value reveals the field values that are deleted.

The data available were used to find answers to some important queries. Some of them are:

- Total new values added to database.
- Total values archived in database.
- Field which have been changed most number of times with count.
- Id which have been changed most number of times with count.
- Total number of people in CITEC.
- Total number of doctorates in CITEC.
- Total number of recently awarded doctorates in CITEC.
- No. of Person and the list of names who joined Bielefeld University after a certain date.
- List of persons who have left Bielefeld University.

Code snapshot for MongoDB queries:

```
personal_archive_find = db.personal_archive.find({})
counter = personal_archive_find.count()
for doc in personal_archive_find:
    x=db.personal.find({"_id":{ "$eg" :doc.get("_id")}})
    for z in x:
        if z:
            counter = counter - 1
print("\nTotal new values added to database: " + str(counter))
##difference data
f = db.personal_archive_differential.find({})
tag = '
\max = 0
for a in f:
    a \text{ keys} = a.\text{keys}()
    for key in a_keys:
        if key != "timestamp" and key != "_id" and key != "id" and key != "pevz:aenderung":
            count = db.personal_archive_differential.count({key: {'$exists': 'true'}})
            if count > max:
                max = count
                tag = key
print("\nThe column " + str(tag) + " has been changed " + str(max) + " times.")
f = db.personal_archive_differential.find({})
val =
max = 0
for a in f:
    value = a.get("id")
    count = db.personal_archive_differential.count({"id": { "$eg": value }})
    if count > max:
        max = count
        val = value
print("\nThe id " + str(val) + " has been changed " + str(max) + " times.")
```

```
Results:
Total new values added to database: 30
The column pevz:bildskalierturl has been changed 366 times.
The id 5735924 has been changed 18 times.
Total number of people in CITEC: 5891
Total number of doctorates in CITEC: 1499
Total number of recently awarded doctorates in CITEC: 137
No. of Person who joined Bielefeld University after: 2017-10-07 is: 18
List of persons: ['Tanja Adam-Ashuri', 'Linda Berker', 'Eike Friederike Eifler', 'Ludwig Elsner',
'Christiana Grewe', 'Claudia Mertens', 'Sandra Neufeld', 'Agnes Piekacz', 'Florian Polkowski',
'Daniel Pultermann', 'Heike Quentmeier', 'Karin Raker', 'Kerstin Rehr', 'Andreas Rempel', 'Karl
Rohlfs', 'Paulo Astor Soethe', 'Wilena Telman', 'Lara Thomas']
Total values archived in database: 56
List of persons: ['Dato Abashidze', 'Karim Abdelhak', 'Negera Abdissa Ayana', 'Jürgen Abel',
'Marcus Abel', 'Thomas Abel', 'Christian Abeling', 'He
rbert Abels', 'Werner Abelshauser', 'Ferhat Acar', 'Jascha Achenbach', 'Kathrin Ackermann',
'Sabine Adam', 'Timo Adam', 'Tanja Ada
m-Ashuri', 'Anita Adamczyk', 'Sarah Adameh', 'Andrea Adams', 'Julian Adams', 'Michael Adams',
'Sebastian Adloff', 'Sylvia Agbih', 'Elena Aguiar', 'N.N. AG 4', 'Ailar Ahangri', 'Gerhard
Ahlers', 'Carolin Ahlert', 'Shabnam Ahmadzai', 'Mokhtar Ahmed',
                                                                    'Jutta Ahrendt',
```

```
Ahsendorf', 'Zeynep Akbayin', 'Firat Akbulut', 'Nurcan Akbulut', 'Gernot Akemann', 'Fatma Akkaya-Willis', 'Mustafa A ksakal', 'Serdal Alabas', 'Ahmad Al Ajlan', 'Stefan Albaum', 'Imke Albers', 'Andreas Albersmeier', 'Gleb Albert', 'Mathias Albert', 'Lothar Albertin', 'Sergio Albeverio', 'Günter Albrecht', 'Hans-Jörg Albrecht', 'Melanie Albrecht', 'Oliver Albrecht', 'Petra Albrecht', 'Bisan Al Bunni', 'Eva Kristina Albus', 'Stefanie Albus', 'Annette von Alemann', 'Alexander Alempic']
```

4. Repository

https://github.com/svyneet/version control of institutiondata with mongodb

5. Conclusion

To put it in a nutshell the project has activities like selection of type of archiving and dataset to be stored so that the tracking of data on different levels can be achieved. It was an interesting experience to use the data and find out realistic questions from them. The queries were selected on the basis of importance of answers they can provide. The dataset can be explored and extended to answer more different questions.