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Methodology

Data Preparation

There are 3 files responsible for data preparation: prepare_data.sh, prepare_data.py and prepare_index_data.py

prepare_data.sh transfers a.parquet from local to hdfs, starts prepare_data.py, copies newly made data folder to hdfs and starts prepare_index_data.py

prepare_data.py is unchanged from initial file

prepare_index_data.py reads files from hdfs data folder and creates a new partition using rdd

Indexer tasks

index.sh – Pipeline Runner Script that orchestrates the full indexing pipeline.

Actions:

- Accepts input path (local or HDFS) and uploads local files if needed
- Runs first MapReduce job to compute raw term frequencies
- Runs second MapReduce job to generate document stats and build the inverted index
- Triggers the Python script (app.py) to load results into Cassandra

MapReduce Stage 1

mapper1.py – Tokenizes document text, emits one entry per word occurrence.
Takes tab-separated lines with doc_id, title, text as input.
Returns lines with doc_id, term, and title.

reducer1.py – Sums word counts per document to get term frequency.
Takes sorted output from mapper1.py.
Returns aggregated doc_id, term, tf, title.

MapReduce Stage 2

mapper2.py – Computes total document length and prepares structured input for indexing.
Takes output from reducer1 and returns:
DOCLEN lines with total doc length and title.
TERM lines with individual term frequencies per document.

reducer2.py – Groups all documents per term, computes document frequency (df) per term and finalizes all index entries.
Takes output from mapper2.

Output:
VOCAB entries: term → document frequency (df).
INDEX entries: term → document ID, term frequency (tf).
DOCLEN entries: document ID → length, title.

app.py – Loads structured index output into Cassandra tables
Functions:
fetch_hdfs_output(): Reads reducer2 output from HDFS.
connect_cassandra(): Connects to Cassandra and ensures keyspace exists.
create_tables(): Creates tables for vocabulary, inverted_index, and documents.
parse_and_insert(): Parses output and performs batch inserts into Cassandra.

Stored Tables:
vocabulary(term, df) is used to calculate BM25 IDF component
inverted_index(term, doc_id, tf) is used to calculate BM25 TF component

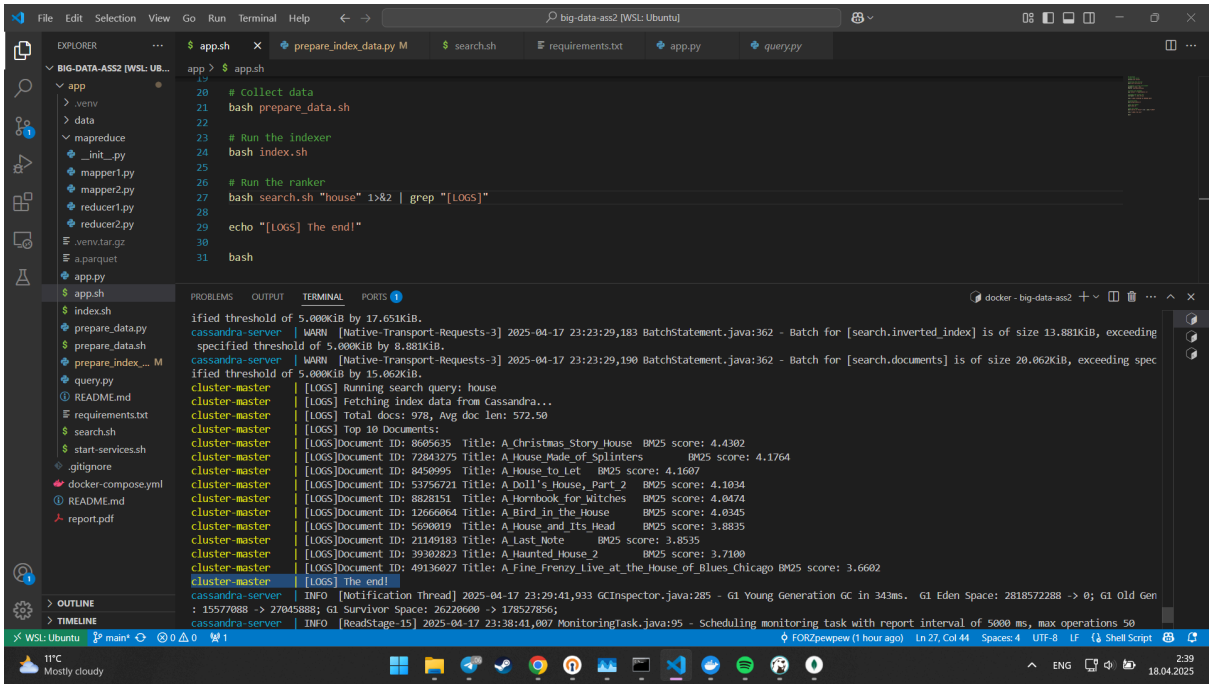
documents(doc_id, length, title): length is needed for normalization, **title** and **doc_id** are used as an output for search

Search tasks

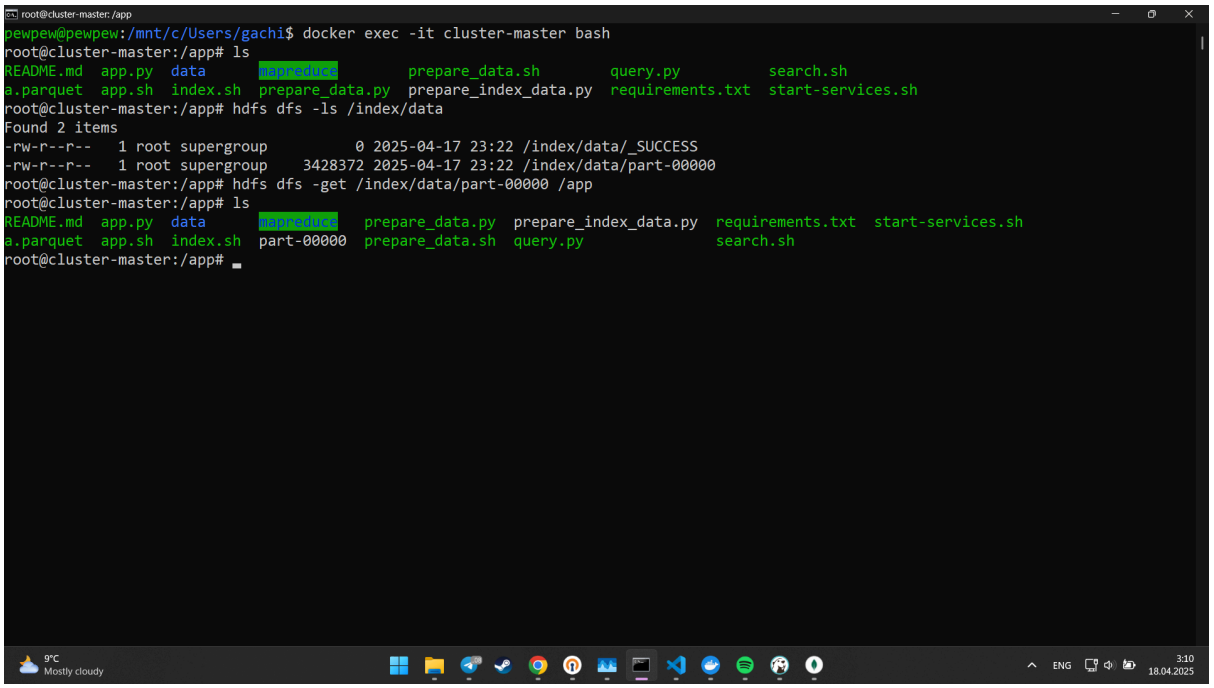
1. Parsing: taking input string from search.sh and splitting it to lowercase standalone words.
2. Preparing RDD from inverted index: index_rdd = sc.parallelize(index)
3. Filtering: filtered = index_rdd.filter(lambda x: x[0] in query_terms)
4. Calculating BM25 Score for each matching document using function score()
5. Aggregating scores by document: doc_scores = scored.reduceByKey(lambda a, b: a + b)
6. Getting top 10 results: top10 = doc_scores.takeOrdered(10, key=lambda x: -x[1])

Demonstration

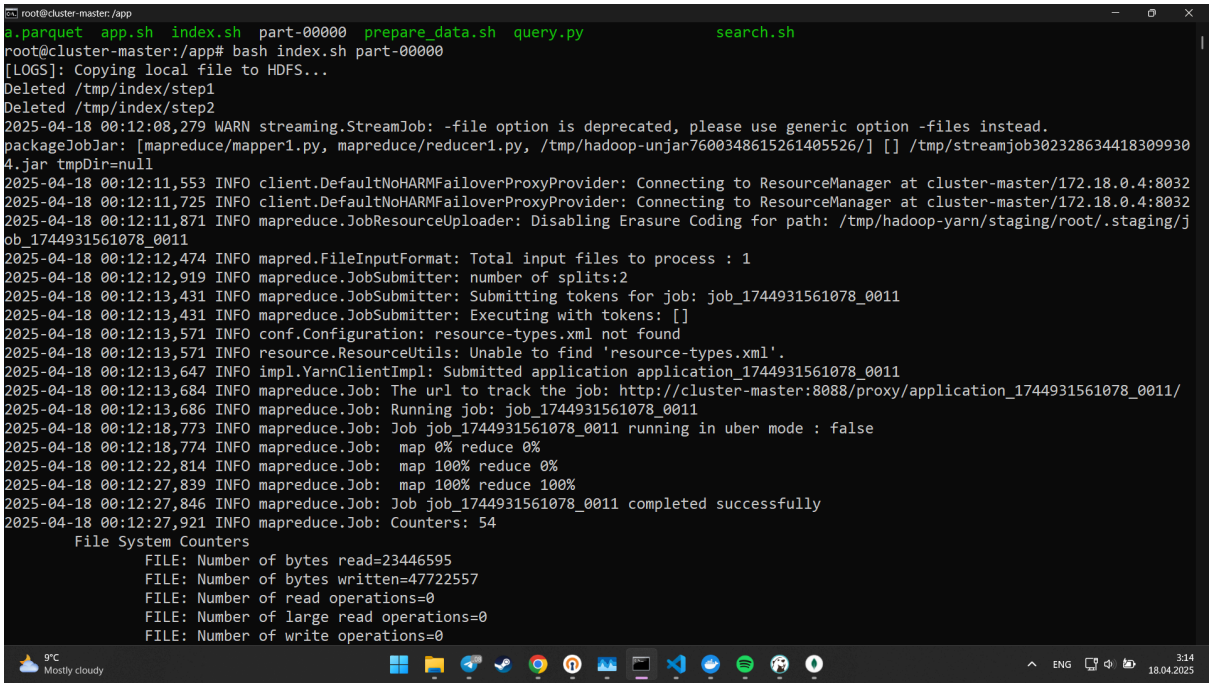
All you need to do for the full demo of the assignment is run docker compose up, which will build 3 containers (cluster-master, cluster-slave, and cassandra). After app.sh is finished running (demonstrated by top 10 documents for query “house” and message [LOGS] The end! on screenshot), in a separate terminal you can write “***docker exec -it cluster-master bash***” to connect to cluster-master’s bash console for search queries using command *“**bash search.sh "your query**”” or accessing hdfs using ***“hdfs df”***.
Alternatively “***docker exec -it cassandra-server cqlsh***” can be used to connect to cqlsh of cassandra (it uses “search” keyspace, which has 3 tables: documents, vocabulary and inverted index).

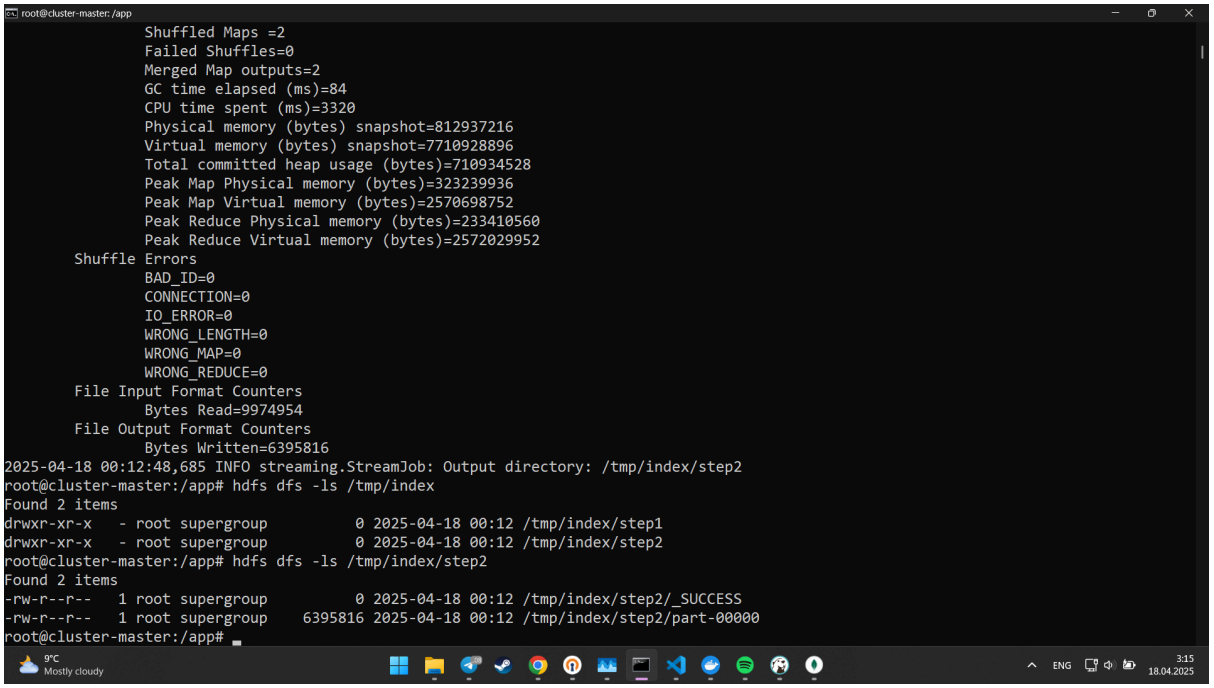


Here is a demonstration of how to copy part-00000 from hdfs to local container storage to use as a file for local indexing:

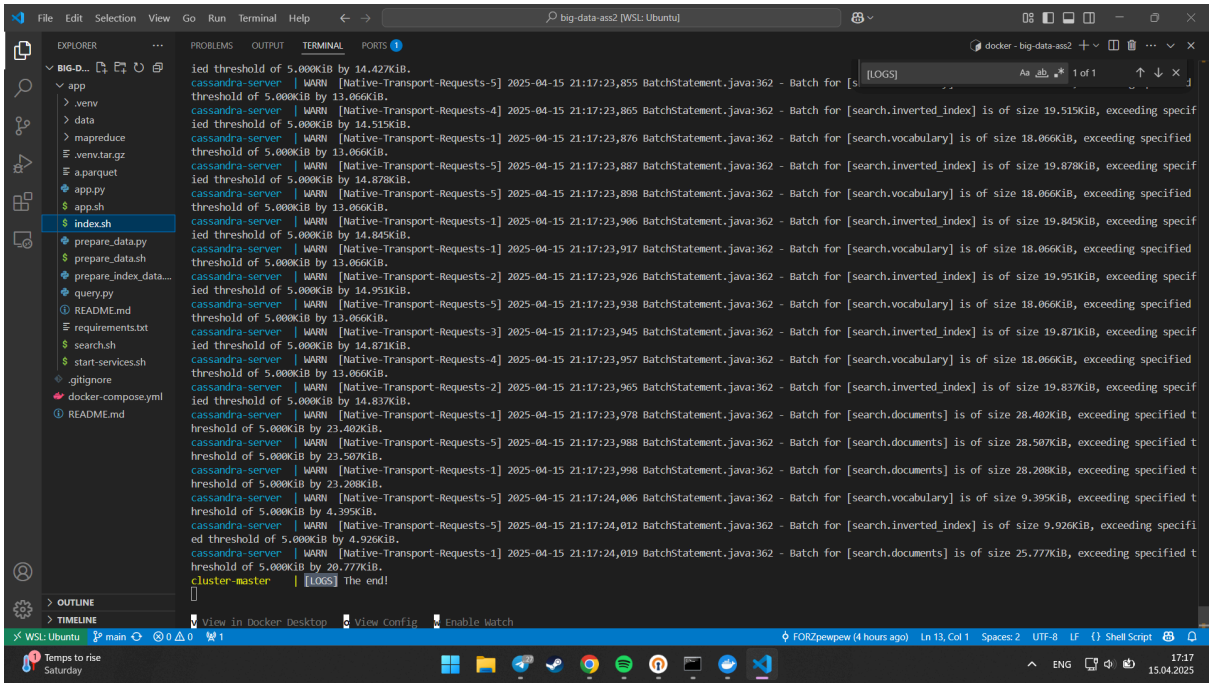


And by running ***“bash index.sh part-00000”,*** you can index the local file, but the file should be a result of prepare_data.sh. A script that processes a.parquet (you can change the name of the processed file in bash script yourself if needed and run it, resulting part-00000 file will always be at hdfs’ *index/data* folder).

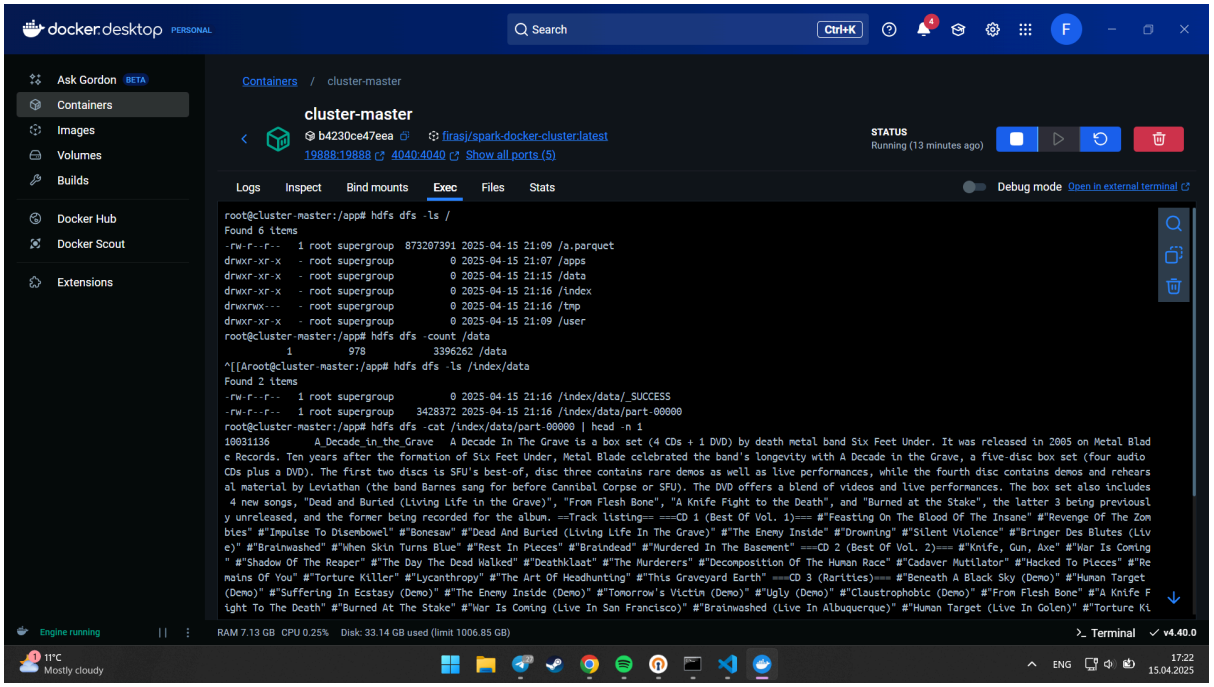




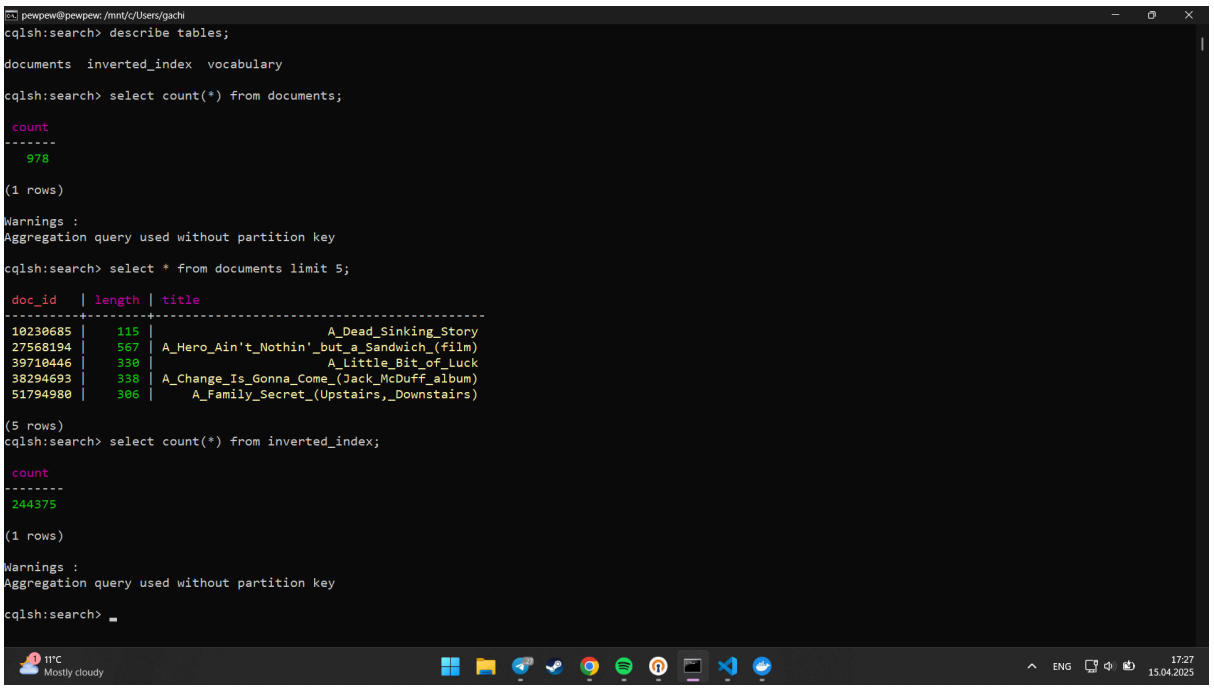
Warn messages from cassandra due to batch size is higher than threshold by a couple of KiB(but files are still added to cassandra)

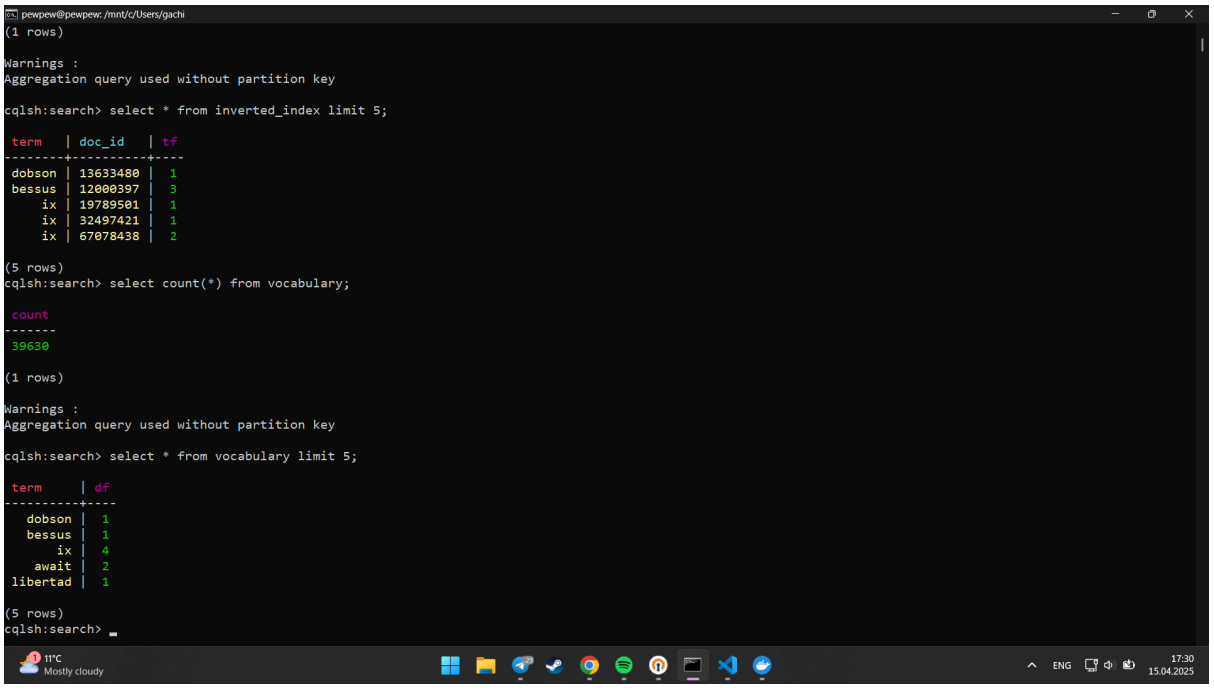


This screenshot shows contents of hdfs / folder, number of documents in /data folder which is 978, contents of /index/data folder and the first line of /index/data/part-00000



Next screenshots show cassandra db tables, their contents and count of rows (global count is expensive without partitions, but there's no workaround :c)
Note the number of documents in documents table: 978, which is well over 100 specified in assignment.





Now it is time for 3 back-to-back search query demonstration:
Not all queries return 10 documents since it is possible that there are less than 10 relevant documents. A really good example of this is the first query “quantum physics” which returned only 1 book, but the book (A Brief History Of Time by Stephen Hawking) exactly matches the given query. Second query “how to pass big data course” has 6 words, but most of them likely don’t contribute much for BM25 score ([how, to, big] are definitely on a much more popular side of a vocabulary), and other terms didn’t find that many exact matches, so there are numerous documents returned, but their score is low. Lastly, the

query “geography” found only 5 relevant documents, but most of them had great scores, and the top one even featured the query in the title.