

Prodigy

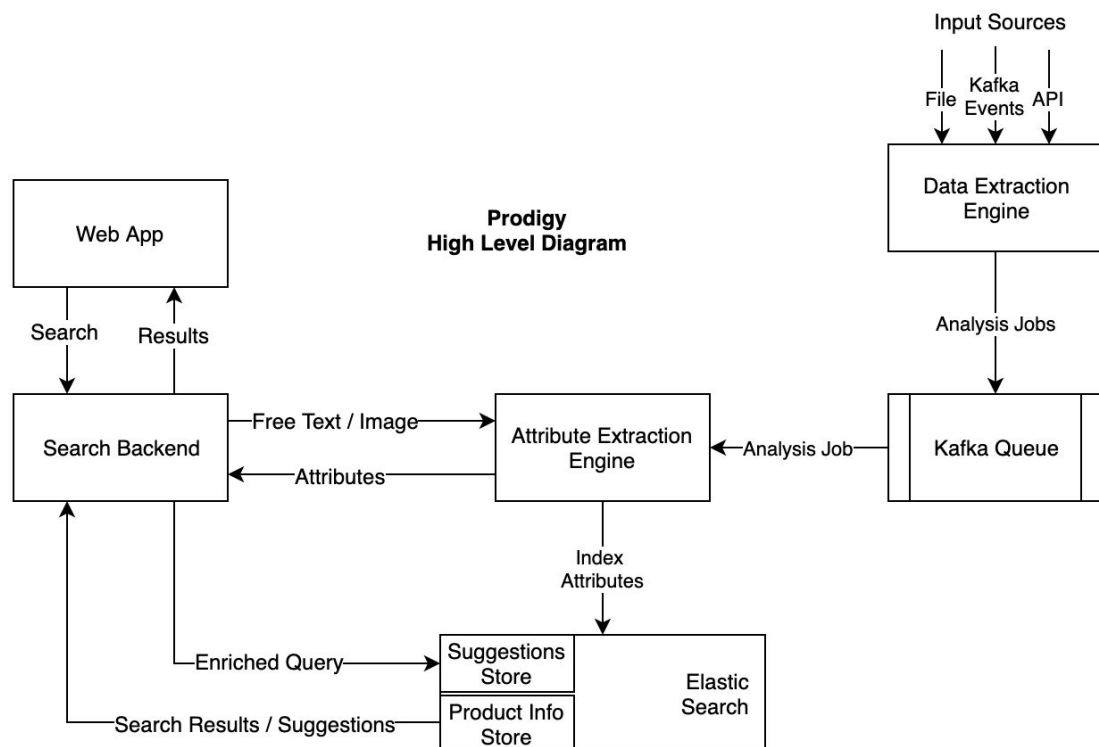
We Understand You

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Summary

This document outlines the technical design of product discovery and ontology engine (prodigy). It lists 5 high-level components, lists their basic responsibilities and technologies being used to build them. It also includes below high-level diagram outlining interaction patterns between the components.

High-Level Diagram



Abstract

In a standard search application, backend services usually communicate with elastic search to get indexed search results. But, in our approach we have introduced another component call Attribute Extraction Engine, which extracts attributes from the query and

enriches the query with this information. This Attribute Extraction Engine also acts as indexer for raw text provided via scrapped jobs.

We have made each component data agnostic i.e. we aim to accept both image and text as search input from users and Attribute Extraction can happen on both images and textual data. After the attributes are extracted Search Backend uses this information to search in elastic search.

Our design is highly scalable at each component making overall system robust.

Frontend Web Application

> Intro:

User Interface for users to query dumb strings and expect highly intelligent results which would maximise the impact of a product.

> Tech Stack:

- VueJs (A progressive JS framework)

Search Backend Service

> Intro:

Search Backend Service (**SBS**) glues front end to Tag Attribution Engine (**TAE**) and Data Storage Engine. It orchestrates these services to fulfil a search or suggest request from the frontend. It's a simple spring boot java application.

> Tech Stack:

- Java Spring Web Framework

Tag Attribution Engine

> Intro:

The Attribute Extraction Engine (**TAE**) enables the system to churn data into meaningful / structured attributes. This acts as a common component to both Search Backend and Data Extraction Engine, thus centralizing the logic of attribute extraction.

There are several components in the **TAE** service, which extract attributes from each type of data. For textual data we are using NLTK NLP library. For images we are using Google OCR api (or anything similar to that) to extract textual information in the images. Then this textual information can be passed through 'text analyzer' to extract attributes. Apart from text data, **TAE** can also extract attributes from detected objects in the image using Neural Nets. Below is a comprehensive list technologies used in **TAE**.

> Tech Stack:

- Python Flask as the micro web framework for our REST APIs
- NLTK for natural language analysis
- Google OCR for extracting text in images
- Neural Net usage yet to be decided

Data Extraction Engine (DEE)

> Intro:

The Data Extraction Engine can be thought of “**noise filter**”. This service acts on the multiple input sources, filters each incoming data object and pushes the actual usable data for further processing in the pipeline.

The **DEE** is implemented as a “**filter-chain**” or more popular known as “chain of responsibility”. Each node in the chain is a filter looking for a specific corrupt data and neglecting the particular feature of the incoming data object. If the percentage of usable features drops a certain configurable number, the data object is dropped altogether for further processing.

Note that, the rejected data will be diverted to another pipeline which will track of rejected objects for instrumentation purpose. This instrumentation will be used for improvement of the “**Scrapper Service**”.

> Tech Stack:

- Apache Kafka
- Java spring-boot

Data Storage Engine (DSE)

> Intro:

The Data Storage Engine is the provider layer for search, auto-suggestion etc features.

Since search need not provide exact results but an approximation to the user query, we are using “**elasticsearch**” for our storage layer. Elastic internally uses probabilistic data-structure like bloom-filter which is the best fit for our use case.

User search will be powered by an elastic store which would be queried against tags attributed by the TAE (Tag Attribution Engine) on the user free text query. Also, since auto-suggestion does not directly result in a user query but instead sets the stage for the query, so it will be powered by another elastic store keeping only the catalogue hierarchy information of all the products. Auto suggestions point to category or subcategory of the products rather than the products themselves. When user query becomes more and more specific, suggestion stores won't be able to provide suggestions, then we will query the product information store to retrieve the exact product.

> Tech Stack:

- ElasticSearch

Images

1. Application

Search

2. Data Extractor Engine to Data Attribution Engine syncing...

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WINNINGS AND RISK IT ON
ONE TURN OF PITCH-AND-TOSS, AND
LOSE, AND START AGAIN AT YOUR
BEGINNINGS AND NEVER BREATHE
A WORD ABOUT YOUR LOSS; IF YOU
CAN FORCE YOUR HEART AND
NERVE AND SNEW
TO SERVE YOUR
TURN LONG AFTER
THEY ARE GONE, AND
SO HOLD ON WHEN
IS NOTHING IN YOU EXCEPT THE
WHICH SAYS TO THEM: "HOLD ON!" IF
YOU CAN TALK WITH CROWDS AND KEEP
YOUR VIRTUE, OR
WALK WITH KINGS-

MASTER; IF YOU CAN
THINK, AND NOT MAKE
THOUGHTS YOUR AIM;
IF YOU CAN MEET WITH
TRIUMPH AND DISASTER
AND TREAT THOSE TWO
IMPOSTERS JUST THE
SAME; IF YOU CAN BEAR
TO HEAR THE TRUTH
YOU'VE SPOKEN TWISTED
BY KNAVES TO MAKE A
TRAP FOR FOOLS, OR WATCH
IS THE EARTH AND EVERYTHING THAT'S
IN IT, AND - WHICH IS MORE -
AND STOOP AND BUILD 'EM UP WITH WORN-OUT
TOOLS; IF YOU CAN MAKE ONE HEAP OF ALL YOUR
YOU'LL BE A MAN, MY SON!

3. Data Storage Engine (Graphs)

