

Big Data Course Project

This document lists suggested projects. You are also encouraged to propose your own project. For your own project, you may come up with any research topic/problem that you think is interesting by using the list of available datasets below or other dataset you collected. You should talk with the instructor first about your proposed project, including the dataset you selected.

Project 1: Youtube Analyzer

Related Industry: Social Media

Data: <http://netsg.cs.sfu.ca/youtubedata/>

Suggested Problem: Implement a Youtube data analyzer supported by MapReduce, SQL and/or graph algorithms. The analyzer provides basic data analytics functions to Youtube media datasets. The analyzer provides following functions for users:

A. Network aggregation: efficiently report the following statistics of Youtube video network:

- Degree distribution (including in-degree and out-degree); average degree, maximum and minimum degree
- Categorized statistics: frequency of videos partitioned by a search condition: categorization, size of videos, view count, etc.

B. Search.

- top k queries: find top k categories in which the most number of videos are uploaded; top k

rated videos; top k most popular videos;

- Range queries: find all videos in categories X with duration within a range $[t1, t2]$; find all

videos with size in range $[x,y]$.

- User identification in recommendation patterns: find all occurrence of

a specified subgraph pattern connecting users and videos with specified search condition.

*develop effective optimization techniques to speed up the algorithm you used, including indexing, compression, or summarization.

C. Influence analysis.

- Use PageRank algorithms over the Youtube network to compute the scores efficiently. Intuitively, a video with high PageRank score means that the video is related to many videos in the graph, thus has a high influence. Effectively find top k most influence videos in Youtube network. Check the properties of these videos (# of views, # edges, category...). What can we find out? Present your findings.

Project 2: Amazon co-purchasing analysis

Related Industry: online commercial/Business

Data: <http://snap.stanford.edu/data/amazon-meta.html>

The data was collected by crawling Amazon website and contains product metadata and review information about 548,552 different products (Books, music CDs, DVDs and VHS video tapes).

Suggested Problem: Implement a co-purchasing data analytics engine. The analyzer has the following functions.

1. Answer complex query. We define a SQL-like query Q of the form `SELECT* FROM U WHERE Condition`. The `CONDITION` is of the following forms:

- Searchable attributes: value constraints over well-defined attributes in node/edge schema
- Non-searchable attributes: attributes that cannot be queried directly over existing attributes: the number of reviews of a product, the number of customers co- purchasing same product of a user.
- Queries with enriched operators: `>`, `>=`, `=`, `<`, `<=`; e.g., Select movie with average rating `>=4.5`

Given a query Q and Amazon dataset, and a number k , find k entities that satisfy Q with minimized evaluation cost.

2. Find potential customers that satisfies co-purchasing pattern. Divide the co-purchasing data into two data set, one we call “training” dataset, and the other “testing” dataset. Verify several frequent co-purchasing patterns in the training dataset. Report the frequency in the testing dataset. For those frequent patterns in both dataset, return the customers captured by the patterns. What seems to be the most significant co-purchasing pattern?

Project 3: Airline Search Engine

Related Industry: Aviation

Data: <http://openflights.org/data.html>

Public available dataset which contains the flight details of various airlines like: Airport ID, Name of the airport, Main city served by airport, Country or territory where airport is located, Code of Airport, Decimal Degrees, Hours offset from UTC, Timezone, etc.

Suggested Problem: Implement an airline data search engine supported by efficient MapReduce, SQL/SPARQL and/or graph algorithms.

The tool is able to help users to find out facts/trips with requested information/constraints:

- Airport and airline search:
 - Find list of airports operating in the Country X
 - Find the list of Airlines having X stops
 - List of airlines operating with code share
 - Find the list of active airlines in the United States
- Airline aggregation:
 - Which country (or) territory has the highest number of Airports
 - Top K cities with most incoming/outgoing airlines
- Trip Recommendation:

- Define a trip as a sequence of connected route. Find a trip that connects two cities X and Y (reachability).
- Find a trip that connects X and Y with less than Z stops (constrained reachability)
- Find all the cities reachable within d hops of a city (bounded reachability)
- Fast Transitive closure/connected component implemented in parallel/distributed algorithms

Project 4: Collaboration Analysis

Related Industry: Publisher/Scholar/Academic

Data: Microsoft Academic Graph (<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/project/microsoft-academic-graph/>)

DBLP (<http://dblp.uni-trier.de/xml/>)

Suggested Problem: How to discover interesting (potential) collaboration among scientists and researchers? How to track the “strong” collaboration among authors and find out the reason why some collaboration success and some is not trending? An academic collaboration analyzer gives possible answers.

1. Find dense communities of interests. Given a set of labels denoting research domains/topics of papers etc. from end users, the goal is to discover dense subgraph/community of the citation network that closely connects all the entities satisfying the labels, and summarize it as a collaboration pattern. A collaboration pattern connects a set of authors, papers and the venues/conferences/journals the papers are published.
2. Tracking the dynamics in citation networks. Given a collaboration pattern, how does the support information changes over time? How to discover special time point/outlier/anomalies/events over the evolving citation network for this pattern?
3. Association and correlation analysis. Given a set of keywords describing research area/topics, define and discover association

rules that specify the correlation/regularities among the entities (authors, papers, conferences, journals, universities) that are similar to the keyword description.

4. Link prediction. The rules mined in 3 suggests possible facts and collaborations in near future. Evaluate the “power of prediction” of the rules you discovered in the experimental study, and report the interesting findings (accuracy, confidence, support).

Project 5: Resident Activity Analysis in Smart Home

Related Industry: Healthcare/IOT

Data: CASAS Smart Home Dataset (<https://data.casas.wsu.edu/>)

To acquire the data, you need to register with the CASAS Data downloader, and request access of the testbed that you want to use.

Suggested Problem: Implementing an activity analyzer of resident(s) in the smart home. The smart home activity analyzer monitors the activity of the residents living in the smart home, as well as the status of sensors deployed. The analyzer has the following functionalities:

1. Monitor the status of sensors and offer the best strategy to maintain the sensors in the smart home.
 - Query the statistics about sensors in various smart homes, including current state, last activation time, battery level, average activation duration, last activation duration, etc.
 - The duration of a sensor being active, e.g. the time interval between ON and OFF message of a motion sensor, is commonly used to monitor sensor health status. Design an interface that can query the statistics and histograms of the duration of a sensor being active given a time period and a smart home site name.
 - Most motion sensor, light sensors or door sensors are powered by battery in the smart home. The sensors report their battery levels

periodically. Depending on the activation frequency, sensor type and the type of battery used, the battery of each sensor drains at different speed. Design query to monitor the battery drain of each sensor and decide the battery health status of each sensor. For example, query a list of sensors that need battery serviced immediately, in the near future, or do not need service as they are in good shape.

2. Common trajectory identification. A trajectory is a sequence of sensor events triggered by a resident in the smart home. Based on the recorded sequence, you can find resident trajectories that frequently occur in the data. Query the top k such sequences.
3. Activity Recognition. Some smart home datasets are labeled with activities that the resident(s) performs. Using part of the data as training and rest for testing, you can implement a real-time, semi-real-time or batch process of activity recognition.

Project 6: Activity Analyzer with Wearable Sensors

Related Industry: Consumer Electronics/Wearables/Health Monitor

Data: Sussex-Huawei Locomotion Dataset (<http://www.shl-dataset.org/dataset/>).

Suggested Problem: Implementing an activity analyzer with wearable sensors. The activity analyzer monitors the data recorded by the wearable sensors, such as accelerometers, gyroscope, magnetometers, etc. The analyzer has the following functionalities:

1. Monitor the statistics of various sensor data, e.g. frequency, minimum and max values, average value, standard deviation, given a specific time period, sensor type or activity label.

2. Visualize the frequency spectrum or wavelet transform of the data with conditions such as time, associated activity, traffic condition, phone placement, etc.
3. Since all the data provided in the datasets are associated with activity labels, you can design, implement and deploy a machine learning application that recognize and predict the activity based on the wearable sensor data.

Project 7: Panama Offshore Leaks

Related Industry: Financial/Economics/Politics

Data:ICIJ Offshore Leak. <http://www.thereportertimes.com/panama-papers-icij-offshore-leaks-database-documents/23489/>

The ICIJ Offshore Leaks Database is licensed under the Open Database License and its contents under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license. Always cite the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists when using this data. This database is powered by Neo4j, a graph database that structures data in nodes (the icons you see in the visualization) and relationships (the links between nodes).

Suggested Problem:

1. A representation of Panama Papers into a network of person, companies, relationships and timestamps.
2. Mining frequent graph patterns that suggests interesting activities, potential anomaly events and outliers over snapshots of the Panama paper network.
3. Develop algorithms that track the information of these patterns (e.g., close/reopen of companies, tax heaven, abnormal shutdown of companies, social network of users and supervisions).

Project 8*: Knowledge base search engine

Related Industry: Search engines/General database/knowledge base applications
Data: DBPedia/YAGO

Suggested Problem: Keyword search has been redefined by modern search engines: users want to search for “things”, not “strings”. An efficient keyword search over a knowledge graph provides answers in terms of a small subgraph, rather than a set of keyword/text. The outcome of such search engines directly applies to Q&A systems, AI systems and smart environment.

Given a (fraction) of knowledge graphs, develop and implement a KB search engine that takes as input a set of (possibly ambiguous) keywords, and outputs a small subgraph of interests that contains matches of the keywords. In this project, you need to consider the following questions: (1) how to define a similarity/clustering measure of the relevant entities? (2) how to define the relevance of the answers? And (3) creatively apply related research on “keyword search over graph” to perform the search.

Reference: http://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007%2F978-1-4419-6045-0_8#page-1

Project 9*: Knowledge base fact checker

Related Industry: Search engines/General database/knowledge base applications

Data: DBPedia: <http://wiki.dbpedia.org/> Richly labeled network containing extracted data from Wikipedia (based on infoboxes). Labeled network of multiple types of nodes and edges About 2.6 million concepts described by 247 million triples, including abstracts in 14 different languages. YAGO(<http://www.mpi-inf.mpg.de/departments/databases-and-information-systems/research/yago-naga/yago/downloads/>)

Suggested Problem: Fact checking is a critical task in knowledge base quality management. Given a knowledge base (KB) as a knowledge

graph, and a set of edges indicating facts, the task is to determine whether these facts are (likely) to be true or not.

Functional dependencies have been used to describe hard constraints among attribute values of the tuples in relational databases. The FDs are used to detect violations of dependencies that often indicate inconsistencies/quality issues. This course project requires you to make use of the idea of FDs and its variants (CFDs and GFDs) to come up with rules that decides if a fact holds, and develop an algorithm that discover these rules over an open KB dataset.

References: <http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/wenfei/papers/vldb15-GPAR.pdf>

Project 10*: Making search bounded over Big Data Related

Industry: General

Data: General

Suggested Problem: In this class we will introduce a class of strategies to make query processing “bounded”. That is, given a certain resource bound over e.g., running time, # of entities you are allowed to fetch, etc, develop an algorithm that finds the best answers for a given query within the resource budget.

This is an open project. In this project, you identify a query class, a dataset, and develop a resource- bounded search algorithm that makes use of big data processing/querying strategies (indexing, compression, query evaluation using views, caching, sketching, sampling, sparsifying, filtering, selection...) You should justify the performance of your proposed algorithm for the query class. The method you propose should be general enough that apply to every query from the query class.

Reference: <http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/wenfei/papers/sigmod14.pdf>

Available dataset (also see “resource” on the course homepage)