

Use XKCD API To Build A Searchable Database of XKCD Comics

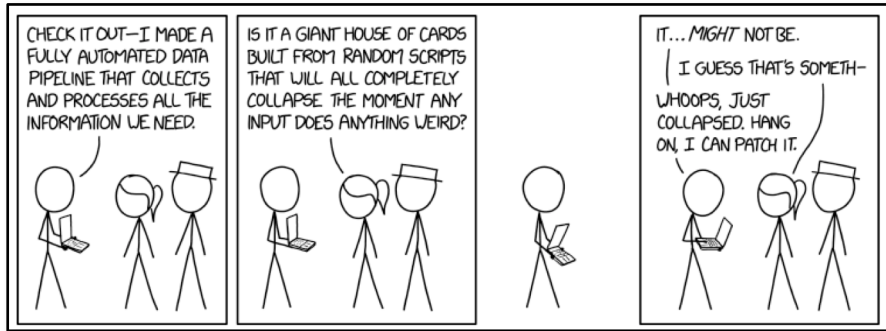
Practical Exam



Goal

OpenCellID.com provides regulary exports of worldwide cell data:

- <https://xkcd.com/>
- JSON API: <https://xkcd.com/2054/info.0.json>



<https://xkcd.com/2054/>

```
{  
  "month": "10",  
  "num": 2054,  
  "link": "",  
  "year": "2018",  
  "news": "",  
  "safe_title": "Data Pipeline",  
  "transcript": "",  
  "alt": "\"Is the pipeline literally running from your laptop?\" \"Don't be silly, my laptop disconnects far too often to host a service we rely on. It's running on my phone.\"\"",  
  "img": "https://imgs.xkcd.com/comics/data_pipeline.png",  
  "title": "Data Pipeline",  
  "day": "3"  
}
```

2054.json

Goal

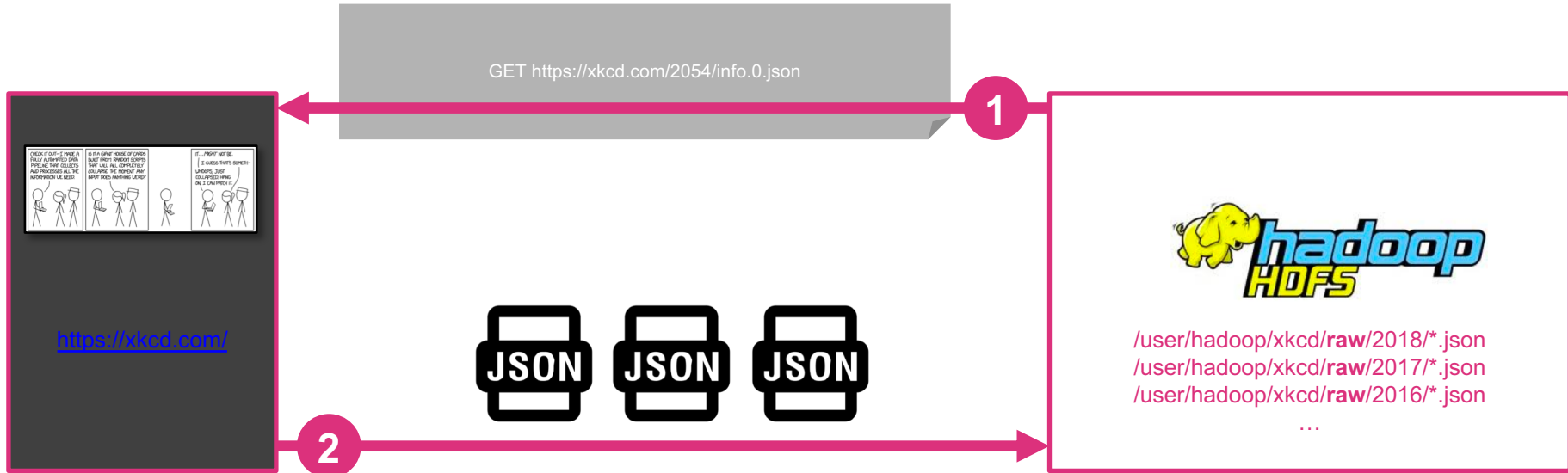
We want to make use of this data to build a searchable database for XKCD comics.

Workflow:

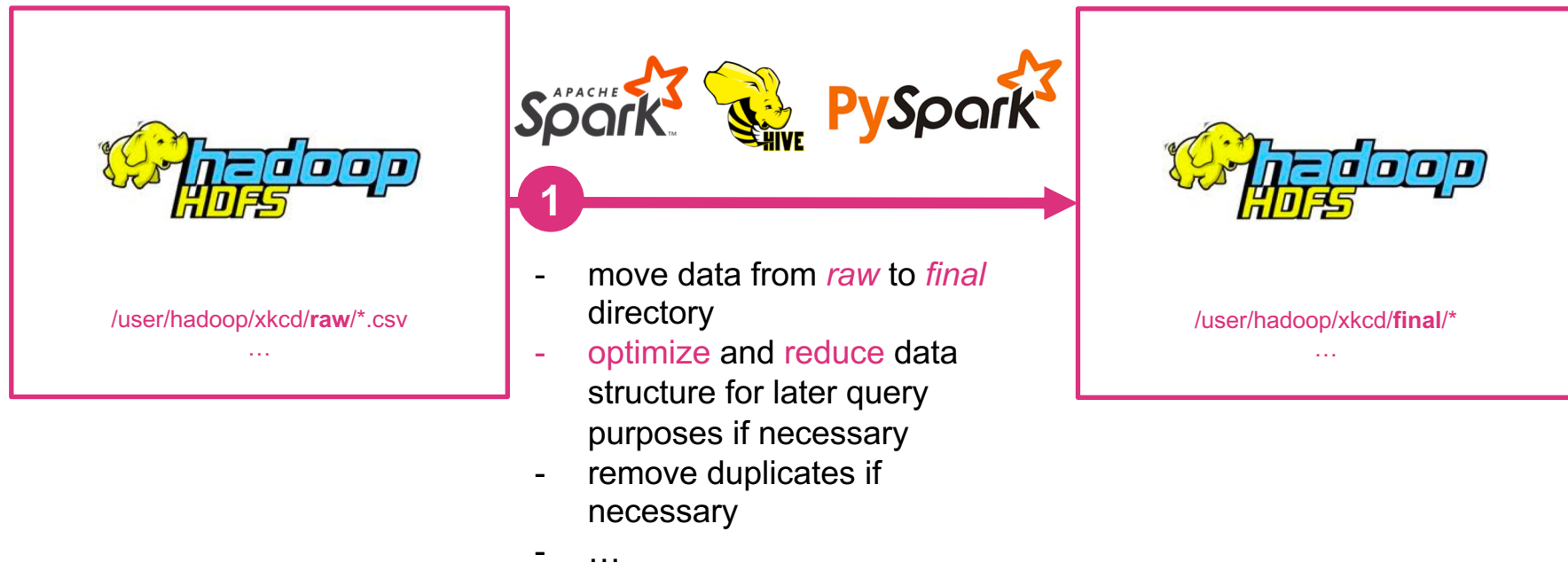
- **Gather data** from xkcd.com
- **Save raw data** (JSON files) to HDFS (partitioned by year, e.g. 2018, 2017, 2016...)
- **Optimize, reduce and clean raw data** and save it to **final** directory on HDFS
- **Export** xkcd data to **end-user database** (e.g. MySQL, MongoDB...)
- Provide a simple **HTML Frontend** which is able to:
 - read from end-user database
 - process user input (search phrase...)
 - checks against xkcd data in end-user database
 - Display result (comics containing search phrase)
- The whole data workflow **must be implemented** within an ETL **workflow tool** (e.g. Pentaho Data Integration or Airflow) and **run automatically**



Dataflow: 1. Get XKCD Data



Dataflow: 2. Raw To Final Transfer



Dataflow: 3. Enhance Data And Save Results



/user/hadoop/xkcd/final/*

...

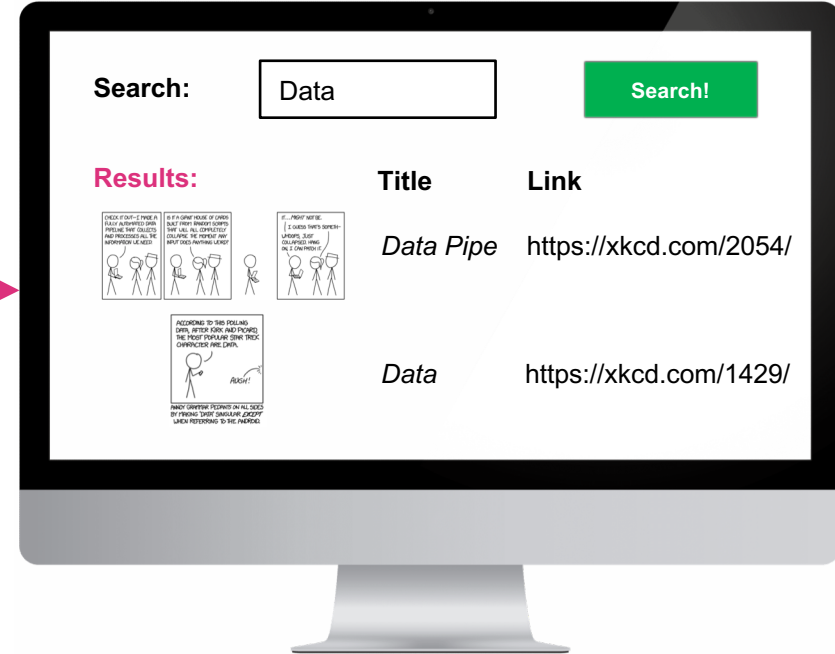


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- enhance data (e.g. for later querying)
- use Hive, Spark or PySpark
- save everything to a end-user database (e.g. MySQL, MongoDB)



Dataflow: 4. Provide Simple Web Interface



- Provide a simple **HTML Frontend** which is able to:
 - read from end-user database
 - process user input (search phrase...)
 - checks against xkcd data in end-user database
 - Display result (comics containing search phrase)