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Communication Assignment

Technologies for Information Systems

Abstract January 2024

Nowadays, An important aspect that enterprises look for is the analysis of datas collected in order to make some studies. Being able to contextualize them is not as easy as we can imagine. A solution that lots of companies thought about is the building of tools that help in those operations. Data Catalogs (from now on, DC), which can be easily defined as data management tools, play an important role because they enable a full overview of the available datas and their characteristics.

One one hand, getting integrated in the enterprise's data ecosystem, DCs guarantee a huge efficiency in the required analysis. On the other hand, this integration can be trivial for different reasons.

Firstly, it is not immediate to determine which DC best fits the context. There exists lots of different catalogs that are designed for different goals, and finding the one that is most coherent with the enterprise’s requirements might be hard.

Then, for a DC to be successful, it has to rely on efficient technologies already existent in the working environment, like the automatic data source integration

Even though it is easy to define what they do, organizations are still having difficulties in building concrete implementations. There are several ways in which it is possible to develop a typology of DC applications. More specifically, the Nickerson research methodology defines three main steps:

* EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS

The fist interaction aim to analyze the actual analysis that the DC can offer in the enterprise contect. Offerings are identified based on some analysis performed by the responsible

* STATE OF THE ART ANALYSYS

The second step consist in the analysis of the scientific articles that can be found related to the interested context

* CONCEPTUAL AND EMPIRICAL FINDINGS.

Finally, the collected results are adjoined guaranteeing a complete research

Based on the research mentioned before, there have been identified seven main classes of DC applications, from the higher level organizational area to a lower level provider-consumer relationship.

Those several classes, plus the general lack of Data Catalog knowledge, make their implementation as part of data management an important challenge

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