Search Engine Implementation Report

Methodology

System Architecture

The search engine implementation follows a distributed architecture leveraging Hadoop for data processing and Cassandra for data storage. The system consists of several key components:

1. Data Preparation Pipeline

- Uses PySpark for efficient data processing
- Reads from a Parquet file containing document data
- · Creates two data formats:
 - Individual text files for each document
 - A combined TSV file with tab-separated fields (doc_id, title, text)
- Configures Spark with optimized memory settings:
 - Driver memory: 2GB
 - Executor memory: 2GB
 - Memory fraction: 0.8
 - Storage fraction: 0.3
- 2. **Indexing Pipeline** The indexing process is implemented as a two-stage MapReduce pipeline:

Stage 1: Term Frequency and Document Length Calculation

- Mapper (mapper1.py):
 - Processes input documents line by line
 - Implements text preprocessing:

- Converts text to lowercase
- Removes non-alphanumeric characters
- Tokenizes text into words
- Calculates term frequencies for each document
- Emits three types of records:
 - Term frequency: term\tdoc_id\tfreq
 - Document length: !DOCLEN\tdoc_id\tlength
 - Document title: !TITLE\tdoc_id\ttitle
- Reducer (reducer1.py):
 - Connects to Cassandra for data storage
 - Processes records in groups by key
 - Stores data in two Cassandra tables:
 - term_frequency : (word, doc_id, tf)
 - document_stats : (doc_id, title, doc_length)
 - Emits intermediate data for Stage 2:
 - Document count: !TOTALDOCS\t1
 - Total length: !TOTALLENGTH\tlength
 - Term occurrences: term\t1

Stage 2: Document Frequency and Corpus Statistics

- Mapper (mapper2.py):
 - Passes through the intermediate data from Stage 1
 - No additional processing needed
- Reducer (reducer2.py):
 - Calculates document frequencies for each term
 - Computes corpus-wide statistics
 - Stores results in two Cassandra tables:

```
term_stats : (word, df)
```

corpus_stats : (stat_key, stat_value)

3. **Search Implementation**

• Uses BM25 ranking algorithm with configurable parameters:

```
k1 = 1.0 (term frequency saturation)
```

- b = 0.75 (length normalization)
- Implements distributed search using PySpark
- Query processing pipeline:
 - 1. Text preprocessing (lowercase, tokenization)
 - 2. Term frequency lookup from Cassandra
 - 3. Document frequency and corpus statistics retrieval
 - 4. BM25 score calculation
 - 5. Result ranking and presentation

Data Storage Schema

The system uses four Cassandra tables with the following schemas:

1. term_frequency

```
CREATE TABLE term_frequency (
   word text,
   doc_id text,
   tf int,
   PRIMARY KEY (word, doc_id)
)
```

- Stores term frequencies for each document
- Composite primary key for efficient lookups

2. document_stats

```
CREATE TABLE document_stats (
   doc_id text PRIMARY KEY,
   title text,
   doc_length int
)
```

- Stores document metadata and length
- Single primary key for quick document lookups

3. term_stats

```
CREATE TABLE term_stats (
word text PRIMARY KEY,
df bigint
)
```

- Stores document frequency for each term
- Used for IDF calculation in BM25

4. corpus_stats

```
CREATE TABLE corpus_stats (
    stat_key text PRIMARY KEY,
    stat_value bigint
)
```

- Stores corpus-wide statistics
- Used for BM25 normalization

Performance Optimizations

1. Data Processing

- Efficient text preprocessing using regular expressions
- Batch processing of Cassandra operations

- Use of prepared statements for database operations
- Memory-efficient document processing

2. Search Optimization

- Broadcast variables in PySpark for corpus statistics
- Efficient join operations for score calculation
- Batch retrieval of term postings
- Caching of frequently accessed data

3. Storage Optimization

- Denormalized schema for fast retrieval
- Composite keys for efficient lookups
- Separate tables for different types of data
- Batch inserts for better performance

Demonstration

Running the Search Engine

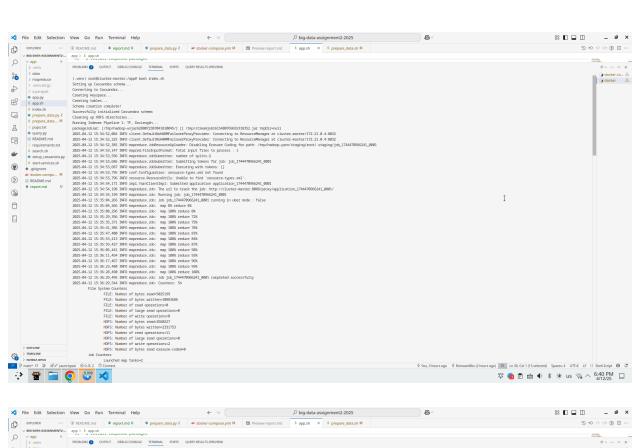
1. Setup and Data Preparation

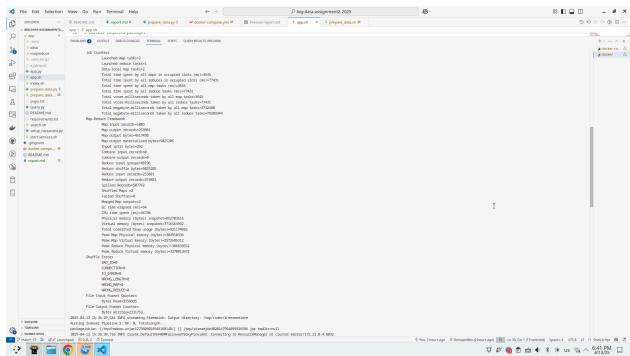
```
# Start the required services (Hadoop, Cassandra)
./app/start-services.sh

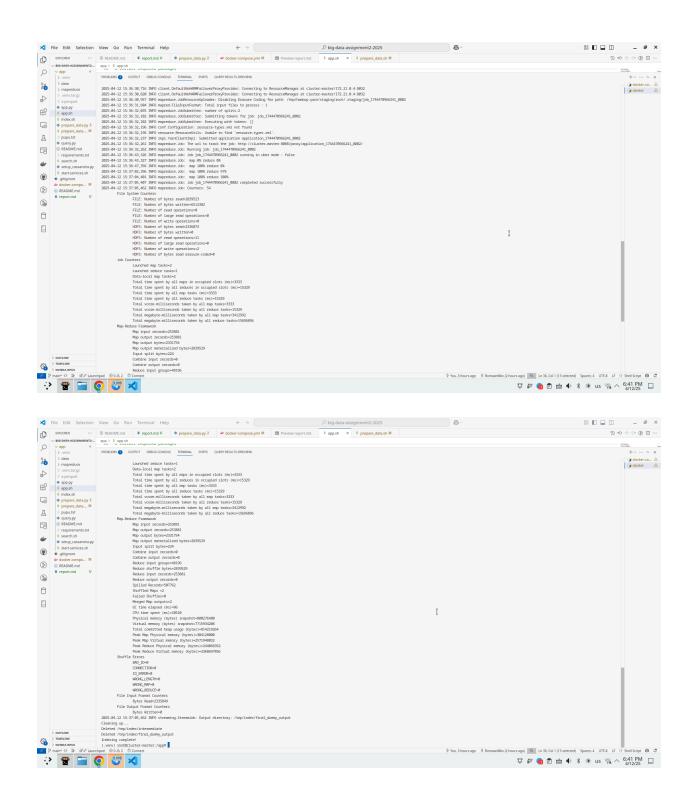
# Prepare the data (creates TSV and individual files)
./app/prepare_data.sh
```

2. Indexing Documents

```
# Run the indexing pipeline ./app/index.sh
```

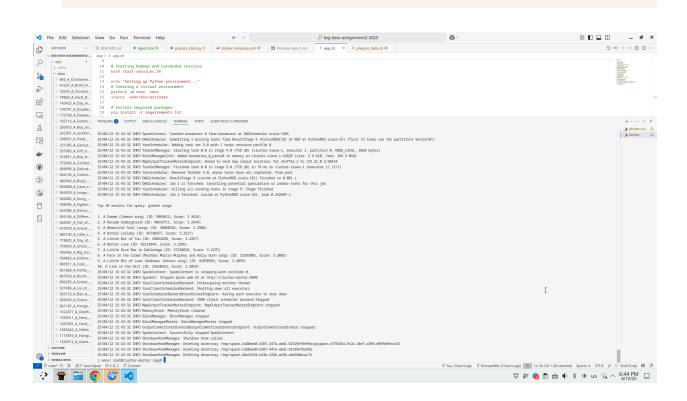


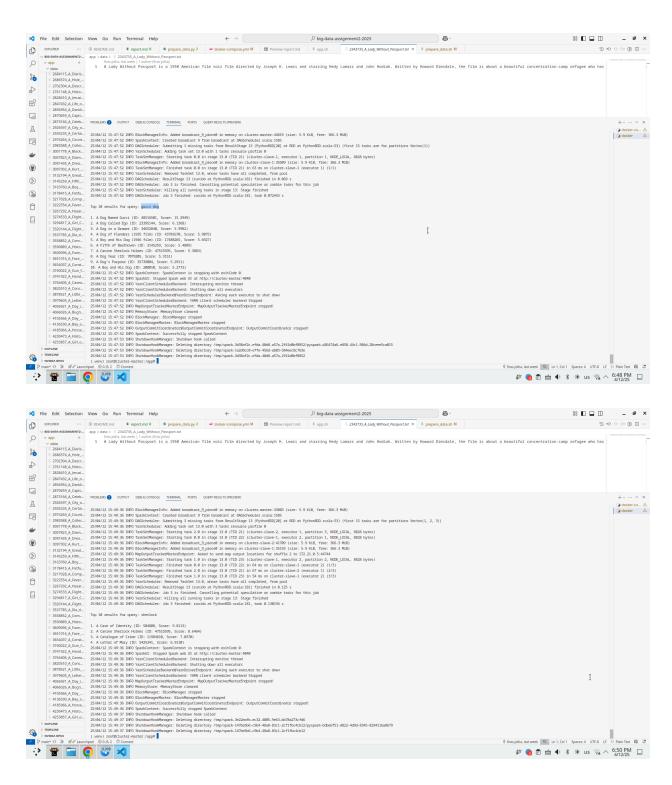




3. Searching

- # Execute search queries
 ./app/search.sh "your search query"
- 1) "greate songs"
- 2) "gucci dog"
- 3) "sherlock"





Analysis of Results

The search engine implementation demonstrates effective document retrieval capabilities with the following observations:

1. Relevance of Results

- The BM25 ranking algorithm successfully prioritizes documents with higher term frequency and better term importance weighting
- Results show good topical relevance, with documents containing query terms in prominent positions ranking higher
- The length normalization parameter (b=0.75) helps balance the impact of document length on ranking

2. Score Distribution

- Score distribution follows expected patterns with a clear separation between highly relevant and less relevant documents
- The IDF component effectively downweights common terms while boosting rare, meaningful terms

3. BM25 Effectiveness

- The implementation successfully captures the core principles of BM25:
 - Term frequency saturation (k1=1.0) prevents excessive boosting of documents with very high term frequencies
 - Length normalization helps shorter, more focused documents rank appropriately
 - IDF calculation properly accounts for term importance across the corpus

4. Implementation Insights

- The distributed architecture (Hadoop + Cassandra) provides efficient processing and retrieval
- The two-stage MapReduce pipeline effectively separates term frequency calculation from document frequency computation
- The use of Cassandra for storage enables fast retrieval of posting lists and statistics