Exporting Data from MongoDB to a CSV File

Although it is possible to just work with MongoDB on some analytical platforms, a lot of data scientists use an analysis platform that cannot work with MongoDB directly. A common practice in data science is to export all or part of the data into a CSV file that almost any analytical tool can import.

You can export the result of MongoDB queries using the *mongoexport* command in the MongoDB shell. The command is the following

.mongoexport --db <dbname> --collection <collectionName> --fields <field1,field2> --out <OutfileName>

The arguments are described as following:

Argument	Description
--collection <name>	The collection to use.
--db <name>	The database to use.
--fields <field 1>,<field 2>,<...>	The fields to include in the query result.
--query <query>	The query to perform.
--out <name>	The name of the output file.
--type=<type>	Format of export, either *csv* or *json.*

If you go to your JupyterLab by accessing your *jupyter-coursera* container, you will notice that inside the *data* folder, there is a csv file called *users_tweets.csv,* which contains the list of tweets from the database. We have already extracted a csv from the database using the *mongoexport* command, for you to complete the next assignment. However, if you want to do it yourself, you can run the following command in your local terminal shell (make sure your container *my-mongo* is running):

```
1   docker exec my-mongo mongoexport --db=sample --collection=users --type=csv --fields=tweet_t
```

The *docker exec my-mongo* argument is telling Docker to execute the *mongoexport* command within the container *my-mongo.* If you enter into the MongoDB, you can execute it directly without that first part.

After creating the file within the container, you can run the following command to copy the file from the container to your local directory:

```
1   docker cp my-mongo:/data/db/users_tweets.csv your/local/path
```

In the next part, we will be performing analytics on the tweet texts.

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