Library of Congress Relational Database

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What is the Library of Congress?



The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world, with millions of books, films and video, audio recordings, photographs, newspapers, maps and manuscripts in its collections. The Library is the main research arm of the U.S. Congress and the home of the U.S. Copyright Office.

Project Purpose

The purpose of our project was to transform a large, unwieldy flat-file of digital library items into a relational database to both save space and to form more meaningful relationships among the data.

Storing library data in a relational database, rather than a flat file, helps to prevent updating, deleting, and inserting errors by minimizing the number of times each data entry appears in the database.

Dataset of World Digital Library of Congress

https://www.loc.gov/item/2020446966/

- We condensed this dataset because it was too large to upload to GitHub.
- We removed some of the rows of data from the end of the file to make it smaller
- We also removed some of the 'less significant' columns (Ex: 'original language'
 was removed because we had another language column to represent that data)
- Our final dataset had 23,861 rows and 99 columns

Snippet from flat file

 This is what the file we started with looked like. It is too complicated to draw any meaningful conclusions from

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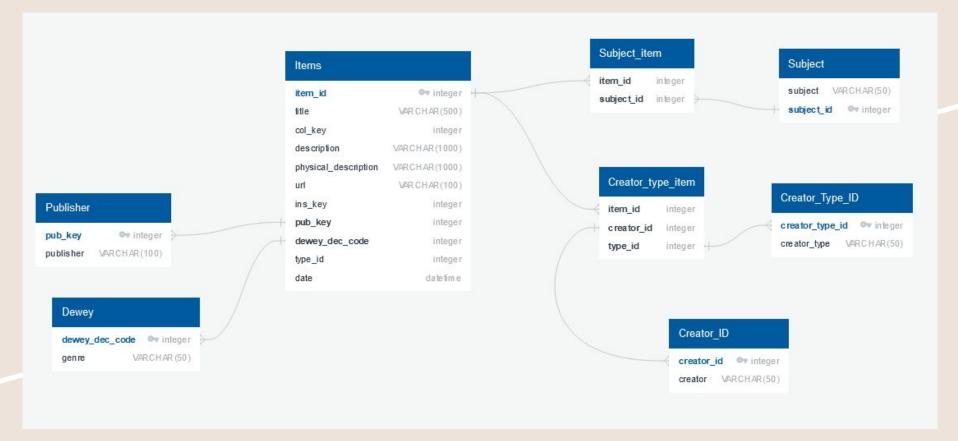
ETHICAL CONSIDERATION FOR DATA ENGINEERING - BEST PRACTICES

- Ownership
- Transparency
- Privacy
- Intention
- Outcomes

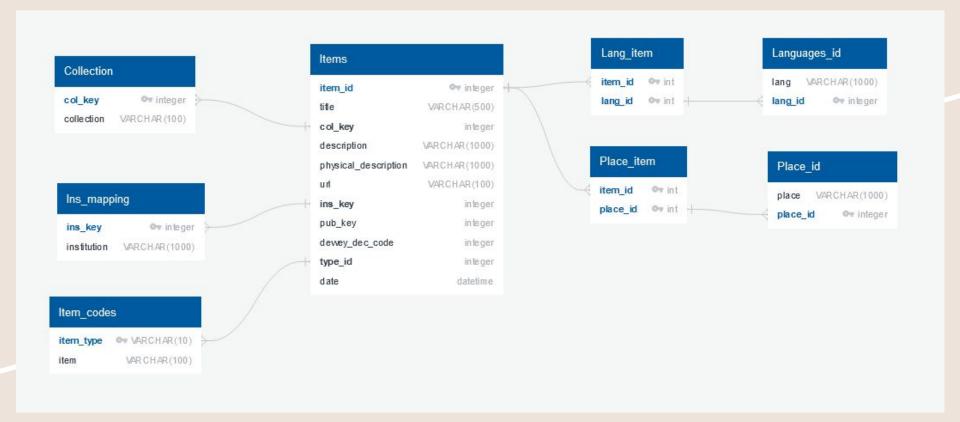
The dataset we used for our project did not contain any personally identifiable information (PII) other than the names of the creators of the items included in the dataset. However, since there wasn't any other PII (like contact information, addresses, or social security numbers) we did not to take any special measures to protect the creator's information.

We chose to use a relational database because the data from our source file had some structure to it already. Each item had very similar characteristics and shared most of the features from the dataset, so it made more sense to use a relational database with a rigid structure rather than a non-relational database like NoSQL. To implement the relational database we used Postgres in the form of pgAdmin4 because everyone in the group had already used it before in class and there was no cost associated with it.

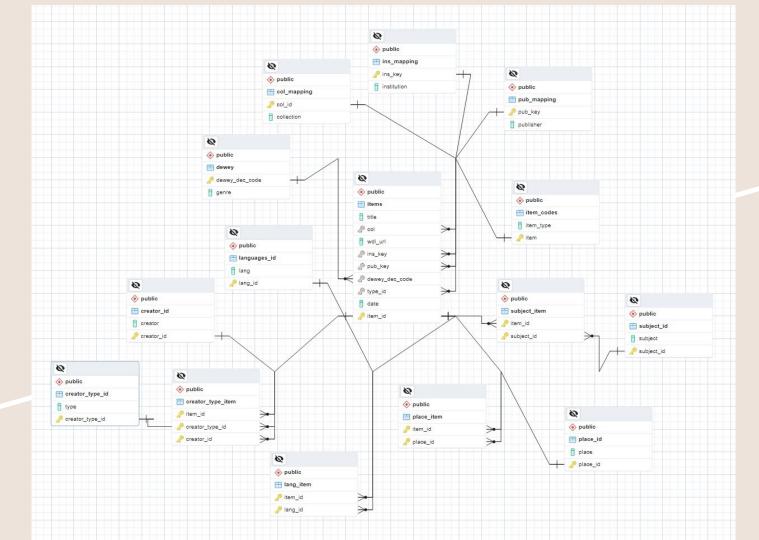
Simple ERDs (part 1)



Simple ERDs (part 2)



ERD



ETL Process



Dask Python Library

- •In keeping with the requirements of the project, DASK was the chosen library that we were not taught
- Chosen because it has the feel of working like Pandas
- •Was able to read the .csv with DASK; instead of pd.read as in Pandas, it uses dd.read
- ·Was only able to get it to output the column headers and data types
- Time constraint in learning to fully incorporate it

ETL Workflows

- We needed to split the large flat file (the dataset from loc.gov) into relations that could be used in our database
- To do this, we used ETL workflows to read the dataset into Pandas Dataframes, manipulate it, and export the final product into corresponding .csv files
- We combined all of the creator types and their names into one table, rather than the multiple that were in the original file

	Subject	item_id	subject_id
0	Antietam, Battle of, Maryland, 1862	0	0
1	Antietam, Battle of, Maryland, 1862	11930	0
2	Generals	1011	1
3	Generals	1016	1
4	Generals	1017	1
113573	Popular culture	23859	4640
113574	Mohammad Daoud, Sardar, 1909-1978	11920	4641
113575	Mohammad Daoud, Sardar, 1909-1978	23850	4641
113576	Israel-Arab War, 1973	11929	4642
113577	Israel-Arab War, 1973	23859	4642
113578 ro	ws × 3 columns		

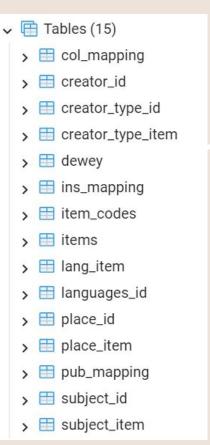
	Creator	item_id	type
0	Gardner, Alexander, 1821-1882	0	Photographer
1	Vargas, Max T., 1874–1959	1	Photographer
2	Sandberg, Bob	27	Photographer
3	Brumfield, William Craft, 1944-	31	Photographer
4	Ferrez, Marc, 1843-1923	41	Photographer
26749	Vahhāj, Sirāj al-Dīn	23850	Lead
26750	Vahhāj, Sirāj al-Dīn	23851	Lead
26751	Vahhāj, Sirāj al-Dīn	23852	Lead
26752	Vahhāj, Sirāj al-Dīn	23853	Lead
26753	Vahhāj, Sirāj al-Dīn	23854	Lead
26754 rc	ows × 3 columns		

Final .csv files

- Dewey.csv
- col_mapping_new.csv
- creator_id.csv
- creator_type_id.csv
- creator_type_item.csv
- ins_mapping_new.csv
- item_codes.csv
- items.csv (Note: this file has '|' as the delimiter, rather than ',')
- items_csv (this is the same as the items.csv, except that this file has ',' as the delimiter)
- lang_item.csv
- languages_id.csv
- place_id.csv
- place_item.csv
- pub_mapping_new.csv
- subject_id.csv
- subject_item.csv

Implementing a Database in pgAdmin4

- To implement the database, we created SQL schema to create tables and then imported our final .csv files into the tables
- Once the data is imported, SQL statements can be used to view, manipulate, and edit the data



Ex Query

```
select title, subject from items i join subject_item si on i.item_id = si.item_id
form subject_id s on s.subject_id = si.subject_id
```

Data (Data Output Messages Notifications						
=+ [
	title character varying (1000)	subject character varying (1000)					
69	Special Edition of Universal Current Events: Late	Military camps					
70	Special Edition of Universal Current Events: Late	Military camps					
71	View of the Encampment of the Corn Exchange	Military camps					
72	View of the Encampment of the Corn Exchange	Military camps					
73	Grand Review	Military camps					
74	Grand Review	Military camps					
75	President George Washington	Presidents					
76	President Abraham Lincoln	Presidents					
77	President Millard Fillmore	Presidents					
78	President Jefferson Davis, Confederate States of	Presidents					
79	President George Washington	Presidents					
80	President Abraham Lincoln	Presidents					
81	President Millard Fillmore	Presidents					
82	President Jefferson Davis, Confederate States of	Presidents					
83	Special Edition of Universal Current Events: Late	Tents					

Flask API

- To store the data for future use, we implemented a Flask API that displays the data in Json format via a browser
- All of the tables are available through the hyperlinks under 'Available Routes'

Available Routes: api/v1.0/col mapping api/v1.0/creator id api/v1.0/creator type id api/v1.0/creator type item api/v1.0/dewey api/v1.0/ins mapping api/v1.0/item codes api/v1.0/items api/v1.0/lang item api/v1.0/languages id api/v1.0/place id api/v1.0/place item api/v1.0/pub mapping /api/v1.0/subject id /api/v1.0/subject item

CONCLUSION

In summation, pertinent information was extracted from the Library of Congress database to draw aggregate findings and design a database useful for the future utilization.

- ETL workflows were implemented.
- SQL, Pandas, JSON, Flask API
- Dask Librarý
- Python Scripts
- Jupyter Notebook
- Final data was uploaded into Postgres to create a relational Database to aid in making it more user friendly.

Sources

- Dask documentation: https://docs.dask.org/en/stable/
- Dataset source: https://www.loc.gov/item/2020446966/