

# Theory and Practice of Data Cleaning Final Project - NYPL Menus

**Author:** [jamesmb3@illinois.edu](mailto:jamesmb3@illinois.edu)

**Date:** 07/25/2019

---

## Introduction

This report will summarize the data provenance and workflow of the [New York Public Library What's on the Menu?](#) The report will document and show the various techniques learned in class and how they can be applied to this type of data. Several tools were made available through coursework as well as additional tools used are listed below.

## Git'ing the code

The entire contents of the repository is made available on [github](#). Clone the repository to download the entire project.

```
git clone https://github.com/itsjimbo/CS_498_Final_Project
```

## Tools

To reproduce this report in its entirety, the following tools must be installed.

- **Atom** - A hackable text editor for the 21st Century [download](#) - used [Markdown Preview Enhanced](#) package for markdown and prince for pdf conversion.
- **DBVisualizer** - Free Universal database tool for developers, DBAs and analysts. (ER-diagram) [download](#)
- **OpenRefine** - powerful tool for working with messy data: cleaning it; transforming it from one format into another; and extending it with web services and external data. Download it here:
  - [Windows](#)
  - [Mac](#)
  - [Linux](#)
- **SQLite** - SQLite is a C-language library that implements a small, fast, self-contained, high-reliability, full-featured, SQL database engine - [download](#)

- **SQLITE Studio** - SQLite database manager with many features including a simple GUI [download](#)
- **YesWorkflow** - Bringing workflow modeling and provenance management to scripting languages - <https://github.com/yesworkflow-org/yw-idcc-17>. The `YesWorkFlow` can be installed using the included `setup.sh`
- **or2ywtool** - Openrefine to Yesworkflow model tool for python - [download](#)

## Overview and initial assessment

The [New York Public Library](#) has collected information about various menus from the 1840's until present that contain information about dishes and prices. Starting in 2011, the NYPL had begun to [digitize](#) the collection of 45000 artifacts and continue to grow. Individual tables are listed in the `Dataset` section of the report.

## BYOY - Bring Your Own YesWorkflow

An initial bootstrap `setup.sh` is included as convenience to bootstrap the environment on OSX. The following operations are conducted in order to provide the basic structure to replicate this report. Included checks for other packages such as GraphViz and LibrSVG for easy document reproducibility.

## InitialSetup

Check\_Homebrew

Check for homebrew on OSX

Check\_Java

Check for homebrew on OSX

Get\_Local\_Path

get local path for current working directory

Create\_BIN\_directory

create a directory where binary executables reside

Download\_YesWorkflow

download YesWorkflow if it is not in path

Download\_GraphViz

download GraphViz if it is not in path

Download\_librsvg

download rsvg-convert

Check\_Alias

ensure yw alias exists

## Dataset

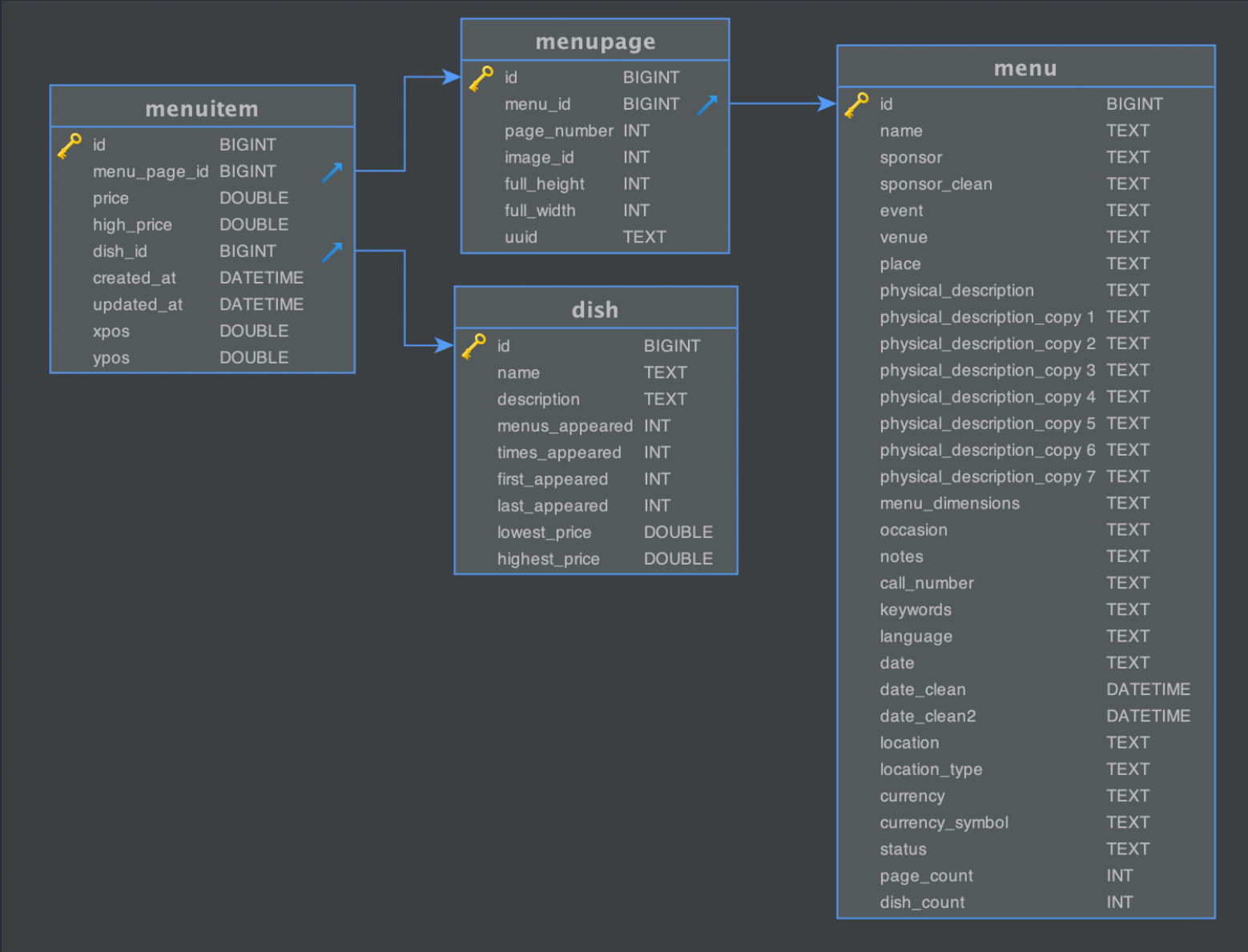
The dataset was provided as a zip file from the coursera course page materials available [here](#) and consists of 4 files along with the initial primary and foreign key constraints:

- **Menu** - A `Menu` is an individual container for all the other data elements and contains a unique id. Other metadata about the venue or event that the menu was created for, the location, and currency are also included. Each `Menu` is associated with some number of `MenuPage` items.
  - `Menu:id` primary key
  - `MenuPage:menu_id` → `Menu:id`
- **MenuPage** - A `MenuPage` is a page from the `Menu` - each page is associated with one or more `MenuItems`.

- `MenuPage:id` primary key
- `MenuItem:menu_page_id` → `MenuPage:id`
- **MenuItem** - A `MenuItem` is an area of the menu which encompasses xy coordinate location of the item being represented along with the price. Each `MenuItem` is associated with the `Dish` that it represents.
  - `MenuItem:id` primary key
  - `MenuItem:menu_page_id` → `MenuPage:menu_id`
  - `MenuItem:dish_id` → `Dish:id`
- **Dish** - A `Dish` is the most granular represented item. Each dish consists of properties like name and description and has price and date ranges as well.
  - `Dish:id` primary key
  - `MenuItem:dish_id` → `Dish:id`

# Entity Relationship diagram

The Entity Relationship (ER) Diagram is depicted below.



# Row Counts

Before we started, it is generally good practice to get an idea of how much data we are dealing with, and to have some baseline to compare counts to. Below is the table of counts for all files that we were given.

Filename	Rows
Menu.csv	17547
MenuItem.csv	1332726
MenuPage.csv	66937
Dish.csv	423400

# Data cleaning with OpenRefine

## JVM Memory options

Consider increasing beyond the default specifications for the JVM. Edit the `Info.plist` properties and change the `-Xmx` arguments for the JVM.

```
$ vi /Applications/OpenRefine.app/Contents/Info.plist
```

```
<key>JVMOptions</key>
<array>
  ...
  <string>-Xms512M</string>
  <string>-Xmx8192M</string>
  ...
</array>
```

- **Menu** - `id` `menu_id` `page_number` `image_id` `full_height` `full_width` convert to number to ensure numeric
- **MenuPage** - `id` `menu_id` `page_number` `image_id` `full_height` `full_width` convert to number to ensure numeric
- **MenuItem** -  
The created at and updated at columns were cleaned as date column of Menu file.
- **Dish** -

## Clustering Considerations and Assumptions

Attempts to cluster the data appropriately were taken, however without more detail investigation will need to be performed to validate the actual name. From the example below, there may exist both `IMPERIAL HOTEL` and `Hotel Imperial` as both are legitimate possibly different hotel names. Since there was no physical street address or other corroborating information we can utilize to make discernible differences (such as more recent GPS coordinates), and given that names can change tremendously through time - we may want to consider clustering these utilizing additional methods in the future.

## Cluster & Edit column "sponsor\_clean"

This feature helps you find groups of different cell values that might be alternative representations of the same thing. For example, the two strings "New York" and "new york" are very likely to refer to the same concept and just have capitalization differences, and "Gödel" and "Godel" probably refer to the same person. [Find out more ...](#)

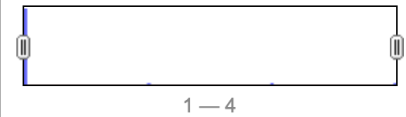
Method key collision

Keying Function fingerprint

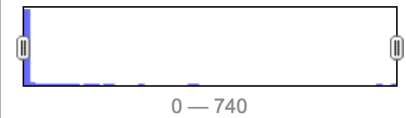
5673 clusters found

4	31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>IMPERIAL HOTEL (21 rows)</li><li>Hotel Imperial (5 rows)</li><li>Imperial Hotel (4 rows)</li><li>Impérial Hotel (1 rows)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IMPERIAL HOTEL
<a href="#">Browse this cluster</a>				
3	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>St. Francis Hotel (2 rows)</li><li>Hotel St. Francis (1 rows)</li><li>ST. FRANCIS HOTEL (1 rows)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	St. Francis Hotel
3	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>LAUREL IN THE PINES (5 rows)</li><li>Laurel In The Pines (2 rows)</li><li>Laurel in the Pines (1 rows)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LAUREL IN THE PINES
3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cosmopolitan Hotel (6 rows)</li><li>COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL (2 rows)</li><li>Cosmopolitan... Hotel (1 rows)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cosmopolitan Hotel
3	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Palace Hotel (7 rows)</li><li>PALACE HOTEL (5 rows)</li><li>Palace Hôtel (2 rows)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Palace Hotel
3	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>HOTEL KNICKERBOCKER (14 rows)</li><li>Hotel Knickerbocker (9 rows)</li><li>Knickerbocker Hotel (1 rows)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HOTEL KNICKERBOCKER

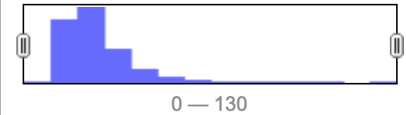
### # Choices in Cluster



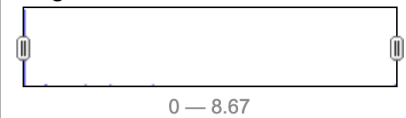
### # Rows in Cluster



### Average Length of Choices



### Length Variance of Choices



Select All Unselect All

Export Clusters

Merge Selected & Re-Cluster

Merge Selected & Close

Close

## Clustering Challenges wihtin OpenRefine

The `dish` table has presented some challenges to OpenRefine for clustering because of the number of records and limitations to CPU.

# Develop a relational database schema

## Create Schema

In an effort to preserve data types for the columns when importing into `sqlite`, we would need to remove the header row - but we wanted to have the sql autogenerated. The easiest way to accomplish is to

- export as CSV within `OpenRefine`,
- import the table into `sqlite`,
- dump the schema from the imported csv (all datatypes are TEXT),
- drop the table,
- edit the schema and change data types,
- remove the header information via `sql/remove_headers.sh` script which uses a `sed` expression to remove the row of each file
- create the table with data types
- import the header-less csv into our table with data types

Below we will demonstrate an example that was repeated for all tables.

## Extract column information from CSV to SQL, import and DROP

```
-- First extract columns from the csv
-- all datatypes will be text
sqlite> .mode csv
sqlite> .import ../data/clean/menupage.csv menupage
sqlite> .schema menupage
CREATE TABLE menupage(
  "id" TEXT,
  "menu_id" TEXT,
  "page_number" TEXT,
  "image_id" TEXT,
  "full_height" TEXT,
  "full_width" TEXT,
  "uuid" TEXT
);
sqlite> drop table menupage;
```

## Remove header row from the CSV file

```
# simple script to remove headers on csv files
sed -i '' 1d ../data/clean/menu.csv
```

## Create with data types

We then can create the table and preserve the data types

```
CREATE TABLE menupage(
  "id" BIGINT,
  "menu_id" BIGINT,
  "page_number" INT,
  "image_id" INT,
  "full_height" INT,
  "full_width" INT,
  "uuid" TEXT,
);
```

## Import Data

And finally import all of the rows to prepare it for our next step. Data will the be imported correctly with the data types we have given in the previous step.

```
-- change mode to csv to import
.mode csv
.import ../data/clean/menu.csv menu
```

## Rebuilding the entire dataset

The entire `sql/create.sql` is included for reproducibility to execute the script - change into the `sql` directory and run `start.sh`



```
# example
cd ~/git/final-project/sql
$ ./start.sh
SQLite version 3.24.0 2018-06-04 14:10:15
Enter ".help" for usage hints.
sqlite> .read create.sql
```

# Create Constraints

We will first look at indivudal constraints on each table and then look at the **three** relationships joining the **four** tables.

- dish** - table constraints

- `id` primary key - distinct - no duplicates - not null

```
select id,count(*) from dish group by id having count(*)>1;
select * from dish where id is NULL;
```

- `menus_appeared` and `times_appeared` should be a value **greater than 0**

```
select first_appeared,last_appeared,count(*) from dish where
(first_appeared not between 1851 and 2012) and (last_appeared not between 1851 and 2012)
group by first_appeared,last_appeared;
```

first_appeared	last_appeared	count
0	0	55278
1	1	37
1	2928	4
2928	2928	11

We can see from the table we have strange values for these observations, perhaps we would want to exclude them reporting.

Instead of removing we can create a new column called `REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE` and assign various values to have some accepting value prior to reporting exclusion. This way we can maintain the original values for comparison and error checking in the future when more data might be added.

- `lowest_price` should always be **less than or equal** `highest_price`

```
select * from dish where lowest_price > highest_price;
```

- menuitem** - table constraints

- `id` primary key - distinct - no duplicates - not null

```
select id,count(*) from menuitem group by id having count(*)>1;
select * from menuitem where id is NULL;
```

- `xpos` and `ypos` should be **greater than 0** and **NOT NULL**

```
select * from menuitem where (ypos<0 or ypos IS NULL) and (xpos<0 or xpos is NULL);
```

- `price` should be **greater than 0** and **NOT NULL**

```
select * from menuitem where price<0 or price IS NULL;
```

- `price` should not exceed `high_price` where `high_price` is populated

There are `320` records that fail this condition, and having a `high_price` that is less than the current price may pose a problem. We can correct this by updating, reducing quality score or removing.

```
select price,high_price,count(*) as cnt from menuitem where price>high_price and
--where high_price is populated
(high_price is NOT NULL) and (high_price <>'')
group by price,high_price
order by cnt desc
```

price	high_price	cnt
0.5	0.3	69
0.6	0.35	60
0.75	0.4	54
0.4	0.25	47
2.5	1.25	45
1.0	0.6	32
2.0	1.0	30
..	...	...

- **menupage** - table constraints

- `id` primary key - distinct - no duplicates - not null

```
select id,count(*) from menupage group by id having count(*)>1;
select * from menupage where id is NULL;
```

- **menu** - table constraints

- `id` primary key - distinct - no duplicates - not null

```
select id,count(*) from menu group by id having count(*)>1;
select * from menu where id is NULL;
```

- `page_count` should not be blank or null

```
select * from menu where page_count = 0 or page_count is NULL;
```

- **status** should be **complete** or **under review**

```
select status,count(*) from menu group by status;
```

status	count
complete	17371
under review	174

- **sponsor** should not be blank or null

Several rows have missing sponsor data perhaps which should be removed or the data **REPORTING\_DATA\_QUALITY\_SCORE** should be lowered.

```
select * from menu where sponsor is NULL or sponsor='' LIMIT 4;
```

id	name	sponsor	event	location	status	page_count
19708				OCCIDENTAL & ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY	complete	4
19712				PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY	complete	2
21128				MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY	complete	4
21274				HAMBURG AMERIKA LINIE	complete	4

## • **menupage:menu\_id** → **menu:id**

- **menu\_id** from **menupage** should exist as **id** within the **menu** table

Here there are **5803** rows that fail a reverse lookup and do not have corresponding menu **id** 's.

```
select count(*) from menupage t1 left join menu t2 on (t1.menu_id=t2.id) where t2.id
```

count
5803

Going the other way - all menus **id** 's are represented within the **menupage** table

```
select count(*) from menu t1 left join menupage t2 on (t1.id=t2.menu_id) where t2.m
```

count
0

- **menupage:id → menuitem:menu\_page\_id**

- `menu_page_id` from `menuitem` should exist as `id` within the `menupage` table

Here we see `40347` rows that we have `menupage`'s for, but do not have corresponding `menuitems`

```
select count(*) from menupage t1 left join menuitem t2 on (t1.id=t2.menu_page_id) v
```

count
40347

Going the other way - all `menuitem` `menu_page_id` 's should be represented in `menupage` `id`

```
select count(*) from menuitem t1 left join menupage t2 on (t1.menu_page_id=t2.id) wh
```

count
0

- **dish:id → menuitem:dish\_id**

- `dish_id` from `menuitem` should exist as `id` within the `dish` table

Here there are `9262` rows that we have `dish_id` 's for, but do not have corresponding `menuitems` represented

This may be sufficient to look past - perhaps we have dishes that are not on menus - however we must question how we got this data.

```
select count(*) from dish t1 left join menuitem t2 on (t1.id=t2.dish_id) where t2.d:
```

count
9262

There are also `241` rows where `dish_id` is missing, perhaps this is a empty `menuitem`?

```
select count(*) from menuitem t1 where t1.dish_id is null or t1.dish_id = ''
```

count
241

Going the other way - all `menuitem` `dish_id` 's should be represented in `dish` `id`

```
select count(*) from menuitem t1 left join dish t2 on (t1.dish_id=t2.id) where t2.id
```

count
3

Here we have 3 records that are not begin represented in the dish table - again we should question and validate how this is happening, these records would have to be removed or have a low `REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE`

# Create a workflow model

## Individual table flow

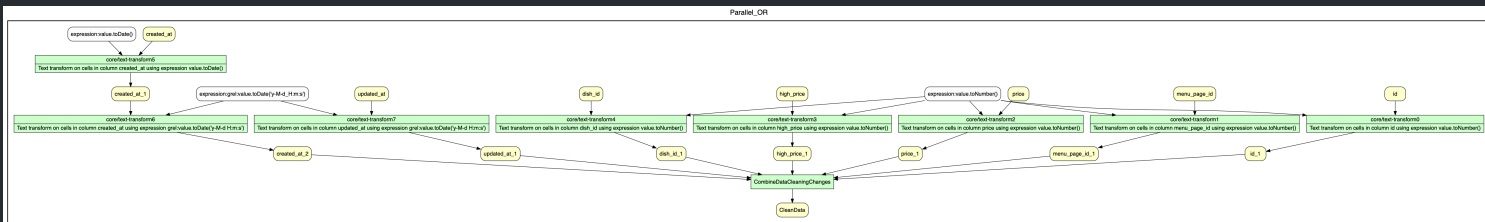
The `or2yw` tool was used to generate the png information from the json exported from `OpenRefine` for individual tables. The included shell script `generate-png.sh` was used to perform the execution.

```
# example
$ ./generate-png.sh menupage
java found: java
dot found: dot
File images/menupage.yw.png generated.
```

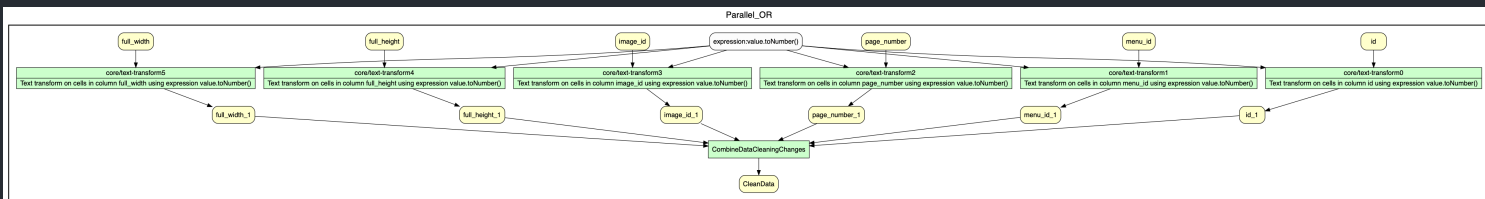
### dish

See the attached [notebook container](#) that demonstrates basic operations on the `dish` table. The values for the name were too large for OpenRefine for my machine - so I had to try another route.

### menuitem

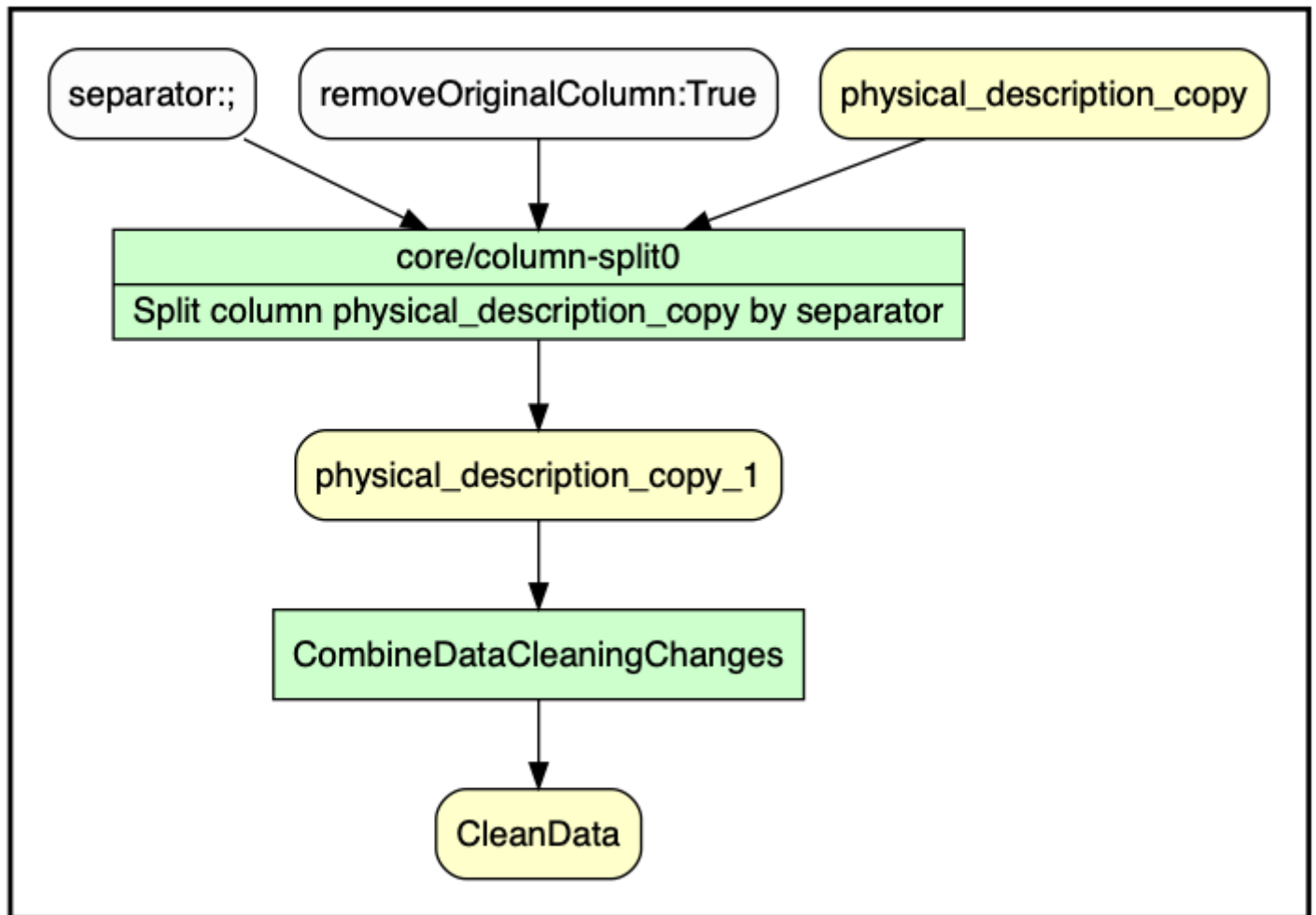


### menupage



### menu

## Parallel\_OR



## Data Cleaning results

```
select REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE,count(*) from menu group by REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE;
select REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE,count(*) from dish group by REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE
select REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE,count(*) from menuitem group by REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE
select REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE,count(*) from menupage group by REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE
```

## Data quality issues

We have seen some data missing in the tables given (as orphans or no children)- we would have to review these items and determine the source of the error - perhaps it was from a source that can be easily corrected - or we would end up removing the data - or - this could be a larger sign that something might be wrong with data collection process itself and could warrant further investigation.

This dataset may also be subject to human error as well - we acknowledge in collecting data from humans some dates such as 1900 or 1999 may be entered mistakenly - software has been known to pre-fill default values with such numbers and because this dataset spans such a large timeframe it may be prone to those mistakes.

Some values such as `menu:sponsor` are blank and typically in a production system we would want to rectify these problems, either by removal or by attributing a low `REPORTING_DATA_QUALITY_SCORE` to this data. If it happens to be form data, perhaps validation on the front-end may be installed to prevent these types of errors.

# Conclusions and Future Work

This report summarizes a feasible amount of cleaning required for this dataset to represent it. Future work may include:

- additional graphs and charts to show data consistency
- additional datasets to help corroborate information for the historical time - this may be location information or additional menu information
- `dish:name` presents much opportunity for clustering via alternative methods - I have included the python notebook `python/NYPL_MENUS.ipynb` for sampling clustering - perhaps using CUDA will show improved operations time in the future.

I have also tried to utilized [refine-client-py](#) within python - a seperate fork for python3, but it appears some work still needs to be done - I could list projects and perform simple operations but was getting errors on facet building. I may take a look at the source and fix the client it would be useful to run openrefine commands directly from python notebook and manipulate the data.

We have seen that using a workflow for data provenance such as YesWorkFlow can be beneficial for flow generalization, especially when working with highly complex algorithms and data sets. Introducing a YesWorkFlow as a standard for development may help to solve code duplication perhaps even replace the standards of documentation.

# Acknowledgements

This report acknowledges [Prof. Bertram Lu- daescher](#) for his expertise in the subject area and his guidance has been invaluable.

[Using OpenRefine](#)