Design Concept

4.1 Problem Definition

We are presented with the ISEBEL project, a digital archive of stories from belief legends found in three well known digital collections by Evald Tang Kristensen from Denmark (etkspace), Richard Wossidlo from Mechlenburg (wossidia) and several collectors and narrators from the Netherlands (verhaalenbank). These databases are made up of stories that may or may not be related. Stories have authors and co-authorship. This made these databases stock with varieties of stories such that comprehensive information cannot be found in a single document, stories have to be compiled from slips and documents all across the archive. Facts and contents of the stories may be related either by the stories itself or by author and co-authorship. Therefore, we are faced with the challenge of modeling and implementing a framework to present the users of ISEBEL search system with a more relevant search result that effectively gives results of stories, related stories and possible stories that will be interconnected in the feature.

Comprehensive information cannot be found in a single paper slip. It has to be compiled from slips and documents all across the archive. Therefore the true value of WossiDiA lies in the structures and relationships between facts and contents of the papers in conjunction with the comprehensive finding aids (e.g., shepherd is specified in the categories labour, rites, and magic (rites→shepherd rites→shepherd (labour)←shepherd magic←magic). The challenges we discuss particularly in this paper are modeling and implementation of the digital archive as well as providing means for efficient storage, complex retrieval, and structural modifications supported by data mining techniques within this framework.