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As per the MongoDB documentation, **Map-reduce** is a data processing paradigm for condensing large volumes of data into useful aggregated results. MongoDB uses **mapReduce** command for map-reduce operations. MapReduce is generally used for processing large data sets.

## **MapReduce Command:**

Following is the syntax of the basic mapReduce command:

```
>db.collection.mapReduce(
    function() {emit(key,value);}, //map function
    function(key,values) {return reduceFunction}, //reduce function
    {
        out: collection,
        query: document,
        sort: document,
        limit: number
    }
}
```

The map-reduce function first queries the collection, then maps the result documents to emit key-value pairs which is then reduced based on the keys that have multiple values.

In the above syntax:

- map is a javascript function that maps a value with a key and emits a key-valur pair
- reduce is a javscript function that reduces or groups all the documents having the same key
- out specifies the location of the map-reduce query result
- query specifies the optional selection criteria for selecting documents
- sort specifies the optional sort criteria
- limit specifies the optional maximum number of documents to be returned

## **Using MapReduce:**

Consider the following document structure storing user posts. The document stores user\_name of the user and the status of post.

```
{
   "post_text": "tutorialspoint is an awesome website for tutorials",
   "user_name": "mark",
   "status":"active"
}
```

Now, we will use a mapReduce function on our **posts** collection to select all the active posts, group them on the basis of user\_name and then count the number of posts by each user using the following code:

The above mapReduce query outputs the following result:

```
{
    "result" : "post_total",
    "timeMillis" : 9,
    "counts" : {
        "input" : 4,
        "reduce" : 2,
        "output" : 2
    },
    "ok" : 1,
}
```

The result shows that a total of 4 documents matched the query (status: "active"), the map function emitted 4 documents with key-value pairs and finally the reduce function grouped mapped documents having the same keys into 2.

To see the result of this mapReduce query use the find operator:

The above query gives the following result which indicates that both users **tom** and **mark** have two posts in active states:

```
{ "_id" : "tom", "value" : 2 }
{ "_id" : "mark", "value" : 2 }
```

In similar manner, MapReduce queries can be used to construct large complex aggregation queries. The use of custom Javascript functions makes usage of MapReduce very flexible and powerful.