Using Model Driven Engineering to Transform Big Data Query Languages to MapReduce Jobs

Allae Erraissi

Laboratory of Information Technology and Modeling, Hassan II University, faculty of sciences Ben M’Sik, Casablanca, Morocco

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Abstract: Big Data processing is done by using MapReduce which is a clustered data processing framework. As it is composed of Map and Reduce functions, it distributes processing tasks between different computers, and hence reduces the results in a single summary. Most data analysts prefer to use query languages like Pig and Hive to process Big Data, given the complexity of the MapReduce paradigm. In this paper, we shall propose an approach based on Model Engineering to transform requests written by Pig or Hive to MapReduce jobs thanks to the use of the ATL transformation language. Our proposal will allow us to easily obtain MapReduce programs from requests written in Pig or Hive.

Keywords: MapReduce, Model Driven Engineering, Hive, Pig.

1. INTRODUCTION

Big Data is a generic term used to describe the strategies and technologies used to collect, organize, process, and analyze large data sets. It is the art of managing and exploiting large volumes of data [1]. To process this large amount of data, we find the Hadoop ecosystem [2] mostly as Hadoop remains the main Big Data platform used today. Seeing that it is based on Java, the open-source Hadoop framework is applied to store and process data in bulk. Hadoop is part of the Apache project, which is also behind the Pig, Hive, and Spark frameworks.

Hive has initially been a Facebook project that links the SQL world to Hadoop. It executes the queries written by SQL on a cluster to aggregate and analyze data. The language used for this reason is named HiveQL [3]. Only “Select” instructions are supported to manipulate data because it is a visualization language only. In some cases, developers must map between data structures and Hive. Besides that, Pig is originally a Yahoo project which allows querying Hadoop data from a scripting language [4]. Unlike Hive, Apache Pig uses Pig Latin query language that allows us to create MapReduce type programs. Pig Latin abstracts from the Java MapReduce programming language and goes to a higher level of abstraction, similar to that of SQL for RDBMS (Relational Database Management System). Unlike Hive, Pig does not have a web interface [5].

Since we know that to do Big Data processing, we will need the MapReduce paradigm [6]. So, the requests written by the HiveQL language or PigLatin transform to MapReduce jobs according to the classic Big Data architecture. During this paper, we continue the application of Model-Driven Engineering techniques to standardize concepts at the Big Data. In the previous contribution [7] we have already proposed two meta-models for Ingestion and Data sources layers. Next, we defined a meta-modeling for the other layers of Big Data which are: Storage [8,9], Visualization [10,11], and Security [12]. The work presented in this paper is an advancement report on our first proposal for a meta-modeling of the Big Data Management layer [13]. Our main goal is to provide a generic Big Data system based on Model-Driven Engineering [14] to address the problem of many Big Data solutions.

This article is detailed as follows: section 2 presents the related work on which we are concerned to carry out this study. Then, in section 3 we talk about the MapReduce paradigm used to manage Big Data. Sections 4 and 5 present Hive and Pig query languages and their modes of use. Section 6 presents our proposed approach which makes it easy to obtain MapReduce programs from queries written in Pig or Hive. Finally, section 7 presents the results and evaluation obtained after the application of our approach based on Model Driven Engineering.
2. RELATED WORK

As part of our research project, we continue the application of Model-Driven Engineering techniques to standardize Big Data concepts. In the previous contribution [7] we have already proposed two meta-models for Ingestion and Data sources layers. Next, we defined a meta-modeling for the other layers of Big Data which are: Storage [8,9], Visualization [10,11], and Security [12]. The work presented in this paper is an advancement report on our first proposal for a meta-modeling of the Big Data Management layer [13].

The main paradigm used to process Big data is MapReduce [6], plus other complementary tools like Pig [4], Hive [3], Sqoop [15], etc. In this paper, we shall treat the two query languages, Pig and Hive, which aim to process Big Data thanks to two languages dedicated to this reason which are: Pig Latin and HiveQL. Queries that are written by these two languages will be transformed to MapReduce jobs according to the classic Big Data architecture. We aim to consolidate a generic Big Data system based on Model Driven Engineering to solve the problem of many existing solutions in the market today.

Many studies have addressed the problem of the cost of data transfers within MapReduce applications. Most of them deal with the locality of the data during the map phase. One of the algorithms proposed [16] improves this locality by introducing a delay before migrating a task to another node, if the preferred node is not available. The BAR [17] algorithm aims to approach the optimal data distribution taking into account an initial configuration that will be dynamically adapted.

LEEN [18] is an algorithm for partitioning intermediate keys that aim to balance the duration of reduction while trying to reduce bandwidth consumption in the shuffle. LEEN is based on the frequency of the intermediate appearance of keys in an attempt to create partitions and optimize data transfers. The HMMP algorithm [19] defines a pre-shuffling mode which tends to reduce the data quantity to be transferred. For this reason, it predicts the partition in which the data will be generated at the output of the map and has the piece of data processed by the node which will execute the Reduce of this partition if possible.

The Ussop environment [20] permits to target of the grids and adapt the quantity of data to be treated by each map according to the computing power of the machine running it. Also, this tool tends to reduce intermediate data transfers by locally performing the Reduce on the machine that generated the most intermediate keys.

A MapReduce program splits the work we want to do, into a set of tasks that will be delivered to map functions. It is therefore possible to use results from the theory of divisible tasks [21] for this kind of application. This approach was introduced by Drozdowski and Berlinska [22]. In this article, the authors consider an execution environment in which number of compute nodes is bigger than number of communications that can take place simultaneously without causing contention. To avoid the appearance of this phenomenon, the authors propose a new model that permits the run of a MapReduce job by a linear program that generates a distribution of the data and static scheduling by phases of the communications. If this approach turns out to be interesting, the use of a linear program makes it inapplicable for instances involving more than a few hundred maps because the resolution time can sometimes exceed several minutes. Also, it happens that the linear program solver fails for such instances. The sequencing by phases induces, in addition, a large number of idle times on machines and the network during the shuffle.

3. MapReduce

The MapReduce paradigm [6] was presented in 2008 by Dean et al [23]. In a MapReduce program, two types of operations are chained to perform a calculation: The Map operation and the Reduce operation. All these operations form a MapReduce job.

In the MapReduce paradigm, data is represented by key-value pairs. The Map and Reduce operations take as input a set of key-value pairs and return a set of key-value pairs. We use the operator to describe the power set (i.e., the set of parts) of a set. For a job, the Map and Reduce functions are written:

\[\text{map} : K \times V \rightarrow \beta(K' \times V')\]
\[\text{reduce} : K' \times \beta(V') \rightarrow \beta(K'' \times V'')\]
\[\text{map}(k, v) \rightarrow \{(k', v') | (k', v') \in K' \times V'\}\]
\[\text{reduce}(k', \beta(V')) \rightarrow \beta(k'', V'')\]

These operations are designed to allow easy distribution of the calculations. On a computing cluster, each machine processes only part of the data, to take advantage of distributed file storage.

A. Map operation

The Map operation transforms the input data to an intermediate state usable by the Reduce operation [24]. Depending on the application, it can be used to filter data, duplicate data, etc. In the distributed implementation of the paradigm, the machines performing the Map operation are called mappers. Each mapper then only works on part of the data. The key to the element's output from the Mapper function is to determine the reduced values together in the Reduce operation.

B. Reduce operation

The Reduce operation transforms values with the same key into a key-value pair. Depending on the application, the Reduce operation transforms the output of the Map into a statistical indicator, into a sorted data set, etc. In the distributed implementation of the paradigm, machines performing the Reduce operation are called a reducer. Each reducer works on a part of the data [25].
C. Shuffle of data

Between the Map operation and the Reduce operation, the dataset undergoes a modification. The Map operation returns a set of key-value pairs and the Reduce operation takes a key-set of values as input. The Shuffle step allows for this transition [26]. During the data shuffle, the data output from the Map operation is transmitted over the network towards the reducers. Pairs with the same keys are transmitted to the same reducer. Key-set pairs of values are formed this way. This transfer can represent an important blocking point for the distributed implementation. When handling large datasets, the amount of information exchanged over the network can be significant (up to several times the size of the datasets, depending on the application). It is therefore necessary to pay attention to the volume of data transmitted during this step to improve the performance of the algorithm.

![Proposed MapReduce meta-model](image)

Figure 1. Proposed MapReduce meta-model.

4. Pig

Pig is a big data processing tool [4]. This software is created by Yahoo. Pig offers to perform processing on distributed data sets using a natural programming language, much like SQL. The query language used to manipulate big data with the Apache Pig tool is Pig Latin [28]. The goal of using Pig Latin to define simple scripts, such as SQL, is to make it easier to write large data processing programs without having to write Java jobs through the MapReduce framework. The Pig solution was adopted by the Apache organization and is now an essential component of the Hadoop suite [27].

A. Example of a Pig program

This program displays the 11 youngest adults extracted from a csv file containing 3 columns: identifier, name, and age.

```pig
persons = LOAD "persons.csv" USING PigStorage("");
AS (userid:int, name:chararray, age:int);
youngadults = FILTER persons BY age>= 18 AND age <25;
ranking = ORDER youngadults BY age;
result = LIMIT ranking 11;
DUMP result;
```

To run it: freelance program.pig. It's launching a MapReduce job in Hadoop. You can also type the instructions one by one into Pig’s shell.

B. Comparison between SQL and Pig Latin

There are some apparent similarities between SQL [29] and Pig Latin. There are several keywords in common (JOIN, ORDER, LIMIT, etc.) but their principle is different:

- In SQL, queries are built that describe the data to be obtained. It is not known how the SQL engine will calculate the result. We only know that internally, the query will be broken down into loops and in comparison, on the data and making the best use of the indexes.

- In Pig Latin, programs are built that contain instructions. It describes exactly how the result should be obtained, what calculations should be made, and in what order.

Also, Pig was designed for uncertain Hadoop data, while SQL runs on perfectly healthy RDBMS.

C. Pig Latin Language

1) Structure of a program

Comments are placed between /*...*/ or from - and the end of the line. A Pig Latin program is a series of instructions. All must be terminated with a; As in SQL, there is no notion of variables, nor functions/procedures. The result of each Pig statement is a collection of tuples.
We call it a relationship. We can see it as a database table. Each Pig instruction takes an input relation and produces a new output relation.

output - INSTRUCTION input PARAMETRES...;

2) **Running a program**

When you run a program, Pig first analyzes it. Each instruction, if it is syntactically correct, is added to a kind of action plan, a succession of MapReduce, and it is only at the end of the program that this action plan is executed according to what you ask at the end.

The EXPLAIN relation instruction displays the action plan planned to calculate the relation. It’s pretty digestible when you’re not a specialist.

3) **Relationships and aliases**

The syntax name = INSTRUCTION...; defines an alias, i.e., a name for the relation created by the instruction. This name is generally used in the following instructions, this is what builds a processing flow.

```pig
name1 = LOAD ... ;
name2 = FILTER name1... ;
name3 = ORDER name2... ;
name4 = LIMIT name3... ;
```

The same alias can be reused in different instructions, which creates bifurcations in the processing flow: separations or groupings. It is not recommended to reassign the same alias.

4) **Chaining of instructions**

Pig allows you to either chain instructions through the alias mechanism, or through a nested call.

```pig
name4 = LIMIT (ORDER (FILTER (LOAD ... ...)) ...) ;
```

You will choose the one you find most readable. However, nested calls do not allow easy separation of processing, unlike aliases:

```pig
name1 = LOAD ... ;
name2 = FILTER name1 ... ;
name3 = FILTER name1 ... ;
name4 = JOIN name2 ..., name3 ;
```

5) **Relationships and types**

A relation is an ordered collection of tuples that all have the same fields. Here are the possible types. The scalar types are:

- int and long for integers, float and double for reals
- chararray for any chains.
- bytearray for any binary objects

There are also three complex types:

- dictionaries (maps): [name # mickey, age # 87]
- tuples of fixed size: (mickey, 87, hergé)
- sacs (bags) = sets without tuples order: {(mickey, 87), (asterix, 56), (tintin, 86)}

6) **Schema of a relationship**

The list of fields in a relationship is called a schema. It is a tuple. We write it (name1: type1, name2: type2, ...).

For example, a relationship containing employees will have the following schema:

| (id:long, lastname:chararray, firstname:chararray, picture:bytearray, seniority:int, salary:float) |

The LOAD instruction 'file.csv' AS diagram; allows to read a CSV file and to make a relation according to the indicated diagram.

7) **Complex schema (tuples)**

Pig allows the creation of a relationship based on a diagram including complex data. Either a file containing 3D segments:

```pig
S1 ⊙ (3,8,9) ⊙ (4,5,6)
S2 ⊙ (1,4,7) ⊙ (3,7,5)
S3 ⊙ (2,5,8) ⊙ (9,5,8)
```

We use the character to represent a tabulation. Here is how to read this file:

```pig
segments = LOAD 'segments.csv' AS (name:chararray, T1:tuple(a:int, b:int, c:int), T2:tuple(a:int, b:int, c:int)));
DUMP segments;
```

8) **Complex schema (bags)**

We can also read bags, i.e., data sets of the same types but in any number:

```pig
L1 ⊙ {(3,8,9),(4,5,6)}
L2 ⊙ {{(4,8,1),(6,3,7),(7,4,5),(5,2,9),(2,7,1)}}
L3 ⊙ {(4,3,5),(6,7,1),(3,1,7)}
```

The diagram of this file is:

```pig
(name:chararray, Points:{(tuple(a:int, b:int, c:int))})
```

Explanations:

- The second field of the diagram is specified as "field name": "type of bag content".
- Data in this field should be in the "list of values for the type" format.

9) **Complex schema (maps)**

Finally, with dictionaries, here are the contents of the heros.csv file:

```pig
L1 ⊙ [name=asterix, job#warrior]
L2 ⊙ [name=tintin, job#journalist]
L3 ⊙ [name=spiou, job#groom]
```

It is made a relationship by:

```pig
heros = LOAD 'heros.csv' AS (id:int, info:map[chararray])
```
Field names
There are two syntaxes for naming the fields of a relationship. Either use their plain name or designate them by their position $0$ designating the first field, $1$ the second, and so on.

The second syntax is used when the names of the fields are not known or when they have been generated dynamically.

When there is ambiguity on the relation concerned, we prefix the name of the field with the name of the relation: relation.champ.

- When a field is a tuple, its elements are named relation.champ.element. For example segments.P1.z1
- For a map type field, its elements are named relation.champ # element. For example heros.infos # metier
- There is no syntax for accessing bag fields.

The following figure shows our proposition for Pig, it defines our meta-model:

5. **Hive**

Apache Hive is a data warehouse for Hadoop like HBase [30]. It was created by Facebook to later become an open-source Apache project. This is a system that maintains metadata describing data stored in HDFS. It uses a relational database called metastore (Derby by default) to ensure metadata persistence [31]. Thus, a table in Hive is essentially composed of a schema stored in the metastore, and data stored in HDFS. With the metastore data, Hive allows manipulating the data as if they were persisted in tables (in the sense of a classic database management system) and to query them with its HiveQL language [32]. Hive converts HiveQL queries into MapReduce or Tez jobs (from version 0.13 of Hive, a HiveQL query can be translated into an executable job on Apache Tez, which is an execution framework on Hadoop that can replace MapReduce).

A. Defining a diagram

The diagram of a table is also called metadata (i.e., data information). Metadata is stored in a MySQL database, called metastore. Here is the definition of a table with its diagram:

```
CREATE TABLE statement (    idstatement STRING,    year INT,    temp FLOAT, quality BYTE, ...)    ROW FORMAT DELIMITED FIELDS TERMINATED BY '\';
```

The beginning is classic, except for the constraints of integrity: there are none. The end of the query indicates that the data is in a CSV file. Let us first look at the types of columns.

B. **HiveQL Types**

Hive defines the following types [33]:

- BIGINT (8 bytes), INT (4), SMALLINT (2), BYTE (1 byte).
- FLOAT and DOUBLE.
- BOOLEAN worth TRUE or FALSE.
- STRING, we can specify coding (UTF8 or other).
- TIMESTAMP is expressed in a number of seconds. Nanoseconds since 01/01/1970 UTC.
• structured data as with Pig:
  o ARRAY indicates that there is a list of types.
  o STRUCT for a multi-value structure.
  o MAP for a suite of key (pairs, value).

C. Field Separations for Reading

The creation of a table is done as follows:

```
CREATE TABLE name (schema) ROW FORMAT DELIMITED descr format
```

The guidelines after the diagram indicate how the data is stored in the CSV file. These are:

• FIELDS TERMINATED BY ‘;’: there is one; to separate the fields.
• COLLECTION ITEMS TERMINATED BY ‘,’; there is a, between the elements of an ARRAY.
• MAP KEYS TERMINATED BY ‘:’: there is one: between the keys and values of a MAP.
• LINES TERMINATED BY ‘n’: there is a ‘n’ at the end of the line.
• STORED AS TEXTFILE: It is a CSV.

D. Loading data

Here is how to load a CSV file that is on HDFS [34] in the table:

```
LOAD DATA INPATH '/share/allae/data/183'
OVERWRITE INTO TABLE statement;
```

You can also load a local file (not HDFS):

```
LOAD DATA LOCAL INPATH 'stations.csv'
OVERWRITE INTO TABLE stations;
```

The file is then copied to HDFS in Hive’s files.

E. HiveQL requests

As with conventional RDBMS, there is a shell launched by the hive command. This is where SQL queries are typed. They are mainly SELECT. All the clauses you know are available: FROM, WHERE, JOIN, HAVING, GROUP BY, LIMIT, ORDER BY.

There are others to optimize the underlying MapReduce work, for example when you want to rank on a column, you have to write:

```
SELECT... DISTRIBUTE BY colonne SORT BY colonne;
```

The directive sends the affected n-uplets on a single machine to compare them more quickly to establish the ranking.

F. Other guidelines

It is also possible to export results in a file:

```
INSERT OVERWRITE LOCAL DIRECTORY '/tmp/weather/hot'
SELECT year,month,day,temperature
FROM statement
WHERE temperature > 40.0;
```

Other orders include:

• SHOW TABLES; to view the list of tables (they are in the metastore).
• DESCRIBE EXTENDED table; shows the table schematic.

G. Hive meta-model

The following figure shows our proposition for Hive, it defines our meta-model for Hive and its HiveQL query language:

![Hive meta-model diagram]

Figure 3. Hive meta-model.

6. TRANSFORMATION

After defining meta-models for MapReduce, Pig, and Hive. In this section, we present the ATL transformation rules used to pass from our generic meta-models of PIG and Hive query languages to MapReduce meta-model which represents the body of processing within Big Data. The following figure shows the architecture of our proposal.
To apply the transformations defining in figure 4, we have chosen the ATL transformation language \cite{35,36}. We now present the ATL transformation rules used to pass from our generic meta-models of PIG and Hive query languages to MapReduce meta-model which represents the body of processing within Big Data. These defined meta-models present the PIM level according to the Model Driven Architecture “MDA” \cite{41,37}.

\begin{verbatim}
rule Pig2MapReduce{
  from s: MegaModelHadoopManagement!Pig
to t: MegaModelHadoopManagement!MapReduce(
    inputPath<- s.Pig[inputPath,
      outputPath<- new outputPath(C:\Users\AllaeEraissi\Desktop\PigHive2MapReduceFolder\PigOutput)
      IdMap<- s.Pig.ProjectID,
      Mapper<- s.PigLatinScript.PigClause,
      Reducer<- s.Pig.Compiler,
      InputFilePath<- s.InputFilePath
      JobPackage<- s.Pig.Project,
      MapReduce.Date<- s.Pig.Date,
      query<- s.Pig.PigLatinScript)
  }

rule Hive2MapReduce{
  from s: MegaModelHadoopManagement!Hive
to t: MMClouderaManagement!Cldr_Hive(
    inputPath<- s.Hive[inputPath,
      outputPath<- new outputPath(C:\Users\AllaeEraissi\Desktop\PigHive2MapReduceFolder\HiveOutput)
      IdMap<- s.Hive.ProjectID,
      Mapper<- s.Hive.HQL.HiveSelect_Query.Clause,
      Reducer<- s.Hive.Compiler,
      InputFilePath<- s.InputFilePath
      JobPackage<- s.Hive.Project,
      MapReduce.Date<- s.Hive.Date,
      query<- s.Hive.HQL.HiveSelect_Query)
  }
}
\end{verbatim}

7. EVALUATION AND DISCUSSION

To evaluate our approach, we used three datasets. On these datasets, we applied 30 queries to better measure the execution time of each query on the different datasets chosen to test our proposal.

To implement PigHive2MapReduce, we used version 3.1.1 of Hadoop, version 3.1.2 of Hive, and version 0.17.0 of Pig. We used a machine with a 2.80 GHz Intel (R) Core (TM) i7 processor. With a storage space of 2 TB and a RAM of 16 GB.

The three datasets used have the following sizes: DS1 (17GB), DS2 (15GB), and DS3 (13GB). The following table shows the loading time of the three datasets:

\begin{table}[]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
Dataset & Dataset 1 & Dataset 2 & Dataset 3 \\
\hline
Loading time (s) & 3.4 & 3.2 & 2.9 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{Loading Time Datasets.}
\end{table}

The following tables show the execution time of the 30 queries on the three datasets. Note that we tested PigHive2MapReduce with 15 queries using the PigLatin language, and 15 with the use of the HiveQL query language.

\begin{table}[]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
Dataset & Q1 & Q2 & Q3 & Q4 & Q5 & Q6 & Q7 & Q8 & Q9 & Q10 & Q11 & Q12 & Q13 & Q14 & Q15 \\
\hline
PigHive2MapReduce (ms) & 356 & 376 & 481 & 450 & 256 & 298 & 516 & 518 & 318 & 389 & 516 & 321 & 321 & 124 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{Pig Request Transformation Time on Dataset 1.}
\end{table}

\begin{table}[]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
Dataset & Q1 & Q2 & Q3 & Q4 & Q5 & Q6 & Q7 & Q8 & Q9 & Q10 & Q11 & Q12 & Q13 & Q14 & Q15 \\
\hline
PigHive2MapReduce (ms) & 456 & 445 & 234 & 213 & 765 & 656 & 231 & 124 & 764 & 343 & 545 & 432 & 535 & 654 & 344 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{Hive Request Transformation Time on Dataset 1.}
\end{table}
The results obtained after using our approach based on model engineering are shown in the following figures:

Figure 5. Transformation time of Pig requests on dataset1.

Figure 6. Transformation time of Pig requests on dataset2.

Figure 7. Transformation time of Pig requests on dataset3.

Figure 8. Transformation time of Hive requests on dataset1.
The results obtained from applying the transformations using the ATL transformation language show that the time to transform Pig Latin or HiveQL queries is speedy. The fact that will allow users of the MapReduce paradigm to obtain MapReduce programs quickly from Hive or Pig requests.

Based on the definition of meta-models for the different layers of a Big Data system in our previous work [38,40]. In continuous efforts, this work complements the meta-model already proposed for the management layer [13,39]. Precisely to define the functioning of the two Pig and Hive query languages which are based on the transformation of queries written either by the Pig Latin language or by HiveQL into MapReduce jobs thanks to the ATL transformation language.

8. Conclusion

A large number of solutions are available in the Big Data market. Big Data solution providers have developed distributions to manage this large amount of data. However, Big Data solution providers do not have the meta-models necessary to create standard applications that can be compatible with each provider, since each provider has its policy that allows it to design its own Big Data system. So, the application of techniques related to model engineering will standardize Big Data concepts. Given the complexity of processing Big Data with the MapReduce paradigm. This paper proposes an approach based on Model Driven Engineering which makes it possible to transform the requests written by Pig Latin and HiveQL to MapReduce jobs.

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Allae Erraissi is a PhD on Computer Science from Hassan II University, Faculty of Sciences Ben M’Sik, Casablanca, Morocco. His main interests engaged in research on various aspects of Information technologies namely Model-Driven Engineering approaches and their applications on new emerging technologies such as Big Data, Cloud Computing, Business Intelligence, Internet of Things, etc.