

**Large Scale Data Integration Project**  
**Prof. Dr. Ziawasch Abedjan**  
**Muaid Mughrabi, Binger Chen**  
**Data Integration and Data preparation**  
**Group (D2IP)**

# LSDIPRO Team

- Muaid Mughrabi
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  - Seminar Organization and Topic Supervision
- Dr. Binger Chen
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  - Topic supervision
- Prof. Dr. Ziawasch Abedjan
  - [abedjan@tu-berlin.de](mailto:abedjan@tu-berlin.de)
  - Here to enjoy



# Project Goal and Grading Criteria

## Soft Goals:

1. Reproduce a given paper
2. Create a competitive submission for the BTW Data Science challenge

## We look at:

Code

Presentation

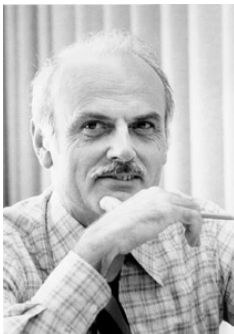
Individual contribution sheet (1A4 page)

## Hard Goals (relevant for grading):

1. Clean and documented code repository
2. Systematic evaluation of generated solutions
3. Scaling solutions to the size of underlying datasets
4. Clearly describing, visualizing and presenting the results in a presentation

# Database Research in the 70s-90s

- The Coddfather spoke:



Managing  
Data  
shall be  
Science!

Memory hierarchy  
Portability  
Optimization  
User concurrency  
Distribution  
Usability  
....



Jim  
Gray



Donald  
Chamberlin



Make it  
happen!



Pat  
Sellinger



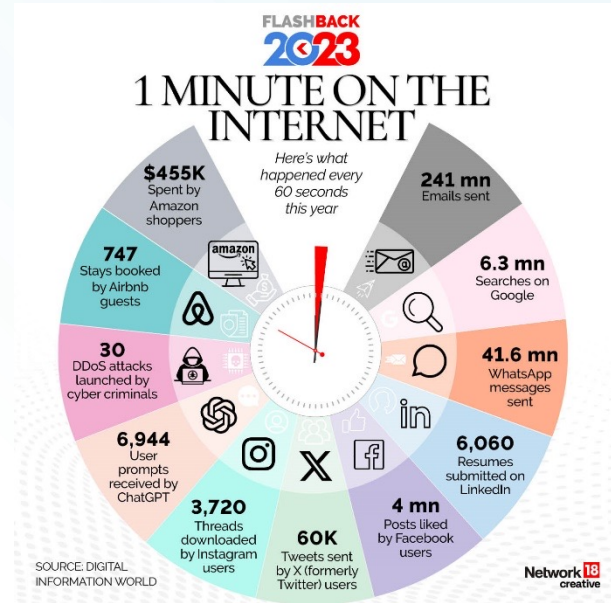
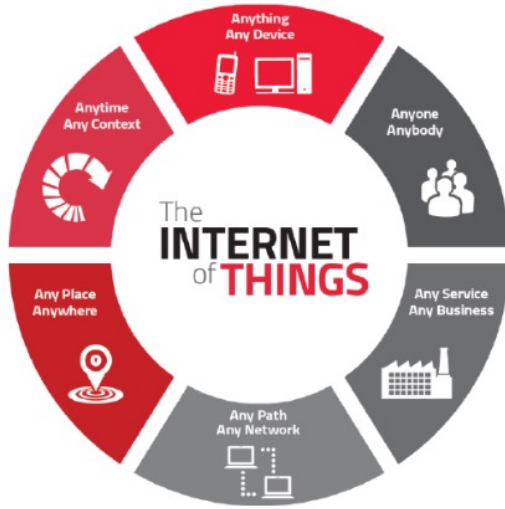
Michael  
Stonebraker

McKinsey & Company

2011

**Big data: The next frontier for  
innovation, competition, and  
productivity**

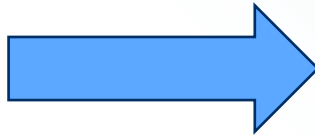
# Where do we find Big Data ?



# Big Data?

Gartner

**V**olume  
**V**elocity  
**V**ariety



Yuri Demchenko

**V**olume  
**V**elocity  
**V**ariety  
**V**eracity  
**V**alue

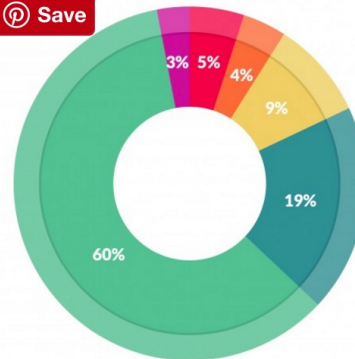
DATA

# Data Scientist: The Sexiest Job of the 21st Century

by Thomas H. Davenport and D.J. Patil

FROM THE OCTOBER 2012 ISSUE

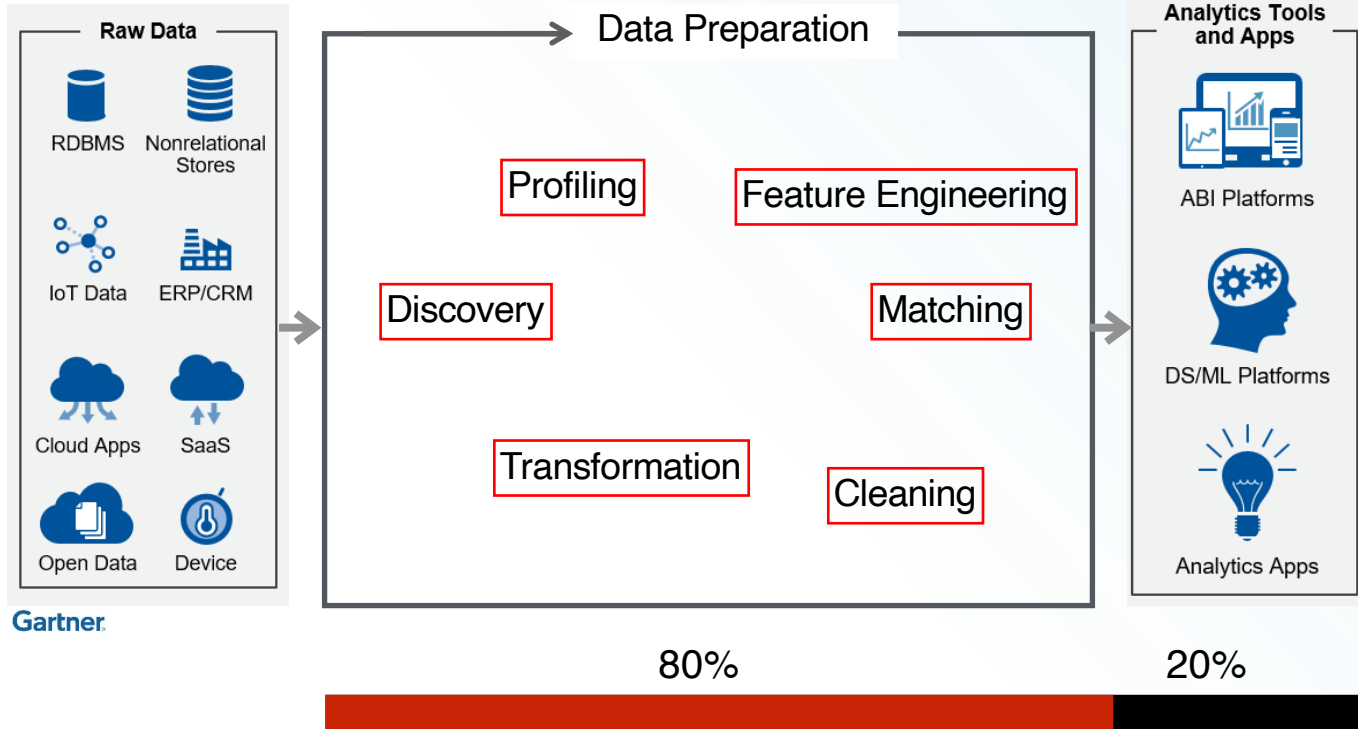
*Data preparation accounts for about 80% of the work of data scientists*



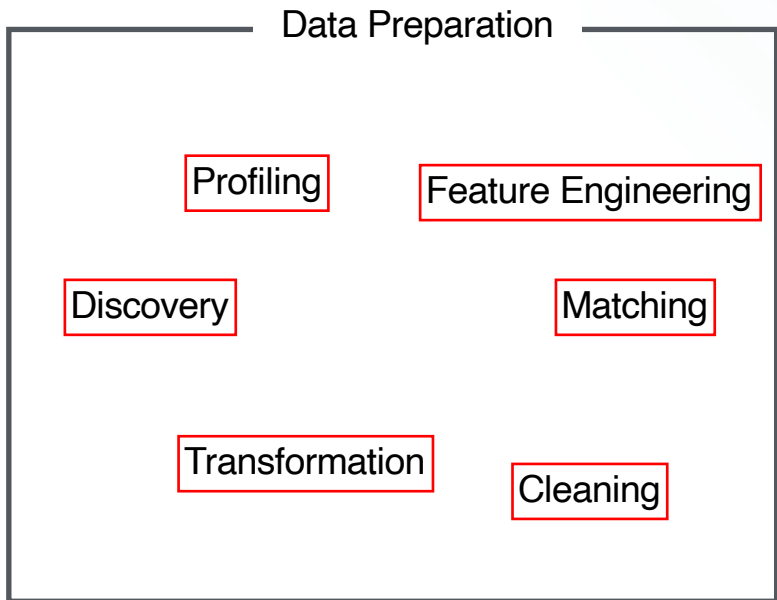
What data scientists spend the most time doing

- Building training sets: 3%
- Cleaning and organizing data: 60%
- Collecting data sets: 19%
- Mining data for patterns: 9%
- Refining algorithms: 4%
- Other: 5%





## Focus of our research



80%

Our goal:

- Hide complexity
- Empower domain experts
- Make routines task-aware

Example-based

Declarative

Democratization

# Topics

## 1. BTW 2025 Data Science Challenge

Integrating various sources for improving forecasting

## 2. Transformation Discovery

Using Web resources to find transformation functions via input output examples

## 3. Table Question Answering

Use the concept of chain of thoughts on an LLM to generate functions that retrieve the answer for a question in natural languages

## 4. AutoTables:

Synthesizing tables without example

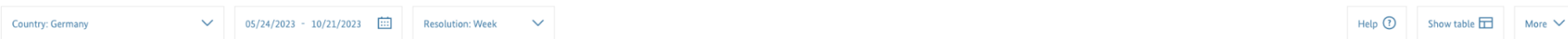
## 5. Finding related tables

Given an input table and a corpus of tables, find tables that enrich your table

<https://btw2025.gi.de/data-science-challenge>

# BTW 2025

- Supervisor: Muaid Mughrabi
- Goal: Predict hourly day-ahead energy prices for Germany on February 18, 2025
- Problem: Not enough data and features available for accurate prediction

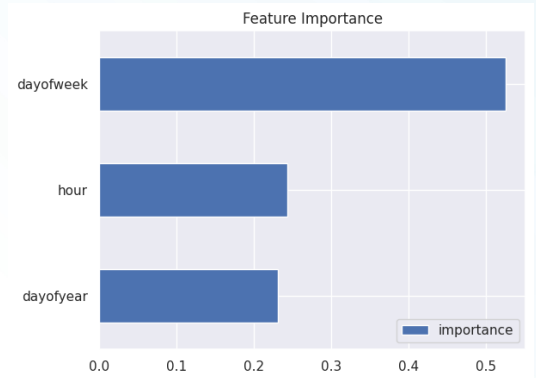
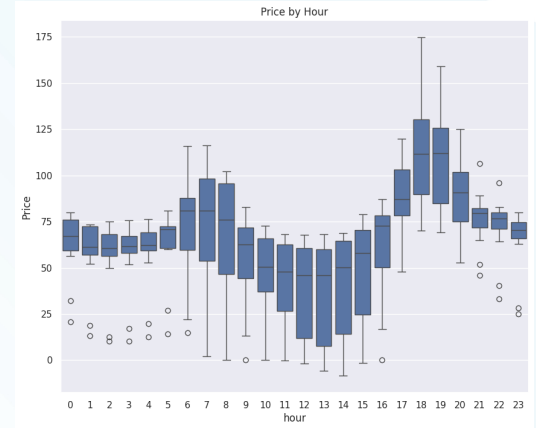
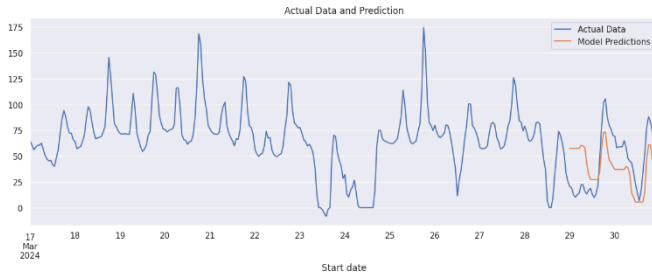


You can add more data categories in the menu and use other configuration options (filters and scaling etc). You can use the time slider under the diagram to easily change the time display.



# BTW 2025

- Data collection
- Data curation
- Prediction
- Explanation and Visualization
- Be Creative!



# BTW 2025: Tasks

- Gathering Domain Knowledge & Data Sources
  - Data crawling from DMARD.DE
  - Weather information?
  - Special events and how to account for them: pandemic, war, news, etc.
- Data Preparation
  - Data cleaning, removing anomalies if needed, investigating variable relationships, and creating statistical summaries.
  - Training, Testing, and Validation splits (without harming temporal information)
- Visualization
  - Plot trends and forecasts, sanity check model performance visually, and explain your findings
- Predictive Modelling:
  - Develop a forecasting model, compare it against a reasonable baseline, and iterate on it.

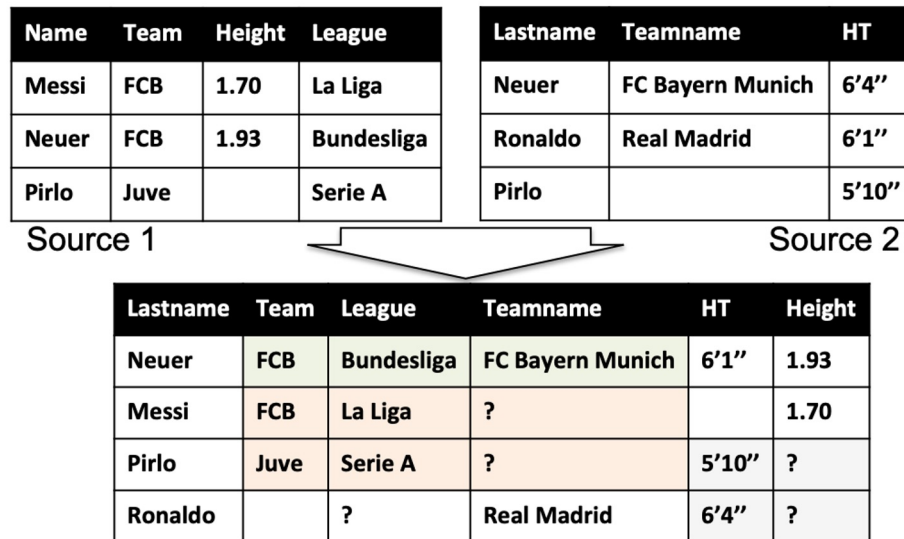
<https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/~ilyas/papers/AbedjanICDE16.pdf>

# Transformation Discovery with DataXFormer

Supervisor: Muaid Mughrabi

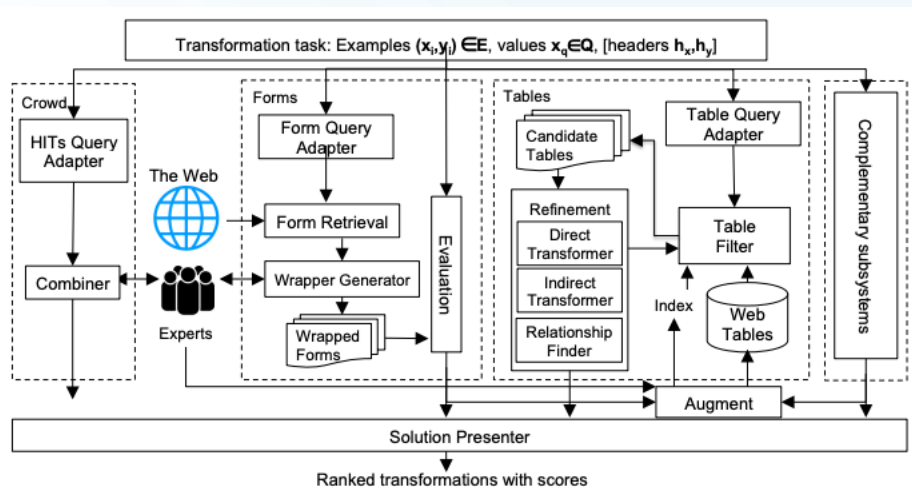
Problem:

- Tables often have missing values/  
Representations need to be unified
- Using external resources, such as tables, functions, catalogues, one can fill in the gaps
- DataXFormer swiftly through relational tables finding tables that contain examples of one-to-one and many-to-one mappings



# Task: Reproduce DataXformer

- Implement DataXformer
  - Table retrieval
  - Transformation Discovery
  - EM Algorithm
- Evaluate your implementation
  - Correctness and Runtime
  - Dataset coverage
- Improve one aspect!
  - Partial Strings inside Cells
  - Be creative!





<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2401.04398>

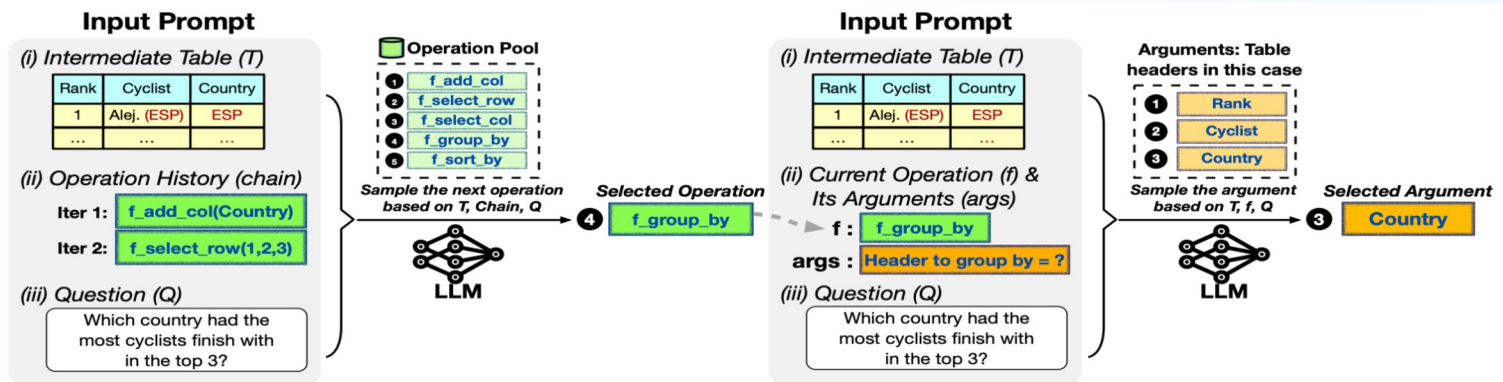
# Chain of Tables

Supervisor: Muaid Mughrabi

Goal: Generating programs that extract the answers to a natural language question from a table

Problem:

- How to represent tables?
- How to prompt the LLM?
- How to keep the chain of operations?



# Chain of Tables: Tasks

- Implement Chain of Tables using small LLM
  - Table Actions implementation
  - Prompting LLM to generate plan and action args
  - Ensure that Table actions are performed correctly
- Evaluate your implementation
  - Against different LLMs
  - You need to start with smaller model with your notebooks
  - Performance and Runtime
- Improvement suggestion!
  - Instead of generating one plan, generate multiple plan candidates
    - Implement an evaluator to score each state, traverse graph based on given scores
  - Be creative!

# AutoTables

Supervisor: Binger Chen

Goal: Discovering the operators and transforming non-relational tables to relational tables

Transforming operators (choose 2):

- Stack: transforming homogeneous columns into rows. (Pandas API: melt)
- Transpose: transforming rows to columns and vice versa. (Pandas API: transpose)
- Wide-to-long: transforming repeating column groups into rows. (Pandas API: wide)
- Pivot: transforming repeating row groups into columns. (Pandas API: pivot)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	<b>Product</b>	<b>Product Category</b>	<b>Store</b>	19-Oct	20-Oct	21-Oct	22-Oct	23-Oct	24-Oct	25-Oct	26-Oct	27-Oct	28-Oct
2	Huffy 18 in. Boys Bike	Sports	s_sk_101	5	3	4	15	19	2	5	11	3	9
3	Kent 18 In. Boy's BMX Bike	Sports	s_sk_101	8	5	11	12	8	14	7	5	9	9
4	HP 11 in. Chromebook 16W64	Electronics	s_sk_102	17	9	14	5	19	18	17	18	10	7
5	Mainstays Computer Desk	Furniture	s_sk_103	6	4	1	16	8	7	6	9	8	20

Stack

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>Product</b>	<b>Product Ca</b>	<b>Store</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Unit Sold</b>
2	Huffy 18 in. Boys Bike	Sports	s_sk_101	19-Oct	5
3	Huffy 18 in. Boys Bike	Sports	s_sk_102	20-Oct	3
4	Huffy 18 in. Boys Bike	Sports	s_sk_103	21-Oct	4
5	Huffy 18 in. Boys Bike	Sports	s_sk_104	22-Oct	15
6	...	...	...	...	...
7	Kent 18 In. Boy's BMX Bike	Sports	s_sk_101	19-Oct	8
8	Kent 18 In. Boy's BMX Bike	Sports	s_sk_102	20-Oct	5

# AutoTables: Tasks

- Generate a training dataset from relational table dataset
  - Method: leverage inverse operators
  - Relational dataset source: <https://relational-data.org/>
- Implement an Input-only model
  - Model input: non-relational table.
  - Model output: operator used for transformation.
  - Feature extraction based on CNN from computer vision as the pattern is visual.
- Implement Input/Output re-ranking model
  - Model input: top-k transformed tables from input-only model.
  - Model output: ranking score of these tables.
  - Similar feature extraction as Input-only model
- Scaling(optional): Implement data augmentation:
  - (1)Cropping (2)Shuffling

Anish Das Sarma, Lujun Fang, Nitin Gupta, Alon Y. Halevy, Hongrae Lee, Fei Wu, Reynold Xin, Cong Yu: Finding related tables. SIGMOD Conference 2012: 817-828

<https://amplab.cs.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/finding-related-tables.pdf>

# Finding Related Tables

Supervisor: Binger Chen

Goal: Finding Related Tables based on Entity Complement  
 - Find Columns that contain semantically similar entities but complement each other

1 - 100

As of Monday, 27.12.2010 | Rankings by Country: All Countries | Additional Standings: Top 100

Rank	Name & Nationality	Points	Position Moved	Tournaments Played
1	Nadal, Rafael (ESP)	12,450	0	20
2	Federer, Roger (SUI)	9,145	0	21
3	Djokovic, Novak (SRB)	6,240	0	21
4	Murray, Andy (GBR)	5,760	0	19
5	Soderling, Robin (SWE)	5,580	0	24
6	Berdych, Tomas (CZE)	3,955	0	26
7	Ferrer, David (ESP)	3,735	0	24
8	Roddick, Andy (USA)	3,665	0	21
9	Verdasco, Fernando (ESP)	3,240	0	25
10	Youzhny, Mikhail (RUS)	2,920	0	24

Entity complement ↓

101 - 200

As of Monday, 27.12.2010 | Rankings by Country: All Countries | Additional Standings: 101-200

Rank	Name & Nationality	Points	Position Moved	Tournaments Played
101	Gil, Frederico (POR)	551	0	29
102	Phau, Bjorn (GER)	551	0	31
103	Beck, Karol (SVK)	549	0	26
104	Brands, Daniel (GER)	541	0	28
105	Falla, Alejandro (COL)	540	0	23
106	Dimitrov, Grigor (BUL)	536	0	20
107	Bolelli, Simone (ITA)	532	0	29
108	Devvarman, Somdev (IND)	526	0	27
109	Darcis, Steve (BEL)	521	0	23
110	Zeballos, Horacio (ARG)	517	0	32

# Finding Related Tables: Tasks

- Measure the relatedness of two tables:
  - entity consistency: they have entities from the same class, such as all tennis players
  - schema similarity: they have same table schema
- Leverage signals from the web source to infer entity groups
  - Knowledge bases providing signals: WebIsA, DBpedia, etc.
  - Example of signals: (Entity: Paris, Class: City)
- Leverage signals from the web source to infer entity groups
- Scaling(optional): implement all above on big dataset

# Important Dates

17.10. Topic selection, group formation

24.10. Weekly meetings

**Identify the main idea, the problem being solved, who/what is involved, understood paper, find datasets, get familiar with repository**

31.10. Weekly meetings

**Present a plan**

Per person: what is going to be implemented/ tested and what was done the week before.

07.11. Weekly meetings (development)

14.11. Weekly meetings (first pipeline of the software should be ready, development)

21.11. Weekly meetings (development)

28.11. Weekly meetings (development)

**05.12. Expert review**

A different group will test your system

12.12. System improvement, experiments.

19.12. Weekly meetings (experiments)

09.01. Weekly meetings (experiments/Start writing the report)

16.01. Weekly meetings (experiments, visualization)

23.01. Weekly meetings (experiments, visualization)

30.01. Weekly meetings (Wrap up documentation, and presentation slides)

**06.02. Final presentations.**

**13.02. Final presentations.**

**14.02. One A4 page describing individual contributions on the project.**

# TODOS

- Identify group members via ISIS
- Send Muaid Mughrabi until October 21st 5pm your chosen top 3 topics