

ABSTRACT

A Search Engine Approach to the External Data Requirements in the Data Warehouse

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Modern database systems incorporate the use of multi-source decision enabling applications known as data warehouses. Information-content analysing tools called search engines are also under continuous development to maximise the benefits from globally available data residing on the internet.

In this thesis I propose a cooperative nexus between the data warehouse and search engine that is aimed at enhancing the collection of external data for domain specific end-user queries originating in the data warehouse.

The model introduced grapples with the complex design differences between data warehouse and search engine architectures by introducing an independent, intermediate data staging layer. Thus assisted, the diverse architectures are made to support each other, allowing increased benefits for the domain expert to be realised.

keywords: Data Warehouse; Search Engine; Meta-data; External Data.