Research on Basic Operations for Query Probabilistic XML Document Based on Path Set

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Abstract—Probabilistic XML tree is a typical probabilistic XML data model for representing uncertainty in the form of probability which can be described the nested probabilistic XML element unit. The path set in probabilistic XML unit tree can be analyzed through parsing it and drawing out the corresponding probabilistic XML unit schema tree. The node probability and the node probability threshold computation are defined first. Then the set operations are defined. The probabilistic XML XQuery sentences are extended to query a node or nodes probability, path probability and to list the possible world set. The instance analysis shows that probabilistic XML data is an effective method representing probability data and the given basic operation can realize the related probability query.

Index Terms— probabilistic XML element unit; probabilistic XML data tree; probabilistic XML element tree; query; basic operation

I. INTRODUCTION

Query optimization technique is an important research problem in any data management system. And how to define a kind of perfect and reasonable algebra is the key factor. Probabilistic XML data is a special extended XML data that can represent the probability information, so to define a new kind of probabilistic XML algebra operator set is also essential for query optimization.

Probabilistic XML algebra mainly has two schemes: extended XML algebra and extended probabilistic relation algebra. The related research contents are described as follows.

The method of extended XML algebra is to add the operations on probabilistic data on the basis of founded XML algebra. XML algebra is a set of XML document operation that follows the given data model according with XML query data model, query language and query algebra in the demand document that is issued by XML query group of W3C. The formal semantics especially, defined as bottom algebra based on navigation way, includes the three aspects: operation object, operation and maturity[1].From 1999,a series of XML algebra has been proposed, for example TAX(Tree Algebra for XML) in [2], Niagara Algebra in [3] and XAL algebra [4].The way

of extended XML algebra is applied in [5] where ProTDB system is realized on the basis of TIMBER[2].The main work is to add the probabilistic XML data management function in query parser and query executor. Because of directly applications of TAX algebra system, the disadvantage isnot terse. PEPX system also continues to use this method where did not embody the operation expression and the optimization rules [6].

SP_algebra is a classical probabilistic XML algebra based on relation algebra [7, 8, 9]. Its operation object is semis_structured probabilistic object SPO. And the operation symbol involves the normal set operation such as union, intersection and difference, also extends relation algebra operation such as selection ,project , cartesian product and join and introduces a new conditionalization operation. The operation procedure firstly transforms the relation table to SPO, secondly applies the SP_algebra. The shortcoming is the aggregation function and the maturity proof.

New probabilistic XML data query theory also shows that foundation of probabilistic XML algebra is essential. The material content describes as follows.

1) Aggregation operation is an inevitable problem during the course of querying the probabilistic XML data. How to compute aggregation function is studied in [10].

2) Join operation is realized by probabilistic XML data code. Usually probabilistic XML data is enormous, so code and compress has been the facing difficult problem. The compress problem is studied in [11] in order to reduce the node number and does not give material arithmetic procedure. The join operation is studied by ZHANG code in [12].

The third scheme shows a new probabilistic XML data query theory, but doesnot found the integrated probabilistic XML algebra system. Aggregation operation is an inevitable problem during the course of querying the probabilistic XML data. How to compute aggregation function is studied in [10]. The compress problem is studied in [11] without the essential algorithm procedure. The join operation is studied by ZHANG code in [12].The XPATH query method is extended to and Twig query in [13]. The tree automata is also applied in probabilistic XML data tree [14].And the probabilistic XML data tree auto is introduced in [15].A new uncertain XML algebra system is found in [16] and is applied to query the uncertain XML data.

These research work studies probabilistic XML algebra operation from different direction. So it also exploits the research direction for foundation native probabilistic XML algebra. The contributions in the paper includes:

1) Probabilistic XML element unit is defined as the basic unit of probabilistic XML document.

2) Probabilistic XML element tree is confirmed as the basic unit of probabilistic XML algebra operation. And the probabilistic XML element schema tree is drawn out by analyzing the path types.

3) The algebra operation symbol, definition and computation procedure is given. And the operation equivalence rules for query optimization are also given.

4) On the basis of functions of XQuery, it can query node probability and node set probability and list the possible world set of probabilistic XML tree.

5) The instance analysis shows that probabilistic XML data is an effective method as the format of probabilistic XML and the related probability query can be realized.

II. BASIC PROBLEM

where $k \in [0,1]$ and ϕ is element value.

Because probabilistic XML data is nested semis-structure XML data, so the probability of the pair <elementnament,elemtentvalue>

in possible world set is p_i , the representing form is described as follows:

<elementname EN> <dist>... <ind value='pi'> <dist> ...<poss value='pi'>elementvalue EV i</poss>... </dist>

...</ind>

</dist>

</elementname EN>

This shows that the semantic complete probabilistic XML document fragment at least consists of two parts: an ordinary XML element and a probabilistic XML element unit. And it can be represented as probabilistic XML tree.

Definition 2 (probabilistic XML data schema) probabilistic XML data schema is defined PDTD = (E, A, rule, att, str), where $E = \{e_1, e_2, ..., e_n\}$ is a infinite element set, $e_i(1 \le i \le n)$ is the element in the set of probabilistic XML data, $A = \{a_1, a_2, ..., a_m\}$ is the attribute set, $a_j(1 \le j \le m)$ is the attribute in the set of probabilistic XML data, rule(E) in the set of rules, $att(<e_1, a_{11}, p_{11}>, ... < e_1, a_{1n}, p_{1n}>, < e_2, a_{21}, p_{21}>, ..., < e_2, a_{2n}, p_{2m}>, ...)$ is the corresponding relation of the element and its value,

where $\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{1i} = 1, \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_{2i} = 1, \dots$, *str* is the function from *E* to the power set of *A*.

Definition 3 (Probabilistic XML data tree) Probabilistic XML data tree is defined six tuple $PT = (N, E, r, \varphi, V, prob)$, where N is the finite set of node $N = N_{ord} \cup N_{dist} \cup N_{poss}$ where N_{ord} is the set of ordinary node, N_{dist} is the set of distribution node, N_{poss} is the set of possibility node. $E \subseteq N \times N$ is the set of edges; *r* is the root of PT; $\varphi: N_{ord} \to L$ is the label function of the ordinary node, where L is the name of and attribute element $\forall n \in N_{dist}, \varphi(n) = dist \quad \forall n \in N_{poss}, \varphi(n) = 'poss' \quad V : N_{l} \to D$ is the data of leaf node, where N_i are the leaf nodes $N_l \subset N_{ord} \subset N_{poss}$ and D is the data set. $prob: N_{ord} \cup N_{poss} \rightarrow p$ is the probability value of the given node, $0 \le p \le 1$, the default value is 1 without assigning the probability value.

From the above definition of probabilistic XML data tree, the probability node is represented by the node dist that the children is the poss nodes i.e. the root node of possible world instance.

Definition 4 (absolute path set) Absolute path is the node sequence from the root node *r* to any leaf node $V(N_t)(V(N_t) \in D)$ in probabilistic XML tree *PT*. *APATH*_{*PT*} denotes the set of all absolute paths and $|APATH_{PT}|$ denotes the absolute path number of $APATH_{PT}$.

Definition 5 (extended path set) Extended path is a absolute path without any leaf node. $\forall apath \in APATH_{PT}, epath = delete(last(apath)), where EPATH_{PT}$ denotes the set of all extended paths in probabilistic XML tree *PT* and $|EPATH_{PT}|$ denotes the extended absolute path number of *epath*.

Definition 6 (path consistent) $\forall epath \in EPATH_{PT}$, there is one and only one absolute path $apath \in APATH_{PT}$, the equation epath = delete(value(ind), value(poss), last(apath)) comes into existence, then $epath \square apath$ which shows that the absolute path epath is consistent with apath.

Definition 7 (probabilistic XML unit tree) probabilistic XML unit tree PT_{MIN} consists of two parts: one and only one absolute path without any distribution nodes and a set of consistent path of extended path.

Definition 8(probabilistic XML unit schema tree) probabilistic XML unit schema tree $^{MT_{MEV}}$ consists of two parts: one and only one absolute path without any distribution nodes and leaf node and a set of consistent path of extended path.

In general, probabilistic XML unit tree and probabilistic XML unit schema tree is shown in figure 1

and figure 2.



Figure 1. General probabilistic XML unit tree



Figure 2. General probabilistic XML unit schema tree

Example 1 The following probabilistic XML document fragment describes a probabilistic XML element unit. The probabilistic XML unit tree rank is shown in figure 3,where figure 3(a) is probabilistic XML tree T, figure 3(b) is probabilistic XML unit tree rank and figure 3(c) probabilistic XML unit tree dept.

```
< T >
  <teacher>
   <no>0001</no>
   <name>Wang Ming</name>
   <rank>
    <dist>
    <ind value='0.8'>
     <dist>
          <mux>
          <poss prob='0.6'> ass </poss>
          <poss prob='0.4'> ins</poss>
          </mux>
      </dist>
      </ind>
      </dist>
    <dist>
     .....
    </rank>
  </teacher>
  </T>
  Here is a fragment of a probabilistic XML Schema
DTD for such data.
  <!ELEMENT T (teacher)>
  <!ELEMENT teacher (no, name, rank,dept)>
  <!ELEMENT no (#PCDATA)>
  <!ELEMENT name (#PCDATA)>
  <!ELEMENT rank (dist+)>
  <!ELEMENT dept (dist+)>
```



Figure 3 .Teacher probabilistic XML unit tree

III. ALGEBRA OPERATION RELATED TO A PROBABILISTIC XML UNIT TREE

A. Leaf Node Probability Project Operation

Suppose pt be a probabilistic XML unit tree conforming to probabilistic XML unit schema PDTD, then project operation result is the leaf node and its according probability, denoted $\Pi_{PDTD}(pt)$, as follows:

$$\prod_{PDTD}(pt) = \{ < v(leaf)_i, p_i > | \sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1 \}$$

The computation procedure mainly consists of three steps. The first is to get the absolute path set *APATH*

 $APATH_{pt}$ through parsing the probabilistic XML unit tree pt. The second is to compute the absolute path probability by the probability chain principle. The third is to get the triple <leaf, probability>.

algorithm project(pt)

input: absolute path set APATH_{nt} of pt

output: <leaf,probability>

begin

```
for i=1 to |APATH_{pt}|
     leaf[i]=last( APATH<sub>nt</sub> [i]);prob[i]=1;
     for j=1 to length( APATH<sub>pt</sub> [i])
```

```
if node[j]=ind then
          prob[i]=prob[i]×value(node[j]);
      elseif node[j]=poss then
          prob[i]=prob[i]×value(node[j]);
return([leaf,prob]);
```

end.

Theorem 1 Algorithm project () for the leaf node and its according probability in a probabilistic XML unit tree is correct and complete.

Example 2 Compute the leaf node and its probability in Figure 1.

The result is shown below:

 $\prod_{PDTD}(pt) = \{<0001, 1>, <ass, 0.48><ins, 0.32>,$,< ass, 0.27 >, < ins, 0.63 >}

B. Probability Threshold Interception Operation

Suppose pt be a probabilistic XML unit tree conforming to probabilistic XML unit schema PDTD, then probability threshold interception operation result is the leaf node and its according probability than given

probability threshold, denoted $S_{\alpha}(pt)$, as follows: $S_{\alpha}(pt) = \{ \langle v(leaf)_i, p_i \rangle | p_i \rangle \alpha \}$

The computation procedure mainly consists of three steps. The first is to get the absolute path set $APATH_{pt}$ through parsing the probabilistic XML unit tree . The second is to compute the absolute path pt probability by the probability chain principle. The third is to get the triple <leaf,probability> where the leaf node and its according probability than given probability threshhold.

Example 3 compute the leaf node and its probability that the probability threshold is 0.4 in Figure 1(b).

 $S_{0,4}(pt) = \{\langle ass, 0.48 \rangle, \langle ins, 0.63 \rangle\}$

C. Generalization

The generalization procedure of given probabilistic XML unit tree is enumerating the element and its according probability in the possible world set. algorithm generalization (pt)

input: absolute path set APATH_{pt} of pt

```
output: \langle APATH_t, p \rangle
```

begin

list CPATH_{nt}; $PPATH_{pt} = APATH_{pt} - CPATH_{pt};$ list EPATH "rf for i=1 to $|PPATH_{nt}|$ $P[i] = \text{com_prob}(PPATH_{nt}[i]);$

$$PATH_{pt}[i] = \text{delete}(PPATH_{pt}[i], \text{dist,ind,mux,poss});$$
$$A[i] = (P[i], PATH_{pt}[i]) \cup CPATH_{pt};$$

return(A); end.

Theorem 2 Algorithm generalization () for enumerating the element and its according probability in the possible world set of probabilistic XML unit tree is correct and complete.

Example 4 Enumerate the element in possible world set of probabilistic XML unit tree in Figure 3(b). The result is shown in figure 4.



Figure 4. Element in possible world set of probabilistic XML unit tree

IV. SET OPERATION

A. Union

Suppose p_{t_1} and p_{t_2} be a probabilistic XML unit tree conforming to probabilistic XML unit schema PDTD.The union result of pt_1 and pt_2 , denoted $pt_1 \cup pt_2$, as follows:

$$pt = pt_1 \cup pt_2 = \begin{cases} APATH_{pt_1} \cup APATH_{pt_2} & r_{pt_1} = r_{pt_2} \\ \hline APATH_{pt_1} \cup \overline{APATH_{pt_2}} & r_{pt_1} \neq r_{pt_2} \end{cases}$$

Where r_{pt} is the added root of pt.

algorithm union (pt_1, pt_2)

input: absolute path set of $pt_1 APATH_{pt_1}$, absolute path set of $pt_2 APATH_{pt_2}$

output: absolute path set of pt APATH_{pt}

begin

r_pt1=first_node(*APATH*_{nt}); % get the root of r_{pt_1} r_pt2=first_node(APATH _{pt},); % get the root of r_{pt_2} if r_pt1= r_pt2 then $APATH_{pt} = APATH_{pt_1} \cup APATH_{pt_2}$; else $\overline{APATH_{pt_1}} = \text{concact}(r_{pt}, APATH_{pt_1});$ % add the new node as the root $\overline{APATH_{pt_2}} = \text{concact}(r_{pt}, APATH_{pt_2});$ % add the new node as the root $APATH_{pt} = \overline{APATH_{pt_1}} \cup \overline{APATH_{pt_2}};$ return(APATH_{pt}) end.

Theorem 3 Algorithm union () for merging the two

given probabilistic XML unit tree is correct and complete.

B. Intersection

Suppose pt_1 and pt_2 be a probabilistic XML unit tree conforming to probabilistic XML unit schema PDTD, The intersection result of pt_1 and pt_2 , denoted $pt = pt_1 \cap pt_2$. as follows:

 $APATH_{pt} = \begin{cases} APATH_{pt_1} \cap APATH_{pt_2} = \{capath\}_{pt_1} \cap \{capath\}_{pt_2} r_{pt_1} = r_{pt_2} \\ \phi \\ r_{pt_1} \neq r_{pt_2} \end{cases}$

algorithm intersection (pt_1, pt_2)

input: absolute path set of $pt_1 APATH_{pt_1}$,

absolute path set of $pt_2 APATH_{pt_2}$

output: absolute path set of $pt APATH_{pt}$

begin

```
r_pt1=first_node( APATH<sub>pt1</sub> );
```

% get the root of r_{pt_1}

% get the root of
$$r_{pt_2}$$

if r_pt1= r_pt2 then

$$\begin{aligned} APATH_{pt} &= APATH_{pt_1} \mid APATH_{pt_2} \\ &= \{capath\}_{pt_1} \cap \{capath\}_{pt_2}; \end{aligned}$$

else

```
APATH_{pt} = \phi;
return( APATH_{pt})
```

end.

Theorem 4 Algorithm intersection () for computing the difference of the two given probabilistic XML unit tree is correct and complete.

C. Difference

Suppose p_{t_1} and p_{t_2} be a probabilistic XML unit tree conforming to probabilistic XML unit schema PDTD, The intersection result of p_{t_1} and p_{t_2} , denoted $p_t = p_{t_1} - p_{t_2}$, as follows:

 $pt = pt_1 - pt_2 = \{apath | apath \in APATH_{pt_1} and apath \notin APATH_{pt_2}\}$ algorithm difference (pt_1, pt_2)

argorithm difference (p_{l_1}, p_{l_2})

input: absolute path set of $pt_1 APATH_{pt_1}$,

```
absolute path set of pt_2 APATH_{pt_2}
```

```
output: absolute path set of pt APATH_{pt} begin
```

r_pt1=first_node(*APATH*_{pt1});

% get the root of r_{pt_1}

r_pt2=first_node(*APATH*_{pt});

% get the root of r_{pt_2}

if r_pt1= r_pt2 then

 $APATH_{pt} = APATH_{pt_1} - APATH_{pt_1} \cap APATH_{pt_2};$ else $APATH_{pt} = APATH_{pt_2};$

return(
$$APATH_{pt}$$
)

end.

Theorem 5 Algorithm difference () for computing the difference of the two given probabilistic XML unit tree is correct and complete.

Example 4 Compute the difference of probabilistic XML unit trees in figure 3(b) and (c). The result is shown in figure 5.



Figure 5. Difference result of probabilistic XML unit trees

D. Cartesian product

Suppose p_1 and p_2 be a probabilistic XML unit tree conforming to probabilistic XML unit schema PDTD, The intersection result of p_1 and p_2 , denoted $p_1 \times p_2$, as follows:

 $pt = pt_1 \times pt_2$

Example 5 Compute the Cartesian product of probabilistic XML unit trees in figure 3(b) and (c). The result is shown in figure 6.



V. JOIN OPERATION

Join operation of two probabilistic XML unit tree is the unavoidable operation. Suppose pt_1 and pt_2 be a probabilistic XML unit tree conforming to probabilistic XML unit schema PDTD, The join result of pt_1 and pt_2 , denoted $pt_1 \triangleright \triangleleft_v pt_2$, as follows:

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 $pt = pt_1 \triangleright \triangleleft_v pt_2$ algorithm join (pt_1, pt_2) input: absolute path set of $pt_1 APATH_{nt_1}$, absolute path set of $pt_2 APATH_{pt_2}$ output: absolute path set of pt APATH_{nt} begin for i=1 to $|APATH_{pt_1}|$ { *APATH*_{pt} [i]=delete(root); % delete the root node EM1[i]=root(APATH_{pt}[i]), EV1[i]=leaf(APATH_{pt}[i]);} %compute the triple<elementname,elementvalue> for i=1 to $|APATH_{pt_2}|$ { *APATH*_{pt}, [i]=delete(root); % delete the root node EM2[i]=root(APATH_{pt}, [i]), EV2[i]=leaf(APATH_{pt}, [i]);} for i=1 to |EM1|for j=1 to |EM2|if EM1[i] = EM2[j] then { if EV1[i]= EV2[j] then{ locate EM1[i] in APATH_{pt}[i]; locate EM2[j] in APATH_{pt2} [j]; APATH_{pt} apath[i]= [i] concat *APATH*_{*pt*₂} [j]; %join operationof two absolute path % with same element root(pt_2)=EM1[i]; % *pt*₂ become the subtree pt_1 , the %root of pt_2 the common node prefix = $APATH_{pt_2}$ [i] %the absolute path in EM1become the % prefix absolute path of pt_2 } } } for i=1 to $|APATH_{pt_2}|$ APATH_{pt}, [i]=prefix / APATH_{pt}, [i]; } %compute the new absolute path of subtree in % pt, $APATH_{pt} = APATH_{pt_1} \cup APATH_{pt_2};$ return(APATH_{nt}) end.

Theorem 6 Algorithm join () for computing the difference of the two given probabilistic XML unit tree is correct and complete.

VI. PROBABILISTIC XML QUERY EXPRESSION REALIZATION

XQuery is the standard language for querying XML documents using structural and content restrictions. It is also flexible enough to query a broad spectrum of XML information sources, including both databases and documents.

In order to query the probabilistic XML document, the expression of XQuery can be extended. The application of basic operation is introduced, like the following ones: Example 6 If n0=0001 in T.xml, how to query the probability with the condition rank="ass". The extended

XQuery sentence is shown below.

FOR \$a IN document("T.xml")//T/rank \$b IN \$a/n0

WHERE \$a/rank ="ass" and \$b /n0=0001 RETURN <rank>(\$a,prob)</rank>

the corresponding basic exoression is shown below: $\prod_{PDTD}(pt)$

the node sequence of its path :

T/teacher/dist/ind[0.8]/dist/mux/poss[0.6]/'ass' T/teacher/dist/ind[0.9]/dist/mux/poss[0.3]/'ass' the probability computation formula is shown below:

$$P(rank, rank = 'ass')_{2} = \prod_{k=1}^{i} p(node_{k})$$

$$= p(node_{1}) \times p(node_{2}) \times ... \times p(node_{i})$$

$$= 0.8 \times 0.6 = 0.48$$

$$P(rank, rank = 'ass')_{2} = \prod_{k=1}^{i} p(node_{k})$$

$$= p(node_{1}) \times p(node_{2}) \times ... \times p(node_{i})$$

$$= 0.9 \times 0.3 = 0.27$$

the result:

of

 $\prod_{PDTD} (pt \mid rank = 'ass') = \{0.48, 0.27\}$ Example 7 If n0=0001 in T.xml, how to query the probability with the condition rank="ass" and dept="d1"

or "d2". The extended XQuery sentence is : FOR \$a IN document("T.xml")//T/rank and dept

\$b IN \$a/n0 WHERE \$a/rank ="ass" and \$b /n0=0001 and \$c/dept ="d1" or \$c/dept = "d2" RETURN

<rank>(\$a, \$c, prob)</rank>

the corresponding basic expression is shown below: $\prod_{PDTD} (pt_1 \cup pt_2) = \prod_{PDTD1} (pt_1) \cup \prod_{PDTD2} (pt_2)$

 $\prod_{PDTD1}(pt_1)$ is firstly computated.

Example 8 simplify probabilistic XML document T.xml. The simplification of probabilistic XML document T.xml is to enumerate the elements of possible world set in probabilistic XML data tree. The extended XQuery sentence is :

FOR \$a IN document("T.xml")//T

WHERE \$b /n0 and \$a/rank and \$c/dept RETURN

<prob>p</prob>

<no>\$a </no> <rank>\$b</rank>

<deptk>\$c</dept>

The corresponding basic expression is shown below: nue

$$pws_{rank} = \{ < rank_i, p_i > \mid 0 \le p_i \le 1 \}$$

 $pws_{dept} = \{ < dept_i, p_i > | 0 \le p_i \le 1 \}$

 $t = pws_{rank} \times pws_{dept} = pws_{T}(rank \times dept)$

The possible world set of dept is shown in figure 7. The possible world set of T is shown in figure 8.



VII. CONCLUSION

Probabilistic data can be represented as probabilistic XML element unit in the direction of XML data and also be represented as probabilistic XML unit tree. So the basic operation set on probabilistic XML unit tree is defined. Because probabilistic XML data can be described nested probabilistic XML element unit, the basic operation set provides the precondition and basis. The instance analysis shows that the basic operation set of probabilistic XML unit tree is correct and effective.

Through the validity and maturation of query response, the query results of probabilistic XML document is involved with probability. Listing all query results can enhance the complexity of query algorithm, so how to accept or reject the query results will be the continued research content.

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