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(54) **INGESTION PLANNING FOR COMPLEX TABLES**

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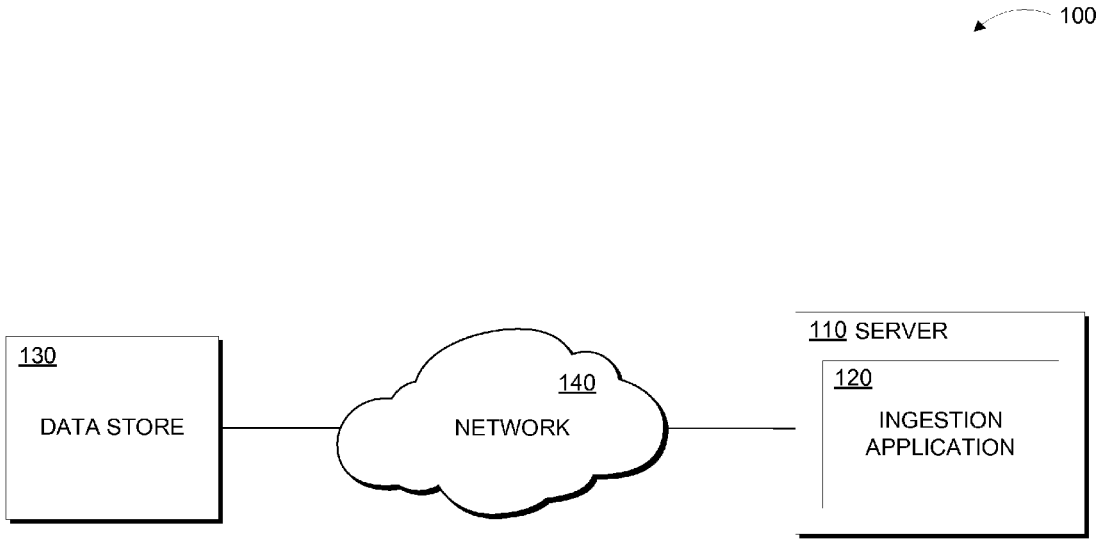
(57) **ABSTRACT**

Embodiments of the present invention disclose a method, computer program product, and system for generating a plan for document processing. A plurality of electronic documents are received, by a computer, using a network. The plurality of electronic documents are analyzed, using the computer, to identify a plurality of tabular data, based on the analyzed plurality of electronic documents. Textual data is identified within the identified tabular data, of the analyzed plurality of electronic documents. Textual hints are generated, based on the identified textual data within the identified tabular data. References are identified, wherein references are based on matching textual hints with textual data in the received plurality of electronic documents. A count of references is calculated, associated with one or more sets of tabular data. A priority score is calculated based on the count of references, and an ingestion plan is generated, based on the calculated priority score.



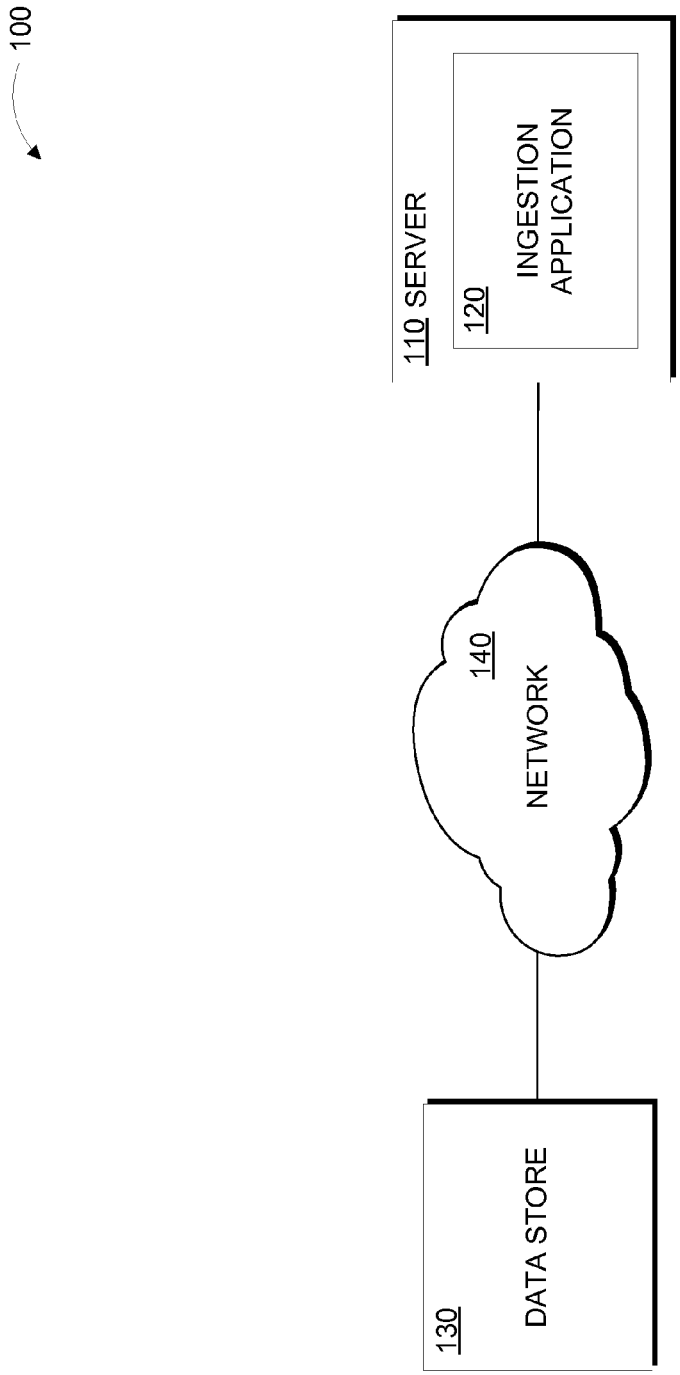

100
110 SERVER
120
INGESTION APPLICATION
140
NETWORK
130
DATA STORE

FIG. 1

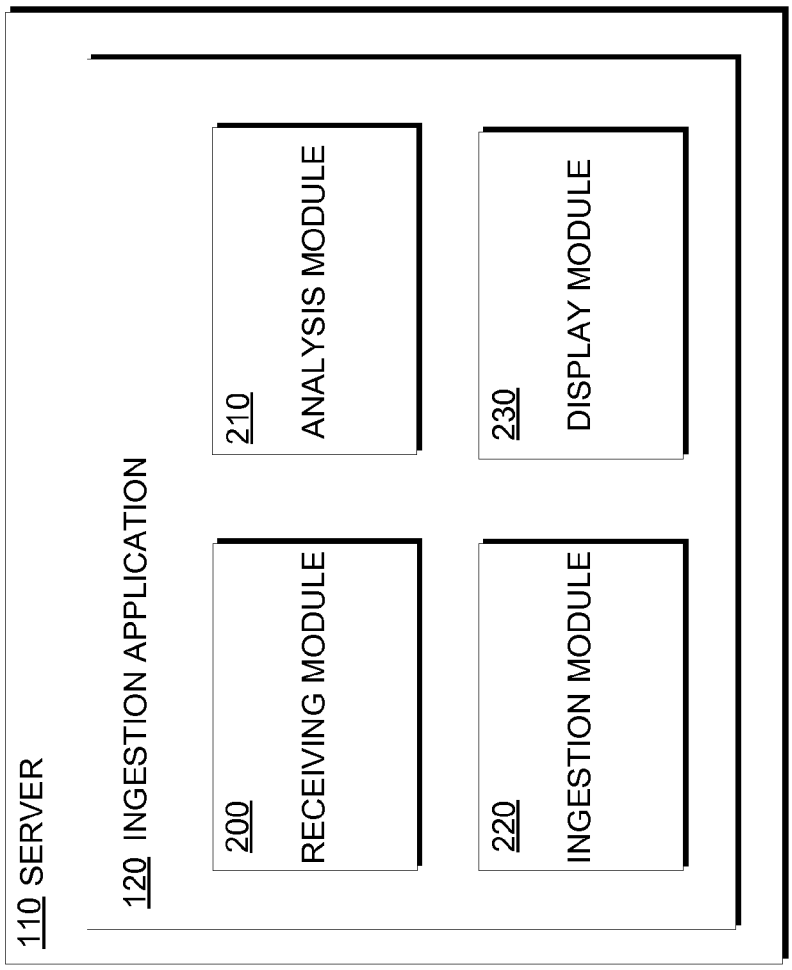

110 SERVER
120 INGESTION APPLICATION
200 RECEIVING MODULE
210 ANALYSIS MODULE
220 INGESTION MODULE
230 DISPLAY MODULE

FIG. 2

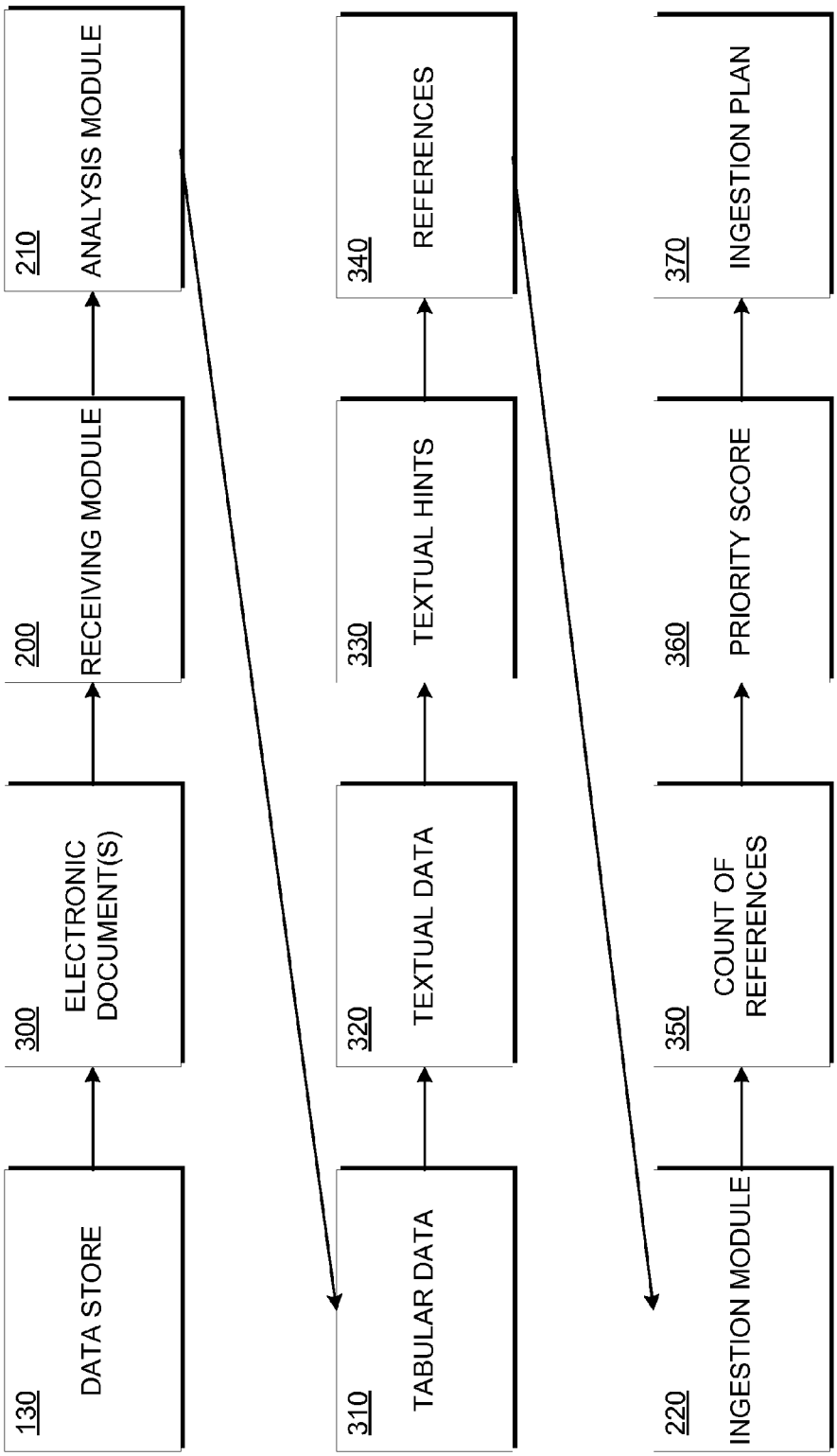

130
DATA STORE
300
ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT(S)
200
RECEIVING MODULE
210
ANALYSIS MODULE
310
TABULAR DATA
320
TEXTUAL DATA
330
TEXTUAL HINTS
340
REFERENCES
220
INGESTION MODULE
350
COUNT OF REFERENCES
360
PRIORITY SCORE
370
INGESTION PLAN

FIG. 3

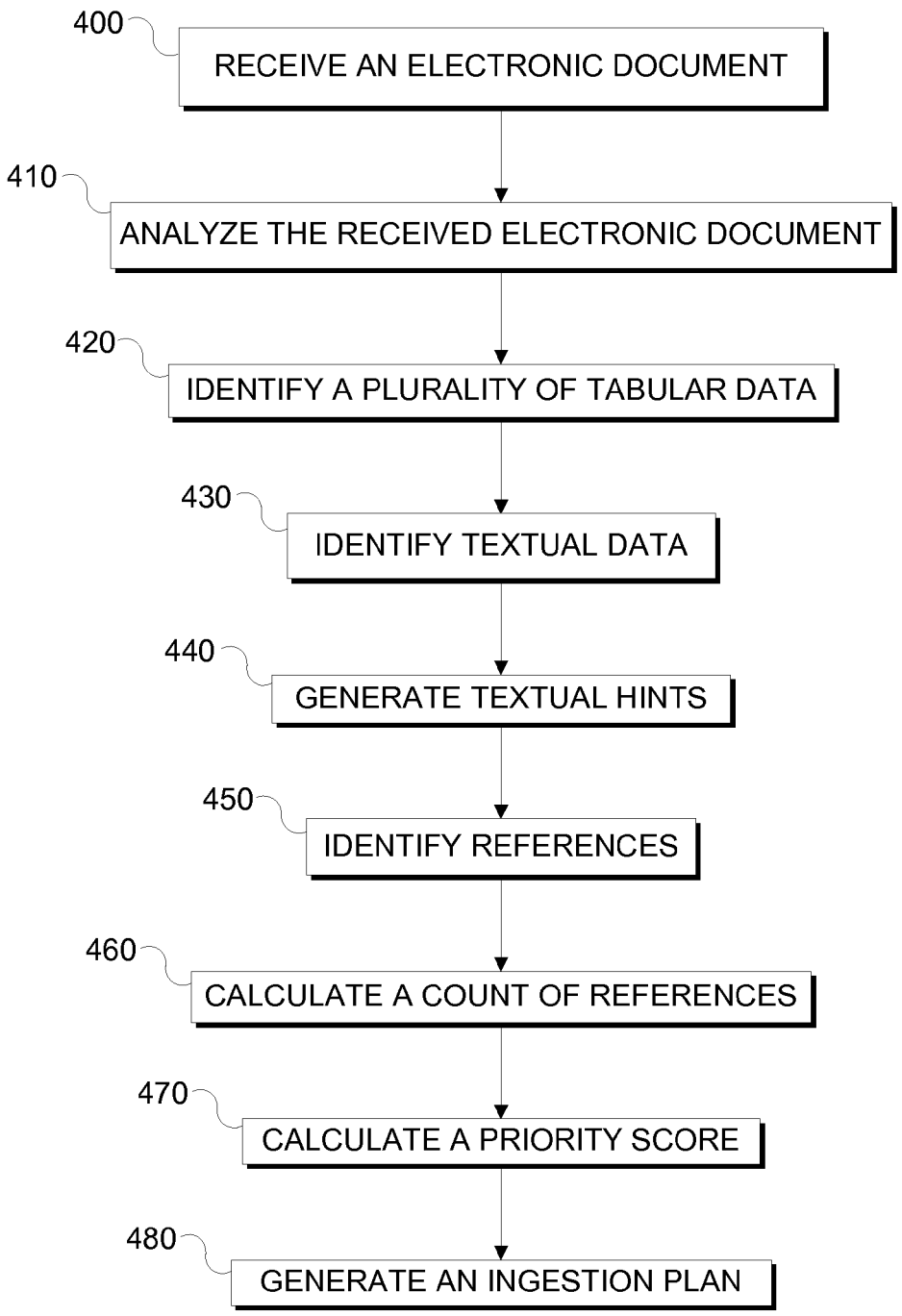

400
RECEIVE AN ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT
410
ANALYZE THE RECEIVED ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT
420
IDENTIFY A PLURALITY OF TABULAR DATA
430
IDENTIFY TEXTUAL DATA
440
GENERATE TEXTUAL HINTS
450
IDENTIFY REFERENCES
460
CALCULATE A COUNT OF REFERENCES
470
CALCULATE A PRIORITY SCORE
480
GENERATE AN INGESTION PLAN

FIG. 4

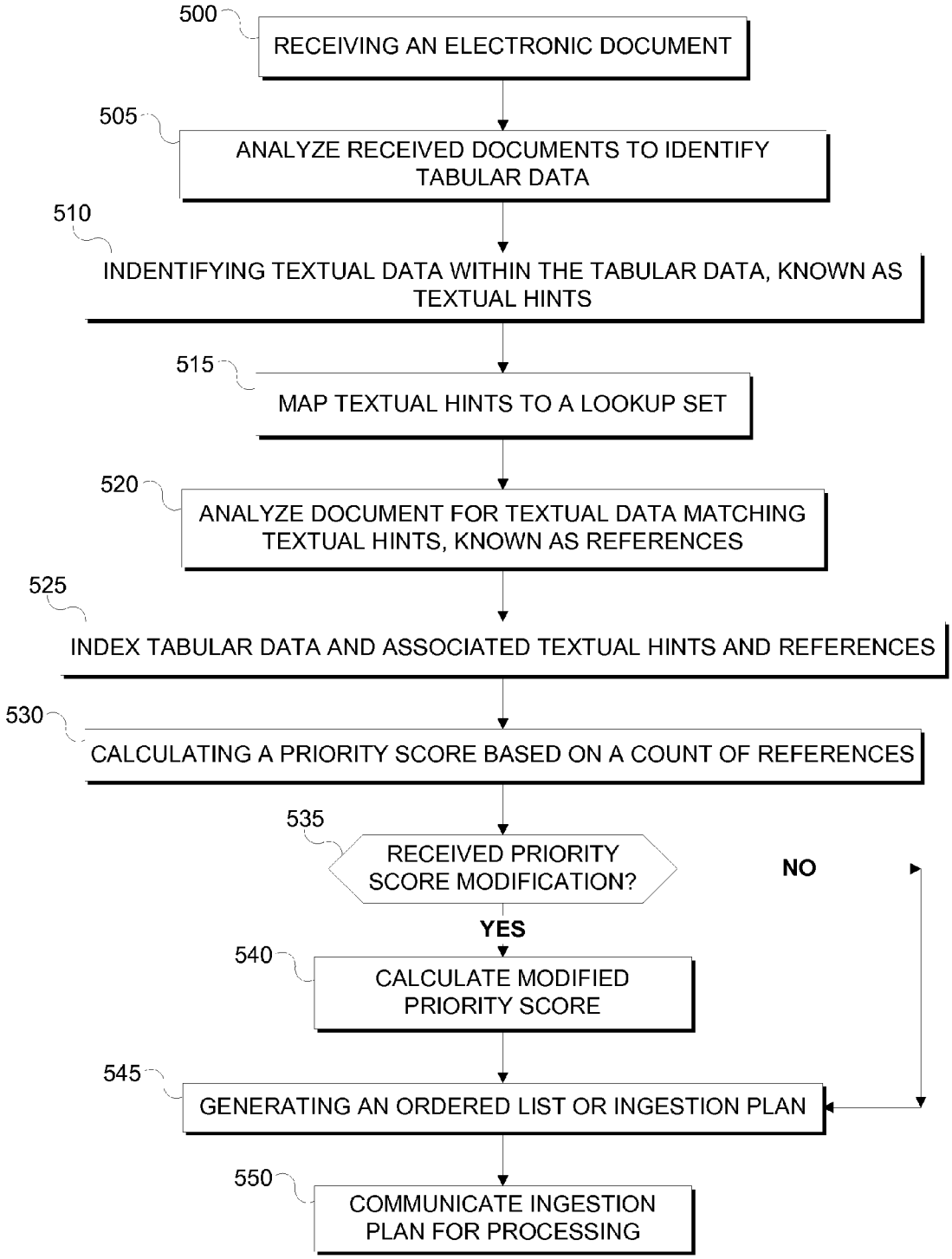

500
RECEIVING AN ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT
505
ANALYZE RECEIVED DOCUMENTS TO IDENTIFY TABULAR DATA
510
INDENTIFYING TEXTUAL DATA WITHIN THE TABULAR DATA, KNOWN AS TEXTUAL HINTS
515
MAP TEXTUAL HINTS TO A LOOKUP SET
520
ANALYZE DOCUMENT FOR TEXTUAL DATA MATCHING TEXTUAL HINTS, KNOWN AS REFERENCES
525
INDEX TABULAR DATA AND ASSOCIATED TEXTUAL HINTS AND REFERENCES
530
CALCULATING A PRIORITY SCORE BASED ON A COUNT OF REFERENCES
535
RECEIVED PRIORITY SCORE MODIFICATION?
NO
YES
540
CALCULATE MODIFIED PRIORITY SCORE
545
GENERATING AN ORDERED LIST OR INGESTION PLAN
550
COMMUNICATE INGESTION PLAN FOR PROCESSING

FIG. 5

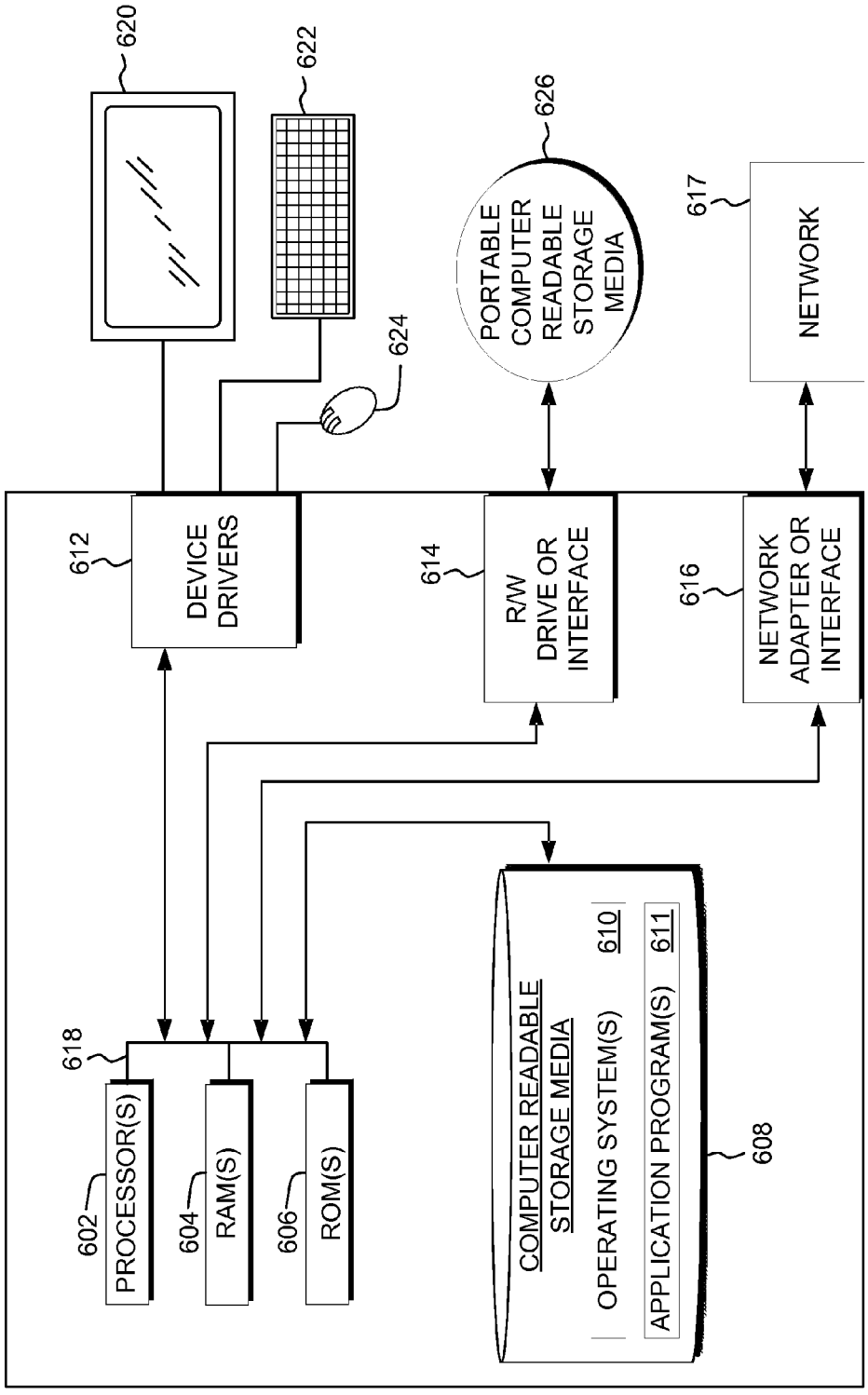

620
622
626
624
617
PORTABLE COMPUTER READABLE STORAGE MEDIA
NETWORK
612
DEVICE DRIVERS
614
R/W DRIVE OR INTERFACE
616
NETWORK ADAPTER OR INTERFACE
618
602
PROCESSOR(S)
604
RAM(S)
606
ROM(S)
COMPUTER READABLE STORAGE MEDIA
OPERATING SYSTEM(S) 610
APPLICATION PROGRAM(S) 611
608

FIG. 6

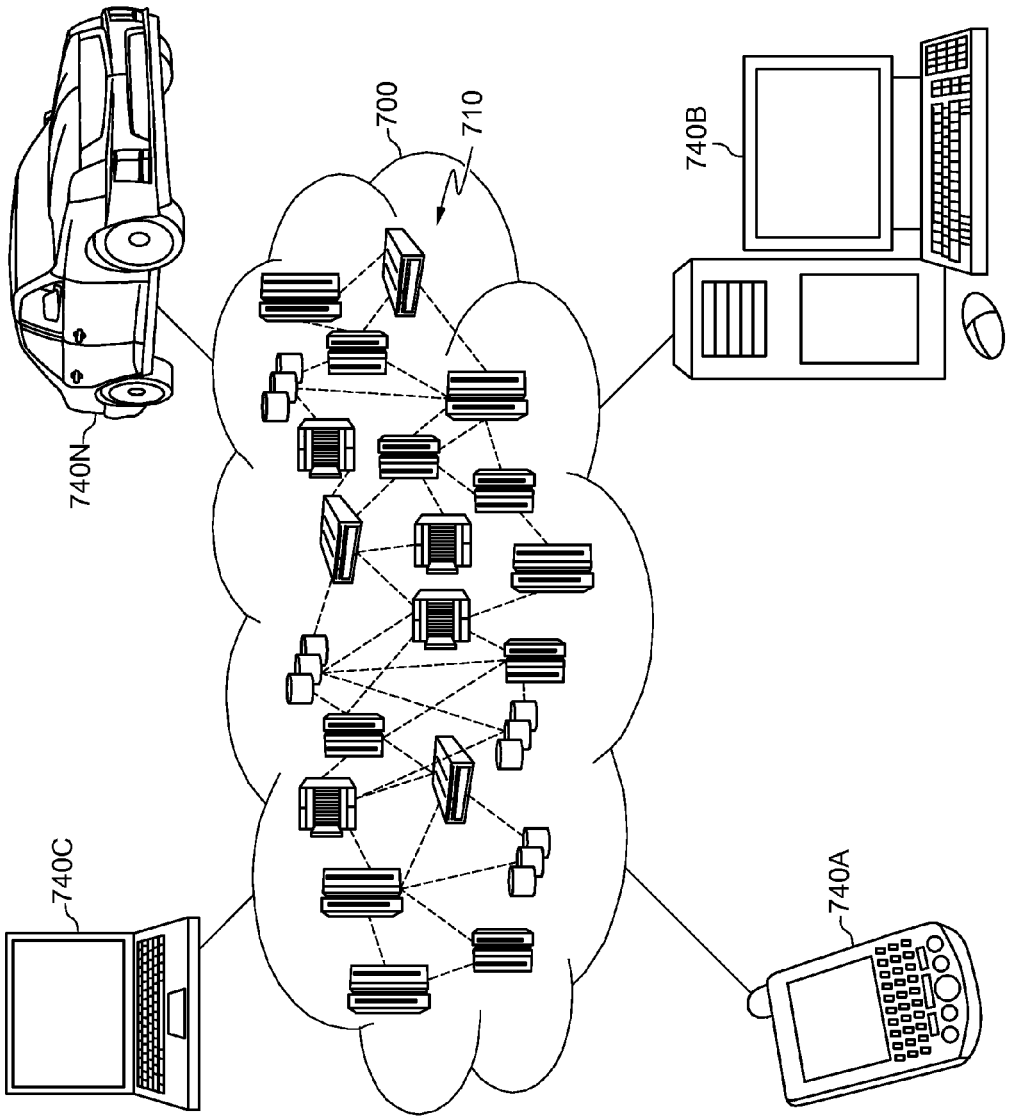


FIG. 7

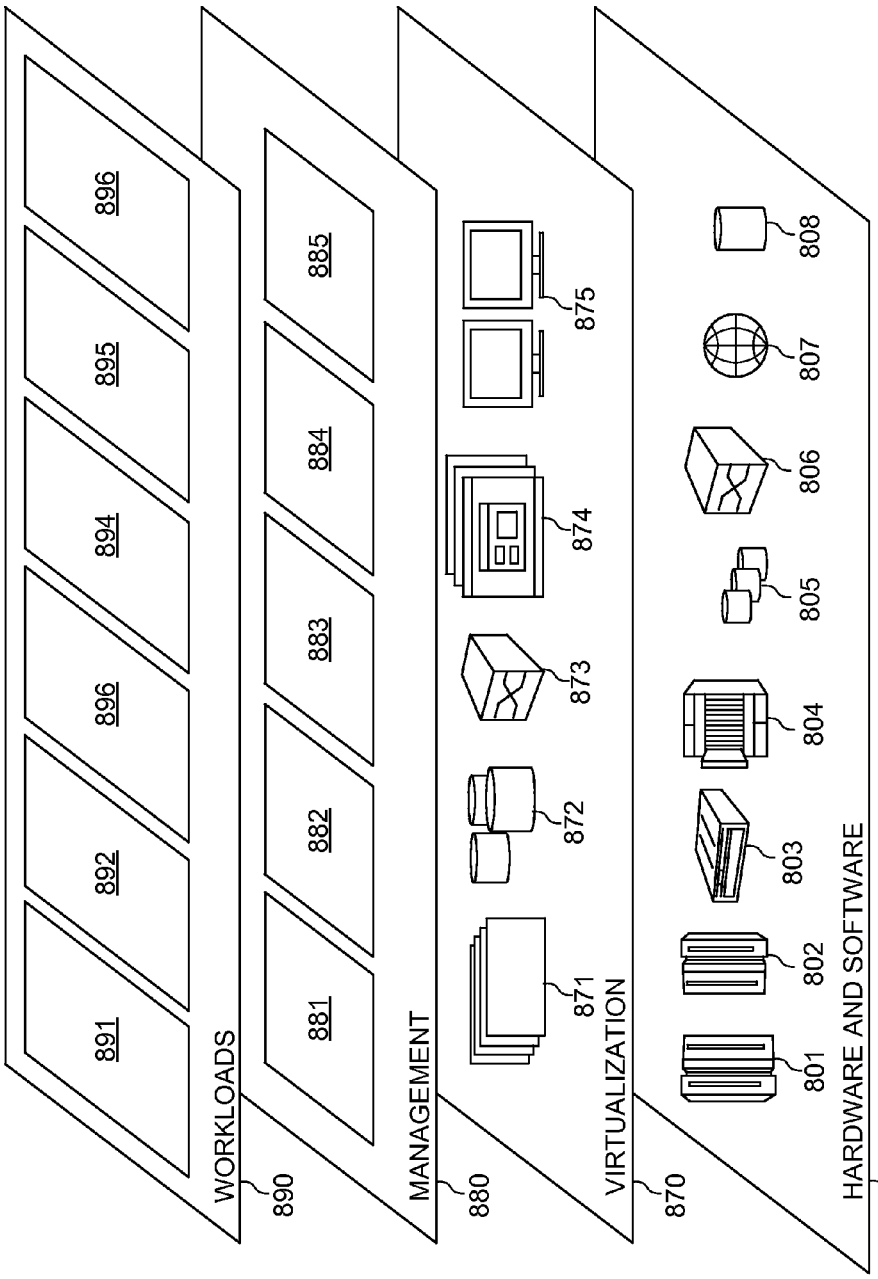

WORKLOADS
890
891
892
896
894
895
896
MANAGEMENT
880
881
882
883
884
885
VIRTUALIZATION
870
871
872
873
874
875
HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE
800
801
802
803
804
805
806
807
808

FIG. 8

INGESTION PLANNING FOR COMPLEX TABLES

BACKGROUND

[0001] The present invention relates generally to the field of document processing, and more particularly to analysis of ingestion of multi-formatted tables in a document.

[0002] In an unstructured information system, information sources are main component yielding analytical results. For many domains such as science, medicine, or finance, documents may contain complex tables with embedded textual content. Isolated tables may not be as valuable as tables in context. Table with associated contextual content may be difficult to process due to multiple formatting styles or other errors typically associated with, styling, Object Linking and Embedding (OLE) extraction or Optical Character Recognition (OCR) extraction. Ingestion of tables into unstructured information systems may be inefficient in both time and resources used.

SUMMARY

[0003] It may be advantageous to minimize errors associated with traditional data extraction by optimizing ingestion plans for documents containing tables and contextual content associated with a table. Embodiments of the present invention disclose a method, computer program product, and system for generating a plan for document processing. A plurality of electronic documents are received, by a computer, using a network. The plurality of electronic documents are analyzed, using the computer, to identify a plurality of tabular data, based on the analyzed plurality of electronic documents. Textual data is identified within the identified tabular data, of the analyzed plurality of electronic documents. Textual hints are generated, based on the identified textual data within the identified tabular data. References are identified, wherein references are based on matching textual hints with textual data in the received plurality of electronic documents. A count of references is calculated, associated with one or more sets of tabular data. A priority score is calculated based on the count of references, and an ingestion plan is generated, based on the calculated priority score.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

[0004] FIG. **1** is a functional block diagram illustrating a distributed data processing environment, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0005] FIG. **2** is a functional block diagram illustrating the components of an application within the distributed data processing environment, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0006] FIG. **3** is a schematic block diagram of an application within the distributed data processing environment, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0007] FIG. **4** is a flowchart depicting operational steps of an ingestion application, on a server computer within the data processing environment of FIG. **1**, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0008] FIG. **5** is a flowchart depicting operational steps of an ingestion application, on a server computer within the data processing environment of FIG. **1**, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0009] FIG. **6** depicts a block diagram of components of the server computer executing the ingestion application, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0010] FIG. **7** is a schematic block diagram of an illustrative cloud computing environment, according to an aspect of the present invention.

[0011] FIG. **8** is a multi-layered functional illustration of the cloud computing environment of FIG. **7**, according to an embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0012] Detailed embodiments of the claimed structures and methods are disclosed herein; however, it can be understood that the disclosed embodiments are merely illustrative of the claimed structures and methods that may be embodied in various forms. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the exemplary embodiments set forth herein. Rather, these exemplary embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete and will fully convey the scope of this invention to those skilled in the art. In the description, details of well-known features and techniques may be omitted to avoid unnecessarily obscuring the presented embodiments.

[0013] References in the specification to "one embodiment", "an embodiment", "an example embodiment", etc., indicate that the embodiment described may include a particular feature, structure, or characteristic, but every embodiment may not necessarily include the particular feature, structure, or characteristic. Moreover, such phrases are not necessarily referring to the same embodiment. Further, when a particular feature, structure, or characteristic is described in connection with an embodiment, it is submitted that it is within the knowledge of one skilled in the art to affect such feature, structure, or characteristic in connection with other embodiments whether or not explicitly described.

[0014] The present invention may be a system, a method, and/or a computer program product at any possible technical detail level of integration. The computer program product may include a computer readable storage medium (or media) having computer readable program instructions thereon for causing a processor to carry out aspects of the present invention.

[0015] The computer readable storage medium can be a tangible device that can retain and store instructions for use by an instruction execution device. The computer readable storage medium may be, for example, but is not limited to, an electronic storage device, a magnetic storage device, an optical storage device, an electromagnetic storage device, a semiconductor storage device, or any suitable combination of the foregoing. A non-exhaustive list of more specific examples of the computer readable storage medium includes the following: a portable computer diskette, a hard disk, a random access memory (RAM), a read-only memory (ROM), an erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM or Flash memory), a static random access memory (SRAM), a portable compact disc read-only memory (CD-ROM), a digital versatile disk (DVD), a memory stick, a floppy disk, a mechanically encoded device such as punch-cards or raised structures in a groove having instructions recorded thereon, and any suitable combination of the foregoing. A computer readable storage medium, as used herein, is not to be construed as being transitory signals per se, such as radio waves or other freely propagating electromagnetic

waves, electromagnetic waves propagating through a waveguide or other transmission media (e.g., light pulses passing through a fiber-optic cable), or electrical signals transmitted through a wire.

[0016] Computer readable program instructions described herein can be downloaded to respective computing/processing devices from a computer readable storage medium or to an external computer or external storage device via a network, for example, the Internet, a local area network, a wide area network and/or a wireless network. The network may comprise copper transmission cables, optical transmission fibers, wireless transmission, routers, firewalls, switches, gateway computers and/or edge servers. A network adapter card or network interface in each computing/processing device receives computer readable program instructions from the network and forwards the computer readable program instructions for storage in a computer readable storage medium within the respective computing/processing device.

[0017] Computer readable program instructions for carrying out operations of the present invention may be assembler instructions, instruction-set-architecture (ISA) instructions, machine instructions, machine dependent instructions, microcode, firmware instructions, state-setting data, configuration data for integrated circuitry, or either source code or object code written in any combination of one or more programming languages, including an object oriented programming language such as Smalltalk, C++, or the like, and procedural programming languages, such as the "C" programming language or similar programming languages. The computer readable program instructions may execute entirely on the user's computer, partly on the user's computer, as a stand-alone software package, partly on the user's computer and partly on a remote computer or entirely on the remote computer or server. In the latter scenario, the remote computer may be connected to the user's computer through any type of network, including a local area network (LAN) or a wide area network (WAN), or the connection may be made to an external computer (for example, through the Internet using an Internet Service Provider). In some embodiments, electronic circuitry including, for example, programmable logic circuitry, field-programmable gate arrays (FPGA), or programmable logic arrays (PLA) may execute the computer readable program instructions by utilizing state information of the computer readable program instructions to personalize the electronic circuitry, in order to perform aspects of the present invention.

[0018] Aspects of the present invention are described herein with reference to flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams of methods, apparatus (systems), and computer program products according to embodiments of the invention. It will be understood that each block of the flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams, and combinations of blocks in the flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams, can be implemented by computer readable program instructions.

[0019] These computer readable program instructions may be provided to a processor of a general purpose computer, special purpose computer, or other programmable data processing apparatus to produce a machine, such that the instructions, which execute via the processor of the computer or other programmable data processing apparatus, create means for implementing the functions/acts specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks. These computer readable program instructions may also be stored in a computer readable storage medium that can direct a computer, a programmable data processing apparatus, and/or other devices to function in a particular manner, such that the computer readable storage medium having instructions stored therein comprises an article of manufacture including instructions which implement aspects of the function/act specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks.

[0020] The computer readable program instructions may also be loaded onto a computer, other programmable data processing apparatus, or other device to cause a series of operational steps to be performed on the computer, other programmable apparatus or other device to produce a computer implemented process, such that the instructions which execute on the computer, other programmable apparatus, or other device implement the functions/acts specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks.

[0021] The flowchart and block diagrams in the Figures illustrate the architecture, functionality, and operation of possible implementations of systems, methods, and computer program products according to various embodiments of the present invention. In this regard, each block in the flowchart or block diagrams may represent a module, segment, or portion of instructions, which comprises one or more executable instructions for implementing the specified logical function(s). In some alternative implementations, the functions noted in the blocks may occur out of the order noted in the Figures. For example, two blocks shown in succession may, in fact, be executed substantially concurrently, or the blocks may sometimes be executed in the reverse order, depending upon the functionality involved. It will also be noted that each block of the block diagrams and/or flowchart illustration, and combinations of blocks in the block diagrams and/or flowchart illustration, can be implemented by special purpose hardware-based systems that perform the specified functions or acts or carry out combinations of special purpose hardware and computer instructions.

[0022] As presented in various embodiments of the invention, it may be advantageous for a system to identify the relative importance of embedded structured data within documents. Priority given to structured data of higher importance may allow efficiency in ingestion of structured data and the documents that contain said data.

[0023] Embodiments of the present invention will be described with reference to the Figures. Referring to FIG. **1**, a general distributed data processing environment **100** is illustrated, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. Distributed data processing environment **100** includes server **110** and data store **130** interconnected through over network **140**.

[0024] Network **140** may include permanent connections, such as wire or fiber optic cables, or temporary connections made through telephone or wireless communications. Network **140** may represent a worldwide collection of networks and gateways, such as the Internet, that use various protocols to communicate with one another, such as Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP), Transport Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP), Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP), Wireless Application Protocol (WAP), etc. Network **140** may also include a number of different types of networks, such as, for example, an intranet, a local area network (LAN), or a wide area network (WAN).

[0025] Each of server **110** and data store **130** may be a laptop computer, tablet computer, netbook computer, personal computer (PC), desktop computer, smart phone, or any programmable electronic device capable of an exchange of data packets with other electronic devices, for example, through a network adapter, in accordance with an embodiment of the invention, and which may be described generally with respect to FIG. **4** below. In various embodiments, server **110** may be a separate server or series of servers, a database, or other data storage, internal or external to data store **130**. Additionally, data store **130** may be any computer readable storage media accessible via network **140**. Data store **130** may index received electronic documents to be communicated to server **110**, in accordance with an embodiment of the invention.

[0026] Server **110** includes ingestion application **120**, as described in more detail in reference to FIG. **2**. In various embodiments, server **110** operates generally to receive inputs, process a set of received electronic documents based on the received inputs, analyze received electronic documents, communicate analysis results, for example, ingestion plans, for display or storage for later processing, and host applications, for example ingestion application **120**, which may process and/or store data.

[0027] Ingestion application **120** may be, for example, database oriented, computation oriented, or a combination of these. Ingestion application **120** may operate generally to receive and process electronic documents from a data store, for example, data store **130**, via server **110**. Received documents may contain structured data of various formats, for example, XML, HTML, PDF, various pictorial data, etc.

[0028] Ingestion application **120** may receive electronic documents from a data store, for example, data store **130**, via server **110**. Ingestion application **120** may analyze the received document for table markers, for example performing a search for an Extensible Markup Language formatting, Unstructured Information Management Architecture formatting, or OpenDocument formatting, for table markers within structured data embedded in the document. In various filing formats table markers may be identified by the operation <TABLE> indicating a tabular structure is present. Ingestion application **120** may scan the tabular data for any textual data within and index the textual data in a data store in memory as textual hints associated with the tabular data. In various embodiments, tabular data may be linked data, for example, Pivot Tables or Linked Data Tables, or Object Linking and Embedding Tables. The received electronic document may be rescanned, by ingestion application **120**, in order to extract textual data within the electronic document, which match or are associated with the textual hints, or "references." A number of paragraphs around the textual data may be scanned for references. The number of paragraphs may be predetermined, or ingestion application **120** may use scoping operation, for example <scope="col"> or <scope="row"> to identify textual data around tabular data using the tabular data as borders for analysis, for scanning of references.

[0029] Ingestion application **120** may index references and associated tabular data and generate a priority score based on a count of references associated with a particular set of tabular data. An ingestion plan may be generated by ingestion application **120** based an order of tabular data. In various embodiments, order in which the tabular data is index may be based on the priority score. Ingestion application **120** may store the ingestion plan, communicate the ingestion plan, or load the document in response to executing the ingestion plan on a computing device, for example, server **110**.

[0030] Referring to FIG. **2**, FIG. **2** is a functional block diagram illustrating the components of ingestion application **120** within the distributed data processing environment **100** of FIG. **1**. Ingestion application **120** includes receiving module **200**, analysis module **210**, ingestion module **220**, and display module **230**.

[0031] In reference to FIGS. **1** and **2**, receiving module **200** may act generally to receive inputs from and/or a document or sets of documents from a device, for example, data store **130**. In an embodiment of the present invention, receiving module **200** may receive a document containing tabular data and/or textual data that may be structured or unstructured. Receiving module **200** may communicate the received document or set of documents, to analysis module **210** for further processing or store the received document or set of documents in a data store in memory.

[0032] Analysis module **210** may act generally to receive electronic documents, analyze received documents for tabular data, search identified tabular data for textual hints, search received electronic documents for textual data matching identified textual hints, index tabular data in a list, generate an ingestion plan, store the ingestion plan in a data store in memory, communicate the ingestion plan, or load the received documents in response to executing the ingestion plan on a computing device, for example, server **110**.

[0033] Analysis module **210** may use traditional techniques to load documents in memory, for example, Apache POI, Apache UIMA, Apache ODFDOM, OCR, or other methods. Analysis module **210** may receive electronic documents from a data store, for example, data store **130**, via server **110**. Analysis module **210** may receive the electronic documents via traditional techniques to load documents in memory, for example, Apache POI, Apache UIMA, Apache ODFDOM, OCR, or other methods.

[0034] Analysis module **210** may perform a search of the received documents scanning for table markers. Table markers may be any structure in the electronic document indicating a table, for example, OLE embedded markers or XML <TABLE>. In various embodiments, if nested tables, or tabular data within a table, are identified, analysis module **210** may pass over those table markers, but may identify nested table markers in a subsequent scan or marker search. In various embodiments analysis module **210** may isolate tabular data and perform a search for nested tabular data.

[0035] Analysis module **210** may extract textual hints from identified tabular data. For example, a natural language search or metadata analysis may be used to extract textual data from identified tabular data. Textual hints may be, for example, table titles, reference names, column headers, row headers, words in a tabular region, and/or metadata associated with tabular data. In various embodiments, raw data text elements may be extracted and data-driven mapping may be used.

[0036] In an embodiment data-driven mapping may be used to generate a lookup set for all identified textual hints, for example, "Lookup" in Structured Query Language. Analysis module **210** may analyze the non-tabular data in the received documents, for example, with a search, to identify textual data or words in non-tabular data that match

textual data or words associated with the textual hints. These matching words may be referred to as "table references."

[0037] In various embodiments, analysis module **210** may only search a number of paragraphs around tabular data and not the entirety of the document. The limited search may be used when time or resource limitations are necessary. The number of paragraphs to be searched around tabular data may be determined by a predetermined number of paragraphs or analysis module **210** may use a scoping operation, as described above to detect tabular data and search the paragraphs between tabular data, or use the tabular data as borders for the search of references. Analysis module **210** may store or communicate the tabular markers, textual hints, and identified references to ingestion module **220**.

[0038] Ingestion module **220** may act generally to receive tabular and textual data, prioritize tabular data, generate ingestion plans, and store, communicate, or execute ingestion plans. Ingestion module **220** may receive tabular markers, textual hints and identified references communicated from analysis module **210**. Ingestion module **220** may index, in a data store in memory, the received tabular data with the associated textual hints and references. Ingestion module **220** calculate a priority score, based on a determination of a count of references for each set of tabular data. In various embodiments natural language analysis may be used to determine categories for references and textual hints associated with tabular data.

[0039] Ingestion module **220** may generate an ingestion plan based on the priority score associated with each set of tabular data. The ingestion plan may list the sets of tabular data, from highest priority score to lowest or vice versa, and generate a corresponding list of documents in the same order as the list of associated sets of tabular data. In various embodiments, the ingestion plan may be altered due to a modification of the priority score. Ingestion module **220** may calculate a percent value corresponding to the percent of total textual data of the received document matches the textual hints. The priority score may be modified by the percent value. In various embodiments a percent value may be a percent of textual data of the document matching the references. For example, if a set of tabular data has relatively few references, thus a relatively low priority score, but those references make up a relatively high percentage of the overall textual data in the document, the priority score for that set of tabular data may be increased.

[0040] In various embodiments the percent value may be a percent of the set of tabular data matched in the textual data. For example, if 90% of the textual data within a set of tabular data is also located in the textual data of the document, the set of tabular data may have a relatively high percent value, which may increase the priority score. In various embodiments of the invention, ingestion module **220** may store the ingestion plan, execute the ingestion plan on a computing device, for example, server **110**, or communication the ingestion plan display module **230**, for display on a computing device.

[0041] Display module **230** may act generally to communicate ingestion plans, tabular data and/or associated textual data, to be displayed, server **110** or another computing device within the distributed data processing environment **100**, through network **140**. Display module **230** may receive communications from analysis module **210**, for example, a generated ingestion plan. In various embodiments, display module **230** may receive user input, for example, selecting tabular data for ingestion not in the ingestion plan, or input modifying the ingestion plan, which may be communicated to analysis module **210**.

[0042] Referring to FIG. **3**, FIG. **3** is a schematic block diagram of the execution of ingestion application **120**, within the distributed data processing environment, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. Referring now to FIGS. **1**, **2**, and **3**, in various embodiments, data store **130** communicates one or more electronic documents **300** to receiving module **200**. Receiving module **200** receives one or more electric documents **300**, through a network, for example network **140**. Receiving module **200** communicates the received document(s) **300** to analysis module **210** for further processing. Analysis module **210** identifies a plurality of tabular data **310** within the analyzed plurality of received electronic documents **300**.

[0043] Textual data **320** is identified by analysis module **210** within the tabular data **310**, as described above. One or more textual hints **330** are generated by analysis module **210** based on the textual data **320** within tabular data **310**. In various embodiments, textual hints **330** may be indexed, stored in memory, or categorized semantically using natural language processing.

[0044] References **340** are identified by analysis module **210** by matching textual hints **330** with other textual data within the received plurality of electronic documents **300**. The other textual data may be located without the tabular data **310**. Tabular data **310**, textual data **320**, textual hints **330**, and references **340** are communicated to ingestion module **220** for further processing.

[0045] Ingestion module **220** calculated a count of references **350** based on the number of received references **340**. In various embodiments, the count of references **350** may be a linear scale, for example, if ingestion module **220** receives **5** references **340**, the count of references **350** will be 5, or any other appropriate scale. Ingestion module **220** calculates a priority score **360**, based on the calculated count of references **350**. Ingestion module **220** generates an ingestion plan **370**, based on the calculated priority score **360**. The ingestion plan **370** may be stored in memory, communicated to another module or computing device, or executed by ingestion module **220**.

[0046] Now referring to FIG. **4**, FIG. **4** is a flowchart depicting operational steps of ingestion application **120**, on server **110** within the data processing environment of FIG. **1**, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. Referring now to FIGS. **1**, **2**, and **4**, in step **400**, receiving module **200** receives an electronic documents from a computing device, for example, data store **130**, via server **110**, through network **140**. The documents may be in electronic format, for example, HTML, XML, or OCR extracted. In various embodiments, the electronic documents may be preloaded onto data store **130**. Receiving module communicates received documents to analysis module **210** and, in step **410**, analysis module **210** analyzes the received electronic documents by performing a search for table markers, which identify tabular data. The search may be performed by scanning the electronic document for structured indicating a table, for example, OLE embedded markers or XML <TABLE>. In various embodiments, the identified tabular data may be nested or un-nested as described above. In step **420**, analysis identifies a plurality of tabular data based on the identified table markers indicative of tabular data within the electronic document.

[0047] In step **430**, analysis module **210** identifies a textual hints. Textual hints are extracted from the plurality of tabular data, which represent textual data within the plurality of tabular data. For example, a natural language search or metadata analysis may be used to extract textual data from identified tabular data. Analysis module **210** generates textual hints, in step **440**, based on the identified textual data. Textual hints may be, for example, table titles, reference names, column headers, row headers, words in a tabular region, and/or metadata associated with tabular data.

[0048] In step **450**, analysis module **210** identifies references within the electronic document. References are identified with a search, and represent textual data or words in non-tabular data of the electronic document, that match textual data or words associated with, or within, the identified textual hints. The matched words may be referred to as "references" as described above.

[0049] Analysis module **210** communicates tabular data, textual hints and references to ingestion module **220** and, in step **460**, ingestion module **220** calculates a count of references for the identified plurality of identified tabular data. In various embodiments, the count may be one count for each reference or a scalable count, which may be predetermined or calculated by ingestion module **220**. In step **470**, ingestion module **220** calculates a priority score. The priority score is based on the calculated count of references. The priority score may be modified as described below, in reference to FIG. **4**. Ingestion module generates an ingestion plan, in step **480**, based on the priority score. In various embodiments, the ingestion plan may be stored in memory, communicated to another module or application on a computing device, or executed by ingestion application **120**.

[0050] FIG. **5** is a flowchart depicting an additional embodiment of the operational steps of ingestion application **120**, on server **110** within the data processing environment of FIG. **1**. Referring now to FIGS. **1**, **2**, and **5**, in step **500**, receiving module **200** receives electronic documents from a computing device, for example, data store **130**, via server **110**. Receiving module communicates received documents to analysis module **210** and, in step **505**, analysis module **210** performs a search of the received documents to search for table markers, as described above. In various embodiments, the identified tabular data may be nested or un-nested as described above.

[0051] In step **510**, analysis module **210** identifies or extracts textual hints from identified tabular data. For example, a natural language search or metadata analysis may be used to extract textual data from identified tabular data. Textual hints may be, for example, table titles, reference names, column headers, row headers, words in a tabular region, and/or metadata associated with tabular data. Analysis module **210** uses data-driven mapping to generate a lookup set for all identified textual hints, in step **515**. In step **520**, analysis module **210** analyzes the non-tabular data in the received documents, for example, with a search, to identify textual data or words in non-tabular data that match textual data or words associated with the textual hints. The matched words may be referred to as "references" as described above.

[0052] Analysis module **210** communicates tabular data, textual hints and references to ingestion module **220** and, in step **525**, ingestion module **220** indexes, in a data store in memory, the received tabular data with the associated textual hints and references. Ingestion module **220** calculates a count of references for each associated set of tabular data and, in step **530**, calculates a priority score based on the count of references for each associated set of tabular data. For example, if a set of tabular data is indexed with **5** references, ingestion module **220** may calculate a priority score of 5 and associate the priority score with the set of tabular data.

[0053] In decision step **535**, ingestion module **220** may receive a priority score modifier. In various embodiments, the priority score modifier may be from received user input, or a determination made by ingestion module **220**, as described above. If the priority score is modified, in response to an input or determination, decision step **535** "YES" branch, ingestion module **220** calculate a new or modified priority score, in step **540**, and stores the modified priority score with an associated set of tabular data, in memory. Ingestion module **220** orders one or more sets of tabular data in a list, wherein the order is based on the modified priority score, and, in step **545**, generates an ingestion plan based on the ordered list of sets of tabular data, If the priority score is not modified, decision step **535** "NO" branch, ingestion module **220** orders one or more sets of tabular data, wherein the order is based on the priority score, and generates an ingestion plan based on the priority score, in step **545**.

[0054] In step **550**, ingestion module **220** communicates the generated ingestion plan to a computing device for execution of the ingestion plan. In various embodiments, ingestion module **220** stores the ingestion plan for subsequent processing or executed the ingestion plan on server **110** within or without ingestion application **120**.

[0055] Referring to FIG. **6**, FIG. **6** depicts a block diagram of components of server **110** and data store **130** FIG. **1**, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. It should be appreciated that FIG. **6** provides only an illustration of one implementation and does not imply any limitations with regard to the environments in which different embodiments may be implemented. Many modifications to the depicted environment may be made.

[0056] Server **110** and data store **130** may include one or more processors **602**, one or more computer-readable RAMs **604**, one or more computer-readable ROMs **606**, one or more computer readable storage media **608**, device drivers **612**, read/write drive or interface **614**, network adapter or interface **616**, all interconnected over a communications fabric **618**. Communications fabric **618** may be implemented with any architecture designed for passing data and/or control information between processors (such as microprocessors, communications and network processors, etc.), system memory, peripheral devices, and any other hardware components within a system.

[0057] One or more operating systems **610**, and one or more application programs **611**, for example, ingestion application **120**, are stored on one or more of the computer readable storage media **608** for execution by one or more of the processors **602** via one or more of the respective RAMs **604** (which typically include cache memory). In the illustrated embodiment, each of the computer readable storage media **608** may be a magnetic disk storage device of an internal hard drive, CD-ROM, DVD, memory stick, magnetic tape, magnetic disk, optical disk, a semiconductor storage device such as RAM, ROM, EPROM, flash memory or any other computer-readable tangible storage device that can store a computer program and digital information.

[0058] Server **110** and data store **130** may also include a R/W drive or interface **614** to read from and write to one or more portable computer readable storage media **626**. Application programs **611** on server **110** and data store **130** may be stored on one or more of the portable computer readable storage media **626**, read via the respective R/W drive or interface **614** and loaded into the respective computer readable storage media **608**.

[0059] Server **110** and data store **130** may also include a network adapter or interface **616**, such as a TCP/IP adapter card or wireless communication adapter (such as a 4G wireless communication adapter using OFDMA technology) for connection to a network **617**. Application programs **611** on server **110** and data store **130** may be downloaded to a computing device, for example, server **110**, from an external computer or external storage device via a network (for example, the Internet, a local area network or other wide area network or wireless network) and network adapter or interface **616**. From the network adapter or interface **616**, the programs may be loaded onto computer readable storage media **608**. The network may comprise copper wires, optical fibers, wireless transmission, routers, firewalls, switches, gateway computers and/or edge servers.

[0060] Server **110** and data store **130** may also include a display screen **620**, a keyboard or keypad **622**, and a computer mouse or touchpad **624**. Device drivers **612** interface to display screen **620** for imaging, to keyboard or keypad **622**, to computer mouse or touchpad **624**, and/or to display screen **620** for pressure sensing of alphanumeric character entry and user selections. The device drivers **612**, R/W drive or interface **614** and network adapter or interface **616** may comprise hardware and software (stored on computer readable storage media **608** and/or ROM **606**).

[0061] Referring now to FIG. **7**, illustrative cloud computing environment **700** is depicted. As shown, cloud computing environment **700** comprises one or more cloud computing nodes **710** with which local computing devices used by cloud consumers, such as, for example, personal digital assistant (PDA) or cellular telephone **740**A, desktop computer **740**B, laptop computer **740**C, and/or automobile computer system **740**N may communicate. Computing nodes **710** may communicate with one another. They may be grouped (not shown) physically or virtually, in one or more networks, such as Private, Community, Public, or Hybrid clouds as described hereinabove, or a combination thereof. This allows cloud computing environment **700** to offer infrastructure, platforms and/or software as services for which a cloud consumer does not need to maintain resources on a local computing device. It is understood that the types of computing devices **740**A-N shown in FIG. **7** are intended to be illustrative only and that computing nodes **710** and cloud computing environment **700** can communicate with any type of computerized device over any type of network and/or network addressable connection (e.g., using a web browser).

[0062] Referring now to FIG. **8**, a set of functional abstraction layers provided by cloud computing environment **700** (FIG. **7**) is shown. It should be understood in advance that the components, layers, and functions shown in FIG. **8** are intended to be illustrative only and embodiments of the invention are not limited thereto. As depicted, the following layers and corresponding functions are provided:

[0063] Hardware and software layer **800** includes hardware and software components. Examples of hardware components include: mainframes **801**; RISC (Reduced Instruction Set Computer) architecture based servers **802**; servers **803**; blade servers **804**; storage devices **805**; and networks and networking components **806**. In some embodiments, software components include network application server software **807** and database software **808**.

[0064] Virtualization layer **870** provides an abstraction layer from which the following examples of virtual entities may be provided: virtual servers **871**; virtual storage **872**; virtual networks **873**, including virtual private networks; virtual applications and operating systems **874**; and virtual clients **875**.

[0065] In one example, management layer **880** may provide the functions described below. Resource provisioning **881** provides dynamic procurement of computing resources and other resources that are utilized to perform tasks within the cloud computing environment. Metering and Pricing **882** provide cost tracking as resources are utilized within the cloud computing environment, and billing or invoicing for consumption of these resources. In one example, these resources may comprise application software licenses. Security provides identity verification for cloud consumers and tasks, as well as protection for data and other resources. User portal **883** provides access to the cloud computing environment for consumers and system administrators. Service level management **884** provides cloud computing resource allocation and management such that required service levels are met. Service Level Agreement (SLA) planning and fulfillment **885** provide pre-arrangement for, and procurement of, cloud computing resources for which a future requirement is anticipated in accordance with an SLA.

[0066] Workloads layer **890** provides examples of functionality for which the cloud computing environment may be utilized. Examples of workloads and functions which may be provided from this layer include: mapping and navigation **891**; software development and lifecycle management **892**; virtual classroom education delivery **893**; data analytics processing **894**; transaction processing **895**; and ingestion plan processing **896**.

[0067] The programs described herein are identified based upon the application for which they are implemented in a specific embodiment of the invention. However, it should be appreciated that any particular program nomenclature herein is used merely for convenience, and thus the invention should not be limited to use solely in any specific application identified and/or implied by such nomenclature.

[0068] Based on the foregoing, a computer system, method, and computer program product have been disclosed. However, numerous modifications and substitutions can be made without deviating from the scope of the present invention. Therefore, the present invention has been disclosed by way of example and not limitation.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method for generating a plan for document processing, the method comprising:

receiving a plurality of electronic documents, by a computer using a network;

analyzing the received plurality of electronic documents, using the computer, to identify a plurality of tabular data, based on the analyzed plurality of electronic documents;

identifying textual data within the identified tabular data, of the analyzed plurality of electronic documents;

generating textual hints, based on the identified textual data within the identified tabular data;

identifying references, wherein references are based on matching textual hints with textual data in the received plurality of electronic documents;

calculating a count of references associated with one or more sets of tabular data;

calculating a priority score based on the count of references; and

generating an ingestion plan, based on the calculated priority score.

2. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

communicating the generated ingestion plan; and

executing the generated ingestion plan.

3. The method of claim **1**, wherein calculating a count of references further comprises:

generating an index of textual hints; and

generating a lookup set based on the generated index of textual hints.

4. The method of claim **1**, wherein generating an ingestion plan further comprises:

generating a ordered list of the one or more subsets of the identified tabular data, based on the calculated priority score associated with each of the one or more subsets of identified tabular data;

communicating a subset of the generated list, based on a threshold score, for display; and

communicating the subset of the generated list for further processing.

5. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

communicating an importance value option for display to a user;

receiving an importance value, based on receiving a user selection of the importance value option;

modifying the calculated priority score, based on the received importance value; and

generating a second list of one or more subsets of identified tabular data, based on the modified calculated priority score.

6. The method of claim **1**, wherein identifying textual data is performed by a natural language analysis.

7. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

calculating a percent value based on a count of identified textual data associated with the subset one or more subsets of identified tabular data; and

modifying the calculated priority score, based on the calculated percent value.

8. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

processing the generated list of one or more subsets of tabular data, wherein the processing includes:

ordering the one or more subsets of the generated list, based on the associated calculated priority score;

extracting data associated with the one or more subsets of tabular data;

annotating the one or more subsets of tabular data; and

extracting data from the annotated one or more subsets of tabular data.

9. The method of claim **8**, wherein the extracting data associated with the one or more subsets of tabular data occurs subsequently to one or more of: an Extensible Markup Language formatting; an Unstructured Information Management Architecture formatting; and an OpenDocument formatting.

10. A computer program product for generating a plan for document processing, the computer program product comprising:

one or more computer-readable storage media and program instructions stored on the one or more computer-readable storage media, the program instructions comprising:

instructions to instructions to receive a plurality of electronic documents, by a computer using a network;

instructions to analyze the received plurality of electronic documents, using the computer, to identify a plurality of tabular data, based on the analyzed plurality of electronic documents;

instructions to identify textual data within the identified tabular data, of the analyzed plurality of electronic documents;

instructions to generate textual hints, based on the identified textual data within the identified tabular data;

instructions to identify references, wherein references are based on matching textual hints with textual data in the received plurality of electronic documents;

instructions to calculate a count of references associated with one or more sets of tabular data;

instructions to calculate a priority score based on the count of references; and

instructions to generate an ingestion plan, based on the calculated priority score.

11. The computer program product of claim **10**, further comprising:

instructions to communicate the generated ingestion plan; and

instructions to execute the generated ingestion plan.

12. The computer program product of claim **10**, wherein calculating a count of references further comprises:

instructions to generate an index of textual hints; and

instructions to generate a lookup set based on the generated index of textual hints.

13. The computer program product of claim **10**, wherein generating an ingestion plan further comprises:

instructions to generate a ordered list of the one or more subsets of the identified tabular data, based on the calculated priority score associated with each of the one or more subsets of identified tabular data;

instructions to communicate a subset of the generated list, based on a threshold score, for display; and

instructions to communicate the subset of the generated list for further processing.

14. The computer program product of claim **10**, further comprising:

instructions to communicate an importance value option for display to a user;

instructions to receive an importance value, based on receiving a user selection of the importance value option;

instructions to modify the calculated priority score, based on the received importance value; and

instructions to generate a second list of one or more subsets of identified tabular data, based on the modified calculated priority score.

15. The computer program product of claim **10**, wherein instructions to identify textual data is performed by a natural language analysis.

16. The computer program product of claim **10**, further comprising:

instructions to calculate a percent value based on a count of identified textual data associated with the subset one or more subsets of identified tabular data; and

instructions to modify the calculated priority score, based on the calculated percent value.

17. The computer program product of claim **10**, further comprising:

instructions to process the generated list of one or more subsets of tabular data, wherein the instructions to process include:

instructions to order the one or more subsets of the generated list, based on the associated calculated priority score;

instructions to extract data associated with the one or more subsets of tabular data;

instructions to annotate the one or more subsets of tabular data; and

instructions to extract data from the annotated one or more subsets of tabular data.

18. The computer program product of claim **17**, wherein the instructions to extract data associated with the one or more subsets of tabular data occurs subsequently to one or more of: instructions to Extensible Markup Language format; instructions to Unstructured Information Management Architecture format; and instructions to OpenDocument format.

19. A computer system for generating a plan for document processing, the computer system comprising:

one or more computer processors;

one or more computer-readable storage media;

program instructions stored on the computer-readable storage media for execution by at least one of the one or more processors, the program instructions comprising:

instructions to receive a plurality of electronic documents, by a computer using a network;

instructions to analyze the received plurality of electronic documents, using the computer, to identify a plurality of tabular data, based on the analyzed plurality of electronic documents;

instructions to identify textual data within the identified tabular data, of the analyzed plurality of electronic documents;

instructions to generate textual hints, based on the identified textual data within the identified tabular data;

instructions to identify references, wherein references are based on matching textual hints with textual data in the received plurality of electronic documents;

instructions to calculate a count of references associated with one or more sets of tabular data;

instructions to calculate a priority score based on the count of references; and

instructions to generate an ingestion plan, based on the calculated priority score.

20. The system of claim **19**, further comprising:

instructions to calculate a percent value based on a count of identified textual data associated with the subset one or more subsets of identified tabular data; and

instructions to modify the calculated priority score, based on the calculated percent value.

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