

July, 10, 2014 - São Carlos/Brazil

Dear Reviewers,

We would like to thank you for your attention, suggestions and recommendations.

The paper was revised to comply with all suggestions.

In order to better visualize the modifications, we [highlight](#) the changes made in the attached file: [reviewers.pdf](#).

The following text presents the reviewer's comments, our observations and the indication of the place in the paper where the change was done considering the comments.

Best regards,

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Reviewer 1:

- Definition 2.4 mentions "ε is a (composition of) FEM(s)." It would be enough to say "ε is a FEM", since the definition of FEM (definition 2.1) mentions that a composition of two FEMS is also a FEM.
[We agree with the reviewer suggestion and removed the text between the parentheses. The change can be observed at page 3.](#)
- Definition 2.5 refers to MAM, which was not defined. Please provide the corresponding definition.
[To answer the reviewer suggestion we added a paragraph at page 2.](#)
- Definitions 2.6 and 2.7, you say f_q in F , and F contained in \mathbb{F} . Why is it not enough to use f_q in \mathbb{F} ?
[It is enough to use \$f_q\$ in \$\mathbb{F}\$. We agree with the reviewer and changed the text at page 3.](#)
- On page 7, you refer to "the transparent table "rowIds" that links the users' and systems' tables". What do you mean by that? There is no other reference to this in the text, so I got really confused at this point. Page 9 also mentions "transparent tables". Please clarify that.
[The system employs internal-controlled tables to store the complex data and the extracted feature-vectors in the same tuple for performance purposes. This system table is linked to a user-table through an ID automatically given by the system. Figure 3 \(5\) e Figure 3 \(6\) show the linkage architecture. In the paper we added a paragraph at page 7, to explain this linkage more detailed, expecting to clarify that for all readers. We also changed the expression "rowIds" to "system IDs", which is more adequate.](#)
- Section 3 should be entitled "THE SIMBA FRAMEWORK".
[We changed the name of the Section at page 5.](#)
- Command `citeN{}` should be employed for nominal references. Multiples citations requires the command `cite{X, X}`.
[We agree with the reviewer and changed all nominal and multiple reference in the text.](#)
- English need to be revised. I list here some of the problems I could detect, but the list is not exhaustive. Please give special attention to this aspect.
[We would like to thank the reviewer for the corrections. All of them were performed. In addition, we performed a careful revision in the entire text. Several sentences and words were rewritten and/or changed in order to correct English errors.](#)

Reviewer 2:

- There is something wrong in this sentence: "The results of extended-SQL grouping commands are shown in Figure 5.2 (c)." where is figure 5.2 (c) ?
We would like to thank the reviewer for this typo correction. Actually, this paragraph refers to Figure 7. The text was changed at page 12.
- I think it would be important to discuss the result of the first example. Is each resulting tuple an item of the final ranking? Indeed, Figure 6 needs more explanation.
To answer the reviewer, we added a paragraph at page 11 to explain Figure 6 with more details. The pop-outs of the Figure illustrates the results of action performed through navigation links. The result-group displays all the content of the stored tuples that satisfies the SQL condition of 3-most similar images. We also added detailed information in the Figure 6 caption.
- Could the framework be used in data type "tuple" or "XML documents"? What are the framework limitations? They may direct future works, which was not presented in article.
The framework' architecture is able to support any complex data types such as XML documents or geographic coordinates. To provide support to .xml, for instance, a new specific library that is able to handle such files should be plugged in the framework. In the current stage, no specific library to handle XML was employed. We addressed the development of those expert libraries as future works at the page 12.

Reviewer 3:

- I don't have major reviews. I just suggest clearly separate Simba Framework (previous work) from the new approach proposed in this paper.
We understand that our proposal might have features in common with previous literature methods. In order to clarify what are the improvements made in this work, we rewrote the last paragraph of page 2 and the comparative section at page 5.