

A Fuzzy Approach for Data Quality Assessment of Linked Datasets

Narciso Arruda¹^a, J. Alcântara¹^b, V. M. P. Vidal¹, Angelo Brayner¹^c,
M. A. Casanova²^d, V. M. Pequeno³^e and Wellington Franco¹^f

¹*Departamento de Computação, Federal University of Ceará, Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil*

²*Department of Informatics, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

³*TechLab, Departamento de Ciências e Tecnologias, Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa Luís de Camões, Portugal*

Keywords: Quality Assessment, Linked Data Mashup, Fuzzy Inference System, Data Quality, Logic Fuzzy.

Abstract: For several applications, an integrated view of linked data, denoted linked data mashup, is a critical requirement. Nonetheless, the quality of linked data mashups highly depends on the quality of the data sources. In this sense, it is essential to analyze data source quality and to make this information explicit to consumers of such data. This paper introduces a fuzzy ontology to represent the quality of linked data source. Furthermore, the paper shows the applicability of the fuzzy ontology in the process of evaluating data source quality used to build linked data mashups.

1 INTRODUCTION

A special kind of web application, called *Linked Data Mashup (LDM)*, is responsible for combining, aggregating and transforming data available on the Web of Data (Schultz et al., 2011). Hence, Linked Data Mashup applications are confronted with the challenge of building an integrated view of different linked data sources. That view is denoted *Linked Data Mashup view (LDM view)*.

Nonetheless Linked Data sources may present data in different quality levels. For this reason, before triggering the process of creating a given LDM view, it is essential to ensure that data belonging to each data source are in the quality level required by the data consumer (user or application). Accordingly, in order to define which data sources should be integrated two criteria are critical: (i) data source relevance, and; (ii) data quality.

Data quality evaluation is quite often done by applying a hierarchy of category, dimension and metric. The highest hierarchy level, category, is composed

of *Accessibility, Contextual, Intrinsic and Representational* (Zaveri et al., 2016). The second level presents several dimensions, such as *Integrity, Accuracy, and Conciseness*. In turn, each dimension contains quality metrics (the lowest hierarchy level). One key goal of quality assessment is to find heuristics which express data consumer's requirements for data quality, based on the aforementioned hierarchy.

Linked data quality evaluation has been subject of recent researches (Zaveri et al., 2016), (Debattista et al., 2014b). Thus, several quality indicators have been proposed along with techniques for assessing data quality based on the proposed indicators. Although those techniques offer ways to assess data quality, their outputs are presented through quantitative data (an absolute numerical value) and/or statistical function, e.g., maximum, minimum, or average. In some approaches, quality is expressed by means of values belonging to the interval $[0, 1]$ (or an alternative isomorphic scale), which can reinforce difficulties for interpreting quality measures.

In this paper, we propose the use of fuzzy logic to model the domain of data quality as a way to overcome imprecision and subjectivity. The idea is to allow users to express data quality requirements by means of a set of linguistic expressions on quality indicators. In order to achieve our goal, a fuzzy ontology to represent data quality is presented. The proposed ontology reuses terms of W3C Data Quality

^a  <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3873-8468>

^b  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4297-2970>

^c  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9820-9133>

^d  <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0765-9636>

^e  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6424-0252>

^f  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9093-0428>

Vocabulary (Debattista et al., 2016b) (DQV). Moreover, it provides the necessary concepts and terms to specify data quality of linked data sources by means of fuzzy terms. To assess the potentials of the proposed approach, simulations on real data of 128 different LOD datasets have been conducted. The obtained results are presented and discussed.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows. Section 2 discusses related works. Section 3 discusses how to represent fuzzy quality concepts. Section 4 presents fuzzy data quality vocabulary and our proposal for data quality assessment. Section 5 shows experiments to validate our proposal. Finally, Section 6 contains the conclusions.

2 RELATED WORK

Data quality is commonly conceived as a multi-dimensional construction with dimensions such as *timeliness, completeness, consistency, interoperability, conciseness, representational conciseness and availability* (Wang and Strong, 1996). The quality dimensions are composed of quality metrics, which measure the quality of the data along the dimensions (Bizer and Cyganiak, 2009). More specifically, quality metrics are heuristics designed to fit a specific assessment situation (Wang, 2005). Usually, quality dimensions are grouped into categories. According to (Zaveri et al., 2016), the dimensions can be classified into four categories, namely: *accessibility, contextual, intrinsic and representational*. Table 1 shows examples of three quality categories with some quality dimensions and their quality metrics.

Data quality assessment can be computed automatically (Guéret et al., 2012) or semi-automatically (Mendes et al., 2012; Debattista et al., 2014b). Due to the many quality indicators, it is difficult for the user to judge whether a dataset is fit for use, which is a problem for the automatic approach. In the semiautomatic approach, the user interacts with the tool to define the adequacy of the data to the intended use. The Luzzu quality assessment framework (Debattista et al., 2014b), for example, implements part of the cataloged quality metrics shown in (Zaveri et al., 2016) and generates quality metadata from assessed datasets, which is used for ranking datasets based on the quality aspects prioritized by the user. For ranking, the authors in (Debattista et al., 2014b) proposed a user-driven ranking algorithm where users can define weights on their preferred categories, dimensions or metrics. In Luzzu (Debattista et al., 2014b) and Sieve (Mendes et al., 2012), the quality required by the user is

informed through a configuration interface, using a numerical approach. Thereby, the user chooses quality indicators that are more appropriate for their purposes, define weights, and define how this indicator must be aggregated. The problem of using a numerical approach to evaluate the quality of a dataset is how this information can be reused in a context where the same set of data will be used in different scenarios.

In the process of creating the Linked Data Mashup view, some approaches have been proposed, for example, LDIF (Schultz et al., 2011) and ODCleanStore (Knap et al., 2012). Typically, these approaches use the data quality as part of the data fusion process. Sieve (Mendes et al., 2012) is a module included in Linked Data Integration Framework (LDIF) that is dedicated to quality assessment and fusion of Linked Data. Sieve uses metadata about named graphs to assess data quality as defined by users. In ODCleanStore (Knap et al., 2012) quality metadata (containing data provenance and quality scores) can be used in the data fusion process. Its quality assessment component checks whether the dataset (converted in a named graph) satisfies custom consistency policies and then calculate the quality score of the dataset (Knap et al., 2012). Therefore, the fuzzy quality metadata can be easily adapted and used in that tool. The use of fuzzy quality assessment allows a reasonable justification for the evaluation result.

In recent years, ontologies have been specified to conceptualize the quality of Linked Data (Debattista et al., 2014a), (Debattista et al., 2016b). In (Fürber and Hepp, 2011) the authors propose the DQM (Data Quality Management) ontology with a vocabulary to represent data quality requirements or rules. However, this ontology does not represent the results of the data quality assessment, only the data quality requirements. The daQ ontology (Debattista et al., 2014a) represents information about the quality of linked datasets and meets generic measures of data quality. Also, its vocabulary can be extended as needed. The Data Quality Vocabulary (DQV) (Debattista et al., 2016b) was designed to act as a model covering many aspects of data quality and was inspired by the daQ ontology. The DQV vocabulary goes one step further, emphasizing feedback, annotation, agreements and quality policies, all describing the quality of a set of data. However, this vocabulary enables data publishers to compute the quality of the data so that data consumers can find out if the data is suitable for the intended use and not represent the quality of the data expected by the consumer.

Table 1: Examples of metrics, dimensions and categories.

Category	Dimension	Metric
Intrinsic	Consistency	M1 (Usage of incorrect domain or range data type)
		M2 (Misuse owl:DatatypeProperty or owl:ObjectProperty)
		M3 (Entities as members of disjoint classes)
Accessibility	Conciseness	M4 (Provides a measure of the redundancy of the dataset)
	Availability	M5 (deserentiability of the URI)
		M6 (SPARQL endpoint availability)
Representa- tiol	Interopera- bility	M7 (RDF dump availability)
		M8 (existing terms reuse)
	Concision	M9 (existing vocabulary reuse) M10 (short URIs)

3 FUZZY LOGIC BACKGROUND

3.1 Fuzzy Set

Fuzzy sets have been introduced by Zadeh in (Zadeh, 1965) to represent and manipulate non-precise data. A fuzzy set is characterized by a membership function defined on the universe of discourse. This function maps elements of the universe of discourse to a range covering the interval $[0,1]$ and indicates its membership degree concerning the fuzzy set (i.e., the degree to which the elements of the universe of discourse is a member of the fuzzy set). A membership function value of 0 means the corresponding element is not an element of the fuzzy set, the value of 1 means that the element entirely belongs to the set, and the values between 0 and 1 represent fuzzy members, which belong to the fuzzy set only partially. A fuzzy set A is formally defined as a set of ordered pairs, such as

$$A = \{(x, \mu_A(x)) \mid x \in \mathcal{X}\},$$

where \mathcal{X} is the universe of discourse, μ_A is the membership function that represents a fuzzy set A ; and $\mu_A(x)$ is the membership degree of the element x in the fuzzy set A ($\mu_A(x)$ indicates how much x is compatible with the set A).

Especially in data quality, in most of the cases, it is impossible to give exact definitions or descriptions for quality concepts and relationships between these concepts. To resolve this problem, we use fuzzy sets to represent the quality of the data. For example, in our case study, we defined three fuzzy sets to represent the quality levels: *low*, *medium* and *high*. The triangular functions are more practical and more used (Ivezić et al., 2008). Therefore, we use as our membership functions. A triangular function f is defined on the scalar parameters a , b and c , as shown below:

$$f(x, a, b, c) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq a \\ \frac{x-a}{b-a}, & a < x \leq b \\ \frac{c-x}{c-b}, & b \leq x < c \\ 0, & c \leq x \end{cases}$$

3.2 Linguistic Variable and Fuzzy Rule

One of the fundamental concepts of fuzzy set theory is the concept of linguistic variable (Ross, 2009). Its values are declarations in natural language (linguistic values), which are names of fuzzy sets defined in a universe of discourse. A linguistic variable V is formally defined as a triple

$$V = (N, \mathcal{T}(N), \mathcal{X}),$$

where N is the name of the linguistic variable, $\mathcal{T}(N)$ is the set of linguistic values of N defined in the universe of discourse \mathcal{X} .

One way to represent human knowledge is to form natural language expressions of the “IF THEN” type. This way of representing knowledge is entirely appropriate in the linguistic context because it expresses human empirical and heuristic knowledge in our communication language (Ross, 2009).

In general, a fuzzy rule is an inference rule expressed as

$$\text{IF } (x_1 \text{ is } A_1) \otimes \dots \otimes (x_{n-1} \text{ is } A_{n-1}) \text{ THEN } (x_n \text{ is } A_n),$$

where \otimes is the logical conjunction operator (AND) or the logical disjunction operator (OR), x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are linguistic variables, and A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n are linguistic values assumed by these variables, respectively. The “IF” part of the rule is called *antecedent*, and in the “THEN” part is called *consequent*.

Rules are used to infer the quality of dimensions, categories, and datasets. We define three types of rules: dimension rules, category rules, and quality

rules. In the dimension rules, the antecedents are expressions about the quality of the metrics, and the following ones are expressions about the quality of the dimensions. In the category rules, the antecedents are expressions about the quality of the dimensions and the following ones are expressions about the quality of the categories. In the quality rules, the antecedents are expressions about the quality of the metrics, dimensions or category and the following ones are expressions about the quality of the dataset.

3.3 Running Example

Consider that, for the quality metric $M1$, $M2$ and $M4$, and *consistency* and *conciseness* dimensions, one has defined:

- linguistic variable $M1 = (M1, T(M1), X)$, where $X = [0, 1]$, $T(M1) = \{low, medium, high\}$ and the membership functions are $\mu_{low}(x) = f(x, 0, 0, 0.5)$, $\mu_{medium}(x) = f(x, 0, 0.5, 0.1)$ and $\mu_{high}(x) = f(x, 0.5, 1, 1)$;
- linguistic variable $M2 = (M2, T(M2), X)$, where $X = [0, 1]$, $T(M2) = \{low, medium, high\}$ and the membership functions are $\mu_{low}(x) = f(x, 0, 0.9, 0.95)$, $\mu_{medium}(x) = f(x, 0.9, 0.95, 1)$ and $\mu_{high}(x) = f(x, 0.95, 1, 1)$.
- linguistic variable $M4 = (M4, T(M4), X)$, where $X = [0, 1]$, $T(M4) = \{low, medium, high\}$ and the membership functions are $\mu_{low}(x) = f(x, 0, 0, 0.5)$, $\mu_{medium}(x) = f(x, 0, 0.5, 1)$ and $\mu_{high}(x) = f(x, 0.5, 1, 1)$.
- linguistic variable *consistency* = $(consistency, T(consistency), X)$, where $X = [0, 1]$, $T(consistency) = \{low, medium, high\}$ and the membership functions are $\mu_{low}(x) = f(x, 0, 0, 0.5)$, $\mu_{medium}(x) = f(x, 0, 0.5, 1)$ and $\mu_{high}(x) = f(x, 0.5, 1, 1)$.
- linguistic variable *conciseness* = $(conciseness, T(conciseness), X)$, where $X = [0, 1]$, $T(conciseness) = \{low, medium, high\}$ and the membership functions are $\mu_{low}(x) = f(x, 0, 0, 0.5)$, $\mu_{medium}(x) = f(x, 0, 0.5, 1)$ and $\mu_{high}(x) = f(x, 0.5, 1, 1)$.

Note that the indicators are defined by different linguistic values. However, to simplify the notation, we denote the values with the same name (*low*, *medium*, *high*).

The fuzzy quality of dimensions is inferred by the rules of dimension. Thus, we use the metrics $M1$ and $M2$ to infer the quality of the *consistency* dimension, and the metrics $M4$ to infer the quality of the *conciseness* dimension. Table 2 shows the metric rules that

Table 2: Fuzzy Rules used to infer the quality of the *consistency* dimension.

Rules	
R1	IF $M1$ is <i>high</i> AND $M2$ is <i>high</i> THEN <i>consistency</i> is <i>high</i>
R2	IF $M1$ is <i>medium</i> AND $M2$ is <i>medium</i> THEN <i>consistency</i> is <i>medium</i>
R3	IF $M1$ is <i>low</i> OR $M2$ is <i>low</i> THEN <i>consistency</i> is <i>low</i>

Table 3: Fuzzy Rules used to infer the quality of the *conciseness* dimension.

Rules	
R1	IF $M4$ is <i>high</i> THEN <i>conciseness</i> is <i>high</i>
R2	IF $M4$ is <i>medium</i> THEN <i>conciseness</i> is <i>medium</i>
R3	IF $M4$ is <i>low</i> THEN <i>conciseness</i> is <i>low</i>

infer the quality of the *consistency* dimension, and Table 3 shows the metric rules that infer the quality of the *conciseness* dimension.

3.4 A Fuzzy Inference System

A Fuzzy Inference System (FIS) captures and offers a way of the subjective human knowledge of real processes manipulating practical knowledge with some level of uncertainty. A fuzzy inference system may be organized into the four components:

- **Knowledge Base:** Composed of a rule database, containing a number of fuzzy rules, and a function database which defines the membership functions of the fuzzy sets used in the fuzzy rules.
- **Fuzzification:** Converts the crisp input in a linguistic variable using the membership functions stored in the database. The input is always a crisp numerical value limited to the universe of discourse of the input variable.
- **Inference:** Determines the degree of validity of the consequent of the rules and combines as output the results in a linguistic variable. Methods of fuzzy inferences perform this process. A well-known inference is described in Mamdani, Sugeno and Tsukamoto (see (Ross, 2009) for more details).
- **Defuzzification:** Derives a single crisp value that best represents the inferred fuzzy values of the output linguistic variable. There are several methods of defuzzification in the literature, the best known methods are: Maximum value, Mean value

of maximums, Bisector, Centroid or Center of Gravity (see (Ross, 2009) for more details).

4 A FUZZY APPROACH TO DATA QUALITY ASSESSMENT

4.1 Fuzzy Data Quality Vocabulary

The DQV vocabulary distinguishes between three layers of abstraction (metric, dimensions and category), based on a survey presented in (Zaveri et al., 2016). Quality metrics (**dqv:Metric**) are grouped into quality dimension (**dqv:Dimension**), by property *dqv:inDimension*. Quality dimensions are grouped into quality category (**dqv:Category**), by property *dqv:inCategory*. **dqv:QualityMeasurement** represents a quality metric measure of a given resource (**rdfs:Resource**), a resource can be a set of data, a set of links, a graph or a set of triples in which quality measurement is performed.

The proposed Fuzzy Quality Data Vocabulary (FQV) extends DQV to represent fuzzy concepts. For that, terms from Fuzz-Onto ontology (Yaguinuma et al., 2012) (a meta-ontology for representing fuzzy ontologies) are incorporated by the proposed approach. FQV presents the following elements:

- **fuz:FuzzyConcept** (concept): represents linguistic values which are associated to linguistic variables. Fuzzy atomic concepts are defined in a discrete domain. If an atomic concept in a domain ontology is a fuzzy concept, it should be subsumed by **fuz:FuzzyConcept** to denote that its individuals belong to the concept with a certain membership degree in $[0, 1]$; **fuz:FuzzyConcept** is defined by a parameterized membership function, by the *fuz:hasMembershipFunction* relationship;
- *fuz:hasMembershipDegree* (attribute): defines the membership degree, which is represented by a real number in the interval $[0, 1]$;
- *fuz:hasFuzzyConcept* (relationship): associates an instance of **fqv:QualityIndicator** to a fuzzy concept;
- **fqv:QualityIndicator** (concept): represents linguistic variables, which can be characterized by linguistic values represented by fuzzy sets. These linguistic variables are metrics, dimensions, or categories, which involve fuzziness in their definition. Each instance of **fqv:QualityIndicator** should be associated with one or more linguistic terms (**fuz:FuzzyConcept**) by the *fuz:hasFuzzyConcept* relationship;

- *fuz:hasMembershipFunction* (relationship): associates a linguistic term to its corresponding membership function;

4.2 Fuzzy Linked Data Quality Assessment Process

The Fuzzy Quality Assessment Process receives as input quality metadata and computes the quality of datasets based on fuzzy rules and linguistic variables, using the metadata generated by Luzzu (Debattista et al., 2016a). This process is composed of two phases (see Figure 1), described in what follows.

Phase 1: Fuzzy Quality Metadata Computation. Fuzzy quality metadata are quality metadata, in which fuzzy concepts are inferred from quality metrics, based on linguistic variables and fuzzy rules defined by a specialist.

Step 1: Metric Fuzzification. Linguistic variables are defined by data consumers for the relevant quality metrics. For each linguistic variable, precise values are specified. such values represent quality levels of the metrics. For each measure of the relevant quality metric in the quality metadata, the values are mapped into fuzzy sets and determined the degree of membership of each set through its member functions. The fuzzy values of the metrics are generated as a DQV vocabulary.

Step 2: Dimension Fuzzification. Linguistic variables are defined for quality dimensions associated with relevant quality metrics (identified by a specialist). For each linguistic variable, the linguistic values are defined, which are the levels of quality of the dimensions. Dimension Rules are created based on the linguistic variables of the metrics and infer the fuzzy values of the dimensions. For each dimension of the relevant quality metric in the quality metadata, dimension rules infer the fuzzy values. The fuzzy values of the dimensions are generated as the DQV vocabulary.

Step 3: Category Fuzzification. Linguistic variables are now defined for quality categories associated with relevant quality dimensions. For each linguistic variable, the linguistic values are defined, which are the levels of quality of the categories. Category Rules are created based on the linguistic variables of the dimensions. For each categories of the relevant quality dimension, category rules infer the fuzzy values. The fuzzy values of the categories are generated as a DQV vocabulary.

Phase 2: Dataset Quality Evaluation. Data quality fuzzy computation is implemented by a fuzzy inference system (FIS), capable of inferring data quality based on fuzzy rules, defined to express quality requirements of data consumer. Thus, a linguistic vari-

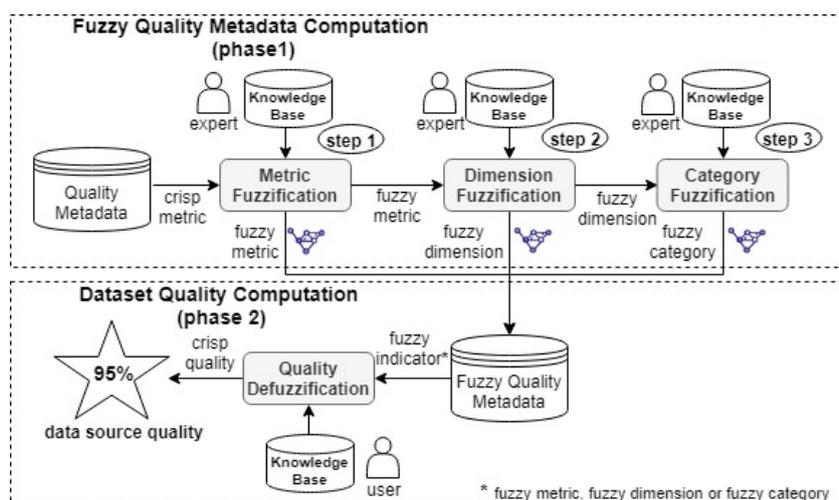


Figure 1: Fuzzy Quality Assessment Process.

able is specified for the quality of the dataset. The linguistic values are defined according to the desired level of quality. Quality Rules are created based on the linguistic variables of the metrics, dimensions and categories and should be able to infer fuzzy values for quality.

5 EMPIRICAL EVALUATION

We have created knowledge bases with generated fuzzy quality metadata for 128 LOD datasets¹. The quality evaluation published in (Debattista et al.,) has been chosen as the baseline. In order to achieve our goal, quality metadata of 33 quality metrics of those dataset have been collected.

For the sake of clarity, but without loss of generality, we have used dataset quality metrics belonging to dimensions *consistency* and *conciseness*. The evaluated metrics were: (i) *M1*, which evaluates the use of incorrect domain or range data type; (ii) *M2*, which estimates the misuse OWL data type or object properties, and; (iii) *M4*, which provides a measure of the redundancy of the dataset (see Table 1). For each metric and dimension, we have considered three levels of fuzzy quality, namely, *low*, *medium* and *high*. Thus, we define three linguistic values for each linguistic variable.

The membership functions of the linguistic values for metrics *M1*, *M2*, *M4*, and *consistency*, *conciseness* dimensions are the same defined in Section 3.3. To infer the fuzzy quality of *consistency* dimension the rules presented in Table 2 have been

¹The knowledge bases can be accessed at <http://tiny.cc/knowledgebases>

deployed, and to infer the fuzzy quality of *conciseness* dimension the rules in Table 3 have been used. The linguistic variable used in the experiments is defined as $quality = (quality, T(quality), X)$, where $X = [0, 1]$, $T(quality) = \{low, medium, high\}$. Consider now that the following membership functions have been defined: $\mu_{low}(x) = f(x, 0, 0, 0.5)$, $\mu_{medium}(x) = f(x, 0, 0.5, 1)$ and $\mu_{high}(x) = f(x, 0.5, 1, 1)$.

The experiments have been split into two parts. In the first part, the experiments compared the proposed quality evaluation approach with the baseline (traditional approach (Mendes et al., 2012)). In the second part, the experiments measured dataset quality by applying the proposed approach.

Part I - Dataset Quality Evaluation based on Metrics

Table 4: Fuzzy Rules used in Experiments of Part I.

Rules	
R1	IF <i>M1</i> is <i>high</i> AND <i>M2</i> is <i>high</i> THEN <i>Quality</i> is <i>high</i>
R2	IF <i>M1</i> is <i>medium</i> AND <i>M2</i> is <i>high</i> THEN <i>Quality</i> is <i>high</i>
R3	IF <i>M1</i> is <i>high</i> AND <i>M2</i> is <i>medium</i> THEN <i>Quality</i> is <i>high</i>
R4	IF <i>M1</i> is <i>medium</i> AND <i>M2</i> is <i>medium</i> THEN <i>Quality</i> is <i>medium</i>
R5	IF <i>M1</i> is <i>medium</i> AND <i>M2</i> is <i>low</i> THEN <i>Quality</i> is <i>low</i>
R6	IF <i>M1</i> is <i>low</i> AND <i>M2</i> is <i>medium</i> THEN <i>Quality</i> is <i>low</i>
R7	IF <i>M1</i> is <i>low</i> AND <i>M2</i> is <i>low</i> THEN <i>Quality</i> is <i>low</i>

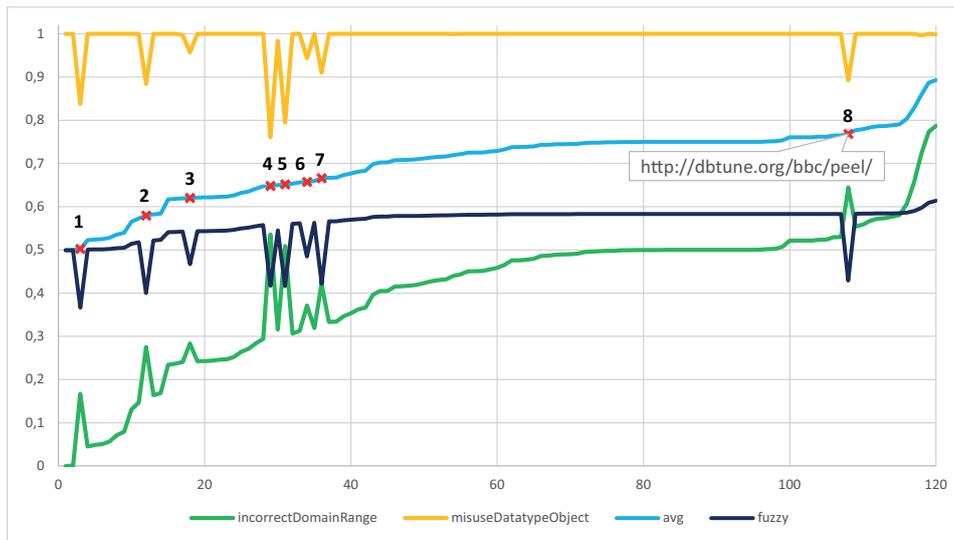


Figure 2: Results of the quality assessment of datasets based on metrics $M1$ and $M2$.

These experiments compared the proposed approach against the baseline (average aggregation method). The quality values may be inferred by the rules for metrics $M1$ and $M2$ (see Table 4), which are metrics of the consistency dimension.

Figure 2 depicts fuzzy quality values and average aggregation method (avg) values (baseline). As already mentioned, fuzzy quality values are computed by a fuzzy inference system. The used rules are shown in Table 4. The membership functions are the same specified in Section 3.3. Finally, the Mamdani inference method and the Center of Gravity defuzzification method have been used.

Points marked with x (1 to 8) on the avg curve (Figure 2) highlight the difference between the baseline and fuzzy assessment methods. Observe that there exist peaks in values of metric $M2$ (value decreasing) and metric $M1$ (value increasing). In the baseline (average method), the computed average values smooth those peaks, giving the idea of a false positive concerning quality level. Furthermore, the proposed approach delivers more precise information, because a decrease in the value of the metric $M2$ induces a low quality level. The quality of the metric $M2$ is high when the value is greater than 0.95 and, for values smaller than 0.95, the quality of the metric $M2$ is low. Therefore, the fuzzy inference system has very different behavior, concerning the change of value.

Part II - Dataset Quality Evaluation based on Dimensions

Table 6 shows the results of quality assessment of some LOD datasets, based on the quality rules of Ta-

Table 5: Fuzzy Rules used in Experiments Part II.

Rules	
R1	IF <i>Consistency</i> is high AND <i>Conciseness</i> is high THEN <i>Quality</i> is high
R2	IF <i>Consistency</i> is high AND <i>Conciseness</i> is medium THEN <i>Quality</i> is high
R3	IF <i>Consistency</i> is medium THEN <i>Quality</i> is medium
R4	IF <i>Consistency</i> is low THEN <i>Quality</i> is low

ble 5. The consistency and conciseness columns show the degree of membership to the quality levels of the datasets. The quality column shows the quality assessment value.

The linguistic values of the fuzzy quality variable divide the universe of discourse in a balanced way. We consider 50% as the balance point of quality, where values less than 50% represent quality is insufficient and more than 50% quality is sufficient.

In the Peel and DBLP (L3S) datasets, the quality is less than 50%. Note that, the conciseness of the datasets is high (> 85%) and the conciseness is medium. However, the consistency is not high and the quality is high only when consistency is high and the conciseness is high or medium (rules R1 and R2 of Table 5), and on the other hand, the quality is low when consistency is low (rule R4 of Table 5). Thus, these datasets do not reach enough quality.

The ELIONET dataset does not have high conciseness, but it has average concision with membership of 75%, and high membership consistency of 65%, the quality is over 50%. According to rule R2 of

Table 6: Result of Quality Assessment based on Consistency and Conciseness Dimension.

Dataset	Consistency			Conciseness			Quality
	low	medium	high	low	medium	high	
Peel	58%	41%	0%	0%	11%	88%	41%
DBLP (L3S)	3%	96%	0%	0%	2%	97%	49%
DBpedia	0%	37%	62%	0%	3%	96%	59%
EIONET	0%	34%	65%	24%	75%	0%	60%

Table 5, the quality is high when greater than 50% and the dataset has high quality since it meets this rule.

6 CONCLUSION

In this work, we proposed the use of fuzzy logic to model the domain of data quality. We described a fuzzy ontology to represent data quality. Additionally, we described and analyzed an approach for evaluating Linked Data quality based on fuzzy logic. In the proposed approach, quality measurement is inferred by fuzzy inference systems based on user-defined fuzzy rules. Results of experiments on real datasets were reported and discussed.

We emphasize that the proposed approach present real benefits in the process of providing linked data mashups with required level of quality. As future work, we shall investigate the use of fuzzy logic in computing mashup data quality.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work was partly funded by CNPq under grants 303332/2013-1 and 442338/2014-7, by FAPERJ under grant E-26/201.337/2014, and by FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, under the grant SFRH/BPD/76024/2011.

REFERENCES

- Bizer, C. and Cyganiak, R. (2009). Quality-driven information filtering using the WIQA policy framework. *Web Semant.*, 7(1):1–10.
- Debattista, J., Auer, S., and Lange, C. (2016a). Luzzu—a methodology and framework for linked data quality assessment. *Journal of Data and Information Quality (JDIQ)*, 8(1):4.
- Debattista, J., Dekkers, M., Guéret, C., Lee, D., Mihindukulasooriya, N., and Zaveri, A. (2016b). Data on the web best practices: Data quality vocabulary.
- Debattista, J., Lange, C., and Auer, S. (2014a). daq, an ontology for dataset quality information. In *Proc. Workshop on Linked Data on the Web co-located with the 23rd Int. World Wide Web Conference (WWW 2014)*.
- Debattista, J., Lange, C., Auer, S., and Cortis, D. Evaluating the quality of the lod cloud: An empirical investigation.
- Debattista, J., Londoño, S., Lange, C., and Auer, S. (2014b). LUZZU - A framework for linked data quality assessment. *CoRR*, abs/1412.3750.
- Fürber, C. and Hepp, M. (2011). Towards a vocabulary for data quality management in semantic web architectures. In *Proc. 1st Int. Workshop on Linked Web Data Management, LWDM '11*, NY, USA. ACM.
- Guéret, C., Groth, P., Stadler, C., and Lehmann, J. (2012). Assessing linked data mappings using network measures. In *Proc. 9th International Conference on The Semantic Web: Research and Applications, ESWC'12*, pages 87–102. Berlin, Heidelberg.
- Ivezić, D., Tanasijević, M., and Ignjatović, D. (2008). Fuzzy approach to dependability performance evaluation. *Quality and Reliability Engineering International*, 24(7):779–792.
- Knap, T., Michelfeit, J., Daniel, J., Jerman, P., Rychnovský, D., Soukup, T., and Nečaský, M. (2012). Od-cleanstore: a framework for managing and providing integrated linked data on the web. In *Int. Conf. Web Information Systems Engineering*, pages 815–816.
- Mendes, P. N., Mühleisen, H., and Bizer, C. (2012). Sieve: Linked data quality assessment and fusion. In *Proc. 2012 Joint EDBT/ICDT Workshops, EDBT-ICDT '12*, pages 116–123, NY, USA. ACM.
- Ross, T. (2009). *Fuzzy logic with engineering applications*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Schultz, A., Matteini, A., Isele, R., Bizer, C., and Becker, C. (2011). LDIF - linked data integration framework. In *Proc. Second Int. Conf. on Consuming Linked Data, COLD'11*, Aachen, Germany. CEUR-WS.org.
- Wang, R. Y. (2005). *Information Quality (Advances in Management Information Systems)*. M. E. Sharpe, Inc., Armonk, NY, USA.
- Wang, R. Y. and Strong, D. M. (1996). Beyond accuracy: What data quality means to data consumers. *J. Manage. Inf. Syst.*, 12(4):5–33.
- Yaguinuma, C., Santos, M. T. P., Camargo, H. A., Nicoletti, M. C., and Nogueira, T. M. (2012). Fuzz-onto: A meta-ontology for representing fuzzy elements and supporting fuzzy classification rules. In *Proc. 12th Int. Conf. on Intelligent Systems Design and Applications*.
- Zadeh, L. (1965). Fuzzy sets. *Information and Control*, 8(3):338 – 353.
- Zaveri, A., Rula, A., Maurino, A., Pietrobon, R., Lehmann, J., and Auer, S. (2016). Quality assessment for linked data: A survey. *Semantic Web*, 7(1):63–93.