

6 Summary and conclusions

Discovering the complex periodic patterns in the system logs is a difficult and time consuming task. This work defines a concept of *periodic pattern* and shows how to find the periodic patterns in the the system logs. An approach described here shows that it is easier to find the simple periodic patterns and later on to compose them into the complex ones instead of directly searching for all complex patterns. The discovered periodic patterns can be used to model future workload after the old applications are replaced with the new ones or the new applications are added to a system. It is also easier to reconcile the new audit trails with the collections of periodic patterns discovered from the previous system logs than to integrate the complete logs.

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