CLAIMS

1. A method for processing data records by a server in response to a database request from a client, the data records comprising multiple fields with respective parameter values, the method comprising, at the server:
   - retrieving multiple data records with parameter values in the fields which correspond to search indications indicated by the database request;
   - determining weight values for at least two of the fields based on the corresponding parameter values of the at least two fields;
   - calculating an aggregated score for at least a number of the retrieved data records based on the determined weight values; and
   - returning at least a subset of the retrieved data records to the client based on the calculated aggregated scores.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the database request includes weight indications at least some of the fields of the data records; and determining the weight values for at least two of the fields and/or calculating the aggregated score is based on the weight indications.

3. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein calculating the aggregated score comprises summing the weight values of the respective data record.

4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein retrieving the multiple data records comprises retrieving the data records from a plurality of databases having dissimilar database schemes.

5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the database request is a routing request for network routes from an origin node to a destination node in a communication network, and wherein the multiple retrieved data records represent a plurality of network routes from the origin node to the destination node and a number of network routes of the plurality of network routes are determined on the basis of the aggregated scores of the network routes.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the fields contain parameter values specifying network quality-of-service parameters for one or more legs of the network routes

~~including at least one of a bit rate, a bit error rate, a throughput, free bandwidth, a latency and a time until completion of a transmission of an amount of data.~~

~~7. The method of claim 6, wherein parameter values representing a higher quality of service are assigned with higher weight values than parameter values representing a lower quality of service.~~

~~8. The method of any of the claims 1 to 7, wherein the subset of the retrieved data records is given by a number of the retrieved data records with the highest aggregated scores.~~

~~9. A server system for processing multiple data records in response to database requests from clients, wherein the server is arranged to:~~

- ~~retrieve multiple data records with parameter values in the fields which correspond to search indications indicated by the database request;~~
- ~~determine weight values for at least two of the fields based on the corresponding parameter values of the at least two fields;~~
- ~~calculate an aggregated score for at least a number of the retrieved data records based on the determined weight values;~~
- ~~return at least a subset of the retrieved data records to the client based on the calculated aggregated scores.~~

~~10. The server of claim 9, being further arranged to perform the method of any one of claims 2 to 8.~~

~~11. A computer program comprising computer program code which, when executed by a computer, causes the computer to perform the method of any one of claims 1 to 8.~~

1. A method comprising:

receiving, at a server from a client device, a database request for processing data records, the data records comprising multiple fields with respective parameter values, wherein the database request comprises a routing request for determining network routes from an origin node to a destination node in a communication network; and

in response to the database request:

retrieving, at the server, multiple data records with parameter values in the fields which correspond to search indications indicated by the database request,

wherein the multiple retrieved data records represent a plurality of network routes from the origin node to the destination node, and a number of network routes of the plurality of network routes are determined on the basis of aggregated scores of the network routes;

determining, at the server, weight values for at least two of the fields based on the corresponding parameter values of the at least two of the fields, wherein the fields contain parameter values specifying network quality-of-service parameters for one or more legs of the network routes including a bit rate, a bit error rate, a throughput, free bandwidth, a latency, or a time until completion of a transmission of an amount of data;

determining a preferred network route of the plurality of network routes based at least on one or more of the network quality-of-service parameters associated with the one or more legs of each of the network routes;

calculating, at the server, an aggregated score for at least a number of the multiple retrieved data records for the determined preferred network route and based on the determined weight values; and

returning at least a subset of the multiple retrieved data records with higher aggregated scores from the server to the client device and discarding data records with lower aggregated scores.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the database request includes weight indications for at least some of the fields of the data records, and the weight values are determined for at least two of the fields and/or the aggregated score is calculated based on the weight indications.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein calculating the aggregated score comprises:

summing the weight values of the respective data record.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the multiple data records are retrieved from a plurality of databases having dissimilar database schemes.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein parameter values representing a higher quality of service are assigned with higher weight values than parameter values representing a lower quality of service.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the subset of the retrieved data records is given by a number of the retrieved data records with the highest aggregated scores.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the database request is a travel search request for priced travel recommendations, the multiple retrieved data records represent a plurality of travel recommendations in accordance with travel search parameters indicated by the travel search request, and further comprising:

calculating a respective price for the plurality of travel recommendations based on the respective aggregated scores.

8. A system comprising:

at least one processor; and

a computer-readable storage medium comprising a memory coupled to the at least one processor, the memory storing instructions that, when executed by the at least one processor, cause the system to:

receive, from a client device, a database request for processing data records, the data records comprising multiple fields with respective parameter values, wherein the database request comprises a routing request for determining network routes from an origin node to a destination node in a communication network; and

in response to the database request:

retrieve multiple data records with parameter values in the fields which correspond to search indications indicated by the database request, wherein the multiple retrieved data records represent a plurality of network routes from the origin node to the destination node, and a number of network routes of the plurality of network routes are determined on the basis of aggregated scores of the network routes;

determine weight values for at least two of the fields based on the corresponding parameter values of the at least two of the fields, wherein the fields contain parameter values specifying network quality-of-service parameters for one or more legs of the network routes including a bit rate, a bit error rate, a throughput, free bandwidth, a latency, or a time until completion of a transmission of an amount of data;

determine a preferred network route of the plurality of network routes based at least on one or more of the network quality-of-service parameters associated with the one or more legs of each of the network routes;

calculate an aggregated score for at least a number of the multiple retrieved data records for the determined preferred network route and based on the determined weight values; and

return at least a subset of the multiple retrieved data records with higher aggregated scores to the client device and discarding data records with lower aggregated scores.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the database request includes weight indications for at least some of the fields of the data records, and the weight values are determined for at least two of the fields and/or the aggregated score is calculated based on the weight indications.

10. The system of claim 8, wherein the instructions that cause the system to calculate the aggregated score comprise:

summing the weight values of the respective data record.

11. The system of claim 8, wherein the multiple data records are retrieved from a plurality of databases having dissimilar database schemes.

12. The system of claim 8, wherein parameter values representing a higher quality of service are assigned with higher weight values than parameter values representing a lower quality of service.

13. The system of claim 8, wherein the subset of the retrieved data records is given by a number of the retrieved data records with the highest aggregated scores.

14. The system of claim 8, wherein the database request is a travel search request for priced travel recommendations, the multiple retrieved data records represent a plurality of travel recommendations in accordance with travel search parameters indicated by the travel search request, and the instructions further cause the system to:

calculate a respective price for the plurality of travel recommendations based on the respective aggregated scores.

15. A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium comprising instructions that upon execution by at least one processor cause the at least one processor to:

receive, from a client device, a database request for processing data records, the data records comprising multiple fields with respective parameter values, wherein the database request comprises a routing request for determining network routes from an origin node to a destination node in a communication network; and

in response to the database request:

retrieve multiple data records with parameter values in the fields which correspond to search indications indicated by the database request, wherein the multiple retrieved data records represent a plurality of network routes from the origin node to the destination node, and a number of network routes of the plurality of network routes are determined on the basis of aggregated scores of the network routes;

determine weight values for at least two of the fields based on the corresponding parameter values of the at least two of the fields, wherein the fields contain parameter values specifying network quality-of-service parameters for one or more legs of the network routes including a bit rate, a bit error rate, a throughput, free bandwidth, a latency, or a time until completion of a transmission of an amount of data;

determine a preferred network route of the plurality of network routes based at least on one or more of the network quality-of-service parameters associated with the one or more legs of each of the network routes;

calculate an aggregated score for at least a number of the multiple retrieved data records for the determined preferred network route and based on the determined weight values; and

return at least a subset of the multiple retrieved data records with higher aggregated scores to the client device and discarding data records with lower aggregated scores.