Distributed computing: index building and use

Distributed computing Goals

Distributing computation across several machines to

- Do one computation faster - latency
- Do more computations in given time - throughput
- Tolerate failure of 1+ machines

Distributing computations

Ideas?

⇒ Finding results for a query?

- Building index?

- Goals
  - Keep all machines busy
  - Be able to replace badly-behaved machines seamlessly!

Distributed Query Evaluation: Strategies

- Assign different queries to different machines
- Break up multi-term query: assign different query terms to different machines
  - good/bad consequences?
- Break up lexicon: assign different index terms to different machines?
  - good/bad consequences?
- Break up postings lists: Assign different documents to different machines?
  - good/bad consequences?

Keep all machines busy?
Seamlessly replace badly-behaved machines?

Example: Google query evaluation circa 2002

- Parallelize computation
  - distribute documents randomly to pieces of index
    - Pool of machines for each piece- choose one
    - Why random?

- Load balancing and reliability
  - Scheduler machines
    - assign tasks to pools of machines
    - monitor performance

Google Query Evaluation: Details
circa 2002

- Enter query -> DNS-based directed to one of geographically distributed clusters
  - Load balance & fault tolerance
  - Round-trip time
- w/in cluster, query directed to 1 Google Web Server (GWS)
  - Load balance & fault tolerance
- GWS distributes query to pools of machines
  - Load sharing
- Query directed to 1 machine w/in each pool
  - Load balance & fault tolerance

Issues for distributed documents

- How many take from each pool to get m results?
- Throughput limits?
  - each machine does full query evaluation
  - disk access limiting constraint?
  - distributing index by term instead may help

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Distributing computations

Last time: Finding results for a query.

Methods

- Assign different queries to different machines
  - Google: geographic distribution + cluster distribution
- Break up lexicon: assign different index terms to different machines
- Break up postings lists: Assign different documents to different machines
  - Google: randomly distribute docs to pools of machines; 1 machine per pool assigned query

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Distributing computations

✓ Finding results for a query?

⇒ Building index?

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Distributed Index Building

- Can easily assign different documents to different machines
- Efficient?
- Goals
  - Keep all machines busy
  - Be able to replace badly-behaved machines seamlessly!

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Google Index Building circa 2003: MapReduce framework

- programming model
- implementation for large clusters

- Google introduced for index building and PageRank
  "for processing and generating large data sets"
- The Apache Hadoop project developed open-source software
- Other applications:
  - database queries
    - join like multi-term query eval.
  - statistics on queries in given time period

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MapReduce Programming Model

- input set: $\{(\text{input key}_i, \text{value}_i) \mid 0 \le i \le \text{input size}\}$
  - user chooses type value – e.g. whole document
- output set: $\{(\text{output key}_i, \text{value}_i) \mid 0 \le i \le \text{output size}\}$

- Map (written by user):

(input key, value) →
$\{(\text{intermed. key}_j, \text{value}_j) \mid 0 \le j \le \text{Map result size}\}$

- system groups all Map output pairs for input set by intermediate key (shuffle phase)
  - gathers by intermediate key value
  - supply to Reduce by iterator

- Reduce (written by user) process intermediate values:

(intermed. key, list of values) → (output key, value)

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MapReduce for building inverted index

- Input pair: (docID, contents of doc)
- Map: produce {(term, docID)} for each term appearing in docID
- Input to Reduce: (term, docIDs) pairs for each term
- Output of Reduce: (term, sorted list of docIDs containing that term)
  - postings list!

keys

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Diagram of computation distribution

See Figure 2.3 (pg 27) in

Mining of Massive Data Sets by Rajaraman, Leskovec and Ullman

Originally appeared as Figure 1 in

MapReduce: Simplified Data Processing on Large Clusters by J. Dean and S. Ghemawat, Comm. of the ACM,vol. 51, no. 1 (2008), pp. 107-113.

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MapReduce parallelism

- Map phase and shuffle phase may overlap
- Shuffle phase and reduce phase may overlap
- Map phase must finish before reduce phase starts
  - reduce depends on all values associated with a given key

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MapReduce Fault Tolerance

- Master fails => restart whole computation
- Worker node fails
  - Master detects failure
  - must redo all Map tasks assigned to worker
    - output of completed Map tasks on failed worker's disk
  - for failed Map worker, Master
    - reschedules each Map task
    - notifies reducer workers of change in input location
  - for failed Reduce worker, Master
    - reschedules each Reduce task
  - rescheduling occurs as live workers become available

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Hadoop

"The Apache Hadoop project develops open-source software for reliable, scalable, distributed computing. "

Includes MapReduce

http://hadoop.apache.org/index.html

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Remarks

- Google built on large collections of inexpensive "commodity PCs"
  - always some not functioning
- Solve fault-tolerance problem in software
  - redundancy & flexibility NOT special-purpose hardware
- Keep machines relative generalists
  - machine becomes free ⇒
    assign to any one of set of tasks

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June 2010 New Google index building: Caffeine

- daily crawl "several billion" documents
- Before:
  - Rebuild index: new + existing
  - series of 100 MapReduces to build index
  - "each doc. spent 2-3 days being indexed"
- After:
  - Each document fed through Percolator: incremental update of index
  - Document indexed 100 times faster (median)
  - Avg. age doc. in search result decr. "nearly 50%"

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Percolator

- Built on top of *Bigtable* distributed storage
  - "tens of petabytes" in indexing system
- Provides random access
  - Requires extra resources over MapReduce
- Provides transaction semantics
  - Repository transformation highly concurrent
  - Requires some consistency guarantees for data
- "Observers" do tasks; write to table
- Writing to table creates work for other observers
- "around 50" Bigtable op.s to process 1 doc.

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Bigtable Overview

- Distributed database system
  - One big table
  - Sparse
- cells indexed by row key, column key, timestamp
  - Sorted by row key
- rows have variable number of columns
- Atomic read-modify-write by row
- Data in cell "uninterpreted strings"
  - User provide interpretation

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Bigtable Overview: Distribution

- Rows partitioned into tablets
  - contiguous key space
- tablet servers execute operations
- Performance
  - large number tablet servers
- Fault tolerance
  - replication of data
  - transaction log
    - server take over for failed server

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Percolator builds on Bigtable

- Percolator metadata stored alongside data in special columns of Bigtable
- Percolator adds fuctionality:
  - Multi-row transactions
  - "observer" framework

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Percolator observers

- users write observer code
- run distributed across collection of machines
- observer "registers" function and set of columns with Percolator
- Percolator invokes function after data written in one of columns (any row)
  - Percolator must find "dirty" cells
    - search distributed across machines
  - avoid >1 observer for a single column

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Percolator transactions

- maintains locks
- multiple versions each data item
  - timestamps
  - stable "snapshots" for reads
- compare database system
  - Percolator not require "extremely low latency"
    - affects approach

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Caffeine versus MapReduce

- Caffeine uses "roughly twice as many resources" to process same crawl rate
- New document collection "currently 3x larger than previous systems"
  - Only limit available disk space
- Document indexed 100 times faster (median)
- If number newly-crawled docs near size index, MapReduce better
  - random lookup v.s. streaming

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