Distributed computing: index building and use

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Goals

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

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Distributing computations

Ideas?

⇒ Finding results for a query?

- Building index?

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Distributed Query Evaluation

- Assign different queries to different machines
- 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?
- Goals
  - Keep all machines busy
  - Be able to replace badly-behaved machines seamlessly!

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Google query evaluation
circa 2002

- Parallelize computation
  - distribute documents randomly to pieces of index
    - Pool of machines for each - choose one
    - Why random?
- Load balancing and reliability
  - Scheduler machines
    - assign tasks to pools of machines
    - monitor performance

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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

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Distributing computations

Ideas?

✓ 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
  - programming model
  - implementation for large clusters

"for processing and generating large data sets"

- Example applications
  - ✳inverted index
  - graph structure of Web docs.
  - statistics on queries in given time period

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MapReduce Programming Model

- input set: $\{(\text{input key}_i, \text{value}_i) \mid 0 \le i \le \text{input size}\}$
- output set: $\{(\text{output key}_i, \text{value}_i) \mid 0 \le i \le \text{output size}\}$
- Map: (input key, value) →
  $\{(\text{intermediate key}_j, \text{value}_j) \mid 0 \le j \le \text{Map result size}\}$
  - written by user
- system groups all Map output pairs for input set by intermediate key
  - gathers by intermediate key value
  - supply to Reduce by iterator
- Reduce: (intermediate key, list of values) →
  (intermediate key, {result values})
  - written by user to process intermediate values

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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: list of all (term, docID) pairs for one term
- Output of Reduce: (term, sorted list of docIDs containing that term)
  - postings list!

keys 11

Diagram of computation distribution

See Figure 1 in

MapReduce:
Simplified Data Processing on Large Clusters
J. Dean and S. Ghemawat,

Comm. of the ACM,vol. 51, no. 1 (2008), pp. 107-113.

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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 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

- Multidimensional sorted map
  - Sparse
  - Distributed
- indexed by row key, column key, timestamp
  - Sorted by row key
- Data "uninterpreted strings"
  - User provide interpretation
  - Supports semi-structured data
- Atomic read-modify-write by row

Percolator add:

Multi-row transactions; "observer" framework

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Caffeine versus MapReduce

- Caffeine uses "roughly twice as many resources"
- New document collection "currently 3x larger than previous systems"
  - Only limit available disk space
- Document indexed 100 times faster (median)

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