MMap (Memory Mapping)
Simple, minimalist approach to scale up computation

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Partly based on materials by
Professors Guy Lebanon, Jeffrey Heer, John Stasko, Christos Faloutsos, Parishit Ram (GT PhD alum; SkyTree), Alex Gray
When should you use Spark/Hadoop, AWS, Azure?
And when should you not?
MMap

Fast Billion-Scale Graph Computation on a PC via Memory Mapping

Lead by
Zhiyuan (Jerry) Lin
Georgia Tech CS Undergrad
Now: Stanford 1st year PhD student


Graph Computation on Computer Cluster?

Steep learning curve

Cost

Overkill for smaller graphs

Best-of-breed Single-PC Approaches

- **GraphChi** – OSDI 2012
- **TurboGraph** – KDD 2013

What do they have in common?

- Sophisticated Data Structures
- Explicit Memory Management
Can We Do Less?
To get same or better performance?
e.g., auto memory management, faster, etc.
Main Idea: Memory-mapped the Graph
Main Idea: **Memory-mapped** the Graph

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That’s all!
How to compute PageRank for huge matrix?

Use the power iteration method

\[ \mathbf{p} = c \mathbf{B} \mathbf{p} + \frac{(1-c)}{n} \mathbf{1} \]

Can initialize this vector to any non-zero vector, e.g., all “1”s

Reminder
Example: PageRank (implemented using MMap)

\[ v_{next} = \frac{1 - d}{N} + d \times v_{cur} \]

(\text{where } E_{i,j} = \frac{I(i \rightarrow j)}{\text{deg}_i})

Fig. 3: Data structures used for computing PageRank. In
PageRank implementation using a node list file, and then
PageRank (10 iter.)
- GraphChi: 6.3 s
- TurboGraph: 3.3 s
- MMap: 2.0 s

Conn. Comp.
- GraphChi: 6.4 s
- TurboGraph: 4.3 s
- MMap: 2.0 s

Runtime (s)
0 20 40 60

(a) LiveJournal graph (69M edges)
(c) YahooWeb graph (6.6B edges)

1-step Neighbor Query Runtime on YahooWeb Graph (6.6 billion edges)

- TurboGraph: 154.7 ms
- MMap: 3.3 ms
Why Memory Mapping Works?

High-degree nodes’ info automatically cached/kept in memory for future frequent access

Read-ahead paging preemptively loads edges from disk.

Highly-optimized by the OS

No need to explicitly manage memory (less book-keeping)
Also works on tablets! (If you want.)

Big Data on Small Devices (270M+ Edges)

Elapsed Time (s)

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<td>(31M edges)</td>
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<td>(69M edges)</td>
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<td>(272M edges)</td>
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</table>
M3 Runtimes (10 Iterations) for Logistic Regression (L-BFGS)

Dataset Size on Disk

RAM size = 32GB

Dataset Exceeds RAM

M3 vs. Spark
(4 & 8 Instances)

L-BFGS
- 1950s
- 2864s
- 8256s

K-Means
- 1604s
- 1164s
- 3491s

M3
- 8x Spark
- 4x Spark
Scalable Machine Learning & Graph Mining via Virtual Memory

Memory Mapping based computation is a minimalist approach that forgoes sophisticated data structures, explicit memory management, and optimization techniques but still achieve high speed and scalability, by leveraging the fundamental memory mapping (MMap) capability found on operating systems.

Broader Impacts of this Project

Large datasets in terabytes or petabytes are increasingly common, calling for new kinds of scalable machine learning approaches. While state-of-the-art techniques often use complex designs, specialized methods to store and work with large datasets, this project proposes a minimalist approach that forgoes such complexities, by leveraging the fundamental virtual memory capability found on all modern operating systems, to load into the virtual memory space the large datasets.