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

Duen Horng (Polo) Chau
Assistant Professor
Associate Director, MS Analytics
Georgia Tech

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

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</table>

*Un-Mapped*

*Mapped*

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**Edge List file** (e.g. tens of GB)

**Physical Memory** (e.g. 8 GB)
Main Idea: Memory-mapped the Graph

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

Use the power iteration method

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

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

Reminder

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

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Power_iteration
Example: PageRank (implemented using MMap)


Fig. 3: Data structures used for computing PageRank. In PageRank implementation, we have an edge list file, and three node vectors (N1, N2, N3) representing the initial PageRank vectors.
8000 lines of code

(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)

![Bar chart showing elapsed time in seconds for different datasets and devices.](chart.png)

- **Pokec** (31M edges): 2.97s (iPad mini) / 0.7s (Macbook Pro)
- **LiveJournal** (69M edges): 6.31s (iPad mini) / 1.75s (Macbook Pro)
- **Orkut** (117M edges): 14.7s (iPad mini) / 2.73s (Macbook Pro)
- **Gplus** (272M edges): 48.9s (iPad mini) / 9s (Macbook Pro)
M3 Runtimes (10 Iterations) for Logistic Regression (L-BFGS)

RAM size = 32GB

Dataset Exceeds RAM

M3 vs. Spark (4 & 8 Instances)

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

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

Colors:
- 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.