Naiad: A Timely Dataflow System

Derek G. Murray Rebecca Isaacs Paul Barham MSR Silicon Valley

Presented by Jesse Mu (jlm95)

Background: dataflow programming





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Stream processing (asynchronous)

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Stream processing (asynchronous)

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Stream processing (asynchronous)

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Background: types of data processing systems

- Batch processing (e.g. Pregel, CIEL)
 - High throughput, aggregate summaries of data
 - Waiting for batches introduces latency
- Stream processing (e.g. Storm, MillWheel)
 - Low-latency, near-realtime access to results
 - No synchronization/aggregate computation

- Iterative (graph-centric) computation
 - e.g. network data. ML



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Background: types of data processing systems



Contributions

- 1. **Timely dataflow**, a dataflow computing model which supports batch, stream, and graph-centric iterative processing
 - a. Supports common high-level programming interfaces (e.g. LINQ)
- 2. Naiad, a high-performance distributed implementation of the model
 - a. Faster than SOTA batch/streaming frameworks

Timely Dataflow supports Batch and Stream

Async event-based model

Nodes are always active. Send and receive messages via

A.SendBy(edge, message, time)

B.**OnRecv**(edge, message, time)

Request and operate on **notifications** for batches

C.**NotifyAt**(time)

C.OnNotify(time)

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Batch processing



Stream processing













state = {} // times -> running mins



state = {} // times -> running mins
function OnRecv(input_edge, msg, time) {

В



state = {} // times -> running mins
function OnRecv(input_edge, msg, time) {
 this.SendBy(rt_out, msg, time)















Progress tracking







Progress tracking




Progress tracking SendBy(_, _, (1, 1))

SendBy(_, _, 1)

NotifyAt(1)

SendBy(_, _, (1, 2))

NotifyAt((1, 2))



















NotifyAt(1)

Send notification! NotifyAt(1)

...a notification can be delivered **only** when no possible predecessors of a timestamp exist

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(based on timestamps + graph structure)

Low vs High Level Interfaces

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Event-based system

SendBy(edge, message, time)

OnRecv(edge, message, time)

NotifyAt(time)

OnNotify(time)

Low vs High Level Interfaces

Event-based system

SendBy(edge, message, time)

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NotifyAt(time)

OnNotify(time)

Common dataflow interfaces (LINQ, Pregel)

// 1a. Define input stages for the dataflow.
var input = controller.NewInput<string>();

// 1c. Define output callbacks for each epoch
result.Subscribe(result => { ... });

```
// 2. Supply input data to the query.
input.OnNext(/* 1st epoch data */);
input.OnNext(/* 2nd epoch data */);
input.OnCompleted();
```

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Implementation: Naiad

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Distributed Progress Tracking



Distributed Progress Tracking

Each node has its own local progress tracker, must be *conservative*

Updates other nodes over network as events finish



Optimizations



Optimizations

Reduce small delays *micro-stragglers*

Tweak TCP configuration

GC less often

Reduce backoff time to 1ms after concurrent access to shared memory



Fault Tolerance



Fault Tolerance

Since vertices have dynamic state, one failure -> all nodes have to reset from checkpoint

System-wide synchronized checkpoints

Tradeoff between how often to log checkpoints and performance



Evaluation



Evaluation





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My opinion

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- Computational model is theoretically sound
 - Iterative computation without modifying graph in e.g. CIEL (which has overhead)
- Evaluation good too, though dramatic speedups likely better than real-world applications
- Fine-grained control over logging for fault tolerance/throughput tradeoff seems annoying
- But...

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- But...
 - For all but especially complex systems requiring graph + stream + batch, existing systems probably work just fine + have better infrastructure

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