



Improving MapReduce Performance in Heterogeneous Environments

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Motivation

- MapReduce programming model growing in popularity
 - Open-source implementation, Hadoop, used at Yahoo, Facebook, CMU, Berkeley,...
- Virtualized computing services like Amazon EC2 provide on-demand compute power, but less control over performance



Results

- Main challenge for Hadoop on EC2 was node performance heterogeneity
- Designed heterogeneity-aware scheduler that improves response time up to 2x



Outline

- MapReduce background
- The challenge of heterogeneity
- LATE: a heterogeneity-aware scheduler



What is MapReduce?

- Programming model to split computations into independent parallel tasks
 - Map tasks filter data set
 - Reduce tasks aggregate values by key
- Goal: hide the complexity of distributed programming and fault tolerance



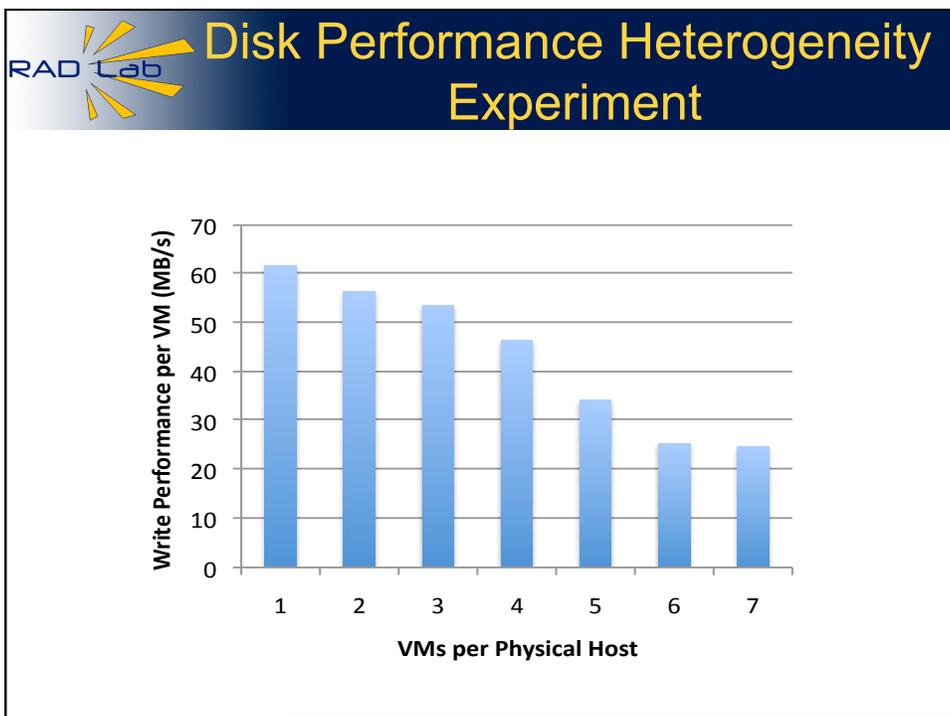
Fault Tolerance in MapReduce

- Nodes fail → re-run tasks
- Nodes very slow (stragglers) → launch backup copies of tasks
- How to do this in heterogeneous env.?

RAD Lab

Heterogeneity in Virtualized Environments

- VM technology isolates CPU and memory, but disk and network are shared
 - Full bandwidth when no contention
 - Equal shares when there is contention
- 2.5x I/O performance difference on EC2





Backup Task Scheduling in Hadoop

- Scheduler starts all primary tasks, then looks for tasks to back up
- Tasks report “progress score” from 0 to 1
- Backup launched if progress < avgProgress - 20%



Problems in Heterogeneous Environment

- *Too many* backups (trash shared resources)
- *Wrong* tasks may be backed up
- Backups may be placed on *slow nodes*
- *Tasks never backed up* if progress > 80%

- Result: 80% of reduces backed up in some experiments, network overloaded

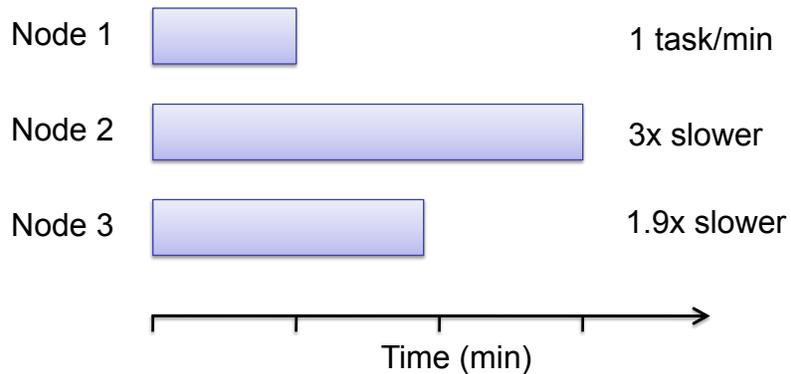


Progress Rate Approaches

- Compute average progress *rate*, back up tasks that are “far enough” below this
- Problems:
 - How long to wait for statistics?
 - Can still select the wrong tasks



Example



 **Example**

What if the job had 5 tasks?

2 min

Node 1

Node 2 time left: 1 min

Node 3 time left: 1.8 min

Time (min)

Should back up node 3's task

 **Our Scheduler: LATE**

- Insight: back up the task with the largest *estimated finish time*
 - “Longest Approximate Time to End”
- Sanity thresholds:
 - Cap backup tasks to ~10%
 - Launch backups on *fast nodes*
 - Only back up tasks that are *sufficiently slow*



LATE Details

- Estimating finish time:
$$\text{progress rate} = \frac{\text{progress score}}{\text{execution time}}$$
$$\text{estimated time left} = \frac{1 - \text{progress score}}{\text{progress rate}}$$
- Thresholds:
 - 25th percentiles for slow node/task, 10% cap
 - Sensitivity analysis shows robustness



Evaluation

- EC2 experiments (3 job types, 200 nodes)
- Experiments in small controlled testbed
- Contention through VM placement
- Results:
 - **2x** better response time if there are stragglers
 - **30%** better response time when no stragglers



Conclusion

- Heterogeneity is a challenge for parallel applications, and is getting more important
- Lessons for scheduling backup tasks:
 - Detecting slow nodes isn't enough; do it *early*
 - Pick tasks which hurt response time the most
 - Be mindful of shared resources
- 2x improvement using simple algorithm



Questions?

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