MapReduce Design Patterns

MapReduce Restrictions

- Any algorithm that needs to be implemented using MapReduce must be expressed in terms of a small number of rigidly defined components that must fit together in very specific ways.
- Synchronization is difficult. Within a single MapReduce job, there is only one opportunity for cluster-wide synchronization–during the shuffle and sort stage.
- Developer has little control over the following aspects:
  - Where a mapper or reducer runs (i.e., on which node in the cluster)
  - When a mapper or reducer begins or finishes
  - Which input key-value pairs are processed by a specific mapper
  - Which intermediate key-value pairs are processed by a specific reducer

MapReduce Techniques

- The ability to construct complex data structures as keys and values to store and communicate partial results.
- The ability to execute user-specified initialization code at the beginning of a map or reduce task, and the ability to execute user-specified termination code at the end of a map or reduce task.
- The ability to preserve state in both mappers and reducers across multiple input or intermediate keys.
- The ability to control the sort order of intermediate keys, and therefore the order in which a reducer will encounter particular keys.
- The ability to control the partitioning of the key space, and therefore the set of keys that will be encountered by a particular reducer.
- The ability to iterate over multiple MapReduce jobs using a driver program.

Local Aggregation

We will use the wordcount example to illustrate these techniques.

- Use Combiners. In Hadoop, combiners are considered optional optimizations so they cannot be counted on for correctness or to be even run at all.
- With the local aggregation technique, we can incorporate combiner functionality directly inside the mappers (under our control) as explained below.
- In-Mapper Combining. An associative array (e.g. Map in Java) is introduced inside the mapper to tally up term counts within a single document: instead of emitting a key-value pair for each term in the document, this version emits a key-value pair for each unique term in the document.

In-Mapper Combining

```
class Mapper
    method Map(docid a, doc d)
        H ← new AssociativeArray
        for all term t ∈ doc d do
            H{t} ← H{t} + 1                    ▷ Tally counts for entire document
        for all term t ∈ H do
            Emit(term t, count H{t})
```

In-Mapper Combining Across Multiple Documents

- Prior to processing any input key-value pairs we initialize an associative array for holding term counts in the mapper's initialize method. For example, in Hadoop's new API, there is a setup(...) method that is called before processing any key-value pairs.
- We can continue to accumulate partial term counts in the associative array across multiple documents, and emit key-value pairs only when the mapper has processed all documents.
- This requires an API hook that provides an opportunity to execute user-specified code after the Map method has been applied to all input key-value pairs of the input data split to which the map task was assigned.
- The Mapper class in the new Hadoop API provides this hook as the method named cleanup(...).

In-Mapper Combining Across Multiple Documents

```
class Mapper
    method Initialize
        H ← new AssociativeArray
    method Map(docid a, doc d)
        for all term t ∈ doc d do
            H{t} ← H{t} + 1                    ▷ Tally counts across documents
    method Close
        for all term t ∈ H do
            Emit(term t, count H{t})
```

In-Mapper Combining Analysis

- *Advantages*: In-mapper combining will be more efficient than using Combiners since we have more control over the process and we save having to serialize/deserialize objects multiple times.
- *Drawbacks*.
  - State preservation across mappers breaks the MapReduce paradigm.This may lead to ordering dependent bugs that are hard to track.
  - Scalability bottlenecks if the number of keys we encounter cannot fit in memory. This can be addressed by emitting partial results after every n key-value pairs, or after certain fraction of memory has been used or when a certain amount of memory (buffer) is filled up.

In-Mapper Combiner: Another Example

Suppose we have a large data set where input keys are strings and input values are integers, and we wish to compute the mean of all integers associated with the same key.

A real-world example might be a large user log from a popular website, where keys represent user ids and values represent some measure of activity such as elapsed time for a particular session—the task would correspond to computing the mean session length on a per-user basis, which would be useful for understanding user demographics.

- Write MapReduce pseudo-code to solve the problem.
- Modify the solution to use Combiners. Note that

$$\text{Mean}(1,2,3,4,5) \neq \text{Mean}(\text{Mean}(1,2), \text{Mean}(3,4,5))$$

- Modify the solution to use in-mapper combining.

Calculating Mean: Basic Solution

class MAPPER
    method MAP(string t, integer r)
        EMIT(string t, integer r)

class REDUCER
    method REDUCE(string t, integers $[r_1, r_2, \ldots]$)
        $sum \leftarrow 0$
        $cnt \leftarrow 0$
        for all integer $r \in$ integers $[r_1, r_2, \ldots]$ **do**
            $sum \leftarrow sum + r$
            $cnt \leftarrow cnt + 1$
        $r_{avg} \leftarrow sum/cnt$
        EMIT(string t, integer r_{avg})

Calculating Mean: With Combiners

class MAPPER
    method MAP(string t, integer r)
        EMIT(string t, pair $(r, 1)$)

class COMBINER
    method COMBINE(string t, pairs $[(s_1, c_1), (s_2, c_2) \ldots]$)
        $sum \leftarrow 0$
        $cnt \leftarrow 0$
        for all pair $(s, c) \in$ pairs $[(s_1, c_1), (s_2, c_2) \ldots]$ **do**
            $sum \leftarrow sum + s$
            $cnt \leftarrow cnt + c$
        EMIT(string t, pair (sum, cnt))

Calculating Mean: Modified Reducer

```
class Reducer
    method Reduce(string t, pairs [(s1, c1), (s2, c2) ...])
        sum ← 0
        cnt ← 0
        for all pair (s, c) ∈ pairs [(s1, c1), (s2, c2) ...] do
            sum ← sum + s
            cnt ← cnt + c
        r_avg ← sum/cnt
        Emit(string t, integer r_avg)
```

Calculating Mean: With In-Mapper Combining

```
class Mapper
    method Initialize
        S ← new AssociativeArray
        C ← new AssociativeArray
    method Map(string t, integer r)
        S{t} ← S{t} + r
        C{t} ← C{t} + 1
    method Close
        for all term t ∈ S do
            Emit(term t, pair (S{t}, C{t}))
```

Another example: Unique Items Counting

There is a set of records. Each record has field F and arbitrary number of category labels $G = \{G1, G2, \ldots\}$. Count the total number of unique values of field F for each subset of records for each value of any label.

```
Record 1: F=1, G={a, b}
Record 2: F=2, G={a, d, e}
Record 3: F=1, G={b}
Record 4: F=3, G={a, b}

Result:
a -> 3   // F=1, F=2, F=3
b -> 2   // F=1, F=3
d -> 1   // F=2
e -> 1   // F=2
```

- Come up with a two-pass solution.
- Come up with a one-pass solution that uses combining in the reducer.

Cross-Correlation

- There is a set of tuples of items. For each possible pair of items calculate the number of tuples where these items co-occur. If the total number of items is n, then $n^2 = n \times n$ values should be reported.
- This problem appears in text analysis (say, items are words and tuples are sentences), market analysis (customers who buy this tend to also buy that). If n^2 is quite small and such a matrix can fit in the memory of a single machine, then implementation is straightforward.
- We will study two ways to solving this problem that illustrate two patterns: *pairs* versus *stripes*.

Pairs and Stripes Patterns

- Pairs pattern. The mapper finds each co-occurring pair and outputs it with a count of 1. The reducer just adds up the frequencies for each pair. This requires the use of complex keys (a pair of words).
- Stripes pattern.
  - Instead of emitting intermediate key-value pairs for each co-occurring word pair, co-occurrence information is first stored in an associative array, denoted H . The mapper emits key-value pairs with words as keys and corresponding associative arrays as values.
  - The reducer performs an element-wise sum of all associative arrays with the same key, accumulating counts that correspond to the same cell in the co-occurrence matrix. The final associative array is emitted with the same word as the key.
  - In contrast to the pairs approach, each final key-value pair encodes a row in the co-occurrence matrix.

Calculating Co-occurrences: With Pairs Pattern

```
class Mapper
    method Map(docid a, doc d)
        for all term w ∈ doc d do
            for all term u ∈ Neighbors(w) do
                Emit(pair (w, u), count 1)          ▷ Emit count for each co-occurrence

class Reducer
    method Reduce(pair p, counts [c1, c2, ...])
        s ← 0
        for all count c ∈ counts [c1, c2, ...] do
            s ← s + c                                ▷ Sum co-occurrence counts
        Emit(pair p, count s)
```

Calculating Co-occurrences: With Stripes Pattern

```
class Mapper
    method Map(docid a, doc d)
        for all term w ∈ doc d do
            H ← new AssociativeArray
            for all term u ∈ Neighbors(w) do
                H{u} ← H{u} + 1                     ▷ Tally words co-occurring with w
            Emit(Term w, Stripe H)

class Reducer
    method Reduce(term w, stripes [H1, H2, H3, . . .])
        Hf ← new AssociativeArray
        for all stripe H ∈ stripes [H1, H2, H3, . . .] do
            Sum(Hf, H)                              ▷ Element-wise sum
        Emit(term w, stripe Hf)
```

Pairs versus Stripes

- *Stripes* generates fewer intermediate keys than *Pairs* approach.
- *Stripes* benefits more from combiners and can be done with in-memory combiners.
- *Stripes* is, in general, faster.
- *Stripes* requires more complex implementation.

References

- Jimmy Lin and Chris Dyer. Chapter 3 in *Data-Intensive Text Processing with MapReduce*.
- Ilya Katsov. *MapReduce Patterns, Algorithms, and Use Cases*. `http://highlyscalable.wordpress.com/2012/02/01/mapreduce-patterns/`