Location-Centric View Selection in a Location-Based Feed-Following System

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Location-Based Feed-Following Systems

• Location-based, augmented-reality mobile game

• Smart Vehicle and Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) communication





Preliminaries

- Both feeds and users have time-varying locations
- Each user
 - subscribes to feeds located within a pre-defined proximity: r
 - receives updates when online or for every predefined time interval
- User query Q consists of
 - A ranking function that ranks the messages
 - Aggregate function across messages from multiple feeds: top-k and diversified top-k







Query Processing



Pull

Push

Problem Statement

• Problem:

Given

- 1) a set of moving users $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{U}}$, and
- 2) a set of moving feeds \mathcal{F} ,

dynamically generate a plan \mathbb{P} , consisting of

- 1) a set of materialized views $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{V}}$, and
- 2) a set of query plans QP, one for each user.
- Cost Model of the plan

$$Cost(\mathbb{P}) = \sum_{v_i \in \mathcal{V}} M(v_i) + \sum_{u_j \in \mathcal{U}} EV(u_j, Vu_j)$$

View Maintenance cost Query evaluation cost

Challenges of Moving Users and Feeds

- User-centric paradigm
 - e.g. GeoFeed [1] and Feeding Frenzy [2]



[1] Jie Bao, Mohamed F. Mokbel, Chi-Yin Chow: GeoFeed: A Location Aware News Feed System. ICDE 2012: 54-65
[2] Adam Silberstein, Jeff Terrace, Brian F. Cooper, Raghu Ramakrishnan: Feeding frenzy: selectively materializing users' event feeds. SIGMOD Conference 2010: 831-842

Location-Centric Query Plans

- Grid partitioning
- Generate location-centric plans for each cell
- #query plans = #cells (rather than #users)
- Next step: algorithms to generate and optimize locationcentric views and query plans



Grid-Based View Algorithm

- Assume feeds are not moving at the moment
- Group users according to their query ranges, ranking functions and aggregate functions
- For each user group, do the following
- 1) For each cell, generate a view over all the feeds located in the cell
- 2) For each cell, generate a query plan for each user group



Composite-View Algorithm

- Extra maintenance cost, but
- Potentially lower query evaluation cost



Iterative Local Search

- 1) Start with an initial plan.
- 2) Iteratively combine two views to form a candidate composite view with the highest benefit.
- 3) Sort all the composite views in descending order of their benefits;
- 4) If the benefit is less than a threshold, discard it; otherwise add it to the list;
- 5) In any case, use minimum set cover algo to generate the query plans.
- The algorithm can be run to re-optimize existing plans.
- Worst-case complexity: $O(m \cdot n_{max}^2 \cdot |\mathcal{V}| + |\mathcal{V}|^2)$

#cells query range #views in #cells

Moving Feeds and Grid Granularity

- Virtual static feeds
 - One for each cell
 - Update messages are assigned to the virtual feeds according to their locations
- Grid granularity
 - trade-off between spatial accuracy and system workload
 - should be determined by the requirement of the applications

Implementation

- Query evaluator and optimizer implemented using Python
- Redis is used to store the materialized views



Experiments

- A cluster with 7 servers
 - each has 2x 2.66 Ghz CPUs, and 48GB RAM
 - 6 Redis nodes + 1 query executor
 - Interconnected with 40GBps network
- Methods for comparison
 - GeoFeed (user-centric)
 - GridView (only use grid-based view)
 - CompView (use both grid-based and composite views)
- Metrics:
 - Resource consumption.
 - Total CPU usage (CPU is the bottleneck in our setup)

Datasets and Scenarios

- Datasets:
 - GeoText (tweeter dataset, light workload)
 - BrightKite from SNAP (location-centric social network, heavy workload)
- Static Scenario
 - Fixed the users and feeds at the initial locations, and ignore their movements
- Dynamic Scenario

Dynamicity of the Datasets

• SNAP dataset has a higher dynamicity than GeoText



Varying Frequencies of Queries and Updates

 Location-centric (GridView and CompView) outperforms user-centric (GeoFeed), especially in dynamic cases



Varying Frequencies of Queries and Updates

• Similar conclusion on the SNAP dataset



Varying Grid Granularities

• With fine-grained grids, location-centric approaches perform even better under dynamic scenarios in comparing to static ones



Varying Grid Granularities



Moving Feeds

• Movements of feeds make the cost slightly higher



Conclusion

- We formulated query optimization problem in location-based feed-following systems.
- In a dynamic setting, location-centric query plans outperform user-centric ones.
- The use of composite views can further reduce the query processing cost.
- Future work:
 - Distributed query executor
 - Filtering features

