

Lucene 4 - Next generation open source search

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Community Portal targeting OpenSource Search



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Featured Topics

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Integrating Solr with JEE applications



So you have downloaded Solr, configured it, indexed your data and are now ready to integrate it with the rest of your enterprise Java

Featured Blog Entry

The ManifoldCF authorization model

Getting documents out of a repository and into Solr is only half of the problem, because it is a rare repository that does not attempt to restrict access to individual documents based on a user's... View in Context »



It's time for Apache Lucene EUROCON in Barcelona. A conference aimed at the European Apache Lucene / Solr open source search community. Two key contributors from SearchWorkings.org have been asked to participate and will be speakers at the event.



- Flexible Indexing
- IndexDocValues
- DocumentsWriterPerThread (DWTP)
- Automaton Queries
- Random & Pending Improvements

Architecture prior to Lucene 4.0



Architecture with Flexible Indexing









Good news / Bad news

- 90% will never get in touch with this level of Lucene
- the remaining 10% might be researchers :)
- However configuration options might be worth while

• Why is this cool again?



Apache



For Backwards Compatibility you know?





PostingsFormat Per Field





field: uid

• usually 1 doc per uid

- likely no shared terms
- needs to be super fast in a NoSQLish environment

field: spell

• large number of tokenized unique terms

- spelling correction no posting list traversal
- large amount of key lookups



- tokenized terms
- maybe used for spelling correction
- general document retrieval

field: body

PostingsFormat Per Field





Default - PostingsFormat

Using the right tool for the job..





Switching to Memory PostingsFormat



Speedup with Pulsing Codec



Number of random term lookups





Switching to BlockTreeTermIndex



- Stored Fields
- Segment Infos
- Norms and FieldInfos will be added soon
- IndexDocValues

IndexDocValues







Lucene is basically an inverted index - used to find terms QUICKLY!

1	The old night keeper keeps the keep in the town					
2	In the big old house in the big old gown.					
3	The house in the town had the big old keep					
	Where the old night keeper never did sleep.					
4	Where the old night keeper never did sleep.					
4 5	Where the old night keeper never did sleep. The night keeper keeps the keep in the night					

Table with 6 documents



	term	freq	Posting list
	and	1	6
	big	2	23
	dark	1	6
	did	1	4
	gown	1	2
	had	1	3
	house	2	23
	in	5	<1> <2> <3> <5> <6>
	keep	3	135
	keeper	3	145
	keeps	3	156
	light	1	6
	never	1	4
	night	3	145
	old	4	1234
	sleep	1	4
	sleeps	1	6
	the	6	<1> <2> <3> <4> <5> <6>
	town	2	13
	where	1	4



Yet, once we found the right terms the game starts....



What goes into the score? PageRank?, ClickFeedback?

How to store scoring factors?





Uninverting a Field



Lucene can un-invert a field into FieldCache





Simple Benchmark

- Indexing 100k, 1M and 10M random floats
- not analyzed no norms
- load field into FieldCache from optimized index

100k Docs	1M Docs	10M Docs
122 ms	348 ms	3161 ms

Remember, this is only one field! Some apps have many fields to load to **FieldCache**

The more native solution - IndexDocValues



- A dense column based storage
- 1 value per document
- accepts primitives no conversion from / to string
 - short, int, long (compressed variants)
 - float & double
 - byte[]
- each field has a **DocValues Type** but can still be **indexed** or **stored**
- Entirely **optional**



1 column per field and segment

field: time	field: id (searchable)	field: page_rank
1288271631431	1	3.2
1288271631531	5	4.5
1288271631631	3	2.3
1288271631732	4	4.44
1288271631832	6	6.7
1288271631932	9	7.8
1288271632032	8	9.9
1288271632132	7	10.1
1288271632233	12	11.0
1288271632333	14	33.1
1288271632433	22	0.2
1288271632533	32	1.4
1288271632637	100	55.6
1288271632737	33	2.2
1288271632838	34	7.5
1288271632938	35	3.2
1288271633038	36	3.4
1288271633138	37	5.6
1288271632333	38	45.0
integer	integer	float 32

- Length Variants:
 - Fixed / Variable
- Store Variants:
 - Straight or Referenced



fixed / deref



IndexDocValues - loading



Selective in-memory / on-disk Access





DocumentsWriterPerThread





Indexing Ingest Rate over time with Lucene 3.x Indexing 7 Million 4kb wikipedia documents

A whole lot of nothing.... prior to DWPT





Answer: it gives you threads a break and it's having a drink with your slow-as-s**t IO System

Keep you resources busy with DWPT





Title Text





Indexing Ingest Rate over time with Lucene 4.0 & DWPT Indexing 7 Million 4kb wikipedia documents

280% improvement





This might safe you some machines if you have to index a lot of text! I'd be interested in how much we can improve the CO2 footprint with better resource utilization.

Search as a DFA - Automaton Queries





Fuzzy: dogs~1

Fuzzy-Prefix: (dogs~1).*



Example DFA for "dogs" Levenshtein Distance 1







In Lucene 3 this is about 0.1 - 0.2 QPS



// a term representative of the query, containing the field.
// term text is not important and only used for toString() and such
Term term = new Term("body", "dogs~1");

// builds a DFA for all strings within an edit distance of 2 from "bla"
Automaton fuzzy = new LevenshteinAutomata("dogs").toAutomaton(1);

// concatenate this with another DFA equivalent to the "*" operator
Automaton fuzzyPrefix = BasicOperations.concatenate(fuzzy, BasicAutomata
 .makeAnyString());

// build a query, search with it to get results.
AutomatonQuery query = new AutomatonQuery(term, fuzzyPrefix);

Random Improvements



- Opaque terms use UTF-8 instead of UTF-16 (Java Strings)
- Memory footprint reduction up to 80% (new DataStructures etc.)
- DeepPaging support
- Direct Spellchecking (using FuzzyAutomaton)
- Additional Scoring models
 - BM25, Language Models, Divergence from Randomness
 - Information Based Models

Pending Improvements



- Block Index Compression (PFOR-delta, Simple*, GroupVInt)
- PositionIterators for Scorers
 - Offsets in PostingLists (fast highlighting)
 - Flexible Proximity Scoring
- Updateable IndexDocValues
- Cut over Norms to IndexDocValues



Thank you for your attention!

Maintaining Superior Quality in Lucene



- Maintaining a Software Library used by thousands of users comes with responsibilities
- Lucene has to provide:
 - Stable APIs
 - Backwards Compatibility
- Needs to prevent performance regression
- Lets see what Lucene does about this.

Tests getting complex in Lucene

- Lucene needs to test
 - 10 different Directory Implementations
 - 8 different Codec Implementation
 - tons of different settings on IndexWriter
 - Unicode Support throughout the entire library
 - 5 different MergePolicies
 - Concurrency & IO

Solution: Randomized Testing



- Each test is initialized with a random seed
- Most tests run with:
 - A random Directory, MergePolicy, IndexWriterConfig & Codec
- # iterations and limits are selected at random
- Open file handles are tracked and test fails if they are not closed
- Tests use Random Unicode Strings (we broke several JVM already)
- On failure, test prints a random seed to reproduce the test

Randomized Testing - the Problem

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- You still need to write the test :)
- Your test can fail at any time
 - Well better than not failing at all!
- Failures in concurrent tests are still hard to reproduce even with the same seed

Investing in Randomized testing



- Lucene gained the ability to rewrite large parts of its internal implementations without much fear!
- Found 10 year old bugs in every day code
- Prevents leaking file handles (random exception testing)
- Gained confidence that if there is a bug we gonna hit it one day