Big data: architectures and data analytics

MapReduce Programming Paradigm and Hadoop – Part 3

Counters
Counters

- Hadoop provides a set of basic, built-in, counters to store some statistics about jobs, mappers, reducers
  - E.g., number of input and output records
  - E.g., number of transmitted bytes
- Ad-hoc, user-defined, counters can be defined to compute global “statistics” associated with the goal of the application

User-defined Counters

- User-defined counters
  - Are defined by means of Java enum
    - Each application can define an arbitrary number of enums
  - Are incremented in the Mappers and Reducers
  - The global/final value of each counter is available at the end of the job
    - It is stored/printed by the Driver (at the end of the execution of the job)
The name of the enum is the group name
  - Each enum as a number of “fields”
- The enum’s fields are the counter name
- In mappers and/or reduces counters are incremented by using the increment() method
  - context.getCounter(countername).increment(value);

- The getCounters() and findCounter() methods are used by the Driver to retrieve the final values of the counters
User-defined Dynamic Counters

- User-defined counters can be also defined on the fly
  - By using the method incrCounter("group name", "counter name", value)
- Dynamic counters are useful when the set of counters is unknown at design time

Example of user-defined counters

- In the driver
  public static enum COUNTERS {
    ERROR_COUNT,
    MISSING_FIELDS_RECORD_COUNT
  }

- This enum defines two counters
  - COUNTERS.ERROR_COUNT
  - COUNTERS.MISSING_FIELDS_RECORD_COUNT
Example of user-defined counters

- This example increments the COUNTERS.ERROR_COUNT counter

- In the mapper or the reducer
  
  ```
  context.getCounter(COUNTERS.ERROR_COUNT).increment(1);
  ```

Example of user-defined counters

- This example retrieves the final value of the COUNTERS.ERROR_COUNT counter

- In the driver
  
  ```
  Counter errorCounter = job.getCounters().findCounter(COUNTERS.ERROR_COUNT);
  ```
MapReduce Programming Paradigm and Hadoop – Part 3

Map-only job

- In some applications all the work can be performed by the mapper(s)
  - E.g., record filtering applications
- Hadoop allows executing Map-only jobs
  - The reduce phase is avoided
  - Also the shuffle and sort phase is not executed
  - The output of the map job is directly stored in HDFS
    - i.e., the set of pairs emitted by the map phase is already the final output
Map-only job

- Implementation of a Map-only job
  - Implement the map method
  - Set the number of reducers to 0 during the configuration of the job (in the driver)
    - job.setNumReduceTasks(0);
Setup and cleanup method

- Mapper classes are characterized also by a setup and a cleanup method
  - They are empty if they are not override
  - The setup method is called once for each mapper prior to the many calls to the map method
    - It can be used to set the values of in-mapper variables
    - In-mapper variables are used to maintain in-mapper statistics and preserve the state (locally for each mapper) within and across calls to the map method

- The map method, invoked many times, updates the value of the in-mapper variables
  - Each mapper (each instance of the mapper class) has its own copy of the in-mapper variables
  - The cleanup method is called once for each mapper after the many calls to the map method
    - It can be used to emit (key, value) pairs based on the values of the in-mapper variables/statistics
In-Mapper Combiners

- In-Mapper Combiners, a possible improvement over “standard” Combiners
  - Initialize a set of in-mapper variables during the instance of the Mapper
    - Initialize them in the setup method of the mapper
  - Update the in-mapper variables/statistics in the map method
    - Usually, no (key, value) pairs are emitted in the map method of an in-mapper combiner

- After all the input records (input (key, value) pairs) of a mapper have been analyzed by the map method, emit the output (key, value) pairs of the mapper
  - (key, value) pairs are emitted in the cleanup method of the mapper based on the values of the in-mapper variables
In-Mapper Combiners

- The in-mapper variables are used to perform the work of the combiner in the mapper
  - It can allow improving the overall performance of the application
  - But pay attention to the amount of used main memory
    - Each mapper can use a limited amount of main-memory
    - Hence, in-mapper variables should be “small” (at least smaller than the maximum amount of memory assigned to each mapper)

In-Mapper Combiner – Word count

Pseudo code

```java
class MAPPER
    method setup
        A ← new AssociativeArray

    method map(offset key, line l)
        for all word w ∈ line l do
            A{w} ← A{w} + 1

    method cleanup
        for all word w ∈ A do
            EMIT(term w , count A{w})
```
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