

CS 347
Distributed Databases and
Transaction Processing
**Distributed
Information Retrieval**

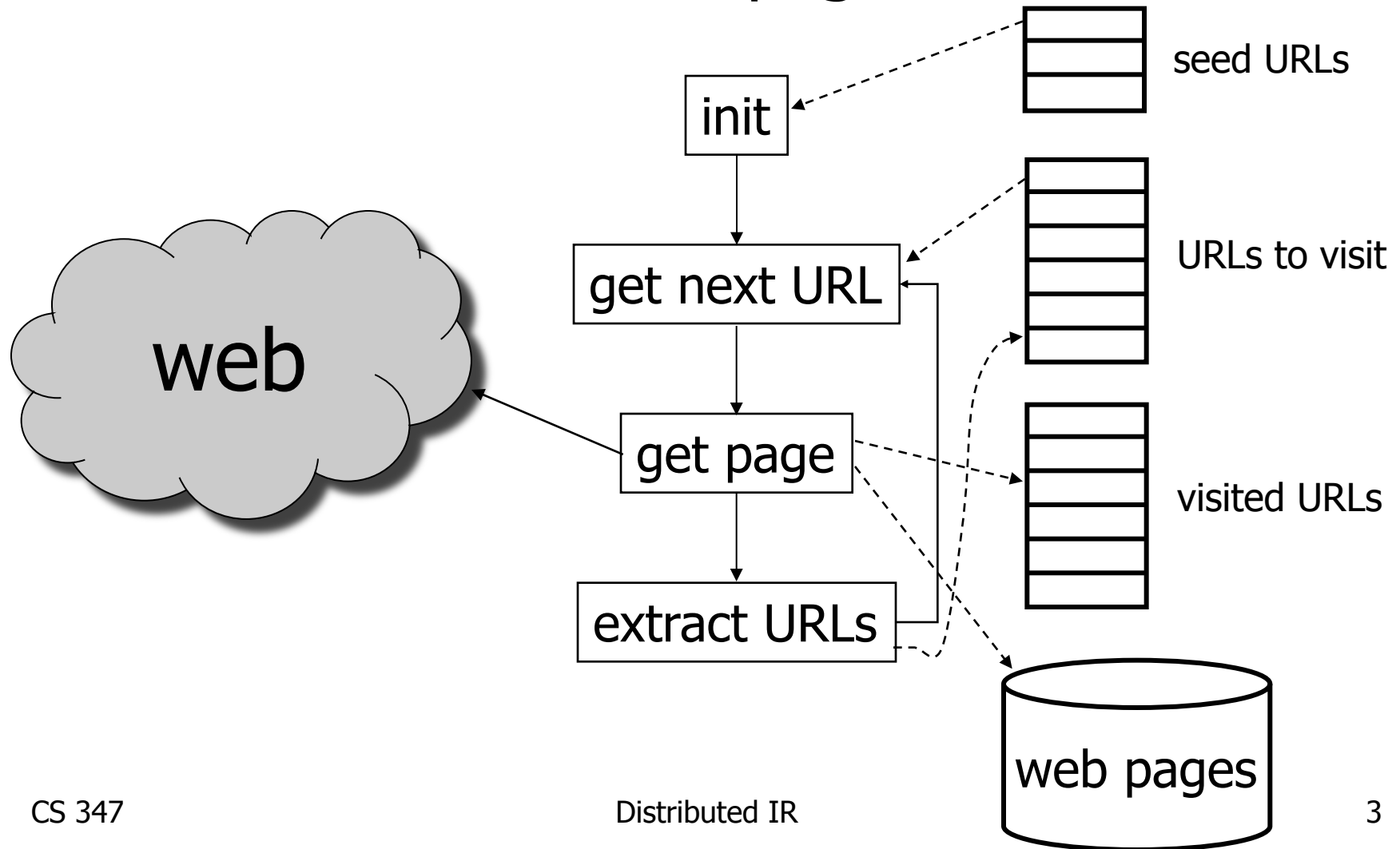
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Web Search Engine

- Crawling
- Indexing
- Computing ranking features
- Serving queries

Crawling

- Fetch content of web pages



Issues

- Scope and freshness
 - Not enough space/time to crawl “all” pages
 - Page importance, quality, and update frequency
 - Site mirrors and (near) duplicate pages
 - Dynamic content and crawler traps
- Load at visited web sites
 - Rules in robots.txt
 - Limit number of visits per day
 - Limit depth of crawl

Issues

- Load at crawler
 - Variance of fetch latency/bandwidth
 - **Parallelization and scalability**
 - Multiple agents
 - Partitioning URL lists
 - Communication between agents
 - Recovering from agent failure

Crawl Partitioning

- Requirements
 - Each URL assigned to a single agent
 - Locally computable URL-to-agent mapping
 - Balanced distribution of URLs across agents
 - Contravariance

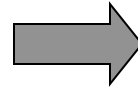
Contravariance

Agent A

url₁
url₃
url₅

Agent B

url₂
url₄
url₆



Agent A

url₁
url₂

Agent B

url₃
url₄

Agent C

url₅
url₆

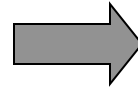
Contravariance

Agent A

url₁
url₃
url₅

Agent B

url₂
url₄
url₆



~~**Agent A**~~

~~url₁
url₂~~

~~**Agent B**~~

~~**url₃**
url₄~~

~~**Agent C**~~

~~url₅
url₆~~



Agent A

url₁
url₃

Agent B

url₂
url₄

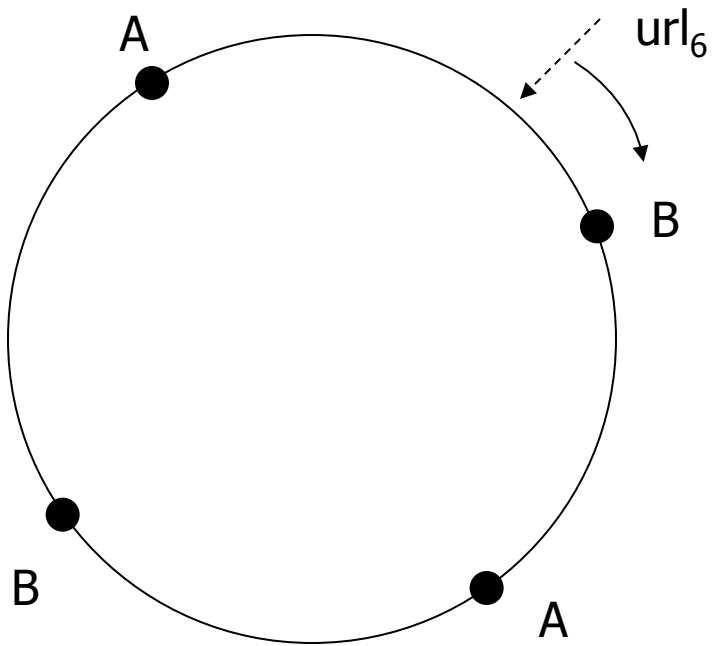
Agent C

url₅
url₆

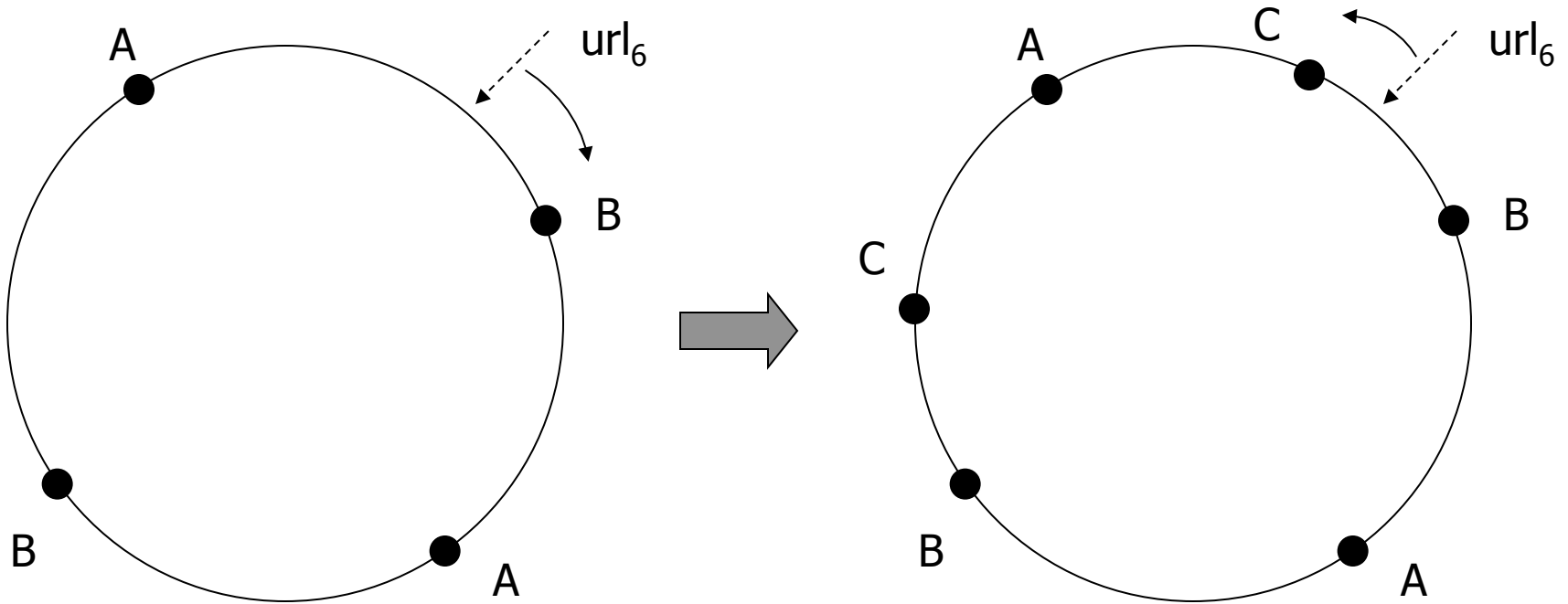
Assignment

- Consistent hashing
 - Hash function: URL \rightarrow agent
 - Each agent “replicated” k times
 - Each replica mapped randomly on unit circle
 - Mapping persistent across agent restarts
 - Lookup: map URL on unit circle; find closest live replica

Assignment



Assignment



- Balancing ✓
- Contravariance ✓

Crawl Partitioning

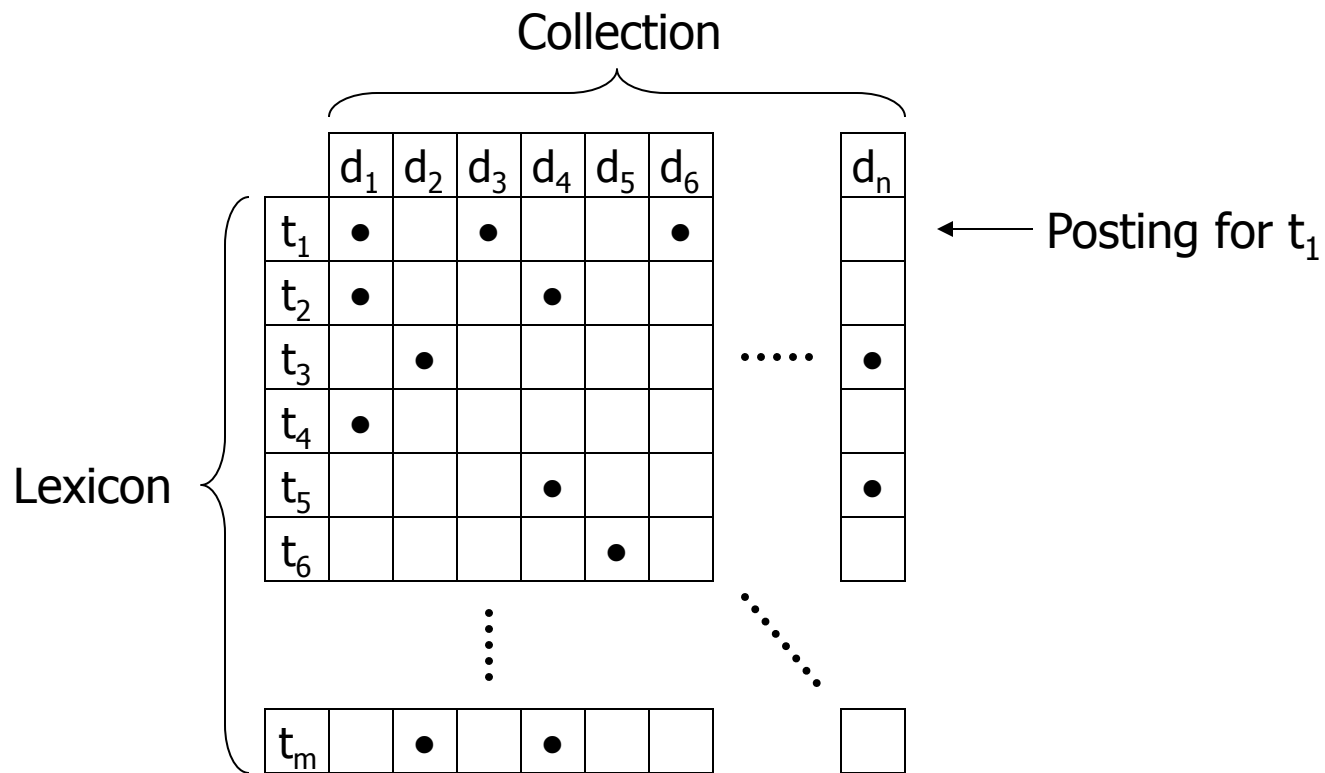
- Ideas
 - URL normalization
 - E.g., relative to absolute URL
 - Host-based partitioning
 - Reduces communication between agents
 - Small vs. large hosts
 - Geographic distribution

Fault Tolerance

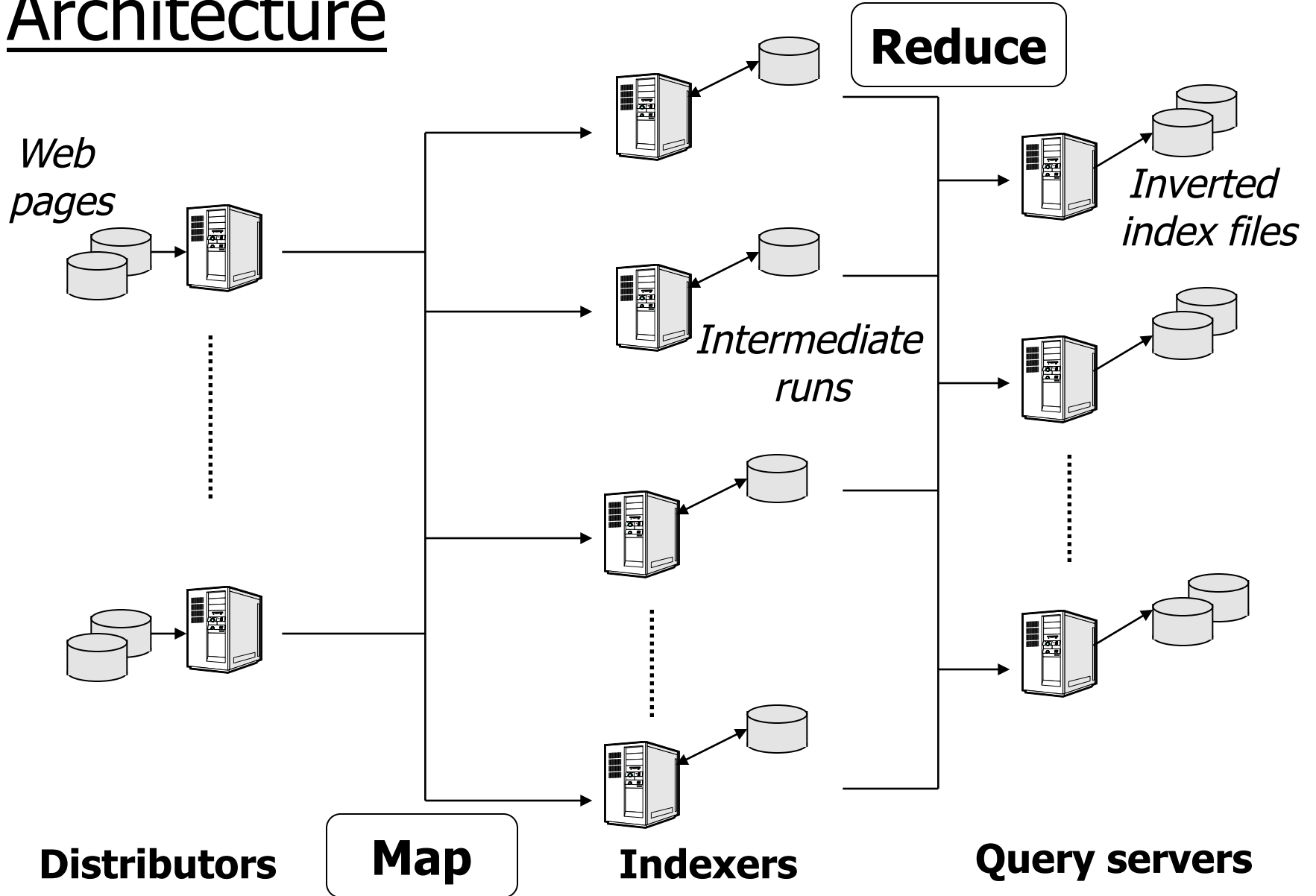
- Repartitioning ✓
- Permanent failure
 - Recovering list of URLs to visit
 - Checkpoints
 - Communication logs
- Transient failure
 - Avoiding re-visiting URLs
 - Before fetch, check with near neighbor agents

Indexing

- Build term-document index



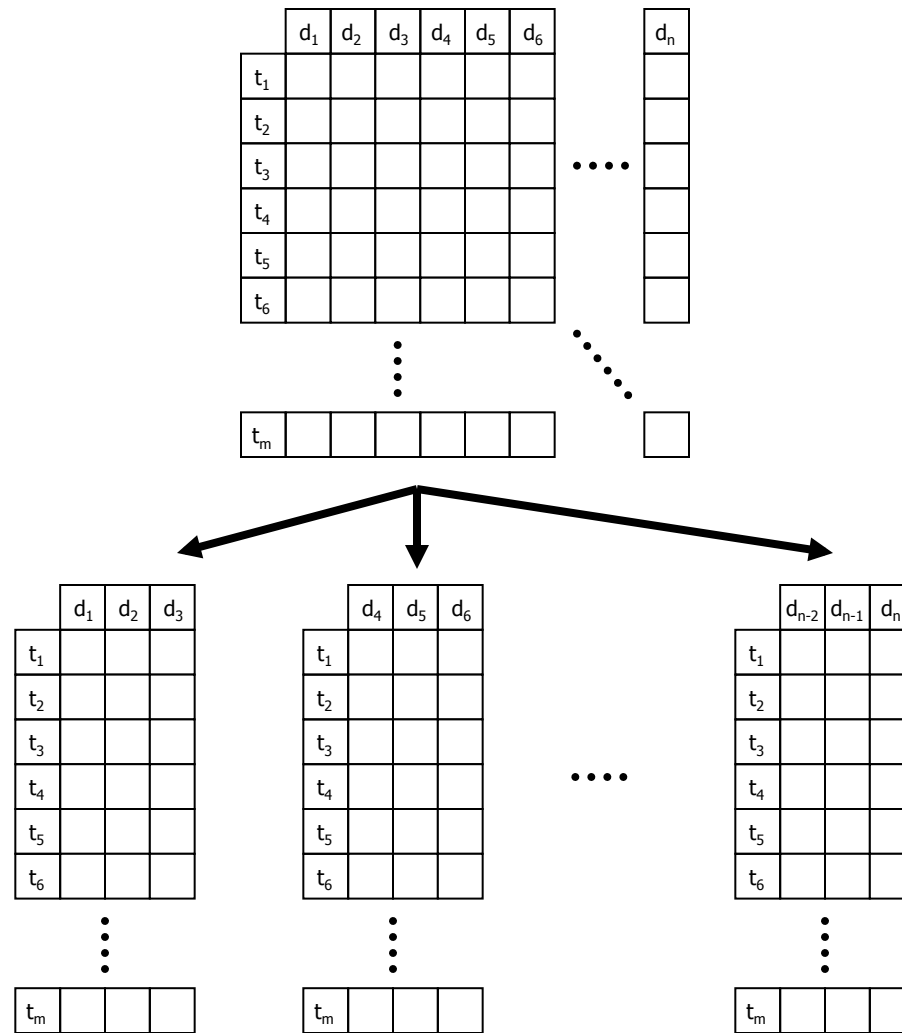
Architecture



Issues

- Index partitioning
 - Efficient query processing
 - Query routing
 - Result retrieval

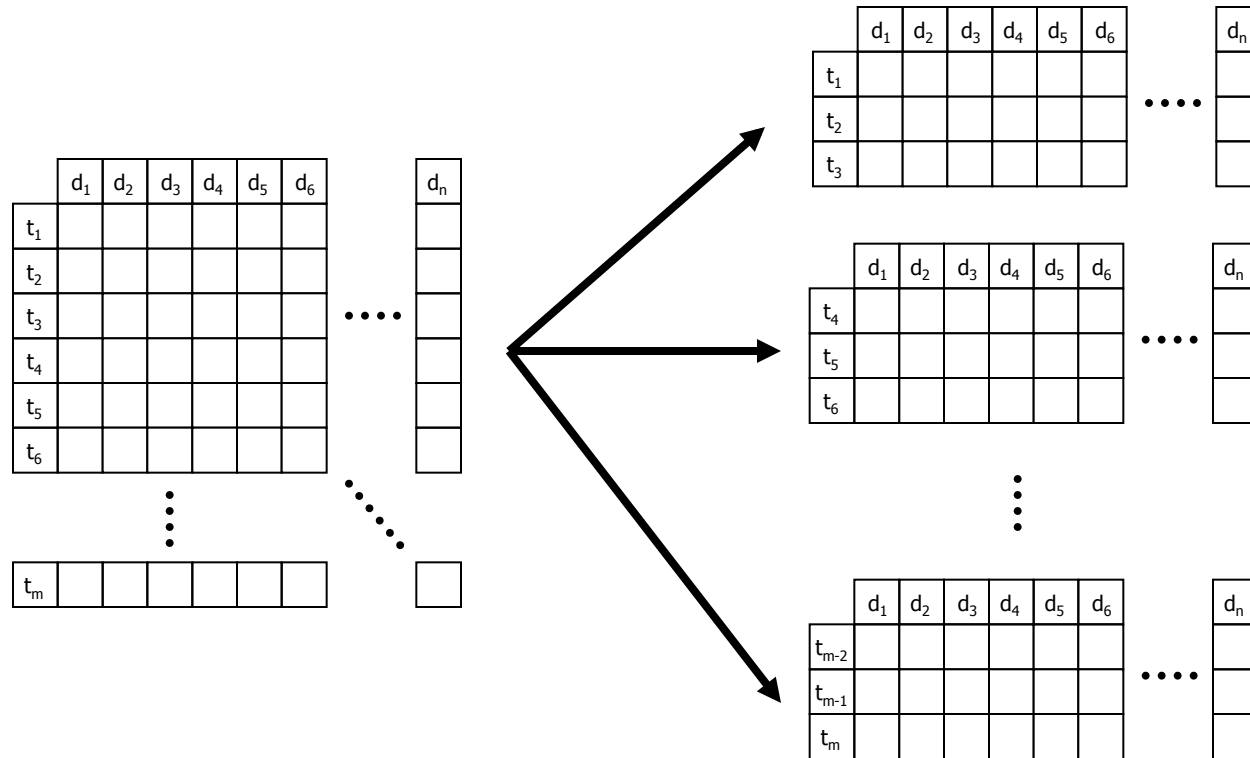
Document Partitioning



Document Partitioning

- Split the collection of documents
- Advantages
 - Easy to add new documents
 - Load balanced
 - High processing throughput
- Disadvantages
 - Communication with all query servers

Term Partitioning



Term Partitioning

- Split the lexicon
- Advantages
 - Reduced communication with query servers
- Disadvantages
 - More processing before partitioning
 - Adding new documents is hard
 - Load balancing is hard
 - Processing throughput limited by query length

Advanced Partitioning

- Topical partitioning using clustering
 - Documents clustered by term-similarity
 - Partitions made up of one or more clusters
- Usage-induced partitioning
 - Queries extracted from logs
 - Documents clustered by query-similarity
 - Partitions made up of one or more clusters

Ranking Feature Computation

- Parallel/distributed computation tasks
 - Text/language processing
 - Document classification/clustering
 - Web graph analysis

Example: PageRank

- Link-based global (query-independent) importance metric
 - Random surfer model
 - Start at a random page
 - With probability d , navigate to new page by following a random link on current page
 - With probability $(1 - d)$, restart at a random page
- ⇒ PageRank score = expected fraction of time spent at a page

Formula

$$p(x) = d \cdot \sum_{y \rightarrow x} p(y) / \text{out}(y) + (1 - d) / n$$

Formula

Probability of random restart at x

Out-degree of page y

$$p(x) = d \cdot \sum_{y \rightarrow x} p(y) / \text{out}(y) + (1 - d) / n$$

PageRank of page x

PageRank of y, where y links to x

Algorithm

$i = 0$

$p^{[i]}(x) = (1 - d) / n$

repeat

$i += 1$

$p^{[i]}(x) = (1 - d) / n$

for all $y \rightarrow x$

$p^{[i]}(x) += d \cdot p^{[i-1]}(y) / \text{out}(y)$

until $| p^{[i]} - p^{[i-1]} | < \epsilon$

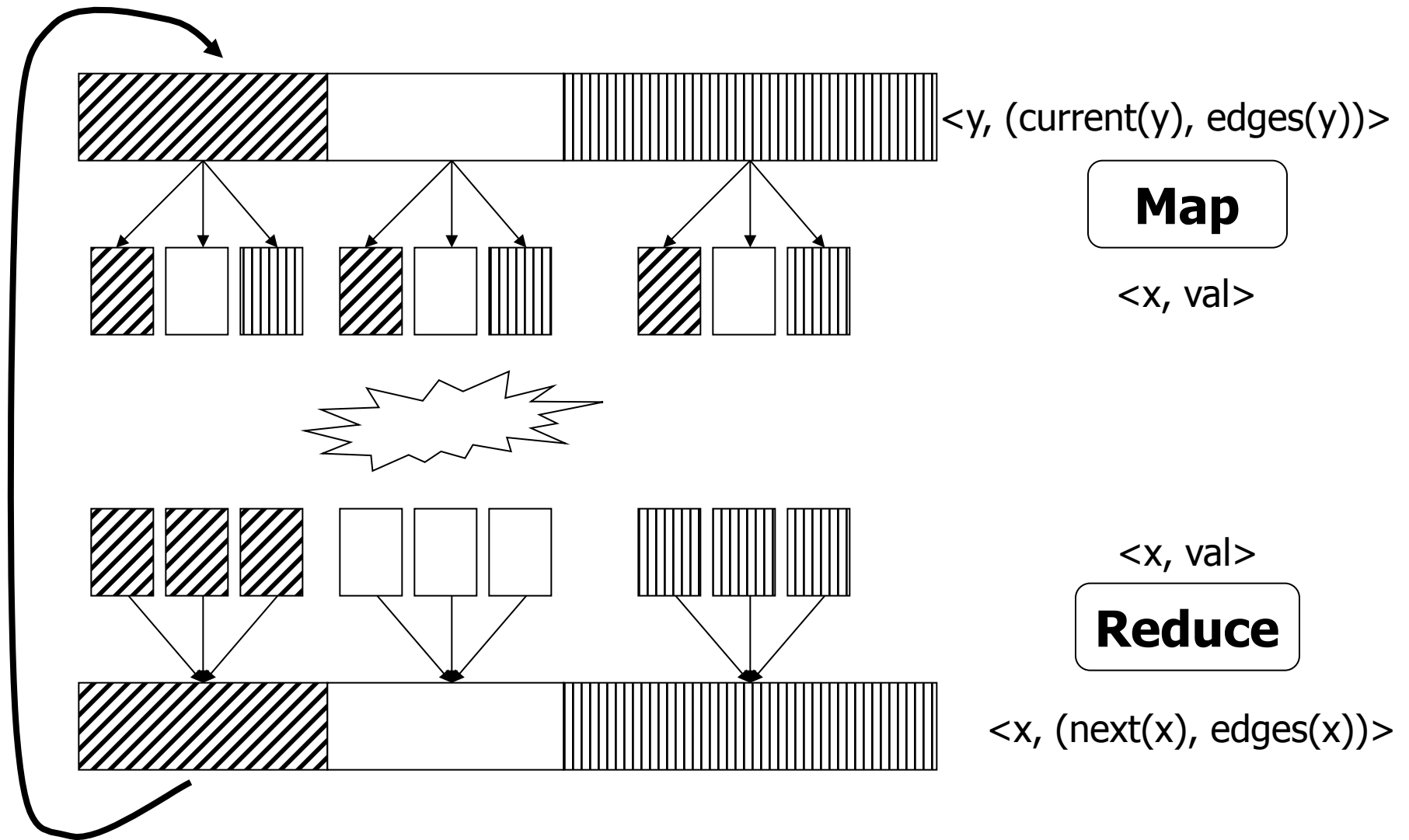
Implementation

- Two vectors, current and next
- Initialize vectors
- Iterate over all pages y , distribute PageRank from $\text{current}(y)$ to $\text{next}(x)$ for all links $y \rightarrow x$
- $\text{current} = \text{next}$, re-initialize next
- Go back to iteration over pages or stop

Distribution

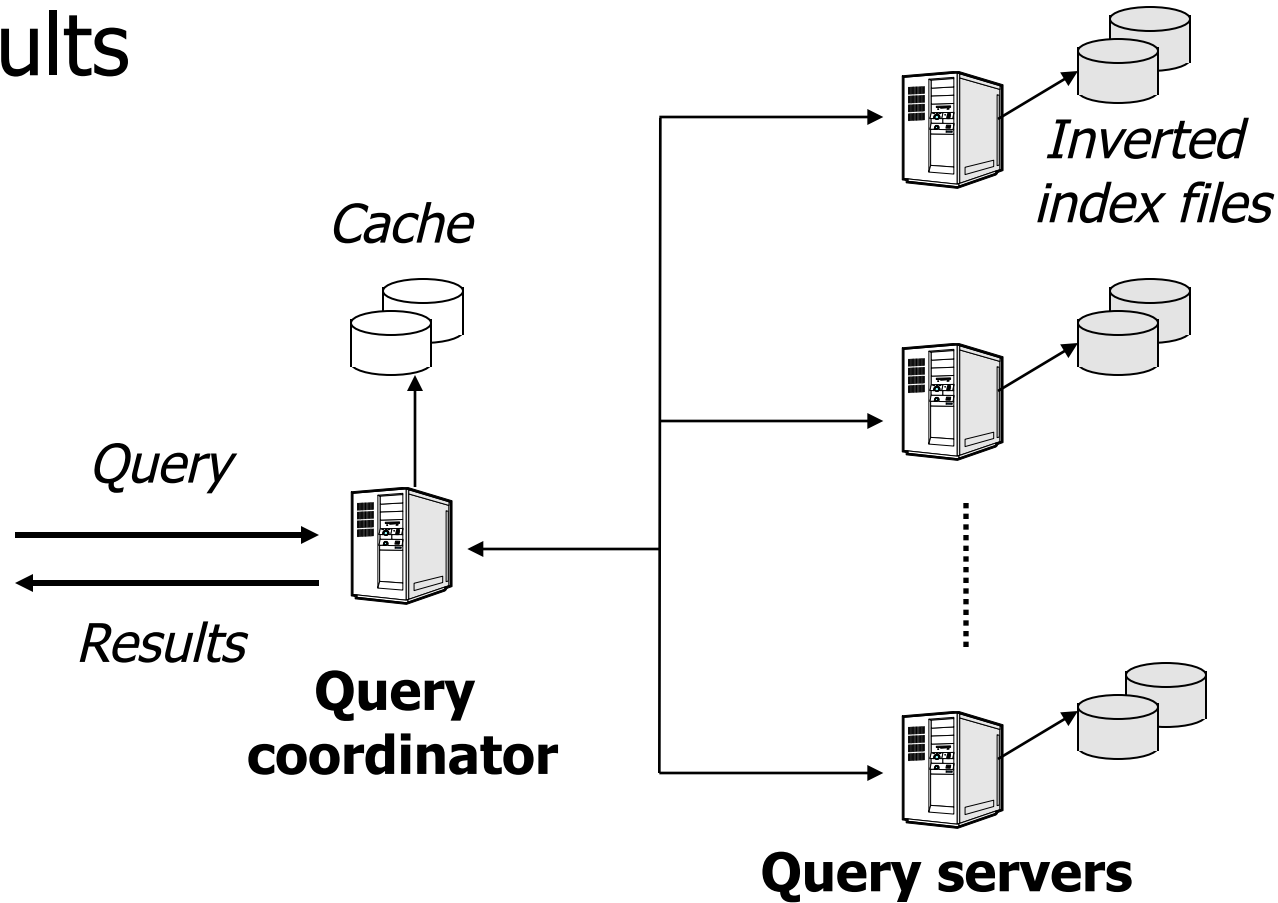
- MapReduce for each iteration i
- Map
 - Take $\langle y, (\text{current}(y), \text{edges}(y)) \rangle$
 - For each $y \rightarrow x$ in $\text{edges}(y)$
emit $\langle x, \text{current}(y) / |\text{edges}(y)| \rangle$
 - Also emit $\langle y, \text{edges}(y) \rangle$
- Reduce
 - Take $\langle x, \text{val} \rangle$ and $\langle x, \text{edges}(x) \rangle$
 - Sum $(d \cdot \text{val})$ into $\text{next}(x)$, add $(1 - d) / n$
 - Emit $\langle x, (\text{next}(x), \text{edges}(x)) \rangle$

Distribution



Query Processing

- Locate, retrieve, process, and serve query results



Architecture

- Multiple sites connected by WAN
 - Site = coordinator + servers + cache
- Partitioning
 - Parallel processing
 - Distributed storage of data
 - E.g., index partitioning
- Replication
 - Availability
 - Throughput
 - Response time

Issues

- Routing the query
 - To sites
 - E.g., identical sites + routing by dynamic DNS lookup
 - Within sites
- Merging the results
- Caching

Issues

	Routing	Merging
Document partition	All servers	Results selected by servers; ranking by coordinator
Term partition	Servers containing query terms	Selection and ranking by coordinator

Caching

- What to cache?
 - Query answers
 - Term postings

Caching

Query terms repeated more frequently
than whole queries

- What to cache?
 - Query answers
 - Faster response
 - Term postings ✓
 - More hits

Caching Policy

- Terms most frequent in queries
→ high hit ratio
- Terms most frequent in documents
→ require more cache space
(longer postings)
- Use static caching based on query/
document frequency ratio

Summary

- Crawling
 - Partitioning: balancing and contravariance
 - Consistent hashing
- Indexing
 - Document, term, topical, and usage-induced partitioning
- Computing ranking features
 - PageRank with MapReduce
- Serving queries
 - Routing queries, merging results, and caching postings