Lambda Architecture for Twitter real-time image processing

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Outline





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Introduction



- Big Data differs from traditional data processing through its use of parallelism, only by bringing multiple computing resources together we can process terabytes of data
- We need to find ways to analyze a large amount of data
- Lambda Architecture is a particular approach composed by:
 - batch layer: applies batch-oriented technologies (like MapReduce) on a master database. It is effective but it has a high latency
 - serving layer: specialized distributed database that supports batch updates and random reads
 - speed layer: only looks at recent data and uses low-latency techniques to update real-time views. It compensate for the high latency of the batch layer
- Image Processing applied to Big Data can produce some useful applications like to create clusters of a large amount of images and return the most representative ones.

Proposed approach



- The main goal was not a perfect image processing analysis but the implementation of the architecture
- Speed layer is started first with the keyword as arguments. It creates the speed layer tables at the start of the execution
- Only tweets that have images in their content and the hashtag formed by the keyword are selected

Image Processing with Lire



- Developed with LIRE (Lucene Image Retrieval) library
- We will use CEDD (Color and Edge Directivity Descriptor) to extract the 144-dimensional features vector from each image
- These vectors will be processed inside the K-Means algorithm implemented on MapReduce

Serving layer



Based on Apache HBase and composed by 4 tables:

- tweet master database: master database of the Lambda Architecture (< TweetID, Keyword, Path_img >)
- tweet real-time database: stores the tweets on which the real-time view is based (< Keyword, Path_img, Feature Vector >)
- batch view: result of the batch processing
 (< Feature Vector, NearestPath_img >)
- synchronization table: contains the start and the end timestamps of the batch processing (< StartTimeStamp, EndTimeStamp >)

Batch layer



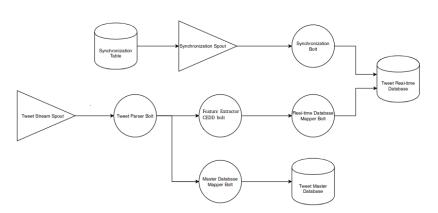
- Represented by Apache Hadoop
- Implements the K-Means algorithm inside MapReduce job on tweet master database
- Writes its results from scratch in batch view
- Writes the start and the end timestamps of the computation in synchronization table
- Two classes are created to simplify the K-Means algorithm.
 - Point : each tweet will be a Point (indexC, path_img, listOfFeatures)
 - Center (extends Point): it has an index and the numberOfPoint associated with it.

Batch layer



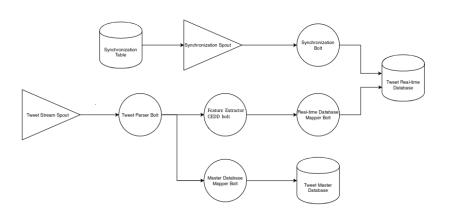
- Driver coordinate the job, set the configuration, create the initial center, start the K-Means loop in MapReduce and update the batch view
- Mapper takes a tweet in input and outputs a < Center, Point > tuple
- Combiner takes a < Center, Point > tuple as input and adds up all the vector features of the points associated with a center and returns a < Center, Point > tuple
- Reducer takes a tuple in input, do the average dividing the sum (computed in combiner phase) with the number of points associated with the center. The output will be a
 IntWritable, Center > tuple for each center required





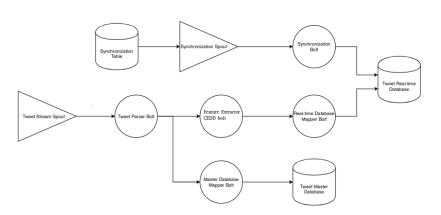
- tweet stream spout: gets a real-time stream of tweets with Twitter4i library and filters them
- tweet parser bolt: parse a tweet object to a tuple





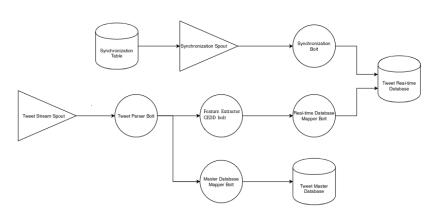
 master database mapper bolt: inserts tweets in tweet master database





- feature extractor CEDD bolt: extract a 144-dimensional vector from each image in input
- real-time database mapper bolt: inserts tuples in tweet real-time database





- synchronization spout: checks when batch processing ends
- synchronization bolt: deletes already processed tweets from tweet real-time database

Conclusions



- It has been shown an implementation of a Lambda Architecture capable of getting the most representative images of real-time tweets using several techniques together.
- The final result of K-Means can be seen in the "Hbase Shell" by looking the "tweet_batch_view" table
- As a future development could be added :
 - A GUI to visualize easily the result
 - A filter to select only the images that truly reflect the keyword
 - A different approach of K-Means