State of the ART: An Index Structure for Main Memory Databases

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With recent trends in hardware, main memory capacities have grown to an extent where most traditional DBMS can fit entirely into main memory. These changes introduced a new shift of the performance bottleneck from disk-based I/O to Main-Memory access.

While previous Index-Structure like the B-Tree were optimized for minimizing disk access, the adaptive radix tree (ART) is a trie-based index structure designed explicitly for in-memory usage. It utilizes newer architecture features like SIMD and caching effectively and compresses its structure dynamically, both horizontal and vertical. With these measures, ART achieves a performance that beats other state-of-the-art order-preserving index structures in both insertion and single-lookup time.

1 INTRODUCTION

The architecture of DBMS has constantly been evolving due to advances in hardware. Over the last few decades, main memory capacities increased from several megabytes up to thousands of gigabytes, such that nowadays, databases can fit entirely into main memory. This change significantly impacted the general architecture of DBMS, which resulted in performance improvements by several factors [1], [2].

The design of index structures used to query a set of data more efficiently was heavily influenced by the main performance bottleneck of disk I/O in traditional disk-based DBMS.

2 ADAPTIVE RADIX TREE

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3 CONSTRUCTING BINARY-COMPARABLE KEYS

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4 EVALUATION

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5 RELATED WORK

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6 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

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