# MINI LINK



# Data CoLab Test Task Task Report

Faranak Heydari

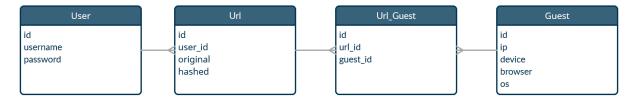
## What is Mini Link?

The idea is a program that makes your URLs shorter. Basically, you enter a URL and receive a short version of it. What you need to do and what you get:

- First, you need to sign up, so you can create a short URL.
- Second, you will create your short URLs.
- After sharing them, you can get reports based on different parameters.

# Behind the Scenes

Having in mind that our language is Python and our framework is Django Rest, in my opinion, the first step of the system design is designing its database. Based on the sign-up and analytics which are two use cases of our system, we know that there is a relation between our data so I considered an RDB (here I utilized from PostgreSQL) and designed an ERD for it:



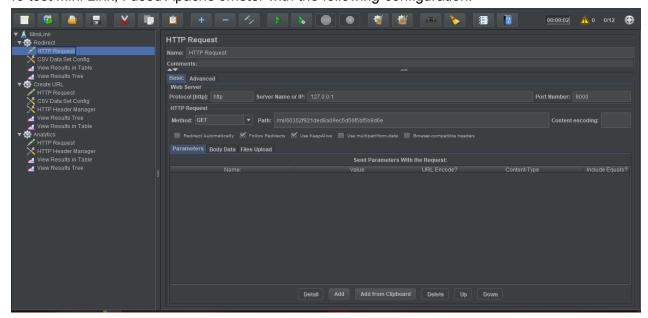
Then, I focused on the main use-case i.e. Redirecting. This is the most requested API among all APIs in Mini Link. Knowing that redirecting is nothing but a simple key-value like:

hashed\_ur ---> original\_url

I decided to use Redis for caching (storing) this key-value to speed up the redirecting process. The implementation is explained in the code.

# Benchmarks and Improvements

To test Mini Link, I used Apache Jmeter with the following configuration:



I set these configurations for each of the Thread Groups to send requests in one second (3 main use cases):

Redirect: 102 requests
Create Url: 6 requests
Analytics: 8 requests

To test the system, first of all, I used simple sequential coding for redirecting.

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In the beginning, I did not get good results even before using the Jmeter (I just simply tested the API with Postman)

After that, I tried Multi-Threading. Still, it did not seem like a good solution because I did not have to use Multi-Threading and waste system resources just to simply write to the database. I also tried Async IO, but I did not realize how I am going to use it in my problem.

In the mentioned sequential method, it took the program 1.29 seconds for one individual URL to redirect. Although It seemed like a good plan when I increased the number of requests, it got stuck and it took my program 7 to 113 seconds to redirect!

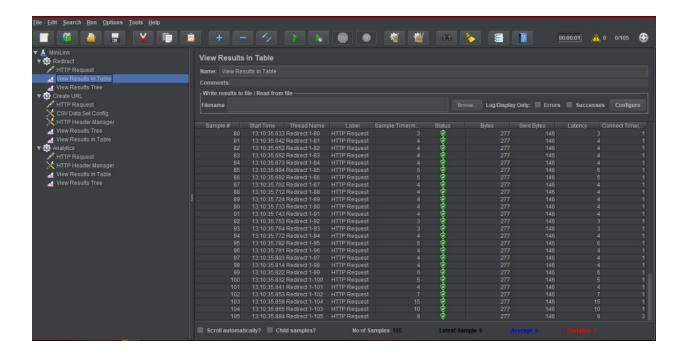
You can see the results in the following screenshots of Jmeter:



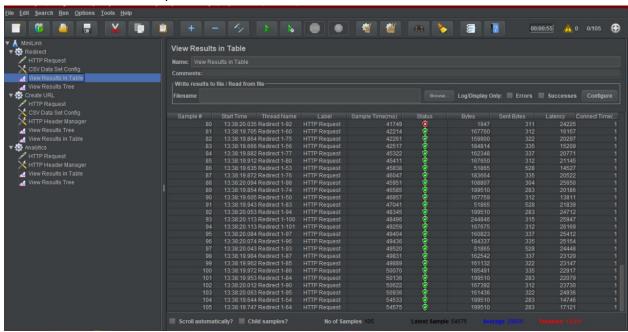
It occurred to me that maybe the issue is on the database side. Therefore, I commented the Postgres part of my code and checked the results again. However, it did not change much. Next, I thought it could be the Redis part of the code And I tried to use pooling as a solution. But before that, I commented all parts of the view and tested just the Redis part and I got these results:

No of Samples 105

Scroll automatically? 💹 Child samples?

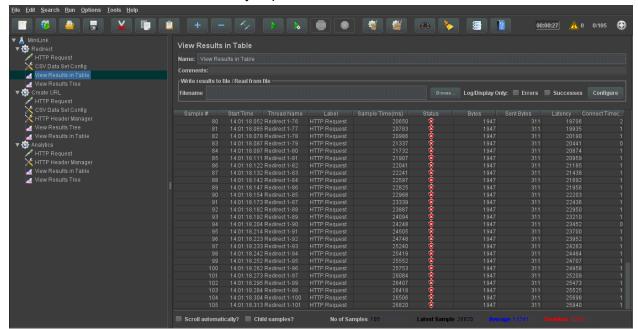


Seeing these results, made me realize that there is something wrong with the redirecting part of the program. After a few attempts, I realized that I have been requesting a fixed URL 105 times (LOL) and that was the bottleneck. As a solution, I made a dynamic URL and the results were 7 to 54 seconds for 105 requests.



These results made me realize there is something wrong with some URLs. Because some of them were responding well at first but after some requests, they took a lot of time to respond. It occurred to me that maybe some of these websites are taking too much time to load completely and because Jmeter waits to load the completed page, I decided to ignore the loading part of the sites and just test some test URLs; for example: "http://redirect-faranak-test.test/".

The duration of redirects considerably improved: 2-28 seconds.



Despite the improvements compared with the previous methods, the speed up was not enough. After some research, I came up with this solution where I could use a queue for sending and running my Postgres writings through the queue in the background and make the URL redirections faster.

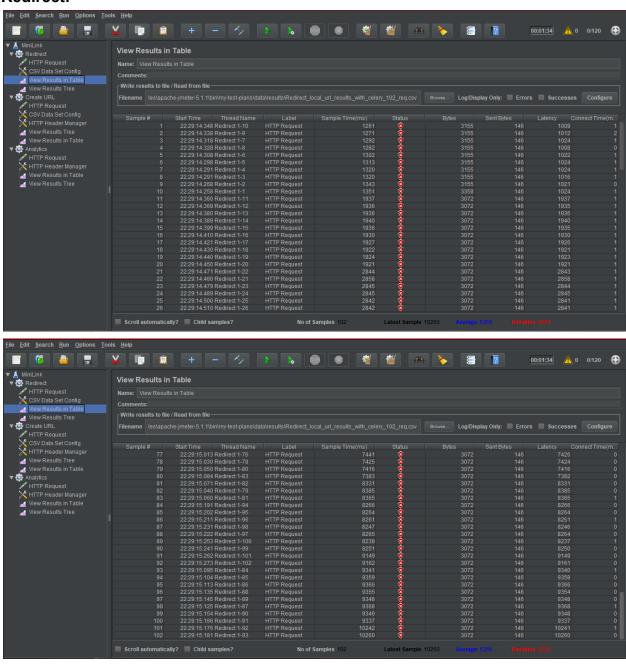
My options were Django-Carrot and Celery. Due to the lack of resources on Django-Carrot and the fact that its whole methods were new to me, I decided to go with Celery which I had experience working with.

Celery made a good improvement in the redirection process. The analytics part also could be implemented with Celery. But there are not many requests for that use case. Therefore, I let it be for now.

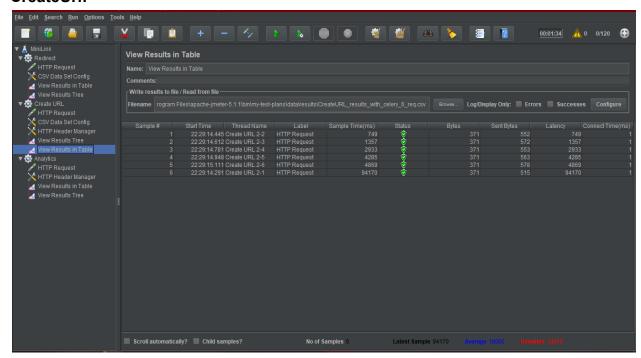
Here are the results of all requests using Celery:

Redirect: 1-10 seconds Create Url: 0.7-4 seconds Analytics: 0.1-4 seconds

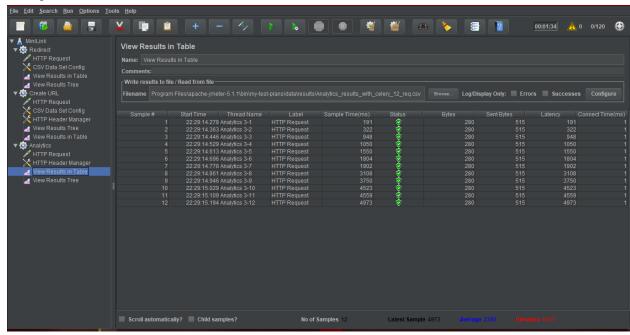
#### Redirect:



### CreateUrl:



# **Analytics:**



Note: You can find the Report files in email attachments (CSV format).