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**MapReduce: Past and Current Developments**

As the amount of data grows exponentially, so have the innovative technologies that enable us to process it. This cyclical relationship transpired again when in 2004, Google’s whitepaper on MapReduce was released detailing how a map() and reduce() procedure can be leveraged alongside a distributed system to process big data sets in parallel. Google used this approach in their challenge of indexing the web for their search engine. Since then, the capabilities of MapReduce has been pushed further to support scaled-out architectures and algorithms. To better understand how the MapReduce model has impacted to the world, it is wise to have a general overview of its design specifications, history, and practical use-cases in today’s data-hungry world.