

ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

MASTER THESIS

Turning Relaxed Radix Balanced Vector from Theory into Practice for Scala Collections

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ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

Abstract

School of Computer and Communications
Computer Science

Master in Computer Science

**Turning Relaxed Radix Balanced Vector
from Theory into Practice
for Scala Collections**

by Nicolas STUCKI

The Thesis Abstract is written here (and usually kept to just this page). The page is kept centered vertically so can expand into the blank space above the title too...

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Abbreviations

JIT	J ust I n T ime
RB	R adix B alanced
RRB	R elaxed R adix B alanced

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Main Section 1

1.2 Main Section 2

I

Chapter 2

Vector Structure and Operations

2.1 Radix Balanced Vectors

2.1.1 Tree structure

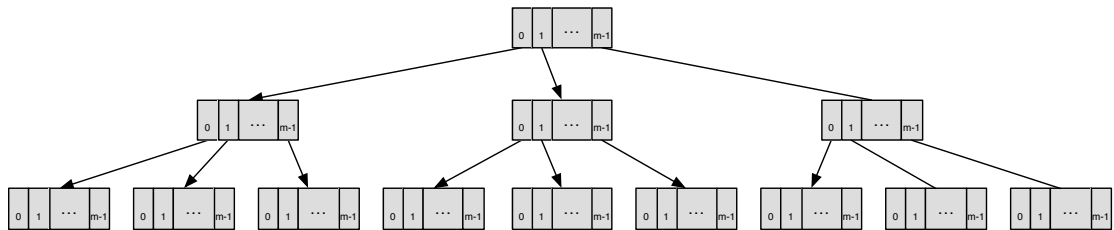


FIGURE 2.1: Radix Balanced Tree Structure

2.1.2 Operations

2.1.2.1 Apply

```
def apply(index: Int): A = {  
  def getElem(node: Array[AnyRef], depth: Int): A = {  
    val indexInNode = // get subindex  
    if(depth == 1) node(indexInNode)  
    else getElem(node(indexInNode), depth-1)  
  }  
  getElem(vectorRoot, vectorDepth)  
}
```

2.1.2.2 Updated

```
def updated(index: Int, elem: A) = {  
  def updatedNode(node: Array[AnyRef], depth: Int) = {  
    val indexInNode = // compute index  
    val copy = clone(node)  
    if(depth == 1) {  
      copy(indexInNode) = elem  
    } else {  
      copy(indexInNode) =  
        updatedNode(node(indexInNode), depth-1)  
    }  
    copy  
  }  
  new Vector(updatedNode(vectorRoot, vectorDepth), ...)  
}
```

2.1.2.3 Additions

Append

Prepend

Concatenation and Insert

2.1.2.4 Splits

2.2 Parallel Vectors

2.2.1 Splitter (Iterator)

To divide the work into tasks for thread pool, a splitter is used to iterate over all elements of the collection. Splitters are a special kind of iterator that can be split at any time into some partition of the remaining elements. In the case of sequences the splitter should retain the original order. The most common implementation consists in dividing the remaining elements into two half.

The current implementation of the immutable parallel vector [?] uses the common division into 2 parts for its splitter. The drop and take operations are used to divide the vector for the two new splitters.

2.2.2 Combiner (Builder)

Combiners are used to merge the results from different tasks (in methods like map, filter, collect, ...) into the new collection. Combiners are a special kind of builder that is able to merge its partial results efficiently. When it's impossible to implement an efficient combination operation, usually a lazy combiner is used. The lazy combiner is one that keeps all of its sub-combiners in an array buffer and only when the end result is needed are they combined. This is a fairly efficient implementation but does not take full advantage of parallelism.

The current implementation of the immutable parallel vector [?] uses the lazy approach because of its inefficient concatenation operation. One of the consequences of this is that the parallel operations will always be bounded by this sequential combination of elements, which can be beaten by the sequential version in many cases.

2.3 Relaxed Radix Balanced Vectors

2.3.1 Relaxed Tree structure

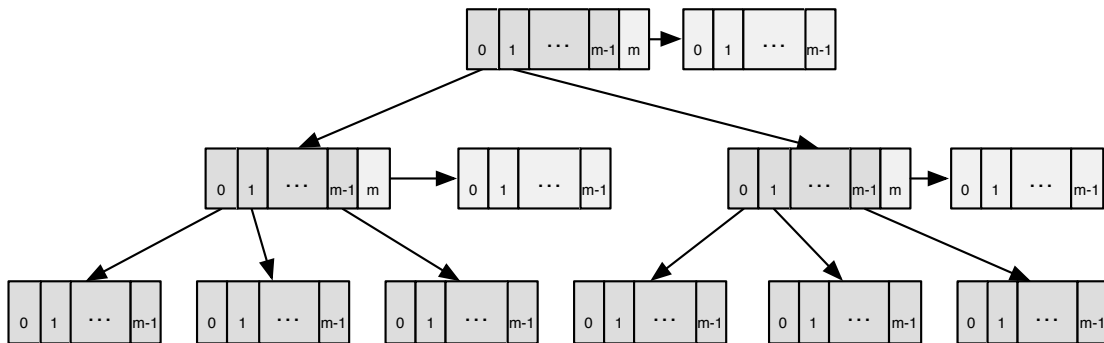


FIGURE 2.2: Radix Balanced Tree

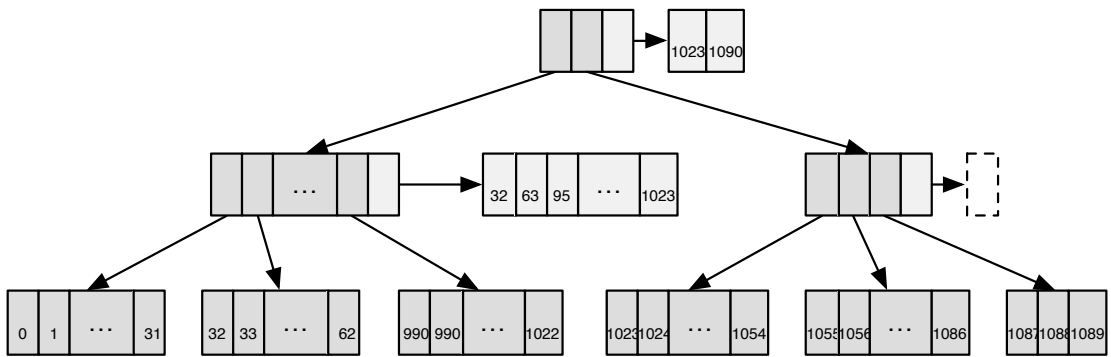


FIGURE 2.3: Relaxed radix example

2.3.2 Relaxed Operations

2.3.2.1 Apply (get element at index)

2.3.2.2 Updated

2.3.2.3 Additions

Append

Prepend

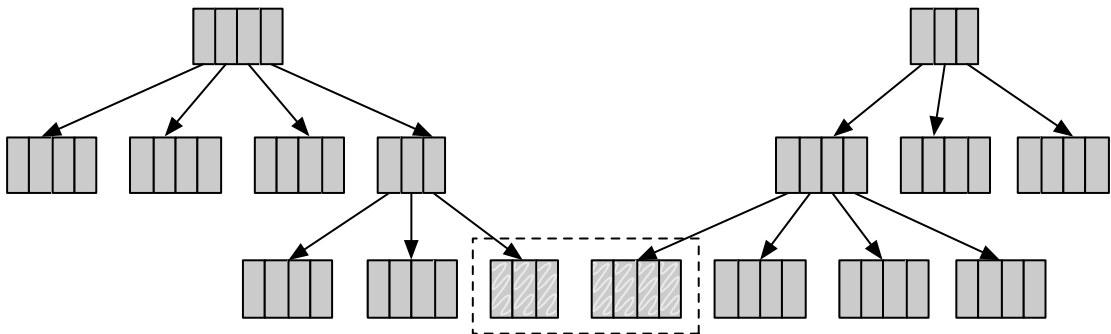


FIGURE 2.4: Concatenation example with blocks of size 4: Rebalancing level 0

Concatenation

Insert

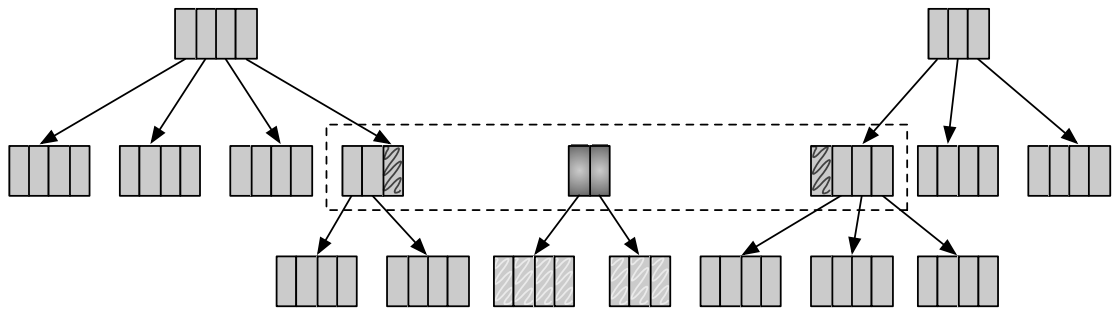


FIGURE 2.5: Concatenation example with blocks of size 4: Rebalancing level 1

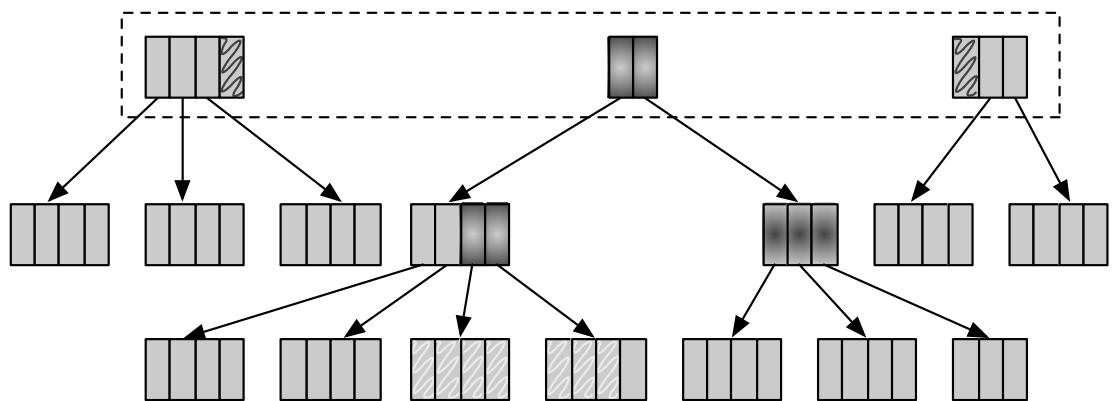


FIGURE 2.6: Concatenation example with blocks of size 4: Rebalancing level 2

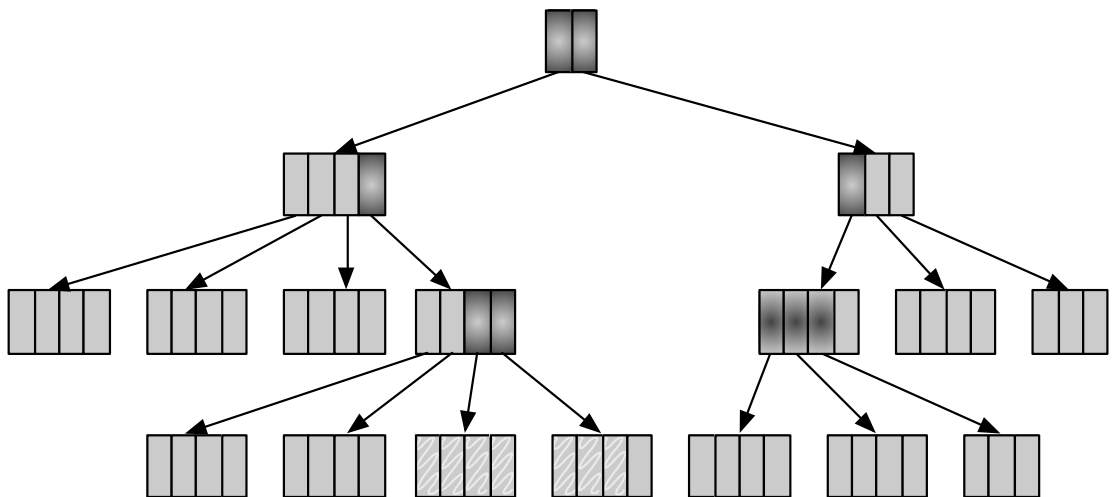


FIGURE 2.7: Concatenation example with blocks of size 4: Rebalancing level 3

2.3.2.4 Splits**2.3.2.5 Parallel Vector**

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Chapter 3

Implementation and Optimizations

3.1 Where is time spent?

3.1.1 Arrays

Most of the memory used in the vector data structure is composed of arrays. The three key operations used on this arrays: array creation, array update and array access. The arrays are used as immutable arrays, as such the update operations are only allowed when the array is initialised. This also implies that each time there is a modification on some part of an array, a new array must be created and all the old elements copied.

The size of the array will affect the performance of the vector. With larger blocks the access times will be reduced because the depth of the tree will decrease. But, on the other hand, increasing the size of the block will make slow down the update operations. This is a direct consequence of the need to copy the entire array for a single update.

3.1.2 Computing indices

Computing the indices in each node while traversing or modifying the vector is key in performance. This performances is gained by using low level binary computations on

the indices in the case where the tree is balanced. And, using precomputed sizes in the case where the balance is relaxed.

Radix Assuming that the tree is full, elements are fetched from the tree using radix search on the index. As each node has a branching of 32, the index can be split bitwise in blocks of 5 ($2^5 = 32$) and used to know the path that must be taken from the root down to the element. The indices at each level L can be computed with $(index \gg (5 \cdot L)) \& 31$. For example the index 526843 would be:

$$526843 = \underbrace{00\ 000000\ 00000}_{0} \underbrace{10000}_{16} \underbrace{00010}_{2} \underbrace{01111}_{15} \underbrace{11011}_{27}$$

```
def getSubIndex(indexInTree: Int, level: Int): Int =
  (index >> (5*level)) & 31
```

This scheme can be generalised to any block size m where $m = 2^i$ for $0 < i \leq 31$. The formula would be $(index \gg (m \cdot L)) \& ((1 \ll m) - 1)$. It is also possible to generalise for other values of m using the modulo, division and power operations. In that case the formula would become $(index / (m^L)) \% m$. This last generalisation is not used because it reduces slightly the performance and it complicates other index manipulations.

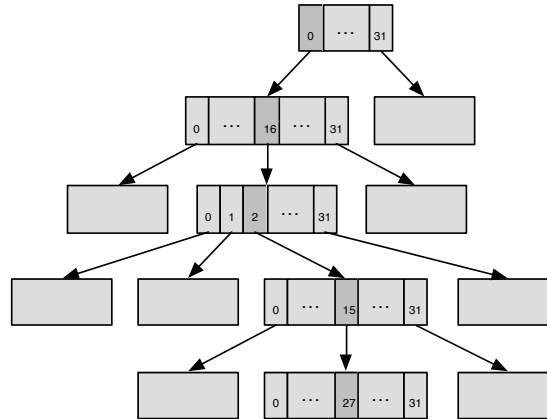


FIGURE 3.1: Accessing element at index 526843 in a tree of depth 5. Empty nodes represent collapses subtrees.

Relaxing the Radix When the tree is relaxed it is not possible to know the subindices from index. That is why we keep the sizes array in the unbalanced nodes. This array keeps the accumulated sizes to make the computation of subindices as trivial as possible. The subindex is the same as the first index in the sizes array where

$index < sizes[subindex]$. The simplest way to find this subindex is by a linearly scanning the array.

```
def getSubIndex(sizes: Array[Int], indexInTree: Int): Int = {
  var is = 0
  while (sizes(is) <= indexInTree)
    is += 1
  is
}
```

For small arrays (like blocks of size 32) this will take be faster than a binary search because it takes advantage of the cache lines. If we would consider using bigger block sizes it would be better to use a hybrid between binary and linear search.

To traverse the tree down to the leaf where the index is, the subindices are computed from the sizes as long as the tree node is unbalanced. If the node is balanced, then the more efficient radix based method is used from there to the leaf. To avoid the need of accessing and scanning an additional array in each level.

3.1.3 Abstractions

3.2 Displays

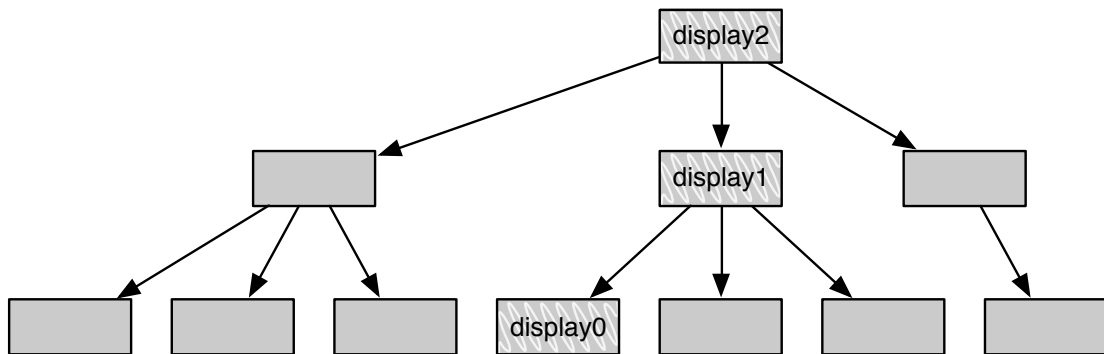


FIGURE 3.2: Displays

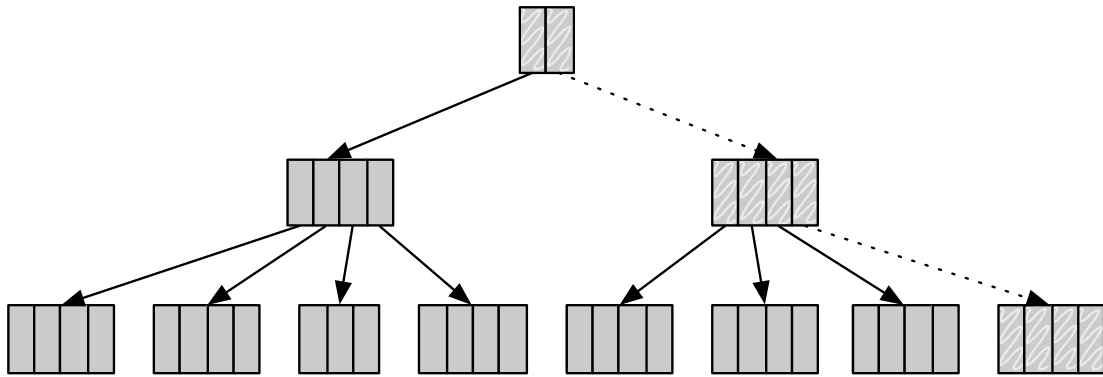


FIGURE 3.3: Radix Balanced Tree Transient state

3.2.1 As cache

3.2.2 For transient states

3.2.3 Relaxing the Displays

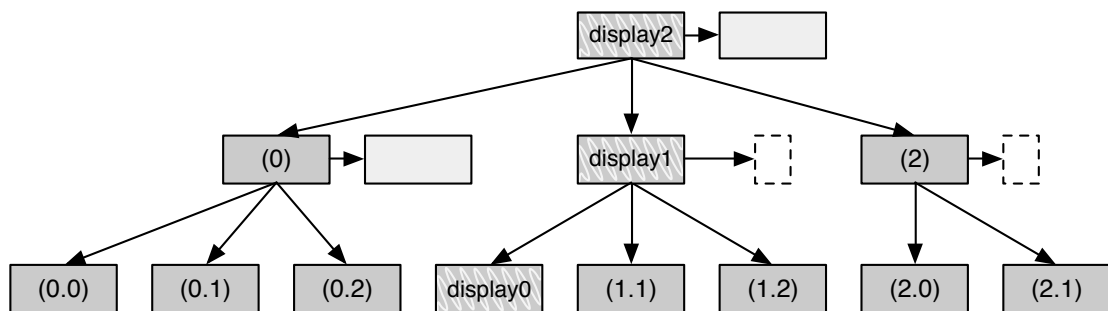


FIGURE 3.4: Radix Balanced Tree

3.3 Builder

Relaxing the Builder

3.4 Iterator

Relaxing the Iterator I

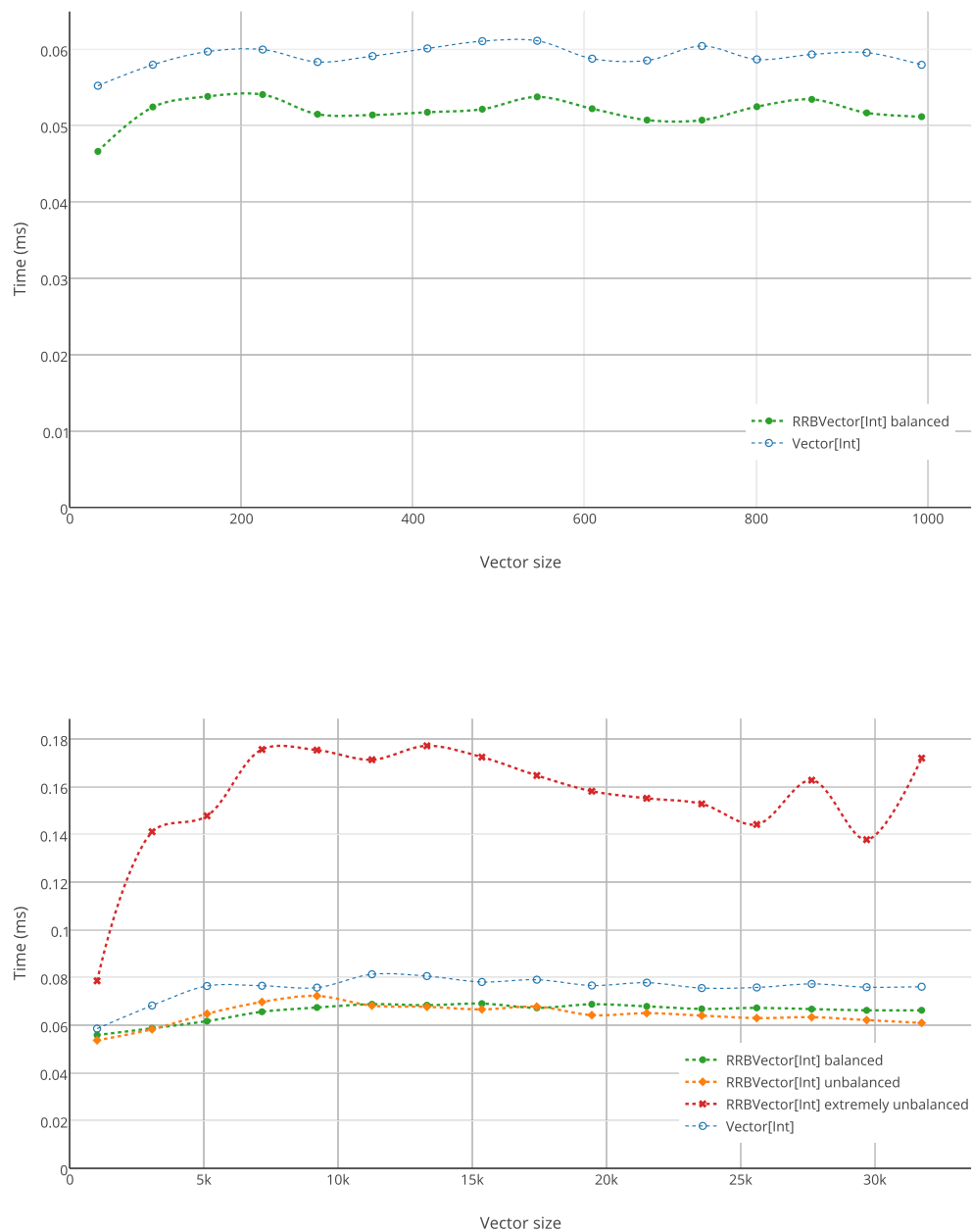


FIGURE 4.1: Time to execute 10k apply operations on sequential indices.

Chapter 4

Performance

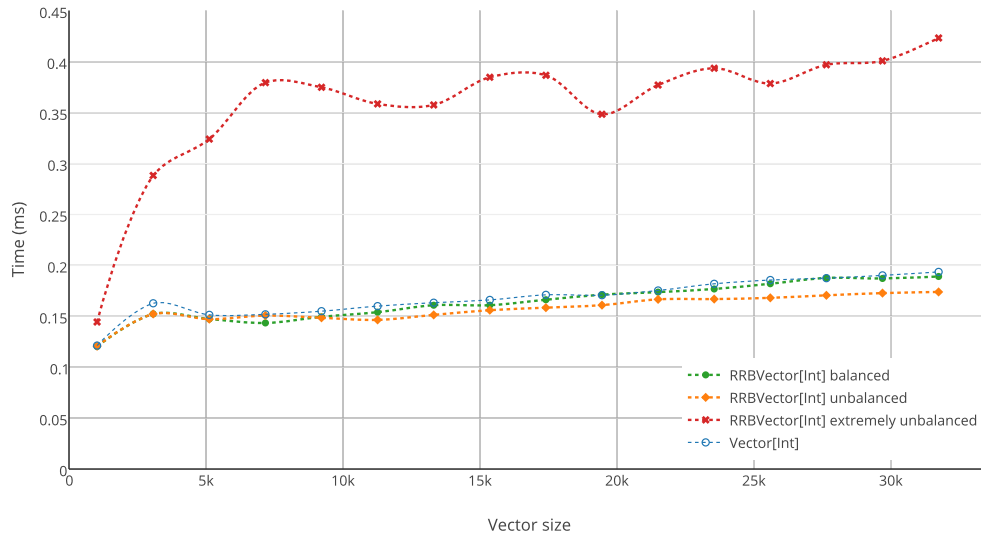


FIGURE 4.2: Time to execute 10k apply operations on random indices.

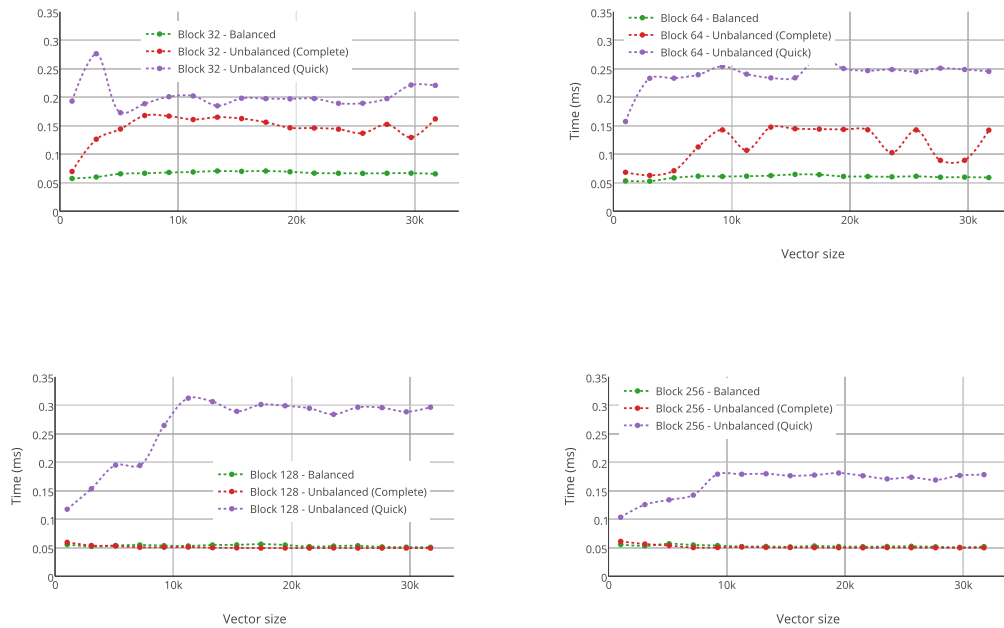


FIGURE 4.3: Time to execute 10k apply operations on sequential indices. Comparing performances for different block sizes and different implementation of the concatenation inner branch rebalancing (Complete/Quick).

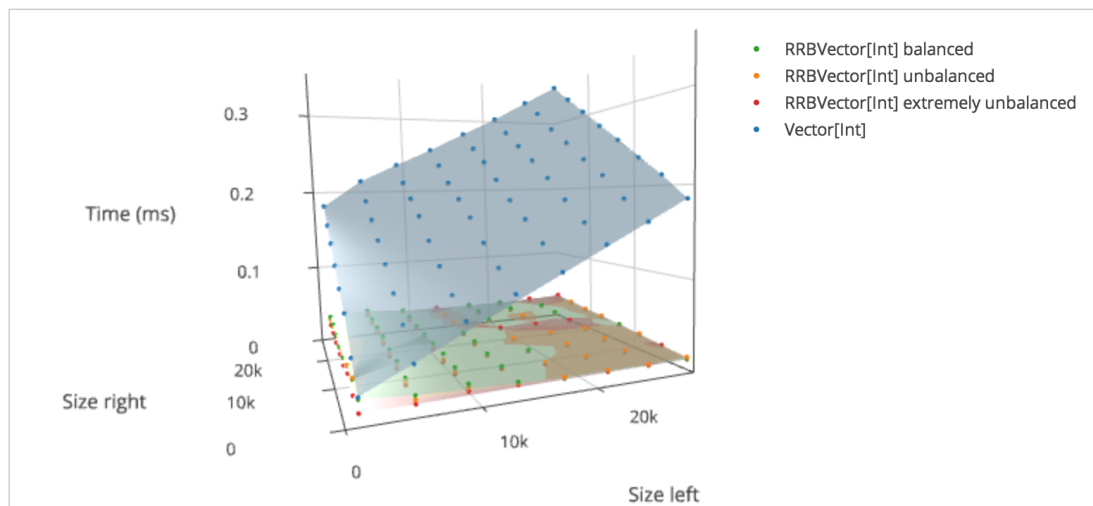


FIGURE 4.4: Execution time for a concatenation operation on two vectors. In theory (and in practice) Vector concatenation is $O(left + right)$ and the rrbVector concatenation operation is $O(\log_{32}(left + right))$.

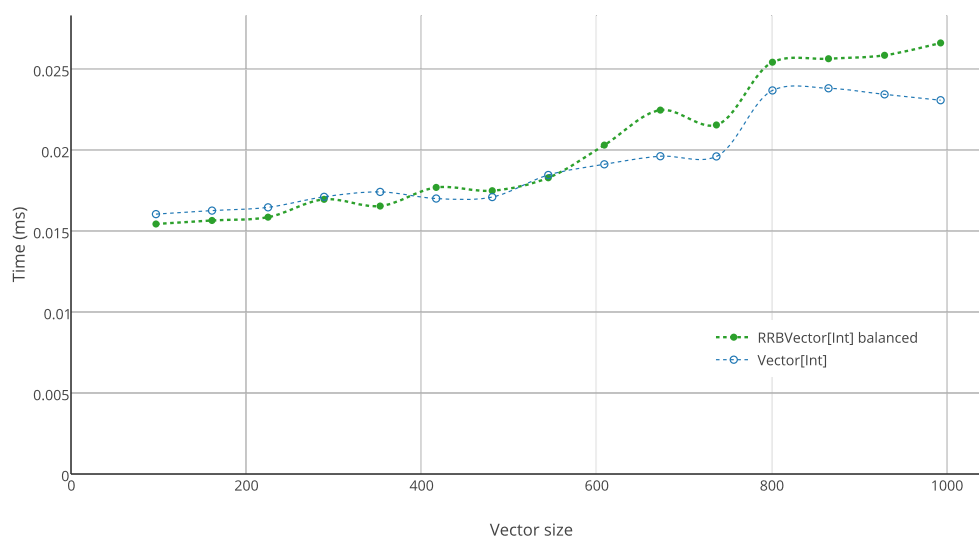


FIGURE 4.5: Time to execute 256 append operations. This shows the amortized cost of the append operation.

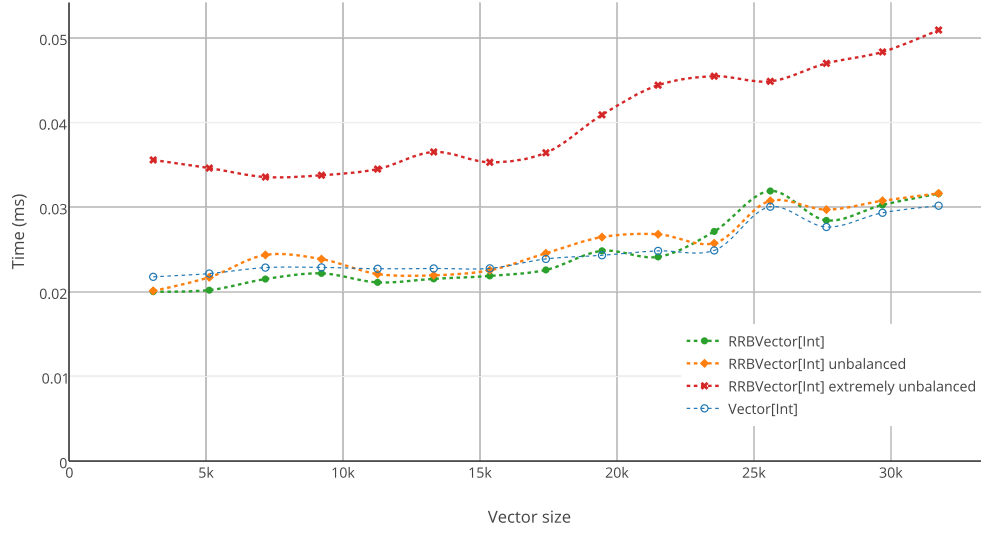


FIGURE 4.6: Time to execute 256 append operations. This shows the amortized cost of the append operation.

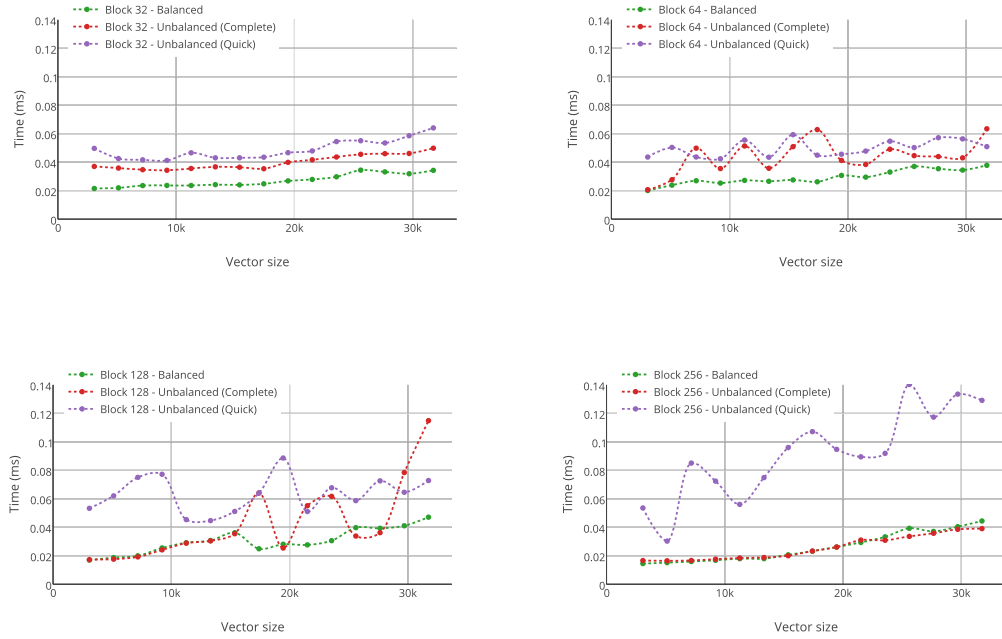


FIGURE 4.7: Time to execute 256 append operations. This shows the amortized cost of the append operation. Comparing performances for different block sizes and different implementation of the concatenation inner branch rebalancing (Complete/Quick).

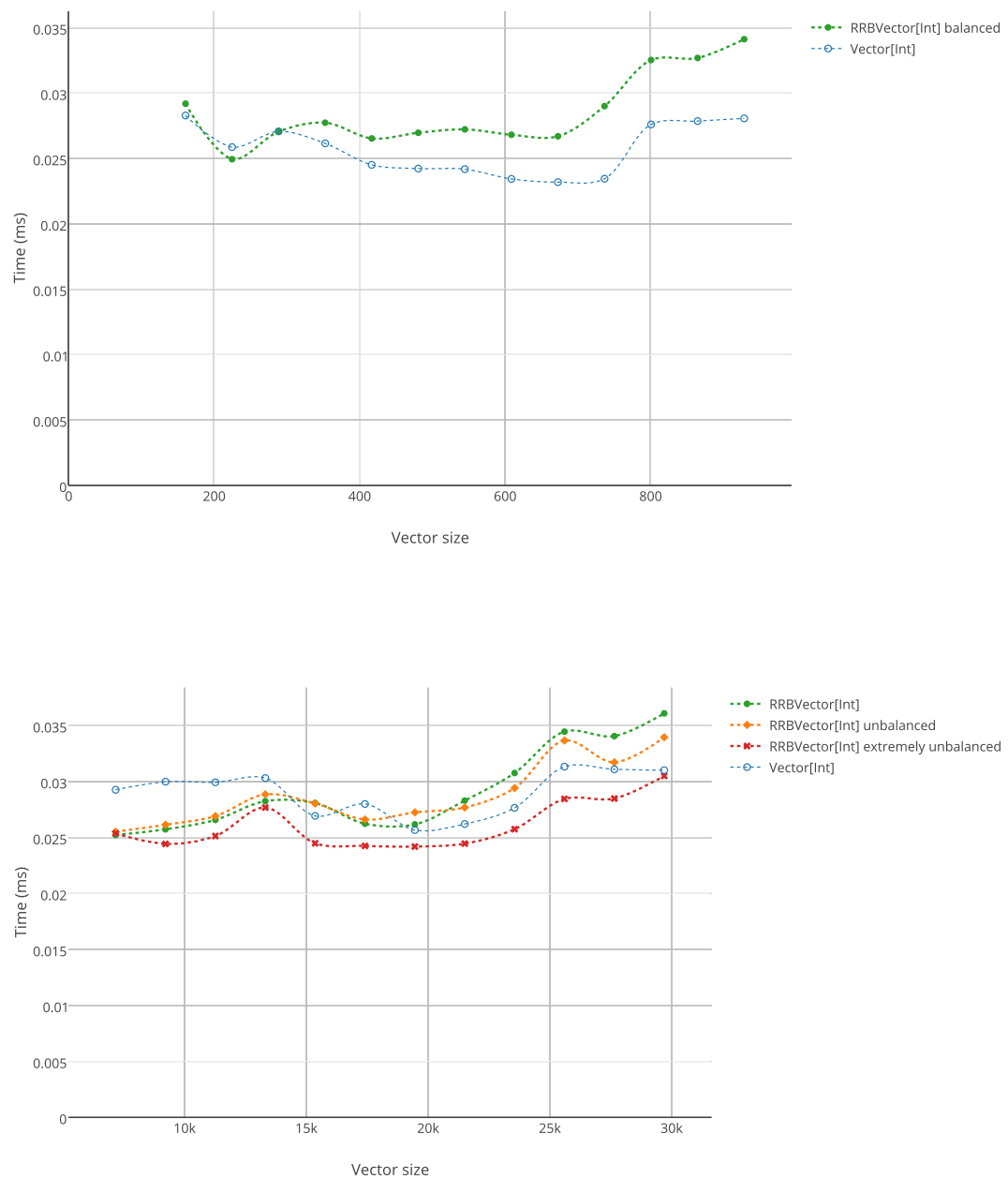


FIGURE 4.8: Time to execute 256 prepend operations. This shows the amortized cost of the prepend operation.

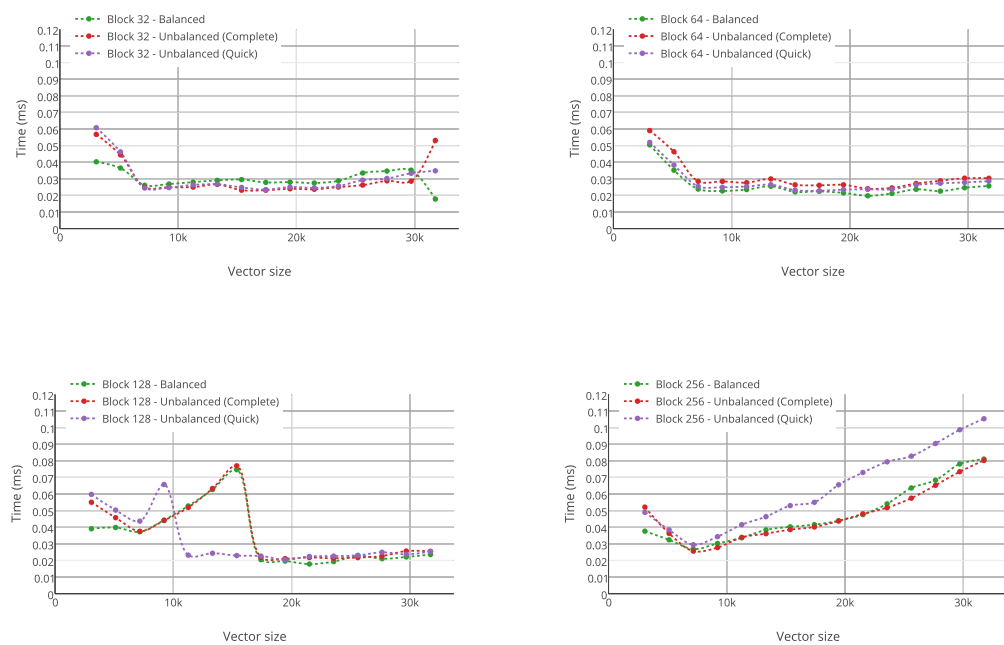


FIGURE 4.9: Time to execute 256 prepend operations. This shows the amortized cost of the append operation. Comparing performances for different block sizes and different implementation of the concatenation inner branch rebalancing (Complete/Quick).

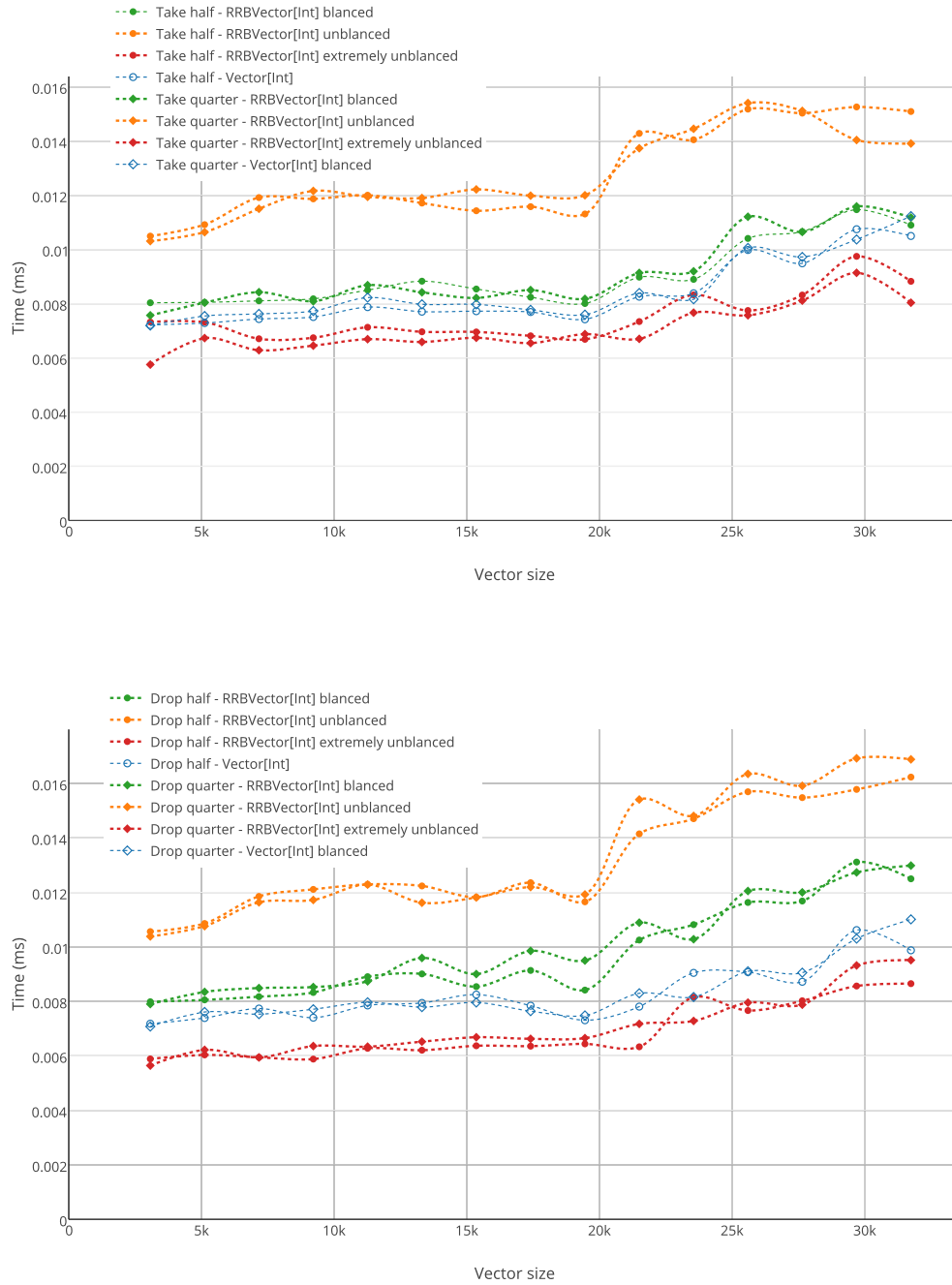


FIGURE 4.10: Execution time of take and drop.

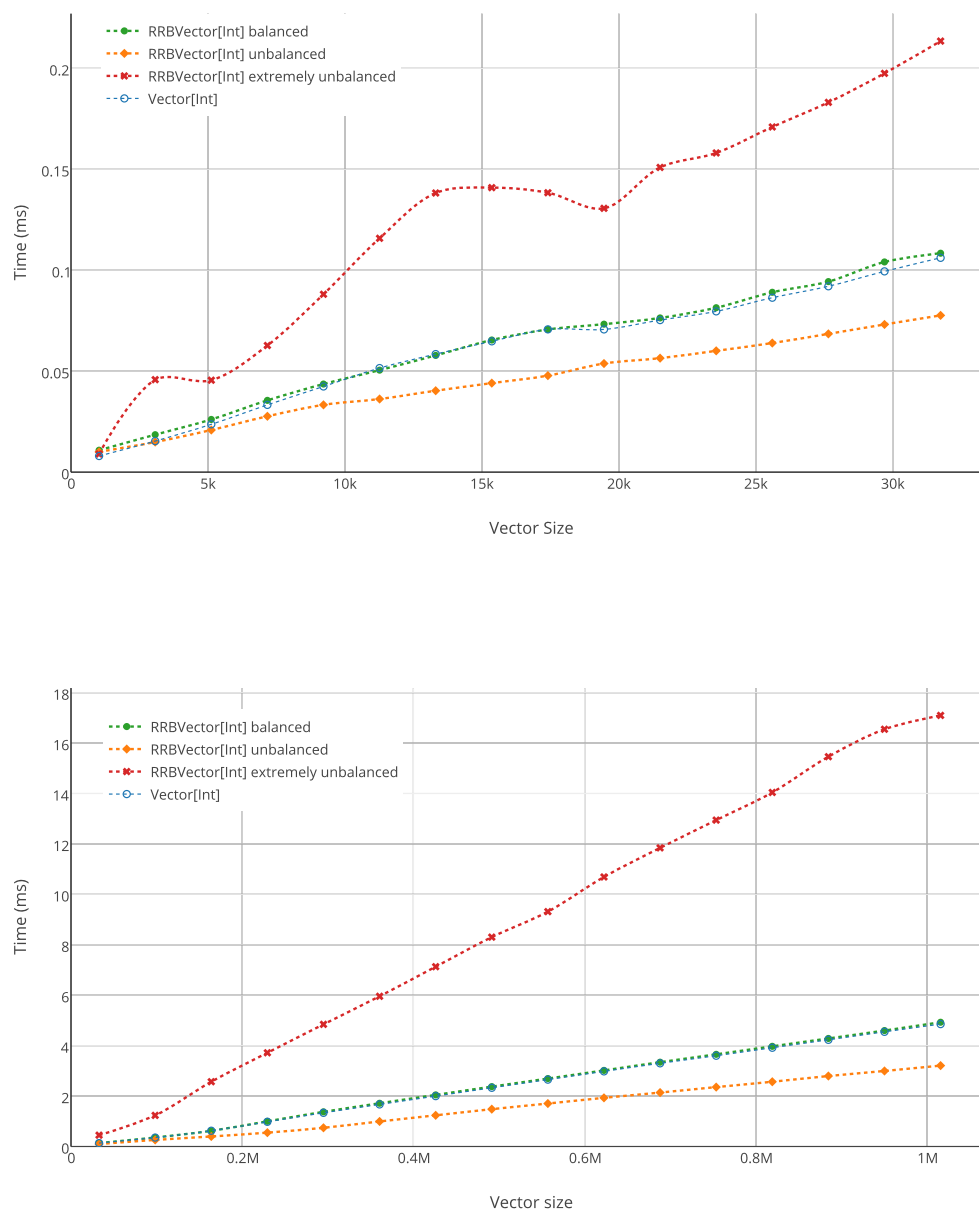


FIGURE 4.11: Execution time to iterate through all the elements of the vector.

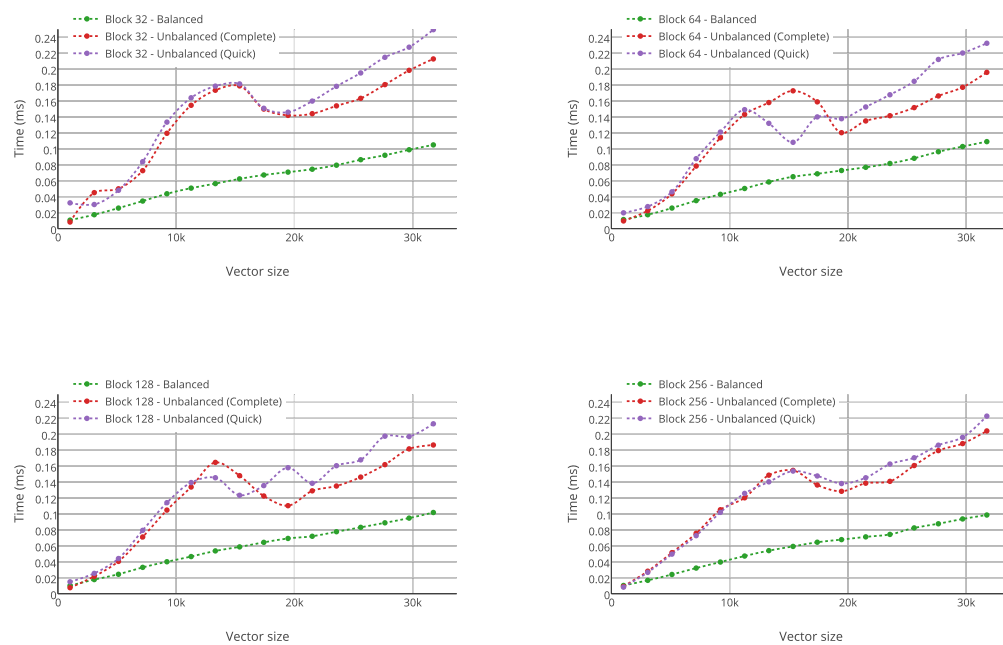


FIGURE 4.12: Execution time to iterate through all the elements of the vector. Comparing performances for different block sizes and different implementation of the concatenation inner branch rebalancing (Complete/Quick).

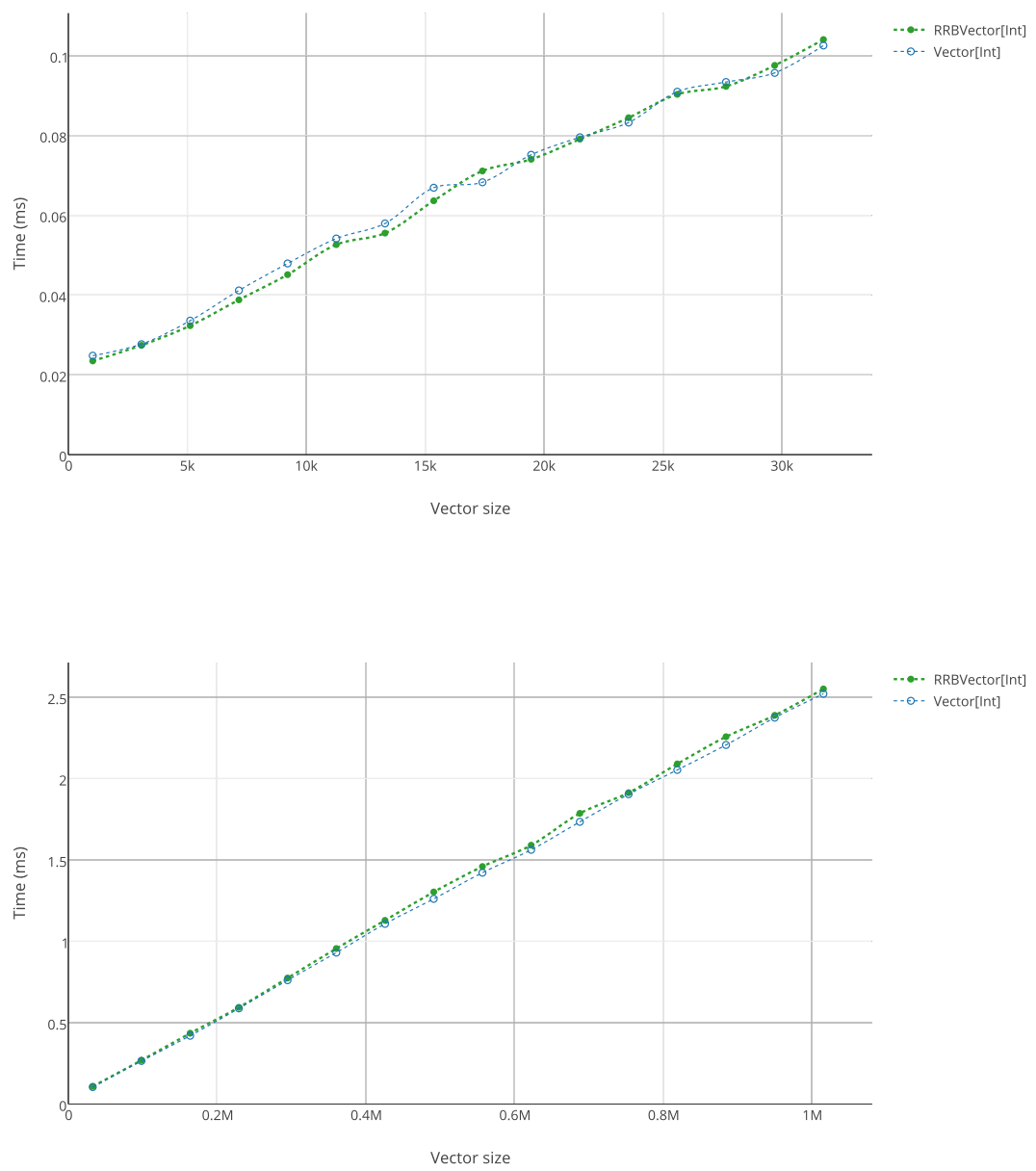


FIGURE 4.13: Execution time to build a vector of a given size.

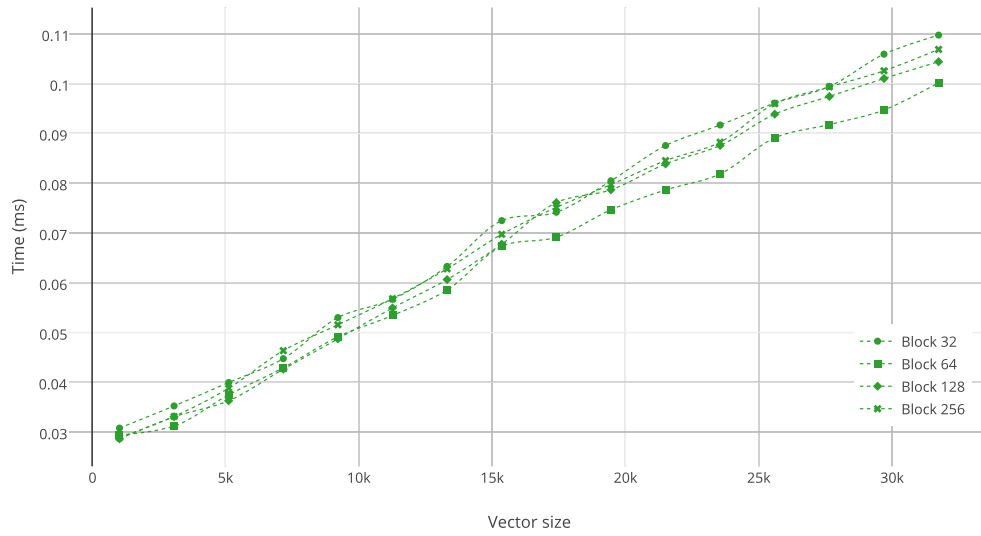


FIGURE 4.14: Execution time to build a vector of a given size. Comparing performances for different block sizes.

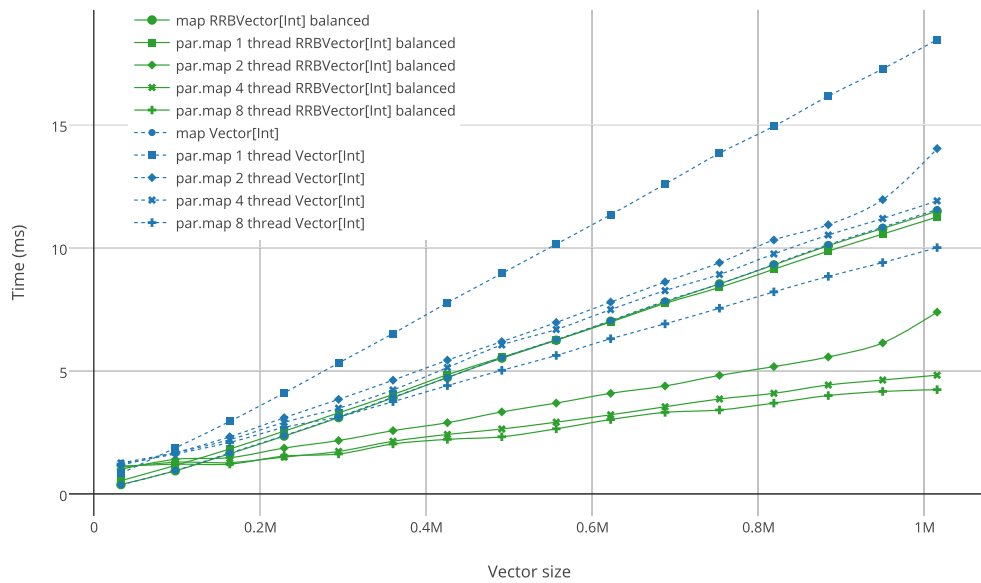


FIGURE 4.15: Benchmark on map and parallel map using the function $(x \Rightarrow x)$ to show the difference time used in the framework. This time represents the time spent in the splitters and combiners of the parallel collection (iterator and builder for the sequential version).

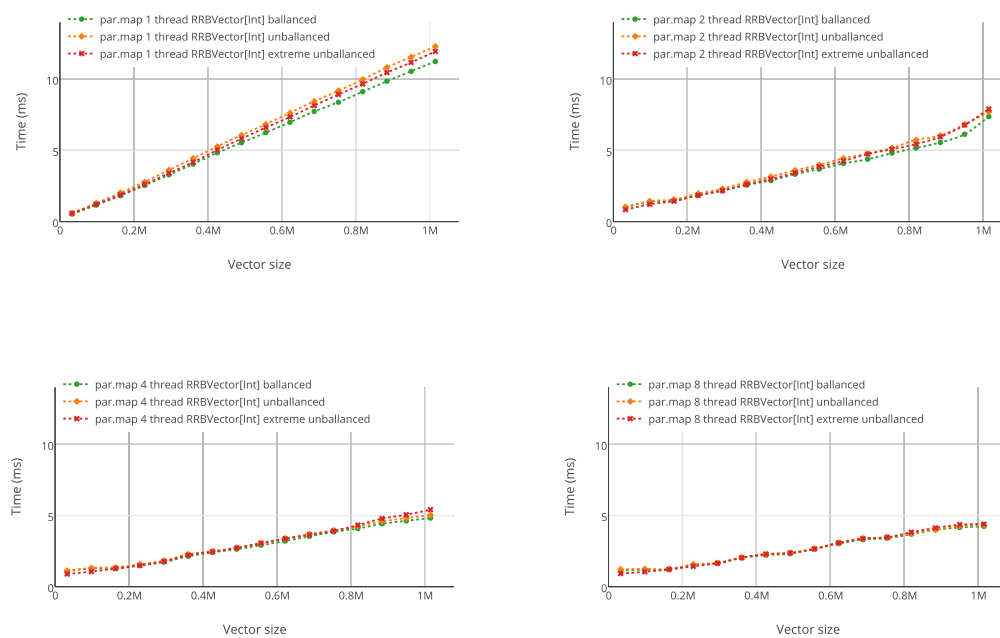


FIGURE 4.16: Benchmark on map and parallel map using the function $(x \Rightarrow x)$ to show the difference time used in the framework. This time represents the time spent in the splitters and combiners of the parallel collection.

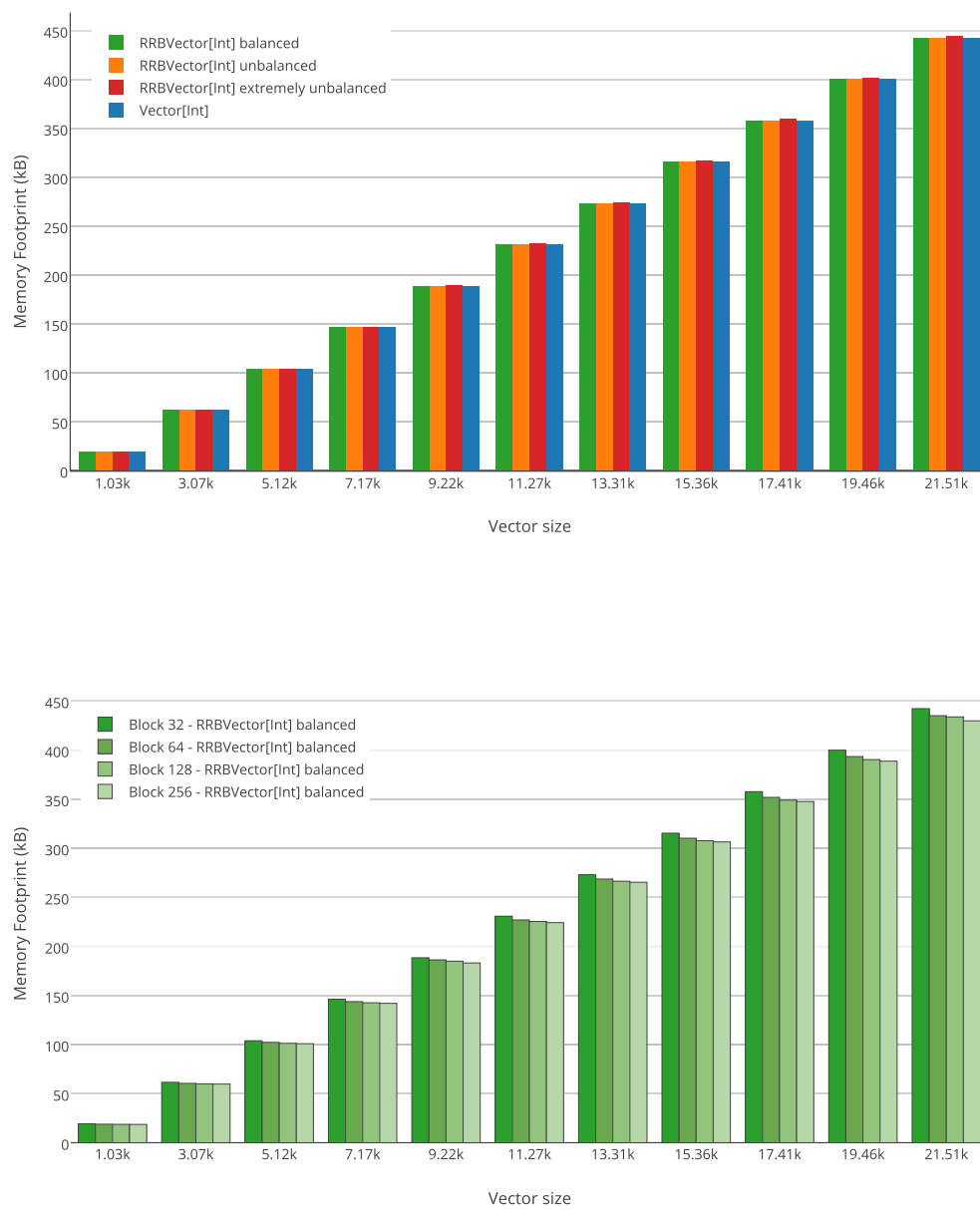


FIGURE 4.17: Memory Footprint

Chapter 5

Testing

5.1 Teststing correctness

5.1.1 Unit tests

5.1.2 Invariant Assertions

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Chapter 6

Related Work

6.1 RRB-Vectors in Clojure

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Chapter 7

Conclusions

Bibliography

□ GitHub - Scala 2.11 - ParVector.scala. <https://github.com/scala/scala/blob/f4267ccd96a9143c910c66a5b0436aaa64b7c9dc/src/library/scala/collection/parallel/immutable/ParVector.scala>.