

# Extracting Log Patterns from System Logs in LARGE

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# ScGrid in CAS

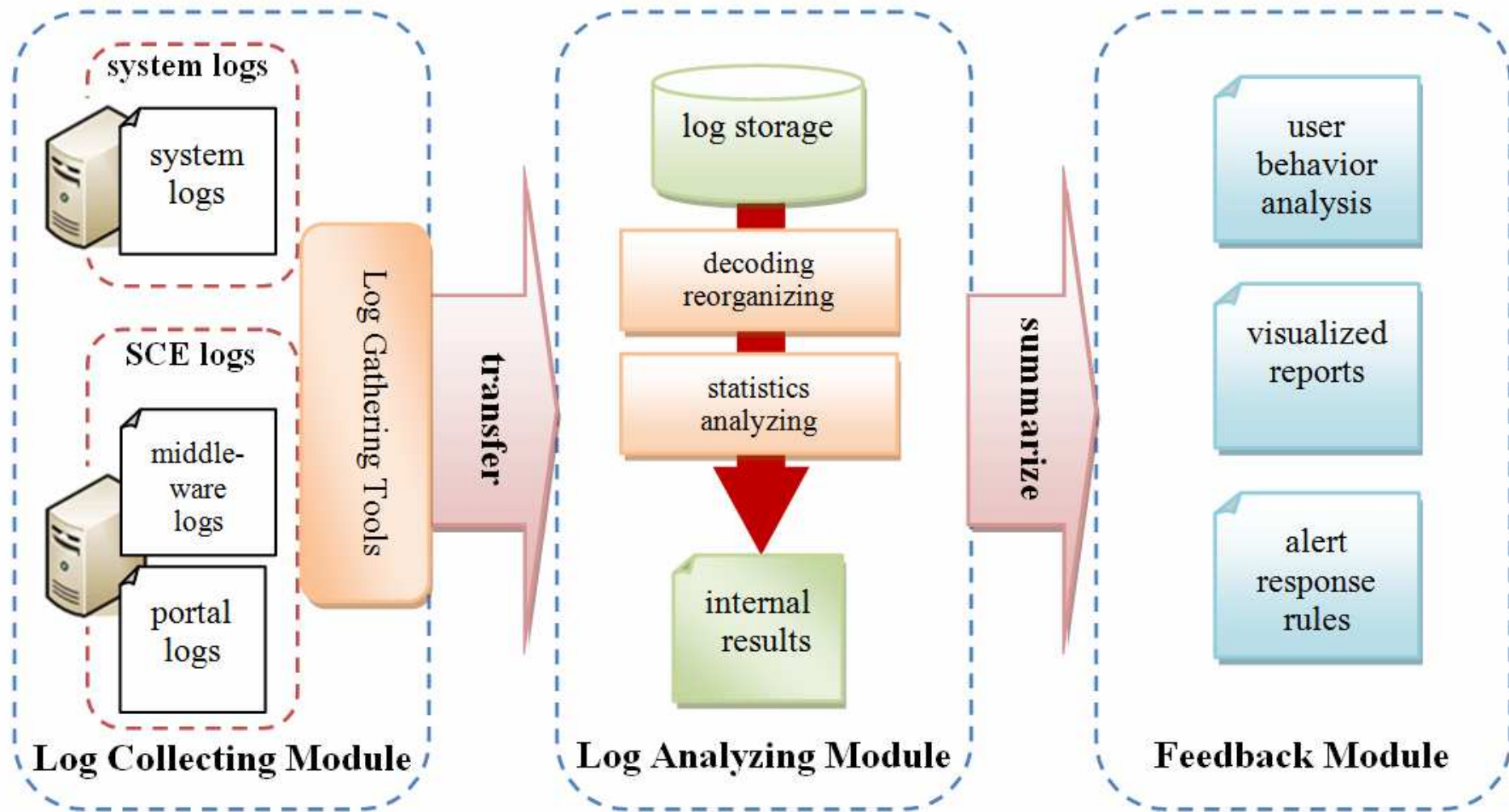
- Scientific Computing Grid Environment
- Integrated by many supercomputing centers in China
  - CNIC the head center
  - 8 national centers
  - 18 institute centers
- Using SCE middleware developed by SCCAS
- Provide computing resources to researches in various fields
  - Meteorology, Metal Forging, Fluid Mechanics, High Energy Physics, Computational Chemistry, Astrology...



# The System of LARGE

- Log Analyzing fRamework in Grid Environments
- Processing logs produced by the environment
  - gathering logs
  - processing, doing statistics and analyzing
  - producing feedbacks
- Two major types of logs
  - system logs – by log service in operating systems
  - SCE logs – by SCE middleware and job scheduling processes
- Helping the environment run correctly and steadily
  - generate alerts for particular patterns of logs
  - provide data for system analysis and maintenance
    - user behavior report
    - system errors and faults

# The System of LARGE



# Log Patterns – Why?

- We want to be alerted for logs in certain patterns, but...
  - too many logs for human to read
  - need to summarize patterns before defining alert rules
- Set of log patterns in our context:
  - patterns are different from each other
  - covering all logs in original set
  - significantly less than original
- The process of using log patterns
  - filter and remove frequent normal logs
  - use algorithms of extracting log patterns to get the set of patterns
  - manually check the set and pick out abnormal patterns
  - define rules to generate alerts for these patterns

# Algorithm of IWR

- Algorithm of identical word rate – a straight forward way
  - identical words
    - 2 words that are identical
    - and in the same position in 2 original logs
  - identical word rate: (number of identical words) / (total words)
  - predefined threshold  $t$
- If IWR is greater than  $t$ , the two logs are in one pattern
- Logs with different length has IWR of ZERO!

It is a good day  
It isn't a bad day



$t = 0.66$

IWR = 60%

NOT in the same pattern!

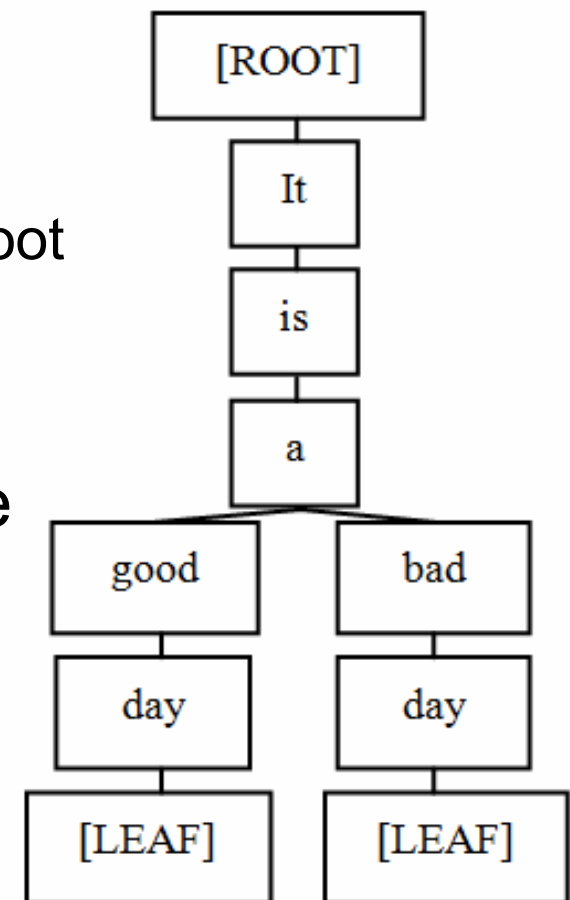
# Algorithm of IWR

- Process of algorithm of IWR
  - set threshold  $t$  and initial empty pattern set  $P$
  - for each new incoming logs, compute IWR with each pattern in  $P$
  - if pattern matched, skip to next; if none matched, add to  $P$
- $P$  will be affected by order of input
  - 3 logs,  $L1:\{a, b, c\}$   $L2:\{a, b, d\}$   $L3:\{d, b, c\}$ ,  $t = 0.6$
  - in order of  $l1, l2, L3$ , only 1 pattern left
  - in order of  $l2, l1, l3$ , 2 patterns left
- Not ideal in complexity
  - $O(n^2)$



# Algorithm of Tree-matching

- Different in storing and matching structure with IWR
- Words stored orderly in a tree
  - branches for different words
- When performing the algorithm
  - compare each word in the incoming log from root
  - if successfully matched to leaf, check next
  - if unmatched found, create a new branch
- To get pattern set, use depth-first traverse
- Better complexity, but worse result
  - $O(n \log(n))$
  - unacceptable number of patterns
  - need optimizations



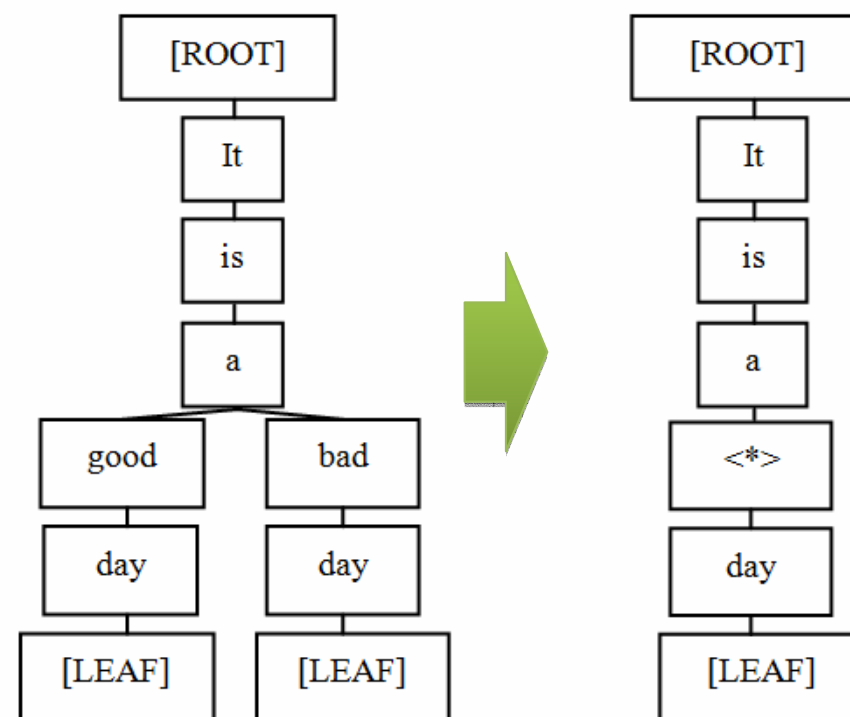
# Algorithm Optimizations

- Tree pruning
  - if two nodes has same subtrees, merge to a key node (<\*>)
  - after previous step, merge all key nodes to keep uniqueness
  - key node can be matched to any word, but only the last option
- we can do this because...

Login failed from user **alice**: password failed  
Login failed from user **bob**: password failed  
Login failed from user **chris**: password failed



key information position



# Algorithm Optimizations

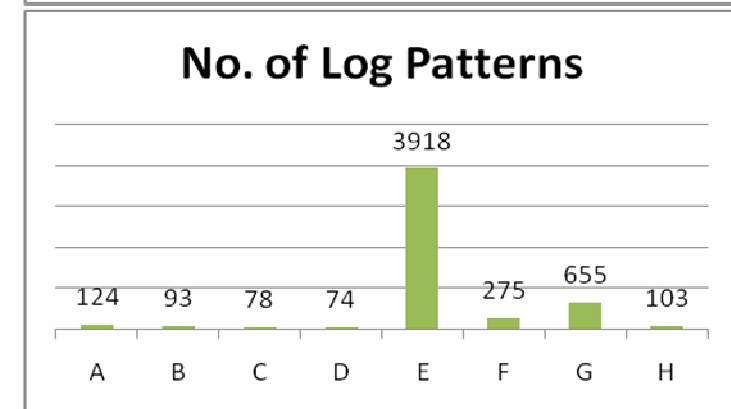
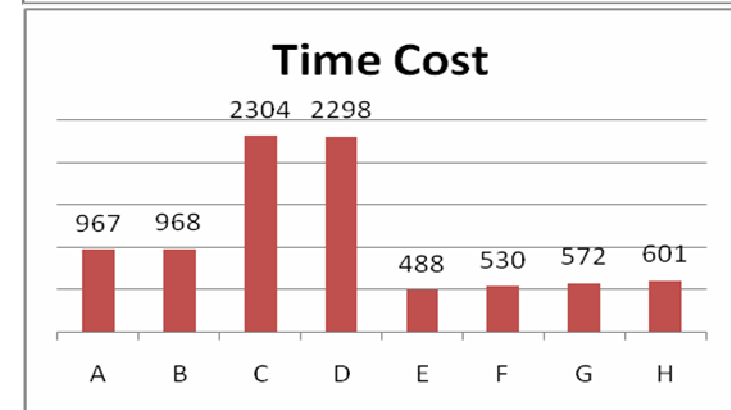
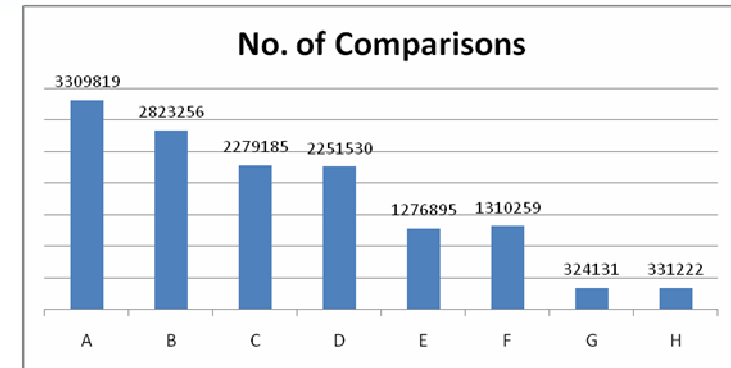
- Word converting function
  - a preprocessing optimization
  - converting commonly appeared expressions to predefined strings
- We can do this because...
  - At this stage, IPs, usernames, etc. are not essential
  - could be a distraction for extracting and enlarge pattern set
- Helpful for tree-matching, but not IWR
  - IWR has higher tolerance for differences of words
  - Tree-matching is more sensitive

Word Format in Regular Expression	Converted Result
[0-9]+.[0-9]+.[0-9]+.[0-9]+	<IP>
[0-9]+	<NUMBER>
name=[A-Za-z][A-Za-z0-9_]+	name=<USER>
UID=[0-9]+	UID=<NUMBER>
GID=[0-9]+	GID=<NUMBER>

# Comparisons on Performances

original: **49079** input logs

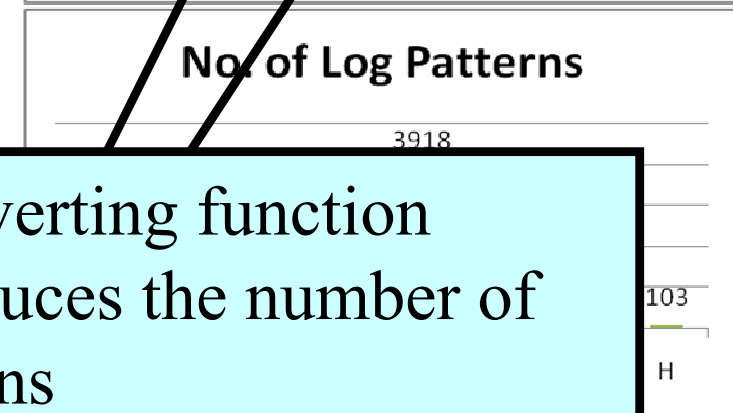
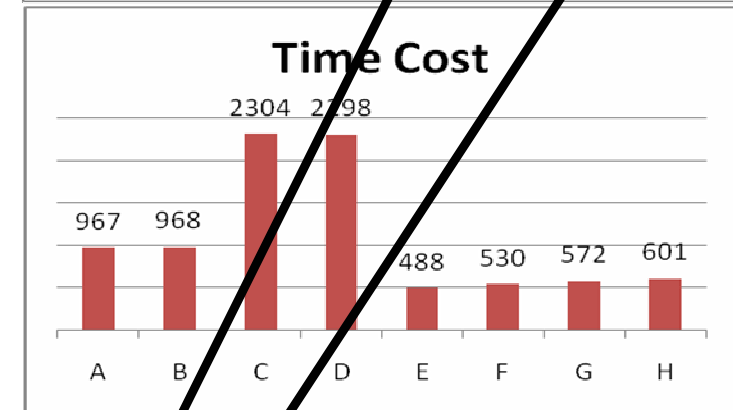
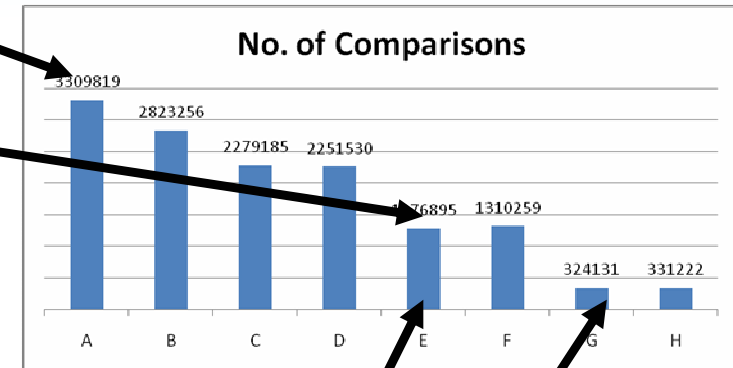
- A. IWR,  $t = 0.66$
- B. IWR,  $t = 0.6$
- C. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.66$
- D. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.6$
- E. Tree-matching
- F. Tree-matching + pruning
- G. Tree-matching + word converting
- H. Tree-matching + both



# Comparisons on Performances

Tree-matching has significantly reduced the number of comparisons

- A. IWR,  $t = 0.66$
- B. IWR,  $t = 0.6$
- C. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.66$
- D. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.6$
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Word converting function further reduces the number of comparisons

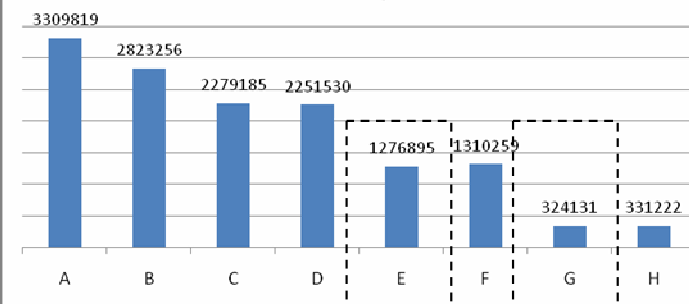
# Comparisons on Performances

original

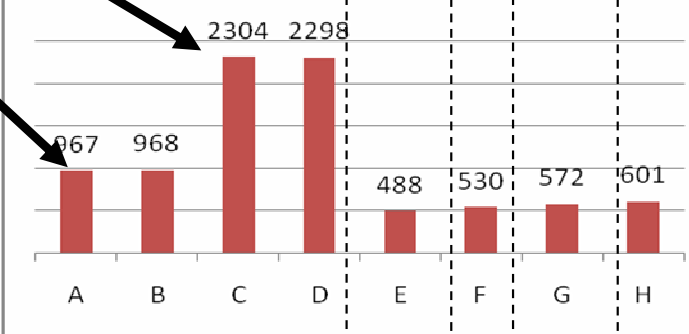
Word converting function is quite time costly

- A. IWR,  $t = 0.66$
- B. IWR,  $t = 0.6$
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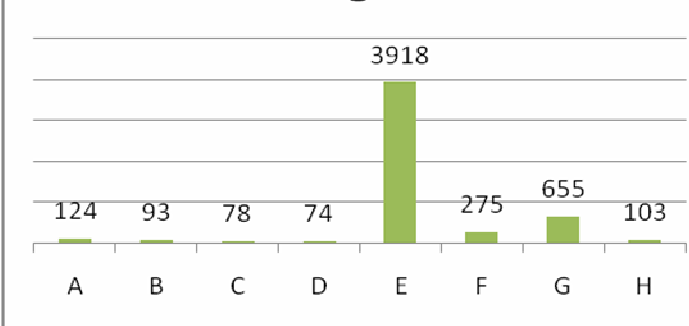
No. of Comparisons



Time Cost



No. of Log Patterns



# Comparisons on Performances

original  
A. Extracting efficiency (time and comparison costs): tree-matching is better

B. IWR,  $t = 0.6$

C. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.66$

D. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.6$

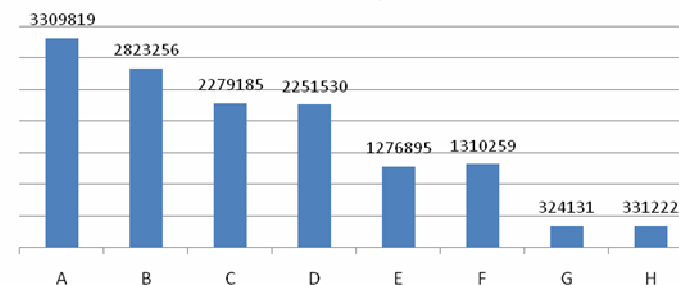
E. Tree-matching

F. Tree-matching + pruning

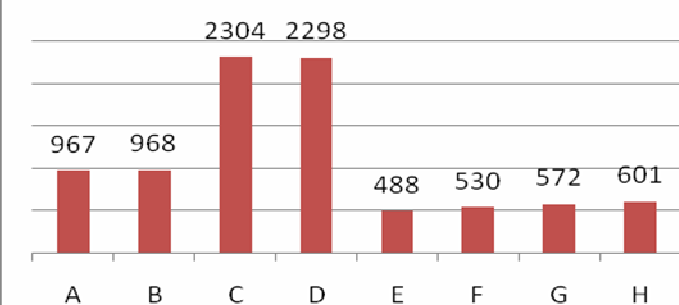
G. Tree-matching + word converting

H. Extracting effect (number of patterns): IWR is better

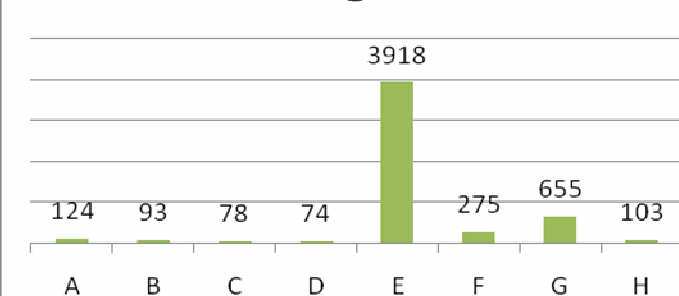
No. of Comparisons



Time Cost



No. of Log Patterns

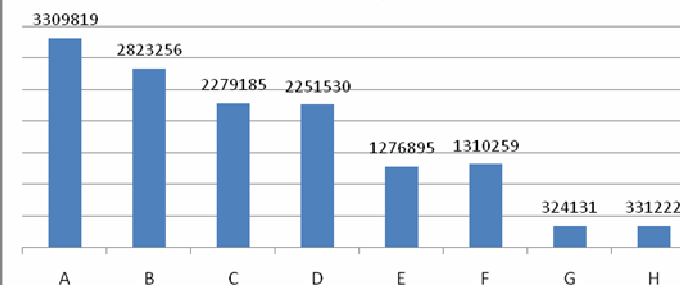


# Comparisons on Performances

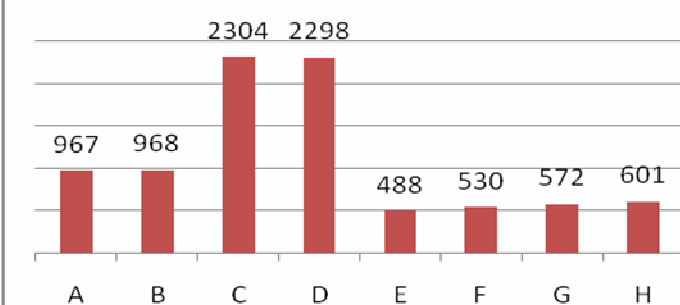
Lower threshold gives lesser patterns in IWR

- A. IWR,  $t = 0.66$
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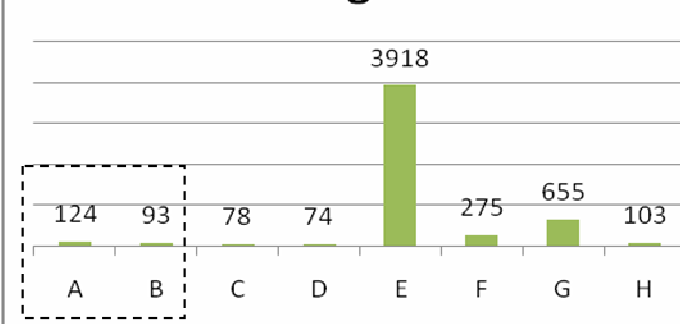
No. of Comparisons



Time Cost



No. of Log Patterns

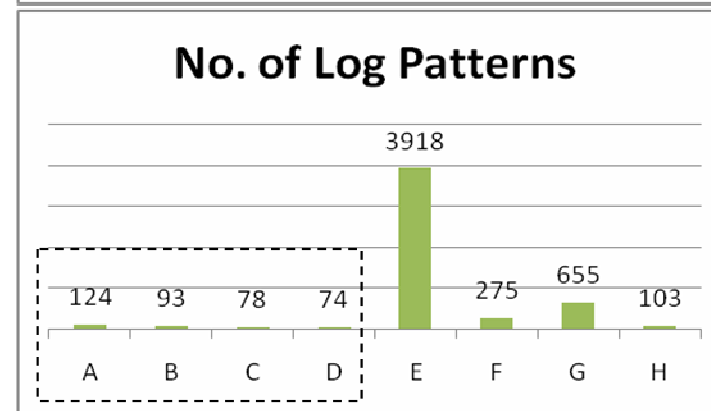
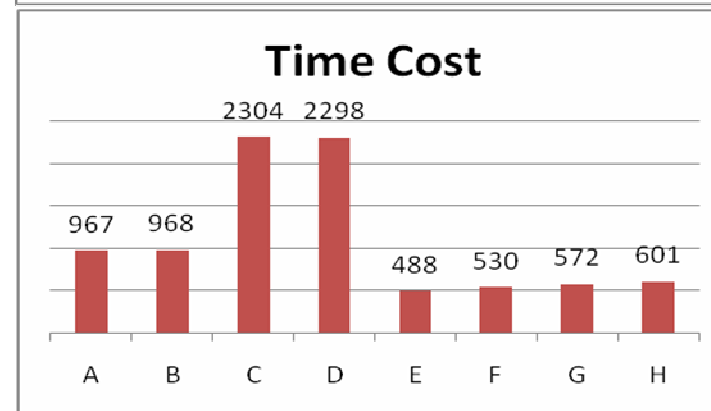
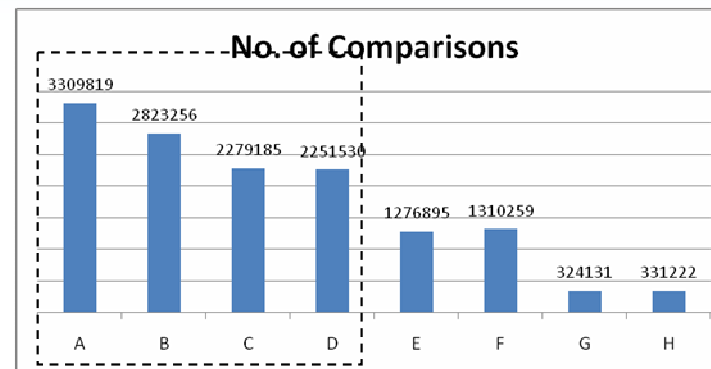




# Comparisons on Performances

Number of comparisons has nearly direct proportion to the number of extracted patterns

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- D. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.6$
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# Comparisons on Performances

Pure tree-matching:

good in extract efficiency

very bad in extracting effect

B. IWR,  $t = 0.6$

C. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.66$

D. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.6$

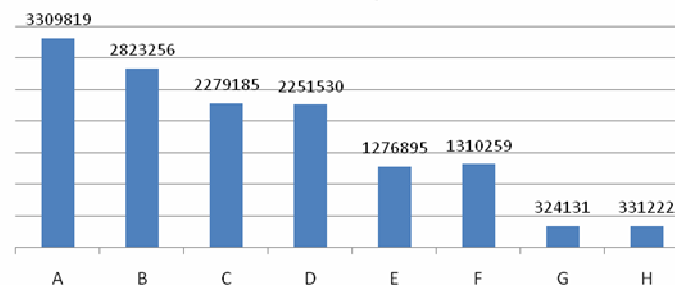
E. Tree-matching

F. Tree-matching + pruning

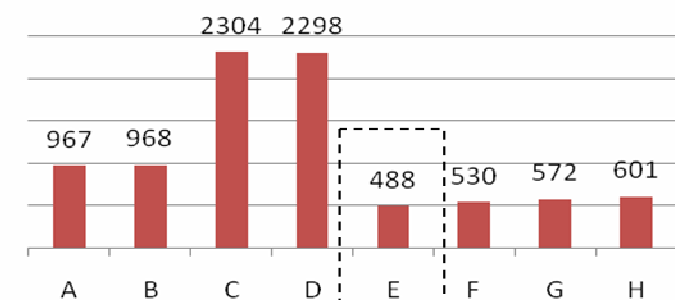
G. Tree-matching + word converting

H. Tree-matching + both

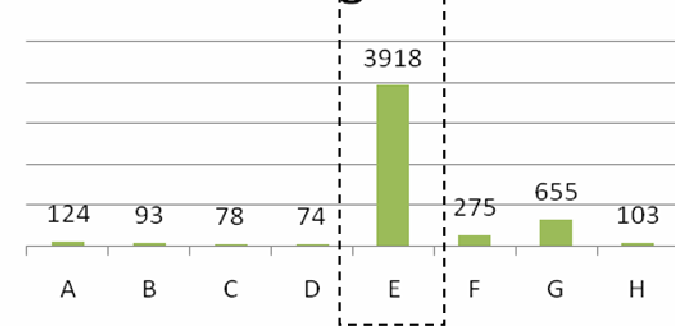
No. of Comparisons



Time Cost



No. of Log Patterns

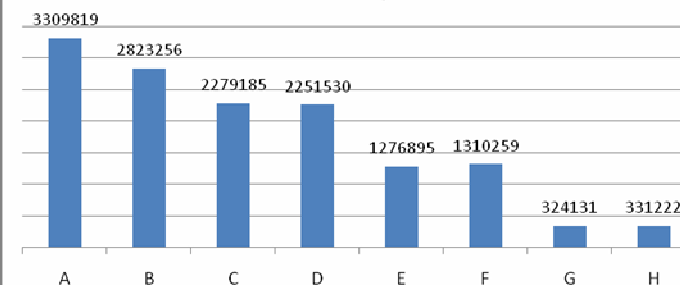


# Comparisons on Performances

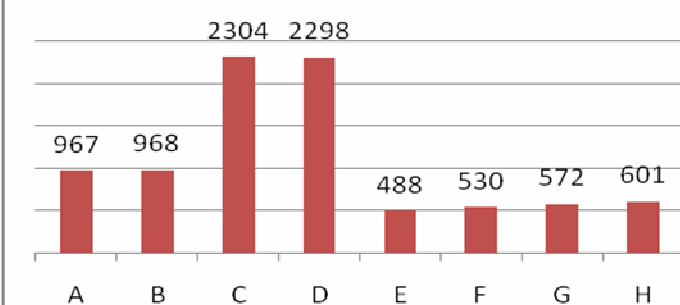
○ Pruning has greatly improved the extracting effect

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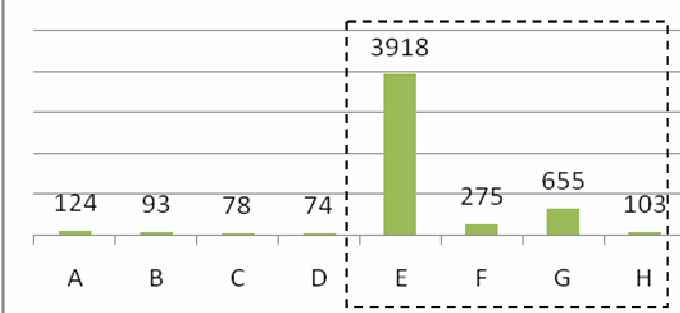
No. of Comparisons



Time Cost



No. of Log Patterns



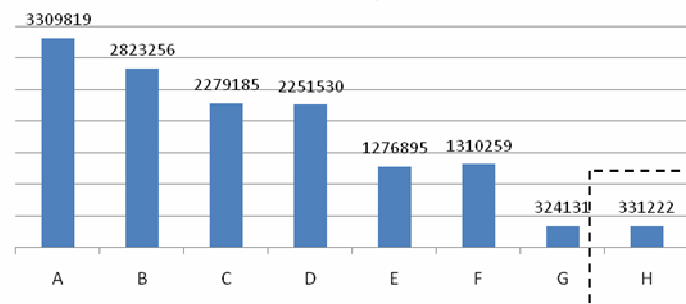
# Comparisons on Performances

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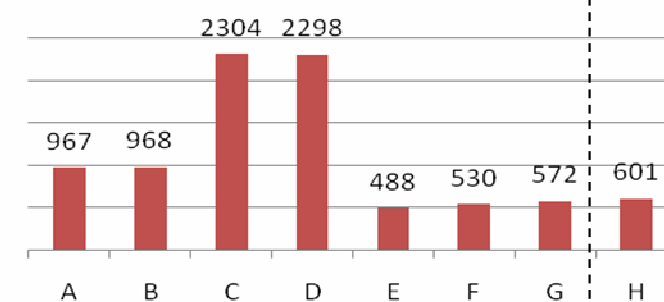
Tree-matching with both optimizations: good in extracting efficiency and effect, satisfying algorithm!

- A. I
- B. I
- C. I
- D. IWR + word converting,  $t = 0.6$
- E. Tree-matching
- F. Tree-matching + pruning
- G. Tree-matching + word converting
- H. Tree-matching + both

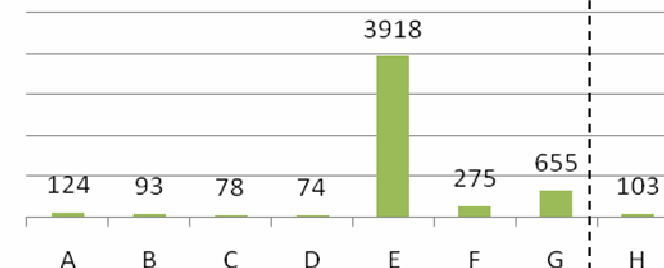
No. of Comparisons



Time Cost



No. of Log Patterns



# Conclusion

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- LARGE is a log analyzing system
- When monitoring system logs, we need to extract log patterns
- Two algorithms: IWR and tree-matching, plus optimizations
  - tree-matching with two optimizations looks good
- Future work
  - what if more than one key position in tree-matching algorithm?
  - we may use parallel computing to accelerate log processing

# Thank you!

