ASSIGNMENT 3

**(CS 6650 - Building Scalable Distributed Systems)**

**Rahul Pandey**

**Github:**

[**https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment%203**](https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment 3)

**Server implementation**: [https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment%203/CS6650-hw3-Server](https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment 3/CS6650-hw3-Server)

**Results comparison (10 points) -**

**Throughput:**

Throughput values of run are seen as below for different run isntances on 256 Client threads:

(*1 Ec2 free tier, 1 RDS free tier*)

* Single server, No cache, Strong consistency: 1107 requests/sec
* Single server, cache, Eventual consistency: 2034 requests/sec

LoadBalanced (*4 EC2 free tiers, 1 RDS Free tier*)

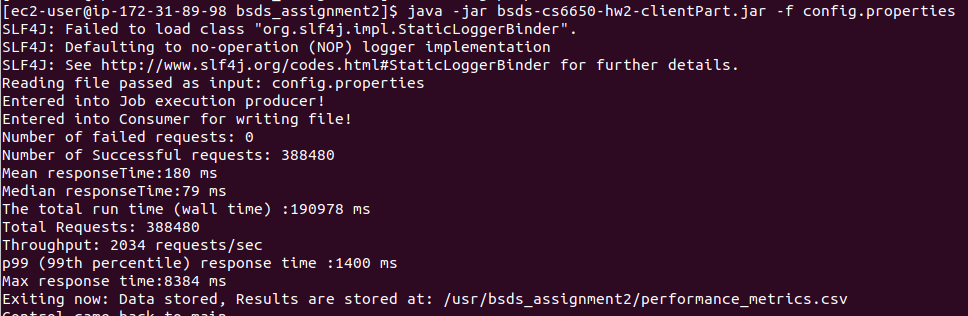
* Single server, No cache, Strong consistency: 2022 requests/sec
* Single server, Cache, Eventual consistency: 3168 requests/sec

It can be seen clearly that the introduction of load balancer increased the throughput of the application.

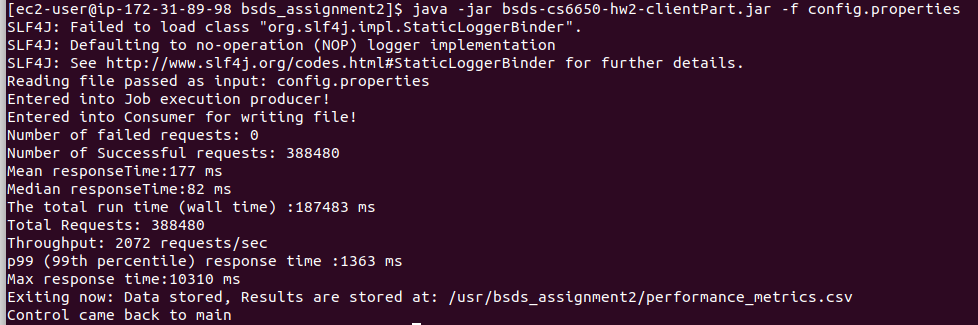
**Persistent/non-persistent queues:**

**256 Threads : (*1 Ec2 free tier, 1 RDS free tier*)**

**Persisted Queue:**

The above results are obtained when the queue is declared wit durable property as true. As the queue is expected to be fault tolerant and can survice a node cras the throughput/response rate is less than the non-persisted version.

**Non persisted queue:**

**The above results are obtained when the queue is declared with durable property as false.**

***There has been a nominal imporvement in throughput, and mean response time as now the queue values need not be persisted and the every time the node restarts the queue values are flushed.***

**As we are operating with distributed systems and the systems are bound to fail, we should consider the RabbitMQ failures as well. Hence, to cater to scenario’s when the RabbitMQ server crashes we make the queue durable and persist it’s values. Hence, now the queue will serive a node crash as the next time the server is up, it will pull data from persistence.**

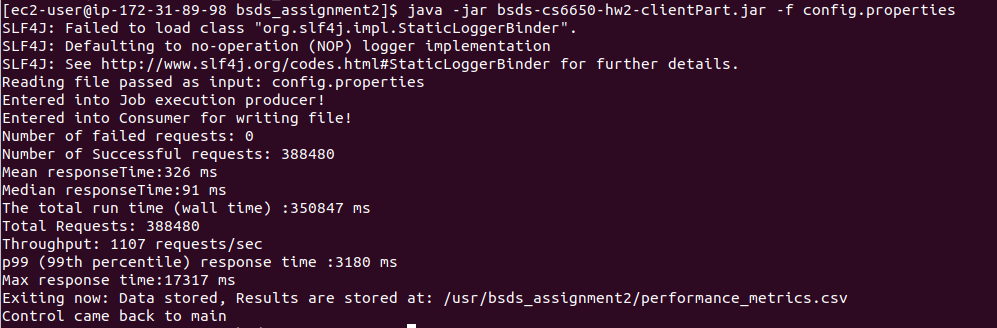
**Different instances : (Single/Load balanced)**

### A comparison of the results for 256 client threads between this assignment 3 and assignment 2, both single server and load balanced:

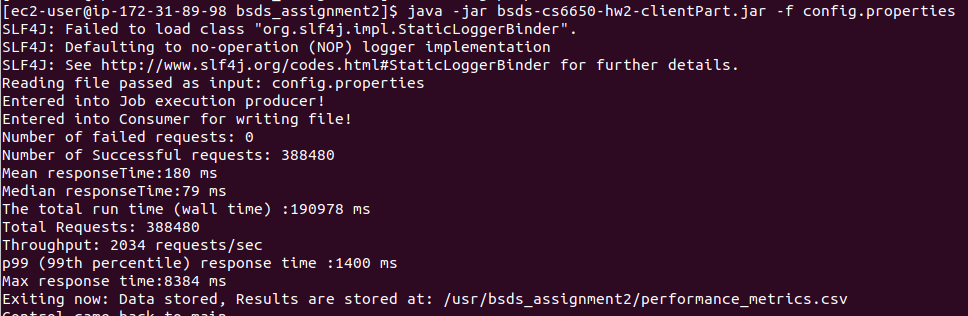
### **Assignment 2, Single server vs Assignment 3 Single server (256 Threads)**

### ***(Free 1 Ec2 Tier, Single RDS Instance with Free tier plan)***

**Assignment 2:** *(Single server, No cache, Strong consistency)*



**Assignment 3:** *(Single server, Cache, Eventual consistency)*

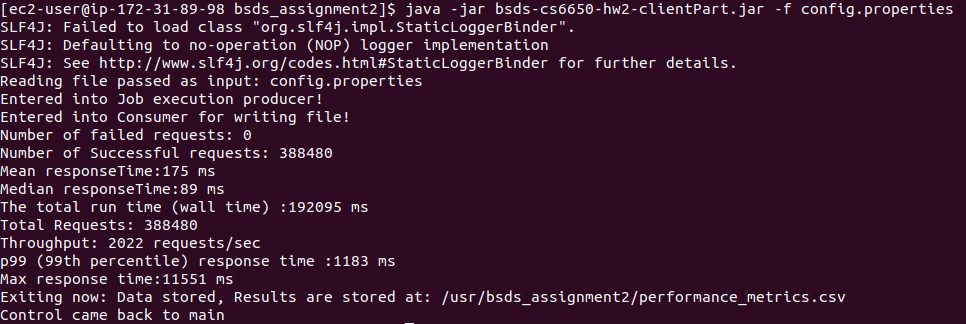


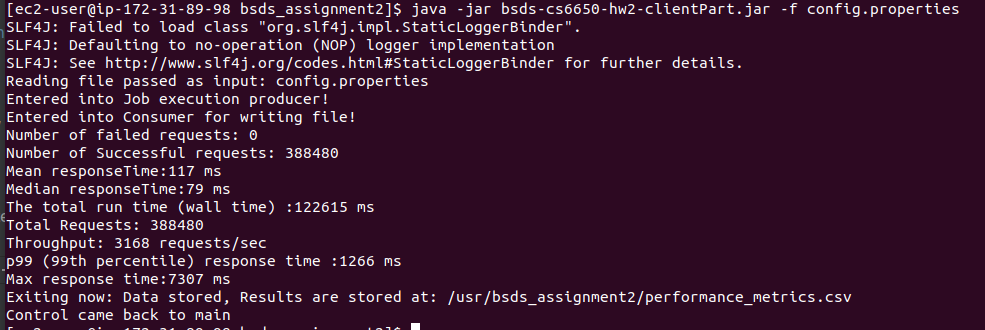
It can be seen clearly that having eventual consistency relieves the server from blocking till the write operation is completed in the Database. The server can now quickly push the results in the queue and be rest assured that the data will be persisted eventually.

### **Assignment 2, Load balanced vs Assignment 3 Load balanced (256 Threads)**

### ***(Free 4 Ec2 Tier, Single RDS Instance with Free tier plan)***

**Assignment 2 :** *(Single server, No Cache, Strong consistency)*

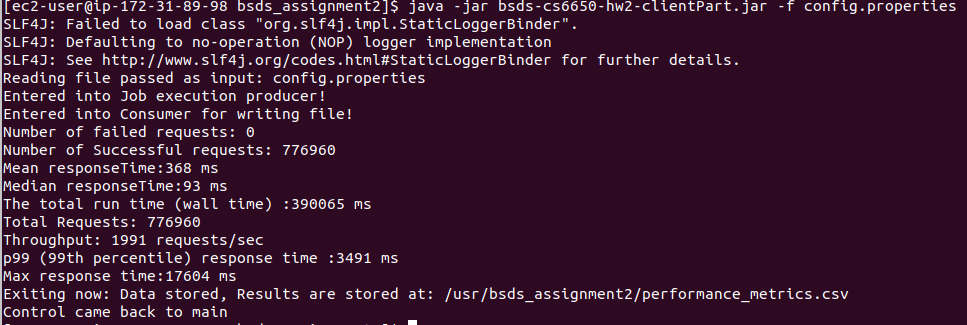


**Assignment 3:** *(Single server, Cache, Eventual consistency)*

It can be seen clearly that having eventual consistency relieves the server from blocking till the write operation is completed in the Database. The server can now quickly push the results in the queue and be rest assured that the data will be persisted eventually.

Also addition of loadbalancer increases the throughput of the application with more resources now to serve the requests. It improves the mean response rate and makes application respond quickly to requests.

**Results for a test with 512 client threads :**



The above results are for 512 client threads on a single EC2 server with no load balancing and having read served from cache. The data is evetually persisted in the database.

## **Load Testing**

**1. Do I need load balancing? Or can my system work with 1 free-tier (or slightly upgraded) server:**

As seen from the results of run for 256 threads on Loadbalanced and Non-balanced server there has been significant improvement in the mean response rate from **175ms** to **117ms**. Also the throughput has increased from **2022** requests/sec to **3168** requests/sec.

If the cost is not a concern and there is a need for more throughput, having request’s loadbalanced is a good option. Even having a slightly upgraded server will help as it will increase the server capacity to handle more request thus increasing the throughtput and also mean response time.

**2. How many consumers nodes do I need?**

Initially i started with 1 consumer but realized the consumer take a lot of time to pull the data from queue and persist it in the database. I tried different variation’s and increased it gradually.

Right now my consumer implementation uses 20 threads i.e 20 consumer to pull the data and persist it in the single RDS instance.

I tried increasing this number but when the application is load balanced with 4 servers, each having the pool of connection themselves the Single RDS instance run out of connections and i get “Too Many connections error”. Hence to keep it within safe bound’s i would 20 consumer’s is a good number. But this can definetly increase based on number of RDS instance and number of application/Publisher server connecting to RDS.

**3. GETs still need to access the database? Can a cache be used to make GETs faster? How would the cache be updated?**

It has been observed that the performance results obtained with server with eventual consistency was not so great as it still need to serve a lot of GET requests from the database.

Many of these GET requests are similar and can be served from if kept stored.

Hence, I leveraged Redis server for caching my read results and invalidating them during an update. The jedis is used to interact with the redis server running on a different EC2 instance.

After introduction of the Cache, the load on the database decreased, thus decreasing the time to get eventual consistency as now server will not have to take unncessesary load to serve duplicate GET requests.

On every update call it is redis is checked against two keys, representing our two GET request to get Skier vertical, if any of these exists in the cache the cache is updated with new totalVert + current value. Another approach to delete such cache (which are being updated) was tried but considering performance implications, the fomer is better.

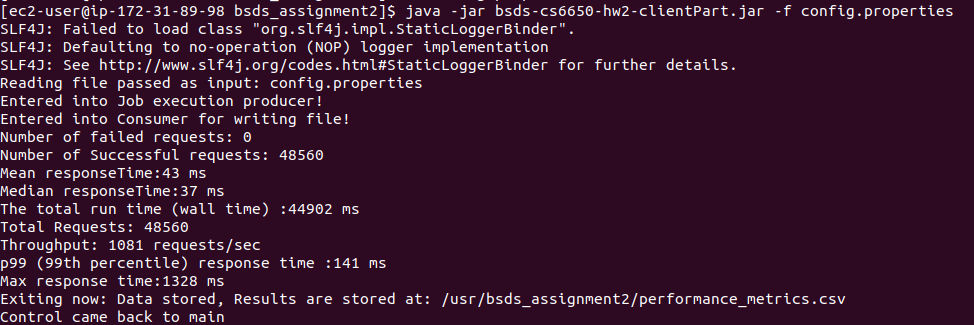
**Running logs:**

[https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment%203/RunLogs](https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment 3/RunLogs)

**Single Server Tests:**(Free 1 Ec2 Tier, Single RDS Instance with Free tier plan)

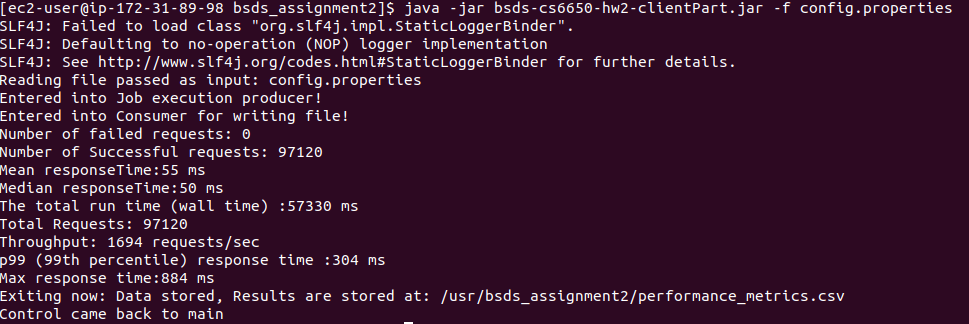
32 Threads

ScreenShot:



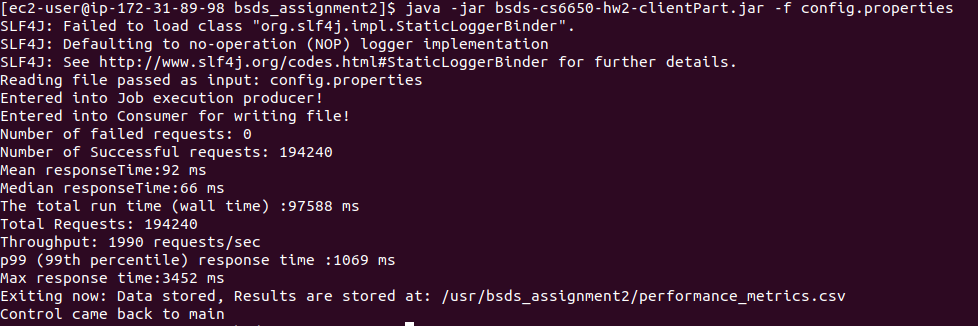
64 Threads

ScreenShot:



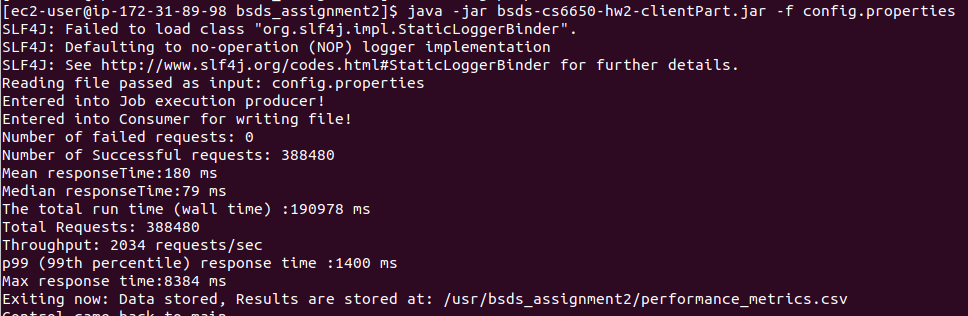
128 Threads

ScreenShot:



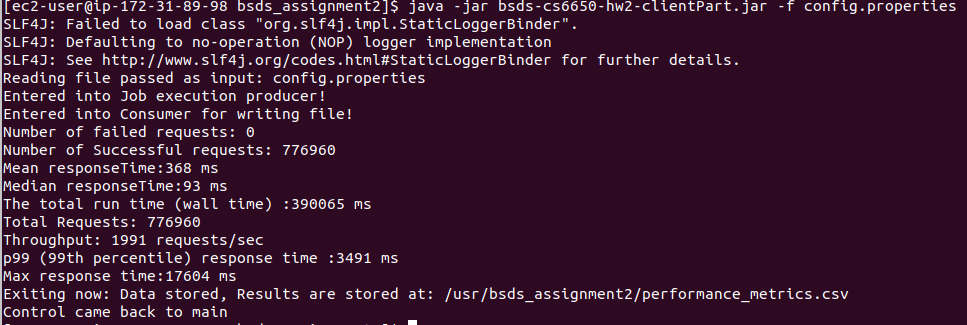
256 Threads

ScreenShot:



512 Threads

ScreenShot:



**UML diagrams:** (Also included with detailed section below)

Server:

[https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment%203/CS6650-hw3-Server/UML](https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment 3/CS6650-hw3-Server/UML)

Client:

[https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment%203/bsds-cs6650-hw3-clientPart/UML](https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/tree/master/Assignment 3/bsds-cs6650-hw3-clientPart/UML)

**Running the application:**

The application design is divided into 5 Parts:

* The Server
* Eventual Consistency to Database using RabbitMQ and Subscribed consumer
* The server cache using Redis
* The Client Part
* The load balancer

The server needs to be hosted and kept running either on Cloud (e.g AWS) or Localhost. The client will then need to modify the **resources/config.properties** to point to its address and execute calls.

A sample view of contents of config.properties looks like:

1. maximum number of threads to run (maxThreads - max 256)
2. number of skier to generate lift rides for (numSkiers - default 50000), This is effectively the skier’s ID (skierID)
3. number of ski lifts (numLifts - range 5-60, default 40)
4. the ski day number - default to 1
5. the resort name which is the resortID - default to “SilverMt”
6. IP/port address of the server

Config.properties

***cmd.maxThreads=32***

***cmd.numSkiers=20000***

***cmd.numLifts=60***

***cmd.skiDay=1***

***cmd.resortId=SilverMt***

***#Local***

***cmd.addressPort=***[***http://bsdscs6650-1923097914.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com:8080/CS6650-hw3-Server-deploy/***](http://bsdscs6650-1923097914.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com:8080/CS6650-hw3-Server-deploy/)

To run the application, the client needs to be packaged as .jar with configured config.properties. Then run as below:

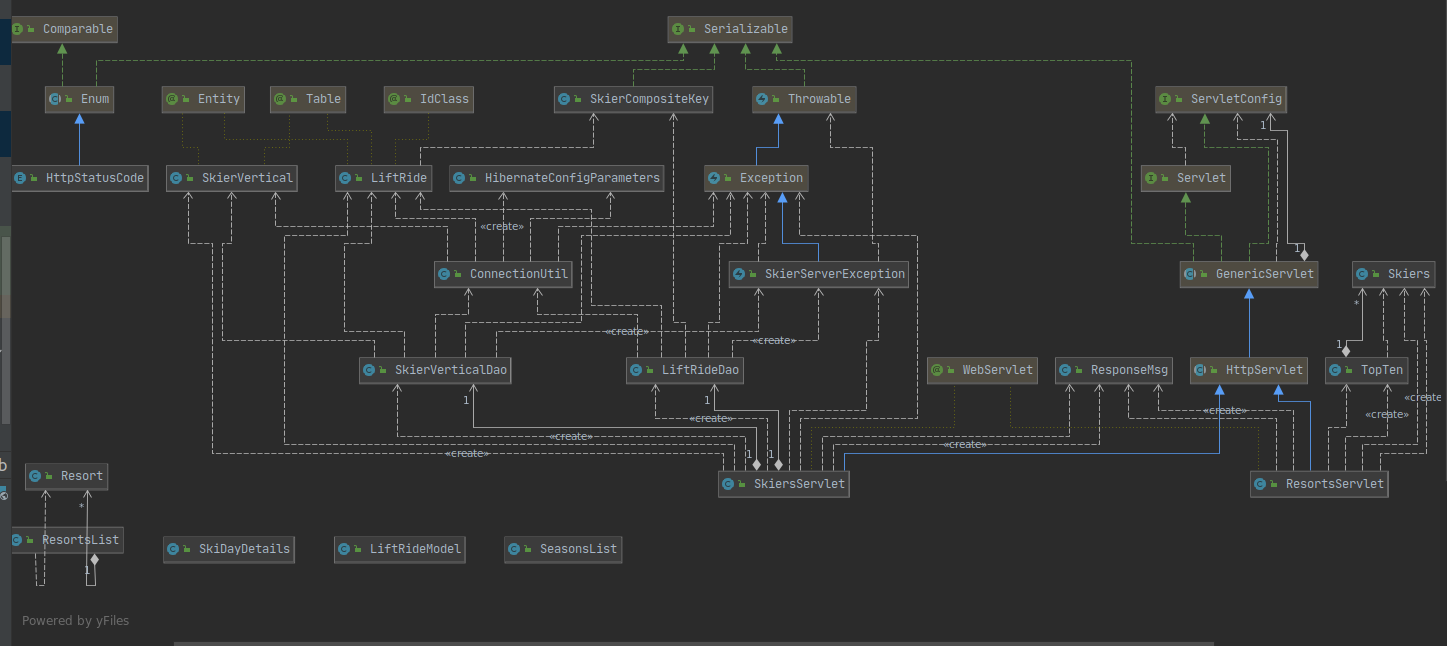
**Client part: (Jar included in folder executable\_jar)**

java -jar bsds-cs6650-hw3-clientPart.jar -f config.properties

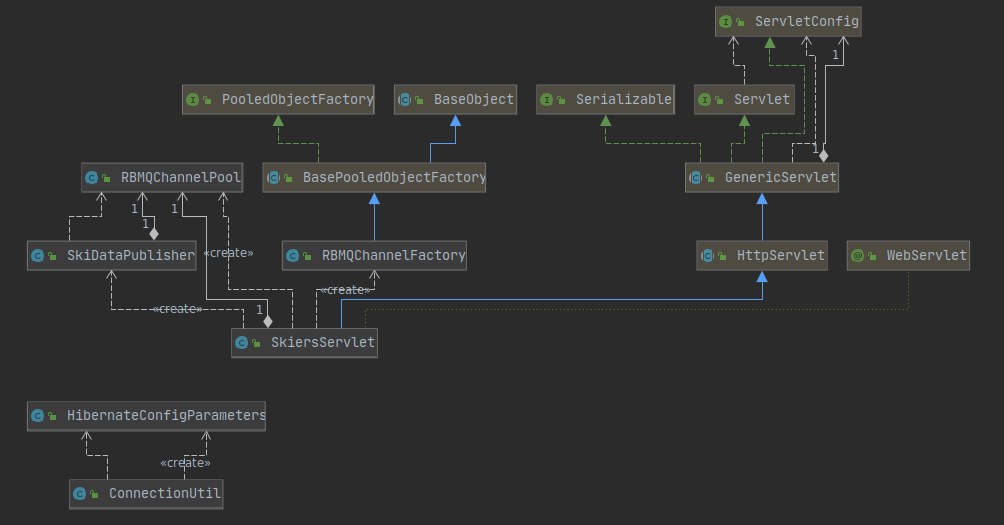
***Note: If no config.properties is provided it reads default config.properties***

## **The Server design description**

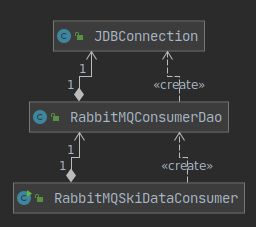
**The Server Class diagram**



**The ConnectionPool for RabbitMQ, and Publisher to RabbitMQ Class diagram:**



**The Consumer Class diagram:**

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**The server exposes below API using Java Servlets:**

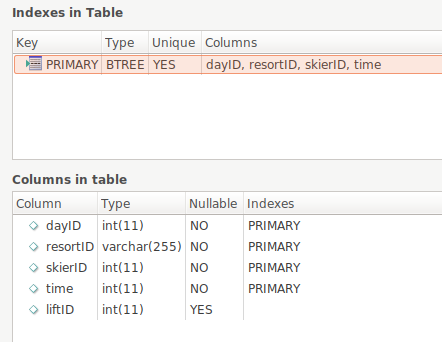
Skiers

**POST/skiers/liftrides**

**GET/skiers/{resortID}/days/{dayID}/skiers/{skierID}**

**GET/skiers/{skierID}/vertical**

**The Database Design**



The database is designed to keep in mind the responsiveness of the read and write API’s. Several refactorings were performed to choose the primary keys so that the database doesn’t incur locks during high load. Also it has been made sure that queries run faster so as to get higher throughput.

**Validations on server:**

The input to the doGet and doPost method is first validated to make sure they are in format:

*POST/skiers/liftrides*

*GET/skiers/{resortID}/days/{dayID}/skiers/{skierID}*

*GET/skiers/{skierID}/vertical*

The data inside the url i.e *{resortID}, {dayID}, {skierID}* is also validated to make sure they are of proper types. The data input to the skiers post method is validated to make sure it is of type liftRide. After validation and proper check the data is processed using Dao layer and response is returned in application/json format.

The Exception class SkierServerException is created to provide custom exceptions.

**JDBC Connection and pooling:**

The application has support for both **dbcp** and **hibernate** for connection to database. The current implementation is defaulted to **hibernate-c3p0.** The connection also uses the pooling feature and makes sure the max number of connections to the database is **15** at a time.

The application class ConnectionUtil provides the session via getSessionFactory() method. This session is used by the dao layer classes to establish connections for each query. The ConnectionUtil class ensures singleton creation of sessions.

**The Dao Layer**:

The database access layer (Dao) provides different methods to perform CRUD operations on respective databases. It uses ConnectionUtil class to establish the connection and then perform various operations like Read, update and create on the database.

Example:

try (Session session = ConnectionUtil.getSessionFactory(LiftRide.class).openSession()) {

transaction = session.beginTransaction();

liftRide = session.get(LiftRide.class, ride);

transaction.commit();

}

The server is connected to Single RDS instance with 1 Gb memory.

**Unit tests**:The junit tests are written to ensure that the server works properly and delivers desired results. The units test mock the servlets and use mockito to perform testing and various assertions.

## Eventual Consistency to Database using RabbitMQ and Subscribed consumer

To get rid to Database locks and improve responsiveness of the application, the data is chose to eventually persist. The RabbitMQ queue is used to temporarily persist the data and later many consumer’s are employed to pull data from this queue and persist it to the RDS (MySQL database).

**Data publish to RabbitMQ:**

The POST calls to skiers api’s are redirected to the publisher that is called per request to store the data into RabbitMQ server instead of saving this to the database. The publiser looks something like below code, which first acquires the channel and publishes the specified bytes to the queue.

// channel per thread

Channel channel = channelPool.getChannel();

//Second parameter to make queue durable, Changing it to non durable for testing

channel.queueDeclare(QUEUE\_NAME, false, false, false, null);

//Serialize the data

byte[] yourBytes = SerializationUtils.serialize(liftRide);

//Publisdh converted bytes on the queue

channel.basicPublish("", QUEUE\_NAME, null, yourBytes);

//Return channel to the channel pool to be used by other requests

channelPool.returnChannel(channel);

**Connection Pooling for RabbitMQ Channels:**

To process the input requests faster and improve the response rate, a pool of channels is created in the server’s init() method and each time publisher requests for a channel, it is served from the pool.

The channel pool *RBMQChannelFactory* is created by extending *BasePooledObjectFactory<Channel>*

*Channel Pool class:*

[https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/blob/master/Assignment%203/CS6650-hw3-Server/src/main/java/RabbitMQConnectionPool/RBMQChannelPool.java](https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/blob/master/Assignment 3/CS6650-hw3-Server/src/main/java/RabbitMQConnectionPool/RBMQChannelPool.java)

*Factory channel pool class:*

[https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/blob/master/Assignment%203/CS6650-hw3-Server/src/main/java/RabbitMQConnectionPool/RBMQChannelFactory.java](https://github.com/rahulpandeycs/bsds6650-Course-fall2020/blob/master/Assignment 3/CS6650-hw3-Server/src/main/java/RabbitMQConnectionPool/RBMQChannelFactory.java)

The channel pool is configured as below:

/*/ Declare channel pool*

private RBMQChannelPool rbmqChannelPool;

public static GenericObjectPoolConfig defaultConfig;

// Configuration

static {

defaultConfig = new GenericObjectPoolConfig();

defaultConfig.setMaxTotal(200);

defaultConfig.setMinIdle(16);

defaultConfig.setMaxIdle(200);

defaultConfig.setBlockWhenExhausted(false);

}

// Establishing connection to RabbitMQ

ConnectionFactory factory = new ConnectionFactory();

factory.setUsername("\*\*\*\*\*\*");

factory.setPassword("\*\*\*\*\*\*\*");

factory.setVirtualHost("/");

factory.setHost("ec2-\*\*-\*\*-132-\*\*.compute-1.amazonaws.com");

factory.setPort(5672);

//Getting the connection

connection = factory.newConnection();

//Getting channel pool

// A generic pool of channels is created using Apache Simple Pool

rbmqChannelPool =newRBMQChannelPool(newGenericObjectPool<Channel>(newRBMQChannelFactory(connection), defaultConfig));

The pool of connections to RabbitMQ was also tried but it was observed as not very effective. Also the number of pooled RabbitMQ channels are corrently number at 200, conisdering the number of threads accessing the tomcat server.

**Subscribed Consumer to RabbitMQ:**

The queue size size is ever growing during the client access, hence the queue data needs to be pulled out quickly at a faster rate other wise the server will run out of memory.

Initially i started with 1 consumer but realized the consumer take a lot of time to pull the data from queue and persist it in the database. I tried different variation’s and increased it gradually.

Right now my consumer implementation uses 20 threads i.e 20 consumer to pull the data and persist it in the single RDS instance.

I tried increasing this number but when the application is load balanced with 4 servers, each having the pool of connection themselves the Single RDS instance run out of connections and i get “Too Many connections error”. Hence to keep it within safe bound’s i would 20 consumer’s is a good number. But this can definetly increase based on number of RDS instance and number of application/Publisher server connecting to RDS.

The consumer is fault tolerant and does 3 retries with approriate wait time in case of failures, ex:

//Retry the save to DB in case of save failure. retrySaveToDB(liftRide, 1);

The consumer implementaion looks like below:

final Channel channel = rbmqConnectionUtil.getChannel();

channel.queueDeclare(QUEUE\_NAME, false, false, false, null);

// max one message per receiver

channel.basicQos(1); DeliverCallback deliverCallback = (consumerTag, delivery) -> {

//output from queue is deserialized into object

LiftRide liftRide = SerializationUtils.deserialize(delivery.getBody());

channel.basicAck(delivery.getEnvelope().getDeliveryTag(), false);

try {

//Persist data to database, MYSQL

liftRideDao.updateLiftRide(liftRide);

} catch (SQLException throwables) {

//Retry the save to DB in case of save failure.

retrySaveToDB(liftRide, 1);

}

}; // process messages

channel.basicConsume(QUEUE\_NAME, false, deliverCallback, consumerTag -> { });

## Handling read requests: Server Cache using Redis

It has been observed that the performance results obtained with server with eventual consistency was not so great as it still need to serve a lot of GET requests from the database.

Many of these GET requests are similar and can be served from memory if kept stored.

Hence, I leveraged Redis server for caching my read results and invalidating them during an update. The jedis is used to interact with the redis server running on a different EC2 instance.

After introduction of the Cache, the load on the database decreased, thus decreasing the time to get eventual consistency as now server will not have to take unncessesary load to serve duplicate GET requests.

On every update call it is redis is checked against two keys, representing our two GET request to get Skier vertical, if any of these exists in the cache the cache is updated with new totalVert + current value. Another approach to delete such cache was tried but considering performance implications, the fomer is better.

If the key doesn’t exist in the cache the read request is served from the database.

***Jedis Configuration:***

//Setting up jedis pool

final static JedisPoolConfig poolConfig = buildPoolConfig();

static JedisPool jedisPool;

//Pool setup:

private static JedisPoolConfig buildPoolConfig() {

final JedisPoolConfig poolConfig = new JedisPoolConfig();

poolConfig.setMaxTotal(128);

poolConfig.setMaxIdle(128);

poolConfig.setMinIdle(16);

poolConfig.setTestOnBorrow(true);

poolConfig.setTestOnReturn(true);

poolConfig.setTestWhileIdle(true);

poolConfig.setMinEvictableIdleTimeMillis(Duration.ofSeconds(60).toMillis());

poolConfig.setTimeBetweenEvictionRunsMillis(Duration.ofSeconds(30).toMillis());

poolConfig.setNumTestsPerEvictionRun(3);

poolConfig.setBlockWhenExhausted(true);

return poolConfig;

}

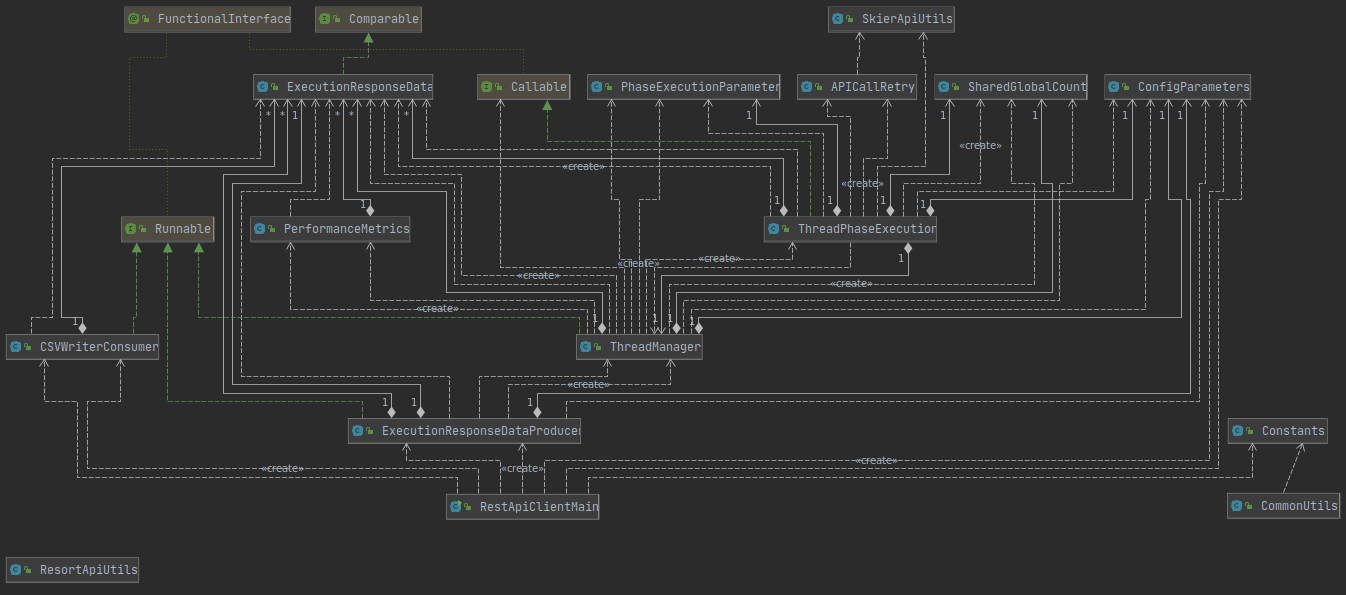
//instantiation the jedis pool connection

jedisPool = new JedisPool(poolConfig, "localhost", 6379, 4000);’

//using the connection to get resource to either retrieve or upadate the cache.

try (Jedis jedis = jedisPool.getResource()) {}

## The Client Part



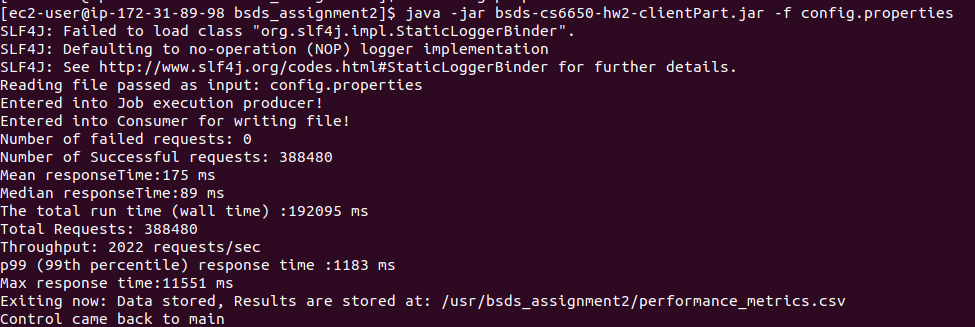
**The Startup phase**

The Client has been designed as a multi threaded client. The client execution starts with execution of the jar file and clients main class *RestApiClientMain* is called. The main class parses the input config.properties into a properties file and initializes *ConfigParameters* class.

The control is then passed to *ThreadManager* class which is executed in a separate thread then main. The threadManager takes care of threads phase execution by calling *ThreadPhaseExectution* class with their respective configuration as initialized in *PhaseExecutionParameter* Class.

The respective phases are then executed and after 10% of each phase is elapsed the next phase is started,this is taken care of by using CountDownLatch and initializing it to 10% of the total number of threads for a respective previous phase. As results need to be returned for each executed thread, Callable is used instead of runnable as in client part 1. The results are stored in list of *ExecutionResponseData* class, this list is then passed to *PerformanceMetrics* class which takes care of generating mean, median and various other performance metrics.

The execution then terminates with results printed to the console and CSV is generated from run results as stored in List of *ExecutionResponseData* Class. A sample output will look like:



**The Executor Framework:**

The executor framework has been used to create a fixed thread pool as:

*ExecutorService WORKER\_THREAD\_POOL = Executors.newFixedThreadPool(parameters.getMaxThreads() / 4 + parameters.getMaxThreads() + parameters.getMaxThreads() / 4);*

Phase threads are then passed to the thread pool for execution using method **submitToThreadPhaseExecution**(ExecutorService threadPool, PhaseExecutionParameter phaseExecutionParameter, double countDownThreshold**)** and submitted to thread pool as shown below.

//Creating a thread execution callable based on input to **submitToThreadPhaseExecution**

Callable<List<ExecutionResponseData>> phaseThread = new ThreadPhaseExecution(parameters, phaseExecutionParameter, this, latch);

//Submitting the phase execution thread to threadpool

Future<List<ExecutionResponseData>> futureExecutionResponseData = threadPool.submit(phaseThread);

//Adding results to blocking queue to write to the file later

blockingQueue.add(futureExecutionResponseData);

Each of these future calls are then later retrieved in the thread manager to build up the performance metrics and write data to CSV using LinkedBlocking queue.

**The API retry on request failure:**

The application has been designed to be fault tolerant and make sure it retries enough number of times before marking a request as fail.

It is expected that the call to the server will fail with unknown reasons considering several factors. Hence, each api call has been configured to retry at least 5 number of times before repeating the actual failure. The class APICallRetry has been created to cater to the API call failures and the calling class needs to create its class and call its respective methods to handle retry.

**The blocking queue to prevent memory overhead:**

It was observed that the memory could become a bottleneck as the number of API calls grow and size of the data structure being used to calculate metrics will exceed the available memory, hence keeping it in mind the data structure to store api execution results is changed to **blocking queue**. The LinkedBlockingDeque implementation is used to input api execution data at one end (Producer) and another thread pool consumer “CSVWriterConsumer” is created that will keep pulling out data from the other end of the queue and keep appending it to the local CSV file.

**The Load Balancer:**

It is observed the application throughput and mean response time was not enough to meet the end user needs. Hence an application level load balancer is introduced to route the traffic to 4 instances of the server. More than 100% improvement in the throughput and mean response time was observed. The single RDS instance is used and AWS Load balancer service is used to implement load balancer.