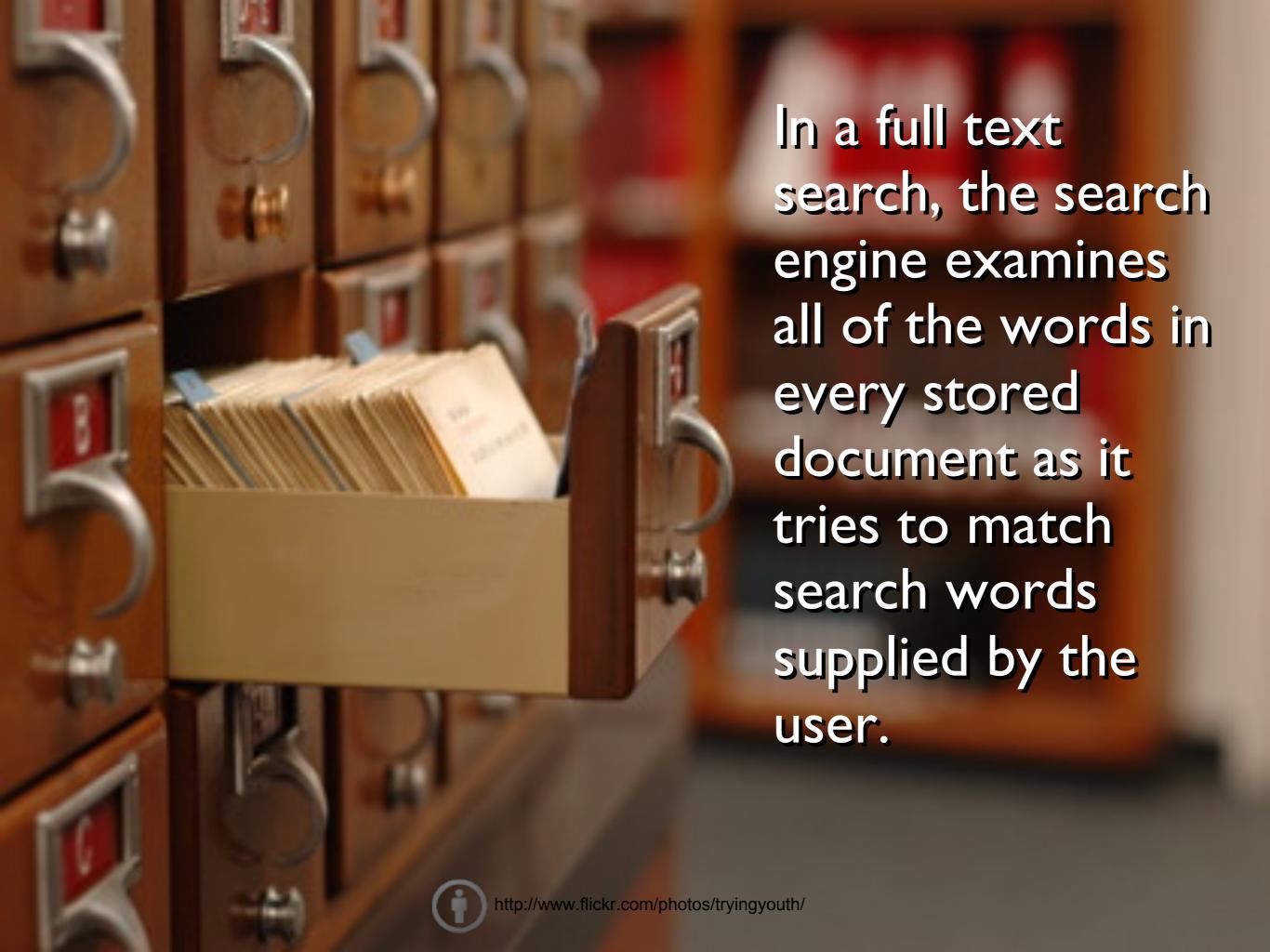


Full Text Search Throwdown

Bill Karwin, Percona Inc.



StackOverflow Test Data

- Latest data dump, exported 2014
- 8 million Posts = 8.9 GB

Bill Karwin less info edit privileges preferences flair apps my logins | meta user | network profile



217,632 reputation

•36 •295 •457

California location 47 age visits member for 6 years 1922 days, 393 consecutive visited 9 secs ago seen stats profile views 26,882 helpful flags 20 private email bill@karwin.com

Bill Karwin

real name

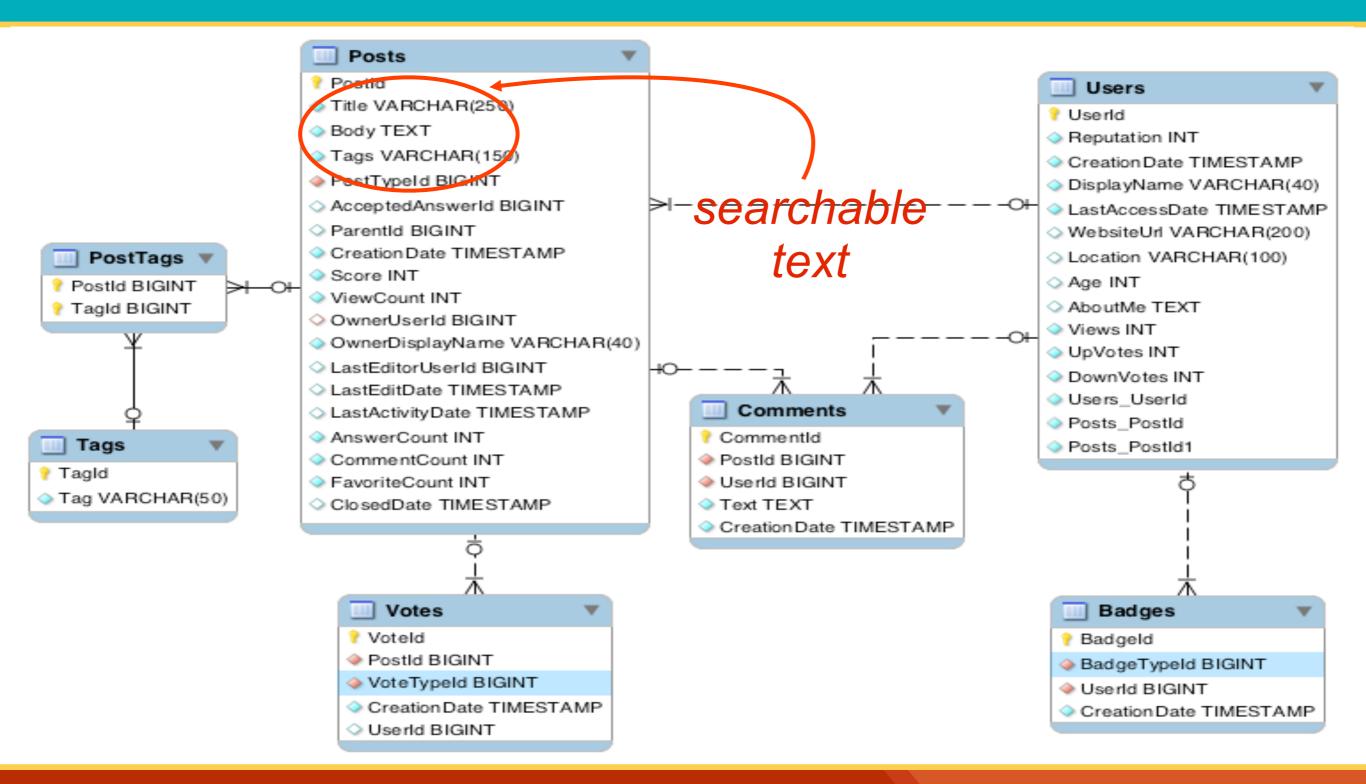
I'm Senior Knowledge Manager at Percona, a services company specializing in the MySQL database.

I've been a software engineer since 1987, and my specialty is as an SQL maven. I also have experience programming in Java, PHP, Perl, C, JavaScript, and I have many other coding skills.

I've written a book, SQL Antipatterns: Avoiding the Pitfalls of Database Programming from Pragmatic Bookshelf, based on the most common SQL problems I've answered on Stack Overflow and other forums, mailing lists, and newsgroups over the past 15 years.

I am an Oracle ACE.

StackOverflow ER diagram



The Baseline: Naive Search Predicates

Some people, when confronted with a problem, think

"I know, I'll use regular expressions."

Now they have two problems.

— Jamie Zawinsky

Accuracy issue

 Irrelevant or false matching words 'one', 'money', 'prone', etc.:

```
SELECT * FROM Posts
WHERE Body LIKE '%one%'
```

 Regular expressions in MySQL support escapes for word boundaries:

```
SELECT * FROM Posts
WHERE Body RLIKE '[[:<:]]one[[:>:]]'
```

Performance issue

LIKE with wildcards:

```
SELECT * FROM Posts
WHERE title LIKE '%performance%'
OR body LIKE '%performance%'
OR tags LIKE '%performance%';
```

POSIX regular expressions:

```
SELECT * FROM Posts 655 Sec
WHERE title RLIKE '[[:<:]]performance[[:>:]]'
OR body RLIKE '[[:<:]]performance[[:>:]]'
OR tags RLIKE '[[:<:]]performance[[:>:]]';
```

Why so slow?

```
CREATE TABLE TelephoneBook (
  FullName VARCHAR(50));
CREATE INDEX name idx ON TelephoneBook
  (FullName);
INSERT INTO TelephoneBook VALUES
  ('Riddle, Thomas'),
  ('Thomas, Dean');
```

Why so slow?

Search for all with last name "Thomas"

```
uses index
```

```
SELECT * FROM telephone_book / WHERE full_name LIKE 'Thomas%'
```

Search for all with first name "Thomas"

```
SELECT * FROM telephone_book
WHERE full_name LIKE '%Thomas'
```

can't use index

Because:



B-Tree indexes can't search for substrings

FULLTEXT in MylSAM FULLTEXT in InnoDB Apache Solr Sphinx Search Trigraphs

FULLTEXT in MyISAM

FULLTEXT Index with MyISAM

- Special index type for MyISAM
- Integrated with SQL queries
- Indexes always in sync with data
- Balances features vs. speed vs. space
- Testing: MySQL Community Edition 5.7.5

Build Index on Data (MyISAM)

```
mysql> CREATE FULLTEXT INDEX PostText
ON Posts(title, body, tags);
```

time: 30 min, 10 sec

Size of Index (MyISAM)

mysql>SHOW TABLE STATUS LIKE 'Posts'\G

Name: posts

Engine: MyISAM

Rows: 8000000

Avg_row_length: 927

Data_length: 7417899480 (6.91GB)

Index_length: $2803019776 (\Delta = 2.50GB)$

Querying

```
SELECT * FROM Posts

WHERE MATCH(column(s))

AGAINST('query pattern');

must include all columns
of your index, in the
order you defined
```

Natural Language Mode (MyISAM)

Searches concepts with free text queries:

```
SELECT * FROM Posts
WHERE MATCH(title, body, tags)
AGAINST('mysql performance'
IN NATURAL LANGUAGE MODE)
LIMIT 100;

time with index:
183 milliseconds
```

Query Profile: Natural Language Mode (MyISAM)

Status	Duration
starting checking permissions Opening tables checking permissions checking permissions init checking permissions System lock optimizing statistics preparing FULLTEXT initialization executing Sending data end query end closing tables freeing items cleaning up	0.000112 0.0000155 0.000004 0.000032 0.000007 0.000070 0.000012 0.000009 0.180492 0.000012 0.002302 0.000012 0.000012 0.000005 0.000017 0.000432 0.000090

Boolean Mode (MyISAM)

Searches words using mini-language:

```
SELECT * FROM Posts
WHERE MATCH(title, body, tags)
AGAINST('+mysql +performance'
IN BOOLEAN MODE)
LIMIT 100;

time with index:
10 milliseconds
```

Query Profile: Boolean Mode (MyISAM)

Status	Duration
starting checking permissions Opening tables checking permissions checking permissions init checking permissions System lock optimizing statistics preparing FULLTEXT initialization executing Sending data end query end closing tables freeing items cleaning up	0.000123 0.000009 0.00005 0.000033 0.000007 0.000070 0.0000027 0.000009 0.000027 0.000009 0.000008 0.000008 0.000009 0.000009

FULLTEXT in InnoDB

FULLTEXT Index with InnoDB

- Usage very similar to FULLTEXT in MyISAM
- Integrated with SQL queries
- Indexes always* in sync with data
- Read the blogs for more details:
 - http://blogs.innodb.com/wp/2011/07/overview-and-getting-started-with-innodb-fts/
 - http://blogs.innodb.com/wp/2011/07/innodb-full-text-search-tutorial/
 - http://blogs.innodb.com/wp/2011/07/innodb-fts-performance/
 - http://blogs.innodb.com/wp/2011/07/difference-between-innodb-fts-and-myisam-fts/
- Testing: MySQL Community Edition 5.7.5

Build Index on Data (InnoDB)

Relatively new code; you might see problems:

```
mysql> CREATE FULLTEXT INDEX PostText
  ON Posts(title, body, tags);
ERROR 2013 (HY000): Lost connection to
  MySQL server during query
```

Build Index on Data (InnoDB)

 Solution: define a primary key column called `FTS_DOC_ID` explicitly:

time: 30 min, 19 sec

Size of Index (InnoDB)

```
mysql>SHOW TABLE STATUS LIKE 'Posts'\G
```

Name: posts

Engine: InnoDB

Rows: 6877702

Avg_row_length: 1427

Data_length: 9817817088 (9.14GB)

Index_length: 0 *

2.62 GB on disk

Natural Language Mode (InnoDB)

Searches concepts with free text queries:

```
SELECT * FROM Posts
WHERE MATCH(title, body, tags)
AGAINST('mysql performance'
IN NATURAL LANGUAGE MODE)
LIMIT 100;

time with index:
610 milliseconds
```

Query Profile: Natural Language Mode (InnoDB)

Boolean Mode (InnoDB)

Searches words using mini-language:

```
SELECT * FROM Posts
WHERE MATCH(title, body, tags)
AGAINST('+mysql +performance'
IN BOOLEAN MODE)
LIMIT 100;

time with index:
323 milliseconds
```

Query Profile: Boolean Mode (InnoDB)

Status	Duration
starting	0.000128
checking permissions	0.000008
Opening tables	0.000155
checking permissions	0.000004
checking permissions	0.000033
init	0.000007
checking permissions	0.000072
System lock	0.000010
optimizing	0.000009
statistics	0.000027
preparing	0.000010
FULLTEXT initialization	0.313276
executing	0.000010
Sending data	0.008098
end	0.000008
query end	0.000011
closing tables	0.000012
freeing items	0.001478
cleaning up	0.000024

Apache Solr

Apache Solr

- http://lucene.apache.org/solr/
- Formerly known as Lucene, started 2001
- Apache License
- Java implementation
- Web service architecture
- Many sophisticated search feature
- Testing: Apache Solr 4.10.1, Java 8

DatalmportHandler

• conf/solrconfig.xml:

DatalmportHandler

• conf/data-config.xml:

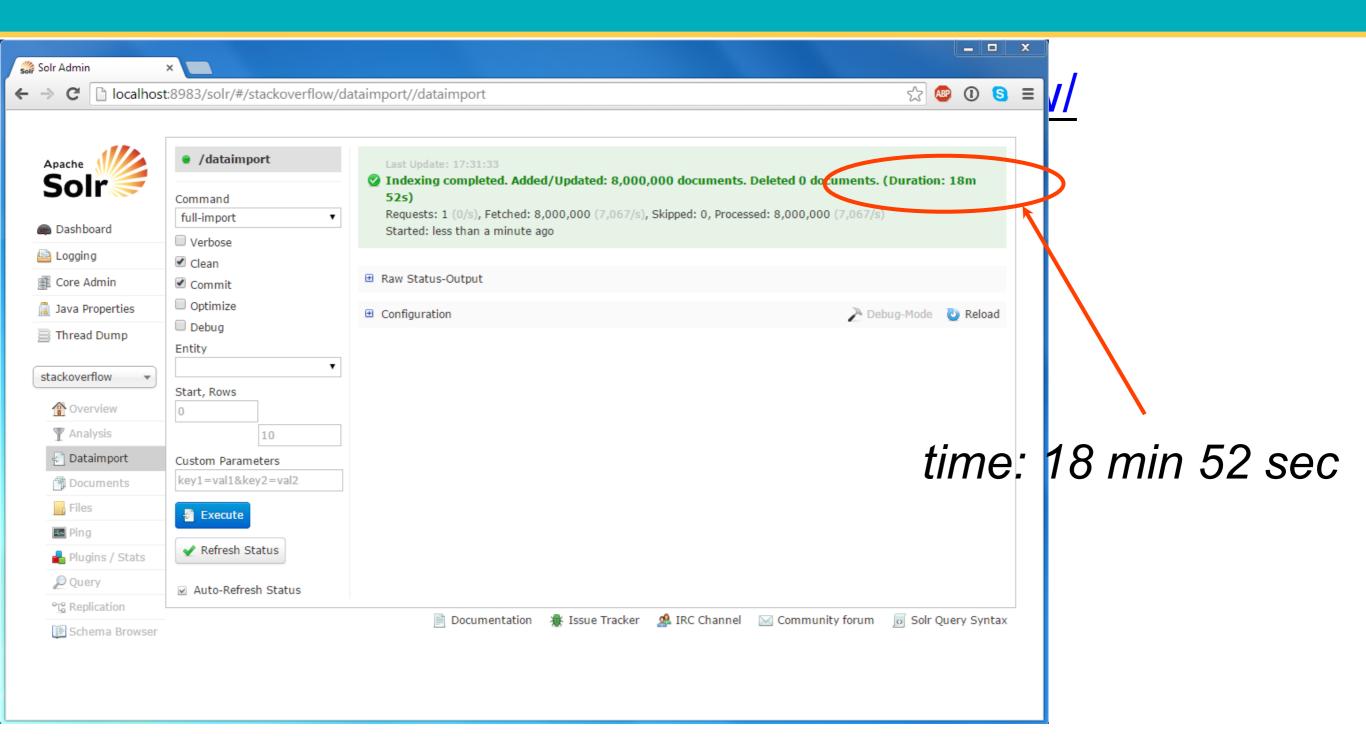
```
<dataConfig>
 <dataSource type="JdbcDataSource"</pre>
              driver="com.mysql.jdbc.Driver"
              url="jdbc:mysql://localhost/testpattern?useUnicode=true"
              batchSize="-1"
              user="xxxx
              password="xxxx",
 <document>
   <entity name="id"</pre>
            query="SELECT PostId, ParentId, Title, Body, Tags FROM Posts">
   </entity>
 </document>
                                         extremely important
</dataConfig>
                                        to avoid buffering the
                                         whole query result!
```

DatalmportHandler

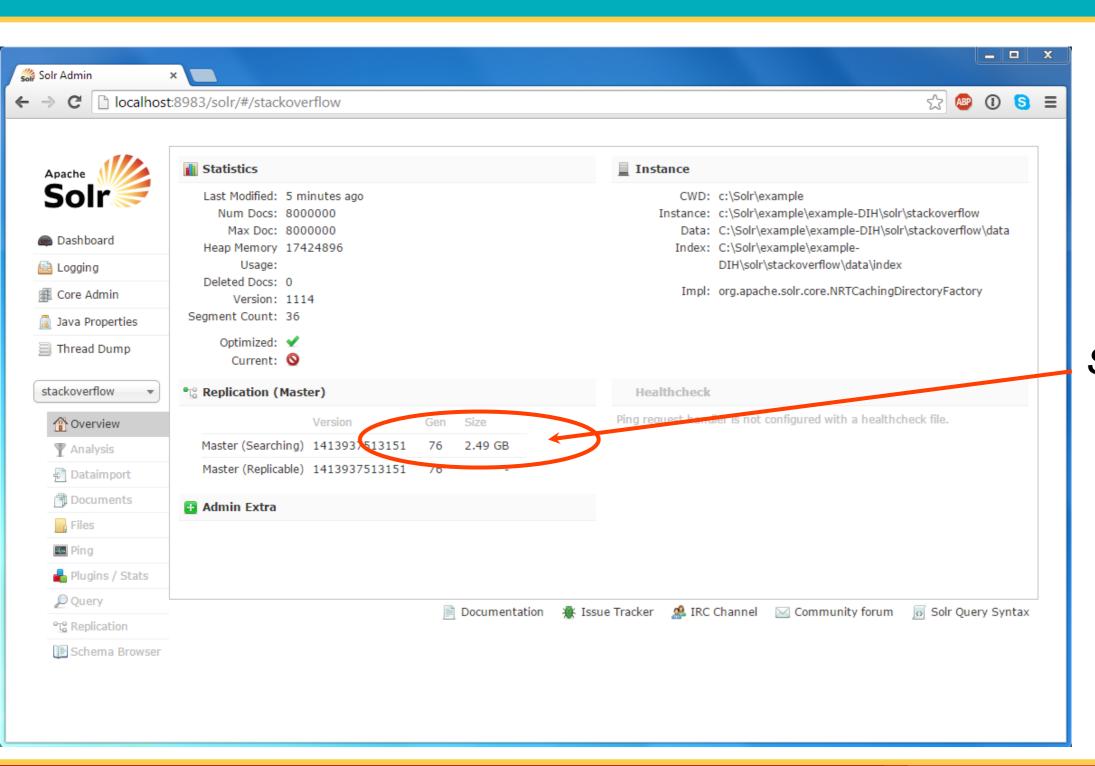
•conf/schema.xml:

```
<fields>
   <field name="Id" type="string" indexed="true" stored="true" required="true" />
   <field name="ParentId" type="string" indexed="true" stored="true" required="false" />
   <field name="Title" type="text general" indexed="false" stored="false"</pre>
   required="false" />
   <field name="Body" type="text_general" indexed="false" stored="false" required="false"</pre>
   <field name="Tags" type="text general" indexed="false" stored="false" required="false"</pre>
   <field name="text" type="text general" indexed="true" stored="false" multiValued="true"</pre>
<fields>
<uniqueKey>PostId</uniqueKey>
<defaultSearchField>text</defaultSearchField>
<copyField source="Title" dest="text"/>
<copyField source="Body" dest="text"/>
<copyField source="Tags" dest="text"/>
```

Insert Data into Index (Solr)



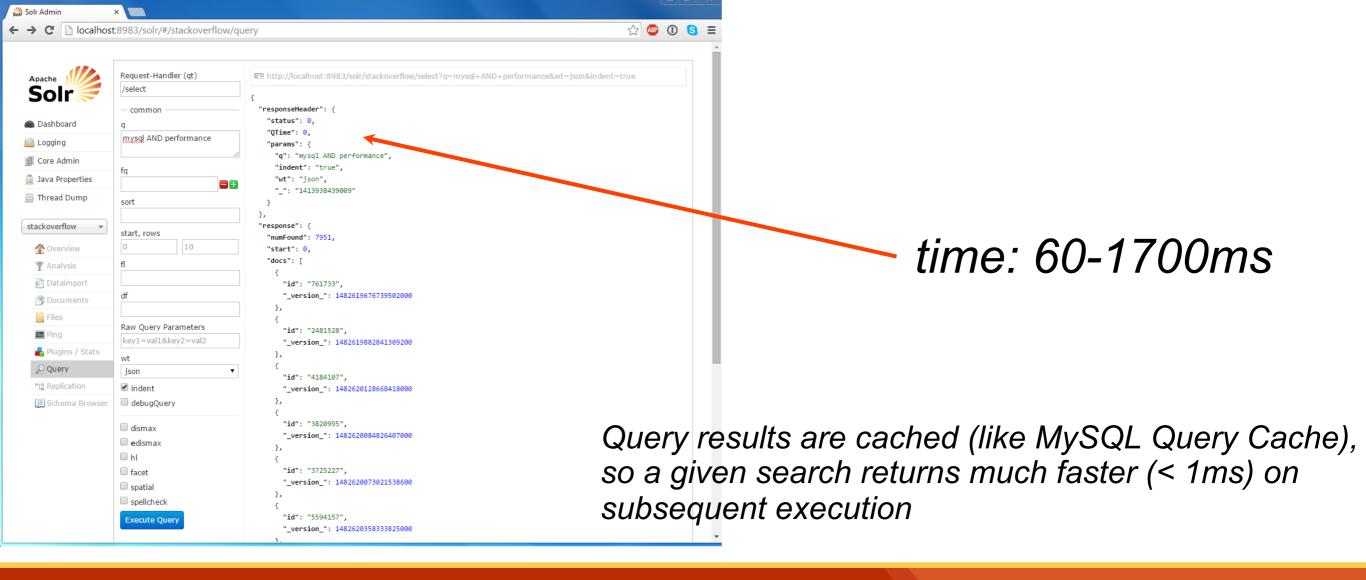
Size of Index (Solr)



size: 2.49 GE

Searching Solr

http://localhost:8983/solr/stackoverflow/query?
 q=mysql+AND+performance



Sphinx Search

Sphinx Search

- http://sphinxsearch.com/
- Started in 2001
- GPLv2 license
- C++ implementation
- SphinxSE storage engine for MySQL
- Supports MySQL protocol, SQL-like queries
- Many sophisticated search features
- Testing: Sphinx Search 2.2.5

sphinx.conf

```
source src1
type = mysql
sql host = localhost
sql user = xxxx
sql pass = xxxx
sql db = testpattern
sql query = SELECT PostId, ParentId, Title,
  Body, Tags FROM Posts
sql query info = SELECT * FROM Posts \
  WHERE PostId=$id
```

sphinx.conf

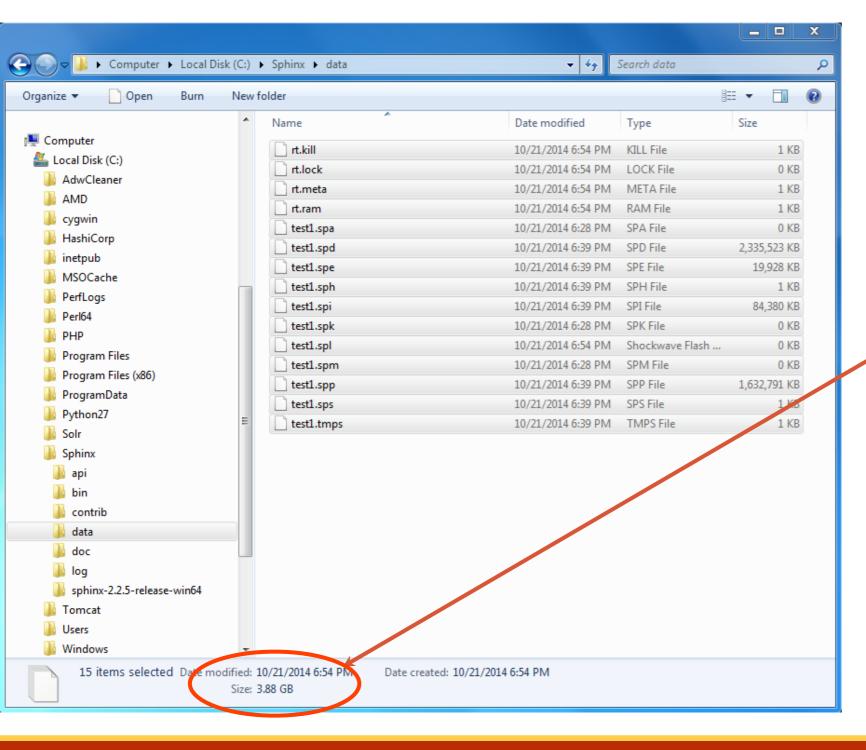
```
index test1
{
  source = src1
  path = C:\Sphinx\data
}
```

Insert Data into Index (Sphinx)

```
c:\Sphinx\bin\indexer.exe -c ../sphinx.conf --verbose test1
Sphinx 2.2.5-id64-release (r4825)
Copyright (c) 2001-2014, Andrew Aksyonoff
Copyright (c) 2008-2014, Sphinx Technologies Inc (http://sphinxsearch.com)
using config file '../sphinx.conf'...
indexing index 'test1'...
WARNING: attribute 'group_id' not found - IGNORING
WARNING: attribute 'group_id' not found - IGNORING
WARNING: Attribute count is 0: switching to none docinfo
collected 8000000 docs, 6827.1 MB
sorted 1134.6 Mhits, 100.0% done
total 8000000 docs, 6827097596 bytes
total 1071.670 sec, 6370519 bytes/sec, 7464.98 docs/sec
total 8941 reads 280.311 sec, 495.0 kb/call avg, 31.3 msec/call avg
total 9111 writes, 5.472 sec, 932.8 kb/call avg, 0.6 msec/call avg
```

time: 17 min 52 sec

Index Size (Sphinx)



size: 3.88 GB

Querying index

```
$ mysql --port 9306
Server version: 2.2.5-id64-release (r4825)
mysql> SELECT * FROM test1 WHERE MATCH('mysql performance');
  id
  6016856
  4207641
  2656325
  7192928
  8118235
20 rows in set (0.04 sec)
```

Querying index

```
mysql> SHOW META;
  Variable name
                   Value
                   1000
  total
  total_found
                   8340
                   0.037
  time
  keyword[0]
                  mysql
                                        time: 37ms
                   179579
  docs[0]
  hits[0]
                   404247
  keyword[1]
                  performance
  docs[1]
                   158433
  hits[1]
                   227427
```

Trigraphs

Trigraphs Overview

- Not very fast, but still better than LIKE / RLIKE
- Generic, portable SQL solution
- No dependency on version, storage engine, thirdparty technology

Three-Letter Sequences

```
CREATE TABLE AtoZ (
c CHAR(1),
PRIMARY KEY (c));

INSERT INTO AtoZ (c)
VALUES ('a'), ('b'), ('c'), ...

CREATE TABLE Trigraphs (
Tri CHAR(3),
PRIMARY KEY (Tri));

INSERT INTO Trigraphs (Tri)
SELECT CONCAT(t1.c, t2.c, t3.c)
FROM AtoZ t1 JOIN AtoZ t2 JOIN AtoZ t3;
```

Insert Data Into Index

```
my $sth = $dbh1->prepare("SELECT * FROM Posts") or die $dbh1->errstr;
$sth->execute() or die $dbh1->errstr;
$dbh2->begin work;
my $i = 0;
while (my $row = $sth->fetchrow hashref ) {
  my \text{text} = \text{lc(join('|', ($row->{title}, $row->{body}, $row->{tags})))};
 my %tri;
 map(tri\{s\}=1, (text=~m/[[:alpha:]]\{3\}/g));
  next unless %tri;
 my $tuple_list = join(",", map("('$_',$row->{postid})", keys %tri));
 my $sql = INSERT IGNORE INTO PostsTrigraph (tri, PostId) VALUES
 $tuple list";
  $dbh2->do($sql) or die "SQL = $sql, ".$dbh2->errstr;
  if (++$i % 1000 == 0) {
    print ".";
    $dbh2->commit;
    $dbh2->begin work;
                                           takes hours, and
print ".\n";
                                           creates a very large
$dbh2->commit;
                                           number of rows
```

Indexed Lookups

```
SELECT p.*
FROM Posts p
JOIN PostsTrigraph t1 ON
t1.PostId = p.PostId AND t1.Tri = 'mys'
```

Search Among Fewer Matches

```
SELECT p.*
FROM Posts p
JOIN PostsTrigraph t1 ON
  t1.PostId = p.PostId AND t1.Tri = 'mys'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t2 ON
  t2.PostId = p.PostId AND t2.Tri = 'per'
```

Search Among Fewer Matches

```
SELECT p.*
FROM Posts p
JOIN PostsTrigraph t1 ON
  t1.PostId = p.PostId AND t1.Tri = 'mys'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t2 ON
  t2.PostId = p.PostId AND t2.Tri = 'per'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t3 ON
  t3.PostId = p.PostId AND t3.Tri = 'for'
```

Search Among Fewer Matches

```
SELECT p.*
FROM Posts p
JOIN PostsTrigraph t1 ON
t1.PostId = p.PostId AND t1.Tri = 'mys'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t2 ON
t2.PostId = p.PostId AND t2.Tri = 'per'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t3 ON
t3.PostId = p.PostId AND t3.Tri = 'for'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t4 ON
t4.PostId = p.PostId AND t4.Tri = 'man'
```

Narrow Down Further

```
SELECT p.*
FROM Posts p
JOIN PostsTrigraph t1 ON
t1.PostId = p.PostId AND t1.Tri = 'mys'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t2 ON
t2.PostId = p.PostId AND t2.Tri = 'per'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t3 ON
t3.PostId = p.PostId AND t3.Tri = 'for'
JOIN PostsTrigraph t4 ON
t4.PostId = p.PostId AND t4.Tri = 'man'
WHERE CONCAT(p.title,p.body,p.tags) LIKE '%mysql%'
AND CONCAT(p.title,p.body,p.tags) LIKE '%performance%';
```

Not Recommended

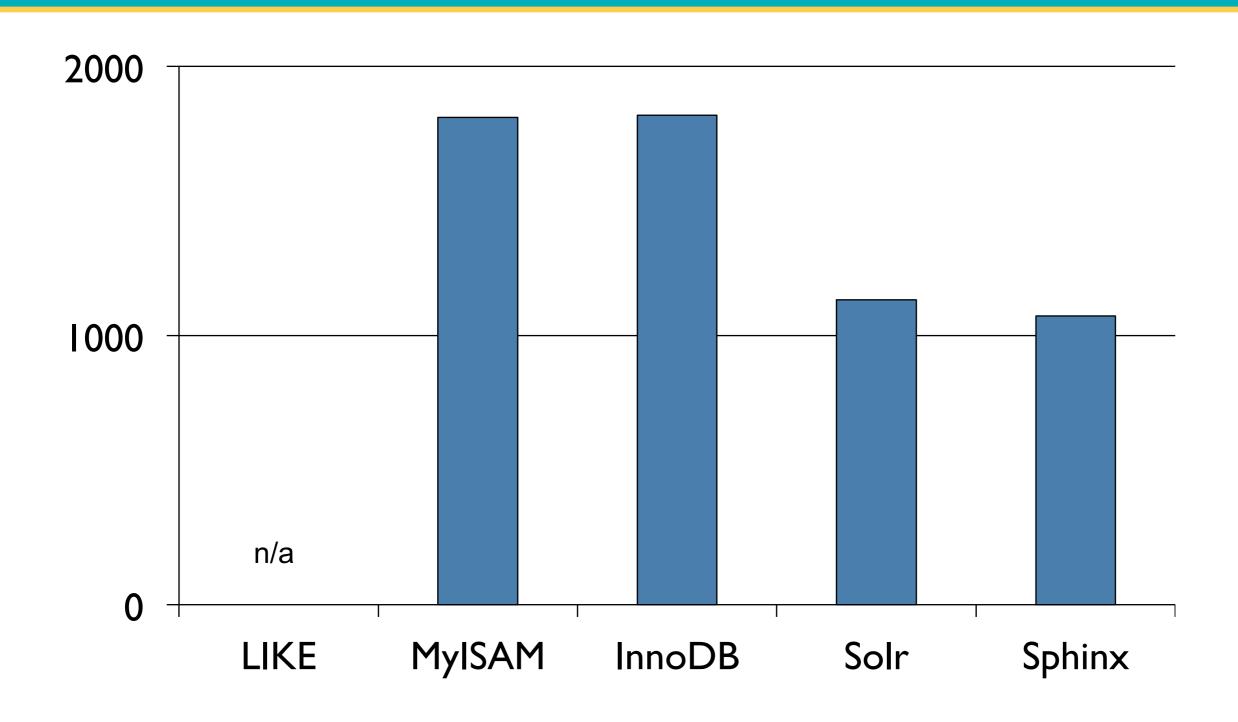
- Best query performance was still > 15 sec.
- Specialized fulltext search technology is much better, so trigraphs are useful only when portable, standard SQL is the only solution allowed.



Time to Build Index on Data

LIKE expression	n/a
FULLTEXT MyISAM	30 min, 10 sec
FULLTEXT InnoDB	30 min, 19 sec
Apache Solr	18 min, 52 sec
Sphinx Search	17 min, 52 sec

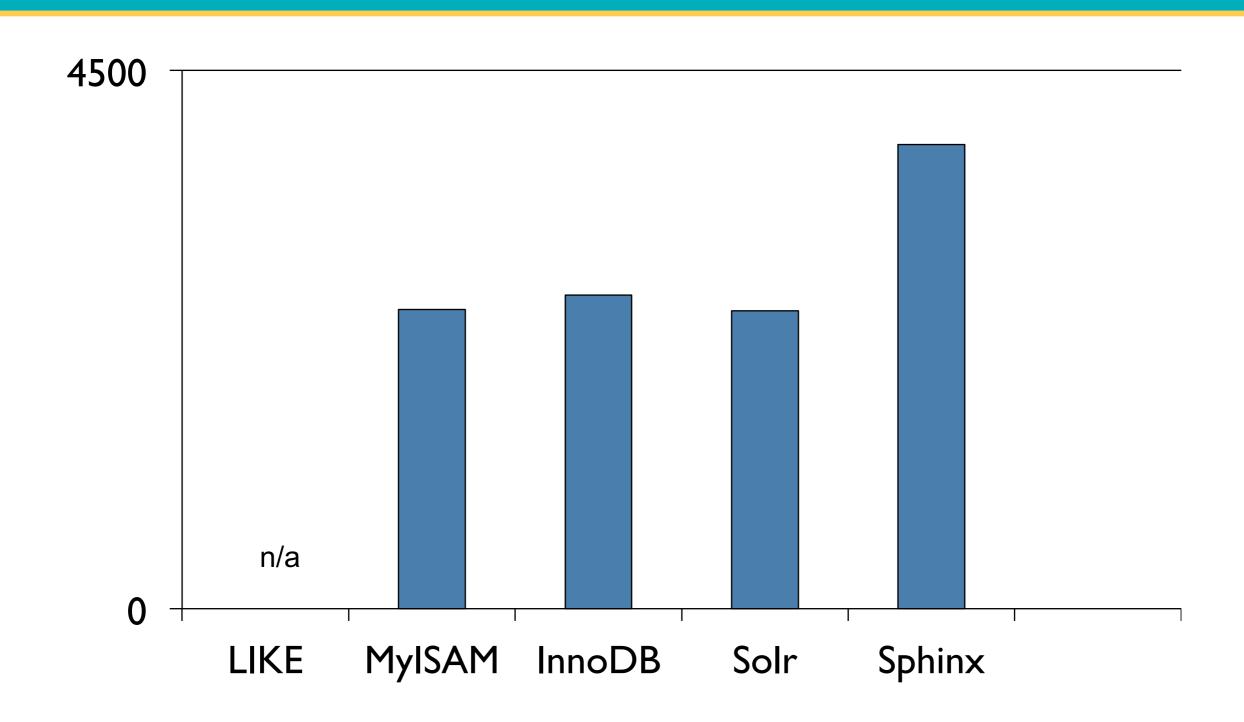
Build Index on Data (sec)



Index Storage

LIKE expression	n/a
FULLTEXT MyISAM	2.50 GB
FULLTEXT InnoDB	2.62 GB
Apache Solr	2.49 GB
Sphinx Search	3.88 GB

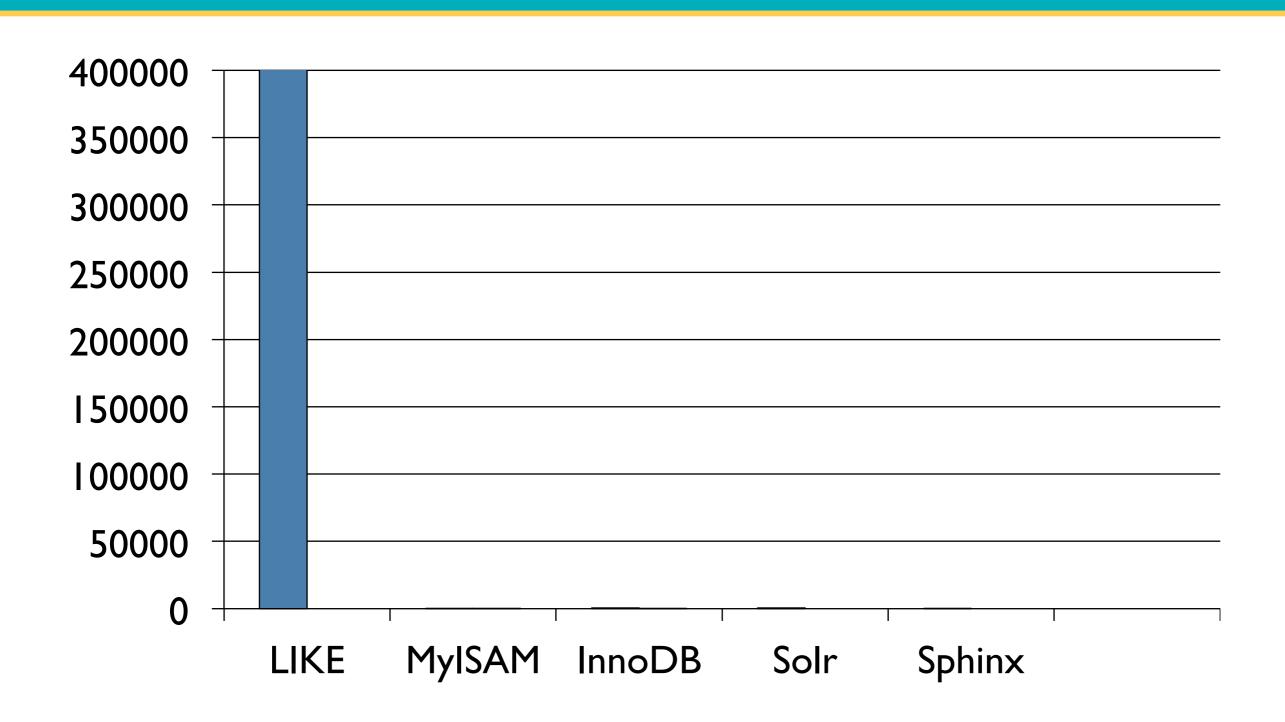
Index Storage (MiB)

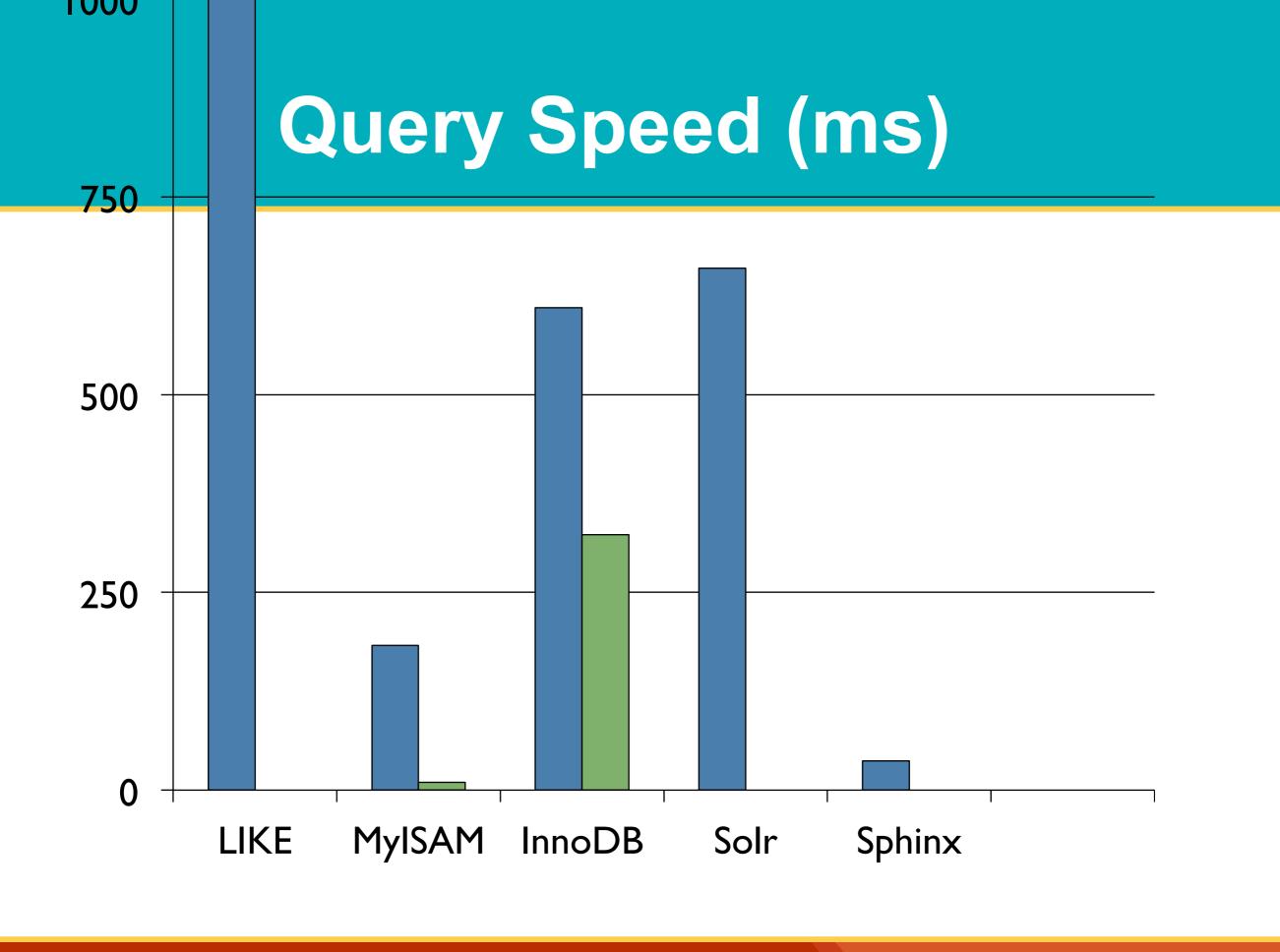


Query Speed

LIKE / RLIKE	97000-655000ms
FULLTEXT MyISAM	10-183ms
FULLTEXT InnoDB	323-610ms
Apache Solr	60-1700ms
Sphinx Search	37ms

Query Speed (ms)





Bottom Line

	build	storage	query	solution
LIKE expression	0	0	97,000ms	SQL
RLIKE expression	0	0	655,000ms	SQL
FULLTEXT MyISAM	30:10	2.50GB	183ms	MySQL
FULLTEXT InnoDB	30:19	2.62GB	323ms	MySQL 5.6
Apache Solr	18:52	2.49GB	660ms	Java
Sphinx Search	17:52	3.88GB	37ms	C++

Final Thoughts

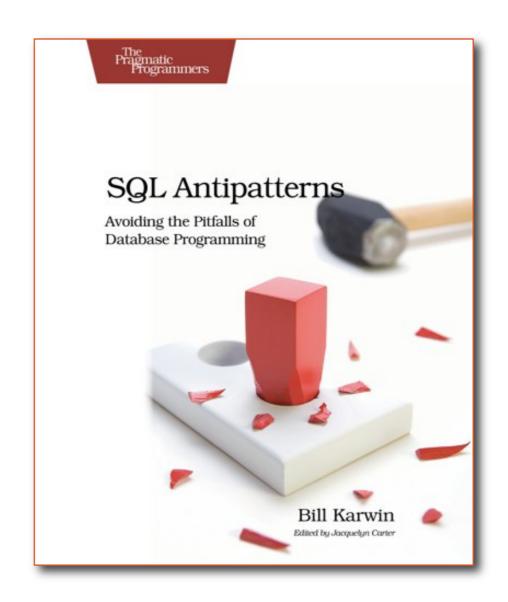
- Third-party search engines are complex to keep in sync with data, and adding another type of server adds more operations work for you.
- Built-in FULLTEXT indexes are therefore useful even if they are not absolutely the fastest.

Final Thoughts

 Different search implementations may return different results, so you should evaluate what works best for your project.

Final Thoughts

 Any indexed search solution is orders of magnitude better than LIKE!



http://www.pragprog.com/titles/bksqla/

London, November 3-4, 2014 Santa Clara, April 13-16, 2015

www.percona.com/live



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