CS291A: Scalable Internet Services

gTrack: Track Prices of Games on Steam

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Outline

- Motivation
- 2 Introduction
- O Data Model
- 4 Live Demo
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- 6 Results
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Motivation

- Steam is the largest PC game distribution platform, yet its search functionalities are inadequate in meeting specialized queries.
- Items such as emotes, cards and background to a game are not presented in an organised manner in Steam.
- The games available on Steam do not have their price histories.

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- gTrack is designed for users to get information related to the games available on Steam.
- Solution Logged in users can comment and express their like or dislike about any game.
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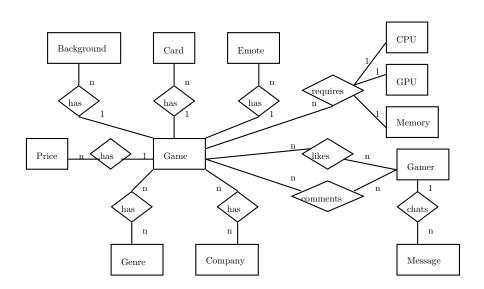
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Entity Relationship Diagram



- In total 389 MB worth of data
- Major tables:
 - 15450 games
 - 775510 comments (50 comments/game on average)
 - 436322 price history (28 histories/game on average)
 - 26066 backgrounds, 79133 cards, 33157 emotes

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Live Demo

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- The work flow consisted of 4 distinct sessions with various probabilities.
- Interspersed waiting within sessions.
- Specialized tests were set up to test caching and indexing.

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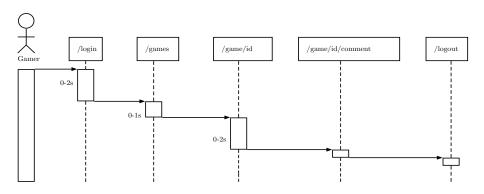


Figure: First Session

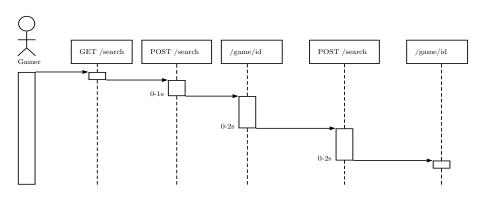


Figure: Second Session

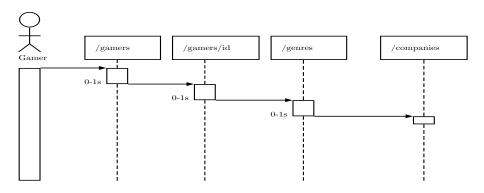


Figure: Third Session

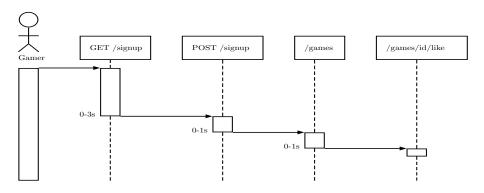
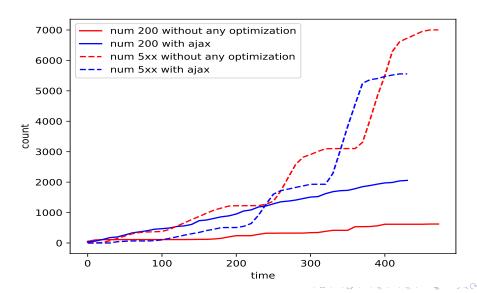


Figure: Fourth Session

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Optimization 1: AJAX



Optimization 2: Indexing

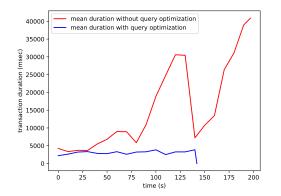


Figure: Mean duration for index page transaction without and with indexing.

Optimization 3: Caching

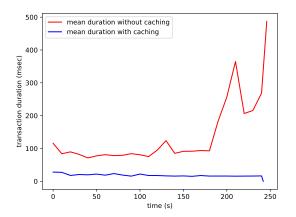


Figure: Mean duration for system requirement search transaction with and without caching.

Horizontal and Vertical Scaling

- The website was load tested with various hardware configuration.
- It was detected very early that the major bottleneck lay with the database.
- The app server used was c5 with various database servers.

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16 users/second arrival rate

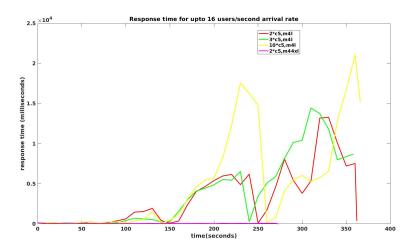


Figure: Mean response time while handling up to 16 users/second

32 users/second arrival rate

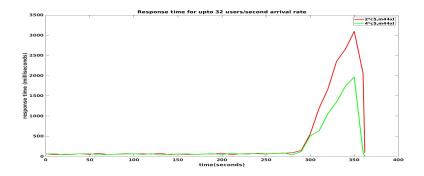


Figure: Mean response time while handling up to 32 users/second

64 users/second arrival rate

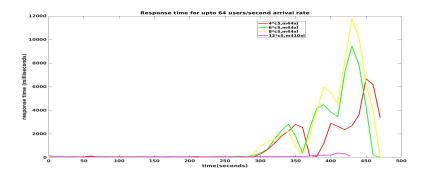


Figure: Mean response time while handling up to 64 users/second

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- Global chat
- Watchlist for users
- Request system
- Extensive application of AJAX
- Different types of caching

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