

NOVA UNIVERSITY OF LISBON

MSC IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

PERFORMANCE COMPARISON BETWEEN DBMSs UNDER TPROC-C WORKLOADS

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DATABASES SYSTEMS

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1 Introduction

This project aims to benchmark and compare the performance of different database systems using the TPC-C workload, a standard for evaluating OLTP (Online Transaction Processing) environments.

Automated scripts are used to run identical tests across multiple databases, each configured with similar settings to ensure a fair comparison.

Key metrics such as Transactions Per Minute (TPM) are measured under varying levels of concurrent users.

The results help identify the strengths and limitations of each database in handling transactional workloads.

In this test, the databases used were PostgreSQL, MySQL and MariaDB. In total, we ran 54 tests:

- 4 tests scaling the number of virtual users (2 4 8 12) and warehouses (VU*5) on all PCs and databases (48 tests in total);
- 1 test with the number of virtual users set to the same as the number of threads in that PC, warehouses set to VU*5, allwarehouse = true on all databases on just one PC (3 test in total);
- 1 test with the number of virtual users set to the same as the number of threads in that PC, warehouses set to VU*5, with default config on all databases on just one PC (3 test in total).

2 Overview of HammerDB

HammerDB is a free, open-source tool for benchmarking the performance of relational databases [1]. It supports popular databases like Oracle, SQL Server, PostgreSQL, MySQL, and more. HammerDB uses industry-standard workloads such as TPROC-C and TPROC-H to simulate real-world database

activity.

It offers both a graphical interface and command-line options, making it suitable for developers, DBAs, and system administrators to test, compare, and tune database performance.

In some cases we used HammerDB in docker containers to run the tests, which allows for easy setup and isolation of the testing environment.

In another case, we used the Windows version of HammerDB to run the tests on a Windows machine.

2.1 Overview of TPROC-C

TPROC-C is a benchmark designed to evaluate the performance of database management systems (DBMS) using a transactional workload. It simulates a typical online transaction processing (OLTP) environment, focusing on operations like inserts, updates, and deletes across multiple tables.

2.2 TPROC-C vs TPROC-H

TPROC-H is a benchmark designed for data warehousing and analytical workloads, while TPROC-C is focused on transactional processing. TPROC-H emphasizes complex queries and large data sets, whereas TPROC-C simulates real-time transactions with a focus on insert, update, and delete operations.

- 3 Problem & DBMS Summary
- 4 Benchmark Description
- 5 Methodology

5.1 Hardware and Software Setup

PC	1	2	3	4
os	Windows 11	Windows 11	Linux (Unraid)	MacOS Sequoia
CPU	Intel i7-13700H	AMD Ryzen 5 3600	Intel i3-10100F	Apple M1
Cores	14 (6P 8E)	6	4	8
Threads	20	12	8	8
RAM	16GB	16GB	32GB	16GB
Disk	SSD M.2 NVMe	SSD M.2 NVMe	SSD M.2 NVMe	SSD M.2 NVMe
Read	3500 MB/s	2500 MB/s	3500 MB/s	3400 MB/s
Write	2700 MB/s	2100 MB/s	3300 MB/s	2800 MB/s

Table 1: Hardware used in the benchmarks

In PCs 1, 3, and 4, we used HammerDB and all the databases in docker containers to run the tests, which allows for easy setup and isolation of the testing environment.

We used docker compose for this setup, which allowed us to easily run the same tests on different machines with the same configuration.

In PC 2, we used everything installed on the host machine.

5.2 Database Setup

For MySQL and MariaDB, this was the configuration used:

```
[mysqld]
   # BASIC SETTINGS
3
   port = 3308
   bind-address = 0.0.0.0
   max\_connections = 1000
   max\_connect\_errors = 1000000
   wait_timeout = 28800
   interactive_timeout = 28800
9
   connect_timeout = 10
   back_log = 1500
11
12
   # CHARACTER SET & COLLATION
13
   character-set-server = utf8mb4
14
   collation-server = utf8mb4_unicode_ci
15
16
   # STORAGE AND INNODB ENGINE
17
   innodb_buffer_pool_size = 4G
   innodb_buffer_pool_instances = 4
19
   innodb_log_file_size = 512M
20
   innodb_log_buffer_size = 64M
   innodb_file_per_table = 1
22
   innodb_flush_log_at_trx_commit = 2
23
   innodb_flush_method = O_DIRECT
24
   innodb_io_capacity = 2000
25
   innodb_io_capacity_max = 4000
   innodb_read_io_threads = 8
27
   innodb_write_io_threads = 8
28
   innodb_purge_threads = 4
   innodb_doublewrite = 1
30
   innodb_autoinc_lock_mode = 2
31
   innodb_stats_persistent = 1
32
   innodb_lru_scan_depth = 2048
33
   innodb_adaptive_flushing = 1
   innodb_adaptive_hash_index = 0
35
   innodb_change_buffering = none
36
   # TEMPORARY TABLE & BUFFERS
38
   tmp_table_size = 256M
   max_heap_table_size = 256M
   sort_buffer_size = 1M
41
   join_buffer_size = 1M
read_buffer_size = 512K
```

```
44
   read_rnd_buffer_size = 2M
   # LOGGING
46
   slow_query_log = 1
47
   long_query_time = 2
   slow_query_log_file = /var/lib/mysql/mysql-slow.log
49
   general_log = 0
   # BYNARY LOGGING
52
   skip-log-bin
   sync_binlog = 0
54
   # SECURITY & COMPATIBILITY
   local_infile = 0
57
   sql_mode = STRICT_TRANS_TABLES, ERROR_FOR_DIVISION_BY_ZERO, NO_ENGINE_SUBSTITUTION
   transaction_isolation = REPEATABLE-READ
60
   # PERFORMANCE
  performance_schema = OFF
62
   max_prepared_stmt_count = 12800
63
   table_open_cache = 2000
   table_open_cache_instances = 4
65
   open_files_limit = 65535
   thread_cache_size = 50
67
   thread_stack = 256K
68
   # MONITORING
   innodb_monitor_enable = '%'
```

For PostgreSQL, this was the configuration used:

```
data_directory = '/var/lib/postgresql/data' # Important: match Docker volume
   hba_file = '/var/lib/postgresql/data/pg_hba.conf'
   ident_file = '/var/lib/postgresql/data/pg_ident.conf'
   # CONNECTIONS AND AUTHENTICATION
   listen_addresses = '*' # Allow external connections (Docker host network)
   port = 5432 # Default PostgreSQL port
   max\_connections = 100
10
   # RESOURCE USAGE
   shared_buffers = 512MB # Adjust depending on host memory (e.g., 25% of RAM)
12
   work_mem = 64MB # Suitable for OLTP like TPC-C
   maintenance_work_mem = 256MB
   effective_cache_size = 2GB # Depends on total system RAM
15
   # WRITE-AHEAD LOG
17
   wal_level = replica
18
   synchronous_commit = off # Can improve write performance (acceptable for benchmarks)
   checkpoint_timeout = 15min
20
   checkpoint_completion_target = 0.9
   max_wal_size = 2GB
   min_wal_size = 512MB
23
   # LOGGING
25
   logging_collector = on
26
   log_directory = 'log'
   log_filename = 'postgresql.log'
28
   log_statement = 'none'
   log_min_duration_statement = 1000 # Log queries slower than 1s
```

6 Results

7 Discussion

8 Conclusions

Bibliography

[1] Wikipedia contributors. *HammerDB* — *Wikipedia*, *The Free Encyclopedia*. [Online; accessed 25-May-2025]. 2025. URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=HammerDB&oldid=1275860580.