Speed, Flexibility, Security: The MySQL solution to a large-store XML dilemma

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Los Alamos National Laboratory Research Library LA-UR-04-0190



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Outline

- Introduction/Background
 - Multiple installations of MySQL at our site
 - SearchPlus, our XML project, known as "XML dilemma"
 - Project, Application and Architecture Requirements
- Architecture

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- MySQL Implementation and Optimization
 - Short Term Future Directions



Los Alamos National Laboratory



The World's Greatest Science Protecting America



Established 1943 43 Square mile site, Northern New Mexico Operated by University of California for the National Nuclear Security Administration of the Department of Energy





MySQL Users Conference 2004 4/14/2004

Who we are

12000 employees

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6000 technical staff

Technology application & development in: Accelerators, Advanced Concepts, Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Energy, Environmental, Explosives, Genomics, Manufacturing, Mathematics, Modeling/Simulation, Nonproliferation, Nuclear Materials & Weapons, Physics, Space Sciences, Superconductivity





LANL Research Library (RL)

Support the LANL research mission

Increase the efficiency of Laboratory research staff through our information & knowledge products and services

Enhance scientific communication through knowledge discovery, managing intellectual capital, and facilitating scholarly communication





Library Without Walls (LWW)

- Delivery of information to the researchers' desktops, wherever and whenever they need it, from digital library resources
- Goal: To increase the richness of the scientific literature available to scientists through the development of new capabilities that exploit our information repositories and further scientific collaboration





LWW Initiatives

- LANL Publications Digitization & Access
 - Electronic journals (Science Server)

- Electronic Databases (SciSearch, Social SciSearch, BIOSIS, Arts & Humanities, DOE, Engineering Index, INSPEC, Nuclear Science Abstracts)
 - FlashPoint multi-database search tool
 - LinkSeeker (SFX) on-the-fly creation of service links
 - MyLibrary Web-based digital library portal



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MySQL Installations at the RL

- Nearly 30 Server Installations
 - Linux and Solaris Operating Systems
- Mostly Commodity Hardware
 - Typical installation uses between 1-10GB The Biggest installation utilizes 0.5 TB
 - Used for production, batch processing, replication and development





The Next Generation

"What we need now is a brilliant idea..."





SearchPlus

(aka "The XML Project")

- Searching across multiple databases by combining data from 7 databases
 - Leverage power of XML for on-the-fly formatting
 - **De-Duplication**

- Linkages between bibliographies and records we store
- Updated interface with new features & access points (links, browsing, counts)



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The Team

8 developers

Miriam Blake, Doug Chafe, Mariella Di Giacomo, Frances Knudson, Beth Goldsmith, Mark Martinez, Ming Yu, Jeff Scott





The Data

- 60+ million citations with multiple access points
- 7+ individual databases

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- ✓ SciSearch 1945-present: ~30 M + 4 k weekly
- ✓ Social SciSearch 1973-present: ~15 M + 1 k weekly
- ✓ Arts & Humanities 1975-present: ~5 M + .5 k weekly
- ✓ ISI Conference Proceedings 1990-present: ~3 M + .5 k weekly
- ✓ INSPEC: ~ 8 M
- ✓ BIOSIS: ~15 M
- ✓ Engineering Index: ~5.5 M
- ✓ Other (DOE, LANL Tech Reports, etc)



RL Data

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Full Text



RL Data

Article Metadata

	LUS New in version 2.0: Inspec®						
My account	Results Page Previous Record Next Record						
Login / register							
Set preferences	Mark this record:						
Edit alerts / saved searches	Printer friendly						
View current alerts	ISI Bibliography: <u>15 items</u> ISI Times Cited: <u>13</u>						
Basic search	Title: Use of abrupt strain path change for determining subsequent yield surface: experimental study with metal sheets.						
Advanced search	Author: Kuwabara, T ; Kuroda, M ; Tvergaard, V ; Nomura, K						
Cited browse	Affiliation: Dept. of Mech. Syst. Eng., Tokyo Univ. of Agric. & Technol., Japan						
Cited search	Institution: Tech Univ Denmark, Dept Solid Mech, Bld 404, DK-2800 Lyngby, Denmark ; Tech Univ Denmark, Dept 🛁						
Marked records	Solid Mech, DK-2800 Lyngby, Denmark ; Yamagata Univ, Dept Mech Syst Engn, Yonezawa, Yamagata 9928510, Japan ; Tokyo Univ Agr & Technol, Dept Mech & Syst Engn, Koganei, Tokyo 1848588, Japan						
Search history	Journal: Acta Materialia; 29 May 2000; vol.48, no.9, p.2071-9						
About SearchPlus	Abstract: A basic idea for a method for determining the subsequent yield surface in the vicinity of a current loading point by using an abrupt strain path change has been proposed recently by Kuroda and						
FAQs	Exercise Technologies and the proposed method is applied to real experimental studies. In a biaxial tensile testing apparatus, a cruciform specimen is used, with the strains measured by a biaxial-strain gauge						
Help index	Then, with the hydraulic pressure of two sets of opposing hydraulic cylinders servo-controlled						
Report problems / send comments	independently, the testing apparatus can be used to prescribe an abrupt change of the strain path. Both a cold-rolled steel sheet and an aluminum alloy sheet are investigated. The differences between the vield surface shapes found by the strain path change procedure and the shapes found by probing the						
Related sites	yield points from the elastic region are shown and discussed for different cases. (15 refs.)						
FlashPoint	Subject (ISI): aluminum alloy ; steel ; yield phenomena ; constitutive equations ; biaxial tensile test						
MyLibrary	Subject Aluminium alloys ; Materials testing ; Plastic deformation ; Steel ; Yield point ; Strain path change ; Yield (Inspec): surface ; Biaxial strain gauge ; Cold rolled steel ; Yield point ; Elastic region ; Metal sheets						



RL Data

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Citation (Bibliography) Metadata

Edit alerts /	Printer friendly	
saved searches	ISI Bibliography	
View current alerts	Title: Use of abrupt strain path change for determining subsequent yield surface:	
Basic search	experimental study with metal sheets.	
Advanced search	Author: Kuwabara, T.; Kuroda, M.; Tvergaard, V.; Nomura, K. Source: Acta Materialia: 20 May 2000: vol 48, pp. 9, p. 2071, 9	
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Help index	$\square~2$. An investigation of plastic flow and differential work hardening in orthotropic brass tubes	
Help for this page	under fluid pressure and axial load. Hill R ' Hecker, SS' Stout, MG	
Report problems / send comments	Source: International Journal of Solids and Structures; Nov. 1994; vol.31, no.21, p.2999-3021	
Related sites	🔲 3. Shear band formation in plane strain.	
FlashPoint	Hutchinson, JW; Tvergaard, V. Source: International Journal of Solids and Structures: 1981: vol 17, no 5, n 451-70	
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	□ 5. IKEGAMI, K MECH BEHAV ANISOTROP; 1982, v.115, p.201 <mark>∮ Links</mark>	



SearchPlus Data Requirements

Transform the data acquired into a common XML format and store it for indexing and retrieval.

Process the data in a secure environment behind a firewall.

Make the data available to users through a flexible, robust and fast web application outside the firewall.

Build a scalable system, capable of handling weekly content updates and new data sources.







Application Needs

Empower search, query and analysis across multiple data sources

Provide links between article cited references and citation articles

Enable article author browsing



Application Solution

Search capability. Native XML search engines were not meeting our needs. After investigating several full text search engines, we settled on Verity K2 Enterprise

Browse capability on authors, cited articles and citing articles. Linkages between bibliographies and article metadata. The XML data proved to be easily mapped into a Relational

Database (DB). After some investigation we chose MySQL.



Browsing

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Author lookup list - Microsoft Internet	
1. Enter an author's name (e.g. SMITH J) then click on the submit button. A list of similar names will appear in the browse list.	
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Submit	
Subline	
Browse variations in the author's name then click on a name to see the author's	
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Browse Details

E SEARCHPLUS

New in version 2.0: Inspec®



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About SearchPlus	🗆 [1]	HECKER, SS	1993	۷.	p.	LOS ALAMOS SCI	
FAQs	🗆 [1]	HECKER, SS	1992	v. 13	p.	METALL T A	
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Times Cited Linkage

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Basic search	Title: An investigation of plastic flow and differential work hardening in orthotropic brass tubes under fluid	
Advanced search	pressure and axial load.	
Cited browse	Source: International Journal of Solids and Structures: Nov 1994: vol 31, no 21, n 2999-3021	
Cited search	Full record display	
Marked records		
Search history	Number of Times Cited: Total: 18	
About SearchPlus	<u>2003 : 3</u> 2002 : 1	
FAQs	2001:2	
Help index	<u>2000 : 3</u> 1000 : 2	
Report problems /	<u>1998 : 4</u>	
send comments	<u>1997 : 2</u> 1005 : 1	
Related sites	<u>1990 . 1</u>	
FlashPoint	Copyright 2004: IEE; Institute for Scientific Information, Inc.	
MyLibrary		
(a)	Internet	
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The Citation Data

- Cites citation data (bibliographies) in each bibliographic record
 - ✓ Searchable separately from the articles which cite them
- ✓ 500+ Million individual citations (~170M are unique)
- Can be search by cited author, source, year, volume or a combination thereof
- One cites XML record can have multiple citations
 - ✓ One for each article cited

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Contain only the briefest of bibliographic (fuzzy matching) details



Citation (Bibliography) Data Example

<xml> <references>

.

<refltem type="ref"> <citAu src="cit">HILL, R</citAu> <citSo src="cit">INT J SOLIDS STRUCT</citSo> <citYear src="cit">1994</citYear> <citVol src="cit">31</citVol> <citPage src="cit">2999</citPage> </refltem> </refltem>



Metadata Example

/recs/sici00/0020-7683/31/21/2999_HILL-IPFDWHOBTUFPAL

- <xml>
- <zauthor>
- <author db="Sci">HILL, R</author>
- <author db="Sci">HECKER, SS</author>
- <author db="Sci">STOUT, MG</author>
- </zauthor>
- <zsource>
- <zjournal>
- <journalAbbr db="Sci">Int. J. Solids Struct.</journalAbbr> <journalAbbrJ1 db="Sci">INT J SOL S</journalAbbrJ1> <journal db="Sci">INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SOLIDS AND STRUCTURES; NOV 1994; v.31, no.21, p.2999-3021</journal>

</xml>



Making the Links

26 M records with bibliographies



FullKey for this item: /recs/sici00/0020-7683/31/21/2999_HILL-IPFDWHOBTUFPAL

500 M individual citations <refitem>



XML Cited Reference Example

<refitem type="ref">

<fullKey>/recs/sici00/0020-7683/31/21/2999 HILL-PFDWHOBTUFPAL</fullKey> <starKey>/recs/sici00/0020-7683/31/*/2999 HILL*</starKey> <citAu src="cit">HILL, R</citAu> <citAu src="bib">HILL, R</citAu> <citAu src="bib">HECKER, SS</citAu> <citAu src="bib">STOUT, MG</citAu> <citSo src="cit">INT J SOLIDS STRUCT</citSo> <citSo src="bib">INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SOLIDS AND STRUCTURES</citSo> <citSo src="bib">INT J SOL S</citSo> <citYear src="cit">1994</citYear> <citVol src="cit">31</citVol> <citlssue src="bib">21</citlssue> <citPage src="cit">2999</citPage> <citEndPg src="bib">3021</citEndPg> <citlssn src="bib">0020-7683</citlssn> </refitem> MySQL Users Conference 2004 4/14/2004

Cited Linkages



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Why a Database ?

Knowledge Discovery & Visualization

- Browsing
- Browse details
- Links between cited references and citation records
- On-the-fly counts
- Backup for file system (bibliography rebuild)



uses a relational

Relational Database

A database for browsing.

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In addition to search and retrieval capabilities, we aimed a browse capability on authors, cited and citing articles, and dynamic cite counts.

A relational database provides flexibility to build links and browsing, especially because our XML data maps very well to a normalized relational structure.





Relational Database

XML Data Repository consists of file systems with millions of small files. Backup and restore of such file systems can be problematic. Mirroring the data stored on disk in a relational database offers the additional benefit of faster backup time and useful data redundancy



Relational Database

Using a relational database for storing user access information.

EXAMPLUS uses a relational database to authenticate and authorize users accessing the application.



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SearchPlus Architecture Requirements

- Storage for millions of XML data files
- A system that has as little service disruption as possible
- A robust, fast, flexible, scalable and secure system
- Process data behind a firewall, read data outside the firewall



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SearchPlus Architecture Solution

Scalable, robust, fast and flexible.





Redundant Arrays of Inexpensive Disks (RAID) and Storage Area Network (SAN) technologies have been used to mitigate data failure and provide storage capacity. Redundant systems and MySQL have been used to provide system, application and data redundancy

Secure environment.



The combination of a SAN and a shared-access file systems has given us the possibility of sharing data among servers located inside and outside the firewall



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SearchPlus Hardware Architecture

The whole hardware architecture consists of:

- 12 Processing Nodes.
- 46 Processors.
- 234 GB of Main Memory.
 - ~ 6 TB of Disk Storage on a Storage Area Network (SAN).



SearchPlus Software Architecture









MySQL For SearchPlus

MySQL has been chosen on E searchplus for the following main reasons:

- Open Source Relational Database
- Speed

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- Data Storage Capabilities
- Database Design
- Fault Tolerance
- Security

Replication









MySQL Open Source Software

- MySQL is an Open Source Relational Database.
- MySQL is easy to install, maintain and use.
- MySQL is very well documented.
- Good support through the user's group!





MySL & Speed

Speed.

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MySQL has proven to be fast at handling links among 1,435,000,000 rows of data in several virtual tables.





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MySQL Data Storage Capabilities

Data Storage Capabilities. We currently manage ~0.5 TB of data in a single database. SearchPlus MySQL Database, used as browse capability on authors, cited and citing articles, and dynamic cite counts, consists of 212 MyISAM physical tables and 10 virtual tables (MERGE)





- The database contains a copy of all metadata articles.
 - # Records is ~ 40 M

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- The database contains a copy of all bibliographies for the articles. # Records is ~ 27 M
- The database contains all cited articles.
 # Cited Articles is ~ 500 M
 # Unique Cited Articles is ~ 170 M
- The database contains all cited authors. # Cited Authors is ~ 202 M # Unique Cited Authors is ~ 12 M





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MySQL Database Design

MySQL supports several table types. Our table type choice has been MyISAM, for the following reasons:

- Each table data is stored in a MYD file
 - Each table indices are stored in a MYI file
- Memory key buffer (key cache) for the indexed data
 - Good for high volume of writes or reads, but not both concurrently. Locking happens at table level
 - Variation used: Merge



MySQL & Fault Tolerance

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Fault Tolerance. We use MySQL in production and as diskbased backup for our data.





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MySQL & High Availability

- Three very reliable servers are used for maintaining our SearchPlus MySQL database.
- We are using MySQL Database Replication for balancing the load and avoiding single point of failure outside the firewall.





MySQL & Security

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MySQL Replication allows us to update our data inside the firewall using a Master Server, while Slave Servers outside the firewall are used to provide the data with read only permission to customers



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Hardware

MySQL Servers run on dedicated systems:

- Sun Solaris V480 servers
- Lots of memory 16-32 GB
- Good Disk I/O Performance
 - Lots of Disk Space

- The servers are closely physically located



MySQL Replication

- What is MySQL Replication
 - Why we use MySQL Replication on SearchPlus
 - Replication Configuration and topology chosen
- Replication Setup

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Possible Problems



MySQL Replication is

- Streams of queries that allow the databases on one MySQL Server to be duplicated on another MySQL Server
- Very light-weight on the master server
- Relatively Fast

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- Easy to configure
- Asynchronous



Why MySQL Replication on SearchPlus

Isolate the main server from users (security)
 Provides Redundancy and Fault-Tolerance
 Make Backup Easier
 Scaling: Load-Balancing
 Test Environment



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Replication Configuration on SearchPlus

Topology:

One Master Server and Two Slave Servers

- Master Server records all write/update queries in the binary log
- Slave Servers read the binary log from the Master and run the queries locally
- Master and Slaves selectively filter queries
- Slave operation is multi-threaded since version 4.0 The SQL Thread uses the local relay log. The Relay Thread connects to master and copies queries to the relay log



Replication setup

- Configure replication account on the Master
 - Enable binary log on the Master
 - Snapshot of the Master databases and reset log
 - Install snapshot on the Slave server
 - Setup replication using MySQL configuration file
 - Restart the Slave

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- Check Slave status and error log
 - Keep the servers "close" because of network latency

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Possible Problems using MySQL Replication

Communication between Master server and Slave servers may break. Check Slave Status

Binary (or relay) logs use all the disk space



Optimization

- Why Optimize ? Get more Performance with same Hardware. As your data grows, Performance may degrade
 - What Optimize ? Operating System, Hardware Architecture, Application Components and MySQL

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Where Optimize ? Monitor your systems and applications and watch for possible bottlenecks





MySQL Optimization

Server Compilation

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- Server Configuration/Tuning
- Table Structure (Database Design)
- Table allocation
- Query Handling
 - Data Loading
- Application Design
 - Concurrency



MySQL Server Compilation

Compilation using proper optimizations made improvements of 15% of speed

- Comparisons between MySQL server compiled for 32-bit architecture versus 64-bit architecture. 64-bit MySQL server, even with some slight degradation compared to the 32-bit, allowed us to address 32 GB of memory
- By default MySQL retrieves indices in chunks of 1KB. Benchmarks were done using different chunk sizes, such as, 1KB, 8KB and 16KB. 8KB proved to be the best in our case

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MySQL Server Configuration

- MySQL assumes little about your hardware system configuration
- The size of the key_buffer used to allocate indices in memory plays an important role
- By default MySQL retrieves indices in chunks of 1KB



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MySQL Server Configuration

- Monitor Important Performance Numbers. Queries per second, bytes transferred per second, new connections per second
 - Key Cache Efficiency
- Query Cache Efficiency
 - Table Cache, Max Temporary Tables
 - Max Connections, Max User Connections
 - Long Query Time
 - Thread Concurrency



MySQL Database Design

After the first Database design, some improvements were made to the table structure:

Reduced the size of data inside a single table and the index space for some fields

- Reduced some indices on some long fields, to take fewer resources when indices applied on smaller columns
- Designed 10 Virtual Tables (MRG), 212 physical MyISAM tables
 - Use of NOT NULL fields where possible



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MySQL Database Design

- Use of fixed column sizes. MyISAM tables with fixed rows are faster
- Store compressed data when possible for long fields, that are not modified often
- Consider ratio of reads versus writes



MySQL Table Allocation

Layout the tables that are accessed at the same time (in the same query) among several disks or different file systems

- On those tables for which has not been possible to define fixed rows, run MySQL table check after updates to remove fragmentation (OPTIMIZE or myisamchk) and re-sort the indices
 - Store MySQL Logs separately from the database
- Using a journaling file system makes crash recovery faster





MySQL Query Handling

- Use EXPLAIN SELECT to improve queries
 - Use Indexes

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- Simplify some of the WHERE clauses
- Use UNIONs of SELECT instead of only one SELECT with several conditions in the WHERE clause
 - Use query cache selectively if you have lots of writes or lots of data. SELECT SQL_CACHE
 - Avoid Table Scan

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MySQL Data Loading

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- REPLACE queries for insertion and/or replacement
 - Bulk-Loading (LOAD DATA or mysqlimport)
- Use prepared queries and placeholders when using Perl DBI





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MySQL Application design

- Use Connection Pooling, whenever possible
 - Use a fast MySQL driver under both Perl and Java
- Use prepared queries and placeholders when using Perl DBI



MySQL Concurrency

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While running updates (UPDATE, REPLACE) on the MySQL tables and retrieving the data (SELECT) from the same set, penalties in performance were high due to mutex locks



Impact of MySQL Optimizations

Compilation	Table Optimization	Block Size	Table Structure	Buffer Cache	Query Cache
15%	80%	5%	20%	25%	15%





Short Term Directions

Re-Structuring SearchPlus Database Design
 MySQL Replication for SearchPlus Users Database







Questions ?

Thanks

