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Adapting ACME to the Database Caching Environment

A thesis presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Science

in

Information Systems

at Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand.

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2003
Abstract

The field of database cache replacement has seen a great many replacement policies presented in the past few years. As the challenge to find the optimal replacement policy continues, new methods and techniques of determining cache victims have been proposed, with some methods having a greater effect on results than others. Adaptive algorithms attempt to adapt to changing patterns of data access by combining the benefits of other existing algorithms. Such adaptive algorithms have recently been proposed in the web-caching environment. However, there is a lack of such research in the area of database caching. This thesis investigates an attempt to adapt a recently proposed adaptive caching algorithm in the area of web-caching, known as Adaptive Caching with Multiple Experts (ACME), to the database environment. Recently proposed replacement policies are integrated into ACME’s existing policy pool, in an attempt to gauge its ability and robustness to readily incorporate new algorithms. The results suggest that ACME is indeed well-suited to the database environment, and performs as well as the best currently caching policy within its policy pool at any particular point in time in its request stream. Although execution time increases by integrating more policies into ACME, the overall time saved increases by avoiding disk reads due to higher hit rates and fewer misses on the cache.
Acknowledgements

In the Name of Allah, The Most Beneficent, The Most Merciful

Praise be to Allah, The One and Only True God, who has blessed me with the opportunity to finally achieve my long-standing ambition to undertake my Masters degree.

I am immensely grateful to Markus Kirchberg, for agreeing to supervise me, and for his comments and invaluable criticism during the course of this dissertation. I have greatly appreciated his on-going commitment, dedication and patience with helping me to complete this project. This thesis would not have been possible without his contribution.

I am also grateful to Ismail Ari for providing the source code and traces for ACME, and for providing helpful comments. I would like to acknowledge Xiaodong Zhang, Song Jiang, Sam H. Noh, and Heung Seok Jeon for providing me with the database traces.

I would also like to acknowledge the financial support given to me by the Information Science Research Centre at Massey University.

I would like to thank my parents for their encouragement and support, and for giving me the opportunity to study through to university.

Last, but by no means least, I would like thank my dear wife Leah, for providing me with endless hours of encouragement and support. Thank you for all those hours you spent patiently sitting by me, with motivating me, with your helpful criticism, and with the final documentation. This thesis would not have been what it is without your input.
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