

# Resilient Distributed Datasets, Spark

*DS 5110: Big Data Systems (Spring 2023)*

Lecture 4

Yue Cheng



Some material taken/derived from:

- Matei Zaharia's NSDI'12 talk slides.

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## Applications

Batch

SQL

ETL

Machine  
learning

Emerging  
apps?

Scalable computing engines

Scalable storage systems



Datacenter infrastructure



# What's good with MapReduce

- Scaled analytics to thousands of machines
- Eliminated fault tolerance as a concern

# Problems with MapReduce

- Scaled analytics to thousands of machines
- Eliminated fault tolerance as a concern
- **Not very expressive**
  - Iterative algorithms  
(PageRank, Logistic Regression, ...)
  - Interactive and ad-hoc queries  
(Interactive Log Debugging)
- Lots of specialized frameworks
  - Pregel, GraphLab, PowerGraph, DryadLINQ, HaLoop...

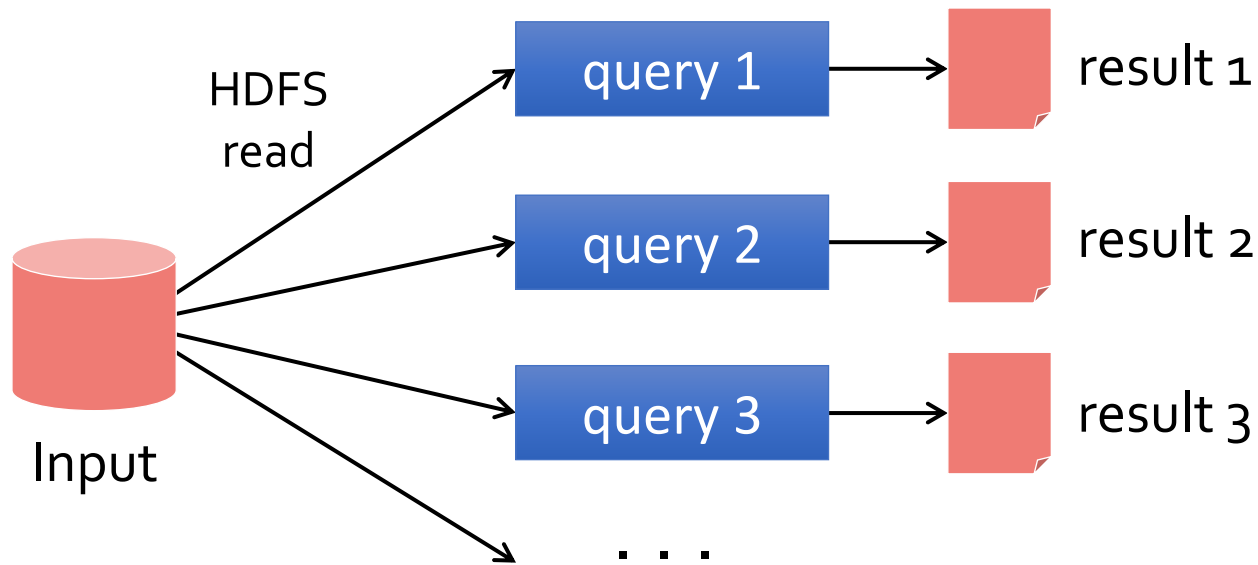
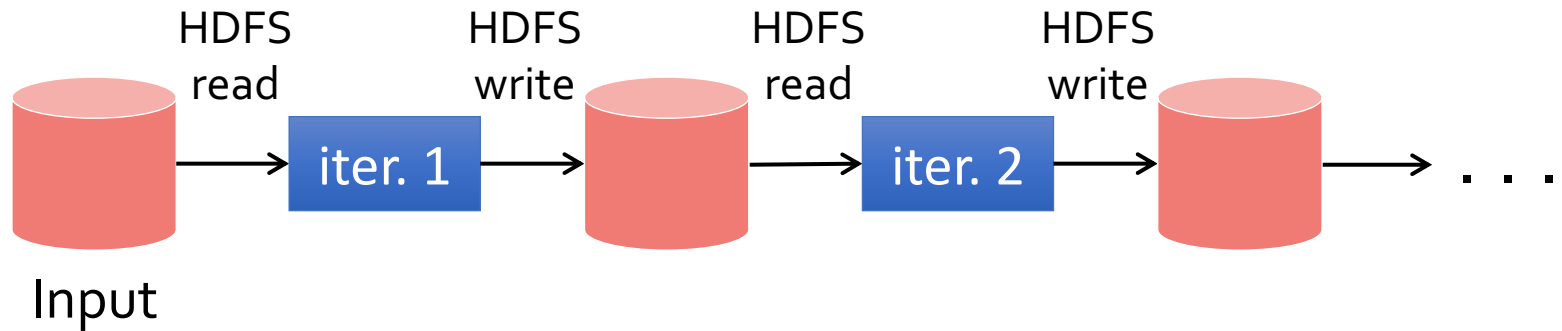
# Sharing data between stages/iterations

- Only way to share data between iterations / phases is through shared storage
  - **Slow!**
- Allow operations to feed data to one another
  - Ideally, through memory instead of disk-based storage

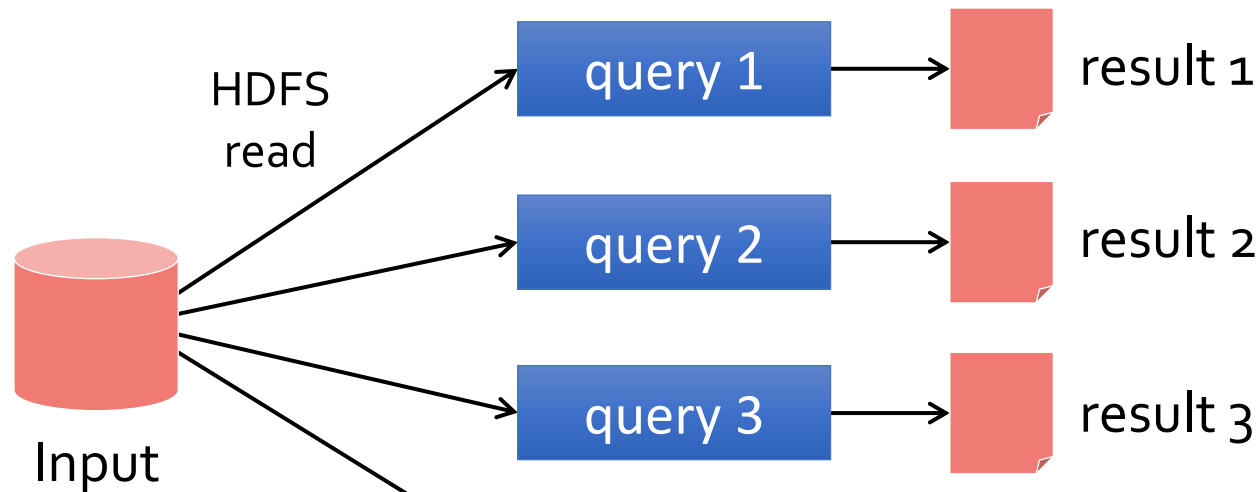
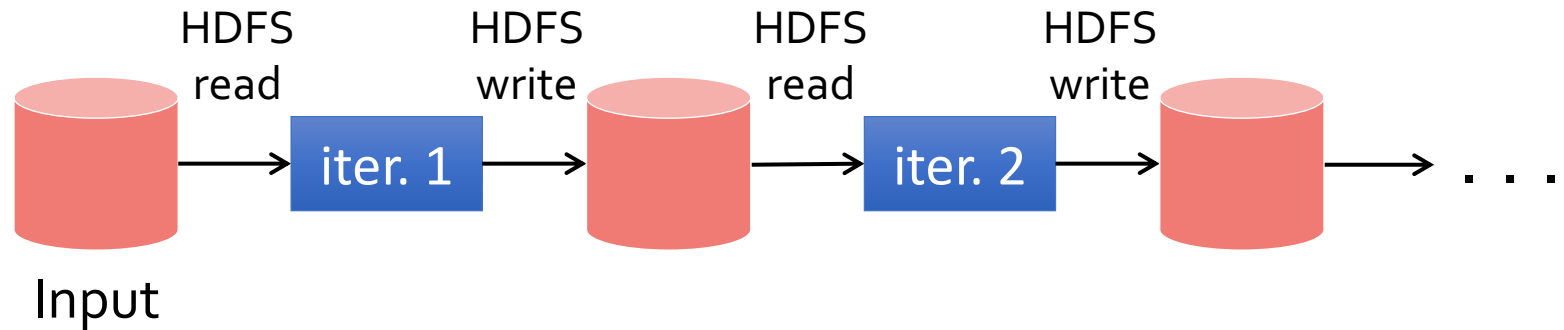
# Sharing data between stages/iterations

- Only way to share data between iterations / phases is through shared storage
  - **Slow!**
- Allow operations to feed data to one another
  - Ideally, through memory instead of disk-based storage
- Need the “**chain**” of operations to be exposed to make this work
- **Problem to solve:** Would this break the MR fault-tolerance scheme?
  - Retry and Map or Reduce task since idempotent

# Examples



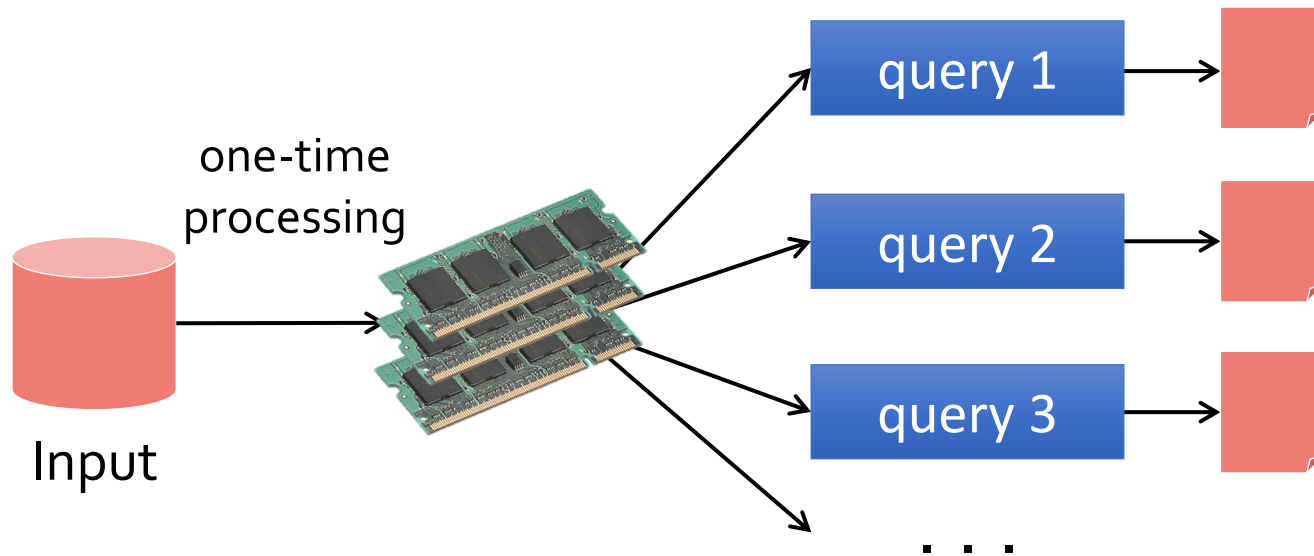
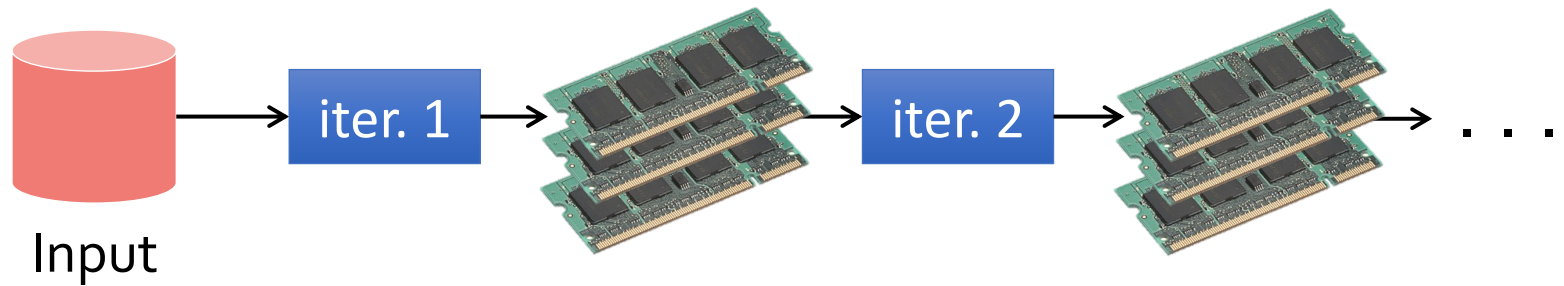
# Examples



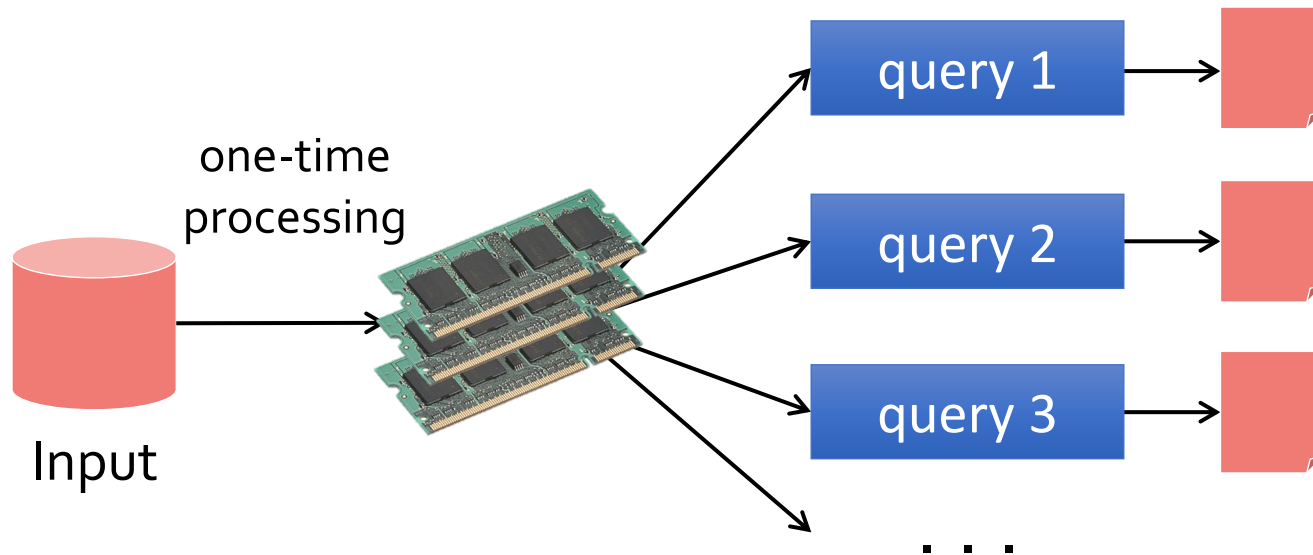
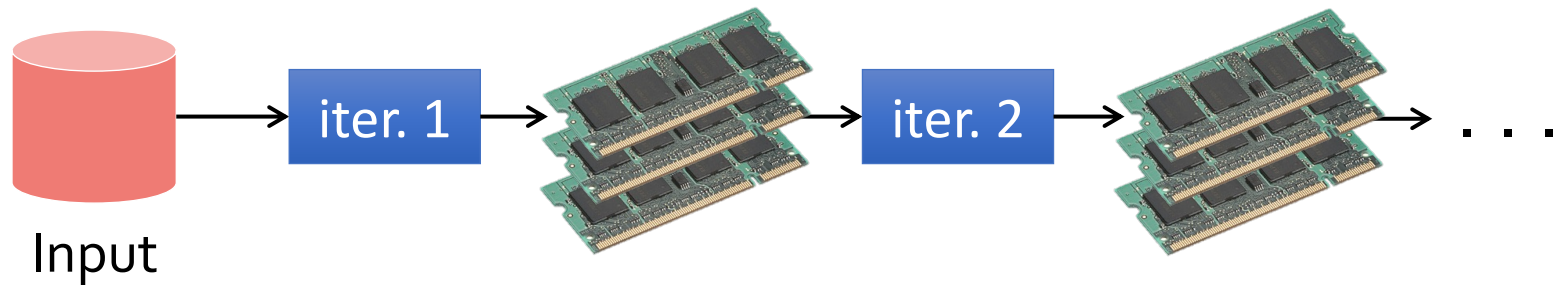
Slow due to replication and disk I/O,  
but necessary for fault tolerance



# Goal: In-memory data sharing



# Goal: In-memory data sharing



10-100× faster than network/disk, **but how to get FT?**

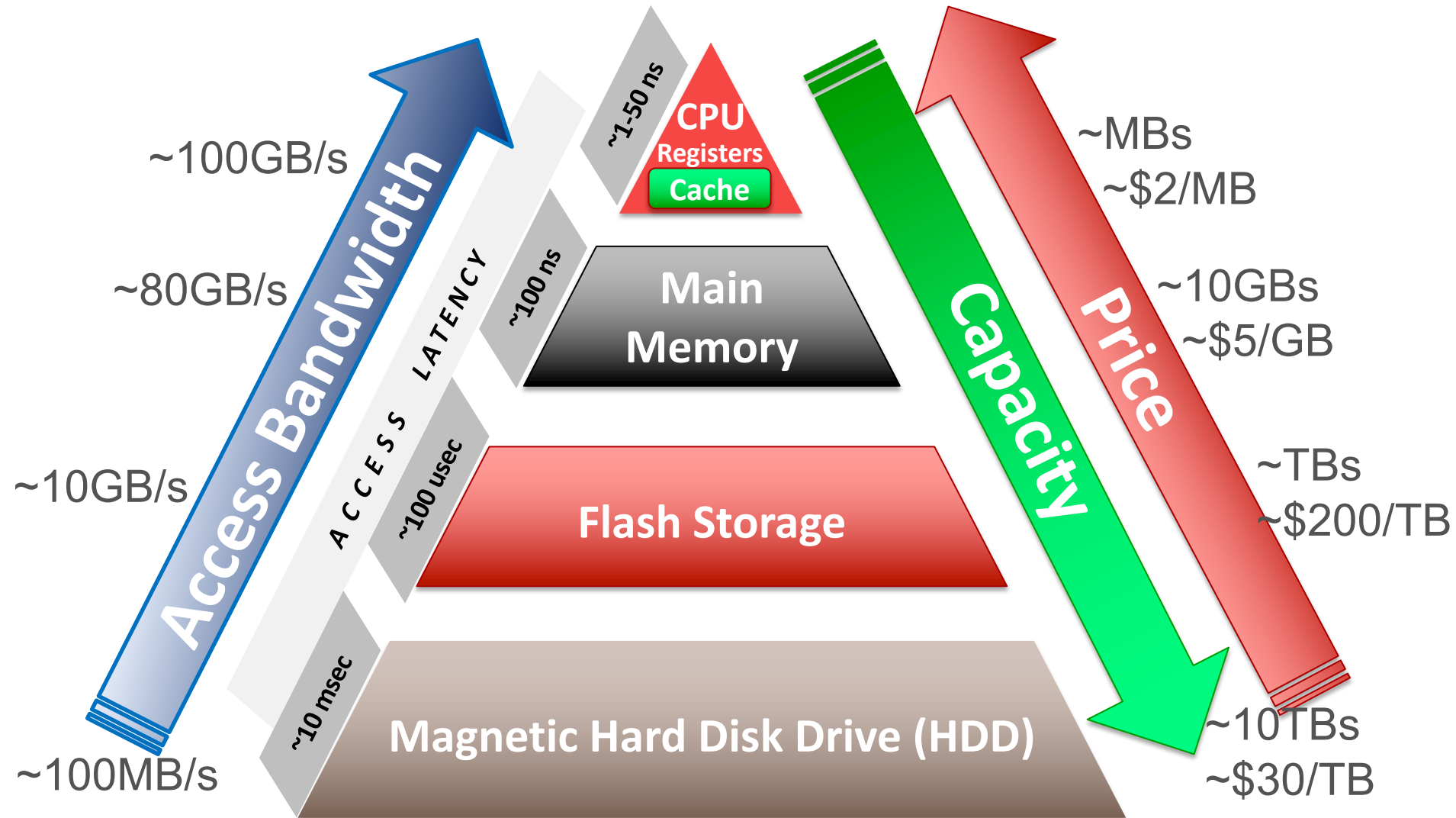
# Challenges

- How to design a distributed memory abstraction that is both **fault-tolerant** and **efficient**?

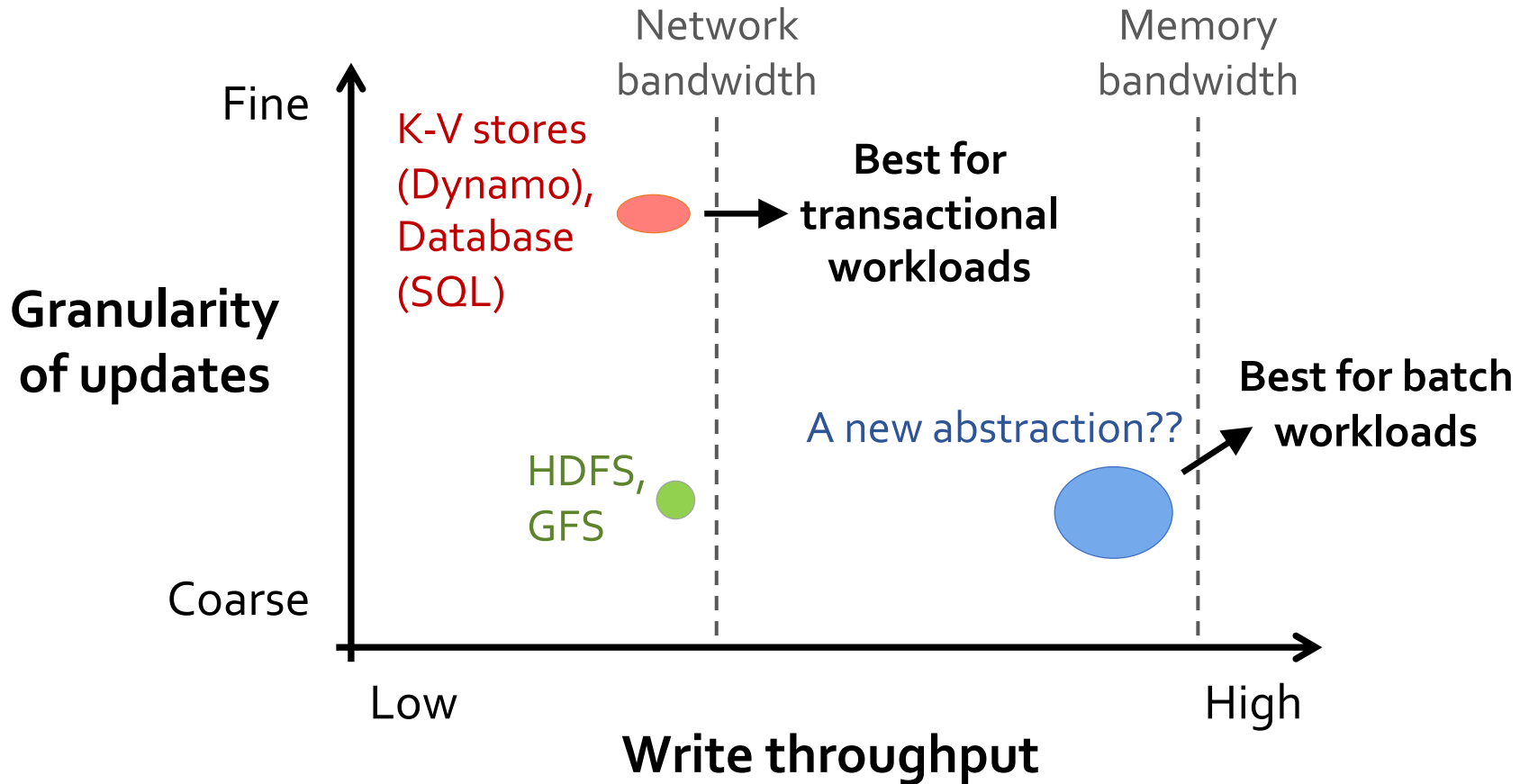
# Challenges

- How to design a distributed memory abstraction that is both **fault-tolerant** and **efficient**?
- Existing storage systems allow **fine-grained** mutation to state
  - In-memory key-value stores
  - Requires replicating data or logs across nodes for fault tolerance
    - Costly for data-intensive apps
    - 10-100x slower than memory write
  - They also require costly on-the-fly replication for mutations

# Memory-storage hierarchy



# Tradeoff space



# Challenges

- How to design a distributed memory abstraction that is both **fault-tolerant** and **efficient**?
- Existing storage systems allow **fine-grained** mutation to state

**Insight:** leverage similar coarse-grained approach that **transforms whole dataset per operation**, like MapReduce (batch processing)

- 10-100x slower than memory write
- They also require costly on-the-fly replication for mutations

# Solution: Resilient Distributed Datasets (RDDs)

- Restricted form of distributed shared memory
  - **Immutable**, partitioned collections of records
  - Can only be built through *coarse-grained*, deterministic *transformations* (map, filter, join, ...)
- Efficient fault recovery using *lineage*
  - Log **one operation** to apply to many elements
  - Recompute lost partitions on failure
  - No cost if nothing fails



# Spark programming interface

Scala API, now have multi-language bindings such as Python, Java, etc.

## Managing RDDs

- **Transformations** on RDDs ( $RDD_1 \rightarrow RDD_2$ )
- **Actions** on RDDs ( $RDD \rightarrow$  output)
- Control over RDD partitioning (how items are split over nodes)
- Control over RDD persistence (in memory, on disk, or recompute on loss)

# Transformations

<p>Transformations (define a new RDD)</p>	<p>map filter sample groupByKey reduceByKey sortByKey</p>	<p>flatMap union join cogroup cross mapValues</p>
---	---	---

RDDs in terms of Scala types → Scala semantics at workers

Transformations are **lazy operations**; cause no cluster action

# Actions

<p><b>Actions</b> (return a result to driver program)</p>	<p>collect reduce count save lookupKey</p>
---	--

Consumes an RDD to **produce** output  
either to storage (save), or  
to interpreter/Scala (count, collect, reduce)

Causes RDD lineage chain to **get executed** on the cluster to  
produce the output  
(for any missing pieces of the computation)

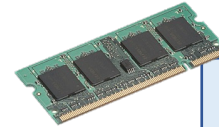
# Interactive debugging

```
lines = textFile("hdfs://foo.log")
errors = lines.filter(
    _.startsWith("ERROR")
errors.persist()
```

# Interactive debugging



lines



errors



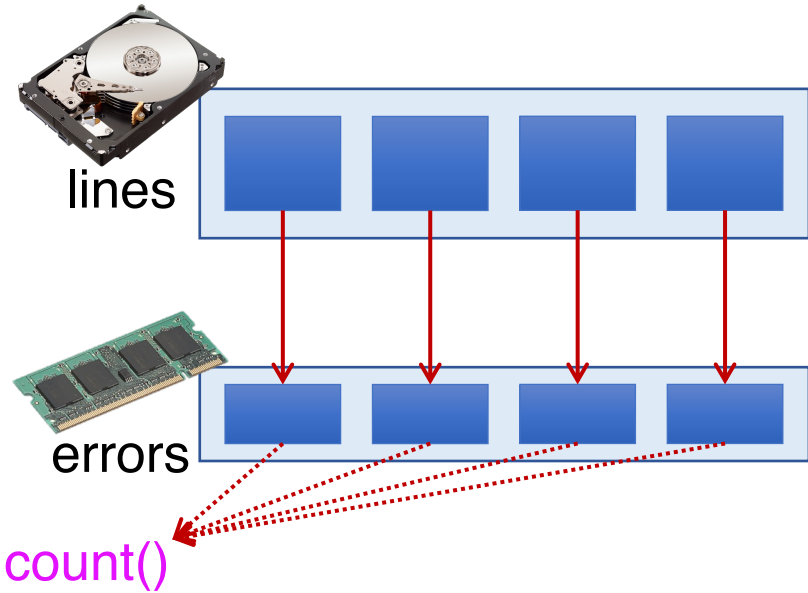
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errors.count()
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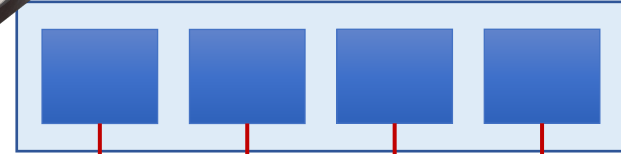
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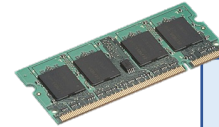
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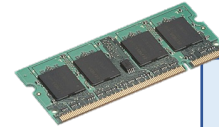
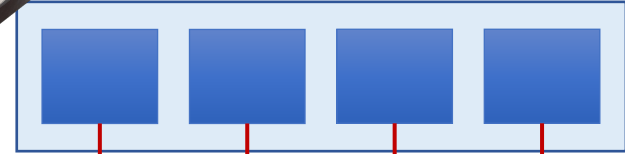
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```
errors.filter(
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count()

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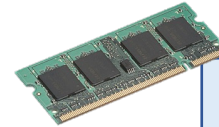
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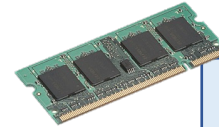
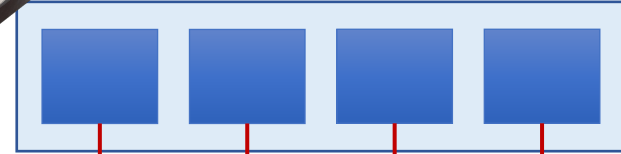
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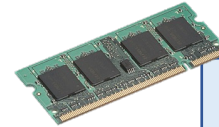
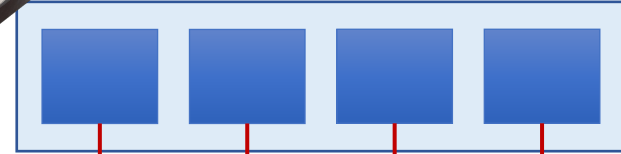
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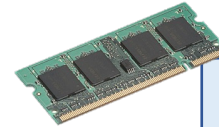
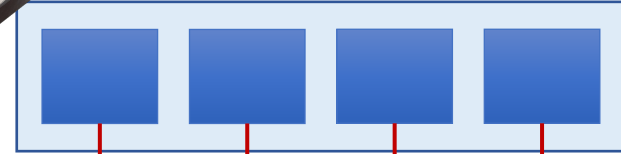
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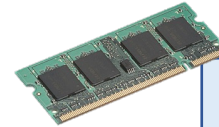
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count()

```
errors.filter(
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errors.filter(
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    .map(_.split("\t")(3))
    .collect()
```

count()



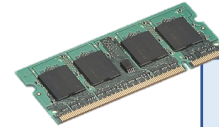
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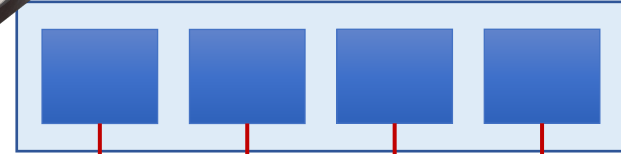
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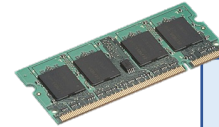
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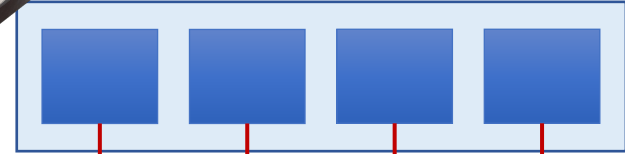
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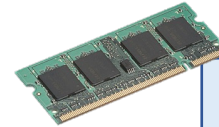
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count()



collect()

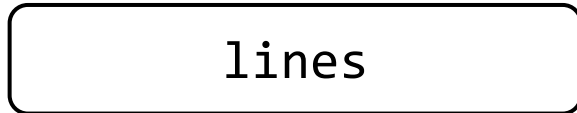




# persist()

- Not an action nor a transformation
- A scheduler hint
  
- Tells which RDDs the Spark scheduler should materialize and whether in memory or storage
- Gives the user control over reuse/recompute/recovery tradeoffs

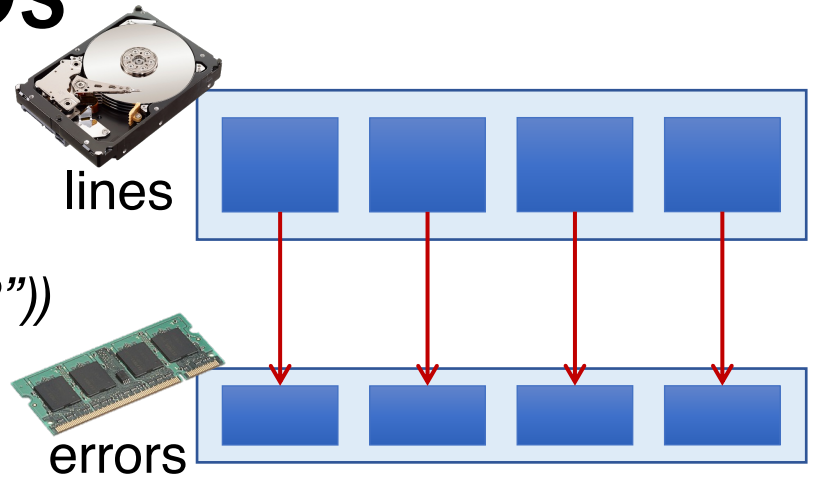
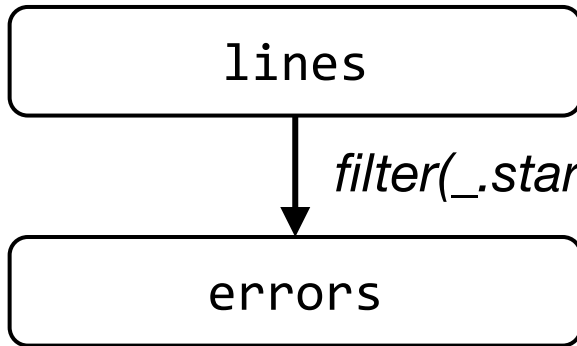
# Lineage graph of RDDs



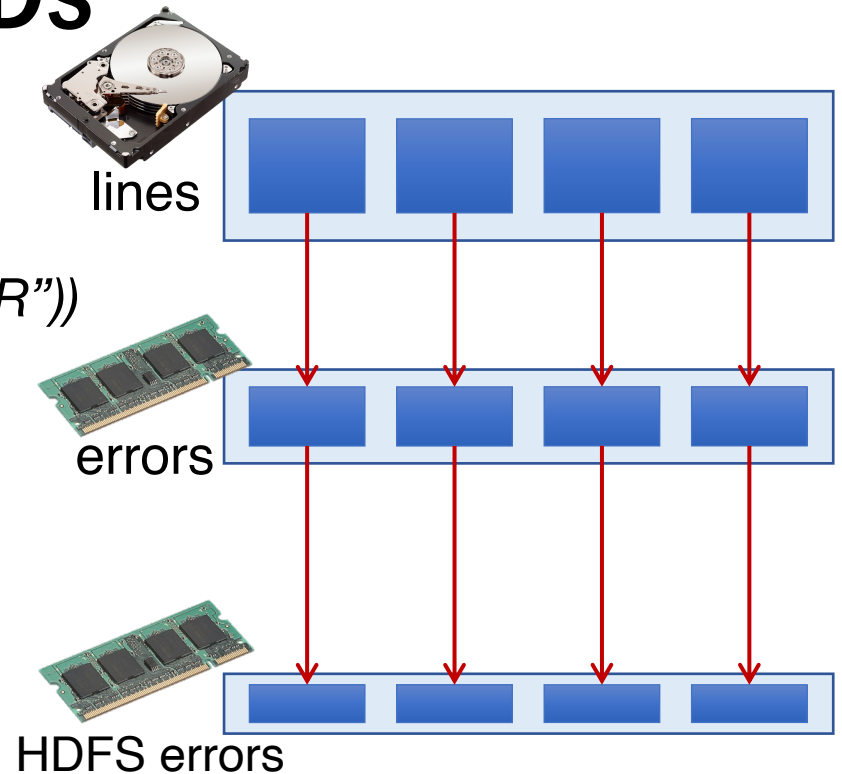
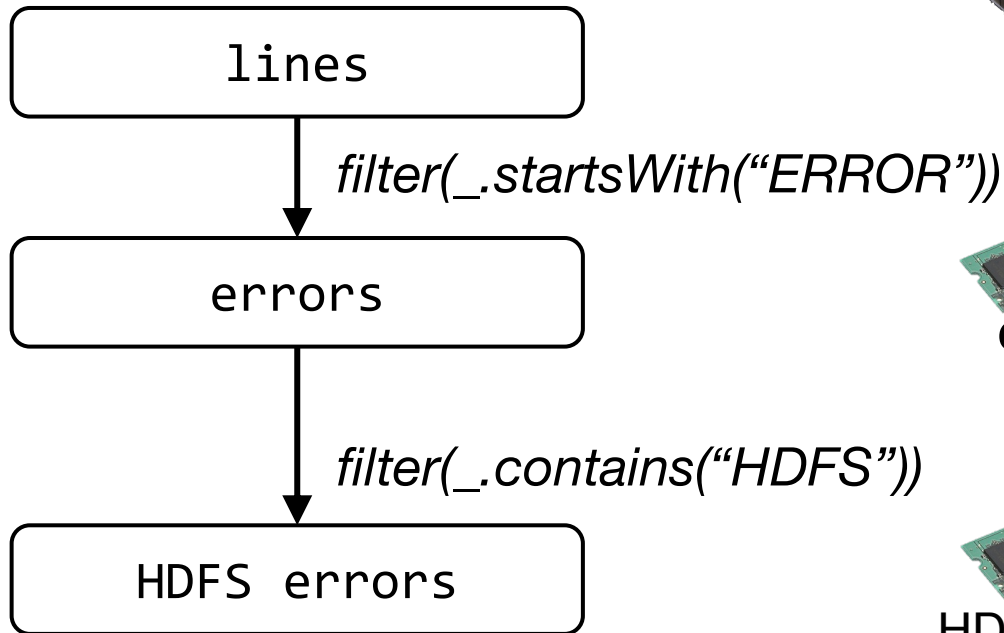
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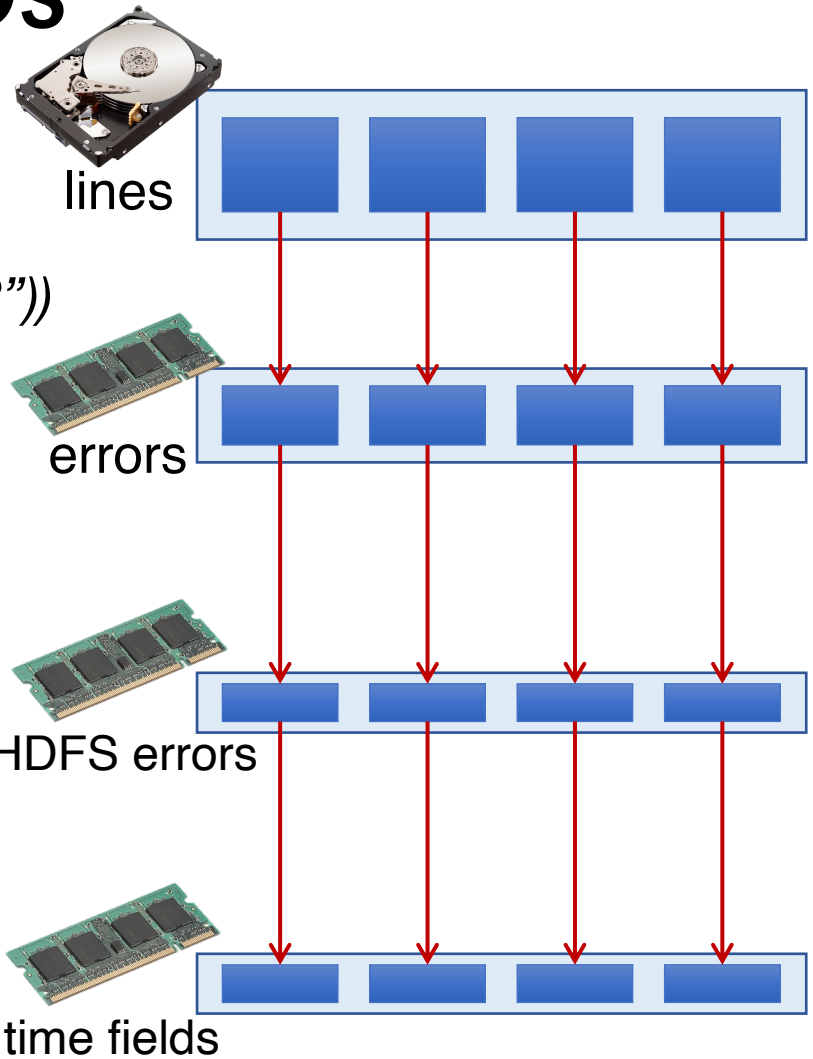
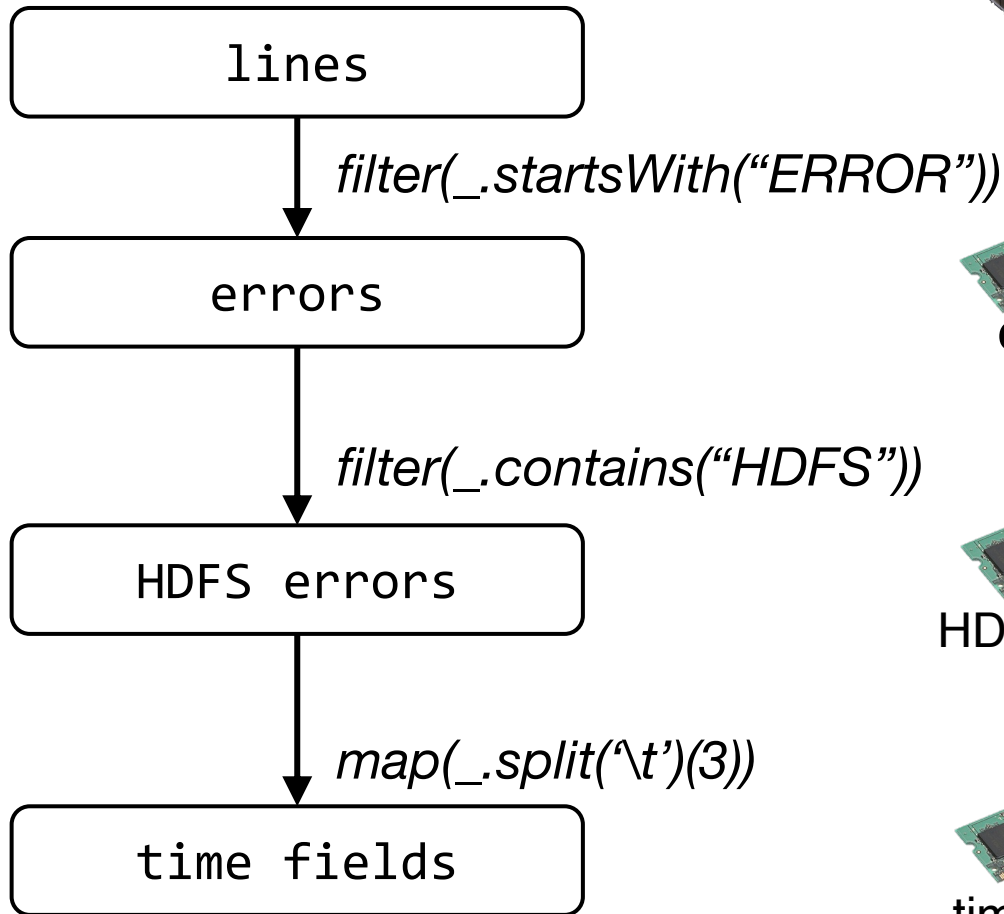
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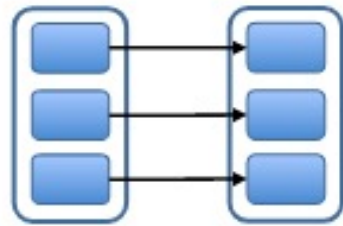


# Lineage graph of RDDs

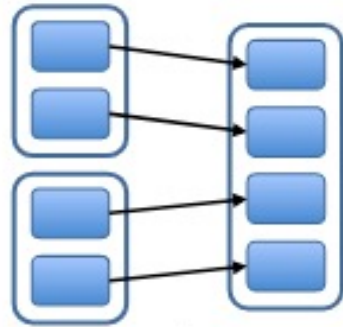


# Narrow & wide dependencies

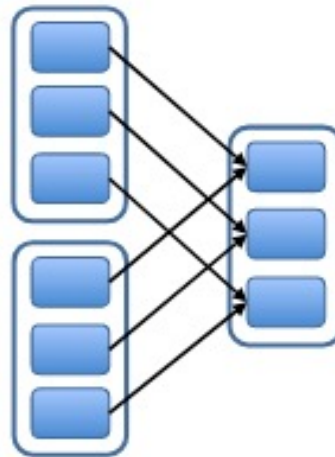
Narrow Dependencies:



map, filter

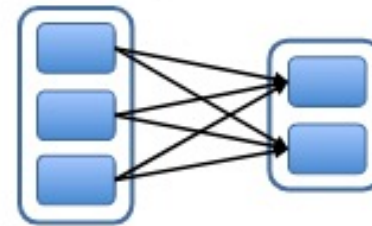


union

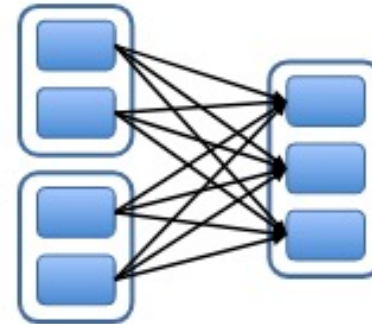


join with inputs  
co-partitioned

Wide Dependencies:



groupByKey



join with inputs not  
co-partitioned

**Narrow:** each parent partition used by at most one child partition  
(can partition on one machine)

**Wide:** multiple child partitions depend on one parent partition

Must stall for all parent data, loss of child requires whole parent RDD (not just a small # of partitions)

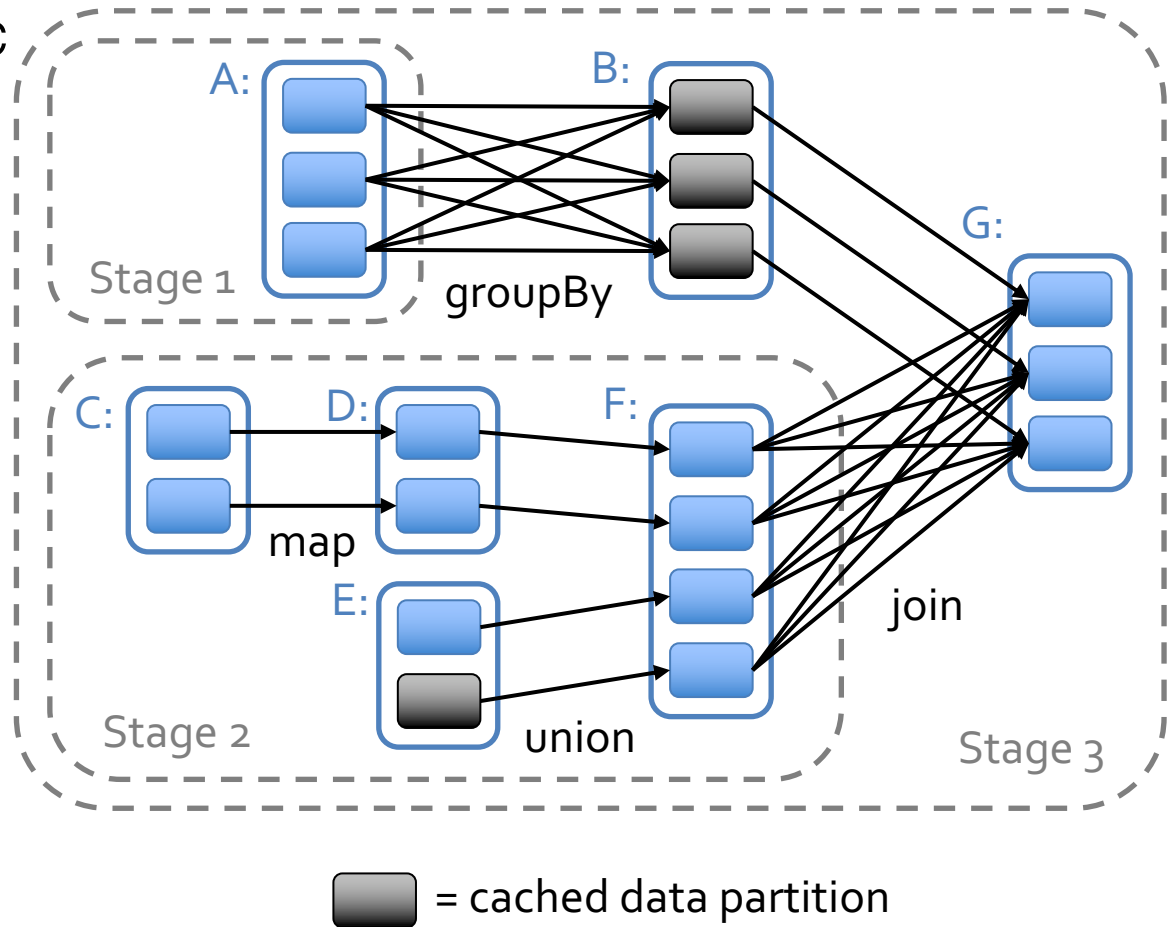
# Task scheduler

DAGs (directed acyclic graphs)

Pipelines functions within a stage

Locality & data reuse aware

Partitioning-aware to avoid shuffles



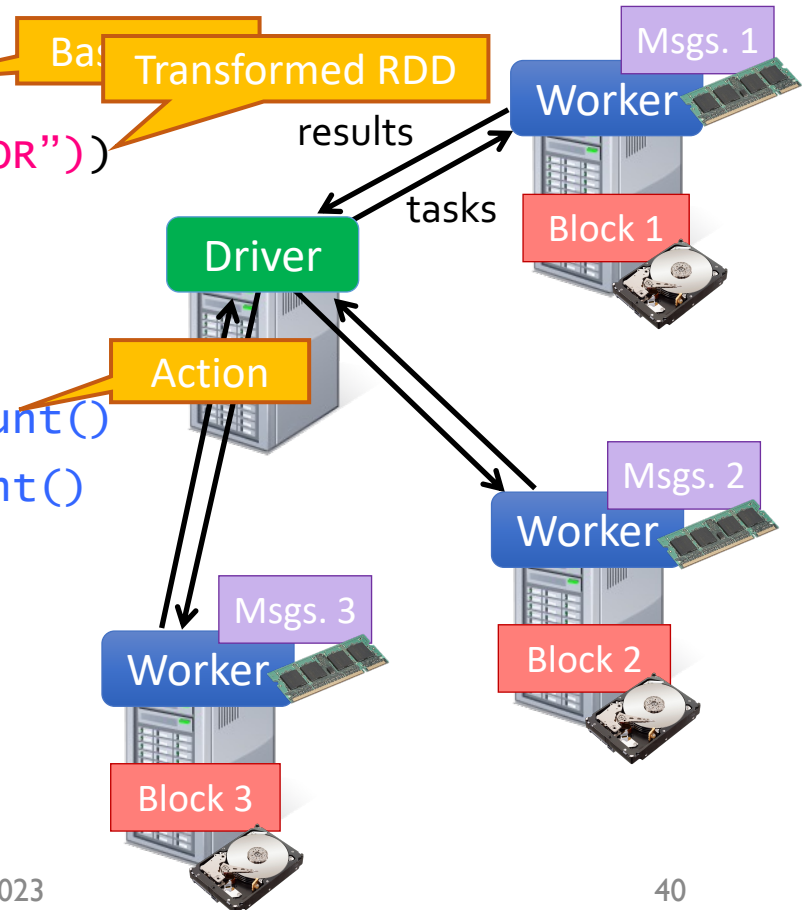
# Interactive debugging (control and data flow)

Load error messages from a log into memory, then interactively search for various patterns

```
lines = spark.textFile("hdfs://...")
errors = lines.filter(_.startsWith("ERROR"))
messages = errors.map(_.split('\t')(2))
messages.persist()

messages.filter(_.contains("MySQL")).count()
messages.filter(_.contains("HDFS")).count()
```

**Result:** scaled to 1 TB data in 5-7 sec  
(vs 170 sec for on-disk data)



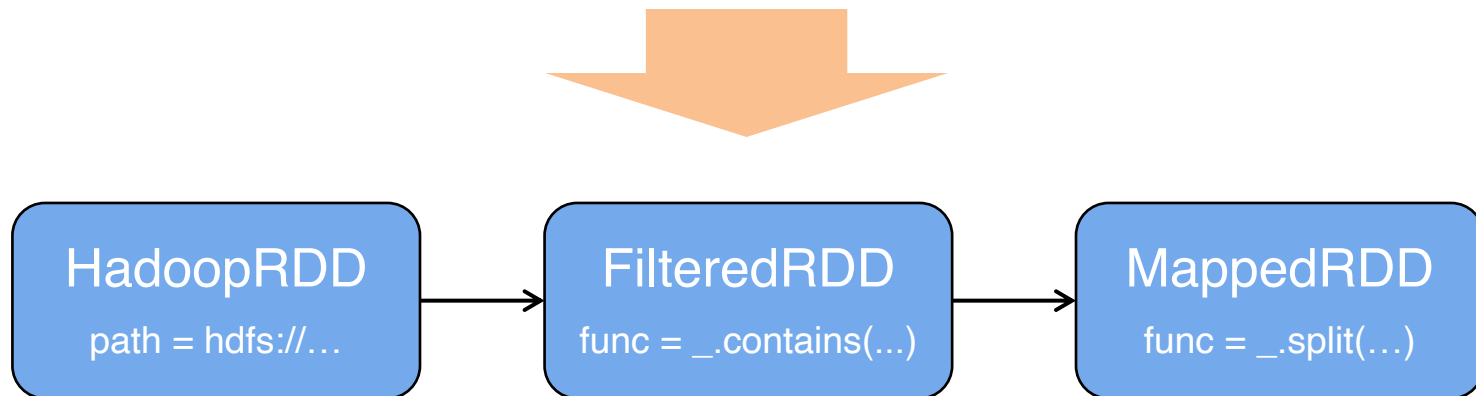


# Fault recovery

- RDDs track the graph of transformations that built them (their *lineage*) to rebuild lost data

E.g.:

```
messages = textFile(...).filter(_.contains("error"))  
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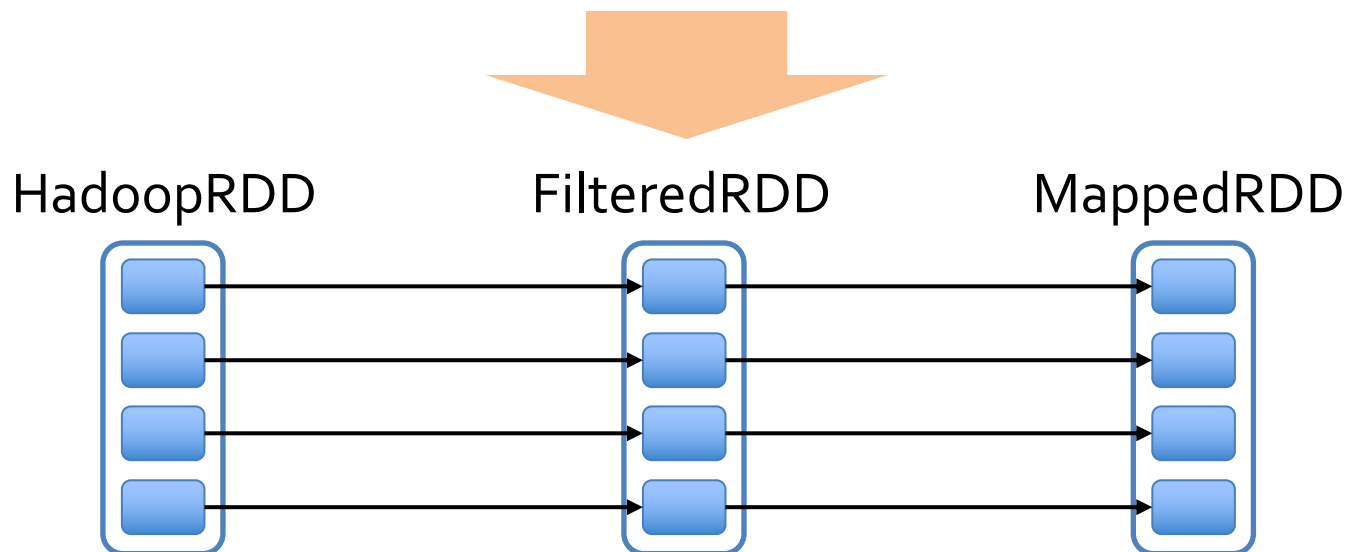


# Fault recovery

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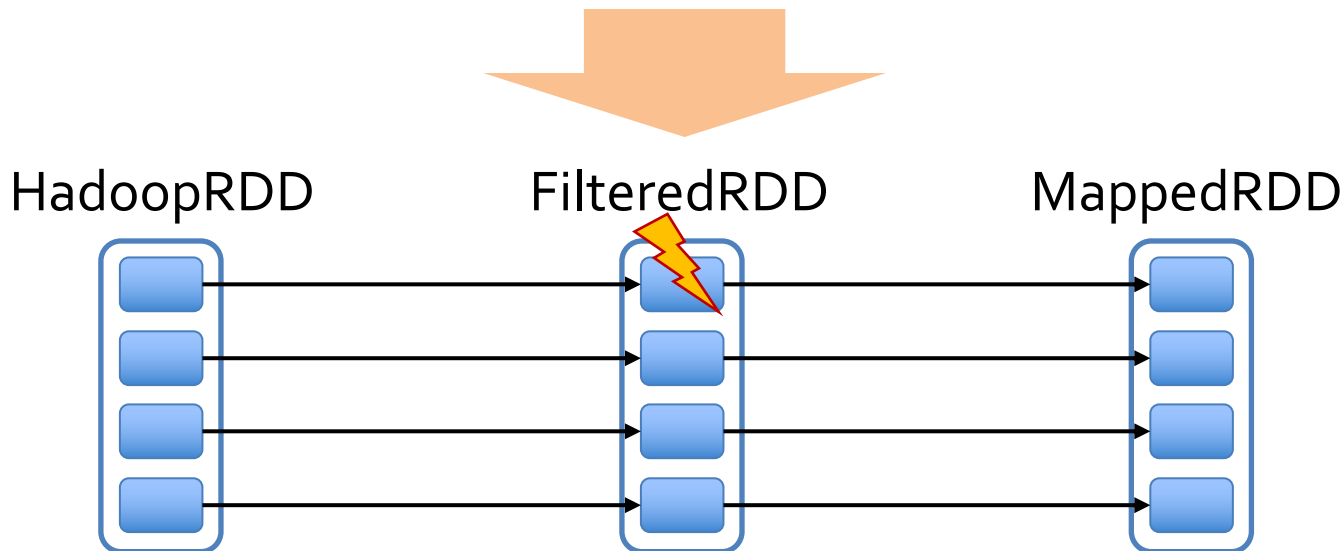


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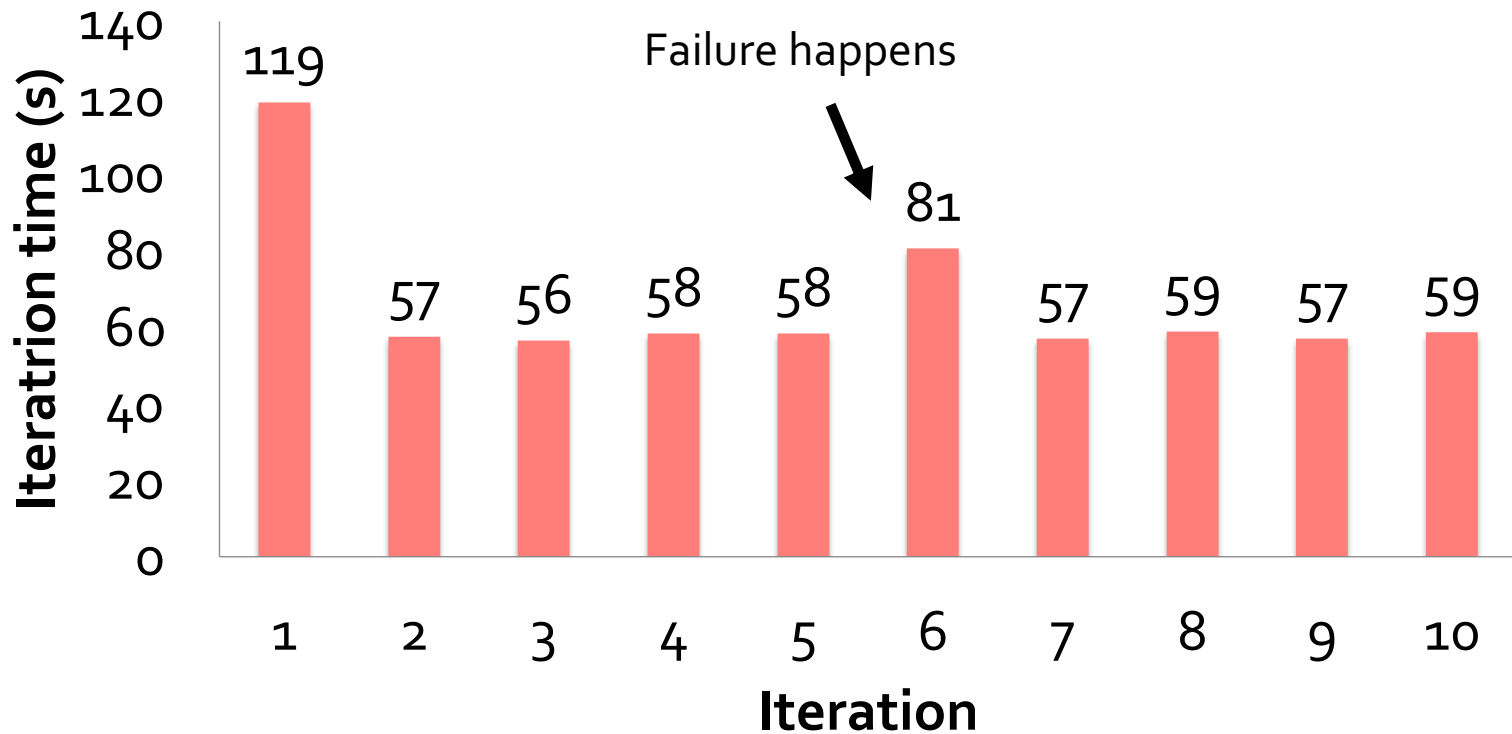
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E.g.:

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# Fault recovery results



# Example: PageRank

1. Start each page with a rank of 1
2. On each iteration, update each page's rank to

$$\sum_{i \in \text{neighbors}} \text{rank}_i / |\text{neighbors}_i|$$

```
links = // RDD of (url, neighbors) pairs  
ranks = // RDD of (url, rank) pairs
```

```
for (i <- 1 to ITERATIONS) {  
  ranks = links.join(ranks).flatMap {  
    (url, (links, rank)) =>  
      links.map(dest => (dest, rank/links.size))  
  }.reduceByKey(_ + _)  
}
```

# Example: PageRank

1. Start each page with a rank of 1
2. On each iteration, update each page's rank to

$$\sum_{i \in \text{neighbors}} \text{rank}_i / |\text{neighbors}_i|$$

RDD[(URL, Seq[URL])]

links = // RDD of (url, neighbors) pairs

ranks = // RDD of (url, rank) pairs ← RDD[(URL, Rank)]

for (i <- 1 to ITERATIONS) { ← RDD[(URL, (Seq[URL], Rank))]

  ranks = links.join(ranks).flatMap {

    (url, (links, rank)) =>

      links.map(dest => (dest, rank/links.size))

  }.reduceByKey(\_ + \_)

} For each neighbor in links emits (URL, RankContrib)

Reduce to RDD[(URL, Rank)]

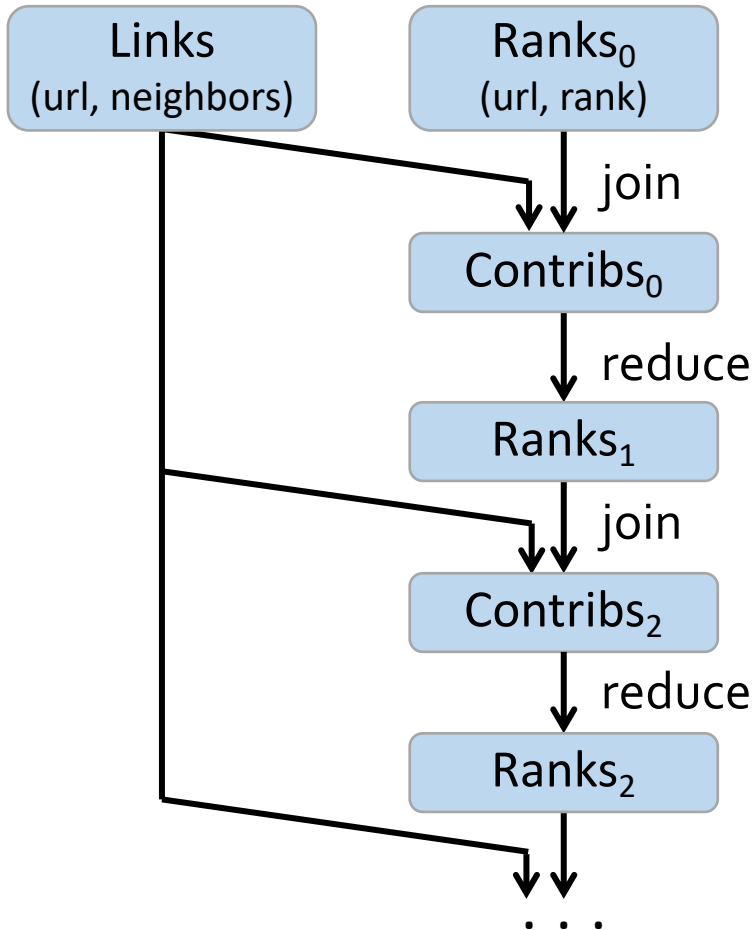
# Join (⋈)

Alice	5	⋈	Alice	F	=	Alice	5	F
Bob	6		Bob	M		Bob	6	M
Claire	4		Claire	F		Claire	4	F

A	5	⋈	C	5
A	2		B	2
A	3		A	3
B	4		B	4
B	1		A	1
C	6		B	6
C	8		C	8

If partitioning doesn't match, then need to reshuffle to match pairs. Same problem in reduce() for MapReduce.

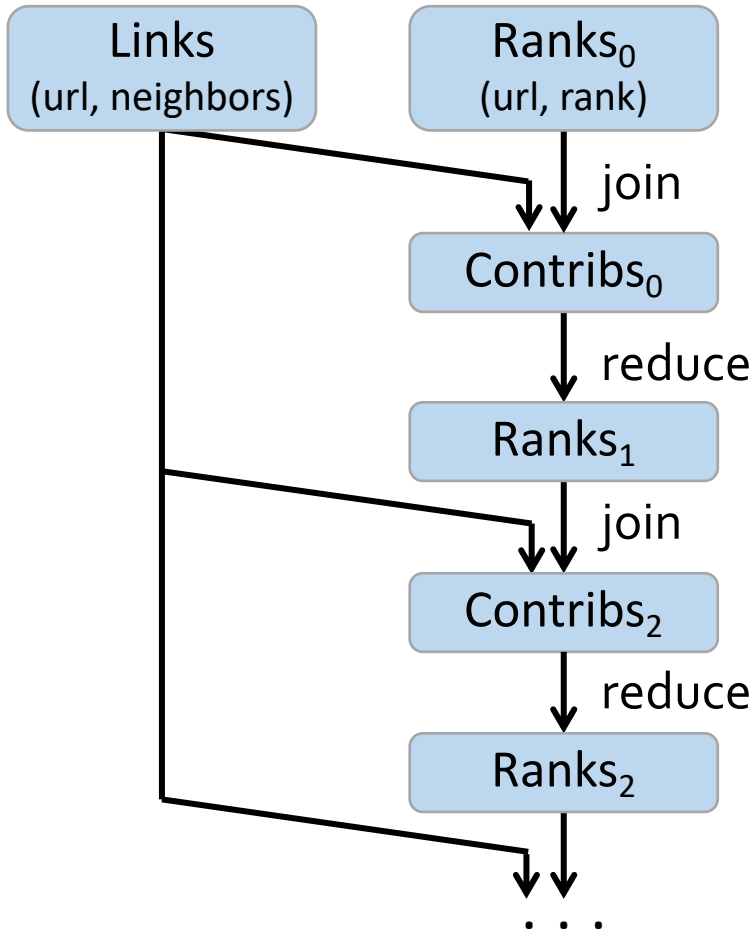
# Optimizing placement



- Links & ranks repeatedly joined
- Can *co-partition* them (e.g. hash both on URL) to avoid shuffles
- Can also use app knowledge, e.g., hash on DNS name
- `links = links.partitionBy(new URLPartitioner())`



# Optimizing placement



- Links & ranks repeatedly joined
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- `links = links.partitionBy(new URLPartitioner())`

Q: Where might we have placed `persist()`?

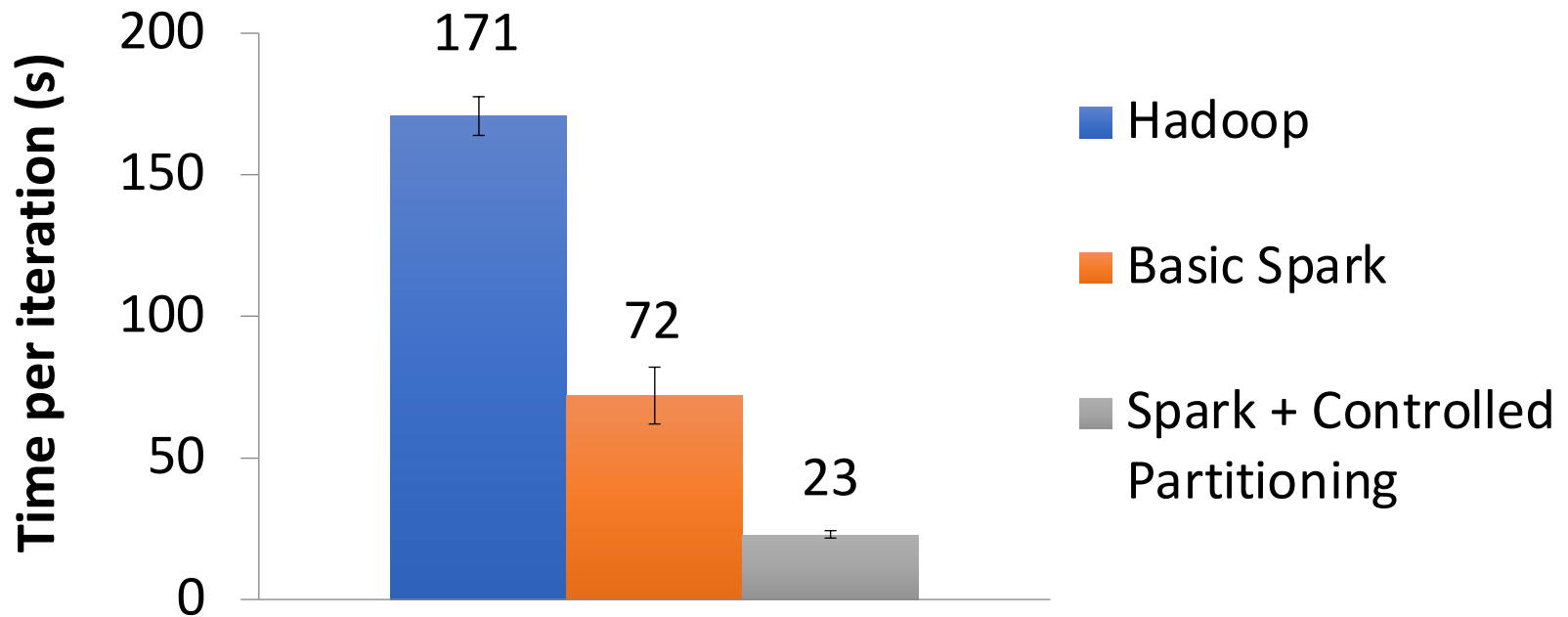
# Co-partitioning example

Co-partitioning can avoid shuffle on join

But, fundamentally a shuffle on **reduceByKey**

Optimization: custom partitioner on domain

# PageRank performance



\* Figure 10a: 30 machines on 54 GB of Wikipedia data computing PageRank