Preemptive, Low Latency Datacenter Scheduling via Lightweight Virtualization

Wei Chen, Jia Rao*, and Xiaobo Zhou
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
* University of Texas at Arlington
Data Center Computing

• Challenges
  – Increase hardware utilization and efficiency
  – Meet SLOs

• Heterogeneous workloads
  – Diverse resource demands
    ✓ Short jobs v.s. long jobs
  – Different QoS requirements
    ✓ Latency v.s. throughput

Long jobs help improve hardware utilization while short jobs are important to QoS
Data Center Trace Analysis

10% long jobs account for 80% resource usage

Short jobs have higher priority and most preempted (evicted) tasks belong to long jobs

Tasks are evicted if encountering resource shortage

Google traces (https://github.com/google/cluster-data)
Overhead of Kill-based Preemption

1. MapReduce jobs experience various degrees of slowdowns
2. Spark jobs suffer from more slowdowns due to frequent inter-task synchronization and the re-computation of failed RDDs
Our Approach

• Container-based task preemption
  – Containerize tasks using *docker* and control resource via *cgroup*
  – Task preemption **without losing the execution progress**
    ✓ Suspension: **reclaim** resources from a preempted task
    ✓ Resumption: re-activate a task by **restoring** its resource

• Preemptive fair share scheduler
  – Augment the capacity scheduler in YARN with **preemptive task scheduling** and **fine-grained resource reclamation**
Related Work

• Optimizations for heterogeneous workloads
  – YARN [SoCC’13]: kill long jobs if needed
  – Sparrow [SOSP’13]: de-centralized scheduler for short jobs
  – Hawk [ATC’15]: hybrid scheduler based on reservation
  
• Task preemption
  – Natjam [SoCC’13]: proactive checkpointing
  – CRIU [Middleware’15]: on-demand checkpointing
  
• Task containerization
  – Google Borg [EuroSys’15]: mainly for task isolation

- Long job slowdown and resource waste ✗
- No mechanism for preemption ✗
- Hard to determine optimal reservation ✗
- Hard to decide frequency ✗
- Application changes required ✗
- No need for cluster reservation ✓
- Preserving long job’s progress ✓
- Application agnostic ✓
- Fine-grained resource management ✓
- Still kill-based preemption ✗
Container-based Task Preemption

• Task containerization
  – Launch tasks in *Docker* containers
  – Use *cgroup* to control resource allocation, i.e., CPU and memory

• Task suspension
  – Stop task execution: deprive task of CPU
  – Save task context: reclaim container memory and write dirty memory pages onto disk

• Task resumption
  – Restore task resources
Task Suspension and Resumption

Keep a minimum footprint for a preempted task: 64MB memory and 1% CPU

Suspended task is alive, but does not make progress or affect other tasks
Two Types of Preemption

• Immediate preemption (IP)
  – Reclaims all resources of a preempted task in one pass
  – **Pros:** simple, fast reclamation
  – **Cons:** may reclaim more than needed, incur swapping, and cause long reclamation

• Graceful preemption (GP)
  – Shrinks a preempted task and reclaims its resources in **multiple** passes, at a step of $\bar{r}=(c, m)$
  – **Pros:** fine-grained reclamation, avoid swapping
  – **Cons:** complicated, slow reclamation, tuning of step $r$ needed
BIG-C: Preemptive Cluster Scheduling

• Container allocator
  – Replaces YARN’s nominal container with docker

• Container monitor
  – Performs container suspend and resume (S/R) operations

• Resource monitor & Scheduler
  – Determine how much resource and which container to preempt

Source code available at https://github.com/yncxcw/big-c
YARN’s Capacity Scheduler

\[ \overline{r_i}, \] \text{long job demand}  
\[ f_i, \] \text{long job fair share}  
\[ \overline{a}, \] \text{over-provisioned rsc}  
\[ \overline{r_s}, \] \text{short job demand}  
\[ \overline{p}, \] \text{rsc to preempt}  

\[ \hat{a} = \overline{r_i} - f_i \]

If \( \overline{r_s} < \hat{a} \)
\[ \overline{p} = \overline{r_s} \]
else
\[ \overline{p} = \hat{a} \]

- At least kill one long task
- Rsc reclamation does not enforce DRF

Work conserving, use more than fair share if rsc is available

Cluster resource

DRF
Capacity scheduler
Preemptive Fair Share Scheduler

\[ \tilde{r}_l : \text{long job demand} \]
\[ f_l : \text{long job fair share} \]
\[ \tilde{a} : \text{over-provisioned rsc} \]
\[ \tilde{r}_s : \text{short job demand} \]
\[ p : \text{rsc to preempt} \]

\[ \tilde{a} = \tilde{r}_l - f_l \]

If \( \tilde{r}_s < \tilde{a} \)
\[ p = \tilde{r}_s \]
• Preempt part of task rsc

else
\[ p = \text{ComputeDR}(\tilde{r}_l, \tilde{a}) \]
• Enforce DRF, avoid unnecessary reclamation

Work conserving, use more than fair share if rsc is available
Compute DR at Task Preemption

If \( \vec{r}_s = \langle 20\text{CPU}, 10\text{GB} \rangle \) and \( \vec{a} = \langle 10\text{CPU}, 15\text{GB} \rangle \), what is \( \vec{p} \)?

- **Capacity scheduler**
  \[ \vec{p} = \langle 10\text{CPU}, 10\text{GB} \rangle \]

- **Preemptive fair sharing**
  \[ \vec{p} = \langle 10\text{CPU}, \frac{10\text{GB}}{20\text{CPU}} \times 10\text{GB} \rangle \]
  \[ = \langle 10\text{CPU}, 5\text{GB} \rangle \]

\( \vec{r}_s \) is the total demand of many small tasks, which may not be able to fully use 10GB mem since CPU is not fully satisfied.

Memory reclamation is in proportion to the reclaimed CPU according to \( \vec{r}_s \).
Container Preemption Algorithm

Choose a job with the longest remaining time

Job has containers? Yes

Choose a container \( c \) from the preempted job

\[ \vec{p} = \vec{p} - \vec{r}_{IP} \text{ OR } \vec{p} = \vec{p} - \vec{r}_{GP} \]

Reclaim resource \( \vec{r} \) from container \( c \). Freeze \( c \) if swapping

Immediate preemption (IP) suspends an container and reclaims its entire resource \( \vec{r}_{IP} \)

Graceful preemption (GP) shrinks an container and reclaims its resource at a step of \( \vec{r}_{GP} \). GP reclaims resources from multiple tasks (containers) and jobs.
Optimizations

• Disable speculative execution of preempted tasks
  – Suspended tasks appear to be slow to cluster management and will likely trigger futile speculative execution

• Delayed task resubmission
  – Tasks may be resubmitted immediately after preemption, causing to be suspended again. A suspended task is required to perform $D$ attempts before it is re-admitted
Experiment Settings

• Hardware
  – 26-node cluster; 32 cores, 128GB on each node; 10Gbps Ethernet, RAID-5 HDDs

• Software
  – Hadoop-2.7.1, Docker-1.12.1

• Cluster configuration
  – Two queues: 95% and 5% shares for short and long jobs queues, respectively
  – Schedulers: FIFO (no preemption), Reserve (60% capacity for short jobs), Kill, IP and GP
  – Workloads: Spark-SQL as short jobs and HiBench benchmarks as long jobs
Synthetic Workloads

High, low, and multiple bursts of short jobs. Long jobs persistently utilize 80% of cluster capacity.
Short Job Latency with Spark

- FIFO is the worst due to the inability to preempt long jobs
- Reserve underperforms due to lack of reserved capacity under high-load
- GP is better than IP due to less resource reclamation time or swapping
Performance of Long Spark Jobs

- FIFO is the reference performance for long jobs
- GP achieves on average 60% improvement over Kill.
- IP incurs significant overhead to Spark jobs:
  - aggressive resource reclamation causes system-wide swapping
  - completely suspended tasks impede overall job progress
Short Job Latency with MapReduce

- FIFO (not shown) incurs 15-20 mins slowdown to short jobs
- Re-submissions of killed MapReduce jobs block short jobs
- IP and GP achieve similar performance
Performance of Long MapReduce Jobs

- Kill performs well for map-heavy workloads
- IP and GP show similar performance for MapReduce workloads
  - MapReduce tasks are loosely coupled
  - A suspended task does not stop the entire job
Google Trace

Contains 2202 jobs, of which **2020** are classified as short jobs and **182** as long jobs.

- IP and GP *guarantee* short job latency
- GP improved the 90th percentile long job runtime by **67%**, **37%** and **32%** over kill, IP, and Reserve, respectively
- **23%** long jobs failed with kill-based preemption while BIG-C cause **NO** job failures.
Summary

• Data-intensive cluster computing lacks an efficient mechanism for task preemption
  – Task killing incurs significant slowdowns or failures to preempted jobs

• **BIG-C** is a simple yet effective approach to enabling preemptive cluster scheduling
  – Lightweight virtualization helps to containerize tasks
  – Task preemption is achieved through precise resource management

• **Results:**
  – **BIG-C** maintains short job latency close to reservation-based scheduling while achieving similar long job performance compared to FIFO scheduling
Thank you!

Questions?
Backup slides ...
Performance Results

Short jobs performance

Long jobs performance

GP improved the 90th percentile job runtime by 67%, 37% and 32% over kill, IP, and Reserve, respectively.
Evaluation: Google trace

Cluster utilization (%)

CDF

IP and GP improve cluster utilization
**Parameter Sensitivity**

- **D=3** effectively throttles re-submissions and prevents repeated preemption.
- Basic preemption unit: 〈1CPU, 2GB〉, **two units** work best.