



## Big Data

# Spark optimizations

Stéphane Vialle & Gianluca Quercini



ÉCOLE DOCTORALE  
Sciences et technologies  
de l'information  
et de la communication (STIC)



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# Spark optimizations

1. Wide and Narrow transformations
2. Optimizations
3. Page Rank example

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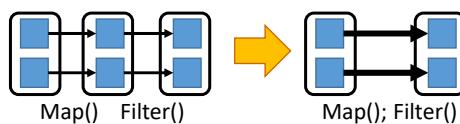
# Wide and Narrow transformations

## Narrow transformations

- Local computations applied to each partition block  
→ no communication between processes (or nodes)  
→ only local dependencies (between parent & son RDDs)



- In case of sequence of Narrow transformations:  
→ possible pipelining inside one step



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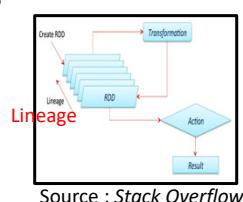
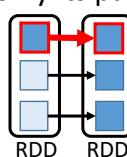
# Wide and Narrow transformations

## Narrow transformations

- Local computations applied to each partition block  
→ no communication between processes (or nodes)  
→ only local dependencies (between parent & son RDDs)



- In case of failure:  
→ recompute only the damaged partition blocks  
→ recompute/reload only its parent blocks



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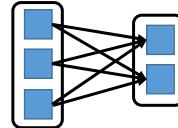


# Wide and Narrow transformations

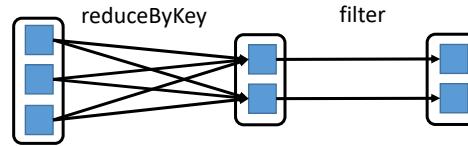
## Wide transformations

- Computations requiring data from all parent RDD blocks  
 → many comms between processes (and nodes) (*shuffle & sort*)  
 → non-local dependencies (between parent & son RDDs)

- groupByKey()  
 • reduceByKey()



- In case of sequence of transformations:  
 → no pipelining of transformations  
 → wide transformation must be totally achieved before to enter next transformation



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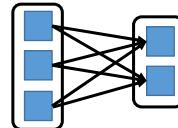


# Wide and Narrow transformations

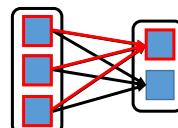
## Wide transformations

- Computations requiring data from all parent RDD blocks  
 → many comms between processes (and nodes) (*shuffle & sort*)  
 → non-local dependencies (between parent & son RDDs)

- groupByKey()  
 • reduceByKey()



- In case of sequence of failure:  
 → recompute the damaged partition blocks  
 → recompute/reload all blocks of the parent RDDs



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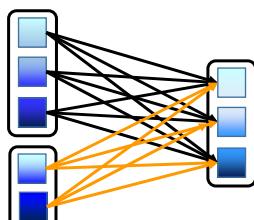


# Wide and Narrow transformations

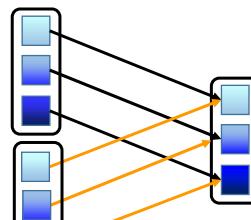
## Avoiding wide transformations with **co-partitioning**

- With identical partitioning of inputs:

wide transformation → narrow transformation



Join with inputs  
not co-partitioned



Join with inputs  
co-partitioned

- less expensive communications
- possible pipelining
- less expensive fault tolerance

} Control RDD partitioning  
Force co-partitioning  
(using the same partition map)

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# Spark optimizations

1. Wide and Narrow transformations
2. **Optimizations**
  - **RDD Persistence**
  - RDD Co-partitionning
  - RDD controlled distribution
  - Traffic minimization
  - Maintaining parallelism
3. *Page Rank example*

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# Optimizations: persistence

## Persistence of the RDD

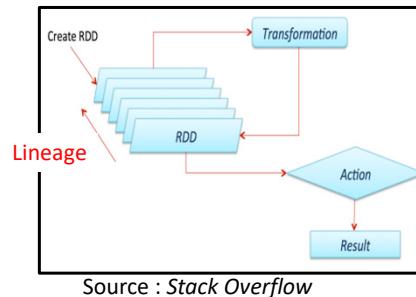
RDD are stored:

- in the memory space of the Spark Executors
- or on disk (of the node) when memory space of the Executor is full

By default: an old RDD is removed when memory space is required  
(*Least Recently Used* policy)

→ An old RDD has to be recomputed (using its *lineage*) when needed again

→ Spark allows to make a « persistent » RDD to avoid to recompute it



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# Optimizations: persistence

## Persistence of the RDD to improve Spark application performances

Spark application developer has to add instructions to force RDD storage, and to force RDD forgetting:

```
myRDD.persist(StorageLevel)      // or myRDD.cache()
... // Transformations and Actions
myRDD.unpersist()
```

Available *storage levels*:

- **MEMORY\_ONLY** : in Spark Executor memory space
- **MEMORY\_ONLY\_SER** : + serializing the RDD data
- **MEMORY\_AND\_DISK** : on local disk when no memory space
- **MEMORY\_AND\_DISK\_SER** : + serializing the RDD data in memory
- **DISK\_ONLY** : always on disk (and serialized)

RDD is saved in the Spark executor memory/disk space

→ limited to the Spark session

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## Optimizations: persistence

### Persistence of the RDD to improve fault tolerance

To face *short term failures*: Spark application developer can force RDD storage with replication in the local memory/disk of **several Spark Executors**

```
myRDD.persist(storageLevel.MEMORY_AND_DISK_SER_2)
... // Transformations and Actions
myRDD.unpersist()
```

To face *serious failures*: Spark application developer can **checkpoint the RDD outside of the Spark data space**, on HDFS or S3 or...

```
myRDD.sparkContext.setCheckpointDir(directory)
myRDD.checkpoint()
... // Transformations and Actions
```

→ Longer, but secure!

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  - RDD Persistence
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3. *Page Rank* example

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# Optimizations: RDD co-partitionning

## 5 main internal properties of a RDD:

- A list of partition blocks  
`getPartitions()`
- A function for computing each partition block  
`compute(...)`
- A list of dependencies on other RDDs: parent RDDs and transformations to apply  
`getDependencies()`

To compute and re-compute the RDD when failure happens

## Optionally:

- A Partitioner for key-value RDDs: metadata specifying the RDD partitioning  
`partitioner()`
- *A list of nodes where each partition block can be accessed faster due to data locality*  
`getPreferredLocations(...)`

To control the RDD partitioning, to achieve **co-partitioning...**

*To improve data locality with HDFS & YARN...*

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# Optimizations: RDD co-partitionning

## Specify a « partitioner »

```
val rdd2 = rdd1
    .partitionBy(new HashPartitioner(100))
    .persist()
```

### Creates a new RDD (rdd2):

- Partitionned according to hash partitionner strategy
  - On 100 Spark Executors
- Redistribute the RDD (rdd1 → rdd2)
- WIDE (expensive) transformation
- Do not keep the original partition (rdd1) in memory / on disk
  - Keep the new partition (rdd2) in memory / on disk
- to avoid to repeat a WIDE transformation when rdd2 is re-used

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## Optimizations: RDD co-partitionning

### Specify a « partitioner »

```
val rdd2 = rdd1
    .partitionBy(new HashPartitioner(100))
    .persist()
```

#### Partitionners:

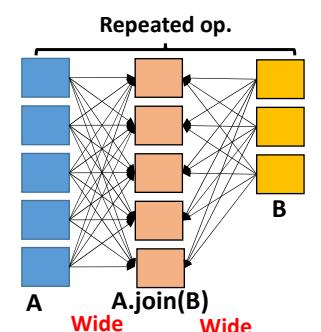
- *Hash partitioner* :  
Key0, Key0+100, Key0+200... on one Spark Executor
- *Range partitioner* :  
[Key-min ; Key-max] on one Spark Executor
- *Custom partitioner (develop your own partitioner)* :  
Ex : Key = URL, hash partitioned  
BUT : hash only the domain name of the URL  
→ all pages of the same domain on the same Spark Executor because they are frequently linked

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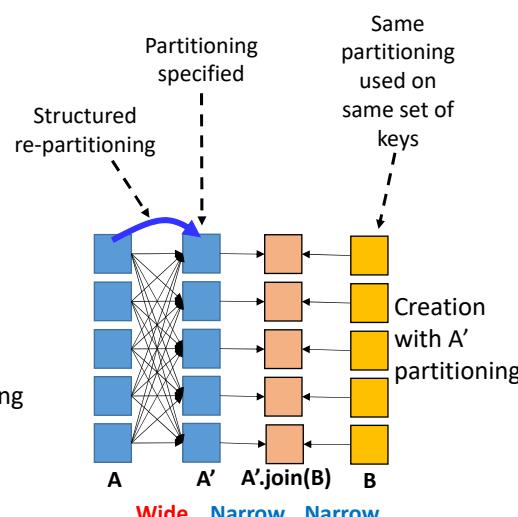


## Optimizations: RDD co-partitionning

### Avoid repetitive WIDE transformations on large data sets



- Control partitioning to avoid many Wide ops
- Explicit & structured re-partitioning of A → A'
  - Will propagate to the join result
  - Create B with A' partitioning

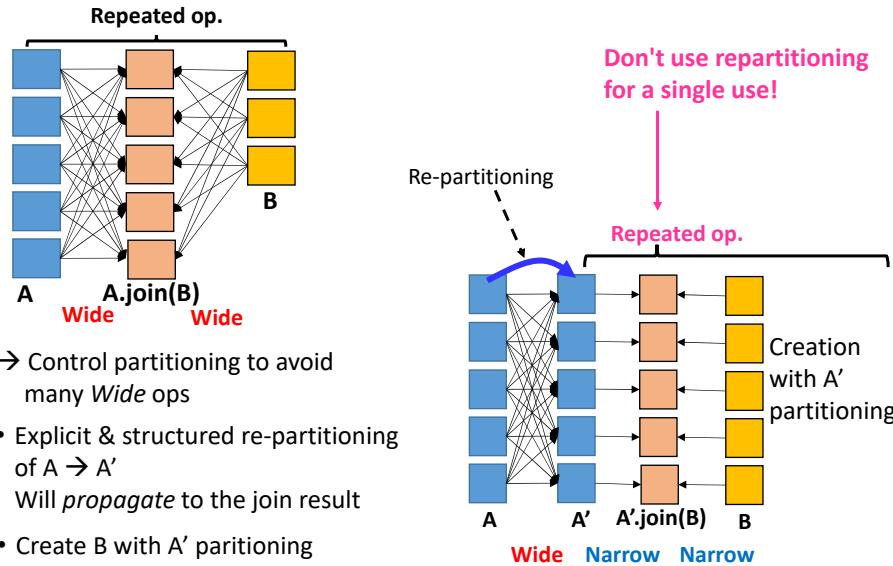


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## Optimizations: RDD co-partitionning

### Avoid repetitive WIDE transformations on large data sets



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## Optimizations: RDD co-partitionning

### PageRank with partitioner (see further)

```
Val links = ..... // previous code
val links1 = links.partitionBy(new HashPartitioner(100)).persist()

var ranks = links1.mapValues(v => 1.0)

for (i <- 1 to iters) {
    val contribs =
        links1.join(ranks)
        .flatMap{ case (url, urlLinks, rank) =>
            urlLinks.map(dest => (dest, rank/urlLinks.size))}
    ranks = contribs.reduceByKey(_ + _).mapValues(0.15 + 0.85 * _)
}
```

- Initial **links** and **ranks** are co-partitioned
- Repeated **join** is Narrow-Wide
- Repeated **mapValues** is Narrow: respects the **reduceByKey** partitioning
- Pb: **flatMap{...urlLinks.map{...}}** can change the partitionning ?!

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  - Maintaining parallelism
3. *Page Rank example*

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# Optimization: RDD distribution

## Create and distribute a RDD

- By default: level of parallelism set by the nb of partition blocks of the input RDD
- When the input is a in-memory collection (list, array...), it needs to be parallelized:

```
val theData = List(("a",1), ("b",2), ("c",3),.....)
sc.parallelize(theData).theTransformation(...)
```

Or :

```
val theData = List(1,2,3,.....).par
theData.theTransformation(...)
```

→ Spark adopts a distribution adapted to the cluster...  
... but it can be tuned

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# Optimization: RDD distribution

## Control of the RDD distribution

- Most of transformations support an **extra parameter** to control the distribution (and the parallelism)

- Example:**

Default parallelism:

```
val theData = List(("a",1), ("b",2), ("c",3),.....)
sc.parallelize(theData).reduceByKey((x,y) => x+y)
```

Tuned parallelism:

```
val theData = List(("a",1), ("b",2), ("c",3),.....)
sc.parallelize(theData).reduceByKey((x,y) => x+y, 8)
```

*But better to use  
PARTITIONERS...*

*8 partition blocks imposed for  
the result of the reduceByKey*

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# Spark optimizations

- Wide and Narrow transformations
- Optimizations**
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  - Traffic minimization**
  - Maintaining parallelism
- Page Rank example*

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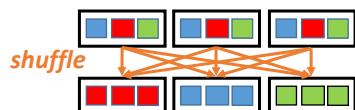
## Optimization: traffic minimization

### RDD redistribution:

rdd : {(1, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4)}

Scala : rdd.**groupByKey()** → rdd: {(1, [2]), (3, [3, 4])}

*Group values associated to the same key*



→ Move almost all input data  
→ Huge traffic in the shuffle step !!

**groupByKey** will be time consuming:

- no computation time...
- ... but huge traffic on the network of the cluster/cloud

→ Optimize computations **and** communications in a Spark program



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## Optimization: traffic minimization

### RDD reduction:

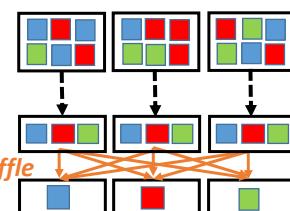
rdd : {(1, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4)}

Scala : rdd.**reduceByKey((x,y) => x+y)** → rdd: {(1, 2), (3, 7)}

*Reduce values associated to the same key*

((x,y) => x+y):  
1 int + 1 int → 1 int

→ Limited traffic in the shuffle step



But: ((x,y) => x+y):  
1 list + 1 list → 1 longer list

→ TD-1

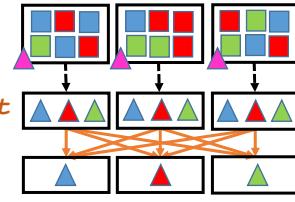
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## Optimization: traffic minimization

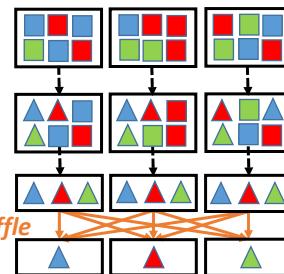
**RDD reduction with different input and reduced datatypes:**

```
Scala : rdd.aggregateByKey(init_acc) (
    ... , // mergeValueAccumulator fct
    ... , // mergeAccumulators fct
)
```



```
Scala : rdd.combineByKey(
    ... , // createAccumulator fct
    ... , // mergeValueAccumulator fct
    ... , // mergeAccumulators fct shuffle
)
```

See further



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  - **Maintaining parallelism**
3. *Page Rank example*

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# Optimization: maintaining parallelism

## Computing an average value per key in parallel

theMarks: {("julie", 12), ("marc", 10), ("albert", 19), ("julie", 15), ("albert", 15), ...}

- Solution 1: **mapValues + reduceByKey + collectAsMap + foreach**

```
val theSums = theMarks
    .mapValues(v => (v, 1))
    .reduceByKey((vc1, vc2) => (vc1._1 + vc2._1,
                                    vc1._2 + vc2._2))
    .collectAsMap() // Return a 'Map' datastructure
                    ↙ ACTION → Break parallelism! Bad performances!
```

```
theSums.foreach(
    kvc => println(kvc._1 +
                    " has average:" +
                    kvc._2._1/kvc._2._2.toDouble))
```

**Sequential computing !**

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# Optimization: maintaining parallelism

## Computing an average value per key in parallel

theMarks: {("julie", 12), ("marc", 10), ("albert", 19), ("julie", 15), ("albert", 15), ...}

- Solution 2: **combineByKey + collectAsMap + foreach**

```
val theSums = theMarks
    .combineByKey(
        // createCombiner function
        (valueWithNewKey) => (valueWithNewKey, 1),
        // mergeValue function (inside a partition block)
        (acc: (Int, Int), v) => (acc._1 + v, acc._2 + 1),
        // mergeCombiners function (after shuffle comm.)
        (acc1: (Int, Int), acc2: (Int, Int)) =>
            (acc1._1 + acc2._1, acc1._2 + acc2._2))
    .collectAsMap() Still bad performances! (Break parallelism)
```

Type inference needs some help!

```
theSums.foreach(
    kvc => println(kvc._1 + " has average:" +
                    kvc._2._1/kvc._2._2.toDouble))
```

**Still sequential !**

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# Optimization: maintaining parallelism

## Computing an average value per key in parallel

```
theMarks: {("julie", 12), ("marc", 10), ("albert", 19), ("julie", 15), ("albert", 15),...}
```

- Solution 3: `combineByKey` + `map` + `collectAsMap` + `foreach`

```
val theSums = theMarks
    .combineByKey(
        // createCombiner function
        (valueWithNewKey) => (valueWithNewKey, 1),
        // mergeValue function (inside a partition block)
        (acc:(Int, Int), v) =>(acc._1 + v, acc._2 + 1),
        // mergeCombiners function (after shuffle comm.)
        (acc1:(Int, Int), acc2:(Int, Int)) =>
        (acc1._1 + acc2._1, acc1._2 + acc2._2))
    .map{case (k,vc) => (k, vc._1/vc._2.toDouble)}
```

**Transformation:** compute in parallel and return a RDD

```
theSums.collectAsMap().foreach( Action: at the end (just to print)
    kv => println(kv._1 + " has average:" + kv._2))
```

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# Spark optimizations

1. Wide and Narrow transformations
2. Optimizations
3. **Page Rank example**

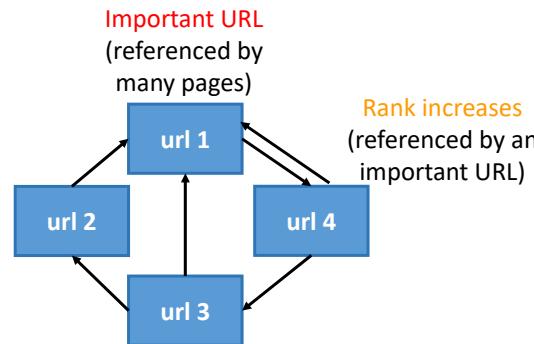
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# PageRank with Spark

## PageRank objectives

Compute the probability to arrive at a web page when randomly clicking on web links...



- If a URL is referenced by many other URLs then its rank increases (because being referenced means that it is important – ex: URL 1)
- If an important URL (like URL 1) references other URLs (like URL 4) this will increase the destination's ranking

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# PageRank with Spark

## PageRank principles

- Simplified algorithm:

$$PR(u) = \sum_{v \in B(u)} \frac{PR(v)}{L(v)}$$

Contribution of page  $v$   
to the rank of page  $u$

$B(u)$ : the set containing all pages linking to page  $u$   
 $PR(x)$ : PageRank of page  $x$   
 $L(v)$ : the number of outbound links of page  $v$

- Initialize the PR of each page with an equi-probability
- Iterate  $k$  times:  
compute PR of each page

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# PageRank with Spark

## PageRank principles

- The *damping factor*:

the probability a user continues to click is a *damping factor*:  $d$   
the probability a user *jumps* to a random page is:  $1-d$

$$PR(u) = \frac{1-d}{N_{pages}} + d \cdot \sum_{v \in B(u)} \frac{PR(v)}{L(v)}$$

$N_{pages}$ : Nb of documents in the collectionUsually :  $d = 0.85$

Sum of all PR is 1

Variant:

$$PR(u) = (1-d) + d \cdot \sum_{v \in B(u)} \frac{PR(v)}{L(v)}$$

Usually :  $d = 0.85$

Sum of all PR is  $N_{pages}$

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# PageRank with Spark

## PageRank first step in Spark (Scala)

```
// read text file into Dataset[String] -> RDD1
val lines = spark.read.textFile(args(0)).rdd

val pairs = lines.map{ s =>
    // Splits a line into an array of
    // 2 elements according space(s)
    val parts = s.split("\\s+")
    // create the parts<url, url>
    // for each line in the file
    (parts(0), parts(1))
}

// RDD1 <string, string> -> RDD2<string, iterable>
val links = pairs.distinct().groupByKey().cache()
```

"url 4 url 3"  
 "url 4 url 1"  
 "url 2 url 1"  
 "url 1 url 4"  
 "url 3 url 2"  
 "url 3 url 1"



links RDD

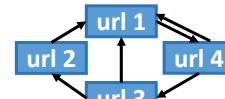
|       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| url 4 | [url 3, url 1] |
| url 3 | [url 2, url 1] |
| url 2 | [url 1]        |
| url 1 | [url 4]        |

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# PageRank with Spark

## PageRank second step in Spark (Scala)



Initialization with  $1/N$  equi-probability:

```
// links <key, Iter> RDD → ranks <key, 1.0/Npages> RDD
var ranks = links.mapValues(v => 1.0/4.0)
```

`links.mapValues(...)` is an immutable RDD

`var ranks` is a mutable variable

```
var ranks = RDD1
ranks = RDD2
```

« ranks » is re-associated to a new RDD  
RDD1 is forgotten ...  
...and will be removed from memory

Other strategy:

```
// links <key, Iter> RDD → ranks <key, one> RDD
var ranks = links.mapValues(v => 1.0)
```

| links RDD | url 4 | [url 3, url 1] |
|-----------|-------|----------------|
|           | url 3 | [url 2, url 1] |
|           | url 2 | [url 1]        |
|           | url 1 | [url 4]        |



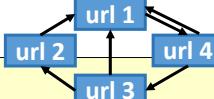
| ranks RDD | url 4 | 1.0 |
|-----------|-------|-----|
|           | url 3 | 1.0 |
|           | url 2 | 1.0 |
|           | url 1 | 1.0 |

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# PageRank with Spark

## PageRank third step in Spark (Scala)



```
for (i <- 1 to iters) {
    val contribs =
        links.join(ranks)
            .flatMap{ case (url, (urlLinks, rank)) =>
                urlLinks.map(dest => (dest, rank/urlLinks.size)) }
    ranks = contribs.reduceByKey(_ + _)
        .mapValues(0.15 + 0.85 * _)
}
```

| links RDD | Output links   |
|-----------|----------------|
| url 4     | [url 3, url 1] |
| url 3     | [url 2, url 1] |
| url 2     | [url 1]        |
| url 1     | [url 4]        |

| RDD'  | Output links & contributions |  |
|-------|------------------------------|--|
| url 4 | ([url 3, url 1], 1.0)        |  |
| url 3 | ([url 2, url 1], 1.0)        |  |
| url 2 | ([url 1], 1.0)               |  |
| url 1 | ([url 4], 1.0)               |  |

| contribs RDD | Values become Keys |  |
|--------------|--------------------|--|
| url 3        | 0.5                |  |
| url 1        | 0.5                |  |
| url 2        | 0.5                |  |
| url 1        | 0.5                |  |
| url 1        | 1.0                |  |
| url 4        | 1.0                |  |

rank RDD

new ranks RDD

(with damping factor)

var ranks

| url 4 | 1.0   |
|-------|-------|
| url 3 | 0.57  |
| url 2 | 0.57  |
| url 1 | 1.849 |

Individual & cumulated input contributions

Individual & cumulated input contributions

| individual input contributions | .reduceByKey |  |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--|
| url 3                          | 0.5          |  |
| url 1                          | 0.5          |  |
| url 2                          | 0.5          |  |
| url 1                          | 0.5          |  |
| url 1                          | 1.0          |  |
| url 4                          | 1.0          |  |

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# PageRank with Spark

## PageRank third step in Spark (Scala)

- Spark & Scala allow a **short/compact implementation** of the PageRank algorithm
- Each RDD remains **in-memory** from one iteration to the next one

```
val lines = spark.read.textFile(args(0)).rdd
val pairs = lines.map{ s =>
    val parts = s.split("\\s+")
    (parts(0), parts(1)) }
val links = pairs.distinct().groupByKey().cache()

var ranks = links.mapValues(v => 1.0)

for (i <- 1 to iters) {
    val contribs =
        links.join(ranks)
        .flatMap{ case (url, (urlLinks, rank)) =>
            urlLinks.map(dest => (dest, rank/urlLinks.size)) }
    ranks = contribs.reduceByKey(_ + _).mapValues(0.15 + 0.85 * _)
}
```

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# PageRank with Spark

## PageRank third step in Spark (Scala): optimized with partitioner

```
Val links = ..... // previous code
val links1 = links.partitionBy(new HashPartitioner(100)).persist()

var ranks = links1.mapValues(v => 1.0)

for (i <- 1 to iters) {
    val contribs =
        links1.join(ranks)
        .flatMap{ case (url, (urlLinks, rank)) =>
            urlLinks.map(dest => (dest, rank/urlLinks.size)) }
    ranks = contribs.reduceByKey(_ + _).mapValues(0.15 + 0.85 * _)
}
```

- Initial **links** and **ranks** are co-partitioned
- Repeated **join** is Narrow-Wide
- Repeated **mapValues** is Narrow: respects the **reduceByKey** partitioning
- Pb: flatMap{...urlinks.map(...)} can change the partitionning ?!

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## Spark optimizations

