
PQL: A Purely-Declarative Java Extension for Parallel Programming

Christoph Reichenbach^{1,2}, Yannis Smaragdakis^{1,3},
Neil Immerman¹

1: University of Massachusetts, Amherst

2: Goethe University Frankfurt

3: University of Athens

WRITING PARALLEL PROGRAMS IS HARD

- locking
- races
- side effect order
- consistency models
- distributing computations
- . . .

EASIER PARALLELISM

Approach	Problems	User actions
map-reduce	emb. parallel + aggregation	split computation
fork-join	divide-and-conquer	(recursively) divide up problem
PLINQ	SQL-like, over containers	tag parallel steps
Pregel	graph algorithms	split into graph computations, -mutations

Frameworks for *manual* parallelisation

Casual parallelism: *fully automatic*

CASUAL PARALLELISM

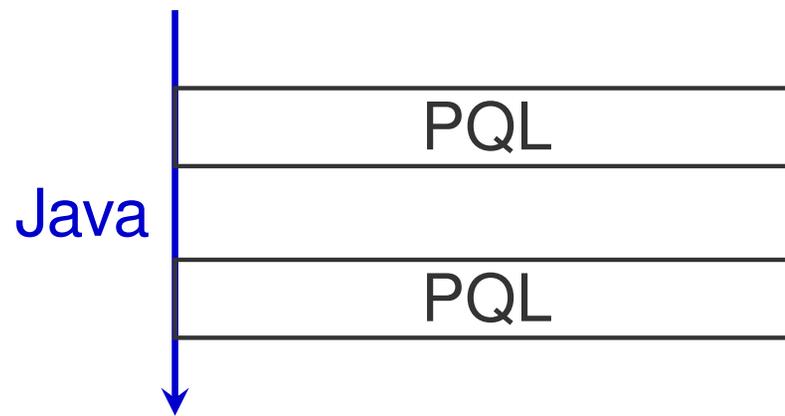
- Pitfalls:
 - Side effects
 - Order dependency

Declarative language

Specify the '*what*', not the '*how*'

PQL/JAVA

- Declarative extension to Java:
Parallel Query Language
- Fully automatic parallelisation
- Processes and builds Java containers



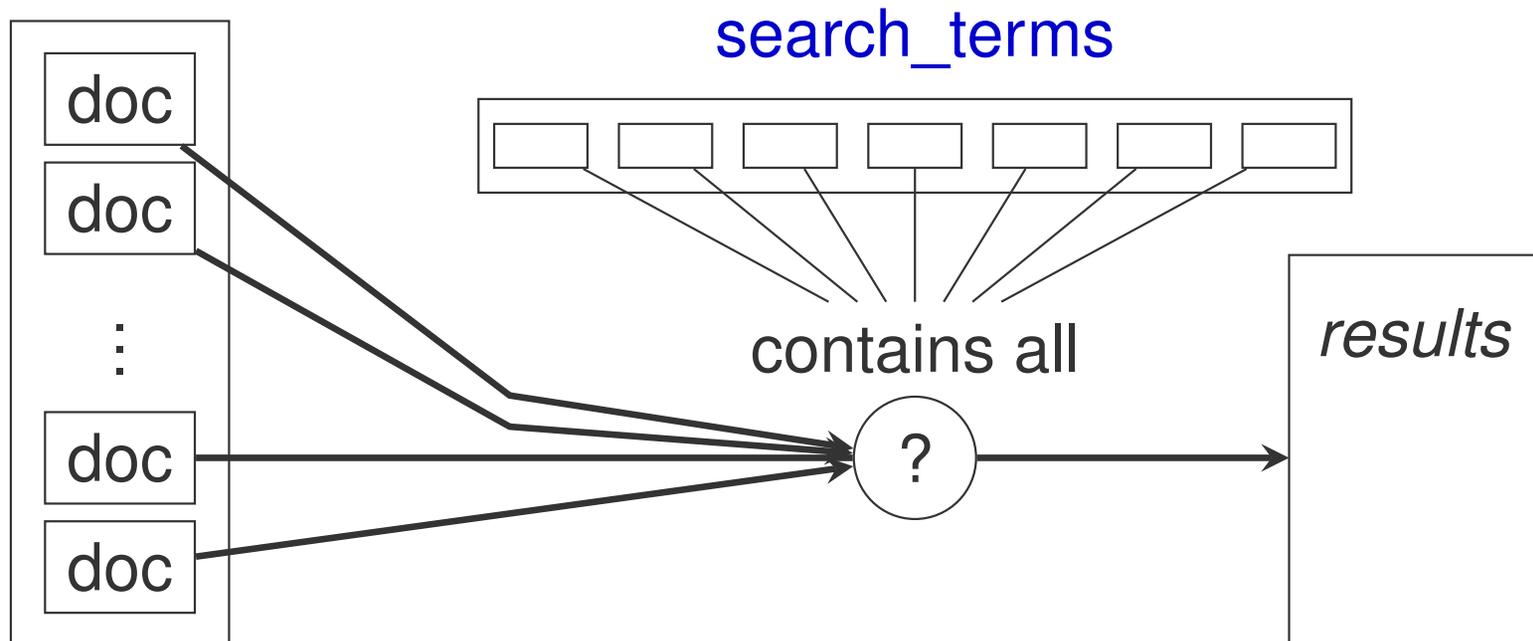
PQL/JAVA

- Declarative extension to Java:
Parallel Query Language
- Fully automatic parallelisation
- Processes and builds Java containers

Java for sequential code, PQL for parallel code

PQL EXAMPLE

DocRepository



query (Set.contains(doc)):

`DocRepository.getAll().contains(doc)`

`&& forall x: doc.contains(search_terms[x]);`

WHAT RICH LANGUAGE GIVES US CASUAL PARALLELISM?

- Embarrassingly parallel:
Executable in $O(1)$ with enough CPUs
- Result from *Descriptive Complexity*:
This language is precisely First-Order Logic^a

Using $O(n^3)$ cores may be a bit much...

^aif we assume a polynomial number of CPUs

MAKING FIRST-ORDER LOGIC MORE USEFUL

- Assert *or compute* results:
 - Finite set comprehension
 - SQL-style queries (minus aggregation, ordering)

x	$\exists y. \mathbf{a}[x] = \mathbf{b}[y]$
0	true
1	false
2	false
3	true
\vdots	\vdots

} representation:
 $\Rightarrow \{0, 3, \dots\}$

ADDING REDUCTION

reduce(add) x **over** i: x == a[i]

- log-parallel performance
- user-supplied reducers

PQL OVERVIEW

- +, −, , ?:, ==, **instanceof**, &&, ||, −>
- **forall** , **exists**
- **Java expressions as constants**
- m[k], m.get(k), c.length, c.size(), s.contains(e)
- Container construction:
 - **query** (Set.contains(**int** x)): ...
 - **query** (Array[x] == **float** f): ...
 - **query** (Map.get(String s) == **int** i [**default** v]): ...
- **reduce**(sumInt) **int** x [**over** y]: ...

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

```
assert forall Node n: sorted_list.contains(n)
  -> n.prev.value <= n.value;
```

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

- Check sortedness of list

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

- Check sortedness of list

Set<Item> intersection =

```
query (Set.get(Item element)):  
    set0.contains(element)  
    && set1.contains(element)  
    && !element.is_dead;
```

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

- Check sortedness of list
- Set intersection together with filtering

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

- Check sortedness of list
- Set intersection together with filtering

```
query (Map.get(employee) == double bonus):  
  employees.contains(employee)  
  && bonus == employee.dept.bonus_factor  
  * (reduce(sumDouble) v:  
    exists Bonus b: employee.bonusSet.contains(b)  
    && v == b.bonus_base);
```

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

- Check sortedness of list
- Set intersection together with filtering
- Employee bonus table

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

- Check sortedness of list
- Set intersection together with filtering
- Employee bonus table

```
dot_product = reduce(add) x over y: x == a[y] * b[y];
```

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

- Check sortedness of list
- Set intersection together with filtering
- Employee bonus table
- Vector dot product

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

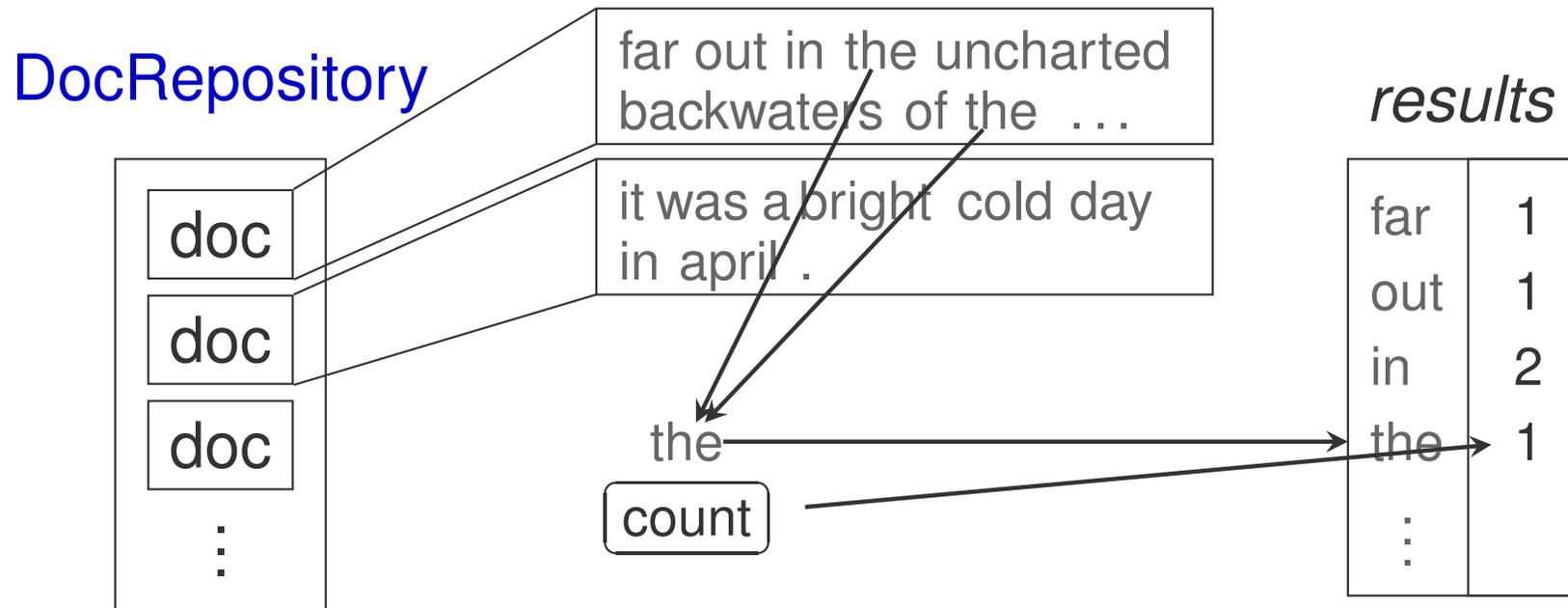
- Check sortedness of list
- Set intersection together with filtering
- Employee bonus table
- Vector dot product

```
query (Map.find(value) == keyset default new PSet()):  
  keyset == query (Set.contains(key)):  
    m.get(key) == value;
```

MORE PQL EXAMPLES

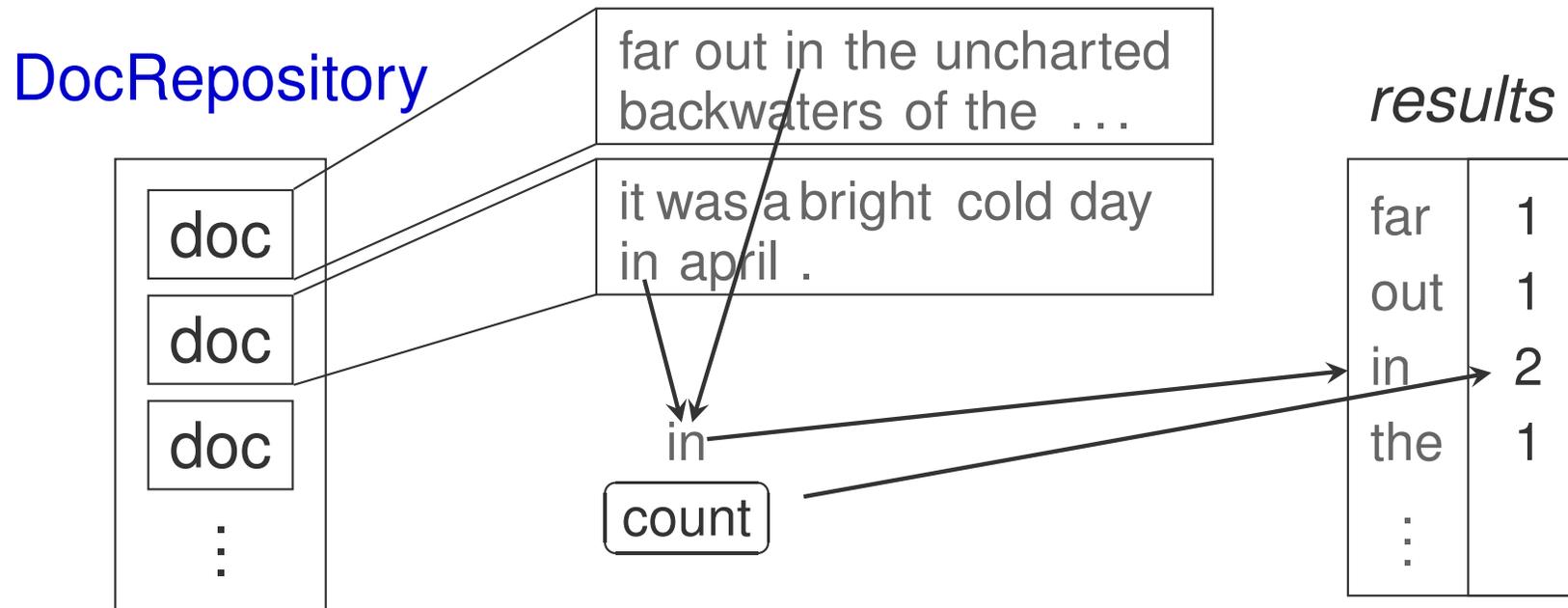
- Check sortedness of list
- Set intersection together with filtering
- Employee bonus table
- Vector dot product
- Invert map
- ...

REALISTIC PQL EXAMPLE



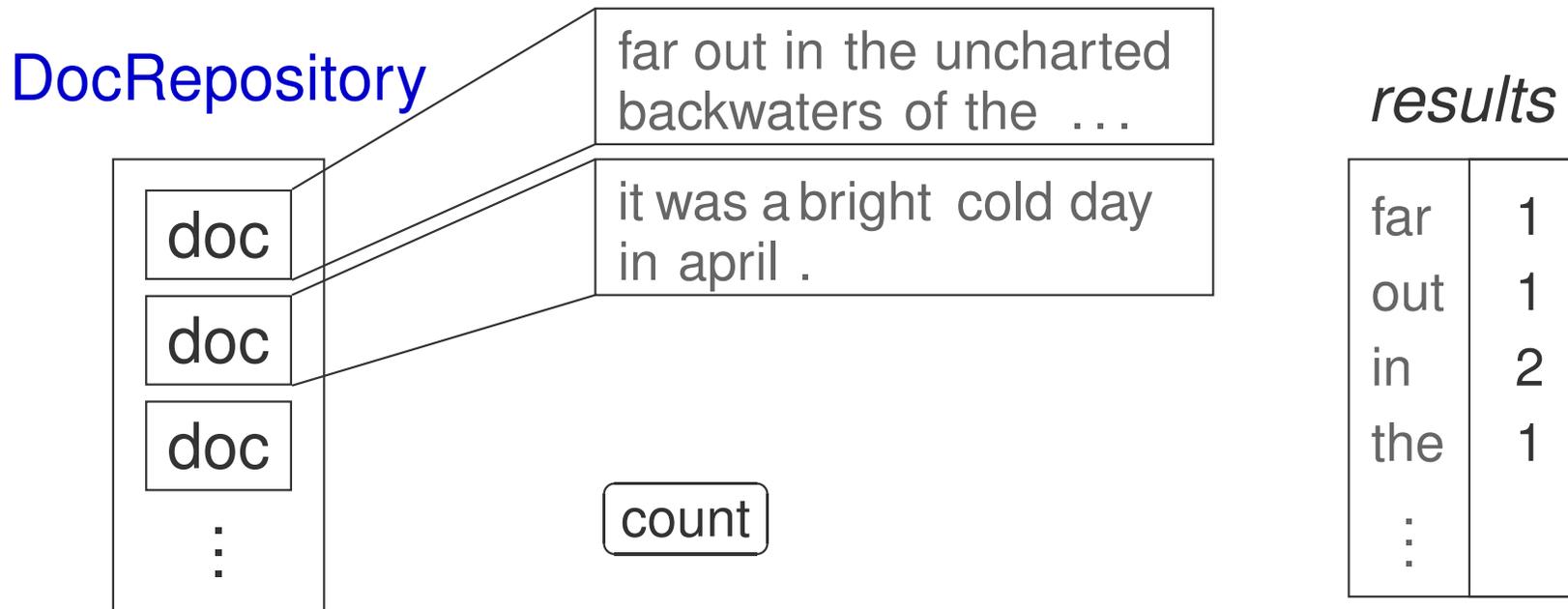
`DocRepository.getAll().contains(doc)`

REALISTIC PQL EXAMPLE



`DocRepository.getAll().contains(doc)`

REALISTIC PQL EXAMPLE



query (Map.get(int word_id) == int wcount **default** 0):

wcount == **reduce**(sum) **1 over** doc:

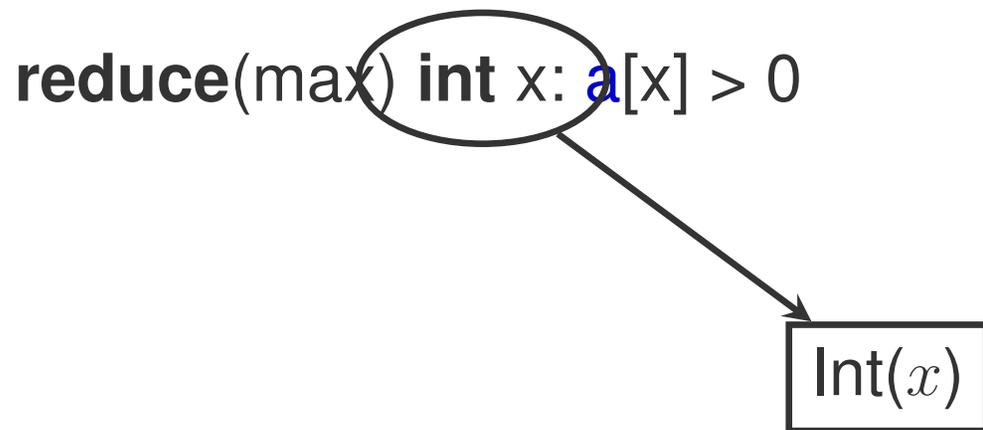
DocRepository.getAll().contains(doc)

&& exists i: doc.words[i] == word_id;

IMPLEMENTATION

- Extension to javac 1.6:
 - PQL to relations
 - Access path selection / Query scheduling
 - Optimisation
 - Code generation
- Run-time library support:
 - parallel execution

EXAMPLE



Gen. relational IL

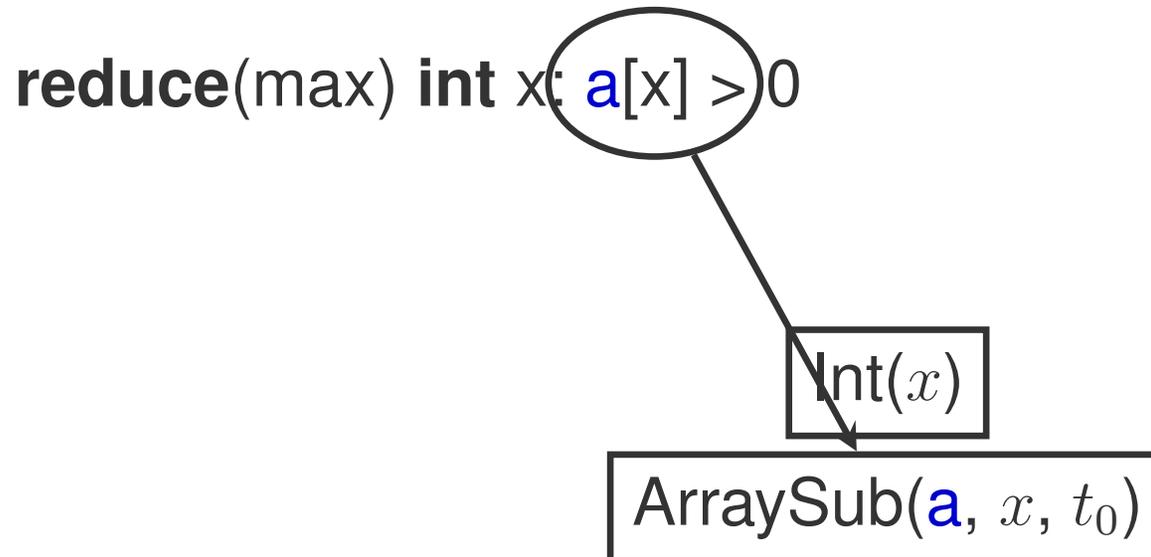
Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation

Translation into relational IL

EXAMPLE



Gen. relational IL

Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation

Translation into relational IL

EXAMPLE

reduce(max) int($x: a[x] > 0$)

Int(x)

ArraySub(a, x, t_0)

GT($t_0, 0$)

Gen. relational IL

Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation

Translation into relational IL

EXAMPLE

reduce(max) int x : $a[x] > 0$

Int(x)

ArraySub(a , x , t_0)

GT(t_0 , 0)

Unordered!

Gen. relational IL

Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation

EXAMPLE

reduce(max) int x: $a[x] > 0$

Gen. relational IL

Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation

Int(x^w)

ArraySub(a^r, x^r, t_0^w)

GT($t_0^r, 0$)

Order #1: Must iterate over 2^{32} values!

EXAMPLE

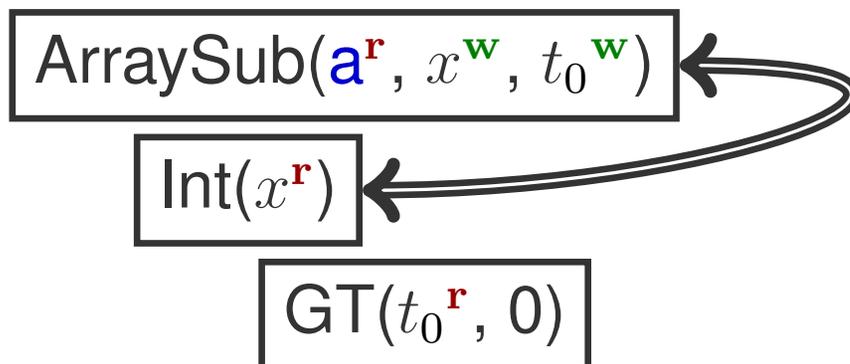
reduce(max) int x: $a[x] > 0$

Gen. relational IL

Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation



Order #2: Iterate over $a.length$ values

EXAMPLE

reduce(max) int x: $a[x] > 0$

Gen. relational IL

Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation

ArraySub(a^r , x^w , t_0^w)

~~Int(x)~~

GT(t_0^r , 0)

EXAMPLE

Gen. relational IL

Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation

```
for (x = 0; x < a.length; x++) {  
    t_0 = a[x];  
    if (t_0 > 0)  
        // signal success at x  
}
```

EXAMPLE

```
void runWorker(int start, int stop) {  
    for (x = start; x < stop; x++) {  
        t_0 = a[x];  
        if (t_0 > 0)  
            // signal success at x  
    }  
}
```

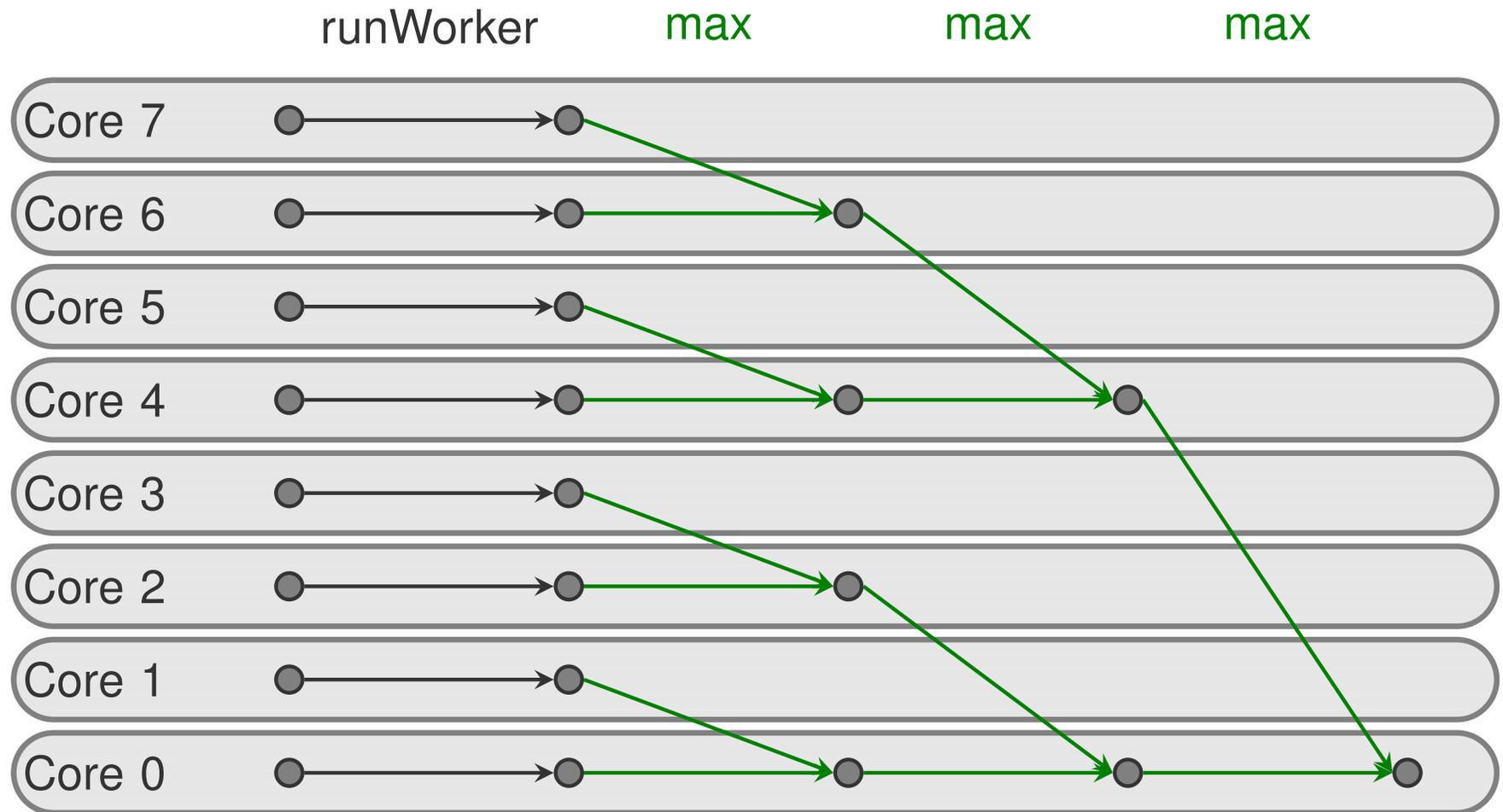
Gen. relational IL

Query ordering

Optimisation

Code generation

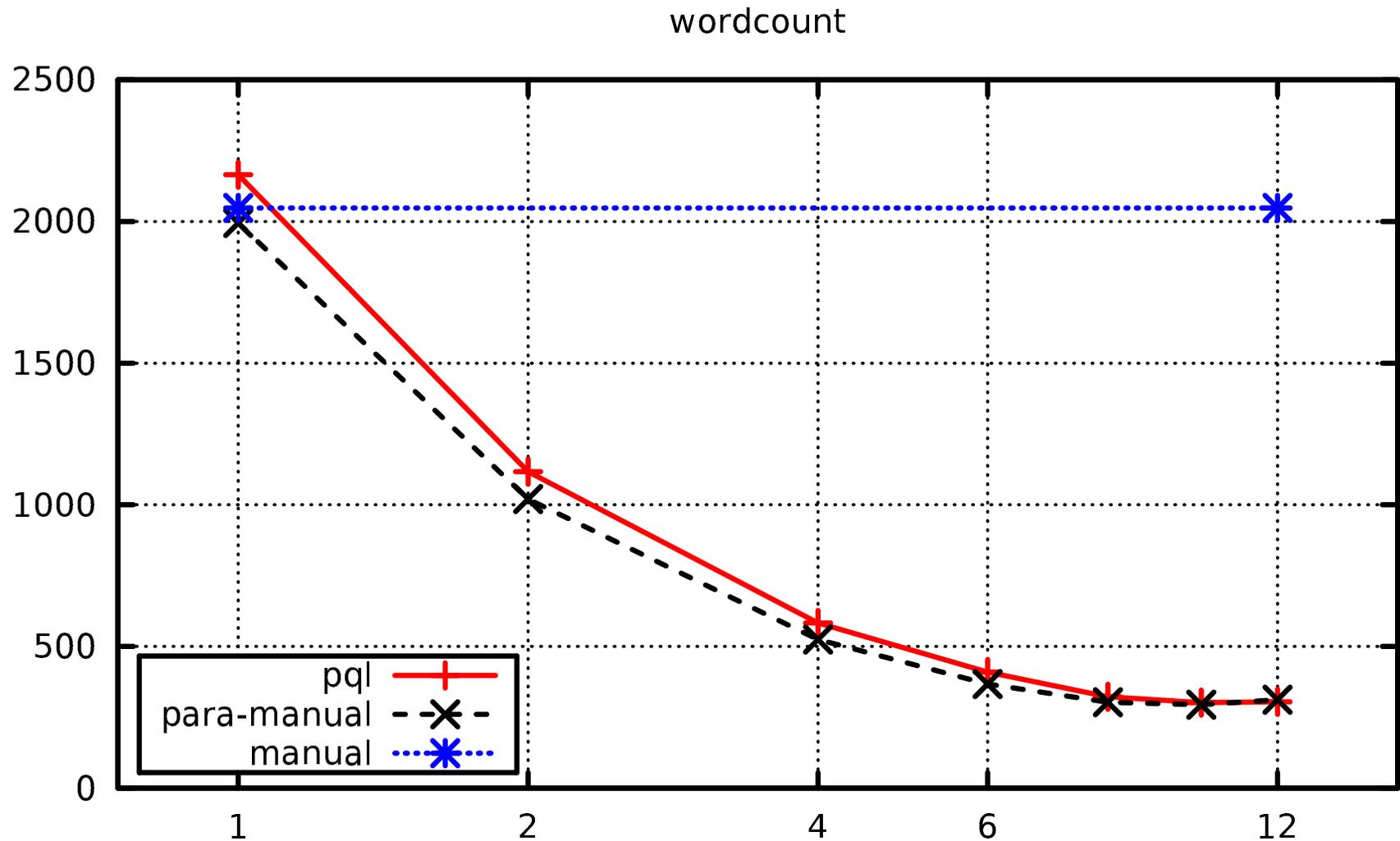
PARALLEL EXECUTION MODEL: TREE JOIN



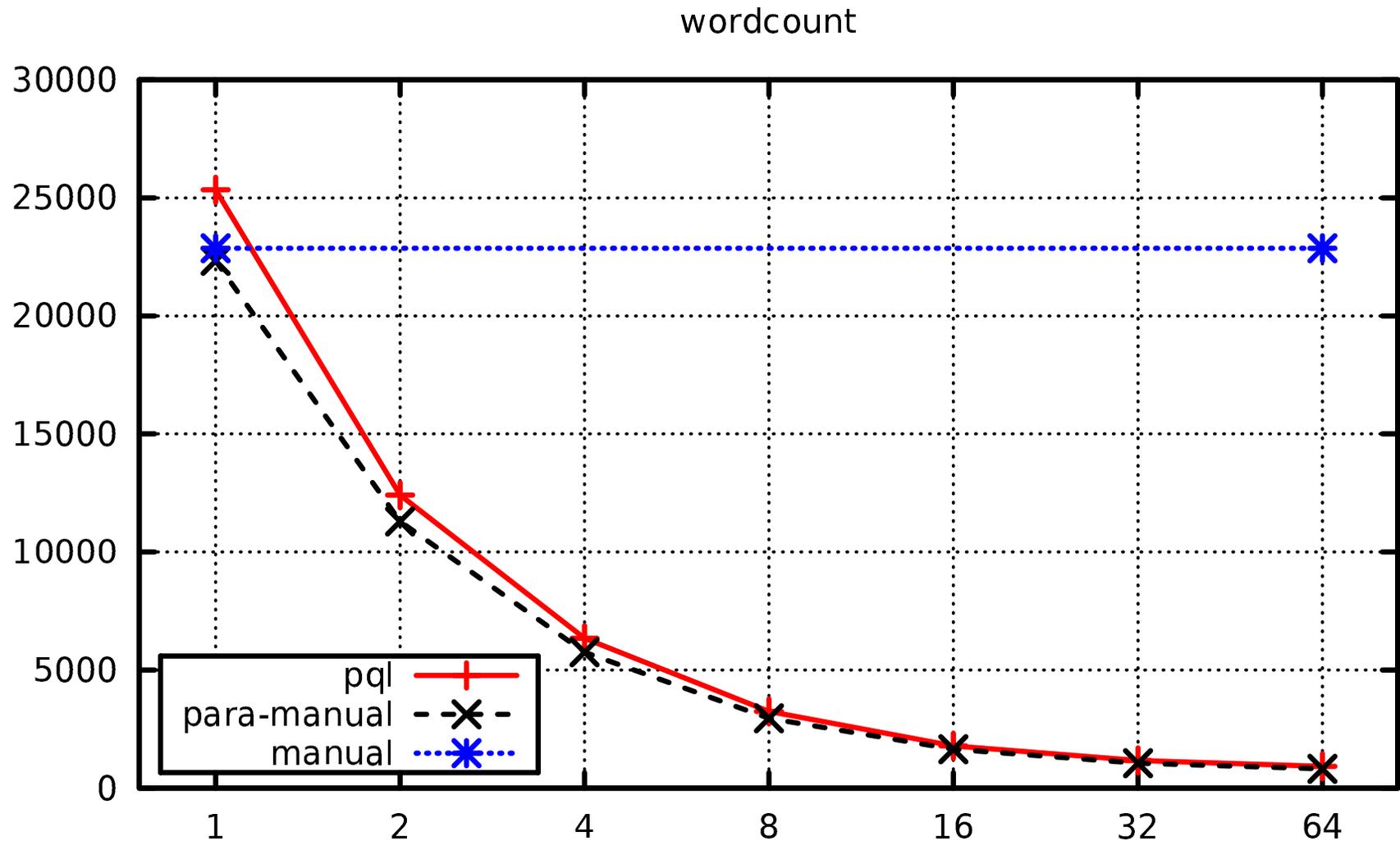
PERFORMANCE

- Benchmarks:
 - **bonus**: Salary computation
 - **threegrep**: String pattern search
 - **wordcount**: Word frequency aggregation in documents
 - **webgraph**: One-hop self-references in web graphs
- Hardware:
 - Intel Xeon 6×2 threads, 2.67 GHz, 24 GB RAM
 - Sun UltraSPARC 16×4 threads, 1.17 GHz, 32 GB RAM
- Methodology:
 - For each configuration: 3 warmup runs, 10 eval runs
- Running stock Sun JVM 1.6 with 2 GB Heap

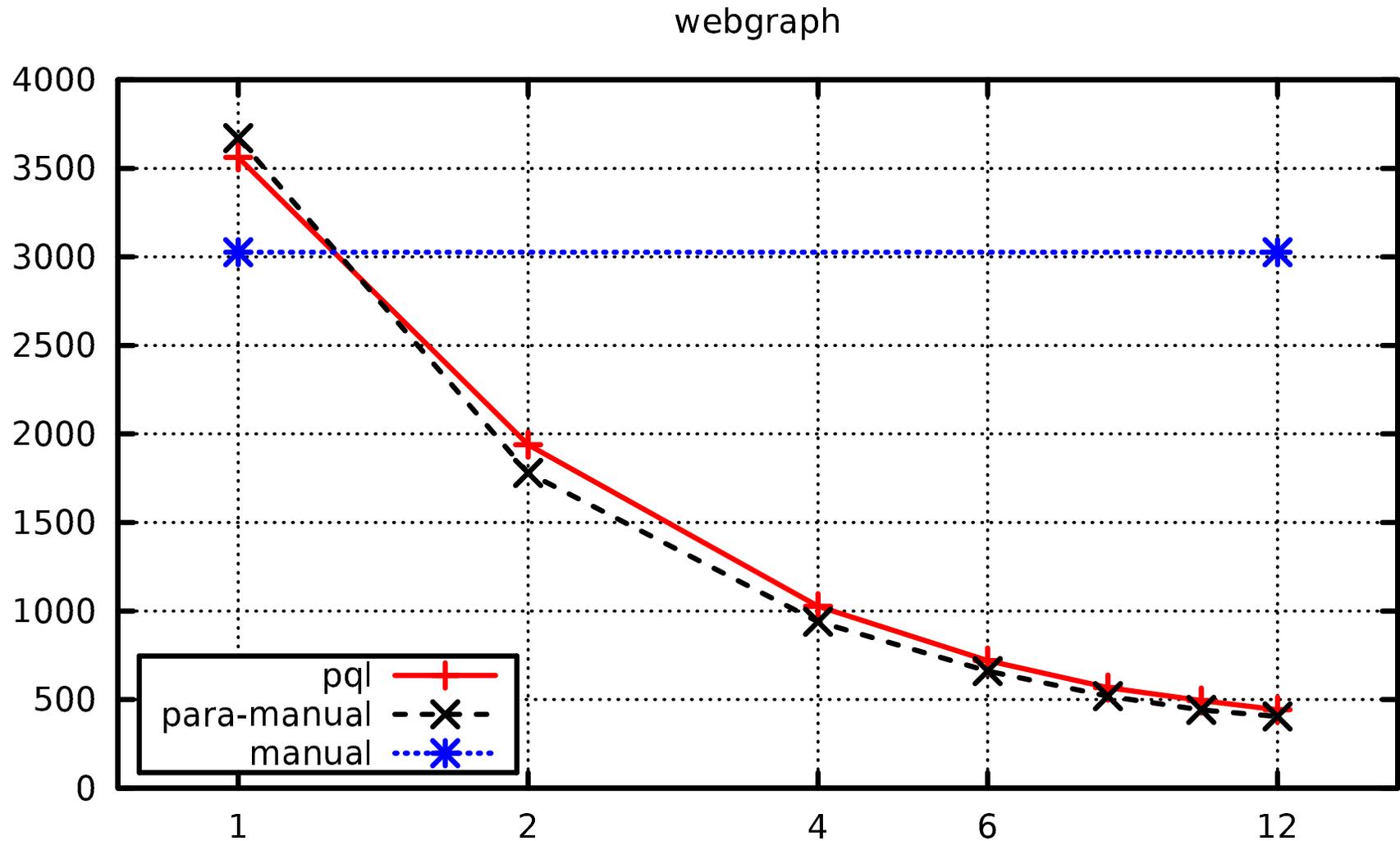
PERFORMANCE RESULTS: WORDCOUNT ON INTEL XEON



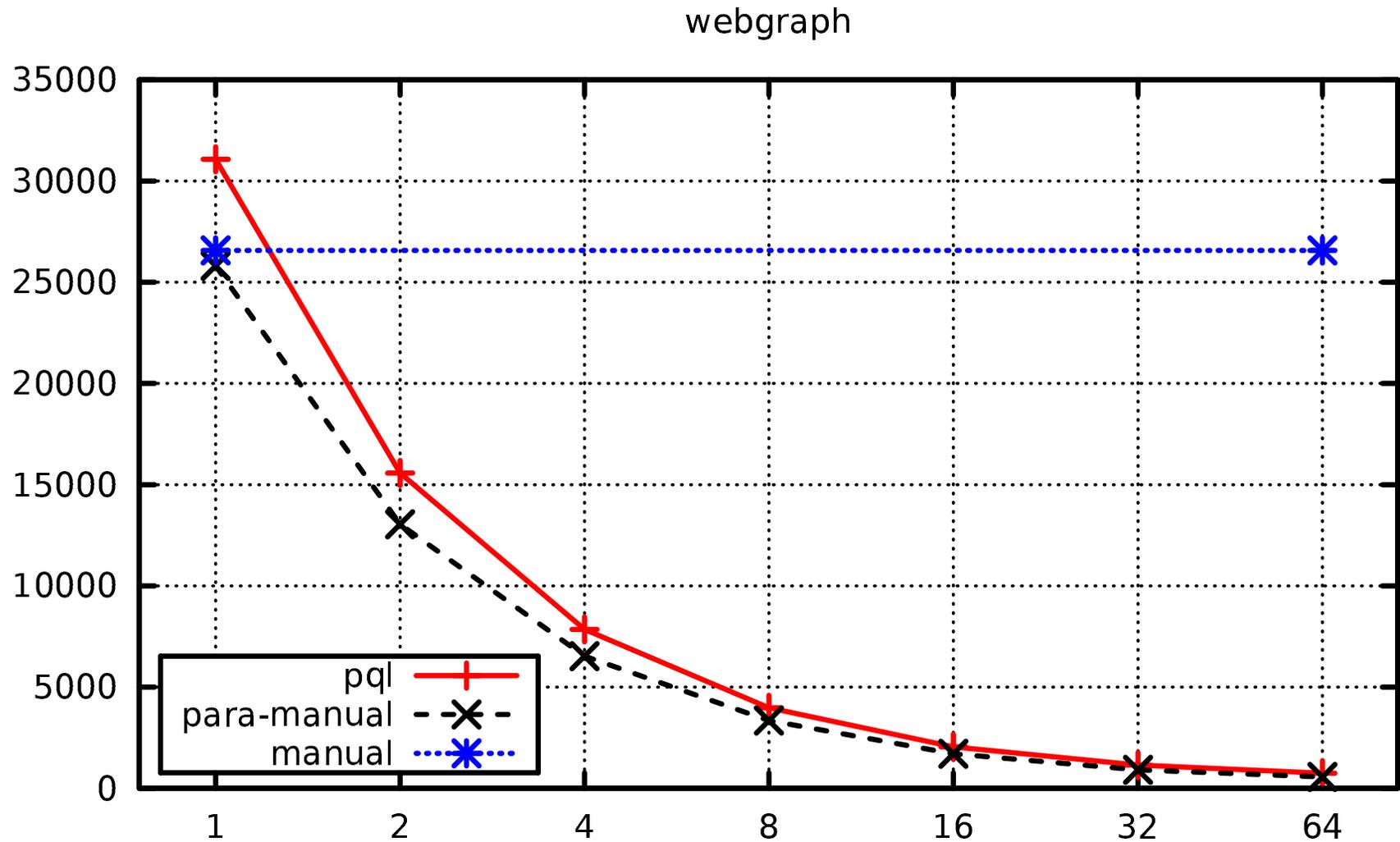
PERFORMANCE RESULTS: WORDCOUNT ON ULTRAPARC



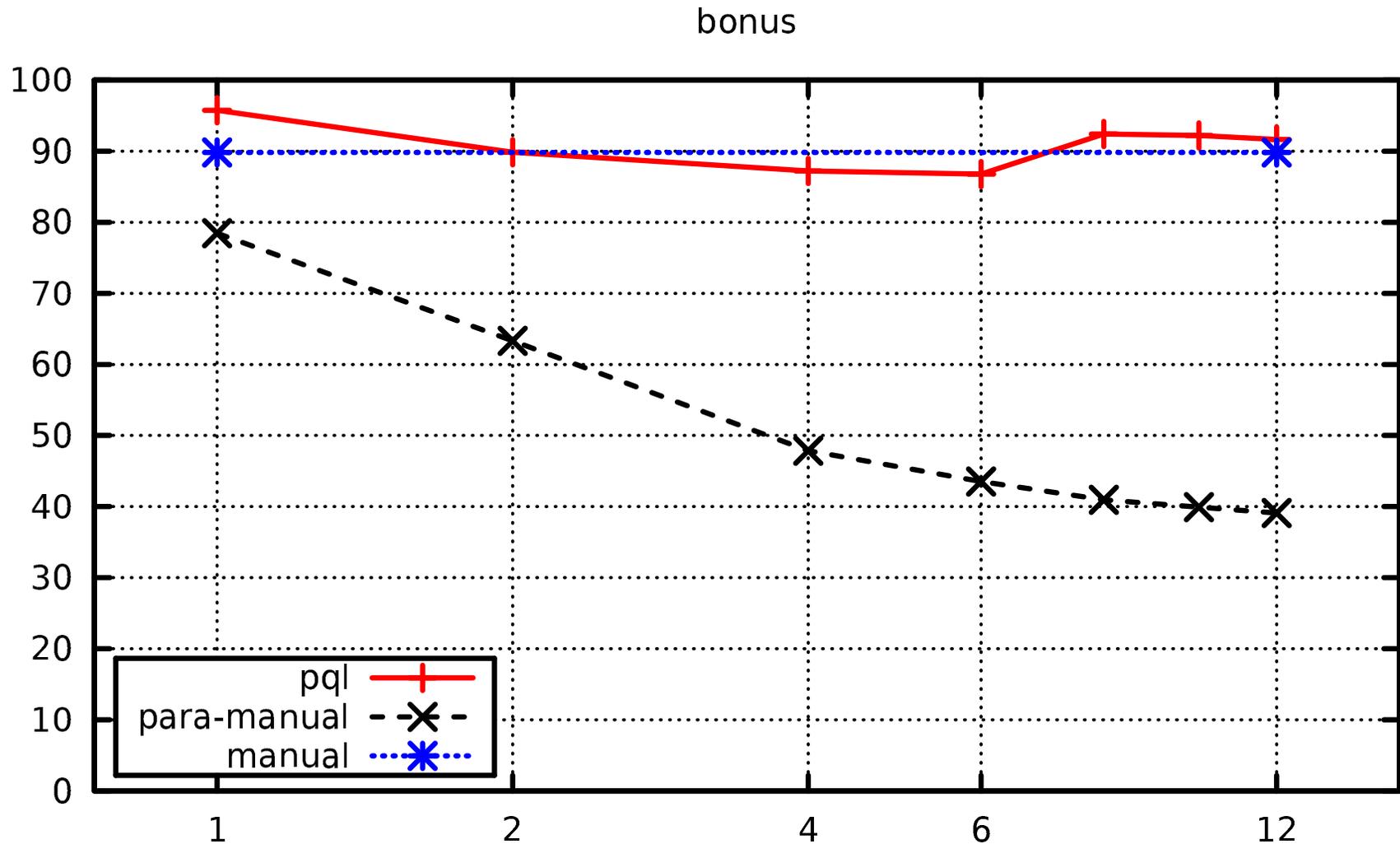
PERFORMANCE RESULTS: WEBGRAPH ON INTEL XEON



PERFORMANCE RESULTS: WEBGRAPH ON ULTRASPARC



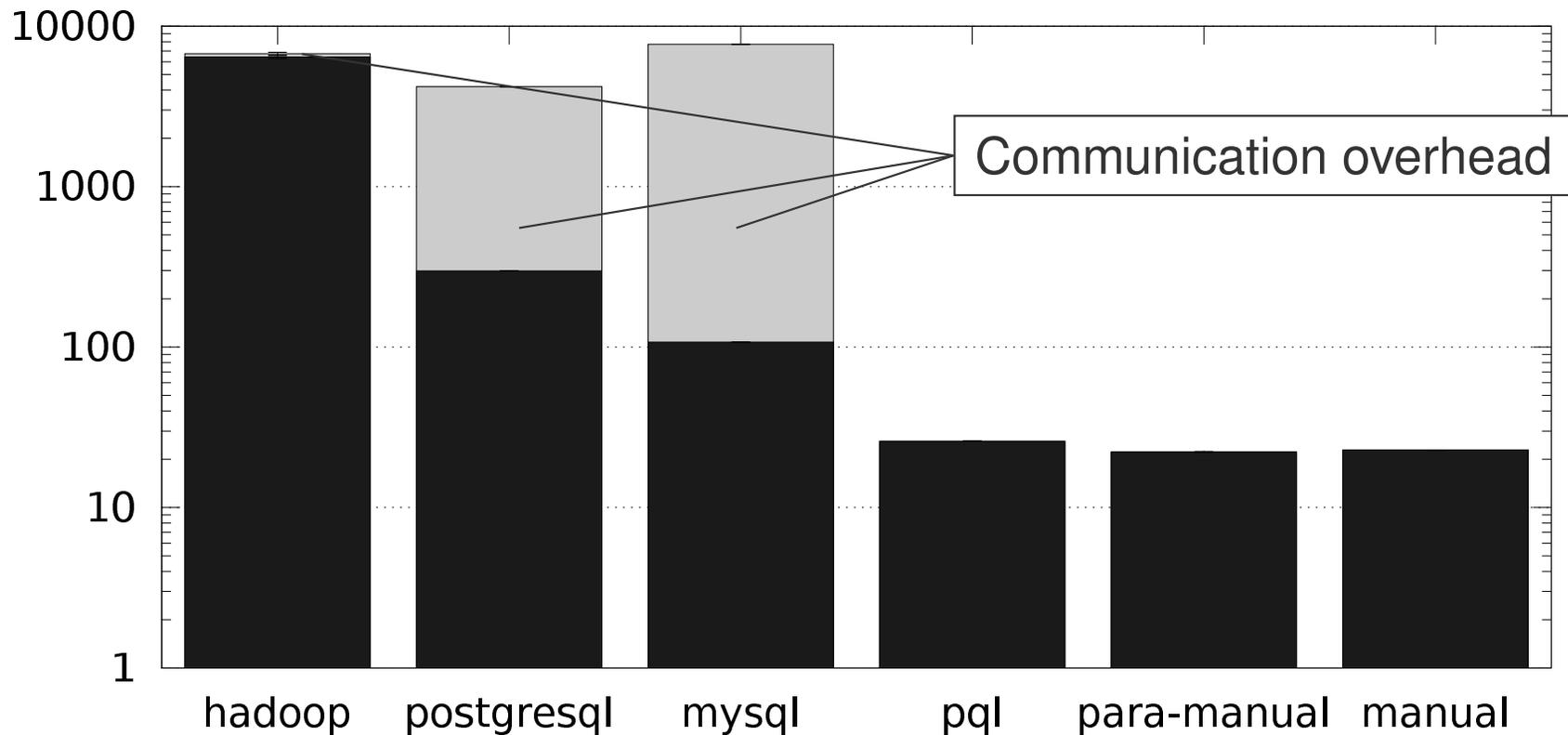
PERFORMANCE RESULTS: BONUS ON INTEL



EXISTING APPROACHES FOR JAVA

- SQL via JDBC: Similar queries, separate heap
- Hadoop: Java Map-Reduce framework

COMPARISON TO SQL AND HADOOP



(At $\frac{1}{10}$ of the usual benchmark size)

CONCISENESS

Total lines of code (including Java boilerplate):

benchmark	manual	manual- parallel	Hadoop	SQL	PQL
bonus	9	50	130	48	8
threegrep	9	46	60	21	6
webgraph	13	50	105	39	4
wordcount	8	98	93	38	4

PQL implementations are concise

WHAT THIS TALK DIDN'T COVER

- Intermediate language design
- Type inference
- Domain inference:
forall $x: a[x] == b[x]$: which x to check?
- More optimisations

Check the paper for details!

SUMMARY

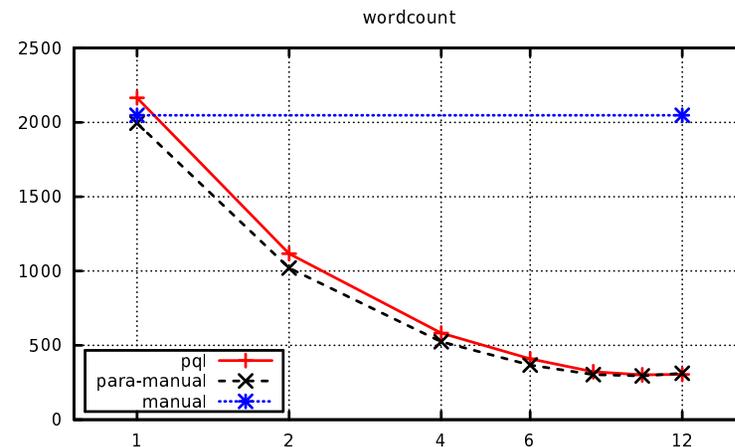
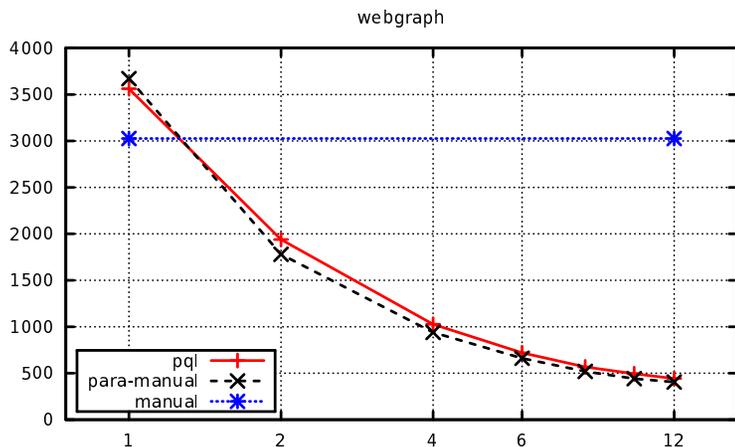
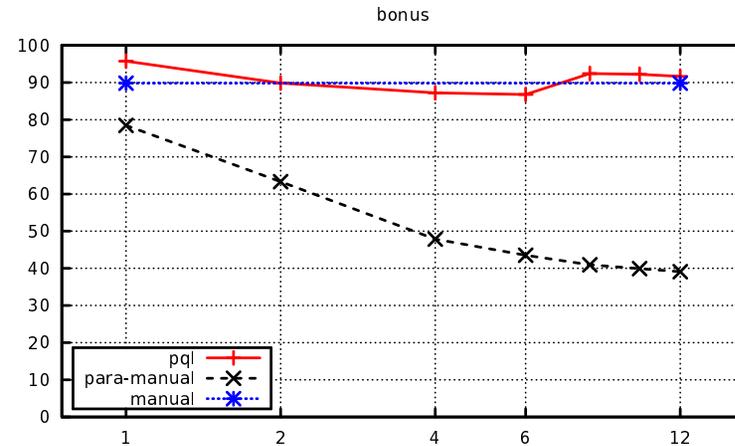
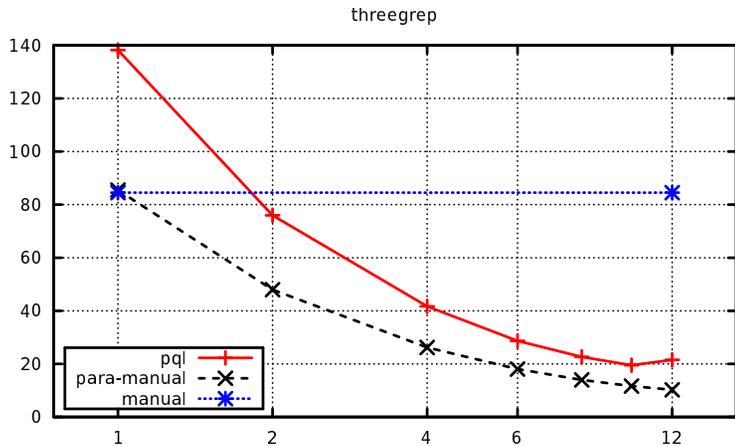
PQL/Java adds casual parallelism to Java through:

- Declarative query semantics
- Automatic parallelisation
- Strong parallel performance

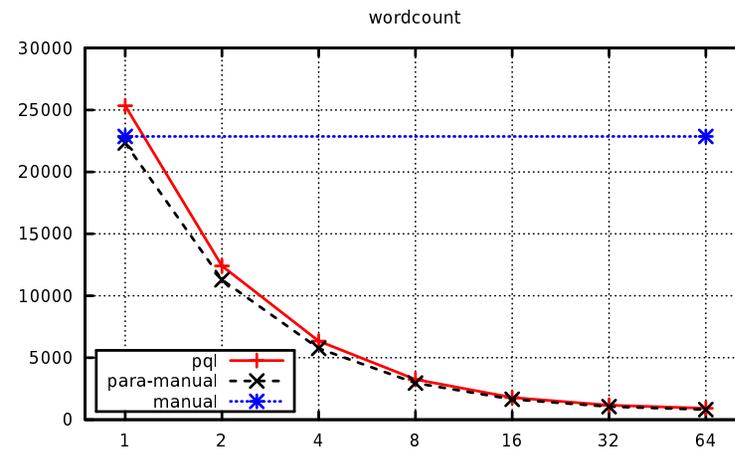
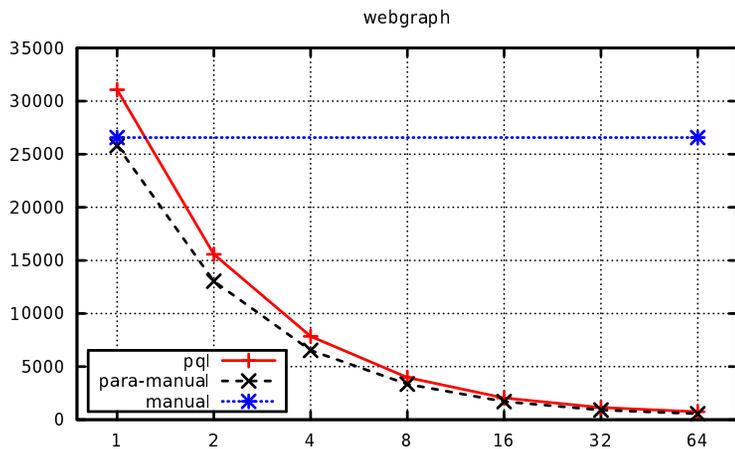
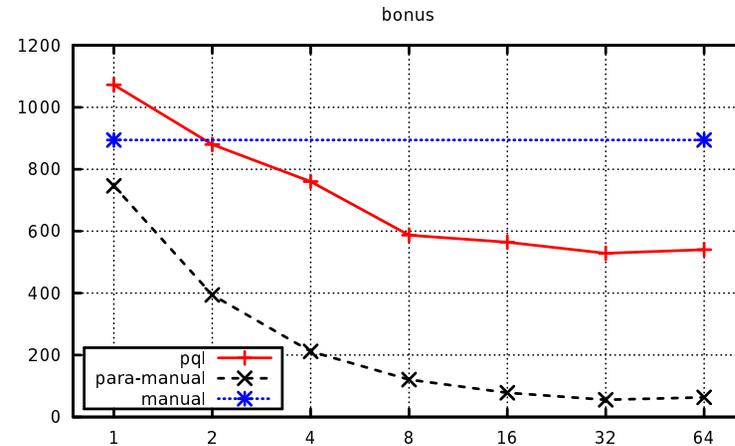
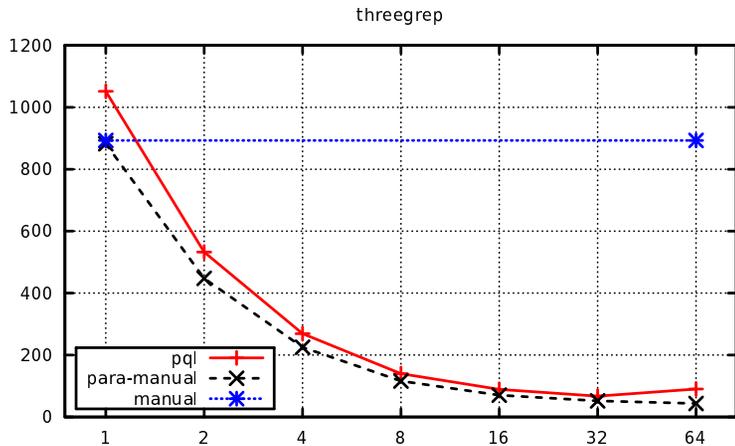
Available at <http://creichen.net/pql> (soon!)

Backup Slides

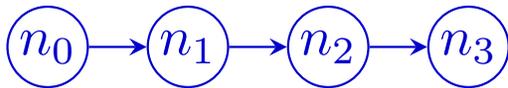
PERFORMANCE RESULTS: INTEL



PERFORMANCE RESULTS: SPARC



JAVA INTEGRATION: GRAPH REACHABILITY



```
new_edges = query(Map.find(from_node) == to_node):  
  !all_edges[from_node].contains(to_node) // new edge  
  && exists Node inter_node:  
    all_edges[from_node].contains(inter_node)  
    && new_edges[inter_node].contains(to_node);
```

JAVA INTEGRATION: GRAPH REACHABILITY

```
public Map<Node, Set<Node>> transitiveClosure(Map edges) {  
    Map<Node, Set<Node>> all_edges = edges.clone();  
    Map<Node, Set<Node>> new_edges = edges;  
    while (!new_edges.empty()) {  
        new_edges = query(Map.find(from_node) == to_node):  
            !all_edges[from_node].contains(to_node) // new edge  
            && exists Node inter_node:  
                all_edges[from_node].contains(inter_node)  
                && new_edges[inter_node].contains(to_node);  
        all_edges.putAll(new_edges);  
    }  
    return all_edges; }  
}
```