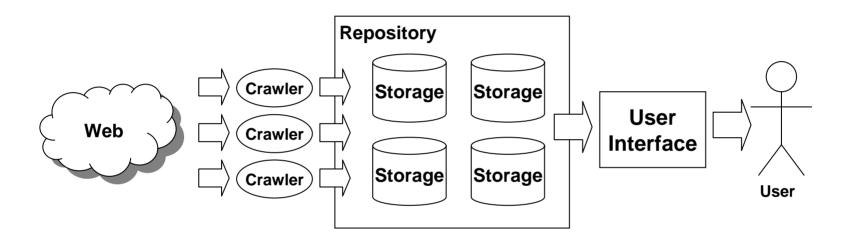
# Managing Duplicates in a Web Archive

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#### Tomba Web Archive (tomba.tumba.pt)



#### Tomba architecture



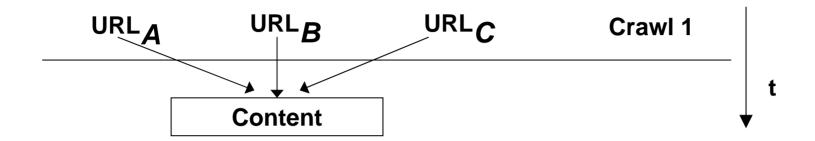
- Periodical crawls of the Portuguese web
- •Repository:
  - Distributed and extensible storage system
  - Support accesses while new contents are being loaded

## Duplication within the archive

Crawl	Date	#URLs	%duplicates within the crawl (horizontal)	%duplicates from the last crawl (vertical)
1	07-2002	1.6M	23%	
2	10-2002	1.2M	21%	7%
3	03-2003	3.5M	15%	10%
4	10-2003	3.3M	11%	19%
5	06-2004	4.4M	7%	18%

- •On average 25% of the archived contents were duplicates: waste of storage space
- •Disks are cheap but the web is enormous.
  - Storage space must be spared

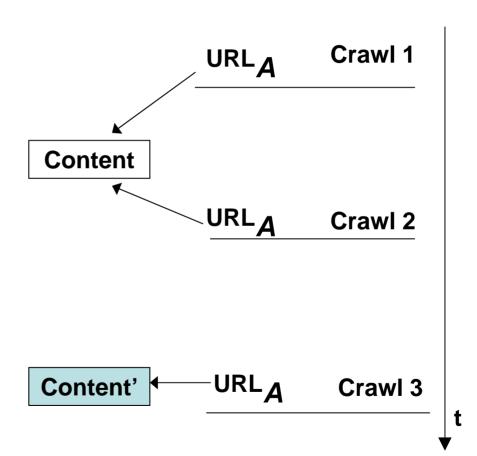
## Horizontal duplication



- Mirrors
  - tucows.ip.pt == www.tucows.com
- URL aliases
  - www.yahoo.com/index.html == www.yahoo.com/
- Default error messages
  - "This web page uses frames, but your browser doesn't support them"

## Vertical duplication

- Web collections built incrementally
- Exact duplicates
  - The page remains unchanged
- Partial duplicates
  - The page suffers changes with time



# Objective: save on storage space by eliminating duplicates

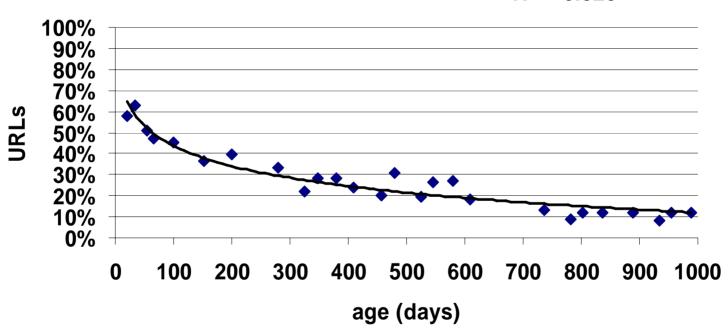
- Can not jeopardize the system's performance
- Consider a distributed and extensible storage space
- Consider preservation issues

# 1. Avoid crawling duplicates: estimate frequency of change (Cho,03)

- Advantages
  - Saves bandwidth
  - Reduces duration of the crawl
- Disadvantages
  - Does not eliminate horizontal duplication
  - Requires historical data to create model
  - Assumes URL persistence

## URLs are not persistent

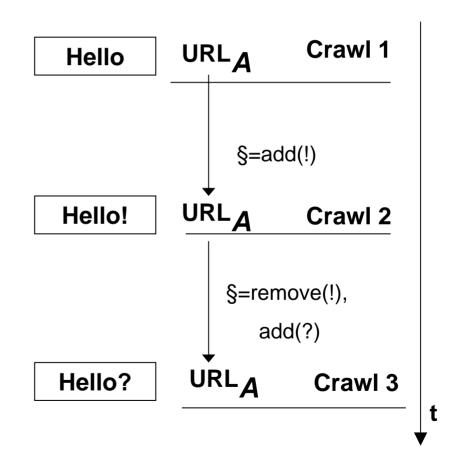
y = -0.1373Ln(x) + 1.0683 $R^2 = 0.928$ 



- Analysis of the persistence of URLs among 10 crawls of the Portuguese web gathered for 3 years
  - •Half of the URLs took less than 2 months to disappear

### 2. Delta storage mechanisms

- Store only the part that has changed
- Advantages
  - Eliminates partial duplicates
  - Available software (CVS)
- Disadvantages
  - Assumes URL persistence
  - Does not eliminate horizontal duplication
  - Documents are rebuild: preservation problem



## 3. Distributed file systems

- Advantages
  - Available software: NFS, AFS
  - Extensible, distributed
- Disadvantages
  - General usage, not designed to fulfill the requirements of web archives
    - POSIX interface: support permissions, caching of files
  - Difficult management: requires admin. privileges
  - Do not have a built-in mechanism to eliminate duplicates
    - Store everything.
    - Find and delete duplicates in batch
    - Disk IO is expensive

### 4. Compression

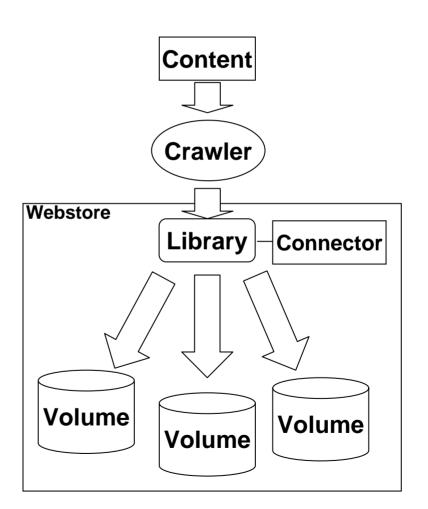
- Compression algorithms save space by eliminating duplication between contents
- Advantages
  - Many compression algorithms available (zip, rar, zlib)
  - Independent from URLs
    - Eliminates vertical duplicates
    - Eliminates horizontal duplicates
- Disadvantages
  - Duplicates are eliminated only within each compressed file
    - Scalability problem: files get too big
  - Corruption of 1 file jeopardizes several contents

## Our solution: Elimination of exact duplicates based on content signatures

- Advantages
  - Independent from URLs
  - Eliminates vertical and horizontal duplication
  - Lightweight algorithm
  - Improve storage throughput
    - Duplicates are not written to disk
- Disadvantages
  - Does not eliminate partial duplicates

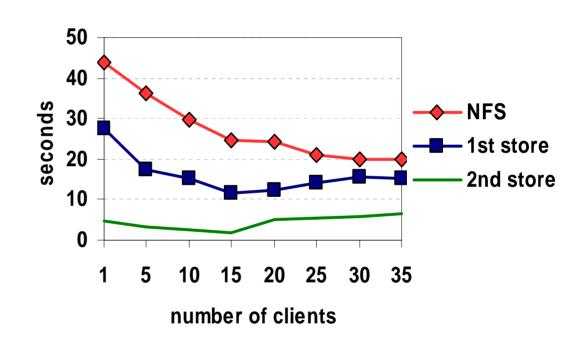
#### Validation: Webstore

- 1. Generate content signature
- 2. Find it among the volumes
- 3. If it is already stored, discard content
- 4. If it is a new content, store content



#### Write

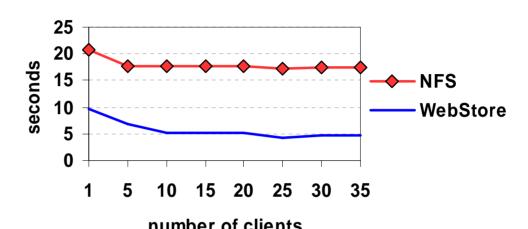
- •Elimination of dups. must not jeopardize performance
- NFS as baseline
  - Widely available
  - Reproducibility
- •Time took to store 1000 pages
- Increasing number of clients storing on 1 volume
- •Writes on average 50% faster than NFS

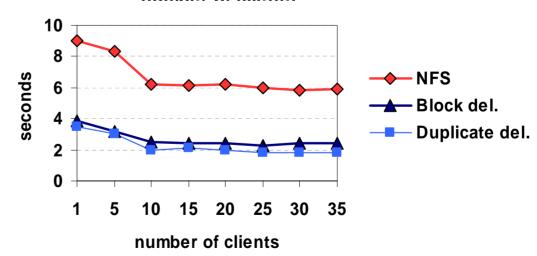


#### Read and Delete

•Reads on average 68% faster than NFS

Deletes on average 60% faster than NFS





#### Conclusions

- There is vertical and horizontal duplication on the web
  - Duplicates are frequent within a web archive
- URLs transience is a problem
  - Estimation of frequency of change
  - Delta storage
- Webstore eliminates vertical and horizontal exact duplicates without jeopardizing performance
  - 57 million web contents in Webstore (1.5 TB).

#### "Future" Work

- Study URL and Content Persistence
  - Daniel Gomes and Mário J. Silva, "Modelling Information Persistence on the Web", ICWE 2006 (to appear).

http://webstore.sourceforge.net (Webstore)
http://tomba.tumba.pt (web archive)
http://xldb.fc.ul.pt (research group)
dcg@di.fc.ul.pt

Thank you for your attention.