

# Sub-millisecond Stateful Stream Querying over Fast-evolving Linked Data

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## ABSTRACT

Applications like social networking, urban monitoring and market feed processing require stateful stream query: a query consults not only streaming data but also stored data to extract timely information; useful information from streaming data also needs to be continuously and consistently integrated into stored data to serve inflight and future queries. However, prior streaming systems either focus on stream computation, or are not stateful, or cannot provide low latency and high throughput to handle the fast-evolving linked data and increasing concurrency of queries.

This paper presents Wukong+S, a distributed stream querying engine that provides sub-millisecond stateful query at millions of queries per-second over fast-evolving linked data. Wukong+S uses an integrated design that combines the stream processor and the persistent store with efficient state sharing, which avoids the cross-system cost and sub-optimal query plan in conventional composite designs (e.g., Storm/Heron+Wukong). Wukong+S uses a hybrid store to differentially manage timeless data and timing data accordingly and provides an efficient stream index with locality-aware partitioning to facilitate fast access to streaming data. Wukong+S further provides decentralized vector timestamps with bounded snapshot scalarization to scale with nodes and massive queries at efficient memory usage.

We have designed Wukong+S conforming to the RDF data model and Continuous SPARQL (C-SPARQL) query interface and have implemented Wukong+S by extending a state-of-the-art static RDF store (namely Wukong). Evaluation on an 8-node RDMA-capable cluster using LSBench

and CityBench shows that Wukong+S significantly outperforms existing system designs (e.g., C-SPARQL-engine, Storm/Heron+Wukong, and Spark Streaming/Structured Streaming) for both latency and throughput, usually at the scale of orders of magnitude.

## KEYWORDS

stateful stream querying, fast-evolving linked data, integrated design

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Much information is most valuable when they first appear such that it is super-critical to timely process it. The real-time demand has driven the design and implementation of a number of stream processing systems [19, 30, 33, 38, 40, 45, 51]. Yet, the exponentially increasing data rate is constantly pushing the limit of processing capability. For example, the Options Price Reporting Authority (OPRA)<sup>1</sup>, which gathers market data feed by aggregating all quotes and trades from the options exchanges, has observed a peak messages rate at 10,244,894 per second in March 2015 and the rate is continuing doubling annually [7]. Similarly, the peak rate of new tweets per second has reached 143,199 in August, 2013.

With the increasing volume of streaming data and stored data, it is vitally important to timely query useful information from them. For public datasets and streams, there may be a massive number of users registering different stream queries, making it necessary to support highly concurrent queries. Moreover, streaming data usually contains tremendous useful information; such data should be consistently and instantly integrated to the stored knowledge base for future continuous and one-shot queries.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup><https://www.opradata.com/>.

<sup>2</sup>Continuous query is registered and periodically executed. One-shot query is a query that runs immediately and only once.

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However, many prior systems target at *stream computation* (like PageRanking) over changing datasets (like Naiad [35], Spark Streaming [51] and TimeStream [40]). Stream computation differs from stream query such that the former usually favors serialized computation over a large portion of streaming data, while the later focuses on concurrent queries over a specific set of both streaming and stored data. Most prior systems also do not consistently integrate streaming data for concurrent queries or do not query the persistent store to get the base knowledge, and thus are stateless [9, 10]. While many streaming databases have clear semantics and well-defined SQL interfaces, they have inferior performance over fast-growing linked data when facing massively concurrent queries due to costly join operations [41, 52] and over-fitting semantics (e.g., ACID).

In this paper, we describe Wukong+S<sup>3</sup>, a distributed stream querying engine that achieves millions of queries per-second and sub-millisecond latency. Wukong+S is stateful such that a query may touch both streaming and stored data, and the timeless data<sup>4</sup> in a stream is simultaneously integrated into the persistent store and consistently visible to concurrent queries. Wukong+S provides several features required by stateful stream querying, including querying over multiple varied-scale streams, supporting on-line aggregation over such streams as well as the stored data, while satisfying consistency requirements (e.g., prefix integrity [50]) of queries without sacrificing freshness. Wukong+S adopts a standard declarative streaming query interface called Continuous-SPARQL (C-SPARQL) [15] and represents the underlying linked data using the Resource Description Framework (RDF) [8], which is recommended by W3C and used by many knowledge bases [3, 16, 23, 36, 49]. This provides users with a familiar programming interface and data model and allows easy integration of existing RDF datasets for extended queries due to good interoperability [32].

The conventional way is to combine a stream processor with a static graph store. For example, the de-facto C-SPARQL-engine [44] combines Esper [4] with Apache Jena [1]. However, our performance measurement with both C-SPARQL-engine and our better-performed implementation (Apache Storm [45]/Heron [27] with a fast persistent store called Wukong [41]) shows that this design style incurs high communication cost and redundant insertions between the stream processor and the persistent store (§2.3). Such a *composite design* further leads to suboptimal query plans and limited scalability in terms of queries due to inefficient data sharing among queries. Being aware of this, we design

<sup>3</sup>The source code and brief instructions of Wukong+S are available at <http://ipads.se.sjtu.edu.cn/projects/wukong>.

<sup>4</sup>Timeless data contains the factual data without timing information and thus should be absorbed to update the knowledge base.

Wukong+S as an *integrated design* that intensively shares states and streaming data between the stream processor and the persistent store.

Wukong+S is made efficient with several key design choices. First, to respect data locality and minimize data transfer, Wukong+S uses a hybrid store comprising a time-based transient store and a continuous persistent store to provide differentiated management for timing and timeless data. Yet, the two stores share the same set of data such that each tuple is only inserted once. Second, Wukong+S provides a stream index for fast accesses to streaming data. The streaming data is sharded with locality-aware partitioning where some stream indexes are dynamically replicated among nodes. This saves lookup cost and provides efficient load balance. Third, to provide consistent stream query over multiple varied-scale streams, Wukong+S uses decentralized vector timestamps to derive a most-recent consistent state of streaming data insertion. Wukong+S uses a bounded scalarization scheme to projecting the vector timestamps into a scalar snapshot number, by coordinating updates from multiple streams to the underlying persistent store. Such a design scales Wukong+S with nodes and massive queries at efficient memory usage.

We have implemented Wukong+S by extending Wukong [41] to support continuous updates to the RDF store and C-SPARQL queries. To our knowledge, Wukong+S is the first distributed C-SPARQL query engine. To demonstrate the effectiveness and efficiency of Wukong+S, we have conducted a set of evaluations using two popular streaming benchmarks: LSBench [28] and CityBench [12]. Evaluations on an 8-node RDMA-capable cluster show that Wukong+S achieves up to 1.08M queries per second with 0.11ms median latency. Wukong+S significantly outperforms C-SPARQL-engine [44], Apache Storm [45] and Heron [27] over Wukong [41], as well as Spark Streaming [51] and Structured Streaming [50] for both latency and throughput, usually at the scale of orders of magnitude.

## 2 MOTIVATION

### 2.1 A Motivating Example: Social Networking

Many real-world applications<sup>5</sup>, such as social networking [28] and urban computing [12], require *query processing systems* to interact with massive users and concurrently serve a large number of stream queries over high-volume stored and streaming data. The initially stored data is the base knowledge such as existing user profiles and friend relationships, while the streaming data is continuously generated from social networking activities (e.g., tweets and likes).

Fig. 1 illustrates a simplified sample of data in social networking. The initially stored data (X-Lab) is represented

<sup>5</sup>[https://www.w3.org/community/rsp/wiki/Use\\_cases](https://www.w3.org/community/rsp/wiki/Use_cases).

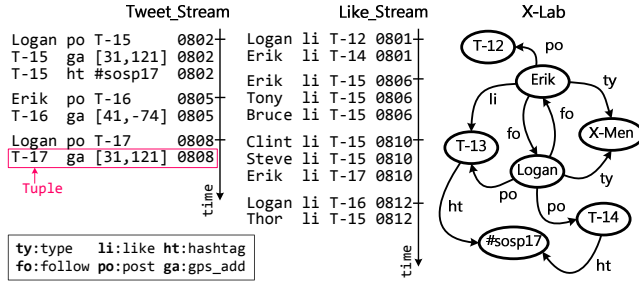


Fig. 1: A sample of streaming and stored data in social networking.

as a directed graph, which captures the relationships (i.e., edges) among various entities (i.e., vertices). There are six categories of edges linking entities, namely, type (ty), follow (fo), post (po), like (li), gps\_add (ga), and hashtag (ht). The currently *stored* data includes two members of X-Men (Logan and Erik) following each other, and several tweets (T-12, T-13, and T-14) with some hashtag (#sosp17) posted by them. There are two streams, Tweet\_Stream and Like\_Stream, which continuously update tweets with some interesting information (e.g., like, location and hashtag). The streaming data is represented as time-based tuple sequences, each produced by a data source continuously (e.g., sensors or social networking applications). Each tuple consists of a triple and its timestamp, like  $\langle \text{Logan}, \text{po}, \text{T-15} \rangle 0802$ , which means “Logan” post (po) a tweet (T-15) at 0802.

A typical one-shot query and a continuous query (uniformly called stream queries) on the sample dataset are shown in Fig. 2. The one-shot query only consults the stored data to retrieve matching results once. For example, the one-shot query  $Q_S$  retrieves all tweets (?X) that were posted (po) by “Logan” with the hashtag (ht) “#sosp17” and liked (li) by “Erik”. The current result only includes “T-13”. To cope with dynamic knowledge, the continuous query considers both stored and streaming data to provide continuously renewed output. For example, the continuous query  $Q_C$  retrieves pairs of people (?X and ?Y) and tweets (?Z) from the streams (Tweet\_Stream and Like\_Stream) and the stored data (X-Lab) every second such that one person (?X) posts (po) a tweet (?Z) in the last 10 seconds that is liked (li) by another person (?Y) in the last 5 seconds whom he follows (fo). Suppose that the query is registered at 0809; the first execution result at 0810 includes “Logan Erik T-15” since the following tuples match all conditions.

- $\langle \text{Logan}, \text{po}, \text{T-15} \rangle, 0802$
- $\langle \text{Logan}, \text{fo}, \text{Erik} \rangle$
- $\langle \text{Erik}, \text{li}, \text{T-15} \rangle, 0806$

We summarize the workload characteristics as follows.

- **Data Connectivity.** The streaming data from many real-world applications like social networking and urban computing, are highly-connected to mirror the relationship among entities.

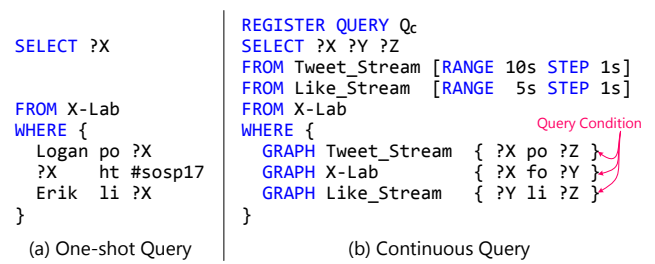


Fig. 2: A sample of one-shot ( $Q_S$ ) and continuous ( $Q_C$ ) queries.

- **Query Statefulness.** A continuous query may retrieve both history knowledge from stored data and recently generated knowledge from multiple streams.
- **Data Integration.** To provide fresh results for one-shot queries, the stored data should continuously absorb useful timeless information (e.g., tweets and likes) from streams to derive an up-to-date information base.

## 2.2 Stream Querying System

Based on the workload characteristics, we propose a *stream querying system* that aims at supporting a massive amount of (continuous and one-shot) queries over streaming and stored data. There are several unique requirements that distinguish a stream querying system from other streaming systems.

**Stateful.** Stream query is *stateful*. More specifically, the continuous query will retrieve results not only from streaming data for the latest information, but also from stored data for history knowledge. Meanwhile, the one-shot query also demands continuous evolution of the stored data to generate up-to-date knowledge.

**Sharing among concurrent queries.** All streaming and stored data will be shared by concurrent queries from massive users who register continuous queries or submit one-shot queries. Meanwhile, a single query may access multiple streams and stored data.

**Partial data.** A stream query usually touches only a small fraction of dataset matching the query conditions. Meanwhile, different queries may be interested in different parts of streaming and stored data.

**Latency-oriented.** To catch up the fast-changing linked data (e.g., the stock market and quantitative trading data), query latency should be a first-class citizen.

**Alternative#1: Stream computation systems.** Much prior work [6, 22, 27, 35, 40, 40, 42, 45] in system community focus on large-scale *stream computation*. First, stream computation is usually *stateless*, which usually only considers the streaming data and leaves the computation on stored data to other systems. Second, stream computation normally consumes the *entire* streaming data to generate new features like twitter user ranking [22] and crowdsourced traffic estimation [51]. Third, stream computation usually dedicates

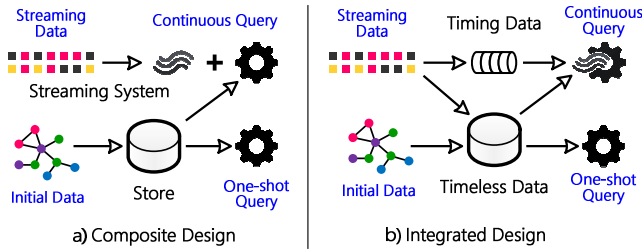


Fig. 3: A comparison between composite and integrated design.

all resources to run a single computation task at a time. Finally, stream computation is usually done in a batch-oriented manner to maximize the resource usage (e.g., network bandwidth), which may compromise the latency [22, 51].

**Alternative#2: Stream processing engine.** There is also a much broader context including the work from database community [9, 10, 18, 31, 34, 43]. Such prior work also focuses on processing continuous queries over streaming data, which, however, widely adopts the relational data model (e.g., table) and query operators (e.g., filter, join). Prior work [41, 46, 52] has summarized some inherent limitations and shown notably inferior performance of such an approach for querying highly-linked data.

### 2.3 Conventional Approach: Composite Design

Existing approach recommended by the community adopts the combination of a relational stream processor and a conventional query-oriented store. For example, CSPARQL-engine [44] combines Esper [4] with Apache Jena [1]. The one-shot query will be directly sent to the store, while the continuous query will be splitted into two parts (i.e., streaming and stored part specified by the GRAPH clause) which are separately executed on stream processor and query-oriented store. The two parts of results will be joined to project the final results. To facilitate further discussions, we call such an approach *composite design* in this paper (Fig. 3(a)).

Such a design maximizes the reuse of existing systems and optimizations in decades. However, the composite design is still not completely *stateful*, since the one-shot queries always run on static stored data without observing updates of timeless data from streaming data. Besides, there are several key deficiencies. Since CSPARQL-engine only runs on a single node with very limited performance (§6.2), we build a better-performed system by composing two state-of-the-art systems: Apache Storm [45] and Wukong [41]. The continuous query ( $Q_C$ ) in Fig. 2 is used to illustrate the issues. As shown in the legend of Fig. 4, we carefully co-locate Storm and Wukong to reduce network traffic and run Storm on a single node as small workloads do not scale well on Storm (details in §6.2 and §6.10). Specifically, the first and third

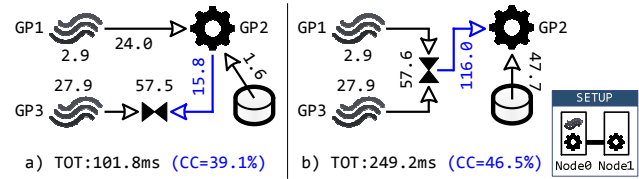


Fig. 4: The breakdown of execution time (ms) of ( $Q_C$ ) on Storm+Wukong with different query plans. The blue number is the cross-system cost (CC).

query conditions (GP1 and GP3) in  $Q_C$  will run on Storm and the second one (GP2) will run on Wukong.

**Issue#1: Cross-system cost.** Since the composite design runs a single continuous query on two separate systems, the *cross-system cost* (CC) is an obvious overhead, which generally consists of the data transformation and transmission cost. Such a cost becomes significant when combining two high-performance components. In Fig. 4(a), the query results of GP1 (831 tuples) in Storm should be transformed into the format of query for Wukong. Similarly, the results of GP2 (9,532 tuples) will be transformed back and join with the results of GP3 (85,927 tuples) to get the final results (1,918 tuples) in Storm.<sup>6</sup> Consequently, around 40% execution time is wasted due to the cross-system cost.

**Issue#2: Sub-optimal query plan.** To reduce the number of cross-system executions, the composite design may change the query plan, the execution order of query conditions. For  $Q_C$ , as shown in Fig. 4(b), Storm can execute GP1 and GP3 and join the results first. After that the intermediate results (83,099 tuples) will be sent to the Wukong to retrieve the final results (1,918 tuples). However, the overall execution is even slower due to the inefficient query plan, which is caused by insufficient pruning of intermediate results. Two separate systems also restrict the choice of an optimal query plan due to the lack of global information. On the other hand, prior work [41, 46, 52] shows that using relational query processing for highly-connected data intensively relies on costly join operations, which usually generate huge redundant intermediate data, especially when no sophisticated index exists. The lengthy execution time within Storm in Fig. 4 also confirms the claim. Unfortunately, to our knowledge, there is no streaming system supporting fast graph-exploration.

**Issue#3: Limited scalability.** A continuous query usually touches only a small subset of streaming and stored data, making it not worthwhile to dedicate all resources to run a single query. However, most existing streaming systems are designed for computation and focus on scaling a single task

<sup>6</sup>Note that we carefully optimize the execution by embedding all tuples into a single query to minimize the transformation cost, co-locating two systems to minimize the transmission cost, as well as executing GP3 in parallel. The uncertain task scheduling cost in Storm is also not included.

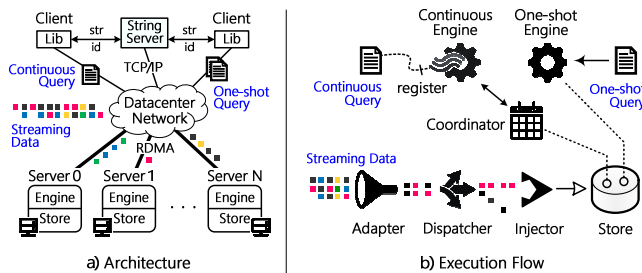


Fig. 5: The architecture and execution flow of Wukong+S.

execution. When facing millions of concurrent queries, such systems cannot efficiently share the same streaming data among different queries, since it is non-trivial to maintain the execution of millions of queries with different window sizes and steps. On the other hand, duplicating streaming data to different queries will significantly increase the memory pressure and limit the throughput of streaming systems.

### 3 APPROACH AND OVERVIEW

*Our approach: integrated design.* Wukong+S uses an *integrated design* that targets at a mixture of continuous and one-shot queries over both streaming and stored data. The key principle of integrated design is to treat the persistent store as the first-class citizen, namely store-centric design. As shown in Fig. 3(b), the persistent store will be extended to the *hybrid store* that can absorb the streaming data and concurrently serve both continuous and one-shot queries.

Our store-centric design naturally fits the stateful streaming query, where the continuous query can freely access both streaming and stored data and the one-shot query can retrieve evolving stored data. This provides the benefit of low-latency and global semantics to generate an optimal query plan. Further, all queries can share the same streaming and stored data without redundant resource consumption such as duplicated streaming data. Finally, concurrent queries interested in different parts of streaming and stored data can run concurrently, which further improves the efficiency and scalability of the system.

However, a naive design would lead to quick growth of space and cause excessive garbage collection operations, which ultimately limits the query performance and scalability. We demonstrate this using a system design that extends Wukong to support both continuous and one-shot query (§6.2).

First, the streaming data consists of both *timeless* (e.g., tweets and likes) and *timing* (e.g., GPS address) data. Therefore, the hybrid store should consider not only how to absorb the *timeless* data, but also how to flexibly and efficiently sweep the timing data and the timestamps of timeless data after they are expired. Wukong+S addresses this challenge

with a hybrid store to provide differentiated management of timing and timeless data (§4.1).

Second, in the hybrid store, the streaming data may be scattered over the entire stored data, which will significantly hurt the data locality of continuous queries accessing streaming data. Wukong+S provides an efficient stream index with locality-aware partitioning to improve access performance to streaming data with good locality (§4.2).

Third, for a distributed stream querying system, it is important to ensure data consistency in a scalable way, including consistency among multiple streams from querying different stream windows and consistency among concurrent queries and insertions. Wukong+S provides decentralized vector timestamps scheme with bounded scalarization to embrace both scalability and memory efficiency (§4.3).

*Architecture.* As shown in Fig. 5(a), Wukong+S follows a decentralized architecture on the server side, where each node can directly serve clients' requests. Each client<sup>7</sup> contains a client library that can parse continuous and one-shot queries into a set of stored procedures, which will be immediately executed for one-shot queries or registered for continuous queries on the server side respectively. Alternatively, Wukong+S can use a set of dedicated proxies to run the client-side library and balance client requests. To avoid sending long strings to the server and thus save network bandwidth, each string is first converted into a unique ID by the string server, as done in Wukong [41].

Wukong+S assumes a cluster that is connected by a high-speed, low-latency network with RDMA. It scales by partitioning the initially stored data into a large number of shards across multiple nodes and dispatching streams to different nodes. The query engine layer binds a worker thread on each core with a logical task queue to continuously handle requests. The data store layer manages a partition of the data store, which is shared by all worker threads on the same node. Each node contains a continuous query engine and a one-shot query engine, which handle different queries accordingly.

*Execution flow.* Fig. 5(b) illustrates the execution flow of Wukong+S. Users can register continuous queries to the *Continuous Engine*, which passes the registered queries to the *Coordinator*. The Coordinator prepares the input of each continuous query and invokes queries when data is ready. Each stream will first be handled by the *Adapter*, which uses a batch-based model that groups tuples by individual timestamps. This model is similar to “mini batches” of small time intervals in Spark Streaming [51]. During the batching process, the Adapter will also discard unrelated tuples and indicate whether each tuple is timing or timeless. Then *Dispatcher* will partition and dispatch the tuples in a batch to

<sup>7</sup>The client may not be the end user but the front-end of web service.

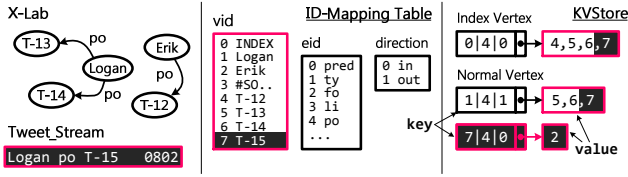


Fig. 6: The injection of a triple on continuous persistent store.

multiple nodes. Meanwhile, the *Injector* on each node will insert the batches received from Dispatchers into the hybrid *Store*, where query workers will access the store accordingly to extract data in a particular stream window. Users can still send one-shot queries to the *One-shot Engine*, which will concurrently execute the queries on the data store and return the results to users.

## 4 DETAILED DESIGNS

### 4.1 Hybrid Store

Wukong+S provides a hybrid store to differentially handle streaming and stored data. For timeless data that is accessed by both continuous and one-shot queries, an *incremental persistent store* is used to absorb timeless data in streams, along with the initially stored data. For timing data that is only accessed by continuous queries, Wukong+S uses a time-based transient store, which consists of a sequence of transient slices. Once some transient slices have expired (i.e., all registered continuous queries no longer need to access it), Wukong+S will use a garbage collector to clean it up periodically.

**Base store.** Wukong+S inherits Wukong [41] as the basic store. Since Wukong+S assumes that the initially stored data is represented as a directed graph, our basic store uses a combination of vertex ID (vid), edge ID (eid) and in/out direction (d) as the key (in the form of  $[vid|eid|d]$ ) and the list of neighboring vertex IDs as the value. Except for the normal vertices in the graph, the basic store also creates *index* vertices to assist queries that rely on retrieving a set of normal vertices connected by edges with a certain label. It can be viewed as a reverse mapping from a kind of edge to the normal vertices.

Fig. 6 shows how the initially stored data (i.e., X-Lab) in Fig. 1 is stored in the base store. An additional mapping table (ID-mapping) maintained by String Server [41] is used to convert each string into a unique ID for both data and queries.<sup>8</sup> As an example, the neighbor list for all out-edges of Logan labeled with po is specified by key  $[1|4|1]$  and the value is 5 and 6 (i.e., T-13 and T-14). The index key  $[0|4|0]$  points to all normal vertices that have an in-edge labeled with po so that the value is 4, 5, and 6 (i.e., T-12, T-13, and T-14).

<sup>8</sup>Wukong+S uses 46-bit ID (> 70 trillion unique entities) and simply skips GC for the mapping table, since we assume that some continuous or one-shot queries may access them in the future.

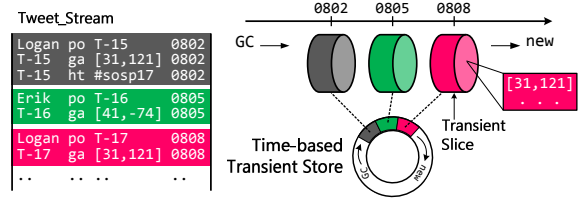


Fig. 7: The design of time-based transient store in Wukong+S.

For each query, Wukong+S uses the constant part of a query condition as the key to do the graph-exploration [41] starting from the normal vertex or the index vertex. For example, all posts match the first query condition (Logan po ?X) of the one-shot query  $Q_S$  in Fig. 1 can be retrieved by using Logan and po as key to access the value (i.e., T-13 and T-14).

**Continuous persistent store.** To continuously absorb the timeless portion of streams (e.g., tweets, likes and hashtags), Wukong+S extends the basic store to support incremental key/value update, resulting in a *continuous persistent store*.<sup>9</sup> The incremental timeless data will be accessed by both continuous queries with proper stream windows and one-shot queries at all time. For each timeless tuple in the stream, Wukong+S will inject the useful part of timeless tuple into the persistent store, while the timestamp is maintained by stream index (§4.2); the injections may require appending to multiple existing key/value pairs or creating new ones.

Fig. 6 shows the impact on key/value stores due to adding a new tuple ( $\langle \text{Logan}, \text{po}, \text{T-15} \rangle, 0802$ ) in the Tweet\_Stream. First, the new string (T-15) would be converted into a unique ID (7) and updated to the ID mapping table in the String Server. Second, the key/value pair for new vertices should be inserted (e.g.,  $[7|4|0] \rightarrow [2]$ ). Third, the vid of new vertex (7) should be appended to the value of its neighboring vertices (e.g., 7 of  $[5,6,7]$  for  $[1|4|1]$ ). Finally, the involved index vertex (po) should be also updated (e.g., 7 of  $[4,5,6,7]$  for  $[0|4|0]$ ). The timestamp (0900) would be simply discarded due to the timeless semantics of persistent store.

The Injector on each node is in charge of inserting the timeless tuples received from Dispatchers on different nodes into the local shard of the persistent store. When multiple Injector threads are required due to massive streams or high stream rate, Wukong+S will statically partition the key space of the store and exclusively assign one partition to one thread, which can avoid using locks during injection.

**Time-based transient store.** The timing data in the streams will only be accessed by involved continuous queries in a certain window; they should be efficiently swept out upon expiration. Therefore, Wukong+S introduces a new

<sup>9</sup>Wukong only provides a preliminary support to update, which only allows single stream and adopts centralized injection mechanism.

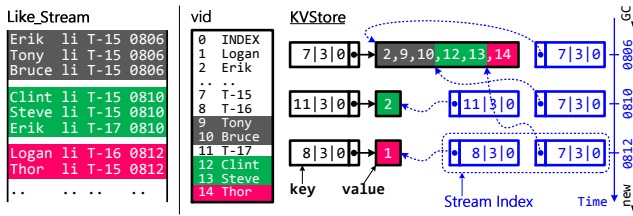


Fig. 8: The design of stream index in Wukong+S.

*time-based transient store* to hold timing data. Since streams may have different windows sizes and steps, Wukong+S maintains a transient store for each stream. Meanwhile, Wukong+S uses the same sharding approach for both persistent and transient stores, which co-locates the timeless and timing data in the stream.

As shown in Fig. 7, the time-based transient store consists of a sequence of *transient slices* arranged in time order. Each transient slice stores the timing data of a stream batch. The Injector thread will continuously create new transient slices and append them to the later side, while the garbage collector (GC) thread will also continuously free old transient slices and remove them from the earlier side. Wukong+S uses a contiguous ring buffer with fixed user-defined memory budget to store time-based transient slices. The GC thread will be periodically invoked in the background, or explicitly invoked when the ring buffer is full.

### 4.2 Stream Index

Continuous query is different from one-shot query, as it needs to frequently access the latest streaming data. Compared to the stored data, the size of streaming data in a window is quite small. After the persistent store absorbs the streaming data, such small data will be scattered over the entire persistent store. Accessing streaming data through the *normal path* is very slow, as it will first use query condition to locate the key and then walk through the value to retrieve the data matching the involved window. For example, as shown in Fig. 8, suppose that the continuous query wants to retrieve all persons that like the tweet T-15 from 0807 to 0811. It has to use [7|3|0] to locate key in the persistent store first, and then walk the value to find matched results Clint and Steve (i.e., 12 and 13). Worse even, all the timestamps of triples must also be stored in the persistent store, which will result in additional memory cost as they are useless<sup>10</sup> once expired and GC would significantly interfere with the execution of one-shot queries.

To remedy this issue, Wukong+S proposes *stream index* to provide a *fast path* for continuous queries to access streaming data. The stream index also eliminates the timestamp

<sup>10</sup>The timestamps of streaming data are useless for *general* one-shot queries, and Wukong+S can support *time-based* one-shot queries by Time-ontology (<https://www.w3.org/TR/owl-time/>) if needed.

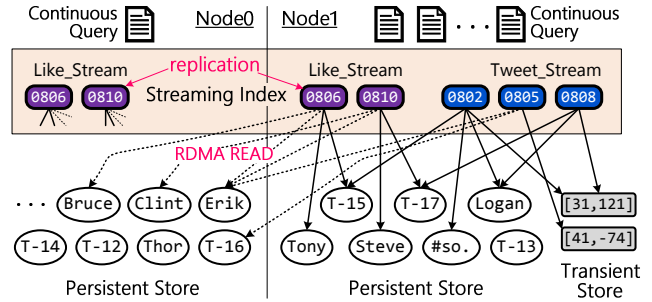


Fig. 9: The locality-aware partitioning for stream index.

from timeless data in the stream to save memory and avoid interference to one-shot queries. Fig. 8 illustrate 3 streaming indexes of the Like\_Stream corresponding to timeless data in the left sample stream. Similar to the transient store, Wukong+S arranges the stream indexes in a time-based order and also creates and removes the stream indexes in two sides. Each stream index consists of several entries that have the same structure to the key in the persistent store. The only difference to the key in key/value store is the pointer may locate to the middle of value.<sup>11</sup> For example, the continuous query can use the timestamp and [7|3|0] to locate the key in a certain stream index first, and then directly retrieve the matched results. The search space is extremely decreased and independent to the size of stored data.

**Locality-aware partitioning.** The general approach to partitioning stream index is to co-locate the index and data, which can provide the data locality for the continuous query. However, it may result in the execution of continuous queries to be split into multiple nodes, namely migrating execution. We observe that the continuous queries are generally small and selective, since the streaming data is relatively less than the whole knowledge base. Wukong [41] has shown that migration execution is not optimal for such queries due to the cost of network traffic and additional scheduling latency. Alternatively, the continuous query can also fetch the streaming data from remote nodes and run on a single node, namely migrating data, which can further leverage one-sided RDMA reads to bypass remote CPU and OS. Unfortunately, the partitioned stream index would incur an additional RDMA read.

Considering that the stream index is relatively small, Wukong+S replicates the index to avoid additional RDMA reads. However, blindly replicating the stream index to all nodes is not scalable and may cause large overhead due to data injection and garbage collection. Therefore, Wukong+S will only replicate the stream index to the node where the registered continuous queries demand to access this stream.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup>The pointer in the stream index and the persistent store is a 96-bit fat pointer that includes the address (64-bit) and size (32-bit).

<sup>12</sup>The requisite stream is explicitly declared by some keywords (e.g., “FROM” and “GRAPH” in Fig. 2(b)).

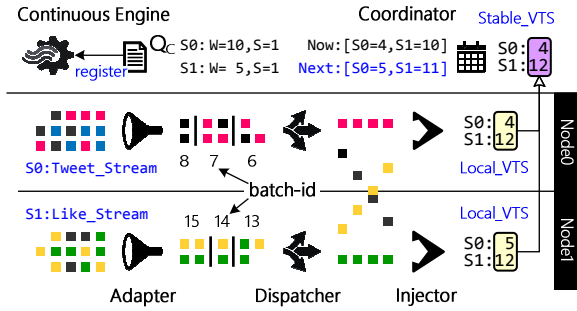


Fig. 10: Distributed stream injection and punctual query trigger.

Meanwhile, the registration of continuous queries will also consider their involved streams. The continuous query can always access stream index *locally* and uses RDMA reads to access the *remote* data if necessary. According to the registration information, Wukong+S can even dynamically create and replicate stream index on demand. Our partitioning mechanism for stream index exploits the *query locality* rather than the *data locality*. Fig. 9 shows a sample partition for the stream indexes of Like\_Stream and Tweet\_Stream. Note that stream indexes are always shared by all local continuous queries.

### 4.3 Consistent Query with High Memory Efficiency

To provide good scalability, the streaming and stored data in Wukong+S is shared by all queries, which avoids redundant resource consumption. However, it is non-trivial to ensure *consistency* for all continuous queries on different nodes with different window sizes and steps (continuous queries), or even one-shot queries.

For a continuous query, the question to answer is when to trigger it. Wukong+S adopts a data-driven execution model for streams, where a query will be invoked when its windows of involved streams are ready. Since a stream batch will be partitioned and inserted into multiple nodes, it is necessary to make streaming data visible only when they have been inserted at all nodes. To this end, Wukong+S adopts *vector timestamps* (VTS) to reflect the insertion state of multiple streams on each node. Each node has local vector timestamps (*Local\_VTS*) to record the current state of all streams on this node as shown in Fig. 10 (e.g., batch#4 of S0 and batch#12 of S1 has finished insertion on Node0). The Coordinator on each node will compute *stable* vector timestamps (*Stable\_VTS*) from the *Local\_VTS* on all nodes, and invoke the continuous queries registered on the engine when all timestamps of their windows for the next execution are smaller than or equal to the corresponding timestamps in the *Stable\_VTS*. For example, in Fig. 10, the query ( $Q_c$ ) needs the batch#5 of S0 so that it can not be executed according to the current *Stable\_VTS* ([4,12]).

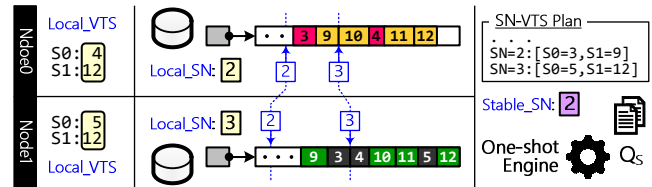


Fig. 11: A sample of bounded snapshot scalarization. The blue boxes with snapshot information point to the start of the corresponding snapshots, which is physically stored in the key.

For one-shot query, since the timeless data of streams (e.g., tweets and likes) will be updated to the persistent store, the stored data is no longer static for one-shot queries. Therefore, Wukong+S treats one-shot queries as read-only transactions and the streaming data insertion as append-only transactions. Snapshot isolation is used to ensure all one-shot queries can read a consistent state of the persistent store. Meanwhile, Wukong+S ensures that stream batches within a stream will be inserted in order and the order of batches from different streams is indifferent. Consequently, the append-only transactions will never conflict under snapshot isolation.

A straightforward solution to implement snapshot isolation is to reuse the timestamp of streams to stamp all streaming data in the persistent store; each one-shot query will first read the stable vector timestamps (i.e., *Stable\_VTS*) as the timestamp of the query (i.e., *Query\_VTS*), and always read the value whose timestamp is not larger than it. However, this solution requires all streaming data in the value associated with vector timestamps, which will incur large memory overhead and degrade performance due to the pollution of timestamps on key/value pairs.

On the other hand, moving the timestamps to the key can avoid the pollution to the value, while the memory space overhead may further increase due to additional pointers, and it is still non-trivial to maintain infinite timestamps in the key.

**Bounded snapshot scalarization.** Wukong+S addresses this issue by transferring the vector timestamps (VTS) into a scalar snapshot number (SN), which represents a *novel tradeoff between the CPU/memory cost with the staleness of one-shot query*. First, the Coordinator will announce a plan of the mapping between a snapshot number (SN) and the range of vector timestamps (VTS) in advance (i.e., *SN-VTS Plan*), Second, the Injector on each node ensures that all stream batches with the same snapshot number (SN) are consecutively stored in key/value pairs; in this way, a snapshot of each key is only associated with one memory interval. Finally, each query will obtain a stable snapshot number (*Stable\_SN*) instead of *Stable\_VTS*, and use it to read a consistent snapshot from the persistent store.

There are three key points of this solution. First, the Coordinator can leverage the interval of the mappings to



control the *staleness* of query results. If the increase of mappings is limited to 1 (e.g., from SN=2:[S0=3,S1=9] to SN=3:[S0=4,S1=9]), then the one-shot query can also provide the latest results. However, it will restrict the insertion of streaming data since the Injector can only insert the stream batch#4 of stream S0 on all nodes. On the other hand, if the increase of mappings is large, the Injector will be more flexible to insert stream batches, while the query result will be stale to the last snapshot. Generally, the more balance of the speed of Injectors on each node is, the smaller of the interval of mappings will be chosen.

Second, the Coordinator can leverage the progress of the plan to control the *memory overhead* (the number of SNs in the key). For example, if the Coordinator always publishes a single new mapping after the current mapping has reached on all nodes, each key only needs to maintain the information (i.e., SN and pointer) for two snapshots, namely one is for using and another is for inserting.

Third, compared to the vector timestamps (VTS), the snapshot scalarization mechanism is very *flexible* to handle *dynamic* streams. For example, after adding a new stream (S2), the Coordinator just needs to extend the VTS part of the next *SN-VTS Plan* (e.g., SN=4:[S0=7,S1=15,S2=1]). The change to streams is completely transparent to the one-shot query since it is only aware of the snapshot number (SN).

As shown in Fig. 11, the current *Stable\_SN* is 2, which means that the streaming data of S0 before batch#3 and S1 before batch#9 has been visible as stored data to both continuous and one-shot queries; currently the snapshot 3 is inserting, while Node1 is stalled to wait for the new plan of the mapping for SN#4.

After batch#5 of S0 is inserted on Node0, the *Local\_VTS* on Node0 will become [S0=5,S1=12]. The Coordinator will find that the insertion state has met the requirement of SN#3 according to the SN-VTS plan and updates *Local\_SN* on Node0 to 3. The Coordinator will further publish a new plan of the mapping for SN#4 and update *Stable\_SN* to 3. The Injector can continue to absorb the streaming data and overwrite the snapshot number 2 by 4.

**Consistency guarantee.** Similar to Structured Streaming [50], Wukong+S also provides “prefix integrity” for both continuous and one-shot queries. For continuous queries, Wukong+S uses distributed vector timestamps (*Local/Stable\_VTS*) to ensure that the order streaming data arrives is equal to the order of visibility to queries. For one-shot queries, the mapping from VTS to SN (*snapshot scalarization*) still preserves the orders of VTS. Currently, as C-SPARQL’s time model<sup>13</sup> assumes that timestamps in each stream appear in *monotonically* non-decreasing order,

<sup>13</sup>[http://streamreasoning.github.io/RSP-QL/RSP\\_Requirements\\_Design\\_Document/](http://streamreasoning.github.io/RSP-QL/RSP_Requirements_Design_Document/).

Wukong+S does not need to handle out of order issues in input streams.

## 5 IMPLEMENTATION

The Wukong+S prototype comprises around 6,800 lines of C++ code and is capable of running on a cluster, with or without RDMA. Wukong+S adopts a standard declarative streaming query interface called Continuous-SPARQL (C-SPARQL) [15] and represents the underlying linked data using the Resource Description Framework (RDF) [8], which is recommended by W3C and used by many knowledge bases [3, 16, 23, 36, 49].

**Fault tolerance.** Wukong+S assumes upstream backup such that the stream sources buffer recently sent data and replay them [26]. It also can be implemented by external durable message service (e.g., Kafka [2] and Scribe [5]). Meanwhile, Wukong+S provides at-least-once semantics to the continuous queries. This means that there may exist two executions on the same window of streams in case of machine failure. It would be trivial to address it in the client by checking the time information of results.

Wukong+S uses two different mechanisms to handle failures at the query engine layer and the data store layer. In the query engine layer, Wukong+S only needs to log all continuous queries to the persistent storage and simply re-register them after recovery from a machine failure. In the data store layer, Wukong+S adopts incremental checkpointing by periodically logging in background. Each machine will only log the streaming data locally.

Wukong+S will use the stream index to locate the data since the latest checkpoint and store them (key and value) to the persistent storage. Note that the data of different streams within a checkpoint can be logged in parallel even sharing the same key-value pair. The order of them is not important after recovery. Further, the local and stable vector timestamps (*Local\_VTS* and *Stable\_VTS*) should also be persistent. After that, Wukong+S will notify the source of streams to flush buffered data until the next checkpoint.

Since the stream index and data in the transient store will expire after the involved windows slide, Wukong+S can choose to avoid logging such data. The inspection approach is similar to that of the garbage collection. However, it may delay the end of the checkpoint and increase the pressure of the stream source if large window interval exists.

To recover from a machine failure, Wukong+S will reload initial RDF data first and then all durable checkpoints in a proper order. The latest stream index and the transient store will be reloaded if needed. Wukong+S will further re-register continuous queries and the latest local and stable vector timestamps (*Local\_VTS* and *Stable\_VTS*). The

*SN\_VTS\_Plan* and the *Local\_SN* will be reset to the *Stable\_VTS*.

Currently, Wukong+S mainly considers durability rather than availability, which can be implemented by replicating initial data and log checkpoints on remote nodes [21]. Moreover, Wukong+S does not support dynamic reconfiguration, while some mechanisms in prior work [22, 48] can similarly be applied to our system.

**Leveraging RDMA.** As Wukong+S is based on Wukong, which leverages RDMA to optimize throughput and latency, Wukong+S also follows its pace to support stream processing while maintaining low latency and high throughput.

First, we observe that queries on streams normally access only a modest amount of data. Hence, instead of using a distributed fork-join style execution, Wukong+S leverages RDMA's low latency feature and the fact that the latency is usually insensitive to the payload size to a certain extent [41] to provide in-place execution. That is, Wukong+S mainly uses a single thread on a single machine to handle a query. The parallelism is still achieved since the data of stream is distributed to all machines and a lot of queries can be processed in parallel.

Second, under an integrated design of Wukong+S, the stream index is another type of location cache and provides another layer of indirection to fast access streaming data. A normal remote access to a key/value pair requires at least two RDMA reads: read key (lookup) and read value. To this end, Wukong+S accumulates the stream index for each stream within one machine. Hence, a query only needs to use one RDMA read to retrieve the key/value pair since the stream index is already locally accessible. As the stream index is usually much smaller than data, it is usually feasible to accumulate all stream indexes for one stream in one machine.

## 6 EVALUATION

### 6.1 Experimental Setup

**Hardware configuration:** All evaluations were conducted on a rack-scale cluster with 8 nodes. Each node has two 12-core Intel Xeon E5-2650 v4 processors and 128GB DRAM. Each node is equipped with a ConnectX-3 MCX354A 56Gbps InfiniBand NIC via PCIe 3.0 x8 connected to a Mellanox IS5025 40Gbps IB Switch, and an Intel X540 10GbE NIC connected to a Force10 S4810P 10GbE Switch. All nodes run Ubuntu 16.04 with Mellanox OFED v3.4 stack.

**Benchmarks:** We evaluate Wukong+S using two popular RDF streaming benchmarks, LSBench [28] and CityBench [12].<sup>14</sup> LSBench models a typical social network which comprises *streaming data* continuously generated

<sup>14</sup>The detail of queries is available at <https://github.com/SJTU-IPADS/wukong-s>.

**Table 1: The initial size of RDF data, the default stream rate and the usage of RDF streams for each query.**

LSBench	Size & Rate	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6
<b>Initial</b>	3.75B Triples		X	X		X	X
<b>PO</b>	10K Triples/s	X	X	X	X		X
<b>PO-L</b>	86K Triples/s						X
<b>PH</b>	10K Triples/s					X	
<b>PH-L</b>	7.5K Triples/s					X	
<b>GPS</b>	20K Triples/s						

CityBench	Size & Rate	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10	C11
<b>Initial</b>	139K Triples	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
<b>VT1</b>	19 Triples/s	X		X								
<b>VT2</b>	19 Triples/s	X	X	X		X						
<b>WT</b>	12 Triples/s		X									X
<b>UL</b>	7 Triples/s				X		X					
<b>PK1</b>	4 Triples/s						X	X	X	X		
<b>PK2</b>	4 Triples/s							X	X	X		
<b>PL1-5</b>	4 Triples/s											X

from user activities and *stored data* representing properties of the social graph (e.g., user profiles and friend relationships). LSBench provides 6 types of continuous queries over both stored data and 5 RDF data streams for post (PO), post-like (PO-L), photo (PH), photo-like (PH-L), and GPS (GPS). We use 118 million tuples as initially stored dataset for evaluations on a single node, and 3.75 billion tuples for those on 8 nodes. The default stream rate of the 5 streams in total is 133K tuples per second. For brevity, the range and step of each window over the 5 streams are set to 1s and 100ms respectively in all queries.

CityBench simulates a smart city application, which conducts continuous queries over real-time IoT data streams generated by various sensors in the city of Aarhus, Denmark. CityBench provides 11 types of continuous queries over 11 RDF streams for vehicle traffic (VT1-2), parking (PK1-2), weather (WT), user location (UL), and pollution (PL1-5). We use the default setting of stream rate and initially stored data and set the size and step of all windows to 3s and 1s respectively.

Table 1 shows the default settings of both LSBench and CityBench, and the usage of data streams for each continuous query, which is implemented as a C-SPARQL query.

**Comparing targets:** We compare the performance of Wukong+S with systems representing state of the art. As for the *composite design*, we evaluate the performance of CSPARQL-engine v0.9.7 [44] and the integration of Apache Storm v1.0.2 [45] with Wukong [41]. CSPARQL-engine<sup>15</sup> leverages Esper [4] and Apache Jena [1] to split and run a query on streaming and stored data respectively, and further generates the final results by joining the outputs of two

<sup>15</sup>CSPARQL-engine has limited capacity for processing stored data so that we remove all untouched triples for a much smaller initial dataset for it.

**Table 2: The query performance (ms) on a single node.**

LSBench 118M	Wukong+S	Storm+Wukong			CSPARQL -engine
		All	(Storm)	(Wukong)	
L1	0.13	0.20	0.20	-	155
L2	0.10	1.62	1.16	0.10	708
L3	0.13	1.29	0.74	0.14	872
L4	1.19	30.38	30.38	-	291
L5	2.89	51.04	10.41	11.55	1,984
L6	2.14	65.04	11.55	8.60	3,395
Geo. M	0.48	5.91	-	-	757

subcomponents. For Storm+Wukong<sup>16</sup>, we use the bolt abstraction in Storm to implement select and join operators, as well as proxy operators which contact Wukong for execution steps touching the stored data.

To compare the implementation on a single system, we compare Wukong+S with Spark Streaming v2.2.0 [14, 51], which stands for a popular solution for building streaming applications. Both streaming and stored data are represented as in-memory RDDs (i.e., the data abstraction in Spark). More specifically, we use DataFrames, the wrapper of RDDs, to store RDF data and Spark SQL [14] to perform the queries. We further build an intuitive extension of Wukong, namely Wukong/Ext, which can incrementally absorb all data (timing and timeless) in RDF streams and run queries over all the data. It can be roughly regarded as Wukong+S without stream index in the latency evaluations. Note that Wukong/Ext does not implement GC because it is non-trivial to find and remove timestamps and timing data from the tremendous dataset in graph stores.

It should be noted that the two composite solutions and Spark Streaming do not support evolving persistent store and thus perform queries over a static stored dataset. This keeps them away from the consistency problems faced by Wukong+S. In contrast, Wukong+S is the only system that supports evolving graph and distinguishes between timing and timeless data in streams. Moreover, the number of cores in Wukong+S for serving each continuous query on each node is restricted to 1, since they are usually light-weight and processed in a concurrent way. It means that the performance (latency) of Wukong+S could be further improved when necessary, and this will be discussed later in §6.4.

## 6.2 Latency

We first study the performance of Wukong+S for each single continuous query using the LSBench dataset. All experimental results are the median latency (i.e., 50<sup>th</sup> percentile) of one hundred runs.

Since CSPARQL-engine is a single-node system, we first run Wukong+S, Storm+Wukong and CSPARQL-engine on a single node and report their in-memory performance for

<sup>16</sup>We exclude the latency caused by Storm job scheduler and only consider execution time of each bolt.

**Table 3: The query performance (ms) on a 8-node cluster.**

LSBench 3.75B	Wukong+S	Storm+Wukong			Spark Streaming
		All	(Storm)	(Wukong)	
L1	0.10	0.23	0.23	-	219
L2	0.08	1.64	1.02	0.11	527
L3	0.11	2.62	2.97	0.16	712
L4	1.78	31.14	31.14	-	346
L5	3.50	40.77	14.37	3.49	2,215
L6	1.68	49.03	36.16	2.39	1,422
Geo. M	0.46	6.29	-	-	679

**Table 4: The further performance comparison on a 8-node cluster.**

LSBench 3.75B	Heron+Wukong			Structured Streaming	Wukong /Ext
	All	(Heron)	(Wukong)		
L1	0.24	0.24	-	287	0.19
L2	1.58	0.74	0.11	743	0.14
L3	2.35	1.72	0.15	1,698	0.17
L4	30.92	30.92	-	x	6.91
L5	31.72	13.23	3.73	x	7.36
L6	45.78	24.48	2.65	x	7.33
Geo. M	5.85	-	-	-	1.08

LSBench-118M. As shown in Table 2, Wukong+S significantly outperforms Storm+Wukong by up to 30.4X (from 1.6X) and CSPARQL-engine for three orders of magnitude, mainly due to the benefit of its integrated design. CSPARQL-engine usually needs hundreds of milliseconds to execute once for a single query, indicating its inefficiency from both its composite design and slow building blocks (e.g., Apache Jena). We decompose the latency of Storm+Wukong to better understand why it is higher. First, the cross-system overhead (i.e., total latency excluding latency in both components) for L2, L3, L5 and L6 is relatively high, ranging from 22.3% to 57.0% of the total latency. The overhead consists of data transformation and transmission between subcomponents acquired by composite design. L1 and L4 only touch streaming data, so that the query is solely within Storm. Second, comparing with Wukong+S, Storm+Wukong incurs a higher latency in Wukong, which adopts the same graph exploration strategy for query processing. This is caused by the inefficient query plan endured by systems adopting composite design. The problem of sub-optimal query plan leads to larger intermediate results and further results in higher latency in the Wukong subcomponent. These results back up our claim in §2.3.

We then compare Wukong+S in the distributed setting using LSBench-3.75B, as shown in Table 3. Wukong+S also significantly outperforms Storm+Wukong by up to 29.2X (from 2.3X) and Spark Streaming for three orders of magnitude. The cross-system overhead of Storm+Wukong is still up to 56.2% (from 13.8%). It implies that even if we replace Storm with a new, faster stream processor, the total latency will remain much high. To demonstrate this, we use Heron v0.15.0 [27] to replace Storm in our composite solution.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>17</sup>Heron (<https://twitter.github.io/heron/>) is the de-facto stream processing engine inside Twitter with better performance and scalability, as well as API-compatible with Storm.

**Table 5: The performance impact of RDMA on Wukong+S.**

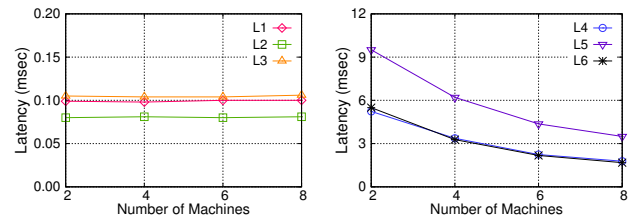
LSBench	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	Geo.M
Wukong+S	0.10	0.08	0.11	1.78	3.50	1.68	0.46
Non-RDMA	0.11	0.08	0.12	6.22	6.14	4.90	0.75
Slowdown	1.1X	1.0X	1.1X	3.5X	1.8X	2.9X	1.6X

As shown in Table 4, Heron+Wukong indeed improves the performance of queries that only touch streaming data (e.g., L1 and L4). However, for queries touching both streaming and stored data (e.g., L2, L3, L5 and L6), the cross-system cost and sub-optimal query plan still dominate the overall latency. Thus, Wukong+S still outperforms Heron+Wukong by up to 27.3X (from 2.4X).

As for Spark Streaming, the latency is always at the level of hundreds of milliseconds, indicating its inefficiency to handle continuous queries by leveraging costly join operations for all of the streaming and stored data. Readers might be interested in the performance of Structured Streaming [50] recently introduced by Apache Spark, which aims at building continuous streaming applications. Structured Streaming treats streaming data as an unbounded table and allows to run continuous queries on both streaming and stored data. However, there are many unsupported operations in the current implementation.<sup>18</sup> For example, any kind of joins between two streaming datasets is not yet supported. Therefore, we can only illustrate the latency of three queries (i.e., L1-L3) for Structured Streaming in Table 4. The performance is even worse than that of Spark Streaming due to the additional cost of processing unbounded table.

To further study the merits of Wukong+S compared to an intuitive extension of static RDF store, we developed Wukong/Ext derived from Wukong [41] with fast data injection. The key difference between Wukong+S and Wukong/Ext is in their strategy for maintaining timestamps and extracting the subgraph for a certain time period from underlying stores. Wukong+S utilizes *stream index* as a fast path to extract graph data in a stream window. The stream index is built along with the injection of data streams, and stale indexes are periodically removed to save memory. By contrast, Wukong/Ext directly inserts both streaming data and their timestamps into the underlying store, leading to two consequences. First, extracting data in a certain time period is inefficient without indexing, incurring high latency in Wukong/Ext. As shown in Table 4, Wukong+S outperforms Wukong/Ext by up to 4.4X (from 1.6X), and the speedup is more obvious for large queries (more than 2X). Second, Wukong/Ext does not support efficient garbage collection, since deletion is costly and non-trivial after data and timestamps are coupled together in the underlying store. The stale and useless timestamps will accumulate in Wukong/Ext, resulting in unnecessary memory and execution cost along

<sup>18</sup><https://spark.apache.org/docs/2.2.0/structured-streaming-programming-guide.html#unsupported-operations>.



**Fig. 12: The latency of queries in group (I) and (II) with the increase of nodes on LSBench-3.75B.**

with the injection of streams. On the contrary, the stream index in Wukong+S is carefully organized in memory and hence are very friendly to garbage collection.

**The performance impact of RDMA.** To pursue low-latency for processing queries over streaming and stored data, Wukong+S leverages RDMA to enable in-place execution over streaming data by stream index and locality-aware partitioning (§4.2). Nevertheless, Wukong+S can still run on non-RDMA network (e.g., 10GbE) using a fork-join style execution [41]. We enforce a purely fork-join execution mode in Wukong+S over both streaming and stored data without RDMA (i.e., Non-RDMA). As shown in Table 5, the performance of selective queries (L1-L3) is non-sensitive to RDMA since all of them start from a constant entity and can be completed mostly within a single node. However, for non-selective queries (L4-L6), the workload over both streaming and stored data will be distributed across all nodes. The communication and synchronization cost incurs performance slowdown of 1.8X to 3.5X.

### 6.3 Scalability

We evaluate the scalability of Wukong+S with respect to the number of nodes. Note that we omit the evaluation on a single server as LSBench-3.75B (amounting to 653GB in raw format) cannot fit into memory. Since continuous queries are usually lightweight, we assign only 1 core on each node to a single query. We categorize the six queries on LSBench dataset into two groups according to the relation between their result size and the data size they access as done in prior work [41, 52]. Group (I): L1, L2, and L3; such queries are selective and produce quite fixed-size results regardless of the total data size. Group (II): L4, L5, and L6; the results size of such queries increase with the growth of dataset.

Fig. 12(b) shows the speedup of Wukong+S for group (II) ranging from 2.8X to 3.2X, with the increase of servers from 2 to 8. This implies that Wukong+S can efficiently utilize the parallelism of the fork-join execution mode over tremendous stored data. For group (I), since the intermediate and final results are relatively small and fixed-size, using more machines do not improve the performance as shown in Fig. 12(a), but the performance is still stable by using in-place execution to reduce the network overhead.

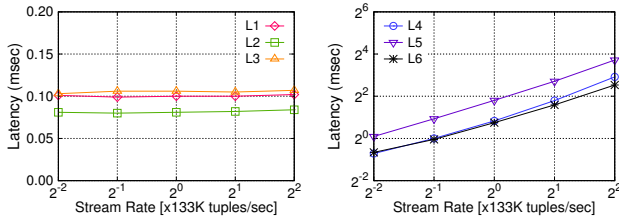


Fig. 13: The latency of queries in group (I) and (II) with the increase of stream rate on LSBench-3.75B.

### 6.4 Stream Rate

We also evaluate the scalability of Wukong+S in terms of stream rate. Stream rate in social networking applications usually experience changes over time. Higher stream rate means a larger amount of data in a stream window and may further cause the latency of continuous queries to increase. We keep the setting of LSBench in the latency evaluation and then increase the stream rate from 33K to 533K tuples per second. The number of tuples in each window increases proportionally.

As shown in Fig. 13, Wukong+S can achieve stable performance for queries in Group (I) regardless of the increasing stream rate, since such queries produce fixed-size results irrelevant to the amount of data in their windows. For queries in Group (II), latency increases with the growth of stream rate, since the result sizes of such queries also increase. Yet, it is still at a low level (smaller than 16ms in this test).

To avoid excessive resource consumption, we previously assigned only 1 core on each node for one continuous query. Adding more cores is an efficient way to relieve the tension. For example, assigning 4 cores on each node can speed up L4, L5 and L6 by 3.0X, 3.5X and 2.7X respectively (i.e., latency drops from 8.5ms, 15.1ms and 7.3ms to 2.85ms, 4.37ms and 2.67ms accordingly). The result demonstrates that clients are able to trade resources for performance when low latency is critical.

Table 6: The data injection and indexing cost (ms) per mini-batch (100ms) for all five streams of LSBench (post (PO), post-like (PO-L), photo (PH), photo-like (PH-L), and GPS) with default stream rate.

LSBench	PO	PO-L	PH	PH-L	GPS
3.75B	10K/s	86K/s	10K/s	7.5K/s	20K/s
<b>Injection</b>	0.52	1.77	0.45	0.16	1.18
<b>Indexing</b>	0.23	0.43	0.22	0.21	0.34
<b>Total</b>	0.75	2.20	0.67	0.37	1.57

### 6.5 Injection Cost

We then evaluate the influence of data injection on the latency of Wukong+S. Different to prior stream computation systems, Wukong+S injects the streaming data into the underlying stores before launching stream queries. If the query execution overlaps the injection of corresponding stream batch, the injection may interfere the latency of such queries.

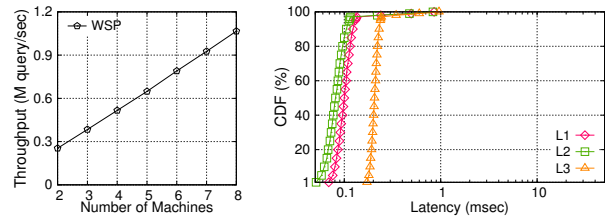


Fig. 14: (a) The throughput of a mixture of 3 classes of queries with the increase of nodes, and (b) the CDF of latency on 8 nodes.

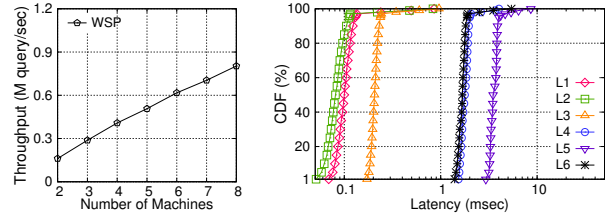


Fig. 15: (a) The throughput of a mixture of 6 classes of queries with the increase of nodes, and (b) the CDF of latency on 8 nodes.

As shown in Table 6, the data injection usually costs up to 2.20ms (from 0.37ms) delay for 100ms stream batch using default stream rate. To further break down the injection cost, the delay for building stream index is from 0.21ms to 0.43ms. The impact of data injection to the query latency is visualized in the CDF graph at Fig. 14(b) and 15(b) as the tail.

### 6.6 Throughput of Mixed Workloads

Unlike prior systems, Wukong+S is designed to provide high query throughput at millions of continuous queries per second. In contrast, CSQL-engine executes queries sequentially, so that its throughput is directly related to latency. Spark Streaming and Apache Storm do not support data sharing between different queries, making them difficult to improve query throughput in this scenario.

We build emulated clients and two mixed workloads to study the performance of Wukong+S serving large number of concurrent queries registered by these clients. Each node runs 4 emulated clients and 16 worker threads for continuous queries on dedicated cores. All clients will register as many queries as possible until the accumulated throughput saturated. Each node also reserve 2 cores on each processor to import and coordinate data streams.

We first use a mixed workload consisting of 3 classes of queries (L1-L3). The query in each class has similar behavior except that the start point is randomly selected from the same type of vertices (e.g., Photo Album0, Photo Album1, etc.). The distribution of query classes follows the reciprocal of their average latency. As shown in Fig. 14, Wukong+S achieves a peak throughput of 1.08M queries/sec on 8 nodes, 4.2X than that on 2 nodes (254K queries/sec). Under the peak throughput, the geometric mean of 50th (median) and 99th percentile latency is 0.11ms and 0.90ms respectively.

**Table 7: The memory usage (MB/min) comparison between streaming data and stream index for LSBench in default setting.**

LSBench	PO	PO-L	PH	PH-L	GPS	Total
3.75B	10K/s	86K/s	10K/s	7.5K/s	20K/s	133K/s
<b>data</b>	6.39	38.22	4.76	7.90	5.45	62.73
<b>index</b>	2.96	0.60	1.89	0.51	-	5.95
<b>ratio</b>	46.3%	1.6%	39.7%	6.5%	-	9.5%

We then use another mixed workload consisting of all 6 classes of queries (L1-L6). The mixture strategy is similar to the previous test and we obtain the results in Fig. 15. Wukong+S achieves a peak throughput of 802K queries/sec on 8 nodes, 5.0X than that on 2 nodes (161K queries/sec). The super scalability of throughput is mainly due to decreasing latency of L4-L6 in a larger cluster. Under the peak throughput, the median, 90th and 99th percentile latency for L4 class query is 2.3ms, 2.7ms and 4.1ms respectively.

## 6.7 Memory Consumption

In our design, we assume that *stream index* is small enough to be replicated in the cluster. We also assume that *bounded snapshot scalarization* can efficiently reduce memory usage. We now evaluate the two design choices under the default setting of LSBench-3.75B on our 8-node cluster.

Since GPS stream is not timeless (i.e., data will be injected into the transient store), stream index is not needed for executing related continuous queries. As shown in Table 7, 62.73MB raw data arrive in every minute with the default setting, resulting in 5.95MB memory consumption for the index. It means that if we wish to reserve all timestamps for 10 minutes, around 60MB should be reserved on each node for the stream index, which is quite affordable comparing to the raw data size (i.e., 627MB).

*The benefits of bounded snapshot scalarization.* When registering 2 streams and reserving 2 snapshots, the memory footprint for stored RDF data is 37.7GB on each node, and increases to 44.0GB without bounded snapshot scalarization. The memory footprint further increases to 40.9GB and 50.4GB with and without bounded snapshot scalarization when reserving 3 snapshots. Registering all 5 streams will cause no memory increase with bounded snapshot scalarization but increases memory footprint to 53.6GB otherwise.

## 6.8 Fault-tolerance Overhead

We have implemented a simple logging and checkpointing mechanism in Wukong+S for fault tolerance. We conduct the throughput test again with fault tolerance mechanisms enabled using the mixed workload of L1-L3 mentioned in §6.6 (i.e., LSBench-3.75B on 8 nodes). The result shows that logging delay for each batch is around 0.3ms and the throughput drops from 1.07M to 803K queries per second, about 11.2% decrease. The 99th percentile latency increases from 0.15ms

**Table 8: The performance comparison (ms) for one-shot query.**

LSBench	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	Geo.M
<b>Wukong</b>	4.04	0.11	0.19	23.1	0.26	60.2	1.77
<b>Wukong+S/Off</b>	4.12	0.12	0.20	24.1	0.28	61.8	1.83
<b>Wukong+S/On</b>	4.31	0.11	0.21	25.5	0.29	64.2	1.93

to 0.73ms due to checkpointing, while the 90th percentile latency is largely unchanged.

## 6.9 Performance Impact on One-shot Queries

Wukong+S is the only known system that can concurrently process both continuous and one-shot queries with streaming and *incremental* stored data. Wukong+S binds continuous and one-shot query engines on dedicated cores of two different processors to minimize the interfere with each other, and shares a single persistent store but accessed by different paths. To evaluate the performance of one-shot (SPARQL) queries over large datasets of Wukong+S, we compare Wukong+S with the basic persistent RDF store (Wukong [41]), which is the fastest system as far as we know. We use default LSBench-3.75B setting with six typical one-shot queries.<sup>19</sup> The detailed system settings are listed below:

- **Wukong:** executing one-shot queries on *static* stored dataset
- **Wukong+S/Off:** enabling all 5 streams of LSBench and executing one-shot queries by 8 dedicated worker threads over *dynamic* stored dataset.
- **Wukong+S/On:** additionally running 8 worker threads for continuous query with their maximum throughput.

As shown in Table 8, Wukong+S inherits the good performance of Wukong. Enabling streams (Wukong+S/Off) may cause little performance degradation (less than 5%) to some queries due to consistency issues. Further, since one-shot and continuous queries are separately assigned to threads on different cores, their execution (Wukong+S/On) has little interference (about 5%) despite sharing the stored dataset.

## 6.10 Other Workload: CityBench

We further study the performance of Wukong+S, Spark Streaming and Storm+Wukong over CityBench with setting shown in Table 1. The stream rate and data size are very small because the data was collected in a relatively small city. Therefore, we deploy the systems on a single node to test their latency. For a similar application in a megacity such as New York City, the stored data and stream rate would increase thousands of times.

As shown in Table 9, Wukong+S outperforms Storm+Wukong by up to 18.3X (from 2.7X) for queries touching both streaming and stored data and significantly

<sup>19</sup>The detail of queries is available at <https://github.com/SJTU-IPADS/wukong-s>.

**Table 9: The query performance (ms) on a single node.**

CityBench 137K	Wukong+S	Storm+ Wukong	Storm	Wukong	Spark Streaming
C1	0.24	4.40	0.66	0.64	872
C2	0.37	4.48	0.80	0.64	1,557
C3	0.26	4.10	0.70	0.31	675
C4	0.98	2.67	0.25	0.99	802
C5	0.94	4.10	0.36	2.10	790
C6	0.26	1.91	0.25	0.24	764
C7	0.24	2.23	0.40	0.34	762
C8	0.27	2.05	0.43	0.30	692
C9	1.15	3.91	1.12	1.15	1,088
C10	0.78	1.18	1.18	-	1,086
C11	0.16	0.17	0.17	-	193
Geo. M	0.41	2.21	-	-	766

outperforms Spark Streaming. For Storm+Wukong, the cross-system overhead dominates the latency (i.e., from 40.1% to 75.4%) and the latency of Wukong subcomponent is up to 2.67X than that of Wukong+S. These results again demonstrate the issues of a composite design (i.e., cross-system cost and inefficient query plan), especially for complex queries.

## 7 RELATED WORK

**Stream processing engines.** The increasing importance of real-time data processing has stimulated considerable interests in both academia and industry [9, 10, 18, 31, 34, 39, 43]. They usually adopt a relational data model and thus are not suitable for processing highly linked streams due to a phenomenon called “Join Bomb” [46]. Furthermore, they do not consider the combination of stream data and stored data (i.e., perform queries solely on stream data). MaxStream [18] provides a unified interface for users to query on both streaming and stored data, and adopts a composite design to manage streaming systems and databases.

There are several related domains in database community, including temporal database [17], time series database [25] and graph database [13]. Compared to Wukong+S, such designs target at different scenarios and data models, and thus present different design decisions.

**Stream computation systems.** Different from stream processing engines, there are also many streaming computation platforms [6, 11, 20, 27, 29, 35, 45] on which programmers can write and submit their own code for computation on streaming data. These systems tend to provide a general abstraction for all kinds of streaming problems, so that their performance is hard to reach the same level of Wukong+S for stream querying workload over fast-evolving linked data, and most of them do not consider the combination of streaming and stored data. Recently, Apache Spark introduces Structured Streaming [50] to build continuous streaming applications, which offers the unbounded table to treat streaming data and allows to run continuous queries on both streaming and stored data. However, it is hard to support fast query-oriented operations on both streaming and stored

data due to its design choices trending toward the computation (e.g., unsorted, non-index table abstraction).

Several systems [22, 42, 47] are developed to support large-scale computation on streaming *graphs*, like PageRank, SSSP and KMeans. Kineograph [22] also adopts distributed consistent snapshots with epoch commits, which however results in high latency up to the order of minutes. Tornado [42] also uses graph snapshots and splits the iterative graph computation into main and branch loops to converge the results fast. KickStarter [47] can produce safe and profitable results for computation on streaming graphs via trimmed approximations. The latency of such work usually reaches several seconds or even minutes.

**Static RDF systems.** There have been a large number of efforts devoted to building static RDF systems with high performance. State-of-the-art approaches can be classified into two categories: triple stores that use relational approach to storing and indexing RDF data [24, 37], and graph stores that use native graph model and query data by graph-exploration [41, 52]. Compared to the intuitive extension of static RDF systems for stateful continuous queries, Wukong+S mainly improves the performance and functionality in three ways: 1) uses stream index (§4.2) to efficiently access streaming data sprinkled all over the store; 2) decouples the timing and timeless data in streams and proposes time-based transient store to facilitate GC (§4.1); 3) uses a bounded scalarization scheme (§4.3) to support consistent one-shot queries at efficient memory usage.

## 8 CONCLUSION

This paper describes Wukong+S, the first distributed RDF streaming engine that provides real-time consistent query over streaming datasets. Several key designs like separating timeless and timing data in hybrid store, extracting stream windows by stream index and using bounded snapshot scalarization for evolving timeless data made Wukong+S fast and consistent. Evaluations on an 8-node RDMA-capable cluster using LSBench and CityBench show that Wukong+S significantly outperforms CSPARQL-engine, Storm+Wukong and Spark Streaming for both latency and throughput, usually at the scale of orders of magnitude.

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