

# Scalaris: Scalable Web Applications with a Transactional Key-Value Store

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Zuse Institut Berlin  
Parallel and Distributed Systems

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# Outline

## Scalaris

Introduction

Scalability

## Wiki on Scalaris

MediaWiki Introduction

Data Model

## Optimisations

Strategies

Results

# Scalaris - A Transactional Key-Value Store

## Relational DB

- multiple relations/tables
- SQL
- Joins
- Transactions

## most NoSQL stores

- key-value/document mapping
- scalable
- fault-tolerant (replication)
- eventual consistency

## Scalaris

- key-value pairs
- scalable
- **transaction support**
- select, update/insert
- fault-tolerant (replication)
- **strong consistency**

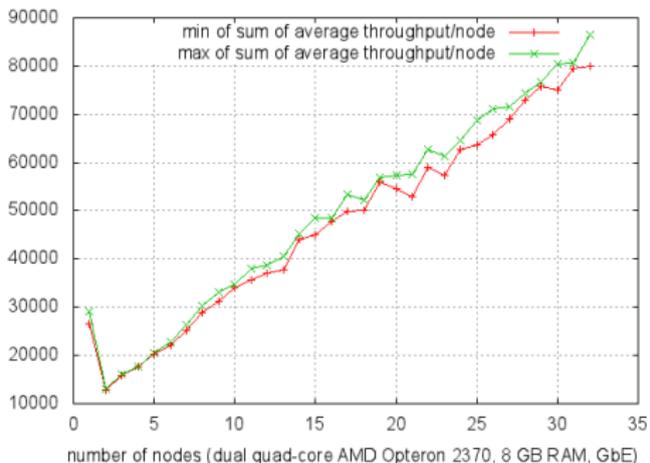


# Scalaris Implementation

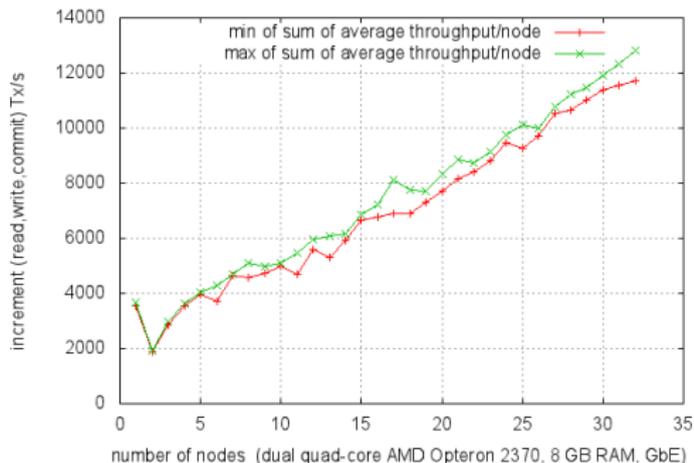
- Scalaris: ~23 000 lines of Erlang code
  - 2 200 for transactions
- APIs:
  - Java library (11 500 lines)
  - Python library (1 400 lines)
  - Ruby library (700 lines)
  - HTTP-JSON interface
- <http://scalaris.googlecode.com>

# Scalaris - Scalability

Quorum-read benchmark on cumulus  
(10 clients/node, 10000 quorum-reads/key)



Increment benchmark on cumulus  
(10 clients/node, 1000 incs/key)





# Wikitext A-Z



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|list=
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}}
```

```
<!-- CATEGORIES -->
[[Category:Berlin| ]]
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```

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link to another page

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template inclusion

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category the page belongs to

Edit summary

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# Wiki Operations



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[Edit summary](#)

**Save page** Show preview Show changes Cancel [Editing help](#) (opens in new window)

show page: read revisions



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Scalaris

Main Page  
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Save page Show preview Show changes Cancel | Editing help (opens in new

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**Save page** Show preview Show changes Cancel | [Editing help](#) (opens in new

search for articles

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Edit summary

Save page Show preview Show changes Cancel | Editing help (opens in new)

search for articles

revision history overview

show page: read revisions

redirect to random article





# Wiki Operations

The screenshot shows a Wiki page for 'Berlin' with several UI elements highlighted by red circles and lines:

- Page** and **Talk** buttons are circled in red.
- Read** and **Change** buttons are circled in red.
- View history** and **Search** buttons are circled in red.
- Show any entry** and **What links here** buttons in the sidebar are circled in red.
- Red lines connect these buttons to their corresponding functions on the page:
  - 'Page' points to the article title 'Berlin'.
  - 'Talk' points to the 'Talk' link below the title.
  - 'Read' points to the main text of the article.
  - 'Change' points to the 'Edit' link below the title.
  - 'View history' points to the 'View history' link below the title.
  - 'Search' points to the search input field.
  - 'Show any entry' points to the 'Show any entry' button in the sidebar.
  - 'What links here' points to the 'What links here' button in the sidebar.

The main content of the page is as follows:

You are not logged in. Your IP address will be recorded in this page's edit history.

'Berlin' is the [[Capital of Germany|capital]] city of [[Germany]] and is one of the 16 [[states of Germany]]. With a population of 3.45&nbsp;million people, Berlin is Germany's largest city. It is the second [[Largest cities of the European Union by population within city limits|most populous city proper]] and the seventh [[Largest urban areas of the European Union|most populous urban area]] in the [[European Union]].

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At the bottom, there is an 'Edit summary' field and buttons for 'Save page', 'Show preview', 'Show changes', and 'Cancel | Editing help (opens in new window)'.

search for articles  
 revision history overview  
 show page: read revisions  
 redirect to random article  
 backlinks (“what links here”)



# Wiki Operations

The screenshot shows a Wiki page for 'Berlin' with several UI elements highlighted by red boxes and lines:

- Page** and **Talk** buttons at the top left.
- Read** button and **Change** link.
- View history** button.
- Search** input field with a search icon.
- Show any entry** button in the left sidebar.
- What links here** button in the left sidebar.
- Save page** button at the bottom of the edit form.

The main content area shows the article text for Berlin, including its status as the capital of Germany and its population. Below the text is a code block containing Wiki templates and categories.

```

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}}

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```

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save new revision



# Editing Pages



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[[Category:States of Germany]]
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```

[Edit summary](#)




[Editing help \(opens in new window\)](#)

## Do atomically:

1. store new revision
2. update page object
3. add new backlinks
4. remove old backlinks
5. add to new categories
6. remove from old categories
7. if new page:
  - a) add to page list
  - b) increase page counter





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Page Talk Read Change View history Search

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[Save page](#) [Show preview](#) [Show changes](#) [Cancel](#) [Editing help](#) (opens in new window)

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# MediaWiki Schema

## Page text and associated information



## Statistics and logging



Page containing the templatelink  
tl\_from - page\_id

pl\_from - page\_id

Page defined as category member

rev\_text\_id  
- old\_id\_id



adapted from [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:MediaWiki\\_database\\_schema\\_1-19\\_%28r102798%29.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:MediaWiki_database_schema_1-19_%28r102798%29.svg)



## Wiki on Scalaris - Data Layout

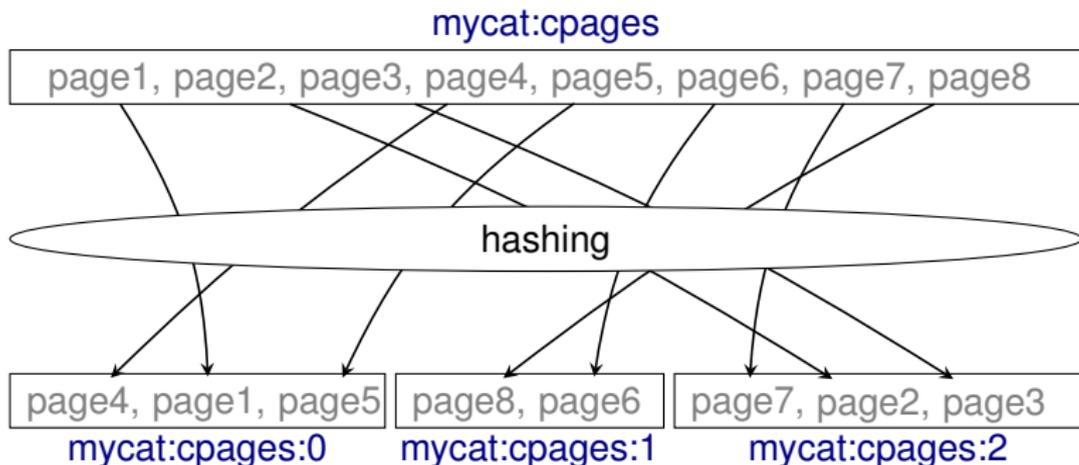
key	content
pages:<namespace>	list of pages in <namespace>
pages:<namespace>:count	number of pages in <namespace>
<title>:page	page information (JSON object)
<title>:rev:<id>	single page revision (JSON object)
<title>:revs	list of revision info for history
<title>:blpages	list of page titles linking to <title>
<cat_title>:cpages	list of page titles inside a category
<cat_title>:cpages:count	number of pages inside a category

## Data Model - Issues?

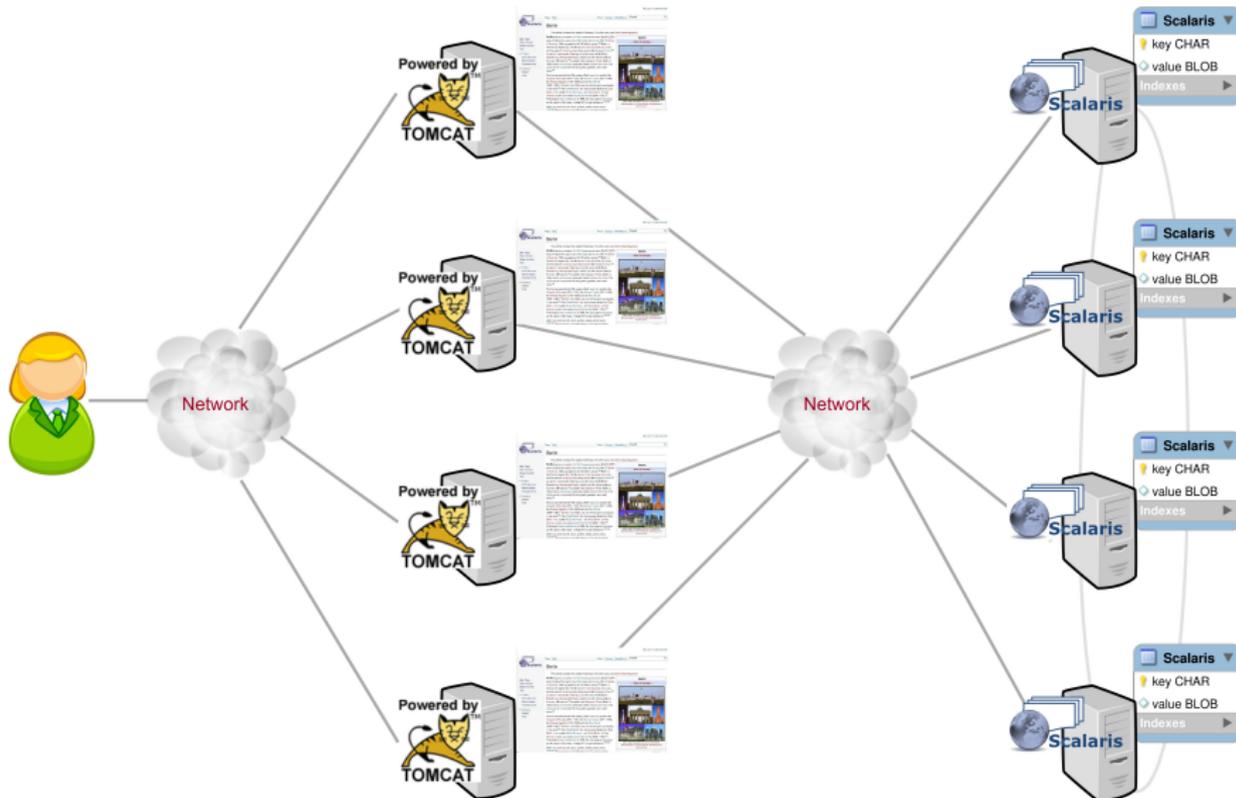
- non-scalable data model!
- Problem: page lists, counters

## Data Model - Solution: Partitioning!

- a) spread randomly over partitions
  - suitable for e.g. counters
- b) spread list contents with hashing
  - allows efficient lookup and delete
  - suitable for e.g. lists:

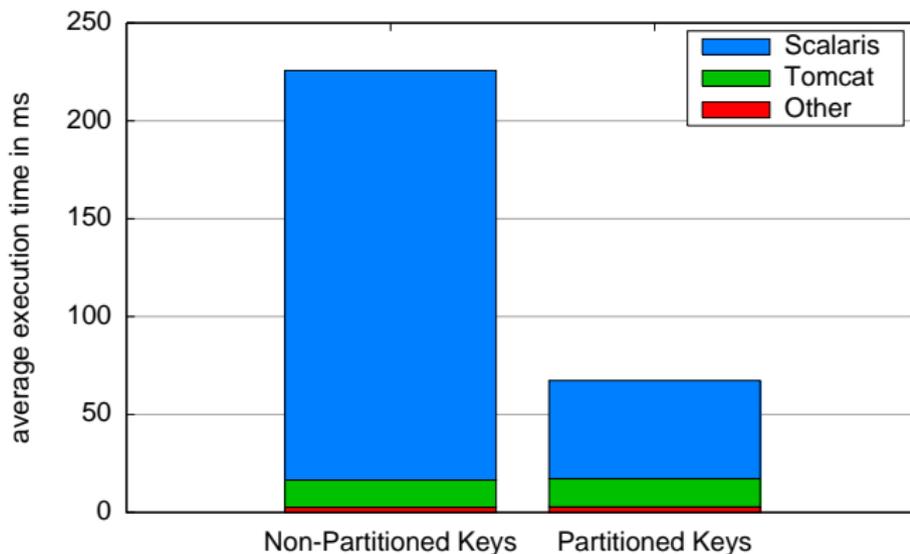


# Wiki on Scalaris - Architecture



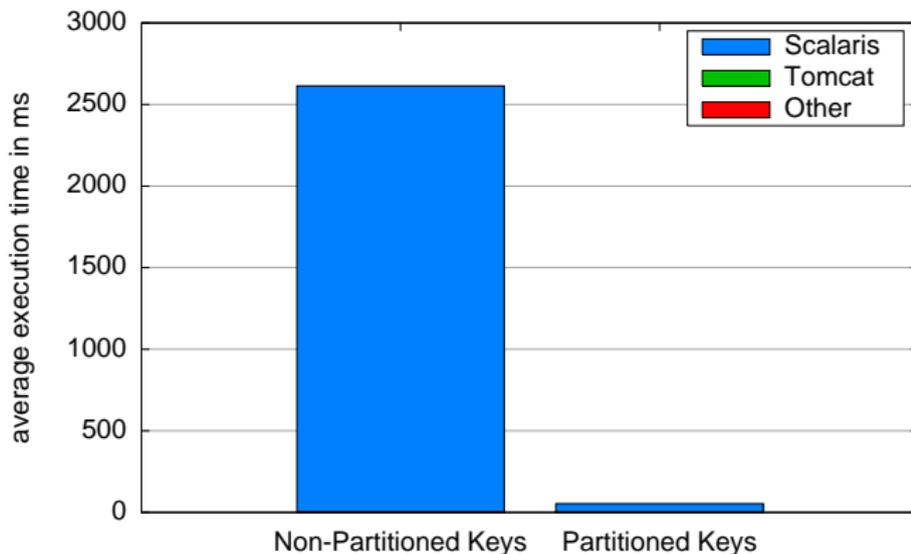
## Wiki on Scalaris - Optimisation Results (I)

- effects on page edits:

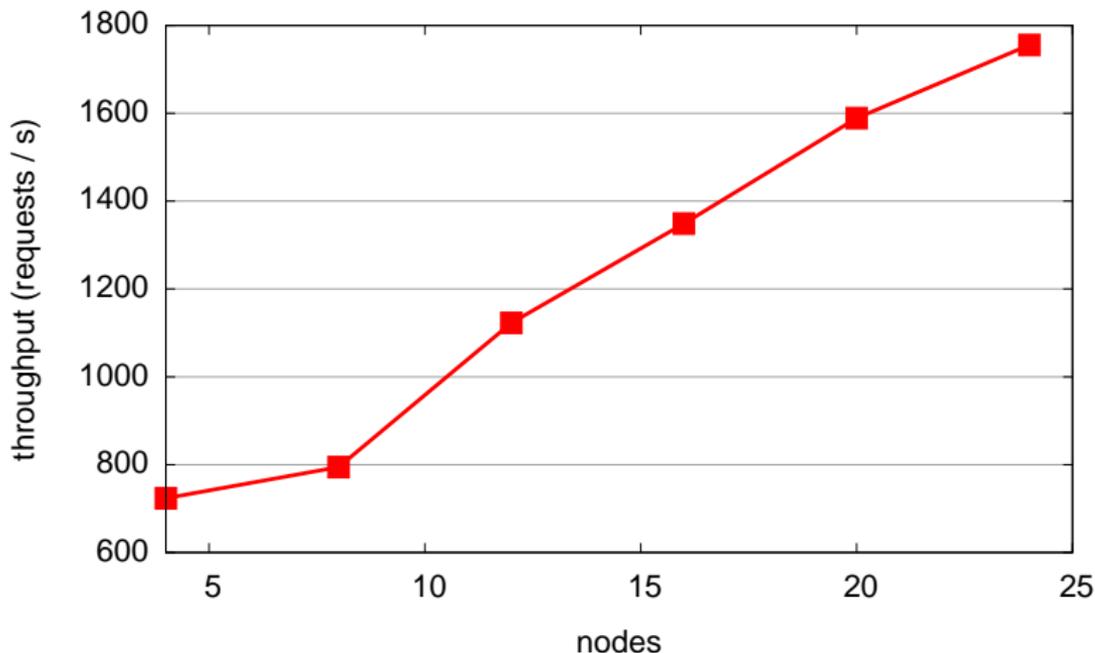


## Wiki on Scalaris - Optimisation Results (II)

- effects on page creates:



## Wiki on Scalaris - Scalability



# Questions



<http://scalaris.googlecode.com>