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Constant-Time Approximate Sliding Window Framework with Error Control

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A bit about me

- PhD Student at UPC - BarcelonaTECH
 - Computer Architecture Department
- Data-Stream Processing Lead at NearbyComputing
- Research Engineer at BSC (2012 – 2018)
 - Data-Centric Computing Group
 - IoT and Stream Processing



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Overview

- Motivation
 - Stream processing + Edge Computing
- Constant-Time Scalable Sliding Window Framework – AMTA
 - Scalability and Complexity
- Approximate Aggregation with Error Control – A²MTA
 - Sum-like Aggregations
 - Max-like Aggregations

Motivation



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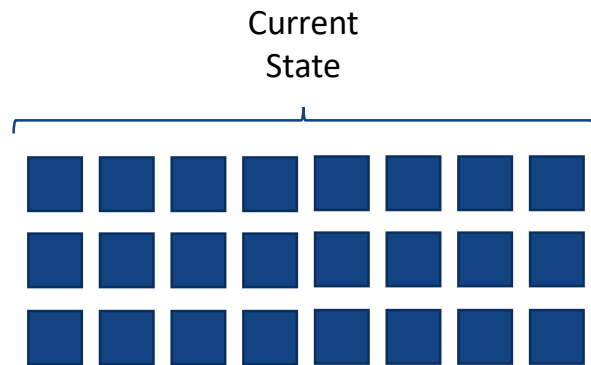
IoT and Big Data Convergence

- Internet of Things has become ubiquitous
 - Gartner predicted that IoT will have nearly 21 billion connected devices by 2020
 - Cisco and Ericsson expects the number of connected IoT devices to be 50 billion by 2020
 - Largest spending technology category in 2018 with \$800 billion
- Large amounts of data are being generated
 - Cisco predicts 14.1ZB per year by 2020

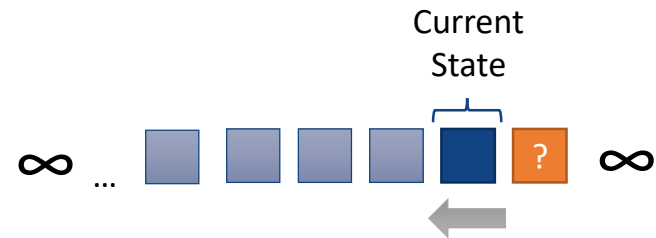
Edge Computing

- Cloud computing enables computing resources and storage with virtualized resources accessible to many users over the internet
 - Standard for Big Data
 - 14.1ZB per year by 2020 of data streams over the internet
 - Latency reaching data warehouses
- Edge computing brings the computation near the data sources
 - Freeing bandwidth from the internet
 - Reducing latencies between telemetry and actuation

Data Processing: Batches and Streams



- **High throughput** but high latency
 - Throughput in ~100K+ TPS
- Big size of aggregation functions



- **Low latency** but low throughput
 - Latency in milliseconds or less
- Reduced size of aggregation functions

Stream Aggregation: Challenge



Stream Processing and Edge Computing

- Both paradigms prioritize low latency computation
 - Immediately after data is generated
 - Close to the data source
- Edge computing environment can be adverse
 - Limited and shared resources
 - Unreliable network
 - Slow maintenance



Constant-Time Scalable Sliding Window Framework

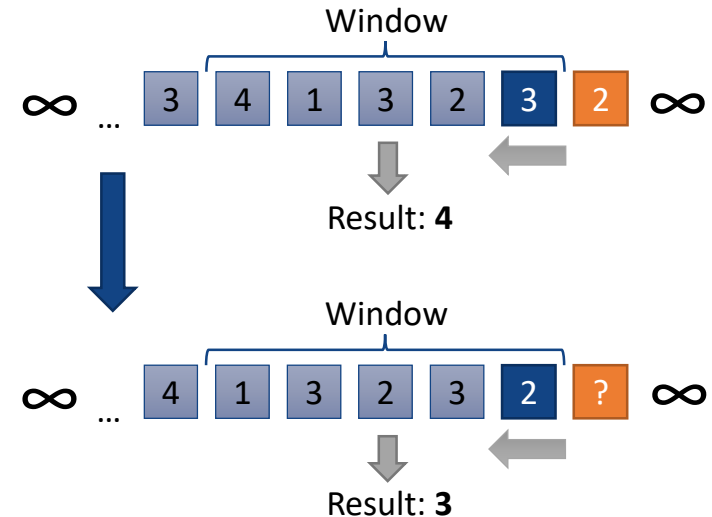


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Background: Sliding Window

- Projection from a stream that includes its newest element
 - FIFO structure
- Operation
- Window Slide Policy (WSP)
 - Usually only defines the size of the window

Operation: Max
WSP: Size ≤ 5



Background: Monoid

- Algebraic structure with the following properties:
 - Associativity
 - $\forall a, b, c \in S: (a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$
 - Neutral element
 - $\forall e \in S: \forall a \in S: e \cdot a = a \cdot e = a$
 - Closure
 - $\forall a, b \in S: a \cdot b \in S$
- Monoids can be an aggregation Reduce phase:
 - Associativity enables partial aggregation
 - Neutral element replaces values that are not aggregated anymore
 - Closure is obeyed by surrounding the Reduce with Maps, i.e.:

Mean aggregation:

Map: $f(x) = \{x, 1\}$

Reduce: $f(x, y) = \{x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2\}$

Map: $f(x) = \frac{x_1}{x_2}$

Amortized Monoid Tree Aggregator (AMTA)

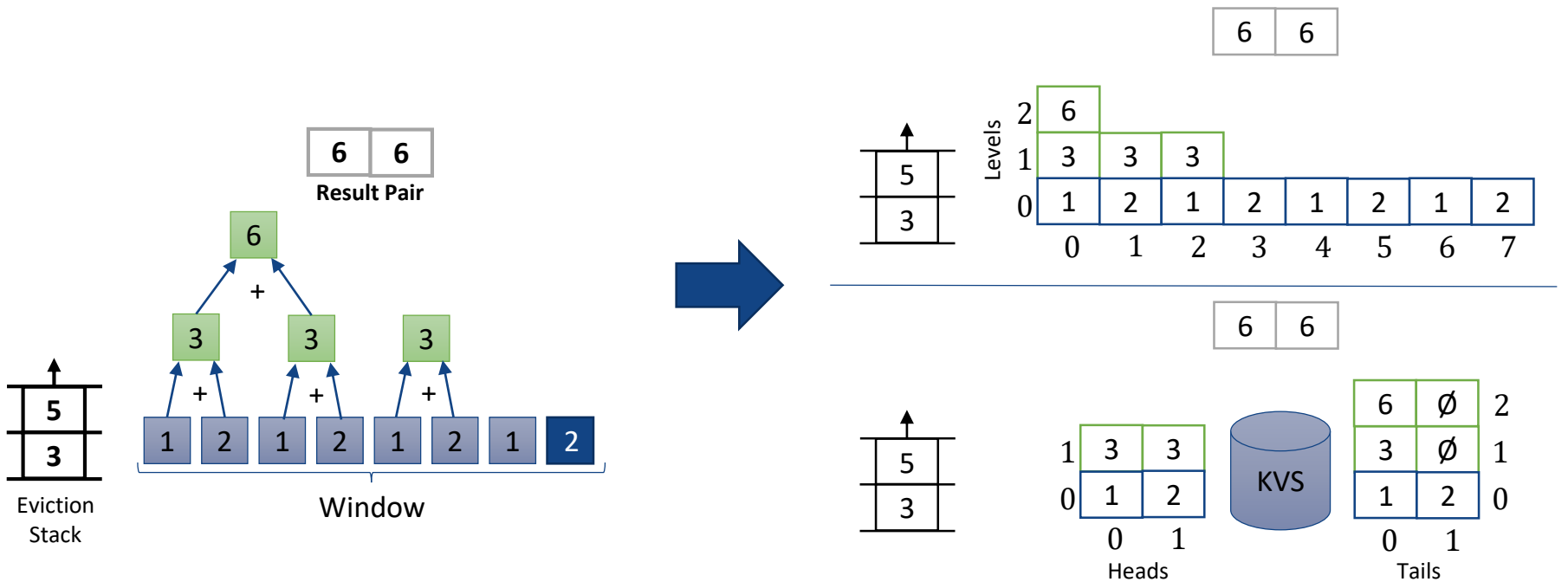
Amortized Monoid Tree Aggregator

- General sliding window framework
 - User provided monoid operation and slide policy
 - Operation invertibility agnostic
 - i.e. Sum (invertible) and Max (non-invertible)
- Distributed binary tree data structure
- Bulk eviction operation is atomic
- Amortized constant $O(1)$ time operations

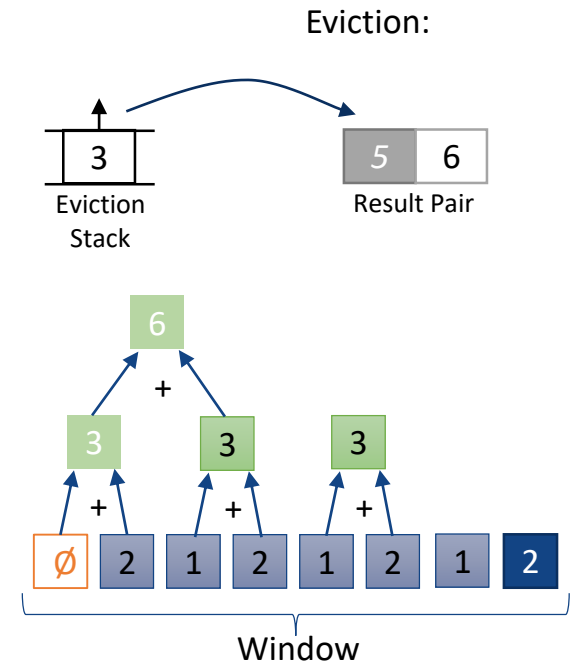
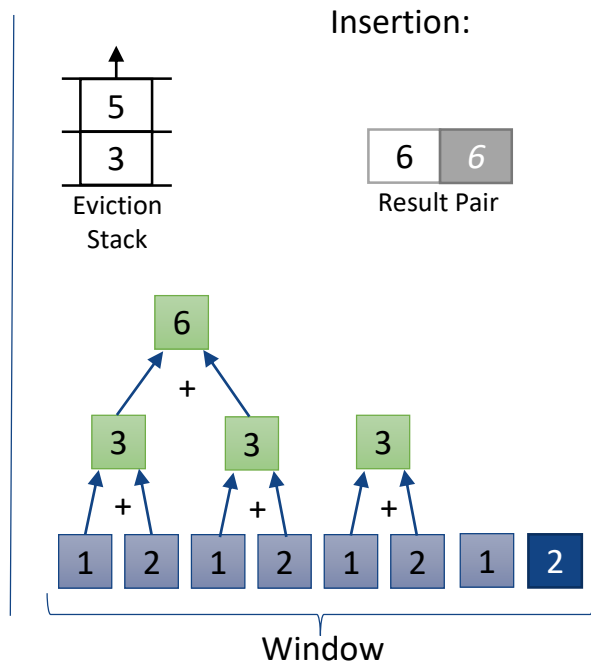
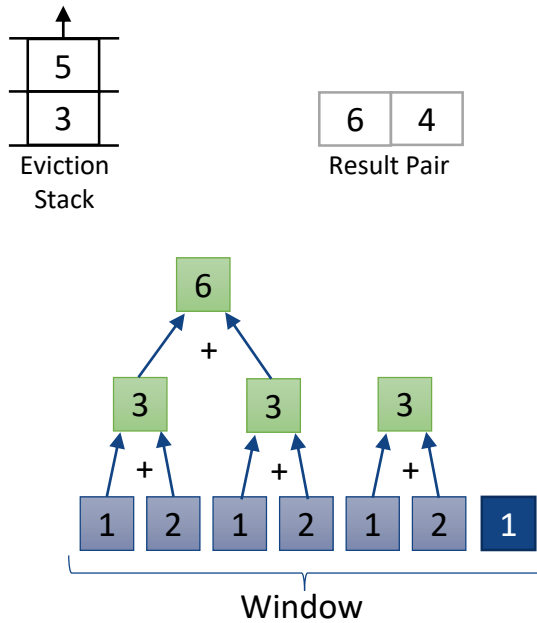
AMTA: Window Slide Policy (WSP)

- Programmatically decide which values need to be removed
- User-implemented interface
 - Inputs:
 - Current window result
 - Eviction candidate
 - Result:
 - Boolean – Eviction candidate satisfies WSP
- Assumptions
 - *Satisfied WSP* → All smaller eviction candidates satisfy the WSP
 - *Unsatisfied WSP* → Only smaller eviction candidates can satisfy the WSP

AMTA: Data Structure



AMTA: Basic operations



Approximate Aggregation with Error Control



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Background: Approximate Computing

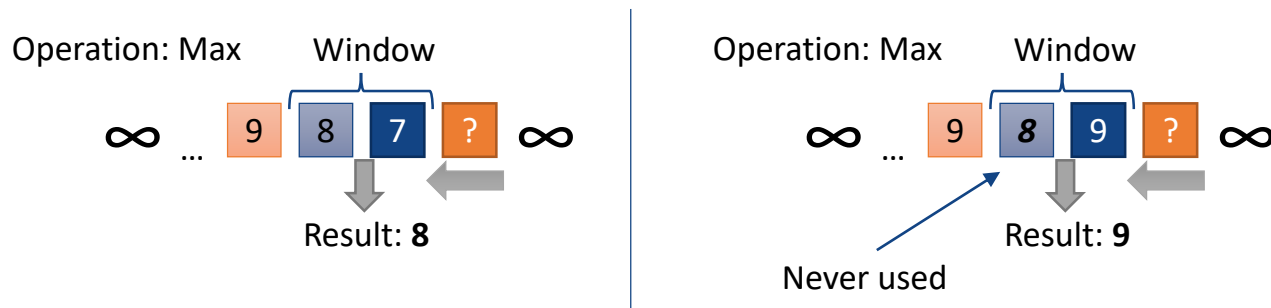
- Aggregation techniques that returns possibly inaccurate results
 - Results may contain some **error** compared to the accurate result
- Aggregation algorithms can benefit by
 - Reducing memory requirements
 - Reducing power consumption
 - Reducing network bandwidth
 - Improving performance
- Usually based on statistical predictions
- For example:
 - HyperLogLog
 - Approximate distinct count

Background: Sum-like aggregations

- Sum-like aggregations have only one effective neutral element
 - Results tend to constantly change
- The more extreme an input value is, the higher impact will have in its result
- Inverse function
- Although they all have an inverse function, it is not necessarily *subtraction*
 - However *subtraction* is used to calculate the error
- *Sum, count, average*

Background: Max-like aggregations

- Multiple values have a neutral effect on the aggregation
 - i.e. $Max(100, 99) = 100$, $Max(100, 98) = 100$...
- Some value will never have an effect on the sliding window aggregation

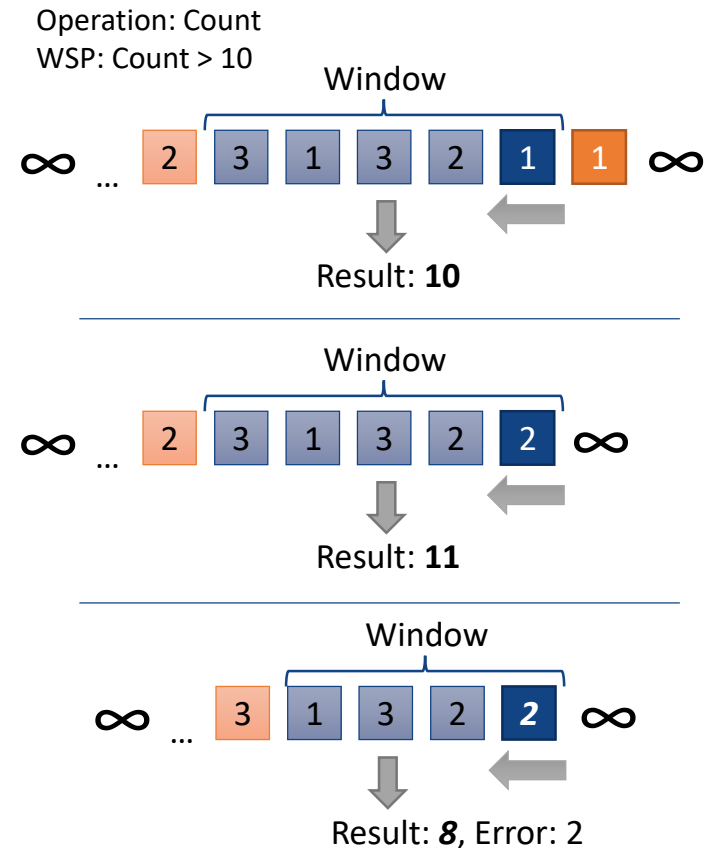


- No inverse function
- Max , Min , $argMax$, $argMin$, $maxCount$

Approximate AMTA (A²MTA)

Window Bucket

- Buckets are window members that aggregate multiple window input values
 - Reduced footprint
 - Granularity loss
 - Result error prone
- AMTA Trees don't propagate changes from the newest update
 - Performance improvement
- Error control requires a criteria for bucket sizes
 - Different kinds of aggregations require different criteria



Window Bucket: Error

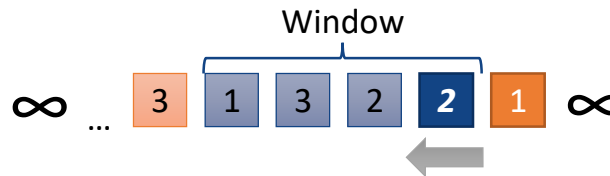
- A bucket generate error in two scenarios

- False positive eviction

- The last bucket evicted aggregates values that wouldn't have been evicted outside the bucket

Operation: Count

WSP: result - candidate > 10
result - \emptyset = result



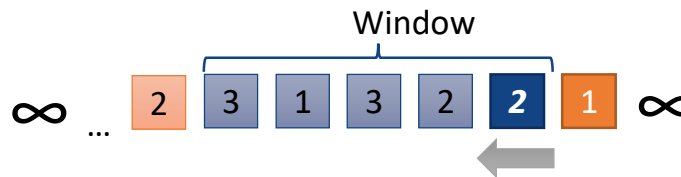
Result: **8**
Exact error: 2
Potential error: 2

- False negative eviction

- The first bucket to be evicted aggregates values that would have been evicted outside the bucket

Operation: Count

WSP: result - candidate > 10
result - \emptyset = 10



Result: **11**
Exact error: 1
Potential error: 2

Sum-like histogram

- Goal: Keep the error generated by buckets inside user-defined boundaries
 - Decide if a bucket keeps growing considering its error
 - A relative error will depend on the result
 - An absolute error may also depend on the result
 - Not a *sum* aggregation: i.e. multiplicative aggregation

- Result **prediction interval** with a confidence level

$$\left(\bar{x} - t^* s \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}}, \bar{x} + t^* s \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \right)$$

- Assuming the *central limit theorem*
- Absolute result error prediction

$$|r - M(b, r)|$$

r : predicted result, b : bucket error, M : monoid function

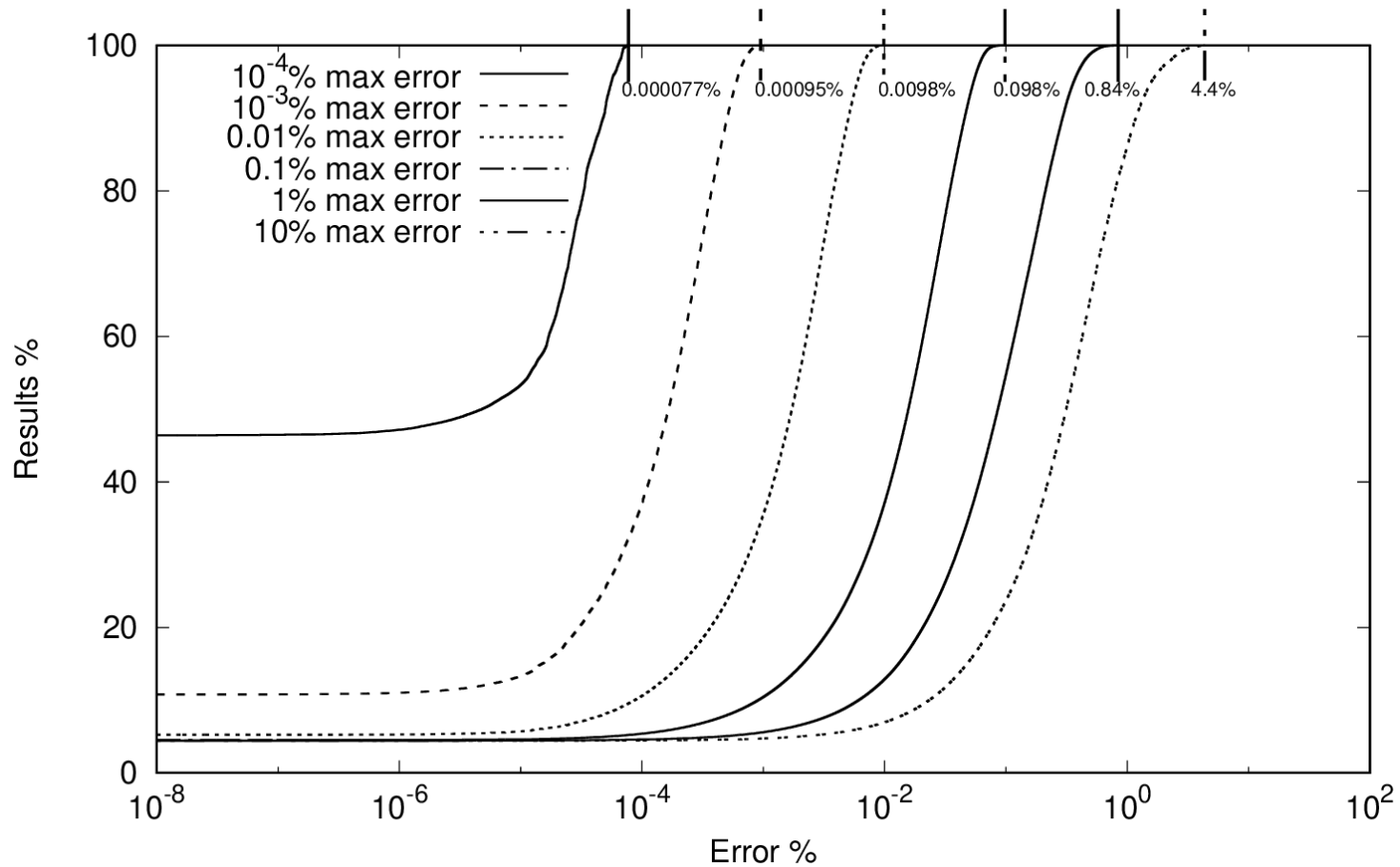
Max-like histogram

- Goal: Make buckets as big as possible while avoiding to produce any error
 - Aggregate in a bucket all values that are not predicted to become an extreme value
- Extreme value prediction: Fisher-Tippett Theorem
 - **Block Maxima**
 - Obtain *Generalized Extreme Value* distribution moments from the sample
 - Hosking GEV Probability-Weighted Moments (PWM) estimation method
 - Extract upper and lower bounds with a confidence level
- A less extreme input value than the GEV boundaries can be aggregated in the last bucket

Evaluation Methodology

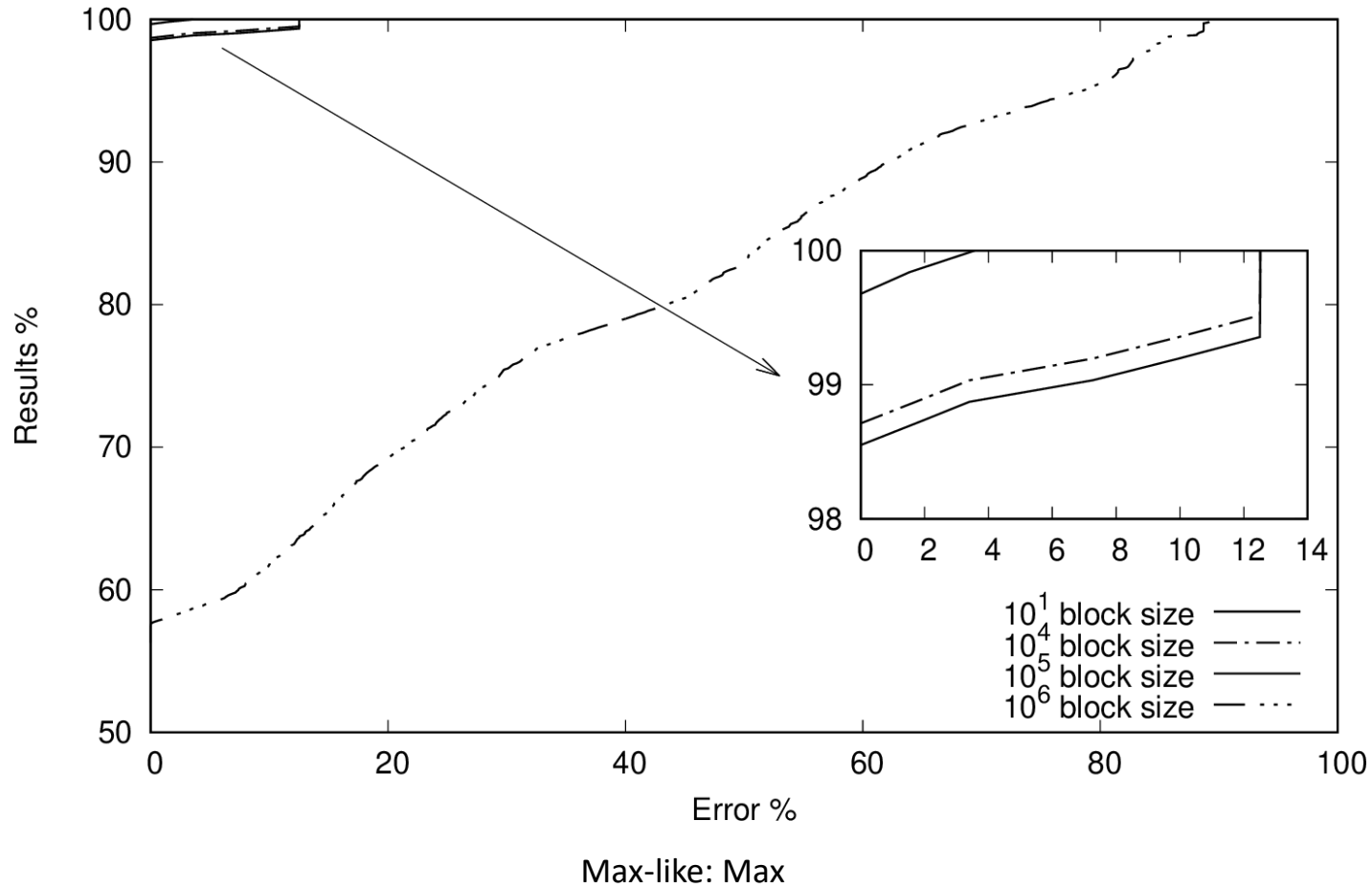
- Data set
 - A year worth of real telemetry data: 1 update/s
- Evaluate **effective error** and **footprint** from methods configuration parameters
 - Sum-like: Parameter → Max error, Operation → Mean
 - Max-like: Parameter → Block size, Operation → Max
 - WSP → Month-worth updates
- Evaluate **latency** comparison:
 - Approximate AMTA (A²MTA)
 - Amortized MTA (AMTA)

Evaluation: Sum-like Effective Error



Sum-like: Mean

Evaluation: Max-like Effective Error



Evaluation: Footprint

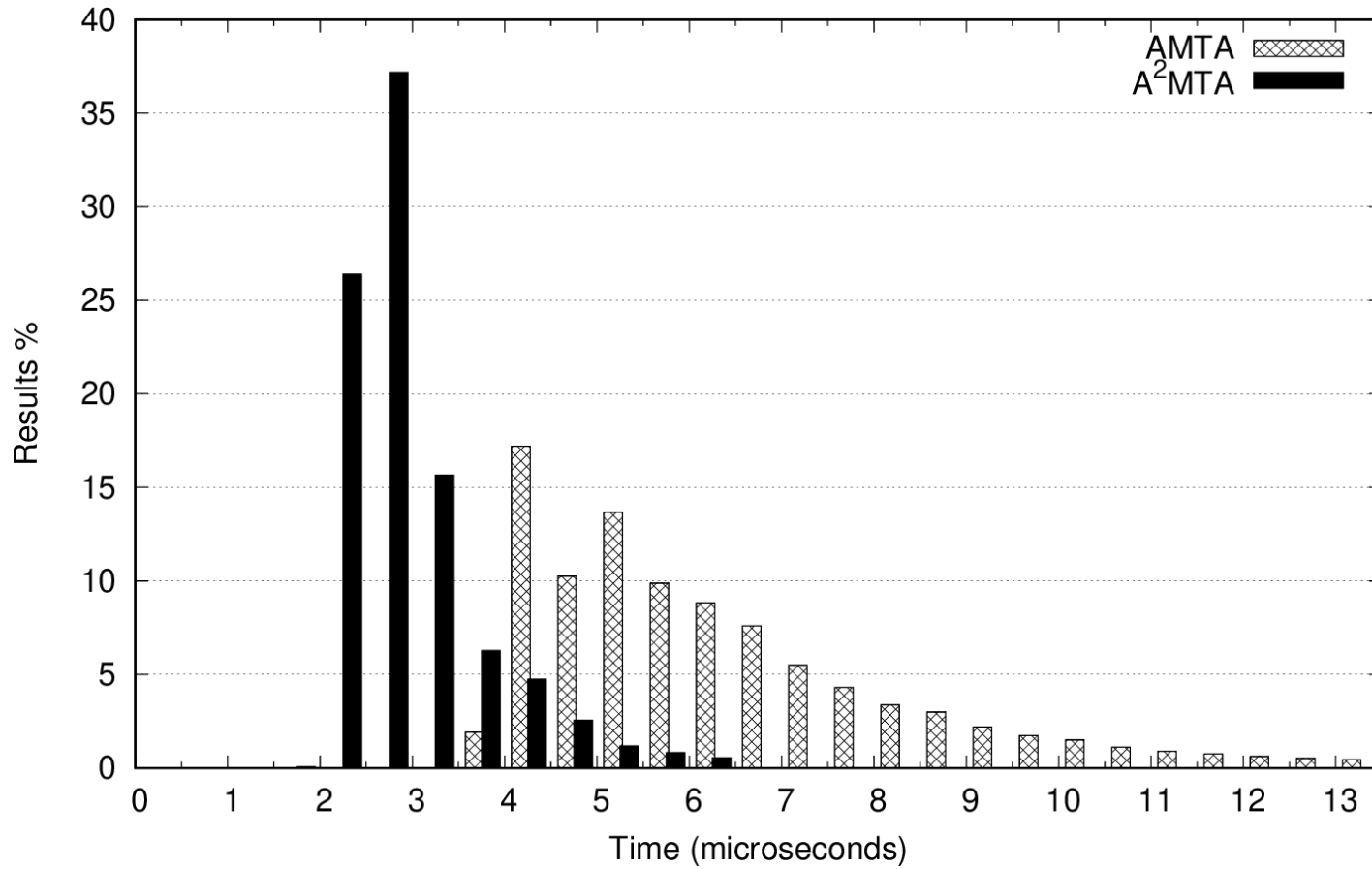
Sum-like histogram

Max error	Footprint
$10^{-4}\%$	44,02%
$10^{-3}\%$	6,591%
$10^{-2}\%$	$8,335 \cdot 10^{-1}\%$
$10^{-1}\%$	$9,9 \cdot 10^{-2}\%$
1%	$1,022 \cdot 10^{-2}\%$
10%	$9,854 \cdot 10^{-4}\%$

Max-like histogram

Block size	Footprint
10	91,33%
10^2	91,1%
10^3	95,49%
10^4	60,97%
10^5	4,394%
10^6	19,88%

Time Performance



Final Considerations

- A²MTA extends AMTA with approximate computing mechanisms
- The evaluation demonstrated that:
 - General purpose stream processing approximation framework
 - Result error can be controlled with prediction techniques
 - Footprint is greatly reduced
 - Data structure element generation is reduced in the same proportion
 - Less distributed data store network traffic
 - Time performance is better in most cases
- Max-like require a *right* block size



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Thank you

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