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Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler Approach for Optimizing Big Data Processing in Heterogeneous Clusters

Sunkari Mahesh [1], Dr K. Ram Mohan Rao [2]

[1] Research Scholer, Department of CSE Osmania University, Hyderabad, Telangana, India.

[2] Professor and Head, Department of IT VCE, OU, Hyderabad, Telangana, India.

ABSTRACT

In the rapidly expanding age of vast data accumulation, the efficient processing of massive datasets in heterogeneous Hadoop clusters presents a big challenge. Traditional job schedulers often struggle to adapt to the dynamic and diverse nature of big data workloads and the complexities of heterogeneous environments, leading to suboptimal resource utilization and extended job execution times. This research introduces Adoptive Load Balancing schedular, a novel solution designed to overcome these challenges. Our proposed model utilizes a dynamic, resource-aware scheduling algorithm that intelligently adapts to real-time workload characteristics and node capabilities. It boasts a powerful optimization engine with Node Profiler, Adaptive Scheduler, Task Classifier, Performance Monitor, and Load Balancer working seamlessly to enhance job execution and resource utilization. Testing has been carried out on traditional and existing models, such as the default Hadoop schedulers and with our proposed model and our proposed model demonstrated significant improvement. It outperformed these models in various metrics, including job execution time, data allocation efficiency, data transfer time, and resource utilization. In conclusion, the Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler Approach offers a significant improvement in the field of distributed computing for big data analytics. It not only enhances the performance and efficiency of Hadoop clusters but also contributes to economic and environmental sustainability by optimizing resource utilization. This approach shows the way for more responsive, efficient, and scalable big data processing solutions in heterogeneous computing environments.

Keywords**—** Adaptive Scheduling, Load Balancing, Resource Utilization, Job Scheduler, Task Classification, Data Transfer Efficiency, Dynamic Resource Allocation, Node Profiling, Scalable Data Processing**.**

I. INTRODUCTION

In the present big data era, efficiently processing extremely large-scale data has become a challenge in the field of distributed computing. The Hadoop ecosystem, with its elastic and adaptable architecture, has been at the frontline of big data analytics. However, the advent of heterogeneous computing environments, characterized by clusters with diverse computational resources, presents new challenges, particularly in job scheduling and resource allocation. This research work introduces an "Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler Approach," aimed at optimizing big data processing in such heterogeneous Hadoop clusters.
The Evolving Landscape of Big Data

The rapidly changing big data arena necessitates not only sheer volume but also intricate data manipulation to satisfy crucial performance indicators [22, 26]. Classic Hadoop scheduling mechanisms like First-In-First-Out, Capacity, and Fair often falter in diverse environments, resulting in uneven resource allocation, prolonged job executions, and untapped cluster potential.
While Hadoop has democratized big data processing, its legacy job schedulers like FIFO, Capacity, and Fair, struggle to cope with the complexities of modern, diverse clusters. These static approaches lack the dynamism necessary to effectively map resource allocation to the varied capabilities of individual nodes and the distinct demands of different tasks. Consequently, they often lead to imbalanced resource utilization, prolonged job execution times, and a significant underutilization of the cluster's overall potential.

A. Addressing Cluster Diversity

One of the primary challenges in current Hadoop clusters lies in their diverse nature. These clusters consist of nodes with varied capabilities, ranging from different CPU and memory setups to unique I/O and network bandwidth capacities. While this diversity presents multiple computational opportunities, it also makes the process of job scheduling more complex.

B. Emphasizing a Flexible Scheduling Strategy

The foundational idea of this study is that a flexible, dynamic approach to job scheduling can greatly improve efficiency in diverse Hadoop clusters. By constantly adjusting to the cluster's current state and each job's unique demands, a flexible scheduler can optimize resource use, minimize job processing times, and keep the workload evenly distributed across the cluster.

C. Aims and Contributions of the Study

The objectives of this study include:
Creating a dynamic load-balancing job scheduler designed for diverse environments.
Evaluating enhancements in job execution time, resource efficiency, and overall throughput.
Assessing the new scheduler's effectiveness against conventional Hadoop schedulers.
Investigating the new scheduler's capacity to handle varying workloads and cluster sizes in terms of scalability and adaptability.

D. *Outline of the Study*

This study is organized to initially address the existing challenges in processing big data within diverse Hadoop clusters. It then delves into the intricacies of the proposed dynamic scheduler, covering its design and algorithmic framework. The following sections provide a comparative performance analysis against traditional models, and discussions on scalability, adaptability, and practical applications.

II. RELATED WORK

In their research, Y. Gao and team proposed a new job scheduling approach for Hadoop YARN clusters, with an emphasis on preemptive scheduling that prioritizes meeting job deadlines and optimizing the use of resources [1]. Meanwhile, Abdallat and associates conducted an extensive review of various job scheduling algorithms applicable to Hadoop, with a special focus on real-time data processing and strategies for efficient scheduling [2].Hashem and team compared various resource scheduling mechanisms in Hadoop, Mesos, and Corona, categorizing MapReduce scheduling algorithms based on their strategies, resource considerations, and workload optimization [3]. Equitable allocation of task resources is a key factor in the Hadoop cluster. It mainly guarantees not only the efficiency of job execution but also the fairness among users under multiuser task operation [4]. Javanmardi et al. pointed out that considering fairness cannot take efficiency into account, and considering efficiency cannot take good care of the fair distribution of resource slots, so the author tried to consider these two factors at the same time and allocate resources fairly and reasonably to submitted jobs [5]. The scheduling algorithm proposed by Yao et al. can schedule jobs according to the weights of jobs, but the weights of jobs can be directly interacted with the system by the tools provided by the system. It can dynamically change the weights of jobs when the program runs, so as to directly interfere with the scheduler [6]

III. BACKGROUND

A. *Big Data Processing*

Involves handling massive volumes of diverse data to extract valuable insights. It typically requires advanced analytics techniques and robust computational infrastructure to manage and analyze large datasets efficiently [4].

B. *Hadoop Ecosystem*

The Hadoop ecosystem is a framework designed to facilitate the processing of large data sets across clusters of computers using simple programming models. It is scalable, allowing for the expansion from single servers to thousands of machines, each offering local computation and storage. The core components of the Hadoop ecosystem include:

Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS): A distributed file system that provides high-throughput access to application data [24][27][28].
Hadoop YARN: A framework for job scheduling and cluster resource management [25].
Hadoop MapReduce: A YARN-based system for parallel processing of large data sets [23].

Apache Ambari: A tool for provisioning, managing, and monitoring apache hadoop clusters. it provides a user-friendly web interface for cluster management and supports tasks like installing hadoop services, configuring the cluster, and monitoring system health and performance.

C. *Load Balancing*

In the context of hadoop, load balancing refers to the distribution of data processing tasks across all nodes in the cluster in a manner that optimizes resource utilization and prevents any single node from being overloaded. effective load balancing ensures efficient processing and faster job execution times.

D. *Schedulers*

In apache hadoop yarn (yet another resource negotiator), several types of schedulers are used to manage resource allocation for applications[1 -13]

FIFO Scheduler: The simplest scheduler that queues jobs in a first-in-first-out manner. It doesn't account for resource requirements of the jobs.
Capacity Scheduler: Designed for multi-tenant environments, this scheduler allocates resources based on predefined capacities for various organizations or groups.
Fair Scheduler: Allocates resources to ensure that all jobs get, on average, an equal share of resources over time. It's more flexible and provides fair distribution of resources across all jobs.
Dynamic Resource Pool Scheduler (DRF): As an enhancement of the Fair Scheduler, DRF is tailored for environments with multiple resources, employing the Dominant Resource Fairness algorithm for resource allocation. These schedulers are adaptable within YARN to meet various operational needs and workloads in a Hadoop cluster.

E. *Evaluating Performance*

The effectiveness of the Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler, which is developed for optimizing big data processing in heterogeneous clusters, can be assessed using several critical metrics, including:

Job Execution Time: This metric tracks the duration required to complete different jobs, where decreases in time signify gains in efficiency.
Resource Utilization: Assesses how effectively cluster resources (CPU, memory, disk I/O) are used.
Throughput: Tracks the number of tasks or amount of data processed within a given timeframe.
Load Balancing Efficiency: Evaluates how evenly workloads are distributed across the cluster.
Data Transfer Time: Measures the time taken for data movement within the cluster.
Scalability: Assesses the scheduler's ability to efficiently handle increasing data volumes and cluster sizes.
Node Utilization: Monitors individual node performance, ensuring balanced utilization across the cluster.

F. Applications Tested

- **SFTP file download**: The big data platform is relatively new compared to the conventional software solutions deployed in several organizations. Many organizations started their digitalization journey years ago and relied on conventional databases and software platforms built around these databases. Hence, the big data solution is usually deployed as an independent platform on the side not to disturb the usual processes. FTP servers play a significant role in integrating big data solutions with existing software platforms. The FTP servers act as a gateway between conventional software solutions and the Hadoop platform. The data generated from these software products can be pushed and stored into FTP servers, and the Hadoop platform securely ingests the data through SFTP
- **TeraGen:** It is a MapReduce program that generates large datasets for distributed storage systems and is commonly used for benchmarking Hadoop's performance. It generates data parallelly using multiple Mappers based on the specified number of rows. Each row has a format of 100 bytes, including a 10-byte key, a 10-byte row id, 78 bytes of filler data, and a line ending. The keys are random characters, while the filler is comprised of characters from 'A' to 'Z'. The number of Map tasks can be controlled by configuration parameters.

  TeraSort and TeraGen: These are benchmarking applications in Hadoop MapReduce. TeraSort utilizes the quicksort algorithm, and its number of Mappers depends on the input splits generated by TeraGen. TeraSort also constructs a trie of sample keys to assist in sorting.

  WordCount: This is a distributed Hadoop application designed for counting word occurrences in datasets. It processes input text files and outputs the frequency of each unique word. WordCount can be configured with multiple Mappers and employs a Combiner to enhance performance by reducing network traffic.

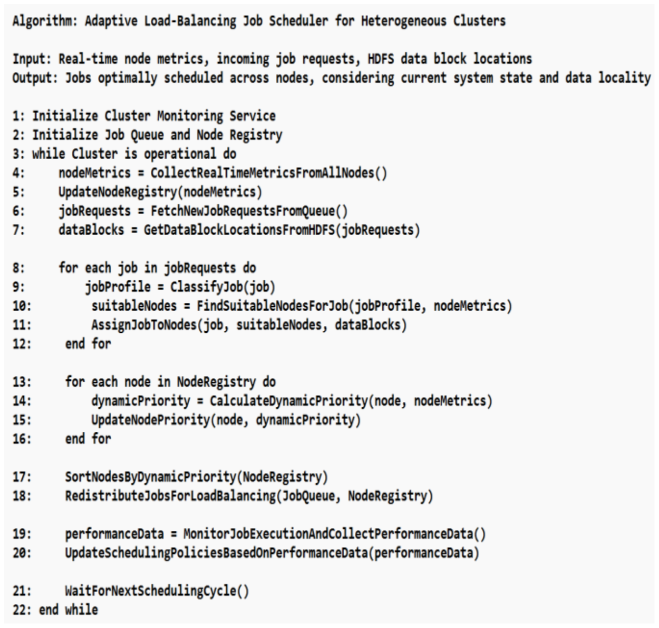
IV. PROPOSED SYSTEM OVERVIEW

The "Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler Approach" is tailored to optimize big data processing within heterogeneous Hadoop clusters. Its primary focus is on dynamic resource allocation and workload balancing across various nodes in the cluster.
A. Key Components of the System
The system includes several critical components:
Node Profiler: This element continuously gathers and analyzes data about each node's performance and resource availability in the Hadoop cluster. It monitors metrics like CPU usage, memory capacity, disk I/O, and network bandwidth, which are vital for informed scheduling decisions.
Task Classifier: This component categorizes tasks based on their resource needs, considering factors like CPU intensity, memory requirements, and I/O operations. This classification aids in understanding the specific nature of each task.
Adaptive Scheduler: As the system's cornerstone, this scheduler dynamically assigns tasks to nodes, guided by the current state of the cluster and individual task requirements. It leverages data from the Node Profiler and Task Classifier to make smart allocation choices, aiming to enhance resource use and shorten job execution times.

Load Balancer: This part ensures an even distribution of workloads across the cluster. It monitors each node's load and redistributes tasks as necessary to prevent overloading any single node. The Load Balancer is key to maintaining a balanced and efficient cluster operation.
These components synergistically work to boost the efficiency and effectiveness of big data processing in heterogeneous Hadoop clusters.

V. PROPOSED ALGORITHM

The algorithm combines node profiling, task classification, dynamic scheduling, and performance monitoring to develop an advanced job scheduler. It's specially designed to adapt to the fluctuating demands of big data processing in diverse cluster environments. The goal is to optimize data processing efficiency and resource use while minimizing job execution times and operational expenses.
The detailed pseudo code for the proposed Scheduler is outlined in Figure 1.



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Algorithm: Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler for Heterogeneous Clusters

Input: Real-time node metrics, incoming job requests, HDFS data block locations
Output: Jobs optimally scheduled across nodes, considering current system state and data locality

1: Initialize Cluster Monitoring Service
2: Initialize Job Queue and Node Registry
3: while Cluster is operational do
4:     nodeMetrics = CollectRealTimeMetricsFromAllNodes()
5:     UpdateNodeRegistry(nodeMetrics)
6:     jobRequests = FetchNewJobRequestsFromQueue()
7:     dataBlocks = GetDataBlockLocationsFromHDFS(jobRequests)

8:     for each job in jobRequests do
9:         jobProfile = ClassifyJob(job)
10:        suitableNodes = FindSuitableNodesForJob(jobProfile, nodeMetrics)
11:        AssignJobToNodes(job, suitableNodes, dataBlocks)
12:    end for

13:    for each node in NodeRegistry do
14:        dynamicPriority = CalculateDynamicPriority(node, nodeMetrics)
15:        UpdateNodePriority(node, dynamicPriority)
16:    end for

17:    SortNodesByDynamicPriority(NodeRegistry)
18:    RedistributeJobsForLoadBalancing(JobQueue, NodeRegistry)

19:    performanceData = MonitorJobExecutionAndCollectPerformanceData()
20:    UpdateSchedulingPoliciesBasedOnPerformanceData(performanceData)

21:    WaitForNextSchedulingCycle()
22: end while
```

Figure 1: Pseudo code of ALBJS

The Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler for a heterogeneous Hadoop cluster operates through a series of systematic steps:

1. Initialization of Cluster Monitoring and Job Queue: This step involves setting up systems to keep track of the cluster's operational health and to manage incoming job requests.
2. Collection of Real-Time Node Metrics: The scheduler gathers current information regarding CPU, memory, disk I/O, and network usage from each node in the cluster.
3. Updating the Node Registry: The latest metrics collected from each node are recorded in a centralized registry, which maintains a comprehensive record of the status and performance of all nodes in the cluster.
4. Fetching Job Requests: This step involves retrieving new job submissions that are queued for processing.
5. Identification of Data Block Locations: The scheduler determines the locations of the necessary data for each job within the Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS).
6. Job Classification and Node Matching: Each job is analysed to understand its specific resource requirements. The scheduler then identifies the most suitable nodes for these jobs based on their current performance metrics.
7. Assignment of Jobs to Nodes: Jobs are allocated to the selected nodes, taking into account data locality to enhance performance by reducing data transfer times.
8. Dynamic Priority Calculation and Update: The scheduler calculates a dynamic priority score for each node based on its current metrics, helping to assess its readiness for additional workload or the need for reduced allocation.
9. Redistribution of Jobs for Load Balancing: Jobs may be reassigned as necessary to ensure that the workload is evenly distributed across the cluster, preventing any single node from becoming overburdened.
10. Performance Monitoring and Policy Update: The scheduler continuously monitors the execution of jobs and the overall performance of the cluster. Based on these observations, it adjusts scheduling policies to optimize efficiency.
11. Preparation for the Next Scheduling Cycle: The system briefly pauses until the commencement of the next scheduling cycle.

The essence of the proposed scheduler lies in its dynamic and responsive approach. By constantly updating its knowledge of the cluster's status and adapting job assignments accordingly, it seeks to optimize task distribution, enhance resource utilization, and ensure a balanced operational load across the Hadoop cluster. This process not only improves job execution times but also maintains the stability and efficiency of the cluster under varying workload conditions.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION

A. *Environment Setup*

Amazon EC2's T2 instances are economical, all-purpose instance types structured to offer a well-rounded combination of processing power, memory, and network capabilities. Characterized as burstable, these instances have the ability to exceed their standard capacity by utilizing accumulated CPU credits during low-usage periods. This feature renders them particularly apt for tasks that experience occasional spikes in CPU demand. The T2 line presents a range of configurations, extending from t2.nano to t2.2xlarge, to accommodate diverse CPU and memory needs. For example, the t2.medium variant provides 2 vCPUs and 4GB of memory, while the t2.2xlarge option includes 8 vCPUs and 32GB of memory, both maintaining moderate network performance. These instances are ideal for constructing a flexible and scalable Hadoop cluster framework.

Description of a Diverse Cluster:

The formation of a heterogeneous cluster involves the use of various T2 instance types from Amazon EC2, specifically t2.medium, t2.xlarge, and t2.2xlarge. Tailored for Hadoop YARN, this cluster consists of 11 nodes spread over three racks. In this configuration, each rack accommodates 3 DataNodes, each powered by a distinct category of t2 instance. The cluster is further enhanced with the inclusion of one NameNode and an edge node. The detailed specifications of these EC2 instances, including their respective configurations, are comprehensively outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: EC2 Instances Specification

Instance Type	vCPU	Memory	Storage	Network Performance
t2.medium	2	4GB	8GB	Low to Moderate
t2.xlarge	4	16GB	8GB	Moderate
t2.2xlarge	8	32GB	8GB	Moderate

This architecture offers a broad spectrum of computational resources, rendering the cluster adaptable to a multitude of tasks. It exemplifies the versatility of Hadoop YARN in handling diverse environments effectively.

B. Experimental Approach

For experimenting with the suggested scheduler strategy utilizing Hadoop and the Apache Ambari platform, the following procedures should be implemented:
Setup Process: The initial step involves configuring a Hadoop cluster and installing Apache Ambari for its monitoring and management. It's crucial to ensure that the cluster comprises various node types, thereby establishing a heterogeneous environment.

Baseline Measurement: Run standard benchmarking tasks like TeraSort, TeraGen, and WordCount using the default scheduler and record performance metrics using Ambari.

Implement Scheduler: Integrate the proposed scheduler into Hadoop's YARN ResourceManager.

Run Experiments: Execute the same benchmarks with the proposed scheduler activated. Use Ambari to monitor the performance.

Data Analysis: Compare the metrics (job execution time, CPU/memory utilization, etc.) from the default and proposed schedulers to evaluate the improvements.

Predicted Results: Anticipate improved efficiency, reduced job times, and better resource allocation from the proposed scheduler compared to the default. Quantify the expected enhancements in the performance metrics based on the algorithm's design goals.

C. Results and Analysis

The experimental results of the proposed research work has been presented in Table 2 below.
The analysis of the proposed ALBJS (Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler) model shows it outperforms the traditional FIFO, Capacity, Fair, and DRABRA schedulers across all tasks. Notably, it improves SFTP times by 36.6% compared to FIFO and by 17.9% compared to DRABRA. For TeraGen and TeraSort, it shows a 22.7% and 24.6% improvement over FIFO, respectively, and a 5.6% and 10.7% improvement over DRABRA. WordCount sees a 36.9% improvement from FIFO and 16.3% from DRABRA. Overall, ALBJS reduces the total time by 30.2% compared to FIFO and 13% compared to DRABRA, indicating a significant enhancement in job scheduling efficiency.

Table 2: Performance comparison of ALBJS with other schedulers

Scheduler	**SFTP (s)**	**Tera Gen (s)**	**Tera Sort (s)**	**Word count (s)**	**Total Time (s)**
FIFO	290	132	232	65	719
Capacity	251	121	210	61	643
Fair	274	119	208	54	655
DRABRA	224	108	196	49	577
ALBJS	184	102	175	41	502

Bar graph shown in Figure 2 below illustrates the performance of various job schedulers in a Hadoop environment. The ALBJS model demonstrates a marked improvement over traditional scheduling algorithms like FIFO, Capacity, and Fair, as well as the DRABR model. The graph shows execution times for specific tasks like SFTP, TeraSort, TeraGen, and WordCount, along with the total time taken. The ALBJS model appears to have the lowest times across all tasks, indicating higher efficiency and faster processing, which suggests that ALBJS effectively optimizes resource allocation and job scheduling. The results of the proposed ALBJS model shown in the **Table 3** showcases an overall enhancement in various performance metrics compared to the default and DRABR schedulers. Specifically:
Job Execution Time Reduction: Improved by 23.3% over the default and by 5.3% over DRABR. Average CPU Usage: Increased usage efficiency by 33.3% over the default and 6.7% over DRABR, indicating better CPU resource utilization.Peak CPU Usage: A slight decrease by 5.6% compared to the default, which may suggest more even CPU load distribution.Lowest CPU Usage: A substantial increase in efficiency by 150% over the default and 7.1% over DRABR, highlighting better utilization of underperforming nodes. Average Memory Usage: A 15.4% increase in efficiency over the default, but a 6.25% decrease compared to DRABR, possibly due to different memory management strategies.

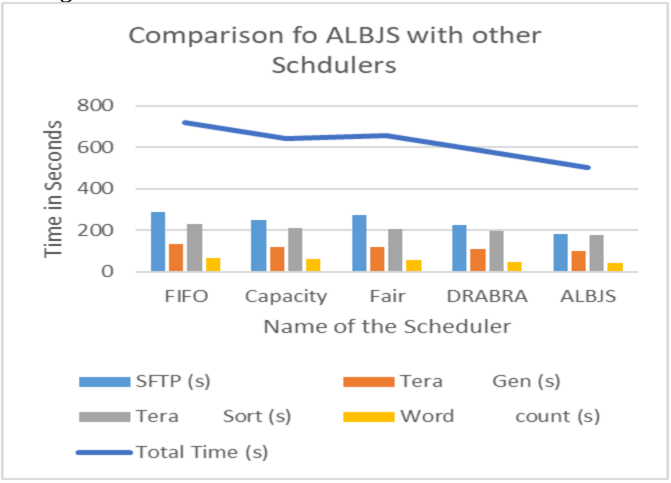

Figure 2: Comparison of ALBJS with other Job Schedulers

Data Locality: A 40% improvement over the default and 7.7% over DRABR, indicating that ALBJS is better at executing tasks closer to where the data resides, thus reducing network traffic and I/O wait times.

Table 3: Performance Analysis of different schedulers

Metric	Default Scheduler (%)	DRABR Scheduler (%)	Proposed (ALBJS) Scheduler (%)	Improvement Over Default (%)	Improvement Over DRABR (%)
Job Execution Time Reduction	0	18	23.3	23.3	5.3
Average CPU Usage	60	75	80	33.3	6.7
Peak CPU Usage	90	85	85	-5.6	0
Lowest CPU Usage	30	70	75	150	7.1
Average Memory Usage	65	80	75	15.4	-6.25
Data Locality	50	65	70	40	7.7

These results suggest that the ALBJS model is particularly effective in optimizing job scheduling and resource utilization in a Hadoop cluster

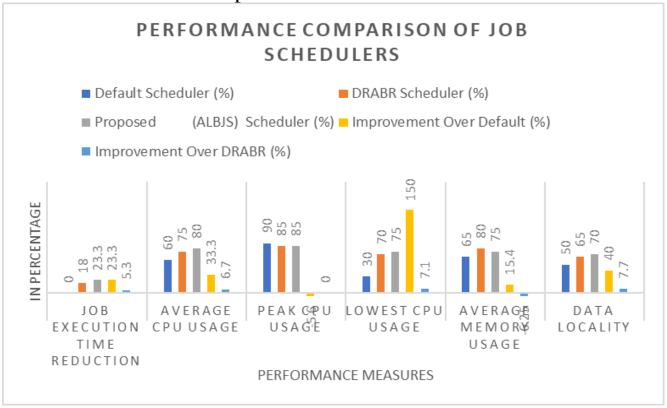

Figure 3: Performance comparison of various Job Schedulers

The data presented in Figure 3 graphically displays the performance of various job schedulers, highlighting the effectiveness of the Adaptive Load-Balancing Job Scheduler (ALBJS) model. This visual representation indicates that ALBJS significantly enhances job execution times and data locality, outperforming both the standard and DRABR schedulers. Additionally, it evidences considerable improvements in CPU utilization, both in average and minimum usage. However, a notable decrease in average memory usage with ALBJS, in comparison to DRABR, suggests an area for further exploration. Overall, the graph underscores ALBJS's marked progress across multiple critical metrics in Hadoop scheduling.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE SCOPE

The ALBJS model has proven its efficacy in enhancing job execution times and optimizing resource use within a Hadoop framework. Its dynamic adaptation to real-time node metrics allows for a more efficient task distribution, leading to quicker job completions and improved alignment with available computational resources.

Future enhancements for the ALBJS model are plentiful. Incorporating machine learning algorithms to predict workload patterns could enable proactive resource adjustments. Focusing on augmenting memory usage efficiency, particularly where it falls short of the DRABR model, is another potential area for refinement. Testing the scalability of ALBJS in larger and more intricate cluster setups, as well as its adaptability to new big data technologies, will be crucial to ensure its continued efficacy amidst the ever-changing landscape of data analytics.

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