

Distributed Systems & Blockchain in the News

- 20.02.2024: The Billion Row Challenge (1BRC) - Step-by-step from 71s to 1.7s [link]
 - How fast can YOU aggregate 1B rows using modern #Java? tl;dr – 1.5s
 - Write a Java program for retrieving temperature measurement values from a text file and calculating the min, mean, and max temperature per weather station
 - Its Java, but with black magic, aka Unsafe
 - Winner [link] vs. regular [link] 71s
 - 0: Use good VM 71s → 66s

- 1: Parallelize I/O 66s → 17s
- 2: Directly parse temperature as int 17s \rightarrow 11s
- 3: Custom hashtable 11s → 6.8s
- 4: sun.misc.Unsafe, SWAR 6.8s → 2.6s
- 5: Analyze branch prediction 2.6s → 2s
- 6: Eliminate startup/cleanup costs → eliminate 200ms 2s → 1.8s
- 7: Use smaller chunks and work stealing → micro optimizations 1.8s → 1.7s
- "... keep in mind that a lot of the gains come from dispensing with all the best practices that apply to production code..."



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- 22.02.2024: Bitcoin Inventor Satoshi Nakamoto Emails Revealed in Court [link]
 - Revealed emails between Satoshi Nakamoto and Adam Back
- 21.02.2024: Lots of new LLM
 - Gemma: Introducing new state-of-the-art open models [link] - probably censored, biased? [link], 7B model
 - Mistral-next [link] uncensored, no information yet, ?B model
 - Phind [link], a 70B model

- A 24GB 7900XTX can run a quantized 30B model. This is currently to top consumer product with 24GB, best HW maxed out at 192GB [link] (MI300X), H200 141GB [link] → multi GPU in one machine → then second machine
- 11.01.2024: Intel Processor Instability
 Causing Oodle Decompression Failures[link]
 - Distributed system: fault tolerance

