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Synchronization

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Chapter Outline

- Clocks and time
- Global state
- Mutual exclusion
- Election algorithms
- Distributed transactions
- Tanenbaum, van Steen: Ch 5CoDoKi: Ch 10-12 (3rd ed.)



Time and Clocks

What we need?

How to solve?

Real time	Universal time (Network time)
Interval length	Computer clock
Order of events	Network time (Universal time)

NOTE: *Time* is *monotonous*



Measuring Time

- Traditionally time measured astronomically
 - Transit of the sun (highest point in the sky)
 - Solar day and solar second
- Problem: Earth's rotation is slowing down
 - Days get longer and longer
 - 300 million years ago there were 400 days in the year ;-)
- Modern way to measure time is atomic clock
 - Based on transitions in Cesium-133 atom
 - Still need to correct for Earth's rotation
- Result: Universal Coordinated Time (UTC)
 - UTC available via radio signal, telephone line, satellite (GPS)



Hardware/Software Clocks

- Physical clocks in computers are realized as crystal oscillation counters at the hardware level
 - Correspond to counter register H(t)
 - Used to generate interrupts
- Usually scaled to approximate physical time t, yielding software clock C(t), C(t) = αH(t) + β
 - C(t) measures time relative to some reference event, e.g., 64 bit counter for # of nanoseconds since last boot
 - Simplification: C(t) carries an approximation of real time
 - Ideally, C(t) = t (never 100% achieved)
 - Note: Values given by two consecutive clock queries will differ only if clock resolution is sufficiently smaller than processor cycle time



Problems with Hardware/Software Clocks

- Skew: Disagreement in the reading of two clocks
- Drift: Difference in the rate at which two clocks count the time
 - Due to physical differences in crystals, plus heat, humidity, voltage, etc.
 - Accumulated drift can lead to significant skew
- Clock drift rate: Difference in precision between a prefect reference clock and a physical clock,
 - Usually, 10⁻⁶ sec/sec, 10⁻⁷ to 10⁻⁸ for high precision clocks



Skew between computer clocks in a distributed system



Network

Figure 10.1

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When each machine has its own clock, an event that occurred after another event may nevertheless be assigned an earlier time.



Clock Synchronization Problem

Clock time, C



 $1 \text{ ms} \sim 17 \text{ min}$ $1 \text{ s} \sim 11.6 \text{ days}$ UTC: coordinated universal time accuracy: radio 0.1 - 10 ms,

GPS 1 us

The relation between clock time and UTC when clocks tick at different rates.



Synchronizing Clocks

- External synchronization
 - Synchronize process's clock with an authoritative external
 - reference clock S(t) by limiting skew to a delay bound D > 0
 - |S(t) Ci(t) | < D for all t</p>
 - For example, synchronization with a UTC source

Internal synchronization

- Synchronize the local clocks within a distributed system to disagree by not more than a delay bound D > 0, without
 - necessarily achieving external synchronization
 - |Ci(t) Cj(t)| < D for all i, j, t
- Obviously:
 - For a system with external synchronization bound of D, the internal synchronization is bounded by 2D



Clock Correctness

- When is a clock correct?
- If drift rate falls within a bound r > 0, then for any t and t' with t' > t the following error bound in measuring t and t' holds:
 - $(1-r)(t'-t) \le H(t') H(t) \le (1+r)(t'-t)$
 - Consequence: No jumps in hardware clocks allowed
- 2. Sometimes monotonically increasing clock is enough:
 - $t' > t \Rightarrow C(t') > C(t)$
- **3.** Frequently used condition:
 - Monotonically increasing
 - Drift rate bounded between synchronization points
 - Clock may jump ahead at synchronization points



Synchronization of Clocks: Software-Based Solutions

Techniques:

- time stamps of real-time clocks
- message passing
- round-trip time (local measurement)
- Cristian's algorithm
- Berkeley algorithm
- Network time protocol (Internet)



Christian's Algorithm

- Observations
 - Round trip times between processes are often reasonably short in practice, yet theoretically unbounded
 - Practical estimate possible if round-trip times are sufficiently short in comparison to required accuracy
- Principle
 - Use UTC-synchronized time server S
 - Process P sends requests to S
 - Measures round-trip time T_{round}
 - In LAN, T_{round} should be around 1-10 ms
 - During this time, a clock with a 10⁻⁶ sec/sec drift rate varies by at most 10⁻⁸ sec
 - Hence the estimate of T_{round} is reasonably accurate
 - Naive estimate: Set clock to t + ½T_{round}



Current time from a time server: UTC from radio/satellite etc Problems:

- time must never run backward
- variable delays in message passing / delivery



Christian's Algorithm: Analysis

- Accuracy of estimate?
- Assumptions:
 - requests and replies via same net
 - *min* delay is either known or can be estimated conservatively
- Calculation:
 - Earliest time that S can have sent reply: t₀ + min
 - Latest time that S can have sent reply: $t_0 + T_{round} min$
 - Total time range for answer: T_{round} 2 * min
 - Accuracy is ± (¹/₂T_{round} *min*)
- Discussion
 - Really only suitable for LAN environment or Intranet
 - Problem of failure of S



Alternative Algorithm

- Berkeley algorithm (Gusella&Zatti '89)
 - No external synchronization, but one master server
 - Master polls slaves periodically about their clock readings
 - Estimate of local clock times using round trip estimation
 - Averages the values obtained from a group of processes
 - Cancels out individual clock's tendencies to run fast
 - Tells slave processes by which amount of time to adjust local clock
 - Master failure: Master election algorithm (see later)
- Experiment
 - 15 computers, local drift rate < 2x10⁻⁵, max round-trip 10 ms
 - Clocks were synchronized to within 20-25 ms

Note: Neither algorithm is really suitable for Internet





- a) The **time daemon asks** all the other machines for their clock values
- b) The machines answer
- c) The time daemon tells everyone how to adjust their clock



Clock Synchronization: NTP

- Goals
 - ability to externally synchronize clients via Internet to UTC
 - provide reliable service tolerating lengthy losses of connectivity
 - enable clients to resynchronize sufficiently frequently to offset typical HW drift rates
 - provide protection against interference



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NTP Basic Idea

- Layered client-server architecture, based on UDP message passing
- Synchronization at clients with higher strata number less accurate due to increased latency to strata 1 time server
- Failure robustness: if a strata 1 server fails, it may become a strata 2 server that is being synchronized though another strata 1 server



Multicast:

- One computer periodically multicasts time info to all other computers on network
- These adjust clock assuming a very small transmission delay
- Only suitable for high speed LANs; yields low but usually acceptable sync.
- Procedure-call: similar to Christian's protocol
 - Server accepts requests from clients
 - Applicable where higher accuracy is needed, or where multicast is not supported by the network's hard- and software

Symmetric:

Used where high accuracy is needed

Procedure-Call and Symmetric Modes

All messages carry timing history information

- Iocal timestamps of send and receive of the previous NTP message
- Iocal timestamp of send of this message



For each pair i of messages (m, m') exchanged between two servers the following values are being computed

(based on 3 values carried w/ msg and 4th value obtained via local timestamp):

- offset o_i: estimate for the actual offset between two clocks
- delay d_i: true total transmission time for the pair of messages



Let o the true offset of B's clock relative to A's clock, and let t and t' the true transmission times of m and m' (T_i, T_{i-1} ... are not true time)
 Delay

 $T_{i-2} = T_{i-3} + t + o$ (1) and $T_i = T_{i-1} + t' - o$ (2) which leads to $d_i = t + t' = T_{i-2} - T_{i-3} + T_i - T_{i-1}$ (clock errors zeroed out → true d) ■ Offset

 $o_i = \frac{1}{2} (T_{i-2} - T_{i-3} + T_{i-1} - T_i)$ (only an estimate)



NTP Implementation

- Statistical algorithms based on 8 most recent <o_i, d_i> pairs: → determine quality of estimates
- The value of o_i that corresponds to the minimum d_i is chosen as an estimate for o
- Time server communicates with multiple peers, eliminates peers with unreliable data, favors peers with higher strata number (e.g., for primary synchronization partner selection)
- NTP phase lock loop model: modify local clock in accordance with observed drift rate
- Experiments achieve synchronization accuracies of 10 msecs over Internet, and 1 msec on LAN using NTP



Clocks and Synchronization

Requirements:

- "causality": real-time order ~ timestamp order ("behavioral correctness" – seen by the user)
- groups / replicates: all members see the events in the same order
- *"multiple-copy-updates*": order of updates, consistency conflicts?
- serializability of transactions: bases on a common understanding of transaction order

A perfect physical clock is sufficient!

A perfect physical clock is impossible to implement! Above requirements met with much lighter solutions!



if a, b are events in the same process, and a occurs before b, then a -> b

- if a is the event of a *message being sent*, and
 b is the event of the *message being received*,
 then a -> b
- a || b if neither a -> b nor b -> a (a and b are *concurrent*)

Note: if $a \rightarrow b$ and $b \rightarrow c$ then $a \rightarrow c$



Logical Clocks: Lamport Timestamps



process p_i , event e, clock L_i , timestamp $L_i(e)$

- at p_i: before each event L_i = L_i + 1
- when p_i sends a *message* m to p_i
 - 1. p_i : ($L_i = L_i + 1$); $t = L_i$; message = (m, t);
 - 2. p_j : $L_j = max(L_j, t); L_j = L_j + 1;$
 - 3. L_j (receive event) = L_j ;



Lamport Clocks: Problems

1. Timestamps do not specify the order of events

BUT

- L(e) < L(e') does not imply that e -> e'
- 2. Total ordering
 - problem: define order of e, e' when L(e) = L(e')
 - solution: extended timestamp (T_i , i), where T_i is $L_i(e)$
 - definition: $(T_i, i) < (T_j, j)$ if and only ifeither $T_i < T_j$ or $T_i = T_j$ and i < j





Updating a replicated database and leaving it in an inconsistent state.





Total ordering:

all receivers (applications) see all messages in the same order (which is not necessarily the original sending order)

Example: multicast operations, group-update operations









Multicast:

- everybody receives the message (incl. the sender!)
- messages from one sender are received in the sending order
- no messages are lost



Various Orderings

 Total ordering
 Causal ordering
 FIFO (First In First Out) (wrt an individual communication channel)
 Total and causal ordering are independent: neither induces the other;
 Causal ordering induces FIFO



Total, FIFO and Causal Ordering of Multicast Messages

Notice the consistent ordering of totally ordered messages T_1 and T_2 , the FIFO-related messages F_1 and F_2 and the causally related messages C_1 and C_3 - and the otherwise arbitrary delivery ordering of messages.

Figure 11.12





Vector Timestamps

Goal:

timestamps should reflect causal ordering
L(e) < L(e') => " e happened before e' "
=>

Vector clock

each process P_i maintains a vector V_i :

- 1. $V_i[i]$ is the number of events that have occurred at P_i (the current local time at P_i)
- 2. if $V_i[j] = k$ then P_i knows about (the first) k events that have occurred at P_j (the local time at P_j was k, as P_j sent the last message that P_i has received from it)



Order of Vector Timestamps

Order of timestamps

- V = V' iff V[j] = V' [j] for all j
- ► $V \le V'$ iff $V[j] \le V'[j]$ for all j
- V < V' iff V ≤ V' and V \neq V'

Order of events (causal order)

- e -> e' => V(e) < V(e')
- V(e) < V(e') => e -> e'

concurrency:

e || e' if **not** $V(e) \le V(e')$ and **not** $V(e') \le V(e)$



Causal Ordering of Multicasts (1)



message sent

Timestamp [i,j,k] :

messages sent from P 1

messages sent form Q

k messages sent from R

m2 [110] m5 [221] m3 [101]

m**4** [**21**1] vs. **111**


Causal Ordering of Multicasts (2)

Use of timestamps in causal multicasting

- 1) P_i multicast: $V_i[i] = V_i[i] + 1$
- 2) Message: include vt = V_i [*]
- 3) Each receiving P_j : the message **can be delivered when**
 - $vt[i] = V_i[i] + 1$ (all previous messages from P_i have arrived)
 - for each component **k (k≠i): ∨_j[k] ≥ vt[k]**
 - (P_i has now seen all the messages that P_i had seen when the message was sent)
- 4) When the message from P_i becomes deliverable at P_j the message is inserted into the delivery queue

(note: the delivery queue preserves causal ordering)

5) At delivery: $V_j[i] = V_j[i] + 1$



Causal Ordering of a Bulletin Board (1)



Assumption: reliable, order-preserving BB-to-BB transport User ⇔ BB ("local events")

- read: bb <= BB_i (any BB)
- write: to a BB_j that contains all causal
 - predecessors of all bb

messages

- **BB**_i **=> BB**_j ("messages")
- BB_j must contain all nonlocal predecessors of all BB_i messages



Causal Ordering of <u>a Bulletin Board (2)</u>







Causal Ordering of a Bulletin Board (3)



023

1, 2, 3



Causal Ordering of a Bulletin Board (4)

Updating of vector clocks
Process P_i
Local vector clock V_i [*]
Update due to a local event: V_i [i] = V_i [i] + 1
Receiving a message with the timestamp vt [*]
Condition for delivery (to P_i from P_j): wait until for all k: k≠j: V_i [k] ≥ vt [k]
Update at the delivery: V_i [j] = vt [j]



Needs: checkpointing, garbage collection, deadlock detection, termination, testing

- How to observe the state
 - states of processes
 - messages in transfer

A state: application-dependent specification



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Each node: history of important events
Observer: at each node i

time: the local (logical) clock "T_i"
state S_i (history: {event, timestamp})
system state { S_i }

A *cut:* the system state { S_i } "at time T"
Requirement:

{Si} might have existed ⇔ consistent with respect to some criterion

one possibility: consistent wrt " happened-before relation "



Ad-hoc State Snaphots



(inconsistent or)

strangly consistent

state changes: money transfers $A \Leftrightarrow B$ invariant: A+B = 700





event: a change of the local x => increase the vector clock

 $\{S_i\}$ system state history: all events Cut: all events before the "cut time" A cut is consistent if, for each event, it also contains all the events that "happened-before".



Chandy Lamport (1)



The snapshot algorithm of Chandy and Lamport

a) Organization of a process and channels for a distributed snapshot





- b) Process Q receives a marker for the first time and records its local state
- c) Q records all incoming messages
- d) Q receives a marker for its incoming channel and finishes recording the state of this incoming channel



Marker receiving rule for process p_i

On p_i 's receipt of a *marker* message over channel c:

if $(p_i$ has not yet recorded its state) it

records its process state now;

records the state of c as the empty set;

turns on recording of messages arriving over other incoming channels; *else*

 p_i records the state of c as the set of messages it has received over c since it saved its state.

end if

Marker sending rule for process p_i

After p_i has recorded its state, for each outgoing channel c:

 p_i sends one marker message over c

(before it sends any other message over c).

Figure 11.10

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Chandy, Lamport

point-to-point, order-preserving connections



Coordination of functionality

- reservation of resources (distributed mutual exclusion)
- elections (coordinator, initiator)
- multicasting
- distributed transactions



Decision Making

- Centralized: one coordinator (decision maker)
 - algorithms are simple
 - no fault tolerance (if the coordinator fails)
- Distributed decision making
 - algorithms tend to become complex
 - may be extremely fault tolerant
 - behaviour, correctness ?
 - assumptions about failure behaviour of the platform !
- Centralized role, changing "population of the role"
 - easy: one decision maker at a time
 - challenge: management of the "role population"



(a) (b) (c)

- a) Process 1 asks the coordinator for permission to enter a critical region. Permission is granted
- b) Process 2 then asks permission to enter the same critical region. The coordinator does not reply.
- c) When process 1 exits the critical region, it tells the coordinator, which then replies to 2



Examples of usage

- a stateless server (e.g., Network File Server)
- a separate lock server
- General requirements for mutual exclusion
- safety: at most one process may execute in the critical section at a time
- 2. **liveness**: requests (enter, exit) eventually succeed (no deadlock, no starvation)
- fairness (ordering): if the request A happens before the request B then A is honored before B
- **Problems**: fault tolerance, performance



The problem:

- several simultaneous requests (e.g., P_i and P_j)
 all members have to agree (*everybody*: "first P_i then P_i")

```
A Distributed Algorithm (2)
On initialization
    state := RELEASED;
To enter the section
    state := WANTED;
    T := request's timestamp;
                                               request processing deferred here
    Multicast request to all processes;
    Wait until (number of replies received = (N-1));
    state := HELD;
On receipt of a request \langle T_i, p_i \rangle at p_i (i \neq j)
    if (state = HELD or (state = WÅNTED and (T, p_i) < (T_i, p_i)))
    then
        queue request from p<sub>i</sub> without replying;
    else
        reply immediately to p_i;
    end if;
To exit the critical section
                                          Fig. 11.4 Ricart - Agrawala
    state := RELEASED;
    reply to all queued requests;
```

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Fig. 11.5 Ricart - Agrawala



A Token Ring Algorithm

An unordered group of processes on a network.

(a)



(b)

A logical ring constructed in software.

Algorithm:

- token passing: straightforward
- lost token: 1) detection? 2) recovery?



Comparison

Algorithm	Messages per entry/ exit	Delay before entry (in message times)	Problems
Centralized	3	2	Coordinator crash
Distributed	2 (n – 1)	2 (n – 1)	Crash of any process
Token ring	1 to ∞	0 to n – 1	Lost token, process crash

A comparison of three mutual exclusion algorithms.



Election Algorithms

Need:

- computation: a group of concurrent actors
- algorithms based on the activity of a special role (coordinator, initiator)
- election of a coordinator: initially / after some special event (e.g., the previous coordinator has disappeared)
- Premises:
 - each member of the group {Pi}
 - knows the identities of all other members
 - does not know who is up and who is down
 - all electors use the same algorithm
 - election rule: the member with the highest Pi
- Several algorithms exist



The Bully Algorithm (1)

- P_i notices: coordinator lost
 - 1. Pi to {all Pj st Pj>Pi}: ELECTION!
 - 2. if no one responds => Pi is the coordinator
 - 3. some Pj responds => Pj takes over, Pi's job is done
- P_i gets an ELECTION! message:
 - 1. reply OK to the sender
 - 2. if Pi does not yet participate in an ongoing election: hold an election
- The new coordinator P_k to everybody: "P_k COORDINATOR"
- P_i: ongoing election & no "P_k COORDINATOR": hold an election
- P_i recovers: hold an election





- b) Process 5 and 6 respond, telling 4 to stop
- C) Now 5 and 6 each hold an election



d) Process 6 tells 5 to stop

e) Process 6 wins and tells everyone

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A Ring Algorithm (1)







Election algorithm using a ring.







Updating a master tape is fault tolerant.



The Transaction Model (2)

Primitive	Description
BEGIN_TRANSACTION	Make the start of a transaction
END_TRANSACTION	Terminate the transaction and try to commit
ABORT_TRANSACTION	Kill the transaction and restore the old values
READ	Read data from a file, a table, or otherwise
WRITE	Write data to a file, a table, or otherwise

Examples of primitives for transactions.



BEGIN_TRANSACTION	BEGIN_TRANSACTION
reserve WP -> JFK;	reserve WP -> JFK;
reserve JFK -> Nairobi;	reserve JFK -> Nairobi;
reserve Nairobi -> Malindi;	reserve Nairobi -> Malindi full =>
END_TRANSACTION	ABORT_TRANSACTION
(a)	(b)

a) Transaction to reserve three flights commits
 b) Transaction aborts when third flight is unavailable

Note:

- a transaction must have a name
- the name must be attached to each operation, which belongs to the transaction



- a) A nested transaction
- b) A distributed transaction



Concurrent Transactions

Concurrent transactions proceed in parallel

- Shared data (database)
- Concurrency-related problems (if no further transaction control):
 - lost updates
 - inconsistent retrievals
 - dirty reads
 - etc.
| Transaction T : | Transaction U: |
|--|--|
| <pre>balance = b.getBalance();
b.setBalance(balance*1.1);
a.withdraw(balance/10)</pre> | <pre>balance = b.getBalance();
b.setBalance(balance*1.1);
c.withdraw(balance/10)</pre> |
| <pre>balance = b.getBalance(); \$200</pre> | |
| | <pre>balance = b.getBalance(); \$200</pre> |
| | b.setBalance(balance*1.1); \$220 |
| b.setBalance(balance*1.1); \$220 | |
| a.withdraw(balance/10) \$80 | |
| | c.withdraw(balance/10) \$280 |

Figure 12.5 Initial values **a**: \$100, **b**: \$200 **c**: \$300



The inconsistent retrievals problem

Transaction V :		Transaction W :	
a.withdraw(100) b.deposit(100)		aBranch.branchTotal()	
a.withdraw(100);	\$100		
		<pre>total = a.getBalance()</pre>	\$100
		<pre>total = total+b.getBalance()</pre>	\$300
		<pre>total = total+c.getBalance()</pre>	
b.deposit(100)	\$300	•	

Figure 12.6 Initial values **a**: \$200, **b**: \$200



A serially equivalent interleaving of *T* and *U*

Transaction T :	Transaction U:
<pre>balance = b.getBalance()</pre>	balance = b.getBalance()
b.setBalance(balance*1.1)	b.setBalance(balance*1.1)
a.withdraw(balance/10)	c.withdraw(balance/10)
balance = b.getBalance() \$200	
b.setBalance(balance*1.1) \$220	
	balance = b.getBalance() \$220
	b.setBalance(balance*1.1) \$242
a.withdraw(balance/10) \$80	
	c.withdraw(balance/10) \$278

Figure 12.7 The result corresponds the sequential execution T, U

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A dirty read when transaction *T* aborts

Transaction T:	Transaction U:
a.getBalance() a.setBalance(balance + 10)	a.getBalance() a.setBalance(balance + 20)
<pre>balance = a.getBalance() \$100 a.setBalance(balance + 10) \$110</pre>	balance = a.getBalance() \$110 a.setBalance(balance + 20) \$130 commit transaction
abort transaction	

Figure 12.11



Methods for ACID

Atomic

- private workspace,
- writeahead log
- Consistent

concurrency control => serialization

- locks
- timestamp-based control
- optimistic concurrency control
- Isolated (see: atomic, consistent)
- Durable (see: Fault tolerance)



Private Workspace



- a) The file index and disk blocks for a three-block file
- b) The situation after a transaction has modified block 0 and appended block 3
- c) After committing

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x = 0;	Log	Log	Log
y = 0;			
BEGIN_TRANSACTION;			
x = x + 1;	[x = 0 / 1]	[x = 0 / 1]	[x = 0 / 1]
y = y + 2		[y = 0/2]	[y = 0/2]
x = y * y;			[x = 1/4]
END_TRANSACTION;			
(a)	(b)	(C)	(d)
a) A transaction			

a) A transaction
 b) - d) The log before each statement is executed



General organization of managers for handling transactions.







BEGIN_TRANSACTION	BEGIN_TRANSACTION	BEGIN_TRANSACTION
x = 0;	x = 0;	x = 0;
x = x + 1;	x = x + 2;	x = x + 3;
END_TRANSACTION	END_TRANSACTION	END_TRANSACTION

(a)	(b) (c)	
Schedule 1	x = 0; x = x + 1; x = 0; x = x + 2; x = 0; x = x + 3	Legal
Schedule 2	x = 0; x = 0; x = x + 1; x = x + 2; x = 0; x = x + 3;	Legal
Schedule 3	x = 0; x = 0; x = x + 1; x = 0; x = x + 2; x = x + 3;	Illegal

(d)

a) – c) Three transactions T_1 , T_2 , and $T_{3;}$ d) Possible schedules **Legal**: there exists a serial execution leading to the same result.



Implementation of Serializability

Decision making: the transaction scheduler

- Locks
 - data item ~ lock
 - request for operation
 - a corresponding lock (read/write) is granted OR
 the operation is delayed until the lock is released
- Pessimistic timestamp ordering
 - transaction <= timestamp; data item <= R-, W-stamps</p>
 - each request for operation:
 - check serializability
 - continue, wait, abort
- Optimistic timestamp ordering
 - serializability check: at END OF TRANSACTION, only



Transactions T and U with Exclusive Locks

Transaction T:		Transaction U:	
balance = b.getBalan b.setBalance(bal*1.1) a.withdraw(bal/10)	ce()	balance = b.getBalanc b.setBalance(bal*1.1) c.withdraw(bal/10)	ce()
Operations	Locks	Operations	Locks
openTransaction bal = b.getBalance() b.setBalance(bal*1.1) a.withdraw(bal/10) closeTransaction	lock <i>B</i> lock <i>A</i> unlock <i>A</i> , <i>B</i>	openTransaction bal = b.getBalance()	waits for <i>T</i> 's lock on <i>B</i> lock <i>B</i>
		b.setBalance(bal*1.1) c.withdraw(bal/10)	lock C
		closeTransaction	unlock B, C

Figure 12.14

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Two-Phase Locking (2)



Strict two-phase locking.

Centralized or distributed.



Pessimistic Timestamp Ordering

Transaction timestamp ts(T)

- given at BEGIN_TRANSACTION (must be unique!)
- attached to each operation
- Data object timestamps $ts_{RD}(x)$, $ts_{WR}(x)$
 - ts_{RD}(x) = ts(T) of the last T which read x
 - ts_{wr}(x) = ts(T) of the last T which changed x
- Required serial equivalence: ts(T) order of T's



Pessimistic Timestamp Ordering

The rules:	
you are not allowed to change	what
 later transactions already have seen (or changed!) you are not allowed to read later transactions already have changed 	what
 Conflicting operations process the older transaction first violation of rules: the transaction is aborted the older one: it is too late!) if tentative versions are used, the final decision is made at END_TRANSACTION 	(i.e,





Problems with locks

general overhead (must be done whether needed or not)

- possibility of deadlock
- duration of locking (=> end of the transaction)
- Problems with pessimistic timestamps
 - overhead
- Alternative
 - proceed to the end of the transaction

validate

applicable if the probability of conflicts is low



Figure 12.28



Backward validation of transaction T_v boolean valid = true; for (int $T_i = startTn+1$; $T_i <= finishTn$; T_i++){ if (read set of T_v intersects write set of T_i) valid = false; }

Forward validation of transaction T_v

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Synchronization

Clocks

Logical and vector clocks

Coordination, elections

Transactions