Introduction to Data Management CSE 344

Lecture 22: Transactions

Announcements

- HW6 is due tonight
- Webquiz due next Monday
- HW7 is posted:
  - Some Java programming required
  - Plus connection to SQL Azure

Outline

- Serial and Serializable Schedules (18.1)
- Conflict Serializability (18.2)
- Locks (18.3) [Start today and finish next time]

Review: Transactions

- Problem: An application must perform *several* writes and reads to the database, as a unit
- Solution: multiple actions of the application are bundled into one unit called *Transaction*
- Turing awards to database researchers
  - Charles Bachman 1973 for CODASYL
  - Edgar Codd 1981 for relational databases
  - Jim Gray 1998 for transactions

Review: TXNs in SQL

```
BEGIN TRANSACTION
        [SQL statements]
COMMIT    or
ROLLBACK (=ABORT)
```

```
[single SQL statement]
```

If BEGIN… missing, then TXN consists of a single instruction

Review: ACID

- Atomic
  - State shows either all the effects of txn, or none of them
- Consistent
  - Txn moves from a state where integrity holds, to another where integrity holds
- Isolated
  - Effect of txns is the same as txns running one after another (ie looks like batch mode)
- Durable
  - Once a txn has committed, its effects remain in the database

Implementing ACID Properties

- Isolation:
  - Achieved by the *concurrency control* manager (or *scheduler*)
  - Discussed briefly in 344 today and in the next lecture
  - Discussed more extensively in 444
- Atomicity
  - Achieved using a *log* and a *recovery manager*
  - Discussed in 444
- Durability
  - Implicitly achieved by writing back to disk
- Consistency
  - Implicitly guaranteed by A and I

Last two properties implied by the first two

Isolation: The Problem

- Multiple transactions are running concurrently $T_1, T_2, \ldots$
- They read/write some common elements $A_1, A_2, \ldots$
- How can we prevent unwanted interference ?
- The SCHEDULER is responsible for that

Schedules

A ***schedule*** is a sequence of interleaved actions from all transactions

Example

A and B are elements in the database
t and s are variables in tx source code

T1	T2
READ(A, t)	READ(A, s)
t := t+100	s := s*2
WRITE(A, t)	WRITE(A,s)
READ(B, t)	READ(B,s)
t := t+100	s := s*2
WRITE(B,t)	WRITE(B,s)

A Serial Schedule

T1	T2
READ(A, t)	
t := t+100	
WRITE(A, t)	
READ(B, t)	
t := t+100	
WRITE(B,t)	
	READ(A,s)
	s := s*2
	WRITE(A,s)
	READ(B,s)
	s := s*2
	WRITE(B,s)

Serializable Schedule

A schedule is *serializable* if it is equivalent to a serial schedule

A Serializable Schedule

T1	T2
READ(A, t)	
t := t+100	
WRITE(A, t)	
	READ(A,s)
	s := s*2
	WRITE(A,s)
READ(B, t)	
t := t+100	
WRITE(B,t)	
	READ(B,s)
	s := s*2
	WRITE(B,s)

This is a serializable schedule.
This is NOT a serial schedule

A Non-Serializable Schedule

T1	T2
READ(A, t)	
t := t+100	
WRITE(A, t)	
	READ(A,s)
	s := s*2
	WRITE(A,s)
	READ(B,s)
	s := s*2
	WRITE(B,s)
READ(B, t)	
t := t+100	
WRITE(B,t)	

How do We Know if a Schedule is Serializable?

Notation

T_1: $r_1(A)$; $w_1(A)$; $r_1(B)$; $w_1(B)$
T_2: $r_2(A)$; $w_2(A)$; $r_2(B)$; $w_2(B)$

Key Idea: Focus on *conflicting* operations

Conflicts

- Write-Read – WR
- Read-Write – RW
- Write-Write – WW

Conflict Serializability

Conflicts:

Two actions by same transaction T_i: $r_i(X); w_i(Y)$

Two writes by T_i, T_j to same element $w_i(X); w_j(X)$

Read/write by T_i, T_j to same element $w_i(X); r_j(X)$

$r_i(X); w_j(X)$

Conflict Serializability

- A schedule is *conflict serializable* if it can be transformed into a serial schedule by a series of swappings of adjacent non-conflicting actions

- Every conflict-serializable schedule is serializable
- A serializable schedule may not necessarily be conflict-serializable

Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

….

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

Testing for Conflict-Serializability

Precedence graph:

- A node for each transaction T_i,
- An edge from T_i to T_j whenever an action in T_i conflicts with, and comes before an action in T_j

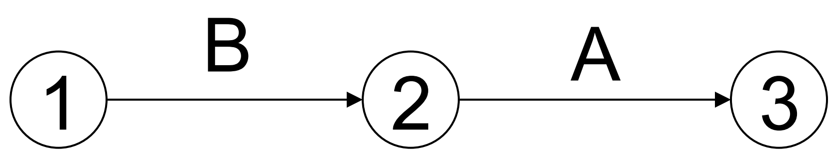
- The schedule is serializable iff the precedence graph is acyclic

Example 1

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

Example 1

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



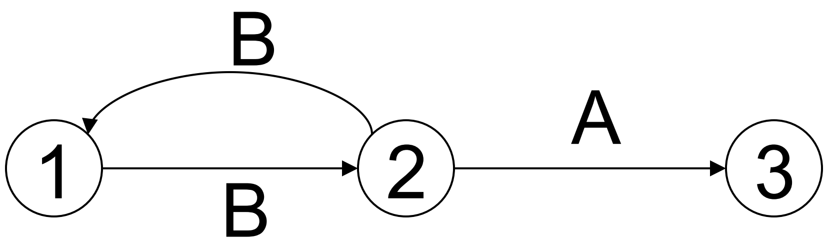
This schedule is conflict-serializable

Example 2

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_2(B); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); w_2(B)$

Example 2

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_2(B); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); w_2(B)$



This schedule is NOT conflict-serializable

Scheduler

- Scheduler = is the module that schedules the transaction's actions, ensuring serializabilit
- Also called Concurrency Control Manager
- We discuss next how a scheduler may be implemented

Implementing a Scheduler

Major differences between database vendors

- Locking Scheduler
  - Aka "pessimistic concurrency control"
  - SQLite, SQL Server, DB2
- Multiversion Concurrency Control (MVCC)
  - Aka "optimistic concurrency control"
  - Postgres, Oracle

We discuss only locking in 344

Locking Scheduler

Simple idea:

- Each element has a unique lock
- Each transaction must first acquire the lock before reading/writing that element
- If the lock is taken by another transaction, then wait
- The transaction must release the lock(s)

By using locks scheduler ensures conflict-serializability

What Data Elements are Locked?

Major differences between vendors:

- Lock on the entire database
  - SQLite
- Lock on individual records
  - SQL Server, DB2, etc

Let’s Study SQLite First

- SQLite is very simple
- More info: http://www.sqlite.org/atomiccommit.html

SQLite

Step 1: when a transaction begins

- Acquire a READ LOCK (aka "SHARED" lock)
- All these transactions may read happily
- They all read data from the database file
- If the transaction commits without writing anything, then it simply releases the lock

SQLite

Step 2: when one transaction wants to write

- Acquire a RESERVED LOCK
- May coexists with many READ LOCKs
- Writer TXN may write; these updates are only in main memory; others don't see the updates
- Reader TXN continue to read from the file
- New readers accepted
- No other TXN is allowed a RESERVED LOCK

SQLite

Step 3: when writer transaction wants to commit, it needs *exclusive lock*, which can't coexists with *read locks*

- Acquire a PENDING LOCK
- May coexists with old READ LOCKs
- No new READ LOCKS are accepted
- Wait for all read locks to be released

Why not write to disk right now?

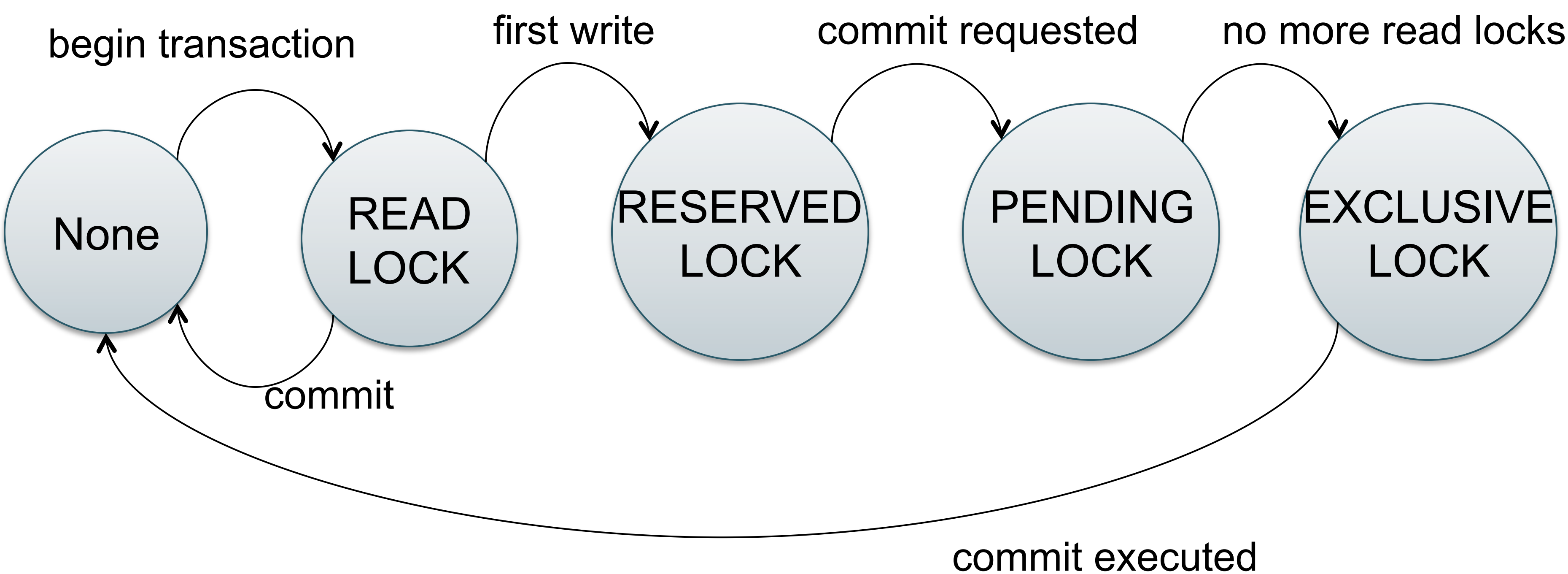
SQLite

Step 4: when all read locks have been released

- Acquire the EXCLUSIVE LOCK
- Nobody can touch the database now
- All updates are written permanently to the database file

- Release the lock and COMMIT

SQLite


begin transaction
first write
commit requested
no more read locks
None
READ LOCK
RESERVED LOCK
PENDING LOCK
EXCLUSIVE LOCK
commit
commit executed

SQLite Demo

```
create table r(a int, b int);
insert into r values (1,10);
insert into r values (2,20);
insert into r values (3,30);
```

Demonstrating Locking in SQLite

```
T1:
  begin transaction;
  select * from r;
  -- T1 has a READ LOCK
T2:
  begin transaction;
  select * from r;
  -- T2 has a READ LOCK
```

Demonstrating Locking in SQLite

T1:

```
update r set b=11 where a=1;
-- T1 has a RESERVED LOCK
```

T2:

```
update r set b=21 where a=2;
-- T2 asked for a RESERVED LOCK:  DENIED
```

Demonstrating Locking in SQLite

T3:

```
begin transaction;
select * from r;
commit;
-- everything works fine, could obtain READ LOCK
```

Demonstrating Locking in SQLite

T1:

commit;

-- SQL error: database is locked

-- T1 asked for PENDING LOCK -- GRANTED

-- T1 asked for EXCLUSIVE LOCK -- DENIED

Demonstrating Locking in SQLite

T3':

begin transaction;

select * from r;

-- T3 asked for READ LOCK-- DENIED (due to T1)

T2:

commit;

-- releases the last READ LOCK

Some Famous Anomalies

- What could go wrong if we didn't have concurrency control:
  - Dirty reads (including inconsistent reads)
  - Unrepeatable reads
  - Lost updates

Many other things can go wrong too

Dirty Reads

Write-Read Conflict

T_1: WRITE(A)

T_2: READ(A)

T_1: ABORT

Inconsistent Read

Write-Read Conflict

T_1: A := 20; B := 20;
T_1: WRITE(A)

T_2: READ(A);
T_2: READ(B);

T_1: WRITE(B)

Unrepeatable Read

Read-Write Conflict

T_1: WRITE(A)

T_2: READ(A);

T_2: READ(A);

Lost Update

Write-Write Conflict

T_1: READ(A)

T_1: A := A+5

T_1: WRITE(A)

T_2: READ(A);

T_2: A := A*1.3

T_2: WRITE(A);