CSE 444: Database Internals

Lectures 14

Transactions: Locking

Announcements

- Lab 3 will be released today
  - Part 1 due on Monday
- HW4 is due today
  - HW3 has been released, due next week

Review of Schedules

Serializability

- Serial
- Serializable
- Conflict serializable
- View serializable

Recoverability

- Recoverable
- Avoids cascading deletes

Scheduler

- The scheduler:
- Module that schedules the transaction's actions, ensuring serializability
- Two main approaches
- Pessimistic: locks
- Optimistic: timestamps, multi-version, validation

Pessimistic 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)

Notation

$l_i(A)$ = transaction T_i acquires lock for element A

$u_i(A)$ = transaction T_i releases lock for element A

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)	

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Example

T1	T2
$L_1(A)$; READ(A, t) t := t+100 WRITE(A, t); $U_1(A)$; $L_1(B)$	
	$L_2(A)$; READ(A,s) s := s*2 WRITE(A,s); $U_2(A)$; $L_2(B)$; DENIED…
READ(B, t) t := t+100 WRITE(B,t); $U_1(B)$;	
	…GRANTED; READ(B,s) s := s*2 WRITE(B,s); $U_2(B)$;

Scheduler has ensured a conflict-serializable schedule

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But…

T1	T2
$L_1(A)$; READ(A, t) t := t+100 WRITE(A, t); $U_1(A)$;	
	$L_2(A)$; READ(A,s) s := s*2 WRITE(A,s); $U_2(A)$; $L_2(B)$; READ(B,s) s := s*2 WRITE(B,s); $U_2(B)$;
$L_1(B)$; READ(B, t) t := t+100 WRITE(B,t); $U_1(B)$;	

Locks did not enforce conflict-serializability !!! What's wrong ?

Two Phase Locking (2PL)

The 2PL rule:

- In every transaction, all lock requests must precede all unlock requests
- This ensures conflict serializability ! (will prove this shortly)

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Example: 2PL transactions

T1	T2
$L_1(A)$; $L_1(B)$; READ(A, t) t := t+100 WRITE(A, t); $U_1(A)$	
	$L_2(A)$; READ(A,s) s := s*2 WRITE(A,s); $L_2(B)$; DENIED…
READ(B, t) t := t+100 WRITE(B,t); $U_1(B)$;	
	…GRANTED; READ(B,s) s := s*2 WRITE(B,s); $U_2(A)$; $U_2(B)$;

Now it is conflict-serializable

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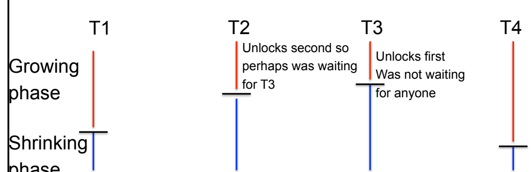
Example with Multiple Transactions



Equivalent to each transaction executing entirely the moment it enters shrinking phase

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Two Phase Locking (2PL)

Theorem: 2PL ensures conflict serializability

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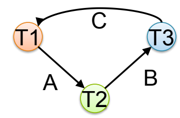
Theorem: 2PL ensures conflict serializability

Proof. Suppose not: then there exists a cycle in the precedence graph.



Two Phase Locking (2PL)

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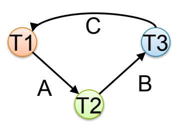

Then there is the following **temporal** cycle in the schedule:

Two Phase Locking (2PL)

Theorem: 2PL ensures conflict serializability

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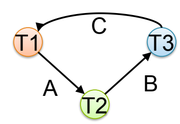

Then there is the following **temporal** cycle in the schedule:

$U_1(A) \rightarrow L_2(A)$ why?

Two Phase Locking (2PL)

Theorem: 2PL ensures conflict serializability

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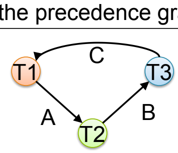


Then there is the following **temporal** cycle in the schedule:

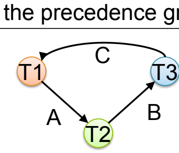
$U_1(A) \rightarrow L_2(A)$

$L_2(A) \rightarrow U_2(B)$ why?

Two Phase Locking (2PL)

Theorem: 2PL ensures conflict serializability

Proof. Suppose not: then there exists a cycle in the precedence graph.



Then there is the following **temporal** cycle in the schedule:

$U_1(A) \rightarrow L_2(A)$

$L_2(A) \rightarrow U_2(B)$

$U_2(B) \rightarrow L_3(B)$

$L_3(B) \rightarrow U_3(C)$

$U_3(C) \rightarrow L_1(C)$

$L_1(C) \rightarrow U_1(A)$

Contradiction

A New Problem: Non-recoverable Schedule

T1	T2
L_1(A); L_1(B); READ(A, t)	
t := t+100	
WRITE(A, t); U_1(A)	
	L_2(A); READ(A,s)
	s := s*2
	WRITE(A,s);
	L_2(B); DENIED…
READ(B, t)	
t := t+100	
WRITE(B,t); U_1(B);	
	…GRANTED; READ(B,s)
	s := s*2
	WRITE(B,s); U_2(A); U_2(B);
	Commit
Abort	

Strict 2PL

- Strict 2PL: All locks held by a transaction are released when the transaction is completed; release happens at the time of COMMIT or ROLLBACK
- Schedule is recoverable
- Schedule avoids cascading aborts
- Schedule is strict: read book

Strict 2PL

T1	T2
L_1(A); READ(A)	
A :=A+100	
WRITE(A);	
	L_2(A); DENIED…
L_1(B); READ(B)	
B :=B+100	
WRITE(B);	
U_1(A),U_1(B); Rollback	
	…GRANTED; READ(A)
	A := A*2
	WRITE(A);
	L_2(B); READ(B)
	B := B*2
	WRITE(B);
	U_2(A); U_2(B); Commit

Summary of Strict 2PL

- Ensures serializability, recoverability, and avoids cascading aborts
- Issues: implementation, lock modes, granularity, deadlocks, performance

The Locking Scheduler

Task 1: -- act on behalf of the transaction

Add lock/unlock requests to transactions
- Examine all READ(A) or WRITE(A) actions
- Add appropriate lock requests
- On COMMIT/ROLLBACK release all locks
- Ensures Strict 2PL !

The Locking Scheduler

Task 2: -- act on behalf of the system
Execute the locks accordingly
- Lock table: a big, critical data structure in a DBMS !
- When a lock is requested, check the lock table
  - Grant, or add the transaction to the element's wait list
- When a lock is released, re-activate a transaction from its wait list
- When a transaction aborts, release all its locks
- Check for deadlocks occasionally

Lock Modes

- S = shared lock (for READ)
- X = exclusive lock (for WRITE)

Lock compatibility matrix:

	None	S	X
None	OK	OK	OK
S	OK	OK	Conflict
X	OK	Conflict	Conflict

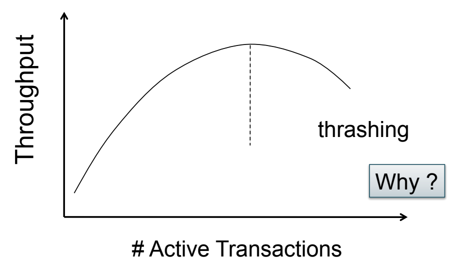
Lock Granularity

- Fine granularity locking (e.g., tuples)
  - High concurrency
  - High overhead in managing locks
- Coarse grain locking (e.g., tables, predicate locks)
  - Many false conflicts
  - Less overhead in managing locks
- Alternative techniques
  - Hierarchical locking (and intentional locks) [commercial DBMSs]
  - Lock escalation

Deadlocks

- Cycle in the wait-for graph:
  - T1 waits for T2
  - T2 waits for T3
  - T3 waits for T1
- Deadlock detection
  - Timeouts
  - Wait-for graph
- Deadlock avoidance
  - Acquire locks in pre-defined order
  - Acquire all locks at once before starting

Lock Performance



The Tree Protocol

- An alternative to 2PL, for tree structures
- E.g. B-trees (the indexes of choice in databases)
- Because
  - Indexes are hot spots!
  - 2PL would lead to great lock contention

The Tree Protocol

Rules:

- The first lock may be any node of the tree
- Subsequently, a lock on a node A may only be acquired if the transaction holds a lock on its parent B
- Nodes can be unlocked in any order (no 2PL necessary)
- "Crabbing"
  - First lock parent then lock child
  - Keep parent locked only if may need to update it
  - Release lock on parent if child is not full
- The tree protocol is NOT 2PL, yet ensures conflict-serializability !

Phantom Problem

- So far we have assumed the database to be a *static* collection of elements (=tuples)
- If tuples are inserted/deleted then the *phantom problem* appears

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Phantom Problem

T1	T2
SELECT * FROM Product WHERE color='blue'	
	INSERT INTO Product(name, color) VALUES ('gizmo','blue')
SELECT * FROM Product WHERE color='blue'	

Is this schedule serializable ?

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Phantom Problem

T1	T2
SELECT * FROM Product WHERE color='blue'	
	INSERT INTO Product(name, color) VALUES ('gizmo','blue')
SELECT * FROM Product WHERE color='blue'	

Suppose there are two blue products, X1, X2:

R1(X1),R1(X2),W2(X3),R1(X1),R1(X2),R1(X3)

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Phantom Problem

T1	T2
SELECT * FROM Product WHERE color='blue'	
	INSERT INTO Product(name, color) VALUES ('gizmo','blue')
SELECT * FROM Product WHERE color='blue'	

Suppose there are two blue products, X1, X2:

R1(X1),R1(X2),W2(X3),R1(X1),R1(X2),R1(X3)

This is conflict serializable ! What's wrong ??

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Phantom Problem

T1	T2
SELECT * FROM Product WHERE color='blue'	
	INSERT INTO Product(name, color) VALUES ('gizmo','blue')
SELECT * FROM Product WHERE color='blue'	

Suppose there are two blue products, X1, X2:

R1(X1),R1(X2),W2(X3),R1(X1),R1(X2),R1(X3)

Not serializable due to ***phantoms***

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Phantom Problem

- A "phantom" is a tuple that is invisible during part of a transaction execution but not invisible during the entire execution
- In our example:
  - T1: reads list of products
  - T2: inserts a new product
  - T1: re-reads: a new product appears !

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Phantom Problem

- In a ***static*** database:
  - Conflict serializability implies serializability
- In a ***dynamic*** database, this may fail due to phantoms
- Strict 2PL guarantees conflict serializability, but not serializability

Dealing With Phantoms

- Lock the entire table, or
- Lock the index entry for 'blue'
  - If index is available
- Or use predicate locks
  - A lock on an arbitrary predicate

Dealing with phantoms is expensive !

Isolation Levels in SQL

1. "Dirty reads"
   SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL READ UNCOMMITTED
2. "Committed reads"
   SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL READ COMMITTED
3. "Repeatable reads"
   SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL REPEATABLE READ
4. Serializable transactions
   SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL SERIALIZABLE

ACID

1. Isolation Level: Dirty Reads

- "Long duration" WRITE locks
  - Strict 2PL
- No READ locks
  - Read-only transactions are never delayed

Possible pbs: dirty and inconsistent reads

2. Isolation Level: Read Committed

- "Long duration" WRITE locks
  - Strict 2PL
- "Short duration" READ locks
  - Only acquire lock while reading (not 2PL)

Unrepeatable reads
When reading same element twice, may get two different values

3. Isolation Level: Repeatable Read

- "Long duration" WRITE locks
  - Strict 2PL
- "Long duration" READ locks
  - Strict 2PL

This is not serializable yet !!!

Why ?

4. Isolation Level Serializable

- "Long duration" WRITE locks
  - Strict 2PL
- "Long duration" READ locks
  - Strict 2PL

- Deals with phantoms too

READ-ONLY Transactions

```
Client 1: START TRANSACTION
          INSERT INTO SmallProduct(name, price)
                SELECT pname, price
                FROM Product
                WHERE price <= 0.99

          DELETE  FROM Product
                 WHERE price <=0.99
          COMMIT

Client 2: SET TRANSACTION READ ONLY
          START TRANSACTION
          SELECT count(*)
          FROM Product

          SELECT count(*)
          FROM SmallProduct
          COMMIT
```

May improve performance