Database Applications (15-415)

DBMS Internals- Part XI Lecture 22, April 12, 2015

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Today...

Last Session:

- DBMS Internals- Part X
 - Query Optimization (Cont'd)

Today's Session:

- DBMS Internals- Part XI
 - Transaction Management

Announcements:

- The grades of Quiz II are out
- PS4 is due today by midnight
- PS5 will be posted on Tuesday. It is due on Thursday, April 23rd

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Outline

A Brief Primer on Transaction Management

Anomalies Due to Concurrency

2PL and Strict 2PL Locking Protocols



Concurrent Execution of Programs

- A database is typically *shared* by a large number of users
- DBMSs schedule users' programs concurrently
 - While one user program is waiting for an I/O access to be satisfied, the CPU can process another program
 - Better system throughput
 - Interleaved execution of a short program with a long program allows the short program to complete quickly
 - Better response time
 - Better for fairness reasons

Transactions

- Any <u>one</u> execution of a user program in a DBMS is denoted as a transaction
 - Executing the same program several times will generate several transactions
- A transaction is the basic unit of change as seen by a DBMS
 - E.g., Transfer \$100 from account A to account B
- A transaction may carry out many operations on data, but DBMSs are only concerned about *reads* and *writes*
- Thus, in essence a transaction becomes a sequence of reads and writes

Transactions (Cont'd)

- In addition to reading and writing, a transaction must specify as its final action:
 - Either Commit (i.e., complete successfully)
 - Or Abort (i.e., terminate and undo actions)
- We make two assumptions:
 - Transactions interact only via database reads and writes (i.e., no message passing)
 - A database is a fixed collection of *independent* objects (A, B, C, etc.)

Schedules

- A schedule is a list of actions (i.e., read, write, abort, and/or commit) from a set of transactions
- The order in which two actions of a transaction T appear in a schedule must be the same as they appear in T itself
- Assume T1 = [R(A), W(A)] and T2 = [R(B), W(B), R(C), W(C)]

T1	T2		T1	T2	T1	T2
R(A)	R(B)		R(A)		R(A)	R(C)
W(A)	W(B)		W(A)		W(A)	W(C)
				R(B)		
	R(C)			W(B)		R(B)
	W(C)			R(C)		W(B)
			W(C)			
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Serial Schedules

- A complete schedule must contain all the actions of every transaction that appears on it
- If the actions of different transactions are <u>not</u> <u>interleaved</u>, the schedule is called a serial schedule

T1	T2	T1	T2
R(A) W(A) Commit	R(A) W(A) R(C) W(C) Commit	R(A) W(A) Commit	R(B) W(B) R(C) W(C) Commit
A Serial	Schedule	A Non-Ser	rial Schedule

Serializable Schedules

- Two schedules are said to be *equivalent* if for any database state, the effect of executing the 1st schedule is <u>identical</u> to the effect of executing the 2nd schedule
- A serializable schedule is a schedule that is equivalent to a serial schedule



Examples

T1:	BEGIN	A=A-100,	B=B +100	END
T2:	BEGIN	A=1.06*A,	B=1.06*B	END

- T1 can be thought of as transferring \$100 from A's account to B's account
- T2 can be thought of as crediting accounts A and B with a 6% interest payment

Examples: A Serial Schedule



Examples: Another Serial Schedule



Examples: A Serializable Schedule



Comments

- There is no guarantee that T1 will execute before T2 or vice-versa, if both are submitted together
- However, the net effect *must* be equivalent to these two transactions running *serially* in some order
- Executing transactions serially in different orders may produce different results, but they are all acceptable!
- The DBMS makes no guarantees about which result will be the outcome of an interleaved execution

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Anomalies

- Interleaving actions of different transactions can leave the database in an inconsistent state
- Two actions on the same data object are said to *conflict* if at least one of them is a write
- There are 3 anomalies that can arise upon interleaving actions of different transactions (say, T1 and T2):
 - Write-Read (WR) Conflict: T2 reads a data object previously written by T1
 - Read-Write (RW) Conflict: T2 writes a data object previously read by T1
 - Write-Write (WW) Conflict: T2 writes a data object previously written by T1

- WR conflicts arise when transaction T2 reads a data object A that has been modified by another transaction T1, which has not yet committed
 - Such a read is called a dirty read
- Assume T1 and T2 such that:
 - T1 transfers \$100 from A's account to B's account
 - T2 credits accounts A and B with a 6% interest payment

T1:BEGINA=A-100,B=B +100ENDT2:BEGINA=1.06*A,B=1.06*BEND

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are *interleaved* as follows:
 - T1 deducts \$100 from account A
 - T2 adds 6% interest to accounts A and B
 - T1 credits \$100 to account B

T1: Transfer \$100 from A to B

T2 = Add interest of 6% to A and B





• Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are *interleaved* as follows:



• T1 and T2 can be represented by the following schedule:



T1 and T2 can be represented by the following schedule:



- T1 may write some value into A that makes the database inconsistent
- As long as T1 overwrites this value with a 'correct' value of A before committing, no harm is done if T1 and T2 are run in some serial order (this is because T2 would then not see the <u>temporary</u> inconsistency)

T1 and T2 can be represented by the following schedule:



Note that although a transaction must leave a database in a consistent state *after* it completes, it is not required to keep the database consistent while it is still in progress!

Unrepeatable Reads: RW Conflicts

- RW conflicts arise when transaction T2 writes a data object A that has been read by another transaction T1, while T1 is still in progress
- If T1 tries to read A again, it will get a different result!
 - Such a read is called an unrepeatable read
- Assume A is the number of available copies for a book
 - A transaction that places an order on the book reads A, checks that A > 0 and decrements A
 - Assume two transactions, T1 and T2

Unrepeatable Reads: RW Conflicts

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are interleaved as follows:
 - T1 reads A
 - T2 reads A, decrements A and commit
 - T1 tries to decrement A



This situation will never arise in a serial execution of T1 and T2; T2 would read A and see 0 and therefore not proceed with placing an order!

- WW conflicts arise when transaction T2 writes a data object A that has been written by another transaction T1, while T1 is still in progress
- Suppose that Mohammad and Ahmad are two employees and their salaries <u>must be kept equal</u>
- Assume T1 sets Mohammad's and Ahmad's salaries to \$1000
- Assume T2 sets Mohammad's and Ahmad's salaries to \$2000





Either serial schedule is <u>acceptable</u> from a *consistency standpoint* (although Mohammad and Ahmad may prefer a higher salary!)

Neither T1 nor T2 reads a salary value before writing it- such a write is called a **blind write!**



The problem is that we have a *lost update*. In particular, T2 overwrote Mohammad's Salary as set by T1 (this will never happen with a serializable schedule!)

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2PL and Strict 2PL Locking Protocols



Locking Protocols

- WR, RW and WW anomalies can be avoided using a locking protocol
- A locking protocol:
 - Is a set of rules to be followed by each transaction to ensure that only serializable schedules are allowed (extended later)
 - Associates a *lock* with each database object, which could be of different types (e.g., *shared* or *exclusive*)
 - Grants and denies locks to transactions according to the specified rules
- The part of the DBMS that keeps track of locks is called the lock manager

Lock Managers

- Usually, a lock manager in a DBMS maintains three types of data structures:
 - A queue, Q, for each lock, L, to hold its pending requests
 - A lock table, which keeps for each *L* associated with each object, *O*, a record *R* that contains:



- The type of *L* (e.g., shared or exclusive)
- The number of transactions currently holding L on O
- A pointer to Q
- A transaction table, which maintains for each transaction, *T*, a pointer to a list of locks held by *T*

- A widely used locking protocol, called *Two-Phase Locking* (2PL), has two rules:
 - Rule 1: if a transaction *T* wants to read (or write) an object *O*, it first requests the lock manager for a shared (or exclusive) lock on *O*



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- A widely used locking protocol, called *Two-Phase Locking* (*2PL*), has two rules:
 - Rule 2: T can release locks before it commits or aborts, and cannot request additional locks once it releases <u>any</u> lock
- Thus, every transaction has a "growing" phase in which it acquires locks, followed by a "shrinking" phase in which it releases locks

locks



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locks



Resolving RW Conflicts Using 2PL

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are interleaved as follows:
 - T1 reads A
 - T2 reads A, decrements A and commit
 - T1 tries to decrement A
- T1 and T2 can be represented by the following schedule:



Resolving RW Conflicts Using 2PL

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 - T1 reads A
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 - T1 tries to decrement A
- T1 and T2 can be represented by the following schedule:



Resolving WW Conflicts Using 2PL

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are interleaved as follows:
 - T1 sets Mohammad's Salary to \$1000
 - T2 sets Ahmad's Salary to \$2000
 - T1 sets Ahmad's Salary to \$1000
 - T2 sets Mohammad's Salary to \$2000
- T1 and T2 can be represented by the following schedule:



Resolving WW Conflicts Using 2PL

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are interleaved as follows:
 - T1 sets Mohammad's Salary to \$1000
 - T2 sets Ahmad's Salary to \$2000
 - T1 sets Ahmad's Salary to \$1000
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- T1 and T2 can be represented by the following schedule:



Resolving WR Conflicts

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are *interleaved* as follows:
 - T1 deducts \$100 from account A
 - T2 adds 6% interest to accounts A and B
 - T1 credits \$100 to account B





Resolving WR Conflicts

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are *interleaved* as follows:
 - T1 deducts \$100 from account A
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 - T1 credits \$100 to account B





Strict Two-Phase Locking

- WR conflicts (as well as RW & WW) can be solved by making 2PL stricter
- In particular, *Rule 2* in 2PL can be modified as follows:
 - Rule 2: locks of a transaction *T* can only be released after *T* completes (i.e., commits or aborts)
- This version of 2PL is called Strict Two-Phase Locking

Resolving WR Conflicts: Revisit

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are *interleaved* as follows:
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Resolving WR Conflicts: Revisit

- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are *interleaved* as follows:
 - T1 deducts \$100 from account A
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2PL vs. Strict 2PL

- Two-Phase Locking (2PL):
 - Limits concurrency
 - May lead to deadlocks
 - May have 'dirty reads'

Strict 2PL:

- Limits concurrency more (but, actions of different transactions can still be interleaved)
- May still lead to deadlocks
- Avoids 'dirty reads'



and Interleaved Actions

Performance of Locking

- Locking comes with delays mainly from *blocking*
- Usually, the first few transactions are unlikely to conflict
 - Throughput can rise in proportion to the number of active transactions
- As more transactions are executed concurrently, the likelihood of blocking increases
 - Throughput will increase more slowly with the number of active transactions
- There comes a point when adding another active transaction will actually decrease throughput
 - When the system *thrashes*!

Performance of Locking (Cont'd)



 If a database begins to *thrash*, the DBA should reduce the number of active transactions

 Empirically, thrashing is seen to occur when 30% of active transactions are blocked!

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Schedules with Aborted Transactions

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- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are interleaved as follows:
 - T1 deducts \$100 from account A
 - T2 adds 6% interest to accounts A and B, and commits
 - T1 is aborted
- T1 and T2 can be represented by the following schedule:



- Suppose that T1 and T2 actions are interleaved as follows:
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Serializable Schedules: Redefined

- Two schedules are said to be *equivalent* if for any database state, the effect of executing the 1st schedule is <u>identical</u> to the effect of executing the 2nd schedule
- <u>Previously</u>: a serializable schedule is a schedule that is equivalent to a serial schedule
- <u>Now</u>: a *serializable schedule* is a schedule that is equivalent to a serial schedule *over a set of committed transactions*
- This definition captures *serializability* as well as *recoverability*



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