Chapter 18 : Concurrency Control

Database System Concepts, 7th Ed.

Outline

- Lock-Based Protocols
- Timestamp-Based Protocols
- Validation-Based Protocols
- Multiple Granularity
- Multiversion Schemes
- Insert and Delete Operations
- Concurrency in Index Structures

Lock-Based Protocols

- A lock is a mechanism to control concurrent access to a data item
- Data items can be locked in two modes :
  1. **exclusive** *(X) mode*. Data item can be both read as well as written. X-lock is requested using **lock-X** instruction.
  2. **shared** *(S) mode*. Data item can only be read. S-lock is requested using **lock-S** instruction.
- Lock requests are made to concurrency-control manager. Transaction can proceed only after request is granted.

Lock-Based Protocols (Cont.)

- **Lock-compatibility matrix**

	S	X
S	true	false
X	false	false

- A transaction may be granted a lock on an item if the requested lock is compatible with locks already held on the item by other transactions
- Any number of transactions can hold shared locks on an item,
- But if any transaction holds an exclusive on the item no other transaction may hold any lock on the item.

Lock-Based Protocols (Cont.)

- Example of a transaction performing locking:

  T_2: **lock-S**(*A*);
  read (*A*);
  unlock(*A*);

  lock-S(*B*);
  read (*B*);
  unlock(*B*);
  display(*A+B*)

- Locking as above is *not sufficient* to guarantee serializability

Transactions with Lock-Based Protocols

T_1: lock-X(B);
read(B);
$B := B - 50$;
write(B);
unlock(B);
lock-X(A);
read(A);
$A := A + 50$;
write(A);
unlock(A).

T_2: lock-S(A);
read(A);
unlock(A);
lock-S(B);
read(B);
unlock(B);
display($A + B$).

T_1	T_2	concurrency-control manager
lock-X(B)		
		grant-X(B, T_1)
read(B)		
$B := B - 50$		
write(B)		
unlock(B)		
	lock-S(A)	
		grant-S(A, T_2)
	read(A)	
	unlock(A)	
	lock-S(B)	
		grant-S(B, T_2)
	read(B)	
	unlock(B)	
	display($A + B$)	
lock-X(A)		
		grant-X(A, T_1)
read(A)		
$A := A + 50$		
write(A)		
unlock(A)		

Figure 18.4 Schedule 1.

Schedule With Lock Grants

- Grants omitted in rest of chapter
  - Assume grant happens just before the next instruction following lock request
- This schedule is not serializable (why?)
- A **locking protocol** is a set of rules followed by all transactions while requesting and releasing locks.
- Locking protocols enforce serializability by restricting the set of possible schedules.

T_1	T_2	concurrency-control manager
lock-X(B)		
		grant-X(B, T_1)
read(B)		
$B := B - 50$		
write(B)		
unlock(B)		
	lock-S(A)	
		grant-S(A, T_2)
	read(A)	
	unlock(A)	
	lock-S(B)	
		grant-S(B, T_2)
	read(B)	
	unlock(B)	
	display($A + B$)	
lock-X(A)		
		grant-X(A, T_1)
read(A)		
$A := A + 50$		
write(A)		
unlock(A)		

Transactions with unlocking delayed

T_3: lock-X(B);
read(B);
$B := B - 50$;
write(B);
lock-X(A);
read(A);
$A := A + 50$;
write(A);
unlock(B);
unlock(A).

T_4: lock-S(A);
read(A);
lock-S(B);
read(B);
display($A + B$);
unlock(A);
unlock(B).

T_1	T_2	concurrency-control manager
lock-X(B)		
		grant-X(B, T_1)
read(B)		
$B := B - 50$		
write(B)		
unlock(B)		
	lock-S(A)	
		grant-S(A, T_2)
	read(A)	
	unlock(A)	
	lock-S(B)	
		grant-S(B, T_2)
	read(B)	
	unlock(B)	
	display($A + B$)	
lock-X(A)		
		grant-X(A, T_1)
read(A)		
$A := A + 50$		
write(A)		
unlock(A)		

Deadlock

- Consider the partial schedule

T_3	T_4
lock-X(B)	
read(B)	
$B := B - 50$	
write(B)	
	lock-S(A)
	read(A)
	lock-S(B)
lock-X(A)	

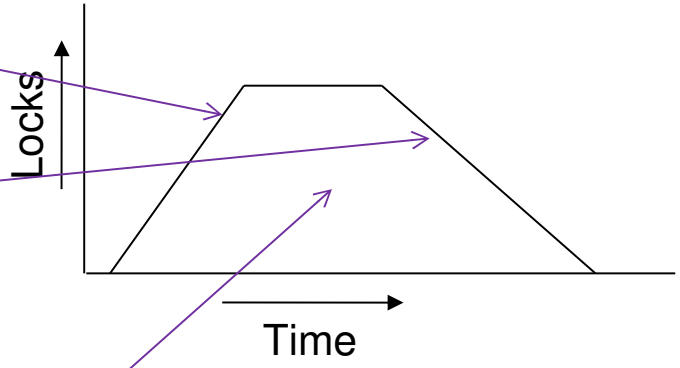
- Neither T_3 nor T_4 can make progress — executing **lock-S**(B) causes T_4 to wait for T_3 to release its lock on B, while executing **lock-X**(A) causes T_3 to wait for T_4 to release its lock on A.
- Such a situation is called a **deadlock**.
  - To handle a deadlock one of T_3 or T_4 must be rolled back and its locks released.

Deadlock (Cont.)

- The potential for deadlock exists in most locking protocols. Deadlocks are a necessary evil.
- **Starvation** is also possible if concurrency control manager is badly designed. For example:
  - A transaction may be waiting for an X-lock on an item, while a sequence of other transactions request and are granted an S-lock on the same item.
  - The same transaction is repeatedly rolled back due to deadlocks.
- Concurrency control manager can be designed to prevent starvation.

The Two-Phase Locking Protocol

- A protocol which ensures conflict-serializable schedules.
- Phase 1: **Growing Phase**
  - Transaction may obtain locks
  - Transaction may not release locks
- Phase 2: **Shrinking Phase**
  - Transaction may release locks
  - Transaction may not obtain locks
- The protocol assures serializability. It can be proved that the transactions can be serialized in the order of their **lock points** (i.e., the point where a transaction acquired its final lock).



Partial Schedule under Two-Phase Locking Protocol

T_5	T_6	T_7
lock-X(A)		
read(A)		
lock-S(B)		
read(B)		
write(A)		
unlock(A)		
	lock-X(A)	
	read(A)	
	write(A)	
	unlock(A)	
		lock-S(A)
		read(A)

The Two-Phase Locking Protocol (Cont.)

- Two-phase locking *does not* ensure freedom from deadlocks
- Extensions to basic two-phase locking needed to ensure recoverability of freedom from cascading roll-back
  - **Strict two-phase locking:** a transaction must hold all its exclusive locks till it commits/aborts.
    - Ensures recoverability and avoids cascading roll-backs
  - **Rigorous two-phase locking**: a transaction must hold *all* locks till commit/abort.
    - Transactions can be serialized in the order in which they commit.
- Most databases implement rigorous two-phase locking, *but refer to it as simply two-phase locking*

Lock Conversions

- Two-phase locking protocol with lock conversions:
  - Growing Phase:
    - can acquire a lock-S on item
    - can acquire a lock-X on item
    - can **convert** a lock-S to a lock-X (**upgrade**)
  - Shrinking Phase:
    - can release a lock-S
    - can release a lock-X
    - can convert a lock-X to a lock-S (**downgrade**)
- This protocol ensures serializability

The Two-Phase Locking Protocol (Cont.)
Example to lock conversion

T_8: read(a_1);
read(a_2);
...
read(a_n);
write(a_1).

T_9: read(a_1);
read(a_2);
display($a_1 + a_2$).

T_8	T_9
lock-S(a_1)	
	lock-S(a_1)
lock-S(a_2)	
	lock-S(a_2)
lock-S(a_3)	
lock-S(a_4)	
	unlock(a_1)
	unlock(a_2)
lock-S(a_n)	
upgrade(a_1)	

The Two-Phase Locking Protocol (Cont.)

- Two-phase locking is not a necessary condition for serializability
  - There are conflict serializable schedules that cannot be obtained if the two-phase locking protocol is used.
- In the absence of extra information (e.g., ordering of access to data), two-phase locking is necessary for conflict serializability *in the following sense*:
  - *Given a transaction T_i that does not follow two-phase locking, we can find a transaction T_j that uses two-phase locking, and a schedule for T_i and T_j that is not conflict serializable.*

T_1	T_2
lock-X(B)	
read(B)	
$B := B - 50$	
write(B)	
unlock(B)	
	lock-S(A)
	read(A)
	unlock(A)
	lock-S(B)
	read(B)
	unlock(B)
	display($A + B$)
lock-X(A)	
read(A)	
$A := A + 50$	
write(A)	
unlock(A)	

Locking Protocols

- Given a locking protocol (such as 2PL)
  - A schedule S is **legal** under a locking protocol if it can be generated by a set of transactions that follow the protocol
  - A protocol **ensures** serializability if all legal schedules under that protocol are serializable

Automatic Acquisition of Locks

- A transaction T_i issues the standard read/write instruction, without explicit locking calls.
- The operation **read**(D) is processed as:

```
if Ti has a lock on D
then
    read(D)
else begin
    if necessary wait until no other
       transaction has a lock-X on D
    grant Ti a lock-S on D;
    read(D)
end
```

Automatic Acquisition of Locks (Cont.)

- The operation **write**(*D*) is processed as:

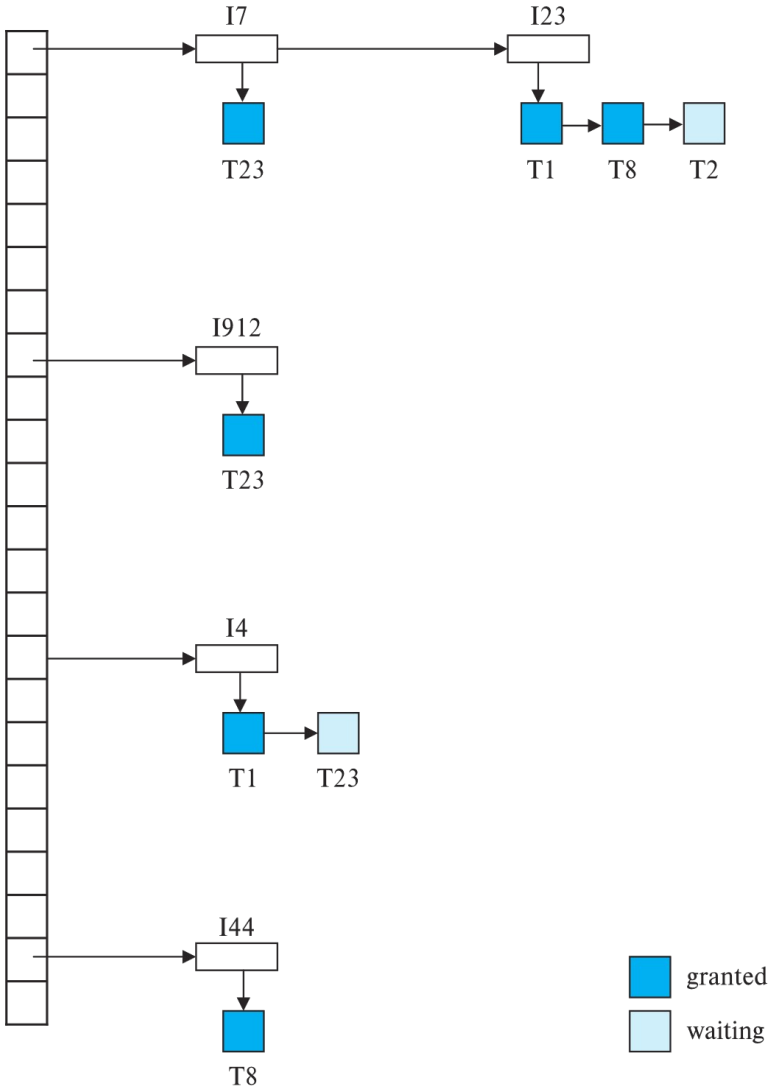
```
if Ti has a lock-X on D
  then
    write(D)
  else begin
    if necessary wait until no other trans. has any lock on D,
    if Ti has a lock-S on D
        then
          upgrade lock on D to lock-X
        else
          grant Ti a lock-X on D
        write(D)
  end;
```

- **All locks are released after commit or abort**

Implementation of Locking

- A **lock manager** can be implemented as a separate process
- Transactions can send lock and unlock requests as messages
- The lock manager replies to a lock request by sending a lock grant messages (or a message asking the transaction to roll back, in case of a deadlock)
  - The requesting transaction waits until its request is answered
- The lock manager maintains an in-memory data-structure called a **lock table** to record granted locks and pending requests

Lock Table



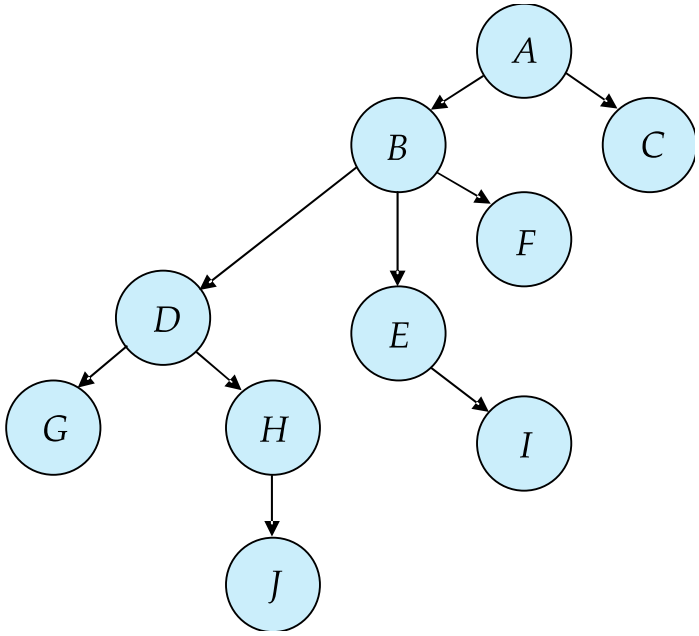
- Dark rectangles indicate granted locks, light colored ones indicate waiting requests
- Lock table also records the type of lock granted or requested
- New request is added to the end of the queue of requests for the data item, and granted if it is compatible with all earlier locks
- Unlock requests result in the request being deleted, and later requests are checked to see if they can now be granted
- If transaction aborts, all waiting or granted requests of the transaction are deleted
  - lock manager may keep a list of locks held by each transaction, to implement this efficiently

Graph-Based Protocols

- Graph-based protocols are an alternative to two-phase locking
- Impose a partial ordering $\rightarrow$ on the set **D** = {d_1, d_2 ,..., d_h} of all data items.
  - If $d_i \rightarrow d_j$ then any transaction accessing both d_i and d_j must access d_i before accessing d_j.
  - Implies that the set **D** may now be viewed as a directed acyclic graph, called a *database graph*.
- The *tree-protocol* is a simple kind of graph protocol.

Tree Protocol

- Only exclusive locks are allowed.
- The first lock by T_i may be on any data item. Subsequently, a data Q can be locked by T_i only if the parent of Q is currently locked by T_i.
- Data items may be unlocked at any time.
- A data item that has been locked and unlocked by T_i cannot subsequently be relocked by T_i



Serialized Schedule under Tree Protocol

T_{10}: lock-X(B); lock-X(E); lock-X(D); unlock(B); unlock(E); lock-X(G); unlock(D); unlock(G).
T_{11}: lock-X(D); lock-X(H); unlock(D); unlock(H).
T_{12}: lock-X(B); lock-X(E); unlock(E); unlock(B).
T_{13}: lock-X(D); lock-X(H); unlock(D); unlock(H).

T_{10}	T_{11}	T_{12}	T_{13}
lock-X(B)			
	lock-X(D)		
	lock-X(H)		
	unlock(D)		
lock-X(E)			
lock-X(D)			
unlock(B)			
unlock(E)			
		lock-X(B)	
		lock-X(E)	
	unlock(H)		
lock-X(G)			
unlock(D)			
			lock-X(D)
			lock-X(H)
			unlock(D)
			unlock(H)
		unlock(E)	
		unlock(B)	
unlock(G)			

Graph-Based Protocols (Cont.)

- The tree protocol ensures conflict serializability as well as freedom from deadlock.
- Unlocking may occur earlier in the tree-locking protocol than in the two-phase locking protocol.
  - Shorter waiting times, and increase in concurrency
  - Protocol is deadlock-free, no rollbacks are required
- Drawbacks
  - Protocol does not guarantee recoverability or cascade freedom
    - Need to introduce commit dependencies to ensure recoverability
  - Transactions may have to lock data items that they do not access.
    - increased locking overhead, and additional waiting time
    - potential decrease in concurrency
- Schedules not possible under two-phase locking are possible under the tree protocol, and vice versa.

Deadlock Handling

- System is **deadlocked** if there is a set of transactions such that every transaction in the set is waiting for another transaction in the set.

T_3	T_4
lock-X(B)	
read(B)	
$B := B - 50$	
write(B)	
	lock-S(A)
	read(A)
	lock-S(B)
lock-X(A)	

Deadlock Handling

- ***Deadlock Prevention***
- ***Deadlock Detection & Deadlock Recovery***

- ***Deadlock prevention*** protocols ensure that the system will *never* enter into a deadlock state. Some prevention strategies:
  - Require that each transaction locks all its data items before it begins execution (pre-declaration).
    - Hard to predict what data items need to be locked
    - Poor data-item utilization (most of the time data items are idle)
  - No circular waits in ordering the requests for locks.
  - Transaction roll-back whenever the waiting for the lock is required.
  - Impose partial ordering of all data items and require that a transaction can lock data items only in the order specified by the partial order (graph-based protocol).

More Deadlock Prevention Strategies

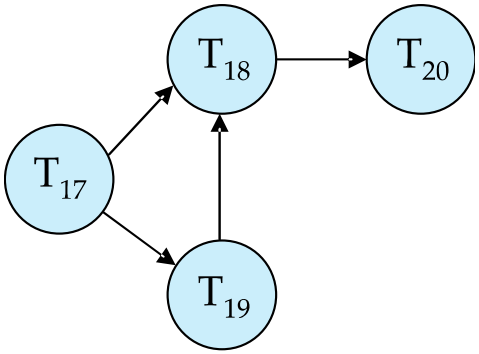
- **wait-die** scheme — non-preemptive
  - Older transaction may wait for younger one to release data item.
  - Younger transactions never wait for older ones; they are rolled back instead.
  - A transaction may die several times before acquiring a lock
- **wound-wait** scheme — preemptive
  - Older transaction *wounds* (forces rollback) of younger transaction instead of waiting for it.
  - Younger transactions may wait for older ones.
  - Fewer rollbacks than *wait-die* scheme.
- In both schemes, a rolled back transactions is restarted with its original timestamp.
  - Ensures that older transactions have precedence over newer ones, and starvation is thus avoided.

Deadlock prevention (Cont.)

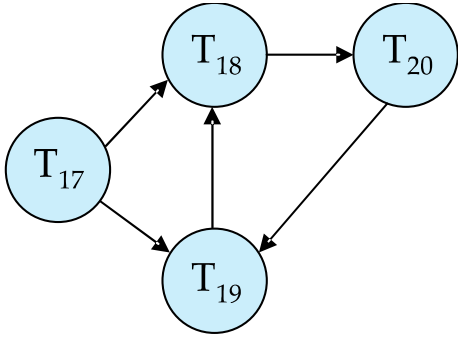
- **Timeout-Based Schemes**:
  - A transaction waits for a lock only for a specified amount of time. After that, the wait times out and the transaction is rolled back.
  - Ensures that deadlocks get resolved by timeout if they occur
  - Simple to implement
  - But may roll back transaction unnecessarily in absence of deadlock
    - Difficult to determine good value of the timeout interval.
  - Starvation is also possible

Deadlock Detection

- **Wait-for graph**
  - *Vertices:* transactions
  - *Edge from* $T_i \circ T_j$. : if T_i is waiting for a lock held in conflicting mode by T_j
- The system is in a deadlock state if and only if the wait-for graph has a cycle.
- Invoke a deadlock-detection algorithm periodically to look for cycles.



Wait-for graph without a cycle



Wait-for graph with a cycle

Deadlock Recovery

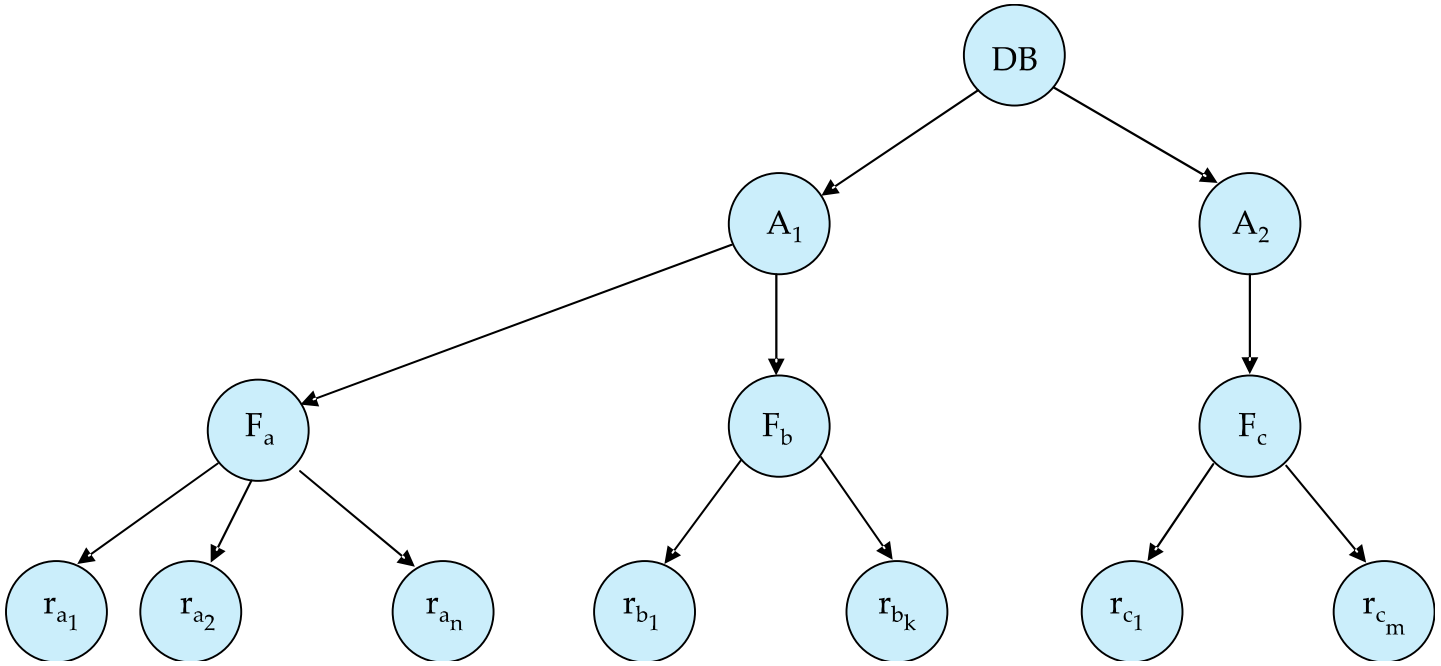
- When deadlock is detected :
  - Some transaction will have to rolled back (made a **victim**) to break deadlock cycle.
    - Select that transaction as victim that will incur minimum cost
    - How long the transaction is completed & left-over
    - How many data items the transaction has used and how many required for completion?
    - How many transactions are involved in deadlock
  - Rollback -- determine how far to roll back transaction
    - **Total rollback**: Abort the transaction and then restart it.
    - **Partial rollback**: Roll back victim transaction only as far as necessary to release locks that another transaction in cycle is waiting for
- Starvation can happen (why?)
  - One solution: oldest transaction in the deadlock set is never chosen as victim

Multiple Granularity

- Allow data items to be of various sizes and define a hierarchy of data granularities, where the small granularities are nested within larger ones
- Can be represented graphically as a tree (but don't confuse with tree-locking protocol)
- When a transaction locks a node in the tree *explicitly*, it *implicitly* locks all the node's descendants in the same mode.
- Granularity of locking (level in tree where locking is done):
  - **Fine granularity** (lower in tree): high concurrency, high locking overhead
  - **Coarse granularity** (higher in tree): low locking overhead, low concurrency

Example of Granularity Hierarchy

- The levels, starting from the coarsest (top) level are
  - *database*
  - *area*
  - *file*
  - *record*
- The corresponding tree



Intention Lock Modes

- In addition to S and X lock modes, there are three additional lock modes with multiple granularity:
  - ***intention-shared*** (IS): indicates explicit locking at a lower level of the tree but only with shared locks.
  - ***intention-exclusive*** (IX): indicates explicit locking at a lower level with exclusive or shared locks
  - ***shared and intention-exclusive*** (SIX): the subtree rooted by that node is locked explicitly in shared mode and explicit locking is being done at a lower level with exclusive-mode locks.
- Intention locks allow a higher level node to be locked in S or X mode without having to check all descendent nodes.

Compatibility Matrix with Intention Lock Modes

- The compatibility matrix for all lock modes is:

	IS	IX	S	SIX	X
IS	true	true	true	true	false
IX	true	true	false	false	false
S	true	false	true	false	false
SIX	true	false	false	false	false
X	false	false	false	false	false

Multiple Granularity Locking Scheme

- Transaction T_i can lock a node Q, using the following rules:
  1. The lock compatibility matrix must be observed.
  2. The root of the tree must be locked first, and may be locked in any mode.
  3. A node Q can be locked by T_i in S or IS mode only if the parent of Q is currently locked by T_i in either IX or IS mode.
  4. A node Q can be locked by T_i in X, SIX, or IX mode only if the parent of Q is currently locked by T_i in either IX or SIX mode.
  5. T_i can lock a node only if it has not previously unlocked any node (that is, T_i is two-phase).
  6. T_i can unlock a node Q only if none of the children of Q are currently locked by T_i.
- Observe that locks are acquired in root-to-leaf order, whereas they are released in leaf-to-root order.
- **Lock granularity escalation**: in case there are too many locks at a particular level, switch to higher granularity S or X lock

Multiple Granularity Locking Scheme

- Illustration of a Protocol :
  1. Suppose that transaction T1 reads record ra2 in file Fa. Then, T1 needs to lock the database, area A1, and Fa in IS mode (and in that order), and finally to lock ra2 in S mode.
  2. Suppose that transaction *T2* modifies record *ra9* in file *Fa*. Then, *T2* needs to lock the database, area *A1*, and file Fa (and in that order) in IX mode, and finally to lock ra9 in X mode.
  3. Suppose T3 reads all records in file Fa. Then T3 needs to lock the database and area A1 (and in that order) in IS mode, and finally to lock Fa in S mode.
  4. Suppose that transaction T4 reads the entire database. It can do so after locking the database in S mode.

- T1, T3 and T4 can access the database concurrently
- T1 and T2 can execute concurrently
- T2 cannot execute concurrently with either T3 or T4.

Timestamp Based Concurrency Control

Timestamp-Based Protocols

- Each transaction T_i is issued a timestamp TS(T_i) when it enters the system.
  - Each transaction has a *unique* timestamp
  - Newer transactions have timestamps strictly greater than earlier ones
  - Timestamp could be based on a logical counter
- Timestamp-based protocols manage concurrent execution such that
  time-stamp order = serializability order
- Several alternative protocols based on timestamps

Timestamp-Ordering Protocol

The **timestamp ordering (TSO) protocol**

- Maintains for each data Q two timestamp values:
  - **W-timestamp**(Q) is the largest time-stamp of any transaction that executed **write**(Q) successfully.
  - **R-timestamp**(Q) is the largest time-stamp of any transaction that executed **read**(Q) successfully.
- Imposes rules on read and write operations to ensure that
  - Any conflicting operations are executed in timestamp order
  - Out of order operations cause transaction rollback

Timestamp-Based Protocols (Cont.)

- Suppose a transaction T_i issues a **read**(Q)

  1. If TS(T_i) < **W**-timestamp(Q), then T_i needs to read a value of Q that was already overwritten.
     - Hence, the **read** operation is rejected, and T_i is rolled back.

  2. If TS(T_i) ≥ **W**-timestamp(Q), then the **read** operation is executed, and
     R-timestamp(Q) is set to **max**(R-timestamp(Q), TS(T_i)).

Timestamp-Based Protocols (Cont.)

- Suppose that transaction T_i issues **write**(Q).
  1. If TS(T_i) < R-timestamp(Q), then the value of Q that T_i is producing was needed previously, and the system assumed that that value would never be produced.
     - Hence, the **write** operation is rejected, and T_i is rolled back.
  2. If TS(T_i) < W-timestamp(Q), then T_i is attempting to write an obsolete value of Q.
     - Hence, this **write** operation is rejected, and T_i is rolled back.
  3. Otherwise, the **write** operation is executed, and W-timestamp(Q) is set to TS(T_i).

Example of Schedule Under TSO

- Is this schedule valid under TSO?

  Assume that initially:
  R-TS(A) = W-TS(A) = 0
  R-TS(B) = W-TS(B) = 0
  Assume TS(T_{25}) = 25 and
  TS(T_{26}) = 26

T_{25}	T_{26}
read(B)	
	read(B)
	$B := B - 50$
	write(B)
read(A)	
	read(A)
display($A + B$)	
	$A := A + 50$
	write(A)
	display($A + B$)

- How about this one, where initially
  R-TS(Q)=W-TS(Q)=0

T_{27}	T_{28}
read(Q)	
	write(Q)
write(Q)	

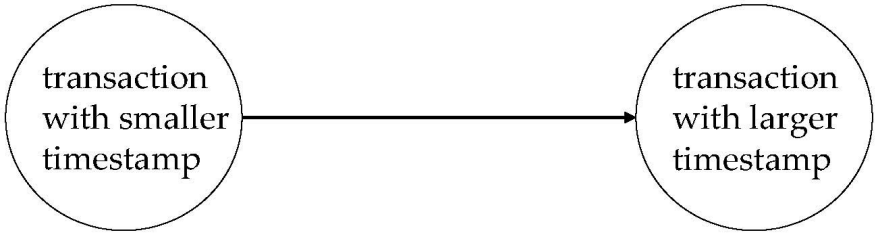
Another Example Under TSO

A partial schedule for several data items for transactions with timestamps 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, with all R-TS and W-TS = 0 initially

T_1	T_2	T_3	T_4	T_5
				read (X)
	read (Y)			
read (Y)				
		write (Y)		
		write (Z)		
				read (Z)
	read (Z)			
	abort			
read (X)				
			read (W)	
		write (W)		
		abort		
				write (Y)
				write (Z)

Correctness of Timestamp-Ordering Protocol

- The timestamp-ordering protocol guarantees serializability since all the arcs in the precedence graph are of the form:



Thus, there will be no cycles in the precedence graph

- Timestamp protocol ensures freedom from deadlock as no transaction ever waits.
- But the schedule may not be cascade-free, and may not even be recoverable.

Recoverability and Cascade Freedom

- Solution 1:
  - A transaction is structured such that its writes are all performed at the end of its processing
  - All writes of a transaction form an atomic action; no transaction may execute while a transaction is being written
  - A transaction that aborts is restarted with a new timestamp
- Solution 2:
  - Limited form of locking: wait for data to be committed before reading it
- Solution 3:
  - Use commit dependencies to ensure recoverability

Thomas' Write Rule

- Modified version of the timestamp-ordering protocol in which obsolete **write** operations may be ignored under certain circumstances.
- When T_i attempts to write data item Q, if TS(T_i) < W-timestamp(Q), then T_i is attempting to write an obsolete value of {Q}.
  - Rather than rolling back T_i as the timestamp ordering protocol would have done, this {**write**} operation can be ignored.
- Otherwise this protocol is the same as the timestamp ordering protocol.
- Thomas' Write Rule allows greater potential concurrency.
  - Allows some view-serializable schedules that are not conflict-serializable.

Concurrency Control under Insertion & Deletion Operations

Insert & Delete Operations

- Delete: Ii = delete(Q)
  - Ij = read(Q). Ii and Ij conflict. If Ii comes before Ij, Tj will have a logical error. If Ij comes before Ii, Tj can execute the read operation successfully.
  - Ij = write(Q). Ii and Ij conflict. If Ii comes before Ij, Tj will have a logical error. If Ij comes before Ii, Tj can execute the write operation successfully.
  - Ij = delete(Q). Ii and Ij conflict. If Ii comes before Ij, Tj will have a logical error. If Ij comes before Ii, Ti will have a logical error.
  - Ij = insert(Q). Ii and Ij conflict. Suppose that data item Q did not exist prior to the execution of Ii and Ij. Then, if Ii comes before Ij, a logical error results for Ti. If Ij comes before Ii, then no logical error results. Likewise, if Q existed prior to the execution of Ii and Ij, then a logical error results if Ij comes before Ii, but not otherwise.

Two-phase locking and TSO protocols for Insert/Delete Operations

- Delete Operation
- Under the two-phase locking protocol, an exclusive lock is required on a data item before that item can be deleted.
- Under the timestamp-ordering protocol, a test similar to that for a write must be performed. Suppose that transaction Ti issues delete(Q).
  - If TS(Ti) < R-timestamp(Q), then the value of Q that Ti was to delete has already been read by a transaction Tj with TS(Tj) > TS(Ti). Hence, the delete operation is rejected, and Ti is rolled back.
  - If TS(Ti) < W-timestamp(Q), then a transaction Tj with TS(Tj) > TS(Ti) has written Q. Hence, this delete operation is rejected, and Ti is rolled back.
  - Otherwise, the delete is executed.
- Insertion Operation
  - Conflicts with delete, read and write operations
  - Under the two-phase locking protocol, if Ti performs an insert(Q) operation, Ti is given an exclusive lock on the newly created data item Q.
  - Under the timestamp-ordering protocol, if Ti performs an insert(Q) operation, the values R-timestamp(Q) andW-timestamp(Q) are set to TS(Ti).

Validation-Based Protocol

- Idea: can we use commit time as serialization order?
- To do so:
  - Postpone writes to end of transaction
  - Keep track of data items read/written by transaction
  - **Validation** performed at commit time, detect any out-of-serialization order reads/writes
- Also called as **optimistic concurrency control** since transaction executes fully in the hope that all will go well during validation

Validation-Based Protocol

- Execution of transaction T_i is done in three phases.

1. **Read and execution phase**: Transaction T_i (a) During this phase, the system executes transaction T_i. It reads the values of the various data items and stores them in variables local to T_i. It performs all write operations on temporary local variables, without updates of the actual database.

- 2. **Validation phase**: The validation test (described below) is applied to transaction *Ti*. This determines whether *Ti* is allowed to proceed to the write phase without causing a violation of serializability. If a transaction fails the validation test, the system aborts the transaction.
- **3. Write phase**: If the validation test succeeds for transaction *Ti*, the temporary local variables that hold the results of any write operations performed by *Ti* are copied to the database. Read-only transactions omit this phase.
- The three phases of concurrently executing transactions can be interleaved, but each transaction must go through the three phases in that order.
  - We assume for simplicity that the validation and write phase occur together, atomically and serially
    - I.e., only one transaction executes validation/write at a time.

Validation-Based Protocol (Cont.)

- Each transaction T_i has 3 timestamps
  - **StartTS**(T_i) : the time when T_i started its execution
  - **ValidationTS**(T_i): the time when T_i entered its validation phase
  - **FinishTS**(T_i) : the time when T_i finished its write phase
- Validation tests use above timestamps and read/write sets to ensure that serializability order is determined by validation time
  - Thus, TS(T_i) = ValidationTS(T_i)
- Validation-based protocol has been found to give greater degree of concurrency than locking/TSO if probability of conflicts is low.

Validation Test for Transaction T_j

- If for all T_i with TS (T_i) < TS (T_j) either one of the following condition holds:
  - **finishTS**(T_i) < **startTS**(T_j)
  - **startTS**(T_j) < **finishTS**(T_i) < **validationTS**(T_j) **and** the set of data items written by T_i does not intersect with the set of data items read by T_j.

  then validation succeeds and T_j can be committed.
- Otherwise, validation fails and T_j is aborted.
- Justification:
  - First condition applies when execution is not concurrent
    - The writes of T_j do not affect reads of T_i since they occur after T_i has finished its reads.
  - If the second condition holds, execution is concurrent, T_j does not read any item written by T_i.

Schedule Produced by Validation

- Example of schedule produced using validation

T_{25}	T_{26}
read(B)	
	read(B)
	$B := B - 50$
	read(A)
	$A := A + 50$
read(A)	
<validate>	
display($A + B$)	
	<validate>
	write(B)
	write(A)