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Carnegie Mellon Univ.
 Dept. of Computer Science
 15-415/615 - DB Applications

Lecture #23: Alternative Concurrency
 Control Methods (R&G ch. 17)

Faloutsos SCS 15-415/615 #1

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Outline

- serializability; 2PL; deadlocks
- Locking granularity
- Tree locking protocols
- Phantoms & predicate locking
- Optimistic CC
- Timestamp based methods
- Multiversion CC

very popular –
 used in all
 commercial systems

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Optimistic CC (Kung&Robinson)

- Assumption: conflicts are rare
- Optimize for the no-conflict case.

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Optimistic CC (Kung&Robinson)

- All transactions consist of three phases
 - Read:** all writes are to **private** storage.
 - Validation:** check for no conflicts
 - Write:** flush 'writes' (or abort!)

Check for conflicts

All writes private | Validation | Make local writes public

Read Phase Write Phase

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Why Might this Make Sense?

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Why Might this Make Sense?

- All transactions are readers
- Many transactions,
 - each accessing/modifying few tuples
 - from many tuples
 - Low probability of conflict, so again locking is wasted

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Validation Phase

- Goal: guarantee only serializable schedules
- Intuitively: at validation, T_j checks its 'elders' for RW and WW conflicts
- and makes sure that all conflicts go one way (from elder to younger)

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Validation Phase

Specifically:

- Assign each transaction a TN (transaction number)
- Require TN order to be the serialization order
- If $TN(T_i) < TN(T_j) \Rightarrow$ **ONE** of the following must hold:

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Validation Phase (1)

1. T_i completes W before T_j starts R

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Correctness

1. T_i completes W before T_j starts R

ok W-R
ok W-W

ok R-W

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Correctness

- In fact, this is a true serial execution

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Validation Phase (2)

2. $WS(T_i) \cap RS(T_j) = \emptyset$ and
 T_i completes W before T_j starts W

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Correctness

2. $WS(T_i) \cap RS(T_j) = \emptyset$ **and**
 T_i completes W before T_j starts W

no W-R
ok W-W
ok R-W

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Validation Phase (3)

3. $WS(T_i) \cap RS(T_j) = \emptyset$ **and**
 $WS(T_i) \cap WS(T_j) = \emptyset$ **and**
 T_i completes its R before T_j completes its R

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Correctness:

3. $WS(T_i) \cap RS(T_j) = \emptyset$ **and**
 $WS(T_i) \cap WS(T_j) = \emptyset$ **and**
 T_i completes its R before T_j completes its R

no W-R
no W-W
ok R-W

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Observations

- When to better assign TN's?
- at beginning of read phase: Tj has to wait...

Tj has to wait
for W(Ti)

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Observations

- When to better assign TN's?
- at beginning of **validation** phase:
 - Tj can start
 - condition (3): automatic!

Tj has to wait
for W(Ti)

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A Serial Validation Technique

Goal: to ensure conditions 1 and/or 2 above.

- Requires that write phases be done serially
- Validation + Write: in a 'critical section'

Critical section

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Serial Validation Algorithm

1. Record *start_{tn}* when Xact starts (to identify active Xacts later)
2. Obtain the Xact's real Transaction Number (TN) at the start of validation phase
3. Record read set and write set while running and write into local copy
4. Do validation and write phase inside a critical section

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Opt CC vs. Locking

<p>Locking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• order is of first lock;• wait• on deadlock, abort	<p>Optimistic cc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• order is of $TN(i)$• abort• on starvation, lock
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Conclusions

- Analysis [Agrawal, Carey, Livny, '87]:
 - locking performs well
- All vendors use locking
- Optimistic cc: promising when resource utilization is low.

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- ➔ • Timestamp based methods
- Multiversion CC

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Timestamp based

Motivation:

- can we avoid locks
- AND also avoid the 'critical section' of optimistic CC?

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Timestamp based

Main idea

- each xact goes ahead reading and writing
- if it tries to access an object 'from the future', it aborts

(Resembles 'optimistic cc', but writes go directly on the db)

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Timestamp CC:

- each xact gets a timestamp (TS)
- each object has
 - a read-timestamp (RTS) (latest xact that read it)
 - and a write-timestamp (WTS) (latest xact that wrote it)

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Timestamp CC

- If action a_i of Xact T_i conflicts with action a_j of Xact T_j , and $TS(T_i) < TS(T_j)$, then a_i must occur before a_j . Otherwise, restart the offending Xact.
- Specifically:

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On 'reads':

time

T1:<1> R(O)

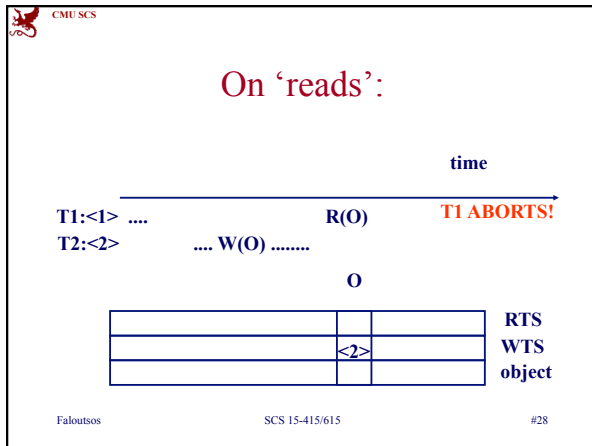
T2:<2> W(O)

O

		<2>	

RTS
WTS
object

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Timestamp CC - Reads:

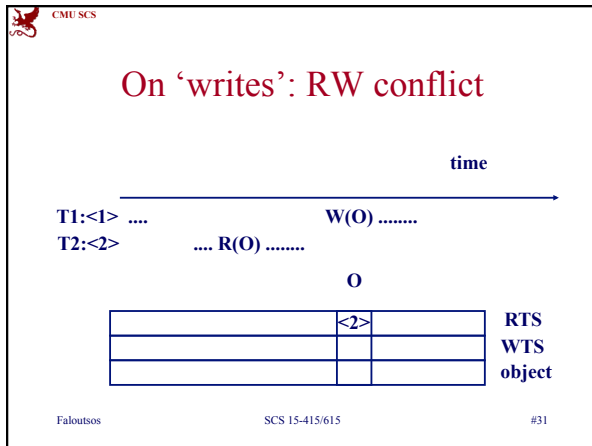
- If $TS(T) < WTS(O)$, this violates timestamp order of T w.r.t. writer of O.
 - So, abort T and restart it (with same TS? why?)
- Else
 - Allow T to read O.
 - Update $RTS(O)$ to $\max(RTS(O), TS(T))$

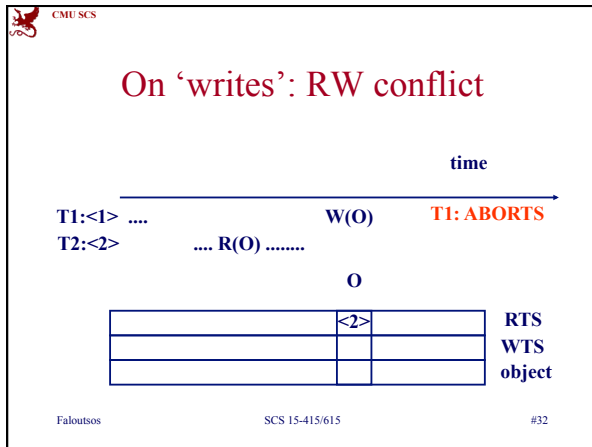
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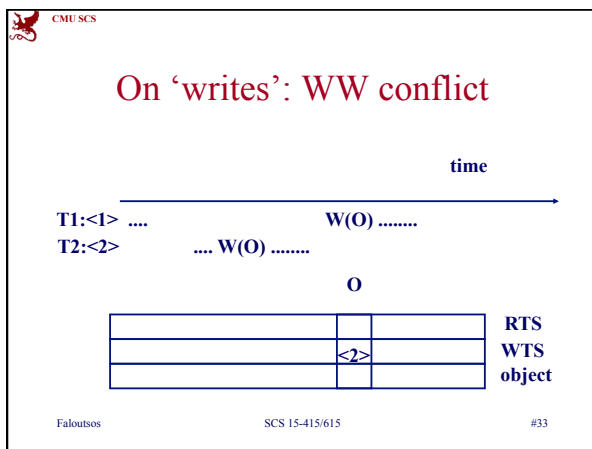
Timestamp CC - Reads

Notice: Change to $RTS(O)$ on reads must be written to disk! This and restarts represent overheads.

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On 'writes': WW conflict

time

T1: <1> ... W(O) **T1: STAYS!!!**
 T2: <2> ... W(O) **(Thomas rule: ignore the W of T1)**

O

	<2>	

RTS
WTS
object

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Timestamp CC: Writes

- If $TS(T) < RTS(O)$, abort and restart T.
- If $TS(T) < WTS(O)$, violates timestamp order of T w.r.t. writer of O.
 - **Thomas Write Rule**: ignore W op, and continue with T
- Else, allow T to write O.
 - and update the $WTS(O)$

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Digging deeper:

- How about recoverability (ie, cascading aborts?)
- Can they appear, under timestamp CC?

T1	T2
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	Commit
...	
Abort	

BAD

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Digging deeper:

- How about recoverability (ie, cascading aborts?)
- Can they appear, under timestamp CC?
- Yes!

T1	T2
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	Commit
...	
Abort	

BAD

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Timestamp CC and Recoverability

Recoverable schedule: xacts commit only after (and if) all xacts whose changes they read commit

T1	T2
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	Commit
...	
Abort	

BAD

- ❖ Unrecoverable schedules are allowed by Timestamp CC !
- ❖ (Explain why?)

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Timestamp CC and Recoverability

- Timestamp CC can be modified, to give recoverable schedules – how?

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Timestamp CC and Recoverability

- Timestamp CC can be modified, to give recoverable schedules – how?
- A:
 - Buffer all writes until writer commits (but update WTS(O) when the write is allowed.)
 - Block readers T (where $TS(T) > WTS(O)$) until writer of O commits.

Similar to writers holding X locks until commit, (but not =2PL).

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Multiversion CC

- Readers need NO LOCKS!
 - How would you do it?

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Multiversion CC

- Readers need **NO LOCKS!**
 - keep a **history** of **all** attribute values
 - give each reader the appropriate version
 - (abort the belated writers)

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Multiversion Timestamp CC

- **Idea:** Let writers make a “new” copy while readers use an appropriate “old” copy:

MAIN SEGMENT
(Current versions of DB objects)

VERSION POOL
(Older versions that may be useful for some active readers.)

- ❖ **Readers are always allowed to proceed.**
 - But may be blocked until writer commits.

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Multiversion CC (Contd.)

- Each Xact is classified as **Reader** or **Writer**.
 - Writer *may* write some object; Reader never will.
 - Xact declares whether it is a Reader when it begins.
- Each version of an object has its writer’s TS as its **WTS**, and the TS of the Xact that most recently read this version as its **RTS**.
- Versions are chained backward; we can discard versions that are “too old to be of interest”.

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Reader Xact

- Find **newest version** with $WTS < TS(T)$.
- Reader Xacts are never restarted.
 - However, might block until writer of the appropriate version commits.

The diagram shows a horizontal timeline labeled 'WTS timeline' with an arrow pointing from 'old' to 'new'. Two colored rectangles (one blue, one red) are placed on the timeline. An orange arrow labeled 'TS(T)' points upwards to the red rectangle.

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Writer Xact

- try to insert/append a new version
- abort if there is a reader 'from the future', that read an older version
- Specifically:

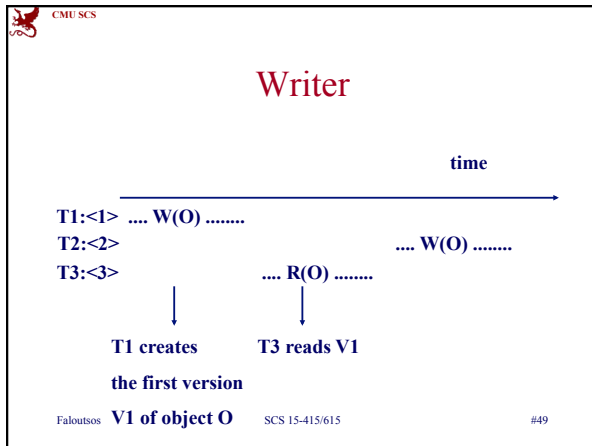
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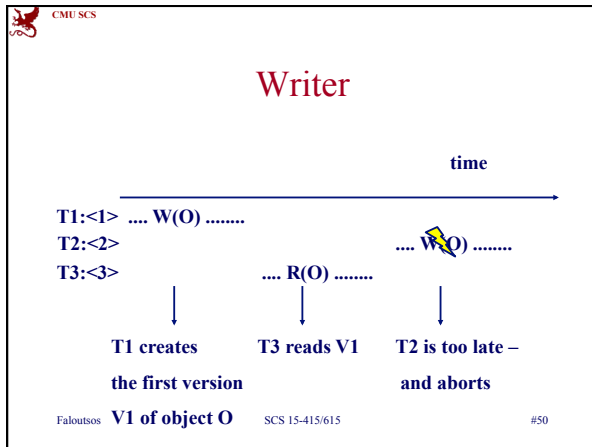
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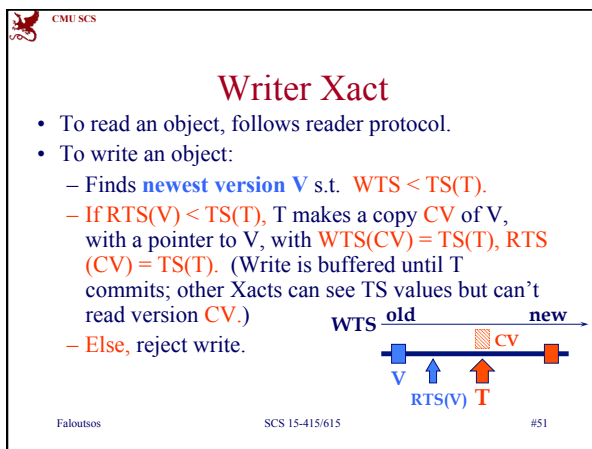
Writer

The diagram shows a horizontal timeline labeled 'time' with an arrow pointing right. Three transactions are listed on the left: T1: <I>, T2: <D>, and T3: <D>. T1 has a blue bar labeled '.... W(O)' starting early. T2 has a blue bar labeled '.... W(O)' starting later than T1. T3 has a blue bar labeled '.... R(O)' starting after T2. A vertical arrow points from T1 to the text 'T1 creates the first version V1 of object O'.

Faloutsos V1 of object O SCS 15-415/615 #48







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Writer Xact

- To read an object, follows reader protocol.
- To write an object:
 - Finds **newest version V** s.t. $WTS < TS(T)$.
 - If $RTS(V) < TS(T)$, T makes a copy **CV** of V, with a pointer to V, with $WTS(CV) = TS(T)$, $RTS(CV) = TS(T)$. (Write is buffered until T commits; other Xacts can see TS values but can't read version CV.)
 - Else, reject write.

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Summary – optimistic CC

- Optimistic CC (using a posteriori “validation”) aims to minimize CC overheads in an “optimistic” environment in which reads are common and writes are rare.
- Optimistic CC has its own overheads however; most real systems use locking.

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Summary – timestamp based

- Timestamp CC allows some serializable schedules that 2PL does not (although converse is also true).
- Ensuring recoverability requires ability to block Xacts, which is similar to locking.

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Summary - multiversion

- read-only Xacts are never restarted; they can always read a suitable older version.
- Has additional overhead of version maintenance.
 - Oracle uses a flavor of multiversion CC

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Overall summary of CC

- Most commercial systems use
 - Locking AND
 - with wait-for graphs for deadlock detection AND
 - multiple granularity locking (table, page, row)

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