

## Lec 9

## Concurrency Control

Want: multiple threads using same data structs safely

### # Concurrency Control

Protocol DBMS use to ensure correctness

- Logical correctness: thread being able to see data it's supposed to
- Physical correctness: internal repr is sound

Usually use latches

### # Latches

Recall

Lock  
transaction level  
allows rollback  
protect DB content  
long term  
for entire transaction  
detect & resolve  
kept by lock manager

Latches  
thread / worker level  
no rollback  
protect data struct  
shorter term updates  
during critical section  
avoid deadlocks  
kept in data struct

Latch modes

- Read (R)
  - Multiple threads can have it
  - Can acquire if another thread also reading
- Write (W)
  - One thread only
  - Cannot acquire if any other thread in read/write

R W  
R ✓ X  
W ✗ X

Impl goals

- Fast
- If thread waiting for too long, deschedule it
  - ↳ Latch may need own queue to track waits

Impls

- Test-and-Set Spinlock
  - Efficient (single instruction latch/unlatch)
  - Doesn't scale, not cache nor OS friendly
  - std::atomic<bool> latch; ← can be in another CPU's DRAM :(
   
while (latch.test-and-set(..)) { ... }  
↑ busy loop :(
- OS Mutex (bad idea)
  - Not scalable
  - std::mutex m;
  - m.lock();
  - m.unlock();
  - Problem: usually in userspace, but if one thread in write and the other not, we get into expensive OS space
    - ↳ that's why DBs tries to do things in user space
- RWLocks
  - std::shared\_mutex
  - Need mechanism to prevent starvation
- Adaptive Spinlock
- Queue-based Spinlock

### # Hardware level

Compare & swap — atomic instruction at mem level

compare-and-swap (& M, 20, 30)  
↓ address      ↑ if equal set to this

### # Hash Table Latching

Note for resize just use global latch (easy way)  
We worry about other access

- Page/Block level latches
  - Each block has RW latch

- Slot latches
  - Can use single-mode latch per slot

) tradeoff

### # B-Tree Latching

Latch some subtree instead of root!

- Latch coupling / crabbing

Allow:

- Latch parent

- Latch child

- Unlatch parent if safe

Safe mode: will not split or merge

viz. not full for insert

not underflow for delete

Find:

get R latch on child

unlatch parent

keep going down

Ins/del:

get W latch if needed

check child safety

if safe unlatch ancestors

Bottleneck: root latched often

but root write very rare

- Better latching alg: optimistic tree descend with R latch
  - if tail retry with W latch

Edge case, horizontal leaf traversal



If both read, okay



Uh oh. T<sub>2</sub> can kill itself and restart  
(Else don't know how long to wait)