Concurrent Data Structures

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- Two threads working on a B-tree can interfere with each other if at least one changes the tree structure
 - Thread 1: Look-up c
 - Thread 2: insert k



- Thread 1 accesses Node at 0xaa34
- Thread 1 accesses Node at 0x135e
- Thread 2 accesses Node at 0xaa34
- Thread 2 accesses Node at 0xaa34
- Thread 2 creates a new Node 0xb341
- Thread 2 inserts g into Node 0xaa34
- Thread 2 removes g from Node 0x135e



- Thread 1 cannot find g in Node 0x135e and returns
- Thread 2 inserts k into Node 0xb341
- Thread 2 returns



- B-tree locking for disks and solid state:
 - Only complete blocks can be written
- B-tree locking for main memory
 - Can lock parts of a node

- Complete locking:
 - All readers and updaters locks the root
 - No concurrency possible
 - Top-down locking
 - Pure reader: Starting with root, lock node, identify child, acquire child node, release parent node
 - Updater: Starting with root: lock node, identify child, acquire child node, until done. Then release all locks.

- Improving top-down locking
 - Safe node:
 - A node that the updater is never going to change
 - Updater can unlock all nodes above the safe node

- When is a node safe?
 - Insert operation:
 - A node can change by a rotation
 - A node can change by splitting
 - In both cases:
 - Parent of a node with overflow potential can change

- When is a node safe?
 - Deletion
 - A node can change by rotation
 - A node can change by merging
 - In both cases, parent of a node with potential underflow can change

• Use different types of locks



- An X-lock is exclusive
- An S-lock prevents other threads to get a higher class lock

- Lock-coupling for top-down algorithms
 - Request a lock on an index page while holding a lock on the page's parent
 - Check that new page is safe
 - Release lock on parent

- Sama 76:
 - All operations get an X (exclusive lock) on root and lock-couple their way to a leaf

- Bayer-Schkolnick 1977
 - Uses a B+ tree: all data is in the leaves
 - Searches get an S-lock on the root and lock-couple to the leaf using S-locks
 - B-X algorithm:
 - Updates get an X-lock on the root and lock-couple to the leaf
 - Excludes readers from parts of the tree not in the scope of the update

- B-SIX algorithm
 - Updates lock-couple with SIX locks
 - This allows readers to get S-locks on these nodes
 - Prevents updaters to interfere with each other as SIX locks are incompatible with each other
 - Updater when reaching a leaf have to convert the SIX locks to X locks
 - This separates readers and the updater
 - Updater cannot get an X-lock with an S-lock by another thread
 - Readers cannot get an S-lock with an X-lock by another thread

- B-X and B-SIX still make updaters compete a higher nodes
- B-OPT: updaters take an IX lock on root and then IX-lockcouple to leaf
 - Take X-lock on leaf
 - If leaf is safe, operations succeed
 - Otherwise:
 - Release X-lock on leaf
 - Default to B-SIX

- Top-down algorithms
 - Updaters perform preparatory splits and merges
 - If inserter encounters a full node during descent:
 - Splits the node
 - If deleter encounters a node with one entry, merge with sibling.
- Now leaf level insertion / deletion know that the parent is always safe

- TD-X
 - Updater gets an X lock on the root
 - Lock-couples to an X lock to the leaf
 - Before releasing the lock on the parent:
 - make split / merge
 - Readers use S-lock coupling

- TD-SIX
 - Updater gets SIX locks
 - Converts to X locks only if a split or merge is actually necessary

- TD-OPT
 - Updaters make an optimistic first pass
 - Use S-locks lock-coupling from root to leaf
 - If the leaf is unsafe, update to X-locks

- B-link trees: (Yao-Lehman)
 - At all levels:
 - Add a link to the right neighbor (can be null)



- B-link trees:
 - Add a high key to each node: The first key of the neighbor to the right
 - New invariant:
 - We can find a record by following the link from the father OR from the left neighbor

- B-link tree
 - When a node splits:
 - Link is introduced when nodes are split
 - The new link makes the pair of nodes functionally behave as one node
 - Even before other links are updated

















- B-link tree
 - Claim:
 - As long as all of these updates are atomic:
 - A reader can always find the right path
 - Idea of Proof:
 - Look at changes in reachability after each operation

- B-link tree
 - No dead-locks
 - Inserters can only acquire locks on nodes in order
 - Node1 < Node2 if
 - Node1 has less distance from root than Node2
 - OR
 - Node2 can be reached from Node1 through links

- B-link tree
 - Livelock
 - Livelocks are possible:
 - A bunch of inserters insert new links whenever a given reader accesses a node

- B-link tree
 - Deletion:
 - Just allow nodes to have less than k children
 - Do not restructure

- Lehman Yao algorithm
 - Reader descends the tree using S locks
 - Each page searched is either the child or the right sibling of the current page
 - Parent lock is released before the lock on the next page is acquired
 - Updaters behave the same way
 - Once reaching leaf, update their lock to an X-lock
 - Use link chasing with X-lock to find the right node
- This still has problems, look at the linked paper.

- Problem:
 - Any change to a node results in a page write
 - Some writes propagate

- Wu, Chang, Kuo: BFTL
 - Add a log page to each node
 - Log contains changes
 - Log is contained in RAM and mirrored to Flash
 - Needs an Node Translation Table (NTT) to find log entries for a given node

- FlashDB
 - Uses also logs for each tree node
 - Distinguishes between mainly read nodes (kept in Flash) and often-written nodes (kept in RAM)

- In Page Logging B+ tree (IPL)
 - Colocate nodes and their logs in the same erase unit

- Create two (or more trees)
 - Insert new records into the C0 tree
 - Keep C0 in memory
 - Log updates in storage



- Deletes:
 - Create tombstone records
- Seeks:
 - Seek both trees



- Whenever C0 becomes to big:
 - Create a new C0
 - Merge old C0 and C1
 - Both are now static



- To allow updates to values:
 - Use a version number