Introduction to Concurrency and Multicore Programming

Slides adapted from Art of Multicore Programming by Herlihy and Shavit

Overview

- Introduction
- Mutual Exclusion
- Linearizability
- Concurrent Data Structure
 - -Linked-List Set
 - Lock-free Stack
- Summary

What is Concurrency?

A property of systems in which several processes or threads are executing at the same time.

Moore's Law



The Uniprocessor is Vanishing!



The Shared Memory Multiprocessor (SMP)



Your New Desktop: The Multicore Processor (CMP)

All on the same chip



Sun T2000 Niagara

Why do we care?

- Time no longer cures software bloat
 The "free ride" is over
- When you double your program's path length
 - You can't just wait 6 months
 - Your software must somehow exploit twice as much concurrency

Traditional Scaling Process



Multicore Scaling Process



Unfortunately, not so simple...



Real-World Scaling Process



Parallelization and Synchronization require great care...







Model Summary

- Multiple *threads*
- Single shared *memory*
- *Objects* live in memory
- Unpredictable asynchronous delays

Multithread Programming

- Java, C#, Pthreads
- Windows Thread API
- OpenMP
- Intel Parallel Studio Tool Kits

Java Thread

```
    java.lang.Thread
```

```
class MyThread extends Thread{
  @Override
  public void run(){
   ...
  }
}
```

```
public static void main(String args[]){
    MyThread thread = new MyThread();
    thread.start();
    try {
        thread.join();
    }
    catch (InterruptedException e) { };
}
```

Concurrency Idea

Challenge

- Print primes from 1 to 10^{10}

- Given
 - Ten-processor multiprocessor
 - One thread per processor
- Goal

- Get ten-fold speedup (or close)

Load Balancing



- Split the work evenly
- Each thread tests range of 10⁹

Procedure for Thread *i*

```
void primePrint {
    int i = ThreadID.get(); // IDs in {0..9}
    for (j = i*10<sup>9</sup>+1, j<(i+1)*10<sup>9</sup>; j++) {
        if (isPrime(j))
            print(j);
     }
}
```

Issues

- Higher ranges have fewer primes
- Yet larger numbers harder to test
- Thread workloads
 - Uneven
 - Hard to predict

Issues

- Higher ranges have fewer primes
- Yet larger numbers harder to test
- Thread workloads
 - Uneven
 - Hard to predict
- ejecte • Need dynamic load balancing

Shared Counter



Procedure for Thread i

```
int counter = new Counter(1);
void primePrint {
  long j = 0;
  while (j < 10<sup>10</sup>) {
    j = counter.getAndIncrement();
    if (isPrime(j))
      print(j);
 }
}
```

Procedure for Thread i



Where Things Reside



Counter Implementation

```
public class Counter {
   private long value;
   public long getAndIncrement() {
     return value++;
   }
}
```

Counter Implementation

public class Counter { private long value; OK for single thread, not for concurrent threads public long getAndIncrement return value++: } }

What It Means

```
public class Counter {
   private long value;
   public long getAndIncrement() {
     return value++;
   }
}
```

What It Means



Not so good...



Is this problem inherent?



If we could only glue reads and writes...

Challenge

```
public class Counter {
   private long value;

   public long getAndIncrement() {
     temp = value;
     value = temp + 1;
     return temp;
   }
}
```

Challenge



Hardware Solution



An Aside: Java™

```
public class Counter {
  private long value;
  public long getAndIncrement() {
    synchronized {
      temp = value;
      value = temp + 1;
    return temp;
 }
}
```
An Aside: Java™



An Aside: Java™



The problem of ensuring that no two processes or threads can be in their *critical section* at the same time.

Events

- An event a_0 of thread A is
 - Instantaneous
 - No simultaneous events (break ties)



Threads

- A thread A is (formally) a sequence
 a₀, a₁, ... of events
 - "Trace" model
 - Notation: $a_0 \rightarrow a_1$ indicates order



Example Thread Events

- Assign to shared variable
- Assign to local variable
- Invoke method
- Return from method
- Lots of other things ...



States

- Thread State
 - Program counter
 - Local variables
- System state
 - Object fields (shared variables)
 - Union of thread states

Concurrency



Concurrency



Interleavings

- Events of two or more threads
 - Interleaved
 - Not necessarily independent (why?)



Intervals

- An interval $A_0 = (a_0, a_1)$ is
 - Time between events a_0 and a_1



Intervals may Overlap



Intervals may be Disjoint



Precedence

Interval A₀ precedes interval B₀







- Notation: $A_0 \rightarrow B_0$
- · Formally,
 - End event of A_0 before start event of B_0
 - Also called "happens before" or "precedes"



- Never true that $A \rightarrow A$
- If $A \rightarrow B$ then not true that $B \rightarrow A$
- If $A \rightarrow B \& B \rightarrow C$ then $A \rightarrow C$
- Funny thing: $A \rightarrow B \& B \rightarrow A$ might both be false!

Partial Orders

(you may know this already)

- Irreflexive:
 - Never true that $A \rightarrow A$
- Antisymmetric:
 - If $A \rightarrow B$ then not true that $B \rightarrow A$
- Transitive:
 - If $A \rightarrow B \& B \rightarrow C$ then $A \rightarrow C$

Total Orders (you may know this already)

- · Also
 - Irreflexive
 - Antisymmetric
 - Transitive
- Except that for every distinct A, B,
 - Either $A \rightarrow B \text{ or } B \rightarrow A$

Implementing a Counter



Locks (Mutual Exclusion)

```
public interface Lock {
  public void lock();
  public void unlock();
}
```

Locks (Mutual Exclusion)



Locks (Mutual Exclusion)



```
public class Counter {
  private long value;
  private Lock lock;
  public long getAndIncrement() {
   lock.lock();
   try {
    int temp = value;
    value = value + 1;
   } finally {
     lock.unlock();
   }
   return temp;
  }}
```







Let CS_i^k \ be thread i's k-th critical section execution

- Let CS_i^k ⇔ be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And CS_j^m (⇒ be thread j's m-th critical section execution

- Let CS_i^k ⇔ be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And $CS_j^m \iff be j's m$ -th execution
- Then either
 - $\longleftrightarrow \longleftrightarrow \mathsf{or} \longleftrightarrow \longleftrightarrow$

- Let CS_i^k ⇔ be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And $CS_j^m \iff be j's m$ -th execution
- Then either

$$CS_{i}^{k} \rightarrow CS_{j}^{m}$$

- Let CS_i^k ⇔ be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And $CS_j^m \iff be j's m$ -th execution
- Then either



Deadlock-Free



- If some thread calls lock()
 - And never returns
 - Then other threads must complete lock() and unlock() calls infinitely often
- System as a whole makes progress
 Even if individuals starve

Starvation-Free



- If some thread calls lock()
 It will eventually return
- Individual threads make progress

Two-Thread Conventions

```
class ... implements Lock {
    ...
    // thread-local index, 0 or 1
    public void lock() {
        int i = ThreadID.get();
        int j = 1 - i;
    ...
    }
}
```

Two-Thread Conventions


LockOne

LockOne



LockOne



LockOne Satisfies Mutual Exclusion

- Assume CS_A^j overlaps CS_B^k
- Consider each thread's last (j-th and k-th) read and write in the lock() method before entering
- Derive a contradiction

From the Code

- write_A(flag[A]=true) →
 read_A(flag[B]==false) →CS_A
- write_B(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow read_B(flag[A]==false) $\rightarrow CS_{B}$

```
class LockOne implements Lock {
...
public void lock() {
   flag[i] = true;
   while (flag[j]) {}
}
```

From the Assumption

- read_A(flag[B]==false) → write_B(flag[B]=true)
- read_B(flag[A]==false) → write_A(flag[B]=true)

- Assumptions:
 - read_A(flag[B]==false) \rightarrow write_B(flag[B]=true)
 - read_B(flag[A]==false) \rightarrow write_A(flag[A]=true)
- From the code
 - write_A(flag[A]=true) \rightarrow read_A(flag[B]==false)
 - write_B(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow read_B(flag[A]==false)

- Assumptions:
 - read_A(flag[B]==false) > write_B(flag[B]=true)
 - read_B(flag[A]==false) \rightarrow write_A(flag[A]=true)
- From the code
 - write_A(flag[A]=true) \rightarrow read_A(flag[B]==false)
 - write_B(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow read_B(flag[A]==false)









Cycle!



Deadlock Freedom

LockOne Fails deadlock-freedom
 Concurrent execution can deadlock

flag[i] = true; flag[j] = true;
while (flag[j]){} while (flag[i]){}

- Sequential executions OK

```
public class LockTwo implements Lock {
  private int victim;
  public void lock() {
    victim = i;
    while (victim == i) {};
  }
  public void unlock() {}
}
```







LockTwo Claims

Satisfies mutual exclusion

- If thread i in CS
- Then victim == j
- Cannot be both 0 and 1
- Not deadlock free
- public void LockTwo() {
 victim = i;
 while (victim == i) {};
 }
- Sequential execution deadlocks
- Concurrent execution does not

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i) {};
  public void unlock() {
   flag[i] = false;
  }
```

Peterson's Algorithm Announce I'm interested public void lock flag[i] = true; victim = i; while (flag[j] && victim == i) {}; } public void unlock() { flag[i] = false; }







Mutual Exclusion



- If thread 0 in critical section,
 - flag[0]=true,
 - -victim = 1

- If thread 1 in critical section,
 - flag[1]=true,
 - victim = 0

Cannot both be true

Deadlock Free



- Thread blocked
 - only at while loop
 - only if it is the victim
- One or the other must not be the victim

Starvation Free

 Thread i blocked only if j repeatedly re-enters so that
 public void lock() { flag[i] = true; victim = i;

```
flag[j] == true and
victim == i
```

- When j re-enters
 - it sets victim to j.
 - So i gets in

```
public void lock() {
   flag[i] = true;
   victim = i;
   while (flag[j] && victim == i) {};
}
public void unlock() {
   flag[i] = false;
}
```

Other Lock Algorithms

- The Filter Algorithm for n Threads
- Bakery Algorithm

Theorem: At least N MRSW (multi-reader/singlewriter) registers are needed to solve deadlock-free N registers life Fefficient and Impractical

FIFO Queue: Enqueue Method



FIFO Queue: Dequeue Method



A Lock-Based Queue

```
class LockBasedQueue<T> {
  int head, tail;
  T[] items;
  Lock lock;
  public LockBasedQueue(int capacity) {
    head = 0; tail = 0;
    lock = new ReentrantLock();
    items = (T[]) new Object[capacity];
}
```

A Lock-Based Queue



Queue fields protected by single shared lock

A Lock-Based Queue



Implementation: Deq

head

tail

```
public T deq() throws EmptyException { capacity-1
                                                       1
 lock.lock();
 try {
  if (tail == head)
    throw new EmptyException();
  T x = items[head % items.length];
  head++:
  return x:
 } finally {
  lock.unlock();
```






Implementation: Deq



Implementation: Deq

```
head
                                                         tail
public T deq() throws EmptyException { capacity-1
                                                     1
 lock.lock();
 try {
  if (tail == head)
    throw new EmptyException();
  T x = items[head % items.length];
  head++:
  return x;
  finally {
  lock.unlock();
                              Release lock no matter
                                          what!
```

Implementation: Deq

```
public T deq() throws EmptyException {
 lock.lock();
 try {
  if (tail == head)
    throw new EmptyException();
  T x = items[head % items.length];
  head++:
  return X:
                         Should be correct because
} finally {
                          modifications are mutually
  lock.unlock();
                           exclusive...
```

Now consider the following implementation

- The same thing without mutual exclusion
- For simplicity, only two threads
 - One thread enq only
 - The other deq only

Wait-free 2-Thread Queue

```
public class WaitFreeQueue {
```

```
int head = 0, tail = 0;
items = (T[]) new Object[capacity];
```

```
public void enq(Item x) {
   while (tail-head == capacity); // busy-wait
   items[tail % capacity] = x; tail++;
}
public Item deq() {
   while (tail == head); // busy-wait
   Item item = items[head % capacity]; head++;
   return item;
}}
```

Wait-free 2-Thread Queue

```
public class LockFreeQueue {
    int head = 0, tail = 0;
    items = (T[]) new Object[capacity];
```

```
public void enq(Item x) {
   while (tail-head == capacity); // busy-wait
   items[tail % capacity] = x; tail++;
   }
   public Item deq() {
    while (tail == head); // busy-wait
    Item item = items[head % capacity]; head++;
    return item;
}}
```



Lock-free 2-Thread Queue



Defining concurrent queue implementations

- Need a way to specify a concurrent queue object
- Need a way to prove that an algorithm implements the object's specification
- Lets talk about object specifications ...

Sequential Objects

- Each object has a state
 - Usually given by a set of *fields*
 - Queue example: sequence of items
- Each object has a set of *methods*
 - Only way to manipulate state
 - Queue example: enq and deq methods

Sequential Specifications

- If (precondition)
 - the object is in such-and-such a state
 - before you call the method,
- Then (postcondition)
 - the method will return a particular value
 - or throw a particular exception.
- and (postcondition, con't)
 - the object will be in some other state
 - when the method returns,

Pre and PostConditions for Dequeue

- Precondition:
 - Queue is non-empty
- Postcondition:
 - Returns first item in queue
- Postcondition:
 - Removes first item in queue

Pre and PostConditions for Dequeue

- Precondition:
 - Queue is empty
- Postcondition:
 - Throws Empty exception
- Postcondition:
 - Queue state unchanged

What About Concurrent Specifications?

- Methods?
- Documentation?
- Adding new methods?









Programming





- Sequential
 - Methods take time? Who knew?
- Concurrent
 - Method call is not an event
 - Method call is an interval.













- Sequential:
 - Object needs meaningful state only between method calls
- Concurrent
 - Because method calls overlap, object
 might *never* be between method calls

- Sequential:
 - Each method described in isolation
- Concurrent
 - Must characterize *all* possible interactions with concurrent calls
 - What if two engs overlap?
 - Two deqs? enq and deq? ...

- Sequential:
 - Can add new methods without affecting older methods
- Concurrent:
 - Everything can potentially interact with everything else

- Sequential:
 - Can add new methods without affecting older methods
- Concurrent:

- Everything can potent planiferact with everything else

Intuitively...

```
public T deq() throws EmptyException {
 lock.lock();
 try {
  if (tail == head)
    throw new EmptyException();
  T x = items[head % items.length];
  head++;
  return X:
 } finally {
  lock.unlock();
```

Intuitively...





Is it really about the object?

- Each method should
 - "take effect"
 - Instantaneously
 - Between invocation and response events
- Object is correct if this "sequential" behavior is correct
- A linearizable object: one all of whose possible executions are linearizable

Example





Example







Example
































































































Talking About Executions

- Why?
 - Can't we specify the linearization point of each operation without describing an execution?
- Not Always
 - In some cases, linearization point depends on the execution

Formal Model of Executions

- Define precisely what we mean
 - Ambiguity is bad when intuition is weak
- Allow reasoning
 - Formal
 - But mostly informal

Split Method Calls into Two Events

- Invocation
 - method name & args
 - -q.enq(x)
- Response
 - result or exception
 - -q.enq(x) returns void
 - -q.deq() returns x
 - -q.deq() throws empty
A q.enq(x)



thread







Response Notation

A q: void

Response Notation



thread

Response Notation







History - Describing an Execution

A q.enq(3) A q:void A q:void A q.enq(5) H = B p.enq(4) B p:void B q.deq() B q:3

Sequence of invocations and responses

Definition

Invocation & response match if



Object Projections

A q.enq(3) A q:void B p.enq(4) B p:void B q.deq() B q:3

H =

Object Projections

A q.enq(3) A q:void H|q =B q.deq() B q:3

Thread Projections

A q.enq(3) A q:void B p.enq(4) B p:void B q.deq() B q:3

H =

Thread Projections

H|B = B p.enq(4)B p:void B q.deq() B q:3

Complete Subhistory











Complete Subhistory

A q.enq(3) A q:void

A q.enq(3)A q:void B p.enq(4)B p:void B q.deq() **B** q:3 A q:enq(5)











Well-Formed Histories

A q.enq(3) B p.enq(4) B p:void H= B q.deq() A q:void B q:3

Well-Formed Histories



Well-Formed Histories

Per-	thread projections sequential	HIB=	B p.enq(4) B p:void
	A q.enq (3)	110	B q.deq()
	B p.enq(4)		d d.2
H=	B p:void		
	Bq.deq()		
	A q:void		A = ana(3)
	B q:3	H A=	A q:void



Sequential Specifications

- A sequential specification is some way of telling whether a
 - Single-thread, single-object history
 - Is legal
- For example:
 - Pre and post-conditions
 - But plenty of other techniques exist ...

Legal Histories

- A sequential (multi-object) history H is legal if
 - For every object x
 - H|x is in the sequential spec for x

Precedence

A q.enq(3) B p.enq(4) B p.void A q:void B q.deq() B q:3

A method call precedes another if response event precedes invocation event

Non-Precedence

A q.enq(3) B p.enq(4) B p.void B q.deq() A q:void B q:3



Some method calls overlap one another



Notation

- Given
 - History H
 - method executions \mathbf{m}_0 and \mathbf{m}_1 in \mathbf{H}

mo

 m_1

- We say $m_0 \rightarrow_H m_1$, if
 - m₀ precedes m₁
- Relation $\mathbf{m}_0 \rightarrow_H \mathbf{m}_1$ is a
 - Partial order
 - Total order if H is sequential

Linearizability

- History H is *linearizable* if it can be extended to G by
 - Appending zero or more responses to pending invocations
 - Discarding other pending invocations
- So that G is equivalent to
 - Legal sequential history S
 - where $\rightarrow_{G} \subset \rightarrow_{S}$

What is $\rightarrow_G \subset \rightarrow_S$




Remarks

- Some pending invocations
 - Took effect, so keep them
 - Discard the rest
- Condition $\rightarrow_{G} \subset \rightarrow_{S}$
 - Means that S respects "real-time order" of G

Example

A q.enq(3) B q.enq(4) B q:void B q.deq() B q:4 B q:enq(6)

















Example

A q.enq(3) B q.enq(4) B q:void B q.deq() B q:4 A q:void



Example

A q.enq(3) B q.enq(4) B q:void B q.deq() B q:4 A q:void B q.enq(4) B q:void A q.enq(3) A q:void B q.deq() B q:4





Reasoning About Linearizability: Locking

```
public T deq() throws EmptyException {
 lock.lock();
 try {
  if (tail == head)
    throw new EmptyException();
  T x = items[head % items.length];
  head++:
  return x:
 } finally {
  lock.unlock();
```



Reasoning About Linearizability: Locking

```
public T deq() throws EmptyException {
 lock.lock();
 try {
  if (tail == head)
    throw new EmptyException();
  T x = items[head % items.length];
  head++;
  return x;
  finally {
  lock.unlock();
```

Linearization points are when locks are released

More Reasoning: Wait-free

public class WaitFreeQueue {

```
int head = 0, tail = 0;
items = (T[]) new Object[capacity];
```

```
public void enq(Item x) {
    if (tail-head == capacity) throw
        new FullException();
    items[tail % capacity] = x; tail++;
    }
    public Item deq() {
        if (tail == head) throw
            new EmptyException();
        Item item = items[head % capacity]; head++;
        return item;
}}
```



More Reasoning: Wait-free

reQueue {

sject[c

Linearization order is order head and tail fields modified

Remember that there is only one enqueuer dequeuer .iq(Item x) { lead == capacity) throw _w FullException(); ems[tail % capacity] = x; tail++;

```
public Item deg() {
  if (tail == head) throw
    new EmptyException();
 Item item = items[head % capacity]; head++;
  return item;
```

```
}}
```

public class W

Linearizability: Summary

- Powerful specification tool for shared objects
- Allows us to capture the notion of objects being "atomic"
- Don't leave home without it

Ordered linked list implementation of a set



Defining the linked list



Sorted with Sentinel nodes (min & max possible keys)

- Invariant:
 - Property that always holds.
 - Established because
 - True when object is created.
 - Truth **preserved** by each method
 - Each step of each method.

- Rep-Invariant:
 - The invariant on our concrete Representation = on the list.
 - Preserved by methods.
 - Relied on by methods.
 - Allows us to reason about each method in isolation without considering how they interact.

- Our Rep-invariant:
 - Sentinel nodes
 - tail reachable from head.
 - Sorted
 - No duplicates

Depends on the implementation.

- Abstraction Map:
- S(List) =
 - $\{ x \mid \text{there exists a such that}$
 - a reachable from head and
 - a.item = x
 - }
 - Depends on the implementation.

Abstract Data Types

• Example:

Concrete representation:



• Abstract Type:

- {a, b}

- Wait-free: Every call to the function finishes in a finite number of steps.
- Supposing the Scheduler is fair:
- Starvation-free: every thread calling the method eventually returns.

Algorithms

- Next: going throw each algorithm.
 - 1. Describing the algorithm.
 - 2. Explaining why every step of the algorithm is needed.
 - 3. Code review.
 - 4. Analyzing each method properties.
 - 5. Advantages / Disadvantages.
 - 6. Presenting running times for the implementation of the algorithm.
 - + Example of proving correctness for Remove(x) in FineGrained.

O.Sequential List Based Set Add()





O.Sequential List Based Set Add()





- 1. Describing the algorithm:
 - - Add(x) / Remove(x) / Contains(x):

- Lock the entire list then perform the operation.

- 1. Describing the algorithm:
 - Most common implementation today



 All methods perform operations on the list while holding the lock, so the execution is essentially sequential.

3. Code review:

Add:

```
public boolean add(T item) {
  Node pred, curr;
  int key = item.hashCode();
  lock.lock();
  try {
   pred = head;
  curr = pred.next;
                           Finding the place to add the item
  while (curr.key < key) {
    pred = curr;
    curr = curr.next;
   }
   if (key == curr.key) {
    return false;
  } else {
    Node node = new Node(item);
    node.next = curr;
                      Adding the item if it wasn't already in the list
    pred.next = node;
    return true;
  }
 } finally {
   lock.unlock();
  }
```

3. Code review:

Remove:

```
public boolean remove(T item) {
  Node pred, curr;
  int key = item.hashCode();
  lock.lock();
  try {
   pred = this.head;
                             Finding the item
   curr = pred.next;
   while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
    pred = curr;
    curr = curr.next;
   }
   if (key == curr.key) {
    pred.next = curr.next;
                              Removing the item
    return true;
   } else {
    return false;
   }
  } finally {
   lock.unlock();
  }
```

3. Code review:

Contains:

```
public boolean contains(T item) {
  Node pred, curr;
  int key = item.hashCode();
  lock.lock();
  try {
   pred = head;
                            Finding the item
   curr = pred.next;
   while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
    pred = curr;
    curr = curr.next;
   }
                             Returning true if found
   return (key == curr.key);
  } finally {lock.unlock();
  }
```

- 4. Methods properties:
- The implementation inherits its progress conditions from those of the Lock, and so assuming fair Scheduler:

- If the Lock implementation is Starvation free

Every thread will eventually get the lock and eventually the call to the function will return.

 So our implementation of Insert, Remove and Contains is Starvation-free

5. Advantages / Disadvantages:

Advantages:

- Simple.
- Obviously correct.
- Disadvantages:
 - High Contention.
 - Bottleneck!

- 6. Running times:
 - The tests were run on Aries Supports 32 running threads. UltraSPARC T1 – Sun Fire T2000.
 - Total of 200000 operations.
 - 10% adds, 2% removes, 88% contains normal work load percentages on a set.
 - Each time the list was initialized with 100 elements.
 - One run with a max of 20000 items in the list.
 Another with only 2000.

6. Running times:

Speed up



2. Fine Grained

- 1. Describing the algorithm:
 - Split object into pieces
 - Each piece has own lock.
 - Methods that work on disjoint pieces need not exclude each other.

2. Fine Grained

1. Describing the algorithm:

- Add(x) / Remove(x) / Contains(x):
 - Go throw the list, lock each node and release only after the lock of the next element has been acquired.
 - Once you have reached the right point of the list perform the Add / Remove / Contains operation.


b –

→ C

d

1. Describing the algorithm: illustrated Remove.

a

 \bigcirc

0

•

remove(b)









2. Explaining why every step is needed.

Why do we need to always hold 2 locks?













Concurrent Removes



Concurrent Removes





































- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
- Conclusion:
- Now that we hold 2 locks for Remove / Add / Contains. If a node is locked :
 - It can't be removed and so does the next node in the list.
 - No new node can be added before it and after it.

Remove method

```
public boolean remove(Item item) {
int key = item.hashCode();
Node pred, curr;
try {
  ...
  finally {
   curr.unlock();
   pred.unlock();
  }}
```



Remove method



Key used to order node



Remove method



Predecessor and current nodes










```
try {
  pred = this.head;
  pred.lock();
  curr = pred.next;
  curr.lock();
  ...
} finally { ... }
```















```
while (curr.key <= key) {</pre>
  if (item == curr.item) {
   pred.next = curr.next;
   return true;
  pred.unlock();
  pred = curr;
  curr = curr.next;
  curr.lock();
 return false;
```











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3. Code review:

Add:

```
public boolean add(T item) {
    int key = item.hashCode();
    head.lock();
    Node pred = head;
    try {
        Node curr = pred.next;
        curr.lock();
        Finding the place to
        add the item:
        while (curr.key < key) {
            pred.unlock();
            pred = curr;
            curr = curr.next;
            curr.lock();
        }
        </pre>
```

Continued:



3. Code review:

Contains:

Continued:



Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

- So how do we prove correctness of a method in a concurrent environment?
- 1. Decide on a Rep-Invariant. Done!
- 2. Decide on an Abstraction map.

Done!

3. Defining the operations:

Remove(x): If x in the set => x won't be in the set and return true.

If x isn't in the set => don't change the set and return false.

Done!

Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

- 4. Proving that each function keeps the Rep-Invariant:
 - 1. Tail reachable from head.
 - 2. Sorted.
 - 3. No duplicates.

1. The newly created empty list obviously keeps the Rep-invariant.

2. Easy to see from the code that for each function if the Rep-invariant was kept before the call it will still hold after it.

Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

- 5. Split the function to all possible run time outcomes.
- In our case:
 - Successful remove. (x was in the list)
 Failed remove. (x wasn't in the list)
 Iist)

Done!

6. Proving for each possibility.
 We will start with a successful remove. (failed remove is not much different)

Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

successful remove.

6. Deciding on a linearization point for a successful remove.

Reminder: Linearization point - a point in time that we can say the function has happened in a running execution.

We will set the Linearization point to after the second lock was acquired. Done!













```
while (curr.key <= key) {</pre>
  if (item == curr.item) {
   pred.next = curr.next;
   return true;
  pred.unlock();
  pred = curr;
  curr = curr.next;
                           Item not present
  curr.lock();
 return false;
               Art of Multiprocessor Programming
                                               130
```

```
while (curr.key <= key) {</pre>
  if (item == curr.item) {
   pred.next = curr.next;
   return true;
  pred.unlock();
  pred = curr;

    pred reachable from head

  curr = curr.next
                        •curr is pred.next
  curr.lock();
                        •pred.key < key</pre>
                        •key < curr.key
 return false;
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                                                  131
```





Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

successful remove.

7. Now that the linearization point is set we need to prove that:

7.1. Before the linearization point the set contained x.

7.2. After it the set won't contain x.

Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

also accessible from the head.

successful remove.

7.1. Before the linearization point the set contained x.

1. Since we proved the Rep-Invariant holds then pred=z is accessible from the head.

2. Since z,x are locked. No other concurrent call can remove them.

3. Since curr=x is pointed to by pred then x is

7

Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

```
successful remove.
```

7.1. Before the linearization point the set contained x. Now by the Abstraction map definition:

since x is reachable from the head => x is in the set! Done!



Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

successful remove.

- 7.1. After it the set won't contain x.
 - 1. after the linearization point: pred.next = curr.next;
 - Curr=x won't be pointed to by pred=z and so won't be accessible from head.



Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

successful remove.

- 7.1. After it the set won't contain x.
 - 2. Now by the Abstraction map definition: since x is not reachable from the head => x is not in the set!
 Done!



Proving correctness for Remove(x) function:

- In conclusion:
 - For every possible run time execution for Remove(x) we found a linearization point that holds the remove function specification in the set using the Abstraction map while holding the Rep-Invariant.

Done!

- 4. Methods properties:
- Assuming fair scheduler. If the Lock implementation is Starvation free:
 Every thread will eventually get the lock and since all methods move in the same direction in the list there won't be deadlock and eventually the call to the function will return.
- So our implementation of Insert, Remove and Contains is Starvation-free.
5. Advantages / Disadvantages:

Advantages:

- Better than coarse-grained lock

Threads can traverse in parallel.

Disadvantages:

- Long chain of acquire/release.
- Inefficient.

6. Running times:

Speed up



6. Running times:

Speed up max of 2000 items



6. Running times:

Speed up max of 20000 items



1. Describing the algorithm:

Add(x) / Remove (x) / Contains(x):

- 1. Find nodes without locking
- 2. Lock nodes
- 3. Check that everything is OK = Validation.

3.1 Check that pred is still reachable from head.

3.2 Check that pred still points to curr.

4. If validation passed => do the operation.

- 1. Describing the algorithm:
- Example of add(c):

Finding without locking



- 1. Describing the algorithm:
- Locking • Example of add(c): add(c) 0

- 1. Describing the algorithm:
- Example of add(c):

Validation 1



- 1. Describing the algorithm:
- Validation 1 • Example of add(c): add(c) 0

1. Describing the algorithm:

0

Example of add(c):

add(c)

Yes. b is still reachable from head.

Validation 2

- 1. Describing the algorithm:
- Example of add(c):

0

add(c)

Yes. b still points to d.

Validation 2

- 1. Describing the algorithm:
- Add c. • Example of add(c): 2 add(c) 0 0

2. Explaining why every step is needed.

Why do we need to Validate?

- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - First: Why do we need to validate that pred is accessible from head?

- Thread A Adds(c).
- After thread A found b, before A locks. Another thread removes b.



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Adds(c).

Finding without locking



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Adds(c).



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Adds(c).



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Adds(c).



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Adds(c).

Now frees the locks.



But c isn't added!

- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Second: Why do we need to validate that pred Still points to curr?

- Thread A removes(d).
- then thread A found b, before A locks. Another thread adds(c).



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Removes(d)

Finding without locking



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Removes(d)

Another thread Adds(c)



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Removes(d)



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Removes(d)



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Removes(d)

Now frees the locks.



Instead c and d were deleted!

What Else Could Go Wrong?





What Else Coould Go Wrong?





What Else Coould Go Wrong?





What Else Could Go Wrong?









Important comment.

- Do notice that threads might traverse deleted nodes. May cause problems to our Rep-Invariant.
- Careful not to recycle to the lists nodes that were deleted while threads are in a middle of an operation.
- With a garbage collection language like java ok.
- For C you need to solve this manually.

Correctness

- If
 - Nodes b and c both locked
 - Node b still accessible
 - Node c still successor to b
- Then
 - Neither will be deleted
 - OK to delete and return true



Unsuccessful Remove





Validate (2)



OK Computer


Correctness

- If
 - Nodes b and d both locked
 - Node b still accessible
 - Node d still successor to b
- Then
 - Neither will be deleted
 - No thread can add c after b
 - OK to return false



```
private boolean
 validate(Node pred,
          Node curry) {
 Node node = head;
 while (node.key <= pred.key) {</pre>
  if (node == pred)
   return pred.next == curr;
  node = node.next;
 }
 return false;
```































```
public boolean remove(Item item) {
 int key = item.hashCode();
 retry: while (true) {
   Node pred = this.head;
   Node curr = pred.next;
   while (curr.key <= key) {</pre>
    if (item == curr.item)
      break;
    pred = curr;
    curr = curr.next;
```



























```
try {
  pred.lock(); curr.lock();
  if (validate(pred,curr) {
   if (curr.item == item) {
    pred.next = curr.next;
    return true;
   } else {
    return false;
   }} finally {
     pred.unlock();
     curr.unlock();
   }}}
```























3. Code review:

Add:

Continued:



if (validate(pred, curr)) { if (curr.key == key) { return false; } else { Entry entry = new Entry(item); entry.next = curr; pred.next = entry; return true; If validation succeeds Attempt Add finally { pred.unlock(); curr.unlock(); } }

3. Code review:

Contains:



- 4. Methods properties:
- Assuming fair scheduler. Even if all the lock implementations are Starvation free. We will show a scenario in which the methods Remove / Add / Contains do not return.
- And so our implementation won't be starvation free.

- 4. Methods properties:
- Assuming Thread A operation is Remove(d) / Add(c) / Contains(c).

4. Methods properties:

The sequence:

- 1. Thread A will find b.
- 2. Thread B will remove b.
- 3. The validation of thread A will fail.
- 4. Thread C will add b. now go to 1.

The thread call to the function won't return!

5. Advantages / Disadvantages:

Advantages:

- Limited hot-spots
 - Targets of add(), remove(), contains().
 - No contention on traversals.
- Much less lock acquisition/releases.
- Better concurrency.

Disadvantages:

- Need to traverse list twice!
- Contains() method acquires locks.

- 5. Advantages / Disadvantages:
 - Optimistic is effective if:
 - The cost of scanning twice without locks is less than the cost of scanning once with locks
 - Drawback:
 - Contains() acquires locks. Normally, about 90% of the calls are contains.

6. Running times:

Speed up



6. Running times:

Speed up max of 2000 items



6. Running times:

Speed up max of 20000 items



1. Describing the algorithm:

Validate:

- Pred is not marked as deleted.
- Curr is not marked as deleted.
- Pred points to curr.

1. Describing the algorithm:

Remove(x):

- Find the node to remove.
- Lock pred and curr.
- Validate. (New validation!)
- Logical delete
 - Marks current node as removed (new!).
- Physical delete
 - Redirects predecessor's next.

1. Describing the algorithm:

Add(x):

- Find the node to remove.
- Lock pred and curr.
- Validate. (New validation!)
- Physical add
 - The same as Optimistic.

1. Describing the algorithm:

Contains(x):

- Find the node to remove without locking!
- Return true if found the node and it isn't marked as deleted.
- No locks!
1. Describing the algorithm:

• Remove(c):



1. Describing the algorithm:

• Remove(c):



1. Describing the algorithm:





1. Describing the algorithm:





1. Describing the algorithm:





1. Describing the algorithm:

• Remove(c):



Pred.next = curr.next

1. Describing the algorithm:

• Remove(c):



1. Describing the algorithm:

Given the Lazy Synchronization algorithm.

What else should we change?

- 1. Describing the algorithm:
 - New Abstraction map!
 - S(head) =
 - { x | there exists node a such that
 - a reachable from head and
 - a.item = x and
 - a is unmarked
 - }

2. Explaining why every step is needed.

Why do we need to Validate?

- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - First: Why do we need to validate that pred Still points to curr?
 - The same as in Optimistic:
 - Thread A removes(d).
 - Then thread A found b, before A locks. Another thread adds(c).
 - c and d will be removed instead of just d.



- 2. Explaining why every step is needed.
 - Second: Why do we need to validate that pred and curr aren't marked logically removed?
 - To make sure a thread hasn't removed them between our find and our lock.
 - The same scenario we showed for validating that pred is still accessible from head holds here:
 - After thread A found b, before A locks. Another thread removes b. (our operation won't take place).



4. Lazy

3. Code review:

Add:

```
public boolean add(T item) {
    int key = item.hashCode();
    while (true) {
        Node pred = tnis.nead;
        Node curr = head.next;
        while (curr.key < key) {
            pred = curr; curr = curr.next;
        }
        pred.lock();
        try {
            curr.lock();
        }
    }
    }
}
</pre>
```

Continued:



4. Lazy

3. Code review:

Remove:





4. Lazy

No Lock!

3. Code review:

Contains:

```
public boolean contains(T item) {
    int key = item.hashCode();
    Node curr = this.head;
    while (curr.key < key)
        curr = curr.next:
    return curr.key == key && !curr.marked;
}</pre>
```

Check if its there and not marked

- 4. Methods properties:
- Remove and Add:
- Assuming fair scheduler. Even if all the lock implementations are Starvation free. The same scenario we showed for optimistic holds here.
- (only here the validation will fail because the node will be marked and not because it can't be reached from head)
- And so our implementation won't be starvation free.

4. Methods properties:

But... Contains:

- Contains does not lock!
- In fact it isn't dependent on other threads to work.
- And so... Contains is Wait-free.
- Do notice that other threads can't increase the list forever while the thread is in contains because we have a maximum size to the list (<tail).

- 5. Advantages / Disadvantages:
 - Advantages:
 - Contains is Wait-free. Usually 90% of the calls!
 - Validation doesn't rescan the list.
 - Drawbacks:
 - Failure to validate restarts the function call.
 - Add and Remove use locks.

Lock-free implementation

6. Running times:

Speed up



4. Lazy

6. Running times:

Speed up max of 2000 items



4. Lazy

6. Running times:

Speed up max of 20000 items



Optimistic lock-free Concurrency

CAS(&x,a,b) = if *x = a then *x = b return true else return false

Pessimistic	Optimistic
lock x;	int t;
x++;	do {
unlock x;	

Reminder: Lock-Free Data Structures

• No matter what ...



- Guarantees minimal progress in any execution
- i.e. Some thread will always complete a method call
- Even if others halt at malicious times
- Implies that implementation can't use locks



Lock-free Lists

- Next logical step
 - Wait-free contains()
 - lock-free add() and remove()
- Use only compareAndSet()

- What could go wrong?



Lock-free Lists

Logical Removal



Use CAS to verify pointer is correct

Physical Removal

Not enough!







The Solution: Combine Bit and Pointer





Solution

- Use AtomicMarkableReference
- Atomically
 - Swing reference and
 - Update flag
- Remove in two steps
 - Set mark bit in next field
 - Redirect predecessor's pointer



Marking a Node

AtomicMarkableReference class

- Java.util.concurrent.atomic package



Extracting Reference & Mark

Public Object get(boolean[] marked);



Extracting Reference & Mark









Changing State

Public boolean compareAndSet(
 Object expectedRef,
 Object updateRef,
 boolean expectedMark,
 boolean updateMark);







Changing State





Changing State

public boolean attemptMark(
 Object expectedRef,
 boolean updateMark);


Changing State





Changing State















Traversing the List

- Q: what do you do when you find a "logically" deleted node in your path?
- A: finish the job.
 - CAS the predecessor's next field
 - Proceed (repeat as needed)



Lock-Free Traversal (only Add and Remove)



The Window Class

```
class Window {
  public Node pred;
  public Node curr;
  Window(Node pred, Node curr) {
    this.pred = pred; this.curr = curr;
  }
}
```



The Window Class



and current values



Using the Find Method

```
Window window = find(head, key);
Node pred = window.pred;
curr = window.curr;
```



Using the Find Method





Using the Find Method





The Find Method





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The Find Method





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```
public boolean remove(T item) {
Boolean snip;
while (true) {
Window window = find(head, key);
Node pred = window.pred, curr = window.curr;
  if (curr.key != key) {
     return false;
  } else {
 Node succ = curr.next.getReference();
  snip = curr.next.compareAndSet(succ, succ, false
true):
  if (!snip) continue;
   pred.next.compareAndSet(curr, succ, false, false);
     return true;
}}}
```















```
public boolean add(T item) {
 boolean splice;
while (true) {
   Window window = find(head, key);
   Node pred = window.pred, curr = window.curr;
   if (curr.key == key) {
      return false;
   } else {
   Node node = new Node(item);
   node.next = new AtomicMarkableRef(curr, false);
   if (pred.next.compareAndSet(curr, node, false,
false)) {return true;}
}}}
```















Wait-free Contains

```
public boolean contains(T item) {
    boolean marked;
    int key = item.hashCode();
    Node curr = this.head;
    while (curr.key < key)
        curr = curr.next;
    Node succ = curr.next.get(marked);
    return (curr.key == key && !marked[0])
}</pre>
```



Wait-free Contains





```
public Window find(Node head, int key) {
Node pred = null, curr = null, succ = null;
boolean[] marked = {false}; boolean snip;
 retry: while (true) {
   pred = head;
   curr = pred.next.getReference();
   while (true) {
    succ = curr.next.get(marked);
    while (marked[0]) {
    ...
    }
   if (curr.key >= key)
         return new Window(pred, curr);
       pred = curr;
       curr = succ;
```





```
public Window find(Node head, int key) {
Node pred = null, curr = null, succ = null;
boolean[] marked = {false}; boolean snip;
retry: while (true) { Move down the list
   pred = head;
   curr = pred.next.get
   while (true) {
    succ = curr.next.get(marked);
   while (marked[0]) {
    ...
   if (curr.key >= key)
         return new Window(pred, curr);
       pred = curr;
       curr = succ;
```








Lock-free Find





Lock-free Find





Lock-free Find





Performance

- Different list-based set implementaions
- 16-node machine
- Vary percentage of contains() calls



High Contains Ratio

Ops/sec (90% reads/0 load)





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Low Contains Ratio



As Contains Ratio Increases





- Coarse-grained locking
- Fine-grained locking
- Optimistic synchronization
- Lazy synchronization
- Lock-free synchronization



"To Lock or Not to Lock"

- Locking vs. Non-blocking:
 - Extremist views on both sides
- The answer: nobler to compromise
 - Example: Lazy list combines blocking add()
 and remove() and a wait-free contains()
 - Remember: Blocking/non-blocking is a property of a method



An Optimistic Lock-free Stack



ABA Problem Threads T1 and T2 are interleaved as follows:



Our winner:Optimistic Lock-free.Second best:Lazy.Third:Optimistic.Fourth:Fine-Grained.Last:Coarse-Grained.



No.

Answer:

Choose your implementation carefully based on your requirements.

• Concurrent programming is hard.

• Concurrency is error-prone.

• Formal method is necessary.