

Aniruddha-Tapas Update



7 years ago

Distributed Shared Memory

- · Must decide placement
 - o place memory (pages) close to relevant processes
- Must decide migration
 - when to copy memory (pages) from remote to local
- Must decide sharing rules
 - ensure memory generations are properly ordered

"Peer" Distribution Applications

- Each node
 - o "owns" state
 - provide service
- all nodes are "peers".

Examples: Big-data analytics, web searches, context sharing or distributed shared memory (DSM)

Distributed Shared Memory (DSM)

DSM is a service that manages memory accross multiple nodes so that applications that are running on top will have an illusion that they are running on a shared memory.

- Each node
 - "owns" state => memory
 - provide service

- memory read/writes from any nodes
- consistency protocols
- o permits scaling beyond single machine memory limits
 - more "shared" memory at lower cost
 - slower overall memory access
 - commodity interconnect technologies support this RDMA(Remote Direct Memory Access)

Hardware vs Software DSM

- Hardware-supported (expensive!)
 - relies on interconnect
 - OS manages larger physical memory
 - NIC(Network Interface Cards) translate remote memory accesses to messages
 - NICs involved in all aspects of memory management; support atomics...
- Software supported
 - everything done by software
 - OS, or language runtime
- Hybrid (Software tasks in Hardware) DSM implementations
 - prefetch pages
 - address translation (easier done in hardware)
 - triggering invalidations (easier done in hardware)

DSM Design: Sharing Granularity

- cache line granularity?
 - o overheads too high for DSM
- variable granularity [N]
- page granularity [Y] (OS level)
- object granularity [Y] (Language runtime)
 - beware of false sharing E.g. x and y shared on same page

What types of applications use DSM?

Application access algorithm

- Single reader/ single writer (SRSW)
- Multiple readers/ single writer (MRSW)

Multiple reader/ Multiple writers (MRMW)

Performance considerations

- DSM performance metric == access latency
- Achieving low latency through
 - Migration
 - makes sense for SRSW
 - requires data movement
 - Replication (caching)
 - more general
 - requires consistency management
- Hence, migration is okay for SRSW but not for all.
- · Caching and Replication
 - Copies of data to incerease data access
 - for many concurrent writes, overheads too high but stil generally better than Migration

Consistency Management

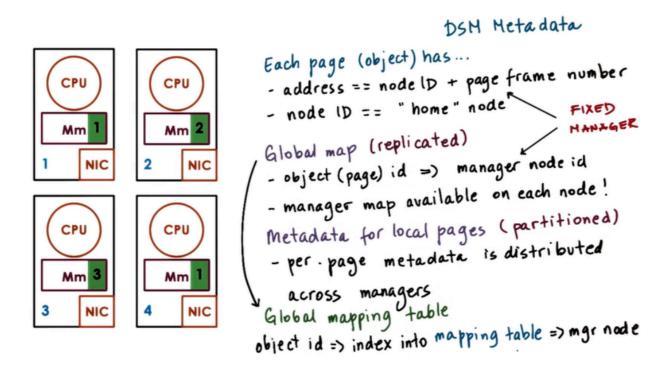
- In SMP
 - write invalidate
 - write update
- · coherence operations triggered in each write
 - overhead too high
- Push invalidations when data is written to
 - i. Proactive
 - ii. Eager
 - iii. Pessimistic
- Pull modifications information periodically
 - i. on demand (reactive)
 - ii. lazy
 - iii. optimistic
- when these methods get triggered depends on the consistency model for the shared state

DSM architecture (page-based, OS-supported)

- Page-based DSM architecture
 - distributed nodes, each with own local memory contribution

- o pool of pages from all nodes
- o each page has IO ("home" node), page frame number
- if MRMW
 - need local caches for performances (latency)
 - "home" or "manager" node drives coherence operations
 - o all nodes responsible for part if distributed memory (state) management
- Home node
 - keeps state: page accessed, modifications, caching enabled/disabled, locked...
- · Current owner
 - o owner may not be equal to home node
- · Explicit replicas
 - for load balancing, performance, or reliability home, manager node controls memory

DSM metadata



Implementing DSMs

- Problem : DSM must intercept access to DSM state
 - to send remote messages requesting access
 - to trigger coherence messages
- overheads should be avoided for local non-shared state (pages)
- dynamically engage and disengage DSM when necessary
- Solution : Use hardware MMU support!

- trap in OS if mapping invalid or access denied
- remote address mapping -> trap and pass to DSM to send message
- cached content -> trap and pass to DSM to perform memory coherence operations
- other MMU information useful (e.g. Dirty page)

Consistency model

- Agreement between memory (state) and upper software layers
- · Memory behaves correctly if and only if software follows specific rules
- Memory (state) guarantees to behave correctly
 - access ordering
 - propagation/ visibility of updates

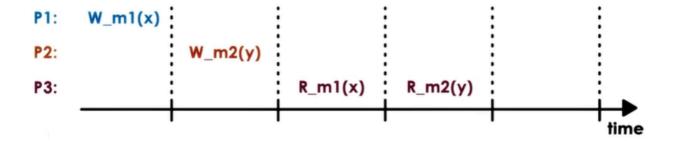
Our notation



- R m1(X) => X was read from memory location m1
- W m1(Y) => Y was written to memory location m1

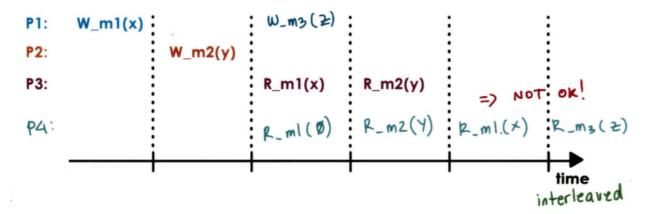
Strict Consistency

Strict Consistency => updates visible everywhere immediately



- In practice
 - Even on single SMP no guarantees on order without extra locking and synchronization
 - in DS, latency and message reorder make this even harder
 - Hence almost impossible to guarantee strict consistency

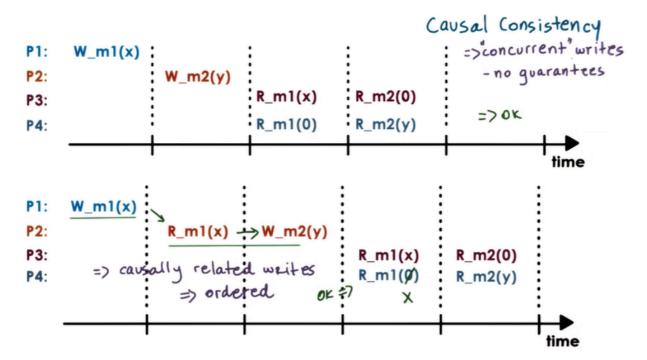
Sequential Consistency



Sequential consistency =>

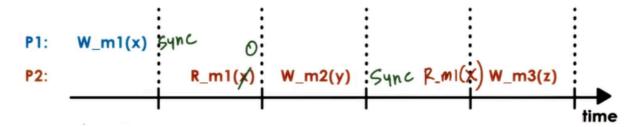
- memory updates from different processors may be arbitrarily interleaved
- All processes will see the same interleaving
- Operations from the same process always appearin order they were issued

Causal Consistency



- For writes not causally related, "concurrent" writes doesnt gurantee.
- Don't permit arbitrary ordering from same process writer

Weak Consistency



- Use of synchronization
 - Synchronization point => operations that are available (R,W,Sync)
 - o all updates prior to a sync point will be visible
 - no guarantee what happens in between
- + limit data movement of coherence operations
- maintain extra state for additional operations
 - Variations:
 - Single sync operation (sync)
 - Seperate sync per surface of state (page)
 - Seperate "entry/acquire" vs "exit/release" operations