Parameterized and Runtime-tunable Snapshot Isolation in Distributed Transactional Key-value Stores

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Parameterized and Runtime-tunable Snapshot Isolation

RVSI: Relaxed Version Snapshot Isolation

- Motivation for RVSI
- 2 Definition of RVSI
- 3 CHAMELEON Prototype and RVSI Protocol
- Experimental Evaluation
- Related Work
- 6 Conclusion

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Figure: Distributed key-value stores.

put(K key, V val) get(K key)

Transactional semantics

existential consistency atomic visibility example



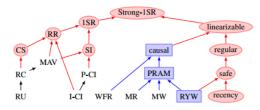


Figure: Transactional consistency models (from [Bailis@VLDB'14]).

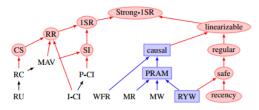


Figure: Transactional consistency models (from [Bailis@VLDB'14]).

Snapshot isolation (SI [Berenson@SIGMOD'95], [Adya@Thesis'99]):

- Read from the "latest" snapshot as of the time the transaction started
- ► No write-conflicting concurrent transactions

Reading the "latest" in a distributed setting often requires intensive coordinations.

¹GSI: Generalized Snapshot Isolation [Elnikety@SRDS'05]

²NMSI: Non-Monotonic Snapshot Isolation [Ardekani@SRDS'13]

³PL-FCV: Forward Consistent View [Aday@Thesis'99]

⁴PSI: Parallel Snapshot Isolation [Sovran@SOSP'11]

Reading the "latest" in a distributed setting often requires intensive coordinations.

Relaxed variants of (distributed) SI:

GSI ¹: allows to read from "older" snapshots

NMSI ²: allows to observe non-monotonically ordered snapshots

PL-FCV ³: allows a transaction to observe the updates of transactions that commit after it started

PSI 4: causal ordering of transactions across sites

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Two possible drawbacks:

- 1. Unbounded inconsistency
 - no specification of the severity of the anomalies w.r.t SI

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- 1. Unbounded inconsistency
 - no specification of the severity of the anomalies w.r.t SI
- 2. Untunable at runtime
 - determined at the system design phase
 - remain unchanged once the system is deployed

Title	Authors	Publisher	Sales	Inventory	Ratings	Reviews	

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Customer (T_1) : Obtaining the basic info. about a book

out-of-date reviews

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Customer (T_1) : Obtaining the basic info. about a book

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Bookstore Clerk (T_2) : Checking the inventory of a book

▶ inventory updated by concurrent transactions committed *after* T₂ starts

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Customer (T_1) : Obtaining the basic info. about a book

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Bookstore Clerk (T_2) : Checking the inventory of a book

 inventory updated by concurrent transactions committed after T₂ starts

Sales Analyst (T_3) : Studying sales vs. ratings of a book

► sales and ratings from *separate snapshots*

The idea of "parameterized and runtime-tunable snapshot isolation".

▶ RVSI: Relaxed Version Snapshot Isolation

 k_1 -BV: k_1 -version bounded backward view

 k_2 -FV: k_2 -version bounded *forward* view

 k_3 -SV: k_3 -version bounded *snapshot* view

⁵http://www.aliyun.com/

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- ► CHAMELEON prototype: distributed transactional key-value store
 - achieves RVSI
 - allows each transaction to tune its consistency level at runtime



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- CHAMELEON prototype: distributed transactional key-value store
 - achieves RVSI
 - allows each transaction to tune its consistency level at runtime

- deployed on Aliyun ⁵
- evaluates the impacts of RVSI on the transaction abort rates

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Transaction T_i : $s_i (r_i/w_i)^+ c_i/a_i$

 s_i : start operation

 r_i/w_i : read/write operation

 c_i/a_i : commit/abort operation

```
Transaction T_i: s_i (r_i/w_i)^+ c_i/a_i s_i: start operation r_i/w_i: read/write operation c_i/a_i: commit/abort operation
```

```
x_i: version i of data item x written by T_i r_i(x_j): transaction T_i reading x_j w_i(x_i): transaction T_i writing x_i
```

History: modelling an execution of a transactional key-value store

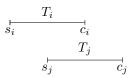
▶ time-precedes partial order \prec_h over operations

History: modelling an execution of a transactional key-value store

▶ time-precedes partial order \prec_h over operations

Two transactions are concurrent if

$$s_i \prec_h c_j \wedge s_j \prec_h c_i$$



A history h is in snapshot isolation iff it satisfies [Adya@Thesis'99]

Snapshot Read: All reads of transaction T_i occur at T_i 's start time.

Snapshot Write: No concurrent committed transactions may write the same data item. (WCF: write-conflict freedom)

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Snapshot Read: All reads of transaction T_i occur at T_i 's start time.

$$\forall r_i(x_{j\neq i}), w_{k\neq j}(x_k), c_k \in h:$$

$$(c_j \in h \land c_j \prec_h s_i) \land (s_i \prec_h c_k \lor c_k \prec_h c_j).$$

Snapshot Write: No concurrent committed transactions may write the same data item. (WCF: write-conflict freedom)

$$\forall w_i(x_i), w_{j \neq i}(x_j) \in h \implies (c_i \prec_h s_j \lor c_j \prec_h s_i).$$

Principles of RVSI:

▶ Using parameters (k_1, k_2, k_3) to control the severity of the anomalies w.r.t SI



Principles of RVSI:

- Using parameters (k_1, k_2, k_3) to control the severity of the anomalies w.r.t SI
- $ightharpoonup RC \ ^6 \supset RVSI(k_1, k_2, k_3) \supset SI$
- $ightharpoonup \mathsf{RVSI}(\infty,\infty,\infty) = \mathsf{RC} \qquad \mathsf{RVSI}(1,0,*) = \mathsf{SI}$



- The "Snapshot Read" property of SI

RVSI relaxes "Snapshot Read" in three ways:



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 k_1 -BV (Backward View): "stale" data versions

 $staleness \leq k_1$

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RVSI relaxes "Snapshot Read" in three ways:

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 k_2 -FV (Forward View): "concurrent" data versions forward level $\leq k_2$

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RVSI relaxes "Snapshot Read" in three ways:

```
k_1-BV (Backward View): "stale" data versions staleness \leq k_1
```

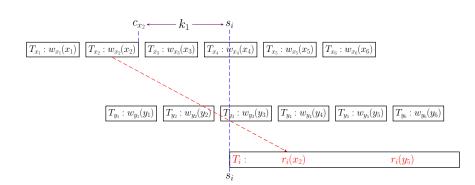
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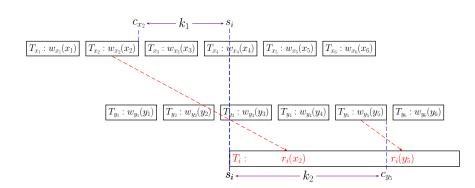
 k_3 -SV (Snapshot View): "non-snapshot" data versions distance $\leq k_3$

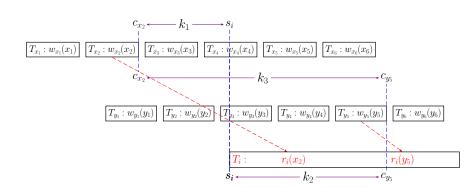
$$\boxed{T_{x_1} : w_{x_1}(x_1) \ \left[T_{x_2} : w_{x_2}(x_2) \right] \ \left[T_{x_3} : w_{x_3}(x_3) \right] \ \left[T_{x_4} : w_{x_4}(x_4) \right] \ \left[T_{x_5} : w_{x_5}(x_5) \right] \ \left[T_{x_6} : w_{x_6}(x_6) \right]} \\$$

$$\boxed{T_{y_1}:w_{y_1}(y_1)} \ \boxed{T_{y_2}:w_{y_2}(y_2)} \ \boxed{T_{y_3}:w_{y_5}(y_3)} \ \boxed{T_{y_4}:w_{y_4}(y_4)} \ \boxed{T_{y_5}:w_{y_5}(y_5)} \ \boxed{T_{y_6}:w_{y_6}(y_5)}$$

$$T_i: \qquad r_i(x_2) \qquad \qquad r_i(y_5)$$







$$(k_1-BV)$$

$$\forall r_i(x_j), w_k(x_k), c_k \in h : \left(c_j \in h \land \bigwedge_{k=1}^m (c_j \prec_h c_k \prec_h s_i)\right) \Rightarrow m < k$$

$(k_2\text{-FV})$

$$\forall r_i(x_j), w_k(x_k), c_k \in h : \left(c_j \in h \land \bigwedge_{k=1}^m (s_i \prec_h c_k \prec_h c_j)\right) \Rightarrow m \leq k$$

(k_3-SV)

$$\forall r_i(x_j), r_i(y_l), w_k(x_k), c_k \in h : \left(\bigwedge_{k=1}^m \left(c_j \prec_h c_k \prec_h c_l \right) \right) \Rightarrow m \leq k_3.$$

$$h \in \mathsf{RVSI} \iff h \in k_1\text{-BV} \cap k_2\text{-FV} \cap k_3\text{-SV} \cap \mathsf{WCF}$$

$$\mathsf{RVSI}(\infty, \infty, \infty) = \mathsf{RC} \qquad \mathsf{RVSI}(1, 0, *) = \mathsf{SI}$$



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Chameleon prototype:

A prototype **partitioned replicated**distributed transactional **key-value** store

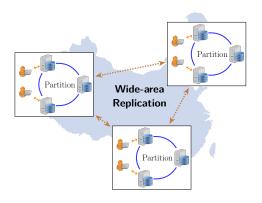
Classic **key-value** data model

Key: (row key, column key)

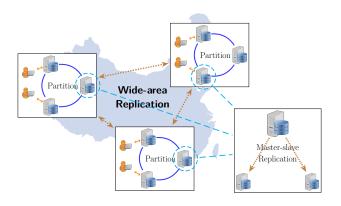




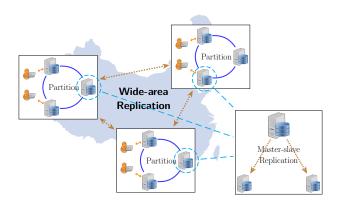
Keys are partitioned within a single datacenter.



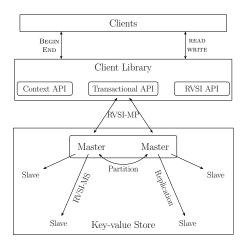
Each key is replicated across datacenters

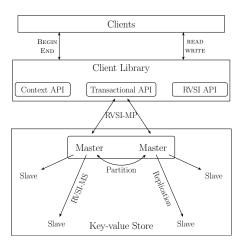


Each key is **replicated** across datacenters in a **master-slave** manner.

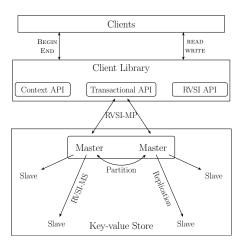


Transactions are first executed and committed on the **masters**, and are then asynchronously propagated to **slaves**.





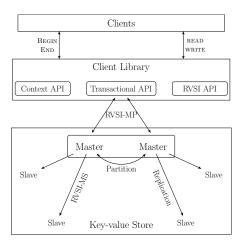
1. Partitioned replicated transactional key-value store



2. Client library

Code snippet for writing RVSI transactions:

```
// Initialize keys (ck1 and ck2) here
ITx tx = new RVSITx(/** context **/);
tx.begin();
// Read and write here
// Specify RVSI specs. (e.g., SVSpec)
RVSISpec sv = new SVSpec();
sv.addSpec({ck1, ck2}, 2);
tx.collectRVSISpec(sv);
boolean committed = tx.end();
```



3. RVSI protocol: RVSI-MS + RVSI-MP

RVSI-MS: RVSI protocol for master-slave replication

In terms of event generation and handling:

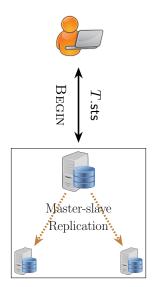
Clients: BEGIN, READ, WRITE, END

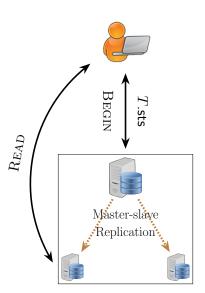
Master: Start, Commit, Send

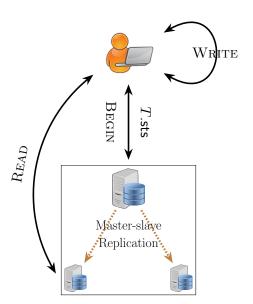
Slaves: RECEIVE

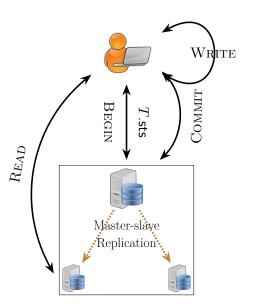


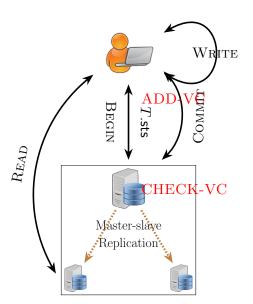












Calculating version constraints for RVSI:

 $\mathcal{O}_x(t) = \#$ of versions of x before time t

$$r_i(x_j) \in T_i$$

$$k_1$$
-BV:

$$\mathcal{O}_x(T_i.\mathsf{sts}) - \mathcal{O}_x(T_j.\mathsf{cts}) < k_1$$

$$\mathcal{O}_x(T_j.\mathsf{cts}) - \mathcal{O}_x(T_i.\mathsf{sts}) \le k_2$$

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$$k_3$$
-SV:

$$r_i(x_j), r_i(y_l) \in T_i$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_l.\mathit{cts}) - \mathcal{O}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_j.\mathit{cts}) \leq k_3$$

Algorithm 1 RVSI-MS Protocol for Executing Transaction T (Client).

- 1: procedure BEGIN()
- 2: $T.sts \leftarrow \mathbf{rpc\text{-}call} \ \mathrm{START}()$ at master \mathcal{M}
- 3: **procedure** READ(x)
- 4: $x.ver \leftarrow \mathbf{rpc-call} \ \mathrm{READ}(x)$ at any site
- 5: **procedure** WRITE(x, v)
- 6: add (x, v) to T.writes
- 7: **procedure** END(T)
- 8: $T.vc \leftarrow ADD-VC()$
- 9: $c/a \leftarrow \text{rpc-call COMMIT}(T.writes, T.vc)$ at \mathcal{M}

Algorithm 1 RVSI-MS Protocol for Executing Transaction T (Master).

```
\mathcal{M}.ts: for start-timestamps and commit-timestamps
    \{x.ver = (x.ts, x.ord, x.val)\}: set of versions of x
 1: procedure START()
       return ++\mathcal{M}.ts
 3: procedure READ(x)
       return the latest x, ver installed
 5: procedure COMMIT(T.writes, T.vc)
       if CHECK-VC(T.vc) && write-conflict freedom then
 6.
           T.cts \leftarrow ++M.ts
 7:
           ▶ apply T.writes locally and propagate it
8.
           T.upvers = \emptyset
                                                 > collect updated versions
 9:
           for (x, v) \in T.writes do
10:
11.
               x.new-ver \leftarrow (T.cts, ++x.ord, v)
               add x.new-ver to \{x.ver\} and T.upvers
12:
13:
           broadcast \langle PROP, T.upvers \rangle to slaves
           return c denoting "committed"
14.
       return a denoting "aborted"
15:
```

Algorithm 1 RVSI-MS Protocol for Executing Transaction T (Slave).

```
x.ver = (x.ts, x.ord, x.val): the latest version of x
```

- 1: **procedure** READ(x)
- 2: **return** x.ver
- 3: **upon** RECEIVED($\langle PROP, T.upvers \rangle$)
- 4: **for** $(x.ver' = (x.ts', x.ord', x.val')) \in T.upvers$ **do**
- 5: **if** x.ord' > x.ord **then**
- 6: $x.ver \leftarrow x.ver'$

Distributed transactions spanning multiple masters need to be committed atomically.

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Using the two-phase commit (2PC) protocol [Bernstein@Book'87].

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Using the two-phase commit (2PC) protocol [Bernstein@Book'87].

Two issues to address

Assumes a timestamp oracle [Peng@OSDI'10]:

Client: asks for the start-timestamp in BEGIN

Coordinator: asks for the commit-timestamp in COMMIT

Split the RVSI version constraints according to partitions:

$$r_i(x_j) \in T_i$$

$$k_1\text{-BV:}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_i.sts) - \mathcal{O}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_j.cts) < k_1$$

$$k_2\text{-FV:}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_j.cts) - \mathcal{O}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_i.sts) \leq k_2$$

$$k_3\text{-SV:}$$

$$r_i(x_j), r_i(y_l) \in T_i$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_l.cts) - \mathcal{O}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_j.cts) \leq k_3$$

All version constraints involve only one data item.

Algorithm 2 RVSI-MP for Executing Transaction T (Client).

- 1: procedure BEGIN()
- 2: **return rpc-call** GETTS() at \mathcal{T}
- 3: **procedure** END()
- 4: $T.vc \leftarrow ADD-VC()$
- 5: $c/a \leftarrow \text{rpc-call C-COMMIT}(T.\textit{writes}, T.\textit{vc}) \text{ at } \mathcal{C}$

Algorithm 2 RVSI-MP for Executing Transaction T (Timestamp Oracle).

 $\mathcal{T}.ts$: for start-timestamps and commit-timestamps

1: procedure GETTS()

2: **return** $++\mathcal{T}.ts$

Algorithm 2 RVSI-MP for Executing Transaction T (Coordinator).

```
1: procedure C-COMMIT(T.writes, T.vc)
        split T.writes and T.vc with the data partitioning strategy
 2:

▷ the prepare phase:

 3:
 4:
        rpc-call PREPARE(T.writes, T.vc) at each \mathcal{M}

    the commit phase:

 5:
        if all PREPARE(T.writes, T.vc) return true then
 6:
            T.cts \leftarrow \mathsf{rpc\text{-}call}\ \mathsf{GETTS}()\ \mathsf{at}\ \mathcal{T}
 7:
            rpc-call COMMIT(T.cts, T.writes) at each \mathcal{M}
 8:
        else
 9:
            rpc-call ABORT() at each \mathcal{M}
10:
            return a denoting "aborted"
11.
12:
        if all COMMIT(T.cts, T.writes) return true then
            return c denoting "committed"
13:
14:
        else
            return a denoting "aborted"
15:
```

Algorithm 2 RVSI-MP for Executing Transaction T (Master).

- 1: **procedure** PREPARE(T.writes, T.vc)
- 2: **return** CHECK-VC(T.vc) && write-conflict freedom
- 3: **procedure** COMMIT(T.cts, T.writes)
- 4: \triangleright apply T.writes locally and propagate it
- 5: procedure ABORT()
- 6: ▷ abort

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Impacts of RVSI specification on the *transaction abort rates* in various scenarios

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What about performance?

- Not done yet in this work
- ▶ RVSI-MS and RVSI-MP protocols in CHAMELEON are simple

CHAMELEON prototype on Aliyun:

- 3 datacenters ¹
- 3 nodes in each datacenter
- Partition & Replication
- ► Clients in our lab ²



¹Located in East China, North China, and South China, respectively.

²Located in East China.

³https://github.com/hengxin/aliyun-ping-traces ⟨♂⟩ ⟨⟨⟨⟨⟩⟩ ⟨⟨⟨⟩⟩ ⟨⟨⟨⟩⟩ ⟨⟨⟩⟩

CHAMELEON prototype on Aliyun:

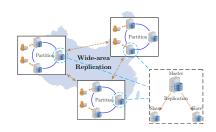
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(One-way) delays among nodes ³:

Within datacenter: $1 \sim 2 \text{ms}$

Across datacenters: $15 \sim 25 \text{ms}$

Clients to nodes: $15 \sim 20 \text{ms}$



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Three categories of workload parameters for experiments on Aliyun.

Parameter	Value	Explanation	
#keys	$25 = 5 \text{ (rows)} \times 5 \text{ (columns)}$		
#clients	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30		
#txs/client	1000		
#ops/tx	\sim Binomial(20, 0.5)		
rwRatio	1:2, 1:1, 4:1	#reads/#writes	
zipfExponent	1	parameter for Zipfian distribution	
minInterval	0ms		
maxInterval	10ms	min/max/mean	
meanInterval	5ms	inter-transaction time	
(k_1, k_2, k_3)	(1,0,0) (1,1,0) (1,1,1) (2,0,0) (2,0,1) (2,1,1)		

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rwRatio	1:2, 1:1, 4:1	#reads/#writes	
zipfExponent	1	parameter for Zipfian distribution	
minInterval	0ms		
maxInterval	10ms	min/max/mean	
meanInterval	5ms	inter-transaction time	
(k_1, k_2, k_3)	(1,0,0) (1,1,0) (1,1,1) (2,0,0) (2,0,1) (2,1,1)		

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- "vc-aborted": RVSI version constraints violated
- "wcf-aborted": the WCF property violated

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⁷https://github.com/hengxin/chameleon-transactional-kvstore

- "vc-aborted": RVSI version constraints violated
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Transaction abort rates due to "vc-aborted" are *sensitive* to different values of k_1 , k_2 , or k_3 ,

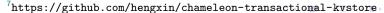
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Transaction abort rates due to "vc-aborted" are sensitive to different values of k_1 , k_2 , or k_3 , but those due to "wcf-aborted" are not.

- "vc-aborted": RVSI version constraints violated
- "wcf-aborted": the WCF property violated

Transaction abort rates due to "vc-aborted" are sensitive to different values of k_1 , k_2 , or k_3 , but those due to "wcf-aborted" are not.

$$h \in \mathsf{RVSI} \iff h \in k_1\text{-BV} \cap k_2\text{-FV} \cap k_3\text{-SV} \cap \mathsf{WCF}.$$





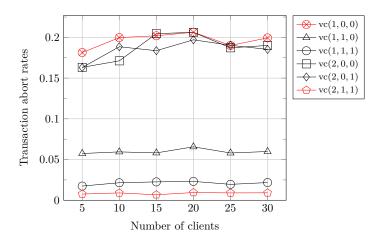
- "vc-aborted": RVSI version constraints violated
- "wcf-aborted": the WCF property violated

Transaction abort rates due to "vc-aborted" are sensitive to different values of k_1 , k_2 , or k_3 , but those due to "wcf-aborted" are not.

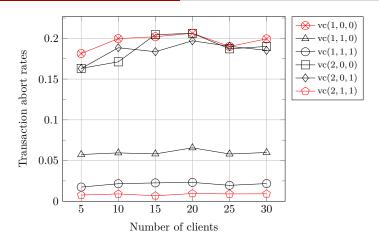
$$h \in \mathsf{RVSI} \iff h \in k_1\text{-BV} \cap k_2\text{-FV} \cap k_3\text{-SV} \cap \mathsf{WCF}.$$

We report the results under the read-frequent workloads ⁷.

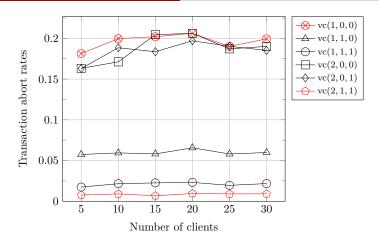
https://github.com/hengxin/chameleon-transactional-kystore



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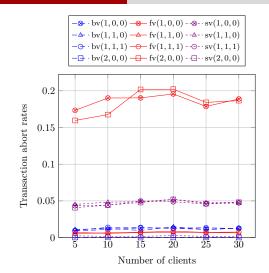
The transaction abort rates due to "vc-aborted"

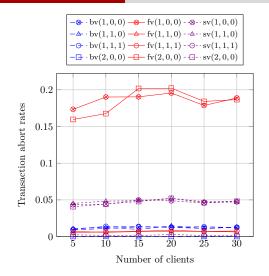


The transaction abort rates due to "vc-aborted" can be greatly reduced by slightly increasing the values of k_1 , k_2 , or k_3 :

$$vc(1,0,0) = 0.1994 \implies vc(2,1,1) = 0.0091 \quad (\#clients = 30)$$

(ㅁㅏㅓ@ㅏㅓㅌㅏㅓㅌㅏ = = ~)٩0





Most "vc-aborted" transactions abort because of violating k_2 -FV.

$$fv(1,0,0) = 0.1889 \implies fv(2,0,0) = 0.1866 \implies fv(1, 1,0) = 0.0064$$

Question: when does k_1 for k_1 -BV take effect?

It seems that k_1 -BV has *little* impact on the transaction abort rates.

Question: when does k_1 for k_1 -BV take effect?

It seems that k_1 -BV has *little* impact on the transaction abort rates.

It may be the case in the Aliyun scenarios.

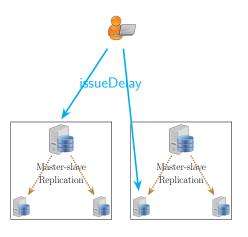
What about other scenarios?



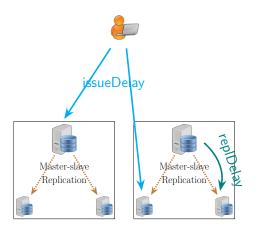




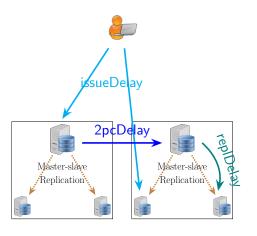
Types Values (ms) Explanation



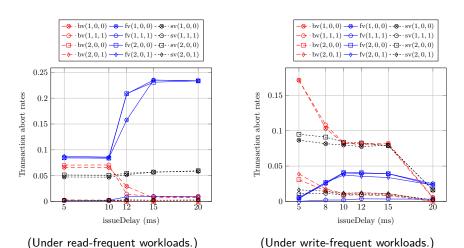
Types	Values (ms)	Explanation
issueDelay	5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 20	delays between clients and replicas



_	Types	Values (ms)	Explanation
_	replDelay	5, 10, 15, 20, 30	delays between masters and slaves



Types	Values (ms)	Explanation
2pcDelay	10, 20, 30, 40, 50	delays among masters



When the "issueDelay" gets shorter, the impacts of k_1 -BV have begun to emerge.

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 k_2 -FV: In the Aliyun scenarios, most transactions have been aborted because of violating k_2 -FV.

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 k_1 -BV: In controlled experiments, the impacts of k_1 -BV emerge when the "issueDelay" gets shorter.

 k_2 -FV: In the Aliyun scenarios, most transactions have been aborted because of violating k_2 -FV.

 k_1 -BV: In controlled experiments, the impacts of k_1 -BV emerge when the "issueDelay" gets shorter.

 k_3 -SV: Complex and challenging (involving multiple data items)

Parameterized and Runtime-tunable Snapshot Isolation

RVSI: Relaxed Version Snapshot Isolation

- Motivation for RVSI
- 2 Definition of RVSI
- 3 CHAMELEON Prototype and RVSI Protocol
- 4 Experimental Evaluation
- Related Work
- Conclusion

The idea of "bounded transactional inconsistency" is partially inspired by the work on

- ► Relaxed Currency and Consistency (C&C) semantics [Guo@SIGMOD'04]
- ► Relaxed Currency Serializability (RC-SR) [Bernstein@SIGMOD'06]

Two differences:

- Serializability (SR) vs. SI
- ► Currency in real-time vs. Versions in order

Bounded transactional inconsistency (others):

Epsilon-SR inconsistency introduced by concurrent update transactions [Pu@SIGMOD'91] [Ramamritham@TKDE'95]

uncommitted vs. RC (for RVSI)

 $N\mbox{-ignorant System ignorant of} \leq K \mbox{ "prior" transactions} \\ \mbox{[Krishnakumar@PODS'91]}$

► SR vs. SI (for RVSI)

Dynamic consistency choices:

Parameterized ESR, N-ignorant, RC-SR, C&C semantics, RVSI

Pileus strong, intermediate, and eventual consistency [Kotla@MSR-TR'2013]

SIEVE a tool automating the choice of consistency levels
[Li@ATC'14]
(based on the theory of RedBlue consistency [Li@OSDI'12])

Salt combining ACID and BASE transactions [Xie@OSDI'14]

Multi-level a transaction model supporting four consistency levels
[Tripathi@BigData'15]

Parameterized and Runtime-tunable Snapshot Isolation

RVSI: Relaxed Version Snapshot Isolation

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The idea of "parameterized and runtime-tunable snapshot isolation".

RVSI: Relaxed Version Snapshot Isolation

 k_1 -BV: k_1 -version bounded *backward* view k_2 -FV: k_2 -version bounded *forward* view k_3 -SV: k_3 -version bounded *snapshot* view

- ► CHAMELEON prototype: distributed transactional key-value store
 - achieves RVSI
 - allows each transaction to tune its consistency level at runtime
 - evaluates the impacts of RVSI on the transaction abort rates

Possible future work:

- ▶ Evaluate the impacts of k_3 -SV on transaction abort rates
- ► Evaluate the performance of CHAMELEON on realistic workloads
- ► Study the impacts of RVSI from the perspective of developers



