CS 6240: Assignment 1

Multithreading Concepts and AWS Setup

Analyze Data with Sequential and Concurrent Programs

Weather Data Results

All time units are in **ms** (milliseconds)

NAME	AVERAGE	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	SPEEDUP
SEQ	9535.60	9370.00	10186.00	1.000
NO-LOCK	3645.70	2575.00	5067.00	2.616
COARSE-LOCK	3920.90	2628.00	5287.00	2.432
FINE-LOCK	3468.00	2648.00	5254.00	2.750
NO-SHARING	3092.60	2783.00	5188.00	3.083

After adding Fibonacci(17) computation to all versions we get following results as below

NAME	AVERAGE	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	SPEEDUP
SEQ	8187.10	7987.00	9387.00	1.000
NO-LOCK	3196.50	2581.00	5015	2.561
COARSE-LOCK	3976.80	2639.00	5044.00	2.059
FINE-LOCK	4025.80	2568.00	5074.00	2.034
NO-SHARING	4072.80	2674.00	5136.00	2.010

- **A1.** As discussed in class and learning modules, theoretical speedup possible for a task divided into **n** concurrent tasks is **n**. So in this case even though NO-LOCK has no control over data access by multiple thread leading to data inconsistencies but this will indeed allow it to finish the task in hand in fastest amount of time. The experiments confirm my expectation in my case.
- **A2.** I would expect SEQ to finish slowest since it acquires a lock on the since its occurs in a sequential fashion which is slow with the ones it is put in comparison with who tend to parallelize the task into N smaller units and assign separate units to separate workers for processing. Yes experiments in this case corroborate the same quantitatively performing at least in double the time compared to other algorithms in the play.
- **A3**. Temperature averages are consistent for all programs except NO-LOCK whose averages were inconsistent when compared with others along with occasional NPEs (NullPointerException) which occurs when one thread set flag to the existence of a key before placing anything there and meanwhile another Thread enters and trles to fetch the key which is not available there yet resulting in an NPE.
- **A4.** Running times of SEQ and COARSE-LOCK are 9535.60 and 3920.90 which places COARSE-LOCK apprx. 2.5x faster runtimes. The reason behind this is the amount of parallelization that takes place with COARSE-LOCK by splitting the data in proportion with the number of threads. Ideally the speedup would've been a lot more if perfect parallelism was achieved by instead all parallel tasks (Threads) shared the same accumulation data structure which inturn limits how fast we can write to it since according to COARSE-LOCK strategy only one Thread could write at a time. As mentioned in my response to question 2, I expected COARSE-LOCK to finish second to SEQ since it acquires a lock on the whole data structure upon which most of the CRUD (create, read, update, delete) operations occur which render the multi threading helpless since technically the locks are acquired one after another i.e. in order making it partially sequential. Looking at results from B and C, the results did not vary much that indeed came as a revelation to me since the fibonacci I wrote used Dynamic Programming i.e. no recursion hence no significant performance drags because of memory overflow by deep recursion.

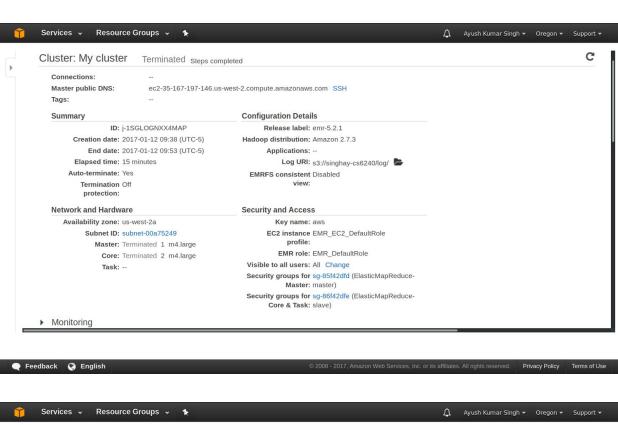
A5. The higher computation cost in part C (additional Fibonacci computation) affect no real difference between COARSE-LOCK and FINE-LOCK because of similar reasons I stated in answer A4 where I mentioned that the fibonacci algorithm I implement had an asymptotic time complexity of O(n) which is alot better than the conventional recursion version and computes really quickly which did not really add much computation overhead to the machine. But I did try with much higher numbers e.g. 45 and fine-locking was able to shave off around 1.5s off the runtime which was what I was expecting since the introduction of granular locking on accumulation objects instead of the whole data structure improved the computation.

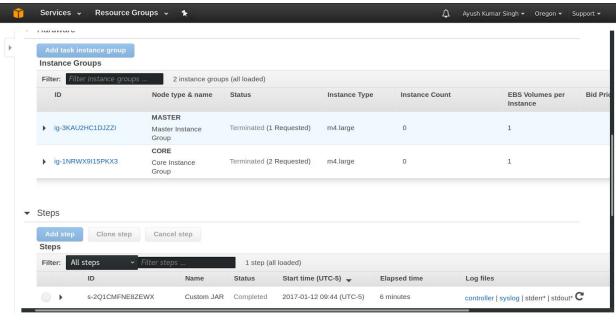
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