Transactional Information Systems:

Theory, Algorithms, and the Practice of Concurrency Control and Recovery

Gerhard Weikum and Gottfried Vossen

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"Teamwork is essential. It allows you to blame someone else." (Anonymous)

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"No matter how complicated a problem is, it usually can be reduced to a simple comprehensible form which is often the best solution" (An Wang)

"Every problem has a simple, easy-to-understand, wrong answer." (Anonymous)

Object Model

Definition 2.3 (Object Model Transaction):

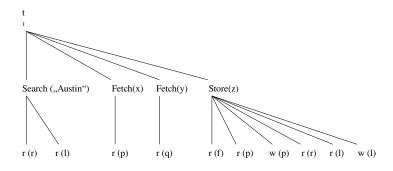
A transaction t is a (finite) tree of labeled nodes with

- the transaction identifier as the label of the root node,
- the names and parameters of invoked operations as labels of inner nodes, and
- page-model read/write operations as labels of leaf nodes, along with a partial order < on the leaf nodes such that for all leaf-node operations p and q with p of the form w(x) and q of the form r(x) or w(x) or vice versa, we have p<q \qepqq<p

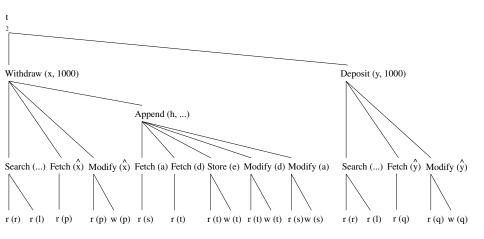
Special case: layered transactions (all leaves have same distance from root)

Derived inner-node ordering: a < b if all leaf-node descendants of a precede all leaf-node descendants of b

Example: DBS Internal Layers



Example: Business Objects



Object-Model Schedules

Definition 6.1 (Object Model History):

For transaction trees $\{t_1, ..., t_n\}$ a **history** s is a **partially ordered forest** $(op(s), \leq_s)$ with node set op(s) and partial order \leq_s of leaves such that

- $\bullet \ op(s) \subseteq \ \bigcup_{i=1..n} \ op_i \ \cup \ \bigcup_{i=1..n} \ \{c_i, \, a_i\} \ and \ \bigcup_{i=1..n} \ op_i \subseteq op(s)$
- for all t_i : $c_i \in op(s) \Leftrightarrow a_i \notin op(s)$
- a_i or c_i is a leaf node with t_i as parent
- $\bigcup_{i=1..n} \langle i \subseteq \langle s \rangle$
- for all t_i and for all $p \in op_i$: $p \le_s a_i$ or $p \le_s c_i$
- for all leaves p, q that access the same data item with p or q being a write:
 either p <_s q or q <_s p

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Definition 6.2 (Tree Consistent Node Ordering):

In history $s = (op(s), <_s)$ the leaf ordering $<_s$ is extended to arbitrary nodes: $p <_s q$ if for all leaf-level descendants p' of p and q' of q: $p' <_s q'$.

Object-Model Schedules

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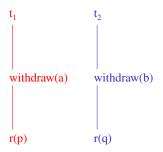
A **prefix** of history $s = (op(s), \leq_s)$ is a forest $s'(op(s'), \leq_s')$ with $op(s') \subseteq op(s)$ and $\leq_s' \subseteq \leq_s$ s.t. for each $p \in op(s')$ all ancestors of p and all nodes q with $q \leq_s p$ are in op(s') and $\leq_s' equals \leq_s$ when restricted to op(s').

An **object model schedule** is a prefix of an object model history.

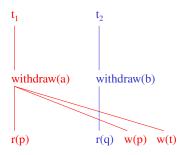
```
withdraw<sub>11</sub>(a) withdraw<sub>21</sub>(b) deposit<sub>22</sub>(c) ...  r_{111}(p) \ r_{211}(q) \ w_{112}(p) \ w_{113}(t) \ w_{212}(q) \ w_{213}(t) \ r_{221}(r) \ w_{222}(r) \dots
```

```
t<sub>1</sub> | withdraw(a) | r(p)
```

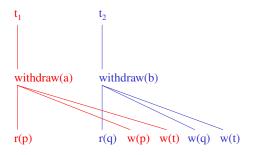
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withdraw<sub>11</sub>(a) withdraw<sub>21</sub>(b) deposit<sub>22</sub>(c) ... \mathbf{r}_{111}(\mathbf{p}) \mathbf{r}_{211}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{w}_{112}(\mathbf{p}) \mathbf{w}_{113}(\mathbf{t}) \mathbf{w}_{212}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{w}_{213}(\mathbf{t}) \mathbf{r}_{221}(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{w}_{222}(\mathbf{r}) ...
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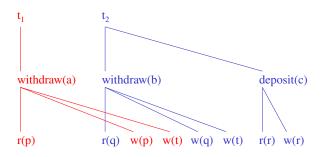
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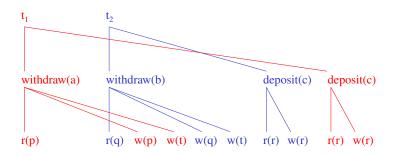
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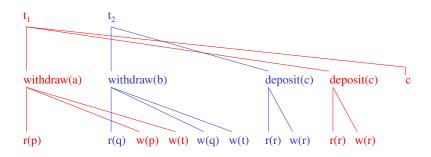
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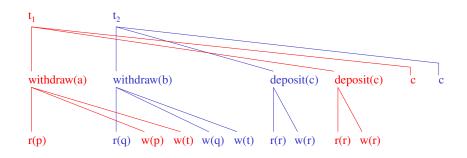
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```

Layered Schedules

Definition 6.4 (Serial Object Model Schedule):

An object model schedule is **serial** if its roots $t_1, ..., t_n$ are totally ordered and for each t_j and each i > 0 the descendants with distance i from t_j are totally ordered.

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Definition 6.5 (Isolated Subtree):

A node p and the corresponding subtree in a schedule are called isolated if

- for all nodes q other than ancestors or descendants of p the property holds that for all leaves w of q either w < p or p < w
- for each i > 0 the descendants of p with distance i from p are totally ordered

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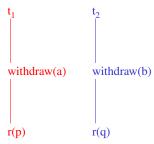
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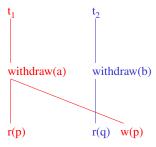
- for all nodes q other than ancestors or descendants of p the property holds that for all leaves w of q either w
- for each i > 0 the descendants of p with distance i from p are totally ordered

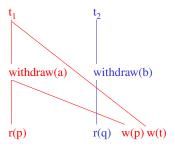
Definition 6.6 (Layered History and Schedule):

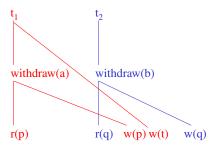
An object model history is **layered** if all leaves other than c or a have identical distance from their roots; for leaf-to-root distance n this is called an **n-level history**. Operations with distance i from the leaves are called **level-i** (L_i) operations. A **layered schedule** is a prefix of a layered history.

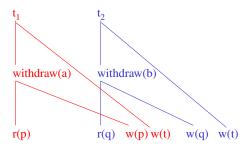


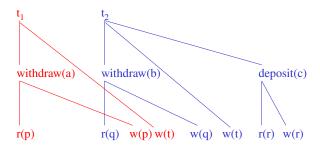


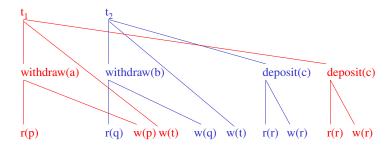


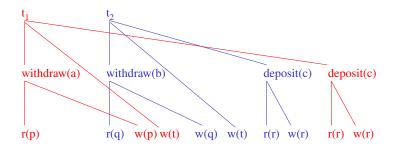




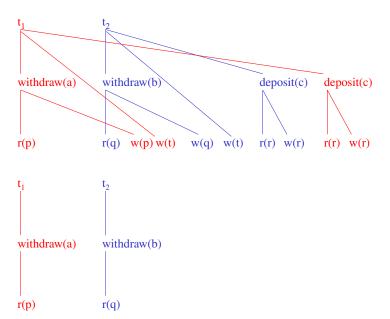


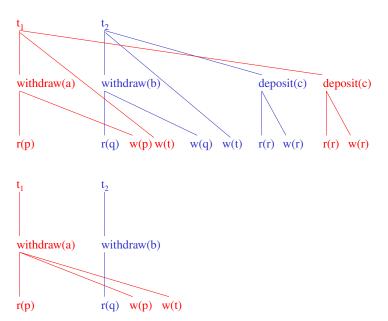


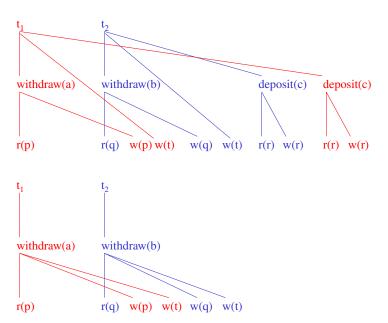


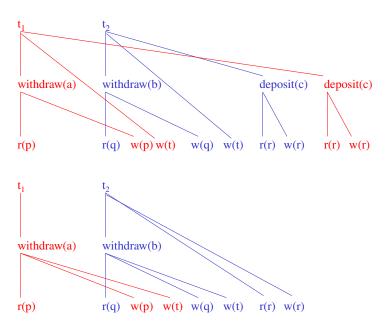


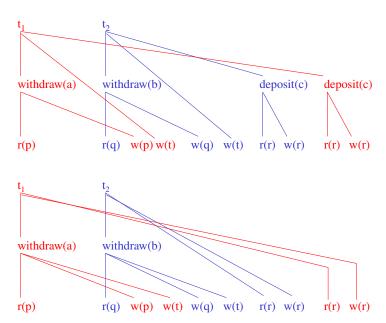












6 Concurrency Control on Objects: Notions of Correctness

- 6.2 Histories and Schedules
- 6.3 CSR for Flat Object Transactions
- 6.4 Tree Reducibility
- 6.5 Sufficient Conditions for Tree Reducibility
- 6.6 Exploiting State-Based Commutativity
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Flat Object Schedules

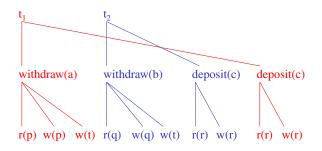
Definition 6.7 (Flat Object Schedule):

A 2-level schedule s is called **flat** if for each p, q of L_1 operations:

- for all p'∈child(p) and all q'∈child(q): p' ≤_s q' or for all p'∈child(p) and all q'∈child(q): q' ≤_s p', and
- for all p', p'' \in child(p): p' \leq p'' or p'' \leq p'

Definition 6.8 ((State-independent) Commutative Operations): Operations p and q are **commutative** if for all possible sequences of operations α and ω the return parameters in the sequence α p q ω are identical to those in α q p ω .

Example: Flat Object Schedule



(State-independent) Commutativity table:

	withdraw (x, Δ_2)	deposit (x, Δ_2)	getbalance (x)
withdraw (x, Δ_1)	_	_	_
deposit (x, Δ_1)	_	+	_
getbalance (x)	_	_	+

Commutativity-based Reducibility

Definition 6.9 (Commutativity Based Reducibility):

A flat object schedule s is **commutativity based reducible** if it can be transformed into a serial schedule by apply the following rules:

• Commutativity rule:

the order of ordered operations p, q, say p \leq_s q, can be reversed if

- both are isolated, adjacent, and commutative and
- the operations belong to different transactions.

Ordering rule:

Unordered leaf operations p, q can be arbitrarily ordered if they are commutative.

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Definition 6.10 (Conflict Equivalence and Conflict Serializability):

Two flat object schedules s and s' are **conflict equivalent** if they consist of the same operations and have the same ordering for all non-commutative pairs of L_1 operations.

s is **conflict serializable** if it is conflict equivalent to a serial schedule.

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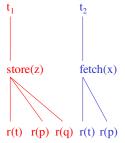
Theorem 6.1:

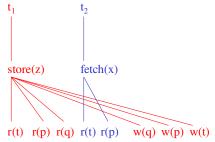
For a flat object schedule s the following three conditions are equivalent: s is conflict serializable, s has an acyclic conflict graph, s is commutativity-based reducible.

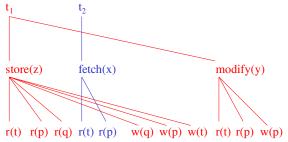
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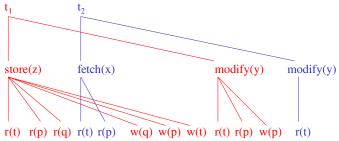
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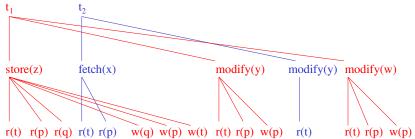


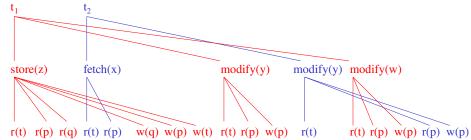












Tree Reducibility

Definition 6.11 (Tree Reducibility):

Object-model history $s = (op(s), \le s)$ is **tree reducible** if it can be transformed into a total order of its roots by apply the following rules:

• Commutativity rule:

the order of ordered leaf operations p, q, say $p \le q$, can be reversed if

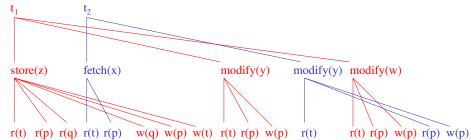
- both are isolated, adjacent, and commutative, and
- the operations belong to different transactions, and
- p and q do not have ancestors, p' and q', that are non-commutative and totally ordered in the order p' < q'.
- Ordering rule:

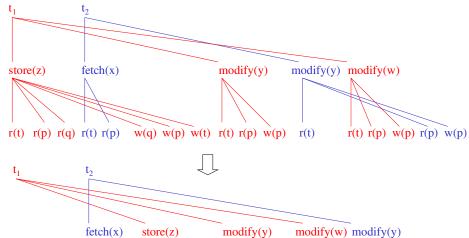
Unordered leaf operations p, q can be arbitrarily ordered if they are commutative.

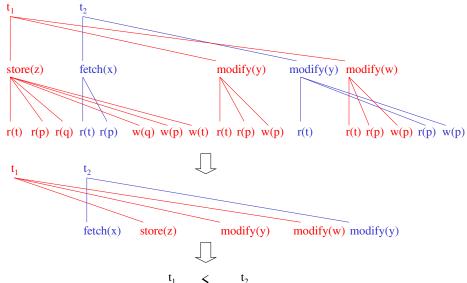
• Tree pruning rule:

An isolated subtree can be replaced by its root.

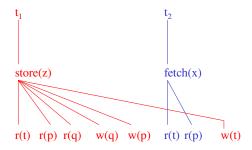
An object-model schedule is tree reducible if its committed projection is tree reducible.







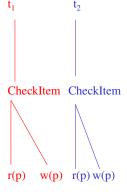
Example: Non-reducible Layered Object Schedule



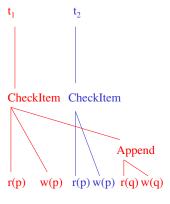
Conflicting operation pairs:



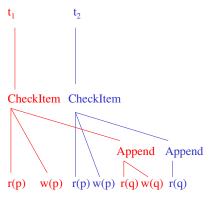
Conflicting operation pairs: <Payment, Payment>, <Append>, <r, w>, <w, r>, <w, w>



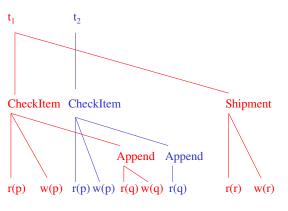
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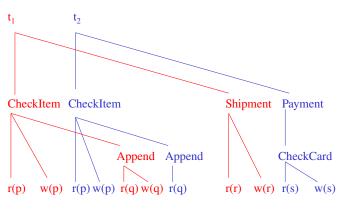
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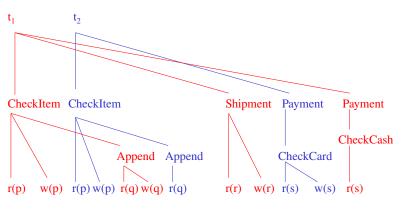
Conflicting operation pairs:



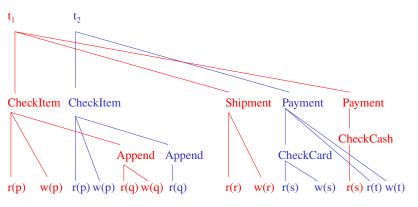
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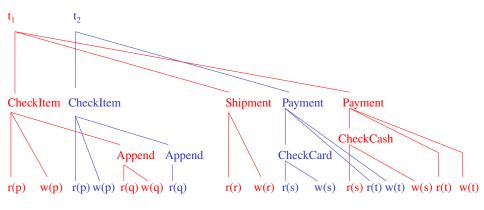
Conflicting operation pairs:



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- 6.7 Lessons Learned

Sufficient Conditions for Tree Reducibility

Definition 6.13 (Level-to-Level Schedule):

For an n-level schedule $s = (op(s), <_s)$ with layers L0, ..., Ln, the level-to-level schedule from L_i to $L_{(i-1)}$, or L_i -to- $L_{(i-1)}$ schedule, is a conventional 2-level schedule $s' = (op(s'), <_s')$ with

- op(s') consisting of the $L_{(i-1)}$ operations of s,
- \leq 'being the restriction of the extended order \leq to the $L_{(i-1)}$ operations,
- L_i operations of s as roots, and
- the same parent-child relationship as in s.

Theorem 6.2:

Let s be an n-level schedule. If for each i, $0 \le i \le n$, the L_i -to- $L_{(i-1)}$ schedule derived from s is in OCSR, then s is tree-reducible.

Proof Sketch for Theorem 6.2

Consider adjacent levels L_i , $L_{(i-1)}$:

- CSR of the L_i-to-L_(i-1) schedules allows isolating the L_i ops
- Conflicting L_i ops f, g are not reordered:
 - Because of the L_i conflict and the L_(i+1)-to-L_i schedule being CSR, f and g must be ordered
 - Because of the L_i-to-L_(i-1) schedule being OCSR this order is not reversed by the L_i-to-L_(i-1) serialization

induction on i

Sufficient Conditions for Tree Reducibility

Definition 6.13 (Conflict Faithfulness):

A layered schedule $s = (op(s), \leq_s)$ is **conflict-faithful** if for each pair $p, q \in op(s)$ s.t. p, q are non-commutative and for each i>0 there is at least one operation pair p', q' s.t. p' and q' are descendants of p and q with distance i and are in conflict.

Sufficient Conditions for Tree Reducibility

Definition 6.13 (Conflict Faithfulness):

A layered schedule $s = (op(s), \leq_s)$ is **conflict-faithful** if for each pair $p, q \in op(s)$ s.t. p, q are non-commutative and for each i > 0 there is at least one operation pair p', q' s.t. p' and q' are descendants of p and q with distance i and are in conflict.

Theorem 6.3:

Let s be an n-level schedule. If s is conflict-faithful and for each i, $0 \le i \le n$, the L_i -to- $L_{(i-1)}$ schedule derived from s is in CSR, then s is tree-reducible.

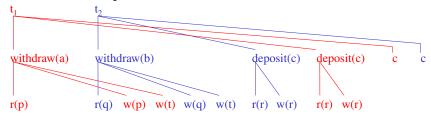
Proof Sketch for Theorem 6.3

Consider adjacent levels L_i , $L_{(i-1)}$:

- CSR of the L_i-to-L_(i-1) schedules allows isolating the L_i ops
- Conflicting L_i ops f, g are not reordered:
 - Because of the L_i conflict and the L_(i+1)-to-L_i schedule being CSR, f and g must be ordered, say f < g
 - Because of conflict-faithfulness f must and g must have conflicting children f', g' with f' < g'
 - CSR cannot reverse the order of f' and g', so the L_i-to-L_(i-1) serialization must be compatible with the L_i order f < g

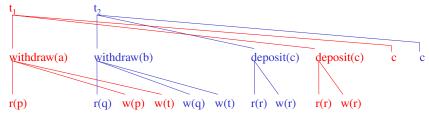
induction on i

Example: Level-to-level Schedules

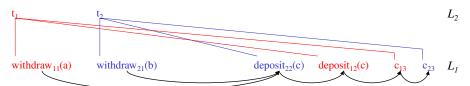


has L_2 -to- L_1 and L_1 -to- L_0 schedules:

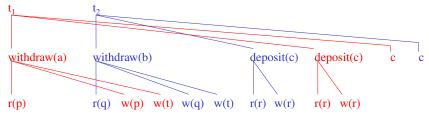
Example: Level-to-level Schedules



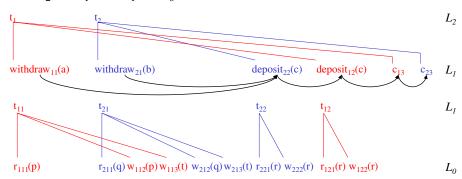
has L_2 -to- L_1 and L_1 -to- L_0 schedules:



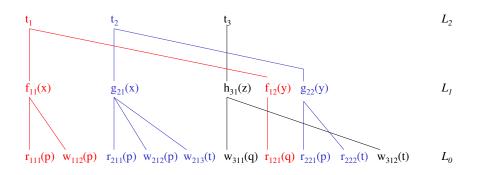
Example: Level-to-level Schedules



has L_2 -to- L_1 and L_1 -to- L_0 schedules:

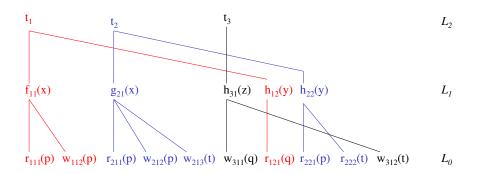


Example: Non-reducible Layered Schedule with CSR Level-to-level Schedules



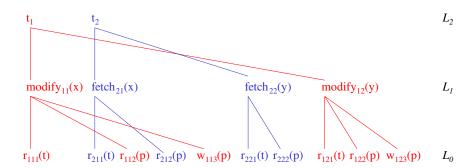
with f and g in conflict, and h commuting with f, g, and h

Example: Reducible Layered Schedule with Non-OCSR Level-to-level Schedules



with f and g in conflict, and h commuting with f, g, and h

Example: Reducible Layered Schedule with Conflicting, Concurrent Operations



6 Concurrency Control on Objects: Notions of Correctness

- 6.2 Histories and Schedules
- 6.3 CSR for Flat Object Transactions
- 6.4 Tree Reducibility
- 6.5 Sufficient Conditions for Tree Reducibility
- 6.6 Exploiting State-Based Commutativity
- 6.7 Lessons Learned

State-dependent Commutativity

Definition 6.14 (State-Dependent Commutativity):

Operations p and q on the same object are **commutative in object state** σ if for all operation sequences ω the return parameters in the sequence $pq\omega$ applied to σ

are identical to those in $qp\omega$ applied to σ .

Example:

- σ : x.balance = 40
 - s: withdraw₁(x, 30) deposit₂(x,50) deposit₂(y,50) withdraw₁(y,30)
 - \rightarrow would allow commuting the first step with both steps of t_2
- • σ : x.balance = 20
 - s: withdraw₁(x, 30) deposit₂(x,50) deposit₂(y,50) withdraw₁(y,30)
 - → would not allow commuting the first two steps

Return-value Commutativity

Definition 6.18 (Return Value Commutativity):

An operation execution p ($\psi x_1, ..., \psi x_m, \uparrow y_1, ..., \uparrow y_n$) is **return-value commutative** with an immediately following operation execution q (ψx_1 ', ..., ψx_m ', $\uparrow y_1$ ', ..., $\uparrow y_n$ ') if for every possible sequences α and ω s.t. p and q have indeed yielded the given return values in $\alpha pq\omega$, all operations in the sequence $\alpha qp\omega$ yield identical return values.

Example:

- σ : x.balance = 40 s: withdraw₁(x, 30) \(\tau \) deposit₂(x,50) \(\tau \) ...
 - → withdraw **↑**ok is return-value commutative with deposit
- σ : x.balance = 20
 - s: withdraw₁(x, 30) \uparrow no deposit₂(x,50) \uparrow ok ...
 - → withdraw ↑no is not return-value commutative with deposit

Examples: Return-value Commutativity Tables

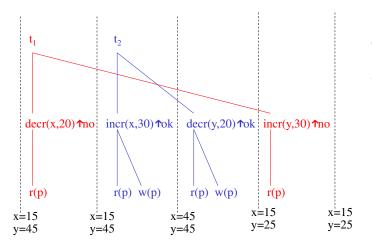
bank
accounts
(counters):

p q		withdraw (x, Δ_2) \uparrow no	
withdraw (x,Δ_1) 7 ok	+	-	+
withdraw (x,Δ_1) \uparrow no	+	+	_
deposit $(x, \Delta_1) \uparrow ok$	_	+	+

queues:

p	q	enq ↑ ok	enq ↑ one	deq ↑ ok	deq ↑ empty
	enq ↑ ok	_	impossible	+	impossible
ϵ	enq † one	_	impossible	_	impossible
	deq ↑ ok	+	_	_	_
de	q ↑ empty	_	_	impossible	+

Example: Schedule on Counter Objects



equivalent to serial order $t_1 \le t_2$

with constraints $0 \le x \le 50$, $0 \le y \le 50$

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Lessons Learned

- Commutativity and abstraction arguments lead to the fundamental criterion of tree reducibility
- For layered schedules, CSR can be iterated from level to level
- Compared to page-model CSR, concurrency can be improved, potentially by orders of magnitude
- State-based commutativity can further enhance concurrency, but is more complex to manage