CS 610: Concurrent Data Structures

CPUs and GPUs

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Challenges with Concurrent Programming

Less synchronization

More synchronization



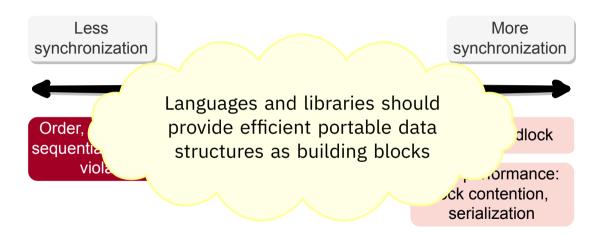
Order, atomicity, and sequential consistency violations

Concurrent and correct

Deadlock

Poor performance: lock contention, serialization

Challenges with Concurrent Programming



Designing a Concurrent Set Data

Structure

Designing a Concurrent Set

```
public interface Set<T> {
   boolean add(T x);
   boolean remove(T x);
   boolean contains(T x);
}
```

add(x)

adds x to the set and returns true if and only if x was not already present

remove(x)

removes x from the set and returns true if and only if x was present

contains(x)

returns true if and only if x is present in the set

Designing a Concurrent Set Using Linked Lists

```
class Node {
   T data;
   int key;
   Node next;
}
```

Invariants

- Field key is data's hash code to help with efficient search
- Nodes are sorted based on the key value
- Assume that all hash codes are unique
- Sentinel nodes are immutable, and tail is reachable from head
- Removed nodes continue to represent valid memory locations

A Thread-Unsafe Set Data Structure

```
public boolean add(T x) {
  int key = x.hashcode();
  Node pred = head;
  Node curr = pred.next;
  while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
    pred = curr; curr = curr.next;
  if (kev == curr.kev) {
    return false:
  } else {
    Node node = new Node(x);
    node.next = curr:
    prev.next = node:
    return true:
```

10

14 15 16

A Thread-Unsafe Set Data Structure

```
public boolean remove(T x) {
      int kev = x.hashcode();
      Node pred = head:
      Node curr = pred.next;
      while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
        pred = curr:
        curr = curr.next;
      if (key == curr.key) {
        pred.next = curr.next;
        return true;
      ? else {
12
        return false:
14
15
```

```
public boolean contains(T x) {
      int kev = x.hashcode();
      Node pred = head:
      Node curr = pred.next;
      while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
        pred = curr:
        curr = curr.next:
      if (key == curr.key) {
        return true:
10
      } else {
        return false:
14
15 }
```

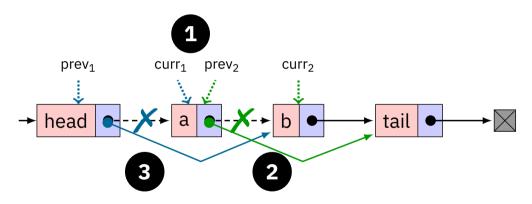
A Thread-Unsafe Set Data Structure

```
public boolean remove(T x) {
                                       public boolean contains(T x) {
     int kev = x.hashcode();
                                         int kev = x.hashcode();
     Node pred = head:
                                                  = head:
     Node curr = pred
                                                    pred.next;
     while (cu
                                                          key) {
       pred
                  Can you given an example
       cur
                    to show that remove()
                       is not thread-safe?
       pred
       return
     } else {
       return false:
                                   14
14
                                   15 }
15
```

Thread-Unsafe Set: Incorrect remove()

Thread 1 is executing remove (a)

Thread 2 is executing remove(b)



Concurrent Set with Coarse-Grained Synchronization

```
public class CoarseList<T> {
                                                    15
      private Node head:
      private Lock lock = new ReentrantLock();
      public CoarseList() {
        head = new Node(Integer.MIN_VALUE);
        head.next = new Node(Integer.MAX VALUE);
      . . .
      public boolean add(T x) {
11
        Node pred, curr
                                                    26
        int key = x.hashcode();
13
        lock.lock():
14
                                                    28
                                                    30
                                                    31
                                                    32
```

```
try {
  pred = head:
  curr = pred.next;
  while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
    pred = curr:
    curr = curr.next;
  if (key == curr.key) {
    return false:
  } else {
    Node node = new Node(x);
    node.next = curr;
    prev.next = node;
    return true:
} finally {
  lock.unlock();
```

33

Concurrent Set with Coarse-Grained Synchronization

```
public boolean remove(T x) {
34
         Node pred, curr;
35
        int kev = x.hashcode():
36
        lock.lock():
        trv {
38
           pred = head:
39
           curr = pred.next;
40
           while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
41
42
             pred = curr:
             curr = curr.next:
43
44
           if (key == curr.key) {
45
             pred.next = curr.next;
46
             return true;
47
           } else {
48
             return false:
19
        } finally {
51
           lock.unlock():
52
54
```

```
public boolean contains(T x) {
55
        Node curr;
56
        int key = x.hashcode();
        boolean found = false:
58
        lock.lock();
        try {
60
           curr = head.next;
           while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
62
63
             curr = curr.next:
65
           if (kev == curr.kev) {
             found = true;
66
67
        } finally {
68
           lock.unlock():
70
        return found:
72
73
```

Concurrent Set with Fine-Grained Synchronization

Add a lock object to each list node

```
class Node {
T data;
int key;
Node key;
Lock lock;
}
```

Possible interleaving

```
Thread 1

curr.lock.lock();
next = curr.next;
curr.lock.unlock();

next.lock.lock();

next.lock.lock();
```

Is Locking One Node Sufficient?

Thread 1 is executing remove (a) Thread 2 is executing remove (b) head tail remove(a) remove(b)

Concurrent Set with Fine-Grained Synchronization

```
public boolean add(T x) {
                                              16
       int key = x.hashcode();
      head.lock();
                                              18
      Node pred = head;
                                              19
      try {
                                              20
         Node curr = pred.next;
                                              21
         curr.lock();
         try {
           while (curr.kev < kev) {</pre>
                                              24
             pred.unlock();
                                              25
             pred = curr;
11
                                              26
             curr = curr.next;
12
                                              27
             curr.lock():
13
                                              28
                                              29
14
15
                                              30
```

```
if (key == curr.key) {
      return false:
    } else {
      Node node = new Node(x);
      node.next = curr;
      pred.next = node;
      return true;
  } finally {
    curr.unlock();
} finally {
  pred.unlock();
```

Concurrent Set with Fine-Grained Synchronization

```
public boolean remove(T x) {
                                            15
      int key = x.hashcode();
                                            16
      head.lock();
      Node pred = null, curr = null;
      try {
        pred = head; curr = pred.next;
        curr.lock();
        trv {
          while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
             pred.unlock();
             pred = curr;
11
             curr = curr.next;
12
             curr.lock();
13
                                            27
                                            28
14
```

```
if (key == curr.key) {
             pred.next = curr.next;
             return true;
17
           } else {
             return false:
19
        } finally {
           curr.unlock();
22
      } finally {
24
        pred.unlock();
25
26
```

Challenges With Fine-Grained Synchronization

Need to avoid deadlocks

- Deadlocks are always a problem with fine-grained locking
- For the Set data structure, each thread must acquire locks in some predetermined order

Are there other problems with the fine-grained Set design?

Challenges With Fine-Grained Synchronization

Need to avoid deadlocks

- Deadlocks are always a problem with fine-grained locking
- For the Set data structure, each thread must acquire locks in some predetermined order

Are there other problems with the fine-grained Set design?

- Potentially long sequence of lock acquire and release operations
- Prohibits concurrent accesses to disjoint parts of the data structure

Evaluating Concurrent Data Structures

Performance Metrics of Concurrent Data Structures

Speedup measures how effectively is an application utilizing resources

- Linear speedup is desirable
- Data structures whose speedup grow with resources is desirable

Amdahl's law says we need to reduce amount of serialized code

Reduce lock contention

Lock implementations with single memory location can introduce additional coherence and memory traffic due to unsuccessful acquires

Blocking or nonblocking implementations

Blocking Delay of any one thread can delay other threads

Nonblocking Delay of one thread cannot delay other threads

Reasoning about Correctness of Sequential Data Structures

Need to describe how an object's methods behave

- Possibilities include formal specification and API documentation
- Pre-condition describes the object's state before the method call
 - ► Operations on objects are not instantaneous. Each operation requires an invocation on that object, followed by a response.
 - ▶ Method call is the duration between an invocation event and a response event
- Post-condition describes the object's state and return value after the method call

Example

Suppose the state of a queue q is a sequence of items Q (i.e., precondition). Then, a call to $q \cdot enq(z)$ changes the state of the queue to $Q \cdot ex$, where $\cdot ext{-}$ denotes concatenation.

Reasoning about Correctness of Concurrent Data Structures

Multiple threads can access a shared object, e.g., a node in our Set data structure Situation:

Thread 1 is checking for contains(a)

Thread 2 is executing remove(a)

Using pre- and post-conditions no longer work. How do you reason about the outcome?

Correctness for interleaved operations on concurrent objects is determined by some notion of equivalence with sequential behavior

We need ways to describe the correctness conditions for operations on a concurrent object

Reasoning about Correctness of Concurrent Data Structures

- Identify invariants and make sure they always hold
 - ▶ For example, an item is in the set if and only if it is reachable from head
- Correctness (or safety) property is linearizability
- Progress (or liveness) properties are starvation and deadlock-freedom

Definitions

Program order The order in which a single thread issues method calls is called its program order.

- Method calls by different threads are unrelated by program order.
- Total method A method is total if it is defined for every object state, i.e., it does not need to wait for certain conditions to become true.
 - A total method is used when the caller thread has something useful to do than wait for certain conditions to be met.
- Partial method A partial method is not defined for every object state, it may have to block for certain conditions to hold.
 - For example, a partial Queue::get() call that tries to remove an item from an empty queue blocks until an item is available to return.
- Compositional A correctness property P is compositional if, whenever each object in the system satisfies P, the system as a whole satisfies P.

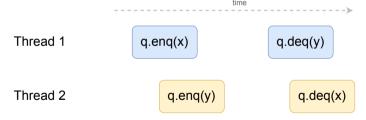
Correct Behavior Expected From a Concurrent Execution

(i) Method calls should appear to happen one-at-a-time in sequential order Thread 1 r.write(7) Thread 2 r.write(-3) r.read(-7) (ii) Method calls should appear to take effect in program order time Thread 1 r.write(7) r.write(-3) r.read(7)

Sequentially Consistent Execution

An execution is sequentially consistent (SC) if the result is the same as if the operations from all threads were executed in some sequential order, and the operations of each individual thread appear in program order.

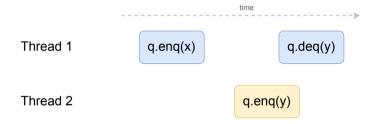
Consider the following operations on a FIFO queue q, where x and y are objects.



There are two possible sequential orders that can justify the above execution

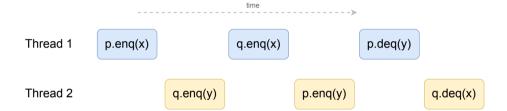
SC can Violate Real-Time Order

Reordering method calls unrelated by program order is allowed in SC, and so can violate real-time order



SC is Not Composable

p and q are each sequentially consistent, but the execution as a whole is not



Linearizability

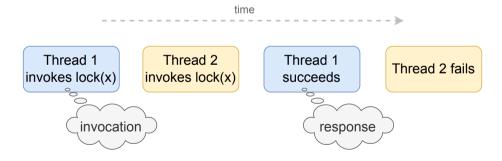
Linearizability has two requirements

- (i) Method calls should appear to happen one-at-a-time in sequential order
- (ii) Each method call should appear to take effect instantaneously at some moment between its invocation and response

- Linearization point represents a single atomic step where the method call "takes effect"
 - ► For coarse-grained lock-based implementations, each method's critical section is its linearization point
 - ► For implementations that do not use locking, the linearization point is a single step where the effects of the method call become visible to others

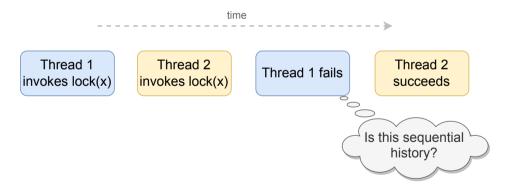
Understanding Linearizability

- Say you perform some operations on an object (e.g., a method call)
- A history is a sequence of invocations and responses on an object made by concurrent threads



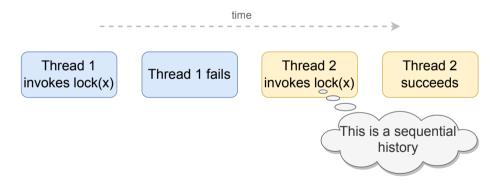
Sequential History

- Sequential history is where all invocations and responses are instantaneous.
 - ▶ Starts with an invocation, last invocation may not have a response
 - Method calls do not overlap



Sequential History

- Sequential history is where all invocations and responses are instantaneous
 - ▶ Starts with an invocation, last invocation may not have a response
 - Method calls do not overlap



Understanding Linearizability

Every concurrent history is equivalent to some sequential history

- If one method call precedes another, then the earlier call must have taken effect before the later call
- If two method calls overlap, we can order them in any way

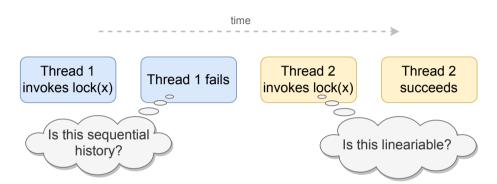
Consider a concurrent history (set of method calls) *H* and a valid sequential history *S*. The history *H* is linearizable if:

- For every completed call in *H*, the call returns the same result as it would return if every operation in *H* would have been completed one after the other (i.e., in *S*)
- ullet If method call m_1 completes before method call m_2 in H, then m_1 precedes m_2 in H

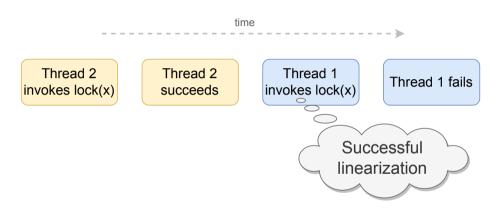
Linearizability in Simpler Words

- Sequential history is correct according to the semantics of the object
- Invocations and responses can be reordered to form a sequential history
- If a response preceded an invocation in the original history, it must still precede it in the sequential reordering

Understanding Linearizability



Understanding Linearizability



Identifying Linearization Points

Linearization point represents a single atomic step where the method call "takes effect", and is between the function invocation and response

What are the linearization points for the methods add(), remove(), and contains() for the coarsely- and finely-synchronized Set?

Sequential Consistency vs Linearizability

Sequential Consistency

- Method calls appear to happen instantaneously in some sequential order
- A sequentially consistent history is not necessarily linearizable
- Nonblocking but not composable

Linearizability

- Method calls appear to happen instantaneously at some point between its invocation and response
- Every linearizable history is sequentially consistent
- Nonblocking and composable

Progress Guarantees

- wait-free A method is wait-free if it guarantees that every call finishes in a finite number of steps
- lock-free A method is lock-free if it guarantees that some call always finishes in a finite number of steps

Designing a Concurrent Set Data

Structure

How to Design a Concurrent Set?

Coarse-grained synchronization

Easy to get right, low concurrency, not scalable

Fine-grained synchronization

More concurrent and scalable than coarse-grained synchronization, difficult to get right

Optimistic synchronization

Avoid synchronization to search, good for low contention cases

Lazy synchronization

Defer expensive data structure manipulation operations

Nonblocking synchronization

Rely on atomic operations such as compareAndSet() for synchronization

Optimistic Synchronization

Optimistic strategy

- Access data without acquiring a lock
- Lock only when required, and validate that the condition before locking is still valid
- If valid, then continue with access/mutation
- If invalid, restart by locking again

Optimistic strategy works well if conflicts are rare

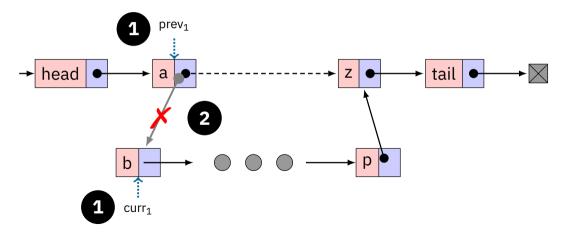
```
public boolean add(T x) {
      int key = x.hashcode();
      while (true) {
        Node pred = head;
        Node curr = pred.next;
        while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
           pred = curr;
           curr = curr.next;
        pred.lock(); curr.lock();
12
13
14
15
16
```

```
try {
17
           if (validate(pred, curr)) {
18
             if (curr.key == key) {
19
               return false:
20
             } else {
21
               Node node = new Node(x);
               node.next = curr;
23
               prev.next = node;
24
               return true:
25
26
        } finally {
           curr.unlock(); pred.unlock();
30
31
32
```

Is Validation Necessary?

Thread 1 is executing remove(p)

Other threads execute remove (b-p)



How to Validate?

- Double check that the optimistic result is still valid
- Check that prev is reachable from head and prev.next == curr

```
boolean validate(Node prev, Node curr) {
  Node node = head;
 while (node.kev <= prev.kev) {</pre>
    if (node == prev)
      return prev.next == curr;
    node = node.next;
  return false:
```

```
public boolean remove(T x) {
      int key = x.hashcode();
      while (true) {
        Node pred = head;
        Node curr = pred.next;
        while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
          pred = curr;
          curr = curr.next;
        pred.lock(); curr.lock();
12
13
14
```

```
try {
15
           if (validate(pred, curr)) {
16
             if (curr.key == key) {
17
               pred.next = curr.next;
18
               return true;
19
             } else {
               return false:
22
23
        } finally {
24
           curr.unlock(); pred.unlock();
26
27
28
```

```
public boolean contains(T x) {
      int key = x.hashcode();
      while (true) {
        Node pred = head;
        Node curr = pred.next;
        while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
          pred = curr;
          curr = curr.next;
        pred.lock();
10
                                            21
        curr.lock();
                                            22
```

```
try {
    if (validate(pred, curr)) {
        return curr.key == key;
    }
    finally {
        curr.unlock();
        pred.unlock();
    }
}
```

Are there problems with the optimistic-synchronization-based Set design?

- Validation can be costly (e.g., need to traverse the list again)
- Needs lock operations for contains() which is the most frequent method (bad design)

Lazy Synchronization

Delay mutation operations for a later time

- Add a mark or flag bit on each node to indicate logical deletion
- Invariant: every unmarked node is reachable from head

Guarantees

- add() traverses the list, locks the predecessor, and inserts the node
- remove() marks the target node logically removing it, then redirects the predecessor's next link physically removing the target node
- contains() needs only one wait-free traversal (no locking is required)

Concurrent Set with Lazy Synchronization

```
public boolean add(T x) {
     int key = x.hashcode();
     while (true) {
       Node pred = head;
       Node curr = pred.next;
       while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
         pred = curr;
         curr = curr.next;
       pred.lock();
10
       trv {
         curr.lock();
12
         try {
13
           if (validate(pred, curr)) {
14
              if (curr.key == key) {
15
                return false;
16
```

```
} else {
17
                 Node node = new Node(x);
18
                 node.next = curr;
19
                 pred.next = node;
20
                 return true;
21
22
          } finally {
24
            curr.unlock(); }
25
26
        } finally {
          pred.unlock();
28
29
31
32
```

How to Validate?

Check that both prev and curr are unmarked and prev.next == curr

```
boolean validate(Node prev, Node curr) {
   return !prev.marked && !curr.marked && prev.next == curr;
}
```

Concurrent Set with Lazy Synchronization

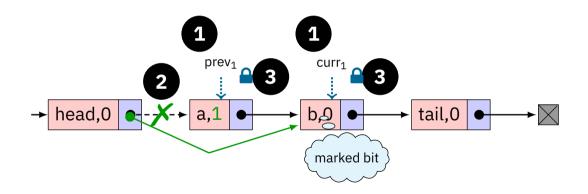
```
public boolean remove(T x) {
      int key = x.hashcode();
      while (true) {
        Node pred = head;
        Node curr = pred.next;
        while (curr.key < key) {</pre>
          pred = curr;
          curr = curr.next;
        pred.lock();
10
        trv {
11
          curr.lock();
12
          try {
13
             if (validate(pred, curr)) {
14
               if (curr.key != key) {
15
                 return false:
16
```

```
} else {
17
                 // Logical deletion
18
                 curr.marked = true;
19
                 // Physical deletion
20
                 pred.next = curr.next;
21
                 return true;
22
24
           } finally {
             curr.unlock(); }
26
         } finally {
28
           pred.unlock();
29
31
32
```

Detecting Conflicts: Scenario 1

Thread 1 is executing remove(b)

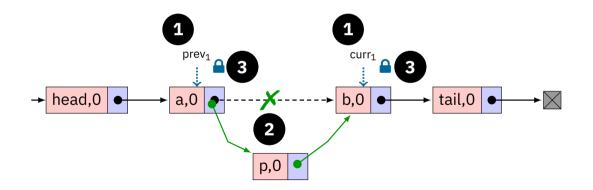
Thread 2 is executing remove(a)



Detecting Conflicts: Scenario 2

Thread 1 is executing remove(b)

Thread 2 is executing add(p)



Concurrent Set with Lazy Synchronization

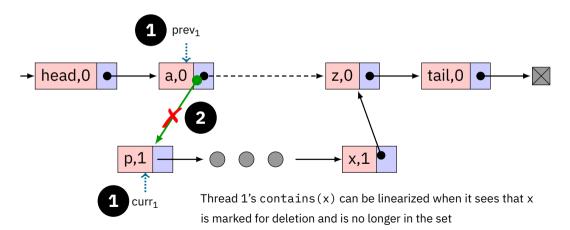
```
public boolean contains(T x) {
   int key = x.hashcode();
   Node curr = head;
   while (curr.key < key) {
      curr = curr.next;
   }
   return curr.key == key && !curr.marked;
}</pre>
```



Unsuccessful contains(): Scenario 1

Thread 1 is executing contains (x)

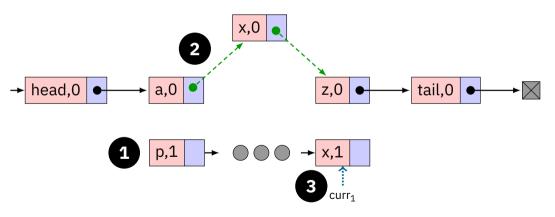
Thread 2 is executing remove (p...x)



Unsuccessful contains(): Scenario 2

Thread 1 is executing contains (x)

Thread 2 is executing add (x)



Thread 1 is traversing along the marked portion of the list p...x

Unsuccessful contains(): Scenario 2

Thread 1 is executing contains (x)

Thread 2 is executing add (x)

Linearize an unsuccessful contains (x) at the earlier of the following two points: • A marked node with key x or a node with key greater than x is found • The point immediately before a new node with key x is added to the list

Thread 1 is traversing along the marked portion of the list p...x

Nonblocking Synchronization

Why do we need nonblocking designs?

- Blocked threads do not do useful work, problematic for high-priority or real-time applications
- Getting the right degree of concurrency and correctness with locks is challenging
- Use of locks can lead to deadlocks, livelocks, and priority inversion

Idea: Use RMW instructions like CAS to update next field

Eliminate locks altogether

Nonblocking Algorithms

- + Failure or suspension of a thread does not impact other threads
- + Guaranteed system-wide progress implies lock-freedom, while per-thread progress implies wait-freedom
 - ► Wait-freedom is the strongest nonblocking progress guarantee
 - ► Lock-freedom allows an individual thread to starve
 - ► All wait-free algorithms are lock-free

Lock-free implies "locking up" the application in some way (e.g., deadlock and livelock)

Lock-free does not only imply absence of synchronization locks

Compare-and-Swap (CAS) Primitive

- Modern architectures provide many atomic read-modify-write (RMW) instructions for synchronization
 - ► For example, test-and-set, fetch-and-add, compare-and-swap, and load-linked/store-conditional
- Compare-and-Swap (CAS) compares the contents of a memory location with a given value and, only if they are the same, updates the contents of that memory location to a new given value

```
bool CAS(word* loc, word oldval, word newval) {
   atomic { // Code block will execute atomically
   res := (*loc == oldval);
   if (res)
     *loc := newval;
   return res;
}
```

Compare-and-Swap (CAS) Primitive

- CAS is implemented as the compare-and-exchange (CMPXCHG) instruction in x86 architectures
 - ► On a multiprocessor, the LOCK prefix must be used
- CAS is a popular synchronization primitive for implementing both lock-based and nonblocking concurrent data structures

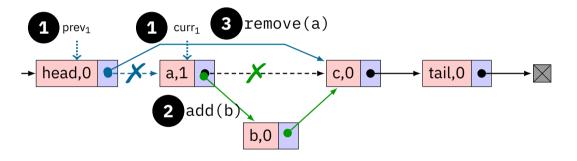
```
xor %ecx, %ecx /*ecx=0*/
inc %ecx /*ecx=1*/
RETRY: xor %eax, %eax /*eax=0*/
lock compxchg %ecx, &lock
jnz RETRY
ret

xor %ecx, %ecx /*ecx=0*/
lock is acquired
while (CAS(&lk->flag, 0, 1) == 1) {
    // Keep spinning
    // Keep spinning
}
```

Nonblocking Synchronization with CAS

Thread 1 is executing remove (a)

Thread 2 is executing add(b)

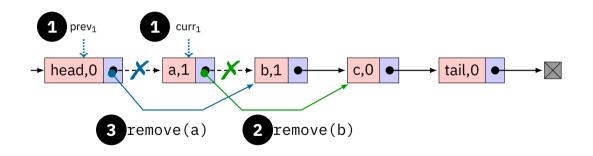


a is deleted but b is not added to the list

Nonblocking Synchronization with CAS

Thread 1 is executing remove(a)

Thread 2 is executing remove(b)



a is deleted but b is not deleted from the list

Alternative Idea: AtomicMarkableReference<T>

- Cannot allow updates to a node once it has been logically or physically removed from the list
- Treat the next and marked fields as atomic
- An attempt to update the next field when the marked field is true will fail

Java provides the AtomicMarkableReference<T> in the java.util.concurrent.atomic package

```
public boolean compareAndSet(T expectedReference, T newReference,
    boolean expectedMark, boolean newMark);
public T get(boolean[] marked);
public T getReference();
public Boolean isMarked();
```

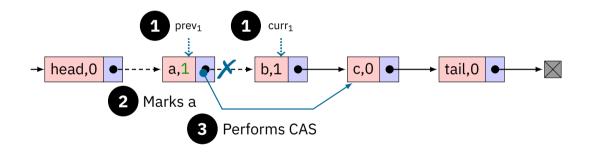
Designing a Nonblocking Set

- The next field is of type AtomicMarkableReference<Node>
- A thread logically removes a node by setting the marked bit in the next field
- As threads traverse the list, they clean up the list by physically removing marked nodes
- Threads performing add() and remove() do not traverse marked nodes, they remove them before continuing. Why?

Challenge in Traversing Marked Nodes

Thread 1 is executing remove(b)

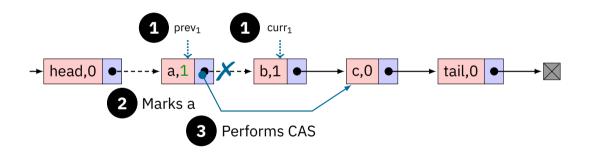
Thread 2 marks a



Challenge in Traversing Marked Nodes

Thread 1 is executing remove(b)

Thread 2 marks a



Thread 1 does not delete the marked node a \implies Thread 1 cannot redirect a.next

Helper Method

Helper method public Window find(Node head, int key)

Traverses the list seeking to set pred to the node with the largest key less than key, and curr to the node with the least key greater than or equal to key

```
class Window {
  public Node pred, curr;
  Window(Node myPred, Node myCurr) {
    pred = myPred; curr = myCurr;
  }
}
```

Helper Method

```
public Window find(Node head, int key) {
     Node pred = null, curr = null, succ = null;
     boolean[] marked = {false};
     boolean snip;
5 retry: while (true) {
       pred = head; curr = pred.next.getReference();
       while (true) {
          succ = curr.next.get(marked);
          while (marked[0]) {
            snip = pred.next.compareAndSet(curr, succ, false, false);
            if (!snip) continue retry;
            curr = succ; succ = curr.next.get(marked);
          if (curr.key >= key)
            return new Window(pred, curr);
          pred = curr; curr = succ;
16
18
```

Concurrent Set with Nonblocking Synchronization

```
public boolean add(T x) {
 int key = x.hashcode();
 while (true) {
    Window w = find(head, kev);
    Node pred = w.pred, curr = w.curr;
    if (curr.kev == kev) return false;
    else {
      Node node = new Node(x);
      node.next = new AtomicMarkableReference(curr, false);
      if (pred.next.compareAndSet(curr, node, false, false))
        return true:
```

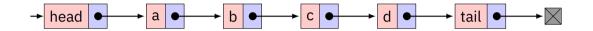
Concurrent Set with Nonblocking Synchronization

```
public boolean remove(T x) {
     int key = x.hashcode();
     boolean snip;
     while (true) {
       Window w = find(head, key);
       Node pred = w.pred, curr = w.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;
16
```

Concurrent Set with Nonblocking Synchronization

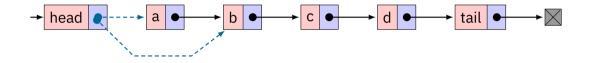
```
public boolean contains(T x) {
   int key = x.hashcode();
   Node curr = head;
   while (curr.key < key) {
      curr = curr.next.getReference();
   }
   return curr.key == key && !curr.next.isMarked();
}</pre>
```

Thread 1 is executing deq(a)



Each thread recycles old nodes by maintaining a private free list of deleted nodes.

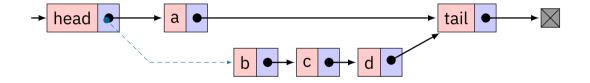
Thread 1 is executing deq(a)



Assume that Thread 1 sees head points to a, but gets delayed while executing deq(a)

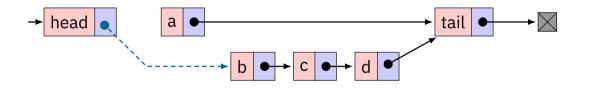
Thread 1 is executing deq(a)

Other threads execute deq(a, b, c, d), then execute enq(a)



Thread 1 is executing deq(a)

Other threads execute deq(a, b, c, d), then execute enq(a)



Thread 1's CAS succeeds, incorrectly setting head to the recycled node b which is in the local pool of some thread

Avoiding ABA Problem

- Common workaround is to add extra "tag" to the memory address being compared
 - ▶ Tag can be a counter that tracks the number of updates to the reference
 - ► Can steal lower order bits of memory address or use a separate tag field if 128-bit CAS is available
 - x86_64 supports 128-bit CAS, but NVIDIA GPUs only support up to 64-bit CAS

Concurrent Hash Sets for CPU

Hash Sets

- Closed addressing Each table entry refers to a set of items, called a bucket. Closed addressing is also known as chaining.
 - Open addressing Each table entry maps to a single item. Open addressing requires a deterministic probing scheme to search for free slots.
- Let l be the number of probing attempts, c be the capacity of the hash set, and s(k, l) the l-th element in the probe sequence where s(k, 0) = h(k).
 - Linear probing Probing sequence is $s(k, l) = (h(k) + l) \mod c$. Cache efficient but suffers from clustering.
- Quadratic probing Probing sequence is $s(k, l) = (h(k) + l^2) \mod c$. Incurs more cache misses but avoids primary clustering.
 - Chaotic probing Probing sequence is $s(k, l) = (h(k) + l \cdot g(k)) \mod c$ where g(k) is a second hash function. Incurs more cache misses but avoids primary clustering. Chaotic probing is also known as double hashing.

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Abstract Base Class

```
public abstract class BaseHashSet<T> {
     protected List<T>[] table:
     protected int setSize;
     public BaseHashSet(int capacity) {
        setSize = 0:
       table = (List<T>[]) new List[capacity];
       for (int i = 0; i < capacity; i++)
          table[i] = new ArrayList<T>();
     public boolean contains(T x) {
        acquire(x);
       trv {
          int myBucket = x.hashCode() % table.length;
          return table[mvBucket].contains(x);
        } finally {
          release(x);
16
18
```

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Abstract Base Class

```
public boolean add(T x) {
        boolean result = false;
        acquire(x);
        try {
          int myBucket = x.hashCode() % table.length;
          result = table[mvBucket].add(x):
          setSize = result ? setSize + 1 : setSize;
        } finally {
          release(x):
        if (policy()) // When to resize the hash set?
          resize();
30
        return result:
```

Policies: average bucket size exceeds a fixed threshold, more than 1/4 of the buckets exceed a bucket threshold, or if any single bucket exceeds a global threshold

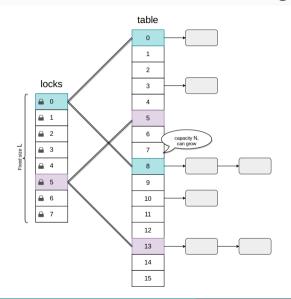
Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Coarse-Grained Locking

```
public class CoarseHashSet<T> extends BaseHashSet<T>{
 final Lock lock:
  CoarseHashSet(int capacity) {
   super(capacity):
   lock = new ReentrantLock();
 public final void acquire(T x) {
   lock.lock();
 public void release(T x) {
   lock.unlock();
 public boolean policv() {
   // Average size of a bucket is > 4
   return setSize / table.length > 4;
```

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Coarse-Grained Locking

```
public void resize() {
17
      int oldCapacitv = table.length:
18
      lock.lock();
19
      try {
        if (oldCapacity != table.length)
          return; // someone beat us to it
        int newCapacity = 2 * oldCapacity;
        List<T>[] oldTable = table;
        table = (List<T>[]) new List[newCapacity];
        for (int i = 0; i < newCapacity; i++)</pre>
          table[i] = new ArrayList<T>();
        for (List<T> bucket : oldTable)
          for (T x : bucket)
29
            table[x.hashCode() % table.length].add(x);
      } finally {
        lock.unlock();
34
```

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Striped Locking



- Each lock protects N/L buckets
- Allows more concurrency than coarse-grained lock

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Striped Locking

```
public class StripedHashSet<T> extends BaseHashSet<T>{
     final ReentrantLock[] locks:
      public StripedHashSet(int capacity) {
       super(capacity):
       // Number of locks is initially same as the length of the table. The table
       // can dunamically grow, but not locks. Increasing the number of locks is
       // challenging.
       locks = new Lock[capacity];
       for (int j = 0; j < locks.length; <math>j++)
         locks[j] = new ReentrantLock();
     public final void acquire(T x) {
       locks[x.hashCode() % locks.length].lock();
14
     public void release(T x) {
       locks[x.hashCode() % locks.length].unlock();
16
```

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Striped Locking

```
public void resize() {
15
        int oldCapacity = table.length;
16
        for (Lock lock : locks)
          lock.lock();
        try {
          if (oldCapacity != table.length) return; // someone beat us to it
          int newCapacity = 2 * oldCapacity;
          List<T>[] oldTable = table:
          table = (List<T>[]) new List[newCapacity];
          for (int i = 0; i < newCapacity; i++)</pre>
            table[i] = new ArrayList<T>();
          for (List<T> bucket : oldTable)
26
            for (T x : bucket)
              table[x.hashCode() % table.length].add(x);
        } finally {
          for (Lock lock : locks)
            lock.unlock();
34
```

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Refinable Hash Set

```
// Allow resizing number of locks
    public class RefinableHashSet<T> extends BaseHashSet<T> {
     // Identifies the owner thread who is resizing, and the boolean is set to true.
     // Used for mutual exclusion with other mutation methods (e.g., add()).
      AtomicMarkableReference<Thread> owner:
     volatile ReentrantLock[] locks:
      public RefinableHashSet(int capacity) {
        super(capacity);
        locks = new ReentrantLock[capacity];
        for (int i = 0; i < capacity; i++)
          locks[i] = new ReentrantLock():
11
        owner = new AtomicMarkableReference<Thread>(null, false);
14
      public void release(T x) {
        locks[x.hashCode() % locks.length].unlock();
16
      protected void quiesce() { // Visit each lock and wait until it is free
17
        for (ReentrantLock lock : locks)
18
          while (lock.isLocked()) {}
19
```

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Refinable Hash Set

```
public void acquire(T x) {
22
      boolean[] mark = {true}:
23
      Thread me = Thread.currentThread():
24
      Thread who:
      while (true) {
26
        do { // Wait while some other thread is the owner
          who = owner.get(mark);
28
        } while (mark[0] && who != me);
        ReentrantLock[] oldLocks = locks:
30
        ReentrantLock oldLock = oldLocks[x.hashCode() % oldLocks.length];
        oldLock.lock();
        // Check again to see if the locks array has been resized in the meantime
33
        who = owner.get(mark);
        // locks array has not changed, mark is not set or mark is set and I am the owner
        if ((!mark[0] || who == me) && locks == oldLocks) {
36
          return:
        } else {
38
          oldLock.unlock();
40
41
42
```

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Refinable Hash Set

```
public void resize() {
42
        int oldCapacity = table.length;
43
        boolean[] mark = {false};
        int newCapacity = 2 * oldCapacity;
45
        Thread me = Thread.currentThread();
46
        if (owner.compareAndSet(null, me, false, true)) { // Try to make yourself the owner
          try {
48
            if (table.length != oldCapacity) return; // someone else resized first
49
            quiesce();
            List<T>[] oldTable = table;
            table = (List<T>[]) new List[newCapacity];
            for (int i = 0; i < newCapacity; i++)</pre>
              table[i] = new ArravList<T>();
            locks = new ReentrantLock[newCapacity];
            for (int j = 0; j < locks.length; j++)</pre>
56
              locks[i] = new ReentrantLock();
            initializeFrom(oldTable);
          } finally {
59
            owner.set(null, false);
61
        } } }
62
```

Hash Set with Closed Addressing: Lock-free Hash Set

Challenging to design a correct algorithm with synchronization primitives like CAS

- Not enough to make individual buckets lock-free
- Resizing the table requires atomically moving entries from old buckets to new buckets
- If the table doubles in capacity, then items in the old bucket must be distributed between two new buckets
- CAS operates only on one memory location

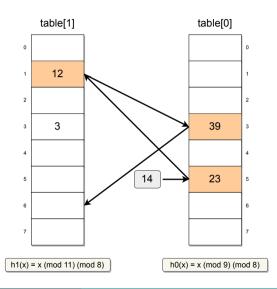
Hash Set with Open Addressing: Cuckoo Hashing

Cuckoo hashing is a type of open addressing scheme where collisions are resolved by displacing any earlier item occupying the same slot with a newly added item

- Uses two hash functions which provides two possible locations for each key
- Assume a hash set of size N = 2k, and two tables each of size k (denoted by table [0] and table [1]
- ullet Two independent hash functions h_0 and h_1 map the keys to $0, \dots, k-1$
- contains (x) Tests whether either table $[0][h_0(x)]$ or table $[1][h_1(x)]$ is equal to x
 - remove(x) Checks whether x is in either table $[0][h_0(x)]$ or table $[1][h_1(x)]$ and removes it if found
 - add(x) Repeatedly displace conflicting items until every key has a slot
 - May not find an empty slot if the table is full or the sequence of displacements form a cycle
 - Need to resize the hash table, choose new hash functions, and restart the add operation after a THRESHOLD of successive displacements is reached

Sequential Cuckoo Hashing: add()

```
public boolean add(T x) {
     if (contains(x)) {
       return false:
     for (int i = 0; i < THRESHOLD; i++) {</pre>
       if ((x = swap(h0(x), x)) == null) {
         return true;
       } else if ((x = swap(h1(x), x)) == null)
         return true:
10
     resize():
12
     add(x);
14 }
```



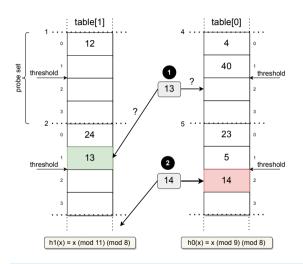
Concurrent Cuckoo Hashing

Challenge is in the possibly long sequence of swap operations during add()

Break up each method call into a sequence of phases, where each phase adds, removes, or displaces a single item \boldsymbol{x}

- Hash table is organized as a 2D table of probe sets
- Probe set is a constant-sized set of items with the same hash code
- Each probe set holds at most PROBE_SIZE items
- Implementation tries to ensure that when the set is quiescent (i.e., no method calls are in progress) each probe set holds no more than THRESHOLD < PROBE_SIZE items

```
public abstract class PhasedCuckooHashSet<T> {
 volatile int capacity;
  volatile List<T>[][] table;
  public PhasedCuckooHashSet(int size) {
    capacity = size;
    table = (List<T>[][]) new java.util.ArravList[2][capacitv];
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
      for (int j = 0; j < capacity; j++) {
        table[i][j] = new ArrayList<T>(PROBE SIZE);
```



Example of adding to the Hash Set

```
public boolean remove(T x) {
        acquire(x);
        try {
          List<T> set0 = table[0][hash0(x) % capacity];
          if (set0.contains(x)) {
            set0.remove(x);
18
            return true:
19
          } else {
            List<T> set1 = table[1][hash1(x) % capacity];
            if (set1.contains(x)) {
              set1.remove(x);
              return true:
          return false:
        } finally {
          release(x);
```

```
public boolean add(T x) {
32
                                                    51
         T v = null:
33
                                                    52
         acquire(x);
3.4
                                                    53
         int h0 = hash0(x) \% capacity;
35
                                                    54
         int h1 = hash1(x) % capacity:
36
                                                    55
         int i = -1, h = -1;
37
         boolean mustResize = false;
38
         trv {
39
                                                    58
           if (present(x)) return false;
40
           List<T> set0 = table[0][h0];
41
                                                    60
           List<T> set1 = table[1][h1]:
42
           if (set0.size() < THRESHOLD) {</pre>
43
                                                    62
              set0.add(x): return true:
44
           } else if (set1.size() < THRESHOLD</pre>
45
              set1.add(x): return true;
46
           } else if (set0.size() <</pre>
47
                PROBE SIZE) {
              set0.add(x); i = 0; h = h0;
48
           } else if (set1.size() <</pre>
49
                PROBE SIZE) {
              co+1 \ add(v) \cdot i = 1 \cdot h = h1 \cdot
```

```
} else {
      mustResize = true:
 } finally {
   release(x):
 if (mustResize) {
   resize(); add(x);
 } else if (!relocate(i, h)) {
   resize();
 return true; // x must have been
      present
?
```

```
protected boolean relocate(int i, int
                                                                  } else if (iSet.size() <</pre>
64
           hi) {
                                                                      PROBE SIZE) {
         int hi = 0:
                                                                    iSet.add(v):
65
                                                  83
         int j = 1 - i;
                                                                    i = 1 - i:
66
                                                  84
         for (int round = 0; round < LIMIT;</pre>
                                                                    hi = hi:
67
             round++) {
                                                                    i = 1 - i:
                                                  86
           List<T> iSet = table[i][hi];
                                                                  } else {
68
           T v = iSet.get(0);
                                                                    iSet.add(y);
69
           switch (i) {
                                                                    return false:
                                                  29
             case 0: hj = hash1(y) % capacity
                  : break:
                                                                } else if (iSet.size() >=
                                                  91
             case 1: hj = hash0(y) \% capacity
                                                                    THRESHOLD) {
                  : break:
                                                                  continue:
                                                                } else {
73
           acquire(y);
                                                                  return true:
74
           List<T> iSet = table[i][hi];
75
                                                              } finally {
           try {
76
             if (iSet.remove(v)) {
                                                                release(v):
               if (jSet.size() < THRESHOLD) {</pre>
78
                  iSet.add(y);
79
                                                  99
                  return true;
                                                           return false;
80
                                                 100
81
                                                 101
```

Concurrent Cuckoo Hashing using Striped Locking

```
public class StripedCuckooHashSet<T> extends PhasedCuckooHashSet<T>{
      final ReentrantLock[][] lock:
     public StripedCuckooHashSet(int capacity) {
       super(capacity);
       lock = new ReentrantLock[2][capacity];
       for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
          for (int j = 0; j < capacity; j++)
            lock[i][i] = new ReentrantLock():
     public final void acquire(T x) {
       lock[0][hash0(x) % lock[0].length].lock();
       lock[1][hash1(x) % lock[1].length].lock();
13
     public final void release(T x) {
       lock[0][hash0(x) % lock[0].length].unlock();
16
        lock[1][hash1(x) % lock[1].length].unlock();
17
18
```

Concurrent Cuckoo Hashing using Striped Locking

```
public void resize() {
19
        int oldCapacitv = capacitv:
        for (Lock aLock : lock[0]) {
           aLock.lock():
23
24
        trv {
           if (capacity != oldCapacity) {
             return:
26
           List<T>[][] oldTable = table;
28
           capacity = 2 * capacity;
29
           table = (List<T>[][]) new List[2][
30
               capacity];
           for (List<T>[] row : table) {
31
             for (int i = 0; i < row.length; i</pre>
                 ++) {
               row[i] = new ArravList<T>(
33
                   PROBE SIZE);
34
35
```

```
for (List<T>[] row : oldTable) {
36
             for (List<T> set : row) {
37
               for (T z : set) {
                 add(z):
39
40
41
42
         } finally {
43
           for (Lock aLock : lock[0]) {
44
             aLock.unlock();
45
46
48
49
50
```

Concurrent Data Structures for GPU

Concurrent Hashing on GPUs

Requirements

- Need to support high throughput for concurrent accesses to the hash tables
- Need to devise nonblocking algorithms that are tuned to the GPU programming model for good performance

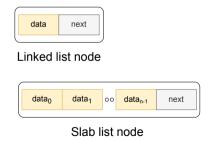
Challenges in designing an efficient hash table

- Lock-based synchronization will not scale to thousands of GPU threads
- Accessing linked-list-based data structures imply making random (uncoalesced) memory accesses from threads in a warp
 - ► High memory bandwidth is achieved when threads in a warp access consecutive memory locations with a fixed stride
- Dynamically allocating linked list nodes for numerous GPU threads is a bottleneck

Concurrent Hashing on GPUs with SlabHash

SlabHash builds a concurrent hash table using slab lists instead of linked lists

- A slab consists of multiple words of data (i.e., unordered set) and a single next pointer, thereby reducing memory overhead
- Slabs on NVIDIA GPUs can be of 32 words
- Can search a slab list node using a single ballot instruction





Slab list node

Operations on a Slab List

- search Search from the head of the list, load the next slab if the item cannot be found in the current slab
- insert Start from the head of the list, use an atomic CAS to insert the new key-value pair into the first empty data slot. An unsuccessful CAS implies someone else occupied the empty slot, so restart looking for an empty slot. Load the next slab if no empty slots are found. Allocate a new slab at the end of the list if all slabs are full.
- replace Similar to insert except that the entire slab list needs to be searched
- delete Similar to insert except that the entire slab list needs to be searched (depending on whether duplicates are allowed)

More about SlabHash

Provides a dynamic hash table that uses chaining for collision resolution

Universal hash function of the form $h(k; a, b) = ((ak + b) \mod p) \mod B$ is used, where a, b are random arbitrary integers, p is a random prime number, and B is the number of buckets.

Threads are assigned independent tasks (i.e., keys), but work is done in parallel per-warp, called warp-cooperative work sharing (WCWS)

- One-to-one mapping maps each thread to a single key, threads in a warp process their 32 keys individually
- Advantage of WCWS is that it significantly reduces branch divergence when compared to per-thread processing
- Disadvantage of WCWS is that all threads within a warp should be active

Concurrent Hashing on GPUs with WarpCore

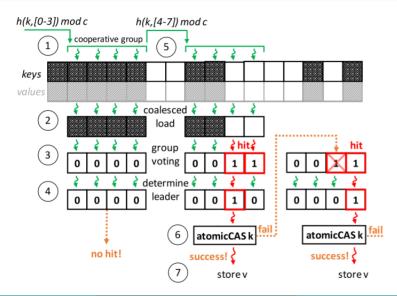
WarpCore argues that open addressing with linear probing is more amenable to the SIMT execution model on GPUs

Linked lists are cache-inefficient and lock-free insertion and deletion of nodes in linked lists is complicated because of the ABA problem

Parallel probing scheme

- Mapping each thread to a key will lead to a different probing sequence for threads in a warp, leading to non-coalesced global memory accesses
- Can use an entire warp of 32 threads per input key k, such that each thread with lane ID t probes a different hash table position $h(k,t) \mod c$, but linear probing suffers from clustering
- WarpCore uses double hashing with an inner intra-warp linear probing, double hashing determines the starting offset for linear probing

Example of Insertion Operation with WarpCore



References



Mark Moir and Nir Shavit. Concurrent Data Structures In Handbook of Data Structures and Applications, Chapman and Hall/CRC Press, 2004.