Contextual Concurrency Control

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Locks in everywhere!

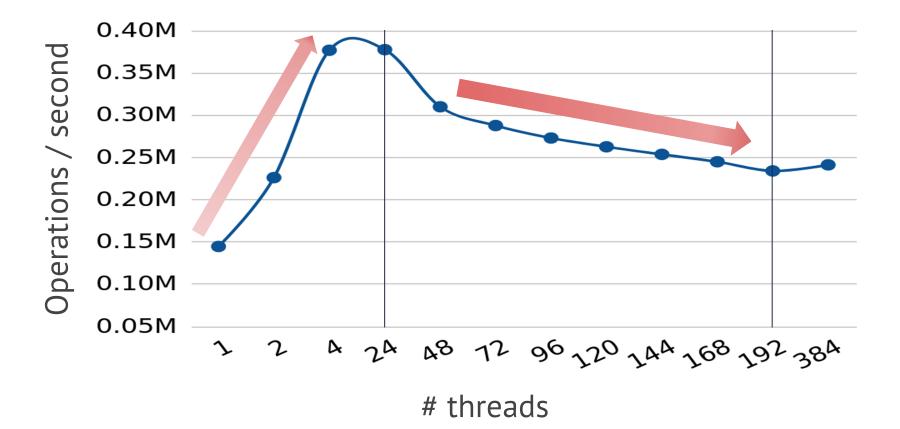


Synchronization mechanisms

Basic building block for designing applications

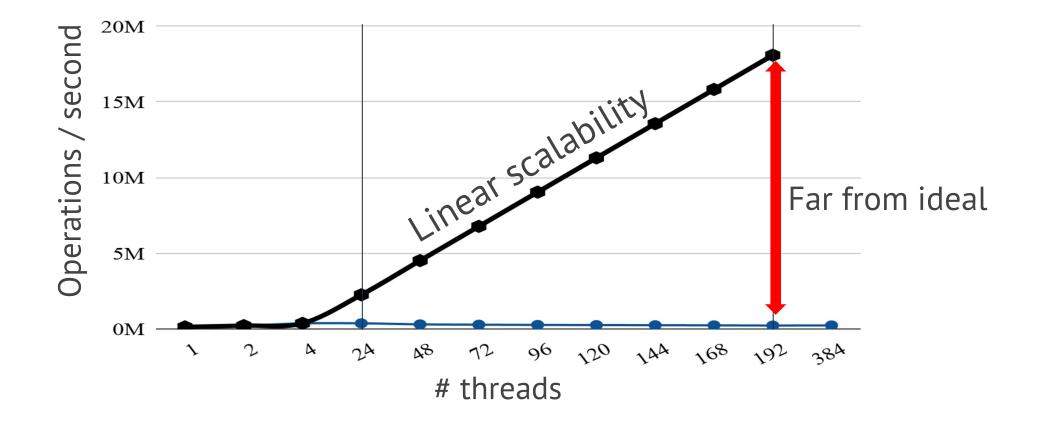
Locks are critical for application performance

Typical application performance on a multicore machine



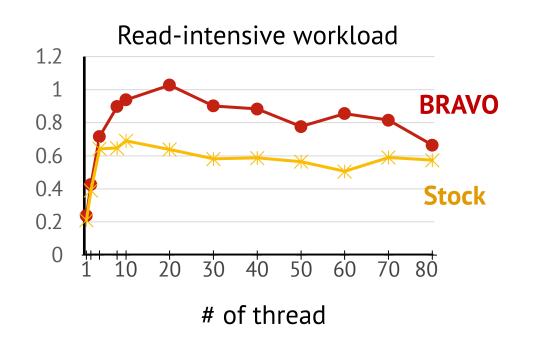
Locks are critical for application scalability

Typical application performance on a manycore machine



One lock cannot rule all of them!

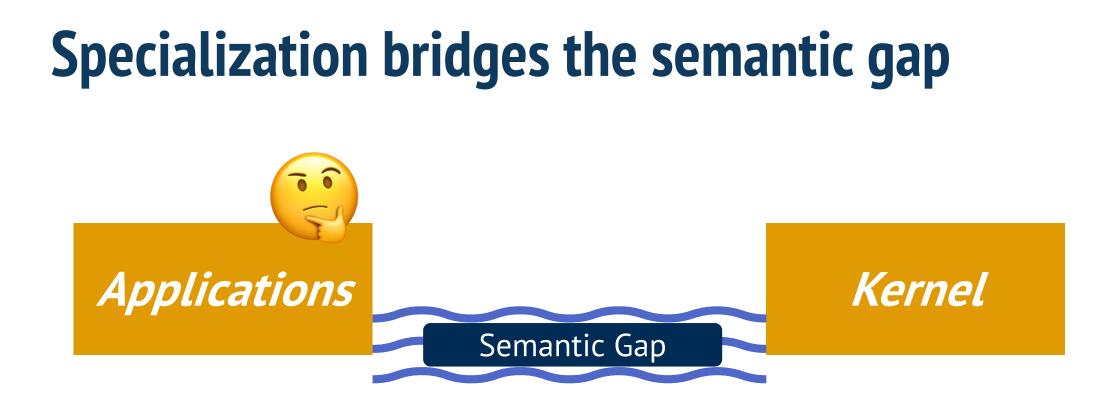
Evolving hardware

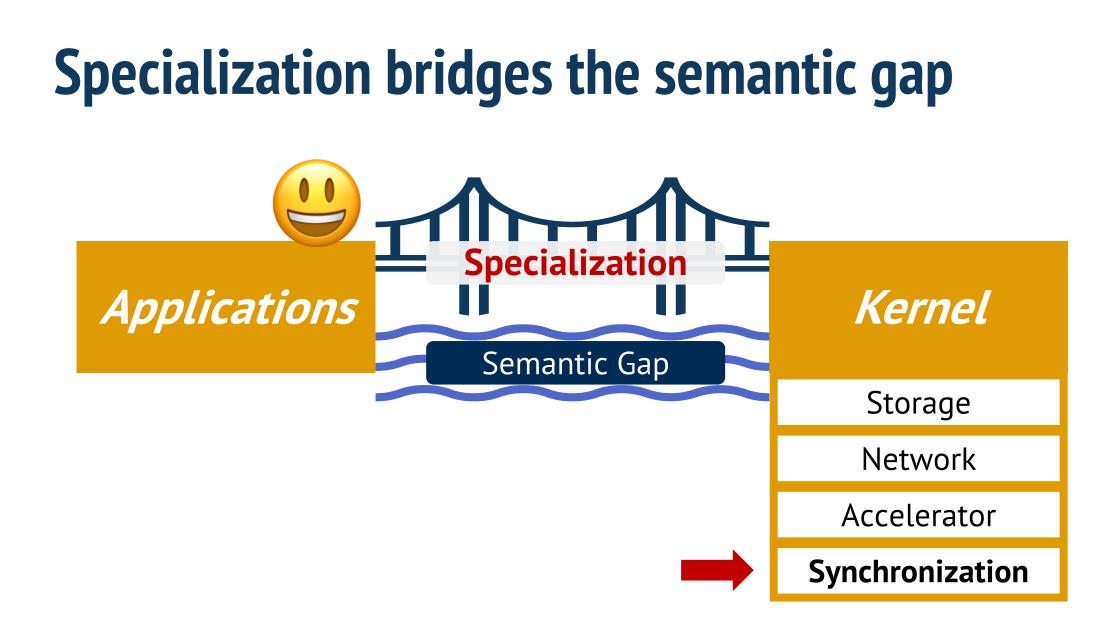




Various applications & requirements







Can we tune lock policy on the fly?

Contextual Concurrency Control

New paradigm to tune synchronization mechanism

from user space

Need for user-defined locks on the fly

Lock implementations are application agnostic

Only few locks contend for a given application

May need a variant of a lock based on the workload

CONCORD Framework

Lock implementations are application agnostic

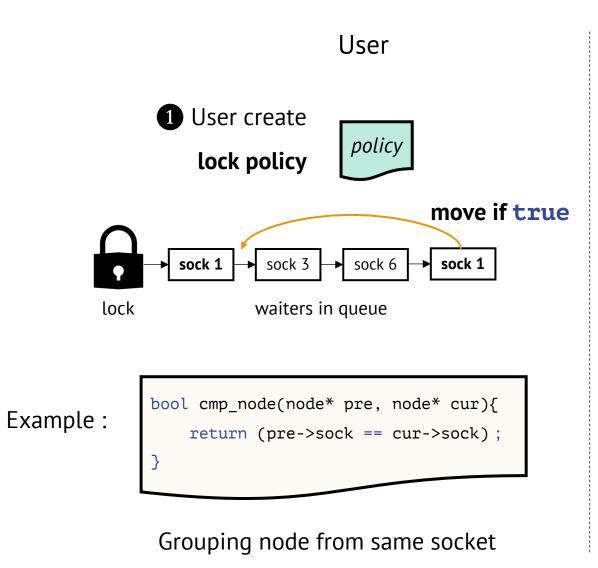
 \rightarrow Let application developers to tune locks in the kernel on the fly

Only few locks contend for a given application

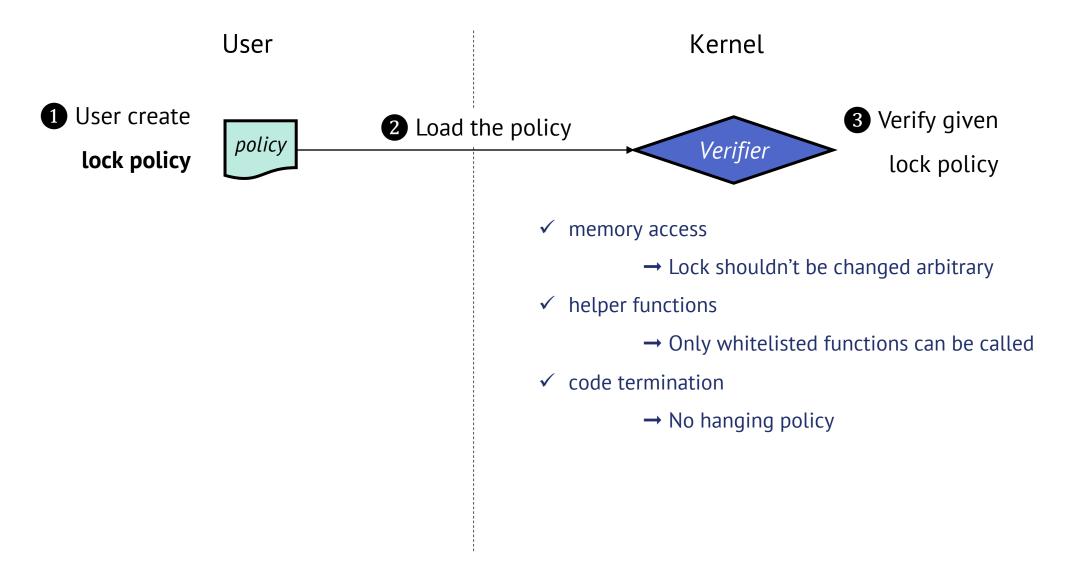
→ Modify set of locks at various granularities

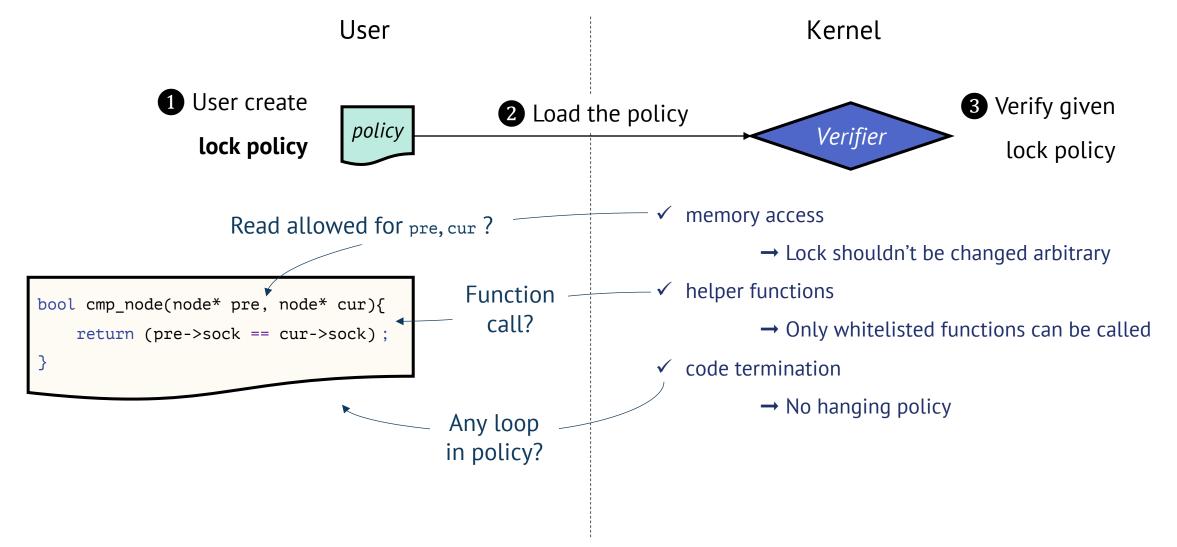
May need a variant of a lock based on the workload

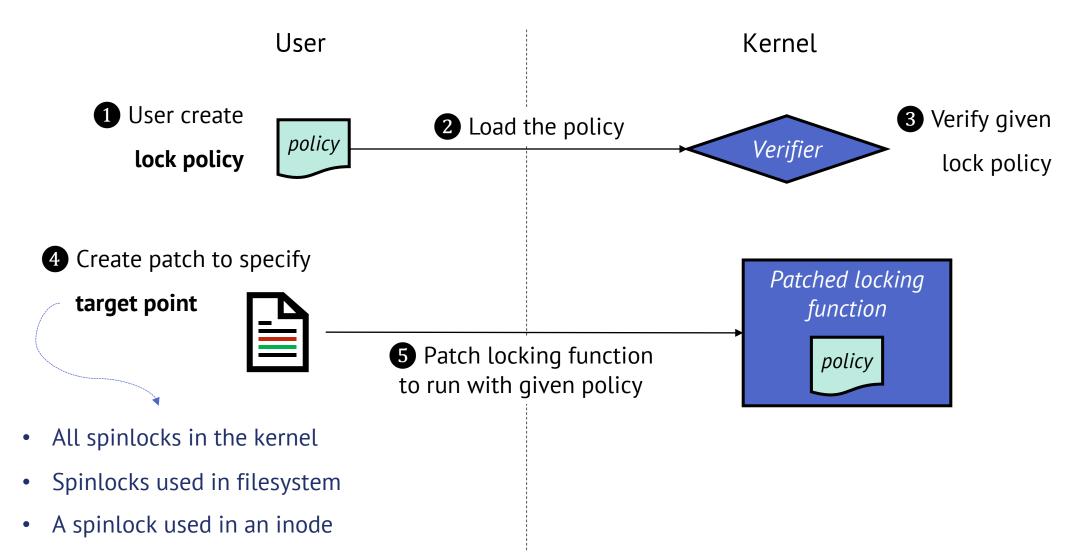
 \rightarrow Exposes set of APIs to modify lock algorithms



Kernel







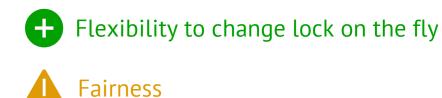
Safety and APIs

Reordering waiters

- bool cmp node(lock, node, node){} ٠
- bool skip_shuffle(lock, node){} ٠

Profiling

- void lock_acquire(lock){}
- void lock_contended(lock){}
- void lock_acquired(lock){} •
- void lock_release(lock){} •



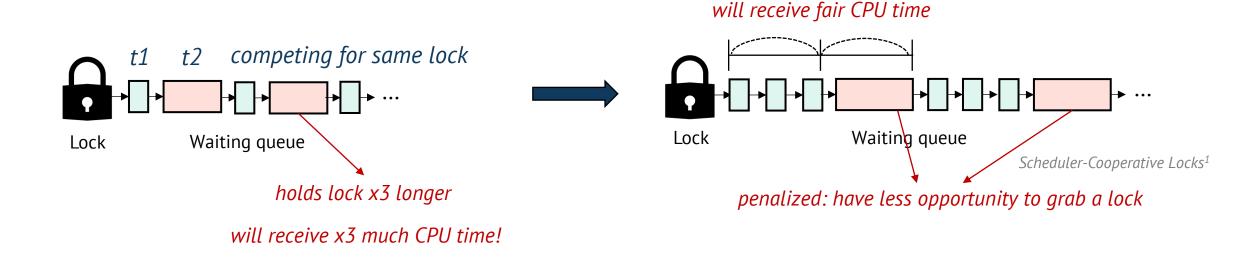


+ Fine-grained lock profiling



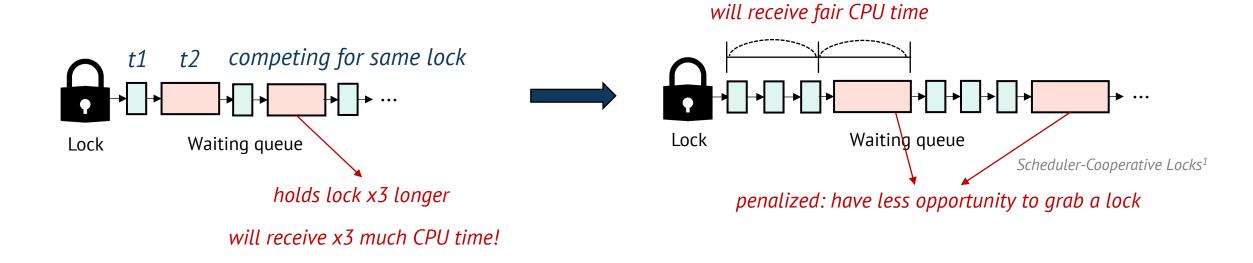
Ensure mutual exclusion & safe from crashing





1. Avoiding Scheduler Subversion using Scheduler-Cooperative Locks. Eurosys'20



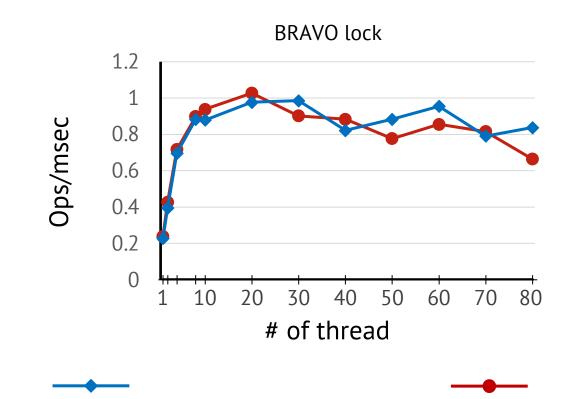


Will this fairness always beneficial?

Let application developers enforce this fairness only when needed

1. Avoiding Scheduler Subversion using Scheduler–Cooperative Locks. Eurosys'20

Overhead of CONCORD



- Overhead of CONCORD-lock compared to pre-compiled lock
- Almost negligible overhead (And now we can change lock on the fly!)

Conclusions

- Kernel locks are critical for application performance and scalability
 - Out of the reach of application developers
- C3 : Contextual Concurrency Control
 - Let userspace application to fine tune concurrency control
- CONCORD Framework
 - Exposes a set of APIs
 - Apply to specific target locks (instead of all locks in the kernel)
 - Change locks on the fly with minimal overhead