MgCrab **Transaction Crabbing for Live Migration in Deterministic Database Systems**















Shao-Kan Pi¹ Meng-Kai Liao¹

Ching Tsai¹ Aaron J. Elmore² Shan-Hung Wu¹

National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan¹ University of Chicago²

Outline

- Background
 - Elastic Load Balancing
- Related Work
- MgCrab
- Experiments Results
- Conclusion

Motivation: Hot Tenants

• An application gains flash crowds originating from viral popularity.



Solution: Adding More Resource by Increasing Provisioning Machines



How to Move Data On The Fly While Keeping Serving Transactions?



For such cases, we need Live Migrations techniques!

Given a migration plan, to migrate data from the source node to the destination node while **continuously serving** incoming transactions.

Outline

- Background
- Related Work
 - Source-based Approaches
 - Destination-based Approaches
 - Either-node Approaches
- MgCrab
- Experiments Results
- Conclusion

3 Variants

- Based on how they serve incoming transactions...
 - Source-based approaches
 - Destination-based approaches
 - Either-node approaches



Source-based Approaches

• Pro

- The cache is warm
- Data are likely available on source nodes.
- Example: Albatross [VLDB'11]



Con: Termination Problem

- Updates are always on the source node.
 - Need to be sent to the destination node.



Con: Termination Problem

- Updates are always on the source node.
 - Need to be sent to the destination node.



Con: Termination Problem

- Updates are always on the source node.
 - Need to be sent to the destination node.
- Needs a stop-and-copy in the end => service downtime



Destination-based Approaches

- Pros
 - Always terminates since it doesn't have to migrate any update.
- Example: Zephyr [SIGMOD'12]





Con: **Slow** in the Beginning

 Due to the absence of data records on the destination node -> Needs to wait for pulling



Either-Node Approaches

- Running transactions on one of nodes by carefully tracking the locations of records.
 - By default, it runs txs on destination node.
- Example: Squall [SIGMOD'15]



If a Tx Can Get Its All Data on the Source => Run the Tx on the Source

- Pros
 - Slightly avoids high latency in the beginning
 - No need for an atomic handover

| Tx 2: R(B, C), W(C) |
|---------------------|
| Execute |
| Source Node |
| ВС |
| |



Not Enough to Solve the Slowdown in the Beginning

 It is still possible that a transaction needs data spanning on the source and the destination.



Outline

- Background
- Related Work
- MgCrab
 - Main Idea: both-nodes approaches
 - Foreground Pushes (Crabbing)
 - Two-Phase Background Pushes
- Experiments Results
- Conclusion

MgCrab: A Both-Node Approach

- Main Idea: how about running transactions on both nodes?
 - Like creating a on-demand replica.



MgCrab Lets Both Nodes Response to Clients

• Benefit: the faster machine hides the latency of the slow machine.



In the Beginning, MgCrab Hides the Latency of Pulling

• Totally avoids the problem of destination-based approaches.



Later, Running Txs on the Destination is Faster (scaling-out)

Because the destination usually has lower loading.





Wait, it sounds costly! How to ensure consistency?

Consistency across replicas can be easily achieved with determinism!



How Exactly Do We Migrate Data?

Foreground Pushes: Crabbing

• Migrates frequently used records via normal transactions.



Foreground Pushes: Crabbing

• Migrates frequently used records via normal transactions.



Background Pushes

• For the rest of data (cold data), MgCrab migrates them in chunks using dedicated transactions.





Pitfall: Background pushes are more costly than we thought

How Previous Work Do Background Pushes

- Workflow in a background push:
 - **1.** Locks all records in the chunk.
 - 2. Copies and sends the records to the destination.
 - 3. Applies the records to the storage.
 - 4. Unlocks the records.

Blocks bunches of transactions

We Propose: **Two-Phase** Background Pushes

 Observation: only needs to lock records when the records are applied to the destination.
Phase1 on Source Node

1. Copies and sends the records to the destination.

Phase 2 on Destination Node

- **2.** Locks all records in the chunk.
- 3. Applies the **untouched** records to the storage.
- 4. Unlocks the records.

- BG Push Phase 1: copies and sends data to the destination without acquiring locks.
 - The data may be inconsistent.



• Other transactions can still modify the records in the chunk.



• Other transactions can still modify the records in the chunk.





- BG Push Phase 2: abandons outdated records, and then lock and apply the rest records to the storage
 - The outdated records have been migrated in foreground pushes anyway.



More Discussions & Optimizations

- Generalization
 - Range queries?
 - Distributed transactions?
 - Concurrent migration plans?
- Optimizations
 - Catching-up phase & Caught-up phase
- See the paper!

Outline

- Background
- Related Work
- MgCrab
- Experiments Results
- Conclusion

Settings

- Baselines
 - Stop-and-copy
 - Squall (either-node approach)
- Benchmarks
 - YCSB
 - TPC-C

Scaling-out in TPC-C



Scaling-out in YCSB



Consolidation in YCSB



Conclusion for Takeaway

- Either-node approaches do not solve all the problems.
- Both-node execution simplifies design and reduces impact.
 - Because determinism achieves lightweight replication.
- Background pushes have pitfall, and thus we divide a push into two phases.



Let's meet at poster 26.2 later!

