Discussion: Minimizing Commit Latency of Transactions in Geo-Replicated Data Stores

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Summary

Feature:

• Low latency serializable transactions on geo-replicated data stores

Technique:

- Timestamps by local loosely synchronized clocks
- Shared Log
- Optimizing average commit latency by linear programming
- Configurable f-resilient

Evaluation:

• On Amazon AWS with 5 geo-replicated data centers

Discussion

Pros:

- High performance
- Novel theory, proof, and protocol
- Flexibility
 - Separate serializability from liveness
 - Able to manual tuning parameters
- Evaluation on AWS geo-replicated systems
- Use shared log for higher stability
- Extensive analysis
- Well organized

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Cons:

- Irrealistic assumptions
- Performance sensitive to clock sync.
- Not the best in all the three evaluation aspects
- Experiment only over 10 mins
- Proof not formal
- Liveness and commit latency tradeoff
- Tedious configuration process
- No test under failure
- Focus on average, not tail latency
- Storage overhead of the full copy shared logs
- Limited discussion on Grace Time/ f-value

Questions

- A quick poll: Does the "Proof of lower-bound " seem formal to you?
- Different servers have different commit speed, a good idea?
- It would be interesting to see how multiple applications running on cloud platform and requiring different average commit latencies can be handled.
- Any additional questions or comments?