Serializability with Snapshot Isolation under the Hood

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Transaction Processing in Replicated Databases

- Database Replication:
  - Higher availability & better performance
  - Maintaining consistency is challenging
- State of the Art:
  - GSI Replicated Databases.
  - Each replica uses Snapshot Isolation (SI).
- Goal:
  - Global One Copy Serializability.
  - Overall Isolation level stronger than the one of individual components.
  - The replicated system keeps its performance.

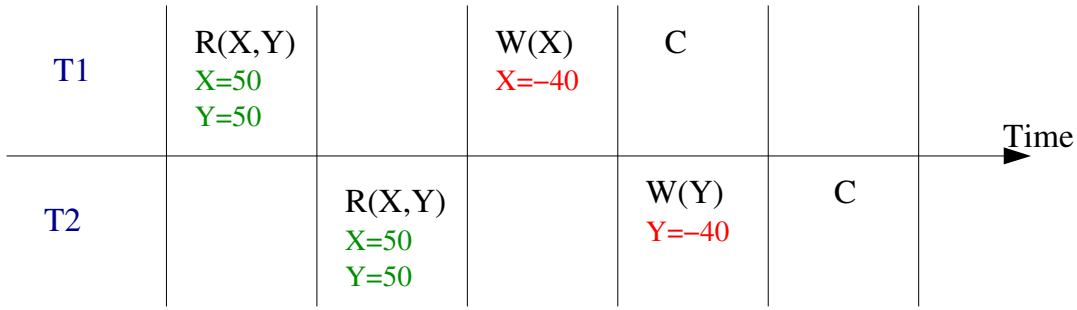
Transaction Isolation

- Isolation is a correctness criterion.
- Concurency in the system.
- Multiple levels of isolation:
  - Snapshot Isolation.
  - Serializability.

Snapshot Isolation

- Multi-version concurency control technique.
- Important
  - Used by Oracle, SQL Server, Postgres.
  - Sometimes the strongest isolation level available.
- Attractive performance
  - Read-only transactions never block or abort.
  - Read-only transactions do not block update transactions.
  - Updates might abort. Certification needed.
    - checks for ww conflicts.

Anomaly under SI



- X,Y balance of two bank accounts.
- T_1 and T_2 withdraw 90E from X and Y
- Logic: $X + Y > 0$

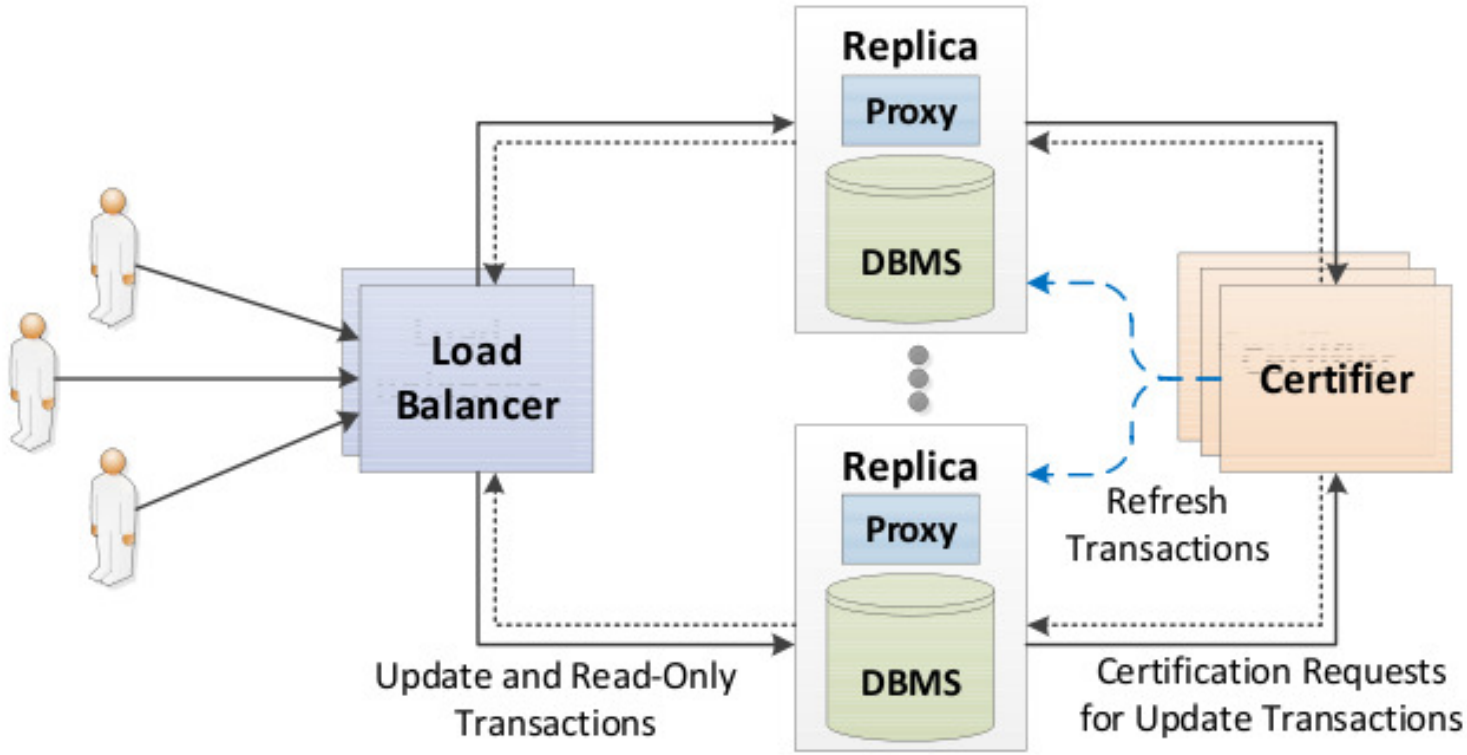
Serializability

- The strongest DB isolation level.
- Illusion that transactions execute serially.
- Programmers want it:
  - As if there is no concurrency.
- Commonly implemented with 2PL.
  - expensive to achieve.

Serializability under SI

- Centralized Database
  - Modify database engine, SSI.
  - Use Fekete's work [SIGMOD 2008, best paper]
- Replicated Databases
  - Open question.
  - No modification of the database engine.

GSI Replicated Database



SQL Transaction Model

A. SELECT *expr_list* FROM R_i WHERE *pred*(R_i)
B. INSERT INTO R_i VALUES (*values*)
C. UPDATE R_i SET *attr_values* WHERE *pred*(R_i)
D. DELETE FROM R_i WHERE *pred*(R_i)
E. SELECT *agg*(*attr*) FROM R_i WHERE *pred*(R_i)
GROUP BY *group_attr*
HAVING *pred*(*agg*(*attr*))
F. SELECT *attr_list*
FROM $R_1 \ldots R_i \ldots R_n$
WHERE *pred*(R_1) LOP ...LOP *pred*(R_i) LOP ... LOP *pred*(R_n)
LOP *pred*($attr_{i,j}$, $attr_{i,j}$)
G. SELECT *attr_list*
FROM $R_1 \ldots R_i \ldots R_n$, *SQ*
WHERE *pred*(R_1) LOP ...LOP *pred*(R_i) LOP ... LOP *pred*(R_n)
LOP *pred*(*SQ*)
H. SELECT *attr_list*
FROM $R_1 \ldots R_i \ldots R_n$
WHERE *pred*(R_1) LOP ...LOP *pred*(R_i) LOP ... LOP *pred*(R_n)
LOP *pred*($attr_i$, *SQ*)

1SR Needs Readsets

- Snapshot Isolation (SI) $\rightarrow$ Generalized Snapshot Isolation (GSI)
  - Certify Writeset
- Serializability $\rightarrow$ One Copy Serializability (1SR)
  - Certify Writeset
  - Certify Readset
- Yes, we have a proof :) !

Writesets

- The Writeset contains modified tuples
- Introduced by UPDATE, INSERT and DELETE
- Includes both new and old tuple values
- All Writesets are managed at the Certifier.
- Writeset certification is required by both GSI and 1SR
  - checks if concurrent transactions modify the same item.
- It is well knows how to manage the Writesets

Readsets

- The Readset contains read tuples.
- Introduced by SELECT, UPDATE, INSERT and DELETE.
- Readsets certification is required by 1SR.
  - checks if a transaction reads data modified by concurrent transactions.
- Readset identification is challenging:
  - never done in replicated setting.

So far ...

- We introduced SI.
- Sometimes SI is not enough !
- Serializability needed:
  - Keep the nice properties of SI.
  - Open Problem for replicated databases:
    - Readset management is difficult!

Main Contribution - Readset Management

- Framework to manage the Readsets
- Observation: each SQL statement has a predicate.
  - The Readset is a list of predicates.
  - Readset certification requires predicate evaluation.

Certifier Design

- The Certifier manages:
  - persistent log.
  - main memory database, CertDB.
- The log is used for durability.
- CertDB is used to certify update transactions.
- CertDB maintains the Writeset of recently committed transactions.
- CertDB schema:
  - the replicated schema.
  - commit version attribute.

Readset Certification

- Intuition:
  - Ensures that if the transaction executes on the latest version it would read the same values.
- Implementation:
  - Replica identifies the Readset:
    - Extracts the predicate of each SQL statement.
  - Replica expresses the readset as certification queries.
  - The certification queries are evaluated on CertDB
  - Empty conflict set indicates serializable execution

Concurrent Transactions

- Snapshot versions at originating replicas.
- Commit version of a transaction.
- CertDB contains the writesets and committed version.
- Consider a transaction T:
  - $version > snapshot(T)$

Readset for SELECT Statements

Transaction Queries

A. `SELECT` *expr_list* `FROM` R_i `WHERE` $pred(R_i)$

Certification Queries

A. `SELECT * FROM` R_i `WHERE` $pred(R_i)$ `AND` $version > snapshot(T)$

Readset for UPDATE Statements

Transaction Queries

B. `INSERT INTO` R_i `VALUES` (*values*)
C. `UPDATE` R_i `SET` *attr_values* `WHERE` *pred*(R_i)
D. `DELETE FROM` R_i `WHERE` *pred*(R_i)

Certification Queries

B. `SELECT * FROM` R_i `WHERE` $pk = @pk$ `AND`
$version > snapshot(T)$
C. `SELECT * FROM` R_i `WHERE` *pred*(R_i) `AND`
$version > snapshot(T)$
D. `SELECT * FROM` R_i `WHERE` *pred*(R_i) `AND`
$version > snapshot(T)$

Certifying the Readset also detects ww conflicts.

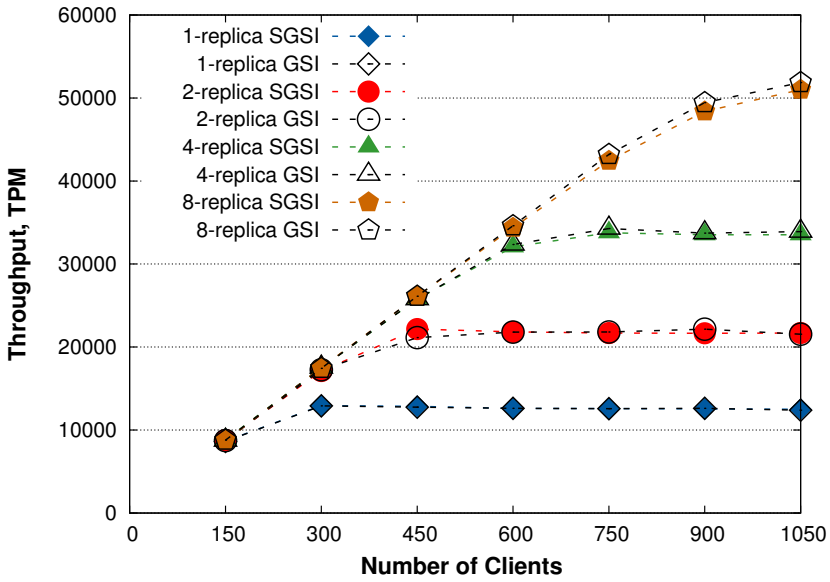
Experimental Study

- Impact of providing 1SR vs. GSI:
  - Lower throughput and higher response time
  - Higher abort rate
- Replicated system with 8 replicas
- TPC-W

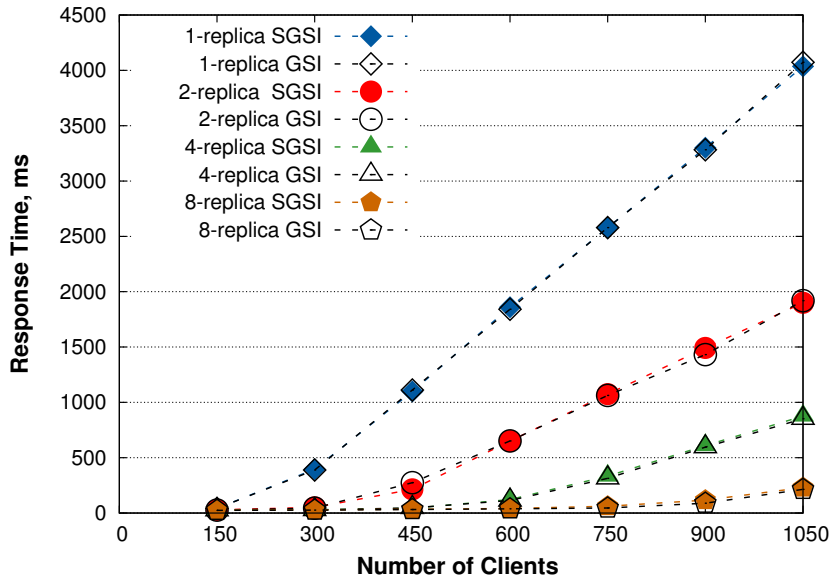
Workload

- TPC-W benchmark:
  - Web application (online book store).
  - Database schema consists of 10 tables.
  - Database size: 800 MB.
  - 13 transaction templates.
  - Ordering Mix(50% updates).
  - Browsing Mix (5% updates).
- Metrics:
  - Transactions per minute (TPM).
  - Response time.
  - Abort rate.

Scaling of SGSI with Replication Degree

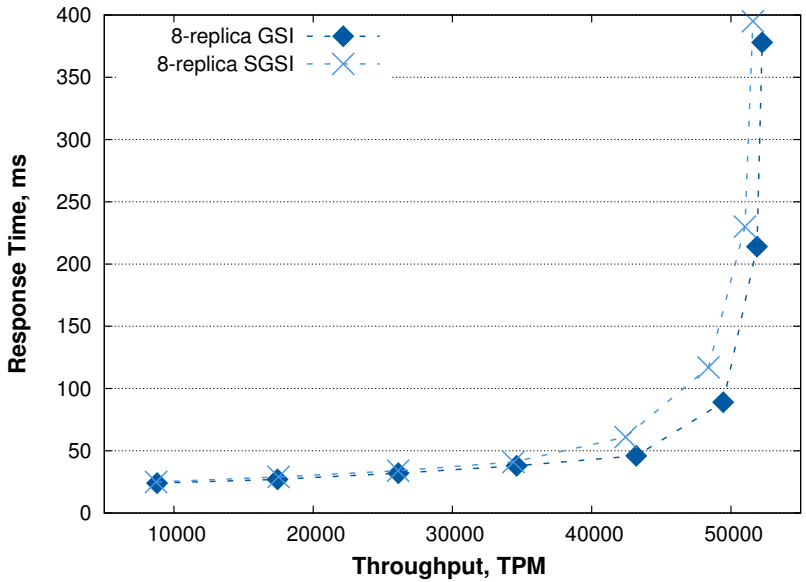


Throughput of TPC-W
Shopping Mix (20% updates)

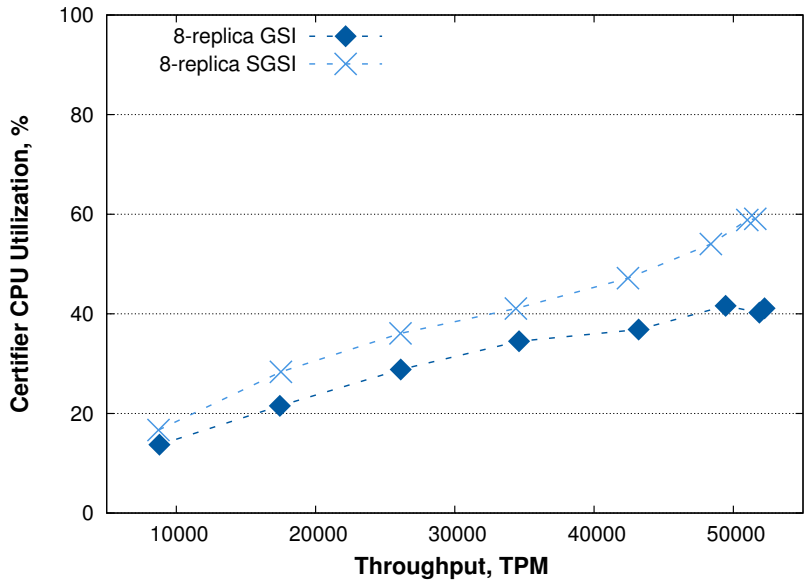


Resp. Time of TPC-W
Shopping Mix (20% updates)

Comparing SGSI to GSI

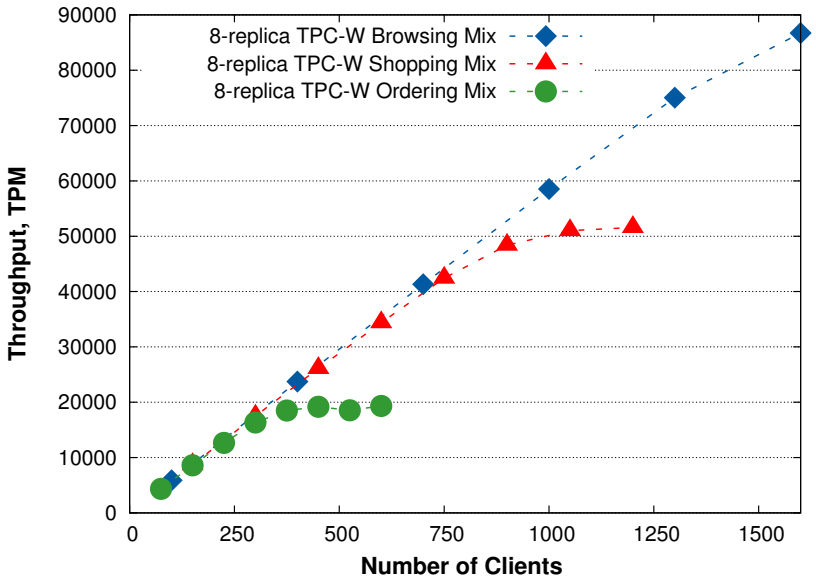


Scalability of TPC-W Shopping Mix (20% updates)

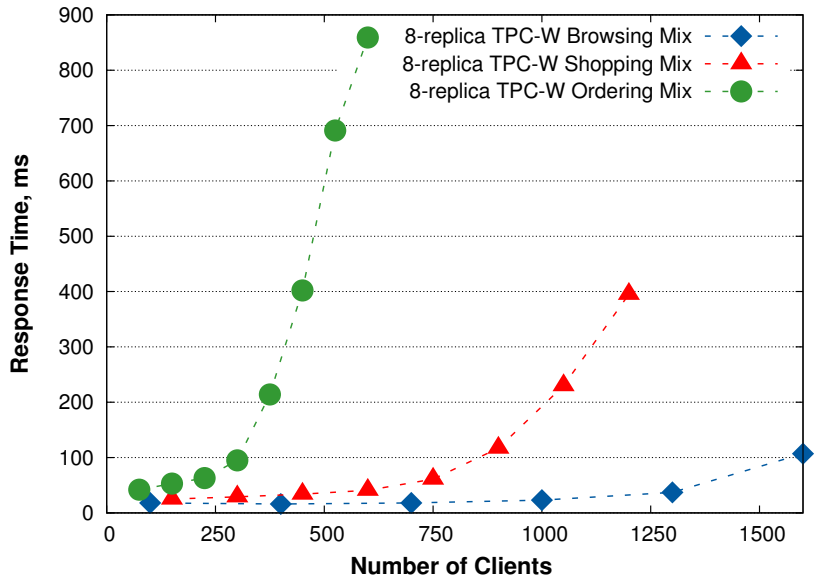


Certifier CPU Utilization TPC-W Shopping Mix (20% updates)

Sensitivity to Update Transaction Ratio

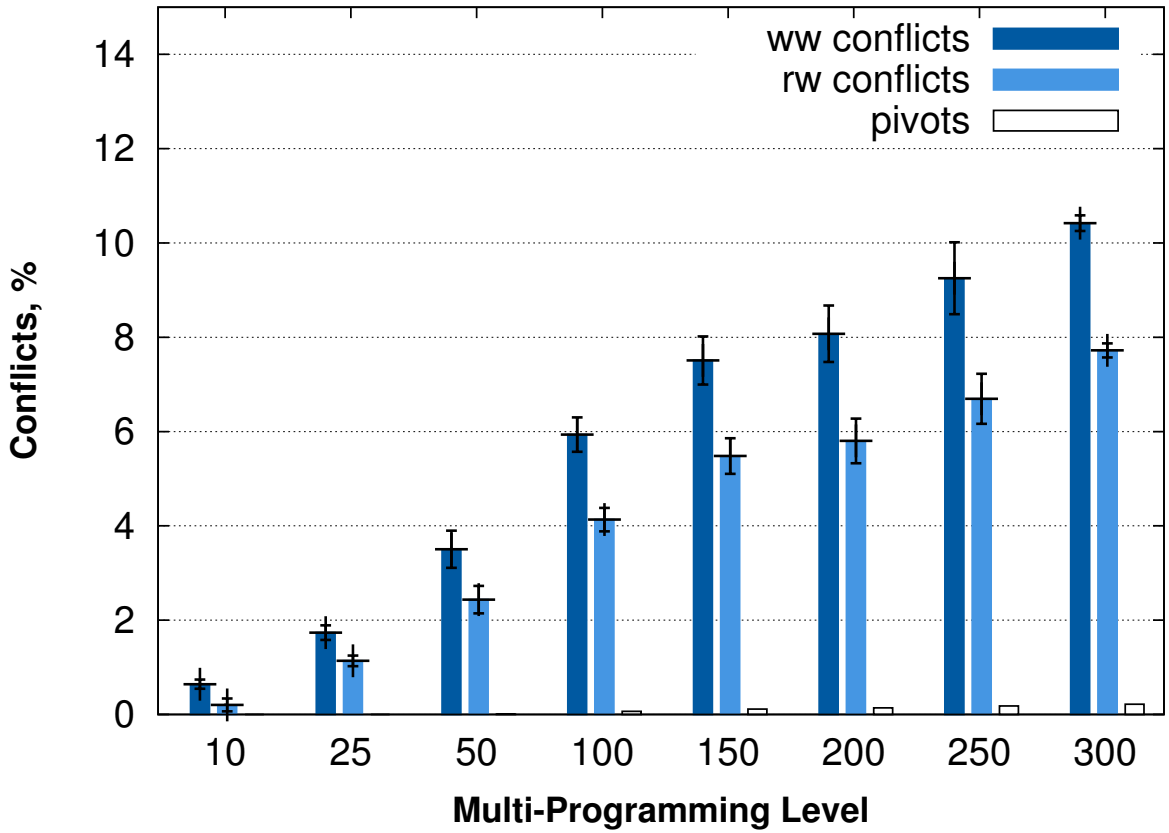


SGSI Throughput of TPC-W Mixes.



SGSI Response Time of TPC-W Mixes.

Abort Analysis via SmallBank



Conclusions

- We introduced SGSI:
  - 1SR in replicated databases.
- Built a replicated system prototype.
- Evaluated SGSI performance:
  - SGSI is practical.
  - Moderated cost for small degree of replication.
  - Performance and scaling is comparable with GSI.

Readset for Joins

Transaction Queries

F. `SELECT` *attr_list*
`FROM` $R_1 ... R_i ... R_n$
`WHERE` $pred(R_1)$ `LOP` ... `LOP` $pred(R_i)$ `LOP` ... `LOP` $pred(R_n)$
`LOP` $pred(attr_{i,j}, attr_{i,j})$

Certification Queries

for each relation R_i
F. `SELECT * FROM` R_i `WHERE` $version > snapshot(T)$

- An upper-set of the Readset is certified.
- False aborts.

Data Managed at Certifier

- Accuracy depends the data maintained at the Certifier.
- False aborts:
  - not enough information to evaluate the Readset
- Solution:
  - manage a copy of relations at the Certifier.
  - physical design tuning problem.

Extended CertDB

- Each data item has several instances.
- New instace: UPDATE,INSERT.
- Expired: UPDATE, DELETE.
- Each copy relation is augmented with V_{Start} and V_{End}.
- V_{Start} and V_{End} determine:
  - update predicate: $upd(R_i)$.
  - visibility predicate: $vis(R_i)$.

Extended Certification

Transaction Queries

F. SELECT *attr_list*
FROM $R_1 \ldots R_i \ldots R_n$
WHERE $pred(R_1)$ LOP ...LOP $pred(R_i)$ LOP ... LOP $pred(R_n)$
LOP $pred(attr_{i,j}, attr_{i,j})$

Certification Queries

SELECT * FROM $R_{1_C} \ldots R_{i_C} \ldots R_{n_C}$
WHERE (*query_pred*)
AND ($upd(R_{1_C})$ ...OR $upd(R_{i_C})$ ... OR $upd(R_{n_C})$)
AND ($vis(R_{1_C})$ ...AND $vis(R_{i_C})$ ... AND $vis(R_{n_C})$)