

Building High Throughput Permissioned Blockchain Fabrics: Challenges and Opportunities



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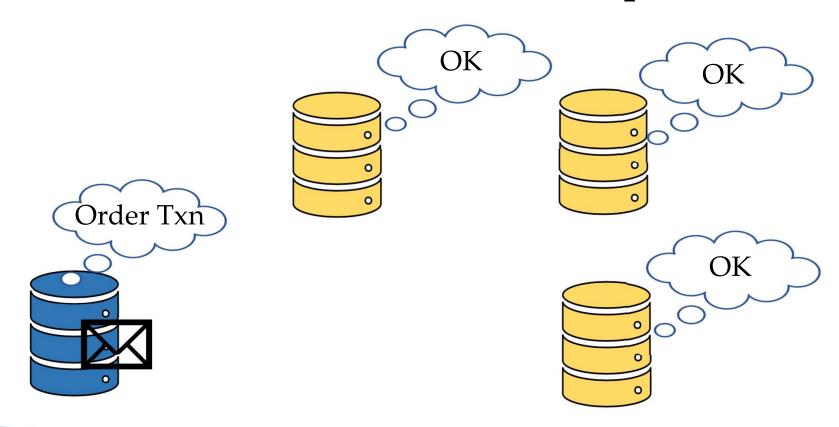
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At the core of *any* Blockchain application is a Byzantine Fault-Tolerant (BFT) consensus protocol.







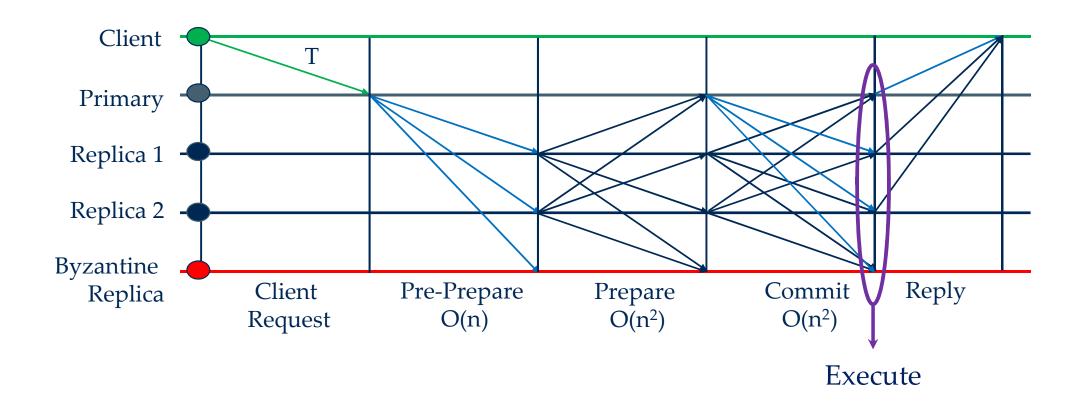
Practical Byzantine Fault-Tolerance (PBFT) [OSDI'99]

- First *practical* Byzantine Fault-Tolerant Protocol.
- Tolerates up to f failures in a system of 3f+1 replicas
- Requires three phases of which two necessitate quadratic communication complexity.
- Safety is always guaranteed and Liveness is guaranteed in periods of partial synchrony.





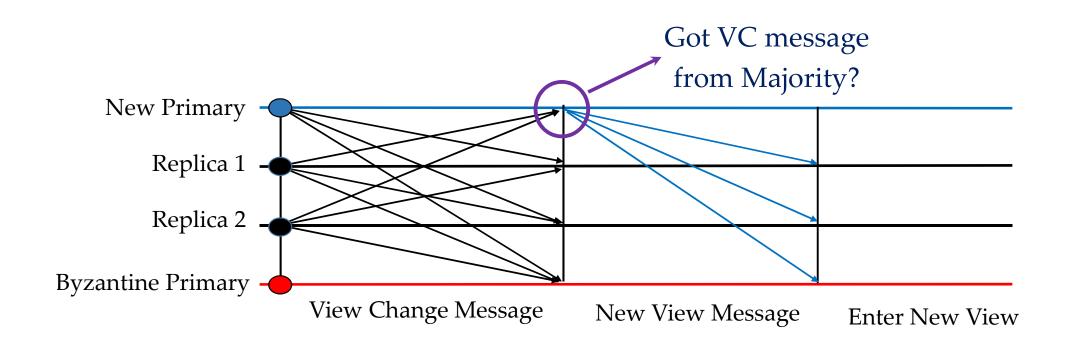
PBFT Civil Executions







PBFT Uncivil Execution: Primary Failure (View Change)







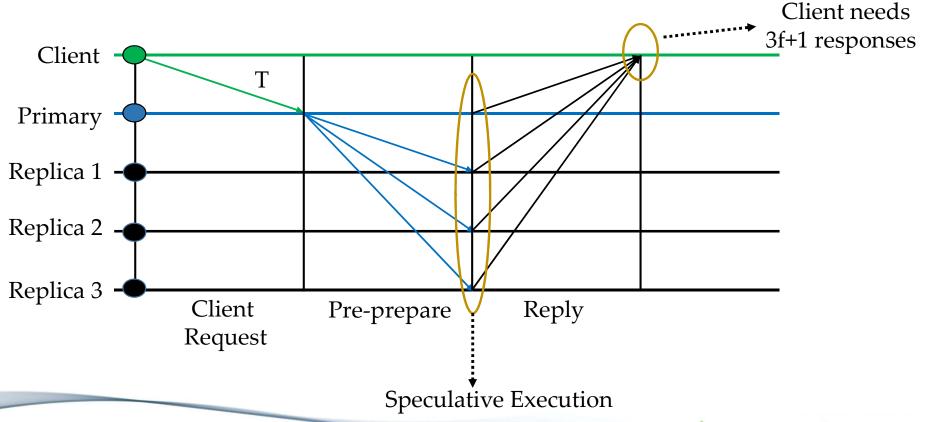
Speculative Byzantine Fault Tolerance (Zyzzyva) [SOSP'07]

- Speculation to achieve consensus in a single phase.
- Under *no failures*, it only requires linear communication complexity.
- Requires good clients, for ensuring same order across the replicas.
- Clients need matching responses from all the 3f+1 replicas.
- Just one crash failure is sufficient to severely impact throughput.
- Recently, proven unsafe!





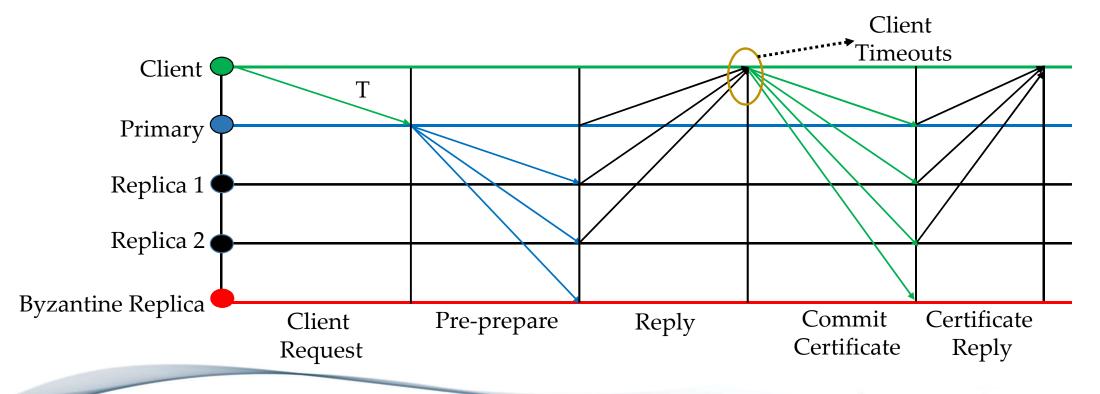
Zyzzyva Civil Executions







Zyzzyva under Failure of one Non-Primary Replica







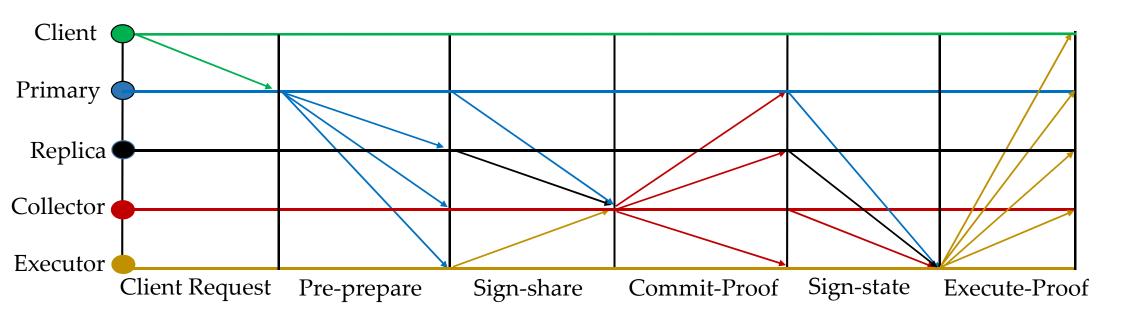
SBFT: A Scalable and Decentralized Trust Infrastructure [DSN'19]

- A safe alternate to Zyzzyva.
- Employs threshold signatures to linearize consensus \rightarrow Splits each O(n²) phase of PBFT into two linear phases.
- Requires $twin-paths \rightarrow$ fast-path and slow-path.
- Introduces notion of collectors and executors.





SBFT Civil Execution



Either no failures or c+1 crash failures for c>0 collectors if n=3f+2c+1





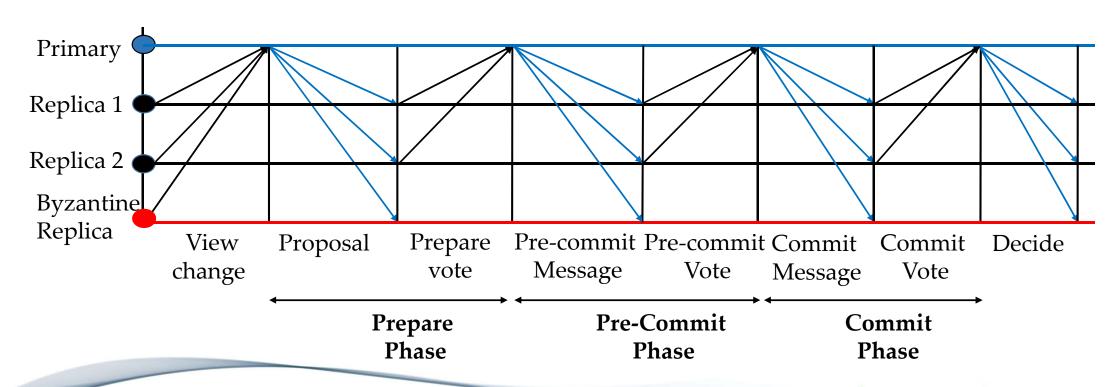
Hotstuff: BFT Consensus in the Lens of Blockchain [PODC'19]

- Splits each O(n²) phase of PBFT into two linear phases.
- Advocates leaderless consensus > Frequent primary replacement.
- Employs threshold signatures to linearize consensus \rightarrow enforces sequential processing.
- Two versions:
 - Basic Hotstuff: Primary switched at the end of each consensus.
 - Chained Hotstuff: Employs pipelining to ensure each phase run by a distinct primary.





Hotstuff Protocol



Other Proposed Byzantine-Fault Tolerant Designs

- 1) System consisting of $n \gg 3f+1$.
 - ➤ Q/U [SOSP'05] expects 5f+1 replicas.
- 2) Use of trusted components to prevent primary equivocation.
 - > AHL [SIGMOD'19]





Novel Byzantine Fault-Tolerant Protocols







Proof-of-Execution (PoE)

Three-phase Linear protocol

Speculative Execution

Out-of-Order Message Processing

No dependence on clients or trusted component.

No reliance on a twin-path design.

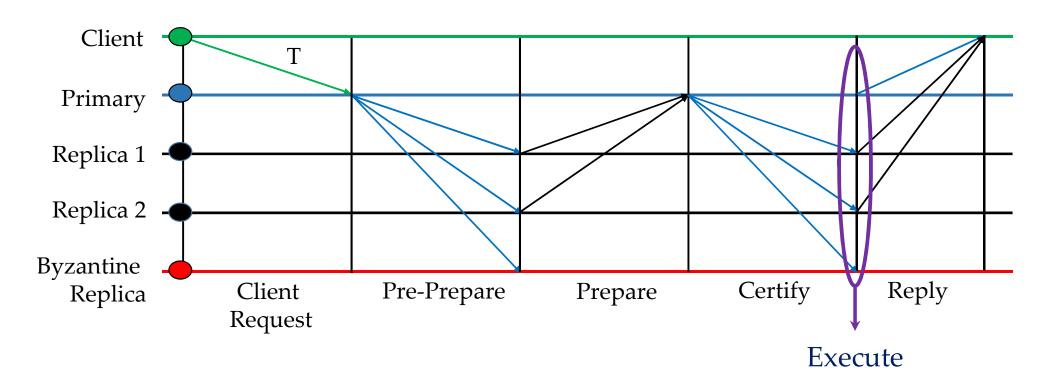


PoE vs Other Protocols

Protocol	Phases	Messages	Resilience	Requirements
ZYZZYVA	1	$\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{n})$	0	reliable clients and unsafe
PoE (our paper)	3	$\mathcal{O}(3\mathbf{n})$	f	sign. agnostic
PBFT	3	$\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{n} + 2\mathbf{n}^2)$	f	
HOTSTUFF	4	$\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{n} + 3\mathbf{n}^2)$	f	
HOTSTUFF-TS	8	$\mathcal{O}(8\mathbf{n})$	f	threshold sign.
SBFT	5	$\mathcal{O}(5\mathbf{n})$	0	threshold sign. and twin path



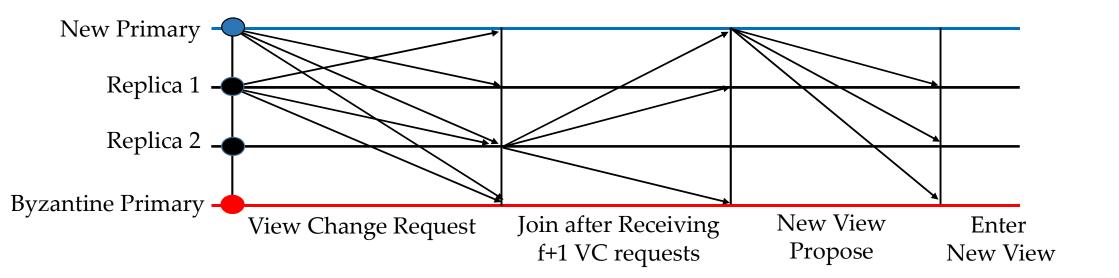
Proof-of-Execution (PoE)



n = 4 replicas and f <= 1



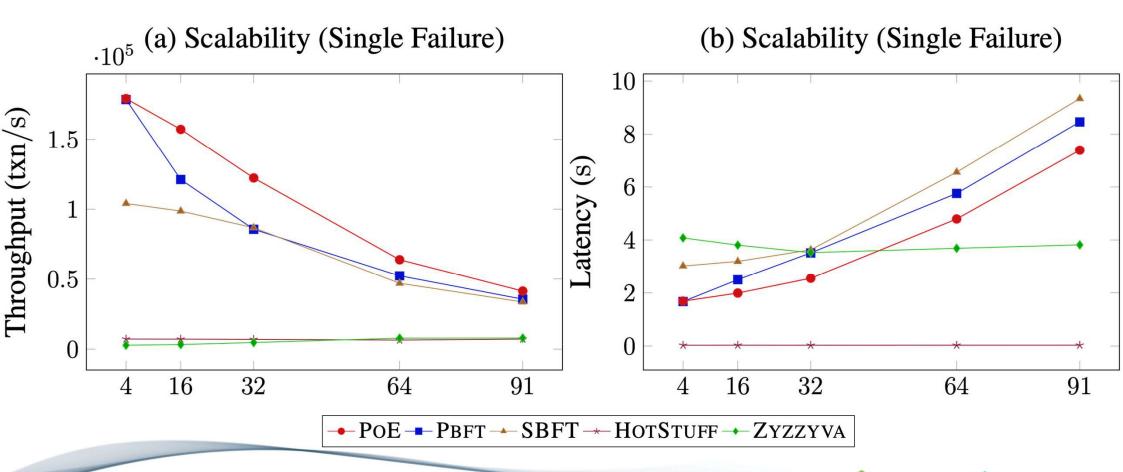
PoE View Change Protocol







PoE Scalability under Single Failure



Resilient Concurrency Control (RCC) Paradigm

Democracy \rightarrow Give all the replicas the power to be the primary.

Parallelism → Run multiple parallel instances of a BFT protocol.

Decentralization → Always there will be a set of ordered client requests.





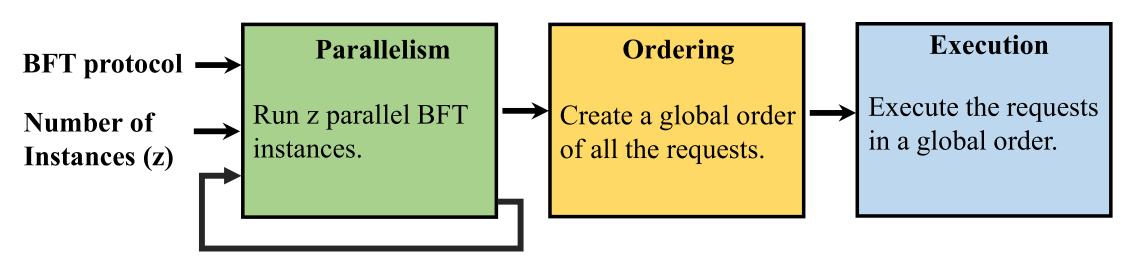
RCC Defense

Why should BFT protocols rely on just one primary replica?

Malicious primary can *throttle* the system throughput.

Malicious primary requires *replacemenat* \rightarrow fall in throughput.

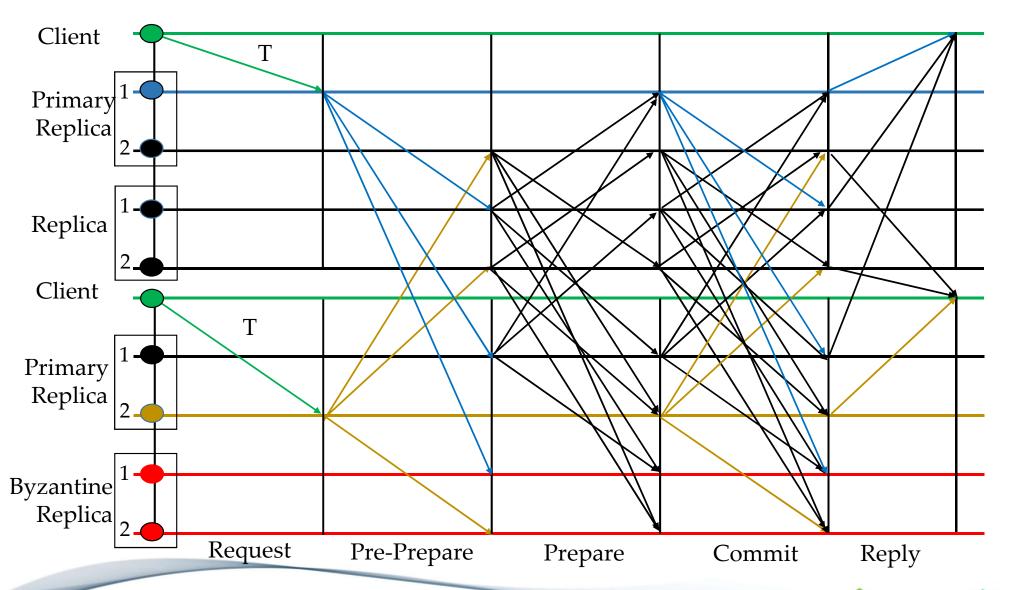
Resilient Concurrency Control Paradigm



RCC can employ several BFT protocols: PBFT, Zyzzyva, SBFT and PoE.







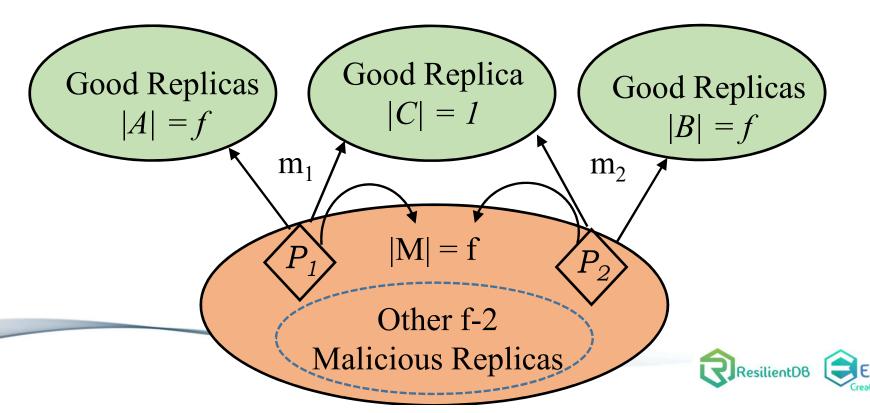
RCC using PBFT with 2 parallel instances on each replica ResilientDB

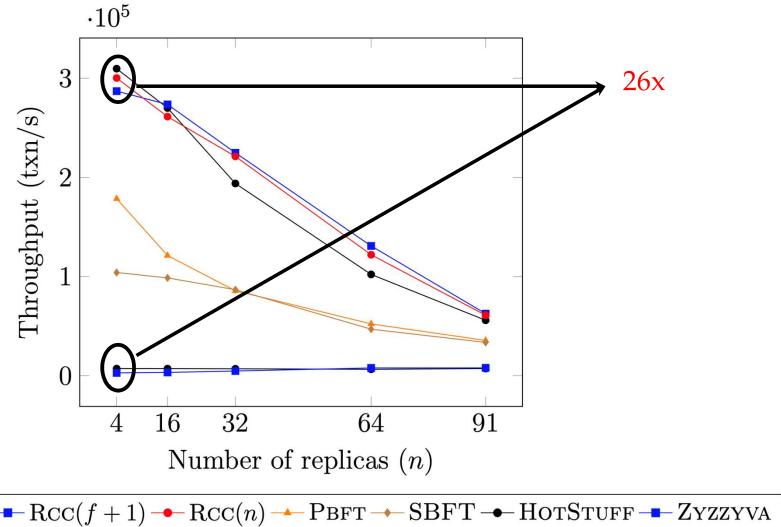


Colluding Primaries

Multiple malicious primaries can prevent liveness!

Solution → Optimistic Recovery through State Exchange.











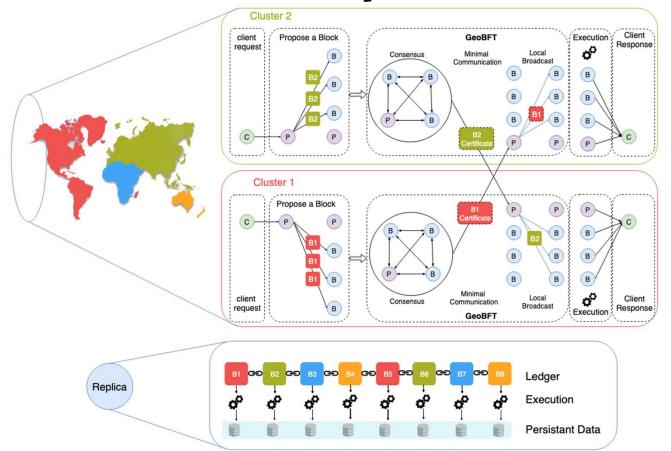


Global Scale Resilient Blockchain Fabric

- Traditional BFT protocols do not scale to geographically large distances.
- Blockchain requires decentralization → replicas can be far apart → expensive communication!
- The underlying BFT consensus protocol should be topology-aware.



Vision Geo-Scale Byzantine Fault-Tolerance

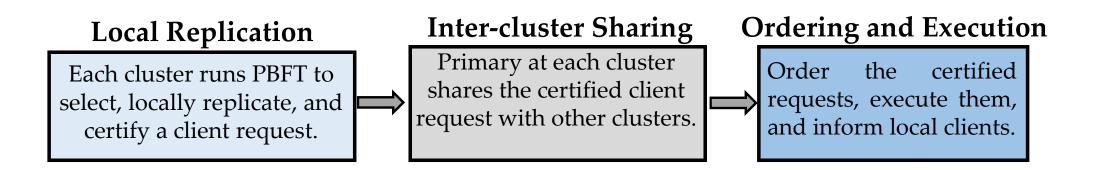






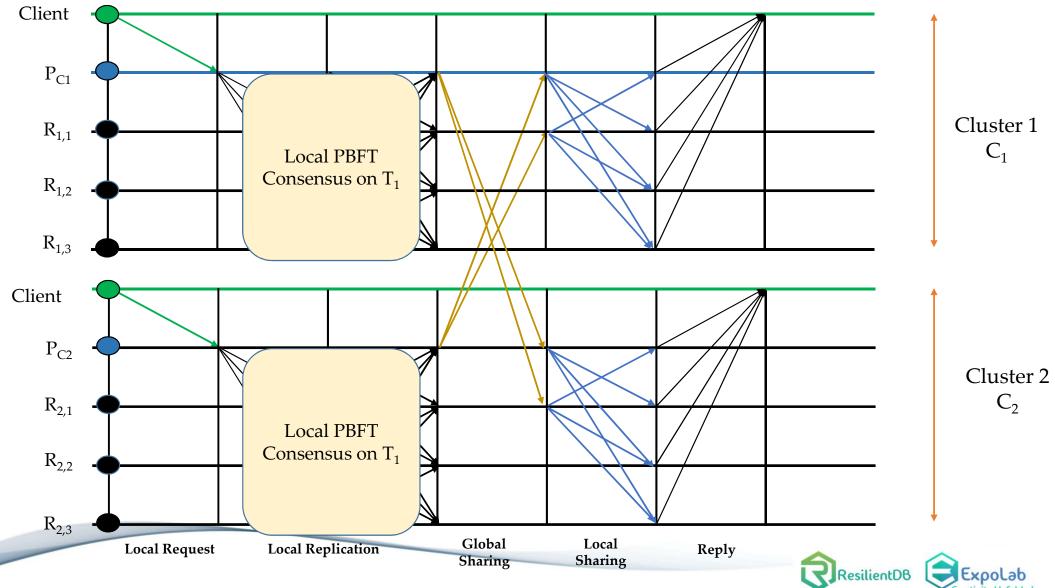
GeoBFT Protocol

GeoBFT is a topology-aware protocol, which groups replicas into clusters. Each cluster runs the PBFT consensus protocol, in parallel and independently.





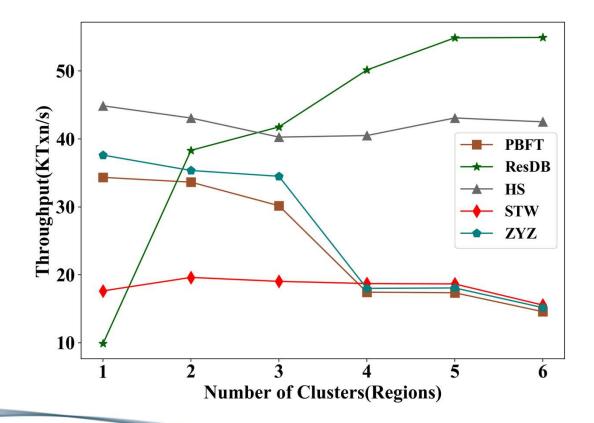




GeoBFT Takeaways

- To ensure common ordering → linear communication among the clusters is required.
- Primary replica at each cluster sends a secure certificate to f+1 replicas of every other cluster.
- Certificates guarantee common order for execution.
- If primary sends invalid certificates \rightarrow will be detected as malicious.

GeoBFT Scalability







Permissioned Blockchain Through the Looking Glass: Architectural and Implementation Lessons Learned

Visit at: https://resilientdb.com/







Why Should You Chose ResilientDB?

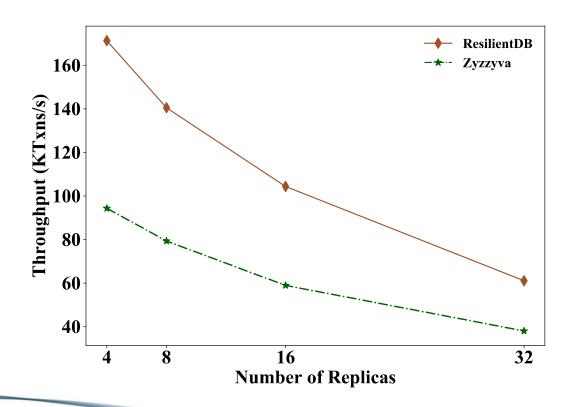
- 1) Bitcoin and Ethereum offer low throughputs of 10 txns/s.
- 2) Existing Permissioned Blockchain Databases still have low throughputs ($\frac{20K\ txns/s}{s}$).
- 3) Prior works blame BFT consensus as *expensive*.
- 4) System Design is mostly *overlooked*.
- 5) ResilientDB adopts well-researched database and system practices.

Dissecting Existing Permissioned Blockchains

- 1) Single-threaded Monolithic Design
- 2) Successive Phases of Consensus
- 3) Integrated Ordering and Execution
- 4) Strict Ordering
- 5) Off-Chain Memory Management
- 6) Expensive Cryptographic Practices



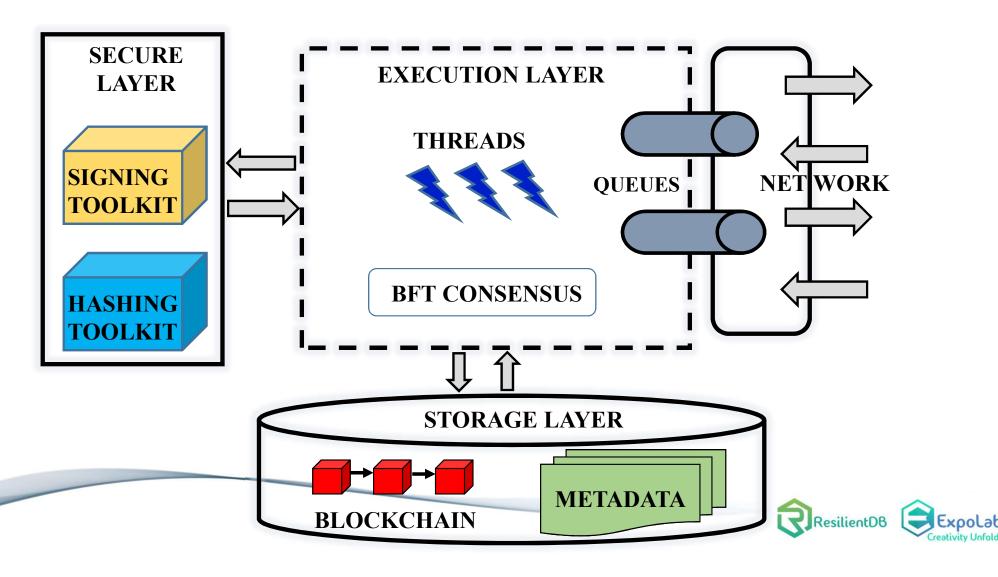
Can a well-crafted system based on a classical BFT protocol outperform a modern protocol?



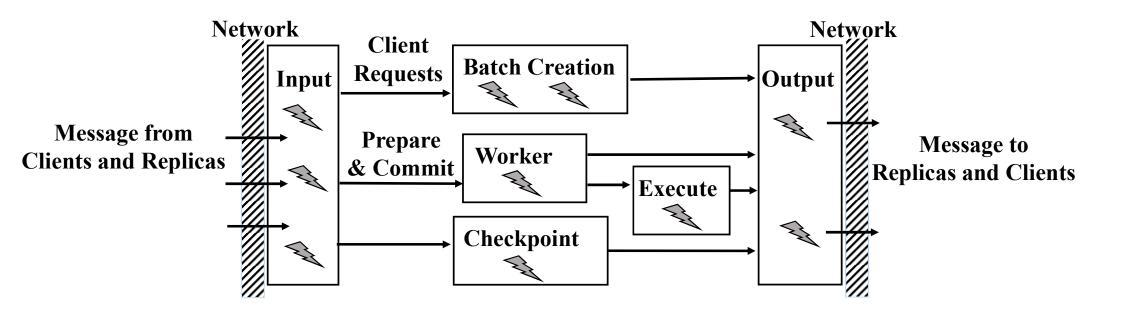




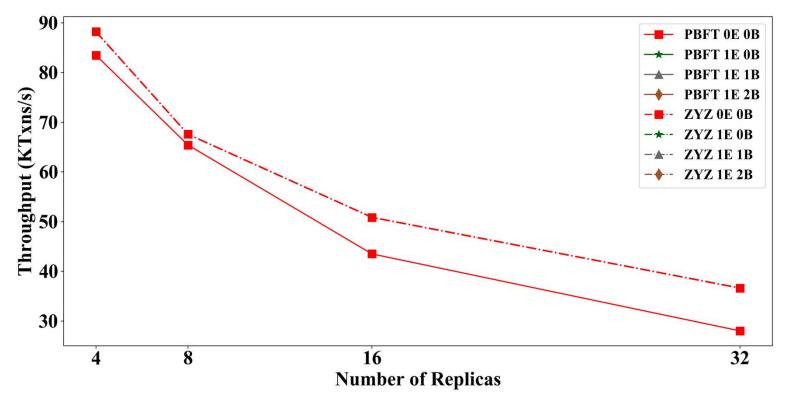
ResilientDB Architecture



ResilientDB Multi-Threaded Deep Pipeline

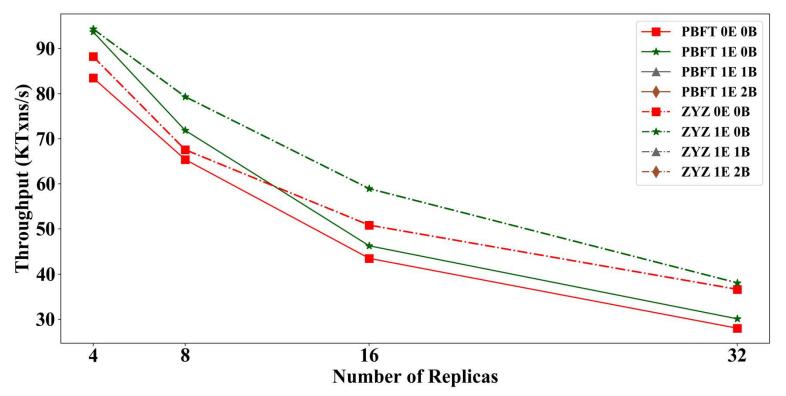






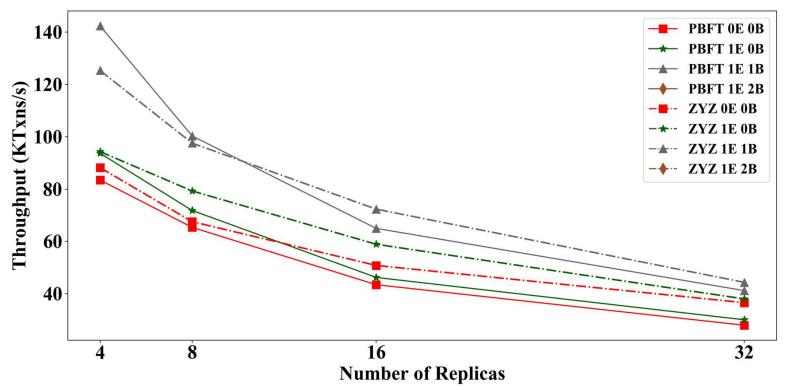






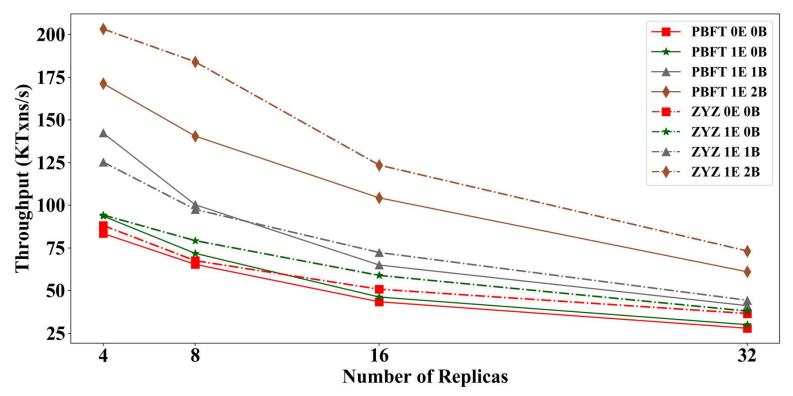








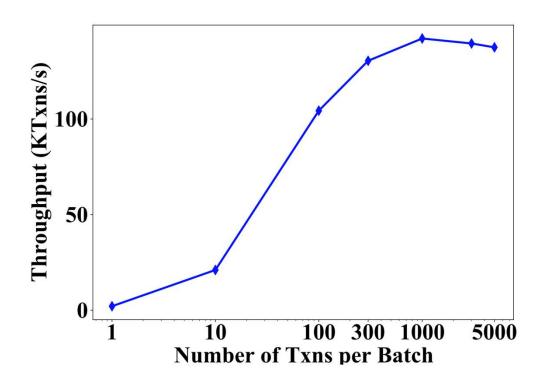


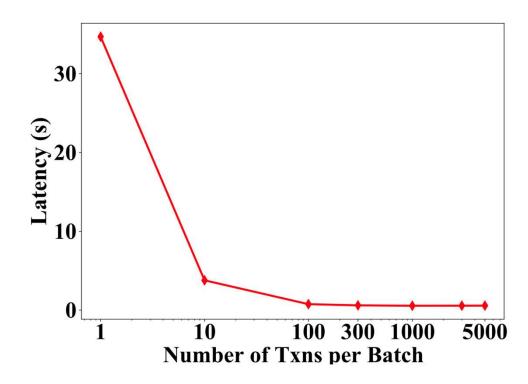






Insight 2: Optimal Batching Gains



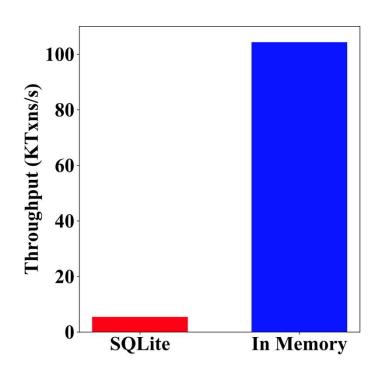


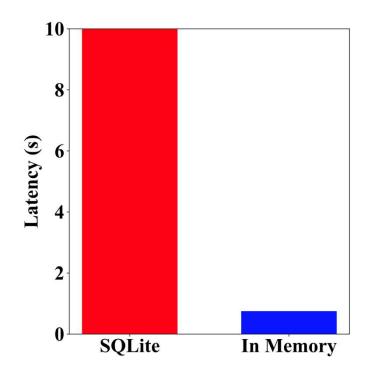
More transactions batched together → increase in throughput → reduced phases of consensus.





Insight 3: Memory Storage Gains



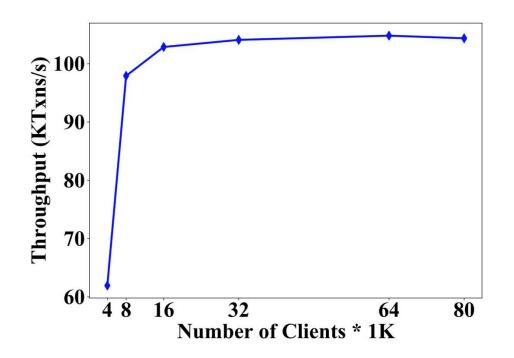


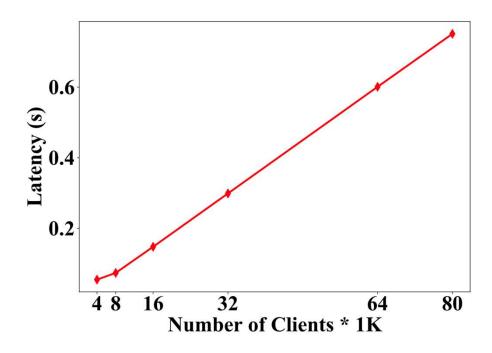
In-memory blockchain storage → reduces access cost.





Insight 4: Number of Clients





Too many clients → increases average latency.





ResilientDB: Hands On

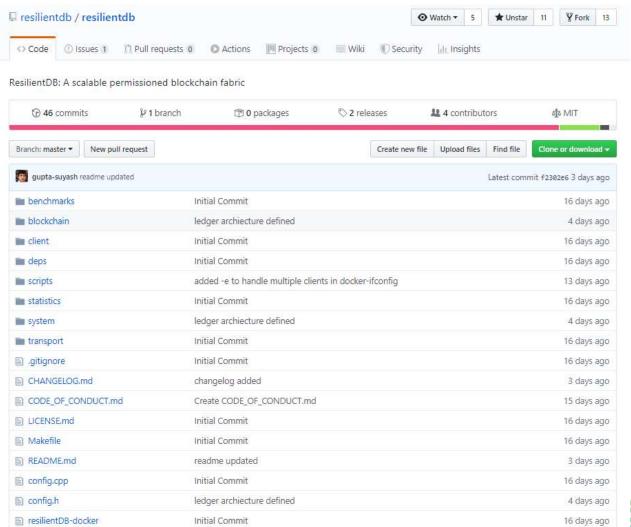
Visit at: https://github.com/resilientdb/resilientdb







How to Run ResilientDB?





How to Run ResilientDB?

- Go to https://github.com/resilientdb/resilientdb and Fork it!
- Install Docker-CE and Docker-Compose (Links on git)
- Use the Script "resilientDB-docker" as following:

./resilientDB-docker --clients=1 --replicas=4

./resilientDB-docker -d [default 4 replicas and 1 client]

• Result will be printed on STDOUT and stored in res.out file.

Docker CE

What is Docker?

an open-source project that automates the deployment of software applications inside **containers** by providing an additional layer of abstraction and automation of **OS-level virtualization** on Linux.

- Run a distributed program on one machine
- Simulate with lightweight virtual machines

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Resilient DB

./resilientDB-docker -d

- Remove old Containers
- Create new Containers
- Create IP address settings
- Install dependencies
- Compile Code
- Run binary files
- Gather the results

```
ad@sajjad-xps:~/WS/expo/resilientdb|master 🗲
   ./resilientDB-docker -d
Number of Replicas:
Number of Clients:
Stopping previous containers...
Stopping s3 ... done
Stopping s1 ... done
Stopping s4 ... done
Stopping c1 ... done
Stopping s2 ... done
Removing s3 ... done
Removing s1 ... done
Removing s4 ... done
Removing c1 ... done
Removing s2 ... done
Removing network resilientdb default
Creating docker compose file ...
Starting the containers...
Creating network "resilientdb_default" with the default driver
Creating s4 ... done
Creating c1 ... done
Creating s1 ... done
Creating s2 ... done
Creating s3 ... done
ifconfig file exists... Deleting File
Server sequence --> IP
c1 --> 172.21.0.3
s1 --> 172.21.0.4
s2 --> 172.21.0.6
s3 --> 172.21.0.2
s4 --> 172.21.0.5
Put Client IP at the bottom
 ifconfig.txt Created!
Checking Dependencies...
Installing dependencies..
/home/sajjad/WS/expo/resilientdb
```

Resilient DB

- Throughput
 - Transaction per second
- Average Latency
 - The from client request to client reply
- Working Thread idleness
 - The time that thread is waiting
- WT0: Consensus Messages
- WT1 and WT2: Batch Threads
- WT3: checkpointing Thread
- WT4: Execute Theread

```
Throughputs:
latency 4: 0.505870
idle times:
Idleness of node: 0
Worker THD 0: 116.227
Worker THD 1: 62
Worker THD 3:
Worker THD 4:
Worker THD 1: 0
Worker THD 3:
Worker THD 4:
Worker THD 2:
Worker THD 3:
Worker THD 1: 0
Worker THD 2: 0
Worker THD 3: 107.512
Worker THD 4: 77.6965
Memory:
0: 172 MB
1: 156 MB
2: 155 MB
3: 156 MB
4: 812 MB
avg thp: 4: 38541
avg lt : 1: .505
 ode Ran successfully ---> res.out
```

Configuration Parameters to Play

• NODE_CNT Total number of replicas, minimum 4, that is, f=1.

• THREAD_CNT Total number of threads at primary (at least 5)

• CLIENT_NODE_CNT Total number of clients (at least 1).

• MAX_TXN_IN_FLIGHT Multiple of Batch Size

• DONE_TIMER Amount of time to run the system.

BATCH_THREADS Number of threads at primary to batch client transactions.

• BATCH_SIZE Number of transactions in a batch (at least 10)

• TXN_PER_CHKPT Frequency at which garbage collection is done.

• USE_CRYPTO To switch on and off cryptographic signing of messages.

• CRYPTO_METHOD_ED25519 To use ED25519 based digital signatures.

• CRYPTO_METHOD_CMAC_AES To use CMAC + AES combination for authentication

Main Functions

- Client/client_main.cpp
- System/client_thread.cpp
- System/main.cpp

```
client_main.cpp ×
client > C→ client_main.cpp > ...
      int main(int argc, char *argv[])
           printf("Running client...\n\n");
           // 0. initialize global data structure
           parser(argc, argv);
           assert(g_node_id >= g_node_cnt);
           uint64_t seed = get_sys_clock();
           srand(seed);
           printf("Random seed: %ld\n", seed);
           int64_t starttime;
           int64_t endtime;
           starttime = get_server_clock();
           // per-partition malloc
           printf("Initializing stats... ");
           fflush(stdout);
           stats.init(g_total_client_thread_cnt);
           printf("Done\n");
           printf("Initializing transport manager... ");
           fflush(stdout);
           tport_man.init();
           printf("Done\n");
           printf("Initializing client manager...");
           Workload *m_wl = new YCSBWorkload;
           m wl->Workload::init():
```

```
C++ client_thread.cpp X
system > C++ client_thread.cpp > ...
       RC ClientThread::run()
            tsetup();
            printf("Running ClientThread %ld\n", _thd_id);
            while (true)
                keyMTX.lock();
                if (keyAvail)
                    keyMTX.unlock();
                    break:
                keyMTX.unlock();
           BaseQuery *m_query;
            uint64_t iters = 0;
            uint32_t num_txns_sent = 0;
            int txns sent[g node cnt];
            for (uint32_t i = 0; i < g_node_cnt; ++i)</pre>
                txns_sent[i] = 0;
            run_starttime = get_sys_clock();
```





Process Messages

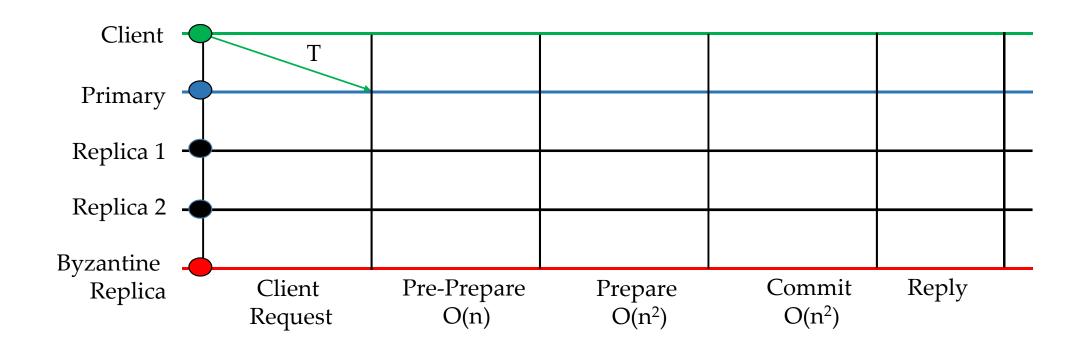
- Transport/message.cpp
- System/worker_thread.cpp
- System/worker_thread_pbft.cpp
- Worker Thread: Run function
- Worker Thread: Process function

```
system > C++ worker_thread.cpp > 💮 WorkerThread::process(Message *)
       void WorkerThread::process(Message *msg)
          RC rc __attribute__((unused));
          switch (msq->get rtype())
          case KEYEX:
              rc = process_key_exchange(msg);
          case CL BATCH:
          case BATCH REQ:
              rc = process_batch(msg);
           case PBFT_CHKPT_MSG:
             rc = process_pbft_chkpt_msg(msg);
              rc = process_execute_msg(msg);
       #if VIEW_CHANGES
          case PBFT_PREP_MSG:
              rc = process_pbft_prep_msg(msg);
           case PBFT COMMIT MSG:
              rc = process_pbft_commit_msg(msg);
               printf("Msg: %d\n", msg->get_rtype());
```





PBFT Failure-Free Flow







Process Client Message

- System/worker_thread_pbft.cpp
- process_client_batch Function
- Create and Send Batch Request
 - create_and_send_batchreq Function
 - Create Transactions
 - Create Digest
- BatchRequest Class
 - Pre-Prepare Message

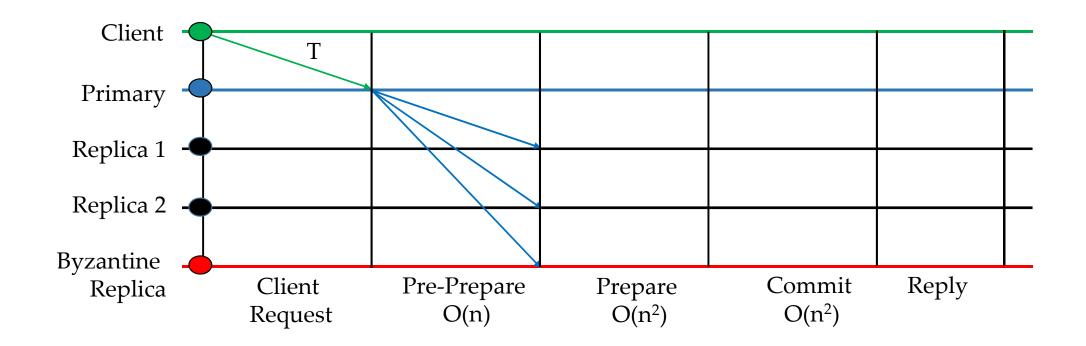
```
worker thread pbft.cpp X
system > C++ worker_thread_pbft.cpp > .
       * This function assumes that a client sends a batch of transactions and
       * for each transaction in the batch, a separate transaction manager is creat
       * Next, this batch is forwarded to all the replicas as a BatchRequests Message
       * which corresponds to the Pre-Prepare stage in the PBFT protocol.
       * @param msg Batch of Transactions of type CientQueryBatch from the client.
      RC WorkerThread::process_client_batch(Message *msg)
          ClientQueryBatch *clbtch = (ClientQueryBatch *)msg;
          validate_msg(clbtch);
      #if VIEW CHANGES
           // If message forwarded to the non-primary.
          if (g_node_id != get_current_view(get_thd_id()))
              client query check(clbtch);
               return RCOK:
          fail_primary(msg, 9);
          create_and_send_batchreg(clbtch, clbtch->txn_id);
```

```
worker_thread.cpp ×
     void WorkerThread::create_and_send_batchreq(ClientQueryBatch *msg, uint64_t tid
         Message *bmsg = Message::create_message(BATCH_REQ);
         BatchRequests *breq = (BatchRequests *)bmsg;
        breq->init(get_thd_id());
         next set = tid:
          for (uint64_t i = 0; i < get_batch_size(); i++)</pre>
             uint64_t txn_id = get_next_txn_id() + i;
             txn_man = get_transaction_manager(txn_id, 0);
                 bool ready = txn_man->unset_ready();
                  if (!ready)
```





PBFT Failure-Free Flow





Process Batch Request (Prepare)

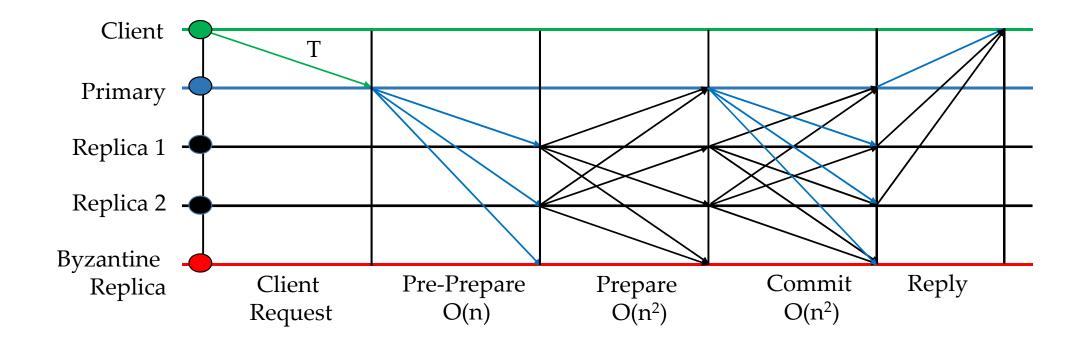
- System/worker_thread_pbft.cpp
- process_batch Function
- Create and Send Prepare Message
 - Create Transactions
 - Save Digest
- PBFTPrepare Class
 - Prepare Message

```
^{\mathbb{C}_{++}} worker_thread_pbft.cpp 	imes
system > C++ worker_thread_pbft.cpp > 💮 WorkerThread::process_batch(Message *)
       * Process incoming BatchRequests message from the Primary.
       * This function is used by the non-primary or backup replicas to process an incoming
       * BatchRequests message sent by the primary replica. This processing would require
       * sending messages of type PBFTPrepMessage, which correspond to the Prepare phase of
       * the PBFT protocol. Due to network delays, it is possible that a repica may have
        * received some messages of type PBFTPrepMessage and PBFTCommitMessage, prior to
       * receiving this BatchRequests message.
       * @param msg Batch of Transactions of type BatchRequests from the primary.
       * @return RC
       RC WorkerThread::process_batch(Message *msg)
          uint64_t cntime = get_sys_clock();
           BatchRequests *breq = (BatchRequests *)msg;
           //printf("BatchRequests: TID:%ld : VIEW: %ld : THD: %ld\n",breq->txn_id, breq->view, get
           assert(g_node_id != get_current_view(get_thd_id()));
           // Check if the message is valid.
           validate_msg(breq);
```





PBFT Failure-Free Flow







Process Prepare and Commit Messages(Prepare)

- System/worker_thread_pbft.cpp
- process_pbft_prepare Function
 - Count Prepare Messages
 - Create and Send commit Message
 - PBFTCommit Message
- process_pbft_commit Function
 - Count commit messages
 - Create and Send execute Message
 - ExecuteMessage Class

```
worker_thread_pbft.cpp ×
system > C++ worker_thread_pbft.cpp > ...
       * Processes incoming Prepare message.
       * This functions precessing incoming messages of type PBFTPrepMessage. If
       * received 2f identical Prepare messages from distinct replicas, then it
       * and sends a PBFTCommitMessage to all the other replicas.
       * @param msg Prepare message of type PBFTPrepMessage from a replica.
      RC WorkerThread::process_pbft_prep_msg(Message *msg)
           // Start the counter for prepare phase.
           if (txn_man->prep_rsp_cnt == 2 * g_min_invalid_nodes)
              txn_man->txn_stats.time_start_prepare = get_sys_clock();
           // Check if the incoming message is valid.
           PBFTPrepMessage *pmsg = (PBFTPrepMessage *)msg;
           validate_msg(pmsg);
           if (prepared(pmsq))
              // Send Commit messages.
              txn_man->send_pbft_commit_msgs();
              // End the prepare counter.
               INC_STATS(get_thd_id(), time_prepare, get_sys_clock() - txn_man->tx
           return RCOK;
```

```
worker_thread_pbft.cpp ×
system > C++ worker_thread_pbft.cpp > \( \operatorname{O} \) WorkerThread::process_pbft_commit_msg(Message *)
       * Processes incoming Commit message.
        * This functions precessing incoming messages of type PBFTCommitMessage
        * received 2f+1 identical Commit messages from distinct replicas, then
        * execute-thread to execute all the transactions in this batch.
      RC WorkerThread::process_pbft_commit_msg(Message *msg)
           if (txn_man->commit_rsp_cnt == 2 * g_min_invalid_nodes + 1)
               txn_man->txn_stats.time_start_commit = get_sys_clock();
           PBFTCommitMessage *pcmsg = (PBFTCommitMessage *)msg;
           validate_msg(pcmsg);
           txn_man->add_commit_msg(pcmsg);
           // Check if sufficient number of Commit messages have arrived.
           if (committed_local(pcmsg))
       #if TIMER_ON
               server_timer->endTimer(txn_man->hash);
               send_execute_msg();
```

Process Execute Message

- System/worker_thread.cpp
- Internal Message
- process_execute Function
- Execute the Transactions in batch in order
- Create and send Client Response
- ClientResponse Class

```
system > C++ worker_thread.cpp > 💮 WorkerThread::process_execute_msg(Message *)
       * This function is only accessed by the execute-thread, which executes the transactions
       * in a batch, in order. Note that the execute-thread has several queues, and at any
        * execute. Hence, it only loops on one specific queue.
       * @param msg Execute message that notifies execution of a batch.
       RC WorkerThread::process_execute_msg(Message *msg)
           uint64_t ctime = get_sys_clock();
           Message *rsp = Message::create_message(CL_RSP);
           ClientResponseMessage *crsp = (ClientResponseMessage *)rsp;
           crsp->init();
           ExecuteMessage *emsg = (ExecuteMessage *)msg;
           uint64 t i:
           for (i = emsg->index; i < emsg->end_index - 4; i++)
               TxnManager *tman = get_transaction_manager(i, 0);
               inc_next_index();
               tman->run_txn();
               tman->commit();
               crsp->copy_from_txn(tman);
```

Work Queue

- Lock Free queues
- All the messages are being stored in these queues
- System/work_queue.cpp
- Multiple queues for different Threads
- Dequeue and Enqueue Interfaces
- Enqueue in IOThread
- Dequeue in Worker Thread

```
C→ work_queue.cpp ×
system > C work_queue.cpp > ...
       void QWorkQueue::enqueue(uint64_t thd_id, Message *msg, bool busy)
           uint64_t starttime = get_sys_clock();
           assert(msq);
           DEBUG_M("QWorkQueue::enqueue work_queue_entry alloc\n");
           work_queue_entry *entry = (work_queue_entry *)mem_allocator.align_alloc(sizeof(work_queue_en
           entry->rtype = msg->rtype;
           entry->txn id = msg->txn id;
           entry->batch_id = msg->batch_id;
           entry->starttime = get_sys_clock();
           assert(ISSERVER || ISREPLICA);
           DEBUG("Work Enqueue (%ld,%ld) %d\n", entry->txn_id, entry->batch_id, entry->rtype);
           if (msg->rtype == CL_QRY || msg->rtype == CL_BATCH)
               if (g_node_id == get_current_view(thd_id))
                   while (!new_txn_queue->push(entry) && !simulation->is_done())
               else
                   assert(entry->rtype < 100);</pre>
                   while (!work_queue[0]->push(entry) && !simulation->is_done())
```

IO Thread and Transport Layer

- Multiple Input Threads
- Multiple Output Threads
- System/io_thread.cpp
- Transport Layer: TCP Sockets
- Nano Message Library
- Transport/transport.cpp

```
io_thread.cpp ×
system > C++ io_thread.cpp > ...
       RC InputThread::server_recv_loop()
           myrand rdm;
           rdm.init(get_thd_id());
           RC rc = RCOK;
           assert(rc == RCOK);
           uint64_t starttime = 0;
           uint64_t idle_starttime = 0;
           std::vector<Message *> *msgs;
           while (!simulation->is_done())
               heartbeat();
       #if VIEW_CHANGES
               if (g_node_id != get_current_view(get_thd_id()))
                   uint64_t tid = get_thd_id() - 1;
                       set_current_view(get_thd_id(), get_current_view(get_thd_id()) + 1);
                       set_newView(tid, false);
       #endif
               msgs = tport_man.recv_msg(get_thd_id());
```

Thank You

