P1: Distributed Bitcoin Miner



15-440/15-640 Fall 2021

Overview

- OH/Piazza Policy Reminder
- P1 Part B
- Q&A
- Appendix: P1 Post-checkpoint Unit Tests

OH/Piazza Policy Reminder

- You do have a partner to work together! Make sure to discuss with your partner when you are blocked.
- Review the slides from debugging recitation and make sure you follow the everything listed there + check out FAQ and other posts on piazza.
- Provide context when asking questions on Piazza or during OH.
- If you do not make enough effort before asking for help, the TAs can refuse to help you.
- Please do not make private post about debugging questions.

P1 Part B

 Implement a distributed mining infrastructure on top of the LSP you develop for part A

Mining

- Given
 - Message M
 - Unsigned integer N
- Find n such that
 - $0 \le n \le N$
 - $hash(M,n) \le hash(M,n') \forall 0 \le n' \le N$
- Run brute-force search to enumerate all possible scenarios across multiple machines

Architecture



Architecture





Architecture



Handling Failures

- When a miner loses contact with the server it should shut itself down.
- When a request client loses contact with the server, it should print Disconnected to standard output and exit.

Handling Failures

- When the server loses contact with a miner, it should reassign any job that the worker was handling to a different worker. If there are no available miners left, the server should wait for a new miner to join before reassigning the old miner's job.
- When the server loses contact with a request client, it should cease working on any requests being done on behalf of the client (you need not forcibly terminate a job on a miner—just wait for it to complete and ignore its results).

Scheduler

- •You should design the server so that the processing time per request is proportionate to the request size.
- •This means that the server should respond quickly to small requests and can respond slowly to larger ones.
 - If the server gets a very large request, and a small one right afterward, your design should ensure the small request completes fast and does not wait for the larger one to finish first!

Scheduler (continue)

- •On the other hand requests should be given some priority based on when they are received.
- •We have purposefully not given you the design of the scheduler in the handout. You should brainstorm to find scheduling techniques that satisfy this requirement.
- •Your code should clearly document how you implemented scheduling in your server. -> the documentation will be considered in the style grading.

Questions I know you will ask

- Are there hidden tests in part B?
 - Yes, stests are not provided to you, we also have hidden mtest and ctest.
- Does passing the public test mean we can pass the hidden tests?
 - No, not even close
- If we fail the hidden tests on Gradescope, can we get useful hints on what is wrong?
 - Barely. Don't waste 15 submission attempts on debugging. So write good tests!!
 - Also make use of the miner, client, and server binary
- How can we split the work?
 - It depends.
 - Total LOC of bitcoin implementation in our reference solution: ~360
 - Total LOC in hidden tests: >700
 - Write good tests from day 1!!! or at least try to test your implementation.

APPENDIX: P1 Post-checkpoint Unit Tests

- TestSendReceive*
- TestRobust*
- TestWindow*
- TestExpBackOff*
- TestMaxUnackedMessages*
- TestServerSlowStart*
- TestServerClose*
- TestServerCloseConns*
- TestClientClose*

- TestServerFastClose*
- TestServerToClient*
- TestClientToServer*
- TestRoundTrip*
- TestVariableLengthMsgServer
- TestVariableLengthMsgClient
- TestCorruptedMsgServer
- TestCorruptedMsgClient
- TestCAck*. TODO(natre)

TestSendReceive*

- TestSendReceive* test that all messages sent from one side are received by the other (without relying on epochs to resend any messages)
- Window size = 1
- Otherwise similar to TestBasic*
 (Do not need window)

TestRobust*

- TestRobust* test robustness by inserting random delays in between client/server reads or writes, and by increasing the packet loss to up to 20%
- Window size up to 10
- Client count up to 5
- (Need epoch, does not intentionally test on window implementation)

TestWindow*

- TestWindow1~3 test the case that ...
 - The sliding window has reached its maximum capacity.
- TestWindow4~6 test the case that ...
 - Messages are returned by Read in the order they were sent (i.e. in order of their sequence numbers).
 - If messages 1-5 are dropped and messages 6-10 are received, then the latter 5 should not be returned by Read until the first 5 are received.
 - Need Epochs implemented to work!

TestMaxUnackedMessages*

- TestMU1~3 test the case that ...
 - The maxUnacked has reached its maximum capacity.
- TestMU4~6 test the case that ...
 - Messages are returned by Read in the order they were sent (i.e. in order of their sequence numbers).
 - M =10, W = 20
 - If messages 1-5 are unacked, then 6-10 are acked, then 10-15 should be sent, 15-20 should not.
 - Need Epochs implemented to work!

TestExpBackOff*

- TestExpBackOff* test that the number of messages sent due to exponential back-off falls within a reasonable range
- We sniff messages sent through lspnet
- Up to 10 clients
- Up to 15 messages
- The test is not comprehensive (we set up a range of acceptable answers, which is not "precise"), so design the epoch part carefully.

TestServerSlowStart*

- TestServerSlowStart* test that a client is able to connect to a slow-starting server
 - if the server starts a few epochs later than a client, the presence of epoch events should ensure that the connection is eventually established
- Up to 3 clients
- Timeout after 5 epochs

TestServerClose* TestServerCloseConns* TestClientClose*

- Check that the client/server Close methods work correctly
- Pending messages should be returned by Read and pending messages should be written and acknowledged by the other side before Close returns
- CloseConn should return immediately without blocking
- Check that no extra messages are received on the client/server
- After close is called, Read() and Write() should return an error or block indefinitely.

TestServerFastClose*

 Streaming messages in large batches and the network is toggled on/off (i.e. drop percent is set to either 0% or 100%) throughout.

TestServerFastClose* (Cont.)

- Test procedure at high level (the test case log also records this procedure)
 - 1. Wait for all servers and clients to be ready
 - 2. Shut down network
 - 3. Client application starts writing...
 - 4. Turn on network and delay (server-client communication resumed)
 - 5. Shut down network
 - 6. Server application starts reading...
 - 7. Server application starts writing...
 - 8. Start closing server (pending messages need to be ready for send)
 - 9. Turn on network and delay (server-client communication resumed)
- 10. Shut down network
- 11. Client application starts reading...
- 12. Start closing client

TestServerToClient* TestClientToServer* TestRoundTrip*

Variants of

TestServerFastClose*

For more details, read

lsp4_test.master()

TestVariableLengthMsgServer TestVariableLengthMsgClient

- Check that server/client...
 - Can read normal length message
 - Truncates long messages
 - Doesn't read short messages

TestCorruptedMsgServer TestCorruptedMsgClient

- Check that server/client...
 - Drop Data messages whose calculated and recorded

checksums don't match