

## STM implementation:

### - optimistic execution (so far)

record all read and written TVars, when transaction is over, validate read set and commit write set

### - pessimistic execution

directly lock TVars, when they are read (or perhaps also wrote), so no other transaction can read or write them.

readTVar t1	lock t1	readTVar t2	lock t2	
readTVar t2	lock t2	readTVar t1	lock t1	-> deadlock possible
writeTVar t3	v <u>lock here</u> or in the end			deadlock can be avoided by releasing all locks, if one lock cannot be acquired.

---

The implementation can result in a life lock, where two transactions (like the ones above) try to read/write the same resource in different order. So it might be the case, that both hold one resource and want to access the resource held by the other transaction and then rollback both.

---

## Comparison of optimistic and pessimistic implementation:

- lifelock in pessimistic approach can be problematic
- perhaps some more rollbacks in the pessimistic approach?
- usually more concurrency in the optimistic approach

Problem in the optimistic implementation:

Consider a situation in which two TVars t1 and t2 always contain the same values.

Lets consider a transaction like the following:

```
incTVar t1 t2 = atomically $ do
  v1 <- readTVar t1
  writeTVar t1 (v1+1)
  v2 <- readTVar t2
  writeTVar t2 (v2+1)
```

```
dangerous t1 t2 = atomically $ do
  v1 <- readTVar t1
  v2 <- readTVar t2
  if v1 /= v2 then
    loop
  else
    return 42
```

multi V<sub>1</sub> invalid

commit of incTVar t1 t2

loop ← transaction runs into a loop

New idea: Commit informs other transaction of their invalidation.

Fix in GHC: perform additional validation, when garbage collector is started.

```
readTVar t1
readTVar t2 ← commit, of other transaction modifying t1.
writeTVar t3
complex computation } remaining computation is superflous and can be
writeTVar t4          } omitted, if the thread is informed.
...
```

Implementation:

- readTVar and writeTVar should always check, if the transaction was invalidated by another commit. The same for atomically, before it performs a commit.
- Validation is not necessary anymore, because a transaction is informed if it gets invalid.
- Inside the TVars, we store information about all Transactions which read this TVar, similar to the RS, but distributed.
- When writing a new value to TVar, all non-committed transaction have to be informed about their invalidation. Be carefull, that an invalidation information registered too late.