Crash Recovery

Chapter 18

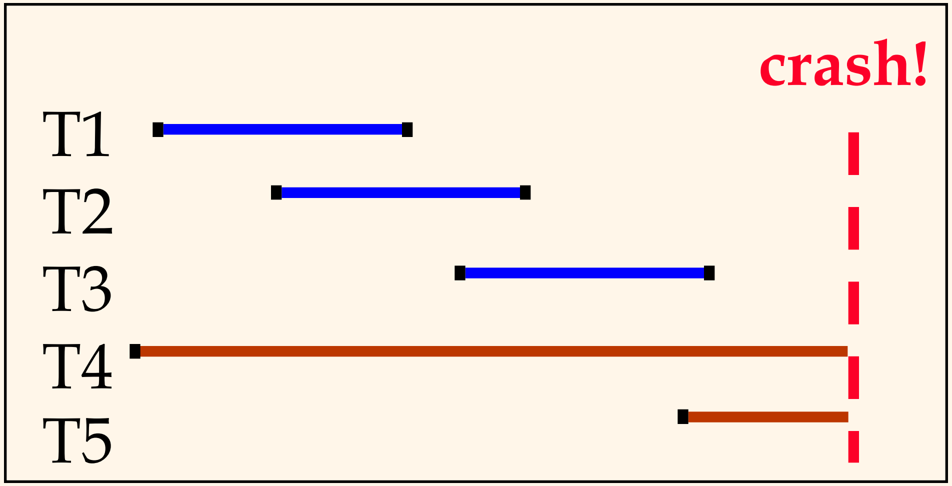
Review: The ACID properties

- **A** tomicity: All actions in the Xact happen, or none happen.
- **C** onsistency: If each Xact is consistent, and the DB starts consistent, it ends up consistent.
- **I** solation: Execution of one Xact is isolated from that of other Xacts.
- **D** urability: If a Xact commits, its effects persist.

- The **Recovery Manager** guarantees Atomicity & Durability.

Motivation

- Atomicity:
  - Transactions may abort ("Rollback").
- Durability:
  - What if DBMS stops running? (Causes?)
- Desired Behavior after system restarts:
  - T1, T2 & T3 should be durable.
  - T4 & T5 should be aborted (effects not seen).



Handling the Buffer Pool

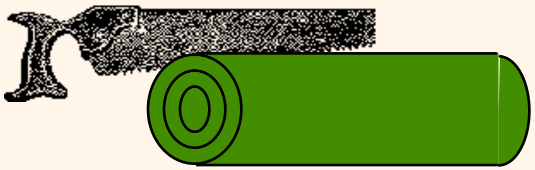
- Force every write to disk?
  - Poor response time.
  - But provides durability.
- Steal buffer-pool frames from uncommited Xacts?
  - If not, poor throughput.
  - If so, how can we ensure atomicity?

	No Steal	Steal
Force	Trivial	
No Force		Desired

More on Steal and Force

- **STEAL** (why enforcing Atomicity is hard)
  - *To steal frame F:* Current page in F (say P) is written to disk; some Xact holds lock on P.
    - What if the Xact with the lock on P aborts?
    - Must remember the old value of P at steal time (to support UNDOing the write to page P).
- **NO FORCE** (why enforcing Durability is hard)
  - What if system crashes before a modified page is written to disk?
  - Write as little as possible, in a convenient place, at commit time,to support REDOing modifications.

Basic Idea: Logging



- Record REDO and UNDO information, for every update, in a *log*.
  - Sequential writes to log (put it on a separate disk).
  - Minimal info (diff) written to log, so multiple updates fit in a single log page.
- Log: An ordered list of REDO/UNDO actions
  - Log record contains:

    <XID, pageID, offset, length, old data, new data>

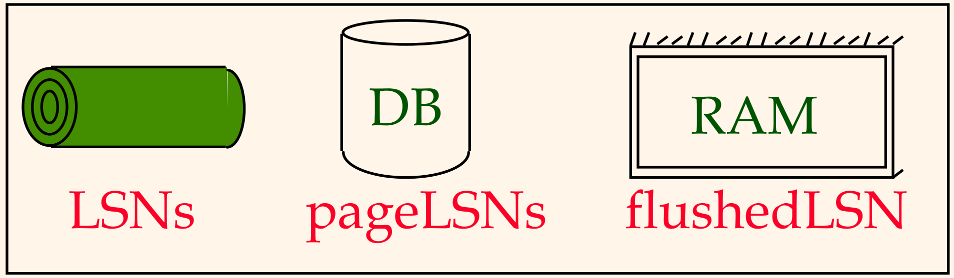
  - and additional control info (which we'll see soon).

Write-Ahead Logging (WAL)

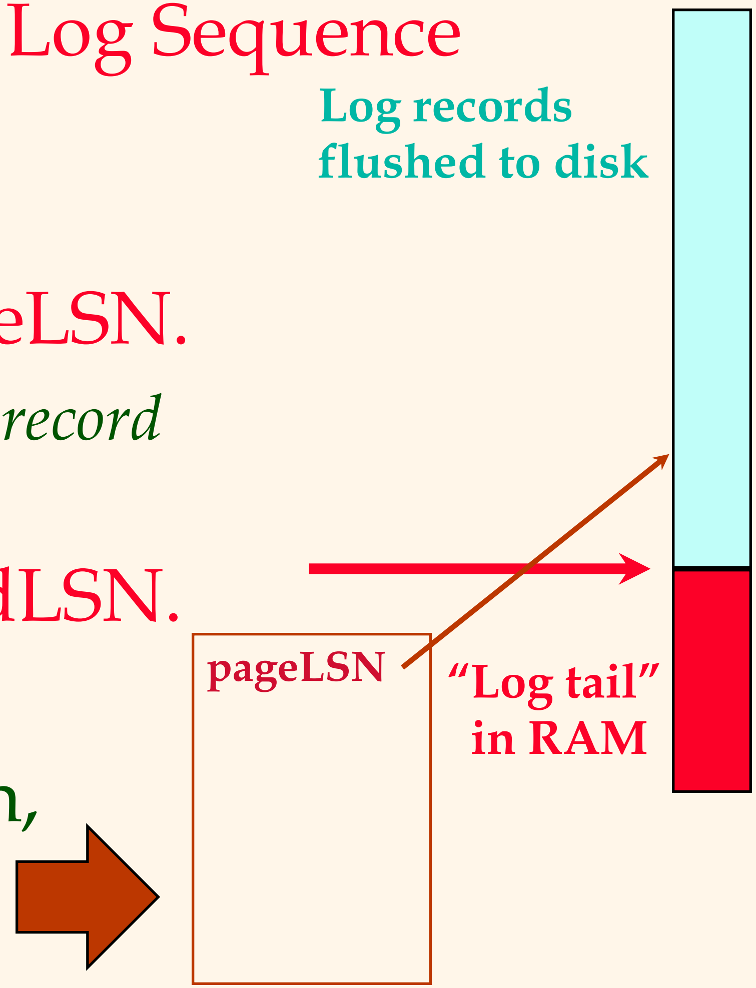
- The Write-Ahead Logging Protocol:
  1. Must force the log record for an update *before* the corresponding data page gets to disk.
  2. Must force all log records for a Xact *before commit*.
- #1 guarantees Atomicity.
- #2 guarantees Durability.

- Exactly how is logging (and recovery!) done?
  - We'll study the ARIES algorithms.

WAL & the Log



- Each log record has a unique Log Sequence Number (LSN).
  - LSNs always increasing.
- Each *data page* contains a pageLSN.
  - The LSN of the most recent *log record* for an update to that page.
- System keeps track of flushedLSN.
  - The max LSN flushed so far.
- WAL: *Before* a page is written,
  - pageLSN ≤ flushedLSN



Log Records

Possible log record types:

- **Update**
- **Commit**
- **Abort**
- **End** (signifies end of commit or abort)
- Compensation Log Records (CLRs)
  - for UNDO actions

LogRecord fields:

prevLSN
XID
type

update records only:

pageID
length
offset
before-image
after-image

Normal Execution of an Xact

- Series of reads & writes, followed by commit or abort.
  - We will assume that write is atomic on disk.
    - In practice, additional details to deal with non-atomic writes.
- Strict 2PL.
- STEAL, NO-FORCE buffer management, with Write-Ahead Logging.

Other Log-Related State

- Transaction Table:
  - One entry per active Xact.
  - Contains XID, status (running/commited/aborted), and lastLSN (The LSN of the most recent log record).
- Dirty Page Table:
  - One entry per dirty page in buffer pool.
  - Contains recLSN -- the LSN of the log record which ***first*** caused the page to be dirty.

Checkpointing

- Periodically, the DBMS creates a checkpoint, in order to minimize the time taken to recover in the event of a system crash. Write to log:
  - begin_checkpoint record: Indicates when chkpt began.
  - end_checkpoint record: Contains current *Xact table* and *dirty page table*. This is a `fuzzy checkpoint':
    - Other Xacts continue to run; so these tables accurate only as of the time of the begin_checkpoint record.
    - No attempt to force dirty pages to disk; effectiveness of checkpoint limited by oldest unwritten change to a dirty page. (So it's a good idea to periodically flush dirty pages to disk!)
  - Store LSN of chkpt record in a safe place (*master* record).

The Big Picture: What's Stored Where

LogRecords

- prevLSN
- XID
- type
- pageID
- length
- offset
- before-image
- after-image

Data pages

each with a pageLSN

master record

Xact Table

- lastLSN
- status

Dirty Page Table

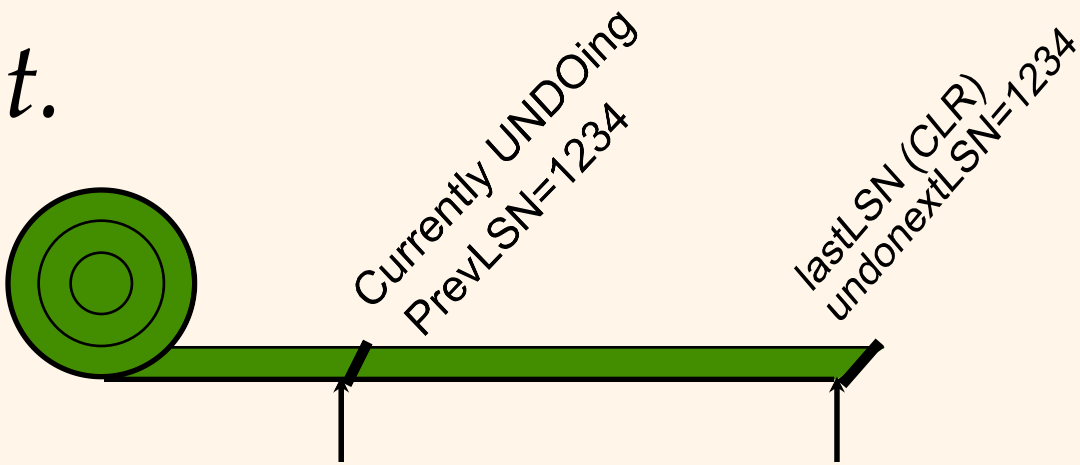
- recLSN

flushedLSN

Simple Transaction Abort

- For now, consider an explicit abort of a Xact.
  - No crash involved.
- We want to "play back" the log in reverse order, UNDOing updates.
  - Before starting UNDO, write an *Abort* log record.
    - For recovering from crash during UNDO!
  - Get lastLSN of Xact from Xact table.
  - Can follow chain of log records backward via the prevLSN field.

Abort, cont.



- To perform UNDO, must have a lock on data!
- Before restoring old value of a page, write a CLR:
  - You continue logging while you UNDO!!
  - CLR has one extra field: undonextLSN
    - Points to the next LSN to undo (i.e. the prevLSN of the record we're currently undoing).
  - CLRs *never* Undone (but they might be Redone when repeating history: guarantees Atomicity!)
- At end of UNDO, write an "end" log record.

Transaction Commit

- Write commit record to log.
- All log records up to Xact's lastLSN are flushed.
  - Guarantees that flushedLSN ≥ lastLSN.
  - Note that log flushes are sequential, synchronous writes to disk.
  - Many log records per log page.
- Commit() returns.
- Write end record to log.