

# CSE544

# Data Management

## Lectures 15: Transactions

# Announcmenets

- HW5 is posted: short, sweet, due on 3/15
- Project milestones due on Friday
- Next Friday 3/12: Project Presentations!
  - 9am – 1pm (we may finish a bit earlier)
  - 11 teams
  - Each team gets 10' presentation + 5' discussion
  - Contest for the best presentation (stay tuned!)

# Transactions

- We use database transactions everyday
  - Bank \$\$\$ transfers
  - Online shopping
  - Signing up for classes
- Applications that talk to a DB **must** use transactions in order to keep the database consistent.

# Motivating Example

Client 1:

```
UPDATE Budget  
SET money=money-100  
WHERE pid = 1
```

```
UPDATE Budget  
SET money=money+60  
WHERE pid = 2
```

```
UPDATE Budget  
SET money=money+40  
WHERE pid = 3
```

Client 2:

```
SELECT sum(money)  
FROM Budget
```

Would like to treat each  
group of instructions as a  
unit



# Transaction

**Definition:** a transaction is a sequence of updates to the database with the property that either all complete, or none completes (all-or-nothing).

**START TRANSACTION**

[SQL statements]

**COMMIT** or **ROLLBACK (=ABORT)**

May be omitted if  
autocommit is off:  
first SQL query  
starts txn

In ad-hoc SQL: each statement = one transaction  
This is referred to as autocommit

# Motivating Example

```
START TRANSACTION
UPDATE Budget
SET money=money-100
WHERE pid = 1

UPDATE Budget
SET money=money+60
WHERE pid = 2

UPDATE Budget
SET money=money+40
WHERE pid = 3
COMMIT (or ROLLBACK)
```

```
SELECT sum(money)
FROM Budget
```

With autocommit and without **START TRANSACTION**, each SQL command is a transaction

# ROLLBACK

- If the app gets to a place where it can't complete the transaction successfully, it can execute **ROLLBACK**
- This causes the system to “abort” the transaction
  - Database returns to a state without any of the changes made by the transaction
- Several reasons: user, application, system

# ACID Properties

- **Atomicity:** Either all changes performed by transaction occur or none occurs
- **Consistency:** A transaction as a whole does not violate integrity constraints
- **Isolation:** Transactions appear to execute one after the other in sequence
- **Durability:** If a transaction commits, its changes will survive failures

# What Could Go Wrong?

Why is it hard to provide ACID properties?

- **Concurrent** operations
  - Isolation problems
  - We saw one example earlier
- **Failures** can occur at any time
  - Atomicity and durability problems
  - Later lectures
- Transaction may need to **abort**

# Concurrent Execution Problems

- Write-read conflict: dirty read, inconsistent read
  - A transaction reads a value written by another transaction that has not yet committed
- Read-write conflict: unrepeatable read
  - A transaction reads the value of the same object twice. Another transaction modifies that value in between the two reads
- Write-write conflict: lost update
  - Two transactions update the value of the same object. The second one to write the value overwrites the first change

# Schedules

A *schedule* is a sequence of interleaved actions from all transactions

# Example

A and B are elements  
in the database  
t and s are variables  
in tx source code

T1	T2
READ(A, t)	READ(A, s)
t := t+100	s := s*2
WRITE(A, t)	WRITE(A,s)
READ(B, t)	READ(B,s)
t := t+100	s := s*2
WRITE(B,t)	WRITE(B,s)



# A Serial Schedule

T1

T2

---

READ(A, t)  
t := t+100  
WRITE(A, t)  
READ(B, t)  
t := t+100  
WRITE(B,t)

READ(A,s)  
s := s\*2  
WRITE(A,s)  
READ(B,s)  
s := s\*2  
WRITE(B,s)

A = 2  
B = 2

A = 102  
B = 102

A = 204  
B = 204

# A Serial Schedule

T1

T2

A = 2

B = 2

READ(A,s)

s := s\*2

WRITE(A,s)

READ(B,s)

s := s\*2

WRITE(B,s)

A = 4

B = 4

READ(A, t)

t := t+100

WRITE(A, t)

READ(B, t)

t := t+100

WRITE(B,t)

A = 104

B = 104

# Serializable Schedule

A schedule is serializable if it is equivalent to a serial schedule

# A Serializable Schedule

T1

READ(A, t)  
 $t := t + 100$   
 WRITE(A, t)

READ(B, t)  
 $t := t + 100$   
 WRITE(B, t)

T2

READ(A, s)  
 $s := s * 2$   
 WRITE(A, s)

READ(B, s)  
 $s := s * 2$   
 WRITE(B, s)

A = 2  
 B = 2

A = 102  
 B = 2

A = 204  
 B = 2

A = 204  
 B = 102

A = 204  
 B = 204

This is a **serializable** schedule.  
 This is NOT a serial schedule

# A Non-Serializable Schedule

T1	T2	
		A = 2 B = 2
READ(A, t)		
t := t+100		A = 102 B = 2
WRITE(A, t)		
	READ(A,s)	
	s := s*2	A = 204 B = 2
	WRITE(A,s)	
	READ(B,s)	
	s := s*2	A = 204 B = 4
	WRITE(B,s)	
READ(B, t)		
t := t+100		A = 204 B = 104
WRITE(B,t)		

# Serializable Schedules

- The role of the scheduler is to ensure that the schedule is serializable

**Q:** Why not run only serial schedules ?  
I.e. run one transaction after the other ?

# Serializable Schedules

- The role of the scheduler is to ensure that the schedule is serializable

**Q:** Why not run only serial schedules ?  
I.e. run one transaction after the other ?

**A:** Because of very poor throughput due to disk latency.

**Lesson:** main memory databases may schedule TXNs serially

# Still Serializable, but...

T1

READ(A, t)

t := t+100

WRITE(A, t)

T2

READ(A,s)

s := s + 200

WRITE(A,s)

READ(B,s)

s := s + 200

WRITE(B,s)

READ(B, t)

t := t+100

WRITE(B,t)

Schedule is serializable because  $t=t+100$  and  $s=s+200$  commute

...we don't expect the scheduler to schedule this



# To Be Practical

- Assume worst case updates:
  - Assume cannot commute actions done by transactions
- Therefore, we only care about reads and writes
  - Transaction = sequence of  $R(A)$ 's and  $W(A)$ 's

$T_1: r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B)$
$T_2: r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

# Conflicts

- Write-Read – WR
- Read-Write – RW
- Write-Write – WW

# Conflict Serializability

## Conflicts:

Two actions by same transaction  $T_i$ :

$r_i(X); w_i(Y)$

Two writes by  $T_i, T_j$  to same element

$w_i(X); w_j(X)$

Read/write by  $T_i, T_j$  to same element

$w_i(X); r_j(X)$

$r_i(X); w_j(X)$

# Conflict Serializability

**Definition** A schedule is *conflict serializable* if it can be transformed into a serial schedule by a series of swappings of adjacent non-conflicting actions

- Every **conflict-serializable** schedule is **serializable**
- The converse is not true in general

# Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

# Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

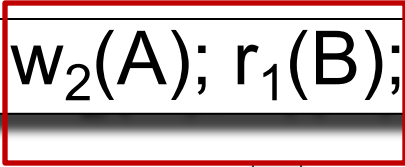


$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

# Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

# Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



# Conflict Serializability

Example:

$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



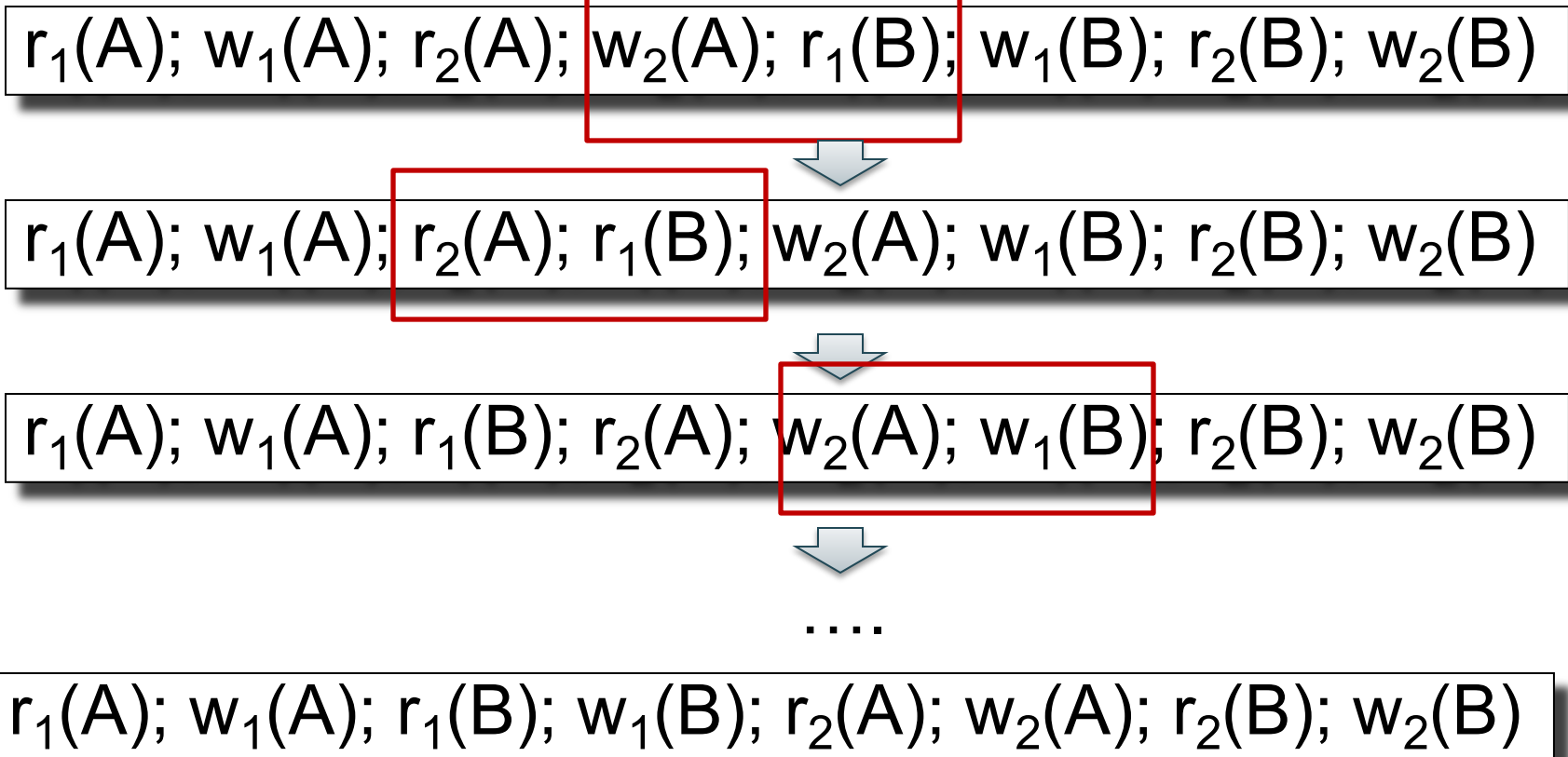
$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); w_1(B); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



$r_1(A); w_1(A); r_1(B); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_2(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

# Conflict Serializability

Example:



# Serializable, Not Conflict-Serializable

T1

---

READ(A, t)

$t := t + 100$

WRITE(A, t)

READ(B, t)

$t := t + 100$

WRITE(B, t)

T2

READ(A, s)

$s := s + 200$

WRITE(A, s)

READ(B, s)

$s := s + 200$

WRITE(B, s)

# Serializable, Not Conflict-Serializable

T1

$r_1(A)$

~~$t := t + 100$~~

$w_1(A)$

$r_1(B)$

~~$t := t + 100$~~

$w_1(B)$

T2

$r_2(A)$

~~$s := s + 200$~~

$w_2(A)$

$r_2(B)$

~~$s := s + 200$~~

$w_2(B)$

# Testing for Conflict-Serializability

## Precedence graph:

- A node for each transaction  $T_i$ ,
- An edge from  $T_i$  to  $T_j$  whenever an action in  $T_i$  conflicts with, and comes before an action in  $T_j$
- No edge for actions in the same transaction
  
- **The schedule is serializable iff the precedence graph is acyclic**

# Example 1

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $r_1(B)$

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$

$r_1(B)$

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③



# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $r_1(B)$

No edge because  
no conflict ( $A \neq B$ )

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$

$w_2(A)$

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $w_2(A)$

No edge because  
same txn (2)

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $r_3(A)$  ?

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $w_1(B)$  ?

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $w_3(A)$  ?

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $w_3(A)$

Edge! Conflict from  
 $T_2$  to  $T_3$

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

①

②

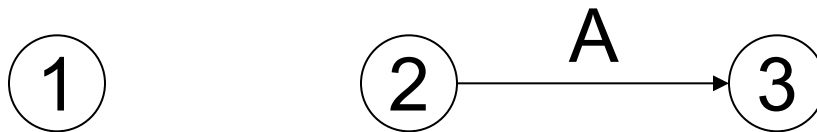
③

# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $w_3(A)$

Edge! Conflict from  
 $T_2$  to  $T_3$

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$





# Example 1

$r_2(A)$   $r_2(B)$  ?

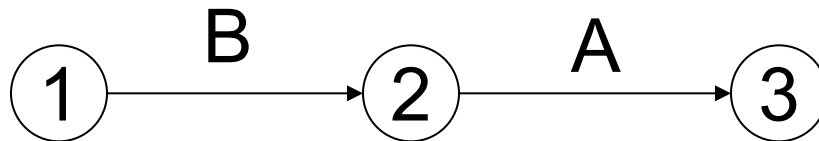
$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$

And so on until compared every pair of actions...



# Example 1

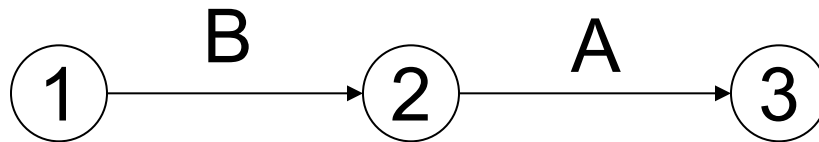
$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



More edges, but repeats of the same directed edge not necessary

# Example 1

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); r_2(B); w_2(B)$



This schedule is **conflict-serializable**

# Example 2

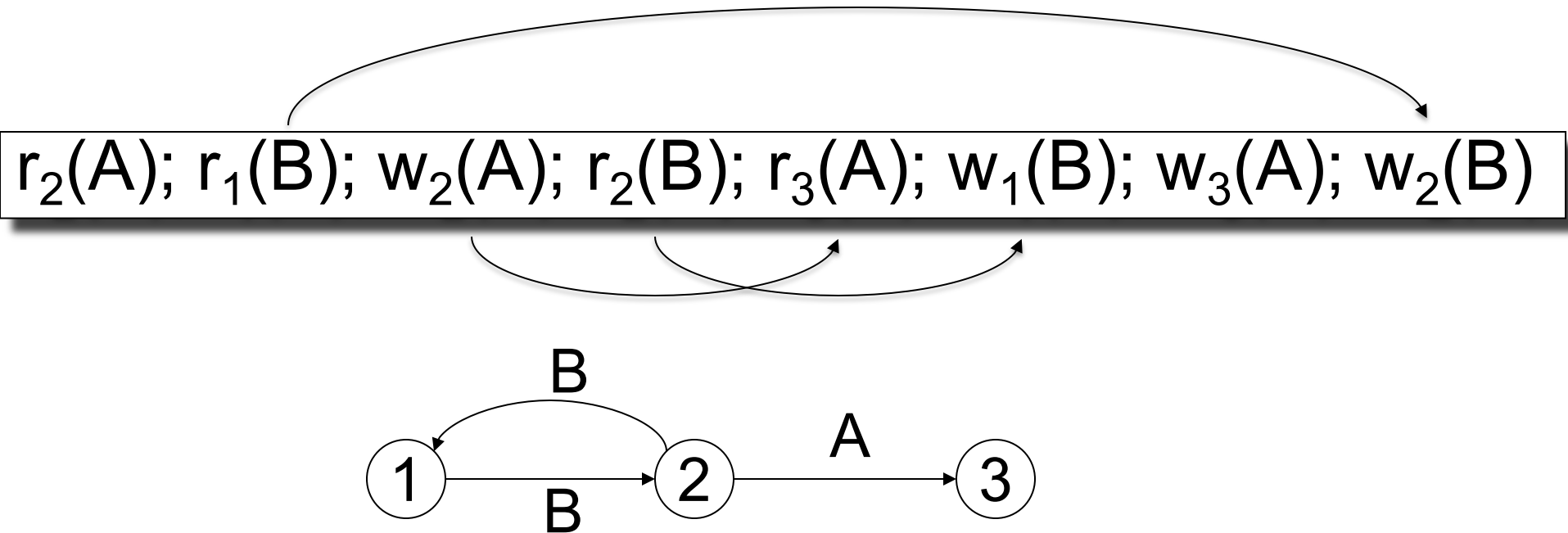
$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_2(B); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); w_2(B)$

①

②

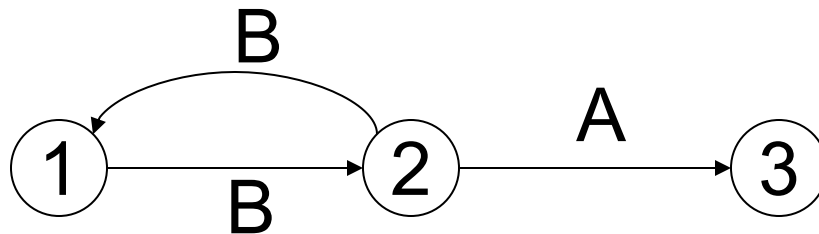
③

# Example 2



# Example 2

$r_2(A); r_1(B); w_2(A); r_2(B); r_3(A); w_1(B); w_3(A); w_2(B)$



This schedule is **NOT** conflict-serializable

# View Equivalence

- A serializable schedule need not be conflict serializable, even under the “worst case update” assumption

$w_1(X); w_2(X); w_2(Y); w_1(Y); w_3(Y);$

Is this schedule conflict-serializable ?

# View Equivalence

- A serializable schedule need not be conflict serializable, even under the “worst case update” assumption

$w_1(X); w_2(X); w_2(Y); w_1(Y); w_3(Y);$

Is this schedule conflict-serializable ?

No...

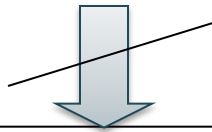


# View Equivalence

- A serializable schedule need not be conflict serializable, even under the “worst case update” assumption

$w_1(X); w_2(X); w_2(Y); w_1(Y); w_3(Y);$

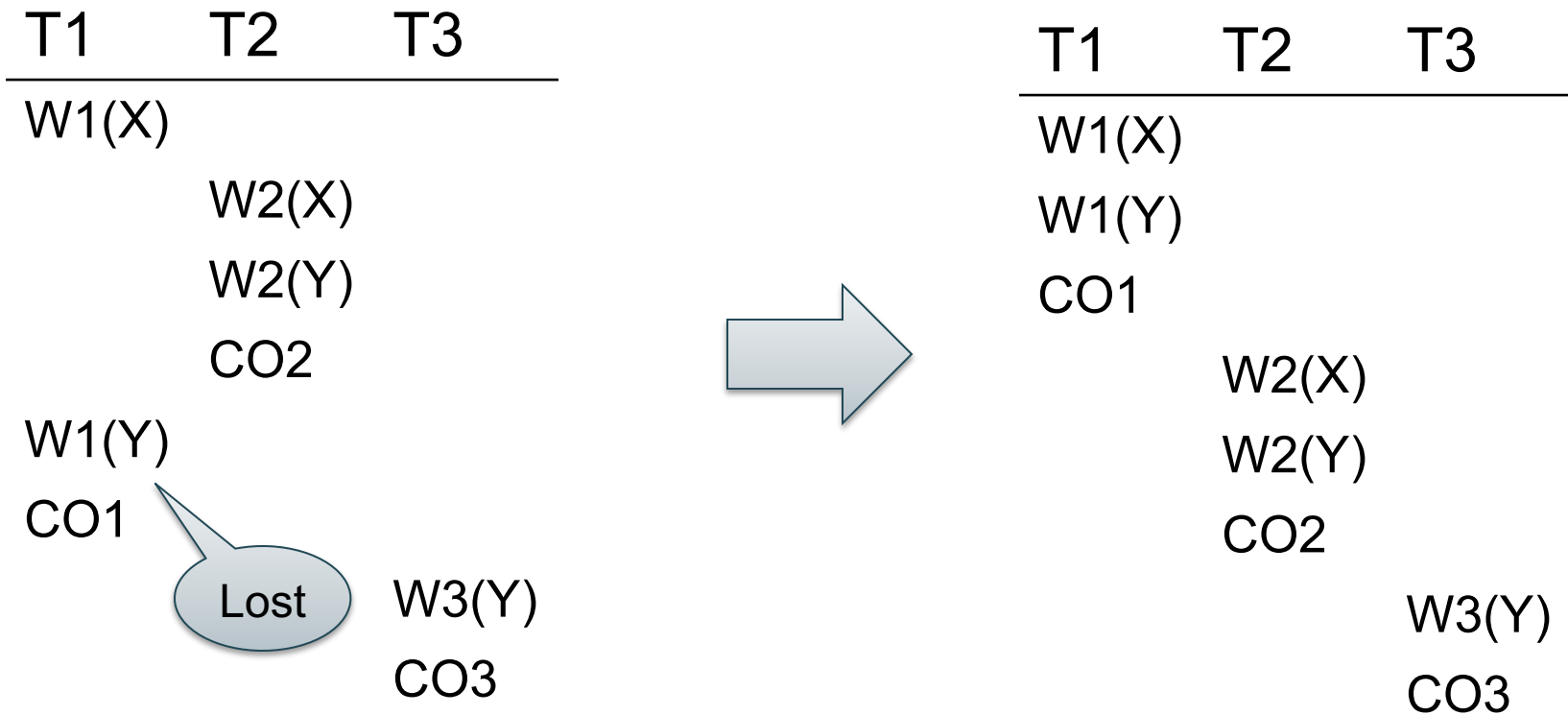
Lost write



$w_1(X); w_1(Y); w_2(X); w_2(Y); w_3(Y);$

Equivalent, but not conflict-equivalent

# View Equivalence



Serializable, but not conflict serializable

# View Equivalence

Two schedules  $S$ ,  $S'$  are *view equivalent* if:

- If  $T$  reads an **initial value** of  $A$  in  $S$ , then  $T$  reads the **initial value** of  $A$  in  $S'$
- If  $T$  reads a value of  $A$  **written by  $T'$**  in  $S$ , then  $T$  reads a value of  $A$  **written by  $T'$**  in  $S'$
- If  $T$  writes the **final value** of  $A$  in  $S$ , then  $T$  writes the **final value** of  $A$  in  $S'$

# View-Serializability

A schedule is *view serializable* if it is view equivalent to a serial schedule

Remark:

- If a schedule is *conflict serializable*, then it is also *view serializable*
- But not vice versa

# Schedules with Aborted Transactions

- When a transaction aborts, the recovery manager undoes its updates
- But some of its updates may have affected other transactions !

# Schedules with Aborted Transactions

T1	T2
R(A)	
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	R(B)
	W(B)
	Commit
Abort	

What's wrong?

# Schedules with Aborted Transactions

T1	T2
R(A)	
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	R(B)
	W(B)
	Commit
Abort	

What's wrong?

Cannot abort T1 because cannot undo T2

# Recoverable Schedules

A schedule is *recoverable* if:

- It is conflict-serializable, and
- Whenever a transaction T commits, all transactions that have written elements read by T have already committed



# Recoverable Schedules

A schedule is *recoverable* if:

- It is conflict-serializable, and
- Whenever a transaction T commits, all transactions that **have written elements** read by T have **already committed**

# Recoverable Schedules

T1	T2
R(A)	
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	R(B)
	W(B)
	Commit
?	

T1	T2
R(A)	
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	R(B)
	W(B)
Commit	
	Commit

Nonrecoverable

Recoverable

# Recoverable Schedules

T1	T2	T3	T4
R(A)			
W(A)			
	R(A)		
	W(A)		
	R(B)		
	W(B)		
		R(B)	
		W(B)	
		R(C)	
		W(C)	
			R(C)
			W(C)
			R(D)
			W(D)

Abort

# Cascading Aborts

- If a transaction  $T$  aborts, then we need to abort any other transaction  $T'$  that has read an element written by  $T$
- A schedule *avoids cascading aborts* if whenever a transaction reads an element, the transaction that has *last written* it has *already committed*.

We base our locking scheme on this rule!

# Avoiding Cascading Aborts

T1	T2
R(A)	
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	R(B)
	W(B)
...	...

With cascading aborts

T1	T2
R(A)	
W(A)	
Commit	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	R(B)
	W(B)
	...

Without cascading aborts

# Review of Schedules

## Serializability

- Serial
- Serializable
- Conflict serializable
- View serializable

## Recoverability

- Recoverable
- Avoids cascading deletes