

# Recovery System

These slides are a modified version of the slides of the book “Database System Concepts” (Chapter 17), 5th Ed., [McGraw-Hill](#), by Silberschatz, Korth and Sudarshan. Original slides are available at [www.db-book.com](http://www.db-book.com)

# Transactions: ACID Properties

A **transaction** is a unit of program execution that accesses and possibly updates various data

- **Atomicity.** Either all operations of the transaction are properly reflected in the database or none are.
- **Consistency.** Execution of a transaction in isolation preserves the consistency of the database.
- **Isolation.** Although multiple transactions may execute concurrently, each transaction must be unaware of other concurrently executing transactions. Intermediate transaction results must be hidden from other concurrently executed transactions.
- **Durability.** After a transaction completes successfully, the changes it has made to the database persist, even if there are system failures.

*Consistency: Programmer*

*Isolation: Concurrency Control System*

*Atomicity and Durability: Recovery System*

# Transaction

- commit  
termination with success of the transaction  
*all operations are executed and changes to the database are persistent*
- abort (or rollback)  
abort of the transaction  
*none operation is executed*

Transfers \$50 from account *A* to account *B*

start transaction;

update Account

    set balance = balance – \$50 where Account\_number = A;

update Account

    set balance = balance + \$50 where Account\_number = B;

commit;

# Abort of a Transaction

1) Abort if balance of A less than \$50

start transaction;

update Account

set balance = balance - \$50 where Account\_number = A;

update Account

set balance = balance + \$50 where Account\_number = B;

select balance into V

from Account where Account\_number = A;

if (V >= 0) then commit

else abort;

2) Abort if the system has entered an undesirable state (e.g. deadlock)

3) Abort in presence of failures

# Failures

- A computer system is subject to failures
- Causes are: disk failure, power outage, hardware or software errors, ....
- In any failure, information may be lost
- DBMS must take actions in advance to ensure that atomicity and durability properties of transactions are preserved in case of failures

## Recovery System:

it can restore the database to the consistent state that existed before the failure

ASSUMPTIONS on failures:

- **System crash:** a power failure or other hardware or software failure causes the system to crash.
  - **Fail-stop assumption:** non-volatile storage contents are not corrupted by system crash
- **Disk failure:** a head crash or similar disk failure destroys all or part of disk storage
  - **Destruction is assumed to be detectable:** disk drivers use checksums to detect failures

# Recovery Algorithms

- Recovery algorithms are techniques to ensure database transaction **atomicity and durability despite failures**
  
- Recovery algorithms have two parts
  1. Actions taken during normal transaction processing to ensure enough information exists to recover from failures
  
  2. Actions taken after a failure to recover the database contents to a state that ensures atomicity and durability

# Storage Structure

Resilience to failure classification:

## ■ **Volatile storage:**

- does not survive system crashes
- examples: main memory, cache memory

## ■ **Nonvolatile storage:**

- survives system crashes
- examples: disk, tape, flash memory,  
non-volatile (battery backed up) RAM

## ■ **Stable storage:**

- a mythical form of storage that survives all failures
- approximated by maintaining multiple copies on distinct nonvolatile media
- **Information residing in stable storage is never lost!!!**  
(theoretically cannot be guaranteed - it can be closely approximated by techniques that make data loss extremely unlikely)

The recovery systems relies on stable storage

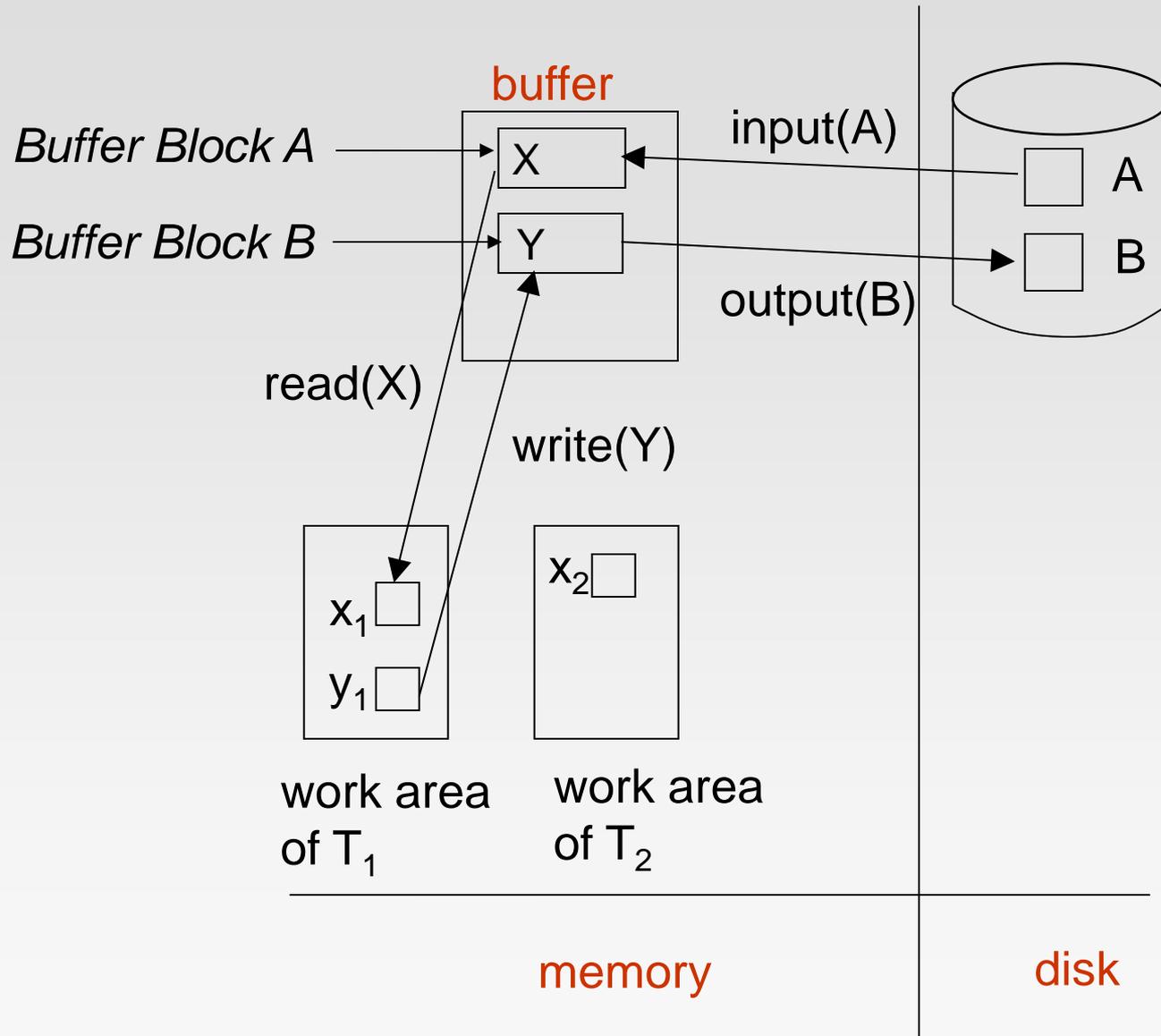
# Data Access

- **Physical blocks** are those blocks residing on the disk.
- **Buffer blocks** are the blocks residing temporarily in main memory.
- Block movements between disk and main memory are initiated through the following two operations:
  - **input**( $B$ ) transfers the physical block  $B$  to main memory.
  - **output**( $B$ ) transfers the buffer block  $B$  to the disk, and replaces the appropriate physical block there.
- Each transaction  $T_i$  has its private work-area in which local copies of all data items accessed and updated by it are kept.
  - $T_i$ 's local copy of a data item  $X$  is called  $x_i$ .
- We assume, for simplicity, that each data item fits in, and is stored inside, a single block.

# Data Access (Cont.)

- Transaction transfers data items between system buffer blocks and its private work-area using the following operations :
  - **read**( $X$ ) assigns the value of data item  $X$  to the local variable  $x_i$ .
  - **write**( $X$ ) assigns the value of local variable  $x_i$  to data item  $\{X\}$  in the buffer block.
  - both these commands may necessitate the issue of an **input**( $B_X$ ) instruction before the assignment, if the block  $B_X$  in which  $X$  resides is not already in memory.
- Transactions
  - Perform **read**( $X$ ) while accessing  $X$  for the first time;
  - All subsequent accesses are to the local copy.
  - After last access, transaction executes **write**( $X$ ).
- **output**( $B_X$ ) need not immediately follow **write**( $X$ ).  
System can perform the **output** operation when it deems fit.

# Example of Data Access



# Recovery and Atomicity

- **Modifying the database without ensuring that the transaction will commit may leave the database in an inconsistent state.**
- Consider transaction  $T_i$  that transfers \$50 from account  $A$  to account  $B$ ; goal is either to perform all database modifications made by  $T_i$  or none at all.
- Several output operations may be required for  $T_i$  (to output  $A$  and  $B$ ). A failure may occur after one of these modifications have been made but before all of them are made.

# Recovery and Atomicity (Cont.)

- To ensure atomicity despite failures, we first output information describing the modifications to **stable storage** without modifying the database itself.
- We study
  - **Log-based recovery**

We assume (initially) that transactions run serially, that is, one after the other.

# Log-Based Recovery

- A **log** is kept on stable storage.
  - The log is a sequence of **log records**, and maintains a record of update activities on the database.
- When transaction  $T_i$  starts, it registers itself by writing a log record  
 **$\langle T_i \text{ start} \rangle$**
- Before  $T_i$  executes **write**( $X$ ), a log record  
 **$\langle T_i, X, V_1, V_2 \rangle$**   
is written, where  $V_1$  is the value of  $X$  before the write, and  $V_2$  is the value to be written to  $X$ .
  - Log record notes that  $T_i$  has performed a write on data item  $X_j$ .  $X_j$  had value  $V_1$  before the write, and will have value  $V_2$  after the write.
- When  $T_i$  finishes its last statement (**commit** statement) (**partial commit of the transaction**), the following log record is written:

**$\langle T_i \text{ commit} \rangle$**

# Log-Based Recovery

Transaction **rollback** during normal operation

- If  $T_i$  executes the **abort** statement, the transaction is undone:

$\text{undo}(T_i)$  restores the value of all data items updated by  $T_i$  to their old values, going backwards from the last log record for  $T_i$

- each time a data item  $X$  is restored to its old value  $V$  (**write**( $X$ ))

- a special log record is written out

$\langle T_i, X, V \rangle$

such log records are called compensation log records

- when undo of a transaction is complete, the following log record is written:

$\langle T_i \text{ abort} \rangle$

- We assume for now that log records are written directly to stable storage (that is, they are not buffered)

# Log-Based Recovery

**output**( $B_x$ ) need not immediately follow **write**( $X$ ).  
System can perform the **output** operation when it deems fit.

- Possible schemes for the execution of the **output**( $B_x$ ) operations are:
  - Deferred database modification
  - Immediate database modification

# Deferred Database Modification

- The **deferred database modification** scheme records all modifications to the log, but defers all the **writes** to disk **after partial commit**
  - the **output**( $B_X$ ) operation executed after the partial commit
- old value of  $X$  is not needed in the log file for this scheme
- Transaction starts by writing  $\langle T_i, \text{start} \rangle$  record to log.
- A **write**( $X$ ) operation results in a log record  $\langle T_i, X, V \rangle$  being written, where  $V$  is the new value for  $X$
- The write is not performed on  $X$ , but it is deferred after the partial commit.
- When  $T_i$  partially commits,  $\langle T_i, \text{commit} \rangle$  is written to the log

At the checkpoint, the log records are read and used to actually execute the previously deferred writes.

# Deferred Database Modification (Cont.)

- During recovery after a crash, a **transaction needs to be redone** if and only if both  $\langle T_i \text{ start} \rangle$  and  $\langle T_i \text{ commit} \rangle$  are there in the Log.
- Redoing a transaction  $T_i$  (**redo**  $T_i$ ) sets the value of all data items updated by the transaction to the new values.
- Crashes can occur while
  - the transaction is executing the original updates, or
  - while recovery action is being taken
- example transactions  $T_0$  and  $T_1$  ( $T_0$  executes before  $T_1$ ):

$T_0$ :    **read** (A)  
           $A := A - 50$   
          **Write** (A)  
          **read** (B)  
           $B := B + 50$   
          **write** (B)

$T_1$ : **read** (C)  
           $C := C - 100$   
          **write** (C)

# Deferred DB Modification Recovery Example

- Below we show the log as it appears at three instances of time

Assume  $A = 1000$ ,  $B = 2000$ ,  $C = 700$

$\langle T_0 \text{ start} \rangle$	$\langle T_0 \text{ start} \rangle$	$\langle T_0 \text{ start} \rangle$
$\langle T_0, A, 950 \rangle$	$\langle T_0, A, 950 \rangle$	$\langle T_0, A, 950 \rangle$
$\langle T_0, B, 2050 \rangle$	$\langle T_0, B, 2050 \rangle$	$\langle T_0, B, 2050 \rangle$
	$\langle T_0 \text{ commit} \rangle$	$\langle T_0 \text{ commit} \rangle$
	$\langle T_1 \text{ start} \rangle$	$\langle T_1 \text{ start} \rangle$
	$\langle T_1, C, 600 \rangle$	$\langle T_1, C, 600 \rangle$
		$\langle T_1 \text{ commit} \rangle$
(a)	(b)	(c)

Assume we have a crash.

- (a) No redo actions need to be taken
- (b)  $\text{redo}(T_0)$  must be performed since  $\langle T_0 \text{ commit} \rangle$  is present
- (c) **redo** $(T_0)$  must be performed followed by  $\text{redo}(T_1)$  since  $\langle T_0 \text{ commit} \rangle$  and  $\langle T_1 \text{ commit} \rangle$  are present

# Immediate Database Modification

- The **immediate database modification** scheme allows database updates **output**( $B$ ) of an uncommitted transaction to be made as the writes are issued
- since undoing may be needed, update logs must have both **old value** and new value  
 $\langle T_i, X, V_1, V_2 \rangle$
- **Output of updated blocks can take place at any time (before or after transaction commit)**
- **Update Log record must be written *before* database item is written**
  - We assume that the log record is output directly to stable storage
  - Can be extended to postpone log record output, so long as prior to execution of an **output**( $B$ ) operation for a data block  $B$ , all log records corresponding to items  $B$  must be flushed to stable storage

# Immediate Database Modification (Cont.)

- Recovery procedure has two operations instead of one:
  - **undo**( $T_i$ ) restores the value of all data items updated by  $T_i$  to their old values, going backwards from the last log record for  $T_i$
  - **redo**( $T_i$ ) sets the value of all data items updated by  $T_i$  to the new values, going forward from the first log record for  $T_i$
- Both operations must be **idempotent**
  - That is, even if the operation is executed multiple times the effect is the same as if it is executed once
    - ▶ Needed since operations may get re-executed during recovery
- When recovering after failure:
  - Transaction  $T_i$  needs to be undone if the log contains the record  $\langle T_i, \mathbf{start} \rangle$ , but does not contain the record  $\langle T_i, \mathbf{commit} \rangle$ .
  - Transaction  $T_i$  needs to be redone if the log contains both the record  $\langle T_i, \mathbf{start} \rangle$  and the record  $\langle T_i, \mathbf{commit} \rangle$ .
- Undo operations are performed first, then redo operations.

# Immediate DB Modification Recovery Example

Below we show the log as it appears at three instances of time.

$\langle T_0 \text{ start} \rangle$	$\langle T_0 \text{ start} \rangle$	$\langle T_0 \text{ start} \rangle$
$\langle T_0, A, 1000, 950 \rangle$	$\langle T_0, A, 1000, 950 \rangle$	$\langle T_0, A, 1000, 950 \rangle$
$\langle T_0, B, 2000, 2050 \rangle$	$\langle T_0, B, 2000, 2050 \rangle$	$\langle T_0, B, 2000, 2050 \rangle$
	$\langle T_0 \text{ commit} \rangle$	$\langle T_0 \text{ commit} \rangle$
	$\langle T_1 \text{ start} \rangle$	$\langle T_1 \text{ start} \rangle$
	$\langle T_1, C, 700, 600 \rangle$	$\langle T_1, C, 700, 600 \rangle$
		$\langle T_1 \text{ commit} \rangle$
(a)	(b)	(c)

Recovery actions in each case above are:

- (a) undo ( $T_0$ ): B is restored to 2000 and A to 1000.
- (b) undo ( $T_1$ ) and redo ( $T_0$ ): C is restored to 700, and then A and B are set to 950 and 2050 respectively.
- (c) redo ( $T_0$ ) and redo ( $T_1$ ): A and B are set to 950 and 2050 respectively. Then C is set to 600

# DB Modification: An Example

Log	Write	Output
$\langle T_0 \text{ start} \rangle$		
$\langle T_0, A, 1000, 950 \rangle$		
	$A = 950$	
$\langle T_0, B, 2000, 2050 \rangle$		
	$B = 2050$	
		Output( $B_B$ )
$\langle T_0 \text{ commit} \rangle$		
$\langle T_1 \text{ start} \rangle$		
$\langle T_1, C, 700, 600 \rangle$		
	$C = 600$	
		Output( $B_C$ )
$\langle T_1 \text{ commit} \rangle$		
		Output( $B_A$ )

- Note:  $B_X$  denotes block containing  $X$ .

# Checkpoints

- Problems in recovery procedure :
  1. searching the entire log is time-consuming
  2. we might unnecessarily redo transactions which have already output their updates to the database.
  
- Streamline recovery procedure by periodically performing **checkpointing**
  1. Output all **log records** currently residing in main memory onto stable storage.
  2. **Output all modified buffer blocks to the disk.**
  3. Write a log record < **checkpoint**> onto stable storage

Transactions are not allowed to execute any actions while a checkpoint is in progress.

# Checkpoints (Cont.)

- During recovery we need to consider only the most recent transaction  $T_i$  that started before the checkpoint, and transactions that started after  $T_i$ 
  1. Scan backwards from end of log to find the most recent **<checkpoint>** record
  2. Continue scanning backwards till a record **< $T_i$  start>** is found for transaction in the checkpoint.
  3. Need only consider the part of log following above **start** record. Earlier part of log can be ignored during recovery, and can be erased whenever desired.
  4. For all transactions (starting from  $T_i$  or later) with no **< $T_i$  commit>**, or **< $T_i$  abort>**, execute **undo( $T_i$ )**. (Done only in case of immediate modification.)
  5. Scanning forward in the log, for all transactions starting from  $T_i$  or later with a **< $T_i$  commit>** or **< $T_i$  abort>**, execute **redo( $T_i$ )**.

# Checkpoints (Cont.)

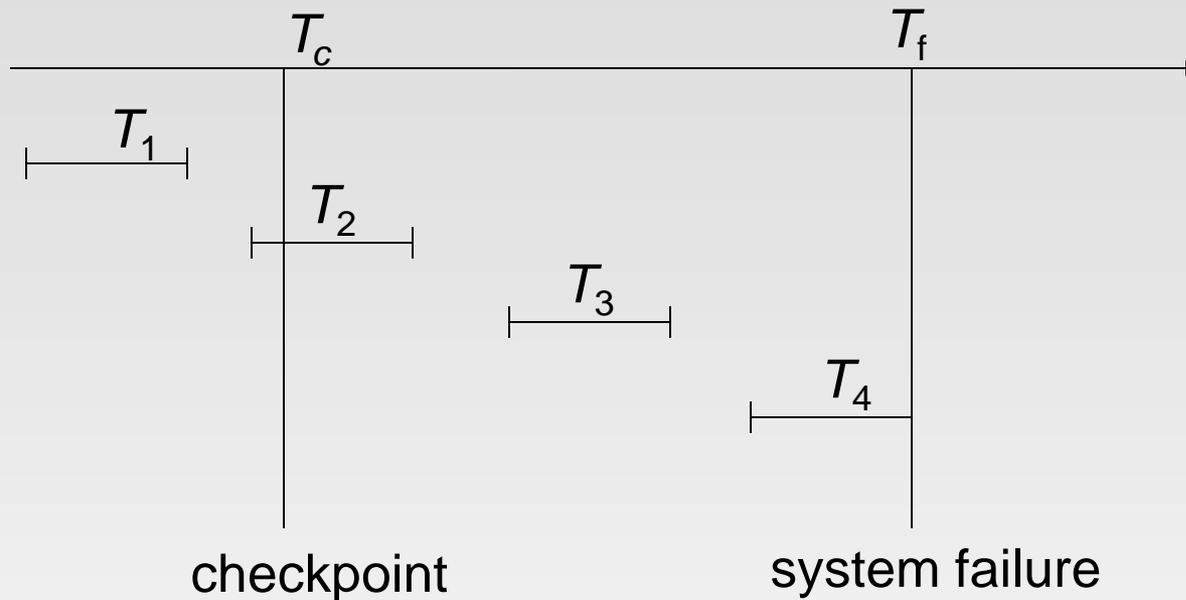
Note that

- If transaction  $T_i$  was undone earlier and the  $\langle T_i \text{ abort} \rangle$  record written to the log, and then a failure occurs, on recovery from failure  $T_i$  is redone –

such a redo redoes all the original actions including the steps that restored old values

- Known as **repeating history**  
Seems wasteful, but simplifies recovery greatly

# Example of Checkpoints



Recovery from system failure

- $T_1$  can be ignored (updates already output to disk due to checkpoint)
- $T_2$  and  $T_3$  redone.
- $T_4$  undone

# Recovery With Concurrent Transactions

- We modify the log-based recovery schemes to allow multiple transactions to execute concurrently.
  - All transactions share a **single disk buffer and a single log**
  - A buffer block can have data items updated by one or more transactions
- We assume concurrency control using **strict two-phase locking**;
  - i.e. the updates of uncommitted transactions should not be visible to other transactions
- Logging is done as described earlier.
  - Log records of different transactions may be interspersed in the log.
- The checkpointing technique and actions taken on recovery have to be changed
  - since several transactions may be active when a checkpoint is performed.

# Recovery With Concurrent Transactions (Cont.)

- Checkpoints are performed as before, except that the checkpoint log record is now of the form

**< checkpoint  $L$ >**

where  $L$  is the list of **transactions active** at the time of the checkpoint

- When the system recovers from a crash, it first does the following:
  1. Initialize *undo-list* and *redo-list* to empty
  2. Scan the log backwards from the end, stopping when the first **<checkpoint  $L$ >** record is found.  
For each record found during the backward scan:
    - 👉 if the record is **< $T_i$  commit>/< $T_i$  abort>**, add  $T_i$  to *redo-list*
    - 👉 if the record is **< $T_i$  start>**, then if  $T_i$  is not in *redo-list*, add  $T_i$  to *undo-list*
  3. For every  $T_i$  in  $L$ , if  $T_i$  is not in *redo-list*, add  $T_i$  to *undo-list*

# Recovery With Concurrent Transactions (Cont.)

- At this point *undo-list* consists of incomplete transactions which must be undone, and *redo-list* consists of finished transactions that must be redone.
- Recovery now continues as follows:
  1. Scan log backwards from most recent record, stopping when  $\langle T_i \text{ start} \rangle$  records have been encountered for every  $T_i$  in  $L$ .
    - During the scan, perform **undo** for each log record that belongs to a transaction in *undo-list*.
  2. Scan log forwards from the  $\langle T_i \text{ start} \rangle$  oldest record found at step 1 till the end of the log.
    - During the scan, perform **redo** for each log record that belongs to a transaction on *redo-list*

# Example of Recovery

- Go over the steps of the recovery algorithm on the following log:

< $T_0$  **start**>

< $T_0$ , A, 0, 10>

< $T_0$  **commit**>

< $T_1$  **start**>     /\* Scan at step 1 comes up to here \*/

< $T_1$ , B, 0, 10>

< $T_2$  **start**>

< $T_2$ , C, 0, 10>

< $T_2$ , C, 10, 20>

<checkpoint { $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ }>

< $T_3$  **start**>

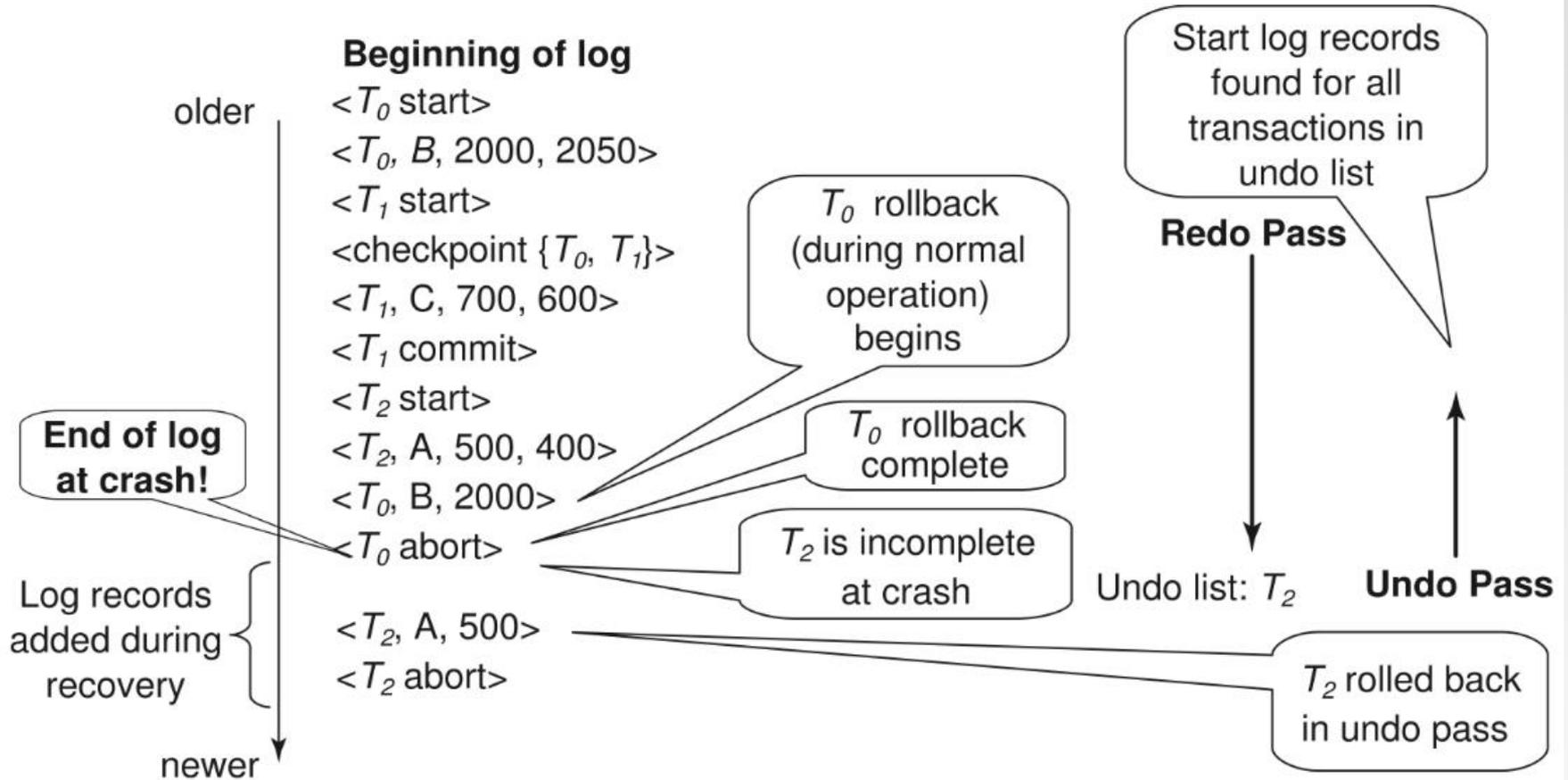
< $T_3$ , A, 10, 20>

< $T_3$ , D, 0, 10>

< $T_3$  **commit**>

crash

# Example of recovery (<T0 abort>)



# Log Record Buffering

- **Log record buffering**: log records are buffered in main memory, instead of being output directly to stable storage.
  - Log records are output to stable storage when a block of log records in the buffer is full, or a **log force** operation is executed.

Several log records can thus be output using a single output operation, reducing the I/O cost.

# Log Record Buffering (Cont.)

- The rules below must be followed if log records are buffered:
  - Log records are output to stable storage in the order in which they are created.
  - Transaction  $T_i$  enters the commit state only when the log record  $\langle T_i \text{ commit} \rangle$  has been output to stable storage. **Log force** is performed to commit a transaction by forcing all its log records (including the commit record) to stable storage.
  - Before a block of data in main memory is output to the database, all log records pertaining to data in that block must have been output to stable storage.
    - ▶ This rule is called the **write-ahead logging** or **WAL** rule

# Database Buffering

- Database maintains an in-memory buffer of data blocks
  - When a new block is needed, if buffer is full an existing block needs to be removed from buffer
  - If the block chosen for removal has been updated, it must be output to disk
  
- If a block with uncommitted updates is output to disk, log records with undo information for the updates are output to the log on stable storage first
  - (Write ahead logging)
  
- No updates should be in progress on a block when it is output to disk.

# Failure with Loss of Nonvolatile Storage

- So far we assumed no loss of non-volatile storage
- Technique similar to checkpointing used to deal with loss of non-volatile storage
  - Periodically **dump** the entire content of the database to stable storage
  - No transaction may be active during the dump procedure; a procedure similar to checkpointing must take place
    - ▶ Output all log records currently residing in main memory onto stable storage.
    - ▶ Output all buffer blocks onto the disk.
    - ▶ Copy the contents of the database to stable storage.
    - ▶ Output a record **<dump>** to log on stable storage.

# Recovering from Failure of Non-Volatile Storage

- To recover from disk failure
  - restore database from most recent dump.
  - Consult the log and redo all transactions that committed after the dump
  - Apply the Log Recovery

