

Lecture 8--Continued: Concurrency & Locking

Announcements

- Scores were quite good overall for homework! We're excited!
 - Destroy the midterm!
- Midterm is with CAs.
 - We will post on the page how to divide into overflow rooms
 - Please start posting questions (some very good ones already!)
 - I promise to be there for final CA
- Trolling: no SQL and bitcoin (OPTIONAL!) bitcoin exchange [brought down by lack of consistency?](#)
- Today, we end early for small group feedback... we read every element, and we take it seriously!

Concurrency: Isolation & Consistency

- The DBMS must handle concurrency such that...

1. **Isolation** is maintained: Users must be able to execute each TXN **as if they were the only user**

- DBMS handles the details of *interleaving* various TXNs

ACID

2. **Consistency** is maintained: TXNs must leave the DB in a **consistent state**

- DBMS handles the details of enforcing integrity constraints

ACCD

Example- consider two TXNs:

```
T1: START TRANSACTION
    UPDATE Accounts
    SET Amt = Amt + 100
    WHERE Name = 'A'

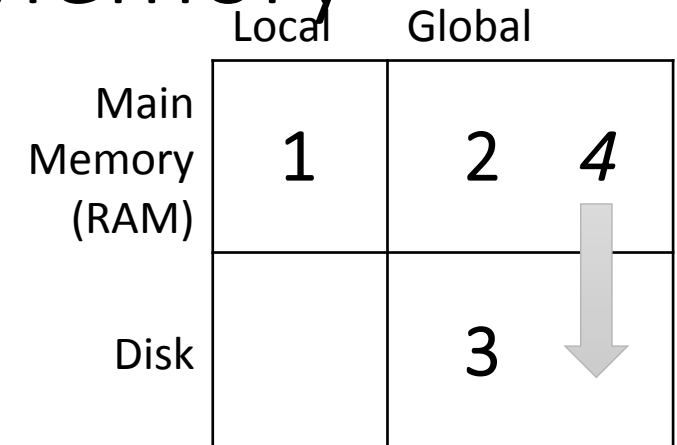
    UPDATE Accounts
    SET Amt = Amt - 100
    WHERE Name = 'B'
COMMIT
```

T1 transfers \$100 from B's account to A's account

```
T2: START TRANSACTION
    UPDATE Accounts
    SET Amt = Amt * 1.06
COMMIT
```

T2 credits both accounts with a 6% interest payment

Recall: Three Types of Regions of Memory



1. **Local:** In our model each process in a DBMS has its own local memory, where it stores values that only it “sees”

2. **Global:** Each process can read from / write to shared data in main memory

3. **Disk:** Global memory can read from / flush to disk

4. **Log:** Assume on stable disk storage- spans both main memory and disk...

Log is a *sequence* from main memory -> disk

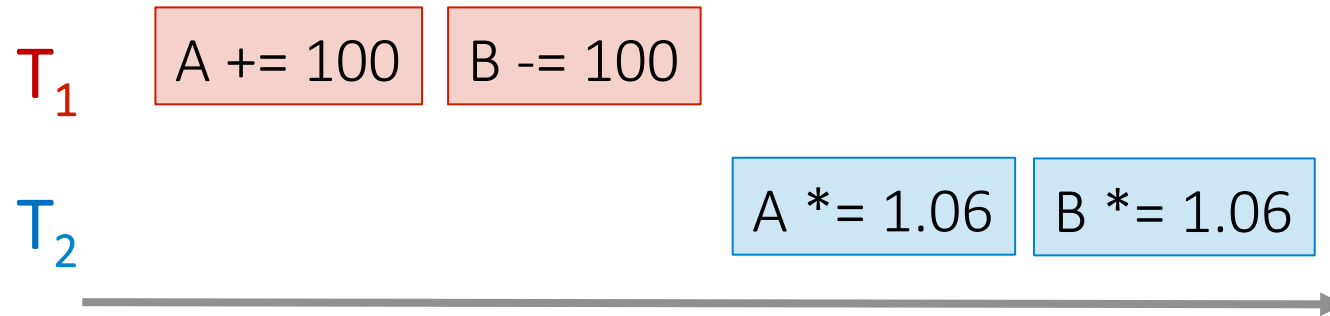
“Flushing to disk” = writing to disk.

Scheduling examples

Starting
Balance

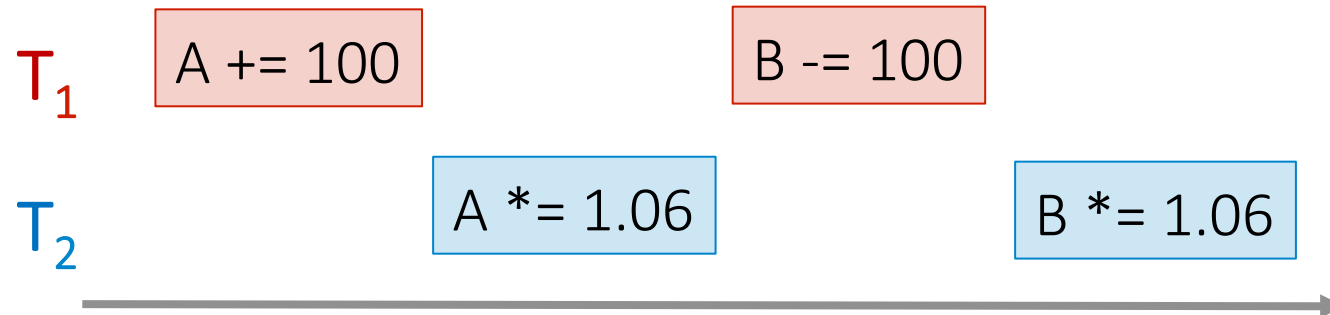
A	B
\$50	\$200

Serial schedule T_1, T_2 :



A	B
\$159	\$106

Interleaved schedule A:

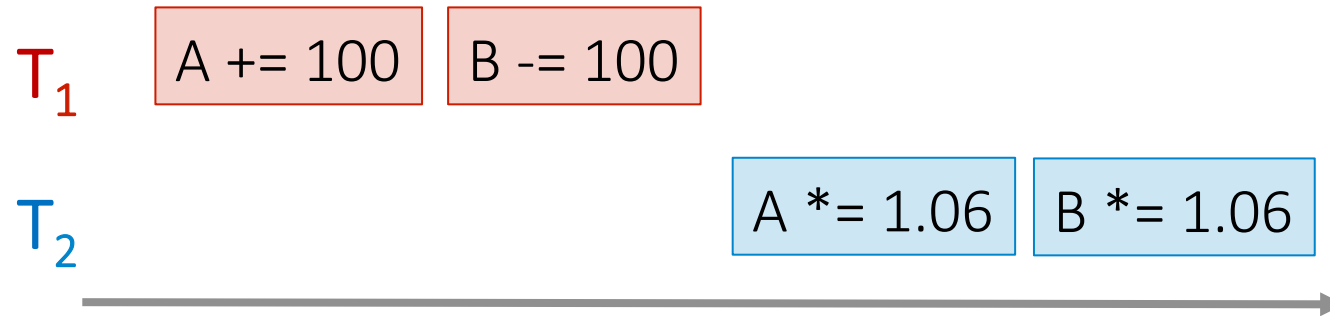


A	B
\$159	\$106

Same
result!

Scheduling examples

Serial schedule T_1, T_2 :

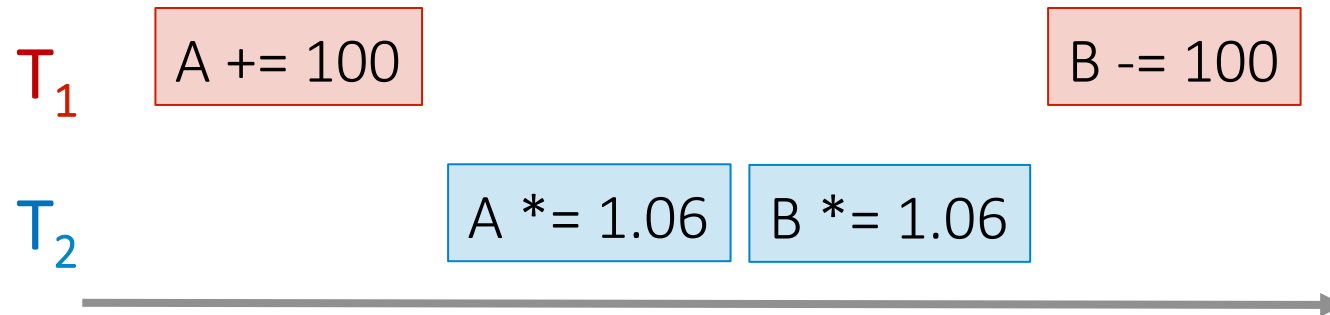


Starting
Balance

A	B
\$50	\$200

A	B
\$159	\$106

Interleaved schedule B:



A	B
\$159	\$112

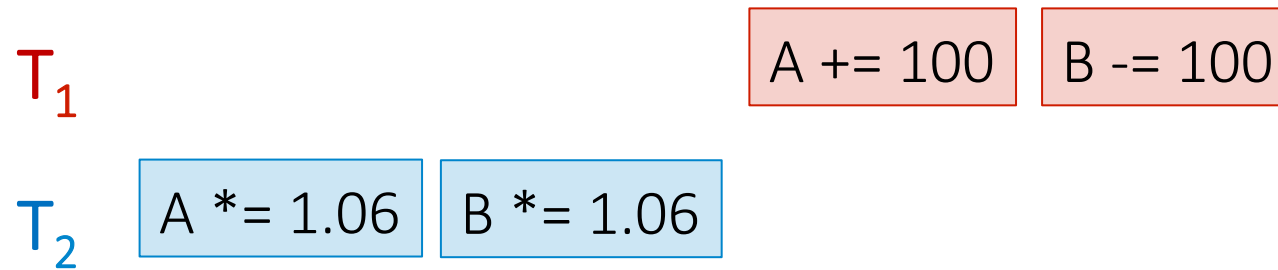
Different
result than
serial
 T_1, T_2 !

Scheduling examples

Starting
Balance

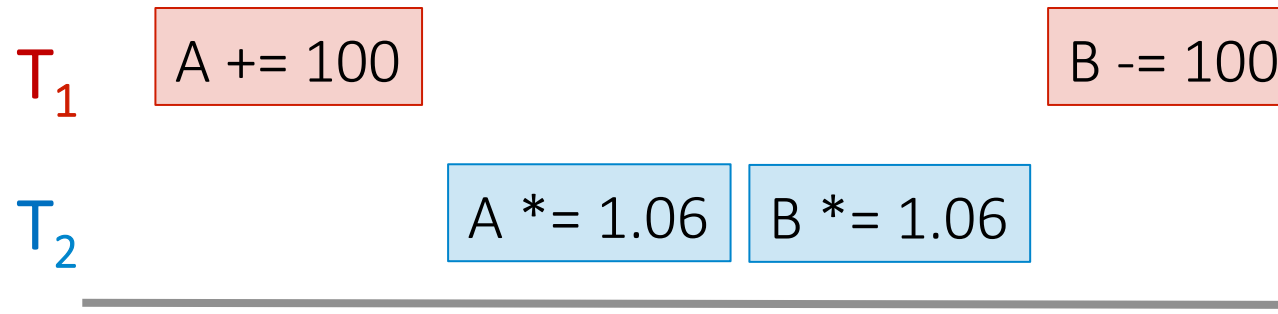
A	B
\$50	\$200

Serial schedule T_2, T_1 :



A	B
\$153	\$112

Interleaved schedule B:

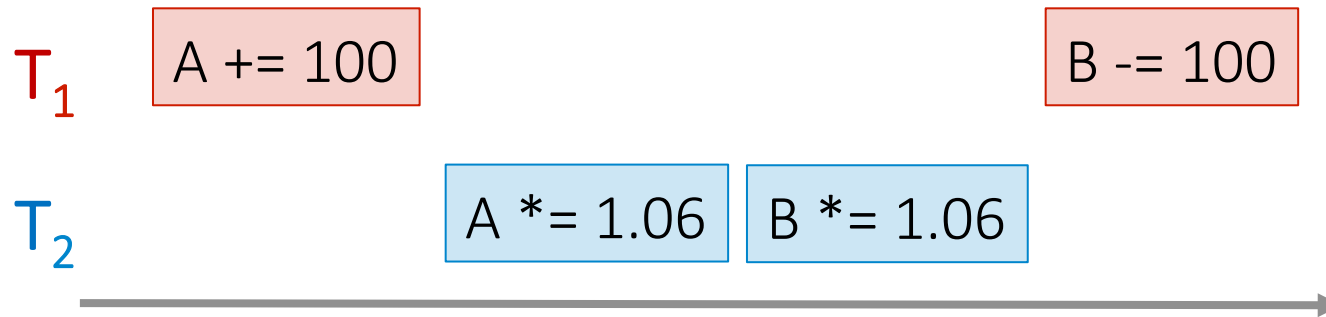


A	B
\$159	\$112

Different
result than
serial T_2, T_1
ALSO!

Scheduling examples

Interleaved schedule B:



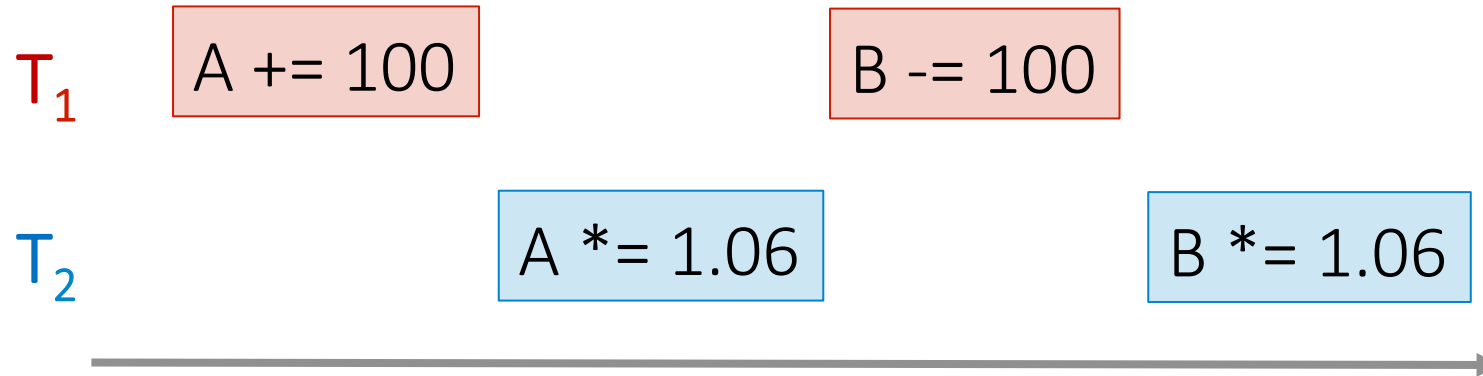
This schedule is different than *any serial order!* We say that it is not serializable

Scheduling Definitions

- A **serial schedule** is one that does not interleave the actions of different transactions
- A and B are **equivalent schedules** if, *for any database state*, the effect on DB of executing A is **identical to** the effect of executing B
- A **serializable schedule** is a schedule that is equivalent to ***some*** serial execution of the transactions.

The word “**some**” makes this definition powerful & tricky!

Serializable?



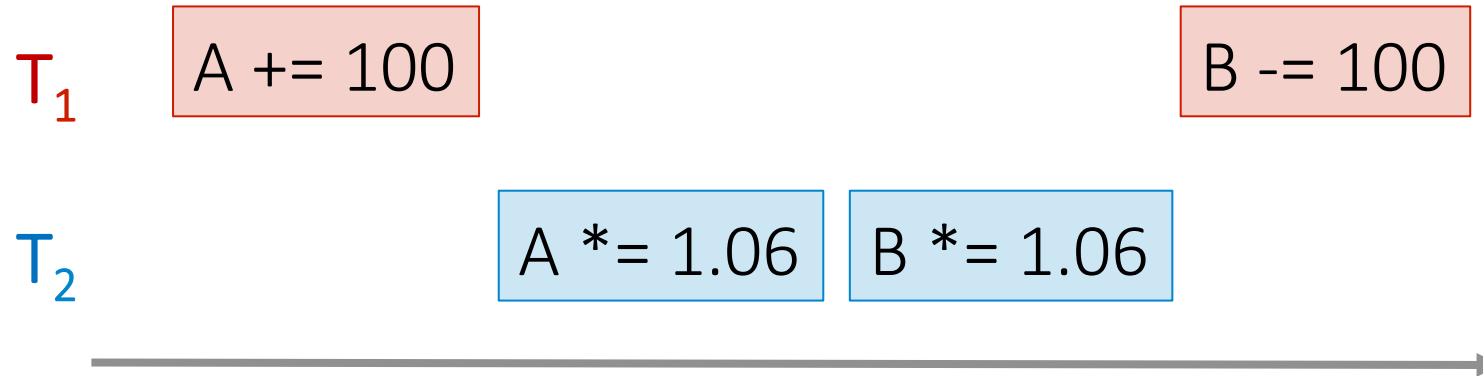
Serial schedules:

	A	B
T_1, T_2	$1.06 * (A + 100)$	$1.06 * (B - 100)$
T_2, T_1	$1.06 * A + 100$	$1.06 * B - 100$

A	B
$1.06 * (A + 100)$	$1.06 * (B - 100)$

Same as a serial schedule
for all possible values of
 $A, B = \underline{\text{serializable}}$

Serializable?



Serial schedules:

	A	B
T_1, T_2	$1.06 * (A + 100)$	$1.06 * (B - 100)$
T_2, T_1	$1.06 * A + 100$	$1.06 * B - 100$

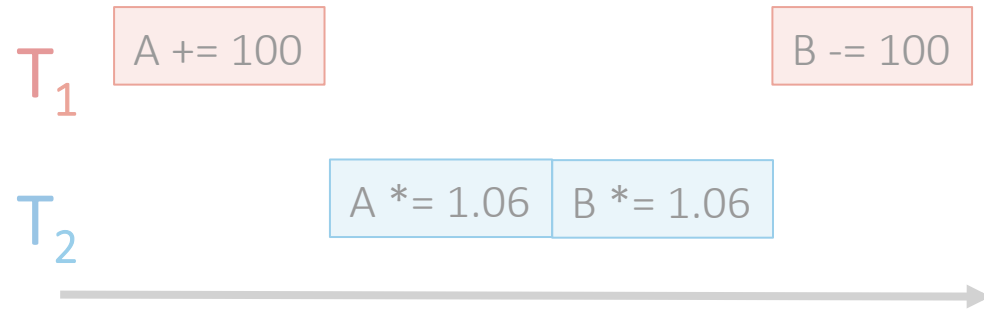
A	B
$1.06 * (A + 100)$	$1.06 * B - 100$

Not *equivalent* to any serializable schedule = **not serializable**

What else can go wrong with interleaving?

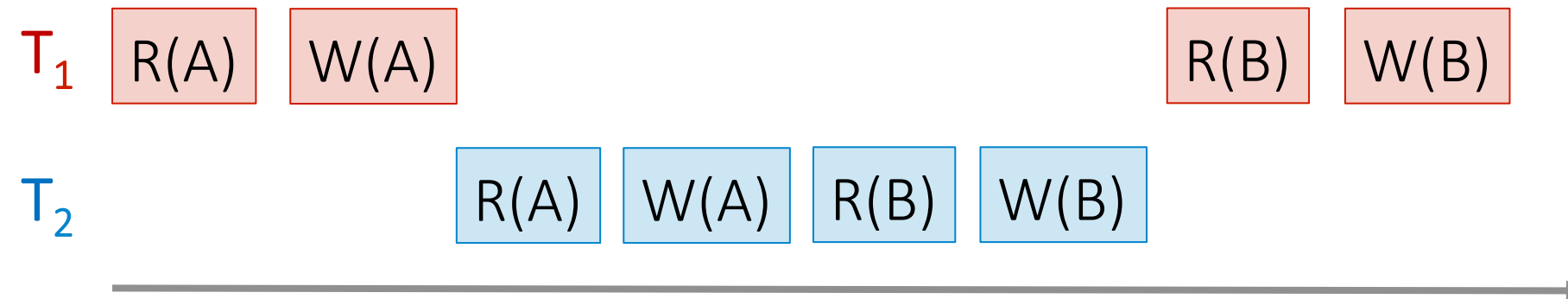
- Various anomalies which break isolation / serializability
 - Often referred to by name...
- Occur because **conflicts** between interleaved TXNs

The DBMS's view of the schedule



An action in the TXNs may

- Reads a value from **global memory** to **local memory**
 - Write a value from **local memory** to **global memory**
 - Arbitrary computation on local memory...
- Scheduling order matters!



Conflict Types

Two actions conflict if they are part of *different* TXNs, involve the same object, and at least one of them is a write

- Thus, there are three types of conflicts:

- Read-Write conflicts (RW)
- Write-Read conflicts (WR)
- Write-Write conflicts (WW)

Why no “RR Conflict”?

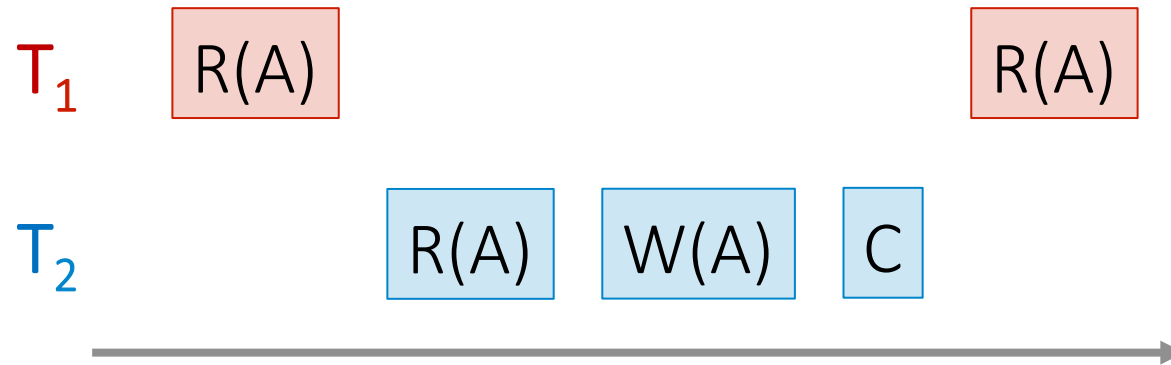
Interleaving anomalies occur with / because of these conflicts between TXNs (*but these conflicts can occur without causing anomalies!*)

See next section for more!

Classic Anomalies with Interleaved Execution

“Unrepeatable read”:

Example:



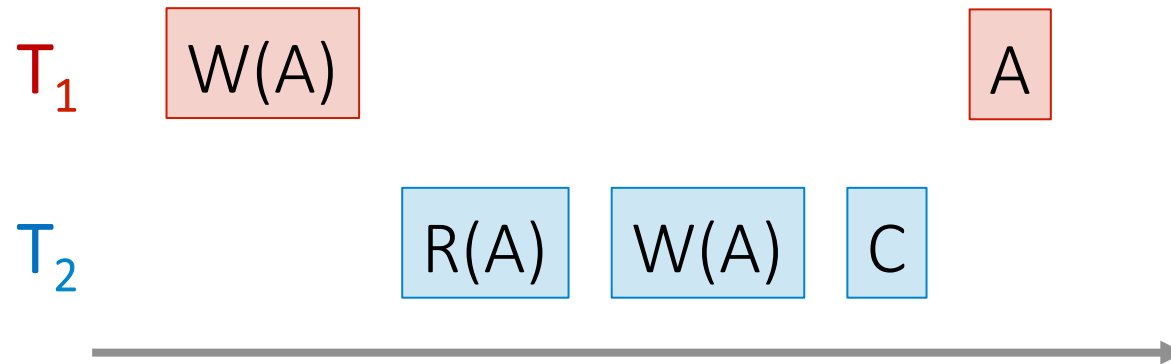
1. T_1 reads some data from A
2. T_2 writes to A
3. Then, T_1 reads from A again *and now gets a different / inconsistent value from its own local memory!*

Occurring because of a RW conflict. Which pairs?

Classic Anomalies with Interleaved Execution

“Dirty read” / Reading uncommitted data:

Example:



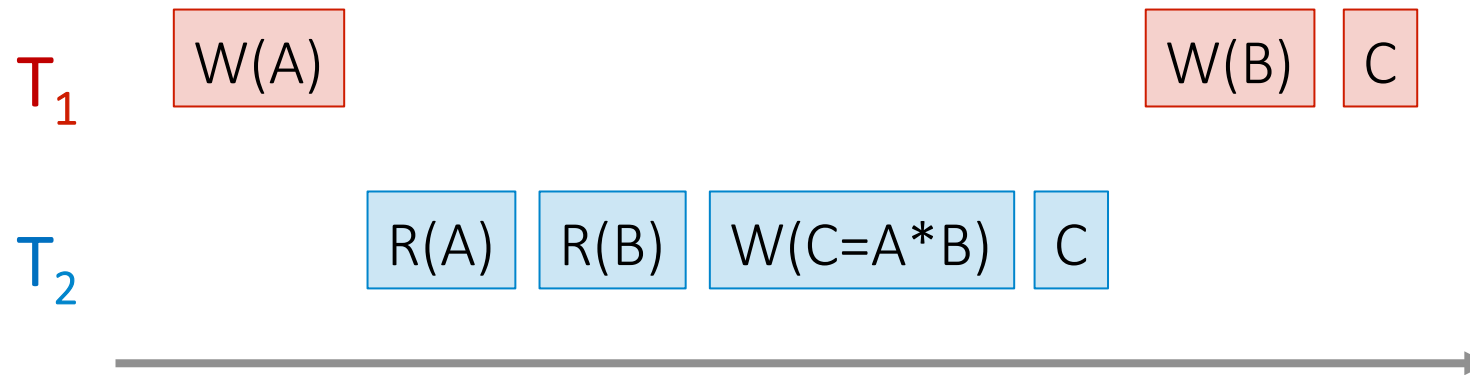
1. T_1 writes some data to A
2. T_2 reads from A , then writes back to A & commits
3. T_1 then aborts- *now T_2 's result is based on an obsolete / inconsistent value*

*Occurring because of a **WR** conflict. Which pairs?*

Classic Anomalies with Interleaved Execution

“Inconsistent read” / Reading partial commits:

Example:



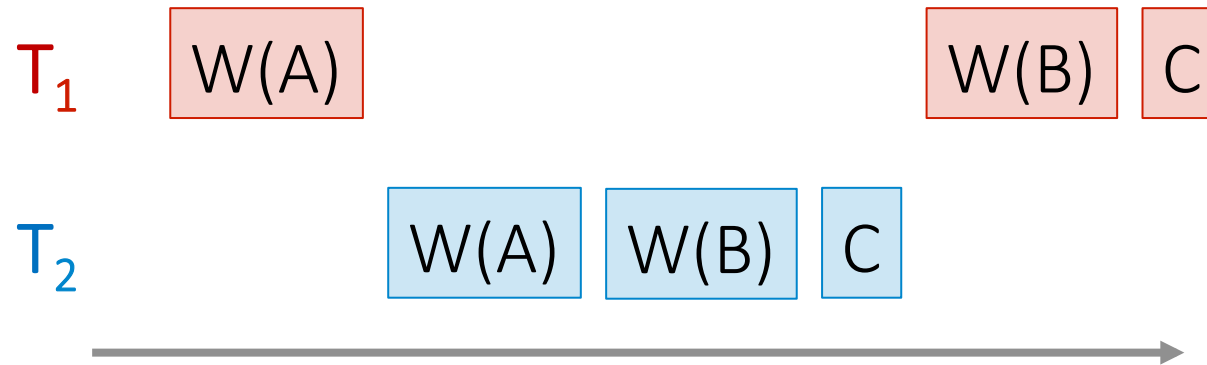
1. T_1 writes some data to A
2. T_2 reads from A *and* B, and then writes some value which depends on A & B
3. T_1 then writes to B- *now T_2 's result is based on an incomplete commit*

Again, occurring because of a WR conflict. Which pairs?

Classic Anomalies with Interleaved Execution

Partially-lost update:

Example:



1. T_1 blind writes some data to A
2. T_2 blind writes to A and B
3. T_1 then blind writes to B ; now we have T_2 's value for B and T_1 's value for A - *not equivalent to any serial schedule!*

Occurring because of a WW conflict. Which pairs?

Activity-8-1.ipynb

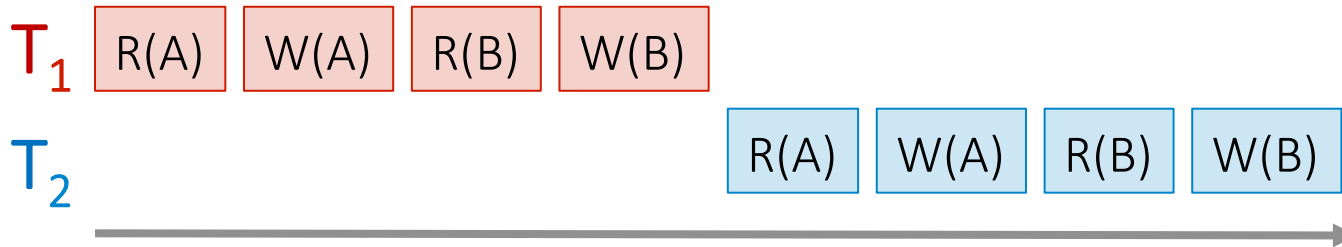
2. Conflict Serializability, Locking & Deadlock

What you will learn about in this section

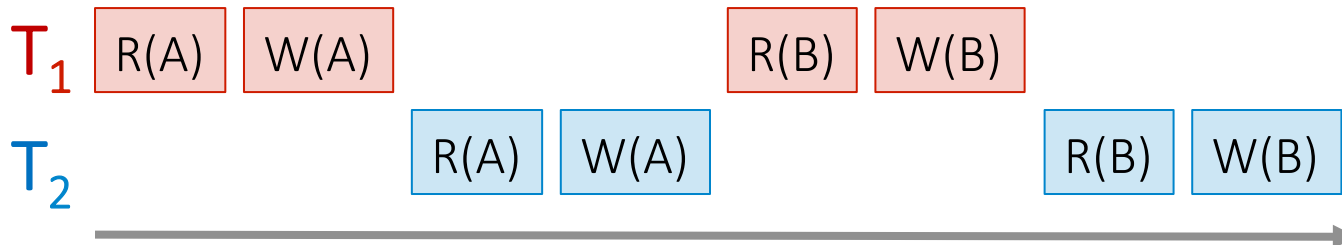
1. RECAP: Concurrency
2. Conflict Serializability
3. DAGs & Topological Orderings
4. Strict 2PL
5. Deadlocks

Recall: Concurrency as Interleaving TXNs

Serial Schedule:



Interleaved Schedule:

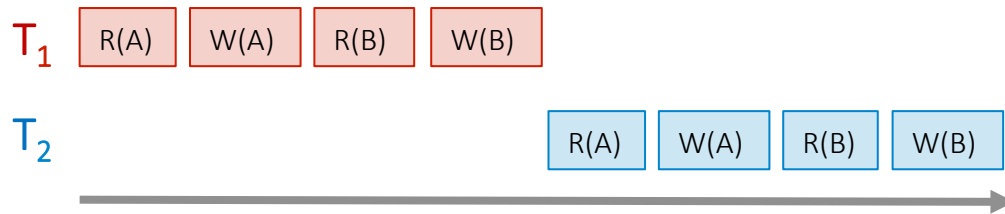


- For our purposes, having TXNs occur concurrently means **interleaving their component actions (R/W)**

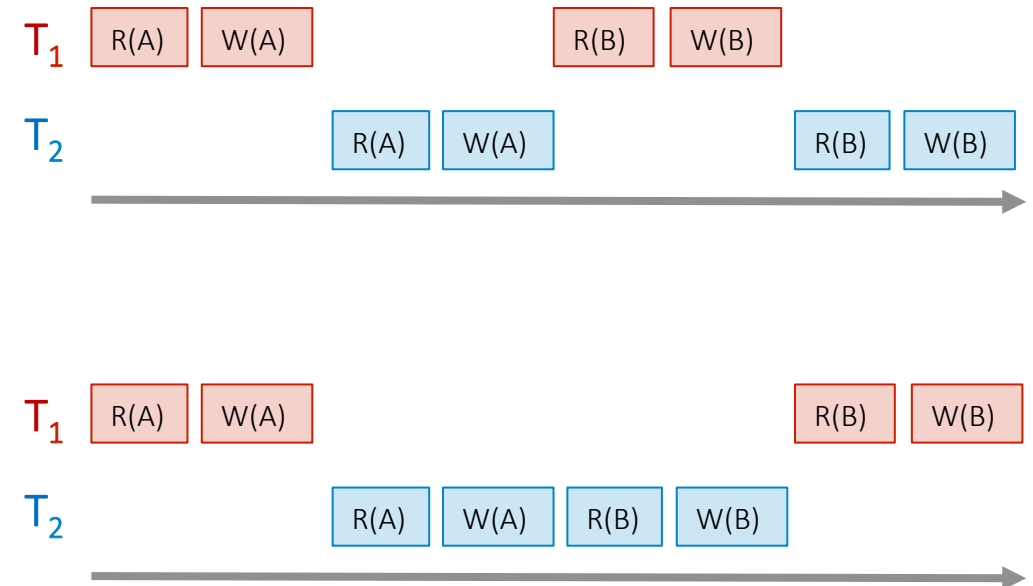
We call the particular order of interleaving a schedule

Recall: “Good” vs. “bad” schedules

Serial Schedule:



Interleaved Schedules:



We want to develop ways of discerning “good” vs. “bad” schedules

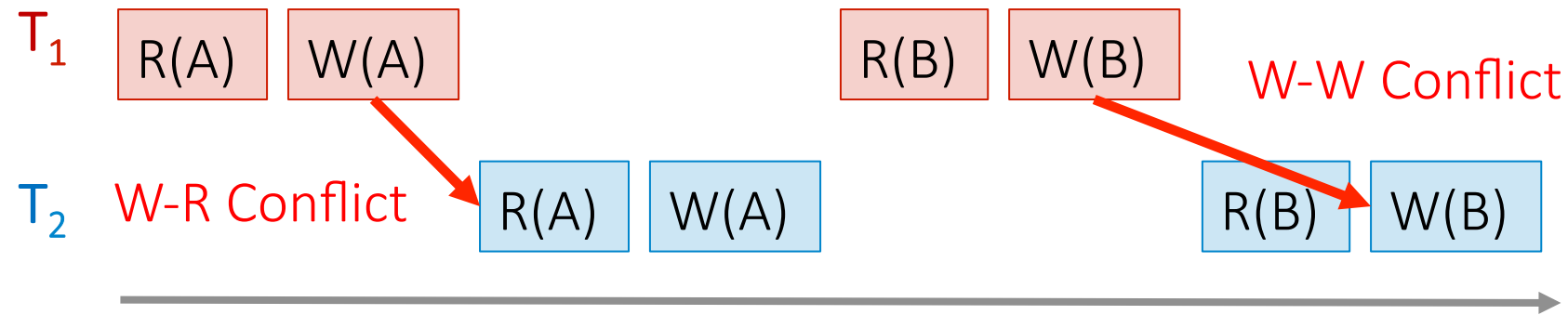
Ways of Defining “Good” vs. “Bad” Schedules

- Recall from last time: we call a schedule ***serializable*** if it is equivalent to *some* serial schedule
 - We used this as a notion of a “good” interleaved schedule, since a **serializable schedule will maintain isolation & consistency**
- Now, we’ll define a stricter, but very useful variant:
 - **Conflict serializability**

We’ll need to define *conflicts* first..

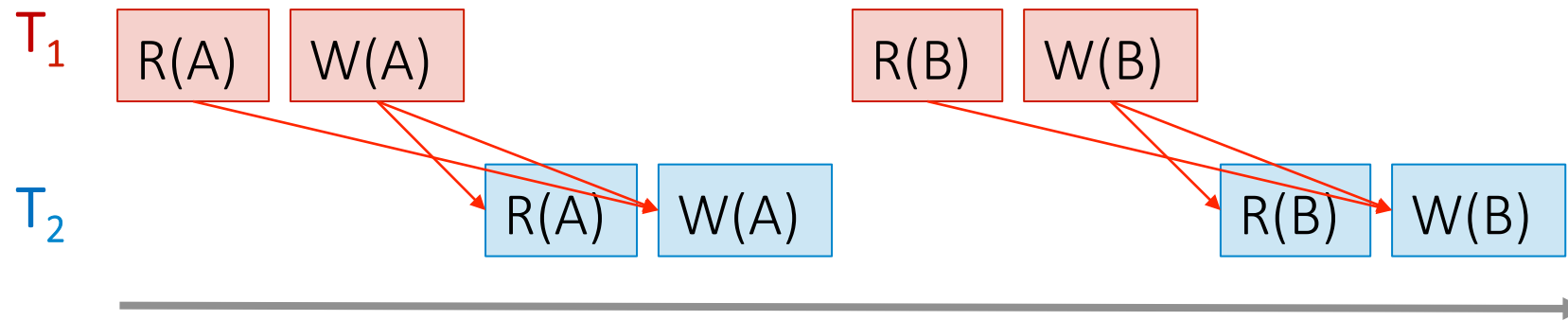
Conflicts

Two actions conflict if they are part of different TXNs, involve the same variable, and at least one of them is a write



Conflicts

Two actions conflict if they are part of different TXNs, involve the same variable, and at least one of them is a write



All “conflicts”!

Conflict Serializability

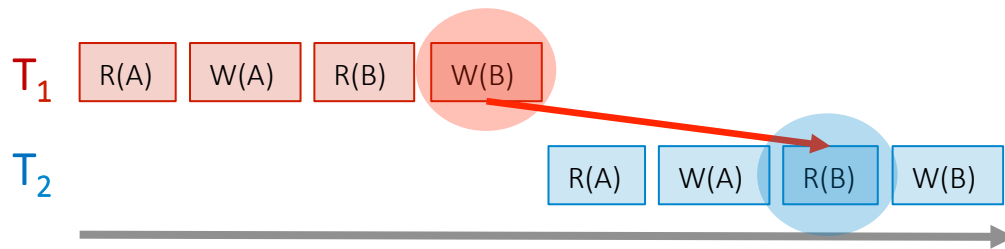
- Two schedules are **conflict equivalent** if:
 - They involve *the same actions of the same TXNs*
 - Every *pair of conflicting actions* of two TXNs are *ordered in the same way*
- Schedule S is **conflict serializable** if S is *conflict equivalent* to some serial schedule

Conflict serializable \Rightarrow serializable

So if we have conflict serializable, we have consistency & isolation!

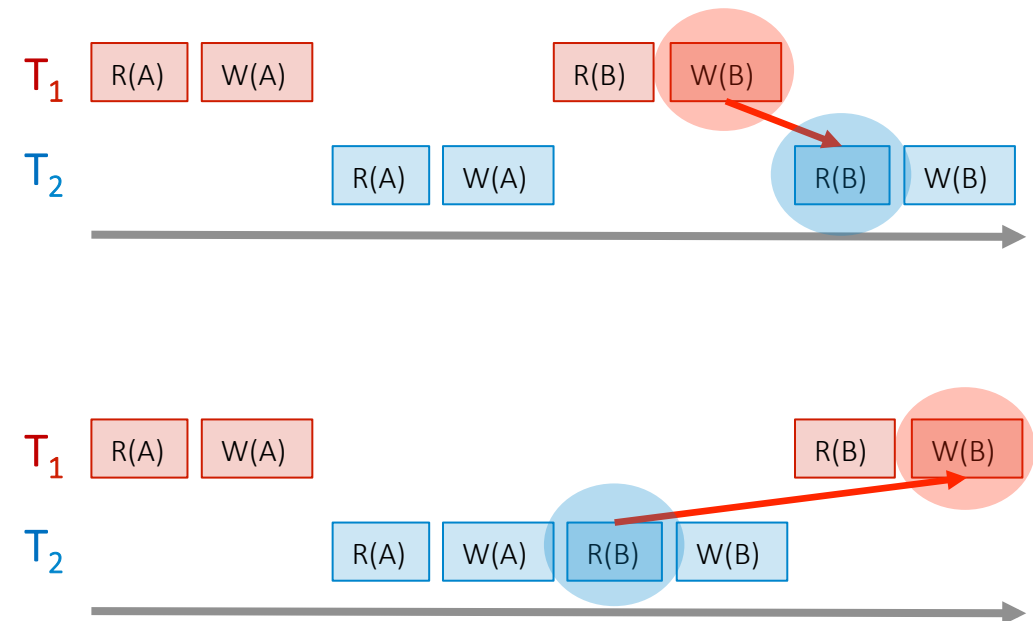
Recall: “Good” vs. “bad” schedules

Serial Schedule:



Note that in the “bad” schedule, the *order of conflicting actions is different than the above (or any) serial schedule!*

Interleaved Schedules:



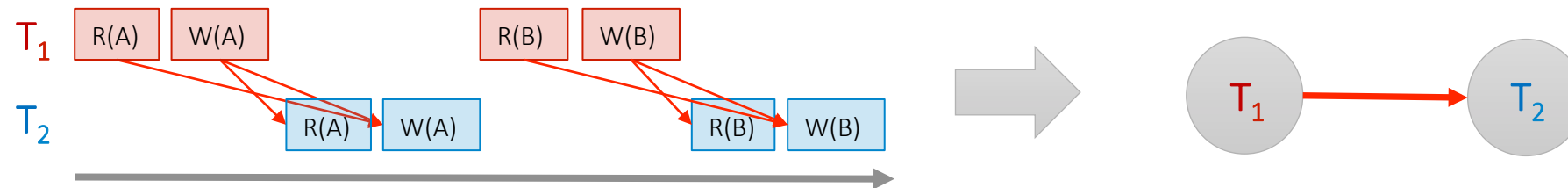
Conflict serializability also provides us with an operative notion of “good” vs. “bad” schedules!

Note: Conflicts vs. Anomalies

- **Conflicts** are things we talk about to help us characterize different schedules
 - Present in both “good” and “bad” schedules
- **Anomalies** are instances where isolation and/or consistency is broken because of a “bad” schedule
 - We often characterize different anomaly types by what types of conflicts predicated them

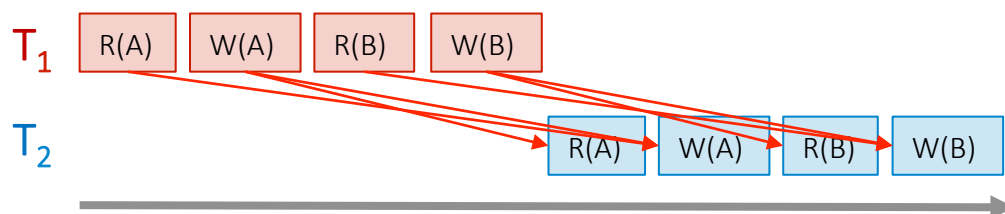
The Conflict Graph

- Let's now consider looking at conflicts **at the TXN level**
- Consider a graph where the **nodes are TXNs**, and there is an edge from $T_i \rightarrow T_j$ if **any actions in T_i precede and conflict with any actions in T_j**



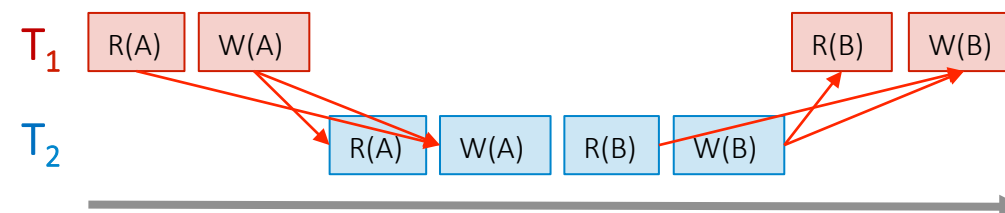
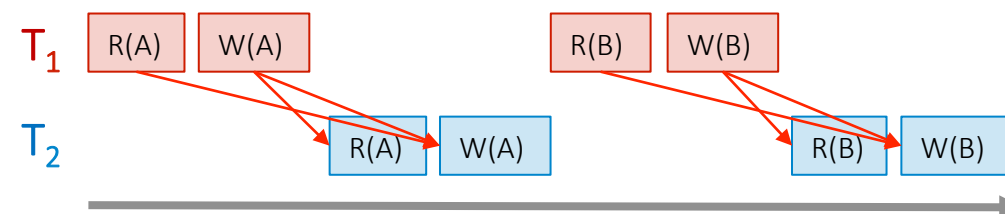
What can we say about “good” vs. “bad” conflict graphs?

Serial Schedule:



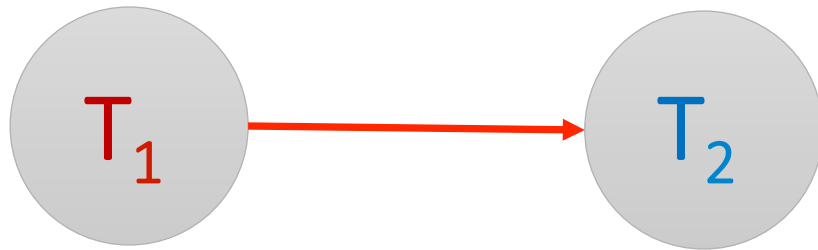
A bit complicated...

Interleaved Schedules:



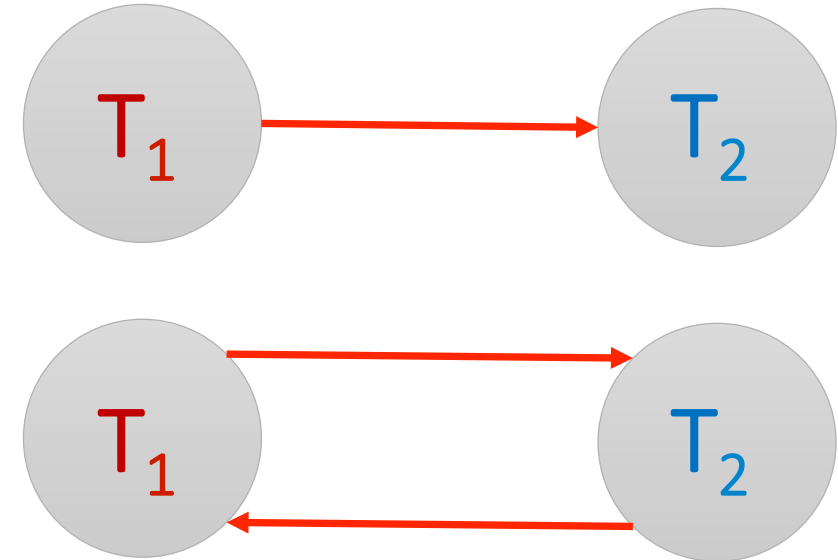
What can we say about “good” vs. “bad” conflict graphs?

Serial Schedule:



Simple!

Interleaved Schedules:



Theorem: Schedule is **conflict serializable** if and only if its conflict graph is **acyclic**

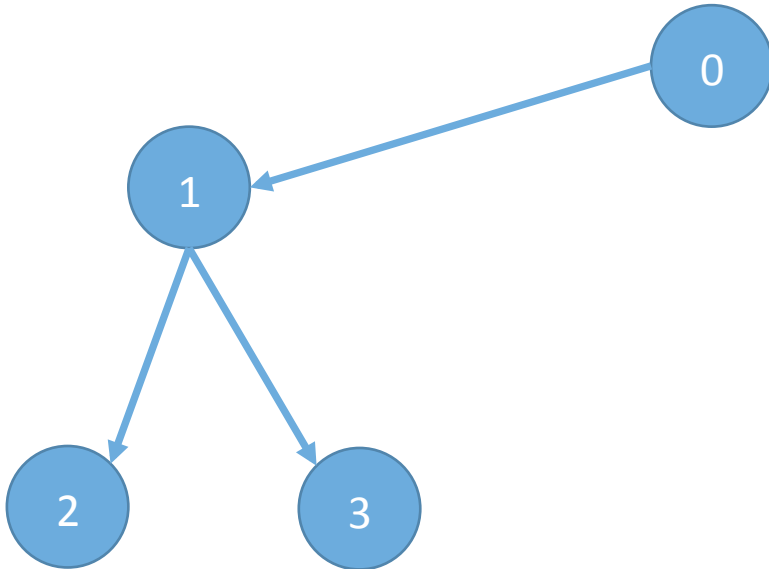
Let's unpack this notion of acyclic conflict graphs...

DAGs & Topological Orderings

- A **topological ordering** of a directed graph is a linear ordering of its vertices that respects all the directed edges
- A directed **acyclic** graph (DAG) always has one or more **topological orderings**
 - (And there exists a topological ordering *if and only if* there are no directed cycles)

DAGs & Topological Orderings

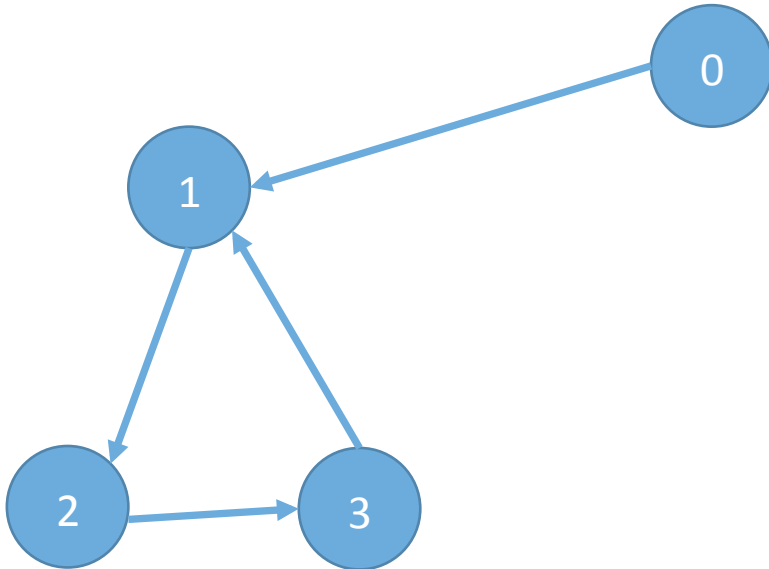
- Ex: What is one possible topological ordering here?



Ex: 0, 1, 2, 3 (or: 0, 1, 3, 2)

DAGs & Topological Orderings

- Ex: What is one possible topological ordering here?



There is none!

Connection to conflict serializability

- In the conflict graph, a topological ordering of nodes corresponds to a **serial ordering of TXNs**
- Thus an acyclic conflict graph \rightarrow conflict serializable!

Theorem: Schedule is conflict serializable if and only if its conflict graph is acyclic

Strict Two-Phase Locking

- We consider **locking**- specifically, *strict two-phase locking*- as a way to deal with concurrency, because it **guarantees conflict serializability (if it completes- see upcoming...)**
- Also (*conceptually*) straightforward to implement, and transparent to the user!

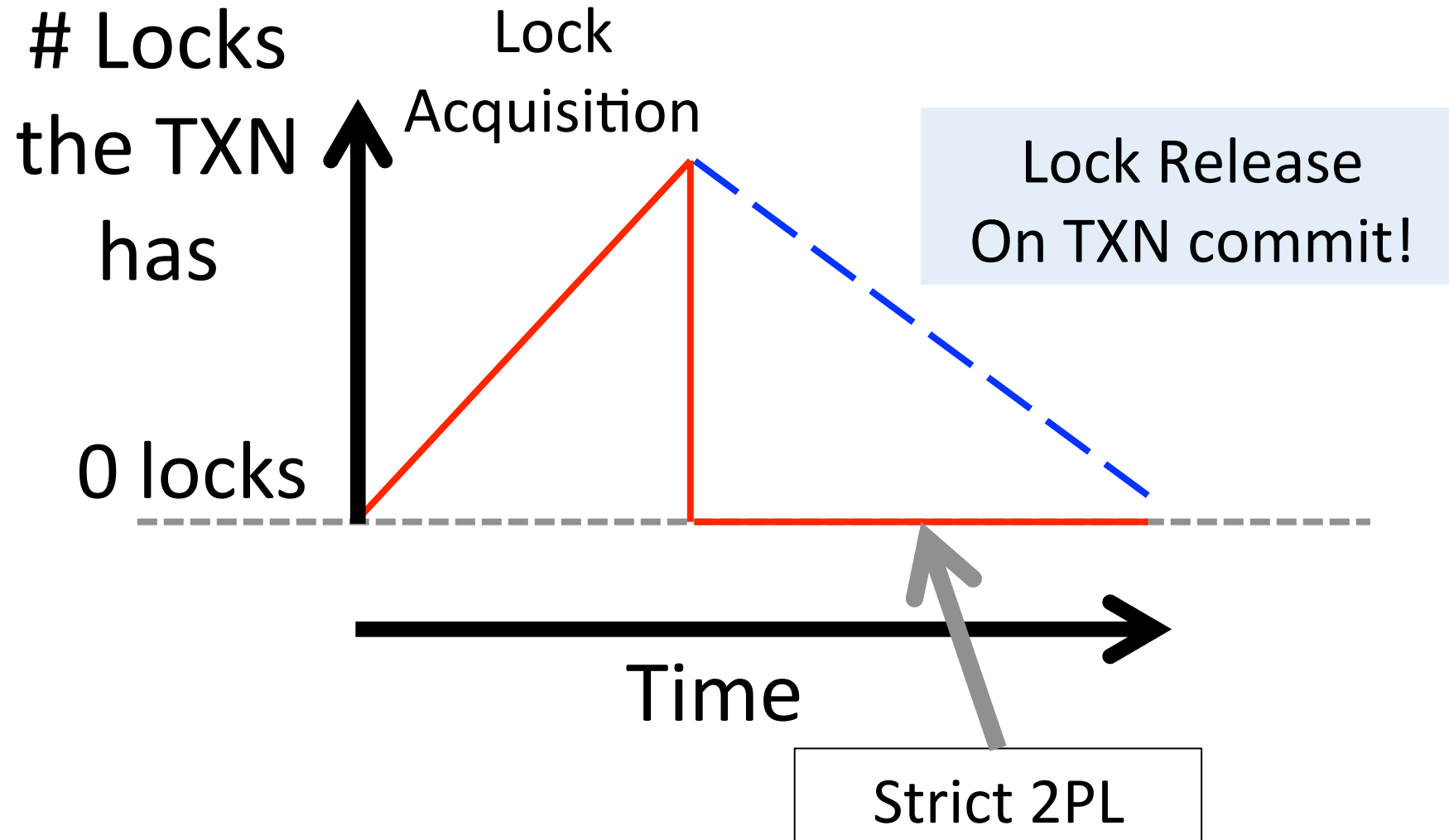
Strict Two-phase Locking (Strict 2PL) Protocol:

TXNs obtain:

- An **X (*exclusive*) lock** on object before **writing**.
 - If a TXN holds, no other TXN can get a lock (S or X) on that object.
- An **S (*shared*) lock** on object before **reading**
 - If a TXN holds, no other TXN can get an X lock on that object
- All locks held by a TXN are released when TXN completes.

Note: Terminology here- “exclusive”, “shared”- meant to be intuitive- no tricks!

Picture of 2-Phase Locking (2PL)



Strict 2PL

Theorem: Strict 2PL allows only schedules whose dependency graph is acyclic

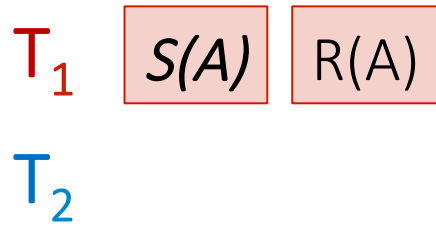
Proof Intuition: In strict 2PL, if there is an edge $T_i \rightarrow T_j$ (i.e. T_i and T_j conflict) then T_j needs to wait until T_i is finished – so *cannot* have an edge $T_j \rightarrow T_i$

Therefore, Strict 2PL only allows conflict serializable \Rightarrow serializable schedules

Strict 2PL

- If a schedule follows strict 2PL and locking, it is conflict serializable...
 - ...and thus serializable
 - ...and thus maintains isolation & consistency!
- Not all serializable schedules are allowed by strict 2PL.
- So let's use strict 2PL, what could go wrong?

Deadlock Detection: Example



Waits-for graph:



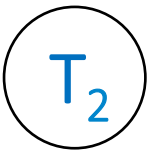
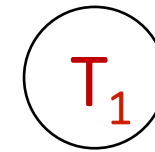
First, T_1 requests a shared lock on A to read from it

Deadlock Detection: Example

T_1 $S(A)$ $R(A)$

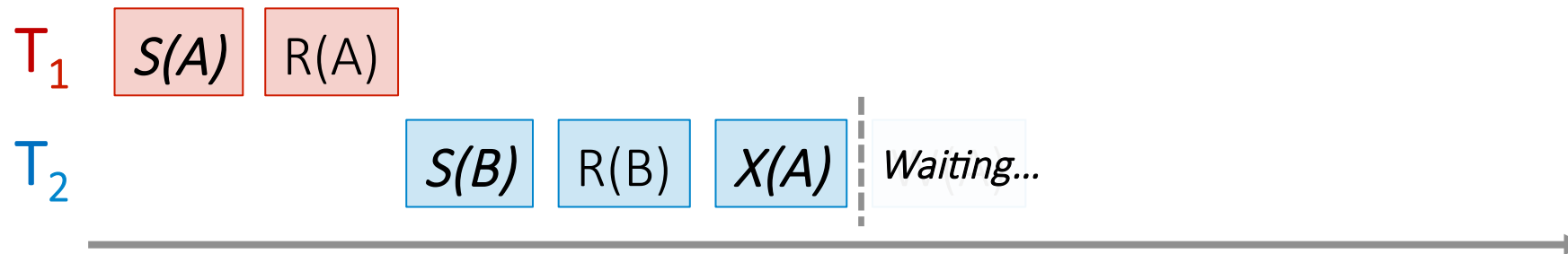
T_2 $S(B)$ $R(B)$

Waits-for graph:



Next, T_2 requests a shared lock on B to read from it

Deadlock Detection: Example

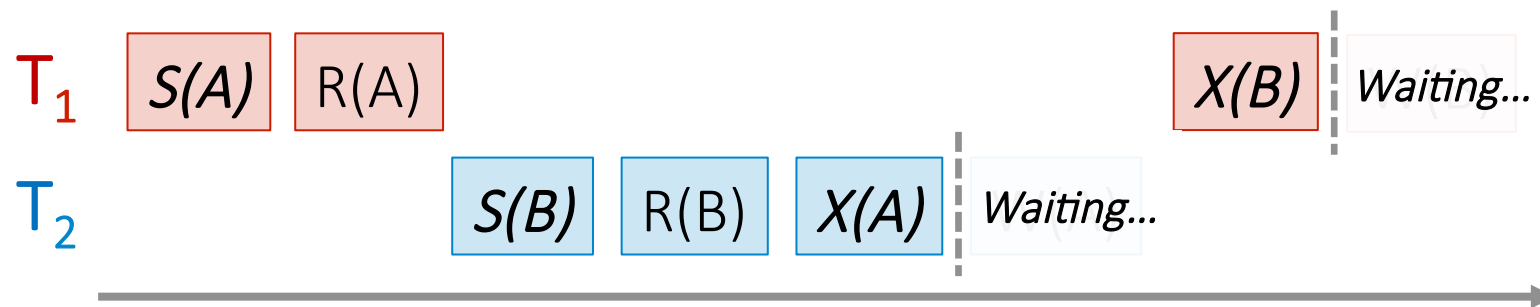


Waits-for graph:

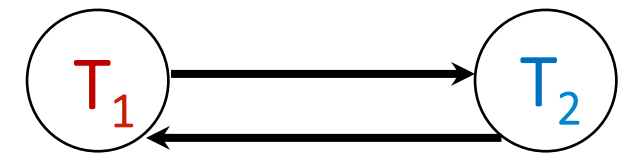


T_2 then requests an exclusive lock on A to write to it- **now** T_2 is waiting on T_1 ...

Deadlock Detection: Example



Waits-for graph:

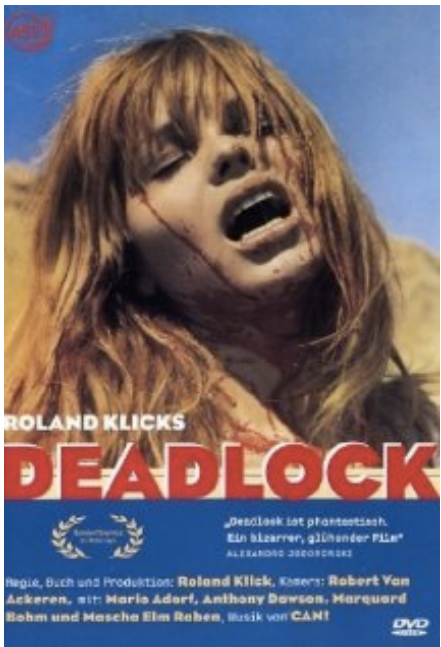


Cycle =
DEADLOCK

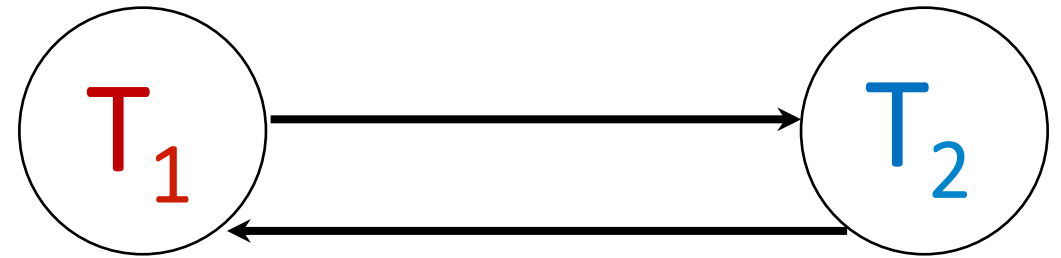
Finally, T_1 requests an exclusive lock on B to write to it- now T_1 is waiting on T_2 ... DEADLOCK!

```
sqlite3.OperationalError: database is locked
```

```
ERROR: deadlock detected  
DETAIL: Process 321 waits for ExclusiveLock on tuple of  
relation 20 of database 12002; blocked by process 4924.  
Process 404 waits for ShareLock on transaction 689; blocked  
by process 552.  
HINT: See server log for query details.
```



The problem?
Deadlock!??!



NB: Also movie called wedlock
(deadlock) set in a futuristic prison...
I haven't seen either of them...

Deadlocks

- **Deadlock:** Cycle of transactions waiting for locks to be released by each other.
- Two ways of dealing with deadlocks:
 1. Deadlock prevention
 2. Deadlock detection

Deadlock Detection

- Create the **waits-for graph**:
 - Nodes are transactions
 - There is an edge from $T_i \rightarrow T_j$ if T_i is *waiting for T_j to release a lock*
- Periodically check for (***and break***) cycles in the waits-for graph

Summary

- Concurrency achieved by **interleaving TXNs** such that **isolation & consistency** are maintained
 - We formalized a notion of **serializability** that captured such a “good” interleaving schedule
- We defined **conflict serializability**, which implies serializability
- **Locking** allows only conflict serializable schedules
 - If the schedule completes... (it may deadlock!)