Transactions

TRANSACTIONS AND ERROR HANDLING IN SQL SERVER



Miriam Antona Software Engineer



Dataset: bank transactions

customers

```
customer_id | first_name | last_name
                                                                phone
                                        email
                                      | dylansmith@mail.com
            | Dylan
                          | Smith
                                                                555888999
                                      | johnantona@mail.com
                                                                555111222
              John
                          | Antona
              Astrid
                          | Harper
                                       astridharper@mail.com
                                                                555000999
                                       angusbrown@mail.com
              Angus
                          | Brown
                                                                555222012
                                       davidelcano@mail.com
5
                           Elcano
                                                                555602314
              David
```



Dataset: bank transactions

accounts

Dataset: bank transactions

transactions

What is a transaction?

• Transaction: one or more statements, all or none of the statements are executed

What is a transaction?

Transfer \$100 account A -> account B

- 1. Subtract \$100 from account A
- 2. Add \$100 to account B

Operation 2 FAILS -> Can't subtract \$100 from account A!

Transaction statements - BEGIN a transaction

```
BEGIN { TRAN | TRANSACTION }
    [ { transaction_name | @tran_name_variable }
        [ WITH MARK [ 'description' ] ] add a name for the transaction
]
[ ; ]
```

Transaction statements - COMMIT a transaction

When executed, the effect of the transaction cannot be reversed.

```
COMMIT [ { TRAN | TRANSACTION } [ transaction_name | tran_name_variable] ]
    [ WITH ( DELAYED_DURABILITY = { OFF | ON } ) ][ ; ]
```

Transaction statements - ROLLBACK a transaction

```
ROLLBACK { TRAN | TRANSACTION } revert a transaction to the beginning of it and a savepoint inside the transaction

[ transaction_name | @tran_name_variable |
    savepoint_name | @savepoint_variable ] [ ; ]
```

- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300

```
BEGIN TRAN;

UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance - 100 WHERE account_id = 1;

INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (1, -100, GETDATE());

register the movement into the transaction table

UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance + 100 WHERE account_id = 5;

INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (5, 100, GETDATE());

COMMIT TRAN;
```

- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300



- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300

```
BEGIN TRAN;
    UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance - 100 WHERE account_id = 1;
    INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (1, -100, GETDATE());

UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance + 100 WHERE account_id = 5;
    INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (5, 100, GETDATE());

ROLLBACK TRAN;
```

- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300

- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300

```
BEGIN TRY
    BEGIN TRAN;
        UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance - 100 WHERE account_id = 1;
        INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (1, -100, GETDATE());
        UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance + 100 WHERE account_id = 5;
        INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (5, 100, GETDATE());
    COMMIT TRAN;
END TRY
BEGIN CATCH
    ROLLBACK TRAN;
END CATCH
```

- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300



- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300

```
BEGIN TRY
    BEGIN TRAN;
        UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance - 100 WHERE account_id = 1;
        INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (1, -100, GETDATE());
        UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance + 100 WHERE account_id = 5;
        INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (500, 100, GETDATE()); -- ERROR!
    COMMIT TRAN;
END TRY
BEGIN CATCH
    ROLLBACK TRAN;
END CATCH
```

- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300

Transaction - without specifying a transaction

- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300

```
UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance - 100 WHERE account_id = 1;
INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (1, -100, GETDATE());

UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance + 100 WHERE account_id = 5;
INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (500, 100, GETDATE()); -- ERROR!
```

Transaction - without specifying a transaction

- Account 1 = \$24,400
- Account 5 = \$35,300

Let's practice!

TRANSACTIONS AND ERROR HANDLING IN SQL SERVER



@@TRANCOUNT and savepoints

TRANSACTIONS AND ERROR HANDLING IN SQL SERVER



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@@TRANCOUNT

Number of BEGIN TRAN statements that are active in your current connection.

Returns:

- greater than 0 -> open transaction
- **0** -> no open transaction

Modified by:

- BEGIN TRAN -> @@TRANCOUNT + 1
- COMMITTRAN -> @@TRANCOUNT 1
- ROLLBACK TRAN -> @@TRANCOUNT = 0 (except with savepoint_name)

```
SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
BEGIN TRAN;
SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
DELETE transactions;
BEGIN TRAN;
SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
DELETE accounts;
-- If @@TRANCOUNT > 1 it doesn't commit!
COMMIT TRAN;
SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
ROLLBACK TRAN;
SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
```

```
| @@TRANCOUNT value |
|-----|
| 0 |
```

```
| @@TRANCOUNT value |
|-----|
| 1
```

```
| @@TRANCOUNT value |
|-----|
| 2
```

```
| @@TRANCOUNT value |
|-----|
| 1
```

```
| @@TRANCOUNT value |
|-----|
| 0
```

```
SELECT * FROM transactions
```

```
SELECT * FROM accounts
```



```
SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
BEGIN TRAN;
    SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
    DELETE transactions;
        BEGIN TRAN;
            SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
            DELETE accounts;
        COMMIT TRAN;
        SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
COMMIT TRAN;
SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';
```

```
SELECT * FROM transactions
```

```
SELECT * FROM accounts
```



@@TRANCOUNT in a TRY...CATCH construct

```
BEGIN TRY
   BEGIN TRAN;
        UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance - 100 WHERE account_id = 1
        INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (1, -100, GETDATE());
        UPDATE accounts SET current_balance = current_balance + 100 WHERE account_id = 5
        INSERT INTO transactions VALUES (5, 100, GETDATE());
   IF (@@TRANCOUNT > 0)
        COMMIT TRAN;
END TRY
BEGIN CATCH
   IF (@@TRANCOUNT > 0)
        ROLLBACK TRAN;
END CATCH
```

Savepoints

- Markers within a transaction
- Allow to rollback to the savepoints

```
SAVE { TRAN | TRANSACTION } { savepoint_name | @savepoint_variable }
[ ; ]
```

Savepoints

```
BEGIN TRAN;
   SAVE TRAN savepoint1;
    INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Mark', 'Davis', 'markdavis@mail.com', '555909090');
   SAVE TRAN savepoint2;
    INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Zack', 'Roberts', 'zackroberts@mail.com', '555919191');
    ROLLBACK TRAN savepoint2;
    ROLLBACK TRAN savepoint1;
   SAVE TRAN savepoint3;
   INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Jeremy', 'Johnsson', 'jeremyjohnsson@mail.com', '555929292');
COMMIT TRAN;
```



Savepoints

```
BEGIN TRAN

...

ROLLBACK TRAN savepoint2;

SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';

ROLLBACK TRAN savepoint1;

SELECT @@TRANCOUNT AS '@@TRANCOUNT value';

...

COMMIT TRAN;
```

```
| @@TRANCOUNT value |
|-----|
| 1 |
```

```
| @@TRANCOUNT value |
|-----|
| 1 |
```



Let's practice!

TRANSACTIONS AND ERROR HANDLING IN SQL SERVER



XACT_ABORT& XACT_STATE

TRANSACTIONS AND ERROR HANDLING IN SQL SERVER



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XACT_ABORT

Specifies whether the current transaction will be automatically rolled back when an error occurs.

```
SET XACT_ABORT { ON | OFF }

SET XACT_ABORT OFF
```

- Default setting
- If there is an error: There can be open transactions

```
SET XACT_ABORT ON
```

If there is an error: Rollbacks the transaction and aborts the execution

XACT_ABORT - examples

```
SET XACT_ABORT OFF; --Default setting

BEGIN TRAN;
    INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Mark', 'Davis', 'markdavis@mail.com', '555909090');
    INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Dylan', 'Smith', 'dylansmith@mail.com', '555888999'); -- ERROR!

COMMIT TRAN;
```

```
(1 row affected)

Msg. 2627, Level 14, State 1, Line 5

Violation of UNIQUE KEY 'unique_email'...

We see that the first insert statement was committed.

That's because we didn't rollback anything in case of an error.
```

```
| customer_id | first_name | last_name | email | phone |
|------|-----|
| 14 | Mark | Davis | markdavis@mail.com | 555909090 |
```



XACT_ABORT - examples

```
SET XACT_ABORT ON;
BEGIN TRAN;
    INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Mark', 'Davis', 'markdavis@mail.com', '555909090');
    INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Dylan', 'Smith', 'dylansmith@mail.com', '555888999'); -- ERROR!
COMMIT TRAN;
Msg. 2627, Level 14, State 1, Line 4
Violation of UNIQUE KEY 'unique_email'...
SELECT * FROM customers WHERE first_name = 'Mark';
 customer_id | first_name | last_name | email
                                                               | phone
```



XACT_ABORT WITH RAISERROR

```
SET XACT_ABORT ON;
BEGIN TRAN;
    INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Mark', 'Davis', 'markdavis@mail.com', '555909090');
    RAISERROR('Raising an error!', 16, 1);
    INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Zack', 'Roberts', 'zackroberts@mail.com', '555919191');
COMMIT TRAN;

Msg. 50000, Level 16, State 1, Line 5
Raising an error!
```

```
SELECT * FROM customers WHERE first_name IN ('Mark', 'Zack'); However, the execution continues, and the transaction remains open, so the data of the second customer is inserted.
```



XACT_ABORT with THROW

```
SET XACT_ABORT ON;
BEGIN TRAN;
   INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Mark', 'Davis', 'markdavis@mail.com', '555909090');
   THROW 55000, 'Raising an error!', 1;
   INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Zack', 'Roberts', 'zackroberts@mail.com', '555919191');
COMMIT TRAN;
(1 rows affected)
Msg. 50000, Level 16, State 1, Line 5
Raising an error!
SELECT * FROM customers WHERE first_name IN ('Mark', 'Zack');
 customer_id | first_name | last_name | email | phone |
 -----|----|-----|-----|
```



XACT_STATE

XACT_STATE()

- **0** -> no open transaction
- 1 -> open and committable transaction
- -1-> open and uncommittable transaction (doomed transaction)
 - can't commit
 - can't rollback to a savepoint
 - can rollback the full transaction
 - can't make any changes/can read data

XACT_STATE - open and committable

```
SET XACT_ABORT OFF;
BEGIN TRY
   BEGIN TRAN;
        INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Mark', 'Davis', 'markdavis@mail.com', '555909090');
        INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Dylan', 'Smith', 'dylansmith@mail.com', '555888999'); -- ERROR!
   COMMIT TRAN;
END TRY
BEGIN CATCH
   IF XACT_STATE() = -1
        ROLLBACK TRAN;
   IF XACT_STATE() = 1
        COMMIT TRAN;
   SELECT ERROR_MESSAGE() AS error_message;
END CATCH
```

```
| error_message
|-----|
| Violation of UNIQUE KEY 'unique_email'... |
```

XACT_STATE - open and committable



XACT_STATE - open and uncommittable (doomed)

```
SET XACT_ABORT ON;
BEGIN TRY
    BEGIN TRAN;
        INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Mark', 'Davis', 'markdavis@mail.com', '555909090');
        INSERT INTO customers VALUES ('Dylan', 'Smith', 'dylansmith@mail.com', '555888999'); -- ERROR!
   COMMIT TRAN;
END TRY
BEGIN CATCH
   IF XACT_STATE() = -1
        ROLLBACK TRAN;
   IF XACT_STATE() = 1
        COMMIT TRAN;
    SELECT ERROR_MESSAGE() AS Error_message;
END CATCH
```

XACT_STATE - open and uncommittable (doomed)

```
SELECT * FROM customers WHERE first_name = 'Mark';
```



Let's practice!

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