Crash and Recovery

- Asynchronous system model
- Crash and recovery events (a.k.a reboot)
 - Assume that there is always recovery
- Two types of variables:
 - Volatile, lost on crash
 - Persistent, kept after recovery

Operations

The application changes volatile variables:

transfer(from: 2, to: 6, q: ...);

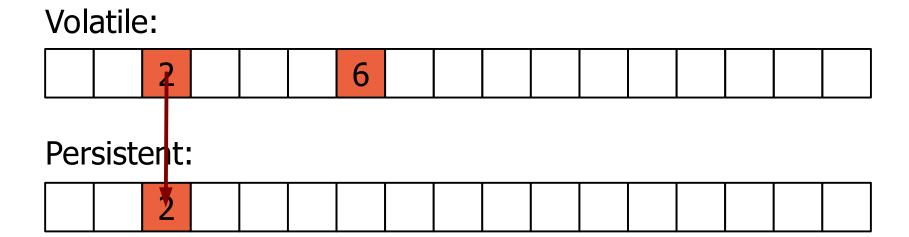
Volatile variables:

Persistent variables:

0 1 2 3 ...

Operations

Changes can now be copied to persistent variables:



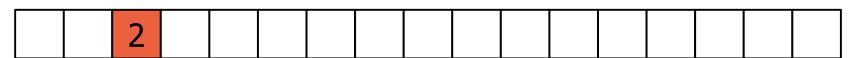
Failure and restart

Restart erases volatile variables:





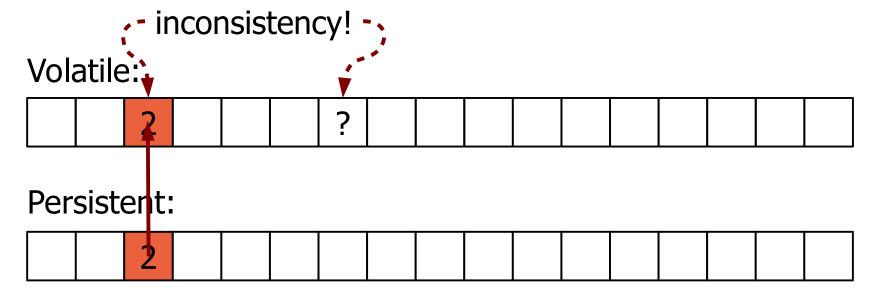
Persistent:





Failure and restart

 Volatile variables are restored from the persistent copy:



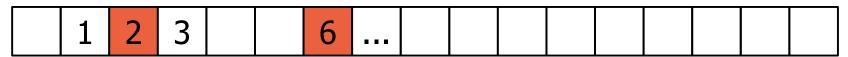
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Challenges

- Single process failure and recovery
- Partial system failure and recovery

Assume a persistent sequential log:

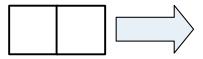
Volatile variables:



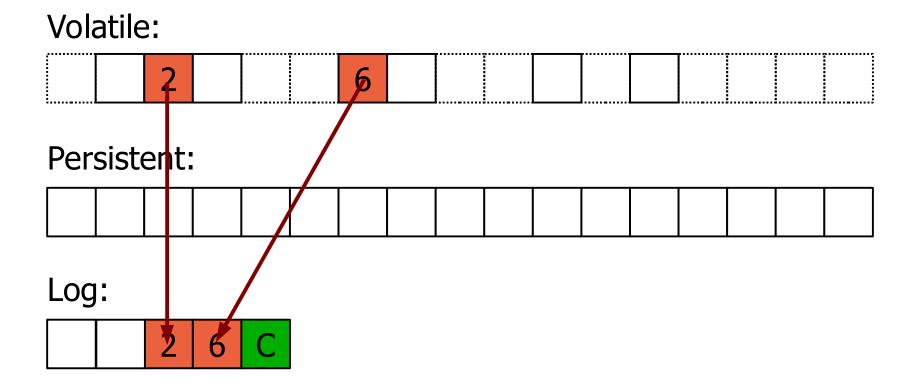
Persistent variables:



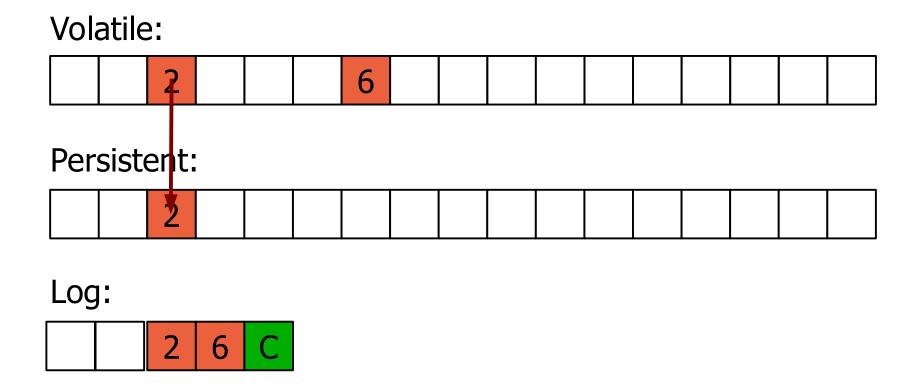
Sequential log:



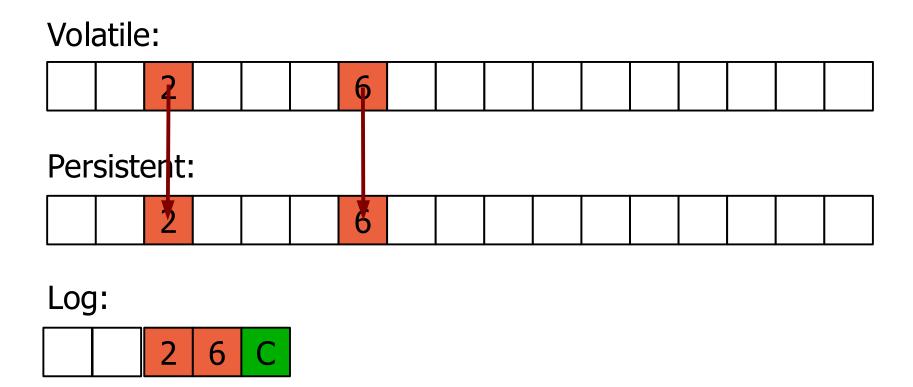
• Changed variables are copied to the log followed by a commit marker:



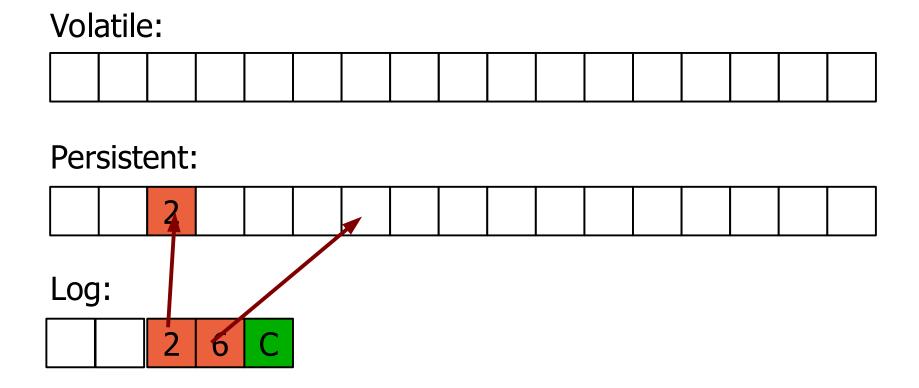
Changes can now be copied to persistent variables:



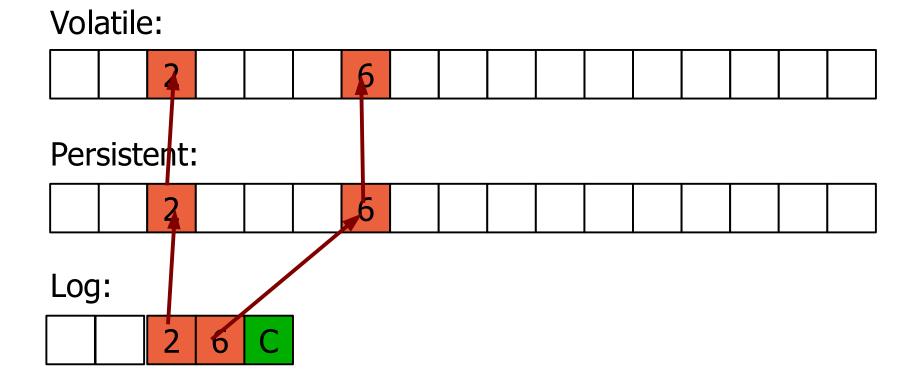
Eventually all persistent variables are updated:



In case of restart, upon recovery, redo all changes from the log:



• And restore volatile variables to become operational again:

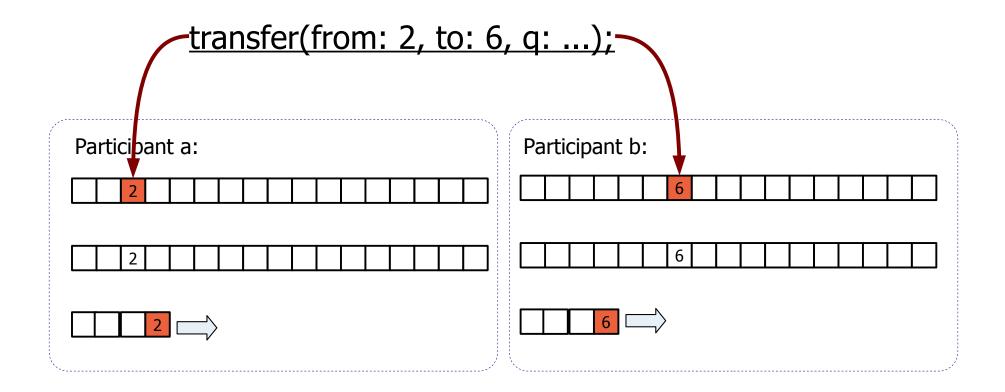


Challenges

- Single process failure and recovery
- Partial system failure and recovery

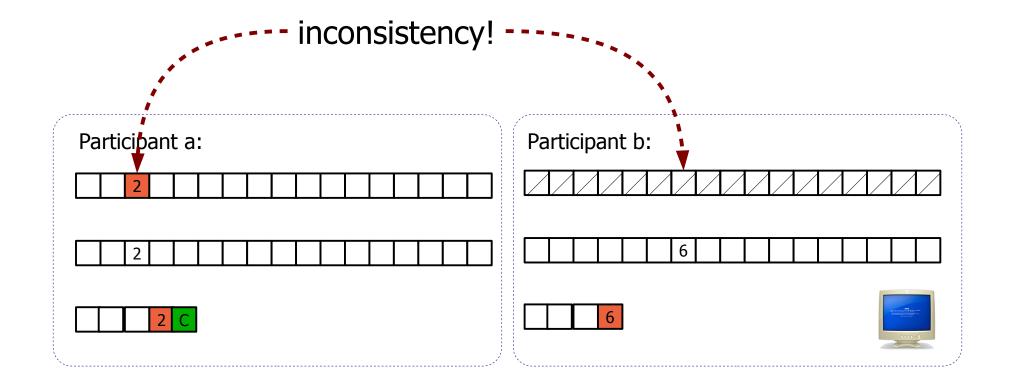
Distributed operations

 Distributed operation updates variables in multiple processes:



Partial failure and restart

If each participant commits independently, then...

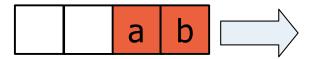


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Two Phase Commit (2PC)

Add a coordinator with an additional persistent log:

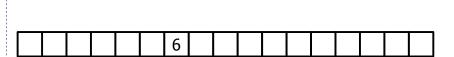
Coordinator log:

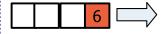


Participant a:

	2							
	2							

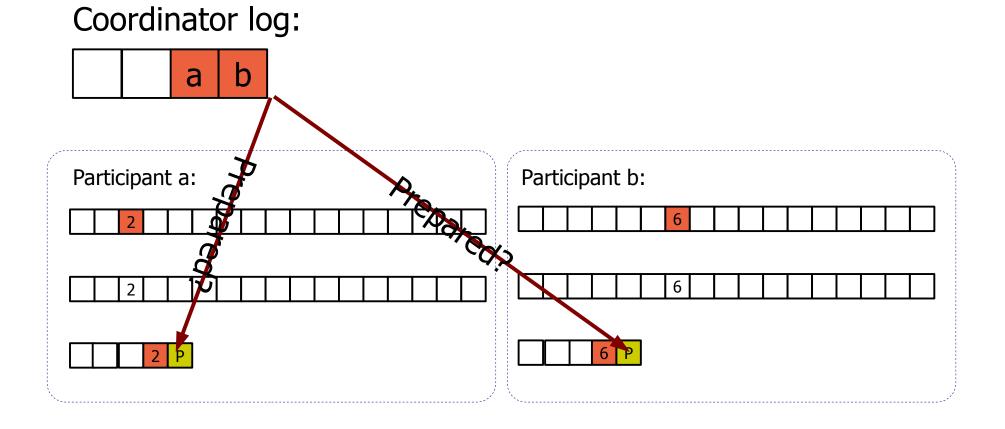
Participant b:





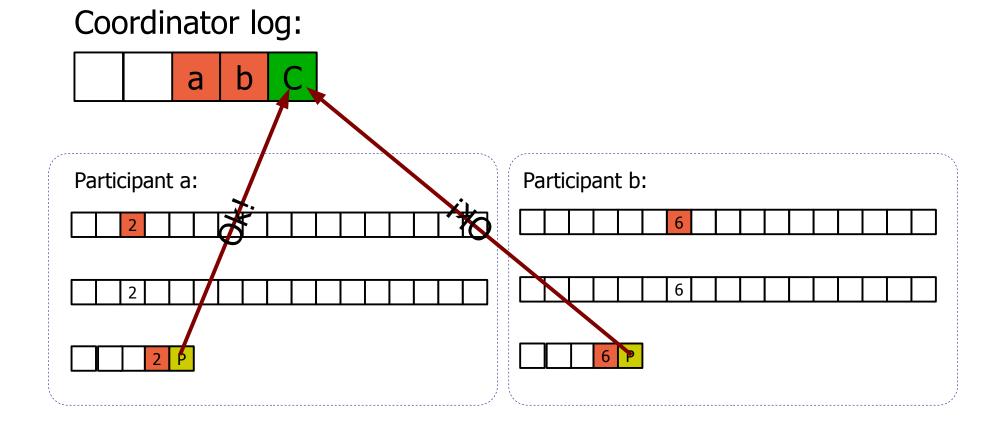
2PC: Phase 1

• The coordinator asks all participants to prepare, inserting prepared markers in logs:



2PC: Phase 1 Completed

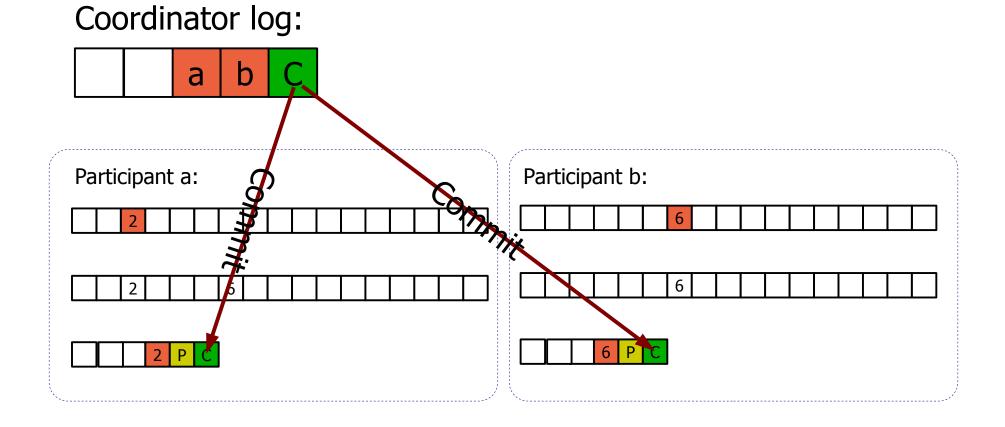
If all participants are able to prepare, the coordinator inserts a commit marker:



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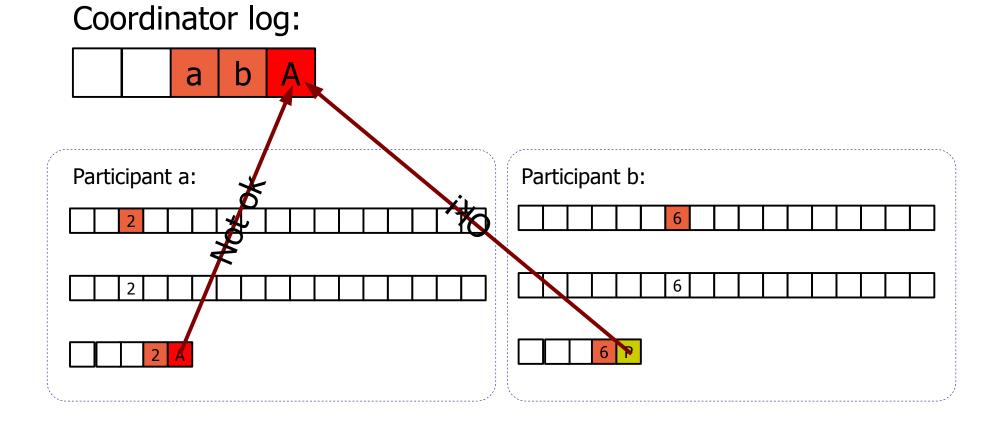
2PC: Phase 2

Participants are informed of outcome inserting commit markers in their logs:



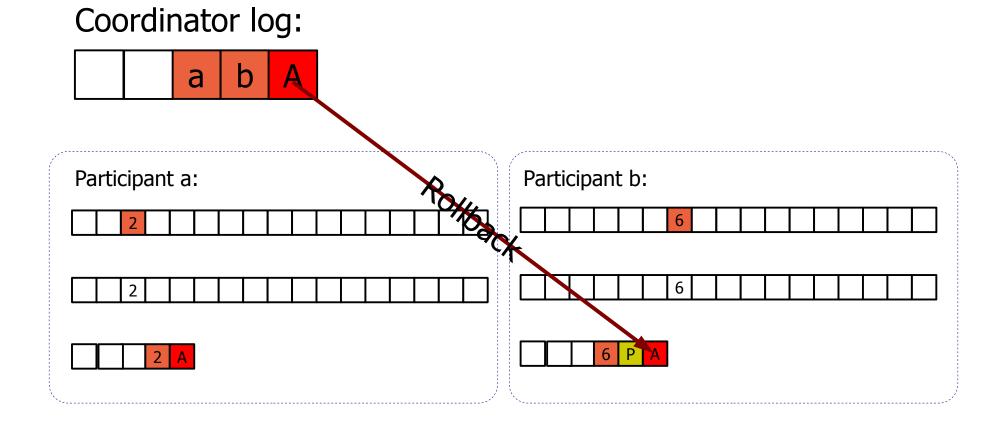
2PC: Phase 1 Aborted

If a single participant calls for abort or fails the entire transaction is marked for rollback:



2PC: Phase 2 Aborted

If a single participant calls for abort or fails the entire transaction is marked for rollback:



2PC: Recovery

- Restart of the coordinator:
 - Before 2PC started: Abort, as it might have missed a resource
 - During 2PC: Restart current phase by repeating the request
- Restart of a participant:
 - Has not voted: Local rollback, will abort the entire transaction
 - Has voted: Wait for the decision from the coordinator

Summary

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