

# Introduction to Data Management

## Transactions: Locking

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Based on slides by Jonathan Leang, Dan Suciu, et al

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# Announcements

- Midterm next Monday, 2/10, in class
  - Covers material through today's lecture
    - e.g. can expect transactions but not isolation levels
  - Notes: 1 sheet, both sides, handwritten
- TA-led midterm review
  - Sunday 10 am, room TBA
- [Engineering Teaching & Learning](#) assessment during next lecture

# Recap: Transactions

- Execute all parts of a transaction as a single action
- **Transactions are atomic**

```
BEGIN TRANSACTION  
[SQL Statements]  
COMMIT -- finalizes execution
```

```
BEGIN TRANSACTION  
[SQL Statements]  
ROLLBACK -- undo everything
```

# Recap: Serializable Schedule

- Serializable to T1 then T2

$R_1(A), W_1(A), R_2(A), W_2(A), R_1(B), W_1(B), R_2(B), W_2(B)$

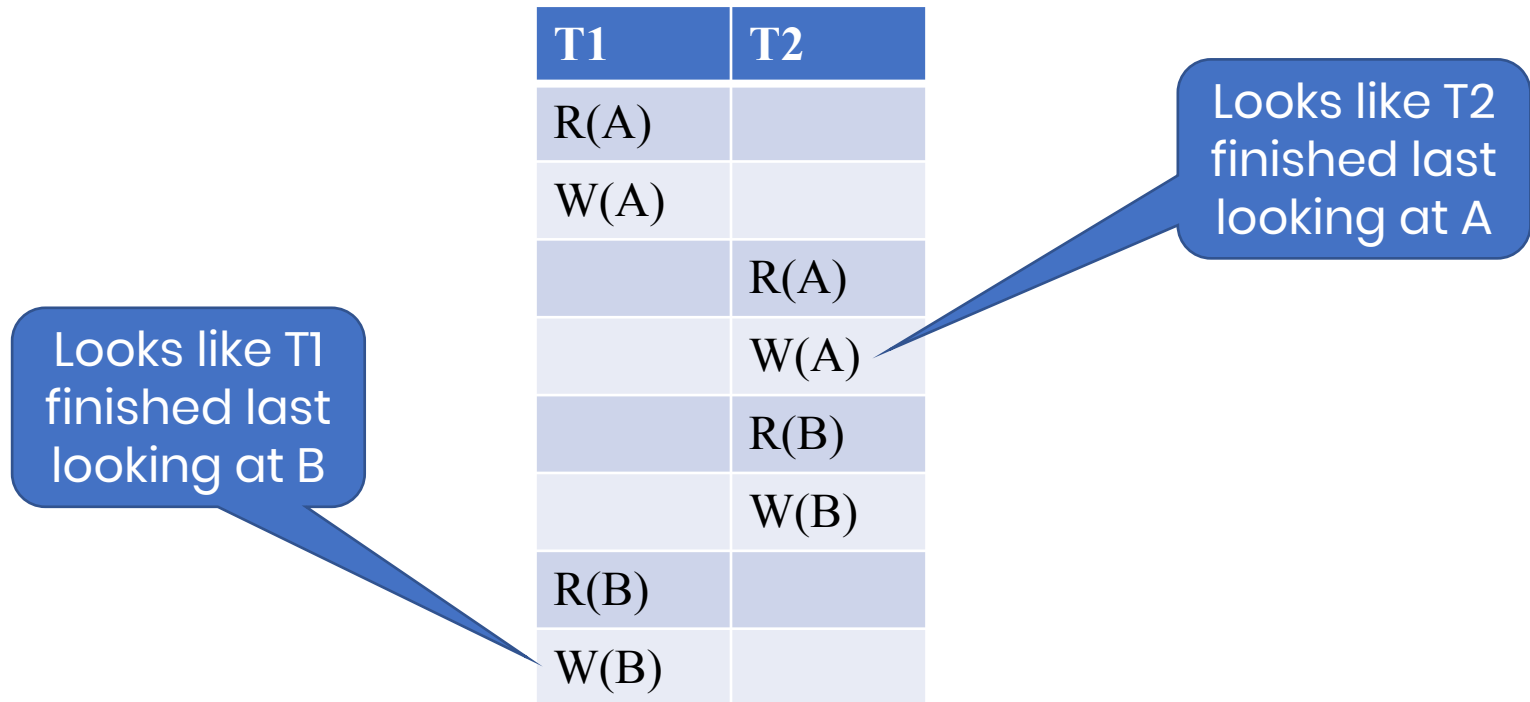
T1	T2
R(A)	
W(A)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
R(B)	
W(B)	
	R(B)
	W(B)

Looks like T2  
finished after T1  
for each element

# Recap: Serializable Schedule

- Not serializable to either order

$R_1(A), W_1(A), R_2(A), W_2(A), R_2(B), W_2(B), R_1(B), W_1(B)$



# Recap: Conflict Order Rules

- Observation: Reordering operation of the same element around writes will cause different program behavior
- **Inter-transaction conflicts**
  - WW conflicts  $\square W_1(X), W_2(X)$ 
    - Not always the same as  $W_2(X), W_1(X)$
  - WR conflicts  $\square W_1(X), R_2(X)$ 
    - Not always the same as  $R_2(X), W_1(X)$
  - RW conflicts  $\square R_1(X), W_2(X)$ 
    - Not always the same as  $W_2(X), R_1(X)$

# Recap: Equivalent Behavior Schedules

- A **conflict serializable schedule** is a schedule that can be transformed into a serial schedule by performing a series of swaps of adjacent non-conflicting actions

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

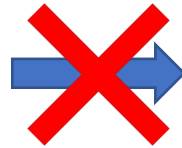


T1	T2
R(A)	
W(A)	
R(B)	
W(B)	
	R(A)
	W(A)
	R(B)
	W(B)

- A reordered schedule of operations is **guaranteed to be equivalent** when WR, RW, and WW conflicts are preserved

# Recap: Non Conflict Serializable Example

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



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

Conflict rule broken!



# Outline

- Locks
- 2PL and conflict serializability
- Deadlocks
- Strict 2PL and recoverability

- **Scheduler** a.k.a. **concurrency control manager**

- Impractical (slow and space inefficient) to issue R, W, ... from a literal schedule
- Use mechanisms like logs and locks to force ACID properties

# Scheduling

- Scheduling matters to us because it affects our application behavior and performance!
  - Your choice of transaction management should be based on expected workload.
  - **Pessimistic Concurrency Control** (this class) good for **high-contention workloads**
  - **Optimistic Concurrency Control** (CSE 444) good for **low-contention workloads**

# Optimistic Scheduler

- Commonly implemented with **Multi Version Concurrency Control**
- “Optimistic” □ Assumes transaction executions will not create conflicts
- Main Idea:
  - Execute first, check later
  - Cheap overhead cost but expensive aborting process

# Pessimistic Scheduler

- Commonly implemented with **Locking Scheduler**
- “Pessimistic” □ Assumes transaction executions will conflict
- Main Idea:
  - Prevent executions that would create conflicts
  - Expensive overhead cost but cheap aborting process

# Question for Today

The goal of concurrency control is to ensure isolation (the appearance of serial schedules) and atomicity.

What mechanisms does the DBMS use to make (conflict) serializable schedules?

# Locks

- Pessimistic CC involves locks
- **Binary lock** mechanisms:
  - We have locks on objects that specify which transaction can do operations
  - A txn must **acquire** a lock before reading or writing
    - Notation: txn  $i$  acquires lock on element  $X \sqsubseteq L_i(X)$
  - A txn must eventually **release** locks (unlock)
    - Notation: txn  $i$  releases lock on element  $X \sqsubseteq U_i(X)$
  - If a txn wants an element for which another txn holds the lock, **wait for the unlock signal**

# Element Granularity

- A DBMS (and sometimes user) may specify what granularity of elements are locked
  - Dramatically qualifies expected contention
- SQLite □ Database locking only
- MySQL, SQL Server, Oracle, ... □ Row locking, table locking
- SQL syntax varies or may not exist explicitly



# Pessimistic Scheduler

Simple idea:

- Each element has a unique lock
- Each transaction must first acquire the lock before reading/writing that element
- If the lock is taken by another transaction, then wait
- The transaction must release the lock(s)

# Notation

$L_i(A)$  = transaction  $T_i$  **acquires** lock for element A

$U_i(A)$  = transaction  $T_i$  **releases** lock for element A

# A Non-Serializable Schedule

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

# Add locking....

T1	T2
$L_1(A)$ ; READ(A) $A := A + 100$ WRITE(A); $U_1(A)$ ; $L_1(B)$	$L_2(A)$ ; READ(A) $A := A * 2$ WRITE(A); $U_2(A)$ ; $L_2(B)$ ; <b>BLOCKED...</b>
READ(B) $B := B + 100$ WRITE(B); $U_1(B)$ ;	<b>...GRANTED</b> ; READ(B) $B := B * 2$ WRITE(B); $U_2(B)$ ;

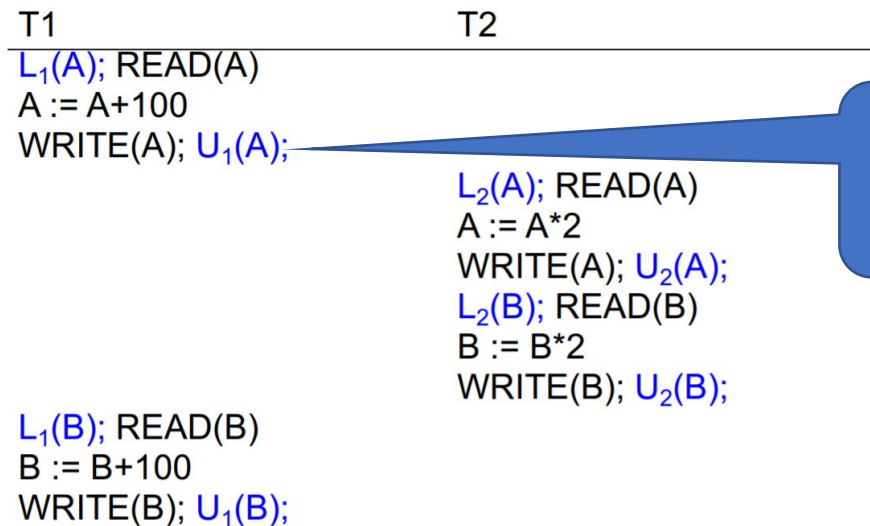
Scheduler has ensured a  
conflict serializable schedule

# But...

T1	T2
<code>L<sub>1</sub>(A); READ(A)</code> <code>A := A+100</code> <code>WRITE(A); U<sub>1</sub>(A);</code>	<code>L<sub>2</sub>(A); READ(A)</code> <code>A := A*2</code> <code>WRITE(A); U<sub>2</sub>(A);</code> <code>L<sub>2</sub>(B); READ(B)</code> <code>B := B*2</code> <code>WRITE(B); U<sub>2</sub>(B);</code>
<code>L<sub>1</sub>(B); READ(B)</code> <code>B := B+100</code> <code>WRITE(B); U<sub>1</sub>(B);</code>	

The locks didn't enforce conflict serializability! What happened?

# But...



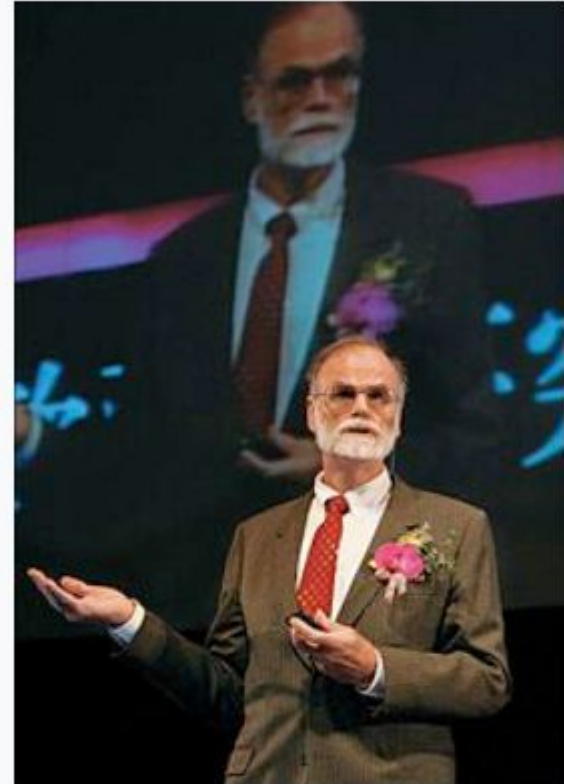
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# 2-Phase Locking (2PL)

**Protocol: In every transaction, all lock requests must precede all unlock requests**



Jim Gray



2006

**Born** James Nicholas Gray  
January 12, 1944<sup>[1]</sup>  
[San Francisco, California<sup>\[2\]</sup>](#)

**Disappeared** January 28, 2007 (aged 63)  
Waters near San Francisco

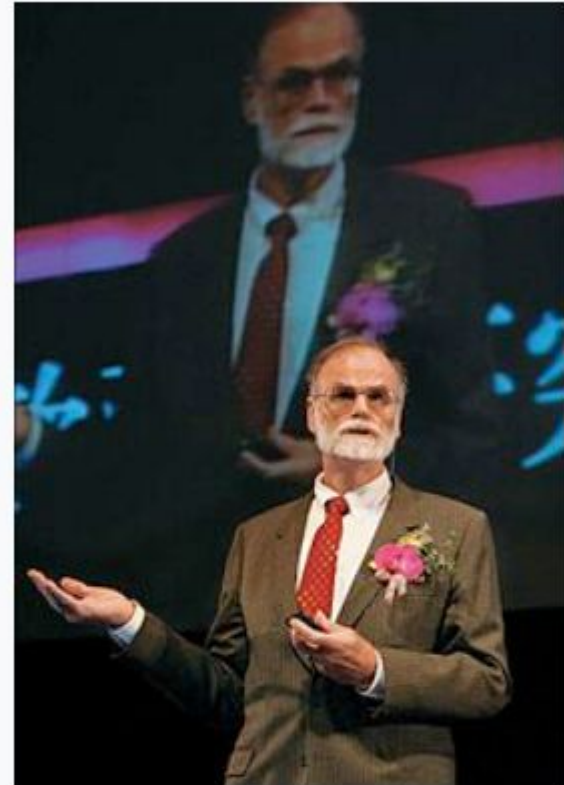
# 2-Phase Locking (2PL)

**Protocol: In every transaction, all lock requests must precede all unlock requests**

This will ensure conflict serializability



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# 2PL Example

T1	T2
$L_1(A)$ ; $L_1(B)$ ; READ(A) $A := A + 100$ WRITE(A); $U_1(A)$	$L_2(A)$ ; READ(A) $A := A * 2$ WRITE(A); $L_2(B)$ ; <b>BLOCKED...</b>
READ(B) $B := B + 100$ WRITE(B); $U_1(B)$ ;	<b>...GRANTED</b> ; READ(B) $B := B * 2$ WRITE(B); $U_2(A)$ ; $U_2(B)$ ; ..

Now it is conflict serializable.

# Conflict Serializability through 2PL

Theorem: **2PL ensures conflict serializability**

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Proof by contradiction:

- Suppose a schedule was executed under 2PL that was not conflict serializable.

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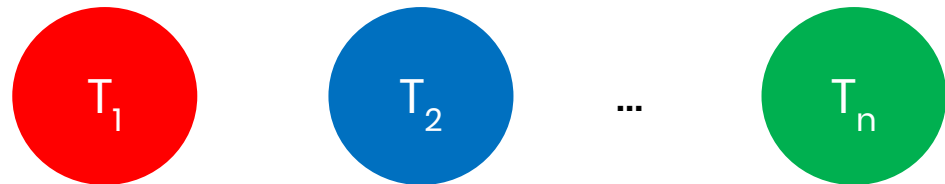
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- Then that schedule must have a **precedence graph** with a **cycle**.

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- Name the transactions in the cycle as  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  where:

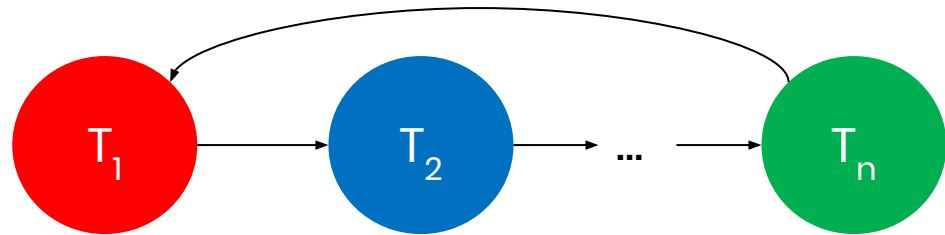


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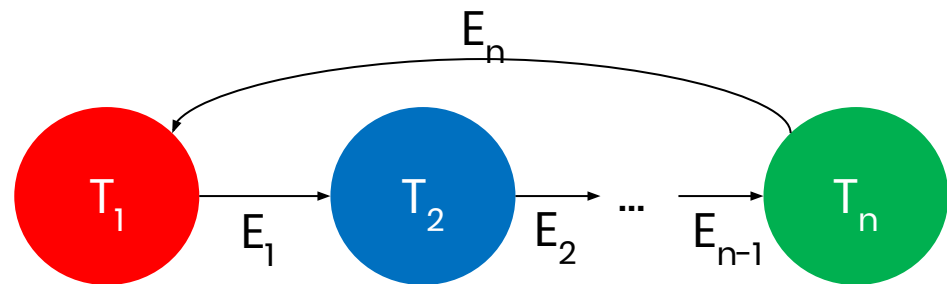


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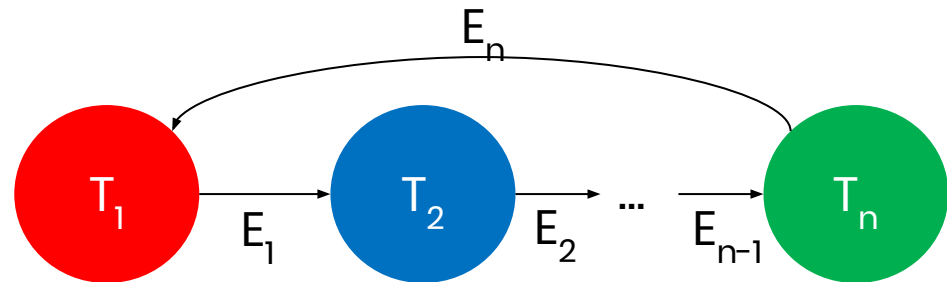


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- Under 2PL, we can guarantee the series of locks and unlocks in time:
  - $U_1(E_1)$  then  $L_2(E_1)$



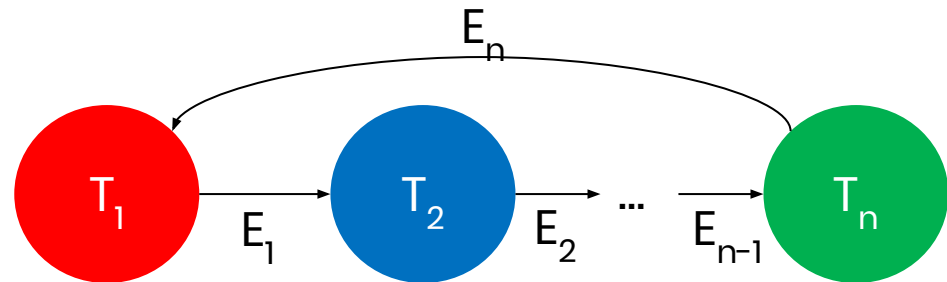


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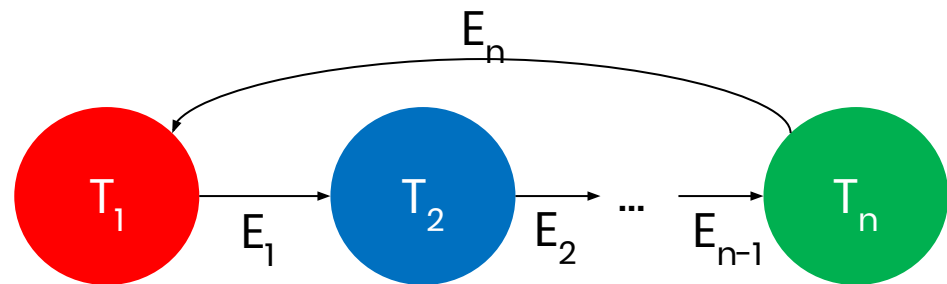


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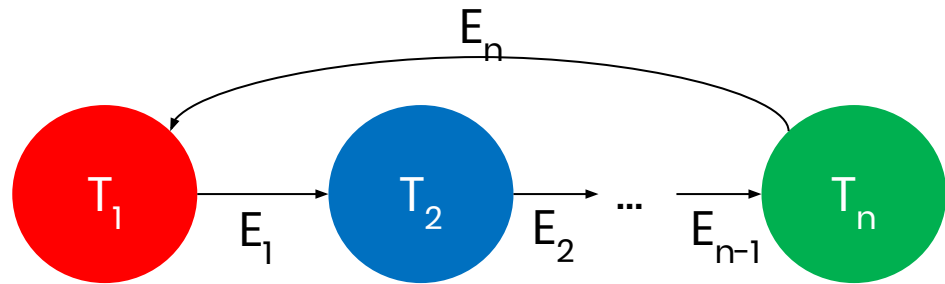


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  - ...
  - $U_n(E_n)$  then  $L_1(E_n)$

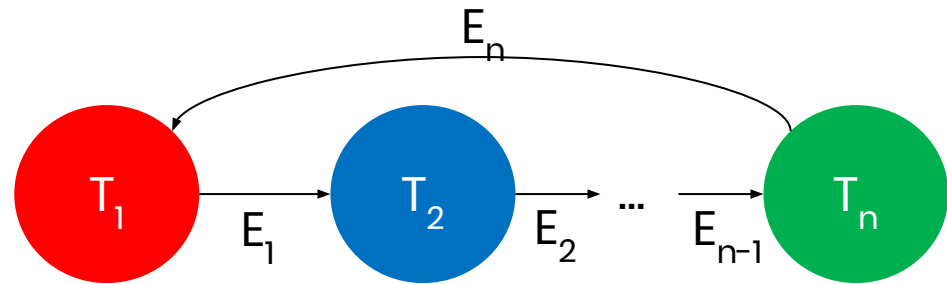


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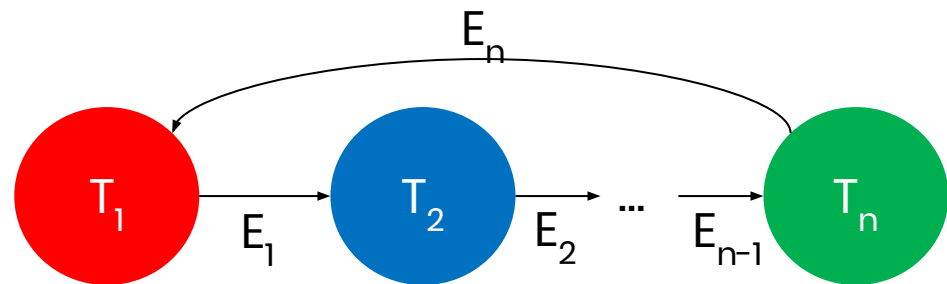


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- There is a **cycle in time** which is a contradiction

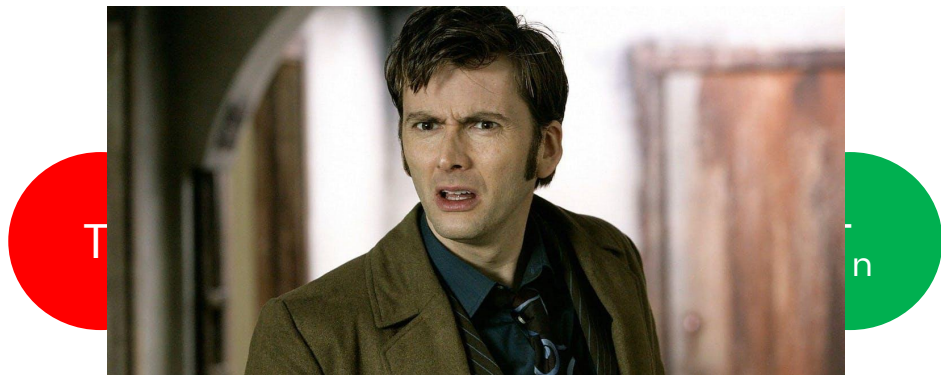


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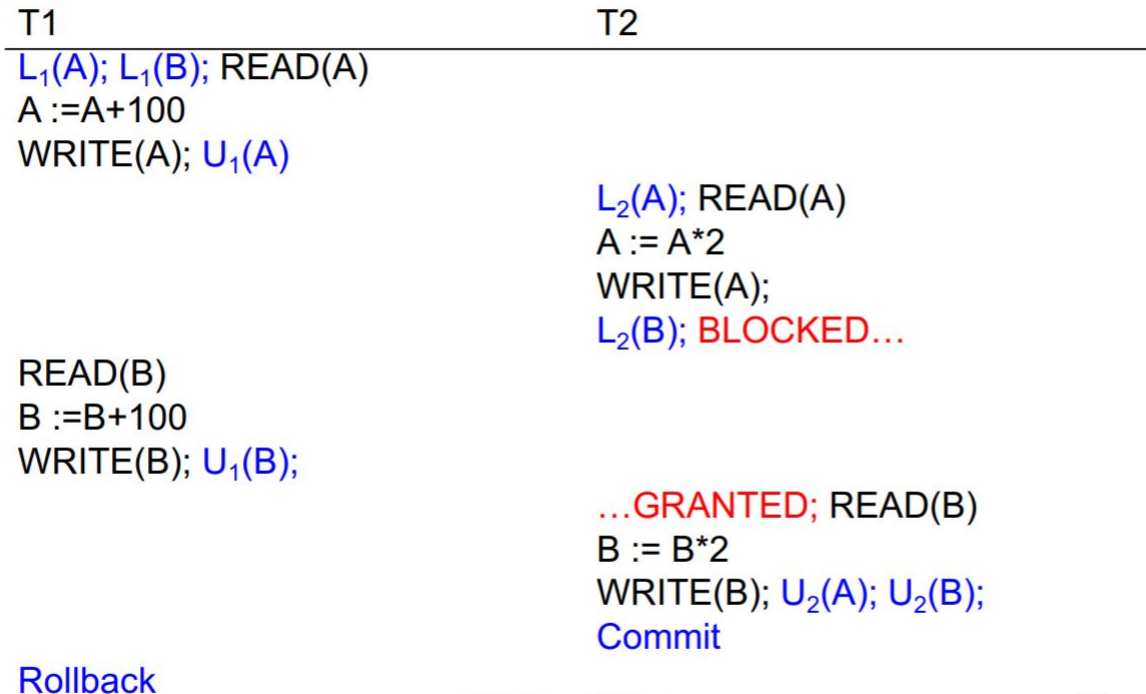
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- There is a **cycle in time** which is a contradiction



# 2PL Non-Recoverable Schedule

T1	T2
$L_1(A); L_1(B); \text{READ}(A)$ $A := A + 100$ $\text{WRITE}(A); U_1(A)$	
	$L_2(A); \text{READ}(A)$ $A := A * 2$ $\text{WRITE}(A);$ $L_2(B); \text{BLOCKED} \dots$
$\text{READ}(B)$ $B := B + 100$ $\text{WRITE}(B); U_1(B);$	
	$\dots \text{GRANTED}; \text{READ}(B)$ $B := B * 2$ $\text{WRITE}(B); U_2(A); U_2(B);$ $\text{Commit}$
Rollback	

# 2PL Non-Recoverable Schedule



ROLLBACK will signal  
the DBMS to revert to  
original values



# 2PL Non-Recoverable Schedule

T1  
 $L_1(A); L_1(B); \text{READ}(A)$   
 $A := A + 100$   
 $\text{WRITE}(A); U_1(A)$

$\text{READ}(B)$   
 $B := B + 100$   
 $\text{WRITE}(B); U_1(B);$

Rollback

T2

$L_2(A); \text{READ}(A)$   
 $A := A * 2$   
 $\text{WRITE}(A);$   
 $L_2(B); \text{BLOCKED} \dots$

$\dots \text{GRANTED}; \text{READ}(B)$   
 $B := B * 2$   
 $\text{WRITE}(B); U_2(A); U_2(B);$   
Commit

T2 already executed  
under modified A  
and B values  
(dirty read)

ROLLBACK will signal  
the DBMS to revert to  
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# 2PL Non-Recoverable Schedule

T1  
 $L_1(A); L_1(B); \text{READ}(A)$   
 $A := A + 100$   
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$\text{READ}(B)$   
 $B := B + 100$   
 $\text{WRITE}(B); U_1(B);$

Rollback

T2

$L_2(A); \text{READ}(A)$   
 $A := A * 2$   
 $\text{WRITE}(A);$   
 $L_2(B); \text{BLOCKED} \dots$

$\dots \text{GRANTED}; \text{READ}(B)$   
 $B := B * 2$   
 $\text{WRITE}(B); U_2(A); U_2(B);$   
Commit

T2 already executed  
under modified A  
and B values  
(dirty read)

T1's ROLLBACK would  
break the COMMIT  
promise that T2's  
execution was valid

ROLLBACK will signal  
the DBMS to revert to  
original values

# Strict 2PL

- Protocol:

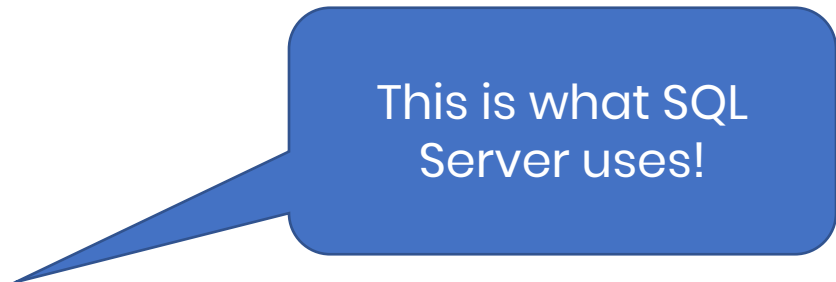
- All locks are held until commit/abort
- All unlocks are done together with commit/abort.

With strict 2PL, we get schedules that are both conflict-serializable and recoverable

# Strict 2PL

## ▪ Protocol:

- All locks are held until commit/abort
- All unlocks are done together with commit/abort.



This is what SQL Server uses!

With strict 2PL, we get schedules that are both conflict-serializable and recoverable

# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...

# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...
R(A) W(A)	R(B) W(B)	R(C) W(C)	R(D) W(D)

# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...
R(A) W(A)	R(B) W(B)	R(C) W(C)	R(D) W(D)

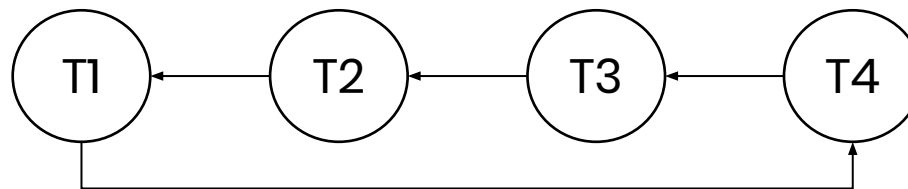


Can't make progress since  
locking phase is not complete  
for any txn!

# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...

- Lock requests create a precedence/waits-for graph where deadlock  $\square$  cycle (2PL is doing its job!).
- Cycle detection is somewhat expensive  $O(V+E)$ , so we check the graph only periodically





# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...
R(A) W(A)	R(B) W(B)	R(C) W(C)	R(D) W(D)

- If the DBMS finds a cycle:
- It aborts txns (rollback)
  - (Hopefully) makes progress
  - Eventually retries the rolledback txns

# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...
R(A) W(A)	R(B) W(B)	R(C) W(C)	R(D) W(D)
		...granted L(D)	abort U(D)

- If the DBMS finds a cycle:
- It aborts txns (rollback)
  - (Hopefully) makes progress
  - Eventually retries the rolledback txns

# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...
R(A) W(A)	R(B) W(B)	R(C) W(C)	R(D) W(D)
		...granted L(D)	abort U(D)
		R(D) W(D)	N/A

- If the DBMS finds a cycle:
- It aborts txns (rollback)
  - (Hopefully) makes progress
  - Eventually retries the rolledback txns

# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...
R(A) W(A)	R(B) W(B)	R(C) W(C)	R(D) W(D)
		...granted L(D)	abort U(D)
		R(D) W(D)	N/A
	...granted L(C)	U(D) U(C)	N/A

- If the DBMS finds a cycle:
- It aborts txns (rollback)
  - (Hopefully) makes progress
  - Eventually retries the rolledback txns

# 2PL Deadlocks

T1 (A, B)	T2 (B, C)	T3 (C, D)	T4 (D, A)
L(A) L(B) blocked...	L(B) L(C) blocked...	L(C) L(D) blocked...	L(D) L(A) blocked...
R(A) W(A)	R(B) W(B)	R(C) W(C)	R(D) W(D)
		...granted L(D)	abort U(D)
		R(D) W(D)	N/A
	...granted L(C)	U(D) U(C)	N/A
...	...	...	retry

If the DBMS finds a cycle:

- It aborts txns (rollback)
- (Hopefully) make progress
- Eventually resolve

On the application level:  
Can lock resources in a defined order  
Can retry transactions that were aborted due to deadlock

# Conservative 2PL

- Protocol: All locks are acquired before the transaction begins

# “Do I need to implement any of this?”

Short Answer: No

# “Do I need to implement any of this?”

Long Answer:

These mechanisms are internal to the DBMS.

The DBMS manages locks with a locking protocol. The DBMS creates the precedence graph. The DBMS checks for deadlocks.

As an application programmer / database user you only need to (and should only need to) specify transactions and think about application-level consistency.



# Next Time

- Phantom reads
- Isolation levels
- Hierarchical locking