

Crash Recovery in Client-Server EXODUS

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ABSTRACT — In this paper, we address the correctness and performance issues that arise when implementing logging and crash recovery in a page-server environment. The issues result from two characteristics of page-server systems: 1) the fact that data is modified and cached in client database buffers that are not accessible by the server, and 2) the performance and cost trade-offs that are inherent in a client-server environment. We describe a recovery system that we have implemented for the client-server version of the EXODUS storage manager. The implementation supports efficient buffer management policies, allows flexibility in the interaction between clients and the server, and reduces the server load by generating log records at clients. We also present a preliminary performance analysis of the implementation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Networks of powerful workstations and servers have become the computing environment of choice in many application domains. As a result, most recent commercial and experimental DBMSs have been constructed to run in such environments. These systems are referred to as *client-server DBMSs*. Recovery has long been studied in centralized and distributed database systems [Gray78, Lind79, Gray81, Moha90, BHG87, GR92] and more recently in architectures such as *shared-disk* systems [Lome90, MN91, Rahm91] and distributed transaction facilities [DST87, HMSC88]. However, little has been published about recovery issues for client-server database systems. This paper describes the implementation challenges and performance trade-offs involved in implementing recovery in such a system, based on our experience in building the client-server implementation of the EXODUS storage manager [CDRS89, Exod91].

Client-server DBMS architectures can be categorized according to whether they send requests to a server as queries or as requests for specific data items. We refer to systems of the former type as *query-shipping* systems and to those of the latter type as *data-shipping* systems. Data-shipping systems can be further categorized as *page-servers*, which interact using physical units of data (e.g. individual pages or groups of pages such as segments) and *object-servers*, which interact using logical units of data (e.g. tuples or objects) [DFMV90]. There is still much debate about the relative advantages of the different architectures with respect to current technology trends [Ston90, Comm90, DFMV90]. Most

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commercial relational database systems have adopted query-shipping architectures. Query-shipping architectures have the advantage that they are similar in process structure to a single-site database system, and hence, provide a relatively easy migration path from an existing single-site system to the client-server environment. They also have the advantage of minimizing communication, since only data which satisfies the query is sent from the server to the requesting clients.

In contrast to the relational DBMS systems, virtually all commercial object-oriented database systems (OODBMS) and many recent research prototypes have adopted some variant of the data-shipping approach (e.g., O2 [Deux91], ObjectStore [LLOW91], ORION [KGBW90]). Data-shipping architectures have the potential advantage of avoiding bottlenecks at the server by exploiting the processing power and memory of the client machines. This is important for performance, since the majority of the processing power and memory in a client-server environment is likely to be at the clients. Moreover, as network bandwidth improves, the cost of the additional communication as compared to query-shipping architectures will become less significant. Also, the data-shipping approach is a good match for many OODBMSs in which database objects can be accessed directly in the client's memory.

Implementing recovery in query-shipping architectures raises few new issues over traditional recovery approaches since the architecture of the database engine remains largely unchanged. In contrast, data-shipping architectures present a new set of problems and issues for the design of the recovery and logging subsystems of a DBMS. These arise from four main architectural features of data-shipping architectures which differentiate them from traditional centralized and distributed systems and from other related architectures such as shared-disk systems. These features are:

- (1) Database updates are made primarily at clients, while the server keeps the stable copy of the database and the log.
- (2) Each client manages its own local buffer pool.
- (3) Communication between clients and the server is relatively expensive (e.g., compared to local IPC).
- (4) Client machines tend to have different performance and reliability characteristics than server machines.

The client-server EXODUS Storage Manager (ESM-CS) is a data-shipping system which employs a page-server architecture. The implementation of recovery in ESM-CS involves two main components. The *logging subsystem* manages and provides access to an append-only log on stable storage. The *recovery subsystem* uses the information in the log to provide transaction rollback (e.g., abort) and system restart (i.e., crash recovery). The recovery algorithm is based on ARIES [Moha90]. ARIES was chosen because of its simplicity and flexibility, its ability to support the efficient STEAL/NO FORCE buffer management policy [HR83], its support for savepoints, nested-top-level actions, and logical Undo. However, the algorithm as specified in [Moha90] cannot be directly implemented in a page-server system because the architecture violates some of the explicit and implicit

assumptions upon which the original algorithm is based. In this paper we describe our recovery manager, paying particular attention to the modifications to ARIES that were required due to the correctness and efficiency concerns of recovery in a page-server system. We also discuss several engineering decisions that were made in the design of the logging and recovery subsystems.

It should be noted that the ARIES algorithm has recently been extended in ways that are similar to some of the extensions we describe in this paper. [MP91] describes an extension of the algorithm which can reduce the work performed during system restart. The algorithm used in ESM-CS required a similar extension, not for efficiency, but in order to operate correctly in the page-server environment. [MNP90] and [MN91] describe extensions to ARIES for the shared-disk environment. As would be expected, some of the solutions in that environment are applicable to the page-server environment, while others are not (for both correctness and efficiency reasons). We discuss these extensions and other related work in Section 6.

The remainder of the paper is structured as follows: Section 2 describes the ESM-CS architecture. Section 3 provides a brief overview of ARIES. Section 4 motivates and describes the modifications made to ARIES for the page-server environment. Section 5 presents a study of the performance of the ESM-CS logging and recovery implementation. Section 6 describes related work. Section 7 presents our conclusions.

2. THE CLIENT-SERVER ENVIRONMENT

2.1. Architecture Overview

ESM-CS is a multi-user system with full support for indexing, concurrency control, and recovery, which is designed for use in a client-server environment. In addition to supporting these new features, ESM-CS provides support for all of the features provided previously by the EXODUS storage manager, such as large and versioned objects [CDRS89]. ESM-CS can be accessed through a C procedure call interface or through E [RC89], a persistent programming language based on C++.

Figure 1 shows the architecture of ESM-CS. The system consists of a client library, which is linked into the user's application, and the server, which runs as a separate process. Clients perform all data and index manipulation during normal (i.e., non-recovery or rollback) operation. Each client process (i.e., each application that is linked with the client library) has its own buffer pool and lock cache and runs a single transaction at a time. The server is the main repository for the database and the log, and provides support for lock management, page allocation, and recovery/rollback. The server is multi-threaded so that it can handle requests from multiple clients, and it uses separate disk processes for asynchronous I/O. Communication between clients and the server uses reliable TCP connections and UNIX sockets. All communication is initiated by the client and is responded to by the server. There is no mechanism for the server to initiate contact with a client.

As stated above, ESM-CS employs a page-server architecture in which the client sends requests for specific data and index pages to the server. ESM-CS uses strict two-phase locking for data and non-two-phase locking for indexes. Data is locked at a page or coarser granularity. Index page splits are logged as nested top level actions [Moha90] so they are committed regardless of whether or not their enclosing transaction commits. During a transaction, clients cache data and index pages in their local buffer pool. Before committing a transaction, the client sends all the pages modified by the transaction to the server. In the current implementation, a client's cache is purged upon the completion (commit or abort) of a transaction. Future enhancements will allow inter-transaction caching of pages [CFLS91].

Clients initiate transactions by sending a *start transaction* message to the server and can request the commit or abort of a transaction by sending a message to the server. The server can decide to abort a transaction due to a system error or deadlock. After aborting a transaction the server informs the client of the abort in response to the next message it receives from the client. During the execution of a transaction, the client generates log records for all updates to data and index pages. The server manages the log as a circular buffer, and will abort executing transactions if it is in danger of running out of log space.

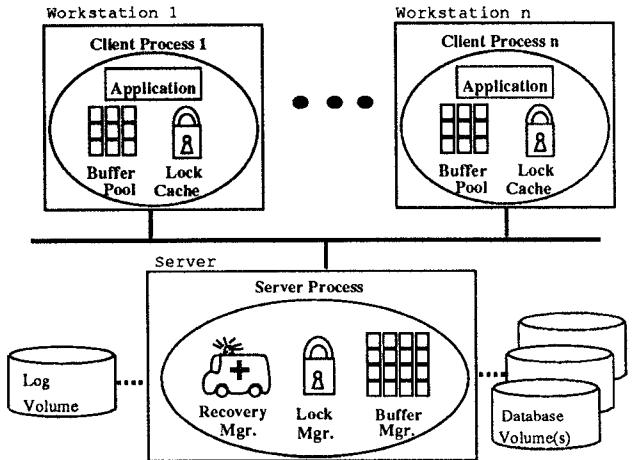


Figure 1: The Architecture of Client-Server EXODUS

2.2. Logging Subsystem

One of the main challenges in designing a recovery system is to minimize the negative performance impact of logging during normal operation. As stated in the previous section, the log in ESM-CS is kept at the server. This decision was made for two reasons: 1) we do not want to lose access to data as the result of a client failure, and 2) it is not economical to require that clients have log disks. Given that the log is kept at the server while the operations on data and indexes on behalf of application programs are performed at the clients, an efficient interface for shipping log records from the clients to the server is required. The logging subsystem is an extension of a centralized logging subsystem that is intended to work efficiently in the client-server environment.

2.2.1. Log Records and Data Pages

Our ARIES-based recovery algorithm depends upon the use of the Write-Ahead-Logging (WAL) protocol [Gray 78] at the server. The WAL protocol ensures that: 1) all log records pertaining to an updated page are written to stable storage before the page itself is over-written on stable storage, and 2) a transaction cannot commit until all of its log records have been written to stable storage. The WAL protocol enables the use of a STEAL/NO FORCE buffer management policy, which means that pages on stable storage can be overwritten with uncommitted data (STEAL), and that data pages do not need to be forced to disk in order to commit a transaction (NO FORCE).

In order to implement the WAL protocol at the server, we enforce a similar protocol between clients and the server. That is, a client must send log records to the server prior to sending the pages on which the updates were performed. This policy is enforced for two reasons. First, it simplifies transaction rollback by insuring that the server has all log records necessary to rollback updates to pages at the server that contain uncommitted updates. If the policy were not enforced, transaction rollback caused by a client crash could require performing restart recovery

on the affected pages at the server since necessary log records could be lost due to the client crash. Second, it simplifies the server's buffer manager by freeing it from having to manage dependencies between the arrival of log records from clients and the flushing of dirty pages to stable storage.

2.2.2. Log Record Generation and Shipping

The client generates one or more log records for each operation that updates a data or index page. These log records contain redo and/or undo information specific to the operation performed, rather than entire before and/or after images of pages. This decision was motivated by the desire to reduce two overheads: 1) the expense of sending data from clients to the server, especially because some of the pages are quite large (e.g., 8K bytes or longer), and 2) the expense of writing to the log. Another decision that was made in this regard was to not allow log records generated at the client to span log page boundaries. That is, all log records generated by clients are smaller than a log page and are wholly contained in a single log page when sent to the server. This restriction simplifies both the sending of log records at the client and the handling of log record pages at the server. The restriction sometimes requires operations to be logged slightly differently from the way they were actually performed. For example, the creation of a data object that is larger than the size of a log page is logged as the *create* of the first portion of the object followed by the *append* of any remaining data.

As a result of the client-server WAL protocol and/or the boundary spanning restriction, a client may at times be forced to send partially filled log pages to the server. This could result in wasted log space and unnecessary writes to the log. The server, however, is not subject to the restrictions imposed on clients and can therefore combine log records received from different clients onto the same log page and can write log records received from a given client across multiple pages in order to conserve log writes. However, the server must preserve the ordering of the log records received from a particular client and must maintain the WAL protocol between the updated pages in its buffer and the corresponding log pages. In addition to log records received from clients, the server also generates certain log records of its own. Server log records are not subject to the size constraint that is imposed on client log records and can span multiple log pages.

3. OVERVIEW OF ARIES

In this section, we present a brief overview of the ARIES recovery method, concentrating on the features of the algorithm that are pertinent to the ESM-CS environment (see [Moha90] for a more complete treatment). ARIES is a fairly recent refinement of the WAL protocol. As with other WAL implementations, each page in the database contains a Log Sequence Number (LSN) which uniquely identifies the log record for the latest update applied to the page. This LSN (referred to as the *pageLSN*) is used during recovery to determine whether or not an update for a page must be redone. LSN information is also used to determine the point in the log from which the Redo pass must commence during restart from a system crash. Log records belonging to the same transaction are linked backwards in time using a *prevLSN* field in each log record.

ARIES uses a three pass algorithm for restart recovery (see Figure 2). *Analysis* first processes the log forward from the most recent checkpoint, determining information about dirty pages and active transactions for use in the later passes. The second pass, *Redo*, processes the log forward from the earliest log record that could require redo, ensuring that all logged operations have been applied. The third pass, *Undo*, proceeds backwards from the end of the log, removing the effects of all uncommitted transactions

from the database. ARIES employs a Redo paradigm called *repeating history*, in which it redoing updates for *all* transactions — including those that will eventually be undone. Repeating history simplifies the implementation of fine grained locking and the use of logical undo as described in [Moha90, MP91].

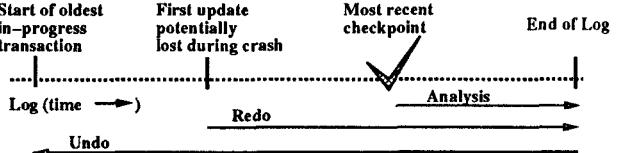


Figure 2: The Three Passes of ARIES Restart

3.1. Normal Operation

ARIES maintains two important data structures during normal operation. The first is the *Transaction Table*, which contains an entry for each transaction that is currently running. Each entry includes a *lastLSN* field, which is the LSN of the transaction's most recent log record. The second data structure, called the *Dirty Page Table* (DPT), contains an entry for each "dirty" page. A page is dirty if it contains updates that are not reflected on stable storage. Each entry in the DPT includes a *recoveryLSN* field, which is the LSN of the log record that caused the associated page to become dirty. The *recoveryLSN* is the LSN of the earliest log record that might need to be redone for the page during restart.

During normal operation, checkpoints are taken periodically. ARIES uses an inexpensive form of fuzzy checkpoints [BHG87] which requires only the writing of a checkpoint record. Checkpoint records include the contents of the Transaction Table and the DPT. Checkpoints are efficient since no operations need be quiesced and no database pages are flushed. However, the effectiveness of checkpoints in allowing reclamation of log space is limited in part by the earliest *recoveryLSN* of the dirty pages at checkpoint time. Therefore, it is helpful to have a background process that periodically writes dirty pages to stable storage.

3.2. Analysis

The job of the Analysis pass of restart recovery is threefold: 1) it determines the point in the log at which to start the Redo pass, 2) it determines which pages could have been dirty at the time of the crash in order to avoid unnecessary I/O during the Redo pass, and 3) it determines which transactions had not committed at the time of the crash and will therefore need to be undone. Analysis begins at the most recent checkpoint and scans forward to the end of the log. It reconstructs the Transaction Table and DPT to determine the state of the system as of the time of the crash. It begins with the copies of those structures that were logged in the checkpoint record. Then, the contents of the tables are modified according to the log records that are encountered during the forward scan. At the end of the Analysis pass, the DPT is a conservative (since pages may have been flushed to stable storage) list of all pages that could have been dirty at the time of the crash, and the Transaction Table contains entries for those transactions that will actually require undo processing during the Undo phase. The earliest *recoveryLSN* in the DPT is called the *firstLSN* and is used as the spot in the log from which to begin the Redo phase.

3.3. Redo

As stated earlier, ARIES employs a redo paradigm called *repeating history*. That is, it redoing updates for *all* transactions, committed or otherwise. Therefore, at the end of Redo, the database is in the same state with respect to the logged updates that it was in at the time that the crash occurred. The Redo pass begins

at the log record whose LSN is the *firstLSN* determined by Analysis and scans forward. To redo an update, the logged action is re-applied and the *pageLSN* on the page is set to the LSN of the redone log record. No logging is performed as the result of a redo. A logged action must be redone if its LSN is greater than the *pageLSN* of the affected page. To avoid unnecessary disk I/O, the *pageLSN* is not checked if the page is not in the DPT, or if the *recoveryLSN* for the page is greater than the record LSN.

3.4. Undo

The Undo pass scans backwards from the end of the log, removing the effects of all transactions that had not committed at the time of the crash. In ARIES, undo is an *unconditional* operation — the *pageLSN* of an affected page is not checked because it is always the case that the undo must be performed. To undo an update, the undo operation is applied to the page and is logged using a *Compensation Log Record* (CLR). In addition to the undo information, a CLR contains a *UndoNxtLSN* field, which is the LSN of the next log record that must be undone for the transaction. It is set to the value of the *prevLSN* field of the log record being undone. CLRs enable ARIES to avoid ever having to undo the effects of an undo (e.g., due to a crash during an abort) thereby limiting the amount of undo work and bounding the amount of logging done in the event of multiple crashes. When a CLR is encountered during Undo, no operation is performed on the page, and the value of the *UndoNxtLSN* field is used as the next log record to be undone for the transaction, thereby skipping any previously undone updates of the transaction.

For example, in Figure 3, a transaction logged three updates (LSNs 10, 20, and 30) before the system crashed for the first time. During Redo, the database was brought up to date with respect to the log, but since the transaction was in progress at the time of the crash, it must be undone. During the Undo pass, update 30 was undone, resulting in the writing of a CLR with LSN 40, which contains an *UndoNxtLSN* value that points to 20. Then, 20 was undone, resulting in CLR (LSN 50) with an *UndoNxtLSN* value of 10. However, the system then crashed for a second time before 10 was undone. Once again, history is repeated during Redo, which brings the database back to the state it was in after the application of LSN 50 (the CLR for 20). When Undo begins during this second restart, it will first examine the log record 50. Since the record is a CLR, no modification will be performed on the page, and Undo will skip to the record whose LSN is stored in the *UndoNxtLSN* field of the CLR. Therefore, it will continue by undoing the update whose log record has LSN 10. This is where Undo was interrupted at the time of the second crash. Note that no extra logging was performed as a result of the second crash.

In order to undo multiple transactions, restart Undo keeps a list containing the next LSN to be undone for each transaction being undone. When a log record is undone, the *prevLSN* (or *UndoNxtLSN*, in the case of a CLR) is entered as the next LSN to be undone for that transaction and Undo moves on to the log record whose LSN is the most recent in the list. Undo continues until all of the transactions in the list have been completely undone. Undo for *transaction rollback* (for transaction aborts or savepoints) works similarly to restart Undo.

4. RECOVERY IN ESM-CS

4.1. ARIES and the Page-Server Environment

In this section, we describe the problems that arise when adapting ARIES to a page-server environment and outline the solutions that we implemented. These issues stem mainly from two features of the page-server environment: 1) the modification of data in client database buffers, while the log and recovery

manager are at the server, and 2) the expense of communicating between the clients and the server. The first issue violates several important assumptions of the ARIES algorithm, and thus had to be addressed for correctness of the implementation. The second issue results in performance tradeoffs that have a significant impact on the algorithm design.

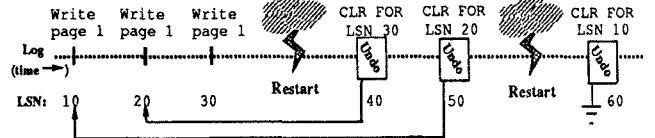


Figure 3: The Use of CLRs for Undo

The presence of separate buffers on the clients is a fundamental departure from the environment for which ARIES was originally specified. This difference creates problems with both transaction rollback and system restart. In ARIES, rollback undo is an unconditional operation since it is known that at rollback, the effects of all logged updates appear in the copies of pages either on stable storage or in the server's buffer pool. However, in the page-server environment *the server can have log records for updates for which it does not have the affected database pages*. During rollback, unconditional undo could result in corruption of the database and system crashes due to attempts to undo operations that are not reflected in the server's copy of a page.

This difference in buffering also causes a related problem for system restart. The correctness of the restart algorithm depends on the ability to determine all pages that could have possibly been dirty (i.e., different from their copy on stable storage) at the time of a crash. As described in Section 3.2, this information is gathered by starting with the DPT that was logged at the most recent checkpoint, and augmenting it based on log records that are encountered during the Analysis pass. In a page-server system, this process is not sufficient, since *there may be pages that are dirty at a client but not at the server*, and hence, do not appear in any checkpoint's DPT. This problem, if not addressed, would result in incorrect recovery due to the violation of the repeating history property of Redo.

A problem that arises due to the expense of communication between clients and the server is the inability of clients to efficiently assign LSNs. ARIES expects that LSNs are unique within a log, and that log records are added to the log in monotonically increasing LSN order. In a centralized or shared memory system, this is easily achieved, since a single source for generating LSNs can be cheaply accessed each time a log record is generated. However, in a page-server environment, clients generate log records in parallel, making it difficult for them to efficiently assign unique LSNs that will arrive at the server in monotonically increasing order. Furthermore, if the LSNs are to be physical (e.g., based on log record addresses), then the server would be required to be involved in the generation of LSNs.

To summarize, the issues that must be addressed in a page-server environment are the following:

- The assignment of state identifiers (e.g., LSNs) for pages.
- The need to make undo a *conditional* operation.
- Changes to Analysis to ensure correctness.

We next describe these issues and their effects on the algorithm. The algorithm is then summarized in Section 4.5.

4.2. Log Record Counters (LRCs)

As described in Section 3, ARIES requires that each log record be identified by an LSN and that each page contain a *pageLSN* field which indicates the LSN of the most recent log record

applied to that page. These LSNs must be unique and monotonically increasing. It is useful for LSNs be the physical addresses of records in the log. However, as discussed above, it is not possible to efficiently generate such LSNs in a page-server system. In general, the problem with LSNs in a page-server system is that their use is overloaded: 1) they identify the state of a page with respect to a particular log record, 2) they identify the state of a page with respect to a position in the log (e.g., an LSN is used to determine the point from which to begin Redo for a page), and 3) they identify where in the log to find a relevant record.

Since clients do not have inexpensive access to the log, they can only be responsible for point 1 above. Therefore, our solution was to separate the functionality of point 1 from the others by introducing the notion of a Log Record Counter (LRC). An LRC is a counter that is associated with each page. The LRC for a particular page is monotonically increasing and uniquely identifies an operation that has been applied to the page. Instead of storing an LSN on the page, we store the LRC (called the *pageLRC*). In order to map between LRCs and entries in the log, the log record structure is augmented to include an LRC field which indicates the LRC that was placed on the page as a result of the logged operation. Note that for reasons to be explained in the following sections, LRCs have the same size and structure as LSNs (currently, an eight-byte integer).

LRCs are used in the following way: When a page is modified, the LRC on the page (*pageLRC*) is updated and then copied into the corresponding log record. When the server examines a page to see if a particular update has been applied to the page, the current *pageLRC* is compared to the LRC contained in the log record corresponding to the modification. If the *pageLRC* is greater than or equal to the LRC in the log record, then the update is known to be reflected in the page. LRCs have the advantage that, since they are private to a particular page, they can be manipulated at the client without intervention by the server. There are two main disadvantages of using LRCs however. First, since they are not physical log pointers, they cannot be directly used to serve as an access point into the log. Second, care must be taken to insure that each combination of page id and LRC refers to a unique log record. Our approaches to handling these two problems are addressed in the following sections.

4.3. Conditional Undo

In ESM-CS, log records for operations performed on clients arrive at the server before the dirty pages containing the effects of those operations, and thus, when aborting a transaction it is possible to encounter log records for operations whose effects are not reflected in the pages at the server. Attempting to undo such an operation could result in corrupted data. Therefore, we implement undo as a *conditional* operation. When scanning the log backwards during rollback (or restart Undo) the page associated with each log record is examined and undo is performed only for logged operations that had actually been applied.

As described in Section 3.4, undo in ARIES is an *unconditional operation*. This is possible in ARIES for two reasons. First, in ARIES all dirty pages are located in the system's buffer pool, so at the rollback-time, all logged operations are reflected in the pages at the server. Second, history is always repeated during restart Redo. Therefore, it is assured that all of the operations up to the time of the crash are reflected in either the pages on stable storage or in the buffer pool when restart Undo begins.

With conditional undo, CLRs must still be written for all undo operations, including those that are not actually performed. However, the *pageLRCs* of the affected pages must not be updated unless the undo operation is actually performed. The reasons for these requirements can be seen in the example shown in Figure 4.

In the figure, a transaction logged three updates (LRCs 10,11 and 12) for a page, and the page was sent to the server after the first update had been applied but before the others had been applied. When the transaction rolls back, conditional undo results in only LRC 10 being undone. If only the CLR pertaining to that update is written, a problem can arise if the server crashes after logging the CLR but before the page reflecting the undo is written to stable storage (as shown in the figure). Restart Redo repeats history, thereby redoing LRCs 10, 11, 12 and the CLR. The Undo pass encounters the CLR, and since the *UndoNxtLSN* is NIL, considers the transaction completely undone. This incorrectly leaves the effects of LRCs 11 and 12 on the page. Therefore, rollback must log CLRs for the second and third updates as well, even though the updates were never applied to the page. However, if the *pageLRC* is updated when the fake undo is performed for LRC 12, then rollback would not work properly since when it encounters the log record for LRC 11, it would erroneously infer that the update had been applied to the page and would attempt to undo the update, resulting in a corrupted page.

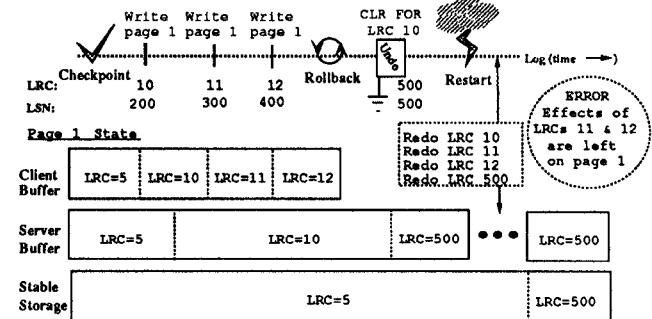


Figure 4: Error Due to Missing CLRs in Conditional Undo

Up to this point, the solution described is to log undo operations, even if they are not performed, but not to update the LRC on the page unless an undo is actually performed on the page. Unfortunately, there is one additional complication that is due to the use of LRCs rather than LSNs. The problem is that in the case where no logged updates to a page are truly undone, the value of the *pageLRC* will still be less than some of the LRCs in the log records of the rolled-back transaction. If this *pageLRC* is simply incremented by updates in subsequent transactions, there will then be values of the *pageLRC* that map to multiple log records. This is a violation of an important invariant and can result in problems in both Redo and Undo.

The above problem could not occur if LSNs were being used, since they are guaranteed to be unique and monotonically increasing, making it impossible to generate a duplicate LSN. This problem is solved by taking advantage of the fact that, while LRCs must be unique and monotonically increasing for a page, they need not be consecutive. The solution requires that the server send the *LSN of the current end-of-log* (i.e., the LSN of the next log record to be written) every time it sends a page to a client. It does this by piggybacking the end-of-log LSN in the message header. When the client receives a data or index page from the server, it initializes the *pageLRC* field of the received page to be the end-of-log LSN that is sent along with the page. When a client updates a page, it increments the *pageLRC* on the page. When the server updates a page (e.g., for page formatting, compensation for undo, etc.) it places the LSN of the corresponding log record in the page's *pageLRC* field. The resulting *pageLRCs* are guaranteed to be unique and monotonically increasing (but not necessarily consecutive) with respect to each page.

4.4. Performing Correct Analysis during Restart

The remaining issue to be addressed is to ensure that the Analysis pass of system restart produces the correct information about the state of pages at the time of a crash. There are three related problems to be solved in this regard:

- (1) Maintaining *recoveryLSNs* for dirty pages.
- (2) Determining which pages may require redo.
- (3) Determining the point in the log at which to start Redo.

4.4.1. Maintaining the RecoveryLSN for a Page

During the Analysis pass of the restart algorithm, ARIES computes the LSN of the earliest log record that could require redo. As explained in Section 3.2, this LSN, called the *firstLSN*, is computed by taking the minimum of the *recoveryLSNs* of all of the pages considered dirty at the end of Analysis. In a centralized system, the *recoveryLSN* for each page can be kept by storing the LSN of the update that causes a page to become dirty in the buffer pool control information for that page. Unfortunately, in the page-server environment, clients do not have access to the LSN of an update's corresponding log record when the update is performed (for the reasons described previously).

This problem is solved by having clients attach an *approximate recoveryLSN* to a page when they initially dirty the page. To implement this, we extend the mechanism described in Section 4.3 so that the server piggybacks the LSN of the current end-of-log on *every* reply that it sends to a client. When a client initially dirties a page, it attaches the most recent end-of-log LSN that it received from the server, as the *recoveryLSN* for the page. This LSN is guaranteed to be less than or equal to the LSN of the log record that will eventually be generated for the operation that actually dirties the page. Since the client must communicate with the server in order to initiate a transaction; and since clients must send dirty pages to the server on commit; the approximate *recoveryLSN* will be no earlier than the end-of-log LSN at the time when the transaction which dirties the page was initiated. Typically, it will be more recent than this. When the client returns a dirty page to the server, it sends the approximate *recoveryLSN* for the page in the message along with the page. If the page is not already considered dirty at the server, then it is marked dirty and the approximate *recoveryLSN* is entered in the buffer pool control information for the page at the server.

4.4.2. Determining Which Pages May Require Redo

As described above, a fundamental problem with implementing the ARIES algorithm in the page-server environment is the presence of buffer pools on the clients. One manifestation of this difference is the problem of determining which pages were dirty at the time of a crash, and hence may require redo. A page is *not* considered dirty by the basic ARIES Analysis algorithm if it satisfies *both* the following criteria:

- (1) It does not appear in the DPT logged in the most recent complete checkpoint prior to the crash.
- (2) No log records for updates to the page appear in the log after that checkpoint.

There are two reasons that a page updated at a client might not appear in the checkpoint's DPT. The first is simply that the page was sent back to the server and written to stable storage before the checkpoint was taken. This causes no problems since the page is no longer dirty at this point. The second reason is that the page may have been updated at the client but not sent back to the server prior to the taking of the checkpoint. (Note that even if the page is sent to the server after the checkpoint has been taken, it will be lost during the crash.) In this case, there may have been log

records for updates to the page that appeared before the checkpoint. These updates will be skipped by the Redo pass because it will not consider the page to be dirty.

Figure 5 shows an example of this problem. In the figure, a transaction updated a page (page 1) and sent the corresponding log record (LRC 10) to the server without sending the page to the server. After a checkpoint had occurred the client sent the dirtied page (with LRC = 10) to the server followed by a commit request. The server wrote a commit record and forced it to disk, thereby committing the transaction. The server then crashed before page 1 was flushed to disk. In this case, Restart will not redo LRC 10 because according to the ARIES Analysis algorithm, page 1 is not considered dirty (since it neither appears in the most recent checkpoint's DPT, nor is referenced by any log records that appear after the checkpoint), and therefore, does not require redo. This would violate the durability of committed updates since the update of LRC 10 would be lost.

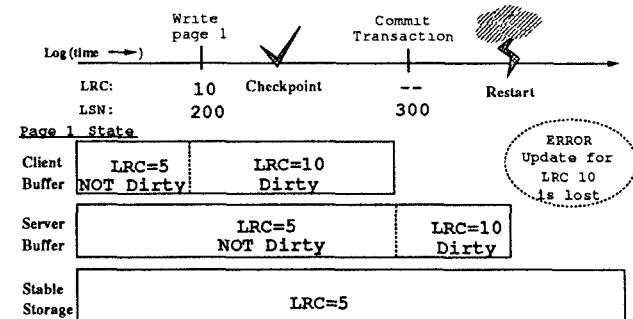


Figure 5: Lost Update Due to Missed Dirty Pages

Fortunately, the problem of missed dirty pages only has correctness implications for updates of transactions that commit before the system crashes. The reason for this is that the updates of any transactions which had not committed prior to the crash will be undone during the Undo pass of restart. The conditional undo of our algorithm (Section 4.3) can tolerate the absence of the effects of logged updates on a page, providing that all of the missing updates occur later in the log than any updates that were applied to the page. That condition holds in this case, since the problem arises only when the most recent image of the dirty page was lost during the crash.

Given that the problem of missing dirty pages arises only for committed transactions, we solve the problem by logging dirty page information at transaction commit time. When a client sends a dirty page to the server, this page and its *recoveryLSN* are added to a list of dirty pages for the transaction. When a page is flushed to stable storage, it is removed from the list. We refer to this list as a *Commit Dirty Page List*. Before logging a commit record for a transaction, the server first logs the contents of the list for the committing transaction. During restart Analysis, when a Commit Dirty Page List is encountered, each page that appears in the list is added (along with its *recoveryLSN*) to the DPT if it does not already have an entry in the table.

An alternative solution we considered was to log the receipt of dirty pages at the server (similar to the logging of buffer operations in [Lind79]), and then during restart Analysis, to add pages encountered in such log records to the dirty page table. While this solution is also a correct one, we felt that the additional log overhead during normal operation could prove to be unacceptable. We also investigated solutions that involved the clients in the checkpointing process. These solutions were rejected because they violate a system design constraint which prohibits the server from depending on clients for any crucial functions.

4.4.3. Determining Where to Begin the Redo Pass

The final problem to be addressed in this section is that of determining the proper point in the log at which to begin Redo. Recall that in ARIES, the LSN at which to begin Redo (called the *firstLSN*) is determined to be the minimum of the *recoveryLSNs* of all of the pages in the DPT at the end of the Analysis phase. If a page is not dirty at the time of a checkpoint, then it is known that all updates logged prior to the checkpoint are reflected in the copy of the page that is on stable storage, and thus, it is safe to begin Redo for the page at the first log record for the page that is encountered during Analysis, or anywhere earlier. In the page-server environment, however, this is not the case. For example, in Figure 6, a transaction logged two updates to page 1. One log record arrived at the server before a checkpoint, and one arrived after the checkpoint, and the dirty page containing the effects of the updates was not shipped to the server until after the checkpoint. Therefore, page 1 does not appear in the DPT recorded in the checkpoint. If the server crashes at the point shown in the figure, then during Analysis, when the log record for LRC 11 is encountered, page 1 will be added to the DPT with the LSN of that record as its *recoveryLSN* (LSN = 300). Starting Redo for page 1 at this point would result in LRC 11 being redone without LRC 10 having been applied, thus corrupting page 1.

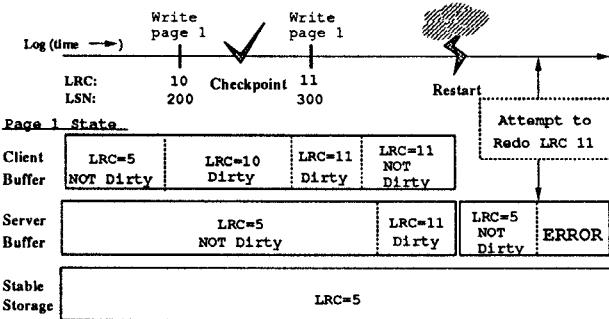


Figure 6: Inconsistent Redo Due to Missed Log Record

For pages that are dirtied by a transaction that eventually commits, the Commit Dirty Page List (as described in Section 4.4.2) contains conservative *recoveryLSNs*, which insure that redo will begin at a proper point in the log for such pages. Also, for pages dirtied by a transaction which does not commit, but that appear in the DPT recorded in the most recent checkpoint, the *recoveryLSN* in the DPT entry is valid. Therefore, the problem that must be addressed is that of pages dirtied by a transaction which does not commit and that are added to the DPT during Analysis (as shown in Figure 6). To solve this problem, we augment the Transaction Table structure (described in Section 3.2) to include a field for the first LSN generated by each transaction (called the *startLSN*). Then, during Analysis, when a page is added to the DPT, it is marked as a newly added page and tagged with the transaction Id of the transaction which dirtied it. At the end of Analysis, entries for pages that were added to the dirty page table due to an update by an uncommitted transaction have their *recoveryLSN* replaced by that transaction's *startLSN*. This conservative approximation results in correct behavior, but it may cause extra I/O during Redo because pages may have to be read from stable storage to determine whether or not a logged update must be redone. However, the number of pages for which this conservative approximation is required can be kept small by taking (inexpensive) checkpoints.

4.5. Summary of the Algorithm

While the preceding discussion was fairly detailed, the resulting algorithm requires only the following changes to ARIES:

During Normal Operation:

- The LSN of the first log record generated by a transaction is entered in the Transaction Table as the transaction's *startLSN*.
- Each client keeps an estimate of the current end-of-log LSN; updated upon receipt of every message from the server.
- When a data or index page arrives at the client, the *pageLRC* of the page is initialized to be the estimated end-of-log LSN. The page is *not* marked dirty as a result of this initialization.
- When a client updates a page, it increments the *pageLRC* on the page and places the new *pageLRC* value in the log record. If this update causes the page to be marked "dirty", the current estimated end-of-log LSN is entered as the *recoveryLSN* in the page's buffer control information at the client.
- When the server updates a page, it places the LSN of the log record it generates as the *pageLRC* on the page and in the log record. If this update causes the page to be marked "dirty", then the LSN is also entered as the *recoveryLSN* in the page's buffer control information at the server.
- When a client sends a dirty page to the server it includes the page's *recoveryLSN* in the message.
- When the server receives a dirty page from a client, the page is added to a list of dirty pages for the transaction which dirtied it. If the transaction commits, this list is logged as the Commit Dirty Page List for the transaction.

During Restart Analysis:

- When a transaction is added to the Transaction Table as the result of encountering a log record, the LSN of the log record is entered as the transaction's *startLSN*.
- When a Commit Dirty Page List is encountered, the pages that appear in it are added to the DPT. The *recoveryLSN* in the DPT entry for each page is set to the minimum of the *recoveryLSN* for the page in the DPT (if the page already has an entry) and that in the Commit Dirty Page List.
- At the end of Analysis, all pages that were added to the DPT by Analysis due to log records generated by non-committing transactions are given a conservative *recoveryLSN*: namely, the *startLSN* of the transaction that dirtied the page.

During Restart Redo:

- Redo is unchanged except for the use of LRCs for comparisons between log records and pages rather than LSNs.

During Undo (for restart or rollback):

- To undo a log record, the LRC stored in the record is compared to the *pageLRC* of the affected page. If the log record LRC is *greater than or equal* to the *pageLRC* then an actual undo is performed, otherwise a "fake" undo is performed.
- Actual undo is performed by logging a CLR for the undone operation, performing the undo on the page, and placing the LSN of the CLR in the *pageLRC* of the affected page.
- Fake undo is performed simply by logging a CLR for the undone operation. The page itself is not modified, is not marked as dirty, and its *pageLRC* is not changed.

5. PERFORMANCE

In this section we describe an initial study of the performance of logging and recovery in ESM-CS. The performance experiments described in this section were run on two SPARCstation ELCs, each with 24MB of memory, running version 4.1.1 of SunOS. The client and server processes were run on separate machines that were connected by an Ethernet. The log and database were stored on separate disks, and raw disk partitions were used to avoid operating system buffering. The log page size was 8KB and database page size was 4KB. All times were obtained using *gettimeofday()* and *getrusage()* and are reported in seconds.

5.1. Logging Experiments

In the first set of experiments we investigated the overhead imposed on transactions by the logging subsystem during normal operation. Three different databases were used for the experiments and are described in Table 1. All three databases initially contain 2MB of data on pages that are approximately 50% full, and thus, each database consists of 4MB of physical space. We describe the results for two types of transactions applied to the three databases: *Write*, which sequentially scans the database and writes (updates) half of the bytes in each object, updating a total of 1MB of data, and *Insert*, which sequentially scans the database and inserts new data at the beginning of each object to increase its size by 50%, resulting in the insertion of 1MB of new data. *Insert* does not increase the number of pages in the database since each page has enough free space to accommodate the inserted data.¹

DB Name	Objects in DB	Obj. Size (bytes)	Objs per page	Pages in DB
FewLg	1,000	2,000	1	1,000
SomeMd	10,000	200	10	1,000
ManySm	100,000	20	100	1,000

Table 1: Description of Experimental Databases

Experiment name	Execution Time (sec) Logging on	Execution Time (sec) Logging off	Logging overhead
Write_FewLg	17.37	13.55	3.82 (28%)
Write_SomeMd	18.43	14.46	3.97 (27%)
Write_ManySm	32.32	21.36	10.96 (51%)
Insert_FewLg	14.29	12.49	1.80 (14%)
Insert_SomeMd	15.74	13.05	2.69 (21%)

Table 2: Logging Experiment Results (seconds)

Table 2 shows the results from running the five experiments with and without logging. These numbers were obtained by running each transaction five times and taking the average of the last four runs. They include the time to initiate, execute, and commit a transaction, including the time to send dirty pages to the server. In these experiments the server buffer pool was 5 Mbytes, so the entire database was cached in the server's buffer pool for the measured runs. The client buffer pool is also 5 Mbytes so that the entire database fits in the client buffer pool during a transaction, however, it is empty at the beginning of each transaction. The large buffer pools were used to in order to help us isolate the effects of logging by removing sources of variability (e.g., other disk I/O) and by making logging a more significant part of the total work performed in the tests. The write-intensiveness of the transactions also accentuates the impact of logging. For these reasons, the overhead of logging reflected in Table 2 is much higher than would be expected in an actual application.

As shown in Table 2, the overhead of logging increased with the number of operations for which log records were generated even though the amount of actual data that was updated remained constant. This increase was due to the size overhead added for each log record. In ESM-CS, this overhead is 64 bytes — 56 bytes for the record header and 8 bytes for the operation information. As a result of this overhead, the number of log pages generated and written increased considerably when a larger number

¹ This does not hold for the ManySm database due to the overhead of object headers, thus we do not show the results from running *Insert* on the ManySm database.

of smaller operations were performed per transaction. For example, the 1,000 operations of the Write_FewLg experiment generated 2.7MB of log records in 337 log pages, while the 100,000 operations of the Write_ManySm experiment generated 8.9MB of log records in 1,090 log pages. Comparing the two transaction types, the logging time overhead of the *Insert* tests was less than that of the *Write* tests. This difference is because *Insert* logs only the inserted data, while *Write* logs both the before and after images, resulting in a larger volume of logged data for *Write*.

Experiment name	Gen. log recs	Ship log pages act/obsv	Write log pages act/obsv	Total overhead act/obsv
Write				
FewLg	0.48	2.57/2.45	6.18/0.78	9.23/3.71
SomeMd	0.92	2.57/2.03	6.18/0.87	9.67/3.82
ManySm	5.19	8.37/4.24	20.36/1.35	33.92/10.78
Insert				
FewLg	0.31	1.10/1.05	3.03/0.26	4.44/1.62
SomeMd	0.89	1.57/1.23	3.75/0.44	6.21/2.56

Table 3: Logging Cost Breakdown (seconds)

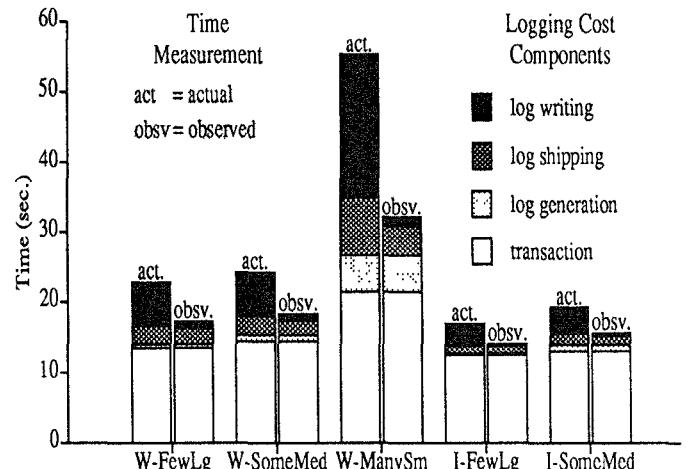


Figure 7: Actual and Observed Logging Costs

In order to better understand these results, we analyzed the costs of the three main components of logging: 1) generating log records at the client, 2) shipping log pages from the client to the server, and 3) writing log pages from the server's buffer to the log disk. To obtain this breakdown we altered ESM-CS to allow these three logging components to be selectively turned on and off. Because the shipping and writing of log pages can occur in parallel with other client and server activity, these costs were measured in two ways. The first was to separately measure the actual time it took to ship or write a certain number of pages. The second was to selectively turn off the shipping and writing of log pages and compute the differences in time observed by the client. These results are shown in Table 3 (and graphically in Figure 7) as *actual* and *observed* respectively. As would be expected, the highest actual cost was the writing of log records to disk. Shipping the log pages to the server took about 41% of the time it took to write the pages to disk. The cost of generating the log records was small in the FewLg cases but became more significant in the transactions that generated more log records, as the number of log records generated grew faster than the number of log pages.

From the client's point of view, the observed cost of shipping was more significant than the writing cost since most of the writing was performed in parallel with other client and server activity.

In principle, the shipping of log pages can also be performed in parallel with other activity, but with the small compute time of these tests, the network was kept busy by client data page and lock requests. One exception to this was the Write_ManySm case which had more significant compute time due to the generation of log records, and thus obtained some parallelism between log page shipping and log record generation.

Although comparable published performance results for logging systems are difficult to find, the results from these write-intensive experiments lead us to conclude that the performance of our initial logging implementation is reasonable. The results also indicate two areas for improvement. First, reducing the amount of logged information can result in significant performance improvements, especially for small updates. The current log record overhead size of 64 bytes is slightly larger than the typical log record header size of approximately 50 bytes [GR92]. With sufficient coding effort, the ESM-CS log record overhead could be reduced to 56 bytes (but not much smaller). A different approach would be to reduce the number of log records generated in special cases like Write_ManySm (where most or all of the objects on a page are updated) by logging entire pages. Secondly, by performing shipping and writing of log pages in parallel with other activity, the observed cost for logging can be reduced considerably. We plan to investigate ways of further exploiting such parallelism.

5.2. Transaction Rollback and Recovery Performance

We also ran some simple experiments to gain insight into the performance of rollback and recovery. These experiments used the databases and *Write* transactions described in the previous section. Table 4 shows the results of these experiments and also shows the execution times of the transactions with logging turned on (from Table 2) for comparison. To measure the cost of transaction rollback, we aborted each transaction after all the dirty pages and log records had been shipped back to the server. In this experiment, rollback did not perform any I/O for data pages since the database was cached in the server buffer, and thus, the transaction rollback results were primarily determined by the time to read the log, to generate compensation log records, and to write those log records to disk. The cost of actually performing the undo operations was only several seconds in the longest case. Compensation log records for write operations only require the logging of redo information, so CLRs for writes contain only half as much operation information as normal write log records. However, the fine granularity of the updates in the Write_ManySm case results in much of the log space being used for log record headers. Therefore, while undoing the Write_FewLg case generated about half as many log pages as the original transaction, undoing the Write_ManySm case required almost as much log space as the original transaction. The generation of CLRs also results in significant log disk arm movement, as these new records must be appended to the log while rollback is trying to scan the log backwards. Disk arm movement is especially expensive in the Write_ManySm case, due to the amount of compensation log space generated. A way to reduce disk arm movement is to batch newly written log pages and write them out in groups.

For restart, Table 4 shows the Analysis and Redo times when the server was crashed immediately after the transaction committed. Since the server buffer could hold the entire database, no data pages had been written to stable storage prior to the crash, and thus, all data pages had to be reread from disk during recovery. The restart tests showed a significant increase in the cost of Analysis and Redo as the volume of log data increased. Note that no checkpoints were taken during these tests, so Analysis scanned the entire log. The Analysis times can be improved by taking more frequent checkpoints. Redo also scanned the log and read all the data pages from stable storage. The cost of actually

performing the redo operations was small. One way to speed up system restart would be to use Most Recently Used (MRU) buffering (instead of LRU) for the log pages during Analysis, as Redo scans the log in the same direction as Analysis. Also, restart performance could be improved by prefetching log pages and the pages in the DPT. Still, while improvements can be made, the transaction rollback and system restart performance of the current implementation seem to be acceptable.

Experiment	Exec. time	Rollback time	Analysis time	Redo time
Write_FewLg	17.37	13.24	2.06	5.65
Write_SomeMd	18.43	15.86	2.07	6.26
Write_ManySm	32.32	62.86	8.17	15.32

Table 4: Rollback and Recovery Times (seconds)

6. RELATED WORK

In this section we briefly cover related work, including ARIES extensions and recovery algorithms for shared-disk and client-server systems (see [Fran92] for a more detailed discussion).

The recent ARIES/RRH (Restricted Repeating of History) algorithm [MP91] relaxes the repeating of history during restart Redo. ARIES/RRH requires the notion of conditional undo *during restart* and writes fake CLRs to simplify media recovery. The differences between ARIES/RRH and ESM-CS conditional undo result from the fact that ARIES/RRH was designed to enhance the performance of ARIES during restart, while ESM-CS conditional undo was developed in order to correctly implement transaction rollback in a page-server system. Thus, while conditional undo is an option in ARIES, it is a requirement in ESM-CS.

Extensions to ARIES for the shared disk environment are also related to our algorithm extensions. [MNP90] addresses the problems of migrating a single-site database system to the shared disk environment. The problem relevant to our work is the lack of monotonically increasing LSNs due to the use of a separate log for each node in the system. The given solution is to store Update Sequence Numbers (USNs) on pages, rather than LSNs. USNs are initialized based on a clock value at the time the page is formatted, requiring that the clocks be synchronized to within an acceptable limit. We used LRCs to solve a similar problem in ESM-CS, but due to the lack of synchronized clocks and local logs, used the estimated end-of-log LSN and approximate *recoveryLSNs* as described in Section 4. In [MP91] protocols for transferring a page between nodes without writing the page to disk are discussed; these protocols are subject to recovery issues similar to those that arise in ESM-CS, as a node can have log records for a page that is not dirty at that node. The solutions use a Global Lock Manager (GLM) whose entries are extended with LSN information, such as the *recoveryLSNs*. There are two disadvantages to implementing a similar solution in a page-server system: it would negate many of the performance benefits of using coarse-grained locking (e.g., as in [Josh91]), and it would preclude the use of some non-centralized locking algorithms in the page-server environment. As was shown in [CFLS91, WR91], the overhead of centralized locking in the page-server environment can have a major performance impact.

Several other proposals for recovery in shared-disk systems have been published. [Lome90] describes an algorithm that allows multiple logs to be easily merged during redo. The algorithm does not require synchronized clocks, and thus, may prove useful in a client-server environment in which clients perform their own logging. As described in Section 2.2, we chose not to implement client logging because of the unreliability of clients

compared to the server and the expense of extra client disks. In [Rahm91] an algorithm is defined for use with a NO STEAL buffer management policy. The algorithm differs from the ones described previously in that it assigns responsibility for recovery of certain partitions of the database to particular systems. It may require substantial communication to perform Redo for a failed node, which can be costly in a client-server system. All of these algorithms depend on the individual logs of crashed systems being available to other nodes, which is not possible with local logs in a client-server system. [Lome90] suggests approaches towards addressing this problem.

As stated earlier, few details about recovery in page-server and object-server architectures have been published. This is due in part to the fact that many of the systems have proprietary implementations. The O2 system [Deux91] employs an ARIES-based approach that uses shadowing in order to avoid undo. The ORION-1SX system [KGBW90] uses a FORCE policy and therefore keeps only an undo log. We are unaware of any systems which have implemented the STEAL/NO FORCE policy for a page-server (or object-server) system.

7. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we have described the problems that arise when implementing recovery in a page-server environment, and have presented a recovery method that addresses these problems. The recovery method was designed with the goal of minimizing the impact of recovery-related overhead during normal processing, while still providing reasonable rollback and system restart times. In particular, the method supports efficient buffer management policies, allows flexibility in the interaction between clients and the server, and allows clients to off-load the server by performing much of the work involved in generating log records. We described the implementation of the method in ESM-CS, and presented measurements of the implementation. The measurements obtained so far appear promising. Overhead for many cases was reasonable and the study raised issues to be addressed in order to improve the performance of the system, including: reducing log record size, batching writes to the log disk, prefetching from the log during recovery, and exploiting additional parallelism between logging operations on the server and other operations on the client during normal processing. Additional studies of realistic workloads will be required in order to better understand the performance impact of the logging and recovery subsystems. In addition, we plan to extend the system to include media recovery, restricted repeating of history, and inter-transaction caching. Finally, this work has raised a number of interesting possibilities for alternative recovery system designs, and we plan to investigate the performance tradeoffs among these alternatives.

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