

CS 54200: Distributed Database Systems
Professor Bharat Bhargava
Homework 3
Due date: March 30, 2022 11:59 PM (EST)

Note: Submit the homework via Brightspace. Answer each question briefly.

Q1: Design a central site termination protocol. This requires that the operational sites agree on a coordinator. Suggest a mechanism that only one coordinator is elected.

Hint: Rank the sites and elect the site with the highest ranking as the coordinator.

Q2: Give two examples of the application of **Commit and Termination protocols** in a Distributed System. Explain your answer.

Hint: Mail facility is one such example. Do not repeat this example.

Q3: Imagine the situation in 2PC protocol when one participant sends a "**vote-abort**" message while another one sends "global-commit". Is this possible? Why?

Q4: In the centralized 3PC termination protocol, the first step involves sending the coordinator's state to all participants. The participants move to new states according to the coordinator's state. It is possible to design the termination protocol such that the coordinator, instead of sending its own state information to the participants, asks the participants to send their state information to the coordinator. Modify the termination protocol to function in this manner.

Q5:

- a) What are the problems in a commit protocol if a failure of a participating site occurs? Give an example to illustrate the problem.
- b) How can the simple termination protocol be made robust? Give the summary of messages that are needed to abort and commit the transaction.
- c) Define the concurrency set of a local state in a commit protocol.

Q6:

- a) What are session numbers and nominal session numbers? What role they play in recovery?
- b) What are control transactions? What is their role?