PROG8850 Assignment 4 – Question 1 PDF Submission

Question 1: Analysis and Integration of Database Migration Tools

1.1 Tool Overview and Comparison

Tool 1: Flyway

Overview:

Flyway is an open-source database migration tool focused on simplicity and ease of use. It manages database changes using versioned SQL scripts, making it easy to implement and understand. It integrates well with CI/CD pipelines and supports numerous relational databases.

Key Features:

- SQL-based version-controlled migrations
- Supports Java-based migrations (optional)
- CLI, Maven, Gradle, and Docker support
- Integrates with GitHub Actions, Jenkins, GitLab CI/CD
- Supports MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, SQL Server, etc.

Tool 2: Liquibase

Overview:

Liquibase is an advanced open-source database schema change management tool. It supports changes defined in SQL as well as XML, JSON, or YAML formats. It offers powerful tracking, rollback, and documentation capabilities.

Key Features:

- Supports declarative migrations (SQL, XML, JSON, YAML)
- Rollback and changelog tracking
- Compatible with CI tools (Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Bitbucket)
- Broad database support including MySQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, DB2, MongoDB

Comparison Table

| Feature | Flyway | Liquibase |
|---------------------|--|---|
| Ease of Use | Simple, script-based approach using raw SQL | Moderate complexity due to multiple supported formats (XML/JSON/YAML/SQL) |
| CI/CD Integration | Seamless with CLI, Docker, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, GitLab | Supports Maven, Ant, Jenkins, GitHub Actions with XML/YAML changelogs |
| Supported Databases | MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, SQL Server, H2, etc. | Extensive – MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, SQL Server, DB2, MongoDB, etc. |
| Rollback Capability | Limited rollback (only via manual down scripts) | Strong rollback support via rollback command and rollbackCount |
| Scripting Language | SQL or Java | SQL, XML, JSON, YAML |

1.2 Integration Strategy for CI/CD

To integrate both Flyway and Liquibase in a software project CI/CD pipeline:

Flyway Integration Strategy:

- Store migration scripts in versioned folders (e.g., migrations/init, migrations/update)
- Use Docker image or CLI in the GitHub Actions pipeline to apply migrations
- Run migrations in a job before application deployment
- Example Command:

bash

docker run --rm -v \${{ github.workspace }}/migrations:/flyway/sql flyway/flyway - url=jdbc:mysql://db:3306/mydb -user=root -password=root migrate

Liquibase Integration Strategy:

- Maintain changelogs in XML/YAML under db/changelogs
- Add a build step in CI/CD pipeline (GitHub Actions, Jenkins) to run Liquibase CLI
- Use parameters for database credentials and schema tracking
- Example Command:

bash

liquibase --changeLogFile=db/changelogs/db.changelog.xml update

Conclusion:

Flyway is excellent for teams preferring SQL-first migrations with simple pipelines, while Liquibase is ideal for complex enterprise-grade scenarios requiring rollback and format flexibility. Depending on the use case, either tool can be effectively integrated into modern DevOps workflows.