

DDS Assignment 4 - Summary Evaluation

By: Akshay Malhotra

Evaluation of Submission-ID 79: 9.5/10.0

1. Content of write-up: 2.5/2.5

The summary provided by the author of submission 79 covered all the important points that were mentioned in the original article and articulated them well in his own language. Mentioned below are all the important points he/she has managed to convey in the summarization:

- Tradeoffs in centralized and distributed databases systems: isolation versus performance and consistency levels versus performance respectively.
- Applicability of consistency levels to databases abiding by CAP theorem and not ACID properties.
- Discussion on 5 consistency levels - sequential, serial, linearizability, casual and eventual. The author covered the concept and workings behind all the consistency levels. He/she also provided examples wherever possible.
- Difference between strong and weak consistency.
- Understanding consistency levels w.r.t transactions instead of individual operations.
- Comparison of points covered by article versus those covered in class.

2. Reflection: 2.5/2.5

I was able to understand all the concepts mentioned in the summarization effortlessly. Comparing it to the original article, the points expressed in this submission were clearly expressed without the need for any diagrams. The examples, wherever mentioned, were explained with simplicity. Moreover, there was a comparison between the original article and the classes taken at ASU thereby reflecting on the additional knowledge acquired.

3. Development of Ideas: 2.5/2.5

All ideas and concepts conveyed in this submission were developed naturally. I was able to understand why a particular topic was being addressed and what was to be expected next. For example, after the discussion on all the 5 consistency levels, the author of the submission summarized the concept by mapping it to the concept of strong versus weak consistency.

4. Mechanics: 2.0/2.5

All guidelines mentioned for Assignment 3 are met except for one. The formatting of the submission does not meet the ones mentioned in the guidelines - the spacing, margins, and font are all different.

DDS Assignment 4 - Summary Evaluation

By: Akshay Malhotra

Evaluation of Submission-ID 116: 9.0/10.0

1. Content of write-up: 2.0/2.5

All major or note-worthy points mentioned in the original article have been covered in submission 116. Mentioned below are all the important points that were conveyed in the summarization:

- The necessity of consistency levels in distributed database systems
- Discussion on 5 consistency levels - sequential, serial, linearizability, casual and eventual. The submission consisted of examples that helped with the understanding of the concept. Each of the consistency levels was labeled as strong or weak consistency.
- The necessity of mapping consistency levels to transactions in a distributed database and how the same is achieved.

The author of the submission failed to mention why consistency levels are focused on systems that comply with the CAP theorem and not ACID properties. The author also did not mention what consistency means in ACID properties and CAP theorem and how they are different from each other.

2. Reflection: 2.5/2.5

All ideas and concepts expressed in the submission were well understood without much difficulty. The addition of examples with different consistency levels yielded in better understanding of the concepts. The author of the submission also demonstrated how some concepts are applicable to real-time applications like those owned by Twitter.

3. Development of Ideas: 2.5/2.5

The development of ideas in the submission was quite comparable with the original article. There was a smooth transition between strong and weak consistency levels. The transition between concepts was natural and did not feel forced. After going through the submission, it appears that the author of the submission had a good understanding of the original article.

4. Mechanics: 2.0/2.5

All guidelines mentioned for Assignment 3 are met except for one. The document length was more than 2 pages (around 2.5 pages summary). Other than that, the author of the submission used the correct font type, font size, took care of the margins and line spacing. There were not many grammatical errors, however, sentences could have been framed better.