

Upd_server.py

- Leader election: lowest ID leader default
leader sends periodic heartbeats to followers *send - heartbeats*
followers monitor heartbeats *process - heartbeat*
if none received within election timeout tries to become leader, but concedes if it receives heartbeat from lower id server
- Fault tolerance: persistent state saved to local json file
∴ recover state upon restart
followers sync loc states and file updates from leader
notify - followers - lock state
- file - update *sync - file*
sync - lock state
- Consistency and Safety:
 - Locking → grants lock to one client at a time
→ enforces time based lock expiration
→ queued clients
 - Duplicate requests: tracking client modifications to avoid processing duplicate commands
modif - requests
- Message handling
 - Port 880: Client - server communication *handle - requests*
 - acquire / release lock
 - append file
 - identify leader
 - client only communicates with leader
 - client request go to queue (client may check request queue status)
 - Port 8081: server - replica communication *handle - messages*
 - heartbeat
 - lock state: only granted by leader
 - file updates: only granted by leader
- Crash mitigations
 - Network: • heartbeat timeouts trigger leader re-election
• retry mechanisms for key actions
 - Client errors: • clients receive explicit responses for invalid requests
"You do not hold lock"
• queue request avoids race condition
 - Server crash: • followers rely on leader for consistency
• leader election ensures there is always a leader

RPC_connection.py

timeouts / retries / exponential backoffs

Distributed - Client + p3

1) Finds leader - only communicates with leader
~~find - leader~~ other servers get sent replica commands from leader

2) Send task

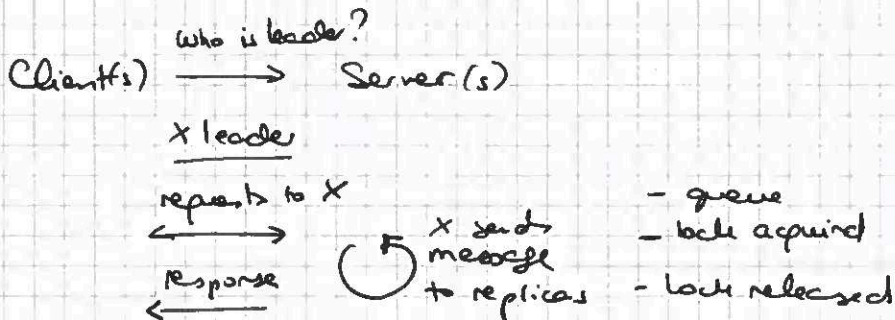
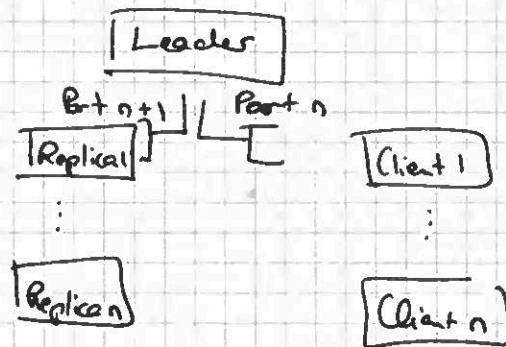
2.1) Acquire lock: sends request message, receives (timeout and "wrong" leader reply also possible)
 acquire lock
 queue position
 lock
 ↓

2.2) Sends message: "append - file"
~~write~~ append - file

starts lock expiration
 lock start - lease - timer

2.3) Waits for reply

Heartbeats between client and server track lease.



Limitations: 1) I was not able to implement strong consistency for leader election, as such I cannot run the advanced test cases.

2) My queue and lock timeout "breaks often". For this reason
 tests:
 - client - failure - stall - after edit
 - single - server - failure - lock - free
 - single - server - failure - lock - held
 fail.

* the server fails to properly transfer lock to the next client in queue after the lock expires, causing client timeout. In the 3 failing test operations are not necessarily completed outside of lock lease duration which also requires queue handling, therefore this shortcoming of the servers doesn't appear.