Commit Protocols

- Commit protocols are used to ensure atomicity across sites
    - a transaction which executes at multiple sites must either be **committed at all the sites, or aborted at all the sites**.
    - not acceptable to have a transaction committed at one site and aborted at another
- The *two-phase commit* (2PC) protocol is widely used
- The *three-phase commit* (3PC) protocol is more complicated and more expensive, but avoids some drawbacks of two-phase commit protocol.
- The *four-phase commit* (4PC) avoids some drawbacks by replicating the transaction coordinator.