TUTORIAL

Distributed Database Management:
Current State-of-the-Art, Unsolved Problems, New Issues

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Distributed database system technology is one of the major recent development in database systems area. With the introduction of commercial products, expectations are that distributed database management systems (distributed DBMSs) will by and large replace centralized ones within the next decade. This tutorial provides an overwiew of the technology, reflects on its promises and comments on the remaining research issues, in addition to addressing the following three questions:

1.- What were the initial goals and promises of the distributed database technology? How do the current commercial products measure up to these promises? In retrospect, were these goals achievable?

2.- Have the important technical problems already been solved? If not, which problems deserve the attention of researchers?

3.- What are the technological changes that underlie distributed data managers and how will they impact next generation systems?