1 | 1 | All marks AO1 (understanding)

Two users (read and) edit a record/the same data simultaneously;

NE. access/read unless later made clear the record/data is changed

NE. edit the database simultaneously

One user writes the record/data back/saves then the other user writes the record/data back/saves:

One user's update is lost // only one user's update is the kept; **NE.** data is lost

A. examples that map to the above points.

If no other marks awarded, award one mark for the use of the term "lost update problem".

Refer examples relating to data being read whilst another transaction that is later rolled-back is in progress to team leaders.

1 2 All marks AO1 (knowledge)

Mark against "Record locks" or "Timestamp ordering" mark scheme, depending upon which method the student has selected.

Record locks:

When a transaction on a record starts / when a user starts to edit a record an (exclusive) lock is set on the record; **R.** database/data/file/table for record

Other transactions/users cannot edit (**A.** access) the record/data until the lock is released/while the lock is in place/until the first edit is completed;

Timestamp ordering:

Timestamps are generated for each transaction // timestamps indicate the order that transactions occurred in; **A.** timestamps generated for edits/queries as BOD

Database records timestamp of last read / last write transaction for each record / data item; **A.** just one of read/write

Database server applies rules to determine if processing a transaction <u>will result in loss</u> <u>of data integrity/inconsistency</u> (and if so aborts the transaction); **A.** Examples of rules for this mark point:

- If a transaction tries to write to a record/data item then the transaction should be aborted if the read/write timestamp on the record/data item is greater that the time at which the transaction started.
- If a transaction tries to read a record/data item then the transaction should be aborted if the write timestamp on the record/data item is greater that the time at which the transaction started.

Max 2

3

2