CS145: Intro to Database Management Systems

Lecture 1: Course Overview
“Data is the Future”

- My cab driver in Pittsburg
Big science is data driven.
Data analysis in the fight against human trafficking.

New York DA use MEMEX Data for all trafficking investigations this year.
Increasingly many companies see themselves as data driven.
Even more “traditional” companies...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvfU1NpCJQQ
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xGoBlI_fdg
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OpDIEJrog3s
The world is increasingly driven by data...

This class teaches the basics of how to use & manage data.
Today’s Lecture

1. Introduction, admin & setup
   • ACTIVITY: Jupyter “Hello World!”

2. Overview of the relational data model
   • ACTIVITY: SQL in Jupyter

3. Overview of DBMS topics: Key concepts & challenges
1. Introduction, admin & setup
What you will learn about in this section

1. Motivation for studying DBs
2. Administrative structure
3. Course logistics
4. Overview of lecture coverage
5. ACTIVITY: Jupyter “Hello World!”
Big Data Landscape...
Infrastructure is Changing

New tech. Same Principles.
Why should you study databases?

• **Mercenary - make more $$$:**
  - Startups need DB talent right away = low employee #
  - Massive industry...

• **Intellectual:**
  - Science: data poor to data rich
    - No idea how to handle the data!
  - Fundamental ideas to/from all of CS:
    - Systems, theory, AI, logic, stats, analysis....

Many great computer systems ideas started in DB.
What this course is (and is not)

• Discuss **fundamentals of data management**
  • How to design databases, query databases, build applications with them.
  • How to debug them when they go wrong!
  • **Not** how to be a DBA or how to tune Oracle 12g.

• We’ll cover **how database management systems work**

• But not **the principles of how to build** them 😞
  • see 245, 345, and 346.
Who we are...

Instructor (me) Chris Ré

- Faculty in the InfoLab affiliated with SAIL, PPL, DAWN, and ML
- **Research**: theory of data processing, statistical analytics, and machine learning.
- chrismre@cs.stanford.edu
- Office hours: T/Th 4:30-5:30, Gates 408

*Sounds like “Ray”*
Course Assistants (CAs)

“Remember, CAs are people too!”

- Probably some CA
Tara
Head CA
Communication w/ Course Staff

• Piazza

• Office hours

• By appointment!

OHs are listed on the course website!
Piazza

The goal is to get you to answer each other’s questions so you can benefit and learn from each other.

If I troll you on Piazza, take it as a sign of love.
Important!

Students with documented disabilities should send in their accommodation letter from O.A.E. (Office of Accessible Education) by the **end of this week** to Tara Balakrishnan (Head CA) & cc’ me.
Course Website:

cs145.stanford.edu
Lectures

• Lecture slides cover **essential material**
  • This is your **best reference**.
  • We are trying to get away from book, but do have pointers

• Try to cover same thing in **many ways**: Lecture, lecture notes, homework, exams (no shock)
  • Attendance makes your life easier...
    • 8 lectures + all guest lectures are mandatory!
Attendance

• You must attend 8 lectures plus guest lectures
  • You’re free to skip midterm for attendance purposes—and your own peril!
  • About 50% of classes is reasonable.
  • Guest lectures are mandatory. Great guests: they want to meet you! Show up!

• I dislike mandatory attendance... but we noticed...
  • People who did not attend did worse 😞
  • People who did not attend used more course resources 😞
  • People who did not attend were less happy with the course 😞

• How it works:
  • we write a code on the board,
  • from your Stanford email send a note to 145attendance@gmail.com with that code in the subject line.
Graded Elements

• Attendance (10%)
• Problem Sets (20%)
• Programming project (20%)
  • Auction base. Up now!
  • Experience with a database application.
• Midterm (20%)
• Final exam (30%)

All but the final assignment are due on Tuesday before class.

For SCPD students only: Attendance will not be a component of grading; distribution will be scaled amongst the rest proportionately.
Un-Graded Elements

• Readings provided to help you!
  • Only items in lecture, homework, or project are fair game.

• Activities are again mainly to help / be fun!
  • Will occur during class- not graded, but count as part of lecture material (fair game as well)

• Jupyter Notebooks provided
  • These are optional but hopefully helpful.
  • Redesigned so that you can ‘interactively replay’ parts of lecture
What is expected from you

• **Attend lectures**
  • If you don’t, it’s *at your own peril*

• **Be active and think critically**
  • Ask questions, post comments on forums

• **Do programming and homework projects**
  • Start early and *be honest*

• **Study for tests and exams**
Going beyond the requirements...
SIGMOD15 Undergrad Research Award Winners.

**Adam Perelman** *Dunce Cap: Compiling Worst-Case Optimal Query Plans and Beyond*

**Susan Tu** *Dunce Cap: Query Plans Using Generalized Hypertree Decompositions*

http://www.sigmod.org/sigmod-awards/sigmod-awards#undergraduate

Former CS 145’ers!

SIGMOD15 was in Australia
QueueStatus. Now in office hours!

QueueStatus
Queueing made easy
QueueStatus.com

Former CS 145’ers!
To encourage more awesomeness

Github for course material & bonus projects... Some extremes...

1. **I was hung over when I took the test.** *Intended to make up for silly mistakes.*

2. **I want to make it easier for future generations.** Visualizations & improvements to advanced topics.

3. **I want to be a research star!** These are challenging assignments that could indicate possible publication.

*If your pull request is approved, TA will give you bonus points.*
Optional Elements

• Tutorials for github on course page.

• Please use Piazza for questions on the topics (not github).

• These are optional elements of the course.
Lectures: 1st half - from a user’s perspective

1. **Foundations**: Relational data models & SQL
   - Lectures 2-3
   - How to manipulate data with SQL, a declarative language
     - reduced expressive power but the system can do more for you

2. **Database Design**: Design theory and constraints
   - Lectures 4-6
   - Designing relational schema to keep your data from getting corrupted

3. **Transactions**: Syntax & supporting systems
   - Lectures 7-8
   - A programmer’s abstraction for data consistency
Lectures: 2\textsuperscript{nd} half - understanding how it works

4. Introduction to database systems
   • Lectures 12-16
   • Indexing
   • External Memory Algorithms (IO model) for sorting, joins, etc.
   • Basics of query optimization (Cost Estimates)
   • Relational algebra

5. Specialized and New Data Processing Systems
   • Lectures 17-19
   • Key-Value Stores
   • Hadoop and its 10 year anniversary
   • SparkSQL. The re-rise of SQL
   • “Dark data” systems & current intersections with ML & AI
Lectures: A note about format of notes

These are asides / notes (still need to know these in general!)

Definitions in blue with concept being defined bold & underlined

Main point of slide / key takeaway at bottom

Warnings- pay attention here!
Jupyter Notebook “Hello World”

- Jupyter notebooks are interactive shells which **save output in a nice notebook format**
  - They also can display markdown, LaTeX, HTML, js...

- You’ll use these for
  - in-class activities
  - interactive lecture supplements/recaps
  - homeworks, projects, etc.- if helpful!

FYI: “Jupyter Notebook” are also called iPython notebooks but they handle other languages too.

Note: you **do need to know or learn python** for this course!
Jupyter Notebook Setup

1. **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.** Install **on your laptop** via the instructions on the next slide / Piazza

2. Other options running via one of the alternative methods:
   1. Ubuntu VM.
   2. Corn

3. Come to our **Installation Office Hours** after this class and tomorrow!

As a general policy in upper-level CS courses, **Windows is not officially supported.** However we are making a best-effort attempt to provide some solutions here!
Jupyter Notebook Setup

https://github.com/HazyResearch/cs145-notebooks-2016/blob/master/jupyter_install.md

CAs will be coming around to help with setup & installation
Activity-1-1.ipynb
2. Overview of the relational data model
What you will learn about in this section

1. Definition of DBMS

2. Data models & the relational data model

3. Schemas & data independence

4. ACTIVITY: Jupyter + SQL
What is a DBMS?

• A large, integrated collection of data

• Models a real-world *enterprise*
  • *Entities* (e.g., Students, Courses)
  • *Relationships* (e.g., Alice is enrolled in 145)

**A Database Management System (DBMS)** is a piece of software designed to store and manage databases
A Motivating, Running Example

• Consider building a course management system (**CMS**):
  
  • Students
  • Courses
  • Professors

\[\text{Entities}\]

• Who takes what
• Who teaches what

\[\text{Relationships}\]
Data models

• A data model is a collection of concepts for describing data

  • The relational model of data is the most widely used model today
    • Main Concept: the relation- essentially, a table

• A schema is a description of a particular collection of data, using the given data model

  • E.g. every relation in a relational data model has a schema describing types, etc.
“Relational databases form the bedrock of western civilization”

- Bruce Lindsay, IBM Research
Modeling the CMS

• *Logical Schema*
  • Students(sid: *string*, name: *string*, gpa: *float*)
  • Courses(cid: *string*, cname: *string*, credits: *int*)
  • Enrolled(sid: *string*, cid: *string*, grade: *string*)
Modeling the CMS

• **Logical Schema**
  • Students(sid: string, name: string, gpa: float)
  • Courses(cid: string, cname: string, credits: int)
  • Enrolled(sid: string, cid: string, grade: string)
Other Schemata...

• **Physical Schema**: describes data layout
  - Relations as unordered files
  - Some data in sorted order (index)

• **Logical Schema**: Previous slide

• **External Schema**: (Views)
  - Course_info(cid: string, enrollment: integer)
  - Derived from other tables
Data independence

Concept: Applications do not need to worry about *how the data is structured and stored*

**Logical data independence:** protection from changes in the logical structure of the data

I.e. should not need to ask: can we add a new entity or attribute without rewriting the application?

**Physical data independence:** protection from *physical layout changes*

I.e. should not need to ask: which disks are the data stored on? Is the data indexed?

One of the most important reasons to use a DBMS
Activity-1-2.ipynb
3. Overview of DBMS topics

Key concepts & challenges
What you will learn about in this section

1. Transactions

2. Concurrency & locking

3. Atomicity & logging

4. Summary
Challenges with Many Users

• Suppose that our CMS application serves 1000’s of users or more—what are some challenges?

  • **Security**: Different users, different roles

  • **Performance**: Need to provide concurrent access

  • **Consistency**: Concurrency can lead to update problems

We won’t look at too much in this course, but is extremely important

Disk/SSD access is slow, DBMS hide the latency by doing more CPU work concurrently

DBMS allows user to write programs as if they were the only user
Transactions

• A key concept is the transaction (TXN): an **atomic** sequence of db actions (reads/writes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acct</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a10</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a20</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transfer $3k from a10 to a20:
1. Debit $3k from a10
2. Credit $3k to a20

Written naively, in which states is **atomicity** preserved?
• Crash before 1,
• After 1 but before 2,
• After 2.

**Atomicity**: An action either completes entirely or not at all

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DB Always preserves atomicity!**
Transactions

• A key concept is the transaction (TXN): an atomic sequence of db actions (reads/writes)
  • If a user cancels a TXN, it should be as if nothing happened!

• Transactions leave the DB in a consistent state
  • Users may write integrity constraints, e.g., ‘each course is assigned to exactly one room’

However, note that the DBMS does not understand the real meaning of the constraints—consistency burden is still on the user!

Atomicity: An action either completes entirely or not at all

Consistency: An action results in a state which conforms to all integrity constraints
Challenge: Scheduling Concurrent Transactions

- The DBMS ensures that the execution of \( \{T_1, \ldots, T_n\} \) is equivalent to some **serial** execution

- One way to accomplish this: **Locking**
  - Before reading or writing, transaction requires a lock from DBMS, holds until the end

- **Key Idea**: If \( T_i \) wants to write to an item \( x \) and \( T_j \) wants to read \( x \), then \( T_i, T_j \) **conflict**. Solution via locking:
  - only one winner gets the lock
  - loser is blocked (waits) until winner finishes

A set of TXNs is **isolated** if their effect is as if all were executed serially

What if \( T_i \) and \( T_j \) need \( X \) and \( Y \), and \( T_i \) asks for \( X \) before \( T_j \), and \( T_j \) asks for \( Y \) before \( T_i \)?

\[ \rightarrow \text{Deadlock! One is aborted...} \]

All concurrency issues handled by the DBMS...
Ensuring Atomicity & Durability

• DBMS ensures atomicity even if a TXN crashes!

• One way to accomplish this: Write-ahead logging (WAL)

• Key Idea: Keep a log of all the writes done.
  • After a crash, the partially executed TXNs are undone using the log

Write-ahead Logging (WAL): Before any action is finalized, a corresponding log entry is forced to disk.

We assume that the log is on “stable” storage.

All atomicity issues also handled by the DBMS...
A Well-Designed DBMS makes many people happy!

• End users and DBMS vendors
  • Reduces cost and makes money

• DB application programmers
  • Can handle more users, faster, for cheaper, and with better reliability / security guarantees!

• Database administrators (DBA)
  • Easier time of designing logical/physical schema, handling security/authorization, tuning, crash recovery, and more…

Must still understand DB internals
Summary of DBMS

• DBMS are used to maintain, query, and manage large datasets.
  • Provide concurrency, recovery from crashes, quick application development, integrity, and security

• Key abstractions give data independence

• DBMS R&D is one of the broadest, most exciting fields in CS. Fact!