**DATABASE SYSTEM - CS219**

**ASSGINMENT# 1**

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**A BRIEF HISTORY OF DATABASE APPLICATIONS**

Our lives are flooded with all kinds of information, it is the computer databases that allow the interaction with this information easily and seamlessly on daily basis.

Before the computer age, databases were used to organize information like product inventories, medical indexes and other hand written databases which served the common purpose: making information and data interaction easy and specific.

Computer allowed databases to be automated. Earlier computer databases followed a ‘flat file’ system basically a sequential list of records (queue structure). Since it was difficult to maintain large volume of records this way, in late 1960’s IBM introduced a ‘hierarchal model’ for their Information Management System (tree structure).

In 1970’s an IBM computer scientist proposed the concept of “Relational Database Model” (data organized into simple tables, related by matching data fields), this made easier to access, merge and change data. It competed with different other models till 1975 when IBM introduced an experimental relational database named ‘System R’ which used SQL (structured query language) developed by IBM professors.

A young entrepreneur intrigued by the idea started a software company along with another person by 1977 and developed the first commercially available relational database compatible with IBM’s system R, their flagship product was named “Oracle”, it became quickly popular and was widely adapted. Oracle became one of the largest software companies in the world.