

Pre-Milestone Handout

ECS 165A

For the pre-milestone assignment, you are going to research and explore modern database technologies, to learn more about their overall architecture, key components, and their strengths and limitations. This is the only individual assignment, in which you need to write a short summary, at least five pages long, summarizing your findings.

This handout offers a few suggested technologies to get you started. You are not limited to any of the technologies listed here. You have complete freedom.

*Think Long-term, Plan Carefully.
Be curious, Be creative!*

One way to start your exploration is through Google to learn about databases in general. Essentially, you need to research what it takes to build a database. What are the key components that are necessary? Along the way, document all your findings and keep track of the sources of all materials. Materials below are merely suggestions to get you to start thinking about journey.

There are two prominent modes of a database that one may employ. You can use an *embedded database*, essentially shipping your database as part of the application package or an *externally hosted database*, in which a database is hosted on the external server and your application connects to it. Broadly speaking there are several flavors of databases, namely, [SQL](#) (relational database with transactional capability), [NoSQL](#) database (key-value store with limited transactional capability), [NewSQL](#) databases (e.g., Google Spanner), [HTAP](#) databases (similar to [L-Store](#), which is the focus of the course project), or [Non-Relational](#) databases (supporting data models such as graph, JSON, XML, document, may also be categorized under NoSQL brand).

Ranking: You may find a ranking of most widely used database systems [here](#). An [interesting read](#) on the most popular database engines for mobile apps.

Benchmarks: [TPC](#) is the gold industry standard to benchmark and evaluate major database technologies, for example, the two most well-known benchmarks are [TPC-C](#) and [TPC-H](#).

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Submission Method: Canvas
Score: 10%

Here are just a few starting examples.

[SQLite](#) is a software library (an embedded database) that provides a relational database management system. The lite in SQLite means lightweight in terms of setup, database administration, and required resource. Note SQL is the standard language to communicate with relational databases (which you will learn in the class). [[Tutorial](#), [Architecture](#)]

[MySQL](#) is the world's most popular open source database. Whether you are a fast growing web property, technology ISV or large enterprise, MySQL can cost-effectively help you deliver high performance, scalable database applications. [[Documentation](#), [Architecture](#)]

[Firebase](#) is a platform (an externally hosted, a cloud service) which allows building web and mobile apps. You can store user's data on its real-time database which sync data among users data in no time. It is owned by Google and is easy to Integrate into your project. [[Firebase-console](#), [Intro Video](#)]

[PostgreSQL](#) is a powerful, open source object-relational database system with over 30 years of active development that has earned it a strong reputation for reliability, feature robustness, and performance [[Documentation](#), [Architecture](#),].

Forming Team and Finalizing Roles

As part of this milestone, you need to form your group, including the name of all members and fill up the form [here](#). If you are looking for a team please this [form](#).

Additionally, in your report, you need to specify the role of each member. For each group, it is important that each member lead one aspect of the project while contributing and learning about other parts. There are several lead roles as we go through various stages of the project such as **(1)** team coordinator, **(2)** system architect, **(3)** developers, and **(4)** tester. The design and development itself may further be categorized **(1)** query evaluation (APIs and access methods); **(2)** bufferpool management; **(3)** crash, recovery, and logging; and **(4)** synchronization and concurrency. Please consider and specify the role of each member, which may change as we make progress throughout the course.

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Course Policy

In this class, we adopt the UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct available [here](#).

Disclaimer

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Changelog

Milestone Handout Version v1: January 1, 2021 (initial posted version)