

COMP9311 DATABASE SYSTEMS

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2024 Term 2; Week 1.1

Outline

- **Course Introduction**
- Database Introduction
- Database Features

Course Schedules

Lectures:

- Hybrid Mode: In-person & Online (Moodle-> Blackboard Collaborate).
 - Tutors are available to answer online questions. Post your questions online in the chatbox.
- Starts Week 1.
- Recorded (Moodle -> Lecture Recordings).

Labs:

- In-person, bring your own laptop, check your timetable (Week 2-5, 7-10)
- Guides you through the practical skills on the database application programming part of the course
- Not recorded.

Course Help

Course Website:

- <https://webcms3.cse.unsw.edu.au/COMP9311/24T2/>

Course Forum (Use Ed forums):

- <https://webcms3.cse.unsw.edu.au/COMP9311/24T2/resources/99516>
- Tutors will visit the forum regularly to answer questions

Consultation:

- Tutor present to answer any course related questions.
- **Offline:** 2pm-4pm Friday at K17 203 Consultation room
- **Online:** 6pm-8pm Friday via Moodle->Blackboard

Course Information

How to access **Online Consultations**?

- Log into Moodle (<https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/>).
- Go to course (COMP9311 – Database Systems 2024 T2).
- Click “**Blackboard Collaborate**”
- Click the corresponding consultation session to join.

Practices questions:

- Sample answers are provided.
- To be released on the course website at every interval.

For Other Enrolment Issues

- The course enrolment process isn't something lecturers have direct control over.
- Matters such as the number of students that can take a course/ lab etc.
- Students always adjust their courses during prior to the census date.
- Checking daily for openings is still recommended.

Course Staff

Lecturer-in-Charge

- Dr. Zhengyi Yang
- Email: zhengyi.yang@unsw.edu.au
(for course queries, use the forums)

Tutor Team

- Mostly research students from the Data and Knowledge Research Group
Course Admin – Dr. Junhua Zhang (junhua.zhang@unsw.edu.au)
- TAs - PhD and Master by Research Students
- We have ~500 students in 24T2, each tutor looks after at most 4 labs.

Course Overview

This is an *introductory* level course of database systems.

- We will be (mostly) learning:
 - **Theory** behind relational database systems
 - **Practice** of using relational database management systems
- We will NOT be learning:
 - Design and implementation detail of databases (COMP9315)

Course Syllabus

Data modelling and database design (Week 1 and Week 2)

- i. ER model, ER-to-relational
- ii. Relational model (relational algebra), mapping of ER to relational model

Essentials of Database application development (Week 3 and Week 4)

- i. SQL, views, stored procedures, triggers, aggregates
- ii. PostgreSQL: PLpgSQL (procedural)

Formal database design theory and system architecture (Week 5 to Week 9)

- i. Normalisation, functional dependencies
- ii. Storage and indexing, data access operations
- iii. Query processing: translation, optimisation, evaluation
- iv. Transaction processing: transactions, concurrency control, recovery
- v. NoSQL: NoSQL Databases for other purposes, i.e., MongoDB, Neo4j

Tentative Weekly Outline

Week	Tuesday	Wednesday
Week 1	Subject Intro, Intro to DB	Conceptual DB Design (ER)
Week 2	Relational Data Model	Relational Algebra
Week 3	SQL	SQL
Week 4	PLpgSQL	PLpgSQL
Week 5	Functional Dependencies	Normal Forms
Week 6	<i>Quiet Week (No Lecture)</i>	<i>Quiet Week (No Lecture)</i>
Week 7	Relational Database Design	Disk, File, Index
Week 8	Transaction Management	Transaction Management
Week 9	NoSQL	NoSQL/Guest Lecture
Week 10	Advanced Topics/Guest Lecture	Revision

Course Textbook

★ **Lecture notes will be sufficient**

Reference Books:

- **Elmasri & Navathe, *Fundamentals of Database Systems*, Benjamin/Cummings, 7th Edition, 2015.**
- J. D. Ullman & J. Widom, *A First Course in Database Systems*, Prentice Hall, 1997.
- R. Ramakrishnan, *Database Management Systems*, McGRAW-HILL, 1997.
- D. Maier, *The Theory of Relational Databases*, Computer Science Press, 1983.

Course Assessments (Cont.)

COMP9311 24T2 Assessment Summary:

Number	Name	Full Mark
1	Assignment 1: Data Modelling + Relational Algebra (week 1-3)	24
2	Assignment 2: DB design Theory + Transaction (week 7-9)	26
3	Project 1: SQL, PLpgSQL (week 4-6)	50
4	Final Exam (Exam Week)	100

The equation for your final mark calculated by **Geometric Mean**:

➤ $\text{Final Mark} = \sqrt{(\text{ass1} + \text{ass2} + \text{proj1}) * \text{Final Exam}}$

Submission

Assignments, OK to have either:

- Directly using word or convert to PDF
- Hand-written and then convert to PDF/word

Submissions should be made through **Moodle**.

Late Submission

5% reduction per day (of the full mark) for assignments and project

- 0 marks after 5 days late
- **1 second late = 1 day late**
- Submit wrong files = Late
- Please **double check** to make sure your submission is correct and on time!

Special Consideration

- We will grant no-penalty extensions due to extreme circumstances (e.g., medical emergencies)
- Apply via myUNSW as soon as possible (**within 3 working days**)
- Evidence is needed, application process and details in [here](#)
- **No other excuses are accepted** (e.g., network down, too busy, forgot to submit)

Plagiarism



★ We adopt a **zero-tolerance** policy for plagiarism.

All submissions are checked for plagiarism. The university regards plagiarism as a form of academic misconduct and has very strict rules regarding plagiarism.

For UNSW policies, penalties, and information to help avoid plagiarism, please see: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>. *Not knowing the rules is not considered a valid excuse.*

All assessments must be your own original work. They are NOT group project.

DO NOT: copy from others, copy from the Internet, pay someone to do it.

Be careful using ChatGPT or other AI tools! There are not reliable.

<https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/notices/2023/02/academic-integrity-reminder-chatgpt>

Final Exam

Final exam will be **online**.

DO NOT go to the exam if you are not well enough to do so.

UNSW will consider your attendance **proof that you were OK** at the time of the exam. Go to the Doctor and apply for special consideration.

Learning Summary/Approach

You'll mostly be fine in our exam if you...

- Follow lectures.
- Attempt all the practice exercise questions with solutions.
- Understand the theoretical component.
- Make the most of the practical component in the lab.

Research Opportunities

- We are ranked **Top 3** worldwide for database research (CSRanking).
- Webpage: <https://unswdb.github.io/>

Research Degrees:

- <https://research.unsw.edu.au/higher-degree-research-programs>
- PhD (about 3.5 - 4 years) or MPhil (1.5 – 2 years).

Requirements:

- You received a degree previously in Computer Science or relevant fields from a world top 200 university (either overall ranking or by subject)
- WAM > 85 (UNSW standard) or equivalent

Reach out to me

- Email: zhengyi.yang@unsw.edu.au

Outline

- Course introduction
- **Database introduction**
- Database features

Why Study Databases?

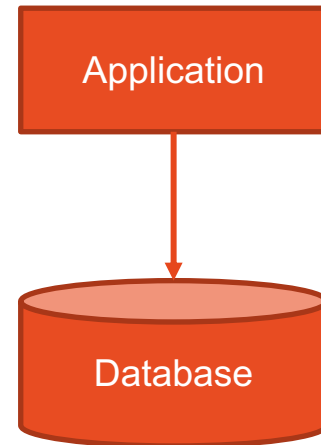
In real-world applications, data will always have to be:

- **stored** (typically on a disk device)
- **manipulated/accessed** (efficiently, effectively)
- **shared** (by many users, concurrently)
- **transmitted** (all around the Internet)

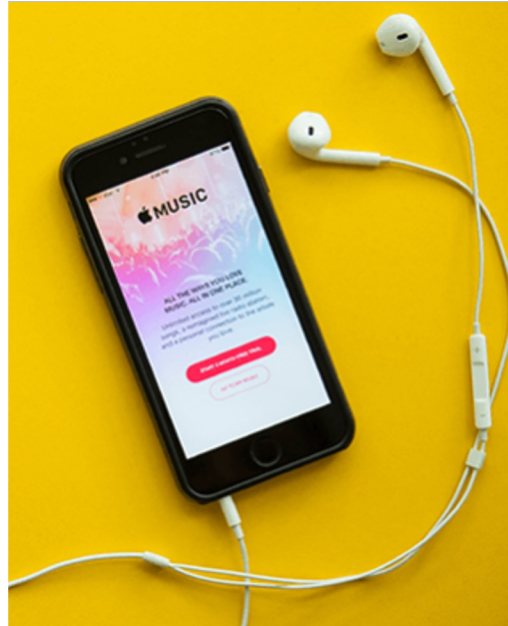
Red points are handled by databases; **blue** by networks.

Database: Collection of related data that models some aspect of the real world.

Databases are the core component of most computer applications.



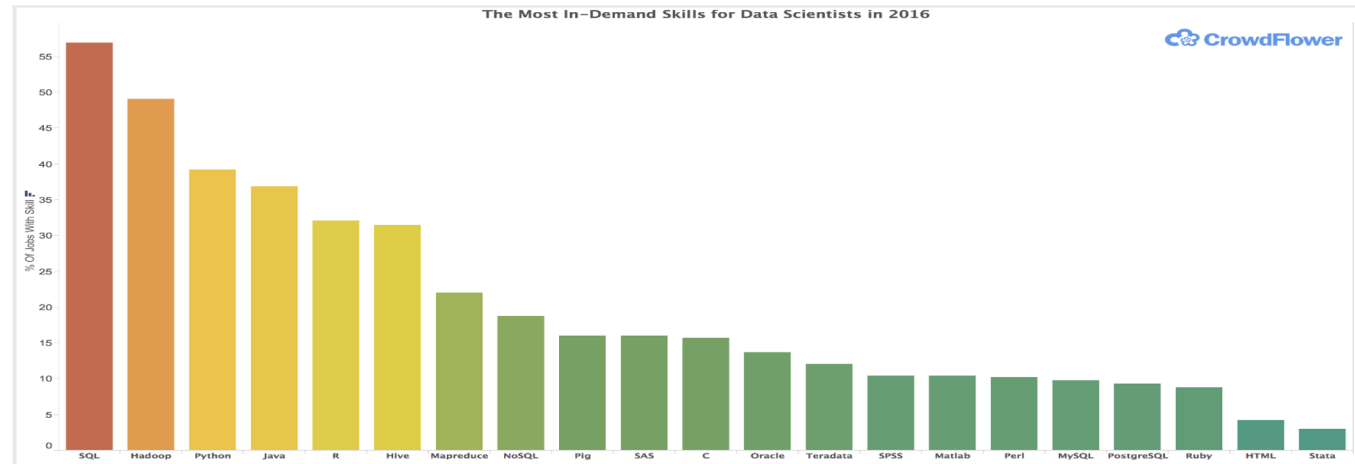
Applications



Data Science Skills Employers Want

Writing SQL Queries & Building Data Pipelines (KDnuggets 2022)

- “Learning how to write robust SQL queries and scheduling them on a workflow management platform like Airflow will make you extremely desirable as a data scientist, hence why it’s point #1.”



What is Data?

- **Data**: known facts that can be recorded and have *implicit meaning* ...

For example - a student records database:

Item	Type of data	Stored as
Name	String	Character strings?
Birthdate	Date	3 integers?
WAM	Real number	Float number?
...		

Two Types of Data

- Data that is **Unstructured**
 - No need to pre-define the data
 - Requires expertise to prepare the data due to its non-formatted nature
 - Can be a combination of various data
- Data that is **Structured**
 - Stored with a rigid and strict schema
 - Can be organized into relational databases

Database Example

- Create a database that manages course enrollment for all UNSW students.
- Things we need (simplified):
 - Information about Students
 - Information about Courses
 - Information about course Selections

File Systems as Data Management?

➤ **File based system** (strawman):

- Contains various information on a storage device (hard disk)
- Files (such as TXT/CSV/EXCEL files, object files, source files)
- Stores files directly on the device and maybe in directories

STUDENT.csv (name, id, major)

```
"name", "id", "major"  
"Smith", "17", "IT"  
"Amy", "8", "IT"
```

COURSE.csv (code, name, department)

```
"code", "name", "department"  
"COMP9311", "Database Systems", "CSE"  
"COMP9312", "Data Analytics for  
Graphs", "CSE"
```

SELECTION.csv (student_id, course_code, term)

```
"student_id", "course_code", "term"  
"17", "COMP9311", "2022T2"  
"17", "COMP9312", "2022T2"  
"8", "COMP9311", "2022T2"
```

File Systems as Data Management?

Question: Does Amy select COMP9311 in 2022T2?

File Systems as Data Management?

Question: Does Amy select COMP9311 in 2022T2?

```
for line0 in open ('STUDENT.csv'):  
    student = parse(line0)  
    if student[0] == 'Amy':  
        for line1 in open('SELECTION.csv'):  
            selection = parse(line1)  
            if (selection[0] == student[1]  
                and selection[1] == 'COMP9311'  
                and selection[2] == '2022T2'):  
                return True  
return False
```



Why Database Systems (1)

Drawbacks of using file systems to store data:

- **Data redundancy and inconsistency**
 - Multiple file formats, duplication of information in different files
- **Difficulty in accessing data**
 - Would have to write a new program to carry out each new task
- **Data isolation — multiple files and formats**
- **Integrity problems**
 - Integrity constraints (e.g., account balance ≥ 0) become “buried” in program code rather than being clearly kept and stated
 - Hard to add new constraints or change existing ones

Why Database Systems (2)

Drawbacks of using file systems (cont.)

- **Atomicity of updates**
 - What is computer crashes?
 - Failures may leave the data in an inconsistent state.
 - Example: Transfer of funds from one account to another should either complete or not happen at all.
- **Hard to allow concurrent access by multiple users**
 - Uncontrolled concurrent accesses can lead to inconsistencies
 - Example: Two people reading a balance (say 100) and updating it by withdrawing money (say 50 each) at the same time

Database systems offer solutions to all the above problems.

Database Management System (DBMS)

A database management system (**DBMS**) is software that allows applications to store and access information in a database.

DBMS contains:

- Collection of interrelated data
- Set of programs to access the data (i.e., define, create, query, update, and administrate)
- An environment that is both *convenient* and *efficient* to use

Outline

- Course introduction
- Database introduction
- **Database features**

DBMS Features

- Data Independence
- Efficient Data Access
- Data Integrity and Security
- Data Administration
- Concurrent Access and Crash Recovery
- Reduced Application Development Time



What you see is only a tip of the iceberg

Database Management System (DBMS)

Recall Database Applications with DBMS

- Banking: transactions
- Airlines: reservations, schedules
- Universities: registration, grades
- Sales: customers, products, purchases
- Online retailers: order tracking, customized recommendations
- Manufacturing: production, inventory, orders, supply chain
- Human resources: employee records, salaries, tax deductions

Databases touch all aspects of our lives

Database Systems

Frequent Terms

- Data ... defined by the scenario
- Relationships ... amongst data items
- Constraints ... on data and relationships
- Redundancy ... one source for each data item
- Data Manipulation ... declarative, procedural
- Concurrency ... multiple users sharing data
- Transactions ... multiple actions, atomic effect

Summary

- *Data*: known facts that can be recorded and have implicit meaning ...
- *Database*: ... a collection of related data ...
- *Database Management System (DBMS)*: ... a collection of programs that enables users to create and maintain a database ...
- *Database System*: ... The database and DBMS together ...

A Little Bit of History

- **Early 1960s:** First general-purpose DBMS, Integrated Data Store, by Charles Bachman (Turing Award)
- **Late 1960s:** IBM developed Information Management System (IMS) DBMS, adopting the hierarchical data model
- **1970s:** Edgar Codd (Turing Award), at IBM, proposed the relational model
- **1980s:** SQL became the standard. Jim Gray (Turing Award) presented the concepts of transaction
- **Late 1980s, 1990s:** ORACLE, DB2 by IBM, and POSTGRES by Michael Stonebraker (Turing Award). Data warehouse.
- **1998+:** NoSQL
- **Current:** Big data & large distributed data processing

Database requirements

Database Systems give you the ability to...

- *Define a database*
 - specifying the data items to be stored and their types,
- *Construct a database*
 - loading the data items and storing them on some storage medium,
- *Manipulate a database*
 - querying - i.e. retrieving relevant data,
 - updating - i.e. adding, deleting or modifying data items
- *Obtain Usage Reports*

Database requirements (2)

Basic Expectations:

- *Timely - e.g., an airline database (fast response), a CAD system (must be interactive).*
- *Modifiable - must be able to be extended or reorganised, e.g., to cope with new laws, requirements, business conditions.*
- *Robust - e.g., power failure during an update - must be able to recover to a consistent state.*
- *Multi-user - e.g., trading system.*
- *Secure - different classes of users may need different levels of access,*
- *No redundancy*

Database Users

- Database Administrator (DBA)
 - Design of the conceptual and physical schemas
 - Security and authorization
 - Data availability and recovery from failures
 - Database tuning
- Application Programmer
 - Implement the specific requirements
 - E.g., Web Developer
- End User

Data Model

Data model: concepts used to describe the allowed structure of a database. i.e., the structure of the meta-data.

Levels of Data Models:

- **High-level or conceptual** (e.g. ER model – concerns entities, attributes and relationships)
- **Implementation or record-based** (e.g. Relational, Network, Hierarchical – that can be used to immediately derive a physical implementation)
- **Low-level or physical** (concerns record formats, access paths etc)

Types of DBMS

➤ Relational

➤ Key/Value

➤ Graph

➤ Document

➤ Column-family



NoSQL

Top Database Management Systems

1. Oracle (**Relational** DBMS)
2. MySQL (**Relational** DBMS)
3. Microsoft SQL Server (**Relational** DBMS)
4. PostgreSQL (**Relational** DBMS)
5. MongoDB (Document Store)
6. Redis (Key-value Store)
7. Elasticsearch (Search Engine)
8. IBM DB2 (**Relational** DBMS)
9. SQLite (**Relational** DBMS)
10. Microsoft Access (**Relational** DBMS)

Rank			DBMS	Database Model
Sep 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2022		
1.	1.	1.	Oracle +	Relational, Multi-model ⓘ
2.	2.	2.	MySQL +	Relational, Multi-model ⓘ
3.	3.	3.	Microsoft SQL Server +	Relational, Multi-model ⓘ
4.	4.	4.	PostgreSQL +	Relational, Multi-model ⓘ
5.	5.	5.	MongoDB +	Document, Multi-model ⓘ
6.	6.	6.	Redis +	Key-value, Multi-model ⓘ
7.	7.	7.	Elasticsearch	Search engine, Multi-model ⓘ
8.	8.	8.	IBM Db2	Relational, Multi-model ⓘ
9.	↑ 10.	↑ 10.	SQLite +	Relational
10.	↓ 9.	↓ 9.	Microsoft Access	Relational

Source: <http://db-engines.com/en/ranking>

Data Model Concepts

Database Schema: a *formalism* of the data model, the *structural description* of what information will database holds.

Database Instance (or *State*): any combination of actual information populated in the database at a particular time.

Workflow:

- We define a database by specifying its schema.
- The state is then an empty instance of the schema.
- To create the initial instance we load in data.
- After this, each change in state is an update to the instance.

Design a Database

- **Conceptual Design**

- Requirements can be represented and manipulated using some computerized tools so that it can be easily maintained, modified, and transformed into a database implementation

- **Logical Design**

- Translated by conceptual design that can be expressed in a data model implemented in a DBMS

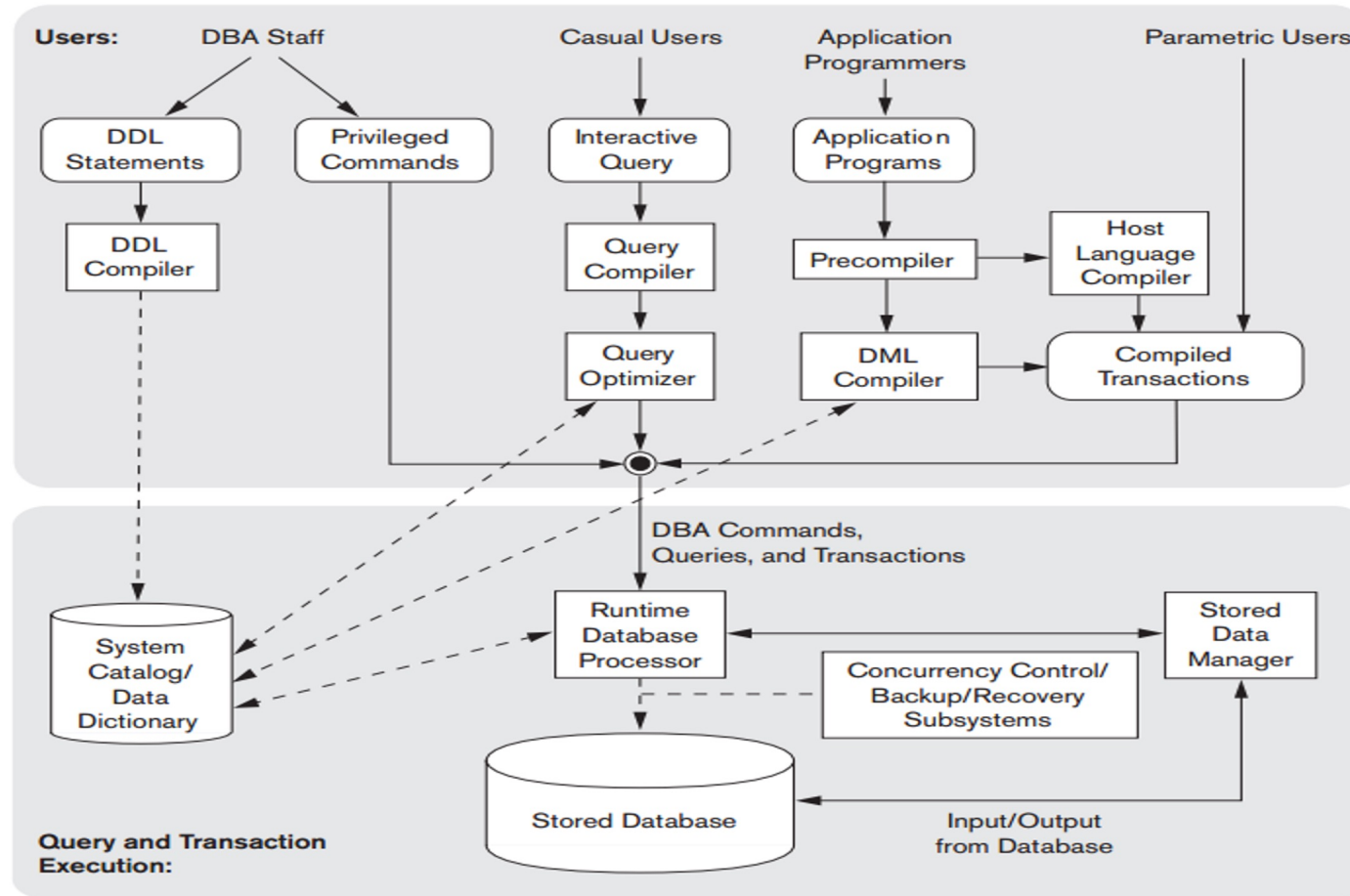
- **Physical Design**

- Further specifications are provided for storing and accessing the database

Database Languages

- ***Data definition language (DDL)***: used to define the conceptual schema.
- ***Data manipulation languages (DML)***: let users write requests to retrieve and manipulate data, as well as other tasks relating to data manipulation.
 - *Non-procedural DML* (e.g., SQL, common for casual users)
 - interactive and/or embedded
 - set at a time/ set oriented.
 - *Procedural DML* (also covered in this course)
 - embedded in a general purpose language,
 - record at a time

Database System



Component modules of a DBMS and their interactions.

In Conclusion

Hopefully, you now know...

- course structure,
- who to contact (where to seek help before emailing me),
- how you're assessed and scored,
- the database applications around you,
- what goes on in databases (and is interested),

Next Lecture: Data Modelling, ER Diagram