

PROJECT 3 – PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

COURSE TITLE

CS 363L Database Systems [Lab]

SEMESTER

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SUBMITTED BY

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SUBMITTED TO

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Dataset to be Used:

Hacker News

About the Dataset:

This dataset contains all stories and comments from Hacker News from its launch in 2006. Each story contains a story id, the author that made the post, when it was written, and the number of points the story received. Hacker News is a social news website focusing on computer science and entrepreneurship. It is run by Paul Graham's investment fund and startup incubator, Y Combinator. In general, content that can be submitted is defined as "anything that gratifies one's intellectual curiosity".

Content:

Each story contains a story ID, the author that made the post, when it was written, and the number of points the story received.

Size:

The dataset is available on big query with the name bigquery-public-data.hacker_news and is of 19.2132 GB.

Questions:

- 1. Recent studies have found that many forums tend to be dominated by a very small fraction of users. Is this true of Hacker News?
- 2. Hacker News has received complaints that the site is biased towards Y Combinator startups. Do the data support this?
- 3. Is the amount of coverage by Hacker News predictive of a startup's success?